



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

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

http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_VI_9.pdf

*** ***“A NIGHT IN POLAND”*** ***

by Paul S. Valasek <paval56@aol.com>

The following historical event from New England’s Polonia was recently uncovered, yielding many names from the Polish Community of New Bedford, Massachusetts. The event was a fund-raiser for the Kościuszko Foundation Scholarship Fund and gave the community a view of Poland through a program of cultural songs and dances. It’s quite probable that some of the participants are still living and may have more information as well as photographs which they may like to share with PolishRoots® and our worldwide audience. This event took place as the Great Depression was easing off and less than three years before the onslaught of World War II.

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The New Bedford Polish Colony presents ***“A Night in Poland”***

For the Benefit of the Kościuszko Foundation Scholarship Fund

Saturday, April 24, 1937

State Armory, New Bedford, Mass.

<i>Surname</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Page</i>
Adamowska	Helena	Dancer	4, 6
Adamowska	Mary	Reception Committee	7, 9
Alberski	Edward	Committee	9
Anton	Edwin	Dancer	4, 6
Arendt	Walter	Reception Committee	7
Arendt	Celia	Reception Committee	7, 9
Arendt	Wladyslaw	Ad	16
Audickas	Anna	Ad	15
Babiarz	Felicja	Dancer	4, 6
Blaszczak	Stanislawa	Dancer	4, 6
Bogdziewicz	Thaddeus	Dancer	4, 6
Borkowska	Irena	Dancer	4, 6
Borowiec	John	Reception Committee	7
Bosak	Irene	Program	8
Bozek	Wanda	Dancer	4, 6
Bozek	Rudolph	Reception Committee	7
Buba	Edmund	Dancer	4, 6
Budrewicz	Janina	Dancer	4, 6
Bzdyra	Frank	Reception Committee	7
Bzdyra	Louise	Reception Committee	7
Carney	Leo E.J.	Mayor	3
Cieplik	John	Dancer	4, 6
Czajka	Helena	Dancer	4, 6
Dabrowska	Janina	Dancer	4, 6

Dzioba	Stanley	Dancer	4, 6
Dziuba	John	Dancer	4, 6
Dziura	Izabella	Dancer	4, 6
Dziura	John Dr.	Reception Committee	7, 9
Frodyma	Mary	Reception Committee	7
Gacek	Bronislaw	Dancer	4, 6
Galazka	Henry	Dancer	4, 6
Gerry	Janina	Dancer	4, 6
Gesiak	Genia	Dancer	4, 6
Gudewicz	Stanislawa	Committee	9
Gula	Michael	Dancer	4, 6
Hylek	Anna	Program	8
Izdebski	Helen	Program	8
Jachimowicz	Stella	Reception Committee	7
Jaworek	Zofja	Dancer	4, 6
Jaworek	Eugene	Reception Committee	7, 9
Jaworek	Sophie	Reception Committee	7, 9
Kaczorowski	Frank	Dancer	4, 6
Kaminska	Marja H	Dancer	4, 6
Kaszynski	Chester	Reception Committee	7
Kolaczewska	Olga	Dancer	4, 6
Koniczenska	Helen	Soloist	5, 8
Koniczenski	Eleanor	Program	8
Koniczenski	Anna	Reception Committee	7, 9
Konieczynska	Wanda	Dancer	4, 6
Konieczynski	George	Dancer	4, 6
Korona	Stanley	Reception Committee	7
Korona	Phyllis	Program	8
Korona	Irene	Program	8
Kowalska	Emilia	Reception Committee	7
Kozik	Helen	Program	8
Kozikowski	Vera	Committee	9
Lazowska	Lodzianka	Dancer	4, 6
Lazowska	Genia	Dancer	4, 6
Lazowska	Janina	Dancer	6
Lazowska	Helen	Program	8
Marnik	Frances	Reception Committee	7
Michalski	Jacob	Reception Committee	7
Nash Liquor Store		Ad	OBC
New Bedford Bottling Co.		Ad	IFC
Niznik	Joseph	Reception Committee	7, 9
Obedzinska	Stella	Reception Committee	7
Okolski	Boleslaw	Reception Committee	7
Olemberska	Marja	Dancer	4
Pejko	M.	Ad	16
Pelczar	Bronia	Dancer	4, 6

Piekut	Alphonse	Dancer	4, 6
Pietrzykowski	Adam	Reception Committee	7
Polchopek	Marja	Dancer	4, 6
Polchopek	Zofja	Dancer	4, 6
Ponichtera	Chester	Dancer	4, 6
Pyteraf	Alexander	Dancer	4, 6
Ras	Henry	Dancer	4, 6
Rokicki	Alice	Program	8
Romanowicz	Cecelia	Dancer	6
Rzeznikiewicz	Frances	Reception Committee	7, 9
Sieczkowski	Stanley	Reception Committee	7
Smietana	Amelia	Program	8
Smietana	Jennie	Program	8
Stankiewicz	Stanley	Dancer	4, 6, 9
Starsiak	Joseph	Reception Committee	7
Starsiak	Florence	Program	8
Strachocka	Mary	Reception Committee	7
Szubzda	Irene	Program	8
Szumowska	Jadwiga	Reception Committee	7, 9
Taber	Charles H.F.	Ad	OBC
Textike Beverage Co.		Ad	15
Tracz	Anthony	Reception Committee	7
Twarog	Sophie	Program	8
Wardick	Helen	Reception Committee	7
Widuch	Stanley	Reception Committee	7
Wojcizlonis	Emilja	Dancer	4, 6
Wolanski	Frank	Reception Committee	7
Wroblinski	Genevieve	Reception Committee	7, 9
Wroblinski	Helen	Reception Committee	7, 9
Zajac	M.	Ad	IFC
Zajac	Anna	Reception Committee	7, 8, 9
Zielinska	Stella	Reception Committee	7
Zielinski	John	Reception Committee	7
Zielinski	Anthony	Program	8, 9
Zygiel	Mary	Reception Committee	7, 9

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

Subject: Polish Trivia

I noticed your last trivia question asks about a Polish-American mathematician who worked on the atom bomb. My answer would be Emil Konopinski, who worked with Fermi at the U. of Chicago and played a very important role in that project. Emil was born in Michigan City, Indiana (my home town) on Christmas Day, 1911.

Since he is a part of my family tree I wish I could tell you much more. I could not find a birth record through the Vital Records in LaPorte County, Indiana. His parents were Joseph and Sophia Sniegowska. She, I believe, is a sister to Maciej Sniegowska. Maciej is the father of my grandmother, Anna Sniegowska, born in Otis, Indiana. Emil grew up in Hamtramck, Michigan and did most of his degree work at the U. of Michigan. He joined the Physics Department at Indiana University and he died in Bloomington, Indiana in 1990. I was aware of a famous science relative having worked on the atom bomb but never got to meet him. I still have a lot to do to fill the missing parts of that part of my family tree. Need to visit the Burton Library in Detroit to get info. Valarie Koselka has given me some suggestions but I have not followed up.

Is Emil the correct answer to your question?

Marvin Pozdol <Marvpozdol@adelphia.net>

Editor—That’s not the answer that appeared in the original game; it gave Stanislaw Ulam as the correct answer. But maybe this is our chance to spread word of Emil’s contribution and give him a little more credit than he’s received so far.

Subject: Correction, it’s GINKGO Press

Editor—In the last issue I included mention of the book Eat Smart in Poland, but got the contact info wrong. Author Joan Peterson wrote to correct the error:

We loved the notice of our book in your e-zine. Thanks so much.

We noted that your readers may have difficulty reaching us because our website and e-mail address was misspelled. If you have a bit of space in your next newsletter, we’d love it if you’d put in the following website and e-mail address:

<http://www.ginkgopress.com>
<info@ginkgopress.com>

(Note: everyone seems to want to spell our name as “gingko” rather than “ginkgo.”)

Joan Peterson <joanp@ginkgopress.com>

Editor—I’m very sorry for the error. I don’t know why I misread the name, and it’s not much consolation to know everyone else makes the same mistake....

[Editor—The letter that originally appeared here has been deleted at the author’s request.]

Subject: Pupkowizna

My great grandfather came from a village called Pupkowizna. It's 83.7 miles NNE of Warszawa, located in the Mazowieckie region. Can anyone help me find a researcher in this area? Also is there anyone who knows of anything online pertaining to records from this region? He was of the Catholic faith. Thank you.

Katie Nadolny Briggs <KBriggs@BellSouth.net>

Subject: 1934 Gazetteer *Skorowidz miejscowości*

Editor—In the last issue I reprinted a note on the online availability of an excellent 1934 gazetteer of Poland, especially good for places once in eastern Poland but now in Belarus, Lithuania, and Ukraine. The only problem is that it consists of compressed scans of more than 2,000 individual pages. So looking up a specific entry can be a tedious process, as you have to repeatedly load pages, skipping forward and backward, till you find the one that has what you're looking for. I suggested downloading the whole thing to your hard drive, which makes a real difference in how quickly you can do this.

Barbara Proko, an experienced researcher with particular interest in Belarus, posted a note on a Lithuanian mailing list, and she had a bright idea that takes this a step further: "You can view it online, but if you download it, you can rename the individual page files (2,000+) and add town names to simulate a table of contents for faster long-term use." What a great idea! It makes a real difference in how quickly you can locate a desired entry.

I wrote Barbara and speculated that maybe some volunteers could get together, rename all the files, then put them all together into one big ZIP file that could then be uploaded for easy access. There's no copyright problem that I could see, and this would only have to be done once to make this gazetteer a lot easier to use. Here's Barbara's reaction to that idea:

If you want to pass along the file renaming idea in the next GD, I'd be most pleased.

I love the way ideas generate more ideas!!! Your idea of compressing into a new ZIP file seems like a perfect way to share this.

Being admittedly obsessive-compulsive about genealogy, though not about anything else in life ;), I've already renamed every 10th file and am partially done renaming every 5th file, which is where even OC me plans to stop. I figure that puts you in the ballpark for finding an entry easily.

The way I've dealt with diacritics in placenames is to use *l~* for *ł* and *´* for kreskas (*ś ń ó ź*) and *z* for *ż* (to distinguish *z*, *ź* and *ż*). I suppose I could have used commas for *q* and *e*; if I let myself get really compulsive about this, maybe I'll do that.

I haven't ZIP'd anything yet with Windows XP; if it's as virtually automatic as UNZIP was, it seems like it'll be a piece of cake. What I'm getting at here is that I'd be most happy to share this renaming project when I'm done, which will probably be by the end of the week. It seems silly for more than one person to spend time and energy on this task.

If there's some central location (Polish Roots???) that I could send a ZIP file to, where people could then access it easily and download it, I'm happy to share my end results.

The nice thing is, once someone downloads, they could then adapt the file names any way they might want to for personal use. (e. g., 0985 Babcia's longlost village).

Thanks very much for announcing the Skorowidz availability in GD — the possibility of downloading this wonderful resource free was right up there with Christmas! And thanks for all the time and energy you put into GD—I'm always excited to read it :)

Barbara Proko <lida_ancestors@yahoo.com>

Editor—I'm always glad to hear from people who enjoy Gen Dobry! As for this project, is anyone interested in getting the ZIP file from Barbara? Or if there's enough interest, maybe we could rename all the files, then put the whole thing on the PolishRoots site for all researchers to access. Why not think big?

Subject: *Dziennik Chicagoski* Headlines

Editor—Armella Hammes wrote to share her reaction to the headlines we gave from September 1905 issues of the Dziennik Chicagoski:

Some things never change! Re 19 September 1905 headlines—"Another Government Official in Washington Arrested for Fraud." And 100 years later New Orleans is once again making headlines, not from an epidemic, but from the worst disaster in American history.

Armela Hammes <armelahammes@att.net>

Editor—The same thoughts occurred to me! I was really worried the parallel would be even more complete, and there would be an epidemic in New Orleans, due to the catastrophe there. I'm awfully glad that so far, at least, this hasn't happened. Let's pray it doesn't -- those folks are facing enough misery without adding widespread disease to the list!

***** NEW DIGITAL LIBRARY WEBSITES AVAILABLE OR SOON AVAILABLE IN POLAND *****

by Edward David Luft <edwardluft@hotmail.com>

When I wrote an article about using the Digital Library of Wielkopolska in March 2005 ["A Useful Library Website for City Directories," *Gen Dobry!*, Vol. VI, No. 3, 31 March 2005, pp. 7-8; online only at http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_VI_3.pdf], I had diligently searched the Internet for comparable Polish websites for similar services and failed to find any.

I am indebted to Logan Kleinwaks for pointing out that now new websites have begun to appear. Each website covers a specific historical region of Poland with full-text copies of rare and interesting publications, valuable for different classes of researchers.

My own research shows that the first new website is the Biblioteka Cyfrowa Politechniki Wrocławskiej at <http://dlib.bg.pwr.wroc.pl/dlibra/>. This website has recently begun and has as yet only a few items scanned in full-text but is likely to grow. It covers Silesia. Assuming that this website will follow the pattern of the Digital Library of Wielkopolska, it should contain a large number of city directories and other publications of genealogical value relatively soon.

Another website which has just begun is the Kujawsko-Pomorska Digital Library, operated by Nicholas Copernicus University in Toruń at <http://kpbc.umk.pl>. It is likely to eventually become the largest digital library in Poland. Two more websites have not yet begun but should be in operation before the end of 2005. They are the Zielonogorska Digital Library in Zielona Góra at <http://dlibra.ck.uz.zgora.pl>, and the Podlaska Digital Library at <http://pbc.biaman.pl>. Moreover, two additional sites, which should be in operation by the end of 2005, are for Łódź [the official beginning is scheduled for 1 October 2005] and Jelenia Góra, but no future URL is yet available for citation for either website. As yet, none of the newer operating websites has much of genealogical interest, but that should come in time. Be patient and keep checking.

If the newest websites use the same pattern as the Wielkopolska and Wrocław websites, one of the masks available will be in Polish and the other will be in English so that those who read no Polish should be able to navigate the website in English, but the items scanned are usually in Polish or German. In other parts of the country, such texts might appear in Russian or some other locally-important language, such as Ukrainian. Occasionally, items relevant to other parts of Poland but in the collections of a library in the region covered by the website do appear in full text, so it pays to check other digital libraries for items of potential interest, even though the items might apply only to an area outside the region where the library is located. For example, I found one item relevant to Galicia only in the Digital Library of Wielkopolska. Naturally, each digital library will hold items which relate to all Poland and not just to one region.

The dLibra software developed by Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Center, a part of the Polish Academy of Sciences, forms the basis for all of the digital libraries mentioned. A new dLibra project homepage is under construction and should soon be available at <http://dlibra.psnc.pl/>. That page will detail all of the accessible dLibra-based Polish digital library websites as they go online. Because each of these websites is operated by a Polish university in its respective region of Poland, these websites are not likely to be discontinued until better technology presents itself, presumably only after many years of using this technology. Thus, the information is likely to remain available for public access for a very long time, perhaps permanently.

The source for much of the information in this article is Marcin Werla, the project leader for dLibra at Poznań Supercomputing and Networking Center, which develops free software for such websites in Poland. Hopefully, additional URLs for other parts of Poland will appear in 2006 and thereafter. What is striking is that none has yet appeared for either Warsaw or Kraków, nor is it likely to appear in 2005!

Edward Luft has written a large number of articles on doing genealogical and related research in Poland and Germany. A complete list of his relevant publications appears online at <http://www.myLITsearch.org/mbrx/PT/99/MBR/11078005>. The newly revised and expanded version of his book, *The Naturalized Jews of the Grand Duchy of Posen in 1834 and 1835*, is available from Avotaynu, Inc. <http://www.avotaynu.com/books/posen.htm>.

***** DZIENNIK CHICAGOSKI HEADLINES *****

Editor—As explained in last month's issue, we'd like to show you selected headlines from Dziennik Chicagoski issues of a century ago. This month's headlines are from 5 and 31 October 1905, and are (or soon will be) available for viewing at:
http://www.polishroots.org/newspapers/dzchig_headlines.htm

October 5, 1915:

- Projected Alliances
- England Wishes to Live in Harmony with Russia
- Scandal in the Austrian Parliament
- Exchange of Prisoners Between Russian and Japan
- Miss Alice Roosevelt Studies Japanese Distinctive Traits
- 29th Convention of the Polish Roman Catholic Union

October 31: 1915:

- New Era in Russia
- Tsar Nikolai Grants the Nation a Constitution
- Count Witte Named Prime Minister and Executor of the New Constitution
- Signs of Enthusiasm in St. Petersburg – Gloomy News Continues to Come from the Kingdom [of Poland] and the Interior of Russia

Editor—also, John Szaroleta <momszar@toast.net> contacted PolishRoots' Webmaster Don Szumowski, and explained his father worked in the field of Polish-American newspapers 1918-1927. Mr. Szaroleta said we could reprint the letterhead from a letter his father sent back home to his parents, from Stevens Point, Wisc. on 1 January 1917. The letterhead was for Worzalla Publishing Co., a prominent Polish-American publisher, and promoted its newspapers Gwiazda Polarna (North Star) and Rolnik (The Farmer). It also showed the following article, in English, that you may find interesting:

Polish People and Their Newspapers

Industrial:

Polish speaking population of this country is estimated at three and a half millions, located chiefly in the industrial centers of New England, Eastern and Middle states.

They are renowned as being thrifty, also possessing a strong instinct of sociability and vivid imagination. They are good buyers of novelties, household articles, clothing, phonographs, etc.

There are in this country over three hundred Polish churches. Wherever is a Polish church you will find an issue of our weekly “Gwiazda Polarna” (North Star). It is a lively paper, strictly adapted to the needs of its readers.

It is a sixteen-page, seven column paper of threefold purpose: it supplies current news for those who have no time to read daily papers; it is read at Sunday’s leisure hours for its strong editorial and other articles; it is kept and collected for months like a magazine, for its serial stories and special features that make it dear to the hearts of men, women and young folks of both sexes. That’s what makes it such a strongly pulling advertising medium.

Agricultural:

Rural population of Polish descent in this country is estimated at two hundred thousand, located almost wholly in the North Central and North Western states. They are good farmers; they are rural-born agriculturists, able to make a good living even on lands deserted by American farmers because of “soil exhaustion” or infecundity, also they are progressive: always ready to learn and to adapt new agricultural methods.

Being good farmers, they are as a rule prosperous, therefore able to buy things that contribute to make their living comfortable. As to buying agricultural necessities they are as good customers as any others.

Our weekly “Rolnik” (Farmer) is the only Polish paper in this country published exclusively for our farmers and their families. In the North Central states you will find “Rolnik” practically in every second Polish house. They read it, they like it, they keep it. It goes without saying that they are buying goods therein advertised.

Editor—Many thanks to Mr. Szaroleta for sharing this with us!

***** COPERNIC AND CLUSTY *****

by Ray Marshall <raymarsh@mninter.net>

Editor—Here are some tips Ray offered our readers.

a.) Last year Google, Microsoft and Yahoo, and I think other search engines, came out with modifications so that you could use their search engines to search your own computer files. Much, much faster, and much more information results as opposed to what you get using the puny “search” option that traditionally came with Microsoft products.

Well, I run my “Model T” (five years old) with Windows ME, and you have to be using XP or 2000 to make these search engines work on your desktop. The other night I was getting organized and was making a list of all the search engines that I occasionally use, because I can’t remember them all. Then I put them in their own folder. And I thought of Copernic (from Copernicus?) (<http://www.copernic.com>) and I went there to see what they were up to. I hadn’t used it for a long time.

Well, what to my wondering eyes did appear, but Copernic now has a free Desktop Search function and it works with Windows 98, ME and XT. No need to upgrade my computer. It searches not only

files, but also, e-mails, pictures, favorites that you saved, and your address book. Talk about a time saver! Just be sure to know where you are searching. I spent two hours looking for a certain file as a test, and forgot that it was an image, not a word or Internet file.

Another thing to be sure of, with all search engines, is spelling. I tried searching on the German word *Witwe* (widow) which I knew was in one recent file and I couldn't find it. Finally, by actually looking at the file, I discovered that it had been spelled *Wittwe* in the year 1793.

I checked out some of the reviews and generally Copernic Desktop Search is given raves for speed. It takes a long time to index your files (mine took 18 hours) but you can work while it indexes, it just takes longer. The speed, compared to the search function Microsoft furnishes, was stunning. And you can sort your finds by date if you are looking for a message or file you accessed recently. That will decrease the number of files you might have to look at if you are using a common word for your search. Copernic also has a nice Preview function so you don't have to open files to see how the word is used. Microsoft's standard search will give you every file that has "Poznan" in it, in the order in which it searches. No help whatsoever. Copernic does recognize Polish and German diacritical marks. It also works well as a regular Internet search engine.

Here are the details:

<http://www.copernic.com/en/products/desktop-search/features.html>

b.) Just as I was finishing, I remembered Clusty (<http://www.clusty.com>). It uses meta-searches and it "clusters" your results by "subcategories." So that when I search on my Marszalkiewicz surname, rather having to look carefully at each hit a search engine lists, I can see immediately with Clusty that I don't have to look at the hits for (1) the guy who is into old military equipment; (2) the guy who plays soccer in a German league; and (3) the U.S.A.A.F. Flight Sergeant who was killed on a mission in WWII. That leaves mostly my own items and a few others that definitely need investigating. It's wonderful for genealogy where you might search the same sites over and over for a long period of time and most of the search engines coming up with nearly the same results. And it's very simple to use.

I thought you'd like to share these with the other readers of your great newsletter, *Gen Dobry!*

Editor—Thanks, Ray! These are good ideas, especially for those who like their older machines and want to use recently developed resources without having to change to Windows XP.

***** OCTOBER IS POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH *****

by Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net>

Editor—Debbie posted this note to the Poland-Roots mailing list, and I thought many readers would enjoy the reminder:

October is Polish American Heritage month in the USA. It's a perfect time to fly your Polish flag and give little presentations to elementary students, Girl and Boy Scout groups (remember, there are Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in Poland too), genealogical societies (aside from Polish), senior citizen groups, ANY group!

The Polish American Cultural Center has two posters you can download and place in store windows, car windows, bulletin boards (don't forget LDS, NARA), libraries etc. Remind folks that Poles still exist and we're proud:

http://www.polishamericancenter.org/Heritage_Frame.htm

Scroll down and click.

This site also has suggestions for a poetry contest as well as a picture to color of Adam Mickiewicz, the famous Polish poet (*Pan Tadeusz*). I always enjoy showing children how long that poem is compared to anything they've ever read!

The kids don't have to enter the contest if time doesn't permit, but these ideas are both great little projects.

Consider handing out postage stamps you've collected from the mail you've received from Poland. Oh, you didn't save any? Start saving for next year and ask your friends and relatives to save them if they receive mail from Poland.

The Polish Museum of America in Chicago has a program and dinner planned for October 16:

<http://pma.prcua.org/homeen.html>

Click on VISITOR INFORMATION and then scroll down.

The museum also sponsors an art contest with prizes for children (under 18). It's too late for this year, but make a note to check with the museum in Sept. 2006 for that year's contest.

While you're at the PMA site check out the upcoming programs and keep in mind that the admission price will increase in January, 2006. Now would be a good time to visit if you haven't been there in awhile. There have been numerous changes and improvements!

Sept. 30 is the opening of the exhibit, "Katyń: Truth and Remembrance." This exhibit will only run through October.

Nov. 19 & 20 marks the "Holiday Crystal, Amber and Gift Sale" at the PMA gift shop. Wishing you had something from the "old country"? Visit the gift shop.

Also on Nov. 19 & 20 the museum sponsors the Polish Christmas Ornament Workshop. Learn how (or refresh your memory) to make amazing curled paper ornaments. Take the children and grandchildren. You're never too young or too old to learn this Polish craft.

Closing in on Christmas: Friday, Dec. 2 is Wigilia. If you never celebrated this Christmas Eve dinner in your home now is your opportunity to see what it's all about. What better way to celebrate your Polish heritage than to share Wigilia with family?

This is another opportunity to make Christmas ornaments too. This dinner is reserved for adults only. (children are welcome on Dec. 10)

Sat. Dec. 10 is the PMA "Family Old Fashioned Christmas Workshop and Lunch." Learn Polish Christmas customs and traditions. Make Polish ornaments. Learn Polish Christmas carols. Of course there will be a Wigilia. This lunch and the festivities is open to children as well as adults so make plans now to attend. St. Nicholas (św. Mikołaj) will be there too.

Print off the flyers from the web site to use as reminders. Send copies to friends and family!

*** POZNAŃ PROJECT NEWSLETTER #7 ***

by Łukasz Bielecki <bielecki@rose.man.poznan.pl>

Editor—For those who didn't receive this latest update from Dr. Łukasz Bielecki, the Poznań Project is something all researchers should know about.

Dear Poznań Project Participants and Friends,

It seems that making the partial results of our Project (see http://www.polishroots.org/posen_indexing.htm) available on the net, which was done in June, has indeed triggered some acceleration to our joint efforts to transcribe the 19th century marriages of the Poznań/Posen province. Several new volunteers have declared to sign up for parishes, and yes, a few of the "old" ones have resumed the work that somehow fell off their priorities over the last years. I appreciate this very much, as usual.

The way the initial results are presented — i. e., not as a searchable database (which had been the initial idea and still is a goal to achieve at a time closer to the completion), but rather in the form of lists of marriages ordered by the grooms' first names — has yielded an unexpected but positive side effect. Due to the manner <http://www.google.com> (and similar engines) work, the tables are on the top of search results when names are looked for. Please try e.g. "Agnes Konczal" or "Theodor Brauser". I have added links which now lead all people who stumble upon these Project Results, to the main page where they can find more about it, which they otherwise would probably never have a chance to.

Another page has been started:

http://www.discovering-roots.pl/poznan_project/

where all accounts are welcome about how the data covered by the Project have added to your research or even made it possible at all. This should also help to encourage possible new volunteers. Transcribing a parish (500-2000 marriages on the average) is a task that one person is able to accomplish, and then many, many people will no more need to reproduce this effort in vain. Hopefully some of them will find it worthwhile to add more data to the whole Project “in return”.

Thanks for your help and as usual I am asking for encouraging new volunteers and spreading the information about the Project.

***** 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 August Issue:

- Q. What 16th century Polish nobleman had a personal entourage of 60 Cossacks?
- A. Prince Lubomirski

- Q. Who was Kościuszko's lost love?
- A. Ludwika Sosnowska

- Q. What was Edmund Muskie's family name before reaching Ellis Island?
- A. Marciszewski

- Q. Who wrote an anthropological work entitled, *Argonauts of the Western Pacific*?
- A. Bronislaw Malinowski (Note: This character was portrayed in the 1980's TV series finale of “Young Indiana Jones”)

- Q. What Pol-Am mathematician worked on the atomic bomb project in the U.S.?
- A. Stanisław Ulam [*Editor—But see Marv Pozdol's note in the “Letters to the Editor” section.*]

New Questions for the September Issue

New Questions - Geography

1. Which Polish city was originally on the right bank of the Warta River and was later moved to the left bank?
2. What Kaszubian peninsula juts out into the Baltic Sea?
3. Where is the largest Gothic castle in Poland?
4. Which US State contains the townships of Krakow, Lublin, Poniatowski, Pulaski, and Sobieski?

5. In what city was Mikołaj Kopernik born?

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***** 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>.

Sunday, October 2, 2005

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

The Great Eastern European Festival

Old Deerfield, Massachusetts

A celebration of Polish, Ukrainian and other Eastern European cultures with ethnic food, dancing, music, books & crafts. Polish Food. Polish Genealogy display with resources and Q&A. Admission \$5. Next to Memorial Hall Museum in Old Deerfield, Massachusetts.

October 13, 2005

FOX VALLEY (Illinois) GENEALOGY SOCIETY MEETING

Sandra Luebking, “Hooked on Courthouses”

Gary Hargis <GKHargis@comcast.net> posted a note to the Naperville Illinois FHC Patrons mailing list to announce that the next meeting of this society will present “Hooked on Courthouses” with Sandra Luebking October 13, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 South Eagle Street, Rooms B&C, Naperville, IL. “Sandra is editor of *Forum* magazine, the journal of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. She is a professional genealogical researcher, instructor at numerous genealogical institutes, a nationally known and respected lecturer, and author of numerous publications. The presentation will cover practical techniques to reduce courthouse anxiety, design a work plan, and prioritize needs for on-site research. Please join us for a very special evening.” For more information visit <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>.

October 14, 2005

TORONTO UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY GROUP (TUGG)

7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Meeting: at the St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Avenue, Toronto

Jim Onyschuk <jodanji@aci.on.ca> posted a notice on several mailing lists that the next meeting of TUGG will feature Orysia Paszczak Tracz, speaking on “Ukrainian Folk Medicine: Baba Was Right All Along (Baba mala ratsiyu)”.

October 15, 2005

- ISGS FALL CONFERENCE - ITASCA, ILLINOIS -

Illinois State Genealogical Society’s Fall Conference, “Building Family Bridges: Linking the Present to the Past,” will be held at the Holiday Inn, Itasca, IL on Saturday, October 15, 2005. Speakers will include Tony Burroughs, Maureen Brady, Jeff Bockman, Brother Joseph Martin, Craig Pfannkuche, Helen Sclair, Jack Simpson, and CAGG-NI (Computer-Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois). Vendors will offer their genealogical products. Genealogy societies will be present as well.

Three separate presentations will be offered at each of the four sessions—so you will be able to find a topic to interest you whether you are a beginning or experienced researcher. Several sessions on computer genealogical topics such as comparisons of genealogical software packages, video genealogy (converting home movies), and the latest trends in genealogical computing will also be available.

Registration information and online registration with PayPal on our website:

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

Additional questions can be directed to <ISGSconference@comcast.net>.

April 21 – 24, 2006

UPGS 2006

Paul Lipinski, President of PGS-California and Chairman of UPGS 2006, sent this announcement:

On April 21-24, 2006 the United Polish Genealogical Societies [UPGS] will hold its biennial conference “**UPGS 2006**” in Salt Lake City, Utah. This conference will host the best and most knowledgeable speakers on Polish research from across the U.S. It offers a unique opportunity to use the world’s largest collection of genealogical material and have access to expert Polish genealogical researchers. The speaker’s presentations are of proven research techniques.

FHL (Family History Library) records include U.S. ship passenger lists, naturalization, census, World War I and II draft registration records. The FHL also has birth, marriage, and death civil records for many U.S. cities and U.S. Polish Catholic parishes. They also have the largest collection

of microfilm of Poland's church and civil records available to researchers in one location. New features at the FHL include many computer systems that allow researchers to access valuable online resources such as Ancestry.com, HeritageQuest.com, etc.

Following is the proposed schedule of events.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Friday, April 21 | Arrival, registration, and individual research at the FHL |
| Saturday, April 22 | Welcome, FHL Orientation, lectures, individual research, and Question & Answer session |
| Sunday, April 23 | Attend church, optional sightseeing, lunch, and lectures |
| Monday, April 24 | Individual research, Conference banquet and keynote address |

Additional conference particulars will be available in the coming months. Check <http://PGSCA.org>, <http://PGSA.org>, <http://mipolonia.net>, <http://PolishRoots.org>, and other PGS websites.

July 20 — 31, 2006

POLAND IN THE ROCKIES, 2006

Maureen Mroczek Morris <maureenm@sbcglobal.net> sent me this information:

“An intensive, 11-day program set in the magnificent Canadian Rockies—the Tatrás of the West—in Polish history, culture and contemporary issues designed specifically for North American youth of Polish background. **Poland in the Rockies** will bring together 40 bright young people from across the continent to meet outstanding scholars and other public figures, forge new friendships, and foster pride in their identity and links to the world-wide Polish community. The program will provide information, perspective and skills for future leaders.”

For more, visit the Website: <http://www.PolandInTheRockies.com>

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

<http://culture.polishsite.us/>

Nancy Maciolek Blake <NJMaciolek@aol.com> wanted me to share with you this new address of the Polish Culture website developed by Jagoda Urban-Klaehn. “Recently, Jaga moved this website, with hundreds of articles on all sorts of topics related to Poland, from BellaOnline to this new location.” Nancy will be helping with the site, especially with genealogy: <http://nancy.polishsite.us/>. She added, “I hope everyone will join us there, and perhaps offer links or articles of their own.”

http://www.pogonowski.com/Slowniki/pol-ang/pol_ang.php

On the PolandBorderSurnames mailing list, Lucjan Atraszkiewicz <latrasz@wp.pl> posted a note recommending this page, which provides a search function for Prof. Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski's online Polish-English dictionary. I must say I've never been a huge fan of Prof. Pogonowski's books, but this is a resource many will find useful. I particularly like the clever way he's set up a feature that enables you to input Polish characters, so that words can be spelled properly.

On that same list, Tina Ellis <pbslist@hotmail.com> said she found this Dictionary easier to use and more helpful than online translation sites such as Poltran. She pointed out that the home page for this site is <http://www.pogonowski.com/main.php?page=home>, which has links to several different dictionaries and other writings by Prof. Pogonowski. I agree that these are well worth a look, especially in view of the price (free!).

<http://www.perfekt.krakow.pl/order.php/en>

This is a site Paul Valasek saw mentioned in a chat room, a link for ordering Polish costumes, and he thought some of our readers might like to know about it. I suspect he's right!

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fraktur_%28typeface%29

On the Posen list James Birkholz <j.birchwood@verizon.net> recommended this site for a discussion of *Fraktur*, the old Gothic print in German. He suggested visiting this site for information on the Sütterlin script: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/S%C3%BCtterlin>.

http://www.personal.ceu.hu/students/97/Roman_Zakharii/

On the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup Robert Dodell mentioned finding this site, which he described as "a nice website for Ukrainian genealogy. The host of the site works for Institute for Jewish history in Leipzig, Germany. I have no connection with him or his site, but he has some good information and links for us there."

http://www.stat.gov.pl/english/dane_spol-gosp/ludnosc/ludnosc/figures/figure7.xls

Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net> mentioned this site on the Poland-Roots list, saying it gives numbers and charts for statistics on illegitimate births in Poland 1970-2003. She explained, "From 1970 to 2003 there were 737,442 illegitimate births in Poland. More illegitimate births appeared in the urban (city) areas than in the rural (farm) areas. In some cases the numbers of illegitimate births in urban areas was double that of the rural areas ... If you place your cursor over one of the colored bars exact numbers will pop up."

She added, "For those interested in numbers you might want to look at this page which gives information about female fertility, marriages, population development and changes in age structure and many more including this interesting title: 'Live births by order in 1960-2003,' which charts the births of children according to their birth order in the family."

http://www.stat.gov.pl/english/dane_spol-gosp/ludnosc/ludnosc/index.html

Finally she said, "If these pages don't load for you, start at <http://www.stat.gov.pl/english/index.htm>. Click on BASIC DATA and then in the drop down list click on POPULATION. On the next page

click on POPULATION again and then take your pick. You may find this so interesting that you'll want to back to the POPULATION page and look at the other information as well.”

<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,605153189,00.html>

Maureen Morris <maureenm@sbcglobal.net> sent me this URL for info on LDS's plans to make microfilm images available on the Internet.

The September 11, 2005 issue of *Nu? What's New?* also had a very good article on this subject, available at <http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/v06n13.htm>.

<http://andy.univ.gda.pl/marek/ktel/>

On the Poland-Roots list Roman <rgazda@idx.com.au> said he'd discovered an online Polish telephone directory here. “Select the Województwo (Province) that you are interested in. Then on the next page in the square put in your search criteria. You can search a whole Województwo by name, or by part name, or place, or street or whatever. Only one problem: it does not work well with Internet Explorer (you cannot scroll down the page of results). You need to use a different browser (I tried it with Opera and Netscape and it works great). Be sure to use Polish letters where required.”

Thomas Mackowiak <ThomasMackowiak@comcast.net> responded with this tip: “For those of you using Internet Explorer, try this as a way of obtaining a list of names and telephone numbers that you can scroll through. After the list of names appears in a window, right click your mouse and left click on ‘Select All.’ Once you have done this right click your mouse again and left click ‘Copy.’ Now open Microsoft Word. Once Word has opened, right click your mouse in the Word program and left click ‘Paste.’ The complete list of names from the Polish telephone directory should open in your Word program and you can go scrolling through the list.”

<http://semanchuk.com/gen/data/BukowskoBirthsFromDebbieG.html>

<http://semanchuk.com/gen/data/BukowskoMarriagesFromDebbieG.html>

<http://semanchuk.com/gen/data/BukowskoDeathsFromDebbieG.html>

On the Poland-Roots list, Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net> gave these sites for records she has transcribed and translated from various sources for Bukowsko in the former province of Krosno (now Podkarpackie). She also gave other sites with ties to the same area:

- Hujsak site: <http://homepage.mac.com/lizurd/genealogy/>
- Bukowsko Jews: <http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/bukowsko/>
- Jewish Residents of Bukowsko: <http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/Bukowsko/records.htm>
- Bukowsko Cemetery headstones - Hujsak):

http://homepage.mac.com/lizurd/genealogy_other/Bukowsko_cemetery_v1/

- Bukowsko Triangle Resources:

http://homepage.mac.com/lizurd/genealogy_other/bookmarks/index.html

- Bukowsko Cemetery Tombstones Transcriptions on Poland GenWeb:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~polwgv/polandarchives.html>

- Marek Silarski: <http://uk.geocities.com/mareksilarski/silarski.html>
 - Photos of Bukowsko (more to come): <http://www.polishfamily.com/p4e/>
-

<http://genealogy-software-review.toptenreviews.com/>

There was a very interesting discussion on the PolandBorderSurnames list about genealogy software and using the proper Polish characters. The whole discussion is worth reading – you can read it by going to the archive here:

<http://archiver.rootsweb.com/th/index/PolandBorderSurnames/2005-09>

Read the notes with the subject “Re: [PBS] Genealogy Software.” I was particularly interested in a note from Roman <romanka@comcast.net> that suggested checking the above URL, which offers a fairly recent review of various genealogy programs. It may shed light on this and other factors in choosing which program to use, and how to input Polish accurately.

<http://www.stevemorse.org/relation/calculator.html>

Someone on the newsgroup soc.genealogy.jewish asked for help figuring out relationships such as first cousin, second cousin, etc. One response pointed out that Steve Morse’s site has a very good calculator at the above address. The moderator also pointed out that there is a relationship chart at <http://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/related.txt>.

<http://olddirectorysearch.com/>

Another note on the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup, from Sol Sylvan, gave this URL for old city directories, such as Chicago in 1844, New York in 1786, Philadelphia in 1890, and so on. These old directories may be helpful in research; and if not, they’re still interesting to browse through!

<http://www.polonia-es.com/index.php>

Paul Valasek told me about this site, for information on Polonia in Spanish. It does not appear to have any English translations, but Paul thought it may help folks with Polish roots in Spanish-speaking countries. Is there anyone out there fluent in Spanish who could give us a good translation of the headers?

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/european/egwinv/index.html>

Paul Valasek also mentioned this site, “Polish Declarations of Admiration: Inventory of Place Names (European Reading Room, Library of Congress).” I find the Location Index particularly interesting.

http://learning.lib.vt.edu/slav/relig_jew_eastcent_eur.html#top

Also from the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup, Judi Gyori Missel said this was an interesting site with a variety of links for Jewish research in “Carpatho-Rusyn lands, Czech Republic, East Central Europe, Poland, Hungary & Transylvania, Slovakia, & Germany.”

<http://www.polorg.com>

On the Poland-Roots list Cynthia Piech <pannacynthia@yahoo.com> suggested this as a good site for information on Polonia events all over America and Canada. As she said, “ There are

so many Polish organizations and events that PolOrg is trying to consolidate information in one convenient place. If you have an organization, you can register and post information for free. PolOrg does not display advertisements or have annoying pop-ups. It is another organization that relies on donations and grants, so welcomes financial support.”

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