



President's Message by Danny Fabeck

Season's greetings & happy holidays! Going on 10 months now of restrictions, closures, & NO POLKA MUSIC! What a bummer. Everyone tries to keep up their spirits, & endure the untold amount of hardships, but that's a long time. With no end in sight we have no choice but to carry on & never give up. We have to believe it WILL end - at least get better - will we ever get back to "normal?"

The holidays are normally a time to connect with family & friends, give thanks, have a meal together, exchange gifts & share a drink. These days we'll have to get creative & make some adjustments. Stretch your technical skills & go virtual. If the IPA can figure out how to have an entire polka fest virtually over a weekend, then we can figure out how to Skype with our loved ones. Or, heaven forbid, write a letter or a note in a card. Remember how to do that? Ok, so when was the last time you actually did that?

Our MPA dances have all been cancelled for this month & the foreseeable future. Until we can find a venue that will let us have dances & the restrictions on indoor group sizes are expanded, there is no way to hold an event. We also have to be able to take off our masks - not much fun dancing wearing a mask. We may have to wait until next spring & then figure out how to have dances outdoors.

There is not a whole lot of news from around here as not a whole lot is going on. Since we have no news, Pat has been scrounging through her collection of pictures trying to find photos from days gone by that we thought you might all enjoy. If any of you journalists are interested in contributing an article to the newsletter, let someone on the board know & we will see what we can do. All submissions will be considered.

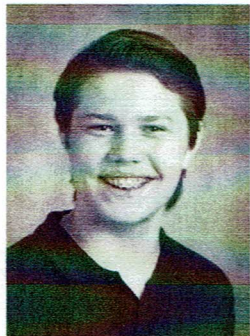
PLEASE STAY SAFE & HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON!

Thanks for all your support - with your help, we WILL keep polka music alive!

Hope to talk to you soon - Danny Fabeck

Introduce someone new to the music -
keep the heritage alive!

IPA ANNOUNCES CHRISTOPHER EBEL NEW IPA YOUTH ADVISOR!



Chris started playing drums at age 3, which is no surprise as his parents are well-known in the polk music scene. Craig Ebel, Chris's dad & IPA hall of Fame Inductee, is the host of "It's Polka Time!" radio shows & leader of "DyVersaCo." Lori Lachner, Chris's mom, is the daughter of Marv & Carol Nissel & part of "The Marv Nissel Band." Marv taught Chris to play the concertina. Chris also plays piano, accordion &

clarinet.

Chris loves polka music, which is seen by his infectious smile while onstage. He has been featured on WCCO-TV, the Twin Cities CBS affiliate, where he was labeled the "Amazing 6-Year-Old Polka Drummer" in 2011. This segment was due to a passerby's upload to YouTube that has close to half a million views. At age 7, Chris also appeared in a segment entitled "Land of 10,000 Stories" on KARE 11, Twin Cities NBC affiliate, where he was given the title "Polka Phenom."

Currently, Chris plays accordion with DyVersaCo & drums with The Marv Nissel Band. He also joins Craig on the radio over AM 1340 & FM 98.7 WJYI in Milwaukee WI on "Polka Parade." Chris wants to follow in his parents' footsteps & promote polka music to ensure this genre of music can be enjoyed by generations to come.

WELCOME CHRIS!

HOW MANY OF US
REMEMBER BILL CZERNIAK'S
FAMOUS SAYING,
"IF YOU ARE NOT HAVING FUN
YET IT'S YOU'RE OWN DAMN
FAULT??!!

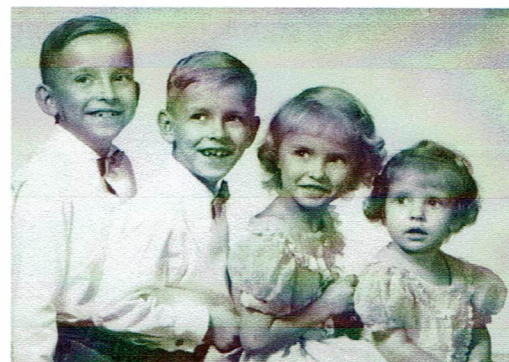
A PIECE OF TRIVIA
WHAT FAMOUS ACTRESS & POP
SINGER RECORDED WITH
FRANKIE YANKOVICH AROUND
1952?
FROM ARNIE CHECKALSKI

WOULD YOU BELIEVE
DORIS DAY?!

ART OHOTTO SADLY
ANNOUNCED
THERE WILL BE NO
CONCERTINA BOWL IN 2021.
HE IS LOOKING FORWARD
TO JANUARY 2022!



Now, who are these
musicians?



Bill, Greg, Joanne & Annette Czerniak

Membership Report by Pat Eckman

What a bummer!! Cancelling all the dances. Keep your fingers & toes crossed we can dance again soon!! Let's welcome our new members - Elaine Kirchoff, Sandy Strogny, & Lavonne Ollila. Thank you to all members - new & old! WE WILL BE BACK!

JANUARY-FEBRUARY RENEWALS

Members who need to renew for the months of JANUARY & FEBRUARY will find their renewal sheets & envelopes in their newsletters. Those of you who are overdue, those sheets are also in your envelopes.

Please consider renewing for 2 years by paying \$12 every other year, which is ONLY \$.50 a month. I will be at all the dances, WHEN they start up again, so find me with your dues or send your check in the envelope provided. A huge thank you to all who have paid for 2 years and in a timely fashion! Thanks also to the MPA members who when they renew, they also enroll their significant others in the MPA! Thank you also to those who send a little more than their dues. We are so very grateful to all of you!

So many of you have written a note to me in your renewals - I just love it!!! Thank you so much! Seeing your names on renewals makes me miss all of you even more!

WE WILL DANCE AGAIN & WE WILL HAVE FUN AGAIN!!!

Pat Eckman

MPA 2021 Schedule

More info?

www.midwestpolkaassociation.com

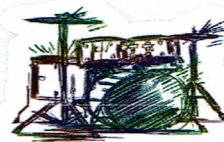
Nothing Scheduled Yet!!
Keep Your Fingers & Toes Crossed!

Dear MPA Members:

Got a drum set collecting dust in your house?

I like to buy, restore and play vintage American drums & cymbals.

Please give me a call. Thanks!



Paul Creager
#651-226-5046
creagz@gmail.com

More about Paul in the next newsletter



We send lots of love & sympathy to family & friends of long time MPA member Dale Eppenberger

who passed away at the end of October of Covid 19. He & Sally loved to dance to all music. They never missed an MPA dance. They supported the MPA for many years. Dale & Sally always had a smile & a hug for so many people. We will all miss Dale.



We send lots of love & sympathy to family & friends of long time MPA

member Diane Heinz. Diane passed away unexpectedly near the start of December. She & Jeff were very much into promoting polka music. Who can forget her welcoming smile & great hugs. Everyone will miss Diane.



We send sympathy to family & friends of Bobby & Bernie Cynor whose parents, Geraldine & Robert Sr, passed away at the end of October & the start of November. Robert had a polka band that both Bobby & Bernie played in growing up. When Robert gave up the band, Bobby & Bernie put together their own band, The Cynor Classics.

Check your favorite band website & the fest websites for up-to-date info.

Doctor Kielbasa
www.doctorkielbasa.com

Florian Chmielewski's Fun Time Band
www.funband.com

Craig Ebel & DyVersaCo
www.itspolkatime.com

Blue Top Bar & Grill
3425 Church St Stevens Point WI
715-340-3546

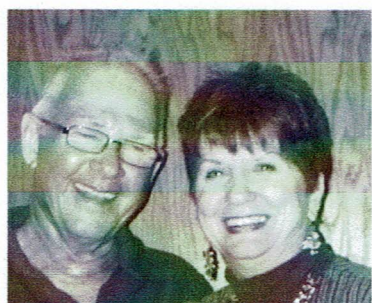
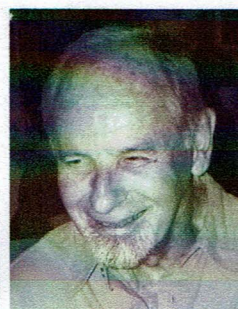
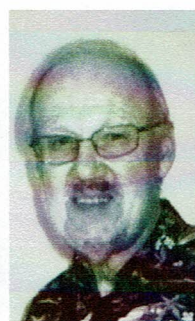
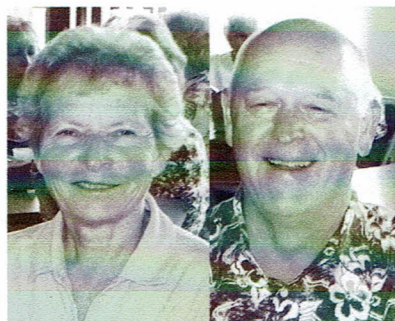
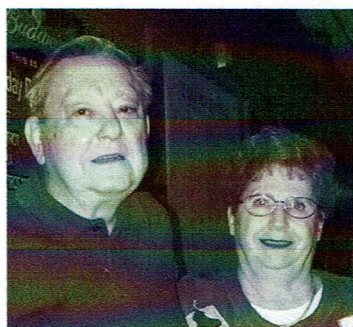
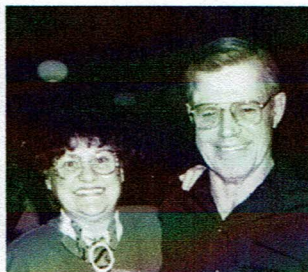
The Squires Band
www.squiresband.com

The Barry Boyce Band
www.barryboyce.com

The Main Squeeze Band
face book page

The Jolly Zuks Band
www.jollyzuks.com

LOTS OF MPA MEMBERS - Some dancing in heaven - some of us waiting to dance here!
AND WE WILL!!!!



DON WAYERSKI - Y 106.5
Saturday Morning Polka Party
7am - 10am
E-mail polka@y1065.com

Eddie Biegaj is the "Bad Boy" on
The Polkajammer Network
Thursdays 6-8 EST & Sundays Noon- 1 EST.
Visit Polkajammernetwork.org

JIMMY K POLKAS
POLKA CDS / FREE CATALOG
PO BOX 10
UNION LAKE MI 48387
1-866-454-6695

If you don't find yourself in this issue, please have patience. We have over 800 members - it will take awhile!

