

The Blue Glass Ball

24 Apr 2019.

Lyle -- I'm attaching some pictures of a glass ball that was supposed to have travelled with our grandparents from the Ukraine when they came over. I don't know if this is fact, but Aunt Katie wanted it, but my dad said "no way, don't want you getting it, it stays in our family."



30 Apr 2019.

Hi Lyle,

Just got off the phone with Andrew. I had sent an email yesterday concerning the blue glass ball. We had a very pleasant conversation. He sure does have a good memory of our Grandparents. He is the only one of us first cousins who does.

He said he is very familiar with this blue glass ball. He played with it often as a kid. It was always on display on a shelf in the front room. He said it is quite heavy. Grandmother told him that the ball came originally from "Austria", (ie. the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, which included current-day Slovakia in that timeframe). I am pretty sure I have located the village in Slovakia where Franz Tichy was born. He left for Odessa District about 1816. The Tichy family, as you know, eventually found its way to Crimea. So presumably, if

Grandmother's story is to be believed, this blue glass ball came to Russia from Austria with Franz Tichy who was a young single man at the time. It must have held some special significance for the family, if he took it along as a memento of his original home. And then it was passed down through three generations until our Grandmother Elisabeth gained possession of it. And she brought it to Canada, to the Prairies. And now it sits in Vancouver. I really want to see that ball some day!

Andrew said that Grandmother told him that he could make a wish while holding the ball, but to keep the wishes reasonable! Of course, to make a wish would be a neat thing to tell any kid. But maybe Grandmother really believed it as well. And he has known all along that Jack had the ball.

I should try to do some Google searching, to see if I can find anything similar online.

Have a good day.

Merv

From Rose:

I remember hearing about this ball but I can't remember who told me about it. I guess Lyle has it, my question is why is this just coming to light now. Did he just discover it lately. Don't get me wrong, I'm happy to hear about it and would like to know more about it. I am thinking Aunt Katie talked about it but I am not sure because she would talk about things that happened when they came here. I know it wasn't my dad and I didn't see Uncle Jack that often.

Rosemarie