



Polish American Historic Site Association

Winter and Spring, 2018 Newsletter

P.A.H.S.A.'s mission is to preserve our heritage by maintaining and restoring the buildings that make up the St. Albertus Historic District. We do this by our: • Maintenance and preservation projects; • Holding historical, cultural, and religious events; • Fundraising and publicity projects. By maintaining and restoring St. Albertus Historic District, we are making our Metro Detroit a better place to live.

Please help us - we really do need your help: financially; with your presence at our masses and events; and with your volunteer efforts.

St. Albertus Parish was founded in 1870; the first church building was erected in 1872; the present church building was erected in 1884; and the rectory was built in 1890.

So many Americans can trace their roots back to this parish and this neighborhood.

Please note that we receive no financial support from any institution – religious, civic minded, or governmental. We must raise money by ourselves.

Volunteers and volunteering

As in the past, I use this issue of the newsletter to salute P.A.H.S.A. volunteers. Not only must we raise money by ourselves, but we must also rely heavily on volunteers to do much of the work to accomplish our mission. Without our volunteers and donors, there would be no St. Albertus Historic District.

What sort of work do we do? There are: maintenance, administration, restoration, and fund raising. Some volunteers spend 500 – 600 hours of their time each year doing the important work of P.A.H.S.A.

A summary of the major 2017 projects and project leaders are:

- Restoring the narthex - Mike Sulich and Ken Lukasawich.
Be sure to look up when you enter the church next time!
What a wonderful transformation!
- Heating system maintenance – Dave Grabowski and Bob Duda.
- Events planning and coordination – Celeste Grabowski. We've had so many successful events. •
Church cleaning – Larry Chominski and Celeste Grabowski.
 - Summer Art Fair - Matt Baka. Another great summer event.
 - Masses, weddings, mob mass, and tours – Celeste Grabowski.
- Sacristies' ceiling repairs – Matt Baka, Kyle Askew, Dominic Lucca. Mike Sulich and Ken Lukasawich will continue these repairs after the Christmas holidays.
 - Communications – Bob and Cheryl Duda.
 - **Coordination with IBEW Local 58 for electrical repairs – Dave Grabowski.**
Local 58 has worked with us a lot over the last year, we appreciate them so much.
 - Removing debris and other unwanted materials
from boiler room and church basements: Bob Duda, Ken Lukasawich, Mike Sulich.
 - Grounds maintenance: Celeste Grabowski, Brian Baka.
 - Sacristan: Celeste Grabowski.
- **School sale: Bob Duda. We have a purchaser who is very interested and has signed a purchase agreement. The purchaser is in the process of obtaining permits and making plans for the use of the building.**
 - Food preparation for rectory dinners: Larry Chominski, Sarah Grabowski, Kyle Askew.
 - Bill paying and accounting: Celeste Grabowski, Kathy McCallum.
- **Because of our fundraising efforts, we were able to have *Don Herbst* do a considerable amount of brick repairs. Don also volunteered a considerable amount of his time and resources to the project.**

Another aspect of volunteering is governance of the organization. The following people attend and participate in monthly meetings.

Our board members are:

Officers : Matt Baka, President
Sarah Grabowski, Vice President
Kathy McCallum, Treasurer
Bob Duda, Correspondence Secy.
Celeste Grabowski, Recording Secy.

At Large : Kyle Askew

Brian Baka
Stevie Baka
Dave Grabowski
Allen Linoski
Ken Lucasawich
Terry Manning
Ed McCallum

Our monthly meeting attendees are: Judith and Bill Greba;
Heather and Mike Sulich

Openings for new volunteers:

We will be needing volunteers with certain skills in the near future. These skills would be: • Mechanical skills to help maintain our heating system. We will need at least 2 people for this. A handyman level of other skills would help. • Fund raising skills. We need to dramatically expand our current programs. • People who can assist with publicity projects. • An historian to maintain and upgrade our displays and to make a list of former parishioners and P.A.H.S.A. members.

Would you be willing to help us out?

Projects planned for 2018

Usual projects: • Celebrate masses. • Grounds maintenance. • Church and rectory boiler system maintenance. • Administrative functions: o Bill paying and accounting. o Membership and fundraising work. o Putting on dinners, festivals, and parties. o Putting on tours and weddings. o Publicity and communications. • Rectory repairs and maintenance. • Church cleaning and decorating.

Special projects planned for 2018:

- Church tuck pointing – if we have the funds.
- Electrical repairs/modernization – IBEW Local 58.
 - Continue with sacristy ceiling repairs.
 - School sale – negotiations continue.
- Continue removing clay from church basements.
 - Remove old pipes from boiler room ceiling.
 - Church downspout extensions.
- Improve looks of parking lot and resolve the impervious surface issue.

Important future projects:

- **Church windows – if we have funds.**
 - **Church floor repairs.**
- **Church ceiling repairs – if we have funds.**

2017 Volunteer Honor Roll

The following is a list of our volunteers for 2017.

If I have forgotten anyone or misspelled anyone's name, please contact me so that I can make a correction in the next newsletter.

William Allen
John Argenta
Kyle Askew
Cynthia Bader
Brian Baka
Carol Baka
Matt Baka
Stevie Baka
Leonard Bielat
Michael Bonk
Larry Brumm
Valerie Brumm
Larry Chominski
Tom Cieszkowski
Michael Cyranski
Bob Duda
Cheryl Duda
Melanie Duda
Allen Fairweather
Full Spectrum Stained Glass (rebuilt ventilator window)
Craig Geml
Dorren Geml
Geml family
Basia Grabowski
Celeste Grabowski
Dave Grabowski
Jim Grabowski
Sarah Grabowski
Bill Greba
Judith Greba
Bishop Thomas Gumbleton
Halka Dance School members
Don Herbst (D&H Masonry Restoration)
Jeff Hiltz
IBEW Local 58
Jerry Innes
Liz Innes
Nancy Innes
Kim Legarski
Allen Linoski family
Kenny Lucasawich
Dominic Lucca

Jim Kaczor
Kathleen Katkin
Antoni Maczka
Christine Magda
Ed McCallum
Kathy McCallum
Fr. Joel Medina
S.J.
Terry Mushenski-Manning
Sean Nader
Judy Opiela
Casey Philipo
Joel Pizzo
Polonez Chorale
Msgr. Walter Ptak
Brian "Batman" Sheehan
Rebecca Savage
Todd Scott (Det. Greenway Coalition)
Chris Suchyta
Nick Suchyta
Heather Sulich
Mike Sulich
Chris Urban
John Zaporski
Mob mass: Eucharistic Ministers Ida Anita Sylvia
EMT Allen

Corrections to last newsletters Joseph and Joanne Brady should have been listed as donors in the July issue and Leonard Skowronski should have been included in the volunteer list as a choir member in the January issue.

Outreach - Capuchin Mission We collect canned food and gently used clothing which we deliver to the Capuchin Mission. There is a drop off station in the back of the church. Bring these items when you attend mass. Please help us to help the Capuchin Mission in Detroit.

Help P.A.H.S.A. maintain St. Albertus We have so many urgent projects that need to be done. Please help. P.A.H.S.A. is a 501 (c) (3) organization and thus any donation given to P.A.H.S.A. is tax deductible on your income tax.

Please consider the following: • Becoming a P.A.H.S.A. member. Becoming an active P.A.H.S.A. member would be even better.

- Participating in:
 - o Memorial brick paver.
 - o Memorial plates on the plaque.
 - o Memorial plates on the pews campaign. Details by the fundraising display in the church. • Remembering P.A.H.S.A. in your will.

- Including P.A.H.S.A. as beneficiary in your life insurance policy.

- Giving cash gifts. Giving bonds.

- Securities can be donated before selling them thus avoiding incurring capital gains tax.

The donor can also generally deduct the fair market value of the securities at the time the gift was made up to the AGI (adjusted gross income) limitation. When a charity such as P.A.H.S.A. sells donated, appreciated securities, the capital gain escapes taxation up to the AGI percentage limits. •

Donating real estate. Properties such as personal residence, vacation home, or land can be donated.

Besides the tax benefits, this also avoids the inconvenience of selling that property yourself.

- Donating personal property such as artwork and jewelry.

- IRA donations. • Consult your financial advisor for tax reduction details.

P.A.H.S.A. information sources

For tours, weddings, mass intentions, our e-mail address is: albertus1884@gmail.com.

We have a web site: stalbertusdetroit.org.

We will accept ads for your business. The suggested donation levels for a full-page ad in our newsletter are: \$100; \$50 for a ½ page ad; and \$25 for a ¼ page ad. While we would like to thank those who send donations each time they do so, however due to a severe lack of resources we cannot. We will send out a thank you letter in January, which includes the amount that you donated during the previous year.

Please note that we do not sell or give away the names of people who are members or who donate to P.A.H.S.A.

We will try to put out a newsletter 2 times per year. So please save the schedule sheet that is above. Please advise us if you find any misspelling of names or other inaccuracies – or if you do not want to receive the newsletter.

For P.A.H.S.A., Bob Duda

Plymouth Dentistry - Dr. Gary Feucht, DDS, PC

Dr. Feucht is an active member of P.A.H.S.A. His services include: • General dentistry • Cosmetic Dentistry • Dentures • Teeth Whitening • Crowns and Bridges including crowns over implants • Dental Emergencies You can expect only the best – professional dental treatment; a friendly, caring, and knowledgeable staff; the latest dental technology and techniques; and consideration for your comfort and busy schedule.

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