# Our Credit Union

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

P SFCU is an institution that, for years, has been been systematically growing and expanding its area of operations. This growth was dynamic during the past decade, during



which we have opened seven new branches in three states. This helped us fulfill our mission of offering superior financial services to the largest possible community of Polish people residing in the United States.

This year is marked by several important anniversaries. Ten years ago, we celebrated the grand opening of the branch located at 314 Great Neck Rd., in Copiague, Long Island, NY. It was our response to the expectations of the Polish community on Long Island, which met its opening with enormous satisfaction. This branch, headed from the beginning by Ms. Małgorzata Leniartek, now has nearly 2,700 members; it holds over \$37 million in deposits and the current amount of loans issued is \$26 million. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations to one of our sponsoring organizations - Polonia of Long Island, Inc., which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. PSFCU's cooperation with our sponsoring organization on Long Island is beneficial and not only positively influences the operations of our branch in Copiague but also benefits overall the entire Polish community residing in that area.

Opening a branch in Trenton, NJ was our answer to the needs of the Polish community

occupying the south-western districts of the state of New Jersey. This year we will celebrate the fifth anniversary of its grand opening. This branch, headed by Ms. Barbara Milewski, currently serves 1,993 members, has \$18.2 million in deposits and has issued \$12.3 million in loans.

I would like to thank all of our members for their years of support and the trust, which they have placed in our Credit Union. Taking into consideration the anniversaries I have mentioned, I would like to extend special thanks to our members residing on Long Island and in the Trenton area.

In recent days, we have initiated the process of selecting candidates in this

year's elections to the PSFCU Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee has nominated 12 candidates who will run for the 4 vacating seats. You, as the members and co-owners of our Credit Union, wil decide the future direction of development of our institution by actively participating in the upcoming elections. I cordially invite you to cast your vote so that the newly-elected directors could enjoy the support of the largest possible group of PSFCU members.

Sincerely,

Krzysztof Matyszczyk Chairman, PSFCU Board of Directors

# PSFCU Credit/Debit Card Promotion Award Ceremony

Our promotion ran from November 1 to December 31, 2013. Each time an eligible member used his/her PSFCU VISA® debit card or PSFCU VISA® credit card for a signature-based purchase transaction, he/she entered in the drawing, which allowed for multiple entries. There were more than 520,000 transactions during this promotion.

In a prize drawing supervised by PSFCU Audit and Compliance Departments 50 winners were drawn. The PSFCU Credit/Debit Card Promotion Award Ceremony took place on February 4 at PSFCU Head-

quarters at Greenpoint. PSFCU CEO Mr. Bogdan Chmielewski greeted all winners. "I would like to thank you all for participating in our promotion, using our services, and promoting Our Credit Union among your relatives and friends. Please, continue to do so in the future," Mr. Chmielewski said.

Mr. Artur Szurgot from Linden, New Jersey won the main prize, an 80" Sharp Aquos TV. Our Credit Union members were also awarded with 4 Sony 60" TVs, ten iPads, ten Sony home theater systems, ten Canon EOS cameras, and fifteen iPad Minis.

### **PSFCU In Numbers\***

**Assets** 

\$1,557,983,829

**Issued Credits** 

\$860,228,583

**Net Worth** 

\$144,090,159

**Number of Members** 

79,691

\*information as of January 31, 2014



Prize drawing winners during the award ceremony at the PSFCU community room

### Pilsudski Institute Seeks a New Home

For twenty years, the Polish National Alliance leased the premises at its 180 Second Avenue location in New York to the Pilsudski Institute for a modest rental fee. However, the PNA has recently made the decision to sell the building, terminating the Institute's lease.

The Pilsudski Institute has insufficient funds to purchase the premises at 180 Second Avenue, and within the year must find a new place of residence, organize the move, and insure all of its assets. The owners of the Pilsudski Institute are issuing an appeal to Poles

living in the United States and Poland for assistance. Anyone can help through the following:

- Membership at the Institute (via e-mail: office@pilsudski.org, by phone at 212-505-9077, or in person);
  - providing a donation;
  - including the Institute in the last will;
  - volunteer work at the Institute;
- helping to find premises for a permanent residence for the Institute

The Pilsudski Institute has preserved the Polish heritage for the past 70 years; it owns a priceless archive and book collection (freely accessible to educators), and distributes materials that promote Polish culture and heritage in the United States. The Institute's budget consists of gifts, donations, and a small founding capital, along with bequeathals and "matching gifts" from joint donations of sponsors and major American companies. The Institute also receives donations from Poland's institutions politicians, which are used for the digitization of its archives, as well as educational and promotional programs.

For more information, please contact the **Board of the The Pilsudski Institute of America**, 180 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003, or log on to www.pilsudski.org.

## Anniversaries of Trenton and Copiague Branches

At the beginning of this year, two PSFCU branches will celebrate the anniversaries of their opening.

Ten years ago, a PSFCU branch opened its doors at 314 Great Neck Road in Copiague, Long Island. From the beginning, the branch has been managed by Ms. Malgorzata Leniartek. Throughout the month of February, the Copiague branch celebrated its 10th anniversary, rewarding PSFCU members who joined the branch in February of 2004. The main celebrations took place on March

1, 2014 at 314 Great Neck Road; look forward to a report in the next issue of "Nasza Unia."

Five years ago, PSFCU opened another branch in Trenton, New Jersey, located at 1110 North Olden Avenue. From the day of its opening, the Branch Manager position has been held by Ms. Barbara Milewski. Throughout the month of March, PSFCU plans on giving away 15 gift baskets of sweets for those who decide to open new accounts in Trenton. The main celebrations are planned for Saturday, April 5, 2014 at

1 PM. We invite everyone residing in this area to join us in celebrating the anniversary at 1110 North Olden Avenue in Trenton, NJ.

#### PSFCU Branch in Copiague, NY

Number of members: 2639 Member deposits: \$37,3 million Loans issued: \$26 million

#### **PSFCU Branch in Trenton, NJ**

Number of members: 1993 Member deposits: \$18,2 million Loans issued: 12,3 million Data as of January 31, 2014

## It's Worth Going to a Good College

On February 7, 2014, students of the senior grades in Polish Supplementary Schools, along with their parents, attended the annual "Mini Studia 4U" presentation, sponsored by the PSFCU at St. Cyril & Methodius Church in Greenpoint.

"Do you want to ensure your child a good education? We invite you to an information session on financial aid for college," the poster for the event advertised. During Dr.

Katarzyna Kowalska's presentation, attendees were able to learn practical information regarding the cost of higher education, as well as information about the financial aid system and where to search for it; e.g., scholarships attained from Polish organizations (such as the one provided by our Credit Union). The driving point of the event was that it is worth applying to the most prestigious schools, which include the

Ivy League institutions.

According to the principal of the Polish Supplementary School in Greenpoint, Ms. Dorota Andraka, it is after their participation in the "Mini Studia 4U" series that students come to the conclusion that it is worth going to the best schools. Thanks to our Credit Union and Dr. Kowalska's lectures, Polish Supplementary School alumni now attend universities such as Princeton and Yale. Ms. Andraka told her students that three alumni are studying at Harvard.

# Comprehensive Tax Solutions



Pay a Contribution to Your Traditional IRA at PSFCU

It can help you lower your tax bracket.<sup>1)</sup>



Have Your Tax Refund
Directly Deposited to Your
PSFCU Account

Funds will be available immediately, without waiting for your check<sup>2)</sup>



Pay Any Taxes You May Owe Using the Low-interest PSFCU Credit Card<sup>3)</sup>



