



HOW DO I FIND MY CLEVELAND ANCESTOR IN THE WORLD WAR I SELECTIVE SERVICE DRAFT CARDS?

By Ben Kman

All males between the ages of 18 and 45 were required to register for the Selective Service between 1917 and 1918. This does not mean that these people were all drafted, just that they stated that they were of eligible age to serve the U.S. during the war if required. There were no exceptions, even resident aliens had to register.

The result of this process was that an identification card was created for each individual that contained a variety of information relevant to the researcher, notably, the place of birth and nearest relative. However, like any resource, the information can be spotty or incomplete, but it still provides another source for tracking down elusive ancestors.

For more information about these cards, <http://www.jewishgen.org/infofiles/wwidraft.htm> contains an excellent article by Warren Blatt about them, their contents and how to search them.

The purpose of this article is to facilitate the process for those individuals researching relatives in the Cleveland area for whom these draft cards may provide missing information. In my case, I am trying to find the birthplace of my great grandfather, Franciszek Rychlinski. He never naturalized nor began the process. He married in Poland, and his death record contains no information about his place of birth. I have also been unable to find his arrival in any passenger list Soundex index for the major ports of arrival. I am sure that many researchers can share such a tale of frustration.

To begin, the city of Cleveland was divided into 18 districts for draft registration. Typically, a researcher can refer to the Family History Library film #: 1498803 for maps which detail the boundaries of the selective service districts in the major cities of the U.S. in 1917 and 1918. Knowing where your relative lived during those years would allow you to locate his district and order the appropriate microfilm based on that and his surname. Unfortunately, the map for Cleveland is horribly washed out and the boundaries are indiscernible. Fortunately, someone noted on the film what the relationship was between the selective service district areas and the wards of the city. Most genealogical libraries in the Cleveland area and the Family History Libraries have maps of the wards of Cleveland on microfiche so you can determine in which ward your relative lived. Once you obtain this information, you can determine in which Selective Service District your relative registered.

Following are two tables, the first shows the relationship between the Selective Service Districts and the Wards in Cleveland. The second shows the microfilm numbers for the draft registration cards arranged by district and surname within the district.

When you receive your film, the cards are arranged alphabetically first by surname then by given name. This, then, begins the process of scanning the records until you find your relative and of extracting any given information.

I hope that this information helps to eliminate a step in the research process for people trying to trace their ancestors who were living in Cleveland during the years of 1917 and 1918 and that you can hurdle another brick wall in your quest for your ancestors.

Relationship Between Cleveland's Selective Service Districts and its City Wards

Selective Service District	City Ward
1	1 and 3
2	2
3	4 and 5
4	6
5	7 and 13
6	8 and 9
7	10 and 22
8	11
9	12
10	14
11	15
12	16
13	17
14	18 and 19
15	20 and 21
16	23
17	24 and 25
18	26

World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918

Cleveland District and Inclusive Surnames	Family History Film Number
OHIO Clermont County, H - Z Cleveland City, no. 1, A - B	FHL US/CAN Film 1411577
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 1, C - Madaras, John	FHL US/CAN Film 1411593
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 1, Madary, Abraham D. - Z	FHL US/CAN Film 1411594
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 2, A - P	FHL US/CAN Film 1411595
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 2, Q - Z Cleveland City, no. 3, A - Giuliatti, Frank	FHL US/CAN Film 1411596
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 3, Glaettli, H. - Scherrer, W.	FHL US/CAN Film 1831699
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 3, Scheske, Carl - Z Cleveland City, no. 4, A - Hertan, William	FHL US/CAN Film 1831700
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 4, Hess, Andrew - Z Cleveland City, no. 5, A	FHL US/CAN Film 1831701
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 5, B - J	FHL US/CAN Film 1831702
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 5, K - Reinhart, Elmer	FHL US/CAN Film 1831703
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 5, Reinhold, George - Z Cleveland City, no. 6, A - Beckwith, George	FHL US/CAN Film 1831704
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 6, Bede, Michael - G	FHL US/CAN Film 1831705
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 6, H - Metzner, Adolph	FHL US/CAN Film 1831706
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 6, Meunier, J. - Streza, J.	FHL US/CAN Film 1831707
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 6, Strike, Thomas - Z Cleveland City, no. 7, A - Dootz, Martin	FHL US/CAN Film 1831765
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 7, Doran, C. - Metzler, J.	FHL US/CAN Film 1831766
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 7, Meusner, Elmer - Wiszinski, J.	FHL US/CAN Film 1831767
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 7, Witcka, Ed - Z Cleveland City, no. 8, A - Greenwald, Morris	FHL US/CAN Film 1831768
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 8, Grega, Medis - M	FHL US/CAN Film 1831769

OHIO Cleveland City, no. 8, N - Z Cleveland City, no. 9, A - B	FHL US/CAN Film 1831770
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 9, C - Pollarine, Andrew	FHL US/CAN Film 1831771
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 9, Polley, William E. - Z Cleveland City, no. 10, A - C	FHL US/CAN Film 1831772
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 10, D - R	FHL US/CAN Film 1831773
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 10, S - Z Cleveland City, no. 11, A - F	FHL US/CAN Film 1831774
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 11, G - Rozyk, L.	FHL US/CAN Film 1831775
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 11, Roy, Frank - Z Cleveland City, no. 12, A - F	FHL US/CAN Film 1831776
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 12, G - R	FHL US/CAN Film 1831777
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 12, S - Z Cleveland City, no. 13, A - Fowler, John	FHL US/CAN Film 1831855
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 13, Fox, Charles - Q	FHL US/CAN Film 1831856
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 13, R - Z Cleveland City, no. 14, A - Cartey, Paul	FHL US/CAN Film 1831857
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 14, Carusi, Pietro - K	FHL US/CAN Film 1831858
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 14, L - S	FHL US/CAN Film 1831859
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 14, T - Z Cleveland City, no. 15, A - Hiner, Leslie	FHL US/CAN Film 1831860
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 15, Hinger, Albert - V	FHL US/CAN Film 1831861
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 15, W - Z Cleveland City, no. 16, A - K	FHL US/CAN Film 1831862
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 16, L - Z	FHL US/CAN Film 1831863
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 17, A - J	FHL US/CAN Film 1831864
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 17, K - S	FHL US/CAN Film 1831941
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 17, T - Z Cleveland City, no. 18, A - Goodwin, Joseph A.	FHL US/CAN Film 1831942
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 18, Gordon, Frank - Q	FHL US/CAN Film 1831943
OHIO Cleveland City, no. 18, R - Z Clinton County, A - C	FHL US/CAN Film 1831944

Armistice Day—Veteran's Day—Nov. 11, 2002

The article above gives some information about the aliens during WW I. These aliens were immigrants who had not yet become naturalized. Many of these non-naturalized men volunteered for Haller's army and went off to fight for the cause of Poland's independence. Strange---some of these men left Europe to avoid military service. And now, here they were, putting their lives on "hold", in order to fight for the Polish cause.

In time, they returned from Europe, veterans of the European conflict. The names of the vessels on which they returned were: the *Antigone* which sailed from Poland March 30, 1920 and arrived in the USA April 18, 1920, the *Pocohontas* which sailed April 2, 1920 and arrived in the USA April 21, 1920, the *Pocohontas* again, sailed from Europe May 28, 1920 and arrived in the USA June 16, 1920, and once again, the *Pocohontas* sailed from Europe July 26, 1920 and arrived in the USA August 12, 1920. The *Princess Matoika* made two voyages, back and forth across the Atlantic carrying Haller Army veterans. The dates were: sailed May 2, 1920 and arrived May 23, 1920, sailed July 7, 1920 and arrived July 21, 1920. Another vessel named the *Mercury* sailed June 16, 1920 and arrived June 29, 1920. Finally, the *President Grant* sailed from Europe January 28, 1921 and arrived in the USA February 16, 1921. The veterans came back to their adopted country, settled down, had families and made a "life" for themselves. Some became naturalized citizens, some didn't.

It wasn't long before the European scene once again became a war zone. And now, the sons of these veterans, Polish-Americans, were being called up to serve in the US military. And they would answer the call. The table on page 4 is reprinted from *Polish American Studies* (Vol. LVIII, No. 1 2001 Spring Edition) with the permission

Continued on page 5

Parish	Location--Ohio	Pastor--Rev.	Size of Parish	Servicemen	Died
St Hedwig's	Akron	A. Suwalski	1, 027	287	2
Immaculate Conception	Barberton	Jozef F. Napierkowski	380	58	0
St. Adalbert's	Berea	J. W. Solinski	1, 600	190	1
St. John the Baptist	Campbell	T. Herudaj	457	91	1
All Saints	Canton	Adolf J. Bernas	750	115	4
Corpus Christi	Cleveland	Anthony B. Orlemanski	2, 000	340	0
Immaculate Heart of Mary	Cleveland	J. K. Mlotkowski	7, 500	1, 106	10
Our Lady of Czestochowa	Cleveland	Jan M. Zeglen	4, 000	511	4
St. Barbara's	Cleveland	Jozef S. Jarosz	1, 560	210	1
St. Casimir's	Cleveland	A. A. Radecki	4, 850	620	12
St. Hedwig's	Cleveland	J. C. Rutkowski	800	158	2
St. Hyacinth's	Cleveland	Jozef M. Sztucki	2, 300	577	8
St. John Cantius	Cleveland	Fanciszek Duda	7, 250	1, 052	5
St. Josephat's	Cleveland	J. P. Kocinski	1, 000	180	6
St. Stanislaus B & M	Cleveland	Tadeusz Woloszyk	10, 000	1, 403	18
Transfiguration	Cleveland	Jozef F. Zabawa	1, 100	100	0
St. Adalbert B & M	Dayton	Pawel B. Frydrych	644	166	0
St. Adalbert's	Dillonvale	H. Rojewski	1, 200	168	2
Holy Cross	Elyria	L. W. Buchny	486	89	0
St. Casimer's	Fremont	Edward A. Zulka	300	67	0
Assumption BVM	Grafton	John Foster	465	45	0
Nativity	Lorain	I. J. Dembowski	2, 534	330	4
St. Stanislaus	Lorain	Leon Rygwalski	1, 460	234	4
St. Mary Magdalene	Rosford	M. K. Robaskiewicz	450	182	3
Nativity	Toledo	Jan A. Urbanski	2, 000	320	1
St. Anthony's	Toledo	F. S. Legowski	4, 000	650	7
St. Hedwig's	Toledo	A. S. Pietrykowski	1, 600	900	10
St. Hyacinth's	Toledo	J. F. Lubiatowski	1, 500	175	3
St. Stanislaus Kostka	Toledo	F. J. Czelusta	3, 640	464	3
St. Stanislaus Kostka	Youngstown	Jan A. Grabowski	1, 900	450	4

Continued from page 3

of the *Polish American Historical Association*. It is taken from an article entitled, *Data on Polish-American Participation in World War II*, data which was compiled by Stanley Schmidt & Sally Smyrski.

In 1944, a survey was conducted of Polish parishes in the USA to document the participation of Polish-Americans in the war effort. Postcards were sent out to 796 Polish-American parishes of which 538 responded. In the Cleveland area, Sacred Heart of Jesus and Sts. Peter & Paul parishes did not respond. St. Abalbert's parish of Toledo also did not respond. The chart on the left shows the responses of the Polish-American parishes in Ohio. One must remember that the figures given were as of 1944. There was still another year of war remaining. And notices of fallen warriors might not have reached their loved ones when the survey was conducted. In 1997, a commemorative, memorial service was held for the fallen heroes at St. Barbara's parish in Cleveland. Included in the program is a listing of the fallen servicemen from the parish:

Staff Sgt. Anthony F. Budzik, U.S.A.F.

Killed in Action, 24th Combat Mission over Europe—Received Bronze Star and Oak Leaf Clusters—Purple Heart—October 8, 1943.

Staff Sgt. Chester Wojcik, U.S.A.F., 450th

Killed in Action, 4th Combat Mission over Europe—Received four Bronze Stars—Purple Heart—June 9, 1944.

Staff Sgt. Julius J. Jezior, U.S.A.F., 492nd Bomber Group

Killed in Action, 5th Combat Mission, buried at sea in the North Atlantic—Purple Heart—June 9, 1944.

Pvt. Joseph J. Budzik, U.S. 36th Armored Infantry

Killed in Action, in France—Bronze Star—Purple Heart—July 12, 1944.

Pvt. 1st Class Anthony Jakubowski, U.S. Army Infantry

Killed in Action, in France—Bronze Star—Two Battle Bronze Stars—Purple Heart—August 9, 1944.

Staff Sgt. Stanley F. Bartkiewicz, U.S. Marine Corps, Infantry, 1st Bn., 5th Div., 28th Marines.

Killed in Action, on Iwo Jima—Purple Heart—Silver Star for Gallantry in Action—March 2, 1945.

Pvt. Theodore E. Kulak, U.S. Army, 10th Infantry

Killed in Action, in Luxembourg—Purple Heart—Bronze Star—Two Battle Bronze Stars—Sept. 13, 1944

Pvt. 1st Class Henry A. Kubala, U.S. Marine Corps, Infantry, 3rd Bn, 1st Div., 7th Marines

Killed in Action, on Pelelau—Two Purple Hearts—September 22, 1944.

Cpl. Carl F. Krzyzak, U.S. Army Infantry, Anti Tank Co., 262nd Infantry, 66th Div.

Killed in Action, in France—Purple Heart— 4 Bronze Stars—October 17, 1944.

Post WW II Casualties

Cpl. Emil F. Kocon, U.S. Army Infantry

Died from injuries incurred in Burma—June 3, 1946.

Major Andrew L. Opiela, U.S. Army Intelligence

Died in an aircraft crash en route from Pusan, Korea to Tokyo, Japan—February 22, 1957.

WW II decorations include: Purple Heart—Two Bronze Stars.

Cpl. Joseph W. Sliwa, U.S.A.F., 326th Bomb Sq., 92nd Bomber Group, European Theater of Operations.

Died of Service Connected Illness—October 23, 1982.



As is evident from the listing above, the chart on page 4 is not totally accurate. There were more casualties to come. And they continued to come with the Korean Conflict, the Gulf War---and who knows how many more will come in the future.

We are all inheritors of their sacrifices. It is because of them that we are able to live the life that we do. It is right and proper that we remember them, to commemorate them with services and prayers. May God grant them eternal peace. And let us not forget our loved ones who are currently serving in the armed forces of our country. May the Lord protect them in these difficult times.

During WW II, several parishioners of St. John Cantius of Cleveland got together and decided to put out a newsletter to send to the boys who were away in service. The title of the newsletter was *The Cantian*. The newsletter informed them of what was happening in the parish and in the neighborhood. There was also a section devoted to the servicemen. It mentioned who was on furlough, who was stationed where, who got promoted and things of that nature. Several of these newsletters survived and the following is from the July 1945 edition of *The Cantian*.

Servicemen's Spotlight

Pfc. **Ben Czajka** recently spent a month with his brother Bill, on Luzon. He accidently met him after a month search for him all over the island. Ben is now trying to locate **Frank Winiarz** who is somewhere in the mountains near his station.

Frank Kowalczyk, MM3/c is now stationed on the heavy cruiser, the U.S.S. St. Paul, which is doing its share to make it plenty hot for the Nips.

Because the 99th Div. is no longer a combat unit but a high-point Div., T/5 **Ed Potulski** has been transferred to the 83rd or Thunderbolt Div. He is now in Deggendorf, Germany, 35 miles from the Czech border, but hopes to be home for a 30-day furlough in November.

Pfc. **John Wojdacz** enjoys being with a T.C. Ordnance Co. to which he has recently been assigned. He is now at the Port of Embarkation in Portland, Oregon.

Continued on page 7

Our Polish Ancestors—



Marriage performed by Rev. Joseph Kocinski on July 7, 1913 in Cleveland, Ohio. In the back row, from left to right: John Wiciejowski, Waleria Wolanczyk, Unknown female, Unknown male, Antonia Wolanczyk, Stanislaus Polinski, Unknown male. In the front row, from left to right: Mary Zaucha, Joseph Zaucha (Mary's son), Bridegroom John Wolanczyk, Bride Cecylia Grzesik, Unknown male, Mary Skalska. Children in front: Henrietta Skalska, Unknown female child and Unknown male child. Photo and information submitted by John & Sophia Talkowski. If any of our readers recognize any of the "Unknown" persons and can give us their names, it would be greatly appreciated.

Continued from page 6

The Buchenwald Concentration Camp was a terror camp in the full sense of the word, according to T/4 **Stan Brey** who had a chance to see it before it was destroyed. Stan is a little short on points so he'll have to sweat it out a little longer over there. He is at present in Gustavsburg, Germany.

Pfc. **Chester Yurak** writes that he can now speak Italian as well as he can speak Polish. He is still in Italy, and has two battle stars, Combat Infantry Badge, and a Good Conduct Medal to his credit. He wishes to say Hello to all his former buddies.

Cpl. **Julius Cieslik** has sent us some snapshots of his recent trip over the devastated areas of Germany in a Flying Fortress. The shots show that the Germans had everything thrown at them judging from the results.

His ability to speak and read Polish has been put to good use by Pfc. **Joe Kruszynski** to help out the refugee Poles in Germany. For a while he acted as an interpreter for the Allied Military Government. He writes that the spirit of the Polish people is hard to beat.

Since he last wrote to us from Alaska, Sgt. **Frank Ross** has been in the States for a two-week course at the Edgewood Arsenal. He made the trip by plane which make a long journey very short. While here, he spent a few days at home. **Edward Smolinski**, WT3/c, joined the Navy so see the world but so far he has seen some action, part of the world, and too much of the Pacific. His ship was one of the escort ships on President Roosevelt's Pacific trip last summer, and during that trip he met **Stanley Swantek**.

T/4 **Mitchell Blecharczyk** writes that he has finally succeeded in leaving the States for a bit of overseas duty. He is now on the island of Saipan and if anything, he will certainly be accustomed to rain for they have plenty of it there. Meeting up with **John Kubek** on a Pacific isle was a break for Pfc. **Stanley Tuleta** because John gave him a mattress and he now sleeps like a king. Stan writes that wherever he goes that mattress goes with him.

Joe Droba who is undergoing more Naval C.B. training at the base in Davisville, Rhode Island writes that everyone in his barracks enjoys reading *THE CANTIAN*. For your information, Joe, *THE CANTIAN* is published every month.

Pfc. **Julius Gladys** is learning the Japanese language with the help of an interpreter. He writes that it is a tough language but he has made up his mind to learn it. He gets to see **Stanley Falkowski** pretty regularly but not as often as he would like to.

His brother, **Chester Gladys**, recently had a chance to see every country, except Norway, as a driver for Gen. Terry Allen. They visited Poland, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Finland, and several other little countries. On that trip he met a friend from the parish, "**Chink**" **Koziol** in Weissenfeld, Germany.

After eight months duty aboard an L.C.T., **Joe Martowicz**, GM 3/c would rather be back in the Armed Guard where he spent 21 months in the Atlantic. He adds however, that the Pacific isn't too bad.

Sgt. **Eddie Gorczyca** is now awaiting his awards to come through so that he can soon start homeward. Here's hoping, Eddie, that you and many others don't have to wait too long.

After going through some more basic training in Brescia, Italy, Pvt. **Ed Malina** is now in a town called Aversia doing guard duty in a big P.W. Stockade. They are only ten miles away from Naples.

Sgt. **Frank Tuleta** is another who is near the town of Brescia, where he is wondering how soon he will have the opportunity to come home. He is fortunate enough to have the required number of points, and he writes that the waiting around is comparable to slow torture.

After seeing plenty of action with the Third Army, Pfc. **Joe Fedorcio** is now in Heimertingen, Germany, 40 miles west of Munich. He was wounded along the Moselle River, but was back with his outfit shortly after. His brother, Julius, has been in Egypt, and is now in Caserta, Italy where he received a Bronze Star for service with the Fifth Army.

Sgt. **Edward Pilch** with the 43rd Heavy Bombardment Group on Luzon would like to meet some friends from the old neighborhood, but so far hasn't had any luck. Perhaps, some of you fellows on Luzon might have a chance to look him up. He has a friend from St. Casimir's Parish in Cleveland with him, the favorite topic of conversation is the old home town.

After enjoying a 30 day leave at home following a year at sea, **Joseph Swintek**, S 1/c, is now in Norfolk, Va. where he expects to stay for two months. So far, he has been in Saipan, and the last and worst was Okinawa. Joe writes that the closer you get to Tokio, the more fireworks you see.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Chet Oleski, SF1/c is another who is back on duty after a 30 day leave at home. He is now on Guam, which like all the other Pacific islands is very hot.

Cpl. **Edward Gilar** is now taking things easy in a town in Austria which is located near a beautiful lake running from the Alp Mountains. The swimming there is wonderful, and they also have a few boats at their disposal. He hopes to come home soon to stay,

The things that the natives of the Philippines are able to make from bamboo has aroused the admiration of Cpl. **Anthony Zieja**. On a recent pass he went to Manila, which he writes is really a mess after the Japs got through with it. After taking the Infantry Reconversion course in Rome, Sgt. **Zige Dlugosz** has been assigned to a base Post Office unit in Bagnoli, Italy. They work six days a week, including Sundays with one day off. In his spare time he does a lot of swimming, and hopes to have a dance band organized pretty soon.

Still is Persia but with hopes of coming home soon, Cpl. **Frank Stypa** is now in a road camp guarding government property. There are ten of them in his camp, and they have some swell times together.

Continued on page 10

Our Polish Ancestors—



Top row, left to right: Unknown male, Jozefa Hadam, Unknown male, Zofia (Socha) Kolodziej. Middle row, left to right: Martin Wiencek, (Unknown) Guzik, Unknown male, Unknown female, Maciek Dytko and wife, Magdalena Dytko. Seated in the front row: Unknown female, Bridegroom, Bride Karolina Dobosz, Adam Mendyka. If any of our readers recognize any of the "Unknown" persons and can give us their names, it would be greatly appreciated.

Welcome—New Members—Witamy

Lorraine Lipinski, interested in surnames:

23474 Carriage Lane
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

Elaine Marec, interested in surnames:

12605 Thraves Rd.
Garfield Hts., Ohio 44125

Jane Tatko, interested in surnames:

896 Dan Street
Akron, Ohio 44310

Stan Tatko, interested in surnames:

543 Meadow Ln.
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

Edward & Millicent Zelazny, interested in surnames:

7435 Midland Rd.
Independence, Ohio 44131
milzelaz@aol.com

GAWSKI, JABLONSKI, KUBINSKI,
LIPINSKI

ALBRECHT, JAGODZINSKI, KRASZEWSKI,
MAREC, PIWINSKI, RACZEWSKI,

JARMUT, KARPIES, LASANSKI(A), LOJEK,
MATELEWSKI(A), POTACZEK, SWIERK,
TATKA, TATKO

JARMUT, KARPIES, LASANSKI(A), LOJEK,
MATELEWSKI(A), POTACZEK, SWIERK,
TATKA, TATKO

KOWALENSKI, MOZELEWSKI, ZELAZNY

What's Happening

Upcoming Meetings

December 2002—No speaker. Election of officers and group Christmas Party.

January 2003—Speakers Glenn Sobola and Bill Radeker of *The Slavic Village Historical Society* who will speak about their organization and the new museum.

April 2003—Speaker Dorota Sobieska, Executive Director of *The Opera Circle*, will give a short program of music and background of *The Opera Circle*.

May 2003—Speaker Christy Wiggins, Regional Reference Specialist in Genealogy, *Fairview Park Regional Library*, will address the group about *The 1930 Census*.

New Year—New Address

As of February 2003, we will have a new mailing address. It will be:

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

Thank You

We are grateful to Peter & Helen Palshook for donating a complete set of disks of the 1880 census. It is quite an addition to our library. Thank you to Walter Fortuna for the materials he donated about Haller's Army. The listing of the ships on which the volunteers returned to the USA mentioned in the article in this newsletter came from that material. Kudos to Leroy Kostecki for helping some of the members with the 1930 census. He brought examples of the census report to our October meeting for the perusal of our members. And to all who attend the meetings, bring bakery or in any other way contribute to making our group more knowledgeable, more friendly, thanks to all.

Some Interesting Websites

Anyone interested in *the Slavic Village* organization, can get more information about it at:

<http://www.slavicvillagehistory.org>

The Polish-American Cultural Center has its own website at:

<http://www.paccjpii.org>

Membership Drive in 2003

As we all are aware, the cost of everything just keeps going up. The same is true of our group expenses. The cost of paper has gone up and postage rates have also increased. Consequently, our newsletter costs more to publish. We try to keep costs to a minimum and still, we have problems.

Our group is of a nature that we must depend on membership dues in order to survive. We cannot depend on bake sales, card parties or dances to make money. Most of our membership is out of state and the only thing that we offer them is our newsletter. We appreciate their loyalty to our group and try to give them a newsletter which is both helpful and interesting.

At our last two meetings, we have discussed ways to increase our income. One of the ideas brought forward was to have a membership drive during the year of 2003. And it'll work something like this.

Anyone who refers a new member to our group will receive a three month extension on their membership. That is equivalent to five dollars in membership dues. If you refer one member, you receive a three month extension, two referrals will get you a half year extension and so on. Four referrals will pay for a full year of membership dues, that is, twenty dollars.

And that is the reason why we have included the membership application form on page 11. There is a space on the application for the name of the person who referred the new member. Please make sure that your name is on the application form in the space marked: **Referred By**. Should you need more copies of the form, you can duplicate the one of page 11.

We hope that in this manner we can continue to publish our newsletter and not have to increase our membership dues. Twenty dollar dues have remained the same since our inception, that is, since 1991. Most other groups have the same dues figure.

We ask for your support in this endeavor. And, should you happen to win the lottery, we'd like you to know that we are not above accepting donations, be they small or large, to fill our coffers.

Continued from page 8

S/Sgt. **Irene Maciag** has been overseas in the Hawaiian Islands for five months, and they are the fastest five months she has ever spent. For the past month she has been helping the Catholic Chaplain, and she writes that she has enjoyed that work. Her first plane ride recently was a thrilling experience for her.

Pfc. Ed Rompala recently saw his youngest and lightest boxing show put on by native boys, age 4 to 10, somewhere in the Philippines.

We've come to the end of the line, so until our next chance to pass on the latest gossip to you, good reading, good luck and God Bless You.



On the Lighter Side

Taken from a small book entitled, *Dear Sir*; and published in 1944. These are actual letters.

State Selective Service
333 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir;
I recieved your notice of Seduction and
will be there March 29th.

Tony S _____

Captain William Lee Tracy
Fort Custer, Michigan

Dear Captain Tracy
My seargent told me that if I studied nights I
might make a first class idiot. Is that better than
a second lieutenant?

Fred K _____

THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND
P.O. Box 609117
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44109-0117

First Class Mail

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



Everyone who is interested in Genealogy, and more specifically Polish Genealogy, is welcome to join our group. We meet the first Tuesday of the month from September thru June at St. Mary's PNC Church; 5375 Broadview Rd. (corner of Broadview & Wexford); Parma, Ohio. Parking is available in the parish lot, the entrance of which is on Marietta Ave. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and usually end at 9:30-10:00 PM. Membership dues are \$20.00 a year.

President:	John F. Szuch 105 Pleasant View Dr., Seville, Ohio 44273	(330) 769-4603
Vice-President:	Richard Jasinski 3121 Parmalee Dr., Seven Hills, Ohio 44131	(216) 524-3907
Treasurer:	Richarda Jambrozy 1492 Lewis Dr., Cleveland, Ohio 44107	(216) 226-1548
Secretary:	Sonia Chapnick 7897 Gildersleeve Circle, Kirtland, Ohio 44094	(440) 256-8392

Please submit all correspondence to: PGSGC Newsletter, P.O. Box 609117, Cleveland, Ohio 44109.
e-mail address—edjmendyka@aol.com