

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

Dear PSFCU Members,

May has a special place in both the American and Polish historical calendar. On May 31, we will celebrate Memorial Day in the United States, dedicated to the memory of American soldiers who died while serving on various fronts, in different parts of the world. This year it is associated with the 76th anniversary of the end of World War II, celebrated every year on May 8. In this context, we should all appreciate once again how important value peace holds in the lives of each of us, but also of entire nations, and how drastic its price can be. Let us remember all the heroes, both in the United States and in Poland, who fought and very often gave their lives so that our generations could peacefully live and work in conditions conducive to growth and development.

An excellent example of such a hero was Captain Antoni Chroscielewski, who passed away on April 1, 2021 at the age of 97. Funeral ceremonies took place on April 17 at the Church of St. Stanislaus Kostka in Greenpoint, NY and at American Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA.

Captain Antoni Chroscielewski was the commandant of the New York District 2 of the Polish Army Veterans Association



tion of America, a long-term president of the Polish National Home in Greenpoint and the founder of the Angelus Choir. He was a man of action, a hero, a patriot, but also a pragmatist, and a great authority for many. He was born in Augustow, Poland in 1924, spent his teenage years defending his homeland, first as a Siberian exile and then a soldier of the 2nd Polish Corps under General Wladyslaw Anders. He fought, among others in the Battle of Monte Cassino, in Loreto, Ancona and Bologna. After the war, he came to England with the Carpathian Rifle Division. He moved to the United States in the early 1950s. Through intensive work, he quickly started his own business, but never left patriotic matters aside. Antoni Chroscielewski became known to the Polish-

-American community as an altruist, patriot and activist. He appreciated Polish culture and its achievements, and in 2005 he proudly led the Pulaski Parade along the Fifth Avenue in New York as its Grand Marshal. He was awarded many times for his service to the homeland, including the highest military and state honors. Mr. Chroscielewski was also a great friend of our Credit Union.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Chroscielewski

*...continued on page 2*



## Poles Remember: Katyn 1940, Smolensk 2010



The 81st Anniversary of the Katyn massacre and, permanently associated with it, the 11th anniversary of the plane crash with the President of the Republic of Poland, the late Lech Kaczynski on board, were commemorated by Poles living in the East Coast of the United States. The main celebrations took place at the „spiritual capital of the Polish community,” the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union was the main sponsor of the ceremony and a member of the Board of Directors, Ryszard Bąk, together with PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski laid flowers in front of the mo-

numents commemorating both tragedies.

The prayer for the souls of Polish officers murdered by the Soviet NKVD and 96 victims of the plane crash was led by Pauline Father Bartłomiej Marciniak - chaplain of the Polish Scouting Association. Consul of the Republic of Poland Mateusz Gmura read a letter from the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland addressed to the Polish community and signed by minister Adam Kwiatkowski and the Consul General in New York, Adrian Kubicki.

Also read was a letter from Senior Marshall of the Sejm Antoni Macierewicz, ad-

*...continued on page 2*

### PSFCU In Numbers

information as of March 31, 2021

Assets

**\$2,473,325,090**

Loans

**\$1,212,060,173**

Net worth

**\$216,625,915**

Number of Members

**105,154**

...continued from page 1

lewski, together with the Polish Army Veterans Association of America, a monument to General Władysław Anders was erected at the cemetery in Monte Cassino, and in other places many monuments and plaques commemorating e.g. the Katyn Massacre, the Warsaw Uprising, the Indomitable Soldiers, the Augustow Manhunt, the Smolensk Catastrophe and many other tragic events, inextricably linked to the freedom aspirations of Polish nation. Mr. Chroscielewski's passing is a huge loss for Poland and the Polish-American com-

munity but the memory of him will last forever. Glory to the Heroes!

On May 3, we celebrated the 230th anniversary of the adoption of the May 3 Constitution. It is commonly assumed that the May 3rd Constitution of was the first modern, recorded constitution in Europe and the second in the world (after the American Constitution of 1787). It was designed to eliminate the long-standing shortcomings of the political system of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth based on free election and noble democracy. Its content is crucial for the perception of the history of

Poland and the assessment of the freedom aspirations and patriotic attitudes of Poles around the world. For many years, the Polish-American community has been celebrating this event with a wonderful parade in Chicago. Unfortunately, for the second year in a row, these celebrations were very limited due to the pandemic. However, let us pass this tradition on to young generations and spread the knowledge about this important Constitution to our American audiences.

The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union continues its mission to be not only a modern financial institution, but also to support all social activities promoting the Polish ethnic group in the United States. We allocate for this purpose not only financial resources, but also engage our employees and volunteers, our business contacts and various marketing activities. I encourage and invite you to take advantage of our extensive, modern offer and financial services, because in this way we all contribute to building a strong and prosperous Polish community in the United States.

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski  
PSFCU President/CEO



Young athletes from Szulinski Judo Club commemorated the late Antoni Chroscielewski

## Poles Remember: Katyn 1940, Smolensk 2010 - cont.

...continued from page 1

dressed to his compatriots living in America. Subsequently, a „Commemoration Call” devoted to over 20,000 Polish officers murdered in 1940 was read by Jacek Szklarski, a representative of the Polish Army Veterans Association in America. The anniversary ceremonies ended with

the laying of wreaths at the monument of „Hussar”, carved by the late Andrzej Pitynski, and at the monument commemorating the plane crash on April 10, 2010. After the celebrations, all the participants attended the Holy Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA.

The anniversary celebrations were also held in the Chicago metropolitan area at the Katyn monument and at the Smolensk commemorative plaque at the St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, IL. On behalf of our Credit Union, flowers were laid by the Head of the PSFCU Midwest District, Robert Radkowski.

## Cooperation Between Credit Unions

On April 26, PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski attended virtual meeting between leaders of WOCCU and Brazil's SICREDI which consists of 116 credit unions with 4 million members. Topics of the meeting included exchange of ideas, best practices and further cooperation.

As a biggest ethnic credit union in the U.S. and the leader of Polish-American community, PSFCU is committed to cooperate closely with SICREDI. “I am glad to hear that there is large Po-

lish community involved in Brazil's credit union movement. We will share our experience working for Polish-Americans” Bogdan Chmielewski declared.

The meeting was attended by Rafał Matusiak, president of Poland's National Association of Cooperative Savings and Credit Unions (SKOK) and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of WOCU. „PSFCU is an example of not only great care for its own members, but also maintaining ties between Poland and Poles living abroad,” Mr. Matusiak said.



PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski during the video conference

## A Credit Card for Every Occasion

PSFCU offers a broad range of credit cards. The choice depends on what you expect from your card the most.

Be prepared for whatever life throws at you. In times of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, the new PSFCU VISA® credit card gives you confidence in these uncertain times. It has never been easier to apply for our card. Simply visit [www.psfcu.com](http://www.psfcu.com), find the „PSFCU Credit Cards” tab and then select your choice.

### Cash rewards

If you want an attractive rewards points program and cash rewards, the PSFCU Elite VISA® Signature credit card is the natural choice. By using this card, you earn 1.25 rewards points for every dollar spent on a purchase transaction. You will get additional 5,000 rewards points (\$ 50) if you spend \$1,500 within the first three months.

When you select an Elite VISA® Signature card, we offer an initial interest rate of 0% APR\* 9 months on purchase transactions. 12-month introductory in-

terest rate on balance transfer is 1.99% with not balance transfer fee.

### Low interest

If you want the lowest interest rate, then PSFCU Advantage VISA® credit card is the right choice. The initial interest rate for 6 months on purchase transactions is 1.99% APR, after which the standard adjustable rate will apply, currently as low as 5.99% APR.

PSFCU Premier VISA® credit card, on the other hand, offers an initial interest rate of 1.99% APR for 9 months on purchase transactions, after which the standard variable rate will apply, currently as low as 9.99%. An attractive rewards program is an additional advantage of this card, offering rewards points that can be exchanged for products or tourist services.

### Building your credit history

PSFCU offers you great tools to build your credit history. The PSFCU Choice VISA® credit card is secured by your deposit, offered with a limit of up to \$10,000. We offer interest rates starting

from 14.99% APR.

We also have a special offer for students. They can build or improve their credit history by using the PSFCU Liberty VISA® credit card. The initial interest rate on purchases is 1.99% APR for 6 months and after the promotional period, the standard variable rate applies, currently as low as 10.99%.

Don't hesitate, visit [www.psfcu.com](http://www.psfcu.com) and apply for your choice of PSFCU VISA® credit card. Start taking advantage of the opportunities offered by our Credit Union products today!

APR – Annual Percentage Rate. All loans are subject to credit approval and verification. After the introductory period, standard adjustable rate will apply, currently ranging from 7.99% (5.99% on the Advantage card) to 18.00% APR. PSFCU membership restriction applies. Other restrictions may also apply.



## Take Advantage of New Debt Consolidation Loan

Does paying off multiple loans exceed your financial abilities? Do you have issues with paying off credit cards issued at other financial institutions? Take advantage of the debt consolidation loan with PSFCU and regain your peace of mind. It allows you to combine multiple loans into one. As a result, you may obtain a significantly lower interest rate

and again be able to control your finances. By combining your multiple loans into one you might be able to lower the servicing fees. Debt consolidation loans can be used to pay off cash loans as well as credit card debt.

Debt consolidation with PSFCU is also an option for those members who are paying off multiple debts and would

like to lower their monthly payments. This is an attractive proposition for individuals who want to have a single payment with low interest, and save on loan servicing costs. PSFCU offers our members a debt consolidation loan up to \$20,000. Interest rates start as low as 6.99% APR.\* The annual percentage rate is offered for a period of up to 60 months.

Credit card at other financial institution		PSFCU Consolidation Loan	
Credit amount	\$20,000	Credit amount	\$20,000
Interest rate	19.99%	Interest rate	6.99%
Monthly payment	\$400	Monthly payment	\$396.18
Number of payments	109	Number of payments	60
Total payment amount	<u>\$43,321</u>	Total payment amount	<u>\$23,770</u>

**THE MATH IS OBVIOUS!**

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PSFCU DEBT CONSOLIDATION LOAN as low as**

**6.99% APR\* for 60 months**

\*APR - Annual Percentage Rate. Loan amount up to \$ 20,000 to refinance existing debt with other financial institutions (excluding PSFCU debt). The maximum loan repayment period is up to 60 months. Credit available to applicants depending on credit rating, with minimum FICO score of 640; to qualify for 6.99% APR FICO score of 750 or higher is required; 8.99% APR requires FICO score between 720 and 749. The interest rate includes a 0.25% discount for registering automatic payments from the PSFCU checking account on which the loan was issued. All loans are subject to credit approval and verification. Offers, rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Offer valid for PSFCU Members only. Other restrictions may apply. For more information, contact the nearest PSFCU branch or the Customer Services Center at 1-855-773-2848.



## PSFCU In Our Community

The last weekend of April was packed with important events for the Polish community both in Chicago and on the East Coast. The loosening of sanitary restrictions introduced throughout the country in connection with the coronavirus pandemic is conducive to the increasing activity of the PSFCU among the Polish-Americans.

### Award for the First Lady of the Court

PSFCU was one of the sponsors of the Queen of the May 3rd Constitution Parade in Chicago pageant. The PSFCU director from Chicago, Bogdan Ogorek presented the award - a check for \$1,500 dollars - to Monika Lebensztejn, who was chosen the First Lady of the Court.



Our Credit Union also awarded the contestants during the Queen's Ball of the Polish Highlanders Association of North America.

### Maturity exam 2021

The end of April is the beginning of the graduation exams in Polish supplementary schools. The manager of the

PSFCU branch in Bridgeview, Jolanta Wisnicki, was involved in the final exams in as many as three schools in the Chicago area: at the Adam Mickiewicz Polish School (Burbank, IL), the Maria Konopnicka Polish School (Oak Lawn, IL) and the Saint Blaise Polish School in Summit, IL. Several dozen high school graduates have successfully passed their first adult exam. As a reward, each of them received a certificate from our Credit Union worth one hundred dollars.



PSFCU also founded awards in competitions organized by Polish Supplementary Schools. In the last days of April, monetary certificates were awarded to the winners of the amateur film competition promoting the school at the St. Ferdinand's parish in Chicago and two art competitions at the PATRON Polish School in Clifton, NJ.

### We Commemorated a Saint

April 27 marked the seventh anniversary of the canonization of Karol Wojtyła,



Pope John Paul II. PSFCU President/CEO, Bogdan Chmielewski, attended a special Holy Mass, which was held on the Sunday preceding the anniversary at the New York's St. Patrick Cathedral, concelebrated by His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan and Bishop Witold Mroziowski.

On that day, at the New York's McGuinness Blvd. branch of PSFCU, members of our Credit Union had the opportunity to taste traditional „papal” cream cakes.



## Introduce Your Child to the World of Finance

Open a new Minor Account at PSFCU and you will receive additional

**\$50**



Promotion is valid from April 15, 2021 until June 15, 2021. Membership restrictions apply to open a Minor Account. Minimum balance of \$10 required to open the account. Offer open to any person who currently does not have a PSFCU Minor Account nor had a PSFCU Minor Account within the past 12 months. One bonus of \$50 per person applies. The bonus deposit will be available for withdrawal after the period of 1 year, unless exceptional circumstances occur. Bonus deposit is subject to IRS reporting. Other restrictions 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