

# **Polish Falcons of America**

# **Board Bulletin**

**August 2023**

*The Board Bulletin is a summary report on the topics discussed and the actions taken by your National Board of Directors at its regular meeting on August 26, 2023 via Zoom.*

*This report is emailed to more than 4,000 individuals with email addresses registered on the PFA website. In addition, it will be posted to the PFA website. The PFA National Board of Directors believes strongly in creating a culture of transparency and wants Members to know what issues the Board deals with and the reasons behind Board action on particular issues. We encourage you to read the report carefully and to contact any Board Member or PFA President and CEO Timothy Kuzma if you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the items or actions contained in this report.*

*Contact information for all Board members and the PFA executive staff is listed at the conclusion of this report.*

## **Scholarship Committee Report**

The Board of Directors approved the recommendations of the Scholarship Committee to change the program. The application form and process will be easier to complete and submit. In addition, there will only be one category of award with a grant of \$1,500 each. The Mary Kus Award will be increased to \$4,000. Finally, a recipient from Nest 580, Pittsfield, Mass., will receive an additional grant of \$250 in memory of Catherine Mierzejewski. These funds were raised by Druhna Catherine's granddaughter Susan Mierzejewski Palmer. Details can be found in the Winter issue of the Sokol Polski and the PFA website later this year.

## **Financial Report**

Ryan Gregg, National Secretary/Treasurer and CFO presented the financial report for the second quarter of 2023. The net loss to surplus at the end of the quarter was \$123,325. Total surplus at the end of the quarter was \$2,850,170. The net loss from operations at the end of the quarter was \$230,715.

### ***Independent Audit Report***

John Sommers, PFA Independent Auditor from McKeever, Varga and Senko, presented the audit report. In summary, the report is an unqualified opinion, the best opinion for an audit.

### ***National Convention Update***

President Kuzma reported that Nest 88, New Britain, Conn., and District V will be the hosts of the 2024 National Convention. The Convention will be held at Nest 88 in July 2024. Details will follow.

### ***2024 Nominations Committee***

The Nominations Committee presented recommendations to the Board for the qualifications for National Directors, Board Chairperson and Board Vice Chairperson. After a thorough discussion, the Board voted to approve the recommendations. Complete details will be sent to all District and Nest Presidents in October and will be published on the PFA website.

### ***Sales/Marketing***

Sales Director Jared Gostanczik and Secretary/Treasurer Ryan Gregg reported on the progress of the new systems and processes for the sale of life insurance and annuities. The Board approved a recommendation to increase annuity rates. See website for details.

Sales results through the end of Q2 2023: There were 64 life insurance certificates issued, and 42 annuity certificates issued. Total certificates issued was 106. The average face amount of insurance for the new life certificates for the entire year was \$12,339. Also, there were 11 Fraternal Benefit Members added in the quarter.

### ***Certificates Report***

President Kuzma reported at the end of Q2 2023, there were 17,588 life insurance certificates, 3,206 annuity certificates and 92 Medicare supplement certificates in force. For the quarter, there was a decline of 284 total certificates. (Life decreased 259, annuities decreased by 12 and Medicare supplement decreased by 13.) There are currently 91 Fraternal Benefit Members.

### ***Impact Program***

Communications Director Courtney Caughey-Stambul gave a detailed report about the participation in the new Impact! Program. She highlighted several members and Nests who organized an event as part of the program. Details about this program can be found on the PFA website.

### ***2022 Youth Camp***

National Physical Education Director Puskar reported on the successful National Youth Camp that was held at the SNPJ Recreation Center in Enon Valley, Pa. Thirty-two campers and 14 counselors participated.

### ***Nests in Good Standing***

First Vice President Del Busse reported the standing status of each Nest:

NEST	DISTRICT	CITY	STATE	STANDING
3	II	Chicago	IL	Not
4	VI	South Bend	IN	Not
6	IX	Buffalo	NY	Good
8	IV	Pittsburgh	PA	Good
17	I	Newark	NJ	Good
31	XIII	Detroit	MI	Good
36	V	Southwestern	CT	Not
41	IV	New Kensington	PA	Good
42	II	Chicago Heights	IL	Good
45	II	St. Louis	MO	Good
52	IX	Rochester	NY	Not
65	V	Union City	CT	Not
68	V	Meriden	CT	Good
74	IX	Auburn	NY	Not
77	IV	Carnegie	PA	Good
79	XIII	Southgate	MI	Good
80	VI	South Bend	IN	Not
86	XIII	Hamtramck	MI	Good
88	V	New Britain	CT	Not
97	IV	Windber	PA	Not
104	I	Newark	NJ	Good
118	IV	Pittsburgh	PA	Good
123	IX	Erie	PA	Not
128	VII	Duryea	PA	Not
146	IV	New Castle	PA	Good
147	IV	Mt. Pleasant	PA	Not
159	IV	Ford City	PA	Good

163	VII	Mocanaqua	PA	Not
171	VII	Philadelphia	PA	Good
172	V	West Warwick	RI	Good
176	IV	Pittsburgh	PA	Good
182	IV	Ambridge	PA	Not
188	V	Salem	MA	Not
247	IV	Donora	PA	Not
276	VI	Muskegon	MI	Good
307	V	Southington	CT	Good
336	XIII	Jackson	MI	Not
430	IX	Auburn	NY	Not
485	V	Chelsea	MA	Good
493	IX	Batavia	NY	Good
519	V	Middletown	CT	Not
538	IV	Midland	PA	Good
556	IV	Jerome	PA	Good
564	VI	La Porte	IN	Not
580	V	Pittsfield	MA	Not
610	IX	Erie	PA	Not
652	XIII	Lansing	MI	Not
811	V	New Britain	CT	Good
822	I	South River	NJ	Not
907	II	Cicero	IL	Not
946	I	Hillsborough	NJ	Not
956	I	Ozone Park	NY	Not
972	XIII	Bay City	MI	Good

### ***National Golf Tournament***

National Golf Commissioner Trish Del Busse reported that the 2023 National Tournament was a success. She commended the host, Nest 493, Batavia, N.Y. for an outstanding job.

### ***National Bowling Tournament***

National Bowling Commissioner Janet Knauber reported that the Bowling Commissioners met to discuss changes to the rules and participation for the Tournament. The details of the rule changes will be announced when registration is available later this year.

Regarding participation, the Board approved a recommendation to allow Nest Social Members to participate in the Tournament (and the Golf Tournament) starting in 2024. These individuals will pay an additional \$25 entry fee and will be allowed to participate in

a Falcon Tournament (Bowling and/or Golf) for two events. Again, details can be found on the PFA website.

The 2024 Tournament will be held in Ambridge, Pa., with Nest 182 as host. This is the first time Nest 182 will be the host.

### ***Fraternal Benefit Membership Dues***

The Board voted to accept a recommendation to reduce the Fraternal Benefit Member Dues from \$60 to \$40 starting immediately.

### ***Falconette Commission***

Falconette Commission Chairperson Patricia Capozoli reported on the successful results of the May raffle. The net profit for the May raffle was \$2,608.59.

### ***Poland Tour***

President Kuzma reported that there are 12 people registered for the Poland Tour. The trip will visit Northern Poland. All details can be found on the PFA website.

### ***New Polish Falcons Exhibit in Poland***

President Kuzma stated that IPN (Institute of National Remembrance) will open a new Polish Falcons exhibit at the new World War II Museum in Gdansk, Poland. The Falcon tour will visit the exhibit. The tour will remain open at the Museum until January 2024. He added that IPN is still working on plans to bring the exhibit to the United States in the future.

### ***Upcoming 2022 Board Meeting Dates***

The date for the remaining Board meeting in 2023 is:

November 18 (In person)

**Contact Information for Board Members and Executive Staff** – Please use the following information to contact individual Board members or PFA President and CEO to obtain more information on any of the items discussed in this report:

Title	Name	Email Address	Daytime Phone	Cell Phone
President	Tim Kuzma	<a href="mailto:tkuzma@polishfalcons.org">tkuzma@polishfalcons.org</a>	412-922-2244	412-805-1171
1st Vice President	Trish Del Busse	<a href="mailto:vptrish@polishfalcons.org">vptrish@polishfalcons.org</a>	412-922-2244	724-747-3179
2nd Vice President	Dan Michalak	<a href="mailto:falconsd5@aol.com">falconsd5@aol.com</a>		203-631-5554
Secretary/Treasurer	Ryan Gregg	<a href="mailto:rgregg@polishfalcons.org">rgregg@polishfalcons.org</a>	412-922-2244	412-952-6764
Director, District I	Malgorzata Los	<a href="mailto:malosia3@gmail.com">malosia3@gmail.com</a>		917-455-1369
Director, District II	Tom Eckert	<a href="mailto:eckert2407@att.net">eckert2407@att.net</a>		773-251-9264
Director, District IV	Patty Capozoli	<a href="mailto:pcapozoli@polishfalcons.org">pcapozoli@polishfalcons.org</a>	412-921-5367	703-895-6268
Director, District V	John Kowarik	<a href="mailto:kowarik@sbcglobal.net">kowarik@sbcglobal.net</a>		203-231-2063
Director, District VI	Mark Albin	<a href="mailto:mrabin@comcast.net">mrabin@comcast.net</a>		219-575-0071
Director, District VII	Tom Washington	<a href="mailto:twashington@polishfalcons.org">twashington@polishfalcons.org</a>	570-602-0226	570-417-1464
Director, District IX	Becky Sienkiewicz	<a href="mailto:rls1157@hotmail.com">rls1157@hotmail.com</a>		814-823-4506
Director, District XIII	Chuck Johns	<a href="mailto:chuck.101057@gmail.com">chuck.101057@gmail.com</a>		586-453-3049
Communications Dir.	Courtney Caughey-Stambul	<a href="mailto:ccaughey@polishfalcons.org">ccaughey@polishfalcons.org</a>	412-922-2244	
Physical Ed. Dir.	Chris Puskar	<a href="mailto:cpuskar@polishfalcons.org">cpuskar@polishfalcons.org</a>	412-922-2244	
Grand Master LOH	Joan Beilfuss	<a href="mailto:joanbeilfuss07@gmail.com">joanbeilfuss07@gmail.com</a>	708-863-1378	708-925-1064
Legal Counsel	Joe Federowicz	<a href="mailto:rfederowicz@dmclaw.com">rfederowicz@dmclaw.com</a>	412-392-5426	412-580-6311
Sales/Marketing Dir.	Jared Gostanczik	<a href="mailto:jgostanczik@polishfalcons.org">jgostanczik@polishfalcons.org</a>		