

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE POLISH & SLAVIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Dear PSFCU Members,

In recent weeks, we have all witnessed events that a few months ago would have been difficult to realistically fathom. Russia's armed attack on Ukraine has already cost the lives of thousands of innocent people, and millions have been forced to flee their homes and seek refuge in other countries. In this difficult situation, Poland and Poles serve as an example for the whole free world, accepting over two million refugees from Ukraine under their roofs, providing them with food, shelter, health care, as well as financial assistance. This is an incredible organizational effort not only of the Polish government, but also of local administration entities, non-governmental organizations, the Church and hundreds of thousands of volunteers, including relatives and friends of the members of our Credit Union. I am glad that so many Polish-American organizations have also been involved in helping Ukrainians who remain in their country, and above all Ukrainian refugees in Poland. Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, together with the John Paul II Foundation of New Jersey, has also initiated a fundraising campaign dedicated to this purpose. We have already collected over \$180,000, most of which was already transferred to local branches of Caritas, which care for refugees from Ukraine on a daily basis. I wish to thank all those who



have already sent their donations; if you have not yet done so, I strongly encourage you to join our campaign. You will find all details in this newsletter, at our Credit Union branches and in our social media.

The first Monday of March is traditionally celebrated in the state of Illinois as the General Pulaski Day. I was pleased to take part in the main celebrations at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago, which for many years has been the main organizer of the event. I would like to congratulate and thank all Museum employees and volunteers for their contributions to the support of Polish history, culture and tradition not only in Chicagoland but also in other states. The Polish Museum of America is undoubtedly one of the pillars of the Polish community in the United States.

The recent tragic events may be geographically distant from us; however, they certainly affect our lives and the sense of security. Rest assured that at our Credit Union,

we are focused on everyday work and the implementation of our strategic projects. We are glad that many of you still decide to buy a house or invest in another property. Despite rising interest rates, we continue our strategy of maintaining competitive interest rates on loans so as to minimize the effects of inflation to our members. We also offer very attractive spring promotions, information on which you will find in the following pages of this newsletter, and which I cordially invite you to take advantage of.

Finally, on behalf of myself, volunteers and employees of our Credit Union, in these difficult times I would like to wish you, your families and loved ones a healthy, joyful and, above all, peaceful Holiday of the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski
PSFCU President/CEO

Aid for Refugees from Ukraine

Thanks to the initiative of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and the John Paul II Foundation of New Jersey, a special account was established at our Credit Union, to which everyone can donate to aid Ukrainian refugees in Poland. Your commitment to help is an expression of solidarity with the victims of the war. As of the day this newsletter has gone to print, \$180,000 has already been sent from the Foundation's account. The funds were transferred to local branches of Caritas (Dioceses of Lomza, Elk, Drohiczyn, Lublin and Krakow), and the John Paul II Foundation House in Lublin, which provide direct assistance to locally residing refugees from Ukraine. The funds will continue to be transferred in increments as they are donated.

In the face of war and the threat to life, we all treat help as a priority, a natural and

unquestionable decision. Especially when it comes to children and the elderly, who constitute the majority of Ukrainian refugees currently coming to Poland. Our support for refugees from Ukraine and Poland's actions is an expression of the strength with which we oppose this war.

People who wish to join our campaign can make a donation by wire transfer to the account of the John Paul II Foundation at PSFCU. Below we provide information necessary to make the transfer:

PSFCU routing number: 226082022

SWIFT/BIC code: PSFCUS33

Account no.: 000 14 67 414

Donations can also be made at any PSFCU branch or by sending a check issued to the John Paul II Foundation with the

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PSFCU In Numbers

information as of February 28, 2022

Assets

\$2,609,337,586

Loans

\$1,304,583,499

Net worth

\$226,892,586

Number of Members

108,709



Happy Easter

to all Friends, their Families
and the entire community...

...from your Credit Union

Aid for Refugees from Ukraine - cont.

...continued from page 1

note „Donation for Ukrainian refugees” to the following address: Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, Ukraine Refugees Relief Fund, 9 Law Drive, Fairfield, NJ 07004.

Donation to the Foundation’s account can also be made by internal transfer using PSFCU Online or Mobile Banking. To do this, choose the option to transfer to another member of the Credit Union (Transfer to another member), enter JP2F in the last name field and enter the Foundation’s account number: 1467414.

In the case of mobile transfers, select deposit to the savings account.



Celebration of the Pulaski Day in Chicago

On March 7 at the Polish Museum of America, a delegation from the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union took part in the General Casimir Pulaski Day celebrations in Chicago, IL.

General Casimir Pulaski, who contributed to the independence of the U.S., is celebrated in both the U.S. and Poland by the observance of Casimir Pulaski Day on both calendars. During the ceremony, PSFCU President/CEO, Bogdan Chmielewski, talked about the merits of the hero of two nations: “As a citizen of Poland and America, I am extremely proud that freedom,

peace and independence are at the heart of both these countries. History shows many examples of respect for these highest values, one of them being the brave life and heroic death of General Casimir Pulaski.”

The participants of the meeting expressed in their speeches their concern for security and peace. They included, among others, the Polish ambassador to the U.S. Marek Magierowski; Consul General of Ukraine in Chicago Serhiy Koledov; Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot; Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs; president of the Polish American Congress,

Frank Spula; Illinois Senator Richard Durbin, congressmen, as well as county and city officials.



PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski speaks during the Pulaski Day Celebration in Chicago, IL

Together, We Help the Polish-American Community

In accordance with the information you received on your December account statements, membership dues for the sponsoring organization selected by you when opening the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union account were collected on February 16, 2022.

The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, as one of the few credit unions in the United States, has committed to collecting membership fees on behalf of the sponsoring organizations.

Thanks to your commitment, the following amounts were transferred to sponsoring organizations:

- Polish & Slavic Center, NY - \$611,000.00
- Polish Supplementary School Council of America, NY - \$312,880.00
- Polish Cultural Foundation, NJ - \$87,480.00

- The Copernicus Foundation, IL - \$80,460.00
- Alliance of Polish Clubs in the USA, IL - \$70,220.00
- The Kosciuszko Foundation, NY - \$54,340.00
- Polonia of Long Island, Inc., NY - \$46,580.00
- Polish Army Veterans Association of America, NY - \$38,240.00
- General Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee, NY - \$35,480.00
- Polish Highlanders Alliance of North America, IL - \$27,200.00

The total amount transferred by the PSFCU in 2022 was \$1,363,880.00. On behalf of the sponsoring organizations, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks for this year’s contributions to these Polish-American institutions. The collect funds will enable these or-

ganizations to implement many projects aimed mainly at cultivating and fostering Polish culture, tradition and language.

We would like to remind you that membership in one of the above sponsoring organizations is a pre-requisite for PSFCU membership. All PSFCU accounts, debit cards, Online Banking, transfers between PSFCU members’ accounts and other services are offered to members of our Credit Union free of charge or at competitive rates.

For detailed information on the activities of the PSFCU and our offer, please contact the branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union or call the PSFCU Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848).

Promotions For Our Youngest Members

April is the Month of the Youngest Members of Credit Unions. If you have been wondering how and when to start teaching your child about the habits of saving and managing their money well, it is definitely worth choosing the period of account promotion for the youngest members at PSFCU.

The message that we want to send our youngest members is clear and positive: „Have big dreams and let us teach you how to make them come true.” Minor accounts at our Credit Union are designed to encourage children to develop healthy saving habits and, in the future, to deal with their own budget and how to plan it. Such knowledge will certainly allow them to make their dreams come true.

One of the most important life skills to teach a child is good money management. The sooner children start their financial education, the more likely they are to avoid the mistakes made by many adults today. Here are a few ways to start teaching your kids about the value of money:

- **Open a savings account** for your child. Our Credit Union offers Minor Accounts for children and teenagers up to the age of 18. Even the youngest children understand the idea of saving money. It doesn't matter how much money is deposited, it's important to get into the habit of saving regularly.

- **Set goals with your children.** Setting a realistic savings goal will make your child eager to undertake this task. For

many children, just watching their money grow is a reward in itself. It's beneficial to take advantage of Online Banking in order to visually explain the financial growth in the account to the child.

- **Open a Checking Account with a Debit Card** to teach your child to manage money wisely and to facilitate small payments for everyday purchases - such as lunch at school or souvenirs on a trip. At PSFCU, a checking account with a debit card is available for children from 10 years of age. A debit card for the youngest PSFCU members has daily limits; it is also worthwhile to use the CardValet® application to monitor your child's expenses.

- **Take advantage of the PSFCU promotion!** Open the door to the world of finance for your child at the best possible moment! From April 15 to June 4, our Credit Union will run two promotions for minor accounts:

- 1) \$50 for opening a new minor account

- 2) upon collecting \$2 on a special quarter-dollar coin sheet (available at our Credit Union branches), each minor account owner will take part in the drawing of 50 attractive prizes.

For more information, please visit the nearest Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union branch or call the PSFCU Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848). Details of the promotion are available on our website and on social media.

Go Green Promotion Continues!

Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union's e-Statements are a fast, convenient, safe and free way to control your account at any time and from anywhere.

This spring, we invite members of our Credit Union to take advantage of our e-Statements promotion. PSFCU members who, via their Online or Mobile Banking, change their paper account statements to the electronic versions have a chance to receive an apple tree sapling. The promotion lasts until April 30 or until supplies last.

To activate PSFCU e-Statements, after logging in to your Mobile Banking, select the Electronic Statements option, and then agree to the sending of statements by electronic means (Electronic Communications Disclosure). Our Credit Union offers access to two-year statement history, and you can also download them to your private electronic devices, which greatly simplifies the archiving of documents. After taking these steps, it is worth going to the nearest PSFCU branch to collect your prize - an apple tree sapling.

For more information, please contact the nearest Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union branch or call the PSFCU Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848). Details of the promotion are available on page 4.



Minor SAVINGS

ACCOUNT

OPEN A MINOR SAVINGS ACCOUNT AND RECEIVE A BONUS OF

\$50

Promotion is valid from April 15 until June 4, 2022. 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 minor 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.



At Our Credit Union

The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has always supported and promoted the activities of Polish organizations. It is an honor for us to be a part of many events promoting the beauty of the Polish language and the richness of our culture. Several important events have already taken place recently, and the beginning of the spring season will surely bring many more of them.

Highlander Poetry and Tale Competition

Of the events that have already been held, it is worth mentioning the Highlander Poetry and Tale Competition, which took place at the headquarters of the Polish Highlanders Association.



The event was attended by employees of the Bridgeview and Orland Park, IL branches. 20 people in four age categories participated in the competition. Congratulations to all participants who demonstrated their high level of language skills and extraordinary talent.

The past month also saw a contest of beautiful reading of Polish prose and poetry - „A Journey with Maria Konopnicka” - organized by the St. John Paul II Polish School in Lemont, IL. The manager of the Orland Park branch, Grazyna Pikul, served as a member of the jury and also handed out monetary certificates to the winners.

Zenek Martyniuk at PSFCU branches

During the last weekend of winter, the positive vibe was brought not only by the sun's rays and the approaching spring. Fans of Zenek Martyniuk had a chance to meet their idol at our Credit Union's branches in Mt. Prospect, IL and Wallington, NJ. Representatives of



almost all generations were able to chat with the star, take a souvenir photo and get an autograph. We are glad that we were able to facilitate the meeting with the singer and at the same time to make the weekend more pleasant and certainly unforgettable for many!

Go green!



On Saturday, March 19, Ms. Halina Zurawska, principal of the Polish School at the St. Ferdinand Parish in Chicago, IL, after registering for PSFCU e-statements, planted an apple tree received from our Credit Union, together with the manager of the Norridge branch, Anna Czarnecka-Hebal and the local parish priest.



GO GREEN CHOOSE E-STATEMENTS

Switch over to e-statements,
help our planet, and grow your own
apple tree—on us!



The promotional period starts on March 1 and ends while supply last or April 30, 2022, whichever date is earlier. Members must enroll in electronic statements during promotional period to qualify; to enroll in electronic statement, member must login to the online banking account, select eStatements, and consent to the Electronic Communications Disclosure. Employee accounts are excluded from this promotion. Prizes can be picked up upon request at the nearest PSFCU branch. One prize per member. Promotion is subject to change without notice. Other restrictions may apply. Products and services available solely for PSFCU members.

