



January 25, 2007

To the Members of the Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas, Inc.:

PFDAA Gala @ PolishFest 2007

Polish Fest 2007 will take place on June 22nd to the 24th 2007. During PolishFest there will be a PFDAA mini gala Saturday June 23rd. Groups interested in performing at the Gala on Saturday should contact Glen Ramski @ [1-414-331-0748](tel:1-414-331-0748) or by email: glennramski@yahoo.com. Please note groups will be responsible for their own transportation, room and board if they decide to participate

Chicago Festival 2007

The deadline for deposit is drawing near, and many questions and concerns have risen regarding the cost of the festival.

With this in mind, we have come up with four options with estimated costs. We are giving you the opportunity to voice your opinion.

1. Continue with the festival as originally planned as an all week event. Gala concert will be on Friday (\$750 double/ \$ 900 single all inclusive).
2. Have a "mini festival" which would go from Wednesday to departure on Sunday. Gala concert will be held on Saturday (\$375 double/\$460 single all inclusive).
3. Have a "weekend festival" which would go from Thursday to departure on Sunday. Gala will be held on Saturday (\$265 double/\$325 single all inclusive).
4. Not to have a festival at all.

We have realized that the cost of the festival has been the main concern for most groups, and we are trying to cut costs as much as possible. With these four options we are hoping that the festival will still take place, but if we do not have at least 200 participants we will have no other choice but to cancel the festival at this time.

Please be advised that the Executive Board of PFDAA voted to donate \$10,000 to offset the costs of the Seminar portion of the Festival. This amount will be divided among the number of participants from PFDAA Member Groups.

Please vote on one that you would be willing to attend, or let us know if you will not be participating at all. We have not received questionnaires back, nor have we received many positive responses for the festival as originally planned. At this point, if you do not respond, we will assume that you have chosen option 4 and do not want to participate in the festival at all.

The deadline for deposit will still be February 1st 2007 and will remain at \$150 per person non-refundable deposit in the form of cashier checks only. We will hold all cashier checks until we get the required 200 participants before cashing. If we do not get 200 participants, the festival will be cancelled and all cashier checks will be returned.

Please respond to this letter as soon as possible by e-mail, phone or mail your response to: Misia Jaminski 14521 W. 151st St. Homer Glen, IL 60491.

Sincerely,

Festival Chairperson

Misia Jaminski

mrjaminski@comcast.net

Home Phone: 708-403-5718

Seminar Coordinator

Monica Pazdziora

nikapaz@yahoo.com

Cell Phone: 708-268-6906

PFDAA BOARD UPDATES

The members of the PFDAA board met in Milwaukee in June to discuss the current board situation. At that time Richard Jaminski of Wesoly Lud, relinquished he's position as acting president of the PFDAA. Glenn Ramski, having returned from his tour of duty in Iraq earlier in 2006, resumed his position as president of the PFDAA. Richard was thanked by the board for his willingness to fill in while Glenn was overseas. Richard also indicated that, due to business obligations that he was unable to continue in his position as PFDAA vice-president. Konrad Wiecek of Lechici was nominated as a replacement for the vice-president position. Motion was proposed and carried by the board. There was also discussion regarding the term of the current board. As no PFDAA festival took place in 2006, the board voted to extend the term one year through the summer of 2007. Again the motion carried. The goal is to have the election for board members take place at the PFDAA membership meeting to be held during the 2007 festival in Chicago. Make-up of the current board is as follows:

President Glenn Ramski (Syrena)

Vice-President Konrad Wiecek (Lechici)

Treasurer Donna Skurski (Wawel)

Secretary Daniel Smela (Polonia)

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS SOUGHT

Elections for the PFDAA board are tentatively scheduled to take place this summer during the PFDAA festival in Chicago. All nominations and the positions they are being nominated for should be sent to Dan Smela (dsmela@sasktel.net) or 5143 Boswell Cres, Regina, Sask. S4X 4S4, Canada. 306-924-5622. Nominees will be contacted by Dan prior to election to determine if they will accept or decline the nomination. Nominations will be accepted through the beginning of July 2007.

Dues:

PFDA Membership fees are due for 2007. Fees are \$35.00 (usd) please send cheques to:

PFDA Treasurer
31447 Merrily St.
Roseville, MI 48066-1214

Please be sure you dues are current. You may need to pay a higher cost per person at the Festival if your dues are not paid up. If you are not sure of your group's status please email Donna Skurski @ dntskur@aol.com.

Membership News:

PFDA sends birthday wishes to Pani Ada Dziwanowska!

Pani Ada Dziwanowska, artistic directory of the Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble of Milwaukee, celebrated her 90th birthday on January 19th, 2007! Pani Ada has been the choreographer of Syrena since 1979 and has been an irreplaceable asset to Syrena, the Polish community of Milwaukee, and the Polish folk dance community throughout the world. She has traveled the globe giving workshops in Polish folk dance, customs and folklore in many different countries. To this day, she still instructs and assists at Syrena rehearsals every Thursday evening. The ensemble recently had a birthday party for her after rehearsal which included her favorite combination of pizza and Żywiec, and also her favorite birthday tradition – being tossed in the air by the Syrena men!

Syrena is dedicating the Twentieth Annual Bal Maskowy on Feb 3rd, 2007 to Pani Ada's lifelong love and dedication to the preservation of Polish culture. The Syrena Bal is Pani Ada's beloved event and she continually provides input and ideas in bringing to Milwaukee the tradition and charm of "Old Warsaw" and the European elegance of "Old Vienna". During the evening, one will find a packed dance floor as guests dance to "Ada's Kujawiak". Thank you so much Pani Ada for your many years of dedication, hard-work, beautiful choreography, countless hours recording music, and love of all that is Polish culture and traditions – it is reflected in each and every member (current and past) of Syrena! Dwieście Lat Pani Ada!!!

Link to Biography of Pani Ada Dziwanowska:

<http://www.syrenadancers.com/content/view/61/2/>

Link to Syrena's 2007 Bal Maskowy

<http://www.syrenadancers.com/content/view/67/79/>

Czterdziesti lat minelo, jak jeden dzien

The Lechici Dancers (Chicago) celebrated its 40th anniversary titled, “Czterdziesti lat minelo” on December 2, 2006. The festivities began with a full-length concert at the Mother Theodore Gurein Auditorium featuring two groups of Lechici presenting songs and dances from a variety of regions in Poland, the National Dances and customs of St. Andrew’s Eve. Guest performers included the Stratus kapela, the Wichry Ensemble, and our own Joanna Koszyk, who sang a few Polish songs. The concert concluded with Lechici’s theme song, after which the guests proceeded to the Hanging Gardens Banquet Hall, where people could reminisce, eat and dance. Present at the reception were members from all of Lechici’s history, including some of the original members who began it all over forty years ago. Andrzej Rosiewicz summed things up in his songs, which was the theme of the celebration, ‘Forty years have passed, like one day’.

The PFDAА sends its condolences to the family Leslie Ridley: Leslie Ridley was the current president of the Dolina Polish Folk Dancers when she passed away on December 1, 2006, at age 37. Leslie a non-Pole, joined Dolina when she was a college student. She loved singing and dancing and fell in love with Polish Folk dancing. She made 2 trips to Poland for the Rzeszow festivals with the group during her years with the group. She was a nurse that worked at an eldercare facility and was loved by many of her patients and co-workers. Leslie's outlook on life was contagious, she made everyone laugh and smile. She is survived by her husband Tim, daughter Tatiana(10), and twins Nicholas & McKayla(8).

The PFDAА also sends its condolences to the family Kazimierz Durda: Kaz joined Dolina in 1988 as a clarinetist and played with our kapela. He took a break from Dolina to get married and start a family. Recently he returned as a member of our choir. Kaz was 48 years old. He is survived by his wife Bozena and daughter Natalia(9).

Pictures and memorials on our website: www.dolina.org

Newsletter Articles:

If your group is celebrating a special event or would like to get the word out about an event please feel free to submit a newsletter article to: dsmela@sasktel.net and it will be published in our next newsletter.

The Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas

PFDAА Board of Directors

Glen Ramski – <i>President (Syrena)</i> glennramski@yahoo.com		Donna Skurski - <i>Treasurer (Wawel)</i> DNTSKUR@aol.com
Konrad Wiecek - <i>Vice President (Lechici)</i> Lechici@aol.com		Daniel Smela – <i>Secretary (Polonia)</i> dsmela@sasktel.net

www.pfdaa.org