



E-NEWS

LATE WINTER - 2005
#6

FEDERATION OF EAST EUROPEAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES



FEEFHS - Edmonton, Alberta, Canada Conference

www.agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca

16 - 18 June 2006

Four Points Sheraton - Edmonton



FEEFHS - Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada Conference

www.eegsociety.org

4 - 6 August 2006

Victoria Inn - Winnipeg



ŚWIECONKA

The blessing of the Easter food, or the “Świeconka” is a tradition dear to the heart of every Pole. Being deeply religious, he is grateful to God for all His gifts of both nature and grace, and, as a token of this gratitude, has the food of his table sanctified with the hope that spring, the season of the Resurrection, will also be blessed by God’s goodness and mercy.

The usual fare on the Easter table includes ham and kielbasa, cakes of all kinds, especially babka (eggs - some shelled or some decorated), a Paschal Lamb or “Baranek” made of butter, some cheese, horseradish, salt, vinegar and oil. The food is brought to the church and blessed by



the parish priest on Holy Saturday. The food can also be blessed in the home. After the blessing, the food is usually set aside until Easter morning when the head of the house shares the blessed egg, symbol of life, with family and friends. Having exchanged wishes, all continue to enjoy a hearty meal.



PISANKI - Coloring and Display of Easter Eggs

The Pisanki derive from an ancient tradition when eggs, the symbol of life, were endowed with magical properties and were thought to ensure both a plentiful harvest and good health. The name Pisanki comes from the Polish word “pisac”, which means to write.

There are several techniques for making pisanki including the use of wax flowing from a pipe or funnel, producing richly ornamental designs or the etching of designs onto a previously colored egg. The geometric and floral patterns or the animal and human images produced reveal a high level of craftsmanship and artistry.

WAYS of DECORATING EASTER EGGS - Polish Style

Pisanki - Multi-colored eggs, decorated by applying protective wax designs which are added as the egg is dipped into successive dyes.

Kraszanki - Solid colored eggs dyed with plant materials, such as onion skins, beet skins, etc.

Malowanki - Hand painted eggs.

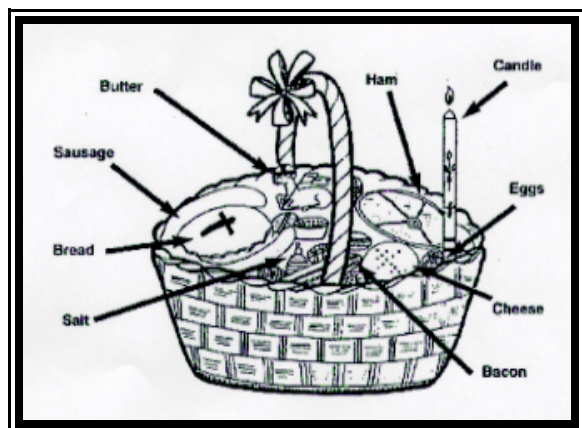
Skrobanki / Rysowanki - Solid colored eggs with a design scratched upon their surface.

Wyklejanki - Eggs decorated with bull rush pith and yarn, attached with glue.

Nalepianki - Eggs with paper cut-outs or straw glued to them.



TRADITIONAL POLISH EASTER BASKET



Maslo (Butter) - This dairy product is often shaped into a lamb (Baranek Wielkanocny) or a Cross.

Babka (Easter Bread) - A round or long loaf topped with a cross or a fish.

Chrzan (Horseradish) - Symbolic of the Passion of Christ.

Jajka (Eggs) and Pisanki (decorated with symbols of Easter, of life, of prosperity) - Indicates new life and Christ's Resurrection from the tomb.

Kielbasa (Sausage) - A sausage product.

Synka (Ham) - Symbolic of great joy and abundance.

Slonina (Smoked Bacon) - A symbol of God's overabundance of mercy and generosity.

Sol (Salt) - A necessary element in our physical life.

Ser (Cheese) - Symbolic of the moderation Christians should have at all times.

Candle - Represents Christ as the Light of the World.

Colorful Ribbons and Sprigs of Greenery - Attached to the basket as signs of joy and new life in the season of spring.

Linen Cover - Drawn over the top of the basket which is ready for the priest's visit to the home or the trip to church where it is joined with the baskets of others to await the blessing. The food is then set aside and enjoyed on Easter Sunday.

The above information and pictures are from the Polish American Center in Philadelphia, PA found at: <http://www.polishamericancenter.org/>

ENGLISH-POLISH NAME TRANSLATION

Alex - Aleks	Jerome - Hieronim
Alexandra - Aleksandra	John - Jan
Andrew - Andrej	Joseph - Józef
Angela - Aniela	Josephine - Józefa
Ann, Anne - Anna	Margaret - Malgorzata
Bartholomew - Bartolomiej	Mark - Marek
Casimir - Kazimierz	Mary, Marie - Maria
Charles - Karol	Matthew - Maciej
Christine - Krystyna	Nadia - Nadzieja
Elizabeth - Elżbieta	Richard - Ryszard
Emily - Emilia	Stephanie - Stefania
Florence - Florentyn	Stephen, Steven - Stefan
Gregory - Grzegorz	Thaddeus - Tadeusz
Helen - Helena	Thomas - Tomasz
Henry - Henryk	Walter - Władysława

NEW INFORMATION

Prussian Emigration Records (a fine article based on records stored at the State Archive in Szczecin/ Stettin) by Tadeusz Hubert Pilat, AG, MLS can be found at:

<http://www.progenealogists.com/poland/prussia/nemigration.htm>

FUTURE EVENTS:

IAJGS The 26th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, sponsored by the

International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (<http://iajgs.org>) will be held on Aug. 13-18, 2006 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Manhattan. The Jewish Genealogical Society of New York (<http://www.jgsny.org>) will host the conference. IAJGS is a non-profit umbrella organization co-ordinating the activities of more than seventy-five national and local Jewish Genealogical Societies around the world and representing virtually all JGSs as well as a number of Jewish Genealogical Special Interest Groups.

TUGG The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG) is planning a DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS TOUR from May 25 to June 11, 2006. If you wish to go on this tour, you will need to fill out a Reservation Form and the Archives Family Search Form. It is important that the Archives Family Search Form be filled out as best you can. Our intention is to forward the requests from the form to the respective Archives for processing. We will inform them when we will be visiting their archive and hopefully the requested genealogical information will have been prepared and readied for our visit. We will travel first to Lviv (sic), then to Ivano Frankivsk (sic), next to Ternopil (sic) and end at Kyiv (sic). We will spend a number of days in each location both as tourists and researchers. We will visit various archives and visit the villages of our ancestors. We are presently negotiating costs. If you require additional information, write us at: Trip to Ukraine and visit our site at [http://www.torugg.org/TUGG%20Projects/trip to ukraine.html](http://www.torugg.org/TUGG%20Projects/trip%20to%20ukraine.html) or contact: Jim Onyschuk at <http://www.torugg.org>

PGSCA The United Polish Genealogical Societies announce their biennial conference to be held in Salt Lake City April 21-24, 2006. The Conference will be hosted by the Polish Genealogical Society of California (PGSCA) and will be held at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel adjacent

to the FHL. Reduced rates are available for attendees reserving before March 21. The Conference fee of \$80, if mailed by March 21, includes admission to all sessions, printed materials, welcome hospitality and banquet. For further information, visit the web site: www.pgscacalifornia.org or e-mail: paul.lipinski@acm.org or telephone: [310] 378-0877.

POLISH MUSEUM of AMERICA is sponsoring a tour of Poland, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, July 1-14. The "Northern Delights—Lands of Czars, Kings and Knights," will depart from Chicago. The \$3,775 per person includes airport and hotel transfers, hotels, 14 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 13 dinners, English-speaking guides and other amenities. Contact: jan.lorys@prcu.org

POLISH MUSEUM of AMERICA & POLISH MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY of AMERICA are planning a second specialized trip to Poland, Sept. 7-24. In August, 1998, the PMA visited many museums and military points of interest as well as "standard" tourist sites in the Warsaw area, up north to Gdansk and Kolobrzeg and to Posnan before returning to Warsaw. Rather than the usual 15 cities in 14 days packets offered by some tours, the PMA and PMHSA plan to concentrate on the two cities of Warsaw and Krakow. For information on either trip, contact the Polish Museum of America 984 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60622; tel. [773] 384-3352 or e-mail Jan Lorys at jan.lorys@prcu.org.

POMMERSCHER VEREIN FREISTADT presents their 31st Annual POMMERNTAG, an outdoor German Festival, on Sunday, 25 Jun 2006 from noon to 6:00 pm in Mequon, WI. Contact: [262] 376-7641 or visit: <http://pommerschervereinfreistadt.org>

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future editions to: PR@FEEFHS.org