



## Report from the Annual Executive Board Election Meeting

Our annual Executive Board Meeting took place on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Bentley Historical Library. The first order of business were the reports on last year's activities by the PAC President Wanda Walasek, the Treasurer Andrzej Wierzbicki, the Audit Committee (Małgosia Kowalczyk and Ela Magiera), and the Nominations Committee (Magda Peters and Andrzej Gałeczki). The President thanked the outgoing Treasurer Andrzej Wierzbicki for his five years of excellent service. Andrzej presented an interesting cumulative report of our financial standing in the last five years. The results are included below. Włodek Wielbut conducted the Executive Board elections with the following results:

President: Wanda Walasek  
Vice-President: Ania Bielińska  
Treasurer: Inka Kryczek  
Secretary: Basia Alvarez



*New Executive Board: Ania Bielińska, Basia Walkowc, Inka Kryczek, Wanda Walasek, Krystyna Bobowska, Basia Alvarez*

We thank all the members who participated in the elections!

## Annual Lecture

The annual PAC lecture was presented by Cecile Wendt Jensen, Director of the Polonica Americana Research Institute (PARI), genealogy department of the Polish Mission at Orchard Lake Schools. Her lecture was about the recruitment of Poles by the immigration agents to the state of Michigan in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In particular, Ms. Jensen

focused on the activities of Maxmillian Allardt, who operated a recruitment office in Hamburg to bring to the U.S. Prussians and “Polanders”. Further details of the story can be found in Ms. Jensen’s blog post, [\*Agents of Change: Recruiting for Industrial America in the 1800s.\*](#)



*Cecile Wendt Jensen, Director of PARI*

The lecture was complemented by an exhibit of archival materials documenting the history of Polish immigrants in Michigan, prepared by Małgosia Myc. We are very grateful for sharing with us the riches of the Bentley archival collections and for hosting the annual Executive Board Meeting at the Bentley Historical Library. Thank you, Małgosiu!



*Exhibit of Polish American archives prepared by Małgosia Myc (center).*

## **From the President**

It was a very long year and we were busy organizing many different events throughout the year. In addition to planning our traditional annual events, such as Picnic, Ognisko, Pasterka, etc., I tried to make sure that our members and nonmembers had plenty of opportunities to meet one another, and that our Polish American Organization would grow and be around for many more years to come.

The highlight of the year was the celebration of the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Polish American Congress of Ann Arbor. This event helped us learn more about the history of the organization and people who built it. Their memoirs, historical documents, an awesome presentation and a slide show prepared by Ania Bielińska, Małgosia Myc, and Ewa Pasek revealed a fascinating history of our community. It

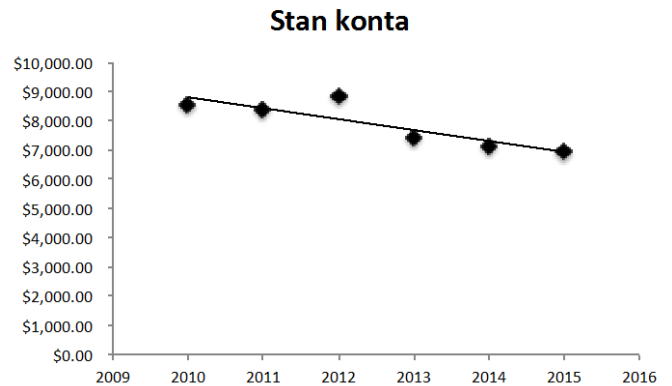
was a great pleasure to attend the event and see so many current and past members gathered together.

We are always hoping to build a strong Polish community filled with fun events and lots of Polish pride. I do ask anybody who has ideas for new events to let us know.

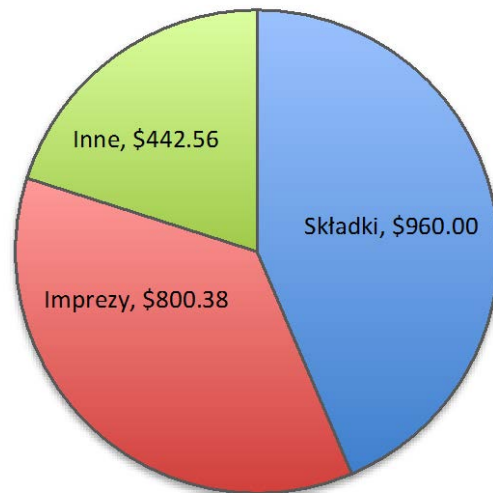
I would like to recognize the members who volunteer and offer their time to bring our Polish community closer. No event is a success without your help. I want to thank Basia Alvarez, our secretary, for issuing four newsletters to keep us informed about upcoming events. Thank you to our treasurer Andrzej Wierzbicki for making sure our money was safe and spent correctly. Thank you to our vice-president Ania Bielińska for all her hard work and making sure that I did not become a dictator. I want to thank our community advisor Basia Walkowc for all her support and time. And most of all, I want to thank our senior advisor Pani Krystyna Bobowska. She is one of the most senior members of our Polish community and is not only a mother to her own children but also a mother to all of us since so many of us had to part with our mothers in Poland. Pani Bobowska is an amazing mother, grandmother, and friend. Thank you for being the gem of this community.

Serdecznie dziękuję.

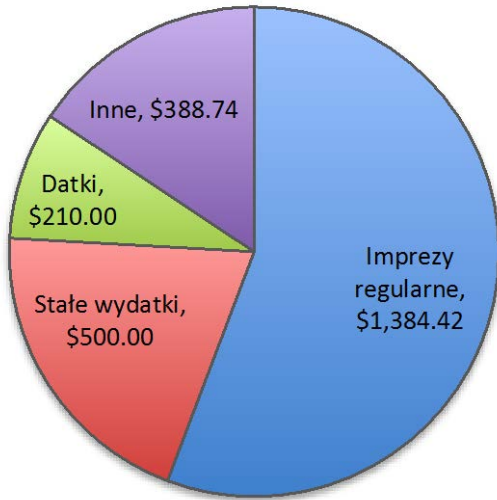
## Treasurer's Report: 2010-2015



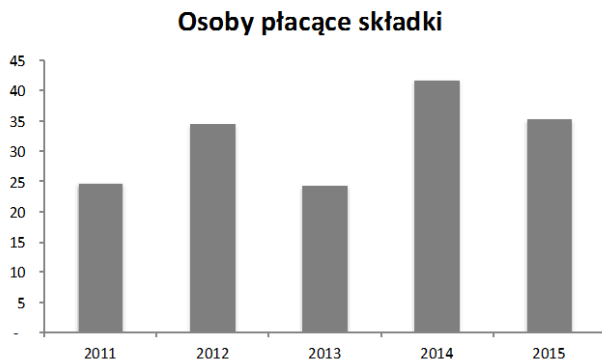
Account balance on the date of the annual meeting.



Average income: membership dues (blue), events (red), other (green).



Average expenses: events (blue), operation costs (red), donations (green), other (purple).



Members in good standing.

## Membership Dues

The membership year starts with the Executive Board elections in May. The dues can be paid at the meeting or by mailing a check to PAC AA, PO Box 130763, Ann Arbor, MI 48113-0763. Please remember to renew your membership as this is the only source of funding for our activities!

## Upcoming Events

### Picnic

**Time:** Sunday, August 16 @ 2pm

**Place:** Central Shelter, Dexter Huron Metropark, 6535 Huron River Drive, Dexter, MI 48130

This is a potluck event, so please bring a dish and a beverage to share. Sausages, soft drinks and tableware will be provided by PAC.

We invite everybody to contribute interesting items to our traditional auction, whose proceeds help finance the activities of our organization.

Also, be prepared to pay a small park entrance fee (cash only).

### Bonfire / Ognisko

**Time:** Saturday, September 19 @ 4pm

**Place:** MIGIZI Frontier Cabin, Brighton Recreation Area, 6360 Chilson Rd, Howell, MI 48843

The cabin sleeps 20 and is rented for an overnight stay. If you would like to spend the night there, please contact us at [pac.ann.arbor@gmail.com](mailto:pac.ann.arbor@gmail.com). On Saturday, before the bonfire, everyone is welcome to join us for a walk around the lake. The bonfire will start at 4pm. Participants bring their own food and drinks. Please let us know if you could donate firewood.

### Polish Mass

**Time:** Saturday, October 3 @ 7pm

**Place:** St. Francis of Assisi

## Contact Us

Whenever you have a question, comment or complaint, please contact us:

<b>President:</b> Wanda Walasek E-mail: pac.ann.arbor@gmail.com	<b>Vice-President:</b> Ania Bielińska E-mail: abielins@umich.edu
<b>Treasurer:</b> Inka Kryczek E-mail: ilonak@umich.edu	<b>Secretary:</b> Barbara Alvarez E-mail: barbalva@umich.edu
<b>Community Adviser:</b> Barbara Walkowc E-mail: barbarawalkowc@frontier.com	<b>Senior Adviser:</b> Krystyna Bobowska E-mail: kgbobowski@gmail.com
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