



Meet your CPA Officers and Board 4 Questions for Trustee Wayne Slepecky

(That is Wayne with wife Anna at
Yellowstone)

How long have you been a member of the CPA?

I believe I joined in 2006. We had attended a number of polka dances and at St. Stans Paul Namitka and Sylvia approached us and made us feel so welcome that we joined the CPA then and there

How did you first become involved with polka music and the polka community?

When I was growing up my parents, my brothers and I would watch Polka Varieties on TV. I came to love Johnny Vadnal and Johnny Pecon. I didn't realize there were different styles of Polkas until later. My buddies and I used to go to Carbs and The Golden Mule to listen to Polkas (and meet the ladies). Decades later, I saw an advertisement for a polka festival Memorial Day weekend in Cleveland and decided to go on a whim. At the first dance I saw Polka Family and watched Hank play a bass and trumpet simultaneously and I was hooked.

What would you say is one of your favorite Polka memories?

There are so many but the ones that stand out are... our first polka cruise when Polka Family and Polka Country Musicians played on the back deck together with a full moon overhead. Another was in Frankenmuth, the final set when Polka Family, PCM and Lenny Gomulka played a set together. It seems like Polka Family is a recurring theme doesn't it?

You and Anna travel extensively by motorcycle. What places would you recommend for us to visit and why?

Well, certainly, taking a motorcycle trip around Alaska was phenomenal and an experience that would be hard to top. But, I'd also recommend Yellowstone and Utah. The scenery is so varied and unique. Monument Valley would absolutely amaze you.