Our objective continues to be to discover, document and digitally preserve genealogy, stories, and pictures of Schenectady County’s Eastern European immigrants.

Please share your family history, help pass on the (electronic) word. The next deadlines for 2017 are July 1st and October 1st. 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.

The Schenectady Digital History Archive To find our newsletters on-line: http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/resources/eer/

Polish American Historical Association Link (PAHA)
Dr. Maja Trochimczyk, webmaster of the PAHA website, 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!

Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA)
Thanks to William F. Hoffman, PGSA newsletter editor, for printing our Table of Contents and contact information in “Rodziny” the PGSA newsletter. PGSA Home Page is found at http://pgsa.org/

Facebook: Schenectady Polish Heritage Facebook Group
Thanks to Brianna Jolie (Guckemus) for starting this Facebook group. It’s described as a “closed group” which only means that you can request membership and an “administrator” will give you permission.

Thanks to Bernice Izzo and Carole McCarthy for their help in editing this newsletter!
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The Search for My Mysterious Great Grandmother
Katherine Rajska Brozyna and the Nowy Targ-Schenectady Connection
Jeff Brozyna

Fig. 1a Katherine Rajska Brozyna and husband John Brozyna-1942

Fig. 1b Katherine Rajska Brozyna, my Grandmother Leola Wtodarczak Brozyna and her father, the elder Francis Wtodarczak-1943

Fig. 1c Great Grandmother Katherine second from left, (l to r) her granddaughter Lorraine, daughter Helen, daughter Bertha, granddaughter Adeline and daughter-in-law Leola Wtodarczak Brozyna. Colorized photo by my Grandfather Joe Brozyna 1946.

In the July 2016 edition of this Newsletter I shared with you the story of my great grandparents, John and Katherine Brozyna (Fig. 1a), and how they came to Schenectady from Poland to start a new life after several years in the Pennsylvania coal region. They arrived here in February of 1899, worked hard, lived on Davis Terrace and Cutler Street in the old 9th Ward, raised their family, worshiped at St. Adalbert’s Catholic Church and eventually bought a home on Osterlitz Avenue in Bellevue. John worked as a machinist at General Electric, ran a small neighborhood market on Cutler Street in the 1920s and eventually was employed in various other machinist jobs around town. My great
The Search for My Mysterious Great Grandmother
Katherine Rajska Brozyna and the Nowy Targ-Schenectady Connection

Jeff Brozyna

grandfather had inadvertantly left a clear trail for genealogy work. He always gave a consistent date and location of birth in key documents which allowed me to uncover his ancestry in Southeastern Poland. I discovered the painful story of how his parents and siblings died leaving him almost alone in the world at an early age and it touched my heart! He had no choice but to come to America. Fortunately for John, interacting with people in the workplace forced him to open up to the new society he encountered. He learned to read and speak English and reach out of his shell to an extent. He appears to have met American society half way. However, the strict social structure of the early 20th century required Katherine to carry the burden of the homemaking and childrearing. She was the one who bore the brunt of the childhood illnesses that killed little Mary, Michael and Anna between 1905 and 1911. Katherine carried the horrible memories of perhaps two more un-named children who died in Pennsylvania just before 1900. As Katherine continued to raise my Grandfather Joseph, as well as Bertha, Helen and Walter, she must have been constantly haunted by the memories of her babies and by the fear that death would return to claim her surviving children! Perhaps as a consequence, my great grandmother seems to have shut herself off from this new American society. She never spoke English, cooked only Polish foods and steadfastly clung to the ways of the old country.

I wanted to know more about my Great Grandmother’s story but oral history was scarce and a shroud of mystery soon set in. Katherine died in 1954 when I was only two years old so I never knew her. While growing up, I would ask my grandfather about his parents and he would complain about how they refused to help him financially when he started his retail meat business (which became very successful) and how they tried to dictate his choice of a bride! My Grandmother Leola (Fig. 1b, 1c) said Katherine was always cold to her, she complained a lot and would frequently cuss in Polish. My father Harold and Uncle Paul had little to add since they didn’t speak Polish and couldn’t understand what their Grandmother Katherine was saying. (Besides, their grandmother couldn’t assist them in their two primary pursuits as teenagers: making money and dating girls!) Eventually I found out about their Polish food dishes, music, baking habits, personal preferences but family oral history told me little about Katherine. Where did she come from, what molded her and what was she truly like as a person? Why did she come to the United States and why move to Schenectady? It all was a mystery.

In Feb. 2013 I embarked on a project to fully discover my family background and write family histories of my Irish, German and Polish ancestors to document their stories for our grandchildren. One by one the narratives fell into place but Katherine’s story remained obscure. I had little oral history to go on and the documentation told me almost nothing. Her Schenectady death certificate gave me a date of death (June 10, 1954), the name of her father (John Rajska), a date of birth (Nov. 28, 1880), no place of birth and no mother’s name. She never told her kids the name of her mother or where in Poland she was born! As I dug deeper, I discovered that Katherine gave a host of dates of birth on various documents, church records, census reports and marriage documents ranging from 1872-1880! Why do that? What was she hiding? (Eventually I was to find that the only accurate information Katherine Rajska gave her children about herself that could be attached to her death certificate was her name!) No computer records were available. I hit a brick wall.
A breakthrough happened when my Cousin Joann (Katherine’s last surviving granddaughter) discovered a stash of Katherine’s important papers behind an old dresser drawer. A photo and promotional material on the 1903 rededication of St. Anna’s Catholic Church in Nowy Targ, Poland, given to project donors was found (Fig. 2). This had to be Katherine’s home church! Now we had a location to start a Polish record search! In the summer of 2015 my Polish genealogist, Aleksandra Kacprzak, went to search the church records and initial emails were encouraging. “I have found Katherine-daughter of John Rajski-church closing for today-will email tomorrow!” The next day I found that Katherine had died at the age of 5 and could not be my great grandmother! Now what? Aleksandra then chronicled the family tree for John Rajski, his brother Michael Rajski, their parents Jacobus Rajski and Marianna Kowalska, and listed all ancestors and children. Then we thought that maybe my great grandmother used the papers of the deceased Katherine to get into the United States and was in fact, another family member. We narrowed it down to about five candidates born in the 1870s but then hit a brick wall. Once again, the mystery persisted.

Another breakthrough happened when I took the Ancestry.com DNA test in late 2015. While processing the results of my DNA cousins with public family tree sites, I noticed connections to the surnames Sienka and Watychowicz in Galicia and Nowy Targ. John Rajski’s brother Michael Rajski was married to Francisca Sienka and she was the daughter of Franciscka Watychowicz! They had a daughter named Katarzyna (Katherine) Rajska born 7 Nov. 1878 and the church records did not show her being married or dying in Nowy Targ. She was the correct age (matching the most frequent year of birth given
by Katherine in US documents). The list of her siblings in church records included Jacob and Bartholomeus Rajski who lived in the small town of Glen Campbell, Indiana County, PA when Katherine gave birth to my grandfather Joseph Brozyna in June of 1898. Why did Katherine tell her children John Rajski was her father? Her mother Francisca died in 1883 when she was 5 and her father Michael must have sent her to live with her Uncle John Rajski until John and his wife died. Katherine thought of John as her father, not Michael! Why did she not mention her mother’s name? Francisca Sienka’s father Francisck Sienka was born in Slovakia and had what Poles considered at the time to be ethnic minority blood on his mother’s side. (Apparently, it was embarrassing to be less than 100% Polish!)

By summer 2016 I was 85% sure I had figured out Katherine Rajska’s story. In the early 1890s her older brother Jacob Rajski and older sister Maria emigrated to central Pennsylvania and New York City respectively seeking a better future. Brother Bartholomeus joined Jacob by the late 1890s to work in the mines. They married two Wielkiewicz sisters from Nowy Targ. Katherine Rajski sailed for New York city in 1894 and traveled to coal country near Hazleton, PA where she married my great grandfather in June of 1895. Despite the encouragement and support of three of John Brozyna’s cousins who were already established there, John agreed to seek greener pastures in Glen Campbell, PA at the insistence of Katherine. Her brothers must have painted a glowing picture of employment opportunities for a machinist in the coal and lumber industries in Indiana County. However, things didn’t work out and six months after my grandfather was born, the Brozynas were off to Schenectady in early 1899. The story sounded good but I wasn’t 100% certain I had it right.

Late one night in November 2016 I discovered a short posting on Ancestry.com from January 1999. A woman was reaching out for living relatives of her Rajski and Wielkiewicz ancestors. Based on my research, I could identify her grandfather and great uncle as Katherine Rajski’s brothers! The posting went on to say that the brothers had a sister who went to Schenectady! There was the proof! Jacob and Bartholomeus were indeed Katherine’s brothers and additional documentation that I discovered verified the ancestors I identified in Poland are the correct ones for these siblings. The mystery has been solved! And when I finally connected with my new found distant cousin on the phone to talk about the Rajski family history 18 years after she reached out into the unknown for answers, it brought us great joy!

One last question: why would John and Katherine go to Schenectady? Of course, there was work to be had at the Locomotive Works and GE. However, I think it was a personal recommendation. Phyllis Zych Budka is a co-founder of this Newsletter and when she was giving a presentation at our church I noticed the surnames Watychowitz and Wielkiewicz on a slide of her ancestors. As it turns out, Phyllis’ Schenectady ancestor Jozef Zych from Nowy Targ was related to Katherine Rajski Brozyna on his maternal grandmother’s side through Watychowitz and Katherine’s two sisters-in-laws in PA were Wielkiewicz sisters! The Zychs and Brozynas lived very close to each other on both Davis Terrace and Cutler Street! Both Jozef and John worked at GE. Jozef arrived in Schenectady in 1898 and found work. He may well have written the Rajskis in PA to tell
them about the opportunities in Schenectady and it was the Brozyna family that responded in 1899. They joined a group of perhaps 50 Polish families with a Nowy Targ connection in Schenectady.

Katherine Rajski was orphaned by the age of 12. She was forced to emigrate to the US at the age of 15.5 years as there was no future for her in Europe. She probably got some support briefly from her sister in New York City and from her brothers but she had to be independent and tough. She worked as a servant girl in a PA mining camp until she married. When she was too young she misrepresented her age to get work and to get married without parental consent. She buried five of her nine children. In 1946 she buried her husband. Even though she was resilient, she recognized she could not survive without her family and the church. Her experiences made her cautious, controlling, and suspicious of the new society around her. She must have found comfort in the old beliefs and traditions. Her children stayed close, her daughters were emotionally supportive and her sons helped out financially. Her husband did the best he could. She did the best she could. She appears to have been a tough woman who had to endure a hard life. They were like so many immigrants to this country. They were not welcomed here at first but they persevered and built a better future in what had to be for them a very strange, new society.
As I contemplate the start of the digital capture of a second family scrapbook, I ask myself: Why bother? Who cares? In high school, history was my least favorite subject. However, in the process of working on genealogy and local family history, I am realizing the importance of capturing a small slice of my childhood community, which no longer exists. So I will dive in!

My husband, Alfred (Freddy, Fredziu, Al) John Budka (1936-1992), and I grew up in Schenectady’s Mont Pleasant / St. Adalbert’s Polish-American Church and school (K-8) community. Al was 6 years ahead of me in school, so I didn’t really know him until my college days. Al was an only child, the son of Henrietta (Beczak) and Walter Budka. The scrapbook, compiled by Henrietta with comments in her beautiful handwriting (Palmer method), is a remarkably complete history of Al’s K-8 St. Adalbert years.

The scrapbook illustrates that our lives were centered around church and school events and holidays. Its pages are fragile, crumbling. With my trusty hand scanner, I will share some pages in each newsletter. Some readers may recognize names and faces from our shared past.
My Kindergarten Years 1941 - 1942

Kindergarten Class

My first Teacher
Sister Mary Tekla

Freddy Budka

Kindergarten Class

Compiled By Henrietta Beczak Budka
Comments by Phyllis Zych Budka
My Kindergarten Years 1941 - 1942
My 1st Mother’s Day gift

Classmates of the Kindergarten class

Stasiu Karpinski
Szczepan Jankowski
Bobby Knapik

My First made gift
At the beginning of the thirties, Katie, Pani Katarzyna Kornacki, had an extended family in Schenectady, New York; her own on River Street; her sister Mary’s, the Rybickis, on Alexander Street; the Dobies’ cousin Anthony’s on Ingersoll Avenue; cousin Frank’s on North Street and brother-in-law John Kornacki’s near Saint Mary’s Church on Eastern Avenue. Twenty three children, first generation Americans had been born and the youngest Andrew, John’s son, still to come in 1933.

The Great Depression was in the making following a sudden and devastating collapse of U.S. stock market on Black Tuesday October 29, 1929. The US unemployment rate was nearly 10% and increasing rapidly.

Feliks was working as a laborer in the Tank Shop of the American Locomotive Company and was fortunate to have a job. Pauline, my mother, finished elementary school and rather than continue with high school began working as a domestic housekeeper in homes, within the General Electric Realty Plot; it was a decision she justified, saying her family needed the money. And indeed they did need money to keep three children in Saint Mary’s School, pay city property taxes, home owner’s insurance and principle with interest on a $2300 bond to which they mortgaged their home in 1925. It was only with the generosity of their good neighbors Franciszek and Wladyslawa Lenczewicz, their next door neighbors, who loaned them the money, that Katie and Felix were able to continue to make semi-annual interest payments and extend the final payment (Fig. 2) on principle originally due on July 1, 1930 until 1941, 11 years later.

---

1 “Góralu, Czy Ci Nie Żal” Although this Polish folk song raises the emotions of a young man leaving his homeland in the Tatra Mountains in southern Poland, it was sung by many Poles reminiscing for their homeland while facing the trials and tribulations of a worldwide depression which tested their mettle.

2 APPENDIX A1
3 APPENDIX A2
4 APPENDIX A3
5 APPENDIX A4
6 Part 4
7 Part 6
On the day full payment on principle was due, only $500 had been paid. Subsequent receipts indicate that payments on principle did not get any better; on New Year 1940, less than half the principle had been paid. The most difficult times were in 1931, 1932 and 1933, when no payments on principle were made.

Early on, the Kornackis took on Vincent Konczewski as a boarder. He was a proprietor of a soda shop (perhaps a.k.a. a “speak easy”) and as the story goes, according to Katie herself, she tried her hand at making bath tub gin, beer and wine which was bottled which were then delivered by Pauline and Joe in a small wagon. When Konczewski closed his shop the tables, chairs, bar-stools and soda glasses were stored with the Kornackis. All that together with large glass jugs of wine, bottles, bottle caps, and bottle cappers remained as in the house as artifacts of those times until they slowly disappeared in the 50s, except for the soda glasses, which are still cherished in the family.

In 1930 the first floor was rented at $20/month to Anthony Richute, his wife Lucy and their eight children. Later my father and mother, Benjamin and Pauline Byster (Fig. 5), were married and rented the apartment for $16/month.

It was an all hands effort to keep the house. Katie, with her electric washing machine, did laundry for customers in the GE Realty Plot and kept a garden in the back yard. Feliks kept a garden on Hog Island near the Western Gateway Bridge8 and raised hops for the beer along the north side of the house. Pauline, at 16, was working for Doctor McGauly. Joe (Fig. 3) finished Nott Terrace High School and entered the GE Schenectady Works apprentice training program.
Josephine finished high school and worked locally, perhaps as an office assistant for Doctor Edmund D Colby, near Saint Mary’s Church on Eastern Avenue. She appeared in local theatricals before entering Mount Sinai School of Nursing in New York City. Vicky graduated high school in 1939; Janet was in high school, Gert was in elementary school.

In 1935, Feliks Kornacki became a citizen of the United States (Fig. 4).

In 1936, Pauline Kornacki married Benjamin Bystry (a.k.a., Byster) (Fig. 5). Both were employed full time, Pauline worked at the American Laundry while Benjamin worked at the General Electric works as a machinist.
Fig. 5: Pauline and Benjamin Byster⁹

Little by little over the second half of the “Dirty Thirties”, Pani Katarzyna Kornacki and her extended family with the help of neighbors and an improving US economy pulled themselves up by their bootstraps to turn loose a first generation of natural born Polish-Americans.

TO BE CONTINUED

⁹ Figure 5: Back row, left to right Theodore Byster, Benjamin’s brother; Benjamin and Pauline Byster; Josephine Kornacki, Maid of Honor, Pauline’s sister; Henry Pach, Best Man; Joseph Kornacki, Pauline’s brother. Seated left unknown; right Janet Jankowski, Pauline’s neighbor, 16 River Street
## Family Group Sheet for FELIKS (FELIX) KORNACKI

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband:</th>
<th>FELIKS (FELIX) KORNACKI</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Birth:</td>
<td>23 Mar 1867 in PARAFA MLODZIESZYN, POLAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death:</td>
<td>20 Feb 1904 in SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burial:</td>
<td>SAINT MARY of CZESTOCHOWA CEMETERY, SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td>07 Jun 1913 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father:</td>
<td>ANDRZEJ KORNACKI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother:</td>
<td>TEOFILA WRZESINSKA</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wife:</th>
<th>KATARZyna (Katherine-&quot;Katie&quot;) BOREK</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth:</td>
<td>75 Feb 1892 in PARLIN, ELZBIEcin POLAND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Death:</td>
<td>04 Mar 1993 in SCHENECTADY, NY (6:00AM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burial</td>
<td>SAINT MARY of CZESTOCHOWA CEMETERY, SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>ADAM BOREK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>APOLODOM DORIEs</td>
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### Children:

1. **Name**: APOLOLOGPAULINE, PAUL, THERESA KORNACKI
   - Birth: 12 Mar 1914 in SCHENECTADY, NY (at Home)
   - Death: 03 Feb 1994 in SCHENECTADY, NY (3:00AM)
   - Marriage: 21 Nov 1935 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Spouse: BRONISLAUS (BENJAMIN-BENNY) JOSEPH BYSHER

2. **Name**: JOSEF (JOSEPH, JOE) STANLEY KORNACKI
   - Birth: 08 Apr 1916 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Death: 17 Dec 1987 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Marriage: 29 Sep 1940 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Spouse: GRACE ELIZABETH MATTHEWS

3. **Name**: JOSEPHINE KATHERINE KORNACKI
   - Birth: 19 Mar 1919 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Death: 20 Dec 1997 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Marriage: 05 Jun 1940 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Spouse: BERNARD ANTHONY (SZYMANSKI) SYMANSKI

4. **Name**: WITCIORKA (VICTORIA, Vicki) KORNACKI
   - Birth: 19 Jun 1921 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Death: 03 Mar 2006 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Marriage: 14 Nov 1943 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Spouse: JOSEPH (ZAKRZEWSKI) ZAKRZEWKI

5. **Name**: GENOWEFA (GENEVERY, JANET) PATRICIA KORNACKI
   - Birth: 22 Jun 1922 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Death: 06 Dec 1981 in KENSINGTON, MD
   - Marriage: 16 Sep 1945 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Spouse: DONALD ENID (D) REED

6. **Name**: GERTRUDA (GERTRUDIE, GERT) KORNACKI
   - Birth: 04 Mar 1929 in SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Marriage: 11 Feb 1950 in ST. MARY's, SCHENECTADY, NY
   - Spouse: ROBERT H BARRY
### Family Group Sheet for ADAM RYBICKI

**Husband:** KONRAD RYBICKI  
Born: OCT 1890 POLAND  
Death: SCHELENADY NY USA  
Marriage: 14 JUN 1915 in St. Thomas Church Schenectady NY  
Father: STEFAN RYBICKI  
Mother: ELIZABETH (ELZBIETA) RYBICKI

**Wife:** ELIZABETH (LIZA) RYBICKI  
Born: JAN 1894 KRAKOW POLAND  
Death: SCHELENADY NY USA  
Father: KURzell TOYOCKI  
Mother: KATARZYMIA TOYOCKI

**Children:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Death</th>
<th>Spouse</th>
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<td>1911 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
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<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>George RYBICKI</td>
<td>1922 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
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**Notes:**

- **ROSEMARY (MAY) RYBICKI**  
  Married in the USA  
- **Edward RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SG-888  
  Married 1st: Huma Reina  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Rose May  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  
- **Władysław (Walter) RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SS-182  
  Married 1st: Helen  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Lala  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  
- **Paul RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SG-888  
  Married 1st: Jane  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Mary  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  
- **George RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SS-182  
  Married 1st: Helen  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
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<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Henry RYBICKI</td>
<td>1916 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Regina RYBICKI</td>
<td>1917 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Edward RYBICKI</td>
<td>1918 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Paul RYBICKI</td>
<td>1920 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>George RYBICKI</td>
<td>1922 SCHELENADY</td>
<td>1990 SCHELENADY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

- **ROSEMARY (MAY) RYBICKI**  
  Married in the USA  
- **Edward RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SG-888  
  Married 1st: Huma Reina  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Rose May  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  
- **Władysław (Walter) RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SS-182  
  Married 1st: Helen  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Lala  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  
- **Paul RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SG-888  
  Married 1st: Jane  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Mary  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  
- **George RYBICKI**  
  Served in the USA Navy on Sub Chaser SS-182  
  Married 1st: Helen  
  Served in the USA Navy on USS Durum DD-394  
  Married 2nd: Lala  
  Died in Schenectady NY  
  Funeral at Holy Cross Church  
  Burial at Schenectady NY  

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**Project to Discover Schenectady County’s Eastern European Roots Newsletter**  
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## APPENDIX A3
### An Extended Family Dobies

**Family Group Sheet for ANTONIO DOBIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relation</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth</th>
<th>Marriage</th>
<th>Father(s)</th>
<th>Mother(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband</td>
<td>ANTONIO DOBIES</td>
<td>1923 in USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>JOHN DOBIES (SON)</td>
<td>MARGARET BOREK (DAU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>KATARZyna JASZULA</td>
<td>1923 in USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>JOHN DOBIES (SON)</td>
<td>MARGARET BOREK (DAU)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Children:**

1. Name: WILLIAM BILL DOBIES  
   Birth: 1942 in USA 
   Spouse: WIFE OF WILL DOBIES (7/26/1960)  

2. Name: NATALIE DOBIES  
   Birth: 21 Jan 1931 in USA  
   Spouse: CHARLES LASKOWSKI (JASIO)  

3. Name: WANDA DOBIES  
   Birth: 1931 in USA  
   Spouse: HUSBAND OF WANDA DOBIES RELYER  

4. Name: JEANETTE DOBIES  
   Birth: 1932 in USA  
   Spouse: HUSBAND OF JEANETTE DOBIES (7/26/1960)  

**Notes:**

ANTONIO DOBIES  
Antonio and Frank Dobies are brothers who both lived in Schenectady, NY. The 1920 Census lists them both living on Ingersoll Ave., the 1930 Census lists them on River ST. In 1930 Antonio and his family were living on North ST. Antonio's daughter, Natalia, later married Charles Laskowski and they also lived in Schenectady on Ingersoll AV.

Anthony's wife, Kathryn, and her family names later as Dobies rather than Dobies.

Antonio and Frank are the sons of Katherine Boras Komasa and her husband, and her father (Adam Boras)  

Katharine Boras emigrated to the US and married with her cousin at 18 River ST where she and her spouse lived eventually that rented then eventually bought.

**Family Group Sheet for FRANK DOBIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relation</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth</th>
<th>Marriage</th>
<th>Father(s)</th>
<th>Mother(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband</td>
<td>FRANK DOBIES</td>
<td>1928 in Poland/Russian</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>JOHN DOBIES (SON)</td>
<td>MARGARET BOREK (DAU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>KATARZYna JASZULA</td>
<td>1928 in Poland/Russian</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>JOHN DOBIES (SON)</td>
<td>MARGARET BOREK (DAU)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Children:**

1. Name: JAN DOBIES  
   Birth: 16 Oct 1951 in SCHENECTADY, NY  
   Spouse: WIFE OF JAN DOBIES  

2. Name: JOSEPH DOBIES  
   Birth: 1929 in SCHENECTADY, NY  
   Spouse: WIFE OF JOSEPH DOBIES  

3. Name: THEODORE DOBIES  
   Birth: 1932 in SCHENECTADY, NY  
   Death: 1991  
   Spouse: ALICE KARTNOWIA

4. Name: VICTORIA DOBIES  
   Birth: 1928 in SCHENECTADY, NY  
   Spouse: NOT MARRIED  
   Spouse: NOT MARRIED  

**Notes:**

**FRANK DOBIES**  
Antonio and Frank Dobies are brothers who both lived in Schenectady, NY. The 1920 Census lists them both living on Ingersoll AV., the 1930 Census lists them on River ST. In 1930 Antonio and his family were living on North ST. Antonio's daughter, Natalia, later married Charles Laskowski and they also lived in Schenectady on Ingersoll AV.

Anthony's wife, Kathryn, and her family names later as Dobies rather than Dobies.

Antonio and Frank are the sons of Katharine Boras Komasa and her husband, and her father (Adam Boras)  

Katharine Boras emigrated to the US and married with her cousin at 18 River ST where she and her spouse lived eventually that rented then eventually bought.

GENE DOBIES  
Gene worked for the Coca Cola bottling company in Schenectady.

JOSEPH DOBIES  
Jesse lived in Utica NY

THEODORE DOBIES  
Theodore lived in Utica and occasionally visited the Komasa on River Street.
# APPENDIX A4

## An Extended Family John Kornacki

### Family Group Sheet for JAN (JOHN) KORNACKI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Birth</th>
<th>Death</th>
<th>City/Place</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Spouse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband</td>
<td>JAN (JOHN) KORNACKI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19 Jun 1893</td>
<td>91 Oct 1986</td>
<td>PARAFIA Miłodzieszyn, POLAND</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>ANNA BUCZNIEWSKA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11 Oct 1911</td>
<td></td>
<td>POLAND</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ANDREW KORNACKI</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>12 Jan 1933</td>
<td>14 Dec 2002</td>
<td>SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
<td></td>
<td>ANNETTE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>PAULINE KORNACKI</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Daughter</td>
<td>1935 in SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
<td>1951 in SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
<td>SCHENECTADY, NY</td>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>LOUIS ZAMPELLA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Kinds of Self-Publishing
Phyllis Zych Budka

A. Project To Discover Schenectady County’s Eastern European Roots Newsletter – Collection individual stories – short, one shot or multi-chapter over several issues.
1. Microsoft Word – Many authors; Lightly edited
2. All electronic
3. Free
4. Distribution list – local, national, international 200+ names
5. Links: Schenectady County Public Library – Schenectady Digital History Archive AND Schenectady County Historical Society

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

B. Compilation – Everything I know about my Zych Grandparents – revised edition
1. Used PowerPoint – great for image-intensive document
2. Printed at copy center - small, inexpensive run for family – 42 pages

1. Struggle with appropriate software
   a. Word is best
   b. PowerPoint great for images
   c. Mixed – can cause challenges
2. Printed interim drafts in black and white at copy center – 5 cents per page – my printer eats ink
3. Scanned everything; retyped newspaper articles because of scan quality; used jpg and 300 dpi. For difficult, fragile text, get a hand scanner.
4. Connected with Moonrise Press, Dr. Maja Trochimczyk, who suggested Lulu.com and did the layout gratis. Guided me through the publication process. We split profit, if any.
5. The print version, soft cover, no color, costs $30 plus $5 S&H; the downloadable, electronic version is color for $10. The unexpected advantage of the electronic version: cousins and friends in Poland and Lithuania downloaded it!
   Donate copies to Schenectady County Historical Society and Public Library
   Paper lasts longer!
   Sense of accomplishment and peace!