



# Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 18

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NUMBER 3

## *Drobne Echa*

Installment # 21

Dateline: Sturgeon Lake

From *Wiarus*, 1889

By Greg Kishel

<gfk1@cornell.edu>

Our survey of Minnesota's past in the Polish-language press returns to the large Polish agricultural colony of Sturgeon Lake, in northwestern Pine County. (In the sixth installment of this series, published in our Winter 2005-2006 issue, we featured Sturgeon Lake reportage dated 1886 to 1891.) The following items on

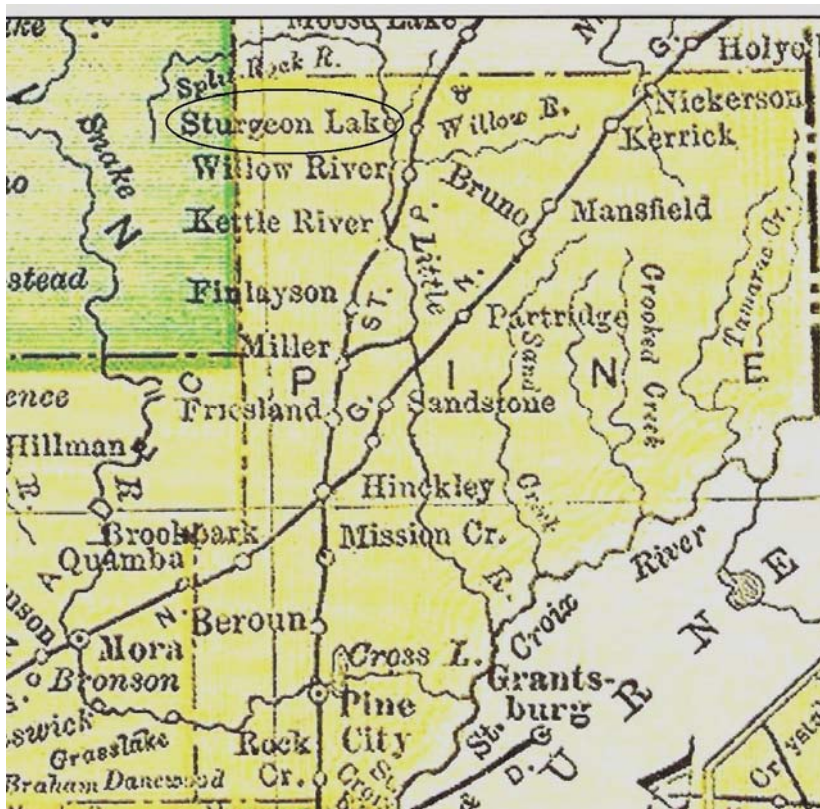
Sturgeon Lake were featured in the August 15, 1889 issue of *Wiarus*, published at Winona, and are now presented in my translation. The longer of the two is a real gem for research in genealogy as well as local history; it isn't often that we come across a long list of the pioneers in a rural area that was compiled very soon after the first settlement. But in a broader sense, this piece shows that there is nothing new under the sun. The text sure sounds like a latter-day "infomercial"; and the evidence I unearthed in contemporary sources strongly suggests that it was a deliberately-planted sales solicitation, published under the guise of a community report.

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**Sturgeon Lake ...continued on page 11**

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1895 Map of Pine County

Source: [www.MemorialLibrary.com](http://www.MemorialLibrary.com) – used with permission

### **Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota**

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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.

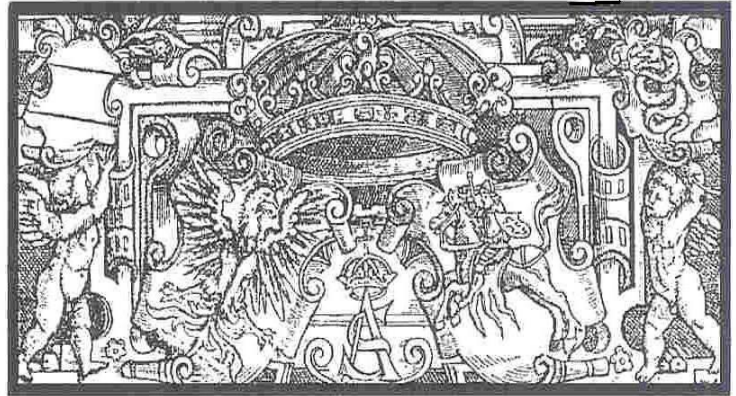
#### **Please use application form on insert page.**

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?**

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### **President's Letter**

Dear Members,

I lost my mother to blood clots this summer. She went very fast after every effort was made for drugs and machines to save her. But, there was no TV-show ending to this story in which the tense moments break into a happy and quasi-miraculous recovery. I bring this up not so much as public knowledge of my situation, but because it made me realize many of our members have reached the age that one or both of their parents have died and become one of those first source records that we all collect in our family file folders.

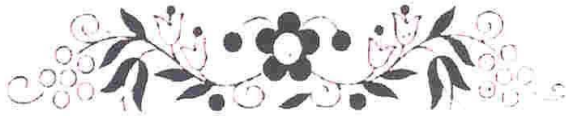
As the senior generations pass, our family history—oral, pictorial, written, and computerized—passes to us to shoulder. Please take some time this fall to cultivate a younger member of the family to take your place as family historian. Share with them what you have done and what still needs to be done. Show them around your filing system—OK, maybe “piling” system. Have them commit to caring for your work and that of your predecessors. Set a date to publish that family research. Make it the summer of 2011, not when “I retire,” or “I have time,” or “am complete,” as those times may never come. Get serious about handing down (or over) the labors of your love. This may even warrant a mention in the codicil to your will.

On a lighter note, PGS-MN would like to once again thank Dori Marszalek and her team for staffing an enlarged and very busy booth at the Twin City Polish Festival in August. A great time was had by all and we were able to cultivate many new friends and members.

See you at the November 6 meeting with the Pommerns or at the Annual Meeting luncheon in January!

Jerome Biedny





## *The Bulletin Board*

### **2010 Election in Poland**

Bronisław Komorowski (acting interim president) was elected president in a July 4 run-off election defeating Jarosław Kaczyński, garnering 53% of the vote. Jarosław is the twin brother of Lech Kaczyński who was killed in the tragic plane crash on April 10 in Smolensk. His reform-minded Civic Platform party now will control the Government until new parliamentary elections are held.

### **PGS-MN September 11 Meeting Breakthroughs and Unsolved Mysteries: Genealogy of Poland and Polonia**

A good crowd was in attendance for the kick-off meeting of the 2010-2011 PGS-MN season. The featured speaker for the September 11, 2010 meeting was Anne Klejment, History Professor from St. Thomas University. Her topic was "Breakthroughs and Unsolved Mysteries: Genealogy of Poland and Polonia."

The presentation covered Professor Klejment's experiences in pursuing her genealogical roots. The talk centered on specific cases where she had difficulty finding answers to questions raised by some of the records she found. As an example, her first unsolved mystery involved the question: Why was their three-year-old son Michael left behind in Poland when the Szymanek family immigrated to America? The suggested solution was when they arrived at their embarkation port, he was found to have a physical defect which would not allow him to continue with the family immigration plans and the young boy had to return to his village of origin with an uncle.

Professor Klejment went through a series of these unresolved/resolved situations. Her unsolved stories were thought-provoking and sprinkled with

some humor. The presentation was very well received.

There was also a short second presentation by Mary Lou Sweet, a Personal Publishing Consultant for the Heritage Makers Company. This company specializes in preparing personal family heritage books. The basic concept is that you record your memories and stories coupled with family photographs. This information is entered into the Heritage Makers web-based software which is capable of printing attractive (heritage) books in single or multiple copies for your own memories or for distribution to family members. The displayed samples were quite nice. Additional information is at: <[www.SweetMemorialInPrint.com](http://www.SweetMemorialInPrint.com)>.

-John Rys

THE POLISH AMERICAN CULTURAL  
INSTITUTE OF MINNESOTA PRESENTS

**21<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
POLISH SOUP FESTIVAL**

Sunday, October 24  
4:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
Kolbe Hall  
John Paul II School  
17<sup>th</sup> Ave. & 4<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Mpls.  
Tickets available on line at  
[www.pacim.org](http://www.pacim.org) or at the door  
\$12.00/\$6 children under 12

*For information, call 612-378-9291*

### October 24-31 2010 Minnesota Genealogy Group Trip to 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.



### MGS Awards Presented at North Star Conference Held October 2

**Terry Kita** received PGS-MN's service award. He has been a member of PGS-MN since 1996 and was president from 2000 to 2008. His nine years as president makes him the longest-serving president in the organization's history. He was also the Program/Publicity Co-Chair during this same time from 2002 to 2008.

Terry planned and supervised the move of the MGS Library from its Golden Valley location to its present location in South St. Paul - a monumental undertaking. He is also the current President of MGS.

Terry is a tireless promoter of PGS-MN. His nominator and the current president of PGS-MN Jerome "Jay" Biedney, writes: "He is THE reason that I am involved with the Board right now. He is excellent at gathering in new recruits. His knowledge and enthusiasm for genealogy in general and Polish in particular are infectious.

-Paul Kulas

Terry Kita accepted a second service award, on behalf of **John Kowles**. John has been a PGS-MN member since 1997, has served as its vice president from 2002 to 2008, as the newsletter editor from 2007 to the present, has spoken at a number of PGS-MN programs as well as writing articles for its newsletter, is a frequent MGS library volunteer, and is a good example of how volunteers make an organization successful.

-Terry Kita

PGS-MN member **Janet Savelkoul Mitchell** received MGS's Michael Clark Family History Writing Award.

*The judges picked Janet's entry on the basis of its quality of writing, emotional impact and creative use of well-documented sources. "Every Family has Value" recounts the story of how Janet uncovered the story of a great-grandfather who went astray of the law.*

[MGS will be publishing the story in the near future.]

Janet has spent over 40 years discovering her Dutch, German and Pommeranian ancestors and compiled her maternal family tree book for a 1982 reunion. She is currently a PGS-MN Board member. This entry into the MGS competition is her first major effort at writing about her ancestors but she says it won't be her last.

### PGS-MN Future Meetings

#### November 6 Joint Meeting with Pommern Group

This meeting will start at 10 a.m. in the MGS library auditorium. Charlene Delaney will speak about the UNESCO sponsored, English-language camp which has been held at Toruń, Poland for almost 20 years. Charlene has served as the camp director for each of these years, as well as promoting the operation of other English-language camps in eastern Europe. This three-week camp is held primarily for Polish students intending to matriculate, who wish to improve their English-language skills. She will speak about the Toruń camp, and other camps, the volunteer opportunities they afford, and how attendees have used them as a springboard to genealogical research in Poland.

*There will be an optional noon lunch (approximately \$9).*

At 1:30 Jim Neuenfeldt will talk about his experiences teaching English in Poland and show recent slides from his trip.

**Annual Meeting – 11 a.m. Sat., January 15, 2009**

PGS-MN will hold its Annual Meeting at *Gasthof zur Gemütlichkeit*, 2300 N.E. University Ave., Minneapolis. The agenda will be as follows:

- **ELECTIONS** - President and Vice President and two directors will be elected. If you would like to be considered for one of these positions please contact Rick Theissen at: <rftheissen@comcast.net> or 651-739-1490.
- **BUSINESS MEETING** - Review year-end finances and announcements.
- **POLISH BUFFET** - Pork loin, chicken, pierogi, potatoes, vegetable, sauerkraut, dessert and beverage (cost will be about \$17 which includes tax and service).
- **Members** are encouraged to bring up any other business for discussion. *The theme of the meeting will be “open mic,” where members are encouraged to speak on any related subject.*

Please **RSVP** by January 3 to Terry Kita at: <terrykita@earthlink.net> or 612-927-0719 if you plan to attend.

**New Library Materials*****Archiwum Państwowe w Gdańsku (State Archives in Gdańsk) Przewodnik Po Zasobie do 1945 Roku (Guide of Sources up to 1945)***

Assembled by Czesław Bienat

Reviewed by John Kowles

This book is a listing of the holdings of the Gdańsk Archives with records from the 13th century to 1945. They cover East Pomerania or West Prussia. The English summary indicates some records went to the Soviet Union in 1945, some to Germany and others scattered throughout the territory. However the archive estimates they have recovered 70% of the records. The newer records

are generally administrative in nature. (When reference is made to a “fond,” this is derived from a Russian term meaning a “collection of records.” The book also has some good illustrations and maps and histories but of course they are in Polish.

As I understand the records which are 30 years after their creation are open to non-Polish for genealogical purposes. I have used this archive to obtain family records not available in the U.S. It is conveniently located a few blocks from the Hevelius Hotel.

The holdings are likely available online at the Polish State Archives web site: <<http://www.archiwa.gov.pl>>. However, if you want a quick guide to what is available this is a good source. Here is a sample listing of records from my grandmother’s ancestral home Dzierżążno.

Church Records:	Y - Births 1834-1873
	∞ - Marriages 1834-1874
	+ - Deaths 1834-1874
State Records:	1874→

Some of the records are available in the LDS library and the book uses the same microfilm numbers such as 76087.

*Thanks to Ed Brandt for donation of this book.*

***Rodziny 30 Years on CD***

PGSA’s quarterly journal is available in the library on CD. It covers 30 years of publication from 1979 to 2008. In 1993 the periodical went to an electronic format so for those issues it can be searched by subject. You can browse individual issues or use the search function. There is a tutorial on how to use it. The easiest way I found to search for specific subjects is to bring up your acrobat reader and then open the CD and click on index. Click on edit, all issues, then search and type the subject in the box provided. On my computer it required about 10 seconds to search each issue or about two minutes for a complete search. The CD will be available to insert in the library’s computers or eventually added to the server.

## Book Reviews

*A Translation Guide to 19th Century Polish-Language Civil-Registration Documents*, by Judith R. Frazin, The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois, 3rd Edition, 2009

Reviewed by John Kowles

This is an updated expanded version of the 2nd edition which is in our library. It guides the reader through Polish metrical records of 1808-1867 when the Napoleonic format was established in Congress Kingdom or later the Russian Partition. The format was also used in Kraków. The early format 1808-1825 was slightly different than the later versions. (The latest issue of *Rodziny* – see page 18 – discusses this in more detail.) The book also has many other features including: Polish declensions, name variations, letter writing guide, census and legal terms, etc. While a number of books discuss the Napoleonic format, if you have a Polish document to translate this book is a good starting point.

*The Study of Obituaries as a Source for Polish Genealogical Research* by Thomas E. Golembiewski. Polish Genealogical Society of America. 1984. Second printing with minor changes, 2009. Paperback. 81 pages.

Reviewed by John Rys

Both editions of this concise book are based on obituaries from *Dziennik Chicagoski*, which translates to “Chicago’s Polish Daily News.” This does not mean it applies only to obituaries in Chicago. The book uses the obituaries from that Chicago newspaper to illustrate general characteristics of obituary notices.

The first chapter includes examples dating from 1891. One obituary which I found unusual is a 1915 entry containing a notation “*Pogrzeb w automobilach*” indicating that this was not a common funeral but a “deluxe” funeral because it was a “Funeral by Automobile.”

The book is not indexed, but contains a glossary of terms relating to family relationships.

Obituary Notices include items like: names by previous marriages, memberships in fraternal organizations, titles and orders (Knights of the Order of St. Gregory), terms describing cause of death, place of residence.

The main point is that if you can find a newspaper obituary notice for an ancestral relative it may contain valuable information or interesting insights. This book would be a help to anyone searching Polish newspapers.

Does anyone know of a 1900s’ Minnesota Polish newspaper which may have obituary information?

*The book is available for purchase through PGS-MN (see Items for Sale by PGS-MN on page 17). The first edition of this book (Call No. P026) is available in our library.*

-JWK

### Orbis Travel Files for Bankruptcy

One of the largest and most well-known Polish travel agencies, Orbis Travel, filed for bankruptcy last month. The agency was run by the Polish National Tourist Office which started 80 years ago. Arrangements have been made so Orbis clients currently outside Poland will be allowed to return but that all future planned tourist events were being cancelled.

*Source: <Poland.pl>*

*I often booked reservations through their New York office and never had a problem. They would issue coupons for hotels which was convenient. While there are many other ways to book reservations now it is sad to see their demise.*

-JWK

In the U.S. we call this season fall, autumn or Indian summer. In Poland it might be *jesień* or *babie lato* which more properly translates to “old women’s summer.”



## Twin City Polish Festival

By Dori Marszalek

We had some really great weather for the 2nd annual Twin Cities Polish Festival held August 13th and 14th. Saturday was a little warm, but the breeze helped out a lot. It rained a little right when we closed for the day but it didn't do any damage to our tables and Sunday was another warm sunny day.

I would like to send a big thank you to all volunteers who made our presence at the event a huge success. Jan Bias, Jay Biedny, Terri DiCarlo, Mike Eckman, Marie Kaczynski, Greg Kishel, Barbara Kelly, Terry Kita, Paul Kulas and son Joe, Janet Mitchell, and John and Judy Rys. We all missed our fellow board member, John Kowles who was unable to join us this year.

Jan Bias brought one of her published family history books for display along with Terri DiCarlo's Gravestone project book and her Memory Card family book. Terry Kita furnished us, once again, with his wonderful map of Poland with the list of towns on one side. John Rys brought his ever popular church record data base and included the Polish White Eagle Insurance book; both were a big attraction. I want to give a special thank you to Janet Mitchell who designed and hand-made note cards specifically for PGS-MN and donated a percentage of the sales to PGS-MN. Be sure to watch for them at our next program. Also, thanks to Barbara Kelly and Marie Kaczynski, our new members who stepped up to the call for volunteers.

It was so much fun to tell people about our organization and to let them know what wealth of knowledge is available to them from our board members. It seems I learn something new from everyone each time we all get together like this. It was so rewarding to see the volunteers connect with people, and of course watching Terri DiCarlo connect with even more cousins was the highlight.

I would like to welcome the 17 new members who signed up at the festival. I know you will benefit from being a member of PGS-MN and hope you will take full advantage of all the resources that we have to offer. I asked some of our volunteers to write a little paragraph for this newsletter telling us what it was like to volunteer in hopes that it will encourage more members to be a part of this wonderful event next year.

## My experiences at the Polish Festival

By John Rys

What an outstanding event for networking with genealogy-minded people. The questions people ask at our genealogy booth are usually authentic in the sense that there seems to be a genuine interest in pursuing their Polish roots. It has been an excellent place to find new PGS-MN members who would not have heard of our organization, if it were not for this festive event.

Individually, it is a good meeting place for me to connect with people for whom I have done "Family Ties" research reports, usually by mail or e-mail.

For example, this year I met with a genealogist with Polish roots from N.E. Minneapolis (visiting from New Hampshire). We previously corresponded by e-mail regarding a "Family Ties" report and her discovery of a baptismal record for an uncle.

Another example was a new PGS-MN member, who has similar roots in Poland and Weyerhaeuser, Wisconsin. A "Family Ties" report was a starter. But a bigger surprise to Judy and me is that we have known members of her family (by marriage) for a number of years.

Most of all, the Festival gives me a chance to "hang-out" with my cousin, Terri (Simco) DiCarlo. When I was young, my parents, two sisters and I would visit the Simco family on University Ave. around the corner from St. Cyril's Church. They had two daughters, Beverly and Bonnie. Later they had a third daughter, Terri. She was considerably younger and we did not really get to know Terri because of that age difference. Now in later years, I am happy to say that we have connected with Terri and genealogy is the magnet that brings us together.

So, the Polish Festival is my chance to spend "fun time" talking with Polish genealogy people and, as a bonus, watch "my cuz" Terri enjoy those meaningful moments as she discovers many other cousins from all her ancestral roots.



**Terri DiCarlo and John Rys in Costume**

**My Experiences at Polish Festival  
By Barb Kelly**

Thanks for asking me to participate on the Polish Festival. Here is a short note to express my feelings on the experience on Saturday.

Volunteering at the Polish Festival was a very moving experience for me. I learned so much from talking to people who stopped by the booth. Some talked about their Polish traditions they remember from their grandparents and parts of Poland their ancestors came from.

Seeing people connect to their families through John Rys' records was amazing. I recall an older lady looking in the record books and finding herself; it brought tears to my eyes. She was so excited to see her name in print.

I look forward to next year.

**First Experience  
By Janet Mitchell**

This was my first experience at the Polish Festival, and I sometimes thought we could have used a few more volunteers to talk with people. Most of those who stopped by our booth were very interested in what we do, and sure could talk up a storm! I never cut anyone short, but some conversations would go on for over 20 minutes. Most people were very patient and waited to use the reference books. I especially appreciated the Polish citizens who now live here in Minnesota who stopped by and related

their family ancestry to us - and discussed quite a lot of Polish history, too! I also spoke with many interesting people from Ukraine, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Germany, along with quite a few Chicagoans. This festival seems to draw a crowd from all over.

The food was fabulous, the weather was pretty near perfect, and I was tired from trying to talk over the polka music and standing for long periods of time. But I can see where our presence is definitely worth the cost. I have a few ideas of what else is needed, i.e. a few more resources - Polish language dictionary and vintage map books come to mind, especially those that might show all the different ethnic sections (Galicia, West/East Prussia, Kashubia, etc.) that comprise modern-day Poland.

**19th-Century Polish Nobility – The  
Taczanowski Family**

Their primary estate was located at Taczanów. Władysław was born in Jablonna. Edmund was born in Wieczyn. He married Agnieszka Baranowski in Czermin and was the Lord of Estate in Choryń (now a historic landmark).

Władislaw von Taczanowski was born in Szyplów. It is interesting to note that he Germanized his name in the Prussian-controlled Poland. All of the towns mentioned exist today south of Poznań.

Edmund's great-great-grand niece, Elonka Dunin, has compiled an interesting Taczanowski Family Tree and posted it on a public web site (<<http://www.elonkadunin.com/public/familytree>>). It identifies over 550 families with 1500 names of descendents. Check it out and you might find a surname you are researching on it.





**Dori Marszalek, Janet Mitchell and Paul Kulas at PGS-MN's Expanded Booth**

### **My Experiences Volunteering at our Polish Fest Booth By Terri DiCarlo**

“Happiness is not about getting, it’s about giving!” It was so rewarding to be around the excitement of our booth, as visitors “found” their ancestors in John Rys' church records. A few of them even screamed out loud as they found their grandparents’ baptism records and discovered the names of their great-grandparents! I would give them our membership brochure and suggest they write down their discoveries on the front cover. Their next question was usually, “So how do I find out more?” That was the perfect introduction to telling them all of the advantages of joining PGS-MN. If they didn't fill out the back-page membership form before they left, at least they walked away with our brochure to mull over later, with some very important information on the front cover.

On a more personal note, by displaying my two collections, Memory Cards and my Gravestone Project, I've made many “cousin” connections during the Festival, because my grandparents and their siblings who settled in N.E. Minneapolis in the early 1900s were very prolific! I've even made two major family connections!

Last year, a 2nd cousin whom I had never met had tears of joy as she discovered her family's chart, memory cards, gravestone pictures, and wedding pictures in my two collections. For the first time, she got to see what her grandfather looked like! She joined PGS-MN on the spot and we later got together over lunch to share more information. This year, another “cousin” connection: A woman from my father's generation looked through my collections and said, “I know these people! How do you know them?”

She had discovered her parents' and sibling's gravestone pictures and memory cards in my collections. She was so excited to find out there was another Simco relative still alive! She thought she was the only one. I was so excited, I had a hard time remembering my home phone number! Her daughter walked away saying, "Unbelievable! Unbelievable! I bring my mother to this Festival, never imagining this would happen!" Needless to say, another lunch is planned with her and her daughter to share more family information.

Personally, I think that saying should be changed to "By giving happiness, you get happiness!"

Looking forward to volunteering at next year's Polish Fest.



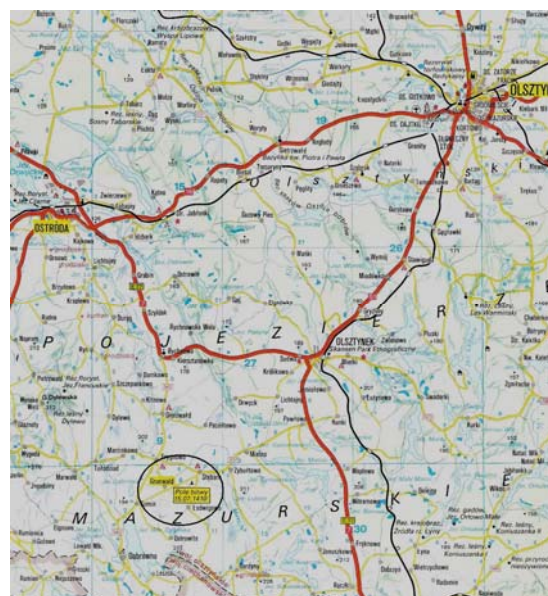
**John Rys Helping Visitor With Database of Local Church Records**



**One of Several Polka Bands That Played**

### *600 Years Ago in Poland*

This year marks the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Grunwald. This was said to be the largest battle of Medieval Europe. The Teutonic Order of Knights attempted to unite Prussia and Livonia by wresting control of Lithuania from Poland. A federation of forces was assembled, forces consisting of Polish, Lithuanian, and Ruthenian with some support from Czech and Tartars. It was estimated to number about 39,000. The Order assembled many knights from all western European countries. While they numbered only 27,000 they were judged better-trained and technically superior. The battle took place between Grunwald and Tannenberg. The Polish were successful and peace eventually was concluded in Toruń in 1411. Some skirmishes continued but this signaled the beginning of the end for the Teutonic Knights' dominance in this region. It was a precursor of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth which was formed in 1569.



**Location of Grunwald**

**Map adapted from: RV Reise- und Verkehrsverlag and Kartographie: GeoData, 1995/96 (Scale: About 1:300,000)**

**Sturgeon Lake Article** ...continued from page 1**Earlier in that issue of** *Wiarus*, **we find:**

ON PAGE 7 we are publishing a description of the Polish colony in Sturgeon Lake, Minn., founded barely three years ago and already so far developed that the local farmers want to build a church. The lands there belong to the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad Company and this company still has a million acres for sale—all in a beautiful region in the vicinity of forests, among large fish-filled lakes. The tillage of the soil does not take much work, and our countrymen like such land the best. The Polish agent for these lands is Mr. Józef ŁABĘCKI, to whom one should address communication, concisely: Jos. ŁABĘCKI, Sturgeon Lake, Minn.

**And, on page 7, the following is found:**

**THE POLISH COLONY  
in Sturgeon Lake, Minn.**

A DESCRIPTION OF THE COLONY.

The Polish colony in Sturgeon Lake, Pine Co., in the State of Minnesota, has been developing for two years. It is therefore one of the youngest of all the Polish colonies, but at the same time it is the most promising. It has extensive plains, overgrown with mixed trees, and navigable rivers and little streams throughout; it has many large fish-filled lakes, which give our settlers the opportunity to provide themselves with fish for the fast-days during their free time from work in the forests.

On the other hand, the forest abounds in game, like stag, deer, rabbits, partridge, wild ducks, geese, and other game.

The climate is temperate, and therefore healthful, rich in sources of good water. Our settlement is situated only 50 English miles from the port city of Duluth, and 101 miles from the city of St. Paul; therefore there is very easy and inexpensive transportation. Four years ago Sturgeon Lake was the subject of a debate in the Polish National Alliance, from the bosom of which a delegation was actually sent; that delegation then recognized that these lands were good for colonization, but resolved that the project would not come to fruition at the time. This opinion was attributable only to the fact that the Polish National Alliance had not yet

conceived for itself the idea of founding a Polish colony, at the time. Today we number 3 members of that delegation in the midst of our settlers: Józef GRASIEK, Jan TATAR, and Mikołaj KANIEWSKI. I am full of rancor against the remaining delegates, because if the Polish National Alliance had not denied this colony its endorsement, our exiles would have a secure life today and they would not be dependent on the so-called *big boxes*. The soil here is marlaceous, this is clay with sand, and due to this it is easy to work; it produces an abundant crop in the first year, as may be read below in the enclosed report.

A Report of the Harvest.

The year 1888.

Maciej DUNAJSKI took from 1 acre, 470 bushels of potatoes.

Franciszek CHMIELEWSKI took from 1 acre, 450 bushels of potatoes.

Józef BIETKA took from 1 acre, 390 bushels of potatoes.

Maciej DUNAJSKI took from 1 acre, 500 bushels of beets.

Fr. CHMIELEWSKI took from 1 acre, 550 bushels of beets.

Each of the above-mentioned first proprietors harvested 3 tons of hay per acre.

TERMS FOR THE PURCHASE OF LANDS IN  
STURGEON LAKE.

If our Esteemed Countrymen will take our announcement to hand and take a closer look at it, then without doubt they will come across several names that are not at all foreign to them. Our wish is that as many as possible of our countrymen would all occupy this one region, since in that manner, rather than in dispersion, we would be able to achieve a lot more in the material realm and in the spirit of patriotism, through united energies and a common understanding. — And so 367,000 acres of good land lie in our hands, which may serve at the disposition of our Countrymen. Therefore consider, Esteemed Countrymen, that if Poles alone were to purchase that whole area, whether we would not be able to say boldly, that our farmers, without the aid of our philanthropists, had created a New Poland. — However, before all one must be on notice, that “Without work there will be no



gain,”<sup>1</sup> and “Pray and work, and God will come to your aid!”

If we have a look at people who stay in the city and who do not devote themselves to work, who are only looking for easy bread, then we will not see much progress in their lives and livelihood. And so, Esteemed Countrymen, it happens with every fellow. “Integrity and work make a fellow rich”—but a fellow has it a hundred times better for himself, when he has secured a piece of land for himself, and is working on it and is succeeding—since through that he is protecting himself and the life of all his family from now on. At the present time land in our colony costs from 5 to 7 dollars per acre, whereas it will go higher in the days to come.

The down payment is 1 dollar per acre, while the rest is on annual payments over 5 years with interest at 7 percent. However, if any of our Countrymen would want better security, that is instead of a contract of sale he wants to possess a *deed*, after repaying half of the principal from the above he may receive a *deed*, but at that time he must sign a *mortgage* stipulated for himself and acceptable to us—that with interest at 7 percent.

If any of our Countrymen wishes to secure land for himself and to save the expense of a trip, he may without hesitation apply toward that goal to the below-undersigned, and I for my part will deal with him according to the motives of conscience and not of business. Many of our countrymen have done this in similar fashion already, and I have not broken their trust still, because I know, that I am first a Pole, rather than an agent, and I proceed according to that.

#### ABOUT FARM IMPLEMENTS, LIVESTOCK, AND HORSES.

All of these may be purchased for very easy prices on-site, because we have 2 stores near the station, where there are supplies of almost all of the

implements for farming. — Livestock is also inexpensive in the area, more so than in the cities, and buying in that way saves money, which one would have to pay for the transport of such things.

#### ABOUT THE BEST SEASON TO EMBARK ON SETTLEMENT.

All agents and other people contend incorrectly, that the best season to settle is spring. In our opinion, it is the beautiful dry autumn, such as prevails among us here, that is the most beautiful and most suitable season for the building of houses, the clearing or stumping of the forests, and for all furnishing and construction for husbandry; and I will explain that right now.

If a settler arrives in autumn, then the most advantageous means for his support, that is, provisions, is that he purchase agricultural products straightaway from a farmer at first hand, cheaper than he will have to pay to buy from a storekeeper in the spring. Next: The cooler autumn days are far more pleasant for stumping the forests and erecting buildings than it is in the spring, during which, after the snows, the soil is in every part wet or in frost. — Further, in winter in the cities you waste your time, not having work, but on the pretty, cold days on the farms, you are able to clear stumps lightly and without drudgery; thus, with the arrival of the spring you do not even realize yourself, how you have arrived at several cleared acres of field in such a fashion. Besides, the sawmills in the vicinity need logs for planks, which with the snow are transported most practically on sledges. On the other hand, with the spring, when the recent settler arrives, he does not know where to apply his hands in the first place, whether to build the house, or to clear land; and it is difficult to find other workers, because all are working for themselves. On the basis of these opinions, we constantly advise all of our Brothers who intend to settle on farms, that they should get under way in the fall, and not in the spring.

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<sup>1</sup>*Transl. note:* In orig., “*Bez pracy, nie będzie kołaczy,*” lit. “Without work, there will be no cakes.”

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 THE SENDING OF MONEY.

To send the money that is due when ordering oneself a farm, one has to do it through *Express* or also via *Money order*. Letters of recommendation do not give the slightest guarantee, if the money were to vanish. Thus, we would not like it, if our countrymen had to be rejected due to such a loss.

We hope, that our Esteemed Countrymen are not ignoring an opportunity, which indeed hardly comes about, through which they would acquire good land for inexpensive prices in a purely Polish settlement; and we hope that you will reserve land for yourselves, because the price will shortly reach the level of land located in the older settlements.

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 THE NAMES of the farmers who have purchased and settled  
 In **STURGEON LAKE.**

- |                     |                       |                        |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ADAMSKI          | 41. W. ŁASZKIEWICZ    | 81. CIESIŃSKI          |
| 2. SOBKOWSKI        | 42. Dom. ŁUKAJEWSKI   | 82. KWAPICH            |
| 3. K. SEGAL         | 43. J. TATAR          | 83. KACZYŃSKI          |
| 4. S. MILLER        | 44. Fr. LOOS          | 84. St. SŁUCHOCKI      |
| 5. F. MURRAY        | 45. ALLARD            | 85. J. KONIAREK        |
| 6. CUNNINGHAM       | 46. WILKS             | 86. CHOJECKI           |
| 7. SADOWSKA         | 47. MILLER            | 87. Fr. NOWAK          |
| 8. St. FOERSTER     | 48. I. ANDERSON       | 88. Andrzej NOWAK      |
| 9. J. FOERSTER      | 49. Pet. PETERSON     | 89. Oskar LINDAU       |
| 10. Ant. FOERSTER   | 50. J. ŁABĘCKI        | 90. Oskar CARLSON      |
| 11. WALETZKO        | 51. HODOR             | 91. KRISTOFEN          |
| 12. Mat DUNAJSKI    | 52. Leon JUREK        | 92. I.D. WILKS         |
| 13. Fr. DUNAJSKI    | 53. J. CHMIELARZ      | 93. Swan OLSON         |
| 14. St. DUNAJSKI    | 54. J. URBANIAK       | 94. Adolf STROMBERG    |
| 15. J. DUNAJSKI     | 55. Fr. JUREK         | 95. DOBOSZYŃSKI        |
| 16. I. FORLIN       | 56. TORSZEWSKI        | 96. F. WAWRZYCZEK      |
| 17. F. GRABOWSKI    | 57. Fr. SZYKOWKY      | 97. I. BIENIARZ        |
| 18. Fr. ODEBRALSKI  | 58. M. MATUSZEWSKI    | 98. Fr. CHOJECKI       |
| 19. I. MAGDZIARZ    | 59. N. G. OLSON       | 99. Lorenz ZYZNER      |
| 20. W. MAGDZIARZ    | 60. J. ROMANOWSKI     | 100. J. ROBAK          |
| 21. Fr. KOLANDA     | 61. W. TOBOLEWSKI     | 101. Ant. ROBAK        |
| 22. BAŁA            | 62. J. GRASZEK        | 102. St. ROBAK         |
| 23. ZASOSKI         | 63. J. MARSHAL        | 103. J. MAJCHRZAK      |
| 24. St. PAWLAK      | 64. J. MUŃKO          | 104. Wojciech KRAWCZYK |
| 25. WALCZAK         | 65. Tho. KRZYŻANIAK   | 105. N. PETERSON       |
| 26. KLINICKI        | 66. Roch IDZIOREK     | 106. ANDERSON          |
| 27. P. WALCZAK      | 67. T. TOMCZAK        | 107. LONDEL            |
| 28. HINCA           | 68. Fr. TOMCZAK       | 108. WYGANOWSKI        |
| 29. ZYGMUNTOWSKI    | 69. Ant. SZIMCZAK     | 109. Andrzej JAMROCKI  |
| 30. J. SZWARMA      | 70. Józef IDZIOREK    | 110. Wiktor SMOŁA      |
| 31. JUŻWIAK         | 71. Piotr WÓJTCZAK    | 111. Robert SZAFARZIK  |
| 32. HYSKA           | 72. Karol GAŁĘZKI     | 112. Wilhelm STRONCER  |
| 33. Ant. JABŁOŃSKI  | 73. Wal. KRAWCZYK     | 113. GREIDER           |
| 34. MIKROT          | 74. NELSON            | 114. J. E. KLARK       |
| 35. An. GIC         | 75. Jakób ZDZEWIELSKI | 115. CONWAY            |
| 36. Mik. MAŃKOWSKI  | 76. Fr. MADEJ         | 116. Fr. LARSON        |
| 37. Wal. RZEPKA     | 77. KONIECZNY         | 117. I. LARSON         |
| 38. Fr. CHMIELEWSKI | 78. Mik. KANIEWSKI    | 118. August CARLSON    |
| 39. J. BEITKA       | 79. Chal. LOOS        | 119. W. BAEKER         |
| 40. J. PREIS        | 80. Mike LOOS         |                        |

\* \* \* \* \*

In his compact but wide-ranging survey of the Polish-American experience in Minnesota, Professor John Radziłowski cites Lincoln County's Wilno as "[t]he clearest example of a planned [Polish] farming colony" in our state.<sup>1</sup> John has identified other early colonization projects that settled Polish immigrants in a concentrated fashion in central and northwestern Minnesota.<sup>2</sup> On the source material for this installment and its predecessor, plus the beginnings of my own background research, I would add Sturgeon Lake to that list of rural, agriculturally-oriented Minnesota settlements that were envisioned as concentrated colonies of immigrant Poles, sponsored or supported by American business entities and planned for rapid settlement from earlier-established Polonian settlements in the United States.

As we saw from the five years' worth of correspondence presented in installment #6, there were two ramrods of the effort to settle Poles at Sturgeon Lake: Maciej DUNAJSKI and Józef ŁABĘCKI. DUNAJSKI took up farming as his primary occupation, and ŁABĘCKI became the resident agent of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad Company for sales of its local lands to new settlers.<sup>3</sup> It appears from this installment's content

<sup>1</sup>John Radziłowski, *Poles in Minnesota* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2005), p. 10.

<sup>2</sup>John Radziłowski, "Out on the Wind: Life in Minnesota's Polish Farming Communities," *Minnesota History*, vol. 58, no. 1 (Spring, 2002), pp. 18-20; and, in general, John Radziłowski, "A New Poland in the Old Northwest: Polish Farming Communities on the Northern Great Plains," *Polish American Studies*, v. LXIX, no. 2 (Autumn 2002).

<sup>3</sup>The St. Paul & Duluth Railroad Company, incorporated on June 28, 1877, purchased the lines that the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company had built through Pine County to Duluth in 1869-1870. Richard S. Prosser, *Rails to the North Star: A Minnesota Railroad Atlas* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, reprint ed. 2007), pp. 159 and 138, and maps of railroad lines constructed through 1870, 1880, and 1890 on unnumbered pages following p. 189.

that there had been an unsuccessful effort in 1885 to get an institutional endorsement from the Polish National Alliance, before these two men actually took up residence in the area.<sup>4</sup>

The local English-language press took note of the earliest efforts to attract Polish settlement to the northern reaches of Pine County: "The forerunners of a colony of Poles who are about to settle near Sturgeon Lake, ... went north on the train last Monday night. It is reported that if the country suits them an account of their trip, together with a general description of the country will be sent to the Polish papers, which will doubtless result in bringing large numbers of them into the country in the future."<sup>5</sup> By the spring of 1887, a local English-surnamed resident of Windemere Township was reporting that there were "quite a large number of Poles coming in to that part of the country [that] spring," and that "[t]hose who settled there last fall [were] all doing well."<sup>6</sup> Soon after that it

<sup>4</sup>See, in particular, the items from *Wiarus*, July 8, 1886 (describing the DUNAJSKIs' very first days in Sturgeon Lake in late March of that year), and December 8, 1887 (noting ŁABĘCKI's recent arrival from New York). The two had differing ideas about how the colony should be developed. See *Wiarus*, August 16, 1888 (describing the two as heading "two parties, disposed in adversity toward one another," with DUNAJSKI favoring the early construction of a Catholic church as the focal point for the growing community, and ŁABĘCKI as giving higher priority to the development of the local economy and infrastructure as a means to attract more Poles to the area). [All of these reports were presented in translation in installment #6.] Further research into the early records of the PNA would be necessary to flesh out the issue specific to our report here, the unsuccessful play for its formal support of colonization in Sturgeon Lake. Apparently, active support for rural Polish colonization was not forthcoming from the PNA until its 1887 convention in St. Paul. Radziłowski, "A New Poland in the Old Northwest," p. 84.

<sup>5</sup>"Chips and Shavings" column (hereafter "C&S"), Pine County *Pioneer*, May 22, 1886, p. 8.

<sup>6</sup>C&S, Pine County *Pioneer*, Apr. 15, 1887, p. 8.



was reported these earlier arrivals had been “taken into that part of the county and placed on Government lands by the railroad company.” But, per the same report, the railroad had become “[n]ot...very well satisfied with the Polanders as citizens,” and was now locating and settling Swedish immigrants in the area.<sup>7</sup> Both Poles and Swedes continued to flock into that area and on north to Kettle River, in that year and the following one.<sup>8</sup> By the fall of 1888, the local press was reporting the Sturgeon Lake Poles’ plans to build a Catholic church and rectory.<sup>9</sup>

On the material presented in these two installments, there is much evidence on which to characterize Sturgeon Lake as a planned Polish colony in the sense that John Radziłowski has envisioned. It probably was not executed as consistently or envisioned with as much exclusivity as Wilno and, perhaps, others; but Sturgeon Lake nonetheless was launched and publicized in a strong thrust to become a Polish-ethnic community, and it was promoted by a large sponsoring entity with a vested interest in exploiting ethnic identification within a single national group. And, there is solid corroborating evidence that the August, 1889 *Wiarus* piece presented here was part of a renewed, focused effort by the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad to liquidate more of its land holdings in the area, that summer.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>7</sup>C&S, Pine County *Pioneer*, May 6, 1887, p. 8. The resulting tensions between the Poles and the Swedes were reported in the May 31, 1888 issue of *Wiarus*. [That item was featured in installment #6.]

<sup>8</sup>C&S, Pine County *Pioneer*, June 3, 1887, p. 8, and March 23, 1888, p. 8. In a “Sturgeon Lake” town-tattler column, Pine County *Pioneer*, April 13, 1888, p. 1, it was reported that 135 homesteads had been taken in the northern part of the county in the preceding 15 months.

<sup>9</sup>“Sturgeon Lake” columns, Pine County *Pioneer*, Oct. 19, 1888, p. 1, and November 30, 1888, p. 1.

<sup>10</sup>See “Sturgeon Lake” columns in Pine County *Pioneer*, June 7, 1889, p. 1 (noting that the St. Paul & Duluth was conducting an audit of its local lands), and July 5, 1889, p. 8 (reporting decision of the railroad’s management to “do all in their power to get the lands along their line settled up,” by,

The clear sales-orientation of these pieces sheds light on the larger commercial context of early Polish settlement in northern Pine County. On a less scholarly note, ŁABĘCKI’s advice on how to best manage the back-breaking first work in settling on a northern frontier is something of an eye-opener, from our 21st-century vantage point.

Then, at the end of the *Wiarus* report, there is that long appendix-list of the settlers’ names. As presented here, it’s more familiar to readers of modern genealogical publications in its format and content; it’s one of those items that we use to verify the presence of family members in a particular locale, at a particular time. But it, too, has its uses in corroborating other secondary sources for the local history.

First, it appears to identify by name the “Polish Jew” who tried to make a go of it running a grocery store in Sturgeon Lake, in the person of “K. SEGAL.”<sup>11</sup> Beyond that, it recites the names of nearly 100 other local settlers of Polish origin. Surnames enumerated in this list appear throughout the several decades’ run of Sturgeon Lake-bylined correspondence in *Wiarus* and other Polish-language newspapers; and many of the full names appear on head- and footstones in St. Isidore’s

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among other means, “send[ing] an agent to Castle Garden to secure a class of emigrants who will be a benefit to the county”; plus, C&S, Pine County *Pioneer*, Aug. 23, 1889, p. 8 (noting that the railroad had just issued a promotional map of the lands it had for sale in Pine County).

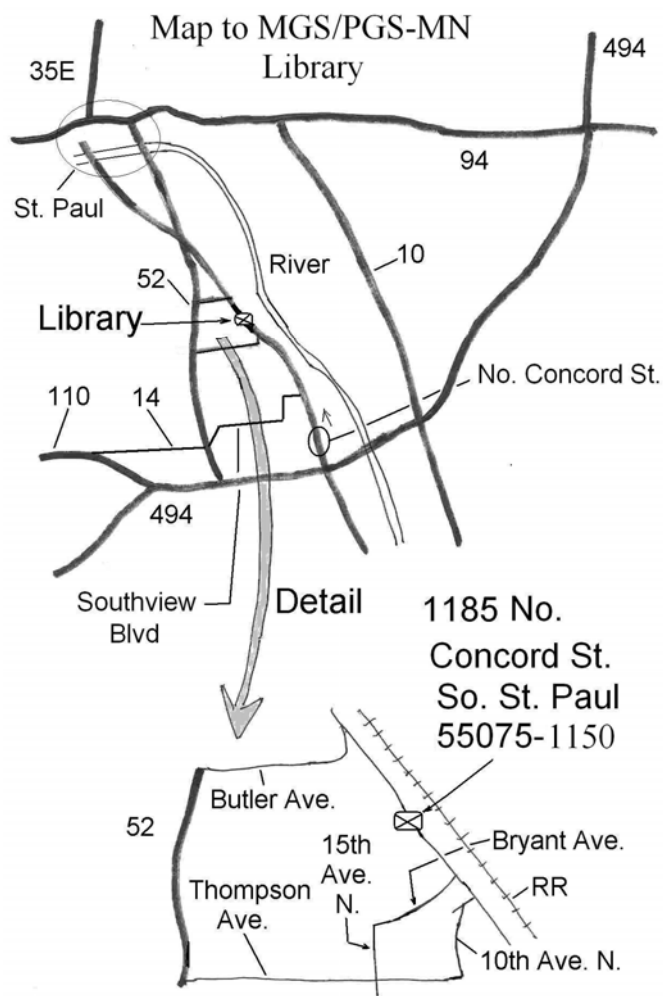
<sup>11</sup>The mention of this grocer appeared in *Wiarus*, June 20, 1889, translated for our sixth installment. He may have been the one of the two local grocers who was trying to sell his store at the time, per ŁABĘCKI’s report then. If so, he had started his business there only seven months earlier. See “Sturgeon Lake” column, Pine County *Pioneer*, Oct. 5, 1888, p. 1. This was the only mention of this early Sturgeon Lake entrepreneur in either *Wiarus* or the Pine County *Pioneer* throughout these years. The surname SEGAL was borne by members of the Jewish communities in Duluth and on the Iron Range; perhaps our grocer moved there after 1889.

Cemetery. That evidences the life-long local persistence of many of these Polish pioneers of northern Pine County.

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**WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS:**

Once again, I owe the lead to these items to John Radziłowski, in his pioneering research into *Wiarus*. The help on translation problems this time was given four years ago by my former student Anna Kuroczycka, now Anna Kuroczycka Schultes. I'm happy to take the results out of the reserve inventory and into print!



**Directions to the MGS Library:**

From west or east on 94, go south on 52 over Lafayette Bridge to Concord, then south to the address.

From west or east on 494, go north on Concord through South St. Paul to the address.

***If you move***

*Please let the Membership Chairperson know at <doripgs@comcast.net>. Since the newsletter is bulk-mailed it is not forwarded. We receive notification of non-delivery for which we must pay. We do endeavor to mail out a copy first-class to your new address. Thanks.*



**Library - Looking south on Concord St. – Located in Suite 218 on second floor. Parking is directly across the street or in adjacent lot on weekends. Street parking is also permitted. Meetings will be in the Board Room (fourth floor) or Auditorium (first floor). The library has elevators. Internet and WiFi are available in the library.**

**Members Please Note**

If your address label is highlighted in yellow your membership expires with the next issue (Winter 2010-11). Renewals are \$20 for one year or \$50 for three years. Please consider a three-year renewal as this helps us and reduces the possibility of missed issues. A renewal form is contained on the page 17. We endeavor to provide 28-32 pages in each newsletter and at least six interesting, informative programs throughout the year. Thanks for your support.

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**Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota**

A Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society  
 1185 No. Concord St.  
 So. St. Paul MN 55075-1150

**POLISH NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY**

PGS-MN's **Polish Collection** (books and maps) is located at the MGS Library, 1185 No. Concord St. in South St. Paul (see web site below or map on page 16 for directions). "Polish Night at the Library" continues on the **second Thursday of the month** 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. except on library closure dates below. One of our experienced genealogists is available to assist you with your Polish research problems.

**Items for sale by PGS-MN:**

- Chrozempa, *Morbus—Why and How Our Ancestors Died* \$4.00
- Fitzpatrick and Yeiser, *DNA and Genealogy* \$22.50
- Golembiewski, *The Study of Obituaries as a Source for Polish Genealogical Research* \$10.00
- Hoffman, *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings* \$25.00
- Hoffman and Helon, *First Names of the Polish Commonwealth: Origins and Meanings* \$20.00
- Jensen, *Sto Lat: A Modern Guide to Polish Genealogy* \$25.00
- Litak, *The Latin Church in the Polish Commonwealth in 1772* \$17.00
- Müllerowa, *Roman Catholic Parishes in the Polish Peoples Republic in 1984* \$15.00
- Ortell, *Polish Parish Records of the Roman Catholic Church* \$12.00
- Radzilowski, *A Traveller's History of Poland* \$14.95
- Schlyter, *Essentials in Polish Genealogical Research* \$3.00
- Shea, *Going Home: A Guide to Polish American Family History Research* \$35.00
- Shea and Hoffman, *In Their Words: A Genealogist's Guide To Polish, German, Latin, and Russian Documents*, Vol. I: Polish \$35.00, Vol. II: Russian \$35.00

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT THE LIBRARY**

One of our members is available at the library on the **first Saturday of the month** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. to help you with your Polish research.

**LIBRARY HOURS**

- Tuesday: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Thursday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Phone: 651-455-9057
- Web Site: <<http://www.mnngs.org>>

**Order from:** *PGS-MN Newsletter*, c/o Paul Kulas, Associate Editor, 12008 West River Road, Champlin MN 55316. For shipping and handling please add 10% of the total cost. Minnesota residents add 7.275% sales tax. Make check payable to PGS-MN. Some of the books are available for sale at the library.

**Library closed Nov. 25, 27 and Dec. 14 through Dec. 31, 2010**

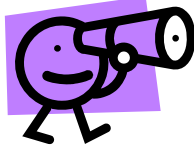
**Membership Application:**      New \_\_\_\_\_      Renewal \_\_\_\_\_      Past member and rejoining \_\_\_\_\_  
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*Winter and Summer addresses? Please indicate both addresses and dates each time you renew.*

Individual/Family--\$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_      Three-year renewal--\$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_      Library donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 List Surnames from Poland \_\_\_\_\_      List locality in Poland where \_\_\_\_\_      List locality in North America  
     that you are researching:                      each surname originated:                      where immigrant settled:

Do you have suggestions for improving PGS-MN?

→I consent to the publication of this information in the newsletter. **(Please check one.)** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 →I consent to the publication of this information on the PGS-MN web page. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please make checks payable to **Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota** and mail to: **Michael Eckman, Treasurer; 7222 Oak Pointe Curve; Bloomington MN 55438-3405.**





### Scanning Polish Publications

#### **PGS of California Bulletin**

**Vol. 22, No.3, July 2010**

Translations from *Słownik Geograficzny*

Pokrzydowo and Swiecie

By Helen Bienick

“Genomic Journey of Polish Ancestors, Part II”

By Robert S. Sherins, M.D.

“Anthropology of our Polish Ancestors, Part II”

By Rosmary Chorzempa

#### **PGSA Rodziny**

**Vol. XXXIII, No. 3, Summer 2010**

“The Napoleonic Code—The First Civil Polish Records, 1808-1825”

By Iwona Dakiniewicz

“Just How Were Passenger Manifests Created”

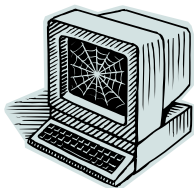
By Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus

Translation from *Słownik Geograficzny*

Gruczno

By William F. Hoffman

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



***http://***

#### **Polish Music**

This web site contains various types of Polish music: classical, Christmas, religious, folk, dance, etc. <<http://www.poloniamusic.com/index.html>>

#### **Polish History**

This web site is an eight-minute animated video of Polish history from 1000 to 1989. The Chinese labels on the map don't detract from message.

<<http://vimeo.com/13763341>>

I found this second site very interesting and somewhat poignant. It features news reports, photos and videos documenting the invasions of Poland and resistance fighting from September 1 to October 8, 1939.

<<http://polishgreatness.blogspot.com>>

#### **National Library of Poland Collections**

The library has put 20 digital collections online.

Check the URL for a list.

<<http://www.polona.pl/dlibra/collectiondescription2?dirids=12>>

#### **Valuable Web Sites**

Previously the Newsletter listed most of these sites but they are repeated here for new members and as a refresher for existing members.

<<http://people.mnhs.org>>

Minnesota History Society birth (to 1908-1934) and death (from 1908) records that they have available

<[www.ellislandrecords.org](http://www.ellislandrecords.org)>

New York arrivals from 1892-1924 except 1897-1900

<[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)>

Index of Polish records available at Family History Center

<<http://moikrewni.pl/mapa>>

Maps showing where people with your surname live in Poland today

<[bindweed.man.poznan/posen/search.php](http://bindweed.man.poznan/posen/search.php)>

Index of Poznan Province marriages 1820-1889

<<http://ptg.gda/index.php/certificate/action/searchD>>

Pomeranian Death Index

<<http://www.archiva.gov.pl>>

Polish State Archives – click to *Pradziad*

<<http://www.katolik.pl>>

Addresses for Catholic churches in Poland

<<http://castlegarden.org>>

New York arrivals 1855-1891

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## MINNESOTA CHURCH MICROFILM AND INDEXES

Available at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library

**MICROFILM:** Records of many Catholic churches from the Archdiocese of St. Paul are available in a microfilm collection at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library in South St. Paul. The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota (PGS-MN) added to this collection by purchasing microfilm records for the twelve ethnically Polish churches listed below.

**INDEXES:** PGS-MN member, John Rys, is indexing the Polish church microfilm. Indexes of baptismal and marriage records (prior to the year 1935) are available in the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library in the "Polish Materials Section" under the call numbers Pol-208 and Pol-209.

All Saints, Minneapolis	Indexed
Holy Cross, Minneapolis	Indexed
Holy Trinity, South Saint Paul*	Not Indexed
Sacred Heart, Rush City	Not Indexed
St. Adalbert, Saint Paul	Indexed
St. Casimir, St. Paul	Indexed
St. Hedwig, Minneapolis	Indexed
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton	Indexed
St. Joseph, Delano	Indexed
St. Joseph, Lexington	Indexed
St. Mary Czestochowa, Delano	Indexed
St. Philip, Minneapolis	Indexed

\* Microfilm records for Holy Trinity begin with the year 1940.

**CUSTOM REPORT:** In addition, custom reports for the above indexed churches can be prepared for specific surnames upon request. This customized report finds all occurrences of that specific surname whether entered as a primary participant, parent or witness. This "Family Ties" report can be requested from John Rys by e-mail at <john@john.rys.name>. Label the e-mail with the subject as "Family Ties Report." A donation to the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota of \$15 is suggested for each surname report.

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### *Ten-year Members*

The following is a listing of members who first joined PGS-MN during membership year 2001 and who remain members in membership year 2010:

Francis J. Asklar, Torrington CT  
 Linda Krajnak Black, Lenexa KS  
 Thomas Boelz, Clear Lake  
 John and Kathryn Goehl, White Bear Lake  
 Dolores Gombold, North St. Paul  
 Edward Konczak, Baird TX  
 Reta Kostecky, Conway AR  
 Albert A. Kowalczyk, Brooklyn Park  
 Robert Kraska, Minneapolis  
 Evangeline Nolde, Weslaco TX  
 Michael Rasinski, Richfield  
 John and Judy Rys, Woodbury  
 Marian Sawyer, Bloomington  
 Shirley Schaikoski, Sioux Falls, SD

Laurentia Smieja, St. Paul  
 Emilie Trushenski, Clear Lake

### *Fifteen-year Members*

The following is a listing of members who first joined PGS-MN during membership year 1996 and who remain members in membership year 2010:

Dolores Berg, Sanborn  
 Michael Jaros, Duluth  
 Terry Kita, Minneapolis  
 Barbara O'Dette, Chicago IL  
 Kathryn Schafer, Strathcona  
 Julia E. Schmolke, Stillwater  
 Fred Wilebski, Lake Bronson

We thank you all for your loyalty and continued membership to PGS-MN.

*Missing Branches ...continued from page 28*

**John S. Maciejny**, 11830 85th Pl. N., Maple Grove MN 55369 is researching MACIEJNY in Poland and in Mpls. MN.

**Wayne and Terri Moss**, 14189 Alder St. N.W., Andover MN 55304 <ta\_moss@msn.com> are researching the MATANOWSKI, WROBEL, ZAJAC surnames.

**David L. Petersen**, 4126 31st Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55406 <pa.pete@hotmail.com> is researching Peter and Mary MANCOSKI, Mrs. Joe SNARP in Minneapolis MN.

**Rita Peterson**, 5752 W. 154th St., Prior Lake MN 55372 <whosit@integra.net> is researching PLASZCZ in Poland and in Wisconsin, KUFEL in Poland and in Minnesota.

**Karl Reinhard**, 14707-95th Ave. N., Maple Grove MN 55369 <kreinhard@visi.com> is researching the KLUK, RZEIMAN surnames.

**Robert Stokowski**, 2019-111th Ct. N.E., Blaine MN 55449 <Stok0010@umn.edu> is researching KOCON, STOKOWSKI in Poland.

**Judith Strobel**, 8818 Comstock Lane, Maple Grove MN 55311 <jumast@comcast.net> is researching STROBEL in Rozopole and Jasnepole in Poland and in Maple Grove.

**Mary Lou Sweet**, 2282 Carter Avenue, St. Paul MN 55108 <SweetMemoriesAlive@comcast.net> is researching WOSICK, WROBLEWSKI, PASSA, MILLER in Poznan in Poland and in Warsaw ND.

**Joan Tabak**, 13221 Isanti St. N.E., Blaine MN 55449 <joan@rolandmarketing.com> is researching TABAK in Poland.

**Phyllis Trainor**, 1940 Fulham #210, Roseville MN 55113 is a new member.

**Rosemary Wrzos**, 3870 Norwood Ct., Boulder CO 80304 <rwrzos@comcast.net> is researching WRZOS in Galicia, JANOS in Tarnow, Poland and both in Minneapolis.

**RENEWALS--The following member indicated**

*updated information on his renewal form:*

**Mark Dobosenski**, 620 North 22nd Avenue West, Duluth MN 55806-1646 <mdobo@charter.net> is researching DOBOSYZŃSKI/DOBOSENSKI, MIŁKULEWICZ in Kalwarya, Wilno (Vilnius, Lithuania) and in Pine County, MN; PROTOSEWICZ, BUŁAWA in Pine County; SADOWSKI in St. Paul MN; ROSZAK in South St. Paul; KRZYZANIAK in Inver Grove, MN; PASEK, IDZIOREK/IDZIOR in Będzieszyn, Ostrów Wlkp., Poznan and in Pine County; JUSZCZAK/JUSZCZAK in Czarnuszka, Pleszew, Poznan and in Split Rock Tshp. Carlton Cty MN; DZIEWCZEPOLSKI/MIKOŁAJCZAK in Borucin, Pleszew and in Split Rock Tshp.; BŁASZCZYK in Raszków, Ostrów Wlkp. and in Split Rock Tshp.; KARÓLAK/KARULAK in Biniew, Skrzebowa, Ostrów Wlkp. and in Split Rock Tshp.; PAWLAK in Biniew, Ostrów Wlkp. and in Split Rock Tshp.; KOŁODZIEJ/KOŁODGE in Wielowieś, Ostrów Wlkp. and in Split Rock Tshp.; TORZEWSKI, KITY in Wielowieś; PORTAŚ/PORTASIAK in Czekanów, Ostrów Wlkp. and in Split Rock Tshp.; KUZNIEWSKI, FILISTA/FILISTYN in Czekanów; ŚWISTEK/PAPYSIAK, KUPCZYK in Szczury, Ostrów Wlkp.; FILIPIAK in Kowalew, Pleszew, Poznan and in Split Rock Tshp.; MICHAŁSKI in Gołuchów, Pleszew and in Split Rock Tshp.; KLEJEWSKI in Konary, Rawicz, Poznan and in Split Rock Tshp. and in Duluth, MN; KASPRZAK in Jutrosin, Rawicz and in Duluth; SKOWRONEK in Rososzyca, Ostrów Wlkp.; MIELCZAREK/MILCZAREK in Ostrów Wlkp. and in Split Rock Tshp.; PIETRZYKOWSKI, KAREMALCZYK, PRACOWITY in Ostrów Wlkp.; MAGDZIARZ in Mokre, Dębica, Rzeszów and in Sturgeon Lake, Pine Cty. MN; KOZA, BARTKOWICZ, OPIELA in Mokre; LABAK in Dąbie, Dębica and in Chicago and in Sturgeon Lake; WILK in Dąbie; KALEBA/KALEMBA, DERŁĘGA in Zasów, Dębica; WOJTYSIAK in Famulki Królewskie, Sochaczew, Warsaw and in Split Rock Tshp.; NADOLNA in Famulki Królewskie.





## PGS-MN NEWSLETTER

### Surname Indexing Project—Volume 15

*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 15, Nos. 1-4; Spring, Summer and Autumn 2007, and Winter 2007-08. 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 Kay Freund for the indexing of this volume. Back issues 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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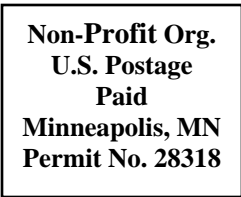
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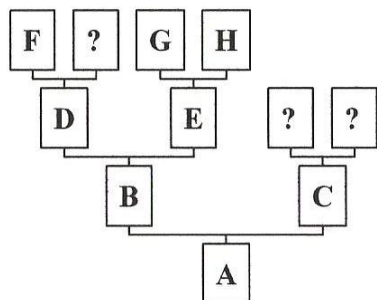
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**Change Service Requested**

Also: “Andrew KEDROSKE or KIEDROWSKI's second wife was Magdalena BEMOWSKI or BEJMOWSKI. She married Andrew KIEDROWSKI, 25 June 1879 in Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin. Magdalena was born about 1848. She died 26 June 1901 in Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin. Magdalena’s death certificate lists her father as Frank BEMOWSKI or BEJMOWSKI and her mother as Katherine BRUFSKI. However, I suspect that her father was Albrecht BEMOWSKI or BEJMOWSKI, who was sometimes known as Frank, and her mother was Catharina KUCHTA. I would like to locate Magdalena’s birth record in Poland and a record of her marriage to Andrew KEDROSKE or KIEDROWSKI to confirm the identity of Magdalena’s birth parents. I would also like to extend Magdalena’s birth parents’ lines further back in Poland.”

**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 --**

**George Koleas**, W156 N10640 Cobbler Lane, Germantown WI 53022 <GeorgeJK676@wi.rr.com> writes: “Andrew KEDROSKE or KIEDROWSKI's first wife was Justina, (also known as Josephine) CYBULSKA. Josephine was born 1821 to 1825. They were married in Poland between 1841 and 1853. They lived in Minnesota. She may have moved with him to Portage County, Wisconsin. Justina or Josephine may have died between 1860 and 1870. I would like to locate the birth and marriage of Justina or Josephine CYBULSKA in Poland and her death in Minnesota or Wisconsin.”

**NEW MEMBERS--**We welcome the following:

**Donna Block**, 600 River Street, Minneapolis MN 55401 <blockdnk@aol.com> is researching Andrew DANIELSKI in Poland and in Nebraska.

**Diane Dickinson**, 20747 Hampshire Circle, Lakeville MN 55044 <dedeandjimmer@aol.com> is researching BLASCYK in Poland (Opole) and MATYSHOK in Poland (Kraków).

**Shanon L. Ellis**, 672 - Sullivan Dr. N.E., Columbia Heights MN 55421 <ew12@msn.com> is researching HOLEWA in Rapka in Poland and WOCLAWIK in Oeshlova [spelling?] in Poland.

**Aggie Kranz**, 4111 Nancy Place, Shoreview MN 55126 is researching KRANZ in Poland and in St. Paul MN.

**Matt Krowiorz**, 5872 Kingsbury Dr. N.W., Rochester MN 55901 <mattkrow@yahoo.com> is researching KROWIORZ, SONNEK in Poland and in Wells MN.

**Nancy Lees**, 6932 Oliver Ave. S., Richfield MN 55423 <neltwoo@msn.com> is researching Andrew and Dorothy LIS in Poznan, Poland.

**Missing Branches ...continued on page 20**