



# Gen Dobry!

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## CONTENTS

Polonia Must Act to Drop Visas For Poland  
Letters to the Editor  
Library of Congress Reading Rooms Changes  
Managing Yahoo Aliases  
Upcoming Events  
More Useful Web Addresses  
You May Reprint Articles...

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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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**\*\*\* POLONIA MUST ACT TO DROP VISAS FOR POLAND \*\*\***

*Editor*—Debbie Greenlee posted this note, from Alex Storozynski, President of the Kosciuszko Foundation, to various mailing lists because she felt it was a subject of importance for all Polish Americans. I agree, and am repeating it here for those who haven't seen it before. Considering what a good ally Poland has been to the United States, at a time when we don't have many reliable allies, it's about time we quit jerking around Poles who want to visit our country. I'll let Mr. Storozynski say the rest, as he says it better than I can, and he gives a link to a longer version on the Kosciuszko Federation website that includes specifics.

Now that the United States Senate voted 68 to 32 to pass Sen. Schumer's immigration bill, it must pass the House of Representatives before Poland will be included in the Visa Waiver Program. We are pleased that New York's Polish community persuaded Schumer to help drop visas for Poland. It proves what Polonia can do when it sticks together.

The Polish Community across the United States now must get their members of Congress and House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) to pass the immigration bill. Rep. Boehner must allow the bill to go to the floor of the House for a vote. It aims to secure America's borders, penalize employers who hire illegal immigrants, and provide a road map for immigrants to legally become American citizens. It would also drop the visa requirement for Poles who want to visit the United States as tourists.

So call and write to your Congressmen! If you don't know what to write, what to say, or who your Congressman is, you can find this information by clicking this link to The Kosciuszko Foundation web site: <[http://www.thekf.org/fundacja\\_kosciuszkowska\\_polska/PolandVisas/](http://www.thekf.org/fundacja_kosciuszkowska_polska/PolandVisas/)>

If all Polish-Americans speak up, Congress will not be able to ignore us.

Alex Storozynski  
President and Executive Director  
The Kosciuszko Foundation

*Editor*—Incidentally, Senator Barbara Mikulski deserves a fair amount of credit for getting this through the Senate ... Since this story is current and things could change rapidly, I wanted to check and see what the current status of the bill is. According to the story at <<http://www.thenews.pl/1/10/Artykul/139768,US-visa-waiver-for-Poland-one-step-nearer>>, the bill is still waiting to pass in the House of Representatives, where it faces some tough going. So unless things change over this weekend (which seems unlikely), there is still time, and need, to speak up.

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

Subject: Polish Genealogy Group in the U.K.

Dear Fred,

I have been a regular receiver of your *Gen Dobry!* newsletter for some time now and I am envious of the service it provides for the Polish families in the USA.

As I am a descendant of a Polish gentleman, with what seems to be quite a common surname of Peter Grabinski, a gentleman who was born in Poland in 1764 (according to British Royal Navy Records of 1800 to 1815 & who died in the Greenwich Naval hospital, England, in 1844, I was wondering if you or any of your readers have any knowledge of a Polish Genealogy Group that assists persons, such as I, researching their Polish Genealogy on this side of the Atlantic.

Thanking you for anticipated assistance & best wishes with your publications.

Ivan Nugus <[ivanugus2@hotmail.com](mailto:ivanugus2@hotmail.com)>

*Editor*—I asked Ivan if I could print his note in *Gen Dobry!*, in hopes that some of our readers could offer suggestions. He agreed, and gave a little more information that you may find interesting.

As part of my story, I am an Australian who has been fortunate enough in my more mature years to have been able to spend a few months in the UK each year (as I am doing at the moment until the end of July) researching my family history. In fact it was 100 years ago on 28th March last, that my Powell-Grabaskey grandfather, suffering with asthma, set sail for Australia from Tilbury, London with his wife & daughter. Eventually all contact with the Powell-Grabaskeys in the UK were lost. My mother, the Grabaskey daughter married an Englishman in Australia & so, as both of my parents were English, all my heritage is in the UK.

Through the wonders of technology, in the last six years I have been able to meet up with the UK Grabaskey families who had been evidently searching for our lost tribe in Australia. When we can, every year or so, a few of us get together for value time. At our last get-together no one knew of a UK organization to support people such as us with Polish roots

It was not until last year whilst surfing the internet of documents, that I came across a wedding that listed a parent of our Grabaskey ancestors as Gravensky and his father as Grabinski & as I have previously mentioned, born in 1764 in Poland. This Grabinski, so the family story goes, jumped ship before 1800, somewhere in England, perhaps Wales some say, then married a lady by the name of Powell & thus began the Powell-Grabinski/Gravensky/Grabaskey line.

And then when I tire of chasing the Grabinski line, I climb the Negoose/Neugus/Newgus/Negus/Nugus tree to see where some of the branches of relatives I have found in the UK meet up with my branch.

Thank you once again for your interest and assistance.

*Editor*—If you have any ideas, or if you might be related to Ivan, please get in touch with him.

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Subject: Larry Mandeville's Story about Tarnawiec records & Przemyśl Archdiocesan archives

I met Rev. Dr. Borcz last September. I had requested records from him about 15 years ago and he was very accommodating, even sending photocopies of full pages. That helpful attitude changed about the time he became a monsignor and I thought he just had too much on his plate, but I also knew he had received an assistant.

I hired an ex-teacher turned tour guide/genealogist in Przemyśl and he got me into to see Rev. Dr. Borcz. I was hit with a barrage of questions so fast, I didn't have time to answer. I am convinced I never would have been allowed access to any records, much less be allowed an audience with him if it wasn't for **Maciej Orzechowski** <[omaciej@wp.pl](mailto:omaciej@wp.pl)>. I didn't need Maciej's help to go through records, just to get into the archives. I was not allowed to photograph any records nor make a photocopy. I was allowed to hand copy all the records I wanted.

Rev. Dr. Borcz is afraid that someone is going to use the records (the ones I looked at were from 1885) for ill-gain. He cited a situation where a Ukrainian and American tried to scam the Polish government into giving them land. I'm sure you can come up with all kinds of ways that this sort of scam can be prevented, but I guess he doesn't think that way.

Anyway, I am now of the belief that one of the worst things that can happen to a Catholic record book is that it is sent to the Przemyśl Archdiocesan archives, never to be seen again. I strongly urge anyone who knows of records still sitting in a parish, to get the priest's permission to digitally copy them, put them on a CD giving one to the priest and then at least indexing those records so they can be accessible to the world.

BTW I don't think any of the church's archives are microfilming or digitally copying any of the records. If it's been done, it's because LDS was allowed to do it.

Debbie Greenlee

*Editor*—As always, Debbie, thanks for giving us the benefit of your experience.

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**\*\*\* LIBRARY OF CONGRESS READING ROOMS CHANGES \*\*\***

In a note posted to the JewishGen newsgroup on June 24, 2013, Jan Meisels Allen mentioned learning that there will be a three-year consolidation of reading rooms at the Library of Congress, and it will affect the current reading room on the ground level of the main building. "No jobs are to be lost, but the librarians will be reassigned to different areas within the Library of Congress. Therefore, those who have expertise in a specialized area, such as genealogy, may no longer be the person(s) available at all times in the main reading room. No changes in hours of operation are expected." She learned of this by reading the release posted at this website:

<<http://www.guild2910.org/l900.htm>>.

On June 27, Jan followed up her previous note by posting this:

On June 24 I posted about the impending reading room consolidation that was announced by the Library of Congress. Since then I had the opportunity to talk with James Sweaney, Acting Assistant Chief, Humanities and Social Sciences Division Head, Local History & Genealogy Reading Room, Library of Congress. The following information should alleviate concerns that the genealogical community had about the consolidation of the Local History and Genealogical Collection into the Main Reading Room.

The intent is for the consolidation of this collection to be completed by the end of this calendar year. The consolidation program is called: The Center of Knowledge for the 21st Century. When located within the main reading room, the Local History and Genealogical Collection will be in its own alcove [area] and the plan is that the current collection staff with the expertise within these areas will be the ones assigned to that area. Being part of the larger main reading room enables enhanced services by being closer to expert librarians in other related areas of interest, such as military history.

- The hours of service will remain the same.
- All services will continue:
- Full service to one of the leading genealogical collections in the country, a carefully selected reference collection and access to the Library's electronic resources.
- One-on-one consultations with a specialist by appointment
- Research orientations and tours  
(<http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/tours.html>)
- Ask a librarian reference service  
(<http://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/ask-genealogy.html>)

Consolidation is a budget conscious succession planning tool - we in the United States are under budget sequestration, and even before that the federal budget had been reducing funding or at least not annually increasing funding for such areas as the Library of Congress. The trend for libraries is to provide the users with unified service facilities and knowledge, and best current practices demands 'vertical' expertise within a specific subject matter with complementary 'horizontal' knowledge that connects information from multiple disciplines and formats and facilitates the use of state of the art technology to integrate the information into a unique product for the user.

Jan Meisels Allen  
IAJGS Vice President  
Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

*Editor*—Thanks to Jan for sharing this information, and especially for letting us know the changes will probably not have drastic effects for researchers.

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### \*\*\* MANAGING YAHOO ALIASES \*\*\*

*by Dave Greenlee*

*Editor*—Malware seems to be growing as a problem. I've been online since 1990, and had only been affected by malware twice—both times my own fault, as I mistakenly clicked on a link I knew was suspicious. But not long ago, I was hit by a bot that required a lot of work to get rid of, and I'm still not quite sure how I picked it up. So taking steps to protect yourself are becoming more and more important.

Recently, on the Polish Genius list, Dave Greenlee, the husband of noted researcher Debbie Greenlee, offered some tips on how to manage aliases for those on Yahoo, which can reduce one's vulnerability to malware. For those with Yahoo accounts, this might be good advice; so I wanted to repeat what Dave wrote.

Debbie asked me to step by step this. This is how it appears on my screen, but your mileage may vary:

- Log in
- In the top left corner of your screen, click the down-pointing arrow just to the right of "Hi, [Your name]"
- The fourth item down in the drop-down list that will appear is "Account Info". Click it.
- A login screen will probably appear. Put in your password and sign in.
- The Account Information page will open. Scroll down to the Account Settings section. (Distraction to Avoid: Note that whatever is listed in the "Current aliases:" section may not be your current alias for Polish Genius or, for that matter, any other group. It's just a partial list of whatever, if any, aliases you may have created.)
- Click on "Manage your Yahoo! aliases"
- A screen with your current aliases, if any, will pop up. If you don't have one which is different from the first part of your e-mail address (and if you have more than one e-mail address authorized, don't use the first part of any of them), then click on "Add an alias." Type the new alias in the box which pops up, then click "Save" at the far right of that line. You'll probably then be told that the alias is unavailable. Keep trying until you get one that works. Don't use your real name or the first part of any e-mail address that you use. Don't use anything that's anything like any password

that you use. If you want to delete an address that you've created, you'll have to click Close, then "Manage your Yahoo! aliases" again or the Delete link won't show up.

- Once you've got the alias you want saved, click Close.
- Click "Manage your Yahoo! aliases" again, verify that the alias is still there, then Click Close again.
- You're back to the Account Information page.
- This would be a very good time to change your password if you don't have a complex one already in place. Use one with both upper case and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols, don't use any word that can be recognized as a real word or name, complete gibberish is best. Use at least 15 characters.
- This would also be a very good time to check your security questions. If the answers can be found somewhere online, such as through Facebook, Twitter, or the family tree that you or someone else has posted, don't use them. Far better, just answer the questions with gibberish and don't ever lose your password.
- Get back to Polish Genius. Either use the back arrow on your browser or log out and log back in.
- Just below the big "Yahoo! Groups" there is an "Edit Membership" link. Click it.
- Under "Yahoo! Profile" click the radio button in front of your new alias. (Yes, you could have created your new alias from here, too, but that wouldn't have given me the chance to harangue you about your password and security questions.)
- Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click "Save Changes."
- You're done. Click "Home" or "Messages"; in the menu on the left.

Dave

*Editor*—I know not everyone needs or will use this advice. But I think we all need to raise awareness of our vulnerability; managing aliases, and especially using strong passwords, are steps we can take easily that improve our odds of safety from malware producers. This is even more important because every time one of us succumbs to malware, everyone on his or her contact list can be targeted. Do **NOT** let these malware scumballs ruin your online experience, and that of everyone you know.

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### \*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*

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

**August 4 – 9, 2013**

**33RD IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY**

This annual event—which is almost always a magnificent success—will be held in 2013 in Boston on August 4 through 9. Learn more at <<http://www.iajgs2013.org/>>.

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**September 13 – 14, 2013**

**“UP AND RUNNING”**

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA CONFERENCE**

**Hilton Lisle, Naperville, Illinois**

The 35th Annual PGSA Conference will be held September 13–14 at the Hilton Lisle in Naperville, Illinois. This page on the PGSA website has more info: <<http://pgsa.org/#Anniversary>>.

We invite you to join us September 13 and 14 at our anniversary conference held at the Hilton Hotel in Lisle and share in the fruits of the seeds our founders planted 35 years ago. The program is structured to satisfy the skilled researcher as well as the novice and to explain the use of some of the amazing tools that technology now offers. Speakers’ topics and schedule are now on our website so you can review them and decide which subjects fulfill your needs: research in Poland—Thomas Nitsch, technological wonders—Thomas MacEntee, the impact of history on your ancestors’ lives—Ola Heska or hands-on guidance in pursuing information on the internet—Ceil Jensen.

But the conference is not just what you can glean from lectures. It offers Ask Us, a question/answer panel, translation help and, possibly just as important, what you learn from the expertise of your fellow researchers. And don’t forget the offerings of the Vendor room with material and representatives from: Fun Stuff for Genealogists, Michiana History Publication, The Polish Museum of America, CAGGNI, PhotoGraphics, Stitched For You and, of course PGSA and others. Then there is lunch with a choice of 3 entrées and the opportunity to share ideas and stories with table-mates. Finally, everyone’s favorite wrap-up at lunch is the excitement generated by a colorful Polish dance troupe.

Sign up today or at least before August 2nd to take advantage of early bird pricing. Register at Eventbrite. Speakers’ information, including biographies as well as specific conference detail and a printable mail-in registration form are on our website.

PGSA has spent 35 years “Growing Your Research Resources”! Take advantage of them at its 35th Anniversary conference.

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**October 11–12, 2013**

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

**Central Connecticut State University - Student Center  
1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, Connecticut**

There is an upcoming PGSCTNE Conference coming up 11-12 October 2013 at CCSU in New Britain CT. Scheduled speakers and topics are as follows:

**Matthew Bielawa and Jonathan Shea** – Introduction to Polish Research

**Dr. Mieczyslaw B. Biskupski** – Did A Polish Spy Create the European Union?

**Michael Buryk** – Uncover Your Roots in the Lemko Region of Southeast Poland

**Tim Firkowski** – Finding the Family: Problems, Successes and Rewards

**Aleksandra Kacprzak** – Polish Traditions, Customs and Superstitions *and* Additional, Lesser Known Genealogical Resources in Poland: STATE and CHURCH ARCHIVES and Other Sources

**Dr. Shellee Morehead** – Finding and Using Alien Registration Files *and* Sex, DNA and Family History

**Thomas Sadauskas** – U.S. Military Records: What's There and How Do You Get Them? *and* Your Frequent Flyer Ancestors: Re-Emigration To and From Europe

**Dr. Paul S. Valasek** – Postcards and Genealogy: Much More Than Greetings! *and* Tracing the 20th Century Immigrant

The URL for the conference is <<http://pgsctne.org/EventsConferences.aspx>>. Visit that page to make appointments to consult with experts, select lectures, and register, and to get more info.

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**October 19, 2013**

**ANNUAL POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN SEMINAR  
American Polish Cultural Center  
2975 E. Maple Rd. and Dequindre Rd**

The 2013 Annual PGSM Seminar will be held 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can get detailed information from this page on the PGSM website: <<http://www.pgsm.org/seminarfeatured.htm>>.

The first Speaker will be **Ceil Wendt Jensen**, Certified Genealogist. She presents practical examples and suggestions on how to use records, databases, and archives to start or advance your genealogy research. She dispels the myth that records were destroyed during the World Wars and that language barriers make European research difficult. A lavishly illustrated workbook, *Sto Lat: A Modern Guide for Polish Genealogy*, offers a plan for researching at least one hundred years of family records, and is a compilation of techniques developed over thirty years of research and teaching. These are tried and true techniques used for clients and with patrons at the Polonica Americana Research Institute (PARI) on the campus of St. Mary's of Orchard Lake. Both traditional and digital research techniques are presented. Common research questions are answered and suggestions are offered to help novice and advanced researchers find ancestors in North America and Poland.

Lecture Titles:

**Now Boarding: Planning a Research Trip in Poland** - This session is based on over 30 years of travel experience leading overseas groups and research in Poland archives. Learn how to plan ahead, get the most for your dollar, travel light, and bring home the research you went for! This session includes examples and suggestions on how to prepare for a trip to Polish archives, parishes, and record repositories. This lecture covers techniques for finding Catholic, Lutheran and Jewish records. Learn to write effective e-mail to ESL speakers and how to hire a photographer, researcher and / or guide.

#### **Behind the Scenes at Polish Repositories — U.S. and Poland**

The lecture is based on interviews conducted on site with the directors of repositories in the U.S. and Poland. Learn about the unique materials held throughout Polonia, the regional archives in Poland, and the concentration camp museums of Stutthof and Auschwitz-Birkenau. Lecture outline/summary. Researchers will learn about records, maps, and ephemera held at repositories that go beyond vital records. Learn how to find unique ledgers, documents, and art work to enrich and advance your family history.

#### **Archival Techniques for Family Historians**

A survey of current archival standards regarding the care and storage of paper, photographic and digital files which family historians need to know. Learn how to care for the records and ephemera you have collected. This session addresses how to care for the family records, photos and memorabilia you have collected. The use of archival storage materials will be discussed, as well as a workable cataloging system.

The second Speaker will be **Kris Rzepczynski**. Currently a Senior Archivist at the Archives of Michigan, Kris previously worked for 12 years at the Library of Michigan as the Michigan/ Genealogy Coordinator. He holds a Masters in Library and Information Science from Wayne State University, a Master of Arts in History from Western Michigan University, and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Michigan. Kris has presented at national, state, and local conferences. In addition, he is an incoming member of the Board of Directors for the Federation of Genealogical Societies and a Past President of the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society.

**Topic: Researching Your Family History at the Archives of Michigan**

An introduction to the Archives of Michigan, this program will explore the genealogical collections available there, including both original source records and published resources, and how to best maximize your research time there. One of the larger family history collections in the United States, the Archives' holdings emphasize Michigan, the Great Lakes states, New England, the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as Ontario and Quebec. Notable collections include the J. William Gorski Collection of Polish genealogy and history and Michigan naturalization records.

*Seminar includes a continental breakfast and a delicious Polish lunch.*

The Seminar is held at the American Polish Cultural Center located at 2975 E. Maple Rd. and Dequindre Rd. Please send reservations and check by October 1, 2013 for \$65 and \$100 for couples (\$35 is tax deductible). This will include the Seminar, continental breakfast and a delicious Polish lunch. If you have questions, please contact Valerie Koselka, <[vkoselka.pgsm@gmail.com](mailto:vkoselka.pgsm@gmail.com)>.

PGSM, Burton Collection  
c/o Detroit Public Library  
5201 Woodward Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48202-4007

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**October 23 – 26, 2013**

**CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
2013 GENEALOGICAL AND CULTURAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI) will hold its 14th Genealogical and Cultural Conference at the Westin Lombard Hotel in Lombard, Illinois, October 23–26, 2013. Hotel reservations can now be made for the Conference at the Westin Lombard Hotel in Lombard, Illinois. Click on the Reserve icon when you get to the Hotel page.

The keynote speaker will be our own **Paul S. Valasek!** Other notable speakers are Lisa A. Alzo, Grace DuMelle, Leo Baca, Lou Szucs, and many more.

For more information on the program, see this Web page:

<<http://www.cgsi.org/content/2013-genealogical-and-cultural-conference-program>>

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

<<http://www.szukajwarchiwach.pl/aktualnosci>>

Albert Muth posted a note to the Poland-Roots site on June 28, explaining that two million scans were added that day to the Szukajwarchiwach website. He gave this URL, where

you can read the official announcement in Polish; and he recommended copying and pasting the text to use Google Translate in order to get a comprehensible version in English. I tried it, and the result was acceptable—hardly perfect, but it conveyed the gist of the info decently. The scans came from the State Archives offices in Warsaw (branches in Otwock and Grodzisk), Poznań, Lublin, Kraków, Gdańsk, Piotrków (Tomaszów branch), Przemysł, Częstochowa, Szczecin, Opole, Zamość, and Radom.

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<<http://www.measuringworth.com/m/calculators/uscompare/>>

In response to a question posted to the JewishGen newsgroup about the purchasing power of the Russian ruble in 1882, Donald Press quoted some statistics on what a ruble was worth in gold and compared it to the US dollar at the time. But he explained that this didn't give a really good idea of buying power. He recommended this website, which explains the various criteria and methods involved, and includes a plug-in calculator. Another researcher, Jules Levin, suggested comparing notes at <<http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/lida-district/wages.htm>>. While there are still variables that make a satisfactory answer hard to come by, I have seen numerous researchers ask similar questions over the years. So I thought it might benefit some to mention this site.

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<[http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2013/06/personal-ancestral-file-paf-is-discontinued.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2013/06/personal-ancestral-file-paf-is-discontinued.html)>

The June 24th issue of EOGN [*Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*] had an article "Personal Ancestral File (PAF) Is Discontinued." I don't know how many of you still use PAF, but I know at one time it was very popular. If you do use it, Eastman's article may help you consider your alternatives. You can also read the announcement from FamilySearch here: <<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/personal-ancestral-file-is-discontinued/>>.

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<[http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2013/06/book-review-on-your-own-how-to-design-and-construct-a-family-history-book-to-inform-and-captivate-re.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2013/06/book-review-on-your-own-how-to-design-and-construct-a-family-history-book-to-inform-and-captivate-re.html)>

Another EOGN article that may interest some of you is at this URL. It features a review by Bobbi King of the book *On Your Own: How to Design and Construct a Family History Book to Inform and Captivate Readers*, by Elayne and Stephen Denker. If you are thinking about writing a book on your family's history, this review may be worth reading.

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<<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15800151-arystokracja-polskie-rody>>

On the Herbarz mailing list, Leon Stevens mentioned the Polish-language book *Arystokracja—Polskie rody* [The Aristocracy—Polish Clans], by Marcin Schirmer (PWN: Warsaw 2012) and said it was by far the best book of those recently published on the aristocracy of the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth. If you'd like to see a few other opinions, and maybe find some sellers who can get a copy, try this URL—or simply Google "Arystokracja Polskie Rody."

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<[http://www.amazon.com/Vanished-Kingdoms-Rise-States-Nations/dp/B00CVDNKHY/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1371644736&sr=8-1&keywords=norman+davies](http://www.amazon.com/Vanished-Kingdoms-Rise-States-Nations/dp/B00CVDNKHY/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1371644736&sr=8-1&keywords=norman+davies)>

On the LithGen mailing list, Jonas Luoszevieze recommended Norman Davies' *Vanished Kingdoms: The Rise and Fall of States and Nations*. Amazon.com has it at the above URL; or if that link doesn't work, go to Amazon.com and search for Norman Davies. For those with special interest in Lithuania, I notice there's a Kindle edition of an excerpt from that book, *Litva: The Rise and Fall of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania: A Selection from Vanished Kingdoms*, that's just \$2.99. I just bought it and am enjoying reading it.

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<[http://www.amazon.com/American-Soldiers-Saga-Korean-War/dp/1490352414/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1370829195&sr=8-1&key](http://www.amazon.com/American-Soldiers-Saga-Korean-War/dp/1490352414/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1370829195&sr=8-1&key)>

While we're talking about books, Edward Rowny has recently published *An American Soldier's Saga in Korea*, and he suggested learning more from the above link. This has nothing to do with genealogy, but our readers are interested in Polish and Polish-American culture and history; and Edward Rowny surely belongs on any list of distinguished Polish Americans.

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<<http://www.jewishgen.org/viewmate/viewmateview.asp?key=VM27725>>

<<http://www.jewishgen.org/viewmate/viewmateview.asp?key=VM27724>>

Back on June 20, Rita Park of New South Wales, Australia posted a note to the JewishGen newsgroup, as follows. "Do you recognise these Polish airmen? My parents owned a boarding house in Brighton UK for Polish airmen on leave in WW2. I have posted 2 photos of them with me as a child & was wondering if anyone recognised them? I do not know if they are Jewish or not. I thought if they were known it might be nice for someone to have a photo of their relative. Please respond on Viewmate or to my e-mail address." By now, of course, she may have already received answers. Still, if you wish to take a look, I see no reason why you shouldn't. If you do recognize the airmen, you can contact her via Viewmate; or write me at <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>, and I'll forward your note to her.

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<<http://tinyurl.com/ITSGenInv>>

The June 16 issue of *Nu? What's New?*, the e-zine of Avotaynu, Inc., said that the International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany, has published a general inventory on its website. I've heard from some really good researchers who found ITS's resources enormously valuable. You can learn more by following the TinyURL link given.

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<<http://jri-poland.org/>>

Paul S. Valasek sent me a copy of a note posted to the Zamosc Yahoo Group, announcing a schedule for linking Lublin Polish State Archive images of Jewish vital records to the JRI-Poland (Jewish Records Indexing-Poland) Index. *Nu? What's New* also mentioned this, saying 48 towns from the Lublin area were to be added by the end of June, 36 more by October, and the city of Lublin itself by December. You can search the index at the JRI-Poland site.

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<<http://genforum.genealogy.com/poland/messages/56105.html>>

Paul also sent me this link, to a note encouraging support of a Polish version of Findagrave.com. Zachary Zuzalek wrote, "I've started a page for a cemetery in Poland that hopefully can expand to other cemeteries in Poland and throughout Europe." He includes a rather lengthy URL where you can check it out.

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<<http://midwayreview.uchicago.edu/a/8/3/gerwel/gerwel.pdf>>

John Guzowski posted a note to Facebook's page "The Way Back -- Unknown Stories of WWII Poland," giving a link to an article in *The Midway Review* on what happened to Polish clergy during World War II. The article is by Agnieszka Gerwel, and above is a direct link to the PDF version.

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<<http://archive.org/details/austrohungarian00palm>>

On the Polish Genius list, Denise Ney forwarded a note from the GaliciaPoland\_Ukraine list that I had overlooked. Laurence Krupnak posted a note explaining that the 1903 book *Austro-Hungarian Life in Town and Country*, by Francis H. E. Palmer, is available free online at the above URL. You can download it in a variety of convenient formats, including PDF, EPUB, and Kindle, or you can read it online.

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<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Saz0FrMvIq8>>

Alan Kania posted this link to the Polish Genius site. It's a song from a mid-80s British TV special called "An Evening with Mel Brooks," and shows Mel and his wife, Anne Bancroft, performing "Sweet Georgia Brown" in Polish. I saw this somewhere before but lost the link, so I was very pleased when Alan posted this. It's fun watching these two do this song in Polish!

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<<http://www.deutsche-schutzgebiete.de/deutsche-staemme.htm>>

Edelgard Strobel posted a note in German to the Posen list giving this link to a fascinating article. If you don't read German, the Google Translate version is not too awful. The article claims that the most recent DNA analysis shows there are more people with Germanic blood in Poland and the Czech Republic than there are in Germany! It says 45% of Germans, especially in southern Germany, are of Celtic origin, only 25% of Germanic origin; 30% have roots in eastern Europe (20% Slavs and 10% other). The population in Poland is 60% Germanic and 32% Slavic. The explanation is offered that East Germanic tribes stayed there and have not died out, but have become Slavicized. It also says one in every ten Germans has Jewish ancestry. I sort of wonder if maybe there will be efforts to disprove this...

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<<http://stevemorse.org/census/project1950intro.html>>

Here you can read about Project 1950, Steve Morse and Joel Weintraub's project "to

provide free locational tools to find families and addresses on the 1950 census.” The census won’t be released until April 2022, but they figure it’s never too early to start: “With a large lead time, and relatively little deadline pressures, we can accomplish quite a bit on this all-volunteer project.” Tell me these guys don’t head the list of the smartest people involved in genealogy!

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<<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=4305645591731>>

David Zincavage posted this link to the Herbarz mailing list, with the subject ““Where Have All the Flowers Gone?” in Polish.” He liked the photos of soldiers that accompany the music. I believe the song is Sława Przybylska’s version; there are a number of clips on YouTube that feature it, and also one of her doing the song live. If you want to see the Polish lyrics, written by Wanda Sieradzka, I found them here: <<http://tinyurl.com/my2u6qp>>. The translation is a good one, in my opinion—not word-for-word, by any means, but it conveys the same basic meaning and sounds as poetic in Polish as the original does in English.

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