

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

Dear Members,



We have emphasized on numerous occasions that the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has a dual mission to fulfill. First and foremost, we are a reliable financial institution with a wide range of modern financial services for our members. The second part of our mission is to help and support the Polish community in the United States. We accomplish this second part of our mission in many different ways. Firstly, we support our sponsoring organizations, of which there are 10, through the annual collection of our membership dues. This year we have provided over \$1.38 million in membership dues. For some of our sponsoring organizations, it is their main source of funds, allowing for their continued social activities within the Polish-American community. I am glad that we can provide assistance in collecting the dues, but at the same time I would like to thank you for your generosity and reliability, as this is your money allocated to support the above organizations.

As a Credit Union, last year we set aside nearly \$600,000 earmarked for donations, which benefited 116 organizations, parishes and Polish schools. Scholarships for young students are a significant item in our budget for supporting the Polish-American community. In 2022, \$551,000 in scholarships was

distributed to 488 students. On various occasions, we also support Polish Supplementary school children, as exemplified by the number of 2,046 monetary certificates for a total amount of more than \$120,185 given as prizes and awards to young students.

The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union plays a special role in sponsoring Polish-American media. In the previous year, we allocated over \$560,000 to support the Polish press, television and radio in the United States, and we are by far the largest advertiser in the Polish-American market. Throughout the year, our institution in various forms was involved and present at 345 Polish-American events. Many of these events were not only sponsored, but also initiated by us. I also can't help but mention our initiatives related to the now traditional Children's Holiday Smsmile fundraiser for children's hospices in Poland. In 2022, thanks to your generosity, we donated more than \$127,000 to the needs of sick children. In March 2022, we reacted very quickly to the tragic events in Ukraine and initiated a fundraiser to help Ukrainian refugees in

Poland. As a result, you donated more than \$260,000 thousand for this purpose, and our Credit Union added another \$100,000.

The above examples reflect how much we are involved in the success of our mission to support the Polish-American community, as well as how crucial our institution is in this respect. I would like to assure you that the current Board of Directors and Management fully understand the needs of the Polish-American community and are in favor of broad, but also - in accordance with our mission - responsible support for its needs.

In conclusion, I encourage you to use our products and services, as in this way you also support Polonia. At the same time, I would like to encourage you to be actively engaged in the affairs of our ethnic group, as together we can build a strong Polish community in the United States.

Sincerely,

Krzysztof Matyszczuk  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

## General Casimir Pulaski Day Celebrations in Chicago



Photo: Dariusz J. Lachowski

A formal celebration of Casimir Pulaski Day took place on March 6th, 2023 at the Polish Museum of America at 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago. Traditionally, Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union was a sponsor of this honorable event.

The Pulaski Day celebrations included speeches, artistic performances, and the unveiling of the Polish Heritage Corridor, a

stretch of Milwaukee Avenue that runs all the way from Chicago West Town to Niles. Flowers were also laid under the symbolic painting by Stanislaw Kaczor Batowski titled „Battle of Savannah”.

During the official ceremony, numerous guests gave speeches, full of pride and dignity. Among them, member of the PSFCU

...continued on page 2

### PSFCU In Numbers

Information as of February 28, 2022

Assets

**\$2,529,129,095**

Loans

**\$1,490,396,729**

Net worth

**\$245,426,408**

YTD net income

**\$3,733,564**

Number of Members

**113,247**

...continued from page 1

Board of Directors, Franciszek Piwowarczyk. With great passion he proudly highlighted the achievements of the Polish hero of American Revolutionary War. Franciszek Piwowarczyk also emphasized the importance of the role of the Polish-American community, both in the past and present.

Among the guests of honor were numerous representatives of both international and local authorities: Congressman Mike Quigley, State Senator Robert Martwick from District 10, Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, as well as the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago Paweł Zyzak and the Consul General of Ukraine, Serhy Koledov.

Every year, the Polish community in Chicago pays tribute to the hero of two

nations. According to the June 1977 state legislation, the first Monday in March is a state holiday honoring Gen. Pulaski. Cultivating the memory of General Casimir Pulaski is an integral part of the national heritage of the Polish community in the U.S., passed down from generation to generation. On behalf of the organizers of General Casimir Pulaski Day celebrations in Chicago, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union would like to thank everyone for their participation and involvement in the highly dignified celebrations and the organization of meetings, lectures and curriculums in Illinois's institutions and schools. The memory of General Pulaski that we all cherish is the foundation of the national identity of the younger generation of the Polish community in the United States.



Photo: Dariusz J. Lachowski

## Consular duty in branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union in Illinois

In response to the needs of the Polish community in the Chicago consular district, the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago is launching additional passport application and legal document submission points at our Credit Union's branches in Illinois.

Beginning on April 12, 2023, passport applications and applications in legal matters (registration of marriages, births, change of name and last name, certification of signature and copies) can be submitted during consular duty hours at the branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union in Chicago.

The introduction of consular duty

hours in branches of our Credit Union is aimed at facilitating the submission of passport applications and other consular documents for PSFCU members, the elderly, and disabled individuals who may have difficulty with accessing the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago.

Passport visits at PSFCU branches can be arranged free of charge using the E-KONSULAT electronic registration system. Registration instructions and details on how to prepare for the visit can be found on the Consulate General's web page within the www.gov.pl portal.

## 2023 Membership Dues

Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is one of the few credit unions in the United States committed to collecting membership dues for sponsoring organizations. Every member with a PSFCU account selected an organization and declared their support by transferring their membership dues to that organization.

On February 15, 2023, your account at the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union was debited membership dues for the sponsoring organization that was selected by you when opening your account with PSFCU. Below you will find the amounts transferred from PSFCU membership dues to the sponsoring organizations in 2023:

- Polish & Slavic Center, NY - \$595,580.00
- Polish Supplementary School Council of America, NY - \$329,380.00
- The Copernicus Foundation, IL - \$91,360.00
- Polish Cultural Foundation, NJ - \$83,340.00
- Alliance of Polish Clubs in the United States, IL - \$71,660.00
- Kosciuszko Foundation, NY - \$56,760.00
- Polonia of Long Island, Inc., NY - \$46,060.00
- The Polish Army Veterans Association of America, NY - \$42,200.00
- General Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee, NY - \$36,320.00
- Polish Highlanders Alliance of North America, IL - \$27,820.00

The total amount transferred by PSFCU in 2023 was \$ 1,380,480.00

On behalf of these Polish institutions, we would like to express our sincere thanks for your contribution to building a strong and united Polish community. The funds provided to sponsoring organizations are used towards many ambitious projects and activities aimed at promoting Polish culture and tradition in the U.S. Your contribution to these projects is crucial and indispensable.

For more information about PSFCU's activities and our offers, please contact branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union or call the Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848).

## Checking Credit Line

### Protect yourself when needed!

Do you prefer to be prepared for any situation? You don't rely on chance, and you don't like unpleasant surprises? PSFCU Checking Credit Line is a product fit for your needs!

What is the advantage of the PSFCU Checking Line of Credit? It is a type of loan that is connected to your checking account; in case of your account being overdrawn, the credit line may help you cover the expenses. Thanks to the PSFCU Checking Line of Credit, you will avoid additional costs in case of lacking checking account coverage, and rejection of debit card or electronic payments. You have access to the

Checking Line of Credit in case of financial emergency. If the need arises, the required amount will be automatically transferred from the credit line to the checking account. This solution will allow you to calmly plan expenses and protect yourself against accidental account overdrafts.

### Advantages of the PSFCU Checking Line of Credit:

- Allows you to avoid fees for account overdraft;
- Grants you access to additional funds if the need arises;
- Low fixed-rate interest;
- Credit line up to \$5,000;

- Revolving line of credit;
- No application fees and annual fees;
- Automatic payments from your account;
- No penalties for early repayment.

Ask today about the terms and conditions for applying for a PSFCU Checking Line of Credit. If you are decided, remember that the application for a line of credit on a checking account must be signed by all account holders.

For more information about the products and services offered by PSFCU, please contact the branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union or call the PSFCU Customer Service Center 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848).

## Our Credit Union for Our Young Ones

The more we teach children how to handle money, the more certain we will be that they will be more responsible with it in the future. During the month of April, Credit Unions throughout the U.S. devote themselves to the youngest generation making it the perfect time to begin financial education! Developing a habit of saving during childhood can prove to be a solid foundation for future financial skills and success.

We invite you to the branches of the

Polish & Slavic Federal Credit to take advantage of a promotion for our youngest members. New minor accounts opened between April 15 and July 4, 2023 will be rewarded with a bonus of \$50. And the surprises we have prepared for our youngest ones do not end there! We invite you to participate in our promotion for new and already existing minor accounts. Each minor account holder who saves two dollars in a special piggy bank (available at our credit union branches) and deno-

sits them into their account between April 15 and June 5, 2023, will take part in a drawing of 50 valuable prizes.

Discover our offerings for children to fully enjoy all the products and services that a PSFCU account offers! Minor PSFCU account holders are:\*

- **Finance Land Explorers** from 0 - 9 years old – savings account only;
- **Young Financial Managers** from 10 - 15 years old – savings account as well as a checking account with a debit card;
- **Young Financial Experts** from 16 - 18 years old – savings account as well as a checking account with a debit card and a VISA credit card for students.

### IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START

# Saving

SAVE WITH PSFCU AND GET

# \$50

UPON OPENING  
A NEW MINOR  
ACCOUNT



We invite all age groups to our branches to take advantage of our promotion. The well-being of our member's families are priorities for our credit union. Allow us to assist you with instilling good savings habits in your children and guiding them through the world of finance.

For more information, please contact the branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union or call the PSFCU Customer Service Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848). Details of the promotion are posted on our website and on social media.

\*Promotion is valid from April 15 until June 5, 2023. Membership restrictions apply to open a Minor Account. Minimum balance of \$10 required to open the account. Offer open to any person who currently does not have a PSFCU Minor Account nor had a PSFCU Minor Account within the past 12 months. One bonus of \$50 per person applies. The bonus deposit will be available for withdrawal after the period of 1 year, unless exceptional circumstances occur. Bonus deposit is subject to IRS reporting. Other restrictions apply.



## From the Life of PSFCU Branches

### PSFCU Thanks Ms. Barbara Zawlocka



After more than 35 years of service for the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, the manager of the branch in Linden, NJ, Bar-

bara Zawlocka has retired. As a long-time employee of our credit union, she instilled herself in the history of the institution and earned the gratitude and sympathy of hundreds of members.

Barbara Zawlocka started her professional career at PSFCU on October 15, 1987, working through several roles. She started work as a teller in the first branch on Greenpoint Avenue in New York. In April 1988, she moved to New Jersey and joined the Union branch, the first PSFCU branch in the Garden State. After a few years, in 1995 she took over the management of the branch. During this time, she performed her duties with full professionalism and responsibility, becoming strongly involved in establishing positive relations with members and creating a positive image for our credit union. After years of work, constantly improving her qualifications and honing her experience, she has earned the trust of the management and the respect of

her colleagues.

In February 2003, another PSFCU branch was established in New Jersey, whose management was entrusted to Ms. Zawlocka. During her 20 years as branch manager in Linden, NJ she has been responsible for the standard of service, product quality and providing employees with her knowledge and experience. With her dedication, loyalty and solid work, Ms. Zawlocka has made a huge contribution to the development of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. She focused her efforts on reliable and professional work, participation in many initiatives, cooperation with Polish institutions in Linden and the surrounding area. The work ethic and commitment of Barbara Zawlocka is a model for many young PSFCU employees who are following in her career path.

We would like to sincerely thank Barbara for many years of service and her contribution to the history of our Credit Union.

### Reading Competition at St. John Paul School in Lemont, IL



The manager of the Orland Park, IL branch, Grazyna Pikul was a guest at the Reading Competition, which took place on March 3rd at the St. John Paul School in Lemont, Illinois. The competing students who presented a high level of Polish reading skills received congratulations and certificates funded by our Credit Union.

### Women's Day Celebrations at PSFCU Branches

In accordance with a long standing and popular tradition, on March 8 we celebrated Women's Day in the branches of our credit union. The celebratory gifts included sweets, flowers and lottery prize baskets – gifts were waiting for all the ladies who visited their local branches.

### Wolf Trail Run

The 6th Polish trail run commemorated our heroes. Organized by the Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America in coopera-

tion with the Freedom and Democracy Foundation, the Cursed Soldiers Memorial Run took place on March 5th in Forest Park, Queens, NY. Participants conquered a running distance of 1963 meters.



### Awarding Prizes to the Winners of the "Stawiam na polski" Competition

On March 11, the manager of our Schaumburg, IL branch, Bożena Bielecka awarded prizes to the winners of the "Stawiam na polski" competition. The competition was organized by the General Józef Piłsudski Academy of Polish Language and Culture in Barrlett, IL. We congratulate the young students on their success and wish them further development and satisfaction with learning the Polish language.

### Election of the

### 2023 May 3rd Parade Queen

On March 11, 2023, the 24th the election gala of the Queen of May 3rd

Constitution Day Parade was held at Allegra Banquets in Schiller Park, IL. 12 candidates competed for the title, the title was won by Marianna Mosz, who also achieved the title of Miss Audience. Our credit union was a traditional sponsor of the ceremony.

This year's 132nd Parade will take place on Saturday, May 6, 2023. The parade will begin at 11:30 AM. The parade will pass along Columbus Drive, in downtown Chicago. We invite you to attend this important event.



### Annual Polish Heritage Day

On March 19 Orland Park, IL branch employees Anna Bukowska, Renata Labuz-Kolasa, Barbara Daniel, and branch manager, Grażyna Pikul participated in the Annual Polish Heritage Day celebration, hosted by the Polish Club of Lemont. The theme of this year's celebration was tag lined as "Nicolaus Copernicus-Polish Genius."