

Gen Dobry!

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Editor: William F. "Fred" Hoffman, E-mail: < 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://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry_index.htm

If you'd like *Gen Dobry!* in PDF form, this issue is available for downloading here:

http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_VIII_11.pdf

*** HELP NOW, INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING LATER ***

by Fred Hoffman < wfh@langline.com >

Recently I read a note on the Posen mailing list that had been posted by the list's administrator, James Birkholz. He was commenting on his first impression volunteering to index records for the FamilySearch Indexing project of the LDS Family History Library. I thought his remarks were worth repeating, for those who didn't see them; and I've added a few comments of my own at the end. First, here's what James wrote:

I've just started playing with this indexing process and can report that it works reasonably well.

I encourage everyone who even remotely considers doing it, to at least explore it. You don't have to continue if you lose interest or spare time. In fact, you can work in spurts, every few months or so.

Also, spread the word. The more people that contribute, the sooner that non-U.S. records will become available for indexing. Below is a shortened description of how to get started.

Go to www.familysearchindexing.org.

Click on each of the three buttons in stages.

"Volunteer" is a simple online registration, to create a username, password and e-mail address (plus some more).

"Install Now" installs the Java-based software used to download images, enter the indexed data and to upload the results. You might have to install Java first, I'm sure that you'll be prompted to do so, if needed.

"Start Indexing" launches the software.

Somewhere in the process, probably at the end of step 1, you'll be presented with an online training program. Being somewhat tech-savvy and fairly careless, I breezed through it in about half an hour. I'll probably have to go back and review a few points, or dig in the help section now and then. It does a good job of introducing the tool and the process.

The work is broken down into small batches that are "checked out" and "returned", and you can easily return a batch at any time if you decide not to do the indexing for that batch. If you do upload indexing data, it will then be compared with duplicate from another volunteer and any differences will be resolved by a third person. This maximizes the accuracy and takes some pressure off to be perfect.

The one batch that I've done so far was a single page of marriage records. It took about half an hour. Once I get familiar with the process and the tool, I should be able to do a similar page in ten minutes or less.

James Birkholz administrator (Betreuer der), Posen-EN mailing list & website http://Posen-L.com & http://Birchy.com/GenWiki

Let me add my two cents' worth (though that may be overestimating the value of my comments).

I'm actually a little surprised I haven't heard more from people volunteering to index these records, and it concerns me a little bit. The reason is, over the years I've seen the work done by volunteers who indexed different kinds of records. I'm usually left with mixed feelings: I want to call down a blessing on the volunteers for their willingness to invest time and effort, yet I want to call down a curse on them for not knowing what the hell they were doing. I mean, who hasn't heard stories about searching for an ancestor in, say, the Ellis Island database, and finding that "Franciszek Nowak" is indexed as "Trandsper Hovar"?

For that matter, misreading bad handwriting isn't the only problem. I remember once finding an entry in an obituary index for "Kat Foresterow." Intrigued by that odd name, I looked up the original obit. It said the deceased, who bore a completely different name, was a member of the Catholic Foresters! The indexer—whom I knew to be intelligent and diligent—had seen the phrase "członek Kat. Foresterów" and mistook it for the name of a relative.

Look, a flawed index is better than no index at all. And I deeply appreciate anyone who steps forward and tries to make a difference. It's awfully easy to sit back and gripe about the work someone else has done. We need to be patient and understanding — but we also need to understand that some familiarity with Polish names is vital if you're going to index Polish names!

That's where we come in, folks. We have some experience researching Polish records; so we have some familiarity with Polish names. Aren't we the ones who should index records dealing with Poles? Instead of griping later "Why didn't they do a better job," why don't we step forward now and put our experience to work, to do that better job in the first place?

Now, I should mention one major point here: we can't assume a volunteer with knowledge of Polish names will actually end up indexing many Polish names. I looked at the list of current projects (http://tinyurl.com/3a4z6s) and they're mostly U.S. federal census records for various states, many predating the era of mass immigration.

But you aren't familiar **only** with Polish names, are you? You can help with all kinds of American records. And when you do run into a Polish name, isn't it reasonable to assume you'll handle it better than most other people who volunteer? Besides, as James Birkholz said, the more people get involved, the sooner they'll be able to tackle non-U.S. records. You can bring that day closer, and gain valuable experience that will probably make you a better researcher. That's one thing volunteers almost always say: their work pays off in ways they never expected.

(While we're at it, I should also put a word for getting involved with another very worthwhile indexing project, with immediate relevance to Poles: the Poznań Project. You'll read the latest about it below.)

If your research has shown you that you have a knack for getting the names right, let me encourage you to go to www.familysearchindexing.org, and see if this is something you can do. I'm sure you know from your experience what a difference a good indexer can make. Why not see if you can help make that difference?

*** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ***

Subject: Cemetery Restoration in Łosice

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

Kindly share the following news with your readers.

Three weeks ago work began on the cemetery restoration and memorial in Łosice, Poland. The cemetery restoration will feature the return of some 1,500 *matzevot* (gravestones) recovered in 2003 to the pre-war site of the Jewish cemetery in Łosice. The memorial will be erected at the same site to pay tribute to the Jews of Łosice who lost their lives during the Holocaust.

Special thanks to the Poland Jewish Cemeteries Restoration Project (PJCRP).

Thank you.

Regards.

Viktor Lewin <*viklewin@shaw.ca*>

Editor—I'm glad to pass the word along. For more information on this and similar projects, visit these Websites: http://www.zchor.org/losice/losice.htm and http://www.pjcrp.org/.

Subject: "American Friendship, Herbert Hoover and Poland"

Check out the Website http://www.pym.org/pm/comments.php?id=4720_0_298_0_C. This is an impressive exhibit that's not getting much press from Polonia.

Paul S. Valasek < paval 56@aol.com >

Editor—I'm always glad to give a little attention to something like this.

*** POZNAŃ PROJECT UPDATE ***

Editor—Łukasz Bielecki sent out the latest update on the Poznań Project on October 31st, after I had already sent out the October issue of Gen Dobry! I know a lot of our readers are interested in the Project, so I wanted to repeat his update, even if it's a little late, for any of you who might have missed it.

Dear Poznań Project Friends,

In this newsletter I would like to discuss one particular issue that I noticed not long ago. In case of remarrying widows it is important to include both surnames into the index, namely her maiden name and previous married name (if both are provided). It is true that many records provide only the name used at the time of marriage, which would be the previous married name. Sometimes the maiden name is explicitly given, though — and it is advised to be written into the "alias" column of the Poznań Project spreadsheet.

Still then, there seem to be many cases in which the maiden name of a widow can be inferred indirectly, from her father's surname, which is often provided as well. If this is the case, I would ask everyone doing the indexing to write that surname — as the widow's maiden name — into the alias column as well, although it is not featured in the description of the woman getting married. Still, the Project search engine works in the way that only the "surname" and "alias" columns are searched when you submit your query to the database. So if a surname is only provided with the information about the father, it would not be found.

I hope this tip will be easy to follow and it will be a big help for all the users if we consider this particularity while indexing.

All donations you have sent to support the Poznań Project development are very much appreciated. Please inform everybody who might be interested in the Poznań/Posen research about the existence of our project and the necessity to index further parishes to approach to its completion. Presently we already have nearly one (Catholic) marriage in three — of the total number of marriages contracted in the Poznań area over the time frame we selected (1835-1884). The Lutheran share is still somewhat lagging behind but we make progress, too (nearly 15% now). New declarations to index additional parishes are still welcome, of course. And I thank all of you who have submitted indexed material over the last two months.

Special thanks to Heide Swiecikowski, who indexes mainly the Gniezno area. She has just joined our 10K club! (= 10,000 entries indexed).

Here comes the list of new parishes added since the last newsletter:

Catholic: Gniezno (Holy Trinity parish), Kiszkowo, Pawłowice, Doruchów, Swarzędz, Dubin, Chomętowo, Kcynia, Czerniejewo, Świątkowo, Pomarzany, Czarnków, Dakowy Mokre, Jaksice, Niechłód/Nicheln, Chojnica, Ostrowite Prymasowskie, Sobota, Ujście

Lutheran: Wolsztyn/Wollstein, Margonin

Moreover, the material for several further localities has been significantly extended.

A slightly modified algorithm of surname matching has been applied recently and we hope the results of your searches will now better highlight the related surnames and their alternative spellings.

Also, here is the new link to the search engine that will work starting from today:

http://bindweed.man.poznan.pl/posen/search.php

*** ANCESTRY.COM's U.S. PASSPORT DATABASE 1795-1925 ***

On November 20th Ceil Jensen < <u>cjensen@mipolonia.net</u> > posted a note to the Poland Roots mailing list, explaining that "Ancestry has a new U.S. passport database 1795-1925. I've done separate searched by surname, Polish village and U.S. location. Very interesting results. Many have photos attached. One even had a handwritten letter from Poland attached to the passport. Happy hunting!"

Since then, this has gotten a lot of attention, and it looks like a very significant development. As is often the case, the more ingenious your approach, the more you can get out of it. As an example, research Tom Sadauskas < Thomas. Sadauskas@tma.osd.mil > wrote and told me this:

"You probably already know this but just in case. Ancestry.com has U.S. Passport Applications (1795-1925) on-line now.

"I typed in LITHUANIA and got 1,904 hits. Typing in LITH* yields 2,098 (includes the misspellings of Lithuania). POLAND yields 16,155 hits and POLISH yields 29 hits.

"Surprisingly, I found an application (including photo) from my mother's godfather, Antanas Mičiunas, from 1921. The arrival information on his application helped me find him in the EIDB, where he was listed as Anton Meizun.

"I'm not sure if he ever traveled back to Lithuania. I couldn't find a second entry for him in the EIDB or anywhere else for that matter."

I imagine most of you don't need to be told about this new database on Ancestry.com. But Tom's remarks might give you some ideas on how to use it, and possibly to get some unexpected results. Something as simple as searching for LITH* instead of LITHUANIA could be the difference between making a breakthrough and getting nowhere.

*** RESTRICTED LDS MICROFILMS FOR AUSTRIAN MILITARY RECORDS***

Editor—I saw a note posted to the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine list from Karen Hobbs, who has enormous expertise in dealing with this subject. I know a lot of researchers encounter all kinds of problems trying to find and access military records for Galicia, so I thought some of you might like to see what Karen wrote.

The rules are:

Any material not yet 100 years old cannot be viewed by anyone other than a direct descendant. The descendant must certify that the information is for genealogical purposes only.

Any title in the LDS film catalog that INCLUDES any material that is less than 100 years old is restricted.

One cannot order any material under that title even if the particular film does not have data that is less than 100 years old. This affects some films that include the year 1840-1920. (What a shame!!)

This affects all officers' records and many of the regimental *Kirchenbücher* that are so valuable for random searches.

There are two ways to get copies of selected pages from restricted materials / films.

From the War Archive:

Search with: Wien Kriegsarchiv

1) fill out the "Formuläre" found under the "Benutzen" tab at the War Archive website.

Be sure to fill out both the general form and the specific one. Be sure to ask for a search on a person who is a direct ancestor — not an uncle.

The Archivists keep track of your inquiries, and if there is any chance that you will ever want to make another inquiry for the same surname, they may ask you how one is a grandfather and the other is the same (with a different birth date or place).

2) Mail the Forms to the archive and be prepared for an e-mail quote on the cost of the lookup to be 32 Euro per half hour with an estimate of 64 Euro or more. There is also a complicated transfer of funds to their bank (unless that has changed) which will cost you another small bundle.

A professional researcher may cost you more but will probably provide digital images of the

record you request. Pros like Vladimir Bohnic will accept payment on the Internet via credit card. Jakub Smid in Brno accepts personal checks in USD last I knew. You have to make your deal with these researchers before they enter the archive on your behalf.

Any pro or an archive archivist will charge you their minimum rate or the cost of all the hours spent even if they find nothing. Some pros charge less per time period than the archivists.

It may help a pro if you send a high resolution photo of the soldier showing clearly his rank and perhaps his collar insignia. An archivist will generally not make much use of a photo unless you get to the right one.

WW I records can be viewed ONLY in Vienna as of the last information I had. They have a million 3 x 5 cards with Name, DOB, Place of birth, regiment upon induction and maybe some notes on what happened to a soldier.

LDS has filmed the cards but they are among uncataloged films and are not available to view even if they were 100 years old.

What happened to a soldier during WWI can be complicated. Many who started out in one regiment may have ended up in an entirely different one when there were too few survivors of a battle to do anything but use them as reinforcements for a regiment in better condition.

Soldiers taken prisoner or who died in battle may not be well-documented. Regimental *Kirchenbücher* show only the deaths that were reported to the regimental staff. Unreported deaths may be "unknown" burials. The place of burial may not be documented when a regimental staff was in a hurry to retreat or to process reinforcements — it was a question of priorities.

Regiments 28 and 36 deserted almost en masse during the Brusilov offensive. They joined the Czech and Slovak Legion fighting on the Russian side and ultimately with the White Army during the revolution. I do not know of any archive that has records of their service in Russia.

Some NCOs may have other records but that would require more research time to learn.

(The Orders of Battle page at Glenn Jewison's website will help understand where regiments were fighting during WWI. There is also a dispositions page that tells which regiments had detached battalions that served in the mountain brigades and elsewhere.)

The campaign maps at "USMA Great War Atlas" help to understand what army group, corps or division was where.

Viewing restricted records from SLC:

The restricted films can be viewed in SLC by one of the researchers on staff at the library there or by a professional researcher who will perhaps charge \$100 for a "single record search." (Heirlines told me that is what they charge).

SLC may require that you fill out a form similar to the form at the Staatsarchive/ Kriegsarchiv website.

Contact for the SLC researchers is at the www.familysearch.org website.

That website changes so often it is hard to know if the old URL is still correct.

I would use the contact info at:

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHL/frameset_library.asp?PAGE=library_contact.asp

Ask about their in-house researchers who can help you with A-H military records that are less than 100 years old.

When a reply comes, then ask that person the specifics of your inquiry. ALWAYS remember that the person you are researching has to be in the direct line of descent or you have to wait until his record is 100 years old.

On that point:

A-H records are dated as of the year of induction. That means that an officer's record dated 1905 will include the years that follow which should be restricted. I don't know how that is handled by the archivists or by SLC. They may just accept the date on the record as OK to release.

Karen

Editor—I am in awe of anyone who knows a subject so well she can just dash off a note like this at the drop of a hat! There's a ton of good info here, the sort of thing it takes years to learn. That's why I wanted to make sure any of our readers who might have missed the original note could have a chance to see it.

*** MARG NOWACZYK'S BOOKS ***

Editor—On the Poland-Roots mailing list, a question on how to get a copy of Marg Nowaczyk's book on Polish research, Poszukiwanie przodków, in Poland brought an answer from the author herself! I wanted to repeat the info, for anyone who might like to know; also she mentions her new book, which is also worth knowing about.

Thank you for your query about my book. For sending it to somebody in Poland the easiest way is to purchase it from the publisher directly, but their website is entirely in Polish. I also use the Polish internet bookstore Merlin, www.merlin.pl. Their website has an English version and you can pay by credit card. This is also the fastest and cheapest way.

For those interested, I have another book called *Rodzinne drzewo zdrowia* – Your Family Health Tree. It is also available at the same bookstore.

Małgorzata J.M. Nowaczyk, MD, FRCPC, FCCMG
Paediatrician and Geneticist
Associate Professor, Pathology and Molecular Medicine, and Paediatrics
McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada
Nowaczyk@hhsc.ca

Editor—If you're looking for a gift to give someone in Poland who's helped you, or who you hope to get help from, consider buying them a copy of Marg's book! It's quite good, and it's timely, because interest in genealogy is definitely on the increase in Poland.

*** UPCOMING EVENTS ***

Sunday, December 9, 2007

Holy Trinity Lithuanian Christmas Fair Holy Trinity Church Hall, 53 Capitol Ave., Hartford, Connecticut 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Hello, all of you in New England!!! It is time for the annual Holy Trinity Lithuanian Christmas Fair: Sunday, December 9th, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Holy Trinity Church Hall, 53 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. Traditional Lithuanian foods and crafts for sale. Straw Ornament-making classes. Free Admission. Information: 860-965-5549, *LithuanianRoyal@prodigy.net*. Hope to see you!!! (From an e-mail posted by Tomas Nenortas to the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list).

July 17-28, 2008

POLAND IN THE ROCKIES

Poland in the Rockies (PitR), the biennial international student conference launched in Canada in 2004, is now accepting applications for 2008.

Speakers confirmed to date include major figures from politics, television, film, the press and academe. Among them will be former Polish Minister of Defense, Senator Radek Sikorski; Washington Post columnist Anne Applebaum; BBC documentary maker Wanda Koscia; former advisor to Leszek Balcerowicz, Professor Jacek Rostowski of the Central European University in Budapest; the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's "most influential" producer, Mark Starowicz; and Director of the Polish Studies Center at Indiana University in Bloomington, Bill Johnston. History, an important element of PitR, is presented in many voices. Timothy Snyder's (Yale) incisive view of Poland's past within Poland's present; Piotr Wrobel's (University of Toronto) analysis of a century of challenges including a culture under

siege; Lynn Lubamersky (Boise State University) on social and family history; and John Bukowczyk (Wayne State University), a foremost authority on the history of Polonia.

"Poland in the Rockies is not 'a course' in Polish history," says director Tony Muszynski. "There is no long lecture in one voice. On the contrary. It is a fast-paced, intensive, wide-ranging discussion of 'things Polish,' and ultimately an exploration of the many facets of the Polish identity."

Launched by the Polish Canadian Association of Calgary and the Canadian Foundation for Polish Studies in Montreal, PitR's aim is to stimulate an interest among English-speaking Americans and Canadians in Polish history and culture; to create a network of well-informed and dynamic friends of Poland; and to encourage Polish Americans and Canadians to integrate their identity into the mainstream of North American life—but not to lose it.

Funded entirely by Polish organizations and individuals in the United States and Canada, *PitR* is not designed for specialists in Polish studies but is intended for students from a wide variety of disciplines. Full scholarships are granted on the basis of a student's curriculum vitae, letters of reference, and an essay explaining their motivation for attending. Geographical diversity is also taken into consideration.

For complete information, prospective sponsors and candidates should refer to the website:

http://www.polandintherockies.com

Media relations contact: Marek Domaradzki, tel. 403-262-7141

[From a press release sent by Maureen Mroczek Morris < <u>maureenm@sbcglobal.net</u>>]

Friday and Saturday, October 3 – 4, 2008 [note the date: 2008] PGSCTNE 2008 POLISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut

Sponsored by the Polish and Polish American Studies Program, Central Connecticut State University. We will be featuring **Dr. Stephen Morse**, who will be lecturing on "Searching the Ellis Island Database on the One-Step Website."

There will also be a Polish history lecture by **Dr. Mieczysław Biskupski** and a Beginner's Workshop.

*** MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES ***

http://www.calwiz.com/

On the Polish Genius mailing list, Debbie Greenlee <<u>daveg@airmail.net</u>> mentioned this site for various calendar calculations, which can come in handy during research. She also

mentioned the perpetual calendar site at http://cobalt.archives.nd.edu/perpetua.htm, which has a link to a site for converting Roman numerals, for those of you who occasionally need help with that.

http://www.culture-exchange.net/publications/en/GOOD%20PRACTICE_PL.pdf

Also on that list, Debbie posted a note suggesting this PDF file, which gives info on the different nationalities and ethnic groups in Poland as of 2002. She added, "The population breakdown appears on pages 2 and 3." Remember that Poles use a period in numbers where we use commas: 20.000 is the number we'd write as 20,000.

http://stephendanko.com/blog/category/gazetteers/

In another note on that list, Bronwyn Klimach < <u>bronklimach@gmail.com</u> > recommended this page for help using gazetteers, specifically the *Slownik geografizeny*. She also kindly mentioned the article in the last *Gen Dobry!* on that subject—thanks!

http://www.pgsctne.org/Detroit%20Databases/Detroit%20Introduction.html

In yet another note on that list, Joanne <<u>crossstitch opal wolf@yahoo.com</u>> told of an ongoing project by the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast to index birth and marriage announcements and obituaries found in pre-World War II Polish language newspapers printed in the U.S. "The first segment of the data, representing vital records announcements from Detroit's *Dziennik Polski* has been placed on the Society's website," at the above URL. In a follow-up note C. Michael Eliasz <<u>mike@eliasz.com</u>> gave the whole URL, which is repeated above. He added that he, too, is collecting these records, and has 3,600 entries online available at http://tinyurl.com/3cxfw7.

http://www.verwaltungsgeschichte.de/ortsbuch39.html

On the newsgroup soc.genealogy.jewish, Roger Lustig mentioned this site, which helps you identify places under German and Austrian rule, especially for the period 1871-1945. If you're not intimidated by a little German, it can help you pin down the relevant *Kreis, Land, Bezirk*, etc. He added that since jurisdictions have changed since 1945, it's always a good idea to check the town name in Wikipedia, especially the German one (http://de.wikipedia.org).

http://www.lcweb.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/index.html

In another note on that newsgroup, Joan Parker suggested visiting this page on the Library of Congress website, entitled "Preparing, Protecting and Preserving Family Treasures." with simple instructions in preserving family documents, as well as links to other sites.

http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V08N21.htm

A special edition of *Nu? What's New?* sent out on November 4th has some very interesting remarks by Gary Mokotoff. He talks of the revelations he expects about the Holocaust

as the records of the ITS (International Tracing Service) become available, and what role genealogists will play in the process. Given the huge number of Polish Jews and Christians who died in the Holocaust, this is a subject that should interest anyone whose ancestors came from Poland. You can read Gary's comments at the above URL. Note that Gary and *Avotaynu* editor Sallyann Sack plan to visit the ITS site in Bad Arolsen, Germany, perhaps during the month of December, and report on what they find.

http://germanoriginality.com/heritage/genealogy.php

Gerd Müllenheim < muellenh@pt.lu > posted a note to the Posen mailing list giving this URL for a "new German genealogy web site." Since an awful lot of Polish emigrants to English-speaking countries came from areas that were under German rule, which meant they were technically classified as Germans, I feel good sites on German research should always be brought to our readers' attention.

http://www.h-roesler.de/_html/schrift.html

Also on that list, Shane Edgar <<u>sje5@sbcglobal.net</u>> posted a note suggesting that people needing help reading German handwriting visit this site. It is one of the better aids I've seen, presenting a lot of good information in a very compact, comprehensible way. Incidentally, Shane also said, "A website / group that has been extremely helpful to me is: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/transcribe/." If you're having trouble reading German handwriting—and let's face it, who doesn't?—you might want to give this group a try.

http://www.tr62.de/maps/po-text.html

Also on the Posen list, Jan Textor (http://textor.dk/homepage) mentioned that this site features "some nice historical maps of the area of the former Prussian Province of Posen."

http://www.chicagoancestors.org

On the Poland-Roots mailing list, Thomas Mackowiak

<ThomasMackowiak@comcast.net> answered a request for help finding the names of German churches in Chicago by recommending this site, created by the Newberry Library. "One of the search features allows you to enter a current street address and tell the database how close to that address you want information (for example, .5 mile, 1 mile, 2 miles, etc.). The database will present you with a map of Chicago showing various points of information like churches (Catholic and Protestant), Homicides, etc. You then click on one of the categories and a drop down menu gives you more detail on items in that category. If you highlight a church name for example, there will be information on the date it was established, if the LDS has microfilmed records and the microfilm numbers etc. There are also links to other databases that will also give you information on the church or category." He added, "If you are working with a pre-1909 address, you will have to convert that address to a current street address. There are links in the ChicagoAncestors database to the 1909 Street Number Conversion database and the 1948 Street Name Change database on the Chicago History Museum's website so that you can figure out a current street address."

http://www.stankiewicze.com/ludobojstwo/index_en.html

On the Hostow_Galicia_Village mailing list, Steven <<u>grecko1@ozemail.com.au</u>> told of this list of those who perished during World War II in western Ukraine. He pointed out that the list gives the age and date of passing and is worth a look.

http://www.publictechnology.net/print.php?sid=12947

Tom Sadauskas < Thomas. Sadauskas (atma. osd. mil) sent me an interesting note on this site, where you can find information on mobile phones (cell phones) in the European Union. He noted, "In 2005, Lithuania has 127 mobile phones per 100 inhabitants. Back in 1996 it had 1 mobile phone per 100 inhabitants. Nearly half (48%) of Lithuanian households having mobile phone access don't have fixed phone access (i.e., no land line). That means nearly half of Lithuanian households won't be listed in the Lithuanian White Pages! You can draw the same conclusions for Poland as well:

1996 - 1 mobile phone per 100 inhabitants

2005 - 76 mobile phones per 100 inhabitants

2006 - 20% of households having mobile phone access have no land lines."

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