



Gen Dobry!

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*** WELCOME! ***

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

http://polishroots.org/gendobry/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_VI_1.pdf

*** GALICIA: ALTERNATIVE RESEARCH SOURCES IN POLAND ***

by Donald Szumowski <DSzumowski@PolishRoots.org>

At the end of World War I the Polish Republic was reborn. The last time Poland had existed as an independent nation was in 1795, when the third and final partition of the country between Russia, Prussia, and Austria was completed. The residents of these areas became subjects of the new ruling powers, and all of their vital life events from that period were recorded by those powers.

Along with the rebirth of Poland as a nation came physical possession of many of the vital records that were created during the 123 years under foreign occupation. These records, available in Warsaw, are a little known alternative to writing for genealogical information to archives in the Ukraine, Lithuania, or Belarus.

While looking for my friend's grandfather in the 1920 U.S. Census I discovered the name of a village (Chaneuf, A/P) noted as his birthplace. I consulted *Where Once We Walked* (Avotaynu, 1991) to determine, with the aid of the WOWW Soundex and with the knowledge that A/P denoted the Austrian partition of Poland, that the correct Polish name for the town was Czerniów.

Armed with this information, I next consulted, *Gemeindelexikon der im Reichsrate vertretenen Königreiche und Länder* (Statistischen Zentralkommission, Wien, 1907), a statistical compilation from the 1900 Austrian census which is available on microfilm at the Library of Congress (film 39529). Volume XII of the set contains the Galician information and has an alphabetical town index at the rear of the volume listing with a listing of the administrative center for each religion enumerated in the census. In my case, the administrative town for Jews living in Czerniów was Bursztyn. PolishRoots has a compiled listing of these towns on its site at http://www.polishroots.org/databases/galicia_towns.htm. Another useful source is Brian Lenius' book "Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia", available from the author (an order form can be printed from <http://www.lenius.ca/GazetteerOrderForm.asp>).

My next step was to refer to *Register of Vital Records of Roman Catholic Parishes from the Region Beyond the Bug River*, by Edward A. Peckwas (Polish Genealogical Society, 1992), to determine if any records were available for Bursztyn. Even though the book concerns Catholic parishes, it is important to note that the civil records for Jewish (*Żydowskich*) congregations also generally exist for the same record availability period listed. The book stated that Birth, Marriage, and Death records are available for Bursztyn from 1848–1900. PolishRoots has a link (at the URL listed above) to the SEZAM site of the State Archives of Poland, which lists the archival holdings of governmental institutions throughout Poland.

Now for the final and most laborious step, writing a letter to AGAD in Warsaw (*Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych, ul. Długa 7, 00-263 Warszawa*) which houses these records. Some librarians at both AGAD and the National Archives in Warsaw can read and speak English, so correspondence may be sent to them in that language. This may not be true for regional archives, however; for them it is better to use a letter writing guide (available from PolishRoots at http://www.polishroots.org/letters/letters_polish.htm) to craft a letter in Polish. In either case keep the letter brief and to the point; stating that you are interested in vital record information from the

“Zabużański” collection for a particular individual. Note: for best results it is wise to limit each request to one or two persons; any more and the letter may not be answered.

If you are planning a trip to Warsaw, please note that the Polish National Archives (*Naczelna Dyrekcja Archiwów Państwowych, ul. Długa 6*) AGAD, has an index very similar to the one in Peckwas’ book, but also with reference file numbers to locate the record books. For Jewish records it is possible to order records through the Polish Records Indexing project:

http://www.polishroots.org/reference/international_resources.htm

Through diligent effort and a glimmer of hope you too can locate that elusive relation in the Old Country!

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

Subject: eBay

With respect to eBay, I have found it to be a wonderful source of items that assist me in my Polish research.

Most of your readers are probably not aware that they can set up a permanent search on eBay that will inform them by email of every auction item of their interest. Thus, if they want to buy a fishing pole, they would be informed of every fishing pole ever posted for auction on eBay, daily. But that would be too general and result in too many reports.

If someone was interested in a particular community, or ethnic group, or type of music, or whatever, they might open an account in “My eBay” (after getting to the eBay home page) and set up a permanent search on items with the name “Poznan” (or whatever) in its description. For many years, I have “looked” for items relating to the Franco-Prussian War in which my ggf served. While I have never come close to learning which unit he was in, I have been informed of all the books for sale (mostly in German) on the subject and of pictures of most of the battles of that war. I have purchased some. Others, I just copy the picture for my files.

eBay allows about 8 or 10 permanent searches which last for six months or more (and they can be renewed). I always have the maximum number of searches going at all times. Some, I never see anything on; the FPW and the Spanish American War, are full of “hits” for me.

Ray Marshall <raymarsh@mninter.net>

Editor—Thanks for the tip! I think I’m the only member of my family that isn’t an eBay devotee. But that’s only because I can’t afford to find new ways to spend money. But I have heard enough to know eBay is a great resource—and can be a lot of fun, too!

Subject: S. 2845 National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004

On 12/17/2004 this act was signed by President and became public law number: 108-458.

I can't find a final copy on the Web to see about Sec. 3061(b)(1)(A)(iii). Perhaps you know?

Frederick S. Zimnoch <zimnoch@crocker.com>

Editor—I could not help, but shortly afterwards Fred wrote back and said to see this site:
<http://www.fgs.org/rpa/NationalReporting.htm>. *See also the updates below.*

***** 1863 POLISH INSURRECTION EXECUTIONS *****

by Paul Valasek <paval56@aol.com>

No sooner did the last partition of Poland occur in 1795, than Polish citizenry seriously planned to act out and reinstate the Polish Nation. Each partition had its own versions of rebellions and treated each according to Berlin's, Vienna's, or Moscow's edicts. Some were suppressed with threats and new laws, others were harshly and brutally confronted by armies of the occupying nation or their designated police squads. Some were aided in spirit by similar revolutions occurring in Hungary and Italy.

One of the most famous uprisings was that of the 1830-1831 rebellion against new laws and treatment put into play by Czar Nicholas I. Though it was put down in a relatively short time, many great stories and refugees entered the world stage, each bringing their own peculiar talents to free nations of the world and many areas of intellectualism. Frederic Chopin, Adam Mickiewicz, Cyprian Norwid, Joachim Lelewel, and Juliusz Słowacki, all sought refuge from the oppressive Russian occupation while still promoting an independent Poland through their talents and occupations. At that time, Paris became a ready destination for Polish dissidents and radicals.

In 1863, Czar Alexander II issued new laws and decrees to establish drafting young Polish men into Russian Imperial armies. This was greeted with contempt and disdain by the Polish populace. A weak and fairly ineffective guerilla-style uprising took place. Unfortunately due to poor coordination, lack of funding, equipment, soldiers and sorely lacking military training, the "January Insurrection" of 1863 was quelled by 1864. Even the fathers of Communism, Marx and Engels, supported the Polish National cause as a way to break away from the ruling aristocracy. For genealogists involved with Polish citizens at this time, one only has to look to the U.S. Civil War to understand the turmoil of this turbulent decade in both the Western and Eastern hemispheres.

Upon suppression of the 1863-64 uprising, the Russian government strove to quell any further Polish nationalism which might erupt from the embers of revolt. Within a matter of months to a few years, all records for Roman Catholic parishes were to be continued in the Napoleonic style of entries, but all language was to be switched to Russian using the Cyrillic alphabet exclusively. In some church records I've looked at, the name of the subject and spouse or parents' names were

listed first in Cyrillic and then, either in brackets or following a slash, the same name was entered in Polish using the Latin alphabet. Most indices are kept in Cyrillic only, but once you recognize what your name looks like written in Cyrillic, you may be able to at least locate it in indices or within a given document.

Some name entries are only listed in Russian and one may assume that the priest may have been sympathetic to the Russian cause, or most likely, in fear of any reprisals which may happen to him or the parish for disobeying the new laws. Other parishes freely “double listed” the names throughout the church books until all records switch back to Polish and the Latin alphabet after 1918. Most of the 20th century records were kept in Polish, and as a result, when one visits former Russian-occupied parishes today, many of the younger clerks or priests do not read the older style of Russian. Most resort to asking local teachers for help in translating older documents. This may also be true for Kresy regions which were in Poland but today are either in Lithuania or Belarus.

The following list of names comes from a book entitled, *Rok 1863 Wyroki Śmierci*, which translates as “Year 1863 Death Sentences.” These listings are composed of 4 categories per man. The first column is headed *Liczba porządkowa* (Sequential Number) and gives a numerical-alpha listing, presumably for the file in which the original document would be found. Examples are: 24-X-3, 95-M-3, 175-?-3 (? = Russian pitchfork or X with 6 legs). The second column lists surname, first name, name of father, and civil status, i. e., nobility, peasant, soldier, officer, priest, student, etc. The third column is entitled “*Na mocy czyjej confirmacji skazany*,” which is the legal basis for execution, and the fourth column details the execution, whether by shooting or hanging, as well as when, where, and the reasons given for the offense.

Details for each man vary, but if one can link up to any of these, this important information will greatly aid in establishing a close to one ancestor's life. How many times do we look at our trees and find an open ended personal database when that particular ancestor “disappeared” off the face of the earth usually during a time of war, disease, or natural disasters?

An example of one particular listing as translated by Fred Hoffman is as follows:

29-Ts -2 (The “Ts” is the Cyrillic character that looks like II connected at the bottom with a small hook on the 2nd I

Ciundziewicki, Michał, son of Melchior, an ensign in the 8th Artillery
Brigade of Light Battery #3.

On the basis of confirmation No. 562 of the National Commander in Chief, 17 June 1863, No. 562.

He was shot in Minsk on 21 May 1863 for not reporting for service on time after taking leave; traveling around the provinces of Minsk and Wilno for unknown purposes; inciting the peasants to rebel; and having himself photographed sitting in a chair with a representation of a crown and under it the coat of arms of united Lithuania and Poland.

The book starts out with the statement that these records are based on Russian archival sources, of people executed in Lithuania for taking part in the 1863–1864 rebellions. It was not available to Polish researchers until after the Russians evacuated Wilno in 1915. Whether these original records still exist in the 21st century and whether there were more will be determined by vigilant research performed most likely by genealogists. The book does not have a date of printing, but appears to be during the Interwar period 1921–1939, most likely in the 20's when a revival of Polish printing took place in previously Russian occupied areas.

For additional information in obtaining a copy of the listing please contact me at Paval56@aol.com.

<i>Surname</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Parent</i>	<i>Disposition</i>
Adamowicz	Stanislaw	Adam	firing squad
Alejew	Wawrzyniec	x	firing squad
Aleksandrowicz	Franciszek	Piotr	hanging
Ancypo	Ildefons	x	firing squad
Apanowicz	Franciszek	Leonard	hanging
Baranowski	Piotr	x	firing squad
Bejda	Dominik	x	hanging
Bialozor	Wincenty	Kazimierz	firing squad
Bielawski	Henryk	x	firing squad
Bienkowski	Jan	Tomasz	hanging
Blachynych	Teodor	Stefan	firing squad
Bohdanowicz	Paulin-Ksawery	Antoni	firing squad
Bonach	Stanislaw	x	hanging
Brazis	Ignacy	Jan	firing squad
Brazulis	Kazimierz	Marcin	hanging
Budrys	Antoni	Andrzej	firing squad
Budzilowicz	Ignacy	x	firing squad
Bugielski	Polikarp	Wincenty	firing squad
Bulynko	Cezary	Seweryn	hanging
Burak	Antoni	Mateusz	hanging
Buzino	Nikifor	x	firing squad
Buzynski	Franciszek	x	firing squad
Byszewski	Antoni	Kaliksta	hanging
Charewicz	Edward	Wincenty	firing squad
Chonczak	Izrael	Lobna	hanging
Chonesta	Jozef	x	hanging
Chrzanowski	Leon	x	firing squad
Ciechanowicz aka Czechan	Jozef aka Jakub	x	firing squad
Ciuchna	Mateusz	x	firing squad
Ciundziewicki	Michal	Melchior	firing squad
Czaplinski	Edward	x	hanging
Czechan aka Ciechinowicz	Jakub aka Jozef	x	firing squad
Czerwinski	Pawel	Jan	hanging
Czyzewski	Antoni	Michal	firing squad

Dajlida	Jerzy	x	firing squad
Dalewski	Tytus	x	firing squad
Danowski	Albin	Gabrjel	firing squad
Dormanowski	Mieczyslaw	x	hanging
Downarowicz	Jozef	Djonize	firing squad
Duchnowski	Antoni	Antoni	firing squad
Falkowski	Adam	Bartlomiej	firing squad
Filipowicz	Ludwik	Franciszka	firing squad
Galinajtis	Jozef-Jan	Jan	firing squad
Gardzulewicz	Mateusz	x	hanging
Gargas	Antoni	Jan	firing squad
Gnutow	Nikifor	x	firing squad
Gonglewski	Marcin	x	hanging
Gordacki	Edward	x	hanging
Grochowski	Ignacy	Antoni	firing squad
Gruszewski	Feliks	Jan	hanging
Grygoraszczenko	Zachar	Demjan	firing squad
Gzowski	Wincenty	Justyna	hanging
Holumbias	Wojciech	Onufrey	firing squad
Hrynczuk	Jan	x	hanging
Hryniewicz	Tomasz	Michal	firing squad
Iczkowski	Wladyslaw	Mikolaj	hanging
Ilkowski	Antoni	Ignacy	hanging
Iszora	Stanislaw	Stanislaw	firing squad
Jablonski	Wladyslaw	x	hanging
Jasinski	Antoni	x	firing squad
Jaskold	Stanislaw	x	hanging
Jewtropow	Jegor	x	firing squad
Jocz	Ludwik	Franciszka	firing squad
Juchaitis	Aleksander	x	firing squad
Kalinowski	Wincenty-Konstanty	Szymon	hanging
Kasperowicz	Jan	Mateusz	firing squad
Klama	Stanislaw	Kaspra	hanging
Kobylinski	Solub-Aleksander	x	hanging
Kojka	Tomasz	x	hanging
Kolb	Przemyslaw	Michal	firing squad
Kolyszko	Boleslaw	Wincenty	hanging
Koninski	Aleksander	x	hanging
Konopko	Jan	Lukasz	hanging
Korewo	Klet	Onufry	firing squad
Korgalskow	Jan	x	firing squad
Korsak	Wladyslaw	Antoni	firing squad
Kozakiewicz	Adam	Jozef	firing squad
Kozakowski	Stanislaw	Karol	firing squad
Kozelski	Feliks	Wojciech	hanging
Krajewski	Sebastian	x	firing squad

Krasinski	Jan	Stanislaw	firing squad
Krejczman	Franciszek	x	hanging
Krepajtys	Antoni	Bernard	hanging
Kuczewski	Aleksander	Fortunata	hanging
Kulesza	Konstanty	x	firing squad
Kuprjenko	Andrzej	x	hanging
Kwiatkowski	Boleslaw	Eustachius	hanging
Lacer	Jan	Marcin	firing squad
Laskowicz	Albert	Feliks	firing squad
Lejbman	Lejba	Martcha	hanging
Lesniewski	Juljan	Pawel	firing squad
Letowt	Juljusz	x	firing squad
Lobanowski	Jan	Aleksander	hanging
Losinski	Wincenty	Kazimierz	firing squad
Lugajlo	Bronislaw	x	hanging
Mackiewicz	Antoni	x	hanging
Mackiewicz	Piotr	Jozef	firing squad
Makowiecki	Henryk	Henryk	firing squad
Malaszewski	Szymon	Jan	firing squad
Malecki	Dominik	Romuald	hanging
Mancewicz	Jan	Aleksander	firing squad
Mancewicz	Michal	Aleksander	firing squad
Marczewski	Jan	x	hanging
Markowski	Ksawery	Bernard	firing squad
Masalski	Karol	Ksawery	firing squad
Mickiewicz	Juljan	Benedykt	hanging
Mikucki	Teofil	x	hanging
Mizerewicz	Wincenty	Tadeusz	hanging
Mlynski	Wladyslaw	Feliks	firing squad
Morkis	Jan	Antoni	firing squad
Narzymyski	Konstanty	x	hanging
Nikolai	Wladyslaw	Fryderyk	firing squad
Norejko	Izydor	Jerzy	firing squad
Obuchowicz	Juljan	Piotr	hanging
Okulicz	Boleslaw	x	firing squad
Okurowski	Juljan	x	firing squad
Oledzki	Antoni	Bartlomiej	firing squad
Oskierko	Michal	x	firing squad
Oswiecinski	Wincenty	x	hanging
Pawlowicz	Boguslaw	Szymon	firing squad
Pietrow	Mikolaj	x	firing squad
Piotrowski	Feliks	Feliks	hanging
Piotrowski	Karol	x	hanging
Plater	Leon	x	firing squad
Podolecki	Aleksander	x	hanging
Pronajtis	Jerzy	x	hanging

Proniewicz	Zygmunt	Kazimierz	hanging
Pugaczewski	Konstanty	Michal	firing squad
Puslowski	Adam	Jan	firing squad
Raczkowski	Teofil	x	firing squad
Rewkowski	Aleksander	Teofana	hanging
Rewkowski	Jozef	Teofana	hanging
Rogowski	Jan	x	hanging
Rutkowski	Baltazar	x	hanging
Sakowicz	Jakob	Tomasz	hanging
Sawwo	Piotr	Jan	firing squad
Scypion	Mieczyslaw	Jozef	firing squad
Siemieniuk	Andrzej	x	firing squad
Sierakowski	Zygmunt	Ignacy	hanging
Sipowicz	Karol	x	hanging
Smyslow	Wladyslaw	Mikolaj	firing squad
Snadzki	Adryan	Joachim	firing squad
Solomon	August	Karol	hanging
Songajlo	Konstanty	x	hanging
Staniewicz	Edward	Chryzostom	hanging
Staniszewski	Michal	Jozef	firing squad
Staszewicz, aka Staszkievicz, aka Staszewski	Jan	x	hanging
Staszewski, aka Staszkievicz, aka Staszewicz	Jan	x	hanging
Staszkievicz, aka Staszewski, aka Staszewicz	Jan	x	hanging
Staszys	Jozef	Jan	hanging
Stoduba	Franciszek	x	hanging
Swietorzecki	Jan	Wincenty	hanging
Syczuk	Kazimierz	Adam	firing squad
Szablewicz	Damazy	Jozef	hanging
Szamkow	Leon	Maciej	firing squad
Telszewski	Albin	x	hanging
Tolinski	Dominin	x	firing squad
Towtowicz	Mikolaj	Dominik	firing squad
Trofimczuk	Teodor	Jan	hanging
Ungebauer	Aleksander	Aleksander	firing squad
Urbanowicz	Jozef	Jakob	firing squad
Waszkiewicz	Tomasz	x	hanging
Werbluczewicz	Albin	Kazimierz	hanging
Wilkievicz	Marceli	Antoni	hanging
Witkowski	Franciszek	Tomasz	hanging
Wodopalas	Jozef	Mateusz	hanging
Wojtulewicz	Andrzej	x	firing squad
Wolodzko	Heliodor	Kajetan	hanging
Wolski	Antoni	x	firing squad

Wroblewski	Gabrjel	Michal	firing squad
Wroblewski	Ignacy	x	firing squad
Wysocki	Jan	x	hanging
Zapasnik	Aleksander	August	hanging
Zawistowski	Stanislaw	Karol	firing squad
Zdanowicz	Ignacy	Aleksander	hanging
Zebrowski	Konstanty	x	firing squad
Zelmic	Wlodzimierz	Jozef	firing squad
Ziemacki	Rajmund	Andrzej	firing squad
Zmaczynski	Jan	Jerzy	firing squad
Zolowski	Feliks	x	hanging
Zuew	Gierasim	x	firing squad
Zybers	Jozef	Marcin	firing squad
Zycki	Antoni	Kaspra	hanging

*** UNDERSTANDING WHAT IT IS TO BE POLISH ***

by Edward Achtel <achteles@idcnet.com>

Besides it being a melting pot containing a broad variety of ethnicity, religions and culture, Poland was also partitioned, subjugated and ruled by three powerful neighbors for 150 years. Regarding the partitions, I have always been fascinated (my own family being a paradox) that Poles have been able to maintain a national identity and character under these circumstances. Two of the partitioning powers had active policies to eradicate Polish national and cultural traits in their holdings. The Austrian/Hapsburg rulers were an exception. They allowed Galician Poles to maintain their language, culture and shared Roman Catholic religion. They also allowed Poles to administer on their behalf. In one sense this was good. However, those Poles entrusted with these administrative positions enjoyed its benefits, promoted an Austrian identity and, in many instances, discouraged the promotion of a "Polish Nation" identity since this jeopardized their position. These were the so called political conservatives.

Recently, this question has been addressed by some American scholars and has resulted in significant publication of their work. Cornell University recently published a work by Historian Keely Stauter-Halsted titled *The Nation in the Village: The Genesis of Peasant National Identity in Austrian Poland 1848-1914*. Keely writes an interesting history of how peasants, who had no real concept of national identity beyond their village, became a national backbone.

I have also read Wolff's *The Vatican and Poland in the Age of the Partitions*. In summary, the Vatican was only interested in keeping Poland Roman Catholic and did nothing regarding partitioning for fear of retaliation, intrusion and dominance by the Eastern Church.

Two books that speak to the strength of Polish Women in maintaining an identity are also interesting. *Framing the Polish Home* edited by Bozena Shallcross speaks of construction of hearth, nation and self. There is also a book related to women of America's Polonia. Dr. Pienkos of the

University of Wisconsin has published *In the Ideals of Women is the Strength of a Nation: A History of the Polish Women's Alliance of America*. Both books are excellent in the way they depict the role of Polish women in this regard.

I am currently reading an Indiana University publication by Patrice Dabrowska, *Commemorations and the Shaping of Modern Poland*. Interestingly, Dabrowska states that those families of position took on the identity of the partitioning powers in order to maintain their position and wealth. It was the Intelligentsia, aided by student groups, that decided further insurrections would not work and decided on a plan that would maintain a historical national identity through commemoration. The idea was born and nurtured in Galicia, specifically Kraków, but spread to the other partitions of Poland. I recommend this book to everyone of Polish descent. Dabrowska does a beautiful job in defining the commemorations, how they came about, were executed and their impact and political implications. The commemorations represent a profile of the greatest minds personages and events in Polish history.

I share these thoughts because they have helped me understand the strong Polishness that my parents insisted on. Although we had German relatives and my parents spoke German, Polish was the only language spoken at home. We were sent to Polish Catholic schools for an education. German was the language when my parents did not want us to understand what they were saying or when we visited our thoroughly German relatives. I trust your readers will also have a very rewarding experience.

***** A LINGUISTIC GENEALOGICAL PUZZLE *****

Editor—As a linguist, I got a huge kick out of this note posted by a gentleman named Stan Goodman on the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup.

On Tue, 18 Jan 2005 06:08:41 UTC, Sheila Toffel opined:

- > I have made contact with a long lost branch of my family, thanks
- > to a wonderful person who helped via JewishGen.
- >
- > The person I am now in contact with cannot speak English.
- > She sent me an email in Cyrillic that she translated into
- > English using an online engine. The place name she gave
- > translates as Equal, near Kirovograd. Shtetl Seeker does
- > not give any hits anywhere near Kirovograd with variations
- > of Equal using the DM Soundex. I suspect that the translation
- > engine found the best possible match.
- >
- > If there is someone whose computer can support Cyrillic and
- > who can help me locate this place, please contact me privately.

There are many tales told about the accidents caused by machine translation; I have often thought that most of them are apocryphal. This one is a gem, because you are an eyewitness that it actually happened.

Soundex is not the problem, and searching for names of Russian towns that sound like “Equal” won't solve it. The town is “Rovnoe” (pronounced: “ROV-no-ye), which is indeed near Kirovograd. This name happens to be a Russian adjective, neuter case, meaning “Equal,” oddly enough, or “flat.” Presumably that describes the terrain in its neighborhood.

Stan Goodman, Qiryat Tiv'on, Israel

Editor—As I was reading through this, I remember thinking “A place near Kirovograd with a name that sounds like ‘equal’? Impossible.” Then I read Mr. Goodman’s explanation, and had to chuckle. As he explains, the translation machine saw Rovnoe and tried to “translate” it. And rovnoe does mean “even, equal” in Russian. But what the computer couldn’t know is that here, you don’t translate it. It’s a place name! This is the kind of thing that could drive a researcher nuts, if it weren’t for sharp-witted fellows like Stan Goodman.

***** MORE ON VISAS FOR POLES*****

Editor—For those interested in this question, here are two notes posted recently. The first was posted on the Polish_Genius list by Elaine Kalcsics:

Hello all,

A while ago we were asked to write to our politicians regarding the Polish immigration problems and about a bill in Congress which would limit Poles from entry and the high costs being put on them.

I wrote my Congressman Dick Durbin and here is his reply which I received today, January 4th.

=====

Dear Ms. Kalcsics:

Thank you for your message regarding the effort to designate Poland as a visa waiver country. I appreciate knowing your thoughts.

The Visa Waiver Program allows nationals from certain countries to enter the United States as temporary visitors (non-immigrants) for business or pleasure without first obtaining a visa from a U.S. consulate abroad.

By eliminating the visa requirement, this program facilitates international travel and commerce and eases consular office workloads abroad, but it also bypasses the first step by which foreign visitors are screened for admissibility to enter the United States.

On September 24, 2004, Senator Santorum introduced legislation to designate Poland as a visa waiver country. This bill was placed on the legislative calendar for consideration by the full Senate. However, an anonymous Senator placed a hold on the legislation. A hold is a request by a Senator to delay floor action on a measure. It is up to the Majority Leader to decide whether, or for how long, he will honor a Member's hold.

I will keep your thoughts in mind as this matter is considered further by the Senate.

=====

Editor—The second note was also posted on the Polish Genius list, on January 22, by Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net>:

Thought I would pass along the following email which was sent to me by the Polish American Congress.

Debbie

=====

Polish American Congress <mail@polishamericancongress.com>
Visa Waiver Update

The National office of the Polish American Congress would like to thank everyone that contacted their Senators in Washington, D.C. to support Senate Bill 2844 which would permit people from Poland to visit America within a 90-day period without the prolonged visa process. The legislation was introduced by Senator Barbara Mikulski, from Maryland and Senator Rick Santorum from Pennsylvania in late September. Tens of thousands of Polish Americans contacted their Senators to support the visa waiver program by sending letters, e-mails and telephone calls. Everyone's support was appreciated.

Senate Bill 2844, was not able to be considered by the full Senate during its last session and the Polish American Congress will follow up with Senator Mikulski and Senator Santorum when the new Congress convenes for its 2005 session. At that time the Polish American Congress will once again call upon America's Polonia to support this and other important efforts.

You can see an outline of the visa waiver appeal posted on the front page of the Polish American Congress Internet site at: <http://www.PolishAmericanCongress.com> — it is the 4th link down on the right hand side.

Thanks for your support!

***** 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> 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 December Issue:

Subject:

- Q. What is the traditional Polish nativity play called?
- A. The *Jaselka*

- Q. What Polish liquor is named for the Bison?
- A. *Żubrówka*

- Q. What is the Polish wish for an enjoyable meal?
- A. *Smacznego!*

- Q. By Polish tradition, why do newlyweds look up the chimney?
- A. To be sure that the devil isn't hiding there.

- Q. How many faces did the Slavonic god Światowid have?
- A. Four

New Questions for the January Issue

1. Which came first, the founding of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow or Columbus's first voyage to America?
2. Who was the only king that the Poles called Great?
3. What century was called the golden age of Poland's history?
4. Which Polish king was originally a Transylvanian prince?
5. In what country was Queen Jadwiga born?

Reprinted with permission from Polish American Trivia & Quadrivia, Powstan, Inc. If interested in learning more, contact Paul Valasek <paval56@aol.com>.

***** UPCOMING EVENTS *****

Note: the PolishRoots Events Calendar at http://www.polishroots.org/coming_events.htm usually has more info than we have room for here. If you have an event coming up you want Polish genealogical researchers to know about, send as much info as possible to <Events@PolishRoot.org>.

February 5, 2005

RESEARCHING YOUR EASTERN EUROPEAN ROOTS

The Saskatoon Genealogy Society presents a one-day Genealogy Workshop on February 5th, 2005 at the Western Development Museum.

Guest speaker **Dave Obee**, of Victoria, is the President of the Federation of East European Family History Societies and, the owner of Interlink Bookshop & Genealogy Unlimited. Lecture topics for this event include: Finding Places in Germany and Eastern Europe; Stalin's Secret Files; Discoveries in the EWZ microfilms; and, Destination: Canada.

The cost for this one-day workshop is \$50.00 per person: and, includes a Syllabus, coffee break refreshments and a soup & sandwich lunch buffet. Free parking too!
Register Early as seating is limited.

Mail your Registration Fee to:

Saskatoon Genealogy Society
Box #32004
#3 – 402 Ludlow Street
Saskatoon, SK S7S 1M7

For more information contact :

Gus Morrow : (306) 382 - 9355

Email: gustaveous@mail.com

Cliff Rusk: (306) 384 - 8813

Email: c.rusk@shaw.ca

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~sksgs>

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Thursday, February 8, 2005

Meeting of the Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group

At St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

The speaker will be Bill Harasym, who will be speaking on Ukrainian-Canadian Participation in the Spanish Civil War.

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February 10, 2005

Fox Valley (Illinois) Genealogy Society's February meeting.

“An Introduction to German Genealogy”

Will be presented by Dave Cosper on February 10, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 South Eagle Street, Rooms B&C, Naperville, IL.

Dave Cosper will explain how to locate the European place of origin of German immigrants using various sources including church records and gazetteers. Dave is a retired research chemist and a Naperville Family History Center volunteer whose genealogical preoccupation spans more than forty years. Visitors are always welcome and there is no charge. For more information call (630)355-1597 or visit <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>.

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March 13, 2005

The Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis's 10th Anniversary

2:00 p.m., at United Hebrew Congregation, 13788 Conway Rd., St. Louis MO 63141.

Stephen P. Morse will speak on “Searching Databases in One-step” and “Searching Ellis Island’s Database in One-step.”

Admission is \$5 for non-members and free to members of Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis.

For more information visit the Web site <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-stlouis> or contact Ilene Wittels at 314.692.2444

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March 31 – April 3, 2005

8th New England Regional Genealogical Conference “New England Crossroads 2005”

The Holiday Inn By The Bay in Portland Maine

Four of the country’s best known genealogists will be the lead speakers for this program: Tony Burroughs, Cyndi Howells, Elizabeth Shown Mills and Craig Scott.

Complete program details and a registration form can be found at: <http://www.NERGC.org>.

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Saturday, April 9, 2005

Newberry Library in Chicago

Friends of Genealogy’s Seventh Annual Workshop in Memory of Barbara Stenger Burditt

“A Day with the Szucs: Lou and Juliana Share Strategies for Genealogical Success”

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Subjects presented will include new developments in family history, advice for urban research, using unusual sources and tips for on-line research. Loretto Szucs is co-editor of *The Source*, and vice president of publications at Ancestry.com. Juliana Szucs Smith is a weekly columnist for Ancestry.com’s free e-newsletter *Ancestry Daily News* and an author whose books include *Quick Tips for Genealogists*. Admission to all four lectures, a detailed syllabus, and a box lunch is \$75; \$50 for members of FOG. Reservations are required; call (312) 255-3574.

*** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES ***

<http://www.kresy.cc.pl/index.php>

Paul Valasek <paval56@aol.com> came across this site, with photos of Lwów (<http://www.kresy.cc.pl/lwow/>) and Wilno (<http://www.kresy.cc.pl/wilno/>).

<http://portalwiedzy.onet.pl/tlumacz.html>

On the Posen-L list James Birkholz <j.birchwood@verizon.net> suggested this translation site might be worth a try. “Put an English or Polish word in the text box and click on ‘Szukaj’”. It gives multiple guesses for two words, etc. In the few tests that I gave it, it seemed to be a fairly large dictionary (160,000 entries). There are also French-Polish, German-Polish, Hebrew-Polish versions. A handy diacritical keypad is provided.”

<http://familysearch.org>

While most of you surely know this site, Ceil Jensen <cjensen@mipolonia.net> posted to several lists the good news that its keyword search is working again. “Try it out and see the range of materials available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and all the microforms you can borrow at your local Family History Center.”

<http://www.galizien-kraus.de/> and <http://private.addcom.de/J.Kraus/>

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine list Dick Mann <mann_r_s@yahoo.ca> posted these links to two Websites with information on former German-speaking settlements in the vicinity of Lemberg, Galicia.

<http://www.polishresistance-ak.org/>

On the Polish Genius list, Onna <genius@flashroom.com> said she had added to the Polish Genius website a link to this site, which will contain a gallery for sharing photographs.

<http://www.odessa3.org/collections/churches/link/kochanow.txt>

On the Poland-Roots list Jan Ammann <janammann@sbcglobal.net> mentioned finding this site, "Birth/Marriage/Death Records for 1808 to 1840 extracted from Records of the Catholic Parish of Gluchow, Poland. Most of the names are German as this is taken from a German colony, however, I did see some Polish names here and there." Apparently this data was extracted from LDS FHL microfilm. Jan also found another site with extracted church records, "Lutheran Confirmations 1806-1814 taken from Ilow Parish in the Duchy of Warsaw." It is located here: <http://www.odessa3.org/collections/churches/link/ilow.txt>.

<http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art25546.asp>

On the HERBARZ list Kris Murawski <kris.murawski@verizon.net> gave this address for the first of a series of six articles on one Polish American's search for her Polish roots.

<http://www.eogen.com>

In *Nu? What's New?* Vol. V, No. 25 (<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/v05n25.htm>), Gary Mokotoff gives this as the site of the Online *Encyclopedia of Genealogy*, being developed by author Dick Eastman. Eastman hopes his site will serve as a free clearinghouse of genealogy techniques: "where to find records, how to organize the data found, what the terminology means, and how to plan your next research effort. Within a few months, the online encyclopedia will describe how to research African American, French-Canadian, German, Indian, Italian, Jewish, Polish, and other ethnic groups. In short, the *Encyclopedia of Genealogy*, Eastman hopes, will serve as your standard genealogy reference manual."

http://www.perfekt.krakow.pl/index_en.php

Eleanor Ritchie wanted to dress two dolls in costumes native to the area in Poland her grandfather came from, a small village near Kościelec in the Koło area. Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net> suggested the PERFECT Polish costume Website at the address given above. She said, "Click on MAP or COSTUMES, then click on COSTUMES. In this case, she thought #26, Kujawy, was the one needed. Click on it and you get a page with thumbnail photos of costume pieces. Click on the thumbnail for an enlargement.

<http://home.nycap.rr.com/polishlit>

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, Connie Ostrowski gave this site for her database with links to websites that offer Polish works in English translation, and lists works in English translation that are currently in print. She says, "Enjoy! (And if anyone knows of any works in print or on the web that I've missed, I'd be grateful if you let me know; I acknowledge my "helpers")."

<http://genforum.genealogy.com/poland/>

On the Poland-Roots list, Nancy Maciolek Blake <NJMaciolek@aol.com> gave this address for the Genealogy.com forum for Poland. A list member was trying to locate an address in Warsaw as of 1939, and Nancy said some of the people who post on that forum can be very helpful with such requests.

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