



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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### **Sept 27 2016 Meeting**

*The Ruryk Family in Canada: Research Challenge, Research Success*

We were fortunate to have Glenn Wright make the introductory presentation to our 2016-2017 season entitled, *The Ruryk Family in Canada: Research Challenge, Research Success*. Glenn worked as an archivist at the Library and Archives for many years with expertise in a variety of fields including military records. He served on the executives of several historical and genealogical associations and is a popular speaker on genealogical subjects at local, provincial and national conferences. Glenn has researched and published on his father's side of the family who trace their origins to England.



*Glenn Wright – our September meeting presenter*

In recent years, he continued his research on his Ukrainian mother's side of the family. He made a determined effort to use his skill and knowledge in family history research and gave the benefit of his experience at the meeting. Glenn began his research by interviewing his mother and his aunt. He compiled lists of names, locations in Canada

and Galicia and created a family profile. He used published sources such as local histories of Vegreville and other Ukrainian pioneer communities. Alberta Homestead Records were another source of information.

He was able to locate passenger lists documenting the arrival of his grandfather, Alex Ruryk, in Canada before the First World War. Using the Hamburg Passenger lists, Glenn was able to identify the village of origin in Galicia. His grandfather arrived in 1911-1912 as a railroad worker in northern Ontario and again in 1914 when he brought his family and settled in the St. Paul area of north-central Alberta.

Through [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com), the British records of incoming passengers were also useful to tracing the travels of those returning to Europe from Canada. Additional information was located in the 1916 and 1921 census records. Another valuable source is the Naturalization Records with the RCMP report. Applicants for homesteads had to apply for naturalization as British subjects. This information can be obtained through an Access to Information request submitted to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. With this information, Glenn was able to confirm the name of the village of origin.

Through the local Family History Centre (<http://www.ottawastakefhc.on.ca/>), Glenn was able to obtain a microfilm copy of the parish register of the Greek Catholic Church from the ancestral village and locate the baptismal certificate of his grandfather that also included the names of his parents, grandparents, and other possible relatives, information dating to the 1830s. Glenn traced the Ukrainian side of his family almost as far back as his English side and

this demonstrates his skills as a ‘genealogy detective’ and family history researcher. The presentation concluded with a question-and-answer session.

### **Some resources for Ukrainian Canadian Research**

*Submitted by Glenn Wright*

#### **Census Records:**

Library and Archives Canada (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca>)

Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.ca>)

Family Search (<http://www.familysearch.org>)

University of Alberta, Family History Portal (<http://www.ualberta.ca>)

#### **Passenger Lists**

Canada Incoming, UK Incoming, Hamburg Outgoing (Ancestry)

#### **Alberta Homestead Records:**

Nominal Index at Alberta Genealogical Society (<http://www.abgensoc.ca>)

Nominal Index at U of Alberta Family History Portal

Files at Ancestry (by name) and Internet Archive (by microfilm number)

#### **Ukrainian Immigration:**

See the database, Ukrainian Immigrants, 1891-1930 at Library and Archives Canada

#### **Local Alberta Histories:**

Various nominal indexes, Alberta Genealogical Society

For online books – Our Future Our Past (<http://www.ourfutureourpast.ca>) and Our Roots (<http://www.ourroots.ca>)

#### **Ukrainian Church Records**

Family Search - Check the Catalogue, many records can be viewed online at the Family History Centre (Ottawa)

#### **Naturalization Records:**

Name Index at Library and Archives Canada – Naturalization Records, 1915-1951

Access to Information Requests, online or by mail, to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (<http://www.cic.gc.ca>)

#### **Books:**

Brian J. Lenius, *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia* (1994)

John D. Pihach, *Ukrainian Genealogy: A Beginner’s Guide* (2007)

#### **Danyliw Seminar (Nov 10-12)**

The 12th Annual Danyliw Seminar (10-12 November 2016) is unveiling an ambitious program devoted to the war in Donbas, historical memory, and cutting edge research on Ukrainian society, economy and culture. Featuring for the first time the screening of new documentaries, the Seminar will be held in Desmarais Hall 12102 on University of Ottawa campus.

The Seminar, featuring 20 presentations, 4 book panels and 2 films, will bring together 25 scholars and doctoral students -- 20 from outside Canada, and 15 attending for the first time, a testimony of the vibrancy of the field of Ukrainian Studies.

The program can be accessed at <http://www.danyliwseminar.com/program-2016>.

#### **Ukrainian Harvest Dance (Sat Nov 12)**

Traditional Ukrainian Dinner with Live Band. Presented by the Knights of Columbus #9557. Major Beneficiary: World Hope Canada.

952 Green Valley Crescent, Ottawa  
5:30pm, 6pm cocktails, 7pm dinner, 8pm Dance.

Tickets: Mike Pawlowsky 613-831-3046; John Chychrun 613-599-4791; Don Maychruk 613-834-0745; Mike Jaz 613-830-7787

#### **Next Meeting on November 22, 2016**

Brent Bezo from Carleton University will make the presentation: *The Intergenerational Impact of Genocide: How the Holodomor has impacted survivors and their descendants in Ukraine.*