

PROJECT TO DISCOVER  
 SCHENECTADY **COUNTY'S** EASTERN EUROPEAN ROOTS  
 NEWSLETTER

January 2021 Vol. 8 No. 1  
 Our Eighth Year!

Dear Reader,

Happy New Year!

As we enter our eighth year with this, our 30<sup>th</sup> issue, we will go to semi-yearly publication. Our objective continues to be to discover, document and digitally preserve genealogy, stories and pictures of Schenectady County's Eastern European immigrants. Have we gathered all the family stories, captured all the family pictures, remembered all those who were dear to us, connected our mutual heritages? Probably not. So, rather than discontinuing our efforts completely, the editors have decided to revert to fewer yearly issues in the hopes that you, Reader, might still want to contribute an article or two.

Please share your family history, help pass on the (electronic) word. The next deadlines are June 1<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. To submit your family story, pictures, etc., e-mail Phyllis Zych Budka: [abudka@nycap.rr.com](mailto:abudka@nycap.rr.com). Without your stories, there can be no newsletter. To be added to the newsletter e-mail list, contact Phyllis.

**The Schenectady Digital History Archive** To find our newsletters on-line:

<http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/resources/eer/>

**Thanks to Bernice Izzo, Carole McCarthy and Martin Byster for help in editing this newsletter!**

**Table of Contents**

Title	Author	Page No.
Polish American Foundation CT	2021 Genealogy Lecture Series	2
Tys Family Farm in Pictures	Carole McCarthy	3
The Mysteries of Eva	Gail Denisoff	10
Never Say Never	Bernice Izzo	14
Pani Katarzyna Kornacka Part 19- The Fifties (A Journey Back)	Martin Byster	15

## 2021 Genealogy Lecture Series The Polish American Foundation of CT

The Polish American Foundation of CT in cooperation with the Polish Genealogy Society of America and the SPPG of Poland is proud to present 12 lectures on Polish Genealogy from six leading professional Polish genealogists living in Poland. The lectures will be presented via ZOOM on six Saturdays throughout January, February and March 2021.

The series is free to PAF members and \$40, to nonmembers. There is a special discounted PAF member rate of \$20 for members of participating Polish Genealogical Societies.

Phyllis's Note: I contacted Dorena Wasik, PAF Program Director, for additional information on the signup procedure. She has kindly offered to include our Newsletter subscribers as a participating Polish Genealogical Society. Be sure to write out our full newsletter name in the online application. For \$20, you become a PAF member for one year AND can participate in the lecture series without charge.

**Polish American Foundation of Connecticut**  
in cooperation with the  
**Polish Genealogical Society of America** and  
**Stowarzyszenie Polscy Profesjonalni Genealodzy**  
*Association of Polish Professional Genealogists*  
*Presents*

**A POLISH GENEALOGY LECTURE SERIES via ZOOM**  
featuring six professional genealogists from Poland

Aleksandra Kacprzak - Tadeusz Pilat - Lucjan Cichocki  
Michał Jan Marciniak-Marta Czerwieniec- Piotr Nojszewski

**Lecture topics**

The Family Detective On-line	Cemeteries-History and Online Resources
The Polish Census-then and now	Austrian Cadastral Records 1700s to mid-1800s
Belarussian Research	Poles who served in Foreign Armies
Polish Traditions & Superstitions	German Partition-additional resources
No vital records? No problem	Poles and Ruthenians in South-Eastern Poland
Ukrainian Genealogy	Nobility in the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth
Finding Your Family History Through Land and Mortgage Registers	

The full series of lectures is \$40.  
If you are a member of one of affiliated Polish Genealogical Societies, the series is \$20, plus you get a free Polish American Foundation membership  
The lectures start January 9, 2021  
**Questions?? Please email: [dorenaw@paf-ct.org](mailto:dorenaw@paf-ct.org)**

**Affiliated Societies**

Polish Genealogical Society of America\*\*\* Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan  
Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts\*\*\* Toledo Polish Genealogical Society  
Polish Genealogical Society of New York State\*\*\* Godfrey Memorial Library  
Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota\*\*\* Polish Heritage Society of Nebraska  
Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society\*\*\* Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford  
The Polish Genealogical Society of California

Our Media sponsor is the Polish American Journal: [www.polamjournal.com](http://www.polamjournal.com)  
Our Corporate Sponsor is The Genealogy Assistant: [www.thegenealogyassistant.com](http://www.thegenealogyassistant.com)

Check out our website for more information on the lecture series  
<https://www.paf-welcomehome.org/2021-genealogy-lecture-series>

# Tys Family Farm in Pictures

## Carole McCarthy

My Tys-Giniecki Polish grandparents owned a 50 acre farm at the corner of Consaul and St. David's Lane in Niskayuna, NY from 1925-1996. I have traced back the history of that parcel to the year 1738 when it was part of the Glen-Bradt Patent of the Dutch Reformed Church<sup>1</sup>. In doing so, I also found that the 50 acre parcel was previously owned by a former Niskayuna supervisor, J. I. Vrooman, supervisor from 1865-1868, and also 1871. One of the original owners was a famous Schenectady merchant, John Duncan, in 1766. In doing an archaeology dig on the property of the former "hundred year old house" (early 1800s), I found an 1831 large Liberty one cent coin which gives credence to the long history of the farm. In this article I would like to show the 50 acres in pictures. Presently 38 acres are occupied by the Glen Eddy Retirement Facility and ~10 acres are residential lots along Consaul Road and St. David's Lane.



Fig. 1 Aerial View of Tys 50 acre farm in the winter of 1994. Red barn (arrow), still there. Consaul Rd. is the wide road going from bottom to top of picture and St. David's Lane goes off to right. Tys Farm is enclosed by those two roads up to the woods to the west and north.

<sup>1</sup> See my article in this Newsletter October 2019 edition, page 17  
<http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/resources/eer/index.html>,

# Tys Family Farm in Pictures

## Carole McCarthy



Fig. 2 Looking at the back of red barn from St David's Lane in the winter of ~ 1970



Fig. 3 Ed Tys with new calf in 1936. Barn and shed on right.  
Buster the dog standing on his doghouse.  
Clute farm on other side of woods, looking northeast.

# Tys Family Farm in Pictures

## Carole McCarthy



Fig. 4 Ed Tys on Stone-boat pulled by Jimmy the horse.  
Prepared fields in the background along St. David's Lane~1970



Fig. 5 Grandfather Joe Tys ~1950, with horses pulling the seeding machine.

# Tys Family Farm in Pictures

## Carole McCarthy



Fig. 6 Grandpa Joe Tys cultivating the cabbage with Jimmy the horse in 1955. North is top of hill.



Fig. 7 Cousin Tom on the 1945 Farmall Tractor with spring harrow attached  
~1953. St. David's Lane in background

# Tys Family Farm in Pictures

## Carole McCarthy



Fig. 8 Looking through hay rack to the north hill and woods where Tys farm borders Clute's farm.



Fig. 9 Ice skating pond in woods in the farthest western part of farm, on north side of Consaul Road..  
Today it is located between Clute Crest drive and Brendan Lane.

# Tys Family Farm in Pictures

## Carole McCarthy



Figure 10 Squash and melons growing on top of hill, looking north, in 1980s



Fig. 11 Looking east, downhill in 1980s. St. David's Lane beyond trees.

## Tys Family Farm in Pictures

### Carole McCarthy



Fig. 12 Sitting on the front porch of the 1932 farmhouse my grandfather built, Grandmother Mary Tys and her daughter, (my future mother) Florence Tys, in 1937. House still thrives.

THE MYSTERIES OF EVA - Ewa Katarzyna Janiszewska Jeziorska  
(Stryjewska?) Nowoczynska aka Eva Novak  
Gail Denisoff



**Ewa (Eva) Katarzyna Janiszewska Jeziorska (Stryjewska?) Nowoczynska (Novak)  
1870(?)-1962 “Babcia” - 1940s**

Hope springs eternal, so they say, and every time I set out to do some genealogy research, I am always hopeful that I will find a nugget of new information. Sometimes I do, but more often than not, I am frustrated by more questions than answers. I have hit dead ends while researching all of my grandparents and spent endless hours searching for information for each one of them. None, though, has been more frustrating or has led to more questions than Eva.

Eva Novak was my great-grandmother on my father’s side of the family, his mother’s mother. She is the only great-grandparent I knew; the only one to come to this country. For a while, she lived with my Aunt Lorraine and the few memories I do have of her are from the time she lived there. My recollections are of a short, stout stern woman with permed grey hair and blue eyes who only spoke Polish. Since I didn’t speak Polish, I was never able to have a conversation with her. Things she said to me, my sister or cousins were translated and relayed through my grandmother or aunts. She seemed to always be crocheting doilies when I saw her, and I have a few of those. She died when I was eleven.

THE MYSTERIES OF EVA - Ewa Katarzyna Janiszewska Jeziorska  
(Stryjewska?) Nowoczynska aka Eva Novak  
Gail Denisoff

Eva came to the United States from what is now Poland in 1898. My grandmother, Nellie, was born in this country three years later. Considering she was the only one of my grandparents to be born here, I thought I would easily find information about her when I started my genealogy research. I assumed that Novak was the family name for my grandmother and all her siblings and that Eva's husband was their father. Those assumptions and many others have proved to be very wrong and has led to years of hitting one brick wall after another as I try to unravel the mysteries of Eva.

**What kind of life did she have?** Not an easy one from what little I have learned about her. Like most immigrants, I am sure she left her home with hopes and dreams for a better life in the United States. Once here, she probably did what she had to in order to survive and support her children. Unfortunately, when I first became interested in genealogy, my grandparents and most of my aunts and uncles had already died. One uncle was able to give me some dates and photos and was always interested in what I found out, but he passed away about ten years ago. There is one last cousin of my father's, Marlene, the daughter of Eva's youngest child, Stanley, who has been helpful. Eva lived with her family when she was young and she had a few memories that she shared, but she didn't know any details of her life. There are many more questions than answers.

**Who were Eva's parents and where was she born?** I was able to find three documents that gave me some information to answer those questions. According to her death certificate, she was born Ewa Katarzyna Janiszewska to Franciszak Janiszewski and his wife Ludwiha. On her marriage certificate, her mother was listed as Laurentia Grochowska. The ship manifest lists her birthplace as Plock. Her alien registration form lists it as Sumin, Kikul, Poland. Since Poland did not exist as an independent country from 1795 to 1918, the region where she lived was controlled by Russia and her nationality was listed as Russian on the ship manifest. On every other document, she lists her birthplace as Poland.

**When was Eva born?** The ship manifest of the SS Oldenberg, arriving in New York from Bremen Germany on May 5, 1898 lists her age as 29, which would make her birth year 1869. The next document I found with an age listed was the 1910 census with her age noted as 38 making her birth year 1872. The 1920 census lists her as 48, keeping that birth year as 1872. On the 1930 census she was 60 so her birth year would be 1870. There are two documents from 1940 with her age on them. The 1940 census has her being 68, making the birth year 1872 again, but the Alien Registration form from 1940 which was required of non-naturalized persons as war approached has her birth year listed as 1873. An article in the Schenectady Gazette from November 22, 1950 reported an 80th birthday party given in her honor by her family, which would have her born in 1870. Her death certificate, from July 1962, lists her age as "about 86" giving us the new birth year 1876. The St. Adalbert's Church burial records give her age as 89, bringing us back to an 1873 birth. One thing that stays consistent is her birthday being November 15th. Since she probably didn't have her actual birth certificate and there was a language

# THE MYSTERIES OF EVA - Ewa Katarzyna Janiszewska Jeziorska (Stryjewska?) Nowoczynska aka Eva Novak Gail Denisoff

barrier, it is impossible to know when she was actually born.

**Where was Eva going?** When Eva arrived in the United States, the ship manifest lists her name as Ewa Jezoirska, a widow traveling with a 5 1/2 year old son named Josef. She seemed to be traveling with an 18 year old man named Vincenty Toszenski, whose name was listed just above hers on the manifest. They were both from Plock and both were headed to Wilmington, Delaware, where he was going to live with a sister and she and her son with an uncle. I could not find any documentation of Eva living in Delaware, but the 1910 census finds her living in Jersey City, New Jersey. How did she end up there? A marriage certificate from 1911, brings her to Schenectady, marrying Jan Nowoczynski (aka John Novak) and living there until her death. The 1911 marriage date leads to the question of who was the father of my grandmother and her three sisters, born between 1901 and 1910?

**Who was my grandmother's father?** This has been the big question in my research and one I have spent years trying to answer. My grandmother, Nellie, and her three sisters all went by the maiden name Novak. They had a brother, Stanley, born in 1913 who, I assume, was truly a Novak. On their wedding licenses, my grandmother, born in 1901, lists her father as Alex Smith, my first clue of another name. Her sister Cecilia (Jessie), born in 1904, lists John Novak as her father, and Betty, born in 1910, names Alexander Stryjeck as her father, another clue. I could not find a marriage license for a third sister, Dorothy (Sadie), born in 1907, although I heard she had been married twice.

After searching many variations of Stryjeck on Ancestry, Family Search, the US Census, US Immigration and Naturalization records, the New Jersey Department of Vital Records, etc. I finally hit pay dirt with the 1910 Census. It finds Eva in Jersey City married to Alexander Streck. Josef reappears here as an 18 year old and the four girls are listed with variations of their names but the correct ages. Eureka! I was so excited to find this document after searching so long. Was this my great-grandfather? I still don't know that for sure although he is listed as the father of all the children with Josef using the name Streck. They were living in an apartment, this family of seven, along with seven male Polish boarders. One of those borders was John Nowoczynski (spelled Noraskenski), living there with his 11 and 14 year old sons. Eva reported on this census that she had given birth to six children. Was there another child born to her in Poland that died or remained there with relatives? Did she give birth to another child in the United States who died?

**Was Eva legally married to Alexander?** She married John the following year (1911) in Schenectady. What led her to leave Alexander? I am assuming it was a common law marriage since divorce was practically unheard of among Polish immigrants during this time period, especially those who were aliens. Did she leave him or did he leave the family?

Through more months of searching, I found Alexander Stryeski on the 1940 census, still living in New Jersey, as a 72 year old widower. Did he marry again or was Eva dead to him? He was still working as a caretaker at a park. Through Ancestry DNA I was contacted by Kathleen Stryeski who came up as a 4th cousin on DNA results. She was able to provide

THE MYSTERIES OF EVA - Ewa Katarzyna Janiszewska Jeziorska  
(Stryjewska?) Nowoczynska aka Eva Novak  
Gail Denisoff

me with some alternative spellings and through that, I found a ship manifest from 1892 of Alexander Stryjewski entering the US from Hamburg Germany, originally from Poland. After getting this name, I was able to obtain a death certificate from the New Jersey Department of Vital Records. Alexander died in 1946 at the New Jersey State Hospital at Graystone Park, a psychiatric hospital. He had been a resident there for over four years. He was listed as a widower but no name is given for his wife.

Eva and John were married on June 18, 1911 at St. Adalbert's Church. What brought them to Schenectady? Perhaps the promise of work for John. Eva had some Janiszewski relatives here who may have provided some assistance to the family. They remained married until his death in 1928. His death was a workplace accident at General Electric. He was working as a custodian. While cleaning a bathroom, he threw a cigarette in a toilet and a flashback fire set his clothes ablaze. He died four days later. According to my father's cousin Marlene, Eva received a small pension from GE for the rest of her life.

**What happened to Eva after that?** She lived with her younger children in their home on Cutler Street until 1937. A notice in the Schenectady Gazette announced the foreclosure and auction of the home and contents on February 11th of that year. After that, she lived with various family members until she went into The Steadwell Nursing Home where she died on July 19th, 1962.

What became of Josef? At the time of the 1910 US census, he was 18 and working as a railroad conductor. He appears again on the 1915 New York State census living with the family in Schenectady. He was listed as being 25 and in school, using the last name Novak. After that, I have found no record of him. Where did he go and what name did he use the rest of his life? He was not listed among her children in Eva's obituary. Another mystery to unravel.

I will continue my quest for answers to these questions. I want to know more about Alexander and Josef and what became of them. Did Alexander remarry and have another family? Did Josef have children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who would be cousins to me?

I have high hopes but low expectations of finding more answers.

## **Never Say Never** **Bernice Izzo**

Three years ago, I wrote how I located my long lost great great grandfather, John Rothapht.\* When I visited the National Archives in New York City, I located a John Rothapht who lived and died in Schenectady. He was buried in Vale Cemetery. We thought he had died in Minnesota where he had lived since 1865 but he actually moved to Schenectady sometime after the 1880 census. (There is no 1890 census because it was burned in a fire)

Shortly after that, we found an 1892 New York Census which located the whole family, except my great grandmother, living in Schenectady. The only reason my great grandmother was not here was that she had already married my great grandfather and was living in Minnesota. An 1895 Minnesota census shows all the family except, John Rothapht and one son, George, living back in Minnesota. One day while I was at the Schenectady County Historical Society, I looked at the city directories and located John and George living in or around the lower Albany Street area. They seemed to move each year, but basically they lived on lower Albany Street. After 1895, George was not listed, so he must have returned to Minnesota, where he later became the Sheriff of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

At this point, I decided to get John's death certificate from the State of New York. So on July 18, 2018, I sent the request and the check to the Department of Health. In about two months the check got cashed, but nothing arrived. After about six months of waiting, I decided that the State could not find the document, but they were not going to tell me. The next step was to go to Schenectady City Hall and see if they had it. I was told I would have better luck there. But I put it off and then the pandemic hit and you could not go to City Hall.

On September 12, 2020, I opened my mail box and there was a letter from the Department of Health! Seeing it was the pandemic, I wondered what I had done wrong. When I opened it, I almost had a heart attack. There was my great great grandfather's New York State death certificate. Yes, it was my great great grandfather from Minnesota. So now it was official. He did live and die in Schenectady. Why, we don't know. I would say that General Electric provided work. The reason he was not in the 1900 directory was because he was sick and living with my one aunt who remained in Schenectady.

So, never give up! It only took two years and two months to get the death certificate.

\*Family History – An On-Going Process, Bernice Izzo "Project to Discover Schenectady County's Eastern European Roots Newsletter," January 2018 Vol. 5 No. 1, page 8.

PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA  
Part 19- The Fifties (A Journey Back)  
Martin Byster

**A JOURNEY BACK**  
To renew old memories

Got my bag, got my reservation;  
Spent each dime I could afford.  
Like a child in wild anticipation;  
Long to hear that all aboard.

As Schenectady County entered the decade in which it would celebrate its sesquicentennial in 1959, the City of Schenectady could celebrate 50 years as a growing community. The city's population in 1950<sup>1</sup> had grown to 91,785. I lived on River Street in Schenectady in the '50s and can bear witness to its growth. 1960 marked the first of a declining population which continued for some 50 years.<sup>2</sup>

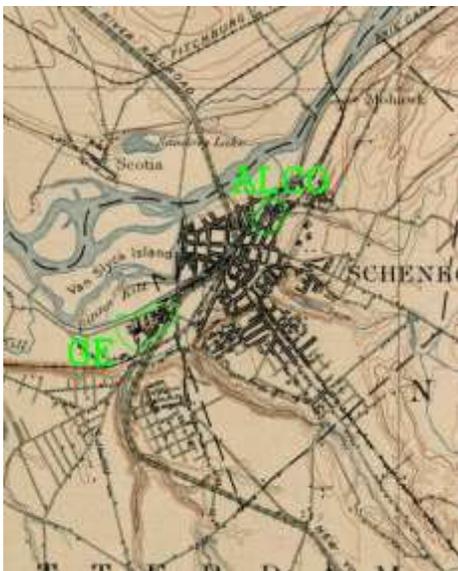


Fig 1: Schenectady 1892

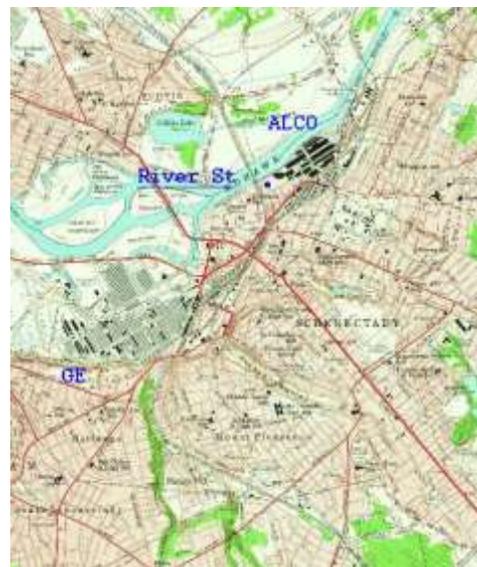


Fig. 2: Schenectady 1954

The relative size and growth over the years of the General Electric Company (GE) in the southwest and the American Locomotive Company (ALCO) in the northeast of the city is illustrated in Figure 1 and 2. These two companies created the wealth and income<sup>3</sup> with which the community of the city, the county and the region for miles around could grow. In the '40s and early '50s my father Benjamin Byster was employed by GE as a sheet metal worker with the industrial control division. My uncle Joseph Kornacki was employed there as a tool maker with engineers who at times had

<sup>1</sup> NOTE: A US census is not released to the general public until 72 years after the census is taken; the 1950 census will be available in 2022.

<sup>2</sup> NOTE: The population of the city in 1930 was 95,692 [Schenectady, New York - Wikipedia](#)

<sup>3</sup> Byster, Martin; *PROJECT TO DISCOVER SCHENECTADY EASTERN EUROPEAN ROOTS NEWSLTR. (Part 13)* Jul 2018, v.5 #3, p.19/20.

**PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA**  
**Part 19- The Fifties (A Journey Back)**  
**Martin Byster**

worked with Teflon and titanium, which to me at the time were exotic materials. My aunt Victoria Zakriski worked at GE in manufacturing large vacuum tubes for broadcast radio; uncle Joseph Zakriski was a machinist working with engineers developing a production line for manufacturing miniature electronic tubes. Uncle Bernard Szymanski worked in the industrial control department and uncle Robert (Bob) Barry worked in the supply department.

My early service in the US Navy in the early '60s was aboard USS Essex (CVS-9). Name plates on the control panels in the ship's boiler room were labeled as made in Schenectady by GE. When on duty in the boiler room, those panels kept me company and assured me that home is never that far away.

GE celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Edison's invention of the light bulb in 1954 with opening its Schenectady plant to the public. Manufacturing was put on display in appreciation of the service of all those who did the work that needed to be done. The automatic machines making small screws from a roll of wire, the smell of glue and the warm touch of wood in the pattern shop, packing sand for foundry molds, bending sheet metal where my father worked, forging and machining spindles for turbines and generators, and the assembly of large electric generators for hydro-electric plants all were brought to life.<sup>4</sup>

“What GE...accomplished in more than a century [in Schenectady] .....its global importance cannot be understated. As early as 1907, the company began rolling out its first line of appliances.... In 1927, ... its first Monitor Top refrigerator<sup>5</sup>, ...the following year, the first range<sup>6</sup> with... “Calrod” heating elements ... in '53, ...the first toaster ovens.... GE researchers also dreamed up the first X-ray machine (1896), American jet engine (1941)<sup>7</sup> and nuclear power plant (1957)<sup>8</sup>. At one point in the late '50s, GE even had its skin in the industrial diamond-making business.... GE transformed Schenectady from just another city in Upstate New York into a globally famous hub, which at its peak, employed 30,000 workers in Schenectady alone. Those glory days didn't last forever—and as it turned out, had been corroding for ...few years.”<sup>9</sup>

GE created opportunities of which Katie's family took advantage to live comfortably and securely for extended periods over a lifetime of employment.

<sup>4</sup>NOTE: Open house at the GE plant in Schenectady in 1954 was my (Marty Byster's) pleasure to witness and experience.

<sup>5</sup>NOTE: A GE Monitor Top refrigerator visually identical to Katie's, served well into the '90s; Byster, M., (*Part 11*) Jan 2018, v.5 #1, p.12/16.

<sup>6</sup>NOTE: Katie's Old Kitchen Stove served her well into the '50s was replaced with a gas range; Ibid., (*Part 6*) Oct 2016, v.3 #4, p.14 of 19.

<sup>7</sup>NOTE: Ibid., (*Part 13*) Jul 2018, v.5 #3, p.19/22

<sup>8</sup>NOTE: The Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory (KAPL) in Niskayuna was established in May 1946, under contract between GE and the Manhattan Engineering District. It was developing a liquid-metal cooled breeder power reactor. That project was cancelled in 1950 and GE undertook developing nuclear power for the USS SEAWOLF (SSN 575), the 2<sup>nd</sup> US nuclear submarine, and commercial power plants.

<sup>9</sup>2019.1002; WILL LEVITH; [How The General Electric Company Changed Schenectady—And Everything In Its Wake—Forever; Saratoga Living](#)

**PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA**  
**Part 19- The Fifties (A Journey Back)**  
**Martin Byster**



*Fig 3: Feliks and Katarzyna Kornacki (c.1950)*

In the early '50s my grandfather, Feliks Kornacki had spent a lifetime at work for American Locomotive Company (ALCO).

In 1939, ALCO started production of passenger [i.e., mainline] diesel locomotives. ...The following year, ALCO entered into a partnership with General Electric... for much-needed support in their efforts to compete with [General Motors-] EMC. In 1941 ALCO introduced the RS-1 (Fig 4), the first [diesel] road- switcher locomotive. The versatile road-switcher design gained favor for short-haul applications, [to]... provide ALCO a secure market niche through the 1940s. [The US] entry... into World War II [however] froze ALCO's development of road [i.e., mainline] diesel locomotives... [and] ... ALCO was allocated the construction of diesel switching locomotives, their new road-switcher locomotives, ... and its proven steam [locomotive] designs, ... (the production of... passenger-service engines was prohibited by the War Production Board).

The postwar era saw ALCO's steam products fall out of favor while [it]... struggled to develop mainline diesel locomotives... GM-EMC's large development efforts of the 1930s and their established service infrastructure gave it a lead which ALCO would prove unable to overcome....<sup>10</sup>

**PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA**  
**Part 19- The Fifties (A Journey Back)**  
**Martin Byster**



*Fig 4: ALCO RS-1*

In 1947 manufacturing began leaving Schenectady with consequences to Katie's entire family. The last steam locomotive manufactured by ALCO in Schenectady was completed in June 1948. ALCO continued to build diesel locomotives in partnership with GE which were popular with American railroads. GE, however, ended the partnership in 1953 and became a direct competitor.

American Locomotive Company changed its name to Alco Products, Inc. in 1955 which continued to build diesel locomotives. Alco's market shares however fell steadily until it ended production in 1969. Late in 1954 and early 1955, Stone & Webster and Alco engineering began collaboration on an Army Package Power Reactor<sup>11</sup> concept originated by US Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This reactor plant was to be assembled from pre-fabricated components brought to a remote site<sup>12</sup> as opposed to a preassembled portable plant brought to a site. Alco prefabricated such a plant which was installed at Camp Century a secret US Army site within the ice cap in northern Greenland.

Worthington Corporation acquired the company in 1964 and the company went out of business in 1969.

---

<sup>10</sup>[home - American Locomotive Company \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com)

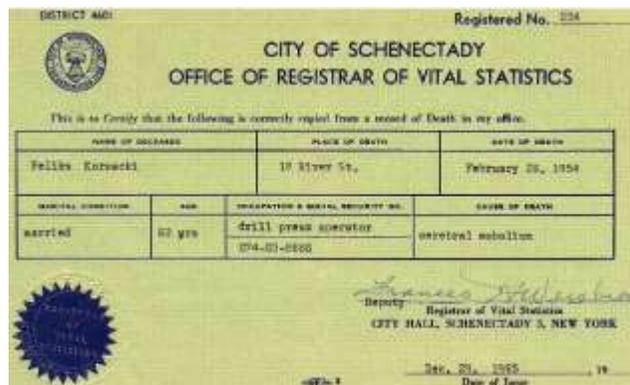
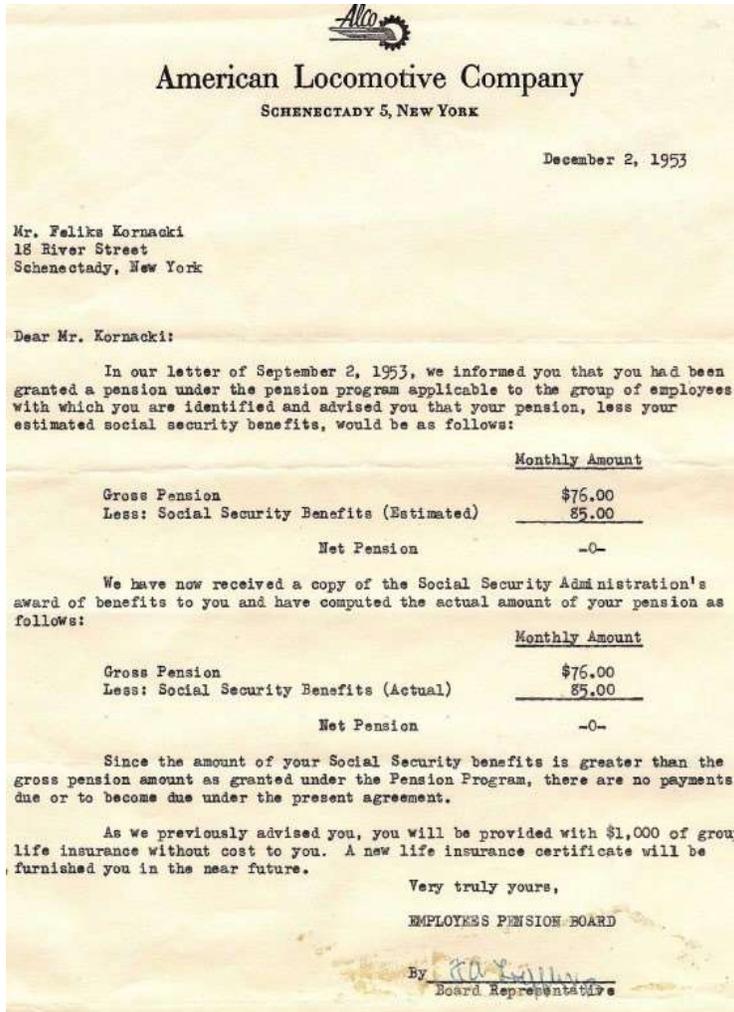
<sup>11</sup>[APPR-1: Design, Construction and Operation - UNT Digital Library](#)

<sup>12</sup>An Army Package Power Reactor was manufactured by Alco Products was installed in secrecy in the late '50s and early '60s under the ice at Camp Century in northern Greenland -----[Camp Century - Wikipedia](#)



**PANI KATARZYNA KORNACKA**  
**Part 19- The Fifties (A Journey Back)**  
**Martin Byster**

He received \$0.0" dollars in pension and \$85/month in Social Security Benefits. He lived with Katie on River Street<sup>13</sup> all his life, He died there in 1954.



<sup>13</sup> NOTE: River Street is now part of the ALCO Heritage Trail --- [Parks & Trails New York :: Trail Mix: ALCO Heritage Trail honors industrial past, showcases promise for urban revitalization \(ptny.org\)](http://Parks & Trails New York :: Trail Mix: ALCO Heritage Trail honors industrial past, showcases promise for urban revitalization (ptny.org))