



Gen Dobry!

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*** WELCOME! ***

to the latest issue of *Gen Dobry!*, the e-zine of PolishRoots®. If you missed previous issues, you can find them here:

<<http://polishroots.org/GenDobry/tabid/60/Default.aspx>>

*** GDPR: IT'S NOT SHORT FOR AN OBSCENITY -- OR IS IT? ***

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

Unless you're living under a rock (which is sounding more and more like a good idea these days!), you probably noticed the flurry of activity recently connected with the GDPR. No, it's not an abbreviation for an obscenity – at least, I don't think it is, though I may change my mind later. It's an acronym for a regulation now in force in the European Union, the General Data Protection Regulation. It's all about the “right to be forgotten” movement, and how it is being implemented in law. While that regulation affects countries of the European Union, many companies do business internationally, and thus have to comply. So we're getting dragged into this, too.

You can't object to the basic idea behind this. The European Union is trying to find ways to preserve personal privacy in a world that is becoming increasingly hostile to the very idea of privacy. Who isn't all for that? But as always, we must ask how this good intention is being implemented. Does it go to absurd lengths? Will it actually prove counterproductive? I hate to be skeptical, but governments have a pretty poor track record in this regard. Just consider the laws meant to prevent identity theft that impede genealogists but do little to stop the thieves.

If you wish to know more about this, plenty of folks are doing their best to keep us informed. One person in the forefront of that effort is Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee. I've mentioned her many times; she keeps subscribers informed with IAJGS Record Access Alerts emails. A recent article of hers appeared on May 18 in *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*:

<<https://blog.eogn.com/2018/05/18/some-genealogy-sites-closing-due-to-eus-general-data-protection-regulation/>>

I recommend subscribing to her emails. To subscribe or unsubscribe via the World Wide Web, visit <<https://lists.iajgs.org/mailman/listinfo/records-access-alerts>>, or, via email, send a message with subject or body ‘help’ to <records-access-alerts-request@iajgs.org>.

Valerie Warunek mentioned an article on this subject in a post to the Polish Genealogy group on Facebook. As you might gather from the URL, the title is “What is GDPR and Why Does it Matter for Genealogy and Family History?”

<<https://abundantgenealogy.com/what-is-gdpr-and-why-does-it-matter-for-genealogy-and-family-history/>>

I received numerous notices from this and that company or group to tell me how they were complying. It gets a little silly. For instance, a website I find helpful in finding place in Poland is <<http://mapa.szukacz.pl>>. Like many others, they had no choice but to play “cover my dupa.” Debbie Greenlee posted a note about this to several Polish mailing lists. She wrote:

The Polish map site <<http://mapa.szukacz.pl>> now has a message on its homepage regarding the privacy issues brought about by the recent EU law.

Translated it basically says, “The operator of mapa.szukacz.pl website does NOT collect data to identify users of the website. In particular, we do not ask for names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, geographical location or other, more detailed information.

The only exception to the above statement are the Internet addresses assigned to the devices of our users visiting us and so-called cookies (“cookies”), i.e. small files saved by the browser on the user’s device.

More detailed information on the ways in which we care about the privacy of users can be found in our privacy policy. If you accept the terms of use of the website click here for the map.”

So you can just click on the blue box.

In other words, if you want to look at these maps, you just have to go to the site and click on the box. That will save us from the repercussions of the massive invasion of our privacy threatened by this site offering maps of Poland.

Now, threats to our privacy are real. I know during the last election, I was ready to abandon Facebook because I was sick to death of all the political mudslinging and bomb-throwing there (much of it apparently courtesy of our good buddy, Vladimir Putin). Later, we found out that Facebook has been doing far more to trash our privacy than any Polish map site!

I guess we’ll see how it all works out. By the way, if you’d like to read the text of the regulation, Gary Mokotoff gave a link to its text in the May 28 issue of *Nu? What’s New?* You can read all 156 pages (!) here:

<<https://tinyurl.com/EntireTextGDPR>>

No, I won’t be reading it either.

***** JEWISH GEN’S RADIUS SEARCH*****

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

<<https://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocRad.asp>>

In a post to the JewishGen newsgroup, Bette Mas gave a nice description of the different possible ways to use JewishGen’s TownFinder and Gazetteer. One resource she mentioned that many

folks may not know about is at above URL: the JewishGen Radius Search. It allows you to search for all towns within one to thirty miles of specific coordinates; and you can narrow the search by inputting a prefix or starting letters.

Suppose, for instance, you know your ancestors came from a village near Tarnogród in what is now Lubelskie province. You could go to the Wikipedia entry for Tarnogród and copy the coordinates given near the upper right of the page (50° 22' 0" N, 22° 44' 0" E). Then go to the above page and key in the coordinates where it says "Search for all towns with _ Miles of coordinates: Latitude: _ Longitude _." You can specify how many miles or kilometers around those coordinates you want to search. Then click "Start the search." I searched for 10 miles, not limiting the start letters, and got a list of 106 communities within ten miles of Tarnogród.

Now suppose you have a document mentioning a village near Tarnogród, and you can read the first two letters, Lu-, but the rest is hard to be sure of. You go to that same URL, key in the Tarnogród coordinates, and restrict the results to names beginning Lu-. Start the search, and wham! you have five matches. Each one is named, described, its coordinates are given, and the distance from Tarnogród is specified.

I faced this very situation the other day, and rapidly realized the place I was looking for was Luchów, which is now divided into Luchów Górny (Upper Luchów) and Luchów Górny (Lower Górny). It was pretty easy to eliminate the other possibilities, a village called Łukowa, another called Łukowa Podsośnina, and a stream called Luchówka. It is not at all rare to find that what was once a single village has since split into two communities; that didn't throw me off.

As I say, reading the handwriting, I was sure Lu- was right. But the third letter was formed oddly; I couldn't tell if I was dealing with *-k-* or *-ch-*. Also, the name followed a preposition, which meant the form in the document was locative case and had a grammatical ending that made it impossible to tell for sure what the original ending was. I could have spent a long time trying to figure out if I was looking for Luchów or Luków or Luchowo or Lukowa, and so on.

But the Radius Search helped me narrow the possibilities rapidly, and it only took a little longer to be sure I had found the right place. Even if I had expanded the radius to 30 miles, it was still pretty easy to determine which name was the one I wanted.

So if you've ever found yourself in a similar situation – and I'm pretty sure a lot of you have – don't forget Jewish Gen's Radius Search. It can save you a lot of time and frustration!

*** GENETEK A INDEX UPDATES ***

by Waldemar Chorążewicz

Editor – Once more, let me pass along some of the new Geneteka indexes shared by Waldemar on Facebook's Polish Genealogy group this month. For all researchers, many thanks to Waldemar for helping us keep up with all these updated! Remember, U stands

for births, M for marriages, and Z for deaths – and you can find assistance with the two-letter online, for instance at <http://hitchwiki.org/pl/Szablon:Wojew%C3%B3dztwa_Polski>.

19-05-2018

Kłomnice (SL) -- U 1882, indexed by Elżbieta Stachowiuk
Niegowa (SL) -- U 1847-78, indexed by Bartłomiej Zieliński

18-05-2018

Białotarsk (MZ) -- UMZ 1857-65 (expansion), indexed by Bożena Prymus
Borkowice (MZ) -- Z 1847-50, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Deszno - Wulka (gr-kat) (PK) -- U 1784-1877, indexed by Grzegorz Zuzak
Giełwany (LT) -- U 1748-1770, indexed by Artur Wilkicki
Kościelec (MP) -- U 1837,48-53,95,1901-03, indexed by Anna Parysek, Marcin Dąbek, A Ch.
Mierzyn (LD) -- UMZ 1808-25, indexed by Tomasz Turniak
Mikołajów (UK) -- M 1880-86, 1888-89, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Mikołajów (gr-kat) (UK) -- M 1880-89, indexed by Magdalena Kasprzycka
Niesułków (LD) -- UMZ 1832, indexed by Edyta Bednarek
Pałuki (MZ) -- U 1886-90, indexed by Barbara Staniak
Rawa Mazowiecka (LD) -- U 1878-84, indexed by Urszula Świerczyńska
Sędzin (KP) -- M 1826-55, indexed by Krzysztof Koźnik
Topola Królewska (LD) -- UMZ 1901-16, indexed by Józef Dębowski

17-05-2018

Błażowa - Kąkolówka (PK) -- U 1804-1840, indexed by Anna Krawiec
Grodno (Zaniemeńska) (BR) -- UMZ 1797-1801, indexed by Alicja Rybałko
Koniusza (MP) -- UMZ 1878-82, indexed by Renata Majewska
Kozłe (LD) -- Z 1888 (uzup.), indexed by Paweł Olczyk
Lipa (SK) -- UMZ 1856-60, indexed by Krystyna Stanisławska
Łódź św. Krzyż (LD) -- M 1919, indexed by Urszula Gałkiewicz
Środa Wielkopolska (WP) -- U 1907-13, indexed by Danuta Danecka
Warszawa-Wola św. Stanisław (WA) -- UZ 1815-17, 1819-20, indexed by Ewa Czerkawska

16-05-2018

Biała (pow. płocki) (MZ) -- M 1917, indexed by Piotr Romanowski
Chamsk (MZ) -- UZ 1890-1902, indexed by Dariusz Krzemiński
Szcaworyż (SK) -- UMZ 1886-90, indexed by Edward Jabłoński
Zakrzewo (MZ) -- M 1917, indexed by Piotr Romanowski

15-05-2018

Chlewiska (MZ) -- Z 1929-33, indexed by Mikołaj Wilk
Chojnata (LD) -- M 1808-26, indexed by Tomasz Przygodziński
Chotów (LD) -- U 1826-36, indexed by Łukasz Fajfrowski
Ciechanów (MZ) -- MZ 1921 (expanded), indexed by Olga Gąsiorowska, wer. Projekt Podlasie
Dąbrowa (MZ) -- U 1896-1902, indexed by Jan Wojtkiewicz
Konieczno (SK) -- U 1904, indexed by Urszula49
Korczew pow. zduńskowolski (LD) -- UMZ 1917, indexed by magnowa
Kraków - Pleszów (MP) -- U 1754-64, indexed by Dagmara Kulig
Łódź św. Krzyż (LD) -- Z 1899, indexed by Janusz Kucharczyk
Łódź św. Krzyż (LD) -- M 1912, indexed by Jacek Kundzik
Niesułów (LD) -- UMZ 1831, indexed by Edyta Bednarek
Nowa Brzeźnica (LD) -- UMZ 1808-11, indexed by Iwona Tomaszewska
Nur (MZ) -- U 1845, indexed by Beth Whitson, weryf. Projekt Podlasie
Opinogóra (MZ) -- Z 1863, indexed by Olga Gąsiorowska, wer. Projekt Podlasie
Osjaków (LD) -- U 1808-12,14, indexed by Tomasz Skolimowski
Suchcice (LD) -- U 1826-46, Z 1826-58, indexed by Krzysztof Zochniak
Suserz (LD) -- UMZ 1880, indexed by Barbara Raniewicz
Szydłowo (MZ) -- UMZ 1848-68, indexed by Izabela Czaplicka

14-05-2018

Fałków (SK) -- UMZ 1835-39, indexed by Joanna Bugajska
Gliwice św. Bartłomieja (SL) -- Z 1882-1892, indexed by Barbara Wiechula
Gradzanowo (MZ) -- U 1873, indexed by JulieMCRSz
Krynki (PL) -- Z 1811-1818, indexed by Alicja Rybałko
Przasnysz (MZ) -- M 1857-63,1865, indexed by Robert Pawłowski
Puchały (PL) -- UMZ 1865, indexed by Witold Trzeciak

13-05-2018

Poryte (PL) -- U 1808-11, indexed by Kamil Baczewski, weryf. Projekt Podlasie
Puchały (PL) -- UMZ 1864, indexed by Witold Trzeciak

12-05-2018

Boby (LB) -- Z 1939-45, indexed by Danuta Wasilewska-Lenart
Buczacz (UK) -- UMZ 1887, indexed by Aneta Fisel
Czarnocin (SK) -- U 1866-69, M 1884-89, indexed by Henryk Adamczyk
Osiecin (KP) -- Z 1808-11, indexed by Jason
Pułtusk (MZ) -- Z 1838-42, indexed by Rafał Albiński
Ruże (KP) -- UMZ 1846-50, indexed by Mary Ann Graham
Zwoleń (MZ) -- UMZ 1856-65, indexed by Bartłomiej Zieliński

11-05-2018

Potworów (MZ) -- UMZ 1893-97, indexed by Krzysztof Jach

Waldemar also mentioned that FBPGG - Polish Archives in a Nutshell has finished data on the Polish State Archives, and now will take up diocesan archives. Here is the URL:

<<https://sites.google.com/view/polishgenealogygroup/polish-archives-in-a-nutshell>>

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

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

Thursday, 7 June 2018

**“A POLISH ODYSSEY” by Sara Campbell
Chicopee Public Library • 449 Front St • Chicopee, Massachusetts**

The Connecticut River Valley, home to many immigrants from Eastern Europe, opened up opportunities for jobs in factories and on farms far away from war-torn Europe. Cities like Springfield, Chicopee, Holyoke, and Ware experienced a building boom from the late 1700s to the mid-1960s.

On Thursday June 7, local Genealogist Sara Campbell will share her story of the Rzewski Family who immigrated to Western Massachusetts. The Chicopee Library will host Sara’s talk as she highlights documents, census information, military records, and life in Western Massachusetts for those who have an interest in immigrant history.

Free Admission, please bring a friend.

Prior to the presentation at the Library, the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at 33 South Street in Chicopee, will be holding a “Get Acquainted Open House” for their Genealogical Research Library, from 4:-6:00. Stop in and meet the docents and discover all the treasures located there. This local treasure can help you with your Polish surnames, locating your ancestor’s villages, and discovering what their lives were like. Check out their website at <<http://www.PGSMA.org>> to learn more about them and to find a link to their “Request for research Assistance”.

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13-16 June, 2018

**PALATINES TO AMERICA GERMAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY
WILLKOMMEN TO BUFFALO – GATEWAY TO A NEW HEIMAT (home)
Adams Mark Hotel • 120 Church Street • Buffalo, NY 14202**

The 2018 National Conference will be held at Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo, NY on June 13–16, 2018. Speakers include John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. For more information, see the brochure:

<<https://www.palam.org/Revised2018-02-18PALNatConf.pdf>>

24 June 2018

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN
40TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

American Polish Cultural Center • 2975 East Maple Road • Troy, Michigan 48083

This dinner will cost only \$40 per person and will include a complete Polish dinner with entertainment. Doors open at 12:30 p.m., Polish dinner at 1:30 p.m., entertainment by the Zajączek Dance Ensemble. For more info, check in at PGSM's website, <<https://pgsm.org/>>.

[From the Spring 2018 *Polish Eaglet*]

9 August 2018

**QUARTERLY MEETING – POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
“LIFTING THE FOG: USING DNA TO DISCOVER YOUR POLISH AND
EUROPEAN ANCESTORS”**

***Speaker:* Jane G. Haldeman**

***Location:* Schaumburg Township District Library (NW) Rasmussen South • 130 S. Roselle Rd. • Schaumburg, IL 60193**

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This meeting is open to the public and will be held in the Rasmussen South room of the library. Library attendees (PGSA members and the public) will need to register by phone, 847-985-4000, or online at the library website, <<https://www.schaumburglibrary.org/>> prior to the meeting.

The presentation will also be offered as a free Webinar to members and to non-members for a \$10 fee to defray costs. Webinar registration for members and non-members can be made at the PGSA website <<https://pgsa.org/>> by clicking on the PGSA Store tab, then clicking on the “Webinars” tab and following instructions. Mail-in registrations will not be accepted.

Topic Summary – Due to wars, invasions, partitioning of lands, boundaries and name changes through the generations, DNA may be the only common connection with your ancestors. The cause of war and nation boundary movements may have obscured the paper trail of your ancestors. DNA can give us clues of where to look and what questions to ask. Learn techniques to use DNA to answer your questions.

Bio – Jane Gwynn Haldeman is a professional speaker and owner of It’s Relative with more than 25 years of research experience. The Chicago area-based genealogist lectures on a wide range of topics both locally, at national conferences, and webinar presentations. She enjoys speaking about topics including family history technology and genealogy research methodology. She is the author of *A Genealogist’s Guide to Springfield, Illinois*. Jane has been very active with the genealogical community in Illinois. She was President, Illinois State Genealogical Society; President, Fox Valley Genealogical Society; Registrar, Fort Payne Chapter NSDAR; and Registration Chair, Federation of Genealogical Societies 2016 Conference in Springfield, IL.

8 October 2018

PULASKI DAY PARADE 2018

The Polish Heritage Committee of Northampton, Massachusetts hopes you will mark your calendar for the parade, to be held Columbus Day, Monday, October 8.

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

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

The above is a shortened URL referenced in an article by Dick Eastman in *Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter* (EOGN), “23andMe Sues Ancestry.com With a Patent Suit Concerning DNA Kits.” It takes you to an excerpt of an article at Law360.com about a lawsuit 23andMe has filed against Ancestry.com, a patent suit concerning DNA kits. You have to register to read the whole article, and I didn’t bother; I figure my genes will show I descend from the typical mix of horse thieves, drunks, racists, and murderers, with a few decent people thrown in just for the hell of it. Why would I pay good money to put names on them? But I know most of our readers feel differently. If you’re interested in the DNA aspects of genealogy, you might want to take a look.

<<http://virtualgensoc.com/>>

The issue of *Nu? What’s New?* that came out on May 20, 2018 mentioned the formation of a Virtual Genealogical Society, existing only on the Internet. It has ambitious plans – let’s hope they work out. I can certainly see potential for such a group. If you’d like to learn more, the above URL takes you to their website.

<<http://cosmopolitanreview.com/hacienda-santa-rosa/>>

How did I overlook the news that the *Cosmopolitan Review*, a fine publication that certainly deserved to prosper, ceased publication a year ago? I don’t know how I missed it; I liked to check in whenever I thought of, because it always had articles worth reading. Has a year really passed since the last time I took a look? ... Recently Valerie Warunek posted a note

to Facebook's Polish Culture, Food and Traditions group that reminded us of an article in the Winter 2011 edition, "Hacienda Santa Rosa: a Polish Refuge in Mexico." You might want to read this, and check out some of the other articles they published – and then add *Cosmopolitan Review* to that painfully long list of wonderful projects that deserved better.

<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/441202106334192/>>

Two Facebook groups focusing on Galicia have recently started up. This one, "Putting the Pieces Together," was created "to introduce and virtually unite descendants from the part of Poland our ancestors referred to as 'Galicia / Austria' (now called Podkarpackie). It is a region slightly west of Rzeszów, which includes the villages/regions of Boguchwała, Bystrzyca, Nockowa, Olimpów, Wiercany, Wiśniowa, Wola Zgłobieńska, and Zgłobień. The descendants of this region currently live in Poland and have been extended to the US and Canada. Whether you already know your connection to this region, want to meet or discover your cousins, or just want to explore the possibilities, you are welcome to join us. We hope this will be a positive experience for everyone." The administrators are Christopher Wytrwal, Donna Randall, and Kathy Drozdziuk Bowman.

<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/644292589109006/>>

The other newcomer to Facebook is "Galicia Family History Group." If I'm not mistaken, the administrators are Julie Ruppert Szczepankiewicz and Dennis Benarz. If you've ever dealt with either of them, you know that means this group will be lively (and, in Dennis's case, fools will NOT be suffered gladly ☺).

<<http://mapire.eu/en/>>

Speaking of which, Julie Szczepankiewicz posted a note to that group, one of several praising this site, Mapire. It offers historical maps of the Austrian Empire, including Galicia. She wrote, "You can choose a map (e.g., the Third Military Survey 1869-1887), then enter a location in the search box (e.g., Kołaczyce) and click "Options" to explore options for viewing the map. For example, you can zoom in using the +/- buttons in the upper left corner, then vary the transparency of the overlay between the modern map (road or satellite) and historical map by sliding the blue bar in the 'historical layers' box. Have fun!"

<<http://gentod.com/A.mv?Y=8-26016&xz=EM2663-2>>

The May 27th issue of *The Genealogy News* gave this link to an article by Barb Bauer, "Why You Should Stop Your Research and Reexamine Every Single Genealogy Record You Have." It explains that, painful as it is to go back over old ground, it can be worthwhile. You just never know what you might have missed, or what you'll understand better in the light of the work you've done since you started.

<<https://www.familysearch.org/collection/1407440>>

FamilySearch recently added some 8,000 records to the collection “Radom Roman Catholic Church Books, 1587-1966.” The above URL takes you to that collection.

<<https://www.gofundme.com/scanners-for-the-ukrainian-archives>>

Brooke Schreier Ganz sent out an update to all who have backed the GoFundMe campaign to provide scanners for Ukrainian archives. You can read all the updates at the above site. The goal of \$5,000 was reached, and four scanners have already been put to work scanning books. More updates will be posted as more information is available.

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