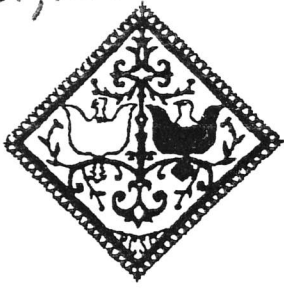


AUTUMN 1993

Vid, No 3



Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1

AUTUMN 1993

NUMBER 3

All-day Seminar Sept. 25 Speaker: Stan Schmidt

The location of the September 25th seminar has been changed to the Northeast Public Library, 2200 Central Ave. N.E., due to uncertainty about the availability of the Polish American Community Center.

The speaker will be Stan Schmidt, the current president of the Polish Genealogical Society of America in Chicago and a member of the board of directors of the Federation of East European Family History Societies. He is also the co-editor of the PGSA Bulletin and has served the PGSA in various capacities. Mr. Schmidt has lived in Chicago (which has the largest Polish-American population in the U. S.) all his life, except for service during the Korean War. During the past eight years, he has visited Poland four times. His interest in genealogy began some fifteen years ago. He and his wife are currently researching fifty-six ancestral lines in Poland, going back to the mid-1700's.

The previously announced program has also been modified somewhat.

During the morning session (10:30 a.m. to noon), the speaker will deal with two themes: (1) the activities and resources of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, and (2) the records pertaining to Haller's Army (also known as the Blue Army), which included Polish-Americans who fought in France in World War I.

The afternoon session (1:15-2:45 p.m.) will be devoted to research in Poland, emphasizing civil and parish registers.

Eating places within a block of the library include Marino's Restaurant and Chinn Fua Restaurant. Numerous other restaurants are within easy driving distance.

Future Programs

Sat., Oct. 16, 1993. "The Polish Collection of the Immigration History Research Center" will be the subject of a presentation by Joel Wurl or Halyna Myronimiuk at IHRC, 826 Berry St., St. Paul, 10:30 a.m. to noon (IHRC is between University Ave. and Franklin Ave., one block east of the Minneapolis city line and very close to bus route #16). This is a change from the program announced in the summer issue of this newsletter.

Sat., Nov. 20, 1993. Larry Goga, president of the Rusin Association, will speak on "The Rusins of Minnesota" at the Northeast Public Library, 10:30 a.m. to noon. The Rusins constitute a significant minority group among immigrants from Poland. Election of the officers of PGSMn for 1994 will also take place at this meeting.

Sat., Jan. 8, 1994. Joanne A. (Zimniewicz) Lisson will speak on "Wiarus of Winona, 1886-1919: The First Polish Newspaper in Minnesota" at the Northeast Public Library, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Joanne is a granddaughter of the paper's founder and of both of its editors.

Sat., March 6, 1994. Three presentations relating to Polish genealogy will be made at the Minnesota Genealogical Society's multi-ethnic "Branching Out" meeting. Watch for further details.

Seeking your Central European ancestors?



Personal genealogical services

Fast, accurate translations of any Polish, Czech, or Slovak material: certificates, letters, Bible records, microfilms, etc.

Assistance in tracing your ancestors.

Mr. W. Kornel Kondy
619 S.E. Seventh Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

Telephone (612) 378-1739

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

A Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 16069
St. Paul MN 55116-0069
(612) 645-3671

Officers

Blanche Krbechek (545-7107).....President
John Pokrzywinski.....Vice-President
Walter Kornel Kondy.....Secretary
Barbara Rockman.....Treasurer
Ed Brandt.....Director
Paul Kulas.....Director
Mary Alice Rekucki.....Director

The PGSM Newsletter

Walter Kornel Kondy.....Editor
Paul Kulas.....Associate Editor
Ed Brandt.....Contributor
Blanche Krbechek.....Contributor
Barbara Rockman.....Contributor

PGSM Committees

Ed Brandt.....Program
Blanche Krebechek.....Publicity
Paul Kulas.....Library
Barbara Rockman.....Membership

President's Letter

The days are becoming shorter and cooler, but perhaps the surest sign of fall is the close of the State Fair. I hear that there were many folks asking about Polish genealogy at the Minnesota Genealogical Society booth. Thanks to those of you who volunteered your time. We are anxious to welcome more new members.

Ed Brandt (338-2001) has been busy planning some very interesting and informative programs. September 25, Stan Schmidt, the President of the Polish Genealogical Society of America will speak at the Northeast Library. I would like to have the meetings follow the same format as in the past -- a short business meeting; program; questions; lastly members' exchange of ideas, research and queries.

At our November 20th meeting we will hold our annual election of officers for PGSMn. The business part should be short to make sure we have plenty of time for our speaker, Larry Goga. The nominating committee has submitted the following preliminary slate of candidates (The definition of preliminary: we welcome anyone else who would like to contribute. . . call 545-7107):

President:	Blanche Krbechek
Vice President:	
Secretary:	Greg Kishel
Treasurer:	Barbara Rockman
Members-at-Large:	
Ed Brandt (Program)	Dan Nedorowski
Kornel Kondy (Newsletter)	Mary Alice Rekucki
Paul Kulas (Library)	Bernie Szymczak

Do stop and see what has been added to our shelves at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library. We have purchased some books with your donations and received some new publications as review copies. The newsletters we receive from other groups are worth perusing also.

We all were saddened to hear of the passing of Edward A. Peckwas, the founder and long-time president of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, on June 25, 1993. Ed was known nationally for promoting the cause of Polish studies generally and Polish genealogical research in particular. When we were organizing PGSMn I had several conversations with him and he gave me both encouragement and much useful information. He will be missed by many. PGSMn extends sympathy to his wife and family.

Watch for the Grand Opening of the Polish Cultural Institute of Minnesota's new library on October 1st.

Blanche Krbechek



The Bulletin Board

PGSMn officer and program chair, ED BRANDT, had an article on Polish genealogy published in the June, 1993 issue of the Minnesota Genealogist. "Polish Immigration and Polish-American Genealogical Resources." is an excellent overview of Polish immigration and the resources available for Polish genealogical research. It should be required reading for anyone interested in this subject.

Future issues of this newsletter will include a LETTERS TO THE EDITOR column. We would like to hear your views and suggestions regarding this newsletter and regarding our organization. Write to: Newsletter, c/o W. Kornel Kondy, editor, 619 S.E. Seventh Street, Mpls., MN 55414.

POLISH SURNAMES: ORIGINS AND MEANINGS is the latest publication of the Polish Genealogical Society of America. The cost is \$16.50 plus \$2.50 for mailing and handling. To order, send check or money order to PGSA, c/o Marcia Bergman, 926 Oxford Lane, Wilmette, IL 60091.

The POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA will present its 15th Anniversary Conference on Oct. 8-9, 1993 at the Ramada Hotel O'Hare in Rosemont, Illinois. Included among the distinguished speakers at this event is Boris Kleyn, Professor of History at the University of Grodno. PGSMn members will remember Prof. Kleyn as the guest speaker at our April 7, 1993 meeting. Preregistration should be sent to Mrs. Rosalie Lindberg, 524 Parkwood, Park Ridge, IL 60068, by Sept 30. The fee is \$35 for PGSA members, \$25 for their spouses and \$40 for non-members. Registration at the door is \$50. The Saturday evening Polish dinner costs \$12. Reservations at the conference hotel can be made by calling 1-708-827-5131.

The POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN is co-hosting a Michigan Genealogical Council Seminar on "Preserving our Heritage in a Nation of Diversity" on Oct 7-9, 1993. For more information contact: Michigan Genealogical Council 1993 Seminar, 16886 Baylif, Detroit, MI 48228-3105.

POLISH NIGHTS AT THE MGS LIBRARY. Now that we have a respectable collection of Polish materials at the Minnesota Genealogical Society library, 1650 Carroll Ave., St. Paul, we will resume having "Polish nights," when one of our more experienced genealogists will be on duty. These will be held on the second Thursday of each month (Sept. 9, Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec. 9) from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. In fact, these could be called "Slavic nights," since an expert on Czech and Slovak genealogy is also expected to be on duty. Library hours are: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wed., Th. and Sat. and 6:30 to 9:30 on Tu. and Th. evenings.

A brown loose leaf notebook has been placed on our library shelf for uncataloged ephemeral material which PGSMn receives. You may find something of interest.

VITAL RECORDS AT SACRED HEART



SACRED HEART OF JESUS
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Polish National Catholic Parish was established in 1914 in northeast Minneapolis by a devout group of Polish immigrants, who sought to worship in their native language. Their first Pastor was Rev. Franciszek J. Kłoz/Kłós. The church is located on the corner of 22nd Avenue and 5th Street in the heart of the Slavic neighborhood. The rectory and Pulaski Parish Hall are across the street. In the early years, the parish maintained a Polish school, which was located conveniently nearby at 607 N.E. 22th Avenue in a building (still standing), which was erected in 1916. The church also has its own burial ground in Fridley, which was first mentioned and used as early as 1916.

The Register of Vital Records (Księga Metrykalna) contains an Imprimatur, with the signature of Bishop Francis Hodur, founder of the Polish National Catholic Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania in the year 1897.

Imprimatur
+ Francis Hodur
Bishop

The first baptism recorded at Sacred Heart was that of a baby girl, Józefa Joanna WYSOCKA in 1914. The following year, the first marriage performed was that of Hryc HAJDUK, born Sielce Bielskie, Powiat Sokal, Galicya to Barbara IWADZIUK on 8 July. Seven marriages took place in 1915 as well as the death of parishioner Albert LUKAS.

The current pastor is Rev. John Kutek. Address: 420 N.E. 22nd Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55418, tel. (612) 781-9328.

The following are the names copied from the Register of Births/Baptisms in the order they appear, not alphabetically or chronologically. Every effort was made to decipher the penmanship, at times in consultation with the priest. For a full copy -- names of parents, godparents, etc. -- one should consult the pastor.

SEX	NAME	BIRTHDATE	BAPTISMAL DATE
-----	------	-----------	----------------

page 1

f	1. Józefa Joanna WYSOCKA	22 MAY 1914 /	24 MAY
f	2. Genowefa Karolina SZYMAŃSKA	10 JUL 1914 /	18 JUL
m	3. Czesław Franciszek ZMUDA/SMUDA	12 JUL 1914 /	26 JUL
f	4. Jadwiga Helena SADOWSKA	12 JUL 1914 /	1 AUG
f	5. Anna Helena JAKIMOW	12 MAY 1914 /	2 AUG
f	6. Leokadya PORUCZNIK	13 NOV 1914 /	22 NOV
m	7. Władysław TUNSKI	18 SEP 1914 /	29 NOV
f	8. Maryanna NOWAK	25 NOV 1914 /	6 DEC
m	9. Franciszek JARMURZEK	10 JUL 1915 /	18 JUL
	10. blank		
f	11. Stanisława BORYS	17 SEP 1913 /	12 JUL 1914
m	12. Antoni ORNAT	14 JUL 1915 /	3 AUG

page 2

m	1. Edward Leon SPECHT	25 DEC 1914 /	10 JAN 1915
m	2. Józef GAWRONSKI	14 JAN 1915 /	24 JAN
f	3. Genowefa Katarzyna GARNER	3 JAN 1915 /	16 FEB
f	4. Anna JAKUBIEC	12 FEB 1915 /	21 FEB
f	5. Małgorzata Maryanna GARNER	30 NOV 1914 /	21 FEB 1915
f	6. Zofia ZEMBAL	24 FEB 1915 /	7 MAR
f	7. Irena WOJTKIEWICZ	15 FEB 1915 /	7 MAR
f	8. Maryanna ISKIERKA	1 APR 1915 /	4 APR
f	9. Józefa WALUŚ	16 MAR 1915 /	4 APR
f	10. Regina Eleonora KAWCZYŃSKI	26 MAR 1915 /	4 APR
m	11. Fiodor ZUBRYCKI	14 MAR 1915 /	5 APR
m	12. Stanisław Jan DUDON	28 MAY 1915 /	13 JUN

page 3

f	1. Feliksa Agnieszka KOBAJ	19 APR 1915 /	21 JUL
f	2. Jania SAMOKAR	11 JUN 1915 /	4 JUL
f	3. Emilia KOS	26 SEP 1915 /	10 OCT
m	4. Mieczysław SZYMUCHA	7 OCT 1915 /	24 OCT
m	5. Klemens NOWAK	17 OCT 1915 /	31 OCT
m	6. Edward HABDARZ/HABDAS	27 OCT 1915 /	7 NOV
f	7. Florentyna STOPA	6 NOV 1915 /	21 NOV
m	8. Franciszek LACH	9 NOV 1915 /	21 NOV
m	9. Ludwik BOLEWSKI	29 NOV 1915 /	5 DEC
m	10. Albert LUKIS/LUKAS	29 NOV 1915 /	5 DEC
m	11. Bernadyn Józef GLISZCZYŃSKI	1 DEC 1915 /	19 DEC
m	12. Mieczysław WYSOCKI	10 AUG 1915 /	25 DEC

To be continued in the next issue.

W. Kornel Kondy

Book Review

Rosemary A. Chorzempa, Korzenie Polskie: Polish Roots, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993), 240 pp.

Polish-American genealogists have ample reason to be delighted with this publication. It is the first truly comprehensive guide for researching ancestors from historic as well as contemporary Poland. It is also the first guide to include a significant amount of information for those who are not ethnic Poles.

Chorzempa has an incredibly thorough discussion of how surnames can be used as a clue to determining origin. This includes endings which are common in names of Lithuanian, Livonian, Estonian, Byelorussian, Russian, Ukrainian, Carpatho-Ukrainian, Slovak, Serbo-Croatian, Czech, Armenian, Western Slavonic, German, Dutch and Jewish origin.

This is important for three reasons. First, the Jagiellonian Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania once included territories where many of these linguistic groups represented a majority of the population. Moreover, most of the burghers (urban middle class) were foreigners (especially Germans, but also Jews, Scots and others) as early as 1370 and at least as late as the seventeenth century (pp. 61, 65) — to some extent even in the twentieth century, at least in Polish-German border areas.

Second, Poland was a haven of refuge for both Jews and dissident Christian denominations at a time when such tolerance was an extreme rarity in Europe.

Third, many areas of eastern Europe were true "melting pots," even though assimilation was by no means universal. This is especially significant in the case of Poland. Not only were there numerous Slavic tribes resident east, and even west, of the Oder River, but the entire Middle Ages, extending back even to the Roman era and forward to the twentieth century, represented a constant and complicated to-and-fro movement between the Slavic and Germanic tribes (and also between Western and Eastern Slavs).

As a result, many people with German and Polonized German names have considered themselves to be Poles for centuries. Similarly, names of Polish and other Slavic origin have been considered German for many centuries.

I was surprised to find, for example, that German names ending in "-ke," which are very numerous in the east, had an Old Slavonic origin (p. 164). I checked with Ewald Wuschke, an expert on the Germans in Central Poland and Volhynia, and received corroborative information.

Closely related endings are found in England (-kin), Rhineland-Westphalia (-ken and -gen) and the Netherlands (-tje), although the English and Dutch diminutives apply mostly to first names (and this form is obsolete in English). I now have to research whether these all had the same origin or whether they had independent origins.

The variations in the spelling of Polish names and the variations among the various Slavic languages may be of interest to a larger number of genealogists. For instance, Russian has no "h" but uses a "g" instead while Czech has no "g" but uses an "h." Polish, Ukrainian and Byelorussian have both letters (p. 194). This can create confusion in transliterating names from one language to another.

Chorzempa also explains the meaning of numerous Polish endings, how various endings could be used for the same name, why "Ch" was sometimes changed to "H" at the beginning of a name, what happened to names when they became Anglicized (especially in the case of letters with Polish diacritical marks), why other name changes occurred in Poland, etc. (pp. 157-161).

I have never read any remotely comparable treatment of this subject for any group or area. The author even mentions Frisian endings which are unfamiliar to many Dutch and carefully distinguishes between the Swiss, Bavarian and Wurttemberg variations of South German diminutives.

You can see that this one subject suffices for a lengthy book review. However, it represents only one of fifteen chapters.

The Polish and Ukrainian custom of giving children the first name of the saint on whose feast day they were born (or which occurred shortly after their birth) is fully explained, with accompanying lists of feast days (pp. 170-189). This enables genealogists to identify the month of birth of their ancestors in many cases, which greatly reduces the amount of research to be done if you don't know when they were born.

This is also the only guide with a cosmopolitan Jagiellonian scope. The chapter on church records deals with the Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, Russian Orthodox, Lutheran, Mennonite, Reformed and Hebrew religions, while other guides generally have only very limited information about non-Catholic records.

Furthermore, the author has a chapter on thirteen ethnic minority groups in historic Poland. Thus this is the first and only book which is of significant value to genealogists whose ancestors came from Poland but were not ethnic Poles.

Just as is the case with the Research Guide to German-American Genealogy, which seeks to cover all of Europe, the breadth of scope in Chorzempa's book means some sacrifice in depth when it comes to coverage of so many religious and ethnic groups. As a result, there are occasionally statements which are not very clear and which could lead to inaccurate conclusions with respect to the immigration of foreigners.

In a few places, a hint of anti-German sentiment appears (which is understandable, given World War II and earlier historic events), but on the whole the book cannot be considered to have a nationalistic tone. A more serious shortcoming is what seems to me to be rather minimal coverage of Lithuanians, even though there is a brief historical description of the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania and two paragraphs on Lithuania under Russian rule (pp. 86-87). This could be because of the scarcity of pre-Partition genealogical records and the small number of Lithuanians in post-1918 Poland. However, given the mixed population near the point where Poland, Lithuania and Belarus come together, I would have expected more.

In general, the book's coverage is roughly proportionate to the population of the various groups which inhabited historic Poland. This, of course, means strong emphasis on ethnic Poles and Roman Catholics. In 1618, the largest other groups were Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Lithuanians, Jews and Germans, in that order, with ten other linguistic groups mentioned (p. 191).

The chapter on 28 geographic and ethnic areas of historic Poland, with some historical material on each, is also a very valuable asset for genealogists and one which is found in only a few non-Polish guides.

Besides these strong points, the book covers the subjects found in most guides very well. It includes three chapters on American sources, which are likely to be particularly helpful to the beginner, especially one with limited knowledge about their immigrant ancestors. The book is more up-to-date than many genealogical books are at the time of publication, with even our new Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota listed.

There is a very thorough discussion of the kinds of church and civil records which exist. There are substantial lists of genealogical terms in Polish and Latin, with shorter ones for German and Russian. The chapter on maps and gazetteers is relatively short, but it includes some very useful information.

This is not only by far the most comprehensive Polish-American genealogical guide, but also, despite minor flaws, a model for publications of a multi-ethnic scope.

Ed Brandt

Membership Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual / Family - \$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor - \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Contribution to the Library Fund - \$ _____			
Name: _____		Phone: _____	
Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____ Zip: _____	
Polish family names you are researching:		Other nationality interests:	
Locations in Europe:		Locations in North America:	
I consent to the publication of this information in the news letter. (Please check one.) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Please make checks payable to Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota and mail to Barbara Rockman, Treas. 735 85th Lane NW, Coon Rapids MN, 55433.			

Queries

Each issue of the newsletter will contain a research information exchange section. Members are invited to place queries pertaining to the exchange of family information, requests for help or offers to aid others researching the same family lines. Send to: Editor PGSMn Newsletter, 619 S.E. Seventh St. Minneapolis, MN 55414-1327

KISHEL, Gregory F. 446 Mt. Curve Blvd., St. Paul is seeking information on Józef KISIELEWSKI and his wife Marjanna WROSIENSKA who immigrated to Minnesota's Iron Range, circa 1890 from Augustów, Białystok, and their antecedents. Also, about the Piątek/Friday family who resided in Stevens Point, WI in 1880's and later settled in Bessemer, MI, and their antecedents.

✓ KOZERSKI, Andrew, 231 Pumice Lp. N.E., Rio Rancho, NM 87124 is seeking to contact persons bearing or having ancestors with the same surname. He will gladly exchange genealogical information. His father was a post-WW II emigré from Poland.

✓ KRAIPOVICH, Josepha, 32 East Phillips St., Waldale, PA 18218, phone: (717) 645-8513 is seeking to locate persons with the surnames of MAKOWSKI, PANAS, OSTROWSKI, WASINSKI or MUROWSKI who are related to Natalie MAKOWSKI, who was born on 24 March 1916 in Philadelphia, Pa. (parents: John MAKOWSKI and Sophia WASINSKA) and who died on 25 March 1985 or related to John/Alexander PANAS, who was born on 25 August 1913 in Philadelphia and who died on 31 July 1972.

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

c/o Minnesota Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 16069
St. Paul, MN 55116 - 0069

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid St. Paul, MN Permit No. 5090
--

Paul Kulas
12008 West River Road
Champlin, MN 55316-