



# Gen Dobry!

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Editor: William F. “Fred” Hoffman, e-mail: <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)>

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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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**\*\*\* UH ... ARE YOU THERE?\*\*\***

by *Fred Hoffman* <[wfh@langline.org](mailto:wfh@langline.org)>

*Dzień dobry!* to you, and, I hope, *Gen Dobry!* as well.

That may sound odd, but there's a reason I'm a little tentative about writing this. The last time I sent out an issue of *Gen Dobry!*, it more or less vanished in Cyberspace. I sent it out, as usual, on the last day of the month, April 30th. When my copy still hadn't shown up several hours later, I asked PolishRoots webmaster Don Szumowski if he had received any kind of confirmation that the issue had actually gone out. Don said he'd received a few "out of office" messages, as is normal with each issue. But he said if there was any doubt about the matter, it would do no harm to send it out again. I did so on May 1st, and hoped the glitch, if any, had been temporary.

As the next few days went by, I started hearing from people asking what had happened to their copy of *Gen Dobry!* As an experiment, I posted a note on Facebook asking subscribers to let me know if they'd received the April issue. I got about 50 replies; a few said they had received it once, two said they had received it both times I sent it, and all the rest said they had never received it at all.

(I should probably take this opportunity to point out that you can always download the latest issue in PDF form for free at <<http://polishroots.org/GenDobry/tabid/60/Default.aspx>>. I upload the PDF version to the PolishRoots website shortly before I send out the bulk mail version.)

Meanwhile, we were stuck with the situation that most of you had not received your April issue. This the first time that's happened, and I asked Don if he had any idea what went wrong. He promised to look into it, and eventually he figured it out. It seems we had run afoul of DMARC, a method widely used to help authenticate e-mail and cut down on spam. *Gen Dobry!* looked suspicious because I've always given Don's AOL address in the "From:" box, rather than an address associated with the PolishRoots.com domain, from which each issue is actually sent. This discrepancy can cause DMARC to red-flag an e-mail. E-mail that appears to come from one place but actually comes from another is, after all, a major contributing factor to all the crud that clogs our inboxes.

Don activated a new e-mail address, <[dszumowski@polishroots.com](mailto:dszumowski@polishroots.com)>, and sent me a test mail from it. The note came through, and Don told me to try sending all future issues as originating from that address. With any luck, this change will cause our future issues to be handled correctly by the various e-mail providers. This makes sense, and I hope it works.

Since most of you apparently never saw that last issue, I felt I owed you a word of explanation. I haven't bailed out on you; we just had technical difficulties, and we hope those are solved.

If you have a moment, and don't mind, could you send me a note at <[wfh@langline.com](mailto:wfh@langline.com)> to let me know you received this issue? If so, all is well. Otherwise, it's back to the drawing board, while you folks scratch your heads and ask, "Say, whatever happened to *Gen Dobry!*?"

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

Subject: Military records

Dear Sir,

After reviewing past issues, I have not noticed any reference to accessibility to military records. I have requested information from the archives in regards to a relative that fought for the Polish military while within Polish territory. They have stated that they were unable to find the requested records.

The overall point I am getting at is there must be other information or sources, such as (out of print) books that can be accessed to try and locate in a roundabout way the information sought. Consider, for example, the military units that were captured and their personnel killed during the Katyń Massacre. Or the personnel that managed to survive as prisoners of war of the Russians, Germans, or other invading military force.

The two military units that my grandfather belonged to between the dates of 1919 and 1940, I was unable to find reference to them on the Internet. As for the second unit, I was unable to find out if they were captured by the Russians while this unit was temporarily based at Czortków, Poland in September 1939.

Even with the search for declassified Russian military files regarding Polish P.O.W. units with connection to Katyń, my attempts to search for such have found no specific information. So it would be nice if there was an article done on this. Also, I had a chance to visit the Evang.-Aug. cemetery in Gostynin, Poland. Out of all the family members from my grandfathers' family that are buried there, I was able to locate only those graves that pertain to his family. For me, I was happy to find those, which from the information I found about the cemetery on the Internet, made it seem that I would have been in for a disappointment.

Sincerely,  
Gerhard Jene

*Editor*—I'm sorry to hear Mr. Jene has had so little success. I would love to publish articles on these subjects. Unfortunately, I have no staff or funding, so I can't contact a writer and commission work on a particular topic. Mr. Jene confirmed in a follow-up note that he understood this, but he hoped his request, if shared with our readers, might motivate someone to write something, or share the results of their efforts. It's a reasonable hope, and I'm glad to along with the suggestion. I also want to add a bit of clarification Mr. Jene sent regarding his searches: "As for what I was talking about in my previous e-mail, I had no luck in locating information on the 4th Signals Battalion

or even if there was a connection of the 1st Signals Regiment and Katyń. If you wish to extract and edit my e-mail for publication, I have no objection. Dziękuję.”

If anyone can offer useful suggestions, I'll be glad to pass them along.

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Subject: Receiving diacriticals on Apple machines

*Editor*—Alan Kania sent me this note, and since I have no knowledge of the world of Apple, I hoped some of you might wish to share your wisdom on this matter. Alan copied a note I'd posted to a mailing list with foreign characters that apparently displayed correctly on many Windows machines, but came out as question marks on his Apples.

In the meantime, I hope the posting I left attached can be read by you the same way I'm seeing it. Normally I'll receive e-mails with the diacritical marks translated into gibberish. My Apple computers (MacBook Pro, iMac, iPad Air, and iPhone) all can write most of the Polish and Lithuanian diacriticals, but receiving them is erratic—they'll be properly displayed in some e-mails, but not in others.

I can't find anything in my e-mail program that will allow me to change the character map to UTF-8. When I raised this problem to several of the people at the Apple Store, they had no idea what I was talking about, and their Google search came up with nothing for the latest Apple operating systems (Mavericks and iOS X). I showed them examples of the problem and they gave the “oh yeah ‘Eureka moment’” if Eureka was a slow learner, but failed to explain how to resolve the problem.

Your post came with just question marks; normally the diacritical marks are replaced with symbols I've never used in any context of my years of writing. I know that my e-mails to Debbie Greenlee annoy her because my diacriticals don't reach her in their proper format.

This seems to have developed when Yahoo “improved” their discussion group forums. Hast thou heard of a solution for Mac users?

Alan Kania

*Editor*—Much has gone to hell since Yahoo “improved” its format, dropping something that was working fine in favor of something complicated and unreliable ... I will say this: I don't think Windows users always have these symbols display correctly, either. Most of the time, however, if the sender of an e-mail specifies UTF-8 encoding, the receiver can read it. And if there is a problem on the receiving end, the recipient can usually instruct the e-mail software to apply UTF-8 coding. I'm quite surprised Mac doesn't do this more effectively and consistently.

If any of you have ideas on this, let me know and I'll tell Alan.

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\*\*\* NEWS FROM THE POLISH MISSION \*\*\*

*Editor*—Ceil Jensen sent me this info, and I'm glad to pass it along.

The Polish Mission is collaborating with the Jasło Museum to identify American families who had a family member serve in Haller's Army. We met with the Museum curator, and he has a copy of **Paul Valasek's** book, *Haller's Polish Army in France*, and is aware of the PGSA.org database. They mentioned that Józef Haller spent about eight years in Jasło.

The Museum curator asked us to put out a call to families who hail from the Jasło area, and have photos, documents, and /or stories of their Blue Army soldiers. We agreed to be a collection center for them. They are planning an exhibit in October, 2014. If families are in the Detroit metro area, we will scan the materials for the families.

Families who would like to contribute to the exhibit should contact us at the Polish Mission: <[cjensen@orchardlakeschools.com](mailto:cjensen@orchardlakeschools.com)>, or by phone: 248-683-0323.

\* \* \*

The Polish Mission has received a matching grant from the Michigan Humanities Council to develop the tri-county traveling exhibition, "The Face of Polish Immigration." The exhibit will feature studio portraits taken by metro Detroit photographers and highlight the art form of black and white silver prints. We are looking for submission of studio photos taken in metro Detroit c. 1880s-1960s. The exhibit will include the cycle of life in the Polish community, including Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Graduation, Marriage, Ordination and religious vows, societies, and post mortem images. We are anxious to include the sacramental images of senior citizens who can pose with their childhood images on opening night in October. There will be a section for "unknown" photos that need identification, as well as photos that were sent to families in Poland. We will exhibit actual photos, as well as digital copies. Families who would like to contribute to the exhibit should contact Ceil Wendt Jensen at the Polish Mission: <[cjensen@orchardlakeschools.com](mailto:cjensen@orchardlakeschools.com)>, or by phone: 248-683-0323.

\* \* \*

During the month of August, the Polish Mission is taking part in two genealogy events. We are hosting GRIPitt August 3-8, 2014, a week-long genealogy institute, and still have a few seats available in the four tracks. The Polish course will be lead by Dr. Hal Learman and Ceil Wendt Jensen and feature DNA expert Robert Sliwinski. Josh Taylor, of *Who Do You Think You Are* and *Genealogy Roadshow*, is a featured course instructor. Dr. Thomas Jones and Paula Stuart Warren are also part of the nationally known instructors. Please see the GRIPitt website for more details: <<http://www.gripitt.org/>>.

\* \* \*

The Polish Mission is pleased to sponsor the Polish track at the Federation of Genealogical Societies August 27-30, 2014 in San Antonio, Texas. The track features a trip to Panna Maria,

the first Polish settlement in America. Please see the FGS site for more details: <<https://www.fgsconference.org/>>.

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**\*\*\* NEW AT WWW.GENTEAM.EU \*\*\***

<http://www.GenTeam.eu> - Approximately 235,000 additional records online

Vienna, May 17, 2014

**New at GenTeam:**

1. New Database: Citizens rolls of the Slovak city Bratislava/Preßburg
2. Medical database, Vienna: additional 11,750 new entries of the Oral Exam Volumes as of 1751
3. Diocese Passau, Germany: Corrections and additional 60,000 new entries
4. Index of Catholic Baptisms in Vienna: approximately 85,000 new entries
5. Parish Register Indices from Lower Austria, Upper Austria, and Moravia: approximately 70,500 new data sets

Dear Colleagues,

**On our own account:**

With the new online databases, the 24,500 currently registered users have as of today about 10.6 million entries at their disposal. At this point, I would like to say a big thank you 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 continues to expand!

GenTeam is a European platform, through which historians and genealogist who work independently or as a team on databases can furnish this data free of charge to all researchers.

All data at GenTeam is available free of charge, since GenTeam is a nonprofit organization, and there is **no membership fee**.

Other developments which were created parallel to GenTeam are a mailing list <http://www.GenList.at> with more than 1,500 members as well as a website for a genealogical link collection found under <http://www.GenList.at>.

**Facebook (usually in German, only):**

Mrs. Mireille Trauner maintains our GenTeam Website found under <http://www.facebook.com/GenTeam.Die.genealogische.Datenbank>. There you will find all past updates. You are also cordially invited to an exchange of information in the field of genealogy in our newly established Facebook Page AiOeU-Ahnenforschung in Austria-Hungary: <https://www.facebook.com/Ahnenforschung.in.Oesterreich.Ungarn>

Now to the new update:

**1. New Database: Citizen's Rolls of the City of Bratislava/formerly Pressburg, Slovak Republic**

Most books of the Citizen Rolls between 1630 and 1871 are still preserved. Book 1 (1630-1683), Book 4 (1754-1791) and Book 6 (1819-1871) were posted online at GenTeam; they provide besides the Last Name and First Name in part also profession, city of origin, confession and age.

The books point straight from the outset that many Protestant exiles went from Lower Austria to Bratislava and remained there, and that they maintained a continuous close association with Protestant churches in Bratislava throughout the Monarchy as well as the close connection to the Catholic parishes in the Austrian part of the Monarchy.

By kind permission of the City Archives of Bratislava: <http://www.miny.sk>

**2. Medical Database: additional 11,750 new entries of the Rigorosen as of 1751**

The Medical Database, which was kindly provided by Horst Dolezal, contains basic data from the rectory's office oral examinations and promotional protocols of the medical faculty in Vienna from the years 1818 – 1938, and are complete with excerpts of the Study Catalogues of only Jewish students between the years 1862-1938, in total there are approximately 70,000 data sets.

**New:**

Another meaningful stock from the University Archive are the volumes of Oral Exams of the Dean's office for surgeons, pharmacists, midwives, in nine volumes (Sign.Med 9.1 to Med 9.9) comprising the years 1751 – 1880. Four of these volumes are now completely indexed including basic data. They are:

Med 9.1 Surgeons 1751 – 1822

Med 9.2 Surgeons 1822 – 1890

Med 9.3 Pharmacists 1751 -854

Med 9.4 Medical Doctors 1752 – 1821

**3. Diocese Passau, Germany:  
Corrections for the and approximately 60,000 new entries**

The approximately 2,16 million parish registers from the Diocese Passau, Germany, contain about 440,000 marriages (now completed), approximately 1,1 million are baptisms and the rest are cases of deaths.

You will find in this database the parish, volume, page number, Last Name, First Name, date/year, many times but not always the profession, and a residence address and city. The actual church book of the Diocese you will find online under <http://www.matricula-online.eu>.

You will find a listing of parishes along with time tables under "Help/Information".

The Archive of the Diocese Paussau and GenTeam give thanks for the imparted corrections and naturally also for the new data sets!

#### **4. Baptismal Index for Vienna between 1585 and 1900**

Approximately 85,000 new Data Sets, in total more than 550,000

Approximately 85,000 entries were added from the parishes Döbling, St. Josef Margarethen, Mariahilf, St. Josef in Vienna 2nd district, Rennweg, Wieden (Paulaner), St. Marx, and the Lower Austrian birthing center (Niederösterreichische Landesgebäranstalt Alservorstadt).

At this point, I would like to extend my gratitude to Martina Ecker, Helga Hörmann, Marta Melchart, Andrea Reiter, Ernst Schroth, Gerda Smodej, Judith Starke, Walter Thurner, as well as to all who already work on additional indices which will be put online 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.

Unfortunately, to date there still is no central birth registry for Vienna besides the Jewish Birth Registry already published on <http://www.GenTeam.eu>.

I invite you all to help with this fascinating project, to 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.

#### **5. Parish Indices -- new entries**

Approximately 70,000 entries from Catholic parish registers were added from Lower Austria, Upper Austria and Moravia.

You will find the parishes with individual time tables at GenTeam under Hilfe (Help ).

##### **Lower Austria:**

Etzen, Heidenreichstein, Hohenruppersdorf, Jahrings, Kaumberg, Retz, Texing, Waldenstein, Wieselburg, and Wurmbrand.

##### **Upper Austria:**

Altheim, Bad Leonfelden

##### **Moravia:**

Hanusovice/formerly Hannsdorf



At this point I would like to give many thanks to Dr. Ingeborg Heider, Rudolf Hütthaler, Konny Pommer, Karin Scharrer, Martina Schulz, Franz Spevacek, Christoph Tietz, Clemens Weidmann and Theodora Winkler.

**With the current updates, more than 2.6 million entries got online in 2014 at <http://www.GenTeam.eu>.**

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, should you only have any question, please contact me anytime.

Sincerely yours,  
Felix Gundacker  
Pantzergasse 30/8  
A-1190 Wien  
Telephone: 0043 676 40 11 059

„Connecting genealogists“

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**\*\*\* A TELEGRAM FROM THE ROAD \*\*\***

*by Agnieszka Pawlus of PolishOrigins*

*Editor*—This is the latest report from PolishOrigins, sent out to those who've signed up for their newsletter. I thought those of you not signed up might enjoy reading it, and I'm sure our friends at PolishOrigins have no objection.

We enjoy this beautiful time of the middle of the spring in Poland. So do our guests! We have started our touring season early this year.

What's new in PolishOrigins? Here is a telegram:

**Our PO Galicia Tour, in September 7-17 and October 5-15 , are confirmed!**

We are looking forward to meeting our dear guests who have booked this adventure, and also for those of you who are still hesitating. There are still openings available for both September and October dates.

How we can encourage you to join us?

Aside the itinerary you can read (and watch) at <<http://www.galicia.polishorigins.com>>, there are at least a few more reasons, that you may not be aware of:

\* You will meet people like yourself, who are also interested in the history of their families, the

history of Poland, and what present-day life is like in this part of Europe.

\* We have a growing list of satisfied clients and guests, of whom many have become our lifetime friends.

\* September and October are months with stable weather and the temperatures are just right.

\* You will also have the occasion to see a Polish golden autumn with all of the lovely colors on the trees.

\* The flight fares from the USA to Europe are about 20-30% lower for September and October. You can check them, for example, at <<http://www.expedia.com/>> or <<http://www.tripadvisor.com/CheapFlightsHome>>.

\*\*\* As always, we will do our very best to make your tour a memorable, lifetime experience.

You can find more information about the tour and reservations on <<http://www.galicia.polishorigins.com>>. We are waiting for you!

There is also a lot happening on our PolishOrigins Blog:

Do you remember our dear guest Janina, who had been touring Poland with us last year? This May, Janina was back in Poland! She continued her research near the Polish-Lithuanian border and shared with us her great story.

“Gen Dobry [*sic*]\* from Poland. I am so excited to return to Poland to continue my ancestry discovery. When I walked outside the Warsaw airport, I was home again!!”

Here you can find Janina’s blog: “My new name is Janina Kruk. 2014 and I am back!” (link: <<http://blog.polishorigins.com/category/janina-kruk/>>)

Today we also started publishing the newest blog written by Brian. Read how the story begins:

“Up until about 4 years ago I knew very little about the Polish side of my family, my mother’s parents and their ancestors. My Mom is the youngest of her siblings by 11 years, and her mother died at a young age so she didn’t learn much about her family while growing up. Even the older relatives didn’t know many details when I began asking—so much of our family history had been lost over the past 100 years...”

Here you can find Brian’s blog, “3 Men and a Mom: Finding our Polish Family,” with Brian’s incredibly beautiful photos: <[http://blog.polishorigins.com/category/3-men-and-a-mom-finding-our-polish-family](http://blog.polishorigins.com/category/3-men-and-a-mom-finding-our-polish-family/)>.

If you would like to be up to date with what we are doing about genealogy studies, or if you just want the opportunity to meet our other members and to share our common passions, as always,

we invite you to our Forum.

If you're a Facebook, Google+, Twitter or Pinterest user, you will find PolishOrigins profiles there as well.

If you want, please help spread the news. We would appreciate if you forward our mail to anyone you think might be interested in the topic.

Greetings from Poland!

*\*Editor*—I think I probably should remind readers that *Dzień dobry!* is the way you spell the Polish greeting that means literally “Good day,” but is used much like our “Hello.” I think Janina Kruk was intentionally using the play on words behind our title when she said “*Gen Dobry!*”—in other words, she was enjoying and wishing others “Good gen[ealogy].” But just to be sure no one is misled into misspelling the words, I thought I’d point this out once more.

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### **\*\*\* GALVESTON IMMIGRATION DATABASE \*\*\***

*by Tom Sadauskas*

*Editor*—Tom Sadauskas sent this along so that we could share it in *Gen Dobry!*

The URL below is for a database of 130,000 immigrants who entered the U.S. via the port of Galveston, Texas from 1844 to 1948. Many of them were Jewish immigrants.

<<http://www.galvestonhistory.org/attractions/maritime-heritage/galveston-immigration-database>>

Here's an excerpt from their website:

#### Galveston Immigration Database

Texas Seaport Museum has compiled the nation's only computerized listing of immigrants to Galveston, Texas. The museum's immigration exhibit features text and historic photographs illustrating Galveston's role in immigration history and the major organized immigration movements of the 19th and 20th Centuries. Computer terminals in the exhibit area allow visitors to search for information taken from ships' passenger manifests pertaining to their ancestors' arrival in Texas. For your convenience, the database is also available online.

There are gaps in the data. Galveston immigration data is not available from the National Archives between the years 1871 and 1894; further, some records are missing near the time of the 1900 hurricane.

Those crafty ancestors of ours didn't play fair and all arrive at Ellis Island. I guess they were afraid of all those bureaucrats just waiting for them to arrive so their surnames could be changed!

*Editor*—In case it's not clear, Tom is kidding. He knows bureaucrats didn't really change names at Ellis Island. But sadly, that myth is hard to kill...

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

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

**June 10, 2014**

#### **TORONTO UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY GROUP MEETING**

**7:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

St. Vladimir's Institute,

620 Spadina Avenue

Toronto Contact: (905) 841-6707

The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG) invites you to hear Dr. Romana Bahry, who will speak on "The History of Galicia (Southeastern Poland and Western Ukraine) and the Challenges of Doing Genealogical Research."

[From a post by Jim Onyschuk to the GaliciaPoland-Ukraine mailing list]

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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.pgsma.org>> or call Ed Dzielenski, Board Member, 413-567-3132.

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**Thursday, June 26, 2014**

### **A TALK FOR REFUGEE WEEK**

**Polish Refugees in Post-War Surrey: A Story of a Displaced Wartime Community**  
*by Wies Rogalski*

Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6ND, England

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Tickets are £5.00, please book online at <<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritageevents>> or at Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6ND.

Wies Rogalski was born in Guildford to Polish parents who were displaced to Britain in 1947. For the first six years of his life, he lived in a disused Canadian army base called Tweedsmuir Camp, which stood near Thursley Village in Surrey. The camp, rather than being demolished after the war, was used to house Polish ex-service men and women who had been demobilized in Britain. This talk is an illustrated presentation about Wies’ life at Tweedsmuir and his family’s integration into British society.

Wies and his brother, Zen, have led an HLF project to capture the memories of those who lived at Tweedsmuir Camp. The project DVD and book will be available to purchase at the talk (correct money or cheques only please). The Polish Community in Tweedsmuir Camp in Surrey

after World War Two is priced £12, and the DVD *In Their Own Words - Members of Tweedsmuir Camp community talk about life in a Polish Resettlement Camp*, is £9.99. All proceeds go to the maintenance of the Tweedsmuir Camp Exhibition at the Rural Life Centre, Tilford.

<<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/surreyhistorycentre>>

e-mail: <[shs@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:shs@surreycc.gov.uk)>

[From an e-mail sent to Don Szumowski c/o PolishRoots]

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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 \*\*\***

<<https://www.facebook.com/download/693768044021553/Researching%20Your%20Polish%20Genealogy.pdf>>

On Facebook's Polish Genealogy group, Barbara Jean May shared a guide to Polish genealogical research that she prepared for her genealogical club. It's 20 pages of useful info and handy links, aimed at giving newcomers to the field a lot of good resources in one document. As with any guide of this sort, you could nitpick and say "She should have added this or that." But really, it's a good collection of info that could make a huge difference for someone just getting started. You can download it at the above link—and if you like it, stop by and thank Barbara for creating it and making it available.

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<[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=3844](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3844)>

In the Plus edition of the May 4 issue of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* [EOGN], Dick Eastman wrote an article designed to help genealogists publish their work. The article was in the paid version of EOGN, for subscribers only, so I can't reprint it. But I can repeat one suggestion Eastman made: the "go to" reference book for anyone serious about genealogy is *Professional Genealogy—A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers, and Librarians*, edited by Elizabeth Shown Mills. "It describes how to research properly, how to record information found, ethics and legalities, becoming a professional genealogist, and writing and publishing." Eastman admitted the book is expensive, but felt it will pay for itself with the help it gives a new author in getting started. The book is available from the publisher, Genealogical Publishing Company, at the above URL, and from Amazon at <<http://goo.gl/Prfr0D>>.

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<<http://blog.eogn.com/2014/05/12/genealogists-initiate-a-declaration-of-rights/>>

Another interesting article from EOGN, the May 12 issue, appeared on the public blog and can be read for free at the above URL. In it, Eastman discusses the Genealogist's Declaration of Rights publicized at the recent National Genealogical Society conference. A lot of others paid attention to this, too, including a recent issue of *Nu? What's New?* Serious genealogists might want to take a look and sign it.

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<<http://blog.eogn.com/2014/05/19/a-genealogy-chart-thats-cool-enough-to-hang-it-on-your-wall/>>

Another EOGN article tells of designers who started creating genealogical charts that look good and can be hung up on your wall. "For \$25 customers get a completed, proofread file with the names of their ancestors spelled out on the circles — all in the color scheme of their choice. They're free to print it themselves, wherever they want and as many as they want. (There's also a full-service print option, but it costs more.)" It's a nice idea, and some of you



may be interested. This URL will take you to Eastman’s article; or you can go to the designers’ website directly at <<http://www.i-chart-you.com/>>.

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<<http://www.warka.pl/en.php>>

On Facebook, Robert Strybel retold one of my favorite stories, one I first heard it from the late, great Daniel Kij of Lackawanna, NY, back in the 1990s. It seems that during a stay in Poland, the papal nuncio, Ippolito Aldobrandini—who would later become Pope Clement VIII—greatly enjoyed the taste of Warka’s beer. Later, after returning to Rome, he became seriously ill due to an infection or ulcer of some sort. While lying on what was presumably going to be his deathbed, he started remembering that beer he’d had in Poland, and whispered “... *sancta piva di Polonia... sancta biera di Warka...*” (blessed beer of Poland, blessed beer of Warka). There were a lot of clergymen around his bed, and they thought he was calling out some unknown saint. So they started praying, “*Sancta Piva ora pro nobis*” [St. Piva, pray for us]. When he heard this, the sick nuncio burst out laughing. The ulcer burst, and he went on to recover. You can read this story, and more, at the above website ... And if you read the Wikipedia entry on Pope Clement VIII, you’ll see that he’s also credited as playing a vital role in the spread of coffee in Europe. I don’t know what kind of Pope he was, but he sure knew his beverages!

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<<https://familysearch.org/node/2541>>

The May 27 issue of *Nu? What’s New?* included an article about FamilySearch’s free digitization service, which lets you digitize photos, documents, etc. for free. The service is available at more than 2,800 Family History Centers in North America, and is expected to become available in other countries. You can get more information from the official announcement available at the above URL.

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<<http://blog.eogn.com/2014/04/25/book-review-the-family-tree-german-genealogy-guide/>>

Since many of us also have German roots, or had ancestors who lived in areas ruled by Germany for a long time, a guide to German genealogy can be valuable. This link takes you to a review by Bobbi King that appeared in *EOGN*, for the book *The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide*, by James M. Beidler.

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<<http://www.namedaycalendar.com/poland>>

Valerie Warunek posted this link to the Facebook group Polish Culture, Food and Traditions. It shows name days celebrated in Poland—and of course, you can select other countries as well, such as Austria, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Ukraine, etc. While the Roman Catholic Church recognizes a large number of saints, there are certain ones whose names tend to be used most often in specific countries. This calendar helps you get a handle on that; and that, in turn, may shed light on when a child was born, as it was not unusual to name the child for the saint on whose feast day he was born or baptized.

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<http://genealogyindexer.org/>

This month's additions to the material available at Genealogy Indexer include reports for *gimnazja* at Rzeszów for 1889, 1896, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1907, and 1908; Poland Business Directories for 1900, 1902, 1903, 1905, 1905, and 1907; and Warsaw Business and Homeowners Directories for 1878, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, and 1886. The website does involve a bit of a learning curve, but it's worth the effort, because it allows a search of resources hard to find anywhere else. Logan Kleinwaks deserves the continued thanks of all researchers for doing this!

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<https://sites.google.com/site/geneticgenealogystandard/>

In a note posted to the JewishGen newsgroup, Jan Meisels Allen gave this link to a document setting forth proposed standards from the Genetic Genealogy Standards Community. If you click on the "document" tab, you can download the file (as a PDF) to your computer. It's only three pages. You can click on the "comment" tab to leave your remarks. The document is open for public comment until June 15, 2014.

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<http://www.polishjews.yivoarchives.org/>

In another note posted to JewishGen, Ron Arons pointed out a New York Times article on a new portal, created by the YIVO Institute, that concentrates on the history of Polish Jews. The above link will take you to that portal.

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<http://www.geshergalicia.org/inventory/cadastral-maps-and-records/>

Pamela Weisberger also posted a note to JewishGen announcing that the Gesher Galicia Map Room has added two cadastral maps: a Jarosław Town map, ca. 1852, and a Nowy Sącz map, 1878. Gesher Galicia has an impressive collection of cadastral maps—which are a bit of a challenge to use, at first; but the info they can provide is amazing!

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<http://www.altdeutsche-schrift.de/adsschreiben.php#schriftfeld>

On Facebook's Genealogy Translations group, "Genealogie Baden" posted this link, describing it as follows: "This website generates old German writing (Sütterlin and Kurrent scripts) from your input." This can be a big help: you can key in the way your ancestors spelled their names, as best you know it, and it can show you what they would look like in the old German handwriting. And when it comes to that stuff, we all need all the help we can get.

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<http://reason.com/reasontv/2013/03/05/amateur-beats-gov-at-digitizing-newspape>

Tom Tryniski's website chronicling historical newspapers of New York, <http://fultonhistory.com/>, has received quite a bit of attention this month. It's a little odd, because much of the attention seems to come from this article, which is over a year old! Well, better late than never. I think we've mentioned the Fultonhistory site before, but I didn't realize it was a one-man show. Pretty impressive, especially when you realize he's beat a well-funded

government site at its own game.

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