



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>>

***** DON'T DISMISS FACEBOOK TOO QUICKLY! *****

by *Fred Hoffman* <wfh@langline.org>

I was first encouraged to join Facebook some years ago. Not surprisingly, it was a person much younger than I who said “Try it, you’ll like it!” My thought was, not freaking likely. After all, in high school, I was consistently voted “Most Antisocial” in my class, as well as “Most Likely to Secede.” Classmates would burble on about what a nice guy I’d be if I were just more open and giving. I would tell them, “Screw you all, I’m going home.” Why on earth would I want to subject myself to the horrors of a social networking site?

But I try to keep an open mind; you never know what might turn out to be pretty cool, if you give it a chance. So I signed up. Despite being told by my young brother-in-law, “Fred, you really suck at Facebook,” I stuck with it. It gave me a way of knowing what some of my friends and relatives are up to. I spent perhaps a total of an hour a week on it.

I knew from the remarks of others that I was not the only one of my generation to consider Facebook a fad, and a rather dumb one at that. Lots of people—not all of them over 50, actually—will tell you proudly that they don’t waste time on social media. And of course, once old farts like me started to infest Facebook, the young folks fled it in droves. I’d ask my granddaughters for the names of the sites they like to use, but it changes every hour. Plus, I suspect the girls are sworn to secrecy in the matter.

The odd thing is, Facebook has become more and more interesting to those of us who like a little substance mixed in with the superficial friending and liking and whatnot. It’s actually getting to the point where researchers perplexed by real problems are connecting there with those who know the answers. It’s like, OMG, people are learning things on Facebook, WTF?

Consider just a few of the groups I’ve joined on Facebook:

- Polish Genealogy <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/50089808265/>>

Folks are posting documents that puzzle them, or giving details of their dead ends, and within hours, even minutes, they’re getting solid, substantial help!

- Genealogia Polaków <<https://www.facebook.com/genealogiapolakow>>

This, “Genealogy of Poles,” is the Facebook presence of a group with its website at <<http://www.genealogia.okiem.pl/>>. It’s in Polish, but what the hell, you’re going to have to grow up and take a swing or two in the big leagues one of these days.

- Polish Culture, Food and Traditions <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/807349475945145/>>

This group was just started by Valerie Warunek, who’s also very active on the Facebook page of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, which I also joined <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/84920869072/>>. Incidentally, as you would expect, many of the PGS’s in the United States have Facebook pages, including:

PGS-Connecticut and the Northeast

<<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Polish-Genealogical-Society-of-Connecticut-and-the-Northeast/175145372572821>>

PGS-Texas

<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/268568647678/>>

PGS-Massachusetts

<<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Polish-Genealogical-Society-of-Massachusetts/171275172961018>>

PGS-New York State

<<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Polish-Genealogical-Society-of-New-York-State/125523827501958>>, and

Polish Genealogical Society of America

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

- Polish American Writers & Editors <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/111692360143/>>

This is not a large group, and it doesn't drown you in postings. But most of what's said there is worth paying attention to.

- Genealogy Translations <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogytranslation/>>

This group, started within the last few days by Nick M. Gombash, is growing at an enormous rate. It actually brings together people who can translate documents with people who need documents translated. Help is given freely—though you'll still have to sort out those who know what they're talking about from those who don't. But that's true of any source of information, isn't it?

That's just a small sampling; there are undoubtedly lots of excellent pages I don't know about. Just this weekend, I saw a posting by Valerie Warunek to the PGSM group in which she mentioned a file maintained by Katherine R. Willson, "Genealogy Links on Facebook." It's over 100 pages long and has 3,700+ links. You can download it here:

<<http://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>>

If you've tried Facebook and it's not your cup of tea, believe me, I understand. I'd just like to make sure our readers don't overlook a possible source of help. Even if writer Theodore Sturgeon was right when he said "90% of everything is crud," that means 10% is worth something. And 10% of 3,700 links is 370. If Katherine Willson's list gives us 370 Facebook links that might be worthwhile, don't you think they might be worth a look?

*** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ***

Subject: If You Stop Receiving *Gen Dobry!*

Editor—One of our readers wrote me earlier this month with a problem I hear all too often. I wanted to print my answer because it might help you if the same thing happens to you.

I have not received an issue of *Gen Dobry!* in quite awhile, is it still available? If so I would like to be on the e-mail list.

Editor—I get one or two of these notes every month, as people are dropped from our mailing list for some reason. The usual culprit is anti-malware software. Somewhere along the line, a mail server analyzes *Gen Dobry!* and mistakes it for spam. It returns the note to our e-mail client, which concludes the e-mail address is no longer valid and drops it from the list. It's happened to me—I've been dropped from the this list before! It's very frustrating.

The best way to handle this, in most cases, is simply to sign up again here:

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

There's a little envelope icon near the bottom of the large box, and the label "Sign up for our Email newsletter." It should allow you to register with PolishRoots and thus restore your subscription. If this doesn't work, or you have a problem, contact the PolishRoots webmaster, Don Szumowski, <dszumowski@aol.com>. He owns the website, and he's the only person who can add you to the mailing list -- other than you yourself. I'd do it if I could, but access to the list is restricted (in an attempt to protect the privacy of people who subscribe).

I'm sorry you were dropped from the list, and I wish I knew some way to keep this from happening. But as long as miserable so-and-so's keep trying to send us spam and malware, e-mail servers are going to try to protect people from it -- and their protective measures are not foolproof. They often mistake legitimate mail for spam. This way of losing subscribers is a problem all e-zine publishers have, and no one has found a way around it, other than to apologize and ask you to resubscribe.

***** SUPPORT THE POZNAŃ PROJECT! *****

by Debbie Greenlee

Editor—Debbie Greenlee posted this note on the PolishGenius list on March 1. I thought it made a very good case for why we should support the Poznań Project, not out of generosity but out of intelligent self-interest!

If you've ever searched the database at The Poznań Project and found an ancestor you may not realize what it has taken for the Project to go past the one-million record mark. One-million records! Do you know how long it takes to even count that high?

The project is the result of Łukasz Bielecki's idea. It started over 8 years ago. Łukasz obtained church marriage (Catholic and Lutheran) records from every parish in the old województwo of Poznań. With tremendous help of volunteers who transcribed and indexed the marriage records, the database has just passed 1,070,000 records.

<<http://poznan-project.psnk.pl/>>

For those who never performed research before the invention of the computer, you have no idea what a tremendous help, time and money saver The Poznań Project has been.

Though the database is free to use, there are expenses Łukasz has to handle. Łukasz does need financial help with maintaining the web site as well as obtaining records for indexing and now he's going to expand this exceptional database by adding civil records.

This is a plea for donations. *Any* amount of money will be appreciated, so don't think that even \$5.00 is too little. It all adds up. If even half of the Polish Genius members sent \$5.00, that would be \$2,050.00! Go to this page for information on how to donate. It's sooo easy!

<<http://poznan-project.psnk.pl/page.php?page=join>>

It's people like Łukasz and all of his volunteers that make it easy for you to find family information from your comfy chair.

Thanks
Debbie

***** THE LATEST FROM WWW.GENTTEAM.AT *****

by Felix Gundacker

Editor—I like to pass along updates from <<http://www.gentteam.at>> whenever Dr. Gundacker sends them out. I know at least some of you have roots in the former Austrian Empire, and can benefit from the sources available through this site.

<<http://www.GenTeam.at>> - approximately 220,000 additional records available

Vienna, March 16th, 2014

New at GenTeam

1. New Database: Jewish cemeteries Nuremberg:
2. Approximately 5,500 entries
3. Index of Catholic Baptisms of Vienna:
4. Approximately 121,000 new entries
5. Registry Indices of church records from Upper and Lower Austria: approximately 92,000 new entries

Dear Colleagues!

On our own account:

With these newly provided databases, the 23,500 registered users now have more than 10.4 million records immediately at their disposal. I would like to express here my heart-felt thanks to all those individuals who have furnished GenTeam in the last 4 years with vital information, all those who work on long-term projects, but also those who work behind the scenes to ensure that GenTeam functions properly and continuously is able to expand.

All Databases at GenTeam can be called up free of charge.

GenTeam is a non-profit organisation, and there is no membership fee connected to this organization. GenTeam is an association of historians and genealogists who work independently or as a team on databases and furnish this data free of charge to all researchers.

GenList – the genealogical Message board/Mailing-List

Many of your genealogical questions like people searches, place searches or much-needed reading help can be answered in this mailing list by the 1,500 members who live inland or abroad. The mailing list is bilingual and moderated. Register today and utilize this great opportunity to post your questions or help answer other members their questions.

GenLink – the genealogical link collection

While searching through search engines you are often bombarded with too many web pages, or you cannot find certain pages any longer, or you are linked through clever programming to various unusable pages; however, the researcher will find relevant links on our genealogical link collection. In addition, any researcher can also add new valuable links to the web site. Genlink is also free of charge. Sorry, only in German.

1. NEW: Jewish Cemeteries in Nuremberg

Approximately 5,500 entries

In this database the old and new cemetery in Nuremberg list surname, given name, profession, some also list date of birth, age, date of burial and cemetery, and in many cases additional genealogical information. In the new cemetery the location of the burial plot is also specified.

2. Baptismal Index Vienna for the Years Between 1585 and 1900

Approximately 121,000 new records, in total more than 464,000

Approximately 121,000 entries collected from the following parishes were added: Altlerchenfeld (herewith completed), Döbling, Dominican Maria Rotunda (completed), Gumpendorf, Mariatreu (Piarists), Pötzleinsdorf (completed), St. Josef Margarethen, St. Ulrich, Währing und the Lower Austrian Birthing Center (Landesgebäranstalt).

At this point, I would like to extend my gratitude to Cindy Lindau, Daniela Mathuber, Ernst Schroth, Gerda Smodej, Judith Starke, Walter Thurner, as well as to all those individuals who already work on additional indices which will be published in the near future.

In the 19th century approximately 3,5 million people from all the countries of the Habsburg Monarchy and beyond moved to Vienna. In 1910 Vienna's population was approximately 2.1 million. Vienna was then the sixth largest city in the world. Almost all families in the monarchy had family connections to the city of Vienna. However, to date there still is no central birth registry for Vienna besides the Jewish Birth Registry already published on <<http://www.GenTeam.at>>.

I invite you all to help with this fascinating project, so that we can create a complete general index of all baptisms. No travel or visits to parish offices are required; the indices can be furnished in digital form or they can be found partially on <<http://www.matricula-online.eu>>. Since there are only a few typed indices, fewer beautifully hand-written and some not so beautiful hand-written indices available, I am sure, interested collaborators will find some part to help.

3. Parish Registry Indices – New Records

Approximately 92,000 records from Catholic parish registers from Upper and Lower Austria were added. Parishes with established time frames you will find under 'help' at www.GenTeam.at.

Lower Austria:

Dobermansdorf, Etzen, Ferschnitz, Frankenfels, Göttlesbrunn, Grafenschlag, Großgöttfritz, Harmammschlag, Hauskirchen, Heidenreichstein, Herrnbaumgarten, Höflein, Jagenbach, Kirchschlag im Waldviertel, Margarethen am Moos, Oberhauzenthal, Reinprechtspölla, Rieggers, Trautmannsdorf, Waldenstein, Wildendürnbach.

Upper Austria:

Maria Neustift, a city in the Inn District.

At this point, I would like to express my appreciation to Ursula Baldemaier, Franz Berger, Fritz Eichler, Martina Gelbmann, Ludwig Hansen, Johann Hochstöger, Kornelia Pommer, Johann Reisenhofer, Leopold Strenn and Franz Spevacek for their valuable help.

If you would like to take part with GenTeam in creating a database or if you would like to furnish your own, or if you simply have a question, please contact me anytime.

Sincerely yours,

Felix Gundacker

e-mail: <kontakt@GenTeam.at>

Profession: <<http://www.ihff.at>>

Databases: <<http://www.GenTeam.at>>

Facebook: <<https://www.facebook.com/GenTeam.Die.genealogische.Datenbank>>

***** MORE ON POLISHORIGINS' GALICIA TOURS *****

by Zenon Znamirowski

Editor—Zenon Znamirowski posted this note to the Polish Genius list on March 19. I have printed info on the Galicia Tours before, but some of these details seemed worth passing along, especially the dates of individual tours—all of which still had openings when Zenon posted this.

After getting permission and encouragement from Debbie [Greenlee] I decided to share with you information about our PolishOrigins Galicia Tour. As some of you may know, we have been doing genealogy trips for 10 years now. Last year, based on our many years' experience, we decided to prepare dedicated for descendants of Polish emigrants' cultural and historical tour to the eastern and center part of the old Galicia (today's Poland).

PO Galicia Tour is a series of 10-days experience of culture, traditions, cuisine, history and modernity of southern Poland. It is dedicated to all people with their roots in these parts of Europe but also those interested in deeper understanding of Poland's present and past.

While designing the Tour we had in our minds the main objective: To enrich your understanding of your forefathers' life by experiencing it deeply by being here, seeing, touching, tasting, breathing and talking about all of it.

Please visit the main page of the Tour: <<http://galicia.polishorigins.com>> to see and read about details; and here is video we prepared based on last year's Tours: <<http://youtu.be/INNz312nYFI>>.

If you were interested in experiencing the world your ancestors had to leave and join us in this adventure this year these are dates of Tour for this year:

May 11-21, 2014
June 22 - July 02, 2014
July 13-23, 2014
August 17-27, 2014
September 7-17, 2014
October 5-15, 2014

There are still openings in all of the dates.

If you had any detailed questions we will reply them on the forum of this group or individually with great pleasure.

Best greetings from Poland,

Zenon Znamirowski,
Founder of PolishOrigins
<<http://PolishOrigins.com>>

***** IN THEIR WORDS: RUSSIAN IS BACK IN PRINT *****

by *Fred Hoffman* <wfh@langline.com>

If you'll forgive me a brief bit of blatant self-promotion, some of you may be interested to know that the Russian volume of the *In Their Words* series is back in print. Over the last few years, quite a few people have asked to be notified when this happened, so I'm trying to spread the word. If you want more info, go to <http://www.langline.com/ITW_Russian.htm>, or visit Avotaynu's page <<http://www.avotaynu.com/books/ITW-Russian.htm>>. There, that was short and comparatively painless, right?

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

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

Saturday, April 5, 2014

POLISH LANGUAGE BOOT CAMP

Polish American Foundation

27 Grove Hill St

New Britain, Connecticut

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Learn survival Polish with Professor Jonathan Shea of Central Connecticut State University. If you are traveling to Poland or just walking down Broad Street in New Britain, this is the course for you. We will spend two hours learning basic Polish phrases. We will also review the basics of Polish pronunciation to help you pronounce the names of villages and people.

THIS EVENT IS FREE!

For more information, e-mail <Dorena726@yahoo.com>

[*From the Facebook page of the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast*]

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April 8, 2014

TORONTO UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY GROUP (TUGG)

St. Vladimir Institute • 620 Spadina Avenue • Toronto, Ontario • (905) 841-6707

7:30 – 9:30 pm

The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG) invites you to hear Stefan Genyk-Berezowski, local Ukrainian-Canadian TV personality, who will speak on The Genyk-Berezowsky Family.

Cyril Gynic-Berezowsky, was the first Ukrainian Immigration Officer who was instrumental in helping thousands of pioneer settlers make their way to and settle in Canada. The family came from the Bereziw Nyzhnyi district of Kolomyja, Galicia.

Before immigrating to Canada, in 1896, Cyril was closely connected with the leaders of the Ukrainian Radical Party, particularly with the poet and writer, Dr. Iwan Franko. He also collaborated with Dr. Oleskiw in advocating Canada as the country for the settlement of Ukrainian emigrants.

For more info, visit <http://www.torugg.org/Meetings/upcoming_meetings.html>.

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May 1–6, 2014

UNITED POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES (UPGS) CONFERENCE

Salt Lake City

Plaza Hotel in downtown Salt Lake City (steps away from the world-renowned Family History Library and historic Temple Square).

122 West South Temple

Salt Lake City, UT 84101

(800) 366-3684

While looking for information about Salt Lake City recently, I found a brochure which calls the city “The Genealogy Capital of the World.” That may sound like bragging but it is a true statement when just a visit to one of its buildings -- the Family History Library -- can provide access to a long list of U.S. records and indexes: census, passenger lists, naturalizations . . . the list is endless! And, of course, it doesn’t stop at the U.S. border but flows on and on to include Canada, Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Under one roof you have the ability to reference enough information to trace many lifetimes. The data is in various forms -- not just the books and periodicals you would find in most libraries -- but microfilm, microfiche, and best of all in recent years, digital format.

But having the material is just part of this genealogy miracle. There is equipment to read and copy your findings and, most importantly, the library is staffed by people willing to help you and with the skills to do so; whether it is finding or reading a record or providing translation help, if it is in another language (Polish Maybe?).

If you’ve never been to the Family History Library or have some brick walls to climb in your own research, a trip to Salt Lake City should be something you put on your “To-Do” list. Life is short! But the list of resources at the Family History Library grows longer each day. Put them to

work for you now!

P.S. Many of your fellow Polish Researchers will be there. Make joining them the research highlight of 2014. The PGSA website <<http://www.pgsa.org>> and the *PGSA Notebook* will continue to post details.—Rosalie Lindberg

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Plaza Hotel (next door to the Library)  
122 West South Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
(800) 366-3684

Discounted Room Rate in effect - \$85 for single or double, good for the shoulder dates as well.  
Please use the full title “United Polish Genealogical Societies Conference” when applying for special rate, no abbreviations.

Online registration is now open: <<http://upgsconference2014.eventbrite.com/>>.

A copy of the Conference brochure can be downloaded from <<http://pgsa.org/2014UPGS/>>.

**MARCH 31st IS THE DEADLINE FOR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION!**

[From recent issues of *PGSA Notebook*]

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**May 3, 2014**  
**WASHINGTON DC FAMILY HISTORY CENTER GENEALOGY CONFERENCE**  
**Kensington, Maryland**

Among the events at this conference will be two presentations by Tom Sadauskas. Here are his descriptions of their contents.

**How Your Ancestors Came to America and Tips for Finding Their Records (1890-1950)**

Tom Sadauskas

Every family with immigrant ancestors has stories of how their family first arrived in America. Many of these stories contain grains of truth as well as unsubstantiated myths. This presentation looks at the immigration process as well as: factors that cause emigration; emigration routes and means of travel; dispelling the “names were changed at Ellis Island” myth; locating an ancestral village; record sources including those for displaced persons.

**Your Frequent Flier Ancestors**

Tom Sadauskas

One-little known immigration phenomenon is that of multiple passages to and from the “old

country.” Anywhere from one-fourth to one-third of immigrants ultimately returned to their native homeland. One reason researchers fail to find “missing ancestors” is that they lived in America for a brief time and then returned “home.” This presentation looks at why these frequent flyers chose re-emigration and ways of finding them.

For more information on the conference, visit the website:

<<http://www.wdcfhc.org/conf2014/index.php>>

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**May 3 – May 15, 2014**

### **THE ROAD HOME**

**A special tour of Poland to reconnect with your roots  
Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast**

<<http://pgsctne.org/Announcements.aspx>>

I just wanted to mention this upcoming trip to Poland, because Jonathan Shea tells me the trip sold out long ago. It’s a pleasure to hear that, and we hope everyone who goes has a marvelous time!

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**June 21, 2014**

### **25TH ANNIVERSARY POLISH AND EASTERN EUROPEAN GENEALOGY ROADSHOW**

**Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts  
Polish Center of Discovery & Learning • 33 South St. • Chicopee, MA  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Come help PGS-MA celebrate our 25th Anniversary with a genealogy roadshow! For both beginners and experienced researchers, this will be a day of fun and learning featuring four speakers, one-on-one consultations, and great displays and help stations. \$15 members/\$20 non-members.

#### **Topics & Speakers**

Uncover Your Roots in the Lemko Region of Southeast Poland – Mike Buryk  
Beginning Your Genealogy – Alan Doyle Horbal  
Naturalization & Related Records – Walter Hickey  
Poland - What’s That?? – Staś Radosz

#### **Displays & Highlights**

- Translation Stations (Polish, Russian, and more)
- Free Scanning Station
- “Ask a Genealogist” Tables
- On-line Search Guidance
- Find Your Ancestral Village
- One-on-One Session with Experts
- Polish Lunch by Bernat’s
- Genealogy Raffle
- LDS and Ancestry.com Stations
- Plenty of Chances to Meet & Mingle!

*This program is supported in part by a grant from the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.*

For more information, please visit <<http://www.pgsm.org>> or call Ed Dzielenski, Board Member, 413-567-3132.

[From info provided by Joe Kielec.]

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**July 12, 2014**

**SEATTLE’S POLISH FESTIVAL**

**Seattle Center Amory & Fisher Rooftop • 305 Harrison St. • Seattle, Washington**

**Noon – 8 p.m.**

Ewa Raczkowski Bennett sent me a note suggesting many of our readers would enjoy attending Seattle’s Polish festival. I asked for more information, and she sent me a link to a postcard available now, at <[http://www.polishnewsseattle.org/pics/events/2014\\_SeattlePolishFestival.jpg](http://www.polishnewsseattle.org/pics/events/2014_SeattlePolishFestival.jpg)>. For more details, visit the Festival’s site at <<http://www.polishfestivalseattle.org>>.

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**July 27 – August 1, 2014**

**34TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY**

**Hilton Center Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah**

For more information on this event, which is one of the annual highlights of the entire genealogical calendar, visit the website:

<<http://www.iajgs2014.org/>>

Note that the December 29, 2013 issue of *Nu? What’s New* said, “For the second year, for those who cannot attend the conference, selected lectures will be streamed live on the Internet. These

broadcasts will be accessible on a computer, smart phone, or tablet via Internet connection ... Cost for this form of registration, which is called 'IAJGS 2014 LIVE,' is \$149." You can learn more at the Conference website.

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**August 12–15, 2014**

**FEEFHS ANNUAL EASTERN EUROPEAN RESEARCH WORKSHOP  
Plaza Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah**

This annual workshop focuses on the records, tools, and methodologies needed to conduct research in Eastern European records, online, in microfilm, and on site. Additional Research Essentials track provides skills and background. Country tracks to include Germany, Poland, Russia, and more. Opens with an orientation of the Family History Library; closes with a banquet and keynote speaker. Includes individual consultation. Call for presentations soon going out. Full details on schedule and registration will be accessible from the FEEFHS home page at <<http://feefhs.org/>>.

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**August 21–24, 2014**

**CONVENTION OF THE SOCIETY FOR GERMAN GENEALOGY IN EASTERN EUROPE**

**Coast Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre  
1316 - 33rd St.  
Calgary, Alberta  
CANADA**

For information on this convention, visit this website: <[https://www.sggee.org/convention/convention\\_news.html](https://www.sggee.org/convention/convention_news.html)>. Note that you are urged to book your room prior to July 22, 2014, to ensure rate and availability.

*[From EEGS Genealogical Sources and Tips, sent out to members of the East European Genealogical Society]*

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**August 27–30, 2014**

**FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES CONFERENCE 2014  
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center  
San Antonio, Texas**

Join us August 27-30, 2014, as together we experience four days of genealogical learning, networking, and discovery, deep in the heart of Texas. Our local co-hosts for 2014 are the Texas State Genealogical Society and the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society. Together we will continue our tradition of providing exceptional educational opportunities for genealogists from across the nation and beyond. (The Polish Mission is sponsoring the Polish track, and a special trip to Panna Maria, the first Polish parish and community in the U.S.)

For more info, see the Conference website: <<https://www.fgsconference.org/>>.

[from Ceil Jensen]

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

<<http://www.genealogia.okiem.pl/>>

I believe we've mentioned this site before, but it's worth mentioning again. It's the site of the Genealogia Polaków, Dynamiczny herbarz rodzin polskich (Dynamic Armorial of Polish Families, the Genealogy of Poles). It includes a search engine where you can input a surname and it will tell you what coats of arms are associated with that name. Our webmaster, Don Szumowski, also received as an e-zine from this society, and the latest issue mentions campaigns for the preservation of Polish archives in Lviv, saving the Polish cemetery in Krystynopol, Ukraine, and for collecting Polish ghost stories. Interesting stuff, although without a fairly decent knowledge of Polish, reading all this will be a challenge...You can also visit this group's Facebook page, <<https://www.facebook.com/genealogiapolakow>>.

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<<http://www.polishlibrary.org/index.htm>>

On the Polish American Writers & Editors Facebook page, John Guzowski spoke of discovering the Polish Library in Washington, which has a website listing books in English and Polish that would interest our readers. Take a look!

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<<http://forum.polishorigins.com/viewtopic.php?t=2282>>

PolishOrigins recently sent out a note suggesting we visit this thread, about volunteering to index records. "Our Forum is an enormous database of records and other documents which are constantly being translated into English from Polish, Latin and Russian languages. Taking into account the potential usefulness of indexes of those translated records from our Forum, we are shaping the idea of the Index of translated Polish, Latin and Russian records from our Forum." PGSA and others are attempting to do something constructive along these lines—see <[http://pgsa.org/2014\\_polish\\_parish\\_records/pgsa\\_projects.php](http://pgsa.org/2014_polish_parish_records/pgsa_projects.php)>. It's too soon to say which projects will thrive and which will fail, perhaps to be swallowed up by the others. But it's not too early to start helping and thus play a part in shaping the future.

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<<http://ahmilitary.blogspot.com/>>

Valerie also shared this site, which Jim Tye brought to her attention. It's a blog for additional info on Austro-Hungarian Army Records.

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<<http://www.shoreshim.org/en/infoEmperorJoseph.asp>>

On the JewishGen newsgroup, Sherri Bobish posted this link to a translation by Viola Reder of a 1787 Austrian decree on marriage regulations and surname assignment for Jews. This is fascinating stuff for people with Galician Jewish ancestry, and also for those of us interested in surnames. The surnames of Ashkenazic Jews are in some ways easier to research because most Jews in Poland were not required to take unchanging surnames till the late 1700s and early 1800s. That means they originated relatively recently, and thus are easier to trace back and analyze than the surnames of Polish Christians, which were typically at least a couple of centuries older. On this page, instead of summaries or speculation, we can read the actual decree regarding surname assignment.

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

A number of people on mailing lists commented on an automated map showing 1,000 years of European border changes. For anyone interested, the map came from Centennia Historical Atlas software. There are numerous features of this map, giving you more info than the versions posted online might indicate. Given how many folks commented on this atlas, loving this feature, hating that one, I thought it's worthwhile to spread word of the original product, which does cost you \$59.00 + shipping and handling for a single-user license, but is apparently more impressive and more flexible than the versions that show up as video clips online.

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<<http://www.zobacz.cerkiew.pl/>>

This site lets you take a virtual tour of a variety of *cerkwi*—from *cerkiew*, the Polish term for an Orthodox or Greek Catholic church—in Białystok, Poland. At the top of the page is a chance to *wybierz cerkiew*, “choose the church,” which lets you tour any of nine churches in the Białystok area. The panoramas are beautiful, and the background music is glorious. If you can read a little Polish, that helps; but it's not necessary. I sometimes put it on just to let the singing soothe me.

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<<http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=31005>>

After many months in the making, the *Map Guide to German Parish Registers Volume 45 – Kingdom of Prussia, Province of West Prussia II, Regierungsbezirk Marienwerder*, by Kevan Hansen, is now shipping. All the standing orders shipped over a week ago, and Family Roots Publishing is now shipping to the general public. With the publication of this volume, the project for entire province of West Prussia is now complete (in two volumes).

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<[http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2014/02/jstor-for-genealogy.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2014/02/jstor-for-genealogy.html)>



This article from *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* is about how to use the digital library JSTOR for genealogy. To access some of the publications, you need to pay; but JSTOR lets you access a vast number of articles for free. You can learn more by reading Eastman's article, or you can visit <<http://jstor.org/>> and get the info straight from the horse's mouth.

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<<http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/latin/beginners>>

EOGN also mentioned this online tutorial for beginners who want to learn how to translate Latin documents. Of course, if you really want a lot of help with Latin documents, there's probably a book out there somewhere written by an eminent pair of linguists that can help you, perhaps with a title something like *In Their Words: Latin ...* But this online guide is quite good, and lets you practice on real documents.

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

Lutz Szemkus posted this URL to the LithGen list. At this URL, you can download four PDFs of Alexander Kurschat's *Litauisch-deutsches Wörterbuch* or Lithuanian-German Dictionary. I know this may not be everyone's cup of tea, but free downloadable dictionaries of Lithuanian are not so easy to come by; and German's a lot easier to deal with than Lithuanian! If the TinyUrl doesn't work, the whole address is <[http://www.muenchener-digitalisierungszentrum.de/index.html?c=autoren\\_index&ab=Kurschat%2C+Alexander&l=de](http://www.muenchener-digitalisierungszentrum.de/index.html?c=autoren_index&ab=Kurschat%2C+Alexander&l=de)>. Incidentally, if you do want a free, downloadable Lithuanian-English / English-Lithuanian dictionary, search Google Books for *A Dictionary of the Lithuanian and English Languages*, published in Chicago in 1915. The first match is for Antanas Lalis, and if you click "Read," you get access to the free e-book.

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<<http://giminesmedis.blogas.lt/726-726.html>>

Also on the LithGen list, Siga Pliodzinskas posted this URL, describing it as "a list of Lithuanian towns and Roman Catholic churches for which the Metrics books are stored at the Lithuanian Archives ... I suppose it could be useful for people who dare to go and search for the information themselves." She said that, I'm sure, because the site is in Lithuanian, so it's a bit of an adventure if you don't speak the language. I can read a little, but I'm not fluent by any means. So I tried it out, and found it difficult; but Google Translate made it a bit easier—except it translated some of the town names (it turned Balninkai into "Powerbase," . It just lists the parishes by town, indicates the deanery, and gives you the fond number. Still, for serious researchers, this could be helpful.

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

The Genealogy Indexer site continues to add resources, including a register of 1870 Pomerania Landowners {d975} and a 1794-1864 list of Polish Heroes' Cemeteries and Graves in Małopolska {m104}. These directories and lists are searchable, but the search relies on OCR, which is never 100% accurate. So take that into account; and use the Help page <<http://genealogyindexer.org/help>> if you're having trouble.

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<[https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/polish\\_genius/conversations/topics/23572](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/polish_genius/conversations/topics/23572)>

If you have roots in Założce or Załoŝce, Ukraine, now called Zalitzsi, you should read this note. Gerald Tobin is looking for more information on his family and this place, and he posted information from the birth register of that town for 1852-1855.

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<<http://www.wilkes-barre.pa.us/forms/wbcemeteryrecordscomplete.pdf>>

Tony Paddock pointed this page out to Paul S. Valasek. It opens a PDF file; let's let Tony describe it. "Tom Mooney who is the Wilkes-Barre, PA Times-Leader newspaper genealogy columnist dug up a vital resource for genealogists. It is the records of the city of Wilkes-Barre's oldest cemetery now available on line, free of charge ... The file is 145 pages long and full of information about people buried there. You will find the name of the deceased and his or her age, occupation and country of birth. The cause of death is also listed, along with the exact date of death." Thanks for sharing the info, Tony!

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