

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.