



# IPA Newsletter

January - February, 2015

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc. ®

## *A Letter From The President*

I hope everyone had a Christmas filled with family fun, good health, and good times.

A great big thank you to all IPA officers and directors for the great job on the Christmas Party/Polka Jammer Show. I think all of the members and their families had a great time sharing the day with each other. The kids did a great job singing along with the band, and Santa was fantastic.

January is National Polka Month. All roads lead to Chicago for the Warm Up Dance and 46th Annual Chicago Festival of Polka Bands on the weekend of January 17th and 18th. (See info inside.) Please join us to get 2015 off to a rousing start.

Thank you to Fred Bulinski, Fred Kendzierski, and Mike Matousek (the new Hall of Fame committee) who are working hard to make sure the Hall of Fame and awards process are moving along in a positive direction.

I hope the new year brings everyone health, wealth, and happiness along with an unending amount of polka fun. I hope you all can continue to support polka events, polka organizations, and polka promoters in your area. We need YOU, the polka fan, wherever you live, to make an effort to attend the dances and festivals as often as you can. Please continue to support the bands and purchase their recordings and enjoy the music at home or in your car. Remember, by working together, we can achieve great things.

Have a great 2015!

Rick

**Next IPA General Member Meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 13**

Doors Open 6:30 pm

Meeting 7:00 pm

Polonia Banquets

4604 S Archer Avenue — Chicago, IL

**January is  
National Polka  
Month!**

**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:**

Linda Niewierowski, Rick Rzeszutko

**Contact us:**

International Polka Association, Inc.®

PO Box 57758

Chicago, IL 60657

1-800-TO-POLKA

(1-800-867-6552)

Website: [www.ipapolkas.com](http://www.ipapolkas.com)

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**Membership**

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

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

**\*\*NEW\*\***

Renew your membership online!! Visit:  
[www.ipapolkas.com/store](http://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:**

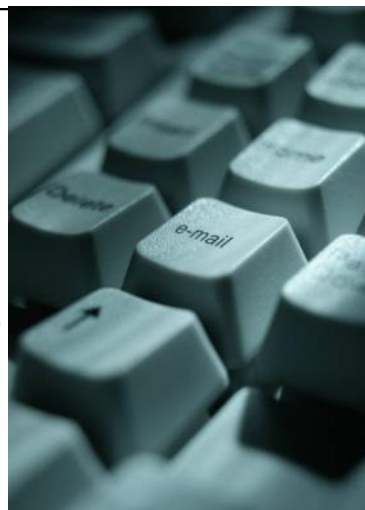
Debbie Dunaj (WI)  
Ed Guca (Canada)  
T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert (IL)  
Mike Maduzia (IL)  
Dan Mateja (IL)  
Mike Matousek (MD)  
Dennis Mikolajewski (IL)  
Keith Pietranczyk (IL)  
Bonnie Ryniec (IL)  
Ed Szela (MA)  
Lori Urbanczyk (NY)  
John Zelasko (MI)

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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.polkajammernetwork.org)

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

## IPA Polka Music Awards

The International Polka Association is preparing to conduct balloting for the annual Polka Music Awards. The results will determine the *Favorite Album*, *Favorite Song*, *Favorite Male Vocalist*, *Favorite Female Vocalist*, and *Favorite Band* for the year 2014.

To assist the electors when casting their votes for *Favorite Album* and *Favorite Song*, we prepare a master list of recordings released during the year. Therefore, we are asking record companies and independent artists to submit any polka recordings, albums or individual songs (singles), they may have released during the calendar year January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Only recordings released during this period are eligible for award consideration. Recordings released in previous years are not eligible, even if re-released as part of a new compilation album.

To submit a recording for award consideration, please complete and sign the affidavit available on the IPA website. Mail the affidavit along with the physical recording in compact disc (CD) format to: **IPA Polka Music Awards, P.O. Box 91, Dover, DE 19903**. The affidavit may also be signed, scanned, and emailed to: [ipahalloffame@gmail.com](mailto:ipahalloffame@gmail.com). However, physical CDs must still be provided, even if your recording was digitally released.

Your prompt action is vital to ensure deserving polka recordings are properly recognized for the good of the entire polka industry. Please note that your submission (affidavit and recording) **must be received no later than February 14, 2015** to be eligible for award consideration in the upcoming cycle. Any questions concerning this process should be directed to [ipahalloffame@gmail.com](mailto:ipahalloffame@gmail.com) or (302) 744-9598.

## IPA Christmas Party

The IPA Christmas Party was held on Sunday, December 7 at Polonia Banquets. Thank you to all who attended the IPA Christmas Party. Thank you to Rick Rzeszutko, Mike Stapinski, Stephen Kaminski, Dan Mateja, Jake Mikrut, Wally Maduzia, John Furmaniak, John Krawisz, and Richie Sendra who donated their time and performed with Santa's Helpers. Special thank you to Kevin Altenburg for recording the Christmas party which aired on the Polka Jammer Network.. The show is archived on our website: [www.papolkas.com](http://www.papolkas.com).





**POLKA BENEFIT DANCE****9th ANNUAL MEMORIAL "GIFT OF LIFE" DANCE****IN HONOR OF LISA MARIE BISKUP**

PRCU HALL IN WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN - 1430 OAK ST. - 48192

**SATURDAY, April 25, 2015**

featuring fine music by

**The Boys** from Maryland

**The Krew Brothers** from Buffalo, New York

and as an added attraction

**Accordians-a-Go Go**

featuring the talents of Richie Bernier, Randy Krajewski, Eric Hite, Jimmy Mackiewicz, Jr, Eddie Sowiec, Matt Gury

Special guest appearance by the legendary Hall of Famer, Mitch Biskup

Adults-\$20.00  
Kids 13 & under Free  
Doors open at 5:00pm  
Music from 5:30pm - 12:00am



Polish Kitchen  
Door Prizes  
Raffles

**NO BYOB - CASH BAR**

For More Information  
Ron-Sue Biskup (810) 588-6266

ALL DONATIONS  
INCLUDING ADMISSION PRICE  
ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

ALL PROCEEDS ARE FOR THE 'LISA BISKUP  
ORGAN AND TISSUE DONOR FOUNDATION'  
visit [www.lisabiskupmemorial.com](http://www.lisabiskupmemorial.com) for more info

# 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](http://www.ipapolkas.com)

Don't forget to turn In your tickets for the 2015 IPA Calendar Raffle. The first drawing will take place during the Chicago Festival of Bands on Sunday, January 18. Tickets and monies can be mailed to the address listed on the ticket or turned in at the Festival of Bands dance. Additional raffle tickets will also be available for purchase at the dance or by contacting your favorite IPA board member.

There will be one \$100 winner for each week in 2015, and you can win multiple times! Winning entries will be re-entered for more chances to win throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support of the International Polka Association, and good luck!



## INTERNATIONAL POLKA ASSOCIATION

### 2015 Calendar Raffle

\$5,200 in Prizes - One \$100.00 Winner Each Week

**\$20.00 Per Ticket**

January 2015	February 2015	March 2015
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
April 2015	May 2015	June 2015
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July 2015	August 2015	September 2015
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October 2015	November 2015	December 2015
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INTERNATIONAL POLKA ASSOCIATION • PO Box 57758 • Chicago, IL 60657

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We hope you can join us Saturday and Sunday, January 17-18th for the Warm Up Dance and Chicago Festival of Polka Bands. The time schedule for Sunday is as follows:

12:00—12:45	Music Company
1:00—1:45	Freeze Dried
2:00—2:45	Keith Stras and Polka Confetti
3:00—3:45	Joe Walega's Happy Hearts
4:00—4:45	Jim Polaski and The Chicago NuTones
5:00—5:45	Bill Gula's Chicago Image
6:00—6:45	IPA Tribute Band
7:00—7:45	Polka Generations

Ed Szela  
&  
Freddy K

Present

2 Days  
February 28<sup>th</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup>

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual IPA Benefit Dance**  
Ludlow PACC, 355 East Street, Ludlow, MA 01056

**Saturday, February 28, 2015**  
7pm to 11pm

Featuring **THE BOYS**  
Along with Guest Vocalists  
**Larry Trojak and Mark Trzepacz (Dynatones)**

**Sunday, March 1, 2015**  
2pm to 7pm

**Tribute to Dave (Scrubby) Seweryniak**  
Music By: Lenny Gomulka's Chicago Push  
Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men  
Eddie Forman Orchestra

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY  
No Tickets Held at the Door  
Tickets are NOT REFUNDABLE

Saturday \$15 pp  
Sunday \$20 pp

For Tickets Call Ed Szela 413-567-1961

Send Check and Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope to:

Ed Szela  
104 Williston Drive  
Longmeadow, MA 01106

For Tables of 8 or More Call:  
Carol Blajda  
413-549-6997

Polish Kitchen Available

## Join the International Polka Association

As We Celebrate January Being  
"National Polka Month"

### Festival of Bands - Warm Up Dance

Saturday, January 17, 2015



Music by:

**Freeze Dried**



Polonia Banquets – 4604 S. Archer Avenue, Chicago, Illinois  
Doors Open at 5:00 PM – Music 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM  
Admission \$10.00 at the door – Polonia's Kitchen will be open!

### 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago Festival of Polka Bands

Sunday, January 18, 2015

Featuring 8 Top Polka Bands:

**Freeze Dried**

**Keith Stras and  
Polka Confetti**

**IPA Tribute Band**

**Bill Gula's Chicago Image**

**Music Company**

**Polka Generations**

**Jim Polaski & The  
Chicago NuTones – A Tribute  
to The Johnnie Bomba Band**

**Joe Walega and his  
Happy Hearts**

Glendora House – 10225 S. Harlem Avenue, Chicago Ridge, Illinois  
Doors Open at 11:30 AM – Music Starts 12:00 PM  
Admission \$15.00 at the door – Mary's Kitchen will be open!

Show your IPA Membership Card at the door and receive \$1.00 off admission!  
For information and tickets, call the IPA at 1-800-TO-POLKA

Get your tickets now for the 10th annual IPA benefit dance, which is being held Saturday, February 28 and Sunday, March 1 in Ludlow, Massachusetts. This event has sold out 8 of the last 9 years, and it is on its way to becoming another sell out! Contact IPA Director Ed Szela today to get your tickets for this special event. We hope to see you there!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Joint IPA & Let's Polka USA Dance**  
**Sunday, March 22**

**IPA Tribute Band featuring  
Hall of Famer, John Gora and  
Chicago Hall of Famers**

**Glendora Banquets**  
**(more details coming soon)**

## Polka Hall of Famer Stanley Przasnyski Passes

Born in 1926 in Bristol Connecticut, he started to study the accordion at age ten while attending St. Stanislaus School. At the age of thirteen he was playing professionally at social affairs, concert solos, and private parties. He started a four-piece band at the age of eighteen. A typical Saturday consisted of a one hour broadcast over Radio station WBIS, a wedding reception from 2-6PM, a night club from 8PM-Midnight, and then played a place called the "Bottle Club" from 1-3AM.



In 1952 he made his first recording for the Stella Music Company of New York using the name of "The Connecticut Twins Orchestra." Original compositions included in that recording were "Polish Wedding Polka," "My Girl Friend Polka," "No Gonna Drink Oberek," "John and Katie Polka," "Sugar Daddy Polka" and "Accordion Magic Polka." As a result of the popularity of the Connecticut Twins, they produced a total of 16 long playing albums on the Stella Label. It was due to these recordings that took the band on personal tours to Oshawa, Canada, as far south as Baltimore, Maryland, and back in 1962 as far West as Chicago. The band played at every major hotel in New York City, as well as the New York World's Fair in 1966 as well as the Roseland Ballroom on Broadway. The band traveled so much that they only played one Saturday night a year in Connecticut.

He was married in 1948 to Genevieve Sieruta also from Connecticut and they are the proud parents of two sons, Stas Jr. and Vance. The numerous recordings featured Stas Jr. vocalizing the Grey Horse Polka while his wife Genevieve and son Vance vocalized a polka titled "Fortune Polka." These were all sung in Polish.

Outside of playing in the band he was also a disc jockey from 1962-1982 over radio station WBIS and was the promoter of a number of successful Cancer Telethons.

When the biggest polka recording of all time "The Beer Barrel Polka" was released in 1939, RCA Victor wanted to stop paying royalties to Germany and The Bill Glahe Orchestra. They called upon Bernie (Wyte) Witkowski Orchestra to reproduce a new master recording. Bernie asked Stas to perform on the recording because the flip-side featured a tune called "Hot Pretzel Polka," which had a accordion solo that took up 80% of the song. It was then that the A&R (Artist and Repertoire) man for RCA congratulated Stas for imitating the technique of another accordion player to perfection. Stas also performed with the Bernie Witkowski Orchestra in 1975-76 at Madison Square Garden for the Harvest Ball.

He has also recorded with a number of groups on various labels like Remington, Harmonia, RCA Victor, Dana Stella, i3lo and Bel-Aire. He and his wife and Stas Jr. now reside in Deland, Florida, and are the proud grandparents of Desiree and Jashua. His induction into the Polka Music Hall of

Fame was long overdue and took place on Sunday, August 7, 1993, during the IPA 25th Anniversary Induction Ceremonies.

Stanley Przasnyski passed away on November 25, 2014.

Bio taken from: <http://www.ipapolkas.com/blog/otw-portfolio/stanley-przasnyski-living-category-inducted-1993/>

## IPA Co-Founder Don Jodlowski Passes



The International Polka Association extends their deepest sympathies to the friends and family of Don Jodlowski. Don was the leader of Don Jodlowski's Vibrasounds, and one of the founders of the International Polka Association, along with Johnny Hyzny, Leon Kozicki, Joe and Jean Salomon, and Eddie Blazonczyk, Sr.

Don passed away on November 15, 2014.



## 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. (DJs/IJs and broadcast times are subject to change.)

### Polka Jammer IJs

*Saturdays 4:00-5:00 pm, Central Time*  
[www.polkajammernetwork.org](http://www.polkajammernetwork.org)

January 3:	Rick Rzeszutko and Mike Maduzia
January 10:	Linda Niewierowski
January 17:	John Zelasko
January 24:	John & Christy Krawisz
January 31:	Dan & Laura Mateja, Bonnie Ryniec, and Dennis Mikolajewski
February 7:	Peter Danielczuk
February 14:	Freddy "K" Kendzierski
February 21:	Keith Pietranczyk
February 28:	Ed Guca
March 7:	Rick Rzeszutko & Mike Maduzia

### WPNA Radio Shows DJs

*Sundays, 11:00-12 noon Central Time*  
 1490 AM Chicago or online at  
[www.wpna1490am.com](http://www.wpna1490am.com)

January 4:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
January 11:	John & Christy Krawisz
January 18:	Keith Pietranczyk
January 25:	Dan & Laura Mateja, Bonnie Ryniec, and Dennis Mikolajewski
February 1:	Rick Rzeszutko and Mike Maduzia
February 8:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
February 15:	John & Christy Krawisz
February 22:	Keith Pietranczyk
March 1:	Dan & Laura Mateja, Bonnie Ryniec, and Dennis Mikolajewski

## Joe Jozwiak Award Winner

Congratulations to Todd Zaganiacz, winner of this year's Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award. Todd is the current President of the Polka Jammer Network. He will be presented with his award at a future event. A full bio will appear in a future newsletter. Please help us in congratulating Todd for all he has done to support and promote polka music.

## IPA Online Store

Have you visited our new IPA online store lately? You can renew your membership online or order one of our IPA t-shirts. Be one of the first to sport the NEW blue shirts, or get one of the last red or green t-shirts, available in very limited quantities.

Check out [www.ipapolkas.com/store](http://www.ipapolkas.com/store) today!



## Brave Combo Celebrates 35 Years

Grammy Award-Winning band, Brave Combo, was presented with a certificate of appreciation to celebrate providing musical entertainment for over 35 years. The certificate was presented by IPA Director Dennis Mikolajewski at Fitzgerald's Nightclub in Berwyn, a suburb of Chicago, on December 13.

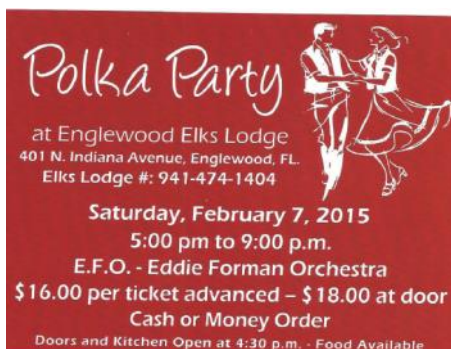


## Did You Know?

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](mailto:christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net)



“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://wbc1490.com/the-denny-o-polka-show>

\*Used with permission from Polonia Today\*

## Welcome New Members!

James Sajkowicz, Jr. – LIFETIME MEMBER

Brian Marasco

Keith Gennerman

Steven Sopko

Dan Bizon

Debra Bizon

Michael Prochko

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 and can be renewed online at our website, [ipapolkas.com](http://ipapolkas.com).

## IPA Calendar of Events

January 13: IPA General Member Meeting

January 17: Festival of Bands Warm Up  
Dance

January 18: Chicago Festival of Polka Bands

February 28: IPA Benefit Dance—Ludlow, MA

March 1: 10th Annual IPA Benefit  
Dance—Ludlow, MA

March 22: IPA & Let's Polka USA Joint  
Dance

September 4-6: IPA Festival & Convention

## 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.



## Getting to Know Your IPA Board Members



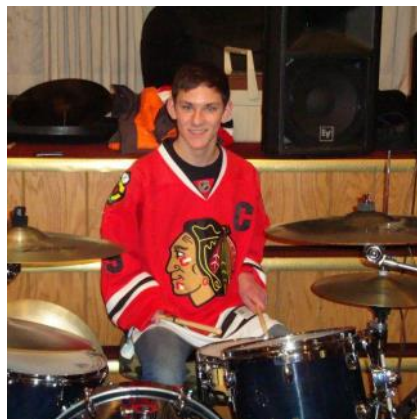
**Laura Mateja - Secretary**

I have been the IPA secretary for the past three years. I grew up in Calumet City, a suburb of Chicago just blocks from the Indiana state line. I currently reside in Orland Park, a southwest suburb of Chicago, with my husband Dan, and our two daughters, Ashley and Lindsey.

Since I was born, polkas were played in our house every weekend. We listened to all the radio shows on Saturdays and Sundays. My dad and brother were musicians, so it wasn't odd to hear live polkas playing during the weekdays as well.

As a youngster, I sang at home all the time. I hoped to be able to record commercials when I grew up. I knew every jingle that aired on TV! I sang in choirs and several musical shows since the age of 9 and studied voice in High School. I always loved to sing and hoped one day in my lifetime to enjoy performing with a band of some kind, more than likely modern country. I'm thrilled to have been given the chance to entertain with the IPA Tribute Band. This is especially meaningful to me for several reasons: I sing music that I love while promoting an organization that I profoundly believe in. Also, I enjoy the opportunity to create music with my husband while having the privilege of sharing a bandstand with talented musicians whom I've grown up with and known as friends for over 30 years. I can't think of a better way to spend my time than furthering the future of the music I love most!

I hope to assist the IPA in becoming an organization that is respected as a leader in the promulgation of polka music. I am honored to be entrusted to make decisions on behalf of the IPA to continue our music and traditions and keep them alive for many more generations to come.



**Jake Mikrut - Advisor**

I have been involved with the IPA since 2010 when I was appointed as Youth Advisor. It's been a very great experience so far just because I know I'm working with like-minded people whose goal is to keep polka music alive and preserve it for future generations.

The first time I can remember being involved in polkas was when I was three years old. Rick Rzeszutko's Music Company was performing for my grandfather's 55th birthday party, and somehow I got up on stage and started playing Danny Okrzesik's drums and from there the beat went on.

I've sat in with many great bands including The Music Company, Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze, Lenny Zielinski's D Street Band, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push, Freeze Dried, The Knewz, Polka Family, Polka Country Musicians, the IPA Tribute Band, and many more great bands.

I hope to promote polka music to everyone, not just Polish Americans, and to somehow find the missing piece of the puzzle to draw younger generations in.



# IPA Birthdays



## January

- 1: Jeanne Szela; Bill Gula
- 2: Cecilia Osysko, Eugene Sadus;  
Stephen Binkiewicz; Wandzia Kaluzny
- 3: Ernest Daigle; Kevin Kurdziel;  
Dawn Rosinski; Adam Hembel
- 4: Jerry Fabian; Rick Kunkel
- 5: Nancy Szmyd; Kenny Konopka
- 6: John Freidhoff, Michele Troczynski
- 7: Suellen Gomulka; Candy Bonnin;  
Erv Wisniewski
- 8: Laura Mateja
- 9: Nora McCabe, James Sefcik; Jeff Yash
- 10: Pat Stanek; Debbie Jones
- 11: Frank Liszka
- 12: Vince Ashman; Richie Dombrowski
- 13: Barbara Szydowski
- 14: Elaine Nowak; Stanley Raiczuk
- 15: David Dobrzinski; Joseph Kubicar;  
John Jaworski
- 17: DeeDee Ogrodny; Al Piatkowski;  
John C. Mikrut; Zachary Mikrut
- 18: Lucille Marsolek; Brian Kapka; Duane Mijal;  
Barbara Wilgocki
- 19: Hayley Krawisz
- 20: James Kozak; Richard Tady; Martin Barty
- 21: Jeff Maroszek; Linda Niewierowski
- 22: Chet Dragon; Ann Marie Matousek;  
Jim Pietrancyk
- 23: Diane Pukal
- 24: Matt Wasielewski
- 25: Craig Marsolek; Walter Maduzia
- 26: Laura Bethke
- 28: Sharon Heiman; Ray Kanoza
- 29: Mary Anne Robinson
- 30: Chet Dombrowski
- 31: Richard Leach;

## February

- 1: Robert Guyette; Wanda Guca
- 2: Don Hedeker; Jody Maddie
- 5: Don Haderle; Fred Bulinski
- 6: Richie Gomulka; Norbert Ciesla;  
Tim Quinnell
- 7: Eddie Biegaj
- 8: Barbara Haselow; Hank Kaliszewski;  
Mitch Kempinski
- 9: Evelyn Benbenek; Al Jelinek; Ron Zywieci
- 10: Fredolin Willfahrt; Frank Delaney
- 11: Lois Faber
- 12: Walter Groller; Mario Joseph Kozak
- 13: Gerry Kaminski; Ronald Lietz; Mike Fudalla
- 14: Jerry Hyzy, Fred Kendzierski; Stan Wilgocki
- 15: Leonard Klamut; Frank Stetar
- 16: Irene Czajka; Lori Ebel; Ann Haas;  
Freddie Steenbock; Jolly Joe Timmer;
- 17: Bernie Goydish
- 18: James Sajkowicz; Linda Hurley;  
Ken Foldenauer
- 19: Anna Borowski; Chet Sedke
- 20: Becky Livermore; Terry Popek; Linda Pezo;  
Joseph Kapinos
- 22: Steve Rodgers; Sandy Mikrut
- 23: Juli Mrowca; Jerry Halkoski
- 24: Frank Proszowski; Eddie Zavaski, Jr
- 25: Trudie Mergen; Tim Jagodzinski;  
Ashley Styczynski
- 26: Edward Pudlo; Jane Schultz;  
Thaddeus Szymanski; Keith Werwas
- 27: Robert Fidler; Charlotte Tyk;  
Dennis Mikolajewski

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



# TOUR OF POLAND 2015

## May 28 to June 09

### with John Gora



#### and musical friends

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# POLKAS IN PUNTA CANA 2015

## November 7 - 14



All-Inclusive Resort Barcelo Punta Cana \$899.00 per person

featuring IPA Hall of Famers

Host MC John Gora (Górale) and Eddie Forman (EFO)

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 Matt Gury (Ethnic Jazz), Jimmy Kilian (Honky Chicago), Jimmy Krzeszewski (Ethnic Jazz),  
 Dan Mateja (IPA Tribute), Lil John Nalevanko (ATM), Robbie Piatkowski (Piatkowski Brothers),  
 Tom Picciano (Knewz), Ron Urbanczyk (New Direction), Bob Wojtowicz (Mass Brass)

Rates includes R/T Transfers: (AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED)

\$899 per person based on double occupancy

single occupancy (\$1349.00)

\$350 child age 3 -11 (time of travel) sharing with 2 adults

3rd & 4th rates - \$669 per person. Deposit \$350. p/p



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**NEW!**

Patrick Henry Presents!



# Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest & Expo!

**APRIL 24-26, 2015**

*Chula Vista*  
Resort

**A Great Weekend of Family FUN!**

Hours: Friday: 6pm-1am, Saturday: 12pm-1am, Sunday: 12-5pm

**Polka Country Musicians**

from Connecticut (Friday &amp; Saturday)

**Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze**

from Illinois (Friday)

**Mollie B!**

from the Mollie B Polka Party on RFD-TV (Friday)

**The Knewz**

from New York (Saturday &amp; Sunday)

**Craig Ebel & DyVersaCo**

from Minnesota (Saturday)

**Benjamin Gaboda & Polka Pak**

from Wisconsin (Saturday)

**T-N-T: The Natural Talent**

from Pulaski, Wisconsin (Saturday)

Special Appearance by:

**Chad Przybylski**

from Pulaski, Wisconsin (Sunday)

**Larry Trojak!****Saturday Bus Trip from Central Wisconsin** with Polka Pak.

Call Betty at 715-498-4171 or e-mail: towpro210@att.net

**3-Day Weekend Bus Trip from Chicago & S.E. Wisconsin**

or general festival information

Call Patrick Henry at 773-889-6811 or e-mail: polkadj@sbcglobal.net

**WWW.DELSPOLKAFEST.COM**

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

**Weekend Package Available:****\$170 p/p Double Occupancy + tax**& resort fee Includes:

2-Night Stay in a beautiful Tower Room

Weekend Passes to the Polka Fest

Buffet Breakfast Saturday &amp; Sunday

in the Market Fresh Buffet

Breakfast Gratuity

\*Each additional adult \$60+tax.

\*Each additional Child Under 16, \$16+tax.

\*Upgrades available for additional \$.

Dance Floor By: Frank Napiwocki!

Room only prices starting at **\$109/night.**

Extend your stay! 3rd night 50% off!

Waterpark pass only \$10/person per day.

Call Chula Vista Resort direct at

**1-877-624-0685** promo code: **D31799**

for our discount rates and packages!

Discount code is not available  
for online reservations.

Admission: Fri. \$17, Sat: \$18, Sun: \$10

Weekend Pass: \$40, Kids Under 16: Free!

with guardian. Plus Tax where applicable.

**Polka Festival Location**

98 Neptune Avenue  
New London, CT



[www.oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com](http://www.oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com)

Ocean Beach Park Polka Days  
PO Box 247  
Versailles, CT 06383

[info@oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com](mailto:info@oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com)

**SCHEDULE OF BANDS****Wednesday, June 24**

7 pm – 10 pm  
On The Boardwalk

***Polka Country Musicians***

Open To The Public  
FREE Admission  
\$6.00 Parking Fee

**Thursday, June 25**

10 am – 4 pm  
In The Pavilion  
6 pm – 12:30 am  
In The Ballroom

***D-Street******Matt's All Star Jam Band******Jimmy Sturr Orchestra******Polka Family***

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

**Friday, June 26**

10 am – 4 pm  
In The Pavilion  
5:30 pm – 1 am  
In The Ballroom

***Polka Country Musicians******The Boys******The Knewz******Eddie Forman******IPA Tribute Band***

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

***Beach Party  
On The Boardwalk***

7 pm - 10 pm

***D-Street*****Saturday, June 27**

9:30 am – 3:30 pm  
In The Pavilion  
5 pm – 1 am  
In The Ballroom

***Polka Country Musicians******The Boys******The Knewz******Lenny Gomulka &******The Chicago Push******Maestro's Men******IPA Tribute Band***

\$22.00 Adults  
Kids 16 & Under FREE  
When Accompanied By An Adult



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

***Food Concessions Available Daily – Special Drink Prices Throughout The Weekend***

## 2014 Freddy K Jr. Scholarship Award Winner

Jenna Libera of Charlton, Massachusetts, was the recipient of the Freddy K. Jr. Scholarship Award for 2014. She accepted her check of \$1,000 at Ocean Beach Park, New London, Connecticut this past June. Jenna graduated from Shephard Hill Regional High School in Dudley, Mass where she studied Advanced Placement Chemistry, Advanced Placement Biology, Advanced Placement Literature and Advanced Placement Spanish among her other courses, and was Student Council President, Freshman Advisory Coordinator, on the Honor Roll all four years of high school and on the National Honors Society, Tri-M Music Honors Society, Accelerated Calculus level and had Advanced Math & Science MCAS scores. She graduated 35 out of 269 students.

Jenna has been listening to and performing polka music her whole life. She has traveled with her parents to many dances and festivals where she met many of her closest friends, and she owes her own identity to her Polish heritage and polka music. She plays trumpet and piano, and she sings and writes her own original compositions. Jenna will be attending Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts this fall where she will be majoring in neuroscience. The Freddy K Jr. Music Scholarship Committee is proud of our judges this year who chose Jenna to be the recipient of this year's award. She is a credit to all the young people in our music industry.

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. The award is presented at a Polka Festival of their choice each summer.

Anyone who is interested in applying for the scholarship award can contact the Scholarship Committee at:

The Freddy K. Jr. Scholarship Fund  
50 Totten Drive  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Or you can download an application on our website [www.freddykjrmusicscholarship.com](http://www.freddykjrmusicscholarship.com)



Jenna Libera receiving scholarship check from Fred Kendzierski at Ocean Beach Park Polka Days, June 2014.



Jackie, Linda, and Jenna Libera with Fred & Linda Kendzierski at Ocean Beach Park Polka Days.



## New Time for IPA Polka Show on WPNA!

The IPA Radio Show has moved to a full hour-long show in Chicago!

IPA Radio Show is now 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](http://www.wpna1490am.com).

Each show features IPA officers and directors including Rick Rzeszutko, Mike Maduzia, Linda Niewierowski, Laura Mateja, Christy Krawisz, John Krawisz, Dennis Mikolajewski, Keith Pietranczyk, Jerry Wantroba, Dan Mateja, and Bonnie Ryniec.

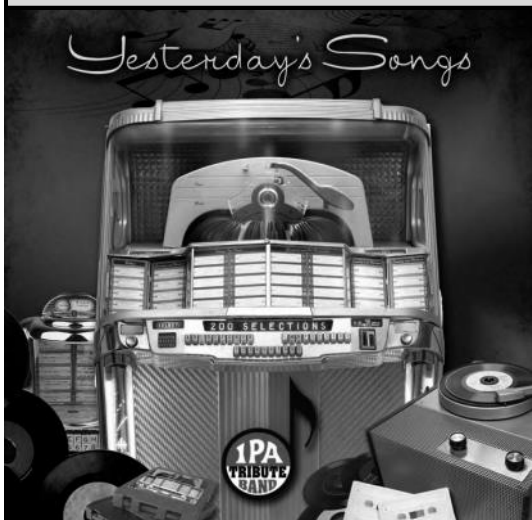
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Related to Polka Music

Visit their website  
[www.polkasunited.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.jimmykpolkas.com).



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3. Just Because Polka (Vocal)
4. Apple Tree (Vocal)
5. My Dandy Lyin Dandelion Polka (Vocal)
6. Rock This Town
7. Make Believe Walt's (Acapella Singers)
8. Dance with Me Forever Polka (Vocal)
9. Battle Hymn
10. Sundance Polka
11. Music of Love
12. Now Bring It On Polka
13. White Christmas
14. Let Me Play for You

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**www.247PolkaHeaven.com**

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**WED : 7am**

**FRI : 4pm**

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**HEARD EXCLUSIVELY ON**  
**Eastwind International Artists**

**PRESS RELEASE:** The Walt Procanyin Orchestra has released another collection of hits, standards, classic and fresh arrangements in their new release Walt Procanyin Big Band & Polkas "Magic" filled with a collection of Broadway's finest talent from "the Great White Way." This CD is sure to impress and enliven your fall season.

Walt Procanyin has expertly curated a collection of musicians and tracks for this new CD. It features the best of the best in big band, polka, and a cappella singing with more hot tunes from "Tuba Rocks," "Just Because," to the holiday classics "White Christmas." Broadway's timeless talent "Magic" also includes a swingin arrangement of "Rocik This Town" and "Music of Love" and more perfect for every occasion. This pristine CD was recorded on the Eastwing label at three of the finest recording studios in America. It is a landmark addition to every music lover's collection.



IPA Dates to Remember	Advertise in the IPA Newsletter
<p>January 13: IPA General Member Meeting  January 17: Festival of Bands Warm Up Dance  January 18: Chicago Festival of Polka Bands  February 28: IPA Benefit Dance—Ludlow, MA  March 1: 10th Annual IPA Benefit Dance—Ludlow, MA  March 22: IPA &amp; Let's Polka USA Joint Dance  September 4-6: IPA Festival &amp; Convention</p> <p>Visit <a href="http://www.ipapolkas.com">www.ipapolkas.com</a> and  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ipapolkas">www.facebook.com/ipapolkas</a>  to stay up-to-date with all IPA events.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>One Issue</b></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;"><b>Three Issues</b></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;"><b>Six Issues</b></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;"><b>IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!!</b></p> <p>As reminders for membership renewals are mailed out, it would be greatly appreciated if these could be returned <b><u>as soon as possible</u></b>. Not only are these fees used to allocate printing and mailing expenses, but for various other causes. <b>So please return your renewals in a timely matter.</b></p>	



**International Polka Association, Inc.®**

PO Box 1484; Plainfield, IL 60585  
1-800-TO-POLKA (1-800-867-6552)  
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