

Regional Reports

2025 PACT Annual Meeting
Saturday, November 15, 2025

Annual Report of the Members in the Region of South Texas

San Antonio

Our Lady of Sorrows, 3107 N. St. Mary's St., offers a Polish Mass. This church also offers Mass and Rosary in Polish every first Saturday at 7 pm. Since September 1986, Our Lady of Sorrows has been the base of operations for the spiritual care of Polish immigrants, known as the Polish Catholic Mission. St. Michael's Catholic Church was the first Polish church in San Antonio. It was razed for Hemisfair '68 and rebuilt nearby. A few blocks away, Our Lady of Sorrow proudly features the exquisite stained-glass windows from the original St. Michael's Church!

Seraphic Sisters Shrine to Our Lady of Częstochowa, and Divine Mercy Chapel in San Antonio, at 138 Beethoven St. It includes a beautiful chapel and museum providing opportunities for adoration and retreats. Visiting priests are often needed for Mass; please contact Sister Emilia at 210-337-8193 for more information. Mass is held on Saturday and Sunday.

The Leopold Moczygemba Foundation

The Foundation continues to offer annual scholarships to youth through an essay contest. The FLMF actively promotes the heritage left to us by Fr. Leopold Moczygemba and the pioneering Silesian settlers who came to Texas in 1854 and settled in South Texas.

In 2025, the Foundation held the Annual Gala at Kosciusko Hall with several hundred attendees.

The organization maintains two websites, FLMFoundation.org and a vast and beautiful website – SilesianTexans.com, which focuses on Silesian-Texans' histories, including priests, religious, families, and parishes. The site is professionally presented and researched.

Bandera

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Pastor – The pastor is Msgr. Franciszek Kurzaj. The parish festival is the first Sunday in May. Church tours are offered on Fridays during Lent from 4:30-7pm or can be arranged through the office.

Bandera County Sister City Partnership; with Strzelce Opolski in Poland. Contact Roy Dugosh, brother of the Founder, the late Elenora Dugosh Goodley, former PACT Director. In 2023, Roy Dugosh worked with film directors, Artur Owczarski and Dakota Wortman, to produce "The Cowboy Capital," a movie that premiered in Bandera and is also being shown in Poland in the summer of 2023.

Panna Maria and Polish Heritage Center

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Panna Maria

Pastor: Father Wieslaw Iwaniec

PO Box 9, Panna Maria, TX 78144

(830) 780-2748

pan1854@yahoo.com

Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria

PHC Hours: Tues. – Sat. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

www.polishheritagecentertx.org

(830) 310-8612

Executive Director: Alice Poore, director@polishheritagecentertx.org

Panna Maria, PHC Open Jubilee Year with Mass, Celebration Honoring Ancestors

The Christmas season of 2024 marked the 170th anniversary of Panna Maria, the oldest permanent Polish settlement in the United States. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Panna Maria, which is one of the Jubilee pilgrimage sites in the Archdiocese of San Antonio, celebrated the opening of Jubilee Year 2025 on Dec. 29 with a special evening Mass and a candle light tribute to the first Mass celebrated in Panna Maria on Christmas Eve, 1854, under the oak tree that still stands next to the church.

Special guests at the celebration were a delightful group of young singers, dancers and musicians, Zespół Majeranki from Rabka, Poland, who performed during Mass, during the candle vigil and finally, before the front doors of Immaculate Conception Church.

The evening also celebrated the 30th anniversary of the ordination of Bishop John W. Yanta, whose family was among those original Polish immigrants and who was the first Bishop to come from that immigration. So it was fitting that the evening was capped with a reception and dinner at the Polish Heritage Center, which was founded by Bishop Yanta, and is dedicated to preserving the history of the first immigration of Texas Polonia.

Veterans Exhibit Opens

On November 30, the PHC opened its newest temporary exhibit, which honors Polish veterans from the original immigration who fought in America's wars. Curated by Librarian/Archivist Lauren Robinson, the exhibit shows artifacts and memorabilia including documents, letters, uniforms and pictures from the Civil War through the War on Terror.

Dziękuję Celebration

The PHC celebrated its friends and donors on December 7 with its annual Dziękuję event, which featured a reception, raffle and Polish dinner served family style by Apolonia Catering.

School Tours

Educating future generations about the trials and triumphs of our immigrant ancestors is a foundational goal of the Polish Heritage Center. During the months of November through May, nearly 1000 students from Karnes City, Falls City, Poth, Runge, Stockdale, Yorktown, and Nixon toured the Center and historic sites in Panna Maria.

White & Red Gala and AllDęte

The Polish Heritage Center hosted its second annual White and Red Gala on March 1, 2025 at the Panna Maria Hall. More than 300 people attended this annual fundraiser, including several members of the PACT Board of Directors.

The musical entertainment for the Gala was provided by AllDęte, a Polish brass band of nine members. They spent five days in Panna Maria, visiting with community members (and some Banduch relatives), performing at Falls City Schools, meeting longhorns, playing cowboys, shooting music videos, accompanying the Panna Maria choir at Sunday Mass, and playing tourist on the River Walk. It was a wonderful cultural exchange that left everyone with new friends and great memories.

Texas Polonia Youth Day

Texas Polonia Youth Day was successfully launched at the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria on April 12 with more than 250 participants - Elementary, High School, College and University students, faculty advisors, and accompanying parents and grandparents. This event was a true fulfillment of Bishop Yanta's vision of a vibrant center appealing to all ages and promoting the story of our immigrant ancestors.

The Wawel Dancers from Houston led the procession into the church for a Mass celebrated by Fr. Krzysztof Olejnik, Superior General of the Society of Christ Fathers, and Fr. Wieslaw Iwaniec, Pastor of the Immaculate Conception Parish. Following Mass, the crowd sat under a large tent set up at the entrance of the Polish Heritage Center and enjoyed the Wawel young dancers followed by the Wawel teen dancers.

The PHC then provided a BBQ lunch at the Panna Maria Diner. After lunch, participants were able to choose 4 activities out of 7 available during the afternoon. These included a Pierogi demonstration by Apolonia Catering chefs; Polish crafts, including Polish Flag making and Polish National Symbols provided by the IPN, Institute for National Remembrance, who sent two representatives from Poland: Marta Golinska and Beata Kopcinska; tours of the Center, tours of the St. Joseph Museum and a tour of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church.

Our participants included students from the Austin Polish School, the UT Austin Polish Club, the Houston Polish School, parishioners from Our Lady of Czestochowa in Houston, Texas A&M Polish Association, and the Dallas Polish School.

PHC Art Contest

The Center sponsored its annual Spring Art Contest, which is open to area schools. The themes are Polish art and culture, family life, farm life, and community. There were 130 entries and 41 awards presented at a reception April 5.

Scholarship Recipients

The Bishop Yanta Academic Scholarship is awarded to descendants of the 19th century immigrations to the Panna Maria area and the Brazos Valley. The 2025 Bishop Yanta scholarship has been awarded to Lauren Dziuk and Makayla Janysek. Lauren currently attends Texas A&M. Makayla will be attending Palo Alto College in San Antonio.

The newly created Polish Heritage Center Academic Scholarship is available for students from the more recent Polish immigrations to Texas. The 2025 PHC scholarships have been awarded to Kacper Fafara and Adam Przybylski. Both attend Blinn College.

Polish Cooking School – A Culinary Adventure

On four consecutive Wednesdays in June/July, the PHC opened its doors to twenty young chefs for its first cooking school. The youngsters, 3rd – 8th grades, learned the basics, like measuring ingredients and cracking eggs to the more advanced skills of rolling dough and making pierogi. They, with the help of brave and tireless adult guides, made Khruchiki, Katarzynki, fudge, apple croissants, pinwheels, Kompot, and of course pierogi. Special thanks to Chef Phillip from Apolonia Catering who led the pierogi class.

Professors from Lublin

On July 3, Dr. Jim helped facilitate the visit of Polish professors from Catholic University in Lublin to the PHC for presentations, a luncheon, and tours.

Bishop Yanta Celebration of Life August 16

On the third year since his passing, we gathered to celebrate the life of Bishop John Yanta with a Mass at Immaculate Conception Church in Panna Maria, followed by a graveside observance and a reception at the Polish Heritage Center.

Bishop Yanta Exhibit

For the past two years, the Polish Heritage Center staff have been working on an exhibit celebrating the life of Bishop, who made his mark in life both within and beyond the Church, from his early years in Runge to being the first descendant of the original Polish immigration to Panna Maria to be ordained a Bishop. The grand opening of the Bishop Yanta exhibit was held on Saturday, October 18.

Jubilee Year Assembly

On Oct. 25, Immaculate Conception Church in Panna Maria, a Jubilee Year Pilgrimage site, and the PHC hosted a Jubilee Year Assembly for the parishes in the Floresville Deanery and the surrounding area. More than 200 participants attended.

Panna Maria Historical Society

The PMHS has operated the Panna Maria Visitor Center for many decades in addition to recording volumes of PM history. They maintain the outstanding St. Joseph Museum on the grounds of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM church at Panna Maria. Visit their pretty website PannaMariaTexas.com.

St. Hedwig

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, The parish annually holds Masses for the Polish American Priests Association. It is a beautiful Polish church in a rural farming and ranching setting. Many parishioners are descendants of the 1800s Polish/Silesian settlers. A large cemetery is on the grounds.

Kosciusko

St. Ann Catholic Church was built in 1898 following the establishment of a Polish school in 1892. Named for Polish General Thaddeus Kosciusko, the spelling is accepted in several ways. The parish's annual picnic is on the 1st Sunday in August. Parishioners include many descendants of original 1850s Polish/Silesian settlers. The parish maintains a cemetery, too.

Cestohowa

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church is a beautiful church in the Polish tradition. Many parishioners are descendants of original 1850s Polish/Silesian settlers. The spelling has been adopted by parishioners. The cemetery is maintained by the parish.

Falls City

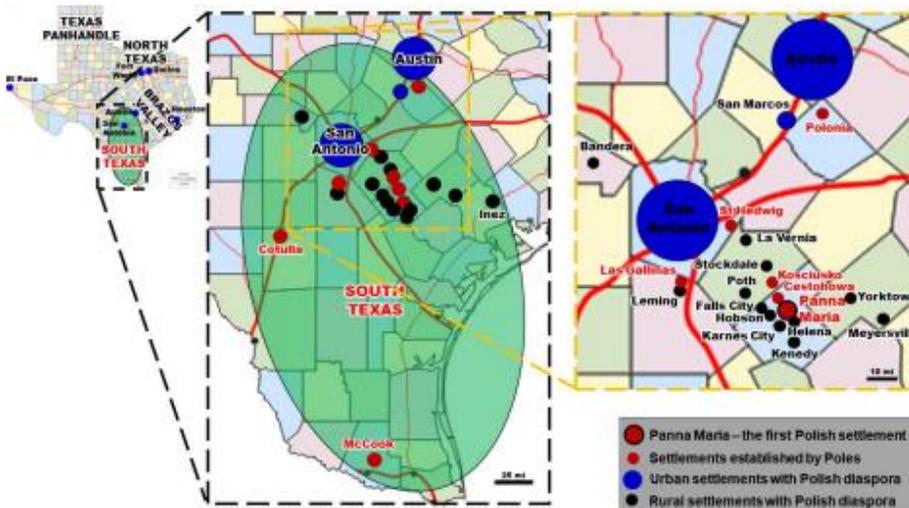
Holy Trinity Catholic Church has many parishioners who are descendants of the original 1850s Polish/Silesian settlers. The active parish holds a popular festival each year.

Yorktown

Holy Cross Catholic Church of Yorktown, today a large and thriving parish, was a mission of Meyersville, in 1866. For a short time in 1868, there was a resident pastor, Father John Frydychowitz, but again, it soon became Panna Maria's mission church. The founders were Polish families from villages in Upper Silesia, Poland, then under German rule. These early settlers arrived in Texas between 1854 and 1856.

More South Texas communities with Polish roots:

McCook, Meyersville, Inez, Las Gallinas, Karnes City, Leming, Kenedy, Cotulla, Hobson, White Deer (in the Texas Panhandle) and La Vernia.



Map created by Dr. Piotr Przybylski.

Polish American Priests Association of Texas

On October 27, 2025, some of the Texas PAPA met in Laredo:



Brazos Valley Regional Report

- **Established:** Sister City between Bryan/College Station and Toruń, Poland

Bremond and St. Mary's Catholic Church – Denis Kubiak/Hector Davila
Information on 2025 activities is forthcoming.

St. Joseph in New Waverly by Clara Malak

Host of November 2022, PACT Annual Meeting, New Waverly, Texas

St. Stanislaus (Bishop) Catholic Parish in Chappell Hill, Texas

(est. 1889) in Chappell Hill, Texas (Washington County) "The Birthplace of Texas"

· Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil – 6:00 p.m.; Sunday – 8:00 a.m. Wednesday – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday and Friday – 8:00 a.m. Website: <https://www.ststanislauschappellhill.com/>

- Parish History: <https://www.ststanislauschappellhill.com/gallery>

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tabak, SDS; Bishop: Diocesan Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin

- 18th Annual Polskie Kolędownia – Annual Koledowania in Chappell Hill, Texas - Saturday, December 27, 2025.
- The 88th Annual Homecoming Festival and “Dozynki Mass” celebrating 136 years of St. Stanislaus (Bishop) Catholic Parish in Chappell Hill, Texas held on Sunday, August 30, 2025.
- Józwiak family reunion held on Saturday, September 6, 2025, with Polish folk music from the 19th century ancestors.
- Cegielski family reunion was held on Saturday, October 11, 2025, with Polish folk music from the 19th century ancestors.
- Derkowski family reunion was held on Saturday, April 22, 2025
- The Bilski family reunion was held on Saturday, September 27, 2025

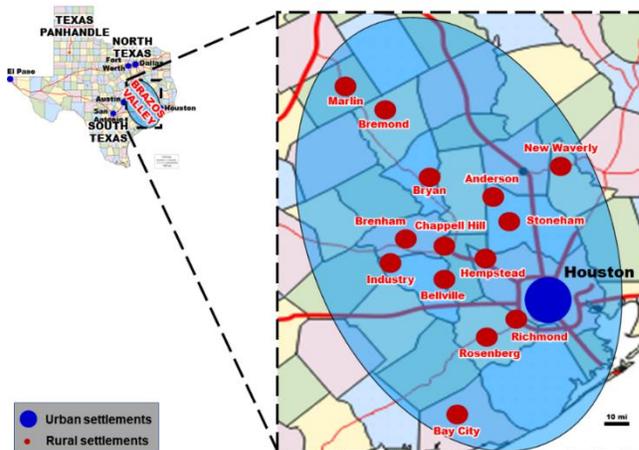
Chappell Hill Museum and Historical Society

- Polish room dedicated to the Polish immigrants to Washington County
- Polish photos, information, and documents have been archived, scanned, and kept for historical access
- Host Polish Christmas Carolers on Saturday, December 27, 2025
- Distributed the PACT directories and information

St. Stanislaus in Anderson & St. Joseph in Stoneham

- St. Stanislaus in Anderson Spring Festival May 11, 2025
- St. Stanislaus in Anderson Homecoming and Bazaar October 12, 2025
- St. Joseph Church in Stoneham, Czarnina Cookoff January 18, 2025
- St. Joseph Church in Stoneham, Annual Bazaar May 25, 2025

- St. Stanislaus in Anderson Spring Festival May 9, 2026 -tentative
- St. Stanislaus in Anderson Homecoming and Bazaar October 11, 2026
- St. Joseph Church in Stoneham, Czarnina Cookoff January 17, 2026
- St. Joseph Church in Stoneham, Annual Bazaar May 24, 2026



Map created by Dr. Piotr Przybylski

Houston Regional Report

Polish Consulate General in Houston:

- Support Polish organizations, Polish school children, and local Polish diaspora with grants (e.g., Pact, UST)
- Polish Passport renewal program
- Organize events, e.g., the annual Polish Independence Day celebration
- Strengthen economic cooperation between companies from Poland and Texas through partnerships and business initiatives

Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Houston

3040 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 525

Houston, Tx 77056

tel.: +1 713 479 6776

[www: gov.pl/usa](http://www.gov.pl/usa) TT: @PLinHouston

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church

Pastor: Fr. Tadeusz Rusnak

- Sunday Masses:
 - 9am English Mass
 - **11am Polish Mass**

OLOC Activities:

- **Polish Festivals** - twice a year:
 - May Festival (1st weekend of May to commemorate the May 3rd Polish Constitution of 1791)
 - Polish Harvest Festival / Dożynki - September
- **January**
 - Opłatek
 - Sylvester (New Year's Eve Gala)
 - § Jasełka (Christmas Caroling by Polish school children and parish musicians)
- **February**
 - Karnawał (Mardi Gras Ball) organized by the Polish School
 - **Lent:** Lenten Fish Fry
 - **Easter:** Święconka (food blessing)
 - Concert to commemorate the 1943 Uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto
- **May**
 - Nicolaus Copernicus concert (org. by the Polish Consulate General)
 - Children's competition of Pilecki drawing
- **November**
 - Garage Sale organized by the Knights of Columbus
 - Singing of Polish Patriotic Songs
 - Polish Independence Day celebration (org. by the Polish Consulate General)
- **December**
 - Św. Mikołaj (St. Nicolaus) organized by the Polish School
 - Polish National Alliance annual gala
 - Wigilia (Christmas Eve supper)

Nicolaus Copernicus Polish School Houston Saturday School:

This school year 2025/26 enrolment is 71 students and 10 teachers.

- Principal- Hanna Tomaszekiewicz
- Schools' website <https://szkolapolskahouston.com/en/main-page/>
- Regular classes are every Saturday from 10:00-2:00 from August until May
- Polish school is highly active with lots of activities all year long

The most major events are:

- Polish Harvest Festival in September
- Pasowanie na Ucznia, Students and Teachers Reunion with Teachers Day in October
- Polish Bilingual Day in October
- Concert "The 100th Anniversary of the Coronation of Boleslaw the Brave" – October 25
- Polish Independence Day in November
- Mikołajki in December
- School's Wigilia in December
- Jaselka in January
- Carnival Ball for the kids in February
- Carnival Ball for Adults in February. This is the biggest fundraiser for the Polish School.
- Contest for the most beautiful Easter Palm- Palm Sunday
- Easter Egg Hunt in April
- Mother's, Father's, and Children's Day in May- Family Picnic
- Polish Summer Camp in June and July



St. John Paul II Institute (University of St. Thomas)

(Information forthcoming)

Wawel Dance Group

<https://wawelhouston.com/index.html>

- **Director:** *Ks. Ma rysz Lis*
- **Artistic Director:** *Yessica Krozel*
- **Treasurer:** *Ania Dwornik*
- **Secretary:** *Katie Kubiak*
- **Costume Manager:** *Marysia Kosacka*
- **Board Members:** *Aneta Krozel, Maryann Ciaston, Mike Kurtin*





- 47 members
- Three subgroups: Adults, Mini Wawel (children and teenagers), and Babcia Wawel (elderly)
- Performing at a wide variety of events throughout Texas and across the United States
- Performing for many International Festivals throughout the major cities of Texas (Houston, Galveston, Katy, Sealy, Panna Maria, and Austin)
- Representatives of Poland for Texas Independence Day Celebration in Washington-on-the-Brazos
- Part of the Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas (Yessica Krozel is the secretary for the association and board member)

- Performers for the annual PACT Meeting
- Supporting and performing the annual Bremond, TX Polish Days Festival
- Polish Heritage Day performers at John Paul 2 Landing Park
- Annual Houston Heritage Slavic Festival members and performers
- Honorary members, performers, and organizers of the annual Houston Polish Festivals
- Supported by the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Houston as well as Wspólnota Polska in Warsaw, Poland

Yessica Krozel, (713) 835-8087



Other Polish organizations and events in Houston:

- **Polish Theatre Groups:**
Associated with OLOC, Director: Michal Szpak
Associated with Holy Name Retreat Center, Director: Fr. Nicholas Divine
- **Classical Music Group: Duo Dramatique – Dominika Dancewicz**
- **Polish National Alliance Texas Chapter** – exhibits or displays at a majority of the events in the region Co-sponsors or supports all events.
- **Dom Polski (Polish Home)** – Annual Christmas Party, Quarterly meetings, Sponsoring Polish Events and groups
- **Polish Progressive Lodge 2336 – PNA**, Meetings, supporting and sponsoring Polish Events and Groups and Sponsorships
- **Kosciuszko Lodge 165 – PNA** - PNA, Meetings, supporting and sponsoring Polish Events and Groups and Sponsorships - PNA, Meetings, supporting and sponsoring Polish Events and Groups and Sponsorships
- **Council 182 – PNA – Supporting events with Lodge 2336 and 165 and Polish Home Inc in additional to PNA event in general**
- **Houston Slavic Heritage Festival** (September) – yearly festival celebrating its 60th year! Polish-Ukrainian-Czech-Croatian. This year was the Polish Year and was extraordinarily successful
- **Polish Film Festival** (October-November) Houston: Dr. Zbigniew Wojciechowski, Adam Siuk
- **Polish Bridge Club** – 40 members

- ***Polonia Restaurant*** - Catering and Deli: (Houston/Bremond) Polish Pavilion at Renaissance Festival
- ***Polki w Houston***
- ***Polacy w Teksasie (FB)***
- ***Polish American Chamber of Commerce in Texas***
- **October 2023/2024 – 2nd & 3rd Annual Polish Picnic at the John Paul II Landing Park in Cypress by PACT**

Polish Media in Texas:

- Forum Polonia Houston
- Zgoda newspaper by PNA
- PNA Region H
- Polish Events and Happening in Texas
- Various Polish Groups Facebook
- WEBR Radio hosted by Andrew Gołębiowski, The Polish American Radio in Buffalo, New York
- A written tribute about Bishop John W. Yanta for the Wilson County News about the life and impact of Bishop Yanta
- TVP Polish Television
- TVN Polish Television
- Wilson County News
- Brenham Banner Press
- TV Stations in Houston (list them)
- Brazos Valley Insight Magazine
- Texas Monthly Magazine

DFW Metroplex Regional Report

Parafia pw. św. Piotra Apostoła – St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Dallas, TX.

Jadwiga Wasilewski, Parish Council President

St. Peter the Apostle, Dallas TX

Under the care of the Society of Christ Fathers since 1985, Saint Peter the Apostle provides mass in both English and Polish. Multiple Feast days are celebrated in our parish throughout the year – though not all are listed here, we welcome you to celebrate with us. Visit our website at stpeterdal.com for more information.

- Saturday Mass 6:30 PM Polish Mass
- Sunday Masses: 9 am
- English Mass **11am Polish Mass**
- Pastor: Fr Jacek Wesołowski SChr

We've had group dinners for many calendar holidays, also Jaselka, Mikolajki with the Polish School of Dallas, Our Lady of Guadalupe performances, etc. All of our activities are focused around the liturgical calendar but often do include celebrations such as Polish-American Independence Day or Our Lady of Czestochowa. We have donation months with collections for winter coats, school supplies, canned goods, etc.

Religious Education in English & Polish

Oferujemy nauczanie religii dla dzieci w klasach Pre-K do 8 klasy. Zajęcia z religii odbywają się w niedziele po Mszy Świętej.

We offer Religious Education for children in grades Pre-K through 8th grade. Religious Education classes are offered on Sundays after Mass.

Jan Karski Polish School of Dallas

Since its establishment in 2006, the Polish School of Dallas has been serving the Polish community in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. The school offers classes on Saturdays from 11 AM to 2 PM.

The Board of Directors consists of Principal Marek Panek, Director of Education Paulina Wyszomirska, and Director of Administration Piotr Rej.

To foster Polish traditions and customs, the school organizes several events throughout the year for the broader Polish community. These events include meetings with Santa, Easter egg hunts, Christmas plays (Jaselka), Constitution Day celebrations and camping trips.



More information can be found: <https://polishschooldallas.org/>

George Dabrowski Small Big Hearts Foundation

So far in 2025 our organization has helped 4 different children who came with their families to Dallas to undergo complicated surgeries and treatment. All those 4 kids have been to Dallas several times before and receive continuous support from Small Big Hearts Foundation. The Foundation has also provided those families with \$6,548.00 in financial assistance as a result of additional medical expenses. In addition, the Board contributed \$1,716.00 to cover medical expenses for one of the members of the Dallas Polonia, who suffered complications from brain cancer surgery. Next year, Small Big Hearts Foundation will be celebrating a 10-year anniversary with a celebratory Gala in the fall of 2026.

Jagoda Polish Folk Dance Ensemble

www.jagodadance.org

fb: Jagoda Polish Folk Dance Ensemble

Dyrektor Artystyczny: Alicja Futoma, 214.842.1612, e-mail: contact@jagodadance.org

Jagoda Dance Ensemble Company is a non-profit organization incorporated under the 501c(3) of the IRS code. It promotes Polish culture and customs throughout the state of Texas, performing at major international multi-cultural festivals, as well as Polish Community events and private events.

This year (2025) appearances include:

- Dallas Treasures, Irving Symphony
Irving, Tx
- Gateway to the Globe, A Multicultural Celebration
Farmers Branch, TX
- Taste of Addison
Addison, TX
- Polish Festival
Bremont, TX



- John Paul II Community Event
Winona, TX

Rehearsals are being held on Sundays, 12:30 pm, at the Notre Dame School, 2907 Woodall Rodgers Fwy, Dallas, TX 75204. Everybody is invited!
Children's' group meets at the Polish School of Dallas,
<http://www.polishschooldallas.org/> , during school hours.

Austin Regional Report

By Art Gmurowski, President AUSTIN POLISH SOCIETY
(Information forthcoming)

El Paso Regional Report

By General Casimir Pulaski Polish American Society of El Paso

Here is the report on the activities of the General Casimir Pulaski Society in 2025:

On February 13, the El Paso Polonia met Professor Waldemar Priebe from MD Anderson, who also delivered an engaging lecture at the University of Texas at El Paso. Later that day, GCPS was honored to invite Professor Priebe to dinner. On February 27, we celebrated Fat Thursday at a Krispy Kreme location on the Westside of El Paso.

El Paso Polonia has supported the Borderland Chopin Festival since its inception. In 2025, the festival took place from March 21 to March 23 at the UTEP Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, featuring 33 talented pianists. A highlight of the event was a free public concert on March 22, which showcased distinguished pianists Hyunjin Roh from South Korea, who later performed at the 13th Paderewski Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland, and Takeshi Nagayasu from Japan, an award-winning pianist recognized for his accomplishments in competitions such as the Kosciuszko Foundation. The Borderland Chopin Festival is a celebration of our love for this great and genius composer, keeping his art and patriotic spirit alive.

On Easter Saturday, April 19, members of GCPS, along with families and friends, gathered to bless food (Święconka) in a Catholic parish house. OMF Jarosław Wysoczanski blessed the traditional food baskets.

On June 1, we celebrated Children's Day with the children meeting at Orange Leaf for ice cream. A small talent show took place, and each child received a toy. From June 11 to 15, we participated in the Chamber Music Festival 2025, during which the outstanding violinist Teresa Grynia performed. We also celebrated a special distinction for Dr. and Dr. Sarosiek, who were featured in a TVP Polonia report titled "Scientific Success Abroad" for their pioneering work in the medical field. On June 24, as part of the Plaza Classics Film Festival 2025, we watched a screening of the film "Schindler's List" at the Philanthropy Theatre.

On July 4, we gathered to celebrate US Independence Day. On August 1, we commemorated the anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising. During the summer, we also celebrated the expansion of our Polish family in El Paso with a family gathering and baby shower on August 10.

On September 1, we commemorated the anniversary of the outbreak of World War II. On September 6, GCPS organized the Polish National Reading 2025 event in El Paso, Texas, where Polish-speaking members and friends presented works by Jan Kochanowski.

On November 8, we celebrated Independence Day at a local public library, presenting the history of Poland from the 18th to the 20th century, culminating in the regaining of independence on November 11, 1918.

The Christmas meeting is one of the most important events for GCPS. Members and friends gather to share the traditional opłatek and sing beautiful Polish Christmas carols. In 2025, we plan to organize the Christmas gathering on December 6th, Mikolajki.

Texas A & M Polish Association Report ***Yearly Report. by Jakub Sciuk, President***

(Information forthcoming)



Polish Club at the University of Texas at Austin

By Klaudia Misztal, President of the Polish Club at UT

The Polish Club at UT is a leading Polish-American organization which promotes Polish culture, food, traditions, community, and language through a variety of Polish events and trips.

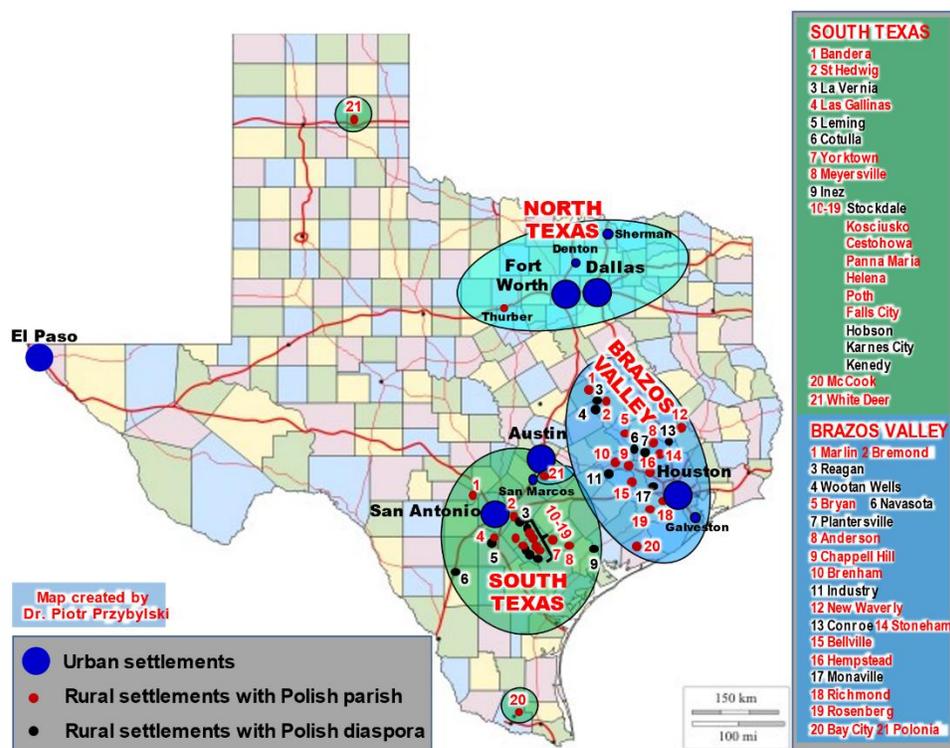
This past year, the Polish Club organized various cultural events to engage UT students with Polish culture and build community. These include Dr. Jim's annual Christmas party, Wielka Orkiestra

Świątecznej Pomocy, Pierogi Cooking Classes with Apolonia Catering, a trip to Ziggy's Kiełbasa House in Leander TX, a trip to Panna Maria, TX, a trip to the Texas Farmers' Market at Mueller to eat Pierogi, a Polish Tea Party on campus, and the Austin Polish Film Festival.



Additionally, the Polish Club promoted learning the Polish language through fun language circles during biweekly club meetings, as well as through biweekly Advanced Polish Language Circles for more advanced speakers. During general meetings, members also play fun games created by officers to learn about the history and culture of Poland.

As always, we would like to express our gratitude to the Polish American Council of Texas (PACT), its board of directors, and its membership for their generosity and support. We would like to thank Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Mr. Eric Opiela, Ms. Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden, Ms. Elaine Mazurek-Stephens, Ms. Susan Moczygemba-McKinsey, and Mr. John Wojtasczyk for going beyond to help the Club succeed. We are proud to be PACT members. 2 We are looking forward to continuing to grow and develop the Club this coming year. We wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year! *Wesołych Świąt i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!*



Note :PACT assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content of this report.