

# Our Credit Union

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

Dear Members.

This year, September twenty-seventh went down in the annals of our Credit Union. The President of the Republic of Poland, Mr. Andrzej Duda, visi-



ted the first historical branch of our institution in Greenpoint, New York. He was enthusiastically welcomed by the Board of Directors and employees, as well as by the crowd of our Credit Union members who had gathered outside the branch. His openness and ease of communication impressed everyone present there, with most of whom he exchanged a handshake. During his speech, the President expressed his gratitude for the years of our Credit Union's operation, and stressed the importance of our work for the good of the Polish community. He also referred to the days of "Solidarity" and expressed the conviction that our activity here - in the United States - should be the continuation of that beautiful idea of mutual support. He also appealed to young people, whom he encouraged to develop businesses with our help, and also, if possible, to return to their homeland. The statement by the President made a huge impression on all present.

The visit of President Andrzej Duda at our Credit Union was the second visit by the Polish Head of State to our Credit Union. In September 2009, a few months before the tragedy in the Smolensk Forest, we were honored to host Polish President Lech

Kaczynski and his wife.

Both the visit of President Kaczynski and that of President Duda are an enormous honor for us, and an expression of recognition for the work and efforts of the PSFCU Board of Directors and all employees. The visits are also a special thank you to You, the nearly 85,000 members of our Credit Union, who, since our inception, have given the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union your trust and support and have made use of our services. The visit of the Polish President Andrzej Duda is also motivation for our even greater

commitment and harder work for our Credit Union and the entire Polish community in the United States.

On days such as Sunday September 27, 2015, we should all be proud of the success that we are achieving together, building the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and making it grow.

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski President/CEO



Polish President Andrzej Duda during a visit to the PSFCU branch at 140 Greenpoint Avenue

## The President of Poland at Our Credit Union

During his visit to New York, Polish President Andrzej Duda visited the oldest branch of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union.

At the historic building at 140 Greenpoint Avenue in Greenpoint, the "Polish neighborhood", the Polish President was welcomed by the members of the PSFCU Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee, managers and employees. "Dear Mr. President, with the respects of the Polish ethnic community, on behalf of the nearly 85,000 members of our Credit Union, I welcome you to our Greenpoint branch, the first and oldest," said PSFCU Chief Executive Officer Bogdan Chmielewski in greeting. He recalled the origins of our Credit Union. "Thirty-nine

years ago a group of community activists gathered around Reverend Longin Tolczyk, a priest from the Podlasie region, came upon an idea of how to help Polish people arriving from behind the Iron Curtain to achieve their American dreams," said Chmielewski. The first months and years were extremely humble ones, because our Credit Union "started from a single desk and wooden abacuses in the Greenpoint cafeteria." After 39 years of operation, the PSFCU has over 84,000,000 members and 16 branches in three states (New York, New Jersey and Illinois) with assets of over \$1,600,000,000, and is the largest ethnic credit union in the

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#### **PSFCU In Numbers**

information as of August 31, 2015

**Assets** 

\$1,646,478,270

Loans

\$914,675,457

Net Worth

\$157,854,498

**Number of Members** 

84,423

#### Near the Polish Community

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United States and the largest Polish financial institution outside of Poland.

Polish President Andrzej Duda thanked our Credit Union for its work to-date for the benefit of the Polish community. "Thanks to you, many Poles have achieved success in life here in the United States. Today I have asked for your solidarity, so that people who have achieved this success in the past and present are sensitive to those who have not been successful, help them and reach out to them," emphasized Duda. The Polish President gave our Credit Union's Chief Executive Officer a commemorative metal



Commemorative plaque - a gift from President Duda



President Duda speaks at the 140 Greenpoint Avenue branch

plaque and then extended his best wishes. "I wish you all the best in the coming years of the Credit Union's operation, and hope that as many young people obtain an opportunity from you that will allow them to earn a great deal of money in the United States, to show their mettle and demonstrate how industrious and enterprising a nation we are, and then return to Poland with that money," said Andrzej Duda. "Your visit is an honor, as well as motivation to work even harder for the Polish community and

members of our Credit Union, said CEO Chmielewski. After the meeting at our Credit Union branch, the Polish President spent several minutes shaking the hands of hundreds of Greenpoint residents gathered outside the PSFCU facility.

Andrzej Duda is the second Polish Head of State to visit the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. In September 2009, Polish President Lech Kaczynski and the First Lady visited the PSFCU headquarters at 100 McGuinness Boulevard in Greenpoint.



President Duda with PSFCU representatives at the Credit Union branch at 140 Greenpoint Ave.

## PSFCU Schaumburg Branch Officially Open

With grand opening ceremony in Schaumburg, IL on September 12, PSFCU opened its 16th branch nationally. This marks Our credit union's fourth Chicago area branch location.

The latest addition to the growing PSFCU footprint is located at 1112 South Roselle Road in Schaumburg. The 3,000 sq. ft. location will serve the large Polish-American community residing in and around the northern suburbs of Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates and Elgin. "I am confident that this branch will continue the great success of our institution throughout the great metropolitan Chicago region," said Bogdan Chmielewski, PSFCU CEO during the grand opening ceremony. "We have undoubtedly become a fully integrated part of the life of the entire Polish-American community in the Chicago area. This region holds great promise for our Credit Union."

On hand were the Village of Schaumburg mayor, Al Larson, and Bryan Schneider,



PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski with Illinois Deputy Secretary of State, Tom Benigno



Ceremonial cutting of the ribbon at the newly-opened PSFCU branch in Schaumburg, IL

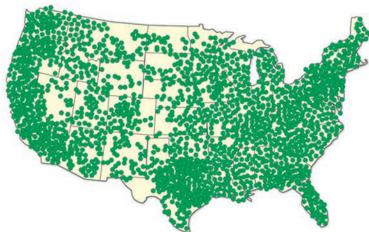
Secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Illinois Deputy Secretary of State Tom Benigno handed a commemorative Illinois car plate. "This event presents an exciting opportunity for everyone in attendance to join together with fellow members of your organization to share important information and ideas. I commend you for your service to the community. On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable occasion" wrote Governor Bruce

Rauner in a letter.

The PSFCU has been operating in Illinois since 2010, when two Chicago area branches debuted: one in Mt. Prospect and the other in Norridge. A year later, a third branch was opened in the village of Bridgeview, located just 13 miles southwest of the Chicago Loop. In less than six years, the three PSFCU branches have attracted more than 13,000 members and nearly \$123 million in deposits. It has also made \$131 million in loans to the community.

# IF YOU HAVE AN ACCOUNT AT **PSFCU**, YOU HAVE ACCESS TO **OVER 43,000 SURCHARGE-FREE**

STARsf® AND ALLPOINT® NETWORK ATMs THROUGHOUT THE US.





#### IT IS MORE THAN WHAT IS OFFERED BY COMMERCIAL BANKS!

Transaction fee may be collected at ATMs not owned by PSFCU or Allpoint® and STARs/® networks. Surcharge-free access to cash may not be possible at all ATMs owned by the Allpoint® and STARs/® networks. Other restrictions may apply.



#### October – a Month of Promotions

In October we traditionally celebrate Polish Heritage Month. It's a time when we don our white and red colors to manifest our attachment to Poland and the Polish language and traditions.

Many of our Credit Union members have participated in the Pulaski Parades, which for decades have marched down New York's Fifth Avenue as well as the streets of Philadelphia on the first Sunday of the month. As every year, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is the main sponsor of both Polish manifestations, and our Credit Union volunteers and employees have taken part in them in great numbers.

October is traditionally also a month of promotions at the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. Three in one, or three attractive proposals in one month: that briefly describes our proposition for members. It is important to us that you have the opportunity to invest your money well before the year's end.

#### **Five-Year Term Share Certificate**

If you have cash and are thinking about long-term savings, consider opening a term share certificate at our Credit Union. For October only, we're offering a rate of 2.40% APY for a five-year term. Just come to one of the sixteen PSFCU branches and deposit

or transfer a minimum of \$500 to take advantage of the attractive interest rate.

#### New and Used Car Loans

In October, we've also thought about those of you planning to purchase a new car. We have prepared for you two promotions. Depending on the term, we're offering either a rate of 1.95% APR on a three-year loan, or 2.25% APR on a five-year loan. To take advantage of the promotion, you must have a PSFCU debit card or sign up for automatic payment from your checking account. We haven't forgotten about our Credit Union members interested in buying a used car. They can choose between a rate of 2.25% APR (three-year loan) or 2.55% APR with payments spread over five years.

So, dear members, when you celebrate Polish Heritage Month in October, don't forget about your own financial well-being. Take advantage of the attractive offer of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and multiply your savings or buy the car you've long been dreaming about. Don't wait, because you can get these good rates only until the end of October. We invite you to visit one of our Credit Union's sixteen branches for details on the promotion, or call our Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848).

## Share Your PSFCU Memories

For its upcoming 40th anniversary, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is looking for interesting materials related to the history of our Credit Union. We are particularly interested in original documents from the beginning of our operations in the late 1970s and 1980s like old savings passbooks, certificates, loan documents, receipts, photos, or promotional materials. Great value are the materials produced by the members of our Credit Union such as correspondence with PSFCU or written memories or documents regarding our institution and its founders. We are also interested in family photos depicting our Credit Union branches, its employees and events sponsored by PSFCU. After obtaining the consent of the owners, the most interesting materials will be published in publications related to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the PSFCU.

If you still in possession of these items, and would like to share them with us, please contact us at marketing@psfcu.net or call 973-808-3240, ext. 6134. Those of you who send us interesting materials will participate in the drawing of attractive gifts - one of 10 PSFCU T-shirts autographed by Polish champions from Sochi Winter Olympics: Zbigniew Brodka or Justyna Kowalczyk.

## OCTOBER IS POLISH HERITAGE MONTH

### To celebrate it, PSFCU offers special promotions:



- 2.10% APY on five-year term share<sup>1</sup>
- 1.95% APR for 3 years or 2.25% APR for 5 years on new car purchases<sup>2</sup>
- **2.25% APR**

for 3 years or 2.55% APR for 5 years on used car purchases<sup>2</sup>

1) APY - Annual Percentage Yield valid as of 0.01.2015. \$500.00 deposit is required to open a term share. Penalty charges for early funds withdrawals may apply. 2.10% APY rate valid as of October 1, 2015 until further notice, but no later than October 31, 2015. Deposit limit of \$50,000 per CD and one CD per member applies. 2) APR = Annual Percentage Rate valid as of 10.01.2015. All loans are subject to credit approval and verification. Rate and interest depend on credit history and other credit factors. Registration of automatic loan payment from a PSFCU checking account is required to obtain the promotional rate. Without automatic payment, the rate will be 0.25% higher. Monthly payment of a 3-year loan at 2.40% is \$29.00 for every \$1,000 borrowed. Other rates and terms apply. PSFCU loans are not available in all states. Promotion is valid from October 1 until October 31, 2015. Offer solely for members of the PSFCU. Membership restrictions apply. For additional information concerning this promotion and other credit offers, call Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU. 4U or log on to www.psfcu.com.

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