



Gen Dobry!

Volume VIII, No. 9

30 September 2007

ISSN 1555-774X. Copyright © 2007, PolishRoots®, Inc.
Editor: William F. “Fred” Hoffman, E-mail: <wfh@langline.com>

CONTENTS

Welcome
Antwerp Alien Registers Can Be Used to Find Immigrants from Poland to the New
World
Letters to the Editor
The Prinke Surname List Is Back Online!
Book on Central Massachusetts Polonia Available
Comments on Paying the Polish State Archives
Upcoming Events
More Useful Web Addresses
You May Reprint Articles...

*** 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_9.pdf

***** ANTWERP ALIEN REGISTERS CAN BE USED TO FIND IMMIGRANTS FROM POLAND TO THE NEW WORLD *****

by Edward David Luft <luft1111@hotmail.com>

Sometimes resources turn up in the most unexpected places. A very clever correspondent alerted me to an unexpected resource for migrants heading to Antwerp, Belgium, usually from further east, sometimes Poland. The resource—entirely in Flemish [Dutch], unfortunately—is the Antwerp Register of Aliens. The main URL is http://stadsarchief.antwerpen.be/Unrestricted/Folder.aspx?folder_name=EFLORIS/Internet/STADSA RCHIEF2/1.+Nieuws/Vreemdelingendossiers. Presumably the registrants are those remaining in the town to live and work in Antwerp [Anvers, in French], Belgium.

Editor—This Website can be slow to respond; sometimes an attempt to connect to it will time out before it can be successful. I have connected repeatedly to the URL given above, however, and also to the TinyUrl <http://tinyurl.com/3xzvsu>, which leads to the same site. If you don't succeed at first in connecting, wait a while and try again later.

The URL listed above leads to the following choices of alphabetical indexes of foreign registrants, listed in Flemish. The indexes shown on the page are:

Index of alien registrants 1840-1874

[in the original: Alfabetische index op de vreemdelingendossiers voor de periode 1840-1874]

Index of alien registrants 1875-1885

Index of alien registrants 1886-1900

Index of alien registrants 1901-1915

Index of alien registrants 1916-1930

The indexes are handwritten, usually in an easy-to-read script, and yield various kinds of information—generally the later the date, the more it tells you. Scrolling through the 1886-1900 index for the letter A, for instance, one can find “Louis Abraham, born 1848 in POSEN” at <http://tinyurl.com/32xpqm>. Earlier indexes offer less information.

To obtain the full information, one would have to consult the underlying microfilm oneself. Those microfilms are not yet online, but will be soon, as noted below.

The Alien Registration dossiers in the Antwerp city archive lists all those aliens from 1840 to 1930 who were recorded as living in Antwerp, Belgium. The places of origin are listed in the indexes starting in the years 1886-1900. What the criteria were for registration is not clear from the English material online; perhaps it is explained somewhere in Flemish.

The Antwerp city archives has provided essentially the following message, which is altered slightly for clarity and space in the hope of retaining the essence of the message:

In accordance with the charter for provision of services approved by the bench of mayor and aldermen on 26/01/2007, I have to inform you that we don't perform research for private persons. Of course, you are welcome in our reading room. There you can do the research yourself. The reading room is open Tuesday - Friday from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. The necessary inventories will be at your disposal, and the person in charge will be glad to help you. You may consult the alien registration files on microfilm and also make photocopies. On our website, <http://www.felixarchief.be>, you can find the inventory of the alien registration files by double clicking on "Zoek" (search) in the right-hand corner of the home page. Then fill in "vreemdelingenregisters." At the moment you can only consult the underlying files on microfilm in our reading room. However, we are planning to put them on our website in the very near future.

We realize that not everybody can visit the reading room. Therefore, we have created an additional communication tool. The 'Geschiedenis van Antwerpen Forum' (history of Antwerp forum) is an online panel discussion. You can find this panel on the following website:

<http://www.geschiedenisvanantwerpen.be/forum>.

There you can ask a question of a wide audience and possibly find someone who will do the research for you. Please bear in mind that the city archives is only the intermediary and that our institute cannot be held responsible for any information you receive via this website.

tel + 32 3 206 94 11

fax +32 3 206 94 10

<stadsarchief@stad.antwerpen.be>

<http://www.felixarchief.be>

A very kind employee will sometimes help those with questions: <louisphilippe.arnhem@dofi.fgov.be>. He can sometimes help with immediate relatives of a person listed in the index if of the same surname.

If you have any reason to believe that during this period your ancestor was in Antwerp, then you now have an additional search tool at your disposal. Happy hunting!

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

Subject: Polish Millennium Coins

Editor—In our last issue we printed a note from Thomas Bocek <tpbocek@bcpl.net> asking about a half-dollar coin with the inscription “Poland’s Millennium of Christianity.” Tom was wondering if any of our readers was familiar with the coin. So far this is the only response I’ve received:

Just letting you know. I actually have one of the Polish Millennium coins, and it made its way to Australia to my parents. I’m interested in any history that can be mustered.

Steve <greckol@ozemail.com.au>

Editor—If any of our readers can tell us more, please contact me, or Steve and Tom.

Subject: Last issue of *Gen Dobry!*

Two concerns about the last issue of *Gen Dobry!* The answers to the previous month’s Polish Trivia were not included. Bummer. Also, when I clicked onto the PDF form, the previous month’s issue came up, number 7, not number 8, because the copy says “Gen Dobry VIII 7.pdf.” I did get the PDF copy by changing the 7 to an 8.

Armela Hammes <armelahammes@att.net>

Editor—As I told Armela, we explained in the July issue that Paul S. Valasek had not been able to provide more trivia questions; but the July issue had the answers to the questions that appeared in the June issue. I encouraged Armela to let Paul know she missed the trivia, and Paul will see if there’s any way he can resume the trivia feature. But he’d have a lot more motivation if we heard from more readers! As for the bad link to the PDF, that was my fault, and I apologize for the error. Fortunately, Armela was smart enough to figure out how to work around my mistake.

Subject: Poles and Scots

Editor—Armela sent another note that I thought I should share with you. It deals with mention in the last issue of a Website referring to ties between Poland and Scotland.

I read with great interest the website you listed in the last *Gen Dobry!*, <http://www.scotland.org>, which has a page on ties between Scotland and Poland. Bonnie Prince Charlie was half Polish!! The website spoke of the ties in such glowing terms. However, I had to pick up my copy of *For Your Freedom and Ours: Poland, Scotland and the Second World War*, by Allan Carswell and re-read a few of the last pages that I remember had really saddened me.

In 1940 the remnants of the Polish army arrived in Scotland to help defend Scotland’s eastern coast. At the end of the war a good proportion of the Polish Armed Forces under British command in Scotland did not want to return to a Soviet-dominated Poland. Out of 240,000

Polish troops under British command, only 105,000 chose to return to Poland. A resentment of the Poles who chose to remain in Scotland began by the trade unions because of a shortage of jobs. It took some time for the Poles to become assimilated. They often changed their names, especially those who had married Scottish women. But all that seems to have been forgotten, according to the website in *Gen Dobry!*

Armela Hammes <armelahammes@att.net>

Editor—Well, at least we can do our small bit to make sure it does not remain forgotten!

Subject: Poles and Scotland

Editor—Here's another reaction to that Poland-Scotland link:

The story under useful Websites regarding Poles and Scots could also apply to migrations of long ago. I can at least trace my roots back to 1840 in the Poznań area of Poland; therefore, I think I am all Polish. However, when I submitted my DNA to the National Geographic Genographic Project, I received some interesting results. After testing, if you agree, your DNA is matched with others and placed in a database at <http://www.familytreedna.com> with your e-mail address.

Currently, I have 15 matches, and I have corresponded with most of them. None have a Polish link, but they are all Scotch, Irish, English, and, best of all, a Puerto Rican who has traced his roots to Northern Spain (where they play bagpipes and do Step Dancing like the Scots and Irish). Additionally, the project does provide a numerical breakdown of all submissions by country matching your DNA; but if e-mail addresses are not submitted you don't know who the others are. And of course you have to submit your DNA in the first place.

I do have a few Polish and German matches, in this numerical category, but the greatest number of DNA that matches mine (like 100 to 1) comes from England and Scotland. So am I really Polish? Or am I the result of some Viking looting and pillaging in Poland? Maybe this is what happened to the Puerto Rican also? Ha! Ha!

Ed Przybylski aka Price <edwardwp@aol.com>

Editor—Fascinating! I had no idea there were places in Spain where they play bagpipes and enjoy step dancing! But I guess I shouldn't be surprised. If you dig far enough, you find all sort of connections that seem unlikely if you focus only on recent history. I remember Rafał Prinke and Andrzej Sikorski published a book in 1997, Królewska Krew [Royal Blood], that demonstrated pretty convincingly that the majority of Poles living today descend on the distaff side from Mieszko I, and also from such medieval European rulers as Charlemagne, William the Conqueror, Gedymin and St. Włodzimierz. So if you go back far enough, you have to rethink a lot of what you think you know.

***** THE PRINKE SURNAME LIST IS BACK ONLINE! *****

by Marie Dallas <rwlistsboards@comcast.net>

It wasn't that long ago that one site every Polish researcher visited was Rafał Prinke's list of surnames submitted by researchers of Polish ethnicity or descended from people who had lived in Poland. The surname list was originally created by Rafał Prinke, beginning on 1 January 1996. Kathi White maintained it from its inception until 1 May 1998. Tom Wodzinski (in Australia) and Guido Buldrini (Italy) also contributing to building the list, and after Kathi resigned in 1998, Guido took over as list coordinator.

But for the last couple of years the list has not been available online, and many researchers have searched for it in vain. I am pleased to say that has changed! Guido turned the list over to me, with Rafał's permission. Guido updated the list before sending it to me, so there are also some current entries (up to September 2007). I have modified it in some ways, including support of the proper Polish characters instead of the tilde (~). There is an introductory page explaining what the list is, how to "use" it, and how to submit surname entries as well as the above info about the origins of the list.

It will be available here:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~polwgw/rafal/surname.html>

Many of the email addresses are likely outdated, since the list has been off-line for over two years. But we expect that as word spreads about its "rebirth," folks will update their contact information. The entries prior to 1 October 2007 were not added by PolandGenWeb.

Editor—While Marie said it would be unveiled on October 1st, I just took a look, and it seems "ready for prime time" to me. The home page tells you everything you need to know. Just remember what Marie said: most of the entries date back some years, and the e-mail addresses may no longer be valid. If we all do our best to spread the word, however, we can change that!

***** BOOK ON CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS POLONIA AVAILABLE *****

by Barbara Proko <lida_ancestors@yahoo.com>

Dzień dobry!

My coauthor Janice Baniukiewicz Stickles and I are happy to announce that our new Arcadia Publishing "Images of America" photo history of Central Massachusetts Polonia is now available. We invite you to join us at our upcoming book signings, listed below. Please email me off-list for further details.

Barbara Proko

Saturday, Sept. 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Booklovers' Gourmet, 55 East Main St., Webster, 508-949-6232, <http://www.er3.com/book>

Saturday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 30, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish fall festival, 34 Ward St., Worcester

Saturday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., SCR Cafe, 210 Hamilton St., Southbridge, 508-765-5520, <http://www.sturbridgecoffeeasters.com/>

Saturday, Oct. 20, 5-6:30 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 21, 7-11:30 a.m., St. Joseph's Church, 358 Pleasant St., Gardner

Thursday, Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m. Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts meeting, Jones Library, 14 Amity St., Amherst

Saturday, Oct. 27, 1-3 p.m., Tatnuck Bookseller, 18 Lyman St., Westborough, 508-366-4959, <http://www.tatnuck.com>

Saturday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Uxbridge Free Public Library, Thayer Memorial Building, 15 North Main St., Uxbridge, 508-278-8624, <http://www.uxbridgelibrary.org>

Saturday, Nov. 10, 1-3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, The Shoppes at Blackstone Valley, 70 Worcester Providence Turnpike #533, Millbury, 508-865-2801

Saturday, Nov. 17, 1-3 p.m., Pilsudski Club, 61 Joslyn Rd., Gilbertville

Sunday, Nov. 25, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Polish Cultural Club Szopka Festival, Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford, Connecticut

Thursday, Nov. 29, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Webster House, Webster Square, Worcester, 508-757-7208, <http://www.websterhouseweb.com>

***** COMMENTS ON PAYING THE POLISH STATE ARCHIVES *****

by Mark Halpern, JRI-Poland Order Processing Coordinator

Editor—This note was posted on the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup. It deals with a topic that often comes up, how best to pay the State Archives in Poland for research, and it comes from a man with lots of practical experience. I thought it was worth repeating, for anyone who might have missed it. While Mark Halpern's experience is with helping Jewish researchers, clearly there's useful info and advice here for anyone doing Polish research.

In the last week, there have been a number of postings, where researchers have related their experiences with Archives in Poland and elsewhere in Europe and made some suggestions.

Someone told us that one of the regional Archives in Poland (there are 30 regional Archives and these 30 have an additional 50 branches) will accept either wire transfer or funds via Western Union. Someone suggested paying by International Money Order. Someone suggested payment in Euros. Someone suggested that one of the regional Archives accepts credit cards. And, someone suggested using a web-based foreign exchange service that will send a check in Polish currency. I warn all Polish researchers to check out these suggestions in advance with the regional Archive.

From November 2003 through November 2006, when the Polish State Archives (PSA), terminated the JRI-Poland Order Processing System, I coordinated this ordering process with the regional Archives of the PSA. Prior to November 2003, researchers were ordering and paying for records directly with the Archives, which created problems and extra costs for both parties.

As mentioned before, there are 30 regional Archives, and each one sets its own fees for copies of records and methods of payments. I do not know of any regional Archive that accepts credit cards. Most, if not all, will only accept payment by wire transfer directly into their bank account. Some of these regional Archives will also charge you their fee for the receipt of the wire transfer.

My suggestions for ordering directly from any Polish regional Archive or branch are:

- 1) Search the JRI-Poland database at <http://www.jri-poland.org/jriplweb.htm> and identify records of interest.
- 2) If the search results table with the record of interest includes “PSA” in the title, then you will have to obtain that record from the Polish State Archives. The heading will show the Regional Archive Branch and the Fond Number.
- 3) Copy the following information for each record of interest: Archive Branch and Fond Number, Town, Signature Number (if applicable), Year of Record & Type of Record (B=birth, M=marriage, D=death), AKT Number, Surname and Given Name (if no surname, use father’s surname).
- 4) Write to the Regional Archive(s). Mail [sic] is preferable, but can use regular mail. You can write in English, but Polish is preferable if you can.
- 5) Provide the above information for all the records you want. Ask them to provide the full cost of acquiring copies of those records and the method of payment. You will find Archive contact information at <http://www.archiwa.gov.pl/?CIDA=177>.
- 6) Regional Archive should respond within 30 days, usually sooner. Response will likely be in Polish. Obtain a translation using JewishGen ViewMate, if needed.
- 7) Response will identify all costs and the total cost - Cost of copies, cost of postage and Bank Fees of the Archive. Total Cost will be quoted in Zloty and possibly US Dollars or Euro. Most Archives will request payment by bank (wire) transfer directly to their account. Your copies will be mailed once your payment is received.

Please do not send any funds in ways not identified by the regional Archive. Ask them first if “your suggested method of payment” is acceptable or will be acceptable with an additional fee (hopefully a fee lower than arranging for a wire transfer, which could cost \$20 to \$50 US). One person’s experience at one regional Archive is only a ****good recommendation**** for that Archive. Ask the Archive and hopefully they will help you reduce the cost of arranging payment.

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

**OCTOBER DINNER & LECTURE EVENTS AT
SKI’S POLISH RESTAURANT IN TOLEDO**

Monday, October 1st – The History of “Kuschwantz”

Dr. David Chelminski

“Kuschwantz”, meaning “cow’s tail” in German, was the other large Polish community in Toledo. It too was settled by Polish immigrants in the late 1800s and developed into a “city” within a city. Everything one ever needed could be found in this neighborhood, including churches, restaurants, bars, bakeries, bowling alleys, and many other businesses, virtually all run by Polish immigrants and their families. Dave Chelminski will talk about this wonderful neighborhood that still exists in the memories of many local Polish-Americans.

Monday, October 8th – The Poles and the American Revolutionary War

Russell Pawlowski

Few Americans realize how much of a role Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciuszko had in helping win the American Revolutionary War. As Polish Americans we should be proud of the contribution made by these two war heroes. Russ Pawlowski, former President of the Toledo Polish Genealogical Society and a studied Polish history buff, will enlighten you with some very interesting but little known facts about Polish history and why we as Americans, should be ever grateful to these two heroic Poles.

Monday, October 15th – Sharon & Chet’s Polka Party

Sharon Zablocki

The Polka Party has been a Polish tradition in the Toledo area for over 60 years. As everyone who grew up in a Polish household knew, Sunday mornings were reserved for church and listening to Sharon & Chet’s Polka Party. Come hear Sharon talk about how Chet started the show and how it evolved. She’ll share special stories of Chet and give you an inside view of what it has been like to carry on this very special tradition.

Monday, October 22nd – The History of The Ohio Theatre and The Lagrange Street News

Marty Blaszczyk

The Lagrange Street News and the historic Ohio Theatre have played an important role in the local Polish community since 1921. Mr. Marty Blaszczyk, editor of the *Lagrange Street News* and longtime Toledo resident, will give an historical perspective of both the

newspaper and the Theatre and the significance of both to Toledo Polonia. You will enjoy the many interesting facts Marty will share about the Theatre and Toledo's only Polish oriented newspaper.

**Seating for dinner will be between 6:45 and 7:00 p.m. (Special Menu) –
Lecture will begin at 8 p.m.
Make Your Reservations Now! Seating is limited to 70
Cost is \$18.50 per person - price includes Dinner, Beverage, Dessert and Lecture!
Call (419) 882-1199.**

[This information was provided by Ceil Jensen <cjensen@mipolonia.net>].

Saturday, October 6, 2007

**Polish and East European Genealogy Workshop
Toledo-Lucas County Public Library
Toledo, Ohio
9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Paul S. Valasek, D.D.S., from Chicago, an experienced Polish-American genealogist, will present four lectures on tracing your family genealogy from Poland and Eastern Europe. The lectures are: Polish American Roots, Haller's Polish Army in France, Tracing 20th Century Immigrant, and Czech and Slovak Research. Book signing will be presented after the final lecture. For more information, contact the Local History Dept. 419-259-5233.

(From the Website <http://www.toledolibrary.org/events/adenrich.asp>.)

**Tuesday, October 9, 2007
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.**

The Next Meeting of Toronto Ukrainian Genealogical Group (TUGG)

Dr. Romana Bahry will speak on "Szematisms as Another Genealogical Source"

St. Vladimir Institute
620 Spadina Avenue
Toronto

Contact: (905)-841-6707

October 20, 2007

PGS-MICHIGAN'S ANNUAL POLISH RESEARCH SEMINAR

American Polish Cultural Center - Hall #2
2975 E. Maple Rd. (15 Mile Rd)
Troy, Michigan 48083
(use Dequindre entrance)

Here are the speakers and their topics:

Ceil Jensen, "Detroit Polonia's Photo Studios and Finding Aid"

Paul S. Valasek, "Haller's Army, aka Polish Army in France" and "Tracing the 20th Century Immigrant"

Bill Gorski, "The J. William Gorski Collection at the Library of Michigan and Michigan State Archives and Slide Presentation of Southeastern Michigan Polish Churches"

Registration: 8:30 a.m., Seminar: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Includes a Delicious Polish-Style Lunch

**First 100 registrants receive a free workshop packet

Registration fee: \$50.00 before October 10 (after that date it's \$60.00)

For the registration form and more information visit this PGSM Website page:
http://www.pgsm.org/index_016.htm

Sunday, October 21, 2007

ON EAGLES WINGS GATHERING

Polish Combatants Hall
206 Beverley St.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

All are invited to Toronto for our 3rd "On Eagles Wings" gathering of the generations. This English-language, family-oriented event will feature WW2 displays, memorabilia, militaria and survivors (both civilian and veteran). Polish WW2 experts will be on hand to help identify photos, documents, medals, etc.

Visit <http://OnEaglesWings0.tripod.com> for more information. Feel free to e-mail me with any questions <hsokol@sympatico.ca>.

As a special treat for Polish Air Force fans, our President is a former PAF tail gunner and bomber pilot and recipient of the Virtuti Militari. We also have the full dress uniform of a PAF crewman in our museum as well as a few items of PAF memorabilia.

Henry Sokolowski
Polish Combatants Association
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

[From a note posted by Lucyna Artymiuk <lucyna.artymiuk@bigpond.com> to the PolandBorderSurnames mailing list.]

THURSDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2007

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS

**Jones Library
14 Amity Street
Amherst, Massachusetts
6:30 PM.**

Joe Parzych will speak on “*Writing a Polish Family History using Print-On-Demand.*” Mr. Parzych is the author of *Jep’s Place: Hope, Faith and Other Disasters*, remembrances of growing up in a family of 13 children of Polish immigrants. He is a very interesting person and a splendid raconteur. He grew up in a hardscrabble Polish family during the Depression and expended great effort to shape a successful life and do some publishing on the side in *Yankee*, and some other national magazines.

Our interest is in his story *Jep’s Place* and how he used POD to publish it. For those of members and guests who want to produce a hard-copy family history, he’ll have some valuable experiences to share. He will discuss his experiences of producing this book and using the POD firm Booklocker.com, Inc. **FREE**. Bring a friend.

Location: Jones Library Lower Level Meeting Room at 14 Amity Street, Amherst just off North Pleasant Street in the center of town. Public parking across from the library at 25¢ per hour before 6 PM. Call (413) 586-1827 for more details, or visit WEB site.

Editor—POD, or Print on Demand, is a great option for those who want to publish books that big publishers won’t touch because there’s no profit in it for them. This is definitely a good topic for researchers to know something about.

July 17-28, 2008

POLAND IN THE ROCKIES

It’s not too soon to start making plans for this annual event. For information, visit the Website:

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

[From an e-mail sent by Maureen Mroczek Morris <maureenm@sbcglobal.net>]

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.genealodzy.pl/name-Nazwiska.phtml>

Pat <patunia@comcast.net> sent me a note mentioning this site, and it is very interesting. She said, “A friend of mine, Tadeusz Wysocki, brought this site to the attention of the Polish Forum. He is a member of the genealodzy group and I think he should be mentioned also.” Click on the letter with which a surname begins and look over the entries. If you want to add one, go down to where it says “Dodaj do listy twoje nazwisko” (Add your surname to this list) and click on it. This takes you to a page where you can type in: Nazwisko (Surname); Miejscowość (Town); Link (Your weblink); Opis (Text).” Finally, click on “Dodaj” (Add). Note that you can post text in English, because Tadeusz said most young genealogists in Poland speak at least some English.

<http://tinyurl.com/2mg6ro>

On the Polish Genius list, Ray Marshall posted a link to the *New York Times* review on September 9 of *No Simple Victory: World War II in Europe, 1939-1945*, the latest book by Norman Davis, famous for his *God’s Playground: A History of Poland*. Articles on newspaper Websites often “age” quickly and are removed to the archives, but as of right now the review is still available here. The reviewer finds some merit in the book, but feels it would have been much more effective with much less repetition and padding.

http://www.torugg.org/Newsletter/current_issue.html

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine mailing list, Jim Onyschuk <jodanji@aci.on.ca> posted a note saying that the Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group (TUGG) has started posting an online newsletter at this address. “We have decided to publish the on-line version, on a more frequent and timely basis. Our goal is to publish every month. Should you wish to contribute, make suggestions, ask questions or submit articles, please contact us.”

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

This is an interesting Website I happened to run across while messing around on the Internet. I know nothing about this organization, so it's definitely a case of "Let the buyer beware!" But it might be worth looking into.

<http://genforum.genealogy.com/poland/messages/41253.html>

Paul S. Valasek brought this to my attention. This URL takes you to a page on the Genforum site where Tadeusz Wysocki posted information on a directory of inhabitants of Warsaw, along with its suburbs, from 1854. The actual directory is at Dr. Minakowski's site at <http://www.przodkowie.com/warszawa/>, but you might want to read Tadeusz's note first, to give you a little insight on what to find there. The directory gives a list of streets running vertically down the page; near the top of the page and running horizontally is an alphabet with links to specific surnames (Nazwiska). If you might have had ancestors living in the Warsaw area at the time, this could be a valuable source of info.

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

Paul also told me about this Website, which neither of us had run into before. It's one more source that might possibly help researchers.

<http://www.skwierzyna.net/polishgrammar.pdf>

On the Poland-Roots list there was a discussion of online Polish lessons, and Samantha <snorth5@verizon.net> mentioned this one, which I'd never seen before. Theresa Webber <twebber5@maine.rr.com> also mentioned the online lessons, with audio and video, at <http://polish.slavic.pitt.edu/>.

<http://www.polskapresse.pl/art/89.html>

Also on that list, there was a request for online Polish newspapers, to let people get some practice reading "real" Polish. Agnieszka Kazanowska <aga.kazanowska@sbcglobal.net> gave several URL's, including this one, which has links to a number of different regional newspapers, including *Dziennik Polski*.

<http://eastlanddisaster.org>

On the Poland-Roots list, Debbie Greenlee mentioned the Arcadia Publishing book *The Eastland Disaster*, by Ted Wachholz, ISBN 0738534412 (go to <http://www.arcadiapublishing.com> and search for the title "Eastland Disaster"). Mary Snow followed up by suggesting one can investigate the information available on the Eastland Disaster on this Website.

<http://tinyurl.com/3cacbh>

On the Polish Genius list C. Michael Eliaz <mike@eliasz.com> mentioned the site to which this URL connects. On it he has collected "... a number of existing sources (such as James Tye's typewritten research—with his express permission and continued encouragement) that have transcribed the info from *Dziennik Polski*—The Polish Daily News (Detroit, MI) ... I now have 3,553 Polish names indexed and on the web (with help from others)." This page gives a summary of the information available, with links to the various indexes.

<http://www.romgen.com/pages/products/census-and-passport-lists.php>

On the Galicia Poland-Ukraine list the Romgen Team announced the publication of this list of the names of 5,569 persons who required passports from the administration of Bucovina in Radauti, Romania between 1920 and 1931. The list includes "people from Bucovina (Romania), Cernauti area and Galicia (Ukraine)." It's a downloadable Excel file.

<http://www.personalbutpolite.com>

On the Lithuanian Genealogy list Bill Cribbs mentioned this list with transcriptions of early personal columns from small town newspapers. "This is an interesting angle from which to research out ancestors because it tells about the everyday 'comings and goings' around town ... He also accepts contributions of data to include in the site."

<http://www.gravestonestudies.org/faq.htm>

On that same list, Lois Mackin posted a note on the subject of gravestone rubbings or deciphering old gravestones, recommending that people read the FAQ on this site. People often want to make tracings of old gravestones, but if you don't do it correctly you can damage the stone. This site helps you avoid that, and gives good advice on related topics.

<http://david-polanddavid.blogspot.com/>

On the Poland Roots list Debbie Greenlee mentioned a blog being kept by an American man who recently moved with his wife to Poland. There are all kinds of interesting things to read in the daily entries, which begin when they flew over and continue up to the present.

http://maps.live.com/?vendor=google&pkw=map|77103831&s_kwid=map|771013831

On the same list, Debbie posted this site, an online map service that shows many villages in Poland, even some small ones. She explains, "In the box marked, 'Enter city, address, or landmark,' type the village name and 'Poland.' You will be able to zoom-in or out and move the map around as well (left click and hold your cursor on the map and then move your mouse around to move the map)." Note that it allows you to choose a map view, an aerial view, or a hybrid—but as you might expect, the aerial view only zooms in so far. There are other sites that offer much the same thing; I can get the same basic maps and aerial views from Microsoft Virtual Earth and Wikimapia.org. But the site Debbie mentioned seems to me a little easier to use, and more versatile.

http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-digitize_websep07,0,407232.story

Tom Sadauskas sent me a note about this article, which deals with many records of Cook County, Illinois becoming available online. This development has received a lot of attention on various genealogical lists, as you can imagine.

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

In my continuing search for online Polish phone directories, I came across this site. It struck me as a rather handy portal for checking Polish hotel pages, Yellow Pages, White Pages, and Google pages. Of course, now that I've mentioned it here, it'll probably be gone tomorrow....

<http://www.FamilySearchWiki.org>

On the soc.genealogy.jewish newsgroup, Joan Parker posted a note about this site, developed to serve as a new research support tool. "This site includes all research outlines published by the Family History Library and many other articles never published such as the wiki material for Japan, China and India. It is intended as an online community for family history researchers and those interested in learning how to be more successful in the search for their ancestors." From the home page you can select "Browse by Country" to find some pretty interesting info for Poland, and other countries. Though the pickings are kind of slim right now, this could develop into a very useful site.

YOU MAY REPRINT articles from *Gen Dobry!*, PROVIDED: (1) the reprint is used for non-commercial, educational purposes; and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the article: Written by [author's name, e-mail address, and URL, if given]. Previously published by *Gen Dobry!*, Vol. VIII, No. 9, 30 September 2007, PolishRoots®: <http://www.PolishRoots.org/>.

Copyright 2007, PolishRoots®, Inc. All rights reserved.