

The
BULLETIN

**Baltimore County Genealogical Society
Eastern European Interest Group**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jan. 10 – Family History ‘Show and Tell’ Sharing

Mar. 14 – Scanning of Family and Community Photos

May 9 – TBD

HOW-TO MEETING

This next meeting (Jan. 10) will be devoted to sharing your family history and genealogy by bringing samples of your memorabilia, notes, photographs, family trees, etc. From your collections (in any format), the group will be able to discuss and explore methods of creating a family history that will be cherished and meaningful to your family.

Also, the March 14th meeting will be our Scanning Program meeting. Tom Hollowak will arrange to bring to the meeting a scanner capable of scanning items of various sizes. The plan is to scan old and new photos and paper memorabilia for a publication that documents Maryland’s Polish/Ethnic Community from 1868 to 2008. Participation is key; so, be sure to attend both meetings. If there are any questions, email us or call Tom H. at 410.837.4268.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

The BCGS is accepting 2009 dues for membership to the Society which allows membership into the Eastern European Interest Group. Please pay by mail (details were posted in your *BCGS Newsletter*) or see the Librarian upon your visit to the BCGS Library.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome **Deborah Ruth** of Bel Air, MD who is researching the surnames **Czarnecki and Fuchs**.

Welcome **Pat Juliann** of Abingdon, MD who is researching the surnames **Jankiewicz, Jagodzinski, Blaszkowski and Witkowski**.

BOOK REVIEW

Poland, An Illustrated History by Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski, 2000, second printing 2003, Hippocrene Books Inc. ISBN 0-7818-0757-3.

The 5in.x7in. compact hardcover pocketbook has lots of maps, charts, portraits, pictures and commentary in a 282 page volume. The unnumbered chapters begin with the lay of the land and an overview, then, a prehistoric Slavonic history. The tempo picks up with a tour through the middle ages and early monarchies towards the Renaissance and its Republics. Wars, partitions and total obliteration followed. The culture of the Polish people gave rise to a period of Romanticism and Positivism which led to a short lived period of independence. World War II, the Soviet Bloc state and finally the Third Republic of Poland with the joining of NATO in 1999, are covered.

The author splashes through Polish history giving the reader added culture aspects of Polish art, music, folklore, literature and architecture.

CONTRIBUTORS

Please contact the editor with useful items of interest to the group for publication in future Bulletins.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mar. 14 – Scanning of Family and Community Photos.

May 9 – Field Trip to Archdiocesan Archives

PHOTOS

The March 14th meeting will be our Scanning Program meeting. **Tom Hollowak** will bring to the meeting a scanner capable of scanning items of various sizes. The plan is to scan old and new photos and paper memorabilia for a publication that documents Maryland's Polish/Ethnic Community from 1868 to 2008. He is looking for unique or unusual photographs, as well as Polish businesses, activities, clubs, organizations, groups, religious as well as traditional photos. Only bring photos or items that you are willing to have published in a book. Please provide written descriptions and/or captions for them. If you have already scanned your photos you may want to provide the items on a CD or a flash drive. If you can not make the meeting, but want to participate, then email Tom or mail to him at 7 Dendron Court, Baltimore, MD 21234.

FIELD TRIP

Mark your calendars. Our May meeting will be a tour of the Archdiocesan Associated Archives located at the Saint Mary's Seminary at 5400 Roland Avenue. The archivist will give us an hour tour of the archives contents and procedures. We will meet at the BCGS parking lot for car pooling at 9:15 AM; otherwise, meet at the Seminary parking lot at 9:45 AM. The tour starts at 10:00 AM.

SHOW AND TELL MEETING

Here are some notes from the past January meeting. Each of the attending members talked briefly about an element of their genealogical research in a "show and tell" fashion. Below are some samples:

- a. A felt banner (approx. 2.5 feet x 10 feet) was unfurled showing names in a family tree configuration. The names were on swatches of material in various colors indicating

relationships within the family. The banner was made for a family reunion.

- b. Old pictures of family members were shown in historical times. One was a relative selling war bonds in front of a large World War II promotion display.
- c. A member displayed, using a laptop computer, how genealogical material (text, charts and pictures) could be presented in a manner for publication. The software package he used was from *GenBox*.
- d. A member showed a finished book, about one inch thick, of his and his extended family. The book had many photographs of people and places. The member used *Family heritage Publications* out of Utah to publish the book at a reasonable cost. The data for his document was compiled using *Family Tree Maker* software.
- e. A beautifully framed picture was shown of a member's husband's family including his four sisters' families. The pictures of his sisters families were taken at a reunion in St. Louis, Missouri and sent to him; after which, he combined them with his family to make the portrait. Cool!
- f. A member showed a book developed specifically for the grandchildren. It was called "The Grandmother's Book". Here, the grandmother addresses the grandchildren with tales, history and events of their parent.

NEW BULLETIN EDITOR

This issue of the EEIG Bulletin will be my last; I will be stepping aside in favor of a person who has shown loyalty to the group for several years. Her name is **Anne Wieliczko**. Please support her in her task. Her email address is shown below. Thank You.

Ron Sacker

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 9 – Field Trip to Archdiocesan Archives.
 Sep. 12 – (Tentative) Field Trip to LDS Family History Center.
 Nov. 14 – Regular Meeting. (Program TBA)
 Jan. 9 - Regular Meeting. (Program TBA)

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NEW MEMBER

Welcome **Lisa Garrett** of Bel Air, MD who is researching the surnames **Miedzinski, McCawley, Pawlowska and Schweitzer.**

FEBRUARY MEETING

At the February meeting members brought their family photographs for Tom Hollowak to scan for possible use in his forthcoming publication, *A Photographic History of Maryland's Polonia, 1868-2008*. A couple of members who were not able to be present sent Tom cd-roms with their family photographs.

Tom's project is to chronicle all aspects of Maryland Polonia: religious, family life, businesses, education, military participation, labor and agricultural endeavors, entertainment, clubs and organizations. He is particularly interested in unusual photographs, not just studio photographs, as well as documents (baptismal or marriage certificates; funeral cards, etc.). If you have anything that you would like to have included, please contact him to arrange when he can scan your photographs. If you have already digitized your photos, you can send them to his email as attachments or burn them onto a cd-rom and send to: Tom Hollowak, 7 Dendron Court, Baltimore, MD 21234.

MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION

If you have any ideas or would like to do a presentation for future meetings please contact Tom Hollowak historyk@comscast.net.

Also, if you would like to submit genealogical articles, research tips or discoveries, recommended books, research sites, etc. for the **Bulletin**, contact the **Bulletin** editor and/or the chairperson.



Example of Tom Hollowak's scan at Feb. meeting.

Bulletin Editor: Anne Wieliczko wieliczav@yahoo.com
 Chairperson: Tom Hollowak historyk@comscast.net

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sept. 12 – Seminar/Workshop at the LDS Family History Center at 120 Stemmers Run Road in Essex.
Notice: This meeting is in lieu of our regular meeting.
Nov. 14 – Regular Meeting at Parkville Senior Center, 3rd floor – Reflections Project
Jan. 9 – Regular Meeting at Parkville Senior Center, 3rd floor.

BALTIMORE STAKE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER WORKSHOP

The EEIG is urged to go to this workshop and attend the numerous presentations offered free— by the LDS. **This workshop will be in place of our September 12th meeting.** The workshop seminars begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue thru 3:50 p.m. at the Essex site.

Our own **Tom Bocek** is presenting a two-hour class on **Polish Genealogy**. For those who have not attended last year, it is a must. Anyone attending all day, a bag lunch is recommended; bottled water will be provided.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Walk in registration is allowable, but session availability may be limited. For latest details, class descriptions and registration go to the website, www.BaltimoreFamilyHistoryWorkshop.org. Once at the site select “register” and view the schedule of topics for the morning and afternoon sessions. Directions: I-695 to route 702, take 702 and exit at Eastern Blvd. towards Chase. Get into left lane and turn left onto Stemmers Run Rd. at the first traffic light. The Church is across from Stemmers Run Middle School on the right.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome **Lawrence Janowski** who is researching the surnames of **Janowski, Krol, Mayeski/Majewski** and **Macek**

REFLECTIONS PROJECT

Genealogies all start out the same way. You begin with yourself and work backwards. With that in mind, try to give the reader a description of your early recollections and move forward. Many of these will be things that future generations have never seen or experienced, and for that reason it is good to put them on paper. Have you done yours? If so come to the November meeting and share or learn how easy it is to provide a personal legacy for the future.

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ASSOCIATED ARCHIVES TOUR



A number of members (pictured above) toured the Associated Archives on May 9. The Associated Archives at St. Mary's Seminary & University brings together the archives of the Archdiocese of Baltimore (est. 1789), St. Mary's Seminary & University (est. 1791), and the Associated Sulpicians of the United States (U.S. Province est. 1921).

Associate Archivist, Alison Foley (third from the right) hosted the group and provided valuable information on the archives' holdings related our group's genealogical interest. Foley also provided a handout that included: genealogical research policy; a sacramental request form; listing of archdiocese national parishes that include dates of establishment and record holdings; and a table of parishes on microfilm with call number and years.

The archives is open to researchers **by appointment only** Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., except for the holidays observed by St. Mary's and scheduled closings. Call (410) 864-4074 or e-mail archives@stmarys.edu to schedule a visit.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nov. 14 – Regular meeting at Parkville Senior Center, 3rd floor – Reflections Project.

Jan. 9 – Regular meeting at Parkville Senior Center, 3rd floor – TBA.

Mar. 13 – Regular meeting at Parkville Senior Center, 3rd floor – TBA.

REFLECTIONS PROJECT

Learn about the personal aspect of genealogy at our November meeting. Genealogy encompasses more than pedigree charts and family group sheets. When we talk with our older relatives, we usually ask what life was like when they were younger. Someday, our descendants will ask us the same question. Start writing your life recollections and you'll leave a valuable legacy for the next generation. You can learn how to do this at our upcoming meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to two new members: **Linda Jean Grimes** who is researching the surnames of **Gillespie, Allen, Grimes, and Burkert**; and **Susan Koenig** who is researching **West, Thomas, Koenig, and Erjave**.

NEED A TRANSLATOR?

Tom Bocek recently advertised for a Polish translator and got a number of replies. Two in particular seemed the best, and he wanted to pass along their information to our members. Their emails are: alicja06@hotmail.com and justyna.sadowska@gmail.com. According to

Tom, Justyna is also fluent in German and Latin. Tom suggests scanning and sending your inquiries to them, and asking for a price. If you already have a price in mind, you can make an offer and negotiate.

GENEALOGY DNA

The topic of genealogical DNA has attracted much interest in recent years. If you've considered getting your DNA tested, you should know the pros and cons, as testing can be very expensive. The latest issue of *Rodziny*, the journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, has a lengthy article about this subject. The author, David Greenlee, provides an analysis of the benefits and drawbacks of DNA testing. He cautions against jumping into getting tested until you spend some time and effort learning what you'll get from it, first. If you're not a member of the PGSA, you may be able to read this article on their website: www.pgsa.org.

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