



Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

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PGS-MN HAS A WEB SITE!!

by **Mary Ellen Bruski**, Computer Committee member

Your Polish Genealogical Society has a Web Page! The Minnesota Genealogical Society and its branches have had a web site for some time now. Announcements about upcoming meetings and descriptions of each branch can be found there. Our link through MGS is at: <http://www.mtn.org/mgs/branches/polish.html> MGS has provided web space for us to post information for all the world to see! Kathleen Matelski, one of our members from Colorado, offered to us her experience with Web site building. We will be using this site to promote our organization, provide a membership application, publish the surnames our members are researching, list all missing branches queries, list the articles which have appeared in our newsletters and offer back issues for sale.

When you send in your 1998 dues (which are due January 1) please add your e-mail address along with the surnames you are researching, and the city, province, or region, if known (i.e., Prussia, Silesia, Galicia, Kashubia). Your e-mail address will be placed with your surname. For those members who do not have their own e-mail address, you are not out of luck! Inquiries will be sent directly to us and we will contact you.

We are very excited about this means of promoting PGS-MN and this method of aiding you with your research. When you check out our new web page you will also see a link to Poland GenWeb. Kathleen Matelski has created that web page and you will be amazed at all the information she has put together for your research. There are links to maps, articles for when you feel you have reached a dead end, an index of towns and villages, people to contact for help regarding particular provinces and regions. Check out this site yourself because there is much more!

We will be keeping you posted on new things being added to our site. Drop in and take a look!

Upcoming Events:

October 18, 1997: Mark your calendar. PGS-MN has scheduled its Fall membership meeting for October 18 at the Northeast Public Library at 2200 Central Ave. NE in Minneapolis. Full details were not available at press time. You will be sent complete details via a separate mailing.

October 3&4, 1997: The Germanic Genealogy Society announces its 1997 Conference featuring **Henning Schroder**, Professional Genealogist and Lecturer from Germany at Inver Hills Community College. The Saturday, October 4th program includes a presentation entitled "**German Churchbooks in today's Poland**" at 10:45. For information contact: Lil Hoppenen, 2400 Valders Ave N, Golden Valley, MN 55427.

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Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

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President's Letter by Greg Kishel

As you all know, during my presidency I've used this column to give pep talks about our Society and the hobby we promote through it. This time, however, I have to use the "bully pulpit" for a more serious message--to cover a subject on which, I think, our membership deserves a full accounting.

At its August 26 meeting, the PGS-MN board voted to raise our annual dues to \$15.00. The increase will be effective for the 1998 membership year, and will be applied to all renewals received after October 1, 1997. This was the first such increase in the organization's six-year history. It was not something that we wanted to do, but we had to; simply stated, it will now cost significantly more to provide our members with the sort of benefits that we have in the past. There are two major reasons.

The first stems from our relationship with our parent organization, the Minnesota Genealogical Society. When the PGS-MN was organized in 1991, the founding members elected to affiliate it with the MGS as a branch society. This was done for several reasons. On the promotional side, it gave the PGS-MN the use of the MGS's preeminent statewide presence, as a vehicle to create interest in our programs, newsletter, and other benefits. On the financial side, it gave us the use of the MGS Library to house our growing collection, as well as its bulk mailing privileges, nonprofit status for purchases, and state sales tax account. Over the period of our relationship, we have gained all of these benefits at a very modest cost, less than \$50.00 per year. This has consisted of a small annual charge for the shelf space we use at the MGS Library, and our pro rata share of the premium for the blanket premises insurance that the MGS carries. The small size of the assessments on branch societies evidences the fact that the parent has, to date, heavily subsidized the presence of the branches--both the organizational one of the affiliation, and the physical one at the Library.

However, things have now changed, and greatly. The collections housed at the MGS Library have outgrown the space at the facility on Carroll Avenue in St. Paul. There

really is no space left for holding meetings, and very little for anything other than books; administrative functions, cataloguing, and microform readers are all crowded into the odd corners of the several rooms. Other deficiencies of the facility--poor handicap access, dim exterior lighting, and more--have become painfully evident as well.

After a lengthy study of the alternatives, the MGS's board of directors voted on August 18 to enter into a five-year lease for a much larger, newly-renovated facility on Highway 55 in Golden Valley. These new quarters will furnish plenty of library space for years to come, to the MGS and all participating branch societies; they will also make large new meeting spaces available to all, and will give the MGS a much greater capacity for equipment like computers and microform readers. If other parts of the process can be coordinated, the MGS hopes to make the move by January 1, 1998.

Our Society will share in the benefits of this big change, but at a greater cost than we have borne. Effective January 1, 1998, the MGS will assess each branch society for a greater portion of its library operations budget. The assessment will be calculated with a formula based on the size of the branch's membership and the actual shelf space used by the branch. Each branch society will enter a five-year "sublease" with the MGS. The sublease will provide for an annual adjustment of the assessment, based on any increase in the branch's shelf space usage and any general increase in the MGS's library operations expense that is not otherwise covered by the branch assessments.

On invitation of the MGS, I have been privy to the development of the formula. On my evaluation, I'll say that I think it's more than fair to us and the other branch societies. The MGS will assess itself for its own shelf space use, and will pay that out of its general budget. Even with that, however, the total of the assessments will not meet the library budget; thus, the MGS will still be subsidizing the branches' presence at the Library to some extent. (I have the final projections that supported the MGS board's action and can furnish copies to interested PGS-MN members; just send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope at PGS-MN's address.)

On August 26, our board voted to authorize me to enter into a sublease with the MGS, on the terms I have just noted. The practical result is that our assessment for 1998 will total between \$250.00 and \$300.00. This, then, amounts to a quintupling of our facility costs, at minimum.

The second reason goes to what you're holding in your hands--our *Newsletter*. Those of us involved in its production are very proud of it, and with justification--compared to those of many other organizations, our publication is consistently packed with solid content of historical interest and genealogical practicality, with very little filler. Those of you who've been members for awhile know that we've more than doubled the *Newsletter's* size over the last several years, to accommodate the increase in quality submissions we've received from members.

This growth alone has translated into more expense. However, a larger development has magnified the phenomenon: as many of you know, the cost of short-run commercial printing has risen substantially over the last several years. Based on a press run of 265 copies for a 20-page newsletter, we now project printing expenses of over \$1,700.00 per year based on the rates charged us by the printer we've traditionally used. Our board will vigorously investigate alternatives, but we suspect that we will not find much competitiveness at our size. Thus, it appears that our printing expense will be twice to three times over what we incurred for the same function three years ago.

Yes, our roster has increased in number over this period, to the point where we have nearly 200 persons on our "paid member" list. Our receipts from dues have, of course, increased as well. *The increase in costs, however, is far outstripping the increase in revenues, and it has hit us broadside this year.* Without an increase in dues, we would have to limit the size of the *Newsletter*, to drastically curtail library purchases, and to take any other economy measure that may be necessary.

We don't think you want us to do those things, and that is why the PGS-MN board voted to increase dues. We heartily hope you will all agree, and will stick with the Society by renewing your membership. On several different fronts, we've made a major start in preserving the family and institutional history of Polonia in Minnesota. These are your projects, because this is *your* Society--continue to support it, and we will carry them forward together! If you can, send in your 1998 renewal early, and, in any case, let us hear from you in December, when it comes due. As you will see, the best from the PGS-MN is yet to come!





Letters to the Editor Listy do Redaktora

Polish Roots Updated

There are two updates for addresses in my book *Polish Roots*. The first is for genealogists requesting help for Polish research in South Bend, Indiana, found on page 38. Mrs. Gene Szymarek passed away in 1993, but her sister Mrs. Lucky Ladewski, 1717 W. Ewing Avenue, South Bend, IN 46613, will be answering requests. Please send your letters to Mrs. Ladewski's address only.

The National Archives Cartographic Branch, where one can obtain maps, has moved. Their new address and phone number is: National Archives, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. Phone: 301-713-7040 for reference questions, 301-714-7488 FAX. Form NATF 72 is now used only for page-size and microfilm requests. Please call or write their office with additional questions. The out-of-date address for this branch can be found on page 101 of *Polish Roots*.

Polish Roots is reprinted about once a year, but no changes to the text are planned at this time. Please write to me if you experience a problem with change of address for organizations or other potential updates.

**Rosemary A. Chorzempa, 7904 Jackman Road,
Temperance, Michigan 48182**

Editor's note: In his review of Polish Roots (PGS-MN Newsletter, Autumn, 1993), Ed Brandt describes it as "by far the most comprehensive Polish-American genealogical guide." Polish Roots can be ordered through this newsletter (See list of items for sale by PGS-MN in the advertising insert of this issue).

Polish American Calendar available

For the past 25 years I have been publishing the Polish American Calendar, with each year having a different theme related to our Polish heritage. For the year 1998, the theme will spotlight our Polish immigrant forebears along with the recipes they brought to America. Dziękuję! Yours truly,

Don Samull, 6261 Artesian St., Detroit, MI 48228

Editor's note: To order Mr. Samull's 1998 calendar see his paid advertisement in our advertising insert.

Homestead Land Records

Does anyone have information on Homestead Land Records? I was told that there was an index. But where? My great great grandfather, Frank MUSOLF/MOZOLF homesteaded in Rice Lake Township north of Duluth. Thanks.

Milly Kriske, 2541 Town Rd 269, International Falls, MN 56649

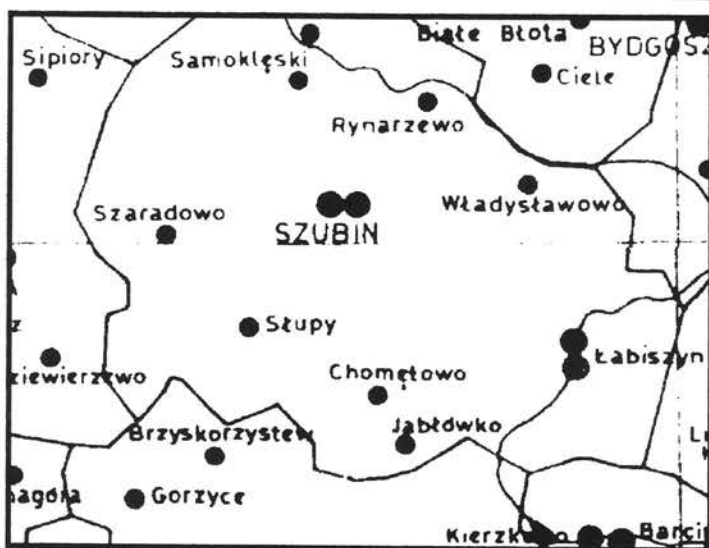
Editor's reply: I checked at the Minnesota History Center for Homestead Land Records. They are on microfilm--# SAM 46. I found the entry for Frank Moserlf (that's the way it was spelled) in the Original Entry Tract Books, Vol. 3, page 104. It shows that he acquired 160.56 acres--the N.E. 1/4 of Section 6, Township 51, Range 14--under the Homestead Act of May 20, 1862. Date of the sale was 2 February 1870. "Final Proof" was made 7 April 1875 and "Date of Patent" was 15 October 1875.

Where are Ciezka, Syubin?

On the marriage license for a brother of my great grandfather, the mother was listed as Maryanna from **Ciezka** in Poland. Is this the same as **Cieszyn** southwest of Cracow (map page 6, Summer, 1997 Newsletter)? On another document my great grandfather Szymon Wilebski is recorded as from **Syubin**. Are any readers of the newsletter familiar with these towns/parishes?

Kathryn Schafer, Rt. 1, Box 99A, Strathcona, MN 56759

*Editor's reply: I checked Słownik Geograficzny for both Ciezka and Syubin. I found nothing with those spellings. I suspect that Syubin is really **Szubin**. Szubin was located in the former Province of Posen of Prussian-occupied Poland and I know from previous correspondence that your ancestors came from there. Szubin, however, is a fair sized city as well as the name of a district so it is quite possible that Szymon Wilebski came from a rural village near Szubin. You should first check the parishes of Szubin (there are two) and if you do not find him there, do a search of parishes in the surrounding countryside (See map on next page. Check the Locality Index at your nearest LDS Family History Center to see if they have filmed the records of these parishes). It is unlikely that Ciezka is the same as Cieszyn. Cieszyn is quite a distance from Posen Province. There are many place names listed in Słownik that are spelled similarly to Cieszka. The most likely candidate as the home of Maryanna is **Ciężkowa**, located southwest of Szubin, in the parish at **Stopy**. Good luck.*



Map showing the location of Catholic parishes in the Szubin vicinity. Source: Müllerowa, Roman Catholic Parishes in the Polish People's Republic in 1984. This book is available in the Polish Collection in the MGS Library and can be ordered from PGS-MN (See advertising insert in this newsletter).

What does "famulus" mean?

I have recently found marriage, baptism and death records of some of my ancestors from Poland. They are written primarily in Latin. With the help of a Latin dictionary I was able to get the general idea, but I'm still confused about the meanings of some of the words.

Possibly you know of someone who is more experienced with the older Roman Catholic records who could assist me. In particular my 3rd great grandfather John Slega (Slanga) is referred to as a "famulus" from Polajewo on his 1826 marriage record. I find famulus defined as "servant, attendant, slave." Then on his children's baptism records he is referred to as "famuli opilionis" (slave shepherd?) and lastly as "inquilini" (tenant, lodger?). Also on the 1826 marriage record, John Slega's father is referred to as "coloni" of Polajewo. Would coloni be colonist, settler or possibly farmer? Photocopies of the records are enclosed.

Another question is about a death record for a 50 year old possible 3rd great grandmother of mine. She is referred to as "Puella" which I find defined as "girl, sweetheart, young wife." I was curious about this definition since she was 50 years old. Her parents names are listed, but no husband's name is recorded. A daughter Anastasia who could be my 2nd great grandmother is listed. She is referred to as "religuis filiam?." I'm not sure what the meaning of that would be.

I also wondered if you could recommend a book that would tell about slavery in Poland and some of the general history of Poland.

I've enjoyed the two Newsletters I've gotten so far. They've given me several tips. Thank you for your help.

Marianne Springer, 14968 Dundee Ave., Apple Valley, MN 55124

Editor's reply: You have done very well in translating the Latin records of your ancestors. First, let me say that there can always be a danger of misinterpretation of classical Latin terms that are applied to events more than a thousand years later. The meaning of Latin words used in parish records of 19th century Poland also depend very much upon the social situations current at the time they were used. Translations therefore are not always precise.

Having said that let me try answering your questions about the Latin records:

1) *Re: the death record of Eva Witucka: she is described as "puella" (a girl, maiden). Other women in this column are described as "vidua" (widow); "marita" (married woman). Since no husband is listed, in this case puella probably means "unmarried woman." The term usually used in church records for a unmarried woman--"virgo" (maiden, virgin) is clearly not accurate here. As for "reliquis filiam"--the proper reading probably is "reliquit filiam Anastasiam 19 annorum" (left a daughter Anastasia aged 19).*

2) *Re: the 1826 wedding record: a translation of the pertinent passage is as follows: "[Rev. . .] joined in marriage the young man, John Slego, servant (famulum) from Polajewo, age 20, son of Martin Slega, farmer (coloni) from Polajewo and Margarethe Albrecht, with the consent of the father, -- to Marianna Drigir?, virgin from Staykowo?, age 21, the daughter of Andrew Dreger? shepherd (opilionis) from Staykowo? and Agatha ?, with the consent of the father." "Famulum" could mean servant, hired servant, even slave. Here, I think it means "servant" --perhaps even working on his father's farm. "Coloni" could mean "a farmer who came from somewhere else" i.e. "a colonist" but here it probably just means "farmer." Opilionis means "shepherd" or perhaps maybe a sheep farmer.*

3) *Re: 1829 baptism: translation is as follows: "I baptized the infant with the name Francis born on October 8 of the current year in the evening, the son of John Slega servant and shepherd (famuli opilionis) from Staykowo? and Marianna Dreger? his wife." Since John is no longer from Polajewo but from Staykowa (the home of his wife) and is working as a "servant and shepherd", perhaps he is now working for or with his father-in-law.*

4) *Re: 1831 baptism, record #107: translation is as follows: "Same year and day as above I baptized Martin*

Letters..., continued on page 9

Origins of the KITA Surname

Contributed by Terry Kita

Ever since I discovered that my ancestors emigrated from Poland, I have been curious about my surname **Kita**; its meaning, its area of origin, and whether it was a common Polish name. When I visited Poland several years ago, one of my cousins said she thought it meant "horse's tail," but was not sure. There were a few Kitas, in the phone book, near my ancestors' home village, but I have not been able to contact them.

My wife had been told by a graduate student some time ago that its origin was probably in eastern Russia, but I was never able to confirm this. My brother had been told that it was of Latvian origin, but my discussion with a Latvian professor discounted that theory.

Recently I wrote to Dr. Klimek, Instytut Języka Polskiego, Kraków, and to the Biblioteka Narodowa, Warsaw, inquiring about the origin of the name "Kita," and its meaning. Reprinted here are the two letters which were written to me. Both are in agreement as to the meaning, the fact that it is not an uncommon Polish name, the number of Kitas in each province, and the fact that it originated as a nickname.

Dear Mr. Kita,

In answer to your letter of March 10, 1997 this is to inform you, that "Kita" is a popular Polish surname common in several areas of Poland. We send you enclosed the data on the number of appearances of Kitas in Polish voivodships. We send you also some information about the origins of the "Kita" surname from the book "Nazwiska Polaków" by Kazimierz Rymut (Wrocław 1991): **Kita**--for the first time mentioned in 1402. Originated from Polish word "kita" which means fury, fluffy tail. The other forms are: **Kitak**--for the first time mentioned in 1566. **Kitek**--for the first time mentioned in 1795. **Kitka**--for the first time mentioned in 1427. Originated from "kita" or "kitka" which means a little female cat. **Kitoń**--for the first time mentioned in 1767 and **Kitaszewski**, **Kitocha**, **Kitowicz**, **Kitowski**, **Kityk**, **Kitynski**, **Kitta**.

The first peasant surnames, or rather nicknames in Poland appeared in the XV century, but they were isolated cases. Official surnames became common in the XIX century under foreign rule in Poland. The peasant surnames originated from: 1) names of villages, countries, rivers etc., 2) names of occupations, 3) names or colloquial forms of names, 4) nicknames describing appearance or character, 5) degree of the relationship.

According to this qualification (based on the book "Proces kształtowania się polskiego nazwiska mieszczańskiego i chłopskiego" by Józef Bubak, Kraków 1986) the surname "Kita" belongs to the type of names originated from nicknames. The surnames "Kitak", "Kitek", "Kitka", and "Kitowicz" probably mean "little Kita, son of Kita."

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Mirosława Zygmunt
Head, Reference Service Dept.
Biblioteka Narodowa
Al. Niepodległości 213
00-973 Warszawa

(Attached was a listing of Polish provinces with the number of people with the Kita surname living in each.)

Dear Mr. Kita,

I haven't been able to answer your letter of March 10, 1997 earlier. This was caused by very urgent obligatory duties I had to do for the Institute. I am still employed, as well as because of dozens of letters I receive from correspondents living in English speaking countries.

In your letter you ask me of the linguistic origin of the **Kita** surname. At the beginning of my answer I'd like to impart to you important information. I am not in a position as to assist you in tracing the genealogy of your family. The reason is that I myself as well as the rest of the staff of the Polish Language Institute, are employed and have never been engaged in tracing genealogy of any person or family. We could not do it because in our Institute there is no appropriate documental material that could enable us to do such work.

As a linguist and not genealogist, I can help my correspondents in following matters: a. in letting them know the proper spelling of the very often deformed Polish surnames. b. in explanation of the structure and meaning of a Polish family name formed, in the moment in which a particular name had been given to its first bearer. c. in explanation of proper spelling and localization of the localities quoted by a correspondent. d. in giving the information about how many people of the same surname live in the present-day Poland and in which provinces of it they now reside. Alas, no addresses and other personal data have been published anywhere.

According to what is said above and your own wishes, I explain you as follows: The surname **Kita** came from a nickname Kita and the latter, in turn, from a common noun *kita*. The word *kita*, besides

Polish, is very well known in many other Slavic languages (in Czech, Slovak, Upper Lusatian, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Byelorussian). In Russian only in some dialects, in standard Russian it does not exist. From the fact that the word *kita* is known in nearly all Slavic languages, the linguists draw a conclusion that the word *kita* was also known in the proto-Slavic language, i.e. before the 5th century A.D. Its general meaning was: "a bunch of something".

In Polish the word under discussion meant, chronologically: 1. a bunch of flax; 2. a tuft of feathers; 3. a fox or squirrels-brush. In modern Polish only the third meaning is in use. Sometimes, in Polish dialects, we meet also the second meaning, the third one disappeared.

As *kita* was an old and all-Slav word, the nickname taken from it was already recorded in the Middle Ages. In *Słownik staropolskich nazw osobowych do roku 1500* (A Dictionary of Old Polish Personal Names, till the year 1500), of which I was one of its co-authors, there were 5 Kitas. The oldest was recorded in the year 1402, "Nicolaus *Kitba* de Scapie", the last in this century was recorded in 1499. They were all townsmen. Besides this Nicolaus (Niclas), there were also: Michael (Michel) a shoemaker (Latin: *sutor*) in Poznan; Jacobus (Jack) from Cracow, and Albertus (Albert) a brewer (*braseator*) in Poznan. Here I would like to stress strongly that the designation *Kita*, in that time, is not a surname yet. It is to be treated as a nickname only, an additional designation attached to the Christian name. Other members of the same family, even the sons, could bear other nicknames either connected with the base, as e.g. *Kitowicz* "a son of *Kita*" or another nickname, say, *Żaba* "a frog".

According to our knowledge, townsmen were the first social group to bear hereditary surnames but not earlier than the beginning of the 16th century. In the course of the 16th century there were also noblemen who started using hereditary surnames, derived mostly from their estates, by adding a suffix *-ski* to the name of the estate. The peasants got their surnames only in the 19th century. The process of "surnaming" of peasants was strictly connected with the enfranchisement of peasants made by powers, which in 1772, 1793 and 1794 divided Poland among themselves. The Prussians enfranchised peasants between 1811-1850, Austrians after 1848, Russians after 1864. Then a census was made and all the population had to register their official, and from this time on, hereditary surnames. These surnames came mostly from nicknames borne by a particular person at the moment of the census. Often it happened that,

when an individual was known only by his forename, he was given the surname by a clerk who registered him.

You were wrongly informed that *Kita* had not been a common Polish name. According to *Słownik nazwisk współcześnie w Polsce Używanych* (A Dictionary of Surnames Used at Present in Poland), 10 volumes, published by Professor Kazimierz Rymut, there are at present as many as 6907 bearers of the *Kita* surname. They are spread all over Poland. Enclosed is a map of Polish provinces, on which I marked in red the number of bearers of the *Kita* surname within each of Polish provinces. As you see, the surname *Kita* is common to several areas of Poland and therefore it is quite impossible to point to those *Kitas* who could be your relatives. As to my opinion you should trace them only in the region of Poland called **Wielkopolska**, the capital of which is Poznan. To this historical region belong in the present the provinces of Poznań, Piła, Leszno, Kalisz, Sieradz, Konin and a part of the today's province of Bydgoszcz. In this region lies the village **Lubasz**, which is now a seat of commune authorities, within the **Piła** province. In this province reside 244 people bearing the *Kita* surname.

This is all I can do for you now.

Sincerely,

Dr. Zygmunt Klimek
Instytut Języka Polskiego PAN
Zakład Onomastyki Polskiej
Straszewskiego 27
31-113 Kraków

P.S. I hope that my explanations will be useful for you. I had to prepare them outside my obligatory duties and this work took me much time. Therefore, I ask you very much to recompense me by sending to my address a check for \$20.

(Attached was a map showing the Polish provinces which indicated the number of people with the *KITA* surname living in each.)

Editor's note: Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings defines the *Kita* surname as "brush, tuft". It also indicates that there are currently 6907 Poles with the *Kita* surname. PGS-MN offers this book for sale (See attached advertising insert) and it is also in the Polish Collection at the MGS library. PGS-MN is in the process of obtaining Rymut's *Słownik nazwisk....[Directory of Surnames in Current Use in Poland]*. We will then also be able to determine current surname distribution throughout Poland.

POLISH CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN MINNESOTA

compiled by Paul Theodore Kulas © 1997

Part 2: Polish Catholic Churches in the Diocese of New Ulm (continued)

POLISH CATHOLIC PARISHES IN THE NORTHWEST PART OF THE DIOCESE

We continue our series on Polish Catholic parishes in the Diocese of New Ulm. We began in the Summer, 1996 issue when we focused on the Church of Saint John Cantius in **Wilno**. In the Autumn, 1996 issue we featured the Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius in **Taunton** and the Church of Saints Peter and Paul in **Ivanhoe**. In the Spring, 1997 discussed the Church of Saint Adalbert in **Silver Lake**. In this issue we feature primarily the now closed **Church of Saint Joseph, Holloway**. Films of sacramental records of the Polish parishes in the Diocese of New Ulm remain on permanent loan at the LDS Family History Center in Crystal. Film number **1710900** includes records of St. Joseph's in Holloway. Sources for this article include: questionnaires sent out to parishes by the Archdiocese of St. Paul in the mid-1930's and again in the late 1940's; the WPA Historical Records Survey: Churches conducted in the 1930's; and the microfilmed records and centennial history of St. Joseph's Church, Holloway.

Early Catholic settlement in the Northwest part of the diocese. The first Catholic church in this part of the diocese was the **Church of the Holy Rosary in Graceville**, established in 1880 in Big Stone County. Graceville was a predominately Irish colony founded by Archbishop John Ireland and railroad magnate James J. Hill. The map on page 367, in They Chose Minnesota, also shows Polish settlement in Moonshine Township in Big Stone County. Graceville is the nearest village so it is likely that some Polish names will appear in the Graceville parish records. The church at Graceville is the mother church of the **Church of St. John** (established 1889) in **Appleton** in Swift County and priests from Graceville served the Appleton church from 1889 to 1914. The parish in Appleton and the Polish national parish of **St. Joseph of Holloway** have always been closely linked. It is important to check the records of both the Appleton and Graceville churches if you are searching for early Polish ancestors from this area.

Church of Saint Joseph, Edison Township, Swift County. In 1879 a group of Poles from St. Paul, Hastings and Silver Lake settled in what is now

Edison Township in Swift County. This township was first called New Posen--an indication of the area in Poland where the majority of the group originated. Priests from St. Paul or Silver Lake ministered to this group. Services were first held in the homes of Joseph Blahoski and Michael Brukwinski and later in the new granary on the Leon Szieperski farm. The original 1879 group consisted of the families of Joseph Blahoski, Mike Brukwinski, Mike Bujarski, Andrew Domogalla, Paul Fiatek, John Hanke, George Kujava, August Gunia, Vincent Kashmark, Robert Piotroski, Joe Sadergaski, John Rudnick, Joe Florek, John Wrobleski, Joseph Kurkowski, Mike Glisky, Frank Rakowski and Sister Mary Turner.

In 1887 the colony decided to build a church. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Blahoski, Sr. donated five acres of land to be used for a church and cemetery. Rocks used for the foundation of the church came from the Blahoski farm fields. Andrew Rudnick served as the chief carpenter and every man in the parish helped build the church. The altars and pews were all handmade by Andrew Rudnick.

Although the church existed in the township since 1887, the parish wasn't formally incorporated until 12 September 1921 and was then attached as a mission to St. John's in Appleton. In the interim the parish was served once a month by priests from the Twin Cities, Delano, Silver Lake, Taunton and from the Diocese of Sioux Falls, South Dakota (probably from the Polish parish in Grenville, South Dakota). Therefore, early births, marriages and deaths might have been recorded in the parishes of any of these visiting priests (as well as in Appleton or Graceville). The WPA church record survey indicates that the first officers (probably in 1921) of the parish were: T. Gliske, Chairman, Paul Fitek, Treasurer and Joe Floorek, Secretary. Present (1938) officers were Simon Zinda, Secretary and Mike Zinda, Treasurer. This survey also indicates that Polish was used in church services until 1936. In 1944 the church building was moved from Edison Township to its present location in the Village of Holloway. The parish was suppressed by the Diocese of New Ulm in 1992. The parish cemetery at the original site in Edison Township is maintained and remains in use for burials.

The 1987 centennial history of the parish states that Mary Kashmark was the first to be baptized in the new church in 1888. Parish records available on microfilm through the LDS Family History Center, however, date only from 1906 although there are 26 earlier baptisms recorded on a separate sheet that is attached to the front of the baptismal register. The first baptism recorded on this sheet is that of Francis Rudnick, born

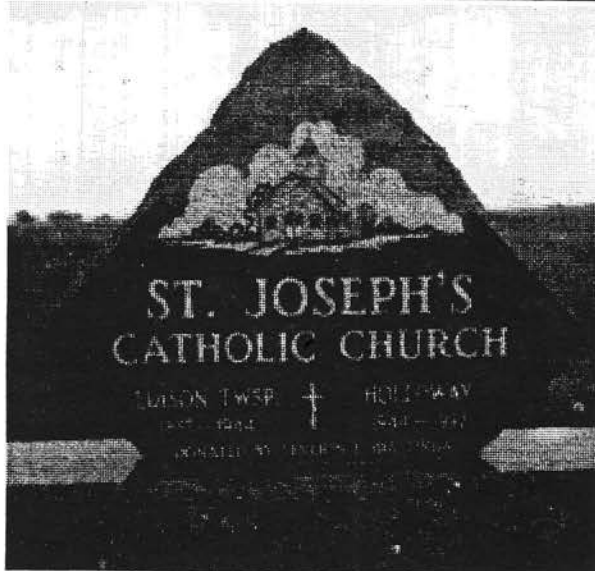
3 August 1903 and baptized on 3 October. The parents were Andrew Rudnick and Magd. Sadogierski. Sponsors were Albert and Constantia Dolney. The first marriage, on 12 November 1906, was between Ignatius Kulus from Felensburg (Flensburg), Minn., the son of Antonii Kulus and Lucia Kozobudska, and Catharina Sadogierska from Appleton, Minn., the daughter of Felicis Sadogierski and Catharina Zynda. Witnesses were Antonius Blackowski and Alexander Kulus. A. Baczyk signed the record. The first recorded death on 12 September 1906 was that of Rosalia Blackowska, age 13, from Appleton. She was buried on 15 September in the cemetery at Appleton. The record was signed by A. Baczyk. Also included on the microfilmed records are listings of First Communion and Confirmation classes.

The 1987 parish centennial history (available soon at the MGS Library) lists baptisms from 1906 in alphabetical order, confirmation from 1924 and marriages from 1906. It also lists the parish members as of 1987 and contains pictures of early and of the

then current members.

Other parishes with Polish members in the northwest portion of the New Ulm diocese. The parish questionnaires on file at the archdiocese archives indicate that **St. John's Church in Appleton** (Swift County, established 1889) included Irish, Polish, German and Scandinavian members. **St. James Church in Nassau** (Lac Qui Parle County, 1902) was founded chiefly by German speakers from Flötenstein, West Prussia (now Koczała, Poland) but also included a few Irish, English and Polish people. Neighboring **St. Joseph's Church in Rosen** (Lac Qui Parle, 1885) was also settled mainly by German speaking Catholics from Flötenstein. **St. John's Church in Ortonville** (Big Stone County, 1903) included first Irish, followed by Germans and later Polish members. The questionnaires indicate that **St. Mary's Church in Beardsley** (Big Stone, 1906) was "1/2 Irish, 1/4 German, 1/4 French and Polish." A jubilee parish history states that the Piechowski family were early settlers in Beardsley.

This marker (donated by Severin and Ida Zinda) stands at the original site of St. Joseph's Church in Edison Township. The text below is engraved on the reverse side.



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

- 1879 Polish immigrants from St. Paul, Hastings and Silver Lake settled in New Posen (Edison) Twsp. Priests came from St. Paul and Silver Lake to hold services in homes.
 - 1887 Parish established and church built on 5 donated acres.
 - 1896 Steeple built.
 - 1904 New front added to make room for a confessional, sacristy, arch for new front altar and two side altars.
 - 1918 Linked with Appleton to share pastor.
 - 1925 Vestibule and bell tower built, organ purchased and choir started.
 - 1944 Church moved to Holloway.
 - 1959 Classrooms, indoor bathroom and entryway added.
 - 1971 Shared pastor with Danvers.
 - 1973 Again shared pastor with Appleton.
 - 1992 Suppressed and closed by Diocese of New Ulm on May 1.
- REMEMBER WHAT HAS BEEN, GIVE THANKS FOR THE BLESSINGS OF OUR PAST, GO FORWARD WITH FAITH AND HOPE.**

Letters..., continued from page 5

born 5:00 am. October 7, son of John Slega, a tenant farmer (inquilini) from Staykowo and Marianna Dreger." Inquilini means "one who dwells in a place not his own." He could be a tenant farmer or a hired day laborer. In any case he does not own the place where he is working. So John's progression from "famulum" to "famuli opilionis" to "inquilini" is consistent--he does not own his own land but works for someone else.

I hope this helps somewhat.

An excellent general history of Poland is: Norman Davies, *God's Playground: A History of Poland*, 2 vols. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1982), (available through interlibrary loan at your local public library). This work gives good explanations of Polish social structures and also of serfdom (the closest equivalent to slavery) in two chapters: Chapter 7: "Szlachta: The Nobleman's Paradise," (vol. 1, pp. 201-55) and Chapter 6: "Lud: The Rise of the Common People," (vol. 2, pp. 178-206). Also, Gerald A. Ortell, *Polish Parish Records of the Roman Catholic Church: Their Use and Understanding in Genealogical Research*, new edition (Chicago: Polish Genealogical Society of America, 1996) (available for reference in the Polish Collection at the MGS library and also for sale by PGS-MN [See advertising insert in this newsletter]) gives definitions of Latin terms used in Catholic church records in Poland.

LIBRARY CORNER

THE PGS-MN CHURCH AND LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION: A SECOND PROGRESS REPORT

By Greg Kishel

Since I first reported on the PGS-MN's Church and Local History Collection just nine months ago, its "major" items have more than doubled in number. Here are our new acquisitions, and one item that I neglected to include in the first article:

- *Golden Jubilee Year Book 1914-1964, Church of St. Hedwig, Minneapolis, Minnesota* (original)
- Vincent A. Yzermans, *The Shores of Pelican Lake: Immaculate Conception Church, St. Anna, Minnesota* (original)
- Robert J. Voigt, *Opoliana, 1887-1987: A History of The Community at Opole, Minnesota* (original)
- *Silver Jubilee of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, June 17, 1923*, bound with *Diamond Jubilee 1887-1962, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, and Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, Trinity Lutheran Church, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota* [September 30, 1962] (photocopies)
- *Trinity's 100th Celebration of God's Love, 1887 - April 17 - 1987: A History of Trinity Lutheran Church, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota* (photocopy)
- Edward F. Sowa, *History of the Old Evangelical Church and Pioneer Cemetery, Popple Creek, MN* [1987] (photocopy)
- *Golden Jubilee Anniversary, St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Popple Creek, Benton County, Minn.* [1940], bound with *35-cio Letni Jubileusz Zatożenia Parafii Św. Jana, w Popple Creek, Benton County, Minn.* [1925] (photocopies)
- John Whitney Evans, *Faith on a Changing Frontier: A History of St. Joseph's Parish, Gnesen, Minnesota, 1896-1996* (original)
- Robert J. Voigt, *The Arban Way: A History of the Parish at Arban, Minnesota, 1873-1973* (photocopy)
- *Church of the Holy Family, Silver Lake, Minnesota* [1995] (photocopy)
- Leo P. Goblirsch, *History of St. James Parish, 1902-1962, Nassau, Minnesota* (photocopy)

- *History of St. Joseph's Parish, Rosen, Minnesota, 1896-1971*, bound with *History of St. Joseph's School, Rosen, Minnesota, 1927-1977* (photocopies)

As I observed last time, the subjects of our first group of parish histories criss-crossed Minnesota, with items from all four corners of the state. Thanks to member interest prompted by the visit that Paul Kulas and I paid to the St. Cloud Area Genealogists' spring seminar, the majority of this group fills in the middle. All of the items deserve a bit of comment.

The St. Anna and Opole volumes are fine community histories, thorough in coverage and very professional in production. While the text of the Arban volume puts near-exclusive emphasis on the German origins of many of the parishioners, we can recognize the Polish names that are sprinkled throughout. (For the cooks and bakers out there, there are a half-dozen pages of recipes of Central European origin--including ones for *potica* and *kolacky* that sound pretty good.)

The items on parishes in Nassau and Rosen deal with communities that are almost entirely German in ethnicity. However, the founding families of these institutions hailed from Flötenstein in West Prussia, which is now part of present-day Poland under the name of Koczała--and that brings their subject matter within the PGS-MN's mission. The Gnesen volume is our second acquisition on this pioneer Polish community in rural Duluth; unlike most parish histories issued on a successor anniversary, it's a completely new effort and a good complement to the earlier one.

The most intriguing subject matter in this second group, however, is that of the items from Sauk Rapids and Popple Creek. They set forth the early history of three separate Lutheran congregations of Polish ethnicity--which numbered among less than a dozen total in all of North America. There's definitely material for an article here; it's a part of the Polish immigrant experience in America that is rarely recognized, let alone covered--whether in scholarly research, amateur community historiography, or genealogy. Do we have a member from that area, or one of those parishes, who is interested in doing it?

Again, to those who are helping us preserve the Polish heritage of the North Star State, *dziękujemy bardzo!* Our friends this time include FR. TED GUMMINGA, of St. Hedwig's; SANDY NUSS; BETTY JOYCE; BERTHA ZNIEWSKI; BERNADETTE PINTOK; and FR. EUGENE HACKERT. Again, we will take donations of anything and everything on the history of Polonia in

Missing Branches:

QUERIES: Each issue of this newsletter contains a research information exchange section. Members are invited to place inquiries pertaining to the exchange of family information, requests for help or offers to aid others researching the same family lines. Send to: **Paul Kulas, PGS-MN Newsletter, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316-2145.**

Debbie Byrum, 32509 Hwy 215, Sun City, CA 92586 writes: I am looking for information about my great grandmother Katherine **KUZARA**. I am not sure that I am spelling her last name correctly. She immigrated between 1904 and 1910 with her sister Frances. My great grandmother was 14-16 years old. Her sister was younger. I think they came from near Rzeszów in Galicia. My mother said the name of the village sounded something like Koziawolka. She said her mother said it meant "goat hill" or "green hill." Katherine married John **BANDURA** in Minneapolis, Minnesota around 1916 to 1918. Their first child was born 20 December 1918 in Minneapolis. This is all I know. Any information would be most helpful.

Editor's reply: I checked the Records of Holy Cross--the largest Polish parish in Minneapolis--at the Minnesota History Center. I found the marriage record of your great grandparents (written Joannes Bandura and Cathrina Kuzara on the record). The following information is recorded: They were married on 5 February 1918. John was baptized in Trebos, Galicia and was the son of Bartholemaei (Bandura) and Maria Jacek. Katherine was baptized in Wolka Sokilowska (no province given) and was the daughter of Martinus (Kuzara) and Sophia Bloszaj. Witnesses were Petrus Woś and Francisca Kudak. J.F. Cieniewski officiated. Your next step is to check the Locality Index at the nearest LDS Family History Center to see if they have filmed the records of the parishes listed above (Keep in mind that the spelling of Polish place names on American records is not always entirely accurate).

A note to our readers: Church records often contain a wealth of information about our ancestors. The single record above includes the name of the ancestral parish in Poland of two great grandparents and adds the names of four great great grandparents to the researcher's family tree. We should all be so fortunate in our research!

Mary Ann Gallo, 1572 Marion Ave., Monessen, PA 15062 writes: While working on my genealogy on the Internet I happened across Minnesota Genealogy Society research. The surname that I am interested in is **LEPAK**--your entry noted that the name was from Poland. I, too, am interested in the surname Lepak in what is currently Poland. The information I have

follows: My great grandmother Paraska **LEPAK** married Wasyl **HAJTKO**. They came from a small rural area called Gorlice which is about 50 miles from Kraków. The area is called Yashionka or something similar. The children born to Paraska and Wasyl were: **Justina** who was in the U.S.A. for about 2 years but went back to Poland. Her married name may have been **PIEDBEREZNIAK**; **Natalia** who married Nestor **MARCHAK** and settled in New York City; **Anna** (my grandmother) who married Theodore **LEPAK** ca. 1906. She immigrated to the USA ca. 1904. Her birthdate was June 15, 1887 and she settled in Western Pennsylvania. **Theodore**, my grandfather, died before 1916. Anna married Mike **NESCOT**, 22 Jan 1916 in Westmoreland County PA. and had six more children. Could you check your records to find out what information you have on the Lepaks? I would be very grateful. Thank you.

Editor's reply: I searched all of our published newsletters and found references to two people who are researching the LEPAK surname. I sent those names to you (See also next query). We also have in our library collection a book entitled Lepak/Lepack Family History. The Lepaks in this history originated in the Kashubian area of northern Poland. This is quite far away from the Kraków/Gorlice area in southern Poland, so I doubt if there is a connection with your Lepak ancestors.

Elizabeth Joyce, 6743 Evergreen Ln N., Maple Grove, MN 55369 is seeking information about Martin **LEPAK** and his wife Josephine **KNITTER** who settled in Gnesen Township, St. Louis County, MN in the early 1870's.

Genny Kieley, 11116 Zane Ave. No., Champlin, MN, 55316 writes the following: The family of **ZAK** are first found in the 1880 census. They lived on Mary Street in Chicago. The oldest brother Stanislaus lived with his wife Katherine, children Constantine, Mike and Cessy, brother John Zak, brother-in-law John Schultz and C. Buczowski.

They are each listed as originally coming from Pommerania except for Katherine, who was from Posen. Posen was very close to the border of Pommerania. The same family next appears in Silver Lake, Minnesota in the 1885 state census. The members at that time include the parents Peter and Franciska. It would be interesting to know where the parents were located in 1880. Were they still back in Pommerania or in Silver Lake? They are not to be found in Chicago at that time. Another interesting thing to know would be, what was the sister's name that was married to the brother in law, John Schultz.

I have found no record of her.

In the 1890's the family appears in Swan River (Sobieski) in Morrison County. In 1910 or 1912 some of the family moved on to Oregon City, Oregon to work in a paper mill and some open up a saloon. John Zak and his family remain in Minnesota. In the 1900 census they are found in Little Falls. Then in the 1910 census they move on to Pulaski township, near Harding, MN.

I have reconstructed the family as follows:

PETER ZAK (1825-1886) d. Glencoe, Minnesota m.

FRANCISKA BIELEJEWSKI (1831-?).

1. Stanislaus **ZAK** (1852-1900) m. Katherine

POKORNOWSKI (1853-?). Children: Konstanty (Chris) (1874-1948?), Michel (1876-1914) m. Polly **MROZIK**, Wenceslaus (1878-1914), Rose (1880- 1925), Wladislaw (Walter) (1883-?), Leon (1885- 1962), Marie (1886-1978), Wanda (1887-1958), Stella (1891-1926).

2. John (Peter) **ZAK** (1862-1916) 1st m. Antonia

KUIZMA (1865-1890?), 2nd m. Mary **KNOLL (KNIOLA)** (1872-1946). Children: Walter (1885-?), Mary (1886-?), Stanley, Steven, Cecil, Peter (1892-1975) m. Alma **REIMAN** (1897-1936), Adam (1895-1983) m. Tillie **KAMINSKI**, Raymond (1898-1956) m. Rose **PAVLAK**, Mary **KONIAR**, Sam (1902-) m. Agnes **GUSTAFSON**, Marge (1905- 1983) m. Vince **BORASH**, Tom (1907-1958) m. Ann **WARHOL**, Celia (1910-) m. Ted **VIRNIG**, Martin (1912-1983) m. Gladys **MATHISON**.

3. Simon **ZAK** (1865-1900?) m. Michalena

NOVAKOWSKA (1865-?). Children: Joseph (1889-?) m. Mary **MILLER**, Rosa (1891-?) m. Mike **TRAFAS**, Frank (1893-?) m. Rose **WOZNIAK**, John (1894-?) m. Nettie **KOLACZ**.

4. Frank **ZAK** (1869-?)

5. Sister m. John **SCHULTZ**

Names that frequently appear as friends, neighbors, or related by marriage are: **NOVAKOWSKI**

POKORNOWSKI, BIELEJEWSKI, PAWLAK, KRYCH, KAMINSKI, BRISK, BARASH, SCHULTZ, KRAWZAK, KNOLL, OSCEK, BIALCZK.

The unsolved mysteries of this family are to find out what happened to Frank Zak, the youngest boy, and also to find out who was the girl that was married to John Schultz. The death certificate of Francis Bielejewski and the gravesite have not been found. Also the exact city that they came from in Europe has never been determined. There is a discrepancy between two documents. One says Pommerania and one says Posen. There are relatives that believe it was Posen. The village of Watenberg is identified as place of origin on one of the stories. This place has not been found in Pommerania or Posen. There is a possibility that it was located in the spot where there were many border changes. Also many of the towns

and villages have undergone name changes and many no longer exist. There is also the matter of the name of Zak, which does not come up in the area that they were from. The name Zak is very common in southern Poland and Czechoslovakia. This brings us back to the possible theory of the name being shortened from Zakrzewski. This name appears frequently in the old villages of southern Pommerania, Posen and West Prussia. These by the way are now located in what is now northern Poland in the district of Bydgoszcz and Chojnice, near Gdansk. Anyone who has any answers please write to me at my address listed above.

Walter Kornel Kondy, PhD., 619 S.E. Seventh Street, Minneapolis, MN 55414-1327, Phone: (612) 378-1739 is researching the following:

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Locality in Poland</u>	<u>Locality in USA</u>
BANAS	Wiśniowa, Rzeszów	
CEBULA	Ustrobna, Krosno	
CYRAN	Tułkoice, Rzeszów-Adams,	Salem, Lynn, MA
DUDA	Ustrobna, Krosno	Salem, MA
FINDISZ	Ustrobna, Krosno	
FRODYM	Tułkowice, Rzeszów	
FURTEK	Ustrobna, Krosno	Salem, MA
GADELA/ GONDELA	Ustrobna, Krosno	Fall River, MA
GREGALIS/ GREGALUNAS--Lithuania/Russia		Adams, MA
GRZEBIEŃ	Tułkowice, Rzeszów	
GZIMAŁOWSKI		Springfield, MA
HELBIN		
JAINICEKI	Krosno Province	Phoenixville, PA
JAROSZ		Springfield, MA
JORDAN	Ustrobna, Krosno	
KOCUR/ KOCZUR	Ustrobna, Krosno	
KONDEJ/KONDEY/ KONDY	Ustrobna, Krosno-Adams,	Salem, Lynn, MA
KRÓL/KRUL/KING--Ustrobna, Krosno--Lynn, MA		
KOZŁOWSKI/ KOSLO	Wierzchucin Królewski,	Menasha, WI
	Budgoszcz	
MUSIAŁ	Bajdy, Krosno	New Hampshire
MĘDOCHA	Tułkowice, Rzeszów	
NIEDZIELA	Dobrzechów, Rzeszów	
PASTERNAK	Ustrobna, Krosno	
RYBICKI	Ustrobna, Krosno	Salem, MA
SARNA	Tułkowice, Rzeszów	
SELWA	Wileńska Gubernia	Lynn, MA
SIKORA	Dobrzechów, Rzeszów	
STEFAŃSKI/ STEFANIK	Ustrobna, Krosno	
ZIĘBA	Tułkowice, Rzeszów	
ŻOŁNIEROWSKI/ ŻOŁNIERCZYK--Ustrobna, Krosno		Rochester, NY

Missing Branches, continued on page 15

LIBRARY CORNER • • • • BOOK REVIEWS *Extra!!*

Rymut, Kazimierz, ed. **Nazwy miejscowe Polski: historia, pochodzenie, zmiany** (Polish place names, histories, origins, changes). Kraków, PAN, Instytut Języka Polskiego, 1996. Vol. I, 484 pp. Available in the Polish Collection at the MGS Library.

Reviewed by **Walter Kornel Kondy**

This is the first volume (A through B) in a series initiated by the Polish Language Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences devoted to Polish onomastics. Arranged in alphabetical order, the work lists names of settlements, villages, towns and cities and is restricted to those localities within the present boundaries of Poland. Since many place names have changed either with time or when they were incorporated into the Polish Republic after WW II, entries are based upon their current usage established in: "Wykaz urzędowych nazw miejscowości, 1980-1982," v. 1-3, Warszawa.

The aim of presenting the entries is threefold:

1. The location and history of each place; its changes, incorporations or even disappearance are recorded.
2. The origin of the name.
3. An explanation of the changes.

Each citation is copiously documented with an impressive array of bibliographic sources, i.e. albums, archives, codices, dictionaries, documents, encyclopedias, gazetteers, histories, inventories, manuscripts, maps, monographs, periodicals, etc. Such sources cited are in various languages, such as: Belorussian, Czech, French, German, Latin, Lithuanian, Lusatian, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Ukrainian -- to name but a few.

The key to the abbreviations of the bibliographic works is given in the front of the book, pp. IX-XLI. Needless to say, to ascertain all the sources of a particular entry can be rather time consuming or even tedious, depending on the length of the item involved. Yet this should not discourage the avid, patient genealogist, who is accustomed to such traits. Nor should the scholarly approach deter the researcher, as the work does not employ many technical terms used by the specialist but the terminology is understandable to the average consultant of the work. Each entry bears the initials of the researcher responsible for the information; full names are given on the second page immediately after the title page, see "Autorzy haseł tomu I." Names bearing the same appellation are numbered consecutively (1), (2) etc. Borki, for instance, is listed 49 times. If a place bears the adjectival prefix Nowy (New) or Stary (Old) this is

listed under its main component, e.g. Bieruń, today Bieruń Stary and Nowy Bieruń and would indicate that the place became two localities. However in such cases as Bielsko-Biała, it is listed under the official name in use with a see reference under Biała. The Polish see reference is abbreviated zob. (zobacz), e.g. Breslau zob. Wrocław. If there are changes in status, for example, kol. (kolonia/colony) and its now a village (wś./wieś) it will be listed under its present state.

Foreign names (German, Lithuanian, Old Prussian) are explained according to the linguistic principles established by German or Baltic linguists, but in a manner comprehensible to the average reader. While this may not at times satisfy some linguists delving into specifics, there are sufficient sources cited which should lead them to further scholarly research.

The following is a sample entry with explanations:

Bajdy (1), wś, krośn., gm. Wojaszówka, 10 km na ptn.-zach. od Krosna: *Baydy* 1794 Ga A2; *Bajdy* także *Bojdy* lub *Bojda*, mylnie zaś *Najdy* 1874 Schnei II 312; *Bajdy*, -dów 1980 WUN I 39; gw. *bajdy*, -uf, *bajdoski*. — Od n. os. *Bajda* RymNPol 79, w l. mnogiej. Do n. os. por. *bajda* 'pleciuga'. KR

Bajdy (1) village, Krosno Province, gmina Wojaszówka, 10 km. northwest of Krosno: *Baydy* 1794 GA ("Das Grosse Ämterbuch des Deutschen Ordens. Hrsg. W. Ziesemer, Danzig, 1921) A2 (v. 2 of H. Adamy, "Die Schliesichen Ortsnamen, ihre Entstehung und Bedeutung. Zweite vermehrte u. verbesserte Auflage, Breslau, 1888); *Bajdy* also *Bojdy* or *Bojda*, incorrect name *Najdy* 1874 Schnei II 312 (A. Schneider "Encyklopedia do krajoznawstwa Galicji pod względem historycznym, statystycznym... Lwow; 1871-1874, v. 2 p. 312); *Bajdy*, -dów 1980 WUN I 39 ("Wykaz urzędowych nazw..., Warszawa, 1980-82, vol. 1 p. 39; gw. *bajdy*, -uf, *bajdoski*, --Od. n. os. (Dialect from the name of a person *Bajda*) RymNPol 79 (in K. Rymut "Nazwiska Polaków" Wrocław, 1991. p. 79) rendered in its plural form. Do n. os. por. *bajda* 'pleciuga' (Compare the name *bajda* to the colloquial word **pleciuga** meaning: tattler, prattler; chatterbox; gossip). KR (Kazimierz Rymut)

Because this onomastic series is circumscribed to places located in the present Polish borders, it may disappoint some genealogists seeking information about places located in the old historic Polish Commonwealth. They will need to consult the earlier "Słownik Geograficzny" which by now needs no introduction. Nonetheless, this series should prove to be a most useful basic tool about a given place name and provide sufficient bibliographic data as incentive to further research. This splendid series is highly recommended.

Missing Branches: *continued from page 13*

Lawrence T. Mosiniak, 5407 Trimmingham Ct., Mineral, VA 23117 writes to following: Can you help me trace my family in **Winona, Minnesota** during the years 1885 through 1925? I am searching the **MOSINIAK** surname. The following is list of family members: Lawrence, Mary, Rose, John, Francis, Maggie, Vincent, Andrew, Stanley, Helen and Thomas. Thank you.

Editor's reply: I found your MOSINIAK family on the Soundex index to the 1920 federal census. Mary Mosiniak and five children were living at W. 5th in Winona. The index card indicates that Mary, age 55 was born in German Poland. The children: Vincent (age 20), Andrew (18), Stanley (15), Helen (12) and Thomas (11) were all born in Pennsylvania. The actual census listing is in Vol. 88, E.D. 199, Sheet 1, Line 19 of the 1920 census.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following:

Debbie Byrum, 32509 Hwy 215, Sun City, CA 92586 is looking for information about her great grandparents, John BANDURA and Katherine KUZURA in Minneapolis and possibly in Galicia.

Cathy Eskierka, 700 Kershaw Drive, Belvedere, SC 29841 is researching ESKIERKA/ISKIERKA/SKIKa, KONIAR surnames in Galicia, Poland. She writes: My husband's grandfather, Michal ESKIERKA came from Galicia, Austria in 1902 on the ship **Bataoia** which landed at New York on 5-13-1902. He married Agnes KONIAR who came from Galicia, Austria. When? On their Alien Registration they spelled Eskierka--Skirka. They lived in Onamia in Mille Lacs County and in Minneapolis.

Mary Ann Nescot Gallo, 1572 Marion Ave., Monessen, PA 15062 is researching LEPAK, HAJTKO, NESLOT surnames in Gorlice in the Carpathians, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and in Pennsylvania, New York and California.

Louis C. Hoffman, 2398 Schadt Dr. Maplewood, MN 55119 is researching the following: Jacob PLOCIENNICKA, Bilrannae PRZYLYLAK from Brzcinca or Brs_uzka?, Stannislaus SOJKA and Victoria STRASNF.

Genny Kieley, 11116 Zane Ave No., Champlin, MN 55316 is researching ZAK, KNOLL/KNIOLA/KJOWA, POKORNOWSKI, BIELEJEWSKI, KAMINSKI, NOVAKOWSKI, BIALCZK, KONIAR, LASCZAK surnames in Watenburg, Poznan and Mieczysbrodzik in Poland and in Silver Lake and Sobieski/Swan River/Little Falls area in

Minnesota, Chicago, Illinois and possibly in Stevens Point, Wisconsin and Northeast Minneapolis.

William J. Kiernat, 4710 East Sheena Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85032, e-mail: agewise@GTE.NET is researching the VON KIERNATUSKY (KIERNAT) surname in Warsaw and in St. Paul, circa 1890s.

Dale G. Kujacznski, 11357 Berkshire Dr., Clio, MI 48420 is researching KUJACZNSKI/KUJACZYNSKI names in Chicago and Cook County, IL.

Ray Kulvicki, P.O. Box 4197, Covina, CA 91723 is researching the KULWICKI/KULVICKI surname in Torun, Rypin and Brodnica in Poland.

Joe Lineweaver, 22 E. 22nd St., #609, MN 55404 is researching the LEPAK surname.

Joseph C. Lis, 5557 Greyston Street, Palm Harbor, Florida 34685 is a new member.

Richard Lis, 911 LaLoma Road, Pasadena, CA 91105-2309 is researching the LIS surname in Mordy, Pruszczyn and Gorlice in Siedlce, Poland; WOLOSZ in Chadow in Siedlce; LENART in Nowy Sacz, Podrzeze and Jablonka, Poland; LUWACKY in Podckle in Nowy Targ, Poland; BUKALA in Radomes Welkie, Radomych and Dabie in Tarnow, Poland; and FLUDER in Zasow and Mielgc in Tarnow.

Robert J. Manaske, 2800 Sabinal Trail, Cedar Park TX 78613, e-mail: RManaske@aol.com writes: "I found your page on the internet. I am starting to work on my genealogy. I would like information on your Polish Society of Minnesota. I was born in Duluth and have relatives that are living in Duluth."

Lawrence Mosiniak, 5407 Trimmingham Ct., Mineral, VA 23117 is researching the MOSINIAK surname in the Poznan area of Poland and in Minnesota and Philadelphia, PA.

Mary H. Rundel, 7935 W. Plainfield Av., Greenfield, WI 53220-2840 is researching the BREZA name in Brusy, Poland and in Canada, MN and WI; WAS/WONS, BIESEK in Lag/Long, Poland and in WI and SZMAGLIK, KRAINSKI, BRZOSKA/BRZOSKOWSKI in Czersk, Poland and in WI.

Andrew Wojciechowski, 715 Viscount Rd., Suite-17, London, Ontario, Canada N6J 4H7 is reseaching PIETRAS and WOJCIECHOWSKI surnames in Zemborzyce, Lublin, Poland and in Chester, Pennsylvania, O'BRIEN (related to Pietras) in Chester, PA and KALETA from Zdzary, Pilzno, Poland.

Editor's note: Mr. Wojciechowski does genealogical research and translations for others. See his paid advertisement in the insert in this newsletter.

The Bulletin Board

WE THANK **Rev. Eugene Hackert** of Morgan, Minnesota for his donation of *Follow Me: The Memoirs of a Polish Priest* by Monsignor Stanislaw Grabowski. It is edited and prefaced by PGS-MN member, John Radzilowski. The book is a memoir of the life of Msgr. Grabowski. It relates the horrors of his imprisonment in Dachau following the Nazi occupation of Poland during World War II and his resulting spiritual renewal. Msgr. Grabowski served as pastor of several parishes in the New Ulm diocese. Father Hackert also allowed us to duplicate his personal copies of histories of parishes in Rosen and Nassau. He has previously given us copies of histories of parishes in Silver Lake and Holloway.

Representatives from PGSA will be meeting with the head of the Polish Government Archive System in late October. They would like to present data that would support the needs of American researchers who use Polish archives. They need you to relate any experiences you may have had dealing with Polish archives to e-mail: pgsamerica@aol.com or to PGSA, 984 No. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60622. There is also talk of eliminating LDS microfilming in Poland in the near future. **Let's not see that happen!** LDS filming in Poland has been done largely at Polish archives. Let them know how valuable this resource is. Send your comments to one of the addresses above.

Minnesota Genealogical Society
Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota
 P.O. Box 16069
 St. Paul, MN 55116 - 0069

While our last two newsletters were twenty pages in length, this issue is only 16 pages. Increased printing costs forced us to make this reduction. PGS-MN is looking for a printer who would charge less than our current printer. The printing costs for the last issue came to over \$400.00. If anyone knows of a printer who might be willing to print our newsletter more reasonably, please inform one of our board members.

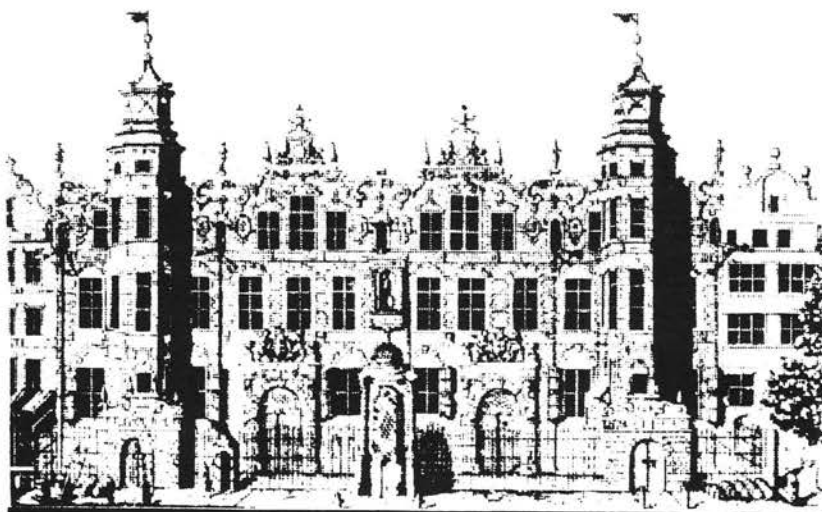
PGS-MN IS ALSO LOOKING for someone to take over the responsibility of getting the newsletter printed and prepared for mailing. If you can help please contact one of our board members. We are always looking for volunteers to help with other aspects of our organization. If you can help in any way please contact us.

Upcoming events, continued from page 1

October 10-12, 1997: The Polish Genealogical Society of America presents its 19th Anniversary Conference--**IMMIGRATION: The Wave of Humanity**--at the Ramada Hotel O'Hare, Rosemont Illinois. Contact: Dr. Paul S. Valasek, 2643 W. 51st Street, Chicago, IL 60632. Phone: 773-776-5551.

November 15, 1997: PGS-MN annual meeting including election of officers. Program and slate of officers will be sent to you via a separate mailing. If you are willing to serve as an officer of PGS-MN for the coming year, contact Terry Kita at 612-927-0719.

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