Awesome Info #5
Lithuania and the Rus' Inheritance

Super-Excellent Polish-Lithuanian Timeline
1202(?) Founding of city of Riga by the Livonian Order (Brothers of the Sword)
1219-63 Lithuanian ruler Mindaugas unifies Lithuanian tribes against Teutonic Knights
1224 Germans (Livonian Order) capture Iur'ev from Novgorod
1237 Union of Teutonic Knights with Livonian Order
1242 Nevskii defeats Teutonic Knights at Lake Peipus
1299 Metropolitan of Kiev (Maksim the Greek) moved to Vladimir permanently
1303 New Metropolitanate set up in Galicia (at city of Halych)
1326 / 28 Metropolitan Peter moves from Vladimir to Moscow
1344 Lithuania takes over Volhynia
1349 Lithuania takes over Galicia when dynasty there ends
1362 Victory of Lithuanian army over Golden Horde in Battle of Blue Waters
Kiev & Pereiaslav brought under Lithuanian rule
1385 Union of Kreva: marriage of Lithuanian Jagiello to Pole Jadwiga
Also leads to Christianization of Lithuanians (under Catholicism)
1392 Lithuania gains territory all the way to Black Sea
1403 Lithuania takes over principality of Smolensk
1410 Vytautus successfully defeats Teutonic Knights at Grünwald
1439 Byzantine church tries to gain Rome’s support against Turks at Council of Florence
1458 Division of Orthodox Church (two Metropolitanates, in Lithuania and Moscow)
1470 Abolition of Kievan principality by Lithuanians
1514 Muscovite forces take Smolensk (from Lithuanians)
1558-83 Long, taxing Livonian War (Lithuania vs Moscow)
1569 Union of Lublin: Formal political union of Poland & Lithuania
1573 / 88 Enactment of complete serfdom in Poland (1573) & Lithuania (1588)
1596 Treaty of Brest creates Uniate church; Orthodoxy essentially outlawed in Poland

Important Stuff

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* Also known as the Commonwealth of the Two Nations; in Polish: Rzeczpospolita.