



THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND
 OCTOBER/DECEMBER 1993 - VOL. 1, No. 3 906 COLLEGE AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members - Three months have elapsed since our last letter, and I should say they have been good ones for our Society. Surprisingly, our attendance held up during the summer months with usually 30-35 members in attendance at each meeting. I'm sure this is greatly due to the interesting speakers that Ben keeps lining up.

The Society had a display in the "Heritage Room" at the recent St. John Kanty (Cantius) Polish Festival. It was well received by attendees, and we in fact signed up a new member on the spot. We also passed out new Society information brochures that Sarah designed and hopefully we'll get feedback in the near future by those that picked them up. Incidentally, I recently placed a number of these brochures in various business locations in the Fleet "Slavic Village" area. Members who know of strategic places to put these, may get some from Sarah, or let us know where to put them and we'll place them.

Elections will be coming up at the December meeting, so start thinking now of who you would like to see as your 1994 Officers.

I would again like to encourage each member to try and bring a

guest to each meeting. You'd be surprised how much more fun your genealogical hobby can be when you share it with someone else. For those members who live outside our geographical area and cannot physically attend meetings, I encourage you to write me about your family finds and searches. I will gladly share these with our membership by reading them at the meeting. I'd like everyone to share in this, your Society. I would also encourage everyone to make some sort of contribution to our newsletter. Everyone, I'm sure, has some interesting family story they could share with fellow members.

I'll close for now and look forward to seeing ALL of you at the next meeting.

Thanks,
 John F. Szuch, President

COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARD CORNER:

Ralph Lysyk informs us that the telephone number for the Computer Bulletin Board System supported by The Polish Genealogical Society of America (based in Chicago) has changed. The new number is:

(708) 960-1127

Has anyone besides Ralph used this service? If so, we'd like to hear about your experience.

WELCOME!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members. They are:

Melanie Mazur
 Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Stanley & Marjorie Domitz
 Westlake, OH

Joseph & Clarice Burval
 Charleston, W VA

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the basement cafeteria of St. John Cantius Church, 906 College Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

☛ OCTOBER 5: Cindy Frischkorn will give a presentation on organizing and preserving your photographs and documents from the ravages of time and acid-based scrapbooks. Many tips on how to make sure your photos will last for generations to come!

☛ November 2: To be Announced.

☛ December 7: Annual Christmas Party: (Members ONLY, please) Traditional Polish foods (such as stuffed cabbage, Polish wine and candies) and traditions to share. **COST: \$4.00/person. Plan to bring your favorite dessert to share. BE SURE TO COME EARLY** - The Polish Peddler (Virginia Luty) will have a Christmas Boutique set up featuring authentic Polish items to purchase for your holiday gift giving. **15% of every purchase will go to our Society!** (Send \$4/person to Chris Mata, Treasurer)

"OUR POLISH ANCESTORS"
is published by
**THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF GREATER CLEVELAND**



Editor:	Sarah Evanko 1422 Wyandotte Avenue Lakewood, OH 44107	221-7506
President:	John F. Szuch P. O. Box 328 Medina, OH 44258	725-2408
Vice President:	Ben Kman	278-2693
Treasurer:	Christine Mata 26450 Forestview Avenue Euclid, OH 44132	731-2657
Secretary:	Joe Evanko	221-7506
Membership:	Joe & Gloria Hadbavny 3889 Edgepark Drive North Olmsted, OH 44070	734-7839

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: December 10th

Contributors for this issue: Joe Evanko, Sarah Evanko, Ralph Lysyk, John Szuch, Karen Wiencek-Trout, Lynn Vizdos.

MY ANCESTORS REVISITED

John F. Szuch

In our last issue, I told you about my grandparents, John Malicki and Bernice Czaplicka. This time, I'd like to tell you a couple of interesting stories I have learned of since then.

On a recent afternoon, my Uncle Steve stopped by to pay a visit on his way to play bingo. My Uncle Steve lived in the same household I grew up in, and has a fantastic memory for dates and events. So I decided to try and pin him down on old family addresses.

As he started going over them,

he got to the family's address at 1126 Dallas Road, circa 1922-23. He stated "That's where your Grandfather got arrested!". "For what?", I said. It seems that while my grandmother was downtown doing her shopping, agents came to the house and dug in the garage, uncovering a container of fermenting home-made whiskey! They promptly arrested my grandfather and took him to the local jail.

When my grandmother arrived home, she found out what had happened. She got a local relative and together they went to the jail and bailed him out.

When they got home, my grandfather got out a bottle of whiskey he had hidden in the kitchen. They had a shot, he poured the rest out, and supposedly didn't drink whiskey again after that!

I'm not sure about drinking whiskey, but I do know that he liked his wine and beer when I was growing up. In fact, when I was small, I would sometimes go into our "food cellar" and pop the top off a bottle of beer and then put the top back on when I had had a sip or two. I did this for awhile, thinking I was pretty sharp - until one day, my grandfather said to me, "I don't mind you drinking my beer, but please put it in the refrigerator so it doesn't go flat". The old guy was pretty sharp, and I sure did love him.

Next time, the story about two horses...

FREE MAPS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

The Library of Congress' Geography & Map Division has a great, but little-known service. If you write and give them the name of the country and town, they will send you a current-day map of that area. You can ask for either a country or town map. *Be sure to also ask for the geographical coordinates as they are TODAY.* Prior to 1900, each country had their own system of determining coordinates, and after 1900 it was changed to a universal system. (Thanks to Karen Trout for this information!) The address to write to is:

Library of Congress
Geography & Map Division
Attn: T. DeClaire, Sr. Librarian
Washington, DC 20540

TRACING YOUR FAMILY ROOTS

Kids learn about themselves as well as their family

By: Sarah Evanko

Adam, my son, was visibly excited when I informed him that I had found another "Adam" in researching his family tree. He'd never known another Adam until last year in school, and he was sure it was a very uncommon name. I know how he felt; I'd never known another "Sarah" until I was well into my adult years . . . there always seemed to be an over-abundance of Linda's and Debby's. Feeling "old-fashioned" and out-of-it, I was sure my parents had purposely given me this odd name. Only later did I find out that Sarah is a very common name (along with Elizabeth) in my family history. I often wondered what the other Sarah's were like, and I imagine Adam feels the same way.

Because of this, I feel compelled to find out everything I can about this mysterious Adam. In looking at the 1920 census, I found an Adam Klimkiewicz living with John Klimkiewicz. John was the brother of my husband's grandmother, Mary. On the census, John is listed as the Head of Household, and Adam is listed as his brother. Thus, Adam is also the brother of Mary Klimkiewicz. What is so amazing about all this is that NO ONE claims to have ever heard of him! The folks of his generation are gone now, and the younger ones never heard of him. Where did he go after 1920? Was he considered a "black sheep"?

What's so exciting about tracing your family's history for children? First of all, it gives them an opportunity to view history through their family's eyes. Secondly, it helps them to

understand the events that influenced their family today. Learning family history helps children feel more connected to their parents. There is an air of mystery in putting the puzzle of your family together - and Adam is a puzzle-lover from way back.

HOW TO START

There are lots of different ways to piece together your family's history. One way is to trace the lineal descent: parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc. Another way is to broaden the search to include cousins, brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles.

The first thing to do, of course, is to start at home. It's amazing to me how many people research from their parents backwards, but neglect to record the vital information concerning themselves, their siblings, children, grandchildren, etc.

Write down the full names, birth dates, and birthplaces of yourself, your spouse and children. Even record the addresses of all the places you've lived (if you can remember them all - if not, at least the street and city). Your children (and grandchildren) will thank you for it someday. I would suggest even writing down the school(s) you attended, the years graduated, clubs you belonged to, awards earned, and occupation(s). Don't forget that silly nickname everyone called you in school!

The next step should be to talk to as many relatives as possible, especially the older ones. Interviewing relatives is an

activity the kids can enjoy. Children can ask their grandparents questions about where they grew up, what their school was like, what their hobbies were, and how they met and married. If the grandparents are the immigrants in the family, find out what their trip to America was like. Were they excited, afraid, happy or sad? Don't rely on your children's memory or handwriting for these interviews. Make sure they have a tape recorder - or even a video camcorder.

DOCUMENTING YOUR INFORMATION

The next step is to document as much of this information as possible for future generations. Arrange to get copies of birth, marriage and death certificates, land records, deeds, mortgages, naturalization records, etc. And don't forget to preserve your present-day documents also. Keep your birth and marriage certificate as well as your children's birth certificates in a safe place.

Try to date all your photographs, and identify who the people in them are. Better yet, get them into an archival photo album so future generations can enjoy them. Kids always want to know who they take after and who they look like. It would be nice to know exactly WHO that is in the picture that you discovered in Grandma's drawer that so resembles your child! My husband, Joe, discovered that he looks a lot like one of his grandmother's brothers who never left Poland. Unfortunately,

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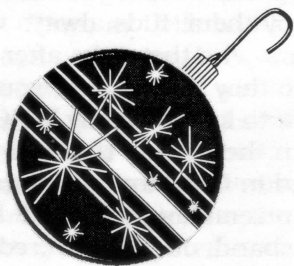
no one can identify exactly who it is.

Equally important is recording the hobbies, interests and occupations of as many relatives as you can. Maybe Grandma or your great-aunt remembers these bits of information for some of those relatives who've passed away. Sharing physical characteristics or interests will help to make the various relatives come alive for your child (and for you!).

After you've done all this work, don't just put it in a drawer to gather dust. Organize it, make an official family tree, and perhaps write the story of your family - complete with photographs. Don't just distribute copies to the various family members, either. Consider donating a copy of your story to both the L.D.S. Church and The Western Reserve Historical Society to help other family members (presently unknown to you) later on down the road.

The National Genealogical Society will send you a free pamphlet, *Suggestions for Beginners*. With your request, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with 52 cents postage. Their address is:

The Nat'l. Genealogical Society
4527 17th Street
N. Arlington, VA 22207



Happy Holidays

THE CLEVELAND ELECTRONIC LIBRARY: WHAT'S AVAILABLE FOR PERSONAL COMPUTER USERS

The Cleveland Public Library took a giant step forward recently in expanding the information available through personal computers. A Cleveland Public Library user for example, can learn what materials the government wants to buy or sell the same day the Commerce Department lists them; see weather reports for Ohio from the University of Illinois; gain access to copies of many literary classics such as William Shakespeare's works, entered by a university; study science materials from universities and government; and review U.S. Supreme Court rulings through several universities, such as Case Western Reserve University.

How do they offer all this? By adding "Internet" - a worldwide network of computer services of universities in the United States and foreign countries, U. S. Government agencies and businesses. The library is trying to offer as full a range of information as it can. This service is FREE to library card holders. It is available only through personal computers with modems from outside the library or to librarians in the Cleveland library and 19 member libraries in surrounding counties that are connected to it in a computer network called Clevnet.

There are two public versions of the electronic library computer service. A detailed version is for holders of library cards from Cleveland or Clevnet members. An abbreviated service is available for those who are unable to punch in a valid library card number.

This information is available 24 hours a day over a telephone line through a modem and personal computer. A first-time user can call the library for instructions on technical information for modem and personal computer use at 623-2809 anytime, or to a reference librarian during hours the library is open at 623-2856.

The number for making the computer connection is 623-0623. Once connected, the computer screen displays additional instructions.

(From The Cleveland Plain Dealer, September 13, 1993)

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Some of our members are getting delinquent in their dues, perhaps because they don't know when their membership is up for renewal. Check your mailing label on this newsletter to find the month and year when your membership needs to be renewed by. If you can't make it to a meeting, send your yearly fee of just \$20 to our Treasurer Chris Mata, and she'll take care of it for you.

IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS HOMES DOCUMENTED

By: Karen Wiencek-Trout

For those of you who are interested in seeing where your immigrant ancestors lived when they settled in the Cleveland area, I would like to relate something that my husband and I have been doing to complement our family history research.

First, we investigated various sources to make a list of all of the addresses in the Greater Cleveland area at which my immigrant grandfather, grandmother/aunts and uncles lived throughout their lifetime. These sources include Cleveland City Directories available at the Cuyahoga County Archives (2905 Franklin Blvd.), the Fairview Park Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library (4449 W. 213th St.), and the Main Library of the Cleveland Public Library (325 Superior Ave.) We also made use of information obtained from birth and death certificates, marriage applications on microfilm at Western Reserve Historical Society Library (10825 East Blvd.), memories related by my father, and old photographs, some of which, surprisingly, have addresses visible on a porch or front of a house. The plat maps at the Archives also show who owned various parcels of properties. I'm sure there are other sources for addresses that we haven't discovered yet.

After we made a list of the addresses and consulted a city street atlas to find their location we chose a nice, sunny day, and drove to those addresses and took pictures of the houses. In some cases the original houses are no longer there. I was disappointed to find that the house

on Jefferson Ave. in the Tremont neighborhood, in which my father was born, is now a parking lot. In other cases we found out that the house we had photographed was not the ancestor's house but a newer one built after the original one had been torn down. This can be prevented by doing some research at the Parma Regional Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library (7335 Ridge Rd.) which has a real estate microfiche file in which you can look up properties by address, owner's name or permanent parcel number. The file also gives the date the house at that address was built. And here is an interesting note: Sometime in

I was disappointed to find that the house ... in my which my father was born, is now a parking lot.

the early 1900's, due to population increases, many addresses were changed to new numbers. Many street names were also changed and can not be found

on present-day maps. We wasted time searching for three digit addresses which had been converted to four digit numbers and street names which no longer exist. We found this to be especially true in the Tremont area. If you call the Department of Plats and Surveys at Cleveland City Hall at 664-2460, you can get information on address and street name conversions.

Finally we got to the rewarding part of all of this research, that of having photographs of the houses in which my ancestors lived. My husband must think I'm eccentric when I insist that the camera angle has to be as close as possible to how an old photograph was taken, or when I want to pose in a picture the same way that my mother or grandmother posed so many years ago. There is something very special about the feeling you get when you try to recreate the past or picture what life was like in the time of your ancestor's. And of course that feeling is a large part of what makes genealogy and family history research so rewarding.

FREE HELP FOR MEMBERS ONLY!

Fellow member, Lynn Vizdos, has offered translation and correspondence services from RUSSIAN-ENGLISH and ENGLISH-RUSSIAN *for members ONLY*.

Lynn has a B.A. in Slavic Languages and Literature from Ohio State University. If you can use her services, please contact her at:

Lynn Vizdos
7329 Ward Road
Parma, OH 44134
(216) 888-5837

THE GENEALOGY CRAZE

Can you name your eight great-grandparents?

The Economist

The first book of the Bible recites the genealogy of Jesus. Even the Anglo-Saxon chronicle begins with the ancestry of the pagan Saxon chieftains. Today, tribes too primitive to be literate tell of their ancestors from memory.

This is genealogy of the first kind. Its object is proof of the legitimacy of power. Medieval European kings claimed descent from Charlemagne - or even the Roman emperors - as one way of showing their right to the throne. And across Europe, aristocrats used their pedigrees to justify their local powers and land holdings.

This led gradually to genealogy of the second kind - the quest by those made wealthy by trade, finance, or industry to show connection with the holders of inherited wealth and power. This was the mainspring of 19th - and early 20th - century genealogy. A good example of the result of such work is Castle Drogo in Devon, a fairy-tale palace built for a wealthy tea merchant called Drew who somehow managed to trace his bloodline back to a Saxon prince named Drogo.

A third kind of genealogy is thriving today. In Western societies with large, mobile populations, ordinary people are trying to make themselves seem a little less ordinary by finding out where they come from. Genealogical societies have sprung up all over the U.S., Europe, and Australia. Many books and articles are published on the subject, and there are "guilds of one-name studies" in Britain and America that organize get-together of families with

unusual names.

Mobility and wealth have prompted curiosity in ordinary people about their roots. In past centuries, people lived out their lives in one place with parents, grandparents, and cousins either in the same village or over the hill. They did not need to wonder where they came from.

Things began to change in the 19th century, when vast numbers of people moved from the country into the cities, or emigrated to the New World. These emigrants lost touch with their roots. In the U.S., for example, a surprising number of people are unable to name all four of their grandparents, let alone their eight great-grandparents.

Around 750,000 people emigrated to America between 1607 and 1800. They were mostly

The greatest migration in history took place between 1800 and 1914.

English, followed by Scots, Irish, Germans, and smaller groups from other European countries. About 75,000 blacks came from Africa during that period, mostly as slaves.

The greatest migration in history took place between 1800 and 1914. During that period, some 28 million people migrated from Europe to America. What had begun as a trickle turned into a flood after 1840.

The fact that such big movements of people occurred rela-

tively recently helps to explain why interest in genealogy of the third kind is gathering strength today. It takes about three generations before the descendants of immigrants start to show an interest in their ancestry. The parents and grandparents were more concerned with becoming a part of their adopted homeland.

The first genealogical societies in America were formed in the 1840's. In 1850, U.S. census records were opened to the general public. This marked the beginning of the popular genealogy that has become so widespread today.

Interest reached a peak at the time of the bicentennial celebrations in 1976. This coincided with the televised version of Alex Haley's book *Roots*, the story of how a black American traced his ancestry back to the Kinte clan of Old Mali through a Moslem holy man who came from Mauritania. Genealogical societies were besieged with inquiries from both black and white Americans. Ten years later, the obsession shows no sign of abating.

Australia, too, has caught the bug. Nearly a third of Australia's population is descended from the 163,000 convicts who were transported from Britain between 1788 and the 1840's. The children and grandchildren of these convicts preferred to forget who their parents or grandparents were: there was still a slight stigma attached to convict descent.

But what the children or grandchildren wish to forget, the great-grandchildren wish to

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not so much in the convicts themselves, but in how much the family has achieved since then. One Australian woman claims that no fewer than 16 of her forebears were convicts. A recent book on the convict-settlers, *The Fatal Shore* by Robert Hughes, was a bestseller.

In Britain, genealogy of the second, snobbish kind blossomed in the mid-19th century. It thrived on social ambitions fostered by the industrial revolution. Researchers would be commissioned to provide bogus evidence of gentility in order to cover up undesirable connections and enhance marriage prospects. Until the end of World War II, genealogy had the reputation of being a shoddy business that attracted snobs and cranks. Much of its clientele was paying for plausible fiction rather than reassuring truth, while the establishment was anxious to fend off the upstarts.

An element of snobbishness still lingers, but the genealogy business is now more down-to-earth. The average British visitor to the Society of Genealogists in London, which has nearly 10,000 members, tends to be like his American counterpart. He merely wishes to know who he is and which county and village his family came from.

Enthusiasm is spreading across Europe, even to communist countries such as Poland. In France, the *Centre d'Entraide Genealogique* has more than 900 members. Employees at the car company Peugeot and at the Banque de France have formed their own genealogical clubs.

In West Germany, genealogical societies receive roughly 55,000 inquiries a year, a large propor-

tion of them from the U.S.. The German aristocracy is still a tightly knit community with its own genealogical clubs such as the Association of German Noblemen, but there has been a relative lack of interest in ancestor-hunting among the rest of the population. Some German genealogists think this is because of echoes of the Third Reich. During the 1930's, the Nazis collected civil, parish, and synagogue records to establish who was of "pure" blood and who was not. Germans were required to demonstrate four generations with no Jewish blood.

... genealogists made money by producing fraudulent family histories ...

Interest in genealogy has revived only recently in Germany. The fairly even spread of prosperity has meant that the life style of one middle-class German is much like that of his neighbors. A country in which the third best-selling car is a Mercedes has a thirst for other ways of distinguishing neighbor from neighbor. Genealogy provides one such way.

Until World War II, genealogists made money by producing fraudulent family histories for those who wished to enhance their social status. Today, buying "background" is no longer a common practice, and genealogists have acquired respectability. They undertake thorough and accurate detective work for clients who wish to chart their family trees or to find rightful heirs.

As people have more leisure, many think it more interesting to do the research themselves. The work may involve searching

through parish registers, census records, land deeds, and army records. For Americans this can be a particularly tortuous process because many immigrants had their surnames changed when they arrived at Ellis Island.

Some researchers are now using genealogical computer programs; there already are 60 available in the U.S. The Society of Genealogists in London is preparing its own.

In France, genealogy can be lucrative if you are an heir-tracer. When a person dies intestate, a notary contacts a firm of heir-tracers and asks it to track down possible beneficiaries. If the tracers are successful, they claim 10 percent of the value of the inheritance.

In the U.S., genealogical businesses advertise in magazines and through the mails offering "complete" family histories for \$19.95, or an even "more complete" history for \$29.95. Serious genealogists deplore the sending of grossly inaccurate family trees to unsuspecting clients. A number of states have made these activities illegal.

What of the genealogists? Apart from those who are in the business for the money, they are anxious to dispel the old image of being dry snobs, interested only in tracing ancient bloodlines. Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd, a British genealogist, thinks of himself as a "social historian" and sees his work as the pursuit of truth and therefore the antithesis of snobbery. Old-style genealogists still exist, however. Some even alter their pedigrees to match their pretensions.

(From the news magazine "The Economist" of London, 1987)

SURNAME RESEARCH LISTINGS - PGSGC MEMBERS

Look this list over carefully - you just might have a cousin that you didn't know about! If you can be of help to ANY of these members, please contact them. After all, this is just one reason our Society exists. If for some reason you are not listed, please let the Editor know so we may include you in the next newsletter along with any new member's family surnames.

RESEARCHER'S NAME & ADDRESS:

Tom Brokos
9620 Pleasant Lake Blvd.
Parma, OH 44130

Joe & Gloria Hadbavny
3889 Edgepark Blvd.
North Olmsted, OH 44070

Sister Loretta
2265 W. 10th Street
Cleveland, OH 44113

Joseph & Clarice Burval
1995 Parkwood Road
Charleston, W VA 25314-2241

Melanie Mazur
27703 Longhill Drive
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274

Stanley & Marjorie Domitz
1732 Westhill Drive
Westlake, OH 44145

SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED:

Brokos, Jaworski, Kolasinski, Lemanski,
Orzyl, Pawlikowski

Piatkiewicz, Pientkiewics, Pikos, Pykos, Pykosz,
Narolewski, Dombrowski, Kussin, Kuzas,
Tomasko, Prusak

Zielewski, Zelewski, Kaminski

Burval, Frankel, Halter, Wunsch, Szymankiewicz

Dombrowska, Karpowicz, Lassa, Leszkowicz,
Mazurowski, Piechowska

Domitz, Jedwabno, Lomza

MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL PRESENTS THEIR 1993 SEMINAR: *Preserving Our Heritage In a Nation of Diversity* OCTOBER 7-9, 1993

The Michigan Genealogical Council, consisting of The Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan and The Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society, is promoting their 1993 seminar. Seminars will be throughout the day on Friday, Oct. 8th and Saturday, Oct. 9th. Registration fees are \$30.00 for either day, or if you plan to attend BOTH days; \$50.00.

Some of the speakers presenting the seminars will be:

Jan S. Zaleski, Accredited Genealogist with a specialty in Polish Research, lecturer, immediate Past Pres. of PGSM and editor of *The Eaglet*.

William Dollarhide, lecturer, owner of Dollarhide Systems, Everyone's Family Tree software, and publisher of Genealogy Bulletin, author of *Managing a Genealogical Project*.

Daniel M. Schlyter, Accredited Genealogist for Poland & Czechoslovakia research, author, teacher, European reference consultant at FHL, books include *A Handbook of Czechoslovak Genealogical Research*.

Topics of some of the seminar's include:

Vital Records for Research in Eastern European Countries.

The Professional's Look at Adoption Research.

Computer Demo: Everyone's Family Tree

Following the Paper Trail to Your Eastern European Ancestral Villages.

Reference Sources for Ethnic Research.

State Archives of Michigan

Power Research Combining FS & PAF.

For further details, call (313) 863-6976 or (313) 835-6032.

UNUSUAL TYPES OF RECORDS LOCATED IN POLAND

By: Sarah Evanko

The following is a listing of records that can be found in Poland. What is unusual is that they are not the usual birth, marriage and death records.

Printed Funeral Sermons (Druki)

From 1650 to approximately 1900, it was customary to have very elaborate funeral sermons made at either the gravesite or in the church. Afterwards, they were printed up and passed out to all the deceased's friends, relatives or business associates. Many of these have been collected and indexed; now residing in the local libraries.

Tombstone Inscriptions (Nagrobki Tablice)

These lists or extracts are in churches, public cemeteries, and cemetery administration offices in the larger cities. They started in 1380, and because of the widespread destruction of church registers, they may be the most valuable source of information you will have available.

Notarial Records (Akta Notarialne)

Located in the various Provincial Archives, these date from about 1800. They include wills, estate inventories, marriage contracts and settlements, wills being contested by relatives, land transfers and disposals of property.

Wills (Testamenty)

Located in the Provincial or Municipal Archives, these date back to the 1400's. These are details of wills and probate records outside of Notarial Records.

County Court Documents (Akta Wiejskie)

Covering the period from the late 1400's until the early 1900's, these are in the Provincial Archives. Most have been "lost" over the years, but those that remain cover reports of county court decisions on local cases such as disputes over land boundaries. If you know the exact town your ancestor came from, this may provide some useful information.

City Documents (Akta Miejskie)

If your ancestor came from a city rather than a town, these documents date from the 1300's and contain the names and addresses of citizens as well as property transactions, taxes paid, assessments and wills. These are in the Provincial Archives and some of the earliest ones have been indexed.

Guild Records (Akta Cechowe)

If your ancestor was a skilled craftsman (such as jeweler, clock maker, etc.) he belonged to a guild. This was required after going through an apprenticeship in order to practice your craft. These guild records cover the period from the early 1600's to the late 1800's, are fairly complete and include: information about his apprenticeship, his address, place of origin and whether he was married or not. Once accepted into the guild, you were in for life.

Passports (Akta Paszportowe)

Records on passports were kept from about 1851 and are still kept today. The records up until

about 1944 are in the Main Archive of Ancient Documents and those from 1945 on are in the Department of Internal Affairs.

Concentration Camp Records (Akta Obozow Koncentracyjnych)

From the period 1940-45, covering the Auschwitz and Majdanek camps. They list the prisoners names, date and place of birth, name and address of parents, physical appearance, date of entry into the camp, and the date of death. These records are in the museums at each of these camp's locations, as well as the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw (Zydowski Instytucji Historyczny, ul. Gen. Swierczewskiego 79, Warszawa), and in the Department of Justice.

University & School Records (Akta Instytucji Oswiatowych)

University records are located in the archives of Jagiellonski University at Krakow. They date from the early 1400's to today. Secondary school records dating from the 1800's to about 1950 are kept in the various Provincial Archives. Those after 1950 are kept in the schools themselves.

Military Records (Akta Wojskowe)

Dating from the 1400's, these include the muster-rolls of regular regiments, local militia and conscription lists. Those from before 1918 are located in the Main Archive of Ancient Documents, and those from after 1918 are in the Central Military Archives.

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Land Records (Dokumenty Gruntowe)

Dating from 1795 to 1920, these are mostly from the areas of Poland that were occupied by Austria and Prussia.

Unfortunately, many of them are either missing or not complete. They are located in the

Provincial Archives.

Mortgage Registers (Akta Hipoteczne)

Starting in 1808 and ending in 1945, these registers are listings that are separate from land records and property transfers.

They are located in the Provincial Archives or District Courts. All land and/or property transactions involving a mortgage or a promissory note, it includes names, parentage, amount of the mortgage and

length of loan, location of property and survey notations.

Heraldry

Poland has a heraldic organization. Its name and address is:

Heraldic Section of the
Historical Society of Poland
Rynek Starego Miasta 29/31
Warszawa

Court Records (Akta Instytucji Wymiaru Sprawiedliwosci)

Besides criminal cases, these courts also dealt with wills, estates, marriage contracts & settlements, inheritance and transfer of property. The records from about 1480 to 1795 are not complete and probably won't be of help. However, they are located in the Main Archive of Ancient Documents.

Genealogical Collections (Kolekcje Genealogiczne)

Genealogy has always been important to those who important politically or socially, such as nobility or royalty. The average Pole however, did not pay much attention to such things. Thus, there is no genealogical organization in Poland.

However, in the Main Archive of Ancient Documents, there is a large genealogical collection of family trees and family histories, comprised almost entirely of those who were "important".

(NOTE: The information for this article came from an excellent book, *In Search Of Your European Roots - A Complete Guide To Tracing Your Ancestors In Every Country In Europe*. It was written by Angus Baxter, and was published in 1985 by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, MD.)

REUNION - A FAMILY TREE SOFTWARE FOR MACINTOSH: A REVIEW BY A COMPUTER NOVICE

By: Joe Evanko

Intimidation: n. - to inspire with fear; the relationship between me and my computer.

Being a genealogist, I've come to realize that a computer is the only way to go to store the tremendous amount of information needed to create a family history. Since my wife has a Macintosh computer, I requested a Mac program that would be easy for me to operate. I settled with Reunion, a copyrighted program by Leister Productions. It requires a Macintosh computer running Apple system software version 6.0.5 or newer. You need a hard drive and at least 2 megabytes of RAM. If you are using System 7 or newer you'll need 2.5 megabytes

of RAM. What does this all mean? I'm not sure, but my wife assures me that we have it.

Entering information into Reunion is relatively simple. Each person entered receives a family card. On this card, you enter all the information you have obtained on this person. There are lines for general info, such as birth date and place, christening, death, and marriage. You also have the capabilities of entering three fields of notes for each individual. Each field can contain up to 29,700 characters. Also through the family card you can list a mailing address label; multiple spouse information; parents and children of the individual, and if

you have a scanner, digitized photographs.

Reunion has an excellent tutorial that walks you through the program. As you enter information, the program links all the cards automatically. You then can produce indexes of birthdays, mailing addresses, Quicklists, etc., all with a few movements of a mouse.

As you compile information, Reunion automatically creates, prints, and exports common genealogy documents: pedigree charts, family group records, person sheets, family histories, and descendent charts. You can also produce questionnaires

(continued next page)

with a fill in the blank format to mail to relatives.

Reunion also contains Superchart. This gives you the capability to display and print large charts with high resolution, draw-oriented graphics allowing complete editing of lines, patterns, shadows, fonts, and color.

Sounds intimidating! Well, even a two-finger typing, computer novice like me can run this program with relative ease. First advantage is the Macintosh which is "user friendly". You don't have to know special codes to run a Mac. Everything is in menu form including answers to questions as you go. The

Reunion program is almost self-explanatory, without having to dive into the manual. It is very easy to update and correct mistakes. How have I done so far? Great! I already have at least 1,000 name entries between my family and my wife's. Whenever I find out a new fact, such as an old address, an occupation, etc., I just call up that individual and enter the information easily.

This program also greets you when you turn it on, with a list of birthdays for that date. I look forward to the day that I link photographs with the individuals I have recorded. This will bring my family history to life. With this program, Adobe Photoshop, and my scanner, I

have this capability. I just need my wife, Sarah, to do it for me. This is where the computer gets complicated. I am sure that eventually even I will be able to handle these. Until then, I am enjoying genealogy without the hassle of mastering the computer. I realize there are many genealogy programs out there for the Macintosh and IBM compatible computers. If you are into genealogy and have a computer, I suggest you look into these programs. If you are a Mac user and plan to be a novice (like me) for a long time, I suggest looking into Reunion. Cost of the program is around \$115.00; well worth it in my opinion.

Nicholas Iwanko	Jakub Klimkiewicz
-	-
Mary Wisniewski /Lefkovitz (?)	Katarzyna Sroka
-	-
♥ ☒ 12 Jun 1922 Cleveland, Ohio ; St. John Cantius ☒ ♥	
<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Joseph Iwanko (Ewanko)</p> <p>Born: 27 Jul 1897</p> <p>Place: Pelnatycze, Galicia, Poland</p> <p>Chr: _____</p> <p>Place: _____</p> <p>Died: 10 Apr 1947</p> <p>Place: Cleveland, Ohio</p> <p>Bur: Calvary Cem. Sec 80, Lot 1023, Grave2</p> <p>Place: Cleveland, Ohio</p> <p>Occ: Packer, Republic Steel Corp.</p> <p>Edu: ?</p> <p>Rel: Roman Catholic</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Marya (Mary) Klimkiewicz</p> <p>Born: 5 Apr 1901</p> <p>Place: Dobrynia, Galicia, Poland</p> <p>Chr: _____</p> <p>Place: _____</p> <p>Died: 27 Dec 1977</p> <p>Place: Cleveland, Ohio</p> <p>Bur: Calvary Cemetary</p> <p>Place: Cleveland, Ohio</p> <p>Occ: Housewife/Packer At Republic Steel</p> <p>Edu: Gradeschool - 6th Gr. (Dobrynia, Poland)</p> <p>Rel: Roman Catholic</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Benjamin</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Jozef</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Richard John</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 20px;">Lawrence</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 20px;">Eleanor</div> </div>	
6101,5795,6766	

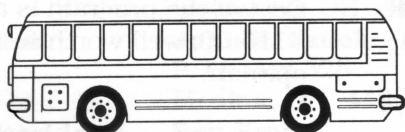
"Pride in family is pride in ordinary people - who in our hearts and minds become extraordinary" - Anonymous

**THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND**

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Cleveland, OH 44113

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Come with us on our bus trip to Polish Fest '93 in Pittsburgh on November 14th. COST: \$35/person. Contact Chris Mata at 731-2657 ASAP for reservations - seats are limited!

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 15TH
ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE**

The Polish Genealogical Society of America will celebrate its 15th Year Anniversary by hosting its Annual Fall Conference on October 8th & 9th at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL. The theme "A Celebration" will be reflected in a number of lectures given by experts in their respective fields in genealogy. Such topics such as Basic Research From Here To Poland, Polish Customs, Changing Maps of Poland, Research Through the LDS Libraries, plus other topics of interest will be featured. A welcoming reception October 8th will feature an informal question and answer session with the Directors of the PGSA. Book sales, on-sight translators, and an archival photographer are some of the additional on-going activities planned throughout the day. For details, call:

Mrs. Barbara Fink
(708) 256-7083

**WANTED: POLISH AMERICAN DEATH
NOTICES AND/OR OBITUARIES**

Stanley Brescoll Jr. of The Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan is requesting that members of Polish Genealogy Societies around the country save from their daily, weekly or monthly newspapers the death notices or obituaries. He would like the **WHOLE** page saved, not just the deaths that appear to be "Polish".

All the Polish-American names found within the death notices will be extracted and entered into the LDS Personal Ancestral File genealogy program, and submitted to the LDS Library Ancestral File.

Newspaper pick-up can be arranged if you contact:

Stanley Brescoll Jr.
8910 Graham
Dearborn, MI 48126-2334

This newsletter was produced by:

Sarah L. Evanko

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