



# 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\\_VIII\\_5.pdf](http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_VIII_5.pdf)

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**\*\*\* UNIVERSITY BALL - 1947 \*\*\***

**Chicago Council of University Polish Clubs**

**A Short History (as printed in their 1947 program)**

*submitted by Paul S. Valasek <[paval56@aol.com](mailto:paval56@aol.com)>*

The present Chicago Council of University Polish Clubs emerged in 1939 out of a group of clubs which had been affiliated with the Polish Students and Alumni Association, a national organization founded in 1927. Until 1939, the Association had been financed by the Kościuszko Foundation. After that support was withdrawn, the Chicago Council was formed by clubs of students and alumni of universities and colleges in the Chicago area. During the war, however, several clubs became inactive and remained so until 1943, when through the combined efforts of Att'y. Leon A. Kupeck, Leopold Sitko, and Dr. Edward Tomasik, these clubs were revived.

During the presidency of Att'y. Leon A. Kupeck, the council embarked on a sound and progressive program. Informal dances and other affairs were sponsored to obtain funds. The Council became affiliated with the Polish American Congress in May, 1945 - A Committee on Education was formed with Federal Judge Walter J. La Buy as Advisor.

Dr. Edward Tomasik succeeded Att'y. Leon A. Kupeck as President. Educational Guidance Conferences designed to acquaint American youth of Polish descent and their parents with the advantages of higher education were sponsored. Member clubs became active again. Informal dances were sponsored by the member clubs. The Council and member clubs have sponsored cultural and philanthropic activities. The Northwestern University Polish Society sponsored an art exhibit, the University of Chicago Polish Club sponsored book drives for students abroad, and relief packages have been sent to the war-stricken people of Europe.

The Council's first UNIVERSITY BALL, with Att'y. Leon A. Kupeck as general chairman, was held on October 19, 1946 in the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel [*now Chicago Hilton and Towers—PSV*]. With the proceeds of this affair the Council planned to provide scholarships to needy students and disseminate information concerning the advantages of higher education. The success of the first UNIVERSITY BALL enabled the Council to set aside \$1,000 for scholarship and educational purposes.

Att'y. Genevieve A. Zaczek was elected to the presidency in June, 1947. A Budget and Finance Committee was set up. The Committee of Education, with Jeanette Skarbek of the University of Chicago Polish Club as chairman, was assigned the project of scholarship-granting. The Council is pleased and proud to announce the names of the five scholarship recipients of this year's UNIVERSITY BALL. The Council is cooperating with the Commission of Culture and Education of the Polish American Congress, the Polish Arts Clubs and similar organizations in preserving the cultural heritage of the Poles and fostering such programs of activities in connection therewith as will add to the richness of American life.

The Council includes eight member clubs, composed of students and alumni of Chicago, De

Paul Chicago Teachers College, Illinois, Illinois Institute of Technology, Loyola, Mundelein, Northwestern, St. Xavier, Wright Jr. and Wilson Jr. colleges. It edits its own publication, "The COUNCILITE", the present circulation of which is 1,500.

The Chicago Council of University Polish Clubs is playing a major role in the shaping of the future of Americans of Polish descent. Its objective is the development of an increasingly better citizenry through the encouragement of higher education among youth of Polish descent.

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*[The following names are listed in the 1947 booklet.]*

Zaczek, Genevieve A. - President (photo and bio)  
Pabis, Marion Carl - General Co-Chairman (photo and bio)

**1947 University Ball Presentees** (all have bio's and photos)

Malek, Miss Lillian - De Paul University  
Wielgos, Miss Lorraine - University of Chicago  
Golniewicz, Miss Gloria - Northwestern University  
Czajka, Miss Evelyn - Illinois Institute of Technology  
Glowacki, Miss Charlotte - University of Illinois  
Dorozynski, Miss Evelyn - Pi Alpha Chi  
Osikowicz, Miss Domicilla - Pi Alpha Omega

**SPONSORS** (all with short bio's)

Patka, Mr. Henryk A. - mortician  
Montowski, Mr. Walter - automobile dealer  
Kochton, Mr. and Mrs. Emil J. - Owners of Kochton Plywood and Veneer Co., Inc.  
Gapszewicz, Mrs. Anna M. - President of Atlas Fuel Company  
Kluczynski, Hon. John C. - State Representative of the 4th Congressional District of the State of Illinois  
Maglecki, Mr. and Mrs. Bruno - owners of Hill View Resort, Coloma, Michigan  
Szelucki, Mr. Harry - President of the Three Star Wet Wash Laundry  
Kogut, Mr. Frank - Charter donor of the Educational Fund of the Northwestern University Polish Society  
Binkowski, Mr. Frank - owner of the Binkowski Sausage Co.  
Dziubak, Mrs. Kinga - owner of the Peoples Cloak and Bridal Shop  
Jaworska, Mrs. Zofia - owner of the Peacock Bridal Shop  
Piotrowicz, Mr. Stanley J. - owner of the Stanley and Company Real Estate office.  
Szewczyk, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas - parents of the Helen, University Ball Queen in 1946.

**PATRONS**

Basinski, Mr. Zygmunt	Jabczynski, Dr. H.A.
J.T.B.	Jasinski, Mr. John
Dyba, Mr. Stanley	Kendra Brothers
Dziubak, Dr. Julius	Klash, Mr. Walter

Mutual Sausage Co.  
Panek, Mrs. Helen  
Patka, Mr. Peter  
Piech, Mr. Frank  
Piech, Dr. Edward F.  
Serafin, Mr. Frank

Simandl, Mr. Frank J.  
Strzycki, Rt. Rev. James  
Urbanek, Mr. J.  
Wrzesinski, Mr. John  
Zaczek, Mr. Felix, Sr.

### **Chicago Council of University Polish Clubs Officers 1947-1948**

Zaczek, Genevieve Atty. - President  
Pabis, Marion - First Vice-president  
Grabowski, Edward D. - Second Vice-president  
Springer, Olga - Recording Secretary  
Plac, Virginia - Corresponding Secretary  
Mieczynski, Ted - Treasurer  
Wojcik, Edwin - Sergeant-at-Arms

### **1947 University Ball Committees**

Kaminski, Miss Michelle, General Secretary

#### ARRANGEMENTS

Lucenko, Lucia  
Skibinski, Chester  
Biegaj, Loretta  
Biegaj, Irene  
Koster, Edward  
Mirowski, Dominic  
Michalski, Richard  
Wojcik, Edwin

#### PUBLICITY

Wielgos, Lorraine  
Majcherski, Emily  
Mundil, Elaine  
Plac, Virginia  
Kaplinski, Henry  
Skarbek, Jeanette

#### SPONSORS

Gewartowski, Dr. Henry  
Zaczek, Annette  
Jaworski, Luba  
Glowacki, Charlotte  
Kushemba, Virginia  
Binkowski, Leona  
Revera, Carl  
Dzikowski, Irving

Purzycki, Alfred Z.  
Brzezinski, Dr. I. Frank

#### TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

Stach, Adam  
Zaleski, Wanda O.  
Mieczynski, Theodore  
Grabowski, Edward  
Kosciuch, Edmund  
Mieczynski, Walter  
Koziel, Betty  
Tomasik, Dr. Edward  
Sakowicz, Al  
Janik, William  
Montowski, Carmen  
Superczynski, Helen  
Walczak, Marylin  
Korsak, Jean  
Korsak, Victoria  
Urban, Atty. Jeanne  
Bobrzecki, Leona  
Bodnicki, Martha  
Bachta, Janet  
Szymanski, Olga  
Skowron, Dr. John  
Wencel, Bruno

RECEPTION

Springer, Olga  
Czyzewski, Loretta  
Brudzinski, Eugenia  
Pekosh, Del  
Montowski, Carmen  
Binkowski, Leona  
Skarbak, Jeanette  
Plac, Virginia  
Mikos, Jayne  
Kopczewski, Alice  
Doroszynski, Dolores  
Klek, Dolores  
Kaminski, Michelle  
Majcherski, Emily

Fitz, Lucille  
Kopczewski, Gloria  
Kroll, Helen

PROGRAM BOOK

Grabowski, Chester R.  
Borucki, David  
Czyzewski, Edward  
Kroll, Virginia

ART COMMITTEE

Bednarz, Gene  
Brudzinski, Eugenia  
Brandt, Richard  
Pucinski, Wesley  
Borucki, Robert

GUESTS OF HONOR

O'Malley, Rev. Comerford J., C.M., President, De Paul University  
Hussey, Rev. James T., S.J., President, Loyola University  
Drymalski, Mr. Raymond P., representing His Honor the Mayor, Martin H. Kennelly  
Stoddard, Dr. George Dinsmore, President, University of Illinois  
Snyder, Dr. Franklin Bliss, President, Northwestern University  
Colwell, Dr. Ernest Cadman, President, University of Chicago  
Heald, Dr. Henry T., President, Illinois Institute of Technology  
Lubera, Dr. Thaddeus, District Superintendent of Schools  
Lederer, Dr. Francis L., Prof. and Head of Dept. of Otolaryngology, University of Illinois College of  
Medicine  
Theobald, Dr. Walter H., President Medical Center Commission, Associate Professor, Dept. of  
Otolaryngology  
Piatkewicz, Mr. Karol, Editor in Chief, Polish Daily *Zgoda*  
Starzynski, Rev. Mitchell N., C.R., Editor-in-Chief, *Polish Daily News*  
Stefanowicz, Mr. Zygmunt, Editor-in-Chief, *Polish Nation*  
Zola, Captain Stanley P., U.S.N., representing Rear-Admiral J. Cary Jones, Commandant, Ninth  
Naval District  
Szymanski, Lt. Col. Henry I., U.S.A. Fifth Army

PRESIDENTS OF MEMBER CLUBS OF THE CHICAGO COUNCIL

Skarbak, Jeanette - University of Chicago Polish Club  
Zaczek, Atty. Genevieve A. - University of Illinois Polonaise Society  
Grabowski, Edward D. - De Paul University (Iota Sigma Lambda)  
Grabowski, Chester R. - Illinois Institute of Technology Polish Club  
Kobelinski, Mitchell - Sigma Pi Alpha of Loyola University  
Kupeck, Atty. Leon A. - Northwestern University Polish Society  
Niedzielski, Bruno - Pi Alpha Chi

Brudzinski, Eugenia - Pi Alpha Omega

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Migon, Joseph S.

For additional information and contacts, visit their web site at:

<http://www.polorg.com/Org/Display.asp?Photo=1352>.

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

Subject: Serendipity and Portage, Pennsylvania

As often happens with me, I will be online searching for a particular item, and — by serendipity — it leads me directly to another item of interest. In this case, I was looking for info about the “Portage Site,” and I found myself looking at the website for the “Portage Historical Site” (Portage, Pennsylvania). I started looking it over, and it is a treasure-trove of local historical information, old photographs, etc. The site showcases their museum (re-opened in 2001), and offers genealogical help too (through the Cambria County Historical Society Researchers link). I am certainly thrilled to have come across this site, and I know there are many Pol-Ams out there whose family hailed from this area (as mine did), so I thought more of *Gen Dobry*’s readers would like to know about this website. Go to: <http://www.portagestationmuseum.org>.

Stephanie Sweas <[reallylooking@mail.com](mailto:reallylooking@mail.com)>

*Editor—On behalf of our readers, thank you!*

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Subject: Parisville, Michigan and Paris, Ontario

*Editor—This gentleman wrote to ask if I could give him any leads. I told him nothing came to mind, but we certainly should see if any of our readers can give him some tips.*

My gr-gr-grandfather, Francis (Franz) Polk, was one of the original founders of Parisville in the “Thumb” of Michigan. Parisville is, arguably, the first Polish community founded in the US. Francis Polk was born in Boronow, Lubliniec, Poland, April 27, 1812. He married Josepha Slawik, September 14, 1835, in Dembowa Gora, Lubliniec, Poland.

In the early 1850s, Francis and his family left for North America, arriving in Quebec. Shortly afterward, they settled in Ontario (Canada West), in a town named Paris (hence the eventual name Parisville in Michigan). While in Ontario, Francis and other Poles helped the Canadians build several of their railroad systems. In what was probably late 1854 or early 1855, Francis and a couple of others emigrated to Michigan, founding the town of Parisville.

I have not been successful in finding out how they got to Quebec or much information concerning the lives and times of the Poles in Paris, Ontario. If you could help me gain insight about these transitional times, it would be very much appreciated.

Charles Chase <[retiredchase@yahoo.com](mailto:retiredchase@yahoo.com)>

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Subject: A Pole Shot by the Nazis

*Editor—Here's another instance where a reader wondered if I could tell him anything. I couldn't, but I'll bet some of you can!*

I am writing to you for your expert advice in regards to finding Polish names. You had previously helped me out and I was extremely pleased with your response. I am wondering if you can help me resolve this problem.

I have a friend named Ewa who lives in Sanoczek, Poland. She has never been able to find out anything about her Polish grandfather, other than his name: Józef Jakubowicz, and he was shot to death in Tarnów, Poland in 1941 by the Nazis. Any help in searching or leads would be greatly appreciated. I have no idea where to start searching.

Thank you for your time and keep up the good work! Regards, Jim Pitzvada

Jim Pitzvada <[jimpitzvada@aseasonoturn.com](mailto:jimpitzvada@aseasonoturn.com)>

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Subject: Multiple Surnames and Surname Changes

I finally got around to reading back issues of *Gen Dobry!* I really appreciate the story of “More than one surname” (Vol. 8, No. 2, February 2007). I have been indexing the marriage records as part of the Poznań Project for several years and have seen many an alias. I changed my name from *Przybylski* to *Price* to simplify pronunciation and spelling for my then future wife and future children and business reasons.

But after seeing hundreds of aliases in the marriage records I could not understand why they bothered, because in most cases the listed name was not easier to spell or pronounce. Thanks for the explanation.

Incidentally, I don't recall any women having an alias.

Ed Price <[edwardwp@aol.com](mailto:edwardwp@aol.com)>

*Editor—Hmm ... Now that I think about it, I'm not sure I've ever seen one either.*

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Subject: DNA and Genealogy

*Editor—Here's another interesting note Mr. Price sent me:*

You briefly mentioned DNA testing in one of the articles. The project at <https://www3.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/index.html> is mapping the movement of people around the world. You submit your DNA thru a purchased kit. The results are placed in their database. If you further agree/consent your DNA along with your e-mail address are placed in a database of other people who match your DNA and have consented to be in the database. You then may correspond.

So far my DNA has matched with people of Irish, English, Scotch and one Puerto Rican Ancestry. I assume this happened because of the Viking influence. The Puerto Rican has traced his ancestry to Northern Spain which had a large influx of Scottish people. Even today they have bagpipes and do a type of step dance similar to the Scottish jig. No Polish have shown up, but remember, you have to have your DNA tested and then agree to have it placed in the matching database.

Ed Price <[edwardwp@aol.com](mailto:edwardwp@aol.com)>

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\*\*\* THE POLES OF JAMESTOWN \*\*\*

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

I came across an article in my copy of *Głos Polek*, the monthly publication of the Polish Women's Alliance, that might be of interest to your readers. The headline was "Jamestown Settlement, 400th Anniversary Year Starts in May 2007, Polish Settlers' Anniversary in October 2008." Here is a quote from one of the paragraphs: "On October 1, 1608, the first Polish settlers arrived at Jamestown, Virginia, on the ship Mary and Margaret. Aware of the quality of imported glassware from Poland, the Virginia Company of London had hired Polish artisans to establish a profitable glass production house in America. To insure the success of the new Virginia colony, additional workers from Poland and other countries were enlisted to produce soap, pitch, and wood building supplies. After their arrival, the Polish settlers built a glass furnace which became the first factory in America and produced the first made-in-America products exported to Europe. The Polish-American community will be celebrating in October of 2008."

It added, "For more info visit [www.Americas400thAnniversary.com](http://www.Americas400thAnniversary.com) or call the Polish-American Jamestown Committee at Phone Number 773-286-8505." When I visited the website and typed in "Polish-American," a list of events was given. It seems that on Saturday, May 12th, the Michas Polish Folk Dance Ensemble had already performed. "Founded in 1979, this high-energy heritage dance group from Virginia Beach demonstrates authentic dances from five major regions of Poland: Krakowiak (probably meant Kraków), Lublin, Podhale, Beskid, Laszuby (probably meant Kashuby), Rzeszów, as well as national dances. Heritage Stage."



I might add that the Polish pioneers in Jamestown were also among the first champions of American civil liberties. As of 1619, only English citizens in Jamestown were allowed a voice in the government. The Poles protested this discrimination by staging a labor strike at the first Virginia Assembly meeting on July 30. The Poles refused to work until they were granted privileges equal to those of the English. They suspended operations in the glass factory, the tar distillery, and the soap factories. So in the summer of 1619 the first popular assembly and the first labor walkout in America occurred. Governor Yearly and the legislature were quick to correct this injustice. They realized that if the colony sent empty ships to England the consequences could be very unpleasant. Except for the few pounds of tobacco the English colonists were beginning to export, practically all of the profits realized by the London Company came from the resale of the products that the Polish-organized industries had produced. This first strike in America was not conducted for higher wages nor better working conditions, but for democratic rights. From *The Poles in America*, by Joseph A. Wyrwal. Also, *Behold! the Polish-Americans* by Joseph A. Wyrwal.

*Editor—Some of this I knew, some I didn't. Thank you for sharing it with us.*

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**\*\*\* IT'S STORK TIME! \*\*\***

*Editor—I know it's not relevant to genealogy, but some of the mailing lists have been talking about sites where you can learn about storks in Poland, and even watch live video and audio feeds of storks nesting. I never thought this was my cup of tea; but I have to admit, it is fascinating—and my granddaughters love watching the “stork-cam.” So if you're not interested, ignore this; but if you are, here's a note Debbie Greenlee posted to the Polish Genius list back on May 14. Some of the info is out-of-date now, but it'll help you get started.*

I found a great web cam this year for watching the storks in Poland. This isn't the usual stop-start web cam. This one has continuous movement and sound! Most of the time all you'll hear is the wind but when those chicks hatch maybe they'll speak! Oh, wait! I hear little birds! I thought that was outside \_my\_ window! The village is Ustronie but I don't know which one!

Go to this site: <http://bocian.polska.pl/transmisja2.htm>. Under the photo of the White Storks, click on “Transmisja na żywo” and turn up your sound, just in case.

Remember Poland is 7 hours ahead of U.S. Midwest time, so the best time to look at the storks is in the morning, our time.

If you'd like to learn a little bit about Poland's national bird, click on “Poland.pl British flag” at the above web site, near the top of the page.

I think baby storks hatch around the end of May. Incubation takes a little over a month.

A farm in the village of Pentowo, near Tykocin has the most storks in Poland; 23 couples! That's an increase of 4 couples since 2001!

If you want to involve the youngsters, try the coloring pages and jigsaw puzzles at the above web site, <http://bocian.polska.pl/transmisja2.htm>.

This site is a bit quirky but it has night vision! The nest is in Przygodice and there are 5 eggs! Hurry and you might see them. I don't know if mom is counting them or checking to see if anyone wants out: <http://www.bociany.ec.pl/>.

Enjoy!

*Editor—We later established that one of the nests is in Ustroń, a town in south central Poland, not Ustronie. A live feed of video and audio is available at <http://www.bociany.edu.pl/>; click on “Transmisja na żywo” to watch the fate of Beskidek and Czantorka’s offspring. As of today the four eggs in that nest have not hatched yet, but they probably will soon. Debbie also pointed out an 18-minute film, in Polish, that tells the story of the Ustroń project; it’s all in Polish, but you can figure out much of what is going on without speaking a word of that language. It’s available at <http://video.google.pl/videoplay?docid=-1255798930718862328&hl=pl>.*

*As for the Przygodzice site, I have trouble getting the live feed to come up on my computer, but from the stills it appears Mama Stork is dealing with several nestlings — maybe you’ll have better luck watching. Another site, with info in English, is <http://storks.poland.pl/>.*

*In any case, I find it surprisingly relaxing to bring up a live feed of the nest in Ustroń and let it play in a small window on my desktop as I work. And believe me, I am not a big nature buff! So I thought this was worth passing along, for any of you who don’t already know about it.*

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### \*\*\* 1829 DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOM OF POLAND \*\*\*

submitted by Julian J. Hoppe, Posen, MI <[jjjhoppe@gmail.com](mailto:jjjhoppe@gmail.com)>

*Editor—Julian Hoppe very kindly sent me the following item, which quotes an 1829 work describing various nations and peoples. You may find it interesting from a historical perspective—and a little knowledge of history can pay off in surprising ways!*

### KINGDOM OF POLAND

The Kingdom of Poland is bounded N. by the Prussian provinces of East and West Prussia; E. by the Russian provinces of Bialystock, Grodno, and Vohlynia; S. by Galacia [*Galicia*] and the free city of Cracow; and W. by the Prussian provinces of Posen and Silesia. It approaches to the form of a square of 200 miles, nearly in the middle of which stands Warsaw, the capital. The area is estimated at 48,730 square miles, and the population at 2,793,000, of which number more than 200,000 are Jews.

Cracow.--- Cracow is situated in lat. 50 deg. N. and long. 20 deg. E. in an extensive plain, at the confluence of the Rudowa with the Vistula, 128 miles S. S. W. of Warsaw. In 1812, by an act of the Congress of Vienna, Cracow, with a small territory adjacent, was constituted a free state under the protection of Russia, Prussia and Austria. The whole territory included the new state, contains 430 square miles, and 61,000 inhabitants. The form of Government is a democracy.

## **Diversions and Domestic Customs of the Poles**

The diversions of the Poles are warlike and manly; vaulting, dancing, and riding the great horse; hunting, skating, bull and bear baiting. They usually travel on horseback. A Polish gentleman will not travel a hundred yards without his horse; the Poles are so hardy, they will sleep on the ground, without bed or covering, in frost and snow. They never lie above stairs, and their apartments are not united: the kitchen is on one side, the stable on the other, the dwelling house on the third, and the gate in front. They content themselves with a few small beds; and, if any person lodges at their houses, they must carry their bed with them. When the nobles sit down to dinner or supper, they have their trumpets and other music playing, and a number of gentleman to wait on them at table, all serving with the most profound respect: for the nobles who are poor, frequently find themselves under the necessity of serving those that are rich; but their patron usually treats them with civility, and permits the eldest to eat with him at his table with his cap off; and every one of them has his peasant boy to wait on him, maintained by the master of the family.

At an entertainment the Poles lay neither knives, forks, nor spoons, but every guest brings with him; and they no sooner sit down to dinner, than all the doors are shut, and not opened till the company return home. It is usual for a nobleman to give his servant part of his meat, which he eats as he stands behind him, and to let him drink out of the same cup as himself.

To form an idea of the grandeur and equipages of the Polish nobility, the reader may figure to himself an idea of all that is fastidious, ceremonious, expensive, and showy in life, to have and conception of their way of living. They carry the pomp of their attendance, when they appear abroad, even to ridicule; for it is not unusual to see the lady of a Polish grandee, besides a coach and six, with a great number of servants, attended by an old gentleman usher, an old gentlewoman; and if it be night her carriage is surrounded with a great number of flambeaux.

The inns of Poland are a kind of long stables, built with boards and covered with straw, without furniture or windows: there is a chamber at one end, but none can lodge there on account of the flies and vermin, so that strangers generally choose rather to lodge among the horses. Travelers are obliged to carry provisions with them: and when foreigners want a supply, they make application to the lord of the village, who very readily provides them with necessaries.

## **Of the Salt-Mines of Poland**

The wonderful mountains and salt-mines form the principle curiosities of Poland. The salt-mine of Wielitska [*Wieliczka*] is the largest in the world, and has been worked more than 600 years. It is nearly eight hundred feet below the surface of the earth: eleven hundred feet in breadth, and seven thousand feet in length. The mines exhibit a spacious plain, with lofty vaulted roofs, supported by columns of salt, which have been left standing by the workman.

Here are many public lights continually burning for the general use; and the blaze of these, reflected from every part of the mine, which appears bright and clear as crystal, or tinged with the colors of the rainbow, presents the most dazzling prospects. The eye is bewildered in the immense and glittering scene, which exceeds the most brilliant exhibitions of art, and all that has been fabled by the writers of romance.

In various parts of this plain the huts of the miners and their families are erected; some standing single, and others in clusters, like villages. These poor people have very little communication with the world above ground, and many hundreds of them are born and spend their lives there. Through the midst of the plain, the great road passes to the mouth of the mine, and is generally crowded with carriages bringing masses of salt, which look like prodigious gems. The drivers are generally very merry, and sometimes make excursions to the upper world; but the horses, which are very numerous, when once let down, never see day-light any more.

Source: *Geographical View of the World embracing the Manners, Customs and Pursuits of Every Nation founded on The Best Authorities*. By Rev. J. Goldsmith, 2nd Edition, 1829.

*Editor—Mr. Hoppe also sent me the entry for Prussia, and I intend to print it in next month's edition.*

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**\*\*\* SEARCHABLE TEXT OF THE SŁOWNIK GEOGRAFICZNY!\*\*\***

*Editor—Don Szumowski forwarded this note to me, which gives you detailed instruction on using a site that allows you to search the text of specific portions of the Słownik Geograficzny gazetteer for specific words. This was a revelation to me, and it's great to see that valuable source becoming more and more accessible to researchers. Many thanks to Maciej Róg for telling us about this.*

On the left of the page ([http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik\\_geograficzny/Tom\\_I/1](http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik_geograficzny/Tom_I/1)) you see a box called “Wyszukiwanie” (Search).

When you enter a name of a town/village in the box “w hasłach” (entries) you find the exact dictionary entry for the name, i.e. typing “Dęba” ([http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik\\_geograficzny?s=D%C4%99ba&f=](http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik_geograficzny?s=D%C4%99ba&f=)) you get a link: Tom XV, cz. 1, strona 406 = Volume XV, part 1, page 406 ([http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik\\_geograficzny/Tom\\_XV\\_cz.1/406](http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik_geograficzny/Tom_XV_cz.1/406)). Dęba is the village of birth of ancestors of mine.

When you type “Dęba” or other name in the second input box “w tekście” (entire text) you get all places where Dęba is quoted, i.e. ([http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik\\_geograficzny?s=&f=D%C4%99ba](http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik_geograficzny?s=&f=D%C4%99ba)).

The second box (“w tekście”) can be also used to search other words, like surnames etc. When you type “Szumowski” you will see this:

[http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik\\_geograficzny?s=&f=Szumowski](http://www.dir.icm.edu.pl/dirop/index.php/Slownik_geograficzny?s=&f=Szumowski)

- 1) ...z lew. brzegu zabiera pot. Szumowski i Borszowiecki. W dalszym swym... — Szumowski Tom V, 249
- 2) ...folw. do Hohenliebenthal, pow. szumowski. Br. Ch. Mittelhuette niem... — szumowski Tom VI, 511
- 3) ...starego zamku w Eichberg, pow. szumowski. Molkówka, polana w obr. gm... — szumowski Tom VI, 640

You can also navigate the Dictionary by links to direct pages. The links (“Nawigacja” = navigation area) are on the left below “Wyszukiwanie” area. For example:

- \* Tom I = Vol. I
  - o Strona przedtytułowa [Page before the title page]
  - o Wewnętrzna obwoluta [Interior jacket]
  - o Strona tytułowa = title page
  - o Znak cenzury [Censor’s seal]
  - o Przedmowa [Introduction]
  - o Objąsnienie skrótów = abbreviations
  - o Dzieła i czasopisma najczęściej cytowane w tekście [Works frequently cited in the text]
  - o Porównanie miar = weights and measures
  - o Hasła = the entries (of the towns)
  - \* Tom II = Vol. II
- etc.

Down from “Nawigacja” (navigation links) you have “idź do” selection list for volumes (I-XV) and input box for page. To execute you press Enter or just click the right arrow.

Above the images of the pages there are three links:

- \* poprzednia strona = the previous page
- \* następna strona = the next page
- \* pobierz skan = download the scanned image (TIFF)

You can also click on the image and then it enlarges to some bigger image (PNG). The full images can be downloaded via “pobierz skan” link.

I hope it helped to use it :-)

Best regards from Poland,  
Maciej Róg

Maciej Róg “Rożek” (<http://www.mrog.org/>)  
S Z U K A M R O D Z I N Y o nazwiskach: Chałupczyński,  
Chmielowiec, Kokot, Lipczak, Kozdęba, Padowicz, Rodzeń, Wojnas  
lub Wydro oraz pochodzącej z miejscowości: Huta Komorowska,  
Krzątka, Nowa Dęba, Ożarów, Stojec lub Wieluń

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\*\*\* ANCESTRY.COM AND FHL FIND A SOLUTION \*\*\*

*Editor—Ceil Jensen forwarded to me a note from Ancestry.com that tells of the solution Ancestry worked out with the Family History Library to access Ancestry databases at Family History*

*Centers. You may recall there was a bit of a stir when Ancestry announced it would no longer allow such access. Apparently they found a way to work it out.*

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to announce that Ancestry.com has found a solution to enable patrons at the Family History Library and Family History Centers to log in to Ancestry using their personal accounts. We have been coordinating this deployment closely with representatives from the Family and Church History Department, the Family History Library, and administrative representatives of the Family History Centers.

What we have done...

We have created a new domain called [www.ancestryinstitution.com](http://www.ancestryinstitution.com) for the Family History Library and the Family History Centers to use to get access to the collections available to them by contract. With this new domain name, patrons at the FHL and local FHCs can log in to their own personal accounts using [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) just like they would from home.

Thank you,  
Suzanne Russo Adams, AG  
Professional Services Desk Manager  
Ancestry.com, part of The Generations Network

\*\*\*\*\*

**\*\*\* POLISH TRIVIA QUESTIONS \*\*\***

*Editor: In the last issue we gave 5 questions from a Polish trivia game PolishRoots Vice President Paul Valasek <[paval56@aol.com](mailto:paval56@aol.com)> came across. The answers to those questions appear below, followed by this month's questions, the answers to which will appear in the next issue. We want to thank Tom Bratkowski for permission to reprint these.*

**Answers to the Questions in the April Issue:**

Category: Traditions

- Q. In what country was the Tadeusz Kościuszko Society founded in 1928?
- A. Brazil
  
- Q. What city has a lake-front monument to Mikołaj Kopernik?
- A. Chicago
  
- Q. In what former Polish and Lithuanian city is Piłsudski's heart buried?
- A. Wilno/Vilnius

— Q. How many corners does the Polish army hat have?

— A. Four

— Q. Through what country did the Polish Army of General Anders exit the Soviet Union in 1942?

— A. Iran

### **New Questions for the May Issue**

Category: General

1. What church was founded by Fr. Francis Hodur?
2. Who wrote, “To be vanquished and not surrender - that is victory”?
3. At what university did Pope John Paul II teach?
4. What Polish king is an ancestor to most European royal families?
5. What did Kościuszko direct to be done in his will with his American property?

Reprinted with permission from Polish American Trivia & Quadri-ivia, Powstan, Inc. If interested in learning more, contact Paul Valasek <[paval56@aol.com](mailto:paval56@aol.com)>.

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

**June 7 – 24, 2007**

### **TUGG GENEALOGICAL TOUR TO WESTERN UKRAINE**

The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG), [www.torugg.org](http://www.torugg.org), is hosting a genealogical tour to Western Ukraine in June of 2007. If you wish to join us, you are most welcome! Here are the particulars.

The “Discover Your Roots Tour” runs from June 7 to June 24, 2007. For complete details and how to register see: [www.torugg.org/TUGG%20Projects/trip\\_to\\_ukraine.html](http://www.torugg.org/TUGG%20Projects/trip_to_ukraine.html)

We will spend a number of days in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil and Kyiv, both as tourists and researchers. We will visit various archives and visit the villages of our ancestors. Here is a more Detailed Itinerary of the Tour: [http://www.torugg.org/trip\\_itinerary1.html](http://www.torugg.org/trip_itinerary1.html).

Those wishing to go on this “Discover Your Roots Trip”, will need to fill out a Reservation Form, [http://www.torugg.org/reservation\\_form1.html](http://www.torugg.org/reservation_form1.html).

And the Archives Family Search Form: [http://www.torugg.org/archive\\_form.html](http://www.torugg.org/archive_form.html)

It is important that the Archives Family Search Form be filled out as best you can. Our intention is to forward the requests from the Form to the respective archives for processing. We will inform them when we will be visiting their archive and hopefully the requested genealogical information will have been prepared and readied for our visit.

Costs:

Air/Land rate, based on a twin/sharing basis is \$3599.00 (CAN\$)  
For Single Occupancy per Person add \$600.00 (CAN\$)

[From information posted by Jim Onyschuk, <http://www.onyschuk.com>]

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**Tuesday, June 26, 2007**

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

At the St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Ave.  
7:30-9:30 p.m.

Report on "Discover Your Roots Tour to Ukraine"

Suggestions for Upcoming Meetings

Contact: Jim Onyschuk (905)-841-6707

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**Sunday, July 15 - Friday, July 20, 2007**

**27TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY**

Hilton Salt Lake City Center, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Website: <http://www.slc2007.org> (online registration, all event details)  
Contact: <[information@slc2007.org](mailto:information@slc2007.org)>

Hosted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies ([www.iajgs.org](http://www.iajgs.org)), this year's premiere Jewish genealogy event includes the following highlights:

- Networking with international researchers, experts and Eastern European archivists
- A film festival with Jewish and genealogical themes
- Breakfasts with Family History Library regional resource experts
- Popular computer training workshops in basic/advanced essential skills for researchers
- Special photographic exhibits
- Resource room with access to many specialized databases and other materials



- Special interest group meetings and luncheons
- Utilizing the FHL's extensive resources
- Vendor room
- Tours and more.

The intensive 5 1/2 day program of lectures, panels, tracks and workshops will cover the following research areas:

- Eastern/Central/Western Europe
- Israel (pre/post-1948)
- Genetics/DNA
- Holocaust
- Immigration/naturalization/migration
- Jewish history/sociology
- Methodology
- Sephardic/Mizrahi
- Non-European (e.g. India, China)
- Photograph/document preservation
- Rabbinic research
- Repositories
- South/Central America
- Technology/Internet resources
- U.S./North America (includes specific locales), and
- Yiddish theater/Jewish music.

For all event details, including easy online registration, go to the frequently updated website, <http://www.slc2007.org>.

[Based on information provided by Schelly Talalay Dardashti <[publicity@slc2007.org](mailto:publicity@slc2007.org).>]

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**September 26-28, 2007**

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE  
“BRIDGES TO THE PAST”**

At the Schaumburg Marriott in Schaumburg, Illinois

Speakers will include:

- Steve Morse, speaking on the various tools at his One-Step site, [www.stevemorse.org](http://www.stevemorse.org);
- Matthew Bielawa, Webmaster of [www.halgai.com](http://www.halgai.com), speaking on these subjects: Finding Your Village, Gazetteers, Vital Records, and Repatriation and Resettlement of Ethnic Poles;
- Chita Hunter, speaking on the use of Photoshop Elements and Adobe Acrobat;
- Marg Nowaczyk, speaking on genetics and DNA studies, and diseases from *Libri Mortuorum* [death registers] as they pertain to our ancestors;

- Dirk Wales, speaking on Kazimierz Pułaski and Tadeusz Kościuszko, heroes of the American Revolution;
- and our own Paul S. Valasek, speaking on Haller's Army.

Check the PGSA Website at [www.pgsa.org](http://www.pgsa.org), where details will presumably be posted as they become available.

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**Friday and Saturday, October 3-4, 2007**

**PGSCTNE 2007 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 Website."

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

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**October 20, 2007**

**PGS-MICHIGAN'S ANNUAL POLISH RESEARCH SEMINAR**

American Polish Cultural Center -Hall #2  
 2975 E. Maple Rd. (15 Mile Rd)  
 Troy, Michigan 48083  
 (use Dequindre entrance)

Here are the speakers and their topics:

Ceil Jensen, "Detroit Polonia's Photo Studios and Finding Aid"

Paul S. Valasek, "Haller's Army, aka Polish Army in France" and "Tracing the 20th Century Immigrant"

Bill Gorski, "The J. William Gorski Collection at the Library of Michigan and Michigan State Archives and Slide Presentation of Southeastern Michigan Polish Churches"

Registration: 8:30 a.m., Seminar: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Includes a Delicious Polish-Style Lunch

\*\*First 100 registrants receive a free workshop packet

Registration fee: \$50.00 before October 10 (after that date it's \$60.00)

For the registration form and more information visit this PGSM Website page:

[http://www.pgsm.org/index\\_015.htm](http://www.pgsm.org/index_015.htm)

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

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uw96RSdN9f4>

On the Poland-Roots mailing list Debbie Greenlee <[daveg@airmail.net](mailto:daveg@airmail.net)> gave this link to “a nine-minute video of an Englishman’s road trip through Stryków, Brzeziny and Jezów near Łódź. The audio is in English and the videographer does a good job of pointing out interesting things along the drive. Though it is a bit scary since the driver seems to be the one who is filming. I kept thinking, hit the brakes! Hit the brakes!”

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<http://www.wbc.poznan.pl/dlibra/doccontent2?id=24133&dirids=1>

On the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine list Galizia Forever <[vladis@mail.lviv.ua](mailto:vladis@mail.lviv.ua)> gave this site for “a very neat and compact 1844 Galicia map ... located on Wielkopolska Digital Library in Poznań.” He added “Click on ‘Browse publication’ and when the map opens, click the right mouse button. When the menu opens, click on ‘view’ and then ‘zoom’ to 150 or 300% to enlarge the map.”

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<http://www.surnamedb.com>

Lynette Crowley told me about this Website, which has some analysis of surnames from various languages, including some Polish. I’m not sure how reliable this analysis is; but it’s free and easy to access, so some may find it useful. It had reasonably good information on a rare name she was researching, Prozescky!

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<http://www.ex.ac.uk/~RDavies/arian/current/howmuch.html>

On the newsgroup soc.genealogy.jewish Dick Plotz mentioned this site, “Current Value of Old Money,” which provides an annotated list of sources with info on purchasing power in history, including a section on “Trans-Atlantic Passenger Fares” and “Historical Exchange Rates.” Of course, as he pointed out, that’s only part of the picture; it can be misleading to compare the buying power of a 1900 dollar vs. a 2007 dollar. Still, it may help you get an approximate notion what tickets cost and how hard it was to come up with the money for the trip.

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<http://www.jewishinstitute.org.pl/en/gminy/index/1.html>

Also on that newsgroup, Aida Rauch mentioned this page on the Website of the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw. It is still under construction, but it’s in English, and she said the “Pre-War Communities” page is interesting.

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<http://www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/maproom-1.htm>

Tom Sadauskas <[Thomas.Sadauskas@tma.osd.mil](mailto:Thomas.Sadauskas@tma.osd.mil)> told me about this link to detailed topographic maps of Poland and other areas. He saw it mentioned in the 13 May 2007 issue of *Nu? What's New?* Somehow I overlooked it, but I'm glad Tom pointed it out, so I can share it with you. He also said that site has some good info on foreign language pronunciation, including Lithuanian, at <http://www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/sm.htm>.

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[http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2007/05/some\\_thoughts\\_a.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2007/05/some_thoughts_a.html)

In this article from *EOGN* (Eastman's Online Genealogical Newsletter) there are some good observations on the subject of publishing your genealogy data. He starts with an important point: "First of all, there is one major issue that we all need to recognize: facts are not protected by copyright laws in the United States. A collection of facts is public domain information. We might be able to claim a copyright on the originality used in arranging of those facts, and we might be able to claim a compilation copyright on large collections of facts; but each individual fact remains in the public domain." He then proceeds to discuss various reasons why we might, or might not, want to publish our genealogies. I have seen lots of discussion of these points on various mailing lists, and think Eastman's comments are well worth reading.

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<http://www.rapeofeuropa.com>

Maureen Mroczek Morris <[maureenm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maureenm@sbcglobal.net)> sent me this URL on a film of interest to practically anyone of European descent. Along similar lines, she also mentioned these two sites: <http://www.rescuingdavinci.com> and <http://www.actualfilms.net/>.

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<http://www.kirchenbuchportal.de>

On the Posen mailing list Gerd Müllenheim posted a note on the creation of an Internet portal for German parish registers at this site, to begin operation on June 1. Since it's not June 1st yet, I can't tell you much about it. But it could potentially be a "must-visit" for those with German roots—which, of course, can include many Poles. The press release Gerd cited said the first stage of work is to set up a site that provides an overview of the status of digital parish registers in the German church archives. The second phase, from July 2008, is intended to make them available in digital form online. The records will deal with individuals documented in parish registers between 1550 and 1850. So this will be a project to keep our eyes on.

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<http://tinyurl.com/2u756g>

On the same list Gerd also told of this site mentioned on the East Prussia list, a link to ordnance survey maps of Prussia. The URL (which I've shortened by using [www.TinyUrl.com](http://www.TinyUrl.com)) gives you a master map where you can find the specific area you're looking for and note the section number and place name. Then you go to <http://tinyurl.com/3y5z25> and view or download that particular map. These detailed maps cover many areas now in Poland; it's worth a look, especially if you have roots in the former German partition.

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[http://www.sggee.org/rus\\_translate/general\\_intro](http://www.sggee.org/rus_translate/general_intro)

Bronwyn Klimach <[bronklimach@gmail.com](mailto:bronklimach@gmail.com)> wrote to say how much she likes this page on the SGGEE site, which offers assistance with translating Russian documents. She found the specifics on [http://www.sggee.org/rus\\_translate/nap\\_documents.html](http://www.sggee.org/rus_translate/nap_documents.html) particularly helpful. I know people who have to deal with Russian documents are grateful for any help they can get, so I wanted to mention this. (However, don't forget — if you need a lot of help with Russian, do I have a book for you!)

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<http://www.SlovakPride.homestead.com>

Recently I corresponded with Helene Cincebaux <[helenezx@aol.com](mailto:helenezx@aol.com)>, helping her with some small research question. She wanted me to let you know she is very involved in Slovak and Moravian research, and welcomes the opportunity to assist researchers with Slovak or Moravian roots. The site above has 25,861 listings of ancestral surnames and the village they came from. See also <http://www.helenezx.homestead.com/>. She will also send a sample copy of the quarterly magazine *Slovakia* to anyone who requests one and sends \$1 to cover postage. Her address is: Helene Cincebeaux, 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617.

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<http://www.americangathering.com/?p=2490>

John Blacha <[tapjb@earthlink.net](mailto:tapjb@earthlink.net)> wondered if I might be able to help a lady named Mrs. Wieslawa who doesn't know her real family name or surname. She was born around 1943 in the Łódź ghetto. She and her family were resettled to a labor camp in Piotrków. Her parents managed to take her out of the camp and gave her to a Polish family in December 1943. She was hidden by Helena and Stefan Gruchala. She also knows that her Polish grandmother, Jozefa Adaszek, was nicknamed by her Jewish neighbors "Stanisławowa." They lived in Piotrków Trybunalski. You can find this information and more at the above site, as well as contact info.

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