# **POLISH Our Credit Union**

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

Dear PSFCU Members,

June, like every year, was the month of many important events for our community. It was a time when we paid special attention to support-



ing the young and talented members of our Credit Union, investing in their education and future. June 4 marked the inauguration of the Presidential Internship, a scholarship program that PSFCU has implemented for the fifth ime in cooperation with the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland. This year, ten young members of our Credit Union had the opportunity to participate in a week-long stay in Poland, a combination of political, economic and cultural experiences. As part of the program, participants visited Polish and foreign companies, culminating in a meeting with the President of Poland, Andrzej Duda. The scholarship recipients were selected on the basis of academic performance and involvement in social activities, in particular on behalf of the Polish community.

On the 12th and 15th of June, we witnessed touching moments at the scholarship awards ceremonies for the winners of the 24th PSFCU Scholarship Program. I am proud to announce that this year, 589 talented and ambitious members of our Credit *...continued on page 2* 

## 5th Edition of the Presidential Internship



The fifth edition of the Presidential Internship has ended. Initiated in 2017 by Polish President Andrzej Duda, the program is implemented by the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, in cooperation with the Office of the President of the Republic of Poland and GE Aerospace. Starting in 2023. Subcarpathian Province, together with the Lublin Province and the National Foundation, have become strategic partners of this initiative.

The Presidential Internship is a week-long study visit, usually taking place in early June, that is a combination of political, economic and cultural exchanges. The program allows American students, including those of Polish descent, to gain work experience through meetings arranged at state-owned companies and multinational private companies in Poland. The Internship program includes Polish cultural and tourist attractions. In addition to Warsaw, the young students visited Lublin, Rzeszow, Warka, Chelm, Lancut, Markowa and Medynia Glogowska, learning about Polish history and tradition. As part of the program, the young people participated in pottery painting workshops, learned about the extraordinary history of the Ulm family, and were introduced to the work of Andy Warhol presented at the Rzeszow Regional Museum, to name a few. An important point on the agenda was a meeting with American soldiers stationed in Poland, during which they discussed the security of Poland and countries in the region in connection with Russian aggression against Ukraine. The culmination of the stay in Poland was a meeting of the scholarship recipients with the President of Poland, Andrzej Duda.

## **PSFCU In Numbers**

Information as of May 31, 2024



## PSFCU Scholarships Awarded



The Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union's scholarship awards ceremonies were held in New York, NY and Chicago, IL on June 12 and 15, respectively. This year's edition of the PSFCU Scholarship Program was unique in many ways. For the first time in the program's history, a record \$600,000 was awarded, which was divided among 589 talented and ambitious college students and high *...continued on page 2* 

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Union received cash awards that will help them further their education. The total amount of scholarships awarded was a record \$600,000. Since the inception of this program in 2001, we have provided more than \$7.6 million in financial support for high school graduates and college students. Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is the only financial institution that allocates such large funds for the education of Poles and Americans of Polish descent living in the United States. I believe that the support received will enable them to carry out their further educational and professional plans. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all members of our Credit Union, since it is your commitment and willingness to use our products and services that allows us to so generously support Polish youth.

I would also like to proudly announce that the PSFCU Representative Office in Warsaw is officially open and has already served its first members in June. The idea for the establishment of the office was born in response to the needs of the more than 15,000 members permanently residing in Poland. The opening of the office was the result of the dynamic and continuous development of our institution. The ladies working there, Monika and Sylwia, will be happy to help all those who contact them.

June is also the month of the inauguration of Polish outdoor events, which the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has proudly supported as a sponsor for many years now. Picnics and festivals to welcome summer, which at the beginning of last month were held in Tappan, NY, East Brunswick, NJ and New Britan, CT, among others, were an excellent opportunity for family gatherings, having fun together and keeping Polish culture and traditions alive. I am especially pleased to see that so many of you participate in these events, during which our Polish community grows even stronger.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in closing, I would like to warmly encourage all of you to take advantage of our Credit Union's products and services. I wish you a successful vacation season - full of rest and unforgettable moments - and invite you to read the latest issue of our monthly newsletter, trusting that the activities of our Credit Union bring you real benefits and satisfaction.

Sincerely,

Krzysztof Matyszczyk Chairman of PSFCU Board of Directors

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school graduates. Over the past 24 years of the program, our Credit Union has allocated more than \$7.6 million in educational support for Polish youth living in the United States, making PSFCU the only Polish financial institution offering such significant support to Polish-American youth.

"We are happy to support young people in realizing their dreams and ambitions. Investing in education is the best way to build a strong and united Polish community in the United States. Thanks to the fact that you open accounts with us, take out loans and use other services, our Credit Union can operate and thrive, but it can also support the Polish community, something I am incredibly proud of," emphasized PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski in his speech at the New York scholarship gala. Both he and PS-FCU Board of Directors Chairman Krzysztof Matyszczyk, who spoke afterwards, congratulated the program's winners and their parents for their efforts and commitment to the Polish community, and reminded them to never forget their roots.

Special guests at the ceremony, Ambassador Krzysztof Szczerski and Professor Andrzej Nowak, who came to the scholarship gala straight from Krakow, referred to the national identity of Poles and the Polish community in their speeches. Their inspiring speeches added a special touch to the entire ceremony. Both mentioned

## PSFCU Scholarships Awarded



Poland's history and the contributions of prominent Poles to the development of science and technology, emphasizing the fact that the young scholarship recipients should be all the more proud of the ties they bind them with Poland and the Polish people.

The scholarship presentation ceremony for students from the Midwest region was held at the Polish Museum of America, located at 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago. Former National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) Chairman Michael Fryzel was a guest at the ceremony. In his speech, he addressed the scholarship program winners directly. "There are few credit unions that help their members the way the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union does, donating huge sums of money for scholarships for its members."

Scholarship award ceremonies are an

excellent opportunity for program winners to make new friends and exchange experiences with each other and with invited guests. The PSFCU scholarship awards ceremony is an inspiring and motivating event that highlights the importance of investing in the future of the younger generation. The record number of scholarships awarded is evidence of PS-FCU's growing commitment to promoting education and young talent of Polish origin. Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union believes that investing in the future of young Poles will benefit the entire Polish community in the United States.

The PSFCU Scholarship Program has two main components: a program for college-bound high school graduates, as well as for current college students. This year, 398 high school graduates and 191 college students were among the winners.

# Representative Office of PSFCU in Warsaw Now Open!

The grand opening ceremony was held at the Representative Office of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union in Warsaw. The event was the result of many months of preparations by the entire team and the effect of the constant and dynamic development of our Credit Union. The Representative Office in the capital of Poland is the first foreign facility of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and was established in response to the needs of our Credit Union's members permanently residing in Poland.

The official opening ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Warsaw office at 3 Szucha Avenue. The assembled guests, including representatives of the Board of Directors and the PS-FCU Management, were warmly welcomed by the President/CEO, Bogdan Chmielewski. The opening ceremony began with a blessing given by Field Bishop of the Polish Army, Rev. Dr. Wieslaw Lechowicz, who consecrated the newly opened office. Mr. Bogdan Chmielewski spoke next, and in his speech emphasized the importance of the facility to the development strategy based on the geographical expansion of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and the growing number of current and future members choosing Poland as a country of residence. "I am convinced that in 1976, the founding fathers of our Credit Union, starting their business with one desk in New York's Greenpoint neighborhood, did not ex-

pect that the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union would achieve such a success and 48 years later would accumulate more than \$2.5 billion in assets and have 23 branches in 5 states in the US, and now also an office in Warsaw. Today we are also the ones making history," added the Credit Union's President/CEO in his speech. After the official ribbon-cutting by the leadership of the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, all guests had the opportunity to tour the modern premises of the Warsaw office. The event concluded with a small refreshments.

The opening of the Representative Office is another milestone in our development strategy. Our representative office in Warsaw can be contacted by phone at +48 22 460 5350.



## From the Life of Our Credit Union Branches

#### Joyful Children's Day at PSFCU!

On June 1, we celebrated International Children's Day. This is a day beloved by all children, big and small. Every year, Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union organizes special events at its branches for the youngest members of our Credit Union to make this day special. Children's Day was celebrated lavishly at the PSFCU branch in Mt.



Prospect, Illinos. At the invitation of branch manager Anna Mscisz, the branch was visited by a magician-illusionist, who presented magic tricks to the children, in which they could personally participate. The fun was incredible, and as an added attraction, the performance included tricks that also involved live animals, such as rabbits, pigeons and snakes, with which the children could take souvenir photos at the end of the meeting.

On the occasion of Children's Day, the strongest of superheroes - Superman - came to the Schaumburg Branch in Illinois to meet with local children. A large group of children attended the meeting with him and spent time doing various activities together. The Schaumburg branch briefly became a playground, where our little ones played games and made balloon swords. Our New York branches also took part in the celebration. PSFCU employees in Greenpoint and Maspeth prepared interesting attractions and surprises for the children. Kids visiting us that day, together with their parents, had the opportunity to enjoy face painting, play

with toys in a corner specially prepared for the occasion, as well as taste sweet treats. It was a really successful day!

#### Summer festival season has begun!

The calendar summer has begun. It is not only a time of vacation trips, but also of festivals and picnics. As is the case every year, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union is one of the main sponsors of Polish outdoor events. We are pleased that you attend these events in such numbers and eagerly cherish Polish culture and traditions on the American soil. One of the largest Polish festivals on the East Coast is the PLUS Weekly Festival held each year in Tappan, NY. The festival weekend brought together a large audience, who not only enjoyed themselves to the rhythm of Polish music, but also had the opportunity to meet with representatives of our Credit Union. We are glad that so many of you came to our tent, as it was an excellent opportunity to learn more about PSFCU's product offer, open an account or take part in a drawing of attractive prizes sponsored by our Credit Union.

# PSFCU Bill Pay System Update

We would like to kindly inform you that on June 26, 2024, our Credit Union implemented a new, advanced platform for managing online payments - CheckFree Next. The newly introduced upgrade has replaced the previous version of Check-Free RXP, and aims to streamline and simplify the bill payment process, providing users with even greater convenience and security.

The CheckFree Next platform modernizes bill payment processes with key changes:

- Payment automation: a new feature allows you to set up automatic payments, eliminating the risk of bill payment delays.
- Central payment management: an intuitive user interface makes it easy to monitor and manage all payments in one place.
- Security: advanced security protects the personal, financial and transactional data of all users.

| ₩ POLISH<br>MANIC  | Sign Out   |
|--|--|
| PAY BILLS ACTIVITY   | Switch to classic view (43 days left)  |
| Enter biller name to get started Q Add biller Unpaid bills ③ O You don't have any unpaid bills at this time.   | Multipay ①<br>Need to make multiple payments?<br>Click on checkboxes to select one or more billers and get<br>started with Multipay. |
| My billers on Groups Manage Sort by •  | Recent activity View all activity  |
| Q         Try the new way to quickly add your bills<br>You decide which ones - we'll get the info so it's fast and convenient.         Find my bills | Municipal Water Co. \$23.33<br>10814 Canceled Jun 25   |
| ✓ Car  |  |
| ABC Power Co. Pay Obl4 Last payment Processed May 30 for \$6.55  |  |
| Get your electronic statements and payment reminders here with eBills. >   |  |

- Faster payment processing: reduced payment processing time means bills will be paid faster and more efficiently
- Notifications and reminders: the system sends notifications of upcoming payment deadlines and transaction confirmations, helping the user to monitor his/her finances..

We believe that the new PSFCU Bill Pay features in online banking will contribute to even greater satisfaction with our services. The migration process to the new version has been designed to be smooth and simple, so that you can manage your finances in the Bill Pay application without the slightest inconvenience.

# Vacation Promotion for PSFCU Credit Card Users!

This summer, gain more every time you travel. Enjoy more CU Rewards points for travel-related purchases with PSFCU VISA credit cards.

This vacation promotion runs from July 1, 2024 to August 15, 2024, offering existing PSFCU credit card users the following benefits:

- 4 points for every dollar spent on fuel purchases;
- 3 points for every dollar spent on air-

line tickets, car rentals, hotels and transportation.

The more you spend, the greater the benefit. So don't delay, reach for your PSFCU VISA credit card and start collecting extra rewards points today! You can redeem them for gifts, merchandise, additional travel services or even cash!

Don't have a PSFCU credit card yet? Don't delay and apply today! Log on to our website - www.psfcu.com, find the "Credit Cards" tab and make the best choice for you. PSFCU VISA credit cards guarantee you convenience and security, as well as a range of additional perks - from no annual fee to free car rental insurance, no foreign transaction fees, and even available cash rewards!

Get ready for an unforgettable vacation with Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and enjoy the benefits of our credit cards on every trip!

# GAIN MORE WITH PSFCU CREDIT CARDS!



Enjoy more CU Rewards points for travel-related purchases

points for every dollar spent on fuel purchases



points for every dollar spent on airline tickets, car rentals, hotels and transportation

Terms and conditions apply and are subject to change without notice. Qualifying purchases made between July 1, 2024 and August 15, 2024 will earn 4 rewards points per dollar spent on gas and 3 rewards points per dollar spent on travel and entertainment. Offer valid only on existing rewards-enabled PSFCU credit cards with exclusion of Advantage, Choice (Secured) and Business. Cash rewards are available only on Elite Signature. No enrollment necessary. Qualified purchases are based on the merchant code used by the merchant. Merchant codes valid for this promotion are :Airlines 3000-3301,4511; Auto Rental 3351-3441, 7512; Hotels 3501-3836, 6513, 7011-7012-7032-7033; Transportation 4011-4789,5962.7519; Gas State of the Method and PSFCU is not responsible for merchant category codes used by merchants. Credit cards are subject to credit verification and approval. Other restrictions may apply. PSFCU is an Equal Opportunity Lender