



# Gen Dobry!

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Volume XVIII, No. 7

31 July 2017

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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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**\*\*\* DON'T MISS THE UPCOMING EVENTS! \*\*\***

by *William F. Hoffman* <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>

July in Houston is too hot to work too much on anything, and that includes writing articles. But I wanted to take a moment to encourage you to look over the “Upcoming Events” in this issue. This is an impressive list of conferences and seminars coming up in the next few months – and that’s not even counting the ones I didn’t find out about and couldn’t include! Just look at this.

We have a webinar from the Illinois State Genealogical Society on August 8, discussing how to find information for the years that fall between each census.

We have the 103rd Lithuanian Days in Frackville, Pennsylvania on August 12-13. I know some of our members have Lithuanian roots. This might be a fun event to attend!

PGSA’s quarterly meeting on August 20 has Grace Dumelle speaking on sources for Polish genealogy at the Newberry Library in Chicago. You can attend in person or sign up for the webinar.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies has its 2017 National Conference in Pittsburgh from August 30 to September 7. I’ve never been to an FGS conference, but I bet it’s spectacular!

Family Tree University is holding its 2017 Virtual Genealogy Conference September 15–17. I have not heard yet from anyone who has “attended” one of these virtual conferences; but I love the idea, and hope it will be a success.

Nashi Predky is holding its Fall Conference at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Somerset, New Jersey October 6–7.

The Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast is holding its conference October 13-14 at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, Connecticut. I have had a chance to speak at this event before, and I enjoyed it thoroughly. The list of speakers and lectures this year is especially impressive!

The Illinois State Genealogical Society holds its Fall Conference on October 27-28. I had a chance to speak at one of these, years ago, and it was a very enjoyable event.

And on October 28, the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan holds its annual Seminar at the American Polish Cultural Center. The speakers are Sophie Hodorowicz Knab and Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz, both of whom I know to be well qualified. I spoke twice at PGSM seminars, and each one was a delight.

I remember when it was very hard to find a good conference to go to if you had Polish roots. Look over the details in the “Upcoming Events” section. If you’ve never experienced the excitement and stimulation of a well-organized conference, you don’t know what you’re missing!

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

*Subject:* Song connected with a novena

*Editor* – Here’s a request from a reader who’s hoping someone knows the song in question. I have quoted the first verses as she gave them.

I am looking for the rest of the words for this Novena. I’m praying one of the vast amount of knowledgeable readers may be familiar with this song. These are all the words that can be remembered. There are a few Sisters who will be smiling if the missing words are found. The song is at least 50 years young.

St. Theresa Novena

Swieta Tereso, kwiatku różany,  
Ktora rozsiewasz won wznioslych cnot  
Twój żywot czysty i nieskalany

I appreciate any of your help.

Dianne Zak

*Editor* – If you recognize the words and can help Dianne, let me know at [<wfh@langline.com>](mailto:wfh@langline.com), and I’ll forward your note to her.

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*Subject:* Maciej Orzechowski

There was a letter in *Gen Dobry!* recommending Maciej Orzechowski as being very helpful for genealogy research on their family. Was there any link as to how to contact Maciej? I might be interested in him helping me on my Lesewig grandparents who came to Greenpoint, Brooklyn, in 1881 from that part of Poland under German control (that’s what they said on the 1900 census). Don’t know where in Poland but I suspect the Poznań area. Once Poland regained its freedom they became Polish in the 1920 census. And I met my father’s Aunt Adelaide Lesewig, who was one of the four children Frank and Julia had and who was born here in the USA.

By the way, I worked with Adam Orzechowski at Xerox Research in Rochester in 1970s and 1980s. Adam came from Poland and was an officer in the Polish cavalry at the start of WWII. Adam lived in Warsaw and fought in the Warsaw Uprising in August 1944. I remember him telling me that at one point he had to go back to his apartment, which was then under German control. He did this by going through the sewers at night! So Maciej might be interested in Adam.

Adam also did not think very much of the Uprising and that they should just have waited for the Russians to come. Of course, once the Uprising started, the Russians stopped their advance west and did not aid the Home Army in any way, even refusing to allow Polish Air Force planes to

refuel. These bombers came from Italy and were dropping supplies to the Home Army in Warsaw. The Russians just wanted the Nazis to eliminate any opposition to Soviet takeover in Poland.

As always, your help will be appreciated. All the best.

Jerry Ceasar (Przybylowicz before my grandfather changed his name from Paul Cezar Przybylowicz in the 1930s and we became Ceasar)

PS Looking toward to seeing my cousin's grandson, Stephen Piscotty play the Red Sox on Aug 18th in Boston. Stephen plays right field for the St Louis Cardinals. The last name was Americanized from Pyskaty of Dębica in Galicia. Jan Pyskaty was my maternal grandfather and he is on the Immigrant Wall of Honor at Ellis Island.

*Editor* – Gee, giving contact info for Maciej Orzechowski might have been a good idea. Or to put it another way, what the hell was I thinking, that I didn't include that info? Here's the e-mail, website, and Facebook page for Maciej:

<[omaciej@wp.pl](mailto:omaciej@wp.pl)>

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

<<https://www.facebook.com/polishrecords>>

I have to point out, however, that his office is in Przemyśl, down in the southeastern part of Poland. If your ancestors came from the German partition, I don't know for sure if he could help you – and if he does, he'll probably have to charge for his travel. Still, I've heard a lot of good things about him. So it'd be smarter for me to let you contact him, tell him about Adam Orzechowski, and then let him speak for himself! If he can't help you, maybe he can give you good advice on a reputable person to contact.

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*Subject:* Genealogy Charts for the 15 October St. Adalbert Harvest Festival

*Editor* – Phyllis Zych Budka sent this note out to subscribers of the ***Project to Discover Schenectady County's Eastern European Roots Newsletter***. I thought it might be worthwhile to pass it along, in case others with Schenectady County roots might want to get in on the fun.

Dear Eastern European Roots Newsletter Friends,

In this issue of the newsletter, we announce a "Save the Date" for St. Adalbert's Harvest / Dożynki Festival on October 1st. Through these newsletters, many people have connected with both close and distant relatives, made new friends and found new ways to search their own roots.

We will have a newsletter exhibit at the Festival and would like to collect as many of your genealogy charts as possible. Please send them to me by e-mail or by US Postal Service. We will put them on posters, NOT ever on the Internet. Then, come visit us on 10/15 – you might find some “new” family connections!

We will also have a list of all the surnames in all the newsletters to date. My postal address:

2135 Morrow Ave  
Schenectady, NY 12309-2332

From reading four years of newsletter stories, I have the feeling that we will find that all of us are related, in some way. Deadline for the charts: October 1st.

Regards,

Phyllis Zych Budka

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*Subject:* National Archive Research Center – Research Rooms Closed on Saturday

*Editor* – This is from a notice posted by Jan Meisels Allen to the JewishGen newsgroup on July 6th. This may be a little late, but I thought some of our readers might want to know about it.

The (US) National Archives announced today on their “Know Your Records” email and their twitter account @USNatArchives that, effective July 22, 2017, the Research Services are ending their Saturday hours at Archives 1 and Archives II (Washington DC and College Park, MD). They are extending operating hours by one hour each day. The Research Hours in the two Washington DC-area locations have been 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and it is expected they would now be Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. after July 22.

The National Archives ceased having Saturday research hours in the regional archives November 2015.

For those who work Monday-Friday and are visiting Washington DC area, the loss of the Saturday hours is a major concern. One can assume the cutback is due to budget constraints.

Thank you to Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist, for informing us about the “Know Your Records” posting and Barbara Mathews, Records Preservation and Access Committee for also informing us of this unfortunate news.

Jan Meisels Allen  
Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

*Editor* – You can read the latest on this subject here: <<https://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/washington>>.

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\*\*\* ABOUT *THE FINAL FLIGHT* \*\*\*

by *Linda M. Boris*

*Editor* – Linda asked if I would be willing to include some info on her book *The Final Flight*, about the 2010 crash in Smolensk, Russia that killed many of Poland’s government officials. While it’s not exactly relevant to genealogy, the matter interests many people with Polish roots, and I felt it was appropriate to mention it here.

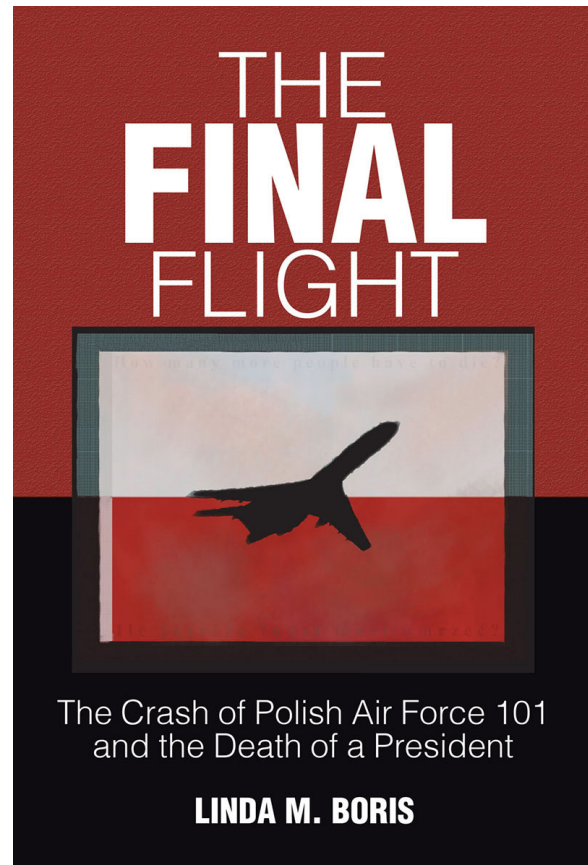
As a fourth-generation Polish-American, I have been researching my family history for over 35 years. When I took a trip to Poland in 2011 with a cousin, I felt even closer to my ancestral homeland.

When the Polish Air Force plane crashed in Smolensk in 2010, killing the Polish President, First Lady, and many high level Polish government officials, it shook me, and affected me deeply. Over the years, I have been surprised at how many Americans know absolutely nothing about this historic and tragic event, or the fact that it even occurred.

I had been doing some writing as a hobby and when I realized that there were no books written in English about the crash, I had to take it on as a project. From both the Russian and Polish official investigation reports and extensive internet research of mostly Polish online magazines, websites, and news sources, I pulled together the story and self-published a book through Lulu Publishing.

*The Final Flight* will take you step by step through how the trip to Smolensk came about, how the crew was pulled together for the flight, and a detailed look at what happened on that flight, and the sad aftermath. Though much has been written about the supposed “conspiracy” that brought down this plane, *The Final Flight* makes it clear that there was no need for a conspiracy to doom this flight. The fate of the 97 people who perished in this crash was, as is so often the case, in the hands of ordinary humans, doing the best they can when placed under significant stress.

The book is available in both print and e-book format from major booksellers such as Amazon and Barnes and Noble. It seeks to honor those who died, and to answer the question everyone asks after such tragedies occur: “Why?”



*Editor* – The book is available from Amazon.com as a paperback or in Kindle format. This shortened URL should take you to the right page: <<https://goo.gl/2vAfko>>. If it doesn't work, go to Amazon.com and search books for "Final Flight." There are several works with that title, but Linda's is easy to spot.

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**\*\*\* UPDATE FROM POLISHORIGINS.COM \*\*\***

*by Zenon Znamirovski*

*Editor* – I always like to pass along the latest newsletter from PolishOrigins.com, because the reactions I've heard from people who took their tours or asked them for help have been very positive. So here's the latest from Zenon and his colleagues.

We hope that you are having a good summer. Maybe within the last weeks you made a few steps forward in your family discoveries. Or maybe you didn't have enough time because you were too busy with your children or grandchildren who came to visit you :-).

For sure, we are having a great and busy summer. Our genealogists and guides spend most of their time on the road. This week, for example, we have 3 different groups discovering their ancestors' roots and meeting relatives in Poland and in the Ukraine.

The Fall season is always the busiest time for our tours, and there will be days and weeks when even six groups of guests will be visiting and exploring different areas of Poland and Eastern Europe with us.

Although it might be difficult for us to organize more tailor-made Genealogy Tours this year, especially at the breakthrough of September and October, we still have a few openings for the ready-made tours:

Kingdom of Poland Tour - September 8- 18, 2017 (4 spots left)

and

Galicia Tour– September 24- October 4, 2017 (10 spots left)

These are the last days of bookings for both Tours:

for the Kingdom of Poland Tour the final booking date is August 6th

for the Galicia Tour the final booking date is August 21st

We are already getting ready for 2018!

Do you remember the article on our blog "Why My Ancestors Left"? It was written more than two years ago and it was one of the most popular posts on our Blog so far. By reading, it you learned many reasons why your ancestors could possibly leave their beloved homeland, and search for a

better world outside of Poland. The 1795-1918 period of partitions was a time full of hardship, persecutions and emotional struggles for a great number of Polish people. Whether it was because of the poverty, institutional oppression or lack of personal freedom, a significant portion of the population decided to emigrate.

In 2018, we are adding to our ready-made tours, the brand-new **Prussian Poland Tour**. With this new tour, we will complete the whole picture of the partition of Poland. Carved up between three neighboring countries, Poland and its people have survived under completely different socioeconomic systems.

The Prussian occupation, while oppressive (especially under chancellor Bismarck), was the most economically successful. The Galicia under Austro-Hungarian rule was the most tolerant and liberal part of occupied Poland; but economically, it did not do so well. Russian occupation, without both economic successes or personal freedom, witnessed significant resistance from the Polish people, which resulted in two major uprisings and even the assassination of Tsar Alexander II in St. Petersburg.

These major differences between the three partitions have taken their toll on Polish lands and can still be witnessed in modern Poland today, whether in architecture, infrastructure, cuisine, local dialects, or in the economy itself. You can always read a great deal about it, but if you really want to understand the time even better, there is nothing that will replace that real experience of walking the same land your ancestors were treading more than 100 years ago. You will taste the same food, hear the same language and smell the same air that they did. You will also feel their struggles and sorrows, but also the happiness and joys they experienced.

### **Dates for 2018**

The **Prussian Poland Tour** debut will take place between **September 15 - 25, 2018**. Watch for more details that will be coming soon.

We also have dates and the first request for two editions of

**Galicia Tour, June 10-20** (Spring edition) and **September 23 - October 3, 2018** (Fall edition), and

**Kingdom of Poland Tour, September 7-17, 2018**

Best greetings from Poland!  
PolishOrigins Team

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**\*\*\* GENTEAM.EU UPDATE \*\*\***

*by Felix Gundacker*



*Editor* – Longtime readers know I also like to print the updates Felix Gundacker sends out on entries added to <<http://www.GenTeam.eu>>, which can be helpful for those with ancestry in Galicia (or anywhere in the old Austro-Hungarian Empire).

Vienna, July 9th, 2017

### **New at GenTeam:**

On my own account

– in total 16.8 million entries online at GenTeam!

1. Military: Casualty lists 1914-1919 Austria-Hungary
2. Dioceses Passau (Germany): approximately 253.000 new entries
3. Vienna: Catholic baptisms – additional records
4. Vienna: Catholic marriages – additional records
5. Vienna: Catholic deaths – additional records
6. Vienna: Coroner's Inquest Protocols – additional records
7. Vienna: Civil marriages – additional records 1909-1919
8. Vienna: protestant marriages of the Danish Embassy
9. Prague (Czech Republic): Jewish Records
10. Index of Dominion records of Lower Austria – additional records
11. Indices of Catholic registers from Lower and Upper Austria, Burgenland, Tyrol and Salzburg

Dear Researcher and Genealogist,

### **On my own account:**

With today's online data, **approximately 16.8 million entries** are now available for the currently 37,000 registered users.

At this point, I would like to thank all individuals, who have furnished GenTeam over the last 7 years with vital information, all those who work on long-term projects, but also all those who work behind the scenes to ensure that GenTeam functions properly and continues to expand.

GenTeam is an European platform through which historians and genealogists, who work independently or as a team on databases, can furnish this data to all researchers. **All data at GenTeam is available free of charge.** The use of GenTeam also requires **no membership fee.**

An additional development created parallel to GenTeam is <<http://www.GenList.at>>, a bilingual mailing list which more than 1,700 members.

### **And now to the Actual update:**

## **1. New: Military Casualty Lists – Austrian-Hungary World War I**

In the Casualty Lists you will find the wounded, prisoners of war, and the fallen from all member countries of the Habsburg Monarchy. In total, there will be approximately 3 to 3.5 million entries. You will find officers, one-year volunteers, and, naturally, the whole gang with all confessions, this, also Jewish, Muslim and Protestant soldiers.

The following excerpts with more than 358,000 entries of a total of over 720 lists are already online on GenTeam now:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 84, 88, 93, 99, 101, 102, 104, 108, 109, 111, 114, 115, 121, 126, 129, 131, 132, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 146, 147, 148, 155, 160, 162, 164, 173, 181, 186, 186, 190, 191, 193, 194, 195, 208, 211, 214, 215, 221, 224, 226, 227, 229, 232, 24, 243, 245, 248, 252, 253, 255, 257, 261, 263, 264, 265, 267, 268, 269, 270, 273, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 283, 287, 291, 292, 293, 295, 297, 301, 306, 312, 325, 326, 327, 328, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 344, 345, 346, 686.

Approximately additional 240 lists are in progress.

At this point, I would like to thank Georg Beck, Jan Cadilek, Maria Fichtner-Rosenau, Jürgen Früh, Robert Gross, Jitka Grossova, Bernhard Gugimaier, Ing. Walter Herin, Ray Joos, Gilberto Jugend, Robert Kaiser, Friedrich Kerndler, Charles Kovacshazy, Phyllis Kramer, Klaus Lener, Martin Loidolt, Leo Mittringer, Erin Pack-Jordan, Zvika Oren, Marlene Perrucci, Sabine Pichler, John Polt, Sidy Rosenberg, Peter Smith, Andreas Schmitmeier, Erich Steinerberger, Alexandre Studeny, Robert Uhrin, and Frank Raschka, as well as all who already work on additional lists which will soon go online.

I invite you cordially to participate in this fascinating project. We gladly send you a compilation and organize the number of your list. Please, contact the project manager, Frank Raschka (many thanks, Frank!) at <[verlustliste@gmail.com](mailto:verlustliste@gmail.com)> or <[kontakt@GenTeam.at](mailto:kontakt@GenTeam.at)>.

## **2. Dioceses Passau – approximately 253,000 new entries**

Of the now approximately 3,57 million church records from the Dioceses Passau about 440,000 are marriages (now complete), about 1,65 million are baptisms, and the remainder are deaths.

In this database you will find parish, volumes, page numbers, Last Names, First Names, date/year or records, not always profession, as well as address/town. You will find the church registers of the Dioceses Passau at <<http://www.matricula-online.eu>>. You will also find a table listing all parishes with updated time frames and important tips under Hilfe/Info (Help/Information).

The archives of the Dioceses Passau and GenTeam would like to thank cordially for the transmitted corrections as well as for all new records.

## **3. Vienna – Baptism Index between 1585 and 1915**

Entries from the parishes: 02 Sankt Johann Nepomuk, 03 Landstraße, 04 Wieden Paulaner, 05 Sankt Josef Margareten, 06 Gumpendorf, 07 Sankt Ulrich, 08 Alservorstadt Krankenhaus (Gebäranstalt), 09 Lichtental, 13 Lainz, 18 Währing and 20 Sankt Brigitta were added (i.e., 02 = district 2).

You will find a table listing all parishes with updated time frames under Hilfestufe/Help.

At this point, I would like to thank Mag. Wolfgang Altfahrt, Gabi Koller, Elisabeth Kultscher, Cindy Lindau, Lisi Maxa, Leo Mittringer, Angelika Panser, Gerda Smodej, Franz Spevacek, Judith Starke, as well as all who already work on various indices which will soon go online.

I would like to invite to participate on this Index. Simply contact me at <[kontakt@GenTeam.at](mailto:kontakt@GenTeam.at)>.

#### **4. Vienna and Surroundings: Index of Catholic marriages**

The index of Catholic marriages of Vienna (1542-1860 including the military), which was drafted many years ago, is now extended until 1938.

Entries from the parishes 03 Landstraße and 09 Votivkirche were added.

A list of all parishes with updated time frames you will find under Hilfestufe/Help.

Many thanks to Gabi Koller and Jesko Stampa.

#### **5. Vienna: Index of Catholic deaths**

Since the list of deaths in the Vienna Newspaper contains vast gaps (even with consideration of Viennese historic borders, as well as the interesting fact that on average approximately 40% entries of deceased children 1-year and under are missing); therefore, we at GenTeam have begun an index of Catholic burials.

New entries were added today of the parish of 01 Maria Rotunda (Dominikaner) and 03 Landstraße.

You will find a table listing all parishes with updated time frames under Hilfestufe/Help.

I would like to thank Monika Fischer and Gabi Koller.

#### **6. Vienna – Coroner’s Inquest Protocols from 1648 onwards**

In Vienna, the task of inspecting a corps was assigned to the city coroner. This office was outfitted likely in the wake of the adoption of infection procedures of 1551.

The mortem protocols of the coroner’s office have survived from 1648 to 1920 in the Wiener Stadt- und Landesarchiv (the Vienna Municipal- and Provincial Archive) with minor gaps in the

early years (between 1920 to 1938 evidence certificates were published). The database contains names, date of examination, profession, residence, age, sickness, date of birth (since 1804), status (since 1811), religion (since 1841), jurisdiction (since 1867) cemetery (since 1897) and parish of death (since 1900) of each individual. The date of examination does not have to be identical with the day of death. The exception is the notation of the hour of death in the protocol.

To Martha Melchart, who already reviewed the years 1648-1655, I would like to express here my gratitude.

### **7. Vienna: Civil marriages – additional records 1909-1919**

Many thanks to DI Georg Gaugusch, who made this index of civil marriages of Vienna between 1909 and 1919, based on material of the City Archives of Vienna.

### **8. Vienna: protestant marriages of the Danish Embassy**

Marriages of the Danish Embassy in Vienna between 1725 and 1783 are now added to the database which contains also the Protestant parish AB 1783-1860, Protestant parish HB 1784-1870, and the Dutch Embassy 1707 and 1783.

Records of the Protestant parish AB and the Danish Embassy are online at <<http://www.matricula-online.eu>>.

### **9. Prague – Jewish records**

Today are added Jewish marriages of Prague (Czech Republic) between 1784 and 1873.

You will find a complete listing of Jewish communities with updated time frames under Hilfestufe/Help.

Many thanks to Dr. Randy Schoenberg and his team.

### **10. Index of Dominion records of Lower Austria**

We added indices of the dominion Drosendorf in Lower Austria.

I would like to thank Dr. Günter Oppitz.

### **11. Register Indices from Lower and Upper Austria, Burgenland, Tyrol, and Salzburg**

Registers of the following Roman Catholic parishes were added:

#### **Lower Austria:**

Biberbach, Grafenschlag, Kirchschatz, Kleinzell, Maria Laach, Mauerbach, Oberkirchen, Stockerau, Wilhelmsburg, Wolfsbach, Wolkersdorf, Ulmerfeld

#### **Upper Austria:**

Großraming, Hörsching, St. Marienkirchen/Pölsenz

**Burgenland:**

Girm (eigene Matriken bei Deutschkreuz), Neckenmarkt, Stoob, Weppersdorf, Wimpassing an der Leitha

**Tyrol:**

Matrei am Brenner

**Salzburg:**

Obertrum, Seekirchen

You will find a complete listing of parishes with updated time frames under Hilfestufe/Help.

At this point, I would like to thank Ursula Baldemaier, Ingrid Fleischer, Martina Gelbmann, Franziska Heidrich, Ulrike Heuer, Heinz Himmelbauer, Johann Hochstöger, Michael Kraibacher, Elisabeth Kultscher, Adolf Leutgeb, Christian Mayrhofer, Mag. Gabi Rudinger-Ferger, Franz Schönweiler, Christine Sinhuber and Wolfgang Strnad, as well as all who already work on various indices that will soon go online.

If you too would like to participate, please, contact me directly at <[kontakt@GenTeam.at](mailto:kontakt@GenTeam.at)>. We would be more than happy **if you too would like to play a part with GenTeam** by creating a database or furnishing an already completed database. However, if you only have questions, please, contact me anytime.

I wish you much joy and success with your research with GenTeam and the new entries.

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<<http://www.FelixGundacker.at>>

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† **BETTY J. GUZIAK • JOSEPH DRESSEL • RICHARD ZAREMBA** †

When possible, we like to pay our respects to prominent men and women in the Polish American community, especially genealogists, who have recently passed away.

I meant to mention **Betty Jean Guziak** months ago – she left us on November 12, 2016 at the age of 85. But I saved the notice of her passing to the wrong folder, and only just found it. She was prominent in both the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan and the Polish Genealogical Society of America. I know she was a founding member of PGSM; and if I'm not mistaken, she was one of the very first members of PGSA as well. Merely by reading items in each society's periodicals, one soon recognized that she and her husband Joseph were active participants,

contributing time and effort to benefit everyone around them. You can read her obituary here: <<https://goo.gl/zvurPz>>.

**Joseph D. Dressel** was a founding member of PGSA. He attended the organizational meeting in 1978 that led to the founding of the Society—he stands, straight and tall, in the center of a photo from the meeting. Over the years, he served in many capacities, including vice president, Board member, and conference speaker, and he was awarded the Wigilia medal for his contributions. He was born July 20, 1927, and passed away on April 20, 2017. Perhaps the most appropriate way for us to honor him is to visit his family site, <<http://www.dresselgenealogy.us/>>, and the page on his immediate family, <<http://www.dresselgenealogy.us/xxvi.htm>>.

And just a few days ago, on July 28, 2017, **Richard S. Zaremba** passed away, a long-time member of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. I know he served the society in many capacities over the years. On a personal note, I remember going to speak at PGSM's seminar back in the late 1990s, and Richard was the kind gentleman who met me at the airport and showed me wonderful hospitality all day. He was a very likable man, straightforward, generous with his time, a pleasure to be around. You can read his obituary in the *Detroit News* here: <<https://goo.gl/p3WTmo>>.

*Cześć ich pamięci!*

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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.

**Wilno Heritage Society, *News from the Wilno Heritage Society*, Spring/Summer 2017, Vol. 16, No. 1**, 1112 Wilno Road North, Wilno ON K0J 2N0, CANADA, <<http://www.wilno.org>>

- 150th Anniversary Exhibit: Mapping Our Roots in Canada and Early Land Settlement, Shirley Mask Connolly
- The Men from Canada's First Polish Settlement Who Fought for Poland in Haller's Army, Shirley Mask Connolly
- Upcoming Exhibit: Kosciuszko Camp: The Polish Army at Niagara, Shirley Mask Connolly (October 2018)
- Kashubian Embroidery Club Celebrates Friendship, Theresa Prince
- Diocese Mourns Msgr. Ambrose Pick, Theresa Prince

***Project to Discover Schenectady County's Eastern European Roots Newsletter*, July 2017, Vol. 4, No. 3**, <<http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/resources/eer/index.html>> contact Phyllis Zych Budka <[abudka@nycap.rr.com](mailto:abudka@nycap.rr.com)>

- Searching My Roots, Gail Bochenek Demcsak, Crofton, MD
- A Saint Adalbert Scrapbook, 1941–1950, Part 2, compiled by Henrietta Beczak Budka, comments by Phyllis Zych Budka

- Part 9 – Pictures from My Family Album, Marty Byster

**Rodziny, Summer 2017, Volume XL, No. 3. Polish Genealogical Society of America** <<http://pgsa.org>>

- *From Our Correspondent in Poland: Dziękuję Ci Stasiu – Thank You, Stan!*, Iwona Dakiniewicz
- Dominik Szulc of Rogalinek, Posen: *Censuarius, Serrarius, Paterfamilias*, Joseph F. Martin
- The Village School Chronicle: An Unexpected Historical Source, Jay M. Orbik, Ed.D.
- † Joseph D. Dressel, 1927–2017 †
- Memoirs of a Peasant, Chapter Eleven, Part Two
- From the *Słownik geograficzny*: Lidzbark and Górzno

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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.*

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**August 8, 2017**

#### **ISGS WEBINAR**

#### ***TEN YEARS IS A LONG TIME: CENSUS SUBSTITUTES FOR THE IN-BETWEEN YEARS***

Amy Johnson Crow, CG, will be the speaker. Her talk explains that the federal census gives us wonderful clues for our research, but the ten years between each census is a long time. This presentation will discuss records that can be used to fill in the gap and add more points to your ancestor's timeline.

Registration: <<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2394575075177831939>>

For info on future ISGS webinars, see <<https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=227>>

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**August 12–13, 2017**

#### **103RD LITHUANIAN DAYS**

**Annunciation Hall in Frackville. 7 S Broad Mountain Ave., Frackville, Pennsylvania**

The Knights of Lithuania Council 144 voted unanimously to host the Lithuanian Days Festival on Saturday, August 12, and Sunday, August 13 in 2017.

For more details, see the Knights' Facebook page:

<<https://www.facebook.com/knightsoflithuania144/>>

[Based mainly on a note posted by Millie Helt to the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list.]

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**August 20, 2017**

### **PGSA QUARTERLY MEETING**

***Gems of Polish Genealogy at the Newberry Library* – Grace Dumelle**

Schaumburg Township District Library (NW) • 130 S. Roselle Rd. • Schaumburg, IL 60193

The quarterly meeting of the Polish Genealogical Society of America the presentation will focus on the Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWAA) records and other little-known sources for Polish genealogy at the Newberry, such as *Słownik geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego* [Geographic Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland] and *Mapa Polska, Warsaw: Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny, 1915-1939*, including holdings of city directories and histories of U.S. cities where many Poles settled, such as Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh, and Buffalo.

**Grace Dumelle**, an assistant in the Reference and Genealogy Services Section, guides genealogy patrons of all levels, answers reference queries, manages the Newberry's loan program with the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and processes donations of genealogical materials, with the help of ace volunteer Melisa Limanowski. Dumelle's research interests lie in lesser-known records and methodology. Her articles on Illinois state hospital records, posted on the library's Genealogy Blog, continue to shed light on a sensitive topic. She is the author of the award-winning *Finding Your Chicago Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide to Family History in the City and Cook County*.

This presentation will also be offered as a Webinar to members and non-members. Additional Webinar registration information will be posted at <<http://www.pgsa.org>>.

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

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**August 30 – September 2, 2017**

### **FGS 2017 NATIONAL CONFERENCE – BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE PAST**

**David L. Lawrence Convention Center • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

The Federation of Genealogical Societies, along with local host Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, will hold its 2017 Conference at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh.



For more information, including program and activities, exhibits and sponsors, and so, visit [<https://www.fgsconference.org/>](https://www.fgsconference.org/).

To register, go to [<https://www.fgsconference.org/registration/>](https://www.fgsconference.org/registration/)

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**September 15-17, 2017**

**FAMILY TREE UNIVERSITY – 2017 FALL VIRTUAL GENEALOGY  
CONFERENCE**

My grandmother was fond of saying, “The Devil’s in the details.” I’m not sure about the devil’s current residence, but I do know that even the smallest details can add up to a really big picture. As genealogists, we’re all hunting for even the tiniest facts and features that will bring that picture into clear focus.

This year, the 2017 Fall Virtual Conference (September 15-17) aims to help you discover and apply all those little details to your family history. With fifteen presentations ranging from DNA testing to research strategies, technology and preservation tools and everything in between, you’ll gain a host of tricks for understanding your ancestors’ lives better, whether it’s learning what information can be found in a specific record set (Marriage Records, Naturalization Records), to integrating those details into your research (Proof Positive, Time Travel Technology, Resources for Visual Storytelling).

Tying it all together is GenealogyGems’ Lisa Louise Cooke, who will be offering up a live keynote, Big Pictures in Little Details, on Sunday, September 17. After the presentation, she’ll have time for a brief Q&A.

The best part about our virtual conference weekend: Not only can you participate from the comfort of your own home, but you won’t have to choose between presentations occurring at the same time. They’re all available to stream and download - so you can keep them and refer back long after the conference is over. Even our live keynote and Q&As will be recorded, so you won’t have to miss a thing!

If you sign up by August 11, you can save using our Early Bird pricing code FALLVCEARLY.

Come join me for a fun-filled three days at the 2017 Fall Virtual Conference. I look forward to seeing you there!

Learn More: [<https://goo.gl/Ro3zwi>](https://goo.gl/Ro3zwi)

Vanessa Wieland  
Dean of Students, Family Tree University

*Editor* – As you’ll see if you click on the above link, the price for the conference is \$199.99. I don’t know how much you save if you use the Early Bird pricing code FALLVCEARLY, but please note, you must sign up by August 11. If any of you decide to give this a try, I’d love to hear what you think so I can share that with our readers.

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**October 6-7, 2017**

**4TH ANNUAL NASHI PREDKY FALL CONFERENCE: UNLOCK YOUR HERITAGE**

**Ukrainian Cultural Center • 135 Davidson Avenue • Somerset, NJ**

We are very excited to announce the speakers for this year’s seminar on October 28, 2017 at the American Polish Cultural Center. The 4th Annual Nashi Predky Fall Conference - Unlock Your Heritage: Discover Your Ancestry - will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center located at 135 Davidson Avenue in Somerset, NJ on October 6-7, 2017. The event features internationally known experts in Eastern European genealogy, and will span two days, including a full-day dedicated to DNA along with Saturday’s workshop on Using Cadastral Maps, opportunity for networking, and the choice of seven lectures.

New to the conference in 2017!

The Nashi Predky Family History Group is proud to offer two full days of programming. Participants may register for either Friday or Saturday, or the full two-day conference at reduced pricing. In addition to the presentations, the event will have vendors and cultural display areas.

On Friday, October 6th, DNA Day offers participants three lectures, Q&A Panel open discussion and dinner. Registration opens at 2 p.m. and a light dinner will be available. The presentations by Melissa Johnson, CG are: Genetic Genealogy: A Beginner’s Guide, Diving Deeper into Genetic Genealogy, and Using Autosomal DNA in Genealogy. The DNA Panel Discussion will be hosted by: Melissa Johnson, CG, Natalie Asikainen, Bruce Romanchuk, an Administrator of the Facebook group “Lemko Ancestry & DNA”, and Prof. Volodymyr Bodnar, the leader of the FamilyTreeDNA group “Ukrainian DNA Genealogy - Український ДНК-родовід”.

On Saturday, October 7th, the second day of the “Unlock Your Heritage: Discover Your Ancestry” opens with registration at 8 a.m. with a light continental breakfast. At 9 a.m., the morning sessions start off with the presentation “Galicia: An Ethnic and Religious Melting Pot” by Zbigniew Stettner where he will describe ethnic and religious mixture in Galicia and show how this knowledge can help you trace your ancestors.

After the opening session, a dual-track day begins with presentations by Rhoda Miller, CG, “Finding Families in Russian Era Ukraine: Census Records and More”, and by Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, “Ukrainian Catholics in America: A History.”

Participants will be offered a buffet luncheon featuring ethnic food and networking time during the lunch break.

The afternoon sessions continue the dual-track offerings: “1920s-1940s Polish State Archives Records for Lemkos” by Zbigniew Stettner; “Ten Ways to Jumpstart Your Eastern European Research” by Lisa Alzo; “Did My Great-Grandmother Have a Family? A Problem-Solving Case Study” by Rhoda Miller, CG; and “Immigrant Cluster Communities: Past, Present and Future” by Lisa Alzo. An optional workshop, “Using 19th century Cadastral Maps to Trace Our Galician Ancestors,” hosted by Zbigniew Stettner, will show how to find the records in archives, interpret them, and teach how to compare cadastral maps with current maps using various software and websites.

The two-day event concludes with the door-prize drawings at 4:30 p.m.

Registration is now OPEN!

<<http://ukrhec.org/nashi-predky-conference-2017>>

Take advantage of the early-bird pricing through August 31st!!

Michelle Chubenko

“Our Ancestors -- Наші предки / Ukrainian Genealogy”

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

<<https://plus.google.com/u/0/communities/107238252771720982783>>

Co-Coordinator, Family History Group

Ukrainian Historical & Educational Center of NJ

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

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**Friday, October 13, and Saturday, October 14, 2017**

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

**and**

**THE S. A. BLEJWAS ENDOWED CHAIR OF POLISH AND POLISH AMERICAN  
STUDIES, CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**

cordially invite you to attend the **2017 GENEALOGY CONFERENCE** to learn the strategies for tracing your Polish-American and Eastern European roots.

It will be held at the Institute of Technology, Business and Development, Downtown campus of **Central Connecticut State University, 185 Main Street, New Britain, CT** on Friday, October 13, 2017 and Saturday, October 14, 2017.

Featured speakers will be:

**Matthew Bielawa** (Vice-President, PGSCTNE)  
**Dr. Mieczyslaw B. Biskupski** (Endowed Chair, Polish and Polish-American Studies, CCSU)  
**Michelle Chubenko** (New Jersey)  
**David Ouimette** (Utah)  
**Tadeusz H. Pilat**, A.G. (Tarnobrzeg, Poland)  
**Thomas Sadauskas** (Virginia)  
**Jonathan Shea**, A.G., President, PGSCTNE)  
**Julie Szczepankiewicz** (Massachusetts).

A two-part seminar will be presented on “Introduction to Polish and Eastern European Family History.” Among the lectures scheduled are:

“Did Pilsudski Raise a Polish Army in America?”  
“Jersey Roots: Touring the Garden State”  
“Genealogy in Ukraine: Discover Online Resources”  
“The Story of Polish Immigrant Millworkers”  
“Europe’s World War II Displaced Persons: Their Little-Known Story”  
and “The Ins and Outs of Geneteka: How it Works and How to Use it Most Effectively.”

Tadeusz Pilat will speak on “Greek Catholics in Poland and Family Research” and “Military Conscription Lists in the Kingdom of Poland and Genealogical Research.”

For more information, please see our website at  
<<http://www.pgsctne.org/Conference%202017/List%20of%20hyperlinks.aspx>>

It includes our conference schedule, speakers’ biographies, and lecture summaries. There are also information and forms about our one-on-one consultation appointments with the speakers (a limited number are available), registration and lecture selections. Throughout the day, a collection of books, maps and other materials will be available to all attendees for consultation. Officers of the Society will be present to answer questions.

For more information, please email Diane Szepanski at <[Szepanski3@cox.net](mailto:Szepanski3@cox.net)>.

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**October 27–28, 2017**

**ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FALL CONFERENCE**  
**“Build Your Family Tree: DNA, Research, & Writing”**  
**iWireless Center • Radisson on John Deere Commons-Moline • 1415 River Drive**  
**Moline, Illinois**

The 2017 Fall Conference of the ISGS will be held Friday, October 27, through Saturday, October 28, at the iWireless Center in Moline, Illinois. For more information as it is posted, see this page on the ISGS Website: <<https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=536>>.

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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 about the different customs and present a personal family story that 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.polishroots.org/GenPoland/tabid/459/Default.aspx>>

For years, people interested in Polish research, especially in the area of former Provinz Posen, have benefited from the site <<http://www.donhoward.net/genpoland/index.htm>>. But last month, I started reading posts to the Posen-L list complaining that the site was no longer accessible. I mentioned this to Don Szumowski, and he set up the above link on the PolishRoots site. Just now, out of curiosity, I checked the URL at Donhoward.net, and it worked. But since it doesn't always seem to be available, and Don went to the trouble of making the info accessible on PolishRoots, I think it might be better to bookmark the latter and use it in the future.

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<<http://www.jri-poland.org/miriam-weiner-rtrf-agreement.htm>>

In a post to the JewishGen newsgroup, Stanley Diamond, Executive Director of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland (JRI-Poland), announced a new collaboration with Miriam Weiner

(President of the Routes to Roots Foundation). Miriam has done pioneering work in Polish research for decades, and now she is sharing a large collection of archival inventories, name lists, cemetery lists and other unique data and information that has not been seen outside of the archives in Eastern Europe. It will take time to go through all this material and index it, but the process has begun. You can read more about it at the above URL. Obviously, this benefits Jewish researchers the most; but my experience suggests that advances for one group often influence others. Don't be too quick to assume resources aimed primarily at Jewish researchers have nothing to offer you just because you're not Jewish!

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<https://blog.eogn.com/2017/07/06/how-to-find-genealogy-family-history-and-local-history-books-in-the-internet-archive/>

This entry from the blog for *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* [EOGN], discusses the WayBack Machine Archive, which can often help you resurrect websites you used to love that have vanished into cyberspace. Eastman has often written on using the WayBack; a list of other EOGN articles on this subject is at <http://bit.ly/2ttEHvd>. Eastman also recommends visiting this page <https://archive.org/details/genealogy>. And he reminds us – it's all free!

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<https://blog.eogn.com/2017/07/06/time-to-support-the-national-archives-and-library-of-congress/>

This is another item from EOGN, which recommends reading the article at <http://bit.ly/2sQnsIT> and taking appropriate action.

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<http://masterpage.com.pl/>

This site, "MasterPage – All About Poland," has been around quite a while. We mentioned it in the Spring 2001 issue of *Rodziny*. I had not visited it since then, but I took a look the other day. It has a huge amount of material on Polish history, culture, society, you name it. Visit this website: odds are good you'll find info on something that interests you.

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<http://blog.dearmyrtle.com/2017/06/no-more-fhl-microfilm-myrtle-take.html>

This blog entry from Dear Myrtle discusses the FHL decision to halt use of microfilm. I particularly like it because it reminds us that digitizing records was not covered by the original agreements the FHL made with various archives. So the FHL will have to make deals with each source to cover digitization.

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<http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/2017/06/28/WhyFamilySearchIsEndingMicrofilmRentalHowToGetGenealogyRecordsNow.aspx>

This GenealogyInsider entry by Diane Haddad adds more insights on the subject, with recommendations on how to cope with the upcoming changes. There's still time to make sure you don't end up losing out. If that rather long URL doesn't work, try <https://goo.gl/R72duC>.

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<<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/search/?query=poland>>

Valerie Warunek posted this link to the Facebook group Polish Culture, Food and Traditions, saying “This site may be of interest to members in this group.” Our group, too, I’m guessing.

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<<http://www.lostshoebox.com/poland/online-records/>>

Researcher Waldemar Chorążewicz noted (on Facebook, if memory serves) that this is a very useful site for beginners. Sometimes those of us who have been involved with genealogy for a while forget that those just starting out could use a hand. This site may provide one. Also, if you are on Facebook, the Polish Genealogy group is well worth checking out.

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<<http://genealogyindexer.org/>>

The Genealogy Indexer site has added a large number of German-language items dealing with Poland, including address and business directories for Gleiwitz (Gliwice), Graudenz (Grudziądz), Rawitsch (Rawicz), Stettin (Szczecin), Königshütte (Chorzów), and Thorn (Toruń). They date from the late 1800s to the early 1900s.

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<<http://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/lithuanian-book-smugglers>>

Bob Krampetz posted this link to the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list, and it’s a very interesting article by Michael Waters about the *knygnešiai* or book-carriers who smuggled books in Lithuanian into that country while it was ruled by Tsarist Russia. The text is well written, and the graphics add a lot to the article. Again, don’t assume this doesn’t apply to you: lots of ethnic Poles lived in Lithuania, and this bit of history sheds light on how Lithuanians, like Poles, refused to let the Russian Empire stifle their culture!

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<<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1803785>>

Valerie Warunek shared this link on the Facebook group Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. The name of the collection says it all: “United States Border Crossings from Canada to United States, 1895-1956.”

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<[http://polishcanadians.ca/?page\\_id=39](http://polishcanadians.ca/?page_id=39)>

Valerie also shared this link, “Parishes (30) – Polish Canadians Network.”

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<<https://briantonenmph.com/gis/historical-disease-maps/Deutschland/>>

Yet another post from Valerie gave this link to a map illustrating data on four Prussian diseases affecting Germans and Poles around 1880. The accompanying text is not light reading, but it is very interesting, and tells us a lot about what our ancestors had to deal with.

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