



# Gen Dobry!

\*\*\*\*\* GEN DOBRY! \*\*\*\*\*

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Editor: William F. "Fred" Hoffman, E-mail: WFHoffman@prodigy.net

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\*\*\* WELCOME! \*\*\*

to the latest issue of GEN DOBRY!, the e-zine of PolishRoots(R). If you missed previous issues, you can find them at

[http://polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry\\_index.htm](http://polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry_index.htm).

Visit PolishRoots.org, the sponsor of \_Gen Dobry!\_, and take advantage of the many resources offered there. Don't take my word for it -- read what Alan J. Kania <ajkania@attbi.com> wrote on Poland-Roots-L@rootsweb.com:

> It's always fun to explore familiar web-sites. Polish Roots has a ton of information and I thought I had visited most of the key hidden resources that are contained within the electronic pages. Today I happened to stumble across a fascinating resource called The Polish Black Book.

> [http://www.polishroots.org/black\\_book.htm](http://www.polishroots.org/black_book.htm)

> I'll let the website explain what it is:

> "'The Black Book of Poland' index contains a list of names, mostly Polish some German, valuable to genealogical researchers interested in what may have happened to their kin in Poland during the time of October 6, 1939 and the end of June 1941. This book documents what the Germans did to the people of Poland during that time period. Some people were jailed, others deported and yet others killed. The index shows these people's names, what happened and the page number within the book that describes the event. The index shown here has been scanned and digitally converted to the English alphabet and therefore loses the pronunciation nuances of the Polish language."

> I didn't find anyone with the surnames that I'm personally searching, but it's wonderful to find one more list to provide a few possible answers to why some family names suddenly drop off the face of the earth.

> So go to the URL addresses that are presented here from time to time. Don't just look for the primary information, but have fun exploring some of the other hot links that may be buried on the web pages. They may take you to a gold mine of information. The websites are often updated regularly with new information, so go back to the same sites on a regular basis.

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\*\*\* IS THIS A POLISH NAME? \*\*\*

by Fred Hoffman <WFHoffman@prodigy.net>

This is a question I run into more and more often, and you might be astonished how hard it is to answer sometimes. I've written a book on the origins and meanings of Polish surnames, so you'd think that, at the very least, I could recognize whether a name is Polish or not. Not necessarily!

I wanted to talk briefly about why this can be so hard, because it may point out some things beginning researchers don't know about -- things that may trip them up just as they begin to make progress in tracing their families.

Now first off, let's understand that some names are distinctively Polish -- so much so that you can recognize them immediately, even if they've been Anglicized. If there's an -szcz- in a name, it's almost certainly Polish. If there's a -dzi- in a name, it's probably Polish. If it ends in -owski or -ewski or -in~ski or -yn~ski, it is probably Polish. With some experience you can even tell that Kolojesky is probably an Anglicized version of Polish Kol~odziejski. Many immigrants managed to insist successfully on having their names spelled correctly. In other cases when names were changed, the changes made were minor, along the lines of Covalsky from Kowalski. Say them out loud and you may be able to tell what the name was originally.

But with a great many names, it's just impossible to say. The same combination of sounds can develop in different languages, so theoretically the same name can develop independently, with different meanings, in any number of languages. This is especially true of shorter names, of which there are many in Poland (despite a popular misconception to the contrary). Thus Polish RO~G (using ~ to stand for the accented O) is pronounced almost exactly the same as English German RUCK and English ROOK. If a Pole named RO~G lived in the German partition, his name may have come to be spelled German-style, as RUCK. If he came to an English-speaking country his name might well have ended up as ROOK. If your ancestor's name appeared in records as Rook or Ruck and you don't have some information to tip you off on its real origin, you'd have no way of knowing it was Polish.

Similarly Polish RAK is pronounced just like English ROCK, Polish DZIE~GIEL sounds very similar to English JINGLE, and Polish S~ADEJ sounds a lot like English SUNDAY. Don't laugh -- those are actual examples of name modifications I've encountered.

Also, even in Poland the same basic name may be spelled several ways. An example I cite in my book is RZA~DCA, from a word meaning "adviser, counselor." It can also be spelled RZONCA and Z\*ONCA, because all three spellings are pronounced the same (roughly as "ZHONT-sah"). The Polish O~ and U sound the same; RZ and Z\* sound the same; A~ can also be spelled ON or OM; E~ can also be spelled EN or EM; and so on.

\* What is Polish? \*

To make things even more frustrating, a lot of names found in Poland didn't start out as Polish. There are many, many names borne by people living in Poland that came from other languages, especially Lithuanian, German, Belarusian, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Romanian, and Czech. What could be more Polish than HAJDUK? Well, actually, it came from a Hungarian term \_hajto\_ meaning "drover, mercenary." Or how about that quintessentially Polish name KOS~CIUSZKO? Uh, well, actually, it comes from a Ukrainian affectionate short form of the first name we know as Constantine. Well, at least

we have the great Polish army hero PIL~SUDSKI, don't we? Yes, if you ignore the fact that his name comes from the Lithuanian place name Pilsudai.

I'm not trying to rob Poland of all of its heroes. The point is that over the history of the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania, the Poles may have played a dominant role, but there was plenty of room for non-Poles to stand out and gain glory. And in fact the general opinion was that these men were just as Polish as any Kowalski or Jastrze~bski you care to name. You didn't have to be born between the Oder and the Bug rivers to be a Pole. "Poland" was a place in which people of many different ethnic and religious backgrounds could hope to excel and prosper.

Even the "non-Poles" often considered themselves Poles in the larger sense. Look at Adam Mickiewicz, or if you prefer, Adomas Mickevicius: he writes in Polish, and is one of the great literary heroes of Poland. His roots, however, were in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, and he begins *Pan Tadeusz* with an expression of love for his homeland, Lithuania! Yet I don't think there's any question he considered himself a citizen of the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania, which Westerners got in the sloppy habit of calling "Poland" for short.

Clearly in the minds of our ancestors "Poland" was a vast, inclusive concept, not just a narrow little nation in which only Poles need apply. In some ways this is one of the most glorious and inspiring aspects of Polish culture. But if we genealogists may be permitted our little sulk, it does make things tougher for us, because it complicates defining what "Polish" even means. If you define "Polish names" as names that developed within a Polish linguistic environment, you're going to have to toss a lot of spurious "Poles" out of the history books.

\* Polish + American = Confusion \*

And then of course we living here in North America have an added layer of complication: the hideous mauling thick-tongued Anglo-Saxons inflicted on beautiful, expressive Polish names. Oh, Polish names in Poland can be tough enough -- but that's nothing compared to what happened when Polish immigrants came to English-speaking countries and collided head-on with people who think "Willoughby" is a long name!

And really, this is the big hurdle. If you can get past what Americans did to Polish names and restore the name to something close to its original form, then you can hope to make some progress. It's de-Anglicizing names that proves to be tricky. I see it every day in questions people ask about their names: I have to tell them, "First, find out what your name really was. Then get back to me."

Still, there is some order amid the chaos. A few specific examples will illustrate my point. In the Spring 2001 issue of *Pathways & Passages*, the Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, there was a list of examples of changes PGSCTNE members had documented during their research, and I'd like to cite a few.

\* Phonetic Spellings \*

The changes Polish names underwent in America fell into several categories. The most common kind of change was phonetic spelling. Americans could pronounce the names, more or less, but couldn't make sense of the way Poles spelled them. So there was a kind of quiet, unspoken, but powerful pressure to spell the names in a way Americans found easier to remember. Here are some examples of this kind of change, with the original spelling given first, then the American adaptation (and using the tilde to indicate Polish diacritical marks):

Chmielewski - Hmielefski  
Choroman~ski - Hermanski  
Chrzan - Krzan  
Cia~gl~o - Chunglo  
Czaplin~ski - Choplinsky  
Dziedzic - Jeddick  
Dziekan - Jacken  
Dzieklinski - Geklinsky  
Gryniewicz - Greenwitch  
Je~druszek - Endrusick  
Je~drzejewski - Yenzijefski  
Januszko - Yanushko  
Jarze~bowski - Yazemboski  
Jasztre~bski - Yaszczemski  
Kaczyn~ski - Kacensky  
Kawczyn~ski - Kafchinski  
Kol~odziejczuk - Kolojejchick  
Les~ny - Leshney  
Nawrocki - Novrosky  
Niedziejko - Najaka  
Lewak - Levack  
Pietkiewicz - Pitcavage  
Przyborowski - Siboroski  
Sito - Sheeto  
Stachura - Stackrow  
Szyman~ski - Shemansky  
Wa~dol~owski - Vendoloski  
Wa~sik - Wonsick/Wansick  
Wie~cko - Winsco  
Wie~ckowski - Vancosky  
Wodzin~ski - Vaginski  
Wto~rkowski - Fturkoski  
Za~bek - Zombeck  
Zaja~c - Ziatts  
Zakrzewski - Zakseski

In every case, if you pronounce the Americanized form the way that comes naturally to an English-speaking person, you end up with something that sounds reasonably close to the Polish pronunciation. Oh, there are some changes. Sometimes Polish W turned into V, sometimes F, and sometimes it was dropped entirely (Wa~dol~owski to Vendoloski). The L~ (slash L) was usually converted into plain L; Polish Cia~gl~o sounds closer to "CHONG-woe" than "Chunglo." Gryniewicz sounds more like "grin-YEAH-veech" than "Greenwitch." Still, these examples of Americanized forms are pretty darned close, all things considered.

Incidentally, with Gryniewicz -> Greenwich I think we see a common tendency in all languages: people tend to force unfamiliar sounds into familiar patterns. To English-speakers "Gryniewicz" sounds rather foreign, but it reminds them of "Greenwich," if you pronounce the latter the way Americans do, as "GREEN-witch" (not the Brits' way, "GREN-itch"). Another example is SA~DEJ, which sounds like "SOWN-day" in Polish, but Americans modified it, naturally enough, into SUNDAY.

There were also instances where Polish WILK, "veelk," meaning "wolf," was changed to the familiar English name WILKES. Quick, now -- if someone asked you what nationality a family named Wilkes was, would you guess Polish?

#### \* Shortened Forms \*

Some names were basically just shortened, with no great care taken to preserve more than a hint of original pronunciation. Here in particular we see the tendency to reshape foreign names into ones that sound more familiar. A few examples suffice to illustrate these changes:

Burczyn~ski - Brooks  
Chrzanowski - Crown  
Kanapicki - Kane  
Marchlewicz - Marshall  
Witkiewicz - Witkie

#### \* Same Meaning \*

There were instances in which Polish immigrants realized their new neighbors couldn't deal with their names, but didn't want to abandon their "real" names completely. In some cases there was a reasonable compromise: if the Polish surname came from a first name which had an English equivalent, or from a noun that had a straightforward English equivalent, the Pole could change to a name based on the English version. Here are a few examples:

Adamowicz - Adams  
Andrzejewski - Andrews  
Grzegorkiewicz - Gregory

Melnyk - Miller  
Szczepan~ski - Stevens

ADAMS is a perfectly good rendering of ADAMOWICZ, which means "son of Adam"; in English names that final -s usually began as a way of saying "son of," so that Adams actually meant "Adam's [son]." SZCZEPAN~SKI comes from Szczepan, a Polish version of Steven, so STEVENS was a reasonably good way of rendering that name. MELNYK comes from a word meaning "miller," so MILLER was a natural choice.

A change not seen in this list, but one that unquestionably happened a lot, was turning a name such as Polish KOWAL or KOWALSKI into English SMITH -- or if German influence was involved, into German SCHMIDT. Don't forget, a lot of Poles lived in the regions ruled by Germany, and most emigrated through German ports; so Germans got a crack at mangling their surnames several times along the way. (I suspect more than one Polish KOWALSKI whom Germans had insisted on calling SCHMIDT rejoiced when western Poland finally got out from under the Germans' thumb -- it meant he wouldn't have to put up with any more Schmidt from them.)

In the same way, a Polish NOWAK, "new guy, new man," could become English NEWMAN or German NEUMANN. German names still sounded foreign in America, but not as foreign as Polish names; if your passage through Germany had turned you from KRAWIEC into SCHNEIDER (tailor), you might stay a SCHNEIDER. Of course, you might also end up a SNIDER, or KRAVITZ, or TAILOR.

\* Huh? \*

The final category only had two examples in the P&P list, but they're good examples of the process for which the technical term is "Huh?":

Jurgilewicz - Fox  
Sobolewski - McCluskey

How did JURGILEWICZ, a name meaning basically "son of little George," turn into FOX? By what magic did a Pole named SOBOLEWSKI, "one from the place of the sables," turn into an Irish McCLUSKEY? Beats the hell out of me! But this sort of thing happened all the time. And the brutal truth these examples teach us is that you can't always hope to discern rhyme or reason in name changes.

(Incidentally, when I recall the kind of discrimination the Irish faced in early 20th-century America, I can't help wondering: did this Sobolewski/McCluskey ever regret the change, realizing he'd have been no worse off if he'd remained a Pole?).

\* Conclusion \*

If a Marchlewicz could become a Marshall, and a Sa~dej could become a Sunday, it starts to become clear why even the real experts on Polish names (the scholars in Poland,

not me) might have trouble sorting it all out. When you ask "Is my name Polish?" there are times the answer is simple and clear. But far too often the only honest answer is one we may not like: "Who knows? Do some research!"

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

Subject: Chene Street History Project

[Robert Postula <robertp@bignet.net>, President of PGS-Michigan, forwarded this note on a study that may interest researchers with roots in Detroit's Polonia. We are glad to pass it on to you]:

Your members might be interested in knowing that the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan is creating a Chene Street archive that will contain all of our study materials, including archival material from churches, e.g, St. Hyacinth and St. Stanislaus. We are photographing all the parish publications from St. Hyacinth (tens of thousands of pages), and we will have as complete a photographic copy of the St. Stanislaus High School yearbooks as exists. To date, we have photographed about 20 years.

All of this will become available through the Bentley, which is accessible to the general public. We are going after any archival material from the churches & schools and photographing yearbooks, newsletters, sport programs, etc.

Ultimately, one of the project products will be a virtual map of the street with all the addresses, and people will be able to "visit" the address, finding out who the occupants were for 100 years, view photographs of the businesses at the address, look through old business cards, invoices, and other artifacts associated with that address, and finally they will be able to listen to people describe the businesses. I am collecting oral histories (over 30 interviews to date). We will digitize these and insert the clips that discuss a particular business at the address site on the map.

Anyone interested in Detroit's east side Polonia will have a wealth of information and materials available through the study. I will shortly be going out looking for foundation funding. I can continue the study at a moderate pace without the funds but need additional funding if we are to speed it up.

If you have any experiences, memories or first hand knowledge of the street, either as a business owner, employee or customer of establishments on Chene Street, we would like to hear from you. We are also looking for old photos and any physical artifacts (such as old bills, invoices, advertisements, hand bills, etc) related to Chene Street businesses.

Participation in the study is voluntary and individuals may withdraw at any time without any affect to them.

Marian J. Krzyzowski  
University of Michigan Business School  
734-998-6236  
email: mjsk@umich.edu

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\*\*\* STAMPING OUT ERRORS \*\*\*

by Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG, Editor-RWR@rootsweb.com

[Editor: Myra Vanderpool Gormley, editor of RootsWeb Review, wrote this brief and very intelligent article in the issue distributed on December 25, 2002. If you missed it, you really should read it -- and take a moment to look at the article she cites on "misspeld knames"!).

Daily your editor and the RootsWeb HelpDesk receive comments and complaints about some "incorrect" genealogical information that has been discovered online. Unfortunately, you are barking up the wrong tree. We can't help you. There is no army of editors and professional genealogists at RootsWeb or on the Internet who check and verify genealogical data or family trees -- posted by individuals. RootsWeb hosts thousands and thousands of independently authored webpages, but it does not edit or verify the information posted therein.

Moreover, there is no way to prevent incorrect genealogical information -- or information that disagrees with your findings -- from appearing on the Internet or in traditional sources either, for that matter. Genealogical errors can be found everywhere -- in Internet databases such as WorldConnect, in Message Board posts, in Mailing List messages and archives, in books, in historical society records, and even in official records. All of us make typographical and transcription errors and the more often data is keyed and re-keyed the greater the chance of errors. There is no law prohibiting you or your cousins from submitting or posting error-ridden data online (or publishing it in a book). A major complaint received is about the spelling of surnames, but there is no right or wrong way to spell a surname. See: "Why U Can't Find Your Ancestors: Misspeld Knames --A Commun Problem for Researchers," <http://rwguide.rootsweb.com/lesson8.htm>.

What you can do though when you find information that you believe to be incorrect or disagrees with your records is to counteract it by posting or submitting the information that you have. Wherever someone can submit incorrect information online, you can add the corrected data. Post your data and sources or evidence for your conclusions on appropriate RootsWeb Message Boards, Mailing Lists, and/or submit your family tree to WorldConnect.

By ensuring that the correct information is also readily available, others viewing both sets of data can make informed decisions. Additionally, by including the sources for your data

it will assist other researchers to know where the information came from and which version of the "facts" are more likely to be accurate.

[Previously published in RootsWeb Review: Vol. 5, No. 52, 25 December 2002.]

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\*\*\* GRYF KASZUBSKI \*\*\*

Keith Kaszubik has recently published Volume 1, Number 1 of Gryf Kaszubski [Kashubian Griffin], which he describes as a "newsletter for intelligent Kashubes who are not in any way anti-intellectual." Subscription is US\$15.00 a year "payable through postal money order. Subscribers receive the four issues of the year in which their check is received ... Make payment to Mr. Keith A. Kaszubik." The address is 5550 Maple Grove Drive, Hamburg NY 14075-7114, USA (no phone calls).

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\*\*\* MORSE ELLIS ISLAND SITE SEARCH TOOLS \*\*\*

[Editor -- This note from Stephen Morse regarding his Ellis Island site was posted on many genealogical mailing lists, so you've probably seen it. But it seemed wise to reprint it, just in case some of you missed it. Morse's site is such a valuable tool that anything about it may prove helpful to lots of researchers!]

To all users of my Ellis Island Search Tools:

As most of you know, the revised search tools went live on October 20 and include the so-called "gray form" which allows searching by town and sounds-like for any passenger in the database. However there have been severe performance problems with the gray form, and only the very lucky (or the very early risers) were able to get any response at all to their searches.

I am pleased to report that we have finally tracked down and fixed the cause of the problem. The gray form is now able to handle the heavy traffic and is returning results very quickly. It is now possible to do searches using the gray form at any time of the day and get back the results in a reasonable amount of time.

I am indebted to Nick Yannucci who answered the plea for help that I had posted on the website. Nick, working together with Erik Steinmetz, was the critical mass that we needed for success. Thanks also to Jewishgen for providing the servers to host the EI search tools, and for providing technical support and machine upgrades to fix the performance problems of the EI search tools. If any of you would like to add your thanks with a donation to Jewishgen ([www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity](http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity)), I know it would be greatly appreciated and is sorely needed.

My apologies for all the frustrations that the gray form has given to so many people for so long. But now that is behind us, and I wish you all good luck on your searches.

-- Steve Morse

P.S.: The EI search tools can be accessed from either of the following URLs:

<http://home.pacbell.net/spmorse>

<http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/EIDB>

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\*\*\* NEW MAILING LIST FOR PODLASKIE PROVINCE \*\*\*

[Editor: On Poland-Roots-L@rootsweb.com, Kerri Garvey <keg\_gen@yahoo.com> posted this note]:

I would like to introduce you to a new mailing list. It is for the province of Podlaskie in northeast Poland. If you are researching family in this province, you are more than welcome to join.

Pol-Podlaskie intro page:

<http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/intl/POL/POL-PODLASKIE.html>

To subscribe, please send a message in plain text with the word "subscribe" in both the subject and message body to POL-PODLASKIE-L-request@rootsweb.com (mail mode) or POL-PODLASKIE-D-request@rootsweb.com (digest mode)

If you have any questions about the list or subscribing to it, please email me at POL-PODLASKIE-admin@rootsweb.com.

Districts for Podlaskie include: Augustow, Bial~ystok, Bielsk Podlaski, Grajewo, Hajnowka, Kolno, Lomza, Monki, Sejny, Siemiatycze, Sokolka, Suwalki, Wysokie Mazowieckie, and Zambrow (province and county names available at the Podlaskie GenWeb: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~polpodla/powiaty.htm>).

For those of you more familiar with the former provinces, this includes (according to Poland GenWeb <http://www.rootsweb.com/~polwggw/49provs.html>): Bial~ystok, Lomza (majority), and Suwalki (part of).

So if you have relatives from this area or are willing to help with research techniques, come on over and subscribe.

Thanks and Happy Holidays,

Kerri

Listowner & Board Admin for Pol-Podlaskie and Pol-Wielkopolskie

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\*\*\* IN THEIR WORDS ... VOLUME II: RUSSIAN \*\*\*

I hope you'll forgive a brief bit of shameful self-promotion, but a lot of people have begged me to inform them when Jonathan Shea and I finished the second volume of the In Their Words series, designed to help researchers translate Russian-language documents. It's done, the boxes have been delivered from the printer, and we're taking orders. For more information, see our Website: <http://www.langline.com>.

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\*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*

February 13, 2003

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

"Tracking Your Polish Ancestors Via American and Polish Resources"

The NEWBERRY LIBRARY  
60 West Walton Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60610-7324

Recently the Friends of Genealogy of the Newberry Library in Chicago announced they are hosting a talk by PolishRoots' own Paul S. Valasek:

"Learn the ins and outs of Polish research on both sides of the ocean, including name changes, foreign alphabets, and finding records. Your guide is Paul Valasek, past president of the Polish Genealogical Society of America and a mainstay of the Polish Museum of America and PolishRoots.org. Benefit from his years of experience researching in Eastern Europe, tracing ancestors as far back as 1604. Admission is \$10; free to members of the Friends of Genealogy. For inquiries and reservations, call (312) 255-3510."

The Newberry Library  
<http://www.newberry.org>

Genealogy Collection  
<http://www.newberry.org/nl/genealogy/genealogyhome.html>

and Friends of Genealogy  
<http://www.newberry.org/nl/genealogy/L3gfriends.html>

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April 24-26, 2003

Ohio Genealogical Society 2003 Conference  
"Ohio: 200 Years of Heritage"

Columbus, OH

For More Information: <http://www.ogs.org/>

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May 28-31, 2003

National Genealogical Society - 2003 Conference in the States

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

More details to follow

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July 20-25, 2003

IAJGS 23rd International Conference DC

J.W. Marriott, Pennsylvania Ave., NW

More details to be announced later

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September 5-6, 2003

St. Louis Polish Festival

Behind Falcon Hall - 20th and St. Louis Avenue

St. Louis, MO

Music, crafts, games and authentic Polish food and pastries.

For more Information: 314-421-9614

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November 6-9, 2003

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

Sea Crest Resort, North Falmouth, MA

New England-America's Melting Pot

For more details: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~manergc>

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

<http://www.euratlas.com/summary.htm>

Christos Nussli <[euratlas@swissonline.ch](mailto:euratlas@swissonline.ch)> sent out a note to announce that the "Periodical Historical Atlas of Europe" is now ready at this address. "21 online maps are showing with accuracy the states of Europe and Mediterranean basin at the end of each century from AD 1 to AD 2000. The site is fully bilingual: English and French."

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[http://www.lithuania.lt/IMI/i\\_en.jsp?nr=istorija\\_10](http://www.lithuania.lt/IMI/i_en.jsp?nr=istorija_10)

Tina Ellis <[vcellis@jps.net](mailto:vcellis@jps.net)> posted a note on PolandBorderSurnames-L@rootsweb.com, recommending this Lithuanian Website, which is in English, for those researching in the area of Suwalki (Podlaskie) and Belarus. "Click on the centuries listed on the right side of the page, and you will see when the was parts of Suwalki and Belarus were part of Lithuania. I think this will shed some light on the boundaries of this area. It's the first site I have found with this much detail."

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<http://www.bkpan.poznan.pl/htbins/naz-ini.pl>

Garret S. Mierzejewski <[gmpolam@att.net](mailto:gmpolam@att.net)> sent me a note on this site, which others might like to visit. It is housed on the Website of the Kornik Library in Poznan, and allows one to search for surnames of nobility in Wielkopolska or Great Poland, based on data from the extensive files of the late Polish genealogist Wlodzimierz Dworzaczek. On this page you click on initials for the surname you're interested in, which brings up entries on specific individuals. Click on the individual for birth, marriage, and death information.

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<http://labs.google.com/gviewer.html>

Ray Marshall <[raymarsh@mninter.net](mailto:raymarsh@mninter.net)> posted a note on Posen-L@rootsweb.com to let folks know Google now has a "slide show feature" on its search engine. As he said, "Just make your search ... Then sit back and let Google's fingers do the walking through the results."

Incidentally, Jerry Frank <[jkfrank@shaw.ca](mailto:jkfrank@shaw.ca)> agreed it was a useful feature, adding,

"However there can be some disadvantages as well. For example: If your search using the standard system happens to hit on a pornographic page, you could skip over reading it by recognizing the content from the brief description provided. With the slide show, the main page will open. Also, every page on the slide becomes part of your history record in your browser as a page visited. You may not want to have such an extensive record on your computer." These are points you may want to take into account as you experiment with this feature.

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<http://www.wielkopolski.com>

On Posen-L@rootsweb.com, list administrator James Birkholz announced that the PolandGenWeb website for Wielkopolski Province (the Polish term for the area occupied by Prussia as the province Posen in the 1800s) is back up at this address, after many months of absence. He praised Dan Solarek, the host, for a "tremendous job of improving it, building great graphics and linking in to the newly constructed system of Polish community and county websites."

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<http://www.dftcom2.co.uk/>

In Vol. 3, No. 24 of \_Nu? What's New?\_, the free e-zine on Jewish genealogy, Gary Mokotoff wrote an article "Another Way of Showing Family Trees on the Internet." It deals with the problem of putting family trees on the Internet without violating the privacy of living persons. He credits Miriam Weiner with bringing to his attention the software available at this site, "Dynamic Family Tree Compiler," which is free. It converts a GEDCOM file to a series of files which can be put on the Internet to display a family tree in pedigree chart format. You might wish to take a look.

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<http://slowniki.onet.pl/index.html?tr=auto>

On Poland-Roots-L@rootsweb.com, Krystyna Tabaka <KrystynaTabaka@aol.com> said she got word of this, "the most wonderful online Polish dictionary, from a Michal Marciniak in Poland. I believe he is on one of the Polish mailing lists. The dictionary is good enough that it is worth sharing with you all. It's the best online one I've used so far, and I have several bookmarked."

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<http://www.cmentarze.gorlice.net.pl/>

Paul Valasek <Paval56@aol.com> wrote to cite this as a page some members might wish to know about. It is devoted to Galician World War II Military Cemeteries, and features an interactive map of Galicia, so that you can click on specific areas to look for information on cemeteries there. It is in Polish and thus may not be the easiest source in the world to use. Still, if your research might benefit from such a source, this site may be worth the effort to become familiar with and use its resources.

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<http://www.rat.de/kuijsten/navigator/>

On PolandBorderSurnames-L@rootsweb.com, Tina Ellis  
<przymelewski@hotmail.com> suggested use of the Surname Search Engine at this  
address.

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

Joseph Martin <martinjo@lewisu.edu> posted a note recommending this site, saying "it  
has an amazing list of U.S. Directories and where they can be located."

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