

CO•FAITH•FAMILY
COMMUNITY



POLISH
HERITAGE
CENTER
PANNA MARIA, TEXAS

Visitor Experience #64

Silesian Profiles — Gift of Heritage



Rosalia Broll Danysch

Photograph courtesy of: Gregory Fanelli, Victoria, Texas

Polish Heritage Center Receives *Silesian Profiles*

By Janet Dawson Ebrom

The Silesian Profiles Committee has donated over 200 research files about your original immigrant ancestors from Upper Silesia in present-day Poland. Additionally, the Silesian Profiles Committee has created a 750-page copyrighted e-book for your use in the PHC Library. These in-kind donations reflect over 25 years of professionally documented profiles of original immigrants to Texas – gifts of *heritage*!



L-R: Mary Ann, Kathy, Lynn, John, and Janet

In 1999, our first book, *Silesian Profiles: Polish Immigration to Texas in the 1850s* was published. This red book included 69 profiles which were researched by the five authors: **Janet Dawson Ebrom**, chairperson; **John Warren Beard**; **Katherine Korus Beard**; **Cheryl Lynn Highley**; and **Mary Ann Moczygemba Watson**. Our first book sold out, was later revised and re-printed, then sold out again!

In 2004, our second book, *Silesian Profiles II: Polish Immigration to Texas 1850s – 1870s*, was published. It included 79 profiles

which were researched by eight authors: **Mary Ann Moczygemba Watson**, chairperson; **John Warren Beard**; **Katherine Korus Beard**; **Janet Dawson Ebrom**; **Cheryl Lynn Highley**; **Doris Jaeschke Kosub**; **Michael Kurtin**; and **Msgr. Franciszek Kurzaj**. This blue book also sold out!

Finally, four members of the Silesian Profiles Committee continued a scholarly study of sacramental records from the 1800s as more were microfilmed in Upper Silesia and became available from 2005-2020. When we discovered more home villages and primary records for couples previously featured in the red and blue books, we updated their profiles. We continued to add the names of original immigrants to our master database and researched Baptisms, marriages, ship lists, cattle brands, land deeds, census records, agriculture census, tax rolls, military records, citizenship, deaths, burials, probate, and tombstones. After fifteen additional years of dedicated research, we documented **130 more couples** who immigrated to Texas in the nineteenth century.

All of these profiles were combined into one digitized book which includes the updated 69 red book profiles, the updated 79 blue book profiles, and 130 additional profiles! Our electronic book is entitled: *Silesian Profiles: Polish Immigration to Texas in the 1850s – 1890s* by **John Warren Beard**, **Katherine Korus Beard**, **Janet Dawson Ebrom**, and **Mary Ann Moczygemba Watson**. Now you will be able to view all **278 profiles** on the three computers in the Polish Heritage Center Library. This in-kind donation by the Silesian Profiles Committee is not only for you, the descendants, but also to honor the memory of our ancestors.

If you would like to access the 750-page *Silesian Profiles* e-book in the PHC Library, you may email the PHC Librarian and Archivist, **Lauren Robinson**: lauren@polishheritagecentertx.org for an appointment in Panna Maria.

Silesian Profiles: Polish Immigration to Texas in the 1850s – 1890s

Electronic book features these original immigrant couples.

Each **Husband's Surname** and his **Wife's Maiden Name**:

A-I

ADAMIETZ, Jacob and **RZILKA**, Dorothea

ADAMIETZ, Johann and **CZECH**, Helena

ADAMIETZ, Michał and **SITORZ**, Maria

ADAMIETZ, Simon and **CONIETZKO**, Josepha

ADAMIK, Leopold and **KOY / KOI**, Maria

ANDERWALD, Francis and **ADAMIETZ**, Elizabeth

ANIOL, Valentin and **MEMBEL / MENDLA**, Jozefa

BAK / BONK, Anton and **HUNSA**, Caroline

BANDUCH, Paul and **WALENTEK**, Agatha

BEDNORZ, Joseph and **BRZEZINA**, Josepha

BEDNORZ, Joseph and **BOMBA**, Constantina

BIELA, Franz and **PIECUCH**, Mariana

BIEMER, John and **SPRANZEL**, Mary

BIEMER, John and **MENARZ**, Agnes

BIENIEG / BIENIEK, Marcus and **KUŚ**, Theresia

BOMBA, Joseph and **PINKAWA**, Franciska

BOTHOR / BUTTER, Lorenz and **PIETRUCHA**, Marianna

BROLL, Adrian and **KORCZ**, Francisca

BROLL, Franz and **ZIENTEK**, Francka

BROLL, Kasimir and **BOK / BOCK**, Constantina

BRONDER, Caspar and **KRAWIETZ**, Franciska

BRONDER, Simon and **POLOCZEK**, Julia

BRYSCH, Michael and **LYP**, Lucia

BRYSCH, Sebastian and **BRZYTWA**, Maria Anna

BURDA, Franz and **SOWIK**, Anna
CEBULLA, Johann and **GABOR**, Margaretha
CIBIS / CYBIS, Marcin and **HOLOWA**, Marya
CIESLIK, Anton and **PIERDOLLA**, Mary Magdalena
COTULLA, Joseph and **RIEDER**, Maria
CZAJA, Vincent and **SPRENZEL**, Agnes
CZAMBER, John and **LYSSY**, Josefa
CZAMBER, John and **PRZYBYSZ**, Magdalena
CZERNER, Philipp Jacob and **JACEK**, Johanna
CZERNER, Philipp Jacob and **KOJ / KOY**, Johanna
CZERNER, Woitek (Albert) and **IBROM**, Renata
DANYŚ / DANYSCH, Constantin and **BROLL**, Rosalia
DANYŚ / DANYSCH, Florian and **KOLODZIEJ**, Martha
DŁUGI / DUGI, Woitek (Albert) and **FRIDRICH**, Marianna
DŁUGOSZ / DŁUGOSCH, Francis and **PLOCH**, Rosalia
DŁUGOSZ / DŁUGOSCH, Johann and **KASPERCZYK**, Franciska
DŁUGOSZ / DŁUGOSCH, Valentin and **WOICIK**, Thecla
DRAGON, Joseph and **JASKOLA / JASKUŁA**, Carolina
DRYŚ / DRESCH, Jacob and **KOY / KOJ**, Maria
DRZYMAŁA, Johann and **SOWA**, Thecla
DRZYMAŁA, Michael and **SIODLACZEK**, Francisca
DUPNIK, Joseph and **KACZMARCZYK**, Johanna
DWORACZYK, Jacob and **LYSSY**, Johanna
DWORACZYK, Joseph and **UNKNOWN**, Jadwiga
DYLLA, Franz and **PAWLIK**, Maria
DZIUK, Johann and **WILLCZEK**, Johanna
EBROM [see **IBROM**]

FELUKS / FELUX, Johann and **MOCZYGEMBA**, Marianna
FELUKS / FELUX, Johann and **SZEPA**, Francisca
FOEGELLE, Michael Peter and **WRÓBEL**, Francisca
GABRYŚ / GABRYSCH, Gervas and **ZUBER**, Josepha
GAWEL / GARVEL, Sebastian and **KOZUB**, Clara
GAWEL / GARVEL, Sebastian and **SAMOL**, Josefa
GAWEL / GARVEL, Sebastian and **OBSTUJ**, Francisca
GAWEL / GARVEL, Sebastian and **HOLLEWA**, Cristina
GAWEL / GARVEL, Sebastian and **SIMONSKI**, Mrs. Helena
GAWLIK, Johann and **SLODCZYK**, Johanna
GOLLA, Johann and **NIKIEL**, Josepha
GOLLA, Johann and **DLUGOS**, Agnes
GORYL, Valentin and **CZAPLA**, Josepha
GORZEL, Valentin and **SOIKA**, Getrude
GREGORCZYK, Franz and **UNKNOWN**, Johanna
GRUSCHIK / GROSZ, Kasper and **KOJ / KOY**, Johanna
GRUSKA / GRUSHKA, Anton and **SZEPA**, Francisca
GWOSDZ, Emanuel and **RESPONDEK**, Anna
H Aiduk, Albert and **GARBELA**, Josepha
H Aiduk, Thomas and **MORAWIETZ**, Catharina
H Aiduk, Thomas and **HOFFMAN**, Rosalia
HALAMUDA, Jacob and **KALISOK / KALISEB**, Hedwig
IBROM, Bernard and **SZOSTOK**, Julianna

Additional names in our alphabetical list will be in the next newsletter!

Director of Business Operations

Texas native, **Jennalee Freeman** is the newest addition to the Polish Heritage Center team as our new Director of Business Operations. Jennalee has a varied background in business ownership, management and most recently Officer of Operations for an assisted living company in Dallas where she managed business operations for 6 communities in the DFW metroplex. She recently moved into the Panna Maria area to be closer to family. When not at PHC she can be found supporting her children in an assortment of school activities in Falls City or on her small ranch caring for her menagerie of animals. Jennalee has a passion for history and learning more about her husband's and step father's Polish roots. In addition to her operational duties, she will be assisting the Center in social media outreach, as well as creating new merchandise to add to PHC.



New Director of
Business Operations:
Jennalee Freeman

Save the date:

Virtual Program

October 20, 2022, at 6 p.m.

Topic:

Polish Contribution to the War of Independence

Hosted by **Piotr Przybylski**

Assistant Director for Polish Studies in the St. John Paul II Institute at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas

Zoom Link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86010961558?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86010961558?pwd=ODNaRGRMTmVURllKTEU0TkRsWmxDUT09)

[pwd=ODNaRGRMTmVURllKTEU0TkRsWmxDUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86010961558?pwd=ODNaRGRMTmVURllKTEU0TkRsWmxDUT09)

See <https://polishheritagecentertx.org/> for more details.

Thank you!! Dziękuję!

Our founder and visionary Bishop John W. Yanta established the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria to recognize and celebrate the first permanent Polish settlement in the United States and to honor the hardworking Polish immigrants who retained their faith and family values, their traditions and culture and their identity as Poles and Catholics. Our beautiful world class, state-of-the art, building opened in October of 2021 *thanks to you, our donors*. You made this beautiful tribute to our Polish ancestors possible, and we are grateful. Your sacrifices of money and time are beyond amazing. As we moved to our new operational phase, we were reminded by Consul General, Robert Rusiecki that we have only begun this journey. The construction is complete, the dust has cleared and now we must work to sustain the operation for years to come.

Bishop Yanta addressed the Grand Opening of the Polish Heritage Center with the following message:

“I pray that the project always remains faithful to its goal of being a first-class operation and place in every way. Our immigrant ancestors gave us a distinctive first-class beginning and I, as one of the descendants, realize the debt I owe to them. We must pass on their history of faith, of taming their new land and overcoming hardships for future generations.

There is not a day I don't thank God for what we receive. This Heritage Center has been, and is, a tremendous blessing. I think it's very important for everyone, for future generations, to be able to put all of this to good use, to be good stewards. To me, what we are doing with the Polish Heritage Center is one of the very best uses that you can make out of dollars from heaven.

To the Polonia in America and around the world, I invite you to please come see what God has enabled us to do. We want to share our part of the national story that began with our ancestors. We want you to see the beauty of our story as we see it. God's working through Divine Providence over these many years brought us this story to share with you.

I thank God for being with us, step by step, along the way. For me, it's my call to stewardship. I knew God wanted me to do something: to memorialize our Polish ancestors and preserve the past for the future generations.”

We are grateful to each and every one of you who have supported us in the past. It is your generosity that made this project possible. Please now join us in keeping the Bishop's dream, vision, and mission alive for generations to come. As we approach the season of charitable giving, please consider supporting us again? No matter the size, all gifts are valued and appreciated. We are a 501c(3) non-profit organization and if you itemize your tax deductions, please consult your tax accountant to determine the amount your contributions reduce your tax liability.

Please mail donations to: Polish Heritage Center, P.O. Box 25, Panna Maria, Texas 78144

Historical Highlights

- October 1, 1608— First Poles arrive in America aboard the *Mary & Margaret*
- October 10, 1982— **Pope John Paul II** canonizes **Maximilian Maria Kolbe**
- October 11, 1779— Date traditionally observed in American Polonia as Pułaski Day in honor of death of **Casimer Pułaski**
- October 13, 1974 — Reinternment of **Rev. Leopold Moczygamba** in Panna Maria, Texas
- October 15, 1817— Death of **Tadeusz Kościuszko** (b. 1746), Polish Lt-Gen. and American Revolution freedom fighter, in Solothurn, Switzerland
- October 17, 1777— Americans win crucial Revolutionary War Battle of Saratoga. Victory credited in large to engineering feats of **Tadeusz Kościuszko**
- October 18, 1824— Birth of the founder of the first permanent Polish settlement in the United States at Panna Maria, Texas, **Rev. Leopold Bonaventura Moczygamba**
- October 22, 1978— **Cardinal Karol Wojtyła**, Archbishop of Kraków, Poland, installed as **Pope John Paul II**

Calendar of Events

October 9: Homecoming Turkey Dinner, Panna Maria, Texas

October 9: St. Stanislaus Homecoming Bazaar in Anderson, Texas

October 16: Cestohowa Parish Celebration, Cestohowa, Texas

October 28-30: Austin Polish Film Festival

**November 12: 2022 PACT ANNUAL MEETING,
Annunciation of the BVM Catholic Parish, St. Hedwig, Texas**

Images of Bishop John Yanta's Funeral Services

Bishop Yanta's funeral comprised of services in Amarillo, San Antonio, and lastly in Panna Maria, Texas. Over a ten-day span, people in these three communities had the opportunity to give God thanks for the gift that was **Bishop John Yanta** and his many, many years of service and dedication in ministry to God and His people, the Church. For the benefit of those not able to travel and participate in these events that celebrated **Bishop Yanta's** life, below are the video links to the three funeral Masses that were celebrated and his burial in Panna Maria, Texas.

Amarillo facebook link: https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=1070331797190666

San Fernando video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odep2jWfXL0>

Panna Maria video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUhXXj8QP9M>



St. Mary's Cathedral Amarillo, Texas



Bishop Patrick Zurek, Bishop of the Diocese of Amarillo, presiding at the funeral Mass honoring his predecessor, Bishop John Yanta
Photograph courtesy of:
Schooler Funeral Home, Amarillo, Texas

Bishop John Yanta's funeral service at St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo, Texas
Photograph courtesy of:
John Wojtasczyk

San Fernando Cathedral San Antonio, Texas

Coffin with the body of
Bishop John W. Yanta at
San Fernando Cathedral,
San Antonio, Texas

Photograph courtesy of:
Catholic Television
San Antonio



Principal celebrant,
Archbishop Gustavo
García-Siller, MSpS,
incensing the body of
Bishop John W Yanta,
with Deacon Michael
Pawelek in attendance
facing the coffin

Photograph courtesy of:
Catholic Television
San Antonio



Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Panna Maria, Texas

Picture to the left:

Bishop John Walter Yanta's funeral service at
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin
Mary Church, Panna Maria, Texas

Photograph courtesy of: John Wojtasczyk



Bishop John Walter Yanta being laid to rest next to his second cousin, four times removed,
Fr. Leopold Moczygemba *Photograph courtesy of: Facebook*