
Searchers

The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of New York State



Number 38, 39

PRESERVING OUR PAST SINCE 1988

Summer / Winter 2004



Wedding Picture of Mr. & Mrs. Ignatz Szalasny
Grandparents of PGSNYS Member Dolores Szalsny-Konopa

FOR YOUR INFORMATION ...

MEETINGS

The PGSNYS meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Villa Maria College cafeteria, 240 Ridge Road, Cheektowaga, New York, at 7:00 p.m.

All meeting cancellations due to bad weather will be announced on News Radio 930 AM, WBEN.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues are \$15.00 for the year. This entitles you to three editions of the Searchers. New members receive an information package to help get them started. **Please notify us of any change of address.**

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

All articles concerning Polish Genealogy, history, and information are considered for publication in the Searchers. Submission deadlines for articles are as follows:

Contact: James P. Harlos, Editor
harlos@adelphia.net

MAIL

Please note when writing us for assistance, that due to the large amount of mail received, the PGSNYS will answer ONLY correspondence that includes a self-addressed, stamped reply envelope. All correspondence should be directed to:

The Polish Genealogical Society of New York State

**12645 Rte. 78
East Aurora, New York 14052**

If you wish to contact one of our committees, please write the committee name on the front of the envelope. The committees are: General Correspondence, Searcher Editor, and Membership Chairman.

Please visit The Polish Genealogical Society of New York State's Web Site:

<http://www.pgsnys.org>

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Editor's Notes

2004 was not the best year of my life. I have so far lost about 8 months of my normal activity. On July 16, the day before I was supposed to leave for 3 weeks in Poland - 2 weeks teaching English in Rzeszów and one week driving around in Poland - I decided to do a little work around the house. I went up on a ladder to repair a down-spout. Bad idea. The ladder slipped out from beneath me and I fell about twelve feet. The good part of this was that I didn't kill myself; the bad news was everything else. I had lesions on my forehead and nose, left arm broken in two places, a broken right arm, and a broken right knee cap and part of the tibia. Well, as you can guess, this cancelled the trip for me. This landed me in the hospital for about a week and resulted in a five hour operation for my left arm. I was then home, recuperating and taking some physical therapy when I came down with a staph infection involving my left arm and my right leg mostly. So back to the hospital for another week and then back home with 6 weeks of IV antibiotic treatment 3 times a day. The upshot of all this was that I was not moving around again until in December. If you look at the Christmas pictures in this issue you will see a beautiful Polish crafted cane on one of the tables. That cane is mine and was a companion for many months. Between the pain, the medications, and the slowly recovering body, it was only recently that I could get back to the computer and start putting out the Searchers. I am combining two issues in one to catch up. Sorry about the delay.

Again, as always, I'd like to thank those members who submitted articles, and request more articles.

Thanks for your patience and understanding...

Jim Harlos

harlos@adelphia.net

President's Message

Announcement of Funeral Card Project.

In the year 2001 when the late PGSNYS founder Mike Drabik communicated to me his idea of starting a funeral card project. This project would be for us to index the information found on funeral cards.

Information Obtained from each Funeral Card

FIELD NAME FIELD DESCRIPTION

Page The page the funeral card is found on.

Given Name The given name of the individual.

Surname The surname of the individual.

Remarks This is a catchall for information not commonly found on every funeral card.

Birth The birth date of the individual.

Death The death date of the individual.

Burial The burial date of the individual.

Church The church the mass was held.

Cemetery The burial place of the individual.

Location The location/plot in the cemetery the individual is interred.

Funeral Home What funeral home the individual was waked at.

Polish If the card is written in Polish

To date 18 members have contributed their copies of 1,000 funeral cards. There are 5 volunteers who enter the funeral card data into a searchable database. This database is not yet searchable on the Internet.

Members who would like to contribute copies of funeral cards or ask to search our current for can send them to:

PGSNYS Funeral Card Project.

c/o 12645 Rt 78

East Aurora, NY 14052

akdave@pgsnys.org

Sincerely,

David Newman

President, PGSNYS

My Szalasny Family

By *Dolores Konopa*
szal@webtv.net

A couple of issues ago, I submitted a query about my grandfather Ignatz and someone named Michael SZALASNY - a laborer in 1902 at the same address, 501 Peckham from the Buffalo City Directory, possibly his brother. So far I have found nothing more about Michael but have come to some news about other siblings for Ignatz.

But I think it would be best to start from the beginning. Growing up on the East side of Buffalo, with a tavern, church and funeral parlor on each block or so it seemed... I remember that my father, Walter, and I attended many wakes for his cousins. Unfortunately, I never really quite understood how we were related, and when I questioned my father, all he would say is "We have cousins by the dozens." Over the years, I had learned that some of these cousins were railroad men, carpenters, an attorney, a doctor, and bankers etc... But never quite knew who belonged to whom.

I did know that my grandfather was Ignatz, a worker for the railroad who died an untimely death on 23 Dec 1909.

This left a young widow, Katarzyna (WENCKOWSKA) with two sons, Michael (b 1905) and my father Walter (b 1907). Shortly after his death, she married Franciszek NASOŁOWSKI and had two more sons, Stanley and Jan (died infancy). Michael married Stella LESNIAK at St Barbara's in Lackawanna NY. They had a son Richard and daughter Julianna. Michael worked for the City of Buffalo Streets Department and also ran a working

farm in Eden NY. About the time I was born they also adopted a son, John.

The other SZALASNY family that I knew about was Stanley and his wife Clara. Stanley was a retired railroad man. They also had two sons named Jerry and Donald. I assumed that Stanley's father Walenty was a brother of Ignatz. But never had anything to either prove or disprove this idea. Before Donald had passed on, I spoke with him and he knew as much as I but never had any idea exactly how we were cousins (1st, 2nd or just because we had the same surname).



The house at 60 Ashley St.

Both my grandmother and Donald's parents lived at the same address, 60 Ashley St at the corner of Mohr. Grandma lived in the upper back apartment and they, in the upper front apartment, with a grocery store that my grandmother rented out, to whom, I don't know. And that was where my knowledge of the SZALASNY's ended, at least until Uncle Stan-

ley NASIOŁOWSKI's funeral in 1997. My cousin Richard gave me copies of Katarzyna's Naturalization Certificate, death certificates for her, his father Michael and also for Uncle Stanley, along with certificates of baptismal for her sons and church death records of her three husbands. Richard thought I might like them because he remembered that I used to ask questions that were never really answered.

This was enough to rekindle my curiosity about where my grandfather came from and if he had any siblings, etc. I had already been working on and off on my maternal side and my husband's family since the 1980's, asking and annotating information as I remember it or copying information when I found it at the Library.

About 5 years ago, after coaxing by my daughter Deborah, I went on the Internet and did a search for SZALASNY and tried Ancestry.com, and found very little there as well. So I just started collecting any and all information that contained the surname SZALASNY. There did not appear to be many with that surname. I did start noticing a thread of at least 3 or 4 family lines. This included the spelling of SALASNY, because I remembered my father telling me that that family line belonged to the Polish National Church.

Recently, I received an e-mail from a descendent of Wojciech SALASNY and stated that she had never heard of the Polish National Church and all of her family were Roman Catholic. She said that a daughter of Wojciech had wanted to get a job in downtown Buffalo and had the "Z" dropped so it would sound more "Jewish". She also wanted to know what my connection was to the SALASNY family. I responded "not sure" but told her what my father told me. Needless to say none of the names I mentioned sounded familiar to her. She confirmed that some of the SALASNY's were bankers and there was a doctor as well.

Prior to that I was contacted through the Ancestry.com message board by Jack SZALASNY wondering if we were family. His sister Rose was working on a family tree as well. Some of his uncle's first names sounded familiar to me, but none of my small family line was familiar to them. But they came to the same conclusion with there only being a handful of SZALASNY's in the area, there must be a connection. Last year I went to the Historical Society to help a friend look at the films there. Scrolling through I found the obit for Josef SZALASNY. My heart stopped. I roughly translated the obit his children along with his siblings were listed. Neither Ignatz, Walenty nor Michael were among them. However, Wojciech SZALASNY and Anna JANIK were. I passed this

onto the others, happy for them but disappointed for me. There was one thing that I did not yet realize. In the early part of the 1900's, if the family member died before you, they were not listed in the obituaries.

A few more months passed. I obtained my grandfather's death certificate from the Cheektowaga Town Hall and his parents were listed as Marcin SALASNY and Agnes CHI. I thought there was an error and then remembered the newspaper article reporting his accidental death had the name spelled SZALANSKI. But I wondered why my grandmother would accept the misspelled name on an important document. She knew how to read and write, or so I thought. Ed K. contacted me regarding probate information at the Erie County Hall. I requested the court document and it was then that I learned grandma signed the court papers with an "X" which was witnessed. Apparently, she learned to read and write later, probably when her sons went to school. And so the search was two steps back and three steps forward...

That is until, I started looking at the sister Anna and the baptismal sponsors. Everything came together this past Tuesday, January 25, 2005, when work was delayed until noon due to a water main break at the Appletree Business Park. My daughter Deb and I decided to go downtown to the 13th floor of City Hall. She for a copy of her birth certificate. While there, I requested the copies of death certificates for Wojciech S(Z)ALASNY and Maryanna BZIBZIAK. In less than 15 minutes the information was in my hands. My grandfather did indeed have siblings here in the Buffalo area. Now there is another question: was my great-grandmother Agnes married twice? On Josef's death certificate his father is Lawrence or was this another error. At least my father was right --- we did indeed have cousins by the dozens....

I present to you my SZALASNY family line:

1. Marcin SZALASNY (b 14 October 1855, d 27 March 1923 in Brzeszcze, Poland) & Agnes CHI-CHA
2. Walenty SZALASNY (b abt 1867 Biala Galicia

Continued on page 10

Potpourri

*** † POPE JOHN PAUL II † ***

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

Just after I sent out the March issue of *Gen Dobry!* the death and funeral of Pope John Paul II became the central story on TV and in the newspapers. I know by now most of you are probably suffering from “media overload,” so I doubt I can tell you anything you haven’t already heard. Besides, what he meant to Poles and Polish-Americans is simply beyond the power of words to express.

Still, it would be absurd for any publication dealing with Polish culture to ignore the end of the Holy Father’s life. And the passage of a little time may have made it easier to appreciate and celebrate his life without being overwhelmed by grief. So I felt I should include a few links to sources of information you might wish to explore.

Obviously those interested in Polish genealogy might like to learn more about the ancestry of Karol Wojtyła. A couple of sources provide information on this subject. An article tracing his ancestors appeared in a 1981 issue of the Polish Genealogical Society *Newsletter*, and a copy has been made available in Adobe Acrobat Reader form on the PGSA Website:

<http://pgsa.org/1981.Nwlt.6.v3n2.Wojtyla.pdf>

If you’d like something short and simple, there’s a nice chart here:

<http://www.genpol.com/Poradnik-Gen-Pol-art117.html>

If you’re not intimidated by data given in Polish, the Genpol site offers links to collections of text material on this page:

<http://www.genpol.com/Poradnik-Gen-Pol-sub24.html>

On the more general subject of his life, there’s a retrospective from CNN beginning at this URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/1999/pope/bio/early/>

Also fascinating is the material provided by PAP (the Polish Press Agency) on this page:

<http://papiez.pap.com.pl/>

It’s in Polish, but even if you don’t speak the language you can guess what “Fotografie” means. Click on it and you get a nice selection of photographs from various points in his life.

You can find much more information with a search on <http://www.google.com>, for instance, by looking for “Poles mourn Pope” or something along those lines. A search for “Pope John Paul” on <http://www.images.google.com> will provide plenty of photographs—or search for “Karol Wojtyła” to get photos from Polish sites, many of which are striking.

There’s also a great deal of text information to be found in the archives of various mailing lists. For instance, you can look through the notes posted on the Poland-Roots site by going here:

<http://archiver.rootsweb.com/th/index/POLAND-ROOTS/2005-04>

The *Chicago Tribune* offers a book and a CD-ROM full of text and photos on the life of the Pope. Sometimes there’s a box on the Tribune’s home page (<http://www.chicagotribune.com>), on the left, about halfway down, that links to the page describing the offer. If it’s not there when you visit, here’s the URL for that page:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/services/newspaper/chi-popecd,0,3276986.html?track=sapromofront>

It’s a long address, so you may have to copy and paste it into your browser one piece at a time.

Once you get to that page you’ll find a description of the items and what they cost.

Well, I said I’d keep this short, because really, what can I say that hasn’t already been said? But it seemed only right to take a moment and pay tribute to a beloved son of Poland, one most of us admired deeply.

Written by Fred Hoffman, wfh@langline.com. Previously published by *Gen Dobry!*, Vol. VI, No. 4, 30 April 2005, PolishRoots®:

<http://www.PolishRoots.org/>

Three Languages out of Two

A look at English, Polish and “Half-Na-Pól” - Appendix

by Andrew Golebiowski

This is appendix of the article which started in the Summer 2003 issue.

Examples of Some Half-Na-Pól Words

This list is sorted in alphabetical order according to American English terms and is based mostly on the author's own use and overheard use. Other examples come from Doroszewski,

Kruszka, Data, Trela and emailed responses to an appeal to friends and relevant internet discussion groups.

In the Standard Polish column, one can detect numerous roots borrowed from French, German Latin and Greek modified by Polish grammar and pronunciation.

American English

application form
basement

barber
battery (car)
benefits (social)
bills (receipts)
birthday
blame v.
boarder
bum(s) n.
business
businessman

can v. (vegetables, fruits, etc.)
can (tin, garbage)
can of food
cheap (i.e. “He is cheap”)
Chinese (people)

chicken, piece of chicken

chips
Christmas
collect v.
collection (in church)
Councilman
crackers
creek
darts
date (meeting)
drive v.
emergency
fancy (dress)
fix v.
Fourth of July
frigidaire (regional)

American Half-na-Pól

forma, aplikacja
bejsment, bezment, bejsmentarz

balbierz
bateria
benefity
bile, byle
birsdej, bursdej
blejmować
bortnik
bom(y), bum(y), bomostwo pl.
biznes, byznes
biznesman, byznesman,
biznesista, byznesista

kanować, kanowanie
kana, kiena (garbyć)
kena, kiena
cipny
Czajniki

ciken, kawałek cikena,
czykien, czikien, etc.
cipsy, czypsy
Krysmus
kolektować
kolekta
koncylman
krakersy
kryka
dartse, darce
 dejt, dejta
drajwować
emerdzency
fenci (sie nie ubieramy)
fiksować
fordziulaj
frydzyderka

Standard Polish

formularz
piwnica,
sklep (dialect)
fryzjer
akumulator
świadczenia, premie
rachunki
urodziny
zwalać winę
stołownik
włóczęga(i)
interes
kupiec, handlowiec, przedsiębiorca

wekować
puszka, kosz na śmieci
konserwa, puszka
skąpy
Chińczycy (czajnik is a teapot in Polish)

kurczak, kawałek kurczaka
chrupki, żetony
Boże Narodzenie
zbierać
zbiórka na...
radny
suchary
dopływ, odnoga rzeki
strzałki, lotki
randka
prowadzić
nagła sprawa, awaria
luksusowa
naprawiać
czwarty lipca
lodówka

American English	American Half-na-Pól	Standard Polish
furnace	<i>furnes, fornes</i>	piec
garbage	<i>garbyć, garbydź, garbeć, etc.</i>	śmieci
German (people)	<i>Dżermany</i>	Niemcy
get out	<i>gierary(e)</i>	wyñoś się
greenhorn	<i>grynhorn, grynoł, grynor, grzynor, grynkora</i>	nowoprzybyły, żółtodziób
gun	<i>gan</i>	pistolet, rewolwer strzelba, etc.
hot water tank	<i>tynka</i>	piec, kocioł na wodę zbiornik na wodę
ice cream	<i>ajskrym</i>	lody
insurance	<i>insiura, insiurenca</i>	ubezpieczenie, asekuracja
Irish (people)	<i>Ajrysze</i>	Irlandczycy
kids	<i>kice</i>	dzieci
laundry (the place)	<i>landra</i>	pralnia
license <i>n</i> (driver's, etc.)	<i>lajsnes</i>	prawo jazdy, etc.
little boy	<i>bojsik</i>	chłopczyk
lot (parcel of land)	<i>lota</i>	parcela
mayor	<i>major</i>	burmistrz (major is a Major in Polish)
mortgage <i>n.</i>	<i>morgieć, morgydz, morgycz, etc.</i>	hipoteka
nurse <i>n.</i>	<i>norska, nurska</i>	pielęgniarka, siostra
overalls	<i>owerhole, owerholce</i>	drelich, farmerki kombinezon
P.N.A.		
(Polish National Alliance)	<i>pirenej</i>	Związek Narodowy Polaków (Z.N.P.)
paint <i>v.</i>	<i>pejntować, pejntowanie</i> <i>pajntować, pajntowanie</i>	malować, malowanie
pay <i>n.</i> (wages, paycheck)	<i>pejda</i>	stawka, wypłata, zapłata
patch <i>v.</i> (plaster board)	<i>peciować</i>	
picnic <i>n.</i>	<i>piknik</i>	majówka
picture <i>n.</i> (photograph)	<i>pikcier, pykcier</i>	zdjęcie
pipe <i>n.</i>	<i>pajpa</i>	rura
plumber	<i>plomer, plombiarz</i>	hydraulik
pool (billiards)	<i>pul, w pula</i>	bilardy
porch	<i>porć, porcz</i>	ganek, weranda
president (of an organization)		prezydentprezes
quarter (25 cents)	<i>kwoder</i>	25 centów
renter, tenant	<i>rentnik</i>	lokator
sale, on sale (bargain)	<i>sejół, na sejlu</i>	wy(s)przedaż, na wy(s)przedaży
shopping, to shop	<i>siaping, siapować</i>	zakupy, robić zakupy
scaffolding, on scaffolds	<i>skefry, na skefrach</i>	rusztowanie, na rusztowaniach
sheetrock (gypsum board)	<i>sirak</i>	płyta gipsowa
shower <i>n.</i>	<i>szaler</i>	prysznic
shower <i>v.</i>	<i>szalerować</i>	kąpać się pod prysznicem, wziąć
shut up	<i>prysznic</i>	
stand (news, grocery stand)	<i>siarap, siarrap</i>	zamknij się
starter (car)	<i>stend (m), stenda (f)</i>	stoisko
store <i>n.</i>	<i>starter</i>	rozrusznik
strike (work)	<i>stor, sztor</i>	sklep
tax(es)	<i>sztrajk, strajkowac'</i>	strajk
television set	<i>taks, teksy, taksy</i>	podatek, podatki
	<i>telewizja</i>	telewizor

American English

ticket(s) (admission, fine)
that's it
to start (a car)
tires *n.*
title *n.*
traffic
truck *n.*,
truck driver
train *n.*
trouble *n.*
trouble *v.*
usher *n.*
vacation
watchman, police officer
watch yourself *n.*
woodshed, shanty
workplace
yeah

Half-na-Pół

tykiet(y), tyket, tiket, etc.
decet, decyrk
startować, zastartować, startnąć
tajery
tajło
trafik
trak, trok,
trakier, trokier, trokerzysta
tryn, tren
trubel
trublować
aszer
wykiejsin
waćman
waciuj się, łaciuj się
buczek, sianda
plejsa, siapa
je

Standard Polish

bilet(y) (admission), mandat (fine)
właśnie tak, ~to
rozruszyć, zapalić, zapuścić
opony
akt (posiadania)
ruch samochodowy, ~uliczny
ciężarówka, samochód ciężarowy
kierowca ciężarówki
pociąg
kłopot, zmartwienie
dokuczać
marszałek, szwajcar
wakacje, urlop
stróż, policjant
uważaj na siebie
schowek na drzewo, drewnutnia,
miejsce pracy, zakład pracy
tak, no



Postal Souvenir Sheet 2003 - 750 years location of Poznań
Skyline of Old Town

Continued from page 5

Germany d abt 1905/6) m Antonina 'Mary' WAL-
INSKA (d 10 Jun 1914) I believe that Walenty is the
oldest son of Martin or Lawrence SZALASNY &
Agnes CHICHA but until I can find some sort of
marriage licence or death certificate for him this is
not proven....

3. Ludwick SZALAŚNY (d 16 Jan 1947).

3. Stanley SZALAŚNY (b 8 Jan 1899 d 31 Jan 1958)
m Clara ZAKOWICZ (b 2
Mar 1907 d 22 April 1978).

4. Gerald S SZALASNY m Veronica M
MACHAJEWSKI - have 4 children

4. Donald E SZALASNY Sr (b 11 Mar 1938 d 22 Apr
1997) m Joan C PITTNER - have 5 children
~~~~~

2. Anna SZALAŚNA (b Mar 1868 Brzeszcze Os-  
wiecim PL) m Francis JANIK (b Apr 1867 Andry-  
choni Jedrychon PL d b4 1930)

3. Francis J JANIK Sr (b 19 Oct 1893 d Aug 1967  
Buffalo, Erie, NY) m Anna M (b ca 1891) from 1930  
census had 7 children.

3. Julianna JANIK (b 17 Feb 1895 Buffalo NY d b4  
1947) m Franciscum GRZYWA (b 29 Jun 1887  
Brz? Gal d 24 Dec 1947), son of Jacobus GRZYWA  
& Victoria GREBICA or CHOWANIEC - had 7 chil-  
dren.

3. Antoni A JANIK (b Oct 1896) m Stella (b ca 1902  
PL).

3. Rosalia JANIK (b 31 Mar 1898 Buffalo NY) m  
Ludovicus MRZEWA (b 21 Nov 1887 Radwyl?  
Gal), son of Adelburtus MRZEWA & Francisca  
ULEO(?)

3. Anniela JANIK (b 14 Feb 1900 Buffalo NY)

3. Joaniam JANIK (b 14 May 1901 Buffalo NY)

3. Amielam JANIK (b 8 Dec 1902 Buffalo NY),  
~~~~~

2. Jozef SZALASNY (b 25 May 1870 d 28 Mar 1927
Sloan NY) m Anna Buc(z)ki (b ca 1867 d 17 Dec

1951) NOTE: On his death certificate his father is
listed as Lawrence SZALASNY, information pro-
vided by son John.

3. Jan Frank SZALASNY (b 15 May 1888 Brzesl PL
d 24 Sept 1965) m Stanislaw 'Stella' NAJDEREK
or NAIDEREK (b 26 Apr 1892 Buffalo NY d Oct
1965), daughter of Antoni NAJDEREK & Agnes
DRYA

4. Helena SZALASNA (b 13 Aug 1912 Buffalo NY d
16 Jan 1999 Buffalo NY) m Albert S JANIS

4. Eugenia 'Jean' SZALASNY (b 4 Jul 1914 d 23 Feb
1997 Buffalo NY) m John Valentine DOMIN

4. John Joseph SZALASNY (b 20 Jun 1916 d May
1968 Derby NY) m Karen or Katherine MIKSAT (b
14 Feb 1924 Zabreb Yugoslavia d Nov 1986 Bufalo
NY)

4. Benedict J SZALASNY (b 27 Feb 1919 d Apr
1980 Buffalo NY) m Cecelia (b 13 Feb 1926 d Oct
1982 Buffalo NY)

4. Gertrude SZALASNY (b 25 Mar 1924) m Frank
J SZYMENDERA (b 8 Aug 1922 d 17 Oct 1992)

3. Sister Marya Klawera 'Claver' (Felician order) --
Mary SZALASNY

3. Anna SZALASNA (b 17 Feb 1893) m Wojciech
SWIADEK (b ca 1877 Boszeszowo Galicy) son of
Walenty SWIADEK and Anna WOJCIK

3. Wiktorya 'Victoria' SZALASNA (b 28 Oct 1895 d
26 Jan 1970 Buffalo NY) m. Stanislaw 'Stanley'
KAZMIERCZAK (b 28 Mar 1893 - 03 Mar 1966),
son of Walenty KAZMIERCZK & Michalina STE-
FANIAK

4. Martha KAZMIERCZAK (b ca 1915 d 20 Feb
1998) m Stanley BORYNSKI (b 7 May 1914 d Oct
1973)

4. Chester J KAZMIERCZAK (b 14 Mar 1917 d 15
Aug 1999) m Celia M ZIMMERMAN (b 28 Sep
1920 d 16 Nov 1991)

4. Norman S KAZMIERCZAK m Mary Ann (d 2
Jun 2000 Lake Worth FL).


~~~~~

2. Wojciech 'Adalbert' S(Z)ALASNY (b 17 Jan 1872 d 4 Oct 1929 Buffalo NY) m Rose NOWAK (b 24 Aug 1873 PL d 11 Aug 1938 Buffalo NY)

3. Michael SZALASNY (b 10 Aug 1895 d early).

3. Wacław aka Wesley J S(Z)ALASNY (b 9 Aug 1896 Buffalo NY d 6 Jan 1934) m Stanisława 'Stella' JAGODZINSKA.

3. Maryanne B S(Z)ALASNA (b 2 Jun 1900 d 8 Jun 1991 Buffalo, Erie, NY) m John CARR - she had the "z" dropped about 1925.

3. Victoria D S(Z)ALASNY (b 26 Nov 1902) m Victor E SIMCOE.

3. Stella SZALASNY (b 19 Apr 1904 d early)

3. Stephen Peter S(Z)ALASNY MD (b 1 Aug 1906 d 28 Dec 1977) m Josephine Kathleen RUDNICKA (b 20 Jan 1909 d 20 Dec 1985).

3. Stella E S(Z)ALASNY (b 7 Apr 1908 d 7 Apr 1983 Phoenix AZ) m Karol MYSKA

3. Chester J S(Z)ALASNY (b 24 Jun 1911 d 14 Feb 1958) m Salomeja 'Sally' D WALCZYK.

3. Lawrence SZALASNY (died early)

3. Adela 'Adelaide' S(Z)ALASNY (b 5 Jul 1917) m Raymond Henry GAISER (b 1 Aug 1917 d 10 Oct 1989 Tempe Maricopa AZ)

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2. Ignatius SZALAŚNY (b abt 1875 Brzeszcze Poland d 23 Dec 1909 Cheektowaga NY) m Katarzyna WENCKOWSKA (b 2 Nov 1880 Wylatowo Poland d 29 May 1968 Buffalo/Eden NY), daughter of Michael WENCKOWSKI & Julia KRASNA.

3. Michael I. SZALASNY (b 12 Sept 1905 Buffalo NY d 10 Dec 1967 Eden NY) m Stephania LESIAK (b 21 Oct 1906 d 27 Aug 1977 Eden NY), daughter of Francis LESIAK & Julia BOGDAN

4. Richard SZALASNY m Ruth STYN

4. Julianna T SZALASNA (b 29 Aug 1928 d 18 Jan 2000 Little Valley NY) m Stanley DYLONG (b 1924

d 1950); then John B. ARMATYS. - had 4 children

4. John R SZALASNY m Laura L - have 2 children

3. Władysław SZALAŚNY (b 3 Nov 1907 d 13 May 1968) m Bronisława PZYBYSZ WALAS (1 Jan 1908 d 15 Oct 1957), daughter of Walter PRZYBYSZ & Antonina RUTKOWSKA,

4. Dolores Lucy SZALASNA m Dennis Paul KONO-PA, son of Frank KONOPA & Ceil KUZARA - have 2 children

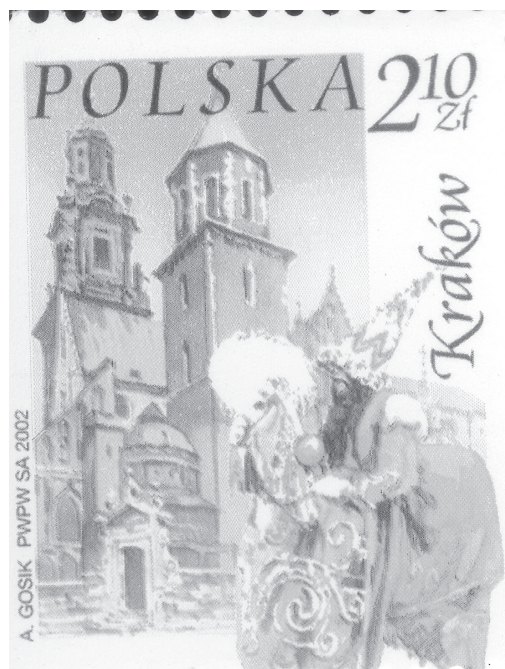
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2. Maryanna SZALASNA (b 15 Mar 1878 PL d 5 Jul 1912 Buffalo NY) m Wojciech BZIBZIAK (b 1868 PL d 4 Jan 1929 Buffalo NY)

3. Mary BZIBZIAK (b 1903)

3. Władysław BZIBZIAK (b 1905 d 4 May 1919)

PS. I recently made contact with the grandson of Franciszek SZALASNY of Depew NY. Frank also came from the same village of Brzeszcze PL.... Don't know if he is another "cousin" but then if you go far enough back.....



Polish Cities Series - Kraków issued 2002

# Yesterday's News

## Pulpits and People

By Laurel Myszker Keogh

The Buffalo Times - October 25, 1934

### Rev. Thomas Flaczek Faced Hard Task at St. Adalbert's

The Rev. Thomas Flaczek faced a multitude of difficulties when he was named pastor of discord-racked St. Adalbert's Church on March 10, 1895.



Father Thomas Flaczek

Many of the parishioners were not only indifferent but actually hostile of his efforts to reorganize the church.

"Members of the faction that did not approve of him removed the doors and windows from the rectory," recalls Mrs. Catherine Przybysz of 153 Stanislaus Street, who has been a member of the church since its organization.

"The weather still being cold, he was forced to live and sleep at the St. Stanislaus rectory."

Hardship, however, was not entirely new in the life of the 36 year old pastor. He had been born in Rozgarki, Poland, in Upper Silesia.

#### ABSENTEE PASTOR

He received his early education in Bytomiu, Poland, and entered the Louvain seminary in Belgium. There he studied philosophy and theology being graduated and ordained into the priesthood on June 29, 1890.

Later that year he came to the United States and Buffalo. Here he entered the service of St. Stanislaus Church as an assistant pastor. Two years later he was made a pastor of St. John Kanty Church. From there he was sent to St. Adalbert's.

He said that he would not occupy the doorless



St. Adalbert's School

rectory until the parishioners assured him of their loyalty. For two months he resided at the St. Stanislaus rectory going to St. Adalbert's only on Sundays and for necessary services during the week.

#### SCHOOL STARTED

All of the discontented members of the church either departed then or changed their attitude to the new pastor and peace settled over the church. Father Flaczek proceeded with the building of a new rectory, installation of altars, and later building of a school and convent.

It was during the pastorate of Father Flaczek that the present St Adalbert parish school, one of the most notable in Buffalo, was built. This was in 1905.

Prior to that time a rambling wooden structure facing Rother Avenue and extending to Kosciuszko Street housed the Felician sisters and classes they taught. The first teachers came from Detroit as



there was no Buffalo province of that order teaching here at the time.

### TEACHING BY RADIO

The new fire-proof school faces Rother Avenue and the convent faces Kosciuszko Street. The 900-odd boys and girls who attend the school have the distinction now of attending the only parochial school on the East Side equipped to take full advantage of the educational possibilities of the radio.



Father Anthony Krawczyk at the radio broadcast consul.

There is a radio loud speaker in each classroom through which pupils listen to educational programs. These are being tuned in through a central control on each one of the three floors.

In the school are 18 classrooms, an auditorium on the top floor and meeting rooms in the basement. The Rev. Anthony Krawczyk is director of the school, which is attended by 900 children.

In addition to the radio system there is a loud speaker through which from a microphone on his desk the principal can address all pupils in the school without the necessity of the pupils leaving their classrooms.

The school and convent are valued at \$90,000. The convent provides quarters for 19 Felician nuns of the order of St. Francis who teach in the parish school.

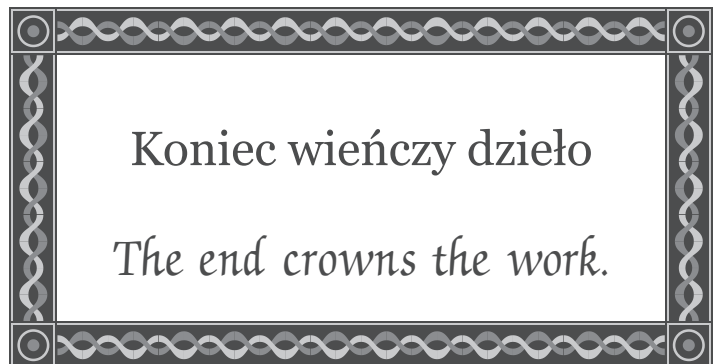
In recognition for his services in smoothing out the difficulties of the parish, Father Flaczek was made an irremovable pastor. He believed in the virtues of a monastic life and urged them upon his parishioners.

He did not believe in card parties, dancing and similar social functions and did not attend them. During his 31 years as pastor no social affairs were held in the parish hall. All of the debts of the parish

were paid by other means and the church owed no one when he succumbed to a long illness after 31 years as pastor.

Father Flaczek died on August 23, 1926. Four days later he was buried with impressive ceremonies in the St. Adalbert's parish cemetery on Walden Avenue beyond the city line.

The Rev. Francis J. Kaluzny, who had been born in the parish, was then named pastor.



1961 Issue  
Seal of Opole and Cement Factory in Opole

# My Start in Genealogy

By James P. Harlos

Harlos@adelphia.net

I first became aware of family genealogy about 50 years ago when I was a sophomore in high school. At that time I came into possession of the Harlos family passport. It was a Prussian passport and was in German. It had listed the names and ages of my great-grandparents and their children. As it turned out my great-grandparents had both died before my dad was born (1914). Therefore, he knew nothing about them. Since I did not know German even reading the document was beyond me. And so the matter stayed for about 40 years. At that point I had grandchildren myself and I decided to start recording and acquiring information about the family – I became a genealogist.

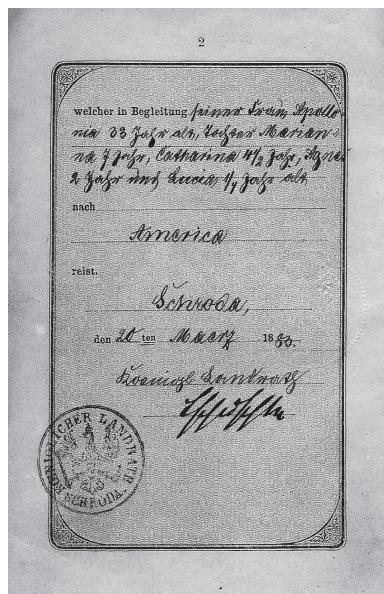
I returned to the family passport and began reading. I had acquired the German and the Latin languages; still no Polish. My great-grandparents were Andreas (Andrzej) and Apollonia Harlos and children Marianna, Katarzyna, Agnieszka, and Łucya. This gave me my first surprise; my grandfather was not listed. I was a third generation Polish-American and not a second generation. So I made the first of many mistakes in my education in genealogy. I went to my local Family History Library to get the information. My mistake? Jumping in when I had no idea of what I was really looking for and where I could expect to find it. The volunteers there were as helpful as they could be but their first question "What was I looking for?" made me realize that I had not formulated my thoughts myself. This was particularly embarrassing to me since by training and occupation I was a research scientist.

I went home and set myself to defining the problem just as I would in my normal research life.

The first step was to see what I knew, and what I needed to know in order to progress further. What I knew was simple – I had the passport information. All the people in it were long dead. I knew no relatives. Questioning my Dad did not help much. I later discovered that the best way to question people about the past is to have a definite incident to talk about. The first question to answer was when was my grandfather born. I could have just asked my Dad about this, but I decided to do this myself, I needed the training. I first started with the early City Directories. I found Andrew Harlos in 1892 living on Rother street.. A quick map check showed that this was close to St. Adalbert's church. So now I had a starting point – St. Adalbert's microfilmed church records at the FHC. If I were doing this today with ancestry.com's indexed Census data I would have started there. However, back then (10-15 years ago!?) the information was not indexed.

At the FHC I got the St. Adalbert microfilm and started going through the baptismal records item by item, year by year. It was slow work and not very rewarding until 1890. The records were in Latin, but I could read it. There in the leftmost column was the name, Charlos, Wincenty. Hmm? The spelling was different but checking the parent's names I found them to

be Andreas and Apollonia Staszek of Posen. So I had a date, 6<sup>th</sup> of April, 1890 and a possible maiden





name. Wincenty was not my grandfather, Stanley, but if Andreas and Apolonia Charlos were Andreas and Apolonia Harlos, then I had started.

I continued my search. I continued and found Julianna, born 15<sup>th</sup> of June 1891 and then Anastasya Harlos, baptised the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1894 and born the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 1894 to Andreas of Zrenica, Posen and Apolona Staszek of Srodka, Posen. I now guessed that I had found the village (town?) that they were born in. I kept going for another 5 years and found nothing. Checking with the volunteers I found that St. Adalbert was a daughter church of St. Stanislaus. So I started checking the baptismal records of St. Stan's. There in 1885 I found Rosalie Harlos, baptised 24 August 1885 and born the 20 August 1885 to Andreas Harlos and Apollonia Staszak. Further on, in 1887 I found Stanislaus Harlos, baptised and born on the 3 April 1887. The parents were again Andreas and Apolonia. I tabulated my results and sent them to my Dad.

Now with direct information and specific questions (were the daughters married, did I have all of them, etc.) his phenomenal memory for his childhood had something to work on. He sent me back the married names of his aunts, the names of their husbands, the names of their children, and the approximate dates of their deaths. The most amazing one was the date of Julianna's death in 1918, when he was 4 years old! And he sent me a copy of a information notebook that his father had kept. But there was one name he did not recognize, Łucya.

This meant that Łucya either died in Prussia between March 1883 and when they left, or she died in the passage to America, or she died in America. I didn't know. One day I was at City Hall and I decided to see if they had a death record for Łucya Harlos. With very little expectation I submitted the name and waited. About 20 minutes later I had a copy of her death certificate. She had died in Buffalo on the 21 July 1884, she was approximately 1 1/2 years old, she was living at 238 Wilson St. for 1/2 year, and she had died of measles that she had had for 3 weeks. I am not sure why, but this information had a very deep impact on me. A little person who was still in infancy, who everybody had forgotten, made part of my ancestry very real to me.

In the City of Buffalo, County of Erie, State of New York.

1. Full Name of Deceased (If an infant not named) Lucya Harlos 2. Age 1 years 0 months 0 days Sex Female Color White (If other than white, state color.)

3. Single, Married, Widowed (If married, state name of husband) 4. Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

5. Birthplace Prussia, Posen (If born in this City, state date of birth.)

6. Father's Name and Birthplace Andreas Harlos, Prussia (State of \_\_\_\_\_)

7. Mother's Name and Birthplace Apolonia Staszak, Prussia (State of \_\_\_\_\_)

8. Place of Death (If an institution, state its name.) 238 Wilson St. (How long has he been here?) 1/2 year (If dying away from home, state date of arrival.)

9. Date and Hour of Death: Died on the 21 day of July, 1884, at 5 P.M.

10. I hereby report this Death, and certify that the foregoing statements are true according to the best of my knowledge, (Signature and name of Physician or other responsible friend.) For the mother

11. I Herby Certify, That I attended the Deceased from \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_, that I last saw him \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ died on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M., and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the Cause of his death was as hereunder written:

|                              |                |                                                     |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Chief and determining        | <u>measles</u> | Duration of Disease in Years, Months, Days or Hours | <u>3 weeks</u> |
| Consecutive and Contributing |                |                                                     |                |

Sanitary observations \_\_\_\_\_

Witness my hand, this 23 day of July, 1884 (Signature) H. Handberg M. D.

No. of Burial Permit 304 Place of Burial St. Adalbert Residence 38 E. Wilson St.

Date of Burial July 23 Name and Institution of Undertaker Adalbert

N. B. The Superintendent of Vital Statistics CAUTIONS ALL PERSONS against ACCEPTING or USING this Certificate for any purpose except that of delivering it for a Burial Permit and Registration.

But the day was not over. I went over to the main library and checked the City Directory for 1884 and found at 238 Wilson a Joseph Harwos. Who was he? So I went back to City Hall and submitted 3 names. Andrew Harlos, Apollonia Harlos, and Joseph Harlos. By this time I had learned that Ł sounds like a w, and that no indexed record in the US has the ł, it will either be taken to be a l or a t.

Again, after a short wait, I had 3 records. Andrew was born in Poland on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 1856, died the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 1909 and had a father whose name was --- Joseph.

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF ERIE  
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH,  
IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO

1. Full Name of Deceased, Lucya Harlos 2. Age 1 1/2 Years 1 Month 0 Days Color White Sex Female

3. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (If married, state name of husband) 4. Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

5. Birthplace Prussia, Posen (If born in this City, state date of birth.)

6. How long Resident in this City 1/2 year

7. Father's Name and Birthplace Andreas Harlos, Prussia (State of \_\_\_\_\_)

8. Mother's Name and Birthplace Apolonia Staszak, Prussia (State of \_\_\_\_\_)

9. Place of Death, (If an institution, state its name.) No. 238 Wilson St. Street, Wilson St. Ward, 2

10. If a Dwelling, by how many families, living separately, occupied, \_\_\_\_\_

11. I Herby Certify, That I attended deceased from \_\_\_\_\_ 189\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ 189\_\_\_\_ that I last saw \_\_\_\_\_ alive on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 189\_\_\_\_, that \_\_\_\_\_ died on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 189\_\_\_\_, about \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ P. M., and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the Cause of his death was as hereunder written:

|                              |                                      |       |        |      |       |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|-------|
| Chief and Determining        | <u>Robertson of Measles</u>          | Years | Months | Days | Hours |
| Consecutive and Contributing | <u>and partial paralysis of face</u> |       |        |      |       |

Sanitary observations \_\_\_\_\_

Witness my hand this 26 day of August, 1892.

No. of Burial Permit 304 Place of Burial St. Adalbert Residence 38 E. Wilson St.

Date of Burial Aug 26 Name and Institution of Undertaker Adalbert

N. B. The Superintendent of Vital Statistics CAUTIONS ALL PERSONS against ACCEPTING or USING this Certificate for any purpose except that of delivering it for a Burial Permit and Registration.

Joseph in turn was born in Prussia, District of Posen, he was 66 years old, and died on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1892. He was living at 38 Rother avenue. His parents were Antoni and Mary. Further information was that he was partially paralyzed for a little over 30 years. What a day! What a treasure trove of information! This date was the starting point for years of research.

The next point to clarify was where in Poland were they from? Posen was both a city, now Poznań, and a province. I had a district name from the passport of Schroda. Using the maps I found the Schroda district in the province of Posen. I found that the main city of the district was Schroda or in Polish, Środa and now Środa Wielkopolska. From a 1892 map of the area I found that there was a village of Żrenica and one of Srodka. I felt I was ready to cross over to the old world. At this point I had been doing the research here for about 6 years and had most of the information of the post immigration years. I therefore started ordering the microfilms for Środa and started another 3-4 years of work. At this point I know that Joseph's death certificate had several errors. His parent's names are wrong – his father was Michał Harwas born about 1783. His mother was Marianna Pada-lanka born about 1795. Józef was born 20 March 1826 in Węgierski, Środa, Poland. He was probably the third of six children. The funny thing is that I looked in the St. Adalbert burial records and did find Józef Harlos buried in February 1892. In the last column of the record was listed the parents, there given as Michał and Marianna Harlos. However, I already 'knew' from the death certificate that their names were Antoni and Mary. It didn't matter, the search was rewarding by itself.

While I now know much more about the Harlos family and the other families related to me, there is still much more to find. I have visited Poland twice and have been to the various villages that my ancestors came from. I now believe that the origin of the Harlos name is not Polish but probably Hungarian. I know that my grandfather replaced the *h* with a *l* because people kept misspelling the name and mispronouncing the name. I know that there is a German name of Harlos, but I can not find any connection to my family.

## Steps in Starting Genealogy

- 1 COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION YOU CAN. Check with older living relatives. Ask them about their parent's names, their siblings, where they lived. Phrase your questions so that the primary focus is on the person you are questioning. Did they meet and know their grandparents or even great-grandparents. Ask about aunts and uncles, great aunts, great uncles. Ask about the neighborhood. Don't ask general questions; go for specific questions. With some people a small tape recorder may be handy, but always transcribe the information ASAP while the interview is still fresh in your mind.
- 2 USE LOCAL RESOURCES FIRST. Use census microfilms. Sometimes the indexed census information from sites such as ancestry.com or genealogy.com may save you time and effort. Don't give up if you don't find the information. Remember you are using somebody else's interpretation of another's handwriting. Errors are made. Some census information was not obtained from the people themselves but from neighbors instead. Sometimes you will have to do the page by page search.
- 3 USE MICROFILMS FROM CHURCHES. Early church records in the U.S. During the great immigration times often listed in baptismal and marriage records the place of birth of the people.
- 4 WHEN YOU START RESEARCHING IN POLAND DO THE RESEARCH FIRST WITH MICROFILMS FROM YOUR LOCAL FAMILY HISTORY CENTER OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS. (FHC, LDS, Mormons). The LDS also has the IGI or International Genealogical Index and the Ancestry files both at the libraries and at their website, familysearch.org. Be careful. This information is submitted and of unknown veracity. Always check the information out. Don't fall into the trap of same names must indicate a relationship. There are a lot of Kowalskis but all this means is that some ancestor was a blacksmith. In contrast, Harlos is an extremely rare name. There are a large number of Harloses that are of German descent. They are genealogically active and for years have tried to convince me that I am part of the fold - oh, that I was - it



would push my research back to the 1500's. Unfortunately, no connection has been found. For genealogical purposes my name is not Harlos but Harłos. Furthermore, the earliest form of the name that I've found was Harwoz. Therefore, any Harlos in the states may be related to me, but the odds are against it.

5 DON'T BE SURPRISED THAT PEOPLE CHANGE THEIR NAMES. Folklore says that those bigoted inspectors at Ellis Island changed people's names, but there is no evidence to support this. Don't forget that people coming into the states had documentation that had their names written on it. Most changes were made by the people themselves trying to fit in with the people in their neighborhood or workplace. I mentioned my name going from Harlos to Harlos. This change was made by my grandfather, the first male of my family born in the states. He just got tired of people not recognizing the ł. People's first names change even more. Masculine names often change to a Anglo-Saxon, biblical name that sounds something like the Polish name. Sometimes the name changes to an equivalent English name, i.e. it has the same root origin. Feminine names follow the same tendency and may also change because the person just wants a 'nicer' name.

6 SOONER OR LATER, YOU WILL HIT THE 'BRICK WALL'. You just can't seem to find anything. When this happens, put that line or research aside for a while and start a different line, for example your maternal grandmothers family. After a while go back to your 'brick wall' data and review it to see if you can formulate any new questions.

7 WRITING TO POLAND IS POSSIBLE AS IS HIRING SOMEBODY IN POLAND TO DO SOME RESEARCH. Check with the Polish Genealogical Society of America's web-site (pgsa.org) and join a Polish genealogical list such as Poland-Roots These can be located on the website rootsweb.com.

8 VISITING CEMETERIES IS FUN AND INTERESTING, BUT IS OFTEN HARD AND TEDIOUS. Always check at the cemetery office to see if they have an

index and information. Many refuse to do lookups or charge a fee. Don't take offense if they don't cooperate with you; they are not paid for doing that. Sometimes a smile and a friendly outlook can help. Also check Certificates of Death. As I have shown above this was a big help in my work. However, in this post 9-11 world access to information is often being denied. Spend time going over the old Death Notices in the paper. Check your library for microfilmed copies.

9 ALWAYS REMEMBER, YOU'RE AN AMATEUR GENEALOGIST. This means that you are pursuing genealogy out of love of the topic and not for earning a living. Enjoy what you are doing and expand yourself by learning more. Study history, language, and culture, I can guarantee it will expand your outlook and give much joy - you will change from a person who collects names to a person who knows his roots both in people and places but also in culture.

This wonderful hobby has enriched my life, and enhanced my understanding of Polish life and culture. It has provided me with hours of discussion with my father, who at 91 is still going strong - in fact, by my records he is the longest lived Harlos. It has allowed me to meet a large number of interesting people. Edzu Kownowski introduced me to the Saturday Polish School, which in turn introduced me to the Pomost International organization whose mission is to run English workshops in Rzeszów, Poland, which led to my wife and I going to Poland for two years so far. I



Horse and wagon - Issued 1961  
(painting by Jan Chelmiński)

# Yesterday's News

## Pulpits and People

The Buffalo Times - October 27, 1934

By Laurel Myszker Keogh

### ALTAR IS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO ST. ADALBERT'S



Main Altar of St. Adalbert

The fame of St. Adalbert Church as a setting for beautiful shrines established during the pastorate of Father Flaczek has been enhanced by the present pastor, Dr. Kaluzny.

The most notable contribution to this feature of the church during the regime of Dr. Kaluzny is the present main altar. Completed in 1931, the altar is of Italian marble, including yellow sienna, Tavernelle, Chiaro Bianco and lapis lazuli, interspersed with mosaics.



Father Kaluzny

In the motif of the altar are ten statues of angels, two of them holding replicas of the Polish crown. These crowns are studded with semi precious stones

and have the coat of arms of new Poland worked into their bases.

#### JEWELLED VEIL

Also adorning the altar are statues of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Adalbert, while through its pillars may be seen two beautiful stained glass windows imported from Munich.

A hand-embroidered, jeweled inner veil of the tabernacle was fashioned by the Felician nuns and presented to the parish.

Shrines of marble are set in each side of the main altar. One is dedicated to St. Ann and the other to St. Joseph. Smaller figures of angels surround the statues of the saints.

A proposal to install the new altar created a situation that required all of Father. Kaluzny's tact and diplomacy to overcome. During the years that it had served them as a place of worship, the parishioners had become attached to the old altar. They mourned its passing.

"We were married before that altar," they complained to Father Kaluzny. It's hollowed shadows fell on our



St. Theresa Altar



dead, to it we brought our joys and sorrows, before it we asked blessing of our loves, our hopes; forgiveness for our hates and strength when near despair. It must not be thrown out like an old horse that has outlived its usefulness.

Finally Dr. Kaluzny told them, "You can have your old altar and also the new. We'll keep both."

In keeping with his word he had the old altar dismantled and the largest part of it made into a shrine which was placed in the vestibule of the church. Several of the larger of the old statues were placed in various sections of the church.

### ST. THERESA SHRINE

One section became a shrine for a statue of St. Theresa, which was donated to the church by the Young Ladies' Sodality. This statue is surrounded by a wreath of carved roses in various colors. When an ingeniously devised cluster of electric lights is thrown on it, the statue radiates rare beauty.

Side altars are dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. On the altar to the right side is a statue of the Virgin Mary with a crown of gold studded with jewels. The mantle is encased in glass.



Our Lady of Czestochowa

This altar also is beloved by older members of the parish for the traditions that cling to it. For years, following an old Polish custom, it was used as the "engagement altar." In the old days in Poland, a swain, instead of giving the girl of his choice a diamond ring as a mark of his settling his affections on her, in-

vited her to the engagement altar and there they plighted their troth. Presents such as the youth could afford followed.

### ROSARY SHRINE

Bringing this custom to America, young members of St. Adalbert's said prayers before this altar to celebrate their engage-



Mr. Jozef Mazur

ment. Some jewelry, perhaps a watch was bestowed upon the fair one later. The altar and crown were brought to St. Adalbert's from Europe by Father Flaczek. The present pastor has made the altar a shrine to the Rosary.



The Rosary Shrine

Surrounding the statue of the Virgin is a rosary of electric lights. During the recitation of the rosary in the church a white light is extinguished as each prayer is finished and a red light goes out at the end of each decade.

On the altar to the left is a large statue of the Sacred Heart. Above the statue is a sunburst centered with a bleeding heart. When illuminated, this altar presents a striking picture. Surrounding the entire statue are electric lights representing a wreath of roses.

In the rear of the church is a shrine to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, a baptismal fount and a group statue representing purgatory. Along the walls of the church are statues representing the Stations of the Cross, each one illuminated by a modern, indirect lighting system.

In the center of the right aisle is a shrine to Our Lady of Czestochowa in which is installed what is said to be the oldest painting of this patron saint of Poles in America. The painting was brought to America about 75 years ago by Felician nuns of the

Detroit province and later presented to the church. At this altar a perpetual novena is being held.

While the majority of the statues were installed during the pastorate of Father Flaczek, the lighting system which illuminates them was installed by Dr. Kaluzny. Also constructed during the pastorate of Dr. Kaluzny was a modern heating system, and two stained glass windows, one of Christ the King and the other, Jesus on Mount Olivet. The two new windows are in the rear of the church.

Several years ago Dr. Kaluzny had the church entirely decorated by Joseph Mazur, well-known ecclesiastical artist. In redecorating this church, Mr. Mazur realized the ambition of a lifetime. It was gazing at the beautiful decorations and shrines in this church, which he attended as a boy, that first turned Mr. Mazur's thoughts to art as a career. As he pursued his studies, an ambition was formed some day to try his hand at decorating this church. His chance came and the beautiful murals that now enhance the church are the result.

Long and faithful service to the church is not confined to the clergy and other members of religious orders. Laymen also do their part. In the latter category are Venceslaus Woroniecki, organist, and Joseph Siudzinski, choir singer of St. Adalbert's Church.

Starting as a boy singer when 8 years old, Mr. Siudzinski, now 50, has sung regularly in the choir for 42 years. Mr. Woroniecki has been organist at St. Adalbert's for more than 25 years and before that served in churches in Dunkirk, New Britain, Conn. and in his native Poland for a total of 40 years.



**Mr. Siudzinski**

When Mr. Siudzinski first joined the choir, the class of which he was a member was taught music by the daughter of the then organist, Chudyszewicz. Other organists under whose direction he sang include: Mr. Beszczyński, Leon Olszewski, Joseph Wachnicki, Boleslaus Michalski, Chester Grabowski, Casimir Pulaski, Victor Johnson and

for the last 25 years under the direction of Mr. Woroniecki.

### **BROTHERS ALSO SING**

Mr. Siudzinski is also a charter member of the Chopin Singing Society, though not now active in its chorus. His brother, Stephen is also a member of the Chopin society and the Polish Singing Circle as well as St. Adalbert Church choir.

Inclination to music of Mr. Siudzinski has not been inherited by his children. His son, Jerry, finds main interest in his milk business, while one daughter, Florence, a graduate of the Villa Maria Academy, finds recreation in tennis and another, Alice, is active in Polish organizations, especially the Polish Literary Circle of which she is secretary. Mr. Siudzinski, known along his route as the singing mailman, is president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the church.

### **ORGANIST AT 14**

Descendant of a family noted as organists in Poland, Mr. Woroniecki started his musical career in Poland at the age of 14. From that time until his marriage in Dunkirk 14 years later, Mr. Woroniecki never missed playing the organ at service in whatever church he happened to be attached.

After his wedding Mr. Woroniecki resumed his routine and for the last 26 years had never missed service. Recently he was honored by parishioners of St. Adalbert's Church on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his coming to that parish as organist.



**Mr. Wienczysław Woroniecki**  
*Organist since 1907*



# Short Polish History

## *The Fifth Partition - The Congress Kingdom of Poland*

The grim injustice of Poland's dismemberment was universally recognized and expressions of sympathy were lavishly bestowed upon the unhappy nation. Fortunately, sentimentality was soon to give place to practical considerations. The danger to the political equilibrium of Europe, which this act of injustice created, became clearly discernible after the smoke of the Napoleonic wars, had cleared away and the representatives of the chief European countries came together to redraw the map of the continent. It was then discovered that Russia, whose civilizing mission lay in Asia, had already penetrated deep into Europe and was in possession of strong claims to the whole of Poland. And sly Prussia was ready to second Russia's demands if only by so doing she could grab Saxony. Neither France nor England cherished the idea of Russia's becoming an European power, and Austria resisted the enrichment of her neighbors by the large Polish acquisitions. The German states of Bavaria and Hanover, as well as Holland, opposed the plans of Russia and Prussia. Formidable quarrels arose over the claims of these two countries, and for a time it looked as if only by force of arms could the matter be brought to an issue. The reappearance of the Corsican in France called for united action and for a speedy close of the negotiations. The Polish question was settled in a manner that could bring nothing but bitter disappointment to the Poles. The Congress sanctioned the admittedly illegal dismemberment of Poland, which has proved to be a



curse and calamity to the country and a cause of periodically recurring violent disturbances, as had been predicted by Lord Castlereagh, the British Plenipotentiary at the Congress. In a note to his government, referring to the vicious settlement of the Polish question he wrote: "The undersigned adhering to all his former representations on this subject has only sincerely to hope that none of those evils may result from this measure to the tranquility of the north, and to the general equilibrium of Europe, which it has been his painful duty to anticipate."

The Congress, which assembled ostensibly to do justice to the nations of Europe, and to guarantee to them independence and liberty, did not take into consideration the desires and feelings of the subdued nations and of the Polish nation in particular. It sanctioned the fifth partition of Poland. On the memorable day of May 3, 1815, Russia signed the treaties with Austria and Prussia by which the lion's share of the Duchy of Warsaw went to her, and the western part of the last independent Polish state became annexed to Prussia under the name of the Grand Duchy of Posen. The districts of Tarnopol and Zbaraz, in Eastern Galicia, went back to Austria, as well as a section in West Galicia comprising the rich Wieliczka salt mines. The City of Cracow, with its immediate vicinity, was made an independent republic under the guardianship of the three partitioning powers. In 1846 it was annexed by Austria. With this exception the boundaries of the three Polands remained fixed, as determined by the Congress of Vienna, until the



outbreak of the present Great War [WW1]. Four-fifths of the Polish Republic of 1772 came under Russian rule and the remaining one-fifth was almost equally divided between Austria and Prussia. Henceforth the history of Poland is the history of the three sections developing under entirely different conditions; the Russian part, however by reason of its size and the fact that the Russian Tsar assumed the title of King of Poland, occupies the center of the stage. The severance of the political bonds of the Polish people was mitigated, in a measure, by the provisions of the treaties between Russia and the other two powers, which, guaranteed to the inhabitants of the former Polish Republic complete freedom in their social and economic intercourse within the boundaries of the country as they were in 1772, before the first partition took place. There were to be no tariff walls between the three parts of Poland, and transportation and navigation on all the rivers and canals were to be unobstructed.

Article I of the Treaty of Vienna guaranteed to the Poles as "the respective subjects of Russia, Austria and Prussia," representation in government and preservation of their national institutions" to be regulated in accordance with the political precepts



which the several governments would consider useful and advisable for them." This qualifying phrase was couched in language too flexible to supply lasting foundation for the future political structures, which were to be reared in the three sections of Poland. Painfully did the Poles realize their precarious situation!

Before the Congress assembled the venerable and aged Kosciuszko was assured by such statesmen as Lord Grey, Talleyrand and Metternich that the safety of Europe depended upon the restoration of Poland. He stayed in Vienna during the sessions of the Congress, and left, brokenhearted, for Switzerland after the disastrous agreement concerning Poland was reached by the Powers. He banished himself voluntarily to the high mountains of Wilhelm Tell rather than to die a slave in his own country, which he loved so ten-

derly and to which he was born a free citizen. Kosciuszko is the symbol of Poland's strivings for independence. The very mention of his name conjures up exalted feelings of patriotism in the Polish breast. Universal was the tribute paid to him upon his death on October 15, 1817. Instead of erecting a monument in bronze to his memory it was decided to build something more lasting: a mountain. Approaching Cracow, the city where the Dictator issued his famous proclamation in 1794, one can see from a distance the Kosciuszko Hill, erected by the hands of the people and completed, after years of gratuitous labor, in 1823. It stands firm and forever over an urn containing some earth from the battlefield of Racławice, where, with several thousand soldiers and two thousand peasants armed with scythes, he won the first victory over the Muscovite despoilers of his country.

In 1825, Czar Alexander died and was succeeded by Czar Nicholas, an opponent of liberalism, who abrogated the Polish Kingdom's constitution and replaced it by an oppressive administration. The Secret Police was given authorization to arrest suspicious elements.

When the French king was deposed in a liberal revolution and Belgium ceded from the Netherlands, Czar Nicholas, according to the policy of the Holy Alliance, planned to have his Polish army march westward, to restore the pre-revolutionary order. The Polish soldiers mutinied, many officers were slain, and the city of Warsaw revolted. Russian control over Poland virtually had collapsed (Nov.-Dec. 1830). The SEJM demanded the Czar to restore Poland's constitution and to reunite Poland and Lithuania. The Czar refused, and the Sejm declared him deposed. A Polish government was formed, headed by prince ADAM Czartoryski. A Russian army invaded; however it was enabled by cholera. Still, Russian troops occupied Warsaw in Sept. 1831.

The SEJM was abolished, the university at Warsaw closed, Poland's army dissolved, the country's autonomy greatly reduced. Those noblemen who were too involved in the rebellion saw their estates confiscated and sold; many of whom were bought up by Russians. In 1835 Czar Nicholas I. declared Russification of Poland a goal of his policy. An Administrative Reform of Congress Poland reduced the number of districts (1837); in 1839 Po-

land's schools were placed under the supervision of the St. Petersburg authorities.

Exile Poles, during the Crimean War, attempt to establish Polish volunteer legions; they enjoyed the sympathies of Emperor Napoleon III, but the troops neither saw action, nor did the diplomatic attempts to have the reestablishment of an independent Kingdom of Poland have any success. In 1856 Emperor Alexander II. proclaimed a general amnesty for banished persons and emigrants. In 1857 a Medical Academy was opened in Warsaw. In 1861 the Emancipation of the Serfs was proclaimed, followed by the Emancipation of the Jews in 1862, both measures valid throughout the Russian Empire.

In 1855, Czar Nicholas died and was succeeded by his son Alexander II., who was reform-oriented. In Congress Poland, the state of emergency was lifted. In 1862, the Czar appointed conservative, pro-Russian Count Alexander Wielopolski head of Poland's civilian administration. Wielopolski aimed at regaining the autonomy Poland enjoyed before 1830. In 1861, the Polish peasants (just as their Russian counterparts) were freed of feudal obligations. However, Poland's patriots - the radical reds as well as the conservative whites, were not satisfied and again demanded immediate unification with the old Grand Duchy of Lithuania. In January 1863, the rebellion, prepared by the reds, broke out. Unlike 1830 the rebels lacked a trained army. Otto von Bismarck sided with Russia. The uprising was suppressed, many were executed, even more deported to Siberia. The Kingdom of Poland was dissolved, replaced by several governments, incorporated into the Russian Empire. The state attempted to suppress the Catholic Church; a policy of Russification was introduced. This policy now had the goals of destroying Polish culture and use of the Polish language.

This is the environment that the ancestors of many of us came from and may help provide an understanding of why they chose to leave.

*Jedność to siła.*

In unity there is strength.

## Do You Have Questions?

Actually that's a silly question, since every one has questions. What we mean is do you have a genealogical question. Have you run into the famous "brick wall"? Do you have a translation problem? Or a location problem. Maybe your Society can help. There is no guarantee, but it can't hurt to ask. I personally have many books of reference, have examined many records both microfilmed and paper. If you have program questions, such as, "Will program XYZ work for me, or how can I do *this* with the programs I have?" I have a lot of experience. And I am not unique, many other members have much information.

All you need to do is to ask the question. Unfortunately broad questions such as "Where did my family come from?" without any information to work with, are impossible to answer. But questions such as "What parish did my ancestors belong to, if they were born in the village of X", may have an answer.

If I can not find an answer, then a small notice in the Searchers may turn up a member who does have an answer. The price is right and you have nothing to lose.

Just send me your questions. The e-mail address is: [harlos@adelphia.net](mailto:harlos@adelphia.net). Please mention PGSNYS or Searchers in the subject line; I get so much spam that I sometimes delete e-mails that don't have a subject that looks real. If you don't use e-mail you can also use USPS to send me the question. My address is:

James P. Harlos  
Editor, Searchers  
62 Jeffrey Drive  
Amherst, NY 14228

I'll be looking forward to hearing from you.

# Polish Grammar You Can Use

By William "Fred" Hoffman

This is an excerpt from a talk given by Fred Hoffman at the PGSA Fall Conference in 2002. It introduces Hoffman's and Shea's famous "Chopping Block". If readers would like more on this topic, please let me know. = Jim Harlos

## The "Chopping Block"

Let's start with an item we call the "Chopping Block," designed to help you cope with grammar. (We will pause for a moment as everyone in the room screams in horror, "Grammar! Oh, God, no!"). Now I admit, some folks have no talent for grammar at all. If you're one of them, perhaps you'll want to ignore this. Still, the idea here isn't to teach you grammar; it's to help you recognize endings added to nouns and adjectives. Forms with those endings don't usually appear in dictionaries, and the inability to recognize those forms is one of the main causes of frustration for researchers. All the Chopping Block does is help you spot endings and point you toward the forms you will find in your dictionary. In other words, you won't find *księgach* in most dictionaries; the Chopping Block is meant to help you recognize the nominative form that you will find: *księga*. There are seven so-called "cases" in Polish, one of which, the Vocative, seldom plays any significant role in texts a researcher is likely to deal with. The other cases, and the abbreviations used for them in the Chopping Block, are: N(ominative), G(enitive), D(ative), A(ccusative), I(nstrumental), and L(ocative). If you can, it's a good idea to learn how these cases are used. But the main thing to know is that they cause endings to be added to words according to how they're used in a sentence. Once you recognize a word's form, you can usually figure out what it means. Other abbreviations used in the Chopping Block are: *sing.* singular, *pl.* plural, *masc.* masculine, *fem.* feminine, *neut.* neuter, and *adj.*, adjective.

### The Chopping Block

| Ending                    | Case(s)                                                   | Part of speech    | Example          | Replace with   | Result                  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>-a</b>                 | G/A <i>masc. sing.</i><br>G <i>neut. sing.</i>            | noun              | syn Jana         |                | <i>nothing</i> Jan      |
|                           |                                                           |                   | do mieszkania    | <b>-e</b>      | mieszkanie              |
|                           | N/A <i>neut. pl.</i>                                      |                   | nazwa miasta     | <b>-o</b>      | miasto                  |
|                           |                                                           |                   | pola             | <b>-e</b>      | pole                    |
| <b>-q</b><br><b>-ach</b>  | A/I <i>fem. sing.</i><br>L <i>pl.</i>                     | noun/adj.<br>noun | Ciała            | <b>-o</b>      | ciało                   |
|                           |                                                           |                   | Kwaśniewską      | <b>-a</b>      | Kwaśniewska             |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w dokumentach    | <i>nothing</i> | dokument                |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w księgach       |                | <b>-a</b> księga        |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w Uhercach       | <b>-e</b>      | Uherce                  |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w Stawiskach     | <b>-i</b>      | Stawiski                |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w miastach       | <b>-o</b>      | miasto                  |
| <b>-ami</b>               | I <i>pl.</i>                                              | noun              | w Borzymach      | <b>-y</b>      | Borzymy                 |
|                           |                                                           |                   | materiałami      |                | <i>nothing</i> materiał |
|                           |                                                           |                   | cyframi          | <b>-a</b>      | cyfra                   |
|                           |                                                           |                   | zebraniami       |                | <b>-e</b> zebranie      |
|                           |                                                           |                   | między Rudnikami | <b>-i</b>      | Rudniki                 |
|                           |                                                           |                   | słowami          |                | <b>-o</b> słowo         |
| <b>-ę</b><br><b>-(i)e</b> | A <i>fem. sing.</i><br>D/L <i>sing.</i><br>N/A <i>pl.</i> | noun<br>noun      | za Borzymami     | <b>-y</b>      | Borzymy                 |
|                           |                                                           |                   | Annę             | <b>-a</b>      | Anna                    |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w Krakowie       | <i>nothing</i> | Kraków                  |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w Warszawie      | <b>-a</b>      | Warszawa                |
|                           |                                                           |                   | córce*           | <b>-a*</b>     | córka                   |
|                           |                                                           |                   | w Wesołowie      | <b>-o</b>      | Wesołowo                |



|               |                                            |                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>-ego</b>   | A sing./pl.<br>G/A sing.<br>masc./neut.    | adj.<br>adj. (also if<br>used as noun) | dob <b>re</b><br>syn Anton <b>iego</b> Dębsk <b>iego</b><br>z Poryt <b>ego</b><br>wożn <b>ego</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>-y</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-y</b><br><b>-a</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | dob <b>ry</b><br>Antoni Dębski<br>Poryt <b>e</b><br>wożn <b>y</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>-(i)ej</b> | G/D/L fem. sing.                           | adj. (also if<br>used as noun)         | Olszewsk <b>iej</b><br>w Korczow <b>ej</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>-a</b><br><b>-a</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Olszewsk <b>a</b><br>Korczow <b>a</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>-em</b>    | I sing. masc./neut.<br>L sing. masc./neut. | noun<br>adj.                           | między Jan <b>em</b><br>w Zakopan <b>em</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>nothing</b><br><b>-e</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Jan<br>Zakopan <b>e</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>-emu</b>   | D sing. masc./neut.                        | adj. (also if<br>used as noun)         | Anton <b>iemu</b><br>Alojz <b>emu</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>nothing</b><br><b>-y</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Antoni<br>Alojz <b>y</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>-i</b>     | G/D/L fem. sing.,<br>G sing./pl., N/A pl.  | noun                                   | w Łod <b>zi</b><br>syn Jadwig <b>i</b><br>z Pogorz <b>eli</b><br>z Chrzanowsk <b>ich</b><br>z Antonim Dębsk <b>im</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>nothing</b><br><b>-a</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-i or -a</b><br><b>delete -m</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Łódź<br>Jadwig <b>a</b><br>Pogorz <b>e</b><br>Chrzanowsk <b>i</b><br>Antoni Dębski                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>-ich</b>   | G/A/L pl.                                  | adj.                                   | Górs <b>kim</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>delete -m</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Górski                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>-im</b>    | I/L sing.,<br>D pl.                        | adj. (also if<br>used as noun)         | dalek <b>imi</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>delete -mi</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | daleki                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>-imi</b>   | I pl.                                      | adj.                                   | Nowak <b>om</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>nothing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Nowak                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>-om</b>    | D pl.                                      | noun                                   | Wałęs <b>om</b><br>pol <b>om</b><br>Stawisk <b>om</b><br>Moniuszk <b>om</b><br>Borzym <b>om</b><br>z Antonim Dębsk <b>im</b><br>Górs <b>kim</b><br>dalek <b>imi</b><br>Nowak <b>om</b><br>Wałęs <b>om</b><br>pol <b>om</b><br>Stawisk <b>om</b><br>Moniuszk <b>om</b><br>Borzym <b>om</b><br>z Charłan <b>ów</b><br>z Macior <b>ów</b><br>z Mikłasz <b>ów</b><br>z Krysiak <b>ów</b><br>z Mołodziej <b>ków</b><br>z Młyn <b>ów</b><br>Janow <b>i</b><br>panow <b>ie</b> , Zarębow <b>ie</b><br>w Toruni <b>u</b><br>w Zaskrodzi <b>u</b><br>w Ryszczewk <b>u</b><br>w Bydgoszcz <b>y</b><br>syn Karolin <b>y</b><br>w Stary <b>ych</b> Gutach<br>w Stary <b>ym</b> Mieście<br>o Wincent <b>ym</b><br>między inn <b>ymi</b> | <b>-a</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-i</b><br><b>-o</b><br><b>-y</b><br><b>delete -m</b><br><b>delete -mi</b><br><b>nothing</b><br><b>-a</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-i</b><br><b>-o</b><br><b>-y</b><br><b>nothing</b><br><b>a</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-i</b><br><b>-o</b><br><b>-y</b><br><b>nothing</b><br><b>-a, -o</b><br><b>nothing</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-o</b><br><b>nothing</b><br><b>-a</b><br><b>-e</b><br><b>-y</b><br><b>-y</b> | Wałęs <b>a</b><br>pole<br>Stawisk <b>i</b><br>Moniuszk <b>o</b><br>Borzym <b>y</b><br>Antoni Dębski<br>Górski<br>daleki<br>Nowak<br>Wałęs <b>a</b><br>pole<br>Stawisk <b>i</b><br>Moniuszk <b>o</b><br>Borzym <b>y</b><br>Charłan<br>Macior <b>a</b><br>Mikłasz <b>e</b><br>Krysiak <b>i</b><br>Mołodziej <b>ko</b><br>Młyn <b>y</b><br>Jan<br>pan, Zaręb <b>a</b><br>Toruń<br>Zaskrodzie<br>Ryszczewk <b>o</b><br>Bydgoszcz<br>Karolin <b>a</b><br>Stare Guty<br>Stare Miasto<br>Wincent <b>y</b><br>inn <b>y</b> |
| <b>-ów</b>    | G/A masc. pl.                              | noun                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-owi</b>   | D masc. sing.                              | noun                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-owie</b>  | N masc. pl.                                | noun                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-u</b>     | G/D/L sing.,<br>masc./neut.                | noun                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-y</b>     | G/D/L fem. sing.,<br>N/G/A pl.             | noun                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-ych</b>   | G/A/L pl.                                  | adj.                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-ym</b>    | I/L sing., D pl.                           | adj. (also if<br>used as noun)         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>-ymi</b>   | I pl.                                      | adj.                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

In the genitive plural of many nouns (mainly feminine and neuter), grammar calls for no endings. To get the nominative form, one must **add** an ending, rather than delete one:

ze Stawisk ~ Stawisk**i**

z Kielc ~ Kielc**e**

ze Żdziar ~ Żdziar**y**

In similar environments one may need to delete a “fill” or “epenthetic” vowel. This is a vowel inserted in some forms—usually between two consonants at the end of a word, to make the word easier to pronounce—that drops out in other forms.

z Borek ~ Borki

z Ejszyszek ~ Ejszyszki

Conversely, fill vowels may have to be restored when deleting endings from nouns containing certain suffixes, notably *-iec* or *-ec* and *-ek*.

z Myszyńca (genitive) ~ Myszyn**ie**c

w Myszyńcu (locative) ~ Myszyn**ie**c

z Sielca (genitive) ~ Siele**c** z Ugorka (genitive) □ Ugore**k**

z Rynku (genitive) ~ Ryne**k**

z Mazurków (genitive) ~ Mazure**k**

### Dropping the *Kreska*

No, this isn't an obscure Polish folk custom. The *kreska* is the accent placed over the consonants **ć**, **ń**, **ś**, and **ź**. When a noun ends with a *kreska* consonant, and grammar calls for adding an ending, the *kreska* is dropped and an **-i-** is inserted before the ending:

|                             |   |                     |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Staroń + ending <i>-ów</i>  | ~ | Staroni <b>ó</b> w  |
| Poznań + ending <i>-u</i>   | ~ | Poznani <b>u</b>    |
| Krzywoś + ending <i>-ów</i> | ~ | Krzywosi <b>ó</b> w |
| Łoś + ending <i>-a</i>      | ~ | Łosi <b>a</b>       |

When you encounter such a name with an ending in the text of a document, you must delete both the ending and the inserted **-i-**, and restore the *kreska*, to arrive at the nominative form, the one that appears in a dictionary or gazetteer, or on a map.

### Vowel Shifts and Alternations

The only feature of this complicated phonetic phenomenon likely to affect the researcher is the shift of the vowel **ó** to simple **o** when endings are attached. This will most often be encountered when dealing with the common place name ending *-ów*: Krak**ó**w □ w Krakow**ie**, Chrzan**ó**w □ w Chrzanow**ie**

Other possibilities, less frequently encountered, are **a ~ e**, **q ~ ę**, and **ó/o ~ e**:

|                  |                                              |                                         |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>a ~ e</b> :   | Wierzchl <b>a</b> s ~ w Wierzchles <b>ie</b> |                                         |
| <b>q ~ ę</b> :   | mą <b>ż</b> ~ o mę <b>żu</b>                 |                                         |
| <b>ó/o ~ e</b> : | kości <b>ó</b> ł ~ w koście <b>le</b>        | or jezior <b>o</b> ~ o jezierz <b>e</b> |

### Consonant Alternations

Besides dealing with removing endings and substituting others, researchers also need to be aware of consonant alternations in the **stems** of nouns when certain endings are attached, especially in the locative singular case. Thus after prepositions such as *w* and *na* (among others) that indicate a location or status in which something is taking place (as opposed to change of location or status), nouns have locative case endings. Researchers need to recognize this because the phonetic shape of place names in documents may need to be altered one more time, even after the endings are removed, to arrive at the form of a place name given on a map or in a gazetteer. The most common of these alternations are:

|                  | Map name            |   | Name in Locative                                                  |
|------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ch ~ sz</b>   | Birw <b>ic</b> ha   | ~ | w Birwis <b>z</b> e                                               |
| <b>d ~ dzi</b>   | Piwod <b>a</b>      | ~ | w Piwod <b>z</b> ie                                               |
| <b>g ~ dz</b>    | Prag <b>a</b>       | ~ | w Prad <b>z</b> e                                                 |
| <b>k ~ c</b>     | Adamów <b>k</b> a   | ~ | w Adamów <b>c</b> e                                               |
| <b>ł ~ l</b>     | Pi <b>ł</b> a       | ~ | w Pil <b>e</b>                                                    |
| <b>r ~ rz</b>    | War <b>a</b>        | ~ | w War <b>z</b> e                                                  |
| <b>ś ~ śl</b>    | Jas <b>ł</b> o      | ~ | w Ja <b>ś</b> le                                                  |
| <b>sn ~ śni</b>  | Kros <b>no</b>      | ~ | w Kro <b>ś</b> nie                                                |
| <b>st ~ ście</b> | Nowe Miast <b>o</b> | ~ | w Nowym Mie <b>ś</b> cie                                          |
| <b>t ~ ci</b>    | Hut <b>a</b>        | ~ | w Huc <b>ie</b>                                                   |
| <b>zd ~ ździ</b> | Gnia <b>z</b> do    | ~ | w Gnie <b>ź</b> dz <b>ie</b> (note the <i>a ~ e</i> vowel change) |
| <b>zn ~ źni</b>  | Pil <b>z</b> no     | ~ | w Pil <b>ź</b> nie                                                |



# PGSNYS CHRISTMAS PARTY

## DECEMBER 2005





The Polish Genealogical Society of New York State  
12645 Route 78  
East Aurora, New York 14052

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2005



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