



# OLENBERG.ORG

## A Website for the Chaleff/Director/Directovich, Gilner/Dubin & Olenberg/Olenberg Families

September 1, 2008

Dear Family,

Because it appears that we are going to be able to obtain original records from Eastern Europe, thru the kind generosity of some family members, I thought you would like to have an idea of just what is available to us. Perhaps it is fitting that I am writing this letter today, because it is exactly 69 years, to that day, since the invasion of Poland by Germany...69 years since the start of the world trauma that destroyed, or so I thought, most of the records that have been found, almost miraculously, to still exist.

The Gilner and Olenberg/Olenberg families originated primarily in the neighboring towns of Wyszkw and Ostrow-Mazowiecka ("Ostoveh"), NE of Warsaw. Through the efforts of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland, and the Mormon church, a true gold mine of information is available for a single fee of \$200.

Available from JRI-P are translated extracts of all of the Ostrow Mazowiecka birth, death, marriage and marriage annex records (those not filmed by the Mormons) which end about 1899. Marriage records from 1826 to 1899 have been extracted, as well as many of the births and deaths. That means that full extracts of many of our family records are immediately available. JRI-P will also provide additional extracts, as that are completed, at no additional charge.

Ideally, the Wyszkw records, which JRI-P has also collected, will be included for the same cost, but that has to be determined. It is certain, however, that the records include information on Mordechai Mendel Olenberg's daughters Beila Frenkiel (or Frankel) and Chana Ester Abramczyk, and their families.

It is also known that there are more than 50 record entries for the GILNER family, and probably more than twice as many entries for families descended from GILNER females. GILNER entries go back, at least, to (Mordechai Mendel Olenberg's wife) Sora Ruchla's great-great-grandfather, Icek. That is two full generations further back than we presently have documented!

Supplementing the extracts, which are much more broad than just names and dates, will be copies of the original documents. Exactly how many will be provided for the minimal contribution is unknown, but it is the intent of JRI-P to "provide copies of all records of interest (as time permits)." Through special arrangements with the Polish archives, additional transcripts of newer records will also be included. These are usually hard to obtain because they are within the window of Poland's 100 year secrecy law.

The two Lithuanian Olenberg records found to be available from Kilkaja (near Kaunas/Kovno/Kovne), and Belarus records (for Grodno and vicinity) are not available for the same low cost because they must be obtained from government archives, or private firms, that supply the records. But, at about \$25 each, it is still hoped that about a dozen original documents can be obtained. I am still trying to determine whether any such records are available from volunteer SIG's (Special Interest Groups) at a lower cost.

I hope you found it as exciting, as I have, that these many records of our family history still exist.

Sincerely,

*Olen Berg Saifer*

Webmaster for the family

***"Bringing the Family Together"***

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