

**OPEN EMAIL RESPONSE TO MARTY CEPIELIK'S EMAIL TO CHRISTOPHER KEROSKY**  
**by Halina Grochowski-Jimenez:**

**Format: Marty's words outside the box in italics font; My responses inside the box in Arial font**

**April 24, 2007**

*....I gave your e-mail regarding San Francisco Polonia a lot of thought. I am now proposing one of the pieces to solving the problems in San Francisco Polonia. (I am sure there are other pieces.)*

*One discussion led to another regarding your "peace" offering and the eventual "open letter" written to me by Mr. Glodek. Maybe you might want to classify this e-mail as an...Open letter to Mr. Glodek....or A plea to Mr. Glodek for the good of San Francisco Polonia:*

**Dear Marty:**

**A copy of your email response to Christopher Kerosky was forwarded to me for my information. I wish to reply to the comments made in your email.**

**I am a director and officer in the Polish Club of San Francisco and sit on its Board of Directors and on its Executive Board. My official role as an officer is Recording Secretary. Since I take down the Minutes of all meetings I am well aware of what goes on in the Polish Club and how its affairs are handled. I am also the Recording Secretary for the St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society of San Francisco, one of three founding organizations of the Polish Club, and sit on its Executive Board. From this organization I was elected to sit on the Board of Directors of the Polish Club As a result of my participation in these two organizations, I was very much involved in the litigation propagated by Messrs. Edmund Lewandowski, Karol Zerucha and Wallace Ozog of PRCUA against both organizations and several of its officers. I was also a witness in court and testified on behalf of both organizations.**

**In response to your email, I would like to state that I have never understood why there is so much propaganda against Mr. Waldemar Glodek and why anyone would be making pleas to Mr. Glodek "for the good of San Francisco Polonia." Mr. Waldemar Glodek was elected by a majority of the membership in the organizations in which he participates to hold the offices which he holds. In the Polish Club, Mr. Glodek was ELECTED to act as a director from the local chapter of the Polish National Alliance, Group 7 (an organization of national standing in the U.S.). Within the Polish Club itself, he was ELECTED by the Board of Directors to the position of President of the Executive Board -- a post to which he has continually been RE-ELECTED by the Board of Directors composed of 18 members for many successive years. His successive re-elections have been the result of his DEDICATION, RELIABILITY and COMPETENT SERVICE to the organizations which he serves. Although Mr. Glodek holds offices in these organizations he is NOT an omnipotent power in them.**

**To clarify certain of your misconceptions and that of your readers, I wish to state that Mr. Glodek has no power to make any independent decisions on behalf of the Board of the**

Polish Club, PNA, Group 7, or St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society, especially in relation to finances. With respect to the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society, all decisions, financial and otherwise, are presented before the Club's Board of Directors, and the Society's membership, for consideration and are then voted upon for ratification. **I fail to see why such a common corporate practice is not understood by Poles who live in this county and why this fact is never pointed out.** It should be common knowledge that this is how corporations (both profit and nonprofit) are run in the United States. Further, Mr. Glodek does not control any of the funds of the Polish Club or St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society. The funds are under the control of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer of the specific organizations and any monetary expenditures must pass through a majority vote of the Board of Directors or Society membership for ratification. The Board's decision is then executed by the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer. To make statements contrary to the above information seems to me to show a very immature and naive understanding of corporate structure, procedure and law and can easily appear to be a purposeful attempt to perpetrate mis-information about an organization in order to damage the organization's reputation and slander its membership and its leaders. I pointed this out in my article "Polonia Under Attack" as one of the tactics used to ruin Polish organizations. Marty, I am not suggesting that you yourself would purposely use such tactics but the individual(s) who are supplying you with such mis-information and encouraging you to print such erroneous and downright slanderous statements (especially without any supportive documentation) are not friends of either Northern or Southern California Polonia.

I wish to add further, that all positions to the Polish Club's Board of Directors and to the St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society are elected positions and Board members, as well as Society members, serve in these positions as volunteers. No one gains any financial benefit sitting either as an officer or Board member in any of these organizations. This is clearly stated in both the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society bylaws. If anything, we give our precious time to these organizations of long-standing in order to promote their endurance into the future because we deeply care about the legacy left by our Polish forefathers.

*I want to be perfectly clear regarding the long dragged out court case in San Francisco ...I am not taking sides as to who was right and who was wrong. I am not taking sides as to who won and who lost... That debate can go on ad infinitum...*

I also wish to comment upon your statement above. You use the term "long dragged out court case" which seems to implicate that the litigation was dragged out purposely. It is obvious in using such terms that you, and perhaps many of your readers, have never been involved in litigation. Litigation in the U.S. is of its nature LONG and consequently, seems to drag on forever. However, it is not "dragged out" by anyone. No one wants to be involved in an expensive and highly stress producing ordeal for a prolonged amount of time. Unfortunately, the beginning and ending of a lawsuit is a lesson in endurance. Lawsuits are long. They are long because one must follow the procedures and timing established by the court and conform to the court's calendar. Both sides are obligated to follow these procedures. The case was therefore NOT dragged out but went through its natural course from beginning to end as determined by the legal system. As to who won and who lost -- that does not fall to the opinions of individuals and is not open to debate.

**That is the supreme decision handed down by the court and no opinion or debate by third parties will change the outcome of the court's final decision. The undisputed fact, whether anyone is pleased or not pleased with the decision, is that the court's decision favored the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society. This decision the court cemented in documents which are permanently on file with the San Francisco Superior Court Clerk. Should anyone wish to view them (and I highly recommend that interested individuals do so) these documents have been and continue to be available for viewing on the Polish Club's website.**

***That is the past. I think San Francisco Polonia should concentrate on the future. In all sincerity of the San Francisco leadership there should be no secrets. Polonia's leadership should serve the best interests of Polonia (like we have in Southern California).***

**You are again making false assumptions here. The leadership of Northern California have always had the best interests of the Polish community in mind in all their actions. You are very fortunate that you have not had to endure an attempted takeover of your organizations and their funds, or have had to endure slander against your leadership or yourself, perpetrated by those individuals who, we can only assume, want to destroy Polish organizations of long-standing. You are also very fortunate that no one (as yet) has taken you to court making false unproven accusations against your organizations and their leadership. Hopefully, you have learned from my article "Polonia Under Attack" how to protect yourselves and, as a result, have taken appropriate measures to prevent such occurrences from happening to you. As for secrets, there are no secrets. The membership of all Northern California organizations have always been informed of the financial standing of each respective organization. That is why we have meetings, read minutes and have financial reports which are then accepted and voted upon. Again, this is common corporate procedure. Hopefully, the organizations in Southern California follow similar procedures.**

**With respect to the leadership of Northern California Polonia, I can say with certainty that the leadership should be applauded for standing up and vehemently defending the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society against the vicious unfounded attack and attempted takeover endured by these organizations and their leadership by unscrupulous individuals whose interest in these organizations can only be assumed to have been self-serving. The Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society still stand because of the dedication and willingness of the individuals (meaning ALL the Directors of the Polish Club and ALL the members of St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society) who united and stood together to defend the legacy handed down by our forefathers. I am thankful that I had the privilege of knowing and working along side these people and those in the community who stood behind us in defense of the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society.**

***The facts are...***

***1) I had heard that because of the court case costs, the financial condition of the Polish Home is dismal with the possibility of being on the brink of bankruptcy. Is that true? The truth should be proved!***

***2) I had heard that Mr. Glodek (in charge of the Polish Home) will be retiring soon and plans on pursuing other interests in Florida.***

***If I were living in Northern California and if these two facts are correct, I would logically want to see a full disclosure of what the status of the Polish Home is. There should be no surprises after Mr. Glodek is gone. This is being fair to the San Francisco Polonia. This is being fair to the good name of Mr. Glodek, the manager of the Polish Home for many years.***

**The Polish Club has stood strong for 80 years in Northern California and will continue to stand strong. If Polonia is so concerned about the financial condition of the Polish Club we will gladly accept donations on our behalf and provide a receipt for any such funds donated, and we appreciate the heart felt concern for our organizations from our neighbors in the South. But again, to clarify, there is great misunderstanding as to the role of Mr. Glodek in the Polish Club. Mr. Glodek does not manage the Polish Club. Mrs. Glodek is the manager. What does that mean? It means she is in charge of keeping the physical premises clean, neat and safe (and, of course, her husband helps her do this). It does not mean she, or Mr. Glodek for that matter, are in charge of any of the finances of the Polish Club. Mr. and Mrs. Glodek have no authority over the finances of the Polish Club. They have no control over the check books or savings accounts, nor do they have access to them. These are under the direct control of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer (continuously re-elected year after year for their frugal management of the funds). Further, the Board of Directors (all 18 of them) are fully aware of the financial situation of the Polish Club. Therefore, we do not have to worry about the good name of Mr. Glodek or his family and, therefore, Southern California Polonia does not have to worry about the good name of Mr. Glodek or his family. Their good name remains secure and untainted and has been secure and untainted for the entire duration of their association with the Polish Club. Nor do we need to worry about "secrets" because the Board of Directors has always had full financial disclosures. It is also with the direct approval of the Polish Club Board of Directors (all 18 of them) that Mrs. Glodek, along with her family, lives in the manager's house free of rent. This has been a well-established custom of long standing, decided by the Board of Directors some 30-40 years ago and has remained in effect because it is beneficial to the well-being of the Club.**

***I base my logical reasoning on what I have seen in Southern California Polonia in the past. Members of three organizations have left our local Polonia, and when they left there were questions that needed to be answered.***

***Mr. Widerynski has first hand information regarding a man who moved to Indiana never to be heard from again.***

***Another man moved to Nevada never to be heard from again.***

***I have first hand experience regarding a person who died and there were no books of accounting to reference regarding funds.***

***I am talking about honest upstanding leaders of Polonia. There should have never been a need for unanswered questions after they left. This happened in Southern California Polonia. Logically, it can be guessed that this just might have happened in Polonia in other parts of the U.S.***

**It is unfortunate that Polish organizations in Southern California had to experience the effects of improper corporate practices with respect to their documentation. And you are correct, because I have been informed by other Polish organizations in other parts of the U.S. that they have encountered similar difficulties. That is why I warned all Polish organizations in my article to get their financial and corporate records in order and to hire appropriate professionals (accountants, lawyers, etc.) to help them accomplish these tasks to prevent such problems and the accusations that follow. We live in a different age and time and sloppiness in corporate practices cannot be tolerated. It is also the duty of each and every member as well as other officers who belong to an organization to demand that financial and corporate documents be properly maintained and disclosed. To be a member of an organization carries responsibilities as does holding an officer position. However, this was never an issue in Northern California with respect to financial disclosure. We did, however, follow our own advice and had a competent law firm review our corporate documents and bring them up to date.**

***I repeat. It is only fair to San Francisco Polonia and to the reputation of Mr. Glodek that there should be full disclosure with nothing to hide. Please Mr. Glodek, to be of service to the Polonia that you and the rest of us all love do not leave any doubts or unanswered questions regarding your tenure as the Manager of the Polish Home in San Francisco.***

**Again, in the paragraph above, you implore Mr. Glodek to make full disclosure. Why? It is not Mr. Glodek's place to make any kind of disclosure because he does not control the financial records. Full disclosure is made by the Financial Secretary and Treasurer to the Polish Club Board of Directors at each and every meeting. Nor is it Mr. Glodek's place to make any kind of public disclosures without the approval of the Board of Directors. As to the amount of money spent to defend the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society, I am curious why no one asks Mr. Lewandowski or Mr. Zerucha exactly how much money was loaned to them by the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America in Chicago (their corporate sponsor) to attack and attempt to takeover the Polish Club and St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society in San Francisco by filing the unfounded lawsuit. We estimate their legal fees ran well over \$250,000. I am curious also why no one asks the PRCUA (the corporate sponsor) AND Mr. Lewandowski AND Mr. Zerucha why they were so eager to try to gain control over the physical property of the Polish Club in San Francisco and the funds of St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society or why these individuals do not disclose the exact nature of their legal fees!**

***I am discussing this financial matter because I had a talk with a lawyer friend of mine regarding the long dragged court case. This is that attorney's reply...***

**Again, please refer to my comment above regarding your use of the term "long dragged court case." This term is inappropriate and misleading. As mentioned above, the legal process is in its nature "long" when viewed by outsiders (meaning those who do not work in the legal professions) but those who do work in the legal professions know that lawsuits follow a very specific course determined by procedures established by the American legal system. Not only must the parties to a lawsuit follow these established procedure but the court is obligated to follow them as well.**

**Marty,**

**Per our discussion, I did some calculating and had to stop at \$380K in defense fees. That sounds pretty high.**

**In my work with construction defects involving numerous plaintiffs (15 and up), numerous defendants (each and every subcontractor - 15 and up) etc., everyone cross-complaining against each other and bringing in manufacturers and suppliers etc. to make the pool of defendants bigger, costs to hire experts to visit and write up everything from the foundation to the roof, pay for document depositories of thousands of pages of contracts, escrow papers, expert reports, add on top of that mediator fees for our 5 or so useless mediations etc. THEN I would get to \$380K maybe in 2-3 years defending the big target and leading up to trial prep- the developer who has to sue all the subcontractors and manage a huge complex mass of litigation and parties.**

**I would demand to see those bills if I were in that organization.**

**Chris, as an attorney please tell us if you feel this is far-fetched reasoning by my attorney friend.**

**You provided your attorney friend with incorrect information. The legal bills have always been presented to the Board of Directors. They had to be presented to the Board for the Board's approval in order to direct the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer to make payment to our legal counsel. Disclosure has never been an issue in our organization.**

**Mr. Glodek... I bring this to your attention in all fairness to you. Before you leave San Francisco all questions should be cleared up for the sake of your good name, for the sake of your children, for the sake of your grandchildren. You owe it to yourself, you owe it to Polonia of San Francisco.**

Again, please refer to my comments above with respect to the continuous, inappropriate, pleas toward Mr. Glodek. As stated above, Mr. Glodek is NOT an omnipotent power either in the Polish Club of San Francisco or in any other Northern California organization with which he is affiliated and it is time such assumptions, unsupported statements and deliberate character assassinations (which slander not only his good name, but consequently the entire Board of Directors of the Polish Club in San Francisco) cease.

Marty, I hope the above information helps put into proper perspective, provides insight and clarifies some of the issues you raised with respect to our affairs in Northern California. In closing, we wish to say that we wish all of Southern California Polonia great prosperity in building a strong Polish Community that will endure into the future.

I remain...

Respectfully,

Marty Cepielik

Sincerely,

*Halina Grochowski-Jimenez*

Halina Grochowski-Jimenez  
Director, Polish Club, Inc. of San Francisco  
Executive Board, St. Stanislaus Benevolent Society