



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/tabid/60/Default.aspx>>

*** DO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES HAVE A FUTURE? ***

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

It's been quite a few years since I attended a conference or seminar put on by a genealogical society. This is not because I don't enjoy them; but after you attend a dozen or so, the attitude "Been there, done that" begins to take over. I usually go because I'm asked to speak; I felt that, after all these years, I was running out of things to say.

But Margie LaCerra, who has put together conference for the Polish Genealogical Society of America for quite a few years now, said the one this year would be her last, and would I please come speak at this one. It's hard to turn Margie down, so I said yes – and preceded to spend months wishing I hadn't. My big mistake was telling my wife I'd been invited. Jane decided to come along, as we are now empty nesters and she'd like for us to do more things together. I was glad for her company, but that also meant I couldn't back out! Once Jane commits to something, it's a done deal.

Aside from the travel – which I loathed, even though we decided to hell with it, we were booking first-class seats – the event itself was fun. I'd be a total jerk if I said otherwise. It seemed as if everyone bent over backwards to tell me how glad they were to see me, how much they enjoyed *Gen Dobry!* and *Rodziny*, and so on. I loved the Bus Tour of Chicago's Polonia that Margie set up for Friday; and the Conference itself went very well.

I don't want to bore you with a lot of details, but I did want to mention some people I met or talked to, because I bet many of these names will be familiar to at least some of you. Old friends I knew from past PGSA conferences included Margie LaCerra, Eileen Carter, Harry Kurek, John Rys, Jay Orbik, Ceil Jensen, Ola Heska, Stan and Joan Schmidt, Annmarie Utroska, Rosalie Lindberg, Debbie and Dave Greenlee, and Richard Lach. New friends, many of whom I've worked for years but never met, included Kathy Glowacz, David Lewandowski, Phyllis Klen, Dr. Hal Learman, Chet Szerlag, Steve Szabados, and Robert Pine. (If I forgot to mention you, please forgive me! It was all a bit of a blur.)

I was especially delighted to meet the administrators of Facebook's Galicia Family History Group, Dennis Benarz, Justyna Cwynar, and Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz. It was humbling that they actually went out of their way to meet me and hear me speak!

Now, all this was very enjoyable. I have to admit, though, that several different people asked me a question that was a bit ominous: do genealogical societies have a future? This event attracted a respectable crowd, but I keep hearing that attendance at such events is trending downward. I also hear societies are having trouble keeping their membership numbers from dropping. And you'd have to be blind not to notice that the demographics of the attendees "skewed old," as they say. A fair number of the faces I noticed were familiar from over ten years ago, the last time I attended a PGSA conference. I cannot say I noticed a lot of young faces, or unfamiliar ones.

To be fair, every conference I've attended since the mid-80s has looked pretty much the same in this respect. If genealogical societies are dying, they're taking their sweet time about it! But after all, genealogy tends to attract people who have lived a while and come to appreciate the importance of family and heritage – along with a contingent, of varying size, of younger folks who catch the genealogy bug early in life. We do seem to replenish our ranks – at least, so far.

I think we all know, however, that the Internet has had an enormous effect on genealogy, and many of the folks out there are convinced everything they need is free and online. They're wrong – but not as wrong as they were twenty or even ten years ago. I never expected to see actual records available online. It is possible to make real progress without getting out of your chair. So why make the effort to go to a conference? That question is not as easy to answer as it used to be.

I noticed in the latest issue of *Forum*, the periodical of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, Shannon Combs-Bennett wrote an article with the title, "Next Generation: Revamping Your Organization." It begins, "Recently I was in a genealogical society meeting and one person stood up and asked why the organization was still there. After the shock, we listened to him ask why anyone would join this group—what did we really have to offer? It shook the board up. But, you know what, his case made sense. Organizations that do not stay relevant, or change as needed, will slowly die."

She offered five suggestions. Review your society's mission statement; create clear descriptions of officer and chairman positions; train everyone for their positions; establish member recognition; harness a social media presence. I think pretty much every society still in existence is trying to do these things – but with what success?

What are the answers? I'm not smart enough to know. But I strongly advise people involved with societies to ask the questions, rather insistently. We probably can't foresee what developments will affect the future of societies, and it'd be silly to try. But human nature doesn't change. The challenge remains, and surely will remain: how to put butts in seats.

*** HAITIAN POLONIA ***

One of the things I love about my work is that I run into fascinating stories all the time. One of the best I've encountered is the story of Polish soldiers serving in the French army who were sent by Napoleon to crush a rebellion in Haiti. They stayed on and formed a unique presence in a place you would never expect to find a Polish connection. I've heard bits and pieces of this over the years.

Recently, Paweł "Paul" Grainert posted a note to Facebook's Polish American Writers and Editors group, providing this link to a five-minute teaser video for his new project, "Haitian-Polonia."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qhFyfYEgXs&feature=youtu.be>

It would be great to see this project come to fruition. Mr. Grajnert hopes to find funding to complete his project. If you have ideas, or wish to support him, contact him at p.grajnert@gmail.com or contact Elsie Hernandez info@hamoc.org.

*** A BIT OF HUMOR ***

There are times we forget to express our intentions clearly, and this can lead to some very humorous situations. Goška Kalicińska Chłopecka posted an interesting photograph to the Facebook group Genealodzy.pl. It apparently came from a Facebook group called A Idz Pan w Cholere (which means roughly “Go to hell”). It showed a sign posted outside a rectory in Poland. The sign bore an announcement from the pastor saying, in translation, “In connection with the need to conduct an inventory of the cemetery, I ask persons who are resting in this cemetery to contact me at ____” (number deleted). Goška commented, “Good idea haha ... In that case I’m asking my great- and great-great-grandfathers to call me at ____ because I have missing people I need to fill in, and we’ll use the occasion to take a photo.”

*** ST. ADALBERT’S TERM GRAVES ***

by *Debbie Greenlee* daveg@airmail.net

Editor— Over the years, I’ve often seen researchers with Chicago-area roots ask about “term graves” at St. Adalbert’s Cemetery in Niles, Illinois. Debbie Greenlee recently posted an informative note about this to the PolishGenius mailing list, and I thought it might be worth passing along:

I found the following explanation about “Term Graves” in the office of St. Adalbert’s cemetery in Niles, Cook County, IL.

Until approximately 1960, the use of “term graves” was widespread in the cemetery. Burials were made one after another in rows. Although today’s graves are perpetual, the “term graves” were for a limited number of years – usually twenty.

When the time expired, signs were posted in the Cemetery for a five-year period informing lot holders that the “term graves” can be repurchased.

After the “term graves” expired, the “term grave” sections were renovated to accommodate new burials. The remains buried in the “term graves” were not disturbed, however the “term grave” sections were “built up” several feet and new sections were laid out.

We can locate some of the old “term grave” sections however, **it is not possible** to locate the individual “term graves.”

The cemetery then included a map indicating where the “term graves” were located.

My great grandmother, Magdalena Żytka Jaworski was originally placed in a term grave. My grandfather (the oldest) had her remains moved to a perpetual grave next to her husband.

I have other relatives who were placed in term graves but were not moved to perpetual graves, so there is nothing to visit.

***** INDEXING POLISH PARISHES IN THE USA *****

by Agnieszka Maja Mizgalska

Editor – Agnieszka Maja Mizgalska posted a note to Facebook’s Polish Genealogy about a month ago, and followed it up with this note on 27 September. I thought it might be worth sharing, in case some of you want to join in helping with this work.

Over a month ago, with a hope, I asked if any of our group members would like to volunteer to work on the list of Polish Parishes in USA.

Since that time the scope of the project itself became bigger, as we not only focused on obvious Catholic parishes but also included other places of worship. Of course, we are not done yet, (i.e. we miss couple States) but we keep working :)

But we are eager to share with you our progress and the first result of our work!

Check it out :)

<https://sites.google.com/view/polishgenealogygroup/internet-tools/polish-parishes-worldwide>

If anyone would be interested to help with further work, you can do it even just by checking if your parish is there, and if there is not, or we have wrong info, please use forms which we specially created for that purpose and we will be happy to correct it :)

Big thank you to:

Eileen Zielinski Bridges, Martha Baklarz-Croley, Christine Bennett, Cherie Maria Ciaudella, Jan Colton, Shawn Marie Gabriel Brown, Christy Gonzales-Holasz, Allison Macisco Koziół, Marietta Thomas, Valerie Warunek, Beth Whitson

FBPGG - Polish Parishes worldwide

*** GENETeka INDEX UPDATES ***

by Waldemar Chorążewicz and Cynthia Kurlas

Editor – Once more, let me pass along some of the new Geneteka indexes shared by Waldemar on Facebook's Polish Genealogy group this month. This time, some of the updates were shared by Cynthia Kurlas, as well. You can find assistance with the two-letter province abbreviations online, for instance, at <http://hitchwiki.org/pl/Szablon:Wojew%C3%B3dztwa_Polski>.

Also worth remembering is the tip Henry Szot shared with us in the April 2018 issue of *Gen Dobry!*

Here is an easy way to find out if an index has been updated.

On the top right of results pages, there is a list of options (*opcje*). The last item is "Wyszukaj tylko indeksy z ostatnich" (search only indexes in the last), with a choice of 1, 3, 7, 14, 31, and 60 days. This permits receiving results only in the chosen time period.

Example of use:

- 1) select the search page icon,
- 2) select świętokrzyskie,
- 3) select parish Sokolina and the wyszukaj option with 31 days,
- 4) if any, only results entered for the last 31 days will be shown.

A surname might be added to further limit results.

Births – U[rodzenia] • Marriages – M[małżeństwa] • Deaths – Zgony.

15-09-2018

Burzyn (PL) -- Z 1908b-1915a, indexed by Piotr Laskowski

Mały Płock (PL) -- U 1901, indexed by Anna S.

14-09-2018

Kruszyn (KP) -- M 1772-1809, indexed by Michał Golubiński

Odechów (MZ) -- M 1911, 1913, indexed by Łukasz Bernaciak

Puchały (PL) -- Z 1858, indexed by Ewa Prejs

Puchały (PL) -- UMZ 1831, indexed by Witold Trzeciak

Rypin (KP) -- SkM 1915-16, indexed by Jan Berens

Skępe (KP) -- M 1851-78, indexed by Michał Golubiński

Warszawa-Jazdów (WA) -- UMZ 1813, indexed by Artur Godlewski

Wąsosz Górny (SL) -- M 1869-80, Z 1867, indexed by Anna Ch.

13-09-2018

Hadynów (MZ) -- M 1841-45, indexed by Katarzyna Jastrzębska

Złaków Kościelny (LD) -- Z 1826-29, indexed by Jan Adam Niedźwiadek, verified by Adam Głowacki

12-09-2018

Brańszczyk (MZ) -- U 1859-VI 1865, indexed by Joanna Maślanek

Darewo (BR) -- UMZ 1797-1801, indexed by Michalina Musiał

Futoma (PK) -- U 1863-81, indexed by Anna Krawiec

Grodzisko (LD) -- UMZ 1820-21, indexed by Dawid Nowowiejski

Jeruzal pow. skierniewicki (LD) -- M-1877-82,98-1906, indexed by Tomasz Przygodziński

Kamieniec (pow. gnieźnieński) (WP) -- M 1671-72, 1677, 1679-1700, 1702-19, 1723, indexed
by Jason

Pyzdry (WP) -- U 1803-07, indexed by Danuta Danecka

Rzgów (LD) -- MZ 1841-67, indexed by Elżbieta Misiewicz

Sulejów-Podklasztorze (LD) -- UMZ 1810-20, indexed by Katarzyna Loter

11-09-2018

Bałtów (SK) -- UMZ 1861-65, indexed by Roman Burczyk

Czersk (MZ) -- UMZ 1891-1917, indexed by Teresa Mikołajewska

Dobre (MZ) -- U 1889, indexed by Artur Lewandowski

Jasionna (MZ) -- Z 1798-1825, indexed by Tomasz Frynia

Klwów (MZ) -- UMZ 1911-13, indexed by Krzysztof Jach

Mokrusko Dolne (SK) -- M 1773-92, indexed by Sylwester Malicki

Niedzbórz (MZ) -- UM 1846-49, indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz

Odechów (MZ) -- M 1908-09, indexed by Łukasz Bernaciak

Tczów (MZ) -- M 1890, indexed by Marcin Różycki

Warszawa św. Barbara (WA) -- M 1882 (expansion), indexed by Danuta Wasilewska-Lenart

10-09-2018

Biała Rawska (LD) -- UM 1904, indexed by Urszula Świerczyńska

Bratoszewice (LD) -- UMZ 1901-16, indexed by Jacek Kundzik

Kowal (KP) -- UZ 1840-59, indexed by Katarzyna Wiśniewska, Katarzyna Siemiankowska,
Grażyna Przybysz, Michał Golubiński

Raławice (pow. miechowski) (MP) -- U 1815-18,21-25 M 1797 -1878, Z 1815-1821-25, ,26-37,
indexed by aniaosin, DorotaP., Jakubas_Eugeniusz

Uniejów (LD) -- M 1831-32, indexed by Mariusz Dąbrowski

09-09-2018

Bełk (SL) -- U 1828-33,39-41,45-55, indexed by Barbara Wiechuła

Kraków-Płaszów NSPJ (MP) -- U 1815-31, indexed by Dagmara Kulig

Skrwilno (KP) -- Z 1808-19, indexed by Mary Ann Graham

08-09-2018

Krynki (PL) -- U 1812-18, indexed by Margaret Stasikowski

Kłóbka (KP) -- UMZ 1775-1808, indexed by Michał Golubiński

Lipno (KP) -- M 1830, indexed by Michał Golubiński

Lublin św. Michał Archanioł (LB) -- Z 1939-45, indexed by Danuta Wasilewska-Lenart

Zabrze - Biskupice św. Jana Chrzyciela (SL) -- M 1867-1880, indexed by Barbara Wiechuła

07-09-2018

Beszowa (SK) -- UMZ 1915-16, indexed by Edward Jabłoński
Fałków (SK) -- U 1731-35, M 1588-1702,28, indexed by Joanna Bugajska
Kłomnice (SL) -- Z 1850 -55, indexed by Stanisław Jegier
Płazów (PK) -- UMZ 1824-29, 1876-78, indexed by Grzegorz Żychowski
Warszawa Wszystkich Św. (WA) -- U 1913, indexed by A. Ch.

06-09-2018

Budyłów (UK) -- U 1786-1803, indexed by Tyler Versluis
Krasnosielc-Sielc (MZ) -- M 1850-60 (rozszerzenie), indexed by Maryla Celmer
Lwów św. Maria Magdalena (UK) -- UZ 1883-90, indexed by Jerzy Nowosielski
Mieleszyn (LD) -- UMZ 1845-48, indexed by Agata Kasprowicz-Jandrić
Odechów (MZ) -- M 1903-07, indexed by Łukasz Bernaciak
Pyzdry (WP) -- M 1768-94, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Płock-Imielnica (MZ) -- M 1695-1781, Z 1695-1807, indexed by Krzysztof Kośnik
Staszów (SK) -- UMZ 1819-22, indexed by Jerzy Koprowski
Trębki (MZ) -- M 1886-88, indexed by Grażyna Nowak
Usnarz-Makarowce (BR) -- UMZ 1811-20, indexed by Albin Kozuchowski
Warszawa św. Andrzej (WA) -- Z 1877, indexed by Urszula Drabińska
Warszawa św. Jan (WA) -- M 1899 (rozszerzenie), indexed by Krzysztof Zochniak
Wyszków (pow. wyszkowski) (MZ) -- U 1853-62, indexed by Jacek Paż

05-09-2018

Bóbrka - Niżna Łąka (PK) -- M 1785, 1787-91, 1793, 1796, 1798-1800, 1803-07, 1809-10,
1812-14, 1816, 1819-21, 1823-24, 1826-28, 1831-33, 1835-45, 1848-66, 1866-71, 1873-88,
1890-91, 1893-97, 1899-1903, 1905-07, 1909-10, indexed by Grzegorz Zuzak
Czermin - Łysaków (PK) -- U 1787-1844, indexed by Krzysztof Naróg
Luboml (UK) -- U 1862-66, 1868-69, 1871, indexed by Bożena Krajewska and Danuta
Wojtowicz
Łask (LD) -- UMZ 1868-70, indexed by Urszula Świerczyńska
Mała Brzostowica (gr-kat) (BR) -- M 1781-95, indexed by Tomasz Ulrich
Mieleszyn (LD) -- UMZ 1843-44, indexed by Agata Kasprowicz-Jandrić

04-09-2018

Beszowa (SK) -- UMZ 1905-14 (expansion), indexed by Edward Jabłoński
Białka Tatrzańska (MP) -- Z 1786-1824, indexed by Jacek Remiasz
Broniewo (KP) -- U 1808-09, 1903-07, Z 1808-09, indexed by Krystyna Domańska-Bzdak

03-09-2018

Borszewice (LD) -- UMZ 1850, indexed by Felberg_ślawomir
Mieleszyn (LD) -- UMZ 1840-42, indexed by Agata Kasprowicz-Jandrić
Nowe Brzesko (MP) -- M 1826-37, indexed by Marcin Dąbek
Pyzdry (WP) -- M 1795-1802, indexed by Danuta Danecka

Raławice (pow.miechowski) (MP) -- UMZ 1810-14,19-20, indexed by DorotaP., artekm
Ruda Śląska -Orzegów (SL) -- M 1904-06, indexed by GTG_Silius_Radicum
Siemkowice (LD) -- UMZ 1835-40, indexed by Robert1202
Stradów (SK) -- UZ 1881-82, M 1887-1903, indexed by Henryk Adameczyk
Szydłów (SK) -- UMZ 1917, indexed by Artur Koźmiński
Trąbin (KP) -- UMZ 1916, indexed by Jan Berens
Uniejów (LD) -- M 1828-30, indexed by Mariusz Dąbrowski
Żarnów (LD) -- Z 1911-15, indexed by Krystyna Stanisławska

*** 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.

East European Genealogist, Summer 2018, Vol. 26, No. 4, East European Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 2536, Winnipeg MB R3C 4A7, Canada, <<https://eegsociety.org/Home.aspx>>

- Diocesan Guides and Their Relevance to Genealogy, William F. Hoffman
- Fonds from the Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych (AGAD) in Warsaw, Part Two, William F. Hoffman

FORUM, Fall 2018, Vol. 30, No. 3, Federation of Genealogical Societies, <<https://fgs.org>>

- These Walls Can Talk: How to Create a House History, Nichelle Barra
- 4 Ways to Map Your Society, Francie Kennedy
- Create a Historical Walking Tour for Your Town, Susan Skilton, AG
- FGS 2018 Awards
- Memories of FGS 2018
- Ethics & Standards: Making Conferences Fun, Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL
- Next Generation: Revamping Your Organization, Shannon Combs-Bennett
- Records Preservation & Access: Nebraska Deeds, Connecticut Railways, DPLA Collections, and More, Linda McCleary, MLS

The Galitzianer, March 2018, Vol. 25, No. 1, Gesher Galicia, <<http://www.geshergalicia.org>>

- From the Editor's Desk, Andrew Zalewski
- Research Corner: The AGAD-Gesher Galicia Symposium, Tony Kahane
- The Jewish Military Chaplaincy, Alex Feller
- A Great-Grandmother's Memoir, Jacob Heisler
- Galicia's Oil and WWI, Valerie Schatzker
- The Tail of Brother-Soldiers, Jeffrey Knisbacher
- Map Corner – No Quiet on the Eastern Front, Jay Osborn
- Interview with Michael Tag: The Struggle to Survive
- David's Story Uncovered: The Rzeszów Ghetto Records, Elissa Sampson

Tatrzański Orzeł / Tatra Eagle, Vol. 71-3, in Polish and English, Tatra Eagle Press, 31 Madison Ave, Hasbrouch Heights NJ 07604, <jkedron@gmail.com> or <thadgromada@gmail.com>

- The theme of this issue is the dispute between Czechoslovakia and Poland over the National Borders in the Orawa and Spisz regions, including “The Struggle for Spisz and Orawa” by Prof. Tadeusz Gromada.

- There is also coverage of the successes of the young people from “American Podhale” (Chicago) at folklore festivals in Zakopane and Bukowina Tatrzańska.

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

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

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. You can see more at <<https://www.facebook.com/genralpulaski/>>. You can also contact members of the Pulaski Day Parade Committee about supporting the parade financially.

Here is a press release the organizers sent us, for your information.

When the 32nd Annual Pulaski Day Parade kicks off at 11 a.m. in downtown Northampton on Monday, October 8 it will celebrate several items of significance to the Polish community of Western Massachusetts: the 100th anniversary of Polish independence after World War I, Polish Heritage Month, the contributions of General Casimir Pulaski to the American Revolution as father of the American Cavalry, and the significant advocacy of our region made by this year’s co-Grand Marshals who are members of the legislative Polish Caucus, State Representatives Stephen Kulik of Worthington and John Scibak of South Hadley. These co-Grand Marshals will be retiring at the end of the current legislative session after long and distinguished careers in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

The parade will step off from the former Blyda lot on King Street and proceed to Pulaski Park on Main Street for a commemorative program. At the post-parade program in Pulaski Park, Stephanie Kraft, noted local author of books and articles about Polish culture, will be the guest speaker.

The parade features many Polish organizations from throughout Western Massachusetts, local and civic groups, military units to celebrate General Pulaski’s military prowess, and

farmer and agricultural groups in recognition of the regional Polish community's strong ties to the land. Parade music will be furnished by a polka band and five other bands that include those from Northampton and South Hadley High Schools, Hopkins Academy in Hadley, and two fife and drum corps, the Windsor Regiment and Marquis of Granby, both from Connecticut.

The day's events begin at 10 a.m. with a Memorial Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church on King Street that will include short comments as well as liturgical songs in Polish and English. The parade will begin at the conclusion of the Mass.

Representative Kulik was initially elected to represent the First Franklin District in 1993 after serving 11 years as a selectman for the Town of Worthington and was active in many regional and statewide organizations promoting the interests of municipal government, particularly in small towns. This 19-town district is the second largest House district in the state and Kulik has been a leader on such issues of importance in his district as public education, the environment and energy, economic development, health care, food and agricultural policy, and municipal government.

He is presently the Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, an influential position that includes such responsibilities as helping to craft the state's annual budget. He also sits on the six-member conference committee of the House and Senate which reconciles the two versions of the budget for presentation to the full legislature.

He is a member of several legislative caucuses that focus on issues of importance to Western Massachusetts and these include the Small Town and Rural Caucus, the Regional School Caucus, the Regional Transportation Caucus, the Polish Caucus, Rural Policy Advisory Commission and the Massachusetts Food Policy Council.

In 2002 Representative Scibak was first elected to represent the Second Hampshire District that includes Easthampton, Granby, Hadley, and South Hadley. He was a selectman in South Hadley from 1991 to 2002 and served as President of the Massachusetts Selectman's Association and as a member of the Governor's Local Government Advisory Committee. He is currently serving as Chairman of the Joint Committee on Higher Education.

Throughout his legislative career, he has been a strong advocate for disabled persons, infant and youth services, senior programs, veterans' benefits, agricultural issues and reducing the high cost of prescription drugs. He is also committed to improving the quality of education at all levels from preschool to higher education and as well as increased access to workforce training and economic development programs within the region. He is a member of the Oral Health, Regional Transportation, Library, Polish, and Boating Caucuses.

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame with Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Psychology, he has held faculty appointments at Indiana University, the University of Massachusetts, and Westfield State University.

Individuals, groups, or organizations interested in marching in the parade can contact Jerry Budgar at 584-2964 or at <gbudgar@rcn.com>.

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Saturday, 13 October 2018

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN
40TH ANNUAL GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR**

**American Polish Cultural Center • 2975 E. Maple Rd. (15 Mile Rd) at Dequindre Rd • Troy
MI 48083**

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)

PGS-Michigan's seminar will feature Robert Sliwinski, M.S., speaking on "The Basics of DNA Testing for Your Ancestry" and "Navigating Autosomal DNA Results and Contacting Your Matches." Stephen S. Barthel will speak on "Poland: Researching Former Prussian Areas" and "Maps and Gazetteers of the Former German Empire."

The Cost of the 2018 Seminar is \$65.00 (this includes an electronic syllabus). If you would like a printed syllabus the cost is \$70.00.

Registration closed as of September 29, 2018.

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19 October 2018

**BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF GENEALOGISTS (BCG) AND LEGACY
FAMILY TREE WEBINARS
FREE DAY OF LECTURES**

**American Polish Cultural Center • 2975 E. Maple Rd. (15 Mile Rd) at Dequindre Rd • Troy
MI 48083**

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)

Genealogists:

Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, 9:00 a.m. – Past Conflict Repatriation: The Role of Genealogists and Methodology in Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise

Elissa Scalise Powell, 10:30 a.m. – Deeper Analysis: Techniques for Successful Problem Solving

Rebecca Whitman Koford, 1:00 p.m. – John Jacob Kramer: Case Study of Mistaken Identity among Revolutionary War Soldiers

Thomas W. Jones, 2:15 p.m. – Using Indirect and Negative Evidence to Prove Unrecorded Events; Judy G. Russell 3:30 p.m. –The Discriminating Genealogist: Telling Good Evidence from Bad

The lectures will be held at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City Friday, 19 October 2018 between 9 AM and 4:30 PM mountain U.S. time. The lectures are free, open to the public, and sponsored by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. The five lectures will be broadcast online (free registration is required). Go to: <<https://familytreewebinars.com/bcg>> to sign up for the courses individually or <<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars-multireg.php>> to sign up for multiple lectures. All live Legacy Webinars are free and their recordings are free to watch for the first seven (7) days. After then one can pay for an individual access or a year subscription.

For more information on each lecture go to <<https://familytreewebinars.com/bcg>> and click on “register free” button. You will be able to read about the lecture before you register.

For more information read Judy Russell’s blog post:

<<https://www.legalgenealogist.com/2018/09/19/thanks-to-the-fhl/>>

[Information from a note posted by Jan Meisels Allen to the JewishGen newsgroup.]

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October 23 & 30, November 13 & 30

HANDS-ON GENEALOGY WITH ALAN DOYLE HORBAL

Athenaeum / Pittsfield Public Library • 1 Wendell Avenue • Pittsfield MA 01201

2:00 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.

Hands-on Genealogy with Alan Doyle Horbal, professional genealogist, with Cathi Iuliano and Susan Bedard at the Polish Center 33 South Street, Chicopee Massachusetts 01020. Basic outline and instruction on researching the 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 U.S. Census. Learn how to find your ancestors’ emigration to the U.S. using the Steve Morse website <<https://stevemorse.org/>>, the Ellis Island website <<https://www.libertyellisfoundation.org/>>, and several other databases. Discover how to search for family members outside of the U.S. using <<https://www.familysearch.org/>>. We will explore England, Canada, Poland and other countries.

All students must have an email account and be computer-literate. Space is limited. Please sign up for sessions. We ask that you attend all four classes.

The 5:15 p.m. class members must bring your own laptop for classes 2, 3 & 4. Library laptops will be available for those attending the 2:00 p.m. session, or you can bring your own if you prefer.

To register, call (413) 499-9486 Ext. 6. There is no cost for the course - it is FREE.

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25 October 2018

THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS

The ABCs of DNA: First Steps in Understanding and Using Your DNA Test Result

by Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz

Chicopee Public Library • 449 Front Street • Chicopee, MA 01013
6:30 p.m.

DNA testing has become increasingly popular among genealogists, yet many people don't really understand what to do with their test results or how to use them to verify and extend their family trees. After a brief overview of the different kinds of DNA tests available (autosomal, mitochondrial, y-DNA) and their applications in research, Julie will focus on autosomal DNA testing. She'll explain what to do with your results after they arrive, suggest resources for evaluating and analyzing your DNA matches, discuss third-party sites for uploading your raw DNA data, and offer some do's and don't's for collaborating with DNA cousins.

About the Speaker: Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz is a professional genealogist, writer, and speaker with 20 years of experience in researching her family's origins in Poland, Germany, the U.S. and Canada. She volunteers as an administrator and regular contributor to the Facebook groups, "Polish Genealogy," and "Genealogy Translations." She is the author of several articles which have been published in the PGSA journal *Rodziny*, and she is also the author of a genealogy blog, *From Shepherds and Shoemakers*. Ms. Szczepankiewicz currently resides in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, with her husband and children.

ALSO:

WHAT CAN YOU FIND AT NEHGS?

by **James Heffernan**, Researcher, New England Historic Genealogical Society

James will present a brief overview of resources available at the NEHGS Library and on the website <<https://www.americanancestors.org/index.aspx>>. He will also highlight library holdings specifically related to Eastern European research.

Free – bring a friend!

Find out more at <<http://www.pgsma.org>>

November 3–4, 2018

5TH ANNUAL NASHI PREDKY FALL CONFERENCE
YOUR ANCESTRY: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE
Ukrainian Cultural Center • 135 Davidson Avenue • Somerset NJ 08873

The Nashi Predky Family History Group is excited to offer two full days of programming. Participants may register for either Saturday or Sunday, or the full two-day conference at reduced pricing. In addition to the presentations, the event will have vendors and cultural display areas.

Among the presentations:

DNA Day presentations by Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL, <<https://legalgenealogist.com>>

- DNA and the Golden Rule: The Law and Ethics of Genetic Genealogy
- Beyond X and Y: The Promise and Pitfalls of Autosomal DNA Testing
- A Matter of Standards: DNA and the Genealogical Proof Standard

Valentyna Nagy, <<http://kinshipgenealogy.blogspot.com/>>

- Recent Developments in Ukrainian Family Research
- Carpathian Ruthenia (Transcarpathia) Genealogy Research
- Galicia and Bukovina Genealogy Research

Professional Genealogist Leslie R. Karr

- George and Anna Boyko: A Search for their Ukrainian Home

Brian Wilde

- Creating a Lasting Family Storyline: The Role of the Self-Publishing Genealogy Editor

Bruce Romanchuk

- Success: Using Social Media and DNA Together

Prof. Jonathan Shea of PGSCTNE, <<http://pgsctne.org/>>

- Hands-on Approach to Learning the Cyrillic Alphabets (optional workshop, space limited to 20 seats)

On Saturday night, Nashi Predky will host their 5th Anniversary dinner. Registration for this event is optional. Buffet-style dinner with entertainment is being planned.

Register now: <<https://www.ukrhec.org/nashi-predky-conference-2018>>

If you have questions, write <genealogy@ukrhec.org>

[From notices posted by Michelle Tucker Chubenko on Facebook and to mailing lists.]

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24 November 2018

PGS-CALIFORNIA NOVEMBER MEETING

“ONLINE DATABASES AND INDEXES FOR POLISH GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH”

Los Angeles FamilySearch Library • 1631 East Temple Way • Los Angeles, California 90024

PGS-CA General Membership Meetings begin at 1:00 p.m. followed immediately by presentation.

A past speaker lectured on online/digitized metrical record databases available at Polish State Archives. This lecture will provide information primarily on indexes generated for these records currently in progress by genealogical societies in Poland. A summary of the archive online information will also be provided. The lecture is based on an image of Poland found on the Lost Shoebox that summarizes research resources for each province.

Bio: **Annette Gathright** has been actively pursuing family genealogy for over 30 years. Polish and Czechoslovakian research has been her primary emphasis. The Polish research includes both the Russian and German/Prussian partitions - specifically the Kujawy area, West Prussia, Wielkopolska, Mazowia, and Podlasie. Research in the Czechlands includes West Bohemia, East Bohemia, Central Bohemia and Moravia. Adjunct research includes France and Croatia. She is a charter member of PGSCA, with membership in PGSCNNE, CGSI, CAGSI, and CAGC. She has spoken at several FEEFHS Conferences, GCSI Symposiums, PGSCA, and CAGC. She is also currently President of CAGC-CA - is the Czechoslovak Genealogy Group of California.

[From PGS-CA's website]

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

<<https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/records-request/10/>>

As reported in *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter [EOGN]* and *Nu? What's New?*, Reclaim the Records won another effort to pry records out of the hands of bureaucrats and put them online for the free use of the public. The latest success is putting the index to New York State Births (Outside of New York City) online. You can read more and browse through images at the above URL.

<<https://tinyurl.com/y6vpshhf>>

This link comes from the 17 Sep 2018 issue of *EOGN* and deals with a vote by the European Parliament in favor of restrictive copyright laws. There are fears that laws adopted by the European Union tend to spread to other countries; so if these laws are too restrictive, it could end up hurting many of us, including genealogists. Protecting intellectual property is a hard thing to get right. Any author, including me, obviously wants to retain at least some control over his or her work. But do these laws go too far? It's an issue I encourage us all (including myself) to learn more about, so we can have informed opinions.

<<https://blog.eogn.com/2018/09/21/no-find-a-grave-wasnt-exactly-hacked/>>

This link to an *EOGN* article deals with a website many genealogists use, Find-a-Grave. It appears rumors have spread that the site was hacked, and all its info is now available on another website. Dick Eastman explained that this second site apparently just copied and republished all the info available on Find-a-Grave, slapping its logo on the photos. But all the info is still available on Find-a-Grave; it has not been affected. Now the legal question is whether the second site (which I am intentionally not naming) can get away with this kind of behavior. You can read this article if you want to know more.

<<http://www.draugas.org/news/the-draugas-digital-archive/>>

This article discusses efforts to put a digital archive of the Lithuanian-American periodical *Draugas* online. I often see people with Lithuanian ancestry asking how to access obituaries and

articles in *Draugas*, so this project should please many. Note that access to PDF files of *Draugas* from 2008 onwards requires a paid subscription to the newspaper; but the issues from 1909 to 2007 can be accessed at no charge. Learn more by reading the above article.

<<https://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Russian-hackers-no-match-for-digital-archivist-13256818.php#photo-16227535>>

One of the people credited with helping the *Draugas* archive project is Tom Tryniski, the man behind the Fulton History site (<http://fultonhistory.com/>). Recently Thaddeus Dabrowski posted a note to the Facebook Polish Genealogy group with a link to this article on Tryniski's recent encounter with hackers' attempts to extort money via ransomware. It's a real-life story where the good guy wins because he's too smart for the bad guys!

<<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/2016008>>

Valerie Warunek posted a note to Facebook's Polish Genealogy group, to make sure people with ancestry in Hamtramck, Michigan, know about this "Special census of the population of Hamtramck, Mich., June 25, 1915." Hamtramck is a great place – incidentally, with a great major, Karen Majewski – and people with roots there should be proud!

<<http://polishhistorynewzealand.org/list-of-early-polish-settlers/>>

Valerie also posted a note to the Facebook group Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, explaining that she had found this site about the Polish community in New Zealand. We're all familiar with Polish communities in America and other countries in the "New World." But we should not forget, plenty of Poles emigrated to Australia and New Zealand as well.

<<https://fromshepherdsandshoemakers.com/2018/09/26/using-cadastral-maps-of-galicia/>>

This is another of Julie Szczepankiewicz's blog entries, this time discussing cadastral maps of Galicia. These maps can be a wonderful resource, but they are not easy to use, in most cases. One thing I like about Julie's blog is that she guides you on the journey a beginner has to take. She starts out from the position of one who does not really know very much about the subject, and takes you along as she learns more and more. All her entries treat you like a comrade on the journey, not as a newb to be lectured at.

<<https://sites.google.com/view/genealogy-translations/home>>

Valerie Baginski posted a note to the Facebook group Genealogy Translations, advising people who need help reading ancestral records to visit this site, which offers lots of help overcoming the language barrier. I'm sure we've mentioned this site before; but it's one worth recommending again and again, especially as we gain new readers.

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

I happened to run across this site recently, and I don't recall mentioning it before. *Księga*

imion means “book of given names,” and that’s what this site focuses on – Polish given names. It’s all in Polish, but you can figure out much of what’s said, and Google Translate can often give you a decent notion what is being said. On the home page, above “Wielka Księga Imion - znaczenie imion!” (Big Book of Given Names – Meaning of Given Names”), you can click on the appropriate letter of the alphabet. Or at the top of the home page, you can click on *Imiona żeńskie* (Feminine given names), *Imiona męskie* (Male given names), or *Spis imion* (List of given names). It doesn’t list every single given name ever used by Poles, but it covers a lot of them. Personally, I’d pass on the blather about what the name says about the person bearing it; it’s about as informative as your average horoscope. But the notes on the origin of the name, its variants, foreign-language forms, surnames from the name, and famous namesakes, are worth looking at.

<<http://www.polskawliczbach.pl/Powiaty>>

Valerie Warunek posted this link to the Facebook page Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. The name means “Poland in Numbers – Counties,” and it allows you to see an interactive map of Poland’s powiaty and a nice list of them, with links that provide more data. It’s all in Polish, but it is presented in a form that is not difficult to make sense of, even if you only know a few words.

<<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/soc.genealogy.jewish>>

On 15 and 16 September, researcher Logan Kleinwaks posted notes to the JewishGen newsgroup about documents he had acquired recently in Poland, dealing with communities (especially Jewish) in a variety of towns and areas. They included documents from Kutno, Galician business registration cards, Gdańsk records, etc. The posts went into more detail than I have room for here. But you can review the notes at the above URL: just scroll down to notes posted on 15 and 16 September and look for Logan Kleinwaks.

<<https://globalnews.ca/news/4455009/polish-immigrants-pier-21-monument/>>

Helen Gailing posted a note to Facebook’s Polish Genealogy group with the title “Canada Recognizing Polish Immigrants.” The link leads to a story about a monument honoring Polish immigrants erected at Pier 21 in Halifax.

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