

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

Dear Members,



The Annual Meeting of the PSFCU, summing up the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, was held on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago, IL. This was the first time we held an annual meeting in Illinois, where more than 33,000 of our 114,000 members reside. During the meeting, reports on the operations of our union in the fiscal 2022 were presented, and we also answered questions about our plans regarding digital banking, lending activities, and future branches. Expressions of gratitude received from dozens of schools and organizations for our financial support and involvement in their activities proved to be a very pleasant part of the proceedings. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank all PSFCU members for coming to the meeting, and the management of the Polish Museum for their excellent hospitality. Anyone can feel free to review the PSFCU annual report, copies of which are available at our branches as well as on our website.

We are consistently implementing our strategic plans, under which we are ex-

panding the range of offers and services for our members. Starting May 22nd, we started offering the opportunity to invest your funds in financial instruments beyond your typical savings accounts and term share deposits. Together with the renowned company CUSO Financial, we have employed authorized and experienced financial advisors who will help you plan your financial future and make decisions regarding the investment of your funds. To arrange a meeting with a financial advisor, I encourage you to contact our Member Services Center or your nearest PSFCU branch.

We regretfully bid our last farewell to Ms. Małgorzata Leniartek, who suddenly passed away on May 15, 2023.

Ms. Leniartek was the manager of our branch in Maspeth, NY since 2015, and she worked at PSFCU for over 34 years. She will always remain in our memory, and that of many of our members as an extremely professional person devoted to the affairs of the Polish community, and who will be extremely difficult to replace.

While wishing you a peaceful and joyful vacation, I would like to remind you that through our credit and debit cards, and our mobile banking, we can accompany you on your farthest journeys.

Sincerely,

Krzysztof Matyszczyk  
*Chairman of the Board of Directors*

## Annual Meeting of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union



The Annual Meeting of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union was held at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago on Saturday, May 20, 2023. During the meeting, PSFCU members were informed about the results of our Credit Union's operations in the fiscal 2022 and asked questions on the matters related to the PSFCU. During fiscal 2022, PSFCU assets reached \$2.54 billion, deposits grew to \$2.44 billion, and the total loans granted increased to a total

of \$1.47 billion. As a result of our operations, the net income reached \$14.37 million. 9,492 new PSFCU members opened their accounts during fiscal 2022.

During the meeting, the names of the directors were announced who will serve on the Board of Directors in 2023-26. In the 2023 election, the following people ran for the PSFCU Board of Directors: Ryszard Bak, Małgorzata Gradzki, Karol Kwiatkowski, and Leszek Wojtkowski.

### PSFCU In Numbers

Information as of April 30, 2023

Assets

**\$2,554,139,498**

Loans

**\$1,502,199,225**

Net worth

**\$249,041,341**

YTD net income

**\$7,348,497**

Number of Members

**114,146**

## May 3 Constitution Day Parade in Chicago

The 132nd May 3rd Constitution Day Parade was held on May 6 in Chicago and was attended by Poles and representatives of the American government and military. The event was held under the motto „Polish-American partnership for peace”, and the guest of honor was the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense Mariusz

Błaszczak. The head of the National Security Bureau, Jacek Siewiera, read a letter from the President of Poland, Andrzej Duda, and the First Lady of Poland. The parade was attended by over a hundred Polish organizations, schools, and parishes, including the well-received presence of our credit union.



## Managers of the PSFCU branches in New York

### Beata Przybyszewska – Manager of the PSFCU branch on Greenpoint Avenue



Beata Przybyszewska has been fulfilling the role of manager of the oldest branch of our credit union for the past 4 years. She began her career at PSFCU in 1996. In the newly opened branch in Boro Park, she went through all steps of her career, starting out as a cashier, then working in the member services department, and performing the duties of head teller and branch manager. After a break of several years, she took on the duties of branch manager at 140 Greenpoint Avenue. Regarding her job, she says: „This is a unique branch because this is where it all began, this makes me prouder and more motivated than ever before to work at the highest level. My work is facilitated by my skills and, above all, by my knowledge of the banking industry and financial products. I am characterized by my ability to lead a team, make decisions,

and have strong interpersonal skills. I believe that our credit union focuses on values such as work ethic, commitment, and professionalism, and this is what I strive for in my professional work.” Beata Przybyszewska received her formal education at the University of Warmia and Mazury and New York University. Her career is her passion; she is interested in finance and technology, and she fills her free time by reading trade literature.

The Greenpoint branch employs 14 employees with various levels of experience in the financial industry; some of them have worked at PSFCU for over 30 years. They share their experience and skills with younger employees who are just beginning their career paths. This meticulous and hard-working team provides the best professional service to all members visiting the branch. Safe deposit boxes offered at the branch are also a reason for frequent visits by members.

### Anna Branäs - Manager of the PSFCU branch on McGuinness Boulevard



Anna Branäs has been affiliated with the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union for 27 years. In April 1996, she was hired as a teller at the PSFCU branch on Greenpoint Avenue. The next chapter of her career was spent working as a BOD representative, followed by being promoted to assistant manager of PSFCU’s Member Services Center in Fairfield, NJ. In 2005, a new branch was opened at 100 McGuinness Boulevard in Greenpoint. Anna has been the manager of this branch for nine years. Regarding the beginning of her career, she says: „I had a lot of motivation, courage, and inspiration. No one had promised that it would be easy, but today I know that it was all worthwhile. Throughout my life, I have met individuals who have shown me a lot of trust. This is the reason why I give the same treatment to my colleagues. Fifteen people currently work in our branch, and they all make a great team. Thanks to their loyalty, hard work, and creativity, we can work at the highest level.”

Anna Branäs holds an Associate of Science / Business Management degree. In her free time, she appreciates relaxing outdoors and taking long walks. She is a cheerful, conscientious, and scrupulous person: „I’ve noticed that when I calmly approach difficult situations, then it’s easier to control everything. When employees see my approach to a problem, they follow in my footsteps,” she emphasized.

The McGuinness branch serves over 8,000 members. The branch is open from Monday through Friday from 9AM to 7PM, and on Saturday from 9AM to 2PM.

We invite you to PSFCU branches!



## Take Advantage of All Benefits of PSFCU Credit Cards

Do you have a PSFCU credit card, or are you planning to apply for one? Maybe you have not decided yet and are still thinking about choosing the right card, or you would like to start building your credit history. We will make this decision easier for you by familiarizing you with the credit cards offered by the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and helping you choose the product that best fits your needs.

The main criteria for finding the right credit card are low interest rates and no annual fees. Good news! Our credit cards meet these conditions and guarantee many additional benefits. PSFCU offers credit cards for people who use them often and for those who use them only occasionally. If you are in the first category, a person who uses credit cards often, you will want a card that offers rewards points. If you are not interested in earning points but use a credit card occasionally, you will likely be interested in a credit card with the lowest interest rate.

The next category of credit card users are individuals who travel around the world. Visa Elite Signature credit card offers no fees for foreign transactions, an accident and

baggage delay insurance program, free car rental insurance, travel services, and emergency assistance. In addition, the PSFCU Visa Elite Signature Credit Card gives you the opportunity to earn rewards points. When using the Visa Elite Signature Card, for every dollar spent, the cardholder receives 1.25 rewards points. Earned points can be redeemed for cash, which, depending on one's decision, can be used towards paying off the credit card's balance or deposited directly into your PSFCU account. Elite Signature card holders can also redeem their points for various products and travel services, as well as earn 5,000 points while spending \$1,500 in the first three months. Points redeemable for products or gift cards are also earned on Premier card. This card has a car rental insurance program,



worldwide service, and guarantee competitive balance transfer conditions. For those who do not have credit history and would like to start building it, we recommend the Choice Card, for students, the Liberty Card, and for individuals who want a low interest rate we recommend the Advantage Card.

If you are interested in one of the PSFCU Credit Cards and would like to learn more or to apply, please visit one of our branches, call PSFCU Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848), or use mobile or online banking at www.psfcu.com.

## Save and Plan with PSFCU Term Share Certificates

Opening a term share certificate with our credit union is the best way to ensure future financial security. During the month of June, we are offering our members a promotional interest rate for term share certificates!

The promotional interest rate on term share deposits varies depending on the amounts deposited and is as follows:

24-month term share certificates:

- \$500 to \$49,999.99 – 3.00% APY\*,
- \$50,000 to \$89,999.99 – 3.50% APY\*;
- \$90,000 and above – 4.00% APY\*;

30-month term share certificates:

- \$500 to \$49,999.99 – 3.00% APY\*,
- \$50,000 to \$89,999.99 – 3.50% APY\*;
- \$90,000 and above – 4.00% APY\*;

However, sometimes you might need this money to buy a new home. Having in mind those members who plan to purchase real estate soon and at the same time want to invest funds in

a term share, we are offering favorable conditions for term share termination. We will charge no fees if you apply for a mortgage loan at our Credit Union.

This offer applies to closed term share certificates on the condition that the balance of term share is used by eligible PSFCU members to cover their down payment for the purchase of real estate financed by a mortgage loan obtained from PSFCU.

To open a term share certificate, please visit a PSFCU branch, learn more information at www.psfcu.net, or contact the PSFCU Member Services Center at 1.855.PSFCU.4U (1.855.773.2848).

\*Annual Percentage Yield. The promotion ends 6/30/2023. The minimum opening balance is \$500. Early withdrawal penalty equal to 181 days applies. Transfer of dividends will reduce your earnings. PSFCU reserves the right to discontinue promotion anytime without prior notice. Offer for PSFCU members only. Other restrictions may apply.

## Investment consulting at Our Credit Union

Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has started offering Wealth Management Services to our members in partnership with CUSO Financial Services. CUSO Financial Services (CFS) is a full-service broker-dealer that specialize in serving credit unions and banks. They focus on developing and customizing investment programs within financial institutions and providing strong support for their financial professionals.

Our Financial Professionals will help you and your family with many different wealth management tools aimed at optimizing your wealth management, including annuities, mutual funds, managed accounts, etc.



**It is with great sadness and sorrow that we have bid our final farewell to Malgorzata Leniartek, a long-term, dedicated, and passionate employee of our credit union, the manager of our branch in Maspeth, NY.**

Malgorzata Leniartek came from Masuria, where she obtained her ed-

ucation in the field of accounting and management. She completed numerous courses and obtained many certificates at CUNA in the fields of financial economics and sales. She began her career at our credit union on June 12th, 1989, as a teller at the New York branch at 140 Greenpoint Avenue. After a short time, she was promoted to work in member services and then as an assistant manager. From 2002 to 2004, she worked at the Copiague branch, where she would go on to work as the branch's manager after 3 years. On January 1, 2015, she accepted a promotion to become the Maspeth, NY, branch manager.

Maintaining good relations with members and employees was one of the most important aspects of Malgorzata's job. She successfully led a creative and committed team. She emphasized that the environment and interpersonal relations have a significant impact on the work performed. This was appreciated

by the faithful and loyal members who, since the opening of the branch, have been consistently using its services. Malgorzata established strong relationships and lasting cooperation with Polish-American organizations and within the Maspeth community. She said about herself: „I think that I am well received by people, and I maintain good contact with them. I'm a social person, and I like when there is something going on. I like to make plans and implement them. I am aware that others see and appreciate these qualities and actions. They feel that they are putting their matters into good hands.”

Malgorzata Leniartek was full of professionalism, noble, and helpful to employees and co-workers. She approached every initiative with enthusiasm. She called our Credit Union her second family. While keeping Malgorzata's family in our prayer, we will also keep her bright, cordial smile in our memories.

## From the Life of PSFCU Branches

### May at our credit union

During the month of May, we celebrated Mother's Day with our members and celebrated the anniversary of the canonization and birth of St. John Paul II. Managers and employees of PSFCU branches prepared sweet treats and surprises. The celebration of important holidays with our members is one of the indispensable duties of our credit union. Thank you for your numerous visits, cordial conversations, and well wishes.

According to the calendar of the Polish-American community, Polish schools have finished the 2022-23 school year. Representatives of PSFCU branches received invitations to many Polish supplementary school ceremonies. Many graduates and students received certificates from our credit union as a reward for excellent academic results. We congratulated many Polish supplementary schools, including: Zbigniew Herbert School in Copiague, Jan Brzechwa School in Tinley Park, and Holy Cross School in Joliet. Participating in the lives of the Polish com-



munity's youth fills us with pride that the youngest generation of Poles in the United States learns the Polish language, takes part in inter-school competitions, cultivates Polish traditions, and derives joy and satisfaction from it.

### Literary Contest by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Professional Women's Association



The winners of the Marie Curie Professional Women's Association Literary Competition received their awards and congratulations for their participation in the competition. On May 4, a meeting was held at the Princess Manor banquet hall in Brooklyn, during which prizes were awarded to the winners of the literary competition. This year, as part of the competition, students wrote works devoted to Maria Konopnicka.

### ZPA Queen's Ball



The Charity Ball of the Queen of the North American Highlanders Association was held at the Podhale House on April 29. Invitations from this year's Queen, Nicole Tatar, were accepted by numerous guests, including representatives of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union from the branches in Bridgeview, IL, and Orland Park, IL.

### Polish Days

The Polish community in New York, together with invited guests, celebrated Polish Flag Day and the Day of the Polonia and Poles Abroad. The ceremony took place on April 30th in front of our credit union's branch on McGuinness Boulevard. PSFCU was represented by Malgorzata Czajkowska and Malgorzata Gradzki from the Board of Directors, and by Anna Branas, McGuinness branch manager.