



# 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>>

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**\*\*\* THAT'LL TEACH ME! \*\*\***

by *William F. Hoffman* <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>

I started last month's issue of *Gen Dobry!* by writing, "July in Houston is too hot to work too much on anything, and that includes writing articles." Little did I know, I shouldn't have been griping. We prayed for a break from the heat, and boy, did the Lord give us one!

Fortunately, we're OK, and Houston is getting back up on its feet. I'm running a little late with this issue, and don't really have time now to write anything original. Fortunately, I've received good material from readers and contributors, and found some things worth passing along. I'll give you a break from my ranting and raving and just pass along what others provided.

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

*Subject:* Microfilm Order Extension

*Editor* – This is a post Jan Meisels Allen passed along to the JewishGen mailing list, and I felt we should share the news.

Normally I do not post the same message on IAJGS Records Access Alert that I post on the IAJGS Leadership Digest, but we have been asked to spread the word to all. Recently, FamilySearch notified the genealogical world that August 31 was the last date to order microfilms from FamilySearch and after that no further orders will be permitted. This week, FamilySearch ran into a problem that prevented some people who were ordering microfilms to be able to do so, which resulted from a computer software upgrade in the Family Search catalog system. The software situation was remedied and **FamilySearch has extended ordering microfilms for one week only, until September 7.**

To read more about this see Lisa Louise Cook's posting at: <<http://tinyurl.com/y7guraqr>>

Original URL:

<<https://lisalouisecooke.com/2017/08/breaking-news-microfilm-lending-expiration-date-extended/>>

Thank you to Teven Laxer, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee member for informing me of the new change in deadline date.

Jan Meisels Allen  
Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

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*Subject:* A Useful App

*Editor* – Here’s a useful bit of information Edward David Luft kindly passed along to me to share with our readers. Thank you, Edward! Let me add that a complete list of Edward’s writings is at <<https://sites.google.com/site/edwarddavidluftbibliography/home/edward-david-luft-bibliography>>.

Have you ever wondered the exact date of birth when you find a gravestone with the date of death and the age of the decedent in years, months, and days but no birth date? Many 19th-century and early 20th-century gravestones give the exact years, months, and days that the decedent lived as well as the complete date of death. There’s an app for that! It is free and anonymous, and you do not even have to download it from RootsWeb; you can use it online by just plugging in the information that you have and clicking on a button to obtain the results. The calculator is at <<http://freepages.family.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fgris/brown/agecalc.html>>. It makes life a bit easier. Just save it among the websites that you might want to revisit at a later time.

Edward David Luft

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*Subject:* Need Photos from the Dzierzgoń, Poland Cemetery

*Editor* – David Lucas asked if I could help him with this. I couldn’t, but I think chances are good some of you can.

Do you know of firms that will go and take pictures of gravestones at this cemetery? Schmitt, Krajewski, Lange, and Slupkowski — looking for recommendations.

David Lucas

*Editor* – If you have suggestions or recommendations, send them to me at <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)> and I’ll pass them along to David. Thanks!

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*Subject:* The Book *To Live Well Is To Hide Well*

I read in the last *Gen Dobry!* that a reader mentioned her book on the 2010 plane crash in Smolensk, Russia, called *The Final Flight*.

I have been researching for years and also have just published my own book online for an earlier Plane Crash that upset Poland, the one involving General Władysław Sikorski in Gibraltar in 1943. This, too, is the only book written in English.

My history is my family (Polish) have been involved in Polish armies and politics for centuries. With just our Surname being added to our names in Poland since 1110 ad in Sieradz, Poland as we are the originators of Urbański, from Urban, with the Nieczuja coat of arms.

Linda's statement on her book, *The Final Flight*, involving the 2010 plane crash in Smolensk, Russia, indicated that was it truly an accident. From what I know from my sources, yes, it was a clumsy accident.

Unfortunately, my book just now released is about the 1943 air crash that killed General Sikorski, staff, and family – and it was a true assassination. We know this because my father was there and the one who performed the action, unknown to everyone, with a false identity and rank, as General Władysław Sikorski was indeed singled out to be eliminated by one of the most elite Polish government assassins the world has never heard of.

This detail of how the plane crashed and what was done is verified by no other than the man who had investigated the crash of General Sikorski's plane for more than a decade. He also produced the TV Documentary Series called "Sikorski's Last Flight." And also other Air Maintenance and Crash Personnel.

My book has just been released in an effort to put the truth out, backed also by Polish historians; in fact, all those who have read the book now understand what went on back then, and it is crystal clear.

Although the Poland's IPN investigated the crash, twice, this does not mean they knew the answers – a skilled assassin leaves no trail if he can. But we explain in detail what was done and this has been confirmed as the only answer by Garth Barnard.

We are explaining that a special Resistance group ZJ as a 'Salamander' with direction to the Sanacja under orders, using fake name and military rank especially crafted for him. They made the hit on their own Prime Minister as he was seen as a true threat to Poland's freedom and that he was jeopardizing its future and people's safety.

Therefore he was assassinated, by one of his own bodyguards and the book explains in reasonable detail how all this came about.

Please understand this book is not for money making but to get the truth out, for my father being RC - it ate away at his soul, as this action helped to plummet Poland into disarray.

For my other relatives, all were involved high up in politics. Poland's Prime Minister in Exile, Alfred Urbański, 1972-76 he was in England in 1940 onwards! And Franciszek Urbański, Polish Leader in 1945 that Stalin wanted killed, he was involved in the *Proces Szensastu*, "The Trial of Sixteen." And my father, Bronislaw Urbański, who was previously a K.O.P. Plutonowy, highly trained.

The book can be found by typing into Google "to live well is to hide well "

Peter Urbanski

*Editor* – We want to share with our readers any information relevant to Polish history

and culture, as well as genealogy. It seems likely to me some of our readers will want to look into this book. A Google search will definitely provide links, but maybe the simplest way to learn more is to visit <<https://www.tolivewellistohidewell.com/>>.

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**\*\*\* OUR TRIP TO POLAND, AND DANIEL BUĆKO \*\*\***

*by Ron Hoffman*

*Editor* – One of our readers, Ron Hoffman, sent me this short article about his recent trip to Poland, and the tremendous help Daniel Bućko gave him. He said I was welcome to share it with our readers.

I would like to share a little about our recent visit to Poland.

We went there to discover more about our genealogy. My wife's grandmother and great-grandparents came to the U.S. from Poland. While my great-grandfather came from Prussia. That village later was part of Germany until after the Second World War when it became part of Poland.

Since neither of us speaks Polish we needed a guide and translator. Over the years we have dealt with Daniel Bućko, who has found many old records for us. Therefore we contacted him to see if he would be our guide and translator. We told him we didn't want to go where the other tourist go. We wanted to eat where the locals do and to visit the villages where our ancestors came from.

Our trip went something like this:

We were there for 14 days and before we left my wife found some unique hotels for us to stay at. We met Daniel at the Kraków airport and he drove us to our hotel.

On day 2 we went to Warsaw where we spent two days touring the town.

Day 3 found us in the Łomża area, where my wife's grandmother came from. There Daniel had arranged for my wife to meet one of her second cousins and a second cousin once removed. Both were descendants of my wife's grandmother's sister. We then went to the churches where she was baptized and where she was married. We also visited the grave of her grandmother's sister.

On day 4 we went to the villages where her great-grandparents lived. Digging through some old church records, we discovered two brothers of my wife's grandmother who died before her grandmother was born.

From there, we headed to Gdańsk and over to Ratuszowy in Chojnice, where another of her great-grandparents came from. Again we visited the churches they attended so long ago. Unfortunately the graves are no longer there. Next we headed to Wrocław for the night.

The following morning we toured that town before heading to Kolnica (formerly Lichtenberg), where my great-grandfather was born. Inside the church, we saw the baptismal fountain where he and his siblings were baptized. For a time, before he came to the U.S., he worked in the village of Starowice Dolne (formerly Hönigsdorf).

The last few days, we were once again back in Kraków, where we had a chance to visit the old town and many great restaurants.

Needless to say this was not a cheap trip but it developed into something far more than we expected thanks to Daniel Bućko who was with us for the entire time.

If anyone is thinking of visiting Poland, Daniel is the person to contact.

<[danielbucko@gmail.com](mailto:danielbucko@gmail.com)>

*Editor* – I should add, I have often heard very favorable things about Daniel Bućko; this is not the first time researchers have praised him.

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### **\*\*\* PHOTOS OF POLISH VILLAGES UPLOADED \*\*\***

*by Debbie Greenlee* <[daveg@airmail.net](mailto:daveg@airmail.net)>

*Editor* – Debbie Greenlee recently posted notice to several mailing lists news that may interest a lot of researchers. We wanted to pass it along.

I finally uploaded photos of all the villages I photographed during my trip to Poland in May & June 2016. I photographed 128 new villages last year.

There are a total of 750 villages/cities on my web site! If you think I have nothing to do . . .

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

In the list on the left side of the web page if the word NEW is in a red box that denotes that the page (village) is completely new. If the word NEW is in a white box, that denotes that new photos have been added to existing villages (generally at the end of the list).

In addition to villages are two new categories: Progression of Wood House and Colorful Homes.

NEW VILLAGES without diacriticals (to find the old woj. for a particular village/city, see my web site)

Bakowo

Biskupice Radłowskie

Blonie

Bochnia

Borek Wielkopolski

Borzyszkowy

Borzytuchom	Lapalice
Brodziszewo	Legbad
Brzoza	Lemierzyce
Brzozow (cemetery transcription coming soon)	Lesno
Budowo	Lipnica
Bytow	Lipusz
Chrzypsko Wielkie	Lojowo
Chwarszczany	Lubiana
Czarna Dabrowka	Lublin
Czarnozylly	Lubniewice
Czersk	Lugi
Dobrzyca	Makowarsko
Dolsk	Miastko
Drwinia	Miedzychod ((war memorial transcription found in RECORDS)
Dulsk	Mikluszowice
Dziemiany	Mirachowo
Dziennice	Mojusz
Dzietrzyniki	Moryn
Frampol	Namyslin (little Bukowsko) (cemetery transcription found in RECORDS)
Galkow Duzy	Nietuszyna
Galkowek Kolonia	Niezabyszewo
Garwolin	Nowa Ameryka
Glisno	Nowe Czarnowo
Glojkowo	Nozyno
Gorzow Wielkopolski	Ostrorog
Gostycyn	Pisarowce
Gowidlino	Pogorzal
Jezow	Polanow
Kalisz	Pruszcz
Kartuzy	Radojewice
Kazmierz	Rokity
Kistowo	Rudniki
Klukowa Huta	Rusko
Konarzyny	Rytk
Koronowo	Santok
Kortykow Duzy	Sierakow
Kostrzyn na Odra	Skorzewo
Koszalin	Skwierzyzna
Koszewo	Srem
Kramarzyny	Stanomin
Krobielewko	Stargard
Krzeszyce	Stara Kiszewa
Lag	Stezyca
Lakocin	

Strysza Buda	Warsawice
Strzelce Krajenkie	Wdzydze Kiszewski
Suleczyno	Wesioro
Swiniary	Wiejce
Swornegacie	Wola Stanominska
Szczecin	Wujskie
Szczeglino	Wygoda Laczynska
Szczurowa	Zabawa
Szymbark	Zabno
Tarnowo Podgorne	Zahutyn
Trzcinski Zdroj	Zaluz
TrzeŃniów (cemetery transcription coming soon)	Zamek Kiszewski
Tuchomie	Zblewo
Tyrawa Wołoska	Zloczew
Uniradze	Zurawiec
Uscie Solne	Enjoy!
Waglikowice	

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### \*\*\* PGS-MA – FREE BEGINNER GENEALOGY CLASSES \*\*\*

*by Joe Kielec*

*Editor* – Joe Kielec often sends me news of events sponsored by the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts, and I’m glad to share the info with our readers.

A free course sponsored by the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts covering all of the basic elements of genealogy research will be taught this fall at the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, 33 South Street, Chicopee It will be taught by Hillary Schau, a Professional Genealogist on Tuesdays, October 24, 31, November 7 and 14. The course will be offered mornings and afternoons. There will be a 10 a.m. class and a 1 p.m. class for each of the four weeks. This class is free but limited to 16 people and registration is required, but easy to do! Please visit our website, <<http://www.pgsm.org>>, for instructions on how to register.

Hillary Schau is professional genealogist from western Mass who has been helping people with their research and individual brick walls for many years. She presents classes on Organizing Genealogy and on RootsMagic (a computer program to manage genealogical information) that generate waiting lists for her next class. She is a 2015 graduate of the Boston University “Genealogical Research Certificate Program” and has been volunteering at the nearby Family Search Affiliate Library (Chicopee Library) for the past few years. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society. Although she is now a full-time genealogist, she comes from careers in engineering, education, and computer databases. These give her a uniquely analytical approach to problem solving and patient style for instruction, benefiting the researcher who often needs to look at things from a new perspective.



An outline for the Intro to Genealogy Class follows:

- Day 1 - Introduction to Genealogy:
  - What is it and how it can be organized; start with what you know; some basic forms for organizing etc. (pedigree chart and family group sheet)
  - Digital or paper, on line or at home, private or public
- Day 2 – Census and Vital Records:
  - Federal and State census, other country census where available
  - Birth/Baptism, Marriage, Death records
- Day 3 - Immigration and Naturalization:
  - Tracing migration, viewing the family group
  - Directories and information availability, organizing information in a timeline
- Day 4 - On line and local resources (miscellaneous):
  - Military, probate, newspaper articles, etc. Photos and papers at home.
  - Different programs, free and paid, for organizing genealogy.
  - An overview of DNA for genealogy

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**\*\*\* NORTHAMPTON, MA – POLISH HERITAGE MONTH \*\*\***

*Editor* – Another item Joe Kielec sent me was this article on Polish-American Heritage Month, which I believe was written by Fred Zimnoch of PGS-MA.

Polish-American Heritage Month is a national event celebrating Polish history, culture and pride. The idea was conceived in Philadelphia in 1981 by Michael Blichasz, a fourth generation Polish-American and was celebrated for five years in Pennsylvania. Originally observed in August, it focused on the contributions of less famous Polish-Americans who had, nevertheless, made an impact on American life. In 1986 the national leadership of the Polish American Congress joined the Polish American Heritage Month Committee to expand the program nationwide. At that time the campaign period was moved from August to October to enable school children to take part more easily and October is the month when the first Polish settlers came to Jamestown Virginia in 1607.

At about this same time, the Polish Heritage Committee was formed in Northampton with a focus on celebrating the contributions of General Casimir Pulaski, a Polish-born patriot who founded the American cavalry and assisted General George Washington's fight for victory in our own Revolutionary War.

This has grown into a full day of celebration coinciding with Columbus Day in October each year when local churches, civic groups, schools, marching bands, military units and Polish-American organizations hold their annual parade on King and Main Streets of this city. The day begins with a Polish-American High Mass at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Church on King Street starting at 10:00 am and is followed by a parade through the center of the city to Pulaski Park on Main Street.

Here, we join our elected representatives to offer tributes to our Polish-American heritage and culture with speeches, presentations and musical performances reminiscent of traditional Americana.

You are invited to visit Northampton this Columbus Day on October 9 and join the festivities to observe your Polish heritage and the role that this has played in United States history.

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**\*\*\* GESHER GALICIA'S JOSEPHINE AND FRANCISCAN SURVEYS PROJECT \*\*\***

*by Andrew Zalewski*

*Editor* – Andrew Zalewski, editor of *The Galitzianer*, posted this announcement to the JewishGen mailing list, and the information may be of great value to many of our readers.

Gesher Galicia is pleased to announce the addition of new records on the All Galicia Database (AGD) – a database that is available to all. See: <<http://search.geshergalicia.org/>>.

This communication pertains to the Josephine and Franciscan Surveys Project. To learn more about this initiative, please follow the link:

<<https://www.geshergalicia.org/projects/josephine-and-franciscan-surveys-project/>>

To date approximately 43,000 records have been added as a part of the project.

The following new records were obtained from the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine, Lviv (TsDIAL) and indexed:

Fryszak

- i. Josephine Survey 1788-1789 (19.2.150)
- ii. Franciscan Survey 1820-1850 (20.2.238)

Lwow/Lemberg

- i. Josephine Survey (Halicz suburb) 1787-1789 (19.12.2)

Mielnica

- i. Josephine Survey 1787 (19.10.279)
- ii. Franciscan Survey 1820 (20.10.88)

Rozdol

- i. Josephine Survey 1788 (19.9.275)
- ii. Franciscan Survey 1831 (20.16.192)

Tluste (Zaleszczyki district)

- i. Josephine Survey 1787 (19.10.202)
- ii. Franciscan Survey 1846 (20.10.129)

Zaleszczyki

- i. Josephine Survey 1787 (19.10.137)
- ii. Franciscan Survey 1820 (20.10.34)

Please check our website for a full list of towns completed or those scheduled for indexing as a part of the project:

<<https://www.geshergalicia.org/projects/josephine-and-franciscan-surveys-project/>>

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**\*\*\* GRANDFATHER'S BROTHERS COME TO TOWN \*\*\***

*by Mrs. Jan Yeo*

*Editor* – Mrs. Yeo kindly sent us this original poem, and I wanted to share it.

The last name on the manifest,  
Which no one knew,  
Was it transliterated?  
From the one that is true.

For, the last name given in Hamburg,  
Would sound similar,  
To the pronunciation used in America.

But I found the family in Poland,  
And the records gave the clue,  
About the name which sounded similar,  
But wasn't familiar.

Surprisingly, this last name wasn't mangled,  
Or miss spelled on the manifests,  
It was correct in every respect.

Whose last name had you used?  
Your sister's God father's family last name,  
That's who.

Fortunately for you,  
The last name no one knew,  
Only delayed the granting of your citizenship,  
Which finally came through,

Under the family name which is true

Now we have a story to tell,  
Of how you came to be here,  
Under a name no one knew

By J. Yeo

P.S. When asked about our Polish last name, my father always said, “God had a reading test in heaven. Those who could pronounce the Polish names correctly the first time, got to be Polish.”

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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.

***The Galitzianer*, September 2017, Vol. 24, No. 3, *The Quarterly Research Journal of Gesher Galicia*, Gesher Galicia, 1522 S. Point View, Los Angeles, CA 90035 • <<http://geshergalicia.org>>.**

- Research Corner, Tony Kahane
- Research Project Updates, Andrew Zalewski
- Brody’s Memorial Books, Börries Kuzmany
- Interview: Julian Bussgang on World War II
- Synagogues of Galicia and Bukovina, Sergey Kravtsov
- Map Corner, Jay Osborn
- Gesher Galicia—AGAD Symposium, Tony Kahane
- 38th Jewish Genealogy Conference, Michał Majewski

***PGS-CA eNewsletter*, June-July 2017, online version <<https://goo.gl/bhKZRu>>, Polish Genealogical Society of California, PO Box 307, Buena Park CA 90621-0307, <<http://pgsca.org>>.**

- June 10 Long Beach Polish Day, Event Recap
- Traveling to Poland: Part 1, Joyce Sharifi
- Marvin Blaski: 1932-2016
- Cadastral Maps Mini-Presentation, Joyce Sharifi

***Polish Eaglet*, Fall 2017, Vol. 36, No. 3, Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, c/o Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48202-4007, <<http://www.pgsm.org>>.**

- Parishes in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula with Polish Roots, Roger S. Laske & J. Wm. Gorski
- “Lest We Forget” – Reprint from St. Stanislaus Diamond Jubilee Book

- Early Surnames in St. Stanislaus Parish: Goetzville, Michigan, Roger S. Laske
- Surnames in St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Goetzville, Michigan, Compiled by Roger S. Laske
- The Galarowic/Galarowic Family in Goetzville, Chippewa County, Michigan, Roger S. Laske
- The Butryn Family Story of Sacred Heart Parish, Schaffer, Delta County, Michigan, by Kim Bellisle & Bonnie Butryn
- Joseph Schemansky, Denise Lota
- Jews in Suwalki, Grzegorz Krupinsk
- Jasiek - Jaskowski - Jaskoski, Nancy (Jaskoski) Batterso
- 2017 PGSM Seminar Review, Valerie Koselka

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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.*

**September 5, 2017**

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND**

**Sophie Hodorowicz Knab Presenting in Cleveland**

St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church • 5375 Broadview Rd • Parma, OH 44134

For those of you unable to make it to Detroit in October to hear Sophie speak on her recent book "Wearing The Letter P", she will be presenting at the Tuesday, September 5th, meeting of the Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleveland and will have books available for sale.

Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held at St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church in Parma, OH.

All guests are welcome.

*[From a note posted by Benjamin Kman to the Polish Genius mailing list.]*

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**September 23, 2017**

**CELEBRATING OUR POLISH HERITAGE**

**PGS-CALIFORNIA 2ND ANNUAL POLISH HERITAGE POT LUCK!**

**Los Angeles Family History Center • Los Angeles, California**

**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Since 1981, October has been designated as Polish American Heritage Month. What better way to celebrate our Polish Heritage with a potluck lunch at our September meeting?

On September 23, 2017, the Polish Genealogical Society of California will celebrate our Polish Heritage with a meeting designed around our Polish Heritage. The focus of the September meeting will be “Our Polish Treasures.”

### **Pictures and Recipes from the 2016 1st Annual PHPL**

We are asking that PGS-CA members bring one of their Polish Treasures to talk about at the meeting, while we all savor a delicious potluck lunch of Polish goodies. A Polish Treasure can be a memory of a person from our past, an artifact of great importance, a story about our research, anything that has some personal significance in our Polish ancestral research.

We'll be meeting in the same place, the LA Family History Center, at the same time, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For photos from last year's event, see: <[http://pgsca.org/1st\\_Annual\\_PHPL.htm](http://pgsca.org/1st_Annual_PHPL.htm)>.

*[From a note sent by PGS-CA President Gregg Legutki.]*

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**October 6-7, 2017**

### **4TH ANNUAL NASHI PREDKY FALL CONFERENCE: UNLOCK YOUR HERITAGE**

**Ukrainian Cultural Center • 135 Davidson Avenue • Somerset, NJ**

We are very excited to announce the speakers for this year's seminar on October 28, 2017 at the American Polish Cultural Center. The 4th Annual Nashi Predky Fall Conference - Unlock Your Heritage: Discover Your Ancestry - will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center located at 135 Davidson Avenue in Somerset, NJ on October 6-7, 2017. The event features internationally known experts in Eastern European genealogy, and will span two days, including a full-day dedicated to DNA along with Saturday's workshop on Using Cadastral Maps, opportunity for networking, and the choice of seven lectures.

New to the conference in 2017!

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

On Friday, October 6th, DNA Day offers participants three lectures, Q&A Panel open discussion and dinner. Registration opens at 2 p.m. and a light dinner will be available. The presentations

by Melissa Johnson, CG are: Genetic Genealogy: A Beginner's Guide, Diving Deeper into Genetic Genealogy, and Using Autosomal DNA in Genealogy. The DNA Panel Discussion will be hosted by: Melissa Johnson, CG, Natalie Asikainen, Bruce Romanchuk, an Administrator of the Facebook group "Lemko Ancestry & DNA", and Prof. Volodymyr Bodnar, the leader of the FamilyTreeDNA group "Ukrainian DNA Genealogy - Український ДНК-родовід".

On Saturday, October 7th, the second day of the "Unlock Your Heritage: Discover Your Ancestry" opens with registration at 8 a.m. with a light continental breakfast. At 9 a.m., the morning sessions start off with the presentation "Galicia: An Ethnic and Religious Melting Pot" by Zbigniew Stettner where he will describe ethnic and religious mixture in Galicia and show how this knowledge can help you trace your ancestors.

After the opening session, a dual-track day begins with presentations by Rhoda Miller, CG, "Finding Families in Russian Era Ukraine: Census Records and More", and by Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, "Ukrainian Catholics in America: A History."

Participants will be offered a buffet luncheon featuring ethnic food and networking time during the lunch break.

The afternoon sessions continue the dual-track offerings: "1920s-1940s Polish State Archives Records for Lemkos" by Zbigniew Stettner; "Ten Ways to Jumpstart Your Eastern European Research" by Lisa Alzo; "Did My Great-Grandmother Have a Family? A Problem-Solving Case Study" by Rhoda Miller, CG; and "Immigrant Cluster Communities: Past, Present and Future" by Lisa Alzo. An optional workshop, "Using 19th century Cadastral Maps to Trace Our Galician Ancestors," hosted by Zbigniew Stettner, will show how to find the records in archives, interpret them, and teach how to compare cadastral maps with current maps using various software and websites.

The two-day event concludes with the door-prize drawings at 4:30 p.m.

Registration is now OPEN!

<<http://ukrhec.org/nashi-predky-conference-2017>>

Take advantage of the early-bird pricing through August 31st!!

Michelle Chubenko

"Our Ancestors -- Наші предки / Ukrainian Genealogy"

<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NashiPredky/>>

<<https://plus.google.com/u/0/communities/107238252771720982783>>

Co-Coordinator, Family History Group

Ukrainian Historical & Educational Center of NJ

<<http://www.ukrhec.org/family-history-group>>

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**Friday, October 13, and Saturday, October 14, 2017**

**THE POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT AND THE NORTHEAST**

**and**

**THE S. A. BLEJWAS ENDOWED CHAIR OF POLISH AND POLISH AMERICAN STUDIES, CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**

cordially invite you to attend the **2017 GENEALOGY CONFERENCE** to learn the strategies for tracing your Polish-American and Eastern European roots.

It will be held at the Institute of Technology, Business and Development, Downtown campus of **Central Connecticut State University, 185 Main Street, New Britain, CT** on Friday, October 13, 2017 and Saturday, October 14, 2017.

Featured speakers will be:

**Matthew Bielawa** (Vice-President, PGSCTNE)

**Dr. Mieczyslaw B. Biskupski** (Endowed Chair, Polish and Polish-American Studies, CCSU)

**Michelle Chubenko** (New Jersey)

**David Ouimette** (Utah)

**Tadeusz H. Pilat, A.G.** (Tarnobrzeg, Poland)

**Thomas Sadauskas** (Virginia)

**Jonathan Shea, A.G.** (President, PGSCTNE)

**Julie Szczepankiewicz** (Massachusetts).

A two-part seminar will be presented on “Introduction to Polish and Eastern European Family History.” Among the lectures scheduled are:

“Did Pilsudski Raise a Polish Army in America?”

“Jersey Roots: Touring the Garden State”

“Genealogy in Ukraine: Discover Online Resources”

“The Story of Polish Immigrant Millworkers”

“Europe’s World War II Displaced Persons: Their Little-Known Story”(Thomas Sadauskas) and “The Ins and Outs of Geneteka: How it Works and How to Use it Most Effectively.”

Tadeusz Pilat will speak on “Greek Catholics in Poland and Family Research” and “Military Conscription Lists in the Kingdom of Poland and Genealogical Research.”

For more information, please see our website at

<<http://www.pgsctne.org/Conference%202017/List%20of%20hyperlinks.aspx>>

It includes our conference schedule, speakers’ biographies, and lecture summaries. There are also information and forms about our one-on-one consultation appointments with the speakers (a limited number are available), registration and lecture selections. Throughout the day, a



collection of books, maps and other materials will be available to all attendees for consultation. Officers of the Society will be present to answer questions.

For more information, please e-mail Diane Szepanski at <[Szepanski3@cox.net](mailto:Szepanski3@cox.net)>.

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**October 27–28, 2017**

**ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FALL CONFERENCE**

***“Build Your Family Tree: DNA, Research, & Writing”***

**iWireless Center • Radisson on John Deere Commons-Moline • 1415 River Drive  
Moline, Illinois**

The 2017 Fall Conference of the ISGS will be held Friday, October 27, through Saturday, October 28, at the iWireless Center in Moline, Illinois. For more information as it is posted, see this page on the ISGS Website: <<https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=536>>.

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**October 28, 2017**

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN’S ANNUAL SEMINAR**

**American Polish Cultural Center**

We are very excited to announce the speakers for this year’s seminar on October 28, 2017 at the American Polish Cultural Center.

**Sophie Hodorowicz Knab**, author of several books about Polish culture and traditions, will speak about the different customs and present a personal family story that resulted in the book, *Wearing the Letter P: Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany, 1939-1945*.

**Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz** offers two presentations. The first one is called, “I Found My Village! Now What?” Julie will discuss the different documents that can be found online which will help us in our research. Her other presentation is called, “The Ins and Outs of Geneteka: How it Works and How to Use It Most Effectively.”

For more information as it becomes available, visit the PGSM website:

<<http://pgsm.org/>>

[From a post by Valerie Warunek to the Facebook page of the PGSM]

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**Saturday, October 28, 2017**

**CROSSING THE OCEAN: RESEARCHING FAMILY HISTORY IN THE POLISH**

**ARCHIVES – Professor Jonathan Shea**  
**Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts**  
**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

This Presentation will examine the record keeping practices in all three partitions (Austrian, Prussian and Russian) and show frequently encountered formats of sample vital records of birth, death and marriage. Additional record types will also be discussed such as parish censuses, military draft lists, inventories, and cemetery research. Polish websites which contain indexes and digitized records will also be presented. The location of archival materials and access policies to collections will be discussed as well.

**Jonathan Shea** is a professional genealogist specializing in Eastern Europe and Ireland. He frequently presents workshops nationwide on the topics of document translation, immigration history and European archival resources. He is the President of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast and serves as editor of its journal, *Pathways and Passages*.

*Also, on the same day, following this event:*

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**Polish Center of Discovery and Learning**  
**33 South Street, Chicopee, MA**  
**3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

You are invited to visit the Host Organization of the PGsMA Genealogical Research Library for light fall-themed refreshments and to explore the rich collection of artifacts, photographs and personal items that document the proud heritage of Polish-American life.

Galleries include a reconstruction of a typical 19th Century Polish Peasant Cottage, a stunning display of regional clothing and ceremonial costumes, folk art including hand-crafted *szopki krakowskie* and carvings as well as our Genealogical Research Library. These are housed in an 18-room, 130 year-old building that was renovated and converted into the Polish American museum and culture center that it is today.

Come enjoy the Polish Center as well as our relaunched Genealogical Library in the company of your fellow members and guests.

Admission to both events is **free**, but registration is required. Please go to our website, <<http://pgsma.org>> to sign up and let us know that you will join us.

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**November 19, 2017**

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**“Rising from the Ashes – Warsaw, Poland”**

**Margaret Guzek**

**Copernicus Center (King's Hall) • 5216 W Lawrence Ave • Chicago IL 60630**

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This presentation will also be offered as a Webinar to members and non-members. Additional Webinar registration information will be posted on the PGSA Home Page <<http://www.pgsa.org/>>, in *PGSA Notebook*, and in *Rodziny* in advance of the meeting. Members and non-members are invited to attend.

*Topic Summary* – By the start of World War II, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party were intent on razing Warsaw as part of the Pabst Plan to create a future “German” town. By the time of Warsaw’s liberation in January of 1945 from German occupation, the Wehrmacht had destroyed 85% of the city.

This presentation discusses the events leading up to the destruction of Warsaw and the Polish community’s meticulous post-war reconstruction, which includes the recognition of Warsaw’s restoration of its historic quarters as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

*Bio* – **Margaret S. Guzek** is a writer and preservationist. She has written landmark nominations on architecturally and historically-significant properties for local preservation commissions and the National Register in addition to writing architectural surveys. Ms. Guzek’s paternal grandmother was a member of the Polish resistance and fought in the Warsaw Uprising, and her maternal grandfather was a member of the Second Polish Corps under the leadership of General Wladyslaw Anders and fought in the Battle of Monte Cassino. Ms. Guzek holds a master’s degree in journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. An article written by Ms. Guzek based on this presentation appeared in the Fall 2016 issue of *Rodziny*.

To register to attend this webinar, click on the following link:

<<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4319868320717127683>>

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**May 7 – 20, 2018**

## THE ROAD HOME

A genealogy oriented trip to Poland and Ukraine.

*With certified American and Polish genealogists Professor Jonathan Shea and Aleksandra Kacprzak.*

*The trip includes opportunities to visit your ancestral village.*

*Gen Dobry!*, Vol. XVIII, No. 8, August 2017 — 19

The Road Home trip will leave from New York on 5/7/18 and return on 5/20/18.

The trip cost is \$2,995\* per person, double occupancy if you sign up by November 1, 2017.

After November 1, 2017 the trip cost is \$3,195\* per person, double occupancy. There will be an additional \$450 fee for single occupancy. The cost includes airfare between New York JFK and Kraków, hotels, three meals daily, professional tour guide, private tour bus, and admission to scheduled attractions.

You must sign up for the trip by December 20, 2017 and submit a \$300 non-refundable deposit and fill out the pre-trip questionnaire.

You must pay for your trip in full (non-refundable) by February 1, 2018. You must have a valid passport for this trip.

If you are traveling alone, would you want a roommate and save the single supplement charge? Please let us know if you would like a roommate and we will try to accommodate you.

*\*Price Subject to change due to change in exchange rates or airline fees.*

#### **DAILY ITINERARY**

May 7: Depart from New York

May 8: Kraków

May 9: Auschwitz/ Częstochowa May 10: Wadowice/Żywiec Brewery

May 11: Zakopane

May 12: Sanok/Solin/Polanczyk

May 13: Bieszczady/Przemysl

May 14: Przemyśl/Depart for Ukraine May 15: Lwow m Ukraine

May 16: Various towns in Ukraine May 17: Zamość/Sandomierz

May 18: Krzyztopor Palace/Wieliczka Salt Mine May 19: Kraków/Wawel Castle

May 20: Depart to New York

#### **INDIVIDUAL VILLAGE DAY TRIPS**

There are a limited number of day trips available so you can travel to your ancestral village. There will be an additional cost for this service. The village must be within 75 miles of a city we are visiting. Requests must be submitted by January 2, 2018. We will notify you by January 31, 2018 if your trip is possible and the estimated cost for the trip. Payment for the village trip will happen the day of the trip in Poland.

Check us out on Facebook: The Road Home-Polish American Foundation.

To sign up or more questions email: <[dorena726@yahoo.com](mailto:dorena726@yahoo.com)>

# POLISH AMERICAN FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT

27 Grove Hill Street New Britain, CT

<[www.PAF-CT.org](http://www.PAF-CT.org)>

## Bring your family tree to life

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### \*\*\* MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES \*\*\*

<<http://gentod.com/A.mv?Y=8-25409&xz=EM2497-1>>

This link is from the 27 August 2017 edition of the *Genealogy News*, which provides a digest of interesting articles noticed by the editors of *Genealogy Today*. The link transfers you to a longer URL, which is an article by Melanie Mayo from *Family History Daily* with the title “Ancestry.com’s ‘Location Traps’ Are Causing Researchers to Miss Important Records.” It’s an insightful study look at how Ancestry.com’s autocomplete function with their search engine can inadvertently lead us into “location traps,” defeating our efforts. No one’s trying to mislead or frustrate us; but trying to organize massive numbers of records can produce conflicts or redundancies that send us looking in the wrong place. The author does a really good job of explaining how this happens and how to avoid the traps. The article is a preview of lessons you can unlock from Ancestry, if you are interested.

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<<http://bit.ly/2hNJg11>>

This link is from an issue this month of *Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter [EOGN]*, and takes you to an article by Joseph Gedeon on the most last names in the United States, on the 247wallst.com site. I must warn you, it takes you through the list, a few names at a time per page. This is a typical “clickbait” tactic, one I am not fond of. Once I saw that, and I saw that the website wanted to know my location, I decided to pass—undoubtedly there are other ways to get this info. But as far as I could tell, there’s no actual threat to your computer if you go through the list, as long as you have sufficient patience.

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<<http://GedTree.com>>

The same issue of *EOGN* showed some very nice family tree prints generated from a GEDCOM file. Eastman said he hadn’t used the service yet, but it looks promising. I agree. You can learn more at the GedTree website, or read Eastman’s comments, and some useful input from his readers, at <<https://blog.eogn.com/2017/08/07/gedtree-com-creates-beautiful-family-tree-prints-in-minutes/>>.

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<<https://www.facebook.com/wdytya/>>

Numerous publications, including *Nu? What’s New?*, mentioned that the television

program *Who Do You Think You Are?* will return to the air in Spring 2018. Checking the program's Facebook page, it will premiere Tuesday, 24 February 2018. It appears they're still firming up the list of people who will appear.

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<<http://www.pbs.org/video/finding-your-roots-season-four-official-trailer-hdf5ii/>>

*EOGN* says we won't have to wait that long to see the next season of PBS's genealogy program, *Finding Your Roots*. It will premiere 3 October 2017. *EOGN* gave this link to view the trailer for the new season.

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<<http://semanchuk.com/gen/data/debbieg/KarlikowMarriages/vol17.html>>

In a post to several Polish genealogy mailing lists, Debbie Greenlee announced the availability online of the index for Karlików's Greek Catholic "Civil Marriages," Vol. 17, 1868 - 1884; 1910; 1926 - 1933. It is at the above URL. Debbie added, "To see the many other church and civil records that have been indexed for the area of Bukowsko, powiat Sanok, old województwo Krosno in southeastern Poland, click: <<http://semanchuk.com/gen/>>. These indexes are a testament to what can be accomplished when people step up and help. None of the volunteers had translated/indexed Polish records before they started on these. They stepped out of their comfort zones and now, they are pros!"

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<<https://www.wdl.org/en/item/9197/view/1/29/>>

On the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list, "Sandy in CO" found this link to an item at the World Digital Library. She wrote, "I was reading some older Polish genealogy newsletters (catching up on old emails) when I saw an interesting link to the World Digital Library, located at the link <<http://www.wdl.org>>. You can search on key words such as Lithuania or Poland, or something even smaller like Jurbarkas or a surname like Juknevicus. I looked at some of the Polish resources when up popped several books written in 1917 before the end of World War I. These books were intended to help the negotiators with the peace treaties that would be necessary after the war's end. Where should the new borders be drawn? Which populations should be moved? Heavy duty topics to be sure, but the US was trying to prepare for these discussions. There is a book on "Russian Poland" that includes Lithuania and other surrounding regions. I found some of the information very interesting and thought others might also."

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<[https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lista\\_polskich\\_miast\\_zniszczonych\\_podczas\\_II\\_wojny\\_%C5%9Bwiatowej](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lista_polskich_miast_zniszczonych_podczas_II_wojny_%C5%9Bwiatowej)>

Facebook, Polish Genealogy, 1 Aug 2017, Agnieszka Maja Mizgalska posted a note to Facebook's Polish Genealogy Group suggesting people might want to know about this list, on the Polish Wikipedia, of towns in Poland destroyed during World War II.

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<<http://www.polishclubsf.org/Letters%20translated%20from%20Polish.pdf>>

Maureen Mroczek Morris shared this link, translated letters from Poles in California, 1836-1901. Among the translations are letters from Henryk Sienkiewicz to Julian Horain. It's a fascinating project to me because I helped with some of the letters. I found them really interesting; maybe you will too.

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