HOMECOMING: A KAGANOVITZ FAMILY GATHERING

Right: The home of Faygel-Tzirus Kaganovitz Left: The home of Shabbai Klachko
The top photograph has been published in both Yizkor books for Korelitz.\textsuperscript{(1,2)} However, the caption mentions only the homes as being owned by Klachko and Kaganovitz, without identifying the people or the event. These people have now been identified, along with the special occasion.

This was a family gathering in 1938, when Mania (nee Kaganovitz) and her husband Eliezer Ritz traveled from Palestine to Korelitz. Eliezer was being introduced to Mania’s family.\textsuperscript{(3)} Celebrating this homecoming, the Kaganovitz, Ritz, Klachko, and Damesek families posed for a group photograph in front of the Kaganovitz home, before Eliezer and Mania Ritz returned to Palestine. That group photograph is found in the Remembrance chapter of both Yizkor books\textsuperscript{(4)}. The Ritz, Klachko, and Damesek families were connected because each had married a Kaganovitz daughter from Korelitz.

Zooming in on the people standing in front of the house, the homecoming participants are identified below:

1. Yitzchak Klachko, son of Sovela and Chayke
2. Berl Damesek
3. Yehudit Damesek, daughter of Berl and Boze
4. Shaul (Soleh) Damesek, son of Berl and Boze
5. Mania Ritz (nee Kaganovitz), wife of Eliezer
6. Eliezer Ritz (shortened from Futeritzky)
7. Boze Damesek (nee Kaganovitz), wife of Berl
8. Sovelo Klachko (alternately spelled Kletzko)
9. Chayke Klachko (nee Kaganovitz), wife of Sovelo
10. Miriam Klachko, daughter of Sovelo and Chayke
11. Feigel-Tzirez Kaganovitz, family matriarch and wife of Moshe
12. Moshe Kaganovitz, family patriarch

Nearly out of the top picture on the far right, there are two unidentified children. They seem to be curious onlookers, as neither child appears in the companion photograph below of this family gathering.
The author is Ken Domeshek, JewishGen researcher 354384, and grand-nephew of Berl Damesek.

References:


3. Personal communications between Ann Belinsky, Yizkor book editor, and Odded Ritz, the son of Eliezer and Mania Ritz, December 3 and 4, 2017 and later conveyed to the author.

4. While readying the 2018 Yizkor book for publication, editor Ann Belinsky noticed similarities between the photograph of the family standing in front of the Kaganovitz house and the posed family photograph of what was later determined to be the same people in front of the same house. See page 352 in the 1973 Yizkor book or page 341 in the 2018 Yizkor book.