Our Credit Union

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE POLISH & SLAVIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Dear Members.

Despite summer vacation, our Credit Union is not slowing down its growth. In the month of June alone, our assets increased by \$7,200,000, and more importantly, 726



newcomers have joined the ranks of our members. The beginning of this year's vacation season also also marked the opening of our new Wallington, NJ branch, which I cordially invite you to visit.

This year, we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the PSFCU. The observances will culminate in Holy Masses celebrated in the intention of our Credit Union and all its members. The first Mass will be held on August 14 at 2:00 p.m. at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Merrillville, Indiana, ending the traditional walking pilgrimage from Chicago. The second Mass will be celebrated on September 4 at 12:30 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, during the Polish-American Family Festival that has been held there for several years. For our senior citizen members from New York and New Jersey, we will have free bus rides to Doylestown, for which you can sign up at our branches. We look forward to meeting many of you during these celebrations.

Because of the approaching United States presidential election, I would like to encourage all of you who are US citizens to take an active part in it. To make the voting registration process easier for our members,

PSFCU In Numbers

information as of June 30, 2016

Assets

\$1,738,825,682

Loans

\$968,921,322

Net Worth

\$163,771,197

Number of Members

87,577

we are enclosing a registration card with this issue of our newsletter. Our branch employees will be happy to help you fill out the form. It is very important that we, as the Polish community, be active part in the election, so that the voice of our ethnic group is significant and noticeable. We are a very successful ethnic group, which unfortunately does not translate into our strength and political representation. We can change this state of

facts together only through active participation in the election.

I wish you a successful vacation during the final weeks of summer, and as always, I invite you to make use of our services.

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski PSFCU President/CEO



Mini training with Pawel Nastula, Olympic Champion and double World Champion in judo

Judo Champion at PSFCU

In mid-July the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union hosted Pawel Nastula, Olympic champion and two-time world champion in judo. The athlete met with Credit Union members at our McGuinness and Ridgewood NY branches and conducted a mini-training for young judo students.

A number of young members of our Credit Union, boys and one girl, both children and teenagers, attended the Saturday morning mini-training, which was held in the conference room at PSFCU headquarters. After a short warm-up, the children were taught exercises under the watchful eye of Nastula. "It was a short demonstration training session to encourage children to practice judo," said the Polish athlete, who himself began training when he was ten years old. After the mini-session

there was time for a group photo with the champion and some encouragement for the children to continue working. "Judo teaches respect for your opponent, for the other person. The fight is total combat: there is no buddy or friend. But before and after the fight we show our thanks and respect for the other person," Nastula encouraged parents.

Our Credit Union members had the opportunity to meet Nastula during two afternoon sessions at our NY branches on McGuinness Blvd in Greenpoint and in Ridgewood. There was a welcome cake and many photos, handshakes and autographs. "We made a special cake with 'Welcome Pawel Nastula' written on it because we wanted him to feel like one of

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Judo Champion...

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us. We're not only a financial institution, we also conduct community activities and we're glad that today anyone who had some banking to do could come up to meet and shake hands with a true sports champion," said PSFCU's McGuinness Branch Manager Anna Branas. "They gave me a nice reception. That means that people remember," said the 1996 Atlanta Olympics champion.

Nastula came to the United States at the invitation of Sylwester Gawel, who helped organize the meeting with PSFCU members. "From the point of view of the Polish community, this was very exciting. Pawel Nastula, a multiple champion, came and visited young judo students, and for all of



Commemorative photo with employees of the PSFCU branch in Ridgewood

us it was a form of gratitude for the emotions that he provided us in his career,"

said the owner of the Sylwester Gawel Iudo Club.

Forty Years Have Passed

This year marks forty years since the establishment of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. This is a good opportunity to recall the history of the PSFCU. Therefore, over the coming few months "Our Credit Union" will be featuring information on how the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union was founded and grew.

It was exactly on September 30, 1976, in Greenpoint, that eight people signed the founding act of our Credit Union. The document was signed by the initiator of the institution's establishment, Rev. Longin Tolczyk along with Rev. Emil Altmajer, Marek Luniewski, Jan Raczkowski, Władysław Fraczak, Jozef Waltos, Jerzy Wolinski and Halina Zolnierowicz. Each signatory contributed a share of five dollars. As Marek Luniewski, one of the founders and the first President of our Credit Union said, "that is how we managed to establish a bank without equity capital." After forty years of operation, the PSFCU's assets exceeded \$1,700,000,000.

Do you know our Credit Union's first official name?

Based on the founding document of September 30, 1976, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) recorded the Industrial and Commercial Federal Credit Union in the credit union registry under number 22,592 on December 27, 1976. It was only two and a half years later that the name was changed to the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, which is still its name today.

Where were the first headquarters? PSFCU beginnings were extremely mo-

dest. The first office was located in... the Polish & Slavic Center cafeteria at 940 Manhattan Ave. in Greenpoint. A partition was put up, behind which there was a desk with a calculating machine and a safe. The first PSFCU employee was Ms. Halina Podstawka. The PSFCU was headquartered in the cafeteria until 1981, when our Credit Union bought the building at 140 Greenpoint Ave. in Greenpoint, which was the main office for many years (now the PSFCU's

Greenpoint branch).

Do you know when our Credit Union opened its first branch away from Greenpoint?

In its eleventh year of operation, our Credit Union symbolically crossed the Hudson River. In 1987 we opened our second branch in Union, New Jersey. In subsequent years we continued to expand and new branches were opened on Kent Street in Greenpoint (1992), Boro Park in Brooklyn (1996) and in Clifton, New Jersey (1996).



A fragment of the Polish Daily News issue dated March 10, 1977

Register to Vote In the Upcoming Elections

'Those who do not vote, are not heard' - these words are a good description of any community in American society. Active participation in political life is not only a privilege, it is simply a duty of every United States citizen.

You Need to Vote

The presidential and congressional elections will be held throughout the United States on November 8, 2016. The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is not only a financial institution, it is also a leader of the Polish-American community. We want the voice of Americans of Polish origin to be heard, so we encourage you to vote in the elections. That is why we have enclosed a federal voter registration form with your July banking statement. Filling it out will enable every member of our Credit Union (who isn't on the voter list yet) to register, then to vote in the November elections.

Below are brief instructions on how to fill out the form an where to send it. If you need help, please come a PSFCU branch, where professionally trained employees of our Credit Union will help you fill out and send the document.

We sincerely encourage you to fill out the registration form and vote in the November elections. Remember that the real strength of the Polish community will be assessed based on our turnout at the polls on November 8 of this year.

Sample of the voter registration form

How to register to vote in your State by using federal registration form?

All States require that you be a United States citizen by birth or naturalization to register to vote in federal and State elections. Federal law makes it illegal to falsely claim U.S. citizenship to register to vote in any federal, State, or local election. You cannot be registered to vote in more than one place at a time.

Detailed instructions

In Box 6 (ID Number): Your driver's license number is required to register to vote. If you do not have a driver's license, at least the last four digits of your social security number are required.

In Box 8 (Race or Ethnic Group): Leave blank.

In Box 9 (Signature): before signing, remember that you have to:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of your election precinct at least 30 days before the next election

- be at least 18 years old on or before the next election
- not be in jail for a felony conviction
- $\bullet\,$ not claim the right to vote anywhere else

After filling out your application, mail it to the address listed under your State in the Instructions below. Or, deliver the application in person to your local voter registration office or the nearest PSFCU branch.

Illinois Residents

Registration Deadline — October 11, 2016. Mailing address: State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Boulevard, Springfield, IL 62704

New Jersey Residents

Registration Deadline — October 18, 2016. Mailing address: New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Elections, PO BOX 304, Trenton, NJ 08625-0304.

New York Residents

Registration Deadline — October 14, 2016. Mailing address: NYS Board of Elections, 40 North Pearl Street, Suite 5, Albany, NY 12207-2729.

Before completing this form, review the General, Application, and State specific instructions. Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes Yes No No This space for office use only. Will you be 18 years old on or before election day? If you checked "No" in response to either of these (Please see state-specific instructions for rules regarding eligibility to register prior to age 18.) Mr. Miss Last Name Middle Name(s) Sr II First Name Home Address State Zip Code Apt. or Lot # City/Town Address Where You Get Your Mail If Different From Above City/Town State Zip Code Date of Birth Telephone Number (optional) ID Number - (See item 6 in the instructions for your state) 4 5 Month Day Year 6 Race or Ethnic Group (see item 8 in the instructions for your State) Choice of Party

Voter Registration Application

PSFCU Elite VISA® Signature Credit Card

- cash rewards
- 1.25 points per each dollar spent
- introductory 0% APR* for 9 months on purchase transactions





*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. After 9 months, standard variable rate will apply, currently at **12.24% - 14.24%** depending on creditworthiness. APR as of July 1, 2016. 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 also apply.

Our Branches

Wallington New Jersey Branch

Our Credit Union members living in northern New Jersey are cordially invited to the recently opened branch in Wallington, located in the Shop Rite Plaza. The facility was designed to be functional, yet elegant and modern. The branch has four separate customer service desks as well as four teller positions. The spacious and ample parking lot at the front and side of the location is a tremendous advantage. Please visit the PSFCU's Wallington branch at 375 Paterson Avenue, Wallington, NJ 07057 Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

On a Pilgrimage with Our Credit Union

For the first time, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union will be the main sponsor of the 29th Polish Marian Walking Pilgrimage. It will take place on August 13-14 and pilgrims will walk the traditional route from St. Michael's Church in southern Chicago, via the Shrine of Our Lady of Ludzmierz in Muster, Indiana, to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Merrillville, Indiana. You are welcome to participate in the pilgrimage, which ends with a solemn Sunday Mass at 2:00 p.m. for the thousands of pilgrims and attendees.



Interior of the PSFCU branch in Wallington, NJ

On the first Sunday of September (September 4) during the Labor Day weekend, as it has for several years, the PSFCU is organizing a trip for senior citizens of our Credit Union to the American Czestochowa. Fourteen buses will take PSFCU senior members from the New York metropolitan area to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. On that day Holy Mass will also be celebrated at 12:30 pm to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, in the intention of its founders, members, volunteers and employees. Registration for the free trip will be held at our Credit Union branches in New York and New Jersey.

Three Branch Anniversaries

This year, we are celebrating the anniversaries of three PSFCU branches in the New York metropolitan area. On this occasion, we are planning the following anniversary celebrations:

- September 10, 2016, the 20th anniversary of the PSFCU's Boro Park branch (1260 60th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219), phone no. (718) 437-7745.
- September 17, 2016, the 20th anniversary of the PSFCU's Clifton branch (990 Clifton Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07013), phone no. (973) 472-4404.
- September 24, 2016, the 15th anniversary of the PSFCU's Ridgewood branch (69-03 Fresh Pond Road, Ridgewood, NY 11385), phone no. (718) 417-5268.

We cordially invite you to our branches!



Membership restrictions apply. You must be a registered Online Banking User to be able to use Mobile Banking. Internet connection fees may be applied by your cellular service provider. Other restrictions may also apply.