



**POLKA LOVERS CLUB OF TEXAS MUSEUM  
 PLCTM | 275 WEST FAIRGROUNDS ROAD  
 P.O. BOX 72  
 LA GRANGE, TEXAS 78945  
 PLCTM.COM**



**Mission: To provide a facility for Preserving, Promoting and Educating POLKA MUSIC and DANCE**

*The Hoelscher Haus Hoelscher Family Exhibit*

**FEATURING**

*Magr. Joseph M. Hybner Center*

*Polka of A. Exhibit*

Volume 18, Issue 3

3rd Quarter 2023

**Board of Directors**

**Officers**

Immediate Past President – Willie Bohuslav  
 President/Coach – Gary Bucek  
 Vice President – Charlie Hoelscher  
 Carol Artz-Bucek - Secretary | Treasurer  
 Joyce Bohuslav - Member Outreach Officer

**Directors**

Jane Freis  
 Larry & Evelyn Maresh  
 Mark McFarland  
 Mildred Hollas  
 Sheryl Pavlas-Harris

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**NOTICE: TO ALL VISITORS**

Admission is "free" and wheelchair accessible!

Donations are Welcome

To schedule a visit in advance contact:

Gary Bucek at 713/252-2162 or email info@plctm.com

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**A message from 2023 President, "Coach", Gary Bucek**



**Howdy to all PLCTM Members!!!**

**Welcome to the 3rd Quarter of 2023!**

The Member/Donor Appreciation Gathering is right around the corner. I am VERY STRONGLY suggesting if you've not RSVP'd to this event, please, please, please make every effort to come!!! If you can't drive, get your kids, grandkids, friends or neighbors to bring you to the Fairgrounds to charge your batteries with some good prayers, fellowship, food, & music. This has been MY PERSONAL GOAL since I started to get you all together again as the Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum.

We've been working with Texas Czech Heritage Cultural Center to "Upgrade" the Czech village with nice sidewalks, streetlights, and streets.

As we continue to pursue grants to help with the financial needs to accomplish these "Upgrades", I want the PLCTM to lead the way for the rest of the museums down the line to be neat, well lit, and accessible for the public.

Next, our Board of Directors have fielded questions about the definition of Membership Levels or Lifetime Memberships. We have Donations, (Exactly what they are, donations to the Museum), Memorials (donations in Memory of those passed), Charter Members (made donations for the construction of the Museum), and Endowments (to be used to perpetuate the ongoing costs and expenses of the PLCTM). There are now and will always be operating costs of the museum to run the water, sewer, electricity, internet, and maintenance. We do not have separate accounts for each of those however we have a ledger of all contributions to each of the Divisions in one bank account. Back to the Lifetime Membership. The Board has voted to create the most Prestigious Membership Program called the "Lifetime Membership." At a cost of \$1000 per person, this will account for your "Lifetime" of events at the Museum never paying annual dues or fees for every event in your lifetime. See Page 7 for Details and Application Form.

Lastly, I quote a recent article I read from "Consumer Reports" that activities like dancing can be especially helpful later in life. Dancing involves moving with a partner, while processing music and rhythm along with good cardio for the heart and can be quite a cognitive challenge. So as we grow younger, sometimes confused with older, if we are not able to physically dance, we can still hear the music and tap our feet to the beat. . . and most of all remember the MANY times we whirled and twirled around the dance floor in the past!

Til next time...Gary

**SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE**

This event is complimentary to the PLCTM Membership. However, we are accepting sponsors!!! Sponsorships are available a \$250 or \$500 and will be listed in the event program.

2023 Sponsors to date are: \$500—Charlie & Christine Hoelscher  
\$250—Po.L.K. of A.



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**You are invited to Join  
The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum**

**Celebrating  
Donors, Sponsors & Community Partners  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023  
11:00—4 PM**

**FAIR PAVILLION—LA GRANGE FAIRGROUNDS**

- 11:00 AM — The Gathering**
- 11:30 — Mass by Father Jared Cooke**
- 12:30 PM — Buffet Lunch**
- 1:30 — The Ennis Czech Boys  
Music & Dance**
- 4:00 — Adjourn**
- 4:00-6:00 — Museum Open House**



**RESERVATION RSVP | Due — By Monday, October 2, 2023 @ 1PM CST**

**Reservations or Questions—Email interest to: info@PLCTM.com or Call Gary @ 713.252.2162**

**PLCT Museum Members — Complimentary—RSVP Required**

**Po. L. K. of A. Members —\$15 | Gathering, Mass, Buffet & Dance—RSVP Required**

**Non Members —\$20 | Gathering, Mass, Buffet & Dance- RSVP Required**

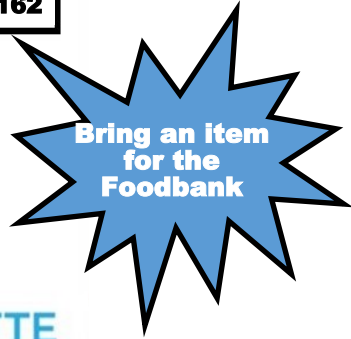
**Non Members —\$10 | Dance Only—NO RSVP Required**

**FOR ACCOMMODATIONS IN CITY OF LA GRANGE & FAYETTE COUNTY, TEXAS**



<https://www.visitlagrangetx.com>

<https://www.visitfayettecounty.com>



**ANNUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIPS (ASM) @ \$20 PER PERSON/YEAR**  
**3RD QUARTER 2023**

*Member Renewal*  
**Appreciation**



**July:**

No Renewals Received

**September:**

John D. & Kari Cooke

Larry & Evelyn Maresh

**August:**

Randall E. & Carol F. Gardner

Ron Foley

Edward & Virginia Leach

William & Michelle Pavlas

Frank L. & Georgia A. Bohuslav

Our members are lifesavers!



W e l c o m e New Members

No New Members

**MEMORIALS HONORING LOVED ONES, FRIENDS, MEMBERS, LEADERS**



A total of \$150.00 was received, this quarter, from those of you who honor and value the life your honoree lived on this earth, their love, their leadership... the difference they made. And; we treasure your generosity ensuring the preservation of polka dance & music to live on.

They would be honored to know you remembered them in this way.

**John & Margaret Zalesak**

Randall E. & Carol F. Gardner

**Rudy Patek**

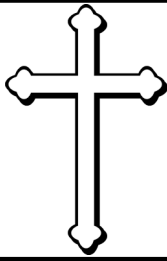
Loretta Freytag

**Charlotte & Walter Hoelscher**

Janie (Hoelscher) & William Wood

**Gloria Mae Frances Dubus Schwartz**

**Gary & Carol Bucek**



with deepest *Sympathy*



**IN LOVING MEMORY:  
"FOREVER REMEMBERED - FOREVER MISSED"**



**MELBA LOU (JOHNSON) BOHUSLAV  
February 4, 1937- June 23, 2023**

Melba, also known to friends as Lou, was born near Carthage, TX, on February 4, 1937, the daughter of Bernice (Nail) and Edgar Johnson. She met the love of her life and married Benjamin Bohuslav on February 11, 1984, at St. John Vi-anney Catholic Church in Houston.

Lou was a member of Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Hostyn, TX. She was an excellent cook, seamstress, homemaker and gardener. Melba was a talented painter and among her many works of art for friends and family, she painted the 13th hole at Augusta for her husband, a gift that he cherishes. She was a devoted wife and mother and had a special place in her heart for her grandchildren. She was also a loyal friend, a good neighbor and generous benefactor.

Lou is survived by husband, Benjamin Bohuslav; daughter, Sarah Michelle Smith of Houston, TX; sons Lane West Smith of Scottsdale, AZ; and Hollis David Smith and wife, Debbie of Colville, WA; stepchildren: Steven Bohuslav and wife, Connie of Austin, TX, and Sarah Heidaker and husband, Paul of Fulshear, TX; grandchildren Carly Brown and husband, Tony of Houston, TX; Hannah Ford of Houston, TX; Emma Blumentritt and husband, Eric of Houston, TX; Aaron Davis and wife, Catrina of Colville, WA, Gabriella Smith of Colville, WA and Stanley Smith of Colville, WA; step-grandchildren: Curtis Bohuslav and wife, Sarah of Austin, TX; Blake Bohuslav and wife, Nicole of Austin TX, Cole Heidaker and wife Lindsay, of Katy, TX and Cade Heidaker of Katy, TX; great-grandchildren: Benjamin Brown, Liam Brown, Andrew Karels, Margaret and Catherine Blumentritt, Ellise Davis, Zachary Davis, Kyra Davis, Shyce Davis, Cade Davis, Johnny Smith; step-great grandchildren: Kinley Bohuslav, Taylor Bohuslav, Brooke Bohuslav; and brother, Joe Dan Johnson of Beaumont, TX and nephews Kevin Johnson of Houston, TX and Jeffrey Johnson of Beaumont, TX.

A Memorial Service was held at Koenig-Belvill Funeral Home & Cremations, 208 W. Pearl, La Grange, TX, at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. with Rev. Fr. Felix Twumasi officiating.

A graveside service will be held at a later date at the Forest Park, Lawndale Cemetery, 6900 Lawndale St. Houston, TX 77023.

**HAROLD KOSEL**

**August 20, 1927 - September 4, 2023**

Harold Frank Kosel, 96, Charter Member of the PLCTM, passed away peacefully in San Angelo, Texas on September 4, 2023 with family by his side. Harold was born on August 20, 1927 in Barclay, Texas to Edward A. Kosel and Emilie Voltin; he was the oldest of 4 children.

Harold married the love of his life, Jane Hoelscher, at the Church of the Visitation in Westphalia, Texas on June 1, 1954. They met at a church dance and continued polka dancing throughout their years together. From 1989 thru 2019 they were very active members of the Polka Lovers Klub of America. He liked to spend his free time working on cars, stock market investing, keeping up with polka band schedules, polka dancing, and enjoying time with family.

Harold is survived by his 5 children: James Kosel and wife Cynthia, John Kosel and wife Happy, Thomas Kosel, Linda Murphy and husband Kevin, and Ted Kosel and wife Jennifer. He is survived by 7 Grandchildren; his sister Carolyn Hartman and brother Ray Kosel.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Helena who lived for a short period of time, and his wife, Jane, who he was married to for 65 years.

A funeral service was held at the Church of The Visitation in Westphalia, Texas on September 19th with final Prayers and military presentation at the nearby cemetery pavilion.





**LEONA HERZIK**  
**May 29, 1926—September 15, 2023**

Leona Herzik, 97, of Praha, passed away on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023. She was born on May 29, 1926 to Charles Pilat Sr. and Annie Klekar Pilat.

Leona is survived by sons Marshall Herzik (Debbie) of Schulenburg, and Michael Herzik of Houston; daughter Marcia Truchard (Jim) of Austin; 11 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Leona was preceded in death by her parents, husband Harry Herzik, daughter Mariela Herzik Lemon, brothers Charles Pilat and Frank Pilat, and sisters Annie Migl and Della Janek.

Visitation, rosary and funeral Mass were held Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023 at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Praha. Catholic Church in Praha followed by a rosary at 9:30 a.m. Burial: St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Praha.

Fond memories and words of comfort can be shared with the family at [www.smithfuneraltx.com](http://www.smithfuneraltx.com).

**CHARLOTTE BEATRICE HOELSCHER**  
**March 25, 1921 —January 13, 2005**

**WALTER EUGENE HOELSCHER**  
**May 25, 1918—January 8, 2002**

**Charlotte Beatrice Hoelscher** was born March 25, 1921, in Wellington, Kansas, to Edwin Josiah Gorton and Beatrice Muriel Kneefe Shults. She passed away in Houston, Texas, on January 13, 2005, at the age of 83. She was lovingly named Grandma and GG and was a registered nurse.

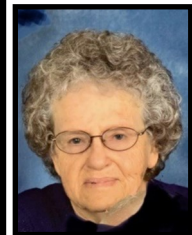
She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Walter Eugene Hoelscher and son, PFC John Michael Hoelscher, USMC, parents and two brothers.

The memorial to Charlotte Beatrice and Walter Eugene Hoelscher was lovingly provided by their daughter, Janie Hoelscher (Bird) Wood.

**RUDY PATEK**  
**December 13, 1938—June 7, 2023**  
Full Obituary printed in 2nd Quarter Newsletter



**GLORIA MAE FRANCES DEBUS SCHWARTZ**  
**February 9, 1935—September 2, 2023**



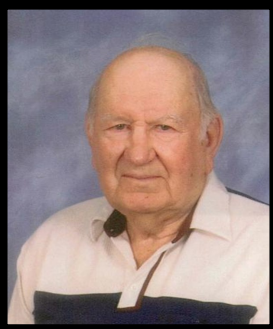
Gloria Mae Frances Debus Schwartz, 88, passed away peacefully surrounded by her husband, seven children and spouses on the evening of September 2, 2023 in San Angelo, Texas where she was born on February 8, 1935 to John and Amelia Debus. She grew up working on the farm in Wall, Texas with her four sisters raising cattle, turkeys, ducks, chickens, sheep, guineas, geese and anything else that would make money. Her parents made sure that all the girls were educated and she became a very creative teacher and made a lasting impression on her students. As adults, her students would seek her out to reminiscence.

Gloria married the love of her life, Erwin Frank Schwartz Sr., on July 2, 1959 after courting for many years and became a proud supporter of the Wall community.

She is remembered by Gary and Carol Bucek, family members of the Schwartz family.

In Memory

Of...



**JOHN JOSEPH ZALESAK**  
1922—July 19, 2011

**MARGARET MARIE ZALESAK**  
March 3, 1927— January 9, 2019



Margaret Marie Zalesak, 91, of Crosby, Texas, passed away January 9, 2019. She was born on March 3, 1927 in Crosby, Texas to Anton Mozisek and Justine Prasek Mozisek. Margaret was married to the love of her life, John, for 65 years, and together they raised their seven children. Over the years, she enjoyed traveling to Polka dances with him. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John.

John and Margaret are remembered by their daughter and son-in-law Randall E. & Carol F. Gardner

**MEMORIALS IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

If you have someone you would like to honor, complete the form on Page 10 of this publication. You may complete it and mail to the PLCTM at P.O. Box 72, La Grange, TX 78945. You will receive a letter of acknowledgement and appreciation.

The family of the honoree will be gently notified.

**Your gift ensures Polka Music and Dance will live on!**

**IN OUR PRAYERS FOR CONTINUED SPEEDY RECOVERIES**

**Joyce Bohuslav, Lorine Crist, Loretta Freytag, Sheryl Pavlas-Harris,  
Weldon and Delores Schulte**

**Positive energy going your way !!!**

**ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS—THANK YOU!!**

**A total of \$270 was received by the following members.**

**Alfred and Bernice Vrazel**

**Connie Rice Ames**

Every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter is correct. Should there be inaccuracies, please share any omissions or errors to Gary Bucek by calling him @713.252.2162 or Carol Artz-Bucek @ 832.202.5845; or, email your documentation to info@plctm.com with full details.

PLCTM is a section 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) organization.

Gifts are eligible for a tax deduction to the extent provided by law for federal income tax purposes.



For those of you who inquired, the Board of Directors took action to provide a ...  
**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP OPTION**

Beginning October 1st for individuals who wish to pay a one time fee for a lifetime.

**NO ANNUAL PAYMENT!!!...See Page 7 for Details and Instructions for Applying.**



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Po.L.K.of A. Exhibit

**Lifetime Membership  
 Application**

**A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP  
 is entered in the name of an individual,  
 organization or business and is  
 "NOT" transferable.**

**Lifetime Membership Application in the Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum**

If this membership is confidential, indicate to whom all correspondence should be directed.  
 To enroll, complete the following information, make payment and return.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile No.: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred  Text  Email

Make check to: PLCTM, P. O. Box 72, LaGrange, TX 78945

Full payment enclosed \$1,000.00 Check # \_\_\_\_\_

-----Cut & Enclose With Payment -----Benefits Listed On Back Of This Page-----

**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

The enthusiasm of the 2023 Board of Directors, led to the development of one of the most prestigious and helpful programs in which any *Museum Member* or *Want To Be Member* may engage. The Lifetime Membership Program begins October 1, 2023. At its inception, the program is designed to provide funding for the continued development of The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum (PLCTM) to provide a facility for preserving, promoting and educating polka music and dance. While serving as an honor to those who either choose to invest in a Lifetime Membership or for whom others wish to make an investment, out of respect, and recognition, for another person, this program will be significant to achieve that goal.

When one becomes a Lifetime Member, it is both an investment in the future of the PLCTM and an honor and privilege; the contribution for growth and development is clear. The privilege and honor to the Lifetime Member is found in recognition as a contributing member and is quite often presented in recognition of service to one's community and culture.

Any member or person may become a Lifetime Member, either by self-enrollment or by enrollment as a gift from or to a loved one, friend, organization or business. The above form may be used to enroll. Being a Lifetime Member demonstrates faith in preserving, promoting and educating polka music and dance.

Questions relating to the Lifetime Membership Program may be directed to Gary Bucek, President.

### **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

A **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP** is entered in the name of an Individual, Organization or Business. The membership is "NOT" transferable.

A Lifetime Membership is considered a full membership in the museum until no longer living or doing business. It is not to be confused with goodwill Donations, The Endowment Fund, Charter Member Status or Memorials honoring loved ones, associates or friends.

Any existing Museum Member, Person, Organization or Business may enroll as a Lifetime Member in the PLCTM. It may be purchased as an award or an honor for an individual or another museum member; it may also be purchased by a spouse or family as a gift.

Upon completion of the one time full payment of \$1,000.00, the registrant...

- Becomes a Lifetime Member, No Annual Dues
- Permanent recognition on The Museum's Lifetime Member Display Plaque
- Presented a Lifetime Membership Name Badge
- Presented with Lifetime Membership Certificate
- Presented a Magnetic Lifetime Membership Cling
- Recognized in each Quarterly Newsletter
- Complimentary Passes to Member Events
- Recognized by Event Master of Ceremonies
- Recognition in Event Programs





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## OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT THE MUSEUM

----- Cut along the perforated lines for your option to support the Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum -----

### ANNUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

\$20 Per Person Per Year - Renewable on Anniversary Month

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) | Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Full Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE GIFT

Honor a Family Member, Friend, Business Associate or PLCTM Member with an Honorary Tribute. Financial gifts in any amount, are greatly accepted and appreciated! All memorials are listed in the newsletter.  
 The family of the recipient is notified of your thoughtful gift.

Donor Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

### Acknowledge Gift To:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address) \_\_\_\_\_

### WILL BEQUESTS

If you wish to include The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum in your will, take the below sample wording to your estate attorney, who will ensure your wishes are correctly put in place.

*"I give, devise and bequeath to The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum (PLCTM), Federal Tax I.D. No. 37-1544544, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ % of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate for its general purposes and/or endowment."*

Benefactor \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTRIBUTE TO PLCTM ENDOWMENT FUND

A financial contribution used to complete the PLCTM Museum's \$100,000.00 Endowment Goal for the Preservation, Promotion and Education of Polka Music and Dance benefiting the objective of keeping our polka heritage alive for future generations. Specified funds received are dedicated to that purpose.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

### ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE RECEIVED WITH DEEP GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum (PLCTM) is a Non-Profit (c)(3) Corporation. Its success is dependent on contributions, donations, gifts and grants from businesses, corporations, individuals, members, municipalities and non-profit organizations interested in the Preservation, Promotion and Education of Polka Music and Dance.

**All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law.**