



IPA Newsletter

September - October, 2014

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc. ®

A Letter From The President...

Greetings Polka Fans,

The 2014 IPA Festival is now history. What a fantastic weekend it was. From the first note on Friday at the Kickoff Party, to the final song on Sunday, it was a weekend to be remembered. Over 1400 polka fans packed the Embassy Suites for a weekend of great music, fun, and friendship.

Thank you to all of the IPA officers and directors for your dedication and hard work.

Congratulations to the Hall of Fame Class of 2014: Kevin Adams, Eddie Biegaj, Alfred Vrazel, and the family of Cliff Hermel, as well the award winners: Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, Mollie Busta-Lange, Dennis Polisky and Maestro's Men. We thank you all for the great music and memories you all have provided throughout the years.

Thanks to all of the musicians who performed at the Welcome Party and the Jam Party at the Holiday Inn: Dan Mateja, Jake Mikrut, John Krawisz, John Zelasko, Brian Urbanczyk, Pete Dardzinski, Mike Maduzia, Nick Koryluk, Tommy Wanderlich, Robbie Piatkowski and Whitey Ryniec. Your talents and time helped enhance the party atmosphere of the weekend.

Thank you to Fr. Phil and Fr. Bob, IPA Chaplains, for the beautiful Mass on Sunday, and to Dennis Motyka for the use of his Polka Mass CD.

Thank you to Barb Haselow and the USPA and to Jill Krzeszewski and the CPA for your help and support. When we all work together, great things can and will happen.

Thank you to all of the DJs and IJs for your help promoting this and all polka events all over the country.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make things run so smoothly.

We could not do it without you.

I would like to especially thank each and every one of the great polka fans and supporters for your attendance and support of polka music and the IPA. We hope to see you all at the 47th Annual IPA Festival September 4 – 6, 2015 at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, New York.

Polkatively Yours,
Rick Rzeszutko

IPA General Member Meeting:

Sunday, September 21, 2014

Stardust Banquets—Chicago

FREE food and music!

See inside for more information.

IPA Newsletter

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

Editor:

Debbie Dunaj - dunajda07@yahoo.com

Contributors:

Les Kapuscinski, Dennis Mikolajewski, Laura Mateja

Contact us:

International Polka Association, Inc.®
PO Box 57758
Chicago, IL 60657
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:

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

****NEW****

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

2014-2015 IPA Officers and Directors**Officers:**

President: Rick Rzeszutko (IL)
1st Vice President: Christy Krawisz (IL)
2nd Vice President: Fred Kendzierski (NJ)
Treasurer: Linda Niewierowski (IL)
Financial Secretary: John Krawisz (IL)
Secretary: 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)
Mike Maduzia (IL)
Dan Mateja (IL)
Mike Matousek (MD)
Dennis Mikolajewski (IL)
Keith Pietranczyk (IL)
Bonnie Ryniec (IL)
Ed Szela (MA)
Lori Urbanczyk (NY)
John Zelasko (MI)

Would you like your newsletter emailed to you?

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

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

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

**IPA RADIO SHOW**

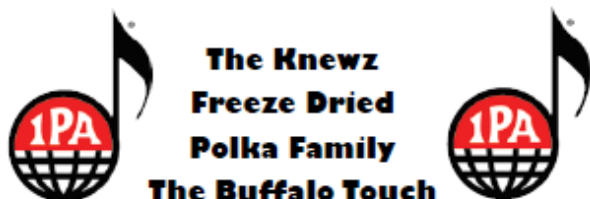
Don't forget to listen to the IPA Radio Show on Sundays, 11:00 a.m.—12 noon Central Time on WPNA (1490 AM) in Chicago or via the internet at www.wpna1490am.com. Each show features IPA officers and directors including Rick Rzeszutko, Linda Niewierowski, Laura Mateja, Mike Maduzia, Christy Krawisz, John Krawisz, T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert, Dennis Mikolajewski, Keith Pietranczyk, Jerry Wantroba, and Dan Mateja.

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

Visit www.polkajammernetwork.org

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

47th Annual 2015 Festival & Convention Sept. 4-6, 2015



**The Knewz
Freeze Dried
Polka Family
The Buffalo Touch
IPA Tribute Band
Polka Country Musicians
Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze
Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push
Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men**

Millennium Hotel – Buffalo, NY

IPA Room Rates:
Tower Rooms \$99/Night
Courtyard Rooms \$109/Night
Call 716-681-2400 for reservations

More info:
www.ipapolkas.com



Join the IPA and USPA for a Joint Polka Celebration

Featuring

Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push

Saturday ~ October 18, 2014

Holiday Inn ~ 15471 Royalton Road, Strongsville, Ohio

Music from 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

Donation: \$13.00 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.

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

Join Marge Machay and Family
Celebrate

Polonia's

50th
1964
2014
ANNIVERSARY

Polonia Banquets - Polonia Grove
4604 S. Archer Ave., Chicago, IL 60632

Saturday, November 1, 2014

Music by
**Lenny Gomulka and
Chicago Push**
Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Music 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 2, 2014

Music by 2 Bands
**The Music Company
and
Tony Blazonczyk's
New Phaze**
Doors Open at 12:30 p.m.
Music 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Advance Tickets \$13.00 At the Door \$15.00
2 Day Pass \$25.00

Price includes a plate of Polonia's Polish Specialties

Tables Reservations for Groups of 10 paid tickets

Tickets Available at
Polonia (773) 523-7980 Bel-Aire (708) 594-5182
www.poloniabanquethall.com

Polka Party

at Englewood Elks Lodge
401 N. Indiana Avenue, Englewood, FL
Elks Lodge #: 941-474-1404

Saturday, February 7, 2015

5:00 pm to 9:00 p.m.

E.F.O. - Eddie Forman Orchestra
\$16.00 per ticket advanced - \$18.00 at door
Cash or Money Order

Doors and Kitchen Open at 4:30 p.m. - Food Available

IPA General Member Meeting

Sunday - September 21, 2014 at Stardust Banquets,
5688 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL
Doors Open at 12:30 pm, Meeting at 1 PM Sharp

Free Food and Admission to All Current IPA Members

Dance from 2-6 pm by Polka Generations

Non-Members Admission \$18.00 (including food)

Admission if you join IPA that day \$15.00

IPA Festival & Convention

Well, another festival is in the books, and it has been one of our most attended festivals in many, many years. Total attendance for the weekend amassed 1,471 people. The festival started on Friday afternoon, August 29 with the Kickoff Party. Attendees wore their favorite football team apparel and enjoyed music provided by Rick Rzeszutko, Danny Mateja, Jake Mikrut, Johnny Krawisz, Brian Urbanczyk, and John Zelasko. Thank you, gentlemen, for donating your time and talents. It took some warming up, but finally a few brave souls got onstage to sing a few tunes along with the band. A live broadcast was also held over the Polka Jammer Network so those travelling to the festival or those who could not attend could also tune in and enjoy the festivities.

Friday evening set the tone for a fantastic weekend. Music was provided by The Knewz and John Góra and Górale. Both bands provided solid music and entertainment until the early hours of the morning.

Saturday morning brought the IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet, and it was very well-attended with over 230 individuals showing their support for the Hall of Fame inductees and the IPA award winners. In addition to the banquet, a jam session was held at the overflow hotel, Holiday Inn, to give attendees something to do during and after the banquet. Music was provided by Free Beer. Great band name, gentlemen, as some attendees were expecting free beer when they arrived at the lounge. Special thanks to Mike Maduzia, Tommy Wanderlich, Robbie Piatkowski, Brian Urbanczyk, Nick Koryluk, and Pete Dardzinski for donating their time and providing some high-quality entertainment. Over 100 people attended the jam session at the Impulse Lounge, and what a very cool lounge it was.

Music began in the hall at 4:00 Saturday afternoon with IPA Tribute Band, The Boys, and Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push providing music for the evening. The IPA Tribute Band had several Hall of Famers come up to perform with them, including newest inductees, Alfred Vrazel and Eddie Biegaj. The Boys provided the musical talents we all know and love, and Chicago Push did not disappoint, either. If you ask anyone who attended the festival Saturday evening, most will tell you one of the highlights was the 35+ trumpeters performing in honor of newest IPA Hall of Famer, Kevin Adams, backed by the Chicago Push. Trumpeters serenaded Kevin and the crowd with "Ukrainia Polka," followed by a rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner" that was enough to give tears and goosebumps. (Videos and pictures can be found on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ipapolkas)

Sunday concluded the three-day event, and the momentum of the festival kept running at an all-time high. Polka Mass began the morning, followed by the annual election of officers and convention meeting. Music began in the hall in the early afternoon with Full Circle, who has to be one of the most solid bands in the industry. Newcomers to the IPA Festival, The Project knocked the socks of many people and received an enormous, ear-piercing ovation at the end of their final set, and Polka Country Musicians provided the energy that many have come to know and expect.

We are extremely excited, humbled, and thankful to everyone for their support of the IPA. We could not have done this without you, and we are excited to hear that many people have already called to reserve their rooms to spend Labor Day weekend with us again, next year in Buffalo, NY.

We would also like to extend get well wishes to Leon Kozicki, Hall of Fame Chairman, who was unable to attend our 46th Annual Festival and Convention due to health issues. The IPA officers and directors wish Leon the best of health and a speedy recovery.

Special thanks to Les Kapuscinski for use of his fantastic photographs on the next page. You truly take some amazing snapshots that capture the moment. And again, thank you, thank you, thank you, everyone...we could not have done this without you, and we hope to see you in Buffalo in 2015!

~ Debbie Dunaj

Check out pictures and video on both our website, www.ipapolkas.com as well as our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ipapolkas.

Favorite IPA Memories

"I love watching past- and newly-elected Hall of Fame winners perform at the festival. It's wonderful to be in the crowd and enjoy them as featured guest performers. I get chills! The Trumpet Tribute to Kevin Adams was so beautiful. It had a sense of "brotherhood" and included kids of all ages. And on a funny note--I remember Jake Mikrut getting 'taped' to the chair last year so we could keep him at his security post!"
~ Laura Mateja

"I would say my favorite non-performing memory was the first convention that I went to on my own. It was 1988 at the old Ramada O'Hare with seven friends piled into one room. The line-up was amazing that year with The Dynatones, The Sounds, EBV, Chicago Push, The Stylestix, Chi-Town Express, and many more. I just remembering being in awe of the amount of people, the star-studded lineup, and getting my first taste of mingling with the industries "heavy-hitters" on a personal level. Very big deal for me at the time." ~ Mike Maduzia

"Two things that really stuck out for me were: A) the intensity of cheering and applause from the crowd at the end of The Project's last set. I've been attending dances, festivals etc. for a long time and I can honestly say, I've not heard a response like that in many years! B) how many people expressed sincere gratitude towards the IPA Board for such a great festival and how they feel we're moving in the right direction. Those two things in my mind, let me know the IPA is headed down the right path!" ~ Keith Pietranczyk

Pictures from 46th Annual IPA Festival & Convention

Photo Credit: Les Kapuscinski



For more pictures and videos, visit www.ipapolkas.com and www.facebook.com/ipapolkas

2014-2015 IPA Officers & Directors

The IPA annual election of officers was held during the convention on Sunday, August 31. Listed to the right is the board for the 2014-2015 year.

Acting President Rick Rzeszutko was elected President, acting 1st Vice President Christy Krawisz was elected to her position, and John Krawisz was elected as Financial Secretary, which was vacant as a result of the appointment of Christy Krawisz as acting 1st Vice President.

Officers:		Directors:
President:	Rick Rzeszutko* (IL)	Debbie Dunaj (WI)
1st Vice President:	Christy Krawisz* (IL)	Ed Guca (Canada)
2nd Vice President:	Fred Kendzierski (NJ)	T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert (IL)
Treasurer:	Linda Niewierowski (IL)	Mike Maduzia* (IL)
Financial Secretary:	John Krawisz* (IL)	Dan Mateja (IL)
Secretary:	Laura Mateja (IL)	Mike Matousek (MD)
Advisor:	Leon Kozicki (IL)	Dennis Mikolajewski (IL)
Sergeant-At-Arms:	Peter Danielczuk (CT)	Keith Pietranczyk (IL)
Youth Advisor:	Jake Mikrut (IL)	Bonnie Ryniec* (IL)
Special Advisor:	Jerry Wantroba (IL)	Ed Szela (MA)
		Lori Urbanczyk (NY)
		John Zelasko* (MI)

We welcome Mike Maduzia, Bonnie Ryniec, and John Zelasko as newly elected IPA directors, and we thank outgoing directors Pat Maduzia and Joni Zychowski Minehart for their dedication and service.

New IPA Website!



Have you visited our new website? Check out www.ipapolkas.com! This new website contains information about the IPA and the Polka Music Hall of Fame. It contains links to photo galleries and information on IPA polka shows. Bands and promoters can upload and promote their upcoming events, on the "Polka Events" page, and friends and IPA members can renew their memberships online, and visit the "IPA Store" page to purchase their favorite items! Special thanks to Dennis Mikolajewski and Ed "Weasel" Wolinski for launching the website and to Michelle Eron for her graphic design talents.

IPA Radio Shows

Don't forget! The IPA broadcasts two weekly polka shows, and both are available to listen to online. Below is the tentative schedule of IPA directors and officers hosting the shows:

Polka Jammer IJs

Saturdays 4:00-5:00 pm, Central Time
www.polkajammernetwork.org

September 20: Joni Minehart
 September 27: Rick Rzeszutko, Pat Maduzia, and Mike Maduzia
 October 4: Rick Rzeszutko, Dan & Laura Mateja, and Dennis Mikolajewski
 October 11: Peter Danielczuk
 October 18: Ed Guca
 October 25: Keith Pietranczyk
 November 1: Freddy Kendzierski

WPNA Radio Shows DJ's

Sundays, 11:00-12 noon Central Time
 1490 AM Chicago or online at
www.wpna1490am.com

September 14 John & Christy Krawisz
 September 21 Keith Pietranczyk
 September 28 Keith Pietranczyk
 October 5 Rick Rzeszutko, Dan & Laura Mateja, and Dennis Mikolajewski
 October 12 Rick Rzeszutko, Dan & Laura Mateja, and Dennis Mikolajewski
 October 19 Rick Rzeszutko
 October 26 Rick Rzeszutko
 November 2, Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba or Rick Rzeszutko
 November 9 Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba or Rick Rzeszutko
 November 16 John & Christy Krawisz

Financials

Statement of Activities - Cash Basis Year Ending May 31, 2014

Total Revenue:	\$70,852.00
Total Expenses:	\$78,479.00
Change in Net Assets:	(\$7,627.00)

IPA Picnic 8/16/14

Total Income:	\$1,404.52
Total Disbursements:	\$1,081.63
Net Profit:	\$322.89

IPA Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following raffle winners, drawn at the IPA Festival & Convention:

1st prize—\$300:	Bonnie Krebsbach
2nd prize—\$150:	Linda Swiderski
3rd prize—\$100:	Bonnie Krebsbach
4th prize—\$50:	Candy Bonnin

Donations

Thank you to the following individuals for their monetary donations to the IPA:

Earnie Boyd
 Darryl Troczynski
 Bud Beyer
 Frank Stoffa

Former IPA President Ken Gill Passes

Former IPA President, Ken Gill, passed away June 29, 2014, at age 70.

He was the beloved husband of the late Marlene Gill (nee Wilczynski), devoted son of the late Casimir and the late Sylvia (nee Rieb), cherished brother-in-law to Joseph and Denice (nee Kwak) Wilson and dear cousin to many. Ken served the Chicago Society in several capacities over the years as Recording Secretary, Director of Finance, St. Joseph, Chairman of Scholarship Committee and volunteer for Chicago Society events such as the Annual Golf Outing and Texas Hold'em events.

Ken and his wife Marlene enjoyed many Chicago Society social events, including the Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, Śledź, and Inaugural Ball.

Brother Ken was a fraternal member of the Polish National Alliance and Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. He was an active member of many Polish organizations and served as director of the Polish Museum of America, elected positions in the Polish American Congress-Illinois Division, the International Polka Association and the Polish American Librarians Association. He was a retired Chicago elementary school teacher. (Reprinted from the Chicago Society PNA newsletter.)



Welcome New Members!

The IPA is a proud sponsor of several established polka festivals around the country. At these festivals, the IPA officers and directors run membership drives where fans can join the IPA or renew their existing membership. The outcome is as follows: Ocean Beach Polka Days: 10 new members, 7-Springs Polka Fireworks: 14 new members, Pulaski Polka Days: 16 new members, Frankenmuth Summer Music Fest: 11 new members, 14 renewals, and the IPA Festival: 26 new members, 2 lifetime, and 40 renewals. This brings us to a grand total of 79 new members and 54 renewals within a 3-month period! Thanks to all of you for your support of the IPA, and welcome to all the new members below!

Kenny Konopka

Candy Bonnin

Debbie Jones

Lois Faber

Keith Werwas

Chuck Troiani

Ed Vatauk

Margaret Zotkiewicz Dramczyk

Richard Trentacoste

Gloria Bonnin

Angela Campbell

Jason Gadowski

Joe Scharf

David Raccis

Curt Traska

Tom Piotrowski

Kristopher Piotrowski

Alex Quinnell

Joe Bosch

Adam Hembel

Chester Sterczek

JoAnn Mancl

Linda Skarr

Mack Martin

Paul Pietrucha

Donna Piatkowski

Mikah Maduzia

Jill Styczynski

Andrew Kuczmarski

Jay Skiba

Erik Bogdon

Jane Perkin

Erv Wisniewski

Michael Fudalla

Barbara Fudalla

Kim Hedrich

Chris Hedrich

Stan Baryla

Patricia Huch

Carol Lazarek

Adam Dziesinski

Peter Bezler

Nancy Szmyd

Richard Zebrowski

Peter Sivda

Jane Sivda

Ashley Styczynski

Peggy Engerson

Phyllis Videtich

John Nalevanko

Pam Drust

Jim Brado

Marie Brado

Donna Cotrupe

George Rosinski

Marcia Kitrys

Roberta Matuszko

Ted Matuszko

Justin Binkiewicz

Willie Bohuslav

Roger Malinowski

Sue Biskup

Troy Gawlak

Tim Quinnell

Martin Barty

Maryrose Nesbitt

Sylvia Skowronek

Konrad Minehart

Paulina Minehart

Waldemar Rudziecki

(Resides in Poland)

Kevin Altenburg

Mark Komar

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS:

Joe Zalewski

Ray Kanoza

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

IPA Picnic

The IPA picnic was held at the Hammond Mohawks Picnic Grove in Hammond, Indiana on Saturday, August 16. Music was provided by Bill Gula Presents, The Chicago Image. About 75 polka lovers attended the event, including visitors from Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio. Chef Keith Pietranczyk once again grilled up some mouth-watering burgers, and President Rick even partook in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. Thank you to everyone who attended!



Getting to Know Your IPA Board Members



Mike Maduzia, Director - Illinois

Mike Maduzia is the son of Patricia and Walter Maduzia, sibling of Michelle and David Maduzia, and the father of Mikayla Maduzia. Michael was born into the Chicago Polish tradition of music. With his father, as well as other accomplished musician family members such as Dennis Krason and Greg Nowak, it was inevitable that he, too, would follow in the legacy. After playing cornet in 7th and 8th grade, Mike decided that drums might be a more disruptive instrument for the neighborhood. His musical career began with The Goodtimes in 1987 and since has played with The EZ-Tones, The South Side Sounds, Chicago's Milwaukee Avenue, Freeze Dried, The Music Company, The Bratwurst Brothers, and finally The Project.

Mike's main polka musical influences have been The Tones, The Dynasticks, The Sounds, The Versatones, Chicago Push, and The Brass Connection. His favorite drummers are Roger Malinowski, Tony Kempinski, Robin Pegg, Danny and Timmy Okrzeszik, AJ Lankarge, Jerry Tokarz, and...oh yeah....Roger Malinowski.

Other favorites are scotch, beer, burritos, nature walks, smelling candles, fantasy football, the White Sox, the Blackhawks, Rick Rzezsutko's oddball comments, the John Zelasko bellow shake (even if it accompanies making eggs in the morning), and most of all...being around family and friends as much as humanly possible.

With being elected an IPA director, Mike's philosophy is going to be "We gotta play 'em one day at a time. I'm just happy to be here and I hope I can help the team. I just want to give it my best shot, and the good Lord willing, things will work out."



Bonnie Ryniec, Director - Illinois

Meet Bonnie (Piet) Ryniec, an IPA IL director "newbie." Bonnie is not new to polkas, having grown up in it. Her parents Stan & Ann Piet, were avid polka supporters & dancers who followed the Ampol-Aires, Marion Lush & Eddie B. She truly appreciates having been around to experience the heyday of polka popularity in Chicago, fondly remembering these same Chicago bands. A few of her favorite long ago polka memories include; IPA Conventions at the Red Carpet Inn in Milwaukee, Happy Louie at "the Grove" and traveling with the Ampol-Aires to a big new festival in PA, called "Seven Springs." Another wonderful memory from 32 years ago is marrying polka musician Whitey Ryniec and having a big fat POLKA wedding. They blissfully reside in Palos Hills, IL, a suburb of Chicago.

Bonnie has served on the United Polka Association Chicago Chapter Board of Directors and was the recipient (along with her husband Whitey) of a UPA Appreciation Award for their efforts in writing, directing and co-producing 4 musical reviews as fundraisers for the organization. She was the "B" in B.A.D. Productions and promoted polka music by hosting dances, including the "White Eagle Reunion," a "Moonlite Polka Picnic," and a "Boo Ball" Halloween Dance. Presently she is a member of the IPA, the USPA and Let's Polka USA.

There is another passion in Bonnie's life, theatre. She has been doing community theatre both onstage and backstage for the past 20+ years and is very involved with the Beverly Theatre Guild, a Chicago Southside community theatre group. She is currently on the BTG Board of Directors and is the recipient of their Distinguished Service Award in 2008 and the Guild's Presidents Award in 2013.

Bonnie recently retired from full-time employment with a nationwide insurance company. She is currently doing freelance work as a Standardized Patient for 3 Chicago area medical universities. She enjoys the flexibility of the schedule and finds working with the young medical students to be both rewarding and interesting.

Her feelings are that the internet and social media have given polkas a big boost and polka music is in an up-swing much in part to today's technology. Bonnie is honored to be a part of this exciting IPA board and looks forward to working to help promote the music she loves. Her advice, "Turn an ordinary day into an extraordinary day; go to a polka dance." =^.^=

Joe Jozwiak Achievement Award

Many years ago, the late Joseph Jozwiak, a director of the IPA, made a suggestion that an award be bestowed upon an individual or group of individuals who have made a significant contribution or endeavor to enhance the promotion of polka music. After much discussion, the IPA voted to honor those worthy individuals with the establishment of the Special Achievement Award. To pay tribute to Joe Jozwiak, following his passing, this award was renamed the Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award.

Steve Litwin, previously announced as this year's recipient of this year's Joe Jozwiak Award, was presented with his award at the 2014 Polka Fireworks Festival, held at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort, during his infamous Concertina Jam Session. A full article is published in the IPA News section of www.ipapolkas.com.



Seven Springs Teen Mixer

The IPA was proud to be a part of the 2nd Annual Teen Mixer on Friday, July 4, 2014, at Polka Fireworks at the beautiful Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, PA. Created by Randy Koslosky and his family, this gathering brings together teens and tweens of all ages and sets a platform for kids to meet each other. Along with Tish and Kathy Blazonczyk, IPA officers and directors were there to assist with contests and games. The IPA was proud to sponsor this gathering by providing snacks, drinks, pizza, and prizes. This event ended with the most favorite part—a scavenger hunt of polka-related items around the resort, which is always a big hit with the kids! Thank you to all who attended!



Did You Know?

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

Have you moved? Have you updated your email address? Would you like your birthday listed in the newsletter? Would you like your newsletter emailed to you?

Please email your updated information to Christy Krawisz: christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net

In Memoriam

The IPA extends their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of IPA member Minnie Florio.



"Like" us on Facebook!
For all the latest news and information, visit:
[facebook.com/ipapolkas](https://www.facebook.com/ipapolkas)

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

Note of Thanks...

Dear Officers and Directors,

We would like to thank you and also the members of the International Polka Association for honoring us with the wonderful tribute in March of 2013 at the Polish American Citizen's Club in Ludlow, MA.

We thank many of our supporters for their years of loyal support and also the musicians who donated their time for this event. Most of all, a big thank you to Dennis Polisky and his Maestro's Men's Polka Band and Wally Dombrowski of the Polka Country Musicians for entertaining the polka fans with their excellent music and Wally's wonderful vocals.

God Bless You All! We've had an awesome career.

Thank you for the award presented to us by Mr. Fred K (Kendzierski). Many thanks to Mr. Ed Szela and the Polish American Citizen's Club for hosting our tribute.

Another thank you is going out to our wonderful family, daughters, sons, daughters-in-law, son-in-law, 8 grandchildren, and granddaughters Gabby and Eva for their participation at the tribute singing and playing her own composition of the Red Bandana for her Babciu and Dziadziu. As you know, the tribute dance was a sellout and we thank everyone for being there. We were deeply moved and extremely grateful when notified of this tribute. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Dziękujemy z całego serca. Sto lat!

Love and Peace,

Happy Louie & Julcia

PS - Sorry this thank you note is late!

IPA Calendar of Events

September 21: IPA General Member Meeting
and Dance
Stardust Banquets, Chicago

October 18: IPA/USPA Joint Dance
Holiday Inn—Strongsville, Ohio

Please Remember Us In Your Will Or Trust

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



IPA Birthdays



September

- 1: Gil Ziemski
- 2: Allen Bassel; Mike Evan; Lorraine Ciesla; John Mikrut
- 3: David Strok; Joe Scharf
- 4: Ken Pienta; Gerald Ladosky
- 5: John Krawisz; Emigene Lahucik; Stephanie McCracken; Eddie Skinger; Emigene Lahucik
- 6: Susan Jurevis; Jim Brado
- 7: Jeanne Henderson; Joe Kalinowski
- 8: Daniel Nawrot; Brad Turk
- 9: Alvina Kopaniasz; John Mikos
- 11: Lori Urbanczyk; Gilbert Skudlarczyk
Cindy Zelasko; Sharon Creman; Barbara Vinez; Justin Binkiewicz
- 12: Bernie Gorak III, Richard Berkowicz; Rich "Sudzy" Cerajewski; Julie Gebhardt; Ronald Gregg
- 13: Ania Piwowarczyk; David Bonczkiewicz
- 14: Butchie Jasiewicz ; Eugene Thoms; Rosemarie Ghidara; Robert Cynor, Jr.
- 15: Rob Piatkowski; Deb DePont; Joe Bosch
- 16: Dave Gajda; Lenny Gomulka
- 17: John Borkowski; Geri Fornek
- 18: Edward Jakubowski; Kenneth Larson; Dan Mateja; Cecilia Nieto; Stanley Mikrut; Mikah Maduzia
- 19: Stanley Szczsponik; Paul Pietrucha
- 20: Judy Rosinski
- 21: Val Szymanski
- 22: John Paczkowski, Jr., Shirley Sains
- 23: Peter Pulley; Ted Kiewicz
- 24: Louis Aidinovich; Eddie Sienkowski; Donna Cotrupe
- 25: Kevin Kwiatkowski; Joseph Ryndak
- 26: Ed Haynack; Dan Czerniak; Blender Bob Wolinski
- 27: Mike Nowakowski
- 29: Bev Kizior; Dolores Lybik; Gary Hvdik; Willie Bohuslav
- 30: Walter Dragon

October

- 1: Frank Gentile, Jr; Eleanore Lewandowski; Deb Mancl
- 2: Jim Kilian; Annette Mikrut
- 4: Karen Hudy; Kayla Rosinski; Ray (Melvin) Rzeszutko
- 5: Dr. Robert Dutka; Bruno Mikos;
- 6: Gary Brueggen; John Gembka; Michael Krupa
- 7: Lindsey Mateja; Dave Raccis
- 8: Jeannette Matejka
- 9: Craig Ebel; George Mergen; Dave Morris; Keith Stras; Barb Benkowski
- 10: Trudy Patek
- 11: Marie Jagiella; James Krzeszewski
- 12: Therese Bruzdinski
- 13: Jake Mikrut
- 14: Gene Swick
- 15: Michael Ziemski; Alan Smaka
- 16: Dawn Mikrut Bartolini; Andrew Makarewicz
- 17: Fran Fierst; Christy Krawisz
- 19: Tish Blazonczyk; Ed Tylka; Floyd Grocholski; Carolyn Machelski
- 20: John Punola
- 22: Bernice Baniewicz; Paulina Minehart
- 23: Patricia Walker; Arnold Checkalski; Chris Hedrich
- 25: Denise Finan; Henry Lewandowski; Randy Koslosky
- 27: Linda Lee Brown; Helen Mischczyn
- 28: Victor Merinsky
- 29: David Walter
- 30: Howard Van Orden

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

Please remember, you must be an IPA member.

New Time for IPA Polka Show on WPNA!

The IPA Radio Show is moving to a full hour-long show in Chicago!

IPA Radio Show will now be broadcast on Sundays, beginning at 11:00 a.m.—12 noon Central Time on WPNA (1490 AM) in Chicago or via the internet at www.wpna1490am.com.

Each show features IPA officers and directors including Rick Rzeszutko, Pat Maduzia, Linda Niewierowski, Laura Mateja, Christy Krawisz, John Krawisz, T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert, Dennis Mikolajewski, Keith Pietranczyk, Jerry Wantroba, and Dan Mateja.

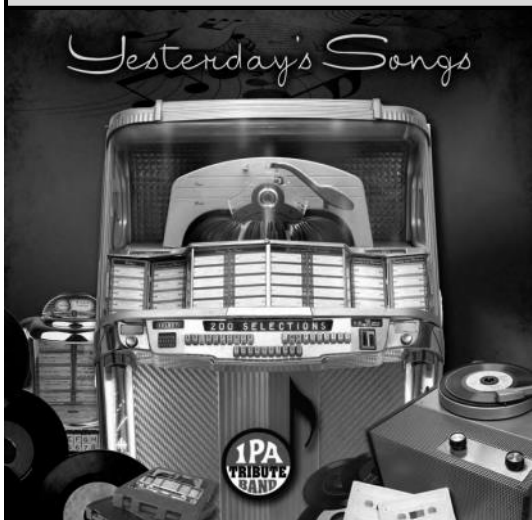
Polkas United ~ Uniting Everything
Related to Polka Music

Visit their website
www.polkasunited.com

THE IPA RADIO SHOW IS ON THE POLKA JAMMER NETWORK

The IPA Radio Show is on the Polka Jammer Network from 4:00—5:00 p.m. Central time, every Saturday afternoon.

www.polkajammernetwork.org



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, PO Box 57758, Chicago, IL 60657.

PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE so we can mail the CD to you.

You can also purchase a copy of this CD from any IPA Tribute Band Member.

A portion of the proceeds from this recording are being donated to the International Polka Association.



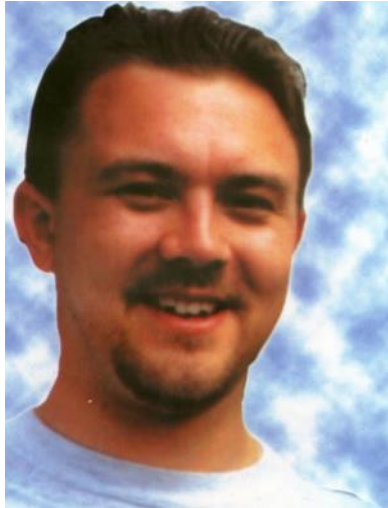
Rich Bobinski - 26 Classic Hits from the Past

New CD Release! Co-Producer & Sound File Enhancement by Peter J. Danielczuk, IPA Sgt. At Arms. A portion of the proceeds from this recording are being donated to the International Polka Association. The IPA 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.

\$1000 FREDDY K JR

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



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

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



Polka Dreams @ Sea
 Jan 31 - Feb 7 2015 *Caribbean Princess®*
 Ft. Lauderdale - Grand Cayman - Cozumel - Princess Cays®

KNEWZ THE EM *Polka Dreams All-Star Band*

DJ Kenny Olowin & Father Tom Aleksa
www.polka-cruise.com
helga@adreamtrip4u.com

Helga Leonard
A Dream Trip 4 U

ALL STARS: STACEY MORRIS
 FRANKIE LISZKA, JEFF MLECZKO, DAVE MORRIS
 EDDIE SIWIEC, RICH ZEBROWSKI, JOE ZALEWSKI

724-234-2033

PRINCESS CRUISES
come back new

PRESS RELEASE:

Polka Cruise with the Knewz, Polka Country Musicians & the P.D.A.S. Band!!!

Our 2015 "Polka Dreams @ Sea" Polka Cruise is filling quickly, so don't wait to sign up. Do it now while you are thinking about it.

"A Dream Trip 4 U" is excited to announce more details about our next polka cruise adventure in sunny paradise. "Polka Dreams @ Sea" Polka Cruise will sail **January 31 thru February 7, 2015**, to the **Western Caribbean** from **Ft. Lauderdale** on board the beautiful **Caribbean Princess®**! Be sure to mark your calendar for this one as it promises to be the best cruise of the year!

Our featured bands this year are 2 of the **hottest** bands on the polka scene - "**Polka Country Musicians**" from CT and "**The Knewz**" from Buffalo, NY. We will also have the "**Polka Dreams All-Star Band**" (**P.D.A.S.**) featuring some of the biggest & hottest polka stars in the country - **Jeff Mleczko** (Dynabass, TPM, Marion Lush), **Dave Morris** (The Nu-Tones, The Boys, The Sounds), **Joe Zalewski** (Dynabass, TPM, Holy Toledo), **Rich Zebrowski**, (Nu-Tones, TBC, The Sounds), and 2 **IPA Polka Hall of Famers** - **Eddie Siwec** (New Brass Express, TPM) & **Frankie Liszka** (The Boys, TBC, The Sounds). **Stacey Morris** – 2012 & 2013 **USPA Female Vocalist of the Year**, will also join fellow **2012 USPA Male Vocalist of the Year** – **Frankie Liszka** & **2013 USPA Male Vocalist of the Year** – **Wally Dombrowski** and others. We will have the "**best of the best**" live polka music all week long on one of the biggest dance floors at sea.

We'll also have a **Polka Jam** session where **YOU** can be the star; and we will have some fun **themes** such as "**All Country – Day & Night**", "**Ladies Night Out**", "**Pajama Party**", and more. The day after we get onto the ship is "**Super Bowl Sunday**", and you can watch the **BIG** game on a **BIG** outdoor screen by the pool or in the **Club Fusion Lounge**, so get ready to root for your favorite team – wearing your favorite sport outfit.

As usual, our affable polka **DJ @ Sea** - **Kenny Olowin** will join us to host his fun-filled parties and spin some of your favorite polka tunes, and our **Priest @ Sea** - **Father Tom Aleksa** will be there to conduct an uplifting **Polka Mass**.

In between all the polka excitement, our adventures will take us to the exotic tropical islands of **Grand Cayman**, **Roatan** (Honduras), **Cozumel** (Mexico) and Princess' private playground **Princess Cays®**!

As anyone who has sailed with us on one of our previous Polka Cruises can attest, you'll be treated like royalty on this fabulous trip! For more information and to get a cruise brochure, contact **Helga Leonard** of "**A Dream Trip 4 U**" at **724-234-2033** or email Helga at helga@adreamtrip4u.com. You can also download a brochure at www.polka-cruise.com.

YES!!! There is a DRINK PACKAGE!!! Call for details.

Live YOUR Dream in 2015 with the "**Polka Dreams @ Sea**" polka cruise.



**Free
Catalog
CDs
DVDs**

PolkaConnection.com

**Your connection to polka
music from around the world.**

Call Free (866) 901-6138

WALT PROCANYN ORCHESTRA

NEW CD

MUSIC SPEAKS

Big Band, Polkas & Mariachi

"Brilliant" "Delightful" "Caliente"



1. Walt's Theme, Let Me Play For You & Fanfare
2. Lassus Trombone
3. Baby Doll Vocal Polka
4. Sweet Harmony Polka
5. Tavern in the Town Vocal Polka
6. The New Clarinet Polka
7. School Days Accapella Singers
8. Alexander's Ragtime Band
9. Music Speaks Polka
10. Silent Night
11. Mexican Hat Dance
12. Jersey Bounce
13. Dance Away Your Blues Vocal Polka
14. Band of Gold Polka
15. Walt's Closing Theme

Walt Procanyn Orchestra

CD's - Cassettes

"Simply the very best in Big Band & Polka Music"

Big Band Polkas—Big Band Polka Swing
 Polka Glory Polka Classic
 Hi Polka Cuzzin Polka Gold
 Polka Classics Polka Music
 Polka USA Gotta Polka
 Best of Walt Procanyn
 Big Band & Polka with a Touch of Class
 Big Band & Polka Manhattan Rhythm
 Big Band & Polka on Broadway
 The Beat Goes On
 Let's Dance
 A World of Music
 Music Speaks

POLISH & UKRAINIAN
 T-shirts - Golf Shirts -
 Hats and Official Band
 Merchandise.

Send for a FREE Catalog.

**Polka Cuzzin
 SPECIAL
 Buy any 3 CD's
 Get 1 FREE
 CD's \$15 cash
 + \$3 S&H**

Listen live to the walt procanyN BAND STAND SHOW

www.247PolkaHeaven.com

MON: Midnight
 THURS: 4 AM
 FRI : 10 AM
 SAT : 7-8 PM
 Eastern Standard Time



WALT PROCANYN ORCHESTRA
 P.O. BOX 770044, WOODSIDE, NY 11377-0044
 (718) 458-7958 (718) 310-0886
 EMAIL: procanynpolkas@aol.com
www.polkamagic.net

**HEARD EXCLUSIVELY ON
 Eastwind International Artists**

IPA Dates to Remember	Advertise in the IPA Newsletter
<p>September 21: IPA General Member Meeting & Dance—Stardust Banquets; Chicago</p> <p>October 18: IPA/USPA Joint Dance Holiday Inn—Strongsville, Ohio</p> <p>Visit www.ipapolkas.com and www.facebook.com/ipapolkas to stay up-to-date with all IPA events.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">One Issue</p> <p>Full Page \$75.00 per issue Half Page..... \$55.00 per issue Quarter Page \$40.00 per Issue Eighth Page \$25.00 per issue</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Three Issues</p> <p>Full Page \$67.00 per issue Half Page..... \$45.00 per issue Quarter Page \$36.00 per issue Eighth Page..... \$22.00 per issue</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Six Issues</p> <p>Full Page \$60.00 per issue Half Page..... \$40.00 per issue Quarter Page \$32.00 per issue Eighth Page..... \$20.00 per issue</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: For advertisements requiring pictures, please add a one-time charge of \$10.00.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!!</p> <p>As reminders for membership renewals are mailed out, it would be greatly appreciated if these could be returned <u>as soon as possible</u>. 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.</p>	



International Polka Association, Inc.®

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