



IPA Newsletter

April - May, 2021

Official Publication of the International Polka Association, Inc.®

Happy Easter





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.**

Subscribe TODAY to IPA's YouTube Channel

The International Polka Association has a YouTube Channel. There, you can find Interviews with Hall of Fame® members such as John Furmaniak, Chet Kowalkowski, and Dave Zychowski just to name a few.

You can also find the entire 3-day IPA Virtual Festival that aired September 2020 and the Festival of Bands that was broadcasted in January, in case you missed it or just want to watch it again.

Brush up on your polka knowledge by playing along with the gameshows hosted by Keith Stras with a variety of polka celebrities as contestants.

Take a virtual walk through the IPA Hall of Fame or better understand how your membership dues and donations are utilized.

Search up performances of your favorite bands or watch those you may not be so familiar with.

Let us know if you may have any polka memories in your archives that could be included in by by contacting us at archives@ipapolkas.com. Please see above for more information.

To subscribe, just go to YouTube.com, search up IPA Videos, and hit subscribe.

It's Always Sunny in Florida...

Witamy członków!

This month, I would like to honor all of **Florida's current IPA musicians** that play in bands throughout our state. These musicians have been entertaining our IPA clubs (below), over the years. They play for the "**Love of the Music**" and spend countless hours traveling for all of us to enjoy LIVE Polka music.

Ted Kania, Fred Kendzierski, Gerry Kryk, Andrew Krystapolski, Eddy Meyers, Joe Oberaitis, Peter Pantaluk, Jim Sefcik, Bobby Sendra, Stan Simms, Ray Skorka, Dave Swiderski,

I want to personally "**THANK**" these musicians for being an IPA member and for continuing to support our clubs by providing LIVE Polka music thru out the year!

German American Club of Marion County

will be having their Spring Picnic Dance on April 25th, featuring "Ron the DJ". The club's 23rd Anniversary dance with Alex Mixner Band is on Aug. 8th. For tickets/info., call Mary (352)-789-6499 or visit website: www.gacmarioncounty.com

Polish American Pulaski Club of Daytona Beach

next dinner/dance is April 11th with Northern Sounds. On April 25th, Frankie K. band will be performing. Next dinner/dances are scheduled on May 16th, May 30th, and June 6th. You can join their Facebook page, visit website:

www.polishamericanpulaskiclubdaytona.org or call club (386)-258-7059, for updates.

General K. Pulaski Club in Belleview

will be celebrating both Mother's & Father's Day with a dinner/ dance on May 9th with the Melotones. The next scheduled dance will be October 10th, to celebrate Polish American Heritage Month/ Oktoberfest, featuring Northern Sounds. Please contact Brad for more information.

Polish American Social Club of Vero Beach

had a great turn out for the Frank

Moravcik Band from Cleveland, Ohio last month. Other dances and events for the club are currently being scheduled. Join their Facebook page, or visit their website:

www.pacvbusa.org, for all their monthly events

or call the club: (772)-778-0039 for more details.



By Brad Turk

Polish Heritage Club at Sun City Center

are currently busy planning their Fall events. Contact Brad for more information.

SNPJ Lodge #603 in Samsula

is currently having takeout Dinner Specials on Fridays, call Cindy (386)-689-9454 for dinner menu. Join their Facebook page, or visit their website:

www.samsulasnpjlodge603.com. Their annual Oktoberfest event is being planned for the fall.

The Polish American Society of St. Petersburg

will be having their grand opening on November 7th, starting up their dinner/dancing season. The club's 70th anniversary celebration is being planned for 2022. Please visit the website:

www.polishsociety.org or join their Facebook page, for the latest updates.

As a reminder, Florida's favorite IJ's are: 2009 Hall of Famer Joe Oberaitis with Polkas 101 and Slovenian Polka Blast Show; Crankin' Polkas with Ray Skorka, and Dick Ozimek with Cousin Ozzie's Basement.

If you would like any additional information about our clubs, polka dances or special events, please email me at bradturk@cox.net or call: (352) 875-3961. Please continue to support **LIVE** polka music and all of our clubs... **Szczesliwy Wielkanoc!**

The IPA and Let's Polka USA
present the 9th Annual

UNITY DANCE

Sunday, April 25th, 2021



Glendora Banquets

10225 S. Harlem Ave.

Chicago Ridge, IL

Doors open at 1pm

Music from 2pm—6pm



THE IPA TRIBUTE BAND

with

Polka Music Hall of Famers

Mike Matousek

from Baltimore, MD

and

Rick Rzeszutko

from Chicago, IL

Admission \$10

Visit www.ipapolkas.com for more information





It is with great sadness that we inform the members of the International Polka Association of the passing of past President, Patricia "Pat" Mikos.

Patricia J Mikos, age 76, of Calumet Park passed away on February 25, 2021.

Cherished daughter of the late Mary Mikos and the late Bruno Mikos Sr. Beloved sister of Bruno (the late Suzanne) Mikos Jr and the late Marie (the late James) Fuscaldo. Loving aunt of James (Carmella) Fuscaldo, Deborah (David) Noll, Cathee (Richard) Mulcahy, and John D. Mikos Sr. Proud great-aunt of Benjamin Wagner, Emily Wagner, John "Johnnie" Mikos Jr., Brandon Mikos, Michael Fuscaldo, and Madeline Fuscaldo.

After Patricia retired from IL Central Railroad, she was a dedicated caregiver to her grandmother, parents, sister, and brother-in-law.

She loved Polka music and was an avid promoter of Polka music. She served as Director, Financial Secretary, First Vice President, and from 1995-1996, was the President of the International Polka Association.



rest in peace



OF DAYTONA

**3621 West International Speedway Boulevard
Daytona Beach, FL 32124**

Phone for dinner reservations: (386) 258-7059

www.polishamericanpulaskiclubdaytona.org

INVITING ALL SNOWBIRDS TO JOIN US FOR DINNER & DANCING

Check website for dates & times

Like us on Facebook!

Leave the cold & snow and come to Sunny Florida!

South Florida Polka Association

"SoFlaPa"



It all began in a garage in Southern Florida when 2012 International Polka Association Hall of Fame® member Wally Dombrowski and IPA members Andrew Krystopolski and Billy Horodecki, all transplanted residents of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, began polka jamming in Billy's garage playing good old fashioned polka tunes to pass the time away on these pandemic restricted weekends. The sounds of happy, snappy polka music filled the air of what used to be a quiet neighborhood in Fort Lauderdale.

As they continued to play polka music together, they decided to take their show on the road. With the assistance on Wally's wife, Maryrose, and the encouragement of other Florida residents and snow birds, they formed the "South Florida Polka Association" affectionately known as "SoFlaPa".

So what is the mission of "SoFlaPa"? Simple; promote polka music in the Southern Florida region. Give Florida residence, a place to

come out to, dance to, and to enjoy polka music.

Unfortunately, due to pandemic related restrictions and issues, the popular

By Dennis Mikolajewski
IPA Director, IL

"Polka Brew Cruise" sponsored by Wally Dombrowski's band, the "Polka Country Musicians" could not set sail. However, the polka fans from the Midwest and east coast wanted, and needed, a place to escape the cold and snow.

This is where "SoFlaPa" came to the rescue. Mary-Rose, Wally, Andrew and Bil-

ly, got together and decided to put together a few events outside of Billy's garage. So the mission began to locate outdoor venues that would be willing to let the polka garage band play their polka music.

Maryrose contacted the Doubletree Hotel, located on the beautiful Intracoastal Waterway of Fort Lauderdale, and they agreed to let the band perform on their outdoor patio area.



Next, Maryrose and Wally approached the owners of a quaint outdoor bar and restaurant located on the famous 1A highway. The “Park and Ocean”, across the street from the Fort Lauderdale beach, was gracious and generous enough to give their band a chance as well.

So now that they had places to play, SoFlaPa needed polka fans. So the founding members sent out an email blast to all of the polka fans going through the winter blues; and before you knew it; they started to come!

Polka friends from Illinois, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and other cold climate states; they all booked their flights in search of some polka fun in the Florida sun!

I was blessed to be a part of the first wave of these Florida polka gatherings. It was wonderful! I got to spend quality time with friends I haven't seen in over a year. We laughed, we danced, and we sang; while always keeping safe in this Covid era.

In fact, as the word of these polka gatherings got out, other polka musicians arrived bringing their instruments to play along with the garage

gang. IPA Hall of Fame® Member Jimmy Weber, IPA Treasurer Dan Mateja, George Borsuk, Ken Yash, Tom Haller, Nick Koryuk, and Jersey Polka Richie Drongoski all joined in the polka fun!

As the saying goes “If you build it, they will come”; and they did!

So as SoFlaPa continues with their polka promoting journey, they have continued to book more polka jobs in and around southern and central Florida. Again, promoting polka music and giving our polka friends in Florida a place to dance and sing.

I don't know what is in store for the South Florida Polka Association in the future. But I do know that under the direction of Wally, Maryrose, Andrew and Billy, the organization will continue to grow and will be a welcome addition to polka associations.

I know that I look forward to returning to Florida, and continuing to enjoy the little garage band, with the big plans!





2021 International Polka Association Festival and Convention Kick-Off Polka Party

Thursday, Sept 2, 2021

Featuring the best in *Polka Dancing* with:

The Burgh Boys

Featuring Western PA Polka Musicians:

Chris Bogdon Rich Zebrowski Randy Koslosky
Erik Bogdon Rich Kois RJ Bogdon

And Other Guest Musicians

Music from 7:00pm to 11:00pm

Cranberry Elks Lodge #2249

20720 Route 19

Cranberry Twp., PA 16066



Tickets: \$10 per person

All proceeds benefit the Elks Lodge #2249

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

For tickets, table reservations or more information contact:

Chris Bogdon - 412-260-9725 or chris@bogdonfamily.com

For more information about the 53rd Annual IPA Polka Festival and Convention in Cranberry Twp., please see <https://www.ipapolka.com>

2021 Kinloch Fire Hall Polka Schedule

We are excited to begin returning to normal as we welcome live polkas back to Western Pennsylvania!

Saturday
April 17, 2021



After 25 years,
The Return of Energy
6:00pm - 10:00pm
\$15.00 per person

Chris' 50th Birthday Celebration

Sunday
May 16, 2021



Featuring the IPA & USPA Award Winning:
Dynabass
2:00pm - 6:00pm
\$15.00 per person

Saturday
August 28, 2021



Featuring the IPA & USPA Award Winning:
Polka Country Musicians
6:00pm - 10:00pm
\$15.00 per person

Schedule is subject to change

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 Bogdon - 412-260-9725 or chris@bogdonfamily.com

*Join us for great polka dances at
Pittsburgh's newest polka hotspot!*

Jammerthon 2021 - April 9-11

THIS IS OUR ONCE A YEAR FUNDRAISER TO HELP DEFRAY OUR OPERATING COSTS TO KEEP US ON THE AIR. WE WILL BE PROVIDING SOME SPECIAL OFFERINGS AS A GIFT TO YOU FOR YOUR PLEDGE OF SUPPORT. THE FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 3PM ET ON FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH AND CONCLUDE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH AT 10:30PM ET.

~~~ LIVE PROGRAMMING ALL WEEKEND LONG !!! ~~~



Help keep the polka music alive!

**Thank you for
your support!**

**Take the Polka Jammer with you!
Download our FREE MOBILE APP**



www.polkajammernetwork.org

Congratulations



IPA member and new daddy, Ryan Joseph Ogrodny and IPA member and new Grandma Dee-Dee Ogrodny, along with new mommy Danika, would like to introduce

Cecilia Jordan
born February 24th, 2021



IPA member Bernie Gorak Sr introduces Granddaughter,
Candelaria Angeline
born February 11th, 2021





53rd Annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention



Make your plans now to attend the 53rd Annual
IPA Festival and Convention

**September 3 – September 5, 2021
Labor Day Weekend
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Cranberry**

The IPA has secured discounted room rates which can be reserved through the following link:
<https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/hotel-reservations/>

Both King rooms and Queen/Queen double bedrooms are currently available at the discounted rate of \$115 per night. You must use the above link to reserve your rooms. Like all festivals, we anticipate selling out of all available rooms, therefore we recommend that all polka fans book as early as possible.

If you prefer to call to make your reservations, you can do so by calling: 1-800-222-8733 and reference the Group Name: International Polka Association.

3 Fun-filled days of Polka Entertainment

Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push, Steve Meisner Band, Klancnik & Friends, IPA Tribute Band, Energy, Polka Family, Ray J and the Carousels, Mon Valley Push, The Boys, The Beat, John Gora and Gorale, Polka Country Musicians, and Kosmix

(Band line up 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!

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ipapolkas

Visit our website: www.ipapolkas.com

For more information: info@ipapolkas.com

Be sure to listen to the IPA Radio Shows:

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

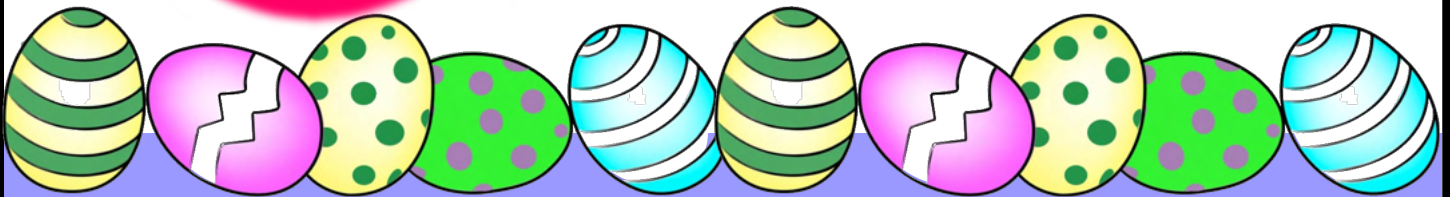
Chicago WPNA1490 AM or radiowpna.com
Sunday's from 11 am to Noon (CT)





IPA members, John and Dianne Gora and
IPA members Chris and Dianne Zawisza announce
the engagement of their children,
Krystyna Gora and Jacob Zawisza.

Na Zdrowie to the future Mr. & Mrs



IPA GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 12th

8pm est/7pm cst

Our next General Meeting will be on May 12th at 8:00 pm EST (7:00 pm CST). As always, we are appreciative of all the comments, questions, and feedback received from members. Our special guest will be Craig Ebel, IPA Polka Hall of Fame® inductee, Class of 2012.

The meeting will require all members to register. Once you register for the email you will receive a confirmation from the IPA Board. Then on May 12th, 2021, you will receive a meeting reminder that will provide the instructions to join the meeting. To join the meeting, you can use either a computer, tablet or mobile phone. Using a computer will provide the richest experience since you will be able to interact with the IPA Board. Also as an option, you can dial in using a phone as well.

To register for the meeting, enter the following URL into your web browser:
<https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/may2021generalmeeting/>



April 1 – Helenrae Budzilek;
Kathleen Stancombe

April 2 – Joseph Witek;
Krystyna Chunis

April 4 – Timothy Haselow;
Mary Lou Czerniak; Felicia
Reilly

April 5 -- Steven Smith; David
Straup Slick

April 6 – Richard Szuflita; Alice Koziel;

April 7 – Betty Downey;
Barbara Ann Adams;

April 8 – Tom Reznickervitz; Erik Bogdon;
Steven Somerville; Carol Lash Budzyn;
Fran Cobian

April 9 – Michelle Genrich;
Veronica Grocholski

April 10 – Valerie Janson

April 11 – Roger Malinowski; Paul Chichin

April 13 – Louella Kundert; Mark Coleman;
Mark Coleman

April 14 – George Walker; Larry Trojak;
Debbie Horoschock

April 15 – Daniel Prigge

April 16 – Ed Vatauvuk; Brian Tos;
Tamara Waner

April 17 – Steve Meisner;
Diane Nowakowski; Mack Martin;
Tyler Zawatski; Margaret Zotkiewicz-
Dramczyk; Ron Biskup

April 18 – Peter Wendlinger



April 19 -- Mitch Gorz

April 20 – Cherie Trzepacz;
Michael Blaskowski

April 21 – Jane Siuda;
Tootsie Sobolak;
Richard Matuszczak;
Mark Slota;

Carol Jean Dziedziak-Zanck

April 22 –Leonard Cioch; Maria Szymanski;
Debbie Rymanowski; Johnetta Vinka

April 23 – Brian Szumigalski; David Heise

April 25 – Sally Rzeszutko;
Brian Urbanczyk; Marie Brado;
Robert Gawryla; Helen Ganiec

April 26 – Gary Osga; Gloria Bonnin;
Phyllis Videtich; Jennifer Okrzesik

April 27 – Michael Schrader;
Debbie Rymanowski;
Linda Walczynski-Louie; Theresa Parker

April 28 –Joseph Price; John Sakal;
Michael Bednarz; Eric Kurowski

April 29 – Kim Cielecki

April 30 – Chris Linster; James Goplin;
Marlene Werwas





May 1 – Roscoe Dick Powell;
Matthew Martin

May 2 – Judy Del Pozzo;
Gary Rozak; Rita Sajkowicz;
John Kostecki; Cindy McHugh

May 3 – Jennifer Pietranczyk

May 4 – Harold Otto;

Tony Ayala;

Stanley Dobrowolski;

John Stanky; Daniel Durski

May 6 – Frank Gubala; Mashelle Pavey;
Robert Mazur

May 7 – Ray Pasinski; Richard Kozacko;
Sharon Goldyn; Hadley Kaminski; Tom Zak

May 8 - Grace Mikrut;

Lorraine "Travers" Truskolaski;

Chris Polodna

May 9 – Janice Lochner;

May 10 – Mike Surratt; Lenny Zielinski;
Jill Czerniak; David Nowatzki; Bini Husain;
Robert Lawrence

May 11 – Eleanor Grudi

May 12 – Minnie Florio; Chester Sterczek

May 13 – Julia Figura, Connie Shemansky;
Bob Raica; Shirley Sherpetis

May 14 - Stacey Morris; Carolyn Blajda

May 15 – Krystin Benkowski;

Bryan Koslosky; Darlene Arneson;
Patricia Kaminsky

May 16 – Christopher Bogdon;
Eddie Korosa, Jr.; Bob Zukowski

May 17 – Edmund Burdzy;
Linda Chesky-Fernandes;
Mike Nowakowski

May 18 – Larry Stec; Fran Russo;
Jackie Libera; Kenneth Sowizrol;
Amanda Dickason; Tracy Kapka-Meyer;
Tom Raboin



May 19 – Jayne Szymczak

May 21 - Marge Smith;
Edwin Rajewski;
W. Aaron Schupp;
Linda Barragliola

May 22 – Raymond Skorka;
Linda Kendzierski;

Janice Collins; Scott Daven-

port

May 23 – Ruth Lietz; Melanie Ellis

May 24 – Mary Saber; Ron Palkowski

May 25 – Robyn Mrozinski; Arlene Talbot;
Jim Letnick; Greg Griffin, Jr.;
Robert Szymczak

May 26 – Timothy Winiarz;

Thomas Lewandowski; Kathy Zierys

May 27 – Rick Zarek, Jane Piotrowski

May 28 – Pauline Adelman; Jessica Adkins

May 29 – Carolyn Kasproicz;
Martin Olshanski; Peter Siuda;
Bonnie Sergel; Kim Hedrich

May 30 – Jerold Kriston;

May 31 - Ashley Mateja; Bill Popek;
Mary Freehling; Chris Kaczmarczyk



You weren't the only one to miss HTPD 2020,
don't let it happen again,
Make Plans to Attend...

HOLY TOLEDO **POLKA DAYS**

- APRIL 15, 16 & 17, 2021 -

Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel

100 North Summit Street, Toledo, Ohio

CANCELLED

The DynaBrass, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push,
Michael Costa & The Beat, Polka Country Musicians,
Energy, Polish Connection, John Gora & Gorale,
Holy Toledo Jam Band and DJ Kenny Olowin
Live Broadcasts on the Polka Jammer Network

www.holytoledopolkadays.com

Joe Zalewski - 419.351.5031 - joez@holytoledopolkadays.com

Holy Toledo Polka Days Postponed to 2022

February 15, 2021|Holy Toledo 2021 (As released by Joe Zalewski on February 15, 2021)

TOPOMO, LLC announced today that the 2021 Holy Toledo Polka Days Festival is cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and the State of Ohio Mass Gatherings Ban, which is currently in effect and will be for the foreseeable future.

The Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel has automatically cancelled all room reservations for April 15, 16, & 17, 2021. All advance ticket purchases will be automatically fully refunded through EventBrite.

"I am very disappointed to be cancelling for a second consecutive year, however, we will be back and better than ever in 2022", said Joe Zalewski, promoter of Holy Toledo Polka Days, "I'd like to thank the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, the bands, the Polka Jammer Network, and polka fans from across the USA and Canada for their continued support and understanding. May we all stay safe and healthy!"

For more information about Holy Toledo Polka Days, traditionally one of the most popular Polish-American Polka Music Festivals in the United States, please visit the website

at www.holytoledopolkadays.com

About HTPD: Holy Toledo Polka Days is scheduled for April 7, 8 & 9, 2022. Holy Toledo '22 will be held at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, located at 444 N Summit Street in Toledo, Ohio. This Polka Festival will feature the some of the top polka bands in the industry, including the host band **The DynaBrass**, plus **Lenny Gomułka & Chicago Push**, **Energy**, **Michael Costa & The Beat**, **John Gora & Gorale**, **Polish Connection**, **Polka Country Musicians**, **Holy Toledo Jam Band** and **Polka DJ Kenny Olowin**. The **Opening Night Polka Party** will be held on Thursday April 7, 2022 from 8:00PM-11:00PM at location to be determined. And the **Jammin' Polka Party** will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022 from 2:00PM until 5:00PM at location to be determined. Both venues are expected to be located within walking distance from the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel. **TGIFriday's Cherie & Mark Trzepacz** will host "Live" remote broadcasts which will be aired on the **Polka Jammer Network** on Friday and Saturday.

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL

In an effort to curb postage costs associated with membership renewals and to also make the system more efficient, the IPA will begin sending out Membership Renewal Notices via email beginning in January 2021. Typically, members receive three renewal reminders via postal service. Starting in January, members with email addresses on file will begin receiving their first two reminders via email with a link that takes you directly to the IPA store. The third reminder, which is the final reminder, will be sent through the postal service. Please send your email information to membership@ipapolkas.com.

It's Here Again!



We are so excited to announce
the 2nd Annual...



So you think you can compose a hit polka or waltz?

- This competition is open to anyone between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty-nine (39) years of age as of the July 15, 2021 deadline.
- It is open to amateur and professional songwriters of any polka genre.
- All submissions will be judged by a panel of polka industry songwriting professionals.
- The winning song will receive a plaque and **\$750!** The second place winner will also receive a plaque plus **\$250!**

One special note: songs must not have been previously recorded or broadcast in any public media including YouTube, social media and digital download, so be careful not to share your genius just yet!

For more information, please visit www.ipapolkas.com. The full Terms and Conditions and submission form are located at our Young Songwriter link.
BEST OF LUCK!

\$1000 FREDDY K JR

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



The **Freddy K Jr. Music Scholarship Committee** is now accepting requests for applications for the 2021 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.freddykjrmusicscholarship.com or contact the Scholarship Committee at the following address:

The Freddy K Jr. Scholarship Fund
23850 Via Italia Circle, Apt #1104
Bonita Springs, Florida 34134

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.

WINNERS OF \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS

2020 – Lucas Yash, Webster, MA

2019 - Emma Bogdon, Pittsburgh, PA	2009 – David Raccis, Wilbreham, Massachusetts
2018 - Zachary Piatkowski, Canastota, New York	2008 – Christopher Wanyo, Shillington, Pennsylvania
2017 – Veronica Prytko, Millbury, Massachusetts	2007 – Kevin Martin, Hudson, New Hampshire
Joseph Blackburn, Troy, New York	2006 – Lanelle Raccis, Wilbreham, Massachusetts
2016 – Olivia Piatkowski, Canastota, New York	2005 – Nick Koryluk, Hicksville, New York
2015 – Adam Winiarz, Norton, Massachusetts	2004 – Michael D. Riel, II, Chicopee, Massachusetts
2014 – Jenna Libera, Charlton, Massachusetts	2003 – Ryan Ogrozny, White Oak, Pennsylvania
2013 – Eva Snyder, South Hadley, Massachusetts	2002 – Brian Romianik, Millville, New Jersey
2012 – Justin Kohan, Orchard Park, New York	2001 – Melissa Mocadlo, Stevens Point, Wisconsin
2011 – Stephen Piatkowski, Canastota, New York	2000 – Andrew Krystopolski, Wilmington, Delaware
2010 - Kassandre Dardzinski, Saugus, Massachusetts and	1999 – William Lomnychuk, Reading, Pennsylvania
Anita Marie Thomas, Balto, Maryland	1998 – John Daigle, Chicopee, Massachusetts



Week-long celebration honors Pulaski, WI namesake, Polish General Casimir Pulaski

By Jill Styczynski, WI Director

Polkas are alive and well in Wisconsin. During the week of February 28th, Pulaski held a weeklong fest to celebrate the village's namesake, Casimir Pulaski. It started out with a live virtual party with Mollie B and Ted Lange taking requests for a donation to Promote Pulaski, the nonprofit organization that plans the events. Others events during the week were a pierogi cooking demonstration, virtual, historical tour of the Pulaski Area, trivia, mass, karaoke, raffles, and a jam session at Wick's Bar.



The energy was high and the crowd was ready to dance when the weekend came. Friday started the party in Pulaski at Mountain Bay with "The Natural Talent" taking part in the celebration. On Saturday night the dance moved up to the historic Zielinski's Ballroom with "The NuTymes" and "Maroszek Bothers". The floors were full with dancers from Sheboygan to Wausau, and even a group that drove 8



hours from Michigan.

On Sunday March 7th it was a road trip a little south to Gatherings 43 in Denmark, WI for the "The Mark Jirikovec Band" and a taping of the Polka, Polka, Polka TV Show which the IPA proudly sponsors. The IPA had a surprise Certificate of Appreciation to give to Mark for promoting



and performing polka music for over 42 years and leading the band for 35 years. Congratulations to Mark and the band for many successful years of



performing and wishing them many more years of entertaining polka fans. A highlight of the afternoon included a guest drumming performance by 95-year-old Spitz Heier who never missed a beat and got the crowd pumped up with his iconic drumming skills.

As we come out of the Covid pandemic and start to attend dances again, please do as you feel comfortable and safe doing. The bands miss the fans and the fans miss the bands.



Patrick Henry Presents!

Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest! & Expo!

Chula Vista Resort



April 30 - May 2, 2021

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)

Squeezebox with Mollie B & Ted Lange

from The Mollie B Polka Party! (Saturday and Sunday)

Steve Meisner

from Wisconsin (Saturday)

The New Generation

from Wisconsin (Friday)

Craig Ebel & DyVersaCo

from Minnesota (Friday)



Special Guest Artist: John Jaworski!

THE Bloody Mary Morning Monster Jam with Kevin Altenburg & Friends!

Band line-up and other events subject to change without notice.

Polish/English Catholic Mass- Sunday 11am.

Polka Dancing Lessons!

Weekend AMTRAK Trip Available!

- COVID-19 information -

Due to the on-going pandemic, certain precautions will be in-place for those in attendance in order to minimize the potential spread of the virus. This may include anything from wearing of masks to cancellation of the event itself.

For general festival information:

Call Patrick Henry at (773)889-6811 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.

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Breakfast Gratuity.

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with guardian. Plus Tax where applicable.
Huge Dance Floor By: Frank Napiwocki!

NEWS RELEASE

"It's Polka Time! comes to Northern Wisconsin"

DATELINE: Park Falls, Wisconsin

Starting March 27, 2021, It's Polka Time! with Craig Ebel will be heard every Saturday morning from 8 to 9 a.m. over 98.3 FM WCQM in Park Falls, Wisconsin. Known as "Today's Favorites and Yesterdays Classics" WCQM (100,000-watts) features the best in country music. WCQM focuses its attention on weather, news, sports, events, and everything important in the area from school closings to obituaries. WCQM has affiliations with Westwood One Radio Network, Packers Radio Network and Brewers Radio Network.

WCQM's signal covers a large area of Northern Wisconsin including the cities of Butternut, Glidden, Hawkins, Ladysmith, Mellon, Mercer, Minocqua, Lac du Flambeau, New Post, Phillips, Rib Lake, and Tomahawk, Wisconsin; and also Ironwood, Michigan. WCQM can also be found streaming over the Internet at 98qcountry.com.

It's Polka Time! is produced from the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, and is also heard on 19 other radio stations all across the United States including:

San Bernardino, California, on AM 1050 KCAA Saturdays 5 to 7 a.m. PST

San Bernardino, California, on FM 102.3 KCAA Saturdays 5 to 7 a.m. PST

San Bernardino, California, on FM 106.5 KCAA Saturdays 5 to 7 a.m. PST

Long Prairie, Minnesota, on AM 1400 KEYL Saturdays from 5 to 6 a.m.

Durand, Wisconsin, on AM 1430 WRDN Saturdays from 8 to 10 a.m.

Durand, Wisconsin, on FM 107.3 WRDN Saturdays from 8 to 10 a.m.

Marshfield, Wisconsin, on AM 1450 WDLB Sundays from 5 to 7 a.m.

Hibbing, Minnesota, on AM 650 WNMT Sundays 7 to 9 a.m.

Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on AM 980 WCUB Sundays from 7 to 9 a.m.

Dubuque, Iowa, on AM 1370 KDTH Sundays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, on FM 102.3 KRCQ Sundays from 12 to 2 p.m.

Michigan City, Indiana, on FM 95.9 WEFM Sundays from 1 to 2 p.m.

West Point, Nebraska, on AM 840 KTIC Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m.

West Point, Nebraska, on FM 98.3 KTIC Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m.

West Point, Nebraska, on FM 98.7 KTIC Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m.

Maquoketa, Iowa, on AM 1320 KMAQ Sundays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Maquoketa, Iowa, on FM 92.5 KMAQ Sundays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

New Prague, Minnesota, on AM 1350 KCHK Sundays 9 to 11 p.m.

New Prague, Minnesota, on FM 95.5 KCHK Sundays 9 to 11 p.m.

It's Polka Time! is also heard over the Internet on www.polkajammernetwork.org Saturdays from 7 to 9 p.m. CST. and archived.

Information regarding It's Polka Time! radio shows and these radio stations can be found on the Internet at www.itspolkatime.com. Radio stations interested in broadcasting It's Polka Time! can request a demo of the show by sending an e-mail to itspolkatime@hotmail.com. Polka bands and record labels interested in having their recordings considered for airplay on It's Polka Time! can send their material to P.O. Box 32757, Minneapolis, MN 55432-0757.

BECKSTER FEST

Amana Colonies RV Park & Convention Facility - Amana, IA
Located in the NW corner of Hwys 151 & 220

18th
Annual

June 4-6, 2021

18th
Annual

Always the weekend after Memorial Day

Friday June 4 4pm - 10pm

Barefoot Becky & the Ivanhoe Dutchmen - IA
4-5:30 / 7-8:30

Mark Vyhldal Orchestra - NE
5:30-7 / 8:30-10

Saturday June 5 12 - 10pm

Mark Vyhldal Orchestra - NE
12-1:30/3-5

Carol & the Keynotes - WI
1:30-3/5-7

Gary's Ridgeland Dutchmen - WI
7-10

Sunday June 6 12 - 6pm

Gary's Ridgeland Dutchmen - WI
10:30am Polka Mass
12-1:30 / 3-4:30

Malek's Fishermen - IA
1:30-3 / 4:30-6

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- Becky Livermore
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- Toll Free 877-499-7133
- www.barefootbecky.com



*From the
Officers and Directors
of the
International Polka Association*

Introducing ...

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and The Polka Commandos

Na zdrowie! (Nostrovia!)

One of the BEST CDs in a long time! I'm playing it on all my shows to great reviews.

- Joe Godina, 247 PolkaHeaven.com

Could there possibly be a more joyful antidote for strange times than *Na zdrowie! (Nostrovia!)* ...?

- Dan Kimpel, Song Biz, Music Connection Magazine

Zupe's record doesn't sell music, it sells fun, happiness, and celebration!

- Bobby Borg, Musician & Educator, UCLA, USC

... this is total polka funtime that had me bouncing in my chair!

- Jim Price, Pennsylvania Musician Magazine



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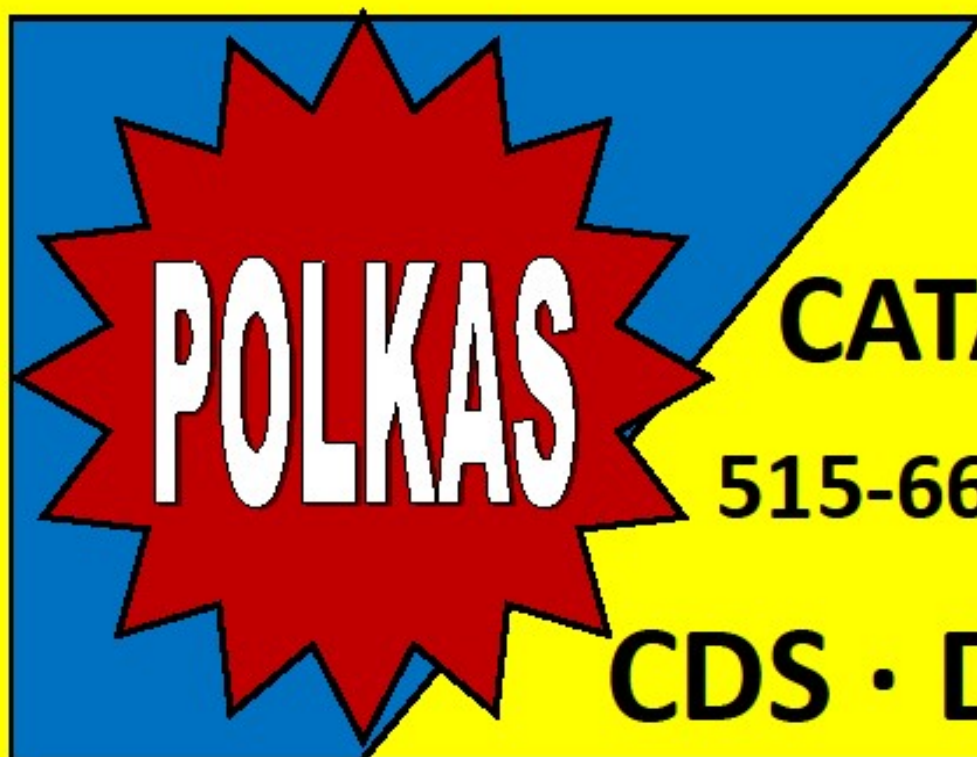
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IPA Newsletter

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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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: membership@ipapolkas.com

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

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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:

newsletter@ipapolkas.com.

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!**



Sunday, April 11th - IPA Show Live for the Jammerthon
1pm-3pm central (see page 8 for more information)

Sunday, April 25th - IPA & Let's Polka USA
UNITY DANCE (See page 4 for more information)

Wednesday, May 12th - IPA General Meeting (See page 11 for more information)

Advertise in the IPA Newsletter

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Full Page.....	\$75.00 per issue
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Eighth Page.....	\$20.00 per issue

DEADLINE FOR JUNE NEWSLETTER: May 14, 2021

Email ad files to Lynn Kaminski using:

newsletter@ipapolkas.com

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)
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