

June 22, 2002

Dear Members and Friends of the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP,

Ron and I would like to ask for your opinions and input on the best way to raise the funds necessary to translate the Kremenets records which we have received from the FHL.

- In our last update we offered what we thought would be a great incentive to everyone to encourage donations. It has since been pointed out to us by our mentors from JRI-Poland (who are much more experienced and wiser in this kind of endeavor than we are) that offering spreadsheets is not such a good idea. They observed that many folks would not have the capabilities to work with Excel files. Since all the information will be posted on the JRI-Poland website anyway, they believe our offer wouldn't have the value to you that we thought it would have. Is this correct for your situation? If not, what would motivate you to make a donation?
- The JRI-Poland folks also suggested that we might consider NOT posting the interim data we obtain from our translators until we raise all the funds required to complete the entire translation. What is your opinion of this suggestion?
- And, they suggested that we ask our members to contact others in their family to request funding for our translation project. This would be a way to pool family resources and make a larger contribution to the project. Are you willing to do this?

These suggestions have worked successfully for other JRI-Poland projects. Would they work for ours?

The FHL has given us a time period of two years to translate the records before we must return the borrowed CDs. This doesn't leave us too much time to raise the \$6000 that we need to hire professional translators and to tackle the work involved.

To refresh your memory, I am including the original fund-raising message. Please note that any donation of any size is a huge help and very appreciated. It all adds up. One thing I forgot to tell you previously is that JRI-Poland accepts both Visa and MasterCard.

Please feel free to contact me or Ron if you have any thoughts. We are open to all ideas. If our CO-OP comes together and is able to translate these records, imagine what a gift we are giving to future generations, not to mention the benefits for

our own research. Imagine what we will have done for the memory of our ancestors of Kremenets and the surrounding towns. Imagine the genealogical mysteries we might solve on our family trees.

Sincerely,
Sheree Roth
Co-coordinator Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP

P.S. Don't forget to let us know if you will be attending the IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Toronto in August.

Here is the update we previously sent:

At this time I ask for your help. The speed with which we get this project done depends on our success in raising money for professional translators, and in finding volunteer translators. Will you please make a financial donation to the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP at this time? Or, if you possess the skills to transliterate Russian or Hebrew/Yiddish will you volunteer to help translate the records? That would help us reduce the cost of hiring professionals. Ron and I wish to offer some incentives to encourage you to make a donation to this very worthy cause, or to volunteer to do translations:

- For your donation of volunteer translation services, we will send you two spreadsheets for each one year spreadsheet you complete (birth, marriage or death for one year).
- For each \$100 donation, the donor gets a spreadsheet containing all the translated birth OR death OR marriage record data for one year of his/her choice.
- For each \$250 donation, the donor gets a spreadsheet containing all the translated birth OR death OR marriage record data for five years of his/her choice.
- For each \$500 donation, the donor gets spreadsheets containing all the translated birth AND death AND marriage record data for ten years of his/her choice.
- For each \$1000 donation, the donor gets spreadsheets containing the entire set of translated birth OR death OR marriage record data.
- For a \$2000 donation, the donor gets spreadsheets containing the entire set of all translated birth, death, marriage and divorce record data.

The spreadsheets will be sent to our donors as each is completed, edited and proofread. Keep in mind that all data will continue to be available free on-line,

but only in a searchable format. That is, you will see the data that satisfy your search criteria, but you will not be able to see the entire set of data at once. By making an appropriate donation, you will be able to see all the data in the spreadsheet and to browse through it at your leisure. If you have already donated to this effort, your past donations will be credited toward the incentives noted above.

All donations are tax deductible in the U.S., to the extent allowed by law, since the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP is part of JRI-Poland, a 501(c)(3) organization. None of the individuals involved in coordinating the CO-OP will handle the money that is donated, and none will benefit financially from the money you donate. ALL of your donation will be used to pay professional translators for their work on our records.

How to donate?

Make your donation to JRI-Poland and specify that it is for the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP. Your donation can be by check, bank draft, money order, or Visa Card. See <http://www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl/visa.htm> for additional information.

Checks should be made out to “Jewish Records Indexing - Poland,” and you should write “Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP” on the check. Send your contributions, or address your questions concerning donations, to:

Jewish Records Indexing, Inc.
c/o Sheila Salo, Treasurer
5607 Greenleaf Road
Cheverly, MD 20785 USA

Telephone / Fax: (301) 341-1261

E-Mail: ssalo@capaccess.org

Visa contributions also may be telephoned to Sheila Salo. (Only between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern Daylight/Standard Time, please).

Remember, Jewish Records Indexing - Poland, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. The Employer Identification Number for JRI-Poland is 52-2101869. Contributions to Jewish Records Indexing - Poland are tax-deductible in the U.S. to the extent permitted by law.

Let me remind you again to specify that your donation is for the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP. Otherwise Sheila Salo, JRI-Poland's Treasurer, will not know that the money is earmarked for our use. Also, to enable us to track contributions, please

send me an e-mail message at ssroth@pacbell.net or to rondoctor@earthlink.net, or a letter telling me how much you have donated.