

Midwest Polka Association Newsletter
1118 Rosemary Lane Chaska MN 55318

**July
August
2020**



President's Message by Danny Fabeck

Hi everyone. Like a lot of things in life, sometimes things we want the most take the longest time to happen. We all want our normal back - not sure we ever get back to "normal" - but at least things are changing. It may be as quickly as we want, but things are moving. The pandemic is horrible enough. Life shut down. Now we have social unrest on top of it. Stay safe everyone!

I have seen a few bits of live polka music lately which is encouraging. I see a lot of musicians posting videos on social media. Molly & Ted, Fred Ziwich - thank you all for keeping us connected to the music we love. Still more

festivals cancelled - USPA, Polka Fireworks & more. Stores are opening - people slowly going back to work. These are positive changes - we will take what ever we can get.

In our neck of the woods we are still limited in the size of groups meeting inside. Venues are being careful on how they reopen, so it is difficult to hold dances right now. Our June dance is cancelled - no venue open yet. The MPA Annual Pot-Luck Picnic Bash! in July is cancelled because all the parks in Blaine remain closed. The Twin Cities Polish Fest is cancelled this year. But I am still holding out hope for Frankenmuth in August. It is hard to fathom so many bands have gone months without playing. Hard on the musicians & hard on the fans. Our next hope for a live event might be September with LiveWire at Murzyn Hall. Fingers crossed!!!

Not much MPA news to report, so we again have an abbreviated newsletter - 4 pages this issue. Thanks again to all the board members who figured out how to put everything together.

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

Please be safe & take care of yourself & your loved ones.

Hope to talk to you soon - Danny Fabeck

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

The MPA dance that was scheduled for Sunday June 28 at Marino's with Craig Ebel has been cancelled. The Legion board will not decide on future event limitations until early in July. Right now there is nothing going on inside - the bar is outside with a limit of 50 customers with social distancing. The restaurant in Marino's is takeout only. Let's hope this disease runs its course soon!!!!

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION

**THE MAJOWKA CELEBRATION DINNER/DANCE
THAT WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR THE
FIRST WEEKEND IN MAY, THEN RESCHEDULED
FOR SATURDAY JULY 25 HAS NOW BEEN
CANCELLED. CROSS FINGERS FOR 2021!!!**

Because of Covid 19, the Blaine Park Board is not opening any of their parks for several months.

Consequently our MPA Annual Pot Luck-Picnic Bash! has been cancelled as Aquatore Park is closed to the public.

The Blazyonczyk family has cancelled their annual "Seven Springs Fireworks" polka fest over the Fourth of July weekend. Cross our fingers it will be back for 2021!!

A big thank you to Connie & Ken Duellman & their daughter who stuffed the envelopes & mailed the last newsletter. Connie thought she & her daughter may have had covid 19 so they did it all!!
Thank you again!

SIGN ON A FUNERAL HOME "DRIVE SAFELY -
we can wait"



Of course - It's
Gary Hagen



Here's another easy
one - who is this?

Membership Report by Pat Eckman

What a bummer!! Cancelling all the summer dances. Keep your fingers & toes crossed we can dance again soon!! Let's welcome our new members - Kevin Mach, Robert Monson, Doris Scheh, Dawn Pitt, & Cindy Zalewski. Thank you to all members - new & old! WE WILL BE BACK!

JULY-AUGUST RENEWALS

Members who need to renew for the months of July & August 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 in more than their dues. We are very grateful to all of you!

Thanks also to all of you again who write a note to me in your renewals - I just love it!!!

WE WILL DANCE AGAIN & START HAVING FUN AGAIN!!!
Pat Eckman

MPA 2020 VERY Tentative Schedule

More info? www.midwestpolkaassociation.com

****Sunday June 28 - A Summer Dance****
CANCELLED

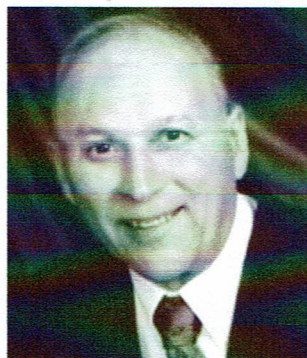
**** Sunday July 12 - MPA Annual Potluck Picnic Bash! ****
CANCELLED

****Sunday September 20 - Late Summer Dance****
LIVE WIRE - Murzyn Hall 1-5

****Friday October 23 - Fall Dance****
POLKA COUNTRY MUSICIANS - Murzyn Hall 7-11

****Sunday November 15 - Pre-Thanksgiving Dance****
THE MAIN SQUEEZE - Murzyn Hall 2-6

****Sunday December 6 - December Birthday Dance****
DOCTOR KIELBASA - Murzyn Hall 2-6



The MPA sends sympathy to the family & friends of long-time MPA member Tom Klejeski who passed away in May of 2020.

Tom & his wife, Judy, enjoyed the Polish polka music a lot. Tom even gave his sister, Brenda Harteau from Saginaw MN, a gift membership a

number of years ago. Brenda has since renewed several times. Tom & Judy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last October at the Star Club in Kettle River MN with the Zuks providing the music.



The MPA sends sympathy to the family & friends of Vic Sorensen, who passed away in April of 2019. He & his wife, Darla, loved to dance. They would travel all the way from Eau Claire WI to dance at the MPA dances at the Moose Lodge in Maplewood MN.

Darla is ready to dance again at the MPA dances just as soon as we can have all the dances we want.

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.funtimeband.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

IPA Festival & Convention
www.ipapolkas.com

Frankenmuth MI Music Fest
www.frankenmuthfestivals.com

Polkamotion by the Ocean
www.rbpolka.com



TWIN CITIES POLISH FESTIVAL SUSPENDED FOR 2020

With great disappointment, the Twin Cities Polish Festival committee announced that the August 2020 festival has been suspended. The festival committee was notified by the MN Department of Transportation that the historic 3rd Ave bridge over the Mississippi River, which opened in 1918, needs significant repairs. Since the bridge repairs started directly over the festival grounds in May, (the polka stage is located under the bridge) the 2020 festival has to be rescheduled. The planning committee is working on relocating the festival for 2021.

VALENTINES DANCE - ENDED

Our 7th annual Valentines dance in February was by far the biggest & best, & we truly enjoyed hosting this dance every year. However, what started out as a smaller dance has now become a bigger festival & the kick-off of the dance season. Because it has gotten so big, it is more than what Russ & I can handle alone. Unfortunately we have lost our venue (The Plaza) & have looked tirelessly for another venue to host the Valentine dance. Because it is a weekend long event, we insist that it be held at a hotel. There is only one hotel big enough left in the greater Wausau area, but they need \$3000 for the rent of the ballroom. That's more than we are willing to pay, especially having a \$15000 festival budget. So, unless someone would like to come forward & pay the rent for the hall, it will be with heavy hearts that this will have been the last Valentines dance. We know this is disappointing news for many, but there are many festivals out there that we can all attend & support.

****If by some miracle someone or some organization does come forward, we will update everyone with date & location info.****

Russ & Theresa Napiwocki

715-572-9405

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

Last year!!

NO!



The MPA is NOT dancing at the fair this year as the MN State Fair has been cancelled for 2020!
 Let's hope for 2021!

THANKS TO SEVERAL BOARD MEMBERS

A big thank you to two members of the MPA board who are leaving their board positions - Carol Pevovar & Fred Rgnonti who have served on the board as hospitality directors. They have been greatly appreciated for the help they have given to make dances run better. Their ideas, enthusiasm & creativity have contributed to many successful MPA dances & events. We are sorry they are leaving the board - but we will all still see them dancing!!

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED GIVING
 AN MPA MEMBERSHIP AS A GIFT FOR
 AN ANNIVERSARY OR
 FOR A BIRTHDAY?
 WHAT A GREAT PRESENT FOR A
 DANCER OR LOVER OF OLD TIME
 POLKA MUSIC!**



Live Wire band from WI, hopefully will be playing at Murzyn Hall Sunday Sept 20 for the MPA!

Just a few of the bands we should be dancing to this summer at the polka fests!

