



# 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>>

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### \*\*\* WOMEN IN HALLER'S ARMY: A LESSER TOLD STORY \*\*\*

by Paul S. Valasek <[hallersarmy@aol.com](mailto:hallersarmy@aol.com)>

For many years, I have often heard, “My grandfather was in Haller’s Army, my father was in the Polish Army in France, my uncle was in the Blue Army. Quite fitting but not rare, yet seldom, if ever have I heard, “my Aunt was in Haller’s army” or my mother, grandmother, great-grandmother served, you get the message. Where are the stories about the women who signed up to serve in the Polish Army in France alongside the great number of men. So far, the ratio of men / women who attempted official recruitment in North America is 31,900 / 72.

Not great odds, but there are stories to be told of these women. At the time of recruitment, women were socially, mothers, daughters, care givers, teachers, clerical help, the usual female professions of the Edwardian Era. No one expected them to stand in the trenches, side by side in the mud and filth, with a rifle, shooting at the Hun, and getting shot at or gassed. No one asked them to chase the Bolsheviks on horseback—yet these women wanted to help and serve their adopted country as well as their homeland. Some wanted in on the action!

Of the 32,000 names I have to date, only these 72 women actually formally appeared and signed up in a recruitment center, with most filling out only the preliminary “A” form. Only very basic information appears, with no physical descriptions or next of kin recorded. No membership in any of the Polish societies or clubs was given. Simply, name, age, sometimes an address, and for marital status, *panna* (unmarried woman) was listed. I have seen the “A” forms mentioned, but never a “B” (Medical record) or “C” form, (detailed history) for any of these women.

We have to assume, and reviewing the few comments made on a handful of these applications, these women were signing up to be nurses in the war. Some have stated they have had Red Cross training. It is also possible some were members of the White Cross, a similar organization of Polish health care providers instituted by Madame Paderewska to serve a similar role as a Red Cross nurse. Since the Salvation Army was present as well as the YMCA (women did work for these organizations), there are no doubts many more women are in this story and should have their experiences heard.

Quite a number of women assisted in what the YMCA called their “huts,” safe places for recreation, learning, and religious services. Many a Victrola could be found in these huts, alongside books, magazines, cigarettes, coffee and a gazillion donuts. The Y also taught the men how to read and write, assisting them in creating letters to home, as well as acquiring preliminary job skills upon their return to the States.

Some women may have also joined the French Red Cross but asked for service with the Polish soldiers. Further research will decide more of the story.

Should anyone recognize a name of a female ancestor listed below, I’d love to hear about their story. No doubt many of these ladies married when they returned home, so genealogically, we need to look at maiden names.

One name quite noticeable by its absence is that of Agnieszka Wisla—a strong personality who may have “skipped” the formality of signing in to the army, and went directly to the front. Living in Chicago at the time, Agnieszka Wisla was working in the field and base hospitals near or on the Western Front, followed the troops to Poland and the Ukraine, and survived to return to the Chicago on the *President Grant*, where she helped in forming the Women’s Auxiliary of the Polish Veterans, (SWAP/PAVA) originally organized in Cleveland, now based in New York.

<u>Surname</u>	<u>First name</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>First name</u>	<u>Where</u>
Sponder	Marya	Chicago	Nawrocka	Barbara	Buffalo
Sponder	Zofia	Chicago	Niewiadomska	Wladyslawa	Buffalo
Augustyniak	Irene	Buffalo	Nizialek	Jozefa	Buffalo
Badura	Anna J.	Buffalo	Nowak	Wiktorya Marya	Buffalo
Bogdan	Franciszka	Buffalo	Panek	Stefania	Buffalo
Bozak	Ludwika	Buffalo	Pawlicka	Marta	Buffalo
Buchnat	Jozefa	Buffalo	Piasecka	Helena	Buffalo
Buchnat	Katarzyna	Buffalo	Pilichowska	Pelegia	Buffalo
Czarniecka	Anna	Buffalo	Plewinska	Weronika	Buffalo
Czemerowska	Stanislawa L.	Buffalo	Rusnaczyk	Salomea	Buffalo
Dabkowska	Helena	Buffalo	Ruszke	Helena	Buffalo
Dobrowolska	Kazimiera	Buffalo	Srzebiatowska	Rozalia	Buffalo
Dombrowska	Wladyslawa	Buffalo	Stachowska	Marya Z.	Buffalo
Figlerowicz	Elzbieta	Buffalo	Stachowska	Rozalia	Buffalo
Friebe	Antonina	Buffalo	Suchowska	Anna	Buffalo
Graczyk	Marta	Buffalo	Suchowska	Marjanna M.	Buffalo
Jakobczak	Genowefa	Buffalo	Suchowska	Zofia	Buffalo
Jakobczak	Jozefa	Buffalo	Szczerba	Anna	Buffalo
Jakobczak	Maryanna	Buffalo	Trznadel	Wiktorya	Buffalo
Jelinska	Helena	Buffalo	Urbanowska	Eugenia	Buffalo
Klos	Marta	Buffalo	Wronska	Pelagya	Buffalo
Kolis	Leokadya	Buffalo	Zagata	Zofia	Buffalo
Korczak	Julianna	Buffalo	Zastempowska	Walerya	Buffalo
Kotarska	Aniela	Buffalo	Zawadzka	Wiktorya	Buffalo
Kryzstof	Stanislawa	Buffalo	Bracwa	Ewa	New York
Kubiak	Zuzanna	Buffalo	Goladz	Wiktorya	New York
Kwiecinska	Amalia	Buffalo	Killian	Marcela	New York
Kwitowska	Walerya	Buffalo	Pilch	Bronislawa	New York
Labiak	Melania	Buffalo	Plouska	Apolonie	New York
Lachowicz	Jadwiga	Buffalo	Szeglowska	Zofia	New York
Lewandowska	Marya	Buffalo	Brzostek	Janina	Erie
Marcinkowska	Marya	Buffalo	Jaloszynska	Teodora M.	Erie
Mazierska	Leokadja	Buffalo	Krzyzan	Helena	Erie
Michalska	Pelagya	Buffalo	Wisniewska	Julia K.	Erie
Migdal	Elzbieta	Buffalo	Zaniecka	Maria	Erie
Muszynska	Leokadya	Buffalo	Mizejewska	Felicya	Trenton/ Philadelphia

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

*Subject:* Finding the owner of property in Poland

In the last *Gen Dobry!*, the following caught my attention:

<<http://mapy.geoportal.gov.pl/imap/?gpmap=gp0>>

When a discussion arose on the Polish Genius mailing list about land maps, Bronwyn Klimach pointed out that present-day land maps can be found at this site. We've probably mentioned it before, but it can certainly do no harm to mention it again—and it is fascinating to zoom in on specific areas and see the property boundaries.

Is it possible to find the owner of a particular parcel? For example, lot 941 in the town of Brzostek. I was hoping to use the information to track down some family in Głobikowa, which is a bit northeast of Brzostek.

George Dykas

*Editor* – I told George that website is not the easiest thing in the world to use. I was able to use the Szukaj.Search function to locate Brzostek, and when I clicked on it and enlarged it, the map showed the location of the lots, including #941. I'm afraid it did not show the owner—or at least, I couldn't get it to.

It's possible I just wasn't able to figure out how to work it. But I kind of doubt any Polish website would give that kind of info, due to Polish privacy laws. My experience is that Poland is not nearly as open about such matters as we are. I imagine the owner of a specific property in the U.S. is a matter of public record and you can find that info, if you know where to look. It MAY be that way in Poland, too; but I kind of doubt it. They don't publish phone books any more, except for people who have signed up and explicitly given permission to be listed. I have a notion who owns what property would be even harder to find, because the attitude would be "What business is that of yours?"

But I promised to print this question in our next issue to see if anybody can correct me. I am just making an educated guess, and Lord knows, I've been wrong before. Please let me know if you can shed light on this, and I'll pass the word along to George

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**\*\*\* A JOURNEY HOME TO POZNAŃ \*\*\***

*by David Piekarczyk*

*Editor* – Mr. Piekarczyk was kind enough to send this note to me, and I wanted to share it with you. It's a fascinating story; and his blog is very interesting.

April 2, 2017  
Poznań, Poland

I've been a reader of your publication for about seventeen years now, and thought it past time to thank you for your efforts. It's helped me in my own research of my family and I still read it now in Poland. My research changed my life dramatically.

In 1996 my mother died, leaving behind a box filled with old pictures; and when I started looking through them I discovered people I did not recognize, dressed differently than most Americans. I still had one living aunt, so I asked her who they were, and she told me they were family in Poland. For me, that was a shock because my generation were never told anything about family in Poland.

All of my ancestors, from my father and mother backwards, were of Polish origin; but my father and mother were born in Hammond, Indiana. I was raised, until I was eight, in the Polish community of North Hammond, where my grandmother and grandfather immigrated to in the early 1900s. I spoke Polish and English until I was eight, when my grandparents died; but from that time on, English was the dominant language.

My curiosity about those new people grew and I decided to try to find out more about them. One of my aunts was a Catholic nun who died in 1978. Then in 2000, after my mother's death, I wrote a letter to the Mother Superior of my aunt's Order, told her who I was, and asked if my aunt had left behind any letters or documents when she passed. If she had, would the Mother Superior please send me copies to help with my research?

Two weeks later I received a package with various documents in them, and one paper had an address in Poland dated 1975. Given that twenty-five years had passed, I assumed the name of the person with the address was dead; but I wrote a letter to the address, hoping that some family member still lived there. The letter was in English.

I waited and waited. One day, about six weeks later, I came home from work and opened the mail box. There was a blue envelope with cow stamps on it, postmarked Poland. I was ecstatic, opened the envelope, and there was my first letter from Poland, in Polish, which I could not read. The next day, at 9:00 a.m., I drove to the Polish Museum of Chicago, found a young lady there, and she read the letter to me.

The letter writer, Kazia, told me she was one of four daughters of the youngest sister of my grandfather. I never knew my grandfather had siblings. She said they had been waiting all those years to find out what happened to their relatives who immigrated to the U.S. and I was the first to make contact. With the help of her nephew who was learning English, we were able to continue our communication slowly through the mail.

I learned that my great grandfather, Józef, immigrated to America with his four sons and eldest daughter in the early 1900s; but my great grandmother could not leave the Russian-occupied

territory because the law stated that no child under six could leave. The youngest daughter, Genowefa, Kazia's mother, was only two, so grandmother and daughter stayed behind and waited. Tragically, before the time came, great-grandfather died and there was no money to bring them over. So they remained in Poland, thus eventually becoming the family I would get to know through correspondence.

Kazia and I continued our snail-mail correspondence for over a year while she told family in Poland about me. Then, one day I received a green envelope from Poland, written in broken English from cousin Małgorzata, daughter of one of Kazia's three sisters. Surprisingly, she had Internet access. She gave me her e-mail address and we began using it for faster communication. Next, we moved to Instant Messenger Chat. For the next year, every day at five p.m., we chatted for an hour. She told me much about my family there and their histories. This brought us to 2003, and I decided I had to go to Poland to meet her and everyone else.

In September 2003, my wife and I took a month's vacation and flew to Poznań. We were greeted at the airport by fifteen new cousins with flowers—they even hired a traditional musician to play as we walked through the exit doors. It was an incredible feeling. Małgorzata's mother, Cecylia, arranged a family reunion at a restaurant in Mikorzyn; and thirty relatives came from Warsaw, Koszalin, Poznań, Konin, Galina, Płock, and Kołobrzeg. In the cemetery of Galina, I stood before the grave of my great-grandmother, and the emotions inside me were so great that I started to cry heavily and couldn't stop for a little while. People were looking at me, but I could only bury my head in the shoulder of my wife until it stopped; I had no control. It was only the beginning of a wonderful month.

When it was time to leave and I was sitting in the airplane, waiting for take-off, tears were rolling down my cheeks. My wife asked me what was wrong and I told her I felt very sad to be leaving. She said not to worry, we would come back next year; and we did, in 2004.

In 2006, we were nearing retirement age in one year, wondering what to do with the rest of our lives and my wife suggested, "Why not move to Poland so that you can know this family you never knew"? It was a shock for me to hear her suggest it, although I had secretly thought of it. So, in 2007, we told our three adult children that we decided to move to Poland. For them, it was also a shock, a little hard to accept but they did.

Now, this August 2017, we will have lived in Poznań ten years, and have Permanent Resident status. The ironic part of this story is that when my mother was born, she was born in Posen, Illinois. Posen is the German name for Poznań, where I live now. I have kept a good, daily record of this adventure in a blog format, started the year before we left America. In it are all the details of what we had to go through to be officially accepted here, as well as what daily life is like. It might be of some use to your readers: <<http://david-polanddavid.blogspot.com>>

Pozdrawiam,  
David Piekarczyk

*Editor* – It's very gratifying to think we played a small part in Mr. Piekarczyk's return to his ancestral home—although, of course, he did all the hard work!

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### **\*\*\* POLISH NATIONAL CONSTITUTION DAY OBSERVANCE – NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS\*\*\***

*Editor* – Joe Kielec sent me this press release, and I wanted to pass it along, in case anyone in the Northampton, Massachusetts area can attend.

The 3rd of May 1791 is celebrated as a most important National Holiday in Poland because it marks the declaration of one of the first National Constitutions designed to supplant the long-standing anarchy of the ruling classes with a more democratic constitutional monarchy.

This was a progressive document for its time and served as a model for many countries in the nineteenth century wave of democratic reform that swept throughout Europe.

The Polish Heritage Committee of Northampton will observe Polish Constitution Day on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the community room at St. Valentine's Polish National Catholic Church, 127 King Street, Northampton.

We will screen the film *Why celebrate May 3, 1791 "Europe's First Constitution"?* – *presentation by Professor Richard Butterwick-Pawlikowski* and serve light refreshments. The community is invited to join us for this admission free event (and to bring a friend).



*The painting above depicts King Stanislaus Augustus together with members of the Grand Sejm and inhabitants of Warsaw entering St. John's Cathedral in order to swear in the new national constitution just after it had been adopted by the Grand Sejm in the Royal Castle visible in the background.—By Jan Matejko – National Museum of Poland Catalog*

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**\*\*\* AN OVERVIEW OF RECENT PERIODICALS \*\*\***

*Editor*—This is an ongoing feature, meant to inform you of articles published recently in newsletters and journals that may interest you.

***Project to Discover Schenectady County's Eastern European Roots Newsletter, April 2017, Vol. 4, No. 2***, <<http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/resources/eer/index.html>> contact Phyllis Zych Budka <[abudka@nycap.rr.com](mailto:abudka@nycap.rr.com)>

- The Search for My Mysterious Great-Grandmother—Katherine Rajska Brozyna and the Nowy Targ-Schenectady Connection, Jeff Brozyna
- A Saint Adalbert Scrapbook, 1941–1950, Part 1, compiled by Henrietta Beczak Budka, comments by Phyllis Zych Budka
- Part 8 – A Polish-American Generation, Marty Byster
- Three Kinds of Self-Publishing, Phyllis Zych Budka

***Avotaynu, Winter 2016, Volume XXXII, No. 4. Avotaynu, Inc.*** <<http://www.avotaynu.com>>

- Exploring the “Second Tier Project” Concept, Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus and Marlis Humphrey
- Come to Orlando: 37th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Adam Brown and Diane Jacobs
- Little-Known Polish Holocaust Database, Peter Landé
- Nineteenth-Century Jewish Migration to Bessarabia/Moldova, Yefim A. Kogan
- Making Your Ancestral Research Real by Visiting Your Past, Steven Skorka
- Visiting the Graves of My German Jewish Ancestors, Michael Braverman
- Landmanshaftn Research in Israel, Avrohom A. Krauss
- Persistence Demolishes a Black Wall, Alexander Woodle
- Theatrical Ancestors, Daniel Wagner
- View Mate Post Leads to the Acceptance of an Uncle, Connie Newhan
- Searching for Sheindel, Judy Manelis
- The Lerer Family; Mavericks of Uzventis, Rose Lerer Cohen
- Who Were the Parents of Marcus Heller, Thomas Fürth
- A Search for Rebecca Bloom Leads to the Sher and Kaplan Family, Arlene Beare
- Reunion After 70 Years, David Price

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

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

**Saturday, May 6, 2017**

**NASHI PREDKY – OUR ANCESTORS UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY WORKSHOP  
“REDISCOVERING YOUR FAMILY SECRETS”**

**Ukrainian American Citizens’ Club • 302 Mansfield Boulevard • Carnegie, PA 15106**

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Featured topics

- The Basics of Ukrainian Genealogy
- Finding and Using Ukrainian Church Records
- The Aliens Are Coming: USCIS Record Sets
- History of Lemkos, Boykos, and Hutsuls
- Using Gazetteers, Directories & Schematisms for Eastern European Research

Featured speakers: Justin Houser, Rich Venezia, Michael Buryk, and Michelle Chubenko

Informative talks, answers to your questions from recognized experts, time to network with fellow genealogists (who may have family from the same region or village as you), as well as breakfast and lunch.

Register online: <<https://www.ukrhec.org/civcrm/event/info?reset=1&id=32>>

Save \$10 if you register before March 31st!

Michelle Chubenko

“Our Ancestors – Наші Предки / Ukrainian Genealogy”

Co-Coordinator, Family History Group

Ukrainian Historical & Educational Center of NJ

<<http://www.ukrhec.org/family-history-group>>

[From a post by Michelle Chubenko to various mailing lists]

*Editor* – For more info, you can read this item in EOGN:

<<https://blog.eogn.com/2017/01/26/announcing-the-2017-ukrainian-genealogy-workshop-rediscovering-your-family-stories/>>

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**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

**PGSA WORKSHOP – “THE POLISH CONNECTION”**

**NIU Naperville Meeting and Conference Center – Room 260**

**1120 E. Diehl Road • Naperville, Illinois**

The Polish Genealogical Society of America is presenting two speakers at this workshop. The first, Tadeusz Piłat, will broadcast live from Warsaw, Poland; the second Jason Kruski, will be at NIU. Before, in between, and after the presentations, we will have translators available to help interpret documents and our “Ask Us” team to answer genealogical questions.

Tadeusz Piłat will discuss:

- Notary records in Poland, often ignored as a source of genealogical information. These include last wills (testaments), inheritances, deeds, cessions, sales and purchases of all kind, as well as premarital contracts: data that cannot be found in parish books or civil registers.
- Cadastral maps – The result of land surveys which likewise contain details that cannot be found in any of the church records.

Speaker Jason Kruski will present “**Technological Advances in Polish-American Genealogy: How to get one’s family tree back to Poland and find the village of origin using technology**” He will include the latest updates from various archives within Poland, including Przemyśl, Włocławek, Poznań, and more, along with the national and archival efforts to digitize records. Mr. Kruski will also examine the latest collections of American records available online. An overview of how to find one’s ancestral parish utilizing the online gazetteer *Słownik Geograficzny* will also be included.

**REGISTRATION FEES:**

NIU attendees – members/non . . . . . \$15/\$20

Online seminar attendees – members/non . . . . \$20/\$25

Registration for either is online only. Mail-ins/walk-ins not accepted. To register, go to: <<http://pgsa.org/product-category/seminars/>> and follow instructions.

**NIU attendance - limited to 50 people – Registration ends May 10, 2017.  
Webinar – unlimited – no registration deadline. No refunds issued for cancellations.**

Any additional details will be posted on our website or in the *PGSA Notebook*.

[From the *PGSA Genealogy Notebook*, 1 February 2017]

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**May 21, 2017**

**“NOW THAT I’VE FOUND IT, WHAT DOES IT SAY?”**

**A LECTURE BY JONATHAN D. SHEA**

**Framingham Public Library • 49 Lexington Street • Framingham, Massachusetts**

**2 p.m.**

This lecture is presented by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston and the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts. The lecture will examine the various phonetical and grammatical features of record-keeping languages used in nineteenth-century partitioned Poland. Special attention will be given to features of the Slavic languages that confuse English speakers. Various frequently encountered document formats, such as birth, marriage, and death records, will be viewed in Latin, Polish, and Russian. It is a free event – bring a friend!

For more information, visit: <<http://pgsma.org/pgsma-events.html>>

[From an e-mail sent by Joseph Kielec]

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**June 16 – 18, 2017**

**POLISH FEST**

**Henry W. Maier Festival Park • Summerfest Grounds • Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

For more information, visit the website:

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

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**July 28–29, 2017**

**2017 INTERNATIONAL GERMANIC GENEALOGY CONFERENCE**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota**

This is expected to be a unique conference, organized through an international partnership of societies across the United States and Europe. Given how many people of Polish descent came from areas ruled by Germany from 1815 to 1918, this event may be worth your attention even if your ethnic identity is not primarily German.

For more developments, keep an eye on the website: <<http://www.ggsmn.org/>>.

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**October 28, 2017**

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN’S ANNUAL SEMINAR**  
**American Polish Cultural Center**

We are very excited to announce the speakers for this year’s seminar on October 28, 2017 at the American Polish Cultural Center.

**Sophie Hodorowicz Knab**, author of several books about Polish culture and traditions, will speak to us about the different customs as well as present a personal family story which resulted in the book, *Wearing the Letter P: Polish Women as Forced Laborers in Nazi Germany, 1939-1945*.

**Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz** offers two presentations. The first one is called, “I Found My Village! Now What?” Julie will discuss the different documents that can be found online which will help us in our research. Her other presentation is called, “The Ins and Outs of Geneteka: How it Works and How to Use It Most Effectively.”

For more information as it becomes available, visit the PGSM website:

<<http://pgsm.org/>>

[From a post by Valerie Warunek to the Facebook page of the PGSM]

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

<<http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/participate/organizations/partner-organizations.html>>

Paul S. Valasek forwarded to me the address of this website address, on which the United States World War One Centennial Commission “formally recognizes Commemorative Partners who demonstrate a commitment to honoring, commemorating, and educating the public about The Great War, to include (but not limited to) the four million Americans who served and the 116,516 who sacrificed their lives.” Among the many mentioned is the Polish American Congress.

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<<http://szukajwarchiwach.pl/63#tabZasoby>>

Chris Cowan posted a note to the LithGen mailing list about the Suwałki Archives online. He wrote: “A quick update on the Suwalki Archives, after spending a weekend running through them. It appears that parish register images at the Suwalki Archive are were in fact digitized from the LDS/FHC films. In some cases, the registers in the collection are identified as ‘Duplicates’, copies of the church register. This was a lifesaver for me, because I lost a hard drive containing my ‘captures,’ and was not enthused about having to trek over to the local FHC to rescan them. It appears that I don’t have to now. I should mention that this collection goes back further than Vilnius archive (ePaveldas), and it probably won’t cover parishes that weren’t part of the Suwałki gubernia and Suwałki diocese.

Tips so far:

- You need to know the Polish name of the Village/Parish for the search (e.g., Metełe vs. Meteliai, Łozdziej vs. Łazdija, etc...).
- The interface is better than ePaveldas once you figure it out. You can select to have 100 thumbnails presented at a time. This makes it easy to find the indexes.
- They have an explicit download link, so you can secure a copy. (Although they do “watermark” the images)

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<<http://pgsa.org/product-category/informational-packets/>>

The Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA) has published a revised version of its “Maps Packet.” This version runs 25 pages, and provides a lot of good, basic information to help researchers tackle the question of “Where did my family come from?” The price is \$7 for a black and white printed version, or \$6 for the color digital version. You can learn more and place an order, if you wish, at the above URL.

<<http://pgsa.org/databases/>>

PGSA has also revised the search engine on its website, and seventeen databases are now available online. The last few years, I've heard from more than a few people who were not happy about problems with PGSA's databases, and all the work is not finished—but we are seeing some real progress. To learn more, including tips on how to use the new search engine, visit the page mentioned above.

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<[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K\\_orFU151U4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_orFU151U4)>

This video is from the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island, and it addresses an important subject, “8 Reasons You Should Consider Joining a Local Genealogical Society.” In recent years, a lot of people have become convinced they could research their family history just fine from their own home, with no need to join a society. You can do a lot more at home than was possible just a few years ago—but local societies still have a lot to offer that you just can't get any other way. This video makes that case rather nicely.

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<<http://genealogyindexer.org>>

Recent additions to the site include the 1926 Danzig and Suburbs Address and Business Directory; 1931/1932 Silesia Craft and Small Industry Directory; and Warsaw Address Calendars for 1903, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1911, 1912, and 1914. Furthermore, the site's owner, Logan Kleinwaks, announced that due to help from the OCR software company ABBYY, he is now able to OCR sources printed in Fraktur, the old Gothic blackface print. Using their Recognition Server <<https://www.abbyy.com/en-us/recognition-server/>>, he has been able to make sources searchable that could not be searched before. Well done, Logan!

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<[http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/mash\\_up/1965\\_aerial\\_index.html](http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/mash_up/1965_aerial_index.html)>

Tom Sadauskas sent a note explaining that the State of Connecticut did a complete aerial survey of the state in 1965. “You can search by street address and see what a particular town or city looked like in 1965 before ‘urban redevelopment’ changed the character of many places. You can access the photos online at the above URL. “This index includes links to 1965 aerial photography for Connecticut in full-quality TIFF and quick loading PDF formats. To view the aerial photography for an area, click on the red point on the map to view additional details and to view the PDF and TIFF images.” Tom added, The aerial photo of my old neighborhood brought back a lot of good memories.”

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<[http://cdiak.archives.gov.ua/spysok\\_fondiv/index.php](http://cdiak.archives.gov.ua/spysok_fondiv/index.php)>

Shared on Facebook's UA Genealogy (Ukrainian) was this URL for the list of fonds in the Central State Historical Archive, City of Kyiv (TsDIAK). It is all in Ukrainian (surprise!), but the info is presented in the form of a table; and with Google Translate's help, you can get a decent idea what each fond covers.

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<<https://www.onb.ac.at/en/>>

On the GaliciaPoland-Ukraine mailing list, R. Kobenter talked about the Austrian National Library's project to digitize newspapers and put them online. Work has been going on for some years, and he or she was apparently able to find 200+ newspapers and periodicals mentioning the family name. "Newspapers back in the 1800s (just like in some areas today with Obits) are a good source for finding birth and death notices, and often will lead you to refine your search in church records. Consider using the ÖNB/ANNO-SUCHE Volltextsuche in Zeitungen und Zeitschriften."

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<<http://blog.polishorigins.com/what-i-have-learned-from-latin-records-translations/>>

Valerie Warunek mentioned on Facebook that this blog on the PolishOrigins site is very interesting. Aga Pawlus tells of the help David Nowicki (dnowicki) has given people with Latin records, and includes some very useful tips. It also talks about a priest who was not exactly a saint....

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<<https://lialouisecooke.com/2015/09/compare-look-alikes-in-your-family-free-facial-recognition-software/>>

Paul S. Valasek recently asked if I had read anything about facial recognition software. I said I recalled seeing a few things here and there, but nothing specific. I searched online and found a few sites that discuss the matter. Lisa Louise Cook discussed Microsoft's "Twins or Not" facial comparison software in September 2015, and that's the article the above link will take you to ... If anyone can give Paul advice on something better, please write him <[hallersarmy@aol.com](mailto:hallersarmy@aol.com)>. If you CC me as well, <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>, I'll pass the word along to our readers.

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