

THE POLISH COMMUNITY OF CLEVELAND  
by Mitchell Bienia\*

The first Poles to settle in Northeast Ohio lived in Berea, Ohio. The Polish community in Cleveland was started in the 1870's in the current Slavic Village neighborhood. It soon grew to be a thriving community, with Polish shops (32 grocery stores and 67 saloons), single and multi-family housing, the parish church of St. Stanislaus (1881), with a Polish school – which reached its peak enrollment in 1917 with 2,137 students, after turning away another 600 students for lack of room.

Poles were first attracted to Cleveland because of the employment opportunities to replace striking workers at Cleveland Rolling Mills in 1882. However, three years later, the Poles themselves were leading a strike at the very same mills to protest wage reductions.

THE CHURCH, ALWAYS THE ANCHOR

As the Polish community grew, it spread to nearby areas, with Polish Catholic parishes always serving as the focal point. Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (1894) grew from St. Stanislaus, six blocks to the south. Other early Polish parishes were Sacred Heart of Jesus (1889) on East 71<sup>st</sup> Street, St. Casimir (1898) at East 82<sup>nd</sup> St. and Sowinski, St. Hyacinth (1907) near the industrial valley, St. John Cantius (1898) in Tremont and St. Barbara (1905) on Cleveland's west side. As Poles prospered, they moved further from the city center, settling in Lakewood at St. Jadwiga (1905), at Corlette and East 131 Street at Our Lady of Czestochowa (1914), and in Garfield Heights at Sts. Peter and Paul (1925). Corpus Christi (1936) was founded to serve the Poles moving to Biddulph and Pearl Roads. Dissatisfaction with the diocesan administration of Polish parishes eventually led some Poles to join the independent Polish National Catholic Church (1914).

NUMBER ONE BUSINESSMAN

The most prominent businessman to emerge in the Polish community of Cleveland at that time was Michael P. Kniola. He notified relatives and friends in Poland of the employment opportunities in Cleveland. He then established a travel agency in 1890, Kniola Travel Bureau, which exists to this very day, to arrange steamship travel to the USA, and further ground transportation to Cleveland. Then, Michael Kniola ran an employment agency to find jobs for those he brought to Cleveland. Seeing the need for housing, he opened a real estate office to help new arrivals buy their own homes. He also established a bank to help finance these real estate purchases. Then, in order to provide life insurance for these new arrivals, he became involved in the insurance business, leading to the presidency of the Alliance of Poles from 1902 to 1903. A real entrepreneur was Michael Kniola!

POLISH FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

In the social sphere, fraternal benefit insurance societies played a great role in the lives of early Polish immigrants. Employed in dangerous jobs, and unable to negotiate the English language, Poles founded their own fraternal insurance companies to cover funeral expenses, to provide low-interest loans, and to offer social and athletic activities. The first of these was the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America's (1873), Immaculate Heart of Mary lodge (1880), from which sprang the Union of Poles in America (1894). The Alliance of Poles of America (1895) split from the Polish National Alliance (1886). As early fraternal organizations held a "men only" policy, the Association of Polish Women in the U.S.A. was founded in 1911, through the Polish Woman's

\* *This article is used with the permission of the author. The text is similar to the article which appeared in the Mosaic Section of The Cleveland Plain Dealer on February 15, 2005.*

Alliance. Interestingly, fraternal organizations that split from one another over 100 years ago, are now merging back together. January 1, 2005 is the date of two mergers, as the Alliance of Poles of America joins the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, and the Union of Poles in America merges with the Polish National Alliance.

#### THE POLISH COMMUNITY GROWS

During their first 50 years of existence in Cleveland, the Poles prospered and multiplied. They established many cultural, social, professional and athletic organizations, including two daily Polish-language newspapers. The community also supported many Polish banks, including the surviving Third Federal Savings and Loan (1938). Lending primarily for owner-occupied homes, this bank assisted many, many Poles in obtaining their first home in America. In fact, Third Federal saved the Slavic Village neighborhood by remaining in the community and breaking ground in 1998 to expand its campus to include its operations center. For over 60 years Third Federal has been led by the Stefanski family. Marc A. Stefanski is currently the Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, and President of Third Federal Savings and Loan.

One of the Polish community's first cultural organizations, founded in 1902, was the Harmonia Chopin Singing Society, which recently celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is now headed by Michael Jankowski.

In the 1930's the number of Poles living in Cleveland started to wane, primarily because of a lack of new arrivals from the "Old Country." Second and third generation Americans preferred to move away from the old neighborhoods and live their own lives in the suburbs as full-blooded Americans. There was a second wave of immigration from Poland after the Second World War, but not in substantial numbers. But by the 1990's Poles were among the largest number of immigrants coming to Cleveland, spurred by decades of communist rule in Poland, coupled with the tenuous economic situation in Poland that greeted the rise of the Solidarity movement, followed by the declaration of martial law.

A relatively new organization is the Pulaski Franciscan Development Corporation. Its goal is to develop the neighborhood and return it to a position of economic strength by helping younger people to relocate in the Slavic Village neighborhood as well as to encourage the development of businesses in the area. Many brand new townhouses are being built in the community.

#### CIVIC LEADERS

Despite its large numbers, the Polish community of Cleveland had a dearth of elected public officials in the early years. The exception was the councilman from Slavic Village, who has traditionally been Polish. In 1906 Joseph Sawicki was elected to the state house, and to the municipal court in the 1920s and 1930s. Anthony Rutkowski served the public from 1929 to 1974, retiring as a Cleveland Municipal Court judge.

In recent times there have been quite a number of public officials elected with a Polish background, including Cleveland Councilman Edward Rybka, Parma Councilwoman Michelle Stys, Seven Hills Councilwoman Caryl Lecznar, Judge John Sutula, Judge Kathy Sutula, Judge Paul Matia, Judge David Matia, Judge Dick Ambrose, Judge Carolyn Freedland, Judge Diane Karpinski, Judge Raymond Pianka, Strongsville Mayor Thomas Perciak, Seven Hills Mayor David Bentkowski, and Independence Mayor Fred Ramos.

#### POLONIA IN CLEVELAND TODAY

Today a vibrant Polish community still thrives in the city of Cleveland, centered about St. Stanislaus and Immaculate Heart of Mary parishes in the Slavic Village neighborhood. Most of the other Polish churches still exist, but parishioners primarily come from the suburbs to support their "home" parishes.

Fleet Avenue is the hubbub of activity in the Polish neighborhood of Cleveland today. The street is punctuated with ethnic butcher shops, many of which now call themselves "deli's." There are Jaworski's Meat Market, T & T Sausage Market, Europa Deli, and the newest arrival, Seven Roses. The wonderful aromas of the Old World penetrate the air with smoked sausages of every kind, in addition to the sweet fragrances of delicious pastries and breads, especially during the days just before Christmas or Easter, when every Pole feels obligated to make the trip to Slavic Village for that special traditional favorite. Just a few blocks from Fleet Avenue, down East 59<sup>th</sup> Street, to Heisley Avenue, is Krusinski's Butcher Shop. The only Polish bakery left in Slavic Village is Gertrude Bakery on Gertrude Avenue at East 65<sup>th</sup> Street. But the new-styled deli's also offer a wide range of home baked goodies. Stop by on a Friday afternoon and get them while they are still warm.

In the Slavic Village neighborhood there are numerous other businesses run by Poles, including funeral homes, tax accountant offices, doctor offices, dentist offices, taverns, travel agencies, real estate offices, and barber/beauty shops. There are also Polish establishments in the suburbs where Poles migrated, namely Garfield Heights, Parma, Independence, Seven Hills, and Lakewood.

#### DRIVING FORCES OF POLONIA TODAY

Today's driving forces behind the success of the Polish community, called Polonia, can be traced to a number of organizations and their leaders, who give time, talent, and energy on a daily basis. Among these organizations are, of course, the Polish churches, as well as fraternal benefit societies, veterans groups, and cultural/social institutions. Nearly all of them schedule dinner dances and banquets throughout the year. And each of them holds special functions particular to their organizations.

#### THE POLISH-AMERICAN CONGRESS

The umbrella organization of all Polish groups is the Polish-American Congress (PAC). The Ohio Division of the PAC is headed by John Borkowski, who came to Cleveland from Poland almost 48 years ago, as a twelve-year-old boy. For over 30 years he headed a Polka band, which still exists under the name Sound Trax, although he gave up the band more than 10 years ago. The Polish American Congress's mission is to help new arrivals from Poland to succeed in their new country, as well as to assist fellow Poles remaining in Poland. The PAC maintains a registered tax-exempt Charitable Foundation, aimed at helping Poland in times of need. Since its founding in 1981, the National Office of the PAC has sent over \$250 million in aid to Poland, primarily in the form of medical supplies, medications, and various medical equipment. Most of the merchandise has been donated, but the PAC has paid for storage, processing, shipping, and distribution in Poland. Several years ago millions of dollars were sent to flood victims in Poland. And, currently, the PAC Charitable Foundation is collecting funds to be sent to the Tsunami victims in Southeast Asia.

Besides doing charitable work, the PAC maintains an office in Washington, D.C. to monitor and lobby for affairs affecting Poles in America as well as Poles in the homeland. In 1998-99 the PAC was instrumental in helping pass the vote in the U. S. Senate to expand the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO,) to include Poland, as well as Hungary and the Czech Republic. Prior to the end of the last congress, the PAC has been promoting an issue to Representatives in Congress to pass a visa-waiver bill that would exempt Polish citizens from the requirement of obtaining a U.S. visa in order to visit the USA.

The largest annual project undertaken by the PAC – Ohio Division is the Polish Constitution Day Celebration, which commemorates the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791, the first formal democratic constitution in Europe, and second in the world, following the U. S. Constitution. The weekend around May 3 is celebrated with a Polonia Ball, wreath laying ceremonies at the monuments of two Polish-American heroes - Kazimierz Pulaski and Tadeusz Kosciuszko, a religious service of a Catholic mass with full procession in a local Polish church, and a parade in Slavic Village with about 70 units.

#### FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES

For well over 100 years Polish Fraternal Benefit Societies have been a driving force in the Polish Community of Cleveland. The original purpose of assisting people of Polish ethnicity has continued to this day. There are four active fraternal organizations in the Cleveland area today. The Alliance of Poles of America, a Division of the Polish Roman Catholic Union, is also headed by John Borkowski. The Polish Woman's Alliance is presided over by Eugenia Stolarczyk. The Union of Poles in American, a Division of the Polish National Alliance, is represented by David Milcinovic. And George Brych is director of the Polish National Alliance. Polish fraternal organizations provide a wide array of activities for their members, including low-cost life insurance, competitive home mortgages, and attractive annuities, in addition to educational, cultural, and social activities. Most fraternal societies grant scholarships to members to further their educational endeavors. The Alliance of Poles and the Polish Women's Alliance, as well as the Pope John Paul II Polish American Culture Center, run Polish language schools to help keep the Polish language alive among the youth. The Alliance and Culture Center have Polish language classes for native-born American adults. The Alliance of Poles also offers English language classes for adults from Poland. The Alliance of Poles now maintains the largest Polish library in the state of Ohio. The Alliance also rents a beautifully renovated hall (capacity 300) to community groups. In addition, the Alliance of

Poles operates a private club where members can stop for some liquid refreshment.

#### VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

Many Polish veterans organizations exist in the city of Cleveland. There are groups composed of veterans who fought in the Polish Army, as well as groups of American military veterans of Polish heritage. Four Polish Army veterans groups are active and well in Cleveland. Among the Polish Army Veterans groups are Post 152, headed by Joseph Lecznar; Post 1 led by Adam Kobialka; Post 203 commanded by Walter Nagorny; and SPK led by Edmund Kobylinski. Each Polish Veteran's group is accompanied by a Ladies Auxiliary group. The Polish veterans support Polish charitable causes by raising funds through hosting a variety of activities.

The American veterans of Polish heritage belong to many posts in the organization called the Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV). The primary purpose of the PLAV is to support and visit hospitalized veterans at local VA hospitals. To accomplish this end the PLAV hosts numerous fund-raisers throughout the year, including picnics, dinners, awards recognition programs, among others. Kenneth Milenovic is the current National Commander of the PLAV, and Michael Polichuk is the current State of Ohio Commander of the PLAV. State of Ohio PLAV Ladies Auxiliary president is Kathy Boll.

Linked to the PLAV is the Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Inc., an organization committed to provide scholarships to Polish-American students. Funds are raised through the honorary society called the Grand Knights and Grand Ladies of Pulaski. Scholarships are presented annually, and leaders of the Polish-American community are honored at the Pulaski Awards Dinner Dance each October. Current president of the Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Inc. is Genevieve Lewandowski.

#### SOCIAL/CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

In addition to churches and fraternal organizations, the Polish community of Cleveland is driven by many social and cultural organizations. The Cleveland Society of Poles, whose president is Michael Sokolowski, of the family-owned Sokolowski's University Inn, is an organization composed of professional men of Polish extraction. Besides providing informative speakers at monthly meetings, the Cleveland Society supports Polish organizations through donations and purchase of tickets. Member Thad Cooke's project is the dissemination of current books that accurately portray Poland's history and culture. The most recent achievement of the Cleveland Society is "Polish-American Night at the Jake," where over 1,000 proud, flag-waving Poles paraded around the infield of the stadium before watching an Indians game.

The John Paul II Polish-American Culture Center is now headed by Ben Stefanski. The Culture Center offers programs of Polish culture, literature, music, art, and history. A "Kawiarnia," or Coffee House, is also offered for young adults on Friday and Saturday evenings. Once a month there is a "disco" for young people. Sunday brunch is served after local Polish masses at neighborhood churches. The Culture Center also has a hall for rent with a capacity of about 120.

The Parma Polish American League has been headed for many years by Edward Jayjack. This organization hosts a variety of activities for Poles who live in Cleveland's southwestern suburbs, highlighted by the annual "Shepherds' Mass," the traditional Polish Christmas Eve Midnight Mass. The Parma Polish American League holds this event, organized by Larry and Kay Gonet, after Christmas at a church in the southwest suburbs, so that Polish people who can't get to the mass at a Polish church on Christmas Eve might still enjoy this tradition.

Polish Americans, Inc., led by Joseph Feckanin, is a non-partisan political organization dedicated to good citizenship, while promoting good government, self-reliance, and involvement in the community

#### POLISH RADIO

Several Polish radio programs are broadcast in the greater Cleveland region. The longest-running Polish-language radio program in Cleveland is hosted by Eugenia Stolarczyk on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am on WERE, 1300 AM. Mrs. Stolarczyk also hosts a Sunday evening program at 9:10 pm on WCPN, 90.3 FM. Anna Klik runs a Polish-language radio program on Saturdays at 12:30 pm on WCSB, 89.3 FM. There are several English-language polka radio programs including Rich Krzynowek's "Prime Time Polkas" on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm on WERE, 1300 AM. Ed Ostry's "Polkatown Cleveland" is broadcast every Saturday at 10:00 am on WELW, 1330 AM. Ed Potoniec's "Tower City Polkas" airs on WKTX, 830 am Saturdays at 1:00 pm. George Rozak's "Polka Changed My Life" is broadcast on Thursdays at 6:30 pm on WRUW, 91.1 FM.

## CURRENT CONTACT WITH POLAND

With a large Polish community in Cleveland, there is much communication between Cleveland and the homeland. With the advent of phone cards, a Clevelander can call Poland and speak for 500 minutes for only \$5.00. Local residents return to Poland regularly to visit friends and relatives. Second and third generation Polish-Americans also go to Poland to seek their roots. And what a wonderful reception they receive.

Local Poles continue another custom of sending parcels to friends and family in Poland. During the days of communism there was a severe shortage of all material goods. To help, the relatives in America sent all manner of goods, from coffee and tea, to medicines, to food, clothing, and toys to help their fellow Poles through rough times. Today the parcels contain computers, gas grills, and a variety of fine products, in addition to the traditional staples.

The Polish community in Cleveland also hosts entertainers, public officials, and various other professionals from Poland when they come to town. Meetings are arranged, and community members are invited, to meet and greet the honored guests from Poland. The Polish Consulate in New York regularly sends representatives of the Polish government to attend Polish patriotic activities in Cleveland.

## THE FUTURE OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY

According to the U. S. Census of 2000, there are 433,016 people who call themselves Polish living in the state of Ohio, 119,216 in Cuyahoga County, and 22,958 in the city of Cleveland. Will the Polish community of this region survive as a group?

The tendency to emigrate from Poland to other countries has slowed somewhat following the fall of communism and Poland's entry into NATO and the European Union. Poland has become a democratic country with a free market economy. The rule of law applies, and minorities are treated with respect and dignity. Living conditions in Poland, while not quite equal to American standards, are improving rapidly. During this time of transition, the main problem facing the population of Poland is high unemployment, currently at an official rate of nearly 19%. In rural areas the figure is higher.

Young people in Poland are finding greater and greater opportunities at home in Poland as the private sector of manufacturing develops and new jobs are created. However, industrial and manufacturing growth has not yet caught up with the numbers of college graduates. So for the time being, even young people are unemployed. The elderly certainly have a problem. Inefficient enterprises have been idled for many years already. Most of the elderly are not able to retrain for positions in the new technology, which leaves them without work. Even those in retirement find that their pensions are insufficient to provide a decent living, while payment benefits are frozen during a time of rising inflation.

However, while not yet great, the living conditions in Poland are improving. Young people prefer to make a living where they were raised, where they are comfortable, knowing the language, customs, culture and traditions. It is still the dream of most Poles to visit America, but the thought of emigrating is diminishing.

Without large numbers of immigrants, the Polish community of Cleveland must survive on its own. The Polish immigrants of the past ten years are busy acclimating themselves to their new homeland. They are now American, and they want their children to be 100% American. But a dilemma arises. How can they be 100% American and still cling to their former culture, customs, language, and traditions?

Some of the Polish newcomers see the larger picture, of making themselves good Americans through the traits of their former nationality. They can establish themselves in this new country by maintaining the values of honor, integrity, honesty, pride, and dignity, in addition to an ethic of hard work, which they bring from the Old World. As these parents send their children to American schools, they also ensure that the children attend after-school or Saturday classes to maintain their traditions, customs, language, and culture. It is to the extent that these families uphold their ancestry, that the Polish community will survive in the city of Cleveland.

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Thank you Mr. Bienia for an excellent, comprehensive article about the Polonia in Cleveland. Mr. Bienia is first vice president, Polish American Congress-Ohio Division, past president of the Cleveland Society of Poles, and public relations coordinator of the Alliance of Poles. He is the owner of Kniola Travel Bureau in Slavic Village, located at 5502 Fleet Ave., tel. no. 216-641-7633. Members Ron Marec and his wife Judith, and Ron's sister Elaine Marec, visited Poland last year. Their arrangements were made through Kniola and they highly recommend their services.

## MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> CELEBRATION IN CLEVELAND

By JOHN F. SZUCH

I don't know about you, but for me growing up in Cleveland, Ohio in the 1940s, one of my biggest thrills of the year was attending the Polish May 3<sup>rd</sup> celebration held at Wade Park. I guess to be more specific about the location I should say on the grounds of the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Unfortunately, I don't know the history of the celebration in Cleveland, but I would suspect it started in the 1920s or 30s. The earliest I know that I attended was at age 4 in 1942. The purpose of the celebration was to commemorate the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791 which was the first of its type in Europe and second only to the US Constitution. Since the Polish leader at that time, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, had fought in the American Revolutionary War and was a close friend of Thomas Jefferson, it was only natural that the Polish Constitution would be patterned after the American one. Although Kosciuszko and his peasant army were defeated by the Russian Army, they left the legacy of the Constitution which is celebrated to this day. Thomas Jefferson must have smiled when he heard about the Polish Constitution, knowing that he had influenced it.

But why hold the parade and festivities on the Art Museum's grounds? Well, if you've never been there, there is a beautiful statue of General Kosciuszko just to the left of the museum. Using the statue as a focal point was a natural because Kosciuszko was the leader of the insurrection in Poland that resulted in the Constitution of May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

As I started getting a little older I really looked forward to the celebration. First of all, the Museum's grounds with their gardens and giant pond out front are beautiful at that time of the year. The flowering trees are in full bloom, and you had the white swans on the pond and the giant goldfish that also inhabited the pond. My Uncle Steve Recko would bring a bag of dough balls to throw on the water to lure the goldfish to the surface. I might mention that this was a household function in that my Mom (Sophie), my Grandparents (John & Bernice Malicki), my Aunt & Uncle (Mary & Steve Recko) my other Uncle (Steve Malicki), and later on my cousin (Alan Recko, born in 1947), made this an all day outing.

Another highlight of the day was going into the Art Museum. The "May Show" would be going on, where I assume local artists had their works on display. Polish artists would be designated by ribbons attached to the frame. Two other things I looked forward to seeing in the Art Museum were the mummies, and most of all, the armor room. I would guess that the "armor room" was every little boys favorite with its knights and armor displays.

But, with all those attractions to look forward to, the one I most looked forward to was the parade! The parade was made up of various Polish fraternal and veteran groups, much as it is today. It was the Haller's Army veterans that I most liked to see though. With their sky blue uniforms and their square czapkas (hats), they were something out of a story book for me. It wasn't until I got older that I had an appreciation of what they stood for. I did not have any knowledge about them when I was a youngster because I didn't have a relative in the immediate family who had been a member of it. From that earliest recollection to this day I have always wanted to own one of those uniforms but have never able to find one available. I almost got the impression that those old veterans were buried in their uniform!

The parade would end at a reviewing stand that was set up to the right of the Kosciuszko statue. There were numerous dignitaries on the reviewing stand and a number of them would give some sort of speech, often political I'm sure. I remember one year that Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine was the guest speaker.

At some point in time, the May 3<sup>rd</sup> celebration (which was usually held on the first Sunday in May) was moved to Lakeside Ave. in front of the Cleveland City Hall. Recently it has moved to Fleet Ave. in the Slavic Village neighborhood. It ends at a reviewing stand on the side of the Alliance of Poles building (just off Broadway and across the street from the Third Federal S&L main office).

When I conceived the idea of writing this article a number of years ago, I had not attended one of these celebrations for many years. Prompted by doing the hand draft, several years ago I attended the celebration with my wife Marlene and my granddaughter, Lauren Alberto. Unfortunately, I did not see any of those beautiful blue uniforms of the Haller's veterans. As is the case with my mom, my grandparents, and my Aunt Mary and my two uncle Steves, they are now all gone. I'm sure though, that if I close my eyes I will vividly see them all as I did some 60 years ago!

## Our Polish Ancestors

*Days Gone By*

*Chester's Meat Market*

*Circa 1930's*



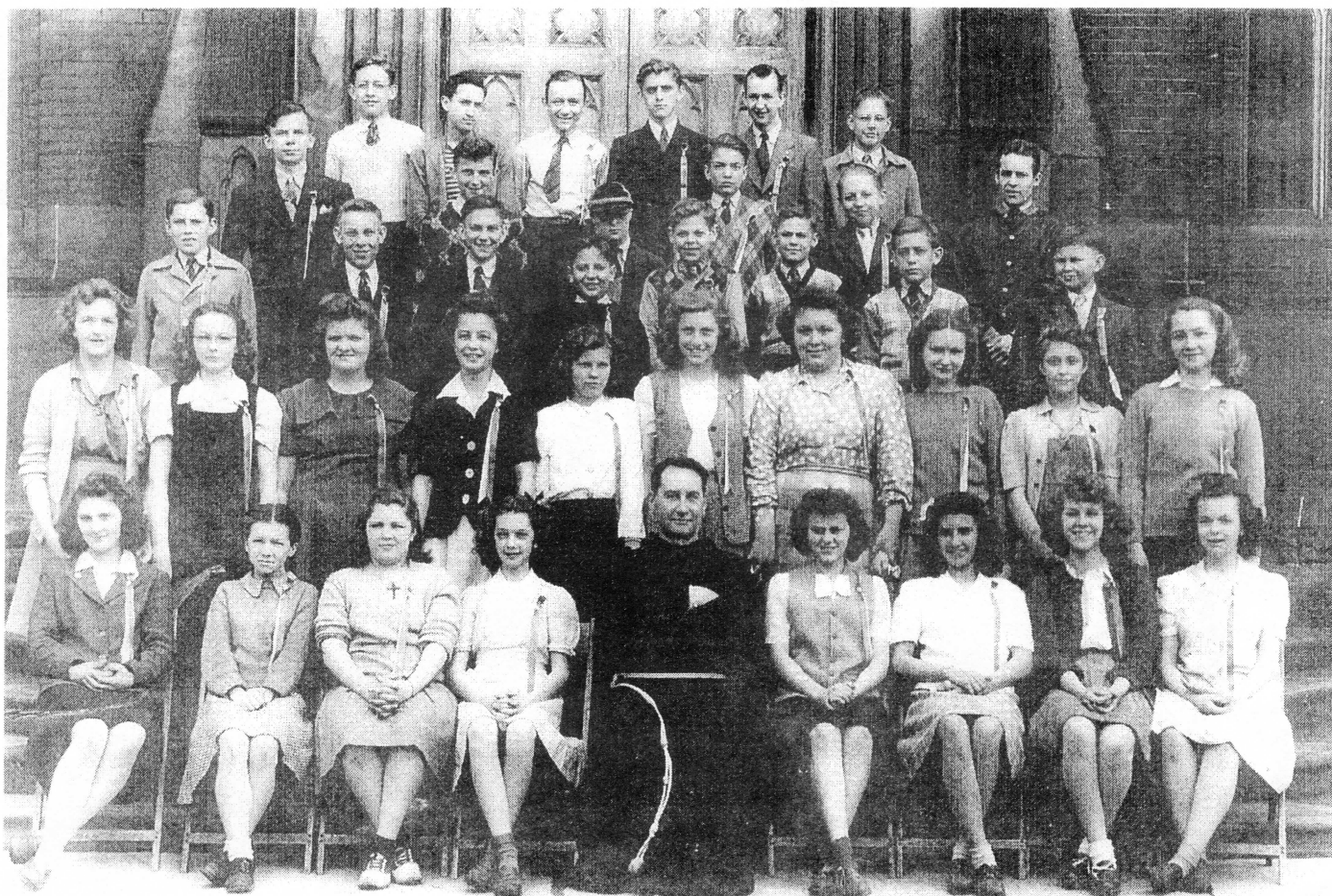
Chester's Meat Market was located at 65 Fullerton Ave., across from Golubski's Funeral Parlor. The man behind the counter in the center is Chester Zajaczkowski. The two men behind the counter are: at the left is Jozef Zajaczkowski and the man on the right is John Zajaczkowski. Evidently they had a sale on bananas. If one looks at the picture with a magnifying glass, trade names R&B and Pillsbury (in the glass case) can be made out. Notice the quart of milk sitting on the scale. Thanks to member Scott Stefanski for allowing us to use this picture. Chester Zajaczkowski is Scott's great-grandfather.

### Welcome—New Members—Witamy

**Bernard & Rita (nee Sroka) Brady**, interested in surnames:  
2081 Wyandotte Ave.  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
E-mail address: bbradylhs@aol.com

BRADY, EVANCHO, EVANKO, EWANKO,  
GOLBA, KARASZNAWSY, KLIMKIEWICZ, KOBA,  
SROKA, SWANTEK, SWIATEK, VINANSKY,  
WIENCEK, WIENCZEK, WISH, WISHKIEWICZ

## Eighth Grade Graduation Class—St. Stanislaus—1944



Top row---Jerome Budzinski, John Kulka, John Sitarz, Ed Otloski, Stanley Kuczinski, George Walkowiak  
Fourth row---Raymond Kuczowski, Ed Zawada, Tom Slezak, Raymond Zaremba, Henry Stybel  
Third row---Stanley Mojack, Len Przyborowski, Stanley Staron, Marion Koszewski, Joe Bryg, Raymond  
Pawloski, Ronald Kamenar, Frank Gapinski, Chester Zendarski  
Second row---Gerrie Laskowski, Victoria Bodziony, Victoria Magdziak, Harriet Wisnie, Helen Klaus  
Konkowski, Rita Golubski, Dorothy Woznicki, Connie Zielecki, Felicia Mantkowski, Pat Kalinowski  
First row--Cecelia Chrzanowski, Anna Stanczak, Theresa Mierzejewski, Pat Sielatycki, Fr. Ted Woloszyk,  
Florence Nowak, Dolores Dykas, Sophie Sovizral

*Thanks to Len Przyborowski for allowing us to use his photograph.*

### What's Happening—

Old Photographs—Thanks to members Scott Stefanski and Len Pryer for allowing us to use old photographs they have in their possession in this newsletter. Len has more that we will publish in future newsletters. Member Trina Galauner has made some “oldies” available also. Friend of our group, Sandra Rozhon, has some excellent photos which you'll want to see in future newsletters.

Online burial information—Mention should be made of a project which Trina and Sandra have undertaken. They are working together to create a online database of burial information of people of Polish extration buried at local cemeteries. View their work at: <http://zodiacal.com/barbarowa/trees/graves.mv>

You can add any information about your ancestors you might have to their database. And while you're there, do a search to see if anyone has already added any information that you can use.



RESEARCHING

PARISI  
 PASIUT  
 PASKOWICZ  
 PASZKOWICZ  
 PAULIASZAK  
 PAWIAK  
 PAWLOWSKI  
 PAWLOWSKI  
 PAWLOWSKI  
 PELCZAR  
 PELESHOK  
 PENKALA  
 PENN  
 PERCIAK  
 PEREK  
 PERELKA  
 PFEFFERLE  
 PIANKA  
 PIASCIK  
 PIATKIEWICZ  
 PIECHNIK  
 PIECUCH  
 PIENTKIEWICS  
 PIERSON  
 PIERZCHALA  
 PIKOS  
 PILATOWSKI  
 PINARCZYK  
 PINCOSKI  
 PIWINSKI  
 PIWINSKI  
 PIWOWARSKI  
 PLATA  
 PLATA  
 PLATEK  
 PLESNIARSKI  
 PLONA  
 PLONA  
 PLUCHINSKY  
 PODWABINSKI  
 POGACZOIK  
 POLANIEC  
 POLANOWSKI  
 POLASKI  
 POLEFKA  
 POLEWKA  
 POLGAR  
 PONKE  
 PRUSAK  
 PRUSAK  
 PRYER  
 PRZEDPELSKI  
 PRZINDA  
 PRZYBOROWSKI  
 PRZYBYLSKI  
 PRZYBYLSKI  
 PRZYCHOCHA  
 PTAK  
 PUC  
 PUTZ  
 PYKOS  
 PYKOSZ

RESEARCHER

PARISI, GARY & NANCY  
 KUCZMARSKI, PATRICIA  
 ZEHMS, DONALD & MARYSUE  
 ZEHMS, DONALD & MARYSUE  
 KMAN, BEN  
 TRENT, BRUCE & MARY ANN  
 DOMINAK, STEVE & LUCIA  
 SWIFT, DONALD & JEANNETTE  
 VENINSHEK, CARL & CAROLINE  
 PELCZAR, JAMES & CAROLYN  
 PALSHOOK, PETER & HELEN  
 SHAVER, BARBARA  
 ELLIS, LINDA JEAN  
 HARRIS, KAREN  
 JAMBROZY, ED & RICHARDA  
 SWIFT, DONALD & JEANNETTE  
 CELEK, BERNARD  
 PIANKA, RAYMOND & KAREN  
 PIANKA, RAYMOND & KAREN  
 HADBAVNY, JOSEPH & GLORIA  
 KLASCH, DENNIS & STELLA  
 WASILEWSKI, WALTER & JOAN  
 HADBAVNY, JOSEPH & GLORIA  
 BELILL, RICHARD & LUCY  
 CZARNOWSKI, DIANNE  
 HADBAVNY, JOSEPH & GLORIA  
 STEFANSKI II, BEN S.  
 KOWALCZYK, DAVID  
 OSTROWSKI, DAN  
 MAREC, ELAINE  
 MAREC, RONALD & JUDITH  
 KUCZMARSKI, PATRICIA  
 KUCZMARSKI, PATRICIA  
 MARSZAL, ELEANOR  
 WYDOCK, LAWRENCE  
 MUZILLA, RAYMOND & CAROL  
 OLENDER, FRANCIS & JENNIE  
 PIANKA, RAYMOND & KAREN  
 PLUCHINSKY, WALTER & ANN  
 MUZILLA, RAYMOND & CAROL  
 PELCZAR, JAMES & CAROLYN  
 DOMINAK, STEVE & LUCIA  
 JESS, ROBERT & ROSEMARIE  
 HUDSON, DOROTHY  
 TROUT, DAVID & KAREN  
 TROUT, DAVID & KAREN  
 SZUCH, JOHN  
 WASILEWSKI, WALTER & JOAN  
 HADBAVNY, JOSEPH & GLORIA  
 PRUSAK, CAROL  
 PRYER, LEN  
 JABLONOWSKI, ANTHONY & ROSEM  
 BRAUN, NORMAN & EDNA  
 PRYER, LEN & HANNA  
 JABLONOWSKI, ANTHONY & ROSEM  
 WASILEWSKI, WALTER & JOAN  
 GALAUNER, MARK & TRINA  
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SLUSARSKI	MENDYKA, EDWARD	SZYDEK	SYZDEK, BRUNO & PHYLLIS
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STRUNK	BRAUN, NORMAN & EDNA	TOTH	SLUSARSKI, EDWARD & YVETTE
STUDLO	SCHMIDT, PATRICIA	TOTH	SLUSARSKI, EUGENE & WANDA
STUDLO	SCHMIDT, PATRICIA	TOTH	SLUSARSKI, JEAN M.
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