



IPA Newsletter

May-June 2012

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc.®

IPA Announces Hall of Fame Inductees and Music Award Winners

By: Mike Matousek

On Sunday, April 29, 2012, the International Polka Association (IPA) officially announced this year's Polka Music Hall of Fame inductees and the 2011 Polka Music Award winners. Each year two prominent living personalities and one deceased celebrity, who have made outstanding contributions toward the advancement of the polka music industry, are elected into the Hall of Fame. An academy of over 165 qualified electors from across the country select the Hall of Fame inductees and music awards recipients. The voting is tabulated by the Institute of Industrial Relations of Loyola University of Chicago and the entire process is administered by an eleven-member Board of Trustees.

The results are as follows:

2012 IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame Inductees

Living Category – Wally Dombrowski, Craig Ebel
Deceased Category – Paul Wendinger

2011 IPA Polka Music Award Winners

Favorite Album or CD – “A New Day” by The Boys
Favorite Song – “Years Ago” by The Knewz
Favorite Instrumental Group – Dennis Polisky & the Maestro's Men
Favorite Male Vocalist – Lenny Gomulka
Favorite Female Vocalist – Mollie Busta Lange

The induction ceremonies and award presentations will be conducted at the IPA's Polka Hall of Fame & Music Awards Banquet held this year on August 4 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Independence, OH. The banquet is just part of the 44th Annual IPA Polka Festival and Convention that takes place from August 2 -5, 2012. During the festival, world-class polka music will be provided by Squeezebox featuring Ted and Mollie (Busta) Lange of RFD-TV fame, the IPA Tribute Band with guest Polka Hall of Famers, The Eddie Forman Orchestra, Danny Mateja & Downtown Sound, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, The Boys, and The Knewz. A Polka Mass followed by a convention with election of IPA officers will take place on Sunday, August 5. For all the details about the festival, banquet, and convention, visit www.internationalpolka.com or call 1 800 TO-POLKA. To make hotel reservations, call (216) 986-9900 and mention “IPA Polka Festival” to get the special \$99 room rate.

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:

Christy Krawisz

Contributors:

Christy Krawisz, Karen Olszewski,
Laura Mateja, Cheryl Furmaniak and
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Contact the Editor:

Christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net
Or 1-630-204-1793



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

Due 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:

Christy Krawisz, Financial Secretary
International Polka Association
4608 S. Archer Avenue
Chicago, IL 60632
Phone: 1-630-204-1793
Email: Christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net

VISIT THE I.P.A. HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

If you are interested in visiting the International Polka Association's Hall of Fame and Museum, please Contact Dave Ulczycki at 312-315-2215 to make an appointment.

Please remember our US troops that work so hard, risk all, and sometimes even make the ultimate sacrifice to preserve not only our freedom, but the freedom of the entire world.

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.

IMPORTANT! 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.**

IPA RADIO SHOW

Don't forget to listen to the IPA Radio Show on Sunday, 10:00–10:30 a.m. CT on WPNA (1490 AM) in Chicago or www.wpna1490am.com via the internet with different DJ's every week or two weeks. President Dave Ulczycki, Vice President Rick Rzeszutko, Treasurer Linda Niewierowski, Secretary, Laura Mateja, Financial Secretary Christy Krawisz, Director John Krawisz, Director T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert, Director John Mikrut and Director Jerry Wantroba.

The IPA Radio Show will be on the Polka Jammer Network on Saturday from 4-5 pm and then replayed on Wednesday from 9-10 pm Central Time. DJ include Chicago Officers and Directors and Out of Town Directors. Be sure to tune in!

Visit: www.polkajammernetwork.org

Please Call 1-800-TO-POLKA if you are interesting in advertising on the IPA Radio show. WE NEED SPONSORS!

25th Annual Summer Music Fest Frankenmuth Michigan

**RAM Productions presents the Summer Music Fest, August 7-11 and August 17 & 18th, 2012.
Seven days of non-stop music events featuring 14 of the nations top polka bands.**

They are proud to bring you the 25th annual Summer Music Fest. We hope you will enjoy the entertainment, dancing, food, and family atmosphere we offer. The Summer Music Fest takes place in Heritage Park along the banks of the Cass River just over the covered bridge from downtown Frankenmuth, Mi. 68 x 84 square feet of wooden dance floor, over 1,300 chairs and tables, a large variety of food and drinks all under a large pavilion to keep everyone in the shade or out of the rain. Parking is adjacent to the festival. Restroom facilities take care of personal needs very comfortably. The

Summer Music Fest is hosted by Mark Janson who continues to put together the right factors to attract people from across the nation and around the world. He believes music is a common denominator in all people and the Summer Music Fest features music to get your friends together for a good time. So come, listen and dance to your favorite style of music, whether it's polka, waltz, or rock'n'roll, because the 2012 Summer Music Fest has the right combination for a goodtime!

www.frankenmuthfestivals.com

Keith Stras Celebrates 35 years on Radio in Chicago

Congratulations to I.P.A. Hall of Famer, Past I.P.A. President and Officer, Keith Stras on 35 years of broadcasting on Radio in Chicago.

Leon Kozicki to be Honored

The Polish American Musicians Club will honor Leon Kozicki on May 16, 2012, at their 90th Anniversary and Installation Dinner-Party, at the White Eagle Banquets in Niles, Illinois.

On behalf of all the Officers, Directors and Members of the I.P.A.,
we would like to say "Congratulations Leon".

I.P.A. FINANCIAL REPORT

IPA Benefit held at Ludlow PACC February 26, 2012

Income \$5940.00	Expenses \$1450.98	Net Profit \$4534.02
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March 11th - Let's Polka USA and IPA Joint Dance

Income \$2430.00	Expenses \$ 700.00	Net Profit \$1730.00
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(Each organization received \$865.00)

PICTURES FROM THE I.P.A. and Let's Polka U.S.A. Dance
PHOTOS BY: Laura Mateja
Music by the IPA Tribute Band Featuring IPA Hall of Famers



IPA Tribute Band with IPA Hall of Famer in 2002, Wally Maduzia.



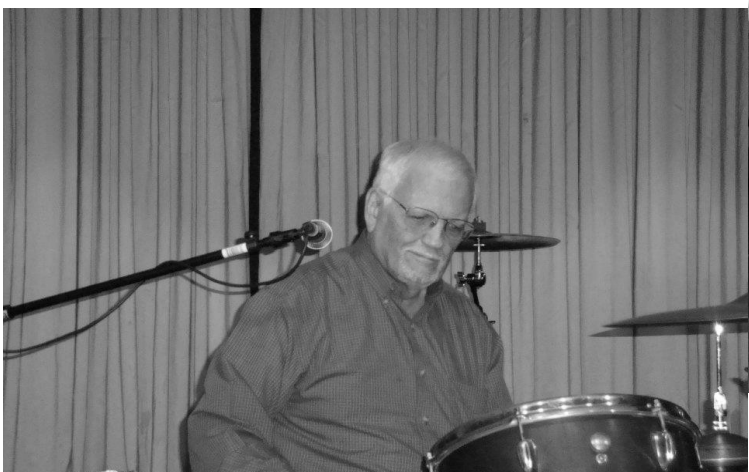
IPA Hall of Famer in 2010, Richie Gomulka.



IPA Hall of Famer in 1991, Chet Kowalkowski with Wally Maduzia and the IPA Tribute Band.



IPA Hall of Famer in 1993, Fred Hudy.



IPA Hall of Famer in 2010, Ted Okrzesik, Sr.



IPA President Dave Ulczcki with IPA Hall of Famer in 1977, and Chairman of the IPA Hall of Fame, Leon Kozicki on Clarinet, and IPA Hall of Famer in 1976, Chet Schafer, on Vocals with the IPA Tribute Band.

Mollie Busta Lange on RFD-TV

Be sure to watch the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV. Visit www.molliebpolkaparty.com for more information.

Look for the I.P.A. Festival Commercial on RFD-TV. Coming Soon!

"The Mollie B Polka Party" has a 21% increase to Nielsen ratings for these same time slots as compared to a year ago [on RFD-TV], securing the largest measured audience numbers in the 11-year history of this television network."

THANK YOU'S

Marge Machay and Polonia Banquets for donating all of the food for our St. Joesph's Mass and Dinner. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

2012 IPA 7th Annual Benefit Thank you's. The Boy's, The Maestro's Men, The Chicago Push, Joseph Kozikowski, Gerhard and Erika Danner, John Dio-talevi and Andrew Krystopolski. Thank you for all you did to make this event a huge success.

Thank you to everyone who joined the I.P.A. Bus trip to the Lisa Marie Biskup Benefit Dance in Wyandotte Michigan. We all had such a good time on the bus and at the event. Congratulations to Ron Biskup and all his volunteers on a great Benefit.

Polka United ~ Uniting Everything
Related to Polka Music

Visit their Website www.polkasunited.com

THE IPA RADIO SHOW IS NOW ON THE POLKA JAMMER NETWORK

The I.P.A. Radio Show is now on the Polka Jammer Network from 4-5pm on Saturdays and then replayed on Wednesday from 9-10 pm. (Central Time).

Visit: www.polkajammernetwork.org

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Robert (Bob) E. Szymanski, IPA Member, passed away Thursday, April 19, 2012. Bob was a polka accordion musician. Bob is survived by his wife, Toni; his four sons, Douglas, David (Cindy), Dwayne (Angie) and Daniel (Tammy); grandchildren, Alyssa, Josiah, Kayla and Kyle;

Our deepest sympathy wishes to all the family and friends of Bob.

May you rest in Peace.

BAND LISTINGS

Freezedried - John Krawisz - www.fried.com
Email: fdried@fdried.com - Phone: (630) 334-2941

Jimmy K & Ethnic Jazz - www.ethnicjazzohio.com
Email: info@ethnicjazzohio.com Phone: (440) 846-0404

Lenny Zielinski and the D Street Band
www.dstreetband.com - email: lenny@dstreetband.com
Phone: (312) 914-0680

The Downtown Sound - Dan Mateja -
www.reverbnation.com/thedowntownsound
Email: mateja@ameritech.net Phone: (708) 403-7991

Joe Walega's Happy Hearts Orch. - Phone: (630) 628-0009
Email: Jowaheart@att.net

Ania Piwowarczyk - www.anipiwo.com - email: apiwo@rogers.com

Varitones Band - www.nickecitydave.com
Email: bonkersoundz@cox.net Phone: (602) 741-8214

The New Direction Band - www.thenewdirectionband.com Email: thenewdirectionband@yahoo.com Phone: (716) 675-6588

Mike Surratt - www.mikesurratt.com
Email: mikesurrattmusic@gmail.com

Walt Procanyn Orchestra - www.polkamagic.net
Email: procanynpolkas@aol.com - Phone: (718) 458-7958

Duane Malinowski Orchestra - www.duanemichaels.com
Booking Agent/Manager: Cheryl Hogue Phone: (519) 250-8839
Email: C-hogue@hotmail.com duanemalinowski@hotmail.com

Eddie Blazonczyk Jr. and the Versatones - www.versatones.com
Email: Versatones@aol.com Phone: 815-254-7624

Polkaholics - Don Hedeker - www.thepolkaholics.com
Email: polkaholics@gmail.com

Gene Mikrut Band - (815) 478-5561 Email: g.mikrut@att.net

Virgil Baker & The Just 4 Fun Band - www.polkajust4fun.com
Phone: 616-706-0347

Polka at the Rose Bowl Parade 2012

The Pulaski High School Band from Pulaski, Wisconsin played a Polka during the Rose Bowl Parade.

Congratulations to the Band on a job well done!

Pulaski High School Band in the Rose Bowl Parade: The song after the float is the Red Wing Polka. The crowd loved it as acknowledged by the HGTV announcer.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNWWGYzFI>

Pulaski High School Band practicing for the Rose Bowl Parade: The Pulaski Band performs the Red Wing Polka.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iA3sh6Epb8&feature=endscreen&NR=1>

BAND LISTINGS

Tony Blazonczyk and New Phaze - www.newphaze.com
Email: new_phaze@yahoo.com - Phone: (815) 530-5917

Eddie Korosa, Jr and the Boys from Illinois
www.eddiekorosajr.com Email: EKBABYDOLL@AOL.COM—Phone: (773) 586-3719

The Boys - Mike Matousek - www.TheBoysToday.com
Email: mike@TheBoysToday.com

Full Circle - Jimmy Weber - www.GoneFullCircle.com
Email: jimmy@GoneFullCircle.com

Ed Svoboda's Red Raven Orchestra
www.bestpolkabands.com - email: ejsvoboda@msn.com—Phone: (402) 551-3315

Ray Skorka and The Ablemen - www.ablemenmusic.com
Phone: 201-967-7243 - Email: ableguy@verizon.net

The Rich Bobinski Orchestra ~ June & Friends The Polka Combo ~ The Connecticut String Trio - www.richbobinski.com
email: jsing@conncoll.edu Phone: (860) 536-2452

Barefoot Becky & the Ivanhoe Dutchmen—www.barefootbecky.com -
email: polkabecky@aol.com—Phone: (877) 499-7133 or (319) 848-7133

Hank Haller - <http://hankhaller.webs.com> - Phone: (440) 835-4407

Polka Generations - www.polkagenerations.com Email: polkagenerations@yahoo.com
Phone: (815) 690-7649 Bernie

Eric Noltkamper - www.noltkamper.com Email: Eric@noltkamper.com
Phone: (440) 543-7956

Bernie Goydich and Jersey Polka Stars - Phone: 908-359-5520 - Email: bgpolka-show@aol.com

Steve Drzewicki Band - email: tiff18@yahoo.com - 989-893-2830

Don Peachey Band - 920-689-2211

Peter Wendinger and the Wendinger Band - www.wenderbandtravel.com -
Phone: 507-359-3111 Email: ppwend@newulmtel.net

Joey Derus & Bratwurst Brothers - www.bratbros.com - Phone: 708-785-1237
Also, **Joey Derus and the Stew**—Email: joeyderus@att.net

Eugene "Butch" Gawle - Gawle & Co. - Phone: 630 969 7972
Email: egawle01@comcast.net

Fritz Willfahrt Orchestra - Phone: 715-325-2574
Email: Polkafriz@charter.net

IPA General Meeting Tuesday May 15, 2012 -

7 PM-9 PM

BARTOLINI'S RESTAURANT,
14420 Pulaski Road,
Midlothian, Illinois.
(708-396-2333.)

Free Pizza to all Current
IPA Members. Music by Jam Band.

IPA BENEFIT A HUGE SUCCESS...

By: Karen Olszewski

IPA BENEFIT A HUGE SUCCESS... The IPA dance was a complete sellout. Names were being taken for a waiting list in case there were any cancellations. Thank you to all the Polka friends that traveled from far and near to attend the annual IPA benefit. The musical entertainment was provided by Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men, Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push and The Boys. Each band was superb. The special attraction was a big band musical tribute to the IPA Polka Hall of Famer the late Walter Solek. Guest vocalist Andrew Krystopolski performed the Solek selections and entertained the crowd with Solek style costumes and antics. Andrew's great showmanship brought down the house. The MC for the tribute was done by "The Voice" none other than Mike Matousek who provided much history and tidbits of Walt's musical career. Dennis Polisky wrote the musical arrangements note for note from all of Walt's original recordings. A special thank you to all the officers of the IPA, the Ludlow PACC and all the staff who worked so very hard. Many Polka celebrities, musicians, bandleaders and DJ/IJS were in attendance.

Walt Solek History....

Walt was known as the "Clown Prince Of Polkas". He earned this title by having the ability to make us laugh. He did so via his stage antics, jokes and his unusual costumes. He was a musician, composer, showman, actor and entertainer. Walt's first big break in the Polka field came when he performed with the Krakowska Polka band that was organized by Walt's brother Henry. Shortly after the Krakowska band, Walt formed his own Polka band in 1939 and went on to write hundreds of original Polka and Obereks that are now considered standards in the Polka field. In 1940 Walt went into the service to serve in the United States Navy for World War 2. Upon his discharge he immediately went back to performing and it was at that time he wrote one of his biggest hits called My Girlfriend Julida. The song was recorded on Columbia records. Columbia was one of the biggest recording labels and at that time was recording Frank Sinatra, Count Basie and Benny Goodman. After the Julida Polka became a commercial hit Walt quickly became the highest paid member in the Polka community by ASCAP which is a song writer royalty organization. Julida Polka was later recorded by Tommy Dorsey and the Dorsey Brothers Band and later was used on commercial TV and radio and sold greatly on sheet music. He received money for that song for 70 years until he passed away. In addition to Columbia records Walt recorded with many recording companies including RCA, Harmonia, Reprise, REXX, Starr. As Walt's success continued to grow he was booked into dance halls across the eastern states. He quickly was nicknamed the "Polish Spike Jones". He branched out as a radio disc jockey and hosted his hit Polka program on WMMW radio of Meriden CT for 28 years. His motto was "Bringing people together through music". Walt was the oldest running Polka band in the business. In 1974 the International Polka association inducted Walt into the Hall of Fame. In 1955 Universal Studios of California contacted Walt and wanted him to star in a movie short film which would be used as an opener prior to the showing of a major picture. Walt agreed and flew to California to star in the short film. Also while in California he performed in Santa Monica. Walt was known for his exuberant performances and he was not bothered by any criticism. He knew how to have a good time and he also knew how to make people laugh and forget their worries for a while. Walt not only entertained with his band he also appeared as special guest with many bands including Larry Chesky, Jimmy Sturr and Bud Hundenski to name a few. Walt performed in some of the largest dance ballrooms in the country including the Belmont ballroom in New York City, and the Lakewood and Lakeside ballrooms of PA. Crowds were recorded over 3,000 in attendance. Walt wrote many great vocal hits but we can not forget some of his great instrumentals that showcased his band. Walt entertained for 75 years! He was born on September 28, 1920 and passed away ironically on April Fool's day, April 1st 2005 at the age of 94. He was too great to be forgotten.

CD & Cassette Sales

Bel-Aire Enterprises - (708)594-5182 - www.belairrecords.com
email: BelAire7208@aol.com

Jimmy K Polkas - Toll free 1-866-4-JIMMY-K - (866-454-6695)
www.jimmykpolkas.com

T.K. Frank - (610)828-2089 - www.polkas.com/tkfrank

PolkaConnection.com - (866)901-6138

Steljo Records - (860)848-8171 - www.dickpillar.com

Nancy's Place for Polkas - www.polkas.com Email: Nancy@polkas.com
(440)543-7956

Cadet Records - Don Peachey - (920)689-2211

Julcia & Happy Louie - www.happylouie.com - (413)596-6587
Email: hlandj@verizon.net

Pillar Polkabration—www.dickpillar.com - 860-628-0446

Promoters

Edward Szela - Ludlow PACC - www.ludlowpacc.com
Club: 413-583-6385 Home: 413-567-1961

Mike Ziemiński - Polkamotion by the Ocean - www.rbpolka.com

Mike Matousek - Polkamotion by the Ocean
www.rbpolka.com email: mike_matousek@rbpolka.com

Becky Livermore—Beckster Fest - email: polkabekky@aol.com

Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer - PolishYoungstown www.polishyoungstown.com -
Email: aheschmeyer@yahoo.com

Dick Kozacko - www.Kozackomediaservices.com

Judy Stringhill—www.stringhill.com

Pillar Polkabration—www.dickpillar.com - 860-628-0446

Nancy Noltkamper - www.polkas.com Email: Nancy@polkas.com
(440) 543-7956

Gary Szefflinski - Bristol Polish Club—(860)525-1944

Bernie Goydish - (908)359-5520 - email: bgpolkashow@aol.com

Virgil Baker—Camara Corp., Phone: 616-706-0347
www.just4seniors-just4fun.com

Patrick Henry - www.polkadj.com; Phone 773-889-6811

It's Polka Time - John A. Punola; Phone: 973-822-2395
Email: Japunola@aol.com

Newspapers

T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert - Polonia Today
<http://www.poloniatoday.com> - editor@poloniatoday.com

Felix Sobiecki - Polka USA - www.polkausa.com
Email: felix17250@aol.com

Polka DJ's & IJ's

John (Polkabear) & Carolyn (Honeybear) Baras
Checkout our Midwest Polka Show on www.247polkaheaven.com
Saturdays. 8:00 AM CST. Also other times, check schedule on
www.247polkaheaven.com OUR WEB SITE IS www.midwestpolkashow.com
Midwest Polka Show, 612 Forest Run Dr. Eureka, MO. 63025-2120

Polka DJ's & IJ's

IPA Radio Show - Sundays 10:30 am (CT) WPNA 1490 AM
www.wpna1490am.com

Bob Guyette WNRC 97.5 FM—Polkas in the Morning 7-8 am Polka Festival Mon 6-8 pm
Polka-a-Go Weds. 6-8 pm 7 days a week. www.nichols.edu/wnrc -
email: polkabob2005@msn.com

Eddie and Tish Blazonczyk Polka Shows - WPNA 1490 am Sat (1-2pm)
& Sun (12-1pm), WNWI 1080 am Sundays (11-1pm) and www.247polkaheaven.com

"The Mike's Are On" ~ Mike Matousek & Mike Ziemiński
www.247PolkaHeaven.com, Email: mike@charmcitysound.com
Sunday: 5-6pm, Wednesday: 12-1am, Friday: 7-8pm

"It's Polka Time" ~ Craig Ebel - www.itspolkatime.com, www.polkajammernetwork.org and also heard
on 23 Radio Stations! Email: itspolkatime@hotmail.com

Polka Parade Show ~ Jerry Halkoski - Saturday 10-11 am

Echoes of Poland - Fr. Dennis Bogusz - www.wedo810.com

Polka Parade WJYI 1340 Milwaukee—www.polkaparade.org
Email: vboomer1@gmail.com

Walter Procanyn Bandstand Show - www.247polkaheaven.com
Weds. 8am/ Sat. 7pm - Email: procanynpolka@aol.com

Walter Kazmierczak - 1340 WRAW Reading PA - www.1340wraw.com
Sunday 10 am—1 pm Email: sunnyanderma@aol.com

Happy Hearts Polka Show - WCEV 1450 am - www.WCEV1450.com - Sunday 2 PM

Polka Parade Show - Jerry Halkoski - WJYI 1340 AM - www.joy1340.com

Music From Cousin Ozzie's Basement with Dick Ozimek
www.polkalegacy.com - Email: cousinozzie@verizon.net

Polkas from the Center Stage - Sandy Lewandowski
www.polkajammernetwork.org - Email: centerstagepolkas@yahoo.com

Polka Celebration - Peter J Danielczuk WNHU 88.7 FM - www.wnhu.net - Sat 10 AM - 12 Noon
www.247polkaheaven.com - Mon 8PM, Tues 1PM, Thurs 1AM, Fri 10AM Polka Legacy -
www.polkalegacy.com - Tues. and Wed. 9PM. website: www.polkacelebration.com

Pillar Polkabration Show - WICH Norwich, CT 1310 AM
Sundays 10-11 am. - 860-628-0446 - www.dickpillar.com

Helen Szubzda Curtin and Charles Curtin Polka Celebration Show—WMUA 91.1 FM Northampton,
MA Sundays 9am-12pm - 413-545-3691 - www.wmua.org—email: polkadj@verizon.net

Bernie Goydish - www.247polkaheaven.com - email: bgpolkashow@aol.com

Gary Sroka - WUTQ 95.5 FM Utica, 1550 am and 1480 WADR Remsen
www.955WUTQ.com - Email: polkaradio@hotmail.com - Saturday 8:30-11 am

It's a Family Affair - www.polkalegacy.com - email: Polkagenerations@yahoo.com - Thurs. 9PM,
Saturday 2pm, Monday 10am and Wednesday 1am.

Happy Tappy Polka Show - Andrew Krystopolski - www.polkajammer.org -
email: versdrew1@yahoo.com

Polka Bandstand Show - www.jazz901.org - Al Meilutis - Phone: (585)721-2135
Email: alm@jazz901.org

The Polka Carousel - www.radioharborcountry.org - Ed Slomkowski - (843) 235-0444
Email: polkawrhc@aol.com - Wednesdays 11 am to 12 pm WRHC 106.7 FM Three Oaks, Michigan
and 89.5 FM Ashland, Oregon Sunday 6-7 pm. - www.kskq.org

Sunday Morning Polka Show - Steve and Seth Drzewicki - WSAM 1400 am - Sundays 10 am to 12 pm
Serving Mid Michigan. 989-443-1807

Tony Petkovsek's Polka Radio—"Petdeset for Petkovsek" - WELW.com & www.247polkaheaven.com
Phone: (216)952-8669

White Eagle Bakery Show - WCNI New London 90.9 FM - Gail and Bill Antonowicz—Thursdays
9-10 am.

Patrick Henry - www.247polkaheaven.com - Email: www.polkadj.com - 773-889-6811

Anthony Kaminski - Polish Radio, Sunday 3-4PM central time WEW - Polka+, Sunday 4-5PM central
time WEW 770am. Streaming on [wewradio.com](http://www.wewradio.com). email: kaminski240@att.net

Dyngus Day Buffalo

DID YOU KNOW....that Dyngus Day Buffalo is the largest polka festival in North America? Over 25 polka bands from across the nation performed during Dyngus Day 2012. Bands and performers included Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, The Buffalo Touch, The Knewz, Phocus, Rare Vintage, New Direction Band, City Side, The Buffalo Concertina All Stars, John Gora & Gorale, DynaBrass, Ed Guca & the Polish Canadians, Stephanie & her Honky Band, John Stevens Doubleshot, Tony's Polka Band, Tom Mroczka & the Music Box, The Pyramid Band, Melody Lane, Al Kania's Eastern Style Polka Smile, Bedrock Boys, The Twy-Lites, Those Idiots, Hocus Polka, The Piatkowski Brothers, Dave Gawronski's Musical Magic, Eddie Biegaj, Jimmy K's Ethnic Jazz, and Polka Family. Visit this website for more great information on Dyngus Day. <http://dyngusdaybuffalo.com/>

Dyngus Day ~ Crumstown, Indiana By: Cheryl Furmaniak, IPA Member

Yes, the Monday after Easter. Lets begin by noting that not everyone knows what Dyngus Day means, but it has been known of in the Polka field for ages. It is the continued celebration of Easter and the celebration of all those things you gave up for Lent.

So the experience begins. Yes, I am a novice to the celebrations, even though John Furmaniak, my hubby, has been a musician for over 50 years and me being around all this time. John is now with New Phaze and I finally have been able to travel to a few engagements after all these years. John asked me if I'd like to go to Crumstown, Indiana for Dyngus Day. I said, "sure" as I always heard of Crumstown but did not know what it was about.

Traveled with "the band" and was "on the road again" with the guys and Rena, Tony Blazonczyk's wife. Granted getting up at 3 a.m. to meet at Glendora was a bit earlier to get up for, but what the heck. I heard rumblings from others that more people were going to come in the mobile home but it was too early for them. All I can say, "IT WAS WORTH GETTING UP."

The mobile home, rattle, rattle, ching, ching, ching! We drove down the highway to Crumstown. The time flew by talking and listening to the guys and the stories. Have to laugh at Ricky. First time I met Ron. Shortly after we pulled into the parking lot of the Crumstown Conservation Club. I was amazed!!!!!! The parking lot was packed with cars at 7:30 a.m Monday morning. It was unbelievable to me as a avid participant of dances. I was totally surprised that so many people were there. I was told people in the town take the day off every year for this. Eddie Blazonczyk Senior and Junior have played this celebration for the past 22 years. Yep, 22 years of Blazonczyks and the Versatones

playing and now Tony Blazonczyk and New Phaze were going to continue the traditions of past.

Giving up drinking was one of the things many gave up for lent. Drinks were being poured quickly and pitchers of bloody Mary's abundant and bottles of beer. There had to be 50 on this one table alone. Yep, and they were great!! People kept coming in and coming in, I was in more awe of it 400-450 people. Where did all these people come from? Met some Polka fans that I have seen but never met officially and met Crumstown residents who will save a seat for me next year. Families and groups had their own T-Shirts with Dyngus Day sayings and some even with last names on the back. Vibrant colors!!! One would think, since it is a Monday the elder Polka Fans would be there but to my continued amazement it was the younger generation. I'd say the average age was 30. I'm not kidding. The drank, they danced, and they had a good time. Me too!!! Every nationality partook in the celebration. In fact, there was a young lady from Switzerland there.

It was a sad time when the band finished and we had to go back. Back into the mobile home. I was hungry... T.J brought some carrot cake that I ate and made a mess. I was trying to find a napkin to clean my hands- when Bear stopped for a light. Quickly and I found myself flying towards the front of the mobile home. My feet were no longer on the ground and "poof" in an instant I was on the floor. Broke 3 nails, boo hoo... Good thing I was doing the Jeze shots and snakebites as I fell without hurting myself. Yes, come next year I'm taking the day off and going to Crumstown to celebrate my Polish Heritage of Dyngus Day with New Phaze

I hope you can experience this too someday, not the fall though.

Continentials will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary

Hello Everyone! May is here and in just a couple of weeks, the Continentals will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary. I hope to see you at Blob's Park in Jessup, MD on Sunday May 20th (details below) AND THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SUPPORTING The Bands & I, it means a lot...

Also, special thanks to all who attended my 1st "Spring Ballroom Dance" on April 22nd. The weather did not cooperate, but 55 brave dancers made it there! Make plans now to attend my 1st "Fall Ballroom Dance" on Sunday November 4, 2012 at The Rosensteel Knights of Columbus in Silver Spring. More details to come...

Mike

www.mikesurratt.com

Sun 5/20 – OUR 40th ANNIVERSARY Celebration at Blob's Park * Jessup, MD (3:30-8:00pm) – Make a reservation asap! Call Blob's (410) 799-7130 or Mike (301) 577-6488

Congratulations on your Engagement

Gary and Barbara Danback, Eatontown, NJ have announced the engagement of their daughter, Katelyn Danback, to IPA member John Bryndza, Spring Lake Heights, NJ. The groom-elect is the son of Jack Bryndza and Linda Rocco.

The bride-elect is a 2008 graduate of The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ where she earned a BA. She is also a 2010 graduate of Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ where she earned a Master of Arts degree in teaching. She is a second-grade teacher at Dorchester Elementary School, Woodcliff Lake, NJ.

The groom-elect is a 2008 graduate of The College of New Jersey, where he earned a BS in biomedical engineering. He is currently pursuing an MS in biomedical engineering from Columbia University, New York, NY, and is a project engineer at Stryker Orthopaedics.

John grew up watching The Big Joe Polka show on RFD-TV with his parents. The couple is planning an August 4, 2012 wedding.

Congratulations on your new baby boy!

IPA Member, Joey Derus and his wife Abby, welcome a son, Simon James Derus born March 11, 2012. Simon was 8lbs 8oz & 20in. Simon is the second child of Joey and Abby, they also have a son named Lennon.

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White Eagle Banquets
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the festival, and your room for two nights.You will leave Polonia Banquets, 4604 S. Archer, Chicago, Illinois at 8 am on
Friday August 3rd. Leave Sunday August 5th from Embassy Suites at
approximately Noon. Arrive back at Polonia at approximately 5 pm.For Reservations call Dave at 312-315-2215**\$50.00 deposit due immediately, Balance due by July 1, 2012**Or fill out the below form and return it to the IPA, 4608 S. Archer Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60632 with your \$50.00 Deposit

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Sunday August 19, 2012

Chet's Melody Lounge - Picnic Grove
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The Knewz (NY)

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10:00 a.m. Annual Election of Officers &
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Rich Bobinski - 26 Classic Hits from the past

New CD Release! Co-Producer & Sound File Enhancement by Peter J. Danielczuk, I.P.A. Sgt. At Arms. A portion of the proceeds from this recording are being donated to the International Polka Association. The I.P.A. is instrumental in the preservation and promotion of Polka Music throughout the United States. Distributor and Co-Producer is Jimmy K Polkas, 440-846-0404 or visit www.jimmykpolkas.com

Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome our newest members:

Linda Chesky Fernandes, John Popielasz, Darlene Balzekas, and Donald Swart

Members are very important to the International Polka Association!

With the dues we collect, we are able to pay the month operating expenses of the International Polka Association. The Officers and Directors of Illinois voted to have a membership drive and incentive program. Please tell your family and friends what a great organization the International Polka Association is. This is the perfect time to help the IPA get more members. Membership is only \$15.00 per year, or you can sign up for a lifetime membership, and that is only \$200.00.

PLEASE SEND YOUR RENEWAL MEMBER ENVELOPES BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

38th Annual Polka Fireworks

The 38th Annual Polka Fireworks at the Seven Springs Resort, Champion, PA is scheduled for June 29—July 3, 2012. For Room Reservations call Tish Blazonczyk at Bel-Aire Enterprises (708) 594-5182. Bands performing are: Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men, Stacy Morris & The Nu-Tones, Andy Fenus & The Trel-Tones, The Polka Family, Buffalo Concertina All-Stars, Jeff Mleczo & The Dynabass, The Downtown Sound, The Boys, Henny & the Versa J's, The Knewz, Little John & The ATM, Stephanie and her Honky Band, Pan Franek & The PolkaTowners, Tony Blazonczyk & New Phaze, Stas Golonka & The Chicago Masters, Ray Jay & the Carousels, Mon Valley Push and DJ Ken Olowin

29th Annual Concertina Jam

Also, don't miss Steve Litwin's 29th Annual Concertina Jam on Sunday, July 1, 2012. This also takes place at the Polka Fireworks Festival. Become a friend of Steve Litwin on facebook for more information.

Steve also has great pictures from the Polka Past! Thank you Steve for all you do for polkas....

T.K. Frank's Best Sellers - CD's

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BOBINSKI, RICH
 "Forever in Time" NEW
THE BOYS - "A New Day" NEW
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 "4th Edition" NEW
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 "Dancing With The All Stars" NEW
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 "Polkarisma" "
 "Super Duper Polkas" "

Paloma Blanca" "
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May 3 – Beverly Lorek

May 4 – Ed Zmuda

May 5 – Joe Towalski;

May 6 – Frank Gubala; Mashelle Pavey

May 7 – Ray Pasinski

May 10 – Mike Surratt; Lenny Zielinski; John Demerski; Jill Krzeszewski (IPA Director)

May 11 – Eleanor Grudi;

May 12 – Bernie Gorak II

May 13 – Julia Figura, Connie Shemansky;

May 14 – Stacey Morris

May 15 – Krystin Smaka

May 16 – Christopher Bogdon; Eddie Korosa, Jr.; Donald Swart

May 17 – Lorri March; Edmund Burdzy; Linda Chesky-Fernandes

MAY 18 – Thomas Raboin

May 19 – Clarence Karakla; Geraldine Babula;

May 20 – Stephen Dudas; Ryan Ogradny;

May 21 – Jane Piotrowski

May 22 – Chet Schafer; Raymond Skorka; Steve Fornek

May 23 – Judith Pollick;

May 24 – Mary Saber

May 25 – Robyn Mrozinski;

May 26 – Timothy Winiarz;

May 27 – Rick Zarek

May 28 – Joe Pinter

May 29 – Carolyn Kasprowicz; Lou Jedlowski;

May 30 – Jerold Kriston

May 31 – Mike Pacholski; John Bryndza; Ashley Mateja

JUNE

June 1 – Michael Skalecki

June 2 – Jack Sanocki;

June 3 – Virgil Baker Jr; Bernie Gorak, Sr;

June 4 – Richard Sendra; Bob Jakubielski

June 5 – Jeannette Ziobro; Pauline Burita-Swart;

June 6 – Robert Banoczi; Mary Jo Liccar;

June 7 – Joe Kizior; Joseph Lesniak; Rich Benkowski

June 8 – Michele Gorak

June 9 – Mary Kay Dench; Geri Ryndak;

June 10 – John Baras; Eugene Kasprowicz;

June 12 – Virgil Herrmann; Chet Kowalkowski

June 13 – Walter Berkowicz;

June 19 – Tony Crispo; Robert Jayo; Diane Krygier; Jim Homel

June 20 – Bud Beyer; Louise Kurek; Darlene Balzekas

June 22 – Joanne Kozleski Jones;

June 23 – Rose Sida; Ed Krupinski

June 24 – Kenneth Dunaj; Mollie Busta

June 26 – Mary Ann Makatenas; Wayne Machnicki

June 27 – Joseph Wondolowski;

June 28 – Julcia Dusseault

June 29 – Robert Frydryk; Ron Urbanczyk

June 30 – Nina March; George Borsuk

Happy Belated 50th Birthday to Debbie Jackinoski.



If your name is not listed above and you are a member, we must not have your birthday in our computer! If you wish to have your birthday listed, please send an email to: Christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net or send it to: Christy Krawisz, IPA Birthdays, 4608 S. Archer Avenue, Chicago, IL 60632. Please remember, you must be an IPA Member.

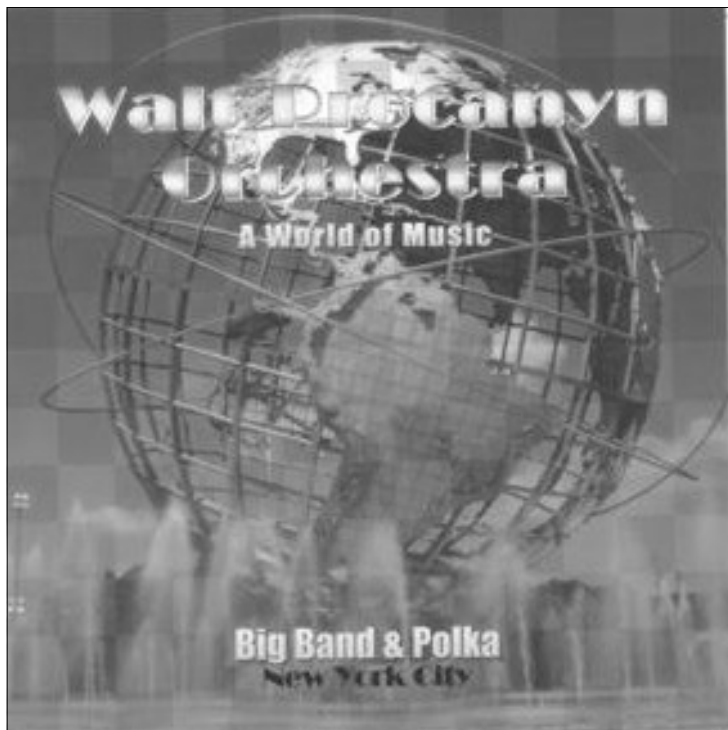
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11. POLKA FACE (VOCAL)
12. I WANT TO DANCE WITH YOU (VOCAL)
13. I BETCHA DO POLKA (VOCAL)
14. PAPER DOLL (VOCAL)
15. I KNOW I'M GONNA DANCE POLKA (VOCAL)
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17. ALWAYS WALT'S ACCAPELLA SINGERS
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IMPORTANT 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.**



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