



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/archives.htm>

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

http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_X_1.pdf

***** WHY I KEEP VISITING ONLINE MAILING LISTS *****

by Fred Hoffman <wfh@langline.com>

It's been some 19 years now since the first time I looked at the Genealogy Bulletin Board on the old Prodigy online service. As you can imagine, a lot has changed. One thing, in particular, really struck me the other day.

On one of the mailing lists, a newcomer posted a note along the lines of "I'm looking for Jan Nowak from Poland. Please contact me if you have info that will help." I've had always mixed feelings about these notes. The kinder, gentler part of my character feels sympathy for someone starting out with so little to work with; I have some notion just how much work lies before that beginner. The nasty, mean part of my soul (which I try to keep under lock and key) always wants to post a reply along the lines "Are you serious? Do you REALLY think anyone here can help you without a lot more info? What are the odds? Do some research, you moron!"

I never give in to that temptation, because a) there's no need to be a jerk, and b) we were all newcomers once; you need experience before you can even to start to ask the right questions. Those of us with a little experience should show a little patience with those just starting out. Besides, on rare occasions, lightning would strike and a note like this would, in fact, be answered by someone who had already researched the family in question, or who knew some key bit of info that made a big difference. That used to be rare, but it happened.

These days, it's happening more and more often. I am astonished by how often someone will post a first note to a mailing list, and within an hour or two someone writes back and says, "I found the following info on Ancestry (or the Ellis Island database, or some other online source)—is this who you're looking for?" And it turns out to be a match! People are going in the course of a few hours from knowing almost nothing about their immigrant ancestors to knowing exactly when and where they arrived in North America, how old they were, and where they came from!

This says a lot about the growing availability of info online. But it also says something about the people who freely give their time and expertise to help beginners. If you spend too much time online, it's easy to come to the conclusion that the human race is scum and really should be wiped out. I must admit, there are times I feel that way.

But then I visit genealogy mailing lists, and get my nose rubbed in the fact that there are an awful lot of kind, smart people out there who love to log on and save beginners untold hours of work. This is one of the main reasons I've kept coming back all these years.

All researchers get discouraged from time to time. You always run into snags, and it may seem that there's no hope of getting anywhere. I'd like to remind you don't have to do it alone. There are a lot of good mailing lists, particularly at Rootsweb, <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>, and at Yahoo Groups, <http://groups.yahoo.com/>. Sign up for the ones that focus on the areas you're interested in. Ask questions—or answer them. Either way, I think you'll find encouragement when you interact with other genealogists. There are some stinkers out there; but they're outnumbered

by people who'll remind you that genealogy must be worth doing, because it sure does attract an awful lot of good people!

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

Subject: Why so much about Ukraine?

Since the PolishRoots Website and *Gen Dobry!* are obviously primarily for people of Polish descent, I am curious about all the data and commentary and mention of trips dealing with Ukrainians.

This is particularly strange to me in light of the fact that in the vast majority of books, primarily of historical or biographical nature, not much positive comment has been made with regard to the Ukrainians and their behavior and attitudes towards the Poles. It is especially true with regard to the period from approximately 1900 through World War II, and especially so during the period from late September 1939 until the new border was established after World War II ended.

The Ukrainians were downright nasty and first courted favor with the Russians when they moved into Poland in September 1939, and then turned and courted the Nazis/Germans when Germany invaded Russia in June 1941. The Ukrainians were very "Communist" oriented and looked down upon the Poles, who were always anti-Russian/anti-Communist. Prior to World War II, when the Ukrainians were apart of Poland proper, they were constantly working to separate from Poland and sought assistance from Russia to accomplish this goal. The most recent book I'm reading, *Michelangelo in Ravensbruck*, by Karolina Lanckoronska, vividly points these facts out.

So, I'm curious why *Gen Dobry!* has so much which is related to the Ukrainians?

Ed Mucha

Editor—This is not an unreasonable question, and I'm glad to have a chance to answer it.

The reason we mention so much about Ukraine is because when it comes to researching Polish genealogy, an awful lot of families turn out to be part Ukrainian, or else they were Poles who lived in Ukraine. Just as a very rough estimate, I'd say perhaps 25% of the people who write to ask me for help with names or research questions actually have Ukrainian connections.

Historically speaking, "Poland" was very different from the present country. Today, Poland basically occupies the area where ethnic Poles live. The population is almost all Polish-speaking and Roman Catholic. But back before World War II, Poland included areas east of the current borders, and the people living within that territory included Germans, Jews, Ukrainians, Belarusians, Lithuanians and others. So when people of Polish descent try to do research into family history, they very often are confused to keep finding info that indicates their families came from outside what we know today as Poland! We try to help them with this by familiarizing our readers with the history of the whole region once called "Poland," not just the area currently within the borders of that country.

Over the centuries, especially during the period when the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth ruled much of western Ukraine, a lot of ethnic Poles resettled there—especially nobles who bought estates there, but not only nobles. There were also a fair number of people born and raised in those lands east of Poland’s current borders, who grew up influenced by the Polish language and culture. Many of them thought of themselves as citizens of the Polish nation, and thus identified themselves as Poles, even if they realized that ethnically speaking, they were Eastern Slavs, not Poles. Some of the leading figures of Polish history actually were born and raised in what is now Belarus or western Ukraine, including Mickiewicz and Kościuszko.

Now you are absolutely right when you say vicious atrocities were committed by Ukrainians against Poles, during and after World War II especially. I couldn’t blame anyone who regards himself as a Pole for feeling animosity toward Ukrainians because of those atrocities. Of course, if you ask Ukrainians about this, they’ll say the atrocities were simply retaliation for atrocities the Poles committed against them. If you want to learn about the charges and countercharges, read about the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and its activities. There are still very bad feelings between Poles and Ukrainians over things they did to each other (often egged on by the Soviets, who felt they benefitted from Polish-Ukrainian hostility).

But when you do genealogical research, focusing mainly on the period before World War I (since most of immigrant ancestors came over before that war), you find a lot of people who were, and considered themselves, pure Poles, yet they came from what is now Ukraine.

I deal with this all the time as I answer requests for information on names, places, history, and so on. If people are going to make any progress with their research, it’s important to help them realize their Polish ancestors may have lived in the lands east of Poland’s current borders. What happened after the World Wars was important, yes; but to have success in tracing your family history, you may need to know at least a little bit about things that happened before then. That’s why we mention a lot of things that are Ukraine-related—we’re trying to give readers access to information that will help them. If we only talked about Poland as it exists today, we’d be ignoring too much of Polish history.

I hope I’ve explained this clearly. I’m sure other readers wonder sometimes why we print so much about Ukraine or Lithuania or Belarus or Germany when we claim to be an organization serving Poles. But this is one of the problems in dealing with “Poles”—the people described with that term historically included a lot of folks who do not live in what is now Poland.

Subject: The PolishOrigins Website

I was recently introduced to a Website called Polish Origins. This site seems to provide a fresh approach to things that are Polish by providing interesting insight into Polish traditions. It is operated by the Znamirovskis, Magdalena and Zenon, and is written in excellent English. Just before Christmas, I read their article on the Polish Christmas Eve tradition, *Wigilia*. This encouraged my family to follow that tradition this last Christmas—the first time ever for me.

The home page can be found at http://polishorigins.com/document/home_page. On this page is a menu that includes a section called “History & Heritage,” which has articles concerning Polish traditions for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter (which are rapidly approaching). Also, there is a

section entitled “Our Gen Stories” which includes reader articles about their ancestors. I have submitted two such articles: (1) “One of Michigan’s Polish Pioneers—Ambrose Ciechanowski and “Francis Polk: A Founding Father of Parisville, MI.” The latter was co-authored with Evelyn Osentoski-Clor.

I highly recommend your readers check out this site.

Charles (Ciechanowski-Chinoski) Chase

Editor—In the last two issues, we have mentioned specific databases featured on that Website. But it’s true, there are many good features to be found on the Website as a whole, and I’m glad you wrote to call our attention to them.

By the way, I was interested to see a note recently posted on the Polish Genius mailing list, apparently from a Mr. Cybulski: “About three months ago, as part of my genealogy research, I posted information about my family, on the Website <http://polishorigins.com/surnames>. To my surprise, I have already had three people reply to me. Two were men from Poland who each had an incredible family tree, and they thought there may be a family connection with me. (It does look like I am related to one of the men.) My surname is rather common in Poland, so that may have attributed to me being contacted. But I had posted info on many other sites, and never had a response like this, so I just had to share the results.”

So it sounds to me as if Zenon and the other folks at that Website are doing something right!

***** BIRTHS FROM WILNO? KOWNO? GRODNO? *****

by Paul S. Valasek <Hallersarmy@aol.com>

A number of years ago, a bookseller in Lithuania asked if I was interested in a book he had rescued from the garbage, a book that listed names, Polish names. I said certainly and we struck an agreement. Upon receiving the book, I was truly amazed at what was inside: I’m guessing approximately 12,000+ names of Poles starting in 1921 and ending in 1939. (Assuming that a surname/ first name listed with both parents’ names and a year indicates births.)

Well, the years make sense, as in 1921, the Polish parts of Lithuania were once again on the map. And of course, 1939 begins World War II, which once again took Poland off the map.

I examined the book, which has bound ledger pages, not loose-leaf; what appears to be paper and ink; and handwriting style of the proper time frame. Here are the names of people who appear to be Poles, a collection number (sequential for each year), last name, first name, first names of father and mother, page number and an act # for the specific year. Most names are alphabetically listed for each year; but in a number of cases, names which appear to have been skipped are added at the end of that year.

Also, within the main body of the book, a few years were bound out of order, so the book starts with the letter L 1921 and moves on, but catches up A through K, 1921 somewhere after 1923.

Nearly all of the names appear to be Polish, but there are a few “Lithuanian-sounding” names included. Unfortunately, there are NO locations, streets, towns, cities, nor even a country listed. NO stamps, paper or rubber, NO markings of any official agency or government, NO indications of where or by whom this index was created or who the occupants represent. All entries are handwritten in ink, and there are several handwriting styles throughout the book, grouped in sections, as if someone transcribed a year or two, and then entered the information at the same time, and most likely, those pages were subsequently bound together. Since the handwriting is identical for a given group, this book appears not to have been created over time, but as an indexing project for some reason.

I asked the man who sold it to me if he remembered where he had obtained it. He replied that about 10 years prior, he had gone “dumpster diving” at a paper recycling company in Lithuania and pulled it out, as well as a similar book listing Jewish names. I asked him if the Jewish book was available but he had to tell me that book was already sold.

I have posted some of the 12,000+ names I have indexed on a few Polish chat rooms, and so far, only one person thinks they have a match, though the first name of the father did not match up. He suggested the man in question may have gone by more than one first name. I have also been told by a knowledgeable researcher in Poland that many of the names would appear in the Grodno region of Belarus, not all that far from supposedly where the book was retrieved.

Below I am listing names for the letters “P” and “R” for the year 1922, and hope to make a match establishing where these persons were born. There are too many annual listings (883 for 1922) for a small town or city; the book probably originated in a larger city. Thus I felt Wilno/Vilnius or Kowno/ Kaunas were in order. I didn’t think of Grodno, but again, any large city in that area would make sense.

If anyone can make a match, please send me an e-mail and I will look for parents’ names. What the the page number and act number refer to has yet to be determined—most likely a master ledger of births for that time frame. Only time may reveal the answers.

Pacewiczowna, Wiktorja Kunegunda
Pacynowna, Marja
Paszkiewicz, Mieczyslaw
Paszkiewiczowna, Helena
Paszkowska, Jadwiga
Paukielowna, Irena
Pawilonis, Czeslaw Mieczyslaw
Pawlowicz, Henryk
Pawlowska, Antonina
Pawlowska, Janina
Pawlowski, Waldemar

Pawlukiewiczowna, Jadwiga
Pawtal, Franciszek
Piekarska, Marjanna
Piekarski, Jan
Pieszko, Wladyslaw
Pietkiewicz, Wladyslaw
Pietkunowna, Anna
Pietrowski, Czeslaw
Pietrowski, Jan
Pietrowski, Jozef
Pietrusiewiczowna, Jozefa

Pietruszewiczowna, Jadwiga
Pilecka, Jadwiga
Pilecki, Henryk
Piotrowska, Jadwiga
Piotrowska, Janina
Piotrowski, Czeslaw
Piotrowski, Jan
Piotrowski, Marjan
Pisarewiczowna, Zofja
Piszcakowna, Janina
Piwowarczykowna, Jadwiga
Plachta, Edward
Plawgo, Stefanja
Pluc, Henryk
Poczekowna, Janina
Podlecka, Genowefa
Podlecka, Stanislaw
Podlipajew, Irena
Pogorzelski, Henryk
Polonis, Kazimierz
Polujanski, Stanislaw
Popenigisowna, Stanislaw
Potapowicz, Stefan
Potecka, Genowefa
Pozlewicz, Tadeusz
Pozniak, Jozef
Prak, Feliks
Pronaszko, Boleslaw
Propkopowicz, Boleslaw
Przygodzka, Genowefa
Puczkowna, Walerja
Putrowna, Regina
Racionowski, Witold
Raczycka, Jadwiga
Raczycka, Regina

Raczycki, Stanislaw
Radziszewski, Ryszard Feliks
Rakint, Wiktor
Ratynski, Zdzislaw Jozef
Riekin, Stanislaw
Rodziewicz, Andrzej
Rodzkowna, Halina
Rogacewiczowna, Wanda
Rogowicz, Mieczyslaw
Rogowski, Jan Tadeusz
Rojewski, Kazimierz
Romanis, Henryk
Romanowska, Jadwiga
Romanowska, Janina
Romaszkiewicz, Aleksander
Romulewicz, Jan
Ronfeldowna, Jadwiga
Rozanski, Walerjan
Rozewska, Stanislaw
Rudzinska, Aleksandra
Rudzinska, Halina
Rudzinski, Mieczyslaw
Rusakiewiczowna, Irena
Rusanowiczowna, Helena
Rusiecka , Irena Jadwiga
Rutkiewiczowna, Marja
Rutulowna, Matylda
Rybakowna, Janina
Rybarska, Zofja
Rynkiewicz, Stefan
Rynkiewiczowna, Irena
Rynkiewiczowna, Jozefa
Rynkiewiczowna, Stanislaw
Rys, Wladyslaw

***** THE POLISH AMERICAN WRITERS & EDITORS GROUP ON FACEBOOK *****

by Barbara Proko <lida_ancestors@yahoo.com>

Polish American Writers & Editors is a new Facebook group geared to networking, its mission defined as follows:

“A gathering place and forum for Polish American writers and editors whose work has been published in books, periodicals, and other print and electronic media. Work encompasses fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama/film scripts, journalism, public relations/marketing, online/TV/radio commentary (and any other genres, formats, and categories the group founder may have overlooked).”

This includes folks involved in genealogy society journals, Web sites, blogs, YouTube documentaries related to things Polish or Polish American, etc.

To join, interested writers/editors must first have accounts on Facebook (which are free). For more information, please e-mail group founder Barbara Proko at <lida_ancestors@yahoo.com> or message her on Facebook.

Zapraszamy!

Editor—I joined up; it was quite painless, and very interesting. If you're curious, join us. Facebook isn't just for kids!

***** JEWISHGEN RELOCATING TO ANCESTRY.COM SERVERS *****

In a recent issue of *Nu? What's New?* (which you can read at <http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V10N02.htm>), there was a very interesting notice about JewishGen, <http://www.jewishgen.org>. This excellent resource is changing servers. Its features—including the ShtetlSeeker, a valuable geographic resource for any researcher, regardless of religion—have become so popular and so widely used that the servers simply couldn't handle the demand. Recently the organization hooked up with Ancestry.com, and now JewishGen is moving its Website to the Ancestry servers.

The move was scheduled to begin on January 27. As of just now, when I checked, there was a notice saying the move is underway, and it's not yet finished. Some services are up and running; some are not yet. I suspect any day now the transition will be complete, and the delays will be a thing of the past.

So if you've had trouble accessing some of JewishGen's services lately, that's why. You might want to wait a day or two, then visit the site and look over its services. You don't have to be Jewish to benefit from them. And if you find them valuable, you don't have to be Jewish to make a contribution!

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

February 8, 2009

PGSA BOARD MEETING AND PRESENTATION

Insurance Files of the Polish Women's Alliance of America

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Social Hall, Polish Museum of America
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago

In the summer of 2006, the Newberry Library received early insurance files from the Polish Women's Alliance of America. These records are of great value in researching Polish-American family history because they provide information about female immigrants. Each file typically contains a member's birthplace and her parents' names, as well as a wealth of other family data that can help in identifying and tracking your ancestors. Newberry librarian Matt Rutherford will present some examples of the records as well as discuss the efforts by the Newberry to make the files available for research.

Matt Rutherford, MLIS, has been a local and family history reference librarian at the Newberry Library for five years, during which time he has answered thousands of questions on a wide range of genealogy topics. He has spoken at the Illinois State Genealogical Society and the Polish Genealogical Society of America Conference, as well as several local genealogy societies, including the North Suburban Genealogical Society, the McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society, and the Illinois St. Andrew Society. In Addition, Matt teaches several seminars on genealogy topics, including researching pre-fire Chicago, adoption searches, non-population census schedules, and the Social Security Death Index.

[From the January 2009 issue of *PGSA Notebook*]

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

MEETING OF THE TORONTO UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY GROUP - (TUGG)

"Doing Ukrainian Genealogy from A to Z"

A PowerPoint Presentation with Jim Onyschuk, who will answer your questions. From 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Location:

St. Vladimir Institute
620 Spadina Avenue, Toronto.
Contact: (905)-841-6707

[Posted to the *Galicia_Poland-Ukraine mailing list* by Jim Onyschuk.]

June 5 to June 22, 2009

“DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS TOUR” TO WESTERN UKRAINE

Join us in this one-of-a-kind trip to Ukraine. The Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group is hosting another “Discover Your Roots Tour” to Western Ukraine where we will search the Ukrainian Archives for our ancestral records as well as visit our ancestral homes.

The “Discover Your Roots Tour” runs from Friday June 5 to Monday June 22, 2009. We will spend a number of days in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil and Kyiv, both as researchers and tourists. In addition to visiting the archives and ancestral villages, we will also tour these cities and other historic places.

As in our previous tour, we will contact the various provincial archives with a list of genealogy-related files we wish to examine. We will inform them when we will be visiting their archive so that the requested genealogical information will have been prepared and readied for our visit. We will also arrange for side visits to the villages of your ancestors.

It is yet too early to determine the costs for 2009. In 2007, the Tour cost \$3,555.00 Air/land rate per person in Canadian funds, based on double occupancy. An additional \$600.00 was added for single occupancy.

To learn more, visit the TUGG Website and click on the link “Sign-up for the 2009 ‘Discover Your Roots Tour’ to Western Ukraine.”

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

[Posted to the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine mailing list by Jim Onyschuk.]

*** **MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES** ***

<http://www.pgsa.org/simplemachinesforum/index.php>

The January 2009 issue of the *PGSA Notebook* announced that the PGSA Website now has a Genealogy Forum where you can post questions or respond to those of others. There’s no charge; all you need to do is register.

<http://www.sscms.edu/Library/index.html>

On the Poland-Roots mailing list, Ceil Jensen passed along a note from Karen Majewski announcing that the Adam Cardinal Maida Alumni Library at Orchard Lake, Michigan is now online! Karen said to go to this URL and click on “Library Collection” at the left. There are also plans eventually to enter the periodicals and archival collections, too. I have visited the Orchard Lake schools and the Library several times, and it is an outstanding facility. I think more Polish Americans should know about it and be proud of it!

<http://www.publicprofiler.org/worldnames>

On the Lithuanian Genealogy list, “Pat” suggested using this link to see where surnames exist worldwide. “After you put in your surname, you can choose a Name Search, Area Search, or Ethnicity Search. Keep clicking on the country you are interested in, and you can narrow it down to cities. Note: Sometimes this site is very busy and you may have to try several times to get in.” Note that it only covers selected countries, including Poland, Germany, Sweden, etc. Who knew there were Jaworskis in Stockholm?!

<http://www.kresy-siberia.org>

On the newsgroup soc. genealogy.jewish, Linda Williams advised anyone with queries about Anders Army or about Poles, Jews, or other nationalities leaving Russia for Persia and Palestine in 1942 to please contact the Kresy-Siberia forum at this URL. “You do not have to be a member to open the Website, click on Gallery, and look through the information about Poles and others who left Russia after the amnesty in 1941, arrived in Persia (Iran) at Camp Pahlevi in 1942, and then went on to other locations.” Unless I’m very much mistaken, we have at least a few readers interested in this subject, and I don’t recall mentioning this Website before. Take a look!

<http://www.jewish-heritage.org/starte.htm>

Also on that newsgroup, Alexander Sharon responded to a request for info on Russian Jewish genealogical societies and researchers by suggesting a visit to the English version of the [Russian] Jewish Heritage Society Website, at the above URL.

<http://mariansmith.com>

In another post to that newsgroup, Jan Meisels Allen recommended this blog for answers to questions about Ellis Island passenger manifests. Marian Smith is a historian with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS), and she is recognized as a true expert in this field. In a follow-up, David Rubin said some folks might have problems bringing up that site; if so, turn off any pop-up blocker you have, and that should take care of the problem.

http://www.roots-saknes.lv/Army/military_service_.htm

Paul Valasek told me about this site, with information on military service in the Russian Empire. The Roots-Saknes site deals with Latvian research, but obviously much of this information is useful for people with roots in other parts of the Russian Empire, including Poles.

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/SearchEngines.html>

Paul also recommended this article, which compares the search engine Google with two others, Yahoo and Exalead. We are so used to using Google that we sometimes forget: other search engines can give better results under certain conditions. It’s not a bad idea to learn a little about the alternatives.

http://www.torugg.org/TUGG%20Links/tugg_links.html

On the Galicia_Poland-Ukraine mailing list, Jim Onyschuk responded to a request for info on maps of Galicia by suggesting a visit to this page and clicking on “Maps.” This brings up a nice list of a variety of maps and other resources. If you have roots in Galicia, this is a good page to know about.

<http://digi.nacr.cz/prihlasky2/indexen.php>

The 14 January 2009 issue of *Nu? What's New?* (<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu/V10N01.htm>) gave a progress report on a project to index online Prague Conscription records for 1850-1914. More than one million entries have been indexed, and the index is complete partially through the letter L. Click the word “Search” to locate a particular name.

<http://www.dworypalace.travel.pl>

On the German-language Posen mailing list, Beate Harbich-Schönert posted this URLK for a site dealing with manors and palaces in Poland, and especially in the region of Łódź.

<http://www.ftdna.com/public/polish>

On the Lithuanian Genealogy mailing list, Mary Guler mentioned this page for the Family Tree DNA “Polish (-Lithuanian-Belarusian-Ukrainian-Latvian) Project.” She said the project now has 1,000 participants, and has grown quickly the last couple of years, especially since the project’s scope was expanded to include descendants of people from the entire 17th-century Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. You can visit this site, or access yDNA results directly at <http://tinyurl.com/polish-ydna> and mtDNA results at <http://tinyurl.com/polish-mtdna>.

http://www.care2.com/c2c/group/beauty_of_Poland

A note posted by “Chris” on the Poland Border Surnames mailing list praised this site because it “has helped me understand Poland more with the pictures along with some history and genealogy links.”

<http://www.heavens-above.com/>

On the Poland-Roots mailing list, Valerie Koselka suggested going to this Website and, under “Configuration,” clicking on “From database.” On the next page, select your country, Poland. When the next page comes up, you can type in your village in the box that says search string and submit. It will give the co-ordinates, region, elevation and the distance between neighboring villages.”

<http://www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpages/flash/>

Also on that list, Debbie Greenlee suggested reading newspaper headlines from all

over the world at this site. “Click on EUROPE and a map of Europe will appear covered with dots. Place your cursor on a dot which represents a city in a European country (this tests your geographical knowledge) and the current day’s headline will pop-up. If you want to read the paper click on that same dot and when the paper appears click on READABLE PDF. A readable newspaper will open in another window. Poland has six newspapers represented—all in Polish, of course.”

<http://katalog.onet.pl/4992,genealogia,k.html>

On the Polish Genius mailing list, “Paulatpinder” said he’d come across this list of different Polish genealogy Websites. Many are in Polish only, but some have English versions. There are a few here I had not run into before, so I thought the list was worth passing along.

<http://www.meetup.com/topics/>

Also on the Polish Genius list, Debbie Greenlee referred to an editorial by Mark Kohan in the January 2009 issue of the *Polish American Journal*, encouraging people to support Polish businesses. Debbie suggested one way to make contacts is to look for a “Meet-Up Polonia” in your area. She said, “In my experience, most of the attendees were born in Poland, so they speak Polish and English. This is a great way to learn and practice your Polish and give business to a Polish-American establishment.” This URL is the link to find a Meetup Group; type Polish or Poland in the ‘Topic or Interest’ box.

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