

The Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas



PFDA Newsletter

3rd Quarter 2010

Memo from Misia

Dear Members of PFDA:

It's been 10 years since I wrote my last Memo from Misia – from 1997-2000 I served as President of PFDA the first time, before that I served on the BOD in different capacities and was one of the charter members who founded PFDA. I am honored to have the opportunity to do so again.

I would like to congratulate Daniel Smela and the Polonia Dance Ensemble of Regina SK for a successful and exciting PFDA Polish Folk Dance Festival (read all about it further in this Newsletter).

Thank you to the previous BOD with Tom Skurski at the helm as President serving PFDA for a second time in this capacity (the first time was from 1985-1987). Wawel from Detroit MI was also a Charter Member of PFDA.

I am looking forward to a productive three years together with Vice President Donna Skurski (Wawel, Detroit MI), Secretary Daniel Smela (Polonia, Regina SK), Treasurer Monica Pazdziora (Wesoly Lud, Chicago IL), and Sergeant-at-Arms Conrad Wiecek (Lechici, Chicago IL). We are here if you need our assistance.

The new BOD has many wonderful plans, but we need your support, your input and your cooperation to make things happen for our groups which will then make PFDA successful. We have plans for a Performing Tour to precede and/or a Sightseeing Tour to follow the 2011 Rzeszow Festival. In 2012, regional mini dance workshops. In 2013, how does a Festival in Florida sound?

In October, 2010, past PFDA President Edziu Rajtar (Dolina, Minneapolis MN) will be representing PFDA at the upcoming FORUM POLSKIEJ KULTURY in Rzeszow, Poland. His presence signifies our unified effort supporting Wspolnota Polska in Rzeszow which is the "capital" of Polish Folk Dance Culture. The International Festivals of Polish Folkloric Ensembles in Rzeszow are unique and extremely popular. They are the reward our ensembles earn in perpetuating Polish folk culture throughout the world. The International Festival of Children's Polish Dance Ensembles in Iwonicz Zdroj give our children a venue for their budding talents. The Choreographers' Course secures our ensembles' future with the development of new talents. The list goes on and on. The Rzeszow

Festivals gave “birth” to the concept and purpose of the North American Polish Folk Dance Festivals and subsequently, the Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas, Inc. As PFDAA celebrates 27 years – let’s keep doing what we love best --- dancing!!!! Until next time.....Misia Jaminski

Election of New PFDAA Board Members:

PFDAA elections were recently held in Regina, Canada at the PFDAA festival. Thank you for all the groups that voted and attended the meeting. The newly elected Board of Directors is as follows:

Misia Jaminski – President – Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Choreographers

Donna Skurski – Vice President – Wawel Folk Ensemble

Monica Pazdziora – Treasurer - Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble

Daniel Smela – Secretary – Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble

Conrad Wiecek - Sergeant- at- Arms – Lechichi Dancers

Regina PFDAA Festival 2010 – Polonia on the Prairies

From June 28th through July 4th the Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble of Regina hosted Polonia on the Prairies PFDAA Festival 2010. Every three years a member of the Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas takes on the task of putting together a Polish Folk Dance Festival. This was the first time the festival has been to Western Canada and only the second time that it has been held outside of the USA.

The festival included performances, choreographer led workshops and social activities. Choreographers from Poland came and instructed all dancers participating in the workshops of songs and dances from the various regions of which they are specialists: Krystyna Maciag from the region of Bilgoraj; Marek Czarnowski from the Kaszuby Region; and Wladyslaw Kozbial from the region of Zywiec.

When the participants weren’t dancing their evenings were filled with social activities. The festival started off with a Welcome BBQ which featured a First Nations Performance by Terence Littletent - world champion hoop dancer and was followed by a friendship dance where all participants were invited to join in. Dancers also participated in soccer and beach volley ball tournaments it was a fun time and enjoyed by all. As the week proceeded the dancers had their first performance on Canada Day July 1st at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Heritage Centre and where they were later invited to watch the Sunset Ceremony (a staged artillery program by the RCMP) and finished the night off with

watching the fire work display in Wascana Park. The following day all groups were invited to Polonia's Regina 40th Anniversary Polka Party. It was a fun evening where dancers had a chance to Polka to early hours of the morning to one of the Best Polka bands in Canada.

No Festival would be complete without a Gala concert. On Saturday July 3rd 10 PFDAAs groups took to the stage of the Conexus Arts Centre and put on a fantastic show representing the many different regions of Polish Dancing. The finale of the concert was coordinated by Mrs. Krystyna Maciag and included all 10 groups on stage performing the Krakowiak in various regional costumes of Poland. The following groups took part in the Gala concert and Festival:

Iskry Polish Folk Dance Ensemble – Winnipeg, MB,
Janosik Polish Dance Ensemble –North Wales, PA,
Lehici Dancers of the PSO – Chicago, IL,
Lowicz Polish Folklore Ensemble – Edmonton, AB,
Mazur Polish Canadian Dancers of Edmonton Society – Edmonton, AB,
Polanie Polish Song & Dance Ensemble – Calgary, AB,
Polish American Folk Dance Company- New York, NY,
Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble – Regina, SK,
Pomorze Polish Folkdance Ensemble – Halifax, NS
Wawel Folk Ensemble – Detroit, MI.

The 2010 PFDAAs festival would have not been possible without the support of our sponsors, volunteers, and community for that we thank them in their effort and hard work to help promote the Polish Culture across Canada and the USA

PFDAAs Organizing Committee:

Festival Chair – Daniel Smela

Festival Co-Chair – Nick Langshaw

Social Chair – Mary Ann Langshaw

Registration Chair – Paulette Hubbs

Gala Concert Chair – Stan Slopek

Workshop Chair - Tracey Smela

PR Chairs – Bron Nurkowski, Nick Langshaw

Finance Chair – Roger Reed

2010 Festival DVD's and Music Purchase:

Workshop DVD's and Music from the Festival in Regina will be available for purchase for member groups in early November 2010, if your group would like to get a copy please send an email to pfdaa@sasktel.net to place your order. Prices are as follows and include shipping and handling:

Workshop DVD's \$20.00 each – 3 - Regions, Kazuby, Zywiec, and Bilgorajski

Music CD's from each region - \$20.00 each

Gala Concert DVD - \$20.00

Please note for groups that attended the festival in Regina it is not necessary for you to place an order as packages will be sent directly to the group contact.

Forum Kultury Polskiej –

Wspolnota Polska-Rzeszow will be holding a “Forum Kultury Polskiej” on October 8-13th, in Rzeszow Poland this fall. The PFDAAs will be represented by past PFDAAs President Edziu Rajtar from Dolina Polish Folk Dancers of Minnesota. If any groups have any requests or issues they would like addressed at the forum, please let Dan Smela know by **October 1, 2010**.

Rzeszow 2011 and PFDAAs Concert Tour

The dates for the next Rzeszow Festival have been set for July 21st – 28th 2011, for more information about the festival be sure to check out Wspolnota Webpage: <http://www.wspolnota-polska.rzeszow.pl/>

The PFDAAs is looking at organizing a 2011 Performing/ Sightseeing Tour of Poland a week before or after the festival in Rzeszow next summer, please take the time to fill in the attached Survey in the link below. If you have any questions just let us know.

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22B6E6W9E2H>

Choreographer Course Graduates 2010

The PFDAА congratulates the following PFDAА members in completing the 4 year choreographer's course in Rzeszow Poland:

Johanna Wawro - Wici (Chicago, IL)

Kaja Rajtar – Dolina (Twin Cities, MN)

Kasia Schemanski – Wawel (Detroit, MI)

Mary Katherine Stuvland - Lowiczanie (San Francisco, CA)

Thomas Schemanski – Wawel (Detroit, MI)

Polish Fest June 2011 – Milwaukee, WI

PFDAА member groups interested in performing at the Polish Fest next summer are encouraged to contact Janine Adamczyk at jadamczyk@directs.com for more information on how to be a part of Polish Fest next summer. For more information about the event please check out www.polishfest.org

Membership News:

The PFDAА wishes **WESOLY LUD POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE** of Chicago all best on their trip to China for the 2010 International Folk Sports Festival in Shanghai, October 8 through October 13.

The PFDAА would like to congratulate the **SYRENA POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE** of Milwaukee, WI on its 35th Anniversary. Syrena will be celebrating its 35th with a Concert on October 16th 2010. Please see attached poster for more details.

STO LAT!

**Syrena Polish Folk
Dance Ensemble of
Milwaukee WI**

**35th
Anniversary
Concert**

**October
16th, 2010
2:00 at
Greendale High School**

Tickets
\$8.00 Pre Sale and Seniors
\$6.00 Children and Students
\$10.00 At the Door

www.syrenadancers.com
414-803-5264 info@syrenadancers.com

PFDAA Yearly Membership Fees for 2010 are due!!!!

If you haven't already sent in your membership dues for this year please send them to Monica. We are in the process of password protecting several areas on our WEB site so that they will only be available to our active member groups only. Once this process is complete we will be adding several new items for your eyes only. Monica will send you your password once your dues are up to date.

Please send a check in the amount of \$35.00 USD to:

Monica Pazdziora, PFDAA Treasurer
8520 W. 91st St.
Hickory Hills, IL 60457 USA

The PFDAA thanks the following groups for sending their 2010 Payments in:

"Dolina Polish Folk Dancers- Twin Cities, MN"
"Echoes of Poland Song & Dance Ensemble Toledo, OH"
"Hejnal Polish-American Dancers Long Island, NY"
"Iskry Polish Folk Dance Ensemble – Winnipeg, MB"
"Krakowiacy Arvada, CO"
"Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Los Angeles, CA"
"Lechici Dancers of the PSO Chicago, IL"
"Lowicz Polish Folklore Ensemble Edmonton, AB"
"Mazur Polish Canadian Dancers of Edmonton Soc. Edmonton, AB"
"Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Regina, SK"
"Polanie Polish Song & Dance Ensemble Calgary, AB"
"Polish American Folk Dance Company Brooklyn, NY"
"Polish Heritage Dancers Buffalo, NY"
"Polonia Song & Dance Ensemble Pittsburgh, PA"
"Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Regina, SK"
"Pomorze Polish Folk dance Ensemble, Halifax, NS"
"Radomianie – Livonia, MI"
"Wawel Folk Ensemble Detroit, MI"
"Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble of PRCUA"
"Zakopane Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Warren, MI"

New and Used Costumes for Sale

If you have costumes you want to sell or are looking for a set of costumes let the PFDAA know and we can run your request in our quarterly Newsletter.

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: pfdaa@sasktel.net and it will be published in our next newsletter. Newsletters are published every 4 months (March, June, Sept, and December).

The Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas

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www.pfdaa.org