



Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

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NUMBER 1

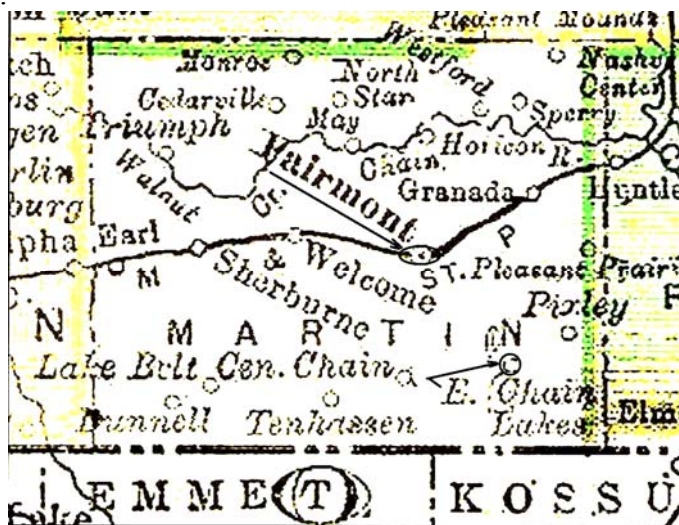
DROBNE ECHA

Installment #19

Dateline: East Chain and Fairmont
From *Wiarus* and *Katolik*, 1886 - 1906

By Greg Kishel
<gfk1@cornell.edu>

Of the several dozen rural Polish settlements throughout Minnesota, the ones in Martin County, along the Iowa border, were among the smallest and least-noticed. It appears that the *Polskie farmerzy* around Fairmont and in East Chain Township did not write frequently to the Polish-language newspapers; however, their area did get published attention from time to time during the first two decades of their settlement there. The following are my translations of letters, “infomercials,” and short items from these locales in far southern Minnesota, that John Radziłowski and I discovered in our separate reviews of Winona’s *Wiarus* and *Katolik*.



Map of Martin County (1895)

Source: www.MemorialLibrary.com – used with permission

From *Wiarus*, August 12, 1886:

Farms around GNIEZNO.

CHICAGO, July 19, 1886.

Our Esteemed Editor is kindly requested to publish the following correspondence:

It is known to all of us, that Poles scattered over the whole United States are crowded in the cities, which are packed so full that one cannot imagine how all can feed themselves. Some of the factories are closed; and though in others several score are still working, these have to labor for dirt-cheap wages. Countrymen, do you not see

East Chain/Fairmont Article

...continued on page 15

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Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

A Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society
1185 No. Concord St.
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<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnpolgs/pgs-mn.html>>

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Web Site.....Jason Waldowski

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter

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The *Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter* is published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Subscription to the *Newsletter* is included with membership. Dues are \$20.00 per year or \$50 for three years.

Please use application form on advertising insert.

Items submitted for publication are welcomed and encouraged. We require that feature-length articles be submitted exclusively to PGS-MN. Articles, letters, book reviews, news items, queries, etc. should be sent to: John Kowles, editor, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 3429-45th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406-2924 or to e-mail: <johnkow@q.com>.

Address/e-mail changes or membership questions?

Contact: Dori Marszalek, Membership Chair
3901 - 61st Ave. N., Brooklyn Center MN 55429-2403
or e-mail: <doripgs@comcast.net>

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President's Letter

As we Minnesotans emerge from our “winter of the deep snow,” we leave behind some very productive genealogical time. We had a wonderful Annual Meeting Luncheon in January. I thank Terry Kita and the whole gang that produced that event. Besides the necessary voting function, it is a great opportunity to meet members and socialize.

Wherever you live, we hope your winter went well. But wait, don't put those manila folders and three-ring binders back on the shelf just yet. We have some great events planned that will bring you into the fall. Specifically, we have a presentation on Polish history on April 10 and another on May 1 by a well-known author regarding writing your family history. Details of the May 1 meeting are found elsewhere in this newsletter. I wanted to mention that the small fee (\$5) that we are asking for these meetings is simply to defray the cost of the two speakers as they must travel to the Twin Cities for these events. The presenters are both college professors and their time and effort are truly worth the fee. If you haven't been to a meeting lately because of the weather, put both of these on your calendar now.

We then break our meeting schedule for the summer until September. But, look for us at the second annual Twin City Polish Festival in Minneapolis on August 14-15. We will have a table at this popular local event and would love to have you bring the family by to chat.

Sincerely,
Jerome Biedny

Twin City Polish Festival – August 14-15, 2010

It will again be held on the Mississippi River waterfront in Minneapolis. Details will be provided in the next newsletter. Plan to attend.



The Bulletin Board

PGS-MN Future Meetings

Trinity of Family History: Genealogy, Places, and Stories – 10 a.m. May 1 at MGS Library

The talk will be given by Joseph A. Amato, Professor Emeritus of History and Rural and Regional Studies at Southwest State University in Marshall. He will argue that to know a family it must be known in place and time; its movements and migrations; and finally the stories, true and false, it tells about itself. His illustrations will principally be drawn from two recent books, *Jacob's Well: A Case for Rethinking Family History* and *Coal Cousins: Rusyn And Sicilian Stories & Anthracite Histories*, and an earlier publication, *Rethinking Home: A Case for Writing Local History*. All this would give substance to genealogy. A nominal \$5 fee will be charged.

MGS Sponsored Programs

Minnesota History Fair – April 17

This is a full-day program featuring immigration history and beginning family history research for many ethnic groups.

Publishing Your Family History (Three-part course) May 2, 16 and 23 1-3 p.m.

For further details visit: <www.mnsgs.org>.

Provocative Polish Films - 28th Annual Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival April 15-30, St. Anthony Main Theatre, Mpls.

Three Polish films will be shown; see <www.mspfilmfest.org> for details.

United Polish Genealogical Societies Conference – April 28 to May 1, 2010

UPGS will be holding its biennial conference in Salt Lake City. PGS-Michigan has planned this event in conjunction with the National Genealogical Society. All lectures will be at the Salt Palace Convention Center – a short distance from the Family History Library. Rooms have been arranged with four hotels. The four-day non-member conference cost is \$210-245 for four days or \$95-100 for one day. For overall conference information check: <www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info>.

Of interest to Polish attendees are the following: Wednesday, April 28, 7 p.m.- UPGS Banquet featuring nationally-known speaker Loretto Szucs. On Friday, April 30 – A day of five sessions on Polish travel, court and census records; genealogy in Poland today, archives and finding your village aids. For more specific description about the Polish track you can go to *Gen Dobry!*, Vol. XI, No. 1, January 2010 Polish Roots® at <<http://www.PolishRoots.org>>.

Trip to Western Ukraine June 4 – June 21

The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group is sponsoring this tour. For details go to <<http://www.torugg.org>> and click on “Trip to Western Ukraine.”

MGS Quarterly Meeting – June 26, 2010 at College of St. Scholastica, Duluth

The Twin Ports Genealogical Society will be hosting the Minnesota Genealogical Society’s quarterly meeting in Duluth on Saturday, 26 June 2010 at the College of St. Scholastica. Confirmed speakers are Carrie Herfindahl (Scandinavian research), Greg Kishel (Polish research), Mary Lou Voelk (Slovenian research), Mary Bakeman (using maps), Joanne M. Sher (topic to be determined) and a speaker from either MHS or MGS (topic to be determined). Tony Dierckins, Duluth book publisher, will be the opening speaker. Genealogy experts will answer your questions during lunch and Park Genealogical Books will be set up for your genealogical book needs.

UWM Summer Study in Poland - Starting July 3

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee announces its 2010 annual Summer Study program in Poland at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. The five-week Polish language course (July 3-August 9) includes 100 hours of instruction at beginning, intermediate or advanced levels, plus lectures on Polish culture and sightseeing. Cost estimate: \$2,850, including tuition, room and board, and 5 UWM credits, plus round-trip air transportation Chicago-Warsaw-Chicago.

For information and application materials contact: Professor Michael J. Mikos, Dept. of Foreign Languages and Linguistics, Univ. of Wis.-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201 (414) 229-4151 or 4948, e-mail: <mikos@uwm.edu> or check <www.lrc.uwm.edu/tour>

PGSA 32nd Conference – October 1-2 at Hilton Hotel, Oak Lawn, Illinois

A number of experienced presenters with in-depth knowledge of specific aspects of Polish genealogy will share their insights. Examples include: Lutheran records, triggers of mass immigration, unearthing treasures in Polish language records and many other topics. For detail information check: <www.pgsa.org>.

MGS North Star Conference – October 1-2 At Library For program details check MGS web site: <<http://mngs.org>>.

PGS-MN Recent Meetings

Annual Meeting – January 16

The Annual PGS-MN business meeting was held on January 16 at *Gasthof zur Gemütlichkeit* restaurant in Minneapolis. About 50 attendees were present. The following members were elected to two-year terms:

Treasurer – Mike Eckman
Secretary – Dana Halberg-Ridley
Director – Dori Marszalak
Director – Janet Mitchell

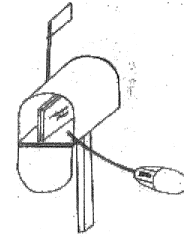
Mike Eckman (Treasurer) presented the financial report which is provided on page 8. The 2009 receipts were lower than those for 2008, largely due to prepaid multi-year memberships in 2008. Dues were close to budget but library donations were lower than budget. Our participation in the Polish Festival caused the Meeting expense to exceed the budget and the charges for program attendance.

Dori Maszalak (Membership) reported the membership is currently 292 – an increase for the year. Membership was bolstered by the Twin City Festival and an out-state meeting. After lunch, members were invited to speak and participate in a geography quiz. Several prizes were awarded.

Members-Sharing Session - Feb. 27

Three members (Adam Mikrot, Tom Boelz and Janet Mitchell) shared their genealogy search. Janet's presentation was a reminder how convoluted family trees can become. She was able to link Adam's and Tom's families—at least by marriage, which was previously unknown.

Correspondence ... *Komunikacja*

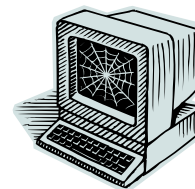


I received the research you ran for the surname Ciesla. Thank you so much. The info is so valuable to me, it fills in the gaps of my Grandparents' info and showed me who my mother's godparents were and where she was baptized. I really appreciated it and I will send a donation to the person you named in your letter.

Thank you,

Barb Kelly

Records available from area Polish churches are listed on page 23. Visit our web site for more index details.



<http://>

Canadian Passenger Lists 1865-1935

Ancestry.com has completed a data base consisting of 8 million records of arrivals at various ports (Halifax, Montreal, etc.). The database includes 750,000 arrivals between the years 1919-1924. You can view the index at:

<<http://search.ancestry.ca/db.aspx?dbid=1263>>.

If you want to view the image (provides the dates, etc.) you will need to sign up for a 14-day trial or paid subscription. However, at the MGS library or a location that has a subscription the full record will be available for viewing and copying.

When I tested this site the database seems to lean toward the years after 1900 but I think this still can be a valuable resource if you are stumped on your ancestor's arrival.
–JWK

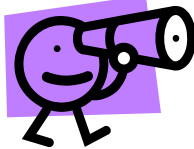
Austrian Research Databases

This new site features almost 1.37 million records from current lands and those formally ruled by Austria, so this would include Galicia. The site is free and only requires registration. You can check out what databases they have by going to their web site and clicking on overview. <<http://www.GenTeam.at>>

Polish Military Records

Ceil Jensen's blog contains an interesting military site. Of particular interest to me was the list of soldiers killed in World War I (1918-1920). My great uncle Jan Jaworski was killed on the Russian front and this is all we knew of him. It turns out, however, there were seven Jan Jaworskis in the database and at least three died in Russia. You can find the actual record by clicking DjVu which is a plug-in that enables you to read the original document. (If you don't have this software you can download it free from Lizard Technology.) Unfortunately the database does not provide the place of birth or age but does have the rank and squad which might enable one to trace to the correct record. The web site also cautions the user it is not complete. There are several other records of interest in the blog which you can find at: <<http://upgs.blogspot.com>> or go directly to <<http://www.genealodzy.pl>> where you can find the appropriate link.

-JWK

**Scanning Polish Publications****MGS Minnesota Genealogist****Vol. 40, No. 3, Autumn 2009**

"Alien Registration Records of 1918: A Unique Minnesota Resource"

By Duane P. Swanson

"Researching in Roman Catholic Church Parish Records in Minnesota"

By Mary Kathleen "Kathy" Lund

"Marriages at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Stillwater, Minnesota, Part I, 1852-1872"

By Mary Kathleen "Kathy" Lund

PACIM PolAm**Vol. 31, No.12, December 2009**

"Gniezno" *The Eagles Nest and Cradle of the Polish Nation*

KANA Przejòcél Lèdu Kaszëbsczégò (Friend of the Kashubian People)**Vol. XIII, No. 4, Winter 2009**

"How Many Kaszubs are There?"

"Where do the Kaszubs Live?"

Excerpts from *The Kashubs Today, Culture-Language-Identity*

By Cezary Obracht-Prondzynski

"Köslin 1945 – Kozalin 2009"

Canadian Tourist Solves "Cold Case of Two Skeletons for Polish Police"

By Peter von Pazatka Lipinsky

Die Pommerschen (The Pomeranian People)**Volume 32, Issue 4, Winter 2009**

"Griep, Grijp, Grip Worldwide" (*Several authors discuss the origin of the name in Pomerania.*)

PGS of New York State Searchers**No. 52, Issue 3 2009**

"Who are These People? Identifying Photos Now for Future Generations"

By Denise Oliansky

PGS of Conn. & N.E. Pathways and Passages**Vol. 25, No. 2, Summer 2009**

"No Vital Records? Is the Research Journey Over?"

By Aleksandra Kacprzak

"Immigrant Ships: Images and Descriptions"

By Maralyn A. Wellauer-Lenius, M.A.

(*includes many resource web sites*)

PGSA Rodziny**Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, Winter 2010**

"The State Historical Archives in Vilnius-Lithuanian Roulette"

By Iwona Dakiniewicz

"Genealogical and Historical Research Sources on Jews of the City of Poznań"

By Edward David Luft

PGS of Massachusetts Biuletyn Korzenie**Vol. 21, No. 1, March 2010**

"Indexing Polish Church Records, An Insider's Perspective" By Lukasz Bielecki

PGS of California Bulletin**Vol. 22, No. 1, January 2010**

"Seven Anthropological Types in the Polish Commonwealth" By Rosemary Chorzempa

Note: These publications and many others can be found in the Polish section of the MGS library.

Missing Branches ...continued from page 32

Tom Laska, 5708 Garfield Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55419 <tjlaska@comcast.net> is researching LASKA in Poznan and in Winona MN.

Elizabeth Krusiec Loughrin, 8193 Galway Rd., Woodbury MN 55125 <e@brownbirdstudios.com> is KRUSIEC in Michalowitsa, Kielce, Russia and in Chicago IL.

Mary Victoria Myslajek, 3806-46th Ave. N., Robbinsdale MN 55422 <mary.myslajek@hcmcd.com> is researching MASLAJEK, MIGACZ, GRABSKA in southern Poland and in Minneapolis.

RENEWALS--*The following members indicated updated information on their renewal forms:*

Jerome Bambenek, 1306-21st St. W., Hastings MN 55033, <bambenek@embarqmail.com> is researching BAMBENEK in Rotembark in Poland; LOSINSKI in Wiele; KIEDROWSKI in Libusz; STANISŁOWSKI in ? and all in Pine Creek/Dodge WI.

Kay Blaha, 3325-70th St. W., Northfield MN 55057 <kayblaha@integra.net> is researching LAZEWSKI in Trzek, Czerlino in Poland; BULERA, KISZKA in ?, Poland; and all in St. Paul MN.

Ronald Galewski, 725-38th Ave., Winona MN 55987 <rongal@hbc.com> is researching GALEWSKI in Koscierzyna in Poland and in Milwaukee WI.

Joanne M. Holme, 9923 Aetna Ave. N.E., Monticello MN 55362 <Holmetwo@aol.com> is researching KAMINSKI in Myslakowo in Poland and in Minneapolis; PATRZEK in Brinnitz and in Minnesota; SZYMANSKI in Posen and in Silver Lake MN.

Kevin and Mary Ann Johnson, 3210-139th Ln. N.W., Andover MN 55304 <kmmmkjohnson@msn.com> are researching

MANIAK, DUDA, CIESIELSKI in Raschkow and Bieganin, Poznan, Poland and in Buffalo NY, Superior WI and Split Rock Township MN; OWEZAREK, NOWICKI, MYNARCZYKA, SZYDTOWSKA, WITKOWSKA, SERWANSKI, TOKARSKA, KOMOROWSKI, DROSZYNSKA, GAPINWICZ in Raschkow and Bieganin; BUTKIEWICZ in Russian Poland and in Superior WI and Kettle River MN; SZEDIS in Vilna, Lithuania and Russian Poland and in Superior and Kettle River; KRZESZEWSKI (KRISKE) in Kozielsko and Doruchów, Poznan and in Duluth and Gnesen Township, MN; KUBICKI in Mieścisko and Miloslawice, Poznan and in Duluth; MYSZKA (MUSOLF), BANACH, BAUS in Łekno and Kozielsko, Poznan and in Duluth and Gnesen Township; MYSZAK (MUSOLF) in Smuszewo and Panigródz Stary, Poznan and in Duluth; DAMAZYN (DAMAZYNSKI) in Keynia (Exin) and Panigródz Stary, Poznan and in Duluth; JURKOWSKI in Poznan; WACHOWIAK in Mieścisko and Zabiczyn, Poznan and in Winona, Duluth and Gnesen Township; BACZKOWIANKA in Mieścisko; OLSZEWSKI. They write: "You are doing a great job. We like the monthly meetings and topics."

Amy Jowers, 215-10th Ave. S., #720, Minneapolis MN 55415 <puma79@comcast.net> is researching WOLAK in ? in Poland and in Pennsylvania, Illinois and Minnesota.

Reta Kostecky, 29 Shady Valley Dr., Conway AR 72034 <rkostecky@hotmail.com> is researching URBANIAK, MICHALSKI in Minnesota and KALIST in Illinois.

Dr. Roger F. Krentz, 88 Guindon Blvd., Fond du Lac WI 54935-5866 <rogerfk201@yahoo.com> is researching DUSZYŃSKI, POLUS, BUKOWSKI in Ludomy, Oborniki, Poznań; MARCHEL, CZARAPATA in Runowo, Wyrzysk, Poznań; KRENTZ, IZBAN in Morzewo, Chodzież, Poznań; CZAJKOWSKI in Czeszewo, Wągrowiecki [Wągrowiec], Poznań; and all in Green Lake Co. and Marquette Co. WI.

Jim and Lim Kulas, 7536 Red Hill Dr.,
Springfield VA 22153
<polishpop1@earthlink.net> is researching
ZABROCKI and/or ZABROCKA in Wiele in
Poland and in Warsaw ND.

Ron Kurpiers, 461 Sibley St., St. Paul MN
55101 <rkurpiers@earthlink.net> is researching
KURPIERS/KURPIERZ in Opole in Poland and
in Browerville, Todd County MN.

Arthur D. Lang, 1832 W. Crone Ave., Anaheim
CA 92804 <adlang@att.net> is researching
MYSLIŃSKI-CICHOCKI in Brodnica, Swiecie,
Pokrzydowo, Lipowiec in the District of Torun and
in Cohasset MN and Bevent, Pike Lake, Hatley WI.
He writes: "It would be nice to get data on emigrant
settlements of society members' families."

*Arthur, we regularly feature articles about
Polish settlements in Minnesota and in the
upper Midwest in our newsletter (see, for
example, the feature article on page 1 by Greg
Kishel in this issue) though we have yet to
feature an article on Cohasset or the Wisconsin
locales that you mention. Readers: If you know
anything about Polish settlement in those areas
be sure to let us and Arthur know. PTK*

Janet Magnuson, 46 Garden Dr., Burnsville
MN 55337-4144 <janmagnuson@gmail.com> is
researching DANIELSKI (aka DANIELESKI,
DANELSKI) in Exyn, Bydgoszcz (was Kcynia,
Poland); KOCIKOWSKI, SZYMANSKA
(mother of Johann Kocikowski) in possibly the
same area in Poland; and all in St. Paul MN.

*I am sure the city Janet is referring to is Kcynia
which still exists in Poland; however,
phonetically it sounds like Exyn. There is no X
in Polish unless in a foreign word. JWK*

Dori A Marszalek, 3901-61st Ave. N. Brooklyn
Center MN 55429 <dorim@comcast.net> is
researching the DZIWISZ, JAVES, JAVIS,
STACHNIK, RUSNIAK, RUSNAK surnames in
Krakow in Poland and in Minneapolis MN.

Ronald Niziolek, 12275 Rush Circle, Elk River
MN 55330 <RNiziolek@msn.com> is
researching NIZIOLEK, MIKOS in Iwonicz,
Poland.

Ann T. Pohl, 20187 Farnham Ave. N., Forest
Lake MN 55025 is researching the SCZANSKI
surname.

Michael Rasinski, 2516 W. 70 1/2 St.,
Richfield MN 55423 <راسي0006@gmail.com> is
researching RASINSKI, CICHON, PATYK in
Galicia and in Saint Paul, Morrison County,
MN. He comments: "The newsletter is great!"

Dan Schyma, 2149-126th Ave. N.W., Coon Rapids
MN 55448 <danschyma@msn.com> is researching
BOŻYCH/BORZYCH in the general area of
Mrocza, Drażno, Bydgoszcz in Poland and in
Chicago to Menominee WI to Gilman MN;
SCHYMA/SZYMA in the Opole area in Poland and
RZANY in Ochotz/Ochodze in Poland and both in
the Gilman, Ramsey, Morrill MN area.

Jim Thelen, 3169 Traci Lane, Dewitt MI 48820
<jimthelen@comcast.net> is researching
CZECH/ZECH in Birkowitz/Bierkowice;
MOGTZKO in Frauendorf/Wroblin; MUNDRY
in Opeeln; PRUCHA in Bohemia and all in
Hartford/Browerville, Todd County MN.

Dee Wielinski, 205 S.W. 4th St., Little Falls MN
<dlemay65@msn.com> is researching WIELINSKI
in Poznan in Poland and in Swan River MN,
RICHTER in Pozan [Posen, Germany or Poznań,
Poland] and in Swan River; OLEK in Poland and in
Pike Creek MN.



Award

PGS-MN Member Shirley Mask Connolly and
David Shulist (President of the Wilno Heritage
Society) flew to Warsaw last October 20. They
were presented with a diploma from the Foreign
Minister of Poland, Radisław Sikorski for the
outstanding work done by the Wilno Heritage
Society in promoting Poland in Canada. Wilno
(a hamlet near Ottawa, Ontario) is the oldest
Polish settlement in Canada and is also known
as Canada's Kashub Heartland.

Congratulations!

PGS-MN 2009 Financial Report



Fryderyk Franciszek Chopin Bicentennial Birth Anniversary

Chopin was born either February 22 or March 1, 1810 in Żelazowa Wola which is located about 35 miles directly east of Warsaw. He was born of a Polish mother and French émigré father. Two hundred and thirty of his works survive. He left Poland at age 20 after the outbreak of the November Uprising and eventually moved to Paris. He never returned to Poland and died on October 17, 1849.

Chopin was buried in Paris but his heart was removed and sealed in a pillar in Holy Cross Church on Krakowskie Przedmieś Street in Warsaw.

Chopin concerts are usually held in Żelazowa Wola where his museum is located and Łazienki Park in Warsaw on summer Sundays.



PGS-MN Web Site Corner

The PGS-MN Board approved a privacy policy on February 27 to protect membership information. The policy is available on the web site. In addition the Constitution, which was approved by the membership in 2008, is also available there. The long web site, courtesy of Rootsweb, is on page 2 or just go to Google, "PGS-MN."

	2008 Actual	2009 Budget	2009 Actual
Starting Cash Balance	\$4,791.07	\$8,115.19	\$8,115.19
RECEIPTS			
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
Back Issues	188.00	200.00	127.00
Donations / Library Fund	404.36	300.00	118.95
Dues	6,655.00	3,120.00	3,290.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Attendance	1,510.00	1,200.00	891.43
Sales (Books)	1,185.74	1,000.00	967.37
Sales Tax Collected	67.36	56.81	66.52
Freight/Shipping Out	14.89	10.00	8.10
Surnames/Family Ties	165.00	100.00	96.20
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$10,190.35	\$5,986.81	\$5,565.57
DISBURSEMENTS			
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges	16.71	0.00	10.00
CD purchased	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Items for Resale	491.58	500.00	545.31
Library Expense	0.00	200.00	0.00
Meetings/Speaker Fees Office	1,484.56	1,200.00	1,394.62
Supplies/Copies/Misc.	683.08	420.00	432.08
Postage	660.63	700.00	720.50
Publishing Expense	2,627.80	2,800.00	2,661.00
Rent/Insurance MGS	852.00	1,276.00	1,276.00
Sales Tax Paid for Prior Year	49.87	67.36	67.36
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$6,866.23	\$9,163.36	\$9,106.87
TOTAL DIFFERENCE IN CASH	\$3,324.12	(\$3,176.55)	(\$3,541.30)
Ending Cash Balance	\$8,115.19	\$4,938.64	\$4,573.89
TCF CD	\$4,409.37	\$6,552.67	\$6,552.64
Total Ending Assets	\$12,524.56	\$11,491.31	\$11,126.53

THE POLISH ORIGIN OF THREE RELATED ST. PAUL FAMILIES

Part II – Łażewski Family

By Patricia A. Metsch <pmetsch@cox.net>

Part I appeared in the Winter 2009-10 Newsletter. It researched the Kiszka Family and related families by marriage. In this article Patricia provides the history of the Łażewski family which was also related to the Kiszka family through marriage. The genealogy is presented in Register Style (refer to Winter 2009-10 Newsletter for a more detailed discussion).

-JWK

Subsequent to the publication of Part I, the following information was discovered relative to Francis and Catharina (Malecka) Kiszka: Catharina Malecka was born in Trzek, Czerlejno parish, Schroda/Środa, Posen, Prussia, on 26 October 1860; and, baptized 28 October 1860, with Bartholomeus Bozwadoski [?] and Francisca Bzyska acting as her godparents.¹ Although immigration particulars have not been found, records of Trzek indicate that the Kiszkas arrived in that village from Strumin [Kostrzyń parish, where their eldest daughter was born] on 1 April 1884. Francis Kiszka emigrated soon after, while Catharina [apparently then pregnant; their daughter Cecilia was born during her father's absence] remained in Trzek with the children until 1 July 1888.² Note also: the child suggested to have been born to this couple between 1885-1887 (Winter 2009-10 issue, page 30) must have been born at a later date.

-PAM

The serendipitous discovery of the Polish origin of the Łażewski/Strzyzewski, Kiszka and Najtkowski families of St. Paul, Minnesota, was due to the search by this author for the birthplace of her immigrant ancestor Adalbert Kiszka, who arrived in America in 1881 and settled in Albany, New York.³

The author had been searching for the Polish origin of her Kiszka family for about ten years and even having obtained her ancestors' Hamburg emigration records which gave their *Bisheriger Wohnort* [past residence] was unsuccessful in confirming their place of origin in Posen, Germany, now Poznań, Wielkopolski province, Poland. A breakthrough occurred with a search of the Poznań Marriage Indexing Project <bindweed.man.poznan.pl/posen/project.php> which revealed the potential marriage of her 3rd-great-grandparents. Sponsored by PolishRoots.org and organized by Lukasz Bielecki, the goal of the Project is to create a free online searchable database of all recorded marriages from all parishes in the Posen/Poznań region for the period of 1835-1884. It is anticipated that the index will help researchers who know only that their ancestors came from somewhere in Posen/Poznań be better able to pinpoint a parish of origin either by finding applicable records or distinguishing where surnames of interest were concentrated. It is an endeavor she wholeheartedly supports.

Children of Andreas and Catharina (Kiszka) Łażewski:

4. **STANISLAWA [STELLA]² ŁAŻEWSKA** (*Catharina*¹, *Michael*^A, *Mathias*^B) was born in Trzek, Czerlejno parish, Schroda/Środa, Posen, Germany, on 22 April 1872; and baptized there 28 April 1872, with Antonius

¹ Roman Catholic parish records, Czerlejno. Archiwum Państwowe w Poznaniu [State Archive in Poznań]. (Birth records for Czerlejno parish for 1859-1875 were not microfilmed by the LDS.) Scanned copy courtesy of Lukasz Bielecki.

² "Trzek List of Souls, c1885-1890," *Akta Gminy Kostrzyń* [Records of the Kostrzyń Community Administration], Archiwum Państwowe w Poznaniu [State Archive in Poznań]. Data courtesy of Lukasz Bielecki.

³ For the earlier Kiszka ancestry see "Connecting the Kiszka Family of Albany to Their Polish Origin," by this author in the New York Genealogical and Biographical RECORD, volume 141, no. 1 (January 2010), pages 3-12. Thanks to the collaborative research effort of the author and Kay Blaha, information was uncovered which connected the St. Paul families to data found in Polish records and showed that Adalbert Kiszka was a 1st-cousin to Catharina (Kiszka) (Łażewski) Strzyzewska, Victoria (Kiszka) Najtkowski and Francis Kiszka.

Małecki and Victoria Kiszka acting as her godparents.⁴ Stella M. Bulera, “age 81,” daughter of Thomas [*sic*] Lazewski, died at St. Luke’s Hospital, St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota, on 6 February 1954; and, was buried in Calvary Cemetery, St. Paul, on 10 February 1954.⁵ Her death was noticed in *The St. Paul Pioneer Press* on 9 February 1954.⁶ Stanisla[w]a Orzewska [*sic*], daughter of Andreas and Catharina Orzewski [*sic*], was married in St. Adalbert’s Church, St. Paul, on 29 April 1890, to **FRANK BULERA**, *viduum* [widower], son of Valentini Bulera and Catharina —.⁷ Frank M. Bulera, son of William [*sic*] and Catherine Bulera, and husband of Stella Bulera, was born in Germany on 14 August 1856;⁸ and, died in St. Paul on 3 March 1940.⁹ His death was noticed 5 March 1940 in *The St. Paul Dispatch*.¹⁰

Frank and Stella Bulera, with their children, are found residing in St. Paul for the 1895 MN State census through the 1930 US census.¹¹

Children of Frank and Stanislaw(a) [Stella] (Łazewski) Bulera, all events Minnesota unless otherwise noted:

- i. **LOTTIE BULERA**, born about 1889;¹² died before the 1900 US census.¹³
- ii. **SOPHIA BULERA**, born 30 April 1891; baptized at St. Adalbert’s Church, St. Paul, 10 May 1891;¹⁴ died 30 October 1964;¹⁵

⁴ Roman Catholic parish records, Czerlejno. Archiwum Państwowe w Poznaniu [State Archive in Poznań]. (Birth records for Czerlejno parish for 1859-1875 were not microfilmed by the LDS.) Scanned copy courtesy of Lukasz Bielecki. In Part I of this article (see vol. 17, no. 4, Winter 2009-10 issue, page 25), Stanislaw(a)’s date of birth was given as 23 April 1872 with her place of birth given as Warsaw - erroneous information that came from her death certificate.

⁵ Stella M. Bulera death certificate.

⁶ “BULERA - Stella M. Feb 6. res. 879 Bayard. Survived by nine daughters and three sons, Mrs. Albert (Sophie) Wopatek, Mrs. Andrew (Rose) Hein, Mrs. Frank (Martha) Funk, Mrs. John (Bernice) Fischer, Mrs. Emil (Mary) Blaha, Mrs. Sylvester (Teresa) Eller, Mrs. Margaret Eller, Mrs. Edward (Julia) Wandmacher, Mrs. Christopher (Viola) Fischer, Marion M., Leonard J. and Florian P. Bulera, 30 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren & her brother, Charles Lazewski [*sic*], all of St. Paul” (Stella M. Bulera death notice, *The St. Paul Pioneer Press*, St. Paul, 9 February 1954, page 14).

⁷ Marriage record, St. Adalbert’s Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul. The *St. Paul Daily Globe* reported on 27 April 1890 (page 5) that “marriage licenses were issued yesterday [26 April 1890] to... Frank Bulera and *Stina Lozewska*.” A Valentinus Bulera married Catharina Wyt in Cerekwica parish, Żnin district, Posen, Prussia, in 1853 (Poznań Marriage Indexing Project <bindweed.man.poznan.pl/posen/project.php>).

⁸ Frank M. Bulera death certificate, #1940-MN-024146, MN Dept. of Health, St. Paul. Microfilm copy held by the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul. Photocopy courtesy of Tom Lanman. The informant was John W. Bulera [his son].

⁹ Frank M. Bulera death certificate.

¹⁰ “BULERA - Frank M. March 3d, at residence 401 James St. Survived by his wife Stella; nine daughters and five sons, Mrs. Albert Wopatek, Mrs. Andrew Hein, Mrs. Frank Funk, Mrs. John Fischer, Mrs. Emil Blaha, Mrs. Sylvester Eller, Mrs. Clarence Eller, Mrs. Edward Wandmacher, Mrs. Christopher Fischer, George, John W. [son’s by his 1st wife], Marion M., Leonard J. and Florian P., all of St. Paul, and 26 grandchildren” (Frank M. Bulera death notice, *The St. Paul Dispatch*, St. Paul, 5 March 1940, page 22).

¹¹ At 401 James Street from 1905 through 1930. Frank Bulera household, 1895 MN State Census, 5th Ward, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 17, #27 (Ancestry.com, *Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905*). Frank *Bulara* household, 1900 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 98, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 1A, line #34 (NARA T623, roll 784). Frank Bulera (indexed as *Bulesa* on Ancestry.com) household, 1905 MN State Census, 5th Ward, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page [17?], #1 (Ancestry.com, *Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905*). Frank Bulera household, 1910 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 69, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 9A-B, line #43 (NARA T624, roll 717). Frank Bulera household, 1920 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 49, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 14B-15A, line #95 (NARA T625, roll 853). Living at the same address but as renters are Andrew Hein, head of household, 24; and, Rose [Bulera], wife, 27. Frank M. Bulera (indexed as *Butera* on Ancestry.com) household, 1930 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 48, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 14B, line #52 (NARA T626, roll 1116).

¹² The Frank Bulera household in the 1895 MN State Census included: Lottie Bulera, age 6, born MN.

¹³ The Frank *Bulara* household in the 1900 US Census does not include a daughter Lottie; and, Stella is reported as the mother of 7 children/5 living.

¹⁴ Baptismal records, St. Adalbert’s Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul.

¹⁵ MNDCI for Sophie Wopatek (death certificate #1964-MN-031653).

- married **ALBERT WOPATEK**.¹⁶
- iii. **ROSE MARY BULERA**, born 3 August 1892; baptized at St. Adalbert's Church, St. Paul, 21 August 1892;¹⁷ died 12 December 1957;¹⁸ married **ANDREW HEIN**.¹⁹
- iv. **MARTHA M. BULERA**, born 14 June 1894; baptized at St. Adalbert's Church, St. Paul 1 July 1894;²⁰ died 22 May 1975;²¹ married **FRANK FUNK**.²²
- v. **BRONISLAWA [BERNICE] SALOMEA BULERA**, born 3 November 1895; baptized at St. Adalbert's Church, St. Paul, 17 November 1895;²³ married **JOHN FISCHER**.²⁴
- vi. **MARY A. BULERA**, born 23 January 1897; baptized at St. Adalbert's Church, St. Paul, 7 February 1897;²⁵ died 23 December 1978;²⁶ married **EMIL G. BLAHA**,²⁷ probably the Emil Blaha born 29 December 1892, died 10 January 1957.²⁸
- vii. **FRANK BULERA, JR.**, born about 1902;²⁹ died before the 1910 US census.³⁰
- viii. **THERESIA BULERA**, born about 1904 (from census data); married **SYLVESTER ELLER**.³¹
- ix. **MARION MICHAEL BULERA**, born 8 September 1905;³² died 8 February 2004.³³

¹⁶ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Albert (Sophie) Wopatek; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Albert Wopatek. Albert Wopatek is likely the Albert John Wopatek, born 17 December 1893, who died 11 April 1960 in Ramsey County, MN (MNDCI for Albert John Wopatek, death certificate #1960-MN-029121; gives mother's maiden name as Lastovka). Albert *Wopatch* household, 1920 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 55, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 15B, line #73 (NARA T625, roll 853). The family is found at 763 Butternut Street and includes: Albert *Wopatch*, head of household, 26, born in Minnesota, whose father and mother were born in "Bohemia;" Sophie, his wife, 28, born in MN, whose father and mother were born in Poland; and, Walter, son, 2½, born in MN. At the same address but enumerated as a separate household are: Frank *Wopatch*, 79, and his wife Katherine, 70, both born in "Bohemia." Frank and Katherine are likely Albert's parents as in the 1895 MN State Census, their household at 763 Butternut Street includes Albert [relationships are not stated in this census], age 1, born in MN (Frank Wopatek household, 1895 MN State Census, 5th Ward St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 58, #306 (Ancestry.com, *Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905*)).

¹⁷ Baptismal records, St. Adalbert's Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul.

¹⁸ MNDCI for Rose M. Hein (death certificate #1957-MN-031221).

¹⁹ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Andrew (Rose) Hein; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Andrew Hein. See also the Andrew Hein household, 1930 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 48, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 14a, line #13 (NARA T626, roll 1116). Found at 402 Cascade Street next door to the Frank Funk household.

²⁰ Baptismal records, St. Adalbert's Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul.

²¹ MNDCI for Martha M. Funk (death certificate #1975-MN-013640; gives dob as 13 June 1894; mother's maiden name as *Lejeski*).

²² Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Frank (Martha) Funk; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Frank Funk. See also the Frank Funk household, 1920 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 49, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 15A-15B, line #49 (NARA T625, roll 853); and, Frank Funk household, 1930 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 48, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 14A, line #10 (NARA T626, roll 1116). Found at 404 Cascade Street next door to the Andrew Hein household.

²³ Baptismal records, St. Adalbert's Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul.

²⁴ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. John (Bernice) Fischer; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. John Fischer. See also the John Fischer household, 1930 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 48, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 14A, line #31 (NARA T626, roll 1116).

²⁵ Baptismal records, St. Adalbert's Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul.

²⁶ MNDCI for Mary Blaha (death certificate #1978-MN-033297; gives mother's maiden name as *Laziske*).

²⁷ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Emil (Mary) Blaha; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Emil Blaha. See also the Emil G. Blaha household, 1930 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 55, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 5B, line #53 (NARA T626, roll 1117).

²⁸ MNDCI for Emil Blaha (death certificate #1957-MN-027672; gives dob as 29 December 1892; mother's maiden name as *Henick*).

²⁹ The Frank Bulera household in the 1905 MN State Census included: Frank, Bulera, Jr., age 3, born MN.

³⁰ The Frank Bulera household in the 1910 US Census does not include as son Frank, Jr.; and, Stella is reported as the mother of 13 children/9 living.

³¹ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Sylvester (Teresa) Eller; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Sylvester Eller. See also the Sylvester [*sic*] Eller (indexed as *Shavester Ellor* on Ancestry.com) household, 1930 US Census, 5th Ward, Enumeration District 54, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 29B, line #62 (NARA T626, roll 1117).

³² Minnesota Birth Certificates Index (people.mnhs.org/bci/) [hereafter MNBCI] for Marion Michael Bulera (birth certificate #1900-35145; gives mother's maiden name as *Wyjeski*). Social Security Death Index [hereafter SSDI] for Marion M. Bulera.

³³ SSDI for Marion M. Bulera.

- x. MARGARET MAGDALIN BULERA, born 10 June 1907;³⁴ died 27 December 1998;³⁵ married CLARENCE ELLER.³⁶
 xi. JULIA R. BULERA, born 11 January 1909;³⁷ died 18 December 2000;³⁸ married EDWARD WANDMACHER.³⁹
 xii. VALENTINA [AKA VIOLA] MARIE BULERA, born 30 January 1911;⁴⁰ died 1 June 1992;⁴¹ married CHRISTOPHER FISCHER.⁴²
 xiii. LEONARD JOHN BULERA, born 17 October 1912;⁴³ died 23 January 1998.⁴⁴
 xiv. LORIAN PETER BULERA, born 15 April 1918;⁴⁵ died 7 November 1997.⁴⁶

5. JOHN FRANKLIN² ŁĄŻEWSKI aka LASKY (*Catharina*¹, *Michael*^A, *Mathias*^B) was born in Poland in 1874 (per 1885 MN State census) or 26 March 1880; and, died in St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota, on 3 May 1952.⁴⁷ His death was noticed 5 May 1952 in *The St. Paul Pioneer Press*.⁴⁸ He was married in St. Paul on 14 November 1904, to MAGDALENE “MAGGIE” JOSEPHINE MAŁECKA.⁴⁹ Magdalena Małecka, daughter of Adalbertus Małecki and Marianna Maćkowiak, was born in Trzek on 20 June 1874; and, baptized 28 June 1874, with Andreas Kraszona and Marianna Narożne acting as her godparents.⁵⁰ She died in St. Paul on 24 April 1966;⁵¹ and, her death was noticed the following day in *The St. Paul Dispatch*.⁵²

³⁴ MNBCI for Margaret Magdalin Bulera (birth certificate #1907-37563; gives mother's maiden name as Stella).

³⁵ MNDCI for Margaret M. Eller (death certificate #1998-MN-036332; gives dob as 10 June 1907; mother's maiden name as *Lazuski*).

³⁶ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Margaret Eller; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Clarence Eller.

³⁷ MNBCI for [—] Bulera (birth certificate #1909-35303; gives mother's maiden name as Stella). Although the child's name is not recorded, the 1910 US Census shows Juliet, age 1½ years; and, Julia, age 10 years in the 1920 US Census.

³⁸ MNDCI for Julia R. Wandmacher (death certificate #2000-MN-036184; gives mother's maiden name as *Lejewski*).

³⁹ Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Edward (Julia) Wandmacher; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Edward Wandmacher. He is likely the Edward J. Wandmacher, born 6 August 1902, who died 24 January 1963 in Ramsey County (MNDCI for Edward J. Wandmacher (death certificate #1963-MN-029141)).

⁴⁰ MNBCI for Valentina Marie Bulera (birth certificate #1911-40652; gives mother's maiden name as *Lazeski*).

⁴¹ MNDCI for Valentina aka Viola Marie Fischer (death certificate #1992-MN-016112; gives mother's maiden name as *Lazeski*).

⁴² Stella Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Christopher (Viola) Fischer; and, Frank Bulera's death notice mentions Mrs. Christopher Fischer.

⁴³ MNBCI for Leonard John Bulera (birth certificate #DC-57647; gives mother's maiden name as *Lazerska*).

⁴⁴ MNDCI for Leonard John Bulera (death certificate #1998-MN-002658; gives mother's maiden name as *Lozewska*).

⁴⁵ MNBCI for Florian Peter Bulera (birth certificate #1918-51425; gives mother's maiden name as *Lazeski*).

⁴⁶ MNDCI for Florian Peter Bulera (death certificate #1997-MN-032803; gives mother's maiden name as *Lozewska*).

⁴⁷ John Franklin Lasky aka Lazewski death certificate, #1952-MN-25827, MN Dept. of Health, St. Paul. Microfilm copy held by the Minnesota History Center, St. Paul. Photocopy courtesy of Kay Blaha. The informant was Frank J. Lasky [his son]. Obviously, one or both of the birth dates recorded on the death certificates of John Lazewski and Stanislaus/Charles Strzyzewski must be in error if both men are natural sons of Catharina Kiszka.

⁴⁸ “Lasky – John F. (Lazewski) May 3rd. Res. 850 Case ave. Beloved husband of Magdalene and father of Mrs. Marie Tadeuszak, Mrs. Henry (Agnes) Leopold, Mrs. Fred (Bernice) Morettini, Joseph, Casimir, Veronia, Frank and Andrew. Also surviving are 1 sister, 1 brother and 7 grandchildren” (John F. Lasky death notice, *The St. Paul Pioneer Press*, St. Paul, 5 May 1952, page 35).

⁴⁹ *Ramsey County [MN] Marriage Records, 1849-2000* (Minnesota Historical Society, SAM #433, roll 14), 35:660. The license dated 11 November 1904 records their names as John *Wazeski* and Maggie Malecka, while the certificate dated 18 November 1904 records them as John *Larewski* and Maggie *Maleska*. Photocopy of marriage record courtesy of Kay Blaha. Wife's name as Magdalene Josephine appears on John Franklin Lasky aka Lazewski's death certificate.

⁵⁰ Roman Catholic parish records, Czerlejno. Archiwum Państwowe w Poznaniu [State Archive in Poznań]. (Birth records for the years 1859-1875 were not microfilmed by the LDS.) Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of Lukasz Bielecki.

⁵¹ Magdalene J. Lazewski aka Lasky death certificate, #1966-MN-011068, MN Dept. of Health, St. Paul. Microfilm copy held by the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul. Photocopy courtesy of Kay Blaha. The informant was Mrs. F. Morettini [her daughter Bernice]. States she was the daughter of Albert [Anglicized form of Adalbert] Malecki; widow of John Lasky; and, was born in Poland on 22 July 1885 [*sic*].

⁵² “Lazewski – (Lasky) Magdalene J., April 24th. Residence 850 E. Case. Beloved mother of Mrs. Marie Tadeuszak, Mrs. Henry (Agnes) Leopold, Mrs. Ferruccio (Bernice) Morettini, Joseph L., Casimir J., Frank J., Mrs. Clemence (Veronica) Hudalla and Andrew J. Also surviving are 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren” (Magdalena J. Lazewski death notice, *The St. Paul Dispatch*, St. Paul, 25 April 1966, page 31).

Although no record has yet been found, John Łazewski presumably immigrated to America prior to 1885 accompanying his mother and siblings. His wife, Magdalena Małecka, then “age 20,” sailed on the *Hannover* from Bremen, Germany, on 21 April 1903 and arrived at the port of Philadelphia. On the ship’s passenger list, her last residence is given as Gowarzewo, a location in Tulce parish, now part of Poznań, Wielkopolski, Poland. It states she was going to join her brother-in-law Stanisław Strzyzewski of 793 [East] Cook Street, St. Paul; and, she arrived with less than a dollar in her possession.⁵³

Magdalene (Małecka) Łazewska was the sister of John Łazewski’s aunt, Catherina (Małecka) Kiszka, and of Stanisław Strzyzewski’s wife “Josie,”⁵⁴ or Josepha⁵⁵ Małecka.⁵⁶

John Łazewski is found with his wife in the 1905 Minnesota State Census living with his parents;⁵⁷ and, as head of his own household next door at 850 Case Street in the US Census for 1910-1930.⁵⁸

Children of John Franklin and Magdalene “Maggie” Josephine (Małecka) Łazewski, all events in Minnesota unless otherwise noted:

- i. **MARIA CATHERINA ŁAZEWSKI**, born 12 September 1905;⁵⁹ baptized at St. Casimir’s Church, St. Paul, on 24 September 1905;⁶⁰ died 28 April, 1998,⁶¹ married at St. Casimir’s Church, St. Paul, on 3 June 1930 **JULIAN TADEUSZAK**.⁶²
- ii. **AGNES ŁAZEWSKI**, born 31 January 1907;⁶³ died 8 September 2002;⁶⁴ married **HENRY LEOPOLD**.⁶⁵

⁵³ Ancestry.com, *Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1800-1945*. Under a column headed “Whether in possession of \$30 or upward, and if less, how much,” the notation by Magdalene’s name was [?]5¢. The passenger lists gives Magdalene’s destination as St. Paul, but that she was joining her “bro.i.l. Stanisław Strzezewski, 793 Cook st. Chicago, Ills.[sic],” The St. Paul City Directory for 1904 (page 1514) lists a Stanisław *Seroski* residing at 793 East Cook Street, while in 1898 the name at that residence is given as Stanisław *Stryzewski* (page 1293); and, in 1909 as Stanisław Strzyzewski (page 1646) (St. Paul City Directory (St. Paul: R.L. Polk & Co., 1898; 1904; and, 1909)).

⁵⁴ *Josie Stryzenki* died 21 February 1907 (MNDCI; certificate #1907-58-953).

⁵⁵ Stanisław *Strzeszinski* married Josepha Małecka at St. Adalbert’s Church, St. Paul, on 21 November 1892 (Marriage records, St. Adalbert’s Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of marriage record courtesy of John L. Rys). Josepha Małecka, daughter of Adalbertus Małecki and Marianna Maćkowiak was born in Trzek 30 October 1863 and baptized 1 November 1863, with Andreas Maćkowiak and Angela Jasiak acting as her godparents (Roman Catholic parish records, Czerlejno. Archiwum Państwowe w Poznaniu [State Archive in Poznań]. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of Lukasz Bielecki).

⁵⁶ Baptismal records of St. Casimir’s Church, St. Paul, (Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Archives, St. Paul) show that Stanisław Strzyzewski acted as godfather to Joseph Kiszka (*Francis*¹, *Michael*^A, *Mathias*^B) born 1892; Francis/Frank (*Michael*^A, *Mathias*^B) Kiszka acted as godfather to one of Stanisław Strzyzewski’s sons (born 1896); and, Thomas *Streyewski* and Catharina Kiszka acted as godparents for another of Stanisław Strzyzewski’s sons (born 1893). It is presumed that Thomas and Stanisław Strzyzewski were brothers. The intermarriage between these families then becomes: Catharina Małecka married Francis Kiszka; her sister Josephina Małecka married Stanisław Strzyzewski, brother-in-law of Francis Kiszka’s sister Catharina Kiszka (wife of Thomas Strzyzewski); and, their younger sister Magdalena married John Łazewski, nephew of Catharina Małecka/Francis Kiszka and step-nephew of Josephina Małecka/Stanisław Strzyzewski.

⁵⁷ Thomas *Strzyzeski* (indexed as *Strzyzski* on Ancestry.com) household, 1905 MN State Census, 1st Ward, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, sheet #10, #4 (Ancestry.com, *Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905*).

⁵⁸ *Tona Lazewski* (indexed as *Lagewski* on Ancestry.com) household, 1910 US Census, 1st Ward, Enumeration District 29, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 6B-7A, line #99 (NARA T624, roll 717). John *Lazewska* household, 1920 US Census, 1st Ward, Enumeration District 13, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 5A, line #25 (NARA T625, roll 852). John Lazewski household, 1930 US Census, 1st Ward, Enumeration District 13, St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN, page 15A, line #32 (NARA T626, roll 1115).

⁵⁹ MNBCI for Marie Lazewski (birth certificate #1905-39388; gives mother’s maiden name as Małecka).

⁶⁰ Baptismal records, St. Casimir’s Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys.

⁶¹ SSDI for Marie Tadeusiak (born 12 September 1905; died 28 April 1998).

⁶² Marriage records, St. Casimir’s Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of marriage record courtesy of John L. Rys. The record gives the groom’s name as Julianus Tadeuszak, son of Alexander Tadeuszak and Maria Wroblerski, and the bride’s as Maria Catharina Lazewska, daughter of Joannes Lazewski and Magdalena Małecki. John F. Lasky’s and Magdalene J. Lazewski’s death notices both mention Mrs. Marie Tadeuszak.

⁶³ MNBCI for *Babe Lazewsky* (birth certificate #1907-39238; gives mother’s maiden name as Maggie). Although the birth certificate does not give the child’s forename, the SSDI for Agnes Leopold states she was born 31 January 1907.

⁶⁴ SSDI for Agnes Leopold.

⁶⁵ John F. Lasky’s and Magdalene J. Lazewski’s death notices both mention Mrs. Henry (Agnes) Leopold.

- iii. **BRONISLAVA [BERNICE] ŁĄŻEWSKI**, born 29 January 1908; baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 9 February 1908;⁶⁶ died April 1984;⁶⁷ married **FERRUCCIO/FRED MORETTINI**.⁶⁸
- iv. **JOSEPH LEONARD ŁĄŻEWSKI**, born 19 February 1910; baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 6 March 1910;⁶⁹ died 5 December 1987.⁷⁰
- v. **CASIMIR JULIUS ŁĄŻEWSKI**, born 13 February 1912;⁷¹ baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 25 February 1912;⁷² died 20 June 1986.⁷³
- vi. **VERONICA MARIE ŁĄŻEWSKI**, born 15 February 1914; baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 1 March 1914;⁷⁴ died 10 June 1995;⁷⁵ married between 3 May 1952 (death of father) and 24 April 1966 (death of mother) **CLEMENCE HUDALLA**.⁷⁶
- vii. **FRANCIS [FRANK] JOSEPH ŁĄŻEWSKI**, born 11 March 1915; baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 28 March 1915;⁷⁷ died 16 January 1998.⁷⁸
- viii. **EDWARD ŁĄŻEWSKI**, born 23 April 1916; baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 14 May 1916;⁷⁹ died 10 September 1916.⁸⁰
- ix. **ANDREW JOSEPH ŁĄŻEWSKI**,⁸¹ born 2 November 1917; baptized at St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul, on 18 November 1917;⁸² died 19 December 1990.⁸³

A Word About the Poznan Project – Patricia's breakthrough came as a result of the work of Lukasz Bielecki and a dedicated group of volunteers in Poland. This site, <bindweed.man.poznan.pl/posen/search.php>, is of increasing importance to researchers in the Posen Province. To date, about 470,000 Catholic and Lutheran marriages in the province have been indexed from the 1820 to 1889 time period which was when the heaviest emigration occurred. This represents about 50% of the total. There are 540 parishes to index. On the web site listed Lukasz identifies which parishes are indexed which might help you before starting your research. Voluntary donations via PayPal are solicited to continue the work. He also has an article in the latest issue of PGS of Massachusetts Newsletter *Biuletyn Korzenie* - see page 5. In the article he traces the roots of Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty to Boruszyn, just north of Poznań, and of some infamous Poles which we won't mention here.

If your ancestors came from Pomerania a companion marriage index site, perhaps not as well-developed but useful, is <<http://www.ptg.gda.pl>>. This site is run by the PTG Pomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne (Pomeranian Genealogical Association).

-JWK

⁶⁶ Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys.

⁶⁷ SSDI for Bernice Morettini.

⁶⁸ John F. Lasky's death notice mentions daughter Mrs. Fred (Bernice) Morettini; and, Magdalene J. Lazewski's death notice mentions Mrs. Ferruccio (Bernice) Morettini.

⁶⁹ Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys. MNBCI for [—] *Lazewski* (birth certificate #1910-35669; gives mother's maiden name as *Malecki*). Although the birth certificate does not give the child's forename, the MNDCI for Joseph Leonard *Lasky* gives his birth date as 19 February 1910.

⁷⁰ MNDCI for Joseph Leonard *Lasky* (death certificate #1987-MN-033164; gives mother's maiden name as *Malecka*).

⁷¹ MNDCI for Casimir Julius *Lasky* (death certificate #1986-MN-016516; gives birth date as 13 February 1912; mother's maiden name as *Malecka*).

⁷² Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys.

⁷³ MNDCI for Casimir Julius *Lasky*.

⁷⁴ Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys. MNBCI for *Verna Laska* (birth certificate #1914-47278; gives mother's maiden name as *Mawaska*).

⁷⁵ MNDCI for Veronica Marie Hudalla (death certificate #1995-MN-017347; gives mother's maiden name as *Malecki*).

⁷⁶ Magdalene J. Lazewski's death notice mentions Mrs. Clemence (Veronica) Hudalla.

⁷⁷ Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys. MNBCI for Frank Joseph *Lasky* (birth certificate #1915-50351; gives his date of birth as 12 March; mother's maiden name as *Malecki*).

⁷⁸ SSDI for Frank J. *Lasky* (born 12 March 1915; died 16 January 1998).

⁷⁹ Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys.

⁸⁰ MNDCI for Edward Lazewski (death certificate #1916-MN-024096).

⁸¹ MNBCI for Andrew Lazewski (birth certificate #1917-53387; gives mother's maiden name as *Maleska*).

⁸² Baptismal records, St. Casimir's Church, St. Paul. Scanned copy of baptismal record courtesy of John L. Rys.

⁸³ MNDCI for Andrew Joseph *Lasky* (death certificate #1990-MN-033571).

East Chain/Fairmont Art.... *continued from page 1*
 where these recessions and strikes all over America are coming from: first and foremost, the proprietors are cutting the worker's pay so much, that not a single worker can support himself on such a low wage. In this way, thus, every worker is put into poverty and beggary! Would it not be far better to endeavor for personal independence, throwing this yoke of bondage from oneself, and to consider one's own welfare as well as that of one's family; and here, the greatest personal opportunity now presents itself. Abandon that crowded city, and take up occupancy in such a beautiful region of a state, as is found in the southwestern part of Minnesota. The place about which I am reporting is really extraordinary. Not long ago I wrote about the most beautiful lands and region in southern Minnesota. Countrymen, I believe that you have already read enough about the region of Gniezno in Martin County in southern Minnesota, in which a colony of a considerable number of Polish families have purchased land and are rejoicing that they have become independent gentlemen, working for themselves and not under the supervision of managers who whip the poor workman on so that his employer has the most gain of all. Just tell me if you do not want to see it, or to avail yourself of the moment in which you have such a good opportunity to buy property. But at the same time remember that there will be a final opportunity to buy lands in such a beautiful and rich place, and such is now. It is so easy to purchase such lands that all who want to work in the fields as a farmer may obtain land in the colony of Gniezno for 7 to 9 dollars an acre, repaid over 6 years at 6 percent interest; we also have land for the same price over a 30-year repayment. Thus, all can see that this must be very good and fertile ground, when it is sold for such a price. So it is, Countrymen who intend to get onto a farm, do not delay because later it will be too late, and you will be sorry. At the same time I advise you, that the journey from Chicago to the colonies of Gniezno or Poznań costs only \$10 round-trip, and if land is purchased that \$10 will be credited to the purchase. These colonies are connected by railroad with various cities; and this is of great convenience to the farmer, because it is close to a city and all of his production may be sold for cash at high prices. Because the travel is inexpensive, all have sufficient opportunity to go and see our lands

and to prove to themselves whether it is as we say. We are not engaged in bragging; but we leave all to their own free will, because it is often thus: through those who describe more, the more truth is found. For my part I advise all such, who have the intention to get land, that they go forthwith to the colony of Gniezno in Martin County, and find that for which they search, that is good land and location. Likewise, the colony of Poznań is good. Please, come as soon as possible, because the price of land is rising. Departures to this colony are each week on Sunday at 11:30 a.m. For all particulars, maps, railroad tickets, etc. please contact me directly:

ST. SŁOMIŃSKI,
 666 Milwaukee Ave.,
 Chicago, Ill.

* * * * *

From Wiarus, March 31, 1887:

AN EXCURSION

by Mr. St. SŁOMIŃSKI
to Poznań and Gniezno.

On Thursday, March 24, citizen Stanisław SŁOMIŃSKI from Chicago, a sales agent for land, paid a visit to the editor of *Wiarus*. He was returning from an excursion to Red Wood and Martin Counties, where he is founding the Polish colonies of Poznań and Gniezno.

As Mr. SŁOMIŃSKI told us, these settlements lie in the most beautiful areas of southern Minnesota, where it is neither too cold in winter nor too hot in summer. The soil is very fertile, bearing genuine Minnesota wheat, which is renowned for the size of its grain.

Wiarus's editor had thought up to now, that the farms of Frideriksen and Company, about which an announcement is regularly published in *Wiarus* on page 6, lie in northern Minnesota in the vicinity of the city of Duluth, where another Polish colony named Gniezno [Gnesen] is also found; but Mr. SŁOMIŃSKI persuaded me that the lands of this Company are situated in a much warmer climate, more or less at the same latitude as the city of Chicago.

Gniezno in Martin County in Southern Minnesota, lies in a wonderful rolling region, crossed with brooks; and, moreover, a city of 2500 residents with a post office and mercantile stores is found in the vicinity. Gniezno is only 6 miles from the railroad.

LANDS!

For the Landless!

—o—

CHEAP HOMES

*In the Garden Spot of
Minnesota.*

—o—

N. C. FREDRIKSEN,

HAS FOR SALE

100,000 ACRES

OF CHOICE

Farm and Grazing Lands

In Martin and Jackson counties at prices ranging from \$6 to \$8 per acre on long time.

CHOICE FARMS within easy distance of Railroads, School Houses and Churches. Write and get terms.

☞ Farmers having farms for sale will do well to put them in my hands.

N. C. FREDRIKSEN,
Chicago, Ills.

J. FJORD,
Local Agents, Fairmont, Minn.

**FREDRIKSEN & CO. WAS SOLICITING IN
MARTIN COUNTY ALSO.**
Source: Martin County *Sentinel*, Sept. 3, 1886

On the other hand Poznań, in Red Wood County, has level land and is much more fertile than Gniezno, which is why Mr. SŁOMIŃSKI advises his countrymen that they should settle there first of all.

In Poznań an acre of land costs 6 to 8 dollars, but only a dollar per acre need be paid before the purchase; the remainder is divided out over 6 years and repaid with 7 percent interest.

Up to now we have not had a guest in Winona who was so pleasant as Mr. SŁOMIŃSKI. Whoever wishes to write him, address the letter to: St. SŁOMIŃSKI-666 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill.

From Wiarus, May 23, 1889:

Attractive Farms for Sale.

Chicago, Ill., May 9, 1889.

Esteemed Editor:

Deign to publish this letter in the pages of your publication:

Spring is in full bloom, and after a long rest the farmers are briskly busying themselves at work in the fields; while many others, who are putting money away through their hard work, have to be in the factories, have to be there in the mines, dreaming about exchanging their current situation, that is, to buy a parcel of land for themselves, on which they would lead an independent life in the future. Daily I receive many inquiries from many such, about the lands for sale that we are advertising in the newspapers.

Despite the cold months, many of our countrymen went to St. Croix County, Wisconsin, where they purchased land for themselves; and today I am able to say with joy, that numerous Polish proprietors, up to 70, are going there. The fact that a considerable number of Poles have purchased land in the area, proves that this region appeals to the Poles. Despite the fact that the land in the area is forested, it is not too difficult to clear; the wood is good and one can get a good price for it. What likewise is worth a lot of money, is that no place is further than about 5 English miles from a town and a train station. Our Polish farmers can say the best about that, that it is very valuable.

The great northern markets of St. Paul and Minneapolis lie only 50 miles to the west and the Wisconsin Central Railroad, which crosses these lands, goes to them. For those who wish thick and abundant trees for themselves, we have attractive tracts of land in Todd County, Minn. Many Poles already reside in the area and there is a Polish church there. Further, we have large tracts of fertile land in the prairie (steppe) regions of southern Minnesota in Martin and Redwood Counties. A sufficiently large number of Poles live in Martin County already, and things are not going badly for them there, about which one of the local farmers wrote to the newspapers not so long ago. In many places in southern Minnesota considerable seams of coal are found, and incorporated companies are being set up there that will begin to mine the coal shortly. For this area coal is worth a lot of money, and without doubt the price of land there will go higher. Consequently I would advise all those who have the intention to buy land in the prairie regions, that they not take long for their consideration, because the price of land will rise shortly.

The price of our land is from 5 to 9 dollars an acre. We require one dollar per acre as a down payment, the remainder to be repaid over a lengthy time.

All who contemplate settling on the land, call on me first, rather than second, for closer details, and I am certain that it will fall to your benefit.

In the hope that my Esteemed Countrymen will bestow their trust on me as they have in the past, I remain

With regards
Felix PIOTROWICZ.

From Wiarus, January 26, 1893:

With the permission of the Most Rev. Bishop and our pastor Fr. DOMAGALSKI, *the Rev. Fr. Jan CIESZYŃSKI*, the pastor from Fairmont, Minn., has been taking a collection around our Polish colony in Winona, for the construction of a new Polish church in one of his missions in East Chain, Minn. Despite the cold and the standstill in work, the collection came off very successfully, which is due to the nobility and generosity of the Poles in Winona. On Sunday the Rev. Fr. CIESZYŃSKI celebrated a High Mass in our church; and after the sermon, in

the name of Fr. CIESZYŃSKI and his poor parishioners our pastor, the Rev. Fr. DOMAGALSKI thanked the parishioners in heated words, for their exemplary offerings. -- This is beautiful praise for our Polish people in Winona.

-- and --

At the point of his departure from Winona, *Father Jan CIESZYŃSKI* instructed the editor of *Wiarus* to publicly thank Fr. Konstanty DOMAGALSKI, the pastor of St. Stanisław Kostka Church in Winona, for his kindness and open-heartedness, in the way he cooperated in the collection for the church at East Chain.

Bidding farewell to our priest, his colleague gave his wishes that, as in the past, so in the long future, the Rev. Pastor of the Polish parish in Winona would clearly and robustly preach the word of God by voice and pen and the Lord--he added--will reward the compassionate Benefactors a hundred-fold, for the powerful Christian kindness shown to his poverty-stricken parish.

From Katolik, June 15, 1893:

Mr. Walenty RYMARKIEWICZ arrived at our city from Chain Lake, in Southern Minnesota, this past week, in order to undergo a medical operation in the local municipal hospital. In the morning *Mr. RYMARKIEWICZ* is to be opened up in the small of his back, from which fluid flows constantly. Just now we have learned that the doctors have removed three small bones from his body and now they are consoling him that he will be better.

From Katolik, July 20, 1893:

Though he is not completely back to good health, *Mr. Walenty RYMARKIEWICZ*, who was first treated at the municipal hospital here, and then in the home of the family of his wife, left last Saturday for Chain Lake, in Southern Minnesota, to return to his farm.

From Katolik, November 22, 1894:

EAST CHAIN LAKE, Minn. -- We have a Polish church here, and a Polish pastor, the Rev. Fr. H. CIESZYŃSKI, but Mass is said only two times per month here, because the parish is too small and the priest must travel to various missions. It

would be welcome, if more Poles were to settle here. The land here is good and is wheat-bearing, but it costs from 18 to 35 dollars per acre. Despite the current year's drought we have had good harvests here this year. -- At the same time I announce, that on November 5, the Reverend Fr. Jan Hieronim CIESZYŃSKI blessed the matrimonial union of Mr. Ignacy TASZARK and Miss Maryanna PRÓCHNIAK. The wedding was splendid.

* * * * *

From Wiarus, May 28, 1896:

THE POLISH farmers in Fairmont, Martin Co., in Southern Minnesota, where Fr. CIESZYŃSKI is the parish priest, are suffering great poverty. The soils, though black, are not productive, because they are too cold. The lack of wood makes the lives of the settlers miserable most acutely; there is none of it at all there. Whoever begins farming in debt, that one will never extricate himself from poverty.

* * * * *

From Wiarus, November 24, 1898:

WELLS, Minn. -- Fr. Hieronim CIESZYŃSKI currently travels from Fairmont to our Polish church, because Fr. KOPERA, our parish priest up to now, has gone to Pennsylvania to establish residence.

* * * * *

From Wiarus, December 6, 1906:

EAST CHAIN, Minn.

November 25, 1906

Esteemed Editress!

I sincerely ask that you deign to publish our correspondence in the pages of your newspaper. Esteemed Editress! We have already read plenty enough in the newspapers about the various Polish colonies in the United States, but we have passed on little about our colony; but all the same we also live and work in the praise of God and for the salvation of our souls. We are 63 families of Poles here in East Chain; through the efforts of Fr. CIESZYŃSKI, who gave all his strength to our parish and to the salvation of our souls, we built a church under the patronage of the Holy Family 14 years ago. But he was not with us long, because he ministered to us only 4 years; then by the decree of the Bishop he left us. For his labors and troubles

we express to Fr. CIESZYŃSKI a hearty *Bóg zapłać* and we wish him the longest of life.

After that we had a German Catholic priest for some period of time, but we parishioners were not satisfied with him. Later the Reverend Bishop sent us another priest in the person of Fr. J. MIKOŁAJ; thus we are thanking God for that, that we have good ministry from him and he speaks to us in our mother tongue. This one is still a young priest but he has undertaken great work. When he came to us, we still had 18 thousand dollars of debt on the church, but through his effort we repaid all of the debt in two years; now we do not have any debt at all on the church. During this year he again had a great endeavor, because the church was still very modest. Through the effort of the Rev. Fr. MIKOŁAJ we beautifully decorated the church, such that we do not have to feel any shame before all the world, and our reverend pastor neither. All of this decoration cost 16 hundred and 22 dollars; this is a lot of money for such a small parish, but all offered from a forthright heart, what then fell to his share. Thus we do not have any burden to repay. Thus, as they then say, "Good shepherd, good flock": Here we respect one another like brothers, we live in unity and in holy harmony like God has enjoined.

Thus our Rev. Fr. MIKOŁAJ is satisfied with us and we with him. You do not have anything better, than when a priest has good parishioners; as they wanted to bring something about, it was not necessary to quarrel as occurs among other parishes.

Here the citizens themselves contributed money and beautiful offerings to the church. One purchased a beautiful pulpit for one hundred dollars; the second a baptismal font for one hundred 23 dollars and 65 cents; this same citizen offered one hundred dollars for the lattice before the altar; two citizens offered two chandeliers of six lights each—they cost 66 dollars; two brothers gave two stone holy-water basins, which stand on both sides of the main doors—they cost thirty-two dollars. Again others donated bells for the altar, which ring on three notes and serve at holy Mass—they cost 23 dollars; others bought a bell for the sacristy doors for 7 dollars and 50 cents. Also the St. Joseph Society donated the altar of St. Joseph and a statue

of the saint, secondly the Rosary Society gave the second altar and a statue of the Mother of God; certain parishioners and benefactors gave a statue of St. Stanisław Kostka for \$68.00; the Rosary ladies donated a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for 75 dollars, and the one who gave the baptismal font and the lattice in front of the altar also gave a confessional. So we parishioners, or rather I in the name of the whole parish, wish a heartfelt *Bóg zapłać* to all of our benefactors.

I must then also mention, what delight our esteemed pastor Fr. MIKOŁAJ has given us; not to all, to be sure, because the Lord Himself is not accepted by all. On November 4 he delivered a beautiful lesson to us about the upbringing of children and about drunkenness, which moved almost all of the people in the church to tears. After Mass he summoned the parishioners before the altar, so that they would renounce their addictive fog. On the first overture 48 members renounced drinking; during the second week nothing but women renounced; thus now we have a brotherhood of temperance. God grant, that our whole parish join that society! This is necessary for all, because this unlucky cloud causes great misfortune and misunderstanding among us; it would be our desire, that our Polish people would make such a union in all of the parishes, and there would be greater love and respect among us, more education among the Poles, and the clergy would have lighter work among us. Let us not give ourselves to sneering at the cause of our nationhood and our bad habits. Let us show, that we would be a people from our word and our solid character! We should live only for God, beloved brothers, readers of *Wiarus*, so that these several words of mine will have had the desired effect!

And now one more thing, dear Countrymen! Whoever has had the goal of getting onto the land and has a few pennies saved, he should come to us. It is always possible to obtain land here: to rent or to buy. You do not have any steppes (prairies) here at all; there are only productive farms. It is possible to purchase these farms, because some people who grew rich on them have gone to the city for business. As far as crops are concerned, we have a good harvest every year. I have been here 18 years, and I do not remember when the Lord afflicted us with bad crops. We always have something to eat,

on which to work and to raise a family well, and in that light we will need hardly anything else.

Your well-wishing countryman
A parishioner from East Chain

* * * * *

These items are the only ones covering the Martin County Polish community that John Radziłowski and I have found to date. The long items fall at the opposite ends of a twenty-year period; the earliest ones were published just two years after the beginning of concentrated Polish-immigrant settlement in East Chain/Silver Lake Township.

Wiarus's editors seemed more than willing to give free space, to accommodate Stanisław SŁOMINSKI and then Feliks PIETROWICZ in their promotion of land sales in southeastern Martin County for the Chicago-based Frederiksen & Co.; the feel of these pieces is something like a modern "infomercial." Apparently, SŁOMINSKI and PIETROWICZ were flogging acreage there that the Frederiksen concern owned in its own right.¹

Wiarus editor Hieronim DERDOWSKI eventually got egg on his face from his endorsements of the Frederiksen enterprise, however. In October, 1889, the Chicago office of Frederiksen & Co. was closed pursuant to some sort of court action by its creditors, most likely a receivership under state law commenced on accusations of fraud on the purchasers and sellers of land for which it was serving as sales agent for the railroads or wealthy

¹My evidence for this is a reproduction of a page for the East Chain region from an early plat map book for Martin County, reprinted in William H. Budd, *Martin County Before 1880* (n.p., n.p., reprint ed., 1973?), p. 21. It shows only one landowner of recognizably Polish surname within the township, a J. CEGIELSKY, who held an 80-acre tract; but a half-dozen parcels show "Fredericksen" in the owner's name, whether individually, in partnership with another, or in a corporate capacity. Unfortunately, this book gives no date for this map and I have not had an opportunity to search out an original plat map book from the 1880s.

speculator-owners.²

Whatever the derelictions of Frederiksen & Co. elsewhere,³ the company apparently did bring Polish-American purchasers of land into the East Chain area; natives of the German Partition of the Polish lands started buying undeveloped land there in 1884-1885, and newcomers bought and settled up through 1890. This was an “internal chain migration,” i.e. the serial relocation of families of immigrant origin who were related or acquainted,

²Milwaukee’s *Kuryer Polski* reported all of this in its October 31, 1889 issue, p. 1. The accusation against Frederiksen was that it was collecting money from buyers, ostensibly for payment on mortgages, land contracts, or taxes, but was neither paying the funds over to its owner-clients or seeing that the buyers got good title or appropriate documents. On October 31, 1889, p. 8, *Wiarus* reported that things in “the affair of the land sales company Frideriksen & Co. were not as bad, as *Kuryer Polski* is reporting”; but after a six-week stretch of publication without any mention of Frederiksen, DERDOWSKI published a long article, “*Szwyndel Frideriksena*,” in *Wiarus*, December 5, 1889, p. 4, which may have been a reprint from a Polish-language newspaper published elsewhere. Nothing is said in its text about any Minnesota connection. The Frederiksen affair was reported in the Martin County English-language press as well, with some detail about the mechanics of the company’s schemes. See Martin County *Sentinel*, November 29, 1889, p. 5 (“Frederiksen’s Swindles”), and Dec. 27, 1889, p. 5 (“Frederiksen’s Frauds”). The Frederiksen affair, described as “coming so near home” to Martin County, was cited as one of “a great many land swindlers in the past six or eight years.” Martin County *Sentinel*, Dec. 6, 1889, p. 1. (There is a certain resonance here with events in our own national and international economies over the last three years.)

³For instance, the proposed colony in Redwood County touted in these items never got underway, and its promotion was probably a scheme. John Radziłowski, *Poles in Minnesota* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2005), pp. 14-15.

from an earlier-settled part of the United States. The interesting thing is that its origin-point was not the one we latter-day Minnesotans would expect, due east in Winona, but rather from Lemont, Illinois, in Cook County near Chicago. After 1890, adult sons of some of the first settlers began establishing their own farms.⁴ Based on secondary sources—transcriptions of the East Chain Catholic cemetery and church membership rosters—it appears that families of a dozen to twenty surnames made up this first settler group.

Once on their land in far southern Minnesota, the East Chain Polish-Americans faced the same challenges as their neighbors—undercapitalization for the start of farming, leading to great privation in the early years; an open, bare prairie that had to be broken for agricultural production; the vagaries of Midwestern weather; and soil that was deep, black, and heavy, but also low-lying and too wet.

⁴“History of Martin County Polish Settlement is Told at History Society Meet,” Martin County *Sentinel*, Aug. 31, 1931, p. 3. This article publishes the text of an address given by East Chain resident Frank J. NOWICKI at the 1931 annual meeting of the Martin County Historical Society. (The collections of the MCHS contain a typed manuscript of the speech, as well.) NOWICKI’s recounting has some circumstantial support for my surmise that the Polish newcomers were buying from Frederiksen & Co.—there’s the geographic proximity between the company’s headquarters and the first American residences of this group of settlers, and then there’s NOWICKI’s statement: “In 1883 there was a Polish land agent in Lemont whose name was John STARSZAK. He represented a company that had this land for sale in Silver Lake,” i.e. in the East Chain region. Further research into the Martin County land records would provide the answer to this unsettled point. And, if the LDS-filmed records of the parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago include those for the church in Lemont, researchers with roots in East Chain just might have a genealogical resource available to them at their local Family History Center.

Our short reports from the mid-1890s hint at that.⁵

In the 1880s, the Polish settlers around East Chain had to affiliate with the Roman Catholic parish at Fairmont for the sacraments. Though there was some distance to the trip, there was an attraction there—a priest who was a fellow Polish immigrant, the first pastor of Fairmont’s Church of St. Paul, Father Jan CIESZYŃSKI.⁶ In the early years of the Polish settlement in East Chain, Father CIESZYŃSKI circuit-rode there about once a month by horse and buggy, to hold services in the settlers’ native language in their homes.⁷ The relatively small size of the Polish Catholic community there—only some twenty families—may have been the reason why the East Chain settlers did not immediately make efforts upon their arrival to build a church and found a parish nearby, as happened in so many other of the rural Polish settlements scattered across Minnesota. The fact that they had a Polish priest at relatively close

⁵More detail on these challenges is found in Dennis Hoefs, *Chain of Lakes Country: An Illustrated History of Martin County* (Virginia Beach, Va.: The Donning Company Publishers, 2007), pp. 33 and 35-39. This attractive, pictorially-oriented history emphasizes the problem of poor drainage in the fields being established on the low, even prairie landscape, and it notes how professional drainage businesses “became an important enterprise in Martin County.” *Id.*, p. 33. But, even though getting started in the area was difficult, land values certainly inflated over the first decade or so of settlement; compare the per-acre price quoted by Fredriksen & Co. in 1886 with the one cited in the November 22, 1894 *Katolik* item.

⁶The Fairmont parish was quite mixed ethnically, so it is interesting that a Polish priest was assigned there. See submission under “Fairmont” in response to 1949 *Questionnaire on Parish History* for Archdiocese of St. Paul, including handwritten addition on stationery of Mrs. John Wolf, Fairmont, p. 3 [on microfilm M260, roll 7, Minnesota History Center, St. Paul].

⁷*75th Anniversary, Holy Family Church, East Chain, Minnesota 1897-1972* (East Chain, Minn.: the parish, 1972), p. 1; Nowicki, “History of Polish Settlement.”

remove may also have lessened the urgency to establish their own parochial institution; they didn’t have to make a case to the bishop for sending a Polish priest to them, so it may have been judged not necessary to show their dedication by constructing a church right away.

But, in 1892 the construction of a church was undertaken. After several parcels of land were rejected successively as unsuitable for a new, functioning parish church, nine acres were purchased from Wojciech PYTLEWSKI for \$120.00. Construction of a frame church on a rock foundation without a basement was completed the following year. Father CIESZYŃSKI served East Chain’s new Holy Family Church as a mission parish from his main pastorate at Fairmont until 1900, when he was replaced by Father Jan MIKOŁAJ, a young and energetic shepherd. Father MIKOŁAJ’s tenure in Fairmont and at East Chain lasted until 1907. By that time, the size of the East Chain flock had increased to somewhere between 50 and 65 families; so Bishop Joseph Cotter of the Diocese of Winona gave permission for a resident priest, and Father H. M. DASZKOWSKI assumed full-time responsibility for Holy Family Church.⁸

The December 6, 1906 letter to *Wiarus* is the only solid reportage to that periodical with historical detail directly from East Chain that John Radziłowski and I have found so far in our research. It’s emblematic of the themes in this sort of correspondence—the pride in the parishioners’ donations for construction and their enhancements of the church they built; their intense relationships with their priests of Polish origin; and exhortations

⁸For more detail on these first fifteen years of the parish, see Nowicki, “History of Polish Settlement”; *75th Anniversary, Holy Family Church*, p. 1; Waclaw Kruszka, *A History of the Poles in America to 1908, Part IV: Poles in the Central and Western States* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2001), p. 124. NOWICKI gives the number of Polish families in 1907 as 50; our unnamed *Wiarus* correspondent’s number for 1906 is 63. Father Kruszka probably used the *Wiarus* report as his source for citing 63 as the number.

to Polish readers to come join them by settling in their region. The unique aspect of this one is the revelation of a local temperance effort in the church in that year. It's not clear that the Poles there had any more of a problem with drinking than did their countrymen anywhere else; thus, there is the intriguing possibility that this ethnic community was responding to, and emulating, the temperance movement that was growing among native-born, Anglo-Saxon Americans.⁹

One last bit of this installment's content deserves a mention: the two little items from *Wiarus's* "Wiadomości Miejscowe" column ("Local News," i.e. reportage from Winona's own large Polish-American community) from the summer of 1893. I do hope that a descendant of the suffering RYMARKIEWICZ is out there among our membership and readership; these items might even be of some benefit for a "medical genealogy" of ailment patterns and causes of death, like some family historians are compiling with the support of their physicians. From *Wiarus's* vague wording, the nature of RYMARKIEWICZ's affliction is mysterious; on the one hand, it sounds like an abscess of some sort, but on the other it might have been kidney stones. Whatever it was, it concerned a Polish-descended resident of East Chain, and it hence belonged in this installment!

* * * * *

⁹Here and there in this line of research I've come across a barb against a local individual's or clique's excessive drinking, or complaints about bad behavior in bars, or a contrary insistence that the author's community had no alcohol issues at all, unlike those of Poles elsewhere. This is the only mention of a square-on response by public pledging to abstinence that I've yet found.



FIRST BUILDING OF HOLY FAMILY CHURCH AT EAST CHAIN (date unknown)

Courtesy of Dona Paris

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS: I excavated the longer items in this installment with the help of John Radziłowski's early research into *Wiarus* and *Katolik*; some of the shorter ones are my own discoveries, from a re-review that I've taken through 1898 so far. Long-time PGS-MN member Sandra Nuss of Fairmont, an employee of the Martin County Historical Society, and Dona Petroviak Paris responded very quickly to my request for background material, with many items that were not in the collections of the Minnesota History Center and that really rounded out the story. *Dziękuję bardzo, panie!*

Note: The second part of the *Drobne Echa Wilno* article covering the years of 1886-1894 will appear in the Summer Newsletter.

Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth City Directories

The Minnesota History Center awarded a grant which will allow MGS to copy the available city directories for the above cities from 1860 to 1930. This will fill the gaps in the hard-copy directories now available at the MGS library. Many are in fragile condition.

2010 Minnesota Genealogy Group Trip – October 24-31

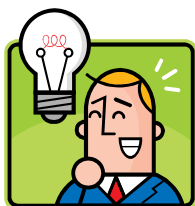
The Family History Center, Salt Lake City This is an informal group which obtains special hotel rates and plans special events for the week. For information contact: Janet or Warren Mitchell at <info@familytreefinders.net> or 651-454-8211.

Sto Lat

Sto Lat is the Polish traditional song for birthdays and other special occasions and sometimes even state events. The actual origin of the song is unknown. There are other verses but they are commonly omitted. The translations differ slightly but I like this version from the Polish American Center in Philadelphia found at:

<<http://www.polishamericancenter.org>>

-JWK



Something to Think About – Cousins?

Recently someone said to me: While our two families are from Poland and have exactly the same name we are not related. I believe she meant: “not closely-related.” The name is not an overly-common one, used by only 1400 families in Poland today.

We have all seen charts which tell us what type of cousins two individuals are. A simple way to look at this is: who is the common ancestor? If it is a grandparent then you are first cousins, your great-grandparent then you second cousins, and so on. If you are of different generations then you are cousins-once removed and conceivably this could go to three-times removed if there was a great age difference.

Now how many cousins you have depends on a number of assumptions. For simplicity assume each ancestral generation had four surviving children and each child survived to adulthood and had four children surviving to adulthood and marriage, etc. This would not be uncommon in the 1800s in Poland. Then you would have had about 1000 fifth

cousins. During this time period everyone in Poland would theoretically be no farther apart than about 10th cousins with the four children per family assumption. This also assumes the population was static, which is obviously not true.

Now take the example I initially presented. With the same name and coming from Poland it is likely the families are no farther apart than perhaps fourth or fifth cousins.

The exploding number of cousins is why we see so many famous people related to each other. The Associated Press reported the New England Genealogical Society’s research indicated President Obama is related to George H.W. and George W. Bush, Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, Lyndon Johnson, Harry Truman and James Madison. Finally, and ironically, he is also the 10th cousin of Scott Brown, the newly-elected senator from Massachusetts. However, their common ancestor was born in the late 1500s.

If you have some comments or interesting “cousin” stories we would like to hear about them.

-JWK

POLISH CHURCH MICROFILM AND INDEXES AVAILABLE

MICROFILM: Records of many Catholic churches from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis are available on microfilm at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library in South St. Paul. The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota (PGS-MN) has purchased microfilm of Polish churches to add to this collection. Microfilm records were purchased for the following twelve (12) ethnically Polish churches.

All Saints	Minneapolis
Holy Cross	Minneapolis
Holy Trinity	South St. Paul
Sacred Heart	Rush City
St. Adalbert	St. Paul
St. Casimir	St. Paul
St. Hedwig	Minneapolis
St. John the Baptist	New Brighton
St. Joseph	Delano
St. Joseph	Lexington
St. Mary Czestochowa	Delano
St. Philip	Minneapolis



Surname Indexing Project—Volume 14

We are continuing to index the surnames included in the past issues of the **PGS-MN Newsletter**. The following listing includes all surnames that appeared in Volume 14, Nos. 1-4; Spring 2006, Summer 2006, Autumn 2006, and Winter 2006-07. The code used in this listing is as follows: the first number is the volume number, the second number is the issue number, and the third numbers are page numbers (volume:issue:page). We are indebted to Mary Kowles for the indexing of this volume. Back issues of Volume 14 may be ordered from: Paul Kulas, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 12008 West River Road, Champlin MN 55316-2145. The cost is \$5.00 per issue. Make check payable to PGS-MN.

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Polish Scientists Discover Neanderthal Teeth

Polish scientists from Szczecin recently discovered three Neanderthal teeth in Stajnia Cave, near Mirów, Poland, north of the Carpathian Mountains between Kraków and Częstochowa. Previously some anthropologists speculated Neanderthal and *Homo sapiens* (modern man) might have interbred because Neanderthals died out about 50,000 years ago or well after the appearance of modern man; however, recent DNA testing has indicated there is no genome relationship.

Errors!



Member Iwona Srienc, a professional Polish/Russian translator pointed out a couple of errors in the Research Words table on page 15 of the Winter Newsletter. First a typo, the Polish word for baptism is **CHRZEST**. Secondly, under Russian, the first two words in the “Death” row do not mean “died” and “death.” The correct word for “died” is **УМЕР** and the last word **СМЕРТНЫЙ** is the adjectival form for death so you need a noun to go with it (like certificate or record). The Russian word for death is similar **СМЕРТЬ**, however. Records from the Russian Partition in the years about 1868 to 1919 will be in Russian; however, the standardized Napoleonic format was used with only minor changes into the 1930s. Other complications in translating Russian records are that they use four archaic letters not in the current alphabet and the old calendar is often used though sometimes both the old calendar and new calendar dates will be given. Suffice to say if you want a complete translation of old Russian records you might need a professional translator.

-JWK

Travelling to Poland in Sept.?

The Warsaw airport will possibly be closed on September 4-5, 11-12 and 18-19. You might check this if travelling at that time.



Change Service Requested

could not be read from the records, but the spouse was Catherina and the children were Rozalia, Julianne, Johann, Paul and Anna. Jacob and the unknown father may be related.

Jacob's son Vina, moved to Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI and used the MANKIEWICZ name. Other potentially related MANKIEWICZ families also settled in Milwaukee WI, which included Nikolai and Wojciech and in Philadelphia PA, which included the family of film producer Joseph MANKIEWICZ.

I would like to locate the unknown MANCZEWITZ family and the other unknown MANKIEWICZ families from Milwaukee and Philadelphia to determine if they are related."

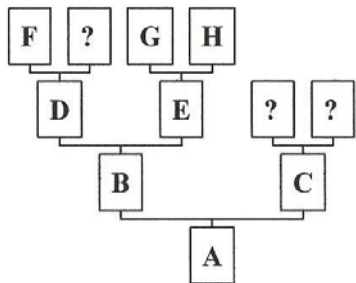
NEW MEMBERS – We welcome the following: **Madaly Finstad**, 12535-42nd Place N., Plymouth MN 55442 <finstad_Madaly@hotmail.com> is researching KONKEL in Prussia and Jastornia near the Baltic Sea and in Milwaukee WI and Jones Island.

Dean Janiszski, 3110-220th Ave., Ivanhoe MN 56142 <djaniszski@yahoo.com> is researching JANISZE(W)SKI, WAURZYNIAK in Poland and in Lincoln and McLeod counties in MN and in Chicago IL; TYKWINSKI, CYLKA in Poland and in Lincoln Co. and Chicago; KABOT, KABAT, KABOCSYMLIR in eastern Poland--maybe Ukraine and in WI and Lincoln Co. MN; LACKOWSKI in Posen, Poland and in WI and Lincoln Co. MN; KORCAL, KURKOWSKI in Posen and in Plattsmouth NE and Lincoln Co. MN.

Mary Jerde, 1443-97th Ave. N.W. Coon Rapids MN 55433 is researching KOZACZ, WALETZKI in Poland and in Minneapolis MN and BOIKE in Poland and in Grenville SD.

Peggy Larson, 557-98th Lane N.W., Coon Rapids MN 55433 <timpeggy@comcast.net> is researching WIECZOREK, ZAKRZEWSKI in Poznan Province; FELTZ (FELSKI, FELCHOWSKA) in Kashubia; NOWAKOWSKI in ?; and all in Winona MN.

Missing Branches



Send queries and branch updates to: **Paul Kulas**, Associate Editor, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 12008 West River Road, Champlin MN 55316-2145 (e-mail: <kkulas@ties2.net>) or with new or renewal membership forms.

QUERIES –

Irene M. Czapiewski, 1317-44th Ave. N.E., Minneapolis MN 55421 is researching John PASCHKE in Warsaw ND. She asks: "Does anyone know anything about this person?"

George Koleas, W156 N10640 Cobbler Lane, Germantown WI 53022 <GeorgeJK676@wi.rr.com> writes: "I am seeking information on Jacob MANKIEWICZ, born 1 June, 1827 in Lubnia, Brusy, Chojnice. He left the Port of Hamburg with his wife Mary BARDON on 2 May, 1868 aboard the S.S. *Atlas* bound for Quebec. The Quebec passenger list records their name as MANCZEWITZ. On the same ship, was another family whose name was also listed as MANCZEWITZ. The father's name

Missing Branches ...continued on page 6