Hello Polka Fans,

It’s time to get ready for another exciting polka festival season.

Many of the winter and early spring polka events have been outstanding. Thanks to all of you polka fans who continue to support dances and events in your area. Let’s keep the momentum going. I urge you to continue to support all of the polka organizations, polka promoters, polka DJs and IJs all over the country. Consider bringing a friend or two out to introduce them to the music and fun we all have at a polka event. Ask someone to join the IPA or any other polka organizations in your area. The officers and directors of these organizations can’t do it all by themselves. We need your help to keep polka music moving in a positive direction.

I would also like to congratulate the 2017 IPA Hall of Fame class and 2016 music award winners. We look forward to the IPA Festival Labor Day weekend to celebrate with you.

Thank you to the Hall of Fame Committee: Fred Bulinski, Fred Kendzierski, and Mike Matousek, for doing a fabulous job conducting the election process. I would also like to thank the Board of Trustees and electors for their contribution and cooperation.

In closing, I would like to thank the officers and directors of the IPA. This dedicated group of men and women work hard to keep our organization moving forward.

Rick Rzeszutko
President

IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame Inductees and Award Winners

**2017 IPA Hall of Fame inductees**
- **Living Category**
  - Fred Ziwich
  - Andy Fenus
- **Deceased Category**
  - Elmer Scheid
  - Marge Machay
- **Pioneer Category**
  - Ed Kutas, Sr.

**2016 Polka Music Award Winners**
- **Favorite Band** – Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push (MA)
- **Favorite Male Vocalist** – Lenny Gomulka (MA)
- **Favorite Female Vocalist** – Mollie Busta Lange (OH)
- **Favorite Polish Polka Album** – “Where The Boys Are” by The Boys (MD)
- **Favorite Polish Style Song** – “Mary Jane” by The Boys
- **Favorite International Polka Album** – “Squeezebox By Request” by Squeezebox (OH)
- **Favorite International Style Song** – “North Shore Polka” by Squeezebox and “Church Picnic Polka” by The Dujka Brothers (TIE)
- **Leon Kozicki Award** – Joey Sokol
2015-2016 IPA Officers and Directors

Office:

President: Rick Rzeszutko (IL)
1st Vice President: Christy Krawisz (IL)
2nd Vice President: Fred Kendzierski (NJ)
Treasurer: Linda Niewierowski (IL)
Financial Secretary: John Krawisz (IL)
Secretary: Keith Pietranczyk (IL)
Sergeant-At-Arms: Peter Danielczuk (CT)
Media Advisor: Jerry Wantroba (IL)

Directors:

Patrick Henry Cukierka (IL)
Debbie Dunaj (WI)
Ed Guca (Canada)
Dan Mateja (IL)
Laura Mateja (IL)
Mike Matousek (MD)
Dennis Mikołajewski (IL)
Jake Mikrut (IL)
Bonnie Ryniec (IL)
Ed Szela (MA)
Lori Urbanczyk (NY)
John Zelasko (MI)

IPA Newsletter

The “IPA Newsletter” is the official publication of the INTERNATIONAL POLKA ASSOCIATION, INC.®. The “IPA Newsletter” welcomes submissions from readers and will publish them with consideration to space and time requirements. Pictures are welcome but used only when budget and space constraints allow. All items become the property of the IPA. If you would like a photograph returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Editor:
Debbie Dunaj - dunajda07@yahoo.com

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PO Box 57758
Chicago, IL 60657
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(1-800-867-6552)
Website: www.ipapolkas.com

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Membership

Dues are $15.00 per person for all members. You can also purchase a lifetime membership for only $200.00 per person. If you would like to join the IPA, please send your check or money order to:

John Krawisz, Financial Secretary
International Polka Association
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60585
Phone: 630-204-1793
Email: christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net

Renew your membership online!!
Visit: www.ipapolkas.com/store

Would you like your newsletter emailed to you?

The IPA would like to go green! Help us save money on printing costs and postage.

If you would like your newsletter emailed to you, please send an email to christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net.

Please put in the subject line: PLEASE EMAIL MY NEWSLETTER.

IPA RADIO SHOW

Don’t forget to listen to the IPA Radio Show on Sundays, 11:00 a.m.—12 noon Central Time on WPNA (1490 AM) in Chicago or via the internet at www.radiowpna.com. Each show features IPA officers and directors including Rick Rzeszutko, Linda Niewierowski, Laura Mateja, Christy Krawisz, John Krawisz, Bonnie Ryniec, Dennis Mikołajewski, Keith Pietranczyk, Jerry Wantroba, and Dan Mateja.

The IPA Radio Show is also broadcast on the Polka Jammer Network on Saturdays from 4-5 p.m. Central Time and also available in the Polka Jammer archives. Be sure to tune in! Visit www.polkajammernetwork.org

Please call 1-800-TO-POLKA if you are interested in advertising on the IPA Radio Show. WE NEED SPONSORS!
Mark your calendars for the 49th Annual IPA Festival and Convention, happening once again Labor Day weekend at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, New York.

If you haven’t already made reservations to join us, call the Millennium Hotel at 716-681-2400 to make your room reservation today. Tower room rates are available for $115/night when you mention the special IPA group rate. Make your reservations soon, as the rooms are filling fast!

More details to be announced soon. We hope you can join us!

In preparation for our 50th anniversary in 2018, we are looking for photos from IPA events throughout the years. Please help us by submitting your photos of your experiences at IPA events. Any help you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

You can scan and email them to: christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net or mail a copy that will not be returned to: IPA 50th Anniversary Photos; PO Box 1484; Plainfield, IL 60585.

NEXT IPA GENERAL MEMBER MEETING:

Tuesday, May 16

7:00PM

Polonia Banquets – Chicago
IPA Radio Shows

Don’t forget! The IPA broadcasts two weekly polka shows, and both are available to listen to online. At the time of printing, the schedule of radio hosts was not available.

**Polka Jammer IJs**
Saturdays 4:00-5:00 pm, Central Time
www.polkajammernetwork.org

- May 6: Keith Pietranczyk
- May 13: Dan & Laura Mateja and Dennis Micolajewski
- May 20: Bonnie Ryniec and Rick Rzeszutko
- May 27: Freddy “K” Kendzierski
- June 3: Peter Danielczuk
- June 10: Ed Guca
- June 17: Freddy “K” Kendzierski
- June 24: it’s a surprise!
- July 1: Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
- July 8: John & Christy Krawisz
- July 15: Keith Pietranczyk

**WPNA Radio Shows DJ's**
Sundays, 11:00-12 noon Central Time
1490 AM Chicago or online at www.radiowpna.com

- May 7: Keith Pietranczyk
- May 14: Dan & Laura Mateja and Dennis Micolajewski
- May 21: Bonnie Ryniec and Rick Rzeszutko
- May 28: Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
- June 4: John & Christy Krawisz
- June 11: Keith Pietranczyk
- June 18: Dan & Laura Mateja and Dennis Micolajewski
- June 25: Bonnie Ryniec and Rick Rzeszutko
- July 2: Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
- July 9: John & Christy Krawisz
- July 16: Keith Pietranczyk

Welcome New Members!

Ray Budzilek, Jr. (OH)     Michelle Morgiewicz (NY)
Teresa Bagrowski (OH)      Joseph Morgiewicz (NY)
Louis J. Fava, Jr. (PA)     Michael Pucowski (NJ)
Michael Blaskowski (WI)    Mark Coleman (NY)
Daniel McNamara (NY)       Jeff Heinz (WI)
Curt Pollmann (IL)         Dianne Gora (Canada)

Members are very important to the International Polka Association! If your membership is up for renewal, please send your renewal and dues as soon as possible. Membership dues are $15.00 per year or $200.00 for a lifetime membership. Renew online at www.ipapolkas.com.

In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of IPA members Frank Borash and Earnest (Ernie) Boyd. May they rest in peace.

Belated Birthday Wishes

Happy Belated Birthdays to Jane Siuda, Douglas Glon, and Bob Jarnot. They celebrated their birthdays on April 21.

Did You Know?

Did you know the International Polka Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization as recognized by the IRS? All donations to the IPA are tax-deductible.

Please Remember Us In Your Will Or Trust

To assure the future of the IPA and polka music, your assistance is needed. When you write or review your Will or Trust, please consider leaving a charitable request. Ask your attorney to include the International Polka Association.
IPA Polka Hall of Famer Henry “Henny” Jasiewicz Passes

Henry David (Henny) Jasiewicz was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, on May 22, 1945.

He has performed professionally since he was nine years old and started his polka career playing trumpet for Leo Gibala & The Bell Hops. Henny performed with this group for several years.

In 1979 he started his own band known as Henny & The Versa Js, which has performed locally, nationally and in Poland.

Topping off a list of accomplishments is a 2004 Grammy award nomination. Henny is the recipient of many awards and commendations including recognition from the International Polka Association, United States Polka Association, 24/7 Polka Heaven awards and a proclamation from the city of McKeesport, making the month of May Henny & The Versa Js month.

Henny was inducted into the IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame in 2011.

Obituary:

Henry David Jasiewicz, 71, of McKeesport, died Tuesday April 25, 2017 at home after a courageous battle with brain cancer. He fought until the end. He was a 1963 graduate of McKeesport High School. Owner/operator of Renzie Auto Center and leader of, Henny & the Versa J's polka band. Also former member of the Bell Hops Orchestra. Henny was a 2005 Grammy nominated recording artist.

He was born May 22, 1945 in McKeesport and was the son of the late Henry T. and Josephine Balawadjer Jasiewicz. Married, Joan A. Wirth Jasiewicz on April 8, 1967. Father of Teri Jasiewicz (John) Binkiewicz of Pickerington, Ohio and Henry J. "Butchie" (Teresa Whitney) Jasiewicz of Hempfield Township, PA. Brother to Diane "Dee-Dee" Jasiewicz Ogrodný (late Stas) of Nashville, TN.

Also survived by nieces and nephews and several cousins. Pap to 6 grandchildren whom he loved and was proud of: Justin, Jayna and Anna Binkiewicz - Julia, Emma, and Jacob Jasiewicz. They were the center of his life. He was a people person as he worked as a mechanic and played many weddings and dances while traveling across the country. He was a gentle man who loved his children and grandchildren and loved to spend time at their activities. He belongs to the 11th Ward club, the PNA Club #352 in McKeesport, Pittsburgh Musicians, Cleveland Polka Association, United States Polka Association and International Polka Association.. He was inducted into the IPA Hall of Fame in Chicago, IL.


http://www.mckeesportobituaries.com/?e=1875
IPA Birthdays

May

1: Dick Powell
2: Judy Del Pozzo; Gary Rozak; Rita Sajkowicz; John Kwiatkowski, Jr; John Kostecki
3: Jennifer Pietranczyk
4: Harold Otto; Sandi Zaganiacz; Debbie Walczynski-Greene
5: Frank Gubala; Mashelle Pavey; Robert Mazur; Julie Misik
6: Ray Pasinski; Richard Kozacko
7: Grace Mikrut; Lorraine “Travers” Truskolaski
8: Janice Lochner; Dan Bizon; Matthew Kasprzyk
9: Lenny Zielinski; John Demerski; David Nowatzki; Mike Surratt; Jill Czerniak; Bini Husain; Danny “Potts” Poczciwinski
10: Eleanor Grudi
11: Bernie Gorak II; Minnie Florio; Chester Sterczek
12: Edmund Burdy; Linda Chesky-Fernandes; Michael Nowakowski
13: Larry Stec; Fran Russo; Jackie Libera
14: Clarence Karakla
15: Ryan Ogodny; Stan Baryla
16: Marge Smith; Edwin Rajewski
17: Chet Schafer; Raymond Skorka; Linda Kendzierski;
18: Judith Pollick; Ruth Lietz; Melanie Ellis
19: Mary Saber; Ron Palkowski; Marty Biniasz
20: Robyn Mrozinski; Arlene Talbot; Jim Letnicky
21: Rick Zarek; Jane Piotrowski;
22: Carol Schmins
23: Andy Bojczuk; Carolyn Kasprowicz; Marty Olshanski; Kim Hedrich; Peter Siuda
24: Jerold Kriston; Ricky Krupski
25: John Bryndza; Ashley Mateja; Bill Popek; Boyer Simcox

June

1: Mike Skalecki; Ron Buczko
2: Jack Sanocki
3: Bernie Gorak, Sr.
4: Richie Sendra; Bob Jakubielski; Waldemar Rudziecki
5: Jeannette Ziobro; Stan Pasko
6: Robert Banoczi; Mary Jo Liccar; Carl Simchena
7: Debbie Dunaj, Rich Benkowski; Jan Ozymy
8: Ted Jedrzejewicz
9: Mary Kay Dench; Lambert Lasecki;
10: John Baras; Eugene Kasprowicz; Dale Kivinen; Johnny Karas
11: Wayne Drust; Mel Himes; Eddie Ostry
12: Virgil “Butch” Hermann; Chet Kowalkowski
13: Walter Berkowicz
14: Judy Kwiatowski; CJ Joziwiak; Larry Breitbach
15: Kevin Cornell; Carol Benamati
16: Aaron Silvinski; Michelle Morgiewicz
17: David Jackson
18: Dave Walczak; Kevin Weinstock
19: Tony Crispo; Bernard Krygowski
20: Bud Beyer; Louise Kurek; Karen Dekoski; Paul Rite
21: Dan Gury
22: Joanne Kozleski Jones; Robert Krupka: Jerry Rymanowski
23: Ed Krupinski
24: Kenneth Dunaj; Mollie Busta; Jay Skiba; Julie Matus
25: Mary Ann Markatenas; John Filipczak; Wayne Machnicki; Joe Zalewski
26: Joseph Wondolowski
27: Julicia Dusseault; Frank Blajda; Paul Prusakowski
28: Ron Urbanczyk; Bob Frydryk

If you wish to have your birthday listed, please send an email to: christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net or send it to: John Krawisz, IPA Birthdays, PO Box 1484 — Plainfield, IL 60585
Press Release — D.T.O.

Richard Allen Michael Tady, an IPA member for many years, has been performing and recording polka & waltz music for over 58 years. Nominated for a Grammy in 1992 (Dick Tady Orchestra, D.T.O.) and performing on a Grammy winning album in 1993, has kept his love for polka and waltz music stronger than ever! He was inducted into the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame for “Lifetime Achievement” in 1999 and has received numerous awards from the American Slovenian Polka Foundation. Better known in the polka field as Dick Tady, his new solo release, Richard Allen Michael Tady, “He’s Back,” With More Great American Slovenian Polka & Waltz Hits! (Button Box Style) was the winning “Recording of the Year,” presented by the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame at the downtown Marriott Hotel, Cleveland, OH on November 26, 2016. He also received the award for New Original Song, “Justie & Maggie’s Song,” written for his grandchildren.

This is his second solo recording. As with his first solo release back in 2003, “The Greatest Slovenian Polka Hits,” he has played all of the instrumental parts and sang all of the Slovenian & English lyrics.

Dick has been the leader of the Dick Tady Orchestra (D.T.O.) for the past 53 years. His musicians include Bob McBride on banjo, guitar & voice, Joe Gill on drums & voice, Tony Grandovic on accordion & keyboard, Don Lavrich on bass guitar & voice and Dick on Tenor Sax, wind-controller, button box & voice. The D.T.O. can be seen on the Nationally televised “Mollie B” Polka Show. They have made commercials for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Subway Restaurants with Myron Cope and appeared in the final scene of the “Homemakers” movie, just to mention a few. The Dick Tady Orchestra has received the Prestigious Crystal Award for Band of the Year in 1995 & 2010 by the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame, the American Slovenian Polka Foundation, Cleveland OH.

For further information, Dick Tady can be reached at 152 Cambridge Drive; Harwick, PA 15049 or phone 412-580-0236.

In Recognition

April 23, 2017: Warren Polka Boosters. In recognition of your efforts to promote polka music in Michigan and your support of polka music throughout the country. Thank you, and congratulations on your 45th anniversary.

April 23: 2017: The Polka Party. In recognition of your efforts to promote polka music and your support of polka music throughout the country. Thank you and congratulations on your 70th anniversary of radio broadcasting.

March 12, 2017: It is our privilege to honor Stas Golonka, for all his years of providing excellence with his music and attaining the highest recognition in the polka industry.

March 12, 2017: It is our privilege to honor Richie Midura, for all his years of providing excellence with his music and attaining the highest recognition in the polka industry.
For Questions and Ticket Inquiries
Please call the Ocean Beach Park Polka Days Information Line at:
860-598-4117
Ocean Beach Park Polka Days
PO Box 247
Versailles, CT 06383
info@oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com

SCHEDULE OF BANDS

**Wednesday, June 21**
7 pm – 10 pm
On The Boardwalk

**Polka Country Musicians**
Open To The Public
FREE Admission
$6.00 Parking Fee

**Thursday, June 22**
10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

**The NuTones**
Stephanie: America’s Polka Sweetheart
5:30 pm – 12:30 am
In The Ballroom

**Matt’s All Star Jam Band**
Maestro’s Men
Lenny Gomulka & The Chicago Push
$20.00 Adults
Kids 16 & Under FREE
When Accompanied By An Adult

**Friday, June 23**
10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

**The Boys**

**Polish Connection**
5:30 pm – 12:30 am
In The Ballroom

**The Knewz**
Polka Country Musicians

**Eddie Forman Orchestra**
$20.00 Adults
Kids 16 & Under FREE
When Accompanied By An Adult

**Saturday, June 24**
10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

**The Knewz**
The Beat
5:00 pm – 1:00 am
In The Ballroom

**The Boys**
Polka Country Musicians

**Dynatones**
Polish Connection

$20.00 Adults
Kids 16 & Under FREE
When Accompanied By An Adult

Band Line-Up Subject To Change.
By state law, you may not bring your own food or beverages into the ballroom.

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# IPA Dates to Remember

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<td>May 16:</td>
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<td>August 6:</td>
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<td>September 1-3:</td>
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Visit [www.ipapolkas.com](http://www.ipapolkas.com) and [www.facebook.com/ipapolkas](http://www.facebook.com/ipapolkas) to stay up-to-date with all IPA events.

## Advertise in the IPA Newsletter

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PLEASE NOTE: For advertisements requiring pictures, please add a one-time charge of $10.00. Email ad files to Debbie Dunaj: [dunajda07@yahoo.com](mailto:dunajda07@yahoo.com).

### IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!!

As reminders for membership renewals are mailed out, it would be greatly appreciated if these could be returned as soon as possible. Not only are these fees used to allocate printing and mailing expenses, but for various other causes. **So please return your renewals in a timely matter.**