

March 13, 2019

John & Tatiana Zamma's wedding day, July 21, 1908



TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . .
while dusting

We very often do the research for people, help with their research or ask that they share what they have gotten thus far for a family name. And, along the way, we've made many friends and partners in the quest for genealogy of information for a particular family or for "shirt-

tail" connections to a family. Such was the case over the past year or so with a woman named Rose Groshel Wu now living in Michigan. Rose was born in 1948 and graduated from Sullivan County High School in 1967. She initially was instrumental in obtaining genealogy for the Gulich family and sent to the museum all that she had on that family. Then recently she expanded her treasure trove to include the Dziama connection and even more on the Gulich family. Worth mentioning at this point is that up until Rose's submission to us, we had nothing on either of these family names. It is also interesting that within this family collection comes the awareness that Mother Christophora, giver of the old cast iron fencing gate donated to the museum two years ago, is within this grouping. The pleasant surprises we find!

Where we're going with this though is the letter Rose sent with the material she was recently offering. Her letter is really just one of the examples of people's kindness in sharing their family background, in which we often get way more than bargaining for. So, read on:

"I [Rose] have enclosed the copies of my mother's family tombstones. Most of her family was buried in St. Vladimir's Orthodox Parish Cemetery, in Lopez, PA. My Mom's brother John and his wife Nettie Mushala Gulick are buried in St. Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Cemetery, in Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York. My parents Hele Gulick-Groshel and Frank Groshel are buried in St. Basil's Cemetery, in Dushore, PA. My mother's brother William Gulick and his wife Eleanor Wakovsky-Gulick are buried in the St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Cemetery, Pringle, PA.

"I have also included information about my brother Francis (Frankie) William Groshel who died on August 14, 2014. He is laid to rest in the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, Newton, Bucks County PA Section 32, Site 34, Memorial, ID 135018382.

"My grandmother Mary Dziamma had three brothers (John, Steve and Michael); and one sister Anna. My great grandparents names were Wasil and Hanuska Dziamma-Gulick. My Mom's sister Katherine's daughter is Mother Christophora, Abbess of Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City, PA was able to go to Ukraine and visited through an interpreter with our mother's first cousin, Hannah. Hannah's father Michael was much younger than Grandma Gulick, and Uncle John. They didn't know each other.

"Grandma Gulick did have a brother John Dziamma and he made his home in Cleveland, Ohio. I do remember visiting with him and his wife Tatianna and their children Rose and John. When Grandma Gulick was diagnosed with bone cancer, her brother would make many trips to Lopez, to see her. Uncle John and Aunt Tatianna (I love her name) were active members of St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral, in Cleveland, Ohio. My husband Bill and I were able to go to the 100th anniversary of this beautiful church. St. Theodosius

spent about \$120,000 on the interior restoration of this masterpiece. Everything was completed in two months. Uncle John's granddaughter Elaine Reichlin-Houseman (Rose Dizamma-Reichlin's daughter) invited us to attend this very special event."

We'll continue with this piece next week. Meanwhile to visit YOUR museum, please contact us by phoning 570-946-5020 or emailing museum@scpahistory.com and visit our website at www.scpahistory.com and like us on Facebook.

March 20, 2019

John & Tatiana Zamma's formal portrait sometime after wedding
date of 7/21/1908

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

Continuing on from last week on Rose Groshel Wu's
letter to the museum:

"Uncle John, Aunt Tatianna, Rose and Lawrence Reichlin,
and John and Eve Dizamma-Jemma are all buried in St
Theodosius Cemetery, Cleveland, Ohio. Uncle John's last
name was Americanized to Zamma. His son John's last
name was Jemma.

"Once upon a time a young woman Mary Dizamma came
into N.Y. on the Grosser Kurfurst Passenger Ship. She left
her homeland at the age of 18. Her nationality was
Ruthenian, (Russniak – Ruthenian). Her arrival date was
Nov. 18, 1903 and her birth date was 1885. A young man came into our country at the age of twenty-five. He
was 5'7", dark hair and had brown eyes and very handsome. He was born in Rostajne, Austria and arrived on
the vessel Dustchland in May, 1906.

"My grandparents were married in 1908 or 1909 and they had their first child on March 9, 1910. The town
that the baby was born in was Old Forge, PA. At that time they were living in Colley, PA. Every two years they
had a new baby to care for. From 1910-1932 their family was growing from leaps and bounds. They had five
sons and six girls. They had one tragedy. They had a baby boy Victor Gulick who was born on July 29, 1911,
and he died on Sept. 28, 1911. He is buried in the old cemetery Lopez, PA. My mother, Helen Gulick-Groshel
was the first that died because of breast cancer. She died at the age of sixty-one. She died on Oct. 11, 1975,
and her mother died on Oct. 10, 1948, and she was (also) sixty-one years old. My mother's sister Julia Gulick-
Rosnick was the last one to die. She was born on Jan. 7, 1918 and died on May 9, 2012. She was born the
same day that her mom was born on Jan. 7, 1886. That was also Russian Christmas.

"The home in Lopez is located at 264 Church Street. My grandparents raised their ELEVEN children. Their
home was where they learned about what really was important in life. The most important thing was having
God and Church in your life. Loving each other and loving life. Learning how to dance and sing. These four
things, I believe, are still the best lessons parents can pass down to next generations. All my mother's
brothers and sisters were excellent chefs.

"Our grandparents' home is still owned by Mother Christophora and the Sisters of the Orthodox Monastery
of the Transfiguration, Elwood City, PA. I understand that Mother Christophora comes home to relax and
unwind.

"All the best to everyone who is able to see this information. It's my story about my grandparents, aunts
and uncles. They all had a part in the way I became the woman I am today.

"I hope that this information will give anyone who comes into the Sullivan County Society Museum, in
Laporte, PA information about my grandparents and their families."

The information we've imparted here from Rose Groshel Wu's letter exemplifies one woman's care to
collect and document her family's history. Very often we, as human beings, tend to not be interested in this



sort of thing until those who could share with us are already gone to their reward. And most of us have had at one time or another the thought that “Oh, Grandma’s tellin’ that story, again.” Or “Grandpa’s told that sooo many times before!”. But as we get older we wish they were here (now that our interest is peaked) to tell all those things we’d have liked to have ignored when we were younger. My husband said once that as he’d grown into adulthood, he began to realize that as his own age progressed – he realized how much smarter his father got (but, had already been!). So, you see, we were all whipper snappers, teenagers, young striving adults, growing into middle age and then (if lucky) progressing into our ‘golden years’ – but, along the way smelling the flowers isn’t quite enough . . . there’s also just listening after asking questions.

Rose, our heartfelt thanks for all the work, dedication and love that you’ve put into your family’s genealogy. It is not for us that this project will really matter, but for those who’ve not yet been born.

To reach the museum you can phone 570-946-5020 or email museum@scpahistory.com and visit our website at www.scpahistory.com and like us on Facebook.