# ISH Our Credit Union

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#### MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE POLISH & SLAVIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Dear Members.

In May of this year, our Credit Union's assets exceeded \$ 2 billion and in August, the number of PSFCU members reached the 100,000 mile-



stone. At the end of October, we are planning the launch of another branch in Orland Park, IL; it will be sixth PSFCU branch in Illinois and our 20th altogether. Thus, 2019 proves to be a particularly significant year in the history of our institution. We owe this consistent and steady growth to your loyalty and trust, which our Credit Union has been enjoying for over 40 years.

In a few weeks, PSFCU Board of Directors and the Management will start working on the Strategic Development Plan of our Credit Union for the coming years. As always, when making long-term decisions, we will take into account the economic situation in the United States and the world, the demographics of the Polish community in the USA, but above all the needs and opinions of our members, which we obtain, among others, through marketing research. We will definitely continue the current direction of stable growth of the Credit Union's assets, along with the extension of the geographical footprint of our operations. The high level of service and satisfaction of PSFCU

members with our products will, as always, be our priority.

I encourage you to take advantage of special promotions that we offer to you every month. They are always very popular with our members. For example, I would like to mention that over 3,200 members took advantage of the last 2-year term share promotion, which ended on August 31, with total deposits of nearly \$110 million. Traditionally, in October the Polish Heritage Month in the US, we will offer you other attractive promotions, about which you will be informed in the near future.

Thanks to a very good financial condition, our Credit Union is involved in many projects cultivating Polish culture, traditions and history. August and September are significant months in the history of Poland: on August 1 we commemorated the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising, on August 15 the anniversary of the Polish

Army's victory over the Soviet Army in the Battle of Warsaw. On September 1, we reminded thousands of tourists and residents of New York about the 80th anniversary of the German invasion of Poland and the outbreak of World War II. An ad sponsored by our Credit Union, reminding of this tragic event, was displayed on the largest video screen in Manhattan's Times Square.

Finally, I would like to invite you to commemorate General Kazimierz Pulaski by participating in the 82nd General Pulaski Parade in Manhattan or the 86th Pulaski Parade in Philadelphia, which this year will be held on Sunday, October 6. Our Credit Union will be there, as it has been for many years.

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski PSFCU President/CEO

## We Are One Hundred Thousand Strong!

2019 is a special year in the history of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. A few months ago, our Credit Union achieved an impressive \$2 billion in assets. In the month of August, PSFCU crossed another milestone - the number of our Credit Union members exceeded one hundred thousand. This is another great success achieved by PSFCU this year.

The foundation of the successes achieved by our institution is primarily the loyalty and trust of our Credit Union members. PSFCU was founded at the end of 1976 to provide financial assistance to members of the local Polish community in the Greenpoint district of Brooklyn because at that time they had problems ob...continued on page 2



information as of July 31, 2019

**Assets** 

2,006,252,387

Loans

\$1,139,710,580

**Net Worth** 

\$202,724,034

**Number of Members** 

99,854



## We Are One Hundred Thousand Strong (cont.)

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taining loans from commercial banks to buy or renovate homes. Over the past forty-three years, our Credit Union has grown to become the largest ethnic credit union in the United States and the largest Polish financial institution outside of Poland.

The development of our Credit Union has been very dynamic from its very beginnings. After ten years of operation, PSFCU already had 17,000 members and \$125 million in assets. It took nearly a quarter of a century to cross the milestone of 50,000 PSF-CU members – it happened in the year 2000. A very rapid increase in the number of PSFCU members occurred after 2010. At the beginning of that year, our

Credit Union entered the state of Illinois by opening two branches in Mt. Prospect and Norridge, followed by a branch in Bridgeview in 2011. As a result, already in 2014 the number of PSFCU members exceeded 80,000. Five years later there are over a hundred thousand of us.

As an expression of gratitude for the loyalty and trust of the 100,000 PSFCU members, our Credit Union funded attractive prizes, which are drawn randomly among the members of our Credit Union over the period of 100 days. The end of this campaign is planned for October 31 with the drawing of three main prizes - Samsung LCD TVs.

"Road to 100,000 Members" Drawing PSFCU Member



# Pilgrimage With Our Credit Union

Over the last few years, the PSFCU has been a sponsor of the annual pilgrimage to the Sancturay of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Meriville, IN. This year, an astounding seven thousand people participated in the 32nd annual pilgrimage marching all the way from Chicago, IL.

During mass honoring the feast of the Virgin Mary at the Vatican, Pope Francis encouraged all to renew their faith—this sentiment sums up the general theme of the two day pilgrimage. Five thousand pilgrims attended the mass celebrated at the southern outskirts of Chicago by honorary guest Fr. Zbigniew Kras, the chaplain of the President of Poland Andrzej Duda.

Individuals joined the pilgrimage along the way and by the end of the 52

kilometer journey, 7,000 arrived at the Merrillville shrine. A closing mass at the Sanctuary was attended by 14,000 people - both the pilgrims and other participants, mostly families. Fr. Kras, on behalf of President Duda, presented the red and white Polish flag, a gift from President Duda, asking that this flag be "displayed with pride and joy - as a manifestation of devotion to Poland and an expression of our identity. As a sign of the wonderful heritage of previous generations, whose taking allows us to build a mature and creative community."

In addition to the financial support, the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union also provided drawstring backpacks) to 1,000 people attending the pilgrimage. PSFCU employees from the Midwest branches also represented our Credit Union at the festival booth in Merillville on Sunday.



It is our pleasure to announce that PSFCU member, Dr. Marek Rudnicki (pictured above) is a Polonia candidate running for the Senate of the Republic of Poland.



## Apply for a PSFCU VISA® Credit Card

Being a member of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union comes with the luxury of having options. So, choose a PSFCU VISA® credit card that best fits your needs. Shopping is made easy, fast, and secure with one of our PSFCU VISA® credit cards.

Whether you're looking fo an exclusive loyalty program, low interest rates or to build your credit history: we have a card that is just right for you!



#### Elite VISA® Signature - Cash Rewards

The Elite VISA® Signature credit card is our flagship credit card. All new cardholders enjoy the benefit of no interest (0% APR\*) for the first nine months. Additionally, introductory interest rate on balance transfers for the first 12 months is 1.99% APR, without a transaction fee. After the promotional period, standard rates apply (currently at 13.99%).

In addition to the 0% initial interest rate, there are no annual fees and no foreign transaction fee. Our Elite credit card also rewards cardholders with a lucrative loyalty program, where rewards points can be exchanged for cash back, merchandise or travel services.

#### **Premier - Loyalty Rewards**

Our Premier card offers loyalty program points exchangeable for mechandise or travel services. Enjoy 1.99% APR\* on purchase transactions for the first 9 months and balance transfers for the first 12 months. Standard variable interest rate (currently 11.99% APR) applies after the promotional period. As an added bonus, enjoy paying zero annual fees and having the freedom from liability for any unauthorized transactions.

#### **Advantage - Low Interest**

If you want a low interest rate, choose our PSFCU VISA Advantage credit card. Initial interest rate for 6 months on purchase transactions is 1.99% APR. After six months, the standard adjustable rate applies, currently at 9.99%. As with our other PSFCU credit cards, no annual fee is charged.

#### **Liberty - for Our Students**

Are you a student? If so, we have a card for you as well: our PSFCU VISA® Liberty credit card. Enjoy a promotional 1.99% APR for the initial 6 months on purchase transactions (standard variable APR, currently at 12.99%, applies after the 6-month promotional period. With the Liberty card, you

can enjoy additional benefits such as loyalty rewards program, auto rental insurance, cell phone protection program, travel accident & baggage delay program perks, etc.



#### **Choice - Secured Credit**

If you're looking to establish or repair your credit history, then our Choice card is the one for you. It is secured by a deposit account and gives you the ability to build or re-build your credit while enjoying the benefits of Visa's Zero Liability Policy and no annual fees. The interest rate starts at 16.99%.

Pick a PSFCU VISA® credit card that is just right for you and start earning your benefits today! Apply online at www.psfcu.com.

\*APR – Annual Percentage Rate. All loans are subject to credit approval and verification. PSFCU reserves the right to verify all documents submitted by the applicant. Products and rates are subject to change without notice. Products are not available in all states. PSFCU membership required. Other restrictions may apply.



\*PSFCU membership required. To earn points cardholder must register the card on the uChoose website: www.uchooserewards.com. Eligible transactions are signature transactions. Qualifying purchases must be posted to the account between August 15 and September 30, 2019. Other restrictions may apply. For program details, please refer to uChoose program Terms and Conditions. uChoose Program is administered by Fiserv Inc. an unaffiliated third party vendor of PSFCU.



## **PSFCU** at Summer Festivals

The Polish-Slavic Federal Credit Union does not slow down even during the summer vacation period. PSFCU employees are everywhere where something interesting and important is happening in the Polish-American community.

#### Polish Night in New Jersey

On Saturday, August 17, dozens of Poles in white and red colors supported the New York Red Bulls at the Red Bull Arena in Harrison, NJ. Our Credit Union purchased tickets for 100 PSFCU members. In addition to watching the match that Red Bulls played against New England Revolution, supporters from the Polish sector had the opportunity to chat with special guest Tomasz Adamek.

There were games and activities for children, Polish food from Polish Food Truck, beer garden and awards for fans,



Polish Night in Harrison, NJ

sponsored by local companies operated by our countrymen, and Alpine DJ played Polish music. This was the second Polish Night this year in a large arena in New Jersey. In March, at the Prudential Center in Newark, Polish-Americans dressed in white and red supported the New Jersey Devils who played against the league champions, Washington Capitals. Hockey fans from PSFCU were also present at this event.

### Always with the Polonia

Our Credit Union sponsors, organizes or participates in 500 Polish community



PSFCU at the Highlander Picnic in Clifton, NJ



PSFCU Representatives in Copiague, NY

events a year. Statistically, this means 1.5 events per day. The vacation month of August did not differ in this respect from other months - branch employees were visible wherever something interesting was happening in the Polish community.

The biggest event in the life of the Polish community on New York's Long Island is the annual picnic at the Parish of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Copiague. For two August weekend days, the local community celebrated and enjoyed good music and great food. Our Credit Union stand was also very popular, staffed by employees of the PSFCU branch in Copiague.



Minimum down payment of 3% applies to 5- and 7-year single-family adjustable mortgage loans. The rate will be based on applicant's credit history and other factors. Monthly payment of a fixed-rate mortgage with interest rate of 3.375% APR (Annual Percentage Rate) taken for 180 months is \$7.09 for each \$1,000 borrowed. Offer applies solely to PSFCU members. Membership restrictions apply. Other restrictions may also apply.

