

# Our Polish ANCESTORS

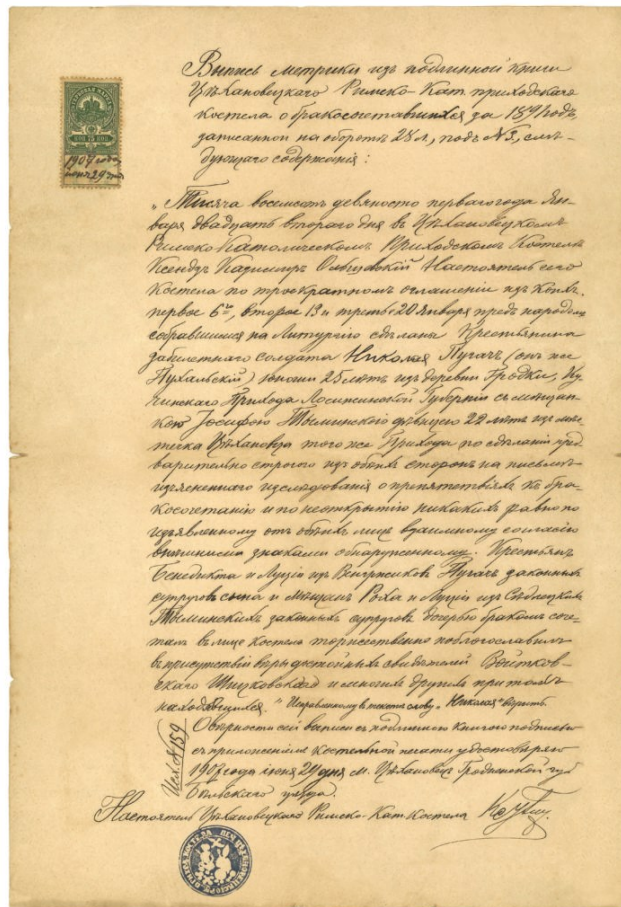
THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND

JUL/SEP 2021 VOL. 30 No. 3

## Discovering a Priceless Family Document

By Michael Speare

Here is a little family history about how this document came to me 108 years after its creation. My great grandfather (Nikolaj, Mikolaj, or Nicholas) came to the US about 1903. He had lived in the Russian occupied area of Poland. Like many immigrants, he came to work and earn money to bring the remainder of his family to America. In 1907, his wife, Jozefa, and two daughters Anna, age 5, and my grandmother, Marianna, age 16, came to join him in the coal mining town of Olyphant, Pennsylvania. In 1910, Mikolaj died. The widowed Jozefa began managing (cooking, cleaning, ironing, etc.) a boarding house while Marianna contributed her seamstress skills to the family income. One of the boarders, Stanislaus, married Marianna. Prior to 1920, this whole family moved to Detroit which was an auto industry boom town. Anna and her daughter, Virginia, all became widows at an early age and, with Jozefa, lived together in the same home for many years. They kept many pictures and documents. Upon the death of Virginia, her children gave these treasures to me. Among them was, the military record of Mikolaj in the Russian army and Jozefa and Mikolaj's wedding document shown here.



A translation reads as follows: *This vital record abstract from the original of the Tsekhano-vets (Ciechanowiec) Roman Catholic Church book on marriages for 1891 recorded on the back of page #28, under #3 as follows:*

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### Welcome

If you are not already a member of the PGSGC and would like to become one and receive this quarterly newsletter (cost is \$24.00 per year), please contact Michael Speare at [pgsgc@yahoo.com](mailto:pgsgc@yahoo.com) for more information.





## Letter from the President

Hello Everyone:

The Executive Committee is pleased to resume our monthly meetings of the PGSGC at St. Mary's Parish Hall. However, in this Covid pandemic atmosphere nothing seems certain. Please make sure to check, either on Facebook or our website, [pgsgc@yahoo.com](mailto:pgsgc@yahoo.com), for up-to-date information. You can always check with Michael Speare, Vice-President/Membership, via email. We will follow procedures as issued by the State of Ohio and the CDC.

My subject for this newsletter is the sharing aspect of your personal family trees. I have been a member of *Ancestry* for many years and about five years ago I decided to make my family tree public. One day, I received an email through *Ancestry* from another member inquiring about my relationship to Emilia Rejniak Wisniewska. My maternal great grandmother was Maryanna Rejniak Zielachowska, an older sister to Emilia. Emilia and her husband, Josef Wisniewski, had six children. The oldest daughter, Mary, married Konstanty (Constantine) Panek. Their marriage produced eleven living children. The youngest of these, Thomas, had three daughters. It was Mary with whom I have been exchanging information with. I was able to send Mary the actual Polish and Russian Cyrillic translations of birth, marriage and death church records as well as photos. This summer I took part in a Panek/Wisniewski family reunion. About fifty relatives gathered from all over the United States. It was a marvelous exchange of folklore, videos, etc. and getting to know who was who. Our ancestor, Emilia, and her husband, Josef, were responsible for bringing my grandfather, Adam, to the United States in 1907. Later, when he married my grandmother Alexandra, they rented rooms at the Wisniewski home on Grand Avenue. The rest is history and that's why I am here.



This reunion was my first introduction to how beneficial a family gathering can be. It doesn't have to be formal or large. Maybe the next time you are at a picnic or a holiday gathering, bring up a topic or two about your ancestors and see what comes up for discussion. Also, rather than just passing over some of those emails from people who may think they are related, you may want to reply and ask for some specifics. Maybe another door opens in your research. Never give up.

Anthonette Baciak, President

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[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohpgsgc/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohpgsgc/)  
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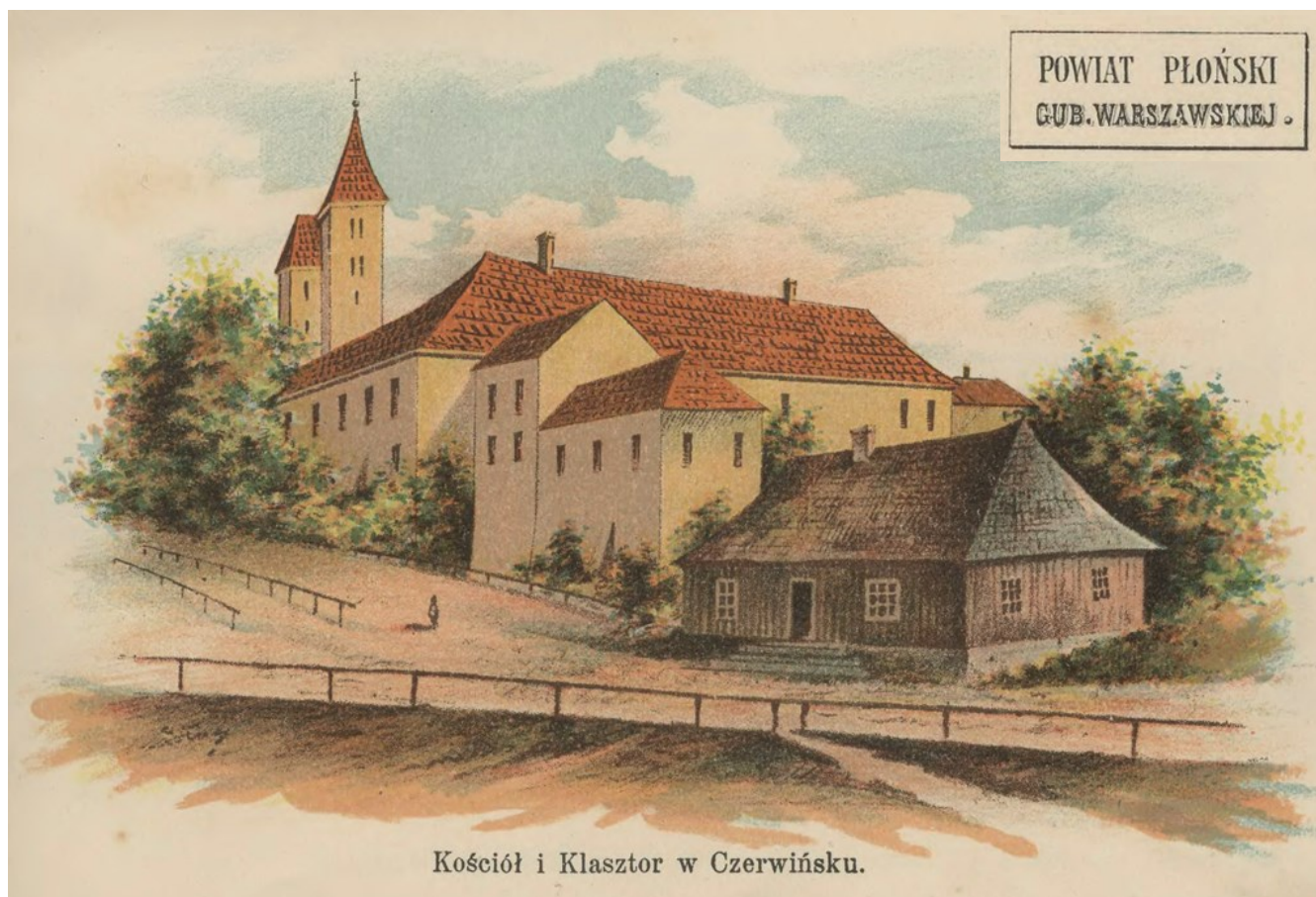


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*22 January 1891 at Tsekhanovets Roman Catholic Church priest Kazimier Olszewsky, keeper of this church, upon the three announcements, which were made first on 6th, second on 13th, and third on 20th of January before the people who came to the Liturgy, peasant, billeted soldier Nikolay Pugach (also know as Pukhalsky, never married 25 years of age, from village Grodek, of Kucyzn parish, Lonzha governate, with meschanka Josepha Tyminska, never married 22 years of age from Tsekhanovets of this parish, upon preliminary careful investigation and request of written confirmation on the lack of obstacles to the marriage and upon finding no obstacles, and after the mutual consent expressed by both parties by external signs, son of peasants Benedict and Lucia nee Wengrzikow legal spouses Pugach, and daughter of Rokha and Lucia nee Sedlecka legal spouses Tyminski were legally joined in the official presence of respectable witnesses (Mr) Wojtkowski, and Szickowsky and many others attending the ceremony.*

The document itself was not the original but an extract stamped 1907. Jozefa must have sought it as proof of the marriage as she left Poland for the United States. The originals would have been kept at the parish with a duplicate forwarded to the government. This one document with the names of parents and locations opened the doors for me to find additional generations. Thus, one brick wall conquered.

This document had not been well preserved. It was dry, brittle, and had been folded over many times. I did not have a scanner big enough to scan it in its entirety. I took it to a local printer for scanning on his commercial equipment. He was intrigued and reminisced about his own immigrant family. He suggested he could attempt to enhance the image and perhaps take out fold lines, water stains, and other imperfections. You will note how well he succeeded. It was costly but as the commercial says, "priceless". From this he was able to print original size (10"X14") copies on glossy paper and canvas. I now proudly hang this piece on my memory wall in my office.



Church and Monastery in Czerwińsk



## Genealogy 101: Using Google Search Operators

By Michael Speare



Google is a great tool. However, it can seem daunting when we are looking for specific information, but we get way too many confusing hits.

Better results come when we focus our queries. Are we searching for the military records of a great grandfather (born 1892) who lived in the Russian Partition? We can Google “Jozef Lichota military records” and get 95,900 hits. A better approach is to first focus on the conflicts Russia was engaged in after 1892. Begin by searching for “Russian military conflicts 1892-1930”. You will find a list of at least twenty such events. Then search for “Russian Partition Military Requirements”. Results from that indicate men would be required to serve 6-9 years in at least a reserve capacity beginning at age 21. Now you have narrowed potential dates. You know he was too young for the 1904-05 Russo-Japanese War but not WWI or the Russian Revolution, among other events. Armed with this information you can narrow your search and go to *Fold3*, *My Heritage*, and/or other databases for specific wars.

Every word matters so do not confuse the search with extraneous words. Use “Polish Partition Conscription requirement” versus “How long did Polish men have to serve in the Russian military if they lived in the partition?” Word order matters. Try “family tree” vs. “tree family” as an illustration. Searching is not case sensitive (Poland = poland). If you are looking into a new area, start broad and then narrow. Start with “polish military” and then move to “polish military WWI” if your results are too vague.

Other powerful tools to use in Google searches are called “operators”. There are many. In a normal search of a name like John Robert Doe, you will get listings focusing individually on John, Robert, and Doe. Google will include variations on spelling of each of those names and yield 17.7 million results. If you enclose this name in **quotation marks** “John Robert Doe”, you will get results for anything containing that name, in that exact order, and only with that spelling, yielding 1,380 results.

Is the above too limiting? Use the **asterisk** (\*). The asterisk is a way to search when you are unsure of the spelling or order of the words or names you are seeking. We would use “John \* Doe” to yield results where the Robert is only shown as middle initial or perhaps another middle name altogether.

Another trick is to use the term **OR**. In our name search example using the asterisk we are missing listings that might show Doe, John Robert. To overcome that we use **OR** (must be in capital letters) to include variations. We would enter “John Robert Doe” OR “Doe, John Robert”. We could also include the asterisk (\*) as a variation. **Numrange** (..) is another operative. Do you have a tree with many Stanislaus Timinskis? Use numrange to show a date range. Your search would be “Stanislaus Timinski” 1865..1910 and would include the lifespan of that person.

The operator **define** followed by a colon (:) is useful in learning the meaning of words or phrases. It seems to work for foreign words, as well. Type “define:dziadzia” to see the results.

**Minus** (-). This item tells the search to eliminate a result that has a certain word. A search for a relative named “Franklin Roosevelt” is dominated by the late President. Using “Franklin Roosevelt” -Delano would eliminate much of the FDR results. Be sure not to leave a space after the minus (-) sign.

These are just a few of the operatives that can be used to enhance your Google search. Try them the next time you are searching. They will save you time and improve your results.





## What's Polish in the Historical Cleveland Plain Dealer?

"Many Ohio Poles Attend Wedding," Cleveland Plain Dealer,  
5 November 1916

### *Many Ohio Poles Attend Wedding*



PRINCIPALS and ASSISTANTS in BEREA POLISH WEDDING MONDAY

**B**EREA last Monday morning was the scene of a wedding in which leading Poles from many cities in Ohio were prominent. The nuptials were those of Miss Rose Marcinski of Berea and F. R. Walters of Lorain, and took place in St. Adelbert's church,

with Rev. Ignace Petrowski officiating.

The bride wore a crepe de meteor dress and carried a prayer book. The bride's sister, Miss Louisa Marcinski, maid of honor, wore a pink taffeta gown and hat of tulle of the same color. Another sister, Jeannette Marcinski, flower girl, also wore pink.

Bridesmaids Miss Hattie Symanski of Berea and Miss Bertha Stencil of Lorain were attired in green taffeta

gowns and green tulle hats. Harry Marcinski, brother of the bride, was best man, and William Stencil of Lorain acted as usher.

The altar was banked with lilies and ferns. Lohengrin's wedding march was played by Andrew Demboski and vocal numbers were given by Miss Clara Knight and Miss Lottie Ksiaskewicz. Five hundred guests attended a reception in the afternoon in St. Adelbert's hall.



# Getting Lost in Poland 2018....Part 9

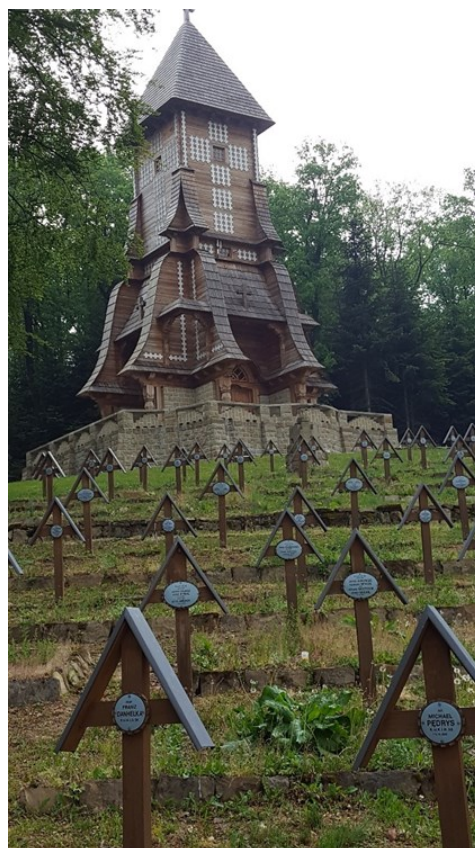
By Ben Kman

The following is the story (offered in quarterly installments) of member Ben Kman's 16 day journey to his ancestral villages in Poland in the spring of 2018.

## Day Tuesday May 8

I got up this morning and had breakfast with Gosia. After breakfast, I packed. When I finished packing Gosia gave me a bottle of Zubrowka Czarna (Bison Grass Vodka Black Label) as a gift. I can't wait to sample that! Now I needed to repack. Sigh... We chatted a bit more then I headed out to my car. Gosia and I said our goodbyes. Zygmunt had to go to work so I didn't see him. I was chastised again for only visiting one day and was told that the next time I visit to plan for 2 to 3 days. I'd probably gain 75 pounds if I ever visited that long.

My new first stop today was the WWI cemetery in Luzna that Zygmunt told me about last night. I didn't have much trouble finding it but was quite surprised at how many other WWI cemeteries I had to drive by to get there. The parking situation wasn't very clear and it wasn't obvious where I should have parked so I drove as close as I could and parked in what appeared to be a picnic area. There was trash strewn everywhere along with an ample number of beer cans and bottles. Surprisingly, there was a *Port-O-Potty* as well. I followed a road/path to the cemetery and found myself at a short wall with a gate and a view of the cemetery. It was built on the side of a mountain. Literally. It was a WWI Eastern Front memorial cemetery. I'm not sure if there was a pre-existing cemetery on that site or if it was a brand new cemetery. It looked like the side of the mountain was cleared of all trees and brush recently and the graves didn't



appear to be that old. It was paid for by the Austrian government and contained graves of soldiers from all over the Austrian Hungarian Empire, including Russian soldiers. At the top of the mountain/foothill, there was a large wooden chapel. To get to the top there were a series of stairs and switchback paths. Of course, I hiked up to the chapel and was treated to some beautiful views of the surrounding countryside. The chapel was locked but quite impressive from the outside. I wandered around a bit and slowly made my way back down the hill and to my car.



My next stop was the beekeeping museum in Stroza. I had no issues getting to the area where the museum was but couldn't find the entrance or parking. I found a large parking lot next to the museum and left my car there. It turned out I actually parked in a honey processing plant's parking lot by mistake. Oops! I wandered over to the open air museum and tried to find a ticket office but nothing was really well labeled so I started wandering through the outdoor museum. There were hundreds and hundreds of beehives of different styles and ages. Some of the earliest examples dated to the 1700's. There were many hives that were actually larger than life size carved statues that incorporated a beehive in the design. There were also others which were built to resemble





famous buildings or fancy houses. The ingenuity was quite interesting. Many examples of manmade, tree trunk hives were scattered around the property showing the simplest and oldest method of keeping bees. As I was exploring, I came across a building with an open door so I went up the stairs and walked in. Several displays were set up with old beekeeping and honey processing equipment. I started to browse the collections and a lady with a group of school children looked at me and asked if I spoke to the lady at the office so I said “no.” She gave me the look of death, shook her head and went back to talking to the children. I kept looking at the displays. Hey, if I would have found a ticket office, I would have gladly paid. It’s not like I didn’t try. No one kicked me out either. After getting my fill of bee stuff, it was time to continue on.

Next up was the Bobbin Lace Museum in Bobowa. These first three stops were a bit of backtracking but today was going to be a lazy day anyhow. I worked my way over to the town of Bobowa and had to drive back and forth three times trying to find the museum before I actually located it. There was minimal sign posting. That should have been my first clue. Then, I had to drive back and forth twice more just to find parking. I found a small lot near the museum and parked. I didn’t see any park-o-meter to pay for parking or a sign stating it was paid parking so I assumed it was free. After getting situated, I walked back to the museum. I entered a basement door and had no idea where to go. Eventually, a lady came out of an office and took me upstairs to the museum. I walked through the entrance into a 10x10 foot room. None of the ladies in the back room/office even acknowledged me. There were no displays on the process of making bobbin lace nor any history of lace making in Bobowa. There were only some examples hanging on the walls. Some had price tags and some didn’t. I was REALLY hoping to pick up a nice piece of lace for my niece but I left in total disappointment. That was a total waste of time.

Back to the car. I got in my car, set up *Tom Tom* for Karpacka Troja (Carpathian Troy) and prepared to leave. As I was backing out, I noticed a meter maid going from car to car. She started at the opposite end of the parking lot from where I parked. As I was pulling away, she scowled at me and I smiled at her and drove off. If I would have gotten a parking ticket after going to that crappy museum, that would have really capped off the day.

Karpacka Troja was maybe a 45 minute drive. I drove back through Luzna where the cemetery was, got back on the main road and continued on. This skansen was just before Jaslo and not far off the main road. I had no issues finding it and there was ample parking. I learned about this place by reading *PolishOrigins* Galicia tour itinerary. This is a stop they make on their tours. There was a large, new, modern building at the bottom of the “hill” on which the fortification ruins exist. I went in and bought my ticket. There was supposed to be something inside the building but everything looked dark and closed so I continued to the outside displays. Right next to the building were two small, recreated settlements demonstrating the types of houses, living conditions and workshops that existed in pre-medieval times and how the settlements were laid out. I don’t recall seeing any walk-in closets or stainless steel appliances. It was so “580 A.D.” The real attraction was on top of the hill. To get there, you had to climb

about six flights of stairs. As I was climbing, I was wondering how “not so mobile” tour guests made it up to the top. Once at the top there is an interpretive trail that leads you through the remnants of the fortifications. Some areas have been rebuilt to demonstrate features of the settlements: fortified walls, homes, etc. There were several thousands of years worth of history in this place. It was interesting to see the successive rings of fortified walls as the settlement expanded over the millennia. The area was well protected on all sides since it sat on top





of a hill with exceptionally steep sides which probably explains why it was so difficult to find and why it was settled for such a long time. This was actually very interesting and worth the stop. At the end of the tour, there was a fire tower you could climb. Unfortunately, it was closed. I was hoping to get a bird's eye view of the whole area from the tower. When I exited, there was a paved road leading back down to the parking lot. I guess that is how folks with mobility issues got to the top to look around. Someone probably drove them up on that road.

Now I was on to Haczow. It was another 45 minute drive to Haczow. *Tom Tom* couldn't figure out how to get to the old wooden church in Haczow so I drove around town a bit until I spotted the church then navigated by sight. I ended up parking in the lot of a large, ugly concrete church that was right next to the old wooden church. I was really surprised that the concrete church was so close. The wooden church was a Unesco World heritage site but the ugly church next door kind of detracted from the visit. That said, the wooden church in Haczow is worth a stop. It was hard to wrap my head around the fact that a wooden church built in 1388 could still be in existence.

Sanok was my next and final stop for the day and only a 40 minute drive away from Haczow. After an uneventful drive, I arrived in the pleasant city of Sanok situated on the San River. During one of my earlier visits many years ago, I stayed in a cabin on a campground not far from the city. There was a wedding reception at the campground and as a result, I didn't get much sleep. My other visits were pretty much just pass throughs after visiting the renowned skansen on the other side of the river. Given my light schedule today, I actually planned to visit Sanok and take in the sites of the city. I got to the hotel around 2:30 in the afternoon and had plans to meet with a friend from the States in the evening for dinner. Debbie was a moderator of the *Polish Genius* genealogy forum. Over the years, we had corresponded and I visited with her and her husband when I was in Dallas on business. We coordinated our stay in the same hotel since we were going to be in the same area on the same day. Our schedules just happened to cross at that point. They were going to call me when they arrived. In the meantime, I checked in at the Hotel Bona and dragged all of my stuff up to my room. As I walked in for the first time, I entered a massive,



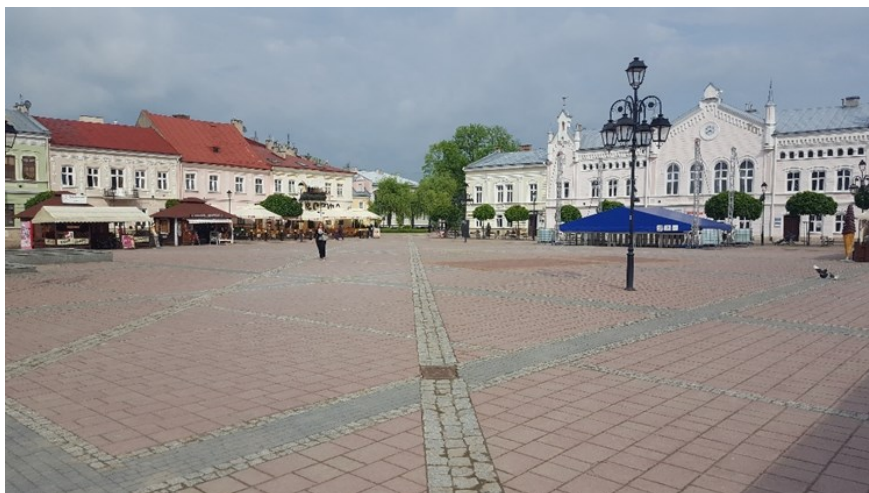
sprawling space that I thought was in a common space for hotel guests. There was a huge, round table in the middle of the room surrounded by plush chairs. After staring at the table, I noticed five beds tucked in different areas of the room. I couldn't believe they gave me this space for a one night stay. Even better, one whole wall was windows and there was a balcony that overlooked the San River and the mountains on the other side of the river. This was prime real estate. I guess this was more of a suite.







Once I was situated, I programmed Map.me to get me to the rynek. The old town of Sanok was located on top of a hill next to the castle. My walking route followed the San River for a while. I was able to walk in the grassy park along the river which made for a pleasant excursion. The route eventually turned away from the river and started an uphill climb to the Old Town. Reaching the top, I walked into a very pleasant, sleepy rynek with a castle situated at the far corner. I was in no hurry so I wandered around and headed over to the castle to see the grounds. There were some great views from the castle gardens over the river. I was the only person around. After the castle there wasn't much else to see. Since it was a beautiful day, I walked to an outdoor café situated on the rynek and ordered a beer. The beer cost a little over a dollar. I found a seat with a nice view of the rynek, sat down and enjoyed some downtime. I took a picture of my beer with the rynek as the backdrop and emailed it off to family and friends. After finishing my beer, I started walking back to the hotel. Shortly after starting back, my phone rang and my friend was calling to let me know she and her husband arrived at the hotel. I told her I would be back in about five or ten minutes and we arranged to meet in the lobby.



When I got back, they came down and we decided to eat in the hotel restaurant. This way, we could have some drinks and not worry about driving. I had a large beer (duze piwo) and an ice cold shot of Zubrowka (bison grass vodka). My meal was a bowl of Zurek (sour rye soup) and a plate of meat pierogi. We sat and talked about how much Poland has changed, how our trips were going, personal news/updates, etc. As we were eating, a large crowd of Polish tourists began showing up for a dinner event. This then morphed into a dance party as we were finishing up our meal. At that point the music was too loud to talk over. I picked up the bill for the three of us but put another round of drinks on the tab before cashing out. The whole bill was US\$36. Big Spender! We decided to move to the lobby to talk and needed to keep closing the door to the dining area so we could hear each other. Even the girl at the front desk was annoyed by the music. After we finished our drinks and conversation, we headed up to our rooms for the night.

### Day 13 Wednesday May 9

The sun was my alarm clock again today. I got up this morning and packed in preparation for the next leg of my trip. I also wanted to get to the Archives in Sanok when they opened so I could do some family research before leaving Sanok. There was a great breakfast spread. Breakfast was normally served in the same room in which dinner was served but, due to the tour group, they moved the normal guests to a small side room for breakfast. They had these mini cream-filled paczki (fried donuts) that were delicious! They also had a coffee maker that made great



coffee. I got caught up on my trip notes and posted some pictures to *Google Drive* for safe keeping. Two girls walked in and I said "dzien dobry." They smiled at me and returned the greeting. Filled with more donuts than I should have eaten, I went to my room to grab my backpack and roller bag. On my way to the front desk, I saw Debbie and Dave in the breakfast room and stopped in to say good morning. I'd be meeting them at the Archives this morning



as well.

Checkout complete, I loaded my car and headed to the Archives. It was a short 5-minute drive from the hotel. Entering the Archives, the director asked me what I needed and I explained which records I wanted to review. He was stern, but helpful, and sat me in front of a computer. The records for Mrzyglod parish were digitized so I didn't need to page through physical books. As I started my research, Debbie and Dave arrived. I helped them get situated and then returned to my research. After a couple of hours I finished up what I had wanted to do, notified the director that I was done using the computer then talked with Debbie and Dave briefly. I said my goodbyes and started toward my final destination for the day, Zakopane. I was actually ahead of schedule for a change.



The first leg of my trip to Zakopane was to a castle in Niedzica. It is perched on top of a cliff overlooking a lake. I thought it would be a good place to break up the drive. The 3.5 hour trip to Niedzica took me back through Gorlice on the main road. Once I got past Gorlice, the road turned peaceful and very scenic. It reminded me of what it used to be like driving around Poland. I was cruising along through this stretch and began approaching Nowy Sacz. The closer I got, the worse the traffic got. Then everything came to a bumper to bumper stand still. I spent an hour to an hour and a half creeping along in stop and go

traffic through construction. Once I got through the massive roundabout, traffic opened up again and *Tom Tom* routed me through some completely desolate parts of southern Poland. I skirted what appeared to be an abandoned boarder crossing with Slovakia and continued westward through some small, god-forsaken towns. The road started to rise again and switchback up a mountainside. As I crested the hill in front of me, the lake, dam and castle came into view. I took note that it would be good to stop back at the dam for some photos and continued on to the castle.

It was good to get out of the car and stretch my legs. I went to the ticket office and bought my entrance ticket then started my tour of the castle. Then it started to downpour rain. The weather had literally changed instantly. Most of the tour was inside but you had to cross a couple of courtyards quickly to minimize getting wet. If I remember correctly, this castle was inhabited through the 1940s. This was yet another fortification built by Kazimierz the Great to protect the Polish border. It was well restored and decorated and worth a quick stop. Finishing up my tour, I left the castle and made a mad dash back to my car in the pouring rain. Soaked from the rain, I made the executive decision to pass on going back to the dam for pictures. Not to mention, I was a good hour and a half to two hours behind schedule due to the construction.



The ride from Niedzica to Zakopane was going to be about an hour. I would be dropping my car off at the hotel I was going to stay at tonight. It was one of the reasons I chose the particular hotel I did for my lodging. It was an authorized drop off point for the rental car company I used. *Tom Tom* took me through more countryside and eventually I arrived at the main north/south road between Krakow and Zakopane. This particular stretch of road had been under construction for the last thirty years. It was a standing joke in Poland. So I sat in traffic and slowly





made my way south toward Zakopane. Once I was a couple of miles from my destination, I started to look for gas stations to fill up since I needed to turn the car in with a full tank of gas. I eventually came across a gas station and did my last fill up before continuing on to the hotel. It was somewhat tricky to find the hotel but eventually I got there.

The parking situation at Hotel Muranowica was confusing. I pulled into what I thought was the hotel lot then went into the hotel to let them know I had a reservation and wanted to drop my rental car off. I explained I parked in the lot next door. The guy at the desk told me that wasn't the hotel parking lot and that I needed to put the car in the garage under the hotel. Someone from the rental car company would then meet me at the car. I left the hotel and got back in my car. I pulled up to the security gate and put my parking ticket into the machine. The gate went up and I didn't have to pay for the short time I was in the lot. The entrance to the garage was down a ramp next to the hotel entrance. I basically did a u-turn from the parking lot to the entrance ramp. At the top of the ramp was a box to ring in. I pushed the button and the garage door at the bottom of the ramp went up. I was already concerned about how I was going to turn from the ramp into the garage door. Both were narrow. That turned out to be the least of my worries. I easily got through the garage door and the ramp continued spiraling down under the hotel. Each turn was too tight to make without doing a three point turn. The paint and bumper scrapes on the walls already proved that. Slowly and carefully I made my way to the parking area under the hotel and found the parking area for *Panek Rental Cars*. I parked and started to gather up my belongings and put *Tom Tom* and all of its wires back into the travel pouch it came in. The rental car agent showed up and told me we needed to take the car outside. I handed him the keys, put my luggage back in the trunk and got in the passenger side seat. There was no way was I driving back up that ramp! I put that back on the agent's head. He slowly got us back outside and inspected the car. I told him about having to put air in the tire on the first day. If I could have figured out how to turn off the "tire pressure low" warning, I probably would not have mentioned anything. The tire held air for eleven straight days with no issue. No other problems were found so I got my belongings out of the car. He drove off and I went back into the hotel to check in.

Glad to be rid of the car and checked into my room, I went up the stairs with luggage in tow. My room was clean and modern. It had a balcony that overlooked a babbling mountain brook. I got situated and then went out to find a place to eat. I stumbled across a restaurant that caught my eye, *Przy Młynie (At the Mill)*. It was built to replicate the old style Zakopane mountain architecture. It was deserted. I was the only guest in the restaurant. Service was pleasant enough. I had my big beer and ordered *placki z gulaszem* (potato pancakes with gulasz). I was hungry and that fit the bill. It was a pleasant walk back up the hill to the hotel in the fresh mountain air. I was tired after a long day of travelling and called it a night.

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## Schedule of Presentations for Upcoming Meetings

**Sep: *Navigating Autosomal DNA Results and Contacting Matches***

Robert Sliwinski discusses ways to navigate match results for three companies and methods to contact matches.

**Oct: *Ethnic Germans in Russian Poland***

Ben Kman will present on the fascinating history and research resources for the ethnic Germans who lived in Russian Poland aka Mitelpolen.

**Nov: *TBD***  
**TBD**

**Dec: *The Historical Context for Polish Genealogical Research***

Richard Szczepinski, PGSGC member, will explain how the history of Poland intertwines with our genealogical research.

The Polish Genealogical  
Society of Greater Cleveland  
c/o St. Mary's PNC Church  
1901 Wexford Ave.  
Parma, Ohio 44134



**Polish Genealogical Society of  
Greater Cleveland**

PGSGC  
c/o St. Mary's PNC Church  
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### About Us

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at St. Mary's PNC Church parish hall, 5375 Broadview Rd., Parma, Ohio. We have summer break in July and August. St. Mary's is located on the corner of Broadview Rd. and Wexford Ave. in Parma, Ohio. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are usually over by 9:00 PM. There is ample parking in the parish parking lot. The entrance is on Marietta Ave. Membership dues are \$24.00 per calendar year.

At many of our meetings, we have guest speakers who address the group on subjects in which we have an interest. The subjects may include genealogical matters, Polish history, heritage and traditions. When we do not have a guest speaker, we have "**Show and Tell**" nights when fellow members discuss their genealogical problems, ask for advice from anyone with a similar problem, tell us of their discoveries, or let us know what they've learned about their ancestors.

Our group maintains a library which is a popular resource our members enjoy. It contains various books, maps, pamphlets and newsletters from other genealogical groups. Materials can be borrowed from the library for a period of one month. We employ the honor system with regard to borrowing of books and other related materials.

We also keep a surname research list. This list includes the surnames of our ancestors which our active members are researching. In the past, members have discovered that they were investigating names that other members were also researching.

We publish a quarterly twelve page newsletter entitled, *Our Polish Ancestors*. Articles for the newsletter are selected that are of interest to our membership. Many are based on materials gathered from the many fine research facilities in and around the Greater Cleveland area, such as: The Cleveland Public Library, The Western Reserve Historical Society, The Cuyahoga County Archives, The Family History Centers and the many Polish-American churches in this part of northern Ohio. Articles written by our membership are always welcome.