

SUMMER 1994

Vol. 2, No 2



# Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

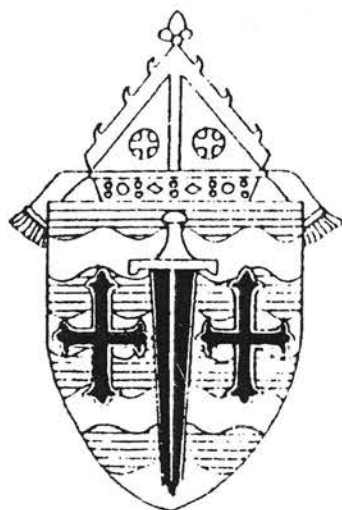
VOLUME 2

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## FALL PROGRAM

Speaker: Patrick Anzelc, Archives Assistant  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
September 17, 1994 -- 10:30 a.m.  
Northeast Public Library, Minneapolis



Archives of the Archdiocese  
of St. Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Mark your calendars now. Our Autumn newsletter will not be published before this program. Our speaker for the September 17th meeting of the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota will be Patrick Anzelc, Archives Assistant of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

Mr. Anzelc has been with the archives for five years and has been involved with the microfilm project of the historical records of the Catholic Church of the archdiocese, especially those of interest to genealogical researchers. Of special interest to Polish-American genealogists are the vital records of all Polish Catholic parishes of the archdiocese. These have been microfilmed and are available for research at the archdiocesan archives.

Patrick Anzelc comes from Biwabik, Minnesota, on the Iron Range and attended the University of Minnesota, St. Cloud State University and the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks. He asks that you come prepared to ask him a lot of questions about background information of the parishes of the archdiocese and of the people who lived in them.

The meeting will be held on September 17, 1994 at the Northeast Public Library, 2200 Central Avenue N.E. in Minneapolis and will begin at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free.

*Submitted by David Zaworski, Vice-President*

## POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNOUNCES FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Polish Genealogical Society of America (Chicago) will present its annual conference on October 21 and 22, 1994 at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel, 6600 North Mannheim Road, Rosemont, Illinois. The society's theme of something old and something new will be reflected in the numerous lectures. A welcoming reception on October 21 will feature an informal question and answer session with the directors of the PGSA. Book sales and on-site translators will be some of the additional activities planned throughout the conference. The pre-conference registration cost will be \$35.00 for members, \$25.00 for their guests, and \$40.00 for non-members. Registration at the door is \$50.00. For more details, please write: Dr. Gregory J. Gazda, Publicity Chairman, 280 Forest Trail Drive, Oak Brook, Illinois 60521.

## President's Letter

Once again I wish to stress that our primary goal is to grow in membership and strength. Ways in which we can achieve this is to: make sure we are current in our payment of dues; invite interested friends to a meeting so they can become acquainted with our Society; urge family history buffs to join us; volunteer to help with projects; contribute to our Library Fund.

Apropos the latter, although our Polish collection at MGS is growing, it is still quite small in comparison to the other ethnic group collections. Admittedly we are still just at the beginning stage -- yet we need to build a strong, viable research collection. All this requires funds to purchase the very best and latest materials available. Our Library Committee is constantly on the lookout for such items. Members are encouraged to submit suggestions for purchase to Paul Kulas, our Library Chairman.

But funds are likewise required to xerox, bind, box or in some way preserve the precious materials we have gathered. Also, we mail our NEWSLETTER to genealogical societies abroad in order to receive their publications in exchange. Contributions should be made payable to "PGSMn Library Fund" and mailed directly to: Barbara Rockman, Treasurer, 735 85th Lane NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433.

I wish to express our sincere thanks to our good friend, Fay Dearden, for her most informative talk on "New LDS Family History Library Resources on Poland" at our last meeting on 16 April. Our members gained much from her experience and suggestions.

Volunteers are needed to answer questions and work at the MGS booth for blocks of 4 hour intervals at the State Fair. If you've volunteered before, you know it can be fun and a way for us to make contact with out-state interested individuals. You'd be amazed at how many fair-goers admit to having a Polish ancestor on their family tree! Each volunteer is provided with a complimentary admission ticket. Please call me, if you wish to contribute your time and efforts.

*W. Kornel Kondy, President*

### *Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota*

A Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society

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

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## 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: W. Kornel Kondy, Editor, PGSMn Newsletter, 619 S.E. Seventh St. Minneapolis, MN 55414-1327

DROBINSKI, Leoni Esther, Post Office Box 424, Clayfield, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia 4011 wishes to locate any DROBINSKI family members residing in Minnesota. The branch of her family came from Poland in 1883 and settled in New York. Her father then moved to Boston, MA, where she was born. Subsequently her family moved to Australia in 1970. She believes an Ambrose DOBRINSKI settled in Minnesota.

KULAS, Paul, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316 is seeking information on the DROBNY and HENKE family names. Konstantin DROBNY and Susanna HENKE emigrated from Koczała (Flötenstein) in what was then West Prussia and settled near Rosen in Lac Qui Parle County in Minnesota.

NEW MEMBERS: The following is a listing of new members and their areas of research which were received since the membership report was published in the Spring issue of this newsletter.

AFTANAS, Suzan, 3900 Vinceton St. Pittsburgh, Pa 15214, is researching the KOCHANSKI, BANAS, AFTANAS and KOLUPAJLO family names in Przemysl, Dylagowa and Brzozow, Poland and Lvov, Ukraine and in Pittsburgh and Pulaski, Pennsylvania, Weirton, West Virginia and Mingo Junction, Ohio.

CLEMONS, Marcella (Marcee), 12775 Germane Avenue, Apple Valley, MN 55124 is researching the RUSKIEWICZ (ROSS/RUSK), RZEP CZNSKA (or SKI), GORECKI and GLADIS (GLADYS/GLADIES) family names from Tuchola and Kamine in German Poland and in Illinois and in Lincoln and Lyon counties in Minnesota.

DEMBINSKI, Mary Kathleen, 5437 E. Cortez, Scottsdale, Arizona, 85254 is researching the DEMBINSKI, NOWOTARSKI, LUKAWSKI, SZYPERSKI, FRANK and MAZUREK family names in the Puck area in Polish Pommerania, in Augustow in Suwalki, in Krampsk in Konin, in the Znin area northeast of Poznan and in Chicago.

GONDERZIK, Scott A., 1583 6th Street E. Saint Paul, MN 55106 is researching the GONDERZIK family name in Poznan, Poland and in Wisconsin.

HALL, Jenny Lynn M., 665 S. Skyline Dr. #19, Idaho Falls, ID, 83402 is researching the ZDAZNY, BIERNAT, SHUDY, GROTKOWSKI, TORZEWSKI, STELMACZEWSKI, KACZMARCZYK, KUDOSIK, BROSKO and LINTOVICH family names in Borek, Kszczow and Cieklin in Poland, in Galicia in the Ukraine, in Yuscuf and Nowy Fork in Austria and in the Minneapolis area (Hennepin County) and in the Pine County area in Minnesota.

JOHNSON, Norma J., 2402 S. 17th St. #302, Fargo ND 58103 is researching Salomea GASKA and Anthony and Mary GACOSKI (GASKI) from Sanok, Poland and Frank WLAZLO from Jaroslaw, Poland.

SCHUTTA, TOM, 12567 Keller Ave N., Hugo, MN 55038 is researching the SCHUTTA and SOLKA family names in Gdansk and Warsaw and in Syracuse, NY and the Twin Cities.

STENZEL, Robert F., RR1 Box 107, Wells, MN 56097 is researching the STENZEL family name from Lower Silesia.

STRYK, Robert A., 5441 Halifaz Lane, Edina, MN 55424 is researching the STRYK family name.

TUSHNER, Paul, 5120 West 7th St., #3, Winona, MN 55987 is researching the CIERZAN, NARLOCH, SZUMINSKI and MILLER family names in Wielc, Kącno and Kamien Krajenski in Poland and in Winona, MN.

*Continued on page 12*

## The Bulletin Board

You will notice that there is no LETTERS TO THE EDITOR column in this issue. This is because no letters to the editor were received. We would like this newsletter to reflect the views of all of our members. We want to make this a lively, interesting and even controversial newsletter and one that serves the needs of you -- our members. Let us know what you think. We continue to solicit contributions to this newsletter in the form of letters, articles and queries. All items for publication should be sent to: W. Kornel Kondy, Editor, PGSMn Newsletter, 619 S.E. Seventh St., Minneapolis, MN 55414-1327.

Several of our members attended the UNITED POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES bi-annual conference in Salt Lake City, May 12-15, 1994. Two of our officers -- Ed Brandt, Program Chair and Paul Kulas, Library Chair -- attended. Also in attendance were PGSMn members Marge and Val Kowalewski from Minnesota City, Dr. David Kroska from St. Joseph, Stanley Kava from Rancho Cordova, California and Jenny Hall from Idaho Falls, Idaho. The conference was excellent and the research facilities were outstanding. It was also good to meet others from around the country with the common interest of tracing Polish ancestry.

Members who attended FAY DEARDEN'S PRESENTATION at our April 16 meeting heard an excellent introduction to the use of Polish resources in the LDS Family History Centers. The Family History Centers are far and away the best places in the United States to trace your Polish ancestry. Of the 6,000 Catholic parishes in Poland in the 19th century, records of 4,700 (almost 80%) have now been microfilmed by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. These films can be ordered to be sent to branch centers around the country. The chances are good that the Family History Library has the vital records of your Polish immigrant ancestor. Thank you Fay, for your most informative presentation.

There are several FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS IN MINNESOTA and in the Twin City area. The largest and the one with the most extensive hours and collection is the Family History Center at 2801 North Douglas Drive in Crystal. It is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Other Minnesota locations are in St. Paul, Duluth, Rochester and a newer center opening in Brooklyn Park. Call locally for their open hours.

The Minnesota Genealogical Society is offering a TRIP TO FAMILY HISTORY CENTER at Crystal, MN on Saturday, July 9, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The group will meet in the lobby at FHC for an escorted tour through the facility. They will be shown a video on the use of the Center, what records are available and can be ordered, how to use the computer, etc. The tour and film will take approximately an hour and the rest of the time may be spent on your own personal research with library staff available to the group for assistance. The cost is \$4 to MGS members and \$7 to non-members. Class limit is 25. The FHC staff presenter is Jack Paynter.

The MGS is also offering a class on BEGINNING GENEALOGY -- a 4-part Series on Wednesdays, July 27, August 10, 17 and 24 -- 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This is an excellent series for beginning researchers or for those who need to review the basics. The cost is \$16 to MGS

members and \$28 to non-members. The instructor is Delmar Smith.

TO REGISTER for either the FHC tour or the Beginning Genealogy class make a check payable to MGS Classes and mail to MGS Class Registrar, P.O. Box 16069, St. Paul, MN 55116-0069. You should call the MGS Library first at 645-3671 to confirm whether space is available.

The MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY also offers classes at its History Center throughout the summer and through the year that may be of interest to the Polish genealogist. Classes offered this summer include the following:

1. Introducing the Research Center
2. Genealogy Sources Introduction
3. Introduction to Census Records
4. Naturalization: Who? What? When? Where?

Preregistration is required for all classes. For information and to register for classes call 612/296-2143.

The POL-AM NEWSLETTER is a Minnesota newsletter addressed to anyone who has an interest in Polish culture and education. Its objective is "to foster the knowledge and appreciation of Polish culture, history and tradition among Americans of Polish ancestry." POL-AM is published monthly and its annual subscription rate is \$10.00. To subscribe send your name, address and a check to POL-AM, 2623 N.E. Jefferson Street, Minneapolis, MN 55418. POL-AM's editor is Czeslaw Rog, a prominent advocate of things Polish.

Another local organization dedicated to the preservation of our Polish-American heritage is the POLISH AMERICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF MINNESOTA. Membership in PACIM is \$10.00 and to join send your name, address and a check to PACIM c/o Judith Blanchard, Secretary, 6220 Baker Avenue, Fridley, MN 55432. PACIM acts as an umbrella organization for Polish activity in Minnesota. It organized all Polish efforts at the recent Festival of Nations. Among its recent activities was the establishment of a library at 514 22nd Avenue N.E. in Minneapolis. The core of the collection of this library is the donated personnel libraries of the late Mary Jane Sokolowska Gustafson and the late Edmund Lukaszewski. Mary Jane and Luke were prominent Minnesota proponents of preserving Polish and Polish-American culture.

HOME NEEDED FOR EXCHANGE STUDENT. A high school student from Poland will arrive in August to attend a local high school and return to Poland in June next year. The student is fluent in English and has been screened by school representatives in Poland. All exchange students have spending money and medical insurance. The host family may have a deduction for income tax purposes. Interested persons should contact: Walter Manning, 20780 Akin Road, Farmington, MN 55024 or call (612) 460-6670.

The Immigration History Research Center has established the FRANK RENKIEWICZ MEMORIAL FUND for Polish American Studies to commemorate his scholarship and service to American immigration history. This fund will be used to provide grants in aid to aspiring young scholars for research at the IHRC in that field. Contributions payable to the University of Minnesota, marked "Frank Renkiewicz Memorial Fund" may be mailed to: Immigration History Research Center, 826 Berry Street, St. Paul, MN 55114.



## LIBRARY CORNER •••••

*Słownik Geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego i innych Krajów Słowiańskich* [Geographic Dictionary of the Former Kingdom of Poland and Other Slavic Lands]. (Warszawa: Nakładem Filipa Sulimierskiego i Władysława Walewskiego, 1888-1902), 15 vols. Filmed by the Church of Latter-day Saints, Family History Department, 19 March 1993.

*Słownik Geograficzny* is by far the most important gazetteer for locating information about Polish villages and towns during the time period when the ancestors of most Polish-Americans emigrated from Europe. It is a 15 volume work that was published between 1882 and 1902 under the direction of Filip Sulimierski. It was filmed by the Family History Department of the Church of Latter-day Saints and a copy is available for use in the MGS Library in St. Paul as well as in the Family History Library in Crystal.

The copy is on microfiche and is housed in sixteen envelopes with each envelope containing eight to twelve sheets of microfiche. The first fourteen envelopes correspond with the first fourteen volumes of the original work. The first fourteen volumes contain a listing of Polish villages and towns in alphabetical order. Volume 1 contains villages -- Aa to Dereneczna. Volume 2 contains villages -- Derenek to Gżack, etc. The last two envelopes contain fiche that correspond to Volume 15 of the original work which was divided into two parts. Volume 15 supplements information about Polish villages in another complete alphabetical arrangement. Researchers should keep this in mind and consult both alphabetical arrangements when researching a particular village.

The introduction to the microfiche copy states: "It is an excellent gazetteer for locating places in the areas of Poland *not formerly under German rule* (italics added). This includes all localities in the former Polish provinces of Russia as well as most localities in the former Austrian province of Galica (now divided between Poland and the Ukraine). It also includes the Belorussian provinces of the Russian Empire (now in the Republic of Belarus). It also contains significant localities in other Slavic and eastern European nations; Russia, Slovakia, Czech republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania." One can see from this description that coverage is very extensive.

This reviewer would, however, disagree with the assessment that the gazetteer is less useful for areas that were formally under German rule. Most of this reviewer's research has been in areas that were formerly under German rule and he has found that the coverage for these areas has been very good. For example, all four of his ancestral home villages -- Janków Zalesny, Koryta, Lutogniew and Rozdrażew -- in the former German occupied province of Posen were fully described as was the village of Koczka in what was West Prussia (an ancestral home village of the reviewer's wife). It would seem that coverage of areas of former German rule (at least of those areas that were part of Poland prior to the partitions) is excellent. Coverage of those areas reclaimed by Poland after World War II perhaps is not as extensive though a quick spot check of a few cities and towns in areas that were formerly Pomerania, Brandenburg and Silesia found that all were listed in the gazetteer.

The microfiche's introduction states: "Localities are listed alphabetically. *Słownik Geograficzny* follows the normal Polish alphabetical order except that the o and ó are alphabetized as one letter. Also the pairs (c,ć), (n,ń), (s,ś) and the group (z,ź,ż) are in some cases not alphabetized separately." It is very important to keep this Polish alphabetical order in mind when using the gazetteer. For example, when the gazetteer first came into the library, this reviewer and Dan Naderoski were attempting to look up Dan's ancestral home village of Labowa in Galicia. We were unsuccessful until we remembered to check the Ł section which followed all the L's and Łabowa was indeed listed.

What type of information can be found in this gazetteer? Entries usually give the following information: 1) A description of the locality, 2) The name of the District (powiat), 3) The community or township (gmina), 4) The name of the parish (This is usually the Roman Catholic parish unless otherwise specified), and 5) Population figures, agricultural data, number of houses, distance from other localities and other information.

The following is a sample entry as it appears in the gazetteer in Polish on the left and with an English translation on the right:

Drądzewo, wś nad rz. Orzyc, pow. makowski, gm. i par. Krasnosiele. Należy do dóbr Krasnosielskich hr. Krasieńskiego. Jest tu kaplica, szkółka, gisernia, tartak, młyn i folusz. Dawniej istniała karczma żalozna. W 1827 r. było tu 41 dm. i 364 mk.

Drądzewo, village on the river Orzyc, district of Maków (Łomża province, Russia; now in Warszawa province, Poland). Community and parish of Krasnosiele. It belonged to the estate of Krasnosiele of count Krasieński. There is a chapel, small school, foundry, sawmill, and a fullery (a place for cleaning and thickening cloth). Formerly there was an iron works. In 1827 there were 41 houses and 364 inhabitants.

You can see how a description of this sort of your ancestral home village can help enrich your written family history narrative.

The entries in the gazetteer are of course in Polish. Very helpful in translating the entry is *Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations Used in Słownik Geograficzny* found in the first few frames of each microfiche set. With this glossary and with a good Polish-English dictionary (we have several in the Polish Collection in the MGS library) even a non-Polish speaker can do a fairly accurate translation of the entry. If you intend to have a Polish speaker translate for you, he will need to refer to the glossary of terms and abbreviations so be sure to make a copy of the glossary when you make a copy of the entries of the villages that you are researching.

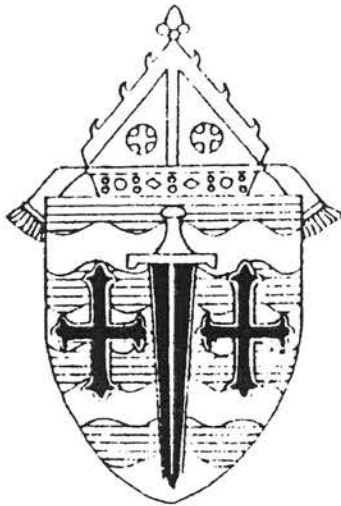
In summery, *Słownik Geograficzny* is a very valuable resource. It is comprehensive and describes virtually all Polish villages at the time when most of our ancestors emigrated from Poland. It is especially valuable because it gives the name of the parish for most villages -- information that is essential if you are to have any success in tracing your Polish ancestry.

Reviewed by Paul Kulas

## POLISH CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN MINNESOTA

compiled by Paul Theodore Kulas © 1994

### Part 1: Polish Catholic Churches in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (continued)



Archives of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

This article continues our series of articles which will identify Polish parishes in the six Roman Catholic Dioceses in Minnesota. We begin with a report of the Polish parishes in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. In our last issue (Spring, 1994) we featured the Polish parishes in St. Paul and vicinity. We discussed primarily the parishes of St. Adalbert and St. Casimir in St. Paul, St. John the Baptist in New Brighton and Holy Trinity in South St. Paul. In this issue we will discuss the historically Polish Catholic parishes in Minneapolis.

The information for these articles comes basically from parish questionnaires sent out from the Archdiocese of St. Paul in the mid-1930's and then again in the late 1940's and from the vital records of Polish parishes in the archdiocese. The completed questionnaires are housed in the archdiocesan archives. The original baptism, marriage and burial records of all Catholic parishes of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis mentioned in this article remain with each individual parish. Microfilm copies of these records are available for research at the archdiocesan archives located at 226 Summit Avenue in St. Paul, Minnesota. The archives are open to the public 9:00 to 4:00 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays **by appointment only**. Call (612) 291-4429 to schedule an appointment.

### POLISH CATHOLIC PARISHES IN MINNEAPOLIS

Poles from Europe and from eastern cities of the United States began arriving in Minneapolis in the 1870's. The flour and paper mills, the factories and lumber industry offered these immigrants the opportunity for work and to better themselves financially. These Poles and other recent immigrant groups soon began to concentrate in northeast Minneapolis. Here the Poles first settled in what was called "The Flats" along the east side of the Mississippi River in an area approximately from Fifth Avenue to Broadway and from the river to Marshall Street. At first the Polish people attended the Church of St. Anthony (established 1851) or the German Church of St. Boniface (1858) in northeast Minneapolis. Often they made the long journey to St. Adalbert's in St. Paul where they could confess their sins, receive instruction and pray in their native language. They naturally yearned for their own church where they could hear the word of God preached to them in their native tongue and sing their own beautiful Christmas carols and hymns to the Blessed Mother.

**Church of the Holy Cross.** In 1884, a committee approached Archbishop Ireland with a petition to organize a Polish parish in northeast Minneapolis. A building committee was formed composed of Frank Lilla, John Ziemkowski and Ladislaus Szysyko and under the direction of Rev. Dominic Majer of St. Adalbert's Church in St. Paul. Holy Cross was chosen as the name for the new parish because it was considered to be the most perfect symbol of the faith and fate of the Polish people. The parish was to serve all Slavic Catholics in northeast Minneapolis. The parish was incorporated on August 21, 1886 with Frank Lilla and Bolelaus Volkmann as the first lay trustees. The first pastor (1886-1894) was Rev. James Pacholski. The first Mass was said in the frame chapel bought from the Church of St. Anthony. A brick church was erected in 1892 and the present church was built in 1929 during the pastorate of Rev. Joseph F. Cienienski (1915-32). The church is located at University Ave and 17th Street N.E.



**Church of the Holy Cross  
1621 University Avenue NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55413-1297**

Pioneer parishioners who "deserve a lot of credit for their hard work and sacrifice" include: Frank Gryglaszewski, Henry Zielenski, Lawrence Owsiany, Joseph Gluba, Frank Lilla, Walter Szyszko, M. Sadowski, Nicholas Swieton, Fr. Socha, James Moczadla, M. Wieliczka, Alex Dabrowski and Anthony Wasielewski. The first baptisms at Holy Cross were those of Elizabeth Boniankowski, the daughter of Michael Boniankowski and Maria Kotek, and of Stephen Kaniewski, the son of Joseph Kaniewski and Agnes Wachowski on August 1, 1886. The first marriage was between Antoni Hudzinski, the son of Antoni Hudzinski, and Maria Kurowski, daughter of Andrew Kurowski, on August 23, 1886. The first burial from the parish on October 7, 1886 was that of Catherine Kokei, age 31, who was born in Bohemia, and died of consumption on October 6, 1886 and was buried at St. Anthony cemetery. Microfilm copies of the parish

baptism, marriage and burial records from 1886 to 1985 are available at the Minnesota Historical Society (call number: M500, four rolls) in addition to those located at the archdiocesan archives. The Diamond Jubilee Memory Book indicates that parishioners Frances P. Hamerski, Walter J. Horowicki, Louis J. Hodoba, Alex J. Kopitcke, Thecla R. Murlowski, Joseph M. Stecz and Ceil M. Tomas were awarded the bishop's medal in 1961.

Holy Cross is the mother church of all Polish Catholic churches in Minneapolis. St. Philip's in north Minneapolis was formed from it in 1906. St. Hedwig's (1914) and All Saint's (1916) were formed from it in northeast Minneapolis. Holy Cross is also the mother church of several other Slavic parishes in Minneapolis. In 1887, Ruthenian or Rusin immigrants who came from southeastern Poland and eastern Slovakia separated to form their own Byzantine Rite parish of St. Mary's. Differences with Archbishop Ireland over various issues, a major issue being that of a married clergy (permitted in the Byzantine rite), led the archbishop to refuse to permit the Byzantine rite to be practiced in his diocese and he ordered the congregation to disband and its members to attend Holy Cross. This disagreement finally resulted in union of St. Mary's into Russian Orthodoxy in 1891. By 1907, Archbishop Ireland relented and the Rusins were allowed to form St. John the Baptist Byzantine Rite Catholic Church though he insisted that the newly appointed pastor be unmarried. In 1891, the Slovaks separated from Holy Cross to form St. Cyril's Church. The immigrant Slovaks wanted to name the church after St. Cyril and St. Methodius, the brother Apostles to the Slavs, but Archbishop Ireland turned down their request remarking that one saint was enough for any parish. The parishioners of St. Cyril's have since been able to add St. Methodius to the name of their church. In 1913, Ukrainians from Galicia formed the Byzantine Rite Ukrainian Catholic parish of St. Constantine. 1907 to 1914 were years of turmoil in Holy Cross parish. Conflict was primarily over the issue of lay trusteeism which was characterized by the view that laymen should assume full control of all parish finances. This issue plus debate over the use of Polish in the liturgy, personality clashes, outside agitation and sundry other causes led to the establishment of Sacred Heart Polish National Catholic Church in northeast Minneapolis. (The baptism records of Sacred Heart are being extracted and published in issues of this newsletter). Throughout its colorful past and to the present, Holy Cross Church has remained a prominent Polish presence in polyglot northeast Minneapolis. Holy Cross has sought to maintain its Polish heritage and is the only Catholic Church in Minnesota that has a regularly scheduled (11:30) Sunday Mass in Polish.



## Church of St. Philip



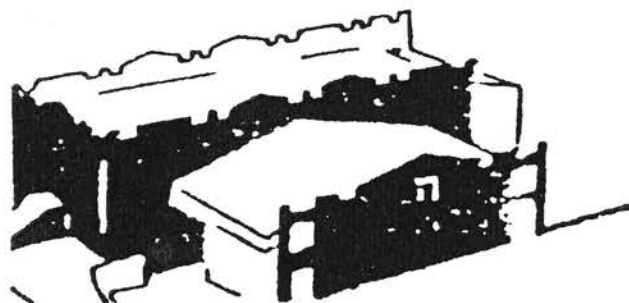
2507 Bryant Avenue N  
Minneapolis, MN 55411

**Church of Saint Philip.** The Church of St. Philip was incorporated on January 22, 1906. It was a mission of Holy Cross until it received its first resident pastor in 1908. St. Philip's parish was formed from Holy Cross parish for the "people of the Polish race living in North and South Minneapolis." The church was located at Bryant and 26th Avenue North. The parish questionnaire dated February 25, 1949 indicates that the pioneer parishioners included "Peter Klich, Organizer, John Patrek, Highly respected Secretary, John Rys, Enthusiast for Parish Societies, the four Malachowski Brothers who were fathers of large families and Frank Slapek, Parish treasurer for one year (couldn't read or write!)." All charter members of the parish were immigrants from Poland. The questionnaire goes on to state that originally "Polish immigrants settled on 1st St. N. (now a R. R. track) from Plymouth to Lowry Ave. N." From 1906-1920, "Parishioners lived in a congested 'Polish Colony'. Few marriages with Non-Poles during that period. Today: A marked 'spreading out' in both details."

The first baptism at St. Philip's was that of Francis Masson, son of Claude Masson and Anna Michowska, on December 6, 1908. The first marriage in the parish was that of William Subrecki, who was baptized in the parish of Wlosniewicz in the Lemberg (Lwow) diocese and was the son of John and Anna Subrecki, and Anna Leska, who was baptized in Podhaize in the Lemberg diocese and was the daughter of John Lesko and Catherine Hlagi, on April 27, 1909. (Many of the marriage records in this and other Polish parishes give the name of the baptismal parish in Poland -- what a gold mine of information for Polish-American genealogists.) The first burial was that of Joseph Zemlek, son of John and Sophia Zemlek, on December 6, 1908. The first pastor was Rev. Stephan Zdechlik (1908-1912). Rev. Frank Rakowski served the parish from 1919 to 1962. Records for Poles living in Minneapolis on the west side of the Mississippi River before 1908 are probably found at Holy Cross.

**Church of Saint Hedwig.** St. Hedwig's was formed from the northern part of Holy Cross parish in northeast Minneapolis and incorporated on March 6, 1914. The church is located at 29th Avenue N.E. and Grand Street. The first lay officers of the parish were Izydor Job, treasurer and Leon Jedlinski, secretary. In 1936, the lay trustees were Frank Buczynski and George Wojack. The first pastor was Rev. Anthony Szczukowski who served briefly from January to May of 1915. The second pastor was Rev. Maximilian M. Klesmit who served the parish from 1915 to 1968. The present church was erected in 1919 under Father Klesmit and a addition was built at a later date.

The first baptism in the parish was on December 27, 1914 and was that of Albin Garbicz, who was born on November 29, 1914 and was the son of Joseph Garbicz and Marie Halberg. An added annotation on the birth record indicates that Albin married Julia Waldock on May 15, 1938 at St. John the Baptist Church in New Brighton. The first marriage was on June 15, 1915. The record indicates that John Piotrowski, who was baptized on August 29, 1890 at Sacred Heart Church in Pine Creek, Wisconsin and was the son of Martin Piotrowski and Stella Sadecki married Ludwicka Matera, who was baptized in August, 1890 in Homsowie, Galicia, Poland and was the daughter of Andrew Matera and Helen Bril. The first burial was Elizabeth Pajak, age 8 months, on July 31, 1915.



Church of Saint Hedwig  
129 29th Avenue NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418-1908

**Church of All Saints.** All Saints was formed from the southern part of Holy Cross parish and established on August 15, 1916. The church was located at the corner of 4th Avenue and 4th Street N.E. The Rev. Francis J. Matz was named the first pastor (1916-1926). The first parishioners were "Polish people from Europe and American born Poles." Pioneer parishioners, especially "those who rendered extraordinary service" were: Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Rybarczyk, Jacob Murzyn, Dr. E. A. Zaworski, John Rapacz #1, Frank Bochnak, Henry Kontorowicz, Steve Pelawa, John Sczislowski, Joseph Klempka, Stanley Lijewski, Valentine Miskowicz, Michael Fudali, Mr. and Mrs. Frank V. Gehan, Miss Martha Matz, Ignatius Liberkowski, Mrs. Mary Ford and Mrs. Mary Schipritt. The present church was dedicated on February 19, 1939 during the pastorate of Rev. Andrew P. Wojciak (1929-1944). The lay officers in 1936 were J.M. Oryszak and A. Kalitowski.

The first baptisms at All Saints were on November 5, 1916 and were that of Julyanna Rozalia, daughter of Michael Smyrek and Anna Piątek, and Emilia Anna, daughter of Andrew Gotch and Mary Swiercas, who resided at 421 7th Ave N.E. The first confirmed was Theodore Liberkowski on October 6, 1918. The first marriage was on October 16, 1916, and was that of William Muchlinski, who was born in Witkow, Zastawno, Austria, the son of George and Anna Muchlinski, and Anna Kocik (a widow) who was born in Wielkiewica, Cracow and was the daughter of Jan and Mary Haczek. The first burial was Anna Bierski, age 23, the wife of Michael Bierski. Anna died on October 6, 1916 and was buried on October 9.



**Church of All Saints**  
435 4th Street NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55413-2037

**Other Minneapolis area parishes.** Holy Cross, St. Philip's, St. Hedwig's and All Saints were distinctly Polish parishes that formed in Minneapolis. However, some Poles settled in other Minneapolis area parishes as well. The **Church of St. Anthony**, the first Catholic parish in Minneapolis, was established in 1851 primarily by French Canadians. Since they were mostly fur traders or lumber men who were not stationary, they were soon outnumbered by Irish, German and Polish parishioners. **St. Anne's** was established as St. Clotilde's in 1884 and was an exclusively French national parish until 1898. By 1949, however, the parish was 40% German, 20% French, 20% Irish, 10% Polish and the remaining 10% a mixture. **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** (established 1891) was originally a Czech national parish but later included Poles and Slovaks as well as some German and Irish parishioners. **St. Charles Borromeo**, established in 1938 from St. Clement's parish in northeast Minneapolis was mainly Irish, German, French and Polish. Members of **St. Margaret Mary** (1945) were of mixed Irish, French, German and Polish descent. As the 20th century progressed the Poles of Minneapolis, like those of other ethnic groups, began moving to the suburbs. One of these suburbs, Columbia Heights, was formed almost exclusively by people who moved from northeast Minneapolis. The Catholics of this group had been formerly affiliated with the various national parishes in northeast Minneapolis. Irish, Germans, French, Slovaks, some Italians and a large number of Poles formed **Immaculate Conception** parish in Columbia Heights in 1923. Today probably all parishes in Minneapolis and suburbs have some members who are of Polish descent.

This series of articles will continue in the next issue of this newsletter when we will discuss the Polish settlement in the rural areas of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Meanwhile, the author is interested in your reactions to this article. You may also want to make sure that we include the parish of your Polish-American forebears in the future articles of this series. Direct all comments to: Paul Kulas, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316.



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 ..... BOOK REVIEWS
 

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**The Rusins of Minnesota**, by William Duly (Minneapolis: The Rusin Association, 1993). Available from the Rusin Association, c/o Larry Goga, 1115 Pineview Lane, Plymouth, MN 55441, for \$12.95 postpaid; a copy is in the PGSMn collection at the MGS Library in St. Paul.

**Galician-Rusins on the Iron Range**, by John D. Goman (Minneapolis: published by the author, 1990). In-print availability unknown, due to the author's death last year; a copy is in the PGSMn collection at the MGS Library in St. Paul.

Reviewed by Greg Kishel.

The Rusins are a Slavic people whose homeland spans southeastern Poland, northeastern Slovakia and western Ukraine. Various names such as Ruthenians, Rusyns, Carpatho-Russians, Carpatho-Ukrainians, and (in Poland) Lemkos, among other names, the Rusins have a language and culture distinct from those of their Slavic and non-Slavic neighbors. A "border people" caught in the flux of powerful nations and empires surrounding them, they have not been able to achieve sovereignty in their own nation-state in historical times. These two volumes tell the story of the Rusin immigration to Minnesota and the fate of the Rusins' ethnic identity and traditions here.

William Duly's book is a revised version of the thesis he presented for a Master of Arts degree from the University of Minnesota. Framing his inquiry around the anthropological definition of "ethnicity," he opens with an introduction to the history of the Rusin people in Europe. He then describes the complex of religious and cultural self-identifications that marked them as a distinct ethnic group among the welter of nationalities in east-central Europe. After briefly touching on the social and economic forces that prompted several hundred thousand Rusins to emigrate to the United States, he identifies the three communities where Rusin settlement in Minnesota concentrated: northeast Minneapolis, Browerville-Holdingford in the east-central part of the state, and Chisholm-Hibbing on the Iron Range.

In three detailed chapters, he tells the story of these communities, their pioneers, and their social institutions. He concentrates on the histories of the Minnesota congregations of the Rusins' two major Christian denominations: The Greek Catholic (Uniate) rite, and the Russian Orthodox Church. His historical narrative is enlivened by quotations from his own oral history interviews with older residents in the three communities, snippets from parish histories, and photographs of early Rusin-American Minnesotans.

Duly begins his work with an observation of a phenomenon that is in some respects tragic: as early as the second generation in America, many persons of Rusin extraction could not even identify themselves as such by name; instead, when asked for their nation origin, they called themselves "Ukrainians" or "Russians." He concludes that the

generational loss of Rusin ethnic identification in America is largely attributable to the lack of unity in their religious institutions: whereas in Europe the Uniate rite negotiated a denominational status coequal with the majority tradition in the Roman Catholic Church of which it was a part institutionally, which enabled it to become a powerful focus of Rusin nationality, it was unable to do so in America. Without the unifying influence of an autonomous but centralized Uniate clerical hierarchy, American church congregations of Rusin background were rent by conflicting nationalistic influences among their members and clergy. Lacking enough adherents to enable them to remain free-standing, offshoot congregations ended in merging with those of Russian, Ukrainian, or other eastern European identification. Their members' inclination to maintain distinctive Rusin traditions then waned within a generation or two.

Duly ends on an affirmative note, however: the downfall of socialism in eastern Europe has allowed formerly-suppressed national minorities like the European Rusins to openly celebrate their ancestral cultures; and, Rusin-Americans have begun to revive and promote their own ethnic heritage through such vehicles as the Rusin Association, spearheaded by a group of Minnesotans.

In his thicker volume, the late John D. Goman relates a part of the same story, but in greater detail as to the individual and institutional participants. His focus is on the Rusin-American communities in the towns of Chisholm and Hibbing in northeastern Minnesota. He begins by tracing the geographical origins of the Rusin immigrants to the Iron Range, and describing their forefathers' customs for important passage points in life. He then launches into a lively history of Rusin immigrant life in the rough "Northern frontier" of the early Range, with particular emphasis on the several Greek Catholic and Russian Orthodox church congregations in the area and their colorful (and often idiosyncratic) members and clergy.

Goman's tone is somewhat less academic than Duly's, but this makes his work no less important. It is particularly valuable from a genealogical perspective, as a *primary* source: in 170 pages of appendices, he digests birth/baptism, marriage, and death/funeral data for hundreds of parishioners of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church and Sts. Peter and Paul Byzantine Rite Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chisholm, and of the separate Sts. Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church in the tiny hamlet of Bramble in southern Koochiching County. These data compilations go up through the mid-1980s; genealogists with roots in these communities will find them an invaluable saver of time and effort.

As the collective story of a group of people that has survived a tumultuous history and great personal adversity, these two books should interest and entertain even readers of non-Rusin extraction. They uncover a history that less than a century of modernity otherwise would have obliterated.

# Sacred Heart PNCC Vital Records



**BIRTHDATE/BAPTISMAL DATE**

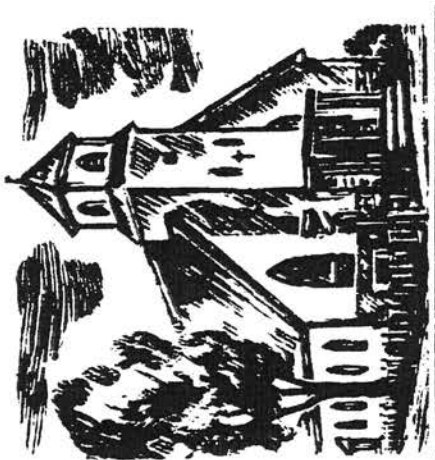
**SEX NAME**

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m	1.	August KOLISZEWSKI	29 Dec	1925/ 30 Dec
m	2.	Ralph Wiktor WIKCZAK	24 Dec	1925/ 10 Jan
m	3.	Stanisław KOTLEWSKI	20 Jan	1925/ 17 Jan
f	4.	Irena Karolina LACH	7 Apr	1926/ 9 May
f	5.	Franciszka DZIEWIDEK	16 Apr	1926/ 9 May
m	6.	Edward MILLER	11 Sep	1926/ 26 Sep
m	7.	Stefan Maryan KOŁODZIEJSKI	2 Sep	1926/ 21 Nov
m	8.	Józef Franciszek PIESZCZOTA	21 Jul	1926/ 14 Nov
f	9.	Katarzyna SMOLKA	1 Nov	1926/ 21 Nov
m	10.	Daniel Franciszek DUDOŃ	27 Nov	1926/ 19 Dec
m	11.	Howard Edward WATKINS	28 Nov	1926/ 20 Feb
m	12.	Ryszard Ludwik ANDERSON	4 Feb	1926/ 20 Mar

Note: This concludes the lists of birth-baptisms at Sacred Heart. I wish to express my thanks to the former pastor, Rev. Michael Augustyn, for his permission and encouragement in making this project possible. Father Michael was most helpful in occasionally deciphering difficult handwriting. Every attempt was made to keep the spelling of the names as they appeared. The old spelling was not altered to conform to modern standard Polish. One curious entry in the thirties reads: "Mary GOMEZ (Mexikanka)..." A copy of this old Church Records Book is housed at the Immigration History Research Center, 826 Berry Street, St. Paul, MN 55114 and may be consulted for genealogical research. Phone 612-627-4208.

*W. Karrel Kandy, Compiler*



**Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Polish National Catholic Church  
420 22nd Avenue NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418**

**BIRTHDATE/BAPTISMAL DATE**

**SEX NAME**

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m	1.	Jan Franciszek ŻYKA	1 Jan	1923/ 4 Feb
m	2.	Józef KALISZEWSKI	12 Mar	1923/ 1 Apr
f	3.	Florentyna Marya STOKOWSKA	13 Mar	1923/ 8 Apr
f	4.	Marya Marta CZYPRYNA	10 Apr	1923/ 6 May
f	5.	Bronisława LISAJ	2 Jun	1923/ 24 Jun
f	6.	Eleonora Anna FEDORA	23 Jun	1923/ 29 Jul
m	7.	Kazimierz BETLEJ	5 Jun	1923/ 26 Aug
f	8.	Marya Anna ŁOSIŃSKA	4 Nov	1923/ 2 Aug
f	9.	Helena DZIEWIDEK	25 Nov	1923/ 16 Dec
m	10.	Antoni MOZDĘN	23 Nov	1923/ 16 Dec
f	11.	Joanna SROGA	16 Nov	1923/ 16 Dec
f	12.	Eugenia Katarzyna TUŃSKA	15 Feb	1924/ 9 Mar

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m	1.	Floryanna JAKUBIEC	7 Mar	1924/ 9 Mar
m	2.	Antoni Piotr BAĆ	1 Mar	1924/ 16 Mar
f	3.	-- omitted --	8 Apr	1924/ 4 May
f	4.	Eleonora Marya ZMUDA	2 May	1924/ 18 May
m	5.	Czesław SMUŁKA	10 Jun	1924/ 29 Jun
f	6.	Regina Wanda ORNAT	15 May	1924/ 31 Aug
m	7.	Franciszka KALISZEWSKA	24 May	1924/ 31 Aug
m	8.	Leonard SPECHT	20 Oct	1924/ 16 Nov
m	9.	Stefan Antoni LACH	31 Jul	1924/ 30 Oct
m	10.	Stanisław MIKA	14 Nov	1924/ 14 Dec
f	11.	Helena ŻUKOWSKA	26 Feb	1925/ 19 Apr
f	12.	Cecylia F. KOŁODZIEJSKA	9 May	1925/ 30 May

page 18

f	1.	Emilia Katarzyna LEŚNY	29 May	1925/ 28 Jun
f	2.	Helena LISAJ	10 Jun	1925/ 4 Jul
f	3.	Dolores Marcella DRAUS	9 Jul	1925/ 16 Aug
m	4.	Leon KOŁBAS	23 Jul	1925/ 6 Sep
m	5.	Daniel PAJĄK	13 Sep	1925/ 11 Oct
m	6.	Norman Henryk ANDERSON	20 Sep	1925/ 18 Oct
m	7.	Edward Stanisław NIZIELSKI	21 Sep	1925/ 18 Oct
f	8.	Wasył SORBEJ	15 Sep	1925/ 1 Oct
f	9.	Emilia Florencya LACH	22 Nov	1925/ 13 Dec
m	10.	Artur Daniel BORONILS	16 Dec	1925/ 27 Dec
m	11.	Franciszek SAMINSKI		
m	12.	Henryk ZMUDA		

### Retired prof has passion for genealogy

Kornel Kondy is a warm and winsome man who has lived in the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood since 1969. He moved to Minneapolis to take a teaching position at the University of Minnesota in what was then the Slavic Languages Department. There for seven years, he taught Polish language, literature and drama, and also Russian.

Although Kornel had traveled widely before moving here, he had never seen the Twin Cities, yet he had heard what a good place this is to live. He likes Minneapolis especially because, compared to other cities, it is very green. When he looked for a house to buy he had two requirements: the house had to be in Southeast and it had to have a working fireplace. He remembers with fondness the elms which canopied his street when he first moved here. And he uses his fireplace frequently. He likes Southeast because his neighborhood is quiet and peaceful and his neighbors are friendly.

Kornel, though retired now, is a busy person because of his many interests. He continues to teach Polish part-time at Como Senior High School in St. Paul.

He sings tenor in the Gethsemane Episcopal Church choir downtown and has so for eight years. He also serves on the vestry there.

His primary passion is genealogy. He is president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota, and the editor of that society's newsletter.

He enjoys folk dancing of all types. Every other Saturday night (will find) him in the circle of folks doing international folk dance with the Sundowners at Waite Community Center in Northeast.

Kornel likes to travel. Last September he went to Poland and spent a pleasant time searching out his roots; in October the warm sands of Puerto Rico welcomed him. Coming up in June he will travel to England and Scotland with Gethsemane choir. This Christian goodwill trip is called "a mission concert tour" because it will benefit charitable causes, such as AIDS research.

And last but not least, a number of people report that Kornel is a gallant and fascinating companion at concerts and dinner parties.

*Written by Nancy Cox and reprinted from the April 1994 issue of Southeast: A Minneapolis community newspaper.*

#### Have you renewed your membership for 1994?

#### Membership Application

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Sponsor - \$25.00

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Renewal

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  No

*Please make checks payable to Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota and mail to Barbara Rockman, Treas.  
2217 Wight Bay, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.*



*Queries Continued from page 2*

WIOREK, Ed, 4008 Manor Woods Dr. N.W., Rochester, MN 55901 is researching the WIOREK, LEWICZ, JAZDZEWSKI, NIEMCZYK, RONKOWSKI, and KUROWSKI family names from Lipusz, Koscierzyna, Lesno, Lubichowo, Pińa, Kaczory and Morzewo (S.E. of Pińa), and Wysoka (west of Wyrzysk) in Poland and in New York, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa.

ZAWISLAK, Kathleen, 2144 Case Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119 is researching the ZAWISLAK, DANIELSKI, TARARA, and RYCHLIICKI family names in Poznan, Galicia and Opole in Poland.

RENEWED MEMBERS: The following is a listing of renewed members received since our membership report was published in the Spring issue and who have indicated more complete areas of research on their renewal forms.

BOLSTAD, Mrs. Sandie, 826 W. Mark St., Winona, MN is researching the PAZDERSKI and ADAMSKI family names in Poland and in Michigan and Minnesota.

BROBERG, Kathleen P., 1825 Michael Place, Albert Lea, MN 56007-2159 is researching the BLACHOWIAK, CHMIELEWSKI, PAWLAK, WROBLEWSKI and BIEGALA family names.

COPA/SOPA, Adeline, 2711 Danbar Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313-7022 is researching the COPA, LEMANCZYK, GOSTOMCZIK, ZMUDA and TRZEBIATOWSKI family names in the Bydgoszcz and Gdansk provinces of what was then West Prussia (the Kaszby area) and in Winona, Little Falls and Le Sueur in Minnesota and in Portage County in Wisconsin. She adds "Please

show my surname as Copa/Sopa (the original and current spelling). Minnesota family members retained the Copa spelling. This may facilitate contacts. Thank you!"

HACHOLSKI, Wayne, 256 S. Wrightwood, Orange, CA 92669 is researching the HACHOLSKI, CHOCHALEK, CZAJKA, BAJÓR, BASURA, BIELAWA, MICHNAL and TRZNADEL family names in Glinik, Niemiecki, Zarzecz, Dębowiec, Róza and Olchowa in the Galicia region (Rzeszów today) in Poland and in Chicago, Illinois.

JOYCE, Elizabeth R., 6743 Evergreen Lane N., Maple Grove, MN 55369 is researching the SLUCHOCKE, TRADER, HELEWSKI and SOBIESKI family names in Poland and in Duluth, MN.

LINDEEN, Delores Smith, 1018 Seminary, St. Paul, MN 55104-1527 is researching the SAMOLINSKI and WLODARSKI family names in Jeziorki in Posen and Kostztowa in Bydgoszcz, Poland and in Langlade and Milwaukee counties in Wisconsin.

MEYERS, Dolores, 995 N. St. Albans St. - Apt. 304, St. Paul, MN 55103 is researching the MIARA, NAPIECEK, NESTROY, NIESTROJ, WENDLANDT, WICARIUS and WIKARYASZ family names in Gosciejewo (Gastfelde), Słomowo and Jackubowo (Welnatal), Czeszcwo in Silesia and in Chicago, Illinois.

OLDOWSKI, Robert S., 9660 Upton Road South, Bloomington, MN 55431 is researching the OLDOWSKI, OLDOW, SWIERCZYNSKI, BONKA, GRYNIEWICZ and STOPKA family names in Lomza, Kolo and Konin in Poland and in Chicago and Washington state.

## Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

c/o Minnesota Genealogical Society  
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St. Paul, MN 55116 - 0069

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Paul Kulas  
12008 W. River Road  
Champion, Mn 55316