

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE POLISH & SLAVIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Dear Members,

On January 30, 2010, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union opened its first two branches in Illinois, located in Norridge and Mt. Prospect. It was a very important and groundbreaking event for our institution. PSFCU services and products began to reach Poles and Americans of Polish origin living in the largest Polish diaspora in the world. Thus, by entering a completely new market, the dynamics of Our Union's development increased significantly. After ten years, we have six branches in the Chicago area, which are used by almost 25,000 members. At the end of November, PSFCU members in Illinois entrusted us with nearly 235 million dollars in deposits, and our loan portfolio was over 305 million.

During these ten years, 6.5 thousand PSFCU members residing in Illinois have benefited from our mortgage loans, for a total of 1.5 billion dollars. Thanks to our auto loans, 4,161 PSFCU members living in Illinois purchased new cars, at the same time we granted 1,454 consumer loans throughout the state. It is worth adding that in the State of Illinois we have 69 highly qualified and dedicated employees, who are employed not only in six branches, but also represent loan,



IS&T departments, and Member Services Center.

After ten years, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has also become an integral part of the Polish-American community in Chicagoland. Like in the East Coast, we have actively participated and sponsored countless events, organizations and parishes in the Polish community.

Beyond any shadow of a doubt, I can say that the decision to open PSFCU branches in the Chicago area, although burdened with some risk at that time, was right on target. This is proven, among others, by the above-mentioned facts and numbers. I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to this success: first of all, members of Our Union from the State of Illinois, who from the first day showed our institution great kindness and trust. We are thankful to all Polish diaspora organizations, especially: the Alliance of Polish Clubs in the USA, the Polish Highlanders Alliance in North America and the Copernicus Foundation

for such fruitful and close cooperation.

Special thanks go to my colleagues, PSFCU employees, who meet with you and assist you on a daily basis, without whom the success of Our Union, not only in Illinois, would not have been possible. It is worth noting that PSFCU would not succeed in Illinois without a specific vision of the institution's development and its consistent implementation by a group of volunteers gathered in the PSFCU Board of Directors and Supervisory Board.

I am positive that the first ten years of PSFCU's presence in Chicago are just the beginning of a much longer history of building strength and prosperity for Polish community both in Illinois and therefore throughout the United States.

I wish you and the entire Polish community in the United States a happy, successful and abundant New Year 2020.

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski
PSFCU President/CEO

A Christmas Party with Our Credit Union



Bishop Witold Mroziecki at New York Christmas Party

PSFCU In Numbers

information as of November 30, 2019

Assets

\$2,060,427,774

Loans

\$1,160,579,868

Net Worth

\$208,191,489

Number of Members

100,639

It has been a tradition for several years that at the beginning of December there are Christmas Parties at Our Union for PSFCU Members and Friends. Like in previous years, three events were organized respectively in New York, New Jersey and Illinois.

Wishing all guests and members of Our Union a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, the chairman of the Board of Directors Krzysztof Matyszczyk reminded that 2019 was a special year in the history of the Po-

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A Christmas Party with Our Credit Union - continued

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lish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. In May of this year, Our Union exceeded 2 billion dollars in assets, while in August the number of PSFCU Members exceeded one hundred thousand. Chairman Matyszczyk remarked, "We also opened two new branches: in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania and then in Chicago's metropolitan area, Orland Park."

Bogdan Chmielewski, PSFCU President/CEO, addressed PSFCU guests and Members, "Thanks to [our PSFCU Members' loyalty, support, and trust] we can jointly create a stronger Polish community in the U.S. Our Union was present or involved in almost 500 different Polish community events. I think that there is no other institution of this kind in the Polish-American community, and we are very proud of this."



Christmas carols performed by the Slask Song and Dance Company were the highlight of the evening at Wallington, NJ

Among the guests there were representatives from PSFCU sponsorship organizations, as well as schools, Polish

community associations and outstanding members of Our Union from New York, New Jersey and Illinois. As in previous years, priests from local parishes dedicated traditional holy wafers (in New York, they were consecrated by the bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn, Bishop Witold Mroziecki), which were distributed among the guests by members of the PSFCU Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board.

There would be no real Christmas Party without traditional Polish carols. In New York, the famous singer Grażyna Auguściak sang interesting jazz versions of carols and pastorals. In New Jersey, Polish carols were sung by members of the "Slask" Song & Dance Ensemble, while in Illinois the guests had the opportunity to listen to carols performed by representatives of the Polish Highlanders Alliance in North America.



Some of the attendees of the Christmas Party in Illinois

For the Homeless and Lonely

During Christmas, Our Union also remembers homeless and lonely people, who often do not have the chance to participate in Christmas Eve supper.

As in previous years, the Polish-Slavic Federal Credit Union hosted homeless and lonely people from New York. In the community room at headquarters at 100 McGuinness Blvd an annual Christmas meeting for the most needy members of the Polish community abroad was organized by the SOS Homeless volunteer organization Erica Volker, in cooperation with PSFCU and

the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York. Our guests had the opportunity to carol together with a children's choir, eat Christmas dishes, share a wafer and spend time in a festive, home-like atmosphere.

In line with the annual tradition, the PSFCU was also the sponsor of Christmas Eve for lonely, elderly and homeless people in Chicago. For over twenty years, the campaign has been organized by Polish Radio 104.7FM / 1030AM. As in previous years, Christmas Eve took place on December 24 at the Resurrec-

tion Hall at the St. Hyacinth Basilica in Chicago in the popular "Jackowo". The ceremony was led by the rector of the Basilica, Stanisław Jankowski, who was assisted by priests from the parish and dozens of volunteers. The meeting was attended by over five hundred people from Chicago and the surrounding area, and each person in need received a Christmas package prepared by good-hearted people.

Individual Retirement Accounts at PSFCU

Establishing a reliable retirement plan is one of the most important steps in achieving financial stability for when you retire. Whatever your retirement goals and needs are, an IRA (Individual Retirement Account) with the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union will help you achieve a financially sound retirement.

The PSFCU offers Traditional and Roth Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), which allow you to invest additional funds on the terms that you choose, while maintaining control over your investments.¹ Both accounts feature tax benefits, and the amount you contribute to a Traditional or Roth account depends on the qualification requirements established by the United States Federal government.² Even if you have a retirement plan at work, IRA accounts let you invest additional funds on the terms that you choose, while maintaining control over the money you invest.

Two Options

Although Traditional and Roth accounts are a very good option for saving and enjoying special tax benefits, the choice between the accounts is a complicated decision requiring you to consider many factors. Therefore you should consult any decision related to IRA accounts

with your tax advisor. IRA accounts are regulated by Federal law and the IRS holds account holders responsible for all decisions regarding those accounts.

Traditional IRA

Contributions you make to a Traditional IRA may be fully or partially deductible, depending on your circumstances, and are tax-deferred until distributed. The deduction may be limited if you or your spouse is covered by a retirement plan at work and your income exceeds certain levels.³ Distributions are required to be taken by Traditional IRA owners at age 70 1/2. Distributions prior to age 59 1/2 are considered early distributions and are subject to an early distribution penalty.

Roth IRA

Roth IRA offer an attractive alternative to those who cannot deduct contributions made to Traditional IRA due to their participation in an employer provided retirement plan. Contributions are never tax deductible and the earnings can grow tax-free under certain circumstances. Contributions can be distributed tax-free and penalty-free at any time.

1) PSFCU also offers SEP i SIMPLE IRA accounts. 2) Contact your tax consultant to determine your Traditional or Roth IRA eligibility. 3) Contact your tax consultant concerning your possible tax advantages.

Buy a car with PSFCU

Even after the Christmas, it's good time to make yourself a gift and buy a car. At PSFCU, we'll help you make the right decision: we're running an auto loan promotion through the end of January 2020.

Drive into winter with a hot auto loan as low as 1.99% APR for new cars and 2.99% APR for used vehicles. To get the interest rates above, you must sign up for auto loan payment from your checking account at the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union. Without auto payment, the interest rate is higher by 0.25%.

Don't wait until interest rates go up to buy a car. Compare our offer with competitive banks or credit unions: we're really able to offer a lower interest rate. Come to one of our Credit Union's 20 branches or apply on our website www.psfcu.com ("Apply For A Loan Loans" tab).

To find more about all PSFCU promotions, visit our website www.psfcu.com or call our Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848).

ONE DAY, IT WILL BE TIME FOR *retirement*

PLAN TO *enjoy* IT. WE WILL HELP YOU.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR PROMOTIONAL IRA TERM SHARE RATES

18 MONTHS	2.33% APY*
2 YEARS	2.43% APY
30 MONTHS	2.53% APY
3 YEARS	2.63% APY
4 YEARS	2.79% APY
5 YEARS	2.94% APY

*APY-Annual Percentage Yield. Offer only for PSFCU Members. Offer is valid from January 2, 2020 to April 15, 2020. Offer applies to new IRA contributions for 2019 and 2020, received from January 2, 2020 to April 15, 2020. Minimum to open term share certificate account is \$500.00. The maximum balance of the IRA Promotional Certificate is the maximum amount of contributions allowed for 2019/2020. Penalties for term share early withdrawals may apply. IRS penalties may apply on withdrawals from IRA. Other restrictions 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.



At PSFCU Branches

During the first two weeks of December Santa Claus ruled over our Credit Union. This year he visited children at most of the PSFCU's 20 branches.

Santa Claus arrived in each of the branches with a big bag of presents, taking souvenir photos with the children. At some branches there were also clowns and elves helping entertain children. Face painting, games and refreshments - the youngest members of Our Union were really busy. And finally, each of them received a special Christmas gift.



Santa at PSFCU Boro Park

The meeting with Santa Claus in the New York branch of PSFCU Staten Island was very festive, and all the children received gifts and had the opportunity to take a photo with him. Representatives of the John Paul II Polish Supplementary School on Staten Island, Polish Cub Scouts Group „Krokusy”, General Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee of Staten Island as well as Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis Freedom Foundation were also among the

guests at the branch. During the visit, Ms. Jolanta Opach and the cub scouts passed the Bethlehem Peace Light to Agnieszka Chwatko, branch manager on Staten Island and to Marie Costa, a representative of the Pulaski Day Parade Committee of Staten Island.

For the whole month of December there was a collection for the sixth annual Children's Holiday Smile campaign at all 20 PSFCU branches. Funds could also be deposited using the PSFCU Online Banking. This year, PSFCU raised funds for hospices in Czestochowa, Gdynia and Gizacko, as well as for sick Polish-American children. Our Union members, as usual, showed great generosity by collecting over \$106,000 from November 29 to Christmas Day. The action was continued until the last day of December last year.



Raffle award at PSFCU Union Branch

PSFCU Scholarships for College Students

As of January 17th, 2020, PSFCU will be accepting applications for the college level student scholarship. All eligible applicants must meet the following criteria: minimum one year PSFCU membership; 3.0 GPA or higher; the member will continue studying full or part time towards an undergraduate or graduate degree at an accredited institution in the 2019/2020 school year.

While reviewing applications, the PSFCU Scholarship commission considers extracurricular activities within the Polish-American community (such as participation in Polish parishes or clubs at/near the college/university) along with academic performance.

To apply, you have to submit an electronic application available on our website—<https://en.psfcu.com/scholarship-programs>. Applicants must provide all required documents (e.g. SAT/PSAT/ACT transcripts and two essays written in English) with their applications. Current undergraduate college freshmen are not eligible. The deadline for submitting applications is March 2, 2020.

Detailed information can be found on the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union website www.psfcu.com (“About Union” tab, “Scholarship Programs” folder). For more information, please send an e-mail to scholarships@psfcu.net or call 973-396-9514.

DRIVE INTO WINTER

WITH A HOT AUTO LOAN AS LOW AS

1.99%
APR*

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Promotion is valid from November 1, 2019 until January 31, 2020. All loans are subject to credit verification. The rate received will be based on credit history and other factors. Promotional rate of 1.99 APR applies to 12-36-month new car financing and considers 0.25% discount for automatic payment from PSFCU checking account. Without automatic payments from PSFCU checking account, the rate will be 0.25% higher. Monthly payment on a 36-month loan at 1.99 APR is \$28.65 for every \$1,000 borrowed. The credit limit of \$100,000 applies to new cars and \$60,000 credit limit applies to used cars. PSFCU loans are not available in all states. Offerings, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Offer valid for PSFCU members only. Other restrictions may apply.

Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000
and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government
NCUA
National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency
PSFCU is an Equal Opportunity Lender.