

# POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA



Newsletter Volume 25 #1

Spring 2017

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear members,

Six years ago when I answered a request for someone to do a newsletter, never in my wildest dreams did I imagine being president of said organization. And one year ago, when I volunteered to serve as interim president for a year, never did I dream I'd volunteer to continue in that position for two years! But, it seems I have done just that. I hope I haven't taken on more than I can do!

In a recent article, Dick Eastman said the most common question he hears is why do many societies struggle, shrink in membership and sometimes disband, while others grow steadily in both membership and services? In a nutshell, his answer is a society that grows and thrives is a society where change is embraced. Where change is not embraced, you'll find a society struggling, shrinking, or disbanding. That society suffers with "inertia" and is often caught in the "yeah, but we've always done it this way and it's worked just fine" mind frame.

PGS-MN is maintaining. We have maintained a steady dues-paying membership of about 250 members the last four years. Our financial situation is healthy and stable. We publish an informative quarterly newsletter, conduct four to six members' meetings each year, and have a well-attended annual elections meeting each January. Our large booth is a popular attraction at the Twin Cities Polish Festival each August. Plus we have a well administered, up-to-date website to promote everything PGS-MN. These are our strengths of which we can all be proud.

PGS-MN is not shrinking, or heaven forbid, disbanding. PGS-MN is maintaining. However, there is evidence that we are beginning to struggle. What evidence? There has been a vacant VP board position for over a year. That board position has "traditionally" been the speakers/programs person so we've had difficulty finding speakers for

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## In This Issue

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**Your input is important and appreciated—Deadline for the Summer 2017 issue is May 15, 2017.**

## 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

Visit us on the web at  
[www.pgsmn.org](http://www.pgsmn.org)

members' meetings. Member meeting attendance has decreased. Book sales are down. Is this a downward spiral onto the "struggle, shrink, disband" spectrum?

We need to turn this spiral upside down! It will only happen if members volunteer their time and talent to the various tasks that make a PGS-MN successful society.

I knew I had the skill and desire to edit a newsletter long before I volunteered to edit the PGS-MN newsletter. But I never would have volunteered had I not read the request. I'm betting there are others like me who would volunteer if only they knew who needed them. I'm telling you PGS-MN needs you! at members' meetings. I'm presenting a couple of branches of my family tree at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. If I can do it, you can too!

We need people to either find meeting presenters or do their own presentations at members' meetings. I'm presenting a couple of branches of my family tree at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. If I can do it, you can too!

Members with technology skills need to step forward and volunteer to start recording our meeting presentations and uploading the recordings to [www.pgsmn.org](http://www.pgsmn.org). Members may enjoy being able to view the presentations online if they can't attend meetings. Maybe it would even be possible to conduct a remote presentation live if we had a person or persons that knew how to do that. But people with those skills and that energy must get involved. If we don't have anyone like that, we must recruit them!

We also need people to write articles for the newsletter! It's been a struggle to get people to submit original articles. The newsletter needs to be informative but original also. Let's not turn our newsletter into one that only reprints (with permission) articles from other newsletters or websites. Let's keep it original.

And, finally, if you have some new ideas on how to make PGS-MN a growing, thriving society, let the rest of us know! Like Greg Kishel said in the spring 1997 newsletter, "That's what truly will make us a Towarystwo, a Society—the coming together in sharing and understanding."

Thank you, Peggy Larson [Peggylarson23@gmail.com](mailto:Peggylarson23@gmail.com)

**Address/email changes or membership questions? Contact Dori Marszalek, Membership Chair, 3901-61st AV N, Brooklyn Center, MN 55419-2403 or email [dorim@comcast.net](mailto:dorim@comcast.net)**

**Just a friendly reminder** - don't forget to renew your PGS-MN membership—you don't want to miss the Summer Newsletter. PGSMN continues to produce our four excellent newsletters each year and offer social activities at the Annual Meeting, the Twin Cities' Polish Festival, several genealogical conferences and general meetings throughout the year.

If you have meant to renew but just haven't, simply go to the website [www.pgsmn.org](http://www.pgsmn.org), and print out the membership form, or fill out the enclosed form in this newsletter and mail to the address listed.

PGSMN membership dues have been maintained at \$20 per year—Still a great bargain and very comparable to many other ethnic, regional genealogical organizations across the country.

Your membership support allows for the quarterly newsletter, and general operating expenses. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

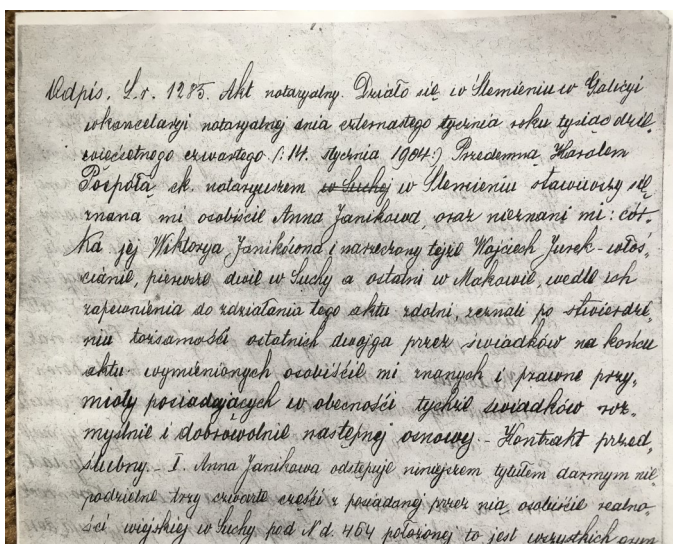
Thank You, Dori Marszalek, Membership Chair

Genealogical information can be found in the most interesting places—who knew that “marriage contracts (pre-nuptials)” were in practice in Poland, in 1904, and even described equal property rights. Thank you PGSMN member Connie Waldherr for sharing this interesting piece.

### 1904 PRE-MARRIAGE CONTRACT

Between Anna (Balcer) Janik of Sucha, Poland,

And her daughter, Wiktoria Janik (18 years old) and fiancé, Wojciech Jurek (25 years old)



My paternal grandparents were born in Poland and were married in 1904 before they immigrated to the United States. Grandfather Wojciech Jurek (1879-1959) and Grandmother Wiktoria (Janik) Jurek (1885-1953) settled in Northeast Minneapolis and raised six children in their home at 2214 California Street NE. My father was the youngest.

Much to my surprise and delight, my second cousin living in Makow Podhalanski, Poland, who I have not yet had the opportunity to meet, sent me a copy of a handwritten document in Polish that after being translated, was a pre-marriage contract signed in 1904 between my grandparents and my great-grandmother Anna (Balcer) Janik (1865-?).

Notary document Nr. 1285 dated 14 January 1904, in Siemień, Galicia, Poland

In the notary office of Karol Pospóła stands Anna Janikowa who is known to the notary and her daughter Wiktoria Janikowa who is unknown to the notary. Both peasants from Sucha. Also present is fiancé Wojciech Jurek, a peasant, from Maków. In addition there are two witnesses who have come forward to verify to the identity of the couple: farmer Jędrzej Mglej from Maków and farmer Wawrzyniec Kołacz from Sucha.

All the personal data of Wiktoria Janikowa and Wojciech Jurek has been verified and the couple understand that they stand before the notary to swear and certify that they understand the conditions of the document and enter into a pre-marital contract non-frivolously and on their own free will.

The couple further understands that the conditions noted in the pre-marriage document are valid only if the couple is married within the current year of 1904. If the marriage does not take place within the year, the contract is invalid.

I. Anna Janikowa freely gives as a gift to the couple  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the land and buildings that belong to her in Sucha under the Nr. 464. Also the following property listed in the Sucha Grundbuch:  $\frac{3}{4}$  of Nr. 797;  $\frac{3}{4}$  of Nr. 373;  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 10/36 of Nr. 370;  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 12/72 of Nr. 369 as is registered in her name in land registry of Sucha. The couple will assume all the right and responsibilities that come with ownership. In addition there will be a calf valued at 40 Korons. All this will be presented to Wiktoria Janik and her fiancé Wojciech Jurek under the stipulation that they marry before the end of the year.

II. Anna Janikowa freely gives  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the said property and buildings and will maintain possession of  $\frac{1}{4}$  for herself if the couple agree to pay all the current existing and future taxes and bills. Furthermore, it is agreed that Anna Janikowa can live in her house on the said property until her death.

III. The mortgage on the property, registered to the Savings Bank in the city of Żywiec, in the amount of 640 Koron, will be paid by Wojciech Jurek. Also, the current debt of Anna Janikowa in the amount of 300 Koron will be paid by Wojciech Jurek. (100 Koron to Jan Steczko; 100 Koron to Helena Janik; 60 Koron to the government of Sucha; 40 Koron to Krzysztof Daniel)

IV. The whole value of the gift is worth 2000 Koron. Anna Janikowa will keep 10 Koron per year for herself until she dies.

V. Once Wiktoria Janik and Wojciech Jurek agree to this contract, this gift and the responsibilities are binding and can be retracted only under extreme and extenuating circumstance.

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apławs' beda obciężeni podatkami wiadomo i uwielbil i  
nie na uformiankowaniu realności przypadając w tenże rok  
tych realności. — II. Drugi hipotezaryj w stanie biernym, wcielony  
realności na rzt Hazy Dzierżadności miało byćwa zastalowany  
w kwocie 540 kor. obciążający się Wójciech Jurk, jako osobisty  
dłużnik siebie we własnym domu i poacie. Takiego sta  
na Janusza beda dłużna Janowi Deczkowi 100 kor. Kie  
nie Janusz 100 kor. Hazy poręczający gminy Kieła 50 kor. oraz  
Pł. Hipotezaryj Samielowi 10 kor. czyli razem bywa koron  
przebiegający Wójciechowi Jurkowi dlatego do zapłaty we własni  
razem swadzi a Wójciech Jurk przekazuje niniejszy przyjmuje  
IV. Średnim tego kontraktu jestnie strony na dwa tyra  
koron, a radzielić dopuścić na dzień koron ro  
nie. — I. Wójciech Janusz i Wójciech Jurk przyjmuje do  
własni altem tym tytuła, Kieła tytuła gwarantu ciębiej nie  
radzielić mogli być obciążeni. — II. Altem Janusza  
reumatydy iży myjeł pryncipi mialionkarski Wójciech  
Jurk i Wójciech Janusz Jurkowi za uwalnieniu trzech stron  
tych realności 11. 404 w Hazy, czyli zapłacił w  
17. w ułojie I altem tym oddzieleniu realności 11. 412  
17. 370, 373 i 497 ko gr. gm. kat. Kieła objętych do rzt  
tych realności radzielić zastalowani. — II. Dopuszta obciążeni  
altem tym nichowi nie konwocji ani ciębiej praw nie  
nadaje, altem wolej długowi nie ma a dla porządku  
suyjch dwierz poczinto Jurkowi inny myjeł. — III. Kontrakt  
go kontraktu, stępie i upłaty skasować zapłacił Wójciech Ju  
rek. — IV. Wójty i altem niniejszego zastant tym mogą stronom  
oraz wogółem umowa to interesowanym osobom. — Altem ten  
stronom to ożenności swiadatwio Jędrzeja Agłaja radnika w  
Kafkowie i Wójtygna Kofara radnika w Suchy ramienka.





## Panna Mariia, Texas—the Oldest Polish Settlement in USA

On a November trip to Texas this past year, my husband Gene and I decided to take the drive to Panna Maria, Texas. We were sightseeing and visiting friends in the San Antonio area. Panna Maria is about an hour's drive south east of San Antonio.

The allure of visiting the Oldest Permanent Polish settlement (established in 1854) in the USA was intriguing. Today, Panna Maria is pretty much “a small drive through the city limits” type of town. However, Panna Maria is rich in history, sentiment, and loyalty among the Polish population that has settled around the rural area that encompasses the town.

Our visit was unplanned, the Wednesday night before Thanksgiving Day. It was probably unlikely that anyone was at the Church or small museum in the town of about maybe 10 public buildings.

When we arrived in town however, an evening Mass was already in progress at Immaculate Conception Church, so we chose to look around the outside buildings and drove to the Panna Maria Cemetery not far off the road.

To our surprise, the cemetery modelled is itself on the cemeteries in Poland. Many graves were flat above ground memorials profusely decorated with artificial flowers. Some of the tombstones resembled many of the ones you see in America. Both the English and Polish language could be seen on the markers. The entire area was beautifully maintained: a testament to the pride of the Polish immigrants and their ancestors.

We drove back to the Church to find the few people there, leaving and quickly asked if we could just see the inside of the Church because had traveled from Minnesota .

Gene and I were in for a Polish treat. Sam and Susie Kotara and a friend, turned on all the lights and proceeded to give us a marvelous explanation of the history of the settlement and points of interest in the church itself. Not only that, Sam was the curator of the small museum and historical center across the street and took us over there.

For a small community, the museum (visitors center) is well stocked with items to purchase, nicely decorated with Polish décor and displays depicting symbols and the history of the Silesian immigrants and their ancestors.

Even though the town is somewhat labelled as a “ghost” town, the Polish spirit is alive and going strong.

The Panna Maria historical group, along with retired Bishop John Yanta and other clergy and many donors is in the process of securing funds to build a Polish Heritage Center. Their hope is to have it operating by 2018. The plans are amazing for a truly interactive Polish history and learning center.

The most amazing part of this whole visit was to see the commitment and resilience of these Polish people immigrating to America with only the hope and promise of a new beginning and the encouragement of a priest much like Fr. Breza in Winona who yearned to keep Polonia alive in America.

Please note—

Websites of interest about Panna Maria

<http://pannamariatexas.org>

<http://www.polishheritagecenterpannamaria.org/center>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panna\\_Maria\\_Texas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panna_Maria_Texas)

[www.polish-texans.com](http://www.polish-texans.com)

Submitted by PGSMN Member Nancy Gagner, who will be giving a presentation on Panna Maria at the September 2017 PGSMN Meeting. She will provide interesting details and updates on the Panna Maria Village, located in southern Texas, as well as discuss the historical and genealogical value of the community.

In the summer issue of PGSMN newsletter, Nancy has prepared an article with focus on Polonia in Polish Cleveland and the Hamtramck Polish area of Detroit. Looking forward to learning more about these communities.

**Immigration and Naturalization Records**  
**MGS Training - Saturday, April 8th, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm**  
**Minnesota Historical Society, Gale Family Library Classroom**  
**345 W. Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul**

Looking for records of your immigrant ancestor's arrival in America. Did your immigrant ancestor become an American citizen? Learn about clues to find the records. Cathi Weber has been researching her family for over 35 years and started NorthStar Genealogy to help others with their research and teach classes. She is President of the Anoka County Genealogical Society and the chair of the Education Committee of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. She has researched and compiled a number of charts and books for family, friends and clients. Cost—\$32 (\$28 MNHS/MGS members) To preregister go to the MGS or MNHS website, or you can call the box office (651-259-3015).

## DEALING WITH SOUND EQUIVALENTS IN THE POLISH LANGUAGE

(But, My Family Always Spelled Our Name as “Rys”)

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

### Introduction

How many times have you heard people say “**that cannot be us, we don’t spelled our name that way. We always spell it this way.**” The response is “you may spell it one way, but the problem is, others may spell it differently than you.” An example illustrating this situation is my father’s baptismal record given below in this article.

Polish genealogists should be aware that a sound in the Polish language may be represented by more than one letter or a combination of letters. Sound equivalents account for many spelling variations found in Polish church records.

As I index early Polish church records, spelling inconsistencies often appear. They certainly appear from priest to priest. Moreover, the same priest may have recorded inconsistent spellings for the same surname. It depended on the priest’s proficiency in Polish, how the surname was spoken, and then how the priest interpreted those sounds.

### Polish Language Sound Equivalents

How does a genealogist deal with these sound equivalents? Experience and a good knowledge of Polish surnames certainly help. Most of us don’t have these attributes.

However, there is a valuable table which may help. The table is called “*Possible Sound Equivalents*” and it illustrates how different Polish letters or combinations of letters may be used to represent the same sound. This table is from Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings, Volume I, William (Fred) Hoffman, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, pages 11-12, 2012, PGSA.

As I prepare “Family Ties” requests to search against the Minnesota databases, it is imperative for me to look for alternate spellings of surnames before I run reports. The Hoffman “*Possible Sound Equivalents*” table cited above has been very helpful for me to formulate search strategies and identify alternate spellings. For a description of a “Family Ties” report, see article “**Godparents: Is there Genealogical Relevance?**” Family Ties Report. Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter, summer 2003, vol.11, no. 2, pgs. 23-25).

William (Fred) Hoffman, the author cited above, reviewed this article and added the following e-mail note regarding similar sounds. **Fred Hoffman adds:** “One suggestion I have, if you can find a way to work it in. Explain that it’s not just a matter of the same sound being spelled different ways (although that certainly happens often); **but many sounds are enough alike that they can be confused**. In other words, SZ and Ś are slightly different sounds -- **I think Poles can tell them apart, though to us they may both sound like “sh.”** But though they are not the same sound, they are very similar. It’s easy to understand how a name like RYŚ could come to be spelled RYSZ”.

### Personal Example of Surname Ryś

My father’s name is Anthony Ryś. My father’s 1904 baptismal record from Holy Cross Church in Minneapolis cites his surname as Risz. How could this happen? As the old saying goes, we always spelled it “Rys” and it only has three letters. By looking at Hoffman’s “Sound Equivalents” table, we can see the “y” is a sound equivalent to “i”. The ś (with a kreska pronunciation mark on the “s”) is a sound equivalent to “sz”. So that explains why the priest wrote down Risz instead of Ryś. In Polish it is pronounced as we in English would say “Rish”

R	y	ś	Ryś
R	i	sz	Risz
R	y	sz	Rysz
R	i	sh	Rish
R	i or y	ś,sz,s	

*Ryś sound equivalents*

Rysz. Antonius.	7 <sup>a</sup> Aug.	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Antonium</u> nat <u>30<sup>a</sup> Julii 1905</u>	73.
		ex <u>Joanne Rysz.</u> ex loco <u>Minneapolis, Minn.,</u> et <u>Ludwica Glowczak</u> ex loco <u>Minneapolis Minn.,</u> Patrini fuerunt <u>Albert Glowczak</u> <u>Magdalena Rednarszik</u> <u>Stennus Jazowski</u>	

1904 Baptismal Record for Anthony Rys – Misspelled as Rysz

### Prepare an Alternate Spelling Grid

Prior to searching, break the surname you are searching into small segments and put them into a simple grid. Identify possible variations especially of letter and letter combinations which may be a problem. **From the “Equivalents Table”, a searcher will find a couple of sound equivalents which are encountered relatively frequently.** They are (“a” – “on” – “om” – “e”) and (“e” – “en” – “em” – “a”). I corresponded with a genealogist, with Minnesota roots, named Zondlo. In Polish it is spelled Żądło. On his web site he indicates there are three alternative spellings: Zondlo, Zandlo, Zadlo.

Also, pay attention if the surname begins with the letter “H” and then consider looking under “Ch”. For example in checking the baptismal database I found 36 records for the family name “Cholewa”, thirty-one (31) under “Cholewa” and five (5) under “Holewa”.

Although not a sound equivalency problem, another danger is the miss-reading of the Polish letter “ł” as if it the letter “t”. This Polish letter “ł” (the letter “l” with a bar through it), is pronounced as the English letter ‘w’. Depending on the cursive writing style of the individual priest who recorded this letter in a record, it could be seen as the letter “t”. One may consider substituting “ł” and “t” while searching Polish surnames.

### Running the Table on the Polish Surname Buczinski

For example, before starting a surname search such as, Buczinski, **prepare an “Alternate Spelling Grid” which may reveal a myriad of possible spellings to peruse.** Going through a short exercise like this is very helpful. *(There may even be an idea here for a new Polish trivial puzzle game)* Prepared below is an “Alternate Spelling Grid” of seven (7) possible spellings for the surname Buczinski

B u c z i n s k i Buczinski

B u c z e n s k i Buczenski

B u c z y n s k i Buczynski

B ó c h e n s k i Bóchenski

B ó c h i n s k i Bóchinski

B ó c h y n s k i Bóchyński

B ó c z y n s k i Bóczyński

As one searches for these Buczinski variations, one may find records which otherwise may be overlooked. As a side note, **all the above Buczinski surname variations actually do occur** in the Minnesota Polish baptismal database which contains 25,357 baptismal records representing over 100,000 individual surnames.

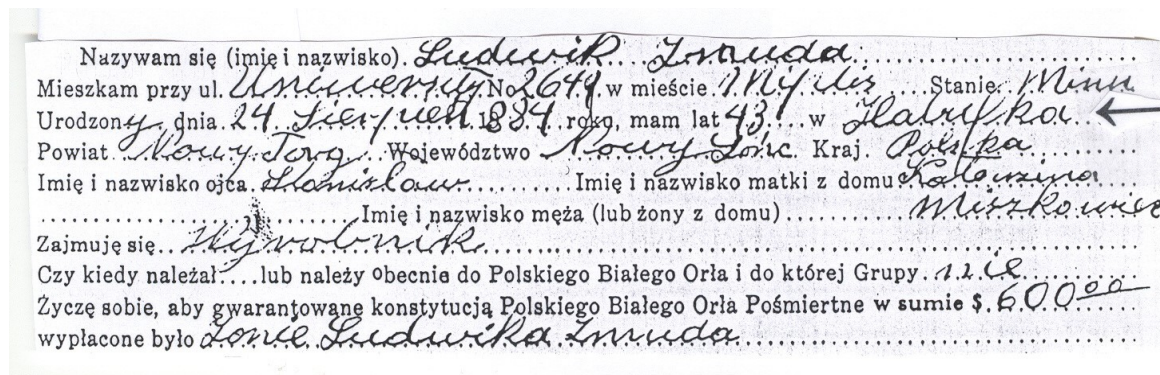


## Similar Problem for Polish Village Names

My cousin's grandfather is from Chabówka, Poland. A Polish fraternal life insurance policy application lists his village as Habufka. How did this happen? The sound equivalents chart shows the "Ch" has an equivalent of "H". The "ó" (with the kreska) is the equivalent to "u". The "w" is the equivalent of "f". In Polish it is pronounced as we would say in English "Habufka".

Ch	ab	ó	w	ka	Chabówka
H	ab	u	f	ka	Habufka

*Habufka as a sound equivalent to Chabówka*



*Insurance Application miss-spelling village name as Habufka (Chabówka)*

Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America. The original published article has been revised with additional information for its publication in the PGS-MN Newsletter. (Re-printed with author's permission)

## Summary

Spelling variations in church records are an unfortunate fact of life. **Do not be afraid to question the spelling of surnames, even your own.** Look for alternate spellings. The sound equivalents table is an excellent aid for anticipating possible spelling variations as you search. Prior to searching a database taking time to prepare an "Alternate Spelling Grid", using the "Possible Sound Equivalents" table, may reap rewards.

**NOTE:** The main portion of this article was previously published in the fall, 2011 issue of Rodziny, Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America. The original published article has been revised with additional information for its publication in the PGS-MN Newsletter. (Re-printed with author's permission)

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## Scholarship / Grant Opportunities available

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) has several scholarship and grant opportunities currently available.

The Guminga Academic Scholarship, the Polanie LEGACY Scholarship, the Rog Endowment Award, et al information and application criteria are listed on their website - [www.pacim.org](http://www.pacim.org) - under the scholarship tab.

***"The Thing that interests me most about family history is the gap between the things we think we know about our families and the realities" - Jeremy Hardy***

# “Possible Sound Equivalents” in the Polish Language

<i>Possible Equivalents</i>	<i>Examples</i>
$q \leftrightarrow on \leftrightarrow om \leftrightarrow e$	Dąbek ↔ Dombek; Piątek ↔ Piontek
$b \leftrightarrow p$	Dziób ↔ Dzióp
$c \leftrightarrow tz \leftrightarrow dz \leftrightarrow dc \leftrightarrow cz$	Kac ↔ Katz ↔ Kacz; Kocur ↔ Koczur
$ć \leftrightarrow ci \leftrightarrow cz$	Ścibiorski ↔ Szczybiorski
$ch \leftrightarrow h \leftrightarrow g$	Cholewa ↔ Holewa ↔ Golewa
$cz \leftrightarrow c \leftrightarrow ć \leftrightarrow ci \leftrightarrow sz$	Szczybiorski ↔ Ścibiorski; Kacz ↔ Kac
$d \leftrightarrow t$	Badkiewicz ↔ Batkiewicz
$dz \leftrightarrow c \leftrightarrow ts \leftrightarrow tz \leftrightarrow dc$	Sieradzki ↔ Sieratzke ↔ Sieracki
$e \leftrightarrow en \leftrightarrow em \leftrightarrow q$	Kolęda ↔ Kolenda
$em \leftrightarrow e$	Dembiński ↔ Dębiński
$en \leftrightarrow e$	Gens ↔ Gęś
$g \leftrightarrow h \leftrightarrow ch$	Galachwoszcz ↔ [C]Hołochwość
$h \leftrightarrow ch \leftrightarrow g$	Harasym ↔ Gerasim; Hudak ↔ Chudak
$i \leftrightarrow j \leftrightarrow y$	Marjan ↔ Marian ↔ Maryan
$l \leftrightarrow ł$	Łąka ↔ Ląka ↔ Lonka
$ń \leftrightarrow ni$	Koń ↔ Konia
$ó \leftrightarrow u$	Jakób ↔ Jakub
$om \leftrightarrow q$	Dombek ↔ Dąbek
$on \leftrightarrow q$	Piontek ↔ Piątek
$p \leftrightarrow b$	Dzióp ↔ Dziób
$r \leftrightarrow rz$	Repka ↔ Rzepka
$rz \leftrightarrow r \leftrightarrow sz \leftrightarrow z \leftrightarrow ź \leftrightarrow ż$	Rzonca ↔ Żonca; Przymusiński ↔ Pszymusiński
$s \leftrightarrow z$	Smełty ↔ Zmełty
$ś \leftrightarrow si \leftrightarrow sz \leftrightarrow z \leftrightarrow zi \leftrightarrow ż$	Ślęzak ↔ Szlęzak
$sz \leftrightarrow ś \leftrightarrow si \leftrightarrow rz \leftrightarrow ź$	Stosz ↔ Stoś; Stawasz ↔ Stawarz
$u \leftrightarrow ó$	Jakubczak ↔ Jakóbczak
$*v \leftrightarrow w \leftrightarrow f$	Varshavski ↔ Warszawski
$w \leftrightarrow *v \leftrightarrow f$	Chwałek ↔ Fałek; Wasąg ↔ Fasąg
$*x \leftrightarrow ks$	Alexa ↔ Aleksa
$y \leftrightarrow i \leftrightarrow j$	Dyak ↔ Diak ↔ Djak
$z \leftrightarrow s \leftrightarrow ź \leftrightarrow zi \leftrightarrow ż \leftrightarrow$	Zoppot ↔ Sopot; Ziebro ↔ Żebro
$rz \leftrightarrow ź \leftrightarrow z$	Żonca ↔ Rzonca; Żak ↔ Zok

Source: Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings, Volume I, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. William (Fred) Hoffman, pgs. 11-12, PGSA, 2012. (Chart included with author's permission.)



# Minnesota Genealogical Society's 2017 Spring Conference

April 22, 2017

Bunker Hills Activity Center - Andover, MN

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

MGS Members \$50, Non-Members \$60 (Membership - \$35 year)

*One-day genealogy conference showcasing the branches, interest groups  
and affiliates of MGS. 5 session times with 2 options at each.*

- 8:30 Check-in and Onsite Registration (Free parking)
- 9:00 Conjuring Up The Past: My Folk Doctor Ancestors from Norway - Jeffrey Huset or Pommern  
and Its History - James Neuenfeldt
- 10:15 Danish Genealogical Research: Online Exploration - Edward J. "Ed" Steenberg or New Eng  
land Town Records - Alice Eichholz
- 11:15 Enjoy lunch (included with registration), visit the information tables and network with your fellow  
genealogists
- 12:15 Romania: More Than Dracula! - Vicki Albu and Jean Logajan Day or Genealogy -  
Making a Difference - Jan Carlson
- 1:30 German Roots? 4 Steps to Build Up Your Research Skills - Kim Ashford or Do You Have a  
Famous Ancestor? - Janell Norman
- 2:45 DNA Discussion Panel - Alice Eichholz, Kristie Strum & John Vanek or Writer's Group  
Discussion Panel - Kathy Lund, Bill Holmquist, Sue Kratsch, Erv Chorn & Gayle Geber

Register today at [www.mnsgs.org](http://www.mnsgs.org) or  
email [education@mnsgs.org](mailto:education@mnsgs.org) for more information



## From the neighbors— Naturalization Index Project of Michigan

The Archives of Michigan is pleased to announce the launch of a digitization and indexing project to make naturalization records from nearly 70 Michigan counties freely available online. In a partnership with FamilySearch, and with the support of the Michigan Genealogical Council, the Archives of Michigan is asking you to help transcribe key genealogical information from the records. Once completed, the collection – including both the images and index – will be freely available only at Seeking Michigan. For more information see <http://seekingmichigan.org/naturalization>



## Did you know?

The World Digital Library (WDL) is a project of the U.S. Library of Congress, carried out with the support of the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO), and in cooperation with libraries, archives, museums, educational institutions, and international organizations from around the world.

The WDL makes available on the Internet, free of charge and in multilingual format, significant primary materials from all countries and cultures.

The principal objectives of the WDL are to:

- Promote international and intercultural understanding;
- Expand the volume and variety of cultural content on the Internet;
- Provide resources for educators, scholars, and general audiences;
- Build capacity in partner institutions to narrow the digital divide within and between countries.

For more information on the WDL, see <https://www.wdl.org>

Want to see publications on Poland—jump straight to <https://www.wdl.org/en/search/?q=Poland>



*What better way to evoke our Polish Heritage than creating a Polish Treat -*

## Silesian Recipes — Crumb Cake

1 cup sugar	½ tsp salt
¾ tsp nutmeg	1 tablespoon brown sugar
2-1/4 cups flour	½ tsp baking soda
1 cup lard or shortening	2 beaten eggs
1 cup sour milk	1 tsp cinnamon
1 cup raisins, lightly floured	

Mix sugars, flour, shortening, and salt, into crumbs. Take out half for topping and set aside. To the rest, add eggs, milk that is mixed with the soda, nutmeg, cinnamon, and raisins. Pour batter into pan 9 x 13 greased and floured pan. Then sprinkle the remaining crumbs on top. Bake 350 -375 until done. Note: Sour milk by adding 1 tsp vinegar.



Submitted by PGSMN Member Albert Kowalczyk

- ***The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society***  
***invites you***

**April 6-8, 2017** - Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Conference,  
Chula Vista Resort, 2501 River Rd., Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

- **April 22, 2017** - Milwaukee County Genealogical Society Biennial  
Workshop, Best Western Plus Milwaukee Airport, 5105 S. Howell Ave.,  
Milwaukee, WI 53207

For further details about various training opportunities, see  
<http://wsqs.org/>



## ***Szukam cię — I'm looking for you***



### **Missing Branches Jan-Mar 2017**

**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.

### **New and Rejoining Members:**

**Jendrzejek, David**, 4704 Mackubin St., Shoreview, MN 55126, [davidjendrzejek@comcast.net](mailto:davidjendrzejek@comcast.net), Researching: **JENDRZEJEK** of Buczek, Wielki, and Flatow, Poland, settling in Milwaukee, WI.  
**Ludwiczak, Thad**, 4500 Harriet Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55419, [thad@do-good.biz](mailto:thad@do-good.biz), Researching: **LUDWICZAK, MROZINSKI** of Poland, settling in Philadelphia, PA.  
**Ostrowski, Darlene**, 170 Main ST, Apt. 102, Foley, MN 56329, [darlenemostrowski@gmail.com](mailto:darlenemostrowski@gmail.com), Researching: **OSTROWSKI** of Skawa, Malopolski, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **KOLPAK** of Rabka, Krakow, settling in Minneapolis, MN.

### **Renewing Members:**

**Anderson, Valarie**, 402 Iona LN, Roseville, MN 55113, [mnval06@centurylink.net](mailto:mnval06@centurylink.net), Researching: **JOSEPH FABIANSKI(1788-1842)** and wife **ANNA KOLTOWSCZANKA/ZOLTOWSKA (1797-1842)**, **JOSEPH JOHAN SOYKA(1812-1846)** and his wife **ROSALIE BY-CZKOWSKA(1815-1846)**.

**Angrist, Georgene**, 100 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413, [angrist2@comcast.net](mailto:angrist2@comcast.net), Researching: **MICHURSKI** of Krakow, Nowa Huta, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **FELON, ZAWISLAK** of Rzeszow, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **PANEK** of Poznan, settling in Minneapolis, MN.

**Atwood, Bonnie**, 24787 West Jones Ave, Buckeye, AZ 85326, [bon\\_livlovlaugh@yahoo.com](mailto:bon_livlovlaugh@yahoo.com), Researching: **KOLUPAILO** of Vilno-Wilno, settling in St. Paul, MN; **JAROCKI** of Pietkovo, Poland, settling in St. Paul, MN; **ROMANOWSKI** of Poland, settling in St. Paul, MN; **WOJTKIEWICZ** of Poland, settling in Chicopee, MA.

**Burke, Thomas**, 1152 Via Capri, Winter Park, FL 32789, [teburke@mac.com](mailto:teburke@mac.com), Researching: **MATCZYŃSKI** of Wysoka, settling in Wisconsin & Minnesota; **HELINSKI** of Wysoka settling in Minnesota, Montana, & Louisiana.

**Ellenwood, Ruth**, 8182 Lori LN, Woodbury, MN 55125, [ruth@ellenwoods.net](mailto:ruth@ellenwoods.net), Researching: **JUREK** of Poznan, Poland, settling in Kettle River, MN.

**Esala, Marilee and Hammerstrom, Janice**, 4492 W. Lismore Rd., Duluth, MN 55803, [esalajeff@yahoo.com](mailto:esalajeff@yahoo.com), Researching: **MAR-QUARDT/MARKFAT/MACKERT** of Warsaw, Poland, settling in Duluth, MN.

**Farkas, Irene**, P.O. Box 223, Three Lakes, WI 54562, [aandifar@hotmail.com](mailto:aandifar@hotmail.com), **FARKAS** settling in Milwaukee, WI; **TEREK** settling in Ohio and Milwaukee, WI; **OSUCHOWSKI** settling in Wisconsin.

**Fitting, Francine**, 7288 Lantana Circle, Naples, FL 34119 (Nov-May); N62W5320 Edgewater Dr., Cedarburg, WI 53012 (June-Oct), [francinesfitting@me.com](mailto:francinesfitting@me.com), Researching: **PALUBICKI** of Ugoszcz, settling in Winona, MN; **RYMARKIEWICZ** of Lekno, settling in Winona, MN; **MAJKOWSKI, ORLIKOWSKI** of Lipusz, settling in Winona, MN.

**Freihammer, Veronica**, 13011 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE, Rice, MN 56367, [verfrei@juno.com](mailto:verfrei@juno.com), Researching: **SCHNEIDER** of Opole area, settling in Morrison County, MN; **ZUR/ZURR** of Silesia, settling in Benton County, MN; **SCHLICHTING** of Silesia, settling in Morrison and Stearns Counties, MN.

**Geron, Adam**, P.O. Box 302, West Point, VA 23181, [mgeron93@verizon.net](mailto:mgeron93@verizon.net), Researching: **MICHAEL J. GERON** of Tarnów, Poland, settling in Little Falls, MN.

**Gilbert, Anne**, 8511 Jeffery Ave., S., Cottage Grove, MN 55016, [annedowergilbert@gmail.com](mailto:annedowergilbert@gmail.com), Researching: **KUROWSKI, PIETRON, KELASH, GORIA, ROZEWICZ, SUJCZANKA, JARAVOVICS, NOWACKA** settling in Minnesota.

**Hoyt, Bobbi**, 22 E. 10<sup>th</sup> ST, Duluth, MN 55805, [bobbihoyt@aol.com](mailto:bobbihoyt@aol.com), Researching: **BRONIKOWSKI, WALKOWIAK** of Poznan region, Poland, settling in Duluth, MN.

**Johnson, Kevin, Mary & Katie**, 3210 – 139<sup>th</sup> LN NW, Andover, MN 55304-7532, [kmmmjohnson@msn.com](mailto:kmmmjohnson@msn.com), Researching: **CIESIELSKI/CIESIELSKA, MANIAK, DUDA** of Raschkow and Bieganin, Poznan, settling in Buffalo, NY, Superior WI, Duluth and Split Rock Township, MN; **BUTKIEWICZ, SZEDIS/SHADYS** of Mastoli and Kolesniki, 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.

**Jowers, Amy**, 312 Spring ST, #301, St. Paul, MN 55102, [jowersa24@yahoo.com](mailto:jowersa24@yahoo.com), Researching: **WOLAK** of Laski, Galicia, settling in Illinois, Minnesota, & Pennsylvania.

**Karbowski, Stanley Mitchell**, 345 Bridge ST, Shoreview, MN 55126, [smkarbowski@hotmail.com](mailto:smkarbowski@hotmail.com), Researching: **DOMORAT, KAR-BOWSKI** of Warsaw area, settling in St. Paul, MN.

**Keller, Judith**, W1211 Meadowview Dr, Lot 72, Sullivan, WI 53178, [kellerjudy@hotmail.com](mailto:kellerjudy@hotmail.com), Researching: **ALBERT KASPRZAK** of Poznan; **JOHN PROBULIS** of Suwalki; **NAPIERALLA** of Gdansk, Gdynia. All settled in the United States in 1940's.

**Klechefski, Michelle**, 404 Durango DR, Roberts, WI 54023, [mklechef@hotmail.com](mailto:mklechef@hotmail.com), Researching: **KLECZEWSKI, ZAREBA/ZAREMBA** of Warsaw area, settling in Chicago, IL, Madison, WI, and Michigan; **MAJEWSKI** settling in Chicago, IL; **HOJOWSKI**. **Kostecky, Reta**, 29 Shady Valley DR, Conway, AR 72034, [rkostecky@hotmail.com](mailto:rkostecky@hotmail.com), Researching: **URBANIAK, MICHALSKI** settling in Minnesota. **Kulas, James**, 7536 Red Hill DR, Springfield, VA 22153, [polishpop1@earthlink.net](mailto:polishpop1@earthlink.net), Researching: **ZABROCKA/ZABROCKI** of Wiele area.

**Lamusga, Peter**, 10503 – 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Gheen, MN 55771, [petelamusga@gmail.com](mailto:petelamusga@gmail.com), Researching: **LAMUSGA, WARWAS, PLOTNICK** settling in Browerville, MN; **KALA/KALLA** settling in Avon, MN.

**Laska, Thomas and Barbara**, 5708 Garfield Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, [thomas.laska@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.laska@gmail.com), Researching: **LASKA, NAPIĘTEK, POPIELARSKI, POLCZYNSKI** of Brusy, Wiele, Pomorskie, Poland,, settling in Winona, Twin Cities, and Roseau, MN and Stevens Point, WI.

**Losinski, Tom**, 3360 Rosewood LN N, Plymouth, MN 55441, [tlosinski@aol.com](mailto:tlosinski@aol.com), Researching: **LOSINSKI** of Pryzarnia, Poland, settling in Pine Creek, WI.

**Lulai, Rita**, 301 – 11<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Jamestown, ND 58401, Researching: **LULAI/LULAY, PAMPUCH** of Papeleau, Poland, settling in Stutsman County, ND; **KOKOTT** of Papeleau, Poland, settling in Arcadia, Sve, and Fried, ND; **REUTER, SORTORE**.

**Lyslo, Nancy**, 8804 Stonebrooke TR, Woodbury, MN 55125, Researching: **BABULSKI, ORZECH** of Pedew/Padew, Poland, settling in Wisconsin.

**Magnuson, Janet**, 46 Garden Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337, [janmagnuson@gmail.com](mailto:janmagnuson@gmail.com), Researching: **KOCIKOWSKI** of Srebrnagora, Znin, settling in St. Paul, MN; **DANIELSKI** of Mechnacz, Znin, settling in St. Paul, MN; **KOSMATKA** of Wapno, settling in Elkhart, IN – then St. Paul, MN; **MATZ** settling in St. Paul, MN.

**Mahan, Bernadette**, 1486 Sheldon ST, St. Paul, MN 55108, [bjmahan@comcast.net](mailto:bjmahan@comcast.net), Researching: **WOJCIK – OCHALA** of Piotrowka – Zeglce – Podkarpackie, settling in Windemere, Pine City, MN; **MARKIEWICZ** of Glonsk Wielkopolskie, settling in St. Paul, MN; **OSIECZONEK** of Buczek Wielkopolskie, settling in St. Paul, MN; **GORACA** of Parkovo, Poznan, settling in St. Paul, MN.

**Maniak, Mary Ann**, 8711-62<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N, New Hope, MN 55428, Researching: **KUBICKI, KRZESZEWSKI** of Poznan, Poland, settling in Duluth, MN.

**McGee, Michael**, 4233 Jefferson ST, Columbia Heights, MN 55421, [mlmcgee763@comcast.net](mailto:mlmcgee763@comcast.net), Researching: **KUJAWA** of Niestronno, North Central Poland, settling in St. Paul, MN; **HYLLA** of Boreck, East Prussia, settling in St. Paul, MN; **DOMBEK** settling in St. Paul, MN; **GABRIELZIK** of Zylono, Poland, settling in St. Paul, MN.

**Miller Kohler, Lorrie**, 1836 Draper DR, Roseville, MN 55113, [lmilcohler@comcast.net](mailto:lmilcohler@comcast.net), Researching: **VOZNAK/WOZNAK** of Jaszczurowa, Poland, settling in Chicago, IL and Renville County, MN; **SWIATEK** of Dobrków, Poland, settling in Chicago, IL and Renville County, MN.

**Moriarty, Mary**, 3885 Niagara LN N, Plymouth, MN 55446, [mimoriarty@earthlink.net](mailto:mimoriarty@earthlink.net), Researching: **MURKOWSKI** of Kcynia, settling in Chicago, IL; **CZUBEK** of Bobowa, settling in Chicago, IL.

**Mros, Gilbert and Janet**, 1996 Langton Lake DR, Unit 205, Roseville, MN 55113, [gil.mros@gmail.com](mailto:gil.mros@gmail.com), Researching: **MROS** of Cupele, Poland, settling in Pennsylvania and Michigan; **GUTOWSKI** of Kumza, Poland, settling in Michigan and Ohio.

**Myslajek, Mary Victoria**, 3806 46<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422, Researching: **MYSLAJEK, MIGACZ** settling in Minneapolis, MN.



**Nelson, Debbie**, 6316 Wyoming Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428, [cdnelcon@msn.com](mailto:cdnelcon@msn.com), Researching: **SLOPEK, PAWLIKOWSKI** settling in Minneapolis, MN, **MISKOWIEC** settling in Minneapolis, MN and Chicago, IL, **SLAVKOWSKI** settling in New Jersey.

**Paris, Dona**, 420 Lake Aires Rd, Fairmont, MN 56031, [jdparis@midco.net](mailto:jdparis@midco.net), Researching: **PIOTROWIAK/PIETROWIAK/PETROWIAK** of Turostowo, Poland, settling in Minnesota and Illinois; **MADAJ/MADAY** of Szubin, Poland, settling in Minnesota and Illinois; **SZUKALSKI/SUKALSKI** of Poland, settling in Minnesota; **FELCMAN/FELZMAN** of Ujazd, Poland, settling in Minnesota; **LUBINSKI** of Trembatschau and Nassadel, Poland, settling in Minnesota.

**Pedersen, Heather**, 8421 W. 97<sup>th</sup> ST, Bloomington, MN 55438, [hlpedersen7@gmail.com](mailto:hlpedersen7@gmail.com), Researching: **WASIK** of Brzstowa Gora, Podkarpacie, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **KOPEC** of Huta Komorowska, Podkarpacie, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **PIWINSKA/PIWINSKI** of Potok Stany, Lublin, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **RUCKI/RUCHA** of Potok Stany, settling in Minneapolis, MN.

**Pietrzak, Joleen**, 432 Lewis and Clark Trail, Yankton, SD 57078, [jpietrza@gmail.com](mailto:jpietrza@gmail.com), Researching: **PIETRZAK** of Poland, settling in St. Paul, MN.

**Pretare, Dorothy**, 2344 SE 8<sup>th</sup> PL, Renton, WA 98055, [dp2cats@yahoo.com](mailto:dp2cats@yahoo.com), Researching: **KIEDROWSKI** of Lipusz, Poland, settling in Winona, MN; Trempeleau County, WI; and Walsh County, ND; **RUDNIK** of Ostawa Dabrowa, Poland, settling in Winona, MN; Trempeleau County, WI, and Jamestown, ND; **KONKOL/KONKEL** of Koscierzyna, Poland, settling in Winona, MN and Trempeleau County, WI; **BORZYSZKOWSKI** of near Ugoszcz, Poland, settling in Winona, MN and Trempeleau County, MN; **BLASZKOWSKI** of Oslawa Dabrowa, Poland, settling in Winona, MN; Trempeleau County, WI and Jamestown, ND.

**Rogacki, Larry**, 4301 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406, [plrogacki@mac.com](mailto:plrogacki@mac.com), Researching: **GRZANKOWSKI** of Ojrzen, Poland, settling in Buffalo, NY; **ROGACKI** of Jezioro Wielkie, Poznan, Poland, settling in Buffalo, NY; **TABACZYNSKI, RAKOCZY** settling in Buffalo, NY.

**Schmolke, Julia**, 506 Laurel At., W, Stillwater, MN 55082, [jkeschmolke@hotmail.com](mailto:jkeschmolke@hotmail.com), Researching: **SCHMOLKE, BEKA** of Silesia, settling in Morrison County, MN.

**Soyett, Maryland**, 431 Dudley Ave, Shoreview, MN 55126, [msoy8731@q.com](mailto:msoy8731@q.com), Researching: **SOJAT, PTAK**.  
**Spittstozer, RoxAnn**, 7984 - 160<sup>th</sup> ST NE, Hastings, MN 55033, [roxinmn@gmail.com](mailto:roxinmn@gmail.com), Researching: **JANOWSKI** of Mala Klonia, Poland, settling in Minnesota.

**Trent, Mary Ann**, 52 Wexford LN, Crossville, TN 38558, Researching: **MADAJ** of Szubin, settling in Illinois and Minnesota; **BUSZKIEWICZ** of Grylewo, settling in Lemont, IL; **CZAJA** of Galacia, settling in Chicago, IL; **STANISZEWSKI** settling in Chicago, IL.

**Troemner, Mark**, 416 Northview Pass, Hudson, WI 54016, [troemner@pressenter.com](mailto:troemner@pressenter.com), Researching: **ALTMANN, WALESKI** of Poznan, Parchanie, settling in Sturgeon Lake, MN; **KLIS** of Galicia, Rzyniec, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **BIEL** of Krakow, Galicia, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **WROBEL** of Radziechowo, Krakow, Galicia, settling in Minneapolis, MN; **SANETRA** of Zywiec, settling in Minneapolis, MN.



Inspiring people throughout the region to discover more about our world and embrace the rich cultural diversity brought by immigrants from around the globe. Continuing the legacy as the longest running multicultural festival in the Midwest, PACIM will continue its tradition of being a vital part of this festival, being held May 4-7, 2017, at RiverCentre, St. Paul, MN

This celebration of global arts, traditions, music, dance and food, is home to PACIM's Polish Café. Thousands of festival participants visit the café for delicious Polish food and to experience Poland's hospitable, gracious and generous culture.

The Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) needs your help—to have a successful event, we need volunteers—to help in the kitchen, serving at the counter, setup/takedown and other tasks. If you are interested in showcasing great Polish food, meeting new people and being part of a great team, (free admission to the event) contact Marie Przyski at [Przyski@comcast.net](mailto:Przyski@comcast.net)

## PGSMN Officers/Board of Directors

President — Peggy Larson (763-445-0090)  
peggy Larson23@gmail.com

Vice President— vacant

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

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

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

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

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

## Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

*A branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society*

**1185 North Concord Street, Suite 218**

**South St. Paul, MN 55075-1150**

### Committees

Library—Bob Kraska  
(kraskb1@comcast.net)

Membership—Dori Marszalek & Mary Johnson

Newsletter/Website —Marie Przyński

Programs/Publicity—

Research—John Rys (jlr55@john.rys.name)

Greg Kishel (gfk1@cornell.edu)

\*\*\*\*\*

# Dziękuję

*We thank our “special” contributors for giving support to our organization.*

Jerome Biedny  
Francine Fitting  
David Jendrzewski  
Paul Kulas  
Janet Magnuson  
Jennifer Shaltz  
Mark Troemner

Vernon Broll  
Nancy Gagner  
Joseph Jezierski  
Peter Lamusga  
Linda Mike  
Thomas Skorzeski  
Allan & Nancy Woitaszewski

Michael Eckman  
Roberta Hoyt  
Robert Kraska  
Tom & Barb Laska  
Joleen Pietrzak  
Richard Theissen

***<http://www.mnhs.org/genealogy/>***

***The Minnesota Historical Society website has a section called “People Finder.”***

***This section features genealogical resources to assist you in your research — Birth Certificate Index, Death Certificate Index, Family History Research, the Minnesota State Census Index, Immigration Resource and a Search Library Catalog — you can view information online—and even purchase certain records. But don’t stop, so much more to explore on this site.***

**PGSMN Meeting for April**  
**Presenter: Bob Kraska**  
**Date: April 1, 2017**  
**Time; 10:00 am – 12:00 noon**  
**1185 Concord St N, South St. Paul, MN**

**"Polish Towns, Location and Maps"**

A presentation of on-line and PGS-MN resources to assist in identifying and locating Polish towns in the former Austria, Prussian and Russian Partitions of Poland.

The specific items to be covered include:

- 1) A cursory review of Polish consonants and vowels to assist in transforming phonetic Polish town names to a their most likely Polish spelling.
- 2) A discussion of the relationship between the prime meridian (zero degrees of longitude) on early Polish partition maps and the present day Greenwich, England prime meridian.
- 3) Sources of Polish partition era maps and catalogs of Polish town names within each partition.
- 4) Locating Polish towns using a spelling input that is either exact, phonetic or soundex.
- 5) Review of " Słownik Geograficzny", the graphical dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland that was published between 1880 and 1892, describing each Polish city, town, hamlet and farm.

*Suggested speaker donation \$2 (\$5 non-members)*

**PGSMN Annual Meeting, January 2017**

Once again, PGSMN Member Rick Thiessen pulled together an outstanding annual meeting and luncheon. President Peggy Larson brought us up to date on the organization status, and also the MGS changes that will impact on PGSMN (more below). Michael Eckman gave a year end financial and membership update, and elections were held (Board Members are listed on page 17), Guest Speaker Ed Rajtar (PACIM president) spoke about the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota, and most importantly the 2016 PGSMN Achievement Awards were presented. .

PGSMN will see an increase in postage rates for the newsletter, and will see the impact with the mailing of the Spring newsletter—also some preliminary talk about electronic vs. print newsletter, but PGSMN will be staying with print for the time being. MGS is looking for new space, and are working with a realty company. There have taken into consideration all of the branch organization's needs when looking for new space. The MGS North Star Conference will be held October 5-7, 2017 at the Earle Brown Center in Brooklyn Center (more information in PGSMN Summer issue). Most Important, MGS advised that there is a website out "FamilyTreeNow.com" which looks like a genealogy site, but actually contains personal information on living individuals. You can "opt out" to protect your privacy at <http://familytreenow.com/optout>.



## 2016 PGSMN Achievement Award Recipients

### MICHAEL ECKMAN

Member of PGS-MN since 1992

Board Member since 2008

Treasurer for PGS-MN - 2008-2016

As PGSMN Treasurer, Michael has brought his talents as a financial person and his actuarial assessments to maintain a balance of the organization's expenditures against income. His analysis and budget estimating is a consistent guidepost for the society's officers and board of directors as they plan for the future. His careful and detailed analysis of the total number of paying members helps the PGS-MN Board to determine our membership fees and speaking fees. His actuarial related projections are informative and helpful. Michael has been very active with his participation at the various venues our society is involved with, such as the August PACIM Polish Festivals of each year. He contributed a timely article in the PGS-MN Newsletter on "Poland and the First World War" on the anniversary of the First World War and how Poland was born again out of that war.

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### BOB KRASKA

Member of PGS-MN since 2001

Committee Member since 2011

Representative for PGS-MN - MGS Library

Bob has been a dedicated PGS-MN Polish research specialist at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library and volunteer for the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota for the past many years. He assumed total responsibility for serving as our Polish research representative for the past five years. Bob's genealogical research talents extend beyond Polish resources and includes census, immigration and both church and civil records. He has been resourceful in helping those PGS-MN members and some non-members who seek help with researching their family histories and dealing with "brick wall" hurdles. He is highly knowledgeable regarding Poland's history, geography and record locations and Polish genealogical databases. He has made himself available as a Polish resources presenter at our monthly meetings sometimes speaking on short notice. Bob has also been a consistent volunteer at the Polish Festival booth and a generous supporter of our participation at the August PACIM Polish Festival. He has been a valuable person for Polish genealogists to consult with at any of our venues. He is a very convincing individual and has recruited numerous new members.



# The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

## Financial Report—December 31, 2016

	12/31/2015 Actual	12/31/2016 Actual	2016 Budget
Starting Cash Balance	\$7,147.44	\$8,166.61	\$8,166.61
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
Back Issues	1.00	34.00	0.00
Donations	460.00	1,168.00	250.00
Dues	4,045.00	3,130.00	2,320.00
Miscellaneous	872.00	771.60	300.00
Program Attendance	1,263.50	1,340.00	1,500.00
Sales (Books)	491.15	503.31	800.00
Sales Tax Collected	36.85	36.69	60.02
Freight/Shipping Out	0.00	0.00	10.00
Surnames/Family Ties	105.00	40.00	75.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$7,274.50</b>	<b>\$7,023.60</b>	<b>\$5,315.02</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD purchased	0.00	-400.00	-400.00
Items for Resale	340.00	535.28	350.00
Library Expense	0.00	0.00	50.00
Meetings/Speaker Fees	1,659.50	1,185.61	1,785.00
Office Supplies/Copies/Misc.	456.57	1,064.94	375.00
Postage	502.24	496.53	525.00
Publishing Expense	1,805.25	2,437.00	2,200.00
Rent/Insurance MGS	1,426.00	1,426.10	1,426.00
Sales Tax Paid for Prior Year	65.77	36.85	36.85
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$6,255.33</b>	<b>\$6,782.31</b>	<b>\$6,347.85</b>
<b>TOTAL DIFFERENCE IN CASH</b>	<b>\$1,019.17</b>	<b>\$ 241.29</b>	<b>(\$1,032.83)</b>
<b>Ending Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$8,166.61</b>	<b>\$8,407.90</b>	<b>\$7,133.78</b>
<b>TCF CD</b>	<b>\$6,174.22</b>	<b>\$5,828.05</b>	<b>\$5,826.78</b>
<b>Total Ending Assets</b>	<b>\$14,340.83</b>	<b>\$14,235.95</b>	<b>\$12,960.56</b>
<b>Members</b>			
New Members	33	26	25
Paying Members at Year End	244	254	240

The Polish Genealogical Society's financial results through December 31, 2016, show an increase in the cash in the checking account. Donations and Miscellaneous are well above budget, thanks to several generous contributions. Dues were above budget as more members renewed than the budget assumed. Rent, postage, and sales tax are in line with budget. Program Attendance, which includes the revenue from the Annual Meeting and money collected at meetings, is below budget. Meeting/Speaker Fees, which includes the expense for the Annual Meeting, participation at the MGS meeting, and the 2016 Polish Festival, are also below budget. Office Supplies includes the charge for renewing the web site and the unexpected charge for cleaning the web site after it was attached. Newsletter is above budget while Book Sales are below budget. Items for Resale, which include the expense for the can coolies, are above budget. Because of the deficit budgeted for 2016, \$400 was withdrawn from the CDs. The \$400 withdrawal is reflected in both the actual and budget 2016 figures as a negative CD purchased number.



PGSMN Can Coolie — Available at PGSMN Meetings for \$3— If you wish to purchase, and cannot attend a meeting, cost is \$5. Please contact Dori Marszalek at [dorim@comcast.net](mailto:dorim@comcast.net) for ordering .



*Change Service Requested*

**The PGSMN Newsletter is published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Newsletter subscription is included with membership.**

**Submitting items for publication is welcomed and highly encouraged. We require feature-length articles to be submitted exclusively to PGSMN. Mail articles, letters, book reviews, news items, send queries to newsletter editor— email [Przyski@comcast.net](mailto:Przyski@comcast.net).**

**Membership Renewal - Please check the date on your membership mailing label. Renewal is available at \$20 per year, and you can renew for up to 3 years. Renewal is needed to continue newsletter subscription and email announcements. We appreciate your attention to this item.**

Want to learn more about Easter Traditions in Poland—a great article at <http://culture.pl/en/article/polish-easter-traditions>—and don't get too wet on *Śmigus-Dyngus* (Wet Monday),

The ancient art form of pisanki is inspired by nature and steeped in tradition. The egg was seen as a symbol, bringing life, and was considered an aid in ancient spring fertility rites, and served as a protector against evil, fire and lightning.

