POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA



Newsletter Volume 24 #1 Spring 2016

Annual Elections

Your new board has hit the ground running and looks forward to serving you, the members of PGSMN

President Peggy Larson (term ends 2017))

Vice- President Rick Smith (term ends 2017)

Treasurer Michael Eckman (term ends 2018)

Secretary Vicki Myslajek (term ends 2018)

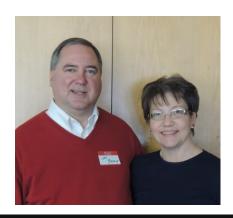
Director Mary Johnson (term ends 2017)

Director Dori Marszalek (term ends 2018)

Director Richard Theissen (term ends 2017)

Director Marie Przynski (term ends 2018)

Past President Jay Biedny



Finding the path our ancestors walked is not always easy but the rewards of the journey make the effort worthwhile

Jaque McGarney Generalopy

In This Issue

- · President's Letter
- 2015 Outstanding Achievement Awards
- Member Survey
- Minneapolis Polish Weddings
- Trains & Ships
- Missing Branches
- Membership insert

Past President Jay Biedny welcoming newly elected President Peggy Larson

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

A branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society

1185 North Concord Street, Suite 218

South St. Paul, MN 55075-1150

www.pgsmn.org



PGSMN Officers/Board of Directors

President — Peggy Larson (763-445-0090) peggylarson23@gmail.com

Vice President—Rick Smith (763-571-0101) rjsmithinc2000@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Mike Eckman (952-944-4008) mceckman@q.com

Secretary - Vicki Myslajek (763-533-5658) mary.myslajek@hcmed.org

Director - Mary Johnson (763-323-4655) kmmmkjohnson@msn.com

Director - Dori Marszalek (763-535-2296) dorim@comcast.net

Director - Richard Theissen (651-739-1490) rftheissen@comcast.net

Director - Marie Przynski (612-501-2799) Przynski@comcast.net





Committees

Library—Bob Kraska

Membership—Dori Marszalek & Mary Johnson

Newsletter/Website —Marie Przynski

Programs/Publicity—Rick Smith

Research—John Rys, Greg Kishel

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is my first column as president of the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota. Frankly, it is hard for me to believe I am president of PGS-MN. In fact, when I responded to the request for a volunteer to edit the PGS-MN newsletter, never in my wildest dreams did I think I would do it for five years much less be the Society's president! It is an honor to have this opportunity and I thank you.

We're starting this year with nearly a whole new slate of Officers. With myself as president, Rick Smith as vice president, and Vicki Myslajek as secretary, that leaves Michael Eckman, our tried and true treasurer, and directors Dori Marszalek, Marie Przynski, Rick Thiessen and Mary Johnson to work with for PGSMN. Rick Smith will be putting together presenters and presentations for our members' meetings. Vicki will be writing minutes from the Board of Directors meetings and maintaining records of the meetings.

(Cont'd p.3)

PGSMN April 2, 2016—Ellis Island by Bob Kraska

PGSMN May 7, 2016—Genealogy Research with Ancestry.com by Rick Smith and Peggy Larson

MGS Spring 2016 Conference

Saturday, April 16, 2016 - Bunker Hills Activity Center

Experienced genealogical researcher Dave McDonald will be the keynote speaker. His experience includes service as forensic genealogist for the City of Chicago, he also served as past president and current trustee of BCG. McDonald served for a number of years on the board of the National Genealogical Society, and has lectured throughout the US and the UK.. For additional information visit http://mngs.org/

"Szukam cię — I'm looking for you"

Kashubia 2016 Tour with Dr. Joe Hughes

A 10-day tour of the Kashubian region of Poland is being planned for June 27-July 8, 2016. This tour is being designed especially for the descendants of Kashubians who emigrated to Winona, MN—including those Kashubians who later moved from Winona to other locations in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and Wisconsin. This tour is open to one and all—whether one is Kashubians by descent, by marriage, or by choice. Further information/details at http://kashubia2016.blogspot.com/

President's Letter Continued

As you know, the primary purpose of PGS-MN is education! With a broad topic like "genealogy" it is sometimes difficult to gage what is of interest to an audience. So in February, we distributed a small member survey for input on what topics are of the most interest to members. The response to the poll was terrific! Thank you for your input! The topics results (in order of ranking) are: Genealogical, Historical, Geographical, and Cultural.

With genealogical as the top ranked topic, the April meeting topic is *Ellis Island* presented by Bob Kraska. The May 7th meeting topic will be *Using Ancestry.com* presented by Rick Smith with some assistance from me.

It has been a long time since we've had someone do a presentation on their personal family tree and their genealogical journey of discovery. I encourage you to consider sharing your story with the Society. If you would like to be a meeting presenter, please do not hesitate to contact me at peggylarson23@gmail.com or Rick Smith at rjsmithinc2000@yahoo.com.

And finally, a big *Thank You* to Marie Przynski for taking over the editorship of this newsletter so I could serve as president. I couldn't do both jobs and Marie stepped up and said she would be both newsletter editor and website master. She amazes me! Marie, this new format is very refreshing and modern!

I look forward to meeting many members at meetings and conferences this year. I hope you will take an active role in your PGS-MN membership. It is the best way to get the most out of it!

Peggy Larson

peggylarson23@gmail.com



PGSMN Member Jay Biedny presenting Trains & Ships

Did you know -

PGSMN has volunteer staffing at the MGS Library on the first Saturday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00 pm and

"Polish Night at the Library" on the 2nd
Thursday of the month with expert
genealogical resources available
from 6:00—9:00 pm

Your input is important and appreciated!
Please join us

Trains & Ships: how our ancestors traveled from Poland to America

On 3/5/2016, PGS-MN member Jay Biedny presented a history of railroads in central Europe and America along with the history of transatlantic steamship travel in the time of peak Polish immigration to the US., with an excellent visual display of his personal collection of steamship and rail memorabilia. Immigration stations in the US including: Castle Garden, Ellis Island and Lucus Point (Baltimore) were featured. Other travel patterns from other European and Mediterranean ports of departure were also covered. Major steamship lines of that era were also discussed. For additional info on presentation, see p.5

Address/email changes or membership questions?
Contact Dori Marszalek,
Membership Chair,
3901-61st AV N,
Brooklyn Center, MN
55419-2403 or email
Doripgs@comcast.net

Trains & Ships Additional Information — Jay Biedny

For those of you who attended my talk in early March on the trains and ships of our ancestors, thank you for coming. For those of you who could not make it, perhaps the following information will be helpful.

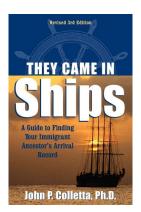
Some excellent books on ships and Immigration include:

They Came in Ships

John Philip Colletta

Third edition (2002)

Ancestry Publishing Company



SHIPS OF OUR ANCESTORS

This book outlines the methods for finding your immigrant ancestor's arrival records. It does not discuss the ships themselves in detail. It is a great resource: well written and updated in each of its editions. If you are using the internet to purchase it, beware of earlier, used copies of the first two editions at lower prices.

Ships of Our Ancestors

Michael J. Anuta

January 1, 1983

Genealogical Publishing Company

This is an exhaustive collection of pictures of passenger ships – three per page. It does NOT give a written history of each ship. However, using the photo credits, you can determine what museum has further information. It is a great resource for the earlier and smaller ships that were less often photographed or issued in postcards.

Continued p.6

MGS Learning Opportunity—Using DNA—Saturday, April 9, 2016

Gale Family Library at the MN History Center in St. Paul, MN

Instructor Alice Eicholz, Ph.D., CG

DNA Testing can provide helpful support for traditional genealogical research, bolster weak paper trails and disprove hypotheses about relationships. Learn about the available tests—Y, mitochondrial, and autosomal—and the testing companies that offer them so you can determine the most effective way to spend your DNA dollars.

Trains & Ships continued

I have also used the reference collection for many maritime museums:

Mystic Seaport or The Museum of America and the Sea—This campus of research buildings and actual ships is in Mystic, Connecticut. It is one of the largest maritime museums in the world. It has an extensive collection of ship histories.

Peabody Essex Museum—Considered one of the oldest continuously operating museums in the US, this Salem, Massachusetts institution has an extensive ship's history collection.

http://www.shipindex.org/ - This site is a portal index to ships mentioned in other publications. An excellent took for that small, odd ship on your list.

Some things from the other side of the pond:

www.redstarline.be/en - In 2013, a non-profit organization renovated the Red Star Lines departure areas in Antwerp into a museum that exhibits the actual immigrant experience. The Line brought some 2 million passengers to America. The site does not contain searchable records of passage.

www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Hamburg_Passenger_Lists - The Hamburg Passenger Lists (1850-1934), the ones created on the German side before passengers left Europe, still exists and have been loaded into a great data base accessible through Ancestry.com. This site explains the materials and their organization.

www.ballinstadt.net/ - The great emigration exhibition is the core of the BallinStadt or "Port of Dreams". This multi-building museum in Hamburg, explores the minds and backgrounds of the 4 million emigrants who used the North German Lloyd Line (HAPAG) to come to America.

http://dah-bremerhaven.de/english.php — This organization has a physical museum and is working on an immigration super data base of all immigration departures from all German ports. Currently the data base is only accessible at the museum. Give you a reason to visitright ;-)

http://www.stevemorse.org/ - This site will help you search several other sites with the same starting information. Great for even non-immigration stuff.

Some great sites for the immigration stations and records include:

www.libertyellisfoundation.org/passenger - Over 50 million passenger records for New York harbor from 1892-1954 searchable by name for free.

Continued p.7 6

www.castlegarden.org - Over 10 million passenger records for New York harbor from 1855-1890 searchable by name for free.

www.baltimoremd.com/charm/pointofentry.html - This site gives a general overview of the Locust Point immigration station in Baltimore, MD.

www.immigrantships.net - Has excellent information on ships manifests back to 1820. Volunteers transcribe and post entire ships manifests.

http://www.theshipslist.com/ - This is a very helpful site with lots of British and European information including ship pictures of the larger lines.

And finally the mother load for federal records: http://www.archives.gov/index.html -NARA and all that is good about the government. Hours of fun.

TWIN CITY POLISH CHURCH MICROFILM RECORDS

MICROFILM AVAILABLE AT MGS LIBRARY: In the early 1990's, the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis microfilmed all parish records within their Archdiocesan area. In the early 2000's, the St. Paul Archdiocese Archives allowed genealogy groups to purchase copies of these microfilmed records. Microfilm reel copies for many, but not all, of the churches of the Archdiocese of St. Paul are available on microfilm at the Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) Library in South St. Paul in their microfilm cabinets

The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota (PGS-MN) purchased church microfilm records for this MGS microfilm collection for the following eleven (11) churches considered ethnically Polish: All Saints, Minneapolis; Holy Cross, Minneapolis; Holy Trinity, South Saint Paul; St. Adalbert, Saint Paul; St. Casimir, St. Paul; St. Hedwig, Minneapolis; St. John the Baptist, New Brighton; St. Joseph, Delano; St. Joseph, Lexington; St. Mary Czestochowa, Delano; and St. Philip, Minneapolis

INDEXES AVAILABLE AT MGS LIBRARY: PGS-MN member, John Rys has indexed and printed hardcopy (paper) indexes for many of the early records from these eleven Polish churches.

Save the Date

"Folk & Fairy Tales"

MN Festival of Nations

May 5-8, 2016

RiverCentre, St. Paul

http:// www.festivalofnations. com/info.html

Check out the Polish Booth, Bazaar & Cafe

Constitution Day

Polish Museum Winona

May 7, 2016

4 PM Mass

St. Stanislaus Church (601 E. 4th, Winona)

5:30 pm Preprandials 6 PM Banquet & Presentation "Putting the Polish back into Polish-American"

Morrison Annex,

(363 E. 2nd, Winona)



PGSMN Member Survey

During February, PGSMN conducted a member survey regarding programs that are presented at our monthly meetings. PGSMN wishes to thank all those who generously completed the survey and provided suggestions and feedback. PGSMN is committed to providing relevant topics that interest our members. Approximately 20% of the membership responded. Members were asked to rank the topics of Genealogy, Geographical Historical, Cultural or Other. 70% of the respondents indicated that they would like to see more Genealogical and Historical related topics included in the presentations, and included several suggestion of desired topics.

Some of the Topic suggestions:

- The Chicago Connection—why did Poles divert to MN, WI, Iowa, etc.
- Ports of entry, Ellis Island—myths, legends, process
- Historical timeline of immigration—what were the geopolitical underpinnings of immigration
- DNA testing, what kind, what do the results mean

Comments on the surveys:

"Thanks for the board hard work on some very interesting programs. I've been very pleased with the program offerings since I joined a couple of years ago. Wish I had done it sooner.."

"...don't have specific suggestions...my favorite programs ...have dealt with history and economic history of Poland, how to do research there and travelogues....I attended the presentation by the HCPL genealogy librarian and invited her to speak at another genealogical group I belong to...." thanks for your efforts; I've been impressed..."

"I am pleased to see you are asking for input from the membership"

2015 PGS-MN Outstanding Achievement Awards presented at PGSMN Annual Meeting

The following two individuals were chosen to receive the 2015 Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award. The awards were presented at the PGS-MN Annual Luncheon on January 16, 2016.

JEROME (JAY) BIEDNY

Member of PGS-MN since 2004 President of PGS-MN 2009-2015

During Jay's six year tenure as president of the PGS-MN he has seen our organization through the following milestones: In the Golden Valley location, Jay, as a PGS-MN board member helped plan meetings and as Vice President did the planning and executing of all meetings, for one-two year term each.

THE RESIDENCE AND THE RESIDENC

Jay was involved during the moving of the MGS offices and the Polish library materials to the present South St. Paul loca-

tion. Promoted the PGS-MN by involvement in starting and maintaining the presence of MGS-MN at the Twin City Polish Festival. Involved in the revamping of the PGS-MN website.

He has given several genealogy research presentations in the Twin Cities and out-state. When needed, he published an edition of the PGS-MN Newsletter. Promoted the PGS-MN by authoring a column in the local Polish language newspaper. Because of our expanded presence in the Polish community during his tenure PGS-MN has maintained a vibrant membership.

JUDY RYS

Member of PGS-MN since 2001 Meeting Hospitality Coordinator since 2007

PGS-MN MEETING HOSPITALITY: Judy provides hospitality support for

meetings by coordinating the activities before the formal PGS-MN

meeting begins. She coordinates the welcome table with refreshments for the meeting attendees. The pleasant surroundings provided by Judy creates a warm and inviting atmosphere as the PGS-MN attendees arrive.



ATTENDEES: First impressions are important, especially for first time attendees, and Judy provides this welcoming spirit which she shares with members. When PGS-MN instituted a charge for meetings, Judy ensured that it was collected. Judy has worked at the PGS-MN tent at the Twin Cities Polish Festival and has been a great representative for the organization.

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

December 31, 2015 - Financial Report

Starting Cash Balance	12/31/2014 Actual \$7,069.42	12/31/2015 Actual \$7,147.44	2015 Budget \$7,147.44
RECEIPTS			
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
Back Issues	0.00	1.00	0.00
Donations	300.00	460.00	250.00
Dues	4,055.00	4,045.00	3,280.00
Miscellaneous	323.00	872.00	300.00
Program Attendance	1,080.00	1,263.50	1,200.00
Sales (Books)	898.23	491.15	800.00
Sales Tax Collected	65.77	36.85	58.58
Freight/Shipping Out	20.00	0.00	10.00
Surnames/Family Ties	75.00	105.00	75.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$6,817.00	\$7,274.50	\$5,973.58
DISBURSEMENTS			
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD purchased	0.00	0.00	0.00
Items for Resale	969.00	340.00	400.00
Library Expense	0.00	0.00	100.00
Meetings/Speaker Fees	1,396.92	1,659.50	1,485.00
Office Supplies/Copies/Misc.	333.42	456.57	350.00
Postage	427.07	502.24	550.00
Publishing Expense	2,105.00	1,805.25	2,200.00
Rent/Insurance MGS	1,478.00	1,426.00	1,426.00
Sales Tax Paid for Prior Year	29.57	65.77	65.77
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$6,738.98	\$6,255.33	\$6,576.77
TOTAL DIFFERENCE IN CASH	\$ 78.02	\$1,019.17	(\$ 603.19)
Ending Cash Balance	\$7,147.44	\$8,166.61	\$6,544.25
TCF CD	\$6,174.22	\$6,174.22	\$6,174.22
Total Ending Assets	\$13,321.66	\$14,340.83	\$12,718.47
New Members	22	33	25
Paying Members at Year End	240	244	240
i aying Mellibels at Leal Ella	240	∠ +1	240

The Polish Genealogical Society's financial results through December 31, 2015, show a \$1,019.17 increase in the cash in the checking account. The higher dues combined with the lower newsletter expense and generous contributions help to produce the surplus for the year. Rent, newsletter, postage, and sales taxes are in line with or below budget. Office Supplies are above budget because of printing member brochures and an unexpected MemberTies expense. Book Sales are below budget and last year, while Items for Resale are close to the budget for the year. The 2015 budget figures assumed 25 new members. 2015 Dues is higher than budget because we had more new members and more 3-year renewals than the budget assumed.



POPULAR MONTHS & WEEKDAYS FOR MINNEAPOLIS POLISH WEDDINGS

(At the Turn of the 20th Century 1886-1916)

By John L. Rys, (john@john.rys.name)

Introduction

POLISH WEDDINGS! Which months were popular for Polish weddings? Which weekdays were popular? This article analyzes the months and weekdays commonly chosen for weddings by a Minneapolis Polish community at the turn of the 20th century. The data was extracted from a marriage database I am working on as part of a Minnesota Polish vital records database project. The data is from Holy Cross Catholic Church, largest and oldest ethnically Polish church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The analyzed records are from August 23, 1886 to November 28, 1916, roughly thirty years of data. There were 1,452 marriage records for this time period.

Marriage Records: A Potential Gold Mine of Genealogical Information

From a genealogist's standpoint, the most exciting part of church parish marriage records is the possibility of finding family names back a generation, including the maiden names of the mothers of the bride and groom. Names of trusted marriage witnesses may indicate close friendships at that time or, in some cases, family members including siblings. On some records the parishes of baptism in Poland may have been recorded, which for some genealogists will help "bridge the gap" back to ancestral villages in Poland. Finally, there is the possibility of finding additional notations about family history.

Wedding Practices in Poland

The book <u>Polish Roots</u> 2nd edition, written by Rosemary Chorzempa (Genealogical Publishing Co, 2014, pg. 117), contains a section on "Marriage Registers" and it states there was a pattern to when marriages took place in Poland. Quoting Chorzempa, "Most people (*In Poland*) were married in the winter months between October, (after the harvest) and February (before Lent). Exceptions were usually widows and widowers with small children........The names of the couple, ages, birth places, whether previously married, and sometimes occupations are recorded. <u>Additional genealogical information can often be found</u>. A widow's previous marriage partner and her maiden name or the names of the parents of the bride and groom are often given."

Folk Lore surrounding Which Month to Marry

The internet has a variety of wedding related websites, many on wedding planning, with bits of wisdom and old "saws" or "adages" about when to marry. Sage advice on which month to choose is summarized by the following rhyme:

"Married when the year is new (**January**), he'll be loving, kind and true, When **February** birds do mate, You wed nor dread your fate.

when **replodly** blids do male, not wed not alread your late.

If you wed when **March** winds blow, joy and sorrow both you'll know.

Marry in April when you can, Joy for Maiden and for Man.

Marry in the month of May, and you'll surely rue the day.

Marry when **June** roses grow, over land and sea you'll go.

Those who in **July** do wed, must labor for their daily bred.

Whoever wed in August be, many a change is sure to see

Marry in September's shrine, your living will be rich and fine.

If in **October** you do marry, love will come but riches tarry. If you wed in bleak **November**, only joys will come, remember. When **December** snows fall fast, marry and true love will last."

Unpopular Months for Weddings

Website sources say: "May has been considered an unlucky month to marry for a number of reasons. In Pagan times the start of summer was when the festival of Beltane was celebrated with outdoor orgies and was therefore thought to be an unsuitable time to start married life."

"May is considered unlucky because it is the month in which the Romans celebrated the feast of the dead. The advice was taken more seriously in Victorian times than it is today. Queen Victoria is thought to have forbidden her children from marrying in May. In most churches the end of April was a busy time for weddings as couples wanted to avoid being married in May."

"Marry in Lent, Live to Repent" Lent was thought an inappropriate time for a wedding as this was a time of abstinence. The pre-Christmas season of Advent was held in similar regard.

Popular Months for Weddings

More internet wisdom includes the following: "June is considered a lucky month to marry in, as it was when the ancient Greeks and Romans honored Juno, the goddess of love and marriage. Summer as a whole was considered a good time to marry and this is partly to do with the sun's association with fertility. In Scotland one popular custom was for the bride to 'walk with the sun' to bring her good and she would walk from east to west on the south side of the church."

Months for Weddings at Holy Cross during 1886-1916

In spite of the advice in the rhyme (Marry in the month of May, and you will surely rue the day), May was the most popular month for weddings at Holy Cross with 184 weddings amounting to 12.7 %. The three autumn months of **September**, **October and November** were very popular with a total for the three months of 503 weddings or 36 %.

Lent and Advent were church seasons to avoid. Data follows this because no weddings were recorded for the month of December (Advent) and fewer weddings during months corresponding with the Lenten season (a shifting season), that is, mainly February, March and into April. The October to February cycle as practiced in Poland, referred to in the Chorzempa's book, shifted to the month of May and to autumn/fall weddings at Holy Cross.

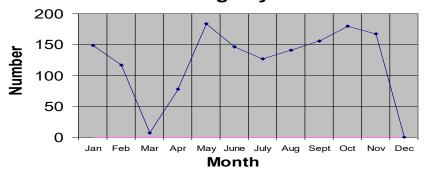
Seasons for Polish Weddings, 1886-1916

Four seasons	Number of	Percent of	Comments
(three months each)	Marriages	Marriages	Comments
Winter – December - February	266	18%	No Marriages during Advent-Dec.
Spring – March - May	269	18%	March & Aril are Lenten months
Summer – June - August	414	28%	Summer was popular
Fall – September - November	503	36%	Highest Seasonal Total
Total	1,452	100%	

Months for Polish Weddings, 1886-1916

Month	Folk Lore on Months	Weddings in Month	Percentage for Month
January	"He'll be loving, kind and true"	149	10.3%
February	"You wed nor dread your fate"	117	8.1%
March	"Joy & sorrow both you'll know"	7	0.5%
April	"Joy for maiden and man"	78	5.4%
May	"You'll surely rue the day"	184	12.7%
June	"Over land & sea you'll go"	146	10.1%
July	"Must labor for their daily bread"	127	8.7%
August	"Many a change is sure to see"	141	9.7%
September	"Your living will be rich & fine"	156	10.7%
October	"Love will come, but riches tarry"	180	12.4%
November	"Only joys will come, remember"	167	11.5%
December	"Marry & true love will last"	0	0.0%
	Totals	1,452	100%

Weddings by Month



Web resource available



The Pomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne (PTG or Pomeranian Genealogical Association is a genealogy group that offers online databases for the church records for the Pomeranian area. One source for their databases is from the Diocesan Archives in Pelplin where many books of vital records from Pomerania are stored. They are continually indexing the records and making them

available on their website at www.ptg.gda.pl. They are also photographing and indexing tombstones in cemeteries in the area. The website offers their pages in Polish, Russian German and in English and it seems to be very user friendly to use. Their homepage lists their current activity of records indexed. PTG has digital images for the Pelplin records but are not allowed to publish them online. If you find your

Selecting a Week Day for Weddings

Is there a Monday wedding in your future? Recalling memories from my 60 plus years of attending weddings, those I remember attending, took place on Saturday. However, from what I read on the internet, at one time Saturdays were considered unlucky and Fridays were also considered a bad choice.

Information on weekday selections for weddings was also gathered from various wedding websites. One source stated "In early times for Christians, Sunday was the original day of choice for weddings, because it was not a work day. The Puritan revolution in England during the 17th century changed all that - because the Puritans thought it improper to be festive on the Sabbath".

Another internet source states "The Victorians believed that it was lucky to marry on a day during the week that the groom was born. The luckiest day to marry was on the groom's actual birthday. And, oddly enough, <u>Saturday was the unluckiest day of all for a wedding!</u>"

There is an oft-repeated rhyme found on the internet advising for the first days of the week and against the last half of the week.

"Monday for health;

Tuesday for wealth;

Wednesday the best day of all;

Thursday for losses;

Friday for crosses;

Saturday for no luck at all."

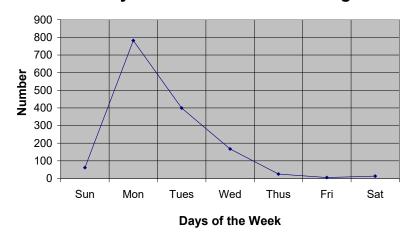
So how do Polish weddings at Holy Cross Catholic Church during the years 1886-1916 match up with this "old rhyme"? I reformatted the "date field" in my database to display the actual weekday and then did a weekday count. What a shock when I looked at the data because it matches up very well with the rhyme. I randomly double-checked some of the data against a perpetual calendar on the internet because I could not believe so many weddings happened on a Monday, 782 weddings or 53.9%, on a Tuesday, 399 weddings or 27.5% and so few on Saturday. Mondays and Tuesdays accounted for 1,181 weddings or 81.4% of the weddings for that particular time period, 1886-1916. The table below gives the statistical breakout of the weekday selection for Polish weddings.

I am still in somewhat disbelief about weekday weddings, since I can only remember Polish Catholic wedding celebrations on Saturdays. On a few occasions, I recall joining a group of youngsters making loud annoying metallic pots and pans type noises at the neighborhood "Bohemian Hall" at 23rd and Washington Ave in north Minneapolis until the bride and groom came out and threw coins to us. We called it a "shivaree" or at least it was known by that name. It is also said that Polish weddings would sometimes go on for two days. The second day apparently was known as "poprawiny".

Chart of Weekdays for Polish Weddings, 1886-1916

Day	Reasons cited in the "old rhyme"	Number of Weddings on this Day	Wedding Per- centage on this Day
Sunday		61	4.2%
Monday	For health	782	53.9%
Tuesday	For wealth	399	27.5%
Wednesday	Best day of all	167	11.5%
Thursday	For losses	25	1.7%
Friday	For crosses	5	0.3%
Saturday	No luck at all	13	0.9%
	Totals	1,452	100%

Days of the Week For Weddings



MGS Learning Opportunity

Church & Cemetary Records — Saturday, May 14th, 2016

Gale Family Library at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul, MN

Instructor Lois Abromitis Mackin, Ph.D.

Before civil governments kept records of births, marriages, and deaths, these life events were documented in church and cemetery records. Learn about these records, how to locate them, and how they can help solve your family history problems.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH MARRIAGE REGISTER PAGE FOR 1886

Nomen Familia.	A. D. /88.	REGISTRUM MATRIMONIORUM	Dispensationes.	Nomen Familiæ.	A.D. 1886 Die Mensis.	REGISTRUM MATRIMONIORUM.	Dispensationes.
Persak, Mogadto.	10. Octobris	Ego infrascriptus premissis triburdenuntiationibus et mutuo contrahentium consensu habito, per verba da prasenti matrimonio conjunci. Jasamenus estrete et voco marine per le Marine Minima Jasapha Prasak et Consensus et voca Marine per le Prasak es voco marine per la marine per le marine per la m		Marikarahi Panteraki		Ego infrascriptus pravnissis bushin domintiationibus et mutuo contrabentium consensu habito, per verba de presenti matrimonio conjunsi. Melekirtum. Mack. Reservita es loco. Marineapel. 3 M. Filium Antonio Marikeaveta. et Lattiacumano Pavlaverita. et Lattiacumano Pavlaverita. Filium Internationale de Minima. Filium Lattiacumano Pavlaverita. Presentibus estitus. Securios a Stalin.	Dispensation
		Andreine Resekt G. Pacholoke party Ego infrascriptus pravnissis dudu denuntiationibus et	-0.			Maria Perlik J. Parholiki part	
Šobsk, Skibinski	pl. Octobrio	mutuo contrahentium consensu habito, per verba do prasenti matrimonio conjunzi. Elecam. Bodake se topo Marmayeti. i. Mino Filium. Jashi Sebeke et Morniam Skilunaki es tooo. Marmapete no Minou. Filiam Pranciori Idahunaki Prasentibus testibus Josepho Karalikareki Prasentibus testibus Josepho Karalikareki Pheodora Sarun	Aspen ation of the state of the	Bolikarki, Sasani (Izazan).	Novembir	er 1000 Minnes parte in Minne. Filliam Thomas Sharin (Spagness) Praventibus testinus Josepha Sharin Maria Kroino	
Tobkonki, Vorstri	21 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Ego infrascriptus prumissis Probuidemuntiationibus et mutuo contrahentium consensu habito, per verba de prasenti matrimonio conjunzi. Jestificari Selva (2000) (200		Turaveko, Korisko	23. Novimbi	Ego infrascriptus premista una denuntiationisus et mutuo contrahentium consensus habito, per verba de presenti matrimonio conjunzi Jeanmann Turanzhe es loco Minnapoli in Filium Jeanna Morcache (Trimunda et Aburranna Roccache (Trimunda et Jeanna Morcache) Filium Leongue Horrista Frasentibus testibus Leongue Junta Joanna Atuarich Garana Atuarich	Superostron (MACINI) poro Unobus dim tistionibus
2	23 mm Novembre F et ex	infrascriptus promissis bribar demuntiationibus et utuo contratentium consensu habito, per verba de prasenti atrimonio conjunzi for ploturu hapror es loco Atelana in Mennitium altaritum lagrari atrimonio Confurmissio loco Murmussali in Munnitium altaritum Palik loco Murmussali in Munnitium Balik rasentitus testina Balik rasentitus testina Barisha Palik Antorna haske		Rozazenti, Aibas:	Januari 1 Januari 1 e e	Ego infrascriptus premissis fribro denuntiationibus et nutuo contrahentium consensu habito, per ereba de prasenti natrimonio conjunsi. Washironan. Raggigaraki. es loco Miramiagasti in Moore tilium. Michaeler. Raggigaraki. t. Labharanan. labaa. s. loco Miramiagast. viltan. Litri. Labaa. resentibus testibus. akmastarie. Lapaki.	•

Marriage registry pages from Holy Cross Church Minneapolis (1886-7) with four (4) records to a page.

Marriage dates were double checked using a perpetual calendar with the following results: Oct 10 is a Sunday; Oct. 12 is a Tuesday; Oct. 31 is a Sunday; Nov. 22 is a Monday; Nov. 23 is a Tuesday; Jan 2, 1887 is a Sunday.

Summary: Of the eight (8) marriages listed on these 1886-7 registry pages, three (3) marriages on a Sunday; one (1) is on a Monday; four (4) on a Tuesday. No Saturday weddings here.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH MARRIAGE REGISTER PAGE FOR 1916

Nomina Contrahentium	Annus	Mensis	Dies	vei dreug Nacintatis Sponsi	L Paremba Sponsit vi L
Sponsi Sponsae Lungurda Stary Sponsi Adalledas Janos	, 19/1	Sau.	18	Lal: Vida:"Liber Bapt: "Vol. Pag. No.	Cathorina Cleyon
Sponsi 2 Sponsa Spon	10/1	() ''	95	. Prabka kal, Vide "Liber Bapt." Vol. Pag. No.	Paulus Sophia Wniak
3 - Janus Putar				Vide "Liber Bapt." Vol. Pag. No.	Michael
Sponsa Guela Cieslik 4 Sponsa James Kniles	1916	, ,			Matthias Borns
4 Sponsae James Smiles - Bechla Cynfers - Sponsae Josephus Jamak	1 110			Haweneyye Islat. Vide "Liber Bapt" Vol. Pag. No.	Helena Polek
Sponsi Sporus	1716		2.5	Showa Vide "Liber Bapt." Vol. Pag. No.	Tella Nignik
Sponsag Granues Of apreg	17/6	Que.	25	- Pedjawka Hak. Vide "Libe Bapt." Vol. Pag. No.	agnes Cirla
7 Sponsag Julian Symbonski Sponsi Sponsi	. 1916	H	31	Syguston Vide "Liber Blod" Volt of page V Not.	Maria Boguetes
8 Sponsae Josephus Klinsk Griels Printeke	1916	, fen	31	Vide "Liber Bapt." Vol. Pag. No.	Carries Behiefen
9 Sponsae Maria Sparko	<i>ا</i>		31	Olsynore Gar. Vol. Pag. No.	
10 Sponsae M. A. C. O'S	1916	Feb.	1	Danilous Vice "Life that who Park! No.	Thomas Braislans Suthering
Sponsi Staring Staryush	ki 1911	11	1	Suchaegew	James P. M.
Sponsia Slimania 12 Sponsae Walkaush	1/10	1	1	Via jognoba vedrasa zameth Bilawka Ro	Paulus
Victoria Zywa	19/6	fan	21	Vide "Liber Bapt." Vol. Pag. No.	Helena Sklegynski

Marriage registry page from Holy Cross Church (1916) in Minneapolis with twelve (12) records to a page. Marriage dates were double checked using a perpetual calendar with the following results: Jan. 18 is a Tuesday; Jan. 24 is a Monday; Jan 25 is a Tuesday; Jan 31 is a Monday; and Feb 1 is a Tuesday.

Marriage Records: Boom or Bust

Marriage records may sometimes contain an "abundance" of family information or marriage records may be a complete "bust" with a bare minimum of information. The situation largely depends on the priest who entered the marriage information into the marriage registry book at the parish office. Some of the registry books provide detailed blanks like the two example pages below, so the parish priest could simply fill in the corresponding blanks with information. Over the past 10 plus years I have entered 5,200 marriage records into the Minnesota Polish database and I have observed "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" to quote an old Clint Eastwood movie title.

Die 22 Mensis Main IIII. Anhas

And miss D pannorum proclamatio miss

63 Lyli Lichlite Natrimonio Conjungi Lichlite

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Minn of fan Linnell of Colthornal

Ming on fet baptizatum in parochia

Roule Diocesis. St. Philips

et. Lind via Con My J. ex parochia. St. Philips

Diocesis. St. Jake filium Lohannes My

et. Mannes Mon away.

baptizatum in parochia

et. Mannes Mon away.

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Vistes adjuctuat Franciscus Offwi del

Anches Contains

Office Lichlite

Nuitium de Matrimonio ut supra Contracto, misi Dio.

Mensis.

Mensis.

Mensis.

Mani au

Mensis.

Mensis.

THE GOOD: Example of Good Parish Record Keeping

In this marriage record from 1911, the parish priest <u>TOOK THE TIME</u> to ask about family information and record it on the proper registry book blanks. This is the marriage record for my father's half-sister, Louise Ryś and it cites my paternal grandfather, Jan Ryś, as the father of the bride and provides the "maiden" name of his first wife, Anna Morawa, who died in Poland in 1897. Jan Ryś married Anna Morawa in Poland in 1883 while still living in Poland. Jan Ryś later married a second time to Ludwika Glowczak, my paternal grandmother.

This marriage record, with Latin wording preceding the blanks, gives good detailed information. Here the surnames are in Polish (i.e. Ryś) and first names are in Latin (i.e. Ludovicum). The record includes: bride's name; groom's name; father's name for both bride and groom; mother's maiden name for both bride and groom; villages in Poland where they were baptized; the diocese of their Polish village church; and the two witnesses' names. The inclusion of the village church location and diocese of baptism, in this case the villages of Rabka and Jordanów, in the diocese of Krakow (Cracovicusis), help "bridge the gap" with detailed information of which village they emigrated from in Poland.

(NOTE: Married on Monday May 22, 1911, at St. Philip's Catholic Church in north Minneapolis.)

***************************************	E Committee Comm	17.
Peristri	um Matrimoniorum Ecclesiae	<u></u>
ixegisti.	Diocesis	
***************************************	Diocesis	
Contrahentium Nomina	Die Amni 1932	Notanda
.	bannorum proclamatio,	
	Matrimonio Conjunzi ex parochia France	
	, Diocesis,	
) A 10/	fliumbaptizatum in parochia	
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0.	Diocesis, baptizatam in parochia	
	Diocesis	
	Testes adjuctunt Jane Jagosty	
	Mugael Lienko	
	Notitiam de Matrimonio ut supra Contracto, misi Dic	
!	Mensis, ad, ad	
		•

In this marriage record from 1932, the parish priest <u>DID NOT TAKE THE TIME</u> to ask about any family information and record it on the proper lines conveniently provided in the registry book

The <u>absolute worst part</u> of this record is that the parish priest gave <u>ONLY THE FIRST INITIAL</u> of the bride and groom, instead of recording their complete first names. <u>This is not very comforting for a genealogist</u>. Although not as critical, he abbreviated the name of the parish where they attended church at that time as "St. Phil." (St. Philip or St. Philomena?).

Surprisingly, <u>he records the full first name of the two witnesses</u>, Frank Jarosz and Margaret Sienko, but did not do this for the most important people, the bride and groom, where he uses their initials.

<u>Sorry</u>!! Steven Sienko and Mary Jarosz (my mother's first cousin) but the priest could not take time to ask your first names and write them down on your own marriage record. What was he thinking? Or, was he in a hurry to get somewhere? As the saying goes "Go Figure!"

(NOTE: Married on <u>Tuesday</u> August 9, 1932, at St. Philip's Catholic Church in north Minneapolis.)

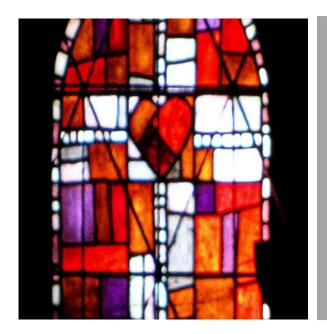
Summary

Regarding the months for Minneapolis Polish weddings, the October (after the harvest) to February (before Lent) marriage seasonal pattern as practiced in Poland as referred to in Chorzempa's book, <u>Polish Roots</u>, gave way to the month of May and the three autumn months for weddings at Holy Cross during the period 1886-1916. May was the most popular month for Polish weddings, even though the old rhyme ("Marry in the month of May, and, you'll surely rue the day") cautioned against marriages in May.

So in spite of the advice in the old rhyme, **May** was the most popular month for weddings at Holy Cross with 184 weddings amounting to 12.7 %. The three autumn harvest months of **September**, **October and November** were very popular with a total for the three months of 503 weddings or 36 %. Lent and Advent remained church seasons to avoid.

Apparently the "old rhyme" for weekday selection quoted, set the tone for weddings at the turn of the century (1886-1916) Holy Cross church. Monday (for wealth), Tuesday (for health), and Wednesday (the best day of all) accounted for the majority (92.9%) of the weekdays selected for marriages. Saturday (No luck at all) accounted for less than 1% of those weddings

As seen by the two family related parish marriage records included with this article, it shows how marriage records may be a "boom or bust" for containing detailed information of genealogical value. We can be thankful for those Polish priests, who during this time period, took the time to record detailed information in their parish marriage registries, which potentially will be of value to current and future genealogists.



A special thanks to PGSMN Members who donated funds in support of our organization

Robert Kraska, Richard Theissen, Adam F. Geron, James Franczyk, Joan Davy, Colleen Conrad, Raymond & Helen Stawarz, Terry Kita, Mary Jerde, Sandra Nuss, Dori Marszalek, Michael Eckman, Clarice Harhut, Maryland C. Soyett, Lisa Trembley, and Howard Root

Missing Branches

Attention new and renewing members: Please type your family names and locations or print clearly in block letters to avoid confusions. We do our best to type the names and locations. Unfortunately some handwriting is difficult to figure out.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Antus, Stephen and Anna, 2316 – 119th LN NE, Blaine, MN 55449, Antus.Ania@yahoo.com, Researching: **ANTUS, ANTOS, ANTOSH, ANTUSEH** of Galicia, Austro-Hungary, Settling in Marinette, WI and Duluth and Cloquet, MN; **FARKAS, FARKASZ, FARKASH, FARKA** of Galicia, Austro-Hungary, Settling in Marinette, WI, and Duluth and Cloquet, MN.

Root, Howard, 3622 McKinley St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418, howroot@gmail.com, Researching: **MASK, WRASTAK, MAGDENIWICZ** of Poland; Settling in Minneapolis, MN.

Trapp, Paula, 3720 Independence Ave., S., Apt. 90, St. Louis Park, MN 55426, Researching: **SPICZKA**.

Troemner, Mark, 416 Northview Pass, Hudson, WI 54016, troemner@pressenter.com, Researching: **ALTMANN-WALESKI/WALEWSKI** of Gniewkowo, Argeneau, Parchanie, Nowroclaw, Poznan; **KLIS-BIEL-SANETRA** of Zywiec, Bielsko-Biala, Galicia, Settling in Minneapolis, MN and Chicago, IL; **WROBEL** of Radzankow, Katowice, Settling in Minneapolis, MN and Chicago, IL; **ZELINSKI** settling in Stevens Point-Polonia, WI.

RENEWING MEMBERS:

Atwood (Kolupailo), Bonnie, 24787 West Jones Ave., Buckeye, AZ 85326, bon_livlovlaugh@yahoo.com, Researching: KOLUPAILO of Lido/Vilno; Settling in St. Paul, MN; SZY-MANOWSKI of Grodno, Poland; Settling in St. Paul, MN; WOJTKIEWICZ settling in Chicopee, MA; JAROCKI of Pietkovo, Poland; Settling in St. Paul, MN; ZAJACZKOWSKI.

Bridges, Joan, 1927 Knollwood Circle, St. Cloud, MN 56303, jbangel03@hotmail.com, Researching: **NANIK, WODARZ** of Upper Silesia and Opole, Settling in Browerville, MN.

Bumgarner, Pat, 524 NE 20th Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55418, Researching: **PAUL RICHTER/JACOB RYCHTER** of Lipnica and Chojnice, Settling in Sobieski and Flensberg, MN; **MARY KOSLIETZA** of Chojnice, Settling in Sobieski and Flensberg, MN.

Clabo, Patricia, 16528 Temple Drive S., Minnetonka, MN 55345, patandbobclabo@msn.com, Researching: JÓZEFA KARKULA, MAGDALENY ZUREK of Rabka Zdroj; JANA KOŚCIELNIAK, BARBARY SKAWIAŃCZYK of Rabka Zdroj; JOSEPH BIALOCZYK of Znin, Poznan, Poland; Children settled in Silver Lake, MN.

Missing Branches / Renewing Members Continued

Geron, Adam F., PO Box 302, West Point, VA 23181, mgeron93@verizon.net, Researching: **MICHAEL J. GIERON** of Tarnow, Poland; Settling in Little Falls, MN.

Graczyk, William, 1235 Clubhouse DR, Apt 3114, Taylorsville, UT 84123, wrgraczyk@gmail.com, Researching: GRACZYK/GRACZ of Jaroszewo, Źnin, Settling in Hale/Silver Lake, McLeod County, MN; NOWAK/NOVAK of Gasawa, Źnin, Settling in Hale/Silver Lake, McLeod County and Alberta, Benton County, MN; ***In addition William is researching all Polish Surnames from Źnin, Witkowo, Srem and settling in Hale/Silver Lake, McLeod County and Alberta, Benton County, MN. He is willing to assist anyone with ancestors from Hale/Silver Lake, MN.

Gruchala, Robert, 242 Gillespie Ave., Minto, ND 58261, Researching: **GRUCHALA** of Kashubia; **MARVNIK** of Silesia; **WIECZOREK** of Silesia łubniany; **GRADZIELEWSKI** of Silesia.

Hieber, Susanne, 23309 Whitley Drive, Clinton Township, MI, 48035, shieber@aol.com, Researching: **KUSHA** of Selcia, Settling in Wright County, MN; **JARECKI** of Southern Poland; Settling in MN and Chicago, IL.

Holme, JoAnne M., 9923 Aetna Ave. NE., Monticello, MN 55362, Holmetwo@aol.com, Researching: **PUTRZEK** of Bnin, Settling in Minnesota; **KAMINSKI** of Myslakowo, Settling in Minnesota; **SZYMANSKI** settling in Minnesota.

Johnson, Kevin, Mary & Katie, 3210 – 139th LN NW, Andover, MN 55304-7532, kmmmkjohnson@msn.com, Researching: CIESIELSKI, MANIAK, DUDA of Raschkow, Poznan, Settling in Buffalo, NY, Duluth and Split Rock Township, MN; BUTKIEWICZ, SZEDIS/SHADYS of Suwalki, Settling in Superior, WI, Duluth and Kettle River, MN; KUBICKI, WALCHOWIAK of Poznan, Settling in Duluth and Winona, MN; OLSZEWSKI, KOSLAKIEWICZ of Poznan, Settling in Buffalo, NY and Duluth, MN, KRZESZEWSKI, MUSOLF of Poznan, Settling in Duluth, MN.

Keller, Judith, W 1211 Meadowview Dr, Lot 72, Sullivan, WI 53178, kellerjudy@hotmail.com, Researching: **ANTON KASPRZAK, ANNA PROBULIS, JOHN NAPIERALLA** of Gydnia, Poland; Settling in Milwaukee, WI; **ANNA MUR** of Suwalki, Poland; Settling in Milwaukee, WI.

Continued p.23

"Nothing is **difficult** if one wants it" - Polish Proverb

Missing Branches / Renewing Members continued

Losinski, Tom, 3360 Rosewood LN N., Plymouth, MN 55441, tlosinski@aol.com, Researching: **LOSINSKI** of Wiele and Przytarnia, Settling in Pine Creek, WI and Winona, MN.

Mack, Edward, 3086 Kilstrom Rd., Webster, WI 54893, macked425@yahoo.com, Researching: MAĆIEJEWSKI of Łodz and Warsaw, Poland; Settling in Chicago, IL.

Martin, Kay, 5325 Forest Rd, Minnetonka, MN 55345, dekjmartin@att.net, Researching: **LUCHT** of Storkow and Grunewald, Settling in Minnesota.

Mros, Gilbert and Janet, 1996 Langton Lake DR, Unit 205, Roseville, MN 55113, gil.mros@gmail.com, Researching: MROS of Ćupel, Settling in Michigan; GUTOWSKI of Łomza, Settling in Michigan; MROZKA/MROCZKA of Sukołow, Małopolski, Settling in Minneapolis, MN.

Myslajek, Mary Victoria, 3806 – 46th Ave., N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422, Mary.Myslajek@hcmed.org, Researching: **MYSLAJEK, MIGACZ/MIGATZ, GRABSKA** of Poland; Settling in Minneapolis, MN.

Nelson, Debbie, 6316 Wyoming Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428; cdnelcon@msn.com, Researching: **SLOPEK, MISKOWIEC, PAWLIKOWSKI** settling in Minneapolis, MN; **SLAVKOWSKI** settling in New Jersey.

Neuman, David, 3718 – 44th Ave. N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422, david.l.neumann@comcast.net, Researching: **NEUMANN, WITT** of Wirsitz Kreis, settling in Stearns County, MN; **FALK, BUCHHOLZ** of Flatow Kreis, settling in Stearns County, MN

Rog, **Paul T.**, 1213 Monroe St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413, pawelrog1@gmail.com, Researching: **ROG** of Stròża, Poland; Settling in Minneapolis, MN; **PTAK** of Poznan, Poland; Settling in Minneapolis, MN; **WOJCIAK** of Chabówka, Poland; Settling in Minneapolis, MN; **BORUCH** of Lublin, Poland; Settling in Minneapolis, MN.

Smith, Rick, 1467 N. Innsbruck Dr., Fridley, MN 55432, rjsmithinc2000@yahoo.com, Researching: **SMYT/SZMYTT** of Poland; Settling in Hennepin County, MN; **HANUSIAK/HANUSZAK** of Galicia, Settling in Hennepin County, MN; **PYKA/PEKA** of Silesia, Settling in Morrison County, MN; **BARON, KOZAK** of Poland.

Wrobel, Gordon, 961 Nebraska, Ave. W., St. Paul, MN 55117, gordonwrobel@mae.com; Researching: **WROBEL, SOBOTA** of Opole, Settling in Todd County, MN.

Wilno Heritage Society/Shirley Mask Connolly, 21 Granville Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, KIYOM5 Canada, maskconn@magma.ca, Researching: All Polish Surnames of Kashub Region; Settling in Canada.



Carrying Tradition forward

Recently, PGSMN member Nancy Czernik Gagner represented Poland at the Clover Ridge Elementary Culture Night - she filled an entire classroom with displays and taught a traditional paper cutting techniques class.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and meetings.

Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota 1185 N. Concord Street South St. Paul, MN 55075 763-445-0090

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The Polish Genealogical Society of a Minnesota Newsletter is published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Newsletter subscription is included with membership.

Submitting items for publication is welcome and highly encouraged. We require feature-length articles to be submitted exclusively to PGSMN. Mail articles, letters, book reviews, news items, queries to Marie Przynski, 1848 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, MN 55109 or email to Przynski@comcast.net.

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Polish Proverb

All times are good when old.