



IPA Newsletter

November - December, 2015

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc. ®

A Letter From The President...

Greetings,

I would like to thank everyone who came to Buffalo, Labor Day Weekend for the IPA Festival and Convention. What a great time we had. Thank you to all of the IPA officers, directors and volunteers who helped make it a great success. Thank you to all of you polka fans who attended and helped add to the fun and excitement. We will be back next year same place, same weekend for hopefully a bigger and even better festival. We are working on the band lineup and finalizing all of the details.

I would like to welcome Patrick Henry Cukierka to the IPA Executive Board, who was elected as the newest Illinois Director at this year's festival and convention. Keith Pietranczyk, former role of Director was elected as Secretary, and Laura Mateja, former Secretary, was elected as an Illinois Director.

On a personal note, I would like to offer my deepest sympathy to the Machay family on the passing of Marge Machay. Marge was a great friend to me and the IPA. She was a dedicated and very generous lady and will be missed by all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

The holidays are right around the corner. I hope everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy, healthy New Year.

God Bless
Rick

***SAVE THE DATES
JOIN THE I.P.A. AS WE CELEBRATE
JANUARY BEING "NATIONAL POLKA MONTH"***

Festival of Bands - Warm Up Dance

Saturday January 16, 2016

Music by:

Polish Connection from Wisconsin



Annual Chicago Festival of Polka Bands

Sunday January 17, 2016

Featuring 8 Top Polka Bands

- Ampol Aires • Jim Kilian Polka Band
- Keith Stras and Polka Confetti
- Freeze Dried • IPA Tribute Band
- Great Lake Sounds from Michigan
- Polish Connection from Wisconsin
- Jake Mikrut and the Polka Beaches

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

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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Mike Matousek, Laura Mateja

Contact us:

International Polka Association, Inc.®

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Chicago, IL 60657

1-800-TO-POLKA

(1-800-867-6552)

Website: 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

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

2015-2016 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: Keith Pietranczyk (IL)
Sergeant-At-Arms: Peter Danielczuk (CT)
Youth Advisor: Jake Mikrut (IL)
Media Advisor: Jerry Wantroba (IL)

Directors:

Patrick Henry Cukierka (IL)
Debbie Dunaj (WI)
Ed Guca (Canada)
Mike Maduzia (IL)
Dan Mateja (IL)
Laura Mateja (IL)
Mike Matousek (MD)
Dennis Mikolajewski (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.radiowpna.com. Each show features IPA officers and directors including Rick Rzeszutko, Linda Niewierowski, Laura Mateja, Mike Maduzia, Christy Krawisz, John Krawisz, Patrick Henry Cukierka, Bonnie Ryniec, 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!

Annual IPA Polka Hall of Fame and Music Awards Update

New Award: Favorite International Polka Album

The International Polka Association is preparing to conduct the balloting for the annual Polka Music Awards that will determine the *Favorite Polish Polka Album*, *Favorite International Polka Album*, *Favorite Song*, *Favorite Male Vocalist*, *Favorite Female Vocalist*, and *Favorite Band* for 2015. Note that the *Favorite International Polka Album* is a new award that recognizes a deserving album from the non-Polish styles such as Slovenian, Czech, German, Dutchmen, etc.

To ensure all qualified recordings and artists are included on the ballot, recording companies and polka artists must download, complete, and submit the IPA Polka Music Awards Affidavit found on the IPA web site at www.ipapolkas.com. The document is located under the "Hall of Fame/Awards" tab. A physical recording in compact disc (CD) format must accompany the affidavit and be mailed to: IPA Polka Music Awards, P.O. Box 91, Dover, DE 19903, postmarked by January 14, 2016. The completed affidavit may also be scanned and emailed to: ipahalloffame@gmail.com, but the CD must still be submitted even if the recording was digitally released. Please note that only recordings released between January 1 and December 31, 2015 are eligible for the *Favorite Polish Polka Album*, *Favorite International Polka Album*, and *Favorite Song* awards. Eligible recording companies and artists may nominate one song for *Favorite Song* award consideration from each released recording. Recordings released in previous years are not eligible, even if re-released as part of a new compilation album.

Prompt action is vital to ensure deserving polka recordings and artists are properly recognized for the good of the entire polka industry. Any questions concerning this process should be directed to Fred Bulinski at ipahalloffame@gmail.com or (443) 956-3087.

IPA Appoints New Trustee

Since the establishment of the IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame and annual Music Awards presentations back in 1968, 11 trustees have governed the processes that select Hall of Fame (HOF) inductees and recognize polka artists with awards. Each trustee is appointed by the IPA President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, and oversees 14 other electors chosen to represent a given geographic area of the United States and Canada. These 165 electors participate in the annual voting that elects HOF inductees and music award winners.

To better serve a large portion of the U.S. and its diversity of polka styles, the Executive Board recently approved the recommendation of the Polka Music Hall of Fame and Music Awards Committee to establish a new trustee position to represent Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. This additional position brings the number of trustees up to 12, which will in turn increase the number of national electors to 180. To fill the new trustee position, the Executive Board chose Danny Zapletal, one of several qualified candidates identified by the committee. Danny "Z" is an Ennis, Texas native who has been involved with the Ennis National Polka Festival for many years. He was appointed Vice-President in 1992, President in 1993, and has served as the festival's Executive Director since 2000. He is the host of two polka shows broadcast in both Texas and Wisconsin. As a trumpet player, Danny joined the *Texas Dutchmen* back in 1980 and now leads and performs with the *Czech and Then Some* band. He also owns a recording studio where most of the polka bands from northern Texas record. Danny is proud and knowledgeable of his Czech heritage but is also familiar with all polka styles. The IPA welcomes Danny to its academy of electors and looks forward to leveraging his knowledge in serving the polka industry at large.

International Polka Association CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday December 6, 2015
Polonia Banquets
4604 S. Archer Avenue, Chicago, Illinois



Doors open at 10:30 am
Brunch 11:00 am
Music begins at Noon



Music by: Santa's Helpers
And a special appearance by Santa

Reservations are required! Please contact Linda Niewierowski
at 312-342-3959 to make your reservation no later than
November 28, 2015. (FIRM)
You can also email Linda at plkaqueen25@att.net

CURRENT IPA MEMBERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS OLD
ARE FREE

NON-MEMBERS ADMISSION: \$10.00 per person which includes food

Merry Christmas ~
Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia

YOU MAY BE ASKED TO BE A PART OF THE CHRISTMAS RADIO SHOWS
FOR WPNA AND POLKA JAMMER NETWORK WHICH WILL BE RECORDED
THIS AFTERNOON.



The International Polka Association Presents



The Music Company

Saturday, November 14th
Doors Open 6:30 PM • Music from 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Rib River Ballroom

3237 E State Hwy 29, Marathon City, WI 54448
(10 miles west of Wausau on Hwy 29)

\$12 General Admission/\$10 IPA Members

Mention the IPA for the special room rate of
\$82 at the Howard Johnson • 715.842.0711

For more information, please visit www.ipapolkas.com
or Facebook.com/IPAPolkas

2016 IPA Calendar Raffle

It's that time of year again! Enclosed in this newsletter are two IPA calendar raffle tickets. Sell them to your family and friends, or keep them for yourself for your chance to win!

One \$100 winner will be drawn each week.

Please complete the bottom portion of the raffle tickets and mail them to the address listed. If you would like to purchase additional raffle tickets, please contact President Rick Rzeszutko. They will also be available for purchase at all the IPA functions.



INTERNATIONAL POLKA ASSOCIATION 2016 Calendar Raffle

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

\$20.00 Per Ticket

January 2016	February 2016	March 2016
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	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 2016	May 2016	June 2016
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July 2016	August 2016	September 2016
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October 2016	November 2016	December 2016
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INTERNATIONAL POLKA ASSOCIATION • PO Box 57756 • Chicago, IL 60657

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Thank you for your continued support of the IPA, and good luck!

IPA Mourns the Passing of Marge Machay

On October 24, 2015, Margaret M. Machay, nee Jagielski, the longtime owner and operator of Polonia Banquets, passed away. She was the beloved wife of the late Charles Machay, loving mother of Michael (Norma), Sandra (John) Mikrut, Mark, Susanne and Brian (Mary), proud grandmother of ten grandchildren, and dearest friend of Dave Ulczycki. She is also survived by sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, and nephews.



In 1964, Marge and her late husband Chuck established the Polonia Ballroom & Grove that went on to become a Chicago landmark. To accommodate their growing business in the 1980's, they initiated a major facility renovation and changed its name to the present Polonia Banquets. The Machays have always unselfishly leveraged their establishment to promote polka music in addition to their catering services. For fifty years they hosted events with top polka entertainment that drew crowds from all over the United States and Canada. They showcased weekend-long picnics, festivals, and dances to support the International Polka Association and hosted the nationally known Bel-Aire Polka Days, produced by Eddie Blazonczyk. The family business at 4604 S. Archer Ave. in Chicago continues to be a hub for polka entertainment and events for the community. The Machay family has also expanded their business with their famous Polonia Catering to a second location in suburban Chicago. Thanks to Marge's example, Polonia Banquets continues to operate today with the same high standards of excellence. After a half of century, it's quite possible that Polonia Banquets is the longest-running polka establishment under the same management in the USA.

In addition to managing her business, Marge found time to serve on the IPA Executive Board as Treasurer and Director from Illinois for many years. She even served as IPA Festival & Convention Ad Book Chairperson for several years. Back when the IPA building was sold, Marge came forward and provided space at Polonia Banquets to house and display the precious polka artifacts that make up today's IPA Polka Hall of Fame Museum. What a lasting tribute to a great businesswoman and beloved polka promoter.

IPA Director T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert Passes



IPA Director T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert passed away on August 17, 2015. T. Ron earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from DePaul University, and LLB and JD degrees also from DePaul University and remained an active alumnus.

T. Ron celebrated life and embraced every effort to improve his community. Among his many accomplishments: T. Ron was President of Ameripol, Corporation, Inc.; President of Polonia Media Network; Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of "Polonia Today"; President of the Polish Arts Club of Chicago; past President and current Advocate of the Chicago Society PNA; founding President and current member of the Board of the Chicago Society Foundation; Director of the International Polka Association; Director of the Polish American Congress; former Director of Public Relations of the Polish National Alliance; founder, along with his mother Lee Herbert, of the Heritage Club of Polish Americans; Past President of the Advocates Society; past Director of the Polish National Alliance; past Director of the Polish American Congress, Illinois Division, practiced law in his office on Milwaukee Avenue; founder and president of ETC (Ethnic Television Channel), the first and only English-language television cable channel; candidate for Clerk of the City of Chicago; active member of various Democratic Party organizations; led tours

to Poland, Germany, and Russia, since he was fluent in those languages; producer of several documentaries on Polish topics; television, print and on-line journalist; social and political commentator.

T. Ron dedicated himself to anything he became involved with, often readily taking a leadership role, captivating everyone with his infectious laugh. He was a friend and mentor to many generations, a strong defender of all things Polish, and great friend of Polonia. T. Ron served on the IPA Board of directors for several years. He also took pictures for the organization and also was the webmaster of the organization for several years.

The Chicago Sun-Times published a very heartwarming tribute following T. Ron's passing. You can read it in its entirety at the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/TRonIPA>

We are forever grateful for everything that T. Ron has done for the IPA and will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award

It's that time of year again to get your nominations in for the annual Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award. How did this award get started? Who does this award honor?

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 International Polka Association (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.

Members of the IPA are invited to send in their nominations to recognize polka personalities who might not otherwise be acknowledged for their dauntless contributions. Nominees can include DJs, polka writers, promoters, ballroom operators, etc. **Bands and musicians are excluded.**

To submit a nomination, complete the form below, include a short biography of the nominees' accomplishments that qualify him or her for this award and mail it to: Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award, c/o IPA; PO Box 57758; Chicago, IL 60657. Nominations **MUST** be received **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1.** The IPA Board of Directors and Officers will then determine a winner.

Those already nominated include:

Laura Bethke , Past IPA Financial Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Assistant to Polka Music Hall of Fame Chairman, Award Winning Writer and guest DJ, from the State of Illinois.	Julianne Mossak , Promoter and Chair for the Minnesota State Polka Festival from the State of Minnesota.
Ernest Daigle , DJ, Promoter and Director of PACC in Ludlow, MA from the State of Massachusetts.	Harold Otto , DJ & Chairman of Pulaski Polka Days from the state of Wisconsin.
Fran Fierst , Polka Promoter from the state of New Jersey, presenting many polka weekends.	Eddie Ostry , DJ/IJ and polka promoter from Cleveland, Ohio.
Stas Golembowski , producer of public access TV program "Polka Time with Stas and Annie" from the state of Rhode Island.	Trudy Patek , President of the Versatones Polka Fan Club of Chicago from the state of Illinois.
Thomas & Shirley Kalinowski , Polka Promoter and DJ from the state of Maryland.	John Piotrowski , Polka promoter from the state of Illinois.
Butch & Mary Kotowski , Dance instructors from the state of Maryland.	Helen Ptak , Polka promoter from the state of Connecticut.
Dave Magdalik , DJ & Polka promoter from the state of Florida.	John Rivard , Editor and producer of The Texas Polka News from the state of Texas.
	Stan Wilgocki , DJ and promotions for Polish New Castle Radio, polka promoter from New York.

Bands for 2016 IPA Festival & Convention

If your band is interested in performing for the 48th annual IPA Festival & Convention to be held September 2-4, 2016 at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, New York, please submit your pricing and availability before December 1 to Band Chairman, Debbie Dunaj, via email at dunajda07@yahoo.com.



Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award

Below is a list of the IPA special achievement winners. When the IPA building was sold, some of the documentation became lost. If you were or know who was awarded for the years unknown, please contact President Rick Rzeszutko at musico@comcast.net.

Special Achievement Award Winners	Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award Winners	
1982—Joe Stuzik, MA	1990—Ann Stanko, CT	2002—Kenneth Gill, IL
1983—Joe & Wanda Marcissuk, MI	1991—Stella Rojak, FL	2003—Peter Hyrcyk
1984—Chuck & Marge Machay, IL	1992—Peter & Florence Hyrcyk, IL	2004—Gilbert Skudlarczyk, IL
1985—Tony & Nancy Jankowski, PA	1993—Virginia Seretny, CT	2005—Harriet Koziol, Bea Zawada and Stephanie McCracken, IL
1986—Versatones Fan Club, IL	1994—Keith Stras, IL	2006—David Ulczycki, IL
1987—Rose Marie Tynski, IL	1995—Carol Rohwetter, MI	2007—Peter Danielczuk, CT
1988— <i>unknown</i>	1996—Martha Adamus, IL	2008—Jerry Wantroba, IL
1989— <i>unknown</i>	1997—Emily Richards, IL/FL	2009—Carol Trzebiatowski, IL
	1998— <i>unknown</i>	2010—Helen Szubzda Curtin, MA
	1999— <i>unknown</i>	2012—Ed Szela, MA
	2000—Eugene “Gene” Swick, CA	2013—Gilbert “Gil” Ziemiński, MD
	2001—Dianne Rogodzinski Winiarz, MA	2014—Steve Litwin, NY
		2015—Todd Zaganiacz, MA



Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award Nominee

Honoree Name: _____

Signature of Member: _____

Address: _____

Nominations **MUST** be received **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1**.

Mail this to: Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award, c/o IPA, PO Box 57758, Chicago, IL 60657. Signature is required to verify current membership. Also, include a short biography of the nominee's accomplishments that qualify him or her for this award.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

**This form is only for
nominations.**

**The IPA Board of
Directors and Officers
will determine the
winner.**

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

November 7: John & Christy Krawisz
 November 14: Mike Maduzia and Rick Rzeszutko
 November 21: Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
 November 28: John Zelasko
 December 5: Bonnie Ryniec, Dennis Mikolajewski,
 and Dan & Laura Mateja
 December 12: Peter Danielczuk
 December 19: Ed Guca
 December 26: Freddy "K" Kendzierski
 January 2: Keith Pietranczyk

WPNA Radio Shows DJ's

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

November 8: Mike Maduzia and Rick Rzeszutko
 November 15: Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
 November 22: John & Christy Krawisz
 November 29: Keith Pietranczyk
 December 6: Bonnie Ryniec, Dennis Mikolajewski,
 and Dan & Laura Mateja
 December 13: Mike Maduzia and Rick Rzeszutko
 December 20: Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
 December 27: John & Christy Krawisz
 January 3: Keith Pietranczyk

IPA Calendar of Events

November 14: IPA Wisconsin Dance
 Rib River Ballroom—Marathon,
 WI
 November 17: IPA General Member Meeting
 Polonia Banquets—Chicago
 December 6: IPA Christmas Party
 Polonia Banquets—Chicago
 January 16: IPA Warm-Up Dance
 January 17: IPA Chicago Festival of Bands
 February 20: IPA Hall of Fame Benefit Dance
 Ludlow, MA
 February 21: IPA Hall of Fame Benefit Dance
 Ludlow, MA

Notes of Thanks...

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$50 in memory of Mr. Joseph "Jolly Joe" Timmer.

While there is still no known cause or cure for Alzheimer's disease at the present time, we have made tremendous strides in research, education, advocacy, and support for caregivers. We appreciate and are encouraged by your support as we strive to meet the diverse needs of those afflicted with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

Thank you again for your thoughtful donation!

Wendy Campbell
 President & CEO
 Alzheimer's Association
 Delaware Valley Chapter

I would like to say thank you to the IPA and everyone who felt that my contributions, while modest in comparison to many others, were important enough to present me with the great honor of being inducted into the IPA Hall of Fame.

Although my name is on the plaque, make no mistake that this honor is a testament to all of the extremely talented musicians that I've had the privilege to share the stage with over the past 44 years. It was from working alongside of such great talent that inspired and motivated me to always try to improve upon my own skills.

I am sincerely grateful to not only those musicians that I have learned from over the years, but also the dozens of people - Event Promoters, DJs, IJs, Venue Owners, Writers, Record Producers and most importantly, the fans, without whom this experience would have been possible.

This indeed has been a very special time for my wife Cherie and I. Unfortunately, I fear that I may not possess a vocabulary strong enough to truly express my deep gratitude for this great honor. Therefore, I can only humbly and sincerely say thank you from the bottom of my heart. God bless you all.

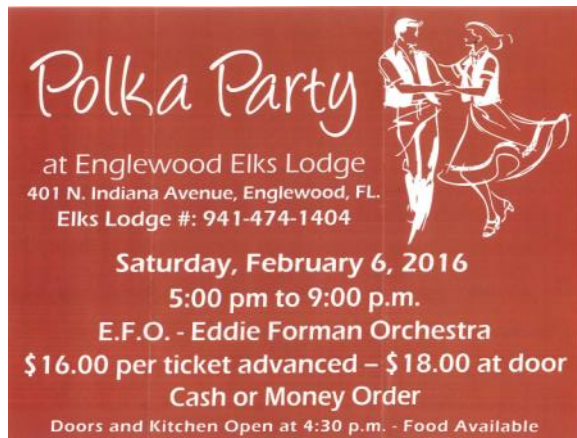
Sincerely yours in Polka Music,
 Mark Trzepacz
 2015 IPA Hall of Fame Inductee

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



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

I want to thank the IPA for hosting a terrific festival at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, New York this past Labor Day weekend.

I attended the IPA festival for the first time in many years and truly enjoyed the whole experience. I rekindled many of my Buffalo friendships that have gone astray over the years. I also made some new friends as well. It was a weekend I will not soon forget.

I enjoyed performing with the IPA Tribute Band and enjoyed the music of many other bands that performed that weekend.

Chet Kowalkowski
IPA Hall of Famer

Welcome New Members!

Brian Pordash	Edward Kutas
Jennifer Pietranczyk	Rosanna Kutas
David Slivinski	Mike Nowakowski
Ted Jedrzejewicz	Marek Kutrowski
Chester Pala	Frank Kutrowski
Jean Pala	Christine Kotowski
Greg Butch	Chester Dziadosz
Keith Wesolek	Jennifer Dziadosz
Ron Palkowski	Nancy Czabaj
Marty Biniasz	Bill Kozlauska
Gerald Ladosky	Wally Czaska
Nickolas Grabarek	Joseph Dembeck, Jr.
Gerrie Barsukiewicz	Dr. Mike Middleton
Sandy Berestka	Linda Olejnickak
Jeffrey Guyette	Steven Harris
Danny Fabeck	
Frank Waltos	LIFETIME MEMBERS:
Donna Inglot	Steve Wejrowski
Les Kapuscinski	Randy Koslosky
Andrew Galarneau	

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. Renew online at www.ipapolkas.com.

In Memoriam

The IPA extends their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of IPA members Milton Brozowski and Stephanie McCracken.

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.

Leon Kozicki Trustee's Award Presentation

Over the years, the IPA Polka Hall of Fame® and Music Awards processes have rightfully recognized deserving polka musicians who attained prominence in the polka industry for their musical achievements that helped promote polka music and broaden its audience. Because of their highly visible roles, bandleaders, or "front men and women," usually received most of the recognition for their groups' success that may have contributed to their winning individual awards or their eventual inductions into the Polka Hall of Fame. Unfortunately, exceptionally talented band mates who also contributed greatly to the success of their groups, often never received their due recognition.



L-R: Leon Kozicki Trustee Award Winner Tom Kula, IPA Co-Founder Leon Kozicki, IPA Trustee Tish Blazonczyk, and IPA Advisor Jerry Wantroba.

To address this situation, the IPA Polka Hall of Fame and Music Awards Committee collaborated with the body of Trustees to establish a new annual award to recognize these deserving "side men or women" of notable polka bands. To honor the legacy of the long-time Chairman of the IPA Polka Hall of Fame, Leon Kozicki, the committee and Trustees also recommended the award be titled "The Leon Kozicki Trustees Award." The IPA Board of Directors approved the establishment of the award effective this year.

Candidates for The Leon Kozicki Award must meet the following criteria: 1.) must not have been inducted into the IPA Polka Hall of Fame nor be listed on the current year's ballot (note: receiving this award would not disqualify deserving candidates from subsequent Polka Hall of Fame consideration); 2.) Must have at least 15 years of dedicated, significant service to the same prominent musical group and/or leader; and 3.) May not be deceased. Each year during the Hall of Fame/Awards cycle, the IPA Polka Hall of Fame Committee develops a short list of potential award candidates. The list is shared with the Trustees who vote to determine their choice of the most deserving candidate. The winner is contacted by the PHOF Committee and invited to attend the annual IPA Polka Hall of Fame and Music Awards Banquet to receive the award. If necessary, the award is presented at another time and location to accommodate the needs and preferences of the recipient. A plaque similar to The Joe Jozwiak Award is presented to the winner with a replica submitted for display in the IPA Polka Hall of Fame Museum. The award winner or representative receives a complimentary ticket to the banquet if he or she is able to attend.

The inaugural recipient of The Leon Kozicki Trustees Award is Tom Kula. Tom performed with the original Ampol Aires for over 50 years and continued appearing with the New Ampol Aires for an additional 13 years. His extraordinary musical talents and contributions to this legendary musical group epitomize the intent of this award. IPA Advisor Jerry Wantroba presented Tom Kula with his award on October 11, 2015 during a performance by the Ampol Aires at a Let's Polka USA Dance at Glendora Banquets. The International Polka Association extends hardy congratulations and heartfelt appreciation to Tom Kula for his remarkable polka career.

IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame Nominations

Those who desire to nominate themselves or other candidates for IPA Polka Hall of Fame induction consideration must provide a biography of the nominee, not to exceed two single-spaced pages. This biography must also accompany a completed IPA Polka Hall of Fame Nomination Form. The form can be found at ipapolka.com under the "Hall of Fame / Awards" tab. The form is also available by request by writing to: IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame Nomination, P.O. Box 91, Dover, DE 19903. The biography and nomination form must be mailed together to the address above so that the submission is postmarked by December 31st.

IPA Festival & Convention Recap - Pro Am Jam

The IPA was proud to host its first Pro Am Jam at the IPA's 47th Annual Festival and Convention at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, New York. Along with our Sergeant-at-Arms Peter Danielczuk, we reached out to some very talented professionals and Hall of Famers for help with bringing together talented kids from across the nation.

We couldn't have done this without the organizational skills of our ringleader, Randy Koslosky, as well as having the assistance of Mark Trzepacz, both newly-inducted into the IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame this year! The talented Kevin Adams, Hall of Fame inductee from 2015, also contributed ideas and support. All three managed to coordinate over thirty kids to perform alongside seasoned players and Hall of Famers for a one-hour show of polka music.

In total, there were nearly 50 performers on stage, playing and singing songs together—truly a “polka family”. It was simply beautiful. The crowd continued to grow to nearly 150 family members and friends who arrived one hour earlier to see this performance. I literally saw tears in peoples' eyes. Special thanks to Lisa Koslosky, Cherie Trzepacz, and Barbara Adams for all their behind-the-scenes efforts. We so appreciate the hard work of everyone involved and simply could not have accomplished so much without their efforts to make this endeavor a success. Our heartfelt thanks to all those involved and to the fans who attended in support of young and old alike. You are simply the best fans ever!
~ Laura Mateja





IPA Birthdays



November

- 1: Kevin Adams; Wally Stanczyk;
Charles Curtin; Mark Daniloff
- 2: Ted Matuszko
- 3: Mark Trzepacz
- 4: Jane Honn
- 5: Nance Dulaj; JoAnn Mancl
- 6: James Polaski
- 7: Linda Jelinek
- 8: Anne Gierut; Jill Styczynski
- 9: Sheila Miehle; Frank Styfurak;
Anthony Szczur
- 10: Thomas Zimnowski
- 11: Nicholas Grabarek
- 12: Richard Kuciemba
- 13: Ray Jarusinski; Jeff Mytych
- 14: June Sherry Ingram; Dennis Ostopowicz;
Robert Kujawa
- 15: Sue Szela;
- 18: Jeannette Prchal; Marty Dzik
- 19: Pat Maduzia; Dr. Mike Middleton
- 20: Barry Juhasz; Whitey Ryniec
- 21: Troy Gawlak
- 22: Sally Sendra; Myna Sadowski;
Sylvia Skowronek
- 23: Sandy Simunek; AJ Okrzesik;
Robert Wojnowski
- 24: Diane Hamlin; Anita Herrmann; Josephine
Malinowski; Walter Procanyn;
Marlene Rohal; Charlie Tansek
- 25: Bruno Burdzy; Mitch Moskal; Mary Wolski;
Lynn Thull; Peter Danielczuk;
Andrew Galarneau
- 26: Michaeline Drust; Andrew Dziagwa
- 27: Carol Stasila; Val Bakowski
- 28: Richard Wojcik
- 29: Angela Biskup
- 30: Matt Jaworski; Diane Trina;
Ray Barsukiewicz

December

- 1: Joseph J. Dembeck, Jr.
- 3: Karl Koch; Joseph Rupnik;
Jennifer Dziadosz; James Sajkowicz, Jr.;
- 4: Darryl Troczynski; Duffy O'Neill;
Barbara Fudalla
- 5: Chris Rose
- 6: Dick Zavodny; Rebecca Jurevis;
Sandy Berestka
- 7: Walter Nowak; Myrna Filipczak;
Marek Kutrowski
- 8: Rocco Naples; Steve Coblisch;
Darlene Kender; Alex Meixner
- 10: Bev Koziej; Frank Piotrowski
- 11: Neil Makatenas; Ed Slomkowski; Jim Nash;
Richard Kujawa
- 12: John Springer
- 13: John Piotrowski
- 15: Darrell Weltin; Daniel Okrzesik
- 16: Gary Sroka
- 17: Mark Janson; Stanley Sulikowski;
Ted Okrzesik, Jr.
- 18: Ken Kendra; Marla Kunke
- 19: Johnnie Bomba; Jennifer Buchert
- 20: Jessica Jurevis ; Bud Hyczyk
- 21: Pam Drust
- 22: Paul Wanas; Mary Valcik
- 23: Ronald Bies; John S. Mikrut, Carol Kibelbek
- 24: Stanley Kunysz
- 25: Joseph Niemietz
- 26: Richard Wisniewski; Linda Mitchkoski;
Maria Kula
- 27: Raymond Naczas; Claude Wiatrowski;
Gary Rhamy; Helga Leonard
- 29: Noreen Steenbock; Marsha Bulinski;
Mary Masse
- 31: Kathy Blazonczyk; Gerry Gorak

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

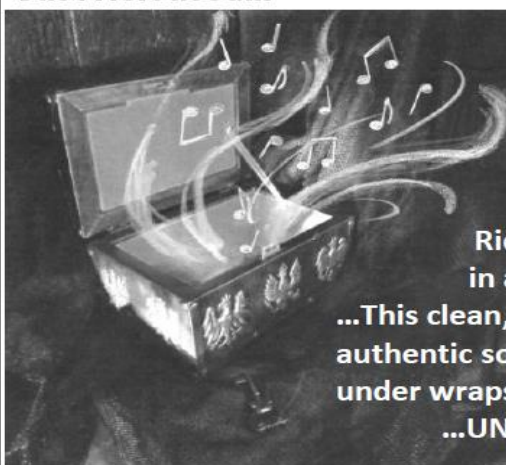
Polkamotion by the Ocean - 2016 Update

Polkamotion by the Ocean, the five-day polka festival held every year at Rehoboth Beach, DE, was another great success in 2015. Large, enthusiastic crowds filled the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center to listen and dance to polka bands that included *Polka Family*, *The Knewz*, *Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push*, the *Eddie Forman Orchestra*, *The Boys*, *Polka Country Musicians*, *The Dynasonics*, *Old School*, *Crabtown Sound*, and *The Variety Tones*. Throughout the fest, hungry polka patrons consumed over 2,000 pierogi, 120 pounds of kielbasa, hundreds of gołąbki, and other homemade delicacies. Oh, and they washed it down with 20 half-kegs of beer and eight cases of vodka! The annual *Polkamotion Open Golf Tournament* coordinated by “Jolly Rich” Anton was won by the John & Lynn Cieplik/Bob Frydryk & Sue Czech team from Massachusetts. Spectacular weather blessed the golfers, beachgoers, boardwalkers, and shoppers all week! Many thanks to the festival volunteers and all the fans who made Polkamotion 2015 another memorable event!

What About 2016?

Despite the fact that construction at the Rehoboth Beach City Hall/Convention Center will prevent Polkamotion from taking place in the convention hall next September, arrangements have been made to conduct polka dances at the nearby American Legion Post 17 Pavilion, 113 American Legion Rd, Lewes, DE. So, mark your calendars as follows: on Thursday, September 15, 2016, *Polka Family* will perform from 6 pm – 10 pm. The *Eddie Forman Orchestra* with a special *Charm City Sound Reunion* show will be featured on Friday, September 16 from 6 pm – 10 pm. The *Polka Country Musicians* will wrap things up at the pavilion from 6 pm – 10 pm on Saturday, September 17. Even though the pavilion is only seven miles from Rehoboth Beach, we’re looking into running a shuttle bus back and forth for folks staying in Rehoboth who prefer not to drive to the dances. After each dance, polka DJ parties are being planned at some of the fun Rehoboth Beach bars for the polka night owls. And, the annual *Polkamotion Open Golf Tournament* will be conducted as usual on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. Call Mike Matousek at (202) 246-7918 for more information. To keep up with the details as they unfold, visit www.polkamotion.com and www.rbpolka.com. In 2017, the construction will be complete so *Polkamotion* will be back at the Convention Center as usual.

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<p>November 14: IPA Wisconsin Dance Rib River Ballroom—Marathon, WI</p> <p>November 17: IPA General Member Meeting Polonia Banquets—Chicago</p> <p>December 6: IPA Christmas Party Polonia Banquets—Chicago</p> <p>January 16: IPA Warm-Up Dance</p> <p>January 17: IPA Chicago Festival of Bands</p> <p>February 20: IPA Hall of Fame Benefit Dance Ludlow, MA</p> <p>February 21: IPA Hall of Fame Benefit Dance Ludlow, MA</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>
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