*** 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/tabid/60/Default.aspx>
*** IF YOU SUPPORT THEM, YOU HELP YOURSELF ***

by William F. “Fred” Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

I try not to go overboard in *Gen Dobry!* repeating requests for financial assistance. I’m pretty sure every single one of you gets more than enough pleas for help to last a lifetime. It’s frustrating because most human beings are generous souls who want to lend a hand—but it sometimes seems everywhere you look, there are hands out, all accompanied by the claim, “We need the help the most.” Even the kindest soul has no choice but to say “Enough!”

But every once in a while, I like to mention projects I hear of that need support, because they are cases where generosity can actually be in your intelligent self-interest. You know what I mean. Some of the research and indexing projects going on in Poland are hardly life-and-death; but the results they bring may benefit you greatly.

Thus, I wanted to share a note posted to the Polish Genealogy Facebook Group by one of its administrators, Agnieszka Maja Mizgalska, on 11 June. She mentions a request for help from Project Podlasie—and I’ve met and talked to more than a few Americans with great interest in that area. Agnieszka also shared a link to a page listing other projects that may be worth considering. Let me repeat what she posted, and then give a comment or two.

Volunteers from Project Podlasie <https://indeksy.projektpodlasie.pl/rejestracja?view=reset>
asked us kindly to post the following message:

Many of you who are using our database for sure have noticed that its content is rapidly growing. Therefore, we are kindly seeking your financial assistance in supporting our activities.

Our projects have gained momentum and hence the free space on the disks has shrunk significantly (from the original 12TB, 250 GB remain).

For the purposes of our indexing projects (record indexes, indexes from Old-Polish court books) and to secure data on backups, it is necessary to purchase a file server (QNAP TS-451 + -8G) with four disks (HDD WD RED 4TB) with a capacity of 4 TB each. We estimate the purchase cost of the device for PLN 2,500 and four discs for the next PLN 2,000

We estimate that the purchased set should satisfy our needs for the next few years.

Our activities were and always will be non-commercial and pro bono, we are volunteers who work on this project to bring you free access to indexes from Podlasie Region. We do not use any subsidies or subsidies.
Please support us.
[https://www.paypal.com](https://www.paypal.com) (indeksacja@projektpodlasie.pl)

Please also see other projects we aim to support:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nlQKszQ1OnxoQnfhzDKyoEqr-8XcXyNjdmMZfk_O3KG8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nlQKszQ1OnxoQnfhzDKyoEqr-8XcXyNjdmMZfk_O3KG8/edit)

That Google doc mentioned at the end bears the title “Supporting Polish Genealogy Initiatives.” I like it because it concentrates in one place ten different initiatives that you MAY feel willing to support. The Podlasie Project is one. Others are Geneteka Metryki, Genbaza, Lubgens, PTG, and the Poznań Project. Quite a few of them include links to PayPal, so that donating a few dollars is easy and convenient.

Actually, the Poznań Project is the one that convinced me this is worth bringing to your attention. I can’t keep track of how many times I’ve seen researchers say, “I got this document through the Poznań Project and Łukasz Bielecki.” Łukasz led the way, and proved that there are legitimate projects, ones that are on the level and produce results. Of course, it’s always wise to learn as much as you can about a group before you give any money. But I have to say, I’ve heard of practically all the initiatives on this list, and I have some reason to think they’re legit.

You are, of course, welcome to ignore the whole subject. And I will try not to make a habit of this. But I felt this was a case where you may actually want this information. It really is possible a modest contribution will pay off splendidly by helping you get your hand on that one document you know is out there someone, the one that will bring your brick wall crashing down.

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*** CAN YOU TRUST ANCESTRY.COM? ***

by Alan Kania

Editor – This is a note researcher Alan Kania wrote and posted in response to a question raised by a member of the Polish Genius mailing list. It seems to me he always brings a lot of good sense to any subject he writes about, and I think the discussion on this subject could use a little sense. Granted, my answer to the question “Can you trust Ancestry.com?” is “Hell, no. You can’t trust anybody. But if you’re smart and careful, you’ll be OK.” Here’s Alan’s take.

I’ve always watched and read the concerns of identity theft and honestly, I’m still not sure whether the DNA kerfuffle is worth all the hand-wringing. As long as we continue to use the internet, EVERY computer server out there is susceptible to being hacked. We’ve seen government offices be compromised, we’ve seen banks and other institutions that house more direct sensitive information get hacked. We’ve seen personal computers get hacked. Unless you
plan on going 100% off the grid, you’ll always have a risk of having your personal information stolen.

Often we welcome the challenge of having our identifications being stolen. Yes, we welcome it. How many of you have signed up for one or more of the social networking services that send you a funny little birthday greeting when it’s your birthday? That’s because you gave them your date of birth.

Or when your doctor’s office or bank wants you to write out your social security number for some unknown medical reason other than so they collect any unpaid debts. For those of us with Medicare cards — until this year, all those cards had your social security number on them. Those social security cards are coded to where you were born (or at least where you lived when you got your first job). The first three numbers on the card give that approximate location.

Just so that you can stay in touch with the grandchildren (because they’re too [insert adjective here] to call, write, or visit), you signed up for the same social media programs they did. But we’ve seen how much Facebook and other services harvest the information and sell it to third-party vendors. When you signed up for the service, you had to agree to the Terms of Service or you didn’t get to play in their playground.

And then when you read Uncle Harry’s or Aunt Jenny’s really funny e-mail that they sent to you with all those funny cartoons and videos, and you noticed that you’ll be a bad person if you don’t send that e-mail on to “everyone in your address book” — do you have enough computer knowledge to determine whether each of those pictures contains a bot or malware embedded in them? My brothers-in-law are always “sending” messages to me that they actually did not send me, because those jokes, patriotic messages, or religious niceties that they forward to everyone in their address book are now sending their own messages on their own because those little bots and malware programs that we can’t see, have hijacked those address books.

I’m not worried that my DNA is available to the most scrupulous hacker. I’m not worried about the family tree that I have posted on another genealogy site. What difference does it mean to me that someone knows that my parents are Gen and Frank? I don’t include the actual date-of-birth of any living relative on those trees. And if the Terms of Service want my birthday, I’m doing darned good for a guy who was born on January 1, 1900 and my phone number is 000-000-0000.

And I’m not on ANY social network because being social to me, is not how many faceless “friends” I have nor how many “likes” I get for something I would post. And as far as sharing pictures of your grandchildren or great grandchildren, I agree with Winston Churchill — they all look like him. And I honestly don’t care what you had for breakfast. I’d rather call my friends and family and ask them how they are or what THEY have been doing. I don’t care that someone named Johnny or Suzy was in their kindergarten play — I want to know what YOU have been doing since you retired.
The last social media program I had was the best. It had the names and addresses of all my friends and family. It arranged them in alphabetical order for my convenience. And it even provided me with an easy way to contact them without cluttering the page with pictures of their friends whom I’ll never meet or care about, and it didn’t have a breakdown of their diet, list of medications or surgeries that they had, or anything else I don’t care about. The social media program was wonderful and it was free of charge. It was called “the phone book.”

Before we start getting paranoid about what can be harvested from DNA programs, think about all the other ways you’re already exposing yourself to international hackers looking to steal information.

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*** GENETEKA INDEX UPDATES ***

by Waldemar Chorążewicz

Editor – Once more, let me pass along some of the new Geneteka indexes shared by Waldemar on Facebook’s Polish Genealogy group this month. Many thanks to Waldemar for helping us keep up with all these updated! You can find assistance with the two-letter province abbreviations online, for instance, at <http://hitchwiki.org/pl/Szablon:Wojew%C3%B3dztwa_Polski>.

Geneteka, new indexes. Births – U[rodzenia], Marriages – M[ałżeństwa], Deaths – Z[gony]

25-06-2018

Borszewice (LD) – UMZ 1844, indexed by Felberg_slawomir
Czerwonka (pow. węgrowski) (MZ) – U 1831-37, indexed by Anna Poprawa
Drugnia (SK) – UMZ 1917, indexed by Edward Jabłoński
Jeruzal pow. skiernewicki (LD) – Z 1890-95, indexed by Tomasz Przygodziński
Łódź św. Anna (LD) – Z 1920, indexed by Sławomir Binczak
Mordy (MZ) – UMZ 1864-85, indexed by Magda Tarkowska
Nur (MZ) – M 1808-25, indexed by Grażyna Przybysz
Pajęczno (LD) – M 1830-39, indexed by Katarzyna Żugaj
Pniewnik (MZ) – U 1869-73, indexed by Barbara Sikorska
Środa Wielkopolska (WP) – M 1851-68, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Trębki (MZ) – M 1826-35, indexed by Grażyna Nowak
Zadzim (LD) – M 1881-85, indexed by karolinaw
Żbików (MZ) – M 1930-34, indexed by Małgorzata Szadkowska

24-06-2018

Gliwice św.Bartłomieja (SL) – U 1780-1813, indexed by Barbara Wiechula
Konieczno (SK) – SKU 1906, indexed by Urszula49
Piekary Śląskie - Kamień (SL) – M 1874-78, indexed by Leszek Chrobok
23-06-2018

Gorzyce (KP) – M 1746-99, indexed by Adam Lewandowicz
Kruszwica (KP) – Z 1779-1817, indexed by Adam Lewandowicz
Mielec - Cyranka par. Św. Mateusza (PK) – U 1785-1816, 1818-20, 1822-1916; M 1916-19, indexed by Marek Podolski
Mielec - Wojsław i Smoczka par. Św. Mateusza (PK) – M 1785-1818, indexed by Marek Podolski
Żarnów (LD) – Z 1886-90, indexed by Krystyna Stanisławska

22-06-2018

Ciechanowiec (PL) – M 1828-39, indexed by Jan Mamaj
Janów (PL) – U 1808-48 (with gaps) verification, indexed by Radosław Karabowicz, verified by Alicja Rybałko
Niesulków (LD) – UMZ 1837, indexed by Edyta Bednarek
Piłczyca (SK) – SuU 1893-1913, indexed by Wojciech Liśkiewicz
Stolec (LD) – Z 1811-12, indexed by Krzysztof Kaźmierczak
Szczaworyż (SK) – UMZ 1911-15, indexed by Edward Jabłoński
Warszawa św. Jan (WA) – M 1896 (expanded), indexed by Krzysztof Zochniak

21-06-2018

Broniewo (KP) – SkZ 1856-60, 67-68, 72-75, indexed by Krystyna Domańska-Bzdak
Kozłów (MP) – UMZ 1821-25, indexed by Renata Majewska
Luboml (UK) – U 1896-1901, 1903, indexed by Bożena Krajewska and Danuta Wojtowicz
Piotrowice gm. Wodzisław (SK) – U 1833-50, indexed by Renata Majewska
Przedecz (WP) – Z 1846-47 (completion), indexed by Dawid Nowowiejski
Sambor (UK) – M 1891, indexed by agnieszka5995
Sierczhowy (LD) – Z 1856-72, indexed by Bogusław Nagórski
Witowo (KP) – SkM 1861-70, indexed by Jan Berens

20-06-2018

Broniewo (KP) – SkZ 1851-55, indexed by Krystyna Domańska-Bzdak
Giecz (WP) – M 1801-52, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Kraków- Pleszów (MP) – U 1765-80, indexed by Dagmara Kulig
Osjaków (LD) – M 1812-16, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Rutki-Kossaki (PL) – Z 1799-1807, indexed by Bożena Misiak, verified by Projekt Podlasie
Stopnica (SK) – UMZ 1914, indexed by Jakub Rokita
Stradów (SK) – U 1826-40, M 1831-54, Z 1846-54, indexed by Henryk Adamczyk
Wieluń (LD) – UMZ 1901, indexed by Danuta Mieżyńska
19-06-2018

Brodnica (KP) – M 1888, indexed by Krzysztof Kamiński
Gliwice św.Bartłomieja (SL) – U 1814-31, indexed by Barbara Wiechuła
Gąbin (MZ) – UZ 1880-81, M 1881, indexed by ELADAB
Gąbin (MZ) – UZ 1853-54, indexed by Jerzy Pytlik
Mikołajów (gr-kat) (UK) – U 1900-10, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Mokowo (KP) – M 1841-49, indexed by Piotr Romanowski
Rzadkwin (KP) – SkM 1719-24,26-33,44,46-52,54-63,73-99, indexed by Adam Lewandowicz
Sambor (UK) – M 1890, indexed by agnieszka5995
Warszawa św. Trójca (WA) – U 1891, indexed by Adam Rozenau
Wolbórz (LD) – UM 1866-67, indexed by Bożena Kaźmierczak

Cerekiew (MZ) – Z 1737-65, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Niedzborz (MZ) – U 1901-04, M 1901-12, indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz
Sambor (UK) – M 1886, indexed by agnieszka5995

09-06-2018

Broniewo (KP) – SkM 1851-60, indexed by Krystyna Domańska-Bzdak
Bronisław (KP) – SkU 1881-85, indexed by Krystyna Domańska-Bzdak
Deputytyce (LB) – Z 1939-46, indexed by Danuta Wasilewska-Lenart
Giełwany (LT) – M 1748-86, 1790-1818, indexed by Artur Wilkicki
Janów (PL) – UMZ 1820-48, indexed by Radosław Karabowicz
Kolno (PL) – U 1817-25, indexed by Anna S.
Leman (PL) – M 1906-30, indexed by Magdalena Wróbel
Lubsza - Leubusch USC (OP) – M 1885-1912, indexed by Michael Schätzlein
Pińczów (SK) – Z 1640-45,47-48,50,52,54-58,60, indexed by Grażyna Radzik
Poryte (PL) – M 1900b-1913, indexed by Anna S.
Roś (BR) – UMZ 1797-1801, indexed by Alicja Rybałko
Rutki-Kossaki (PL) – 1791-98,1804-07, indexed by Bożena Misiak., verified by Projekt Podlasie
Trzebnica - Trebnitz (Lutheran) (DS) – M 1793-1827, indexed by Michael Schätzlein

08-06-2018

Broniewo (KP) – SkU 1851-60, indexed by Krystyna Domańska-Bzdak
Ciechanów (MZ) – U 1736-1807, indexed by Danuta Wasilewska-Lenart
Gliwice św. Bartłomieja (SL) – Z 1904-08, indexed by Barbara Wiechuła
Grudziądz (KP) – U 1841-63, indexed by Mirosława Grabis
Górna Grupa (KP) – U 1924-32, indexed by Mirosława Grabis
Łódź św. Krzyż (LD) – Z 1900, indexed by Janusz Kucharczyk
Pożdżenice (LD) – UMZ 1846-64, indexed by Henryk Koluszkowski
Sosnowiec -Zagórze św. Joachima (SL) – UMZ 1845-46 (expanded), indexed by Renata Majewska
Szczaworyż (SK) – UMZ 1901-05, indexed by Edward Jabłoński
Warszawa-Marymont MBKP (WA) – UMZ 1908, indexed by Ewa Wojciechowska

07-06-2018

Kłomnice (SL) – U 1885, indexed by Elżbieta Stachowiuk
Łubno (gr-kat) (PK) – UMZ 1860-61, 1863-70, indexed by Grzegorz Zuzak
Osięciny (KP) – M 1897-1916, indexed by Jan Berens
Rzgów (LD) – UMZ 1826-40, indexed by Elżbieta Misiewicz
Sterdyń (MZ) – U 1858-67, indexed by Grażyna Przybysz
Środa Wielkopolska (WP) – U 1878-82, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Warszawa ASC Cyruł VII (WA) – U 1810, indexed by Katarzyna Marchlińska
Warszawa św. Jan (WA) – M 1895 (expanded), indexed by Krzysztof Zochniak

06-06-2018

Bożewo (MZ) – U 1860-1916, Z 1679-1808 (summary), indexed by Krzysztof Kośnik
Mikołajów (UK) – U 1900-10, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Pniewnik (MZ) – U 1890-92, indexed by Barbara Sikorska
Sambor (UK) – M 1885, indexed by agnieszka5995
Warszawa-Służew św. Katarzyna (WA) – Z 1861-68, indexed by Włodzimierz Maciewicz
Widawa (LD) – M 1874-79, Z 1843-48,74-1913, indexed by Elżbieta Nejman
Zwolen (MZ) – UMZ 1866-75, indexed by Bartłomiej Zieliński

05-06-2018

Chlewiska (MZ) – Z 1920-23, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Chorzele (MZ) – Z 1825, indexed by Artur Godlewski
Kozielsko (WP) – Z 1781-1801, indexed by Jason
Kościelec (MP) – U 1840-42, Z 1873,1939-46, indexed by A. Ch, Anna Parysek, Marcin Dąbek
Łódź św. Krzyż (LD) – Z 1919, indexed by Urszula Gałąkiewicz
Łódź św. Wojciech (LD) – M 1905, indexed by Barbara Walczak-Sroczyńska
Nowa Brzeżnica (LD) – UMZ 1813-14, indexed by Iwona Tomaszewska
Odechów (MZ) – Z 1813-19, indexed by Łukasz Bernaciak
Paprotnia (MZ) – M 1820-22, 1824-27, Z 1835-39, indexed by Magda Tarkowska
Parzyniechy (SL) – UMZ 1886-1906, indexed by Wiesław Macoch
Pałuki (MZ) – M 1901-11, indexed by Przemysław Kisielewski
Proszowice (MP) – U 1911-16, indexed by Renata Majewska
Przesmyki (MZ) – U 1893-1900, Z 1892-96, indexed by Magda Tarkowska
Sambor (UK) – M 1884, indexed by agnieszka5995
Zuzela (MZ) – UMZ 1895-97, indexed by Mariusz Rostkowski
[Editor—Also, don’t forget to visit this rapidly expanding source of information to aid researchers:

<https://sites.google.com/view/polishgenealogygroup/polish-archives-in-a-nutshell>]

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**** AN OVERVIEW OF RECENT PERIODICALS ***

Editor—This is an ongoing feature, meant to inform you of articles published recently in newsletters and journals that may interest you.

• How to Use Genealogical Search Engines, Gary Mokotoff
• Join a Haplogroup Project to Get the Most from Your Y-DNA Results, Sidney Sachs
• New Databases Added to the GenTeam.at Website and Eisenstadt Gravestones, Edward David Luft
• Hidden Gems of Jewish Genealogy, Marlis Humphrey
• Crowdsourcing Family Trees for Academic Disciplines, Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus
• Preview of the IAJGS Warsaw Conference Program, Robin Magid
• Moving Forward with the Converse Genealogy Project, Genie Milgrom
• Many Days I Would Rather Be Lucky Than Smart, But Smart Research Makes You Lucky, Ken Bravo
• Wandering Jews: Peddlers, Immigrants, and the Discovery of “New Worlds,” Hasia Diner
• “Protected Jews,” A Misleading Translation of Schutzjuden, Gerhard Buck
• Involuntary Name Changes: The Real Story, Yale M. Zussman
• An Amazing Holocaust Saga: 1,500 Polish Refugees to Mexico in 1943, Peter Landé
• Kitchener Camp: An Extraordinary Rescue of Jews to Britain in 1939, Ann Rolett with Clare Weissenberg and Lynne Parsons
• How One Drop of Milk Can Make All the Difference, Dani Haski
• Life in the Prague Judenstadt, 1790-1910, Thomas Fürth
• Book Review: The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy, Bill Gladstone
• From Our Mail Box: Why I Am Attending the Warsaw Conference; New Sperm Donor Child Found


• Fonds from the Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych (AGAD) in Warsaw, Part One

Gesher Galicia, June 2018, Vol. 25, No. 2, <https://www.geshergalicia.org>, <info@geshergalicia.org>

• Research Corner: World War I Records, Tony Kahane
• Family Evidence Books: Another Treasure Trove, Joshua Grayson
• Jacob Sicherman’s War, Carol Sicherman
• Young Men from Kolomyja, Christina Craig
• One Family, Many Armies, Ruth Kurschner
• Map Corner: One Town’s Story in WWI, Jay Osborn
• Interview with Sam Neger: Reminiscing about Dynów
• A Child Remembers: Holocaust in Galicia, Dasia Black
• Cherished Memories, Nurit Caspi-Sheps


• 20th Anniversary – Some History, Highlights & Milestones of Wilno Heritage Society

- Wilno Heritage Society Hosts Successful Guest Speaker Event, March 2018, Peter Glofcheskie
- Oriental Origin of the Word Kas(z)ub – Orientalny rodowód nazwy Kas(z)ub, from The Secrets of the Wends, Cispomeranians and Kashubs / Tajemnice Wendów, Circipanów i Kaszubów, by Leon Stoltman, translated by Blanche Krbechek and Stanislaw Frymark
- Newsletter of WHS & Museum Included in Polish Publication on 150 Years of Kashubian Journalism, Shirley Mask Connolly
- 160th Anniversary of Arrival of First Kashubs to Canada, Shirley Mask Connolly
- Storm Destroys Kashubian Forests, Stanisław Frymark

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*** UPCOMING EVENTS ***

*Note: see also [http://eogn.wikidot.com/] for a large selection of upcoming events in the world of genealogy.*

August 6 – 10, 2018

2018 EASTERN EUROPEAN FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE
Plaza Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah

FEEFHS, the Foundation for East European Family History Studies, will hold its 25 Anniversary Conference on August 6–10 at the Plaza Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. It will include tracks and classes on German research, Baltic States research, Polish Research, Jewish research, and more. For more information, visit the website [http://feefhs.org/conference-overview] or download the flyer at [http://feefhs.org/sites/default/files/images/2018_flyer_BYU.jpg].

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19 August 2018

QUARTERLY MEETING – POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
“LIFTING THE FOG: USING DNA TO DISCOVER YOUR POLISH AND EUROPEAN ANCESTORS”
Speaker: Jane G. Haldeman
Location: Schaumburg Township District Library (NW) Rasmussen South • 130 S. Roselle Rd. • Schaumburg, IL 60193
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This meeting is open to the public and will be held in the Rasmussen South room of the library. Library attendees (PGSA members and the public) will need to register by phone, 847-985-4000, or online at the library website, [https://www.schaumburglibrary.org/] prior to the meeting.
The presentation will also be offered as a free Webinar to members and to non-members for a $10 fee to defray costs. Webinar registration for members and non-members can be made at the PGSA website <https://pgsa.org/> by clicking on the PGSA Store tab, then clicking on the “Webinars” tab and following instructions. Mail-in registrations will not be accepted.

**Topic Summary** – Due to wars, invasions, partitioning of lands, boundaries and name changes through the generations, DNA may be the only common connection with your ancestors. The cause of war and nation boundary movements may have obscured the paper trail of your ancestors. DNA can give us clues of where to look and what questions to ask. Learn techniques to use DNA to answer your questions.

**Bio** – Jane Gwynn Haldeman is a professional speaker and owner of It’s Relative with more than 25 years of research experience. The Chicago area-based genealogist lectures on a wide range of topics both locally, at national conferences, and webinar presentations. She enjoys speaking about topics including family history technology and genealogy research methodology. She is the author of *A Genealogist’s Guide to Springfield, Illinois*. Jane has been very active with the genealogical community in Illinois. She was President, Illinois State Genealogical Society; President, Fox Valley Genealogical Society; Registrar, Fort Payne Chapter NSDAR; and Registration Chair, Federation of Genealogical Societies 2016 Conference in Springfield, IL.

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**August 22 – 25, 2018**

**FGS 2018 NATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
On the Three Rivers—Past, Present & Future  
Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana

The annual National Conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) will be held August 22–25, 2018 at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. For more information, visit the website <https://www.fgsconference.org/>.

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**Friday, 14 September, and Saturday, 15 September 2018**

**2018 PGSA BUS TOUR AND FALL CONFERENCE**  
“Polonia Near & Far – The Polish Diaspora”  
DoubleTree Hilton - Arlington Heights • 75 W. Algonquin Rd, Arlington Heights, Illinois

PGSA will hold its annual Fall Conference on Saturday, 15 September 2018. Scheduled speakers include Ceil Wendt Jensen, Tadeusz Pilat, William F. Hoffman, Ola Heska, and Marsha Petterson-Maass. Also, on Friday, 14 September, PGSA will conduct its all new Chicago’s North Side Polonia Bus Tour. For more information, visit the website at <https://pgsa.org/40th-anniversary-conference-and-bus-tour/>.

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A note to *Gen Dobry!* readers – I’ve pretty much retired from public speaking, but PGSA’s Conference Chair, Margie LaCerra, sweet-talked me into coming back and speaking one last time. If any of you attend, stop by and say hi! – William F. “Fred” Hoffman, Editor of *Gen Dobry!*

23 September 2018

**ANNUAL METING OF THE WILNO HERITAGE SOCIETY**  
The Farmhouse at the Polish Kashub Heritage Museum, Wilno, Ontario, Canada  
1 p.m.

The annual general meeting of the Wilno Heritage Society will be held on Sunday September 23, 2018 at 1 p.m. in the Farmhouse at the Museum in Wilno. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.wilno.org/museum.html>.

8 October 2018

**PULASKI DAY PARADE 2018**

The Polish Heritage Committee of Northampton, Massachusetts hopes you will mark your calendar for the parade, to be held Columbus Day, Monday, October 8.

*** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES ***

<https://www.politico.eu/article/gdpr-europe-new-privacy-rules-7-takeaways/>

In a recent note from the IAJGS Records Access Alert list, Jan Meisels Allen reviewed where we stand now that a month has passed since the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) went into effect in the European Union. It was an interesting look at some of the consequences we’ve seen so far – some intended and expected, some not. She recommended the above article if you’d like to read more on the subject. I loved the first line: “At least the emails have stopped.” Amen!

<http://www.apgen.org>

An article in the 18 June 2018 issue of *Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter (EOGN)* discussed reasons for hiring a professional genealogist. The article is reserved for those who subscribe to the “Plus Edition,” not to be shared with non-subscribers. But I feel it’s permissible to mention that Eastman concluded the best place to find professional genealogists in the U.S. or Canada is the website of Association of Professional Genealogists (APG). “This organization has about 2,000 members, each having their own area of expertise. APG’s web site features an online membership directory that allows you to search for specialists by geographic area, research specialty, state/province/country of residence, and other methods.”

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This URL takes you to an article in the same issue of EOGN that I found hilarious. It explains that in Canada, there can be significant benefits to proving Aboriginal People ancestry. But some laboratories have apparently been caught providing proof of such ancestry that is, shall we say, dubious? One Canadian “became suspicious and submitted a DNA sample from his girlfriend’s dog for analysis. The results from DNA testing company Viaguard Accu-Metrics ‘proved’ that Snoopy the Chihuahua has 20 per cent Native American ancestry: 12 per cent Abenaki and eight per cent Mohawk ... A French Poodle was ‘proven’ to have five per cent Native American ancestry: two per cent Oji-Cree, two per cent Saulteaux and one per cent Mississauga.” And so on. You can read more the EOGN article at the above link, and there is more here: <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform/dna-ancestry-test>.

The same issue of EOGN also cites an article in The Atlantic on the genealogy website GEDmatch and its use to catch a notorious killer. It’s very interesting, with comments on how the site’s owners feel about these developments, and some good observations on the issues involved with “genetic genealogy.”

The 24 June 2018 issue of The Genealogy Newsletter included a link to this site, a blog entry that helps you access hundreds of Massachusetts newspapers. You can choose from two collections, one that lets you search complete newspapers 1690-1993, and another for searching obituaries 1988 to today. I know plenty of Polish immigrants settled in Massachusetts, so these newspapers could prove helpful to their descendants.

The title of this 18 June article from EOGN is self-explanatory. Dick Eastman asked for comments to this question: “What is your opinion? Should government offices keep purchasing filing cabinets, expanding their buildings or making new buildings for their archives, and pay for the ‘required climate controls (heating, air conditioning, and humidity controls), building maintenance, and salaries of people to maintain the place so they can keep paper copies?’” It’s not a bed question....

The June 2018 issue of PGSA’s Genealogy Notebook included info on a DVD available from PGSA for $18.00, and it sounded fascinating to me. It’s called A Night on Milwaukee
A Night on Milwaukee Avenue tells the story of the most famous Polish neighborhood in America through the people and legendary stars who lived and performed along Milwaukee Ave in the last decades of the 20th century. Featuring musical icons like Krzysztof Krawczyk and Urszula, award-winning filmmakers Adrian Prawica & Rafał Muskala take you back in time when Jackowo was the center of entertainment and the Polish experience in America.” I thought some of you might want to know more; if so, click on the above link.

Genealogist Debbie Greenlee visits Poland every few years, and she writes detailed entries on the experiences of each day. They are fascinating reading, especially if you are thinking of visiting Poland; Debbie shares insights that may save you a lot of trouble. Her entries for this year’s trip can be read at the above link.

We’ve mentioned this site before – for a lot of researchers, it’s their favorite source of maps for Galicia. It had been offline for a while, but Julie Szczepankiewicz posted a note to Facebook’s Galicia Family History Group mentioning that it was back!

Incidentally, that same Facebook Group, Galicia Family History, has a Google spreadsheet where researchers can add their surnames and villages of interest. The group is young, but there’s already a pretty long list you can check and add to.

Areta Kovalska posted a note to the Facebook Group Galicia Family History that mentioned a website I don’t recall seeing before, Forgotten Galicia. The link above leads to the home page. Among the many things this site has to offer, there’s a reading list on Galicia, and a playlist of Galician music – click the tab that says “Experience Lviv & Galicia” and choose. It’s an impressive site (and I was delighted to see they included mention of John D. Pihach’s Ukrainian Genealogy: A Beginner’s Guide, a book that does not get as much attention as it deserves).

Logan Kleinwaks, the man behind the Genealogy Indexer website and the coordinator of JewishGen Danzig/Gdansk SIG, posted a note to the JewishGen mailing lists about Danzig/Gdańsk residential registration cards online. He said scans of a many of these cards from the period 1843–1918 are online at the above URL, covering most surnames from A to
REHWALSKI. It seems until recently, only A through H were available. I will not repeat here the useful comments Logan made on how to use the records, because he said this source is easy to use. You should, however, pay attention to the column on the right, “Number of scans.” If that number reads 0, those scans are not online yet. But a look through that list convinced me this is a source of info that could help many, many researchers.

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