



Czechoslovak Area Genealogy Club of Southern California Newsletter

Newsletter January 2022

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. CAGC encourages cooperative research, but does not provide professional (for fee) research services. Website: Cagc-ca.org/

Meetings are usually held monthly on the first Sunday of the month, Zoom meetings, during Covid pandemic. Going forward, we may have a couple of hybrid-type of meetings of both in-person & Zoom at a location to be determined. If you aren't doing any research but just want to meet some very nice people from the Czech and Slovak lands attend meetings anyway! We try to make the programs fun and interesting for everyone. We hope to see you all at future meetings.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Looking ahead to our 2022 meeting dates:
March 6th, April 3rd, May 1st, June 5th, July 10th (due to 4th of July), August 7th, Sept 11th (due to Labor Day), October 2nd ; November 6th & December 4th: Annual CAGC Christmas Luncheon (Face-to-Face celebration)

FUTURE EVENTS:

- **RootsTech 2022:** Free again, virtually conference, March 3-5
- **WAGS-Whittier Genealogy:** Feb 19, "Ready, Set, Write! Tips for Writing About Your Family History" Speaker: Kimberlie Guerrieri. Zoom program@wagswhittier.org
- www.conferencekeeper.org/conferences/
- **National Gen Society (NGS)**
Family History Conference
May 24-28, 2022 Sacramento, CA
- **So. Cal Genealogy Society Jamboree 2022**
Aug 19-27 <<-New Month!

GOT SUGGESTIONS?

Since we no longer are limited by geography we can consider speakers from other areas, parts of county and the world, so suggestions for topics and/or speakers outside the area would be most welcome.

BOARD MEMBERS 2022

President: Annette Gathright
Vice President/Secretary: Mary Shade
Treasurer: Nancy Pestal
Webmaster: Mary Shade
Board Member: Marie Garcia-Svarz
Board Member; JoAnn Jones
Board Member: Emeritus: Frank Vogel

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT- Annette Gathright

Hello everyone,

Happy New Year to all the Czech and Slovak Genealogy Club! This group has been around for a long time (25 years), and we've seen many changes over the years. The recent changes are unlike any that have been seen by most of us, and some I never dreamed would occur. Last year at this time we were hoping everything would get back to normal soon, after all, we had a vaccine soon to be available to all that would fix everything. Wrong! We are now in another wave of the virus.... some different characteristics, but the vaccine didn't make it go away. What will happen remains to be seen. But life will go on! We will just continue to be as safe as we can, so for the time being, we will have virtual meetings as it makes sense...and these virtual meetings are something that may have been coming, but came roaring in!

Those who were able to come to our Christmas meeting enjoyed it, but there was a good bit of sadness. We had recently found out about the death of our lady of Jägerhaus, the ever-smiling Sandie who was usually there to greet us when we had our meetings. Sandie had passed away in October, but we did not hear about it until later. She had been trying hard to keep her restaurant from going under the wrecking ball, but lost that fight too. Unknown to us, the day of our party was the very last day they were to be open. I found out only a couple days before, and our enjoyment was tempered by those events - loss of Sandie, loss of our meeting home. There is no plan for Sandie's heir to open the restaurant some other place, and only a big maybe that the legal aspects will all that to happen in a year or two.

This leaves a big question about our future together time. While we have a way to be together virtually, we can best share in person. The question now, will be where, when, under what circumstances? So, all of you, please think about this. Questions we need answered are: Do you want to meet where we can also eat? We would need a place that preferably a separate room, and hopefully at no extra charge. And is another day, maybe Saturday also acceptable? If restaurant service is not needed, we could meet at some other facility with a room... a library, another public room that we can use free of charge... If that is the case, maybe a Saturday may work better than a Sunday. Where is an acceptable site? We've been in a somewhat central to freeways area. Please make suggestions for all to think about.

A comment has been made that in the past we've met at the Orange Family History center and it worked for us then. It is likely that we could meet there. They have several meeting rooms associated with the library, and all the library's resources are available during the day. They are not open to us on Sunday and during times when they have their events scheduled. This is only a possibility at this time and I am hoping that some of you will come up with some good possibilities.

An event will occur on April 1st that hasn't had its kind in 10 years. The 1950 US Census will be made available to all US citizens on that date. I've not heard exactly how they will do that, but I have been told that it is sitting on the Census Servers, waiting for the chime of the clock! - well, maybe just an electronic one. I suspect the companies who will have it reside on their systems - big guys like Ancestry, MyHeritage, and FamilySearch - whoever has been given the right to house the data - will have their hands full in not tripping on their feet to make the data available to the public. Like 10 years ago, none of that data in the census will have been indexed. The only plan hinted at is a possibility that OCR technology will be used - at least to see how well a machine can read handwriting. At worst, human

volunteers, in the case of FHL, or foreign eyes (in the case of commercial companionship) will be needed before we can search for our relatives! Last time, it was a matter of several months of volunteers before it was complete. But there is something you can do before then. The enumeration district maps are available and online for the whole of the US. That means that if you know the address of a relative in 1950, you can access the map pages for that enumeration district and browse a few pages to find that record. There are several resources with tips on how to find the enumeration district (If you have it, you can go directly to those pages on the host site.... I've been watching lots of webinars on the subject lately and will give a presentation on how you can do it also. So now is the time to get out those old address books your mom kept for Christmas cards, and the one Grandma kept her list of correspondence in (If not available, I have suggestions on where to look for addresses). I am anxious to see what my parents answered on the census - this is the first one I'm found in!

A reminder again that Mare is our newsletter editor, so if you find information of interest, she is the collector of it. She is very resourceful but also wants to provide information that you are interested in and can assist you in your research. Enjoy the information she's gathered, and contribute to effort to collect useful "stuff".

Annette

CAGC MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

The Šustáček's of Minnesota-John E. Šustáček's Family History book

One of our first CAGC members, **John Šustáček** took his genealogy to the next level by publishing a hardcopy of a book with the **Šustáček** surname (pronounced Shus—taa—check). His family is from the Moravia area of current Czech Republic. He published his 623-page Family History Genealogy Book in 2003 focused on the two families that settled in the state of Minnesota. This book includes 6 generations of relatives. He said it was a great experience. Most of his research was done before there was a lot of automation to help us realize the effort involved! He used a genealogy publishing company in North Carolina that is now closed. He included the history of Czech Republic back to 500 AD, and Minnesota back to the 1600's. About 350 pages were photographs and scans of records. He made two trips to the Czech Republic to do

his research, and he thinks this was enough traveling since he wasn't planning on researching that far back for the book. John came to California from Minnesota for his work with the Boeing aircraft Company. One of his hobbies, in addition to genealogy, was running, where he would run 10 miles every weekend. John just celebrated his 91st birthday and has been with CAGC for about 24 years; thank you for your support John!



2021 – REVIEW- PAST CAGC MEETINGS:

Jan 10, 2021, Zoom Breaking Down Brick Walls, this was a very successful meeting with new members inspiring us and a reminder of how many resources are available. Many documents are online, we need to go back to the previous links and look again.

Jan 31, 2021, Zoom Speaker Helene Cincebeaux, “50 Years on the Backroads of Slovakia & Genealogy Tips” provided many beautiful photos of Slovak life, kroje, and headdresses.

March 7, 2021, Zoom-various members gave updates of events they attended and resources available like newspapers: www.digitalniknihovna.cz and the Washington, DC Group open to the public, DCSlovaks.org.

April 11, 2021 Speaker: Zoom Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD, “DNA: Who am I? What is My Name?” Colleen gave a moving presentation on her work helping a Holocaust family reunite using DNA

May 2, 2021 Zoom Those present discussed areas of brick walls in their research. Annette discussed tips and Mary Shade demonstrated how to upload DNA to MyHeritage and run the Autocluster DNA tool.

June 6, 2021 Zoom Toni Perrone did an interesting presentation on “Marriage & Inheritance Customs in Germany” with all of her knowledge relating to German influence of the Czech area.

July 11, 2021 Zoom Annette demonstrated the use of GenTeam.at website to access archives for research based on placenames under the Gazetteer option.

Aug 1, 2021 Our Face-to-face Jägerhaus meeting Each member of the group introduced themselves and described where they were researching. Mary Shade demonstrated a sampling of Google Maps Pro as a way to save some of ancestor journeys to pass on to future generations; also the use of Audiobiography as a way to record family memories, using QR codes and a phone.

Sep 12, 2021- Zoom Featured videos! Don Yenche’s video on one way to preserve your genealogy research and how to turn a PowerPoint presentation into a Video.

Oct 3, 2021 - Zoom Toni (Annette) Perrone, gave an amazing talk on the “Journey to America” where she detailed experiences on the ships to America from Europe based on interviews with her grandfather and cousin. This included the 17-day diet, the latrines, the exercise routines, as well as the disembarking procedure which took days and could send you back to Europe if your “receiving” relative didn’t answer the questions of the interrogation correctly.

Nov 7, 2021 Annette Gathright presented information on Cadastral maps and the CGSI conference.

Dec 12, 2021 Christmas Party at Jägerhaus Restaurant. Great turnout for the face-to-face meeting. It was great to meet all of the “zoom” faces we’ve seen over the year. Alena Batson offered her translation services to the group. Also, the last day of the Jagerhaus location.



HISTORY:

Niagara Falls in Slovak Colors

From Michael Razus Slovak Genealogy
Researcher Slovak-Ancestry.com

Slovak Constitution Day is a public holiday in Slovakia and is always celebrated on **September 1st** each year. In Slovak, this holiday is called 'Deň Ústavy Slovenskej republiky' and it commemorates the adoption of the Slovak constitution on September 1st 1992. Michael Razus, Slovak Genealogy Researcher, posted this on his Facebook page:

On 1st September 2021, on the occasion of the National Day of the Slovak Republic - Day of Constitution, the world-famous Niagara Falls (Horseshoe Falls, Ontario 🇨🇦) were illuminated for the first time in history in colors of the **Slovak flag** – white, blue, red. Thank you Slovak Embassy in Canada for realizing this great idea!



CZECH 1921 CENSUS:

www.familysearch.org Czech Republic 1921

If you are lucky enough to have ancestors in Western Bohemia, Pilsen, Litomerice. Czech Republic, Litomerice Censuses Porta Fontium: www.Description of Porta fontium

The State Regional Archives in **Pilsen** administers the extensive and genealogical research public widely used Collection of Registers of the West Bohemian Region (Pilsen and Karlovy Vary Regions), which counts over 11,000 pieces of registers of all originators from the years 1531 – 1949. The gradual digitization of all registry books and their provision with the necessary metadata, local registers and technical descriptions will allow the general research public to quickly access these most used archival materials via the Internet.

Join CGSI

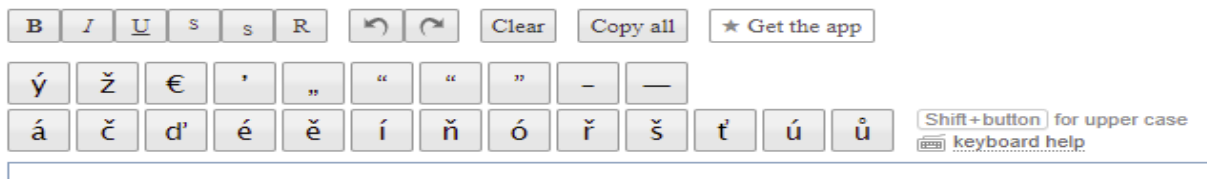
Your CGSI membership gives you the best tools for genealogical research:

- *Nase rodina* quarterly
- Research assistance
- Message board and queries
- Access to Members Only section – [includes 4 databases](#)

DIACRITICAL MARKS - 3 Methods:

(1) Here is a site that allows you to enter then copy the letters with the **diacritical** marks www.czech.typeit.org (Haven't found one for Slovak) You may find some Search boxes may not search correctly without the use of Diacritical marks.

Type Czech characters *without a Czech keyboard*



(2) MS Word software allows you to type in ONLY 3 different Diacritical marks using these keys:

To insert this	Press
á, é, í, ó, ú, ý Á, É, Í, Ó, Ú, Ý	CTRL+' (APOSTROPHE), the letter
à, è, ì, ò, ù À, È, Î, Ó, Ù	CTRL+SHIFT+^ (CARET), the letter
ä, ë, ï, ö, ü, ý	CTRL+SHIFT+: (COLON), the letter

(3) You can also use Alt-key codes....

See attached Excel Spreadsheet to just use 3-digit numbers to enter the Diacritical marks using the



Diacritical Marks Shortcuts.xlsx

NUM KEYPAD with this method:

How to use **ALT** key & codes on a desktop keyboard with a dedicated numeric **keypad**

1. Make sure your keyboard has a numeric keypad.
2. Make sure the numeric keypad is enabled by pressing the **Num Lock** key. The Num Lock's led light will turn on indicating that the numeric keypad is enabled.
3. Place your screen cursor on the location where you want to insert the special character.
4. Press and hold down the **ALT** key on the left side of the keyboard.
5. On the numeric keypad, type the sequence of numbers (Attached Excel file) (decimal code point value) that corresponds to the character you want to insert.
6. Release the **ALT** key.

GENEALOGY ASSISTANCE:

Some of our CAGC members have utilized this free service from FamilySearch.org to find their records:

“I have been using it when the image is not available at Family Search once I find the information on Family Search and can get the FHL microfilm number to request copies of specific records; said takes 1-2 weeks for response”

www.familysearch.org/family-history-library/family-history-library-records-look-up-service

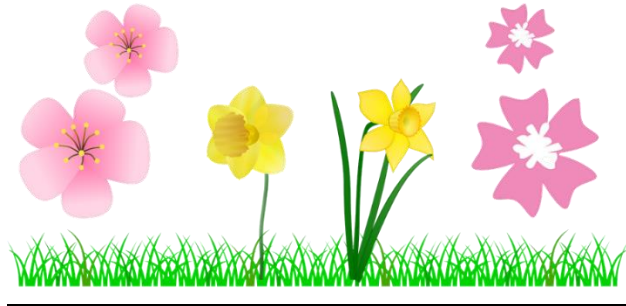
The screenshot shows the FamilySearch website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Collection, Services, Learning, Visit, and Research Help. Below this is a yellow announcement banner for the Family History Library reopening. The main content area features a video thumbnail of a woman speaking, with a text overlay that reads: "Virtual Genealogy Consultations. Sign up for a free, 20-minute online research strategy session. We aim to empower you by identifying good next steps to take in your research journey."

www.familysearch.org Consultations and community help

www.Learning Center Search • FamilySearch -many (123) older videos on FamilySearch for Czech research, and 48 videos on Slovak research: www.Learning Center Search • FamilySearch
[www.Czechia \(Czech Republic\) Research — FamilySearch Community](http://www.Czechia (Czech Republic) Research — FamilySearch Community)
www.Slovak - FamilySearch Community

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Melanie M.
Mary H.
Brian R.
John S.



IN MEMORIAM:

Sandie Schwaiger

CAGC will miss Sandie and the Jagerhaus Restaurant. Vern Nelson at The Orange Juice Blog wrote a detailed article about her and the closing of the restaurant.

[www.orangejuiceblog.com/Sandie and Jagerhaus](http://www.orangejuiceblog.com/Sandie%20and%20Jagerhaus)



TRAVEL

Are you considering a trip to Slovakia?? There are 7 companies on the CGSI.org website: [www.Travel -Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International \(cgsi.org\)](http://www.Travel-Czechoslovak%20Genealogical%20Society%20International%20(cgsi.org)) Some are for the Czech Republic and some for Slovakia. (Czech Heritage Tours, Rev. Jan Dus Czech Travel Services, Dr. Miroslav Koudelka Czech Ancestral Trips, PATH Finder's International Czech tours, Slovakia Heritage Tours, Slovakia Treasures Tours and Slovak Ancestry, One of our members confirmed that Treasures Tours is planning a Slovakia trip in 2022: July 7 - 17, 2022, Email Helene Cincebeaux at helenezx@aol.com At www.our-Slovakia.com or look for Tours to Slovakia on Face Book [www.facebook.com ToursToSlovakia](http://www.facebook.com/ToursToSlovakia)

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

There's a Czech/Slovak Los Angeles Meetup group:

www.meetup.com/So-Calif-American-Czech-Slovak-Genealogy-Social-Meet-Up

Czech/Slovak Events: St. John Paul II, Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda, CA.

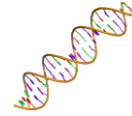
WEBINARS:

Legacy Family Tree Webinars has a webinar list showing: Familytreewebinars.com-Future
The Legacy webinars are free for a week after live presentation. Past webinars here:
www.Familytreewebinars.com

F.A.N. CLUB:

Have you actually researched the FAN Club that has been suggested? FAN is an acronym referring to Friends/Family, Associates/Acquaintances and Neighbors find clues for a brick wall. When I looked at one of my grandfather's brothers, I realized that I started to look up records for John, but never finished. I wasn't organized and didn't create a list of **all names** in his FAN club, I just looked for the easy records and then stopped there. So, maybe I really didn't have a brick wall, I just needed to look more thoroughly?

DNA COLUMN:



Endogamy: Issues for DNA

By Mary Shade

I recently attempted to find out which family lines my DNA matches were linked to and found out that they were showing "Shared Matches" on both great-grandparent lines. I was so confused, and later found that further back on my tree, there were several marriages between the Kocis and the Pjura families in different generations. There is actually a term for this: **Endogamy**. I've learned about this in genealogy seminars, but thought it only pertained to only a handful of groups, such as Jewish, Amish, Quaker, Portuguese, etc. Something to consider as you study your DNA matches. It may show higher matching centimorgans than expected.

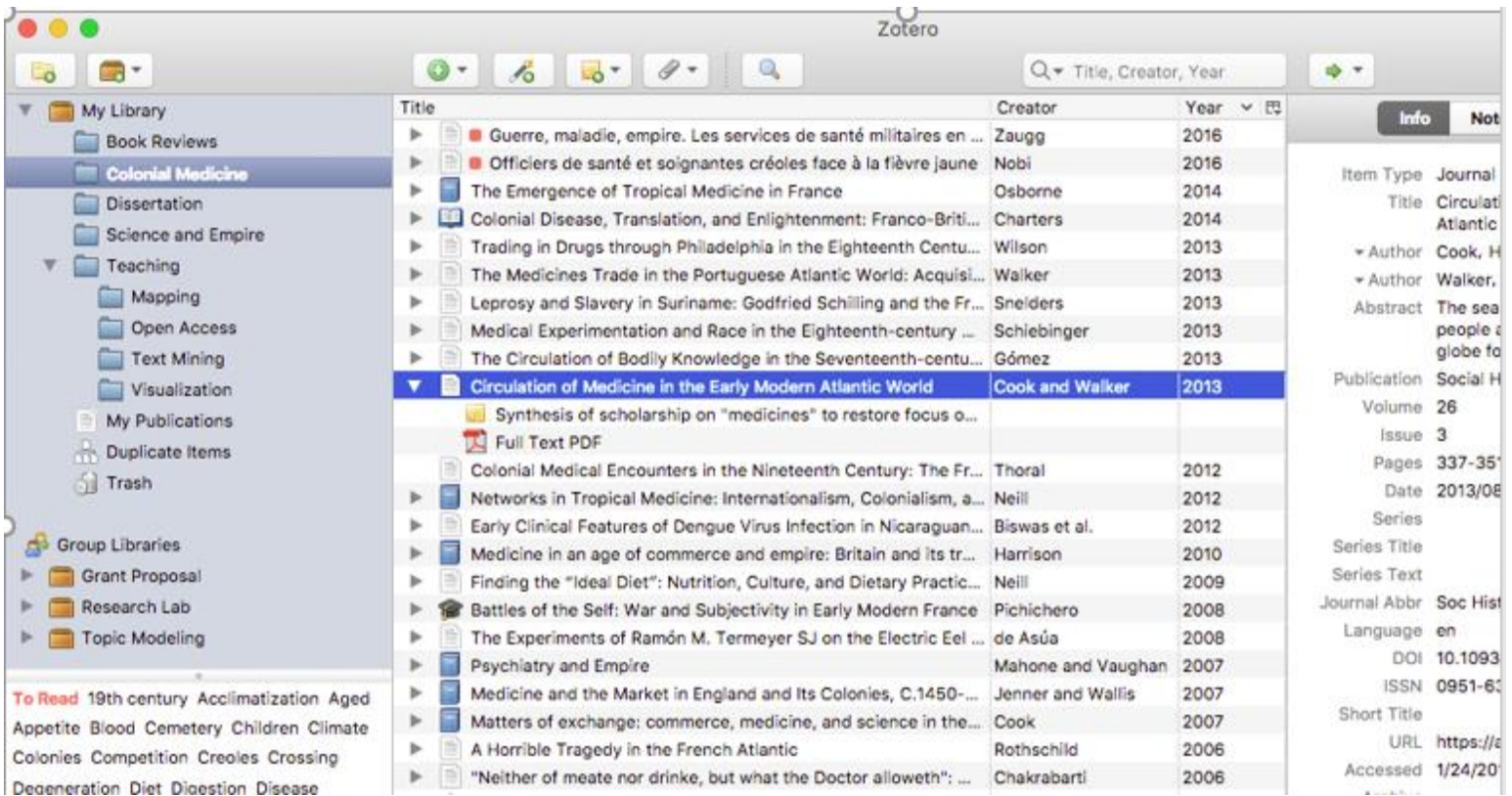
Endogamy is the practice of marrying within a specific social group, religion, caste, or ethnic group, rejecting those from others as unsuitable for marriage or other close personal relationships. Endogamy is common in many cultures and ethnic groups. **(from Wikipedia).**

SOFTWARE:

Zotero | Your personal research assistant – Getting Organized in 2022

This is a **free** software program/tool to help you collect, organize, cite, and share research.

demonstrated by a blogger who uses it to organize her genealogy, capture websites and citations. Her blog is: [www.PreciousPics and Papers](http://www.PreciousPicsandPapers.com) You can get organized by creating Category “tags”. There is also a Zotero Connector plug-in that allows you to quickly save websites and references to your library which was one of her favorite options. Here’s a Youtube video introduction, but there are many other tutorials: [www.How To Use Zotero Beginner's Guide](http://www.HowToUseZotero.com) Available for Mac, Windows and Linux.



CZECH GAZETTEERS:

[Gemeindelexicon von Böhmen](#)

[Gemeindelexicon von Mähren](#)

[Gemeindelexicon von Marava](#)

A gazetteer, which is defined as a geographical dictionary, is an essential tool for identifying places. It lists all place names and gives sufficient information to uniquely identify a specific locality, such as variant names, political and church jurisdictions, religions, etc. Use the following gazetteers to locate the place your ancestor came from and to determine the location of the parish where records were kept.



FamilySearch.org

Gemeindelexikon der im Reichsrath vertretenen Königreiche und Länder

(Gazetteer of the Crownlands and Territories Represented in the Imperial Council)

This Gazetteer of Austria, all 14 volumes [online](#) through the FamilySearch Digital Library. The volumes for the modern Czech Republic are:

- Vol. IX [Gemeindelexicon von Böhmen](#) (Gazetteer of Bohemia)
- Vol. Xa [Gemeindelexicon von Mähren](#) (Gazetteer of Moravia)
- Vol. Xb [Gemeindelexicon von Marava](#) (Gazetteer of Moravia) -in Czech
- Vol. XI [Gemeindelexicon von Schlesien](#) (Gazetteer of Silesia)

ALIAS NAMES/NICKNAMES:

By Michael Mojher

“During my nine trips to Slovakia I on occasion come across a subject I have never known to exist. "Do Names" is one of those. Some may say that it is just an alias, but it is more. I learned of "Do Names" while doing some research at Plavnica City Hall. My translator said the registrar want to know if you know the person's "Do Name". That began a discussion on the subject.

The registrar said "Do Names" is an oral tradition in the area. Do in Slovak translates to "of". It had a specific use. When a family grew to a large number there was the problem of many members having the same given name. How could one tell one from another? That is where the "Do Name" came into use. First, branches of the family tree were identified. Those branches were given a "Do Name". In Hromos, my Mojher ancestral village, there were three "Do Names": Adama. Palody and Zid. A cousin explained the "Do Names", Adama root word is Adam, Palody root is Pal/Paul, and Zid translates to Jew. The

Hromos Mayor told me the family lore is that a Mojher long ago saved a Jew from being killed and Zid became associated with that person's descendants. A cousin who is Roman Catholic had the nickname "Little Jew". He was very proud of the nickname. When he died his son carried on with the nickname. Say there was many Michal Mojhers in Hromos. When people was speaking about a particular Michal Mojher they would use his "Do Name". I am of the Adama line, so they would refer to me as Michal Adama. My Rindos family in Plavnica have five "Do Names".

For genealogists the "Do Names" are a double edged sword. It is great to have branches of a family identified. The bad, they are used in records. If you do not know your families "Do Name" they would seem to be just another surname. I have seen it in church records and land purchase documents. Having "Do Names" as an oral tradition only the locals know of them. And every once in a while someone doing their genealogy.”

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. Donations are suggested at \$5.00 per year, mail to Treasurer: Nancy Pestal, P.O. Box 1385, San Clemente, CA 92674. Cash or check, if check, Payable to Nancy Pestal. Please email Annette Gathright with questions: anettka@aol.com

Czechoslovak Area Genealogy Club

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.

RESOURCES:

Online

Austrian research guide — www.feefhs.org/sites/default/files/guide/austrian_research.pdf

Austrian Genealogy & History Society — www.familia-austria.at/index.php/en/

ICARUS church books & local history — www.icar-us.eu/en/

Moravian Heritage Society — www.czechusa.com/index.html

FEEFHS Slovakian page — feefhs.org/resource/slovakia

FEEFHS Czech Republic page — www.Czech Republic Resources | FEEFHS

FEEFHS Carpatho-Rusyn page www.Regions | FEEFHS

Salzburger family names — www.salzburger.homepage.t-online.de/Fam-name.htm

Literature list on Salzburg emigrants (German) — www.tinyurl.com/jz9dlnu

Archives: Austrian-focused genealogy database — www.genteam.at

Austrian genealogical forum — www.forum-ahnenforschung.eu

Pilsen-Munich archives Sudetenland project (English) — www.tinyurl.com/mj6v6r7

www.Holocaust.cz

www.Arolsen Archives.org for Holocaust

www.Mapy.cz for **both** Czech and Slovakia locations

www.Arcanum Maps - The Historical Map Portal

www.zanikleobce.cz website for vanished towns

<https://slovník.juls.savba.sk/> historical dictionary for Slovakia

<https://www.kdejsme.cz/> for places where Surname is common.

www.portafontium.eu/ for PILSEN records or German Bohemians (Bavarian)

Czech newspapers —

www.digitalniknihovna.cz/

www.tschechien-online.org

www.prag-aktuell.cz

www.pragerzeitung.cz

Slovakia Newspaper — www.spectator.sme.sk/

German newspapers for South Tyrol — <http://www.stol.it> & www.suedtirolnews.it

East German Gen. Assoc. (German) — www.agoff.de

Austrian National Library — www.onb.ac.at

Bohemian church registers — www.tinyurl.com/gsp6ykr

Surname database www.SlovakPride.org

www.Global Slovakia A Slovak-based non-profit organization dedicated to sharing Slovakia.