



IPA Newsletter

May - June, 2016

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc. ®

A Letter From The President...

Hello Polka Fans,

It's time to get ready for another exciting polka festival season.

Many of the winter and early spring polka events have been outstanding. Thanks to all of you polka fans who continue to support dances and events in your area. Let's keep the momentum going. I urge you to continue to support all of the polka organizations, polka promoters, polka DJs and IJs all over the country. Consider bringing a friend or two out to introduce them to the music and fun we all have at a polka event. Ask someone to join the IPA or any other polka organizations in your area. The officers and directors of these organizations can't do it all by themselves. We need your help to keep polka music moving in a positive direction.

I would also like to congratulate the 2015 IPA Hall of Fame class and music award winners. We look forward to the IPA Festival Labor Day weekend to celebrate with you.

Thank you to the Hall of Fame Committee: Fred Bulinski, Fred Kendzierski, and Mike Matousek, for doing a fabulous job conducting the election process. I would also like to thank the Board of Trustees and electors for their contribution and cooperation.

In closing, I would like to thank the officers and directors of the IPA. This dedicated group of men and women work hard to keep our organization moving forward.

In the words of Theresa Parker from The Texas Polka News, "POLKA ON."

Rick Rzeszutko
President

IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame Inductees and Award Winners

IPA Hall of Fame inductees

Living Category

Stanley "Stas" Golonka
Carl Finch
Dean Hansen

Deceased Category

Don Jodlowski

Pioneer Category

Richard Midura

IPA 2015 Polka Music Award Winners

Favorite Band – The Knewz (NY)

Favorite Male Vocalist – Lenny Gomulka (MA)

Favorite Female Vocalist – Mollie Busta Lange (OH)

Favorite Polish Polka Album – "Breaking Knewz"
by The Knewz (NY)

Favorite International Polka Album – "Thank You Music Lovers"
by Steve Meisner (WI)

Favorite Song – "Root Beer Rag" by The Knewz (NY)

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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Debbie Dunaj - dunajda07@yahoo.com

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(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, 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!

48th Annual IPA Festival & Convention

48th Annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention



Millennium Hotel – Buffalo, New York
716-681-2400
www.millenniumhotels.com/buffalo

Labor Day Weekend 2016 – Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, September 2

John Gora &
Gorale

Mike Costa &
The Beat

Saturday, September 3

Buffalo Concertina
All Stars

IPA Tribute Band

The Boys

The Knewz

Sunday, September 4

Eddie Forman
Orchestra

Lenny Gomułka &
Chicago Push

Music Company

Polka Country
Musicians

Tower rooms are available for \$139 plus tax, per night when
mentioning the IPA Polka Festival.

www.ipapolkas.com or www.facebook.com/ipapolkas

Mark your calendars! We hope you can join us Labor Day weekend in Buffalo, New York, for the 48th annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention to be held once again at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo.

Call today to reserve your room at the newly renovated Millennium Hotel. Don't wait — our first block of rooms has already sold out, and our second block of rooms only have a small number left. It is sure to be another fun, successful, and well-attended event. Mention the IPA Polka Festival to receive the group room rate.

A full brochure will follow with complete details including a welcome party with music provided by Five Officers and a Gentleman on Friday, September 2; IPA Hall of Fame & Awards Banquet and pool party on Saturday, September 3; and Polka Mass on Sunday, September 4.

Watch ipapolkas.com and [facebook.com/ipapolkas](https://www.facebook.com/ipapolkas) for more information to come!

Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, August 6 IPA Picnic

Hammond Mohawks
4040 Calumet Ave
Hammond, Indiana

Sunday, October 23 IPA Dance with The Boys

Glendora Banquets
10225 S Harlem Ave
Chicago Ridge, Illinois

...more details coming soon...

General Member Meeting

Tuesday, May 17
7:00PM
Polonia Banquets
Chicago, IL

IPA Announces Polka Hall of Fame Inductees and 2015 Music Award Winners

The International Polka Association recently announced this year's Polka Music Hall of Fame inductees and the 2015 Polka Music Award winners. Normally, two prominent living personalities and one deceased celebrity, who have made outstanding contributions toward the advancement of the polka music industry, are elected into the Polka Music Hall of Fame each year. An academy of 180 qualified electors from across the country select the Hall of Fame inductees and music awards recipients. Since the results of this year's Hall of Fame balloting resulted in a tie, three individuals were chosen for induction into the Living category. The Board of Trustees also selects an outstanding candidate for induction into the Pioneer category.

Polka Hall of Fame Inductees

Living Category

Stanley "Stas" Golonka (IL) – Famed Chicago drummer, recording artist, vocalist and leader of *The Chicago Masters* known as "The King of Honky." He toured nationally for over 30 years and performed with polka greats that included Li'l Wally and Marion Lush. His smooth Dean Martin-like vocals and energetic rhythms are evident on his nine recordings. The United States Polka Association recognized him with a special award for drumming in 1988.

Carl Finch (TX) – Renowned guitarist, keyboardist, accordionist, vocalist, recording artist, record producer, and founder of *Brave Combo*. His nationally known eclectic group has been performing since 1979, was nominated for seven Grammy Awards, and won two Grammys in 1999 and 2004. Several of the band's recordings have been featured in motion pictures and TV programs, including the acclaimed animated series *The Simpsons*.

Dean Hansen (NE) – Popular accordionist and recording artist known for his distinctive Czech polka style. He toured extensively throughout the USA, as well as a musical tour to Europe, with many notable artists including the late great *Ernie Kucera*, IPA Polka Hall of Famer. His musical excellence and reputation as leader of one of the top bands from Nebraska resulted in his induction into the Sokol Omaha Polka Hall of Fame.

Deceased Category

Don Jodlowski (IL) - Legendary drummer, radio personality, and TV/recording artist from Chicago. Played for *The Polkaliers*, later led *The Vibrasounds*, and performed with polka greats that included *Joe Pat (Paterek)*, *Johnny Bomba*, *Little Richard Towalski*, *Li'l Wally Jagiello*, *The Ampol Aires*, and *Frankie Yankovic*. He was one of the original founders of the IPA and held various offices on the Executive Board over many years.

Pioneer Category

Richard Midura (MA) – Known as "The Pioneer of Polka Clarinet Improvisation" by his peers, he lent his smooth clarinet and saxophone mastery to the live performances and recordings of the top eastern-style polka bands that included *The Connecticut Twins*, *Ray Henry*, *Walt Solek*, *Al Cocoa*, and *Eddie Siwicki*. He also and toured with *Gene Wisniewski*, *Al Soyka*, and *Ed Swierand's Aristocrats*, and performed the Clarinet Polka on the *Ed Sullivan Show*.

2015 Polka Music Awards

Favorite Band – The Knewz (NY)

Favorite Male Vocalist – Lenny Gomulka (MA)

Favorite Female Vocalist – Mollie Busta Lange (OH)

Favorite Polish Polka Album – "Breaking Knewz" by The Knewz (NY)

Favorite International Polka Album – "Thank You Music Lovers" by Steve Meisner (WI)

Favorite Song – "Root Beer Rag" by The Knewz (NY)

IPA Announces Polka Hall of Fame Inductees and 2015 Music Award Winners

Special Achievement Awards

Beginning last year, a new award was established by the Board of Trustees to recognize an exceptional performer who greatly contributed to the success of a major polka band over a long period of time in a non-leadership capacity. The award was named the *Leon Kozicki Award* in honor of the long-time Polka Hall of Fame chairman. Each year, The IPA Board of Directors also selects a non-musician who has dedicated significant time and energy toward the promotion of polka music for the *Joe Jozwiak Award*. This special achievement award is named in honor of the long-time polka promoter from Chicago.

Leon Kozicki Award

Eric Parks (NY) – Phenomenal trumpet player for the 18-time Grammy Award winning *Jimmy Sturr Orchestra*. He has performed with the band for over 40 years and recorded over 100 albums. During that time he also led the *Jazz Knights* at West Point and later retired from the Army as a Sergeant Major.

Joe Jozwiak Award

Jill Czerniak (OH) – Well known long-time polka supporter, promoter, and advocate. She is a former IPA Director and Cleveland Polka Association President and continues to be a vital facilitator in the polka industry.

The induction ceremonies and award presentations (with the exception of the Joe Jozwiak Award that was presented in Chicago) will be conducted at the IPA Polka Hall of Fame & Music Awards Banquet held this year on Saturday, September 3 at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, NY. Contact Linda Niewierowski at 773-489-3987 to make your banquet reservations. The banquet is just part of the 48th Annual IPA Polka Festival and Convention that takes place from September 2-4, 2016. For all the details about the festival, banquet, and convention, visit www.ipapolkas.com.

IPA Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the winners in the 2016 IPA calendar raffle. There still are many, many more chances for you to win \$100! If you haven't yet purchased a ticket, contact an IPA board member for your chance to win.

IPA 50th Anniversary - 2018

In preparation for our 50th anniversary celebration in 2018, we are looking for photos from IPA events throughout the years. Please help us by submitting your photos of your experiences at IPA events. Any help you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

Pictures can be scanned and emailed to Christy Krawisz: Christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net.

Copies of pictures can also be mailed to:
IPA 50th Anniversary Photos
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60585

Photos mailed will not be returned. Thank you for your continued support!

January 3	Mary Jo Pavilon	Palos Park, IL
January 10	Art Kalena	Hemet, CA
January 17	Ed Nicoski	Melrose Park, IL
January 24	Halle Sweis	Homer Glen, IL
January 31	Tom McGuire	Boswell, PA
February 7	Bev Lorek	Parma, OH
February 14	Mark Bushinski	Jackson, MI
February 21	Jenna Pearl	Park Ridge, IL
February 28	Alan Bush	Elmhurst, IL
March 6	Jean Nottoli	Orland Park, IL
March 13	Larry Stec	Wyandotte, MI
March 20	Ed Sienkowski	North Judson, IN
March 27	John Gembka	Depew, NY
April 3	Carolyn Baras	Eureka, MO
April 10	Cheryl Furmaniak	Bolingbrook, IL
April 17	Arlene Talbot	Fox Lake, IL
April 24	Ed Nicoski	Melrose Park, IL

IPA Polka Hall of Famer Chet Dragon Passes

At the age of 12 Chet had a couple of neighbors that were musicians one played the clarinet, the other the accordion. Chet knew that if he purchased a trumpet he would be asked to join them. Chet's family couldn't afford to just purchase one for him outright, so he worked on a farm for two weeks which netted him \$10 which was just enough to purchase that trumpet. Now he needed to take lessons, which were 75 cents. His family was often on a tight budget—and how many weren't—so after the necessities were taken care of, many of us didn't have too many 75 cents left over."

Consequently, Chet Dragon of Worthington, Massachusetts, only had a dozen or so formal trumpet lessons. However, his enthusiasm, hours of practice, and his love for polka music produced a product that the entire polka field can be proud of.

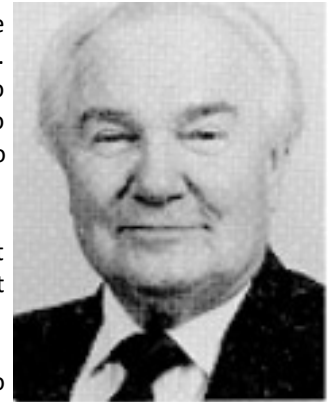
While attending Northampton High School, Chet's love of polka music was so strong that he tried to transform the high school dance band into a polka band much to the chagrin of the music director. After returning from the service, Chet was summoned to pick up his trumpet and appear with such greats as Ray Henry, Walt Solek, Joe Rock and Larry Chesky to name a few. During this time Chet was introduced to his lovely wife Mary Lou Osgood. It was with her encouragement that Chet decided to form his own band in 1966.

By 1993, Chet had recorded 8 polka albums on such prestigious labels as Bel-Aire and Starr. For some 55 years Chet was performing polkas from Chicago to New England, Canada, Hawaii, and on 10 cruise ships. While playing in Poland, the birthplace of his father, at the Hotel Victoria in Warsaw, Chet appeared on television. In addition, Chet and his wife Mary Lou had been broadcasting for 22 years in the Massachusetts area, and had been promoting trips all over the East Coast.

In August, 1993 Chet realized his lifelong dream of being inducted into the IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame during the IPA's 25th Anniversary at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel.

Chet passed away on March 4 in Florida at the age of 92.

IPA biography taken from: <http://www.ipapolkas.com/blog/otw-portfolio/chet-dragon-pioneer-category-inducted-1993/>



IPA & Let's Polka USA Unity Dance

Sunday April 3rd brought together the IPA and the Let's Polka USA organizations from Chicago for the 5th annual "Unity Dance." The day started out with a live radio broadcast celebrating Polka Hall of Famer Chet Schafer's 65th anniversary of radio broadcasting. A technical glitch arose with a commercial to be played for Adams Furniture. However, that didn't stop the show. Many of Chet's family members gathered around a microphone to sing the Adams Furniture jingle acapella in its entirety. Congratulations to Chet Schafer for being on the air 65 years and going strong. After the radio show, the crowd of almost 250 people was entertained by The IPA Tribute Band special guest appearance by IPA Polka Hall of Famer John Gora. Thank you to John Gora for performing with the band. All in attendance had an absolutely fantastic time. —Keith Pietranczyk



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

May 7:	Keith Pietranczyk
May 14:	Freddy "K" Kendzierski
May 21:	Mike Maduzia and Rick Rzeszutko
May 28:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
June 4:	John Zelasko
June 11:	John & Christy Krawisz
June 18:	Bonnie Ryniec, Dennis Mikolajewski, and Dan & Laura Mateja
June 25:	Peter Danielczuk
July 2:	Ed Guca

WPNA Radio Shows DJ's

Sundays, 11:00-12 noon Central Time

1490 AM Chicago or online at

www.radiowpna.com

May 8:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
May 15:	John & Christy Krawisz
May 22:	Keith Pietranczyk
May 29:	Bonnie Ryniec, Dennis Mikolajewski, and Dan & Laura Mateja
June 5:	Mike Maduzia and Rick Rzeszutko
June 12:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
June 19:	John & Christy Krawisz
June 26:	Keith Pietranczyk

In Memoriam

The IPA extends their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the following IPA members:

Ruby Krason, Past IPA Director
Chet Dragon, IPA Hall of Famer
Geraldine Babula
Mark Daniloff



"Like" us on Facebook!
For all the latest news and information, visit:
facebook.com/ipapolkas

Welcome New Members!

Lorraine Truskolaski

Bob Wolinski

Mike Charney

Tom Wanderlich

Antony Paliga

Robert Gawryla

Lisa Zapiec

Carl Lucas

Natale Michael Lucas II

Melanie Ellis

Ronald Lachut

Debbie Parat

LIFETIME MEMBER:

Bob Zukowski

Mike Cielecki

Kim Cielecki

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.

Note of Thanks

I want to send my absolute sincere appreciation for honoring me with the Joe Jozwiak Special Achievement Award at the IPA Festival of Bands in January. That was, and is, such a humbling honor, and I feel very blessed to have been chosen. The IPA has always been an organization near and dear to the hearts of the Czerniaks.

Another sincere thank you for honoring my grandfather, Joe, with a donation in his memory to the National Support for Alzheimers.

Looking forward to seeing all the additional contributions by the IPA in support of keeping polka music alive.

Many thanks, and God Bless,
Jill Czerniak

Thank Yous

Thank you to the following for their monetary donations:

- Leonard & Mary Wolski
- Stanley Strojny
- Edwin Rajewski
- Natalie & Stanley Szufnarowski
- Linda Walczynski-Louie in memory of Ray Gresczyk
- Pauline Grabelski in memory of John Demerski
- Mary Lou Czerniak & family in memory of Joseph Czerniak



IPA Birthdays



May

- 1: Dick Powell
- 2: Judy Del Pozzo; Valerie Pudlo; Gary Rozak;
Rita Sajkowicz; John Kwiatkowski, Jr;
John Kostecki
- 3: Beverly Lorek ; Jennifer Pietranczyk
- 4: Harold Otto; Sandi Zaganiacz;
Debbie Walczynski-Greene
- 6: Frank Gubala; Mashelle Pavey; Robert Mazur
- 7: Ray Pasinski; Richard Kozacko
- 8: Grace Mikrut ; Lorraine "Travers" Truskolaski
- 9: Janice Lochner; Dan Bizon
- 10: Lenny Zielinski; John Demerski; David Nowatzki;
Mike Surratt; Jill Czerniak;
Danny "Potts" Poczciwinski
- 11: Eleanor Grudi
- 12: Bernie Gorak II; Minnie Florio; Chester Sterczek
- 13: Julie Figura; Connie Shemansky; Bob Raica
- 14: Stacey Morris; Carolyn Blajda
- 15: Krystin Benkowski; Linda Olejnickak;
Norma Machay
- 16: Chris Bogdon; Eddie Korosa, Jr.; Bob Zukowski
- 17: Edmund Burdzy; Linda Chesky-Fernandes;
Michael Nowakowski
- 18: Larry Stec
- 19: Clarence Karakla; Joe Michalski;
- 20: Ryan Ogrodny; Stan Baryla
- 21: Marge Smith; Edwin Rajewski
- 22: Chet Schafer; Raymond Skorka;
Linda Kendzierski; Henny Jasiewicz
- 23: Judith Pollick; Ruth Lietz; Melanie Ellis
- 24: Mary Saber; Ron Palkowski; Marty Biniasz
- 25: Robyn Mrozinski; Arlene Talbot
- 26: Tim Winiarz
- 27: Rick Zarek; Jane Piotrowski; Jeffrey Elrick;
Jersey Polka Richie;
- 28: Carol Schminski
- 29: Andy Bojczuk; Carolyn Kasprovicz;
Marty Olshanski; Kim Hedrich; Peter Siuda
- 30: Jerold Kriston
- 31: John Bryndza; Ashley Mateja; Bill Popek;
Boyer Simcox

June

- 1: Mike Skalecki; Ron Buczko
- 2: Jack Sanocki
- 3: Virgil Baker, Jr; Bernie Gorak, Sr.
- 4: Richie Sendra; Bob Jakubielski
- 5: Jeannette Ziobro; Stan Pasko
- 6: Robert Banoczi; Mary Jo Liccar;
Carl Simchena
- 7: Debbie Dunaj, Rich Benkowski; Joe Kizior;
- 8: Ted Jedrzejewicz
- 9: Mary Kay Dench; Lambert Lasecki;
- 10: John Baras; Eugene Kasprovicz;
Dale Kivinen
- 11: Wayne Drust; Mel Himes; Eddie Ostry
- 12: Virgil "Butch" Herrmann; Chet Kowalkowski
- 13: Walter Berkowicz
- 14: Judy Kwiatowski; CJ Jozwiak
- 15: Kevin Cornnell
- 16: Aaron Slivinski
- 17: Robert Zajeski
- 18: Dave Walczak; Kevin Weinstock
- 19: Tony Crispo; Robert Jayo;
Bernard Krygowski
- 20: Bud Beyer; Louise Kurek; Karen Dekoski;
- 21: Dan Gury
- 22: Joanne Kozleski Jones; Robert Krupka
- 23: Ed Krupinski
- 24: Kenneth Dunaj; Mollie Busta Lange;
Jay Skiba; Julie Matus
- 26: Mary Ann Markatenas; John Filipczak;
Wayne Machnicki; Joe Zalewski
- 27: Joseph Wondolowski
- 28: Julcia Dusseault; Frank Blajda
- 29: Ron Urbanczyk
- 30: Charles Townsend

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

**St. Mary Magdalene
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**7th Annual
European
Festival**

**Saturday, September 10, 2016
11 AM - 11 PM**

**COME EXPERIENCE CULTURES
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**Live Music & Dancing
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stmmeurofest.com | 216.906.3463**

Inside on the main stage

- 11:00 The Italian Choral Group
- 12:00 TBA
- 12:30 Cannon Irish Dancers
- 1:00 Gottscheer Austrian Dancers
- 1:30 Piast Polish Ensemble
- 2:00 Tribal Fire Dancers
- 2:30 Gottscheer Austrian
- 3:00 STV Bavaria
- 3:30 Buna Vestire Romanian Dancers
- 4:00 Syrena Polish Dance Group
- 5:00 St. Nicholas Russian Dancers (Akron)



**6:30-10:30 "Jimmy K. & Ethnic Jazz"
Polka and more!**

Guest Speakers in the Church

- 1:00 Rev. James Batcha, Byzantine priest
- 3:00 Robert Cripps, Byzantine Deacon
- 2:00 & 4:00 Church Tours, Mr. Virgil Daniel

Church Services

- 5:00 PM Vespers (Evening Prayers)
- 11:00 PM Divine Liturgy (Catholic Mass)

Menu

- Hand-pinched Potato Cheese Pierogi
- Chicken Paprikash, Potato Pancakes
- Stuffed Cabbage, Pork Goulash
- Hot Dogs, Kielbasa & Kraut
- Cabbage & Noodles, Sauerkraut Balls
- Nut & Poppyseed Roll and other Bakery

Tour of Central Europe

Prague, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, Krakow, Zakopane



Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland

with John Gora as your host

Aug. 21st to Sept. 1st, 2016

Direct flight from North America to Europe. Explore: Prague, Cesky Krumlov, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, Esztergom, Kosice, Zakopane, Krakow and many other places on the way. Price of \$2300. US per person includes: Top hotels, two meals per day, ground transportation, sightseeing tours and services of English speaking guides, entertainment, taxes, tips plus much more. Cost of flights is not included in this price. Full day by day itinerary is available.

For more information on all the trips please contact

John Gora: Tel: 905-336-3055 or Email: john@johngora.com

Or our travel agent Wanda 1-800-533-0369 Email: wanda@chopintours.com



Other trips with John Gora

SOUTHERN CARRIBEAN 8 DAY POLKA CRUISE

November 5 to 13, 2016

From Miami, FL on Carnival Cruise Lines

&

TOUR OF POLAND with EDDIE FORMAN ORCHESTRA

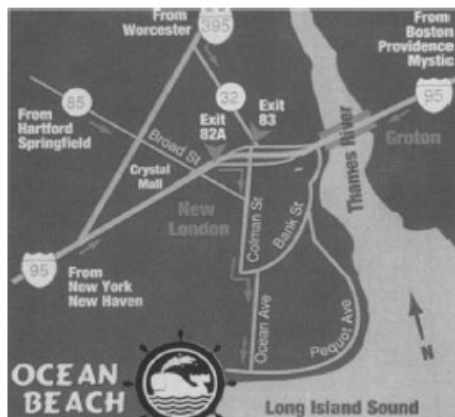
August 4 to 16, 2017

www.johngora.com



Polka Festival Location

98 Neptune Avenue
New London, CT 06320



www.oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com

For Questions and Ticket Inquiries

Please call the Ocean Beach Park
Polka Days information line at:

860-598-4117

Ocean Beach Park Polka Days

PO Box 247

Versailles, CT 06383

info@oceanbeachparkpolkadays.com

**SCHEDULE OF BANDS****Wednesday, June 22**

7 pm – 10 pm
On The Boardwalk

Polka Country Musicians

Open To The Public
FREE Admission
\$6.00 Parking Fee

**Thursday, June 23**

11 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

Matt's All Star Jam Band

5:30 pm – 12:30 am
In The Ballroom

Maestro's Men***Larry Trojak With PCM******Polka Family***

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

Friday, June 24

10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

The Boys***IPA Tribute Band***

5:00 pm – 1:00 am
In The Ballroom

Eddie Forman***The Knewz******Polka Country Musicians******Larry Trojak With PCM******Freeze Dried***

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

**Saturday, June 25**

10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

Freeze Dried***The Knewz***

5:30 pm – 12:30 am
In The Ballroom

IPA Tribute Band***Polka Country Musicians******The Boys***

\$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.

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\$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 2016 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.freddyvkjrmusicscholarship.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

- 2015 – Adam Winiarz, Norton, Massachusetts**
- 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

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<p>May 17: IPA General Member meeting Polonia Banquets; Chicago, IL</p> <p>August 6: IPA Picnic - Hammond Mohawks Hammond, IN</p> <p>September 2-4: IPA Festival & Convention Millennium Hotel—Buffalo, NY</p> <p>October 23: IPA Dance with The Boys Glendora Banquets; Chicago Ridge, IL</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>Email .jpg or .pdf ad files to Debbie Dunaj: dunajda07@yahoo.com.</p>
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