



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 are among those who'd like *Gen Dobry!* in PDF form, this issue is available for downloading here (or will be within a few days):

http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_V_11.pdf

***** POLES IN THE PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENTS OF THE UNION ARMY,
1861-1865 *****

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

It has been estimated that during the American Civil War there were as many as 5,000 Poles in the Union Army, and 3,000 in the Confederacy. Not much has been presented to prove or disprove these numbers; but at least for some, their names have been preserved in Pennsylvania.

The following list of names are inscribed on a plaque which I believe hangs in the County Building in Pittsburgh. The plaque reads as follows: "In Commemoration of the Centennial Anniversary of the U.S. Civil War and to Honor and Remember the Poles who served as Volunteers in Pennsylvania Regiments 1861-1865." At the bottom of the plaque is inscribed, "Erected by Polish Historical Committee - Central Council of Polish Organizations. Joseph A. Borkowski, Chairman - September 26, 1964 - Pittsburgh, PA."

If anyone has additional information, please contact me. PolishRoots® would like to thank the Polish Falcons of America, Pittsburgh, for making this information available.

Baran, John H., 41st 12th Res
Baranowski, Francis, 8th
Bartol, Anthony, 98th
Berkowski, John, 191st
Bialkowski, John G., 70th
Biegowski, John W., 191st
Bielski, Stanislaus, 80th
Bieniski, Henry, 61st
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Bonawicz, John, 123 Inf
Brod, Adam, 153rd
Brua, John D., 93rd
Bura, Henry W., 191st
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Cielewski, Joseph, 19th
Danzekloski, H., 119th
Dembowski, H., 28th
Dobrzynski, Martin, 119th
Doroszewski, Ernest, Schaeffer's
Dosc, George, 187th
Fiatkowski, Charles, 74th NY
Fiatkowski, Edward, 5th Inf
Funiak, Joseph, 153rd
Gaska, Michael, 22nd
Gloskiewski, Joseph, 19th

Graczynowski, William, 112th
Janowski, Joseph, 10th
Jennsachaskie, Joseph, 118th, 19th
Kark, George P., 70th
Karszlak, John, 35th
Kempski, Louis, 152nd - 153rd
Konorki, John, 197th
Kroson, William B., 103rd
Kruk, Frank, 53rd
Krust, Henry, 1st W. Va
Krzywoszynski, J.C., 153rd
Kryszowski, Joseph, 74th
Kukucz, Henry, 92nd
Kurkowski, Julius, 5th
Kurza, John, 72nd
Kyserowski, ?, 51st
Leszcynski, Albert, 97th
Liski, John, 174th
Lisson, George, Schaeffer's
Lomanski, J., 89th
Luszcz, William, 11th
Machalewski, F., 38th
Macka, Ernest, 74th
Mackowski, Charles, 47th
Maniewski, Edward, Schaeffer's
Maniewski, Henry, 198th
Manikowski, W.V., 127th

Marsula, Andrew, 49th
Marsula, John, 152nd
Minski, Henry, 65th
Mlotkowski, S., Schaeffer's
Morycki, Charles, 65th
Mulaski, John, 83rd
Mytkowski, Gustave, 74th
Nowicki, Anthony, 41st
Orzali, Stephen, 83rd
Pajewski, Albert, 99th
Petryski, Fred, 187th
Pietrowski, Herman, 54th
Pietrowski, Charles, 82nd
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Podolski, Theodore, 101st
Pulaski, Charles, 98th
Radzynski, Louis D. (M.D.), 57th
Rasinski, Herman, 91st
Rech, Adam, 74th
Rekawski, Louis, 65th
Ripka, Andrew A., ?
Ripka, Alfred, ?
Rosolanski, W., 91st
Rosinski, William S., 65th
Rynek, Jacob, 1st
Saliski, Thomas, 159th
Slabowski, Casper, 97th
Slepy, William, 199th
Slinka, Joseph, 24th
Smullin, Z.C., 103rd
Starnowski, Henry, 76th

Stasa, John G., ?
Stasa, Stephen, 184th
Strach, Thomas, 198th
Such, John F., 46th
Swiatlo, Edward, 98th
Szyrimski, Joseph, 107th
Tokarski, Stanislaw, ?
Treziyulny, J.F.P., 34th
Trezilyulny, Jos. C., 137th
Trezmiling, Jas. G., 39th
Treziylny, W.M.H., 137th
Waliza, Jeremiah, 137th
Warnacki, John, 193rd
Waniewicz, William, 21st
Wasielewski, Michal, 73rd
Waszalinski, W.H., 49th
Wich, Henry, 193rd
Wielgus, Joseph H., 85th
Wielgus, William, 72nd
Wilacki, Louis, Erie
Wisocki, Fred L., 165th
Worzkoski, Mathias, 46th
Wysocki, Craig F., ?
Wysocki, E., 87th
Zaczynski, Jozeph, 74th
Zielinski, Alex, 33rd
Zuelnski, Alexander, 186th
Zwiesala, John, 54th
Zwicki, A., 89th

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

Subject: Assassinated Polish Kings

Editor—In our last issue, as usual, we presented answers to Polish trivia questions from a Polish trivia game put out in the 1980s. One asked “How many Polish kings were assassinated?” The answer given was “None.” I thought this was correct, but one reader knew better:

What about King Przemysł II assassinated in Rogozno in 1296? Or even about Henryk Walezy (Henri de Valois), assassinated as King of France in 1589, but before King of Poland?

Christian Orpel <OrpelCh@aol.com>

Editor—As always, it's nice to see people are paying attention; and I want to thank Christian for pointing this out. I'm not sure why the people who wrote the game's questions and answers ignored those two. Perhaps Henri de Valois was ignored because most historians feel he ceased to be King of Poland when he left the country to become King of France in 1574. Norman Davies points out in God's Playground that Henri continued to claim to be King of Poland as well; but in a practical sense most sources do not regard him as the King of Poland when he was killed in 1589.

Historians do, however, recognize Przemysł II as King of Poland when he was killed in 1296. The Multimedialna Nowa encyklopedia powszechna PWN says he was killed by agents of Brandenburg with the assistance of members of the Nałęcz and Zaremba clans. Maybe he was overlooked because he was murdered at the instigation of foreigners, and not by Poles; or perhaps the writers of the questions did not consider his murder an assassination. But any such technicalities aside, I have to agree with Christian that a correct answer to the question should include him.

Subject: Search for book

I am searching for a book that, unfortunately, is out of print. I am hoping that someone that subscribes to *Gen Dobry!* will have a copy, or know of somewhere I can get one.

The book is titled: *Przewodnik po polskich cmentarzach wojennych we Włoszech: Monte Cassino, Loreto, Bologna, Casamassima: Przewodnik z pełnym spisem poległych i dokładnym rozmieszczeniem grobów na 50 rocznicę bitwy o Monte Cassino* [Guide to Polish Military Cemeteries in Italy: Monte Cassino, Loreto, Bologna, Casamassima: A Guide with Full Description of the Fallen and Accurate Locations of the Graves, for the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino]. Adam Studzinski (ed.). Warszawa: Oficyna Wydawnicza Fulmen, 1994. 236 pp., photographs, plans. OIN Call Number: A 1786, ISBN 8390110695

The book presents lists of soldiers buried at the four Polish military cemeteries in Italy: Monte Cassino (1,049 persons), Loreto (1,080 persons), Bologna (1,416 persons), Casamassima (429 persons). The names are listed according to the inscriptions on the headstones. The list for each cemetery is arranged alphabetically. Included in the entries are: name, rank and unit, date and place of birth, date of death, location of the grave.

If you have this book, or know of a place where I might order a copy, could you please let me know? My father, who is 85 years old and a World War II veteran, is very interested in this book solely for personal reasons. His brother and several friends were lost in the war.

Victoria Kerr (Wojtaszek) <missvicky55@rogers.com>

Editor—I don't have any information on this book, but I know some of our readers are very good at tracking down rare titles. I hope one of them can contact you with good advice.

Subject: Searching for another book

Would you know if the booklet *Beyond the Bug River* was updated? I never wrote to the address in the front because I had hoped to find something on my Mother, who was born in Tarnów. Her birth date was not in the book, but on of my aunt's was, and at this point, it would be nice to get something concrete about her family.

Lena H Duprey <flhduprey@juno.com>

Editor—Can anyone help Lena?

Subject: Help or advice

I am searching for the origins of my wife's paternal ancestry, and hope that you or your readers might be able to help. Her grandfather last lived in Chomiskowka, Galicia. I can't find this on any map — even Shtetl Seeker. There appear to be over 60 spelling variations of the surname Papiernik (at least in Ellis Island records).

Her grandfather was:

Name: Papiernik, Franc (Franciscus Antonius R “Frank”) b. 13 Jan 1887 in Poland d. 13 Jun 1964 in Winnipeg, MB, 24y, Male, Single. Ethnicity: Austria, Polish. Last Place of Residence: Chomiskowka, Galicia. Arrived June 28, 1912 at Ellis Island, NY aboard the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* from Bremen, Germany - destined for Winnipeg, MB (sponsored by Jan Olejnik?). He married (in Canada) to Carolina (Theodorus/Topolniska) Gulewicz b. 3 Nov 1890 in Nizborg, Poland d. 17 Jan 1945 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Other surnames in their ancestries are Ornatowska, Ruzycka, Mysiak, and Burta.

Thank you for any help/advice you can offer.

Bob Strong, Winnipeg <bob.strong@mts.net>

Editor—I notice Lenius's Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia doesn't mention a Chomiskowka, either. But Lenius does list three places named Chomiakówka; could it be that's the right name and it has been misread? All three are now in Ukraine; one was in Thumacz county, another in Kołomyja county, and a third in Czortków county. I'm printing this note in hopes one of our readers might be able to offer help in pinning down whether that's the right name, and if so, which Chomiakówka to focus on.

Subject: Finding people you know

Editor—Paul Valasek received this note from a reader about his article in the last issue, referring to listings for: Odalska, Pani J., 1121 Milwaukee Ave.; Odalski, M. J., 1121 Milwaukee Ave.; Odalski, Z. J., Ob.

I read with interest your article, never expecting to see anyone I knew. While I did not find my own grandparents, I did find very good friends of theirs — the Odalskis, Joanna and her husband Zigmund. (The M. J. Odalski mentioned is probably their son, although I don't know for sure). You never know who is going to appear next.

Another interesting thing is that Zigmund Odalski was a witness for my grandfather at his naturalization in 1904 in Chicago and they were close friends more than 50 years later!

Sharon Haskin Galitz <shaz34@earthlink.net>

Editor—All of which just confirms Paul's point: the more we share info, the more we help each other track down family and friends we never thought we'd find!

Subject: Poles Are Getting into the Act

I recently subscribed to *Gen Dobry!* and saw your article about Poles helping with our search for roots in Poland. (I have been reading all the older issues as well — love your sense of humor!).

This past June, I made a trip to Poland and had remarkable luck finding information on my family, and even found living cousins as well. I wrote an essay about my trip (including research in the U. S. before I went to Poland) — the essay is presented in 6 parts on BellaOnline's Polish Culture website. Here is a link to the first part:

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

Pictures from my trips (1976 and 2004) are here:

<http://community.webshots.com/user/nancyjmlake>

I do not speak Polish, so I arranged to hire a young Pole that I had met by chance on eBay. Zenon Znamirovski lives in Warsaw, but was originally from the very area where my ancestors lived in the southeastern part of the country, near Rzeszów. He and his cousin (who has studied genealogy for over 25 years) were delightful as well as helpful. After my trip, I asked Zenon to make another visit to my cousins (who do not speak English), and he did so, returning with stories and photographs of ancestral houses.

Zenon was inspired to offer his services to help others who might want to travel — in reality or virtually — to their ancestors' villages. He can certainly help in the quest for specific family records, but I think his real strength will be in developing a social history of the family (and of course, providing translations). Please visit his Website:

<http://www.inpassa.com/>

I hope that some of what I have found will be of use to others who are making their own search. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Nancy Maciolek Blake, Duxbury, Massachusetts <NJMaciolek@aol.com>

Editor—I love people who love my sense of humor! Thanks for the links to your articles, and for the information on Zenon. It’s a real pleasure to spread word of Poles who can help our readers, and I wish Zenon the best of luck.

Subject: Help with Place Names

Editor—I was flattered when The Galitzianer, the official newsletter of Gesher Galicia, reprinted my article, “Place Names and (Horrors!) Grammar,” from the March 2004 issue of Gen Dobry! I was especially pleased to receive a note from Fay Bussgang, a prominent and very knowledgeable researcher. She pointed out one error — it should be “w Przemyślu,” not “w Przemyśle” (what was I thinking?), and added this useful tip:

Also, I have discovered a great way to test the case endings. I go to Google and have set up for myself a favorite site:

http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&inlang=pl&ie=ISO-8859-2&q=Toru%F1&btnG=Google+Search&lr=lang_pl

so I don’t have to go to the trouble of choosing the language each time. I can then enter a word search, within quotes if I want to be precise, and use my PTimes Roman fonts and see if the expression exists. Sometimes people writing about the town make mistakes, so it is best to find an official site for the town.

Fay Bussgang <Fbussgang@aol.com>

Editor—While Faye’s may be a bit too complicated for some folks, if you are comfortable with using Google, and with inputting Polish words with the correct characters, it can be a real help. Please note that the URL given above, which has been broken into two lines to fit here, must actually be copied into your browser intact, as one long line. As for the font, it doesn’t have to be PTimes Roman—any font will do, as long as your system has been configured to support use of the Central European character set and the font includes the proper characters.

***** POLISH RADIO ONLINE *****

Back when I lived in Kansas and there was nothing for miles around, I often turned on my short-wave radio and listened to radio stations from around the world. Tuning in foreign broadcasts is not only a good way to find out how other people in the world see things. It also lets you listen to all kinds of languages being spoken, and helps you develop some fluency in understanding what people are saying.

Most of the time since then I’ve lived in areas where it was a little harder to get the signals clearly, so I gradually got out of the habit. But the other day it dawned on me that you can listen to live feeds of almost anything on the Internet. I got online and started searching, finding all kinds of stations so interesting that I almost have to force myself to turn them off and get some work done.

One great page I found while searching lets you connect to live feeds for a variety of Polish stations:

<http://www.multilingualbooks.com/online-radio-polish.html>

Most will connect you by use of various standard plug-ins you probably already have installed on your system. Of course, a high-speed connection helps; but I imagine you can do fine with a dial-up connection, since these feeds don't require moving huge amounts of data quickly. If you're at all interested, go to this page and sample some of the offerings.

I got a big kick out of "Radio 88,4 Złote Przeboje" <<http://www.zloteprzeboje.pl/88.ram>>. When you first connect, the announcer, aided by a little jingle, greets you: "Najwięcej przebojów z lat sześćdziesiątych, siedemdziesiątych, i osiemdziesiątych — 88,4 — Złote przeboje — 88,4 fm." You don't have to be all that fluent to guess what this means: "The most hits from the 60s, 70s, and 80s — 88.4 — Golden oldies — 88.4 fm!" It tickles me; but I must admit, it also makes me a little sad to hear how Americanized some things are getting in Poland.

Still, there are plenty of other stations on that Website that give you a taste for real Polish radio, so you can practice hearing the language spoken. I highly recommend it.

Also, while you're at it, the home page <http://www.multilingualbooks.com/> is pretty fascinating! I have to stay away from it; I have a feeling I could spend my way into poverty pretty quickly. Amazon.com eats up enough of my income; I don't need to go hunting for more sources of books, video, etc.!

*** 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 October Issue:

Subject: Traditions

- Q. What is the Polish duck soup called?
- A. *Czarnina*.

- Q. By Polish legend, where does St. George reside?
- A. On the moon.

- Q. Who by tradition is said to have painted the Black Madonna?
- A. St. Luke.

- Q. By custom, with what foods is a visitor in Poland greeted?
 - A. With bread and salt.

 - Q. What is the Polish soup made from fermented oatmeal or rye flour and water?
 - A. It's called *zur*.
-

Questions for November

Subject: Christmas Traditions

- Q. What is exchanged with good wishes by Poles on Christmas Eve?
- Q. What is placed in the corners of the room on the Polish Christmas *Wigilia*?
- Q. What is missing from the traditional Polish Christmas Eve meal?
- Q. For what is the wafer (*oplatek*) used at the Christmas *Wigilia*?
- Q. What is the Polish *Choinka*?

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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>.

December 4 – 7, 2004

American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies' 36th Annual Conference

Boston, Massachusetts at the Boston Marriott Copley Hotel located at 110 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 10216.

The Preliminary Program for the nearly 200 individual panel discussions includes two panels relating to Rusyn topics and presented by noted Rusyn academicians on Monday December 6, 2004.

In addition to four days of panel discussions and meetings the Convention features dozens of exhibition booths which sell books, newspapers and other materials relating to Slavic history and studies. The public is also able to attend this AAASS Convention. Details as to cost of attendance and hotel accommodations are obtainable on their web site at <http://www.aaass.org>.

[Announcement from a note sent to all members of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society with e-mail addresses. See upcoming events at <http://www.c-rs.org/evnt.htm>.]

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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>.

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

<http://worldzone.net/history/spuscizna/spuscizna-map.html>

Bob Bator <RBator@aol.com> told me about this interactive map of the Tarnów area, saying, “If you haven’t seen this map, you are in for a real treat.” He also provided a link set up by Dennis Benarz, the Webmaster of that site, that includes telephone directory listings from that area: <http://worldzone.net/history/spuscizna/telephone.html>. Anyone with roots in that area will want to thank Dennis and Bob. Incidentally, Bob will look up names in his database for Ryglice and Joniny, but only for those who have good reason to think they have ancestors there. No fishing expeditions, please.

<http://www.nd.edu/~archives/latgramm.htm>

Arlene Gardiner <argard@wi.net> pointed out this site to Paul Valasek—it provides a Latin dictionary and information of Latin grammar, as well as various other links that may help you with translating Latin documents. It includes a link that helps convert Roman numerals and dates: <http://www.guernsey.net/~sgibbs/roman.html>. She also told Paul about an interesting site on coroner’s reports, <http://hometown.aol.com/daepowell/myhomepage/article/coroner.htm>.

<http://www.aag.gniezno.opoka.org.pl/katalog/>

On the Poland-Roots list Debbie Greenlee said the Gniezno Archdiocesan Archive has put the index to its holdings online at the above address. It’s not too easy to use if you don’t read Polish, however. You might want to look up Debbie’s note on the Poland-Roots archive, so you can follow the instructions she provides. Go here: <http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/?list=POLAND-ROOTS>, and in the box “Query” type “Gniezno Archdiocesan Archive Holdings,” then specify 2004 as the year to search. Click on “Search” and you’ll get two matches – the first one is Debbie’s note.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.si.edu/smithsonian/issues04/dec04/pdf/vilnius.pdf>

On the Lithuanian Genealogy list Diane Rooney <DianeRoone@aol.com> gave this URL as the link to read an article on the Jewish heritage of Vilnius – or Wilno, if you prefer the Polish name – in the December 2004 issue of *Smithsonian*.

http://www.electronicmuseum.ca/Poland-WW2/katyn_memorial_wall/kmw.html

On the Polish Genius list Chris Schauble <krystynapluta@yahoo.com> told of a page about the Katyń massacre on this Canadian site. It lists names, and Chris says “I found every surname of my family from Galicia! ... Not happy reading, but”

<http://www.pannamariatx.com/history.html>

This site has information on the Polish settlement in Panna Maria, Texas, generally regarded as the oldest permanent Polish settlement in the United States (although there are those who dispute that claim!)

<http://www.jasnagora.pl>

On the Poland-Roots list Gerry <gerryryder@aol.com> gave this site for information on Our Lady of Częstochowa, saying you can click on “English” for info if you don’t read Polish.

<http://www.familie-greve.de/modules.php?op=modload&name=lexikon&file=index>

Jan Zaleski of PGS-Michigan was kind enough to tell me about this site, which provides info on the meanings of over 5,000 German surnames. It’s all in German, but many of the explanations are written in fairly simple German—not too hard to figure out. Or see the next item.

http://www.translation-guide.com/free_online_translators.php

On the Polish-Surnames list Ree H. <anreee@hotmail.com> said this Website will translate entire Web pages to English. For instance, enter the page’s URL in the correct box and specify translating from Polish, say, to English. The translation will be typical computer-quality—sometimes adequate, sometimes lousy—but may be enough to give you the gist of what’s said.

<http://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/begin.html>

On the *soc.genealogy.jewish* newsgroup Bernard Kouchel <bkouchel@jewishgen.org> posted this address, an updated file on “Twelve Steps to Getting Started” with Jewish genealogical research. Actually it’s a good basic outline for anyone just getting started, regardless of religion, although it’s especially valuable for Jewish researchers.

<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/v05n21.htm>

As usual, the November 28, 2004 issue of *Nu? What’s New?* has several articles well worth reading. It includes comments on how the Ellis Island Database is getting harder to use, not easier;

how Steve Morse's site, fortunately, provides numerous facilities to make this and other databases more user-friendly (including a new Russian/English transliterating tool); and how the new Yad Vashem database (with info on victims of the Holocaust) is shaping up. You can read it for free at the above address.

<http://www.utexas.edu/courses/polish/media/stolat.htm>

On the Poland-Roots list Marg <Zappie5000@aol.com> answered a request for the words to the song "Sto lat" by giving this Website. You go down to where it says "To hear the song performed by the Mazowsze folk music ensemble, click here" to hear the song performed. Mary-Ann <bensings@mindsprings.com> posted a follow-up, saying she had trouble hearing the song until she clicked the RIGHT mouse button on that link, then clicking on "Save Target As." She saved the file to her hard drive and then could click on it and listen with no problem.

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