

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE POLISH & SLAVIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Dear Members,

Summing up the achievements of 2017, I am pleased to share the main financial results that our Credit Union attained last year, proving that PSFCU members are saving and investing in their future. It was a successful year for our institution: our results were very good, even impressive, as far as loans were concerned. In 2017 our assets grew by \$96.3 million to \$1,880 million. The amount of loans issued increased by \$75.6 million, reaching \$1,060 million. The major portion of our loan portfolio is composed of residential mortgage loans, which increased by \$45.2 million up to \$650.1 million. Commercial and business loans in 2017 grew by \$23.2 million to \$319.9 million, and the amount of consumer loans issued went up by \$7.3 million to a total amount of \$84.4 million. In that same year, total PSFCU investments and interest bearing deposits grew by \$25.1 million to \$745.7 million.

In 2017 we also observed a significant rise in the deposits with which we were entrusted. Your savings at our Credit Union grew in 2017 by \$89 million to a total amount of \$1,670 million. The growing amount of deposits attests to your confidence in and loyalty toward our institution, for which I sincerely wish to thank you.

From January 1 to December 31, 2017, 9,101 people joined our membership, and at year's end the PSFCU had 92,915



members. That included 45,677 members in New York, 27,477 in New Jersey, a 19,193 in Illinois.

Thanks to the professionalism and effectiveness of our employees and the high level of services offered, the net PSFCU profit for calendar year 2017 amounted to \$10.8 million. In terms of net profit, that was the second highest result in our Credit Union's history. At year's end, the PSFCU's equity capital was \$180.3 million, which yields a capital ratio of 9.61%. According to the criteria of the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), we are classified as a well-capitalized credit union. In 2017 our Credit Union maintained the highest five-star rating awarded by Bauer Financial, an independent company assessing the financial standing of banks and credit unions.

Thanks to its stable financial position, in 2017 the PSFCU continued its support for

the Polish community at an unabated, and even increasing level. Between our marketing, donation and scholarship budget, we allocated nearly \$2,550,000 toward the sponsorship and funding of hundreds of initiatives, schools, organizations, parishes and students. In this way we are proudly and effectively helping to build a powerful and affluent Polish ethnic group in the US.

In analyzing our performance above, we are pleased to confirm that 2017 was another successful year of dynamic growth for our institution. I thank you for your trust and support and invite you to visit our branches and make active use of our Credit Union's services. By supporting the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, we are building a strong Polish community together.

*Krzysztof Matyszczyk*  
Chairman of the PSFCU Board of Directors

## Thomas Duch, Grand Marshall of the Pulaski Parade



Sashing ceremony of the new Pulaski Parade Grand Marshall, mec. Thomas Duch

The Administrator of the city of Garfield, New Jersey, its former Mayor, and State Assemblyman, Thomas Duch, Esq., will lead New York's Pulaski Day Parade as Grand Marshal this year. His formal sashing took place at the Polish Consulate General in New York during a ceremony sponsored by the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union.

"I am honored. I assure everyone that I will work as hard as I can for you and for the preservation of our Polish national

heritage," said Mr. Duch, just after putting on the Grand Marshal's sash. Although his ancestors came from Slovakia, he has been associated with the Polish community in Garfield from an early age, and since 1980 he has regularly attended New York's Pulaski Day Parade, which he will lead this October 7. In September 2017, Duch was awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit by Polish President Andrzej Duda.

The ceremony at the consulate was a

...continued on page 2

### PSFCU In Numbers

information as of December 31, 2017

Assets

**\$1,875,874,059**

Loans

**\$1,054,520,933**

Net Worth

**\$180,344,885**

Number of Members

**92,915**

## ...cd. Thomas Duch, Grand Marshall of the Pulaski Parade

...continued from page 1

great celebration for Polish people and gathered together Polish community leaders from New York and northern New Jersey. Many of them still feel an affinity with the Polish ethnic group even though their generation is no longer fluent in Polish. The event was also an excellent opportunity to support the initiative of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and sign a declaration thanking the United States for its help in regaining Poland's independence in 1918 and its support today. "I hope that our initiative, the Polonia Declaration, will be

one of the most important events in celebrating the centenary of Polish independence. Therefore I encourage all of you to sign it," said PSFCU President/Chief Executive Officer Bogdan Chmielewski to those in attendance.

We were successful in collecting dozens of new signatures from everyone in attendance who had not signed the declaration previously. The first two signatures were those of the 2018 Grand Marshal of the Pulaski Day Parade, Thomas Duch, Esq., and his 89 year-old father, Thomas Senior.

## Guests at the PSFCU

On January 26, a delegation of the National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions (NAFCU) headed by its President Dan Berger met with PSFCU President/Chief Executive Officer Bogdan Chmielewski at PSFCU headquarters in Brooklyn, NY. The guests learned about our Credit Union's history, from its founding in 1976 in then-poor district of Greenpoint, to today's success as the largest ethnic credit union in the United States. We also talked about prospects for the growth of the credit union movement in America.

The NAFCU is an organization of federal credit unions. Its purpose is to represent affiliated credit unions, help them grow, and support the growth of the credit union movement in the United States.

## Half a Million Dollars to Seriously Ill Children



was recommended by the Polish First Lady, Agata Kornhauser-Duda; The Little Prince Children's Hospice in Lublin (\$37,857), the only homecare and inpatient hospice for children in southeast Poland; and the Warsaw Children's Hospice Foundation (\$20,566). An additional \$24,113 was donated to the Children's Smile Foundation to aid in treatment of underprivileged Polish-American children.

The initial "Children's Holiday Smile" campaign began in 2014. Since then, more \$500,000 has been raised to aid seriously ill children in Poland and the U.S. To ensure that every dollar donated makes a difference, PSFCU delivers 100 percent of the donations directly to the hospitals and hospices.

"This has become a Christmas tradition for our credit union and our members," said Bogdan Chmielewski, President/CEO of PSFCU. "Every year, our members show their compassion, generosity and willingness to share with those in need." The most important thing is that the fundraiser is now a permanent item on the calendar of Polish community events. And it certainly is rewarding to know that we've successfully collected half a million dollars for seriously ill children.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union's annual "Children's Holiday Smile" brought out the best in the credit union's members, as more than 4,600 donated a total of \$104,567 to benefit seriously ill children being treated at various Polish hospices, as well as here in the U.S. More than \$500,000 has been raised over the past 4 years to benefit numerous hospices for children.

Partnering with New York's Children's Smile Foundation, PSFCU launched this year's charity drive the day after Thanksgiving, concluding on December 31, 2017.

Three Polish hospices for children were the beneficiaries of this year's charity drive: The Silesian Children's Hospice Foundation for Children in Tychy (\$22,030), which



## Membership Dues

Members who belong to one of the Sponsoring Organizations will have their annual \$10.00 membership dues debited from their savings, checking, or Money Market account on

**February 15th, 2018.**

Please make sure to have funds available in one of these accounts. Thank you.

**Sign the Polonia Declaration: [www.poloniadeclaration2018.org](http://www.poloniadeclaration2018.org)**

## No-Fee Mortgage at PSFCU

Dreaming of owning a home? Make a 'key' decision and take advantage of the attractive mortgage offer at the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. The promotion at our Credit Union lasts through the end of April: we aren't charging a mortgage application fee.

If you close the loan through April 30, 2018, we won't charge the mortgage application fee of \$350. The promotion applies to loans for one- to four-family residential houses occupied by the owner. The borrower must meet standard eligibility and loan repayment requirements. Loans with a down payment of under 20% require private mortgage insurance.

Applications for the purchase or refinancing of a house, condominium or vacation home can be submitted in person at all 17 branches of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. You can also apply online with the assurance that an employee of our Credit Union will contact you within 24 business hours. For more information about our mortgages, see the "Mortgage Center" tab at our website [www.psfcu.com](http://www.psfcu.com).

### Loans in Five States

If you'd like to own your own "four walls", our Credit Union can help you make your dreams come true. The PSFCU provides loans with as little as a 3% down payment. The PSFCU offer is available in the states where our Credit Union operates branches (New York, New Jersey and Illinois), as well as in Florida and Pennsylvania. We offer competitive rates in comparison with other financial institutions offering loans for the purchase of real estate.

Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union mortgages are a simple way to buy your own home. Don't delay, apply today. If you close the loan through April 30, 2018 you will save \$350 on the application fee.

*\* Offer solely for PSFCU members. BAL loans are subject to credit approval and income verification. 3% minimum down payment applies to owner-occupied 1-4 family homes. Loans with down payment of less than 20% of the home value require private mortgage insurance. Monthly payment of a fixed rate mortgage at 4.296% APR (Annual Percentage Rate) taken for a period of 120 months is \$10,27 per each \$1,000.00 borrowed.*

## Transfer Your Balances to PSFCU

Tax season is on its way. No problem - we've got you covered with a great way to save money right now!

Between February 15 and April 15, 2018, PSFCU members can save a lot with a special 2.99% APR\* for 12 months on balances transferred from credit cards at other financial institutions to your Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union credit card. Save even more - with this offer, you will pay no fees to transfer your balances to the PSFCU credit card.

Consolidating your balances is easy. You can transfer them using the PSFCU Online Banking or Mobile Banking app or by contacting PSFCU Member Services Center.

Don't miss this great offer! All balance transfers must post to your account by April 15, 2018 to be able to take advantage of the 2.99% APR for 12 months.

*\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Credit Score of 680 or above is required. Credit Score is based on data from Equifax, and may differ from other credit bureau scores. Other restrictions apply.*



Promotion is valid from February 1 through April 30, 2018 and applies to 1-4 - family owner-occupied residential home mortgages. Borrowers must meet standard eligibility requirements, subject to income verification. Loans with down payment of less than 20% of the home value require private mortgage insurance. Offer applies exclusively to PSFCU members. Other restrictions may also apply.



## At our Credit Union Branches

The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is firmly rooted in the local community, as evidenced by the fact that the PSFCU organized or sponsored 403 events throughout 2017. Statistically, that amounts to more than one event every day of the year, so we can safely say that our Credit Union is always there whenever something truly important is happening in the Polish-American community.



### First Graders in New York

On January 13, Agnieszka Chwatko, Manager of the Staten Island Branch of PSFCU attended the Christmas party held by the John Paul II Polish Supplementary School in Staten Island, New York. Our Credit Union sponsored the event, during which first graders received from Ms. Chwatko monetary prizes funded by our Credit Union.

### History Stop Chicago

In mid-January, a delegation of the



Institute of National Remembrance headed by President Jaroslaw Szarek paid a visit to Chicago. The guests attended the opening ceremony of the "History Stop Chicago" exhibition, held at the Polish Consulate General in the Windy City. In attendance were the Managers of the PSFCU Branches in Bridgeview (Jolanta Wisnicki) and Schaumburg (Bozena Bielecka).

### New Year's Meeting

January is traditionally the time for the last Christmas and New Year's meetings at organizations that work closely with the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. On January 14, PSFCU Branch Manager Marzena Fernandes and staff member Dorota Filipowicz attended the wafer-sharing reception at the Polish Army Veterans Association of America, Post 36, Clifton and Passaic, New Jersey.

## PSFCU Scholarships

Reminder: March 1, 2018, is the deadline for filing a scholarship application for the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union Scholarship Program for college students.

To apply for financial support, you need to be a PSFCU member for at least a year, have a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0, and be a student enrolled at an accredited school in academic year 2017/18. You also need to complete an application available at one of our Credit Union's 17 branches, or online at [www.NaszaUnia.com](http://www.NaszaUnia.com), attach the required documentation, as well as write two essays of up to 300 words in English.

Just as last year, our Credit Union members can also apply for participation in the scholarship program organized under the patronage of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland, Andrzej Duda. Ten applicants selected by the Scholarship Committee will attend a study tour to Poland.

More information on the PSFCU Scholarship Program is available on the website of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union at [www.psfcu.com](http://www.psfcu.com) ("About Us" tab, "Scholarship Programs" folder). For more information, send an e-mail to [scholarships@psfcu.net](mailto:scholarships@psfcu.net) or call Ms. Ewa Kotulska, Marketing Specialist, at 973-808-3240, ext. 6133.

**All applications must be submitted by March 1, 2018.**



## Fulfill your New Year resolution and take care of your financial future

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PROMOTIONAL IRA TERM SHARE ON 2017 AND 2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

**2.25%** APY\* FOR 5 YEARS



\*APY-Annual Percentage Yield as of 01/01/2018. Promotion is valid for term shares opened between January 1 and April 17, 2018. Funds required to open the term share account must be deposited to a new or existing IRA account during the promotional period. Minimum balance of \$500.00 is required to open a term share account, up to the maximum amount of contribution determined by the IRS for years 2017 and 2018. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Additional information may be obtained at PSFCU branches or by calling our Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848). Consult your tax advisor before making any decision related to an IRA account. Additional information about other term shares offered by PSFCU is available at [www.psfcu.com](http://www.psfcu.com). Offer for PSFCU members only. Membership restrictions apply. Other restrictions apply.

