



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

November 2024

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October UGG-NCR Webinar

German Immigration in the 18th and 19th Centuries to Western Ukraine (Galicia) and the Discovery of My Grandfather Kindraczuk's German Ancestry: Part 1

In this webinar held on October 22, Dr. Romana M. Bahry presented the topic, *German Immigration in the 18th and 19th Centuries to Western Ukraine (Galicia)*. This is Part One of her presentation and Part Two, dealing with her research on her material grandfather, Dr. W.S. Kindraczuk (1882-1969) will be presented in January, 2025.



Dr. Romana M. Bahry - our October speaker

Dr. Bahry introduced Part One with an overview of the history of German settlement from the medieval period until the Second World War in Galicia. She began with an outline of the history of Ukrainian territory from the introduction of Magdeburg Law in the towns and cities during the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth to the partitions of the Commonwealth and the incorporation of

Galicia into the Austrian Empire in 1787. At this time, Catherine II, Empress of Russia, invited German Mennonites to settle in what is now southern Ukraine.

Dr. Bahry continued her presentation with a brief history of Galicia from 1772 to 1918 under Austrian rule and later under the Polish regime to 1939. She included information on the population statistics of Galicia in 1849 and in 1910. In east Galicia in 1910, the total population was approximately 7.9 million, with Ukrainians forming 62%, Poles 25.3% and Jews 8.2 % of the population. The German speaking population in 1910 numbered 212,327 and formed 2.7% of the total. Approximately 80,000 were German Christians and 20,000 were Galician Jews who considered themselves to be Germans. They were described as Galiziendeutsche but with time, some became Polonized.

In 1774, the Austrian Emperor issued the German Colonization Charter that provided various incentives dealing with property, taxation, trade, military conscription and other privileges to Germans from Germany and Austria to immigrate to Galicia. The Patent of Toleration of 1781 granted religious freedom to Protestants to encourage settlement in Galicia. The Edict of Tolerance of 1782 extended religious freedoms to the Jewish population. As a result, the largest number of settlers arrived in 1783-1784 and eventually settled in 170 settlements or colonies. The regulations dealt to a large extent with the administration of the religious life of the colonies.

Dr. Bahry provided some interesting sources for the study of Germans in Galicia based on information provided by the Galizien German Descendants organization and the Galizien

Village Family Books with each book on a particular German village. Researchers can access: <https://galiziengermansdescendants.org> and there are books on 352 villages. Also included are lists of surnames and Dr. Bahry provided examples of some of the books for certain colonies. She also presented slides of documents from the Austrian Government Schematism/Annual Civil Service Directories, 1790-1914 that were published in German until 1870 and then in Polish. These publications are now available on-line.

She concluded her presentation by referring to her publication, *Dr. W.S. Kindraczuk, Forgotten Chemist of Lancut and Pioneer of Probiotics* (2018) that contains references to these sources. Although the German-speaking population of Galicia was small in numbers, they occupied many influential positions in the government, public administration, school and legal systems and military until the First World War. Most Germans were 're-settled' in Germany in 1940 and the remainder fled the advancing Soviet military in 1944. Dr. Bahry concluded her presentation with a question-and-answer session.

Good News for Galitzianer Researchers

[Geshher Galicia](#) and [JRI-Poland](#) are pleased to announce that 128 vital record registers for Galician towns now in Ukraine have been transferred from the Warszawa Urząd stanu cywilnego (USC), the civil records office in Warsaw, to the AGAD Archive.

These registers are now being processed by the AGAD Archive. As soon as these registers are cataloged and digitized, they will be available for indexing and extraction of data.

The 75 towns on the Warsaw USC specification list are as follows: Bohorodczany, Bolechów, Bołszowce, Borszczów, Borysław, Bóbrka, Brody, Brzeżany, Buczac, Budzanów, Bukaczowce, Bursztyn, Czortków, Dobromil, Drohobycz, Gliniany, Gołogóry, Gródek Jagielloński, Gwoździec, Horodenka, Jagielnica, Janów Lwowski (Ivano-Frankove), Janów Trembowelski (Dolyna), Jaryczów Nowy, Jaworów, Jezierna, Kamionka Strumiłowa, Kołomyja, Komarno, Kozłów,

Kozowa, Krakowiec, Lwów, Mielnica, Mikołajów, Mikulińce, Monasterzyska, Mosty Wielkie, Mościska, Nadwórna, Narajów, Nawaria, Obertyn, Olesko, Podkamień, Podwołoczyska, Pomorzany, Probużna, Przemyślany, Rohatyn, Rozdół, Rudki, Sambor, Sasów, Sądowa Wisznia, Skała, Skole, Sokal, Sołotwina, Stanisławów, Stary Sambor, Stojanów, Strusów, Stryj, Strzeliska Nowe, Szczerzec, Śniatyn, Świrz, Tarnopol, Tartaków, Trembowla, Załóżce, Żółkiew, Żydaczów

The type of records included are births, marriages, marriage banns (announcements) and deaths. These records cover years up to 1922 for births, 1942 for marriages/deaths, and 1939 for marriage banns.

This list has not been verified in detail by the AGAD Archive. Therefore, the information shared is preliminary and subject to change.

Once Geshher Galicia and JRI-Poland have the verified list of registers and the number of records in each, we will be communicating that information to the Galitzianer community and asking for support for the extraction projects.

Community Events

Friday, December 6 @ 6:00 pm

UNF-OG - Christmas party

This event takes place in a private room with sit-down dinner, music, entertainment, door prizes. BYOB (favourite wine or beer) – no corkage fee. Members and guests welcome! Open to everyone who reserves a ticket.

Where: [Qaisar Restaurant](#), 1531 St. Laurent Blvd

For further information, contact vkarpia@rogers.com

Saturday, December 7 @ 10:00am to 2:00pm

Ukrainian Christmas Bazaar

Where: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine, 952 Green Valley Cres.

Sponsored by the UCWLC.