



IPA Newsletter

September-October, 2013

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc.®



Mistress of Ceremonies and Presenter Jill Krzewzewski and IPA Hall of Fame Inductee Frank Borzymowski.



IPA Hall of Fame Inductee John Furmaniak and Presenter Christy Furmaniak-Krawisz.



Deceased Category IPA Hall of Fame Inductee Jan Cyman, Presenter Jeff Cyman, accepted by Judy Cyman with IPA Hall of Fame Chairman Leon Kozicki.



Presenter Joey Tomsick and IPA Hall of Fame Inductee Tony Petkovsek with IPA Hall of Fame Chairman Leon Kozicki.

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.

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Christy Krawisz

Contributors:

Christy Krawisz, T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert, Debbie Dunej, Mike Matousek And Cheryl Furmaniak.

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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
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PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60544
Phone: 1-630-204-1793
Email: Christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net

**Thank you Earnie Boyd for your \$25.00 donation.
We appreciate your support!**

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.

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, Director Dan Mateja and Media Advisor 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!



**Favorite Female Vocalist
Mollie Busta Lange.**



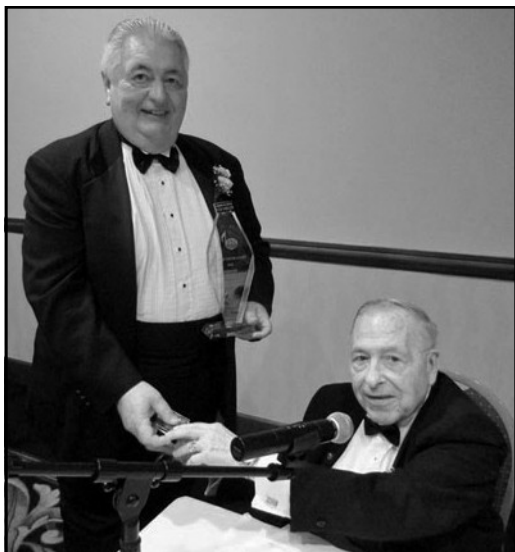
**Accepting for Favorite
Male Vocalist winner
Lenny Gomula was
Kevin Adams.**



**IPA Favorite Song "For the Love of the
Music" Winners - Tony Blazonczyk's New
Phaze.**



**IPA Favorite CD Winner - "Yesterday's Song" - IPA
Tribute Band - Accepting was Danny Mateja. Also
pictured is the Tribute Band, Gary Rhamy with Leon
Kozicki and Dave Ulczycki.**



**IPA Favorite Instrumental Group
Winners - Dennis Polisky & the Maestros
Men - Accepting for the band was Peter
Danielczyk.**



**A special Thank you to IPA 1st Vice President, Rick
Rzeszutko, Banquet Audio Specialist.**

Join the IPA, USPA and CPA for a Joint Polka Celebration

Featuring

The Downtown Sound

Saturday ~ October 19, 2013

Holiday Inn ~ 15471 Royalton Road, Strongsville, Ohio

Music from 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.
Donation: \$12.00 per person

Special Room Rate of \$62.00 plus tax, if you tell the hotel you are with the Joint Polka Celebration.
Call 440-238-8800 for Reservations.

For more information call:
Barb at: 440-886-6157
Dave at: 312-315-2215

No outside food or beverages permitted by law
Tables reserved for parties of 10 or more

9th ANNUAL IPA BENEFIT DANCE

Ludlow PACC

355 East Street
Ludlow, Mass 01056

Sunday, March 9, 2014
2 PM – 7 PM

Music By:

Lenny Gomulka's Chicago Push
Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men
Eddie Forman & EFO Orchestra



Musical Tribute
To

Eddie Blazonczyk

Get Your Tickets Early!

\$20 per Person Advance Tickets Only
No Tickets Will Be Sold Or Held At The Door

FOR TICKETS - CALL: Ed Szela - 413-567-1961
Or Send Check To:
Ed Szela, 104 Williston Drive, Long Meadow, Mass 01106
For Table Reservations of 8 or More Call Carol Blajda at 413-549-6997

Would you like your newsletter Emailed to you?

The I.P.A. would like to go GREEN! Help us save money on printing costs and postage!

If you have a computer and would like your Newsletter emailed to you (pdf form), please send an email to:
Christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net

PLEASE PUT IN THE SUBJECT LINE
~ "PLEASE EMAIL MY NEWSLETTER"

THANK YOU



International Polka Association Festival & Convention



Same location!
NEW weekend!

Embassy Suites - Independence, Ohio
216-986-9900
www.clevelandindependence.embassysuites.com

August
29, 30, 31
2014

Friday,
August 29

John Góra &
Górale
The Knewz

Saturday,
August 30

Lenny Gomulka &
Chicago Push
The Boys
IPA Tribute Band

Sunday,
August 31

Polka Country
Musicians
The Project
Full Circle

Labor Day Weekend – Mark Your Calendars!!

Rooms are available at the Embassy Suites for \$101 plus tax, per night when mentioning the IPA Polka Festival.

Innovation Marks the 45th IPA Festival and Convention

By: Mike Matousek

Celebrating 45 years of polka promotion, the International Polka Association conducted its annual Festival and Convention at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Independence, OH on August 1 – 4, 2013. Festivities began on Thursday night as the famous Del Sinchak Band entertained early-arriving polka fans with their exuberant Slovenian polka sounds. On Friday afternoon, a new innovation called “The Polka Dot Party” was conducted in the ballroom where guests got the opportunity to show off their vocal and musical talents during “Polkaroke” with the backing of a live polka band. Later, the momentum built as Polka Family, The Knewz, and Freeze Dried performed for large crowds throughout the evening. For the first time, Polka Hall of Famer/DJ Billy Belina along with DJ Joni Zychowski Minehart streamed live polka music via their online broadcast on the Polka Jammer Network. Another new aspect of this year’s fest featured a special premiere performance by “The Divas,” namely Ania Piwowarczyk, Gennie Okrzesik, and Mary Lou Czerniak, all well-known female vocalists in the polka industry. Saturday morning began with the prestigious 44th Annual IPA Polka Music Awards and Hall of Fame Banquet. This year’s award winners included Tony Blazonczyk’s New Phaze for “Favorite Song” (For The Love of Music), the IPA Tribute Band for “Favorite CD” (Yesterday’s Songs), Lenny Gomulka for “Favorite Male Vocalist,” Mollie Busta Lange for “Favorite Female Vocalist,” and Dennis Polisky and the Maestro’s Men for “Favorite Instrumental Group.” The Hall of Fame inductees included Tony Petkovsek (Pioneer Category), Jan Cyman (Deceased Category), and John Furmaniak and Frank Borzymowski (Living Category). After the banquet, the enthusiastic audience continued to grow as The Boys, the IPA Tribute Band, and Polka Country Musicians cranked out their vibrant polka music. As a special treat, 11 different Polka Hall of Famers performed as guest vocalists during the IPA Tribute Band’s show. The fact that this year’s festival attendance proved to be 33% larger than last year’s, bodes well for the organization and the polka industry. On Sunday, the Annual IPA Meeting was conducted where the membership elected Officers and Directors to fill various positions. Incumbents Dave Ulczycki (President), Rick Rzeszutko (First Vice President), Sergeant-of-Arms (Pete Danielczuk), and Laura Mateja (Secretary) were all re-elected. Illinois Director T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert was re-elected, while Keith Pietranczyk and Dennis Mikolajewski were welcomed as the two newly-elected Illinois directors. Canadian Director Ed Guca and Debbie Dunaj (Wisconsin) were re-elected, while Lori Urbanczyk (New York) was welcomed as our newly-elected out-of-state director. Don’t miss the 46th Annual IPA Festival and Convention as it returns to the Embassy Suites in Independence, OH, next year over the Labor Day weekend. Mark the dates: August 29, 30, & 31, 2014. Note that September 1st is the Labor Day holiday.

We are proud to announce our 2013-2014 IPA Officers and Board of Directors.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Officers: President - Dave Ulczycki (IL) 1st Vice President - Rick Rzeszutko (IL) 2nd Vice President - Fred Kendzierski (NJ) Treasurer - Linda Niewierowski (IL) Financial Secretary - Christy Krawisz (IL) Secretary - Laura Mateja (IL) Advisor - Leon Kozicki (IL) Sergeant-at-Arms - Peter Danielczuk (CT) Youth Advisor - Jake Mikrut (IL) Special Advisor - Jerry Wantroba (IL) | Directors: Debbie Dunaj (WI) Ed Guca (Canada) T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert (IL) John Krawisz (IL) Pat Maduzia (IL) Dan Mateja (IL) Mike Matousek (MD) Dennis Mikolajewski (IL) Keith Pietranczyk (IL) Ed Szela (MA) Lori Urbanczyk (NY) Joni Zychowski Minehart (PA) | <p>THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!</p> <p>We would like to thank Marge Machay, John Mikrut and Fran Russo for all of their hard work and dedication to the IPA over the years. We greatly appreciate all you have done for the organization and wish you all the best!</p> |
|--|--|--|

TUESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2013
"New Year's Eve Polka Celebration"
VFW Hall
17147 S. Oak Park Ave. Tinley Park, IL

"THE POLKA GENERATIONS"

PLAYING YOUR FAVORITE POLKA & AMERICAN MUSIC

Doors Open 6:30PM---DINNER 7PM
 Music 8:30PM-12:30AM

Buffet Style Dinner: Polish Sausage/Kraut, Chicken, Corn,
 Potatoes, Pasta Salad, Rolls
 "Cash Bar"- back bar will be open...
 Midnight Toast, and desert Table too...

ALL THIS FUN FOR ONLY \$25 Per Person
Tickets must be purchased by December 12, 2013

For more info call: Bernie Gorak II 815-690-7649
www.polkagenerations.com

Tune in every Thursday to the Polka Jammer and listen to the
 "WINDY CITY JAM" with B1, B2, & B3

Sponsored by:
 Gorak's Pest Control/Reflections Photography

IPA sponsor's Summer Music Fest

IPA was a proud sponsor of the Summer Music Fest, held in Frankenmuth, Michigan August 8-10 and 15-17. Several IPA officers and directors were in attendance during the first weekend to support the festival as well as promote the IPA organization. Directors took the stage to thank attendees for their support of polka music as well as to encourage participation in events and organizations. Considered a very successful membership drive, 54 attendees signed up or renewed their IPA membership. Welcome new members, and thank you for your support!



IPA Youth Advisor Jake Mikrut, IPA Secretary Laura Mateja, Newly Elected Directors Keith Pietranczyk (IL) and Lori Urbanczyk (NY) working the Membership Drive in Frankenmuth.

**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



Lori Urbanczyk (NY), IPA Secretary Laura Mateja, Newly Inducted Hall of Famer Frank Borzymowski, Debbie Dunej (WI) Keith Pietranczyk (IL).

Can't get enough polka on regular broadcast radio? The alternative is Polka Internet Radio, where the music never stops. Most, if not all archive their shows as MP3 files, so that you may download and listen at your leisure. Some of the polka sites you should be aware of are:

<http://www.247polkaheaven.com>,
<http://www.polkajammernetwork.org>,
<http://www.polishnewcastleradio.com>
<http://wbcb1490.com/the-denny-o-polka-show>

Used with permission from Polonia Today

New IPA Marketing and Communications Committee

The IPA Board has recently established a new committee to work on Marketing and Communications. It is initially comprised of a sub group of officers and directors and will work on the following efforts:

- Promote the IPA Organization and Hall of Fame
- Lead efforts to increase membership in the Organization
- Develop strategies to expand the Polka fan base
- Work to improve communications to our Polka fans, and between all the constituencies involved in the industry
- Build alliances with other relevant organizations, both Polka related and non-Polka related
- Support and endorse member polka professionals in their areas of work

Any I.P.A. members who have skills in these areas and would like to volunteer their time and talents to help towards these efforts are asked to send an email to editor@internationalpolka.com.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Mary A. Kurczap, Mother to IPA Member Jeanne Szela and Mother in Law to IPA Director Ed Szela, Grandmother to Lifetime Member Sue Szela, passed away in June. Our deepest sympathy to the entire Szela Family and Mrs. Kurczap's family and friends.

Anne Bembenek, 97, Long time IPA Member, Mother to Patricia, Dennis and Andrea, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Our Deepest sympathy to the entire Bembenek family and Mrs. Bembenek's many Friends.

Lou Jedlowski, IPA Member, Sister to IPA Member Jackie Jedlowski-Koziel. Long Time Friend of IPA Member Mary Jo Liccar. Lou played Trumpet with several bands. Deepest sympathy to the entire Jedlowski Family and Friends.

Raymond Raczkowski, father to IPA Members Wally and Ron Raczkowski, passed away in August. Deepest sympathy to the entire Raczkowski family and Mr. Raczkowski's many friends.

Fred Hudy, IPA Member and Hall of Famer. See page 10.

Our deepest sympathy wishes to all the family and friends of Mary, Anne, Lou, Raymond and Fred.

May you rest in Peace.

Tuesday September 17, 2013 ~

**THE NEXT I.P.A GENERAL MEETING AT
POLONIA BANQUETS.**

Doors Open at 6:30 PM Meeting at 7 PM.

FREE FOOD

**Some of the 2012-2013 Officers/Directors
pictured below at the IPA Banquet.**



Lake Geneva **POLKA FEST**

Harbor Shores
on Lake Geneva 

A Holiday Style, Hopping Happening Hoedown!

November 29, 30 & December 1st, 2013

Next to picturesque Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Convenient to a wide variety of downtown shops to start (and finish) your holiday shopping!

GREAT MUSIC FOR THE LAST WEEKEND FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR.



John Gora & Gorale

from Canada (Friday 8pm-12am)

Polka Generations

from Chicago (Saturday 2pm-6pm)

Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze

from Chicago (Saturday 8pm-12am)

Squeezebox featuring:

"Mollie B" from the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV (Sunday 1pm-5pm)

Daily Admission \$15

Packages Available and include:

Two nights accommodations at Harbor Shores Resort Hotel

Welcome "Goody Bag" from the Lake Geneva Area Visitor and Convention Bureau

Welcome Party with Patrick Henry – Friday 4pm

Dinner: Friday (Fish Fry with The American Legion) and Saturday (Pizza Pie Polka Party!)

Breakfast: Saturday and Sunday

Lake Geneva Polka Fest admission: Friday and Saturday – Frank Napiwocki's Wood Dance Floor!

Plenty of fun things to do both in and out of the hotel!

Sunday Party with Mollie B and Squeezebox admission **NOT** included in Package Price.

Two-Night Adult Package price:

\$149 per person, Double Occupancy

\$120 per person, Triple Occupancy

\$105 per person, Quad Occupancy

\$239 per person, Single Occupancy

Children under 16, only \$25 per person.

Room Only: \$89/night. All rates plus tax.

Only a limited number of room packages will be available.

For reservations call Harbor Shores Reservations direct and ask for the Polka Fest Package at:

(888)746-7371 or go to: www.lakegenevapolkafest.com

Harbor Shores on Lake Geneva

300 Wrigley Drive

Lake Geneva, WI 53147

For general festival information, call Patrick Henry (800)659-6811 www.polkadj.com

Produced by Patrick Henry Presents for Tiger Entertainment and Harbor Shores. Package until booked with deposit and Line-up subject to change without notice.



Kozicki Elected Director of Polish-American Musician's Club

The Polish-American Musician's Club presented its annual dinner, dance and induction of officers on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at the attractive White Eagle Banquet facility in Niles, Illinois. The Club has been in existence since May 1, 1922.

Popular musician and radio DJ Leon Kozicki was administered the oath of office as a recently elected director of the Club. His is a well known national music personality and has been a member of the Club for many years. Kozicki thanked the Club for this honor accorded to him and pledged his efforts to continue to promote the Club. The oath was administered by Gary Matts, President of the Chicago Federation of Musicians, Local 10-208.

Among personalities present were musician and vocalists Chet Kowalkowski, former IPA President Ken Gill as well as Hans Schaden, President of the Czechoslovak Musicians Club and Joe Kainz, President of the German American Musicians Club.

Jimmy Sturr has become synonymous with quality polka broadcasting on through his syndicated radio shows, heard weekly for the past 40 years on 24 stations across the country. The 18-time GRAMMY® winner will significantly extend his reach beyond his fanatically loyal multi-cultural fan base to much better serve American listeners with all styles of polka music favorites, tracks from upcoming polka artists, stories from the road and special guest interviews.

"We will feature all that the audience has come to love over the years," says Sturr, "with a newfound freedom to bring more folks to the party."

Sturr also hosts his own weekly television show on the RFDTV network, seen nationwide via DirecTV, Dish Network, and Family Net.

JIMMY STURRAND HIS ORCHESTRA have over 120 recordings; many of which have been recognized and rewarded with numerous honors.

JIMMY STURR AND HIS ORCHESTRA are on the Top Ten list of the All-time Grammy Award winners, with 18 Awards and more consecutive Grammy nominations than anyone in the history of musical awards. Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI) has awarded JIMMY STURR & HIS ORCHESTRA its most valued award, the "Commendation of Excellence." Joining Sirius/XM is easily one of the most significant in the ever-expanding kingdom of America's "Polka King."

Media Contact:

Randy Alexander Randex Communications 1856.596.1410 | randex@randexpr.com

International Polka Association Statement of Financial Position—Cash Basis as of May 31, 2013

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Total Revenues | \$ 65,022.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 68,439.00 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Change in Net Assets | \$ (3,417.00) |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|

Certificates of Deposit

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Hall of Fame | \$15,014.53 |
| Seaway | \$85,764.90 |
| Prospect Bank | \$88,151.08 |

PHOTOS USED ON PAGES 1, 3 AND 10 WERE USED WITH PERMISSION BY THE FOLLOWING:

T. Ron Jaskinski
Herbert
Debbie Dunaj
Robert Johnson
Angela Biskup
Laura Mateja
Jeff Veverka

Thank you so very much for taking such wonderful pictures and allowing us to share them.

Please visit www.internationalpolka.com, then image, then videos, for videos of the bands at our festival.

IPA Hall of Famer Passed Away - Fred Hudy - Living Category - Inducted 1993



Fred Hudy's introduction to music was at the age of 10 when a representative of the Midwest Accordion School visited SS. Peter and Paul School on Chicago's Southwest side. Practicing daily, he soon joined his first polka band with Richie Gomulka and Louie Jedlowski called "Little Louie and the Lucky Boys." At the age of twelve he and this band took second place on the then famous Morris B. Sachs amateur hour. The band also made an appearance on WGN-TV in Chicago during a broadcast of the "Ron Terry Polka Party."

During his childhood he performed for many affairs, including a parade in Chicago honoring President Eisenhower. After playing the accordion for over ten years, in 1960 he started his own band with musician Bill Gliwa called the Monumentals. At this time he moved to the drums.

Through the years the Monumentals performed hundreds of engagements in Illinois and the band traveled from Minnesota to New London in Connecticut, San Antonio in Texas and to Florida. They also recorded an album "Polka's That Swing" on the Bel-Aire Record label.

Hudy shared the stage with a host of talented musicians, and performed for many benefits. He was also honored by the late Chicago polka promoter Joe Swartz back in 1977 for the Monumental's contribution to the polka music industry.

Since its founding in 1968, he had a lifelong love affair with the International Polka Association (IPA). From bartending at Polonia Grove during the few first IPA conventions to his first office as Director to Membership Chairman his interest continued to grow. He was elected First Vice-President and played a major role in the acquisition of the building that housed the International Polka Association for many years. By 1993 he had served as the President of the IPA for a combined total of 10 years.

Fred Hudy earned a reputation for honesty, integrity, and true love for polkas. He was an accomplished musician, vocalist, composer, promoter and occasional disc jockey. He was supported by his parents Walter and Pauline Hudy, sister Maryann, his wife Karen, and children Cindy, Glenn, Kathy and Lori, along with son-in-law Tim and his two grandchildren, Marty and Joey.

In addition to his polka-related activities, Hudy was an avid bowler and served 15 years as secretary/treasurer of the Southwest Clubs Bowling League in Chicago.

He was inducted into the Polka Music Hall of Fame during the IPA's 25th Anniversary at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel in 1993.

Fred Hudy died on August 31, 2013, at age 71, after a long illness.



(Left) Fred and Karen Hudy at IPA Picnic 2012. Also pictured Diane Bulanda and Judy Krason.

(Right) IPA Hall of Famers Fred Hudy, Jimmy Sturr and Leon Kozicki at Polish Fest June, 2013.

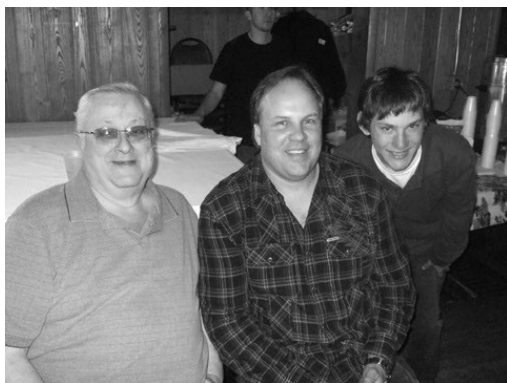
Pictures used with permission
By T. Ron Jasinski Herbert
and Lori Hudy Lewandowski.



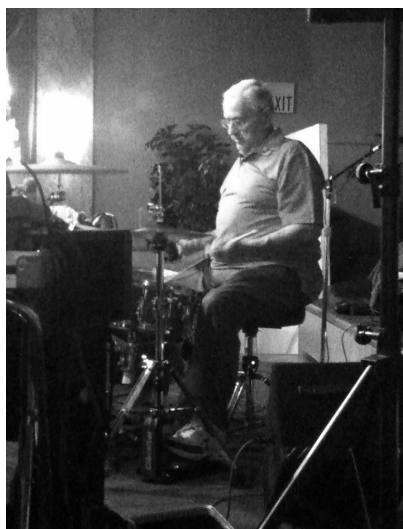
The Passing of Fred Hudy

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of IPA Hall of Famer Fred Hudy. Fred was active in the IPA since 1968. He was a Past President and Officer of the IPA and also maintained the IPA building for several years. He was also known for making some great bologna and onion sandwiches in the old IPA kitchen. Fred was a huge asset to the International Polka Association and will be greatly missed by so many.

Fred was the beloved husband of Karen. Loving father of Cindy (Tim) Brennan, Glenn (Allyson), Kathy and Lori (James) Lewandowski. Fond grandfather of Martin, Joseph, Shea, Dominik, Benjamin, Madeline, Samuel, and the late Jacob. Dearest brother of Maryann (Richard) Kubski. Also survived by brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, many nieces, nephews, and friends.



In Memory of Fred Hudy



Pictures used with permission from Steve Litwin, T. Ron Jasinski Herbert and Lori Hudy Lewandowski.





Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome our newest members:

Val Szymanski, Don Jodlowski, Kenneth Ghidara, Michelle Eron, Deb DuPont, John Kostecki, Randy Koslosky, Scruffy Yopko, Larry Stec, Jeff Mleczo, Brian Urbanczyk, Steve Wejrowski, Brad Turk, Angela Biskup, Adam Biskup, Anna Borowski, Ron Buczek, Gina Mellenthin, Karen Dekoski, Stanley Martin Sr., Peter Pulley, Pat Wagner, Simon Buzalski, Edward Zuraw, Joe Michalski, John Kupka, Larry Malott, Julie Misk, Dawn Rosinski, Kayla Rosinski, Frank Piotrowski, Aaron Slivinski, Mindi Tietz, John Springer, Lorrey Farrell, Dale Kivinen, John Mikos, Cynthia Ann Loring, Stan Pasko, Ken Maykowski, Joseph Ryndak, Joseph Pus, Bernadine Jankowski, Dan Klik, Mike Maduzia, Annie Couch, Martin Olshanski, Marlene Rohal, Tim Rohal, Wojtek Kukielka, Irene Czajka, Marcia Muscato, Blender Bob Wolinski, Michelle Bojczuk, Andy Bojczuk, Dave Grzanka, Floyd Grocholski, Veronica Grocholski, Tammy Arnes, David Nowatzki, Robert Wojnowski, Richard Wojcik, Brian Pordash, Jeanne Henderson, Tom Wanderlich, Angela Piasecki, David Strok and Chet Sedke.

LIFETIME MEMBER: Pete Jend

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 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ENVELOPES BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

ON THE ROAD AGAIN BY CHERYL FURMANIAK

Traveled to Ohio this time to the 45th IPA convention which was held at the Embassy Suites in Independence, Ohio. What a wonderful time for all of our family, The Furmaniak's and the Krawisz's. My husband John was inducted into the Hall of Fame, the song he co-wrote and recorded with New Phaze was selected as song of the year and Son-in-Law John, was awarded along with the IPA tribute band for Album of the year for the International Polka Association.

The Convention began for us on Wednesday. We packed up the bus and hit the road. Christy, John, Sydney, Katie, Morgan, Hayley and Noni, that's me! started our journey. We were all excited to go and be a part of this wonderful celebration for PaPa, John "Foo" and to see KJ(John Krawisz) playing with the Tribute Band and his band Freeze Dried. The other great bands they followed with family friend, Tom Kowalski who was unable to attend due to health issues. Our Family is proud of them and I am extremely proud of my Daughter Christy for all the hard work she does for everyone and the IPA also. She was able to introduce her Father at the awards ceremony and did a wonderful job of making people laugh and cry. I also was so happy that ALL of our family was able to attend and experience their heritage. My Sons even remembered how to dance which words cannot express my happiness as they now are teaching my Grandchildren to dance. I started and it was nice seeing them pass this tradition to be able to Polka Dance with the my Grandchildren. Also those who made the trip from our family were Johns Mom- LaVerne Furmaniak, his Aunt- Helen Orawiec, Sister- Paulette Kennedy and Brother - Paul Furmaniak who all had asked, when is the next convention? To the Bulanda, Maduzia, Blazonczyk, and New Phaze Families thanks for the support. To Al Pietkowski and his wife who came to the Ceremony, thanks for being there, Bob and Anna who took the trip just for the Ceremony also- a special thank you too.

You missed the first Polka Dot party and karaoke fun.. Too bad Johnny Jr wasn't there yet... Surprising to see so many people who can sing so great. It was a fun afternoon and the kids really liked it. Remember everyone, this is for people of all ages, young and old. Also refreshing to see so many young adults at the dances and they can dance really well. Ah, brings back memories when I went to the convention in Milwaukee over 30 years ago. I really could dance like that at one time. Even barefooted!!!! KJ played a lot, not only with the IPA tribute band but with Freeze Dried, his band, which did a great job.

Nice to see Hank from Polka Family, and Wally of Polka Country Musicians. A wonderful Slovenian band on Thursday entertained those who came early to the convention. I didn't see too many bands as I was working with Christy, but it was wonderful. Did some catching up with friends-Fran and Bonnie who welcomed us to Ohio. And to so many people that I just know their faces and able to just give a hi too. Got to listen to the live Polka Jammer with Joni and Bill, what a great pair of entertainers.

President Dave and all the Officers did a outstanding job as always. Providing entertainment for everybody and working their tails off. Not easy to go to sleep at 3am and Coordinate functions starting at 10 am. That is for those who were able to get to sleep by 3 am!

As I mentioned last year, you missed it!!!! It is unfortunate that some politics shows its face even in this venue. This one doesn't like that one so I'm not going to support the organization because of, whatever. Just a clue people, you're hurting the people who work so hard to keep organizations going, the person or persons you're intending to hurt probably do not give two cents..

Hope that you can attend next year and remember it is for THE LOVE OF THE MUSIC...

In the Mail...

Mr. Ulczycki,

I thank you for the letter dated May 12, 2013 informing me of the celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the IPA. Thank you for the invitation to attend the Polka Festival, however, at this time, I am not able to attend. Good Luck on your anniversary and may you celebrate many more happy polka days.

Warm Regards, Happy Louie

Dear IPA,

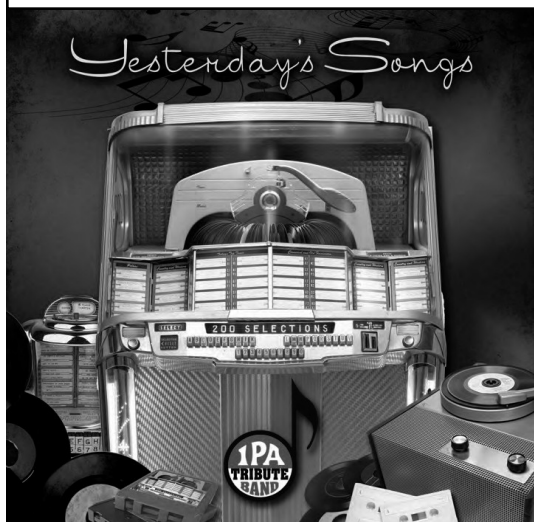
Thank you for making August 3, 2013, One of the Greatest Days for me and my family. It was a very special day and I will remember it for the rest of my life. My family had a great time. PS. Thank you to Christy and Ricky for the Obama Tribute!

Again, Thank you John "Foo" Furmaniak

Dear David,

My sincere thanks to the International Polka Association for the "Certificate of Appreciation" recognizing our 30th Anniversary of the Concertina Jam at the Polka Fireworks Festival, Seven Springs, Pennsylvania. My wife, Adele, was the originator of the idea for the Concertina Jam, which began as a party in our hotel room at Seven Springs. Over the past 30 years, almost 300 different musicians have taken part in this Jam Session. Being recognized by the IPA is a true honor for me.

Thank you! Sincerely, Stephen Litwin, Polka Editor/Associate Editor, Polish American Journal Newspaper



To purchase a copy of this CD, please send a check or money order made payable to the IPA, for \$18.00 (\$15.00 plus \$3.00 postage and handling). Mail it to: International Polka Association, 4608 S. Archer Avenue, Chicago, IL 60632.

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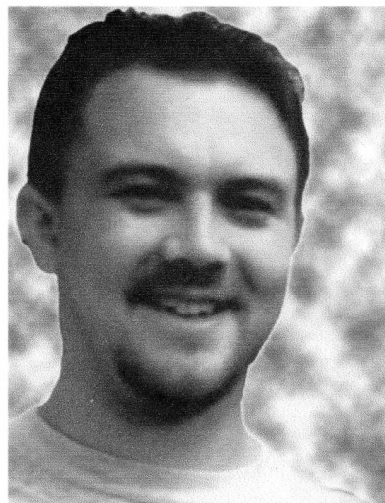
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Freddy K Jr. played trumpet in his father's band, **The Freddy K Band**, when he died in an automobile accident in July of 1997. Music, especially Polka Music, was Fred's life and passion. His personality, sense of humor and love of Polka Music affected 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.

The **Freddy K Jr. Music Scholarship Committee** is now accepting requests for applications for the 2014 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
50 Totten Drive
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

WINNERS OF \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ~ STO LAT - IPA MEMBERS!

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September 3 – David Strok
September 4 – Ken Pienta; Gerald Ladosky
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September 6 – Susan Jurevis
September 7 – John Popielasz; Jeanne Henderson;
September 8 – Daniel Nawrot; Brad Turk
September 9 – Alvina Kopaniasz; John Mikos;
September 11 – John Yakupkovic; Barbara Vinez; Lori Urbanczyk; Cindy Zelasko; Gilbert Skudlarczyk; Sharon Creman
September 12 – Bernie Gorak III, Richard Berkowicz; Rich “Sudzy” Cerajewski; Julie Gebhardt
September 13 – Ania Piwowarczyk; David Bonczkiewicz
September 14 – Michaeline Drust; Butchie Jasiewicz ; Eugene Thoms; Rosemarie Ghidara; Robert Cynor, Jr.
September 15 – Rob Piatkowski; Deb DePont
September 16 – Dave Gajda; Lenny Gomulka,
September 17 – John Borkowski; Geri Fornek
September 18 – Edward Jakubowski; Kenneth Larson; Danny Mateja; Cecilia Nieto; Stanley Mikrut
September 21 – Steve Drzewicki; Val Szymanski
September 22 – John Paczkowski, Jr., Shirley Sains
September 23 – Peter Pulley;
September 24 – Louis Aidinovich; Eddie Sienkowski;
September 25 – Kevin Kwiatkowski; Joseph Ryndak;
September 26 – Ed Haynack; Dan Czerniak; Blender Bob Wolinski
September 29 – Jane Gelineau; Bev Kizior; Dolores Lybik; Therese Zmuda; Gary Hvdik
September 30 – Shaky; Walter Dragon

OCTOBER

October 1 – Frank Gentile, Jr; Eleanore Lewandowski; Deb Mancl
October 2 – Jim Kilian; Annette Mikrut
October 4 – Karen Hudy; Kayla Rosinski;
October 5 – Dr. Robert Dutka; Bruno Mikos;
October 6 – Gary Brueggen; John Gembka; Michael Krupa
October 7 – Lindsey Mateja
October 8 – Jeannette Matejka;
October 9 – Craig Ebel; George Mergen; Barb Benkowski; Dave Morris
October 10 – Trudy Patek;
October 11 – Marie Jagiella; James Krzeszewski
October 12 – Therese Bruzdziński
October 13 – Jacob Mikrut
October 14 – Gene Swick
October 15 – Michael Ziemski; Alan Smaka
October 16 – Dawn Mikrut Bartolini;
October 17 – Fran Fierst; Christy Krawisz
October 19 – Tish Blazonczyk; Ed Tylka; Floyd Grocholski
October 20 – Amy Affelt; Suzanne Mikos; John Punola
October 22 – Bernice Baniewicz;
October 23 – Patricia Walker; David Wisniewski; Arnold Checkalski
October 25 – Denise Finan; Henry Lewandowski; Randy Koslosky
October 27 – Linda Lee Brown; Helen Mischczynsyn;
October 28 – Victor Merinsky
October 29 – David Walter; Dianne Canning
October 30 – Howard Van Orden; Drew Brzezinski



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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See page 4 for more information

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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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