



# 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\\_5.pdf](http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_IX_5.pdf)

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**\*\*\* MY TRIP TO ITS (INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE) \*\*\***

*by Tom Sadauskas*

*Editor—At Tom's request, I am not posting his e-mail address; but if you have any comments, you can send them to me, <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>, and I will forward them to Tom.*

My recent trip (5-9 May 08) to the International Tracing Service (ITS) was quite successful. I had requests from nearly 30 people to do research for them while at the ITS. Unfortunately, I was not able to find information for everyone who requested help.

I was part of a group of 42 genealogists, the majority of whom were researching their Jewish ancestors who were killed in the Holocaust. Below is the URL for an AP story about our trip that was printed in *USA Today*:

**<http://tinyurl.com/58czwp>**

The ITS news story about the visit can be found at the following URL:

**<http://tinyurl.com/6f5jj4>**

It was amazing to see how much information the ITS has already been able to digitize, though they still have a number of documents to work on. The expanse of their archive collections is amazing: nearly 100 million documents dealing with 17 million individuals.

For example, they were able to find a hard copy of a DP camp roster from 1948 which listed my father as one of the camp inhabitants. For some of the people born in DP camps after the war, the ITS was able to provide me with copies of their birth certificates.

One surprise was that I found out what happened to my grandfather's nephew, Kazys Baltramaitis, who was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1913 after his parents and infant sister emigrated to the U.S. in 1912.

Kazys' father took the family back to Lithuania after World War I ended because Kazys' mother died circa 1916 in the Chicago area. I still have to find where his mother, Agota, is buried. Kazys lived in Virbalis, Lithuania until fleeing the advancing Russian army in summer 1944. By a fluke, I found Kazys' refugee card, filled out in Lithuanian and completed on 2 July 1945 while he was in an American DP camp in Wiesbaden, Germany.

He indicated he was born in *Čikaga JAV* (Chicago, United States of America) and that he did not want to return to Lietuva since it was controlled by the Bolsheviks. He only listed "Lithuanian" under "language spoken"; he would have been about 7 years old when his father took the family back to Lithuania from the U.S., and likely he had forgotten most of the English that he had known at one time.

The card indicates that he was returned by the American authorities to the SSSR (i.e., Soviet Union) on 17 August 1945 and spent the rest of his life behind the Iron Curtain in Lithuania, despite being a U.S. born citizen. This is a family story that no one had ever spoken about.

Using Facebook, I was able to find Kazys' granddaughter, who currently is working in the UK and gave me information on how to contact her father (Kazys' son), who still lives in Lithuania.

I'll let you know what else I find out.

*Editor—Those who'd like to learn more about this trip and ITS can read this edition of Nu? What's New, a free e-zine devoted to Jewish genealogy:*

<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V09N11.htm>

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

Subject: The Catholic Church and the LDS

*Editor—There's been a lot of attention paid lately to a decision by the Vatican to refuse the FHL's filming agents access to Church records. While I'm taking a wait-and-see attitude, I wanted to share with you this thoughtful note I received on the subject:*

I just noticed this article while doing some research regarding "legal" saint's names for someone. As soon as I saw it, I recalled that my sister mentioned something about it to me last week, and at the time, I did not know to what she was referring.

[http://www.catholic.org/national/national\\_story.php?id=27825](http://www.catholic.org/national/national_story.php?id=27825)

Essentially, the Vatican has instructed Catholic Churches worldwide to not provide access to church record registers to the Mormon's Genealogical Society. I must admit that this decision is disturbing, although I also understand, to some degree, their concern. I am a Catholic, I should add.

The efforts of the Mormon church in the past, working in the area of Poland from which my ancestors originated, have been of almost immeasurable value. Without the microfilmed records which can be borrowed from them, I would never have been able to trace my family roots. Everyone in my family who would have known anything about that is long gone, with no records left behind. The only alternatives would have been trips to Poland or contract services, both of which would have been prohibitively expensive and lengthy. There is something about actually seeing a picture of the original records of family from hundreds of years ago that makes all of the effort of analyzing the difficult writing and languages supremely worthwhile.

It is unlikely that there is anything we ordinary folk can say or do about this, but I sincerely hope that they can reach some manner of workable agreement so that the microfilming effort can con-

tinue. It is fortunate that most of my family stayed in the same area of Poland, and that most of that area was recorded already. I do still have some holes which I hope to fill in eventually.

I just thought that this may be something that others may also find of interest.

Tom Pajak <[tspydert@gmail.com](mailto:tspydert@gmail.com)>

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Subject: Web sites with Surname Data

Thanks for the new link to “Rymut,” Fred, and to the colored maps.

I found a link that makes it really easy to insert a Polish character into a word. All you have to do is type the word, Marszałkiewicz, for example, and then copy and paste the “slashed l” into position and remove the “other l.” Voila: Marszałkiewicz. Then you can insert it into the Moikrewni.pl database.

<http://polish.typeit.org/>

It’s also available for other languages: Czech, French, German, IPA (English), Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish.

Ray Marshall <[raymarsh@mninter.net](mailto:raymarsh@mninter.net)>

*Editor—This is definitely worth passing along. I also like the tool mentioned in the last issue on the Morse site, [www.stevemorse.org](http://www.stevemorse.org). Personally, I just install Windows keyboard support for whatever languages I need to use at any given time. I currently have support installed for English, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Lithuanian. I used to have Arabic and Hebrew, too, but I deleted them because I don’t need them that often. Also, on more than one occasion I hit the wrong keys while typing; I looked up five minutes later, only to realize I had changed the active language and now had an entire page of gibberish in the Arabic alphabet!*

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Subject: Web sites with Surname Data

*Editor—This is a response to my comment “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 Web site requires; for some reason, <http://www.moikrewni.pl/mapa/kompletny/kamiński.html> won’t work.”*

I would have thought you knew the answer to your remarks. It’s not the Web site that has restrictions. URI syntax standards require use of a subset of ASCII for the character set of a URL. See, for example:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percent-encoding>

Compatibility with transmission systems might be the main factor.

Roman Kałużniacki <[romanka@comcast.net](mailto:romanka@comcast.net)>

*Editor—Very interesting. I must admit, this is not a matter to which I'd paid much attention. I think I understand a little better now.*

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Subject: DVD of *Katyń*

*Editor—This is a follow-up to mention in the last two issues of sources for buying the DVD of this highly-regarded movie.*

I have already placed two separate orders with Polbook.com for the DVD of *Katyń* plus a book. They were delivered in a very timely manner. When I placed my first order, it was through the Polbook.com Web site. That first order arrived along with a catalogue. I then called the 1-800 number on that catalogue to place my second order. I believe the 1-800 number is in New York. The gentleman I spoke to was fluent in English and very helpful. It might actually be easier to order by phone. With the link you must first select movies; then at the far left you select DVD's, and the word Drama—I think it was on the second page. So it involved some searching. Plus the fact that you will be filling out the boxes of info.

If interested in books, try Polbook's prices in comparison to Amazon.com; the latter seemed to be higher (I purchased *In the Shadow of Katyń* at a considerable saving). Amazon.com did have a considerable amount of various priced books on the subject of *Katyń*. Some of these books can be purchased as used. They will even rate some of the books.

The DVD has English subtitles and was definitely compatible with my DVD/VCR box.

Hope this helps anyone interested in purchasing these items.

<[marjimtok@aol.com](mailto:marjimtok@aol.com)>

*Editor—Thanks for the info, which I'm sure many of our readers will appreciate.*

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Subject: Death of Irena Sendler

*Editor—Armela Hammes kindly sent me this link, where you can read an obituary for Irena Sendler, a Polish social worker who helped save some 2,500 Jewish children from the Nazis by smuggling them out of the Warsaw Ghetto and giving them false identities. She should be remembered for resisting evil in circumstances where the rest of us can only hope we would have*

had the courage to do so.

<http://www.legacy.com/Obituaries.asp?Page=LifeStoryPrint&PersonID=109549644>

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

*Editor—While we're mentioning this, Ellen Moshenberg posted a URL to the Polish Genius list, for a YouTube clip of a presentation honoring Irena Sendler:*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZSu00RN2wk>

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Subject: Documentary on a Slovak Village

I wanted to let you know about a Los Angeles documentary film company named Timeline Films. It recently produced a YouTube film on East Douglas, MA, and its ancestral village, Velka Lesna, in the Tatra Mts. near the Polish border. Many of the inhabitants came from there and settled in Douglas, including my husband's grandfather, Andrew Michna.

The location of the video requires going to YouTube and typing in "Douglas Lesna." This will allow you to see the film. An article also appeared in the *Worcester Telegram & Gazette* on Thursday, April 17, 2008. This article also listed many Polish family names.

Not sure if this helps anyone beyond the N.E. area, but did want to share the info with you.

Pamela Michna

*Editor—Here's the direct link to the YouTube clip:*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byFDw\\_nqdas](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byFDw_nqdas)

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Subject: More on "Bubba" as a Nickname Meaning "Baby"

*Editor—In the last issue we had a Letter to the Editor asking if anyone was familiar with a word that sounded like "bubba" and was a nickname meaning "baby" or something along those lines. Gary Mokotoff sent a very interesting answer.*

*Bubbe or Bubeleh is a Yiddish term of endearment for a young child. It is also the word for "grandmother." I have been trying to track down the origin of the word since Yiddish invariably is derived from German or some Slavic language. Someone once told me it literally means "doll" but I cannot prove it. The German word for doll is *Puppe*, which could easily be mispronounced "bubbe."*

Leo Rosten's *Joy of Yiddish* states "From Russian/Hebrew. In Hebrew, *buba* means 'little doll.' But the Yiddish *bube* and *bubeleh* seem independent of the Hebrew, say the experts." ... *Baba*, which means midwife or grandmother in Russian and other Slavic tongues, was often used in addressing any old woman, whether one's grandmother or not."

My best guess is that using *bubbe* as a term of endearment for a child comes from the German word for "doll," which is close phonetically to the Hebrew word for "doll" and therefore used by Jews. The term was picked up by the Polish people from their Jewish neighbors. I know Polish includes some Yiddish words because of the interaction between Jews and Poles.

Gary Mokotoff <[mokotoff@earthlink.net](mailto:mokotoff@earthlink.net)>

*Editor— Thanks for the info on Bubbe. I knew it was a term for "grandmother"—anyone who ever watched Reizl Bozyk's performance in Crossing Delancey can't forget that! But I didn't know it could be a term of endearment for a young child; that's news to me. As you say, so many Yiddish words derive from either the Germanic or Slavic languages that it's always relevant to ask whether a specific word in Yiddish sheds light on the word as used by non-Jews.*

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### \*\*\* THE ORIGINS OF THE GREATER PITTSTON, PENNSYLVANIA AREA \*\*\*

by Tony Paddock <[tcp10@verizon.net](mailto:tcp10@verizon.net)>

*Editor—Tony offered this article, and I was glad to get it. I realize, of course, that not all our readers need historical information on the Wyoming Valley region. But this area played a much larger role in America's Polonia at the turn of the century than most people realize. It deserves to be better known, and Tony's the guy to help with that.*

First settled in the late 18th and early 19th century, largely by colonists from New England who erected small settlements and farms near local streams, the Greater Pittston Area, situated in the northeastern corner of Luzerne County, forming the northern boundary of Wyoming's historic vale, consists of 14 municipalities created from the original townships—Pittston, Exeter and Kingston, initially founded by the colonists. With the discovery of coal began the great influx of immigrants—mostly from Eastern Europe, Italy and Ireland—that make up the heterogeneous population as it is found today.

**Avoca** – First named Pleasant Valley by Albert McAlpine, who constructed a box factory here in 1837. On October 10, 1888 an excursion train was returning tired passengers from a picnic in Hazleton. While emerging from the curve at Mud Run near White Haven, the sixth car of the train ran into the rear of the fifth car making an accordion of the three end cars, killing one hundred. Thirty-three fatalities were residents of Pleasant Valley. It was renamed Avoca, Gaelic for "Vale of Tears or Sorrow." The borough incorporated in 1871.

**Dupont** – This hamlet was first known as Lidy in honor of a local family. It was renamed Heidleburg and sometime later christened Smithville after a supervisor at the village's Heidleburg coal

breaker. When the town applied to Washington, D. C. to open a post office in the early 20th century, it was discovered there was another Smithville in the state. There are two schools of thought as to how the name Dupont was selected. The first, and legend considers it more accurate, is the town was named for its first postmaster. The second suggests the town was named for the Dupont family, who owned the nearby powder mill that supplied dynamite to the mining industry. It was incorporated as a borough on April 12, 1917.

**Duryea** – Originally known as Babylon for the variety of languages spoken by its residents, it was later called Marcy Township after Zebulon Marcy, one of the first settlers in the area. Incorporated as the borough of Duryea in 1901, it was named after Colonel Abram Duryea, a mine owner and resident.

**Exeter** – Initially designated Sturmersville after Colonel Solomon Sturmer, who laid out the village in 1874, it was renamed Exeter when it was incorporated in 1884.

**Exeter Township** – One of the original five townships formed under Connecticut dating back to 1768. The township was named for Exeter, RI, the original home of some of the early pioneers. The Harding section of the township was named for a family bearing that name.

**Hughestown** – Established in 1810 as Hamtown and incorporated in 1879, then renamed for the Hughes family, initial residents of the hamlet.

**Jenkins Township** – Named for Colonel John Jenkins who carried out the first survey of the Wyoming Valley in the 18th century. The Port Blanchard and Port Griffith segments of the township, named for early pioneers, were established at the ferry ports on the Susquehanna River. How the Inkerman section was named remains a question, and legend holds the Sebastopol section is named for a Black Sea port in Crimea. The township incorporated in 1852.

**Lafin** – The first homesteaders, Isaac Gold and Joseph Gardner, arrived in 1794, settling near Gardners Creek. First known as Nash, then White Oak Hollow, Lafin is named for the company that manufactured blasting powder for the area mines. It incorporated as a borough in 1889.

**Pittston** – Like Pittston Township, it was named after Sir William Pitt an English statesman and member of the British Parliament. Originally spelled Pittstown and called Pittstown Ferry as it was a port for a rope drawn ferry that linked the two river banks. Chartered as a borough in 1853 and incorporated as a city in 1894.

**Pittston Township** – Formed and surveyed in 1768 under Connecticut, it was one of the five townships of the Susquehanna Land Company.

**West Pittston** – Nicknamed the Garden Village, it was first known as Fort Jenkins. Christened West Pittston when it incorporated in 1857.

**West Wyoming** – First known as Carpenter Town, then Carpenter's Hallow for a landholder who constructed a grist mill on Abraham's Creek, so called for an Indian Chief, in 1780. Later called

Shoemaker's Hollow when ownership of the mill changed hands. In 1898 it was named West Wyoming, after breaking away from Wyoming, and became its own borough.

**Wyoming** – In the late 18th century most of the village was owned by Jacob Bedford and initially known as New Troy and later Troy Hollow. It was designated Wyoming in 1839, the name given to the entire valley by the Lenni Lenâpé or Delaware Indians. It is impossible to state with any certainty when the name Wyoming, considered in any one of its various forms, was first applied. According to John Heckewelder\*, the word *Wyoming* is a corruption of *Maugh-wau-wa-me*, the compounded words of *maugh-wau*, meaning “large or extensive,” and *wa-me*, signifying “plains or meadows,” and may be translated “The Large Plains.”

\* John G.B. Heckewelder, born in England in 1743; died in Bethlehem, PA in 1823. From 1765 to 1771 he was employed as a teacher at the Moravian missions at Friedenshütten and Sheshequin, PA. He then became an evangelist and was appointed assistant to David Zeisberger, with whom he labored in Ohio. He studied carefully the language, manners and customs of the Indians, particularly the Delawares. In 1810 he returned from Ohio to Bethlehem, where he engaged in literary pursuits until his death. Among the various books concerning the Indians which he published was one, in 1822, titled *Names which the Lenni Lenâpé or Delaware Indians gave to the Rivers, Streams and Localities within the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia; with their Significations.*

**Yatesville** – Named for Francis Yates, an early pioneer miner. Yatesville incorporated as a borough in 1878.

### Source Materials

Oscar Jewell Harvey. *A History of Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County – Early Wyoming Valley History*. Wilkes-Barre, PA 1900  
Luzerne County Recorder of Deeds  
Pittston, PA: *The Sunday Dispatch*  
Wilkes-Barre, PA: *The Times Leader, The Sunday Independent*  
The Wyoming Historical Society and Geological Society. Now known as the Luzerne County Historical Society.

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\*\*\* CALL FOR WRITERS \*\*\*

by James S. Pula <[jpula@pnc.edu](mailto:jpula@pnc.edu)>

The editorial board of *Polish-American History and Culture: An Encyclopedia*, to be published by McFarland Publishers, seeks contributors to author biographical (250-500 words) and topical entries (500-1,250 words). Interested persons should e-mail the editor, James S. Pula, at <[jpula@pnc.edu](mailto:jpula@pnc.edu)> with an expression of interest and an indication of the general fields of expertise or specific entries of interest. Contributors will be encouraged to undertake multiple entries. Those

who express an interest in being contributors will receive a list of available entries, contributor guidelines, and deadlines. Compensation is available for acceptable entries.

[From info forwarded by John Drobnicki, Professor of Library Services & Acting Chief Librarian, York College/CUNY]

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**\*\*\* PRESERVING ARCHIVES \*\*\***

by Alan J. Kania <[ajkania@comcast.net](mailto:ajkania@comcast.net)>

*Editor—This is a note Alan posted to the Poland-Roots mailing list. I can't say I'm optimistic about the chances anything will actually come of this. But Alan's suggestions are good ones, and deserve more attention than they're getting. I can do a tiny little bit about that....*

I'm not a decision-maker with any of the genealogy groups, but I suppose there are those on the list who are. I would like to encourage them to enter a dialog with any of the following organizations to come up with a marketing program that can be presented to Polish churches and civil archives. I strongly believe they need help in preserving their valuable heritage before those paper documents are lost forever.

Some of the societies that work with archivists include:

1. The Society of American Archivists ([www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org)), headquartered in Chicago, IL
2. The Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Records Managers ([www.acarm.org](http://www.acarm.org))
3. Council of State Archivists ([www.statearchivists.org](http://www.statearchivists.org))
4. Association of Canadian Archivists (<http://archivists.ca/home/default.aspx>)
5. Association of Librarians & Archivists at Baptist Institutions (<http://alabi.org>)

I believe someone within these associations for archivists may have some ideas how the Polish Roman Catholic administration can learn how to preserve their records without closing access down to legitimate family historians. I would document the problems people are having and invite a dialog to find a solution that is agreeable to the Polish churches and family members who would like access to those records.

Most important, those papers will not last forever. If the parishes and/or archives are responsible for preservation of those church documents, it's important to preserve those records before they become too fragile for anyone to use—including those priests responsible for being the caretakers of those documents.

*Editor—These are good points, and should be considered. If any of you have ideas on how to make this happen, please do something!*

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\*\*\* *S.S. AURIGNY* PASSENGER LIST 1936 \*\*\*

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

Here's another in a series of data from passenger lists. This is from the *S. S. Aurigny*, and appears to include Poles, Jews, and Rusyns/Ukrainians, but all list "Polish" as their nationality.

First some info on the ship:

*S.S. Aurigny* - Belonging to the Compagnie des Chargeurs Reunis. Single stack transatlantic steamship serving the South American trade. This list of passengers is extracted from a sailing in July 1936. Though the home port of the *Aurigny* was Havre, this voyage appears to have started in Gdynia, then on to Hamburg, Havre, La Coruna, Vigo, Casablanca, Rio de Janiero, Santos, and finally Buenos Aires. A total of 230 passengers traveled aboard, which included 11 Argentinians, 1 - 1st Class, 1 - 2nd Class and 9 - 3rd Class as well as 218 foreigners to Argentina. This larger group included 16 - 1st Class, 2 - 2nd Class, and 200 - 3rd Class. There was one *Clandestino* (stowaway) who claimed Argentine citizenship and boarded at Casablanca.

Copies / scans of pages of the manifest are available for a fee. This helps to keep our Web site running.

<b>Surname</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Bak	Ludwik	31	
Bak	Helena	24	
Bak	Marja	2	
Bak	Antoni	1	
Bebczuk	Szloma	36	
Bielinis	Zygmunt	47	
Bikel	Szmul	27	
Bogdan	Lukjan	24	
Bogdan	Juljanja	24	
Bogdan	Anna	2	
Brojder	Lejb	50	
Chropot	Ilarjon	30	
Chropot	Aleksandra	28	
Chropot	Marja	9	
Chropot	Lubow	4	
Chropot	Sergiej	3	
Demel	Abam	31	
Dolba	Zofja	27	
Dziurek	Andrzej	33	
Ezrylowicz	Jankiel	27	lined out
Ezrylowicz	Jankiel	27	
Fajden	Fajwel	19	
Fajfer	Israel	25	Le Havre- Polish
Fedenczuk	Stefanida	38	
Fedenczuk	Stefan	13	

Fedenczuk	Leon	11	
Fedenczuk	Jozef	17	
Finkler	Chaja	61	lined out
Gaik	Marjanna	31	
Gielle	Izaak	31	
Gieller	Rochla	30	
Gieller	Fejga	3	
Gierman	Gitla	28	lined out
Gurwicz - Gurewicz	Jankiel	29	
Guz	Leja	26	
Hochman	Awrum	30	
Hochman	Chana	25	
Hochman	Icko	3	
Hofman	Lewek	30	
Iwanczuk	Aleksander	32	
Iwanczuk	Justyna	28	
Kalb	Marjem	30	
Kalb	Jakob	10 m	
Katz	Ester	29	
Kazimierski	Eljasz	18	
Kiciuk	Mikolaj	31	
Kmytko	Polikarp	31	
Kmytko	Anisja	28	
Kmytko	Anatolij	4	
Kmytko	Aleksander	2	
Kodzis	Franciszka	24	
Kondratiuk	Jakob	34	
Kondratiuk	Aleksandra	28	
Kondratiuk	Aleksander	8	
Kondratiuk	Halina	1 m	
Kostrzewska	Sura	26	
Ksiendzuc	Eutemjusz	30	
Ksiendzuc	Anizja	27	
Ksiendzuc	Halina	1	
Ksiendzuc	Lidja	22	
Kulak	Aleksy	68	
Majles	Welwel	25	
Marycki	Grzegorz	34	
Matysiak	Stefan	42	
Matysiak	Justyna	37	
Matysiak	Ryszard	12	
Matysiak	Klotylda	11	
Matysiak	Matylda	9	
Muczak	Jemiljan	29	
Muczak	Tatjana	29	
Muczak	Maksym	5	
Muczak	Wlodzimierz	1	
Nedilski	Aleksander	36	
Nedilski	Anna	39	

Nedilski	Jaroslaw	6	
Nedilski	Olga	4	
Nedilski	Eugenjusz	3	
Nedilski	Stefanja	17	
Nikonczuk	Katarzyna	27	
Ochman	Mojsze	33	
Ochman	Mindla	26	
Okowita	Dworja	29	
Ostrowoj	Natalja	45	
Ostrowoj	Lubow	15	
Pecuch	Jan	31	
Pecuch	Joanna	30	
Pecuch	Nadia	3	
Rebruk	Nikifor	27	lined out
Rebruk	Lija	24	lined out
Rebruk	Helena	6	lined out
Rebruk	Halina	4	lined out
Rebruk	Wasilij	1	lined out
Rosenberg	Lajzer	30	Le Havre - Polish
Roznawska	Anna	34	Le Havre - Lithuanian
Ruzal	Hersz	28	
Rysz	Wladyslaw	42	
Rysz	Bronislawa	33	
Rysz	Izabela	12	
Rysz	Cecylja	9	
Rysz	Jan	4	
Rysz	Ilonja	3	
Rysz	Zofja	17	
Schachna	Rejzla	40	
Szarfman	Chana	24	
Szejnfajn	Ilja	26	
Szenicer	Chana	37	
Szenicer	David	26	Montevideo - Polish
Szmuch	Chaim	26	
Szotik	Wasilij	22	
Szotik	Juljanija	22	
Szulepa	Pawel	49	
Szulepa	Marja	39	
Szulepa	Marja	14	
Szulepa	Anna	10	
Szulepa	Aleksander	8	
Szulepa	Mikolaj	5	
Szulepa	Piotr	4	
Szulepa	Jan	17	
Szymanowski	Piotr	29	
Szymanowski	Eugenja	25	
Szymanowski	Franciszka	2	
Tenenbaum	Syma	27	
Wajnrajch	Jacheta	38	

Wajnrajch	Liba	8	
Wajnrajch	Abram	5	
Wajnrajch	Bajla	4	
Wajnrajch	Rywka	2	
Zajac	Jan	45	
Zalmstecher	Pesia	27	lined out
Zalmstecher	Rywka	51	lined out

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**\*\*\* POLISH PIONEERS OF CALUMET, MICHIGAN \*\*\***

by Ceil Jensen <[cjensen@mipolonia.net](mailto:cjensen@mipolonia.net)>

*Editor—Ceil posted this note to several mailing lists, and I thought some of our readers might have missed it and would like to know about this project. See also “Tuesday, June 10, 2008, Genealogy Double Header” under “Upcoming Events,” below.*

A team of researchers is documenting the Polish Pioneers of Calumet, Michigan. We are looking for families who would like to be included in a forthcoming book. Do you have family stories, photos, parish booklets, or documents to share? Ceil Jensen will meet with collection owners to scan or photograph items in the metro Detroit and Houghton Co. Please call or e-mail to arrange an appointment, <[cjensen@mipolonia.net](mailto:cjensen@mipolonia.net)> or 248-841-6747. See what we have so far:

<http://calumetmi.blogspot.com>

Can't meet to scan? Contact Ceil for further information on how to scan and send the files via e-mail or the free web site <http://yousendit.com>.

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

**Tuesday, June 10, 2008**

**Meeting of the Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group - (TUGG)**

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Lisa Tkaczuk will speak on, “How does a DNA Test help my genealogical search?”

St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.

[From a note posted by Jim Onyschuk <[jodanji@aci.on.ca](mailto:jodanji@aci.on.ca)> to the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine mailing list]

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**Tuesday, June 10, 2008**

**Genealogy Double Header:  
The Peasant and the Palace: Manor Records in Poland**

*and*

**Early Polish Immigrants in Houghton County  
Ceil Jensen & Br. Joseph Martin, FSC**

**7:00 p.m.  
Michigan Tech University: Fisher Hall, Room 139**

*[From an MTU Archives Press Announcement dated 13 May 2008]*

Tracing family histories has become wildly popular with the advent of the Internet, but genealogical research encompasses so much more than simply searching for names online. In June, the Michigan Tech Archives hosts two visiting researchers who specialize in tracing Polish relatives on both sides of the Atlantic. They will talk about their experiences and share information about researching ancestors who immigrated to the Copper Country and other regions of the United States from the manors and estates of Poland.

Ceil Jensen, of Michigan Polonia, and Brother Joseph Martin, of Lewis University, joint winners of a 2008 MTU Archives Travel Grant Award, will give a genealogy presentation on Tuesday, June 10, at 7 p.m., in Room 139 of Fisher Hall, on the Tech campus. Set against the background of the 18th century Palace of Rogalin, in the city of Poznań, Jensen will explore manorial records and the personal papers of the palace's nobility and show how to locate and use European genealogical resources. Jensen's research work focuses on the *Kalumet Projecta*, which documents the migration patterns of Polish families who came to Calumet during 1870 to 1900. Brother Joseph Martin of Lewis University, Illinois, is an educator, researcher, and contributor to *Kalumet Projecta* and many other genealogical programs. Martin is currently researching Polish fraternal orders, and also will talk about his work to identify the earliest Polish immigrants to Calumet.

Jensen and Martin's presentation and research visit are supported by an MTU Archives Research Travel Award provided by the Friends of the Van Pelt Library. The MTU Archives, a department of the J. Robert Van Pelt Library, hosts a wide variety of researchers and research topics—everything from genealogical investigations to book and magazine publications—engaging students, staff, and faculty, as well as local citizens and other off-campus researchers. The Michigan Tech "Archival Speaker Series" highlights current research in the Archives' collections. The presentation is free and open to the public.

For further information or directions to the event, contact the MTU Archives at (906) 487-2505 or via e-mail at <[copper@mtu.edu](mailto:copper@mtu.edu)>.

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**June 13 - 14, 2008**

**66th Annual Meeting of the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America, Inc.**

Holiday Inn, Historic District, Philadelphia  
400 Arch St. Philadelphia, PA 19106

You can see the program for this meeting here:

<http://www.piasa.org/Program66.pdf>

[From info posted on the Polish-Genius mailing list by C. Michael Eliaz <[mike@eliaz.com](mailto:mike@eliaz.com)>.]

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**June 24, 2008**

**Free Webinar on Polish Research!  
8 p.m. EDT**

[This is from the description at <http://tinyurl.com/5pblpd>, where you can register.]

It's a wonderful time to begin your Polish research. Traditional resources stock the shelves of local and national libraries and the internet offers new ways to research in both the United States and in Poland. Ceil Jensen, Certified Genealogist, will dispel myths that records were destroyed during the World Wars and that language barriers make research difficult. She will present practical examples and suggestions on how to use records, databases and archives to start or advance your Polish genealogy research.

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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 Sny-**

**der**'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 coun-

try. 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 16 – 17, 2008**

**Annual Lithuanian Days**

**Frackville Mall - Frackville, Pennsylvania**

Don't forget that Lithuanian Days this year will be August 16 and 17, at the Frackville Mall. The times are usually 12 to 4 or 5 p.m. Food, a museum in one of the stores, Lithuanian vendors, Lithuanian folk dancing, authentic Lithuanian music. This is, I think, a good time to go to Schuylkill County and do your research at the same time. The courthouse is only 9 miles away. And you could take your kids down into the Ashland Pioneer Tunnel, a coal mine, to show tourists how their grandfathers worked. Did your grandparents come from Shenandoah, Girardville, Minersville, Coaldale, Mahanoy City, Gilberton, Maizeville, Frackville, Mahanoy Plane, Saint Clair, and others??? How about visiting before some of the churches close?

[From a note posted by Millie <[Milliemarks@AOL.com](mailto:Milliemarks@AOL.com)> to the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list. More info is available here:]

<http://www.geocities.com/knights144/index.html>

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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)>

*[I should add that our own Paul S. Valasek will be giving two presentations at this Conference, speaking on Haller's Army and on "Why Jewish Researchers Should Take a Look at Polish-Roots." ]*

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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

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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://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish\\_exonyms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_exonyms)

If you’ve ever had trouble recognizing the Polish names of places in other countries, you might find this site helpful. It’s not always so easy realizing that when a Pole mentions *Mediolan*, he is referring to Milan, Italy; *Stanisławów* is Ivano-Frankiv’sk, Ukraine; and *Nowy Jork* is New York. You might bookmark this site for future reference.

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[http://www.sggee.org/translation\\_helps](http://www.sggee.org/translation_helps)

On the Posen list, Reiner Kerp reminded us that this is a good source of help of translation assistance. He particularly likes the aid with German surnames in the “SGGEE Alternate Surnames List.”

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<http://www.ipgs.us/iwona/artdirectory/artdir.html>

At this site you can read a number of articles written by Polish researcher Iwona Dakiniewicz and published in PGSA’s Journal, *Rodziny*. Iwona has always struck me as knowing her stuff, and I find her articles very interesting and informative. Take a look!

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<http://www.dbhd.org/search.php>

On the Poland-Roots mailing list, Denise Patterson said “I got this notice from the St. Louis Genealogy Society in March and put it aside. I cleaned out my ‘To Be Worked On’ bin and found it. So I thought I better post it or it may be back in the ‘To Be Worked On’ bin and went surface to Christmas.” The page lists eastern European directories that are online and searchable and “allows searching using Regular (exact) spelling, sensitive (matching capitalization, accent marks, etc.) Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex, or ‘OCR-Adjusted.’ This last search option checks for characters in words that have a similar printed shape as the search term and, therefore, are the most likely to be mistaken for one another by the OCR (Optical Character Recognition) process. The search results produced are the page numbers on which the names appear. The directories are online at five locations, and links are provided to them.” The following are among those included, according to Denise:

- \* 1926/1927, 1928, 1929, and 1930 Poland and Danzig Business Directories
- \* 1923 Poland and Danzig Commercial Directory
- \* 1921/1922 Poland Joint Stock Company Directory
- \* 1937 Poland Business, School and Organizational Directory (Selected Cities)
- \* 1914/1915 Galicia and Bukovina War Refugees Address Directory

- \* 1912 Galicia Telephone Directory
  - \* 1901 Galicia Industry Directory
  - \* 1925 Western Poland Business Directory (Great Poland, Pomerania, Silesia, Danzig)
  - \* 1939/1940 Silesia Business Directory
  - \* 1927 Lower Silesia industry, Trade and Craft Directory
  - \* 1914 Upper Silesia Industry Directory
  - \* 1925 Romania Business and Organizational Directory, Vol.1 (Bucharest)
  - \* 1924/1925 Romania Business and Organizational Directory, Vol. 2 (Rest of Romania)
  - \* 1938/1939 Warsaw Telephone Directory
  - \* 1946 Poznań Business Directory
  - \* 1936/1937 Poznań Business Directory
  - \* 1885 Posen (City) Address and Business Directory
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<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/posen/2008-05/1211592808>

This URL leads to part one of a translation James Birkholz did of notes from a book on Obornik, now Oborniki, a *Kreis* center and major town in the Posen/Poznań region. James described the material as “a reprint of the 100 year anniversary booklet written by the current pastor Warnitz in 1876.” If you have roots in that area, you will want to read this translation, which begins at the page indicated above and continues here:

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/posen/2008-05/1211642060>

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<http://www.GenealogyBank.com>

On the Posen list, James Birkholz wrote that he’d “been playing with a newly-discovered online digital newspaper archives” at the above address. He said it “has a \$10 first month introductory subscription (cancel before 30 days to prevent ongoing charges of \$20/month). Geared for surname searches, but entering ‘Posen’ yields 11,510 hits.”

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<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V09N13.htm>

Avotaynu is preparing to publish a revised edition of its amazing *Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire*, by Alexander Beider, Ph.D. The first edition was impressive enough, but it sounds as if this revision takes things to a whole new level. If you have any interest in the surnames of Russian (and Polish) Jews, and would like to learn more, you can click on this link to see a special edition of *Nu? What’s New* devoted to the subject. (I’ve already ordered my copy.)

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<http://www.genealogiapolska.pl/>

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, George Obiedzinski posted this URL for a Polish genealogy site. It is mostly in Polish, but you can access some content in English by clicking on the Union Jack (British flag) at the very top upper left of the screen. It looks promising, well worth keeping an eye on, as more and more Poles are beginning to discover the addictive pleasures of genealogical research.

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[http://www.google.com/language\\_tools?hl=en](http://www.google.com/language_tools?hl=en)

Incidentally, also on that list, Tracy followed up George's note by saying he could get around the language barrier by copying the web page to this page, "to the translation bar, and select the language you want it translated in, it has helped me greatly!" I have heard from people who were rather impressed by the quality of the translations Google came up with. I'm a little less enthusiastic—they're still not nearly as good as a human can do. But then, I am a human translator, and therefore somewhat biased. I will admit that, in certain situations, translating resources such as Google's can work well enough to give you at least a notion what a text says. Just be cautious: I notice Google took a man's surname, Rola, and translated it as the common noun "role." Not quite ....

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<http://tinyurl.com/5omcva>

On the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine mailing list, Jan Cesarczyk mentioned this site, "a gazetteer of Galicia and Bukowina published in 1918." In fact, it's the gazetteer compiled by Jan Bigo, and I've been trying to find a copy of it for years! I haven't had a chance to examine it closely, but I suspect it could prove very helpful to researchers with roots in Galicia and Bukowina. The images are not as clear and easy to read as one might wish; but hey, I have to have something to gripe about....

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<http://www.polona.pl/dlibra>

On the Poland list, Carole Dunn said she was very impressed by this site of the "National Digital Library."

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<http://www.rapperswil-castle.com/>

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, Ceil Jensen pointed out that the Polish Museum in Switzerland is facing closure. You can visit the Web site here and sign a petition to keep it open.

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