

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

*** SENDING PAYMENT TO THE STATE ARCHIVES ***

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

Recently I heard from a reader who ran into the same problem that has bedeviled researchers for years: bank fees for sending money to Poland. I'm pretty sure we've discussed this before, but it wouldn't hurt to talk about it again.

I need to cite a little recent history to make this clear. Ron Hoffman wrote to me some time ago, asking for guidance in research for the village of Jednaczewo. I figured anybody with a name as splendid as Hoffman deserves all the help he wants, so I printed his note as a Letter to the Editor. Native Pole and experienced researcher Ola Heska kindly responded with some good tips. Let me reprint what she wrote, since it's good info in its own right and is relevant to what follows.

Ola wrote this in a note I printed in a past issue:

I'm writing to you mainly regarding Ron Hoffman's request for guidance. You did most of the legwork already, figuring out that the name of the village was Jednaczewo. It turns out that Jednaczewo was located in the parish of Łomża. Since Ron knows that the marriage took place in 1908, I would write an e-mail to the State Archive in Białystok, Łomża branch and request that marriage record of Antonina Leszczyńska and Adam Węgrowski:

Archiwum Państwowe w Białymstoku Oddział w Łomży 18-400 Łomża, al. Legionów 36

tel: (86) 473-53-01; fax: 473-53-02; e-mail: <lomza@bialystok.ap.gov.pl>

This marriage record should give Antonina's parents names, and open the door to further research:)

I checked the LDS catalog and they only have Łomża records through 1870. We have marriages for Łomża indexed on the Geneteka site (http://www.geneteka.genealodzy.pl) but only through 1901. According to Baza Pradziad, the above archive has marriage records through 1912. I found that in general State Archives are definitely THE way to go, rather than contacting a parish, if we have a choice. So that's what I am recommending.

When writing an e-mail to the archive (simple English is OK), Ron should remember to sign the e-mail with his full name and full address. That's one of the requirements the State Archives give on their website.

Recently, Ron sent me an update, and gave me permission to share it with our readers. Here is what he wrote:

I have since contacted them and they request a down-payment of \$12.00 for the first hour of work. They only accept this through a bank to bank transfer. Yesterday I had my bank send the money to them. The cost of this transfer was \$50.00. I have a feeling once the research is finished I will owe them some additional money, meaning another transfer and another \$50.00.

They also said it may take up to three months to get the results of their search.

Once all is said and done, I will let you know what they find and the total cost. That info may be of interest to your readers.

Thanks for the help.

Ron Hoffman

Sadly, Ron is not the only one who's had this experience. The State Archives require payment by a wire transfer, bank-to-bank; and the bank fees are often ridiculous. It would be nice if the State Archives accepted PayPal, by far the easiest way to transfer money across borders. But it doesn't.

One method many have found useful is a wire transfer with a company such as U. S. Money Express http://www.usmoneyexpress.com/, which took over the business of the former company PEKAO. I have used them to transfer money directly to Polish banks at a very reasonable fee. I believe XOOM has also worked well for some https://www.xoom.com/poland/send-money, though I personally have never used that company.

The State Archives realize that if we want to play their game, we have to play by their rules. I wish they could find a way to accept payment that is less onerous; but I guess the experience of recent years has taught them that bank transfers are the way that works best for them. I can't recall for sure, but I seem to remember there was a time they were willing to accept personal checks, for instance. Maybe I'm wrong. In any case, with checks there's a danger of being burned; and fees for cashing personal checks in Poland are as outrageous as bank transfer fees.

Many of us need documents that are only available in Poland, and that will probably continue for the foreseeable future. Let's face it, not everything is online; in fact, some of the best stuff is not, and won't be any time soon. We need to be able to send money to Poland; and unless you have a PayPal account and the payee also has one, you're out luck. You've got to find a way to pay that works for the folks in Poland as well as for us.

That means transfers versus banks or companies that deal directly with banks. The fees can be ruinous, but I believe there are options that don't require taking out a second mortgage. I'm glad to pass them along, and I welcome info from any of our readers on methods that worked well for them.

*** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ***

Subject: More about Poles in India

Editor—We mentioned a nice online article in the latest issue of *Cosmopolitan Review*. Maureen Mroczek Morris wrote to thank us and give us more info.

MANY thanks for including this link in the latest issue of Gen Dobry! MUCH appreciated.

BTW: There are some good articles in CR about Poles in India:

- http://cosmopolitanreview.com/second-homeland/
- http://cosmopolitanreview.com/the-noble-and-compassionate-heart/
- http://cosmopolitanreview.com/wanda-dynowska-umadevi/
- http://cosmopolitanreview.com/hanka-ordonowna/
- http://cosmopolitanreview.com/stefan-norblin-an-artist-comes-home/
- http://cosmopolitanreview.com/recovering-a-stolen-childhood/

Maureen Mroczek Morris

Editor—Who knew there was so much good material about Poles in India? (Maybe everyone but me!) We always appreciate the info you share with us, Maureen.

Subject: English Is a Lot Easier If You Grow up Speaking it!

Editor: Jerry Ceasar sent me a response to this article in the last issue of *Gen Dobry!* It's brief and to the point, and I thought it was very interesting; so I asked for his permission to share it with you.

I read recently that Poles are becoming the largest foreign born minority in England. I know they were the largest foreign born minority in Oxford when I was there 2 years ago.

I recall being on a Greek cruise that Cambridge U. ran for their alums and they said: If you want to get a good plumber in London, you had to get a Polish plumber.

Jerry Ceasar (Przybylowicz before my grandfather Powel Cezar Przybylowicz became Paul Ceasar)

Editor—I never get tired of learning new things like this. Thanks! And here's another note I got in reaction to that article.

I enjoyed your article, thanks.

Several years ago, doing genealogy research, I fortuitously met up online with someone who was also researching our same family. I was glad to learn his English was excellent and we were able to fill in many holes in our common family tree. He turned out to be an unknown-at-the-time, second cousin once removed

Your article covered some of what I'd already discovered. Polish—particularly handwritten in a semi-legal document from the late 19th century—did not make any sense to Google or Bing, let alone me (particularly with my own misreading of the many words). Happily, I now had my newly found Polish cousin do a proper translation.

The most surprising was when I had Google translate "Happy Easter" for a timely e-mail greeting.. I got "Wesolych Świąt," which looked familiar. Plugging my Polish "Happy Easter" back to Google, I quickly saw the strange results of "Merry Christmas"! My cousin did explain the oddness of that..

I did find "Polish Origins" (http://PolishOrigins.com) with a generous translator that was able to handle the Polish records of my German ancestors.

A long time reader,

Bob Krampetz Portland, OR (land of food carts, craft beer, and too few Polish restaurants)

Editor—It's great that you found a cousin to help you out. A connection with a real, live Pole can prove tremendously valuable. That's why I suggest people consider looking for possible relatives on social sites such as Facebook and Nasza Klasa (Our Class) http://nk.pl, or trying to link up with pen pals in Poland. There's just so much that mystifies us but Poles grasp immediately. And I'm not surprised PolishOrigins came through for you; they do a lot to help American researchers.

Subject: Help Needed

A while back, I went to visit Poland and searched for roots. I found the local church in the area my paternal GM came from, Kolbuszowa. She was supposedly born in Mechowiec, about 2-3 km away. In the church we were able to search thru the church records for the period from 1880 thru 1910, looking for familiar birth, death and marriage records. I found absolutely nothing, neither in grandmother's family name nor even close relative's names. The only thing I ever found is Ellis Island records, which were very close to what she had provided for info for coming to USA.

I visited the local cemetery in Cmolas, and after checking every grave there, found no familiar

names either. I found a family in Mechowiec that had same last name; but after conversing with them, we determined we were not related. I am sure of the town/village names as my grandmother wrote them down for me. She was the oldest of 10 bros & sisters from two mothers (1st died after 5 births), but no records of deaths, even of her grandfather, whose name she provided.

I am going back to Poland in summer 2015. Where could you suggest I research? Rzeszów? Kielce? Mielec? Sandomierz? Again in Kolbuszowa church records?

Also, I am interested in search for records in Motwica and possibly Zbojno, which are northeast of Lublin in a line Lublin/Sławatycze, and due west of Włodawa (on a Google map), for my maternal GF.

Also, could you recommend anyone in Poland who does genealogical research and speaks English who would be willing to hire on for research or to accompany me when I visit again?

Ed Mucha

Editor—I'm not sure what the next step would be, and I'd like to invite our readers to speak up. After all, most of you have more experience doing actual research than I do. Likewise, speak up if you know a good Polish researcher who speaks English and is particularly good in those parts of Poland. If you have a good idea, write me <wfh@langline.com> and I'll pass your words along to Mr. Mucha. Thanks!

*** POLISH ORIGINS KINGDOM OF POLAND TOUR ***

Editor—The latest edition of PolishOrigins' newsletter included several interesting items, but I wanted to make sure our readers know about this proposed tour.

PO Kingdom of Poland Tour is our new proposal, dedicated for all people deeply interested in history, culture and traditions of Poland, especially for those of you who have their roots in the former Russian partition of Poland, including today's Lithuania.

It is an eleven days' journey in Central, North - East Poland and Lithuania.

You will visit the romantic land of Henryk Sienkiewicz novels, Adam Mickiewicz's Lithuania, described in his *Pan Tadeusz* (Sir Thaddeus), and on to Chopin's beloved Polish landscapes. We will help you to understand the twists and turns of history, such as the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the Russian partition of Poland, and the dramatic fate of the Polish people, during World War II.

We will show you two capitals, Warsaw and Vilnius, along with the region where the cultures of Jews, Poles, Lithuanians, Tatars, Russians, and Karaites, intermingled and clashed. We will also see where the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches meet, and many more...

Here are planned dates for PO Kingdom of Poland for 2015:

- 29 May 8 June, 2015
- 26 June 6 July, 2015
- 21-31 August, 2015

Find out more about the tour and its itinerary on our website: http://kingdom.polishorigins.com/

*** WEB CAMS IN POLAND ***

by Debbie Greenlee

Editor—Debbie Greenlee posted a list of web cams in Poland to several mailing lists earlier this month. I thought our readers might like to take a look, or add to it. So here's Debbie's note.

If your relatives lived in a small village you probably won't find that it has a web cam. Web cams are found in gminas and powiats so you have to know your villages' gmina or powiat to see what's going on locally. If an ad (reklama) pops-up, click the X on it.

Białystok rynek: http://www.bialystokonline.pl/webcam.php?kamera=kosciuszki

Bielawa: http://www.wirtualnabielawa.pl/k1.html

Bochnia: http://www.bochnia.eu/kamera/

Bolesławiec (home of the famous pottery): http://www.istotne.pl/boleslawiec-kamery

Brzeg: http://www.brzeg.pl/index.php?option=21&raw_id=1

Bydgoszcz rynek: http://bydgoszcz.com/kamery/?cam=staryrynek

Głogów, come back in about 7 hours during daylight: http://www.glogow.pl/kamera.php

Kazimierz Dolny rynek, might be in color during the day: http://www.kazimierzdolny.net/1660/

Krosno: < http://nstream.pl/kamera/krosno rynek>

Lublin: http://bip.lublin.eu/um/index.php?t=200&id=40684

Nowy Sacz rynek decorated for Christmas: http://www.nowysacz.pl/kamera-2>

Rzeszów rynek: http://www.rzeszow.pl/turystyka/widok-z-kamery/rynek

Sandomierz rynek: http://www.sandomierz.pl/filmy/kamera4.htm

Warsaw rynek: http://warszawa.webcamera.pl/

Zakopane, anyone for skiing? http://www.zol.pl/webcam4/>

Editor—Thanks, Debbie! If anyone wishes to add a site, I'd love to hear about it.

*** UPCOMING EVENTS ***

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

January 6, 2015

OAKLAND COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY (OCGS) "RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY AT THE ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN"

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5500 N. Adams Road, Troy, Michigan

On Tuesday, January 6, 2015 the Oakland County Genealogical Society (OCGS) is pleased to present a program titled "Researching Your Family History at the Archives of Michigan". **Kris Rzepczynski**, a senior archivist, will begin by providing an introduction to the Archives of Michigan, which is located in Lansing, MI. Kris will then explore, in more detail, the genealogical collections that are available for both online and on-site family history research. Please join us for this interesting and informative presentation.

OCGS meets at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5500 N. Adams Road in Troy. It is located on the east side of Adams Road about halfway between Long Lake Rd. and Square Lake Rd., where Westview Rd. intersects from the west. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM and the public is invited. There is no charge. The church has a flat entrance and ample lighted parking.

[From a note posted by Valerie Warunek to the Polish Genealogy Society of Michigan's Facebook page on 29 December 2014]

January 12–16, 2015

SALT LAKE INSTITUTE OF GENEALOGY (SLIG) Salt Lake City, Utah

[The following announcement was written by the organizers of the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and appeared in Dick Eastman's *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*.]

The **Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy** (SLIG) will be held January 12-16, 2015. All courses and events will be held at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center Hotel. Labs, if applicable, and research facilities will be available at the Family History Library.

Registration: http://www.infouga.org/aem.php?lv=r&eid=12

Early-bird registration ends on October 31, 2014. If you log in as a member first your information will be populated and you will be automatically charged the reduced rate. If you are a non-UGA member you may purchase a membership, register as a non-member, and be refunded the difference. If you have questions please call the main UGA phone number at (801) 259-4172 or e-mail <<u>sligdirector@ugagenealogv.org</u>>. You will be given the option to pay by credit card using PayPal (you do not have to have a PayPal account) or by sending a check.

Tuition is \$375 for UGA members and \$425 for non-members (a \$50 savings). You MUST be logged in to the member's area of the website prior to registering to receive the member discount. These tuition prices are applicable through October 31, 2014 when early-bird registration expires. (After October 31, 2014, tuition is \$425 for UGA members and \$475 for non-members). Two payment options are available: pay online with your credit card via PayPal or pay via check through the mail. Your place in the course is reserved upon checkout.

Accommodations: http://www.infouga.org/aem.php?eid=12

We recommend staying at the conference hotel, the Hilton Salt Lake City Center in order to obtain the full institute experience and have access to special events and networking with the instructors and other attendees. SLIG's reduced rate is \$129/night (reduced from \$269/night). This rate is set for up to four people in a room. The rooms are spacious and a two-queen room can comfortably accommodate four people.

2015 Tracks

In 2015, SLIG is offering twelve tracks. The foremost experts in the field for each subject provide students with at least twenty hours of in-depth instruction on their topic. The format allows coordinators and instructors to build on the understanding gained from each lecture, building a foundation rather than giving scattered information. Students leave with a much deeper understanding of the topic. The following four tracks still have seats remaining:

Beyond the Library: Research in Original Source Repositories (John Colletta, Ph.D., FUGA)

This course explores repositories of original historical sources: archives, courthouses and manuscript collections. The purpose of this course is to take the mystery and trepidation out of using original source repositories.

Finding Immigrant Origins (David Ouimette, CG)

This course covers the key historical sources and research methodologies for family historians tracing immigrant origins. We explore chain migration, ethnic migration paths, surname localization, DNA evidence, cluster genealogy, and other tools to help find your immigrant's ancestral village.

Advanced Research Tools: Post-War Military Records (Craig R. Scott, CG, FUGA)

Wars by their nature create records; however records are created in the aftermath of war also. There is the pension application file(s) or a bounty land application file(s). But there is so much more in addition to these records. There is pension law, payment ledgers, payment vouchers, public and private claims, correspondence, state claims, soldiers homes, and burial records. This course will cover these topics in-depth.

Resources and Strategies for US Research, Part I (Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FUGA, FMGS)

This course provides in-depth study of 19th-21st century U.S. resources and methodologies for utilizing them. Analyze content, origin, location, and develop tools and strategies to interpret records.

We look forward to seeing you at SLIG in January 2015!

February 11–14, 2015

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES 2015 CONFERENCE Salt Lake City, Utah

Registration is now open for the FGS 2015 national conference scheduled for February 11–14 in Salt Lake City, Utah. This highly anticipated genealogy event puts the FGS and RootsTech conferences under one roof at the Salt Palace Convention Center (SPCC).

Registration opens with a special early bird price of \$139 for a full FGS conference registration. That pricing is available through **September 12, 2014** [*Editor*—in other words, too late now]. Attend only FGS or add-on a full RootsTech pass for an additional \$39. Register now at: http://FGSconference.org/2015, and visit that site for more information.

[From an e-mail sent out by FGS]

March 19, 2015

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS EVENT

LOCATING VITAL RECORDS IN POLAND USING ONLINE RESOURCES, OR, "I FOUND MY VILLAGE! NOW WHAT?" - BY JULIE ROBERTS SZCZEPANKIEWICZ

Elms College, Chicopee Massachusetts, 6:30 p.m.

Finding vital records for one's family in Poland is a critical step in exploring our Polish ancestry, but can sometimes be confusing. **Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz** will be our Spring 2015 meeting speaker and she will help both beginners and experienced researchers eliminate that confusion!

After a brief overview of the Polish partitions to introduce beginners to the history and geography of Poland, Julie will illustrate the use of church records, passenger manifests, naturalization records, and other documents to determine one's ancestral village, and will review the various websites that are instrumental in finding some of these documents online.

Finding the name of the village is only the first step, however. The next step is to determine where the records for that village are kept, which often requires one to know the parish. Experienced researchers, who already know the name of an ancestral village, will benefit from her introduction to some of the gazetteers and indexes that have come online in recent years, including the *Skorowidz Królestwa Polskiego*. Julie will also explore the options for locating Polish vital records online using websites such as Geneteka, Metryki.GenBaza, Metryki. Genealodzy.pl, and BaSIA.

About the speaker:

Julie's family history research began in 1992, with her first recorded interview with an older relative. In 1998, she moved beyond the "shoebox phase" when her husband gave her Family Tree Maker software for Christmas. She has been actively researching her Polish and German roots since then, in addition to raising her four children. Julie's academic background includes a B.A. in biological sciences and a Master's degree in endocrinology. This training as a scientist is reflected in Julie's approach to genealogical research, as she formulates her research questions in terms of hypotheses which can be supported or rejected using documentation.

Julie's areas of interest include villages in all three partitions (Prussian, Russian and Austrian) and she reads records in Latin, Polish and Russian. She volunteers as an Administrator and regular contributor to the Facebook group, Polish Genealogy. The Polish Genealogy group includes members from around the world, ranging in experience from beginners to professionals, and provides assistance with all aspects of Polish genealogy research, including analyzing group members' research puzzles and suggesting new strategies, providing assistance in locating documents, and offering translation assistance. All of this takes place in a friendly forum that has been compared to a genealogical society meeting which is taking place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The group can be found at https://www.facebook.com/groups/50089808265, and new members are always welcome.

In addition to her work on Facebook, Julie is a member of the Polish Genealogical Society of America, the Polish Genealogical Society of New York State, the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, and the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts. A native of Buffalo, New York, Julie currently resides in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, with her husband, Bruce, and their children.

[From a Facebook event page https://www.facebook.com/events/763543213728356/ as of 31 Dec 2014]

May 13-16, 2015

2015 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE CROSSROADS OF AMERICA St. Charles, Missouri

[The following article is from *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* and is copyright 2014 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://blog.eogn.com/>.]

Registration is now open for the National Genealogical Society's thirty-seventh annual family history conference, Crossroads of America, which will be held 13–16 May 2015 at the St. Charles Convention Center in St. Charles, Missouri. Conference highlights include a choice of more than 150 lectures, given by nationally known speakers and subject matter experts on a broad array of topics. The conference will open with The Tales of Pioneer Paths: Rivers, Roads & Rails given by J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA, a full-time professional researcher and educator, and former APG president.

Continuing NGS's goal of providing quality educational opportunities to its participants, the conference will feature a variety of lectures for all skill levels from beginner to advanced. Lecture topics covered at the conference will include: researching in many Midwestern states; national and regional migration paths; land, military, immigration, and naturalization records; ethnic and religious groups including African American, German, Irish, Jewish, Native American, Polish, and Scots-Irish; methodology, analysis, and problem solving; and the use of technology including genetics, mobile devices, and websites useful in genealogical research. The Board for Certification of Genealogists' Skillbuilding track will again be an integral part of the conference and presented over the four days of the event.

Registration is currently open. To register online, visit the NGS website at http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/event-registration/ and complete the registration form.

The online searchable program is available at http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/agenda/ and the PDF brochure is available at http://goo.gl/x92kAg. The brochure includes an overview of the sessions, tours, pre-conference events, registration times, and rates, as well as general conference and hotel details. Attendees are urged to visit the conference blog, which will feature tips on local and regional research facilities as well as things to do in and around St. Charles and updated information on hotel availability and local restaurants.

Founded in 1903, the National Genealogical Society is dedicated to genealogy education, high research standards, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Arlington, Virginia-based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, research guidance, and opportunities to interact with other genealogists.

*** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES ***

http://tinyurl.com/qym5cx4

In a note posted to the JewishGen newsgroup, Alexander Sharon responded to a question about children of unmarried parents. This issue often arises in Jewish research, because the religious marriages of Jews were sometimes not recognized by civil authorities, so children of that marriage were considered illegitimate. He gave this link to a Power Point presentation from Kraków's Jagiellonian University. "It says in particular that the children born from the non-recognized marriage will be recognized as legitimate when their parents will legalize their marriage, and recognize their children as legitimate. The follow up Article 165, updated in 1914, enforce the motion that illegitimate child shall carry on mother's maiden surname. Thus, Jewish religious marriage is not recognized as legitimate, and children born into such marriage are illegitimate." While of primary interest to Jewish researchers, it is conceivable non-Jews might also benefit from familiarity with this source.

http://www.przemysl.ap.gov.pl/aktualnosci/ogoszenia/236-skany-online.html?lang=pl

Ola Heska posted a note to the PGS-Michigan's Facebook page announcing great news for all who seek records from the State Archive in Przemyśl! The above URL takes you to a list of 135,000 records that have been digitized already. And this link takes you to the records online: http://www.przemysl.ap.gov.pl/skany/. Ola added, "Some (or perhaps all) of these materials will also be available at the PTG (Polish Genealogical Society) website at Metryki. They may be indexed at some point, depending whether there will be volunteers interested in this area."

http://blog.dearmyrtle.com/2014/11/two-thoughts-popularity-of-genealogy-as.html

The 30 November 2014 issue of *The Genealogy News* included a link to this blog post, in which "Dear Myrtle" cites two mainstream media outlet links discussing genealogy as a possible business category. They're interesting reading, especially for anyone with notions of getting into genealogy as a business opportunity.

http://www.torugg.org/Publications/iv frank raion vill.html#villagesalphabet>

In a post to the GaliciaPoland-Ukraine mailing list, "VS alias Theobald" gave this link to villages in Ivano-Frankivśk Oblast of Ukraine that have been filmed by the Family History Library. Numerous Americans and Canadians have roots in this area, so this list could be useful to a number of our readers

http://www.cmentarzeprzemysl.pl/

In another post to the GaliciaPoland-Ukraine list, Maria Picker mentioned that a researcher used this site to find where her great-grandmother and great aunt were buried; and the researcher then found out who paid for the burials, which gave him names he could look up at the civil registry office. So if you have roots in the Przemyśl area, this may be worth a look.

https://tinyurl.com/mv5yyph>

In a post to the JewishGen newsgroup, Jan Meisels Allen mentioned a "holiday special genealogy boot camp" recently conducted by Thomas MacEntee and Lisa Alzo, both well known and popular genealogists. This link lets you download the handout, http://vimeo.com/113207111> lets you access the video, and you can get more info, including the topics covered and time references, here: http://hackgenealogy.com/holiday-special-boot-camp-handout-recording-free/.

http://genealogyindexer.org/directories#Warsaw

Among the items now available from the GenealogyIndexer.org site is the 1939/1940 *Księga adresowo-gospodarcza miasta stołecznego Warszawy* or Warsaw Business and Homeowners Directory, which you can browse at this URL. Or you can go to the home page, http://genealogyindexer.org/, and do a full-text search of the many publications and directories indexed on the site. Incidentally, if you find a match in that 1939/1940 directory, please contact Logan Kleinwaks (*kleinwaks@alumni.princeton.edu*) and tell him about it. The information could prove very helpful.

http://familytreewebinars.com/

The 14 December 2014 issue of *Nu? What's New?* included an item on registration for the 2015 Legacy Family Tree Webinar series. It's quite a series, with some impressive names (including Lisa Alzo and Thomas MacEntee). You can get the complete schedule at the above address, which includes a link to download and print the brochure. The same issue also spoke of four education courses in the first quarter of 2015 being offered by JewishGen; you can get more info at http://www.jewishgen.org/education.

https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/soc.genealogy.jewish/GuoPSUQnQWo

There was a very interesting discussion this month on the JewishGen newsgroup and the Yahoo Group soc.genealogy.jewish. Judith Singer asked what documents Jewish immigrants needed to enter the U.S. circa 1900. There were a number of good replies, and a recap by Judith concluding U.S. law did not require any documents, but one did need documents beginning in Europe, when purchasing a ticket or boarding a ship. The whole discussion is a useful read that sheds light on what info had to be provided, to whom, and how it was handled at the port of entry — which in turn clarifies why names were <u>not</u> changed at Ellis Island. If you have a moment and a Yahoo account that lets you access Yahoo Groups, you might want to browse through the discussion.

http://szukajwarchiwach.pl/72/200/0/-/str/1/300?sort=4#tabJednostki

The 7 December 2014 issue of *Nu? What's New?* included a notice that the Polish State Archives has digitized and place online Jewish vital records of Warsaw for 1858–1912. The index is located at this URL. The article also mentioned that use of the JRI-Poland Index can make it much easier to locate a specific record.

http://szukajwarchiwach.pl/53/474/0/19.3#tabJednostki

In a post to the Posen-L mailing list, Brigitta Seidel gave this URL as a link to the Posen Einwohnermeldekartei, Letters A (p. 1) to R (p. 53). This is the file of people registering as official residents of Posen/Poznań.

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