

President's Message by Danny Fabeck

Greetings - very hard times continue for everyone. We are all impacted & none of us have ever seen anything like this in our lives. We are caught in the grips of a pandemic that has pummeled the economy forcing lock downs that closed businesses, & leaving too many people too worried about infection to travel, shop, gather for events or eat out - barred from doing so by states & localities. I know the people & groups that promote polka dances are trying to do all they can to get something to happen. I see some dances starting to spring up from time to time. The IPA Convention will be virtual this year.

What a great idea that board came up with.

Two weeks ago we traveled to Wausau WI for a 2 night dance with DVSTA. First time in 4 months that we were able to go to a dance with live music. What a fun time for a "very hot & muggy" days. Great music from this great band! Thanks to Debbie D, Russ & Teresa N, & Jeff T & all the others who promoted these dances.

We here in MN are still limited in the size of groups for indoor meetings/events. Venues are mandated on the crowd size & everyone must wear a mask anywhere inside except your home. Social distancing must be followed. Because of these very important mandates, we have had to cancel our September dance with Live Wire from WI at Murzyn Hall. We WILL reschedule them for another dance next year. Our other 2020 events for October, November & December are still in a kind of flux. The three dances are scheduled, but it will depend on how things develop with the rules we need to follow.

Not much more MPA news to report so again we have an abbreviated newsletter. This time Pat has added a page of Pictures of many of the Polish polka bands here in MN - past & present. It took a little research for some of the pictures, so thanks to Pat & everyone who helped. Also thanks again for all the board members who work so hard on promoting dances & creating this newsletter.

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!

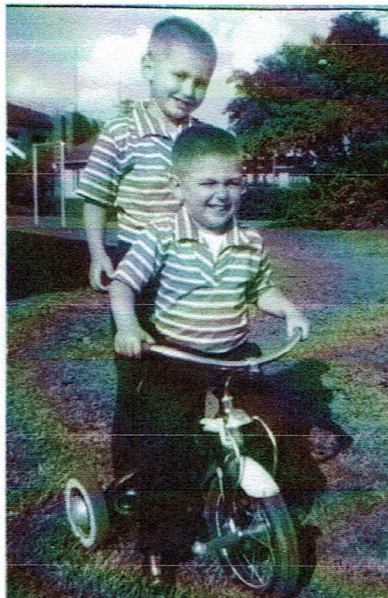
According to the August newsletter of the Cleveland Polka Association, the IPA Convention & Festival & Polka Motion By The Ocean have both been cancelled. So there goes our last hope for a polka festival for the year 2020. Cross all fingers & toes we can get back to our wonderful fests next year!!

A big thank you to Connie & Ken Duellman for opening their home for the MPA board folding & stuffing our newsletters. We did the July-August newsletter at their home & will do our September-October issue there also.
Thank you again!

THE MOST IMPORTANT
TRIP YOU MAY TAKE IN
LIFE IS MEETING
PEOPLE HALF WAY.

LIVE WIRE DANCE CANCELLED

It is with heavy hearts the MPA board members have decided to cancel yet another dance. Our September 20th dance with Live Wire from WI at Murzyn Hall in Columbia Heights has been cancelled due to covid 19. With social distancing & the need to wear a mask inside where there are a number of people, we decided to not have this dance. We hope to have Live Wire next year in September on a Sunday afternoon!



Here's a really hard one!
Stay tuned!



It's Todd Jurek - age 14
playing with Joe Czerniak.

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 - Elaine Kirchoff, Sandy Strogny, & Lavonne Ollila. Thank you to all members - new & old! WE WILL BE BACK!

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER RENEWALS

Members who need to renew for the months of September & October 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!

So many of you have written a note to me in your renewals - I just love it!!! Thank you so much!

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**

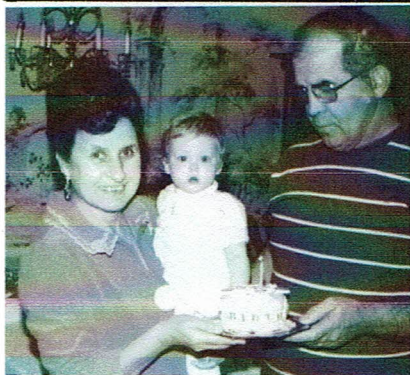
**** Sunday July 12 - MPA Annual Potluck Picnic Bash! **
CANCELLED**

****Sunday September 20 - Late Summer Dance**
CANCELLED**

****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**



Annie & Ray Ballot with Melinda Sibinski (1 yr old) in November 1976. Melinda is the daughter of Sharon & Bob Sibinski.



Dick Blank's Annual Birthday Party- Aug 23 2008. Dick & Betty Blank, Annie & Roman Jaworski.

We send sympathy to long time MPA member Annie Ballot who died May 11, 2020 after celebrating her 100th birthday April 10, 2020. Annie loved polka music & was always at Mayslack's Polka Lounge in NE Mpls every Sunday afternoon. Annie came to all the MPA dances & she danced most of the dances. She hosted many polka parties.



We send sympathy to the family & friends of Les Larson, who was the leader of family band Les & The Polka Jacs. He passed away in August of 2020. Les's wife, Karen, & his two sons, Ronald & Michael, played in Les & The Polka Jacs, shortened to Les & the Jacs when many of us danced to their music.

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

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

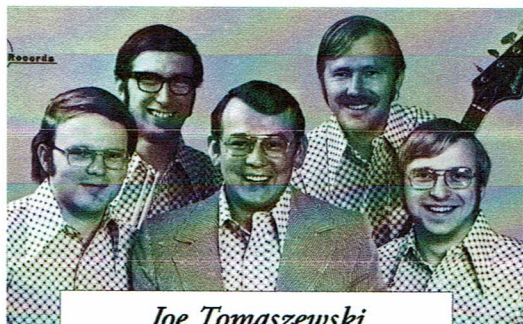
The Jolly Zuks Band
www.jollyzucs.com

Doctor Kielbasa
www.doctorkielbasa.com

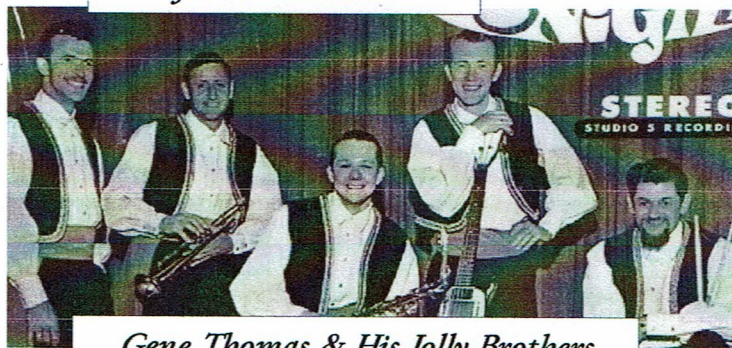
VALENTINES DANCE - ENDED

Yes, the Napiwocky Valentines dance has definitely ended. According to Theresa Napiwocky, the Plaza Hotel in Wausau is being torn down & the Holiday Inn & Suites in Stevens Point is very expensive & booked up through next March. With the pandemic, who knows when it will actually open. So with all these strikes against the Valentines dance, the Napiwocky's decided after 7 fabulous years, it was time to pull the plug. Lots of us will miss this dance - it was just a great time every single year!! THANK YOU!

How many of these MN Polish polka bands do you remember? Continued on page 4.



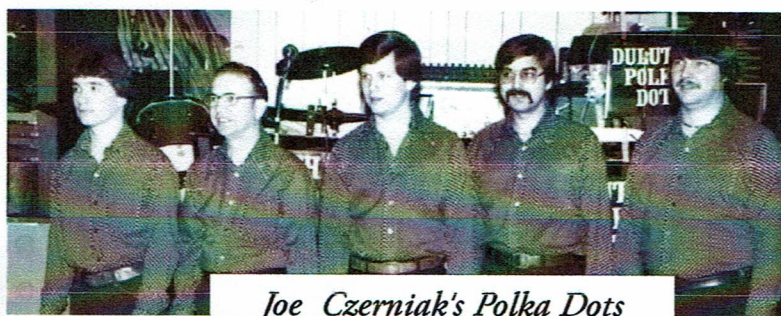
Joe Tomaszewski



Gene Thomas & His Jolly Brothers



Renata & Girls, Girls, Girls



Joe Czerniak's Polka Dots



Bill Czerniak & Polka Soul



John Filipczak & The Classics

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The MPA board meets once a month on the third Wednesdays of the month.

Every other meeting is a business meeting, while the rest are to fold & stuff the newsletters in the envelopes & stamp them. The meetings are usually 2 hours long. We have in the past met at Marino's in the Fridley Legion on Old Central Ave. We have a lot of fun & laugh a lot. If you would like to join us, let a current member know.

We would love to welcome you to the MPA board!

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 COS / FREE CATALOG
 PO BOX 10
 UNION LAKE MI 48387
 1-866-454-6695

Do you remember all these MN bands?

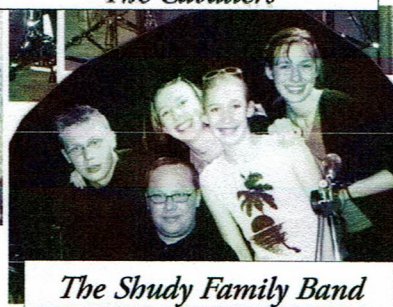
MROZINSKI BROTHERS



Bandit

Dobosenski Brothers & The Cavaliers

Twin Cities Soundz



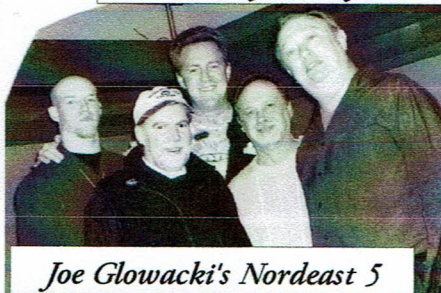
The Shudy Family Band



Polka Music Sweethearts



Dave Novak & Polka Choice



Joe Glowacki's Nordeast 5



Tony Blazonczyk's MN Band



Ernie Mazurek's White Eagle Concertina Band



And finally, the MN bands playing today (as soon as they can) - Main Squeeze, Chmielewski's, Doctor Kielbasa, DyVersaCo, & The Jolly Zuks. Keep your fingers crossed & hope we can get back to dancing to the music we love!!

