



Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

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Poznan Project: Search the Marriages Database

A Success Story for the Wilebski/Januzik Family

By Kathryn Wilebski Schafer <dkschafer@wiktel.com>

"I had success today finding the birth records of Antonia and Gertrude Januzik (Januzyk)..." was the opening line of an e-mail I sent out to family members the evening of Tuesday, April 24, 2007. Finally, after 15 years of serious searching by myself and two second cousins, Fred and Frank Wilebski, the pieces fell into place and the mystery of where our family came from in Poland was solved. Though I was the cousin that found the record on the LDS film that Tuesday morning each of the three of us contributed a necessary piece toward the success story. And Lukasz Bielecki's Poznan Project web site finally brought it about:
<http://discovering-roots.pl/poznan_project/project.htm>

Our family ancestors who left Poland to come to America the spring of 1880 were Franciszek Wilebski and Antonia Januzik Wilebski. They were newly married, ages 26 and 21; Port of Embarkation: Bremen, Germany; Name of Vessel: S.S. Herman; Date of Arrival: May 7, 1880 arriving at the Port of Baltimore, Maryland (from information provided by Frank Wilebski). From Baltimore they went to LaSalle, Illinois (St. Hyacinth Catholic Church records), then to Wilno, Minnesota (St. John Cantius Catholic Church records), and finally to Kittson County in northwest Minnesota, homesteading near Orleans/Lancaster where Franciszek is buried in Holy Rosary Catholic Cemetery. This is where each of our Wilebski fathers was born and raised in Orleans, rural Lancaster.

But none of this migration was known to us through our family nor was the home village from whence Franciszek and Antonia came passed down through the generations. It has been a gradual process of discovery by the cousins over the past 15 years or more of searching.

In September of 1994, Cousin Fred Wilebski discovered the names of Antonia Januzik Wilebski's parents on her death record

in the Marshall County Courthouse, Warren, Minnesota. Her gravesite is located in the Assumption Catholic Church Cemetery/Florian of rural Stephen, Minnesota. Thomas and Mary Januzik are the father and mother listed-Clue #1.

On Oct. 19, 2004, with the first help of computer technology through <www.ancestry.com> I came upon Clue #2. Putting in the surname Januzik, two different ship records with dates 1886 and 1891 came up for Gertrude Januzik, a single sister of Antonia who came to America (Wilno, Minnesota) in 1891 (information from 1900 Census Record), and married Peter Spinner after her arrival. Listed as the place of **Poznan Project ...continued on page 18**

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Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

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Please use application form on the insert page.

Items submitted for publication are welcomed and encouraged. We require that feature-length articles be submitted exclusively to PGS-MN. Articles, letters, book reviews, news items, queries, ad copy, etc. should be sent to: John Kowles, editor, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 3429 - 45th Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55406-2924, or to e-mail: <johnkow@att.net>

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President's Letter

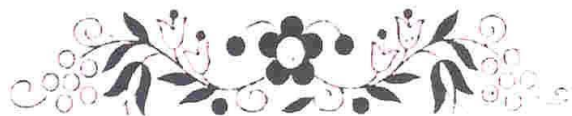
One of the tools that I utilize most in my genealogical research is good fortune--luck. I have used it often during the search for my Polish, French-Canadian, Bohemian, Bavarian, French, Dutch and U.S. ancestors and relatives. All of my migrant ancestors settled in Door County, Wisconsin. Earlier this year I used genealogical research as an excuse to take a bicycle trip, during which I visited France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and Luxembourg. My first stop was Beuzeville, Normandy, France, from which my Barette ancestors emigrated. There I met a local historian, by chance, who showed me about his town, gave me old photos and maps of the town, told me of its history, and printed a small story about my visit in the local gazette. He and others made me feel very much at home.

Another town of interest to me was Ottersum, Limburg, Netherlands (thanks, Jay), from which my mother's family, the Krebbers, emigrated in the 1880s. When I saw the fairly new Catholic Church, I asked the family who lived across the street for the location of the old church and cemetery, and told them that I was looking for Krebbers. They gave me two names and addresses, which were just out of town. Finding no one at home at either farm, I stopped at a restaurant for lunch, and told the owner that I was looking for Krebbers. He told me that Pierre Krebbers, one of the farmers, was next door playing billiards, introduced me to Pierre, and I then followed Pierre as he drove to the home of his brother Harry, who speaks English.

During the next few days, I met most of the family, including Pierre's daughter Ingrid and her family. I had a tour of Krebbers' land before WWII, learned the history of their family and the area, received a tour of Holland's largest operating windmill, exchanged family information, and promised to stay in touch. Harry told me of a visit by an American GI after WWII, who seemed to be related, and which I will investigate. I was asked if I would assist the Krebber Canadian branch with their family history, which I will do.

These experiences reinforced my opinion that one must not be reticent when asking others for information, that Dame Fortune often smiles on those who invoke her assistance and that the best way to see a country is by bicycle.

Terry Kita



The Bulletin Board

Fall Booya – October 24-26, 2008

The Booya will be served at the Polish American Club, 1003 Arcade St., St. Paul starting at 5:00 p.m. on October 24 and noon to 8:00 p.m. on October 25. Leftovers will be sold from noon, October 26. For more information call the Club at 651-774-6748.

Polish Soup Festival Moved - October 26, 2008

For 18 years PACIM held the Polish Soup Festival at the International Institute in St. Paul. This year the location of the Festival has been changed to Kolbe Hall, lower level of John Paul II School, Holy Cross Church complex (17th Ave. and 4th St. N.E., Minneapolis). Judith Blanchard, PACIM Vice President said: "We were hesitant to move the location because so many people were used to it being at the International Institute." She continued, "However, the large crowds made it difficult to get to individual soups and lessened the quality of the event. Kolbe Hall is a beautiful facility which seats an additional 100 people. There is ample parking on the street and in three parking lots. Also, there is an elevator and handicapped parking in the alley between the school and church. The Festival is a celebration of Polish cooking which includes a dozen soups - mostly old favorites with a few new introductions. The soups are served in eight-ounce containers, which allow diners to try a variety of flavors. Bread, desserts, and beverages are included in the price. Serving will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. If there is any soup left over at that time, it will be sold. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 at the door. The Dolina Polish Folk Dancers will be holding a bazaar of Polish items for early Christmas shopping and the ladies of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church will be selling frozen pierogi for home enjoyment.

For more information about this event, you can e-mail <judytam@usfamily.net> or call Judith at 763-571-9602.

Leonid Hurwicz (1917 – 2008)

In the last Winter issue we reported Hurwicz shared the 2007 Nobel Prize for Economics. The Minneapolis resident passed away in June. He was son of Polish Jewish parents and graduated from the University of Warsaw with a law degree in 1938. Hurwicz and his family suffered persecution and he was forced to flee in 1939. He had resided in Minnesota since 1961.

Poland Nixes Chopin DNA Test

The Associated Press reported the Polish Government refused to allow Frederic Chopin's heart to be DNA-tested, which would be done in an attempt to determine the cause of death. His heart is contained in a jar sealed in Holy Cross Church in Warsaw. The Culture Ministry did not find this a good reason to disturb the remains of a revered native son.

Twin Cities Polish Festival

After a decade-long absence this event is back and being planned for August 15-16, 2009. Minnesota has 225,000 individuals of Polish ancestry so a good turnout is expected. The festival will feature food, arts, entertainment and sales booths on Old Main Street (along the Mississippi River) between Hennepin Avenue and the Stone Arch bridge in Minneapolis. More information can be found at: <www.tcpolishfestival.org>.

Extra Contributions

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

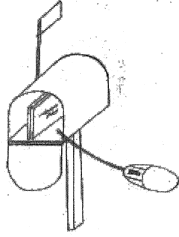
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Patricia Janecula
Millicent R. Kriske

We are a branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society which is registered as a non-profit, educational organization. Contributions beyond basic membership dues may be income-tax deductible.

MGS President's Citation Award

Terry Kita from PGS-MN received this award at the September 19 banquet for his work on the library move and transition period.

Correspondence ... *Komunikacja*



Perham Article Commentary

I just finished reading the latest issue of PGS Newsletter. I really enjoyed the articles from the *Wiarus*. What a hoot!

What I'm really writing about is my e-mail address as written in the "Missing Branches" section. My e-mail address is incorrect. It should read as: francincefs@sbcglobal.net not shcglobal.net. My penmanship has really slipped over the last few years, so it's my fault.

Francine Palubicki Fitting

This was the Newsletter's error since your address on our membership roster is correct! – JWK

I read with interest your article on Perham, MN, especially the part on Kazmierz Wellenger on page 23 and 28.

It seems I may have a family connection to Mr. Wellenger's former wife. I believe that after Mr. Wellenger abandon [ed] her or they part [ed] ways, that she later took up residence/partnership with my Uncle Frank Kulas who, information indicates, was born in Perham.

Attached for your information is a photo of Polly's grave site in Warsaw, ND, and a chapter from my family history document that provides further information on Polly and Frank Kulas.

Also attached is believed to be a photo of Polly and her daughter believed taken at the farm in MN that she and Frank operated.

Jim Kulas <polishpop1@earthlink.net>

We have included some slightly-edited excerpts (without the pictures) from The Frank Kulas Story that Jim provided us. They are a good follow-up of the article. – JWK

Frank - Jan and Mary's fifth child, born 10 September 1878, supposedly was hit by lightning at threshing time and was given up for dead until a newly-arrived emigrant remembered that (in the old country) they always dug a trench and put the lightning victim in it and covered him up with the moist dirt. Supposedly they did that with Frank and he came to and lived.

Frank's death certificate shows that he was born at Perham, Minnesota, on 10 October 1878. With records at the University of North Dakota showing that Jan purchased land in June and July of 1878, this may indicate that Jan went back to Winona, Minnesota, and brought his family to Warsaw in the fall of 1878, a tough time to be moving his family to new land in North Dakota with winter coming on.

In the early 1900s, maybe around 1910, Frank went to the Greenbush area to homestead land near or with his brothers Teofil and John. However, Frank apparently lost his homestead, maybe before 1920, when someone reported him for not meeting the homestead requirements by not living on the homestead the required amount of time each year.

Around 1927 Frank started farming west of Stephens, Minnesota, along the Red River, with Polly Stoltman¹ (born 2 February 1876). Polly and Frank eventually separated and Polly died in Alvarado in 1952.

Frank took over Vince Pokrzywinski's bar west of Oslo, Minnesota, on the west side of Highway 44 in North Dakota, and operated it until his death on 1 March 1945. Supposedly he was found dead in the back room of the bar where he lived. There were some stories that his death was not natural, but the result of a robbery by some hard luck oil drilling crews that spent a lot of time in Frank's bar. (It is said that no money was found in the bar when his death was discovered.) Frank was buried in the Warsaw Cemetery. Frank had no children, other than his stepdaughter. [Polly's daughter from the first marriage.]

The story is told that the Warsaw priest wouldn't allow a funeral service for Frank in the Warsaw Church because Frank was not a practicing Catholic, so his brother, Ludwik, arranged for graveside services in the church graveyard. After the services, a hat was passed around and a collection was taken. The priest expected that the collection was going to be given to him, but Frank's brother, Ludwik, said no because he would not allow a church service, and that he was going to give the money to Frank's former wife, Polly, because she needed the money more than the church.

Note 1 Originally married to Kazimierz Wellenger

As you found out, neither the German nor Polish place records show up in LDS familysearch. Chwarszczany is quite small and probably did not have a church. (There is no church there today although the Templar Knights had a castle there which still exists.) The Polish state archives do not have any records from this village except some very current information. There still could be records at LDS for people who lived in the village. They

Queries (Chwarszczany Records) ... continued
 would be contained in records for the closest church which supported the residents. The nearest larger city which would have had a church is Kostrzyn which is about 5-6 miles to the south. You could check these records. The Roman Catholic records are quite complete, with births going back to 1796, but the Evangelical records are limited to 1871-74. I tried to e-mail the Polish archive in Poznan at <archiwum@asp.poznan.pl> which houses the Kostrzyn records to see if you could find out if Chwarszczany residents are included but didn't get a response.

The records are probably also in Germany. In general original Catholic church records from the Gniezno and Pelplin dioceses of primarily German areas went to the archdiocese whose address is:

Bischöfliches Zentralarchiv

Peterszeg 11-13

8400 Regensburg, Germany.

Lutheran/Evangelical Records

There are several other places to look besides the Poznan archives. Original records from the northern districts were sent to:

Evangelisches Zentralarchiv

Berthaniestraße

D-1097 Berlin, Germany

An additional location for some records is:

Zentralstelle für Genealogie

Schongauer Straße 1

D-04329 Leipzig, Germany

Someone in the Germanic Genealogical group could provide some additional assistance. A good reference for Poznan Province records is:

<<http://www.polishroots.org/genpoland/recpos.htm>.

-JWK

Jankow Ex Parte Regali?

Reading through *Roots Web*, I discovered that you were puzzling over the same term that I am: "Jankow ex parte regali." I have also seen "ex sorte nobili." Do you have authoritative information on the term? Were you able to discover any records relating to royal or manorial farms in the area? I have been searching WOJTASZEK/WOYTASZEK in Jankow and would like to learn more about what exactly these terms meant in eighteenth-century Posen.

Anne Klejment, St. Paul

As far as I am able to deduce, "Jankow ex parte regali" and sometimes "Jankow ex sorte regali" means "that part of Jankow belonging to the king." Apparently some of my ancestors were free peasant farmers renting land belonging to the Polish crown. I have traced my ancestry in Janków Zalesny back to the beginnings of the parish records in 1700. When viewing the records I have also seen references to "Jankow ex sorte nobili." I am assuming that means "that part of Jankow belonging to the local Polish noble family."

No, I have not been able to discover any records relating to royal or manorial farms in the area. Hopefully such records still exist. If they do, they probably are now stored in the National Archives in Warsaw.

I am interested in where your Wojtaszek/Woytaszek people settled when they immigrated to the U.S. My KULAS and JUNIK forebears settled to St. Anna parish in Stearns County, Minnesota.

-Paul Kulas

... and Transplanted Communities?

It is amazing that someone else has been through the Jankow Zalesny records. I appreciate the explanations. What I am hoping eventually to find is an English language account of everyday life and the social and economic history of the region during the 18th and 19th centuries. Thus far, I've not been successful.

The WOJTASZEKs came to Rochester, New York in the 1880s, as did others from the Jankow Zalesny parish--WICHLARZ, MLYNARZ, DZIEKAN, ZWOLINSKI, KLIMEK, SZYMANEK. The DZIEWECZYNSKI were from (nearby) Roszki and after staying in Rochester, they eventually ended up in Stearns County--Holdingford. My great great grandmother joined them in 1902 and remarried.

Anne

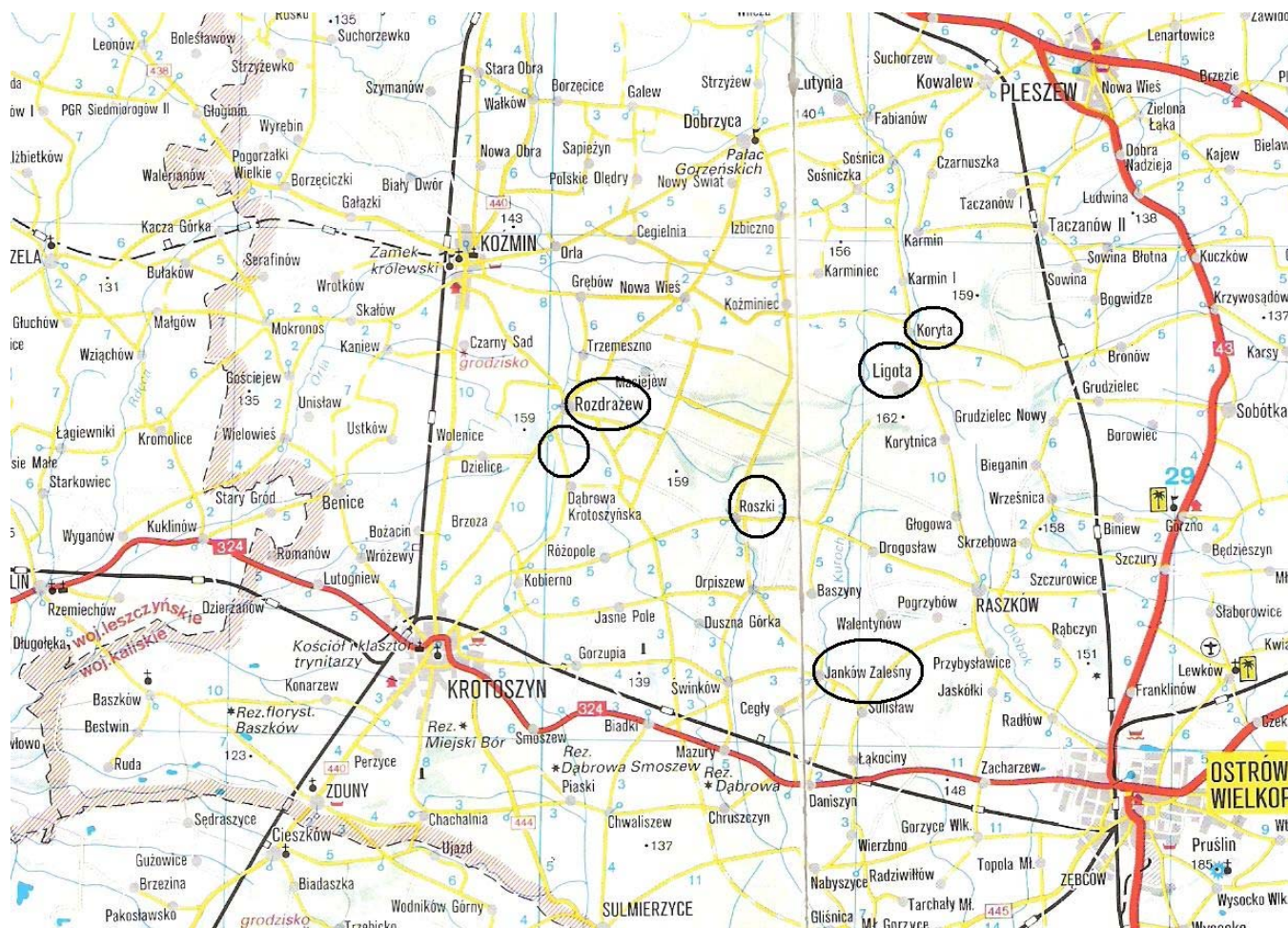
I am sending you an issue of the PGS-MN Newsletter which contains an article entitled "Sources for Reconstructing a Polish Ancestral Village: Janków Zalesny, Wielkopolska" which I wrote some time ago (Spring 1999, pp. 1, 14-21). The article will not give you a full picture of "everyday life and the social and economic history of the region during the 18th and 19th centuries" but it and the references listed might at least give you a start.

Queries ...continued

Are you familiar with *słownik geograficzny królestwa polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich* [*Geographic Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and Other Slavic Lands*]? This 15-volume gazetteer was published between 1880 and 1902 and describes virtually all Polish villages (even the very small ones), cities and regions at the time when most of our ancestors were emigrating. The entries vary greatly in content and length but some are quite detailed as to social and economic history of the locale being described. This work is available at the MGS Library and also can be found online. The easiest way to access is go to: <http://www.halgai.com> and click on "gazetteers" and then "słownik geograficzny" for instructions.

I find it interesting that your great great grandmother ended up in Stearns County. The Holdingford/St. Anna/Avon area is an example of chain migration and a transplanted community from southern Provinz Posen. My grandfather, Jan Kulas, emigrated from Ligota in Koryta parish in April, 1888. He worked briefly in a Pittsburgh steel mill before joining a friend from his home village who had already settled in the St. Anna/Avon area. My great grandparents, Michał and Magdalena Junik and their six children, also emigrated in April, 1888--from Henryków in Rozdrażew parish. They, along with 8 or 10 other families traveling with them, went directly to St. Anna where friends of theirs from the old country had already settled.

- Paul Kulas



Location of Villages Mentioned Above (Henryków is not shown on this map but it is approximately identified with a circle.)

Map adapted from: RV Reise- und Verkehrsverlag and Kartographie: GeoData, 1995/96

Not All Polish Immigrants Stayed in Silver Lake

Member William Graczyk

<wrgraczyk@netzero.net> wrote about his Silver Lake connections in the Spring 2008 newsletter. Silver Lake in McLeod County was the settling place of many Polish immigrants in Minnesota and a significant number of our members have roots there. William has researched his family extensively and thus provided some additional and updated history of his great uncle who moved around the turn of the century. The following article was printed in 1976 in the Cook News-Herald. William provided the footnotes and some added pictures to augment the original article.

(The “Herr Schmidt Story” was written by Elizabeth Martinson and Agnes Mueller with enthusiastic additions and corrections by Joe Graczyk.)

“THE HERR SCHMIDT STORY”

Herr Schmidt is the daughter of Adam and Katy Graczyk who homesteaded in Greaney.

Adam Graczyk was born in Poland Dec. 13, 1866, and immigrated to the United States when he was seven years old.¹ The remaining years of his childhood were spent on a farm near Silver Lake, Minnesota. Katy Janachowski was born Aug. 15, 1877 and was also raised on a farm in the Silver Lake area.² After their marriage³ Adam and Katy Graczyk continued to live in the Silver Lake community where their first child, Stella⁴ was born. They moved to Sauk Rapids for a brief time when daughter Mary was born. Adam moved his family to Virginia, Minn., where he was employed as a

policeman and a fireman. The family grew in size as Tony, Rose and Joseph were born.

In the fall of 1905 Adam Graczyk and his friend Adam Cemuenka came out to Greaney where Patrick Greaney helped them locate their claim. “Big Adam” Graczyk and “Little Adam” Cemuenka erected a small log cabin and returned to Virginia for the winter.

On April 21, 1906, Katy Graczyk, carrying five-week-old Joseph and leading Stella, Mary, Tony and Rose, trudged four miles along a footpath through the woods from Greaney to the log cabin the two Adams had built. But alas the weary family had to wait in the chilly air while Adam shoveled the cabin out. During a recent blizzard the door had blown open and snow had filled the small shelter!

After a year this cabin became too small for the Graczyks. Adam built a large log house where Sophie, Ann and John were born.⁵ But eight



Photograph is courtesy of James Graczyk, grandson of Adam

¹ Adam was born on December 27, 1865 in Januszkowo, Poland near Żnin in the Bydgoszcz area sometimes referred to in the U.S. as Pozanania [source: Gora (Żnin) parish records]. Adam's parents were Mathias Graczyk and Maryanna Kilinski (Kielas). Adam arrived in Philadelphia on July 29, 1874 on the SS Abbotsford at the age of eight years old.

² Katy's parents were Adalbert Januchowski and Maria Banach.

³ They were married on January 7, 1897 in St. Adalbert's in Silver Lake.

⁴ Stella was given the name Pelagia at birth – also known as Pella.

⁵ George is listed on <familysearch.org> record as being born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; however, he was actually born in Greaney.

children and two adults needed still larger quarters so Adam built a two-story log structure where Agnes, Frank and George were born. This home burned to the ground on March 28, 1919, when George was only eight days old, when snow was on the ground and when young Joe was hitching oxen to haul hay. To this day Rose takes the blame for the fire figuring she made the cookstove fire too hot. The homeless family was taken by sleigh to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Malerich where they lived for two weeks. Adam was severely burned fighting the fire but Mrs. Malerich healed him by putting fresh cabbage leaves on the burns. At the end of two weeks the family of 13 moved back into a hastily renovated cabin number one while neighbors John King, Luka Prepodnik and John Rom built the present two-story clapboard structure where Herr Schmidt now resides. One final child was born to Adam and Katy in that house—daughter Elizabeth.⁶

Times were rough for Greaney pioneers. When Adam Graczyk first moved his family to Greaney the only neighbors close by were the Ablemans who lived three miles across the river and Patrick Greaney who lived four miles through the woods.

Like many pioneers, the Graczyks' first purchase was a bred cow. Nettie was a Jersey cow who seemed almost human to the family. She plowed the fields all day and supplied milk at night to feed the family. When she was butchered 19 years later she was a "soup cow"—her meat was that tough. Nettie's first heifer helped her plow the fields and her later offspring became oxen Brenny and Barry that relieved her of the job. Another heifer provided an adventure for young Joe. "Dad traded a heifer for a horse to Erwin Dixon in Balkan. Mr. Dixon came and got Dad and me one day in his car and drove us to his place which was near Chisholm. Then the two men drove back to Greaney and left me with the horse. Next morning at five I started riding that horse but with no saddle. I really walked it most of the way. I got home at six that night. Erwin Dixon drove up in a truck the next week and got his heifer from Dad."

But who is Herr Schmidt? Adam and Katy Graczyk's ninth child Agnes. Agnes was born March 20, 1915, and attended Pioneer School No. 2 through the seventh grade. Miss Karosich was her teacher. Agnes made her First Holy Communion under Father Sedey in 1927 at St. Bridget's church. She left Greaney Nov. 3, 1929, when her parents moved their family of 12 children to Milwaukee, Wis. In 1930 Adam Graczyk sold the farm to Victor Zgaynor.

In 1948 Agnes and Robert Mueller were married in Milwaukee, Wis. In 1950 the Muellers came to Greaney for a visit and learned that the Graczyk homestead was for sale. They bought the land and returned each summer for 25 years. On April 23, 1976, exactly 70 years and two days from the day Adam and Katy Graczyk walked to their homestead from Greaney, Bob and Agnes Mueller drove from Milwaukee to establish their permanent home in the big white house.

Bob and Agnes Mueller have four children, Carl of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Carol Schmidt of New Berlin, Wis., Robert of Milwaukee and Kay Prepodnik of Lafayette, Ind. The Muellers have 14 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

During this summer of '76 the four children of Bob and Agnes Mueller, in addition to the eight living children of Adam and Katy Graczyk, will visit the homestead to enjoy the peace, serenity, beauty and excitement of the Greaney area with the Muellers.

Before the Muellers moved to Greaney, Marge Prepodnik and Mary Krall sent messages to Agnes through the Greaney news in care of "Herr Schmidt." This moniker was given to Agnes not because she particularly enjoys that brand of beer but because "Herr Schmidt" is a German song that she and Marge sing at Greaney gatherings. The message-senders thought this reminder of good times in Greaney would hasten Agnes' permanent departure from Milwaukee.

Source of the original article: Cook News-Herald, June 3, 1976 – reprinted with their permission.

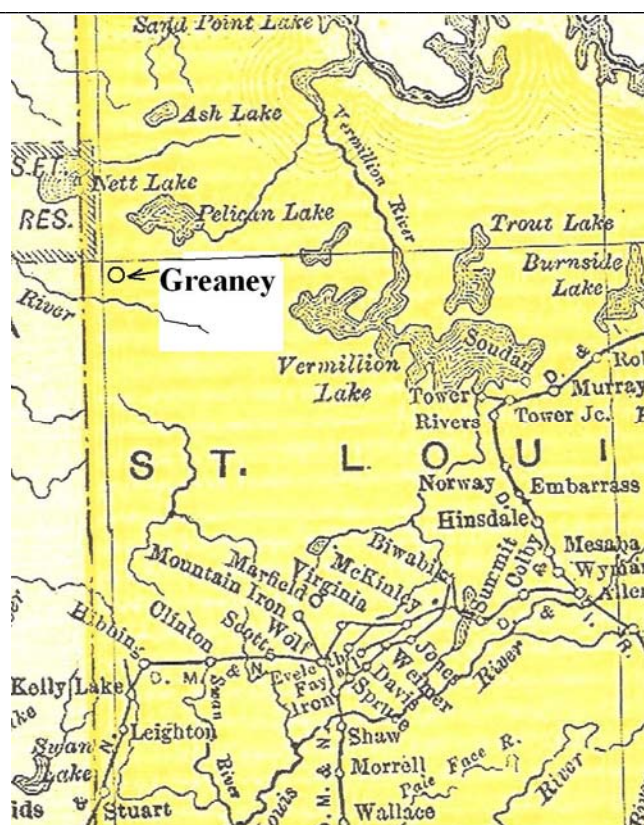
⁶ In the 1920 census Mathias Graczyk shows up. He must have been visiting or helping out since he died in Hale Township in McLeod County on February 5, 1921.



THE ADAM GRACZYK FAMILY IN 1923 taken at the present home. Front row, l to r: Frank, John, George on father Adam's lap, mother Katy holding Elizabeth [Mrs. Raymond Manalkowski] and Agnes [Mrs. Robert Mueller]. Back row, l to r: Joe, Tony, Sophie [Mrs. Richard Abél], Mary [Mrs. Mary Miller], Ann [Mrs. Anthony Proogler], Stella [Mrs. Louis Ruper] and Rose [Mrs. Charles McCabe]. *This photograph was in the original article.*



Pioneer School No. 2 – Photograph from William Graczyk



1895 Map of St. Louis County Showing Where

Adam Graczyk Built the Family's Cabin –

Source: www.MemorialLibrary.com – used with their permission

Note at this time the area is devoid of towns. In the early 1900s after a road was built from Virginia to International Falls a number of villages sprang up along the highway.

–JWK



Book Review: *Going Home*:

A Guide to Polish American Family History Research

Jonathan D. Shea, Accredited Genealogist

ISBN 978-0-9631579-7-3

Reviewed by Jerome Biedny, Jr.

<jaybiedny@juno.com>

As a professor of foreign languages at several post-secondary schools in Connecticut, Mr. Shea has a fine grasp of the Polish language. But it is his personal heritage that drives his newest offering from Language and Lineage Press. *Going Home* is a compendium of his best published works well-organized as a one 400-page, large format guide.

Whether you would love to give a gift to a Polish-American just starting in his or her research or you would like to enrich your own genealogy library, *Going Home* is destined to become the seminal work on the subject for decades to come. He begins with a brief but comprehensive discussion of the Polish language useful to anyone doing first-source research. He also includes a nice history of Poland so that readers can understand the Partition Period and its effects on immigration.

He then discusses solid genealogical research techniques applicable to any ethnicity - but he always places them in context of Polish America. He covers all sorts of records that can fill in around the standard births, deaths and marriages. The reader will find help with understanding the richness of everything from printed sources to school records. His chapter on Federal Records such as Census, Passenger Lists, and Military Records is very clear.

He returns to specifically Polish research with a chapter on place names and sources, and two more on sources in Poland and elsewhere in Europe. His discussions are very practical and you feel him unlocking each source through the text. Always the linguist, he even offers vocabulary lists in Polish, Latin, German, and Russian. He also devotes time to surname development and patterns.

A third of the pages in this book contain graphic examples to support the text. This makes it lively and interesting. He offers maps, examples of standard vital records as well as other cultural documents. It also contains a wonderful Polish to English first names list. The appendices are small books of their own: Polish parishes in the U.S.; computer links to get you started; and contact addresses for archives.

I research several ethnicities including Colonial American, Polish, Norwegian, Welsh, Irish and English. So, I am constantly looking for another book that will make my research path with that group more productive. For Polish Americans, I've found THE book. As a private printing it may take awhile for you to find it on the shelf at your local Barnes and Noble, but at \$35 it is the best value in a research guide I have come across for any group.

Editor's Note: Available from PGS-MN

PGS-MN Meetings

Stevens Point – September 6, 2008

A seminar was jointly-sponsored by PGS-MN and the Polish Heritage Awareness Society of Stevens Point. The 25-30 attendees (with a good number from PGS-MN) heard several interesting presentations.

Terry Kita presented an overview of the PGS-MN organization and discussed the on-going DNA project. He also discussed his own research of Poznanian emigration to Door County.

Audrey Sommers had an interesting talk on how Stevens Point's sister city Gulcz was established and evolved. Gulcz is a village of about 700 located northwest of Poznań.

Adeline Sopa provided background of the Kashuby people and their immigration to Portage County, Wisconsin. See her handout on page 29.

Jason Waldowski and John Kowles presented some of the latest web-based tools for research.

The Portage County Library Staff presented resources available online, at the library or in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point library, emphasizing research in cemetery records.

Danuta Jampolska – September 20, 2008

About 35 people gathered for the interesting and informative talk by Danuta Jampolska. Danuta is a Foreign Exchange Coordinator who works at The Ochota Cultural Centre in Warsaw. She also provides help for researchers in Poland. Her talk can be described as “nuts and bolts” guidelines for doing genealogical research in Poland. She emphasized how sometimes small, out-of-the-way places and chance can provide valuable information. She augmented her talk with pictures from her genealogy work. Danuta, who speaks near-perfect English, can be contacted at: <danuta.jampolska@oko.pl> and is also a resource we recommend for help in Poland.

Note: There were a number of interesting handouts from these presentations which space precludes from publishing in this issue; however, some of the information will be included in the next newsletter and the handouts also will be available in the Polish section of the MGS library.

Future Meetings

Seminars by Stephen Barthel – November 1

These sessions will be held in the MGS Library auditorium running from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost for the day will be \$15, payable on the day. This includes lunch and refreshments. Please inform John Kowles at <johnkow@att.net> or 612-721-7227 if you will attend so we can plan accordingly.

1. *Tracing Your Roots from Minnesota to Poland*

The presentation will focus on research methodology, with special emphasis on using internet sites and passenger lists.

2. *Gazetteers, Web Sites, and Maps: Tools for Finding Parish and Civil Records in Poland*

The presentation will cover must-use essential tools to help you research records.

3. *Publish a Family History Book? Yes You Can!*

Presentation will deal with proven ways (after publishing 26 family history books) to overcome difficult-to-work-with relatives and successfully publish your own book. This is beyond the typical “How to publish a family history book,” using Stephen's Polish relatives as an example.

Stephen S. Barthel, an accredited genealogist in German research since 1981, has been a reference consultant and public affairs specialist from 1983-2004 at the world's largest genealogical library (The Family History Library), located in Salt Lake City. He has researched genealogies for Peter Jennings, Walter Cronkite, the Queen of Sweden, the president of Germany, and Presidents Clinton and Bush, and many other VIPs. He is a presenter for German and Polish genealogical societies throughout the United States. He has also published more than two dozen family history books. He currently works as an assistant archivist librarian at the Stearns History Museum in St. Cloud.

MGS Quarterly Meeting – November 22

PGS-MN will have additional people in the library on this Saturday to support Polish researchers.

Annual Meeting – January 17, 2009

The PGS-MN annual meeting will be held at *Gasthof zur Gemütlichkeit*, 2300 N.E. University Avenue, Minneapolis on Saturday, January 17, 2009 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will feature a Polish buffet, a short business program, “show and tell,” and elections. Elections will be held for president, vice president, and two directors. If you would like to be considered for one of these positions please contact Terry Kita at: <terrykita@earthlink.net> or 612-927-0719.

Queries ...continued from page 7**Translation and Location Wanted**

Enclosed is copy of the birth (?) certificate of, I believe, my uncle Frank Lazar. Is there someone there who can translate it from Polish to English for me and answer where in the country at the time it was located? Also where is the diocese of Przmyska and the town of Krzemienica and the relationship to the above? I am trying to trace my father's family history. He came over from Poland in 1911. Any help would be appreciated.

Sue Thompson, Janesville, MN

This is an excerpt of the response provided to Sue. The document points out how handwriting is often a problem and you need to look at all the clues. The maps and pictures have not been included herein because of space limitations in this issue.

I translated the record. It is an official birth record for Frank Lazarz. However, in Poland it looks like the name was spelled with the Polish Ł but you could not use that in English. This name is not overly common in Poland today and both versions are used. The father on the birth record is Augustyn Łazarz and the mother is Mariana Piekarz. Sue reported some of her records list this

name as Pierkarz or Pieckarz (see Missing Branches page 32); however, these spellings do not show up in Poland today and are unlikely to be the original spelling. These names are probably English variants. Piekarz means "baker" in Polish. There are several Krzemienicas in Poland but I am certain Frank was born in the one I circled on the map because the powiat or county looks like Łańcut which is very near the village and where the record was obtained. This would have been in the Archdiocese of Przemyśl at the time which stretched into what is now the Ukraine. Dioceses have changed boundaries often in Poland but it is still in the Przemyśl Archdiocese according their web site. Frank was probably baptized in the church in the picture I sent which comes from their web site. It was there in 1900. When Frank was born Krzemienica was in Galicia – controlled by the Austro-Hungarian Empire. However, with the defeat of Germany after WWI it became free Poland. After WWII, the Ukrainian border moved west but this area remained in Poland, just closer to the border.

The records might be available in the Family History Center archive. I hope this gives you a start in your research.

-JWK

The People's Republic of Poland

Short Copy of this Birth

Odpis skrócony aktu urodzenia

POLSKA RZECZPOSPOLITA LUDOWA

Województwo Rzeszów

Powiat Łańcut

URZĄD STANU CYWILNEGO

m Łańcut

Nr 4/1899

Zaświadczam że Franciszek Łazarz

urodził się dnia 1 stycznia - stycznia 1900 roku w Krzemienicy

z o/c'a Augustyna Łazarz (imię i nazwisko)

z matki Mariany Piekarz (imię i nazwisko rodowe)

zamieszkałej w Łańcut (miejscowość)

data 24 sierpnia 1956 r.

Łańcut 24 August 1956 (?)

Urząd Stanu Cywilnego

Province Rzeszów

County Łańcut

Registry Office

Łańcut

I testify that Franciszek Łazarz was born on this day 1 January the year of 1900 in Krzemienica from father Augustyn Łazarz (profession) settled in _____ and mother Marianny Piekarz settled in _____

Resources for Polish-American Genealogy in Minnesota

This is the resource guide which is given to new members. It has been recently updated so we are publishing it here for all members.

Minnesota is not usually recognized as a major center of settlement by Polish immigrants. Nonetheless, southeastern Minnesota was one of the very earliest American locales to receive newcomers from Poland--and the ensuing 75 years saw the advent of our ancestors all over the state. Their communities spanned Minnesota, from urban neighborhoods in northeast Minneapolis and on St. Paul's East Side, across central Minnesota, in Duluth, in the Mississippi bluff country and the prairie towns, and on the Iron Range.

The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota was founded to promote genealogical research for everyone with roots in Poland and Minnesota, and to help preserve the heritage of these communities. Many resources for these endeavors are available in Minnesota. These are the ones we have located, along with several facilities that are out-of-state but nearby.

VITAL STATISTICS RECORDS

Where you start: birth, death, marriage records maintained in the state. In Minnesota all vital statistics are open for viewing or obtaining a non-certified copy by the public except where the parents are not married, and they chose not to make them public, or when an adoption is involved. These records are open 100 years after the birth or date of adoption.

Death Records

At this time, the Minnesota Historical Society Library has copies of original death records from 1900-2001. They can be viewed and copied at the library. The index to death cards for 1904 to 1907 can be found in the online Death Certificate Index. The index to death certificates for 1908-2001 is also online and provides microfilm location. The 1900-1903 records are not indexed and have to be searched by county.

For death certificates before 1900, contact the county in which the person died, not necessarily the

county of residence. Deaths since 2001 are filed with the Minnesota Department of Health and the county of death.

Birth Records

The Minnesota Historical Society Library has copies of non-certified birth certificates online through the Society's website. Dedicated computer terminals are available for use in the Library by patrons searching the Birth Certificates Index. Currently, certificates for the years 1900-1934 are available, though more will be added over time.

The Birth Certificates Index contains only a few birth records before 1900. For additional birth certificates before 1900, contact the vital statistics registrar's office for the county in which the person was born, not necessarily the county of residence.

Marriage and Divorce Records

See County Records or Ancestry.com sections herein. The MGS Library has access to ancestry.com.

Ancestry.com Indexes

About Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

This database is an index of deaths recorded by the State of Minnesota, U.S.A., from 1908 to 2002. The index includes: name of the deceased, city and county of death, date of death, birth date, birthplace, mother's maiden name, and state file number.

About Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002

This database is an index created by the Minnesota Department of Health to approximately 5.2 million births occurring in the State of Minnesota, U.S.A., between 1935 and 2002. Information contained in this index includes child's full name, father's full name, mother's maiden name, birth date, birth county, and state file number.

About Minnesota Divorce Index, 1970-1995

This database contains a statewide index of divorces filed in Minnesota between 1970 and 1995. Information that may be found in this database includes: husband's name and age, wife's name and age, divorce date, and county of divorce.

About Minnesota Marriage Collection, 1958-2001

This database is an index to individuals who were married in the state of Minnesota (U.S.A.) from 1958-2001. Information that may be found in this database for each entry includes bride and groom's

full names, their ages, birth dates, and marriage date and place.

Minnesota Health Department

<<http://www.health.state.mn.us>> This site provides information on how to obtain non-certified birth and death records. Note: For pre-2002 records you can also go to the local registrar where the birth or death was recorded for non-certified copies. From 2002, when the system was computerized, these records can be obtained from ANY local registrar.

County Records

It is advisable you call to determine hours or make an appointment. Also be aware some of the original records are fragile and must be handled carefully. If you are denied access, have the local official call the State Registrar, who can clarify the law regarding access.

- *Minneapolis/Hennepin County* (1870-present): Vital Records, Hennepin County Government Center, 300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487 [tel. 612-348-8240]
- *St. Paul/Ramsey County* (late 1860s-present): Bureau of Health, 555 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55101
[<http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/ph/hsvital_records.asp> Birth/Death: tel. 651-266-1333; Marriage: tel. 651-266-8258]
- *Local elsewhere in state* (dates will vary): County Administrator [in certain counties: District Court Administrator], County Courthouse, [county seat], MN [ZIP code]

Most counties will have a website. Go to <http://google.com>. Search: the county you want, Minnesota and click on "vital statistics."

CHURCH RECORDS

Due to the limitations of staffing, assume that all of these facilities are open *by appointment only*. Dates of records kept by each archives will vary; subject to exceptions noted below, your best bet (especially out-state) is still the local parish. Each diocese sets its own policy for access.

- *Archives of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis*, 226 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN 55102 [<www.archspm.org> tel. 651-291-4429] They have microfilm records for all parishes in the twelve counties of the Archdiocese.
- *Archives of the Diocese of New Ulm*, 1400-6th St. N., New Ulm, MN 56073 [<www.dnu.org> tel. 507-359-2966] Note: the LDS Family History Library has microfilmed these records.

- *Archives of the Diocese of Duluth*, 2830 E. Fourth St., Duluth, MN 55812
[<www.dioceseduluth.org> tel. 218-724-9111]
- *Archives of the Diocese of St. Cloud*, P.O. Box 1248, St. Cloud, MN 56302 [<www.stcdio.org> tel. 320-251-2340]
- *Archives of the Diocese of Winona*, 55 W. Sanborn St., Winona, MN 55987
[<www.dow.org> tel. 507-454-4643]
- *Archives of the Diocese of Crookston*, 1200 Memorial Dr., Crookston, MN 56716
[<www.crookston.org> tel. 218-281-4533]

THE LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS

Open to all, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints or not. One can access thousands of microfilms of civil, church, and other records from all over the world, including large amounts of information from Poland. Call first, to obtain days and hours of operation and availability of computer time. The following are NOT mailing addresses.

- *Alexandria*: 1427 Lake St., Alexandria, MN [tel. 320-763-6721]
- *Askov*: 3422 State Highway 23 E., Askov, MN [No phone number provided]
- *Austin*: 404-31st St. N.W., Austin, MN [tel. 507-433-9042]
- *Bemidji*: 3033 N.E. Birchmont Dr., Bemidji, MN [tel. 218-751-9129]
- *Bloomington*: 9700 Nesbitt Ave., Bloomington, MN [tel. 952-893-2393]
- *Brainerd*: 101 Buffalo Hills Lane, Brainerd, MN [tel. 218-838-4701]
- *Brooklyn Park*: 4700 Edinbrook Terrace, Brooklyn Park, MN [tel. 763-425-1865]
- *Buffalo*: 3933 State Highway 25 N.E., Buffalo, MN [tel. 763-682-5612]
- *Burnsville*: 18460 Kachina Ct., Lakeville, MN [tel. 952-435-2681]
- *Crystal*: 2801 N. Douglas Dr., Crystal, MN [tel. 763-544-2479] This library stocks a number of aids for Polish genealogy, including gazetteers, *Słownik Geograficzny* on microfilm, and several resources that translate between Polish and German place names in the Prussian Partition. They also have the complete list of Polish parish records available at the FHC in Salt Lake City. The list is divided by the pre-2000 provinces.
- *Detroit Lakes*: 204 Pelican River Road, Detroit Lakes, MN [tel. 218-847-3260]
- *Duluth*: 521 Upham Road, Duluth, MN [tel. 218-726-1316]

- *Faribault*: 1002-17th St. S.W., Faribault, MN [tel. 507-334-7046]
- *Fargo-Moorhead*: 2502-17th Ave. S.W., Fargo, ND [tel. 701-232-4003]
- *Grand Forks-East Grand Forks*: 2814 Cherry St., Grand Forks, ND [tel. 701-746-6126]
- *Mankato*: 1851 Marie Lane N., Mankato, MN [tel. 507-625-8342]
- *Marshall*: 1401 E. Lyon St., Marshall, MN [tel. 507-532-4913]
- *North Branch*: 38222 Grand Ave., North Branch, MN [tel. 651-674-8785]
- *Oakdale*: 2140 N. Hadley Ave., Oakdale, MN [tel. 651-770-3213]
- *Pipestone*: 701-2nd Ave. S.W., Pipestone, MN [tel. 507-825-2993]
- *Princeton*: 100th Ave. Hwy. 95, Princeton, MN [tel. 763-389-1289]
- *Red Wing*: 580 Hi Park Ave., Red Wing, MN [tel. 651-267-2455]
- *Rochester*: 2300 Viola Heights Dr., Rochester, MN [tel. 507-281-6641]
- *St. Cloud*: 1420-29th Ave. N., St. Cloud MN [tel. 320-203-7717]
- *St. Paul*: 100 Silver Lake Road, New Brighton, MN [tel. 651-636-9058]
- *Virginia*: 13th St. & 6th Ave. W., Virginia, MN [tel. 218-749-2490]
- *Warroad*: County Road 2, Swift, MN [tel. 218-386-2599]

FAMILY SEARCH PROGRAM

Use <www.familysearch.org> to access the LDS Family History Library database and catalog. Free internet services are provided at LDS History Centers, the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library and many public libraries.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTERS

Yours to use, as a taxpayer:

- *Minnesota Historical Society, Research Center*, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, MN; [<<http://www.mnhs.org>> tel. 651-259-3300] They have Minnesota census records from 1850-1930. Of particular relevance to Polish genealogy: online birth and death indexes, some pre-1900; naturalization records from almost all of Minnesota's counties; comprehensive runs of most Minnesota newspapers on microfilm, including three Polish-language newspapers (*Katolik*, Winona, 1893-1895, *Nowiny Minnesockie*, St. Paul, 1917-1976, and *Wiarus*, Winona, 1886-1919); the early sacramental

records of the Church of the Holy Cross in northeast Minneapolis; Germans to America (69 volumes, spanning most years from 1840-97), Passenger and Immigrations List (18th and 19th century, over 4 million names), and Migration from the Russian Empire, (New York arrivals, 1875-91), compilations of other passenger-arrival lists that include many Polish immigrants; and much more.

- *Immigration History Research Center*, University of Minnesota (West Bank), Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222-21st Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN; [<<http://www.ihrc.umn.edu>> tel. 612-625-4800] Collections document the American experience of the participants in immigration from southern and central Europe including: foreign-language newspapers, church and fraternal-organization records, personal papers, photographs, and more, from all over the United States. Of particular relevance to Polish genealogy: a massive collection on the history of the Polish National Catholic church; various Polish-language publications (including *Rolnik*, Stevens Point, WI; newspapers from Milwaukee and Chicago; and the Polish National Alliance's annual *Kalendarzy*); church records (including the early sacramental and donor records of St. John Cantius Church, Wilno, MN, and many church histories and commemorative albums); records of the immigration of "displaced persons" after World War II, including ships' manifests; and personal papers of famous Polish-Americans.
- *Wilson Library*, University of Minnesota (West Bank) Borchert Map Library, 309-19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN; [<<http://map.lib.umn.edu>> tel. 612-624-4549] This is a very large room packed with maps, atlases, and gazetteers from all over the world. Collection includes the superb topographical map series *The Republic of Poland (1918-1939)* (Warsaw, 1924; reproduced in Scotland, 1944); World War II-era U.S. Army topographical maps; larger-scale historical maps of early Poland; comparable sets for the Prussian/German Empire; and much more. Copying service is available.
- *Iron Range Research Center*, Highway 169 West, Chisholm, Minnesota -55719 [<<http://www.ironrangeresearchcenter.org>> or tel. 218-254-7959] Large amounts of original-source material on the settlements and people of the Mesabi, Vermilion, and Cuyuna Ranges and their many ethnic communities; a nearly-

complete collection with searchable databases of naturalization papers from all over Minnesota; selected passenger-arrival records for Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan; and numerous guides and aids for genealogical research.

- *National Archives, Great Lakes Region*, 7358 South Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60629; [<http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes/>>tel. 773-948-9040] Not in Minnesota, but worth the trip; census, naturalization, and ship-arrival records, land patents, and many more federal records from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Don't forget it! Inter-library loan can bring a wealth of material to you, including books published in Poland and microfilmed newspapers and records from historical societies in other states. Ancestry.com is available free at most public libraries.

LIBRARIES AND COLLECTIONS OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

- *PGS-MN Library Collection*, housed at library of Minnesota Genealogical Society, 1185 No. Concord St., South St. Paul MN 55075-1187 [<http://mngs.org>>tel. 651-455-9057] The library contains several shelves of how-to references, translation guides, atlases, gazetteers, including *Śłownik Geograficzny* on CD, and *Śłownik Nazwisk* on CD, histories, and more, all specific to Polish-American genealogy. It also has our Church and Local History Collection, focusing on the religious and secular institutions of Polonia in Minnesota. Baptism, marriage and death records from many Polish churches are available on microfilm. The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota website at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnpolgs/pgs-mn.html> contains a number of helpful references and a list of items in the PGS-MN collection.
- *Germanic Genealogy Society Collection*, housed at Theodore Buenger Memorial Library, Concordia College, 275 N. Syndicate St., St. Paul, MN 55104 [tel. 651-641-8237] They have a large collection on Germanic topics, with worldwide scope, but it also includes significant material relevant to Slavic ethnic groups within Prussian/German and Austro-Hungarian Empires and sets of Germanians to America and Migration from the Russian Empire.
- *Minnesota Genealogical Society Library*, address and telephone number noted above. Large and variegated collection of original and secondary sources and genealogical and historical reference materials, focused on Minnesota but covering all of the U.S.A. and most of western and central Europe. Many helpful how-to guides on genealogical sources and CD-ROM research aids. "Polish Night at the Library," with a PGS-MN member available to answer questions, is held the second Thursday of each month, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- *Library of Polish-American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM)*, 514-22nd Ave. N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55418; [pacim@pacim.org>tel. for hours 612-378-9291] Cultural and historical in orientation, rather than genealogical, but an invaluable source for the background to all of that raw genealogical data. Materials can be lent to PACIM members. PACIM also offers courses and lectures on Polish history, language, culture, cuisine, and dress.
- *Polish Museum of Minnesota*, 102 Liberty St., Winona, MN 55987 [tel., Drue Ferguson, 507-454-3431] Open May to November; hours vary. The museum contains: an extensive collection of artifacts and records on the Polish immigrant experience in Minnesota, particularly in the southeastern part of the state; early sacramental records from several parishes in Winona and southwestern Wisconsin; immigration records from the area; issues of *Wiarus* and records of its operation; other records of the early history of the Polish community in Winona.
- *Polish Museum of America Library*, 984 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60622. Very large genealogy and family history collection; long runs of Polish-language newspapers; collection of 800+ church jubilee and history books; partial set of Kolberg's *Dziela Wszystkie*; and more than can be described here. Well worth the trip--and a long visit!

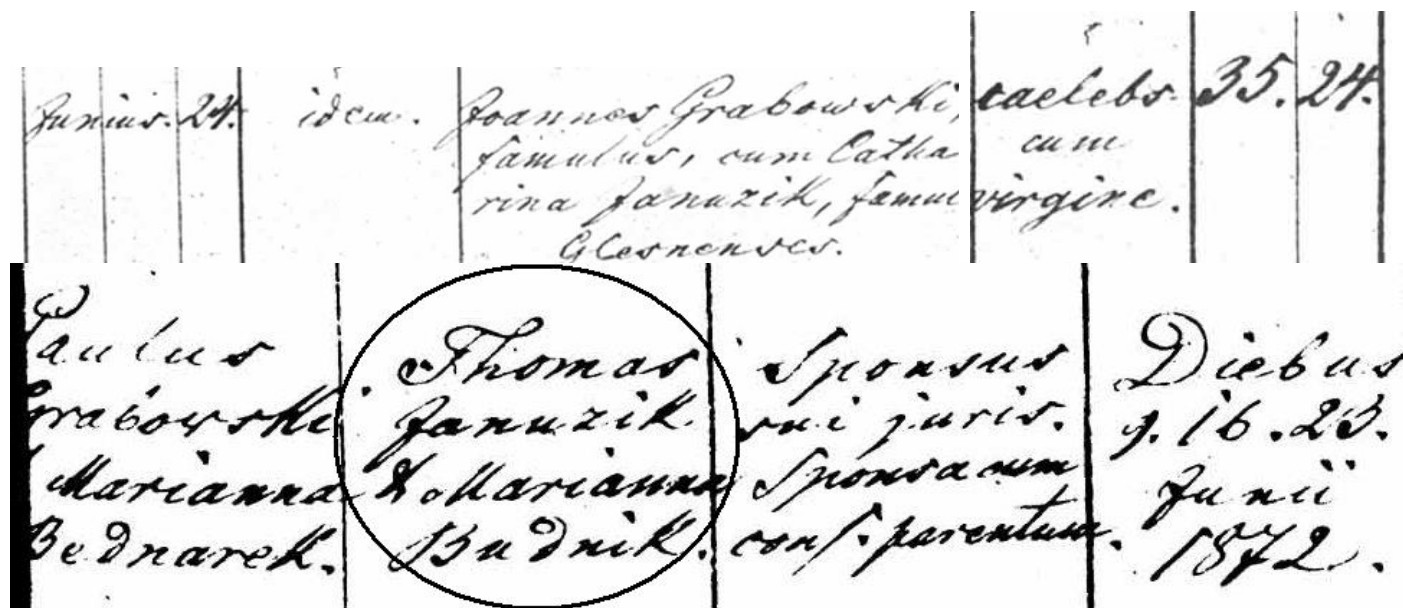
ABOUT THESE MATERIALS

These materials are a portion of an introductory packet for new members of the PGS-MN, first distributed in early 1998 and updated in June 2008. The information was collected by members of PGS-MN. We want this list to be comprehensive! If you are aware of other resources for Polish-American genealogy in or near Minnesota, please write to us: PGS-MN, 1185 No. Concord St., South St. Paul, MN 55075-1187, or contact us at: www.mngs.org and click on "Branches," click on "Polish Genealogical Society," or go directly to our website <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnpolgs/pgs-mn.html>.

Poznan Project ... continued from page 1

hailing from, on the 1891 record, was Wirsitz/Wyrzysk, Poland. The second record for 1886 listed the place of hailing from as Jeziorki. At this time I contacted Paul Kulas from PGS-MN asking advice; however, he told me there were two Jeziorkis near Wyrzysk and a third some distance farther so he felt ordering LDS films was premature at the time. We needed to narrow down to a closer proximity. At this point I would have had to check all Catholic parishes within a 30-mile radius or so, and they would be many.

Then Clue #3 - the all important clue - came in March, 2007. Cousin Frank Wilebski sent an e-mail to me concerning a planned trip to Poland that summer. He also sent information on the Poznan Project web site. After accessing the site, I put in the surname Januzik. Three exact matches came up - one being the marriage of a Catharina Januzik to Joannes Grabowski in 1872 in Glesno parish (Entry 9). Parents for Catharina listed were Thomas Januzik and Marianna Budnik. So I went on <<http://mapquest.com>>. Glesno was only three miles from Wyrzysk!! (See map page 19.)

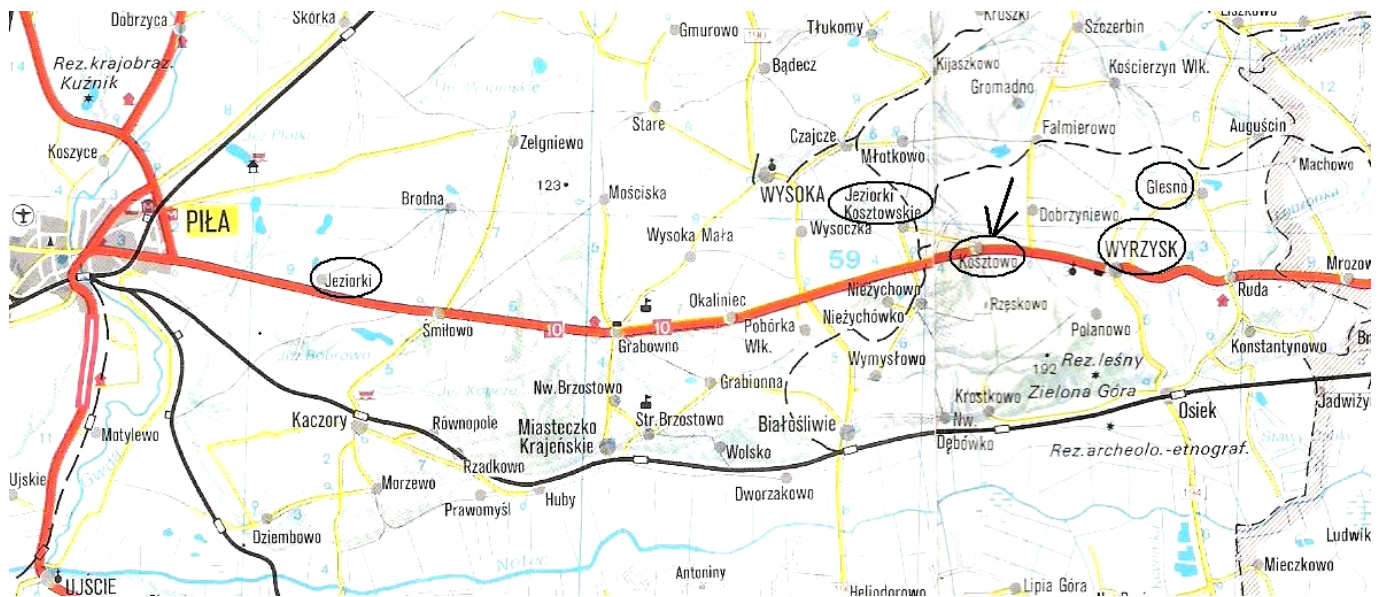
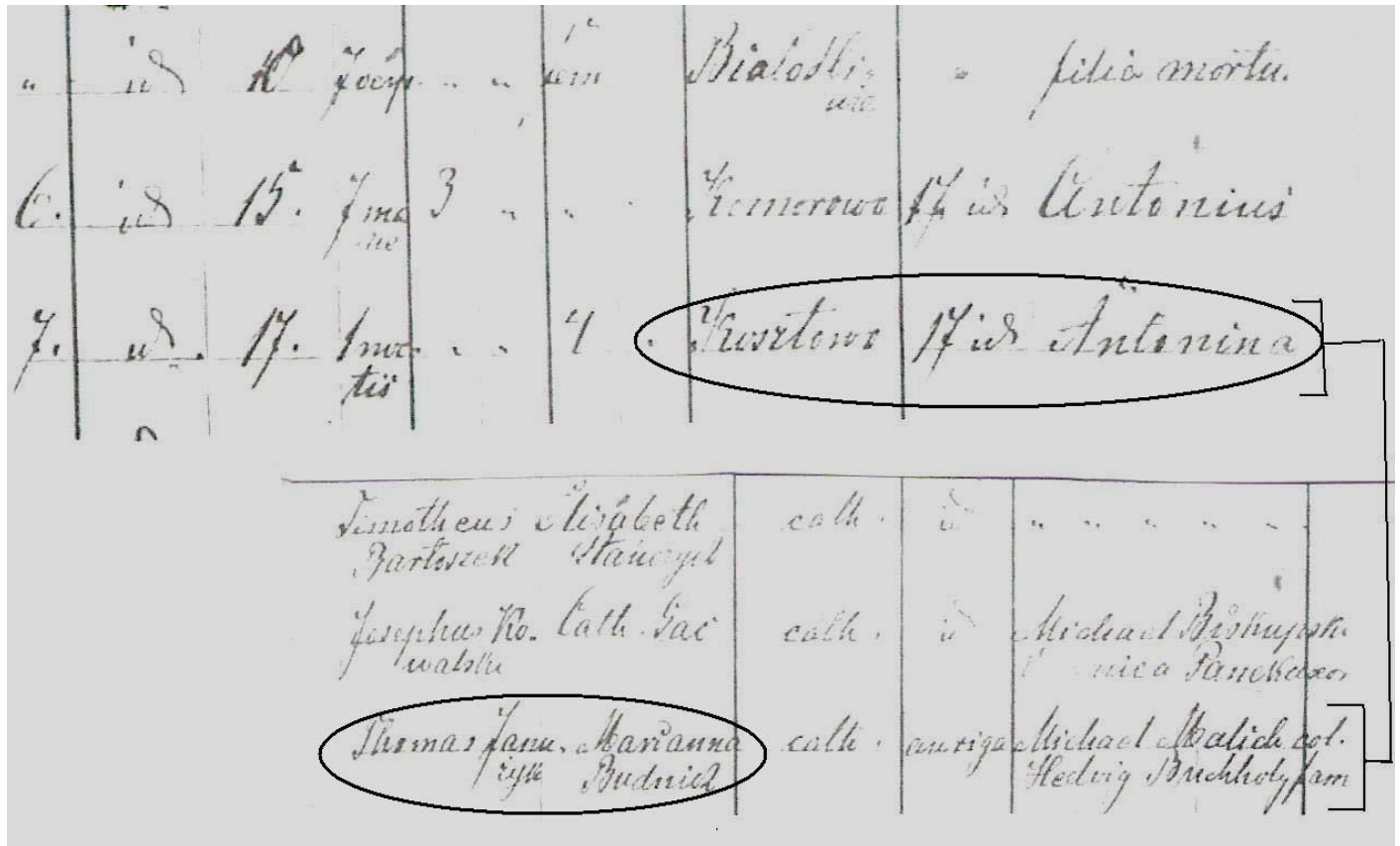


On the Poznan Project site I clicked on Glesno and the LDS Film numbers for the Glesno Parish came up. So, at <http://www.polishroots.org/genpoland/records/wyr_r.htm>, I ordered one LDS film from this parish and two from Wyrzysk and then a fourth from Kosztowo, (a village about halfway in between Jeziorki Kosztowskie and Wyrzysk) since Jeziorki was listed as one of the villages covered on this film. (I didn't rule out that the 1886 ship record was for the same Gertrude or at least possibly a cousin.)

At this time in northwest Minnesota, Leroy and Karen Mattson from Warroad are setting up an LDS Center through their Latter-day Saints Chapel near Swift, Minnesota. The Roseau County Museum curator gave me their telephone number. I was able to order and view the LDS films in my own county through them.

The first three films mentioned above only revealed the initial marriage record of Catharina and John Grabowski and Budnik family members in Glesno parish but no Thomas Januzik family. When the fourth film arrived I thought it would be just as futile, but when I looked for the birth date of Antonia Januzik there was her baptismal record on January 17, 1860, in Kosztowo parish (not Jeziorki parish) and parents listed were Thomas Januzik and Marianna Budnik (see next page)! I found other siblings of Antonia as well, baptized in Kosztowo including her sister, Gertrude Januzik Spinner. Again, parents listed were Thomas Januzik and Marianna Budnik. The other siblings found were Joannes (whom we knew about from earlier research), Michael, Catharina, Anna, Elizabetha, Josepha, Victor, and Josephus (these siblings are not listed in order of birth).

So finally, we now have a village to return to in Poland - Kosztowo in the Wyrzysk district--and just in time for Cousins Frank and Fred's June trip to Poland. The next challenge would be to locate Franciszek Wilebski's home village as well.



Map identifying villages mentioned in article

Adapted from: RV Reise- und Verkehrsverlag and Kartographie: GeoData, 1995/96



Back Row: Thomas 1884-1964 (Anna Kuznia), Mary Ann 1883-1903 (Anton Kuznia), Joseph John 1882-1958 (Marianna Robel and Antonia Wilebski), Frances 1886-1918 (Steve Olsonawski)

Middle Row: Simon "Sam" 1888-1945 (Mary Masloski), Frank Wilebski 1854-1928, John Anton 1892-1973 (Lucille Price), Peter 1890-1961 (Mabel Amacher), Anna Florence 1893-1964 (Edward Peterman), Antonia Januzik Wilebski 1860-1914, Baby Victoria 1898-1965 (Joseph Toby)

Front Row: Stanley 1897-1958 (Frances Masloski), Antoinette 1894-1960 (John Price)

Note: Stanislava "Stella" 1903-1941 (Phillip Kallinger) wasn't born when the picture was taken about 1899. Sam is the grandfather of the author.

Genealogy and the Council of Trent

Twenty-five sessions comprised the council spanning the years 1545-1563. They were held in Trento and Bologna, Italy with Poland being represented. The Roman Catholic church decreed in 1563 that birth, marriage and death records had to be recorded. Protestant record-keeping soon followed and Jewish surnames came into being at the end of the 18th century. The formal church mandate came in 1614. The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth quickly adopted the decrees. At first only marriages were recorded but in the early

1600s birth, death and marriage recording became widespread. There are some isolated examples in Poland which predate this. It seems noblemen and craftsmen were the first to have surnames. The first European surnames actually predated this, arising around the year 1000 in northern Italy and then gradually spreading northward. Many of the Polish records at LDS go into the 1600s and they also have some metrical records into the 1500s. Where would genealogists be without surnames?

-JWK



Minneapolis is 150 Years Old

Minneapolis is celebrating its sesquicentennial this year just after the state of Minnesota. The St. Anthony part, located on the east side of the Mississippi, was platted in 1848. In 1852 the land west of the Mississippi was opened for settlement. Subsequently the town of Minneapolis was authorized in 1856 and a government formed in 1858. A merger with St. Anthony came in 1872. Minneapolis at that time occupied a small area centered around Nicollet Island.

PGS-MN was invited to one of the celebrations at the Hennepin County Library on September 23 in which immigration was the theme. The first Poles came to St. Anthony in 1868 and to Minneapolis in 1875.

Membership Alert

Dues for the year 2009 are required to be paid by December 31, 2008. To receive the Spring Newsletter, which is usually mailed the first week in April, dues absolutely must be received by March 31. In the past there was a six-month grace period. After that newsletters not received can be mailed at a cost of \$4 each. Memberships will accepted at the old rate of \$15 per year or three years for \$40 until December 31, 2008; however, after the first of the year the rate will be \$20 per year or three years for \$50. The PGS-MN approved this change because of both printing and mailing cost increases. Note also the MGS has increased the library fee to \$10 per visit as of last July 1; however, with membership in PGS-MN no fee is required.

Where is the Smallest National Park Site?

It is the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial inside a narrow row house in Philadelphia. It is the room, which measures 0.02 acres, where he lived for seven months in 1797. Kościuszko was born of noble parents in 1746 in Mereczowszczyzna which was part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth but now is Kosava, Belarus. He served as an engineer during the American Revolution from 1776 to 1784. Later he led the failed uprising against Russia in 1794. Kościuszko died in

Switzerland in 1817 from a fall from a horse but his ashes are among the tombs in Wawel Castle in Kraków.

This Election Year ... Ed Brandt is Not Running

Long-time PGS-MN member Ed Brandt provided this ad published in *Nowiny minnesockie* (Minnesota News weekly published in Minneapolis – St. Paul from 1916-1978) requesting Polish-Americans support his successful bid for the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1968. A similar ad was published in 1970. It calls attention to Germany's invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939. It was published in September, 1968 which would have been the 29th anniversary of the outbreak of the war. The translation is below.



TRAGICZNA ROCZNICA

Każdy Polak rocznicę wybuchu wojny w Polsce przeżywa uszuciowo. Krwawi serce na myśl o gromie tego co się stało wtedy i potem. Zdolali wrogowie ludzkości zniszczyć wszystko — a nie zniszczyli wiary, nie zniszczyli zasad moralnych, nie tknęli duszy.

**OBY POLSKA NAJRYCHLEJ ZAJĘŁA
MIEJSCE W GRONIE WOLNYCH
NARODÓW ŚWIATA.**

**Edward R.
BRANDT**

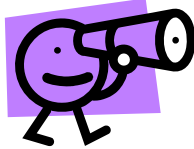
STANOWY REPREZENTANT

41-go Dystryktu

Tragic Anniversary

The anniversary of the beginning of the second World War is an emotional time for every Pole. Hearts bleed at the thought of the terrible events that happened then and later. Enemies of humanity were able to destroy everything, but could not destroy the faith, could not destroy moral principles and could not touch the soul.

**Let's Hope Poland will soon occupy the
space among the free-world countries.**



Scanning Polish Publications

Przëjòcél Lëdu Kaszëbsczégò (Friend of the Kashubian People), Spring 2008, Vol. XII, No. 2

Peplinski Family – Another Document is Found
By Tomasz Rembalski (translated by Blanche Krbecek and Renata Stachowicz)

About Castle Garden: Notes from an 1871 Article
By Blanche Krbecek

Kashubian Identity and Related Issues
From: *The Kashubs Today* by Cezary Obracht-Prondzyński

Subisław II Młody (the Younger)
From: *Książąt Pomorza Gdańskiego* (List of Pomeranian Princes of Gdańsk) [translated by Renata Stachowicz]

Pol Am, July/August 2008

Poland's Masurian Lake District
By Steven Ukasick

Rodziny, Summer 2008, Vol. XXXI, No. 3

Why I Love Polish Genealogy
By Mark Miazga

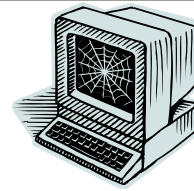
Remembering General Pułaski
By Edward Pinkowski

This issue contains two interesting articles on Emigrants and their Journey to America.

PGS-California, July 2008, Vol. 20, No. 3

Serfs of Poland and Russia
Serfdom-Transformation and Termination
Written and Abstracted by Robert S. Sherins M.D.

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



http://

Fred Hoffman in the *PGSA Notebook* noted these two web sites which might be of interest:

Cook County, Illinois Genealogy Web Site

Birth, marriage and death records can be ordered online at: <www.cookcountygenealogy.com>.

Calendars

In your research have you ever wanted to know the day of the week, the day of holiday, or to convert from the old (Julian) to the new calendar (Gregorian)? A web site is available to do the calculation.

<www.albion.edu/english/calendar/welcome.html>

While the web site indicates the old style was in use before 1752, this applies only to Great Britain and possessions. In Poland the new calendar was in use after 1583. Russia did not go to the Gregorian calendar until 1918 but often both dates are given in official documents in Russian-controlled areas of Poland.

1895 Maps

A contemporary map will often help you in research or in writing a family history. A source the newsletter has used can be found at:

<www.MemorialLibrary.com>. Scroll down and click on "Map Selections" and then state and county you want. These maps were part of the 1895 Rand McNally Corp. book *The New 11x14 Atlas of the World*. Pam Rietsch, the originator of the site, indicates she is planning an 1885 version but it will not be available for some time in the future.

Surname Locator

This user-friendly site can be found at:

<<http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa>>. Upon entering your surname and clicking on *Szukaj* (look for) it displays a color-coded map of Poland where people with these surnames live in Poland today. You must use Polish letters. The map is broken down to the *powiat* level. Numbers in each *powiat* are also tabulated. Hyphenated surnames are also available and you can get a map of the surname in Germany, Austria or Switzerland from the same page.



Surname Indexing Project—Volume 11

We are continuing to index the surnames included in the past issues of the **PGS-MN Newsletter**. The following listing includes all surnames that appeared in Volume 11, Nos. 1-4; Spring 2003, Summer 2003, Autumn 2003, and Winter 2003-04. The code used in this listing is as follows: the first number is the volume number, the second number is the issue number, and the third numbers are page numbers (volume:issue:page). We are indebted to Kay Freund for the indexing of this volume. Back issues of Volume 11 may be ordered from: Paul Kulas, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 12008 West River Road, Champlin MN 55316-2145. The cost is \$4.00 per issue. Make check payable to PGS-MN.

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PGS –MN September Events

September 6 - Joint Meeting at Stevens Point, Wisconsin



Terry Kita makes a pitch.

September 19 - MGS Awards Banquet

Greg Kishel, PGS-MN past president, received MGS Branch award from the Minnesota Genealogical Society at their annual awards banquet held at the Minnesota Historical Society. Greg was nominated for this award by PGS-MN. He has been an active member almost since its inception.

- served as a director and president
- frequently writes articles for the newsletter, and serves as an associate editor
- a frequent speaker at our meetings
- continues to do research in northern Minnesota Polish communities
- member of the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota
- active in Polish-American cultural and educational activities
- has attended the UNESCO Polish language camps in Poland on several occasions
- makes a delicious *grochówka* for the PACIM Soup Fest.

Congratulations, Greg!

September 20 - Regular Meeting at the MGS Library



Danuta Jampolska makes her presentation while Jay Biedny works the electronics.

September 23 - Minneapolis Sesquicentennial Celebration at the Hennepin County Library



Unidentified Ladies from The Living History Society of Minnesota, Inc., based in Mendota, in 1860 Period Dress

Polish/Kashub Settlement in Central Wisconsin

Member Adeline Sopa <amessearch@aol.com> prepared this item to mark the 150th anniversary of Polish/Kashub arrival in Portage County last year so we are publishing it here in conjunction with our Stevens Point meeting.

1857 - 2007

The year 2007 marks the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish/Kashub family to central Wisconsin. Their choice of this area in which to settle led to the development of the first permanent Polish settlement in the state and second in the U. S. Historians generally regard it to be second only to the Polish settlement in Panna Maria, Texas, in 1855. However, some regard it as the third, being later than Parisville, Michigan, reportedly settled in 1856.

The arrival of Michael and Frances Kozickowski and their seven children in the fall of 1857, led to a chain migration of hundreds of families from the Kashuby region of what was then West Prussia to the rural area eight miles to the east of Stevens Point. Central Wisconsin became one of the largest rural settlements of Kashubs in the U. S. At this time, Kashuby was under the occupation of Prussia, and had been since 1772. This was a migration of families looking for land to farm—their own land.

By 1864, the now approximately 43 Kashubian families had received permission to organize a Polish Catholic Church under the patronage of St. Joseph. It was built near the intersection of present-day State Hwy 66 and County Hwy J. St. Joseph's was the first of several Polish Catholic parishes organized by Rev. Bonaventure Buczynski, a missionary priest in Wisconsin. His next venture was in Milwaukee to assist in the organization of St. Stanislaus Kostka parish. It appears as though St. Joseph's was the first Catholic Church of Polish origin in the state.

This intersection was the center of the Polish community and was dubbed Poland Corners (Polska Krzywzowka) by the local residents. A few years later it was named Ellis. Their success as farmers and the presence of St. Joseph's Church soon drew immigrants directly from other areas of Poland as well as from other localities in the U. S.—immigrants not satisfied with their first choice. Most were from the Prussian partition of Poland and most of these were from the Kashuby region.

State Hwy 66, officially the Polish Heritage Highway, stretches from Stevens Point to the Portage County-Waupaca County line. It is dedicated to all of the Polish immigrants who came to central Wisconsin in search of a better life and in appreciation for their success. Their work ethic and their value of family, church, and community is their legacy.

Take a drive on Hwy 66 soon and be certain to look for the roadside shrines and crosses on nearby side roads. The vast number of huge rocks pushed up to fence rows cannot be missed. A testimony to the hard work and determination required to ready the fields for farming. Hard work, but the land was theirs.

**LDS Microfilming in Poland;
Records of the Diocese of Kalisz
By Paul Kulas <kkulas@ties2.net>**

Both the Spring 2008 issue (on page 8) and the Summer issue (page 19) of this newsletter show a map entitled "Filming in Polish Dioceses 1984-2007" (see map on page 31). The "shaded" areas of the map seemingly indicate Polish dioceses whose parish records have been filmed while the "white" areas apparently show dioceses whose records have NOT been filmed. One needs to be careful about reaching this conclusion. It would be unfortunate if our readers whose ancestral Polish parishes are located in a "white" diocese assume that those parish records have not been filmed.

Three general points about this map need to be made: 1) the map reflects microfilming done in diocesan archives since 1984 (much LDS filming in various diocesan archives was done prior to 1984), 2) the map does not reflect the filming of parish records that were stored in civil archives (in the former "German" areas of Poland, for example, the Prussian government required that duplicate parish records be sent to them and many of these have been filmed), and 3) diocesan boundaries have changed significantly since most of our ancestors emigrated from Poland (major changes were made after both World War I and World War II).

Let me speak specifically about the Diocese of Kalisz where four of my identified Polish ancestral parishes are now located (this is also an area from which immigration to central Minnesota occurred--see "Queries...Pytania" column on pages 5 - 7). This "white" diocese in west-central Poland is surrounded by "shaded" dioceses. It would seem then, that the records of my ancestral parishes in the Diocese of Kalisz have not been filmed. NOT TRUE!! Records from all four parishes have been filmed!

The Diocese of Kalisz was created only in 1992. It is comprised of parishes taken from the surrounding Poznań, Gniezno, Włocławek, Częstochowa, Opole and Wrocław archdioceses/dioceses. Three of my ancestral parishes -- Janków

Zaleśny, Rozdrażew and Lutogniew -- were formerly located in the Archdiocese of Poznań. A fourth, Koryta, was located in the Archdiocese of Gniezno.

The parish records of Janków Zaleśny (1700-1906), Rozdrażew (1736-1912) and Lutogniew (1688-1921) were first filmed at the Archdiocesan Archives in Poznań in the 1970s and updated in the 1990s. In addition, civil transcripts of the parish registers from each of these parishes were filmed at the State Archives in Poznań in the 1970s and 80s covering the following years: Janków Zaleśny (1808-1874), Rozdrażew (1808-1873) and Lutogniew (1866-1874). The original parish records for Koryta have not been filmed (they were still located in the parish office when I visited there in 2003). However, civil transcripts of the parish records have been filmed (at the State Archives in Poznań) covering the years 1818-1873. So have the records of civil registration of births, marriages and deaths for Koryta covering the years 1876-1892. In addition to the films of my ancestral parishes (which I have studied carefully), I also have "looked at" many films of neighboring parishes. I would guess that some records of most, if not all, of the parishes in the Diocese of Kalisz have been filmed.

What about other "white" dioceses? Are there other situations similar to the Diocese of Kalisz? Perhaps! I know, for example, that filming in the Diocese of Pelplin (this too is an area from which much immigration to Minnesota has occurred) has been extensive. (We published articles about available films in this diocese in the Spring 2005 [on pages 20-25] and Autumn 2005 [page 8] issues of this newsletter.) Maybe filming has been done in other "white" dioceses as well.

How does one know if their Polish ancestral parish records have been filmed? Well, if you know the name of the parish, you can go to <familysearch.org>, click on "Library Catalog" on the pull-down menu under "Library," enter the name of the parish in the "Place" space and click on "Search." Or you can check at your nearest LDS Family History Center.



Ten-year Members

The following is a listing of members who joined PGS-MN during membership year 1999 and who remain members through membership year 2008:

Walter Bennick, Winona
 Sandra Batalden, Tempe AZ
 Eileen Opatz Berger, White Bear Lake
 Vivian Chamberlain, Westland MI
 Joan Davy, Eden Prairie
 Patricia Janecula, Minneapolis
 Susan James-Morrow, Robbinsdale
 Gerald Keeville, Elk River
 Gene Kishel, Virginia
 Kathy Kortus, St. Paul
 Lucy Kruchowski, St. Paul
 Lou Ochocki, Blaine
 Jeanette Peterman, Cloverdale CA
 Kevin Proescholdt, Minneapolis
 Mary Ann Quade, Osseo
 Jean Swanson, Minneapolis
 Lisa Trembley, Wayzata
 Karen Whitmer, Richfield
 Vincent Zotkiewicz, Plano TX

Fifteen-year Members

The following is a listing of members who joined PGS-MN during membership year 1994 and who remain members through membership year 2008:

Mary Ellen Bruski, Robbinsdale
 Marcee Clemons, Apple Valley
 Shirley Mask Connolly, Ottawa ONT Canada
 Luanne Kulas Coy, Eau Claire WI
 Thomas J. Draus, Hazel Green WI
 Jenny L. Hall, Madison MS
 Bernadine Kargul, Redford Twshp. MI
 Jerry Kolton, Andover
 John Kulas, Collegeville
 Cecelia Pass, Rochester Hills MI
 Ann T. Pohl, Forest Lake
 Mary Rundel, Greenfield WI
 Robert Stryk, Edina
 Kathleen Zawislak, St. Paul

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

Missing Branches

NEW MEMBERS: *We welcome the following.*

Thomas HeimeL, 1218 Hall Ave., W. St. Paul MN 55118-2205 <THEIMEL@hotmail.com> is researching the PODGORSKI, BARR, SKORCZEWSKI and ZAJAC surnames.

David Henschell, 2213 Berland Place, St. Paul MN 55119 <Birchfieldhill@msn.com> is researching HUTYRA/HUTERA in Rajcza, MURAWKA/MORAFKA in Ujsoly and HENCIEL in Prussia.

Sue Thomson, POB 285, Janesville MN 56048 is researching August LAZARZ and Mary PIECKARZ in Poland, Albert SZUBART in the Lvov area and Joseph KOVAL in the Landestraw, Poland area.

RENEWALS: *The following members indicated updated information on their renewal forms.*

Arthur Lang, 1832 W. Crone Ave., Anaheim CA 92804 has renewed and suggests we "start a members question and answer section where members can send in questions, problems, etc. and anyone can reply if they have answers. Also, anyone that has research tips, leads, websites, etc. can send in."

These are very good suggestions. This is exactly what we want to do in our Correspondence/Queries columns. Anyone who has questions or problems regarding their research are encouraged to write to us and we will try to address their concerns--both by a direct response to them and also by publication of their question in a future issue of the newsletter. We also encourage anyone who can offer further advice to do so by contacting us and we will forward this advice on to the inquirer and also print their comments in the newsletter. And we always encourage anyone who has research tips, leads, websites or anything of interest dealing with Polish genealogical research to submit these to us for publication. Thank you, Arthur, for your

suggestions which allows us to restate our desire for member input to our newsletter. As it states in the box on page 2: "Items submitted for publication are welcomed and encouraged." Members, this is your newsletter. Let us hear from you!

-PTK

Eileen Opatz Berger, 1976 Oak Knoll Dr., White Bear Lake MN 55110 <eberger@q.com> is researching OPATZ in Falkowice and in North Prairie MN, SOBIECH in Dombrovka Dolna and in Bowlus MN.

Louise Kabot, POB 81, Wood Dale IL 60191, <LouiseKab@SBCglobal.net> is researching KABOCYMLIR (KABOT) in Posnan and in Lincoln Co. MN, LACKOSKI in Posan and in Lincoln Co. and Chicago.

Florence Myslajek, 1425 W. 28th St., #208, Minneapolis MN 55408 is researching MYSLAJEK and MIGACZ in Galicia.

Julia Schmolke, 506 W. Laurel, Stillwater MN 55082-4720 <jkeschmolke@hotmail.com> is researching SCHMOLKE, PESCHEL, BEKA, MISCHKE in Silesia and in Morrison Co. MN.

Minnesota Genealogical Society
Polish Genealogical Society
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