



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://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry_index.htm

If you'd like *Gen Dobry!* in PDF form, this issue is available for downloading here:

http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_IX_11.pdf

***** RECOGNITION FOR DR. PAUL!! *****

I know it may seem self-serving for us to congratulate leaders of PolishRoots for their accomplishments. On the other hand, it's not out of line to take a little space to congratulate someone who's received a bit of recognition.

On November 9, 2008, at the Polish Center in Franklin, Wisconsin, our own Dr. Paul S. Valasek, DDS, was given awards in honor of his book, *Haller's Polish Army in France*. He received a plaque from the Polish American Congress Wisconsin State Division, a 2008 Distinguished Service Award from the Polish American Congress Wisconsin State Division - 2008 Distinguished Service Award, and a plaque from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

We should also mention that two other authors were honored as well: James Conroyd Martin, author of the popular historical novels *Push Not the River* and *Against a Crimson Sky*, and Douglas Jacobson, author of *Night of Flames*. We congratulate all three men on well-deserved recognition.

While we're mentioning all this, it can't hurt to add that Paul's book on Haller's Army is still available for \$40.00 media post paid in the USA. Contact him at <Hallersarmy@aol.com> if you wish to know more.

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

Subject: German Railways, and Immigrant Letters

I would like to make some comments on the German railways article and the letter from Ed Kownowski and his inclusion of the letter from the immigrant from Russian Poland. The town names piqued my interest as this was my father's area. In the Spring 1998 issue of the *Bulletin* of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, translations from the *Słownik geograficzny* that I had requested appeared on page 14. I had requested a translation for Dłutowo (78.9 miles NNW of Warsaw) because this was where my father's church was located, Działdowo (Soldau) the town where my grandfather died, Jabłonowo (77.4 miles NNW of Warsaw) because my maiden name was Jabłonowska, and lastly Nick (80.3 miles NNW of Warsaw) because that was my father's village. A map given on page 14 of that *Bulletin* showed the proximity of all these requested towns. (I have a photo of me taken in Poland standing next to the Jablonowo road sign.)

My father used to say that he could swim across a river and be in Germany. An article appeared in *Gen Dobry!* saying you could request old maps from the Library of Congress. The old map sent by the Library of Congress to me showed the Działdówka river acting as the border between Russian and Prussian Poland. The Library of Congress put me in touch with the library in Działdowo. I asked them if my father could have swam from Nick in Germany. I still chuckle to myself at the librarian's reply. Actually the river is not deep at the Nick area because my father could have waded into Germany.

I don't have letters written by my father to family in Poland, but I do have letters written to him by friends in Poland. One is dated March 1912 with the postmark Neuzielun, Kr. Strasburg, West PR, which on the map shown on page 14 is listed as Nowy Zieluń. Other letters written in 1911 have a Russian postmark. By 1922 letters arrived with the return address reading Poczta Zieluń, Powiat Mławski, Ziem. Płockiej and Dłutowo, pow. Mława, gm. Zieluń, ziem. Płocka.

My father never mentioned how he got to Hamburg, along with his brother and father, just that he sailed on the *Prinz Adalbert* out of Hamburg and arrived in 1911 in Philadelphia, not Ellis Island, as his brother, Joseph, had done in 1906. My father travelled to America with a Russian passport.

My thanks again to *Gen Dobry!* for all the helpful websites and enjoyable, information-filled reading. If any of your readers have family from the above area, I would love to hear from them.

Armela Hammes <armelahammes@att.net>

Editor—We appreciate your kind words, and I hope you hear from others with roots in that area.

***** RMS ALMANZORA - ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY:
JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 18, 1933 *****

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

Once again, PolishRoots is proud to bring original material to the Internet. Here is another in an ongoing series of passenger lists from Europe to South America. The following names were extracted from the original manifests and all persons listed claimed Polish as their nationality. It's easy to see that most of these passengers were Polish Jews; and, taking a look at the date of sailing, one only has to know basic history to understand why people were leaving Europe in the 1930s for South America. During this time frame, you have an example of the "push-pull" concept of immigration. The "push" was, besides typical economical reasons for migration, the ongoing and ever-increasing persecution of people, especially minorities, in eastern Europe, by the rise of the Nazis and Fascists. The "pull" factor was that of the USA's maintaining quotas on immigrants, whereas South America was eager to accept any and all new residents.

Most of these passengers from Poland boarded at Cherbourg. The voyage consisted of 105 First Class, 27 Second Class, and 228 Third Class for a total of 361 passengers. No "clandestinos" (stowaways). The list below gives surname, first name, and age.

This voyage started in Belfast, going to Southampton, Cherbourg, La Coruna, Vigo, Lisbon, Madeira, St. Vincent, Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santos and finally, Montevideo and Buenos Aires. For information on the ship itself, take a look at the following link:

<http://rasputin.physics.uiuc.edu/~wiringa/Ships/MS-3/GreatBritain/Almanzora.html>

Service: Built for Royal Mail Lines, Liverpool, Great Britain. Completed as an auxiliary cruiser, 29 Sep 1915. Served with 10th Cruiser Squadron. Returned to Harland & Wolff for conversion back to passenger liner, 1919. Maiden voyage 1920, service to South America. Served as troop transport, 1939-45. Scrapped 1948.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Alkon, Choma - 29 | Galzman, Golda - 8 |
| Alkon, Ruwin - 25 | Galzman, Marja - 33 |
| Aniskiewicz Lotko, Olga - 32 | Gantman, Jankel - 43 |
| Baraniecka, Marja - 23 | Garber, Szloma - 30 |
| Bebczuk, Chana - 4 | Goldfarb, Chaja - 28 |
| Bebczuk, Jejna - 3 | Goldfarb, Dawid - 9 |
| Bebczuk, Ruchla - 30 | Goldfarb, Faja - 15 |
| Berkowicz, Berta - 42 | Goldfarb, Leja - 18 |
| Berkowicz, Debora - 13 | Goldfarb, Perla Estera - 2 |
| Berkowicz, Estera - 10 | Goldfarb, Sura Rejsa - 39 |
| Berkowicz, Lejzor - 6 | Golowezka, Chana - 23 |
| Berkowicz, Mundel - 3 | Grynberg, Estera - 28 |
| Berkowicz, Sara - 15 | Hahn, Marjem - 33 |
| Bessau, Marjem Golda - 23 | Halpern, Tauba - 21 |
| Birenbaum, Tauba - 17 | Hartensztein, Anna - 37 |
| Blajman, Golda - 2 | Hartensztein, Edward - 12 |
| Blumenfeld, Bela - 36 | Hartensztein, Erzel - 8 |
| Blumenfeld, Cypa Rojza - 12 | Hartensztein, Ezra - 7 |
| Bohuszek, Dawid - 3 | Hartensztein, Szoszana - 10 |
| Bohuszek, Ita - 34 | Hattlak, Andrzej - 6 |
| Bohuszek, Trewel - 6 | Hattlak, Marta - 26 |
| Brutman, Dawid - 13 | Haut, Rebeka - 28 |
| Brutman, Maca - 54 | Hlibczuk, Mikolaj - 23 |
| Brutman, Naja - 23 | Hochman, Srul Hersz - 14 |
| Brutman, Perla - 6 | Holcman Lisobocka, Etko - 24 |
| Buchwald, Jankel Josek - 23 | Jakobowski, Bronislawa - 31 |
| Cham, Aleksandra - 29 | Jakobowski, Fryderik - 5 |
| Dabrowski, Leon - 40 | Jakobowski, Irena - 7 |
| Dawidzon, Mowsza - 17 | Jakubowicz, Chaum - 28 |
| Dehrhun, Justina - 40 | Jung, Chawa - 3 |
| Dehrhun, Nikolaj - ?8 | Jung, Estera - 27 |
| Eljowicz, Chana - 21 | Kac, Jakob - 2 |
| Fajman, Chaim - 20 | Kac, Sara - 26 |
| Fizman, Fajga - 45 | Kaftan, Cypejra - 32 |
| Flek, Frieda - 25 | Kaftan, Leja - 3 |
| Frojnowicz, Chaim - 4 | Kibrik, Fejga - 21 |
| Frojnowicz, Rywka - 27 | Klajman, Etko - 30 |
| Frydland, Chudesa - 25 | Klimecki, Kazimierz - 46 |

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Klimecki, Rozalja - 44 | Rosenfeld, Chaja Sura - 28 |
| Kremer, Ruchla - 27 | Rzetelna, Chaja - 7 |
| Kuziw, Eugenja - 18 | Rzetelna, Etl - 42 |
| Lattner, Marjem - 21 | Rzetelna, Idel - 3 |
| Lichtig, Lejba - 24 | Rzetelna, Mindla - 17 |
| Linnik, Ester - 30 | Rzetelna, Szmul - 4 |
| Linnik, Jitla - 6 | Segal, Josel - 4 |
| Litwinczuk, China Golda - 9 | Segal, Jura - 31 |
| Litwinczuk, Lejb - 38 | Segan, Abraham - 2 |
| Litwinczuk, Mojsze - 5 | Slobodzian, Anna - 31 |
| London, Szosza - 26 | Sosnik, Rywka Brantla - 20 |
| Lubowiecki, Alfons - 17 | Staszczak, Marja - 23 |
| Mandel, Chana - 3 | Stolar, Ruwen - 25 |
| Mandel, Dora - 30 | Stus, Rozalja - 5 |
| Maranc, Enia - 23 | Swiderska, Rywka - 25 |
| Mazur, Ruchla - 26 | Szafer, Feiga - 2 |
| Memel, Szajna - 21 | Szafer, Jentil - 2 |
| Niescierowicz, Luba - 24 | Szafer, Leja - 36 |
| Nisembaum, Estera Chaja - 21 | Szajmig, Cypra Ruchla - 27 |
| Nisembaum, Zata - 9 | Szajmig, Rajzla Malka - 30 |
| Olszewska, Janina - 5 | Szozda, Tomasz - 31 |
| Olszewska, Marja - 30 | Szpilka, Lipa - 47 |
| Pawlow, Irena - 40 | Szrajber, Benzron - 35 |
| Picyk, Kartasyna - 23 | Sztabinska, Cypa - 22 |
| Pieczewik, Mordko - 19 | Sztabinska, Pesza - 2 |
| Potapowicz, Jan - 14 | Szterjlberg, Chaja Estera - 23 |
| Potapowicz, Marja - 12 | Sztern, Chaim - 2 |
| Potapowicz, Piotr - 8 | Sztern, Mindla - 26 |
| Potapowicz, Zofja - 36 | Szuster, Bluma - 34 |
| Rabinowicz, Nison - 21 | Szuster, Chaja - 5 |
| Rejzner, Ber - 10 | Szuster, Chana - 7 |
| Rejzner, Fajwel - 7 | Taksa, Chawa - 64 |
| Rejzner, Jozef - 12 | Taksa, Lechol - 4 |
| Rejzner, Lipa - 36 | Twanoczko, Anastasia - 26 |
| Rendel, Ajdla - 36 | Wojtasik, Marja - 31 |
| Rendel, Dobra - 9 | Worwel, Szloma - 21 |
| Rendel, Pinek - 13 | Zacus, Anna - 21 |

*** POLISH PLACES DATABASE ***

by Zenon Znamirovski <zenon@polishorigins.com>

As promised a month ago, we just completed work on Places Database. You can see the main page of the Places Database here:

<http://places.polishorigins.com>

or from the main page:

<http://www.polishorigins.com>

Now you can search for people who may be interested in not only the same surnames but also the same villages, towns, and cities as you are.

We also added a few improvements to the whole database. The most conspicuous is change in appearance of personal pages. Everyone who wants to show others more than surnames and places of his or her interest can add note about family search, format the text to make it better to read, and even link pictures of ancestors or old documents. A simple example of such a personal page can be found here:

<http://polishorigins.com/places/show/id/2/>

For more detailed description of how can you can make use of the Surnames & Places Database, click here:

<http://forum.polishorigins.com/viewtopic.php?t=152>

We are aware that it is only the beginning of the Database development and we are open to any suggestions and improvements you think could make the tool more useful and interesting for everyone who is trying to uncover his or her origins or is looking for relatives.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Zenon & Team

***** 600TH ANNIVERSARY OF POLES AT JAMESTOWN *****

by *Armela Hammes* <armelahammes@att.net>

My note to you regarding the observance ceremony at Jamestown settlement on October 1, 2008, commemorating the 600th anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish craftsmen on October 1, 1608, is a little late, as I broke my arm the next day on the Jamestown Settlement dock looking at the replicas of the ships in which the first English colonists arrived. Better late than never.

My husband and I chose not to join the Polish American Congress bus group for the commemoration ceremony, as they were going to be driving by the glasshouse, the first factory in America, not stopping to tour, and the factory is what we really wanted to see. The National Park Service sign at the glasshouse read: "English colonists of the Virginia Company of London began chemi-

cal technologies soon after establishing Jamestown in May 1607. Working in collaboration with German, Polish, and Swiss specialists, they sought local resources for metals and for the production of substances such as glass, pitch, tar, potash, perfume, and medicine.” Another National Park Service sign noted that Captain John Smith recounted that, in 1608, the Virginia Company of London sent “eight Dutchmen and Poles” to Virginia to manufacture pitch, tar, glass and soap ashes. According to Smith, only one trial of glass was made, due to a lack of both supplies and basic survival skills. By 1620, the colony was in better condition and glassmaking was attempted again. If only one trial of glass was made, how were the Poles employed until 1620? When did they strike for voting rights?

We did join up with the group at the Quadricentennial Plaza for the wreath-laying ceremony at the plaque donated by the Polish Falcons of America. The plaque read as follows: “1608 - 1958, First Poles Landed in Jamestown, Virginia, October 1, 1608, Arrived Aboard British Sailer, ‘Mary and Margaret’ Michal Lowicki, Zbigniew Stefanski, Jan Bogdan, Jan Mata, Stanislaw Sadowski.” Speeches were made by Polish government representatives, including the Polish Ambassador to the U.S. and the Deputy Foreign Minister. The Polish-American community was asked to let Washington know that Poland should be placed on the Visa Waiver List. In the most recent newspaper accounts, however, despite Poland’s close ties to the U.S., Poland has been left off the list of states whose visa requirements were waived. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and South Korea will shortly have their visa requirements waived.

I want to thank *Gen Dobry!* for the article on the “Polish Declaration of Admiration and Friendship for the U.S.”, delivered to President Calvin Coolidge, in 1926, to honor the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. As my husband and I were going to be in the D.C. area the end of September for a reunion, I e-mailed the Library of Congress asking if we could view Volume 55, since that volume included my father’s village and the village of his church. What a thrill to see the signatures of all those children. Some photos were included. My family was not listed, of course, because my father and his brothers were already well established in Chicago. But I did want copies and because we couldn’t make copies on any machines at the Library because of the age of the book and its binding, we notified the copying department of the Library of Congress as to what pages we wanted to have copied. A couple of weeks later our copies arrived at our home address.

All in all, it was a well-worth Polish historical trip, despite the broken arm.

***** VIDEO OF MEMORIAL CEREMONY IN DETROIT *****

by Ceil Jensen <cjensen@mipolonia.net>

Editor—This is a note Ceil posted on the Polish Genius mailing list that I wanted to be sure our readers knew about.

A video—my first attempt at a YouTube production.

Well, I've spent TOO much time on this <g> and there are still typos which I can't get back into the file to correct. But, as a first attempt, please see:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWeetBrHGz4>

Members and friends of The West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Association, in conjunction with the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, gathered on All Saints' Day (Wszystkich Świętych) to participate in an All Souls' Day (Dzień Zaduszny) prayer service. This gathering was the reestablishment of a centuries-old tradition. All Souls' Day is a cherished religious event in Poland, when families travel at great lengths, if needed, to tend to the graves of their family members. Suburban descendents of Detroit's Polish immigrants traveled from all corners of the tri-counties area, and from out of state, to come to the cemetery and pray for their families.

Joining in the prayer service were members of the Downriver Genealogical Society, including Sandi Sitkowski and Sharon Rickerson, volunteers who have created eleven indexes of burials at Holy Cross.

The organizations, in conjunction with Rev. Gary Michalik, planned a prayerful day which included a short history of the cemetery and insight into the holy day by Piast Institute's Thaddeus Radzilowski, Ph.D. Author Elaine Raymo is writing a history of Holy Cross, and her findings were read by Michele Lipinski Matuszewski.

The cemetery first served French Canadian settlers in the 1840s, later becoming the resting place of Germans and Irish, and by the early 1900s, the burial ground for Westside Poles. The current cemetery map, printed in Spanish, serves the Hispanic community, who are the largest group using the cemetery today.

Dr. Radzilowski read several lines of inspiring verse that linked the living with those who passed before us and those yet to come. He shared his personal experience of visiting a cemetery in Poland on All Souls' Day, a stirring event that can bring a man to tears. He mentioned that visitors on this day bring extra candles to place on tombs that have none to look after them.

Attendees brought the names of their ancestors and read them during the *Wypominki* (remembering) portion of the service. In Poland, the names would be given to the priest before the day, along with a donation, and read after the mass. The Holy Cross tradition allowed for each member of the service to read their own names. Some mentioned their relationship to the deceased. Fr. Gary asked for a show of hand for the earliest burials. Early burials included the 1903 burial of Stephanie Tobolski's uncle, Adam Kowalski (1903-1903) and Ceil Wendt Jensen's great-great-grandmother, Johanna Psiuk Przytulska, born 26 June 1842 in the Polish village of Wielki Łęck, interred in Section B on 15 March 1905. The largest show of hands was for burials in the 1920s. Greg Kolasa, manager of the cemetery, addressed the group as they visited the grave of John Kronk, a Westside Polish-American leader and politician, and the Redemptorists Priests.

PGSM board member Valerie Koselka baked Soul Cakes. The flat, round cookie-like offering was delicately flavored with spice. In Poland they are sometimes blessed by the priest before

distribution. Food is an element of the day, and there is a candy known as *Pańska Skórka* (The Lord's Skin) associated with this day. A type of Turkish Delight, the homemade, fruit-flavored sweet is wrapped in paper and sold outside the cemetery gates. In keeping with the tradition of sharing food on this day, the group met for a Polish meal at Sabina's Restaurant on Oakwood in Melvindale. The dill pickle soup was delicious, made with barley instead of the traditional potato, and brought to the table by waitresses speaking with a light Polish accent. Conversation at the table included Fred Leja's memories of Father Zadała and the parish of The Assumption, BVM.

A final note of appreciation is extended to Laurie Palazzolo for her organization and delivery of the event. She must be commended for her volunteer efforts to keep the spirit of Westside Polonia alive. She organized and advertised the event, arranged the meal, and grabbed the broom to clean the Kronk monument. Thank you for all you do for Polonia!

***** BOOK SUGGESTIONS *****

by Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net>

Editor—Also posted on the Polish Genius and Poland mailing lists was this timely note.

While it is all well and good that we keep at our Polish research, it is a fact that none of us will be here forever. It is therefore important to pass along our interests to the younger generations, children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

A simple way to get them started is with a book such as *Our Family Tree, A History of Our Family*. This book allows the person to ask questions and dig for answers. These types of books can be found in any bookstore and often in used book stores.

Books have also been published that tell the stories of Polish immigrants. These books are geared to the younger reader, though I'm sure we older researchers would enjoy them as well.

Below is a list of a few books, perfect for Christmas! While these are not necessarily specific to Poles, the books can spark an interest in family history.

I do not receive any compensation from the authors, publishers or bookstores. I am not suggesting that anyone purchase from the stores listed below in the links. The links are only provided as information.

Polish Immigrants 1890-1920

http://www.amazon.com/Polish-Immigrants-1890-1920-Earth-Books/dp/0736812083/ref=pd_sim_b_3/192-4309131-3672506

Immigrant Kids by Russell Freedman

http://www.amazon.com/Immigrant-Kids-Russell-Freedman/dp/0140375945/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226673730&sr=1-2

Hannah is My Name, A Young Immigrant's Story by Belle Yang

http://www.amazon.com/Hannah-My-Name-Young-Immigrants/dp/0763635219/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226673730&sr=1-3

Coming to America, The Story of Immigration by Betsy Maestro

http://www.amazon.com/Coming-America-Immigration-Betsy-Maestro/dp/0590441515/ref=sr_1_5?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226673730&sr=1-5

First Crossing: Stories About Teen Immigrants by Donald R. Gallo

http://www.amazon.com/First-Crossing-Stories-About-Immigrants/dp/0763632910/ref=sr_1_9?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226673730&sr=1-9

Immigrant Girl: Becky of Eldridge Street by Brett Harvey

http://www.amazon.com/Immigrant-Girl-Becky-Eldridge-Street/dp/0823406385/ref=sr_1_17?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226674046&sr=1-17

The Ellis Island Collection: Artifacts from the Immigrant Experience by Brad Tuttle

http://www.amazon.com/Ellis-Island-Collection-Artifacts-Experience/dp/0811838552/ref=sr_1_17?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226674185&sr=1-17

Journey to Ellis Island by Carol Bierman

http://www.amazon.com/Journey-Ellis-Island-Carol-Bierman/dp/0786803770/ref=sr_1_38?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226674301&sr=1-38

An Ellis Island Christmas by Maxinne Rhea Leighton

http://www.amazon.com/Ellis-Island-Christmas-Maxinne-Leighton/dp/014240506X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226674418&sr=1-1

***** MARCIN CHUMIECKI, DIRECTOR OF THE POLISH MISSION *****

by Ceil Jensen <cjensen@mipolonia.net>

Editor—In addition to her note posted on mailing lists about Detroit's memorial ceremony for All Saints' and All Souls' Days, which appears above, she also posted a note on the new director of The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lakes Schools. I have visited Orchard Lake several times, and always enjoyed it; it's a place all Polish-Americans should visit and support. I think it's only right to spread word about what's going on there.

Marcin Chumiecki is a 30ish Pol-Am who is the new director of The Polish Mission. His job is to blow the dust off of St Mary's of Orchard Lake and bring new blood onto campus. We are pro-

posing a genealogy institute “Polonica Americana “ and are starting with a Wigilia dinner. (For more information, see “Upcoming Events”). Marcin and his wife Bożena will host the event and add personal traditions to the event.

Karen Majewski is hard at work making sense of the Orchard Lake Archives that was under lock and key for 40 years, with minimal care, and no accession numbers, cataloging, etc. She is a goddess. Take a look at the Orchard Lake Flickr site for a few archival photos:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/orchardlake/>

Here is a statement from Marcin Chumiecki:

“I am Marcin Chumiecki, the newly appointed Director of The Polish Mission. The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools is a prestigious Polish Center of Art, Archival, and Rare Book Collections. It is also home to the Fr. Dabrowski Polish Language School, and future home of The Polish Family Research Center.

“It will take the extended Polonian family to nurture and develop Polish Mission into a healthy, productive, and proud foundation. While preserving the 19th- and 20th-century legacy we’ve inherited, we are preparing for the future.

“I’m sure you realize this is a huge undertaking, and that is why I ask each one of you for your help and support. I am compiling a roster of interested community members who would like to be kept up to date as programs develop, and be made aware of opportunities to share their time and expertise with the Polish Mission.

More information is available on this Website:

http://web.mac.com/polishmission/Site/Our_Staff.html

Here is a link where you can read a recent interview, in Polish, with Marcin. (Incidentally, he was baptized by Karol Wojtyła!):

http://mypolishtimes.com/czaspolski/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=234&Itemid=32

Editor—Ceil adds that the recent seminar of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan was a great success. The speaker was Łukasz Bielecki, director of the Poznań Project. If you’d like to read more, Ceil provided this URL that brings up a report (in English) in the Polish Times:

http://mypolishtimes.com/czaspolski/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=290&Itemid=38

***** A NEW LITERARY WORK *****

Editor—Maureen Mroczek Morris kindly sent along the announcement of a new literary review that should interest anyone with Polish roots. I'm pleased to pass it along.

The alumni of Poland in the Rockies

<http://www.polandintherockies.com>

are proud to announce the inaugural edition of

the cosmopolitan review

www.cosmopolitanreview.com

Edited in Warsaw, New York and Montreal

Features, reviews, opinions, interviews, alumni news

Kinia Adamczyk, editor

Judith Browne & Irene Tomaszewski, contributing editors

Interviews with Bill Johnston, Timothy Snyder, Andrew Nagorski

Contributors from Warsaw, Krakow, New York, Chicago, Montreal, Edmonton, Pennsylvania
Kinia Adamczyk, Judith Browne, Vincent Chesney, Norman Davies, Jodi Greig, Justine Jablonska, Agnieszka Macoch, Patrycja Romanowska

Spotlight on Alumni: Eric Bednarski, Nina Jankowicz

the cosmopolitan review, from the Rocky Mountains to the world, wherever things Polish are discussed, welcomes readers and proposals.

Subscribe now -- www.cosmopolitanreview.com

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

Sunday, December 7, 2008

THE POLISH MISSION'S FIRST ANNUAL WIGILIA POLISH MISSION

Hosted by Marcin Chumiecki, Director, The Polish Mission

3535 Indian Trail
Orchard Lake, Michigan
Sunday, December 7, 2008

<http://wigilia.eventbrite.com>

1:00 pm Polish Mass at the Shrine Chapel
2:00 pm Wigilia at The Banquet Center

You are cordially invited to participate in a traditional Polish Christmas Eve Wigilia meal, and take-home ideas on how to add this tradition to your 2008 Christmas festivities. The dinner itself differs from other evening meals in that the number of courses is fixed. Before sitting down at the table, everyone breaks the traditional wafer or *Oplatek* and exchanges good wishes for health, wealth and happiness in the New Year. The *Oplatek* is a thin, unleavened wafer similar to the communion host. It is stamped with the figures of the Christ child, the blessed Mary, and the holy angels.

The Wigilia is a meatless meal, which includes soup, pickled herring (*śledzie*), fried fish, pierogi, dried fruit compote, and assorted pastries.

Our menu:

Wieczerza Wigilijna (Wigilia Supper)

Barszcz z Uszkami
Pickled Herring
Noodles w/ Poppy Seed
Meatless Stuffed Cabbage
Battered Fried Fish
Greek Style Baked Fish
Mushroom, Sauerkraut Pierogi
Sour cream, applesauce
Vegetable Salad
Fruit Compote
Dinner Rolls and Breads
Desserts

After the meal Polish Christmas Carols (*Kolędy*) will be sung.

[From a note posted by Ceil Jensen to the Polish Genius and Poland Roots mailing lists.]

June 5 to June 22, 2009

“DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS TOUR” TO WESTERN UKRAINE

Join us in this one-of-a-kind trip to Ukraine. The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group is hosting another “Discover Your Roots Tour” to Western Ukraine where we will search the Ukrainian Archives for our ancestral records as well as visit our ancestral homes.

The “Discover Your Roots Tour” runs from Friday June 5 to Monday June 22, 2009. We will spend a number of days in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil and Kyiv, both as researchers and tourists. In addition to visiting the archives and ancestral villages, we will also tour these cities and other historic places.

As in our previous tour, we will contact the various provincial archives with a list of genealogy-related files we wish to examine. We will inform them when we will be visiting their archive so that the requested genealogical information will have been prepared and readied for our visit. We will also arrange for side visits to the villages of your ancestors.

It is yet too early to determine the costs for 2009. In 2007, the Tour cost \$3,555.00 Air/land rate per person in Canadian funds, based on double occupancy. An additional \$600.00 was added for single occupancy.

To learn more, visit the TUGG Website and click on the link “Sign-up for the 2009 ‘Discover Your Roots Tour’ to Western Ukraine.”

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

[Posted to the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine mailing list by Jim Onyschuk.]

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

<http://uht.org.ua/ua/part/genealogija/article;124/>

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine list, “Galizia Forever” said this URL links to a page on the Website of the Ukrainian Heraldic Society that lists existing metrical records for some places in Galicia. “These records are located in National Museum, and not in the State Archive. List is composed in Ukrainian language.” But the Polish names are also given, and it’s hard not to read the years covered—so you don’t have to read Ukrainian fluently to make use of the list.

http://www.npt.lt/lt/enter_an_inquiry

On the LithGen mailing list, Christiana Noyalas wrote, “After several people in Lithuania sent me this link, I finally took their advice and submitted a request today. This website invites people from all over the world to submit searches for long lost Lithuanian relatives. You have to agree to publicize your search and agree to be filmed if they find your relatives. Anyway, I am curious if any of you submitted requests and whether you ever heard from them.”

<http://igrek.amzp.pl/index.php>

On the German-language Posen list, Renate Fennes said this site features outstanding Polish maps, primarily from the early 1930s. You can choose Polish, German, or English as your language interface.

<http://www.zeno.org/Ansichtskarten/W/Inhaltsverzeichnis>

In another posting on that mailing list, Gerd Müllenheim suggested this site for maps of Germany around 1900 (which, of course, would include much of what is now western Poland).

I should add that Gerd posted another note listing Websites dealing with German genealogy and names that you do *not* want to click on, as you can end up bound by a contract costing up to \$300. I'm not entirely sure about all that, but I have no intention of visiting the sites to find out. I won't list their URLs, as that might defeat the whole purpose of warning people *not* to visit them. But if you're interested in German genealogy or name meanings, and want to know which sites Gerd was warning about, you can read his note in the list archives:

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/POSEN/2008-11/1226246663>

<http://www.tr62.de>

There are more and more great map sites on the Internet. Edward Luft brought to my attention two others our readers should know about. One is at the URL given above. Edward also suggested searching the "David Rumsey Historical Map Collection" online for Polish maps, which are "old" maps, as opposed to the "new" ones created by Thomas Rüffler on the other site. You can browse the Rumsey Collection here: <http://www.davidrumsey.com/>.

http://www.posselt-landkarten.de/index_ostgebiete.htm

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, Karl Roussin posted this link to a "massive map that shows all of Poland and more of Europe. I believe that it was about the 1871 time."

<http://www.photoship.co.uk/>

For photos of the ships on which our ancestors sailed, Paul S. Valasek suggested this site.

http://www.ketrzyn.mm.pl/~wmmkiewicz/ws/biblioteka/gub_wil_87/ap_litwa.html

Paul also pointed out this site, which has links to metrical records in the collections of the Lithuanian State Archives. It gives names of places in both Polish and Lithuanian, so with the aid of a basic Polish dictionary, you shouldn't have too much trouble making out what is available.

[/http://tinyurl.com/Russian-Cyrillic-Names](http://tinyurl.com/Russian-Cyrillic-Names)

On the Polish Genius list, C. Michael Eliaz provided this link to a PDF file that gives English speakers a fighting chance at making out some common Polish first names (and the

names of the months) as spelled in the Cyrillic alphabet.

<http://www.geneteka.genealodzy.pl/>

On the Polish Border Surnames list, George Obiedzinski mentioned this page on the Genealodzy.pl Website. He added that he had good results searching for specific names in Podlaskie province: “If you click on Podlaskie it will bring you to another page. Where it says księga open the pull down menu. There you can select (B) births, (D) deaths or (S) marriages. Where it says Nazwisko enter your surname. Then press the search button. (Wyszukaj) On the right side there is also a pull down menu. Put that on 50. For Grabowski there are 43 results under births. Under marriages 25 results.”

He added: “Another trick about the site ... When you get the results for births and you copy and paste it to a notepad file you miraculously can see the names of the parents of most of the children. The trick does not work for all of the provinces but it does work for Podlaskie. I guess the other authors didn’t put in parents names. When you get the results on a page copy that whole page. Then paste that to a notepad file.” It’s worth mentioning, however, that some people who tried to do this had no luck. So I guess you need to experiment for yourselves.

<http://www.pons.eu/dict/search>

Ray Marshall brought to my attention a note posted on the German-language Posen-L mailing list, where Edelgard Strobel said the PONS Compact Dictionary, online at this site, can be helpful. It doesn’t have a lot of older genealogical terms, but it may be worth a look.

<http://czernowitz.ehpes.com>

The 2 November 2008 issue of *Nu? What’s New?* (<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V09N24.htm>) mentioned that entries from the *1909 Bukovina Directory* are now online here. The article says it covers “Czernowitz and suburbs (Horecza, Kaliczanka, Klokuczka, Manasteryska, and Rosch), including Radautz and Suczawa” and has been indexed by Edgar Hauster. It says to scroll down to “1909 Directories Czernowitz and Suburbs” in the left column. A final sentence adds: “Excel versions of the data can be found at <http://hauster.blogspot.com/>.”

<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V09N26.htm>

The 23 November 2008 issue of *Nu?*, available at this URL, has an article with the title “Mormon/Jewish Controversy: The Problem That Won’t Go Away. Holocaust Survivors End Discussions with the Church.” This may interest Christian researchers as well because the Roman Catholic Church issued a pastoral letter earlier this year, directing bishops not to cooperate with LDS filming of Church records. (I’m still trying to pin down exactly when this letter went out and what it said.) The basic principle is similar for Jews and Catholics: they feel the Mormons have no business baptizing deceased ancestors of another faith. There are arguments to be made on both sides, and this is not the place to repeat them. But this issue goes to the heart of the LDS’s motivation for promoting genealogical research, filming records, and letting everyone access them. I think the relevance to genealogists is obvious, and that’s why I think it’s a good idea for researchers to learn as much as they can about this subject.

<http://www.usccb.org/comm/archives/2008/08-183.shtml>

On another subject relating to religion, Ray Marshall posted this URL on the Polish Genius list. It deals with talks on unity between the Roman Catholic Church and the Polish National Catholic Church. If you know anything at all about the role the PNCC has played in the history of Polonia in the U.S. and Canada, you'll realize these talks could be very significant.

http://www.warsawvoice.pl/download/polish83_independence.pdf

Bronwyn Klimach posted this URL in a note on the Poland mailing list. This special edition of *The Polish Voice* is full of articles on Poland's Independence Day and the 90th anniversary of Poland's rebirth after World War I. It's not exactly genealogy, but you may have realized that knowing a little about Polish history can go a long way toward explaining why your ancestors did some of the things they did!

<http://tinyurl.com/6a5684>

Ceil Jensen posted a note to the Poland mailing list about AT&T's Calling Center launching a new dedicated Polish-Language Line for Polish speakers in the the Midwestern United States. "The new service line provides billing and technical support, and offers the ability to order AT&T products and services in the customers' native language. AT&T's Polish-speaking customers will be able to dial 1-800-417-1588 to access additional support services in-language, including U-Verse and AT&T Wireless." You can read more at this URL; if it doesn't work, contact me and I'll give you a link to a much longer URL that should do the job.

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

Maureen Mroczek Morris sent me a file with info on a documentary film being made called *In the Name of Their Mothers*, on Irene Sendler and others who helped save many Jews from the Holocaust. The producer and director, Mary Skinner, says the sponsor, Women Make Movies, can use all the contributions it can get (they're tax-deductible). If you're interested, visit the site and learn more.

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