



# Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13

AUTUMN 2005

NUMBER 3

## *Origins and Relationships of Selected Duluth Area Families of Polish Ancestry* (A Chain Migration)

by Richard G. Bates <rgbates@worldnet.att.net>

Some years ago, while researching my spouses' ancestral origins in Poland (such as it was at the time), I came to realize that among the family and related surnames that I was re-searching, were other Polish surnames that I had seen or otherwise noticed at various locations here in Duluth.<sup>1</sup>

I came to the conclusion, not very surprisingly, that certain of these people, that is the Polish in Duluth, were somehow connected in the "old country," else, why would they have come to Duluth. How would they know where Duluth, USA, was, when an awful lot of people to this day in the United States do not know where Duluth MN is?

Of course now I know, as many of you do, that these immigrant ancestors of ours tended to "flock" to a known location. That is, one that either a relative or neighbor had gone to or told them about before they made the trip themselves. Some of the earlier Polish immigrants came as the result of recruitment by the mining and lumbering business, but most came simply because opportunity for employment and/or a better life was to be had here.

Certainly, many came here from established Polish communities in the U.S. such as Buffalo and Chicago. But even at that, the relationships of some of these families had been established in Poland. And the larger question remains: who started it all?

*Origins and Relationships, continued on page 9*



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<sup>1</sup>Sources for this research include the St. Louis County MNGenWeb site (Death Records Index, Birth Record Index, and more recently a Marriage Index, Cemetery Transcriptions, Census Transcriptions, etc.) and the Family History Library collection of films and microfiche of the areas in Poland researched. Films of the Church Records of most of the parishes researched are on indefinite loan at the Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Duluth.

## Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

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The *Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota Newsletter* is published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Subscription to the *Newsletter* is included with membership. Dues are \$15.00 per year. **Please use application form on advertising insert. Make checks payable to PGS-MN and mail to: Audra Etzel, Treasurer, 3487 Darrow Ave SE, Buffalo MN 55313.**

Items submitted for publication are welcomed and encouraged. We require that feature-length articles be submitted exclusively to PGS-MN only. Articles, letters, book reviews, news items, queries, ad copy, etc. should be sent to: Paul Kulas, editor, *PGS-MN Newsletter*, 12008 West River Road, Champlin MN 55316-2145 or to e-mail: <kkulas@tics2.net>

### Address changes or membership questions?

Contact: Lisa Trembley, Membership Chair  
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## President's Letter

As you read this, the PGS-MN bus trip to Winona on October 8, 2005, to visit the Polish Museum and St. Stanislaus Church will have already taken place.

I was not able to go on this trip--I had another, previously planned trip. Years ago my wife and I were hiking in the *Canyon de Chelly*. I asked one of the women who was with us if she had done other hikes. She said her first serious hike was undertaken when she was 60 and involved her and a friend. They departed from London. Her friend quit after one day. Two months later she arrived alone, in Rome, her destination.

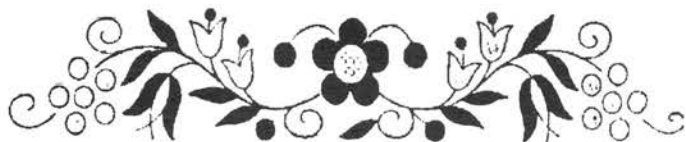
She said her favorite hike was the *Camino de Santiago*, from Roncesvalles to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Santiago is supposedly the burial place of James the Apostle. It is a pilgrimage, rather than a hike, but that is semantics. It follows the same route that travelers have followed for over 1,000 years. I decided that I would do this and other things, while I was still in condition to do them. I will do the 800 km. by bicycle, it is too far to walk in the time that I have available to me.

For me there are many benefits from serious, meticulous search for ones ancestors. The proof that you have found them is only one of them. More significant is the exposure to the history and culture of foreign lands. This exposure can run over into other areas of interest not necessarily related to personal genealogy. For me it is important to not focus entirely on one place, or one area, or one country.

I know those who went to Winona enjoyed their trip, as I will enjoy mine.

The last program of this year is November 12th. Next year starts with the annual meeting at the *Gasthof Zur Gemuetlichkeit* in northeast Minneapolis. Check the program notices in the advertising insert of this newsletter for more details. Also notice the announcement of Lech Wałęsa's appearance at Saint John's University.

--Terry Kita



## Bulletin Board

### Ten-year members:

In the Autumn 2002, Winter 2002-03 issue of this newsletter we listed current members who joined PGS-MN during our charter year of 1993 or before. In Winter 2003-04 we listed current members who joined in 1994--our second year of formal existence. In the Autumn 2004 issue we listed those who joined in 1995--our third year of existence. The following listing is of members who joined in 1996 and who continue to be members through 2005.

**Delores Berg**, Sanborn

**Terry Kita**, Minneapolis

**Herbert Kukowski**, Milwaukee WI

**Bernard R. Larson**, Mahtomedi

**Henry Mruz**, Minneapolis

**Barbara Odette**, Chicago IL

**Karen Ploski**, Minneapolis

**Kathryn Schafer**, Strathcona

**Julia E. Schmolke**, Stillwater

**Rose Spangenberg**, Maplewood

**Fred Wilebski**, Lake Bronson

Thank you all for your loyalty of PGS-MN.

### Newsletter policy

Our long-standing policy requires submissions of articles to this newsletter to be exclusive to PGS-MN only. This matter was discussed at the most recent meeting of the PGS-MN Board of Directors on September 6, 2005. The board upheld this policy but asked that it be stated explicitly in the newsletter--therefore this statement and a similar statement in the box on page 2 that will continue in future newsletters.

A recent review of this newsletter (in *GenDobry!*, 30 June 2004) states: "I'm particularly impressed with this society's quarterly newsletter, which features a lot of original research and provides information you really can't get anywhere else." We want to ensure that positive reviews like this continue.

--PTK

### Member contributions

Several members have sent us materials for our Library collection. We welcome the contributions of items related to Polish genealogy, history and culture.

Along with her article that appears on pages 6-7 of this issue, **Adeline Copa/Sopa** sent us the following: *Badger History: Poles in Wisconsin* and *The Polish Heritage Highway: Highway 66, Stevens Point to Rosholt*. She also sent a copy of her article "The Kaszuby Region--Home of the Polish Pioneers of Portage County, Wisconsin" which appeared in the May 1996 issue of the *Journal of PGSA*.

**Kornel Kondy** sent us many back issues of *Polish American Studies*. This journal is published by the Polish American Historical Association. With a few gaps, we now have most issues published since 1957 (Kornel if those missing issues show up, be sure to get them to us). We also have in our collection, *A Fifty-Year Index to Polish American Studies 1944-1993*. So the information in this collection should be readily accessible.

All of the above items will be placed in the "Polish Collection" at the MGS Library.

### Video collection

We are starting to acquire a collection of videos. Since the MGS Library does not have a video player and is a non-lending facility, the PGS-MN Board of Directors has decided to place these items in the PACIM (Polish-American Cultural Institute of Minnesota) Library where they will be available for check-out. Titles include:

*Kaszëbë: Pioneers of the Wilderness*

*The People of Poland,*

*Poland: A Proud Heritage.*

*Polish Roots in Carlton County*

Again, we welcome any contributions to this collection.

### Computer problems!

I've been having computer problems. I was completely shutdown from September 15 to September 27 and I was having email/internet problems for sometime before that. If you sent me an email recently to which you expected a reply and haven't received one or sent me a newsletter item that you expected to be in this newsletter and it isn't--please resend because I may not have received your original message.

--PTK





## Letters to the Editor *Liśy do Redaktora*

### Correction!

My email address is wrong in the Summer 2005 newsletter on page 27. It should be <vivdonchamber1@ameritech.net>. I would appreciate a correction in the next newsletter if possible. Thanks.

**Vivian Chamberlain**

### Haller's Army recruits

I noticed that there is a link given to a list of Haller's Army recruits on the bottom of page 9 of the Summer 2005 issue of your newsletter. Although the link is correct, it is misleading. This is actually a project of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, which also has access to the documents.

If your readers go to <<http://www.pgsa.org/haller.htm>> they will find information about the Army, the searchable index, and directions on how to order copies of records.

Thank you.

**Virginia Witucke**, PGSA Library Chair

*Readers: I sent the following reply to Virginia.*

*We're sorry. We were remiss in not including PGSA's website and mailing addresses in the article you mention. This is indeed a project of the Polish Genealogical Society of America and the records are available only through PGSA. Your organization deserves praise for preserving these records and making them available to researchers everywhere.*

*We must mention, however, that in the two articles leading up to this one ("Haller's Army Recruits--1918; Duluth, Minnesota--Superior, Wisconsin and vicinity," PGS-MN Newsletter [Autumn 2001] and "Haller's Army Recruits--1918; The Rest of Minnesota [Autumn 2004]), we did indeed give ordering information and the mailing address of PGSA.*

*But while our recent article may have been incomplete our reference was NOT misleading. We*

*stated: "You can find an alphabetically arranged listing at <<http://www.feehfs.org/pol/pafil/halrdesc.html>>." To my knowledge, this is the only site where such an alphabetically listing is available. Indeed, unless I am mistaken, such an alphabetically listing is not searchable on the PGSA website. One can only enter names of the recruits and let a search engine search for them. In the case of subject of the recent article--John L. Pyzick (as he was known here); if one enters that information (whether searching by "exact match," "match first" or "wild card search," one get the message: "Sorry, no data was found that matches your criteria." The researcher is then left to guess how his subject's name might be spelled in the records (or in the index that the search engine is looking at). It is possible that the researcher may eventually come up with "Jan L. Pyzik" but it is by no means certain that he/she will. He may well conclude that records for this recruit do not exist.*

*Therefore, may I suggest, that PGSA add an alphabetically arranged listing of recruits to its website. The researcher then can scan the listing searching for a name regardless on how it might be spelled in the records or in the index. And, I might add, the listing of Minnesota recruits in our Autumn 2001 and 2004 issues, was only made possible by the availability of such an alphabetized listing on the FEEFHS website. I look forward to your organization's response to my suggestion.*

### Hujda pronunciation

Please help me. My last name, Hujda, is Polish, but I have no idea how it is actually pronounced!!

My grandfather, who was of full Polish descent, fought in World War II. At that time, I am told he changed the pronunciation of his last name to "hugde-da" (like "fudge-da"), because others fighting along side him in the war had trouble pronouncing it. Since then, my father has kept this "American" pronunciation, and it's been past down to me as such. However, I am very curious of how the name Hujda actually sounds in Polish so that I can stay true to my Polish heritage.

Any help you can give me will be GREATLY appreciated - thanks so much!

**Kate** <Keecker131@aol.com>

*Readers: I forwarded this letter to Greg Kishel for a response. --PTK*

*The phonetics of your Polish surname are as follows:*

*"H" is pronounced like English "H," though a little more gutturally (from the back of the throat);*

*"u" is pronounced "oo," though not as long as "oo" usually is in English--much like "u" in Spanish;*

*"j" is pronounced like the consonantal "y" in English (not the vowel "y")--think "y'h";*

*"da" = "dah," in English, again with the "ah" not said as long as in English.*

*"Hujda," then, would sound something like "HOOEE-dah," with that "EE" pronounced very briefly, almost as if it's part of the "OO." The Polish pronunciation would have two syllables, with the first one ending in a vowel. Accent (stress) in Polish is almost always on the next-to-last syllable, even more regular in that regard than Spanish.*

*And, yes, dumbo Americans not conversant with Polish phonetics would have pronounced that "j" as the hard consonant it stands for in America, hence the pronunciation you mention. After awhile most of our Polish-immigrant ancestors just gave up and acceded to the Americanized pronunciations, particularly if they lived in smaller towns and weren't part of a large Polish community that would have reinforced the Old World pronunciations within itself.*

*--Greg Kishel,*

## Castle Garden website

*The following email exchange was sent to us by Ray Marshall. We had not been previously aware of this website. It should prove to be useful. --PTK*

To: <info@castlegarden.org>

First of all, thank you for making the Castle Garden passenger lists available to all of us whose ancestors arrived in this country before Ellis Island.

I am active on several Polish and Irish genealogy mail lists and some questions have come up among the few of us who jumped at the opportunity to search for our relatives who arrived here before 1892.

First of all, I notice on the date parameters in your search engine that it is possible to search between the years 1820 and 1913. It is our understanding that Castle Garden did not become an immigration station until 1855 and that it was closed by 1892 when the

Federal Government's Ellis Island station was opened.

By seeing those dates, is it possible that you have records, maybe from other American ports, between the years 1820 and 1913? I just received an email from a woman who found her Redmond ancestor on your list who arrived in 1847 on the ship Atalanta.

In addition, I personally and several others have reported that our ancestors (mine in 1867) are reported in Germans to America and other sources as having arrived at the Port of Baltimore. Yet they show up on the Castle Garden list. Irrespective of the date issue, does your database contain other ports other than the Port of New York?

If that is indeed the case, the general genealogical community would be pleased to know that information and I suggest that you make that known on the <castlegarden.org> home page. You will get more activity, that's for sure.

We will spread the correct information through the genealogical community for you. Looking forward to hearing from you, and thank you again for your wonderful service.

**Ray Marshall** <raymarsh@mninter.net>

Dear Ray-

Thank you for your interest in CastleGarden.org. We greatly appreciate your feedback.

The website only presents records of those passengers received in New York, be it Castle Garden or the Port of New York, and no other geographical locations in the United States. It is possible that your ancestors were processed at Castle Garden and then moved on to Baltimore.

As to the arrival date parameters, CastleGarden.org contained records starting in 1820, the first year that manifest records were required to be kept by ship captains. From 1820-1855, passengers were received at the Port of New York in various places along the New York harbor. Because these records were preserved and associated with the pre-Ellis Island Era, we have included them on the website. The later search dates, 1892-1913, are the result of a commission by the Italian Government to Dr. Ira Glazier, the director of the Center for Immigration Studies at Castle Garden, to research Italian immigrants who were not listed on the Ellis Island database.

We are currently working on a page explaining the available records, but I hope this information clears things up a bit. Thanks again for your interest.

**Daniella Fischetti** <dfischet@thebattery.org>

## TRZEBIATKOWA

(Translated from a tour guide, *Bytow i Okolice* [Bytow and the Surrounding Area], authored by Tadeusz Garczyuski. Printed 1977 in Poznan, Poland.)

"A large village of ancient design, located on the woodless upland which is over 200 m. above sea level. Buildings are scattered like in the piedmont. The village is located 1 km. from the main road connecting Miastko with Bytow.

A little irregular oval-shaped village, the first mention of it comes from the year 1345 and in the year 1385 it is stated that the village belongs to the Tuchom land together with others. During the times of the Teutonic Knights it was the knight's village. It was probably founded on the basis of Chelmino Law.

In the first half of the 15th century, Ludwik von Lansen, mayor of Bytow, exchanged four parcels of land located in Bytow for two parcels of the Trzebiatowski estate, which was owned by Mikolaj from Trzebiatow. He owned the land based on Chelmino Law. He also had a right to free fishing with "small nets" for his own table. The village became an ancestral nest for the extensive Trzebiatowski family.

There are among them:

Chamyr-; Zmuda-; Mospan-; Wrycza- and Reka-; also Raszka-; Malotka-; and Jutrzenka-Trzebiatowski.

They are all progeny of the nobility which fought at Cecora, Chocim, and with King Jan Sobieski at Vienna (victors over the Turks in 1683)."

(The above was followed by the following footnote:)

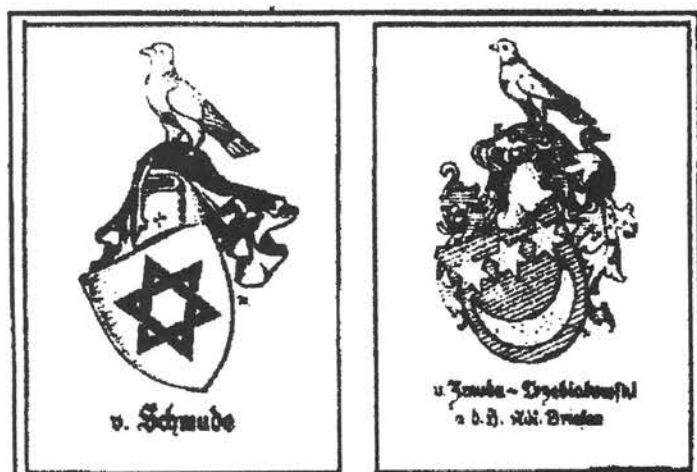
"Henryk Sienkiewicz wrote about them in the *Fields of Glory*:....and the most splendid Kaszuby regiment presented itself, wearing blue jackets with yellow cartridge pouches. The regiment consisted of splendid men, very tall and matched so well, they seemed to be a brother to each other. Heavy muskets were moving in their hands as canes. Because of those war expeditions, many different Turkish motifs, half moons and stars, remained in the coat of arms of Kashubian families....."

Three von Zmuda Trzebiatowski families immigrated to central Wisconsin. They were John and Victoria (Bielawa) Trzebiatowski, Sylvester and Marianna (Ciszewska) Trzebiatowski, and Thomas and Josephina (Kiedrowska) Trzebiatowski. There is a distant connection between John and Sylvester. Their records were located in the Konarzyny, Lesno, and Brusy parishes.

The Andrew and Veronica (Szypryt) von Zmuda Trzebiatowski family immigrated to Winona, MN. After her death, he married Marcina Dronska, and the couple moved to Little Falls, MN. They had been preceded by Mathias & Paulina (von Zmuda Trzebiatowska) Ringwelski and her brother, Benno. All were from the same area as the Wisconsin families. Their records were located in the Konarzyny and Borzyszkowy parishes.

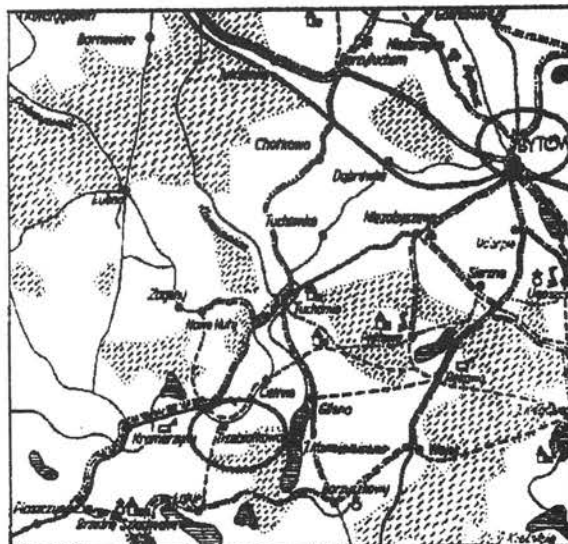
All of the immigrant families, who had left their Kaszuby region homes for America in the 1870s and 1880s, had lived in communities other than Trzebiatowska but had retained their von Zmuda Trzebiatowski

### Herby rodu Żmuda-Trebieatowskich



Coat of Arms of the clan v. Zmuda - Trzebiatowski

Below: Location of Trzebiatowska southwest of Bytów





identity. Even though the families did not use the Zmuda surname in the U.S., this writer's father and others were told of the connection.

Zmuda, Schmude in German, is a "clan name" within the Trzebiatowski umbrella. Zmuda is their family name with its "roots" in the village of Trzebiatkowa--"ski" is an adjectival ending defined as "from" Trzebiatkowa, or in other words, Trzebiatowski. The German "von" and the Latin "de" have a similar definition.

Henryk Sienkiewicz is a noted Polish author who was awarded the Nobel prize for literature in 1905. His well known book, *Quo Vadis*, was made into a popular American movie. His books, *With Fire and Sword*, *The Deluge*, and *Fire in the Steppe*, commonly referred to as The Trilogy, have also been translated into English.

Submitted by: **Adeline Copa/Sopa**, great-granddaughter of John & Victoria (Bielawa) von Zmuda Trzebiatowski.



## A 3rd person from Wells in Haller's Army

By J. M. Bias

This is a follow-up to my article "Haller's Army Recruitment Papers" from the Summer 2005 issue.

I have determined that a third person from Wells was in Haller's Army after finding a contact for the Mosser family. My contact, Mary STENZEL, of New Richland, MN had the family history for the Mosser family. Leo's grandfather was born in Alsace, France. I did not research the boundary changes of Alsace but that probably explains why the early census records say the place of birth is France and the later ones say Germany.

The third person is Jozef (Joseph) JANKA. Mary also sent me a picture of Leo MOSSER, Joseph Janka and John PYZICK taken "about the time of World War I." What a great picture! (See photo at left.) The family identified Joseph as Casimir on the picture but I was able to determine it was indeed Joseph because Casimir would have been too young to be in World War I and the index for Haller's Army identifies Jozef Janka. His number is 29, 124 which is sequentially next to John Pyzicki's number of 30, 124 and Leo Mosser's number of 31, 124. Joseph and his parents were born in or near Wagrowice in the province of Posen. They immigrated May 14, 1900 from Hamburg to Ellis Island, destination Wells, Minnesota.

I have the Janka parents and their children in my database, however, I did not have Joseph defined. I researched this family because I found a funeral card for Stanislaus Janka and her<sup>1</sup> daughter, Anastasia in my parent's memorabilia and I became curious. They died a few days apart in 1945 but their deaths were not related. Anastasia was 39. The obituary for Stanislaus, which I recently obtained, says "Joseph Janka served in World War I, was reported missing and nothing further has ever been learned of him."

<sup>1</sup> Stanislaus is female! It probably should be spelled Stanisława but it is spelled Stanislaus on both her funeral card and in Anastasia's obituary

**At left:** Leo Mosser, Joseph Janka and John Pyzick leaving Minneapolis to join Haller's Army during WWI? Joseph Janka would not return home.

## Additional Pelplin CDs available

*In our Spring 2005 issue (pp. 20-25) we listed the CDs of church records from the Diocese of Pelplin that were available through Stanley Frymark. I sent Stanley a copy of the newsletter with that listing. He sent a post card in reply. It read as follows:*

Witam !

Many thanks for the newsletter you sent me and for the article and CD list. For you greetings from Kashubia!

Stanley Frymark

*Stanley also sent an email update of available CDs. He sent the complete listing. The listing below indicates only those additional items not found in the Spring issue. Some entirely new parishes are indicated here. Other items are additional records for parishes that were included previously. Be sure to check both this and the listing in the Spring issue for a complete indication of records available for purchase through Stanley. Also check that issue for translations of some of the Polish words listed here.*

Here is new actual CDs list -- 51 new positions. My another e-mail address is <zaborski@web.de> also <pts1807@o2.pl>

**Byszewo** (added item): K2 chrzty 1774-1808, zgony 1774-1867 oryginal

**Fordon** (new listing): zgony 1783-1786, bierzmowanie 1927-1933, I komunია 1925-1938 oryginal

**Gostycyn** (new listing): K2 chrzty 1670-1750, 1791-1794, sluby 1661-1791, 1837-1885, zgony 1655-1750, meszne 1850-1852, wizyt. biskupia 1767 oryginal

**Jeżewo** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1752-1840 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1841-1872 oryginal; K3 chrzty 1872-1896 oryginal; K4 sluby 1752-1891, zgony 1775-1800, 1805-1816 oryginal; K5 zgony 1817-1880 oryginal; K6 zgony 1881-1910 oryginal

**Koronowo** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1744-1801, sluby 1744-1775, zgony 1744-1774 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1802-1828 oryginal; K3 chrzty 1829-1840, sluby 1776-1852 oryginal; K4 zgony 1775-1833 oryginal

**Lalkowy** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1800-1830, 1843-1866 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1867-1888, sluby 1866-1934, zgony 1790-1819 oryginal; K3 zgony 1820-1896 oryginal

**Leśno** (added items): K1 chrzty 1736-1815, 1819-1841 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1842-1851; zgony 1781-1861 oryginal

**Niewieścín** (added items): K3 chrzty-sluby-zgony 1738-1782 scan oryginal; K4 chrzty 1857-1874, sluby 1843-1874, zgony 1843-1874 oryginal

**Ogorzelińy** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1696-1753, 1848-1904 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1754-1848, komunია 1774-1792, sluby 1848-1939 oryginal; K3 zgony 1754-1875, 1884-1907; sluby 1754-1847 oryginal

**Polskie Łaki** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1773-1828, sluby 1774-1828, zgony 1774-1829, 1862-1891 oryginal; K2 zgony 1748-1757, 1762-1788 oryginal

**Przechlewo** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1663-1770, sluby 1663-1688, 1706-1764, zgony 1669-1675, bierzmowanie 1741, konwersja 1706-1772 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1770-1818, sluby 1764-1772, zgony 1706-1770 oryginal; K3 chrzty 1818-1877, 1881, sluby 1772-1807 oryginal; K4 sluby 1808-1877, 1881, zgony 1770-1856 oryginal

**Przodkowo** (new listing): K1 sluby 1824-1868, zgony 1824-1869 oryginal; K2 sluby 1868-1892, zgony 1870-1899 oryginal; K3 chrzty 1824-1862, sluby 1893-1919 oryginal; K4 chrzty 1863-1885 oryginal

**Serock** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1773-1844, Serock 1 i 2 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1845-1861, dziennik 1849-1874, sluby 1831-1850 oryginal; K3 chrzty 1861-1878, sluby 1851-1882 oryginal; K4 chrzty 1879-1886, zgony 1831-1847 oryginal; K5 zgony 1848-1882 oryginal; K6 zgony 1883-1892 oryginal

**Topólno** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1696-1700, 1703-1707, 1711, 1774-1852, konwersja 1729-1768, Topolno 1 i 2 oryginal; K2 chrzty 1853-1891, chrzty Niewieścín 1874-1875, sluby 1843-1881 oryginal; K3 zgony 1757-1930 oryginal

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**Więcbork** (new listing): K1 chrzty 1770-1851 oryginal; K2 sluby 1773-1920 oryginal; K3 zgony 1785-1884 oryginal

**Wierzchucín Królewski** (added item): K2 sluby 1777-1827, 1830-1866, zgony 1782-1783, chrzty 1766-1829 oryginal

**Włoki** (new listing): K chrzty 1782-1883, sluby 1783-1878, zgony 1782-1908 oryginal



Origins and Relationships, continued from page 1

I believe that one John RAKOWSKI, a soldier, who was among the 28 individuals or families identified in the 1865 census at Fond du Lac, was probably the first Pole in the area. As it turns out, John Rakowski was not found in the 1870 census of the area, but Vincent (aka John) SOBIECKI and his family were found settled in the Duluth area at the time. The connection between the Sobieckis and John Rakowski is tenuous, but a Rakowski did serve as a godparent to one of the Sobiecki children in Poland. It is possible that the area's opportunities had been communicated between these families in Poland prompting Vincent Sobiecki to settle here with his family.

It is known that Vincent (b. 1825) was born in Lechlin, a community/parish in the Wągrowiec area of Posen, married Catharina IGNASIAK (1826), born in Przysiecka, a village in the parish of Lechlin in 1850. Vincent and Catharina had several children who came to the U.S. (Duluth) with them in 1869. Catharina (1826) had a brother Joseph Ignasiak born in 1830 at Przysiecka. Joseph married Rosalia ESNER in 1854, and two of their children came to Duluth. One, Joseph, (1853), married Martianna BUSSA, (1858), at Mieścisko in 1877, before coming to Duluth in 1879.

Martianna (b. 1858) was the daughter of Laurenty Bussa (1830) and Josepha ZIEMSKA (1833). Martianna's mother, Josepha Ziemska (1833), and brothers, Jan, Stephan, and Martin Bussa, came to Duluth in 1887 following the death of their father Laurenty. That's where I come in, sort of; Stephan Bussa is my spouse's grandfather.

The Sobieckis, whom I believe were influenced by the Rakowskis, in turn influenced the IGNASIAKs, BUSSAs, ZIEMSKIs, KUPCZINSKIs, MARZAL-KIEWICZes, MICHORs, etc., all from the Wągrowiec and Oborniki areas of Posen.

By 1870, there were a dozen or more Poles (families and individuals) including the MUSOLFs, NOWICKIs, and others in the area. While I am not certain what influenced Jan BOROWIAK to settle in the Duluth area (Rice Lake) at that time, it is known that George BURKE, Jan Borowiak's son, after the death of his first wife, sent for Stanisława Ziemska (b. 1864), from Budziejewo in the Wągrowiec area, to come to Duluth in 1894 to be his wife. Stanisława (1864) was the daughter of Michael Ziemski (1826), brother of Josepha Ziemska (1833), and sister of Catharina Ziemska (1867) who married Andreas PIJUT (1865) who is also among the Poles of Duluth from the Wągrowiec area. It would appear that

George knew of Stanisława's availability either through acquaintances here and/or in the Wągrowiec area of Poland.

The story of George and Stanisława aside, the emigration of Poles to Minnesota and more specifically to the Duluth area, has been chronicled by some more experienced in this area than myself. John Radzilowski's book, *Poles in Minnesota*, is one such work. But, in 1875, the census showed that many more Poles had found their way to the Duluth area.

These emigrants from the Wągrowiec area, were joined by others from the Kórnik, Bnin, and other communities in the Śrem area of what is now Poznań. These included the KUJAWAs, MOSINIAKs, TOBOLAs, FRANKOWIAKs, etc.. Not to be excluded, were those from the region around Ostrów Wielkopolski that included the communities of Szczury, Skrzebowa, Pogrzebów, Raskowek, Sobótka, etc.. Hailing from that region were the WALCZAKs, KOZIAREKs, NIEZGODAs, SOBCZAKs, BLASCZYKs, CIESLAKs and others related to them.

And what of the TRADERs, LEPAKs, KNITTERs, DZIEMENSKIs, JAZDZEWSKIs, et al., who came to Duluth, most via Chicago, but came from the communities of Lipusz, Brusy, Skwierawy, etc., in the general area of Gdańsk (Kościerzyna, Bytów) and many settled in Gnesen Township just outside of Duluth.

Most interestingly, marriages within and between these geographically dispersed families, once they arrived in the Duluth area occurred, and created in a single generation or so, an enormous, rather closely knit, somewhat socially if not religiously motivated, extended family.<sup>2</sup>

An excellent example of this propagation is found in the life journey of Josepha PAWLACK (b. 1827) and her contribution to the development of the Polish population in Duluth and environs. Josepha, the daughter of Laurentius Pawlack and Julianna MAJCHRZAK, married Antoni Sobczak (1793) in 1846, becoming his second wife. Antoni and Josepha had five children that I know of. The eldest, Marianna Sobczak, married Henry Musolf here in Duluth in 1872. They had five children (again, that I know of).

Meanwhile, Josepha (b. 1827) having been widowed by Antoni Sobczak (1793) married Jan

<sup>2</sup>Greg Kishel, "Drobne Echa," *PGS-MN Newsletter* 13 no. 2 (Summer 2005): 14-21.

MLYNARCZYK (1817), later to be known as MILLER, in 1858. Josepha and Jan had eight children (once again, that I know of).

The significance of all of this, is that Jan and Josepha (and most of the children above) made their way to Duluth and were or became the grandparents of many of the Pawlack, Sobczak and Miller descendants who can trace their ancestry through Josepha's marriages as well as the marriages of the children of Antoni Sobczak's first marriage to Regina SLUDNIESKA, Marianna b. (1823) and Simon (1830). Simon, incidentally, married, in Poland, Tekla FRATCZAK, daughter of Thomas Fratzak and Eleonora NIEZGODKA, and the widow of Paulus SZCZESNY, thus establishing another relationship to other Duluth Poles.

I should state at this point that I have not found the origins of all of the families included in this project. Given the scope of the project, it cannot be anything but a work in progress. However, in order to keep everybody sorted out, I developed a series of descendancy charts of my own design, which show the relationships, in Poland, of many of the families I've researched or am researching.<sup>3</sup> Space would not permit the publication of those charts here, some seventy of them at this writing. I have however provided an Index of Surnames included in the project with this "report." (See page 11.)

In the near future, I hope to publish the effort in some form, perhaps on the St. Louis County MNGenWeb site. That site would provide an easier method to add updates and revisions as they are developed. Meanwhile, if anyone recognizes a surname of interest, I would welcome an inquiry in that regard. Those inquiries would provide me as much help in proving or completing my findings as they may help the inquirer in finding their ancestors origins in Poland.

The most rewarding aspect of this effort has been in assisting fellow family genealogists in identifying the location in Poland from which their ancestors emigrated, and the relationships I found as the result of that help. I am, after all, not a native Minnesotan, much less from Duluth. Furthermore, I have no Polish ancestry other than through my spouses. I merely developed an interest in finding out how these Duluth Poles were related and where they came from. Besides, the effort keeps me out of trouble, is fun, and is at least of some socially redeeming value.

<sup>3</sup>ORIGINS AND RELATIONSHIPS, *Selected Duluth Area Families of Polish Ancestry* (unpublished).

Finally, I did not get this far into the project without the help and encouragement of many (some unknowingly) the likes of Ray Marshall, Bobbi Hoyt, Jim Anderson, Mark Dobosenski, Marilyn Elliott, Larry Oraskovich,<sup>4</sup> Joanne Sher and Jerry Sime at the St. Louis County Courthouse, and June Lynch and many others with whom I research at the Duluth Family History Center.

<sup>4</sup>Larry Oraskovich, *TRADER Family Tree and History* (Duluth Public Library, Reference 929.2 Or11t)

*Editor's note: Rick attached the following letter along with his article:*

Please find enclosed the snail mail version of the "article" that you requested. Thanks for your interest. I hope it "fits the bill."

I have been working with Shirley Solem who manages the St. Louis County MNGenWeb site. She has agreed to add this to the site, but I'm really not sure when this will be done. Doing some "polishin" at this time. However, the project will be published as an Index using the same Surname Index that I've included here. Access to the information in the Project will be by Email inquiry to yours truly.

If we get this done before you publish, you might consider adding a footnote about its availability on the above site. Shirley intends to link the page to the index page and have the search engines get the info into their systems. The surnames will be searchable from the likes of Google, etc.. I'm not sure how all that works, but it sounds good.

**Richard G. Bates** <rgbates@worldnet.att.net>

*The St. Louis County MNGenWeb site can be found at <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnstloui/>>. As this issue went to press, Rick's surname index had not yet been added to the site.*

*Rick's "Surname Index" is found on the following page. Inquires about the Duluth surnames listed should be directed to Rick at the email address above.*

*An outline of Greg Kishel's presentation--Polonia on a Northern Frontier--at the FEEFHS convention follows on pages 12-13. We think the information presented in this outline is a good complement to Rick's article on the chain migration of Duluth area families of Polish ancestry.*

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## POLONIA ON A NORTHERN FRONTIER

The Polish American Communities of  
Northeastern Minnesota

Presented by **Greg Kishel** <gfk1@comell.edu>  
For the FEEFHS Conference, St. Paul, MN,  
August 20, 2005

- I. The Polish presence in Northeastern Minnesota
  - A. Not widely known as a place where Poles settled in numbers
  - B. However, very earliest settlers in a half-dozen localities included Polish immigrants
  - C. From 1880 to 1920, region experienced huge economic growth due to extractive industries (logging and mining) and transportation sectors servicing them (boat and rail)
  - D. Along with members of other ethnic groups from Central and Southern Europe, Polish immigrants met the huge need for unskilled manual labor in development of these industries
  - E. For some of the Poles, parts of northeastern Minnesota looked like home

- II. Characteristics of Founding and Development of Polish Communities
  - A. Majority of first wave (1875-1890) from German Partition (Poznan and Kaszubia)
  - B. Later arrivals (1890-1915) more from Russian and Austrian Partitions
  - C. First undertakings of these settlers: construction of church buildings, founding of Polish ethnic Roman Catholic parishes, importation of Polish ethnic priests
  - D. Undertones of competition with other ethnic groups, within and between church institutions and in political and economic sectors
  - E. Strained relationship with Irish-descended members of Roman Catholic hierarchy, but accommodation resulted as often as conflict did
  - F. Acculturation and Americanization overtime
  - G. However, long-term persistence of institutions, some sense of ethnic identity into 1970s (and in some ways to the present)

### III. Locales of Polish settlement

- A. Duluth
  1. First Poles arrived before 1870
  2. Poles founded first parish church in Diocese of Duluth (after establishment of cathedral parish of Sacred Heart)
  3. Ultimately, four Polish-ethnic parishes: St. Joseph's in Gnesen Twp. (f. c. 1876); St. Mary, Star of the Sea p. 1883); Ss. Peter & Paul (f. 1901); St. Josephat's (Polish National Catholic, f. 1907)
  4. Active (and competing) chapters of Polish American Federation

5. Polish library
6. Polish Catholic Cemetery (1893)
7. Newspapers: *Nowiny Duluckie* (1890s, very short-term); *Gwiazda Polarna* (publ. Stevens Pt., Wisconsin)
8. Very high rate of enlistment in WW I era Polish Army in France (Haller's Army)
9. Some early Poles prominent in larger local community: John Rakowsky (Duluth pioneer, Indian trader, entrepreneur), Theodore Heliński (municipal politician, U.S. Postmaster, national *cenzor* of Polish National Alliance)
- B. Rice Lake and Gnesen Townships (St. Louis County)
  1. Poles were among very earliest homesteaders in St. Louis County, in these township just north of Duluth, from 1875 to mid-1880s
  2. Gnesen probably only place in U.S. named after Gniezno, Poland
  3. Settled mainly by Kaszubians and Poznanians
  4. St. Joseph's parish/chapel and cemetery (f. c. 1876)
- C. Sturgeon Lake (Pine County)
  1. Founded and actively promoted by St. Paul & Duluth R.R. as Polish agricultural colony
  2. Marketed and homesteaded 1885-1895
  3. Settled by immigrants from German and Russian Partitions
  4. St. Isidore's parish and cemetery (f. 1889)
- D. Split Rock and Silver Townships, Kettle River (Carlton County)
  1. Agricultural settlement, offshoot of Sturgeon Lake
  2. Possibly some in-migration from Wisconsin (Superior?)
  3. St. Joseph's parish and cemetery (f. 1895); Sacred Heart (PNC) chapel and cemetery
- E. Cloquet (Carlton County) :
  1. Poles attracted to industrial work in lumber and paper mills
  2. St. Casimir's parish (f. 1910)
- F. Mesabi Iron Range (northern St. Louis County)
  1. Much unskilled heavy labor required for development and operation of iron mining, 1893-on; some Poles involved in store- and saloon-keeping and merchant trades
  2. Earliest Polish settlers had European origins in German Partition; large influx of Poles from Russian and Austrian Partitions, 1895-on
  3. Most concentrated Polish settlement in city of Virginia; out migration to Biwabik, Chisholm, Hibbing, and rural parts of far northern St. Louis County
  4. St. John the Baptist parish (f. 1905)
  5. Ian Michan/John Meehan: first merchant tailor

on Mesabi Range, principal founder of St. John's, early member of Virginia city council  
G. Buyck, Gheen, Greaney (far northern St. Louis County)

1. Polish settlers small in raw numbers, but distinct in concentration
2. Migration from areas further south, to take up farming
3. Logging and trapping supplemented limited income from agriculture
4. St. Joseph's parish/chapel and cemetery, Buyck (f. 1908)

### III. Origins in chain migrations

- A. Wągrowiec area of Poznań to Duluth, 1880s-1890s
- B. Ostrów Wielkopolski area of Poznań to Split Rock Township
- C. Bessemer-Ironwood on Gogebic Iron Range, Michigan, to Virginia, 1890s
- D. Rajgród/Bargłów area of Podlasia to Virginia, 1890s-1910
- E. Mszana Dolna area of Galicia to Virginia, 1900-1910
- F. East end of Superior, Wisconsin to Buyck, 1904-1910
- G. Stevens Point, Wisconsin to Virginia, 1906-1907

### IV. Out migration due to area's cyclical economy

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*Northern frontier*, continued on page 11

## JORDANÓW, POLAND

### TRANSLATOR IN TRAINING #3, (A Beginner's *Słownik Geograficzny* Translation)

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

This article illustrates another example of combining information from a *Słownik Geograficzny* translation with current information, including a Polish county website. As you may recall, *Słownik Geograficzny* (Geographic Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland) is basically an inventory of Poland and surrounding areas taken in 1880-1902.

After finishing translations for Wysoka and Toporzysko, Poland (*PGS-MN Newsletter* Vol. 13, No. 2 [Summer 2005]: pp. 10-13, 22-23), I tried a *Słownik Geograficzny* translation for Jordanów, Poland, the village of my maternal grandmother, Rozalia JAROSZ. After the final partition of Poland in 1795, this area was under Austrian control and was called *Galicja* or just *Austria* until 1918. After Austria's defeat in World War I this area became Poland again.

#### Jordanów, Center of the Babiogórcy Highlander Clan

Jordanów is pronounced "Yor-da-noof" with emphasis on the middle syllable. Jordanów is in the Beskid Mountain range, part of the Polish Carpathian Mountains (For a map and description see *PGS-MN Newsletter* Vol. 13, No. 2 [Summer, 2005]: p. 10). Like my other Polish ancestors, Rozalia Jarosz was a member of the "Babiogórcy" highland clan because of their close proximity to the Mountain called *Babia Góra*.

Polish highlander information was published in the Fall, 2004 issue of *Rodziny, The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America*, pages 11-12, 17-22. William F. (Fred) Hoffman published a translation of an entry from *Słownik Geograficzny*, entitled "The Górale (Highlanders)." This translation describes the many Polish highlander clans living in the Carpathian Mountains around 1900. This translation is also available at the PGSA website at <www.pgsa.org>, click on Directory and then click *Słownik Geograficzny* translations.

In 1895, forty-one (41) small mountain villages were considered part of the Babiogórcy clan. The *Słownik Geograficzny* entry reports this clan to be

the oldest highlander clan in the Polish Carpathian Mountain area. Jordanów was one of the largest villages in the area and in 1895 was considered the capital or main city of the Babiogórcy highlanders. In 1895, Jordanów had 1,254 inhabitants. The current population of Jordanów is about 5,000 people.

#### Destination Northeast Minneapolis

Minneapolis was a destination for many emigrants from the mountain highlands of Poland. The following is a quotation from the book, *They Chose Minnesota* (editor, June D. Holmquist) published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press in 1981. Frank Renkiewicz, author of Chapter 19 on "The Poles," makes the following observation (page 366) after writing about general hardships in that area of Poland (Galicja). "Factors such as these drove people increasingly from the poor pasture and woodlands near the villages of Rabka and Jordanów and the town of Nowy Targ in Podhale in the foothills of the Carpathians. For \$45-\$60 they might travel as far as Minnesota. **Northeast Minneapolis was their principal destination**, particularly at the turn of the century, but they also scattered throughout the state and occasionally into rural communities like Gilman."

(*Author's note: Gilman, Minnesota is located north of Minneapolis, specifically about 20 miles northeast of St. Cloud, Minnesota. Currently the population is a little over 200 people.*)

Holy Cross Church, established in 1886, was the original Polish immigrant destination church in what is traditionally known as "Northeast" Minneapolis. In 1906 St. Philip's Church was formed for those Polish immigrants who lived across the Mississippi river in what is known as just "North" Minneapolis. In 1914 St. Hedwig's Church was organized and it is located in Northeast Minneapolis a few miles directionally north of Holy Cross. In 1914 a Polish National Catholic Church, called Sacred Heart of Jesus, was established up the street from Holy Cross. Finally in 1916 All Saints church, another Northeast Polish church, formed and it is located directionally south of Holy Cross.

To summarize, originally there were five churches in Minneapolis considered to be ethnically Polish. All were located in the north-northeast portion of Minneapolis. Four were Roman Catholic: All Saints; Holy Cross; St. Hedwig; and St. Philip. The fifth, Sacred Heart of Jesus, was a Polish National Catholic Church.



From my childhood experiences and recollections (1940s), some Polish highlanders farmed in the area near Weyerhaeuser, Wisconsin. My family spent a few summer days there during "threshing" season and families we knew from Minneapolis had relatives in or had moved from Weyerhaeuser, WI.

### Jordanów's current Polish Administrative Units

In 1998, Poland established a three level division of administrative government units. At the top level the country is divided into 16 provinces (*województwa*) which are further divided into 315 counties plus some large cities (*powiaty*). The counties are then divided into districts (*gminy*) within the county. Jordanów is in the province called *Małopolskie* and is in *Suski County* (*powiat*), also known as *Sucha Beskidzka County*, with the county seat at *Sucha Beskidzka*. In Poland some of the larger villages are classified as districts (*gminy*). Jordanów, considered a larger village, constitutes a separate district (*gmina*) in *Suski County* (*powiat*). So, there is a Jordanów town and a Jordanów district (*gmina*).

The information from internet websites helped with the translation. I also have some personal experience to draw upon because in September of 2000



Above: Location of *Sucha Beskidzka County*

my wife, Judith, and I spent a morning with Polish genealogist, Iwona Dakiniewicz, searching church records at the Catholic Church in Jordanów, Poland.



Above: Map showing locations of Jordanów, Toporzysko, and Wysoka, Poland just west of Rabka

## Jordanów

A good present day description of the attractions of Jordanów and its history is available (in English) on the website for the Polish County of Sucha Beskidzka (Suski Powiat) at <[www.powiatsuski.pl](http://www.powiatsuski.pl)>. Jordanów makes an effort to promote its natural highland beauty including mountain hiking and cycling trails. The following paragraphs and highlights are taken directly from the Suski Powiat website:

Jordanów town is located on the right bank of the River Skawa at the meeting point of three small mountain ranges -- Beskid Wyspowy in the east, Beskid Makowski in the north, Beskid Żywiecki in the west and south. The town is on the main transport routes of the Sucha Beskidzka to Chabówka railway line as well as the main Wadowice to Rabka road.

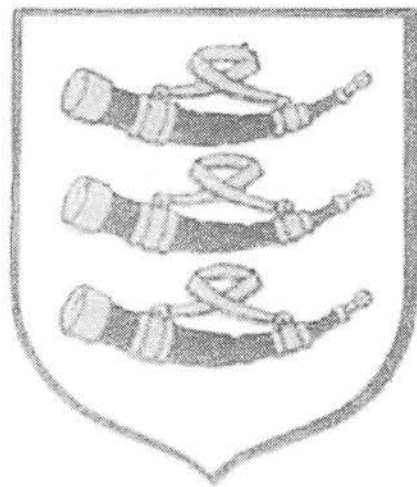
In Jordanów interesting tourist mountain trails crisscross each other, including: red route going through Mount Turbacz, 1310 metres above sea level, Rabka to Mount Babia Góra, 1725 metres asl (asl = above sea level). Blue route goes from Turbacz and Rabka through Luboń Wielki 1022 metres asl to Koskowa Góra 866 metres asl, and on to Lanckorona and Kalwaria Zebrzydowska.

Yellow route goes from Dobczyce through Łysina 891 metres asl, Klimas 801 metres asl, Zębalowa 858 metres asl, to Góra Ludwiki 653 metres asl and Beskid 760 metres asl on the Podhalański belt.

*(Author's Note: This area is considered to have been on the "amber road" when in ancient times amber was transported from the Baltic Sea to Greece and Rome.)*

The town was founded in 1564 on the authority of King Zygmunt II August (Last king of the Jagiellonian Dynasty). The founder came from the family who owned the Wieliczka salt mine and therefore its coat of arms was depicted by three horns which were used in the mines to signal a break.

At right:  
Coat of Arms  
for  
Jordanów,  
Poland



Below: New home construction in the Jordanów - Toporzysko area



Jordanów was located on the outskirts of Malejowa village and in 1576 passed into the hands of the Zebrzydowskis family before changing owners many times after that. 1576 was also the year that (King) Stefan Batory granted the town the rights to hold a market. In the 17th century it was famous for its cattle market. On the basis of this success it expanded to cover trade in garments and linen. In 1803 the town could boast the first public school in the region and the opening of the Sucha Beskidzka-Chabówka railway line meant the town was re-energized. During the Nazi invasion and occupation, the town distinguished itself for the resistance it put up, and in recognition of this was awarded the Order of the Grunwald Cross in 1984.

*(Author's Note: According to the people at the church, 70% of Jordanów was destroyed, but the church and the parish records were spared from the destruction. In September of 1939 this area became part of the front line effort by the Polish army to defend Poland from the invading Nazi army.)*

As well as a powerful past the town has a powerful future with the Valvex Company hydraulic thermostat controls being produced here and the town is also home to the Jordanówianka garment-manufacturing concern.

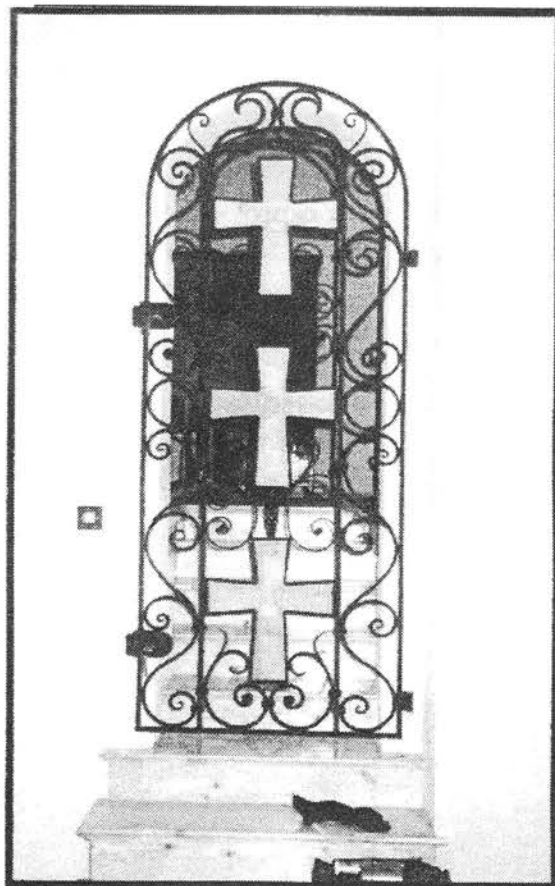
*(Author's Note: Valvex is an affiliated company of the Meridian International Group which currently*

*includes American Metalcast Technologies and Polco Metal Finishing of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Valvex)*

The first parish church was established in 1576 by the Anna from Sieniawskis Jordanów Foundation. The church was reinforced by brick in pseudo gothic style back in 1909-13. The architect, Jan Sas Zubrzycki also designed the post office (1908) and town hall (1911) in a similar style."

In the church (side altar) there is a picture of the Holy Mother with Child, created in the style of the Holy Mother in Częstochowa, painted on linen and glued to a pine wood board. It probably dates back to the 17th century and is the work of an anonymous artist. Other pictures and artifacts from the 16th century can also be seen in the church.

*(Author's Note: There is a beautiful archival display room above the priest's sacristy where the parish stores church artifacts and the parish registry books. The author, his wife, Judith Rys, and Polish genealogist, Iwona Dakiniewicz, spent 3 hours in this room searching baptismal and marriage records in September 2000. I took 20-30 minutes of video tape of church records and artifacts and Judy Rys took photographs.)*



**At left: The ornate door to the church archival room above the priest's sacristy in Jordanów**

**At right: Iwona Dakiniewicz looking through church cabinets holding registry records**





In Chrobacze, which is now part of Jordanów there is a manor with an unusual roof, typically Polish, from the 17th century. Spread between the mellow Hajdówka and Przykrzyca hills, Jordanów is a modern town and not only a place where you can spend a quiet winter or summer holiday, but thanks to its special micro climate it can help cure those suffering with respiratory diseases.

### Author's Note on Local Church Records

When Jordanów became the largest village in the area, it served as the parish for the surrounding villages until some of the other villages were large enough to support their individual parishes. Therefore, some of the earlier records for the surrounding villages are kept in Jordanów. Some are cataloged as separate books for the smaller villages.

Much earlier, the primary Roman Catholic Church in the area was in the village of Łetowni. This is based on the fact that the *Słownik Geograficzny* translations for Wysoka, Toporzysko and Jordanów make reference that these three villages belonged to the parish of Letowina in 1581.

When we were in Jordanów in 2000, we searched records primarily in the 1800s and 1700s. At that time I was unaware of the early predominance of the village Łetowni. Since the parish priest allowed us only three hours to search, we did not extensively check for those very early records from other nearby villages. However, Judy Rys did hold in her hands a Jordanów church baptismal registry book dating back into the 1600s. Unfortunately for genealogists searching this highland region, the Mormons, that is, Church of the Latter Day Saints (LDS), have not micro-filmed in this area. So, visits to these Polish churches are required to search this original information.

### Final note on Jordanów

A few years back, when I read the *Deluge*, a classic Polish novel written by the famous Polish author, Henryk Sienkiewicz, I was surprised to see a reference to the village of Jordanów. Sienkiewicz referred to Jordanów in the part of the novel where King Jan Casimir Wasa, during war with Sweden, is in flight hiding in southern Poland and the novelist lists various villages they were to pass through on the king's journey to safety.

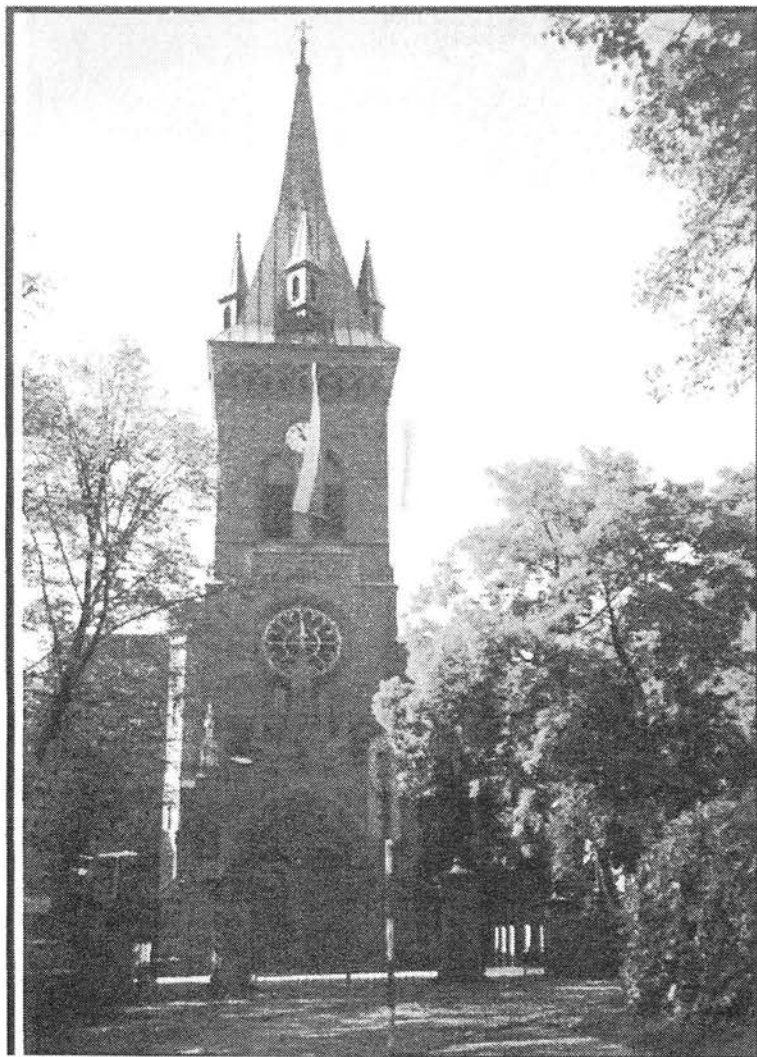
### Translation

The mechanics for making a "training wheels" translation were explained in a previous "translator in training" article (PGS-MN Bulletin, Vol. 13, No. 2, Summer 2005). To start, the Polish words are entered

into a WORD document with enough space underneath them (double space) to write the corresponding English words. In the translation, I added some additional explanatory information in parentheses. Since this is a training translation, suggestions from experienced translators are welcome as letters to the editor. That way we can all learn and others may be motivated to try a "beginning" translation.

### Summary

In addition to *Słownik Geograficzny* translations, Polish websites broaden the understanding of villages by providing detailed maps and additional historical information. English language versions of Polish websites are very helpful to the "Polish language challenged." Website information helps to confirm that found in *Słownik Geograficzny* and it makes the translation easier and gives it confidence. Websites are truly an unexpected translation aid.



Above: Church in Jordanów, Poland

## Słownik Geograficzny Entry for Jordanów, Poland

(Polish words are on top and *English in bold italics below*)

**Jordanów**, miasto nad Skawiną z widokiem na Babią górę pod 37° 30' wsch dług.  
*Jordanów, city on the Skawa (river) within view of Mount Babia Góra at 37° 30' east longitude*

od Ferro i 49° 39' półn szerok, w. pow. myślenickim w pobliżu przejścia przez  
*from Ferro and 49° 39' north latitude in the district of Myslenice near the pass to cross through to*  
(In Greenwich terms, Ferro is 18° - so it is longitude 19° 30' from Greenwich)

Tatry z doliny Orawy do doliny Raby, 802 m. wys. //  
*the Tatry Mountains through the Orawa River valley to the Raba River valley, 802 meters elevation. //*

Ubogie górskie miasto, z obszernym trawą porośłym rynkiem,  
*A poor mountain city, an area overgrown with grass, a market,*

na którym wznosi się zajęty kramami drewniany ratusz, jest zabudowane drewnianymi,  
*where wooden shops were constructed and a town hall, buildings which are wooden,*

prawie jednakiemi domkami, od których różni się tylko murowana szkoła, plebania i dom ubogich.//  
*many similar homes, in which they differ only from the brick school, rectory and enriched houses.//*

W bardzo pięknej, malowniczej dolinie położona, stolica Babiogórców (ob. Górale),  
*It is situated in a very beautiful, picturesque valley, It is the capital city of Babiogórcy. (see Gorale),*

nazywana także Zielonem miastem, zajmuje przestrzeni 1479 mr. i ma 1254 mieszk.  
*the city was also named Zielona, occupying a tract of 1,479 morgs and has 1,254 inhabitants,*

między tymi 1065 rzym. kat. i 189 izrael. // Majątek  
*among those were 1,065 Roman Catholics and 189 Jewish inhabitants.// The village's*

czynny wynosi 20800, bierny 4330  
*active assets are worth 20,800 Austrian zloty, and the passive assets are worth 4,330,*

a roczny dochód około 6000 zł. wa. //  
*annual income of around 6000 Austrian zloty. // (Note: zł. wa. = Austrian zloty)*

Ludność trudni się garncarstwem, uprawą bardzo niewdzięcznej roli i handlem.//  
*The village population is employed as potters, laborers cultivating very unforgiving fields and traders.//*

Do podniesienia handlu przyczyniają się cztery doroczne jarmarki.// z których każdy  
*The increase in trade was caused by the four year trade fair and cattle market.// It lasts every day*

trwa trzy dni.// Głównymi artykułami sprzedaży jest bydło, trzoda chlewna i płótno. //  
*from dawn to three.// The principle articles sold are cattle, shelters (pigsties) for herds and linen cloth.//*

J. Ma szkołę ludową dwuklasową// Parafią rzymsk. kat. urząd pocztowy i telegraficzny,  
*Jordanow has two elementary schools.// There is a Roman Catholic parish, post office and telegraph office,*

sąd powiatowy, notaryat, lekarza i aptekę.// Kiedy założono Jordanów niewiadomo, ponieważ,  
*county court, notary, doctor and pharmacy.// Nobody knows when Jordanow was founded or established*

jednak rodzina Jordanów herbu Traby  
*but nevertheless the Jordan family with the coat of arms with horns*

pierwszy raz występuje w dokumentach jako osiadła na Spiżu, mianowicie  
*were the first owners set forth and documented the settlement by Spiz, especially*

Marek, Jerzy i Paweł niechcą płacić dziesięcin (Morawski Sad. II, 171) około r 1441,  
*Mark, George and Paul with the consent to pay a tithe (Morawski Court II, 171) around the year 1441*

nadto w tych czasach głównie w tej stronie Polski spotykamy oddziały braci  
*more than sufficient time principally to avoid the Polish meeting a counteracting detachment*

czeskich i polskich husytów, przeto być może, że wówczas powstała tutaj osada husycka,  
*of Czech and Polish hussars, to be perhaps, to be made here to garrison hussars,*

coby potwierdziła biblijna nazwa Trąby są godłem górnictwa żupnego  
*instead to confirm the biblical name of trumpet as the symbol which belonged to the working of salt mines*

a wieś Zakliczyn w pow. wielickim (prawdopodobnież niż miasto nad Dunajcem,  
*of the village of Zakliczyn in the district of Wieliczka (an important village above the Dunajec River,*

jak podaje Morawski) posiadają w 1505 r.// Jordanowie, potomkowie Hansa wojta myślenickiego,  
*as given by Morawski) it was in the year 1505. // A Jordanow descendant, Jan older mayor of Myslenice*

starszego górniczego w żupach wielickich, który Zakliczyn od króla w r. 1455 otrzymał. //  
*owned the salt mines of Wieliczka, which Zakliczy received from king in the year 1455.//*

W ten sposób da się wytłumaczyć późne powstanie parafii rz. Kat. Kościół paraf. drewniany,  
*In this manner it accounts for later raising of a parish Roman Catholic church parish of wood*

zubdowany w. 1570 r., był do 1857 filialnym od par. w. Łetowni. //  
*built in the year 1570, it was until 1857 a branch affiliated with the parish of the village Letowni.//*

I'rócz tego kościoła był jeszcze kościół zbudowany w r. 1648  
*Moreover, they were strong for having a church, so once more a church was built in the year 1648*

przy szpitalu św. Wawrzyńca, zniesiony w 1776, prebenda bractwa różacowego,  
*near the Saint Lawrence Hospital, destroyed in 1776, the ecclesiastic stipend of the rosary society*

zniesiona w 1775, i dom Tow. Jez. zbudowany około r. 1726 a zniesiony  
*repealed in 1775, and the home of Tow. Jez. was built around the year 1726 and destroyed*

w r. 1777. // Przy parafii znajduje się fundacya Jordana Spytki z r. 1597  
*in the year 1777.// Beside founding the village and establishing the parish in 1597, Spytek Jordan*

w celu utrzymywania 8 ubogich, mająca dom murowany i około 10600 zł. wa. majątku. //  
*maintained 8 homes for the poor built with stone for around 10,600 Austrian zloty.//*

Parafia należy do dyec. tarnowskiej i ma z przyłączonemi pięciu wsiami  
*The parish belongs to the diocese of Tarnow and when joined with five small nearby villages*

4696 rzym kat. i 189 izrael. //  
*there is a total of 4,696 Roman Catholics and 189 Jewish inhabitants.//*

Source: *Słownik Geograficzny Krolestwa Polskiego*, Vol. III, page 604, Warsaw 1895.





## PGS-MN NEWSLETTER

### Surname Indexing Project--Volume 7

*We are continuing to index the surnames included in the past issues of the PGS-MN Newsletter. The following listing includes all surnames that appeared in Volume Seven, Nos. 1-4: Spring 1999, Summer 1999, Autumn 1999, and Winter 1999-2000. The code used in this listing is as follows: the first number is the volume number, the second number is the issue number, and the third numbers are page numbers. We are indebted to Mary Kowles for the indexing of this volume. Back issues of Volume 7 may be ordered from the editor of this newsletter for \$4.00 per issue.*

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## Trivia Challenge

Again, only five people responded to last issue's challenge. There is another challenge in this issue. Let's hope more of our members rise to the occasion and respond. We getting to have the same people responding and most already have been winners. So there is an opening for someone who has not yet won (previous winners are not eligible unless no one else submits a correct answer).

John Kulas, Collegeville, replied as follows:

Icek-Hersz Zynger was born in 1904 in Radzymin near Warsaw. Later he adopted the name Isaac Bashevis Singer and won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1978. The themes of his writing center on traditional Polish life in various periods of history before the Holocaust. He wrote in Yiddish.

Samuel Josef Czaczkes was born with this name in 1888 in Polish (East) Galicia. He was born in Buczacz and in his early years was a regular contributor to Jewish publications in Kraków. He wrote in Hebrew or Yiddish until he left Buczacz at the age of 19 and went to Israel, abandoning family and religion. He didn't fit in and returned to Germany in 1912. His early works usually are set in Poland. He changed his name to Samuel Josef Agnon and won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1996, first Nobel Laureate in Hebrew Literature.

Gerhart Hauptmann was born in Obersalzbrunn, Silesia. It is now located in Poland and is called Szczawno Zdrój. He retired to Schreiberhau which now has the Polish name of Szklarska Poręba. He died in Agnetendorf which in modern Poland is called Jagniątków.

Since I believed that my computer was mis-reading the diacritical markings on the place names, I asked for clarification on the spellings. He correctly answered by "snail mail" a few days later: Obersalzbrunn = Szczawno Zdrój, Schreiberhau = Szklarska Poręba, Agnetendorf = Jagniątków.

Since he had not won previously (though he had answered correctly on all previous contests but was not the first), he was declared the winner.

Mike Eckman, Mark Dobosenski and Dennis Kulas, all previous winners, also sent in correct responses.

Meanwhile Joe DeMuth, my computer advisor, complained: "Hey, no fair! Whoever said one would have to read Polish to get the answers to the challenge. . . . How in the world do you expect a Luxemburger to read all that gibberish, and what's with all those funny squiggles? . . ."

## **Missing Branches:**

**QUERIES**, Send to: **Paul Kulas, editor, PGS-MN Newsletter, 12008 West River Road, Champlin, MN 55316-2145** or to e-mail: **kkulas@ties2.net**

*I received a request for help some time ago that included a baptismal record from Poland that needed translating. The record listed the birthplace of the child being baptized as "Neoforensis." This issue's trivia challenge is to correctly identify the Polish name of this location. AND also, give the name of this location if it were located in Minnesota (actually there is a location with this name in Minnesota).*

*The first member to contact me (excluding past winners--unless no one else answers correctly) with the correct answers to this challenge will win a one-year extension to their PGS-MN membership*

**NEW MEMBERS:** *We welcome the following:*

**Beverly Boyer**, 2600 Horseshoe Ln., Woodbury MN 5125 <boyer017@comcast.net> is a new member.

**Deb Cyprych**, 5826 Valley View, Cincinnati OH 45213-2119 <cyprch@juno.com> is researching CYPRYCH, KACZMAREK, ZYKES in Jadwizyn and Pracz, Wyrzysk, Poznan and in Gąsawa, Żnin, Poznan and in St. Paul MN and Pittsburgh PA.

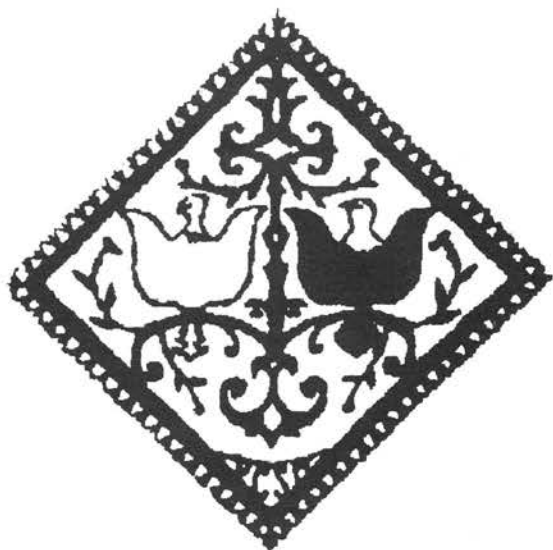
**Richard Lubinski**, 14047 Yancy St. N.E., Ham Lake MN is researching LUBINSKI in Wysoka in Poland and in Mpls. MN, MAJCHROWICZ in Rokiciny in Poland, KUSH in Skawa in Poland and in Mpls., WOJCZEWSKI, SOLOWA in Poland.

**John Skorski**, 2202 Ewart Ave., Saskatoon SK, Canada S7J 1Y2 <silverfox42002@yahoo.com> is a new member.

**Laurie Stenzel**, 61383 129th St., Mapleton MN 56065 is a new member.

### **Renewing Member:**

**Kathleen P. Broberg**, 1825 Michael Pl., Albert Lea MN 5007-2159 is researching BLACHOWIAK, CHMIELEWSKI, KRANZ, KURDYS in Posen province and in Waconia, Carver Co. MN and Silver Lake, McLeod Co. MN.



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### **PGS-MN Newsletter** Surname Indexing Project

The indexing of surnames from past issues of this newsletter continues in this issue with the indexing of Volume 7 (see pages 21-27).