

KUCZKA / KUTCHKA

WIFE'S MAIDEN NAME: **GOHLA / GOLA**

HUSBAND'S NAME	Johann (John) Kutchka
BIRTH DATE	Circa 1817-1820
BIRTH PLACE	Poland
MARRIAGE DATE	5 November 1843
MARRIAGE PLACE	Św. Mikołaja (St. Nicholas), Szczedrzyk, Poland
OCCUPATION	Texas: farmer
RESIDENCES	Kosice and Biestrzynnik, Poland; Karnes County, Texas; Inez, Victoria County, Texas
BURIAL DATE	19 December 1883
DEATH PLACE	Inez, Victoria County, Texas
BURIAL PLACE	Victoria County, Texas

WIFE'S MAIDEN NAME	Catharina (Kate) Gohla
BIRTH PLACE	Biestrzynnik, Poland
BAPTISM DATE	22 April 1825
BAPTISM PLACE	Św. Mikołaja (St. Nicholas), Szczedrzyk, Poland
RESIDENCES	Biestrzynnik, Poland; Karnes County, Texas; Inez, Victoria County, Texas
DEATH DATE	20 May 1907
DEATH PLACE	Inez, Victoria County, Texas
BURIAL PLACE	Victoria County, Texas

Sources and Additional Information

BAPTISM	Wife: Św. Mikołaja, Szczedrzyk, Poland, p. 87, entry #93 (LDS Microfilm #0949153)
MARRIAGE	Św. Mikołaja, Szczedrzyk, Poland, p. 68, entry #59 (LDS Microfilm #0949155)
SHIPS AND PORTS	<i>Archimedes</i> departed Hamburg for Hull and Liverpool, 19 April 1855; <i>Isaac Wright</i> arrived New York on 29 May 1855.
TAX ROLLS	Texas: 1859, 1860, and 1862 Karnes County
LAND RECORDS	Victoria County Deeds, Volume 9, p. 177, date of instrument: 9 June 1866, date filed: 18 June 1866 (bought 146 1/2 acres of the Ferdinand L. DeLeon Grant on the Garcitas Creek); Volume 9, p. 434, date recorded: 1 April 1868 (John Kutchka deeded land mentioned above to his sons, Peter and Thomas Kutchka.)
FEDERAL CENSUS	Texas: 1860 Karnes County, 1870 and 1880 Victoria County; wife in 1900 Victoria County
BURIAL RECORD	Husband: St. Mary Catholic Church, Victoria, Texas, p. 28, entry #137 (LDS Microfilm #0025514)
OBITUARY	Wife: <i>Daily Advocate</i> , Victoria, Texas, 30 May 1907, first page
PROBATE	Husband: Victoria County, Volume 6, p. 261, Will #220, date filed: 1 February 1884 Wife: Victoria County, Volume 12, p. 586, Will #637, date filed: 20 June 1907
VARIATIONS	Surname spellings include: Kuczka, Kutchka, Kuschka, and Kutzka

Submitted by: Janet Dawson Ebrom, San Antonio, Texas

John, the son of Peter Kuczka from Kosice, was almost 24 years old when he married Catharina Gohla at Św. Mikołaja in Szczedrzyk. Catharina's foster father, Albert Zgorielski, husband of her mother Hedwig, was noted in the 1843 marriage record. John and Catharina were blessed with two children, Casper and Marianna, while living in the little village of Biestrzynnik. By the spring of 1855, they made the momentous decision to leave Silesia bound for America. John and Catharina often spoke of their voyage, gently explaining to Marianna, their eldest daughter, that she was only "twenty Sundays old" when they left Europe (Recollections of Mary Skrobarczyk Brzozowski of Yoakum, Texas, on 24 July 1974).

The young family joined the Panna Maria colony but after a few years settled in Inez, Texas. Some of the earliest residents on the Arenosa and Garcitas Creeks included the Kutchka family (Rose, 1961, p. 31). The settlement of Inez "...called Garcitas by the Americans and Gazeta by the Poles had about a dozen Silesian families...and required the ministrations of traveling Polish priests at least into the 1870's" (Baker, 1979, p. 57).

During their 20 years in Victoria County, John and Catharina raised their children and welcomed the next generation on their homestead (Ebrom and Sowa, 1981, pp. 46-49). In 1884 following John's death, written notices of his estate were posted on the courthouse door, Rive's Store in Mission Valley, and Koontz's Store in Arenosa Creek. He had real estate holdings including 315 acres of land, about 80 stock cattle, 6 horses, 10 hogs, and a two-horse wagon. (Inventory Appraisement, Victoria County Probate Records, Volume 6, p. 264). His widow "Kate" lived her final years on the Inez homestead with their son Peter, the namesake of his Kutchka grandfather. When Catharina was 82 years old, a newspaper column called "Inez Items" paid her final tribute: "Mrs. John Kutske, an old Polish woman of this place, died last Tuesday and was buried from the Catholic Church by Rev. Hendricks. She was supposed to have been the oldest woman in this community" (*Daily Advocate*, 30 May 1907, 1st page).

Baptism Records of Kuczka / Kutchka Children

4 January 1852	Casper	p. 102, entry #5	Św. Mikołaja, Szchedrzyk, Poland (LDS Microfilm #0949154)
20 November 1854	Marianna	p. 149, entry #241	
13 October 1857	Hedwig	entry #30	Immaculate Conception of the BVM Catholic Church, Panna Maria, Texas (LDS Microfilm #0025335)
12 August 1860	Lawrence	entry #123	
26 February 1862	Peter	entry #184	
30 October 1864	Thomas	p. 23, third entry	St. Mary Catholic Church, Victoria, Texas (LDS Microfilm #0025514)

Marianna Kutchka Skrobarczyk

1854 – 1927

...who left Europe when she was “twenty Sundays old” ...



Marianna married John Skrobarczyk on 1 May 1877 in Victoria County (Volume 2, p. 128, entry #486; see Joseph Skrobarczyk profile).

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