



Gen Dobry!

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*** WELCOME! ***

to the latest issue of *Gen Dobry!*, the e-zine of PolishRoots®. If you missed previous issues, you can find them here:

<<http://polishroots.org/GenDobry/tabid/60/Default.aspx>>

*** POLISH PLACE NAMES, OR DESCENT INTO MADNESS ***

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

I've noticed a number of people online lately who have been confused by Polish place names, and I thought maybe I could shed a little light on this subject. I should clarify that I'm not talking about the mangled forms of place names we typically see on records drawn up in America. Sometimes, those are so scrambled there's no hope of figuring them out, even for someone with considerable knowledge of Polish names. You just have to keep digging till you find a version that isn't too horribly disfigured. In such cases, the usual guidelines apply: turn *V* back into *W*, recognize *L* might have been *Ł*, *-ch-* might have been *-cz-* and *-sh-* might have been *-sz-*; consider that *-an-*, *-en-*, or *-on-* might have been *-q-* or *-ę-* in Polish, etc.

No, I'm talking about instances where a researcher has found a name that looks plausible, but can't be located. It can be awfully frustrating; you know the place existed, you feel sure the form of the name as you have can't be too far wrong; why can't you find it?

I won't pretend I can always find the places people are looking for; but my batting average is respectable. Here are five suggestions I offer, to help you approach what may seem like a maddening task.

- 1) Note what partition your ancestors came from; it's not usually hard to find that information, and it helps you eliminate false leads. Why waste time looking in the former Austrian partition if you know your ancestor came from the German partition?
- 2) Check modern sources, such as <<http://mapa.szukacz.pl/>> and <<http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocTown.asp>>, to help you get an idea just how many possibilities you're dealing with. Remember, however, that no one source lists all the names all the places in Poland have gone by over the centuries.
- 3) Because that last point is true, take a look in the *Słownik geograficzny*, and possibly also Bystrzycki's *Skorowidz miejscowości*. These sources take you back in time, closer to the age of mass emigration. The names as they show them may be closer to what you see in records. I know these works are intimidating, because they're wall-to-wall Polish. But you may be surprised how much you can learn from them.
- 4) Recognize that many places in Poland have the same names, or similar ones. Records and letters often cite the name of a large town or administrative center near your ancestral home. That can help you zero in on the right area.
- 5) Watch for names with more than one element, and remember to search for them in any possible word order. Learning a few basic terms—such as *Nowy*, new; *Stary*, old; *Górny*, upper; *Średni*, middle; *Dolny*, lower; *Wielki* or *Duży*, “big”; and *Mały*, small—can really lower the confusion level to something manageable.

Just as an example of how you might approach this sort of search, let me review a series of notes posted to the Polish Genius mailing list. It began with a note from a researcher looking for “Malkina”—a name that seems credible—who was having a hard time making headway. The valuable site formerly called the ShtetlSeeker, now called JewishGen Gazetteer, at <<http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocTown.asp>>, produced references to a stream in Poland called Malkin or Malkiehn, which we can probably ignore, and a populated place called Malkina. Clicking on the latter’s coordinates to see a map brought up a Google Map image with places called Małkinia Górna (Upper Małkinia) and Małkinia Dolna (Lower Małkinia). Understandably, she wondered if she had found the right place or not.

Looking in reference works will often simplify the matter, but not always; sometimes it makes thing worse. I always start with the *Słownik geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego*, a massive, 15-volume work in Polish dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, covering most of the territory historically associated with the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. It’s available on CD from PGSA, and there are several digital libraries online that let you consult it, such as <http://dir.icm.edu.pl/Sownik_geograficzny/>. The SGKP tells us in Volume 6, on page 33, of Małkiń, a *strumyk* in Ełk powiat. The word *strumyk* means “stream,” so it’s that pesky stream again. It tells of Małkiń, a small lake in Ełk powiat, which is apparently a lake connected with that same bleeping stream. Next comes an entry for **Malkinia**, also appearing in documents as *Małkynia Dolna* and *Małkynia Górna*. (Those spellings have to be forms in old documents; modern Polish doesn’t allow the combination *-ky-*, requiring *-ki-* instead.) Małkinia is said to be a village in Brok parish (at the time the SGKP was compiled). It says in 1827, Małkinina Dolna was a government-owned village with 10 houses and 66 inhabitants; Małkinia Górna was also owned by the government, with 46 houses and 315 inhabitants. Then it says “currently both Małkinias have 62 houses, 420 inhabitants, a post office, and three windmills. Both villages were included in the estates of the bishops of Płock; but they were confiscated by the government treasury and made part of the government estate of Brok.” The last sentence of the entry says “The Lithuanian name *Malkinia* corresponds to Polish *Drwały*,” that is, “woodcutters.” (As a place name, *Drwały* designated a community whose original settlers were obligated to cut wood for the needs of a ducal or episcopal court or manor. So says the *Słownik geograficzny*, Vol. 2, p. 175. Modern linguists think the name *Malkinia* is probably of Baltic origin, maybe Lithuanian or Old Prussian, but are not sure about the root it came from, though it may well have to do with wood. For what it’s worth, *malkinė* means “woodshed” in modern Lithuanian.)

The *Słownik geograficzny* also offers a paragraph on a village called **Malkiny**, *Malkiehn* in German, on that lake in Ełk powiat. We can’t seem to get away from the stream and lake in Ełk powiat. But we can’t ignore them, either; this could be a clue pointing toward the right place. One fact worth noting: Ełk powiat was in the German partition, whereas the other places by this name were in the Russian partition. With info gained from family research, it should not be difficult to establish which partition the specific family came from. Here’s where that information comes in handy; it would let you eliminate one of the two areas from consideration.

Reference to another handy reference work, Tadeusz Bystrzycki’s gazetteer of places in Poland between World Wars I and II, doesn’t really help a lot. (This gazetteer, with a long name

beginning *Skorowidz miejscowości*, can be downloaded free at <<http://www.wbc.poznan.pl/publication/7126>>; it requires use of the DjVu applet.) It tells us of Małkinia, a railroad station in Orło gmina; Małkinia Dolna, a village in that same gmina; and Małkinia Górna, also in that gmina. These are clearly the same places described in the SGKP. Bystrzycki does not mention the village and stream and lake in Elk powiat. That's presumably because between World Wars I and II, the Elk region was territory ruled by Germany; Bystrzycki covered only territory officially within Poland's borders between those wars.

It might be wise to compare this info with modern references, to see if they clarify things a bit. One I like to use is <<http://mapa.szukacz.pl/>>, a site that lets you search for names of places in Poland and then displays them on maps. These days, the site does not require use of diacriticals; and it will allow use of the wild card * under certain circumstances. That means we can search for "Malkin*" and we'll get any place name that starts with that, whether the L is L or Ł, and whatever letters may follow Malkin-.

Four places come up, three northeast of Warsaw in Mazowieckie voivodeship, and one in Elk powiat of Warmińsko-mazurskie voivodeship. They are: Małkinia Górna, the largest community with 3,736 inhabitants, also the administrative center of Małkinia Górna center); Małkinia Dolna, a nearby village of some 191 people; Małkinia Mała-Przewóz, a village of 226 people; and Małkinie (notice the -e ending), in Elk powiat, with 24 people, up near the border with Kaliningrad oblast of Russia.

So, we consistently find that slightly different forms of the name are associated with a complex of villages northeast of Warsaw, near Brok, and with a village, stream, and lake farther north, near Elk, in what used to be East Prussia. Let's say the area northeast of Warsaw proves to be the right one. What's the deal with Małkinia being a village one minute, a railroad station and two or three villages with compound names the next?

We run into compound place names very often in Poland. Names with two or more components typically started out as a way to differentiate two places with the same name, due to some sort of connection. An easy example is use of *Stary*, "old," and *Nowy*, "new." Settlers from an established community X often had reason to move away and found a new community; they might choose to name it "New X" in memory of their old home. We have so many examples of this in America—New Jersey, New York, New Canaan, New Milford—that we have no great difficulty grasping how such names could develop. The only real problem we have is to recognize that in Polish, the ending on the adjective would be dictated by the gender of the noun it went with. You talk about *Nowy Dwór*, "new manor," but *Nowa Wieś*, "new village," and *Nowe Miasto*, "new town."

Lords who owned large tracts of land often wanted to develop new communities on their lands, because that brought in more revenue. They would give incentives to peasants in some well-established community—especially one bursting at the seams due to growing population—to go to some unoccupied part of their estates and set up a new community. Often, this involved clearing forestland to create new farmland. The new community might be simply *Nowy X* as opposed to their old home, which could then be called *Stary X*. Or they might distinguish it with some term referring to geographic considerations, such as *Górny*, "upper," *Dolny*, "lower," and

Średni, “middle.” They might start calling the old place *X Wielki* or *X Duży*, both meaning “big,” and then refer to the new one as *X Mały*, “Little.” They might incorporate their old home’s name into the new one, so that *Dąbrowa Białostocka* wasn’t any old *dąbrowa* or oak grove, it was the one near Białystok.

It’s important to realize that the order of these words could be flexible. With some names, the form seemed to firm up right away and never changed. But with a lot of them, it could be *Stary X* or *X Stary*. These days, there is a government commission that establishes the official form of place names. But back in the old days, a place’s name was whatever you called it; they didn’t need no stinking government commission. So don’t forget to try looking for both possibilities, because Poles often place adjectives *after* the nouns they modify.

In northeastern Poland, particularly, we see jillions of villages with compound names, especially hyphenated ones, where several villages all have the same first name but different second ones—or the same second name, but different first ones. Look at a map of the Mazowsze region and you’ll see places called Zimnochy-Susły and Zimnochy-Świechy; Ryki-Borkowo, Borkowo-Boksy, Borkowo-Falenta; Pierzchały, Pierzchały-Błážeje, Pierzchałki-Stara Wieś; and on and on. As a general rule, these started out as one estate or land unit, probably with one owner. But as time went on and the noble owner’s descendants divided the land up among them, it became necessary to distinguish this tract from that one. So a differentiating element was added to the common name. It could refer to a new or old village, a geographical difference, a difference in function, and so on. It was especially likely to come from a name that differentiated this branch of the clan from that branch, based on a nickname or byname that had come to be associated with that branch. So Pierzchały-Błážeje was presumably the section of the Pierzchały estate that was owned by the Błážeje, the kin of Błazy (= Blaise).

So, you see, within a historical context, the variety of Małkinias is not so puzzling. At one time, there was an estate that went by that name. As time passed, it developed into different settlements, and each took a slightly different name. In this case, we had an Upper Małkinia, a Lower Małkinia, and a Small Małkinia that also came to be called Przewóz, from a word meaning “transport, cartage; landing stage on a river.” The basic name Małkinia also came to be associated with the local railroad station, which makes sense. Anyone headed for any of those Małkinias would do just fine getting off at Małkinia station. There was no need to clarify the name by adding a distinguishing element. Railroad station Małkinia served all those local places named Małkinia this and Małkinia that.

In fact, if you take a close look at detailed maps, you’ll often see several different areas marked with the same name. That’s because historically, the same name might be borne by a manorial farmstead, a village near it, an outlying settlement near the village, an estate based in the manor, and so on. Sometimes, as time passed, the separate communities were distinguished with separate names. Often, they weren’t, because the locals knew from context whether you were talking about the manor or the estate or the village or whatever.

The reason this seems a bit odd to us is because our country is relatively young. We’re not aware of communities’ having existed long enough for lots of name changes to occur—although if you

do much research into your local community, you may be surprised how many names it has gone by, even if it's only a century or two old. But Poland's been around many centuries, long enough for lots of things to change and develop, rise and fall. It's not surprising the names sometimes reflect those changes.

I know I've told you way more about this than you ever wanted to know. But I think those five basic guidelines I gave you may help you out. And there's one more:

6) Never, never give up! If you have Polish blood, you probably have dominant genes for stubbornness. That's your advantage—use it!

***** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR *****

Subject: Don't underestimate the value of Google Map!

I have been receiving your *Gen Dobry!* online publication for some time. Keep up your excellent work.

In the last issue there is a mention of maps. I have extensive European historical and geographic training as you have your skills but I found it beyond easy over five years ago to simply log into Google Map, cite the community, and come up with terrain view, street view in some instances, map view plus some local community photos. In my case it was Bieździedza, Pstrągowa, Korczynna, Jasło, Sowina communities where numbers of my ancestors still live or lived before coming to the USA.

Maybe I am re-plowing old ground here but I thought I would mention it to you.

Stanley W. Liszka, Jr.

Editor—Some of the map links and sites we mention are wonderful. But you are so right, intelligent use of Google Maps can have more immediacy and value. I love the simple act of going over the area, noting clumps of buildings and thinking “These could be farmsteads of my ancestors!” You said, “Maybe I am re-plowing old ground here but I thought I would mention it to you.” I think we all need to be reminded from time of time of things we easily overlook. That's especially true these days, when so much new stuff is coming online every day, so that we can easily drown in the glut of resources we have.

Subject: Help with names and places

Editor—I received a note asking for a little help from a gentleman named Ron Hoffman. He needed help figuring out where to start looking for info on his wife's great-grandparents. I wrote to him and asked if I could publish his note in *Gen Dobry!*, to see if

any of our readers could advise him. He responded with permission, and gave me a little more info. If you have any ideas for him, write me <wfh@langline.com> and I'll forward your note to him.

I am definitely one of the Newbs who can use some help with the typical newb's questions. I've run into a dead end while trying to find any information on my wife's great-grandparents. Here is what we discovered on her grandmother's "Petition for Naturalization."

My wife's grandmother was Antonettie Wengrowski when she arrived in the USA. Her family name was Leszczynski; therefore, her maiden name was probably Leszczynska. She was born on 13 June 1892 in Staryczka, Poland (Russia). She married Adam Wengrowski in 1908. She came to the USA on board the SS *Cincinnati* in 1912 with her husband, sons Zaver and Miecislaw, and was pregnant with her daughter Gladys. Her last residence in Poland was Łomża. They traveled from Hamburg, Germany to America, landing in New York.

According to her obituary, her parents, names were Edward and Susie Burbeke Leszczynski. (Although Susie does not sound like a name used in the 1800's).

According to a family story, Edward was a Land Baron and when the Russian moved into Poland he feared for Antonettie's live and arranged for her to marry Adam Wengrowski (a peasant's son). Later Antonettie's sister was raped and both her father and sister were murdered by the Russians. There is however no proof that this ever happened.

I'm trying to find out who Antonettie's parents really were, where they lived and died, and if Antonettie had any other sisters or brothers and what happened to them. Does anyone know where I might start looking for this information?

Follow-up note:

As you know, names are often spelled differently. On the Petition for Naturalization, Antonettie's married name; when she arrived in America it is spelled Wengrowski; one son spelled it Wegrowsky, while the other son spelled it Vengrowsky. On the ship's log from Ellis Island her name is spelled; Antonina Wengrowski.

In different obituaries her name is listed as; Antoinette Lasczenski, Antonette Lescensky, Antonettie Leszczynski, and Antoinette Lasczenski. Also on her Petition for Naturalization she has her place of birth as Staryczka, in her obituary it's listed as Lomza, and somewhere I found that she was born in Jednarzewo.

Thank you for posting this info.

Ron Hoffman

Editor—I always focus first on place names, because once you nail down the right area, finding a specific family becomes doable. I could find no place in Poland called

Staryczka or Jednarzewo. There were two villages named Jednarzewo, however, both near Łomża; and Polish handwritten *Jednaczewo* could easily be misread as *Jednarzewo*. The village still called by that name is about six km northwest of Łomża, and is discussed briefly here: <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jednaczewo>>. The other one used to be called Szablaki, and I think it's now Szablak, a few km northwest of Jednaczewo. Jednaczewo is the area I'd focus on.

As for the surnames, all the forms beginning W- and V- are plausible variants of Polish *Węgrowski*, which sounds like “ven-GROFF-skee.” And all the forms beginning L- are plausible as variants of *Leszczyński* (lesh-CHIN-skee). There was a prominent noble family by that name—including a king of Poland, Stanisław Leszczyński—but the name is not rare. I don't know how plausible that whole story is. Still, who am I to judge?

*** PORTRAIT STUDIOS OF DETROIT'S POLONIA ***

Ceil Jensen kindly sent me a note about the latest event at the Polish Mission. She wrote:

“Our newest grant funds our vintage photo show opening Friday, Oct. 3 on campus. We are also offering four free lectures during October ... The November dates run until the 23.” I should add that Ceil showed me the free 84-page album for the exhibit, and it's gorgeous!

Here's the info from a postcard being mailed out:

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You and your guests are cordially invited to the Polish Mission event entitled ***Portrait Studios of Detroit's Polonia: The Face of Polish Immigration*** October 3, 2014 through January 30, 2015

Opening Reception: Friday, October 3, 2014 — 7-9 p.m. The *Galeria* of the Polish Mission (Building # 8) <<http://www.polishmission.com/contact-us/campus-map/>>

October 3-29, 2014 — *Galeria* — 3535 Commerce Road — Orchard Lake, MI 48324 — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday. <<http://www.polishmission.com>> or call (248) 683-0323.

A series of complimentary lectures will be presented in the *Galeria* at 1 p.m. by Cecile Wendt Jensen:

- ◆ October 8 — *Archiving your Family Album*
- ◆ October 15 — *How to Identify Unknown Photos*
- ◆ October 22 — *Writing Your Pictorial History Arcadia Publishing Style*
- ◆ October 29 — *Photos and Records Arising from Death*

November 1-22, 2014 — Hamtramck Historical Museum — 9525 Joseph Campau — Hamtramck, MI — 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Saturday, & Sunday. <<http://www.hamtramckhistory.org>> or call (313) 874-2242.

January 5-30, 2015 — Clinton-Macomb Public Library — 40900 Romeo Plank Road — Clinton Township, MI 48038 — During regular library hours. <<http://www.cmpl.org/>> or call (586) 226-5020.

This event has been made possible through a Major Grant awarded to the Polish Mission by the Michigan Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities Council.

Front: Exhibition publication cover featuring a photo of the John & Mary Sajewicz Patkowski Family, circa 1923 — From the private collection of Arthur & Magdalene Wagner.

All events FREE with RSVP (248) 683-0323

Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools • 3535 Commerce Road • Orchard Lake, MI 48324 (248) 683-0323

***** SCHENECTADY COUNTY NEWSLETTER *****

The most recent issue of the newsletter for the Project to Discover Schenectady County’s Eastern European Roots has come out. Here’s a list of the articles:

- “Frank Taberski,” by Alice Scott
- “The Maska Dramatic Circle Members: My Scrapbook Project,” by Phyllis Zych Budka
- “The Szulinskis of Schenectady, Part 1: Finding a Lost Great Uncle,” by Craig Siulinski
- “Pulaski Day in Schenectady, New York,” by Phyllis Zych Budka
- “Searching for Family Using Ancestry.com,” by Bernice Izzo
- “Maska Names,” by Phyllis Zych Budka
- “Three Project Projects!”
- “St. Adalbert’s Polish American Festival, August 16 – 17, 2014”

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue is November 1st. Contact Phyllis Zych Budka <abudka@nycap.rr.com> for more info or to be added to the mailing list.

***** OFFER FROM MY GENELADY *****

Editor—I’ve known Ola Heska for quite a few years, and have recommended her often to people who wanted help with research and translation. She has a reputation for providing good service at a reasonable price. When she sent this announcement to me, I wanted to share it with you, because she deserves a little attention, and some of you might want to take her up on her offer. Note, by the way, that you don’t have to contact her via Facebook. Her website is <<http://www.hwwd.com/genelady/>>, and her e-mail address is given below.

My Genelady, research and translation service provided by Ola Heska, just reached a milestone of 100 Likes on her Facebook page, <<https://www.facebook.com/mygenelady>>. New visitors are always welcomed. You can view client testimonials, samples of incoming projects, read about important events in Polish history, and see book and movie recommendations.

As a way of “Thank You” and to celebrate 100 Likes, all translation requests received by October 10 (extended deadline) will be offered a 10% discount. Contact Ola on Facebook or at <ola@hwwd.com>.

*** UPCOMING EVENTS ***

Note: see also <<http://www.eogn.com/calendar>> for a large selection of upcoming events in the world of genealogy.

Saturday, October 11, 2014

BALTIMORE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER GENEALOGY CONFERENCE
Family History Center • 120 Stemmers Run Road • Essex, MD 21221
Begins 8:30 a.m.

In addition to the keynote speech by Robert Barnes, Former President of the Maryland Genealogical and the Baltimore County Genealogical Societies, there will be two presentations by **Tom Sadauskas**: “How Your Ancestors Came to America & How to Find Their Records,” and “Your Frequent Flier Ancestors.” The second presentation covers the little-known fact that about 33% to 40% of immigrants to America ultimately returned back to their homelands. Many of these immigrants made multiple trips to and from America. Tom provides several case studies of such occurrences and shows how you might be able to uncover some cases of your own ancestors.

Online registration is at <<http://www.baltimorefamilyhistoryworkshop.org/Registration.html>>. Registration closes on October 9th.

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October 11-12, 2014

WARNER FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL
Warner, New Hampshire.

Tim Firkowski, the Genealogy Assistant, will be at this festival. He says, “Stop by and see me at the Upton Chandler House Museum across from the Warner Historical Society.” For more on the festival, visit <<http://wfff.org>>.

[From <<http://www.thegenealogyassistant.com/>>, Tim’s blog site.]

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Thursday, October 16, 2014

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS

Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee MA 01013

Begins 6:30 p.m.

The Fall Meeting of the Polish Genealogy of Massachusetts will feature **Joseph Manning**, social worker and historian, who will speak on *“The Lewis Hines Project: Tracking Down the Lives of Child Laborers.”* Manning will show some of these historic photographs, tell the stories of the immigrant child laborers in them, and talk about the exciting process of searching for descendants. Several of the stories at this presentation will be about Polish children in Massachusetts.

Admission is free. For additional information, please see our website: <<http://www.pgsm.org>>

[From an e-mail sent by Joseph E. Kielec]

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October 18, 2014

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

ANNUAL SEMINAR OCTOBER 18, 2014

American Polish Cultural Center • 2975 East Maple Rd. • Troy, MI

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Robert Sliwinski, MS, biologist and genetic genealogist will present a talk on the Basics of DNA. Robert will go over the different types of tests available from different companies, compare the newest tests and prices and provide recommendations for what test to take to provide beneficial results for genealogical research.

Interpreting DNA Results: You have your DNA test results...now what? Robert will show through case studies the steps to take to interpret your DNA results. Join Robert as he presents interpretation of some PGSM members DNA results and other case studies. Robert is a member of the International Society of Genetic Genealogists and spoke to the PGSM group in April, 2013. He is a volunteer administrator for three Family Tree DNA projects and started his own company called DNA EXPLORERS.

Kamila Mazurek will present two talks. The first one is called “Doktor Housowski, M.D.” Have you ever wondered how your Polish Ancestors died? Is it possible to deduce cause of death just by looking at the photographs of your ancestors? Is it true your ancestors died because they did not wash their hands and refused to cut their hair? How to determine the cause of death without its name in the death records? How to trace and catch ... Death. Join Kamila on a death hunt for the “serial killers” of our Ancestors’ times.

The second talk is called “Clicking With Your Polish Ancestors.” Take advantage of millions of Polish vital and church records on the Internet. Explore the most popular genealogical databases covering all three former partitions of Poland. Search the Polish digital libraries for addresses, phone books, maps, census records, newspapers, periodical literature on genealogy and heraldry. Learn what treasures are waiting for you at the state and church archives in Poland.

Join us for a fun-filled day at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy. Download the registration form from Facebook, or register online from our store: <<http://pgsm.org/forsale.php>>. For more information, simply visit <<http://www.pgsm.org>>.

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October 25, 2014

**UKRAINIAN HISTORICAL AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER OF NEW JERSEY
НАШІ ПРЕДКИ (NASHI PREDKY) — “OUR ANCESTORS”**

2014 Family History Group Conference

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Ukrainian Cultural Center

135 Davidson Avenue. Somerset, NJ 08873

\$55 (\$45 by October 3)

\$9 Box Lunch option

- Galicia: An Introduction to the Austro-Hungarian Province
- Eastern Europe and DNA Testing
- Ukrainian Vital Records: Finding Them, Reading Them, Understanding Them
- The Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in L’viv
- Q&A Panel: Breaking Down Your Brick Wall Ancestor

featuring experts: **Matthew Bielawa, Angie Bush, Michael Buryk, and Michelle Chubenko**

Online Registration: <<https://www.ukrhec.org/family-history-group>>

<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NashiPredky/>>

<<https://plus.google.com/u/0/communities/107238252771720982783>>

The Ukrainian Historical and Educational Center of NJ <genealogy@UkrHEC.org>
732-356-0090

[From a post by Michelle Tucker Chubenko to the PolandBorderSurnames mailing list]

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November 9, 2014

**MEETING OF THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
WEBINAR!**

PGSA has been searching for some time to find a way to share the information from our quarterly meetings with those who are not close enough to attend. Consequently, our last quarterly meeting of the year is being offered both as a live presentation and as a “Webinar.” Participation in a “Webinar” gives you the opportunity to listen to the speaker and see the material being presented.

At our November 9 general meeting at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, presenter, **James S. Pula**, Professor of History at Purdue University, will speak on the famed Kosciuszko Squadron in World War II AND it will be offered as a “Webinar.” This means that in addition to the individuals in attendance, 100 additional visitors can participate in the meeting via their computer from the comfort of home or wherever they (and their computers) are at the time.

If you haven’t tried this latest technology and would like to give it a try, we will be posting details on the PGSA Home, <<http://www.pgsa.org>>, in the October Notebook, or on the Arlington Heights Library website, <<http://www.ahml.info/>>.

Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity and don’t hesitate to let us know what you think.

[From the September 2014 issue of PGSA Notebook]

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February 11–14, 2015

**FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES 2015 CONFERENCE
Salt Lake City, Utah**

Registration is now open for the FGS 2015 national conference scheduled for February 11–14 in Salt Lake City, Utah. This highly anticipated genealogy event puts the FGS and RootsTech conferences under one roof at the Salt Palace Convention Center (SPCC).

Registration opens with a special early bird price of \$139 for a full FGS conference registration. That pricing is available through **September 12, 2014**. Attend only FGS or add-on a full RootsTech pass for an additional \$39. Register now at: <<http://FGSconference.org/2015>>, and visit that site for more information.

[From an e-mail sent out by FGS]

***** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES *****

<<http://www.kirchenbuchportal.de/>>

The September 22nd issue of *Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter* [EOGN] had an article about the German Digital Church Book Portal that is now online with a beta test at the above URL. As you might suspect, it is in German; I can’t really advise people to try it out if

they're not reasonably fluent in that language. Still, let's keep an eye on it. Many people with Polish roots find they need to access German church books; so as this site develops, it could become a big deal for us.

<<http://www.virgenealogy.com>>

Both *EOGN* and *Nu? What's New?* had brief items this month on the formation of the Virtual Institute of Genealogical Research. Neither publication went into great detail, because it's a new site and it's probably a bit early to pass judgment on it. But it offers courses with "six hours of instruction from a nationally recognized expert," as well as extensive syllabus material and practical exercises. So there's definitely potential for good things. If you're interested, visit the Institute's website at the above URL and take a look at the schedule.

<http://www.thegenealogyassistant.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=256:family-relationships-in-polish&catid=43:blog-posts>

Tim Firkowski's blog "Genealogy Assistant—A Family History Detective" has a nice item at this URL, "Family Relationships in Polish." He takes us beyond basic terms to tell us how POles say things like "4th cousin, once removed." If the above link doesn't work, try this TinyURL link: <<http://tinyurl.com/mpgs8k3>>.

<<http://www.geni.com/blog/new-on-geni-multilingual-profiles-386125.html>>

In the September 28 issue of *Nu? What's New?*, Gary Mokotoff mentioned that Geni.com now supports multilingual profiles, which lets you enter names and biographies in multiple languages. Gary attributes this to Geni's being part of the MyHeritage family. The official announcement of this feature can be read at the above page.

<<http://www.ruslan.co.uk/alphabestarter.htm>>

In a note posted to a mailing list for teachers of Slavic and East European languages, John Langran noted the presentation available at this site, meant for those teaching beginners Russian. Many of our readers have to deal with Russian-language documents, so I thought this may be worth passing along.

<<http://genealogyindexer.org/>>

This month's additions to the Genealogy Indexer site include Kraków IV Gymnasium Reports for 1910-1913 and 1915-1916, 1922 Polish Reserve Offices, and Poland Judicial Yearbook for a number of years in the second half of the 19th century.

<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJtnbF-Bwng>>

On YouTube, the Polish American Foundation YouTube managed to get Prof. Jonathan Shea to sit down for a brief (much too brief!) video clip on different appropriate ways to greet

people in Polish, with comparisons to some other languages. If you haven't watched it, I encourage you to spare 50 seconds to take a look. I think you'll get a glimpse of why people love to listen to Jonathan speak—and maybe a respectable number of hits will encourage him to do more, and longer, instructional videos!

<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEwJDBk9eEk>>

This YouTube clip was mentioned by Laurence Krupnak on the GaliciaPoland-Ukraine list. It's part two of an illustrated history of Austria and Hungary. It runs eleven minutes, but the captions explain things nicely, and the musical accompaniment is pleasant.

< <http://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>>

Several people posted notes on Facebook to let us know that Katherine R. Wilson's compilation, *Genealogy Links on Facebook*, has been updated. It's now 118 pages long with over 4,000 links, and it can be downloaded for free at the above URL.

<<http://czechgenealogy.nase-koreny.cz/2014/08/death-causes-dictionary.html>>

For those who also have Czech roots, Valerie Warunek posted this link on PGS-Michigan's Facebook page. The site offers help for beginners with Czech genealogy, and this particular page helps with causes of death.

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