



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

If you'd like *Gen Dobry!* in PDF form, this issue is available for downloading here:

[http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry\\_IX\\_4.pdf](http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_IX_4.pdf)

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\*\*\* WEBSITES WITH POLISH SURNAME DATA \*\*\*

by Fred Hoffman <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>

An e-mail I received not long ago is fairly typical of a number of notes people have sent me in the last few months. These were people looking for the Website of the “Słownik nazwisk” (Surname Dictionary), or what some call the “Rymut database,” which allows you to search for data on the frequency and distribution in Poland of surnames borne by Polish citizens as of 1990:

- > I have been trying to get to the Słownik Nazwisk
- > website but the link I had
- > (<http://www.herby.com.pl/herby/indexslo.html> )
- > resulted in “404 Not Found The request /herby/indexslo.html
- > was not found on this server.”

I had twice published articles in *Gen Dobry!* about this site, and I’ve mentioned it to Lord knows how many people over the last few years. It’s a good way to find out how common or rare a particular surname was as of 1990, and where in Poland it showed up. Judicious use of its search function will also show you various different spellings or forms you may encounter in your research. The publication of the original 10-volume set of books, the *Słownik nazwisk współcześnie w Polsce używanych*, was a huge step forward for students of Polish surnames, as for the first time we had solid data on what surnames do and do not appear among Poles, how often they appear, and where they are most common.

Sometime in mid-February of this year, however, the Webmaster of that site apparently decided to reorganize things, and changed the address, to <http://www.herby.com.pl/indexslo.html>. Notice that the only difference is the removal of the subdirectory [/herby](#) from before [/indexslo.html](#). The result is that references I and others had made to the old address, which are all over the Internet, are no longer valid. I really wish the Webmaster had set up a link forwarding people from the old address to the new one. I thought about writing and asking, but the site is up and running again, and perhaps it’s best to leave well enough alone. It’s easy to gripe at others, but experience has taught me not to be too quick to judge. Sometimes the oddest-looking changes turn out to be thoroughly justified.

As for the people online who gave that link on individual Web pages, including those who quoted it from me—well, there’s no way to track them all down and tell them to change it. It’s just a fact of life on the Internet: few URLs are permanent. You constantly have to be ready to encounter the dreaded 404 error and search for the page you want under its new address—if it has one, that is. After all, some sites disappear, never to resurface. If there is a new address, Google can often help you find it.

Some smart individual should set up a forwarding service that would deal with this problem of updating old addresses. I don’t think it would be that hard to do, given a degree of Internet savvy. In fact, I may talk to some folks I know and see if they can do this. Maybe they’ll tell me someone has done it and I just don’t know about it.

Back to that e-mail I started to quote earlier. The same correspondent also wrote:

- > But the reason I am writing you is because while
- > Google searching for the site I came across your
- > undated review entitled “THE NEW SŁOWNIK NAZWISK
- > CD-ROM” (which also has the old website address
- > of <http://www.herby.com.pl/herby/indexslo.html>).
- > It looks like “THE NEW SŁOWNIK NAZWISK
- > CD-ROM” is something I would like to purchase
- > but there was no link in your review nor could I
- > find anything further on the search engines.
- >
- > Is the CD-ROM available? If so, where can I
- > purchase it?

That CD-ROM—an English-language version of Rymut’s update of the original *Słownik nazwisk*—has sold out; and the last I heard, the publisher, the Polish Genealogical Society of America, had decided not to continue carrying it. I kind of hate to see that, and it’s always possible, of course, that the PGSA will reconsider and offer the CD for sale once more.

But maybe not. Monopolies on good data don’t last too long these days. If you have useful info, it has a way of showing up in other places, especially online. I feel sure one major factor in PGSA’s decision was the availability of much of that same data the CD offered on a Website that came online recently:

<http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/>

You can type a surname into the box labeled “Mapa nazwisk” and click on the blue button that says “Szukaj,” and get a page summarizing the data and—a nice touch!—a colored map illustrating the frequency and distribution in graphic form. While this site does not give all the data available on the CD, it gives the info most people are looking for: the counties with the highest concentrations of a specific name. You can glance at the map and get an idea whether or not a specific surname is highly concentrated in a particular area. Then you can look at the listed data to see which counties have the highest numbers for that particular name.

There are significant difficulties in using this site if you’re not fluent in Polish. You have to key the name in correctly, using any applicable Polish characters. If you search for KAMINSKI, for instance, you get data showing some 351 Polish citizens went by that name as of 2002. Not a very impressive total, is it? You need to key in KAMIŃSKI with accented N to get the “real” data—44,914 Polish citizens by that spelling, which is standard in Poland. If you aren’t familiar with the Polish characters, and don’t know how to input them, you have to go through a more difficult procedure of clicking on the first letter on the name, then tracing it down through a series of lists. It can be done, but it’s harder.

It is possible to access a specific page by keying in the right URL, in the form <http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/kompletny/XXX.html>, replacing the XXX with the surname in question. For

instance, for KAMINSKI with plain N, the page is here:

<http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/kompletny/kaminski.html>

But again, there's a catch. You have to be able to input the right URL to get the "real" data:

<http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/kompletny/kami%25C5%2584ski.html>

That's the coding the Website requires; for some reason, <http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/kompletny/kamiński.html> won't work. What's more, this site gives separate pages for the masculine form KAMINSKI and the traditional feminine form KAMINSKA:

<http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/kompletny/kami%25C5%2584ska.html>

So there are drawbacks to using this site. And as I say, it doesn't give all the data that appears on the CD. It sort of "skims the cream" off the top. But for many people, the pretty map and the numbers where the name is most common are enough. I think that's one reason PGSA figured people won't buy the CD any more. Or if people did buy it, and then found out the Moikrewni site offered much of the same info for free, they might feel PGSA had cheated them. If you look at it that way, PGSA's decision not to continue carrying the CD makes sense.

Still, the data on the disk is far more extensive than that given on the Moikrewni site. If you want and need that data, feel free to write PGSA at [PGSAmerica@aol.com](mailto:PGSAmerica@aol.com). If enough folks write and demonstrate that there's still a demand for this item, perhaps they'll change their minds. As of right now, however, the CD is no longer available.

Incidentally, for those of you who are members of PGSA, the Spring 2008 issue of *Rodziny* (which should show up in mailboxes over the next few weeks) has a rather nice article by Robert Sliwinski, a review of the Moikrewni site. It goes into details I have not addressed, and includes illustrations from the site that may help users get the most out of it. (I edit *Rodziny* as well as *Gen Dobry!*, so I have to be a little careful about playing favorites or letting one publication "scoop" the other. My main consideration here is simple, however: if the subject of this article interests you, I think you might like to know about Robert Sliwinski's piece.)

Perhaps what interests the typical researcher most is that now there are two online sources for data on Polish surname frequency and distribution. The 1990 database at <http://www.herby.com.pl/indexslo.html> is searchable and allows for the use of wild cards; it provides a good basic overview of data on surnames. The 2002 database at <http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/> has more accurate and recent data, and gives you a nice map illustrating the data in graphic form. It does not, however, give you all the data that's available; it focuses on counties where the name was most common. For those who want all the data in all its richness and complexity, the CD published in this country by PGSA is the source you need. It's no longer for sale, but there are those of us who have copies and can give you a hand with data on a specific name, as long as you don't get outrageous with your requests. And you can always let PGSA know you'd like them to carry this item once more.

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

Subject: DVD of Wajda's film *Katyń*

Just wanted to let you know that the Website for the *Katyń* DVD in *Gen Dobry!* was outdated, as I found out yesterday. The below site is now the one to use. I've been asked where polbook is located. I couldn't find an address, just an 800 number, if you wished to order by phone.

<http://www.polbook.com/index.php?p=news&v=11&strona1>

Armela Hammes <[armelahammes@att.net](mailto:armelahammes@att.net)>

*Editor—Thanks for letting us know. I checked the URL given in the last issue, as I do every URL. But I must admit, I didn't do anything to verify that one could actually order the DVD there. Your updated info is very helpful.*

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Subject: Polish nickname for “Baby”?

When I was growing up, I remember my grandmother calling her youngest sister “bubba” [pronounced boo (like book)- bah]. I recently talked to my great aunt and it sounded like she said it more like “buh-bush” [pronounced buh (like bubble)-bush]. I thought I remembered her saying that it was a nickname for ‘baby’. I looked on the internet and a few dictionaries listed “bobas” as a colloquial term for child.

I just had a baby boy and like the nickname bubba, but wanted to make sure that it meant what I thought it did. If it makes any difference, my family immigrated from Galicia, so there might be influences from other languages involved. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance!

Drew ([captjack15@yahoo.com](mailto:captjack15@yahoo.com))

*Editor—I could not find anything on this, so I can't help. If you can, feel free to write Drew. Incidentally, Drew mentioned two URLs for Internet dictionaries, and I thought you might like to know about them, as they both have a lot of good info, including the term bobas, which I had never heard before:*

<http://www.langsites.com/AZ.htm>  
<http://polish.slavic.pitt.edu/dictionary.pdf>

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**\*\*\* POZNAŃ PROJECT UPDATE \*\*\***

by *Lukasz Bielecki* <[bielecki@rose.man.poznan.pl](mailto:bielecki@rose.man.poznan.pl)>

*Editor—Łukasz published the latest update on the Poznań Project a couple of hours before the last Gen Dobry! went out. I didn't have a chance to include it in the March issue. But I can include it here, for those of you who missed it.*

Dear Friends of the Poznań Project,

<http://bindweed.man.poznan.pl/posen/search.php>

The last three months have been a time of a quick development of the Project and it seems that many people have been able to locate their ancestors thanks to our combined efforts in indexing the marriages.

As usual, here comes the list of newly added parishes. It should be kept in mind, though, that for a number of others, the material has been extended.

Catholic: Ślesin (Bydgoszcz), Włóki, Orłowo, Donaborów, Wyszanów, Głuchowo, Pakość, Strzyżewo Kościelne, Wytomyśl, Murowana Goślina, Sulmierzyce, Gostyczyna, Os-trzeszów, Parzynów, Broniszewice, Droszew, Sławsk Wielki, Otorowo, Pniewy, Czacz, Wonieść, Targowa Górka, Grylewo, Mieścisko, Smogulec, Piłka, Rosko, Gościeszyn, Żerniki, Izbica Kujawska, Brudzew, Wrząca Wielka, Łekno, Rokitno/Rokitten, Dąbrówka/Gross-Dammer, Wierzbno/Wierzebaum, Koźminek/Koschmin, Golina, Mokronos

Lutheran: Jutrosin/Jutroschin, Kosieczyn/Kuschten, Bukowiec/Bauchwitz

As a result, we have over 250 Catholic parishes in the database now and 40% of the Catholic marriages from the 1835-1884 time frame already covered—and for the first time all 42 districts (according to the 1887 scheme) of the Posen Province are represented. Over 240,000 records are in the database right now.

Another Polish volunteer, Bartek Malecki, has joined the 10K club (10,000 marriage entries indexed). He has mostly been working with the Gostyń area and neighboring regions.

Thank you very much for all the material you have sent to the project. Also all donations are so much appreciated and they will support the continuation of the project. Sending donations is recommended via PayPal (to my email address as in this newsletter) or other ways of transfer can be discussed. Please note that we will have to get a better server after summer as the one used now is only temporary and will no more be available.

I will also appreciate new declarations to index parishes which are still awaiting it. Also, from time to time there is scanned material that people send to me, so indexing is possible even at home. At present, I have some scans from German speaking areas around Skwierzyna/Schwerin and Międzyrzecz/Meseritz so especially German volunteers would be very welcome.

Łukasz Bielecki

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**\*\*\* BOOK ON THE JEWS OF SUBCARPATHIAN RUŚ \*\*\***

*submitted by Paul S. Valasek <[Hallersarmy@aol.com](mailto:Hallersarmy@aol.com)>*

*Editor—Paul sent along word of this book, which I had not heard of. I notice it is available in hard cover via Amazon.com, but they got the author's name wrong! Amazon also charges \$60. I think maybe I'd order it from this bookseller...*

***The Carpathian Diaspora - The Jews of Subcarpathian Ruś and Mukachevo***

by Yeshayahu A. Jelinek

The Jews of Subcarpathian Ruś comprise a unique community. Until their destruction in the Holocaust they lived for centuries peacefully with local Rusyns, Magyars, and other peoples. Subcarpathia never experienced pogroms, and many of its Jews owned and worked their own land as small-scale farmers and lumberjacks. This is the first scholarly history in English of the Subcarpathian Jewry.

466 pages, clothbound  
ISBN 978-0-88033-619-2

Columbia University Press 2007

Order form: Price of book including S/H = US \$32.00

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**\*\*\* RMS ASTURIAS - MARCH 7, 1939 EUROPE TO BUENOS AIRES \*\*\***

*submitted by Paul S. Valasek <[Hallersarmy@aol.com](mailto:Hallersarmy@aol.com)>*

Here is a partial list of passengers embarking at ports of Southampton, Vigo, Lisbon and Montevideo heading towards Buenos Aires. Most passengers who are listed as Poles are most likely Polish Jews, but again, by definition of "nationality" in the immigrant world, they are listed as being Polish rather than Jewish. The names of the Italians are interesting as they are all listed as "artists." Makes me wonder what type of art they were creating. I have included them here for just that reason.

As the sailing date is just short of 6 months from the start of World War II, we can only surmise they knew what was coming and left Europe while they could.

Please check out my prior article about the ship at

[www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry\\_IX\\_3.pdf](http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_IX_3.pdf)

Bernshtein, Berta Zerski	Polish	36	Lederer, Harry	Czechoslovak	30
Blumenstein, Syma	Polish	42	Lederer, Asta	Czechoslovak	25
Blumenstein, Abraham	Polish	17	Molitierno, Ugo	Italian	29
Bracale, Matilde	Italian	62	Navratil, Oldrich	Czechoslovak	30
Brubino, Salvatore	Italian	39	Navratil, Frantiska	Czechoslovak	21
Caiafa, Vincenzo	Italian	54	Ostrower, Izaak	Polish	17
Chomiak, Dymitry	Polish	29	Ostrower, Chaja	Polish	46
Coppola, Giuseppina	Italian	36	Ostrower, Chana	Polish	20
Coppola, Vittoria	Italian	21	Ostrower, Frymeta	Polish	18
Czernikier, Sura	Polish	22	Ostrower, Chaim	Polish	15
Distenfeld, Peril	Polish	52	Palombella, Ida	Italian	47
Distenfeld, Henoch	Polish	23	Schiatti, Giovanni	Italian	61
Distenfeld, Berl	Polish	26	Serino, Giuseppe	Italian	40
Ducar, Jan	Czechoslovak	9	Sportelli, Giovanni	Italian	62
Ducarova, Anna	Czechoslovak	33	Szuchter, Fajga	Polish	37
Ducarova, Maria	Czechoslovak	6	Szuchter, Jakob	Polish	9
Faryna, Stefania	Polish	5	Szuchter, Sura	Polish	13
Hersztadt, Syma	Polish	34	Ugo, Cinitro	Italian	34
Hersztadt, Szymon	Polish	13	Unger, Ladislao	Hungarian	52
			Zagwodzka, Michalina	Polish	34

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

**May 18, 2008**

#### **MEETING OF THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

**Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL**

**2:00 p.m.**

The speaker will be Ursula Bielski, and her presentation will be “The Haunting of Mary Bregovy,” focusing on the legend of Resurrection Mary, believed to have been a young Polish and Czech girl from Back of the Yards. Ursula Bielski is the founder of Chicago Hauntings, Inc. An historian, author, and parapsychology enthusiast, she has been writing and lecturing about Chicago’s supernatural folklore and the paranormal for nearly 20 years, and is recognized as a leading authority on the Chicago region’s ghost lore and cemetery history. She is the author of five popular and critically acclaimed books on the same subjects, all published by Lake Claremont Press. (From an e-mail sent out by Harry Kurek.)

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**June 6 – 23, 2008**

~~**TUGG'S DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS TRIP TO WESTERN UKRAINE**~~

**CANCELLED!**

*Per a note posted by Jim Onyschuk on various mailing lists on 28 March 2008:*

Unfortunately the 2008 “Discover Your Roots” Tour to Western Ukraine has been cancelled due to a low response.

If you are interested in going on next year’s tour in 2009 (Friday June 5 – Monday June 22), please e-mail me <[jodanji@aci.on.ca](mailto:jodanji@aci.on.ca)> and I will add you to our mailing list.

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**July 17 – 28, 2008**

**POLAND IN THE ROCKIES**

*Poland in the Rockies (PitR)*, the biennial international student conference launched in Canada in 2004, is now accepting applications for 2008.

Speakers confirmed to date include major figures from politics, television, film, the press and academe. Among them will be former Polish Minister of Defense, Senator **Radek Sikorski**; Washington Post columnist **Anne Applebaum**; BBC documentary maker **Wanda Koscia**; former advisor to Leszek Balcerowicz, Professor **Jacek Rostowski** of the Central European University in Budapest; the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation’s “most influential” producer, **Mark Starowicz**; and Director of the Polish Studies Center at Indiana University in Bloomington, **Bill Johnston**. History, an important element of PitR, is presented in many voices. **Timothy Snyder**’s (Yale) incisive view of Poland’s past within Poland’s present; **Piotr Wrobel**’s (University of Toronto) analysis of a century of challenges including a culture under siege; **Lynn Lubamer-sky** (Boise State University) on social and family history; and **John Bukowczyk** (Wayne State University), a foremost authority on the history of Polonia.

“*Poland in the Rockies* is not ‘a course’ in Polish history,” says director Tony Muszynski. “There is no long lecture in one voice. On the contrary. It is a fast-paced, intensive, wide-ranging discussion of ‘things Polish,’ and ultimately an exploration of the many facets of the Polish identity.”

Launched by the Polish Canadian Association of Calgary and the Canadian Foundation for Polish Studies in Montreal, PitR’s aim is to stimulate an interest among English-speaking Americans and Canadians in Polish history and culture; to create a network of well-informed and dynamic friends of Poland; and to encourage Polish Americans and Canadians to integrate their identity into the mainstream of North American life—but not to lose it.

Funded entirely by Polish organizations and individuals in the United States and Canada, PitR is

not designed for specialists in Polish studies but is intended for students from a wide variety of disciplines. Full scholarships are granted on the basis of a student's curriculum vitae, letters of reference, and an essay explaining their motivation for attending. Geographical diversity is also taken into consideration.

For complete information, prospective sponsors and candidates should refer to the Web site:

<http://www.polandintherockies.com>

Media relations contact: Marek Domaradzki, tel. 403-262-7141

[From a press release sent by Maureen Mroczek Morris <[maureenm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maureenm@sbcglobal.net)>]

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**August 12 - 24, 2008**

## **HUSARIA TOUR OF POLAND**

I'd like to let you all know about our plans for a special and unique tour. In August 2008 will be the first annual "Husaria Tour of Poland."

One of the features of this tour will be a weekend at Vivat Vasa—the largest 17th-century reenactment in Poland. The event is held at historic Gniew castle with over 300 re-enactors reliving the battle that took place there in 1627 between the Polish winged hussars and the Swedes under Gustav Adolphus. Those of us with 17th-century kits have been invited to participate in the event but it is not mandatory for those on the tour to do so.

We'll also be visiting the major collections of husaria arms, armor and related 17th-century items across the country. We'll be seeing many of the major sites, castles, battlefields across the country. This should be a once in a lifetime trip and PAT Tours of Springfield MA will be arranging the hotels, transportation and all the details. PAT Tours has over 30 years of experience in developing custom tours of Poland.

Here's the best part, our friend and noted Polish historian and author Radek Sikora will be our historical guide through out the trip. Radek will be a great resource, guiding us through all those wonderful museum collections and answering many of our questions. So if you are serious about considering being a part of the tour please contact me and I'll get you all the details and answer your questions.

[http://www.polishhussarsupply.com/contact\\_us.html](http://www.polishhussarsupply.com/contact_us.html)

Pozdrawiam

Eryk Jadaszewski <[jrjada@juno.com](mailto:jrjada@juno.com)>

Rotmistrz husarski

The Czarniecki Division  
17th century Polish re-enactors

[Forwarded by Paul S. Valasek from the PolishAmericanForum.]

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**August 17 – 22, 2008**

## **28TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY**

Honolulu, HI - December 12, 2007. The International Association of Jewish Genealogy (IAJGS) announces the 28th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Chicago, August 17 - 22, 2008 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. The IAJGS is proud to co-host this conference with the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois and the Illiana Jewish Genealogical Society.

This annual conference is the premier event for Jewish Genealogists. Attendees from around the world gather to learn, share expertise, find others researching the same locales, and maybe even meet a relative they didn't know about before. From beginners to experienced genealogists – all are welcome and will have an unforgettable experience.

Sixteen Special Interest Groups (SIG's) will host sessions concerning their research focus such as German-Jewish Genealogy, Ukraine, Poland, and Litvak Jewish Genealogy research. A number of specialists or archivists from Europe or Eastern Europe will be in attendance to make presentations and advise attendees about resources available in their country. Some of the SIG's will hold luncheons with a featured speaker.

At least sixteen smaller groups, Birds of a Feather (BOF), will hold meetings such as the BOFs for Yiddish Theater, Suwałki-Łomża, Posen Prussia, and Lublin & Zamość Area.

There will be sessions on aspects of researching Sephardic ancestry, the Midwestern Jewish experience, using computers, immigration records, and much, much more. A Resource Room with a wide variety of genealogically relevant materials will be open to attendees. There will be an Exhibitor Room with vendors selling books, maps, and other items of interest to genealogists.

A special mini-symposium will be held on Genetics, Jewish Diseases, and the Role of Genealogists, underwritten by an educational grant from Genzyme Corporation. Speakers will include Dr. Lee Shulman, MD, Anna Ross Lapham Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chief, Division of Reproductive Genetics, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University; Gary Frohlich, Certified Genetic Counselor with Genzyme Therapeutics; and a representative of the Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders.

A film festival will feature a wide range of films of relevance to Jewish genealogy.

Chicago offers many research opportunities for genealogists such as the Spertus Institute of Jewish Study (with its Asher Library and the Chicago Jewish Archives); The Newberry Library;

and public institutions (e.g. Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Cook County, the Cook county Assessor's office (for property records), the Cook County Vital Records office) and the Great Lakes Regional branch of NARA (the National Archives).

The hotel has wonderful facilities. All registered conference attendees will get free internet access from their hotel guest rooms and complementary access to the hotel's health facilities.

To register or find additional information, see the conference Web site at [www.Chicago2008.org](http://www.Chicago2008.org).

The conference Web site has a conference flyer that can be printed for publicity purposes.

The IAJGS is an organization of organizations, founded in the late 1980s, to provide a common voice for issues of significance to its members, to advance our genealogical avocation, and to ensure there is an annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. Go to [www.iajgs.org](http://www.iajgs.org) for more information.

Contact:

Anne Feder Lee, IAJGS President and Chicago 2008 co-chair

Telephone: 808-395-0115 (Honolulu, HI)

E-mail: <[FederLee@msn.com](mailto:FederLee@msn.com)>

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**October 2008  
4th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL  
PLANO, TEXAS**

*Uwaga!* Attention!

Those who live in Texas need to mark their 2008 calendars for the 4th annual International Festival to be held October 2008 in Plano, Texas.

There is a Parade of Nations, in which Poland is represented, as well as a Polish Cultural Booth, a food booth, dance ensemble, two concerts (Polish musicians).

The group responsible for the above is the Polish-American Foundation of Texas:

<http://www.polamfound.com>

The organization is planning several more events for the near future.

Hope to see you there!

[From a posting by Debbie Greenlee on the Polish Genius mailing list.]

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**Friday and Saturday, October 3 – 4, 2008**

**PGSCTNE 2008 POLISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCE**

Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut

Sponsored by the Polish and Polish American Studies Program, Central Connecticut State University. We will be featuring **Dr. Stephen Morse**, who will be lecturing on “Searching the Ellis Island Database on the One-Step Web site.”

There will also be a Polish history lecture by **Dr. Mieczysław Biskupski** and a Beginner’s Workshop.

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

[http://ecollections.crl.edu/cdm4/index\\_dz.php?CISOROOT=/dz](http://ecollections.crl.edu/cdm4/index_dz.php?CISOROOT=/dz)

Edward Luft pointed out that this site was available. It allows you to search and download issues of the first ten years of the Chicago Polish-language newspaper *Dziennik Zwiqzkowy*, 1908-1917.

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<http://www.stevemorse.org/hebrew/virtual.html>

Among the many valuable tools on Dr. Morse’s Web site is this, a virtual keyboard for entering almost any foreign character in a Latin-based alphabet (Polish, Czech, Lithuanian, etc.). While you’re there, note also that Morse’s site now includes One-Step interfaces for the Germans to America, Russians to America, and Italians to America databases recently made available by NARA. The links are near the bottom of the section “Other Ports of Immigration” on the home page, <http://www.stevemorse.org/>.

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<http://international.loc.gov/intldl/pldehtml/pldechome.html>

Armela Hammes was just browsing through the Library of Congress website when she came across this catalog. “It may be of interest to someone in Polish genealogy if they had any members still living in Poland in 1926 ... Polish Declarations of Admiration and Friendship for the United States. This is a presentation of the first 13 manuscript volumes of a larger collection of 111 volumes compiled in Poland in 1926 and delivered to President Calvin Coolidge at the White House to honor the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Richly illustrated with original works by prominent Polish graphic artists, the collection includes the greetings and signatures of national, provincial, and local government officials, representatives of religious, social, business, academic, and military institutions, and approximately 5 1/2 million school children.” I think we’ve mentioned it before, but it’s worth mentioning again.

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<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cansacem/>

On the PolandBorder Surnames list, Tina Ellis <[polska.research@gmail.com](mailto:polska.research@gmail.com)>

told of receiving an e-mail “from Ron Isherwood, the webmaster for the Saskatchewan Cemeteries Project. According to the site, there are 3,3357 cemetery and burial sites located in Saskatchewan, Canada. They have transcribed or photographed and indexed 592. There is a search engine for the Website.”

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[http://www.lemkotour.com/index.php?option=com\\_frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.lemkotour.com/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1)

This is the Web site of Halina and Andrzej Malecki, of Gorlice, Poland. Andy <[ASmith5797@aol.com](mailto:ASmith5797@aol.com)> posted a note on the PolandBorderSurnames list recently, giving this link and saying the Maleckis have served as his guides and interpreters during his five trips to Poland. He praised them highly, and it seemed only right to mention them here, in case any of our readers would like their help traveling in southern Poland, Slovakia, and Ukraine.

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<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2286764,00.asp>

*PC Magazine* recently published a very interesting article on privacy laws in the European Union. This is something genealogical researchers constantly have to deal with, and you might like to know more about it—and perhaps consider the author’s contention that we need stricter laws like those in the EU! You may agree after you read about Intelius, a corporation I admit I had never heard of....

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<http://www.voicimafamille.info/>

The April 24, 2008 issue of *EOGN* [*Eastman’s Online Genealogical Newsletter*] told of this site, which searches “genealogy and family history databases hosted by Canadian federal, provincial or territorial archives centres and libraries, as well as those of several commercial partners. ‘That’s My Family,’ or ‘Voici Ma Famille,’ is free of charge and available in both French and English. It was launched and is maintained by Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) with support from Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and the Council of Provincial and Territorial Archivists (CPTA) of Canada.” Eastman concluded that this could be a very helpful site for anyone with Canadian roots.

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<http://www.univ.rzeszow.pl/WW1/Content.html>

On the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine mailing list, Ron Matviyak <[rmat@mtaonline.net](mailto:rmat@mtaonline.net)> said this site has sources on the Polish Legion, Ukrainian Legion, and “other parts of Galician history around World War I. There are many postcards from the period as well, which can be used to view some of the standards of living and fighting at the time, as well as the uniforms supplied to Poles fighting against the Russians.”

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<http://www.geonames.org>

On the Polish genius mailing list, Maryellen posted this URL, saying it was “a great new Website (new because I just found out about it). Type in your city and country and you get latitude, longitude and maps!”

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<http://www.mtg-malopolska.org.pl/mapy.html>

On the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine mailing list, Jan Cesarczyk <[jan\\_cesarczyk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jan_cesarczyk@yahoo.co.uk)> pointed out the valuable resources on the Web site of “Małopolskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne” (The Genealogical Society of Małopolska.” The above page has a number of fine maps; and scanned books are available at <http://www.mtg-malopolska.org.pl/bibliotekacyfrowa.html>.

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[http://www.halgal.com/vitals\\_extracts.html](http://www.halgal.com/vitals_extracts.html)

Matthew Bielawa, Webmaster of the excellent site Halgal for Galician research, has added this page to help people make sense of types of documents one frequently encounters during the course of tracing family roots in that area. He stresses, “It’s a prototype and not yet ready to be released in a final format.” But he posted his note to the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine mailing list back on April 9, and maybe he’s had time to finish it up. It looks pretty good to me!

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<http://www.progenealogists.com/germany/germaps.htm>

Also on that list, Lawrence Krupnak posted a note “from Aida” (who knew operas had Internet access?) recommending this as “valuable link to historical maps with a time table.” As you might guess from the URL, it features maps of Germany—which obviously cover more than just the modern nation we know by that name. If your research includes practically any place where German was widely spoken, you might want to review this site.

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<http://tinyurl.com/6x4kqo>

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, Chris Bukoski posted a link (which I shortened via [www.tinyurl.com](http://www.tinyurl.com)) to a page that offers access to particularly valuable online gazetteers, especially *Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs-Lexicon des Deutschen Reichs, 1912-1913* and the *Gemeindelexikon der im Reichsrate vertretenen Königreiche und Länder* gazetteer for Hungary and the various Austrian states (Tirol, Bukovina, Upper and Lower Austria, Moravia, Silesia, Bohemia, Galicia). As one who paid \$200 years ago for Meyers, I have mixed feelings about seeing these resources available for free online. I guess I should look on the bright side and rejoice that I don’t have to shell out big bucks to consult the *Gemeindelexikon*....

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