



Gen Dobry!

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*** WELCOME! ***

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

<<http://polishroots.org/GenDobry/tabid/60/Default.aspx>>

*** WISCONSIN *HALLERCZYCY* / SOKOLS / FALCONS ***

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

In a perfect world—and no, Ancestry.com doesn't do this, either (yet)—we would have multiple databases of individuals that could be merged together for any one person. Multiple databases are great, but merged databases are much better.

Continuing to add data into my Haller's Army database, I just added a new column of information, that of Polish Falcon Nest number. Just to quickly explain, Polish fraternal, as well as other Polish organizations, usually had clubs, societies, posts, and in the case of the Falcons, nests (Polish *gniazda*) to which their members belonged. These smaller groups would then usually be added together regionally to form Groups, Councils, Districts, and other terms for a grouping of individual clubs, but not yet to the level of the major national home office. It's sort of like the federal government, made up of state governments, which are made up of counties, districts, and on down to a precinct level in towns and cities.

Going through some of the material I have accumulated in my 15+ years of Haller research, I reviewed copies of documents I have found regarding a list of Polish Falcons, or Sokols, who enlisted into Haller's Army. In this case, the source of members was drawn from the Falcon *Okręg* XI (an *okręg* is a district or circuit). This *Okręg* was then broken down by *Gniazda*, "Nests," their basic unit of club membership.

Following is the list of Nests in *Okręg* XI. This data is not dated, but may be assumed to have been from the time of recruitment, October 1917 through February 1919.

Okręg XI

Gn. (*Gniazda*)

83 Racine, WI	602 Cudahy, WI
155 So. Milwaukee, WI	609 St. Paul, MN
240 North Chicago, IL	641 Milwaukee, WI
249 Milwaukee, WI	650 Cudahy, WI
283 Kenosha, WI	656 Minneapolis, MN
435 Milwaukee, WI	683 Milwaukee, WI
506 Milwaukee, WI	725 Milwaukee, WI
567 Menasha, WI	744 Oshkosh, WI

As one can see, the basis for *Okręg* XI appears to be Milwaukee and neighboring cities, with a slight expansion into northern Illinois and to points farther north, pulling in the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN. The Falcons started in Chicago in 1887, with their headquarters relocating to Pittsburgh in 1912. With this move eastward, membership comes from the East to the West. At this time, it was quite understandable to have nests from the Twin Cities belonging to a Council in Milwaukee until they obtained enough members to start their own *Okręg* in Minnesota.

Two pages of *Okręg XI* members exist for Sokols who also applied for Haller's Army. I am assuming there would have been at least one more page, as the following members are members of most of the Nests, but not all. It is possible that some nests did not furnish recruits to the Army, but that would require more research. Many of these men were in my database and matched up with prior information acquired, i.e., Falcon membership forms as well as statements that they were Falcon members on the C form of Haller's recruitment papers. This C form also asked the general question of what Polish organizations the applicant belonged to. Many groups were mentioned, but by far, the three largest societies were the Polish Falcons, Polish National Alliance or PNA (ZNP in Polish), and Polish Roman Catholic Union, PRCU (ZPRK in Polish). There were some names that did not appear in my database. which makes me believe they may have had intentions of signing up but never went through any of the application process. It is also possible these men's papers are still sitting somewhere on a shelf in the U.S., Canada, or Poland. Time will tell.

Some may ask what information is gained by knowing this data? Well, I look at it the following ways:

1. If we know what Nest the soldier was from, we can then learn more about the history of the Nest from anniversary booklets, newspaper articles, and local histories. Sometimes a photo will be found, sometimes a biography was written, sometimes the achievements of the member were publicized in the community.
2. Many family members and close friends joined the same Nest and thus would appear together.
3. Since Nests were regional, we now can identify neighbors who were members and may also be members in churches, clubs, and even working together at the same location. By tracking these neighbors, we may be able to locate more information about our family members.

As work progresses, I should be able to add which PNA or PRCUA lodge the respective applicants were members of. To this point, the Polish Falcons have been the most enthusiastic and cooperative about providing me with time to review their records, for which I am most appreciative. Anytime I add a new column to my database, that automatically adds 33,000 boxes which need to be filled in with data or marked with an "x," meaning "not applicable. " That indeed takes time!

<i>Surname, First Name</i>	<i>Nest #</i>	<i>Surname, First Name</i>	<i>Nest #</i>
Popowski, Waclaw (Both are listed.)	602/ 155	Szymanski, Teofil	83
Bialecki, Stanislaw	83	Turek, Antoni	83
Kowalski, Boleslaw	83	Wojda, Jozef,	83
Lawrynowicz, Wladyslaw	83	Balcerzak, Jozef	155
Marcinkiewicz, Jozef	83	Dlugolecki, Stefan	155
Nicikowski, Stanislaw	83	Matuszewski, Stefan	155
Sendrowicz, Jozef	83	Wisniewski, Roman	155
Stelmach, Wojciech	83	Makowski, Franciszek	240
		Pinas, Jozef	240
		Krawczyk, Jan	249

Lesiak, Franciszek	249	Salkiewicz, Boleslaw	609
Malecki, Wincenty P.	249	Szalapski, Jan	609
Noskowski, Stefan A.	249	Truskolaski, Zygmunt	609
Portala, Jan	249	Wiatros, Stanislaw	609
Szalocinski, Wladyslaw	249	Wojtysko, Xawery/ Ksawery	609
Tyczkowski, Jozef	249	Grac, Jan	656
Tylko, Roman	249	Janda, Fryderyk	656
Wrzesinski, Jozef	249	Kopec, Franciszek J.	656
Godlewski, Wawrzyniec	283	Rutyna, Franciszek	656
Kujda, Ludwik	283	Szymanski, Stanislaw	656
Brzostowski, Stanislaw	435	Wnek, Wojciech	656
Brzozowski, Czeslaw	435	Ciachla, Idzi	683
Duda , Wladyslaw	435	Grzenia, Stanislaw	683
Rogal, Wladyslaw	435	Homa, Szczepan	683
Gabrylowicz, Stefan	602	Jankowski, Franciszek	683
Kierszkowski, Jozef	602	Kotecki, Adam	683
Kryscio, Jozef	602	Kwietniewski, Jan	683
Marczyk, Antoni	602	Materkowski, Jan	683
Piotrowski, Jozef	602	Nagorski, Xawery	683
Budzilo, Jozef	609	Nowakowski, Stanislaw	683
Forys, Wojciech	609	Piotrowski, Czeslaw	683
Karbowski, Michal	609	Stempinski, Julian	683
Lesniewski, Jozef	609	Sulkowski, Jozef T.	683
Manas, Kamil	609	Tarkowski, Jan	683
Paski, Franciszek	609	Zajaczkowski, Franciszek	683
Petrykowski, Walenty	609	Zawadzki, Michal	683
		Zelek, Jan	683

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

Subject: Correction

Editor—In the last issue, I tried to pass along info on a book called *A Survivor's Story*, by Severin Fayerman, a Polish man who spent time in the Auschwitz and Birkenau Nazi concentration camps during World War II. I meant to give the e-mail address of Ann Poslosky, a kind lady willing to help people get their hands on this book. That's what I meant to do, but I didn't quite get it right....

Hello Mr. Hoffman,

Just want to thank you for the plug you gave *A Survivor's Story*. However, my e-mail address is annposlosky@yahoo.com.

If anyone wants to contact me at <poslosky@yahoo.com>, it ain't gonna happen!! Oh well, it was really nice of you to post the article. Thank you.

Ann Poslosky

Editor—The frustrating thing is, I highlighted, copied, and pasted Ann's address so I'd be sure to get it exactly right. But apparently when I was copying the address, I missed the first three letters. With e-mail addresses, close isn't good enough! I'm sorry, Ann—and I still encourage anyone with interest in this book to contact you.

Subject: Polgen Research

My name is Josephine Welsch, I live in North Carolina. I have been putting our family genealogy together now for about 16 years. Until 2008, when I got in touch with a research company in Warsaw to try and find any living relatives, I had very little information to give them: an address of a deceased uncle of my mother's, towns my grandparents were from in Poland. With just this little information, **Polgen Research** was able to find relatives, and a lot of other information going back about five generations. They found birth registration, death registrations, marriage registrations, and even found the cemeteries. I was given an e-mail address for relatives on one side and now we keep in touch with each other, as for the other side of the family, I was given an address but was told Joseph does not speak, read, or write English. I took a chance and sent him a Christmas card, hoping someone would translate it. Much to my surprise, he answered. He is married, has children and grandchildren, also e-mails; we send pictures back and forth to each other on both sides of the family that I have been searching for. The family here in the United States just cannot believe that we have living relatives in another country, Poland. This is what happens when my curiosity gets the better of me. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Josephine Welsch

Editor—I'm not positive, but I believe Polgen Research is connected with Michał Marciniak, a Polish researcher of whom I've heard only good things. If you'd like to contact Ms. Welsch and learn more, write me <wfh@langline.com> and I'll forward your note.

Subject: Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

Editor—In the last issue I mentioned various Polish genealogical societies that, as far as I knew, were doing well. I asked for additional info from anyone who wished to provide it. I was pleased to get this note.

In your first paragraph you noted several Polish societies are doing OK. The Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota has experienced an increase over last year which seems to buck trend of

other ethnic societies in our area. We now have 295 members. Increases were largely due to outreach programs such as the Twin City Polish Festival, which had 10,000 to 15,000 attendees last summer.

John Kowles, PGS-MN

Editor—I'm delighted to hear it! I wish PGS-MN continued success, and I thank you for giving me the chance to pass this information along.

Subject: Alex Kacprzak's Prussian Army Project

Editor—Aleksandra Kacprzak (Alex) is a genealogical researcher, perhaps best known to members of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast for the informative columns she provides to PGSCCTNE's journal, *Pathways & Passages*. In a recent e-mail she mentioned a project I think many of our readers would like to know about.

I'm working on databases on my Website, it is still mostly in Polish but I have some material translated already and it is waiting to be uploaded. How do you like the Prussian Army project (it is already in English)? Of course everything will grow.

<<http://www.genoroots.com/eng/databases.php>>

Soon I will change the "index" to A, B, C,.... letters so that when you click you will see names starting only with the letter you click. There are thousands of names that we are going to write. It goes slowly because of the neogothic language which only my friend can read, but he is working hard on this project.

Alex

Editor—From what I've seen, Alex is serious about doing quality research. If you have any interest at all in the Prussian Army, or any other area she's researching, you'll want to keep an eye on what she's doing.

***** YOU WANT TO BE PAID TO SPEAK? *****

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

I often quote items from *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* or *EOGN*, which I find to be a good source for info on what's happening in the world of genealogy. You can read the public version for free, or you can subscribe to the Plus Edition and get access to a number of articles exclusively for subscribers. I won't tell you whether to spend your money on it or not; I just know I find it worth the yearly cost of \$19.95.

In mid-February there was an article for members only that I thought was particularly good. Its title was “How to Become a Paid Genealogy Speaker.” I have done my fair share of speaking in the past (though these days it’s very hard for me to get away to show up at conferences; plus there is a distinct flavor of “been there, done that” in my mouth). But as I went through the article, I found myself thinking time and again, “Yes, that’s exactly right.”

If any of you out there have wondered whether you’d like to do a little speaking on genealogy, and earn an honest dollar doing it, you might want to read the article. After all, if you wish to have the expertise to speak on a subject, you need to do your homework; and EOGN helps you do that. You can visit the basic site at <<http://www.eogn.com>>, which includes links for subscribing and for reading past issues. This article should still be available.

By the way, the same issue had another Plus Edition article, “How to Publish Genealogy Information Online for Fun and Profit.” Pretty good stuff, in my opinion!

It’s your money, and I have no business telling you how to spend it. I just mention this in case some of you might be interested. Speaking at a conference and feeling you’ve aided people in their research does bring some pretty powerful gratification. No matter how nervous you might be when you start, you soon get into the swing of things—and the applause at the end is pretty nice!

***** THE 2010 CENSUS: DON’T BE RACE-LESS! *****

Editor—Debbie Greenlee posted this note on the Poland-Roots list. She said it was suggested by C. Michael Eliaz from another list and passed along with permission; but the names are from Debbie’s family.

The U.S. census will be starting soon. Among the questions is #9, which asks your race. If you do not match any of the official races they are counting this time, PLEASE pick Other race, and fill-in: “SLAVIC”, POLISH, UKRAINIAN, CZECH, RUSSIAN, LITHUANIAN, SLOVAK, JEWISH or whatever.

This will aid us in studying demographics and also genealogy. Here is how. I know in my family some JAWORSKI became JAYES and some CHOJNACKI became HOYNE, neither of which look Polish. In fact HOYNE is an Irish surname! By selecting Other Race: POLISH, for example, you can identify for genealogists and sociologists an ethnicity. This may also have positive ramifications for state/federal funding that may be beneficial for some medical or social agencies.

If a descendant sees “JAYES”, Other Race: POLISH, it may be an indicator to that person that this is an ancestor who changed the name and it might be another clue to support a familial relationship. Of course that descendant may not know if this JAYES was originally a JAWORSKI but it may help if other factors match.

Let's make it a campaign to fill in question #9. Do not remain 'race-less', pick some ethnicity! Pick 'GENEALOGIST'. Pick something!

This is our Census, stand-up and be counted!

Editor—In a subsequent posting, Debbie added this:

Since the 2010 U.S. census will soon be under way, there are a couple of things to consider. Photocopy your form prior to sending it in and put it with your own important papers/documents.

The second suggestion comes from the Polish-American Congress and I urge all of you to follow the suggestion.

Census 2010

During the month of March, the 2010 Census Form will be mailed to every household in the United States. You are asked to complete the 10 question form and mail it back by April 1, 2010. Community leaders who reviewed the sample form, asked why there is not a specific place to write in your ethnicity in question #9; there is simply a block "WHITE". There should have been a place to allow every participant to complete not only a race block, but a place to list ethnicity, especially because America is a nation of many races and many ethnicities. This issue was brought to the attention of representatives of Census 2010, but was not rectified.

In order to highlight your ethnicity, you can do 2 things: 1) In block #9, check off WHITE and write in your ethnicity. 2) Also, where it states some other race, write in your ethnicity. We realize that race is not ethnicity, but in order to highlight your ethnicity and make a statement, fill in your individual ethnicity as suggested above. Examples: Polish-American, Polish & Irish, Polish & Italian, Irish-American, German-American, Ukrainian-American.

Fill in the Census 2010 Form as soon as you receive it. If you do not complete the form by April 1, 2010, you can expect to be contacted by a census representative.

***** WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE: MARCH 5TH *****

Editor—Loretto Szucs of Ancestry.com, a major figure in the world of genealogy, sent this note out to lots of people under the title "A television series with great potential for your society." We mentioned this series in the last issue, but it starts March 5th and I suspect many of our members will want to catch it; so a reminder is not out of order.

Get Ready for the New "Who Do You Think You Are?" Television Series

Stock up on the popcorn and get ready for the new NBC hit show "Who Do You Think You Are?" The family history-focused series will lead seven celebrities on a heart-warming journey back in time as they discover more about the ancestors who came before them. Lisa Kudrow,

who executive-produced the show, will be featured in the episodes, along with Sarah Jessica Parker, Spike Lee, Matthew Broderick, Susan Sarandon, Emmitt Smith, and Brooke Shields. Ancestry.com is a partner with NBC on the show.

The idea for “Who Do You Think You Are?” originated from a show that has been phenomenally successful in the UK for several years. Since the show aired in 2004, the UK has seen a surge of interest in family history, and we hope and expect the same reaction from “Who Do You Think You Are?” in the United States.

Typically, celebrities play the role of someone else, however in this show they play no one but themselves. Because of this, “Who Do You Think You Are?” really shows the human side of these individuals, who experience a myriad of emotions as they learn their family history. Viewers can’t help but feel inspired and intrigued as they watch the episodes. Naturally, the show will lead viewers to begin thinking about and asking questions around their own family history. What is wonderful about the show is that, with the celebrity appeal, the genuine emotion they experience, and the family storytelling nature of the show, “Who Do You Think You Are?” is perfectly poised to appeal to the masses – not just professional genealogists or family history experts.

What does this mean for you, as societies and members of the genealogy community?

What that could easily mean for the genealogy community and societies is that more people may want to join your organization, visit your library, or even hire you for family history research. It could mean you receive more interest from the media and increased media exposure for your organization.

Tune into NBC Fridays 8/7c beginning March 5. For more information about the show, go to: <http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are/>

The potential is great! You and your friends have an important role in making “Who Do You Think You Are?” the next biggest family history phenomenon since “Roots”! Please help spread the news!

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

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

TORONTO UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY GROUP (TUGG) MEETING

Pierce Reid from the Ontario Genealogical Society will speak on “Processing Genealogical Images using Freeware Irfanview: scanned documents, downloads & photographs.”

From 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

St. Vladimir Institute
620 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.

Contact: (905)-841-6707

[Source: an e-mail from Jim Onyschuk posted to various mailing lists]

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Saturday, 17 April 2010

**WASHINGTON DC FAMILY HISTORY CENTER (A.K.A. KENSINGTON,
MARYLAND) 4TH ANNUAL GENEALOGY CONFERENCE**

Washington DC Family History Center
4th Annual Conference
April 17, 2010
9:00 AM - 3:15 PM

The link to the list of sessions is below:

<http://www.wdcfhc.org/conf2010/descriptions.php>

This year, we are pleased to offer 20 classes. Each class is taught by experienced researchers with specialized areas of expertise.

The conference will be held at:
Washington DC Stake Center
(location of the Family History Center)
10000 Stoneybrook Drive
Kensington, MD 20895

This Conference is FREE OF CHARGE.

Frequent *Gen Dobry!* contributor Tom Sadauskas is giving two presentations:

2-4 The Immigrant Experience - How They Came to America

Tom Sadauskas

Every family with immigrant ancestors has stories of how their family first arrived in America. Many of these stories contain grains of truth as well as unsubstantiated myths. This presentation looks at the immigration process that our ancestors went through to come to America. Topics to be covered include:

- What emigrants had to do to “escape” or leave their countries
- Emigration routes and means of travel to the various European departure ports
- Conditions facing emigrants at the departure ports

- The different sailing routes and ports of entry including Canada & Mexico
- What emigrants faced at the various ports of entry
- Record sources for research

4-2 Your Frequent Flier Immigrant Ancestors

Tom Sadauskas

One little known immigration phenomena is that of multiple passages of immigrants to America and their return to the Old Country. Anywhere from one-fourth to one-third of immigrants ultimately returned to their native homeland. One of the reasons researchers often fail to find “missing ancestors” is that these ancestors lived in America for a brief time and then returned permanently to the Old Country. This presentation looks at why these frequent fliers chose re-emigration as well as ways for finding them. Topics to be covered include:

- Economic conditions causing re-emigration
- Mobility of the migrant work force
- Impact of re-emigration on the Old Country
- Illustrative case studies of re-emigration
- Record sources for research

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April 28 – May 1, 2010

UPGS [UNITED POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES] 2010 CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AS PART OF THE 2010 NGS FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

The 2010 NGS Family History Conference will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. For more info:

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info>

The program guide, with speakers and lecture titles, is available here:

<<http://members.ngsgenealogy.org/Conferences/2010Program.cfm>>

Here, from info provided by Ceil Jensen, are details on the talks of interest to Polish researchers.

Wednesday, 28 April 2010 UPGS Banquet, 7 p.m. Salt Lake Palace

featuring nationally known speaker **Loretto “Lou” Dennis Szucs** and a Polish buffet. Please join us for this UPGS fund-raiser.

Thursday, 29 April 2010, 8-11 a.m.

Family History Library Lab, Thursday, 4-6 p.m.

Eastern European Workshop with Daniel Schlyter.

Friday, 30 April 2010 — The Polish Track sponsored by United Polish Genealogical Societies

8:00 a.m.

Polish Research Trip, Sonja Hoeke-Nishimoto

This lecture will discuss research sources, such as church and state archives, parishes, newly found relatives, civil registration offices, schools, and museums. Sonja will cover the types of resources available and answer questions a researcher might have as they plan a trip to Poland to find information about his ancestors.

9:30 a.m.

Polish Court Records and Census Records, Stephen J. Danko

This presentation will discuss using Court Records and Census Records to research members of the nobility in Poland.

11:00 a.m.

Genealogy in Poland Today, Tomasz Nitsch

The presentation will cover genealogical societies in Poland and their activities and plans and Polish genealogical Websites, especially the very successful ones. Last but not least, Tomasz will tell you about his Website <<http://www.genpol.com>>, other useful Websites and functions, and plans for the future.

2:30 p.m.

Polish Archives: Behind the Scenes, Ceil Wendt Jensen, CG

Based on interviews with the archive and museum directors to identify materials beyond birth, marriage and death records. These interviews were conducted to learn about the unique materials held at the archives of Poznań, Gdańsk, Mława, Białystok, and Kraków, and at the concentration camp museums of Stutthof and Auschwitz.

4:00 p.m.

Finding Your Ancestral Village in American Records, Paul Lipinski

After family records, American records, e.g., census, ship manifest, naturalization, etc. are sources to be investigated. Record type, location and content are explained. The best records for finding ancestral villages are illustrated.

Additional Questions? E-mail UPGS at <upgs2010@gmail.com>

More information will be posted at: <<http://upgs.blogspot.com/>>

[In a recent note, Ceil Jensen provided additional information.]

The registration this year is via NGS and their Website:

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info>

PGSM is organizing the Polish Track:

<<http://www.pgsm.org/2009/11/pgsm-hosts-united-polish-genealogical.html>>

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16 May 2010

MEETING OF THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Chicago, Illinois

The speaker will be Ola Heska. Her topic will be how non-Polish speaking individuals can extract information from the *Geographical Dictionary of the Polish Kingdom (Słownik Geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego)*. [From an e-mail sent out by Harry Kurek.]

Editor—If I may add a personal note, I have dealt with Ola a number of times in the past, and have been impressed by her abilities; she speaks Polish as her native tongue, but her English is very good. It seems to me she's very qualified to speak on this subject. If you have a chance to go listen, I bet you'll learn something! I don't see details on the PGSA Website right now, but I'm sure they will be appearing soon.

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June 4 - June 21, 2010

SECOND ANNUAL DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS TOUR TO WESTERN UKRAINE

If you are interested in tracing your roots in Ukraine, now is the time to sign up. This year the group will be limited to 20 persons. For details of the tour, go to:

<http://www.torugg.org/TUGG%20Projects/trip_to_ukraine.html>

This tour, sponsored by the Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group, offers a unique service that other tours do not, including helping you with:

- * Locating the exact village of your ancestors. Often there may be several villages with the same name and there is no point in visiting or researching the wrong village.
- * Letters you may wish to write to the village head and parish.
- * Planning side trips to ancestral villages.
- * Arranging for any drivers, guides and translators you may require.
- * Contacting the archives before the trip to let them know which files we wish to examine, so that they can have them on hand when we visit.
- * Suggesting and helping you with other side trips; you may wish to go on as tourists.

What You Can Find In the Archives

The State Archives of Ukraine, particularly the Central Historical Archives in Lviv and Kyiv, have many unique genealogical sources including thousands of Metrical Books (vital record registrations) of different religions (Greek Catholic, Roman Catholic, Evangelical, Jewish) from the 18th-20th centuries. Recently, the Historical Archives in Lviv received over 700 parish registers from local registry offices since the last time their files were microfilmed by the LDS, and more are being received each day. In addition to Metrical Books there are:

- * Other original parish records
- * Census records
- * Szematisms, which were staff directories for the military, government administration, school and church administrations
- * Lists of house owners
- * Property maps, called Cadastral Maps
- * Emigration papers your ancestors filled out prior to coming to North America
- * School Records
- * Registration of property transactions
- * Family and estate papers of the nobility
- * Military records

This Tour is Tailored to Your Needs

While this is a group trip, every effort is made to tailor it to your personal needs and wishes. The goal is to provide assistance with your family history project special to your needs or, alternatively, help you find those missing pieces. The trip includes visits to various archives, guide/interpreters, time to visit and spend time in your villages of interest and tourism.

Other Things To See In Ukraine

Ukraine is home to 300 museums, seven national historical and cultural preserves as well as many different examples of culture, archaeology, unique cities, palaces, parks and a warm, hospitable people with a rich history.

For Further Information:

Jim Onyschuk

<jodanji@rogers.com>

<<http://www.torugg.org/>>

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July 11-16, 2010

30TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY JW Marriott Hotel at L.A. in Los Angeles, California

Come be a part of the world's largest Jewish Genealogy conference! The 30th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held in Los Angeles, California next year at the brand new L.A. LIVE conference center. Join hundreds of other researchers as we explore our roots and build our family trees. Whether you're a beginner, just starting to trace your family's history, or a pro looking for the latest information and tips, the IAJGS conference will have something for everyone! For more details, visit the Website:

<<http://www.jgsla2010.com/>>

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July 21 - 31, 2010

POLAND IN THE ROCKIES

Speakers and Filmmakers from Canada, the United States and Europe

History, Politics, Culture, Media, Identity, Networking, Lectures, Discussions, Films,
Hiking, Campfires, Friendships

An intensive transnational Polish experience — in the beautiful Canadian Rockies

See <<http://www.polandintherockies.com>> for application and scholarship details

PitR video: <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ph-Sd63Leo>>

Alumni e-zine: <<http://www.cosmopolitanreview.com>>

[*Thanks to Maureen Mroczek Morris for sending me this info.*]

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October 1 – 2, 2010

PGSA'S 32ND ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

The Polish Genealogical Society of America's next conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 1 & 2, at the Hilton Hotel in Oak Lawn, Illinois. The hotel is located at 9333 S. Cicero Avenue.

The Hilton Hotel and Conference center is a well-known venue for events on the south side of Chicago. It is located three miles south of Midway Airport and is accessible to major highways and expressways, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) Orange Line, and the Metro Train station. It provides easy access to much of the city and Chicago's downtown and the many attractions they provide. A scheduled complimentary shuttle is also available.

With a new location, speakers, and topics to inspire you, we invite you to revisit your research from a different point of view.

Please check our Website for future up-dates: <<http://www.pgsa.org>>

[From the January 2010 issue of *PGSA Notebook*]

*** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES ***

<<http://wapedia.mobi/en/Osadnik>>

Paul S. Valasek asked if I had seen this before. I hadn't seen this particular page, but during my online searches for information, I had come across similar Wapedia pages with information on various aspects of Polish history and culture. Sometimes the same info is there as on Wikipedia, but organized in a way that can be easier to follow. I think it's a resource worth knowing about—though as with any such site, you should never take what it says for Gospel. But then, outside the Gospels themselves, what can you take for Gospel, really?

<<http://polish.slavic.pitt.edu/~swan/beta/>>

On the Poland-Roots list, Bronwyn Klimach suggested using this Polish-English / English-Polish dictionary. I think we've mentioned it before in *Gen Dobry!*, but it's worth mentioning again. Bronwyn quoted Jasia's blog <<http://creativegene.blogspot.com/>> in describing this as a "complete" dictionary, because you can find any form of a Polish word, including forms with case endings or verb endings, to find out what it means. I haven't used it myself, but if Jasia and Bronwyn find it that helpful, I bet many of you will too!

<<http://books.google.com>>

On the PolishGenius list, Hank Magnuski mentioned that Google books has a number of books in Polish, many of which mention family names in various historical texts. He suggested going to the above URL, using "Advanced Search" to specify books in Polish, published between 1500 to September 1939, that contain the name you're interested in. He said most returns from this search are no longer under copyright; you can see the full text and download the PDF. He concluded, "This is an incredible resource for genealogy research and for adding additional information to your family tree. There has not been to date any way to search so many historical texts from so many different libraries with such ease from your desk at home."

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

Also on the Polish Genius list, Diane Szepanski wanted to let everyone know the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast has uploaded nine short videos of New Britain, CT. Just go to YouTube and search for "New Britain's Polish Community." She added, "We will be putting Adams, MA up in a month or so."

<<http://www.rbhayes.org/hayes/index>>

On the JewishGen mailing list, Jan Meisels Allen mentioned reading that the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center has published the Ohio Obituary Index from the 1810s to the present day. It can be accessed at the above URL, and it has over 1,500,000 obituaries and death notices, as well as a small number of marriage notices. Note also that the information is available from Ancestry.com as a free database site; there's no charge to obtain information from the Center, but viewing the indexed info on Ancestry does require a subscription. Jan stressed

that this is an index, not the records themselves. Ordering obituaries from the Hayes Presidential Center costs \$3.00 per obit.

http://www.jri-poland.org/questionnaire/Questionnaire_Kamila-Klauzinska.doc

Also on the JewishGen list, Stanley Diamond mentioned “an opportunity to increase the understanding of Jewish genealogical research in Poland itself,” but it requires help from people willing to answer a questionnaire. “Kamila Klauzińska of Zduńska Wola, Poland, a speaker at the conference in Philadelphia last summer, is writing her doctoral dissertation on Jewish genealogical research in Poland. Kamila is a PhD student in the Department of Jewish Studies at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland ... Her long-range hope is that Jewish genealogy as an academic discipline, will become part of the Jewish studies programs at Polish universities. Readers are invited to download the questionnaire ... and submit it to Kamila as soon as possible ... Kindly *only* communicate directly with Kamila about this. Her e-mail address is included in the file on the Website.”

http://www.its-arolsen.org/en/press/press_releases/index.html?expand=3669&cHash=ff52ae8e99

The February 14 issue of *Nu? What's New?* <http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V11N04.htm> reported that “the International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen, Germany, has begun digitizing its case correspondence ... The files comprise inquiries, letters and witness reports from survivors of Nazi persecution or from their family members. Immediately after World War II people turned to ITS to gain information on the existing documents or search for surviving family members. In many cases, they also required certificates for compensation and pension applications. Approximately three million cases have been accumulated over the course of six decades. Each correspondence file holds an average of 20 pages.” There are certain limits on who may apply; but you can learn more at the above Web page.

<http://www.polishclubsf.org/Recommended.htm>

Maureen Mroczek Morris sent me this link, which lists books and films recommended by the Polish Club Inc. of San Francisco. It's quite a list!

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

A recent issue of *EOGN* [*Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*] said the group Forthehack has launched a Website called “Please Rob Me,” which tracks down “tweets from people who are also using location-based services to tell the world that they're out of town, and then directs the world to go rob their house. Forthehack publishes a listing all the empty homes that are available to be robbed by publishing a live feed of those Foursquare players who automatically post location updates to Twitter.” Supposedly the creators of the site are doing this to show people just how risky social networking sites such as Twitter can be. Seems to me like a drastic way to make a point! But perhaps it's something we should be aware of. The URL above is the Website, and you can read the *EOGN* article here:

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2010/02/use-twitter-please-rob-me.html>.

<http://www.judaica-europeana.eu/>>

Edward Luft brought this site to my attention, saying it may be in its infancy but shows great promise. I'd say anyone with Jewish roots should keep an eye on it.

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/HERBARZ/2010-02/1266241135>>

On the Herbarz mailing list, Christa Shukaitis posted a fascinating note about Polish women and inheriting property. It's based on her own extensive research, and it taught me a thing or two. If you'd like to know more about women in Poland, their rights, and the inheritance of land, you should read it here, at the Herbarz list archives.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/facesofamerica/>>

On the Posen mailing list, James Birkholz responded to a note about PBS's series *Faces of America* by pointing out that you can watch it online at this URL.

<http://www.numberway.com/phone-numbers/31/>>

Also on the Posen list, James gave this as the URL for an English guide to two Polish white pages. Accessing Polish telephone directories is something researchers have been asking about since I first got interested in the subject of Polish genealogy. So some of you might wish to take a look.

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