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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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*** SERENDIPITY AND GENEALOGY, ALL IS GOOD! ***

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

In genealogy, we often confront brick walls, after fire walls, after closed access to material, after refusals to provide copies by holders of documents we want, and other negative factors. This has always been, and will continue. Sometimes we can circumvent these roadblocks, other times we have to wait it out, and maybe we have to wait for our descendants to uncover the “secrets.”

But this article deals with success and excellent results. After finishing Haller’s Polish Army in France, Volume II, I have begun Volume III at a slow pace. As I am still digesting the final product of Volume II in book form, and waiting to hear from those who have ordered it, I content myself contemplating what I may have done differently. I do this to keep things in mind for the next edition. Such is the case here today.

In Volume II, I had help from the family of Lt. Stanisław Solon. They wanted to tell the story of their grandfather and his service in World War I, the Polish-Ukrainian War, and the Polish-Bolshevik War. As Lt. Solon was wounded and became seriously ill, he did not return to the United States until August 1922, well after many of the men were back in the United States or had settled into life in an independent Poland. His sailing was aboard the SS Latvia.

From his personal papers and photos comes the image on page 3, which I found extremely intriguing. This was not your usual studio photo of a man or men, in uniform, posing for a keepsake to be sent to family or friends. This photo took time and effort.

One, they are located on a large parade ground or field. Ninety-six men, one officer, and one horse had to gather together. And, as you can see, in the rear is a large building of some importance, with just about every window broken out. The “bump out” has an orthodox cross built in bricks in the wall. Not a simple thing, rather something which took time and effort for a reason. But what was the reason, and more important, where was this photo taken? The date on the back of the photo states November 13, 1921, well after many of the American Hallerczycy had returned to the States.

Unfortunately there is no word of location. As this image was as “complete” as I could make it, off to the book printers it went. It was now on paper, yet holding a mystery. Where was this image taken, why, and what is this Orthodox cross doing in a wall of a building which does not look like a church?

As life always has curves and turns, my finished books arrived November 1st. Examining the books, there was this photo again, posing those same questions, Where, What and Why?

Now serendipity enters the scenes. As I continue to source out materials, I met online a young military researcher, Bohdan Hrushetsyi, who is also interested in this time period, these armies,

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and the causes good and bad which prevailed.
Best of all, he lives in Rivne (Równe in Polish), Ukraine, in the area known as Volhynia. I recognized the city and this area, as Haller’s Army fought back and forth there for years. On a whim, I sent him the photos and asked if he knew anything about this building. Within 24 hours, he responded in the affirmative. The building, or army barracks, was indeed in the city of Rivne, built in the 1890s by the Czar to house Imperial Russian troops. And of course, a place of worship was needed, and the small building with the cross in the wall was an Orthodox chapel for the officers and men.

After the Polish-Ukrainian-Bolshevik fighting, this area was finally officially placed within the new boundaries of Poland after the Paris Peace Talks and Treaty of Riga. Occupied at the time of this photo by Polish troops, the area became officially Poland after 1921 and this Russian army base was occupied by the Polish army until World War II disrupted the status quo again.

I asked if the building still exists and was told yes, but it is now used by the Ukrainian army as an active army base, thus restricted access. He sent me a satellite view of the area, and yes: there are the building, the parade ground, and associated buildings which can be seen in the original photo, but the “cross building” was not in the image. Are we sure this the correct place?
I asked if there are any other photos taken which can “line up” to the one I used. Lo and behold, within a few days, he sent me some slightly blurry images from a local website, all in Ukrainian, showing the buildings as they appeared in the 1920s–1930s, well after my image. The one image is very close to the same location and direction of my image, and yes, you can see the “bump out” building in front of the large barracks. What I believed to be a hospital or school, turned out
to be barracks that were occupied and used by the 44th Regiment of Borderland Polish Riflemen, the exact regiment Lt. Stanislaw was assigned to in 1919-1921.

So here is proof about the What... A company on parade with its officer on horseback, Why... to make a record of the men during the time of war for military archives and families...and Where... the Polish Army barracks of the 44th Kresy Regiment of Borderland Riflemen, located at that time in Równe, Poland, today Rivne, Ukraine.

So every time I look at my book, I know that what was a caption with some ambiguity in it, could now be made much more accurate and precise. But that I cannot change in the printed form, unless I am fortunate to have subsequent printings where the correction can be made.

Moral of the story: there are no substitutes for interaction between one researcher and another. The Internet is a great tool; but unless you have all of the answers and clues ahead of time, finding what you need may be difficult. In this case, a human response was faster at success than Googling obscure terms, and in this case, in Ukrainian. And where better is it to meet fellow researchers if not online? At conferences, meetings, workshops, fairs, and at a genealogical library. They are not all in the room at home which houses your computer.

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*** LETTER FROM THE EDITOR ***

Subject: The USCIS Fee Hikes

In the last two issues of Gen Dobry!, I have included information on proposed rate increases for some of the services the USCIS offers, including services important to genealogists. The deadline to post comments on these increases was originally December 16, 2019, but it was already extended once, to December 30—and now it’s been extended again, to February 10, 2020. This suggests to me the public outcry is making someone think twice, and more comments from concerned citizens can only help. For more information, including facts and detailed guidance on how to make your voice heard, I suggest visiting this website:

<https://www.recordsnotrevenue.com/>

Fred Hoffman, Editor

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*** UPCOMING PGSA BOARD ELECTIONS***

Editor – This notice appeared in the January 2020 issue of PGSA’s Genealogy Notebook. As you may know, I’ve been associated with PGSA for decades now, and I know it is vital for the Society to have a Board with members who are full of ideas and energy. If you are willing to consider adding your efforts—and you don’t have to live in the Chicago area to do so—please look into this!

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In the fall of 2020, PGSA will hold elections to determine its Board members for a two-year term beginning January 2021 and running through 2022. New members often provide new ideas, helping to keep the society relevant.

PGSA’s By-Laws restrict Presidents to two (2) terms, while other board members may continue on indefinitely, if they so choose.

To become a board member, you need only be a current PGSA member and have a willingness to contribute some time and effort. If you have questions and are at all interested (and we hope you are), contact Robert Pine at (630) 279-5646 or send him an e-mail: <rmpinepgsa@gmail.com?subject=PGSA%20Board>.

*** TO FACEBOOK OR NOT?***

by Alan Kania

Editor – I thought this note, posted by Alan Kania to the Polish Genius mailing list, was worth sharing because it made me think. I add a few comments of my own after it.

I hope the moderators of this group will indulge me for just a moment since recent comments made in this group sent me running to my copy of a book about pre-World War II Polish journalism.

I don’t understand what a “liberal enterprise” is, especially when it comes to Facebook. There is nothing I like about social media platforms, partially because there is so much chaff and not enough wheat to be nurtured. If you’re looking to news and information through Facebook, you are participating in what the people of Poland had with what was described as “reptile journalism.”

There is an excellent book (unfortunately, now out of print) by that title that describes the period when the Nazis seized newspapers and other publishing houses that were owned by the Polish people. The messengers (the reporters) were often killed, but the name of the publishing entity and the editors were spared with the caveat that if they did not publish the Nazi propaganda, they would soon join their murdered reporters. The public saw their familiar editors at the newspapers and saw that the publication was still the same. They were lulled into a misconception that the news and information from their neighborhood publication was still as accurate as before the occupation.

A few “subversive” underground newspapers provided legitimate news at the risk to those Poles who defended a free press at the risk to their lives. The book analyzes primary-source research and over 100 newspapers and journals that fell under this description of reptile journalism. These outlets were often chastised as the Lügenpresse or “lying press” to discourage people from
reading traditional sources of news and information because they did not provide the public with Nazi propaganda messages.

Facebook is NOT a news organization, it’s a social media platform where people can spread almost any diatribe and conspiracy theory they wish to throw into the wind. In a 2011 Pew Research study, nearly 80% of American adults are online and nearly 60% of them use social networking. More Americans now get their news via the Internet than through more traditional news-and-information platforms. Three-fourths of those people say they get their news from e-mail or social media sites. Because of the relatively uncensored nature of social-media platforms, there is no mechanism to fact-check the information and those using these platforms tend to gravitate toward them because it’s a mechanism of “reptile journalism” that can coexist with the reader’s personal points of views and biases. If you personally support a personal point of view, you can find plenty of examples of that particular point of view and you falsely feel “nurtured” that you have “learned something” even if the material has been blatantly falsified by the occupiers of that portion of the social-network.

Recent revelations have shown that much of the U.S. “news and information” on social networks have been placed there (often from sources outside the United States) as propaganda to promote dissension. Facebook Chairman and CEO Mark Zuckerberg refuses to “fact check” the political advertisements that help subsidize his business enterprise. Most Facebook readers seeking to find information that will support their pre-existing points of view will seize what is independently researched as false information, and society is lulled into a false sense of being “informed” about conspiracy theories or false narratives. Federal Election Commissioner Ellen Weintraub stated that Facebook’s “weak plan suggests the company has no idea how seriously it is hurting democracy.”

We are discovering that there is a growing effort to provide false, unverified information on popular social networks because those who seek “news and information” migrate there because they’ve been taught that the more traditional sources of news are “fake media” or the Lügenpresse just because the reader refuses to consider an opposing point of view that has been fact-checked for accuracy. Traditional sources of news are branded based on the OPINION pages or the EDITORIAL pages, and not on the reportage that is provided by the dwindling number of dedicated journalists that often risk their lives to bring the news to those willing to spend the time to read, view, or listen to it. It’s not a “liberal enterprise” nor a “conservative enterprise” unless that’s the only political point of view that you seek.

Just as providing falsified or selectively sanitized information to our family trees does a disservice to our ancestors as well as those from future generations that want to learn the facts about our family history, providing falsified or sanitized information about current events does a greater disservice to our understanding of the world around us. Ignorance of factual information is a dangerous to any society.

Editor – Ever since I started getting involved with some of the genealogy groups on Facebook, I’ve had deeply mixed feelings about it, and all social media. From my
experience, most of the people who post to Facebook’s genealogical groups—as Polish Genealogy, Genealogy Translations, Galicia Family History Group, and so on—are folks I’m glad to interact with. They are either honest researchers asking for guidance because they want to do quality work, or intelligent and experienced researchers offering such guidance. I’ve seen some excellent assistance provided on these groups. I never thought I’d see the day when a would-be genealogist could post a request for help online and actually receive valuable, accurate information from others, sometimes within minutes or hours. This amazes me.

At the same time, I can’t ignore the massive quantities of filth Facebook has allowed people (or bots) to dump on members’ heads in order to advance various agendas. I spend a fair amount of my time on Facebook “unfollowing” people who want to convince me to turn my free will over to their control.

If you look to Facebook for news or social commentary, all I can say is this: STOP IT! There are much better sources for info from a variety of perspectives, sources that can help you understand the world we live in. Demand that social media serve you, instead of manipulating you, and such media can be worthwhile. Use social media to form your view of the world, and you might just as well invite the utility company to run a pipe into your living room and pump sewage into your house 24/7.

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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. You can find assistance with the two-letter province abbreviations online, for instance, at <http://hitchwiki.org/pl/Szablon:Wojew%C3%B3dztwa_Polski>. Note that UK is Ukraine and BR is Belarus.

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.

Andrzejewo (MZ) -- UZ 1851-53, 1856-61, indexed by Justyna Jaźwińska
Bednary (LD) -- U 1919, MZ 1939, indexed by Marek Delert
Bejsce (SK) -- U 1700-36, indexed by Elżbieta Pawlak
Bejsce (SK) -- U 1797-1807, indexed by Wld_lan
Biała (pow. płocki) (MZ) -- UZ 1916-18, indexed by Krzysztof Kośnik
Biała (pow. wieluński) (LD) -- M 1916-20, Z 1916, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Biała Rawska (LD) -- U 1919, indexed by Marek Delert
Bobin (MP) -- U 1815 (expansion), indexed by Mateusz Serwatowski
Bobrowo (KP) -- U 1787-1807, M 1832-50, indexed by Jarosław Cendrowski
Bogurzyn (MZ) -- U 1813-22, indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz
Bolimów (LD) -- MZ 1908, indexed by Krzysztof Szczepaniak
Brodnica (KP) -- M 1841-43, indexed by Kamil Krasieński
Brzęcie (pow. wielicki) (MP) -- Z 1890-1900, indexed by Ela Synowiec
Brzozie (KP) -- M 1808-50, indexed by Mariola Postępska, checked by Waldemar Chorążewicz
Bytom - Beuthen (ewang.) (SL) -- U 1863-67, indexed by GTG_Silius_Radicum
Ceranów (MZ) -- U 1886, indexed by Emilia Borowicz
Cerekiew (MZ) -- U 1831-36, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Chełmica (KP) -- UZ 1860-69, indexed by Jan Berens
Chełmo (LD) -- U 1919, indexed by Gadecki.Boguslaw
Chlewiska (MZ) -- U 1770-72, M 1923-35, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Chorzów- Królewsko Huta II USC (SL) -- M 1898-1900, indexed by GTG_Silius_Radicum
Chruślin (LD) -- U 1919, M 1939, indexed by Antoni Burzyński
Czarnożyły (LD) -- UMZ 1876-78, indexed by Hanna Uszyńska
Czermin (m. Czermin) (PK) -- Z 1800-52, indexed by Krzysztof Naróg
Czerminowo (KP) -- UMZ 1876-78, indexed by Hanna Uszyńska
Czerwonka (pow. sokołowski) (MZ) -- U 1890-1906, indexed by Krzysztof Zochniak
Częstochowa św.Zygmunta (SL) -- U 1904, indexed by Stanisław Jegier
Dąbrowa (MZ) -- M 1812-21 (updated), indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz
Dobre (MZ) -- Z 1892, indexed by Artur Lewandowski
Dobryszyno (LD) -- UMZ 1897-1903, indexed by Anna Grzyb
Dolina (UK) -- U 1874-1913, indexed by Włodzimierz Maciewicz
Drozdowo (PL) -- U 1808-23, 25-50, 68-70, 1851 (expansion), M 1821-22, 26-50, 68-70, 1825 (expansion), Z 1868-70, indexed by Ewa Marczewska
Drużbin (LD) -- M 1848-60, indexed by Krystian Dzikowski
Durąg (WM) -- U 1916-17, M 1926-1937, Z 1926, 1928, 1935, 1937; indexed by Donata Stremplewksa
Dywin (BR) -- U 1839-1847, Z 1839-1840, indexed by Karol Zajdel
Działoszyn (LD) -- UMZ 1903, indexed by Daniel Leszczyk
Dzierzbice (WP) -- M 1851-65, indexed by Hanna Kołodziejska
Dzierzbice (WP) -- U 1851-65, indexed by Danuta Kołodziejska
Fałków (SK) -- M 1913-23, MZ 1909-12, indexed by Joanna Bugajska
Głogów Małopolski (m. Styków) (PK) -- U 1786-1853, indexed by Krzysztof Gruszka

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Golub (KP) -- M 1852-73, indexed by Kamil Krasiński
Grodzisk Mazowiecki (MZ) -- Z 1814-1817, indexed by Tomasz Frynia
Gródek (Stary Grudek) (MZ) -- Z 1861-64, indexed by Andrzej Baran
Haczów (m. Haczów) (PK) -- Z 1907-1908, indexed by Grzegorz Zuzak
Hadynów (MZ) -- U 1864-65, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Hyżne (m. Hyżne) (PK) -- U 1884-96, indexed by Gocha_D
Igolomia (MP) -- UMZ 1881-1895 (range of dates), UMZ 1897-1903, indexed by Jerzy Koprowski
Inowrocław (KP) -- U 1827-31, indexed by Justyna Lewandowska
Iwaniska (SK) -- Z 1906-14, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Iwonicz (m. Iwonicz) (PK) -- U 1890-1905, indexed by MMaziarski
Janisławice (LD) -- U 1905-17, M 1910-14,17, Z 1909-17, indexed by Tomasz Przygodziński
Janów (UK) -- U 1827-1838, UMZ 1795-1838, indexed by Joanna Maślanek
Jedlnia (MZ) -- Z 1912-26, indexed by Bartłomiej Zieliński
Jedlnia-Letnisko (MZ) -- Z 1921-24, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Kamienica (MP) -- Z 1802-1805, indexed by Renata Majewska
Karniewo (MZ) -- U 1847-49, 1852-58, indexed by Katarzyna Ospiewska-Thomas
Kleszczów (ewang.) (LD) -- Z 1918-27, SkZ 1928-36, indexed by Gadecki.Bogusław
Klów (MZ) -- Z 1939, 1940-42, indexed by Krzysztof Bach
Klębuł (SL) -- M 1858-67, indexed by Izabela Biś
Koło (WP) -- U 1866-1870, M 1866-86, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Komorniki (LD) -- UMZ 1918, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Konopki Wielkie (WM) -- U 1822-1884-1888, M 1882-1888, indexed by Adam Rajkiewicz
Kożuchów- Freistadt (LS) -- Z 1831-36, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Krzemieniec (UK) -- U 1827-31, indexed by Danuta Mielczarek, checked by Danuta Wojtowicz
Krzemieniec (UK) -- U 1840, 54-67, indexed by Danuta Wojtowicz
Krzynowłoga Mała (MZ) -- U 1914-15, 1917-19; M 1877-86, 1919-29; Z 1822, 1893-1904, 1922-29 (indexing and expansion), indexed by Izabela Czaplicka
Lacka Wola (UK) -- U 1830-35, M 1831-35, indexed by sStevens
Lekowo (MZ) -- Z 1856-57, indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz
Lembar (KP) -- U 1772-86, indexed by Jarosław Cendrowski
Lembar (KP) -- Z 1822-34, indexed by Bożena Prymus, checked by Waldemar Chorążewicz
Leoncin (MZ) -- U 1910, indexed by Wojciech Wosiński

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Leoncin (MZ) -- U 1915, Z 1902, 1923, 1930, indexed by Wojciech Wosiński
Leżnica Wielka (LD) -- M 1820-23, 26-41, indexed by Marcin Socha
Lisewo (pow. chełmiński) (KP) -- U 1816, 1817, indexed by Paweł Witkowicz
Liw (MZ) -- 1831-32, 1834-40 (expansion), indexed by Grażyna Przybysz
Lubienia (m. Straszydłe) (PK) -- U 1878-85, indexed by Katarzyna Pawłowska
Lubień Kujawski (KP) -- U 1850-53, 59, 79-80 MZ 1850-53, 79-80, indexed by Elżbieta Piwińska i Dagmara Mielczarek
Lubrza (SL) -- UZ 1850-59, indexed by GTG_Silus_Radicum
Lubrza -Lubschau (SL) -- U 1840-49, indexed by GTG_Silus_Radicum
Lutomiersk (LD) -- M 1771-98, Z 1779-1802, indexed by Grzegorz Żychowski
Lwów par. szpitalna Szarytek (UK) -- Z 1890-1920, indexed by mmaziarski
Lwów Szpital Powszechny (UK) -- U 1910-15, indexed by mmaziarski
Lwów św. Anna (UK) -- M 1912-17, indexed by mmaziarski
Lwów św. Mikołaj (UK) -- M 1905-12, indexed by mmaziarski
Łask (LD) -- UMZ 1832-44, indexed by Elżbieta Nejman
Łopacin (MZ) -- U 1864, indexed by Cezary Kujawa
Łowicz św. Duch (LD) -- U 1919, indexed by Marek Delert
Łódź NMP (LD) -- Z 1872, indexed by magnowa
Łódź św. Anna (LD) -- M 1920, indexed by Urszula Gałkiewicz
Łódź św. Kazimierz (LD) -- Z 1916-17, indexed by Urszula Gałkiewicz
Łódź św. Krzyż (LD) -- Z 1922-23, indexed by Urszula Gałkiewicz
Łódź-Mileskie (LD) -- UM 1917, indexed by Izabela Ziobro
Łódź-Retkinia NSJ (LD) -- UMZ 1915, indexed by Izabela Ziobro
Męcina (MP) -- U 1785-1800, indexed by Renata Majewska
Mierzyń (LD) -- UMZ 1851-55, indexed by Mateusz Gieras
Miłonice (LD) -- UMZ 1919, indexed by Józef Dębowski
Minoga (MP) -- U 1896-1900, indexed by Grzegorz Madej
Miszewo Murowane (MZ) -- M 1918, indexed by Piotr Romanowski
Mszano (KP) -- M 1754-1811, 13-35, indexed by Jarosław Czandrowski
Mszanów (KP) -- M 1836-56, indexed by Kamil Krasiński
Miedzierza (SK) -- Z 1847-60, 1861-69, 1871-80, indexed by Jolana Prokopiuk-Bathelt
Miecie (MP) -- U 1785-1835, indexed by Marek Podolski
Miecie (SK) -- Z 1807-19, 1821-25, 1901-06, 1911-16, indexed by Urszula Pogoń
Nowa Słupia (SK) -- Z 1804-10, 1811-17, 1821-28, 1911-16, indexed by Urszula Majewska
Nowy Korczyn (SK) -- UMZ 1881-82, indexed by Henryk Adamczyk
Nowy Korczyn (SK) -- UMZ 1881-82, indexed by Henryk Adamczyk
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Nowy Korczyn (SK) -- UMZ 1881-82, indexed by Henryk Adamczyk
Nowy Korczyn (SK) -- UMZ 1881-82, indexed by Henryk Adamczyk
Osjaków (LD) -- M 1931, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Ostrowite (WM) -- M 1728-1800, indexed by Jarosław Cendrowski
Ostrowy Tuszowskie (m. Przyłęk) (PK) -- U 1851-70, indexed by Bartłomiej Babiarz
Ożarów (LD) -- U 1914, M 1828-29, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Pacanów (SK) -- UMZ 1909-12,18, indexed by Justyna Pykowska
Pałuki (MZ) -- U 1869-72, 1912-13; M 1868-74, 1877-81, 1912-13; Z 1868-71, 1912-13
  (indexing and expansion), indexed by Barbara Staniak
Papowo Biskupie (KP) -- M 1738-62, indexed by Michał Zieliński
Piekarzy Śląskie - Kamień (SL) -- U 1895, indexed by Leszek Chrobok
Płoniawy (MZ) -- UMZ 1903, indexed by Anna Witkowska
Pniewnik (MZ) -- U 1850-52, indexed by Barbara Sikorska
Poręba-Kocęby (MZ) -- UMZ 1915, indexed by Waldemar Badurek
Proszowice (MP) -- U 1919, Z 1917-1918, indexed by Jerzy Koprówski
Przedbórz (LD) -- UMZ 1844, indexed by Krystyna Stanisławska
Pszczonów (LD) -- U 1919, indexed by Marek Delert
Radziki Duże (KP) -- U 1877-78, M 1871, Z 1871-72, 74, 77-78, indexed by Krzysztof Kamiński
Rościszewo (MZ) -- Z 1906-10, indexed by Tomasz Bogiel, checked by Maria Bagińska-Wierzbowska
Rozdół (UK) -- 1830-32, 35-37, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Ruda Kościelna (SK) -- Z 1856, indexed by Adrian Sawicki
Ruże (KP) -- U 1909, indexed by Jarosław Czarkowski
Ruże (KP) -- UZ 1868-78, M 168, indexed by Mary Ann Graham
Rymanów (PK) -- Z 1895-99, indexed by Jan Mamaj
Sady (WM) -- U 1880-1882, indexed by Anna Parysek
Sarnowo (KP) -- M 1697-1771 (with gaps), indexed by Michał Zieliński
Sarnowo (KP) -- M 1810-12, indexed by Paweł Witkowicz
Sędziejowice (SK) -- Z 1919-29, indexed by Artur Koźmiński
Skepe (KP) -- UZ 1859-67, indexed by Anna Dobrzyńska
Skierniewice (LD) -- U 1876, indexed by mariamikolaj
Skomlin (LD) -- U 1857-64, M 1857-64, 1919-27, indexed by Michał Stojeck
Skrwilno (KP) -- UM 1914-16, Z 1914-15, indexed by Piotr Romanowski
Skuły (MZ) -- UMZ 1917, 1918. indexed by Cezary Kujawa
Sławećm (m. Skołyszyn) (PK) -- U 1844-97, indexed by MMaziarski
Słomniki (MP) -- U 1790-1810, M 1845-1867, indexed by Grzegorz Świerczynski
Smogorzewo (MZ) -- Z 1826-46, indexed by Marek Kamiński
Sobolów (MP) -- U 1871-1895, indexed by Ela Synowiec
Solek-Śleszyń (LD) -- Z 1885-1904, indexed by Antoni Burzyński
Stary Waliszew (LD) -- U 1919, M 1939, indexed by Dariusz Śłudkowski
Stary Waliszew (LD) -- Z 1939, indexed by Marek Delet
Staszów (SK) -- M 1613-1751, indexed by Jacek A. Jankowski
Stolec (LD) -- M 1849-67, indexed by Małgorzata Berendzik
Strachocina (m. Pakoszówka) (PK) -- M 1881-1905; Z 1876-1904, indexed by Grzegorz Zuzak
Strzegowo (MZ) -- U 1820-22, indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz
Sułmierzycy pow. Krotoszyn (WP) -- U 1780-1789, indexed by Henryk Machnik
Świedziebia (KP) -- U 1786-1808,10-22, indexed by Mary Ann Graham
Świętomarz (SK) -- U 1916-19, M 1916-19, indexed by Bożena Krajewska
Szebnie (m. Niepła ad Warzyce) (PK) -- M 1786-1898, indexed by MMaziarski
Szydłowiec (Jewish) (MZ) -- M 1826-27, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Tarnowiec (PK) -- Z 1784-1949, indexed by MMaziarski
Topola Królewska (aneksy) (LD) -- A 1939, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Traby (BR) -- Z 1762-1786, 1795-1797, 1819-1827, indexed by Karol Zajdel, weryf. Łukasz Majtka
Trębki (MZ) -- Z 1879, indexed by Krzysztof Frydrixisak, weryfikował Tomasz Bogiel
Trzcinica (PK) -- Z 1784-1825, 1827-1949, indexed by MMaziarski
Uhrusk (LB) -- U 1905; MZ 1905-06, indexed by Janusz Iwanowski
Uniejów (MP) -- U 1811-1824 (range of years), M 1811-1824 (range of years), indexed by Aleksandra Perz-Pieron
Uników (LD) -- UMZ 1914-17, indexed by Incognito
Warka (MZ) -- U 1810-25; M 1810-11, 1813-27; Z 1810-25, indexed by Teresa Mikołajewska
Warszawa św. Aleksander (WA) -- M 1910 (indexed and updated) AP Warszawa, indexed by Krzysztof Zochniak
Warszawa-Wawrzyszew św. Maria Magdalena (WA) -- U 1853-56, Z 1853, indexed by Paweł Zawadzki
Warszawa-Wola św. Stanisław (WA) -- M 1916-1919, indexed by Dorota Nowakowska
Warszawa-Wola św. Stanisław (WA) -- Z 1924-25, indexed by Ewa Czerkawska
Warta (LD) -- U 1809-25, M 1814-25, Z 1811-25, indexed by Łukasz Fajfrowski
Warta (LD) -- UMZ 1835, indexed by Martyna Pankiewicz
Wasiliszki (BR) -- UM 1797-1818 (with gaps), indexed by Sławomir Rudziecki
Wielka Łąka (KP) -- M 1869-1933, indexed by Jarosław Czarkowski
Wielka Łąka (KP) -- U 1877-91, indexed by Zbigniew Linowski
Wielkie Radowiska (KP) -- M 1741-1857, indexed by Kamil Krasiński
Wierzbica (MZ) -- UMZ 1811, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1823, indexed by Marcin Borkowicz
Wieszowa (SL) -- M 1823-40, indexed by GTG_Silius_Radicum
Włodowice (SL) -- M 1854-59, indexed by Mariadobrosława
Wrocanka (m. Wrocanka) (PK) -- U 1888-1910, indexed by MMaziarski
Wydminy (WM) -- M 1874, indexed by Donata Stremplewska
Wyśmierzyce (MZ) -- U 1882-92, indexed by Aleksandra Piętak
Zabrze św.Andrzeja Apostoła (SL) -- U 1897-99, indexed by Barbara Wiechula
Zagnańsk (SK) -- M 1831-38, indexed by Krystyna Močko.
Zagość (SK) -- Z 1811-12,15-61,63-71,74-82,84-97,99,1901,04,06,08,10-17, indexed by Wojciech Liškiewicz
Zegrze (MZ) -- UMZ 1719-1825 (updated and indexed), indexed by Michał Gołowicz
Żelazna (LD) -- U 1919, indexed by Marek Delert
Zelów (Protest.) (LD) -- Z 1837-49, indexed by Henryk Kołuszkowski
Złaków Kościelny (LD) -- MZ 1939, indexed by Marek Delert
Złaków Kościelny (LD) -- U 1919, indexed by Urszula Świerczyńska
Żychlin (LD) -- UMZ 1818, indexed by Antoni Burzyński

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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 Sykala Family During WWII, Patricia Sykala and Jocelyn Pleines
• Ewa Gajewska (née Bartkowska), Part III, Brianna Guckemus (née Gajewski)
• Pani Katarzyna Kornacka, Part 17—The Fifties (corrections to the version in the October 2019 issue), Martin Byster

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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.

16 February 2020
PGSA QUARTERLY MEETING/WEBINAR
“Your Next Step: Write Your Family History” – Steve Szabados
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Eisenhower Public Library • 4613 N. Oketo Avenue • Harwood Heights, IL  60706-4690
Phone: 708-867-7828  •  <https://www.eisenhowerlibrary.org>

Your Next Step: Write Your Family History – Were your ancestors royalty or members of the working class? Were they rich or barely surviving? Whoever they were, we need to preserve their memory. The program will discuss a process and format that makes the transformation of your research efforts to a written family history easier. Learn a method to easily save your information and tips to help them “come alive.” If we do not preserve the memories and stories of our ancestors for future generations, who will?

Bio: Stephen Szabados is a lecturer and author who has given numerous programs to genealogy groups and libraries. He has been researching his ancestors since 2000 and has traced ancestors back to the 1730s in Poland. He has published ten genealogy books and is a contributing editor for the Polish American Journal. He has a passion for sharing his love of family history, and his courses cover the methods that he has found successful. He is a member of the Polish Genealogical Society of America and a genealogy volunteer at his local library.

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Steve has been researching his ancestors since 2000 and has traced ancestors back to the 1600s in New England, Virginia, and the 1730s in Poland, Germany, Bohemia, Hungary, Slovakia, and Slovenia. He has given numerous presentations to genealogical groups and libraries. As a genealogy volunteer at the Arlington Heights Library, he helps individuals with their research, and he wants to share his passion for Family History.

3–4 April 2020
NASHI PREDKY SPRING GENEALOGY CONFERENCE
Somerset, NJ

З новим роком! In 2020, the Nashi Predky Genealogy Conferences of the Ukrainian History and Education Center are making a bold return and registration is now open for the Spring Conference in Somerset, NJ, on April 3-4, 2020! This year we will feature the following presentations on Saturday which should appeal to the beginner, intermediate, and advanced genealogist:

Finding Ukrainian, Polish, Belarusian and Russian Records on FamilySearch, by Joe Everett, Family History, Local History, and Microforms Librarian at the Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library

The Genealogical Value of Royal, Government and Private Estate Inventories of Galicia by Daniel Bućko, Polish genealogist

Fraternal Organizations, 1890-1918, by Fr. Ivan Kaszczak, Ukrainian Catholic priest and author

Documentary Film: Our Ukrainian American Legacy, a showing by Roman M. Brygider, three-time Emmy Award winning producer/director of documentary films that have aired nationally since 1993

In addition, Friday evening will be devoted to a Knowledge Cafe, where you can interact with the members of our Committee (and each other!) in an informal setting to receive one-on-one guidance with your family history and research questions. For those who are interested, an informal workshop on advanced handwritten Cyrillic will be offered simultaneously.

And as part of our program on Saturday, you will have the opportunity for a guided tour of the UHEC exhibit, Visible Music: The Art of Yukhym Mykhailiv (1885-1935), the first significant exhibit in 30 years of the work of one of the most original, idiosyncratic, and undeservedly obscure Ukrainian artists of the early 20th century, who met an untimely death in exile in the Russian Arctic during the rule of Joseph Stalin.

Register today to reserve your spot at this exciting learning opportunity. Details and registration link are available on our website: <https://www.ukrhec.org/nashi-predky-conference-2020>. Questions? Contact the UHEC Family History Group at <genealogy@ukrhec.org>.

See you in April!

[From a note posted by Justin Kirk Houser to Facebook.]
20–23 May 2020
NGS FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE
Salt Lake City, UTAH

If you want to start making plans, the 2020 Conference of the National Genealogical Society will be held next May in Salt Lake City. You can download the program and other information here:

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

Also, registration is open at all the official NGS Conference hotels. For more info:

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/accommodations/>

Sunday, 9 August – Friday, 14 August, 2020
40TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY
San Diego, California

[From an announcement posted to JewishGen by Nolan Altman on 24 November 2019]

We hope you will participate in the 40th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, to be held from Sunday, August 9 through Friday, August 14, 2020, in beautiful San Diego, California. Hosted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS), the Conference objectives are to inform, instruct, and inspire attendees to explore and preserve their Jewish family history.

The Conference provides participation opportunities for Jewish Genealogy Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Birds of a Feather (BOFs) and others who may offer services or resources to Jewish Genealogists such as libraries, archives, historical societies, and other non-profit entities. The Conference offers SIGs and BOFs the opportunity to have meetings during conference week and along with other outside non-profit entities, to staff a table at our traditional “SHARE Fair” which is held on the opening Sunday of our annual conference.

Please visit <https://s4.goeshow.com/iajgs/annual/2020/SIG-BOF.cfm> for the SIG / BOF / SHARE Fair application forms.

Friday, 25 September – Sunday, 27 September 2020

7TH GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE IN BRZEG

Waldemar Chorążewicz posted a note to Facebook’s Polish Genealogy group to inform members that the date for this conference has been set. The Facebook page of Opolscy Genealodzy (Genealogists of Opole) confirmed that it will be held “on the castle grounds” and will be

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organized by the Opole Genealogical Association, the State Archive in Opole, the E. Smołka Regional Public Library in Opole, and the host, the Museum of Silesian Piasts in Brzeg. The event is held under the Honorary Patronage of the Brzeg County Starosta, Jacek Monkiewicz. Presumably more information will be posted as it becomes available on the website of the Genealogists of Opole at <https://genealodzy.opole.pl/konferencja2020>.

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*** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES ***
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<https://blog.eogn.com/2020/01/13/gramps-5-1-2-released/>

The issue of Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter [EOGN] for 13 January 2020 included info on the release of Gramps 5.1.2. As the Gramps website explains, “Gramps is a free software project and community. We strive to produce a genealogy program that is both intuitive for hobbyists and feature-complete for professional genealogists. It is a community project, created, developed and governed by genealogists.” I know researchers often face the question of what software to use to document their work, and I figure some may want to give this a try, since it’s free. The above URL takes you to the article on the EOGN site, which includes links to specific pages on the Gramps site—or you can eliminate the middleman and just visit <https://gramps.project.org>.


That same issue of EOGN linked to this page, where you can learn what FamilySearch is planning to do this year.

<https://cnb.cx/30Piet9>

The 27 January issue of EOGN included a rather surprising notice that 23andMe is laying off one hundred employees. If you’re at all interested, the link above takes you to a page on the CNBC website with the story.


The 5 January 2020 issue of Nu? What’s New included this link to traffic rankings of selected genealogy websites from Alexa.com. It’s kind of interesting, although I wouldn’t necessarily place too much emphasis on the data.

<https://histmag.org/grafika/2016_articles/reg_hist_2.jpg>

If you would like to see a very nice map showing the different regions of Poland, this one is hard to beat. It is in Polish, however; you have to be able to recognize that Wielkopolska is the overall name for a region of western Poland, and that it included Ziemia wałecka, Ziemia poznańska, and Ziemia kaliska, that is, the “districts” or “lands” of Wałcz, Poznań, and Kalisz. The map comes from the website <https://tinyurl.com/twy6hoy>, which includes brief descriptions of the various regions—all in Polish, of course, but Google Chrome does a respectable job rendering it in comprehensible English.
The January 26 issue of *Nu? What's New?* led with an article on the Arolsen Archives’ plans to have all documents online by 2025. *Nu?* included this link where you can search the millions of documents already available. Don’t be misled into thinking this material is helpful only to Holocaust victims (although, of course, it is). Anyone with family connections affected by the Nazis may find valuable information at Arolsen.

In a note posted to the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list, Mary Guler gave this URL to answer a member’s request for a video or post explaining how to use the ePaveldas site, dealing with Lithuanian documents. A large number of Poles lived in Lithuania, so I know researchers of Polish genealogy can benefit from using ePaveldas; but there is a language barrier problem for anyone who knows little Lithuanian. This site may help you get past that barrier.

While I’m talking about Lithuanian research, I should mention that Chris Cowan posted a note to that same mailing list, recommending this site as a helpful resource when trying to match up Polish, Lithuanian, and Russian names of places in the former gubernia of Suwałki. If you have roots in that area, you’ll probably gladly accept any help you can get! Also, Chris posted a note saying someone had pointed him toward the site <http://www.genmetrika.eu/>, saying it appears to have parish registers that may not be available through ePaveldas or the Suwałki Archives.

This article focuses on how the obligation to serve in the Russian military affected Jews. It is still worth reading for non-Jews, because it often compares circumstances and obligations for Jews and non-Jews.

Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz continues to write blog articles that can help researchers learn how to take advantage of resources. This article tells you about the database Pradziad, which is one I have sometimes found challenging. I suspect I will be referring to her guide often!

Researcher Russ Maurer announced that another batch of data from the Vilnius household registers is available at this site. You can check the preview at <http://tinyurl.com/VHR-previews> to get an idea whether this data may be useful to you if you have roots in Vilnius.

Rick Bilinski posted a note to Facebook’s Galicia Family History Group about Shimon
Redlich’s book *Together and Apart in Brzezany: Poles, Jews, and Ukrainians, 1919–1945*. Several other researchers posted notes praising the book, and I thought it was worth bringing to your attention, in case you had any roots in that region. This link takes you to the Amazon page for this book, the Kindle version of which is currently selling for $6.02 (the hardcover version goes for $29.05).

<https://www.flavorofpoland.com/>

Online groups have paid a fair amount of attention to *Flavor of Poland*, a culinary-travel television series that began to air on various public TV stations. The above link takes you to its website, which states, “Having crossed thousands of miles across Poland, visiting over 30 cities, towns and villages and exploring the country’s most majestic landscapes from north to south and east to west, the Flavor of Poland team met with locals, historic, cultural and culinary experts, capturing the most beautiful aspects of Poland on film to bring back to the U.S. and share them all with American TV viewers.” The series began showing in most cities this month, but it’s not too late to check with your local public TV station and learn if it’s carrying the series, and when it airs in your market.

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