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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members -

Welcome to another issue of "Our Polish Ancestors". Unfortunately, I have a sad piece of information to pass on. Thomas Brokos, an active member of the PGSGC, passed away on April 25, 1994 as the result of a car accident. Tom was just 44 years old. Please remember him and all your dear relatives in your prayers.

On a cheerier note, our membership continues to grow and now stands at 73 paid mem-

bers. Of that total, 20% are outside the Greater Cleveland area. I encourage those members (and all members, for that matter), to send us your family stories, recipes, memories, etc. The newsletter will be better for it and we'd all enjoy reading them.

Have a good summer, and take a break on the first Tuesday of each month. Be sure to attend our meeting and feel free to bring a friend or relative.

John F. Szuch, President

≡ Welcome! ≡

A warm welcome to the following new members of The Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland:

- Jane K. Barry – Bronson, MI
- Carol Bojanowski – Bedford Hgts., OH
- James & Karen Dobbins – Cleveland, OH
- Telesforte & Emily Filipski – Seven Hills, OH
- Walter & Juanita Fortuna – Parma, OH
- Howard & Alice Gillihan – Garfield Hgts., OH
- Don & Marlene Kwiatkowski – North Royalton, OH
- Gertrude Martin – North Reading, MA
- Dolores Wrublewski – Warren, MI

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, OH.

July 5:

Dr. John Grabowski of The Western Reserve Historical Society will take time from his busy schedule to talk to us about genealogical information available from the Kniola Travel Agency records. He will also give us a first-hand overview of the manuscripts available at WRHS.

August 2:

Irene Szeremet will stray from the genealogical and historical presentations to which we have become so accustomed. A culturally enlightening talk on books of Polish fables will educate us on Polish folklore and strengthen our appreciation of our heritage.

September 6:

Fran Babic will return to speak on the what, why and how of those Polish customs we keep alive in our households. This presentation will be accompanied by a hands-on workshop designed to educate our members in the art of Polish paper cutting. Supplies will be provided by the Society.

"OUR POLISH ANCESTORS"

is published by

**THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF GREATER CLEVELAND**



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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: September 6th

Contributors for this issue: Jane Barry, Sarah Evanko, Gloria Hadbavny, Richarda Jambrozy, Ben Kman, Ralph Lysyk, Ed Mendyka.

**25TH ANNUAL POLISH FESTIVAL DAYS -
BRONSON, MICHIGAN - JULY 14-16, 1994**

*Bronson - Home of the World's
Largest Single-Link Polish
Sausage "Kielbasa", Made in
1983 - 145'8" long, 568-1/2#.*

This three-day long festival offers something for everyone. A parade, carnival rides, food, Kid's Day events, bingo, etc. The theme of this year's festival is the welcoming of their sister city, Moryn.

There will also be Polka dancing! On Friday, July 15th, "Big Daddy Lackowski and His La-Dee-Da's" from Detroit, MI will perform in the Big Tent, which features a wooden dance floor. On Saturday, July 16th, there

are TWO Polka dances to choose from! The Big Tent will feature "Paul Futa and the Family Affair" from North Liberty, IN, while St. Mary's Gym on West US 12 will feature "Ed Sienkowski & The E-Z Tones" from North Judson, IN. (\$6/person)

Most activities are in Bronson at the corner of Wayne St. and East U.S. 12 on the Anderson School Grounds. If you are interested in attending this festival, we will have a flier with more details at the July 5th meeting. Or you can contact:

Doris Kehoe
(517) 369-9742 or 369-6100

**PGS OF AMERICA
OCT. 21-22 CONFERENCE**

The Polish Genealogical Society of America will present its 15th annual conference on Oct. 21 & 22, 1994 at:

The Ramada O'Hare Hotel
6600 North Mannheim Rd.
Rosemont, IL 60018
(708) 827-5131.

The Society's theme of something old and something new will be reflected in the numerous lectures. A welcoming reception on Oct. 21 will feature an informal question and answer session with the directors of the PGSA.

Book sales and on-sight translators are some of the additional activities planned throughout the conference. The pre-conference registration cost will be \$35 for members, \$25.00 for their guests, and \$40.00 for non-members. Registration at the door is \$50.00.

For more details, please write to:

Dr. Gregory J. Gazda
280 Forest Trail Drive
Oak Brook, IL 60521

IN MEMORY

We are sad to report that fellow member, Tom Brokos, passed away as the result of an auto accident the 25th of April, 1994. The Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland sent an arrangement of flowers to the wake. We'll miss him at our monthly meetings. Our sincere condolences to his family.

MEMBER QUERY:

Seeking VALENTINE SNIADACH who came to USA via New York 31 March 1898; in 1900 living (single) in Braddock, PA. I lost him after 1900. My grandfather JOSEPH SNIADACH - USA - NY - 8 Jun 1901, said he was going to Superior, WI (915 Tower) to his brother's home there.

Also seeking my other grandfather's second marriage in southwestern PA. He, ANDREW MUSZYNSKI, came to the USA via New York on 20 April 1883 from Bieganowo, Poznan at age 30 with his wife Antonie, age 24; mother Catherine, age 50; and daughter Agnes, age 5. Destination was Buffalo. By 15 May 1884, he is somewhere in southwestern PA. Between 1884 and 1889, he married my grandmother, AGNAS HALAS (her first husband was a MATUSINSKI). In the 1900 census, he was listed as a coal miner living in JIMTOWN, Lower Tyrone, Fayette County, PA. By 1901, he is living in Toledo, OH. Any information on any of the above will also be appreciated.

Dan Muszynski
6281 Grandview
Erie, MI 48133-9621

NEW ONOMASTIC SOURCE DEVELOPED

PGS of CT tells us that The Onomastic Institute in Krakow is preparing a comprehensive set of volumes which will list all surnames in use in present-day Poland. In addition, the number of bearers of each surname will be provided as well as the geographical distribution of the name by province. This series will probably be completed in 2 years, and will enable you to see how frequently the surnames you are researching appear.

RECORDS FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE CLEVELAND CATHOLIC DIOCESE

Churches in the Cleveland Catholic Diocese generally keep their own records, and are not required to send copies to the diocese. The records held at the Archives are generally from churches that have been disbanded. All requests for records/certificates must be made in writing. The Archives is very under-staffed, and it may take a while to receive a reply. **Each hour of research costs \$10.00, and copies of records/certificates are \$5.00 each.** The following information will be most helpful (or send at least as much as you have):

1. The full names of the person(s) - including any possible variants in spelling.
2. Nationality.
3. Approximate dates of Birth, Marriage, Death (as complete as possible).
4. Areas where they may have lived (as specific as possible).

The address to write to with your requests is:

**Cleveland Catholic Diocese
ARCHIVES
1027 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114**

SURNAME RESEARCH IN TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES OF POLISH PROVINCES

The Polish Genealogical Society of CT mentioned in their newsletter of "Winter 1992" that they now have phone books for the provinces of **Ciechanow, Krakow, Rzeszow, Tarnow, Przemyśl and Zielona Gora**. These are in addition to their previously obtained directories for: **Białystok, Łomża, Suwałki and Ostrołęka**. Their goal is to amass a complete collection for the entire country of Poland. If you wish to have a surname researched in any of these directories, please specify the exact locality and enclose \$1.00 per surname. The phone books do not list all names in one alphabetical list but are divided by locality. A general search, when no specific locality in the province is provided can

be quite time consuming. There may be over 100 localities in each phone book.

If you are interested in having a surname researched, the address to write to is:

PGS of CT
8 Lyle Road
New Britain, CT 06053

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Contact:

Sarah L. Evanko
1422 Wyandotte Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

(216) 221-4040



THE HISTORY OF POLAND (IN A NUTSHELL)

(Information for this article was extracted from *Polish Roots* by Rosemary A. Chorzempa, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.)

There is a legend in Eastern Europe about three brothers who came from The East looking for land to colonize. They stopped in the area that was to become Poland. One brother, Czech, went south and became the father of Southern Slavs. Another brother, Rus, went east and became the ancestor of the Eastern Slavs.

The third brother, Lech, looked around and liked the vast plain he saw. Pole (poh-leh) means "field" or "plain" in Polish, and Polska is the Polish name for Poland.

Lech and his followers rested under a tree with a white eagle nesting in it, and they considered this a good omen. Lech became the father of the Western Slavs. He built his own nest on the site in 550 A.D., establishing his capital, Gniezno, atop a hill called "Lech's Mountain". The name Gniezno is derived from gniazdo (nest). The white eagle has been the symbol of the Polish state ever since. Poland is still known as Lechistan in many Eastern countries.

Slavs and Balts settled in the lands between the Baltic and Black Seas by the sixth century. Germanic people pushed southward from Scandinavia by the Roman times, and began moving eastward in the eighth century.

The foundation of Poland as a state is generally acknowledged to begin with the rule of Mieszko I (the "Little Bear"), who was first recorded as the King of Poland in 963 A.D. Poland joined Western civilization when Mieszko married the Bohemian princess Dubrava. Mieszko and Poland adopted Christianity in 966 A.D., which is historically considered the founding date of the Polish state. Poland always identified itself

with Western Europe, adopting Roman Catholicism and the Latin alphabet, and not with the Eastern Slavs who adopted Greek Catholicism and the Cyrillic alphabet.

The Teutonic House of the Brothers Hospitallers of St. Mary of Jerusalem (also known as the "Teutonic Order" and "Teutonic Knights") began to colonize both the Baltic states and northern Poland in 1201. Mongol Tatar ("Tartar") invasions reached Krakow and Legnica in 1241 and continued for about 500 years. Jews began to settle in Poland in the eighth century and were officially welcomed after 1264. Bohemian kings ruled Poland from at least 1296 to 1306 and took over Silesia in 1339.

Poland and Lithuania were united by the marriage of the young Polish Queen Hedwig to the Lithuanian Grand Duke Ladislaus Jogaila in 1385. The nation formed from this union, along with subsequent additions, eventually stretched from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea. Poland-Lithuania was part of medieval (Renaissance to Baroque) culture via universities and royal inter-marriages. Poland and Lithuanian forces defended Western civilization from the Tatars and Turks for centuries.

In medieval Poland the average life expectancy was short - 30 to 32 years for women and 33 to 36 years for men. Only 5 to 7 percent of the population lived to age fifty. According to Jerzy Topolski in his *Outline History of Poland*, the mortality rate for children was 30 to 50 percent.

During the sixteenth century Poland exported many goods to other parts of Europe; amber, silver, copper, lead, tin, timber, hemp, flax, furs, hides, salt, fish, wax and honey. Polish wheat could be purchased in Europe for only 15 percent of the cost of Mediterranean wheat.

From 1600 to 1860 East Central Europe (including Poland) experienced a drop in the average temperature and frequent droughts. This had an adverse effect on Polish agriculture and economy, and was one of the principal reasons for emigration from Poland.

The following is a brief outline of Polish history from the time of the partitions, which is the period when most of our ancestors emigrated from Poland.

1772 First Partition of Poland: Joseph II Hapsburg of Austria takes 83,000 sq. kilometers of land and 2.5 million people. Frederick II ("the Great") Hohenzollern of Prussia takes 36,000 sq. kilometers and 1.5 million people. Catherine II ("the Great") of Russia takes 92,000 sq. kilometers and 1.3 million people.

1791 Constitution of May Third: First modern constitution in Europe tries to bring about the rebirth of Poland and regain the lost territories. Catherine of Russia thought such reforms were dangerous to her own autocracy and ordered a Russian invasion of Poland.

1793 Second Partition of Poland: Prussia takes 51,000 sq. kilometers of land and another 1 million people. Russia takes 250,000 sq. kilometers and another 3 million people. Austria does not participate, hoping to win Prussian and Russian support for Austria's plans to annex Bavaria.

1795 Third Partition of Poland: Austria takes 47,000 sq. kilometers of land and 500,000 people. Prussia takes 48,000 sq. kilometers and 1 million people, while Russia takes 120,000 sq. kilometers and 1.2 million people. Many battles were fought against the aggressors before each partition.

1807 Napoleon Bonaparte creates the Grand Duchy of Warsaw (under King of Saxony) from terri-

tory recovered from Prussia. Russia seizes the Bialystok district.

1809 Napoleon adds territory recovered from Austria to the Grand Duchy of Warsaw.

1814-15 Following Napoleon's abdication and final defeat at Waterloo, the Congress of Vienna returns some territory to Prussian control and creates the Congress Kingdom of Poland (called Kongresowka in Polish) from most of the territory of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw (under the rule of the Czar of Russia). It establishes the Free City of Krakow (a republic of 1,163 sq. kilometers and 95,000 people), which remained independent until 1846.

1830-31 The November Uprising (1830) in Russian-occupied areas, aided by Poles from the Austrian and Prussian territories. Emigration of upper classes and intelligentsia.

1831 First Asiatic cholera epidemic.

1836 Heavy flooding in Galicia (Austrian Poland).

1844 Beginning of peasant uprisings throughout Europe.

1844-48 Peasant uprisings in Silesia.

1846 The Revolution of Krakow: Austria takes over the Republic of Krakow. Peasant riots in Galicia.

1848 Uprising in Poznania.

1847-48 Typhus and Cholera outbreaks.

1846-55 Poor crop yields cause starvation. Starvation and epidemic diseases claim the lives of 200,000 in sub-Carpathian region of Galicia.

1854 The Great Cholera Epidemic.

1854-56 Crimean War: Russia against Turkey, France and the

British Empire.

1863-64 The January Uprising (1863) in Russian-occupied areas led by the gentry with the assistance of the peasants. Heaviest fighting is in the area south of Kielce. Ten thousand emigrated, 38,000 were deported to Siberia, and several thousand killed.

1864 Russification program intensified as a result of the January Uprising.

1866 Small outbreaks of Asiatic cholera.

1867 Prussia incorporates West Prussia and Poznania: Prime Minister Otto von Bismarck begins Kulturkampf (Culture Struggle).

1870-71 Franco-Prussian War.

1871-1914 More than 4 million people leave the ethnic Polish lands.

1873 The Little Cholera.

1884 Asiatic cholera epidemic.

1892 Asiatic cholera epidemic.

1900 Peasants comprise almost 80% of the population.

1905 Russia loses the Russo-Japanese War in which many Poles were forced to fight for the Russians.

1905-07 "The Revolution of 1905 to 1907": Worker's strikes, demonstrations, strikes by farm laborers, and anti-czarist campaign.

1906 Largest U.S. reported annual total for arrivals of "Hebrew race or people" (153,748)

1907 Famine in Galicia.

1907 Largest U.S. reported annual total for arrivals of "Lithuanian race or people" (25,884).

1907 Largest U.S. reported

annual total for arrivals from all countries (1,285,349).

1913 Largest U.S. reported annual total for arrivals of "Polish race or people" (174,365).

1914 Largest U.S. reported annual total for arrivals of "Ruthenian race or people" (36,727).

1914-18 First World War

1918 Wielkopolska Uprising.

1918-39 Second Polish Republic.

1919 Versailles Treaty establishes Gdansk/Danzig as a free city (until 1939).

1939-45 Second World War.

1945 Yalta Conference recognizes Soviet sphere of influence.

1956 Riots in Poznan.

1968 Riots in Warsaw.

1970 Riots in Gdansk.

1976 Riots in Radom and elsewhere.

1981-83 Martial Law: "Solidarity" Free-Trade Union outlawed, political refugees flee.

1989-90 First free elections in Soviet bloc bring about Third Polish Republic.

ADDITIONAL READING:

Topolski, Jerzy. *An Outline History of Poland*. Translated by Olgierd Wojtasiewicz. Warsaw, Poland: Interpress Publishers, 1986. Includes not only history, but also economic development, culture and society. Tells how people ate, lived and worked in past centuries.

Zielenkiewicz, Andrzej. *Poland*. Orchard Lake, Michigan: Center for Polish Studies and Culture, The Orchard Lake Schools, 1971.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR FAMILY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Ferretting out old documents have their place in doing your family genealogy, but to write a family *history*, you need to make it come alive. How? By interviewing as many of the older members of your family as you can. The following suggestions may help you get an idea of the types of questions that will "flesh-out" your family history. Try using a tape recorder. It's easier than taking notes, and it records emotion in the voice. Video recording would be ideal, but not everyone has access to a camera. In addition, some people feel intimidated by one. Believe it or not, most family members are eager to help you. Although we all wish that we'd started this 15-20 years ago, the stories of our parents and grandparents are vitally important to future generations. During your pre-interview planning, write down vital statistics; don't waste time asking things that you have the answers to, such as birth date, town of origin, children's names, etc. The time to start is NOW - before this information is lost forever.

1. Besides your immediate family, did anyone else live in your household when you were growing up?
2. Describe the house you grew up in.
3. What stories have come down to you about a.) Your parents, b.) Your grandparents, c.) An ancestor?
4. Who is the most famous (or infamous) person in your family's past and why?
5. What expressions or favorite sayings were used in your family?
6. What language did your family speak among themselves at home?

7. How were holidays celebrated in your family when you were young? a.) What was your favorite? b.) Why? c.) Your least favorite and why?

8. Name and describe the first labor saving appliance that your parents owned.

9. If you remember any funerals taking place in your parent's home, please describe what you recall.

10. Do you remember the Depression? a.) How old were you? b.) Did you notice any change in your family's lifestyle? c.) If yes, what was the biggest change?

11. Did your parents own a car

when you were young? a.) What kind was it? b.) Were you allowed to drive it?

12. Where did you buy your first car? a.) What kind was it? b.) Do you remember how much it cost?

13. When you were sick, what were some of the home remedies that you used?

14. Describe the stores, churches and other buildings on the main street of your childhood hometown.

(Questions excerpted from the Interboro United Districts Library Oral History Project, Peckville, PA. Courtesy of the Library and Dorothy S. Dominick.)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Western Reserve Historical Society's Library holds a beginner's class in genealogy on the 1st Saturday of each month. Called "Start It and Chart It Right!", it's held from 2:30-4:30 PM in the Hassler Room. Cost: \$10/person. To make reservations, send a check payable to WRHS Genealogical Committee, to: Jeannette Grosvenor, 12860 Mayfield Rd., Lot 56, Chardon, OH 44024-8936.

The Alliance College campus has been sold to the Commonwealth of PA as of 12/1/91. Academic Records, from which you may obtain official transcripts, NDSL Student Loan records, and other financial aid records have been transferred to: Mercyhurst College, 501 E. 38th St., Erie, PA 16546.

All of the Student Personal Files from 1914 thru 1987 have been transferred to:

The Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America, 6001 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago, IL 60046.

(They also maintain alumni name and address files.)

McDonald's planned to open a restaurant in Krakow's 16th century square, but faces opposition from historians and town officials. "The whole marketplace was planned in 1257. When I think of the McDonald's project, I feel sick," said City Hall's conservationist, Zbigniew Beiersdorf. No decision has been made whether the American fast food giant will redesign the proposed eatery, or move it outside the historical district. McDonald's is also taking heat from Polish environmentalists for its use of plastic foam cups and containers - a practice it has abandoned in the United States. (from *Polish-American Journal*, Oct. 1993)

- Our Family Pictures -



Michael Piatkiewicz and Salomea (Sally) Pykos – Married in 1891 at St. John Cantius Church in Cleveland, OH (Grandparents of Gloria Kussin Hadbavny)



Apolonia (Pauline) Piatkiewicz and Frank Kurpik (Taken at the wedding of Frank Kowalski and Helen Piatkiewicz on 5 Sep 1923)



Taken in 1910 at 2161 W. 10th & Thurman Aves., Cleveland, OH.

LEFT: Apolonia (Pauline) Piatkiewicz, 2 yrs. old. (mother of Gloria Hadbavny)

RIGHT: Helen Piatkiewicz, 5 yrs. old.

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 have not been listed to date, 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:

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5217 W. 16th Street
Parma, OH 44134

Carol Bojanowski
23960 Columbus Road
Bedford Hgts., OH 44146

SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED:

Kazmierczak, Kosmirick, Jez, Ludwiczak,
Ludwidczak, Mikolajczak, Somerfeld, Yesh,
Zommerfeld

Barna, Bojanowski, Breedlove, Cwiklinski,
Fortner, Gillihan, Malone, Rukcinski, Welch

Antoszkiewicz, Cichocki, Kwiatkowski,
Langa, Pniewski

Antoszek, Duffy, Dzierzawski, Filipski, Klein,
Lamer, Malinowski, Olesick

Moryto, Nosek, Stachowiak, Wachowiak,
Wrobel, Wroblewski, Wrublewski

Bialkowski, Binkowski, Staron

Bak, Bartyzel, Fortuna, Klejka, Lis,
Wojciechowski

Barna, Bojanowski, Cwiklinski, Rock,
Rockinski/Rokcinski

THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI - 50 YEARS LATER

by **RICHARDA KSIAZEK JAMBROZY**

I would like to share a heart-warming experience that I had while visiting Poland with my daughter Kathy in 1980.

For the first two weeks, we went on a tour of Southern Poland. During the third week, Kathy and I visited with the different families that I had been corresponding with over the years. We were in my mother's village, Bejsce, on the feast of Corpus Christi. This was still considered a holiday of obligation in Poland, despite being communist at the time.

My mother had told me many times how it was celebrated in her village. After attending the Mass in Church, the congregation would march in a procession to the outdoor altars the parishioners would have set up in front of their homes in the village.

And so it was, on this morning fifty years after my mother left, in communist Poland. The men and women donned their Sunday clothes to attend Mass. Afterwards, the procession included men with their instruments.

They played during the procession and also as the hymns were sung in front of the altars.

As they started playing the beautiful hymn, Baddze Pozdrowiona Hostja Zywa, it dawned on me that we were walking in my mother's footsteps - fifty years after she had last walked in this same procession. (Mom left Poland in 1930, just after this feast day.) She had already passed away without ever having returned to Poland for a visit. I could imagine her smiling down on us that day, and it warmed my heart.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE AT THE WESTLAKE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER?

The Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (commonly referred to as the LDS Church), has a Family History Center in Westlake at 25000 Westwood Road. Their telephone number is: (216) 777-1518.

The Family History Library was founded in 1894 to gather genealogical records and help people trace their ancestry. In 1938 the library began gathering and preserving records on microfilm. Over 200 microfilm camera operators are now filming birth, marriage, death, probate, land, military, and many other records in 39 countries. The library has acquired the world's largest collection of genealogical information.

In 1964 a system of local Family History Centers was established. More than 1,500 family history centers now operate in 49 countries.

Besides having access to the largest collection of genealogical records in the world, there are also significant research aids that can help you. They are:

FAMILYSEARCH™

This is a computer system that simplifies searching for your ancestor. These files are on compact discs which you search for information in the following files:

- Family History Library Catalog
- International Genealogical Index
- Ancestral File
- Social Security Death Index

(These first two items are also available in microfiche editions at the Family History Center.)

FAMILY HISTORY

LIBRARY CATALOG™:

These describe the records at the library in Salt Lake City,

Utah. You use this catalog to find the book, film, or fiche numbers of the records you want to search. You MUST have these numbers to locate a record or to request a copy through the Family History Center. Using FamilySearch in compact disc form, you can easily find information about the library's holdings. Step-by-step instructions on the screen will guide you, so you need not be a "computer whiz".

INTERNATIONAL

GENEALOGICAL INDEX (IGI)™

This 1993 edition lists the birth, christenings, marriages and Latter-Day Saint temple ordination dates of more than 200 million deceased persons. The 1992 version is available on microfiche. These are fairly new, as the previous version was 1988. Where does the information contained in the IGI come from?

- a.) Records the Mormon's have microfilmed from around the world - these are called extractions.
- b.) Submissions from various individuals.

HINT: Look at the Code numbers to see whether it is an extraction or a submission. If the code # begins with a number, it's a submission. The first 2 numbers indicate the year that it was submitted. If you'd like, you can write to the LDS Mormon Library in Salt Lake City and get the back-up information for the records you are interested in. This will also give you the submitter's name and address so you can contact them. Again, the compact disc edition (CD-ROM) gives step-by-step instructions.

ANCESTRAL FILE™:

This is a family-linked file con-

taining genealogies that have been contributed to the Family History Department since 1979. It contains more than 6 million persons. You can search this file to see if anyone has already contributed information about your family.

SOCIAL SECURITY INDEX:

This is an index of 39.5 million deceased people who had social security numbers and whose deaths were reported to the Social Security Administration. The index mainly covers deaths between 1962 and the end of 1988. However, some records are as early as 1937 and as late as the first few months of 1989. These records are indexed by name, and is handy to find the birth and death dates of your ancestors. It also lists the last place of residence.

FAMILY REGISTRY™:

This is an index of more than 286,000 individuals and family organizations who are interested in sharing information. It is on microfiche at the center.

In addition to the resources listed above, the Family History Center also has a Microform Circulation Service. Copies may also be made from either the computer or microfilms, and genealogical supplies are available in small quantities in case you run short.

WESTLAKE BRANCH HOURS:

Sunday & Monday: Closed

Tuesday through Friday:

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Saturday:

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

ADDRESS:

25000 Westwood Road
Westlake, OH 44145
(216) 777-1518

COMPUTER CORNER

submitted by: **RALPH LYSYK & SARAH EVANKO**

The Allen County Library (Ft. Wayne, IN) catalog is now accessible by computer and modem. The dial-up access # is (219) 424-1330.

Communications settings are 1200 bps, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity, and VT-100 emulation. Press ENTER and CTRL-0 twice to get to the Welcome Screen to start. When you are finished, press CTRL-0 to log off. There are no access charges, but long-distance telephone charges apply. Access is available from 9am - 9pm Mon-Thurs., 9am - 6 pm Fri. & Sat., and 1 pm - 6 pm on Sunday. (PGCGS Bulletin, June 1993)



Gen-Book is a computer program that allows you to generate a genealogy book directly from your PAF data files into WordPerfect text form. This history can be produced in either ancestor or descendant form, and you can choose from a variety of numbering systems. In WordPerfect, you can change the font and page format, add pictures, maps, etc. and merge with other books and bibliographies. WordPerfect will generate a table of contents and a name index. Gen-Book requires an IBM or compatible computer, PAF 2.2, and either WordPerfect 5.0/5.1, WordPerfect for Windows, or Word for Windows 2.0. Price is approx. \$59.95

from Clement Custom Programming, 2105 Country Lane, Auburn, CA 95603. Phone (916) 889-8801.



For those members with a PC and a Modem, there are two important genealogical tools available for the asking. To take advantage of them you must join the Cleveland Freenet Bulletin Board system. There is no charge. You can subscribe by dialing (216) 368-3888 and following the directions on the screen. Cleveland Freenet is an extremely popular BBS. Late night or early hours are best.

Once you become a member, you will have access to two important services. The first is the "Roots-L" Service. Here you will be able to send and receive "E-Mail" letters to genealogists all over the world. To subscribe to the service, you must:

1. Access the Cleveland Freenet.
2. From the main menu, select POST OFFICE.
3. Then select SEND MAIL.
4. At the TO prompt, type: `LISTSERV@VM1.NODAK.EDU`
5. At the SUBJECT prompt, hit the space bar.

6. In the body of the message, type SUB ROOTS-L followed by your full name. For example, SUB ROOTS-L John Doe.

7. End message by typing ###

The second service is "Poland-L", which is a mailing list devoted to the discussion of Polish culture and events. To subscribe to this service, you must:

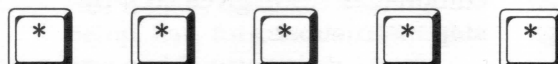
1. Repeat steps 1,2 & 3 as listed above.
2. At the TO prompt, type: `LISTSERV%UBVM.BITNET@VM1.NODAK.EDU`
3. At the SUBJECT prompt, hit the space bar.
4. In the body of the message, type SUBSCRIBE POLAND-L followed by your full name.

The coordinator of POLAND-L is Jerzy Pawlowski whose E-mail address is:

`V132NREA%UBVMS.BITNET@VM1.NODAK.EDU`

Why not try it, it's fun and it's FREE! You may find someone who knows something about your great grandfather from Galicia. Good luck!

(If you have any computer tips to share, please send them to the Editor. Thanks!)





MEET MY ANCESTORS

by Jane (Kosmerick) Barry



This is the family history of Joseph Kosmerick (Jozef Kazmierczak) and Mihalina (Mikolajczak) Kosmerick.

Joseph Kosmerick was born in Lukowo, Prussia (now known as Lekno, Poland) on 24 February 1849. He was baptized on the 4th of March at the St. Paul and Peter Parish (Piotr-Pawla Parish). Parents were listed as: Mathias (Mathew) Kazmierczak and Marianna (Mary) Zomerfeld.

The above mentioned church was built in 1523 and finished in 1530. It is still a beautiful church with the original furnishings intact. The present Parish priest, Father Kobs, states that it was not destroyed by bombs in WWII because it was located in a Prussian or German territory. Father Kobs speaks only a little English that he learned from the American soldiers during World War II.

Father Kobs showed me the records of Joseph's birth and baptism, making copies of these certificates to bring back to the United States. He stated that there is no known Kazmierczak in that area today.

Joseph was inducted in the Army on 12 September 1869. He served under Frederick William, Emperor of the United Germany, King of Prussia. After he was discharged, he sailed from Bremen Port, Germany in April of 1871 to South Bend, Indiana. On 2 March 1891, Joseph received his citizenship papers.

While he was working on the

railroad going through Bronson, Michigan, he met his future wife Mihalina (Minnie), daughter of Mihal (Michael) and Francziska (Francis) Jez (Jazak) (Mikolajczak) while she was picking potatoes on a farm owned by Holmes.

Mihalina (Minnie) was born in a small hamlet in Dziejierzewo, Poland on 17 September 1851. (The church and cemetery near Dziejierzewo, where Mihalina was born, was bombed during World War II.) Her father was a coach driver for royalty and would be gone from home a month at a time. While on the road, he slept with the horses. The family lived near a river in a four-family home. In the spring, summer and fall, clothes were washed in the river. Mihalina worked for the Queen and took care of her clothes.

On 1 April 1872, Mihalina came to America with her parents, brother Martin and sister Agnes. After six weeks of rough sailing, they landed in the United States on 12 May 1872. At the end of a ten-day quarantine, they boarded a train and went to Bronson, MI.

Joseph and Mihalina were married on 16 April 1873 by a Catholic priest who came to Bronson once a month. They cut wood at Holmes Hollow and share-cropped a small acreage south of Bronson. Their first home was a small shack, and in 1874, a house was built. In 1880 they bought a few more acres and cut the lumber for the buildings. The barn was built in 1882 and both buildings still

stand today.

Joseph Kosmerick did custom work with his threshing machine, clover hauler and corn shredder for farmers in Batavia, Bethel Townships and south of Bronson. He also raised horses.

Joseph died on 9 October 1927. Mihalina, his wife, died on 1 April 1950. They are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, south of Bronson, Michigan.

Nine children were born to this couple, and six lived. They are:

Angela (Nellie) (Kosmerick) Nowak was born 18 April 1874.

Anastasia (Emma) (Kosmerick) Zawatski was born 29 November 1879.

Albert (George) Kosmerick was born on 31 March 1882.

Hendrik (Henry) Kosmerick was born on 5 July 1884.

Ludwik (Louis) Kosmerick was born on 15 July 1888. (My father)

Sylvester (Jim) Kosmerick was born on 5 July 1893.

Louis, my father, bought the family farm in 1927 after his father's death, and then sold it to me in 1960. In 1979, the buildings were sold to William and Karen Hyska. The 96+ acres were sold to A & J Farms in 1989.

I now live on McKinley Street in Bronson, which was formerly owned by my grandparents, Joseph and Mihalina.

**THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND**

c/o St. John Cantius Church
906 College Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

FIRST CLASS MAIL

POLISH PIZZA

(\$2,000 Winning Recipe in Pillsbury Bake-Off)

Norma Eckhoff

CRUST:

1 Tablespoon cornmeal or caraway seed
1 (10 oz.) can of Pillsbury All-Ready Pizza Crust
4 oz. (1 cup) shredded swiss cheese

TOPPING:

1/2 cup chopped onion
3 slices bacon, cut into 1/2" pieces
16 oz. sauerkraut, drained
1 tablespoon caraway seed
1 (4.5 oz.) jar Green Giant Sliced mushrooms, well drained
6 oz. (1 1/2 cups) shredded swiss cheese
1/2# polish kielbasa, cut into 1/8" slices
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley or 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes.

Heat oven to 425°F. Lightly grease 13x9 inch pan or 12-inch pizza pan; sprinkle with cornmeal. Unroll dough and place in greased pan; starting at center, press out with hands. Sprinkle with 1 cup cheese. Bake at 425°F for 5-8 minutes or until light golden brown.

Meanwhile, in medium saucepan over medium-high heat, cook onion and bacon until light brown, stirring frequently. Reduce heat to low. Add sauerkraut and 1 tablespoon caraway seed; simmer 3 minutes or until thoroughly heated. Stir in mushrooms. Spread over partially baked crust. Sprinkle with 1 1/2 cups cheese. Top with sausage slices; sprinkle with parsley. Bake at 425°F for 12-15 minutes or until edges of crust are deep golden brown and cheese is melted. 6-8 servings. (This recipe was sent to us by Ed Mendyka. Norma is his cousin's daughter (John & Stella Good of Parma) and her recipe took 3rd prize (good for \$2,000!) at the recent Pillsbury Bake-Off contest.)

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

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 (26450 Forestview Ave., Euclid, OH 44132), and she'll take care of it for you.