



Czechoslovak Area Genealogy Club of Southern California

Newsletter January 2019

The Czechoslovak Area Genealogy Club (CAGC) is a non-profit, volunteer organization, dedicated to genealogical research of peoples of the geographical area formerly known as Czechoslovakia. This includes Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Slovakia and Ruthenia (Sub-Carpathian Russia). CAGC encourages cooperative research, but does not provide professional (for fee) research services. Cagc-ca.org/

Next Meeting: January 27th @1:30pm-
“Steps to Researching Vital Records in the Czech Lands”, Speaker Annette Gathright.

Meetings are held the last Sunday of January (to avoid Superbowl Sunday), the first Sunday of the following months: April, June, August, October and December, at 1:30 pm for lunch at the **Jagerhaus Restaurant, 2525 East Ball Rd, Anaheim, CA**. Socializing time begins at 1:15. Seating is limited; reservations are required; guests are welcome. We hope to see you all at future meetings to meet some very nice people whose ancestors come from the Czech and Slovak lands. We try to make the programs fun and interesting for everyone.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year everybody!

If you are reading this, you know that Mary Shade, our newest board member, has volunteered to write a newsletter for all of us. A newsletter has many purposes besides announcing new information to the readers. Along with apprising one about new topics, it can be used to transfer knowledge or teach the reader about something they are interested in. And the information can go two ways; a reader can respond about something in the newsletter additionally enhancing the information provided in it. The newsletter editor should not be expected to be a writer, although writing original information is certainly their prerogative to do so. With that thought, I am hoping you will help Mary by providing interesting materials you find in your genealogical hunting to help her compose the newsletters. In addition to helping her find such materials, original materials that help fill the goals of helping Czech lands genealogists researching their families is certainly welcome.

As I write this, we are half way between our last meeting of the year, and the first one in the new year. Based on the great idea sharing we had at our Christmas party, I will give a presentation

to help you find genealogical records in the homeland. I am hoping this information will help to give you succeed in your ancestor hunt. You may find that it is a bit past your abilities, or not far enough along your learning path. This is the type of thing we want to know so additional programs can be designed to help you past these fences. This is not the first program we have had on Czech lands, but I believe it is the first that has presented the process to find those illusive records. I am looking forward to sharing with you the keys to opening the path to them! **Annette Gathright**

BOARD MEMBERS 2019

President: Annette Gathright
Vice President: Mary Shade
Vice President - Technology: Stuart Noah
Secretary/Treasurer: Nancy Pestal
WebMaster: Debbie Holtzendorff

2018 - A YEAR IN REVIEW

Jan/Feb 2018 Linda Serna: Her presentation: "Tales to Docs to Stories: Building Your Family Story from Family Tales and Documents". Linda's talk addressed through specific examples how to build a story from the tales we've been told, the documents we have and other sources available. Then, it gave things to consider once it is time to write the story.

Apr 2018 Frank Vogel, one of the three founders of CAGC spoke on "Where and How Our Ancestors Lived?" that included communities, key vocabulary words for research, history of the rural population, and Cadastral maps. He provided detailed handouts.

Jun 2018—Paul Lipinski spoke on WWI & WWII Draft Registrations. This was very informative and included the timeline for WWI draft registrations, the Selective Service Act, and samples of genealogical details for registration cards. He provided many links for resources along with the history.

Aug 2018 Breaking down brick walls, members brought individual questions and items for research and translation assistance.

Oct 2018-Christine Cohen spoke on "Cousin Baiting and Cousin Stalking- Finding Descendants" and discussed ways to reach out to distant cousins to help us to expand our pedigree charts. She provided very detailed information on websites and tips to make our research more efficient.

Dec 2018 Christmas celebration and exchange of information on what each member liked about the group.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT/SURVEY

The CAGC Board has been considering how to best help our members in their research and provide programs that they will enjoy. To assist us in doing that, we have generated a survey that we would ask that you provide your comments to so we can plan suitable speakers and other programs. **You can respond by: email; give board members a call; or comment at any of our meetings.**

We have also determined that if we have additional funds, it would allow CAGC to expand what we can do for our programs. In the past, we have been able to get speakers with no remuneration except lunch. I have been turned down (politely) by some speakers I have approached as not being available, and I suspect

NEEDS ASSESSMENT/SURVEY (cont.)

it is because we could not offer more. Typical speaker fees are \$50 or \$75 often with added transportation reimbursement. We would like to have the option to offer to pay speaker fees.

Currently, members who would like to give classes/presentations at our meetings have been limited to the use of handouts as visual aids. If we owned a computer projector, any member would be able to use it for the benefit of our group.

To that end we are planning on having periodical silent auctions at our meetings. The idea is that members who have Czechlands items... books, tapes, maps, memorabilia... that they no longer want, would bring them to a designated meeting (or give them to a board member at an earlier meeting to bring to be bid on. At the end of the meeting, winners would be announced and they could then claim their treasures.

Below are survey questions to be considered - but you are welcome to add comments.

What do you hope to get out of meetings?

- Interaction with researchers having similar cultural interests -socializing
- Learn more about genealogical research - how to, tools to use.
- Learn about handling the data that is being gathered

What programs would you like to see during the year?

- Preservation do's and don'ts - documents, photos, digital media, etc.

- Writing to villages and to local (district) archives - form letters and charts in English, Czech/Slovak
- Cultural - History, National monuments,
- How to Czech-research techniques, resources
- Research US sources
- Capturing research results
- Finding fill-in cultural, historical information to add to the vital data found
- New genealogy technology - DNA, Online family trees.

Do you have a particular speaker you would like to hear?

Do you have a particular subject you would like to learn about?

Would you like to hear about success stories and results of other Czech researchers?

We sincerely appreciate hearing from you - this is your organization and we want to make it an invaluable resource supporting your genealogical interests.

CADASTRAL MAPS

The cadastral maps that were generated by order of the Austrian government in the 19th century for the Bohemian and Moravian areas. These maps show the fields, houses, other buildings, forests, rivers, ponds, streams that make up each village in those areas. The following link tells you how to get to the cadastral maps for your place of interest. It is from a website called Czech Genealogy for Beginners.

Cadastral Maps czechgenealogy.nase-koreny.cz

Computer Tip: For newsletter Internet links, hold down the CTRL key on the keyboard when clicking the link with the mouse.

FOR THE GENEALOGIST

American Friends of the Czech Republic (AFOCR)

A STEP BY STEP GUIDE AFOCR.ORG/CZECH-CULTURE/CZECH- GENEALOGY

Here are proven steps to follow to find records for a specific Czech-born ancestor:

1. Find where the ancestor was born or lived
2. Find which archive (there are 7) holds the records
3. Learn how to use that archive
4. Find what registers the archive has on-line
5. Find an index and use it
6. Retrieve the record – then the fun begins

Immigration Service didn't recognize Bohemian as a distinct nationality until the late 1800's, for when you are searching records for early Bohemian ancestors. Bohemian immigrants were split, almost 50/50, between Freethinkers and those following a formal religion, usually Roman Catholic

TRAVELING - THE CZECH REPUBLIC:

This link has how to connect to the Internet in the Czech Republic, what the Czech crown exchange rate is, which credit cards can be used, and also what sort of tips should be paid in restaurants. It talks about entrance, tariff quotas, language, transport, telephones, important phone numbers, opening hours and holidays, smoking, health insurance, safety, accommodation and Czech tourism centers.

Czechtourism.com/practical-information

PASSENGER LISTS:

Leo Baca's Czech Passenger Lists

A resource is Leo Baca's Czech Passenger Lists. Baca's lists are alphabetized and sorted according to port-of-entry. The name of the ship and the exact date of arrival. In some cases, Mr. Baca's books list the village from where the passengers came from.

The Ellis Island web site is a resource for finding your ancestors' passenger records, arriving in America between 1892 and 1924.

Steve Morse immigration records, census records, vital records, and for dealing with calendars, maps and foreign alphabets.

Gazetteers:

Statistical Lexicon of the Municipalities of the Czech Republic 2005, Czech Statistics Office
It is a presentation of 6,248 municipalities in the Czech Republic, including basic data for 11,468 parts of municipalities.

Then updated on Czso.cz Historický lexikon obcí České republiky - 1869 – 2011

The **Gemeindelexikon** has a list of towns and parishes in their administrative district and an appendix indicating where registers of births, marriages, and deaths can be found.

The **Místopisný Slovník Československé Republiky** is the gazetteer officially used for localities in the Family History Library Catalog (FHLIC) for the Czech Republic

WEBINARS:

MyHeritage, a company with data resources. DNA matching, family tree housing, located overseas, had a conference a couple months ago in Oslo, had streaming video available for remote attendees. They now have 24 classes online free at:

Familytreewebinars.com live2018

Legacy Family Tree Webinars has a webinar list showing: Familytreewebinars.com

The Legacy webinars are free for a week after live presentation.

Familytreewebinars.com/arm.chived_webinars_bydates.

Rootstech had several talks about that topic that are now online. To access them, go to Rootstech.org/rootstech-2018-videos

DNA COLUMN

The Institute for Genetic Genealogy (I4GG) conference was held in Dec. in San Diego. Videos may be available for purchase soon, and past conference videos at: I4gg.org
Several presentations included using DNA for law enforcement purposes. One presentation by Dana Leeds provided a simplified approach to creating your Chromosome family tree by using color-coding for your matches. Her website describes part of this method.

Danaleeds.com

Seq#	Name	*4 GRANDS*		Dad's Dad		Dad's Mom		Mom's Dad		Mom's Mom	
		8 GREATS		DD's DAD	DD's MOM	DM's DAD	DM's MOM	MD's DAD	MD's MOM	MM's DAD	MM's MOM
02		705	1C								
31		90	?								
06		235	?								
18		129	?								
20		115	2C1R								
07		205	2C								
13		160	2C1R								
01		765	1C								
03		613	1C1R								
19		121	?								
09		182	2C								
12		172	?								
15		142	2C1R								
24		104	2C2R								
26		99	?								
29		95	?								
21		113	3C								
22		111	3C								
27		96	3C								
04		292	2C								
05		285	2C								
08		183	2C1R								
10		174	2C								
11		173	2C								
14		148	2C1R								
16		137	2C1R								
17		129	2C1R								
23		111	2C3R								
28		95	2C1R								
25		103	3C1R								
30		92	half 2C								

MyHeritage blog website had this announcement about getting DNA from **old envelopes:**

MyHeritage will soon be able, through a partnership with a specialist company, to process the DNA from stamps and old envelopes and then link the DNA to the ancestor, providing you with DNA results for your deceased ancestors.

FUTURE EVENTS:

- Free concert John Paul II Polish Center, the celebrated guitarist Standa Bartek and vocalist Kayya, Jan 20, 2019.
- Whittier Genealogical Society Seminar (WAGS), Jan 26, 2019 Author John Philip Colletta, PhD Wagswhittier.org, at 7604 Greenleaf Ave.
- Rootstech Salt Lake City: Feb 27-Mar 2, 2019. Rootstech.org.
- Folklore Festival-Czech-Moravian--Slovak San Diego/ La Mesa Annual May 18, 2019.
- Genealogy Jamboree: May 30-Jun 6, 2019 Genealogyjamboree.org
- Internat'l German Genealogy Partnership-June 15-17, 2019 in Sacramento, CA Iggpartner.org
- FEEFHS-Foundation for Eastern European Family History Studies Aug 5-9 2019, Salt Lake City. FEEFHS.org
- San Diego Genealogical Society: Nov 9, 2019- Speaker - Lisa Alzo "Ten Ways to Jumpstart Your Eastern European Research" "Crossing the Pond: Successful Strategies - Researching Eastern European Ancestors".

CZECH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OCT 2018 Czechindependence.org



Tomáš Masaryk

100 years - The Story

The Czech people celebrate 100 years of independence and sovereignty in 2018. Collaborating on security and alliance during the course of the century with the United States of America, the Czechs mark a centennial of struggle for freedom as well as the resolute establishment of a thriving democracy. This year, the Czech Republic rejoices in its prosperity and industry.

MEDIA:

TV "Finding Your Roots" - new season starts in January. Season 5 premiere episodes.

MAPS:



Excerpt from [American Friends of the Czech Republic](http://afocr.org/geography) afocr.org/geography

Czech Republic has “two principal areas, Bohemia in the west and Moravia in the east. For most of the twentieth century, the present country of Slovakia which borders the Czech Republic on the east, was joined with Moravia and Bohemia as the country of Czechoslovakia. Czechoslovakia was founded as an independent democratic country at the end of WWI, in 1918 from several culturally related parts of the former Austro-Hungarian empire. After the 1989 Velvet Revolution when the communist government was overthrown, the country continued as

Czechoslovakia until 1993 when the so-called Velvet Divorce led to the creation of two new independent states, Czech Republic and Slovakia. The capital of the Czech Republic is Prague and the capital of Slovakia is Bratislava.”

MEMBERSHIP

Members receive the newsletter, meeting notices, periodic mailings from the club, handouts from meeting presentations and programs, and receipt of genealogical research assistance from club members. Membership dues are \$5.00 per year per household. Please email the treasurer for information on joining the club and getting all the member benefits.

Czechoslovak Area Genealogy Club (CAGC)

We support the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI). Visit them at www.cgisi.org.

And we support the Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS). Visit them at www.scgsgenealogy.com.

