



# Gen Dobry!

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\*\*\* WELCOME! \*\*\*

to the latest issue of *Gen Dobry!*, the e-zine of PolishRoots®. If you missed previous issues, you can find them here:

[http://polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry\\_index.htm](http://polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry_index.htm)

If you are among those who'd like *Gen Dobry!* in PDF form, you can download this issue here:

[http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry\\_V\\_8.pdf](http://www.polishroots.org/gendobry/PDF/GenDobry_V_8.pdf)

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### \*\*\* WHO IS 100% POLISH? \*\*\*

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

Recently there was a discussion on the Herbarz mailing list about Czesław Miłosz, the highly-regarded poet who died recently. Some argued that he didn't really deserve to be regarded as a son of Poland, since his roots were in Lithuania, and some disagreed with his political views. I'm not getting within 100 miles of the political controversy; but the discussion of whether he was Polish intrigued me. People often ask me very difficult questions that come down to "Am I Polish, or Ukrainian, or Lithuanian, or what?" It's amazing how hard that question can be to answer.

My stock answer has always been "You are what you think you are. And your ancestors were what they thought they were. Find clues as to how they saw themselves, and you'll have your answer."

I know this sounds like the sort of mushy claptrap I've always despised. When someone says "You can be anything you want to be," I always hope some hairy linebacker-type will stand up and say, "Well, I've got my heart set on being Queen of Tibet." So what if he's not a woman, and Tibet isn't a monarchy? Why should he let insensitive louts defeat his ambitions by hurling inconvenient facts at him? You just gotta believe!

Well, no, actually no amount of belief is going to make some things happen. If you want to avoid heartbreak—to say nothing of psychosis—it is best to make sure your fondest dream has at least a nodding acquaintance with reality. Strictly speaking, you can't be anything you want to be (although we can surprise ourselves with what we can become if we aim high and don't give up, which is the real point of that platitude anyway).

When it comes to ethnic identity, however, there really is something to be said for paying attention to self-image. When it comes right down to it, who in Europe, or anywhere else, is 100% anything? Oh, the inhabitants of Iceland have done a pretty good job of keeping to themselves, and I suppose you can find other exceptions if you look hard enough. But they are exceptions; the vast majority of us have ancestry that's too complex to fit into neat categories.

I've dealt with people, for instance, whose research proved their ancestry was primarily German. These days they're as Polish as the Pope, but go back a few centuries and it's all Kraut and Lederhosen. Yet these people considered themselves Polish to the core; and I thought, who am I to say they're wrong? If they grew up speaking Polish, breathing Polish air, eating Polish food, loving Polish music, glorying in Polish culture, what difference does it make where ancestors centuries ago came from? If they feel, to the depths of their soul, that they're Polish, isn't that what they are?

That's what I've told people. The other day on the Herbarz list, though, I saw a better answer. In response to the discussion of whether Miłosz was or was not a true Pole, Sophie Biedrzycki Gottemoller <[sgottemoller@dol.net](mailto:sgottemoller@dol.net)> posted this note. I just thought I'd repeat it for those of you who didn't see it. I'm not saying it's a perfect answer; but it's a pretty good one!

I am a first generation American of Polish descent. My father, born in Boguszki, was not by worldly standards an educated man. One day, someone visiting from Poland, asked him if he was 100% Polish. His answer gives me great pride, even today.

He said, “Who is 100% Polish? The land we lived in was desired by everyone in the rest of the world. We had Mongols, Tartars, Czechs, Russian, Irish, Scotch, Swedish, French, Italian, German, Jewish people all wanted to live in the land called Poland. And they all left a ‘little bit’ of themselves behind. So who can say? Perhaps, my ancestors were from Belarus, Lithuania, Sweden—all I know is that in my heart and soul, I am 100% Polish. I fought for my country during the Soviet-Polish conflict and loved my country. What else is necessary?”

Obviously, my Father knew his Polish History. Perhaps we should all remember that History of a land that everyone wanted but no one was able to completely conquer it, they just became a part of that land.

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

Subject: Village Histories

*Editor—In reference to my answer to Richard Kosinski’s question in the last issue, about how to find local historians specializing in Polish towns and villages, I received this comment:*

You were quite right. Village histories are difficult to locate, especially from outside Poland. An alternative to village histories might be parish histories or *gmina* histories. I have located 4 ancestral parish history books, and I believe Ceil Jensen knows the author of several history books from “her” part of Poland <<http://www.mipolonia.net>>. I have also located a *gmina* history book for one of my ancestral villages. I would not have known of these history books without going to Poland and maintaining relationships with Poles in those particular parishes.

Another suggestion is to contact the university library (*biblioteka*) located in the same *powiat* or old *województwo* as the village in question and asking about village history books.

Debbie Greenlee <[daveg@airmail.net](mailto:daveg@airmail.net)>

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Subject: September 1939

Once again *Gen Dobry!*’s suggestion to go to <http://www.google.com> and find the history of one’s family towns led me to some interesting sites. I didn’t find the history of any of my family towns, in particular, but I was led to <http://www.kampania.digimer.pl/>. This was a very interesting site for anyone who is interested in the September 1939 invasion of Poland. The site had a photo of the Orzeł, the Polish submarine that made it to England, and a photo of the route it took. It also had, among other things, a photo of the captured postal workers of Gdańsk lined up against a wall waiting to be shot. There was also a page of Polish war stamps and German stamps. The site was all in Polish, by the way, so I had to keep my Polish dictionary close by.

Armela Hammes <[armelahammes@att.net](mailto:armelahammes@att.net)>

*Editor — As always, thanks for a fascinating reference!*

Subject: More on visas for Poles

*Editor — I continue to get notes on the controversial subject of visas for Poles:*

In May, I was on a train from Warsaw to Kraków, and in the same compartment was a gentleman from the U. S. embassy in Warsaw. He discussed the appalling situation of the visa refusals. According to him, it all depended how the embassy clerk felt that day who he would refuse. The gentleman that I spoke to told me that he planned on speaking to the ambassador and remind him that the Poles are sending their sons to fight in Iraq and that something should be done to loosen the visa restrictions. So embassy employees are aware of this visa situation.

Christa Shukaitis <Chrishuk@aol.com>

*Editor — I'm glad to hear someone's aware of the problem.*

You published my story about Ewa Michalska last month, and I want to thank you very much, have received e-mails from your readers. I am 82 years old with many health problems, mostly my heart, and Ewa was denied twice, now I don't know if I will ever be able to ever see her in person.

The reason I am writing again is that we must include the **media** in trying to help us, have written to many but we must concentrate on one that will reach Washington and our beloved Senators and Congressman and that person is Bill O'Reilly who has the attention of the President and Congress. Then pick out another person and write to him or her, if we do not succeed. O'Reilly's parents came to the U. S. he was lucky that they did not come from Poland and have to go through this visa scam.

Please encourage your readers to write to Bill O'Reilly and let him speak for us about this visa problem the Polish people have.

Richard Pearse <skpearse@isp.com>

*Editor — I agree that nothing will be done unless people make a noise. But there is one bit of news that may be encouraging:*

Yahoo news has reported today that Marek Belka, prime minister of Poland, has taken up the issue of U. S. visas for Polish visitors directly during a visit with Bush. Bush has ordered Ridge to undertake a "reform of the [visa] process."

Shucks, Fred, they done gone over your head. ;=)

Sophie M. Korczyk <economist21@hotmail.com>

*Editor — Is that why I'm getting so thin on top? Actually, I hope they go over my head. Continental drift will reverse itself and Europe will once more adjoin North America before my clout gets us anywhere!*

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**\*\*\* SOME NOTES ON AMBER \*\*\***

*Editor — I realize that the subject of amber is somewhat off-topic for us. Still, our readers are interested in all facets of Polish history and culture; so some of you may be interested in these notes. They were posted by Don Gentry on his eBay page; he got the notes from a wholesaler's pamphlet, so as far as he knows there's no reason why we couldn't reprint them. If you're interested in seeing what Mr. Gentry sells, and maybe buying some nice amber items for yourself, his site is <http://www.stores.ebay.com/chardongentrycreations?refid=store>.*

Mystical Properties: Its beautiful, warm color, and the ease with which it can be worked has made it popular since the Stone Ages.

To the Norse, Amber was the golden tears of the Goddess Freya that fell into the sea and solidified. Others believe Amber to be the tears of Heliads grieving for her dead brother Phaethon, who had fallen into the River Eridanos. The sun is said to have hardened the tears into Amber.

Polish legends ascribe Amber to human tears from the forty-days rain.

A Kashubian legend says Amber was created from very loud lightning storms.

Homer mentions Amber in his writings, attributing great desirability and value to the golden gems.

To the ancient Greeks, Amber came from the apples of immortality (hence the name, *amber*, from the Greek *ambrotos*, meaning "ambrosia"). [*Editor—Actually, my dictionary says it comes from Medieval Latin ambra, ambar, from Arabic 'anbar, "ambergris, amber."*] From this legend, amber was believed to instill protection to its wearer and increase longevity. The Romans picked up on this, believing amber a first rate protector, so much so that the Roman Gladiators adorned their shields and weapons with it. In Christianity amber is thought to be tears shed by birds at Christ's death. Ancient Germans called amber *Bernstein*, meaning "burning stone." When burned, it will still give off a pine scent (50 million years later!), and so was used as an incense.

Amber is the gem of Germany, Romania, and Sicily and those of Germanic, Romanian and Sicilian descent.

Said to favor those named Ambrose and Anne.

Dreaming of amber is said to indicate an upcoming voyage.

Healing Properties: Most commonly amber is said to help with sore throats, swollen glands, and fevers likely because of its ability to hold heat.

Scientific Properties: Amber is not a true crystalline mineral, rather it is of organic origin, being the fossilized resin of pine trees common about 40-50 millions years old.

The most extensive deposits of Baltic Amber are found in the blue muds of the Sambian Peninsula and by the Bay of Gdańsk.

Found all over the world, including Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Borneo, but the most valued Amber usually comes from the Baltic region. Has pyroelectric properties (i. e., rub it and it produces electricity). Hardness: 4 on the Moh's Hardness Scale.

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**\*\*\* CD REVIEW: INTERMENT RECORDS 1892–2002 of ST. STANISLAUS CEMETERY, BALTIMORE, MD\*\*\***

Thomas P. Bocek <tpbocek@bcpl.net>

**Available from: D. Aleshire, 10224 Blandford Way, Ellicott City MD. \$15.00 + 3.50 p/h**

A “must-have” item for anyone doing Polish research in the Baltimore area. The author has compiled the records of over 15,000 souls with items very seldom found in a work of this type. Along with the surname and given name of the deceased you will find the name of the spouse and in many cases, the maiden name. The date and place of birth, date of death, last address, date of burial, church affiliation and funeral director are all itemized. Many of the older records also list the names of the children and in some cases, the grandparents.

There is a master index of all names giving the name of the various sections along with the lot number. By using this method, you will not only find the one person you are researching but all of the people in that lot. This can lead to many more family members, especially with so many maiden names listed. The CD is done in the Excel format and is complete with an introduction and a map of the cemetery.

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**\*\*\* POLISH TRIVIA QUESTIONS \*\*\***

*Editor: In the last issue we gave 5 questions from a Polish trivia game PolishRoots Vice President Paul Valasek <paval56@aol.com> came across. The answers to those questions appear below, followed by this month's questions, the answers to which will appear in the next issue. We want to thank Tom Bratkowski for permission to reprint these.*

**Answers to the Questions in the July Issue:**

Category: People

- Q. What priest led a group of early Polish settlers in Texas?
- A. Fr. Leopold Moczygomba
  
- Q. What achievement of Krystyna Chojnowska-Liskiewicz was a world first for women?
- A. She was the first woman to sail around the world alone.
  
- Q. Who was the only Polish woman to become a Nobel laureate?
- A. Maria Skłodowska-Curie

- Q. Who was the first Polish-American to head the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit?
- A. Most Rev. Edmund Casimir Szoka
- Q. What popular game show host is a Polish-American originally from Chicago?
- A. Pat Sajak of “Wheel of Fortune”

### Questions for August

- Q. What U.S. comic strip is known as “Fistaszki” in Poland?
- Q. For what Polish university is the Alma Mater song entitled, “Gaude Mater Polonia?”
- Q. What disease was the cause of poet Adam Mickiewicz’s death?
- Q. In what U. S. city was the Alliance of Polish Socialists formed in 1896?
- Q. What was designed by Antoine Bourdelle and set in place in Paris in 1929?

Reprinted with permission from Polish American Trivia & Quadrivia, Powstan, Inc. If interested in learning more, contact Paul Valasek <[paval56@aol.com](mailto:paval56@aol.com)>.

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

*Note: the PolishRoots Events Calendar at [http://www.polishroots.org/coming\\_events.htm](http://www.polishroots.org/coming_events.htm) usually has more info than we have room for here. If you have an event coming up you want Polish genealogical researchers to know about, send as much info as possible to <[Events@PolishRoot.org](mailto:Events@PolishRoot.org)>.]*

September 8 - 11, 2004

### “LEGENDS LIVE FOREVER” CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY THE FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

At the Austin Convention Center in Austin, Texas

There will be over 70 speakers, an exhibit hall, book sales, and so on. Debbie Greenlee <[daveg@airmail.net](mailto:daveg@airmail.net)>, who mentioned this conference in a note on the Poland-Roots mailing list, had an excellent suggestion: “You might even include a trip to Panna Maria for a day or so. Texas in September is still warm, no chance of snow!

For more details see the FGS Website: <http://www.fgs.org/2004conf/FGS-2004.htm>

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September 10 - 12, 2004

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA's**

**ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE**

Schaumburg, Illinois

For more information see: <http://www.pgsa.org/2004ConfFlier.pdf>

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September 17 - 18, 2004

**POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT AND THE NORTHEAST**

presents their 2004 Conference in affiliation with the

**CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY POLISH STUDIES PROGRAM**

For more info visit the PGSCTNE Website at [http://www.pgsctne.org/confintro\\_ccsu.html](http://www.pgsctne.org/confintro_ccsu.html).

**!! ZAPRASZAMY !!**

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September 24 - 26, 2004

**POLISH FEST 2004**

Latham, New York

A Celebration of Polish/American Culture

3 Days of fun and entertainment for the whole family

Located in Latham NY, a suburb of Albany.

<http://www.polishfest-ny.org/>

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September 25, 2004

**Polish Genealogical Society of California Meeting**

LA-FHC, 10741 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles, CA

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.: research assistance; 1 p.m.: Class; 2:30 p. m.: General Meeting

<http://www.pgscsca.org/meetings.html>

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October 1 - 3, 2004

### **FEEFHS / PGSM International Conference**

#### **What Is Past Is Prologue**

Three-day fee, \$150, including lunches, Single day fee: Friday fee, \$65, including lunch, Saturday fee, \$65, including lunch, Sunday fee, \$50, no lunch. Dinner \$30 per person. Syllabus \$20

Crowne Plaza Detroit- Metro Airport

Convention Chairs: Ceil Jensen FEEFHS and Jan Zaleski PGSM

For more info, visit the Website: <http://feefhs.org>

We have 25+ speakers and over 60 presentations scheduled. The range of topics include Polish, German, Slovak, Ukrainian, Russian, Slovenian, Hungarian, Croatian, Pomeranian, Prussian, Czech, Jewish and Austrian Genealogy.

Sessions are designed to be informative for beginners as well as advanced researchers. Need help with translating documents? We have sessions on Latin, German, Polish, Russian, Hungarian and the handwriting style of Sütterlin (Kurrent and Fraktur).

The registration form, speakers list and additional information is on the FEEFHS website:

<http://feefhs.org>

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October 3, 2004

12:00 to 5:00 p.m.

### **The Great Eastern European Festival**

Greenfield, Massachusetts

At: Holy Trinity School, Beacon St., Greenfield

A celebration of Polish, Ukrainian and other Eastern European cultures with ethnic food, dancers, music, books & crafts.

PGSMA Outreach. Polish Genealogy display with resources and Q&A. Polish Food. Admission \$5/person.

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October 4, 2004

**“Lviv/Lwow/Lvov/Lemberg, or Names across Political and Linguistic Borders”**

7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Jewish Community of Amherst, 742 Main St., Amherst, MA

Our research requires an understanding of Polish and other Slavic languages. Difficulties abound with the spelling and details of surnames and geographic locations. Was it Podhale or Podolia? So if you are struggling over Jabłoński and Yablonsky or Sądowski and Sandusky this is an opportunity to get the facts.

Dr. Robert A. Rothstein is Professor of Slavic and Judaic Studies and of Comparative Literature at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He has taught at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst since 1971. Former head of the Slavic Department, he now directs the Program in Slavic and East European Studies. He has published widely in the fields of Slavic linguistics and Slavic and Yiddish folklore and popular culture.

This presentation is organized by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Western Massachusetts and co-sponsored by the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts.

Presentation followed by Q&A books, maps and resources along with snacks & beverages.

Contact person: Gerard Braunthal, tel. 413-549-1534. FREE. Bring a friend.

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October 21, 2004

**PGS-MASSACHUSETTS FALL MEETING**

6:30 p.m. at Jones Library

Our speaker will be Gail Ciabaszewski Fusco, a long time member of the PGSMA and member of our Outreach team. Her topic will be “Searching My Polish Family.” She will describe her step-by-step search for ancestors in Poland, obtaining genealogical documents in the U. S. and Poland, places and addresses for finding records, and her trips to Poland. She will display genealogical

material, an atlas of Poland, documents that resulted from her research, photo albums, and handout material. This is a must meeting for beginners. Open to all. FREE. Bring a friend.

LOCATION: Jones Library Lower Level Meeting Room at 14 Amity Street just off North Pleasant Street in the center of town. Public parking across from the library at 25=C2=A2 per hour before 6 PM. Call (413) 586-1827 for more details, or visit <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mapgsm/> for latest information.

Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts, PO Box 381, Northampton MA 01061-0381

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October 27 and November 3, 2004

### **Polish American Research: Using Resources in the United States and Poland**

The Newberry Library - Chicago, IL

4 hours of in-depth research techniques on discovering your Polish Roots, Ancestry and Heritage held on two evenings at the Newberry Library, Wednesdays October 27th and November 3rd, from 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Gazeteers, maps, military records, and archives in Poland and North America will be discussed. Identification of lesser known sources will also be examined.

Hosted by Paul S. Valasek, VP- PolishRoots, Past President of PGSA, Polish Museum of America Board Member

Contact: The Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago IL 60610-7324, <http://www.newberry.org> or by phone: 312-255-3680.

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

<http://stevemorse.org>

Every time you turn around Steve Morse has added another utility to his site. The latest allows one to access manifests of passenger arrivals from the years 1851-1891, which include records for five years before Castle Garden, the Castle Garden years, and the Barge Office. The new tools are in the "Ellis Island/Castle Garden" section.

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<http://www.poloniatoday.com/historyix.htm>

On the mailing list [Galicia\\_Poland-Ukraine@yahoo.com](mailto:Galicia_Poland-Ukraine@yahoo.com), Lindy Kasperski <[lindyk@accesscomm.ca](mailto:lindyk@accesscomm.ca)> said he found this site some years ago, and considers it very information for Polish history. He also mentioned these other sites:

<http://www.jasinski.co.uk/wojna/index.htm> — “contains excellent information that deals specifically with the wars and military organization of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, 1450-1699”

[http://www.allempires.com/empires/polish\\_lit\\_full/polish\\_lit1.htm](http://www.allempires.com/empires/polish_lit_full/polish_lit1.htm) — “is a history of the Commonwealth from 1569 (the Union of Lublin) to 1795.”

“Also, I recently came across this history site put together by a German author, based in Korea, <http://www.zum.de/whkmla/> which has:

For Poland: <http://www.zum.de/whkmla/region/eceurope/christpol.html>

For Ukraine: <http://www.zum.de/whkmla/region/russia/xukraine.html>

“Finally, Rootsweb has the following Polish history site <http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~koby/political/toc.html>. It was written in World War I just before the re-creation of Poland so is interesting from the point of view of the historical context when it was written, notably Chapter 21 The Polish Question and the Great War.

“P.S. Thanks to Roman for pointing out <http://historicus.umk.pl/vl/>“

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<http://www.halgal.com/birthrecord.html>

Also on the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine list, Matthew Bielawa <[bielawam@mail.ccsu.edu](mailto:bielawam@mail.ccsu.edu)> mentioned that he'd posted on his Website this sample parish record. It's a good example of the kind of Latin-language baptismal record you see in Galicia. If you're trying to make sense of a record like this, Matt's given you some free, expert advice!

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<http://www.avotaynu.com/books/guide.htm>

This site gives the complete Table of Contents of *Avotaynu Guide to Jewish Genealogy*, edited by Sallyann Amdur Sack and Gary Mokotoff. Early reaction to this book is very favorable, and genealogist Edward Luft <[edwardluft@hotmail.com](mailto:edwardluft@hotmail.com)> told me he recommended it highly: “I would like to add that more than 95% of the advice is applicable to Christian and Muslim genealogical research.” So while it's most valuable for Jewish researchers, odds are good non-Jews will also find a great deal of assistance in this book.

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<http://www.myLITsearch.org>

Edward Luft also pointed out this site, a valuable source of information on printed literature that I had never heard of before. Go to that site, select “People,” and then type in a name. “On the next screen, choose what you want to see, enter, and then scroll down on the next screen. I recommend putting publications there so it is up-to-date and people have a handy reference to a bibliography.” He adds, “Those qualified should join <http://www.getcited.org>. Please urge qualified writers (published authors of books, chapters, reviews, and articles + conference lectures, etc.) to list their works there.”

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<http://www.polhome.com/church-p.html>

On the Polish-Genius mailing list Maryellen <deeproootsaz@lycos.com> mentioned this site, which lists Polish churches in Chicago.

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<http://www2.jewishgen.org/databases/galicia1891.htm>

On the Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine mailing list Debbie <seraph@dc.rr.com> recommended this site for newbies who think their relatives had a business in the old country. She said, “It doesn’t matter if you are searching Polish roots or Jewish roots. Also, there is a 1929 Polish Business Directory on the same site, although not as searchable.” Incidentally, links to both resources are available on the PolishRoots site under “Databases” (<http://www.polishroots.org/database.htm>).

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<http://www.indeks.karta.org.pl/wyszukiwanie.asp>

On the newsgroup soc.genealogy.jewish, Adam Teitelbaum said he’d happened to find this Website, which offers a searchable database that contains names and a few vital details of Poles and other Polish citizens (including Jews) detained by the Soviets in the 1940s, after the Soviets seized much of Poland. It is based on data recently released from Soviet Archives, and includes many who were later in Ander’s Army. It is in Polish, but the search categories are not hard to figure out with even a simple dictionary: *nazwisko*, “last name”; *imię*, “first name”; *imię ojca*, “father’s first name”; *data urodzenia*, “date of birth,” etc.

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<http://www.historykpress.com/press.htm>

Here you can get details on the newest book from Historyk Press, *Polonia in the Press: Articles from the Baltimore American & Commercial Daily Advertiser, 1870-1899* [ISBN 1-8871-2436-5]. The items are presented in 25 chapters, each covering a category; a name index facilitates finding individuals. The book sells for \$19.99, and I enjoyed browsing through it very much.

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<http://worsten.org/grandpolio/>

On the Posen-L mailing list administrator James Birkolz mentioned this work in progress, by a group led by Edward Wojtakowski. It is publishing data on Great Poland, and James listed its strengths as “multilingual headings, liberal references to the Polish archives and their addresses, with strong ties to timeframe and specific records, wise use of, and convenient linking to, Łukasz’s list of records and their sources.”

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

On Galicia\_Poland-Ukraine@yahoogroups.com Mary-Ann <bensings@mindspring.com> recommends this site because it allows free online translation of Cyrillic items. She says “Scroll down ... on the left side you’ll see ‘IM Translator plugin for IE’. Click on that for a free download. I then set the translator for ‘Russian-English’ (it also translates French, Italian, German and Spanish). When I need something Cyrillic translated, I just use the ‘copy’ (left click to highlight the area you want translated, then right-click with the arrow still inside the type on ‘copy’) and then ‘paste’ (go to the translator upper window and right click for menu, then click on ‘paste’) method to

put it into the translator's screen. Hit 'translate' and there it is in English! This has been a joy for me! Can translate online Ukrainian newspapers, etc.

Please note, I haven't tried this, and I doubt it will handle anything very sophisticated. Still, it might give you the gist of a passage — and Lord knows most English-speakers are glad for any bit of help they can get with material in Russian or Ukrainian! So it may be worth a look.

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