



IPA Newsletter

January—February, 2020

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc.®

A Note From Our President



Hello IPA Members,

I hope you are having a great 2020.

I would personally like to thank everyone who came to Chicago on January 18 & 19, 2020, to celebrate January as National Polka Month with the International Polka Association®.

On Saturday, we had a wonderful time listening to the fabulous music by Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push, celebrating the Lenny's 40th Anniversary of founding the Chicago Push, at the historical polka venue, Polonia Banquets. People were able to visit the IPA Hall of Fame® and enjoy the amazing food prepared by Sandy Mikrut and company. Thank you to Lenny, the Chicago Push, and the staff at Polonia Banquet for a great night.

On Sunday, the party continued in the early afternoon with seven of Chicago's finest bands at Glendora Banquets, Chicago's current hot spot for polka music. Thank you Tony Blazonczyk & New Phaze, Music Company, Windy City Brass, FreezeDried, Tri-City Drive, IPA Tribute Band and D-Street for doing such a fantastic job performing throughout the day. We appreciate all of your support each and every year to make this event such a huge success. Thank you to Mary, Stas, their children, and staff for allowing us to use their venue for this event throughout the years and preparing their great food.

Thank you to all of our local polka supporters and the polka fans that traveled into the "Windy City" from Canada, New York, Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Indiana (sorry if I

January was



National Polka Month

missed anyone) for coming into town where the weather wasn't the greatest, to support this and all of our events.

Last but definitely not the least, thank you to all of the IPA Officers and Directors for all you do, not only at this weekend's events, but all of our events. I am very lucky to have wonderful people serving with me on this Board. Thank you for always being there to help and always volunteering your time.

I would also like to thank Theresa Parker and Danny Zapletal for hosting their annual Polka Month Dance, Texas Size Celebration, celebrating January being National Polka Month on Saturday, January 18th. Thank you to Mark Halata & Texavia and Max Baca Los Texmaniacs for providing excellent musical entertainment for this event, as well as the awesome staff of the Martinez Social Club in San Antonio. This event was sponsored by the Texas Polka News and National Polka Festival. To all of the fans that attended the event, we greatly appreciate your support throughout the years.

In January, the IPA Board voted to appoint Father Dennis A. Bogusz as the IPA Chaplain. Welcome to the Board, Father Dennis. You can read more about Father Dennis inside this newsletter.

Please mark your calendars for two great events happening in March. The IPA Hall of Fame® Benefit Dance on March 7th and 8th in Ludlow, Massachusetts. Also, the IPA and Let's Polka USA Unity Dance on March 22, 2020 at Glendora Banquets. Both flyers are inside this newsletter.

The IPA has some great ideas and projects in the works in 2020 and I am excited to be working with such an amazing and talented Board.

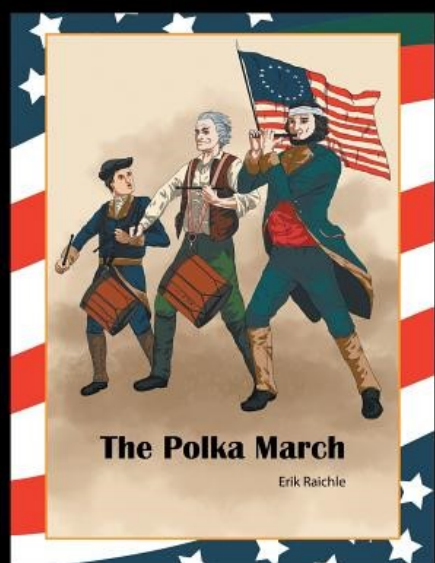
As always, thank you for your continued support.

God Bless you all,

Christy

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Preserving our Polka Legacy

The IPA is embarking on a journey to archive any IPA Hall of Fame induction speeches from the past. These moments are essential to preserving the music history that we love. If anyone has any IPA Hall of Fame induction videos on VCR tapes, we would like to borrow them and convert them to digital format. The IPA will then publicly post the videos on our website. All the VCR tapes will be returned after we completed the process. If you already have the videos in digital format, we would gladly take these as well. For more information, you can contact the IPA at archives@ipapolkas.com or you can mail the VCR tapes to the following address: **International Polka Association, Inc., PO Box 1484, Plainfield, IL 60544.**



Thank you Erik Raichle for donating your recent publication "The Polka March" to the IPA Hall of Fame®. For more information, please visit <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/46719094-the-polka-march>

Lenny Gomulka celebrates 40 Years of Chicago Push


Look for pictures from our 2-day January Festival celebrating January as National Polka Month in the next issue of the IPA Newsletter!



FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

WINNERS

There is still time to be included in the drawing. Visit www.ipapolkas.com for more information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Mike Skalecki WI	2 Jerold Kriston IL	3 Mike Matousek MD	4 Ron & Eileen Zywicki IL
5 Cherie Trzepacz NY	6 Paul Vara, Sr. WI	7 Brad Turk FL	8 Joe Kalinowski MA	9 Garrey Prcin TX	10 Jerry Fabian PA	11 Kathy Hudy IL
12 Johnny Karas FL	13 Michelle Robinson MI	14 Sylvia Skowronek IL	15 Ted Jedrzewicz Canada	16 Natalie Wienclaw MI	17 David Bezddziecki MI	18 Rita Sajkowicz CT
19 Jenna Pearl IL	20 Maryann Dendis NY	21 Fran Russo OH	22 Paul Mocek OH	23 Mary Fernandes MA	24 Rich "Sudsy" Cerajewski IN	25 Laura Mateja IL
26 Wesley Matus TX	27 Arlene Talbot IL	28 Chris Bogdon PA	29 James Sajkowicz, Sr. CT	30 Carolyn Baras MO	31 Eddie Korosa, Jr. IL	

Enter to Win!



The American Legion Pulaski Post #357



&



The International Polka Association



Proudly Presents:

A Post St. Patrick's Day – Pre-Dyngus Day

Good Ole Fashioned - POLKA PARTY

Featuring Chicago style polka music from

The I.P.A. Tribute Band



with special guest I.P.A. Hall of Fame



Entertainer John Gora



Saturday March 21, 2020

The American Legion Pulaski Post #357

5414 W. Sample St. South Bend, IN 46619

**Buffet Dinner is \$18 per person from 4-6 pm and includes
admission to the dance - Call: 574-234-5073**

Pre-Sale Tickets for buffet on sale until March 16, 2020

Doors open at 5 pm for dance only

Music: 6pm – 10pm Eastern Time

\$6 admission per person payable at the door!

Come one & all as this will be a fun-filled event you won't want to miss!

For more information, please visit: www.ipapolkas.com



52nd Annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention



Make your plans now to attend the 52nd Annual
IPA Festival & Convention

September 4 - September 6, 2020
Labor Day Weekend
Millennium Hotel Buffalo
(716) 681-2400

3 Fun-filled days of Polka Entertainment by:

Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push, The Boys, Box On,
I.P.A. Tribute Band, Polish Connection, Eddie Forman
Orchestra, The Beat, Polka Country Musicians, Phocus,
New Direction, John Gora and Gorale & The Kosmix
(Bands subject to change)

Welcome Party, Hall of Fame and Music Awards Banquet,
Pool Parties, Polka Mass, Election of Officers and Directors
plus much, much more!

More details and information to follow.
Visit our website: www.ipapolkas.com

Be sure to listen to the IPA Radio Shows:

Polka Jammer Network
Saturday's 4-5 PM (CT)

Chicago WPNA 1490 AM or radiowpna.com
Sunday's from 11 am to Noon (CT)



It's Always Sunny in Florida...

Hello from the Sunshine State! Since the last newsletter, I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! January is National Polka Month, so go dancing!

It's wintertime here in Florida...which means, we are having sunny days and chilly evenings. The month of November thru December just whizzed by with all the Turkey Dinners, Black Friday sales, and countdown to Christmas. The clubs had their annual Christmas Parties and everyone got to sing Kolendy and Pastoralki. If you attended any of these parties, we all enjoyed the homemade cookies and pastries. SMACNE! Everyone was in the spirit with all the Christmas polkas and obereks.

The Clubs are busy and the snowbirds are having fun each Sunday's at General K. Pulaski Club in Belleview, Polish American Pulaski Club of Daytona Beach, Polish American Social Club of Vero Beach, and the Polish American Society of St. Pete. These clubs are all members of the IPA and have a terrific line up of our local polka bands, along with the northern bands, such as: Eddie Forman (EFO), Box On, John Stevens, Alex Meixner, Walter Ostanek, Frank Moravcik, Virgil Baker (Just 4 Fun). A special performance by the Polka Queen, Angela Woodhull from the movie "Recount", will be performing at Polish American Pulaski Club of Daytona Beach on Feb. 16, 2020. You can check the club's website for

more information. Our Florida membership is continuing to grow! Please encourage your family and friends to join the IPA, by simply filling out an application on our website: www.ipapolkas.com.



By Brad Turk

As a reminder, we have three fantastic Polka Jammer IJ's in our state that will keep you informed of all upcoming polka events: 2009 Polka Hall of Famer Joe Oberaitis with his Polkas 101 and Slovenian Polka Blast Show; Dick Ozimek with Cousin Ozie's Basement; Ray Skorka has Crankin' Polkas; and Cranking Polka Universe Facebook page, along with our IPA show. They are all listed on www.polkajammernetwork.org.

Looking ahead for some special events coming up; Paczki Day, Fasching, Strawberry Festival, SNPJ days, Oktoberfest Madness in March, and Dyngus Day celebrations in April. You can enjoy these events at all of our member's clubs.

If you would like any additional information on our clubs, polka dances or special events, please email me at bradturk@cox.net or call, (352) 875-3961. Hope everyone is enjoying the sun and will find time to patronage our wonderful clubs and support LIVE Polka Music.

Let's make 2020 a Polka year to remember!

International Polka Association Proudly Sponsored Festivals and Events

Over the past couple of years, the IPA Board have voted to sponsor events throughout the United States. In 2019, the IPA proudly sponsored the **Illinois Polka Fest**, the **Valentines Dance** run by the Napowocki's, **Ocean Beach**, **Polkamotion**, **Frankenmuth**, **Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest**, **Polka Fireworks**, **Toledo Area Polka Society**, **The Pulaski Club of Arizona's Meet and Greet**, and **National Shrine to Our Lady of Czestochowa**. We also sponsored the **Cleveland Polka Association** for their golf outing, hole sponsorship. In addition to these festival and events, donations were made to the **Polka Jammer Network**, **Polish New Castle Radio**, and **24/7 Polka Heaven**. The board voted to sponsor more Festivals and Events in 2020. These festival and events will be posted in a later newsletter. The board also voted that for donations in 2021, there will be a sponsorship request form that will need to be submitted for consideration. More details on that will follow in future issues.

2019 Freddy K Jr. Scholarship Award Winner

Emma Bogdan

Emma Bogdon of Cranbury Township, Pennsylvania, was the recipient of the Freddy K. Jr. Scholarship Award for 2019. She accepted her check of \$1,000 at the IPA Polka Festival in Buffalo, New York this past September. Emma plays clarinet and was a member of Cranbury Township High School Symphonic and Marching Bands. She grew up going to the polka dances and road trips to polka festivals. Emma loves polka music so much that from 2017-2018 she was USPA Teen Princess 1st Runner Up and 2018-2019 Teen Miss USPA Queen. In 2018 she created a polka show on the Polka Jammer Network called “Polka Lovin’ Girl” which you can hear every Monday evening from 6 to 7pm.

Emma was accepted to three universities and decided on Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa. and will be majoring in Marketing. She was a member of the National Honor Society and had Highest Honors for 12 Grading Periods. She was involved in College in High School Statistics, Argument and Advanced Placement Psychology and all during that time she was a member of the Girl Scouts of America earning numerous awards. So, as you can see, Emma was a great choice for this award!

The Freddy K. Jr. Music Scholarship Committee is now accepting requests for applications for the 2020 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

23850 Via Italia Circle, Apt #1104
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134



January

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



February

January 1 – John Kaiser; Larry Schulze;
January 2 – Eugene Sadus; Cecilia Osysko; Donna Ingot; Lucas Yash
January 3 – Ernest Daigle; Kevin Kurdziel; Dawn Rosinski; Aleya Kaminski; Adam Hembel; Bob Lynn
January 4 – Jerry Fabian; Rick Kunke
January 5 – Nancy Szmyd
January 6 – John Freidhoff
January 7 – Suellen Gomulka; Candy Bonnin; Erv Wisniewski; Stephen Kaminski; Marianne Buzinski; Ronald Kurtin; Pat Makuch
January 8 – Laura Mateja; Eddie Rodick III
January 9 – Jeff Yash; James Sefcik
January 10 – Pat Stanek; Les Motyka; Deb Jones; Brian Chenkus; Anthony Glaza
January 11 – Frank Liszka
January 12 – Vince Ashman; Richie Dombrowski; Paul Brozek
January 13 – Barbara Szydowski,
January 14 – Elaine Nowak; Stanley Raiczuk; Mike Cielecki
January 15 – David Dobrzinski; Joseph Kubicar; John Jaworski; Bob Koziel
January 16 – James Lewandowski; Emma Bogdon
January 17 – DeeDee Ogradny; Al Piatkowski; John C. Mikrut; Zachary Mikrut; Mike Kocieniewski; Jordan Chickosis
January 18 – Lucille Marsolek; Brian Kapka; Duane Mijal; Virgil Kazmierski
January 19 – Hayley Krawisz
January 20 – Richard Tady; Teresa Bagrowski; Goran Lukic; Brad Cutright
January 22 – Ann Marie Matousek; Jim Pietranczyk; David Korch
January 23 – Basia Lynn
January 25 – Craig Marsolek; Walter Maduzia; Bill Dobrucki
January 26 – Laura Bethke
January 28 – Ray Kanoza; Don Maduzia; Kenny Habrack
January 29 – Mary Anne Robinson
January 30 – Chet Dombrowski
January 31 – Richard Leach

February 1 – Robert Guyette; Wanda Guca
February 2 – Don Hedeker; Jody Maddie
February 3 – Lynn Maynard
February 5 – Don Haderle; Fred Bulinski; Gene Mikolajewski; Ken Anderson
February 6 – Richie Gomulka; Norbert Ciesla; Tim Quinnell
February 7 – Eddie Biegaj
February 8 – Barbara Haselow; Edward Kutas; Mitch Kempinski
February 9 – Ron Zywiec; Evelyn Benbenek; Al Jelinek; Glen Embree; Janie Holy
February 10 – Fredolin Willfahrt; Lisa Zapiec; Florian Chmielewski
February 11 – Don Wayerski; Jim Stanish
February 12 – Walter Groller; Mario Joseph Kozak; Deanna Hoffman
February 14 – Fred Kendzierski
February 16 – Lori Lachner; Christine Zelasko
February 18 – James Sajkowicz; Linda Hurley; Ken Foldenauer; Al Volek; Bob Malek
February 19 – Anna Borowski; Tyler Janson; Helen Bobeck
February 20 – Becky Livermore; Terry Popek; Linda Pezo
February 22 – Steve Rodgers; Sandy Mikrut; Cathy Cobliss
February 23 – Jerry Halkoski; Jan Dressler
February 24 – Eddie Zavaski, Jr; John Lesniewski; Frank Proszowski
February 25 -- Trudie Mergen; Tim Jagodzinski; Ashley Styczynski; Kathleen Labuda-Zink; Linda Swiderski; Gerry Kryk; Edward Meyers; Alex Alijewicz
February 26 – Edward Pudlo; Thaddeus Szymanski
 Keith Werwas; Steve Piatkowski; Herbert Lovell
February 27 – Robert Fidler; Dennis Mikolajewski; Charlotte Tyk; Rhonda Lackowski

The IPA and Let's Polka USA

present the
9th Annual

UNITY DANCE

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Glendora Banquets

10225 S. Harlem Ave.

Chicago Ridge, IL

Doors open at 1pm

Music from 2pm—6pm



THE IPA TRIBUTE BAND

with special guest vocalist

Polka Music Hall of Famer from Canada

John Gora



Admission \$10

Raffles, Membership Table, T-Shirts, & CD's for sale!

Visit www.ipapolkas.com for more information

Father Dennis A. Bogusz appointed IPA Chaplain



Fr. Dennis Bogusz

Father Dennis A. Bogusz was born in Cleveland, Ohio on March 11, 1950 to the late Florence Lewandowski Bogusz and the late Frank Bogusz. He received a BA in Theology from St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, Michigan and a Master of Divinity from Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, PA. He was ordained to the Priesthood on May 5, 1979 for the Diocese of Greensburg in Pennsylvania. Polka music was always enjoyed by Father Dennis and his family. Polka music could be heard throughout the day in the Bogusz household and there was nothing like a good oberek. While a student at Holy Name High School in Cleveland, Ohio, Fr. Dennis considered being a DJ after graduation. Instead he decided to study for the priesthood. Father Dennis' first experience in being a DJ was for an "in-house" radio station at St. Mary's in Orchard Lake, Michigan.

After numerous parish assignments he received his pastorate at St. Hyacinth Catholic Church in Monessen, PA. The parish was having a polka dance and Fr. Dennis wanted to promote the dance on radio station WEDO 810 AM in McKeesport, PA and John James, the station manager, told him the procedure to have the dance promoted. Mr. James then said "how else can I help you". That triggered a light and Fr. Dennis said that he would like to have a radio program playing Polish music and promoting Polish culture and the Catholic faith. The rest is history. Fr. Dennis began the program entitled "Echoes of Poland" on June 1, 1990; the year 2020 marks 30 years since the program began. In 2008 he was honored by the Central Council of Polish Organizations of Pittsburgh with the title "Polonian of the Year" for his radio work.

Fr. Dennis retired in July, 2019. Pennsylvania has been his home after nearly 41 years as a priest in the Diocese of Greensburg. He helps out in parishes and continues his radio ministry with "Echoes of Poland" heard on radio station WEDO 810 AM, 93.3 FM now located in North Versailles, PA. "Echoes of Poland" is also broadcast Sundays 3PM-4PM and Saturday 4PM-5PM. The program is heard in greater Pittsburgh and parts of the tristate area. He resides in Mount Pleasant, PA, the hometown of the late Polka Hall of Famer, Joe Fiedor.

Fr. Dennis is honored to be the IPA Chaplain. He looks forward to the convention Labor Day weekend and to be of assistance to the organization in any way he can. He is grateful to Lenny Gomulka, Kevin Adams and Chris Bogdan for their encouragement in accepting the IPA Chaplaincy.

Fr. Dennis is also grateful to his late mother who taught him to love his Catholic faith and Polish music and culture.

May the Lord bless you with His joy, love and peace. Welcome to the Board.

Passing of Polka Hall of Famer, Stas Golonka

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of I.P.A. Hall of Fame member Stanley "Stas" Golonka. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his wife Sue, his son, Allan; daughter, Michelle and her husband Robert, their children Olivia, Madeline, and Faith; and all of his friends. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers.

Stas was inducted into the International Polka Association Hall of Fame in 2016. Known by all polka music fans as "The King of Honky", Stas' steady drum beat and velvet vocals were loved by one and all. We'll miss you Stas and we'll "Forget you Never". May he Rest In Peace.

As a tribute to Stas, we are rerunning an interview that was published in the January-February 2019 newsletter.

Interview with Stas Golonka

2016 Hall of Fame Inductee and

Bandleader

by: Christy Krawisz



IPA: Please tell me about your family ~ your parents, your siblings, your wife, children and grandchildren.

Stas: I was born in a primarily Polish neighborhood on the West Side of Chicago. I lived with my parents and two sisters and music was always an important part of our house. My wife Sue and I have been married for fifty-two years and we have two children, Allan and Michelle. Our son-in-law is Bob, and we have three granddaughters of which we are most proud; Olivia, Madeline, and Faith.

IPA: What age did you start playing an instrument(s) and what were they?

Stas: I started playing music in my early teens, like a lot of guys in my neighborhood. I started out playing the accordion and then stuck with playing the drums the rest of my career. I always enjoyed singing and have been doing that for as long as I can remember. I used to sing along to the Polish music my mother played in our house growing up.

IPA: What made you decide to play Polkas?

Stas: My family was Polish, and we were very proud of that. I also grew up in a neighborhood where playing music is what all the “cool guys” did.

IPA: What bands have you played in?

Stas: When I was a teenager a lot of guys just played jam sessions in pick-up bands for fun. My first band was “Stas Golonka and the Polka Diamonds”. I am most known for my band “Stas Golonka and the Chicago Masters”, which lasted more than fifty years.

IPA: Who did/do you admire musically, polkas and non polkas?

Stas: I have always admired the music of Elvis Presley, Dean Martin, Engelbert Humperdinck, Freddie Fender, and the Everly Brothers. I also am a big classic country music fan, such as Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and Charlie Pride.

IPA: What was your most memorable moment on stage?

Stas: Dyngus Day Festival, in the Old Train Station in Buffalo, New York. Myself, Marion Lush, and The Krew Brothers were the headliners. There were thousands of people enjoying our music and the Dyngus Day excitement. It was probably in the early to mid-1980s.

IPA: What was the biggest job you ever played?

Stas: The job I talked about above, at the Dyngus Day Festival, was probably the biggest crowd I have ever entertained. It was a great day and I enjoyed having my band, “The Chicago Masters”, share the stage with Lush and The Krew Brothers. I also played at “The Car and Driver Magazine” Convention in Chicago. It was at “The John Hancock Building” on the 95th Floor and quite a fancy affair. Perhaps one of the greatest and most historic jobs was at the original “Taste of Chicago” on Navy Pier, ran by Mayor Jane Byrne. It is there that I met one of my music icons, Freddie Fender, who was also a headliner that day!

Interview with Stas Golanka

2016 Hall of Fame Inductee and Bandleader

by: Christy Krawisz (continued from previous page)

IPA: How do you think we can keep the music we all love so much going for years to come?

Stas: I think it is important that we honor the past musicians that did such great things and created such great music, while at the same time be open and excited about the new musicians and sounds of today. Listening and sharing music through all forms of media is the best way to keep Polka music relevant and alive for next generations. It is especially important that we pass down Polish culture, traditions, and music to our families, because they are the ones that will carry our legacy and love of our Polish heritage into the future.

IPA: How do you think we can get more people interested in being a member of the IPA? Or interested in polkas in general?

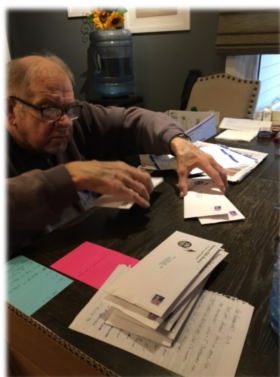
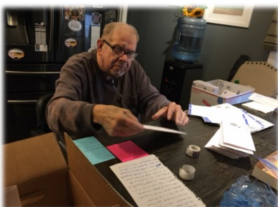
Stas: I think it would be a good idea for the IPA to explore new groups or outings to sponsor or be a part of; such as charitable events, walks/runs, or community festivals that a wide variety of people attend. Music and dancing at such events may interest people, that are not necessarily Polish or know anything about Polka music, but that may enjoy the music and then want to attend other events. Especially outdoor activities where a lot of young people gather and socialize.

IPA: Stas, is there anything else you would like to add? You can say anything you would like.

Stas: I have enjoyed entertaining people for over sixty years and I am most grateful for all the wonderful people that Polka music has brought into my life... "Forget Me Never".



Behind the Scenes...



Hall of Famer, John "Foo" Furmaniak and his wife, IPA Secretary, Cheryl Furmaniak, sent out over 800 letters and raffle tickets for the IPA's Annual Fundraising Raffle. Proceeds support the IPA® Hall of Fame® and Museum. The first round of winners were pulled at the "Festival of Bands" held on January 19th. You can still send in your stubs as drawings go through April 30th, 2020. Thank you to everyone who sent back completed stubs and CONGRATULATIONS to those who have won so far. Remember, even though you may have already won, all stubs are returned to the drum for continuous chances. There is still time to send in your stubs if you haven't already as drawings go through April 20th, 2020.

Arizona..... A Grand place for POLKAS

Steve Drzewicki Band, January 25th & 26th



Pulaski Club 2020 Polka Extravaganza kicked off with the Steve Drzewicki band what a fantastic dance, top notch music, polka dancing food and drinks, great time by all.



DynaBrass



The DynaBrass did a fabulous job at the Pulaski club in Phoenix Arizona, Jeff and the Guys played Saturday and Sunday keeping the dance floor packed all night long. The Friday Meet & Greet had a nice turn out as well with the guys playing a few numbers

to get the sound right for the weekend. Thanks to our California crew, some out of towners and all the local polka dances for attending our Polka weekend.



A special thank you to the following people who donated raffle items or completed raffle baskets for our 50th Annual Chicago Festival of Polka Bands.

Tish and Kathy Blazonczyk,
Bel Aire Enterprises
John and Sandy Mikrut, Polonia Banquets
Mike and Diane Nowakowski
Rick Rzeszutko
John and Christy Krawisz
Dan and Laura Mateja
Chris and Sandy Bogdon

Gone but Not Forgotten

Bonnie

Piet Ryniec served as IPA Director from the state of Illinois from September 2014-September 2018. No stranger to polkas, Bonnie's parents, Stan & Ann Piet, were avid polka supporters and dancers who loved polka music and followed bands such as the Ampol-Aires, Marion Lush, and Eddie B. They were significant in nurturing Bonnie's love and passion for the music. Bonnie always said that she appreciated being around to experience the heyday of polka popularity in Chicago. Some of her favorite memories included the IPA Conventions at the Red Carpet Inn in Milwaukee, Happy Louie at "the Grove", and traveling with the Ampol-Aires to attend a big "new" festival in Champion, PA, called Polka Fireworks and later she affectionately referred to as Seven Springs.

No matter how many memories Bonnie had about her polka life, nothing could compare to her favorite memory; the day she walked down the aisle and into the arms of her soul-mate, Whitey Ryniec, and enjoyed a "big, fat POLKA wedding" on May 8, 1982.

In September 2018, Bonnie served on the 50th Anniversary Committee for the IPA's 50th Festival and Convention and the October Celebration in Chicago. That same year, she was Chairwoman for the prestigious Hall of Fame® Banquet.

Bonnie also had another passion, theatre. She was a member of the community theatre both on-stage and backstage for many years and was very involved with the Beverly Theatre Guild, a Chicago Southside community theatre group. She was on the BTG Board of Directors and was the recipient of their Distinguished Service Award in 2008 and the Guild's Presidents Award in 2013.

Bonnie served on the United Polka Association, Chicago Chapter Board of Directors. She was able to combine both passions when she, along with Whitey, were the recipients of a UPA Appreciation Award for their efforts in writing, directing, and co-producing four musical reviews as fundraisers for the organization. She was the "B" in B.a.D. Productions and promoted polka music by hosting dances, including the "White Eagle Reunion", a "Moonlite Polka Picnic" and a "Boo Ball" Halloween Dance. Along with being a member of the IPA, she was also a member of the USPA and Let's Polka USA.

Bonnie made an impression on each person she came in contact with. She had the uncanny ability to make anyone feel like they were the most important person in a very crowded room. She demonstrated the true meaning of life and how to live it to the fullest and make the most of what was given. When Bonnie was involved with something, be it polkas or theater, she was never content with just being a member or spectator. She always actively contributed to it's longevity and success.

Bonnie fought a strong, hard battle versus cancer and gave it her all. Whether you knew her for just a short time or knew her all your life, the void she left behind is tangible. When a person such as Bonnie filled the room with life, love, and laughter, there is no way to mistake her absence. She will be missed, but never forgotten and most importantly, she will be forever loved.

Join us in celebrating Bonnie's life at the IPA and Let's Polka USA 9th Annual UNITY DANCE on Sunday, March 22, 2020. (See flyer on page 7) **Don't forget to wear PINK, Bonnie's favorite color and LEOPARD, her favorite print.**



2020 Joe Józwiak Award Winner — Hrukus Hellraisers, Cohoes, N.Y.

For better than four decades now, this informally organized group from the Albany, N.Y./Western Mass. area (only a few of whom actually play polkas), has been supporting and promoting the music they obviously love, making it fun to be at the events they attend, and doing so with an enthusiasm that borders on mania. They have become fixtures at most every major dance/festival in the area (and beyond); have played a huge role in the continued existence of polkas in the Capital District through the “Hrukus Halloween Howler” polka weekends they run; have achieved some notoriety through their participation (and mention) on the Dynaton’s “Live Wire” recording, and genuinely enjoy what they do, with little regard for any payback or compensation. Promoting polka music for the love of polka music.

The roots of Hrukus Hellraisers date back to 1976 and a Halloween dance being held at the Albany PCC. There, the late IPA Hall of Famer Jan Cyman, started calling a rag-tag group consisting of Bill and Doris Dobrucki (The Captain and Mrs. Captain), Bill Bybel, Mark “Big Staś” Clark, and Charlie “Tuna” Strylka, “a bunch of Horilka (Ukrainian for vodka) Hellraisers.” The name morphed into “Hrukus Hellraisers” and seemed appropriate, so The Captain took it upon himself to make official looking pins for the group. Feeling that the bands they supported were at least as crazy as they were, pins were made for the musicians as well, and presented at their appearances. Side note: today, those early Hellraiser pins, complete with member photo which really underscore the years that have passed, are treasured by musicians from that era.

The core group of Hellraisers grew to include Frank & Doreen Valcik, Jackie McBride, Ray Lis (Mr. Bad), Joe Kochan (Mr. Bad #2), Jim Kochan, Joe & Doris Brozowski, Tim Raymond, Jerry Rymanowski, George Czamera, Fred Bulinski, Gil Ziemski, Debbie Dobrucki, Linda Howansky and more. Their presence at events was unmistakable (bells, whistles, and horns were a regular part of their accompaniment); their support was undeniable and came to be expected.

As mentioned, the Hellraisers loved to take their show on the road, becoming staples at literally every festival held within a five-hour drive of their home base. A friendship they’d struck with Hank and Pat Mazurek of Buffalo’s Broadway Grill fame, would result in the Hrukus calling “The Grill” their home away from home, making regular visits there for “East Meets West” weekends and prompting their attendance at and mention on “Live Wire,” where their name — and the Broadway Grill bell being rung by The Captain — will forever be remembered.

Today, some 43 years after their start, most of that core group of Hrukus Hellraisers still avidly supports polkas throughout the region and has drawn the respect of area polka lovers who appreciate all that they do for the music and its importance to the area. Not content with simply attending polka events, some 28 years ago they began bringing in out-of-town groups to the Ukrainian American Citizens Club (their home base) for their Halloween polka weekends. Those weekend are highly anticipated by locals and out-staters alike and have, in the past, served as great fund-raising opportunities for those in polkas who are in need of financial assistance.

Despite the high caliber of musicians at work in polkas today, there’s little doubt that the music could not survive without the support of a dedicated fan base. All those years ago, Hrukus Hellraisers chose polkas as their favorite genre of music and have continued to show unflagging support for it.

-by Larry Trojak



IPA Hall of Fame® member, Mike Nowakowski, Passes

On December 6, 2019, Sunshine Records President, producer of 16 Grammy® nominated recordings, and IPA Hall of Fame member, Mike Nowakowski, passed away from pancreatic cancer. We express our deepest sympathies to Mike's wife Joanne; his son, Craig and wife, Jennifer; his daughter, Jenine; and granddaughter, Addison Claire. Mike will be missed by all, especially his fellow Brothers of the Note. Below is his biography published after his induction into the Hall of Fame® in 2014.

Michael Nowakowski of Buffalo, New York has been involved in the Polka Music field for over 38 years. He has been successful in all aspects of the industry.

In his 20 years as President and Executive Producer of the Sunshine Label, Mike has managed all details of the recording industry. These include not only the development and production of recordings for the nationally-recognized label, but also the manufacturing, artwork, printing, promotion and distribution of product for the nearly 120 bands on the Sunshine label. Among this group are Polka music's elite, including The Dynatones, Walter Ostanek, John Gora & Gorale, Stas Golonka & his Chicago Masters, Toledo Polkamotion, Prime Drive, Jerry Darlak & the Buffalo Touch, Steel City Brass, Happy Richie's Polka Band, Wanda & Stephanie, Dave Gawronski, Crusade, Bob Zielinski Orchestra, The Beat, Cityside, Bedrock Boys, Imperials, Dennis Polisky's Maestro's Men, Steve Kaminski and many others, including Nowakowski's own Sunshine Band. The Sunshine label also became home to several specialty recordings, including the ever-popular Polkas for Children series and several CDs and cassettes produced for Christmas and other holidays.

Since its founding, Sunshine has been a major label in the Polka music industry. Its promotional mailings reach over 350 radio stations, promoters and music reviewers across the United States and Canada. Many of the bands on the label have gone on to national prominence with the help of Sunshine's promotion.

To Nowakowski's credit, the Sunshine label has had nine Grammy-nominated recordings in the last six years. Nowakowski himself received a nomination in 2002 for his accordion work on Jerry Darlak & the Buffalo Touch band's album Let the Good Times Roll and again in 2003 with their album Polkas in Black & White.

Nowakowski has been involved with Polka music virtually his whole life. At the age of 12 he formed his first Polka band, The Varitones. In 1971, he

joined the Modernaires and recorded and toured with that group until it disbanded in 1976. At that time, Nowakowski formed the Sunshine Band. The band recorded several albums and played for over fifteen years throughout the United States and Canada.

When professional careers forced members of the Sunshine Band to change their priorities, Nowakowski landed a position with The Buffalo Knewz for several years before joining Marion Lush's band until Lush's untimely death. At that time, he joined the very popular Dynatones and toured the United States with that group for several years. Two years after leaving the Dynatones, Nowakowski began playing with Jerry Darlak and the Buffalo Touch band, of which he is still a member and continues to play across the United States.

He has proven that he is comfortable on either side of the recording booth. In addition to several singles, he has recorded full-length albums as an accordionist with: The Modernaires (2 recordings); the Sunshine Band (2); The Dynatones (5); The Knewz (1); and Jerry Darlak & the Buffalo Touch (5).

Nowakowski has also been a featured pianist on several recordings.

As a promoter, Nowakowski was one of the originators of the Can-Am Polka Days. Since his youth, he has promoted and chaired many dances in the Buffalo area. Nowakowski has been involved with numerous Polka organizations, and has served on the Board of Directors of the Buffalo Polka Boosters. He is also a member of the United States Polka Association and has been an elector of the International Polka Association's Hall of Fame. He is a voting member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) and is a voting member of the Producers and Engineer Wing at NARAS.

Nowakowski's love for Polka music has created a career that many can only dream of. For the past 15 years, his full-time employment has been that of a Polka music producer and promoter. Involved in Polka music on a daily basis, he is ever vigilant in his quest to promote the music and the industry with new talent.



15th Annual

IPA Hall of Fame Benefit Dance 2020



Polish American Citizens Center • 355 East Street, Ludlow, MA 01056

Polish Kitchen Available



SAT
MARCH
7th
7pm-11pm
ADMISSION \$15

2 days!

featuring

John Gara
& **GORALE**
of Burlington, Canada



SUN
MARCH
8th
2pm-7pm
ADMISSION \$20

Honoring
Eddie Guca
of Toronto Canada



Music by

*Lenny Gomulka**Eddie Forman
Orchestra**Dennis Polisky
& Maestro's Men***FOR TICKETS**

Call Linda "K" • 908-963-0890

Send Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope and
Check Made Payable to Linda Kendzierski to:

Linda Kendzierski
23850 Via Italia Circle, Apt. #1104
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

or call:

Sue Szela 413-896-0433

Ernie Daigle 413-519-7014

For Tables of 8 or More Call:

Carol Blajda - 413-549-6997



ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY • NO TICKETS HELD AT DOOR • Tickets are NOT REFUNDABLE

Week-long celebration to honor Polish General Casimir Pulaski

March 1-8, 2020



Come to Pulaski, WI during the week of March 1-8, 2020 for a week long celebration to honor the Polish General Casimir Pulaski. Sponsored by Promote Pulaski, the mission of the celebration is to promote Pulaski, Wisconsin by educating, marketing, and involving the community in the history of the town and it's namesake. Our goal is also to promote tourism, our rich Polish Heritage, and musical traditions.

The events start on Sunday March 1st with a Polka Mass at Assumption BVM 10:30 am featuring the Maroszek Brothers. Following the mass will be a Booyah Social and Pie Auction at the American Legion.

Monday March 2nd Wine Tasting Event With Cabbage Roll Demo (gołąbki demo)

Tuesday March 3rd Karaoke at the Cobblestone 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Thursday March 5th Casimir Trivia Fun & Music @ Mountain Bay Bar & Grill

Friday March 6th is a full day of music in Downtown Pulaski

- Join us for Lunch and Concertinas at Another Round from 11-2
- Then take the short walk down for a Polish Jam Session at Wickas Bar from 2-6
- Then even a shorter walk to Cocktales Bar for New Generations 7-11 \$8.00

Saturday March 7th starts off with a Historic Bus Tour of Pulaski

- Dance is at Mountain Bay Bar & Grill featuring New Polish Sounds from 7-11 **Admission is FREE**. Bring the family out for dinner and a fun night of dancing.

Sunday March 8th concludes the week long celebration with a mass at St. Casimir Church in Krakow 9:00 a.m. Mass Celebration followed by a hearty Polish brunch & polka music,

The Pulaski Museum will be open various hours during the week so please check the website for these days and times.

For more information, visit <https://casimirpulaskidays.com/>. You can also follow them on Facebook @casimirpulaskidays, email at promotepulaski@gmail.com, or call 920-655-4587 or the website <https://casimirpulaskidays.com>.



COME AND CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL POLKA FESTIVAL

Friday March 27, 2020

5-11 PM



American-Croatian Lodge



34900 Lakeshore Blvd. Eastlake, Ohio

Celebrate the 10 year anniversary of Aaron Dussing and Anthony Culkar and the 50 year anniversary of Tom Mroczka as band leaders.



* Tickets \$12 at the door / \$10 in advance

* 18 and under free

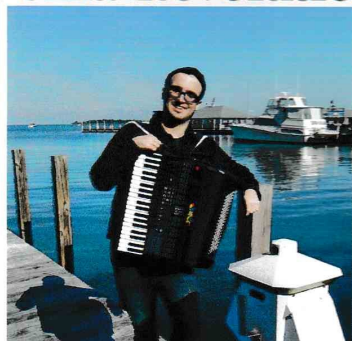
* Door prizes- Open cash bar - Food



* Or call Aaron Dussing (440) 679-8325 for reservations

Featuring 6 hours of dance music

**Aaron Dussing &
Polka Revolution**



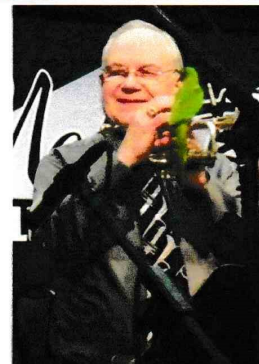
German

**Kordupel &
Culkar Band**



Cleveland Style/Slovenian

All-Star Polish Band



Polish

Patrick Henry Presents!

Chula Vista
Resort

Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest! & Expo!



MAY 1-3, 2020

A Great Weekend of Family FUN!

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



Polka Family Band

from Pennsylvania (Saturday)

Polka Country Musicians

from Connecticut (Friday & Saturday)

John Gora & Gorale

from Canada (Saturday & Sunday)

Freeze Dried

from Illinois (Friday)

Steve Meisner

from Wisconsin (Saturday)

The New Generation

from Wisconsin (Friday)

Craig Ebel & DyVersaCo

from Minnesota (Saturday)

Polka Pak

from Wisconsin (Sunday)



Special Guest Artist: John Jaworski!

THE BLOODY MARY MORNING MONSTER JAM WITH

KEVIN ALTENBURG & FRIENDS!

Band line-up subject to change without notice.

Catholic Mass- Sunday 11am, Polish Constitution Day!
Polka Dancing Lessons!

WEEKEND AMTRAK TRIP AVAILABLE!

For general festival information:

Call Patrick Henry at (773)889-8811 or e-mail: polkadj@sbcglobal.net

WWW.DELLSPOLKAFEST.COM

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

Weekend Package Available:
Only \$181 p/p Double Occupancy
Single Occupancy \$293+ tax & resort fee.

Includes:

2-Night Stay in a Beautiful Room.

Weekend Pass to the Polka Fest.

Buffet Breakfast Saturday & Sunday
in the Market Fresh Buffet.

Breakfast Gratuity.

*Each additional adult, \$69+tax.

*Each additional Child < 16, \$18.50+tax.

*Upgrades available for additional \$.

Room only prices starting at \$116/night.

Extend your stay! 3rd night only \$64.50!

Waterpark pass only \$10/person per day.

Call Chula Vista Resort direct at
(877)624-0685 promo code: H25539

for our discount rates and packages!

Discount code is not available
for online reservations.

Admission: Fri. \$20, Sat: \$20, Sun: \$15
Weekend Pass: \$45, Kids Under 16: Free!
with guardian. Plus Tax where applicable.
Huge Dance Floor By: Frank Napiwocki!



PRCUA #162 Sacred Heart of Jesus Society

Presents

The 4th Annual

POLKA BENEFIT DANCE

Proceeds Benefit The American Heart Association

Featuring Music by



Admission: \$20

Saturday, April 25, 2020

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Music from 6:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

PRCUA Hall

1430 Oak Street Wyandotte, MI 48192

Hotel Information:

Comfort Inn & Suites
18950 Northline Rd
Southgate, MI 48196
734-287-9200

LaQuinta Inn
12888 Reeck Rd
Southgate, MI 48196
734-374-3000

Mike's Polish Kitchen Cash Bar No B.Y.O.B.

For Additional Information Contact:

Staś Pasko (734) 284-6929

John Zelasko Sr. (734) 668-9467

Texas Polka News

POLKA ★ COUNTRY ★ WESTERN SWING ★ CAJUN

**Covering Texas Polka Scene
Since 1987**

A red circular logo with the text "Polka On!" in a white, stylized, cursive font. The "O" in "On!" has a spiral design inside it. The logo is set against a background of a dark, textured surface with a repeating pattern of stylized leaves or feathers.

**Polka
On!**

polka^{beat}.com
★★★★★

**Providing Dance Hall Weekend
Schedules Since 2010**

Subscribe to Texas Polka News for only \$25/yr. for 12 monthly issues.

Send check to PO Box 800183 Houston, TX 77280.

Go to PolkaBeat.com to subscribe online by clicking on the Texas Polka News logo on the homepage.

While you're there, sign up for our FREE weekly e-newsletter at the top right of the homepage.

Polkas Return to Kinloch Firehall in New Kensington, PA

It was a Friday in 1966, and you just finished your shift at the Alcoa Aluminum company in New Kensington, PA. You want to do something fun to ease into the weekend. Your decision points you to hear polkas at the Kinloch Firehall in New Kensington, PA. Those Friday nights were a start of a long tradition of polka music in this suburb of Pittsburgh. New Kensington, PA is a 20-minute ride up the road from Pittsburgh along the Allegheny River, and like many suburbs, it had a great relationship with polka music. This Firehall in Western PA started having polkas in the '60s with jam sessions featuring the Andy Carroll Trio, a local Slovenian band. They recorded a polka called the Kinloch Polka. Every Friday night, you were able to hear Slovenian style polkas, and then in May of 1966, they decided to start having Polish polka bands on Saturday nights. This start of polka music continued until 1978. Andy Matistko hired all of the popular bands, including Ray Jay and the Carousels, Bell Hops, Eddie and the Slovenes, Jack and Dick Tady, Peppermint Stix, Al Marouse and Marion Lush, to name a few. The largest crowd ever at Kinloch was when Marion Lush would come into Kinloch Firehall.



By: Chris Bogdon

In the 1980s, they continued to have other bands like Scrubby and the Dynatones, Toledo Polkamotion, and Wanda and Stephanie. Kinloch Firehall was one of the regular places where the Martiques would perform. The Martiques, led by Randy and Bernie Koslosky, and would later become Energy. IPA Hall of Famer Matt Wasielewski also started running dances at the Kinloch Firehall in the 1990s.

In 2019, IPA Director, Chris Bogdon, was looking for a location to run a polka dance with Polka Country Musicians. Chris reached out to Kinloch to see if they would be interested in having polka dances again. Bruce Edwards, the current president of the club, was very excited. After partnering with Kinloch, Chris ran a trial dance featuring Polka Country Musicians and The Kosmix in the summer of 2019. The dance was a great success, and Chris ran a second dance with the Boys.

Beginning with the foundation in 2019, Chris decided to continue running polka dances quarterly at Kinloch. In 2020, Ray Jay and the Carousels, The Knewz, Polka Country Musicians, and the Dynabrass are all scheduled to appear throughout the year. So far, Kinloch Firehall has gotten rave reviews due to its location, friendliness of the people, and the great homemade food that is served at the club.

The Matisko Family had a long love affair with promoting polka music at Kinloch. As a result, it took them to great polka hotspots like Conneaut Lake Park, Fiedors Grove, Seven Springs, Erie, and yearly trips to Ocean City, Maryland. When asked what some of their most memorable dances were, they concluded, Marion Lush, Polka Family, and the Polka Country Musicians and The Kosmix dance in 2019.

We are excited to have another location in Western Pennsylvania to carry on the fine tradition of polka music. For more information on dances at Kinloch Firehall, you can contact Chris Bogdon (chris@bogdonfamily.com). We hope to see you there!



2020 Kinloch Fire Hall Polka Schedule

Sunday
January 26th, 2020



Ray Jay and the Carousels
2:00pm – 6:00pm
\$9.00 per person

Sunday
May 17th, 2020



Knewz
2:00pm – 6:00pm
\$15.00 per person

Saturday
August 22nd, 2020



Polka Country Musicians
6:00pm – 10:00pm
\$15.00 per person

Saturday
November 14th,
2020



Dynabrass
6:00pm – 10:00pm
\$15.00 per person

Kinloch Fire Hall
915 New York Ave, New Kensington, PA 15068

Food and drinks will be available for purchase. No BYOB!

For tickets, table reservations or more information contact:
Chris - 412-260-9725

**Join us for great polka dances at the newest Pittsburgh Polka
Hotspot!**

Peter Danielczuk Celebrates 50 Years in Polka Music

The year 2020 is going to be a very big year for Peter J. Danielczuk, affectionately known to many as “Polka Pete.” That’s because Danielczuk will celebrate 50 years of being involved with his first love... polka music.

Danielczuk’s introduction to polka music began in 1970, where he began honing his chops as an engineer for the Victor and Sophie Zembruski “Polish Eagle Polka Show” at the former WADS 690AM radio station in Ansonia, CT.

Before long, Danielczuk, 67, made his way from behind the scenes, and took to the airwaves as a WADS DJ, quickly becoming known for playing polkas on his morning radio show. He later teamed up with Dick Yash for the “Polka Carousel” show, and the polka-loving pair became one of the most popular polka radio duos in the country. Performing live remote broadcasts at the annual New England Polka Fest, held at Warsaw Park in Ansonia, became standard fare for the duo.

Danielczuk created his “Polka Celebration” radio show in the late 1970s, which could be heard everywhere from WADS to several other local radio stations from Waterbury to Bridgeport.

The popular show made its way to WICC 600AM in 1992, where for more than a decade, was heard and enjoyed by listeners throughout the Northeast. Danielczuk was aptly named Connecticut’s “Prince of Polkas” by several media outlets, including the New Haven Register and Hartford Courant, and even caught the attention of the New York Times.



Danielczuk continued to enjoy success as an AM radio DJ, and brought his show back to WDJZ 1530AM in Bridgeport in 2003. Not long after that, Danielczuk branched out and started his first FM radio gig in 2006 at WNHU88.7 FM, broadcasting from the University of New Haven, Connecticut’s No. 1 college radio station. His popular show can still be heard there today from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, as well as online at <http://247polkaheaven.com/>



Danielczuk was one of the original founders of the Polka Jammer Network, and helped Polkaman Jack start up “Polka Legacy,” an oldies network.

Radio isn’t the only thing Danielczuk has been passionate about. In 1992, he started his Polka Celebration TV show on his local cable network, which has consistently been rated the #1 watched TV show on that network. Over the years, Danielczuk attended

many dances throughout the country, filming many hours of polka fun for his television audience.

Danielczuk is also no stranger to writing about polka music, including penning a monthly column called “Polka Celebration” for the Polish Falcons of America newsletter. He has also written some polka songs of his own, including “Hooray for the New York Yankees” and “MaryAnn the Polka Angel,” and has also done CD liner notes for several well-known bands.

Racking up numerous awards and accolades has been par for the course for Danielczuk. He received the Joe Jozwiak Award from the International Polka Association and was awarded the Frankie Yankovic (of the famous “Beer Barrel Polka”) Award, a national service award given to folks whose efforts have been

(continued)



keeping the polka genre in the public eyes and ears. A recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the U.S. Polka Association, Danielczuk was also bestowed Citizen of the Year in 1995 by the Polish American World Newspaper, Gold Legion Honor of the Polish Falcons and Gold Star of Merit award from the President of Poland.

Danielczuk is also a member of the National Association of Broadcasters' Hall of Fame, located in Ohio.

Danielczuk said one of his proudest moments over the last five decades was getting the "Ballroom Polka" named the official state polka in Connecticut in 2013. Danielczuk persisted for seven years to get the polka, named on behalf of his mentor, the late Ray Henry, and ultimately convinced the state legislature to create a bill, which was signed into law by former Gov. Dannel P. Malloy.

As 2020 approaches, Danielczuk is not showing any signs of slowing down. His Polka Celebration show can still be heard near and far, including on the fourth Sunday of every month on WERG 90.5 FM in Erie, PA and on WPNA, Chicago. Next year also marks Danielczuk's 17th year serving as Sergeant at Arms of the International Polka Association.

So whether he's singing his favorite Polish tunes with the Rich Bobinski Orchestra or Dennis Polisky & The Mas-esro's Men, spinning classic polkas on air or accepting another award... one thing is for sure: the Prince of Polkas will continue to walk and talk Polka music until the last accordion plays.



21st Annual Polka Mania

The Hammond Mohawks

4040 Calumet Avenue
Hammond, IN
(219) 933-9823



Sunday, June 7, 2020

Gates open at 11:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

\$15.00 – Adults
Under 12 - Free

**Authentic Polish Food,
Desserts, and Beverages**
Plus Raffles and Polish Memorabilia
Available at an Additional Cost

FEATURING



And...



**Continuous
Music**



For Additional Information Contact:
Alan Pala - (219) 677-3586

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:

Lynn Kaminski
Lynn_IPA50th@comcast.net

Contact us:

International Polka Association, Inc.®
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60544
1-800-TO-POLKA
(1-800-867-6552)
Website: www.ipapolkas.com

The IPA logo, "INTERNATIONAL POLKA FESTIVAL" and "POLKA MUSIC HALL OF FAME" are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark office. All three trademarks of the International Polka Association and their use, without written permission, is strictly prohibited.

Membership

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

Lynn Kaminski, Financial Secretary
International Polka Association
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60544
Email: lynn_ipa50th@comcast.net

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

2020 IPA Officers and Directors

Officers:

President: Christy Krawisz (IL)
1st Vice President: Lori Lewandowski (IL)
2nd Vice President: Fred Kendzierski (NJ)
Treasurer: Dan Mateja (IL)
Secretary: Cheryl Furmaniak (IL)
Financial Secretary: Lynn Kaminski (IL)
Sergeant-At-Arms: Peter Danielczuk (CT)
Advisor: Jerry Wantroba (IL)
Media Advisor: Keith Pietranczyk (IL)
Ex-Officio: Rick Rzeszutko (IL)
Chaplain: Fr. Dennis Bogusz (PA)

Directors:

Dave Bonczkiewicz (AZ)
Chris Bogdon (PA)
Stephen Kaminski (IL)
Brian Kapka (IL)
Johnny Krawisz (IL)
Lindsey Mateja (IL)
Dennis Mikolajewski (IL)
Jenny Ruitenber (IL)
Jill Styczynski (WI)
Sue Szela (MA)
Mark Trzepasz (NY)
Brad Turk (FL)

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
Lynn_IPA50th@comcast.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.

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!**



March 7th & 8th, 2020 – Ludlow IPA Weekend (ad on page 16)

March 21, 2020 - Good Ole Fashioned Polka Party (ad on page 3)

March 22th, 2020 – IPA/Let's Polka USA Joint Dance (ad on page 7)

Aug. 30 - Sept. 1 - 51st Annual Festival and Convention
Millennium Hotel Buffalo
(716) 681-2400
(ad on page 4)

Advertise in the IPA Newsletter

One Issue

Full Page.....	\$75.00 per issue
Half Page.....	\$55.00 per issue
Quarter Page.....	\$40.00 per issue
Eighth Page.....	\$25.00 per issue

Three Issues

Full Page.....	\$67.00 per issue
Half Page.....	\$45.00 per issue
Quarter Page.....	\$36.00 per issue
Eighth Page.....	\$22.00 per issue

Six Issues

Full Page.....	\$60.00 per issue
Half Page.....	\$40.00 per issue
Quarter Page.....	\$32.00 per issue
Eighth Page.....	\$20.00 per issue

Email ad files to Lynn Kaminski: Lynn_IPA50th@comcast.net.

****DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE IS: March 25, 2020****

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!!

As reminders for membership renewals are mailed out, it would be greatly appreciated if these could be returned as soon as possible. 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.**

International Polka Association, Inc.®
PO Box 1484; Plainfield, IL 60585
1-800-TO-POLKA (1-800-867-6552)
Website: www.ipapolkas.com

