



IPA Newsletter

A Note From Our President



Hello IPA Members!

Happy Spring and Happy Easter.

It's time to get ready for another exciting polka festival season. I urge everyone to continue to support all of the polka promoters, polka bands, DJs and IJs, and the polka organizations. If we continue to work together, we can and will achieve great things.

Some exciting things have happened for the IPA in the last few months.

We appointed two new Trustees, Kevin Adams and Kenny Olowin, and I look forward to working with them and all of the current Trustees. Welcome Kevin and Kenny, Congratulations!

The 2023 IPA Hall of Fame and 2022 Music Awards election cycle has started, and we should know in a few weeks who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame for the Class of 2023. Thank you to the Hall of Fame Committee for all their hard work.

The IPA received a grant from the City of Chicago, thanks to the hard work of Chris Bogdon and myself, along with Randy Koslosky and Dan Mateja.

The 17th Annual IPA Hall of Fame Benefit Dance took place on March 4 and 5, at the Polish American Citizens Center in Ludlow Massachusetts, honoring Freedy "K" Kendzierski plus a special musical tribute to the New Brass. Special thanks to Ernie Daigle, Peter Danielczuk, and everyone else who helped out this weekend. Thank you to the Boys, Eddie Forman Orchestra, Dennis Polisky & Maestro's Men and Lenny Gomulka. Thank you to all who attended and support this event.

The 11th Annual Unity/St. Joseph's Day Dance was held by the IPA and Let's Polka USA on March 19, 2023, featuring the IPA Tribute Band and IPA Hall of Fame Inductees John Gora and Rick Rzeszutko. Both organizations thank you

for your support.

Don't forget to make your plans to attend the May 6 and 7, 2023, Pulaski Wisconsin Area Festival of Bands. Saturday we feature IPA Hall of Fame Inductee Eddie Biegaj and Crusade, Sunday music is by Aaron Socha and LiveWire, The New Generation, The Mix, The Maroszek Brothers and the Nu Tymes. Please see the flyer inside this newsletter for more information and details.

Make your plans now to attend the 55th Annual IPA Festival and Convention. Thursday August 31, 2023 – Pre-Festival IPA Welcome Party at the Cranberry Elks Lodge #2449 with music by 2022 IPA Hall of Fame Inductee Alex Meixner and his band. All proceeds to benefit the Elks Lodge. Friday September 1 to Sunday September 3, music by Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push, The Beat, John Gora and Gorale, Polka Country Musicians, Klancnik & Friends, Polka Family, IPA Tribute Band, Old School, New Brass Express, Garrett Tatano Band, Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze, Phocus, Dennis Polisky and the Maestro's Men, and The Kosmix Band. There will be a Welcome Party, Hall of Fame and Music Awards Banquet, Pool Parties, Polka Mass, Golf Outing, Election of Officers and Directors and live Polka Jammer Broadcast. There are a few select rooms available at the Double-Tree. **Be sure to check out the flyer inside the newsletter or visit ipapolkas.com for more information.**

As you know, we had to pack up the IPA Hall of

(continued on page 2)

IPA® Festival & Convention

September 1 - 3, 2023



For Hotel Reservations:



<https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/2023ipafestival/>

(continued from cover page)

Fame® that was located in Chicago, but please know that the IPA Board continues to look for another place to house the Hall of Fame and once we find a place that fits our needs, we will be sure to let you know. We want to thank everyone who has reached out with some ideas and suggestions. We really appreciate your help.

As a reminder, please renew your IPA membership when you receive an email or envelope in the mail. Also, if your email address has changed or you don't receive email updates from the IPA, please send us your email address. You can email them to membership@ipapolkas.com.

Thank you all for your support of the IPA, I look forward to seeing you all real soon.

Christy

Polkas in St. Louis

Submitted by Laura Mateja

On October 9, 2022, the Polish Cadets Lodge 1134 P.N.A. of St. Louis hosted a polka dance at the German Cultural Society, located at 3652 South Jefferson Avenue in St. Louis, Missouri. John and Carolyn Baras were our hosts for the day. Months of planning helped to bring people together to enjoy their fresh-made food, cold beverages, and the music of the

I.P.A. Tribute Band from Chicago, featuring guest vocalist and I.P.A. Hall of Famer, John Gora!

Much thanks and appreciation goes out to John, Carolyn, and all of their volunteers who helped facilitate a fun dance with lots of laughs and audience participation! The dance floor stayed full to the end! We hope everyone enjoyed the afternoon with us. Keep an eye out for a repeat performance in 2023!

Polka Jammer Network to Ukraine

Submitted by Basia Adams



The Polka Jammer Network (PJN), an internet streaming service, recently raised money for the Ukrainian refugees in Poland. As part of their annual fund-raising appeal known as Jammerthon, they included a custom-designed t-shirt proudly proclaiming "Stand With Ukraine" as a premium. The funds were given to the Kosciuszko Foundation to help support their work with the refugees. Over 500 PJN listeners donated to the cause and received the t-shirt. After the expenses for manufacturing and postage, the net proceeds were \$3,500.

In the spirit of the holidays, Keith Stras, Secretary and PJN Board of Directors member made the check presentation during a festive affair

featuring Chicago's Lira Ensemble. Lidia Filus, President of the Chicago Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation accepted the check, and several Chicago board members were on hand for the presentation. The actual check was delivered to Marek Skulimowski, President and Executive Director in New York.

Polka Jammer Network also known as the Polka Music Preservation Society is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to streaming polka music 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is a network with over 30 IJs and prides itself on being "Your World Leader in Polka Entertainment". It can be heard at polkajammernetwork.org or wpjndb.com.

It's Always Sunny in Florida...

Witamy członków!

I would like to dedicate this newsletter to a dear friend... Harry Wolonosky of Fort Myers passed away last month. Harry was instrumental in starting the Southwest Florida Polka Boosters, where he was president for 22 years. The SW Florida Polka Boosters held many dances throughout the years in the Cape Coral area and had over 300 members. He will certainly be remembered for his hard work and dedication promoting Polka music. I am sure he is continuing to dance in Polka Heaven!

Please continue to support our clubs & bands:

Polish American Pulaski Club of Daytona Beach is having Polka dances at **The Elks Lodge, 285 Wilmette Avenue, Ormond Beach**: March 12th Melotones; March 26th Northern Sounds; April 2nd Polka Classics; April 23rd Joe Oberaitis; 7th Polka All Stars, and 21st Melotones. For more information, call the club at (386)-258-7059 or email: pu-laskidaytonaclub@yahoo.com. Join their Facebook page or visit their website: www.polishamericanpulaskiclubdaytona.org.

German American Club of Marion County will sadly be closing their club this year. The club was started back in 1997 and peaked at 360 members. Today unfortunately, their membership has declined to 66 and can no longer operate. They are planning a farewell picnic over the summer for their members. A sincere **thank you** to all of the members, officers and board of directors for the past 26 years of wonderful memories!

General K. Pulaski Citizens Club in Belleview is having their annual Easter/Pre-Dyngus day dance on April 9th featuring the Polka All Stars. Their Mother's & Father's Day celebration will be on 14th with the Polka All Stars. Please contact Brad for more info.

SNPJ Lodge #603 in Samsula had a great crowd at their Sloven Fest last month. Each day was filled with LIVE music and delicious

homemade food. The club is already planning on their next big event. For additional info give Cindy a call at (386)-689-9454. Join their Facebook page, snpj lodge603@gmail.com or visit their website: www.samsulasnpj lodge603.com



By Brad Turk

Polish American Social Club of Vero Beach is currently having "Friendly Friday" (one Friday a month), featuring happy hour drink prices and food along with FREE admission. The next polka dance is March 12th featuring SoFlaPA Band. Dance is from 2:00-5:00 PM. For other events and information, please join their Facebook page, visit their website www.pacvbusa.org, or call the club at (772)-778-0039.

Polish American Society of St. Petersburg is having "Thirsty Thursdays" every Thursday evening from 5:30-9:00 PM. Polish dinners will be served from 6:00-8:30 PM with a full bar featuring special drink prices. Polka dances are as follows: March 5th Buffalo Touch; March 12th Polka All Stars; March 19th Northern Sounds; March 26th Frank Moravcik from Cleveland Ohio; April 2nd Northern Sounds; April 10th Dyngus Day 5-8pm Florida Generations; April 16th Polka All Stars and April 23rd Florida Generations. Please visit their website: www.polishsociety.org and join their Facebook page, call the club (772)-894-9908.

Everyone is POLISH on Dyngus Day, April 10th 2023:

Northern Sounds @ The Villages 6-9pm.
Call Brad for info.

Jasiu's All Stars @ Crabby Bill's Bar & Grill,
401 Gulf Blvd. Indian Rock Beach 1-5pm

Florida Generation @ Polish Am. Society of
St. Pete, 1343 Beach Dr. SE., St. Pete 5-9pm

Please continue to support Florida's IJ's.
Featured on the Polka Jammer Network,

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

2009 IPA Hall of Famer Joe Oberaitis with Polkas 101 (Sat.), and Slovenian Polka Blast (Thur.) IPA member Ray Skorka, can be heard on Crankin' Polkas (Fri.). The **IPA members of The Southern FL Polka Assoc. are LIVE on Polish New Castle Radio with High on Polkas (Sat).**

If you would like any additional information about our clubs, polka dances or special events, email me at bradturk@cox.net or call **Polka Hot Line:** (352) 875-3961.



*HOF member Eddie Forman and gang at
The Villages in February*

2023 IPA Newsletter Schedule

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline for Submissions</u>
June - July 2023	May 1, 2023
August - September 2023	July 1, 2023
October - November 2023	September 1, 2023
December 2022 - January 2024	November 1, 2023

Gus Kosior receives 2023 Joe Jozwiak Award



Edward "Gus" Kosior as the Oktoberfest at Hunter Mountain. When Jimmy was born and raised in the Village of Florida, N.Y, right down the street from Jimmy Sturr. He grew up listening to polka music on the local radio station and at the local high school dances where he and Jimmy attended high school together. When Jimmy thought of starting UNITED POLKA ARTISTS, he thought of Gus coming in as a partner. It happened back in 1969. Since that time Gus has booked hundreds of Polka Bands throughout the years. He booked all the polka bands for such events as the famed All-American Polkafest in Vernon, N.J. which drew thousands of people. He also booked the bands for many other festivals such as the Oktoberfest at Hunter Mountain. When Jimmy and the band were booked at casinos throughout the country, including Las Vegas, Atlantic City and many others around the country, they would also book bands to perform with Jimmy. Gus booked them all. At one time Gus had his own weekly radio show. He also played trumpet in the high school band. United Polka started running Polka Weekends in the Catskills back in 1969. They have run them every year since that time. Gus booked all the bands. They have also booked Polka weekends throughout the country where other bands performed with Jimmy. Gus booked them all. He is also the Band Manager for the Jimmy Sturr Orchestra plus drives the JS Band Bus. He sets up and directs all the Jimmy Sturr Christmas Shows and directs all the band's concerts throughout the country. It would be hard to find someone who has done more for the Polka Field than "Gus" Kosior.



55th Annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention



Make your plans now to attend the 55th Annual
IPA Festival and Convention

**September 1 – September 3, 2023
Labor Day Weekend**

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Cranberry

<https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/2023ipafestival/>

If you prefer to call to make your reservation, you can do so by calling the hotel directly at 724-776-6900. Press 1 to be connected to the Front Desk at the hotel and mention the group name: IPA Attendee Block

3 Fun-filled days of Polka Entertainment

Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push, The Beat, John Gora and Gorale, Polka Country Musicians, Klancnik & Friends, Polka Family, IPA Tribute Band, Old School, New Brass Express, Garrett Tatano Band, Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze, Phocus, Dennis Polisky and the Maestro's Men, and The Kosmix Band

(Band line up subject to change without notice)

Welcome Party, Hall of Fame and Music Awards Banquet, Pool Parties, Polka Mass, Election of Officers and Directors, plus much more!

Bonus Event:

**Thursday August 31, 2023 – Pre-Festival IPA Welcome Party at the Cranberry Elks Lodge #2449 with music by 2022 IPA Hall of Fame Inductee Alex Meixner and his band
All proceeds to benefit the Elks Lodge**

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ipapolkas

Visit our website: www.ipapolkas.com

For more information email: info@ipapolkas.com

Be sure to listen to the IPA Radio Show:
Polka Jammer Network
Sunday's from 11 am to Noon (CT)





Jimmy Homel, AZ
Zander Raymakers, WI
Robin Wilks, NE
Christopher Kovalcik, IL
Steve Novosel, PA
Ursula Stetz, IL
Ernest Stetz, IL
Chouinard Chimniak, IL
Paul Chojnacki, AZ
David Burnatowski, PA
Barry Pfannenstiel, WI
Nicole Peterson, MA



Hattie Alfredson, FL
Richard Leach, WI
Joseph Kubicar, PA

**Thank you for the Raffle Baskets donation for the
January Dance**

Mike Diane & Christy Nowakowski, IL
Alan Pala, Hammond Mohawks Club, IN

Thank you to the Hammond Mohawks Athletic Club for
their donation in memory of Chester Pala.



IPA receives grant from the City of Chicago

On behalf of the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), we are pleased to announce that International Polka Association has been selected to receive a grant in the amount of **\$10,000** for general operating support.

DCASE received a significant increase to the Cultural Grants Program budget in 2022, signifying or Lightfoot's commitment to the arts as an essential part of life for Chicago residents. We are pleased to be able to allocate a large portion of this budget to general operating grants for arts and culture organizations. These increased, renewable grants are being made in direct response to needs raised by the local community for larger, more flexible grants.

We are committed to supporting Chicago's cultural landscape, and view general operating funding as the most essential way for us to help organizations achieve their goals. We are pleased to be able to provide this unrestricted support to your organization, as a testament to our belief in the importance of your work.

We are so grateful for your vision and passion. DCASE is honored to be a part of your work this year.

Over 650 Polka Fans Set Sail

By Keith Stras

This past January 22-29th, United Polka Artists of Florida, NY. presented its annual Caribbean Polka Cruise aboard the Regal Princess. The Polka Magic Cruise set sail from Ft. Lauderdale to Turks & Caicos, Jamaica, the Bahamas & the Cayman Islands for this week long polka party at sea. In addition, to the unlimited drink package and the delicious food aboard the Princess cruise line..the group were entertained all week long by the 18 Time Grammy Award winning Jimmy Sturr & his Orchestra with special guest Wally Dombrowski on fiddle. MollieB's Squeezebox Band. Wisconsin's own Steve Meisner, from Texas the fine Czech Orchestra of Mark Halata & the Houston based Texavia, plus Minnesota's Jon Dietz & The Twin Lakes Trio all performed every night in two different ballrooms, cumulating with a huge farewell Jam Session featuring all the musicians aboard on the outdoor pool deck. There was plenty of activity all week long as dance instructors Matt & Elaine Bonowitz, from Jimmy's television show provided dance lessons. On one of the "at sea days" Jimmy produced an afternoon variety stage show in the Regal Theatre featuring the many talented soloists in the Sturr band, together with the side-splitting comedy of Keith Stras, emcee from Jimmy's TV show seen weekly Nationwide on RFD-TV, the highlight was a moving tribute to America's Veterans, plus a surprise engagement of Katie Morgan & Jimmy's key-

board musician Ron Oswanski as he popped the question..On the final night of he cruise Keith & Jimmy broadcast over the Polka Jammer Network (wpjndb.com) a one hour special from the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, the show can be found in the archive section at polkajammernetwork.org The weather was perfect and everyone aboard commented how smoothly the entire week unfolded. The staff of United Polka under the direction of Gus Kosior, together with Barbara James made sure that the week went off without a hitch. Next years 2024 cruise has already been booked and planned it will be aboard Princess newest Ship, the Sky Princess..The week long excursion departs Saturday January 13 2024 from Ft. Lauderdale visiting the Bahamas, San Juan Puerto Rico, Turks & Caicos and the Dominican Republic....Entertainers this year will once again include the Jimmy Sturr Orchestra, Mollie B & Squeezebox, Steve Meisner, Barefoot Becky & The Ivanhoe Dutchmen , Jim Busta, PLUS Dance Instructors Matt & Elaine and the comedy & magic of Keith Stras. Reservations are being accepted NOW and more information can be found at jimmysturr.com. Beat the Snow Ice and Cold next January and Sail Away with Jimmy & Mollie B.





IPA represents at the Illinois Polka Fest

By Lindsey Mateja, IL Director



much more alike than we are different. Regardless of particular music taste, the incredible talent that many of the musicians have, particularly on the button boxes and accordions, is impossible to overlook and not appreciate.

One particularly memorable performance came from Lynn Marie Rodick, who took the stage and paid homage to the incredible female musicians of the polka world. As she played, Lynn told the story of a woman and the impact she had made, before she called them up to play along. The crowd did not realize at the time, but these women were waiting in the wings of the stage. One by one, Lynn introduced each woman, and within a few minutes there was a choir of 5 female accordion or button box players all performing together. It was such a wonderful performance to witness.

The Illinois Polka Fest is an annual polka music festival which has been taking place in the Chicagoland area for 35 years. I had the pleasure of attending this year, along with several fellow board members. Some of the bands featured included Steve Meisner, Joey Miskulin, Eddie Rodick, Lynn Marie, Klancnik and Friends, Alex Meixner, Bob Doszak, and the Garrett Tatano Band- several of them being familiar faces who have performed at our own Festival and Convention! The crowd was great and the bands sounded phenomenal.

If you live in or around the Chicagoland area, mark your calendars for next February, and consider attending the Illinois Polka Festival next year!

I always enjoy the opportunity to listen to polka music that is outside of the "polish-style" genre that I listened to exclusively for so long. I have developed such an appreciation for our sister styles of polka music in recent years (Slovenian, Cleveland Style, Dutchman style). We are so



IPA Celebrates January as National Polka Month with the 54th Annual Festival of Polka Bands

The IPA once again celebrated January as National Polka Month by hosting the 54th Annual Festival of Bands. On Saturday, January 14th, Lenny Gomulka and the Chicago Push kicked off the "Warm-up" festivities held at the new location, Elements by the Odyssey Banquet Hall in Orland Park, IL. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces, including our Canadian friends who made the journey south of the boarder to join in on the fun.

Sunday brought us the sounds of Polka Generations, Keith Stras & Polka Confetti, Music Company, D-Street, IPA Tribute Band, and Tony Blazonczyk's New Phase.

Thank you to all of the fans who attended and supported this great event. Also a big thank you to IPA Members Dave Gajda and Emily Mytych who captured some of the amazing memories of that day and allowed us to share with you on the previous page.

We look forward to seeing you all at the 55th Annual Festival of Bands in January 2024!



Recipes from ... IPA Members

IPA President, Christy Krawisz, thought it would be a great idea to share some of our members favorite recipes with the membership. So, we will spotlight food and drink recipes submitted to us by our members. To share your favorite recipe, please email it to info@ipapolkas.com and **include your name in your email**. Please send it in a word document or directly in the email. PDF's won't work, sorry. We look forward to sharing some great recipes with you! Enjoy.

Cheesecake

by Jeannette "PJ" Ziobro

Crust

1 stick butter or margarine

1 cup flour

2 tbs. Sugar

Mix like for pie crust, pat into flat 9x13 cake pan. Prick with fork. Bake at 375 for 20 minutes and let cool.

Filling

3-8 oz. cream cheese

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar

4 eggs

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla

Allow cream cheese to soften a little and mix with all the rest of the ingredients. Pour over the crust and bake at 375 for 20 minutes and allow to cool.

Top

1- pint sour cream

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar

1 tsp. vanilla

Whisk together all the ingredients and pour over middle layer. Bake at 425 for 8 minutes and let cool. Refrigerate at least overnight or for up to 2 days before serving.



Onion Souffle (one of our favorites)

by Christy Krawisz

8 oz. cream cheese

1 medium yellow onion

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup Mayonnaise

5oz. bag of parmesan cheese

Soften cream cheese. Finely chop onion. Mix cream cheese, onion and Mayonnaise. Then add parmesan cheese. Mix again. Bake at 350 for about 25 minutes. Serve with Wheat Thin Crackers.



The
International
Polka
Association
is proud to
bring back to Wisconsin...

2014 IPA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE EDDIE BIEGAJ & CRUSADE

Saturday May 6, 2023
6pm-10pm



*Band line-up subject to change without notice

Sunday May 7, 2023

12 pm-5pm

**Pulaski Area
Festival of Bands**



Aaron Socha & LiveWire



The New Generation



The Mix



The Maroszek Brothers



The Nu Tymes

ADMISSION

Saturday: \$20

Sunday: \$20

18 and under free
with paid adult

LOCATION

Townline Pub & Grill
2544 Lineville Rd.
Suamico, WI 54313

Rooms Available

Country Inn & Suites

2308 Lineville Rd.

Green Bay, WI 54313

920-301-7030

Mention: **IPA Polka**

Rooms held until 4-6-2023



For more information visit
ipapolkas.com or scan the
code above.

Patrick Henry Presents!

Chula Vista Resort

Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest! #11 & Expo!



April 21-23, 2023

The party returns to the huge Conference Center!
A Great Weekend of Family FUN!



SqueezeBox
with Mollie B and Ted Lange

from Wisconsin - Saturday & Sunday

Polka Country Musicians

from Connecticut - Friday & Saturday



John Gora & Gorale

from Canada - Saturday & Sunday

The New Generation

from Wisconsin - Friday

Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze

From Illinois - Saturday

Live it Up! A Tribute to Lil' Wally!

from Minnesota - Friday

Jon Dietz & The Twin Lakes Trio

from Wisconsin - Saturday

The Saturday Morning Monster Jam!

with Kevin Altenburg & Friends!

Polish/English Catholic Mass - Polka Dancing Lessons!

Weekend AMTRAK Trip Available!

Band line-up and other events subject to change without notice.

For general festival information:

Call Patrick Henry at (773)889-6811,

e-mail: info@wisconsinindellspolkafest.com

www.dellspolkafest.com

Chula Vista Resort, 2501 River Road, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Weekend Hotel Package:
Only \$172 p/p Double Occupancy
Single Occupancy \$311+ tax & resort fee.

Includes:

2-Nights at Chula Vista Resort

Buffet Breakfast Saturday & Sunday

in the Market Fresh Buffet.

Breakfast Gratuity included.

Polka Fest Tickets NOT included.

*Each additional adult, \$16.50 /day + tax.

*Each additional child 3-15, \$12 /day + tax.

*Upgrades available for additional \$.

Room only prices starting at **\$139/night.**

Extend your stay! 3rd night only \$65!

Waterpark pass only \$10/person per day.

Call Chula Vista Resort direct at
(877)624-0685 promo code: **I-78533**

Discount code is not available
for online reservations.

Rate Guaranteed until 03/19/23

Admission: Fri: \$25, Sat: \$30, Sun: \$20
Weekend Pass: \$60, Kids Under 16: Free!
with guardian. Plus Tax where applicable.
Huge Dance Floor By: Russ Napiwocki!



Welcome to the Polka World, Theo William Rosinski

Congratulations to IPA® Sgt-at-Arms and Hall of Fame® Inductee, Randy Koslosky, his wife Lisa, and George and Dawn Rosinski, on the birth of their grandson. As well as Theo's parents Travis and Sandra Rosinski.

Theo was born on 2/5/23 8lb, 3 oz and 20" long.

You can
pay your
IPA
membership
using

zelle

Special Thank you to our Radio Show Sponsor
for their many years of support



EDWARD "Eddie" TYLKA

Manager/Director of

Ridge Funeral Home

6620 W. Archer Avenue

Chicago, IL 60638

Phone #773-586-7900

and

Malec & Sons Funeral Home

6000 N. Milwaukee Avenue

Chicago, IL 60646

Phone #773-774-4100



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1st – Helenrae Budzilek | 22nd – Debbie Rymanowski;
Johnetta Vinka;
Susan Krysa |
| 2nd – Joseph Witek;
Chouinard Chimniak | |
| 3rd – Dustin Ager | 23rd – Brian Szumigalski; David Heise |
| 4th – Timothy Haselow; Mary Lou Czerniak;
Felicia Reilly | 25th – Sally Rzeszutko; Brian Urbanczyk;
Marie Brado; Robert Gawryla |
| 5th – Steven Smith; David Straup Slick;
Nicole Peterson | 26th – Phyllis Videtich |
| 7th – Betty Downey; Barbara Ann Adams | 27th – Michael Schrader; Linda Plantz;
Debbie Rymanowski; Linda Walczynski-Louie |
| 8th – Tom Reznekervitz; Steven Somerville;
Carol Lash Budzyn; Fran Cobian;
Jerry Soliwoda | 28th – Joseph Price; Michael Bednarz;
Eric Kurowski |
| 9th – Michelle Genrich; Sara Zelasko;
Cindy Loring | 29th – Kim Cielecki |
| 10th – Valerie Janson | 30th – James Goplin; Geri Chadwick |
| 11th – Roger Malinowski; Paul Chichin | |
| 13th – Louella Kundert; Stephen Brown | |
| 14th – George Walker; Larry Trojak | |
| 15th – Daniel Prigge | |
| 16th – Tamara Waner | |
| 17th – Steve Meisner; Diane Nowakowski;
Mack Martin; Tyler Zawatski;
Margaret Zotkiewicz | |
| 18th – Peter Wendlinger; Jackie Libera;
Dave Slivinski | |
| 19th – Mitch Gorz | |
| 20th – Michael Blaskowski; Sam Sokolik | |
| 21st – Tootsie Sobolak; Mark Slota | |





1st – Matthew Martin; Kimberley Uelmen

2nd – Judy Del Pozzo; Gary Rozak; John Kosteck; Rita Sajkowicz

3rd – Jennifer Pietranczyk

4th – Harold Otto; John Stanky; Stanley Dobrowolski

6th – Frank Gubala; Mashelle Pavey; Robert Mazur

7th – Ray Pasinski; Richard Kozacko; Sharon Goldyn; Hadley Kaminski; Tom Zak

8th – Grace Mikrut; Kevin Oleniczak; Lorraine "Travers" Truskolaski;

9th – Janice Lochner; Colleen Van Ells

10th – Mike Surratt; Jill Czerniak; David Nowatzki; Bini Husain; Lenny Zielinski

11th – Eleanor Grudi; Bill Horodecki

12th – Minnie Florio; Chester Sterczek

13th – Julia Figura, Bob Raica; Connie Shemansky

14th – Stacey Morris; Carolyn Blajda

15th – Krystin Benkowski; Bryan Koslosky; Darlene Arneson; Patricia Kaminsky; Dorothy Styczynski

16th – Christopher Bogdon; Eddie Korosa, Jr.; Bob Zukowski; Bob Wojtowicz

17th – Linda Chesky-Fernandes; Mike Nowakowski; John Smagowicz; Tom Haslett; Mary Leja

18th – Larry Stec; Fran Russo; Alex Vinecki

19th – Stuart Popp; Stan Soltys; Mindi Tietz

21st – Edwin Rajewski; Mitch Biskup

22nd – Raymond Skorka; Linda Kendzierski; Scott Davenport; Paul Chojnacki;

23rd – Ruth Lietz; Melanie Ellis; Joan Stepzinski

24th – Mary Saber; Ron Palkowski; John Rogers

25th – Robyn Mrozinski; Arlene Talbot; Jim Letnick; Greg Griffin, Jr.; Robert Szymczak

26th – Timothy Winiarz; Kathy Ziereis; Thomas Lewandowski;

27th – Rick Zarek, Jane Piotrowski

28th – Pauline Adelman; Gina Gomulka

29th – Martin Olshanski; Peter Siuda; Bonnie Sergel; Kim Hedrich;

30th – Eric Krupski

31st – Bill Popek; George Dums; Christopher Kovalcik



IPA President appoints two new Trustees, Kevin Adams and Kenny Olowin

By Christy Krawisz

Currently, there are 13 IPA® Trustees, each of whom also perform as an elector. Each trustee oversees 14 other electors creating an Academy of Electors of 195 regular members plus any Emeritus Trustee voters. Retiring trustees in good standing be granted emeritus status by the committee in order to maintain their voting privileges. Each trustee represents a geographic area, with the exception of one Trustee At-Large who oversees electors chosen from anywhere across the country.

With recommendations from the committee, the IPA President appoints each IPA trustee who is expected to serve a six-year term. Electors are appointed by trustees for three-year terms. Trustees in good standing serve up to two terms, with any additional terms approved by the committee. Similarly, electors serve up to three terms with additional terms requiring committee approval. The master list of electors is not to be published or shared with the general public. Beginning November 1, 2014, all trustees and electors must be able to communicate via email and access the Internet in order to perform their duties. The primary duty of all electors is to vote in the annual IPA Polka Hall of Fame and Music Awards balloting. Failure to do so result in their trustee replacing them with another elector. All committee members and trustees ultimately serve at the pleasure of the IPA President. *(for more information visit ipapolkas.com/ipa-hall-of-fame-and-awards-committee)*

At this time, I'd like to recognize and thank Larry Walk, who has served for an amazing six full terms (36 years). As with another legendary trustee, Dick Pillar, I am bestowing Larry with the honor of Trustee Emeritus status.



To fill Larry's Penn/Ohio trustee position, I appointed one of his capable electors, well-known IJ/DJ personality, Kenny Olowin.

To replace the late Fred Bulinski, and to fill Fred's At-Large trustee position, I appointed one of his talented electors, IPA Polka Hall of Fame® member, Kevin Adams.

I'm very grateful that Kevin and Kenny have accepted their appointments and look forward to working with them.



February 2, 2023 - Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchman - In recognition of your efforts for promoting and performing polka music for 35 years, the International Polka Association hereby present this Certificate of Appreciation. Thank you and Congratulations.

February 26, 2023 - Tony Blazonczyk, Chet Kowalkowski and the Chicago Polish Carolers - In recognition of your 50 year celebration, the International Polka Association would like to thank you and congratulate you and the members of the Chicago Polish Carolers. We salute all of your efforts throughout the years and during this important milestone.

It's Here Again!



We are so excited to announce the 4th Annual.....



What's new?

- In our continued efforts to keep the competition as fair as possible, composers will now be limited to submitting only one song of their own, plus one additional song as a co-writer. So pick your best song and share it with the polka world!

What's still the same?

- The competition is open to anyone between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty-nine (39) years of age as of the July 1st, 2023 deadline. It is open to amateur and professional songwriters of any polka genre.
- Remember, the first-place winner will receive one thousand (\$1,000) dollars! The second-place winner will receive one hundred (\$100) dollars. You have nothing to lose!

**More information will be coming soon on the IPA website
(www.IPApolkas.com) where you can submit your songs.**

22nd Annual Polka Mania

The Hammond Mohawks

4040 Calumet Avenue
Hammond, IN
(219) 933-9823

Sunday, June 11, 2023

Gates open at 11:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

\$15.00 - Adults

Under 12 - Free



Authentic Polish Food,
Desserts, and Beverages
Plus, Raffles and Polish Memorabilia
Available at an Additional Cost

Absolutely no BYOB or BYOF

FEATURING...

Continuous
Music



For Additional Information Contact:
Alan Pala - (219) 677-3586

BECKSTER FEST

Amana Colonies RV Park & Convention Facility - Amana, IA

Located in the NW corner of Hwys 151 & 220

20th
Annual

June 2-4, 2023

20th
Annual

Always the weekend after Memorial Day

Friday June 2 4pm - 10pm

Barefoot Becky & the Ivanhoe Dutchmen
4-5:30 / 7-8:30

Zweifel Brothers
5:30-7 / 8:30-10

Saturday June 3 12 - 10pm

Zweifel Brothers
12-1:30/3-5

Malek's Fishermen
1:30-3/5-7

Julie Lee and her White Rose Band
7-10

Sunday June 4 12 - 6pm

Julie Lee and her White Rose Band
10:30am Polka Mass
12-1:30 / 3-4:30

Lyle Beaver & Brass Notes
1:30-3 / 4:30-6

For RV Reservations:

319-622-7616 / amanarvpark.com

80 acres of level campground

450 campsites: dry, electric & water, full hookup.

Showers, Restrooms, Laundromat

Shopping, Dining, Bike Trails, Theater, Golf

Lodging w/ Distance To Fest

Hotel Millwright - 1 mile

Amana - 319-838-5015

Guest House Motel - 1 mile

Amana - 877-331-0828

Die Heimat Country Inn - 3 miles

Homestead - 319-622-3937

Zuber's Homestead Hotel - 3 miles

Homestead - 888-623-3911

Rawson's B & B - 3 miles

Homestead - 319-660-0390 or 319-225-8011

AmericInn - 15 miles

Cedar Rapids - 319-632-1800

Country Inn & Suites - 15 miles

Cedar Rapids - 319-363-3789

Comfort Inn & Suites - 15 miles

Cedar Rapids - 319-632-2000

Avid Hotel - 15 Miles

Cedar Rapids - 319-826-3283

Sudbury Court Motel - 15 miles

Marengo - 319-642-5411

Crest Country Inn - 15 miles

Williamsburg - 319-668-1522

More Available Upon Request!!

Admission Per Person:

Friday: \$15, Saturday: \$20, Sunday: \$15
3 Day: \$45

*Wooden Dance Floor
Air Conditioned Building
Food & Drinks Available*

Beckster Fest 2024: May 31-June 2

For more info or questions:

Becky Livermore

Toll Free: 877-499-7133

1257 Ivanhoe Rd

Mt Vernon, IA 52314

www.barefootbecky.com



Travel with **JOHN** to **Europe**

MAY 3 – 14, 2023

TOUR of POLAND

with Ed & Carol FORMAN & EFO crew

JULY 4 – 17, 2023

GRAND TOUR of POLAND

with John GORA & Eddie BIEGAJ

SEPT. 26 to OCT. 9, 2023

VENICE – SLOVENIA - CROATIA & MEDUGORJE

Please call John 905-902-1345 or Email: john@johngora.com

Or visit: www.johngora.com for complete Info.

or our Travel Agent

Wanda 1-800-533-0369 or cell 416-302-7990



DICK TADY RECORDING ORCHESTRA (D.T.O.)
GRAMMY NOMINEE & GRAMMY WINNER PARTICIPANT

JOE GILL

DICK TADY

BOB McBRIDE

ED GOULD

TONY GRANDOVIC



Hello Dear Polka Fans! The Dick Tady Orchestra (D.T.O), is now in our 7th decade and entering our 60th year of performing and recording the Polka Music that is so near and dear to our hearts. 2023 is going to be a great year for us. A Grand 60th Anniversary Party is being planned for later this year. Stay tuned to your local polka radio and polka internet stations for more information. The D.T.O. will go into a semi-retirement mode for 2024, but we plan on releasing one final recording, "A Musical Thank You From the Dick Tady Orchestra, The D.T.O."

Our newest D.T.O. musicians, Mikey Dee and Tony Zupanchick will also be taking part in this final release.

In the meantime, in celebration and deep appreciation for your support over all of these years, we have an exciting and very special offer for your. We have a limited number of our CD recordings remaining and we are making them available to you at a very special price. You can purchase a keepsake package of four CDs, containing virtually every recording we've ever made, or only \$45. And as a bonus, we will include for free, our very popular "A Special DTO Christmas" CD, filled with a 12 pack blend of Traditional and Polka style Christmas music. Quantities are very limited so please order quickly to ensure availability. Please add \$5 to cover postage and handling costs and make checks & money orders payable to **Richard A. Tady**.

Please place your orders today to:

Richard A. Tady
2351 Myers Lane
Irwin, PA 15642

Cell Phone: 412-580-0236

Email: dicktadydto@verizon.net

Website: www.dto.productions

IPA MEMBER FOR OVER 50 YEARS

**SATURDAY
APRIL 15**
4:00-7:00P

**SPRING
FLING**



**GERRY KAMINSKI'S
POLKA
NETWORK**

ADVANCED TICKETS \$5
CONTACT **MONA** OR **DUNNEBACK'S BARN**
616-485-4241 **616-784-0058**

\$1000 FREDDY K JR MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



The **Freddy K Jr. Music Scholarship Committee** is now accepting requests for applications for the 2023 Scholarship award. Applicants must be high school seniors who have been accepted to an accredited college and play a musical instrument. Anyone who is interested in applying for this year's award can download an application on our website at www.freddykjrmusicscholarship.com or contact the Scholarship Committee at the following address:

The Freddy K Jr. Scholarship Fund
23850 Via Italia Circle, Apt #1104
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

Freddy K Jr. played trumpet in his father's band, **The Freddy K Band**, when he died in an automobile accident in July of 1997. Music, especially Polka Music, was Fred's life and passion. His personality, sense of humor and love of Polka Music affected all who knew him. The Music Scholarship Fund was set up to carry on where Fred left off by promoting polka music through the gift of a \$1,000 Scholarship to a deserving student every year.

Each award will be given at one of the polka Festivals during the summer.

WINNERS OF \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS

2022 – Sebastian Pucowski, Hackettstown, New Jersey

2021- Syrena Prytko, Millbury, Massachusetts

2020 – Lucas Yash, Webster, Massachusetts

2019 – Emma Bogdan, Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania

2018 – Zachary Piatkowski, Canastota, New York

2017 – Veronica Prytko, Millbury, Massachusetts

Joseph Blackburn, Troy, New York

2016 – Olivia Piatkowski, Canastota, New York

2015 – Adam Winiarz, Norton, Massachusetts

2014 – Jenna Libera, Charlton, Massachusetts

2013 – Eva Snyder, South Hadley, Massachusetts

2012 – Justin Kohan, Orchard Park, New York

2011 – Stephen Piatkowski, Canastota, New York

2010 - Kassandre Dardzinski, Saugus, Massachusetts and
Anita Marie Thomas, Balto, Maryland

2009 – David Raccis, Wilbreham, Massachusetts

2008 – Christopher Wanyo, Shillington, Pennsylvania

2007 – Kevin Martin, Hudson, New Hampshire

2006 – Lanelle Raccis, Wilbreham, Massachusetts

2005 – Nick Koryluk, Hicksville, New York

2004 – Michael D. Riel, II, Chicopee, Massachusetts

2003 – Ryan Ogrodny, White Oak, Pennsylvania

2002 – Brian Romianik, Millville, New Jersey

2001 – Melissa Mocadlo, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

2000 – Andrew Krystopolski, Wilmington, Delaware

1999 – William Lomnychuk, Reading, Pennsylvania

1998 – John Daigle, Chicopee, Massachusetts

Pulaski Club of Arizona News

By Dave Bonczkiewicz

The weekend of November 11th, 2022 brought in Dennis Polisky and the Maestros Men Polka Band; this band has entertained the polka crowds for more than 25 years from the east coast to the west coast and they are certainly a crowd pleaser.

The phone chain was fast at work letting people know that the band was in town and that the Pulaski Club was open for the weekend. We had many surprise guests get picked up from the airport like Fred Ziwich, Mitch Biskup and Ron Biskup; we also had guests drive over 11 hours to get to Phoenix!

The band enjoyed serenading and celebrating birthdays and anniversaries of several of our guests and led right into some of the favorites songs that the Maestros Men are noted for; such as, "There Goes My Heart Again", "Two Hearts", "Fool Hearted Memory", "Strike Up the Band" and "Goodnight My Love".

We appreciate the support of IPA for our Friday meet-and-greet as well as Don and Gail Haderle (who, hopefully, will be well enough to attend soon).



MORE Pulaski Club of Arizona News

By Dave Bonczkiewicz

We appreciate the support of IPA for our Friday meet-and-greet as well as Don and Gail Haderle (who, hopefully, will be well enough to attend soon).

The weekend of January 20th, 2023 got to see the DynaBrass band at the Pulaski club – and, boy, did they turn up the heat with their medleys of waltzes, obereks and polkas that they have entertained polka fans with over the last 20+ years. The last time they were in Phoenix was November 2019 so it was great to see them on stage again! We had guests from California, Colorado, Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan attending our polka weekend.

They got to serenade Basia for her birthday with a boisterous rendition of Happy Birthday / Sto Lat; got everyone on the dance floor for Felicia's favorite song, "*Moscow Mule Polka*" and played "*Dance All Night*" in memory of Ginger and Paula. Everyone danced to some of the old time favorites like "*The Tennessee Waltz*", "*The Girls Just Wanna Dance*", "*In Heaven There is No Beer*", "*Polka Magic*", "*Yesterday*" and "*Follow Me to the Party*".

We appreciate the support of IPA for our Friday meet-and-greet as well as Don and Gail Haderle (who, hopefully, will be well enough to attend soon); we missed visiting with Jeff Mleczo and were happy to hear is recuperating well at home with the family.



PolkaConnection.com

Your connection to polka music from around the world!

Call 515-664-8405

To request a free catalog or
place an order by phone



**We proudly offer the largest
selection of polka music on the
web and feature classic recordings
as well as the latest releases from
your favorite artists!**

By visiting PolkaConnection.com you can:

- ★ Browse our collection of CDs, DVDs and more
- ★ Listen to samples of everything we sell
- ★ Make secure purchases online and pay no domestic shipping in the United States



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:

Lynn Kaminski
newsletter@ipapolkas.com

Contact us:

International Polka Association, Inc.®
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60544
1-800-TO-POLKA
(1-800-867-6552)
Website: www.ipapolkas.com

The IPA logo, "INTERNATIONAL POLKA FESTIVAL" and "POLKA MUSIC HALL OF FAME" are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark office. All three trademarks of the International Polka Association and their use, without written permission, is strictly prohibited.

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:

Lynn Kaminski, Financial Secretary
International Polka Association
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60544
Email: membership@ipapolkas.com

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

2023 IPA Officers and Directors

Officers:

President: Christy Krawisz (IL)
1st Vice President: Lori Lewandowski (IL)
2nd Vice President: Chris Bogdon (PA)
Treasurer: Dan Mateja (IL)
Secretary: Cheryl Furmaniak (IL)
Financial Secretary: Lynn Kaminski (IL)
Media Advisor: Keith Pietranczyk (IL)
Youth Advisor: Chris Ebel (MN)
Sergeant at Arms: Randy Koslosky (PA)
Chaplain: Fr. Dennis Bogusz (PA)

Directors:

Emma Bogdon (PA)
Stephen Kaminski (IL)
Brian Kapka (IL)
Johnny Krawisz (IL)
Henry Lenard (DE)
Lindsey Mateja (IL)
Dennis Mikolajewski (IL)
Christy Nowakowski (IL)
Jill Styczynski (WI)
Sue Szela (MA)
Brad Turk (FL)
Rich Zebrowski (PA)

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:
newsletter@ipapolkas.com.

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



IPA RADIO SHOW



Don't forget to listen to the IPA Radio Show on
on the Polka Jammer Network on
Sundays, 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon Central Time and also available in
the Polka Jammer archives. Be sure to tune in! Visit
www.polkajammernetwork.org

Each show features IPA officers and directors.

Please call 1-800-TO-POLKA if you are interesting in advertising
on the IPA Radio Show.

WE NEED SPONSORS!



Saturday-Sunday, May 6th-7th -
Pulaski Festival of Bands
Sunday, August 6 - Parade of Polka Bands
Thursday, August 31st - IPA Kick-Off Party
Friday-Sunday, Sept 1-3 - 55th Annual IPA Festival

Advertise in the IPA Newsletter

One Issue

Full Page	\$75.00 per issue
Half Page	\$55.00 per issue
Quarter Page	\$40.00 per issue
Eighth Page	\$25.00 per issue

Three Issues

Full Page	\$67.00 per issue
Half Page	\$45.00 per issue
Quarter Page	\$36.00 per issue
Eighth Page	\$22.00 per issue

Six Issues

Full Page	\$60.00 per issue
Half Page	\$40.00 per issue
Quarter Page	\$32.00 per issue
Eighth Page	\$20.00 per issue

DEADLINE FOR JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER: MAY 1

Email ad files to Lynn Kaminski using:

newsletter@ipapolkas.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.**

International Polka Association, Inc.®
PO Box 1484; Plainfield, IL 60544
1-800-TO-POLKA (1-800-867-6552)
Website: www.ipapolkas.com

