# ISH Our Credit Union

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

Dear PSFCU Members.

Fall is a special time for the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union and the Polish community living in the United States. September 30



marked the 48th anniversary of the signing of our Credit Union's charter. This is an important, reflective moment on almost five decades of tireless work for the Polish community, of which our loval members are an integral part. For nearly 50 years, we have supported tens of thousands of Poles in taking their first steps on American soil, and today we are helping them realize their dreams by offering a wide range of financial products and services, while maintaining the highest standards of banking. In 50 years, we have become a financial pillar for the entire Polish-American community, supporting hundreds if not thousands of Polish churches, schools, and other Polish organizations and events in the United States. Our social initiatives also include a scholarship program, which has already provided financial assistance to 6,500 students - members of our Credit Union. The history of PSFCU is not only about numbers, it is above all about the people who make it up and work for its success. It is the more than 120,000 members of our Credit Union, as well as the

380-strong staff, thanks to whom we can look to the future with optimism.

The anniversary of the signing of the PS-FCU's charter also coincided with the beginning of Polish Heritage Month, celebrated throughout the United States in October. For years, the Polish-American community has contributed to the development of the US on many levels - from science to culture to business. The hard work of Poles immigrating to the United States, as well as their entrepreneurship and loyalty, has made them one of the most prosperous ethnic groups in the US today. As every year, we started the celebration with the Pulaski Parade, where we walked down Fifth Avenue in New York City proudly showing red and white colors. Organized for the 87th time, the Parade is a celebration of the Polish diaspora, highlighting its strength and importance in North America. Celebrating together the contribution of Poles to the United States, let's remind America of the rich history, culture and traditions of our country.

On the occasion of Polish Heritage Month, the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has prepared a special promotion, which will be in effect until the end of October. Throughout the month, we will offer our Credit Union members higher interest rates on term shares, as well as attractive terms on mortgages and car loans. I sincerely encourage you to take advantage of this special offer during this exceptional month for the Polish-American community.

In closing, I would like to thank you for being with us and supporting our activities. Together we can build a better future for the next generations of the Polish community in the United States.

Happy Polish American Heritage Month!

Sincerely,

Bogdan Chmielewski PSFCU President/CEO

## PSFCU President/CEO Meets With the First Lady of the Republic of Poland



During a September visit to the Polish capital, PSFCU President/CEO Bogdan Chmielewski met with First Lady of the Republic of Poland Agata Kornhauser-Duda. The topics of the meeting included discussing initiatives that the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union supports, including the commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising, as well as cooperation in supporting children's hospices in Poland, organized through our Children's Holiday Smile program.

The eleventh edition of our fundraising campaign will begin on November 29, just after Thanksgiving. As every year, the ...continued on page 2

#### PSFCU In Numbers Information as of August 31, 2024

**Assets** 

\$2,579,211,362

Loans

\$1,537,662,796

Net worth

\$271,272,903

YTD net income



\$12,263,163

Number of Members 121,379

## PSFCU President/CEO Meets With First Lady of the Republic of Poland...

...continued from page 1

funds raised will go to one of three selected hospices in Poland and the New York-based Children's Smile Foundation, which helps Polish children in need. Donors will be able to personally select the beneficiary they wish to support. Our fundraiser will last until December 31.

2024, and details of this year's beneficiaries - hospices in Poland - will be announced soon.

The Children's Holiday Smile fundraiser has been organized since 2014 together with the Children's Smile Foundation in New York, under the honorary patronage of the First Lady of the Republic of Poland. Thanks to the generosity of PSFCU members, over the course of 10 years we have managed to help underprivileged children in Poland and the United States with the total amount of \$1.2 million. We encourage everyone to take part in this charitable campaign. Together we can do more!

## New Version of Our Credit Union's Digital Banking Services

We are pleased to announce that our new digital banking platform will be launched in the first half of November. This means that our previous mobile app and online banking platform will have a refreshed look and feel as soon as you log in! PSFCU's redesigned mobile and online banking is designed to provide an intuitive, personalized environment for each user. The new solution will also unify the functionality of online and mobile banking so that the same functions are available on each platform. With the new features, self-service of accounts from a smartphone, tablet or computer will be easier than ever!

Check out what will change:

#### MODERN DESIGN AND INTUITIVE NAVIGATION

Our new e-banking platform has been designed with all of our Credit Union's members in mind, in order to provide a quick and easy way to manage your finances online. The new design of the mobile and web application allows for an easy and enjoyable account experience, whether you transact on a computer, smartphone or tablet.

#### HIGHEST LEVEL OF SECURITY

Our priority is the security of making all financial transactions. We have made sure that members of our Credit Union can confirm their identity with a one-time code, which can be received via text message, voice call or email, so that they can log into the system from unrecognized devices or perform high-risk transactions without hassle. This feature will replace security questions and icons. In addition, PSFCU members will have one set of credentials, accessing their rewards points accounts, Harland Clarke Check Services check ordering platform and Wealth Management accounts.

# FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND BUDGETING TOOLS

From now on, PSFCU members will have access to a visual summary of categorized transactions on all their accounts. They will also be able to create a savings goal, where it is possible to set the category, amount and target date for the end of savings. With our new platform, it will also be possible to aggregate all accounts held at our Credit Union. PSFCU members will be able to combine information from all their accounts on one dashboard.

# CREDIT CARD AND CHECK MANAGEMENT

PSFCU members will be able to easily access credit card management tools. Check management will also be simpler. Thanks to the changes, PSFCU members will be able to order or reorder their checks themselves, doing so through Harland-Clarke's self-service platform.

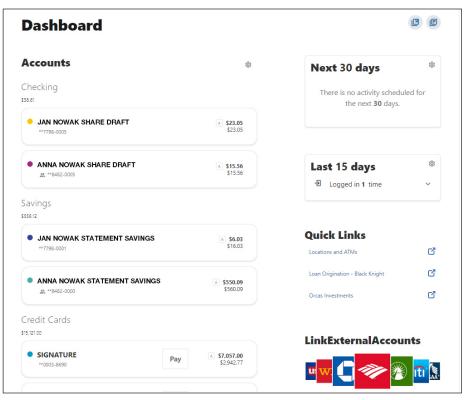
#### CONSISTENT FLOW OF MONEY

The ability to add majority of external accounts for transfers, add transfer recipients and process transfer requests will be consistent across mobile and desktop platforms.

#### EASIER REGISTRATION OF NEW USERS

Members without a Social Security number will no longer need to generate a unique ID in a separate card to register as a new user. These individuals, will be able to enter their government-issued ID number as a seamless field in the registration process.

Ready to get started? Because we are. We are confident that the new version of your favorite mobile application and online banking will make it easier to manage your finances, providing even more freedom and security. Refreshed digital banking starting in November!



## Polish Heritage Month With Unique Promotional Offers from Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union

October is a special month for the Polish community and all Americans of Polish origin living in the United States. Since 1981, we have been celebrating the contributions of Poles to America. Originally celebrated in August, Polish American Heritage Month is now celebrated in October to commemorate the arrival of the first Polish settlers in Jamestown, Virginia, in October 1608, as well as the death of Casimir Pulaski, the father of the U.S. Cavalry. Polish Heritage Month in America is also an annual opportunity to showcase Polish culture, history and traditions in the United States, an important part of the American mosaic of nations.

Since its inception, Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union has proudly supported the entire Polish community in the United States, recognizing its contribution to the shaping of the economy, culture and the arts. We believe that just as Polish heritage connects Poles to the past, proper financial management helps to look optimistically toward the future.

In celebration of Polish Heritage Month, our Credit Union has prepared a special promotion allowing PSFCU members to grow their finances while celebrating their Polish roots.

#### Check out what we have prepared for you: 1. Exceptional interest rates on term deposits - up to 3% APY!

Throughout October, we are offering incredibly attractive interest rates on term shares - up to 3% APY! Don't wait, take advantage of tis excellent offer and secure your financial future. Invest in an 18-month term deposit with a maximum deposit of up to \$50,000 - such an opportunity you can't miss!

#### 2. Waived mortgage application fee

Are you planning to buy a house, but the cost of credit scares you off? Not in October! Only now we are waiving mortgage processing fees. A savings of \$600 is quite an amount! So if you've found your dream home, start the loan process at Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union today. Realize your dream and spend Christmas in your new home!

#### 3. Lower interest rates on car loans

Dreaming of a new car, but high interest rates scare you away? We have great news for you! In October we lowered the interest rates on car loans. Take advantage of our promotion and apply for a 36-month loan at PSFCU - now you can enjoy interest rates as low as 1.99% APR on new cars

or 2.99% APR on used cars. Your dream of a new car is closer than you think!

#### Celebrate your Polish heritage with PSFCU and invest in your future!

Attractive interest rates on term shares, lower interest rates and no application fees on mortgages - it's all waiting for you! Together with thousands of members who have trusted us, let's celebrate our Polish heritage. Take advantage of unique offers prepared especially for this occasion and build your secure financial future together with us!

Offer is valid only until the end of October, so don't miss this chance. Visit one of PSFCU branches or check out the details of the offer by visiting our website at www.psfcu.com.

#### Not just promotions alone...

In addition, throughout October, apples - a symbol of Polish agriculture will be available in all our branches. It is one of the most popular fruits in the world, and it is interesting to note that one in four comes from Poland. Having been an integral part of Polish culture for centuries, apples will be a sweet treat for all visitors to our branches, as well as a reminder of the richness of Polish nature and the fertility of our Polish land.



Promotional period begins on October 1st and ends on October 31st, 2024. Products and services are available solely to PSFCU members. Offerings, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Offerings may not be available in all states. Other restrictions may apply

1. Annual Percentage Yield. The minimum opening balance is \$500.00. The maximum opening balance per member is \$50,000. Early withdrawal penalty equal to 91 days of dividends applies to all 18-month certificates. Transfer of dividends will reduce earnings. Business accounts are excluded from this promotion. 2. Lowest Available Rates on 36-month term auto loans. All loans are subject to credit approval and verification. Rate may vary based upon terms and applicant's personal

credit history. PSFCU loans are not available in all states. Advertised rate includes 0.25% discount for automatic payments from PSFCU checking account.

**NCUA** PSFCU is an Equal Opportunity Lender

## From the Life of Our Credit Union Branches

Our Credit Union is always present wherever something interesting happens within the Polish community. We sponsor many of these events, and our employees take part in them.

# Anniversary ceremonies at the Katyn Memorial in Jersey City

On Sunday, September 8, ceremonies were held at the Katyn Memorial in Jersey City to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the outbreak of World War II, the 84th Anniversary of the Katyn Massacre and the 23rd Anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. The ceremonies were attended by representatives of Polish institutions, including Polish Vice Consul in New York Jakub Wisniewski. On behalf of our Credit Union, flowers at the Katyn Massacre Memorial were laid by the manager of the Linden, NJ branch, Izabela Spolnik-Zuska. Children from the Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish Supplementary School in Brooklyn, together with the school's principal, Anna Kubicka, prepared a musical and recital performance, which added splendor to the entire ceremony.



#### Taste of Polonia Festival

Chicago's Polish community enjoyed a long Labor Day weekend at the traditional Taste of Polonia held at the Copernicus Center in Jefferson Park, IL. Our team from Norridge also took part in this event. For four days, employees of this branch, together with manager Anna Czarnecka-Hebal, met members and supporters of our Credit Union, to whom they could present PSFCU products, as well as talk about current promotions. During the four days of the festival, our tent and Mobile Branch were visited by thousands of guests, for which we would like to express our sincere thanks! Among them were PSFCU Supervisory Committee member Ms. Barbara Zawlocka, member of PSFCU Board of Directors Henry Walentowicz, Esq., Illinois State Comptroller Suzanne Mendoza, Gabriela Ner - queen of this year's May 3. parade, extreme runner Tomasz Sobania and, of course, heroic Wojtek the Bear. This year's Taste of Polonia was four days of great weather, music, numerous attractions, delicious food and, of course, unforgettable meetings. See you next year at the Taste of Polonia!



#### Harvest Festival and parish picnics

The end of August and beginning of September is, as every year, the time of harvest festivals and parish picnics. At most of these events, PSFCU employees were also present. The events were not only an excellent opportunity to have fun to the sounds of Polish music and eat Polish dishes. During this year's events, PSFCU's booths were extremely popular. We are happy to have had the opportunity to get to know you, to present our Credit Union's current product and service offerings, as well as to learn what we can change and improve to make using PSFCU services even easier. We would like to thank you for meeting with us at the Harvest Festival in New Britain, CT, the Highland Indulgence in Munster, IN, picnics organized by the parishes of St. Cyril and Methodius in Boonton, NJ, St. Mary Queen of Peace Parish in Hewitt, NJ, St. Joseph Parish in Hackensack, NJ, St. Francis de Chantal Parish in Brooklyn, NY or Holy Cross Parish in Maspeth, NY and many others.

#### Oktoberfest in Algonquin, IL

Employees of the PSFCU Branch in Algonquin, IL participated in the Oktoberfest festival, organized by St. Mary Margaret Catholic School. The event was attended by many people, residents of Algonquin and nearby towns. It was an excellent opportunity for residents to learn about the products and services offered by our Credit Union, as well as the staff



of the PSFCU branch in this town. It is worth mentioning that it has just been a year since the opening of our newest Illinois Branch, which is thriving and trusted by thousands of Poles and Americans.

#### Festival in American Czestochowa

For the fifty-eighth time, the grounds of the historic Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA took on red and white colors, and Polish traditions met the modern spirit of the Polish community. The festival, which started out as a modest family picnic held in a small town in Pennsylvania, has grown into the largest Polish event on the East Coast, attracting crowds of participants each year, both Polish-Americans and tourists from other states and abroad.

One of the main sponsors of the festival in Doylestown was the Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union, which has been supporting the event for many years, as well as organizing a trip for loyal members of our Credit Union - seniors who, often due to lack of transportation, are unable to come to the Shrine in Pennsylvania or visit the graves of their loved ones at the local cemetery. This year, twelve buses left for Doylestown from PS-FCU branches in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

