



IPA Newsletter

May - June, 2017

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 2017 IPA Hall of Fame class and 2016 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.

Rick Rzeszutko
President

IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame Inductees and Award Winners

2017 IPA Hall of Fame inductees

Living Category

Fred Ziwich
Andy Fenus

Deceased Category

Elmer Scheid
Marge Machay

Pioneer Category

Ed Kutas, Sr.

IPA 2016 Polka Music Award Winners

Favorite Band – Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push (MA)

Favorite Male Vocalist – Lenny Gomulka (MA)

Favorite Female Vocalist – Mollie Busta Lange (OH)

Favorite Polish Polka Album – “Where The Boys Are”
by The Boys (MD)

Favorite Polish Style Song – “Mary Jane” by The Boys

Favorite International Polka Album – “Squeezebox By Request”
by Squeezebox (OH)

Favorite International Style Song – “North Shore Polka” by
Squeezebox and “Church Picnic Polka” by The Dujka Brothers
(TIE)

Leon Kozicki Award – Joey Sokol

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

Contact us:

International Polka Association, Inc.®
PO Box 57758
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)
Media Advisor: Jerry Wantroba (IL)

Directors:

Patrick Henry Cukierka (IL)
Debbie Dunaj (WI)
Ed Guca (Canada)
Dan Mateja (IL)
Laura Mateja (IL)
Mike Matousek (MD)
Dennis Mikolajewski (IL)
Jake Mikrut (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, 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!



Mark Your Calendars!



49th Annual
International Polka Association
Festival & Convention

Labor Day Weekend
September 1-3, 2017
Millennium Hotel
Buffalo, New York

John Gora & Gorale
Freeze Dried
Polka Method
Stephanie
IPA Tribute Band
The Project
Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push
The Boys
The Music Company
Polka Country Musicians
The Knewz

More information coming soon!
ipapolkas.com
facebook.com/ipapolkas

Mark your calendars for the 49th Annual IPA Festival and Convention, happening once again Labor Day weekend at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo, New York.

If you haven't already made reservations to join us, call the Millennium Hotel at 716-681-2400 to make your room reservation today. Tower room rates are available for \$115/night when you mention the special IPA group rate. Make your reservations soon, as the rooms are filling fast!

More details to be announced soon. We hope you can join us!



I.P.A. SUMMER PICNIC



SUNDAY August 6, 2017

Hammond Mohawks Picnic Grove
4040 Calumet Avenue, Hammond, IN 46320

Directly off of the Indiana Toll Road Exit 5, Calumet Avenue
Only 30 minutes from Chicago

Music by:
Polka Generations and Tri-City Drive

Gates open at 12:30 pm
Music from 1-7 pm

Admission: \$12.00
Receive \$2 off if you show your IPA Membership Card

Cash Bar
Food Available for purchase
Grilling by "Chef Keith"

Rain or Shine as we will be under tents

IPA 50th Anniversary

In preparation for our 50th anniversary 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.

You can scan and email them to:
christy-ipa@sbcglobal.net or mail a copy that will not be returned to: IPA 50th Anniversary Photos;
PO Box 1484; Plainfield, IL 60585.

NEXT IPA GENERAL MEMBER MEETING:

Tuesday, May 16

7:00PM

Polonia Banquets — Chicago

IPA Radio Shows

Don't forget! The IPA broadcasts two weekly polka shows, and both are available to listen to online. At the time of printing, the schedule of radio hosts was not available.

Polka Jammer IJs

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

May 6:	Keith Pietranczyk
May 13:	Dan & Laura Mateja and Dennis Mikolajewski
May 20:	Bonnie Ryniec and Rick Rzeszutko
May 27:	Freddy "K" Kendzierski
June 3:	Peter Danielczuk
June 10:	Ed Guca
June 17:	Freddy "K" Kendzierski
June 24:	it's a surprise!
July 1:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
July 8:	John & Christy Krawisz
July 15:	Keith Pietranczyk

WPNA Radio Shows DJ's

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

May 7:	Keith Pietranczyk
May 14:	Dan & Laura Mateja and Dennis Mikolajewski
May 21:	Bonnie Ryniec and Rick Rzeszutko
May 28:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
June 4:	John & Christy Krawisz
June 11:	Keith Pietranczyk
June 18:	Dan & Laura Mateja and Dennis Mikolajewski
June 25:	Bonnie Ryniec and Rick Rzeszutko
July 2:	Linda Niewierowski and Jerry Wantroba
July 9:	John & Christy Krawisz
July 16:	Keith Pietranczyk

Welcome New Members!

Ray Budzilek, Jr. (OH)	Michelle Morgiewicz (NY)
Teresa Bagrowski (OH)	Joseph Morgiewicz (NY)
Louis J. Fava, Jr. (PA)	Michael Pucowski (NJ)
Michael Blaskowski (WI)	Mark Coleman (NY)
Daniel McNamara (NY)	Jeff Heinz (WI)
Curt Pollmann (IL)	Dianne Gora (Canada)

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

We mourn the passing of IPA members Frank Borash and Earnest (Ernie) Boyd. May they rest in peace.

Belated Birthday Wishes

Happy Belated Birthdays to Jane Siuda, Douglas Glon, and Bob Jarrot. They celebrated their birthdays on April 21.



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.

Please Remember Us In Your Will Or Trust

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

IPA Polka Hall of Famer Henry "Henny" Jasiewicz Passes

Henry David (Henny) Jasiewicz was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, on May 22, 1945.

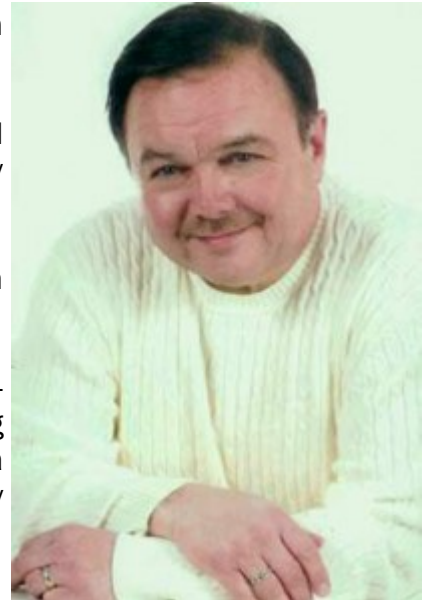
He has performed professionally since he was nine years old and started his polka career playing trumpet for Leo Gibala & The Bell Hops. Henny performed with this group for several years.

In 1979 he started his own band known as Henny & The Versa Js, which has performed locally, nationally and in Poland.

Topping off a list of accomplishments is a 2004 Grammy award nomination. Henny is the recipient of many awards and commendations including recognition from the International Polka Association, United States Polka Association, 24/7 Polka Heaven awards and a proclamation from the city of McKeesport, making the month of May Henny & The Versa Js month.

Henny was inducted into the IPA Polka Music Hall of Fame in 2011.

<http://www.ipapolkas.com/blog/otw-portfolio/henny-henny-jasiewicz-living-category-inducted-2011/>



Obituary:

Henry David Jasiewicz, 71, of McKeesport, died Tuesday April 25, 2017 at home after a courageous battle with brain cancer. He fought until the end. He was a 1963 graduate of McKeesport High School. Owner/operator of Renzie Auto Center and leader of, Henny & the Versa J's polka band. Also former member of the Bell Hops Orchestra. Henny was a 2005 Grammy nominated recording artist.

He was born May 22, 1945 in McKeesport and was the son of the late Henry T. and Josephine Bala-wadger Jasiewicz. Married, Joan A. Wirth Jasiewicz on April 8, 1967. Father of Teri Jasiewicz (John) Binkiewicz of Pickerington, Ohio and Henry J. "Butchie" (Teresa Whitney) Jasiewicz of Hempfield Township, PA. Brother to Diane "Dee-Dee" Jasiewicz Ogradny (late Stas) of Nashville, TN.

Also survived by nieces and nephews and several cousins. Pap to 6 grandchildren whom he loved and was proud of: Justin, Jayna and Anna Binkiewicz - Julia, Emma, and Jacob Jasiewicz. They were the center of his life. He was a people person as he worked as a mechanic and played many weddings and dances while traveling across the country. He was a gentle man who loved his children and grandchildren and loved to spend time at their activities. He belongs to the 11th Ward club, the PNA Club #352 in McKeesport, Pittsburgh Musicians, Cleveland Polka Association, United States Polka Association and International Polka Association.. He was inducted into the IPA Hall of Fame in Chicago, IL.

<http://www.mckeesportobituaries.com/?e=1875>



IPA Birthdays



May

- 1: Dick Powell
- 2: Judy Del Pozzo; Gary Rozak; Rita Sajkowicz;
John Kwiatkowski, Jr; John Kostecki
- 3: Jennifer Pietranczyk
- 4: Harold Otto; Sandi Zaganiacz;
Debbie Walczynski-Greene
- 6: Frank Gubala; Mashelle Pavey; Robert Mazur;
Julie Misek
- 7: Ray Pasinski; Richard Kozacko
- 8: Grace Mikrut ; Lorraine "Travers" Truskolaski
- 9: Janice Lochner; Dan Bizon; Matthew Kasprzyk
- 10: Lenny Zielinski; John Demerski; David Nowatzki;
Mike Surratt; Jill Czerniak; Bini Husain;
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; Eileen Uba
- 15: Krystin Benkowski; Linda Olejnickak;
Daniel McNamara
- 16: Chris Bogdon; Eddie Korosa, Jr.; Bob Zukowski
- 17: Edmund Burdzy; Linda Chesky-Fernandes;
Michael Nowakowski
- 18: Larry Stec; Fran Russo; Jackie Libera
- 19: Clarence Karakla
- 20: Ryan Ogradny; Stan Baryla
- 21: Marge Smith; Edwin Rajewski
- 22: Chet Schafer; Raymond Skorka;
Linda Kendzierski;
- 23: Judith Pollick; Ruth Lietz; Melanie Ellis
- 24: Mary Saber; Ron Palkowski; Marty Biniasz
- 25: Robyn Mrozinski; Arlene Talbot; Jim Letnick
- 26: Tim Winiarz ; Thomas Lewandowski
- 27: Rick Zarek; Jane Piotrowski;
- 28: Carol Schminski
- 29: Andy Bojczuk; Carolyn Kasproicz;
Marty Olshanski; Kim Hedrich; Peter Siuda
- 30: Jerold Kriston; Ricky Krupski
- 31: John Bryndza; Ashley Mateja; Bill Popek;
Boyer Simcox

June

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

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

Press Release — D.T.O.

Richard Allen Michael Tady, an IPA member for many years, has been performing and recording polka & waltz music for over 58 years. Nominated for a Grammy in 1992 (Dick Tady Orchestra, D.T.O.) and performing on a Grammy winning album in 1993, has kept his love for polka and waltz music stronger than ever! He was inducted into the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame for "Lifetime Achievement" in 1999 and has received numerous awards from the American Slovenian Polka Foundation. Better known in the polka field as Dick Tady, his new solo release, **Richard Allen Michael Tady, "He's Back," With More Great American Slovenian Polka & Waltz Hits! (Button Box Style)** was the winning "Recording of the Year," presented by the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame at the downtown Marriott Hotel, Cleveland, OH on November 26, 2016. He also received the award for New Original Song, "**Justie & Maggie's Song**," written for his grandchildren.

This is his second solo recording. As with his first solo release back in 2003, "**The Greatest Slovenian Polka Hits**," he has played all of the instrumental parts and sang all of the Slovenian & English lyrics.

Dick has been the leader of the Dick Tady Orchestra (D.T.O.) for the past 53 years. His musicians include Bob McBride on banjo, guitar & voice, Joe Gill on drums & voice, Tony Grandovic on accordion & keyboard, Don Lavrich on bass guitar & voice and Dick on Tenor Sax, wind-controller, button box & voice. The D.T.O. can be seen on the Nationally televised "Mollie B" Polka Show. They have made commercials for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Subway Restaurants with Myron Cope and appeared in the final scene of the "**Homemakers**" movie, just to mention a few. The Dick Tady Orchestra has received the Prestigious Crystal Award for Band of the Year in 1995 & 2010 by the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame, the American Slovenian Polka Foundation, Cleveland OH.

For further information, Dick Tady can be reached at 152 Cambridge Drive; Harwick, PA 15049 or phone 412-580-0236.

In Recognition

April 23, 2017: Warren Polka Boosters. In recognition of your efforts to promote polka music in Michigan and your support of polka music throughout the country. Thank you, and congratulations on your 45th anniversary.

April 23, 2017: The Polka Party. In recognition of your efforts to promote polka music and your support of polka music throughout the country. Thank you and congratulations on your 70th anniversary of radio broadcasting.

March 12, 2017: It is our privilege to honor Stas Golonka, for all his years of providing excellence with his music and attaining the highest recognition in the polka industry.

March 12, 2017: It is our privilege to honor Richie Midura, for all his years of providing excellence with his music and attaining the highest recognition in the polka industry.



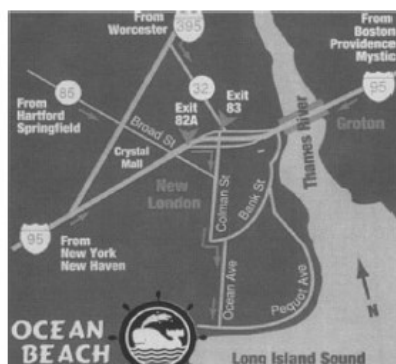
Ipa director Laura Mateja and IPA president Rick Rzeszutko (not pictured) presented a certificate of appreciation to Sharon Zablocki in recognition of the 70th Anniversary of the Polka Party which is currently hosted by Sharon. The show was originally started 70 years ago by the late Hall of Famer Chester "Chet" Zablocki.

Photo Credit:

Linda Niewierowski

Polka Festival Location

98 Neptune Avenue
New London, CT 06320

**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 21**

7 pm – 10 pm
On The Boardwalk

Polka Country Musicians

Open To The Public
FREE Admission
\$6.00 Parking Fee

Thursday, June 22

10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

The NuTones
Stephanie: America's
Polka Sweetheart

5:30 pm – 12:30 am
In The Ballroom

Matt's All Star Jam Band
Maestro's Men
Lenny Gomulka &
The Chicago Push

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

Friday, June 23

10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

The Boys
Polish Connection

5:30 pm – 12:30 am
In The Ballroom

The Knewz
Polka Country Musicians

Eddie Forman
Orchestra

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

**Saturday, June 24**

10 am – 3 pm
In The Pavilion

The Knewz
The Beat

5:00 pm – 1:00 am
In The Ballroom

The Boys
Polka Country Musicians

Dynatones
Polish Connection

\$20.00 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



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c/o Joe Zalewski, 5524 Ginger Tree Lane, Toledo, OH 43623.

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www.dynabrass.com

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IPA Dates to Remember	Advertise in the IPA Newsletter
<p>May 16: IPA General Member Meeting August 6: IPA Picnic September 1-3: IPA Festival & Convention</p> <p>Visit www.ipapolkas.com and www.facebook.com/ipapolkas to stay up-to-date with all IPA events.</p>	<p>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>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>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. Email ad files to Debbie Dunaj: dunajda07@yahoo.com.</p>
<p align="center">IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!!</p> <p>As reminders for membership renewals are mailed out, it would be greatly appreciated if these could be returned <u>as soon as possible</u>. Not only are these fees used to allocate printing and mailing expenses, but for various other causes. So please return your renewals in a timely matter.</p>	