



IPA Newsletter

HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day!

2022 IPA® Hall of Fame Inductees Named

IPA Hall of Fame Inductees 2022



Alex Meixner



Don "The Polish
Kid"
Cialkoszewski



Don Gralak



Stan Wolowicz



Anthony W.
Zebrowski

It's Always Sunny in Florida...

Witamy członków!

I hope everyone had a festive Dyngus Day! The Polish American Society of St. Petersburg this year had a record crowd celebrating Dyngus Day 2022. The club had 190 people and sold out of 160 dinners. They gave away over \$1500 in raffle prizes. **Fantastyczny!** If you were there, I am sure you had a great time. If you missed this year's Dyngus Day, you should plan on attending April 10th, 2023. This is one event you don't want to miss!

Let's continue to support LIVE polka music in 2022 by attending our **Summer/Fall Dances!**

Polish American Pulaski Club of Daytona Beach is currently having Polka dances at **The Elks Lodge, 285 Wilmette Avenue, Ormond Beach** (after selling their club). They will be having summer dinner/dances as follows: Joey "O" Oberaitis on June 5th; Franky K. on June 19th; the Melotones July 24th, and Polka Classic on August 28th. For more information please call (386)-258-7059. You can email the club at pulaski-daytona-club@yahoo.com, join their Facebook page, or visit their website: www.polishamericanpulaskiclubdaytona.org

German American Club of Marion County will be celebrating the clubs **25th Silver Anniversary** on August 14th with a special dinner/dance featuring the Northern Sounds. September 18th will be their Oktoberfest event. November 7th is the Fall Festival with music by Eva Adams and December 19th is the annual Christmas Party, featuring the popular Tannenbaums Band. For tickets/information, please call Mary (352)-789-6499 or visit their website: www.gacmarioncounty.com.

General K. Pulaski Citizens Club in Belleview will be closed over the summer. They will re-open on October 9th to celebrate General Pulaski Memorial Day with Northern Sounds. On November 13th they will honor Veterans

Day/Thanksgiving with Northern Sounds. The annual Christmas Kolendy party is December 11th presenting Northern Sounds along with some special guests! Please contact Brad for more information.



By Brad Turk

SNPJ Lodge #603 in Samsula is currently working on their summer events calendar. For more information, give Cindy a call at: (386)-689-9454. Join their Facebook page, email the club: snpilodge603@gmail.com or visit their website: www.samsulasnpjilodge603.com

Polish American Social Club of Vero Beach is in the process of finalizing their upcoming entertainment schedule. For information on all events at the club, please join their Facebook page, visit their website www.pacvbusa.org, or call the club at (772)-778-0039 for more details on events over the summer months.

Polish American Society of St. Petersburg will be re-opening on November 6th with the Northern Sounds. November 20th will be Florida Generations. December 4th will feature the Polka All Stars and December 18th is the Nu Soundz, celebrating their Christmas party. Please visit their website: www.polishsociety.org, or check out their Facebook page for more info.

As a reminder, Florida's favorite IJ's are: 2009 Hall of Famer Joe Oberaitis with Polkas 101 (Saturday), and Slovenian Polka Blast (Thursday), as well as, Crankin' Polkas (Fridays), with IPA member Ray Skorka.

If you would like any additional information about our clubs, polka dances or special events, email me at bradturk@cox.net or call: (352) 875-3961. Looking forward seeing all our friends at the polka festivals. **Do zobaczenia.**



Dyngus Day 2022



St. Petersburg
Florida

IPA's POLKA MUSIC IS ESSENTIAL AVAILABLE NOW



Polka music is Essential is the latest IPA t-shirt designed by IPA member Hayley Krawisz. Scan the QR code to take you directly to the store to purchase yours now, or you can visit the store at IPAPolkas.com.

2022 IPA Newsletter Schedule

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline for Submissions</u>
August - September 2022	July 1, 2022
October - November 2022	September 1, 2022
December 2022 - January 2023	November 1, 2022



Lisa Adamich, FL
Jessie Barczak, FL
Nancy Bain, FL
Lola Johnson, CT
Keith Heffner, AZ
Ana Pierce, FL
Bob Wolinski, CT

New
Lifetime
Members

Ronald Wichman, Jr., WI

Crowd Surfing at Dyngus Day in Buffalo?

For those who haven't experienced Dyngus Day in Buffalo, NY, it is hard to know where to begin to try to convey what a remarkable phenomenon it is. It is tempting to try to find an analogy, like saying it is like a Polish version of St. Patrick's Day (because everyone dresses in a certain color and there is a parade, etc). But, all of the analogies fall short. Dyngus Day in Buffalo is just too big and far-reaching.

Isn't the Monday after Easter a work day? Maybe in much of the world it is. But, not in Buffalo. A sea of red and white takes over the city. It is hard to fathom dozens of locations having polka bands perform. I'm talking about dozens of locations that are all packed with people sporting their red-and-white clothing – and where going out to a Polish polka party is THE THING TO DO. How is that possible? I wrack my brain to think of a day anywhere else in the country where more polka bands play at more venues and where there is more participation by the general public.

I play with Mon Valley Push which played at two events on Dyngus Day. The first was in the afternoon at Buffalo's iconic Broadway Market and then in the evening at Corpus Christi Church. While there were some devoted polka fans there that frequent polka dances throughout the year, the bulk of the crowd was made up of the general public that may not darken the door of other polka events throughout the year. Seeing people of all ages, all dressed in the red and white, was remarkable. For someone who loves polka music and Polish heritage, seeing families with young children take this opportunity to teach their kids to dance and just enjoy the polka music was wonderful. There it was: the passing on of Polish culture to a new generation. With the magnitude of Dyngus Day in Buffalo, it is hard to not get swept up in it.

Mon Valley Push played traditional Polish polkas, but with most of the crowd being made

up of people who don't know Polish polkas, some of the biggest response came from covers of other pop, rock, and country songs played as polkas. Songs like 500 Miles (The Proclaimers), Me and Julio (Simon and Garfunkel), One More Night (Maroon 5), and a Johnny Cash medley had the crowd dancing and singing along. With so many people coming to Dyngus Day events who may not know the Polish polka music scene, songs like these engaged the crowd. Mon Valley Push finished with its (soon to be released) half-hour "Let's Take a Ride" medley featuring songs from more than a dozen of the top polka bands through the years. That satisfied the die-hard polka fans and the Dyngus Day polka fans as well. The dancing was more of a free-for-all mosh-pit style than what we may normally encounter at a polka dance. Thoughts of crowd surfing crossed my mind, but prudence won out, so I didn't. Sorry to suck you in with the title of the article. It didn't happen in a literal sense. But, in a metaphorical sense, it did for me and many others at location after location after location....

At the end of the day I'm left in wonder:

- what a phenomenal party it was
- how in the world this whole multi-headed monster of an event that takes over a city ever happened
- how awesome it would be for this to happen all over the country
- how great it would be if even a small fraction of the thousands and thousands of people who had a great time on Dyngus Day would come out to polka events throughout the year



By Randy Koslosky
IPA Sargent-at-Arms



54th Annual International Polka Association Festival & Convention



Make your plans now to attend the 54th Annual
IPA Festival and Convention

**September 2 – September 4, 2022
Labor Day Weekend
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Cranberry**

The DoubleTree is currently sold out. The IPA has secured a block of rooms at a discounted rate at the nearby **Comfort Inn**. The Comfort Inn is within walking distance, just across a parking lot from the DoubleTree, making its very convenient for you to still be at the center of the **PARTY** and all the fun filled events of the weekend. The Room Rate will be \$119.00 a night. Please use the following link

<https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/overflow-reservation/>

or you can call 724-772-2700 to book your room at the Comfort Inn.

3 Fun-filled days of Polka Entertainment

**Lenny Gomulka and Chicago Push, The Dynabass, The Buffalo Concertina
Allstars, The Jack Tady Band, Seven, Klancnik & Friends, IPA Tribute Band,
The Beat, John Gora and Gorale, Polka Country Musicians, The Boys,
New Generation, Kosmix and The NuTones**

(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 Show:

Polka Jammer Network
Sunday's from 11 am to Noon (CT)





Recipes from ... IPA Members

IPA President, Christy Krawisz, thought it would be a great idea to share some of our members favorite recipes with the membership. So, in every newsletter we will spotlight food and drink recipe submitted to us by our members. To share your favorite recipe, please email it to info@ipapolkas.com and **include your name in your email**. Please send it in a word document or directly in the email. PDF's won't work, sorry. We look forward to sharing some great recipes with you! Enjoy.

Diane Kapka Potato Salad Recipe

8 to 10 lbs. of red potatoes boiled, cooled, skinned, and cut into cubes

Celery stalks - depends on the size of the celery, usually 4 to 6 stalks, chopped small

Green onion - I use again at least 4 to 6 stalks, cut small

Eggs - 8 eggs and maybe 2 extra for deco on top - Hard boiled, cooled and chopped into pieces

Sour Cream - about a cup

Mayonnaise - Hellman's Real Mayo, no other!!!! I buy the huge jar and use almost all of it. I like it creamy!!

Salt and pepper to taste

I know this is kind of "iffy", but it's more a matter of taste!! It's really called eyeballin'!

Strawberry Pretzel Salad By Christy Krawisz

2 1/2 cups crushed pretzels
3/4 cup melted butter
3 tablespoons sugar

Mix together, well and place in greased 9 x 13 pan, bake at 400 degrees for 8-9 minutes and let cool.

8 oz. cream cheese
3/4 cup sugar
8 oz. Cool Whip

In a large mixing bowl cream together softened cream cheese and 3/4 cup sugar. Fold in cool whip Spread mixture onto cooled pretzel crust.

2 pkg. (10 oz) frozen strawberry halves
2 pkg. (3 oz.) strawberry jello, dissolved in 2 cups boiling water.

Dissolve jello in boiling water. Stir in frozen strawberries and allow it to set (approximately 20-25 minutes.) When mixture is about the consistency of egg whites, pour and spread over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours.

Pineapple Wine Punch

Submitted by Christy Krawisz

Recipe:
750 ml Moscato Wine
2 c pineapple juice
1 c orange juice
24 oz Sprite

Kiss in the Kitchen

WAY OUT WEST ARIZONA POLKA DANCE FEST. 2022



WHEN:

Jan. 15th, & 16th, Lenny Gomulka & Chicago Push

Feb. 19th, & 20th, Mike Costa & The Beat

Mar. 19th, & 20th, The Natural Talent (T.N.T.)

Nov. 12th, & 13th, Dennis Polisky & Maestro's Men

WHERE:

PULASKI CLUB 4331 E. MCDOWELL RD PHOENIX, AZ. 85008

TIME:

FRIDAY NIGHT 6PM. FREE ADMISSION (MEET & GREET)

SATURDAY NIGHT 5 TO 9PM \$15.00

SUNDAY AFTERNOON 2 TO 6PM \$15.00

(KIDS UNDER 12 FREE)

*No B.Y.O.B. affair the Pulaski Club has a full bar menu available
and the Polish Kitchen will be open*

**Hotel Reservations: Holiday Inn & Suites Phoenix Airport North
1515 N. 44th St. Phoenix, Az. 85008 (p) 602-358-0908
www.hiphoenixsuites.com**

**THE PULASKI CLUB 4331 E. MCDOWELL RD. PHOENIX, AZ. 85008
602-275-9329 WWW.PULASKICLUBAZ.ORG
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PULASKICLUBAZ**

Thanks for the Memories



IPA Chicago January Festival of Bands (rescheduled)- March 19-20, 2022 - Financial Summary		
<u>Saturday - Glendora - New Generation</u>		
Proceeds from sale of 2 day passes - 23 sold		575.00
		.
Proceeds from sale of single day admission - 31 sold		465.00
Total taken in at door on Saturday		\$1,040.00
Proceeds from 50/50 Raffles on Saturday		
#1 - donated to Ukraine Relief Fund	\$125.00	
Total raffle income on Saturday		\$125.00
<u>Sunday - Glendora House</u>		
Proceeds from sale of single day admission - 134 sold		2,010.00
Total taken in at door on Sunday		2,010.00
Proceeds from 50/50 Raffles on Sunday		
#1 - donated to Ukraine Relief Fund	\$191.00	
#2 - donated to Ukraine Relief Fund	\$170.00	
Total raffle income on Saturday		361.00
Proceeds from Raffles Baskets on Sunday		\$405.00
Total Revenue from Weekend		\$3,941.00
<u>Expenses from Weekend</u>		
Total Entertainment Expense		\$3,570.00
Hall Rental		400.00
Flier printing		76.75
Raffle Basket creation expense		100.00
Total Expense from Weekend		\$4,146.75
Net Profit/Loss from Weekend		-\$205.75



INTERNATIONAL POLKA ASSOCIATION
PO Box 1484; Plainfield, IL 60544 · Phone 1-800-TO-POLKA
www.ipapolkas.com

Dear 2022 IPA Program Book Advertiser:

We would like to ask for your support as the International Polka Association presents its **54th Annual Polka Festival and Convention**, Friday, September 2nd through Sunday, September 4th, 2022 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Cranberry in Mars, Pennsylvania. We are currently in the process of soliciting ads for our Festival Souvenir Program Book.

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Page
8.5 x 5.5
(.25 border
on all sides) \$65 | <input type="checkbox"/> ½ Page
4.25 x 5.5
(.25 border
on all sides) \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> ¼ Page
2.125 x 5.5
(.25 border
on all sides) \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Well
Wisher \$1.00 |
|--|--|---|--|

Ad Contract & Copy Deadline: Sunday, July 3rd, 2022

Payment MUST accompany advertisement at time of press, or it will NOT be printed!

Acceptable Files:

- Supply files in the appropriate dimension size as listed above.
- PDF's, JPG's, PNG's, MS WORD, (300 dpi MINIMUM - Please include all fonts & graphic support if applicable)

2 ways to submit and pay for your ad.

OPTION 1

Email to: adbook@ipapolkas.com
ATTACH ALL APPLICABLE FILES
Send Checks to the address to
PO BOX 1484

Plainfield, IL 60544

Make check payable to the
**"International Polka
Association"**

OPTION 2

Submit online at
<https://www.ipapolkas.com/ad-book>

Payment option
(Instead of paying
online or sending
check)

Zelle the payment
Ensure to include
your name and a brief
message about
submission

I understand that by returning this entire signed agreement with payment no later than the deadline date, I will be assured of advertising space in the IPA Festival Souvenir Program Book. I also understand that the International Polka Association reserves the right to reject any ad it deems unsuitable for its publication.

Contact Person _____ Title _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email _____
Signature _____ Date _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Lynn Kaminski
IPA Program Ad Book Chairperson

Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest

The Wisconsin Dells Polka Fest is something I look forward to every year. Even though small, it has many things to offer. The Chula Vista Resort is lovely, and of course, the indoor water park is the best but most importantly, the bands that play are amazing!

Personally, I've been around polka music since before I was born, and to be completely honest most bands sound the same with a few exceptions. From experience, and in my opinion, those exceptions are the best. Different bands explore more areas of music and build a bridge between different musical genres and polkas. A very good (and totally not prejudiced) example is FreezeDried. Bands like that connect different genres with polkas and bring outside people who might not be into polkas, into them. I know when I bring a friend to a polka dance I like when they can say, "Hey, I know that song!" It also feels good when I know the song they are playing because it technically isn't a polka. It catches my attention and makes me want to stand in front of the band. Don't get me wrong, I love standing in front of the traditional polka bands and listening to those songs but, to me, it is much more entertaining listening to songs I can associate with.

This year, Copper Box played along with PCM, Polka Family, Energy, The Main Squeeze, New Polish Sounds, Doctor Kielbasa, The Music Company, and Maroszek Brothers. I've heard almost all of these bands play before and absolutely love them but I've never heard of Copper Box. I was in awe when I heard them play a waltz from Disney's "Princess and the Frog". I stood in front of the band the entire time they played and was thoroughly entertained. Copper Box quickly became one of my favorite bands. They brought entertainment and unbelievable talent to all three sets they played. I truly feel as if we should welcome more bands like that into the polish polka circuit.

Thank you Patrick Henry for hosting such a entertaining and lovely weekend and I look forward to April 21-23, 2023!



By Hadley Kaminski
IPA Member
Age 14

**Wisconsin
Dells Polka Fest!**



Polka Hall of Fame member, Bill Shibilski Passes

It is with great sadness in our hearts that we announce the passing of IPA® Hall of Fame member, Bill Shibilski. Bill was inducted into the International Polka Hall of Fame in 2020 for his outstanding dedication to polka music as a polka promoter and polka broadcaster for over 50 years. Our condolences and sympathies to Bill's immediate and polka family throughout the country and beyond. May he rest in peace.



Bill's radio career started in 1963 when involved with supporting a Rock n Roll radio show at Fordham U in NYC. He quickly got the radio bug and was invited by the Jesuit priest and station director, Father Trivett, to host a Polka show starting on November 28, 1964, on a low power college radio station. Shortly after that, he was the first to participate in a fundraising effort that raised the wattage to 50,000 and the first stereo polka show in the nation. Broadcast stations all over the United States took notice and contacted them for information and instruction to follow the idea.

It must have been in the DNA of his father (Bill Sr), a singer, song composer, and night club entertainer and helped Bill Jr. when he wanted to expose polka bands from other parts of the US to East Coast polka fans. His Dad assisted him when they arranged for Eddie Blazonczyk, Chet Kowalkowski, and a teenage Lenny Gomulka's first East coasts appearance in Pa., Mass. and NJ in June 1966. A while later, he also first booked Marion Lush in his area.

He was asked by Frank Wojnarowski to emcee the first major polka festival at Manhattan Center in 1967 that featured over 20 polka bands. That success prompted Frank to ask Bill to host a trial Polka TV show pilot that was recorded in Pennsylvania a few weeks later. Frank wanted to attempt to duplicate his famous TV show "Pic a Polka" with the Joe Macielag Orch in Buffalo that had recently ended. Following that result, he later was the emcee of the Jimmy Sturr Orchestra's first national TV show.

Bill's radio show peaked in later years and was rated number one show of its' kind in the NYC Metro area by the radio polling organization Arbitron. He even was surprised by a visit by Ted Maksymowicz. He was a leader in the establishment of the USPA at an early Ocean Beach Park festival in the 1960s started by Dick Pillar and the election of Ray Henry as its first President. He held radio instruction courses there and lauded by Pioneer Johnny Libera even though he was a youth similar and just a few years older than Johnny's son, Jackie.

What followed was his Master of Ceremonies of NY City's Pulaski Day Parade that featured over 16 polka bands each of the 18 years that he emceed that parade. He coaxed Polka leaders like Happy Louie, Jimmy Sturr, and others to participate. He greeted recording and TV stars like Bobby Vinton, Loretta Swit, and Bob Hope.

He went on to appear on TV news shows promoting polka music leading to his own show in eastern Pa after his MC chores at the then famous National Polka Festival at Hunter Mountain, NY, bringing in major polka bands and stars of that era.

Almost all of these events were voluntary because he acquired a love for the music and wanted to promote and expose it to new people. The New York State Council for the Arts contacted him to assist with a live show at the famous Carnegie Hall, where the Polka Family Band was the biggest hit at that event held to feature performers from varied nationality groups.

He also authored the so-called liner notes for scores of polka records released in the 1960s to the present day. He helped produce a TV show that appeared on National Public TV stations.

In early 2001, when live Polka attendance started to decline, he was celebrated with a party to commemorate his 35th anniversary attended by Regina Kujawa, Bud Hundenski, and others. A week afterward, the radio station he promoted and supported decided to cancel his polka radio show. He then retired from the show but was coaxed back ten years later by Jack Baciewski and Billy Belina of the then-new and now leader Polka Jammer Network. He was recognized recently as Honorary Grand Marshall of the New York Pulaski Parade thanks to his years of support and promotion of the parade.

For over 50 years, Bill has been promoting Polkas and Polka events in person and over the airwaves with his Saturday Night Weekend Polka Party.





Jun. 1st – Michael Skalecki;
Krysta Latawiec; Alicia Bliznik;
Dottie Stanky

Jun. 2nd – Jack Sanocki; Keith Werwas, Jr.;
Jack Sanocki

Jun. 3rd – Bernie Gorak, Sr

Jun. 4th – Richard Sendra; Bob Jakubielski;
April Burclaw

Jun. 5th – Jeannette Ziobro; Stan Pasko

Jun. 6th – Mary Jo Liccar; Joseph Heier;
Bob Banoczi; Verna DeGreef; Danny Louis

Jun. 7th – Joe Kizior; Rich Benkowski

Jun. 8th – Alex Saltanovitz, Jr.; Greg Dybas;
Bruce Brzeczowski; Richie Yurkovich;
Carol Alsheimer

Jun. 9th – Lambert Lasecki

Jun. 10th – John Baras; Dale Kivinen;
Johnny Karas; Jasiu Klocek; Dave Duescher;
Gary Heumphner; Karen Talik

Jun. 11th – Eddie Ostry; Thomas Rokosz;
Helen Skolaut

Jun. 12th – Virgil Herrmann; Chet Kowalkowski

Jun. 13th – Walter Berkowicz; Pamela Reed;
Teddy Gomulka; Leon Matczak

Jun. 14th – Judy Kwiatkowski; Zupe

Jun. 15th – Kevin Cornnell; Ed Izyk

Jun. 16th – Jill Comras

Jun. 17th – Irene Alch; Micheal Kott

Jun. 18th – Kevin Weinstock

Jun. 19th – Tony Crispo; Bernard Krygowski;
Steve Burclaw; Roberta Polovick

Jun. 20th – Karen Dekoski; Paul Rite; Joey
Falch

Jun. 22nd – Jerry Rymanowski;
Joanne Kozleski Jones;

Jun. 23rd – Ed Krupinski;

John Gajewski

Jun. 24th – Kenneth Dunaj; Mollie Busta;
Julie Matus; Marianne Cramer

Jun. 25th – Dave Parcheta; Ron Kuta;
Rosemary Bogdon

Jun. 26th – Mary Ann Makatenas;
John Filipczak; Joe Zalewski; Ronald Petro;
Ann Szymanski; Wayne Machnicki

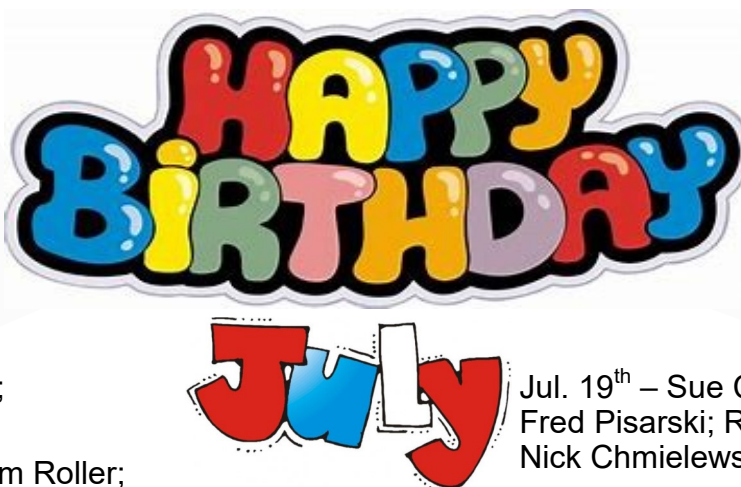
Jun. 27th – Joseph Wondolowski

Jun. 28th – Julcia Dusseault; Frank Blajda;
Marilyn Pell; Bob Kalin; Ed Turecek

Jun. 29th – Bob Frydryk; Robin Chimniak;
Michael Pisarski

The next issue of the IPA®
Newsletter will be the *Festival and
Convention Edition*. This special is-
sue will include the complete
bios of all of the 2022 inductees
and more information about the
**54th Annual International Polka
Association Festival and
Convention.**

Stay Tuned.....



Jul. 1st – Adam Biskup;
Betty Lange

Jul. 2nd – Al Betley; Sam Roller;
Lola Johnson

Jul. 3rd – Ken Yash; Keith Wesolek;
Mick Pyznarski

Jul. 4th – Hank Haller; CW Benson;
Ronald Latawiec; Sara Latawiec;
Denise Gliwa

Jul. 5th – Jan Sweet; Michael Costa;

Jul. 6th – Jennifer Bulanda-Ruitenber;
Dennis Polisky; Elizabeth Rozek

Jul. 7th – Benita Szymanski; Jerry Romanowski;
Andrew Putz

Jul. 8th – Eugene Retka; Carl Prushinski;
Greg Jankowski

Jul. 9th – John Wisneski; Barbara Loftus

Jul. 10th – John Matyjas; Christine Misiak;
Patricia Murray

Jul. 11th – Joe Kvitek

Jul. 12th – Danny Fabeck

Jul. 13th – Theresa Pawlicki; Marie Marek;
Ivan Latoski; Mark Komar

Jul. 14th – William Stasila; Ronald Ziemba;
Sophie Skinger; Donna Carron

Jul. 15th – Arthur Kalena; Wally Dombrowski;
Robert Moon; Joe Gilewski

Jul. 16th – Cheryl Furmaniak; Ted Woytowicz

Jul. 17th – Thomas Kalinowski; Fred Potzer; Bri-
an Hafeman

Jul. 18th – Maggie Zabielski;
Lori Yash; Stephen Swiader

Jul. 19th – Sue Conway; Bill Gliwa;
Fred Pisarski; Russ Napiwocki;
Nick Chmielewski

Jul. 20th – Randy Cernosek;
Andrew Krystopolski

Jul. 21st – Donna Piatkowski; Joe Macielag;
Eugene Maroszek

Jul. 22nd – Bonnie Potoniec; Steven Sopko;
Roman (Travers) Truskolaski;

Teresa Fras-Wachon; Catherine Hartenbower

Jul. 23rd – Lawrence M. Stec; Hank Dymerski

Jul. 25th – Eddie Labuda; Anne Loeffler

Jul. 26th – Karen Mikrut; Ed Nicoski;
Katie Moroski

Jul. 27th – John Gora, Dr. Ann Hetzel Gunkel;
Mary Alice Pavey; Estelle Gomulka;
Michelle Robinson

Jul. 28th – Lorraine Matusovich; Miroslaw
Antas; Lynn Kizewski; Greg Winiarz

Jul. 29th – Kathy Urbanczyk; Jane Gelineau;
Henry Lenard; George Rosinski

Jul. 30th – Bob Sendra; Arthur Kott

Jul. 31st – Len Fornek



Please join the International Polka Association in celebrating the 53rd Annual IPA Hall of Fame & Music Awards Banquet!



Saturday, September 3rd
10:45 AM Arrival & Seating
11:00 AM Luncheon



Location: DoubleTree Hotel in Pittsburgh-Cranberry, PA

Tickets are \$45 per person by advance reservation only.
Reservations must be made by August 19th, 2022.

Banquet Ticket/Reservation Purchasing Options:

Option 1: IPA Website Store

Purchase your IPA Hall of Fame & Music Awards Banquet Tickets
via **Paypal on the IPA store.**

Link: <https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/banquettickets/>

Option 2: Zelle

Purchase your IPA Hall of Fame® & Music Awards Banquet Tickets via Zelle.
[Zelle your Banquet Ticket money to banquet@ipapolkas.com.](mailto:banquet@ipapolkas.com)

Option 3: Mail a Check

Purchase your IPA Hall of Fame & Music Award Banquet tickets via Mail:
Download the IPA Banquet Reservation Form here:

<https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/banquetform/>



Send your completed form and check to:

International Polka Association
Polka Music Hall of Fame and
Music Awards Banquet
PO Box 1484
Plainfield, IL 60544



You will receive a follow-up email to confirm your reservation and table information.

Questions? Please contact: banquet@ipapolkas.com or
visit <https://www.ipapolkas.com/go/2022banquet/>

IPA Hall of Fame and Music Award Winners

The national Academy of IPA® Electors just concluded their annual voting cycle to select the 2020 Polka Music Award winners and the 2021 Polka Hall of Fame candidates for induction later this year. The results are as follows:

2021 Polish Style Polka Music Award Winners

Favorite Male Vocalist:

Lenny Gomulka

Favorite Female Vocalist:

Laura Mateja

Favorite Band:

Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push

Favorite Album:

***The Reason* by Mike Costa & The Beat**

Favorite Song:

***Let it Beat* by Mike Costa & The Beat**



2021 International Style Polka Music Award Winners

Favorite Male Vocalist:

Ted Lange

Favorite Female Vocalist:

Mollie Busta Lange

Favorite Band:

Alex Meixner Band

Favorite Album:

***Music with My Friends* by Alex Meixner**

Favorite Song:

***Crazy Accordion* by Nicola "Nicky D" DiSebastiano**



Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum Reorganizes After COVID Conundrum

On March 19, 2022, Officers, Directors and potential board members met to reorganize and get The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum (PLCTM) back on track after being in pandemic mode since late 2019.

The PLCTM opened in La Grange in 2006 as the ultimate polka fan's tribute to the music and dance that continues to rock our state, nation and world. The museum features memorabilia, donor recognitions, photo displays, videos, instruments, and an extensive library of music and records dating back to the early 1900s. The PLCTM is located at 250 West Fairgrounds Road, La Grange, TX 78945 within the Fayette County Fairgrounds in the Czech Village of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (TCHCC).

Sadly, the pandemic took its toll on some of the Officers and Board Members of the volunteer leadership serving the PLCTM. After two years, remaining Officers, Directors and Nominees met to get the organization's leadership back in gear and off to new beginnings.

There were many items on the agenda in attempts to get a ground zero plan to re-organize.

The most important agenda item was selecting new Officers and Directors for the corporation and they are as follows: Willie Bohuslav, Immediate Past President; Gary Bucek, President; Charlie Hoelscher, Vice President; Carol Artz-Bucek, Secretary; Joyce Bohuslav, Acting Treasurer; Directors include Evelyn Maresh, Jane Freis, Larry Maresh, Mark McFarland, Mildred Hollas, Sheryl Harris and Weldon Schulte.

The PLCTM has a long history of preserving, promoting and educating Polka Music and Dance; not only in the region, the state, but also to the world. The lessons of COVID have provided leadership with tools to create awesome, innovative and creative ideas of Preserving, Promoting and Educating the entire world on not only the history of, but the ongoing energy, outrageous fun and joy of Polka Music and Dance.

5 Fascinating Facts About Polka Music (Taken from Google.com)

Polka Music: Fostering Togetherness and Cheer - Although it seems like a relatively simple style of music, polka music has rich, well-documented roots. Because of its upbeat sound, it has survived the years intact to be appreciated by people all over the world.

1. **Czech Roots** - Polka music is a form of European dance music. It originated in Bohemia an area within the Czech Republic. As Eastern European immigrants migrated to the United States, their music was largely introduced to the Midwest and Great Lakes Region.

Polka is more popular in Czech and Slovakian regions than Germany, as it's normally associated with the German Oktoberfest.

2. **Distinctive Sound** - Polka is known for the distinctive sound of the accordion that acts as the foundation of the music. However, polka bands can also include fiddles, clarinets, trombones, tubas, and a rhythm section depending on the region. No matter the region, polka has an upbeat sound played in 2/4 time that gets people dancing.

3. **Distinctive Dance** - Polka is also a distinctive couple dance that combines three rapid steps and a hop. In fact, the word "polka" is believed to come from the Czech word "polka," which means "half step."

4. **Polka Styles** - There are many different styles of contemporary polka besides the original Czech: Polish-style; Slovenian-style; Dutchmen-style; Conjunto-style and the Alternative/San Francisco-style.

5. **Beer Barrel Polka** - This is a song that received worldwide popularity during World War II. It had versions in many different languages and became popular among soldiers.

For now, if you need more information about the Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum (PLCTM) you may contact Gary Bucek at gary@garybucek.com. The new website PolkaLoversClubofTexas.com will be up and running by April 15, 2022. Stay tuned.



Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum
250 West Fairgrounds Road
P.O. Box 72
La Grange, TX 78945
www.PolkaLoversClubofTexas.com

Holy Toledo.... Now that was a good time

By Cheryl Furmaniak
IPA Secretary

What an experience for me. While "Foo" John, had played many times in the past, this was my first. It was also the first as "Foo" the Traveler.

I was totally impressed with the feelings that the musicians expressed to me and the remembrance of "Foo". To those special fans "Dzienkuja". The IPA Board was well represented at this event to support "The Love of the Music". So proud to be on this Board and getting to see first-hand their devotion.

The bands, oh gee whiz how awesome they were. Then to see such young musicians playing and keeping the Polka Traditions playing on. How they meld so well with the seasoned professionals and Hall of Fame Alumni from the IPA, seamless.

My heart cried a bit as I realized I never got to see "Foo" on the stage for this festival. The entertainment from those bands made up for that emptiness. Woohoo to Joe Zalewski and his family and friends for putting on a fantastic memorable event. Your hard work definitely was appreciated by all.

Because of my Daughter, Christy, who has become an ambassador in introducing me to so many people I never knew. People who "Foo" would have known and were friends with him over the years. Thank you, it was wonderful to put faces and names together. Your Dad would be so proud of you as I am.



My son in law Johnny Krawisz, KJ, for letting me tag along with the family. He too was introducing me to people who I didn't know. For the marvelous musician he is and carrying on the heritage of our family. Foo was so proud of him of the musician and man he is. I admire this guy on and off the stage.

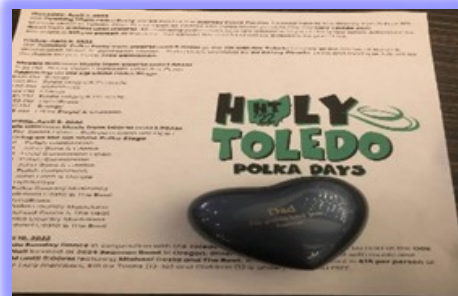
HOLY TOLEDO DAYS enabled me to experience the festival through my Granddaughters, Katie and Hayley's, eyes. To meet some of the



younger musicians and fans. To see the excitement and energy that brings everyone out to hear the fantastic sounds of: The

Dynabass, Eddie Biegaj and Crusade, Energy, John Gora and Gorale, Micheal Costa and the Beat, Polka Country Musicians and Polka Connection.

That all performed at this memorable event. Thank you again Joe Zalewski for bring back Holy Toledo days. Looking forward to this in the years to come.



2022 Joe Jozwiak Award



Ernie Daigle

**2022 Leon Kozicki
Trustees Award**



Mike Stapinski

IPA makes Donation to Ukrainian Relief

Thank you to all who attended the 10th Annual Unity Dance hosted by Let's Polka USA and the IPA on Sunday, April 3. The IPA Tribute Band along with Polka Hall of Famers, John Gora and Rick Rzeszutko not only entertained those at Gledora Banquets but also fans listening live on the Polka Jammer Network during their annual Jammerthon. The IPA segment of the Jammerthon raised \$5,180.00 of the network's \$106,475.00 total pledges. IPA's profit share from the dance was \$449.00

The proceeds from the 50/50 raffles sold were matched by the IPA with additional donations made by dance attendees. The total amount donated to the Ukrainian Relief efforts that are being organized by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Saints Peter & Paul in Palos Park, IL was \$1,023.00.

**Donation of 50/50 proceeds \$486.00
to Ukrainian Relief Fund**

**Matching of 50/50 proceeds \$486.00
by IPA**

**Total amount of donations \$51.00
made by dance attendees**

**Total Amount Donated To \$1,023.00
Ukrainian Relief**



Dyngus Day in Crumstown, IN with Tony B's New Phaze

I had the pleasure of attending Dyngus Day in Crumbstown, Indiana where Tony Blazonczyk and New Phaze performed.

I've performed at this event in the past with Tony and have been a spectator and is always a wild time. My trek started at 3:00am from my home as I was meeting up with the band to catch a ride. Grabbed a Dunkin and headed south to meet up with the guys for the two-hour drive. It's funny how it's only a two-hour drive but the location of Crumbstown is right on the Eastern Time Zone line so you lose that hour going out there which is why we have to leave so early. We pulled in and started to unload and nothing has changed...7:30am and they're already drinking inside!! The first time I played here and saw this I was blown away. Considering this event was cancelled last year due to covid, they were pumped up and ready to party.

Music started at 9:00am and all the chairs were filled, and a lot of the open spaces were also fill-

ing in quickly. When talking to bartenders as well as some of the locals they were very happy to have this event back on again as planned. Tony and New Phaze sounded great as they kept the crowd fired up with music all the way till after 1:00pm. There were a lot of dancers young and old. It was also great to see a lot of young people in attendance. The Kitchen as well as the Bartenders were busy all morning as people were celebrating Dyngus Day with food and drink. Total attendance for the event throughout the day was over 800 people. After the band was done and packed up as a special treat, our friend Gerry Tarka who was in attendance had a pot of his homemade bigos all warmed up for us. What a guy!!

Thank you Crumbstown for another fantastic Dyngus Day Celebration!!



By Brian Kapka
Illinois Director



The International Polka Association Proudly Presents



The Parade of Polka Bands Picnic! **Sunday, August 21, 2022**



Hammond Mohawks Picnic Grove

4040 Calumet Ave., Hammond, IN



- Doors open at 12:30pm -- Polka Music from 1pm until 6pm
- Admission: \$15 Payable at the Door

Polka Bands Scheduled to appear:



The Music Company with "IPA Hall of Famer" Rick Rzeszutko

The IPA Tribute Band



Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze

The D Street Band



Tri-City Drive

A full array of beverages and freshly-grilled food favorites will be available for purchase.

Wszyscy idą na piknik polki! (Everyone's going to the polka picnic!)

Rain or Shine, Indoor Restrooms.

www.ipapolkas.com



Join us for the 2nd Annual Golf Outing with Friends

Honoring Richie and Jerry Tokarz

Friday, September 2, 2022—IPA Weekend

Strawberry Ridge Golf Course

135 McNulty Lane

Harmony, PA 16307



Scramble Format/18 holes

Tee Times Start at 8am

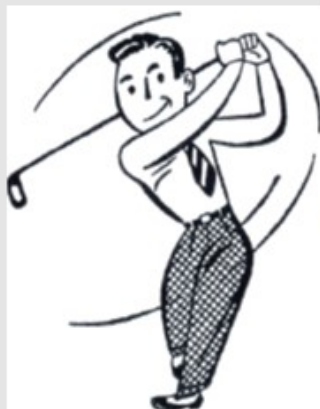
Cost - \$50/golfer

Venmo—@Jeffrey-Yash

Contact Jeff Yash by Saturday, August 20, 2022

518-281-1587

jeffreyyash@gmail.com



HALL OF FAME® BENEFIT DANCE 2022



I traveled to Ludlow, Lenny Gomulka & other talent-Massachusetts the ed musicians. The crowd was first weekend of all gathered around the stage March for the 16th to hear these two great Hall of Annual IPA Hall of Famers play together. Lenny Fame® Benefit Gomulka & the Chicago Push Dance. Saturday played a great set, but too short



By Anne Stec
Michigan Director

night, the dance hall was filled with people listening to the fine sounds of John Gora & Gorale. As always, John and the Gorale put on a marvelous night of music and entertainment, both on and off the stage, wandering amongst the tables and even sharing the microphone! Sunday was spent honoring the music of Polka Hall of Famer Ray Jay Jarusinski. Dennis Polisky & Maestro's Men kicked this Sunday Funday off with great music and The Eddie Forman Orchestra followed suit! Next, Ray Jay got some stage time backed by

as always (in my opinion). Eddie Forman Orchestra closed the night, taking to the stage one last time. Friends were there from far and near to celebrate Ray Jay, as well as support the IPA Hall of Fame®. Congratulations to Freddy K., Ernie Dagle and the rest of the committee on another successful weekend! Can't wait to go back to Ludlow soon!



Welcome to Wyandotte! American Heart Association Benefit

Wyandotte was the place to be on Saturday April 30th! The PRCU #162 held their 4th Annual Polka Benefit Dance with proceeds going to the American Heart Association for the first time since 2019. Lenny Gomulka & the Chicago Push started off the night to one of the best crowds I have ever seen grace that hall. Not only were the Wyandotte locals in tow, but folks from Massachusetts, New York, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and even Canada, made the trip in. John Gora & Gorale played next and boy did the crowd love John! With trips between the hall and the lounge, everyone I spoke with was so happy to be back at my home away from home #162. The night ended after a few "One more time(s)!" from the crowd. Hats off to Stas Pasko, John Zelasko, and all of the volunteers on a successful dance. Looking forward to seeing you all back in my hometown at the next big one!



Jimmy Sturr & His Orchestra drew some great crowds recently on the Florida Tour -

Submitted by Mike Magdon

They performed at the Strawberry Festival in Plant City and drew over 4000 people. The following day they performed at the Polish-American Hall in Port St Lucie and had a near sell-out crowd of over 330 people. They will be appearing at the Dyngus Day celebration in Buffalo on Apr 18th. Two year's ago they broke the attendance record drawing over 7000 people.



Certificate of Appreciation—May 3, 2022 - COPPER BOX In recognition of your efforts for performing and providing outstanding musical entertainment for over 20 years, the International Polka Association hereby presents this Certificate of Appreciation. Thank you and Congratulations.

Certificate of Appreciation—May 1, 2022 - Joseph Grenda In recognition of 55 years of professional performance both on stage and in the studio dedicated to the promotion and longevity of Polka Music. Thank you and Congratulations.

Message from Rob Mazur for sponsorship of Polish New Castle Radio by the IPA® — May 2, 2022 - "I'd like to thank you and the entire IPA organization. Thanks to you we have been able to implement a new server to our network. Again thank you for everything you guys do to help support Polka music."

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2022 Kinloch Fire Hall **"Pittsburgh's Polka Hot Spot"** **Polka Schedule**

Sunday Feb 27 th , 2022	Join us for the Fun Energy	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$17.00 per person
Sunday Apr 10 th , 2022	IPA & USPA Award Winning Polka Country Musicians	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$17.00 per person
Sunday May 15 th , 2022	IPA & USPA Award Winning DynaBrass	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$17.00 per person
Saturday Sep 10 th , 2022	Join Chris Bogdon with PA Musicians Burgh Boys	5:00pm – 9:00pm \$12.00 per person
Sunday Oct 2 nd , 2022	IPA Hall of Famer Lenny Gomulka and the Chicago Push	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$17.00 per person
Sunday Nov 13 th , 2022	The hottest band in the nation The Beat	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$17.00 per person
Sunday Nov 20 th , 2022	Special Thansgiving Dance Jack Tady and JTB	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$12.00 per person
Sunday Dec 18 th , 2022	DTO Christmas Celebration Dick Tady and the DTO	2:00pm – 6:00pm \$12.00 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 table reservations or more information contact:
Chris Bogdon - 412-260-9725 or chris@westernpolkas.com

For a list of all polka happenings in Western PA, and sign up for our mailing list, go to: <https://www.westernpolkas.com>



Exciting Changes Coming For the 3rd Annual IPA Young Songwriter's Competition

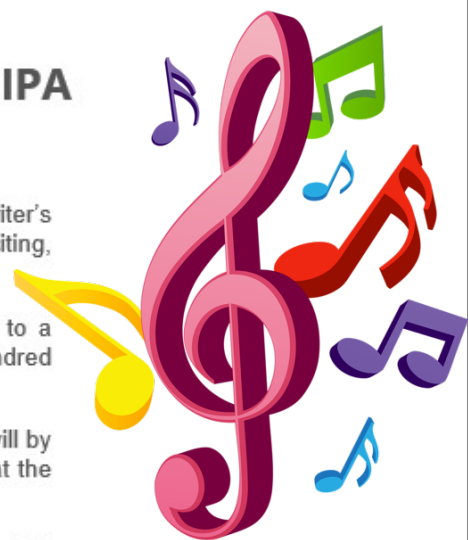
We are pleased to announce a few changes coming this year to the Young Songwriter's Competition. The deadline for submissions will be earlier this year and even more exciting, we are increasing the first-place award amount!

With the 3rd annual competition for 2022, the first-place award will be increased to a whopping one thousand (\$1,000) dollars! The second-place prize will be one hundred (\$100) dollars.

The deadline will come earlier this year as well. The new deadline for submissions will be by July 1st! This will allot more time for judging and enable the winner to be honored at the IPA Awards Banquet at the IPA Festival and Convention in September.

The competition is open to anyone between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty-nine (39) years of age as of the July 1st, 2022 deadline. It is open to amateur and professional songwriters of any polka genre.

More information will be coming soon on the IPA website.



21st Annual Polka Mania

The Hammond Mohawks

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



Sunday, June 5, 2022

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

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FEATURING



And...



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Alan Pala – (219) 677-3586



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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.

Editor:

Lynn Kaminski
newsletter@ipapolkas.com

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Plainfield, IL 60544
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Website: www.ipapolkas.com

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Membership

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

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

2022 IPA Officers and Directors

Officers:

President: Christy Krawisz (IL)
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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
on the Polka Jammer Network on
Sundays, 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon Central Time and also available in
the Polka Jammer archives. Be sure to tune in! Visit
www.polkajammernetwork.org

Each show features IPA officers and directors.

The IPA Radio Show is also broadcast Please call 1-800-TO-POLKA if you are interesting in advertising on the IPA Radio Show.
WE NEED SPONSORS!



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
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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

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER: July 1

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 60544
1-800-TO-POLKA (1-800-867-6552)
Website: www.ipapolkas.com

