



Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota NEWSLETTER

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NUMBER 3

DROBNE ECHA

Installment #8

Dateline: Lexington

From *Wiarus*, 1901, and *Rolnik*, 1906-1908

By Greg Kishel <gfk1@cornell.edu>

LeSueur County, southwest of the Twin Cities, had a small Polish-American community a century ago, numbering around sixty families. For our latest exploration into Minnesota's past in the Polish-language press, here are my translations of four reports datelined at Lexington in LeSueur County, from 1906 to 1908. I found them in *Rolnik*, published at Stevens Point, Wisconsin. I've also included an item from Lexington that was published in Winona's *Wiarus* in 1901.¹

From Wiarus, November 14, 1901:

LEXINGTON, Minn. – The Poles who have settled here have received permission from the bishop of the diocese of Winona for the construction of a church under the patronage of St. Joseph. Thus they have purchased two acres of land for the church, the size of which will amount to 60 feet in length, and 36 in width. This will be a wooden church.

The construction has already begun and the foundation stones are already laid. There are 60 Polish families settled here.

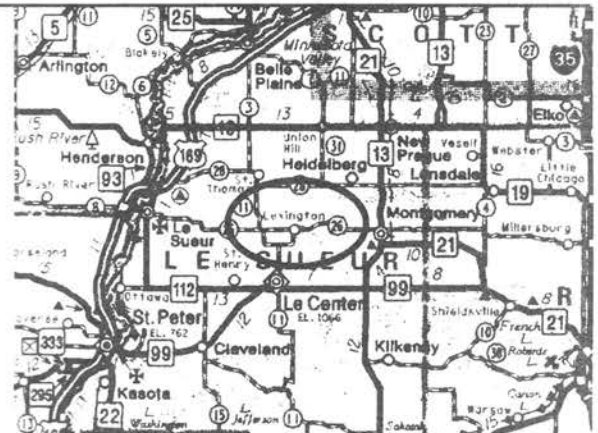
From Rolnik, January 19, 1906

From Lexington, Minn.

I ask the Honorable Editor for the placement of these several news items, or rather memories from a trip, from which we recently returned.

Drobne Echa, continued on page 24

¹I have followed the standard genealogical-writing practice of putting all surnames in the text into capital letters, to aid those who are skimming for "their names."



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Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

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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@ties2.net>

Address changes or membership questions?

Contact: Lisa Trembley, Membership Chair
15800 Post Road, Wayzata MN 55391
or e-mail: <ltrembley@mn.rr.com>



President's Letter

One of the goals of the Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota is to assist our members in their search for their Polish ancestors. We conduct six or more programs each year; some historical and informative, others research oriented. We have a variety of volumes in the Polish Collection at the Minnesota Genealogical Society, as well as tapes and CDs. We link to genealogical websites via our website. Our newsletter is one of the finest in its field.

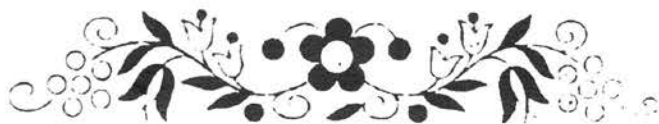
All of these things are available to our members and are used regularly by them. There is another service which we provide, which can be of great value to the researcher, but is very underutilized. At the risk of tipping it to the over-used side, I will describe it.

Each second Thursday of the month, 12 months per year, an experienced Polish genealogist is available at the MGS Library, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. The sole purpose of this person is to assist anyone who needs assistance in the field of Polish genealogy. Usually this person is Paul Kulas, who has published our newsletter since its inception. If Paul is not available on that particular night, someone else from our Board of Directors is there. Whether it is a question of Polish language, history, geography, records, available research aids, etc., we will attempt to help. There is normally not a long line of questioners who attend this event. You may pose a question at one of our programs, where there are perhaps 30-40 in attendance and limited time for a reply, OR you might use the 3-hour Thursday evening to get a more in depth/one-on-one reply.

If this does not pique your interest in the Thursday night at the Library (which is advertised in each newsletter), an experienced Czech genealogist is also available, same time, same place, to assist those who need help.

We have scheduled three Fall programs, beginning with the Duluth program, September 9. We hope to see you at the programs. Details are always in our newsletter, on our website, or available by contacting one of our directors.

--Terry Kita



The 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. We listed ten-year members in an issue each year thereafter. The following is a listing of members who joined in 1997 and who continue to be members through 2006:

Pat Bumgarner, Minneapolis
Mary E. Fehrman, St. Paul
Dr. Alfred Friedl, Rootstown OH
Suzanne Greenslit, Merrifield
Bernadine Grell, Little Falls
Jane Edel Habeck, Winona
Jill Johnson, Fridley
John W. Kowles, Minneapolis
Dr. Roger Krentz, Fond Du Lac WI
Walter Madura, Derby CT
Robert Manaske, Cedar Park TX
Donald McCavic, Ventura CA
Sandra Nuss, Fairmont
Helen M. Richard, Burtrum
Phyllis Warzecha, St. Paul

Thank you all for your loyalty to PGS-MN.

Parish indexing project

The indexing project of the sacramental records of the Polish parishes of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis continues (See *PGS-Newsletter*, Winter 2005-06, p. 6).

An index of Minneapolis baptismal records is available at the MGS Library. The call number is: *MN H-1 217 Rys*

The index covers the four Polish Catholic churches in Minneapolis: Holy Cross, St. Philip's, All Saints and St. Hedwig's. Microfilms of the original parish records are also available at the Library. The index also includes the Baptismal records of Sacred Heart Polish National Catholic Church in Minneapolis.

--John Rys

Sad news

Ray Marshall forwarded to us the following e-mail notice dated June 25, 2006:

To all of you,

I know I haven't had much time to write of late but I did want to tell you of a death that occurred recently. I want to tell you of the death of Fr. Aloysius Rekowski, a Redemptorist priest from our area who was buried yesterday at Barry's Bay. I know some of you are familiar with him because of his great study of Kashub history from his research in Poland, USA and Canada. He was a dear friend of mine and helped me with my genealogy as well as helping many of you. I last visited him in Saskatoon last September but he was moving to Edmonton, Alberta to retire. He was a priest for 60 years. Only the last few weeks he was in our area visiting family and friends in Ontario. He died June 16th in Toronto. His wish was to be buried in his home area of Barry's Bay. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

Sr. Theresa Lepak

This is indeed sad news. The Kashub/Polish community in Canada and in the United States will miss him greatly.

Percent Polish

Ray also sent us the following link that shows the Minnesota communities with the highest percentage of people of Polish ancestry according to the 2000 census: <<http://www.epodunk.com/ancestry/Polish.html>> Here are Minnesota's top eight.

<u>Community</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>% Polish</u>
Swan River	Twp.	Morrison	755	41.5%
Alberta	Twp.	Benton	772	39.8
Holding	Twp.	Stearns	1,147	30.9
Pike Creek	Twp.	Morrison	932	30.6
Royalton	City	Morrison	868	23.8
Langola	Twp.	Benton	916	23.1
Hale	Twp.	McLeod	957	22.4
Elmdale	Twp.	Morrison	904	22.3

You can follow the link and find the results for different states and for different ethnic groups. Check it out. It's fun.

--Ray Marshall



Letters to the Editor *Liśty do Redaktora*

Correction

I received my copy of the *PGS-MN Newsletter* today, but find that I need to make a correction to my new member information (*Spring/Summer 2006*, p. 32). I am listed as Julie Borash - 16062 Birchwood Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401. The correct name is Jeri Borash - all other info correct.

I enjoyed the newsletter and your website.

Jeri Borash <mjborash@charter.net>

Information sharing

Has there ever been any articles in past issues of the newsletter that deal with the idea of sharing information via webpages/websites? I am interested in doing something like that with the broadening data I have for the Split Rock Township, Sturgeon Lake and Duluth areas--or possibly for the Ostrow Wlkp. area in Poland. I have seen such a project of researchers developing a joint website for the area in Poland that included where the Magdziarz/Labak's came from--I was very impressed! Check out the following website to see what I'm talking about: <<http://spuscizna.worldzonepro.com>>

I don't have much experience with developing websites, but I have been researching the idea by asking people with web development experience (including Dennis Benarz who developed that website mentioned above) as well as studying other written materials on the subject. Just thought I'd "pick your brain" in case someone has already given some ideas in a past newsletter I haven't yet seen or read that might be of help to me! I would appreciate any input you might have on this subject.

We tried to set up a Mail List where people could share information (Check out our lead article in our *Spring 2001* issue). The response to this effort was disappointing. We also share information via our website at <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnpolgs/pgs-mn.html>> I will forward your suggestion to our webmistress, Mary Ellen Bruski. She may want to put a feature like this on the *PGS-MN* website (See her response to your suggestion on page 5).

Subject: Greenbush, MN

This e-mail was originally sent to Jim Kulas who forwarded it to us.

Evidently there has been more than one town in MN named Greenbush. When I used *MapQuest*, I found a Greenbush in Roseau County in northern MN. However, in June my brother and I visited a Greenbush Catholic Cemetery which is in the general area of Oak Park and Foley (between Princeton and St. Cloud in central Minnesota). Many Polish people settled in this area and some still remain there. The town of Greenbush is gone. According to the St Edward's Parish (Princeton, MN) booklet, St Frances de Chantal Catholic Church of Greenbush became part of St Edward's parish in 1936. Greenbush, MN is mentioned in the book *The Kashubian Polish Community of Southeastern Minnesota* -- "some Polish people left Winona and moved to Greenbush, MN." Now I am wondering which Greenbush, MN is the intended place of the authors of that book.

Dorothy Pretare, <dpngen@comcast.net>

Jim Kulas replies:

Good question--which I can not answer, so I am passing a copy of this email on to Paul Kulas, the editor of the *Polish Geological Society Newsletter of MN* and to Marty Byzewski, an expert on cemeteries. Between the two maybe an answer can be provided.

Paul Kulas replies:

The Greenbush in central Minnesota is Greenbush Township located in the southwestern corner of Mille Lacs County. There is no "Village of Greenbush" there, though my 1916 atlas shows a church located in the area you describe. The cemetery that you visited is likely the cemetery of the former parish that was located there. I don't think the book refers to Greenbush Township in Mille Lacs County. That area is adjacent to the heavily Polish settled Benton County. It is not, to my knowledge, an area of heavy Kashub settlement. Greenbush in Roseau County is heavily Kashubian. Therefore I believe that is the Greenbush that is referred to in the book.

Marty Byzewski replies:

Greenbush, MN is alive and well in NW Minnesota. Many Kashubian Poles settled in that area. My great grandfather, Anton Byzewski, settled in Benton Co., Alberta Twp near Foley. Many of the Benton Co. settlers were from the Kashuban part of Poland where I still have relatives and will be visiting in September.

Letters, continued on page 27

A Message from our Web Master

Members who have attended any of our workshops know that often the open discussion portion of the session will center around research in a particular region. In this way members find others who have found a resource helpful and sometimes they even find someone researching another branch of the same surname from that region.

Via e-mail our member Mark Dobosenski suggested that perhaps members who are researching a particular area might like to work together to create a website that everyone can pool their information into and share with the world. A link to this website could be in our PGS-MN webpages. As an example he references this site: <<http://spuscizna.worldzonepro.com>>

Researchers for the various regions would need to communicate with one another and determine what they would like to put on their site. And they would need at least one member willing to create it. Rootsweb will give you free space for the site. <<http://accounts.rootsweb.com>>

You don't have to be a Computer Science major to create a website. Although I am not the original creator of our own PGS-MN website, I have been maintaining it for many years and I haven't a clue about HTML. So it is "doable" and there are a lot of you who are much more savvy about it than I am.

If you are interested in participating in the creation of such a site for your particular region of interest, please let us know! You can e-mail us at: <Poland-MN@comcast.net> We will put together a list of members by region of interest and then notify you who shares that interest. Sending us a quick message to let us know of your interest in no way obligates you! Genealogy is all about sharing! Where would any of us be in our research if someone hadn't shared a few dates, the name of a little village, or a FHL file # for a certain church's baptism records?

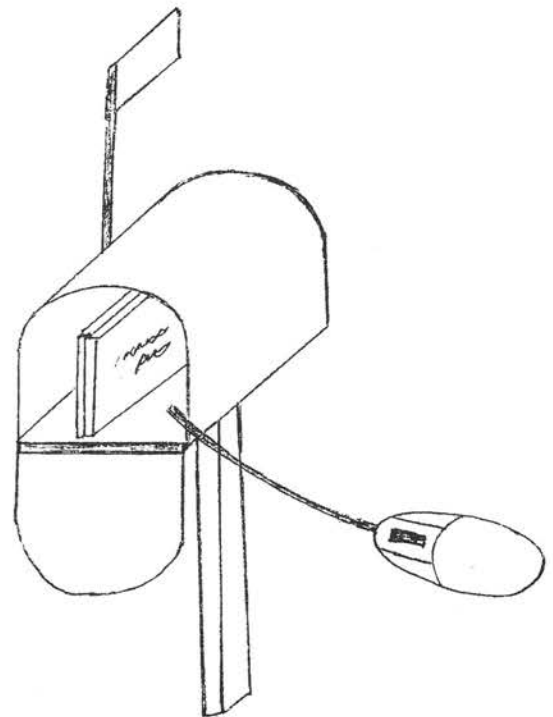
And speaking of websites--we suspect a lot of our members have created websites for their surnames and haven't tooted their horn about it. We would like to hear about your website. Perhaps a link could be added to our surname pages next to your name. (you DO know that all the surnames you have submitted to us are added to our website surname pages and that your last name and e-mail address, if available, is right there so anyone can contact you?) If you also had a website for your surname we could add that address. Contact us at <Poland-MN@comcast.net>

and let us know about your site! Here is the one our member John Rys has created <http://www.john.rys.name/surname_information.htm>

Try this: Using your favorite search engine (mine is always *Google*) type your surname followed by the word surname. I didn't know John Rys' website address while composing this article but I wanted to include it, so I Googled *Rys surname* and found it easily. And by the way, there are several other Rys surname websites. If you Google your own surname you might find some pretty exciting stuff! In a future issue of the newsletter we will publish the addresses of our members' own surname websites. So send them in to us!

Lastly, my annual plea is to remind everyone to check their surnames in our website. After your surname will be your own name. If you have e-mail, do a double click there and check that I have put in the correct address for you. As you know, one teeny typo and you don't get the e-mail your long lost relative sends! Mistakes can and do happen no matter how carefully I type. And if you change your e-mail address please notify PGS-MN so that we can make the change in our records and the website.

--Mary Ellen Bruski, <Poland-MN@comcast.net>



You have mail!

Experience Searching for Polish Family Documents in the Lithuanian Archives

As is probably the case for some of you, my relatives were Polish from Poland, near the Vilnius (Wilno) area, however today this area is now the country of Lithuania. I was recently in Lithuania with my family to visit my father's relatives there and went to the Archives to try to locate documents of Polish relatives.

First, we read the following information published in the booklet *Vilnius in your Pocket*, June-July 2006 <www.inyourpocket.com>:

Sources of Genealogy Records

Three state-run organizations offer assistance to those tracking down Lithuanian relatives. With records of all births, deaths and marriages from 1940 to the present day, the Lithuanian Central Registry Archive (*Vilniaus civilines metrikacijos dokumentu archyvas*) Kalinausko 21, tel. 233 78 46 is helpful for those who know the location and approximate dates of who they are trying to find. From 1941-1942 the Nazis compiled records of all Lithuanian citizens, now stored at the Lithuanian Central State Archive (*Lietuvos centrini valstybes archyvas*) Milasiaus 21, tel. 276 52 90, fax 276 53 18. Archives ending in 1940 are available from the church registry at the Lithuanian State Historical Archives (*Lietuvos valstybes istorijos archyvai*) Gerosios Vilties 10, tel 213 74 82, fax 213 76 12).

Then we had our Lithuanian relative phone the Archives and they told him it was a 2-3 year wait for results on any document search (he phoned twice!), so we decided to go in person to at least try to understand the process. We went by car to the Lithuanian State Historical Archives as this has the oldest documents. Note although this looks close on the map to Old Town you should go by car as it is not close.

Parish Record Books

When you enter the building the guard has you put your belongings in a locker. There are two sections to this Archive. The first I will call the Library and the second I will call the Document Request Desk. Although we were told the staff in the Archives was on lunch break, this turned out not to be the case. We first went to the Library. We entered the room where there are approximately 15 desks with people sitting at them looking at old books, the room is under video



The Polish White Eagle and the Lithuanian White Knight on the above coat-of-arms represent the union of Poland and Lithuania under the Jagiellonian Dynasty (1382-1572) and the political union of the two countries (1572-1795).

Source: Davies, Norman, *God's Playground: A History of Poland*, vol. 4, *The Origins to 1795* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1984), front cover.

surveillance, there is no talking, food or drink, etc. We discovered that you have to request which parish books you wish to view, then wait 2-3 days for the book to come in to that Library. It was not clear to us if you should call to find out if your book came in or come in person, or if they would phone you. When your book comes in then you look at it only in the Library. It was in this Library I met the only American of my visit, he was from New Jersey I recognized him because of his T-shirt. Although we couldn't talk he showed me he was looking at an old book which had multiple years of records in it (there can be one or more years in a book depending on the parish size).

To request a Parish record book, you must fill out a form in Lithuanian. This form is called "*Dokumentu Uzsakymas*" from *Lietuvos Valstybes Istorijos Archyvas*. You will need to have a librarian help you to do this because you have to fill in some details--for example, the volume number of the parish book which they have to look up.

I must also mention here that it is highly advantageous if you go on your record search with someone who speaks fluent Lithuanian and Russian as well because our Polish was not that helpful to us. The forms to fill in are in Lithuanian, however the records are in either Russian or Polish. People generally prefer to speak first in Lithuanian, then in Russian, although sometimes people would understand if I spoke Polish, and answer in a combination of Polish and Russian, or just Russian. English was even more limited.

The Librarians told me that there "may" be books at the original parishes, however it is up to the discretion of the priest if they will allow you to look at them. This was contrary to other information we received which was that all books were handed over. The Librarians said looking at the records at the parish is often more efficient than using their Library and having to request the books then wait, and you can also see more books in one visit to the parish.

The Librarians also told us that unlike Poland, in 99% of the cases there is typically not a village census which lists who lived in the village. This was in contrast to what I had read. This means you have to look year by year at the records for what you are searching for.

Document Request Desk

We then went to what I will call the Document Request Desk on the other side of the building, door number 6 where you knock and wait to be admitted to talk with the Records Representative. If you have enough specific details about the record you are seeking, you can get a certified written copy in Lithuanian, with a stamp and signature. This wouldn't be helpful to us not knowing Lithuanian, so we asked instead for a photocopy of the original book record and said we didn't need the Lithuanian version with stamp etc. They did say usually the death certificates are the most valuable because they may list remaining living relatives at that time which can help with your family tree.

We decided as a test to try for my grandfather's birth certificate, and had to go into the hall to fill out a document in Lithuanian called "*Prasymas*" (*Lietuvos Valstybes Istorijos Archyvui*) with details. However we could not pay at this desk, payment required going to the bank because they said there was a possibility workers could keep the money. This involved waiting in line at the bank and filling out a form in Lithuanian, we also hit another snag because the form asks for your bank account. However our driver helped us with this process, the cost for requesting the document was only 38 Litass (less than 10 dollars) and they said they would mail it to me in the US. However I have not received anything yet.

I hope this is helpful, if anyone also had a recent experience with Lithuanian records I would appreciate hearing from you.

--Anastasia Dzenowagis, August 8, 2006
<Anastasia_Dzenowagis@yahoo.com>

2006 United Polish Genealogical Societies Conference

Conference

I attended the 10th biennial UPGS Conference in Salt Lake City on April 21-24. There was a turn-out of about 80 from across the United States. This conference provides a good opportunity to attend lectures, meet with other researchers, and do your own research in the Family History Center Library. The library was particularly helpful in supporting Polish researchers. The next conference is planned for April 18-21, 2008. Ceil Jensen is a co-chairperson.

Library Update

While at the conference I was able to learn the latest news at the library.

As far as logistics is concerned, the floors have been reorganized and there are more computers. Copying of microfilm records used to be somewhat of a hassle. Now, if you bring your own disk or flash memory, which plugs into a USB port, copying can be done free in paperless fashion.

Microfilming has started in the Ukraine but, unfortunately, very little is yet available from the Kraków area. Some time ago the library instituted a daily update of microfilm availability.

LDS has long-term plans to digitize records from the three-million microfilms it now has. The big technical problem is how to deliver the massive amount of information to users--literally billions of records.

A spokesman indicated it might take 6 years. According to a recent Wall Street Journal article, some records will be available in 2007.

As you might know the 1880 U.S. census is indexed and on-line at <familysearch.org>. I believe this was probably a first-step trial of the digitizing effort. I tried using it on people whom I know were in, or should be in, the 1880 census. I had a 50% success-rate on about 10 people. (To get the actual microfilm record, however, there is a fee to ancestry.com.) I would be interested in reader success in using this tool.

--John Kowles <johnkow@att.net>

Trivia Quiz

We changed the format of the trivia contest somewhat last issue. Instead of emphasizing research, we sought to reward careful reading of the newsletter. As a result we gained several contestants who had not entered previous contests. So, again--All answers to this issue's contest are to be found in this issue of the newsletter.

Entries to last issue's contest were submitted by (listed in order of submission): Pat Bumgarner, Mike Eckman, Dennis Dale Kulas, Diane Pallas, Steve Holupchinski, Bernice Mullen, Harry McOuat, Rick Theissen, John Kulas and Sandra Nuss. Previous winners, Mike Eckman and Dennis Kulas, were declared ineligible and their correct entries were disqualified. The first eligible entrant with all correct answers was Rick Theissen. He was declared the winner.

Here are the correct answers (and a few incorrect ones) to last issue's challenge:

1. What is the Polish word for *province*?
Województwa (*Answer found on pp. 16 and 21*).
2. Name the *powiaty* where the Ryś surname occurred the most frequently in 2002? Limanowski (*pp. 20-21*).
3. What is the current name of the country where the *krojners* originated? Slovenia (*pp. 14-15*). Croatia was an incorrect answer.
4. Before World War II, what name was generally given to the Ukrainians living in Lwów? Rusins (*p. 25*). L'viv was an incorrect answer.
5. Name the PGS-MN member disputing the assertion that the Pomeranians and the Kashubians both have identical ethnic origins. Ed Brandt (*p. 4*). *Ed, we are all waiting to read your promised rebuttal to that article. We will save space in the Winter issue.*
6. The Germans called this village *Wenzkau*. What is its Polish name? Więckowy (*p. 3*). Not all entries had the "tail" on the "e".
7. What was the original name of the Village of Sobieski in Morrison County, Minnesota? Ledoux (*pp. 1, 32*). Swan River was incorrect.
8. Name the well-known Polish artist who painted the altarpiece of a Central Minnesota Polish church? Jan Matejko (*pp. 11, 13*). Incorrect answers included Mr. Ziemian and Mary Edel Beyer.

Some comments by the entrants follow:

Regarding question #8 Steve Holupchinski states:

"Paul, you stumped me a bit on this one. The 'Drobne Echa' article mentions '...placed on the altar, the conception and the work of Mr. Ziemian'. It goes on to say the 'view of the painting of...by Matejko', but it gives me the impression that Matejko's work is seen from the altar but not an altarpiece as asked in your question. However, the article does not mention Ziemian painted the altarpiece, just worked on it. See why I'm confused."

Yes, I can see now that the question was poorly worded. However, it clearly refers to a "well-known Polish artist." I don't think Mr. Ziemian qualifies. The article talks about the value of the painting by Matejko. It is Matejko's fame that gives the painting its value. Furthermore, footnote #5 on page 13 cites "...Matejko's significance in the history of Polish art, and his role in preserving a heroic sense of Poland's past during the time of the Partitions..." Clearly, it is Matejko who is the well-known Polish artist.

Regarding the Village of Sobieski, Pat Bumgarner writes:

"My matka, Agnes CZECH RICHTER--98yrs-- is from Sobieski. Her father, John, helped build St. Stanislaus. He was a carpenter and brick-layer. Mom always says she was born in Swan River. I always thought she was referring to the area. I only knew it as initially being Ledoux and than Sobieski--never Swan River. Thank you for straightening out my head."

"The Swan River is fun to be in. Strong current pulling you past sand bars and across cool swimming holes. I also had a great time swimming in Kashubia near my grandparents home--with swans nevertheless." (:

Regarding the Swan River translation, Dennis Dale Kulas comments:

"Greg Kishel mentions that the translation was more difficult than usual. I spoke with Father Al Rekowski from Wilno, Ontario who grew up being acquainted with the Kaszubian Polish dialect, and he said that it is different than the regular Polish language. I was talking with him about translating a book of Polish poems by Hieronim Derdowski and he said I would need more than a regular Polish/English dictionary to get a correct translation."

Maps - A Useful Genealogical Tool

Maps can provide many clues in genealogical research such as: determining former German names, changes, surrounding towns--often too small to be on a modern road map (typically scale 1:750,000).

PGS-MN received a demo CD of scanned maps taken from *Andrees Allgemeiner Handatlas*, 4th edition published in Leipzig, Saxony in 1899. Part 1 contains 900 color maps along with an index of 50,000 places. The setup was fairly easy but the alphabetical index not overly friendly. The map contains German place names. However, of interest to Polish researchers are the areas of Pomerania, Silesia, East and West Prussia which were all in the German Empire when the atlas was made. I was able to find and print out a detailed map of my father's parents' villages in northern Poland (see figure below). The

8 1/2 X 11 inch print had a scale of about 5 miles to the inch which is about equivalent to 1:300,000 scale. More resolution would be obtained on a 17-inch monitor. Overall the quality is quite good. The CD including old Germany with areas now in Poland (also includes Scandinavia) can be obtained from Geneabase, Inc. for \$19.99 (<http://www.geneabase.com>). If you are interested in previewing the atlas there is a demo disk at the MGS library.

PGS-MN also has a number of excellent map collections. These include two sets of 19th-century maps (German Empire 1:100,000 and Austrian Empire 1:200,000), 1990s topographic maps of Poland (1:200,000 and 1:100,000), and a complete set of modern travel maps.

- - - John Kowles <johnkow@att.net>



Map Taken from Andrees Atlas Published in 1899



Above: Hieronim Derdowski and Joanna Lubowiecka on their wedding day.

Photo source: Polish Museum of Winona, Winona MN.

THE DERDOWSKI BROTHERS AND THE AUTHORSHIP OF THAT REPORT FROM SWAN RIVER

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In the seventh installment of his *Drobne Echa* series,¹ Greg Kishel identifies the *Wiarus* article about Swan River, Minnesota from 1899, attributed to Teofil Derdowski, as having been written by *Wiarus* editor Hieronim Derdowski's son. This is incorrect for several reasons.

First and foremost, Hieronim's first born and only son (Thadeus Derdowski) was born on January 2, 1889 and died March 26, 1889. Hieronim and his wife Joanna Lubowiecka Derdowska had three more children in the following years, Halka (1891-1892), Helen (1892-1981) and Harriott (1895-1928).

Teofil Derdowski was Hieronim's younger brother. Their parents were Peter Paul Derdowski and Marijana Konkolewska Derdowska. Hieronim (nickname: Jarosz) was born Jan Hieronim Derdowski on March 9, 1852 in Wiele, Poland and came to the USA in 1885. Michael Theophil Derdowski was born October 8, 1858 in Wiele, Poland and followed his older sibling to the USA in 1893. Upon Teofil's arrival in the USA, he stayed on the farm of his first cousin (Monica Derdowska Kulas) and her husband Theodore Kulas in Warsaw, North Dakota. The following year, he sent for his wife (Anna Draskowska Derdowska) and their two children (Rosalie and Peter Paul). A daughter (Anna Wanda) was born to Teofil & Anna in 1895 in Warsaw, North Dakota.

Teofil finally settled his growing family in Mellen, Wisconsin and was the proprietor of a boarding house and saloon for lumberjacks. At the time of the article in 1899, Teofil was neck-deep in his own business affairs. As far as my father (Ted Derdowski, grandson to Teofil) and Hieronim's grand-daughters (Florence Zimniewicz & Donna Zimniewicz Lisson) know at the time of my writing this letter, Teofil was not in a league of accelerated literacy and expression like his older brother. Perhaps Hieronim was paying a heartfelt homage to his younger sibling who followed him to America by putting his name down as the author.

Or maybe Teofil journeyed to the Swan Lake region and told Hieronim about it. Nobody knows for sure. However, to credit Teofil for writing an article that was written on a literary plane unique to Hieronim is not reasonable or acceptable.

Some years later, after the passing of Hieronim, brother Teofil did "step up to the plate" in advancing the memories of his legendary brother. Teofil, daughter Wanda and Hieronim's daughter Helen Derdowska Zimniewicz were documented numerous times for perpetuating the memory of Hieronim Derdowski (Teofil and Wanda in interviews, Helen in interviews and articles). Helen penned numerous articles about her father over the course of her life and passed on many of the anecdotes of her beloved father to her sons and daughters.

Since the collapse of the communist government of Poland, Hieronim has become "a favorite son" once again in the eyes of the people of Poland as they rediscover their beautiful history and Hieronim's passionate love of Poland and Kaszubia. Numerous articles in English, Polish and German detailing his life and writings can be found on the Internet.

"There are no Kaszubians without Poland and there is no Poland without Kaszubians" was and still is his greatest quote.

On a humorous note: As a young man, Hieronim studied in various universities as a seminarian. During his travels with a fellow seminarian, he ran out of money. Hieronim had his friend write to his parents to tell them of his illness & untimely death. He asked that they send money so he could ship Hieronim's body home. They sent money and the two continued to tour Europe. Finally, Hieronim returned home. Upon his arrival in Wiele, nobody was to be found around town. Hieronim went to the church and walked in on his own memorial mass!!

Note: Because of Kashubian custom, men often went by their middle name. Thus, Jan Hieronim Derdowski went by Hieronim and Michael Theophil Derdowski went by Teofil, etc. (All references to my great-

¹Greg Kishel, "Drobne Echa Instalment no. 7, Dateline: Swan River [Sobieski]," *PGS-MN Newsletter*, vol. 14, nos. 1 & 2 (Spring/Summer, 2006), p. 1.



Hieronim (Jarosz) Derdowski

A NOTE FROM THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR:

We have reworked the very interesting and detailed content of Mike Derdowski's commentary from the letter that he originally sent to Paul Kulas, to the article format that it really merits. When I attributed the filial family relationship to Hieronim and Teofil Derdowski, I was only repeating a marginal reference in the source index from which I had located the Swan River report in the first place. That goofup is a good lesson for all of us who do genealogy and local history: **DON'T RELY ON CONCLUSORY INFERENCES YOU FIND IN SECONDARY SOURCES**, when the subject matter of the reference is a family relationship of some significance, when the ultimate fact is not essential to the point the secondary source is making, and especially when the source is in an informal format. In this case, though, my error had a very felicitous though unintended consequence: it brought a new member of our Society forward, to share for the first time a vital story that is very important to the history of the Polish-American community of Minnesota! We look forward to hearing a lot more from Mike about the history of his family, the story of which is central to the early development of Polonian institutions in our state and its neighbors.

--GFK

grandfather Teofil in family letters name him as Teofil. However, the handwritten birth records at the Catholic Church in Wiele, Poland document him as Michael Theophil Derdowski. I am attaching photocopies of their birth records from Wiele, Poland. Hieronim's is unusually difficult to read, but it can be understood. -- Michael A. Derdowski)

I hope the article below and my article shine an interesting light upon Hieronim and his brother Teofil. They lived unique lives at a very unique time in the history of Poland and the United States.

The following is an article about Hieronim I received from Dennis Kulas, originally published in 1937 in the *Winona Republican-Herald*. Even thirty-five years after his death, he was still very popular.

At right: An old Kaszubian Coat-of-Arms.
Source: *The Proud Inheritance: Ontario's Kaszuby*, Ottawa: The Polish Heritage Institute -- Kaszuby, 1991), p. 16



THE WINONA *REPUBLICAN-HERALD*,

WINONA, MINNESOTA

Friday Evening, June 18, 1937

Statue Honoring Former Winonan May Be Erected
In Polish City of Gdynia

Bones of Hieronim Derdowski, Buried Here,
May Be Disinterred.

Was Editor of 'Wiarus,'
Widely Known for Literary Work

The statue of a former Winonan of heroic size and fame may look out soon over the waters of Europe's newest seaport, and his bones be disinterred from St. Mary's cemetery here and placed with fitting ceremony in a tomb of honor in his native Poland.

Hieronim Derdowski, a giant of a man recalled by some Winonans, including Alderman D. F. Hardt, as about seven feet tall and weighing close to 400 pounds, has lately been one of its greatest patriots and poets.

Literary Poles liken him to America's Washington Irving

He came to Winona in 1885 and became editor of the "Wiarus," which under his editorship for a time until the early 90's was known as the foremost Polish weekly in the United States. He died here August 13, 1902.

A movement is under way in the United States and Poland among persons of Polish extraction or nationality to exhume his body for reburial in the land of his birth.

Would Erect Monument

Lending impetus to the movement the Republic of Poland plans to erect a large and imposing monument on a plaza commanding the sea at the new Polish port of Gdynia, where this year from June 20 to July 4 will be held a fair marking achievement of metropolitan status with more than 100,000 inhabitants in the port which 15 years ago could not be found on any map of Europe.

The fair will be part of a vast national celebration known as the Festival of the Sea, which culminates at Gdynia when thousands of Poles from even the remotest provinces come there on gaily decked river boats, buses, trains and airplanes.

Poles say the celebration is an outburst of a nation's thanksgiving for access to the sea, for there is an old saying in Poland that "Poland cannot live without the sea." It is the feeling implied in this sentence which has caused the rise of Gdynia, where Hieronim Derdowski's monument will rise, to grow from a fishing village of 500 people of 1924 to a world port of 103,000 population in 1937.

Many Facts Learned

From a daughter of the poet-editor and patriot, Mrs. Walter Zimmiewicz, 767 Cedar street, St. Paul, many facts in the life history of Hieronim Derdowski, known here also as Jerome Derdowski, were learned by Mrs. J. H. Earle of Sugar Leaf, a friend of Mrs. Zimmiewicz who is engaged in research in Winona county history as WPA historian. Another daughter, Harriet, and Mrs. Derdowski died here following Mr. Derdowski's death, and are buried here.

Highlights of the Polish poet-editor's career have been gathered from conversations with Winonans who knew him well including men who worked for him, among them Joseph A. Grajezyk, 671 West Third street, Nick Sieracki, 507 East Second street, and John Przytarski, 530 West Fourth street and M. J. Cheslik, 475 Ohmstead street, the latter two compositor and linotype operator now for The Republican-Herald.

Mrs. Earle, authenticating Mr. Derdowski's new status as a national hero, had carried on long correspondence with sources of information in Poland and the United States, with the secretary of state for Poland, Polish consuls, The Rev. Jozef Wryczka, vicar of Wiele, Pomerania province, and Andrzej Bukowski, of Torun, in Poland, who is writing a book on the life and work of Derdowski.

Active in perpetuating the name of the former Winona resident is a brother, Teofil Derdowski of Milwaukee, Wis., and Teofil's daughter Wanda, who lives in Superior Wis., and Rev. Wryczka, who at his own expense erected a monument to Derdowski at Wiele.

Parks Named After Him

Many streets and parks in Pomeranian towns, such as Gydnia and Torun, have been named for the former Winonan and commemorate his name.

The Wiele monument was unveiled February 10, 1930, on the tenth anniversary, of the return of Pomerze, or Pomerania, to Poland by Germany.

Mr. Derdowski's daughter wrote of him: "He died in comparative obscurity, a discouraged, disheartened man. Poland, now independent, has discovered what a great man and patriot he was. While in Poland he taught the Kaszubians, or Pomeranians as the Germans called them, how beautiful their own land was, and of the history and trade of the towns, the hamlets and the countryside about them." Now a former Winona citizen is being brought to light from obscurity. "Now, after several decades have passed since his death Poland has finally realized the good he accomplished for the country of his birth."

Many Poems Published

Many of his patriotic and humorous poems were published in the early issues of the "Wiarus."

Mr. Derdowski, born at Wiele, March 10, 1852, the eldest of a family of three boys and three Girls, was the son of a fairly wealthy Polish landowner of noble extraction. In his boyhood he was known for his love of nature, quick wit and good humor.

When he was 12 his parents and an uncle, the Rev. John Derdowski, decided he was to be prepared for priesthood, and Hieronim was sent to a preparatory school at Choynice and later to the Seminarium Marlanun at Pelplin. Later he went to Rome to further pursue his theological studies, but here occurred the turning point of his life when he decided the priesthood was not for him, and he chose instead a literary career.

Leaving Rome, he visited the most important cities and all the capitals of Europe and roamed the most interesting places on the continent. He knew Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Constantinople, Athens and St. Petersburg well.

Returning to Poland, he became editor of the Gazeta Torunska at Torun, where he was editor five years.

Became Editor

It was at this time he wrote the poems that were to make him famous throughout Poland.

Like Washington Irving, he familiarized his readers with beauties of their country the natives had never noticed.

He wrote of all of Pomerania, including the Polish Corridor and the Polish land along the Baltic, in such a way that those who lived there grew to appreciate a region of rare scenic beauty, whose inhabitants had never before realized how beautiful was their country and what history was associated with what to them had seemed commonplace countryside.

He charged Germany with "base German methods of Germanizing the Poles through the church," and was proud of having been imprisoned five times by the German government for his articles in the Gazeta Torunska and elsewhere as he expounded and defended the Polish attitude.

The Polish literate, even then, held him in high esteem, and he was a member of famous literary circles of authors and poets, including such names as Sienkiwicz, author of "The Deluge" and "Quo Vadis," and Prus, Kraszewski and others.

Emigrated in 1883

Persecuted for his patriotic writings, and forced to leave Torun and try his luck elsewhere, he decided that Poles in the United States needed a leader, and emigrated in 1883.

In the same year he became editor of the Detroit weekly "Pielgrzym," (the Pilgrim) and edited it until 1885, went to Chicago as a printer and finally in the same year came to Winona to become editor and later publisher of the "Wiarus," which means "good patriot."

Until 1891, when his health failed him, the weekly was outstanding and of national reputation, then became more local in scope.

He published the paper at various locations in Winona, once near the present location of the Owl Motor Company, for a longer period at the present location of the Feiten-Sun Dairy, where he and his wife and two daughters lived upstairs while he maintained a shop on the lower floor, and later at Fourth and Carimona streets.

His editorials urged on Polish readers the necessity of obtaining naturalization papers and of becoming law-abiding citizens of the land of their adoption, and he treasured his own citizenship papers, said those who knew him, among his dearest possessions.

A Derdowski Family Album:

Photos source: Michael A. Derdowski

**Parents of
Hieronim and Teofil
Derdowski**

At left:
Peter Paul Derdowski
(1819-1887)

At right:
Marijana Konkolewska
(1828-1897)



Lower left: Teofil Derdowski at the monument dedicated to his brother, Hieronim, in Wiele Poland. This monument was destroyed by the Nazis during World War II. It was re-erected after the war.



At right:

Hieronim
Derdowski with
his wife, Joanna
and daughter,
Helen.

Helen is the
mother of PGS-
MN members,
Joanne Lisson
and Florance
Zimmiewicz.

Also in the
picture are copies
of *Katolik* and
Wiarus, two
newspapers that
Hieronim edited.



The S. S. *LIEBIG*

Robert J. Gruchala sent us his transcription (see next page and following) of the passenger manifest of the Sailing Ship *Liebig* that left Hamburg in 1868.

That 1868 date precedes the bulk of Polish immigration by several decades. While most of our Polish ancestors crossed the Atlantic on steamships, these 1868 immigrants came on a sailing ship. It is also instructive to note that the Poles aboard this ship were Kashubs (The Kashubs [and Silesians] emigrated earlier than most other Polish immigrant groups).

Robert notes that "many of these people settled in Minnesota and many of their descendants later settled in the Jamestown and Warsaw area of North Dakota." We suspect that some also settled in the Renfrew County, Ontario and the Stevens Point, Wisconsin areas as well. Maybe our member experts of Kashubian settlement in Canada and Wisconsin, Shirley Mask Connolly and Adeline Sopa, can confirm that? The Canada, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and on to other points west seems to have been a well-established Kashubian "chain migration" route.

Notice that this Hamburg list (as do most, if not all, of the Hamburg lists) gives village of origin in Europe for these passengers. Many Polish emigrants left through Hamburg. If your Polish ancestor left through Hamburg, their departure list might be the document that identifies his/her village of origin in Poland. The LDS Family History Library has filmed the Hamburg Passenger Lists and indexes to these lists are available at most LDS Family History Centers (See article next column).

In his cover letter to us, Robert notes that the handwriting on this filmed manifest "was very difficult to read." Therefore, spelling errors in the transcription of surnames and place names were unavoidable. Members, if you find errors in this transcription, please let us know. Also let us know if your Polish immigrant ancestor is on this manifest and if this listing was the clue that lead you to your ancestor's place of origin in Poland.

Finally, Robert asks about the "purchase of back issues . . . dealing with Cassubia and Poles in Winona." We quite often get requests such this. Therefore we have complied the listing that appears on page 23.

--Paul Kulas <kkulas@ties2.net>

The Hamburg Passenger Lists

The Hamburg emigration lists contain the names of millions of people from central and eastern Europe who left the Port of Hamburg for America between 1850 and 1934. The Port of Hamburg, along with the Port of Bremen, were the major ports of exit for most Polish immigrants.

While the Bremen lists were largely destroyed, the Hamburg lists were not. These lists have been filmed by the LDS Family History Library. Films of the indexes to these lists are available at most LDS Family History Centers and the filmed copies of the passenger lists themselves can be ordered through the branch centers.

What makes the Hamburg lists particularly useful is that in most cases it gives the hometown of each passenger. Therefore, the lists are a valuable resource for finding the village of origin of your immigrant Polish ancestor. If your ancestor left from Hamburg, be sure to check these lists.

There are two groupings to the Hamburg exit lists. The indexes to these two groups are referred to as the "Regular Indexes." The Direct Passenger Lists include those passengers on ships that left Hamburg and went directly to ports in America without stopping at other European ports. The direct indexes begin in 1854 and end in 1934. The Indirect Passenger Lists includes passengers on ships that left Hamburg and stopped at another European port before travelling to their American destination. The indirect indexes begin in 1854 and end in 1910. About 20 percent of the immigrants leaving Hamburg took indirect routes. The lists of passengers leaving Hamburg between 1850 and 1854 are not indexed but the passengers are listed alphabetically.

Two additional indexes are available. The Fifteen-Year Index arranges all the names on the direct lists from 1856 to 1871 in one alphabetical index. The Klüber Karteien (Klüber Card File) are separate card indexes to both the direct and indirect lists covering approximately the years 1850 to 1871. In general, these two indexes are more convenient to use but are not complete. The regular indexes are more complete but are more difficult to use.

The LDS Family History Library has published a useful Resource Guide--"The Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934" available at local LDS FHCs. Also helpful is the section on the Hamburg lists (pp. 10-23) in *The German Researcher* by Fay and Douglas Dearden (copy available in the MGS Library).

Reprint of the Passenger Manifest¹ of the Sailing Ship LIEBIG

which left Hamburg on May 1, 1868

Originally published in the
Bismarck-Mandan Genealogical Society Newsletter
in 1976, pages 8 through 24.

This information was contributed by PGS-MN member, Robert Gruchala, Minto North Dakota 58261. Many of these people settled in Minnesota and many of their descendants later settled in the Jamestown and Warsaw area of North Dakota. Those wishing to compare this transcription with the filmed copy of the original manuscript should consult LDS film number 0472899.

Verzeichniss Der Personen, welche mit dem SEGEL Schiffe Liebig Capitain Bornholdt nach Quebec zur auswanderung durch unterzeichneten engagirt sind.

[List of passengers traveling on the sailing ship 'Liebig', Captain Bornholdt in charge. Destination: Quebec. For purposes of emigration, the undersigned have been contracted.]²

No.	Zu- und Vorname und familie	Geberts- und Wohnort	Gewerbe	Alter ³				
No.	Family and given names of passengers	Place of birth and residence	Occupation	Age				
1	Zywicki, Pet.	Klonczen	Farmer	42	22	Kiedrowski, Aug.	Pazecwass (Przewóz)	Farmer 21
2	Ludwika	(Klonczew) ⁴	Wife	36	23	Gliesczinski, Jos. (Gliszczynski)	Binscht	Tailor 21
3	Brigitte		Daughter	6	24	Marianne		Wife 20
4	Joh.		Son	3	25	Ludw.		Brother 20
5	Peter		Son	2	26	Werra, Stanislaus	Sauenwald	Farmer 25
6	Lipinski, Jacob	Klonczen	Farmer	39	27	Czapiewski, Joh.	Czarndamerow	Farmer 34
7	Marianne	(Klonczew)	Wife	40	28	Josephine		Wife 29
8	Franz		Son	20	29	Albrecht		Son 7
9	Theofil		Son	17	30	Pauline		Daughter 4
10	Milewczyk, M.	Klonczen	Farmer	47	31	Robert		Son 2
11	Josephine	(Klonczew)	Wife	40		Joh. (born during voyage)		Son --
12	Augustine		Daughter	12	32	Rampa, Eva	Czarndamerow	Wife 50
13	Pascholski, Jos.	Klonczen	Farmer	27	33	Magdal.		Daughter 21
14	Joh.	(Klonczew)	Farmer	18	34	Veronika		Daughter 17
15	Jandziewski, Andr.	Pazecwass	Farmer	42	35	v. Kiedrowski, Sim.	Wysoka Zabowska	Farmer 20
16	Catharina	(Przewóz)	Wife	38	36	Breska, Andr.	Osławdamerau	Farmer 33
17	Aug.		Son	17	37	Therese		Wife 30
18	Andreas		Son	7 1/2	38	Mathilde		Daughter 3/4
19	Apolina		Daughter	6	39	v. Studzinski, M.	Czarndamerau	Farmer 30
20	Thomas		Son	5	40	Josephine		Wife 28
21	Joh.		Son	1/2		Anne (born during voyage)		Daughter --

¹This passenger list can also be viewed online at <<http://www.immigrantships.net/v4/1800v4/leibig18680501.html>> The name of the ship is spelled LEIBIG at this site.

²Translation of this and the German sentence at the end of the listing was done by PGS-MN member John Kulas.

³There are seven additional columns on the original manifest. The *Landes/Country* column was deleted be-

cause all passengers were from Prussia. The other columns were meant to keep a running total of the passengers in various categories: Male, Female, Total, Adults and children over 10, Children under 10, and Children under 1. For this information please refer to LDS film # 0472899.

⁴Items in parentheses (Polish family and place names, etc.) were supplied by members Robert Grauchala and Adeline Sopa.

41	v. Sikorska,	Stidwitz			93	Catherine	Daughter	5
	Caroline		Unmarried	28	94	Bonafacius	Son	2
42	Pauline		Unmarried	17	95	Joseph	Son	1/2
43	Cherkowski, Franz	Przewóz	Farmer	28	96	Dargass, Joseph	Wysoka	Farmer 33
44	Anna		Wife	17	97	Antonie	Zaborska	Wife 36
45	Joh.		Son	3/4	98	Theodor		Son 3/4
46	Miger, Mart.	Przewóz	Farmer	52	99	Przebindowski, Aug.	Wysoka	Farmer 38
47	Cath.		Wife	50			Zaborska	
48	Franz		Son	26	100	Jasdziewski, M.	Wysoka	Farmer 29
49	Aug.		Son	7			Zaborska	
50	Melet, Franz	Przewóz	Farmer	24	101	Kolinski, M.	Glowszewitz	Farmer 24
51	Eickman, Valentine	Oslawdamerau	Farmer	38			(Głowczewice)	
52	Marianne		Wife	30	102	Krzyan, Thom.	Glowszewitz	Farmer 40
53	Andreas		Son	4	103	Pauline	(Głowczewice)	Wife 40
54	Pauline		Daughter	2	104	Anna		Daughter 13
55	Joseph		Son	1/2	105	Franz		Son 6
56	Susanne		Sister	16	106	v. Kiedrowski, V.	Glowszewitz	Farmer 27
57	Kulas, Mart.	Przewóz	Farmer	38			(Głowczewice)	
58	Francisca		Wife	36	107	Kulaszewitz, Victor	Bukowa Gora	Farmer 18
59	Winzewski, Leonh.	Czardamerow	Farmer	31				
60	Marie		Wife	28	108	Ulick, Thomas	Lesnow	Farmer 30
61	Winzewski, Ignatz	Studnitz	Farmer	47	109	Marianne		Wife 30
62	Josephine	(Studzienica)	Wife	46	110	Vincent		Son 6
63	Ignatz		Farmer	19	111	Marianne		Daughter 1/2
64	Augustine		Daughter	17	112	Ilbrand, Franz	Mischhischewitz	Farmer 30
65	Josephine		Daughter	9	113	Juliane	(Mściszewice)	Wife 22
66	Marianne		Daughter	9	114	Malwin		Daughter 1/2
67	August		Son	4	115	Bronk, Theof.	Mischischewitz	Farmer 25
68	Kurkowski, Franz	Przewóz	Farmer	26	116	Gertrude		Wife 20
69	Anna		Wife	24	117	Anton		Son 17
70	Marianne		Sister	22	118	Josephine		Wife 13
71	Anna		Sister	13	119	Cychoz, Andr.	Wensiari	Farmer 25
72	Remers, Joh.	Przewóz	Farmer	58	120	v. Wensierski, Ant.	Bukowa Gora	Farmer 34
73	Agnes		Wife	56	121	v. Gruchalla, Theo.	Bukowa Gora	Tailor 34
74	Agnes		Daughter	20	122	Albertine		Wife 26
75	Masschke, And.	Som_____?	Farmer	29	123	Betkier, Ignatz	Czeszewa	Farmer 38
76	Ludwika		Wife	28	124	Hinz, Jos.	Mischischewitz	Farmer 31
77	Albert		Son	2	125	Catharine		Wife 34
78	Veronika		Daughter	1/2	126	Piankowsky, Fr.	Sdunowitz	Farmer 47
79	Zube, Carl	Kl. Klentyck		26	127	Marianne	(Zdunowice)	Wife 53
80	Henreitte			24	128	Michael		Son 17
81	Emil			3	129	Anna		Daughter 13
82	Otto			1/2	130	Franz		Son 11
83	Freder, Amaliee	Kl. Klentyck		21	131	Lemberg, Franz	Angotlowo	Farmer 47
84	Gillmeister, M.	Kl. Klentyck		21	132	Alwine		Wife 53
85	Kowalski, Carl	Kl. Klentyck		17	133	Michael(Friederich)		Son 3/4
86	Amalie			13	134	Cychoz, Anton	Klukkowahutte	Farmer 18
87	Kododski, Fr.			17	135	Ilbrand, Johann	Kolodzie	Farmer 23
88	Berent, Jos	Orlek	Farmer	25			(Kolodzieje)	
89	Klapstok, Mart.	Glowszewitz	Father	51	136	Jasdzewski, J.	Ustka	Farmer 35
	(Klapateck),	(Głowczewice)			137	Catharina		Wife 39
90	Victoria		Wife	32	138	Anna		Daughter 7
91	Marianne		Daughter	9	139	Joseph		Son 6
92	Franz		Son	7	140	Marianne		Daughter 3/4

141	Jacobowski, Franz		Farmer	52	195	Joseph		Son	6
142	Eva	Raduhn	Wife	52	196	Adalbert		Son	4
143	Elisabeth		Daughter	17	197	Veronika		Daughter	3/4
144	Leo		Son	12	198	Gawron, Joh.	Trzebuhn	Farmer	33
145	Mathias		Son	7	199	Lernke, Johanna (Lembke, Johanne)	Damerow	Unmarried	20
146	Zimmann, Jacob		Farmer	52	200	Sell, Johann	Warnekow	Farmer	43
147	Marianne	Podjass	Wife	28	201	Wilhelmina		Wife	39
148	Ignatz	(Podjazy)	Son	28	202	Augustine		Daughter	13
149	Franz		Son	25	203	Wilhelmina		Daughter	11
150	Joseph		Son	7	204	Emilie		Daughter	9
151	Juli		Daughter	4	205	Edward		Son	7
152	Mathide (Martin)		Daughter	3/4	206	Robert		Son	5
153	Miensi, Joh.		Farmer	39	207	Bertha		Daughter	3
154	Rosalie	Raduhn	Wife	39	208	Buttner, Julius	Minten	Farmer	24
155	Augustine		Daughter	20	209	Reinhard, August	Minten	Unmarried	20
156	Maria		Daughter	9	210	Lamczyn, Jacob	Trzebuhn	Farmer	19
157	Johann		Son	5	211	Janta, Joseph	Trzebuhn	Farmer	33
158	Catherina		Daughter	3/4	212	Paulina		Wife	24
159	Dzieminsky, Aug.		Farmer	33	213	Johann		Son	5
160	Mariane	Raduhn	Wife	24	214	Josephine		Daughter	3
161	Johann		Son	4	215	Catherine		Daughter	1/2
162	Barbara		Daughter	2	216	Jenda, Andrew		Farmer	26
163	Franz		Son	1/12	217	Kolinski, Anton	Rahuhn	Farmer	29
164	Malotki, Johann		Farmer	36	218	Theodora		Wife	21
165	Magdalene	Lolcz	Wife	40	219	Joseph		Son	3/4
166	Julianne	(or Solcz)	Daughter	24	220	Gierzewski, M.	Tuszkow	Farmer	34
167	Anna		Daughter	18	221	Theresia		Wife	31
168	Joseph		Son	7	222	Andreas		Son	12
169	Johann		Son	6	223	Julianne		Daughter	3/4
170	August		Son	1/2	224	Gierczewski, M.	Trzebuhn	Farmer	44
171	Hallman, Michael		Farmer	22	225	Antonia		Wife	26
172	Knopin, Carl	Lolcz/Solcz	Farmer	45	226	Casmir		Son	19
173	Waldock, Paul	Trzebuhn	Farmer	33	227	Adam		Son	5
174	Johann	Trzebuhn	Farmer	26	228	Augustine		Daughter	3/4
175	Westphal, Joh.		Farmer	23	229	Behling, Carl	Klein Labond	Farmer	38
176	Marianne	Thumeiker	Wife	21	230	Johanne		Wife	30
177	Cycewska, Josephine		Unmarried	29	231	Behling, Johan	Jarchlin	Farmer	48
178	Krüsel, Joh.	Wysoka Zabowska		34	232	Wilhelm.		Wife	40
179	Mischka, Lorenz	Tuschkau	Farmer	59	233	Liermann, Caroline	Plathe	Unmarried	27
180	Maria	Trzebuhn	Wife	59	234	Borchard, Ernestine	Neuendorf	Unmarried	19
181	Victoria		Daughter	28	235	Struck, Carl	Retzlaw	Farmer	27
182	Fredericka		Daughter	18	236	Ernestine		Wife	34
183	Josephine		Daughter	13	237	Schulz, August		Son	7
184	Grzenla, Anna		Unmarried	22	238	Struck, Wilhelmina		Daughter	3
185	Möller, Joseph	Trzebuhn	Farmer	55	239	Franz		Son	1/2
186	Magdaline	Trzebuhn	Wife	41	240	Johann		Father	56
187	Simon		Son	25	241	Schulz, Johann	Ratzlaw	Smith	38
188	Anton		Son	5	242	Wilhelmina		Wife	34
189	Marianne		Daughter	4	243	Anna		Daughter	12
190	Josephus		Daughter	1/2	244	Emilie		Daughter	7
191	Jacobowski, Paul		Farmer	36	245	Mathilda		Daughter	5
192	Anna	Trzebuhn	Wife	39	246	Herman		Son	3/4
193	Andreas		Son	11	247	Bührz, Wilhelm	Nipperwiese		34
194	Victoria		Daughter	7					

248	Caroline			30	302	Ziem, Fredr.	Spring	Farmer	42
249	Carl			7	303	Ziem, Wilhelm	Spring	Farmer	32
250	Ann			3/4	304	Aldrich, J.G.	Reetz	Carpenter	28
251	Weil, Otto	Tanger	Farmer	15	305	Zahn, August	Radon	Farmer	25
252	Giesewski, Anton (Gierszewski?)	Czamdamerow	Farmer	45	306	Frederich		Wife	24
253	Anna		Wife	40	307	Frederike		Daughter	3/4
254	Mariane		Daughter	20	308	Puhlmann, Fr.	Klepzig	Miller	29
255	Joseph		Son	12	309	Pescher, Anna	Reetz	Wife	68
256	Anna		Daughter	7	310	Luhm, Wilhelmina	Zagenburg	Unmarried	16
257	August		Son	5	311	Zellmer (or Sellmer), Augusta	Pusry (or Pazry)	Unmarried	22
258	Mondry, Thomas	Czamdamerow	Farmer	25		Paulina		Sister	13
259	Anna		Wife	26	312	Redemann, Johann	Jagenburg	Farmer	24
260	Joseph		Daughter(?)	4	313	Fliegner, August		Farmer	24
261	Antonia (Anne)		Daughter	3/4	314	Caroline		Wife	24
262	Boch, Augusta	Altona	Farmer	31	315	Schachtschnieder, L.	Gerscedorf	Farmer	28
263	Friederik		Son	4	316	Otilie		Wife	22
264	(F-J)elruk (?)		Son	1/2	317	Wilhelm		Son	2
265	Bottger, Anna	Altona		29	318	Lettau, Heinrich	Gerscedorf	Farmer	44
266	Hasselau, F.W.	Reetz	Farmer	25	319	Julia		Wife	42
267	Louise		Wife	34	320	Edward		Son	13
268	Anna		Daughter	1/12	321	Randolph		Son	13
269	Zimmermann, Gotil.	Coelpin	Farmer	64	322	Gustav		Son	11
270	Sophie		Wife	65	323	Anna		Daughter	4
271	Rohde, Johannus	Coelpin	Daughter	27	324	Carl		Son	3/4
272	Maria		Daughter	5	325	Kühl, Wilhelm	Garnserdorf	Farmer	49
273	Johannes		Son	4	326	Augusta		Wife	46
274	Kobus, Albrecht	Glondzewitz	Farmer	33	327	Wilhelmina		Daughter	13
275	Marianne	(Glowczewice)	Wife	31	328	Johann		Son	11
276	Joseph		Son	6	329	Julius		Son	9
277	Albrecht		Son	4	330	Bertha		Daughter	3
278	Marianne		Daughter	2	331	Schachtschneider, W.	Garnserdorf		3/4
279	Franz		Son	1/2	332	Dannecker, Franz	Garnserdorf	Farmer	24
280	Jensen, Johann	Aarhams	Farmer	33	333	Emilie		Wife	24
281	Stroik, Albrecht	Tuschau	Farmer	57	334	Brose, Ernest	Kuddejone(?)	Farmer	27
282	Barbara		Wife	40	335	Schroeder, Johann	Hohenstein	Farmer	26
283	Marianne		Daughter	19	336	Mielke, Wm.	Lanzig	Farmer	24
284	Johann		Son	17	337	Papenfuss, Albert	Pennehord	Farmer	24
285	Marianne		Daughter	13	338	Wolter, August	Masselwitz	Farmer	24
286	Thomas		Son	11	339	Pagel, August	Masselwitz	Farmer	25
287	Joseph		Son	5	340	Brunke, Pauline	Budorf	Unmarried	18
288	Agnes		Daughter	3	341	Papenfuss, Carl	Pennehord	Farmer	57
289	Hyacinth		Daughter	1/2	342	Maria		Wife	41
290	Lorbiecki, Michael	Lippusch	Farmer	25	343	Jeske, Ferdinand	Pennehord	Stepson	18
291	Maria		Wife	28	344	Papenfuss, Carl	Pennehord	Son	13
292	Marianne		Daughter	7	345	Wackenfuss, Ernst	Coerlin	Farmer	48
293	Julianne		Daughter	5	346	Charlotte		Wife	46
294	Gertrude		Daughter	2 1/2	347	Charlotte		Daughter	24
295	Barbara		Daughter	1/2	348	Johanna		Daughter	12
296	Wiesch, Wilhelm	Geestobeeze(?)	Farmer	30	349	Ernst		Son	7
297	Friederika		Wife	32	350	Schumacher, Aug.	Alt. Kudd_____?	Farmer	31
298	Louise		Daughter	7	351	Carolina		Wife	34
299	Fritz		Son	4	352	August		Son	10
300	August		Daughter(?)	1/2	353				
301	Heinrich, Frederika	Klepzig	Unmarried	23					

354	Julius		Son	2	408	Johann		Son	3/4
355	Witt, Ferdinand	Alt. Kudde__?	Farmer	44	409	Studemann, Carl	Jargenin	Farmer	63
356	Louise		Wife	42	410	Maria		Wife	59
357	August		Son	8	411	Caroline		Daughter	21
358	Ernestine		Daughter	4	412	Christine		Daughter	19
359	Ferdinand		Son	3/4	413	August		Daughter	13
360	Scheil, Wilhelm	Masselwitz	Farmer	28	414	Dettloff, Johann	Jargenin	Farmer	26
361	Henrette		Wife	27	415	Stahl, Carl	Jargenin	Farmer	61
362	Emile		Daughter	4	416	Utpadel, Carl	Jargenin	Farmer	35
363	v. Lizakowski, Albr.	Schülzen	Tailor	36	417	Maria		Wife	32
364	Maria		Wife	37	418	Carl		Son	5
365	Johann		Son	5	419	Friedrich		Son	3
366	Annastasia		Daughter	3/4	420	Christian		Son	1/2
367	Trzebiatowski, Johann	Parchau	Farmer	28	421	Tessman, Maria	Jargenin	Wife	59
368	Hering, Wilhelm	Schülzen	Farmer	30	422	Jager, Caroline	Jargenin	Daughter	22
369	Elisabeth		Wife	24	423	Frederich		Daughter	18
370	Cieszynski, M.	Schülzen	Tailor	27	424	Weiss, W.F.	Rathenfier	Farmer	28
371	Schlagowski, M.	Schülzen	Farmer	30	425	Wittuebel, J.F.	Rathenfier	Farmer	28
372	Maikowski, Paul	Gostininie	Farmer	36	426	Pausch, F.A.	Rathenfier	Farmer	25
373	Brigette		Wife	26	427	Thom, Carl	Buford(?)	Farmer	46
374	Maria		Daughter	4	428	Maria		Wife	39
375	Johann		Son	1/2	429	August		Son	13
376	Schlender, August	Selehow-	Farmer	27	430	Grave, Mathilde	Buford(?)	Unmarried	18
377	Mathilde	hammer	Wife	22	431	Bertha		Unmarried	20
378	Sophie		Daughter	1/2	432	Hoffman, E.J.	Weigarten	Farmer	26
389	Krüger, August	Neubrandhaus	Farmer	29	433	Christine		Wife	26
380	Caroline		Wife	27	434	Adolph		Son	1/2
381	August		Daughter	1/2	435	Müller, Johann	Glienke	Farmer	35
382	Krüger, Heinrich	Neubrandhaus	Farmer	19	436	Louise		Wife	30
383	Hanamann, Joh.	Reetz	Shoemaker	46	437	Ferdinand		Son	2
384	Wilhelmina		Wife	41	438	Carl		Son	33(?)
385	Albert		Son	20	439	Hempel, Johann	Glienke	Farmer	24
386	Frederich		Son	13	440	Kutschke, Joh.	Glienke	Farmer	32
387	Wilhelm		Son	11	441	Monglas, Joh.	Geslin	Farmer	58
388	Gottfried		Son	9	442	Herriette		Wife	34
389	Frederika		Daughter	3	443	Julius		Son	13
390	Ida		Daughter	2	444	August		Son	9
391	Schulze, Johann	Reetz	Farmer	50	445	Henrich		Son	5
392	Maria		Wife	48	446	Emilie		Daughter	3/4
393	Maria		Daughter	21	447	Weber, Caroline	Glienke	Wife	54
394	Friedrich		Son	11	448	Eland, Franz	Sobianschütz	Farmer	28
395	August		Son	7	449	Julianne		Wife	24
396	Prescher, Gottlieb	Reetz	Farmer	27	450	August		Son	4
397	Sophie		Wife	26	451	Bertha		Daughter	3/4
398	Henrietta		Daughter	2	452	Jeschke, Carl	Wittenberg	Carpenter	23
399	Maria		Daughter	1/2	453	Johan		Sister	18
400	Hannemann, Otto	Reetz	Son	1/2	454	Krause, Johann	Wittenberg	Farmer	26
401	Lindow, Caroline	Sedenseicher?	Wife	52	455	Albertine		Wife	21
402	August		Son	19	456	Herman		Son	1/2
403	Johann		Daughter	12	457	Wobrok, Ludwig	Kniewenbruch	Farmer	18
404	Jäger, Joachim	Jagerzornin	Farmer	29	458	Lowenau, August	Czarna	Farmer	18
405	Caroline		Wife	30	459	Bruder, Jacob	Gr. Boschopol	Farmer	40
406	August		Daughter	5	460	Wilhelmina		Wife	38
407	Carl		Son	2					

461	Bertha		Daughter	9	513	Gottfried		Son	1/2
462	Carl		Son	7	514	Gadke, Gottfried	Brünkese	Farmer	43
463	Loewenan, Carl	Gr. Boschepol	Farmer	45	515	Maria		Wife	36
464	Wischnowski, Joh.	Sterbenin	Farmer	32	516	Auguste		Son	13
465	Wilhelmina		Wife	32	517	Wilelmine		Daughter	11
466	Emilie		Daughter	1/2	518	Gottfried		Son	4
467	Steinke, Carl	Witterberg	Farmer	34	519	Anna		Daughter	2
468	Louise		Wife	29	520	Dorothea		Daughter	1/2
469	Carl	Witterberg	Son	3/4	521	Marquard, Joh.	Polnis Crone	Farmer	32
470	Prepentin, C.	Holkewiess	Farmer	18	522	Adam, Amalie	Inowracław	Unmarried	20
471	Ziebarth, Joh.	Deutsch Crone	Farmer	63	523	Gutzmann, D.H.	Porst	Farmer	28
472	Anna		Wife	49	524	Caroline		Wife	30
473	Cacilie		Daughter	24	525	Hulda		Daughter	5
474	Edward		Son	18	526	Albert		Son	3/4
475	Marie		Daughter	13	527	Kasten, Friedrich		Farmer	45
476	Elizabeth		Daughter	9	528	Dorothea		Wife	44
477	Agnes		Daughter	7 3/8	529	Emma		Daughter	20
478	Dobberstein, Joseph	Deutsch Crone	Farmer	27	530	Friederich		Daughter	11
479	August		Tailor	25	531	Louise		Daughter	7
480	Anna		Wife	25	532	Ferdinand		Son	6
481	Gaerte, Franz	Berlin		18	533	Auguste		Daughter	4
482	Albrech, Fried.	Berlin		45	534	Cashager, Johann		Father-in-law	59
483	Abraham, W.	Pinnord (?)		25	535	Birr, Heinrich	Gelsin	Farmer	52
484	Schmachel, Ferdinand	Garnse		24	536	Henriette		Wife	40
485	Gallombiewski, Ch.	Garnse	Unmarried	19	537	Herman		Son	21
486	Gottfried		Farmer	48	538	Heinrich		Son	18
487	Giese, Michael	Paulsdorf	Gardener	48	539	Bertha		Daughter	15
488	Justine		Wife	44	540	Henrietta		Daughter	13
489	Maria		Daughter	25	541	Ferdinand		Son	7
490	Emilie		Daughter	7	542	Alvina		Daughter	4
491	Albert		Son	6	543	Auguste		Daughter	11
492	Wohlfeil, Friedr.	Paulsdorf	Farmer	30	544	Carl		Son	9
493	Johanna		Wife	20	545	Wesolowski, M.	Ostrowitt	Farmer	28
	Bertha (born during voyage)		Daughter	-	546	Antonette		Wife	26
494	Slomkowski, Joh.	Paulsdorf	Farmer	25	547	Gertrude		Daughter	2
495	Augustine		Wife	27	548	Johann		Son	1/2
496	Gustav		Son	3/4	549	Joseph		Brother	24
497	Giese, Christian	Gallnau	Farmer	28	51/56 Eickmann, Valentine 79/87 Zube, Carl ⁵				
498	Maratzki, Heinr.	Welkau	Farmer	49	Wir erklären hiedurch auf geleisteten Bürgereid, dass, nach unserem Wissen, unter den in diesem Verzeichnisse aufgeführten Personen sich keine befinden, deren Beförderung verboten ist und dass wir dem Eingangs genannten Schiffe auch solche Personen wissentlich nicht befördern wollen. Hamburg, d. 1. Mai 1868.				
499	Barbara		Wife	47					
500	Maria		Daughter	17					
501	Heinrich		Son	9	[We herewith certify under civil oath that to the best of our knowledge no person is included in this passenger list whose transport is forbidden (by law) and further that we have not knowingly intended to grant passage to such persons on the aforementioned ship. - Hamburg, 1 May 1868]				
502	Juliane		Daughter	6					
503	Silinski, Adam	Blumenau	Farmer	24					
504	Anna		Wife	22	⁵ Passengers 51-56 and 79-87 are Xed out on the manifest and their numbers are subtracted from the totals. They apparently did not board the ship on its departure from Hamburg.				
505	Zalewsky, Michael	Blumenau	Farmer	57					
506	Eva		Wife	48					
507	Fredrich		Son	12					
508	Michael		Son	9					
509	Eva		Daughter	5					
510	Zalewsky, Gottfried	Blumenau	Farmer	36					
511	Auguste		Wife	27					
512	Carl		Son	2					

**Articles about Kashubian Immigration
and Settlement in America**
published in the
*Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota
Newsletter*

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Vol. 3, No. 2 (Summer 1995):

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_____. Two families with Canadian connections that apparently move to Minnesota." p. 9.

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Kulas, Paul. "A trip to Polish Canada (and to Polish Michigan and Wisconsin)." pp. 5-8.

Vol. 4, No. 3 (Autumn 1996):

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Vol. 5, No. 1 (Spring 1997):

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_____. "A Minnesota Link to the Agda." p. 15.

Vol. 5, No. 4 (Winter 1997-98):

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✓ Vol. 6, No. 1 (Spring 1998):

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✓ Vol. 7, No. 2 (Summer 1999)

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✓ Vol. 7, No. 3 (Autumn 1999):

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Vol. 8, No. 4 (Winter 2000-01):

Brandt Ed. "Prussian Catholics:" (re: Reviews of: *Katholische Kirchenbücher in Ost- und Westpreußen (Stund 1999)* [Catholic Parish Registers in East and West Prussia: Status as of 1999] and *Collegium Marianum in Pelplin: Schülerverzeichnis 1858-1920* [Collegium Marianum in Pelplin: List of Students, 1858-1920] by Marianne Stanke. pp. 16-17.

✓ Vol. 9, No. 2 (Summer 2001):

Bruski, Mary Ellen. "103 articles by Father Al Rekowski." pp. 20-21.

✓ Vol. 10, Nos. 3 & 4 (Autumn 2002, Winter 2002-03):

Bruski, Mary Ellen. "Websites for Kashubian research." pp. 12-13.

✓ Vol. 13, No. 1 (Spring 2005):

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"Diocese of Pelplin (*sic*) CDs available." pp. 20-25.

✓ Vol. 13, No. 3 (Autumn 2005):

"Additional Pelplin CDs available." p. 8.

Vol. 13, No. 4 (Winter 2005-06):

Bruski, Mary Ellen. "Winona's Polish Museum and St. Stanislaus Kostka Church." p. 8.

Note: Back issues of the newsletter are available for purchase. Cost is \$4.00 per issue except the checked (✓) issues which are on sale for \$2.00. Order from: Paul Kulas, editor, 12008 West River Road, Champlin MN 55316. Send check or money order payable to "PGS-MN."

Drobne Echa, continued from page 1

We made our way first to Little Falls, Minn., there having visited our friends, and with them we left for Pike Creek, in Morrison County. All of the area there is pretty, fertile and densely settled by Poles. We liked it there very much, because we came across our own old friends, with whom we would have had fun years since in the old country; and though all of them had been indigent coming from the old country, they had acquired much here by their work and are currently in good shape. This was a pleasant and unexpected encounter, after so many years of separation. Thus we stayed among our countrymen for three days, and next we made our way to Platte, Minn., where once again we visited our friends for four days, after which we returned to Little Falls; though after a short visit there we made our way to Swan River, and there visited Mr. August RESZKA and many other friends.

— Mr. Franciszek GINTER recently celebrated his silver wedding anniversary, commemorating 25 years of married life. This celebration was lavish and exuberant, because the guests were from more than twenty families and Mr. GINTER brought in 22 barrels of beer as well as other liquors. Mr. GINTER says that since his first wedding anniversary celebration was not as sumptuous, he thus wanted to reward himself for the second. All enjoyed themselves splendidly and good-naturedly; and since the weather was bad, and the snow fell thickly, we enjoyed ourselves in the feting of a ring of friends for two days, pleasantly and hospitably entertained by the esteemed persons commemorating their anniversary.

— Mr. Józef REKOWSKI, a well-off farmer from this area who was widowed in a recent year, intends to enter the bonds of matrimony once more and in that purpose he stayed for three weeks in Winona. It is rumored that his visit was successful, because next month he is going there again and this time a wedding will be celebrated there as well. The luck of God to the newlyweds!

JAN SCHIPRITT.

From Rolnik, February 8, 1907:

From Lexington, Minn.

On Tuesday January 29 the matrimonial union between Mr. Jan RASKA and Miss Paulina BLENK was blessed. The wedding ceremony was held in the church of St. Joseph, and the wedding banquet was at the home of the parents of the young lady. This was a

delightful party, all because the guests enjoyed themselves all the way to noon the following day. A second wedding was performed on February 5, namely that of Mr. Józef MALIŃSKI and Miss Marta ZINIER. For the first wedding Mr. R.A. RASKA came here from Little Falls and he stayed here several days, during which he paid visits to his parents, brother, sister, and brother-in-law. Mr. B. RYNGWELSKI from Little Falls also sojourned here, and he visited his relatives and friends. A third wedding will be that of Mr. Józef REKOWSKI, and it will take place in Minneapolis.

Through the middle of last month we had a soft enough winter, but from the 20th there began cold and snow, which has passed every possible expectation, because the snow has fallen almost every day and we have already had too much.

Because we had a good enough harvest last year, universal prosperity reigns as well. We got more than 70 bushels of corn per acre, 20 of wheat, 40 of oats and 40 of barley; and of potatoes 200 and more, only the prices of grain have not been favorable.

We have our own church here; but we do not have a priest yet, because a rectory has not yet been built. There are around 60 Polish families here, and a priest comes twice a month, for which we pay \$400 per year.

A SUBSCRIBER.

From Rolnik, March 8, 1907:

From Lexington, Minn

Because warmer days have thus come to our area, Mr. Stork has also left a gift to Jan BINCZIK, in the form of a beautiful little daughter. Mother and child are healthy; and both parents are rejoicing beyond measure, because up to now they have had only boys, six of them.

P. J. SCHIPRITT intends to build a residence house in the spring. He wants also to purchase a pair of horses; thus whoever would have such for sale, should notify him.

Mr. Józef REKOWSKI was a widower for two years, but on February 11 he was married to Anna NOWAK, a Czech woman from Minneapolis; but on the second day he fell ill and he is severely ailing still now.

It is so warm here, that the farmers are even saying



**Church of Saint Joseph
Served by
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Heidelberg, MN 56071**

that in a couple of weeks they will be sowing wheat, if it lasts that much longer.

Mr. Fr. GINTER has procured ship tickets to Prussia for his sons-in-law and has paid more than 300 dollars for them, because this is a large family made up of nine persons.

Many of our countrymen do not take any Polish newspaper; and when all is said and done it is a disgrace for a Pole not to have a Polish publication in the house. They need to order *Rolnik* for themselves right away, because this is the best and most righteous newspaper in America, carefully and honestly drafted in the Polish language.

A SUBSCRIBER.

From Rolnik, February 14, 1908:

From Lexington, Minn. – Jan PILEWSKI, a farmer, was traveling from town by wagon at the end of October last year. At that time the horses were frightened by something and bolted. PILEWSKI fell from the wagon and was hurt very badly. From that time he has been ill and has been lying in bed; only now he has returned enough to health, that he has stood up and can now walk.

On January 20 we had a parish meeting. The income of the parish in the last year came to \$2,192.35, the expenses: \$1,907.32, with \$200.85 remaining in the treasury for the current year. The parish treasurer

here is citizen Jan CIESIEWSKI, the secretary – Bernard GLISINSKI, and to the committee belong: Ignac RETKA and Jan SCHIPRITT.

Up to now we have had a very soft winter: without cold and without snow – altogether like a summer. But we have two months to spring yet, thus who knows, how it will be then, later.

On February 11 we had a grand ball here. The income from the ball was allocated to the church. The ball was an outstanding success. How much money was brought in from this ball I do not know; at the time when I am writing. Perhaps I can give the extent of the income in my next correspondence.

To our organist (and to his wife) the jokester stork brought two daughters at one time. The state of the health of the mother and the little twin girls is good.

Whoever among our countrymen intends to purchase land, come here; there is enough good ground here, for \$80 per acre.

JAN SCHIPRITT.

The single short item from *Wiarus* translated here is the only report from Lexington that John Radziłowski found in his study of that newspaper several years ago. The content of the four letters from *Rolnik* is somewhat slight, and they are all with a Lexington dateline that I found in that newspaper between late 1905 and mid-1909.²

²The sparsity of these five items matches the paucity of published material about the history of this little Polonian outpost. The one early-20th-century general history of LeSueur County that is available at the Minnesota History Center barely even mentions Lexington, and says nothing about a Polish presence there. William G. Gresham, ed., *History of Nicollet and LeSueur Counties Minnesota: Their People, Industries and Institutions* (Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen & Co., Inc., 1916), vol. 1, pp. 424-426. There are a couple of pages about Lexington and St. Joseph's Church, its Polish-ethnic parish, in a local history published for the U.S. Bicentennial. See Blanche Havel Zellmer, "Early Lexington" and "St. Joseph's Catholic Parish—Lexington," in *Montgomery: From the "Big Woods" to the "Kolacky Capital," 1856-1976* ([Montgomery, Minn.?]: Montgomery Bicentennial Committee, 1976), pp. 31-32. In 1908, Father Kruszkka included a few lines about Lexington in his *Historia Polse w Ameryce*. Wacław Kruszkka, *A History of the Poles in America to 1908, Part IV: Poles in the Central and Western States* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2001), p. 120. Editor's note: We also covered St. Joseph's and Lexington briefly in this newsletter. See Autumn 1994, p. 7.

However, a few aspects of the content are noteworthy for us as historians and genealogists. First, we have the obvious connection between the Polish-American communities of Lexington and Little Falls/Swan River/Sobieski, in central Minnesota's Morrison County. There are several direct references to such a connection in these letters. Beyond that, there is the coincidence of a number of additional family names between the two areas—which is probably only the tip of the iceberg.³

These ties are undoubtedly what prompted the writing and publication of these reports from Lexington, as there was a very strong and years-long link between the Little Falls Polish-American community and *Rolnik*.⁴ Unfortunately, it seems, the correspondent(s) lacked the time after 1908 that he or they had had during the winters of previous years; or, perhaps, there was a falling-out of some sort. In any case, I've found no more Lexington correspondence in *Rolnik*.

The second is the little family-history nuggets that these items offer to descendants of a couple of lineages. Clearly, Franciszek GINTER was doing well financially in Lexington, what with that wedding-anniversary blowout in late 1905 or early 1906, and the rare ability to afford a trip back to the Polish lands for his family. And we see the year-long effort of widower REKOWSKI to find a new spouse, obviously unsuccessful in Lexington and then extended through the Polish stronghold of Winona and on to Minneapolis (and a "mixed marriage" with a daughter of Bohemia).

Finally, in both newspapers, we have mention of St. Joseph's, the Polish-ethnic Roman Catholic parish in Lexington. There isn't much, which matches the dearth of material about St. Joseph's in the usual secondary sources. What I was able to find, however, does establish that St. Joseph's was founded by the

³For instance, Gene RETKA of Little Falls recently told me that his grandfather moved north to Sobieski from Lexington, about a century ago.

⁴I noticed the Little Falls-*Rolnik* connection several years ago, when I started reviewing *Rolnik*'s pages for Minnesota-dated correspondence. My ongoing (but sporadic!) research has revealed that *Rolnik* published a report from Little Falls in probably 3/4 of its issues from 1906 to 1909. I have begun compiling an every-name index to this material for publication in this newsletter, though it will be a year or two before that appears.

local Poles themselves, on their strong desire to have their own place of worship in the midst of LeSueur County's sea of Czech and German immigrants. That commitment has remained firm for over a century; though it did not have a resident pastor until 1948, St. Joseph's was serviced as a mission parish for decades, by priests of Polish origin or extraction, and it retains our ethnic self-identification even as it stands today as a mission parish of St. Scholastica parish in nearby Heidelberg.⁵

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS: I was able to push my way through the translation of the *Rolnik* letters without difficulty until the very end, when I could not find the word *bilźniątek* in my comprehensive Polish-English dictionary. Anna Kuroczycka, my translation helper and former UNESCO camp student, pointed out that this was a typo—and that the correct spelling was *bliźniątek*, the genitive-case plural diminutive for "female twin." Shirley Zimprich, volunteer genealogist for the LeSueur County Historical Society, directed me to the Montgomery bicentennial history. To the two of them, *dziękuję!*

⁵Father Kruszk's short item on Lexington and St. Joseph's, *supra* n. 2, seems to be derived mostly from the 1901 *Wiarus* report. In Blanche Havel Zimmer's writeup, *supra* n. 2 at p. 31, it is stated that the Lexington-area Poles, "from the area of Warsaw," settled there "[b]etween the years 1900 and 1902." This author gives a list of the first local Polish settlers, at the end of her brief account. In his recent book, John Radziłowski noted that Polish-Americans from further east in the United States were among them. *Poles in Minnesota* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2005), p. 6. And, finally, there's the 1949 "Questionnaire on Parish History" submitted to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis by Father John Sliwa, Lexington's only resident pastor. In it, he attributes the long-time "loyalty of people to parish despite distant residence to church" to their "desire of having own church and pastor," this having resulted in St. Joseph's being "quite stable" for the first half-century of its existence. (This questionnaire is available on microfilm M260, roll 8, at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.)

Missing Branches: continued from page 28

Charlette Kalla, 15659 Parkwood Circle, Avon MN 56310 <kalla@albanytel.com> is researching POSCH, KROLL, KUKLOK, RUDOLPH, STODOLKA, KLISCH, SOBEK, ROSSA, KOSTRYA, MAZUR, PALLUCH, PUCHALLA, CZECH, GORZEMBA, MUCHIN, LELLEK, KUPILAS, JOREK, CIESLIK, LYSHY, KALIS, MERDER, JANY, SLONKIN, JAROSCH, SCHEILFIN, PETRON, KUPCIN, GRZDER, ZOSKA, URBANEK, WOSCH, BALDY, HANKUS, KULCZYK, KOSTRYA, RETYK, MRUSZK, FUHS, POGREZEBA, PAWLETTA, BIENIEK, KUPCIN in Falkowice/Falkowitz, Domaradz/Damratsch, Lubnow/Liebenau. Brynica/Brintz (all north of Opole, Poland) and in southern Morrison County/Swan River Twp. and northern Stearns County/Brockway and Holding Twp. in Minnesota.

Greg Kriske, 4820 Tioga St., Duluth MN 55804 <jgcmkriske@msn.com> is a new member.

Virginia M. Kulinski, 905 Michigan Ave., Waukesha WI 53188-3041 is researching Valentine HUDZINSKI and his wife Katarzyna LEWANDOWSKA in Wagrowiec, Poznan, Poland and in Milwaukee WI, Michael SOBOCINSKI and his wife Constancja ZIELINSKI in Gniewkowo, Poznan and in Cudahy WI.

Kenneth Merique, 21184 Parkerest Dr., Harper Woods MI 48225-1710 is researching LERCH, ORLOWSKI in Klein-Thymau in Poland and in Detroit MI, KLUTH in Lipin in Poland and in Buffalo NY, HÜBNER in Przygodzice in Poland and in Buffalo.

Margaret Schnell, 1150 Cushing Cir., #203, St. Paul MN 55108 <schnellmm@hotmail.com> is researching FLIS in Lublin in Poland and in St. Paul, MN.

Mariella Stavish, 17301 - 160th Ave., Little Falls MN 56345 is researching STAVISH in Krakow and in Ohio? and Little Falls MN, KARPINSKI in Barglow Dwomy, Bialystok, Poland and in Virginia MN and Little Falls, HLAD, VNUK in Ohio? and Little Falls and JASKEN (Dutch-British) in Park Rapids MN.

Jim Thelen, 3169 Traci Lane, DeWitt MI 48820-7743 <jimthelen@comcast.net> is researching CZECH/ZECH, MOCZKO/MOTZKO, MUNDY in Opole in Silesia, PRUCHA in Bohemia and all in Browerville, Todd County, MN.

G. Grace Thomas, P.O. Box 358, Marysville WA 98270 <dupiedotyou@yahoo.com> is researching DABROWSKI in Jezewo, Płock? (tbd) and in Buffalo

NY and Chicago IL, LAMPARSKI in Torun?? (tbd) and in NY, IL and Mich., LISS, MACHOTA in Lubcza, Pilzno and in Chicago, PIECHOTA, CHODOR in Pustynia, Debica and in Chicago.

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

Deb Cyprych, 5826 Valley View, Cincinnati OH 45213 <cyprych@juno.com> is researching CYPRYCH in Gasawa, Poznan and in Pittsburgh PA, ZYKS in Wyrzysk, Poznan and in St. Paul MN and Pittsburgh, KACZMAREK in Sadki, Poznan and in Pittsburgh.

Letters, continued from page 28**Teofil and Hieronim**

This letter is in regard to the article in the *PGS-MN Newsletter* about Swan River (Spring/Summer 2006, p. 1).

Teofil Derdowski was not the son of Hieronim Derdowski--he was his brother. Joanna and Hieronim Derdowski had four children. The first one was named Tadeuz who was born in the late 1880s. He did not live long. Halka was born in 1891 and lived one year and two months. She died in February 1892. The next born was our mother also named Halka--born July 4, 1892. Our mom died March 14, 1981. She had six children. Two sisters and two brothers have died. My sister (Joanne Lisson) and I are left. The last of the four children of Joanna and Hieronim was Harriet. She was born in 1896 and died of TB in 1927.

The reason for two Halkas in Hieronim's family is because Joanna was the main singer in the Polish opera "Halka." She toured many cities with the group and when she was in Torun, she met our grandfather.

Teofil was the second in the family of Peter Paul and Marianna Derdowski after our grandfather (Our grandfather was the eldest in their large family). Teofil also came to America.

I really enjoyed reading your article and all the other stories in the newsletter.

Florence M. Zimmewicz, Vadnais Heights MN

You were not the only one to clarify the relationship between Teofil and Hieronim (See the article by Michael Derdowski, on pages 11-12), but you were the first! Thank you. We are happy to make the correction. And we are happy to feature your grandfather in this issue. He was a significant figure in Polish letters (both in literature and in journalism).

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

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following:

James D. Anderson, 6365 Hwy 2, Cloquet MN 55720 <andersonjames_5msn.com> is researching KOSLOWSKI, WALKOWIAK in Zelazno and Samokliski, Bydgoszcz, Poland and in Buffalo, NY.

Bernice A. Balicki, 1018 W. Theresa Lane, Glendale WI 53209 <luebkebalicki@mindspring.com> is researching BALICKI in Biala Podlaska in Poland and in Chicago and Wisconsin, CHILEWICZ in Biala Podlaska and Chicago, CHRENIEWICZ in Biala Podlaska, JURGELEWICZ in Juraciszki in Belarus and in New York and WI, BURZINSKI in Juraciszki and in Texas and WI, KOZAK in Downary in Belarus and in Connecticut and NY, SZYLWANOWICZ in oczeszniki in Belarus and in NY.

ary & John Bell, 3065 Shorewood Ln., Roseville N 55113-1442 <jvmlbell@aol.com> are researching Peter HUDOBA and Mary GUZIAK in Nowy

Targ, Poland (Galicia, Austria) and in Penn., Ohio, Ill., Wisc., Minn., USA and Philip GONTERWITZ and Agnes SHUDORWITZ in ?Warsaw, Poland and in Kansas, USA.

Robin Brazerol, 284 Ratika Rd., Esko MN 55733-9404 <MamaRobinB@aol.com> is a new member.

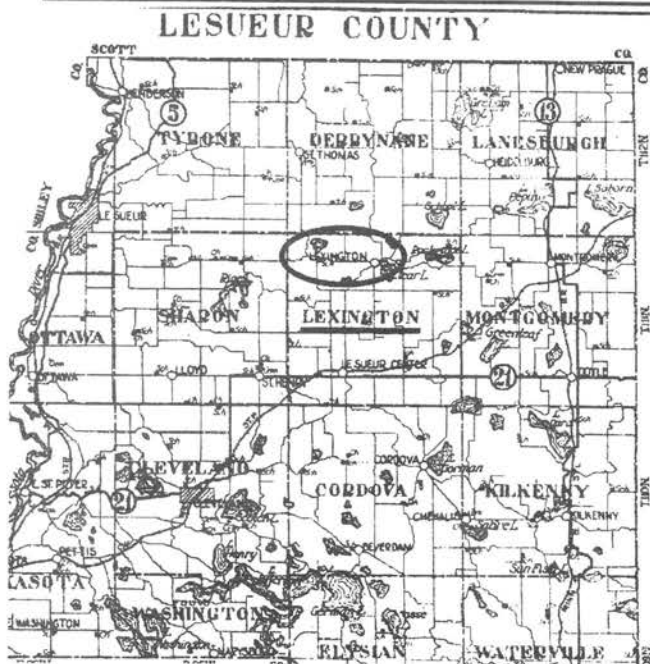
Larry Chesney, 12920 Ilene St., Poway CA 92064 is a new member.

Bette Haak, 1817 Mary Jo Ln., Saint. Paul MN 55109-4901 <BJLou@msn.com> is researching ALBRIGHT, CHAP in Poland.

Darlene Heinzl, 3654 S. 71st St., Milw. WI 53220 is researching CHYBOWSKI, LASKOWSKI in Sobacz in Poland, MASZK, DZIEMINSKI in Lipusz, BZDAWKA, WACTAWSKA in Sypniewo, TRAWCZYNSKI, PRZYBYLINSKI in ??? and all in Milwaukee.

Donald G. Jurek, 879 Lawnview Av., Shoreview MN 55126 is researching JUREK in Komprachice (near Opole, Poland) and KAMPA in Polska Nowa Wies and both in Benton and Sherburne Counties, MN.

Missing Branches: continued on page 27



The Church of Saint Joseph in Lexington in LeSueur County is featured on pp. 1, 24-26 in this issue. Map source: *Plat Book of Minnesota* (Rockford, Illinois: W.W. Hixson & Co., portion LeSueur County.

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