IOM'24 – Meeting #1 Wednesday – January 3, 2024 8:00 – 9:24 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Szymon, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- The participants of this meeting spent Christmas and New Year with their families.
- The Coalition of Polish Americans quickly reacted by sending a protest letter after the new left-wing government dissolved the public television station TVP.
- Zbyszek started preparing summaries of last year's meetings, highlighting issues that we should address again.
- Zbyszek started working on the Polish version of the brochure about Poland replacing the text in the Polish Americans Contribution column with text that would be specific to Poles.
- Jonathan Silverstein is hosting another meeting, this time with Rep. Marcy Kaptur on Thursday, January 25, 2024, from 9:00-10:00 AM Central Time via Microsoft Teams. She will be taking Q&A on "Freedom Means Never Surrender."
- Zbyszek, after including all suggestions to the WWII Commemoration and Compensation Resolution, sent it to several interested people from the PACT group.

We talked about:

- Dr. Gene made a few minor corrections to the draft WWII Commemoration and Compensation Resolution, which Andrzej immediately implemented.
- The Polish Club at UT and its extremely consistent activities. No other Polish American organization can compare with them.
- The importance of educating young people especially in Poland and around the world. This is necessary to build a civil state. Szymon suggested that instead of developing close relationships with American legislators, we should devote our time and energy to this project. Dr. Gene rightly described what needs to be done: teach a critical thinking. However, no one had any idea how to do it.
- Situation in Poland after a new government of Donald Tusk took over.

What was decided:

- Everyone who can should contact their congressional representative's office and schedule a meeting with the legislative team re the Compensation Resolution.
- Dr. Gene will attempt to attend a WEP/GPO Task Force meeting on Monday.
- Dr. Gene will meet with his Representative, Abigail Spanberger, in January and ask her to sponsor the Compensation Resolution. She is a Democrat who prides herself as being the most bipartisan Democrat in the House of Representatives.

REMINDER that can be useful in encouraging people to join our meetings:

Any person who wants to be useful, anyone who wants to be involved in changing what can be changed, by working with other motivated people. Thanks to close cooperation in a friendly environment, we increase the mental power of the group. We are able to focus on important matters that correspond to our capabilities. Also, joining us is free, no application is required, there is no obligation to attend every meeting, our group is not formally structured, we respect personal political views, we accept members of any organization or non-affiliated people. We cooperate with variety of organizations and individuals.

Next meeting: PACT24 > Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 1/9/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #1 Thursday – January 11, 2024 3:00 – 4:04 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Halina, Jola, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Dr. Gene submitted question for Marcy Kaptur (as Jonathan Silverstein had asked to do before the meeting with her) whether she was going to support the Compensation Resolution now (she promised to get involved after the election in Poland). This is in reference of the meeting with the Congresswoman on January 25 organized by the Polish Club at UT. Zbyszek wonders if Jonathan will present Gene's question, because questions are screened beforehand (once Zbyszek's question was omitted, because "did not fit").
- Andrzej at his PAC -New Jersey Division meeting reminded to contact legislators from Ways & Means re WEP as Gene had requested.
- Zbyszek called Andrew Garbarino's Long Island office re the Compensation Resolution and was directed to call his DC office and contact Mr. Garbarino's legislative team directly. Zbyszek followed the advice and received an email to the head of the Legislative Team Kevin.Ganon@mail.house.gov
- Andrzej spoke at the Katyn Monument last Sunday during a demonstration (`100 people showed up) against the unconstitutional behavior of the new Polish government.
- John Czop informed Zbyszek that Lech Walesa was invited by the organizers of the 60 Million event which will take place in February in Miami. This is an expensive event for the participants, Halina recalled when she was there with Zbyszek last year.
- Arkadiusz Mularczyk, head of the reparations team, told PAP (Polish Press Agency) that he will soon submit a draft resolution to the Sejm where "We will call on the government to take action during this parliamentary term on the international forum to seek war reparations from Germany."

We talked about:

- Dr. Gene introduced us to a new Alert on HR.82 and its Senate version S.597. Currently, 50 senators are co-sponsors, and an additional 11 are needed.
- Should we wait until we hear a clear statement from the new Polish government on compensation for Poland for WWII? Ryszard noted that the issue of reparations is perceived negatively by legislators and gave the example of African-Americans seeking compensation for slavery in California. Zbyszek saw no connection or comparison with the Polish case. Dr. Gene: PASI has decided to wait until the reaction of the new Polish government is known.
- The report from the last meeting was read.
- Films about Poland available on the Netflex were discussed by Jola and Dr. Gene.

What was decided:

- Dr. Gene asked us to join the Call to Action: The National WEP/GPO Repeal Task Force is launching our 2024 campaign next week on 16 January to press 10 targeted House members and 10 targeted Senate members to advance H.R. 82 and S. 597. Details in Gene's email or please contact him or Zbyszek directly.
- Dr. Gene will NOT meet with his Representative, Abigail Spanberger until he receives the green light from PASI which is awaiting plans of the new Polish government re compensations for WWII.

Next meeting: PACT24 > Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 1/12/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #2 Thursday – January 18, 2024 3:00 – 4:57 PM EST

Participants:
Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jola, Jurek B., Ryszard, Szymon, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Gienek recovered from weeks of Covid-related complications and we are delighted to have him back.
- Halina and Zbyszek organized a reunion meeting of the Oginski Choir at the Polish American Museum. Good times were recalled, Christmas and other songs were sung.
- After the event in Museum, Halina and Zbyszek went to a restaurant for Tom Suozzi's rally. There were at least 100 of us. We managed to talk to some of the participants. His opponent in the upcoming special election on Feb. 13 is Jewish woman Mazi Pilip (R).
- Tim Kuzma, PAC VP for American Affairs hosted the 3rd meeting of PAC division and national organization Presidents on Tuesday at 8:30 PM EST. 17 people participated.
- Gienek mentioned a letter of Senator Vance (R-OH) to Secretary Blinken: https://www.vance.senate.gov/press-releases/senator-vance-slams-biden-administrations-silence-on-polish-government-attacks-on-press-freedom/

We talked about:

- Dr. Gene asked us to continue the campaign to put pressure on 10 members of Ways & Means Committee and Senators for the next 3 weeks. It is not too late to get involved in this project and encourage your friends to join.
- Andrzej and Ryszard summarized the last meeting organized by Kuzma. Tim agreed with Bozena, Mark and Michael that PAC should remain impartial re recent events in Poland. Other speakers were against it. Ryszard was not allowed to present the PAC-LI statement regarding the behavior of new Prime Minister, Donald Tusk.
- 60 Million Congress in Miami. Last year's participants shared their opinions. Participation in the event is very expensive. There is no follow-up to decisions made a year ago. This event does not serve Polonia or Poland in any way. It is about showing off. https://60mln.pl/en
- The report from the last meeting was read.
- We sang a Polish birthday song for Ryszard, who will turn 93 on Saturday, wishing him to be active, have good humor and health until he is at least 120 years old.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek will prepare a draft of questions for Suozzi (D) and Mazi Pilip (R) and will consult them with PACT participants before presenting them to the candidates.
- Dr. Gene asked us all to spread the word about the WEP/GPO Repeal Alert Action. He prepared all necessary documents. Gienek liked what is on the PASI website, which makes it very convenient to contact the 10 members of the Ways & Means Committee: https://joinpasi.org/index.php/markup_hr82/
- PAC-LI will defer sending the proposed Commemoration-Compensation Resolution and related documents to Rep. Andrew Garbarino.
- Zbyszek: Mr. Kuzma should be informed that PAC-LI was shocked and does not appreciate the way its President was treated during the last PAC meeting on Jan. 17.
- Jola suggested contacting the candidate for Congress in Toledo, Ohio.
  R J Majewski tel. 419 - 318 – 9878, website: rjforohio.com

Next meeting: PACT24 > Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 1/20/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #3

Thursday – January 25, 2024
3:00 – 5:43 PM EST

Participants:
Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jola, Jurek B., Tomek, Zbyszek.

Oginski Male Choir reunion, Jan. 13 at the Polish American Museum

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Response to Tim Kuzma, regarding not allowing Ryszard to present the PAC-LI position on the situation in Poland was prepared by Zbyszek with help of Andrzej and Krzysiek (5 people signed it, the remaining participants were afraid or did not care).
- Zbyszek's emails going from PASI's link to Rep's ended in spam as undeliverable.
- Ryszard managed to place a PAC-LI ad in the bulletin of St. Hedwig Church.
- The meeting with Rep. Marcy Kaptur took place this morning (11 people participated, including 5 from outside of the Polish Club at UT)
- Dr. Gene sent emails re H.R.82 separately to each Rep.
- Tomorrow Jola will take part in a meeting with Marek Skulimowski from the Kosciuszko Foundation re Polish Study at Wane State University. KF gives money to this department. Also Invited were: Wisniewski, Raczkowski, Bankowski, Walawender.

We talked about:

- Dr. Gene explained why we are focusing only on 10 members of the Ways & Means Committee and not all 43. According to some sympathetic staffers, these 10 are the most influential and the WEP/GPO Repeal Task Force recommends contacting them.
- What is the best way to email Congressmen and Senators about WEP/GPO.
- According to Ms. Marcy Kaptur compensation is a biliteral matter between Poland and Germany, she recommends building bridges and going to courts (Jews did not go to courts). The elections are coming and we can mention it to her. Dr. Gene and Zbyszek: we could use some of her wordings in the Resolution. A close alliance between Poland
- and the United States, is in the interest of both countries which is why the US should support Poland in the matter of compensation for WWII.
- The report from the last meeting was read.
- Suozzi or Mazi who would be better for us. How can we check this - that is the question.
- Tomek did not receive a response from Mr. Majewski who will run against Rep. Kaptur.
- Who are the leaders the Platforma Obywatelska (PO)?

What was decided:

- Dr. Gene will talk tMałgosia Ciuraszkiewicz about removing the "optional" description in front of the email window and adding a space for organizational affiliation.
- Zbyszek did not have time to prepare a draft of questions for Suozzi (D) and Mazi Pilip (R). This should be done soon.
- Andrzej passed on Krzysiek's suggestion to ask Rep. Marcy for a meeting with members of Polish American organizations, as she recently accepted an invitation from a student organization.
- Jola suggested obtaining a response from Ms. Marcy's in writing.
- Tomek will go to the Town Hall meeting of his Congressman, Max Miller Ohio (R).
- Tomek asked us to visit his PAC division's website https://www.pacoh.org/

Next meeting: PACT24 > Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 1/28/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #4 Thursday – February 1, 2024 3:00 – 5:34 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jola, Tomek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Zbyszek wrote a draft of questions for Tom Suozzi (D) and Melesa Mazi Pilip (R).
- PASI has prepared a letter to Polish politicians re the concerns of the Polish diaspora caused by recent actions of Tusk's new government.
- Jola participated in a meeting organized by KF re the Polish Study at Wane University.
- Dr. Krystyna sent Zbyszek a message from the organization "Foundation Leader 100".
- Tomek went to a Town Hall meeting and talked to his Rep. Max Miller (R-OH #7).

We talked about:

- About the questions that Zbyszek prepared for the candidates (Mazi & Suozzi) running in the special elections in the NY 3rd district. The elections will take place on Feb. 13.
- PASI letter on the situation in Poland and how to increase the importance of the letter.
- PASI's plan to put pressure on legislators re H.R.82. Dr. Gene's clear, well-prepared explanation was read.
- Jola's meeting with Marek Skulimowski from the Kosciuszko Foundation re Polish Study at Wane State University. KF, after the reaction of this department, which ostentatiously announced that it did not need $20 k from KF, will stop sending donations.
- Zbyszek recalled the life of Fr. Rożek, Halina Dick Traum's life and his achievements.
- The purpose of the visit in the US of Luis Brus, President of the Leader100 Foundation ((he is an Argentinian who has been living in Poland since 1996). The info from Adam Domaradzki sent to Zbyszek: Luis wants to exchange experiences in different countries on the practices in involving parents in the upbringing of the young generation. Luis will participate in a congress in the Philippines in February, and will travel from there to USA in March. Materials for teachers, parents and students - children and teenagers aged 6 to 18 (for developing 25 social competences and 156 age-appropriate habits) can be found here: https://leader100.pl/kompetencje-leader100/ . The materials are currently available in Polish, Spanish and Portuguese. The meeting should take place in New York (meeting date to be determined: from Tuesday, March 12 in the afternoon to Thursday, March 14). Purpose of the meeting: to present materials and consider translating them into English. Luis will first visit California, Texas and Boston.
- The report from the last meeting was read.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek will send the questions to candidates before special elections in his district #3.
- Everyone who receives PACT/IOM emails should participate in well-planned WEP campaign. Instructions will be sent on when, how and which group of Reps to contact.
- Andrzej recommended downloading Thunderbird, which saves time when forwarding emails without having to delete traces.
- Zbyszek will contact Rep. Marcy Kaptur and ask her to meet with Polonia organizations.
- Gienek suggested organizing open meetings to attract members to the organization.

Recommended:

1) Please listen to Dr. Bogdan Kotnis' conversation with Robert Terzian, Esq., a retired government attorney about the book "Kaz: War, Love, and Betrayal"". Any comment will help in creating more podcasts. Please post the link to your friends and on social media: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIsHdURo3ZU.
2) Dr. Andrzej's find, a mine of knowledge about the traces of Polish Americans: https://www.amazon.com/Footprints-Polonia-Polish-Historical-America/dp/0781814359

Next meeting: IOM'24 > Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 2/3/24

IOM'24 – Meeting #2

Wednesday – February 7,

8:00 – 10:21 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek B., Zbyszek.

Suozzi fundraising at Bella restaurant in Little Neck on February 6 (6 PM -9 PM). Minimum donation was $250 per person.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- On Sunday, Zbyszek emailed questions with Ryszard's final touches to Tom Suozzi (D) and Melesa Mazi Pilip (R). Questions are posted on the PAC-Long Island website:: www.paclongisland.org
- The 60 Million Congress ended on Sunday in Miami. Lech Wałęsa promotes a united Europe and the end of nation states. https://60mln.pl/en/
- PASI asked us for help in collecting the organization's signatures for their open letter to Polish politicians re the concerns of Polonia about the situation in Poland.
- PASI has started a 5-day Action Plan of sending daily emails to a group of Reps (8-9). Messages and instructions were prepared by Dr. Gene and Małgosia. Jacek worked for several days on a program that automatically sends signed e-mails to staffers of Reps.
- Zbyszek talked to Adam Domaradzki from the organization "Foundation Leader 100" about their education program that they want to present to Polish Saturday Schools and American Public Schools. He and Luis Brus, will try to join us at Thursday meeting.

We talked about:

- Email action to Reps re the repeal of WEP/GPO initiated by PASI. Who participated and who received confirmation. Jacek provided us with the details.
- PASI Statement on the situation in Poland. Dr. Gene read the statement to us and discussion ensued. To whom the letter should be sent to? If we also want to send it to the media, it was suggested to change the title from "Statement" to "Open Letter". Reps of 5 PAC divisions present at the meeting agreed to have their names included in the letter: Florida, Long Island, New Jersey, North California, Missouri.
- Special Election in district #3 and its impact on the balance in the House.
- Should parents be responsible for their children's behavior
- 60 Million Congress. 4 years of Jurek's observation: This event is not for Polonia. People like to meet in Florida and have fun. This is a missed opportunity. Wałęsa said that he likes that globalization is progressing, such as the world's response to Covid.
- PAC-Michigan and their situation. Jola: they have 50 members and 20 organizations. They are the only division that owns a building. Their building is located in Hamtramck which became a Muslim town. Zbyszek told how "Community Centers" in Great Neck work. The trick is finding committed people, who care and who have the vision and skills needed to run the facility.
- Andrzej told us that the Polish National Home in Passaic was sold.
- The report of the last weekly meeting was read.

What was decided:

- Halina & Zbyszek will try to meet with Melesa Mazi Pilip.
- We have once again postponed pressure on Reps re the Compensation Resolution.
- Andrzej & Zbyszek will collect signatures under a PASI letter re the situation in Poland.
- Andrzej: is it time to reactivate the Polonia for Trump movement?

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 2/10/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #5 Thursday, February 15, 2024 3 – 5:40 PM EST

Participants: Adam D., Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek B., Tomek, Zbyszek.

Adam Domaradzki from the Polish educational organization "Leader 100" joined our meeting. I would like to thank Andrzej for continuing to moderate the meeting after I left.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Halina & Zbyszek could not find a way to meet with Melesa Mazi Pilip (R).
- Tom Suozzi (D) was elected in the special election that took place Tuesday, Feb. 13 in the NY district #3 where Halina and Zbyszek live. Tom received 53.9%, Melesa 46.1%.
- Changes in the education programs in Poland were announced. They will be implemented in September.
- President Duda and Prime Minister Tusk will visit at the White House on March 12: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/02/15/statement-from-press-secretary-karine-jean-pierre-on-the-visit-of-president-duda-and-prime-minister-tusk-of-poland-to-the-white-house/
- New Polish Prime Minister, Donald Tusk wants to discuss WWII reparations with Berlin: https://news.yahoo.com/polish-leader-wants-discuss-wwii-31137531.html?fr=sycsrp_catchall
- Sikorski: Poland supports a two-state solution which entails the existence of both Israel and a Palestinian state: Sikorski: Poland recognizes the statehood of Israel and Palestine - English Section - polskieradio.pl

We talked about:

- We worked on the "Open Letter" (title changed from "Statement"). After discussion, Andrzej immediately implemented our suggestions. A preliminary list who should receive the letter: US House and Senate Members, Former US President Trump, US Ambassador Mark Brzezinski, Polish and American Media, Social Media.
- Adam Domaradzki presented the educational organization Leader 100 (originally, it listed 100 important habits that should be taught to children, over years this number expanded to 150) https://leader100.eu/. The institution was established in 2010 and currently employs 10 people, some of them work part-time, preparing materials for children and parents. The inspiration for creating the lessons came from the economics teaching methods developed at Carleton College: https://serc.carleton.edu/econ/teaching_methods/index.html. Leader 100 has materials in Polish and Spanish. Soon they will have more than 60 e-books to offer. We talked how we can help and benefit from their program. Luis, the President of the organization will come to the US in March.
- Changes in educational programs in Poland which will be introduced in September.
- Movement for the Repair of Poland.

What was decided:

- We will help Luis, President of Leader100 meet with teachers from New York area in person and via Zoom.
- Andrzej & Zbyszek will continue to collect signatures for the PASI Open Letter, after Wojtek's approval.

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 2/18/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #6 Thursday, February 22, 2024 3 – 6:02 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek B., Ryszard, Szymon, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- A scheduler of Rep. Marcy Kaptur responded at 7 AM today to Zbyszek's request for a meeting sent on February 9. Juven Jacob asked for the following: Topics of conversation; Attendees; Time frame; Organizations involved.
- On Tuesday, Mr. Kuzma held another monthly meeting of PAC National Directors. 16 people attended, 5 were members of the PAC Board. According to Bozena, the 'Open Letter'' attacks a new government and that she does not like.
- Tim Kuzma announced that the National Executive Council (PAC division Presidents) will meet next week. New dues and other issues will be discussed and decisions will be made by vote.

We talked about:

- The "Open Letter". Who signed it, to whom it will be sent and its translation. We learned that the letter was translated by Ania B., President of PAC-Michigan. The letter will be sent to President Andrzej Duda, Prime Minister Donald Tusk, Parliamentary Marshals, via the Polish Ambassy. Also, to the Polish Press Agency, Polish American media.
- Visit of Luis Brusa, President of Leader100.The leaflet announcing his visit should be revised. In its current state it will be difficult to attract anyone to participate. Andrzej suggested helping them arouse interest in their educational program by writing in the leaflet: we are observing the collapse of the education system in the Western world and the Educational Foundation has come up with a proposal that can solve this problem. On the Leader 100 website, there is an example of six skill habits:
    - I put things back in place (suggested age: 5-7 years)
    - I take care of school supplies and the place of study (8-9 years)
    - I keep things tidy around me (10-11 years)
    - I have a daily plan and I follow it (12-13 years old)
    - I can schedule things in time (14-15 years old)
    - I can distinguish between important and urgent things (16-18 years old)
- Repeal of WEP/GPO: actions prepared by PASI to send e-mails to Members of Congress. Gienek had suggestions: not activate the links only on specific dates, and restore the link to the video from the rally in DC, where Dr. Gene spoke so eloquently.

What was decided:

- Andrzej, if necessary, will correct the translation of the "Open Letter" and send it to Wojtek J. for approval.
- Andrzej and Zbyszek will prepare a message for Dr. Dorota Andraka, Jan Kozak and teachers about a meeting with the Leader 100 EU.
- Zbyszek will seek signatures from PAC West Florida and Central New York.
- Jola will try to convince Leszek Pawlik, President of Coalitions of Polish Americans to sign the "Open Letter" and will sed it to Gwiazda Polarna and Kuryer Polski.
- Zbyszek will reply to the scheduler of Rep. Marcy Kaptur.
- Gienek had a question about the lawsuit re the Katyń Monument. Dr. Gene will try to find out from Wojtek J.
- Jacek will tell us whether it will be possible to meet President Duda and PM Tusk.

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, February 29, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 2/25/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #7

Thursday, February 29, 2024 3 – 6:02 PM EST

Participants: Adam D., Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek B., Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Zbyszek sent an email answering the scheduler of Rep. Marcy Kaptur:
  1.topics of conversation: a) Poland caucus - goal and achievements,
  b) 85th Anniversary of the beginning of WWII, c) Human rights and freedom of speech d) Situation in the Middle East
  2) attendees: Presidents, members of the Boards of Polish American organizations
  (I will send names when the date and time will be announced)
  3) timeframe: less than an hour
  4) organizations involved: following organizations would like to participate:
  Polish American Congress, Coalition of Polish Americans, PASI, PASI EDU
- Andrzej wrote a letter on behalf of PASI to the Polish Ambassy requesting a meeting with the Polish President and PM.
- Zbyszek and Andrzej sent emails to teachers of Polish Saturday Schools re a meeting with the President of Leader 100.
- Jacek didn't receive a response from the Embassy re the meeting with Mr. Duda, Tusk.
- Leszek Pawlik, President of Coalition of Polish Americans signed the "Open Letter".
- Tomek: On February 20, the Minister of National Defense, Wladyslaw Kosiniak Kamysz appointed former General of the Polish People's Republic Bogusław Pak as the director of the Polish Army Museum.

We talked about:

- The meeting of the National Director Council which was held on Tuesday. There were 16 participants (6 were EC officers). The draft of EC budget was presented. It was promised that the budget would be sent to divisions. $5 k goes to teach the VP for PR how to use the website. Mr. Spula proposed reducing dues from 80% to 60%. Andrzej wanted to see the budget from last year. Mr. Spula was angry that many divisions signed the Open letter re the situation in Poland. National Directors dues $300.
- Jacka's automatic email sending program was praised.
- Changing the hours of most of our meetings to evenings.
- Draft of PASI Statement on Ukraine. It has been read and discussed. Jola, Zbyszek and Andrzej from California did not understand the intention Volodya Putin would like it.
- Meeting with President of Leader 100, Luis Brusa on March 13.
- Importance and teaching of verbal communication, critical thinking, political involvement. Andrzej explained the meaning: Politics is a common concern for the common good. How to convince people to become politically active: if you are not interested in politics, politics will be interested in you. "Silence is golden" - an example of a proverb with the opposite meaning.
- The report from the last meeting was read and discussed.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek will try to organize a meeting with PAC divisions.
- Zbyszek and Andrzej will continue to inform about meeting with Leader 100.
- Adam recommended reading "How to live wisely in the 21st century" by Ryszard Stocki.
- Tomek recommended reportage of DW about Polish children kidnapped in WWII:
  The kidnapping campaign of Nazi Germany | DW Documentary (youtube.com)

Next meeting: IOM'24 > Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 3/03/24

IOM'24 – Meeting #3
Wednesday, March 6, 2024
8 – 10:14 PM EST
Participants:
Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

commemorating Cursed Soldiers, Patriots imprisoned, brutally investigated and murdered for fighting communism.

In their memory races are organized

What has happened since our last meeting?

- March 1, „Dzień Żołnierzy Niezłomnych". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cursed_soldiers
- Zbyszek is organizing a meeting with the PAC Presidents on Tuesday, next week on March 12, at 8:30 PM. The main goal is to work on the proposal for dues paid to the EC. Jim Lawicki (Buffalo) and David Rydzewski (Wisconsin) did not respond.
- Andrzej received responses from Polish Saturday Schools teachers interested in meeting the President of Leader 100.
- Luis Brusa will be in DC and is looking for a translator. Jacek could possibly help.

We talked about:

- Which organizations and how much money they received from "Infrustruktura Polonijna". Also, Foundations (sponsors) through which money is transferred to Polonia organizations. Jola found the website of MSZ and read this very interesting info to us. https://www.gov.pl/web/dyplomacja/wyniki-konkursu-infrastruktura-polonijna-2024
- PAC-Michigan elections. A change in the position of President is expected. Potential candidates and future plans were mentioned, as well as membership.
- What happened in PAC divisions: in New Jersey 4-5 energetic people joined the Board, PAC-Washington DC organized the annual Fall Bal and on Feb. 24 took part in pro-Ukrainian rally at the Lincoln Memorial (~500 people), Jacek talked to Ambassador and earlier to Ukrainians veterans at the airport that lost limbs, PAC-Missouri will participate in helping renewing passports (so far 80 people, are interested), they also received permission to place Pulaski's bust at a cemetery and got $25 k from MSZ.
- Statement on Ukraine prepared by PASI. Jola: it is a pity that this was written.
- Immigrants from Poland after "Solidarity".
- WEP/GPO repeal action and people involved in this project.
- PAC budget for 2024.
- Meeting with Luis Brusa next week.
- Farmers' demonstrations in Poland against the "Green Deal".
- PAC division Presidents meeting on Tuesday.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek will send Jola samples of election flyers
- Gienek again proposed changing the hours of our meetings to evenings to accommodate those who work during the day. We will try to alternate the start times of meetings on Thursdays, from 3 to 8 PM.

Recommended: Jola's finding "White and Red Umbrella" by Joanna Wojdon
Zbyszek: "Bias on reporting" on NPR MARCH 1, 2024 Measuring Bias in Israel-Palestine Coverage, and Mehdi Hasan's Approach to Covering the Region

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: current events + this report will be read and commented on

zk 3/10/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #8 Wednesday, March 14, 2024 3 – 6:02 PM EST

Participants:

Andrzej, Edmund, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek B., Szymon, Tomek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Jacek helped Luis Brusa with translation in D.C. while meeting the authors of a book about the temperament (it took over 2 hours) at the Catholic information Center.
- Meetings: Tuesday, presidents and reps of PAC divisions via Zoom (organizer, Zbyszek) + about the results of research on the promotion of Poland abroad at the Consulate in New York (Halina participated),
  Wednesday, with the President of Leader 100 (organizer Andrzej and Zbyszek)
- Frank Spula, President of PAC and Leszek Pawlik, President of CPA signed a joint letter on Ukraine.

We talked about:

- Why is there is an atmosphere in Poland of preparation for war, as Edmund informed us. Two possibilities were presented: according to Zbyszek, because Ukraine is falling, and according to Jola, that Tusk's government is distracting attention from the changes introduced by politicians.
- What was the real reason for inviting President Duda and PM Tusk to the White House on the 25th anniversary of Poland's accession to NATO. Gienek suspected that "nuclear sharing" was discussed behind closed doors.
- Meeting of 12 presidents and reps of PAC divisions on Tuesday at 8:30 PM. The main goal was to present a proposal for divisional dues that would be acceptable to the majority. Zbyszek suggested starting negotiations with the EC by offering 10%. There were also proposals of 20% and 30%. Most participants preferred to wait until the EC announces the budget for 2024.
- Meeting with Luis Brusa, President of Leader 100 on Wednesday at 7:30 PM. Luis comes from Argentina and moved to Poland because he got a good job offer there. He is a broker and learned Polish in 2 years. He is a member of Opus Dei. Through Zoom Luis presented a method of teaching children 100 + skills and values.to 11 teachers of Polish Saturday Schools. He emphasized the importance of parental involvement. The program is currently used by over 350 schools, including 200 in Poland and the rest in Spain and south American countries. The program is available in Polish, Spanish, Catalonian, Portuguese and is prepared in English. Initially, 30 education specialists worked on it for a year and a half. Currently, 10 people are involved in its improvement, mostly par-time. Not only schools but also individuals can apply for access.
- PAC Financial Statement was sent to Ryszard for 2022 and 23 after the intervention of Zbyszek and Dr. Pienkos. Ms. Jaminska's comment was surprising: zk is no longer ND, so he should not ask for it.
- The PASI letter on Ukraine was criticized by all but one person.
- Responsibilities of the National Executive Council. We read the PAC By-laws.
- Youth education.
- Report from the last meeting was read and discussed.

What was decided:

- Gienek proposed shortening our meetings to an hour and starting them by reading the report from the previous meeting. This will require returning to using the pipe.
- PAC divisions should wait with paying dues until the budget is presented by the EC and the dues voted on by the National Executive Council.
- An additional meeting with Luis should be arranged.

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype

AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events

zk 3/15/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #9
Thursday, March 21, 2024 3 – 5:07 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Edmund, Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Ryszard, Szymon, Ursula, Wojtek, Zbyszek.

We welcomed a new participant: Ursula.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Jola was elected President of the PAC Michigan division. She has plans to increase membership to 100 people and wants to decide what to do with their building.

We talked about:

- The report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Progress on the WEP/GPO repeal project. Dr. Gene reported that the "natives" were becoming restless because they had not seen any action to advance the bill to the markup session. Gienek informed us that currently the bill is supported by 307 members of the House and 53 Senators.
- "Flavor of Poland", series II. Krzysiek reminded us that we need to reach out to marketing specialists. Halina's explained what she experienced and what could really work was simply personal contacts.
- An educational program for teaching values and skills to students prepared by Leader 100. Krzysiek: we have very limited time and resources and we have plenty of other projects. He argued that it would distract us from important projects. He very strongly opposed against getting involved in helping spread info about the Leader 100 program. Andrzej agreed with him. Zbyszek was of the opposite opinion, he saw a great opportunity in preparing young generation for adult life offered by this program. In his experience, it would take very little time and effort to advertise this to teachers.
- PASI Statement on Ukraine. Wojtek offered to answer questions. Zbyszek wanted to know what the purpose of writing this letter was and what Wojtek's idea was to end the war in Ukraine. Instead of answering, Wojtek said there were too many emotions around these topics and instead offered to organize an educational meeting. Several meeting participants expressed interest.
- Resolution regarding Compensation. Participants were against resuming this project for the reason: that the new Polish government is not interested in obtaining compensation from Germany. According to Zbyszek this issue was still fresh since its global introduction last year by PiS. Therefore, we should not worry so much about the attitude of Tusk's government. Keeping this issue alive would be a strategic move.
- The list of proposed projects that our PACT group could get involved was read.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek encouraged everyone who knows teachers, especially teachers of Polish Saturday Schools, to inform them about advantages of the Leader 100 educational program and explain how to obtain these programs.
- Wojtek invited everyone interested in educating "themselves". The meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, April 7 at 8 PM EST. Andrzej, Jola, Krzysiek, Ryszard, Ursula and Gienek expressed their interest.
- It was repeated that the EC should be informed about what the Presidents of divisions expect: no dues will be paid until the budget is presented by the EC and the dues are voted by the National Executive Council.

Next meeting: IOM'24 > Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events

zk 3/22/24

IOM'24 – Meeting #4

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 8 – 9:21 PM EST

Participants of part I: Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Jola, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

We had two meetings that evening. After officially closing one and some people disconnecting (including me) the latecomers initiated another meeting. Dr. Andrzej presented the extraordinary achievements of the late Gordon Black. He introduced Poland's genocide during WW II into the California curriculum, followed Jan Gross on the Jedwabne case and managed to successfully confront him. His last project was an attempt to introduce to schools the first strike on the American soil by the Poles in Jamestown in 1619. There was a discussion about Ukraine, the political involvement of Polonia, 80th anniversary of the PAC, the fight to repeal WEP/GPO, the court case re Katyń Monument in Jersey City and Gaza. The meeting ended after 11 pm.

Participants of part II: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Jola, Jurek B., Wojtek J., Tomek, Zbyszek.

Report from meeting that ended at 9: 21:

What has happened since our last meeting?

- We did not have our meeting during Holy Week because I was asked not to hold it.
- Dr. Gene told us about various organizations planning meeting with Reps Abigail Spanberger (D) and Garret Graves (R) re the repeal of WEP/GPO on April 9. The main goal is to find ways to gain more supporters of their bill.
- Tomek was nominated to be a member of the Eastern European Committee appointed by the Governor of Ohio. Everyone should congratulate Tomek on this distinction.

We talked about:

- The report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Progress on the WEP/GPO repeal project. Dr. Gene filled us in on the situation. He and Gienek agreed that WEP is unfair and wrong. Zbyszek wondered why legislators were reluctant to repeal this law. Apparently, everyone is waiting for Rep. Jason Smith of the Ways & Means Committee to give the green light. Dr. Gene: there is a danger from other proposed bills that are not as good as H.R.82, so we must continue to work to convince undecided lawmakers to support H.R.82.
- Compensation for WWII. Despite the cold approach of current Polish politicians, Polonia should not give up on this matter. This may actually help change politicians' position.
- Projects that organizations are working on. Gienek: PAC Missouri is waiting for the Polish government's response re Pulaski monument in St. Luis. Dr. Gene: PASI EDU is working to incorporate Poland's role in WWII into school curricula in Virginia schools. Andrzej: PAC NJ is involved in the ceremony of erecting the Solidarity Monument in Doylestown. They want to invite former President Trump.
- How to reach Leader 100 programs – explained Zbyszek

What was decided:

- Zbyszek encouraged the dissemination of info about educational programs prepared by Leader 100 and about a brochure about Poland available on the PAC-LI website.
- Zbyszek reminded that everyone interested in working on the Polish version of the brochure is welcome.
- The search for professional fundraisers for "Flavor of Poland II" should continue.

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events

zk 4/7/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #10 Thursday, April 11, 2024 3:10 – 5:27 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Dr. Gene, Gienek, Halina, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Dr. Gene told us about the April 9 meeting with Reps Abigail Spanberger (D) and Garret Graves (R) re the WEP/GPO repeal.
- PAC President Frank Spula announced that the next meeting of National Executive Council via Zoom will be held on April 17.
- Andrzej prepared the invitation for former President Trump to participate in the unveiling the Solidarity monument in Doylestown.

We talked about:

- The report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Organizational taxes, filing form 990-N. Zbyszek tried unsuccessfully at the meeting to show how this could be done. Apparently, the IRS made it much more difficult (below).
- Other proposed bills besides H.R.82 that are not good for us, but they may be considered by legislators (ideas of Democratic Reps. Steve Larson and Richard Neal)
- About the bust of General Pulaski in Saint Luis. Gienek: it will cost $25 k and the plinth will cost another $6 k and it is Polonia responsibility to collect it. The plan is to unveil the statute in September. PAC-Missouri is waiting for a response of Polish officials.
- Progress of work on the Brochure about Poland, Polish version. Instead of "Contributions of Polish Americans" Zbyszek suggested preparing a column about "The Fall of Poland and the Fight for Freedom". Another option would be "Poles' Contribution to World Civilization".
- Compensation for WWII. Dr. Gene suggested contacting Rep. Tom Suozzi. In Andrzej's opinion we should do what we think is right and not worry about the attitude of current Polish politicians. Everyone agreed with him.
- Exchange of emails/opinions on the latest PASI letter on Ukraine.
- Memories from the XVIII century, which increasingly reflect today's situation in Poland.
- George Kennan, writer and diplomat, Dr. Andrzej suggested reading his works: https://www.britannica.com/biography/George-F-Kennan

What was decided:

- We should continue email legislators about WEP/GPO. On the PASI website, in the ACTION tab, there are ready made letters that can be sent automatically after completing two fields: one for our name and the other for the email address.
- Zbyszek will send instructions on how to file Form 990-N.
- Zbyszek will send a test balloon to Rep. Suozzi re Resolution on Compensation. .
- Dr. Andrzej will send a curriculum that has been approved by the California Board of Education re the Polish genocide during WWII. This may help Dr. Gene in his attempt to do the same in Virginia schools.

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events

zk 4/12/24

1. Go to www.IRS.gov (make sure that you are on an official IRS website)
2. At the top menu click on Forms and Instructions
3. In search window type 990-N
4. At filter choose "current", click on "Recommended by IRS: Form 990-N Electronic..."
5. User Guide will appear. At the top of page click on link in Step 1
6. Scroll down to "Submit Form 990-N", click on it.
7. At a new page choose "Sign in" or "Create a new account"
8. Choose two Authentication methods: for example, tel. Code and Backup Codes
9. After being accepted choose between: e-Postcard profile or Manage form
10. Fill out all required windows and follow instructions

PACT'24 – Meeting #11

Thursday, April 18, 2024 3 – 4:18 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek B., Szymon, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- The PAC-LI elections were held on Saturday, April 13 at 4 PM. There were no candidates, the current Board was accepted to continue the work.
- Zbyszek took part in the webinar "Weimar Triangle: Europe's New Engine" on Monday, April 15 at 2 PM. Speakers: Paweł Kowal, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Sejm of the Republic of Poland; Natalia Pouzyreff, Member of the National Assembly, Committee of the Defense and Armed Forces, France, and Norbert Röttgen, Member of Bundestag, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee (2014-2019) www.wilsoncenter.org/event/weimar-triangle..
- Gienek, Zbyszek participated in the Social Security Sub-Committee hearing on the WEP/GPO repeal via Zoom at 3 PM on Tuesday, April 16.
- Andrzej, Jola, Ryszard, Zbyszek participated in the meeting of the National Executive Council via Zoom which took place on Wednesday April 17 at 8 PM.
- President Trump met with President Duda on Wed. at Trump's Tower for 2 hours.
- Dr. Andrzej sent an interesting summary of Gordon Black's life.

We talked about:

- The report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Last evening meeting of the National Executive Council via Zoom. Everyone agreed that these meetings should be recorded and reports written. 9 offices and 6 presidents took part in it. National Director dues were reduced from $300 to $200. According to Spula's proposal, the 80% dues from divisions was reduced to 60%. All 9 EC officers present, as well as Kaminski and Kocur voted in favor. Andrzej and Tomek K. were against, Jola and Ryszard abstained from voting. PAC members may feel cheated, because when EC officers have a majority, they can easily impose their will on others.
- How to fill out 990-N for non-profit organizations (explained by Zbyszek).
- Hearing held by the Sub-Committee on Social Security on WEP/GPO repeal. Listeners were surprised that the "experts" were against repeal. Gienek explained to us that it was precisely such Republican experts who created this system. There is already a system that reduces the pension amount for people working less than 35 years, because no matter how many years someone has worked, his contributions will be divided by 35. And thus, WEP is a double reduction of Soc. Sec. Many immigrants do not know about how WEP will affect their retirement. It seems that only Poles are aware of the problems posed by WEP.
- Drinking tea and the possible effects.
- Erecting the bust of Gen. Pulaski in St Louis. Gene: it looks like there will be a time slip due to the change of government in Poland. Who will donate $6k for a pedestal?
- Communication with Rep. Suozzi - an example of how this can be done .
- Webinar organized by Wilson Center.

What was decided:

- To prepare questions for the Executive Committee. This will require to organize a meeting of Division Presidents. We need at least 12 divisions to agree to cooperate.
- Dr. Andrzej suggested going to the website of the Board of Education in California and finding info about the Polish genocide during WWII.

Next meeting: PACT'24 > Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 8 PM EST (as I was asked)
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events

zk 4/23/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #12 Thursday, April 25, 2024 8 – 10:18 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Janusz K., Jurek B., Ryszard, Zbyszek.

Our first-time participant, Janusz Kocur, President of PAC Connecticut at the end of the meeting was asked how he liked it. In his opinion, our meeting was disorganized and full of bs's (Tomek quickly translated this abbreviation as "Brainstorming's").

What has happened since our last meeting?

- PAC-LI invited Polonia to a meeting and lecture at the Polish American Museum in Port Washington on Sunday, April 21. Lecture title: POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE ROLE OF POLONIA. The presenter was Dr. Lucja-Swiatkowski-Cannon. She is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of World Politics in DC and a regular columnist Geopolitical Observer at ewsmax.com, Insider Opinion. She is a strategist, expert and author on Eastern Europe, Russia and US-East European relations.
- Leszek Pawlik, President of CPA organized a civilized meeting on Sunday at 8 PM re Wojtek's controversial letter.
- Last Tuesday, Tim Kuzma, PAC's VP for American Affairs held his monthly meeting.

We talked about:

- About the meeting with the Ambassador of Estonia, Kristjan Prikk. Tomek was invited as one of only 12 people, Rep. Marcy Kaptur was mentioned as very helpful.
- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Kuzma's meeting. According to Zbyszek, it was the most useful and specific, so far. Tim asked for suggestions for a Day of Action on Capitol Hill and questions for candidates in the upcoming congressional and presidential elections.
- Income 0 and its impact on retirement. Gienek refreshed our memory about it. WEP unethically raises additional funds for Soc. Sec. Legislators do not want to give up on it. FICA tax is levied on people earning up to $160 200 and for earnings above this amount, FICA is not increased. Changing this policy could substitute income from WEP.
- Gordon Black and his fight for justice in the Jedwabne case (Dr. Andrzej). Halina informed that for those interested she has the books "Anatomia kłamstwa".
  Halina offered for those interested a book "Anatomia kłamstwa" by Dr. Ewa Kurek.
- Bust of Gen. Pulaski in St Louis. PAC-Missouri donated $1000 for the pedestal.
- After the mass, PAC-Connecticut will host a "May 3 Constitution" event.
- Draft letter to the PAC Executive Committee (EC) re dues.
- Polish genocide, Curriculum in California, Tomek found a link in the Board of Education. Model Curriculum for Human Rights and Genocide, Appendix B, Pages 53, 54 (70, 71): https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/hs/im/documents/modelcurrichrgenoc.pdf
  On this occasion, Dr. Andrzej told us about the fight against defamation by Polonia in California which preceded the preparation of the curriculum. He mentioned two important surnames Zawadzki and Polak.
- PAC division in New Hampshire (presentation by Janusz K.)

What was decided:

- Halina will send Dr. Andrzej and Jurek B. "Anatomy of Lie" in English and Polish versions. And also "Obława Augustowska" for Jurek in both versions.
- Zbyszek and Gienek encourage divisions and individuals to make donations for a base of the of Gen. Pulaski monument ($5 k is needed)
- Zbyszek and Ryszard will work on a draft letter to the EC re the budget and dues.
- Zbyszek proposed two issues for the "Day of Action on Capitol Hill": the Compensation Resolution and the repeal of WEP.
- Andrzej suggested that our PACT meetings be held on the 3rd Thursday at 8 PM.
- We should try to contact Prof. Anthony Bajdek and find out who will continue the PAC presence In New Hampshire.

Next meeting: IOM' 24 > Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events

zk 4/26/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #13 Thursday, May 9, 2024 3 – 6:55 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Krzysiek, Tomek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- E-mails continue to be sent to Senators and Congressmen re the repeal of WEP/GPO.
- Andrzej's version of the letter to Mr. Spula re dues was signed by 7 Presidents of divisions. Zbyszek sent individual emails asking 8 additional Presidents to sign it. So far, despite e-mails and phone calls only one president joined.
- Zbyszek found a link to HOLOCAUST INSTRUCTION IN NYS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS: www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/holocaust-instruction-report-final-2022.pdf There is info about Armenians, Ukrainians, Jews but not Poles.
- To date, there has been no response to Andrzej's e-mail to the Executive Committee posted on ND_Forum informing and suggesting a reaction to the press conference at Columbia University in which former Rep. Ted Deutch said that 90% of Jews were killed in Poland. And Rep. Mike Lowler (R, dist.#17, NY) added that demonstrators wanted to send Jews to Poland because they were murdered there.
- Krzysiek was present today at the meeting with Jerzy Kwaśniewski (President of Ordo Iuris) at the Sokół Club in Kraków. And he plans to meet Mr. Kwaśniewski again.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented on and corrected.
- Celebration of the May 3rd Constitution in California, Long Island, Ohio and Michigan. On Friday, Halina and Zbyszek went to Our Lady of Poland in South Hampton (the round trip took almost 5 hours). On Sunday, PAC-LI members participated in the Academy at the Polish American Home in Glen Cove (the mayor of the town spoke). Jola: on Thursday, at the Consulate in Chicago, Paweł Zyzak announced his return to Poland in June. Jola's husband took photo with Antoni Macierewicz and got his phone No. Jola was impressed by the Sunday event organized by Ania Bankowski at the Church in Orchard Lake. Children from 2 schools performed. Dr. Andrzej: the first Sunday in May there is Polish Day in the Golden Gate Park, which is larger and nicer than Central Park. There was a 2-hour concert where also the Park Orchestra took part. Mostly Americans participate in this May 3rd celebration. At a nearby restaurant, PAC-California offered Polonia a glass of wine. Since 1951, the event has been organized by local PAC division and the folklore group "Łowiczanie". The patronage was taken by Tad Taube, Honorary Consul (he left Kraków as 5-year boy before WWII). Tomek: in Ohio the parade was very successful, politicians Sherod Braun, David Kucinich, Max Miller (his family comes from Białystok) and Tomek spoke.
- Tomek told us what they expect from him at the European Committee in Ohio.
- About difficulties in collecting signatures for a letter to the EC re dues.
- Ordo Iuris calls the referendum being prepared in the European Union a "referendum on the partition" of Poland.
- What should be our priority: WEP or involvement in the situation in Europe (Krzysiek).
- D. Pogorzelski's election defeat because of lack of involvement of Polonia in politics.
- Lack of goals in the PAC mission to build political structures (Jola, Krzysiek).
- A right-wing patriotic coalition without PiS is being born in Poland (Gienek).

What was decided, what is planned:

- We should go to https://joinpasi.org/ on May 14 and 16 and select those dates in ACTION and click on them at the appropriate time to automatically send emails.
- Tim's monthly Zoom meeting will most likely take place on Tuesday.
- It would be best if Ryszard or Halina sent the letter to the EC re dues.
- American politicians should be warned about the upcoming EU referendum.
- In Poland raising awareness would be the best way to avoid disaster. Depends on questions, not taking part in the referendum could be the best way to kill it.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 5/10/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #14 Thursday, May 16, 2024 8 – 10:20 PM EST

Participants:
Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Janusz, Jurek, Paul, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

We welcomed a new participant - Paweł Florek, a young member of PAC-Missouri.
He works for the Federal Department of Education.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Zbyszek distributed 40 brochures about Poland during the last 3 events he participated in in South Hampton, Glen Cove and to students of St. Hedwig's School. He received very positive responses.
- Gienek sent info about the first free 10-day cultural trip to Poland for young Polish Americans (18-26 years old) organized by Heritage Polonia. It will take place on June7-18. Heritage Polonia | 10-Day Cultural Tour
- Today, Ryszard sent a letter to the EC re dues and cc to the presidents of divisions. The letter was signed by 9 presidents and Tomek Kolodziej sent his individual e-mail in support of the letter.
- John Czop sent on ND-Forum 2 Katyń Genocide Proclamations, one prepared by Jersey City, the other by the County.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented on and corrected.
- Minister of Foreign Affairs, Radoslaw Sikorski wants to recall 50 Ambassadors, provided -as Jurek added- that President Duda consents.
- Andrzej Bobola (1591 – 16 May 1657). Dr. Andrzej reminded that today is the feast of this 2nd patron of Poland, chosen by John Paul II in 2002. At his instigation, King John Casimir proclaimed Our Lady Queen of Poland. He was a Polish missionary and martyr. He was beaten and tortured to death by Kozaks during the Khmelnytsky Uprising. His body does not appear to be decomposing. He was canonized in 1938 by Pope Pius XI.
- Cultural trip to Poland and its organizers, Heritage of Poland. Gienek: their goal is to show young Polish Americans the beauty of Poland. Paweł: in the selection process priority should be given to young people who are already involved in Polish activities.
- Brochure about Poland. Where to find it, how to print and bend it.
- Central Airport (CKP). Link from Jurek: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Evbzjj7SxZA
- Gienek was impressed by the activity of a small group of Polish conservative legislators.
- Katyń Monument. Andrzej told us about recent events and the wall restricting access.

What was decided, what is planned:

- Zbyszek will send Gienek the e-mail re dues that Ryszard sent on May 16 to the officers of Executive Committee and presidents of divisions.
- We should go to https://joinpasi.org/ on May 21, 23, 28,30 and June 4 and 6, select these dates in ACTION and click on them at the appropriate time so we can send emails to legislators re the WEP/GPO repeal. Please mark your calendar.
- We need to contact members of Heritage of Polonia.
- Andrzej will find out what is happening with the lawsuit regarding the removal of the wall in front of the Katyń Monument, filed by PASI organization.
- Zbyszek will send our group a report on PAC-LI Activity and the Brochure in Word.
- Gienek sent a link to the Citizen Project: YES for CPK, please visit https://takdlacpk.org/
- Ryszard proposed to obtain funds from the EC to print 2000 brochures about Poland.
- Jurek: Germany wants Europe to separate from the US and this is what we should use as an argument to make American politicians aware of the danger posed by upcoming EU referendum.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 5/17/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #15 Thursday, May 23, 2024 3 – 6:21 PM EST Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek, Krysia, Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Andrzej explained what he learned in connection with the lawsuit re the Katyń Monument: The Judge was supposed to write a judgment and justification. The lawsuit made no mention of the wall, only questioned the overall approach to the beautification.
- So far, there has been no response from the EC to the letter sent by Ryszard re dues.
- Prof. Mazurkiewicz from Heritage of Polonia did not respond to Zbyszek's email.
- Andrzej did not receive a response from the EC or any ND regarding Reps slandering Poland (that Jews were killed in Poland) which he sent on ND_Forum.
- Only 8 signatures were collected in an appeal (letter) to President Duda regarding the changes proposed by the Minister of Education in the curricula for Polonia schools.
- PAC-Michigan donated $15 k for student scholarships. Thanks to Jola's intervention, the amounts were increased per student to $2 000 and one will receive $5 000.
- PM Tusk tried to recall the Ambassador to NATO. President Duda opposed this.
- Brian, Halina and Zbyszek attended the 45th Annual Polish Heritage Day organized by Westchester Pulaski Assoc on Sunday, May 19. They distributed brochures about Poland to reps of 2 schools and 2 organizations.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented on and corrected.
- Brochure about Poland. Andrzej suggested printing the pdf version he prepared which can be found in the "Projects" file on pCloud.
- Our reaction if the EC does not respond to our suggestions regarding dues.
- How to encourage scholarship recipients to maintain contact with Polonia. Pulaski's Professionals and Businessmen give $1-5 k a year but they have no idea how to keep in touch with students. Jola's suggestion for organizations on what to say: "we hope you will support Polonia organizations in the future when it is time to give back."
- PAC-Michigan 80th Anniversary Celebration. Example of the 10th PAC-LI Banquet. Who to invite: congressmen, reps of other ethnic groups, President of the PAC.
- It was no possible to obtain a list of Polish Studies. Polish Studies are disappearing. Endowments of universities, examples; Harvard $50 billion, Yale $41 billion.
- Destruction of food supplies sent to Gaza, by groups of Israelities - DW TV showed.
- Opening of the Kościuszko Foundation (KF) Branch in Michigan.
- Research on Polonia. Meeting in Warsaw. Just reports on what people are doing.
- PIASA is in the transformation state and KF has already be taken over.
- Brochure prepared on the occasion of 80th Anniversary of PAC by Dr. Mark Pienkos.
- Swedish Deluge. The Russians, Kozaks and Transylvanians, also attacked Poland. About Transylvania: https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siedmiogr%C3%B3d
- How to deal with opponents - Tomek's observations that are worth learning.

What was decided:

- Jola will send a question to the EC whether Tim's meetings will be continued. She will write that she liked them. Such meetings can improve cooperation and effectiveness.
- Legal assistance is needed re Polish Studies. Poles have invested millions in these institutions which are now annihilated. This would be a great PhD topic.
- 7 PAC divisions declared that they would sign a letter to President Duda re changes in Polonia education. Andrzej will send the names to the person collecting signatures.
- To inform the media about upcoming anniversary of the first transports to Auschwitz KL
- The PAC-LI bookmark should become an advertising example for other PAC divisions.
- Tomek will send us a Ukrainian leaflet that makes easier for voters to make decisions.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 5/26/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #16 Thursday, May 30, 2024 3 – 4:15 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Janusz, Jurek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Dr. Mark Pienkos, Vice President of PAC went with his wife Anna to Washington DC to distribute to Senators a brochure, he had prepared on the occasion of 80th Anniversary of the PAC and a booklet "Do you know Poland?", prepared by the PAC-Wisconsin.
- Andrzej explained what he learned about the letter to President Duda regarding curriculum changes in Polish and Polonia Schools.
- There is still no response from the EC to the letter sent by Ryszard regarding dues.
- Andrzej still has not received a response from the EC or any ND regarding Reps slandering Poland (that Jews were killed in Poland) which he sent to ND_Forum.
- Tomek did not send us, as promised, a Ukrainian leaflet to help voters make their decisions. The leaflet describes how easy it is to communicate with a specific candidate, presents his program and achievements.
- On Saturday, June 8, Polonia will be able to vote in the Warsaw district in the European Union parliamentary electoion.
- Andrzej has a document from Anna Dobrowolska (from a Polish organization) proposing changes in Polish Schools but not yet in Polonia schools.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented on.
- Today's WEP/ GPO action consisting of sending e-mails to 8 Senators.
- EU Parliament elections. Andrzej found a link about voting places and how to register: https://ewybory.msz.gov.pl/ 15 voting places in the US. Jurek: it is very important to have patriots representing Poland. The future of Poland depends on who we choose.
- This year marks the 80th anniversaries of Battle of Monte Cassino, the landing in Normandy and the Warsaw Uprising. Also, the 85th Anniversary of the start of WWII.
- Today (the last Thursday of May) the Catholic Church celebrates Corpus Christi. Street processions visit 4 altars (in honor of the 4 Apostoles, authors of the Holly Bible).
- Brochure about Poland. Andrzej asked the student (to whom he gave the brochure) if he had heard any of this info or had heard in a different way. He waits for his answer.
- Swedish deluge. Dr. Andrzej: the losses exceeded the losses that Poland suffered during WWI and WWII combined. This is considered the first attempt at partition.
- Halina's findings: Polish human losses in WWI 1,130 k (the US 116 k). WWII: Poland 6 million (the US 418 k). The US in the Korean War 36,6 k, in the Vietnam War 58,5 k.
- The PAC collected $300 k in one weekend for Ukraine. So far, they have not collected a penny for "Flavor of Poland" thanks to which just for $50 k millions of Americans could learn about the activities of the Polish American Congress on its 80th Anniversary.

Interesting:
during her recent visits to Israel, Nikki Haley signed an artillery shell: "FINISH THEM!" who American politicians are afraid of https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Tt-o56oGKo

What was decided:

- We are waiting for a document re changes in Polonia schools.
- Those who can should participate in EU Parliament elections, to show that we care.
- Zbyszek will scan and send everyone a brochure prepared by Dr. Mark Pienkos, commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the PAC.
- Zbyszek will find a link to a documentary presenting the achievements of PAC prepared on the occasion of its 70th Anniversary and send to us.
- We would like to receive a Ukrainian leaflet from Tomek that helps voters.

Next meeting: IOM' 24 > Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 5/31/24

IOM'24 – Meeting #6
Wednesday, June 5, 2024
8 – 9:50 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Janusz, Jola, Jurek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

Congressman John James (R, MI #10)

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Adam Domaradzki sent info about the III Conference of Polonia Initiatives which will be held on June 28-30 at Arcadia Royal Hotel in Warsaw.
- Jola told us about a meeting called by local Congressman John James (R), attended by 50 representatives of Polonia. Apparently, 80 k Polish Americans live in his district.
- Anna Maria Anders in Italy will be replaced by the former Polish Ambassador to the US Ryszard Schnepf, son of Maksymilian, Jew from Ukraine, a member of the anti-Polish KPP, an officer of the Stalinist Military Information, a traitor to Poland. In 1945, together with a separate special unit, he took part in the "Augustów operation". As a high-ranking NKVD officer and colonel, while training new staff, was very actively involved in the Sovietization of Poland for decades. In the 1950s, he was an employee of the UB, and then of the SB and LWP in Krakow, where, he helped pacify the strikes in 1981
- There is still no response from the EC to Ryszard's letter (sent May 16) regarding dues.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented on and improved.
- PAC divisions in Florida. One is in the south; the second in the west.
- Booklet and brochure that Zbyszek received from Mark - comments and distributions.
- What should we do if we don't receive a response to the email re dues within a month?
- Meeting with Rep. John James. Jola suggested him to join Poland Caucus. She was impressed, with how well he was prepared. They expected 25 people, 50 showed up.
- Fundraising for the Polish Day Parade. Jola: 350 people came, it was a great success.
- A Ukrainian Flyer sent by Tomek helping voters choose candidates.
- Upadek Polski – przyczyny. Column prepared for the Polish version of the brochure.
- Commemoration of the 70th anniversary of PAC (link on YouTube).
- Info about candidates for Congress. Andrzej found link: https://ballotpedia.org/ .
- Jola reminded us of the 20th anniversary of the death of President Ronald Reagon.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek will send the booklet and folder received from Dr. Pienkos to those participants who send him their addresses.
- Zbyszek will e-mail the Ukrainian leaflet he received from Tomek to the PACT group.
- Jola was reminded to ask Tim Kuzma why the monthly meetings were stopped. She will inform about her inquiry everyone on Tim's list.
- Jola suggested that in the future we should offer registration assistance to people wanting to vote in the EU or Polish elections.
- Jola: Witold Gadowski, journalist and author will come to the US in the fall. We should find out who is organizing his trip and what places he plans to visit.
- Project to repeal WEP/ GPO continues. Visit https://joinpasi.org/# and click on ACTION. We need to check when is the day to send the next batch of emails.
- CPA or PAC should write a protest re the award of "Green Border" by Agnieszka Holland. It happened at the New York Polish film festival.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + events zk 6/06/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #17
Thursday, June 13, 2024 3 – 5:31 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Gienek, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

Halinka met Mr. and Mrs. Żak
(Marian was the President of P&S Center)
in the hall of the Czartoryski Museum

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Today, Jola sent a question to Tim Kuzma, why the monthly meetings were suspended.
- Zbyszek finished working on the Polish version of the Brochure about Poland and sent it as draft #0 to everyone in the PACT group (also to pCloud).
- Ryszard sent an email to Mr. Kuzma asking why after a month he still had not received a response to his letter re dues and why the monthly meetings were not continued.
- As promised, Zbyszek sent materials commemorating the 80th Anniversary of PAC, which he received from Dr. Pienkos to three people who sent to him their addresses.
- Andrzej received 20 booklets and 20 brochures from Dr. Pienkos (he asked for them).
- Jola's interesting discovery: https://www.britishpoles.uk/en/#google_vignette
- Young people of Podhale in Vatican: https://youtu.be/MvbwSlIoXyA?si=wdz_mf7a8PbNjPGh

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented and corrections were made.
- Cultural events in Kraków. Halina mentioned, among others, an amazing concert of the 82 years old violinist of "Anawa", Zbigniew Nalepa in Basement under the Rams.
- Clever leftist propaganda and their easy target: mostly intellectuals who believe in everything they hear in the media. Somehow, they are unable to think and analyze facts on their own. Zbyszek: as we know, being intellectually gifted does not mean being smart. Andrzej introduced us to the American abbreviation for IYI = intelligent but idiot.
- Brochure about Poland, American and Polish version. The term "pre-modern Europe" and "percent" were disputed. Dr. Andrzej: serious publications use the word "percent". It was suggested to add "Union of Lublin" and the symbol of "Poland Fighting".
- Distribution of a brochure and booklet on the occasion of the 80th Anniversary of PAC among Senators by Anna and Mark Pienkos. Jacek: entry to offices returned to normal.
- The situation among Polonia and their organizations in south Florida.
- Advertising events of local Polonia organizations on the Facebook pages of PAC divisions. Jola gave us examples of using various forms of involvement to be visible among Polonia. Including help in frying potato pancakes
- EU elections. We shared experiences. Andrzej: website When, Where, What is needed.
- Project to repeal WEP/GPO. Gienek: 322 Reps and 59 Senators became cosponsors. He sends info about these actions to Polonia, people and organizations in Missouri. The danger lies in other proposals that are not as good for us as H.R.82 and may be considered. Jacek: less than 100 people send e-mails using his automatic program.
- Pouring water (laniu wody). Specifically, automatic watering of plants in our gardens.

What was decided:

- PAC divisions should send activity reports to Dr. Pienkos before 15th of the month.
- Everyone should read the Polish version of the brochure and send Zbyszek their suggestions/improvements.
- We should ask the EC to prepare info that may help in voting in the US elections, following the example of the Ukrainian leaflet sent to us by Tomek from Ohio.
- Finding a better description of the time in the brochure instead of the pre-modern term.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + events zk 6/14/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #18 Thursday, June 20, 2024 3 – 4:36 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Jacek, Jola, Jurek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Jola and Ryszard still have not received a response from the EC to their letters sent a few weeks ago re dues and Tim's monthly meetings.
- On the 15th of each month (this time was the last Friday), Dr. Pienkos submits his monthly Report on the activities of the PAC

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented.
- Polish American Festivals. Jola's PAC Michigan division will try to organize a picknick. According to her if we do not want to disappear, we (PAC) must come with something that will unite Polonia and give exposure/recognition to our organizations.
- Opening of the Website: What, Where, When for Polonia. Zbyszek showed an example of how Nowy Dziennik does it. Jola suggested that info about events should also be posted on Facebook which is popular among young people. Zbyszek would like to see calendars with important events on the PAC websites.
- Questions for congressmen and senators. Jola's suggestion: Mr./Ms., can we count on your cooperation with Polonia, who should we talk to in your office.
- What PASI, CPA and the PAC EC are working on. (PASI on the repeal of WEP, other?)
- Flood in Florida. Jurek explained that 40 cm of rain fell in one day and night. The part of the state, where he lives, has not been affected because is slightly elevated.
- How many emails were sent using Jacka's program to repeal WEP/GPO.
- Changes in the Brochure, Zbyszek showed. Paper size worldwide is A4, except USA.
- Visits of Witold Gadowski. On the East Coast, he will speak at the Polish National Home in Greenpoint, the Veteran's House in Manhattan and the Polish Cultural Foundation in Clark, New jersey. He will march down 5th Ave. during the Pulaski Parade. He then heads north to Canada and will be in Michigan on 19th of October. He will also be in Florida and California. Contact Wojtek Michalik to get info: 201 – 233-5455.
- Council of National Directors Meeting scheduled for October 12-13, 2024.

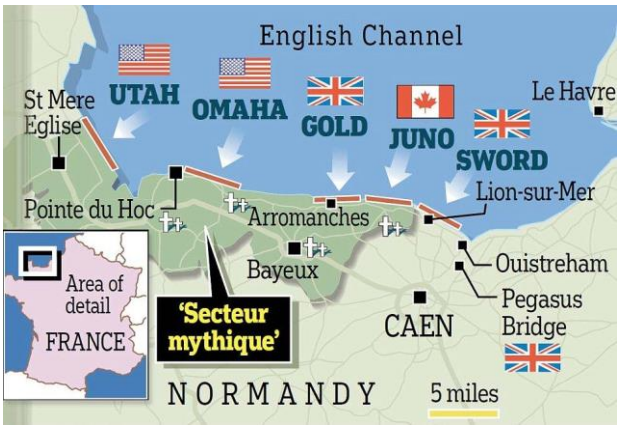
What was decided:

- Leaving the term "pre-modern Europe" in the Brochure about Poland.
- We should prepare proposed questions to legislators and send them to Tim.
- Ryszard will ask for financial support from various organizations to print the Brochure.
- Andrzej will transfer the text of Brochures about Poland from letter size to A4.
- Ryszard and Zbyszek will go to go to the Consulate in New York on Sunday to take part in a celebration of Jan Karsk's life on the occasion of his 110th birthday.

Selected fragments from **the monthly Bulletin on PAC activities** prepared by Dr. Pienkos:

- Andrzej Niemyjski, PAC National Vice President for Financial Development, will be requesting sponsorship at various levels for the Souvenir Program Book being printed for the October 13th.
- PAC Exec. Committee met on Zoom, June 4th. (Jola and Richard's inquiry was not mentioned - zk).
- Michael Niedzinski, PAC National Vice President for Membership, works to reactivate the PAC - South Florida Division. The process consists of several steps, including the final decision from the EC.
- Richard Brzozowski, President of the PAC - Long Island Division, and Zbyszek Koralewski hold weekly Skype meetings to discuss various topics related to Polish affairs. (Polish Affairs ?? - zk)
- Want to learn Basic Polish sign for course which starts July 6. Andy Gołębiowski will be more than happy to send you materials to follow along with. Please email: Andy@polishprogram.com
- Andy Gołębiowski invites to listen recordings or live radio programs on Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ET at: https://soundcloud.com/webrradio/sets/the-polish-american-program
- Ann + Mark Pienkos visited on May 30-31 U.S. Senate and select U.S. Reps Offices in DC to provide the newly printed pamphlet which briefly explains the history and accomplishments of the PAC.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + events zk 6/21/24



PACT'24 – Meeting #19
Thursday, June 27, 2024
3 – 4:50 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Jola, John, Jurek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

D-day – the historically largest military landing led by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and American, British, Polish and Canadian troops. Just the first day-156 thousand soldiers crossed the LaManche Canal.

Read more: https://www.polishmuseumofamerica.org/d-day-and-polish-military-role/

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Andrzej wants Zbyszek to be consistent and as agreed hold PACT evening meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
- Jola: PAC-Michigan has rented an office in the Polish American Cultural Center in Troy. It will cost them $1000 a month, compared to the current cost of $900 to maintain their building which they plan to sell.
- Ryszard and Zbyszek did not go to the Consulate as planned to take part in the celebration of Jan Karski's 110th birthday, due to health reasons.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented.
- Brochure about Poland. Zbyszek reminded us to print and distribute both versions.
- Monthly PAC Bulletin prepared by Dr. Mark Pienkos and distributed online.
- Our weekly Skype meetings presented in Bulletin as discussions about Polish Affairs.
- What PAC divisions can and cannot do. Andrzej mentioned the resolution adopted years ago specifying the responsibilities of the EC and divisions.
- Lack of solidarity between PAC divisions and the possibility of changing this situation. Zbyszek has been trying to encourage divisions to cooperate since the 2012 meetings in Albany. We can count on a max of 12 divisions but only 8 join PACT meetings.
- Attracting young people to PAC.
- How to make the EC to cooperate with divisions and to increase the activity of the EC.
- A draft of Dr. Pienkos' speeches prepared for the congressman on the occasion of the 80th Anniversary of the Polish American Congress. Zbyszek presented them and his preparatory materials. Andrzej: Rep. Joe Wilson from South Carolina already gave the speech about Poland a few years ago and we should find it and learn from it.

What was decided:

- Each of us will prepare a draft of questions for candidates that will take part in the upcoming elections and present it at our next meeting.
- The info in the PAC monthly Bulletin regarding PACT meetings should be corrected. The info contained in the PAC monthly Bulletin regarding PACT meetings should be corrected. The below statements mislead the recipients: *Richard Brzozowski, President of the PAC - Long Island Division, and Zbyszek Koralewski hold weekly Skype meetings to discuss various topics <u>related to Polish affairs</u> + These meetings <u>are open to anyone interested</u> and are held…*
- To continue to distribute Brochure about Poland (American and Polish versions) and collect opinions, as Krzysiek suggested to Zbyszek on the phone.
- Ryszard suggested provoking/upsetting the EC to force them react and act. Ryszard and Zbyszek will meet and work on the message to the EC.
- Each of us will work on a draft speech for a Rep. who will deliver a speech to Congress.

Next meeting: IOM' 24 > Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + events zk 6/28/24

IOM'24 – Meeting #7 Wednesday, July 3, 2024 8 – 11:14 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek, Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

6 Uchwał III Konferencji Inicjatyw Polonijnych: https://politykapolska.eu/2024/06/17/iii-konferencja-inicjatyw-polonijnych-28-30-czerwca-w-warszawie/ Odczytywanie uchwał: - https://www.youtube.com/@PolitykaPolskaTV-io6xx/streams

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Dr. Jim was invited to deliver the opening remarks at a conference celebrating the 35th Anniversary of the Right to Vote in Free Elections in Poland on June 5. The TALL Emerging Leaders Exchange Students were special guests representing the TAMU (Texas agricultural and mechanical, a public research university). The conference was organized by Prof. Tomasz Kozłowski and the faculty of the Institute of National Remembrance. After the conference, Mr. Daniel Lawton Mission Chief for the US Embassy hosted the conference participants at his home for a reception. Jim's remarks begin at 12:45: https://youtu.be/Srv14wANp6o?si=erjyP_QQvEy0slOX
- Dr. Jim plans to host Ambassador Mark Brzezinski at TAMU, on August 26-27.
- Zbyszek sent special invitations to Mr. Marek Waniolka and Pawel Florek from Missouri and to Sylwia Gladkowska and Andrzej Niemyjski from Arizona to our meeting.
- Jurek informed us that the PAC South Florida was officially reestablished.
- Zbyszek and Ryszard prepared questions for the candidates who will take part in the upcoming elections and Andrzej gave them more diplomatic character. Krzysiek called from Poland and advised to be careful when asking "historical" questions.
- Tomek was elected vice chairman of the Ohio Governor's Committee for East Europe.
- Consul of NYC, Adrian Kubicki (5 years of service) was replaced by Mateusz Sakowicz.
- Rep. Marcy Kaptur took the microphone away from a reporter when asked about Biden.
- Father Eryc Orzech, Pastor of St. Stanislaus Church is currently the treasurer of PAPA.
- Ryszard prepared an e-mail to the EC re the lack of communication with PAC divisions.
- Zbyszek prepared a draft speech for a congressman on the 80th Anniversary of PAC.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented.
- Where to Invest money after the sale of the PAC building in Michigan.
- $1-2 million, donated to PAC Michigan somehow went to PAC CF instead.
- $1 million was donated specifically to the Pastor of St. Stanislaus in Cleaveland. Tomek added: they have been organizing excellent annual Polish Festivals for 25 years.
- Seeking funding for a Catholic school in Connecticut (Jola shared with us).
- Mr. Spula's message to PAC Presidents, Delegates and Members about voting.
- What might attract the younger generation to PAC. A meeting place. Youth clubs. Chambers of commerce. Inviting young people to help with specific tasks. Ryszard: after graduation the mentality of young people changes. Andrzej agreed.
- Visa Waiver Program. Participants shared what they knew about this topic.
- Draft congressman's speech. Awareness of the importance of Germany for the US.
- Draft questions for candidates. Two variants. Importance of introduction. Ryszard asked who will send questions? Jola proposed organizing meetings with candidates.
- Primary voting in Queens. Jola: if you have any questions, ask your County Clerk.
- Homosexual themes have become common in American TV series.

We decided to:

- Continue to distribute the Brochure about Poland (Am. & Pol. ver.) and ask for opinions.
- Continue to work on questions for candidates in the upcoming elections.
- Continue to work on a draft speech for a Rep. who will deliver it to Congress.
- Email the Executive Committee re communication with PAC divisions (Ryszard).
- Send correction to Dr. Pienkos' PAC Bulletin re PACT meetings.
- Collect signatures for the letter prepared by Jola to Archbishop Allen Vigneron.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + events zk 7/7/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #20

Thursday, July 11, 2024 3 – 5:10 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Gienek, Jacek, Jurek, Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

A monument to the victims of the Volhynian massacre, commissioned by SWAP New York branch, was unveiled in Domostawa in the Podkarpackie Voivodeship. Crowds of Poles showed up at Sunday's monument unveiling ceremony (July 14) to pay tribute to the victims of the Ukrainian genocide. The monument was designed by the sculptor Andrzej Pityński, author of, among others, Katyn Memorial in Jersey City.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Zbyszek continue to distribute the Brochure about Poland (Pol. & Am. versions).
- Ryszard and Zbyszek finished working on questions for candidates in Long Island.
- Ryszard and Zbyszek completed a draft speech for a Rep. to deliver in Congress.
- Ryszard sent an email to Mr. Spula, Flor and Pienkos re communication and cooperation.
- So far, only Dr. Pienkos has responded to Ryszard's e-mail.
- Zbyszek received the following message from Rep. Tom Suozzi: Thank you for contacting me. I am excited to be back serving the residents of New York's 3rd Congressional District. Hearing from constituents like you is one of the most important duties of the job. This reply is to let you know that I have received your message and I appreciate you reaching out. We will respond to your concerns as soon as possible.

We talked about

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Ryszard read his next message to the EC and Dr. Pienkos' response. What should we do now. Divisions support is crucial.
- :Another Action to email lawmakers about repealing WEP.
- Demonstrations in Poland against the way the left-wing establishment governs.
- Questions for politicians running in the upcoming elections. Each PAC division name indicates what territory it represents and is therefore responsible for those districts. Ryszard and Zbyszek decided to send the following message: We would be grateful if you answered the following questions. We will share your responses with your Polish American voters: 1) Will you cooperate with Polish American organizations?
  2) Who should we contact in your office?
  3) Although Germany paid compensation to 14 European countries, including Switzerland and Sweden, Poland, which suffered the greatest human and material losses in relation to its size, did not receive compensation. Will you support reparations for Poland?
- Inviting politicians to meetings with Polonia. Tomek: for the Ohio division the easiest way would be to do it in cooperation with the Ukrainians.

We decided to:

- Each of us should go to the website of his Rep. and provide contact details.
- Andrzej will try to find a resolution on the responsibilities of the EC and divisions.
- Zbyszek will ask divisions for support by signing the email to the EC.
- Each division should start working on a list of politicians, in the place they are located, who plan to run in the upcoming elections.
- Each division should prepare own questions for politicians.
- Each division should consider organizing a meeting with local candidates.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + events

zk 7/14/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #21
Friday, July 19, 2024
8 – 10:15 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Gienek, Jacek, Jola, Marek W., Tomek, Zbyszek.

Aug. 1 - 80th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising. We should never forget these heroes.
https://youtu.be/qMsgTTK3AJA

The scheduled meeting, which we supposed to have on Thursday evening, was moved to Friday because of the last day of the Republican Convention.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- July 13, assassination attempt on Donald Trump at a campaign rally in Pennsylvania. Hate attacks against Trump spread by some politicians and the media have led to the creation of a killer. Only a miracle saved him when he turned his head at the right moment. Extreme negligence on the part of Secret Service allowed the sniper to get to the roof of the building.
- Andrzej prepared questions for recipients of the Brochure about Poland.
- July 17, meeting organized by PASI via Zoom with attorney Jonathan Bruce who was involved in the class action lawsuit against WEP. 14 people took part.
- Andrzej was able to find various resolutions on the PAC website except the one that talks about responsibilities of the EC and divisions.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Dr. Andrzej mentioned Gadowski's Appeal read during the unveiling Wołyń Monument
- Draft of speech prepared for Congressman.
- PAC achievements from PAC History sent by Dr. Pienkos along with the bulletin.
- PAC-Michigan office relocation.
- Ryszard's e-mail of July10 to Mr. Spula and Pienkos' response were reread.
- Andrzej's finding: PAC Resolutions https://www.pac1944.org/page/4/?s=resolutions
- Meeting with a lawyer re the repeal of WEP. Here are some of his comments: "You cannot argue with government law and the judges that protect it. The law says so but they do something different. Government lawyers will do everything in their power to support the laws of the land which politicians interpret in their own way." Gienek: it is a road to nowhere. He added that as of today 60 Senators and 323 Congressmen support the repeal of the WEP. Gienek also re-explained the principle of calculating Social Security by taking an average of earnings during 35 years which reduces Soc. Sec. for those working in the system for fewer years, so WEP is not needed.
- Questions for the candidates in the upcoming elections that PAC-LI decided to ask plus problems with organizing meetings.
- Should we prepare another message to the EC and refrain from paying dues.
- Excerpts from the last PAC Executive Bulletin were read.

What was decided:

- Andrzej will send the questions he has prepared to the recipients of the Brochure on Poland.
- Andrzej will send his corrections to the Congressman's speech.
- We should continue to withhold dues and wait for the EC to send its budget.
- Andrzej's idea: we should present questions to candidates during Town Hall meetings.
- We will take a 2-week vacation from our meetings.

Next meeting: IOM' 24 > Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 7/22/24

IOM'24 – Meeting #8
Wednesday, August 7, 2024
8 – 10:26 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Marek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

Poland won the silver medal in Paris losing only to France. The last medal won by our volleyball team was the gold medal at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Ryszard had a 30-minute conversation with Mr. Spula on July 22. He promised that issues raised in Ryszard's emails sent starting since May 10 would be considered by the EC soon.
- Zbyszek received comments on the Polish version of the Brochure about Poland.
- PASI organized a meeting via Zoom with attorney, Mr. Dehner about the class action lawsuit against WEP. The audio file is available, please contact Gene or Dianne.
- Dr. Andrzej told us about the Appeal to President Duda prepared by Witold Gadowski.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Resolutions of the III Polonia Initiative Conference. According to Zbyszek, based on the resolutions, the name of the conference should be changed to Polonia's Demands addressed to the Government of Poland. However, Andrzej saw nothing wrong.
- Solidarity between PAC divisions. Zbyszek: the situation we have in the PAC is basically the result of the lack of Solidarity between divisions. Surprisingly, Ryszard announced that he would act solely on behalf of PAC-LI, independently of others.
- Opinion on the Polish version of the Brochure about Poland sent by the Professor of Polish Literature. His comments were read and discussed.
- Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising in Greenpoint. The event lasting several hours was attended by, among others, Halina and Zbyszek. A new mural on the wall of the Polish Home now shows the faces of heroes who lived among us. Dr. Andrzej told us about the latest suspicions against General Leopold Okulicki: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopold_Okulicki .
- Zoom conference on the Warsaw Uprising organized by the President of the Coalition of Polish Americans, Leszek Pawlik. The lecture by Prof. Wysocki raised the reputation.
- Andrzej reminded how you can find your representative using the full postal code 5 + 4.
- Extreme runner, Tomasz Solania. He will arrive in the US on September 15 to run across America. Marek told us that his Missouri division was planning to meet with him.
- Unveiling the Solidarity Monument at American Czestochowa in Doylestown on September 22. PAC-NJ made a $1000 donation and Andrzej added his own money.
- Picnic in a suburban park of St. Louis. Marek told us what beer they could buy.

What was decided:

- The Secretary or Treasurer of the PAC division should send the dues to Ms. Jaminski along with a message prepared by Halina and Andrzej explaining why we delayed paying our dues (because we have been waiting for the budget since May 10).
- Ryszard will send an email to Mr. Spula asking who we should contact in the EC to ensure effective communication.
- The PAC Divisions should include a question for the candidates which Andrzej suggested at the previous meeting: "Will you consult with us on Polish issues?
- Divisions should feel obligated to make donations to the Solidarity Monument.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Aug. 15, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 8/10/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #22
Wednesday, August 15, 2024
3 – 5:36 PM EST
Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

On August 15, Poles celebrate Day of Polish Soldier:
https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Święto_Wojska_Polskiego

Polish medals at the Summer Olympics - interesting facts:
https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_na_letnich_igrzyskach_olimpijskich

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Andrzej prepared an introduction message to the division presidents regarding delayed dues due to waiting for the EC budget for 2024.
- Halina sent the dues with a request for the EC budget and the list of PAC-LI board members to PAC treasurer, Ms. Micheline Jaminski.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Sending overdue dues to Ms. Jaminski with a prepared message.
- Fundraising for the "Flavor of Poland" PBS TV program, part II. Halina is involved in this project and expressed her frustration. She mentioned who she contacted, but to no avail. So far, $220 k has been raised. Another $280 k are needed.
- Current state of the fight to repeal WEP. Dr. Gene's email was read. Discharge Petition will require to find 218 supporters. We will wait for a sign to start sending emails.
- EC financial report, what we expect. Ryszard's proposal on what the budget should look like was read out. We made some minor improvements .
- Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation. How can PAC recoup the money people donated to PAC-CF. PAC-CF has become an independent organization from PAC since 1998. PACCF Total Donations to Date: 1971-2022: $261,774,000 USD. Currently 8 people manage $ 7 million. President: Christopher Nowotarski, Vice President: Steve Tokarski https://www.paccf.org/
- Film "Solidarność według kobiet". Halina told us the story of the BBC and NBC's clips. She managed to convince Ms. Sikorski (Presidentof PACCF at that time) to pay TV stations $13 k for the clips in 2012.
- Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Polish American Congress by advertising in "Flavor of Poland".
- Mr. Pienkos' monthly PAC Bulletin was shown and read.
- A letter from Mr. Spula re the upcoming presidential elections was read.

What was decided:

- Andrzej, Ryszard and Zbyszek will work on questions for the presidential candidates and will first send them to the PACT group for consultation, and on Monday to Mr. Spula.
- Andrzej suggested installing Thunderbird with the mail merge add-on, which will make it easier for division board members sending group emails
- Anyone who can should attend Tuesday's Zoom meeting organized by Mr. Kuzma. Issues we should discuss: The EC budget for 2024, questions for presidential candidates.
- Ryszard will send Mr. Spula his proposal on how we want the EC to present its budget.
- We will prepare a list of issues that should be addressed at the National Directors Convention on October 12 (budget, communication, monthly meetings, financial report).
- We should reintroduce and support Andrzej's amendment to the PAC By-Laws.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Aug. 22, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.

AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 8/16/24

US OPEN 2024 – Arthur Ashe Stadium - Fresh Meadows, Queens
practice session: Novak Djokovic plays with Alexander Zverev

PACT'24 – Meeting #23 Thursday, August 22, 2024 8 – 9:19 PM EST

Participants: Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Andrzej talked to Mr. Niemyjski yesterday. He was supposed to join today's meeting.
- Andrzej sent the dues with a request to receive the EC budget to the PAC treasurer.
- Ryszard sent his proposal for what the budget should look like to the EC on Monday. So far, he has not received any response.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Requirement for the President of PAC. Jola would like the future president to know Polish. Mr. Niemyjski would be a good candidate. We know that Mr. Pienkos is ready to run as well Mr. Kuzma.
- WEP repeal. We will have to find min 218 congressmen supporters of the Discharge Petition. Jacek will soon try to make it easier for us to send e-mails.
- Tim Kuzma's Tuesday meeting. After 3 months break it was long expected but it turned out to be disappointing. 8 EC officers attended and 5 Presidents of divisions: Arizona, Downstate NY, Long Island, Michigan, NJ. There was no discussion on Budget and questions to presidential candidates. Mrs. Kaminski gave a report on the current situation in Poland. The celebration of the 80th Anniversary of PAC was a main topic.
- National Democratic Convention in Chicago that ends today (Thursday). https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/politics/elections/2024/08/21/watch-tom-suozzi-full-speech-at-dnc-convention/74896620007/

What was decided:

- Andrzej, Ryszard: we should convince EC not to read officers' reports during NDs meeting in Chicago. These should be sent electronically to participants in advance.
- Jola will talk to Tomek Kolodziej about the need and benefits of solidarity between divisions.
- Zbyszek will check whose officers' terms are ending.
- To organize monthly Inter-Divisional Meetings (IDM). Only PAC issues should be discussed. We should meet before October 12 (before the upcoming ND Convention).

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Aug. 29, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 8/23/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #24 Thursday, August 29, 2024 3 – 4:35 PM EST
Participants: Adam, Halina, Jacek, Janusz, Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Jacek made it easy for us at https://joinpasi.org/ to send e-mails to Congressmen and Senators to repeal WEP by supporting the Discharge Petition.
- Tomek joined us from his car right after attending the 2nd meeting of the Europe Committee where he serves as Vice-Chair. Professor Angela Brintlinger, Department Head and Director of CSEEES (Polish Study) at Ohio State University complained during the meeting that she could not receive funds from Poland. Tomek shared with some interesting facts: Ohio State has the largest trade with Poland and Polish sailors can often be found in Cleaveland. Ships sail from the New Jersey coast through the canals and the Great Lakes.
- Zbyszek had a fruitful and promising conversation with Mr. Niemyjski yesterday.
- So far only Andrzej and Halina have sent the dues with a request to the PAC treasurer, Ms. Jaminski to obtain the EC budget. 10 divisions were expected to do so.
- Ryszard has not received a response from the EC to his budget details proposal which he sent 10 days ago.
- Zbyszek determined whose term of office in the EC ends next year: President, VP for Polish Affairs, VP for Cultural Affairs and Treasurer.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Upcoming presidential election in Poland in spring 2025. Adam: possible candidates: Trzaskowski and more likely Tusk. So far there is no strong patriotic candidate.
- Upcoming National PAC Directors Convention: scheduled for Oct. 12, 13, no agenda yet. Ryszard: each division should honestly say how they evaluate EC's activity.
- WEP repeal. Jacek explained what we need to do.
- Possible candidates for positions that will be vacant in the EC.

What was decided:

- To continue to pressure legislators to repeal WEP by sending e-mails yourself or through the PASI website: https://joinpasi.org/index.php/action_congressman_discharge/ (urge your congressman to sign the Discharge Petition).
- Zbyszek reminded us to ask questions (examples below) to local candidates. He suggested passing out questions on organization letterhead at Town Hall meetings or at their offices.

Next meeting: IOM' 24 > Thursday, Sept. 5, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 8/30/24

Example of questions for candidates to Congress and Senate:

September 5, 2024

We would be grateful if you would answer the following questions.
We will share your responses with your Polish American constituents.

1. Would you regularly consult with leaders of Polish-American organizations, such as Polish American Congress, on matters related to Poland? Would you designate a specific person in your office for our leaders to contact?
2. Will you support a favorable pricing policy for the military equipment for Polish armed forces?
3. Do you feel that Poland has been sufficiently compensated for its human and material losses as a result of WWII, compared to other countries?
4. What would you propose to assure freedom of expression in the universities and the media?

Richard Brzozowski, President
Polish American Congress, NY Long Island Division,
516 – 354-4349 brozo@verizon.com

IOM'24 – Meeting #9
Exceptionally took place on
Thursday, Sept. 5, 2024 8 – 10:29 PM EST

Participants:
Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Jola, Jurek, Tomek, Zbyszek.

Tomek met privately with Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Tomek helps Prof. Angela Brintlinger, Department Chair and Director of CSEEES (Polish Studies) at Ohio State University, fill out an application for funds from the Polish government.
- Jola sent a link with Dominik Tarczynski: "Not One Muslim" - Dominik Tarczynski: Migration, Fight for Europe & Helping Trump | Ep. 459 (youtube.com)
- Jola became the owner of Gwiazda Polarna from Sept.1. She plans not to take any money from Poland and be independent from anyone.
- On Tuesday, Halina and Zbyszek went to the start of Suozzi's election campaign (over 500 people showed up). On Wednesday took part in Suozzi's Birthday fundraiser.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Polish Studies and their programs. Funding programs and how to control expenditures. A Polish immigrant funded Polish Studies at Ohio University before WWII.
- Lack of cooperation between Polonia organizations. This may be due to external control (as Jola suspects) or because of egoism (according to Zbyszek).
- The advantage of advertising the 80th Anniversary of the PAC at the Flavor of Poland. Mr. Niemyjski would rather advertise the PAC on YouTube.
- How the PAC managed to raise $300 k for Ukraine.
- Quality PBS programming, but biased, strong left-wing news and agitation.
- Proposal to invite Witold Gadowski to NDC. He will be in Michigan on Oct.11.
- PAC elections. Who can vote. How many National Directors can a PAC division have.
- Questions for candidates. Zbyszek read them. Tomek reminded us to post the answers on websites, so that politicians would see that we are serious (like Ukrainians).
- Importance of scouting. Jola encouraged Tomek to organize Polonia scouting in Ohio.
- Upcoming presidential elections in Poland in spring 2025. Adam's email was read and a list of candidates was shown. Jola mentioned Dominik Tarczynski as a possible conservative candidate: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominik_Tarczyński
- Adam's suggestion for potential speakers that could be invited to the ND Convention.
- Zbyszek read Leszek's email about the new Student Club at University of Texas.

What was decided:

- Jacek reminded us to continue to pressure legislators to repeal WEP by sending e-mails in person or through the PASI website to ask them to support the Discharge Petition: https://joinpasi.org/index.php/action_congressman_discharge/
- Halina will check if the P&S Center is interested in hosting 2 singers (April- June 2025): Jan Paweł II - ulubione pieśni - Alina Małachowska (youtube.com)
- Zbyszek asked those who have not done so to send a budget inquiry to the EC.
- Jola is going to call Mr. Spula re Gadowski and his participation in the ND Convention.
- To prepare suggestions for the upcoming National Directors Convention in October.
- Search for potential candidates for the PAC EC.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Sept.12, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 9/09/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #25 Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024 3 – 4:42 PM EST
Participants: Halina, Janusz, Jola, Krzysiek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Tomek sent a video about ships sailing between Poland and the Great Lakes region in the USA and Canada: https://youtu.be/y9FYjudAzYU?si=vlFlnP8b5vQoBGKM
- Tomek Niemyjski from PAC-Arizona, PAC VP for Financial Development asked zk for a correction of his statement which should be: "I didn't say that PAC should advertise on YouTube I said that "Taste of Poland"J should be made on YouTube instead of PBS".
- Saturday - after attending the St. Hedwig School Open Day, HK & ZK canvassed in Floral Park on behalf of Tom Suozzi (they got instructions a week earlier, Sept. 31).
- Sunday - Halina & Zbyszek went to the 90th anniversary celebration of the Jutrzenka female choir at Bay ridge Manor in Southern Brooklyn.
- Monday – Halina & Zbyszek attended the 100 years anniversary celebration of WNYC (local New York public station) at the Summer Stage in Central Park.
- Tuesday – Halina & Zbyszek took part in a lecture at the Pilsudski Institute. Authors of books about Polish orphans from Siberia saved by Indian Maharaja.
- At all above events Zbyszek handed out brochures About Poland (Pol. and Am. ver.) and those commemorating the 80th Anniversary of PAC and "Do you know Poland".
- Sept.10, Tuesday, 9 – 10:30 PM, the presidential debate took place between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump.
- Sept.11, Wednesday - 12 PM, HK & ZK attended the Mobil City Meeting hosted by Rep. Suozzi's staffers.
- On Wednesday evening at 7 PM HK & ZK attended an event at the Republican Club of Whitestone. There were several speakers including young District 3 congressional candidate Mr. Michael Li Petri Jr. (Republican).
- Janusz managed to ask the mayor to clean up the area from construction debris around the Pulaski monument in Hartford Ct. An example that PAC is respected.
- Mr. Spula replied to Jola that he saw no problem in inviting Mr. Gadowski to the NDC.
- Jola: Foreign Minister Sikorski will come to Detroit at the end of September.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Polish-American museum in Port Washington. Ryszard told us about problems with visitors and finances. Entry was free now they charge $10, students and retirees $5.
- Gwiazda Polarna. Jola presented her vision of this biweekly. Current circulation = 1000. There is a plan for a bilingual edition, currently is published only in Polish.
- Comparison of the EC's reaction to Ryszard's e-mails with the reaction of Rep. Suozzi's staffer to the proposal to speak at Congress about the 80th Anniversary of PAC.
- Discrepancy between the donation to Ukraine in Dr. Pienkos' brochure ($300k) and the amount stated in the financial report in the beginning of the year ($700k).
- Trump and Harris. Ryszard likes Harris and has reservations about Trump.
- Mr. Gadowski in Chicago. Krzysiek explained who should represent Poland at the NDC,

What was decided:

- Jola: We could try to organize a meeting with Dominik Tarczynski via the internet.
- Zbyszek will ask 12 PAC divisions + Dr. Lucja as per Krzysiek's idea to send their own requests to the EC to invite a Republican to the NDC as a balance for Mr. Brzezinski.
- Krzysiek will help Jola arrange a meeting between Polonia and Mr. Gadowski at the Art Gallery Kafe in Chicago on October 12 (Saturday).
- Zbyszek will send a list of Congressmen who have not yet supported the Discharge Petition.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Sept.19, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 9/14/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #26

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024
3 – 5:00 PM EST

Participants:
Andrzej, Halina, Jurek, Krzysiek, Krysia,
Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

Before entering Trump's really :https://abc7ny.com/post/donald-trump-rally-tight-security-measures-being-taken-day-nassau-county-event-uniondale/15319335/

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Tomek was shocked by the article "Polish Political Mirage" in Politico sent by Tomek Kolodziej, which states that Polonia's voices in the elections are irrelevant.
- Andrzej returned from Poland and Greece (we wanted to learn about his adventures).
- Jurek spoke with Michael (Mirek) Niedzinski, President of PAC-Illinois and VP for Membership Development. According to Michael an invitation to speak at the NDC was sent last week to both the Republican and Democratic Parties.
- Sunday - Halina, Ryszard & Zbyszek attended mass during which the newly made flag of Polish Saturday School of St. Hedwig was consecrated. After the mass, a reception was held to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the school, attended by ~200 people.
- Sunday - Halina & Zbyszek went to the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Jutrzenka women's choir at Bay Ridge Manor in Southern Brooklyn.
- Jurek: Trump will not come to Doylestown for the unveiling of the Solidarity monument

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read, commented on and corrected.
- Polish-American interest and involvement in the elections. Tomek told us about, what he claims, is a provocative article in Politico that Polish vote is negligible. Krzysiek: Politico may want to discourage Poles from voting. However; we could use this description of ourself as a wise motivator to get involved in voting rather than just talk about politics that all Poles like. This could help with the perception of our ethnic group.
- Ad-saturated social media turns people off. Zbyszek showed a recent article in the Wall Street Journal.
- Art Gallery Kafe in Chicago. Krzysiek explained that it was a kind of a „Culture Center" and regular participants would most likely not be interested in meeting Mr. Gadowski. Advertising should be done in Polonia stores and some other places than only in Kafe.
- Who will be less harmful to the US: Harris or Trump.
- White Eagle article in "W Obiektywie" about PIASA. It was recommended to read it.
- Threat of takeover of Polish Study at UConn. Despite this, 200 students organized spectacular celebrations of the 80th Anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising.
- The Polish & Slavic Credit Union allocated $600 k for scholarships.
- The Kosciuszko Foundation supports a Ukrainian historian ($600 k) in Polish Studies at Loyola University. According to our guest, Polish Studies programs in the US are dying.
- Organizing the unveiling of the Solidarity monument in Doylestown.

What was decided:

- Ryszard will present a proposal for PAC advertising in "Flavor of Poland" during the Saturday ND meeting in Chicago on September 12.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Sept.26, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 9/22/24

PACT'24 – Meeting #26 Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024
3 – 5:29 PM EST (21-23;29 PL)
Participants: Andrzej, Halina, Janusz, Jurek, Ryszard, Tomek, Zbyszek.

W Hołdzie Kurierom Tatrzańskim (w Kużnicach).
To the soldiers of the Polish Underground State, TOPR rescuers, Tatra guides, sportsmen, who during World War II, 1839-45, during the German occupation and later during Stalinist terror repeatedly traversed the Tatras on the Zakopane-Budapest route, transporting emissaries of the Polish underground. For fulfilling their duty to their homeland, many couriers paid the highest price, dying in Gestapo torture chambers, German concentration camps and communist prisons. For heroism and sacrifice: Honor Their Memory – compatriots from Poland and abroad.

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Tomek was contacted by Grzegorz Braun's staffer. The staffer mentioned that Mr. Braun would like to maintain contact with Polonia and that they are impressed with PASI activities.
- Janusz told us that if the presidential candidates do not respond to the PAC EC invitation, during Kuzma's meeting, it was suggested to contact the vice presidents.
- Tomek: an article about elections in the US was published in Poland, which was a riposte to a provocative article in POLITICO which suggested that the votes of Polonia did not matter.
- Tomek was invited to dinner, attendant by a journalist from Le Figaro and had an interesting conversation (we would like to hear more about it next time).
- Andrzej described the events in Doylestown last weekend. Friday CPA meeting was held with the participation of Minister Macierewicz and bard Pawel Piekarczyk. CPA Members recalled their experiences from the Solidarity era. On Saturday there were 8 short panels. On Sunday at 1 PM a special mass and unveiling of the Solidarity monument took place which was honored by the presence of President Duda. The event was held at 3:20 PM and was attended by over 3 500 people.

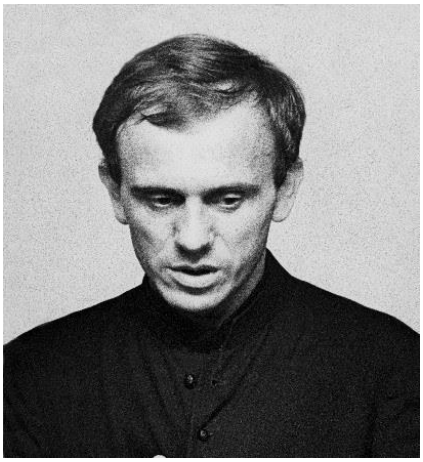
We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on.
- Accommodation during the ND Convention in October 12,13. Only Tomek made the reservation and shared his info with us (Sonesta O'Hare Chicago Airport hotel > $150).
- Vacation in Crete (Kreta). Andrzej shared his 12-day adventure with us. While in Poland, he and his wife booked this all-inclusive tour, through Rainbow Tours. The base for excursions was Aldemar Royal hotel, which was close to the shore. The most interesting was probably the trip to Knossos, visiting the ruins dating back to 4000 BC. The pebble beach near hotel and crystal-clear water after day trips encourage swimming. The food was exceptional, which caused Andrzej to gain a few pounds.
- Questions for the presidential candidates. Zbyszek's suggestions to the questions sent by Mr. Kuzma were read, commented on and their final content was determined.
- WEP repeal project. Zbyszek presented a list of Senators sent by Malgosia (PASI) who have not yet sponsored S.597. He also read the info sent by Gene Sokolowski.

What was decided:

- Zbyszek will inform Mr. Tim Kuzma that the presidents of the PAC-Ohio and PAC-South Florida divisions are not on his meeting list.
- Zbyszek will send our suggestions for improving the questions for the presidential candidates to Mr. Kuzma immediately after this meeting in order to meet the deadline.

Next meeting: IOM'24 > Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 8 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 9/27/24



IOM'24 – Meeting #10 Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2024
Exceptionally it took place at 3 PM, not at 8 PM as usual
3 – 5: 23 PM EST (21-23:23 PM, Cracow)

Participants: Andrzej, Dr. Andrzej, Halina, Jacek, Janusz, Jurek, Ryszard, Zbyszek.

Father Jerzy Popiełuszko - his last words before being murdered by communist Secret Police: Let us pray that we may be free from fear, intimidation, but above all from the desire for retaliation and violence.https://episkopat.pl/doc/218620.Biskupi-na-40-rocznice-smierci-bl-ks-Jerzego-Popieluszki-Prosmy

What has happened since our last meeting?

- Mr. Tomek Niemyjski asked Zbyszek to connect Mr. Jacek Joniec VP, PAC-Arizona. This was done, but apparently 3 PM was not convenient because Jacek did not join us.
- Ryszard received a link to Mr. Kuzma's encouragement for Polonia to vote for Trump
- Zbyszek printed the Brochure about Poland on A4 paper.

We talked about:

- Report from the last meeting was read and commented on and some words corrected.
- Upcoming PAC ND Convention. Andrzej found a good deal on a plane ticket and decided to go only to the meeting of National Directors on Saturday (fee = $160 includes lunch and dinner). Ryszard could not find anyone to accompany him and decided not to go. Mr. Pienkos sent two hotel proposals but there is still no agenda.
- Questions for local Congressional candidates. Zbyszek read it and as Andrzej suggested "true" was added before "freedom" in question 4.
- Recent statement by Slovak Minister. Zbyszek read: "If you have mental disorders, you should get treatment, not impose on people that you are some kind of norm and everything should be the way you want it to be."
- Iran's retaliatory attack on Israel. Jacek mentioned it. We are concerned about the escalation of the war in the Middle East involving American weapons and support.
- Zbyszek found an interesting saying by Pablo Picasso: "The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away"

What was decided:

- Małgosia (PASI) asked us to thank of those Reps who signed the Discharge Petition re H.R. 82. When calling the office introduce yourself and the organization you belong to.
- Zbyszek will remind Mr. Kuzma to include the Presidents of PAC-South Florida and PAC-Ohio on his Tuesday meeting list (zk forgot to do it the last week).
- It is time NOW to send questions to your local Congressional candidates. Here you can find out who is running in your geographical area here: https://ballotpedia.org/Elections
- Zbyszek will attach questions, PAC-LI decided to send, to the email containing this report. You can copy and modify them as you wish. The word "Legislator" in the title should be replaced with the names of your candidates. In addition to the questions you send by post (to those candidates who have them), emails also should be sent. Not only Democratic and Republican candidates should receive our questions, independent candidates as well. s too.
- Ryszard and Andrzej will try to find Lucja's email re Mr. Kuzma's appeal and send it to us.
- Halina will take dozens of brochures about Poland to Warsaw and distribute them during Maria Szonert's IV Congress of the Republica Polonia and during Mr. Walter Golebiowski's Conference devoted to the Scientific Research on World Polonia.

Next meeting: PACT' 24 > Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, at 3 PM EST via Skype.
AGENDA: this report will be read and commented on first + current events zk 10/11/24