Our objective is to discover, document and digitally preserve genealogy, stories, and pictures of Schenectady County's Eastern European immigrants. To find our newsletters on-line:

http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/

Click “What’s New” on the right side panel, then, under Recent Additions, look for “April 5, 2015,” and the link to “Project…” OR enter the URL below directly:

http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/resources/eer/index.html

We need each of you to share family history, help pass the (electronic) word. The next deadline is October 1st, then January 1st 2016. To submit your family story, pictures, etc, e-mail Phyllis Zych Budka: abudka@nycap.rr.com Without your stories, there can be no newsletter.

To be added to the newsletter e-mail list, contact Phyllis.

Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDITOR’S NOTES</td>
<td>Phyllis Zych Budka</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA Part 2 - Coming Home</td>
<td>Martin Byster</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE GAJEWSKI FAMILY FROM LUTOCIN</td>
<td>Brianna (Gajewski) Guckemus</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIMELINE: SCHENECTADY SOJOURN (1901-1925) OF JULIANNA née POLEK JAKUBCZAK</td>
<td>Leonard F. Jakubczak, Ph.D.</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Editor’s Notes

New Project Facebook Group
Many thanks to Brianna Guckemus for setting up the “Schenectady Polish Heritage” Facebook group! Find it at the link below. It is a “closed group” – i.e. – just request to be included and either Brianna or Phyllis will add your name to the group. Only group members are able to see the shared information.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/schenectadypolishheritage/

St. Mary’s Cemetery Gravesites Added to Findagrace Site
Brianna Guckemus has been very busy photographing gravesites and uploading them to:

http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=cr&GRid=73770403&CRid=64320

Brianna writes: “So far I have increased the number of photos of grave sites at St Mary’s Cemetery on McClellan St. from about 20% to 51%. I am still uploading more photos that I have taken. I have added many new names to the findagrace website.”

Some of the surnames Brianna has added include: Bieganski, Borkowski, Brudzienski, Budka, Cieszynski, Dyda, Frankiewicz, Giniecki, Gorski, Ickowiak, Jankowski, Kazmierczak, Konieczka, Kowalski, Lewandowski, Maliszewski, Matulewicz, Mrozowski, Orminski, Paurowski, Prusko, Przyszmont, Rucinski, Szyjkowski, Wantuch, Wisniewski, and Zdrodowski.

Lutocin
The stories below by Martin Byster and Brianna Guckemus come from the same region of Poland; both include the name of the village Lutocin, the ancestral home of my husband, Alfred Budka’s father. I have recently reestablished contact with the Lutocin Budka family and hope to meet them in Poland on an upcoming visit. The surname Gajewski can be found in both Marty’s and Brianna’s texts – as well as in my husband’s family. From Wikipedia

Lutocin [luˈtɔt͡ɕin] is a village in Żuromin County, Masovian Voivodeship, in east-central Poland. It is the seat of the gmina (administrative district) called Gmina Lutocin. It lies approximately 13 kilometres (8 mi) south-west of Żuromin and 120 km (75 mi) north-west of Warsaw.

The village has a population of 1,000.

Polish American Historical Association Link (PAHA)
Dr. Maja Trochimczyk, webmaster of the PAHA webwite, has added a link to our Project Newsletter archive on the “Schenectady Digital History Archive.”

From the PAHA Home Page at

http://www.polishamericanstudies.org/

Click on “Resources” then “Lists of Resources.”

Thank you, Maja!
At 18 my maternal grandmother, Katarzyna Borek left her family in Parlin (Fig. 1) for her new home in the United States. She needed little encouragement from her family but left with some assurance knowing her older sister, Mary Ann Rybicki had already started her family in Schenectady and could help her get settled. Her cousin Frank Dobies (1, 2) was also living there, whether she knew this or not is uncertain.

It is difficult to imagine how she or those in her family who were among the 2,600,000 immigrants (3) and travelers from Poland between 1870 and 1914 managed their journey to the US.

Katarzyna’s father Adam Borek brokered pork between farmers and butchers around Parlin and it is reasonable that he and his entire family (4) accompanied their 18 year old daughter to see her board the train at Lidzbark and say good bye. She with others in her family went to Lidzbark occasionally to shop.

From Parlin to Zuromin is about 8 miles and from there another 16 miles to Lidzbark (5) about a day’s ride there and back with horse and wagon.
Making any trip is certainly a challenge; she began hers on a spring day in 1910 from a wooden cabin with a thatched roof which once stood in this, still today, empty lot at the side of a dusty road in Parlin. (6) (Fig. 3).
Fig. 3 Empty Lot, Parlin \textit{(Photo by Martin Byster 1991)}

The dusty road from the empty lot to the east meets with a road between Lutocin and Zuromin (Fig. 4).

Fig. 4 Dusty Road \textit{[Photo by Martin Byster, 1991]}

Today on the road \textit{[droga]} north to Zuromin, looking south toward Lutocin, the dusty road enters from the left. The green road sign near a small roadside chapel on the right points to Parlin (Fig. 5).
The world stands out on either side
No wider than the heart is wide;
Above the world is stretched the sky, —
No higher than the soul is high.

"Renascence" (1912), st. 20, Renascence and Other Poems (1917)

Edna St. Vincent Millay (February 22, 1892 – October 19, 1950)

On the road north the rich loamy soils of the Polish plains stretch out endlessly. My wife and I were there in 1991 to see for ourselves (Fig. 6).

The ruin of the manor house (7), where this story of Pani Kornacka begins, was still standing. Perhaps it was there that “dozynki” at the end of the harvest was celebrated. But for the Boreks, if not there then at home it was simply to place a small wreath of harvested grain on the scythe used to harvest the grain before hanging it up for another year then to enjoy a rewarding meal (8).
We followed the road to Zuromin to the river Wkra. There a bridge crossed the river; the ferry my grandmother took was long gone. From there we turned back to visit with the families and descendants of my grandmother’s sisters.

Our hosts for the trip to Parlin were from in and around Warsaw, two daughters of my grandmother’s only brother Stanislaw, Natalia Kazmierczak and her son Irek and Matylda Kandyba and her son Robert. My grandmother’s sisters had all married with families of their own. Descendants of Anna Lewandowski and Franczyska Adranowicz lived at or near Parlin those of Stanisława Zalenka had moved on.

After visiting relatives in Parlin and touring Poland we returned to Warsaw to board an airplane to fly 4300 miles back to New York (Fig. 8).

From Lidzbark, Katarzyna Borek traveled 800 miles by train crossing half the width of Poland across two borders and the entire width of Germany and Netherlands to board a steamship at Rotterdam then sail 3500 miles home. (9)
PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA (Cont'd)
Martin Byster

Fig. 8 Departing Warsaw for New York (L to R, Family: Robert, Marty, Matylda, Natalie and Irek) [Photo by Barbara Byster, 1991]

The Holland–America Line, twin screw steamer, TSS Amsterdam, boarded passengers for New York in Rotterdam in the middle of May in 1910.

Fig. 9 TSS Amsterdam [Photo (10)]

PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA was on her way home.
To be continued
Part 3-KORNACKI

End Notes
1 Katarzyna Borek’s cousin Frank Dobies immigrated to the US in 1907 and was living in Schenectady in 1915 as this writer interprets the 1915 and 1920 census record. Frank was married to Katarzyna (Cadie [SIC]) Gajewska. According to Katarzyna Borek [later to be known as Katherine (Katie) Kornacki] she boarded with her cousin Frank and his wife at 18 River Street soon after she arrived and she spent the rest of her life there later buying the house and raising her family at that address. Frank and Cadie Dobies eventually moved to 10 North Street in the same city.
2 Katarzyna’s cousin Frank is the son of her father’s sister (aunt / stryjenka vs ciotka or wujenka) and her mother’s brother (uncle / wuj[a] vs Stry[a]).

3 Pogonowski, Iwo Cyprian; Poland-A Historical Atlas, Dorset Press, NY,NY; 1988; p.172

4 Katarzyna Borek left behind her father: Adam; mother: Apolonia; 3 sisters: Anna, Franczyska, and Stanisława; brother: Stanislaw

5 Note: Lidzbark is 38 km or 24 miles from Parlin. Google Maps lists 8 hrs to walk that distance. Other estimates are about half a day by horse and wagon given the best conditions.

6 Parlin 8, 52°59'38.8"N 19°46'51.5"E; Google Maps

7 This manor house was pointed out to me as the one Katarzyna would know about. I mentioned the name Marcin Budzich but to those to whom I spoke, that name was not familiar. From my reckoning for this story Marcin Budzich was the earliest owner I know about. He was the husband of my grandmother’s great-grandmother.

8 Knab, Sophie Hodorowicz; Polish Customs, Traditions, & Folklore, Hippocrene Books, NY,NY; 1993; p.152 [NOTE: If you followed the story in part one, Katarzyna Borek and her family were no longer resident in the manor house and if the family celebrated “dozynki” it seems unlikely it would have been at the manor house.

9 My grandmother was traveling in place of another young lady who was unable to make the trip at the time. It is uncertain whether my grandmother used her own name or possibly the name Anna Spychala to make the trip. Anna’s name is written on a note found among my grandmother’s personal papers saying Anna arrived on 6/6/1910 in New York aboard the Nieuw Amsterdam as my grandmother always said it was how and when she arrived.

10 http://www.cimorelli.com/cgi-bin/magellanscripts/ship_dates_volume.asp?ShipName=Nieuw+Amsterdam
Stanley J Gajewski Sr. (1879 – 1943) is in many ways a mystery to me. I never met him nor did I ever hear many stories about his life or where he came from. I don’t have any pictures of him, no artifacts, just some newspaper articles I found and records that he did in fact exist. His wife Eva (Ewa) Bartkowski (1881-1920) passed away at the age of 39. They had three sons and three daughters: Stanley J Gajewski Jr. (1911-1990), Genevieve “Jean” Reimeka (1911-1956), Blanche De Luca (1912-1984), Bernice Gajewski (1913-?), Benjamin Tadeus Gajewski (My Grandfather 1917-2007), and Henry Gajewski (1918-2008). They all grew up in Schenectady, New York.

My great grandfather Stanley Gajewski Sr. was a native of Poland and came to the U.S. on October 29, 1900 aboard the Weimar from Bremen to Ellis Island. He worked at ALCO as a Boilermaker and later he worked at GE. I found Stanley in the Schenectady City Directory in 1928, living at 13 Jefferson along with Anthony Gajewski.

I can’t imagine that Stanley’s life was an easy one, working hard to provide care for his six children after his wife passed away during the Great Depression. Later in his life, it would appear that he found residence at 527 Hattie Street where he passed away at the age of 65. Stanley was buried at St. Mary’s Cemetery on Eastern Avenue near what used to be known as St. Claire’s Hospital (now Ellis Hospital).
A few months ago I stopped by the New York State Archives in Albany, and located the index for my Great Grandfather’s Death Certificate. After locating his record I ordered a copy through the NYS Department of Health and discovered that Stanley was born to an Anthony Gajewski and Maryanna Dobriez of Poland.

With some luck after searching http://geneteka.genealodzy.pl I was able to obtain a copy of Stanley’s birth record from the parish in Lutocin, Poland free of charge. Additionally, the very kind people at http://polishorigins.com were willing to translate the record for me. I was so thankful that I donated a small amount to their website for their kindness.

According to the translation on April 13 1879, at 8:00am, Anton Gajewski, a farmer from Obremb appeared at the parish. Anton was 33 years of age and in the presence of Franciszek Ratajczyk, 40, and Stanislaw Kruk, 45, both farmers residing in Obremb, presented the parish with a male infant born in Obremb on March 25/April 6 in 1879 at 7:00am. Stanley was born of Anton’s legal wife Marianna Budka, age 30. At the holy baptism conducted by the undersigned priest, the child was named Stanislaw. His godparents were Lev/Leon Sarbiewski and Jozefa Budka. Signed by the Rector of Lutocin Parish; registrar of Civil Acts. Fr. A. Grandwiszek.

This record is such a wonderful find as it finally gave me an exact place to trace my Polish roots back to. Although, I have questions from this record which indicate that Stanley’s mother was Marianna Budka whereas on his death record she was listed as Maryanna Dobriez. This will require further research. Perhaps she married twice?
Stanislaw Gajewski Ellis Island 1900 Ship Manifest from Obremb going to Schenectady

Stanley J Gajewski Sr. Birth Record from Lutocin Poland Parish
I admire my Great Grandfather's strength for not only leaving his home country, but also for persevering despite the death of his wife, the Great Depression and working hard to raise six children. If his home resembled anything similar to this photo of Hattie Place, I would have to believe he found some peace and happiness in Schenectady. I hope to continue this journey to unravel the mystery that he is to me.
TIMELINE: SCHENECTADY SOJOURN (1901-1925)
OF JULIANNA nee POLEK JAKUBCZAK
Leonard F. Jakubczak, Ph.D. Gaithersburg, Maryland, U.S.A.

Julianna (Julia) nee Polek Jakubczak (1895-1957) and her Polish-immigrant family spent the first quarter of the Twentieth Century growing, working, marrying, and dying in the city and county of Schenectady, New York, U.S.A., and eventually leaving. This series of articles describes that sojourn and some of its context. The present article sets the stage by detailing from where her family and she came, and why. Future installments will describe their sojourn in Schenectady, the Electric City.

FIRST INSTALLMENT: PRELUDE (1892-1901)

1 January 1892    Ellis Island, Port of New York, becomes reception center for new immigrants.\(^1\)

12 April 1892    Julianna’s father-to-be, Jan (John, Johann, Johannes) Polek (1869-1912), 23 years of age, a laborer, disembarks at Ellis Island, New York, having immigrated to the U.S.A. from his native village of Kolbuszowa Gorna, District (Powiat) of Kolbuszowa, Province of Galicia (Galicia), the Empire of Austria-Hungary (i.e., from the Austrian partition of former Poland).\(^{ii iii}\)

Spring/Summer 1893    Julianna’s mother-to-be, Marianna (Maryanna, Maria, Mary, Maryja) Spiewak, about 21 years of age, arrives in the U.S.A., probably at Ellis Island, New York, having immigrated to the U.S.A. from the Village of Nowa Wies, powiat of Kolbuszowa, Province of Galicia, Austria-Hungary.\(^{iv v vi}\)

2 September 1893    Jan Polek and Marianna Spiewak, marry at St. Mary’s Slovak Roman Catholic Church, in McAdoo, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, with Fr. John Novaczky (sp?) officiating, and with Andrew Pranatto (sp?) and Victoria Csihovic as witnesses. The marriage is the first entry in the parish records, which began in 1893. The newlyweds settle in the nearby anthracite-coal mining town of Audenried, Carbon County, Pennsylvania, Jan as a laborer and Marianna as a servant. Audenried is four miles south of Hazleton, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.\(^{vii viii ix}\)
21 June 1894  Anna, the Polek's first child, and the sister of the future Julianna, is born in or near Audenried to Jan and Marianna.

24 June 1894  Anna is baptized by Fr. Mathew Tarnowski at the newly-formed Polish-speaking St. Kunegunda Roman Catholic Church, McAdoo, Pennsylvania, just across the county line from Audenried. She is sponsored by Andrew Prerenta and Maryanna Bialek. Andrew may be the same Andrew that witnessed the parents' marriage. There is no further record of this child of the Poleks.

25 May 1895  Julianna (Julia, Julka), the main focus of this series, and the second child of the Poleks, is born in or near the town of Audenried, Carbon County, Pennsylvania.

26 May 1895  Julianna is baptized at St. Kunegunda Roman Catholic Parish in McAdoo, Pennsylvania, by Fr. Mark Januszkiewicz with Valentine Bialek and Mary Studniarz as sponsors. Valentine may be related to Maryanna Bialek, the godmother of Anna, the Poleks' first child.

2 April 1897  Julianna's brother, Wojciech (Adalbert), is born in or near the town of Audenried, Pennsylvania, to Jan and Marianna Polek, their third child.

4 April 1897  Wojciech, too, is baptized at St. Kunegunda Roman Catholic Parish, in McAdoo, Pennsylvania, by Fr. Mark Januszkiewicz, and sponsored by Anthony Jomosz (sp?) and Angela Aniolowska. No further church records on this child are found.

10 September 1897  Nineteen unarmed immigrant coal miners are killed by Luzerne County police at the Lattimer mine near Hazleton, Pennsylvania. The miners are mostly of Polish, Slovak, Lithuanian and German ethnicity.

1897 – 1898  Perhaps because of such labor-management disputes, the Jan Poleks leave the parish and Audenried. No other church records of this family are found there.
10 August 1899 Julianna’s first surviving sister, the Polek’s fourth child, is born at an unknown location, possibly Canada, according to family oral history.\textsuperscript{xiv} She is likely baptized there, and the name Anna is used, again, to name her. This suggests the Polek’s first child, also named Anna, had died.

5 January 1901 Ever closer to Schenectady, New York, a fifth child, Julianna’s first-surviving and only brother, is born to Jan and Marianna Polek in Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York.

13 January 1901 The infant is baptized by the Rev. Francis Rusen at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish in Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York, and given the name Jozef (Joseph). The sponsors are Henry Rasol and Teofila Klonowska.\textsuperscript{xv}

(To be continued in Installments 2 and 3.)

\begin{center}
\textbf{ENDNOTES}
\end{center}

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{ii} Passenger Manifest, S.S. \textit{Braunschweiger} (ship # 508), 12 April 1892, frame 345, line 890, entry for Johan Polek, age 23; \textit{Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York 1820-1897}, microfilm publication M237 (Washington: National Archives and Records Administration Service), roll 585.
\item \textsuperscript{iii} Roman Catholic Parish (Kolbuszowa, Kolbuszowa, Galicia, Austria Hungary) “Baptismal Records:1868-1870,” Kolbuszowa Gorna, 9 June 1869, page 79, #25, entry for “Johannes Polek” son of “Jacobus Polek;” Microfilm # 0939971, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.
\item \textsuperscript{iv} Thirteenth Census of the U.S.: 1910 Population Schedule, Schenectady City, Schenectady County, New York, enumeration district 204, Sheet 7b, line 53, 219 [Fourth Street], dwelling 104, family 142, John Polek; Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration microfilm publication, T624 Roll 1076.
\item \textsuperscript{v} Joseph William Siudy of Schenectady, New York, nephew of Maryanna\textit{nee} Spiewak Polek, queried by Leonard F. Jakubczak via e mail questionnaire, 10 August 1993; completed questionnaire privately held by Jakubczak, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 2015. Joseph had been told by his father, Jan Franciszek, the birthplace of Maryanna’s sister, Jozefa (thus Maryanna’s), page 1, question 3.
\item \textsuperscript{vi} Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (Chicago, Illinois) to Leonard F. Jakubczak, letter, initiation date 13 May 1901, extracting data on Marya Polek\textit{nee} Spiewak (1872-1956); privately held by Jakubczak, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 2015.
\item \textsuperscript{vii} Orphans Court, Carbon County, Pennsylvania, Marriage License Application, number 2286, “John Polack” (sic) to “Mary Anna Spiwack”(sic) [Polek-Spiwak], 1893; photocopy from Clerk of the Orphans’ Court, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania.
\end{itemize}
viii St. Mary's Slovak Roman Catholic Church of the Assumption (McAdoo, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania), Marriage License Return, number 2286, “John Polack” (sic) to “Maryanna Spiwack” (sic) [Polek-Spiewak]; photocopy from Clerk of the Orphans’ Court, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania.

ix St. Mary's Slovak Roman Catholic Church of the Assumption (McAdoo, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania), “Marriage Register” (Latin), 1893, Vol. 1, page 3 (stamped), item 1, entry for “Joannes Polak,” (sic) and “Marianna Spiwak” (sic) [Polek-Spiewak], 2 September 1893; photocopy from pastor, 1994.

x St. Kunegunda Roman Catholic Church (McAdoo, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania), "Baptism Register," 1894, Vol. 1, numbers 1 (Latin) and 3 (English), page 2 item 15, and page 10 item 7, respectively, entry for “Anna,” daughter of “Joannes (John) Polek,” and “Marianna (Mary) Spiewak” (sic), born 21 June 1894, baptized on 24 June 1894; photocopies from pastor, 1995.

xi St. Kunegunda Roman Catholic Church (McAdoo, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania), “Baptism Register,” 1895, Vol. 1, numbers 1 (Latin) and 3 (English), page 6 item 51, and page 16 item 2, respectively, entry for “Julianna (Julia),” daughter of “Joannes (John) Polek,” and “Marianna (Mary) Spiewak,” born 25 May 1895, baptized on 26 May 1895; photocopy from pastor, 1995.

xii St. Kunegunda Roman Catholic Church (McAdoo, Schuylkill, Pennsylvania), "Baptism Register," 1897, Vol. 1, numbers 1 (Latin) and 3 (English), page 17 item 13, and page 28 item 5, respectively, entry for “Adalbertus (Adalbert),” son of “Joannes (John) Polek,” and “Marianna (Mary) Spiewak,” born 2 April 1897, baptized on 4 April 1897; photocopy from pastor, 1995.


xiv Polek-Jakubczak family traditions regarding the birth and baptism of Anna Polek (abt. 1899-1990) as reported to author by his sister, Genia Jakubczak (a.k.a. Genia Las), Buffalo, New York, Anna's maternal niece (b. 1926).

xv Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church (Syracuse, New York), Sacramental Certificate (privately owned by Leonard F. Jakubczak, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 2015), Joseph Polek baptismal certificate (1901 baptism); issued 1996, citing no book or page number.