

Some Tips for . . . Using Census Records

(Excerpted from article by Myra Vanderpool Gormley, in "Missing Links" Prodigy On-Line newsletter for genealogists, Sept. 19, 1997)

Federal census schedules, available from 1790 to 1920, are important records for tracing families. They provide clues as to when and where ancestors were born, along with various additional data. However, there are some false assumptions that researchers sometimes make in using these records. Watch out for these pitfalls:

- Assuming that any and all of the information in the census records is correct. The enumerator may have asked the neighbors. Your ancestor may not have spoken English well, or at all, or could have misunderstood various questions. And the math skills of many of the census takers was poor, to say the least. Verify all census information with other sources.
- Assuming the children belong to the couple they are enumerated with (unless relationships are specified.) They may be nieces and nephews, grandchildren, or even unrelated. Enumerators often got carried away with the ditto marks.
- Assuming the children are those of the wife listed. They may be, but often are not. Men have

been known to marry women with the same given name. Always search for marriage records. Re-marriage was frequent as many women died in childbirth, leaving the father with young children to care for. The solution was to find a wife - and quickly.

- Assuming that all the people listed in the families on the 1790 to 1840 censuses are related. They could have been farmhands or miscellaneous relatives living with the family. Often several families resided together.
- Assuming when a head-of-household is no longer enumerated with the family that he or she is dead. The "old folks" may have gone to live with a son or daughter. Always search for them in the homes of their children.
- Assuming that a person was still living at the time of the census. The enumerator was instructed to take down the names of the family as it was composed on the official date of the census, not the day of the visit. Official census dates were: First Monday in August for 1790-1820 schedules; June 1st for 1830-1880;

(continued on page 2)

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

April 7th:

Chuck Koczynski from the Cleveland Catholic Diocese will talk about the diocese, the records available and the Catholic Church in Cleveland as it relates to the Polish communities.

May 5th:

Genealogical workshop, complete with question and answer session. Let's update our map of Poland!! No guest speaker scheduled.

June 2nd:

Lisa Davidson - Head Genealogical Librarian from the Cuyahoga County Public Library in Fairview Park will speak about their genealogy collection and resources.

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



Editor: Sarah Evanko 221-7506
1422 Wyandotte Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107
sarahevanko@earthlink.net

President: John F. Szuch (330) 769-4603
105 Pleasant View Dr., Seville, OH 44273

Vice-President: Lynn Vizdos 749-7951
3912 Behrwald Ave, Cleveland, OH 44109

Treasurer: Richarda Jambrozy 226-1548
1492 Lewis Drive, Lakewood, OH 44107

Secretary: Joe Evanko 221-7506
1422 Wyandotte Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107

Membership: Joe & Gloria Hadbavny 734-7839
3889 Edgepark Drive, North Omsted, OH 44070

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: June 2nd

BACK ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE EDITOR FOR \$5.00 EACH, WHICH INCLUDES POSTAGE. (Dues are \$20/year, which includes 4 newsletter bulletins.)

Third Annual Genealogy and Family History Conference

Will be held on Saturday, June 7th at Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, OH. Attendees will choose between one-hour and fifteen minute concurrent sessions during 4 periods throughout the day. For further information and to receive a brochure, call: (440) 953-7116 or (800) 589-8520.

*"Fate makes our
relatives, choice makes our friends."*

Jacques Delille (1738-1813)

Using Census Records . . .

(continued from page 1)

1st Monday in June for 1890 (most of this schedule was destroyed or badly damaged by a fire in 1921 - a card index to the 6,160 names on the surviving schedules is available on two rolls of National Archives film #M496); June 1st for 1900; April 15th for 1910; and Jan. 1st for 1920.

Enumerations were generally done by townships. Pay attention to the township in which you find your ancestors. When searching in unindexed records, or if you can't find your ancestors in an index, locate a map that shows the townships. Then check the census for that township. Many genealogy libraries have atlases that show townships.

The page numbers used for the indexing of census schedules are the stamped numbers that appear on every other page. These numbers are missing from a few records, in which case that should be a handwritten number. Always check the page before and after the stamped one.

Use indexes and Soundexes with caution. There are errors and omissions in all of them. Practice creative spelling of your family's surnames and look at all possibilities. Don't insist your family always spelled their name a particular way. Indexers missed people, and misread names. If you know (or strongly suspect) your family was living in a particular county, read the entire census for that locality.

The census schedules are marvelous finding tools, but be sure to check all available federal censuses for each ancestor, and follow up on the children and other relatives. Also consult any and all available state and local census records to give you a more accurate account of your families.



SURNAME RESEARCH LISTINGS - PGSGC MEMBERS

Look this list over carefully - you just might have a cousin that you didn't know about!

RESEARCHER'S NAME & ADDRESS:

Mildred & Alfred Antal
4602 Panna Lane
Cleveland, OH 44109

Violet Jaster
826 Timothy Lane
Cleveland, OH 44109

Robert A. Lynch
4012 Venice Rd. #2
Sandusky, OH 44870

Jim Niemojewski
3907 Clybourne Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109

Francis & Jennie Olender
118 Alden Street
Wallington, NJ 07057

SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED:

Antal, Beveridge, Blakey, Fowkes, Greaves,
Gurkin, Wood

Jaster, Jastrzembski

Bryta, Denda, Dynda, Klimek, Lynch,
Michalik

Glinka, Niemojewski, Puchacz, Turezcynska

Leftowski, Nerkowski, Olender, Plona

A warm *Welcome!* to our new members. They are:

Mildred & Alfred Antal – Cleveland, OH

Violet Jaster – Cleveland, OH

Robert A. Lynch – Sandusky, OH

Jim Niemojewski – Cleveland, OH

Francis & Jennie Olender – Wallington, NJ

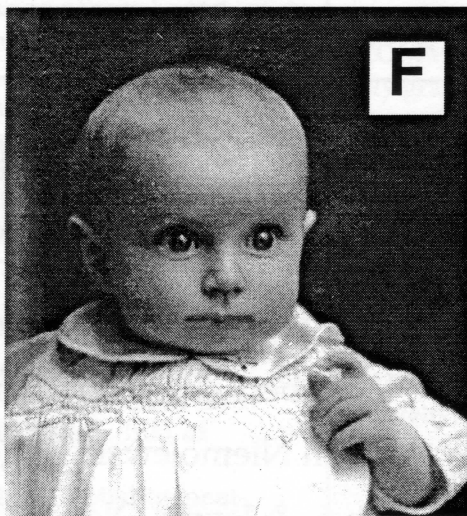
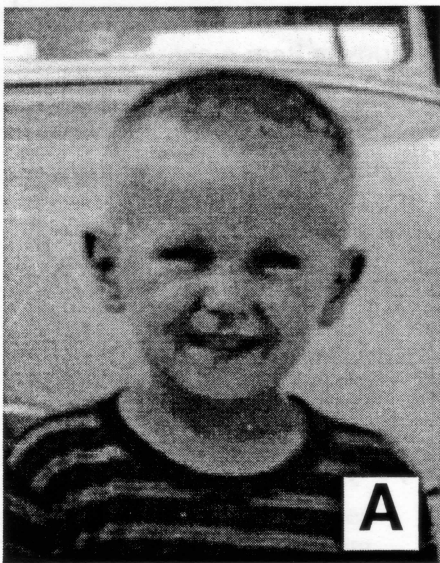
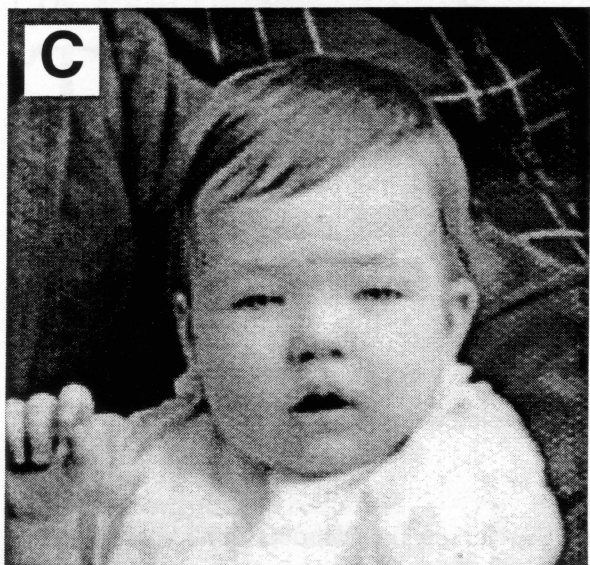


Attention! Important Notice...

After being this newsletter's Editor for the past 6 years, it's time to pass the "mouse" to another worthy soul. All that's needed is an interest in genealogy and a desire to learn. I am giving the membership notice now, so I can train someone before the end of the year (preferably no later than this fall). The last issue I will publish will be the Oct./Dec. 1998 issue – a new Editor should be in place for the January 1999 issue.

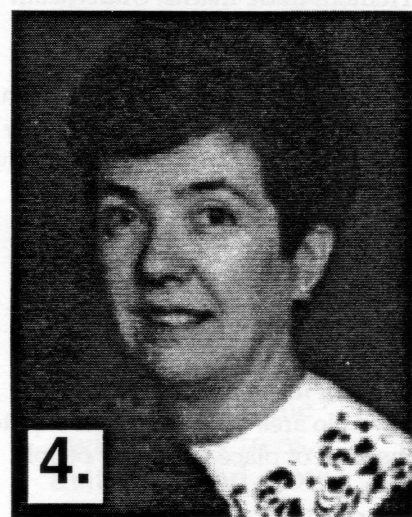
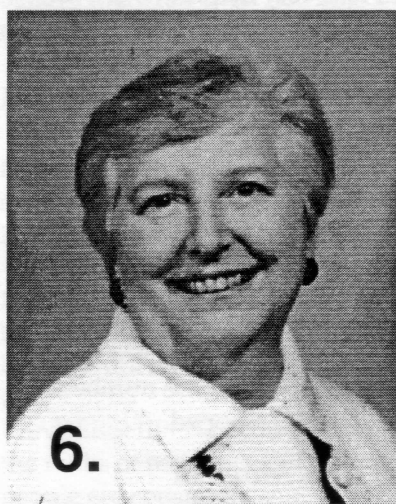
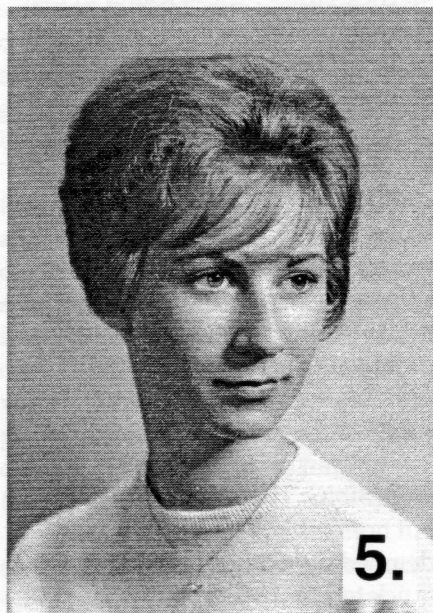
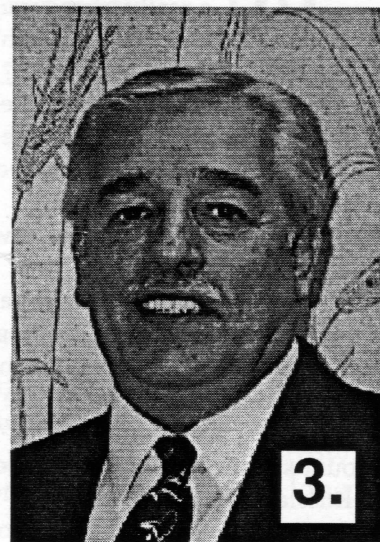
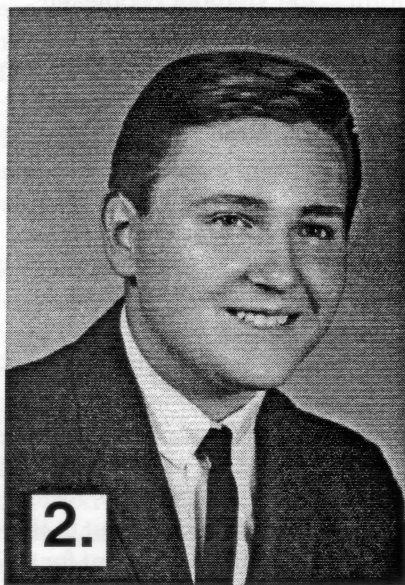
If you would like to learn a new skill and earn the respect and undying gratitude of your fellow members, please contact Sarah Evanko at (216) 221-7506 (evenings) as soon as possible. Thank you.

Who Did They Grow Up To Be ??



Match the Baby with the Adult . . .

(answers on page 9)



More pictures to follow in the next issue!

Tremont - One of Cleveland's Oldest Neighborhoods

By Norman Shaw (Originally published in The Cleveland Press, in approx. 1950)

Would you like to meet a really happy neighborhood? A neighborhood that is old, but enjoying it? A neighborhood that had overwhelming civic problems, but has gone far toward solving them? A neighborhood where the people, though diverse and changing, know how to get along with each other?

Take a look at the Tremont area, close on the edge of the Cuyahoga Valley, east of W. 25th and north of Clark Ave. Maybe 20,000 people live there, of 30 nationality backgrounds, with substantial numbers of Russians, Poles, Slovaks, Ukrainians. Lots of churches, more of them Catholic than Protestant.

Fifteen or 20 years ago Tremont was most known as a slum.

Joe Filkowski and some other notorious criminals came from there. When residents went down into the valley to the steel mills, or downtown to office buildings to hunt jobs, they dared not say where they lived. Or they wouldn't get the jobs.

Dense population, obsolete houses, poor sanitation, wide-spread delinquency and vandalism, poor law enforcement - these were Tremont trade-marks. Underneath lay almost universal poverty. At that time the Cleveland Welfare Federation directed a survey which sought answers to the deep social problems there.

"Between Spires and Stacks" the report was called.

Tremont was never as bad as the reputation it acquired from the thoroughness of that study.

And maybe it isn't as good as many of its neighborhood believe now. No area can ever become quite the kind of place that these people seek.

But as a native Clevelander I've done a lot of looking around town, especially in the last three years as chairman of the Welfare

Federation's Area Council Committee. I've also heard detailed reports from local leaders and social workers and public officials about neighborhood problems.

And I believe Tremont has come closer to finding the formula for working together, toward common community purposes than any other section of Cleveland.

They have done it chiefly because they know the value of organization. They had the first area council in Greater Cleveland - the Tremont Area Civic Assn., an active and politically smart neighborhood group, now headed by John Boryk, a Tremont pioneer and W. Seventh St. grocer.

Even before this association there were community groups. Before "Spires and Stacks" was published the Lincoln Heights Civic Assn. was working for a public housing project in Tremont. Miss Helen Phelan, then director of Merrick House, was a leader in that campaign, along with Rev. Fr. John W. Krispinsky of Our Lady of Mercy Church.

How It Measures Up

They got the 582-suite Valleyview Homes built where the worst slums had been. They've got a lot since then.

Let's look at some of the major problems facing every section of the city, and see how Tremont measures up:

HOUSING: There are old houses, but noticeably well kept. Few condemned dwellings. Neighbors are quick to spot and report illegal conversions, and the city building division has been ready to stop them. The Tremont Area Civic Assn. occasionally sends a delegation before the Zoning Board to protest (successfully) against new non-conforming uses.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: "Deputy

Inspector Richard Wagner is very helpful.", the Tremont people tell you. "We tell him we have a problem. 'Here's the place to bring it,' he says. And he knows what to do. Recently there were several teenagers molested after church canteens, but extra patrol cars at the right hours put an end to it." In 17 years teenage delinquency dropped one-half in Tremont, while it remained the same in the county.

Get Swimming Pool

RECREATION: When Tremont people read of the city's plans for new swimming pools, John Nagy, recreation commissioner, came out to the meetings. There the argument for a pool in Tremont was advanced, and a site recommended. They are getting the pool.

Meanwhile, a big playground is being built at W. 11th near Clark, first authorized by Gov. (then mayor) Lausche, at the urging of the association. Merrick House has made a big contribution to the area's recreational and social program for years.

LIQUOR ABUSES: No notorious bars, no Rowdy Rows. "Tony Rutkowski as state enforcement agent was very helpful whenever we took a problem to him. There was one troublesome wine house, but the neighbors kept up a steady protest, and there has been a change of ownership."

HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES: "We're really very fortunate.

Rubbish and garbage collections are the best we ever had. When trucks on the way to the incinerator were dropping refuse, the service director told us to report license numbers. We did, and it stopped

2000 DP's Move In

POPULATION: Is declining slightly, and fairly stable. There are close to 2000 Ukrainian DP's who have moved in recently, and at

(continued from page 6)

Tremont School 80 children could not speak English at the start of last semester. They are learning fast, and so are their parents. The new population works hard, saves money, improves their homes. The Family Service Assn. is about to close its Tremont office, because neither new nor old population brings in any great volume of social problems.

RACIAL PROBLEMS: These arose only when the County wanted to use a wing of Tremont School for a Receiving Home for children awaiting assignment to foster homes. Some neighbors protested, in vain. The home now operates under direction of Bill Nesi, and children regardless of color, attend churches and playgrounds with incident. (John Boryk, a member of St. Theodosius Church, has three daughters, borrowed a boy from the Home to go to a father-son banquet at Pilgrim Congregational. He got five other men to do the same, two of the six children being Negroes. They were the hit of the evening, and went far in getting acceptance for the Home.

POLLUTION: There will always be pollution on the edge of Cuyahoga Valley, but Tremont residents believe there has been real improvement.

No Magic Formula

And what is the magic or secret formula that has brought this happy state of affairs to famed Tremont? It is not magic, or secret. It includes:

HARD WORK: "Things didn't just happen," says Miss Phelan, "We've had to work hard for everything we got."

LEADERSHIP: Newcomers from the ranks of residents and business people are constantly sought and pushed into activity. The professionals have avoided dominating civic groups.

Miss Phelan, now manager of

Valleyview, has for years given continuous spark and leadership, much of it quietly and behind the scenes. Pastors of most of the churches, Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox, are active. E. J. Ryan, principal of Lincoln High, works on area problems.

Many Give Service

Councilman John Bilinski was once association president, and he remains a diligent servant of the neighborhood. Dr. A. J. Kmieck, a dentist, and Steve Bunevich, an insurance man, deserve mention as do scores of others who have headed committees, directed meetings, rung doorbells.

There have been a succession of Welfare Federation field workers, from W. T. McCulloch, the first, down to Dan Dougherty, who now ably carries on the tradition of quiet and diligent field advisory service.

PARTICIPATION: There are now 155 individual members of the assn., not large. But 23 affiliated groups include most of the area's population. Churches, which in some areas have been obstacles to community organization, are almost all enthusiastically a part of the program here. So are PTA's, schools, luncheon clubs, nationality groups.

RELATIONS WITH CITY HALL are almost uniformly good. Many city officials have attended Tremont meetings, and association officers know whom to call when there is a complaint, to get results. "Much of what we do is done quietly, without protest meetings or any spectacular display of strength," says John Boryk.

Whatever the method, they seem to get results in Tremont. And other neighborhoods which have not yet learned the value of unity and organization, could profit from this pattern of action. There is nothing more important in a democracy than neighbors who know how to work together.

(Editor's Note: This article was written

45 years ago. For those of you who were raised in this area, I hope it both brought back memories, and made you proud of Tremont. As everything always goes in circles, Tremont is once again undergoing a revitalization after a period of decline.)

The Family Tree

I think that I shall never see,
the finish of a family tree,
as it forever seems to grow
from roots that started long ago.

Way back in ancient
history time,
in foreign land and
distant clime.

From them grew trunk and
branching limbs,
that dated back
to time so dim.

One seldom knows
exactly when,
the parents met
and married then;

Nor when the twigs
began to grow,
with odd-named children,
row on row.

Though verse like this
is made by me,
the end's in sight,
as you can see.

"Tis not the same
with family trees,
that grow and grow
through centuries.

— Author unknown —





Letters to the Editor

Subject: Greetings from Cleveland!
Date: Sat, 21 Mar 1998
From: sarah evanko <sarahevanko@earthlink.net>
To: Kman Benjamin <B97Kma63@STUDENT.CEU.HU>

Hi, Ben -

I hope you received the two newsletters I sent to you. When are you returning to Ohio? (Or did you fall in love and decide to stay there?)

Everyone asks me if I've heard from you . . . let me tell them "yes"!

How are the studies going? What do you do in your free time? What's new? Is this message even getting to you? WRITE SOON!!

Sarah

Subject: Re: Greetings from Cleveland!
Date: Sun, 22 Mar 1998
From: "Kman Benjamin" <B97Kma63@STUDENT.CEU.HU>
To: sarahevanko@earthlink.net

Hi Sarah,

It's been a comedy of errors and a scheduling

nightmare trying to get back in touch with you. I tried a couple of months ago to send you an email but your address changed and it didn't go through. Luckily I received the newsletters with your new address but by that time I had been buried in work. I've been having trouble keeping up with my relatives also and I'm sure I'll hear about it when I finally return home. Chances are that I will be back in the States for Christmas.

I hope that I can make it to the Christmas party. I may try to sneak home for a couple of weeks in August to see how things are going and keep the relatives from thinking I defected.

Budapest is an awesome city. There is so much to see and do here. Most expats don't want to leave because there is something special about the atmosphere here. If the opportunity came up for me to work here a couple of years, I would definitely consider it.

I tend to study and read too much though grades are becoming less and less important to me. Don't worry, my academic track record is still excellent, and I'm learning a lot about business and life. My free time is spent at parties with my colleagues, or visiting pubs in the city. I try to minimize my

entertainment costs to save money so I can travel. I've been to Oktoberfest in Munich, to Salsburg in Austria, to Poland twice, and to Istanbul, Turkey.

Tell Lynn that I really liked Istanbul. Its a fantastic city which is rich in history and culture. I hope to make it to Romania and Bulgaria this summer.

My first trip to Poland was in October. I went to the village of my great-grandfather, Jan Kmon. The village is Korczynna, just a little north of Krosno. I was able to find a room for rent in someone's home in the village itself. It turns out these peoples' daughter left for the States to study the day before so they had a room available. How I found the room is a long story so I won't take up the space here. However the person that helped my find this room is also interested in genealogy and has a Kmon or two in his family tree. He called the church to schedule an appointment to go and look through the records there for any information on the Kmon family. I had to wait a day until the priest would see us, but at 8AM we went there and began.

The priest started looking through the birth books but could find no records of my great grandfather or any

(continued from page 8)

other Kmon. I sat patiently as the priest paged through the book and then started another. Finally, I asked if I could look through the book to try to find some information and the priest agreed. Within 5 minutes I had found a Kmon who had the same parents as my great-grandfather. This was an unknown relative.

There was a mark in the book indicating that he had died and the year he died in. The priest took out the death register and looked up the record. The record contained the names and addresses of the surviving relatives. The next step was visiting these people. However, I wanted to search a little bit longer to try to find my great grandfather. I found several other relatives but not my great

grandfather. Unfortunately I had to leave the church because the priest was busy.

I do know that the information is there. This information also brought to light some other relatives in the area. One of them was supposed to have on his property the original farmhouse in which my great grandfather was born. (I think that this came to light based on the house number in the church records). After the church visit we started visiting relatives. One of them I had visited three years before on my last trip to Poland but I didn't have any proof then that we were related. Now I had the church records. Then we went to see the other relative who had the farmhouse. We sat and talked for awhile then went for a walk. Maybe 300 feet

from his house were the ruins of the farmhouse which was supposed to be the original family homestead. I was quite impressed.

Unfortunately I only had 4 days to spend in Poland for that trip and my time came quickly to an end. It was quite productive for me though.

I'm starting to get tired of writing so perhaps next time I will tell you of my adventures in Poland over the Christmas and New Year's holidays. I will try to stay in touch as best I can.

Thanks for remembering me and say HI to everyone in the club.

See ya,

Ben

Are You "Past Due"??

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 \$20.00 to our Treasurer (Richarda Jambrozy, 1492 Lewis Dr., Lakewood, OH 44107), and she'll take care of it for you. *Thanks!*

ANSWERS: Match the Baby with the Adult

A = 2 Don Klasch

B = 1 Lynn Vizdos

C = 4 Mary Ann TusickVizdos

D = 3 John Szuch

E = 5 Stella Zychowski Klasch

F = 6 Richarda Jamborzy



INTERNET WEBSITES

by SARAH EVANKO

There is a new way to search the internet besides using search engines like Yahoo, Excite, Lycos, etc. This new "mega-engine" is called:

<http://topaz.designlab.ukans.edu/profusion/>

that will allow you to chain search engines to perform a search. Supposedly, this software routine will eliminate duplicates from the requested search, and will also allow you to sign up for an e-mail service that will continue to perform your searches. It will inform you via e-mail of your results as it detects new sites. Good luck.

Genealogy: If you're interested in the Federation of East European Family History Societies. try:

<http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/feefhs/>

The National Archives has a new genealogy webpage. It is:

<http://www.nara.gov/genealogy/>

This webpage summarizes NARA's services for genealogists and provides links to information about regional facilities. Although the website does not provide access to actual digitized records, it does have several features useful to researchers. It provides instruction on how to order information leaflets and has a link to

the NARA bookstore. Another feature is an automatic Soundex Coding Machine.

Cyndi's List of Genealogical Sites on the Internet is a comprehensive site that links 22,350 other genealogical sites. Try it out:

<http://www.oz.net/~cyndihow/sites.com>

Helm's Genealogical Toolbox is a site with links to others based on surnames, guides for beginners, and listings of commercial resources. It's sure to keep you busy for hours! Check it out at:

<http://www.genealogy.tbox.com>

Rafal T. Prinke's Genealogy Homepage can be accessed in both English and Polish. Info at this site includes: Bibliography of Polish genealogy and heraldry; some Polish descendants of Charlemagne; and searching and/or adding to surname lists. The surname list is a valuable research tool and has approx. 1500+ surnames, with new ones being added daily. This site can be found at:

<http://hum.amu.edu.pl/~rafalp>

SARAH
□□□□□

(Do YOU have a favorite site you think others would benefit from knowing about? Let us know!)

QUERIES

TO OUR MEMBERS: If you have a query you would like published, please send it to the Editor. Queries are published on a space available basis. Thank you.

Surname: Malak

Time Period: 1907 to 1920, Cleveland, OH

Place of Residence: Norwalk and Cleveland, OH

Country of Origin: Poland (Galicia)

Village/Province: Malowa, Rzeszow Province

COMMENTS:

My grandmother Rose and her three sisters (Helen & Margaret came to Cleveland in 1907. My grandmother was the oldest. She married Fred Tesmer in 1909 and moved to Norwalk in the 1920's.

Clyde Evans
14330 Caves Road
Novelty, OH 4407

Surname: Pruchnicki

Time Period: 1868-1944

Place of Residence: Jaslo, Poland and Cleveland, OH

Country of Origin: Poland (Galicia)

Village/Province: Jaslo, Rzeszow Province

COMMENTS:

I want to find out more about Pruchnicki from Poland; about Wojciech Pruchnicki's son and daughter.

Larry Pruchnicki
118 Brookpark Rd. #105
Cleveland, OH 44130-1184



Heredity . . .

by Oliver Wendell Holmes,
1809-1894, Chief Justice U.S. Supreme Court

Looking at the chart shown below and considering that each "grandparent" was also, at one time or another, in the "you" position, it's easy to see why genealogical research is a never-ending task.

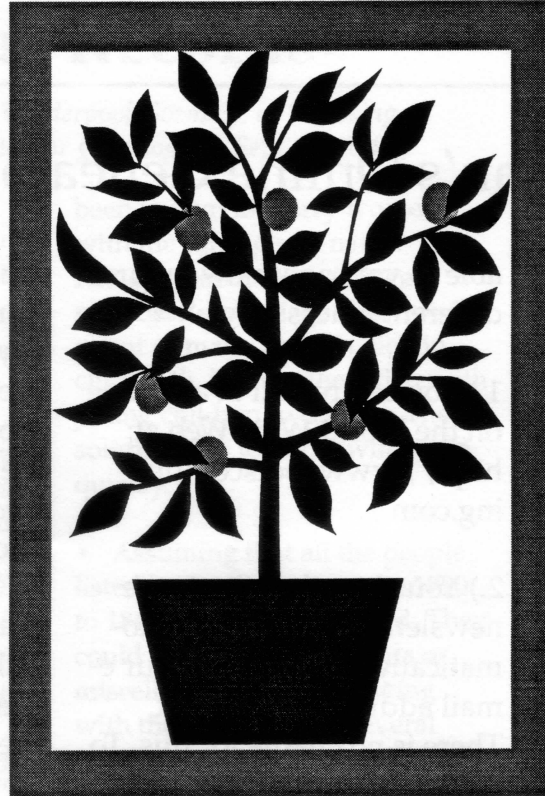
What is called my character, or nature, is made up of infinite particles of inherited tendencies from my ancestors— those whose blood runs in my veins. A little seed of laziness comes from this

and a chart...

For those of you who always wondered how it worked, here it is:

grandfather; and of prodigality from that one. One of them may have been a moody person and a pessimist, while another was of

jovial nature, who always saw the sunny side of every event. One may have had a most satisfactory life as a philosopher, while another ambitious one never was contented with actual conditions, whatever they were. Some remote grandmother, perhaps, has stamped me with a fear of dogs and a love of horses. There may be in me a bit of outlawry from some pirate forefather, and a dash of piety from one who was a saint...



- YOU
- 2 Parents
- 4 Grandparents
- 8 Great Grandparents
- 16 Great Great Grandparents
- 32 Great Great Great Grandparents
- 64 Great Great Great Great Grandparents
- 128 Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents
- 256 Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents
- 512 Great Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents
- 1024 Great Great Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents

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The newsletter is read by thousands of online genealogists around the world. The newsletter is free and is avail-

able to you right now in three different places:

1.) You can read it at any time on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.rootscomputing.com>

2.) You can subscribe to the newsletter and have it automatically delivered to your e-mail address every week. There is no charge for this. To subscribe, send an e-mail to:

roots@cis.compuserve.com

The text of the message should contain one word and only one word:

SUBSCRIBE

Any other text will be ignored.

3.) The latest edition of the newsletter and an archive of all the previous editions is

maintained on the Genealogy Forum on CompuServe.

If you are a CompuServe member, GO ROOTS and look in the "Eastman's Newsletters" Library.

About the author:

Dick Eastman is the author of "YOUR ROOTS: Genealogy Planning On Your Computer" published by Ziff-Davis Press. He is the manager of the Genealogy Forum on CompuServe. He is also involved in the upcoming "Ancestors" series on Public Broadcasting. Dick Eastman has also been the keynote speaker at several genealogy conventions.

Again, Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter is free. Please pass the word on to other online genealogists.