



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_7.pdf

***** CASUALTIES OF THE POLISH 71ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 1918-1920 *****

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

I think it's a good idea from time to time to print articles listing people who died saving Poland—and the rest of Europe—from the Kaiser and the late Comrades Lenin, Stalin, and Trotsky, during the period 1918 to 1920. There's always the chance *Gen Dobry!* readers will recognize a name. Besides, posting these names in *Gen Dobry!* means they will be picked up by search engine scanning software, so that future researchers trying to find the names on the Internet will locate them here. Don't laugh—I hear every so often from people who found long-forgotten relatives because Google or some other search engine spotted names in *Gen Dobry!* articles and returned them as “hits.”

This is a list of casualties of the 71st Infantry Regiment. That Regiment was formed in mid-1918 from a nucleus of Poles who served in the Austrian army (most likely recruited in Galicia), were captured by the Allies, and were incarcerated in POW camps in Northern Italy. These Poles—as well as their Czech and Slovak comrades who were in the same predicaments, just different ethnic origins—were given the opportunity to serve Poland (Czechoslovakia) by fighting in Polish (Czechoslovak) military units organized by Franco-Italian organizations and military services.

The side bar to this that I find most interesting deals with those casualties who were Jews. Anyone with a first name such as Alter, Jankiel, Lejba, Lejzor, or Moszko—all names that appear here—was surely Jewish. This Regiment comprised a part of the estimated 40,000 Polish men recruited from POW camps who were given a chance to fight on the side of Poland and not one of its dominating neighboring empires. The 71st Regiment would have been considered part of Haller's Army—though not that part which most Polish-Americans are accustomed to hearing about—and thus, we see Polish-Jewish recruits amongst the ranks. There are numerous bits and pieces on the Internet about Haller's Army being anti-Semitic, yet no one can explain how and why Jewish soldiers would be serving in such a “biased” military force. More information needs to be unearthed about such situations.

A related story may be found here:

http://www.polishroots.org/hallers/jews_in_hallers_army.htm

If you recognize any of these names and want more information, you're welcome to contact me. I can't promise I have more information to share, but I'll be glad to check.

Abramiuk, Grzegorz - private
Antoniuk, Jan - private
Augustyn, Walerjan - corporal
Bachman, Arnold - captain
Baczkiewicz, Wincenty - corporal
Bak, Ludwik - PFC

Balcerek, Wladyslaw - private
Berezecki, Jozef - 2nd Lieutenant
Bielecki, Walenty- private
Bilski, Wincenty - private
Borysiuk, Filomen - private
Bozek, Wladyslaw - PFC

Buca, Stanislaw - private
Chmielewski, Jozef - private
Cichosz, Nowos- private
Cierartka, Jan - private
Cymbal, Marcin - private
Czapski, Bronislaw - private
Czepinski, Stanislaw - private
Czeszkal, Wladyslaw - private
Dabek, Jozef - private
Filipowicz, Jakob - PFC
Gabrys, Andrzej - corporal
Germelewski, Roman Marjan - private
Gierzynski, Artur - private
Glab, Jan - private
Glodowski, Franciszek - private
Goron, Moszko - private
Gorski, Alter - private
Grela, Jan - private
Grochal, Adam - 2nd Lieutenant
Grudzinski, Wincenty - private
Gruszczynski, Ignacy - private
Grydziuszko, Wincenty - private
Gunia, Stanislaw - private
Gunski, Walter - private
Gwizdek, Franciszek - PFC
Ignarski, Jan - corporal
Jablonski, Wlodzimierz - private
Jakubowicz, Lejzor - private
Jakubowski, Franciszek - private
Jankowski, Wladyslaw - sergeant
Janocha, Wladyslaw - 2nd Lieutenant
Jaochimiak, Ignacy - PFC
Jozwiak, Wojciech - corporal
Kapela, Jan - private
Karolewicz, Franciszek - private
Kaszowski, Tomasz - corporal
Kazio, Boleslaw - private
Kielcikowski, Jozef - private
Kniola, Jan - private
Koczela, Wladyslaw - private
Komorowski, Wilhelm - private
Korsak, Jozef - 2nd Lieutenant
Kowal, Jozef - private
Kowalczyk, Jozef - private
Kowalik, Antoni - private

Krajewski, Ignacy - private
Kramer, Jan - private
Krawczyk, Robert - private
Krzyzaniak, Wacław - private
Kubiak, Wojciech - PFC
Kubicki, Kazimierz - private
Kubit, Jozef - private
Kuta, Stanislaw - private
Kuziol, Boleslaw - private
Kwiatosz, Jan - private
Lasocki, Lucjan - sergeant
Lendner, Robert - private
Lewandowski, Wladyslaw - PFC
Lusakowski, Kazimierz - private
Machniej, Jozef - private
Majewski, Boleslaw - private
Maly, Jan - private
Mamcarz, Jozef - private
Maruszewski, Piotr - private
Matlejewski, Zygmunt - private
Matusiak, Franciszek - private
Matuszek, Ignacy - private
Mierzejewski, Czeslaw - private
Misiok, Jozef - private
Modnij, x - private
Mrugala, Jozef - private
Musial, Stanislaw - private
Muszynski, Mieczyslaw - private
Nawalany, Wladyslaw - sergeant
Nawrot, Aleksander - private
Nieznanski, Rudolf - private
Nowosad, Aleksander - private
Nowosad, Tichon - private
Okupniak, Michal - private
Osinski, Walenty - private
Papanski, Jozef - PFC
Parapura, Stanislaw - private
Patryjarcha, Stanislaw - sergeant
Pawlisz, Szymon - private
Pieciak, Jan - private
Piorun, Jan - private
Przybylski, Jan - private
Przywecki, Antoni - private
Rakus, Andrzej - private
Reron, Edmund - 2nd Lieutenant

Rezler, Waclaw - PFC
Rodkier, Moszko - private
Rogalinski, Jozef - sergeant
Rozinski, Bogumil - PFC
Rzepnicki, Aleksander - private
Samilak, Jan - private
Sawicki, Piotr - private
Scibor, Stanislaw - private
Sieron, Jan - private
Skrzypek, Jan - private
Skupinski, Czeslaw - private
Stefanski, Jozef - private
Strzelecki, Stanislaw - ensign
Swider, Stanislaw - sergeant
Swider, Stanislaw - PFC
Swiderek, Jan - private
Szampora, Ernest - private
Szczepanski, Franciszek - private
Szewczuk, Adam - private
Szostakiewicz, Jan - private
Szulc, Jan - corporal
Szulc, Maksymiljan - private
Szymanowicz, Mieczyslaw - 2nd Lieutenant
Szymczakowski, Teofil - PFC
Tomczyk, Michal - private

Trzanowicz, Lejba - private
Walczyszewski, Kazimierz - private
Wantraub, Jankiel - private
Weisko, Stanislaw - private
Wereski, Jan - private
Weziak, Wladyslaw - private
Wiatr, Izydor - private
Wichlinski, Antoni - corporal
Wiktorski, Franciszek - corporal
Wilrzylak, Marjan - sergeant
Witczak, Walenty - private
Wlodarek, Stanislaw - private
Wlodyga, Antoni - PFC
Wojcieszak, Jakob - private
Wozniak, Franciszek - corporal
Wrobel, Jan - sergeant
Wysocki, Wilhelm - private
Zagolski, Jan - private
Zajac, Jozef - sergeant
Zbierski, Stanislaw - private
Zegota, Franciszek - private
Zielinski, Franciszek - private
Zmijewski, Jan - private
Zugolski, Jan - private
Zyla, Waclaw - private

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

Subject: Polish Texans

A year or so ago I started a Web site, appropriately named “Polish Texans.” You can see it at

<http://www.polish-texans.com/>

It’s a slow process, but I’m in it for the long haul, so I keep adding new information. If you have anything you want to share, just send it my way. Polish Texan fiddler Brian Marshall and I recently launched a tribute area of the Web site for musicians of Polish descent. It’s in the very beginning stages, but since you have an interest in music, you might enjoy some of the old photos.

<http://www.polish-texans.com/polish-musicians-photos.html>

Anyway, I really just wanted to say hi, but I couldn’t resist a little self-promotion.

James Smock <james@polish-texans.com>

Editor—Nothing wrong with that! If you don't promote your site, who will? Thanks for sending me this info so I can pass it along to our readers.

Subject: Historical Photos of the Płock Area

Just wanted to share with readers a wonderful Web site for current and historical photographs of the Płock area. Admittedly, I've spent far too much time on this site with my cheapie reading glasses and tattered Polish/English dictionary (family origins & research in Radziwie, Brwilno, Popłacin).

Here's the link:

<http://www.plock24.pl/fusion/news.php>

On the top left of the home page, click on "Galeria." It will take a bit to load, but there are multiple categories with thumbnails, and hundreds of photos, ranging from heraldry symbols, local church photos, the cathedral, the new bridge, historical pix from different periods, to name just a few.

Jim Krysiak <jakrysiak@yahoo.com>

Editor—Thanks for sharing this with us!

Subject: Spelling Surnames in Family Tree Software

I enjoyed this article:

<http://stephendanko.com/blog/2008/03/13/resolving-conflicting-evidence-in-the-spelling-of-names/>

and it part answered a lot of queries. However when the family "morph" from Schneider to Szejder, which name do I chose? In my family tree programme I do like to know the spelling of the name at birth (and most frequently during the person's life), but my Schneiders and Szejders then become alphabetically VERY separate entities when I search the family in an index —something I do not always remember. I'm now thinking of keeping the most Polish version of surnames for this family (who resided in what should have been Poland and for whom most records are in some form of Polish...) and adding other, possibly more appropriate versions of the name thus: Jan SCHNEJDER/SZNEJDER. This way the programme picks up SZNEJDER for the surname, but I can see the most common form of the name at the time of its "owner" (or while that particular pastor/cleric was in office). However, this looks terribly messy on trees... Any tips?

Bronwyn Klimach <bronklimach@gmail.com>

Editor—Since I have no experience using family tree software of any kind, I really don't have anything useful to tell Bronwyn. But I suspect some of our readers have faced this problem before, and may have some good ideas to share. What do you say, folks?

Subject: Aquila Polonica® Publishing!

My name is Stefan Mucha. You will probably not recall but we have corresponded in the distant past when you kindly helped me by giving me the origins of my Polish family names Mucha and Śmieszek, and *Gen Dobry!* has previously featured a link to my personal collection of Nazi occupation photos of Poland WWII at <http://www.PolandWW2.com>.

I am writing this time to introduce to you a new venture, Aquila Polonica® Publishing, which may be of interest to the readership of *Gen Dobry!*

Aquila Polonica® was formed approximately 18 months ago by myself in Great Britain and business partner Ms. Terry Tegnazian, based in Los Angeles, USA and is dedicated to publishing, in English, the often forgotten or untold Polish experience of the second world war; both under Nazi occupation and the Soviet occupation of Eastern Poland.

Aquila Polonica® is also dedicated to telling the story of Poland's heroic contribution to victory on all Allied fronts during the war, with first-hand accounts, memoirs, poetry, literature, photographs, artworks and historical studies. The company plans to translate and publish books only previously available in Polish, re-publish material originally published in the early post war years and that have been long out of print, and also new unpublished material when these become available.

Aquila Polonica® hopes to fill an important need for those with a Polish heritage that have no command of the Polish language but are interested in this tragic but often heroic period of Polish history. Our Web site is

<http://www.AquilaPolonica.com>

and for anyone interested in being on the publisher's mailing list:

http://www.aquilapolonica.com/mailling_list.php

Hoping this will be of interest and not too much of an advertorial?

Best regards,

Stefan Mucha <stefan@aquilapolonica.com>

Editor—While we have no intention of acting as shills for anyone, we think it is absolutely appropriate to tell our readers about companies that offer services they might wish to know about. It seems to me this is a perfect example. The way I see it, we're not shoving advertising down our readers' throats, we're informing them. Besides, any company that would choose to call itself by a Latin name meaning "Polish Eagle" has too much class to be ignored, in my book!

Subject: Praise for Aleksandra Kacprzak

Editor—As with the previous note, this is not meant as advertising, but as sharing info you might wish to know. Many people are looking for native Poles with experience and skills to help them do their research. When I get a note like this, I feel it's appropriate to pass it along.

Late last year I wrote to you and asked for a recommendation. I was looking for a Polish genealogist familiar with the former West Prussia area. After asking two genealogists to research my cause, and being denied both times, I contacted your recommendation, only to be denied again.

Then, in the magazine of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, *Der Blumenbaum*, I noticed an article about a Polish/English speaking lady who had graduated from BYU. I contacted Aleksandra Kacprzak, and sent her my data. Alexandra lives in northern Poland, conveniently located near Chojnice.

After receiving daily e-mails keeping me abreast of her progress, she completed her research in May. She personally visited the two villages of my paternal grandparents. Her research covered the local churches, cemeteries, and local people with my grandparents surnames. She even successfully worked with a very stubborn church pastor, while gaining access to the records. She also went to the museum in Chojnice (the big city) and read and photographed everything ever written about these two villages. Alex even hired her son to translate local history text from Polish to English for me. All of these efforts took one week!

I now have the results in the form of Word documents, Excel files, and a DVD with 987 photographs. I couldn't be happier with her research. However, as is so often the case, few of the people interviewed knew anything about their own grandparents, much less mine. The church records start in 1821 and there are none earlier. Village history goes back to the 1300s. What surprised me most is that the cemeteries have many circa 1900 tombstones for my paternal grandmothers surname, But no graves for three generations of my paternal grandfather's surname were found anywhere. Alex is a popular and very busy genealogist. Phase 2 of my project will have to wait.

In conclusion, I highly recommend Aleksandra Kacprzak to readers of *Gen Dobry!*

Her Web site is: www.genoroots.com.

Paul Rostowsky <prostowsky1@yahoo.com>

Editor—I have met Alex, as her friends call her, and she made a very favorable impression on me. She contributes a regular column to Pathways & Passages, the journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast. She lives half of the year in Connecticut, and the other half of the year in Poland, in her home town of Grudziądz. Many people besides Paul have praised her; and I think it's fair to mention her name as one researcher you might wish to consider hiring.

I should add that I have also heard a lot of praise lately for Michał Marciniak. I have not met him, but he's built up a pretty sizable clientele of satisfied customers. If I'm not mistaken, one of his e-mail addresses is <office@polgenresearch.com>. That's the address given at <http://www.polgenresearch.com/en/index.php>, which I believe is the Web site of his company. I haven't dealt with Michał personally, but I'm told his English is very good (as is Alex's). If I needed professional assistance, I would feel comfortable dealing with either Alex or Michał—and, of course, Iwona Dakiniewicz <genealogy@pro.onet.pl>, whom I've regarded as a friend for several years now.

***** POZNAŃ PROJECT UPDATE *****

Dear Friends of the Poznań Project,

During the last three months a substantial increase of our database has taken place. We have more than 300 Catholic parishes now (45% marriages of the main Project's time frame already indexed) and over 50 Lutheran parishes (nearly 20% material).

We welcome Brigitte Dala, our most dedicated volunteer for Protestant records, in the 10K club (over 10,000 records indexed).

Thanks to the fact that the material from the Brandenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv in Potsdam has recently been put online, it was possible to add those parishes to the Poznań Project database. Here is the link to the BLP material, easy to browse:

<http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html>

On October 18-19 in Troy, Michigan, Łukasz Bielecki, the creator of the Poznań Project, will present four lectures at the Seminar of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. One of the lectures will cover exclusively the Poznan Project. Please refer here for more details:

http://www.pgsm.org/index_041.htm

I am thankful to all who have submitted indexes, scans or digital pictures of records and/or donations to the Project. Of course, all help will also be appreciated in future.

This coming fall, the temporary server used by the Poznań Project will no longer be available for us, and for the first time, an external server will have to be found to keep the Project going on. Due to special requirements of the search engine, standard commercial servers are not suitable and probably a specific arrangement will have to be made. We hope that these issues will be settled as soon as possible. Most probably, only a paid server will in practice remain a solution this time, unless we find someone willing to offer their facilities free, as it has been the case until now.

And as usual, here comes the link to the Poznań Project search page, and a list of the recently added parishes (Apr-Jun):

<http://bindweed.man.poznan.pl/posen/search.php>

Catholic: Liszkowo, Pęchowo, Myjomice, Olszowa, Krzywín, Janków Zaleśny, Osieczna, Trzciel, Ostrowo n. Gopłem, Bierzwienna Długa, Mikorzyn, Zduny, Brójce, Parlin, Goraj, Przytoczna, Grzybowo, Czeszewo (Września), Osiek Wielki, Siemowo, Lubin, Kąkolewo, Gościkowo, Międzyrzecz, Stary Dwór, Wysoka (Międzyrzecz), Parkowo, Komorniki, Zakrzewo, Sokola Dąbrowa, Trzebiszewo, Bucz, Koszuty (Środa), Wieleń, Sokolniki (Września)

Lutheran: Chycina [Weissensee], Lutol Suchy [Duerlettel], Rogoziniec [Rogsen], Zduny, Miejska Górka [Goerchen], Duszniki [Duschnik], Zaniemyśl [Santomischel], Golaszewo [Gross-Golle], Skoki [Schokken], Koźmin [Koschmin], Chlastawa [Klastawe], Trzemeszno [Tremessen], Latowice [Latowitz], Sobotka, Waszkowo [Waschke], Koza [Kaza], Wiejce [Waitze], Skwierzyna [Schwerin]

Best regards,

Łukasz Bielecki

***** GALICIAN HOUSE NUMBERS *****

Editor—Mark Halpern posted this note to the newsgroup soc.genealogy.jewish in response to a question about house numbers in Galicia, a subject I have often seen people ask about. I thought it was a good, concise answer, well worth passing along.

Civil registration in Galicia commenced in 1784. The decree establishing civil registration specified house numbers as one field required in the birth and death records. It appears that registrars from 1784 into the 20th century consistently followed this practice.

In most Galician cities and towns, house numbers were assigned chronologically. When house numbering started, House #1 was assigned to a house in the center of town, or the church, or the manor house of the Polish lord who owned the town. The numbers were then assigned in some logical way, such as in rings moving out from the center of town. As new houses were built, they

were assigned the next sequential number no matter where it was located.

The house number concept was scrapped many years ago. In most cases before World War I. Larger cities such as Lw\uw/Lemberg changed to a street and house number scheme in about 1897. Smaller towns and villages might not have changed until after World War I.

However, there is possibly a way to find your ancestral home or the place that it once stood. The Austrian cadastral survey of the 1830s to 1860s consisted of records and extremely detailed maps. One version of these maps show house numbers along with parcel numbers. The good news is that many of these maps survive at the Ukraine State Historical Archive in Lviv. The Polish State Archive in Krakow also has a selection of cadastral maps and records. Gesher Galicia has a Cadastral map project. For more information, contact the Gesher Galicia Research Coordinator.

While cadastral maps and records are not really genealogical records, there is a wealth of family information and possible connections imbedded in the house numbers and the associated records.

Although it is possible to find the house where your family lived, it is not easy. You will need a local person experienced with the Lviv Archive cadastral map collection and the time to find the proper map and house number, if available. A casual visitor probably will not be able to find their ancestral home with just a house number.

Mark Halpern

***** USCIS GENEALOGY PROGRAM*****

Editor—This is from a note Ceil Jensen <cjensen@mipolonia.net> posted to the Polish Genius mailing list, which quotes the information on the USCIS Web site.

Welcome to the new USCIS Genealogy Program Homepage:

<http://tinyurl.com/6gp6gt>

The new USCIS Genealogy Program will become effective on August 13, 2008. The Genealogy Program is a fee-for-service program designed to provide family historians and other researchers with timely access to accurate information and good copies of historical immigration and naturalization records.

The USCIS Genealogy Program will offer two services:

Index Search: Using biographical information provided by the researcher, USCIS will search its historical immigration and naturalization record index for citations related to a specific immigrant. This index search service is limited to subjects born more than 100 years ago, or for whom

the requester can provide proof of death. Search results (record citations) will be returned to the researcher, along with instructions on how to request the file(s) from USCIS or the National Archives.

Record Copy Request: Researchers with valid record citations (USCIS file numbers), gained through a USCIS Genealogy Program index search or through independent research, may request copies of historical immigration and naturalization records. Records available through the USCIS Genealogy Program are:

- a. Naturalization Certificate Files (C-files) from September 27, 1906 to April 1, 1956
- b. Alien Registration Forms from August 1, 1940 to March 31, 1944
- c. Visa files from July 1, 1924 to March 31, 1944
- d. Registry Files from March 2, 1929 to March 31, 1944
- e. Alien Files (A-files) numbered below 8 million (A8000000) and documents therein dated prior to May 1, 1951

Detailed information about the USCIS Genealogy Program is currently available in the published rule for the Establishment of a Genealogy Program.

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

August 1-3, 2008

THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE FEDERATION OF EAST EUROPEAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

“Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: The East European Magnet”

Pittsburgh Airport Marriott Hotel, 777 Aten Road, Coropolis, Pennsylvania
The speakers will include: Lisa A. Alzo, Matthew Bielawa, Karen Hobbs, Brian J. Lenius, Kahlile B. Mehr, and Maralyn Wellauer-Lenius.

Contact: Lisa Alzo, 2008 FEEFHS Conference, P. O. Box 3943, Ithaca NY 14852-3942.

Details available at:

<http://feefhs.org> and <http://feefhs.wordpress.com/>

August 12 - 24, 2008

HUSARIA TOUR OF POLAND

I'd like to let you all know about our plans for a special and unique tour. In August 2008 will be the first annual "Husaria Tour of Poland."

One of the features of this tour will be a weekend at Vivat Vasa—the largest 17th-century reenactment in Poland. The event is held at historic Gniew castle with over 300 re-enactors reliving the battle that took place there in 1627 between the Polish winged hussars and the Swedes under Gustav Adolphus. Those of us with 17th-century kits have been invited to participate in the event but it is not mandatory for those on the tour to do so.

We'll also be visiting the major collections of husaria arms, armor and related 17th-century items across the country. We'll be seeing many of the major sites, castles, battlefields across the country. This should be a once in a lifetime trip and PAT Tours of Springfield MA will be arranging the hotels, transportation and all the details. PAT Tours has over 30 years of experience in developing custom tours of Poland.

Here's the best part, our friend and noted Polish historian and author Radek Sikora will be our historical guide through out the trip. Radek will be a great resource, guiding us through all those wonderful museum collections and answering many of our questions. So if you are serious about considering being a part of the tour please contact me and I'll get you all the details and answer your questions.

http://www.polishhussarsupply.com/contact_us.html

Pozdrawiam
Eryk Jadaszewski <jrjada@juno.com>
Rotmistrz husarski
The Czarniecki Division
17th century Polish re-enactors

[Forwarded by Paul S. Valasek from the PolishAmericanForum.]

August 15 – 17, 2008

**SOCIETY FOR GERMAN GENEALOGY IN EASTERN EUROPE
2008 CONVENTION**

"Discovering our Roots in Eastern Europe"

Kelowna, British Columbia

Registration form and agenda can be found at:

<http://www.sggee.org/conventions/ConventionNews>

Register soon so we know how large a 10th Anniversary cake needs to be ordered.

[From a note posted on numerous mailing lists.]

August 16 – 17, 2008

**Annual Lithuanian Days
Frackville Mall - Frackville, Pennsylvania**

This is a general announcement to let everyone know of the upcoming Lithuanian Days that is held every year at the Frackville Mall in PA.

Event: Lithuanian Days

Dates: August 16 (11am-5pm) and August 17 (Noon-4pm)

Location: Frackville Mall - intersection of I-81 and Route 61

Notes of Interest:

The original celebration was held August 14, 1914 at Lakeside Park, Barnesville, PA.

The theme of this year's celebration is Lithuanian Wayside Shrines and The Hill of Crosses. Prizes will be awarded for a wooden hand-carved shrine or cross measuring between 7 to 15 inches in height. For registration and more information contact Bernice Mikatavage <bermikal@verizon.net>.

Entertainment scheduled for the event are the Malunas, Zilvinas, Ausrine, and Gintaras Folk Dance Groups; Lynn Cox, roving accordionist with her singing troupe and other musical entertainment.

Back by popular demand are The Lithuanian Partisans Living History Unit, from Maryland. They will march to center court at the start of the festivities each day and take the Partisan's Oath. An impressive display of vintage weapons, rare photos, original documents and a replica camp will be shown in the Heritage Room. Explanations will be given by Vincent Vaise.

Ethnic foods such as kugelis (potato pudding), bulviniai and mesiniai desros (potato baloney and meat sausages), bandukes (pork patties), pierogies, halushki, halupkis, cold beet soup, lapiene (spinach) soup, and so much more.

Lithuanian imported foods and artifacts, amber jewelry, woodcarvings, linens, candle houses, sashes, artwork, etc. will be available.

A mini museum will display Lithuanian traditional arts and crafts.

+ Scholarships will be awarded to selected Elementary Catholic School students from the

- Anthracite area, funded by Council 144
- + Marijona Venslauskaitė Boyle, author of *Search for Freedom: The Man from Red October*, will be present for a book signing
 - + Mushroom art (etched conks) by Onute Morgaliene
 - + A Christmas tree, decorated by the A. Luschas family, Berwick, PA with natural straw ornaments, will be on display. This tree received the first place award in the hand crafted category at the 1999 Bloomsburg Treefest. Carol Luschas will demonstrate making the straw ornaments.
 - + The Domalakes family, Frackville, PA will also demonstrate etching “*marguciai*,” the Lithuanian eggs.
 - + The Gintaras Children’s Group, Mahanoy City, PA will perform on Sunday singing and folk dancing.
 - + Learn Lithuanian folk songs and folk dancing Saturday and Sunday with members from the Zilvinas dance group led by Lynne Cox, accordionist.
 - + Watch Lithuanian videos.

Local motels/hotels:

Holiday Inn Express

Free Internet and Breakfast Bar.

(888) 400-9714

www.hiexpress.com

958 Schuylkill Mall, Frackville, PA

Econo Lodge

501 S. Middle St.

Frackville, PA 17931

(570) 874-3838

www.econolodge.com

Rodeway Inn

701 Altamont Blvd

Frackville, PA 17931

(570) 874-1223

www.rodewayinn.com

Country Inn & Suites (Little farther down I-81)

100 Keystone Blvd

Pottsville, PA 17901

(570) 544-5201

www.countryinns.com

Quality Inn (8 miles south on Route 61 in Pottsville)

100 S Centre St

Pottsville, PA 17901

(570) 622-4600
www.choicehotels.com

[From a note posted by Richard Gostautas to the LithGen mailing list. Also, a note posted by Millie <Milliemarks@aol.com> to the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list. More info is available here:]

<http://www.geocities.com/knights144/index.html>

August 17 – 22, 2008

28TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

Honolulu, HI - December 12, 2007. The International Association of Jewish Genealogy (IAJGS) announces the 28th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Chicago, August 17 - 22, 2008 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. The IAJGS is proud to co-host this conference with the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois and the Illiana Jewish Genealogical Society.

This annual conference is the premier event for Jewish Genealogists. Attendees from around the world gather to learn, share expertise, find others researching the same locales, and maybe even meet a relative they didn't know about before. From beginners to experienced genealogists – all are welcome and will have an unforgettable experience.

Sixteen Special Interest Groups (SIG's) will host sessions concerning their research focus such as German-Jewish Genealogy, Ukraine, Poland, and Litvak Jewish Genealogy research. A number of specialists or archivists from Europe or Eastern Europe will be in attendance to make presentations and advise attendees about resources available in their country. Some of the SIG's will hold luncheons with a featured speaker.

At least sixteen smaller groups, Birds of a Feather (BOF), will hold meetings such as the BOFs for Yiddish Theater, Suwałki-Łomża, Posen Prussia, and Lublin & Zamość Area.

There will be sessions on aspects of researching Sephardic ancestry, the Midwestern Jewish experience, using computers, immigration records, and much, much more. A Resource Room with a wide variety of genealogically relevant materials will be open to attendees. There will be an Exhibitor Room with vendors selling books, maps, and other items of interest to genealogists.

A special mini-symposium will be held on Genetics, Jewish Diseases, and the Role of Genealogists, underwritten by an educational grant from Genzyme Corporation. Speakers will include Dr. Lee Shulman, MD, Anna Ross Lapham Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chief, Division of Reproductive Genetics, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University; Gary Frohlich, Certified Genetic Counselor with Genzyme Therapeutics; and a representative of the Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders.

A film festival will feature a wide range of films of relevance to Jewish genealogy.

Chicago offers many research opportunities for genealogists such as the Spertus Institute of Jewish Study (with its Asher Library and the Chicago Jewish Archives); The Newberry Library; and public institutions (e.g. Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Cook County, the Cook county Assessor's office (for property records), the Cook County Vital Records office) and the Great Lakes Regional branch of NARA (the National Archives).

The hotel has wonderful facilities. All registered conference attendees will get free internet access from their hotel guest rooms and complementary access to the hotel's health facilities.

To register or find additional information, see the conference Web site at www.Chicago2008.org.

The conference Web site has a conference flyer that can be printed for publicity purposes.

The IAJGS is an organization of organizations, founded in the late 1980s, to provide a common voice for issues of significance to its members, to advance our genealogical avocation, and to ensure there is an annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. Go to www.iajgs.org for more information.

Contact:

Anne Feder Lee, IAJGS President and Chicago 2008 co-chair

Telephone: 808-395-0115 (Honolulu, HI)

E-mail: <FederLee@msn.com>

[Our own Paul S. Valasek will be giving two presentations at this Conference, speaking on Haller's Army and on "Why Jewish Researchers Should Take a Look at PolishRoots."]

September 19 – 21, 2008

POLISHFEST 2008

250 Maxwell Road, Latham, NY

PolishFest is the annual three-day Capital District celebration of Polish and Polish-American arts, literature, music, culture, history, and, of course, food. 3 Days of Fun and Entertainment for the Whole Family... Chopin Recital, Polish Craft Vendors, Free Polka Lessons, Pierogi Eating Contest, Polka Mass, Children's Games and Craft Activities, Bouncy Bounce, Cooking Demos, Genealogy, Raffles, Bell Jars, Polish Pottery, Amber Jewelry, Kielbasa Sandwich, Golabki (Stuffed Cabbage), Potato Pancakes, Pierogi, Kapusta, Bigos (Hunter Stew), Homemade Polish desserts, Polish Beer, Wine, take-out food and so much more...

We Look Forward To Seeing You This Year!

<http://www.polishfest-ny.org/>

October 2008
4th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
PLANO, TEXAS

Uwaga! Attention!

Those who live in Texas need to mark their 2008 calendars for the 4th annual International Festival to be held October 2008 in Plano, Texas.

There is a Parade of Nations, in which Poland is represented, as well as a Polish Cultural Booth, a food booth, dance ensemble, two concerts (Polish musicians).

The group responsible for the above is the Polish-American Foundation of Texas:

<http://www.polamfound.com>

The organization is planning several more events for the near future.

Hope to see you there!

[From a posting by Debbie Greenlee on the Polish Genius mailing list.]

Friday and Saturday, October 3 – 4, 2008

PGSCTNE 2008 POLISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCE
Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut

Sponsored by the Polish and Polish American Studies Program, Central Connecticut State University. We will be featuring **Dr. Stephen Morse**, who will be lecturing on “Searching the Ellis Island Database on the One-Step Web site.”

There will also be a Polish history lecture by **Dr. Mieczysław Biskupski** and **Prof. Romuald Byczkiewicz**, as well as a Beginner’s Workshop.

October 17 – October 19, 2008

Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan
Celebrating 30 Years 1978-2008

POLISH RESEARCH SEMINAR

featuring **Łukasz Bielecki** in his only U.S. appearance.

Three Days of Lectures: October 17 – October 19, 2008.

For more information, please see:

http://pgsm.org/index_040.htm

[From a note posted by Ceil Jensen on the Poland mailing list.]

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

http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Historia_ortografii_polskiej

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine list, Jan Cesarczyk posted this URL in response to a question about Polish spelling rules and when they developed. Not surprisingly, it's in Polish; but if you notice dates and study the examples, you can probably pick up some pointers. And if you're getting involved with a topic this abstruse, reading a little bit of Polish shouldn't intimidate you!

<http://ijp-pan.krakow.pl/index2.php?strona=poradnia>

In another example of an abstruse topic, during a recent visit to the Web site of the Instytut Języka Polskiego PAN (Polish Language Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences) in Kraków, I noticed this page. It features analysis of surname origins written by various scholars of the Institute. It's all in Polish, as one might expect; but if your name is there, you'll probably be willing to do what it takes to get a translation. We should keep an eye on this site, to see how often material is added and whether any of it will be in English. I know some of the Institute's scholars speak very good English, so I suppose it's not entirely out of the question.

<http://www.ultralingua.com/online-dictionary/>

On the Posen mailing list, Tom Lassek described this as a "Web site that advertises phonetic equivalents of various words, surnames and locations etc., in different languages. It may be of some use to researchers who are faced with a misspelled surname or location." Now, I advise a little caution. For one thing, this site does not include Polish at this time (but it does have Esperanto!?). Besides, I really hesitate to recommend online translation sites; they really don't have a very good track record. Still, it does no harm to try them. They can sometimes do an adequate job with simple sentences, especially when dealing with languages that don't have the grammatical complexity of Polish.

<http://www.thingsPolish.com>

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine list, James Conroyd Martin—author of *Push Not the*

River and *Against a Crimson Sky* (<http://www.jamescmartin.com/>)—responded to a question about a good place to find Polish novels and other Polish-related items by mentioning the online store at this site. He added, “Other novels I recommend are *Jadwiga’s Crossing*, about a young family coming to America in the 1800s, and *Night of Flames*, a World War II love and espionage story. And going back in time, of course, there are the classic novels of Henryk Sienkiewicz. The current *The Spies of Warsaw* (WW II espionage) is pretty good, too.”

<http://lemko.org/genealogy/krasovskiynamesUS.html>

Also on the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine list, Bobby wanted to mention this “Dictionary of Lemko Surnames” on Walter Maksimovich’s Lemko.org site. If you have roots in southeastern Poland or western Ukraine, it’s not a bad idea to check this list.

<http://www.lds.org/library/display/0,4945,40-1-3384-9,00.html>

In another note on that list, Sandra Guilford suggested looking at this line “to gain some perspective on just how daunting a job it is for the LDS to carry out the so-called digitisation of their various caves full of microfilms. And they are determined to do it. To make the result into a searchable database is a second monster job. Think years, not months. That estimate is down from decades. I do think some of us get impatient with them for not having what we (me! me! me!) want right now! When we have found something exciting, we want more! The LDS investment is huge, and I for one am eternally grateful.”

<http://www.kto-kogo.pl/>

Garret Mierzejewski mentioned this site to me. It’s not exactly a “Who’s Who,” but more like a “Who Represents Whom.” It allows you to look up names of Poles registered in the Krajowy Rejestr Sądowy (KRS), a public register maintained by regional courts and the Ministry of Justice. It lists people officially registered as affiliated with various companies, foundations, etc. It does not even begin to list everyone; even if it does list someone by the name you’re looking for, there’s no guarantee it is the person in question—it could be someone else with the same name. But it’s easy to search, even if you speak no Polish, and it allows you to find Internet links that may provide more information on these people. It might be worth a look, especially if the surname you’re looking for is rare.

<http://papalscams.homestead.com/>

Tom Hollowak, Webmaster of the Polish Nobility Association Association Foundation Web site, passed this along because he thought it might interest some readers. It’s a warning about scams victimizing people seeking to join Orders of Chivalry. I figure any Web site referring to “papal scams” is interesting enough to take a look at!

<http://tinyurl.com/6zs78>

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, Barbara Karwowski posted a note mentioning that the Library of Congress has an online digitized copy of the 1938-39 Warsaw telephone book. She

said, “This directory should be of special interest to researchers who lost relatives, friends, and/or property during the war.” The URL Barbara gave is rather long and difficult to use, so Mary Snow posted a note giving this TinyUrl. Mary added, “Alphabetical listings begin at Image 53.”

<http://feefhs.org/blitz/frgblitz.html>

On the PolandBorderSurnames list, Darris Hercs praised the Blitz Information Center for its help in obtaining Russian military documents—not exactly the easiest thing in the world to get hold of. Blitz has been around for years, and I’ve seen a fair number of people who were satisfied with its service. If your research involves getting documents from the former Soviet Union, Blitz is probably worth checking out. Of course, as always, let the buyer beware. But if this company has survived this long, I have to figure it’s doing something right....

<http://www.epaveldas.lt/vbspi/content/simpleSearch.jsp>

On the LithGen mailing list, Cecelia Yeruski posted a note saying there are 18 Roman Catholic parish churches in Lithuania with digitized records online here.

<http://www.phpgedview.net/>

John Blacha sent me a note about “PhpGedView News — Online genealogy at its best.” I had never heard of it before, but it looks intriguing, and I thought some of our readers might wish to take a look.

<http://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=nfp>

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine mailing list, Lavrentiy mentioned that a friend in Lviv had sent him an announcement that the Viennese *Neue Freie Presse* newspaper is now online. The genealogical connection, according to Lavrentiy’s friend, is that “It was one of the favourite papers for Galician obituaries. If you know the date of death of the person you are looking for, please look at the newspaper edition nearest that date, for the *Partezettel* - see for example 17 June p.17 1916 for a bumper number of *Partezettel*. Generally these notices, as in all papers throughout the world, will be for middle and upper-class members of society, as the poorer Galicians could probably not afford to pay for the obituary notice in this prestigious paper.”

<http://www.museumoffamilyhistory.com>

Steve Lasky posted a note to the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup about recent features added to his online Museum of Family History. As usual, there are a number of fascinating pages. I particularly enjoyed the one where you can hear “Cantor Yoelson (Al Jolson) Sing Kol Nidre,” at www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/mfh-syn-yoelson-kol-nidre.htm. Of course, if you don’t know who Al Jolson was, this will not interest you....

<http://www.herbarz.net/zszp>

George Lucki posted a note to several mailing lists announcing that he is hosting “a

Polish-language discussion list for members of the Confederation of the Polish Nobility” at this address. “Alongside the private section for Association members, there is a public section for Friends. It has become quite active for discussions of genealogy, heraldry, resources as well as for social discussions on related and unrelated topics. We realize that many folks who are researching their roots are not fluent in Polish and we’ve just opened a section for discussions in foreign languages – that includes English. A number (but not all) of the participants understand English, just as some Herbarz members don’t understand Polish but somehow we may help find answers to each others questions.

“Unlike the Herbarz list, where responses arrive by e-mail, this discussion list is web-based. The ZSzP continues to maintain its Polish language email discussion list – the two types of forums are complementary.

“If you are interested in trying it out please register (rejestracja) ... Use your first and last name as your login and a password of your choosing. The forum administrator (that’s me or Lukasz Lubicz-Lapinski) will send you an e-mail confirming your registration and you are ready to go. The menu options are in Polish, but once you’ve registered and logged in, you can go into ‘Profil’ (Profile) and from the left side choose ‘Ustawienia dotyczace konta’ and then beside ‘Preferowany język’ (preferred language) choose English from the drop down list. If this seems too complicated, drop me a line at <glucki@wp.pl> and I’ll do it for you.

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