

# Our Polish ANCESTORS

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND

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## Julius Stanislaus Gostkowski, Possibly the First Polish Settler in Cleveland

By Trina Goss Galauner

On 15 January 1872, Julius Gostkowski, age 46, died of stomach cancer leaving a wife and four minor children. He was a highly respected resident of Cleveland and may have been the first Pole to settle here. His story in the United States was well documented but his life before his immigration was a mystery which only his obituary provided some insight.

Julius was a native of Poland, though Poland did not exist as a country at the time he lived there. His death register entry indicated a birthyear of 1826 and a birthplace called Santoniss, Poland. Julius' father's name was John (Jan) Gostkowski. He was of noble stock, reportedly of a "most renowned" family. Research found that the noble family, Gostkowski (von Gostkowski), originated from the Kashubian village Gostkowo (German: Gross Gustkow) in Pomerania. The family obtained the noble title of Baron in 1782. A town called Santoniss could not be located and may have been the phonetic spelling or misspelling of Sandomierz. But where, exactly, Julius was born could not be determined.

As a Polish Army 1st Lieutenant, Julius fought in the Hungarian Revolution from 1848 to 1849, to aid the Hungarians who were pursuing their freedom from Austrian and Russian oppressors. The Hungarian revolution and War of Independence, led by Hungarian patriot Lajos Kossuth, began 15 March 1848. When Austrian troops were unable stop the uprising, they gained the support of the Russian Army. The Hungarians surrendered 13 August 1849 and Polish and Hungarian revolutionaries fled to Turkey. Julian found himself exiled in Turkey, however, the Turkish Sultan pressured the Poles to convert to Islam if they wished to remain there. Those who refused faced extradition as Polish war criminals. The British Government provided refuge for the Poles in England. Once in England, Julian boarded a ship and finally found

.....continued on page 8



Gravesite of Julius von Gostkowski, Woodland Cemetery in Cleveland, Ohio

### Inside this issue:

Julius Stanislaus Gostkowski, Possibly the First Polish Settler in Cleveland	1
Letter from the President	2
Genealogy 101: The 1950 Census	3
Remember When: A Tribute to My Mother	5
What's Polish in the Historical Cleveland Plain Dealer?	7
Searching in the Russian partition. How do you spell your name in Cyrillic?	9

### Welcome

If you are not already a member of the PGSGC and would like to become one and receive this quarterly newsletter (cost is \$24.00 per year), please contact Michael Speare at [pgsgc@yahoo.com](mailto:pgsgc@yahoo.com) for more information.

The Polish Genealogical Society





## Letter from the President

Witam i zapraszam:

These last few months have been challenging for the world and myself but exciting for the PGSGC, I had one of my hips replaced. As a result, I had to depend on others for many things, from putting on socks and shoes to moving summer furniture out of the basement and lawn prep for spring. Fortunately, I had a supportive wife, children, in-laws, and grandchildren. I realized how important family is in our lives. We should think of genealogy as being about family too. It is those known and unknown ancestors who paid their support forward to our generation. They are with us still.



The PGSGC family has been blessed with the addition of many new members. We look forward to discovering and learning new things with them as we support each other in our genealogical quests. Additionally, Bernadette Berger has taken charge of our publicity committee with an inviting booth display at the Polish Constitution Day.

To our growing website we have added presentation videos and meeting minutes with more to come. We have enhanced our Zoom audio/visual capabilities for our remote attendees. However valued this technology, it does not replace the in-person attendance experience. I have always felt that much of what I learned came from sitting around the table and exchanging family search tips with my fellow members.

Lastly, this last three months have brought home the horror of war as seen in Ukraine. We see what it is to have one's country invaded by a voracious neighbor destroying innocent lives and targeting cultural centers. It wasn't on TV, but our Polish ancestors experienced a similar invasion beginning in the late 1700s. and again in the 1930s. Proudly, we saw Poland throw open its borders to today's refugees. If there is a country in Europe that understands the Ukrainian's plight, it is Poland.

Michael E. Speare, President

### Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland

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#### The Polish Genealogical Society



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## Genealogy 101: The 1950 Census

By Michael Speare

On Friday, April 1, 2022, the raw data from the 1950 Census was released to the public. That census counted nearly 150.7 million people living in the United States in April of 1950. For those of us born between April 1, 1940, and April 1, 1950, this is the first time we will see our names listed. Importantly, this timeframe also covers the movement of immigrants displaced from WWII, the migration of peoples from the rural North and South to the big cities of the Mid-West as America's manufacturing expanded. Nearly 140,000 census takers (enumerators) completed house to house canvassing. This is the last such personal data gathering as the 1960 census was largely conducted by mail. Each canvasser asked up to thirty-eight questions from age, sex, race to income, military status, education, and ancestry. Information on infants were recorded on special infant cards which was another seventeen questions long. Historians and genealogist are anxious to access the information. However, this raw data was not released in the easy form that we are accustomed to researching from earlier censuses. To put this data into searchable digital form, several steps are required. Typically, scores of volunteers have aided this process. Additionally, Ancestry and Family Search are utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) to scan the data for conversion into a searchable digital format. Family Search has reported 400,000 volunteers devoted to indexing data from around the world with many expected to be specifically devoted to indexing this census data. At the time of authoring this article, some of this AI data has been posted but human scanners have been busy correcting some of this data where the scans misinterpreted the information. Still, this use of AI should greatly speed up the normally months long digitization.



**The following questions were asked of residents and entered on the indicated lines.**

1. Name of street, avenue, or road where household is located?
2. Home or apartment number?
3. Serial number of dwelling unit?
4. Is this house on a farm or ranch.
5. If no (5), is this house on a place or three or more acre?
6. Corresponding agricultural questionnaire number?
7. Name?
8. Relationship to head?
9. Race?
10. Sex?
11. How old was person on their last birthday?
12. Is this person now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married?
13. What state or country was the person born in?
14. If foreign born, is the person naturalized?





**Questions asked of those 14 years and older.**

- 15. What was this person doing most of last week-working, keeping house, or something else?
- 16. If the person was “keeping house” or “something else” in fifteen, did the person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house?
- 17. If the person answered “no” to sixteen, was he/she looking for work?
- 18. If the person answered “no” to seventeen, even if he/she did not work last week, do they have a job or business?
- 19. If the person was working, how many hours did they work in the last week?
- 20. What kind of work does the person do? What kind of business or industry is the person in? Class of worker the person is? Private employer (P), government (G), in his or her own business (O), or without pay on family farm or business (NP)

**A small sample of the population received the following supplemental questions.**

- 21. Was the person living in the same house a year ago?
- 22. If no to twenty-one, was the person living on a farm a year ago?
- 23. If no to twenty-one, was the person living in the same county a year ago?
- 24. If no, to twenty-three, what county, state, or country were the living in a year ago?
- 25. What country were the persons mother and father born in?
- 26. What is the higher grade of school that person has attended?
- 27. Did the person finish the grade in twenty-three?
- 28. Has the person attended school since February 1, 1950?

**Questions for persons on sample lines fourteen years of age and over**

- 29. If yes, in item 17: How many weeks has he been looking for work?
- 30. Last year (1949), in how many weeks did this person do any work (excluding work around the home)?
- 31.a. Last year (1949), how much money did he earn working as an employee for wages or salary (before taxes and other deductions)?
- 31. b. Last year (1949), how much money did he earn working in his own business, professional practice, or farm (net income)?
- 31. c. Last year, how much money did he receive from interest, dividends, veteran’s allowances, pensions, rents, or other income (excluding salary or wages)?
- 32. a. Last year (1949), how much money did his relatives in this household earn working for wages or salary (before taxes and other deductions)?
- 32. b. Last year (1949), how much money did his relatives in this household earn in their own business, professional practice, or farm (net income)?
- 32. c. Last year, how much money did his relatives in this household receive from interest, dividends, veteran’s allowances, pensions, rents, or other income (excluding salary or wages)?
- 33. If male, did he ever serve in the U.S. Armed Forces during (33a) World War I, (33b) World War II, or (33c) any other time including present service? (Yes/No).



## Remember When: A Tribute to My Mother

**By John Prokop**

I always think about my Mom, especially when Mother's Day arrives in May. My mother's first name was Theresa, but she liked to be called Terry. Everyone knows what a significant role our mother plays in our lives. She was the first person we met when we were born, and it was a "love-at-first-sight" reaction when she met us for the first time. We are totally dependent on her for everything we need to survive and sustain our lives. She remains a constant source of love, affection, attention, guidance and discipline throughout our entire life.

When I try to think back of my first recollection of my mother, it is a vague and diluted memory of me sitting on the floor in our basement in our house on Bellevue Avenue. I was playing with clothespins while she was washing clothes. There was music playing on a radio in the background, and I recall my mother singing while she was washing the clothes. I must have been four or five years old and I felt so happy and contented while I played nearby her.



Theresa "Terry" Kalish  
1927 - 1987

As far back as I can remember, my mother had a beautiful voice and she loved to sing. Music was always playing from the radio and I remember hearing "Top 40 Hits" and "Country Music", her favorite genres. Music became an important part of my life because it was such an important part of hers. When she would work (clean, wash, cook or iron), she would always have music playing in the background and she would just sing along to whatever song would be playing. She often sang at weddings and her renditions of "Ave Maria" and "Panis Angelicus" were memorable, moving and inspiring.

Not only did she love music and singing, but she also loved to dance. My earliest recollections of my mother dancing was at family or friend's weddings, dances held at halls, clubs, fraternal organizations, or banquets, or at outdoor street festivals. She loved live polka music and enjoyed popular bands that would come to play locally at the "Brookstate Inn" or "The Golden Mule." Everyone in the house listened to Polish music on the radio and she loved to sing and dance to all the great Polish polkas and waltzes. We were immersed early into the Polish culture (language, music, customs, etc.) and easily became part of it. The TV show "Polka Varieties," was turned on promptly at 1pm every Sunday.

My mother, like all other mothers, was a great cook. She loved making delicious meals and ethnic dishes. She easily prepared Italian, Chinese, Hungarian, and other ethnic dishes she had tasted or saw on a menu or in a cookbook. She also attended the "Cleveland Baker's College" at night and took a course in cake decorating. She baked and decorated the most beautiful and exquisite cakes for weddings, anniversaries, showers, birthdays, graduations, Christenings and First Holy Communions. She displayed amazing talent and creativity in decorating these cakes.

I recall my mother being a good disciplinarian. She had high standards about how children should be raised; respect for elders, love of family, love of church, love of country and always to do the right thing. I must also give her credit for her great sense of humor and her ability to make herself and others laugh and find humor in everyday situations.



She had many sayings that we heard often around the house, when she would want us to learn lessons in life, that helped carry us far into successful adulthood. When I had children of my own, I would often repeat those sayings to them. "Waste not want not." "He who lies, also cheats so do neither." "Cleanliness is next to Godliness." "Never be backward about going forward." "Mind your manners." As I became older the sayings became wiser. "If you want to see how a man will treat his wife, look at how he treats his mother." "The best hatchet is a buried one."

Mom knew how to console me when I was hurt, upset, or angry. When I had my first broken heart, I thought I would never love again, or get over it. I had given up on dating and love all together. No woman would ever be able to get into my heart again, after having been hurt like that. My mother knew I would not talk to her about it, so she would just say things to me at the right time and place and it was like salve to my broken heart. Eventually, she proved herself right, that I would love again and that having lost my first love would make finding the right one easier the next time around.

My mother was the first person I told when I had fallen in love again and the first person I told when I proposed to my future wife and she accepted. I realized my mother's advice and wisdom would give me strength and a foundation to raise my own children and solve many of life's difficult problems and challenges. Her wealth of information and fine example on raising children was most valuable when I had my own. When I wasn't sure how I would ever be a successful parent, my mother was my "Dr Spock" reference and manual.



My mother was encouraging and supportive when I made major life decisions. When I left home at age 23 and moved out of state, it broke her heart. However, she knew it was what I wanted and yearned to do, so reluctantly she gave me her blessing. When I decided to return to school full time and change careers, she gave me encouragement and support to succeed and persevere. When we moved from Virginia to Florida, she was happy and excited for us, even if it meant moving farther away from Cleveland. She was always proud of what I accomplished as a son, husband and father.

We think we will always have our mother and her love forever, but we soon learn about loss and grief and how to accept mortality. Grief, sorrow and loss were very private feelings for my mother, and she was stoic when those she loved, or touched her life, passed on. She never wanted us to see her sad or crying.

When my mother left this good earth, it was way too early in her life and she left without warning. Her passing was sudden and unexpected and it was in a hospital, in St. Petersburg, Florida. One thing, for which I will ever be grateful for, was that I was at her side and she was in my arms when she passed. She was there with me when I was born and I was there with her when she died. No mother should ever have to pass on alone and I will always remember being there for her until the very end, especially knowing she gave so much of herself to me, my siblings and others in her life.



John A. Prokop is a freelance writer and has published articles about growing up on Cleveland's East Side Polish neighborhood (Poznan) in the 1950s and 1960s. He attended St. Casimir Grade School (Class of 1962) and then Cathedral Latin High School (Class of 1966). He is also the Prokop Family Historian and Genealogist and has studied Genealogy for about 5 years. John tries to capture and record his feelings of the times, culture, food, religion, people and relationships, as he perceived and lived them. He also chronicles personal information about his family genealogy, which is often rarely recorded or documented. John currently is retired and lives in St. Petersburg, Florida with his wife, Laura, and their two married daughters, Holly and her husband, Hamlet, and Jennifer and her husband, Robert. John and Laura are also the proud grandparents of Jennifer and Robert's son, Robby.



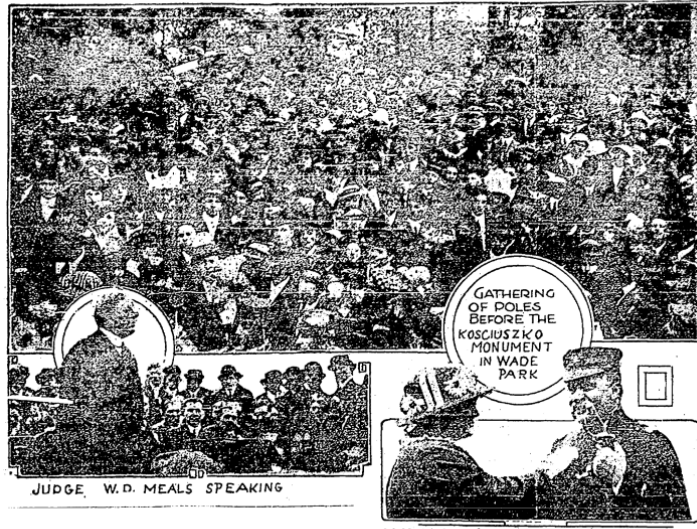


# What's Polish in the Historical Cleveland Plain Dealer?

## "Poles Gather at Kosciuszko Shaft," Cleveland Plain Dealer, 10 May 1915

"The largest Polish gathering assembled in Cleveland since the erection ten years ago of the Kosciuszko monument in Wade Park, yesterday attended exercises before the statue commemorating the tenth anniversary of the monument's unveiling and the 124th anniversary of the Polish Constitution Day. It was estimated more than 15,000 people were present. They included members of twenty-eight Cleveland Polish military societies and Falcons. These organizations met at E. 82nd Street and Sowinski Avenue NE from when they paraded to Wade Park under the command of Col. M. P. Kniola."

SCENES AT KOSCIUSZKO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



POLES GATHER AT KOSCIUSZKO SHAFT

Big Assemblage Attends Exercises Marking Tenth Anniversary.  
Mayor Baker Expresses Hope People Will Gain Independence.

The largest Polish gathering assembled in Cleveland since the erection ten years ago of the Kosciuszko monument in Wade park, yesterday attended exercises before the statue commemorating the tenth anniversary of the monument's unveiling and the 124th anniversary of the Polish constitution day.

It was estimated more than 15,000 people were present. They included members of twenty-eight Cleveland Polish military societies and Falcons. These organizations met at E. 82nd and Sowinski Ave. N. E. from whence they paraded to Wade park under the command of Col. M. P. Kniola.

Two platforms before the statue accommodated the speakers, singers and representatives of societies.

John Kniola, president of the Kosciuszko committee, made the opening address at 4 p. m. He introduced M. P. Kniola as chairman and F. A. [unclear] as secretary.

Mayor Newton D. Baker, first English speaker, expressed the hope the Polish people would succeed in gaining the independence to which they aspire and have their country re-established.

Rev. Charles Ruszkowski, rector of St. Casimir Polish Catholic church, St. Stanislaus parish, attorney Joseph F. Sawicki and A. Wielowiejski, publisher of *Jutrzenka* Polish newspaper were the Polish speakers.

Judge Walter D. Meals spoke on the life and deeds of Kosciuszko.

Vocal numbers were rendered by a mass chorus of Polish church choirs under the direction of Leonard Kramp, organist of St. Stanislaus Polish Catholic church, E. 86th-st and Fremont St. E., and by the United National Singing society, led by Prof. R. Hapke.

A rifle salvo in honor of Kosciuszko was given by the Polish-American cadets under Capt. Charles Bartoszek and the Legion of Poland under Capt. C. K. Kozlowski.

A considerable sum was realized for the Polish war relief fund by the sale of buttons by Polish young women.

In the evening, special exercises to note constitution day were held in all Polish halls.

At St. Stanislaus parish, Formanek, S. E. and E. 82nd-st, F. Jutrowski acted as chairman, J. Turapski as secretary and Joseph P. Sawicki, C. J. Benkowski, T. Obietanski, M. P. Kniola and Rev. W. Kreycki were the speakers.

St. Casimir was the principal speaker at the community meeting at Polish Library hall, 1108 Kentworth-st. W.

At St. Casimir's auditorium, Polish Society, N. E. and E. 82nd-st, J. Lorkiewicz was chairman and S. Landowski, J. Stanislawski and Rev. Charles Ruszkowski spoke.

J. C. Komarski, president at St. John Cantius auditorium, Professor S. W. L. A. Kulawski, Dr. G. H. Kocinski, P. Kmiecik and Rev. P. Doppke were the speakers.

Speakers, singers and representatives of societies included John Kniola, president of the Kosciuszko Committee, Mayor Newton D. Baker, Rev. Charles Ruszkowski, rector of St. Casimir Polish Catholic church, Joseph F. Sawicki, attorney, A. Wielowiejski, publisher of *Jutrzenka* Polish newspaper, Judge Walter D. Meals, various Polish church choirs directed by Leonard Kramp, organist of St. Stanislaus Polish Catholic church, and Prof. R. Hapke of the United National Singing Society.

"A rifle salvo in honor of Kosciuszko was given by the Polish American cadets under Capt. Charles Bartoszek and the Legion of Poland under Capt. C. K. Kozlowski. A considerable sum was realized for the Polish war relief fund by the sale of buttons by Polish young women."

Evening celebrations were held at St. Stanislaus parish, Polish Library Hall, St. Casimir's parish, and St. John Cantius parish.



Kosciuszko Monument, Cleveland, Ohio  
Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

"Bronze statue of Tadeusz American Revolutionary War hero, outside the West Wing of the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio. Kosciuszko was a Polish army officer and statesman. This statue was sculpted by Gaitano Trentanove and dedicated on May 8, 1905. It is eight feet high, and stands on a pedestal that is 12 feet high. Clevelanders of Polish descent conceived and paid for the work."  
Tim Evanson



*Julius Stanislaus Gostkowski continued from page 1.....*

freedom as an immigrant in the United States.

According to his naturalization record, Julius Gostkowski arrived in the United States 20 July 1851. However, on 22 July 1850, Stanislas Kostowski, Polish soldier, age 25, arrived in New York on the ship *American Eagle* from London, England with several other Polish soldiers.

When Julius arrived in Cleveland, he took a job as a melodeon finisher for Bishop & Child, a family-owned company located in the second and third stories of Hulburt's New Block, on Ontario Street. Melodeons were small keyboard instruments that were the predecessor of the pump organ. They were manufactured within ornate cabinets of rosewood, with a fine finish, and were as much a furniture showpiece as they were a musical instrument.



Bishop & Child 19th Century melodeon advertisement

Julius found residence at the Kuchenbach boarding house at 5 Michigan Street, today, 620 Prospect Avenue. August and Laura Kuchenbach had immigrated to the United States with their four daughters and one son in 1848. They were from Bockelnhagen, Saxony, Prussia, today in the Thuringian district of Eichsfeld in Germany. Julian was smitten with their youngest daughter, Pauline.

Julius S. Gostkowski married Pauline Phillipine Sophie Elise Kuchenbach 21 November 1854 at the German Evangelical Protestant Church, Schifflein Christi (Little Boat of Jesus), at Erie (E. 9th St.) and Hamilton Avenue. The Rev. C. A. H. Allardt presided over the ceremony. The Evangelical Protestant congregation formed in 1834 and evolved into the German Lutheran church in Cleveland today.

Julius and Pauline had eight children, Anthony, Augusta, Julius, Laura (Lollie), Edward, two daughters named Emily, and Clara. They lived in Painesville, Lake County, Ohio for a short time where some of their children may have been born. Four children died young. Anthony probably died in Painesville, Lake County, Ohio because no death or burial record was found for him in Cleveland.

Julius became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1858. The family moved back to Cleveland to 44 Eagle Street around 1860 and later lived on Miami Street (E. 6th Street), both locations in today's Gateway District in Cleveland. Their older daughter named Emily died of "summer complaint" in July 1866. Summer complaint was the common name for a gastrointestinal illness that involved severe diarrhea. The second daughter named Emily died in 1868 of measles. Around 1869, the family moved to 39 High Street (215 High Avenue between E. 2nd St. and E. 4th St.) and Julius became a foreman at the melodeon factory. In August 1971, the youngest daughter, Clara, also died of summer complaint.

Julius von Gostkowski died and was buried at Woodland Cemetery in 1872. He died just before the great influx of Polish immigration to Cleveland. His arrival in 1850 may grant him the honor of being the first Pole to settle in Cleveland, Ohio.

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## Searching in the Russian partition. How do you spell your name in Cyrillic?

By Beth Whitson

For those of us who find that our grandparents or great grandparents came from the Russian partition of Poland, we are immediately thrust into Cyrillic writing. And while we understand that, we also find that printed Cyrillic often looks very different than cursive Cyrillic.

There are some very good books (I think of *In their Words: Russian* by Jonathan Shea and William F. Hoffman) and websites out there that will help with genealogy records and the alphabet, but when you are searching through the indexes at the back of the book, looking at a cleric's cursive writing, it's enough to stop research right then and there.

When I first started exploring Polish records, I found my entire family had come from the Russian partition. I used to ask in forums and Facebook sites what a surname would look like in Cyrillic. And while people were very good about sharing, it was usually typed. It wasn't helping with how I would actually SEE the name in the records. I got a bit creative once I discovered a few things.

First, I found that *Geneteka* has many records not only indexed, but scanned. And secondly, in the Russian partition, while some records in villages closer to the now-Russian border were in Cyrillic earlier, all were in Cyrillic by 1868. I generally go to *Geneteka* and click on "Mazowieckie" just because so many records are indexed there and I can usually find a surname I'm looking for. If you want to see the interface of *Geneteka* in English, click on the British flag. You can see here, I am looking for the surname Niedzwiecki and I have typed in beginning year of 1868.



Russian Poland during the 19th Century  
1894 Map of the Russian Empire in Europe  
Wikimedia Commons

Geneteka.Genealodzy.PL  
Genealogiczna kartoteka - baza urodzeń, małżeństw i zgonów

like 18K

Back

Province: mazowieckie

Parish: all locations

Person: niedzwiecki Name

Or: Surname Name

Range of years: from 1868 to

Options:

- Exact search
- Relationship search
- Skip search in parents column
- Include search in nearby parishes (15 km radius)
- Search only indexes added in past 7 days

Search Clear

How to index, Report a bug

Online: 47, ver. 1.71 © 2010-2019 Polskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne :: Administrator Geneteki ::



Here is a look at what comes up when I click search (wyszukaj - if you didn't change to English version).

How to index, Report a bug

Births Marriages Deaths

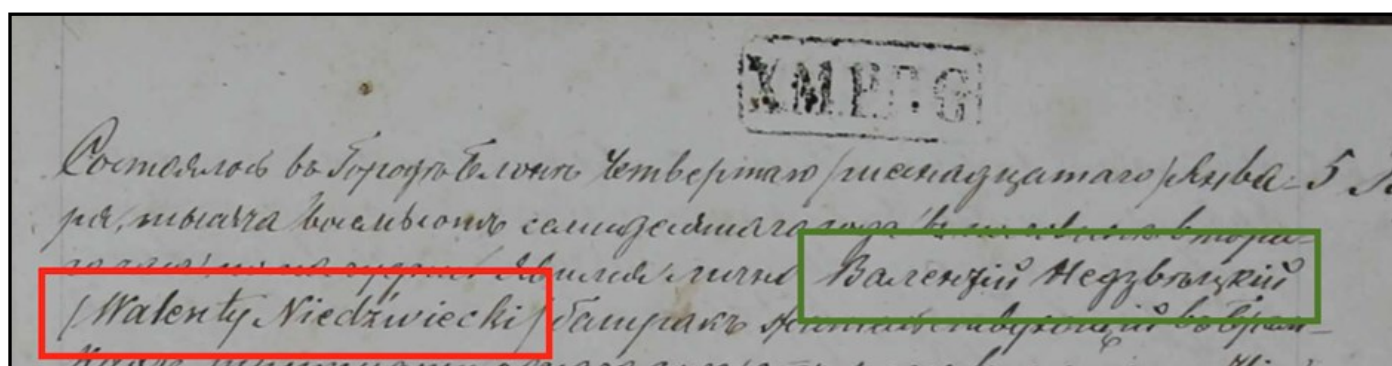
Display 50 Search:

Previous 1 2 3 Next

Year	Record	Name	Surname	Father's name	Mother's name	Mother's surname	Parish	Place	Remarks
1868	20	Jan	Niedźwiecki	Andrzej	Katarzyna	Podemiak	Wrociszew		SKAN
1869	54	Jan	Niedźwiecki	Filip	Apolonia	Baierska	Zaborów	Zaborów	SKAN
1870	5	Józef	Niedźwiecki	Walenty	Anna	Grzywacz	Błonie	Bramki	SKAN
1870	299	Szczepan	Niedźwiecki	Antoni	Kordula	Murawska	Ciechanów	Ciechanów	SKAN
1871	48	Franciszek	Niedźwiecki				Lipniki	Baba	SKAN
1871	77	Jan	Niedźwiecki				Czermno		SKAN

Notice I will be looking at the marked Akt 5. (I had looked at the others, but they link me to FamilySearch and I would have to wade through pages to find the correct record. This particular scan takes me right to the record page.) Notice I want Akt 5. When I click scan, sometimes Geneteka will take you to a list of numbers. You'll need to know the Akt number to click directly to the page. Sometimes it will take you directly to the scan.

Once I clicked the range of numbers that had Akt 5, I open a page that starts with Akt 3 on the top left, Akt 4 on the bottom left and Akt 5 on the top right. There is the record I want!! On most (not all) Cyrillic records, the parent's names are often written in Polish. So even if you cannot read Cyrillic, you should easily be able to find your surname. Now, remember, this is a birth record for Józef. I'm not particularly interested in Józef's name because it will only give the first name of the child. However, I am very interested in where the father's name is because that should be in both Polish and Cyrillic. It is also usually within the first four lines of the record if the record is in Napoleonic format. And bingo, here is Walenty's name in Polish (in red).



You can also see that to the right I have marked in green Walenty's full name in Cyrillic.

I will then use my print screen key, go over to paint and copy and paste this and save it into a file so that when I am searching for the surname Niedźwiecki again, I have what I need to compare.

Not so hard to do at all!



*continued from page 4.....*

### **Questions for person on the last sample line if fourteen years of age and over (one per sheet)**

34. To enumerator: If person worked last year (1 or more weeks in item 30): Is there any entry in items 20a, 20b, and 20c? If yes, skip to item 36. If no, make entries in items 35a, 35b, and 35c.
35. a. What kind of work did this person do in his last (previous) job?
35. b. What kind of business or industry did he work in (in previous job)?
35. c. Class of worker (in previous job): Private employer (P), government (G), in his or her own business (O), or without pay on family farm or business (NP).
36. If ever married (Mar, Wd, D, or Sep in item 12): Has this person been married more than once? (Yes/No).
37. How many years since this person was (last) married, widowed, divorced, or separated?
38. If female and ever married (Mar, Wd, D, or Sep in item 12): How many children has she ever borne, not counting stillbirths?

As you can see, the questions were extensive and can help solve some family mysteries or bring back memories. If you are lucky, many of your relatives were asked the supplemental questions. It is hard to predict the progress of digitization at this time. If you are unable to get search results for many of your relatives, have patience.

Another useful search technique is available at <https://1950census.archives.gov/search/>. Here you can search for enumeration districts (ED) by state, county and/or city. The result when entering a location without using a name will show each enumeration district and a description of the geographic area covered. These districts may be many cities block squares or many mile squares in rural areas. An enumeration district map is included for a visual display of each of the ED neighborhoods. These neighborhood views can be used to search a broader area that could also include lesser known cousins, uncles, in-laws or just good friends from your youth.

For genealogists, this census will provide hours, if not months, of exploring. The National Archives provides an informative website that answers many questions and offers numerous hints. Visit <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950> to learn more about the 1950 census as well as useful information on all the earlier U.S. censuses.

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## **Schedule of Presentations for Upcoming Meetings**

Sep:    **Website Roundup: Demos of some Polish genealogy websites**

Ben Kman

Oct:    **FAN Out! Using Cluster Research to Break Through Genealogical Brick Walls**

Julie Szczepankiewicz

Nov:    **Annual Holiday Party**

Dec:    **Old Family Photos and Heirlooms: Bring those old family pictures and memory filled items to reminisce and share with the group**

Member participation



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



**Polish Genealogical Society of  
Greater Cleveland**

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## About Us

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at St. Mary's PNC Church parish hall, 5375 Broadview Rd., Parma, Ohio. We have summer break in July and August. St. Mary's is located on the corner of Broadview Rd. and Wexford Ave. in Parma, Ohio. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are usually over by 9:00 PM. There is ample parking in the parish parking lot. The entrance is on Marietta Ave. Membership dues are \$24.00 per calendar year.

At many of our meetings, we have guest speakers who address the group on subjects in which we have an interest. The subjects may include genealogical matters, Polish history, heritage and traditions. When we do not have a guest speaker, we have "**Show and Tell**" nights when fellow members discuss their genealogical problems, ask for advice from anyone with a similar problem, tell us of their discoveries, or let us know what they've learned about their ancestors.

Our group maintains a library which is a popular resource our members enjoy. It contains various books, maps, pamphlets and newsletters from other genealogical groups. Materials can be borrowed from the library for a period of one month. We employ the honor system with regard to borrowing of books and other related materials.

We also keep a surname research list. This list includes the surnames of our ancestors which our active members are researching. In the past, members have discovered that they were investigating names that other members were also researching.

We publish a quarterly twelve page newsletter entitled, *Our Polish Ancestors*. Articles for the newsletter are selected that are of interest to our membership. Many are based on materials gathered from the many fine research facilities in and around the Greater Cleveland area, such as: The Cleveland Public Library, The Western Reserve Historical Society, The Cuyahoga County Archives, The Family History Centers and the many Polish-American churches in this part of northern Ohio. Articles written by our membership are always welcome.