

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 20 SUMMER 2012 No. 2

DROBNE ECHA

Installment #22
Dateline: Winona
From Kuryer Polski, 1906
By Greg Kishel
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Our coverage of Minnesota's past in the Polish-language press finally turns to Winona, one of our state's oldest Polish-American communities and one of the largest places of Kaszubian immigrant settlement in the United States. I have not previously presented a translation of any Polish-language journalism from Winona, largely because I had not found even one letter or report that had any good narrative on the earliest Polonian settlement there, or the growth of its first Polish-ethnic institutions. (That is my first-priority goal for the material I translate and present in print; the second is nameheavy content that would help PGS-MN members to retrieve information about their ancestors and their lives in their new American homeland.)

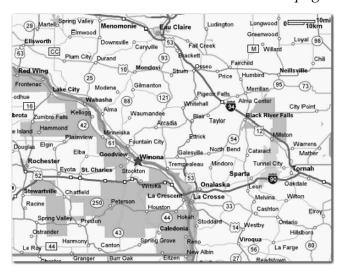
However, while reviewing century-old issues of Milwaukee's Kurver Polski, I uncovered something for Winona that was closer to my desired content. Its author, Wincenty SŁAWSKI, worked for over a decade as a travelling subscription agent for Kurver *Polski* across the Upper Midwest and sometimes further afield. From time to time during the first decade of the 20th century, SŁAWSKI sent a dispatch to his paper while he was on the hustings to drum up readership. Most of these were collations of short news-bits from towns in the same area, likely gleaned from conversations with prospective subscribers. (One can see how this helped to grow circulation; seeing one's name in print right away would be quick gratification for those newlyenlisted readers in isolated rural Polish communities.) Those assembled during SŁAWSKI's travels within Minnesota (and the Dakotas or Nebraska)

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were almost always titled *Echa z Zachodu*, "Echoes from the West."

I've retrieved most of these dispatches published in 1905-1909 and will prepare them for a future installment. One from 1906 caught my eye, because it seemed to feature things SŁAWSKI was told about the very earliest Polish immigrant settlement in the upper Mississippi River valley, at Winona and just downriver at LaCrosse, Wisconsin. On translation, its content challenged the standard perception of the origins of Winona's Polish-American community.

Winona Article ...continued on page 7



Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

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The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

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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: Editor, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 557 98th Lane NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433 or: <EditorPGSMN@gmail.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

Dear Members,

I am getting ready to realize a lifelong dream. Later this month I will be taking my children to Poland for a general tour and then stops in my family's ancestral villages. After thirty years of research, I can finally stand in the places that my immigrant ancestors left behind four generations ago. Together we will enjoy the foods of my youth and see the national historic places. Not everyone can get to Poland. But, I learned so much about it getting ready for the trip, I would like to challenge you to pick up a good short history of Poland, or a guidebook and read about its places and people. I have been using the *Eyewitness Travel* and *Rick Steves'* book series. It really helps your "collection of dead relatives" (as my sister calls this hobby) come alive. It makes fine summer reading at the beach or lake.

We would love to see you at the Polish Festival in Minneapolis on August 11/12. The weather is usually greatas are the music and food. Look for our two tents and come out of the sun for some water. Also, bring your questions to our Panel of Experts (OK- just the Board Members and volunteers). We can help point you in the right direction on your next genealogical step.

Our member meetings start up again in September at the library. In October, we will not have a meeting, but we encourage you all to attend the MN Genealogical Society's Fall Conference at the Colonial Church of Edina (see their website for full details). Then we are back at the Library for a combination meeting with the Pomeran Group in November. Pencil in 19 January 2013 on your calendar for the next annual meeting. We will be celebrating our 20th Anniversary that afternoon and encourage past members and board members to attend and share stories of the early days of this organization.

Until we meet at one of these events- Sto Lat!

Jerome Biedny jaybiedny@juno.com



Correspondence - Komunikacja

In Memoriam

I'd like to thank the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota for the 'In Memoriam' for my mother, Lucy Kruchowski, that appeared in the Spring 2012 edition of the PGS-MN newsletter. She loved researching her family ancestry (particularly when it involved travel!) and made many good friends through the Society.

Can you please let me know if the PGS has any back copies available of the issues of the PGS-MN newsletter in which my mother's three articles were published? We have mom's own set of newsletters, which she collected, but I would like to purchase an additional copy of any of those issues that may still be available.

Thanks & regards, Jeanne Kruchowski [daughter] jkruchow@hotmail.com

Editor's Note: We sent complimentary copies of the newsletters that Jeanne requested.

Gift membership/Grave stone repair

Please find a Money Order requesting a year subscription to your Newsletter for my first cousin, Veronica (Warzecha) Freihammer, 13011 - 22nd Avenue North East, Rice MN 56367. If Veronica already has an active subscription, please add this for the following year.

Some history of my cousin: Veronica was born and raised in the Holdingford, Minnesota area, on the original Sebastian & Sophia WARZECHA farm. Veronica's mother's maiden name, KUKLOK, is also from the Holdingford area. Veronica is the youngest of 6 children. She has been working diligently for well over 20 years on her family history. Veronica has spent hours in the archives gathering family history.

Veronica & her brother Fedelis are a good resource for steps to take when deteriorating/weathered grave stones of family members, require repair. This past year Veronica diligently researched the most affordable and durable techniques/companies to use to repair our great-grandparents deteriorating grave stones. The grave site is located at the Cemetery in Opole, MN. Fedelis chose the print & design for the repair. Fedelis is a good resource to recommend the various computer program, design & format to use. Veronica & Fedelis have done a beautiful work of art repairing the grave stone. The materials used will weather the storms and severe temperature changes of Minnesota.

I certainly have been enjoying your Newsletter.

Sincerely yours. Grace Kramer Vernon, B.C., Canada

Editor's reply: Thank you, Grace, for your gift membership and for the information on grave stone repair. We are happy to say that your cousin, Veronica, is already a member of PGS-MN. We will extend her membership for one additional year.

Members: A membership to PGS-MN is always a good idea when looking for a birthday or Christmas gift for that favorite cousin of yours (or anyone else). Just complete the Membership Application form found on the insert of this newsletter and note that it is a gift membership.

Extra Contributions...

We thank the following for their extra monetary contributions to PGS-MN-

-to the Library Fund, to Family Ties or to the Capital Campaign Fund.

Judith Foley
Nancy Howe
Karen Karkula
Grace Kramer
Chester Rog
John & Judy Rys



We are a non-profit, educational organization. Contributions beyond basic membership dues may be income tax deductible. **PGS-MN**

Recently at PGS-MN Meetings

Central and Eastern European Genealogy Conference, April 27-28, Inver Hills Community College in Inver Grove Heights, MN

Keynote speaker, Dr. John Colletta opened conference with a presentation entitled "Finding the REAL Stories of Your Immigrant Ancestors" He presented the "stories" of three immigrants; one from France, one Bavarian, and one from Ireland. Through story, he demonstrated although the vital records of an ancestor are important records to find, what really brings an ancestor's story to life is to discover and study the history, culture and times of the era and the city or country of the ancestor. You can learn about the history of an ancestor by reading local histories, "ethnic" histories, published genealogies, and national biographies. Dr. Colletta's presentation was very informational and entertaining.

The second day of the conference began with Dr. Colletta presenting "U.S. Passenger Arrival Records, 1820-1930s: Sources and Strategies for Challenging Cases." Here Dr. Colletta shared the steps to take when searching for the ships on which your ancestors came to America. He also gave tips and strategies for resolving issues such as passenger names being transcribed incorrectly, confusion between ship names and names of ports of arrival and departure, and many other issues.

Then attendees chose from a number of different breakout sessions to attend. The breakout sessions were grouped into interest areas for German/Pommern group, Czech/Slovak group, Polish group, Romanian group, and a general genealogy interest group.

The conference concluded with another entertaining presentation by Dr. Colletta, "The County Courthouse: Your 'Trunk in the Attic'" where he discussed the types of records stored at county courthouses and gave advice on navigating county systems. He advised attendees that each county has their own method of storage, record keeping, and policies on who may or may not access those records.

Dr. Colletta's concluding advice – "Be Clever, Stay Flexible, and Keep a Sense of Humor!" Conference attendees will attest Dr. Colletta certainly does just that!

Upcoming Meetings, Programs, Events.....

PGS-MN Meetings

September 1, 2012 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. "How to Write and Publish Family History in the 21st Century" presentation by Cynthia Jacobson.

October 2012 – MGS conference (see below).

November 3, 2012 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Joint meeting with Pommern Group

December 2012 – No member meeting **January 19, 2013** – Annual Membership Meeting

Twin Cities Polish Fest

Saturday, August 11, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Sunday, August 12, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Old Main Street in Minneapolis

5th Annual North Star Genealogy Conference "New Approaches and Old Sources"

October 5 and 6, 2012 Colonial Church, Edina, MN

Featuring, *D. Joshua Taylor*, known to many genealogists from his appearances with Sarah Jessica Parker and Ashley Judd on NBC's popular *Who Do You Think You Are* series, Josh is a nationally known researcher, speaker, and author who promotes and explores the convergence of history and genealogy.

Pommern Regional Group Meetings 2012 Calendar

Calendar subject to change. Updates posted on the web http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnprgm/ PRG.html

Aug 4: Dr. Professor LaVern Ripley will talk the growth of the German railroad system in Hinterpommern.- Open

Sept 1: A Quick Lesson in German and another topic TBD

Oct 6: MGS Fall Conference

Nov 3: Joint meeting with the Polish group. *What is Pomerania?* (PRG tentative program)

Dec 1: Christmas Celebration Program

Meeting Location: MN Genealogy Society

1185 Concord St. South St. Paul, MN

1:30-4:00 PM

4th flr conference room or 1st flr auditorium

Any questions, please contact me.

Thanks

Jim Neuenfeldt Chairperson - Pommern Regional Group MN neunan334@msn.com PGS-MN

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Yellow Pages ?!?

You may have noticed in the last newsletter that we solicited submissions from vendors that offer merchandise, translation, travel or research assistance to genealogists. Upon further consideration, we felt that a simple list might be convenient, but would be obsolete almost as soon as it was printed. On any given day, a *Google* search would be just as effective. Furthermore, since the Society does not endorse one product or service over another, the list would be less useful then talking to someone that could offer a true referral. So, we are modifying our effort and, instead of the promised *Yellow Pages*, we offer the following advice:

Steps in Selecting a Research Company in Poland

After years of searching on your own, you may ultimately hit a "brick wall" that only an in-country researcher can break through. Follow these steps in contracting services with a research firm in Poland.

1. Organize. You may know the most about your target relatives, but you need to convey that to a researcher so they can determine IF they can help you at all. You will need copies of records you gathered here in America and any research you did in the Polish records. Organize these in the Family

Group Sheets and Pedigree Charts that you can use to communicate your needs. If you have them, don't forget collateral lines of siblings, etc. As you know, the search is not always linear. When you are sure you have swept together all that you know, scan it into a .pdf file so you can send the whole package to the researcher by email.

In my case, I had a great grandfather with no American record of his parents and five different documented birth dates. I also had a town name, but it was really two towns- one "upper" and one "lower". He also used the first names John, Jan and Wojciech and the last names Fuda and Fyda interchangeable on official documents.

- 2. Estimate. Based on what you send the researcher, they will need to pencil out HOW they could solve your problem and be able to offer an estimated cost for those services. This estimate will give you an idea of their method and time required. They should list an hourly rate for research, plus any extras like mileage, photocopying, parking, etc. Based on this estimate, you will have to decide if the search is worth the investment. Good researcher are worth there wage as they can do things faster and better then you alone writing to achieves, etc. Expect to pay \$50-\$250 (and more) for a well documented solution to a problem. Those are not plumber or lawyer wages, but in research the hours add up fast. Also, realize that "no answer" could also be waiting for you as a result.
- **3. Evaluate**. Once you get the estimate back, consider if the approach is reasonable, if the cost seems justified, and determine your timeframe for the work. Are you traveling to Poland in the next three months and need an answer immediately so you can book your tickets, or could you wait until the researcher goes to your Diocesan Archives with several other peoples work next month? If you like what you see, you should formally reply in writing that you agree to the terms of the estimate and under what circumstances you might expect to pay more than the estimate.

Communication is key here. If you do not understand something in the estimate, ask questions. What they are going to do for you, and what you will receive (if anything), must be clear to both

parties. Not everyone is proficient at English to your level. When writing, use short direct statements and do not use American idioms or non-literal phrases. I used email to settle all my issues before the looking began.

4. Wait. It may take weeks to months until the work is complete- esp. if multiple archives and cities are involved. So, relax knowing that you can work on other things while the professionals are on your case.

I was lucky. Within a week of sending my information and authorizing the work, my researcher was traveling to the archives on many matters. They found my records after checking the several names on all five dates in the two different towns. With the exact match, I now know the parents and grandparents names and towns of my great grandfather. How do I know this was not a coincidence of dates and names? The researcher was also able to find four siblings of my relative born to these same parents. I had all four of these immigrating to the US and living near my grandfather in NY! So, there was a nice double check in their work.

5. Pay. At the time you authorize the researcher to work for you, they may request up to 50% of the fee on larger projects. Payment need not be difficult; most US Banks in the Twin Cities will send international Western Union to hundreds of locations in Poland for about a 5% premium. The fee is higher for small amounts and lower for large amounts. The researcher simply goes to the office, presents ID and picks up payment. Some researchers even take Pay Pal, etc. I have not dealt with any that take credit cards, nor would I give credit card information to anyone that has not previously proven they are trustworthy. Most firms will not take a check or money order, as there are expensive bank fees on their end to cash them. Obviously once you create trust with a research group over time, prepayment might not be necessary.

With their help, I was able to solve a family mystery I had been working on for a long time. My uncle was very impressed that Christmas when I could tell him more about his family than anyone else.

You may choose to send your information to several research groups and get multiple quotes for service. Do not just take the lowest quote. Select the one that has the best plan for success. You want this investment to pay off. One group might be willing to take your money, but another may save you money by telling you the date range for your records are missing at the archives and nothing else can be done.

We hope these evaluation steps will be useful in your selection process- good luck. **PGS-MN**

Missing Branches...continued from page 28

Marijo McBride, 911 Hall Ave., W. St. Paul MN 55118 <mcbri001@umn.edu> is researching WERMUS, WALDERA and TRAYBUTUSKY in St. Paul MN.

Mary Kay Obert, 9925 E. Hidden Valley Rd., Scottsdale AZ 85262 <mookie9925@aol.com> is researching WORWA and DUDEK in Rabka, Galicia, Poland and in Mpls.

Jane Wilkens, 15147 133rd St. N., Stillwater MN 55082 <wilke013@umn.edu> writes: "I am researching the BLOCH name in the Wloclawek area in the mid 1800s. They may have emigrated to the German colonies in Volhynia, Russia. I am open to any suggestions or help!"

UPDATES--*The following members have sent us updated information:*

Robert & MaryAnne Backowski, 17384 Riverwood Dr., Little Falls MN 56345-6649 are researching the LASHINSKI, STILLER, RINGWELSKI, LAMPERT, BACKOWSKI, JAZDZEWSKI surnames.

Albert Kowalczyk, 3704 LadySlipper Ln., Brooklyn Park MN 55443 <ajKowal009@comcast.net> is researching: KOWALCZYK and spouse ROMANSKA in Krosno, Jaslo in Poland and in Winona MN; SCHWIENTEN and PUCHALLA in Opolski, Falkowice in Poland and in MN.

Missing Branches . . . continued on page 13

Winona Article ... continued from page 1

SŁAWSKI treated that historical subject matter in the flowery, pseudo-literary voice that I've seen in some other correspondence from him. But in the same report he reverted back to his other journalistic style, by getting into some dirt about a prominent Winona Pole in nasty fashion. Here's the whole thing now, in my translation.

From the issue of August 29, 1906:

Echoes from the West.

(Correspondence to Kuryer Polski.)

Winona, Minn., August 24. – The Hudson River presents a marvelous panorama of nature in the East; nonetheless it cannot compete with its brother, the Mississippi, in the West. Nowhere in the world would one be likely to find scenery as beautiful as one can observe on the Father of Rivers, near the place where he springs up at his source. One cannot conjure up a more lush image of anything more beautiful. Artists find an inspiration for their compositions here; lovers find their consolation; and the Polish exile would recall the Wisła, dear to him as the mother to all faithful sons of the old country. On this Father of Rivers we find a good many Polish colonies, of which only two are situated within the enchanting valley, "Winona and LaCrosse." These settlements are in essence a single grove of trees, where it is difficult for one to see the hut of our immigrant under broad lime trees. There are the tidy cottages, embraced by grape vines, not feeling the rays of the sun the day over; the various flora filling the air with their aromatic fragrance; the bands of squirrels, which escaped from the forests in the times when the river flooded, receiving hospitality and now roaming freely along the sidewalks, fed and protected by the city government.

The settlements of LaCrosse and Winona are among the oldest Polish colonies. The former was first inhabited in the main by settlers from Wielkopolska; in the latter, situated about 25 English miles up the river, Old Pomeranians, residents of Warmia, were the earlier settlers, though here as well the "Poznanians" had their own district and church. However, being as small in numbers as they were,

they lost their own dialect, they were overwhelmed by the more numerous Kaszubians; but no one resented that here, because in time all claimed, to some degree, that they all came from a single place. It is a noteworthy fact, that in LaCrosse lives the old man DUBIŃSKI, who was already present there in 1848; he claims that there already were Polish businesses in Peoria, Ill., in those times. Thus one may assume that a good many of ours were here in the time of Kościuszko, such as the oldster, engineer GRZENIA, now 70 years old and born here, and now subscribing to this newspaper for the first time.

Undoubtedly the first Polish immigrants to America were Kaszubians; living closest to the sea, they were recruited for the English sailing ships, which conducted a broad trade between Szczecin and Quebec in the beginning of the 19th century. The signs thus indicate, that the oldest colonists were the Poles in Canada.

I return, but to our above-mentioned colonies. It is known to all, that the Polish nation is famous for its universal hospitality, and most of all the Kaszubians. They would do everything to help a brother, they would share the last crust of bread' but at the same time they are so pious that others take advantage of their good heart. One can scarcely find among them any instances of crime or brawling, from which they always abstain. Unfortunately, most of them are lacking in education; they contend that a child barely seven days old, with eyes wide open, can see so well that he sees through an oaken plank. It would be well if those eyes would always stay wide open, but the opposite happens. As far as I know, in Winona there were always people who did not allow others to get access to an education, and profited materially from the sweat of our brothers. Those taken advantage of in this way had to degrade themselves repeatedly in order to eke out a living; whereas a certain clique always had a lush living without work. There were even times when a Polish agent would turn up in this colony and would be advised by the authorities that he was to apply to the clique for permission to conduct business here, and perhaps to make a payment of extorted tribute as well, lest his livelihood be tainted in an unseemly way. I shall return to this matter later.

A ban on the keeping of animals in the city, of the sort for which Moses issued a decree of death in his own time, provoked such a tumult in Winona, that the whole English press is writing widely about it. I should think that this would have calmed down one way or another, but unfortunately a city councilman, the Pole Mr. PELOWSKI, got the privilege of an exception secured to him, which the city council consented to, and things worsened. On the complaint of our housewives, the Board of Health came for an inspection; but it also recognized that this underhanded dealing was the doings of a city father. Now only one path to justice has been left to our mothers-- or rather a stick. Thus, the only solution that remaining to the messrs. city-councillors is either to drive the pigs out or to get a good drubbing. They were persuaded of that with a vengeance at a recent meeting, when our Polish women appeared en masse ready to fight for their cause.

Just how wrong a conception some have of the acts of faith, I can point to the fact, that recently one MASIGA died in Winona. In his lifetime he ate, drank, and happily read the advice of a certain newspaper; and while dying he bequeathed a hundred dollars for Masses to be said. But, he forgot completely about his creditors. One must doubt whether St. Peter will let one such into heaven.

- In a truly thievish fashion, a couple of Poles carried on a trade in installment books such as Melania, The Horrors of Siberia, etc., in practically all of the Polish colonies in all of America. After taking subscriptions, this gang has vanished to an unknown place. Hundreds of Poles were swindled by these greedy agents.
- In the far west the farmers arrested en masse every *Hobo* who was capable of work. The lack of people for work was so great, that wages increased to \$3.50 per day plus board.
- In Foley and vicinity the capitalists are searching for minerals in the earth. They are paying the farmers high prices for a so-called *permit*. Our Polish brothers reside in that area.

W. SŁAWSKI.

* * * * * * * * * *

As you have seen, this piece has some tantalizing hints as to the earliest Polish-American settlement in the upper Mississippi River valley, and the origins of those pioneers in the Polish lands of Europe. To this day, the Polish-American community in Winona regards its origins as strongly or exclusively Kaszubian. But here, SŁAWSKI suggests that some of the earliest Poles in the Winona-LaCrosse region came from a variety of places in northern and central Poland as well as the Kaszubian lands southwest of Gdańsk. Even more interestingly, he describes a sort of reacculturation within these communities in their earlier years, toward the regional Slavic dialect of the dominant Kaszubian demographic.²

My strong belief is that the sole source of SŁAWSKI's information for this part of his letter was oral, i.e. conversation with the local people. There is certainly no indication that he looked into local records, of the sort we genealogists now search out. So, one must take his notions with a grain of salt; but his report certainly evidences a persisting oral tradition about the broader origins of the Polonia in Winona and LaCrosse, a half-century after the first arrivals.³ And do take note of his effort to document an early Polish presence on the very frontier of the Old Northwest of the United States, "in the time of [Thaddeus] KOŚCIUSZKO" [(1746 - 1817)]—as if to emphasize that the Poles of

Winona Article ... continued on page 11

¹A recent book is themed exclusively around this idea: The Polish Cultural Institute, *The Kashubian Polish Community of Southeastern Minnesota* (Chicago: Arcadia Publishing, 2001).

²Like most of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series, *The Kashubian Polish Community of Southeastern Minnesota* has only a few pages of text on the historical backdrop of the photographs it showcases. In its "Introduction," at pp. 6-9, much is made of the distinction between Kaszubian grammar and phonetics and those of the mainstream Polish language.

³The Kashubian Polish Community of Southeastern Minnesota, at p.19, identifies 1855 as the year in which the first Kaszubian-Polish immigrants arrived in Winona.

The Kashubian Strawberry

(Source: The Warsaw Voice, Special Sections, Monthly, June 2011)

The first Polish fruit to enjoy protection under European Union law is the Kashubian strawberry (truskawka kaszubska in Polish, kaszebskô malena in Kashubian). Its name was registered in November 2009 as a Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) in the EU.

The Kashubian Strawberry comes in different shapes: round conical or round-kidney shaped. Its longitudinal cross section is heart-shaped, when cut across it is round. The early-harvest fruit is large or medium-sized. The skin color is dark red, consistent across the whole surface, slightly glossy, and the flesh is bright red when cut. The fruit is firm, slightly hard but also juicy. It is covered in a silky, very thin skin on which pips are visible. Kashubian strawberries are sweet and aromatic. Because of the conditions in which they ripen, Kashubian strawberries stand out from varieties grown in other regions due to their higher sugar content. This is the result of the special microclimate of the Kashubian Lake District, and particularly the daily temperature fluctuations—cool nights and scorching days.

Kashubian strawberries are produced in Kartuzy, Kościerzyna and Bytów counties in Pomerania province, and in the communes of Przywidz, Wejherowo, Luzino, Szemud, Linia, Łęczyce and Cewice. Only the following varieties may be sold as Kashubian strawberries: Senga Sengana, Elsanta, Honeoye that have been graded as Extra or Class I.

It is not quite clear how strawberries arrived in Kashubia, but we do know they appeared there in the early 20th century. It is also a fact that the area on which they were grown increased with every year. The taste and popularity of the strawberries led more and more farmers to grow them. Strawberry fields kept expanding for over half a century until they became a permanent part of the Kashubian landscape. It was this proliferation that led the locals to establish and organize the Strawberry Picking Festival. This is an outdoor event held since 1971 on the first Sunday of July on

Złota Góra (Golden Hill) near Brodnica Górna. The popularity of the festival is reflected in the number of people who take part in what is biggest event in the region. Estimates put the number of participants at 30,000 in 2002, growing to about 40,000 in 2004 and 2005. During just one day in 2005, almost 2 metric tons of strawberries were sold at the Strawberry Picking Festival. Many different contests are held during the event, some connected with strawberries, to mention the best strawberry cake contest and a competition for a "strawberry epigram."

The reputation of the Kashubian strawberry is confirmed by numerous articles and facts demonstrating that it has become a part of the culture and identity of local residents. The local press publishes information about general meetings of the Kashubian Association of Strawberry Growers, about a plan for the Association to have a logo featuring Kashubian motifs and so on. The unique character and popularity of the Kashubian strawberry is also reflected in the volume of strawberries grown in the region. There are as many as 1,500 plantations, making this a very important fruit for the regional economy. In particular, it is worth noting the efforts of strawberry growers to unite and act together in matters involving the Kashubian strawberry, including measures to preserve its quality and flavor.

The attitude of buyers (businesses running cold storage facilities and processing plants) also reflects the reputation enjoyed by the Kashubian strawberry as they set aside reserve capacity to accommodate this fruit, taking into account that it is available later than strawberries from other regions of Poland. This reputation is also confirmed by attempts to market strawberries from other regions, which ripen earlier, as Kashubian strawberries.

The quality of Kashubian strawberries is closely linked to the areas where they are grown. The poor soil and harsh climate of the Kashubian Lake District delays the time of flowering and shortens the growing season. The diverse postglacial land forms with numerous ponds and ribbon lakes are conducive to strawberry growing and facilitate effective watering. Exposure to natural factors, in

particular the tough climate, has a positive impact on the formation and ripening of the strawberries, while the very poor soil and unfavorable farming conditions are unsuitable for other crops. The bag variations in relative altitude enable strawberries to be grown on slopes exposed to sunlight, ensuring proper ripening of the fruit. All this coupled with slightly acidic soils makes Kashubia the perfect place to grow strawberries. **PGS-MN**

http://



Online Genealogy Magazines

<u>Annals of Genealogical Research</u> – Free journal for genealogy and family history. Provides a way to publish research results and corrections and to make those results easy for others to find. http://www.genlit.org/

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter – Daily newsletter for genealogy consumers, with family history news, tips, and reviews from genealogist Dick Eastman. There is a free version and a paid version of this newsletter. As of 7/6/2012 the paid version is \$5.95 for 3 months or \$19.95 for 12 months. http://www.genlit.org/agr/index.php

<u>Evertons Genealogical Helper</u> – Online version of poular genealogy magazine. Includes research helps, resources, chat, databases, and more.

<u>Family Chronicle</u> – Genealogical magazine for people researching family trees, family history, heritage and genealogy roots. Free newsletter for signing up. As of 7/6/2012 online magazine subscription \$32.95/1 year; \$55.95/2 years; \$77.95/3 years. Risk-free trial subscription offered. http://www.familychronicle.com/

<u>Family Tree Digest</u> – Free weekly newsletter with genealogy news, expert advice, access to recently-acquired data, community building resources and

new product research. http://www.genealogynewsletter.com/

<u>Family Tree Magazine</u> – Complete online genealogy toolbox featuring SuperSearch, downloadable forms, a bookstore and more. As of 7/6/2012, "Plus" subscription is \$39.99/yr. or \$5.99/mo. Also have print edition subscription for \$27.00/7 issues. www.familytreemagazine.com/

<u>Genealogy Magazine</u> – Find books, databases and articles for tracing your family tree. <u>http://www.genealogymagazine.com/</u>

<u>Genealogy Roots Blog</u> – Blog for finding online genealogy databases, records and resources. Focuses on vital records, obituaries, census and military records, and ship passenger lists. http://genrootsblog.blogspot.com/

<u>Genealogy Today</u> – Features genealogy and family tree history, ancestry databases, lookups, search tools, original articles and a directory of local surnames. http://www.genealogytoday.com/

Journal of Genetic Genealogy – Free open access online journal providing articles on the use of DNA testing for genealogy. Contains highly technical articles on the use of DNA testing for genealogy. http://www.jogg.info/

<u>RootsWeb Review</u> – Includes information about additions to RootsWeb.com (new databases, mailing lists, etc.), plus genealogical research, humor, readers' stories, and other articles of interest to family historians. http://rwr.rootsweb.ancestry.com/PGS-MN

?	From Tailoid
	Fun Trivia!



ì.	Poland is the	largest country
	in Europe.	

b. Pizza in Poland does not contain

c.	is the oldest Polish town

d. _____ is the tallest building in Poland.

(Answers on page 19)

Winona Article ... continued from page 8

the early 20th century belonged there from the beginning, as much as anyone else did.⁴

Presenting that aspect of this letter was my initial motivation for translating and publishing it. However, I did some background research for the second half, contemporary to 1906 and as earthy as it was. The story there is just as interesting, and it's more concrete.

The backdrop is Wincenty SŁAWSKI's role as a long-time, tenacious promoter of Kuryer Polski throughout the Upper Midwestern states. Between my reviews of the run of Winona's Wiarus (1886-1919) and about a decade's worth of Kuryer Polski (to 1910), I have found many evidences of a nasty rivalry for the patronage of Minnesota's Polish-Americans, between the two publications. Before his death in 1902, Hieronim DERDOWSKI, the acid-tongued editor of Wiarus, singled out SŁAWSKI to revile him repeatedly as a sleazy huckster employed by the money-grubbing editor of an irreligious newspaper foreign to the interests of Minnesota's Poles.⁵ In turn, SŁAWSKI readily bearded the lion in his den, coming regularly to Winona to solicit new subscribers in the seat of Wiarus's publication.

This seems to have led to some clashes with Winona's civil authorities, which are the root of SŁAWSKI's gripe here about "extorted tribute" to

⁴I leave it to someone with better and more formal credentials in immigration history to vet SŁAWSKI's theory about how and why the first Kaszubians came to North America. Kaszubia proper does not extend to the Baltic Sea coast, after all.

⁵DERDOWSKI's polemical style is entertaining to us now, but it was incendiary to his contemporaries. *See* John Radzilowski, *Poles in Minnesota* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2005), pp. 48-49; *and, in general,* Helen Derdowska Zimniewicz, "Polish Troublemaker, Pioneer Trouble Shooter," *Gopher Historian,* v. IV, no. 3 (Nov., 1949).

local authorities.⁶ And, it appears, the personal animosity between SŁAWSKI and DERDOWSKI hit boiling point at least once, with allegations of death threats, an arrest, and the posting of a peace bond.⁷

So, it seems, SŁAWSKI used the pulpit of his employer's newspaper to get back at the Winonans whom he believed had oppressed him. The PELLOWSKI family, large and prominent in Winona's Polish community, became one of his targets--due, no doubt, to the presence of one of its members on the Winona city council. So, he reported on the hog-related issue in this installment, with his insinuations of favoritism and corruption to the detriment of PELLOWSKI'S fellow Poles.

SŁAWSKI's little snipe is more yellow journalism than investigative reporting. Contemporaneous reportage in the local Englishlanguage press brings out a story that is more involved and interesting. In many ways, the PELLOWSKI hog affair showed just how much the Poles of Winona's East Side had become a force in the town's politics and street society alike.

⁶On at least one instance, SŁAWSKI was cited and fined for selling goods without a peddler's license in Winona. Winona *Daily Republican*, August 20, 1896, p. 3. (SŁAWSKI apparently supplemented his income as subscription agent by selling Polish-oriented religious articles. I have found an 1898 report from a Polish community in outstate Minnesota in which he was accused of haranguing the locals to buy religious pictures and KRUSZKA's publications, as they emerged from the church after Mass. I'll present that one in a future installment.)

⁷As reported in the November 28, 1898 issues of the Winona *Daily Herald* and the Winona *Daily Republican* (at pp. 8 and 3, respectively), DERDOWSKI made a criminal complaint against SŁAWSKI, the cause alleged being the making of death threats. SŁAWSKI was arrested and brought before the state court. The *Daily Republican* article details the backdrop, including the revelation that SŁAWSKI "was in [DERDOWSKI's] employ" about a year earlier and DERDOWSKI had accused him of taking a subscriber list for *Wiarus* when he left to work for *Kuryer Polski. Wiarus* reported on the arrest and the upcoming court hearing in its issues of November 24 and December 1, 1898, both at p. 8.

Apparently, in early 1906 one T. PELLOWSKI started raising hogs on land within the city limits, south of the Milwaukee Road railroad tracks and in the Fourth Ward in the east end of town. He used the site of a former sheep ranch that the city had closed years before on the complaints of local homeowners. At some point earlier than that, the "hog limit," i.e. the outer boundary of the area where hogs could be raised within the city, had been moved outward. This had required the Polish-American residents of the East End to get rid of their backyard livestock. PELLOWSKI's facility, apparently, was outside the "hog limit" but within the city boundaries.

PELLOWSKI had obtained permits from the Board of Health to raise hogs in numbers. More interestingly, he had been given a garbage-hauling contract with the City of Winona and was using his collections to feed his herd. But aggrieved by the perceived inequity of treatment by city authorities, and complaining strongly of a hog-caused nuisance factor, the residents of the Fourth Ward brought their complaints to the city council in June. They petitioned to stop PELLOWSKI's operation by having the "hog limit" extended to the city limits.¹⁰

The council referred the matter to its sanitary committee, which reported a week later that it had found PELLOWSKI's operation "to be in a perfectly sanitary condition." At the July 9 council meeting, several dozen Fourth Ward residents addressed the council and threatened to forcibly drive PELLOWSKI's hogs from his farm and into the city's Central Park. For their pains, they were upbraided by the city attorney about "American"

Citizenship" and were warned against taking the law into their own hands. 11

On the sanitary committee's report, and on a later clearance from the secretary of the State Board of Health, the council deferred action on the citizens' request pending a two-week recess. The aggrieved poured onto the city streets on July 13, but between a guard detail of police officers at PELLOWSKI's ranch and cooler Polish heads prevailing, the protest-stampede did not occur. 12

It then seemed that progress was coming with the introduction of an ordinance to extend the "hog limit" and the referral of the issue to an ad hoc committee of citizens and the aldermen on the sanitary committee. This concession prompted a deferral of the still-threatened hog stampede.¹³ When it emerged that the extension of the limit was to be prospective, effective the following May, there was another mass appearance from the Fourth Ward before the city council. This time, however, a number of the women of the ward spoke directly to the council—"perhaps the first time in many years that the aldermen...while in session have been addressed by the fairer sex."14 Notwithstanding this outburst and another splutter about a "hog parade," it seems that the council's efforts had palliated most

⁸This apparently was not the same person as alderman PELLOWSKI, but I have not done further research to clarify that. Anybody out there know anything about this?

⁹"Drive Hogs to Central Park," Winona *Morning Independent*, July 10, 1906, p. 8.

¹⁰"Loop Fine for East End," Winona *Daily Republican-Herald*, July 3, 1906, p. 6; "Fourth Ward Hog Problem," Winona *Morning Independent*, July 3, 1906, p. 8.

¹¹"Drive Hogs to Central Park," *supra;* "Would Drive Hogs Away," Winona *Daily Republican-Herald,* July 10, 1906, p. 3; Winona *Weekly Leader,* July 13, 1906, p. 3.

¹²Winona Weekly Leader, July 20, 1906, p. 5.

¹³"Hog Limits Are Changed," Winona *Daily Republican-Herald*, July 24, 1906, p. 6; "Hog Ranch Topic," Winona *Morning Independent*, July 24, 1906, p. 8; Winona *Weekly Leader*, July 27, 1906, p. 5.

¹⁴"Hog Ranch to be Moved," Winona *Republican-Herald*, August 7, 1906, p. 6; "Hog Parade," Winona *Morning Independent*, August 7, 1906, p. 8; Winona *Weekly Leader*, August 10, 1906, p. 5. Obviously, this meeting and its phenomenon were the source of SŁAWSKI's observation. It was a different world, a century ago, yes; but we must remember both the building public strength of the contemporaneous American women's suffrage movement, not to mention the power of the Polish female personality!

of the Fourth Ward's constituents and that they were persuaded that the prospectivity of the extension was required by "contracts now made." ¹⁵

Judging by the lack of further local reportage on the issue, it seems that the matter of PELLOWSKI's preferential treatment was settled. 16 But then within a few weeks there was much bigger news that certainly prompts some speculation about the deeper background of the whole affair: the announcement that a large new pork slaughterhouse and processing plant was in the offing for the far eastern end of Winona, promising several hundred thousand dollars in annual business for local hog growers. It was reported that "[m]atters pertaining to the establishment of the big plant...[had] been under consideration in Winona for some time," but "all details" had only been negotiated recently. 17 SŁAWSKI apparently was not in Winona when this broke, and he must not have had a rapid news feed from his local sources; one would have expected him to twist this development into an even bigger sneer at his perceived enemies, in his report that was published a week afterward.

* * * * * * * * *

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS: I again had very exacting help for translating archaic Polish phrases from Izabela Szałkowska Holmes, my student at the 1995 UNESCO English language camp at Toruń. And this is the place to acknowledge a valuable resource for genealogy, the "Winona Newspaper Project" that the Darrel W. Krueger Library of Winona State University is building out on-line with the ActivePaper Archive application. (Just Google the phrase and it will be at the top of the results list.) I found the earlier items on the DERDOWSKI-SŁAWSKI feud by

using its search engine, which goes from its results page right to "clipped" images of the full articles from the original newspaper pages. Per the Project's website, as of March 4, 2012, 150,000 pages of newspaper text had been scanned in and uploaded; it's not yet a comprehensive source for all of Winona's history, but there is a lot of material from the late 19th century on it right now. PGS-MN members with roots in and around Winona: input your Polish-American ancestors' names, without Polish diacritics and in all spelling variations, and see what comes up! **PGS-MN**

Missing Branches...continued from page 6

Kay Freund, 134 265th Ave NE, Isanti MN 55040 <tandkfarms@hotmail.com> is researching: LACKOWSKI, KURKOWSKI in Poznan, Poland; JANISZEWSKI in Poznan and in Chicago IL, Silver Lake MN and in Lincoln County MN; KORCAL in Poznan and in Plattsmouth NE and Lincoln County MN; CYLKA in Poland; TYKWINSKI in Poland and in Chicago Il and Lincoln County MN; WAURZYNIAK, WAIERZINICK in Chicago IL; KABOT, KABAT, KABOCSYMLIR in eastern Poland--Ukraine and also in Poznan and in Newton WI and in Lincoln County MN.

John S. Maciejny, 11830 85th Pl. N., Maple Grove MN 55369 < Johnnaturalimages@gmail.com is researching Stanley MACIEJNY in the Carpathian Mountain area in Poland and in Minneapolis MN.

Sister Margaret Mewhorter, OSC, 8650 Russell Ave. S., Bloomington MN <mm31239@juno.com> is researching: ZDROJKOWSKI, NIWINSKI in Mierzwin Kopcłwo in eastern Poland; ZAWADZKI in Mierzwin Kopcłwo and in Chicopee MA and Suffield CT; WIELOWIEJSKI in northeastern Poland; KOSZTYŁA, SKRZYSZOWSKI, STEFANIK, WISNIOWSKI in Krosno, Widacz in southeastern Poland; KOŁEK in southeastern Poland and in Chicopee MA and Suffield CT.

Lois Muellner, 2320 Bonaire Path, Rosemount MN 55068 <Lois.Muellner@gmail.com> is researching: LIPINSKI in West Prussia and in LaSalle II: SKORCZEWSKI in West Prussia and Chicago IL; BEDNAREK and LOZINSKI in Poznan and in Chicago; and all in Wilno MN. PGS-MN

^{15&}quot; Hog Ranch to be Moved," supra.

¹⁶Wiarus published brief notes on the affair in its Wiadomości Miejscowe [Local News] columns in its issues of July 19 and 26, 1906, p. 8. These items add little to the English-language reportage and I did not do full translations of them.

¹⁷Winona *Morning Independent*, August 21, 1906, p. 8. *See also* Winona *Weekly Leader*, August 24, 1906, p. 5.

TWIN CITY POLISH FESTIVAL

Saturday August 11th 2012 - 10am - 10pm Sunday August 12th, 2012 - 11am - 6pm

Once again PGS-MN will be represented at the Twin City Polish Festival.

I am very excited about this year's festival. We had such a great time last year and a wonderful turnout that once again, I am expecting bigger and better things this year.

With the purchase of out two 10' x 10' Canopy tents with side walls, we will have ample room for our visitors.

As always we will be encouraging people to become members of PGS-MN, selling our publications and much more.

And what would the event be without the biggest attraction: The Baptismal and Marriage Indexes from 5 local Minneapolis and St Paul Polish Churches. Also included is the White Eagle Insurance book put together by PGS member John Rys.

Calling all volunteers!!! If you like to network with genealogy-minded people, talk about your search for your ancestors or just like to be a part of this wonderful event. Need volunteers to be available in the tent to just let people know what PGS-MN is all about, or to let them know all the wonderful resources we have at the MGS Library. You will love watching the reaction when they find their family names in the Church Index records or when one of the board members shows them an Ancestors city or village on Terry Kita's Poland map.

To Volunteer, Contact:

Dori Marszalek before August 4th!

doripgs@comcast.net or 612-799-8905

Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of an exciting event. You will look at genealogy a whole different way.

Event Highlights

- Traditional Folk Dance and Music
- Arts and Crafts
- Traditional Food Market
- Minnesota State Amateur Polka Dance Campionships
- Polish Sheepdogs
- Twin Cities Polish FilmFest Presented in Partnership with <u>The Film Society of</u> <u>Minneapolis/Saint Paul</u>
- Children's Play Area
- Polish Beer Garden

Ample Parking Available in Area Parking Lots and Neighboring Streets

Handicap Parking is available St. Anthony Main Street.

Visit http://www.tcpolishfestival.org/ for more information. PGS-MN

Are You A Good Ancestor?

A good ancestor keeps certificates:

birth and death; marriage and divorce health, military, naturalization, and school;

A good ancestor keeps books:

passports; newspaper and church notices; awards; photos; art work, craft work and journals; Bibles; diaries; baby, school, wedding; and heirlooms.

A good ancestor

Dates everything, includes full names, records where material may be found and always sees that at least one other copy of important data is somewhere else.

A good ancestor

Cares for tombstones, keeps research organized, writes or records the family stories, and supports family organizations.

A hundred years from now, will they think you were a good ancestor?

ANALYZING MATRIMONIAL RECORDS TO FIND ANCESTRAL VILLAGES

(Analysis, Next Step after Data Extraction) By John L. Rys, (<u>john@john.rys.name</u>)

Introduction

Matrimonial records from Polish American churches are a potential gold mine for genealogists because of the breath of information they contain. They can be frustrating if they contain only minimal information. If completed properly, matrimonial records reveal names of the bride, groom, bride's parents, groom's parents, and two witnesses. This is an amazing total of eight surnames. There may be clues to previous marriages and family ties regarding relatives and friends participating as witnesses.

Village and Parish Information

Of equal importance, matrimonial records may be a means to find a Polish village or parish or church diocesan information. Village and parish information is often recorded as "parish of baptism" for the bride and groom.

The proverbial "brick wall" for some is the challenge of connecting immigrant ancestors to their village of origin in Poland. Here are a couple of obvious situations where matrimonial records provide a village breakthrough. Situation 1: You have no information about ancestral Polish villages. A village citation will overcome this "brick wall". Situation 2: You have a village name like Wysoka, but there are 22 villages in Poland with this name. A matrimonial record may give parish/deanery/diocesan information to overcome this "brick wall" and pin-point the specific village.

What If Matrimonial Records Show No Village Information?

Situations may exist where one can identify the first Polish American church their immigrant ancestors attended, however, there are no ancestral matrimonial records, or if there are, they do not contain village information. Examining several matrimonial records from that particular Polish American church may reveal emigration patterns from Poland in terms of geographic area, diocese, and predominant villages. Knowing this, you are in a position to research areas which are potentially most fruitful.

Case Study Using Matrimonial Data

The data for this analysis was extracted from Holy Cross Church, largest and oldest ethnically Polish church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, founded in 1886. Holy Cross spawned four other ethnically Polish churches in Minneapolis. During the early years, Holy Cross used a variety of matrimonial registry books. Disappointingly the registry used for 1886-1908, did not provide a space for information on "parish of baptism" for the bride or groom, so village information for that period went unrecorded. The registry book used for 1908-1914 provided designated "parish of baptism" lines for the bride and groom. The book used for 1914-1926 changed significantly but still left a column for parish of baptism.

Objective - Create a Geographic Profile

The purpose of this study is to extract Polish village/parish information from matrimonial records and then quantify this data to arrive at the Polish geo-graphic make-up of early Holy Cross parishioners. In other words, create a geographic profile for early parishioners. Once quantified, a genealogist may more accurately determine the probability of geographic origins within Poland for a "turn of the 20th century" Holy Cross parishioner.

Filtering Through the Matrimonial Data

Along with surname data, "baptismal parishes" of the brides/grooms were entered. The Latin used in the matrimonial registry books is "Baptizatum in Parochial" or "Ecclesia Baptismi Vel Locus" basically meaning "parish of baptism." Holy Cross matrimonial data was entered into a Microsoft ACCESS database. For easier statistical analysis, the "parish of baptism" information was exported into a Microsoft EXCEL spreadsheet.

As expected, the amount of location information varied. Correct spellings and difficult to read old script handwriting were major issues. Some entries

were simple references to Austria or Galicia or Kingdom of Poland. Some entries cited village and diocese. Very few entries gave complete church information, such as, "St. Nicolai Parish, Krakow, Krakow Diocese, Galicia." Most entries cited a village name.

The analyzed records are from May 11, 1908 through November 20, 1916, roughly eight and a half years of data. There were 851 matrimonial records for this time period. For each matrimonial record, two baptismal parishes are cited, the parish of the bride's baptism and the parish of the groom's baptism. Therefore, from the 851 records there are a total of 1,702 possible "parish of baptism" entries to examine.

Some "parish of baptism" fields were left blank by the recording priest, so the first filter was to remove those blank records leaving 1,274 records to be analyzed. The second filter was to eliminate the "parish of baptism" records which refer to parishes in the United States, such as, Holy Cross. The assumption is that these brides and grooms were "second generation" Polish having been baptized in the United States. After this filter the number of records remaining for analysis amounted to 1,139.

Polish Partition Information

The first geographic analysis is by Polish partition. As you may recall from your Polish history, Poland was partitioned during the years 1772-1795. After 1795, Poland ceased to exist on the map and was divided into areas controlled by three partitioning countries: 1) Austria (later the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary) called their partition Galicia; 2) Russia's partition and the area they controlled called the Kingdom of Poland; and 3) Germany's partition often cited as Poznan, Posen or Prussia. The partitions of Poland lasted 123 years, until 1918, so many Polish immigrants cited these partitioning countries as their place of origin. The analysis by partitioning country is tabulated in Table 1.

Table 1. "Parish of Baptism" by Partitioning Country

Partition	Number of Brides/Grooms from this Partition	Percent of Brides/Grooms from this Partition
Austrian-Hungarian Partition (Galicia)	940	82.5%
Russian Partition (Kingdom of Poland)	141	12.4%
German Partition (Prussia)	33	2.9%
Unable to Identify Partition	21	1.8%
Hungary (Budapest)	4	0.4%
Totals	1,139	100%

It is clear from the data that Holy Cross parishioners emigrated predominantly from Galicia, the partitioned area of the dual Austrian-Hungarian monarchy. Therefore, the first assumption is that if your ancestors are from Holy Cross church in Minneapolis, it is very likely (82.5%) they came from southern Poland (Galicia).

Distribution within Galicia by Diocese

At the diocesan level, I analyzed the "parish of baptism" records from Galicia, so non-Galician records were filtered out. This left 940 Galician records. Some of the entries gave only partition information, i.e. Galicia or Austria and they were filtered out because diocesan information could not

be determined for these records. The remaining 874 records were tabulated by diocese. Most records cited just the village, but some records included a diocesan name.

Valuable Galician Reference Book

To determine the diocese for records without a diocesan name, I relied on a key reference book for Galician village information. It is *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia, Expanded Data Version* by Brian J. Lenius. Originally published in 1993, an expanded version was published in 1999. (Available from Brian J. Lenius, Box 18 Group 4 R.R. #1, Anola, Manitoba, CANADA ROE OAO, website: www.lenius.ca)

The main body of the Lenius book is an alphabetical list of Galician entities called Community/Estate (i.e. City/Town/Village/Estate).

For each entry this book provides: Administrative District; Judicial/Tax District; Roman Catholic Diocese; Roman Catholic Parish; and references to any Greek, Evangelical, and Jewish jurisdictions. It also gives village "aka" information, for example that Barczyce is "also known as" Barcice. Diocesan information may assist genealogists in determining the correct church archives to search. The four Roman Catholic dioceses for Galicia are represented in Table 2.

Quoting the Lenius book "This (diocese) column indicates the Roman Catholic Diocese to which the Roman Catholic Parish belongs or belonged. This was based on the diocesan boundaries from ca. 1900 up to 1991 for the dioceses in Poland and up to 1939 for the dioceses in Ukraine. Although the dioceses were reorganized in 1992, diocesan archives and collections of diocesan records in state archives are still maintained according to the earlier boundaries."

Name of Galician Diocese	Number of Brides/Grooms from this Diocese	Percent of Brides/Grooms from this Diocese
Kraków Archdiocese (Poland)	580	66.4%
Przemyśl Diocese (Poland)	134	15.3%
Tarnów Diocese (Poland)	118	13.5%
Lwów Archdiocese (Ukraine)	42	4.8%
Total	874	100%

Table 2. "Parish of Baptism" by Galician Diocese

The most cited diocese is the Archdiocese of Krakow, so the immigrants to Holy Cross were predominantly from the western end of Galicia rather than from the eastern portion of Galicia which is now part of the Ukraine (Lwów Archdiocese).

Galician Administrative Districts

The next analysis (Table 3) is by Galician administrative district. I relied on *Genealogical*

<u>Gazetteer of Galicia</u> by Brian J. Lenius. There were 734 Galician records where I could reliably determine the administrative district. Spelling and old script handwriting of village names were constant issues. Administrative district information may assist genealogists in determining the correct civil archives to search.

Another useful book identifying Galician villages and administrative districts is *Finding Your Jewish*

Roots in Galicia: A Resource Guide, by Susan F. Wynne, (Available from Avotaynu, Inc. Teaneck, NJ, 1998). This book lists Galician villages concentrating, ostensibly, on those with Jewish populations. The most cited Galician administrative district is

Myslenice (45%), which is located just south of Krakow. The Lenius book lists a total of 82 administrative districts for Galicia. Forty-nine of these administrative districts were sources of Holy Cross immigrants.

Table 3. "Parish of Baptism" by Administrative District

Galician Administrative District	Number of Brides/Grooms	Percent of Brides/Grooms
(49 of 82 Districts Represented)	from this District	from this District
Myślenice	333	45.4%
Nowy Targ	65	8.9%
Kolbuszowa	54	7.4%
Żywiec	48	6.5%
Nowy Sącz	37	5.0%
Limanowa	23	3.1%
Tarnobrzeg	17	2.3%
Tarnów	16	2.2%
Bochnia	13	1.8%
Wadowice	13	1.8%
Brzesko	11	1.5%
Biala	10	1.4%
Ropczyce	9	1.2%
Jaslo	8	1.1%
Kraków	6	.8%
Grybów	5	.7%
Buczacz, Gorlice, Przemyśl	4 each	.5% each
Czortków, Pilzno, Podgórze, Podhajce, Przemyślany, Stryj, Strzyżów, Wieliczka, Zbaraż	3 each	.4% each
Jaroslaw, Łańcut, Mielec, Nisko, Radziechów, Tarnopol	2 each	.3% each
Bóbrka, Chrzanów, Cieszanów, Dąbrowa, Krosno, Rzeszów, Sanok, Skole, Stanislawów, Tłumacz, Trembowla, Zaleszczyki, Zborów, Zloczów, Zydaczów	1 each	.1% each
TOTAL	734	100%

Polish Village and Highlander Clan Information

Table 4 was created using village names cited five or more times. Rabka was the village providing the largest number (145) of Polish immigrants to Holy Cross church in Minneapolis. Rabka's location is

on the southern route from Krakow to Zakopane. The number of Rabka associated emigrants is actually larger because emigrants citing smaller nearby villages, such as, Skawa (9 citations) and Chabowka (8 citations) attended church at the

parish of Rabka, so you can effectively add at least 17 more Rabka entries.

In addition to administrative divisions, there are identifiable cultural regions. Geographically this mountainous area is divided into areas of highlander clans. Where applicable, Table 4 includes the highlander clan associated with individual villages. An English translation about Polish "Highlanders" was published in *Rodziny, The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America*, Fall 2004, pages 11-22. This translation of the "Górale" entry from

Słownik Geograficzny (1881) is by William F. (Fred) Hoffman. This time period corresponds closely to the years of Galician immigration to Minneapolis.

The above mentioned <u>Słownik</u> translation classifies thirteen different highlander areas in southern Poland. Most of these highlander clans are associated with the lower Carpathian Mountain range called the Beskid Mountains. The term "górale" as used today is associated primarily with the Podhale (Podhalanie) area on the northern slopes of the higher Carpathian Mountain range called the Tatra Mountains. There are separate <u>Słownik Geograficzny</u> entries for some of the

individual highlander clans, also written in the time period of the late 1890's.

Six different Polish highlander clans are represented among early Holy Cross parishioners. The above translated <u>Słownik Geograficzny</u> entry states: "In the mountains, nature separates precisely valleys and the regions between the mountains with more or less accessible divisions; thus it does not unite the peoples, but rather divides them. One can ascribe to this fact the great variety of highland clans, which are characterized by their lack of intermingling." Apparently, these "non-mingling" Polish highlanders were able to adapt and come together in America to form Holy Cross Church in Minneapolis.

Table 4. "Parish of Baptism" by Galician Village

Identified Villages of Origin	Number of Brides/Grooms from this Village	Regional Highlander Clan	Diocese
Rabka	145	Rabczanie	Kraków
Jordanów	41	Babiogórcy	Kraków
Sokołów	39		Przemyśl
Nowy Targ	36	Nowotarzanie	Kraków
Spytkowice	25	Babiogórcy	Kraków
Barcice (aka Barczyce)	23	Sandeczanie	Tarnów
Żywiec	18	Żywczaki	Kraków
Olszówka	14	Rabczanie	Kraków
Łętówina (Łentówina)	13	Kliszczaki	Kraków
Raba Wyżnia	11	Rabczanie	Kraków
Skawa	11	Babiogórcy	Kraków
Maków	10	Babiogórcy	Kraków
Tarnów	11		Tarnów
Myślenice	8	Kliszczaki	Kraków
Chabówka	7	Rabczanie	Kraków
Pcim	7	Kliszczaki	Kraków
Sucha	7	Żywczaki	Kraków
Trzeboś	7		Przemyśl
Czarny	5	Podhale	Kraków
Piwniczna	5		Tarnów
Rajcza	5	Żywczaki	Kraków
Rzezawa	5		Tarnów
Toporzysko	5	Babiogórcy	Kraków

Reverse Engineering My Minneapolis Grandparents

My four Polish grandparents arrived in Minneapolis in the 1900's and had an early association with Holy Cross Church. I have three 100 year old grandparent baptismal certificates from Poland citing Polish civil and church information. For example, the 100 year old baptismal certificate for my grandmother, Rosalia Jarosz, cites the following church information: *Dioecesis Cracóviensis*, *Decanatus Makóviensis*, *Parochia Jordanów* translating to Kraków diocese, Maków deanery, and Jordanów Parish. The civil administrative units on the baptismal certificate are: *Regnum Galiciae*, *Capitaneatus distr. Myślenice* translating to Region of Galicia, Myślenice, capital of district.

If I did not have her 100 year old baptismal certificate, what were my chances of discovering her village information? Rosalia was married in Poland, so no American matrimonial record exists. First, it is suggested from the above data that Rosalia would be from Galicia (82.5%). This is true. It is suggested from the Galician data that she would be from the Kraków Archdiocese (66%). This is also true. From the Galician data, it is further suggested that she is from the Myślenice Administrative District (45%) and this is true. Playing the village percentages, I would research the village of Rabka first, and secondly I would try the village of Jordanów where I would find Rosalia's records.

Note of Personal Interest

According to the Hoffman "highlander" translation, Jordanów was considered capital of the "Babiogórcy highlanders" named for their proximity to the mountain called Babio Góra. As a resident of Jordanów, Rosalia was a member of this highland clan. My other three grandparents were from nearby villages of Spytkowice, Toporzysko and Wysoka (a small village in Jordanów parish). These villages are also considered part of the Babiogórcy highlanders.

Thanks to this translation, I am now aware that my four Polish grandparents were Babiogórcy highlanders making me, to my astonishment, a full-blooded Polish Babiogórcy highlander. This information gives me a totally new Polish identity.

Family Ties - Another Approach to Consider

A circuitous suggestion for using matrimonial records to connect to villages in Poland is to identify friends, baptismal and matrimonial witnesses of ancestral grandparents. Then specifically search their matrimonial records for references to villages in Poland. This approach is based on the assumption that "old world village family ties" carried over to "new world parishes" and this increases your probability of finding that ancestral village.

Summary

A valuable by-product of "data extraction" is the ability to take that data one step further and do statistical analysis. In this case, analysis achieved the objective of creating a geographic profile of early church parishioners. Analysis is valuable because percentage-based probabilities may assist genealogists and send them down potentially more fruitful research avenues.

What does this specific analysis mean for genealogists with 1900's Polish roots in Minneapolis? The geographic profile of an early Holy Cross parishioner is as follows: 1) 82.5% probability from Galicia; 2) Within Galicia 66% probability from Krakow Diocese (western Galicia) and; 3) 45% probability from Myślenice administrative district. Village percentages favor Rabka, then Jordanów and Sokołów. Larger villages like these are good choices because they generally include church records for smaller surrounding villages.

(This article was previously published in 2007 in Rodziny, Journal of the PGSA.) **PGS-MN**

? Fun Trivia Answers: (from page 10)

a. Poland is the 9^{th} largest country in Europe.

b. Pizza in Poland does not contain *tomato sauce*. The waiters bring sauce to the table in a pitcher and you pour it on top. Sometimes the sauce is just ketchup.

c. *Kalisz* is considered to be the oldest Polish town because it was mentioned by Ptolemy as Calisia.

d. The *Palace of Culture and Science* is the tallest building in Poland. It was a "gift" from the Soviet Union to Polish citizens. Today this huge building contains a museum of technology, a museum of evolution, a very big congress hall, three theaters and an observation balcony located on the 30th floor.



PGS-MN NEWSLETTER

Surname Indexing Project – Volume 17

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 17, Nos. 1-4: Spring, Summer and Fall 2009 and Winter 2009-10. 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 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 checks payable to: PGS-MN.

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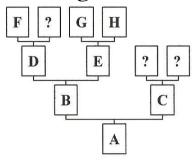
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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marcia Anderson, 130 Edgewood Av. N., Golden Valley MN 55427

<marcia.d.anderson@gmail.com> is researching: ZWOLINSKI in Poznan? and in Thorpe WI an Mpls. MN; KLUCENSKI in Suwalken? and in Pennsylvania, New London CT and Mpls. MN; ZAKRZEWSKI (ZAKES) in ? in Poland and in Mpls. MN and Connecticut; SHUPIEN in ? in Poland. Karrie Fischer, 11462 Kenyon Ct. N.E., Blaine MN 55449-5435 is researching Peter & Agnes MALICKI in Wierzchucin in Poland and Anthony & Dorothy METKOWSKI and Michael KOPKOWSKI in West Strasburg, West Prussia.

Karen Karkula, 4858 Grandview Ct. NE., Columbia Hts. MN 55421-4637 <ryby317@comcast.net> is a new member.

Mary Ann Knox, 3300 Bryant Av. S., Minneapolis MN 55408 <maryannknox@Visi.com> is researching: GROHOSKI aka GROCHOWSKI and GALLES/GALLUS/GALLAS in Poland and Winona; also researching the RITTER surname.

Mary Losinski, 12877 Homestead Dr., White Bear Lake MN 55110 mmfmass@gmail.com is researching: LOSINSKI in Poland and in Winona and St. Paul MN; GORALSKI in Poland and in St. Paul and CT; FLIS, PAZDERSKI in Poland and in St. Paul: ADAMSKI in Poland and in Minneapolis MN and Manistee Michigan.

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