



Czechoslovak Area Genealogy Club of Southern California Newsletter

Newsletter Jan 2025

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 bi-monthly on the first Saturday of the month at 1:30pm, Zoom hybrid meetings, in-person & Zoom at the Orange FamilySearch Library (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints/Mormon) on Yorba St. 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 2025 meeting dates:
Apr 5, June 7, Aug 2nd, Oct 4th, Dec 6th
Annual CAGC Christmas in-person Luncheon.

FUTURE EVENTS:

- Genealogy: www.conferencekeeper.org/conferences/
- **Whittier Genealogical Society (WAGS)** : Feb 15th, at 1pm. Topic: “History of a Place That Means a Lot to Family”, speaker: Larry Naukum.
- **RootsTech**: FamilySearch conference March 6-8, 2025, free online.
- **I4gg.org**-Genetic Genealogy conference in San Diego at the Sheraton, \$69 online registration, March 29-30, 2025.
- **CGSI Conference**: Oct 28-Nov 1, 2025, Overland Park, Kansas.

DNA Genetic Genealogy: New series on Netflix called: **The Breakthrough**. It is a mini-series on Sweden Genetic Genealogy and a crime case. It has received good reviews from the Facebook DNA group.

BOARD MEMBERS 2025

President: Annette Gathright
Vice President/Secretary: Mary Shade
Treasurer: Farah Takriti
Webmaster: Mary Shade
Virtual Coordinator: Linda McMahon
Board Member: Stacey Smith
Board Member; JoAnn Jones
Board Member: Emeritus: Frank Vogel

Vice President's Message:

Happy New Year! I hope you are all doing well and enjoyed your holidays. I enjoyed our CAGC Christmas party at Mimi's again and thought we had a great turnout with 5 new CAGC members.

RootsTech is coming up quickly, a chance to attend a genealogy conference for free. 😊
Unlike the CGSI.org conference that focuses on Eastern Europe, this includes all countries.
March 6-8, 2025. Register: www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech

I was lucky enough to travel to Slovakia for the first time in 2024 and it turned out to be a once in a lifetime trip! All of the stars lined up when I heard about a chance to learn the Rusyn/Ruthenian language at the University of Presov 3-week Studium, I learned that my 4th cousin lived in Presov, my genealogist that I hired lived in Presov, and Anka Hradsky who teaches Slovak dance from the San Diego Balboa Park Czech/Slovak Cottage was also going to be near Presov at the same time, and she would help me buy new kroj pieces. I should add that I am not a traveler. Anyone interested in learning the Rusyn language, please contact me!

It was a wonderful trip where I was able to meet three of my Mom's first cousins once removed from 3 different families. But I wanted to emphasize that being a member of CAGC prepared me very well for my adventure. I've learned so much about the geography that it made planning my trip easier.

I found my genealogist, Michal Razus, from recommendations and he did an excellent job finding my relatives 2 years ago and connecting me with them even when they didn't respond to emails and phone calls. He was very persistent, as it turns out several sisters and cousins did not talk to one another. He also provided translation at one meeting. I'm still sending text messages & emails to my new cousins and was able to introduce them to my 88 yr old mom using Zoom & video calls and translators. They have sent me old photos of my Mom's uncle that she never knew.

While I was in Slovakia, Anka Hradsky's costume seamstress, Maria, was able to upgrade my Jakubavany kroj to add a čepec (cap) and zástera (apron), and she made me a new Lajblik (vest) since my old vest was from the wrong village! That's what happens when you buy kroje on Facebook?

As I mentioned in my Travel Tips talk, I learned several things: (1) Don't take an Uber (Bolt) to a remote village where you can't find an Uber back & always save some cash for the bus or taxi since many villages don't have ATMs (2) Sending Post cards cost a different amount depending on which clerk you have at the Post Office (ranging from 1.1 euros to 2.1 eu.) and most Post office staff don't speak English. (3) Not every village has a hotel; and many Penzions (inexpensive hotels) don't have air conditioning or elevators, (4) They do have malls in Slovakia! (comfort of home)

I encourage anyone who has been hesitant about traveling, as I was, to make the trip sooner than later, it is much easier to travel now with the latest technology. Safe travels! Mary Shade, CAGC VP.

WELCOME NEW CAGC MEMBERS!

Vera T.
Joel
AJ
Robert
George
Ann
Jana



This is a shopping website (disclaimer, we are not paid to advertise for them), but it may **give you ideas** of Czech movies, books, music and **foods**, etc. to explore:

www.czechmovie.com/products/

2024 – REVIEW- PAST CAGC MEETINGS

Feb 3, 2024, We had speaker Marisa Louie Lee with the topic: “What’s Online at NARA- (National Archives and Records Admin) Archives”. It was very informative and pertinent since we have a NARA reading room right in Riverside.

Apr 6, 2024, Speaker: Tami Mize Topic: “Conference Keeper.org Website” gave us a detailed overview of her passion, her website ConferenceKeeper.org

Jun 1, 2024, Topic: "Exploring Google Earth Pro for Genealogy" We had a video from Lisa Louise Cooke and a demo from Mary Shade to show how to use the free software that goes beyond Googlemaps.

Aug 3, 2024, Breaking Down Brickwalls meeting. A. Gathright showed her presentation video from the April CGSI Conference in Iowa. B. Rubin discussed his family’s find of their

“Chronicle” and M. Shade did a demo of GenTeam.at.

Oct 5, 2024, Artificial Intelligence and Genealogy, Carole McCulloch genealogist from Australia offered a discount for her masterclass videos on AI. M. Shade also showed her initial attempts at using AI with ChatGPT looking for Marriage records in Budilov, Bohemia, and with Claude 3.5 looking at old photographs and a baptism record. Also, she used the free version of DALL-E, or Bing.com/Create to create pictures of the Slovak and Czech flag with a wooden church.

Dec 7, 2024, CAGC Christmas Luncheon at Mimi’s café we were honored to have 5 new members attend. M. Shade brought kolache from the Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church in San Diego. An excellent time with 18 attendees!



New at FamilySearch.org CZECH GAZETTEER:

Have you seen the new Gazetteer for the villages & parishes at FamilySearch.org? It may open up some possibilities if you haven't looked in awhile. The information looks similar to GenTeam.at, but maybe a little more detailed? www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Czechia_Town_and_Parish_Finder
www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Czech_Gazetteer_K example:

Town Name	Alternate Town Name	Parish Name	Judicial District	Archive
Kobelec	Kofel	Tatrovice	Loket	Plzeň Regional Archives
Kobelnitz	Kobylnice	Šlapanice	Brno venkov	Brno Moravian Provincial Archives
Koberno	Kawarn	Bohušov	Krnov	Opava Provincial Archives
Koberovice	Koberowitz	Vojslavice	Humpolec	Třeboň Regional Archives
Koberovy		Železný Brod	Semily	Litoměřice Regional Archives
Koberowitz	Koberovice	Vojslavice	Humpolec	Třeboň Regional Archives
Köberwitz	Kobeřice	Kobeřice	Hlučín	Opava Provincial Archives
Kobeřice		Dobromilice	Prostějov	Brno Moravian Provincial Archives
Kobeřice	Köberwitz	Kobeřice	Hlučín	Opava Provincial Archives
Kobeřice	Kobeřitz	Kobeřice	Vyškov	Brno Moravian Provincial Archives
Kobeřitz	Kobeřice	Kobeřice	Vyškov	Brno Moravian Provincial Archives
Kobil	Kobyly	Loukov	Turnov	Prague Regional Archives
Kobilitz	Kobylice	Nechanice	Nový Bydžov	Zámrsr Regional Archives

Town Name	FamilySearch Collection Index and Images	FamilySearch Collection Images
Kobelec		
Kobelnitz		
Koberno	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	1571-1905 Czech Republic, Northern Moravia, Opava Archives, 1571-1905
Koberovice	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	1650-1900 Czech Republic, Southern Bohemia, Třeboň Regional Archives, 1650-1900
Koberovy	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	
Koberowitz	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	1650-1900 Czech Republic, Southern Bohemia, Třeboň Regional Archives, 1650-1900
Köberwitz	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	1571-1905 Czech Republic, Northern Moravia, Opava Archives, 1571-1905
Kobeřice		
Kobeřice	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	1571-1905 Czech Republic, Northern Moravia, Opava Archives, 1571-1905
Kobeřice		
Kobeřitz		
Kobil		
Kobilitz	1552-1981 Czech Republic, Church Books, 1552-1981	

Slovak Kroje:



KROJE pieces

Lajblik = vest

Rukavce=white blouse

Suknica=skirt

Spodnica=petticoat

Zastera=apron

Masla=collar, hair or waist bow

Rukavce=lace sleeves

Čepec = cap

Kroje in Slovakia:

Above: Mary Shade getting ready for a Mock Rusyn Wedding in Tichy Potok, as the groom's mother!

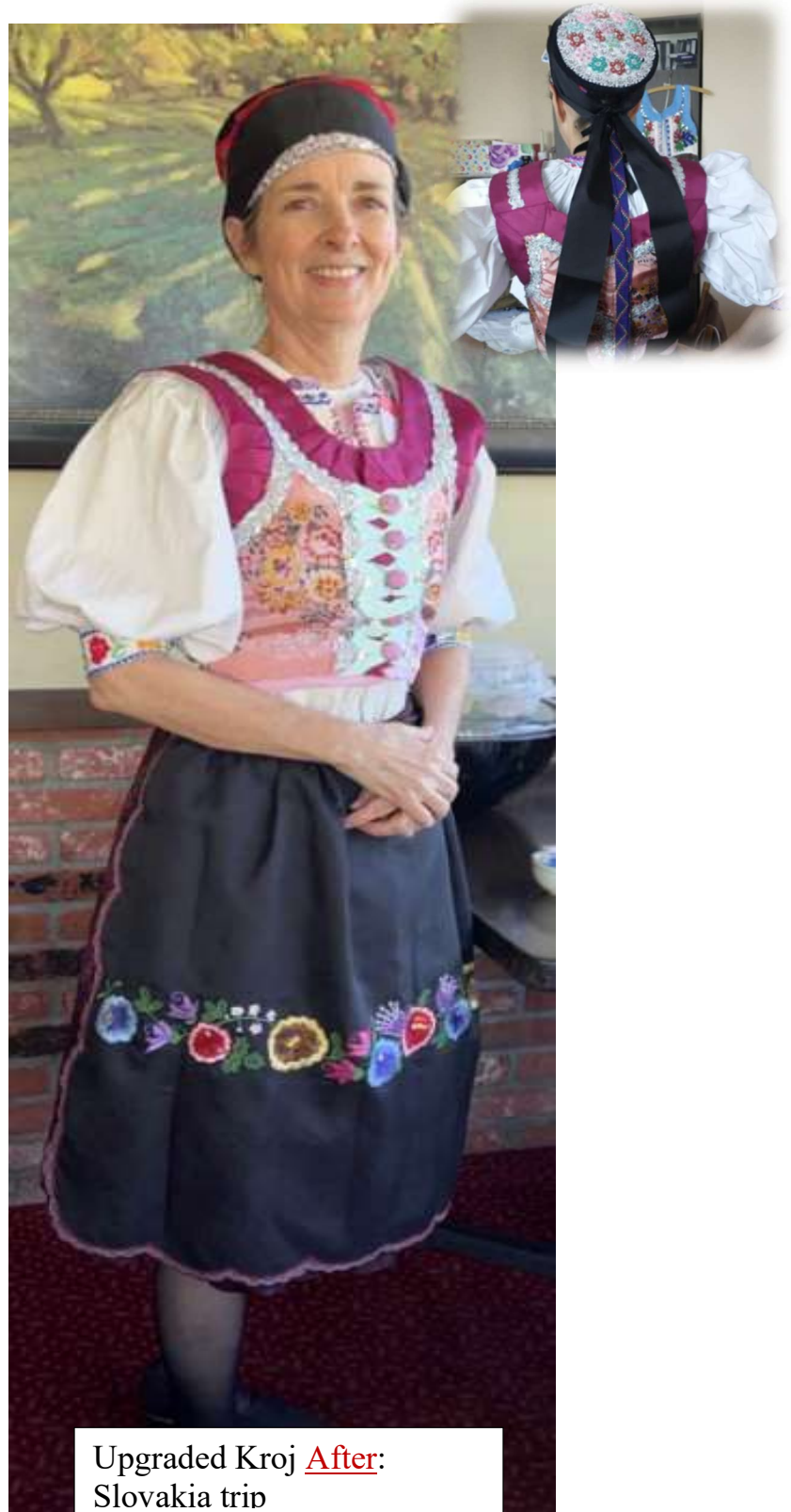
Right: Ceremony at the wedding reception where a man does a sword/machete dance and they switch the headdresses from the beautiful maiden headdress to the more conservative, matronly Čepec



Slovak Kroje: (cont.)



Kroj Before: Slovakia trip,
no cap!, no apron!,
vest from Spis up north!



Upgraded Kroj After:
Slovakia trip

Cook's Corner:

Bobál'ky by Ben Fabian

The Slovak dish called bobál'ky or opékance (in Czech peciválky, pupáky, or burášky) has many more variations than names. Its history may go back centuries, before the days of yeast bread. The longer unleavened bread is out of the oven, the harder it becomes.

Adding milk (or hot water) to soften the bread makes it easier to eat. There is some evidence it was used in central European winter solstice celebrations long before the arrival of

Bread dough:

1 tbs butter
1 tbs sugar
1 tsp salt
1 c milk (room temperature)
1 tbs (1 envelope) dried yeast
3 cups flour

Mix the first 5 ingredients and let the yeast activate for about 10-15 minutes. Then add the flour, knead and place in a greased bowl in a warm place to double in bulk (about 1-2 hours). Punch down the dough and allow it to rise for another 45 minutes. Shape the dough into a long roll about ½"; in diameter, cut into small pieces and roll into balls about the size of a marble. Place the dough balls on a greased cookie sheet (12"x9") and bake at 375F for about 15 minutes until lightly browned. Cool completely and then break into individual balls. Put the bread balls into a colander and rinse with boiling water (this softens the crust). Drain and then toss with the chosen flavor.

Christianity. In some families the bobál'ky are called "baby Jesus bread".

As a Christmas dessert it can be sweetened with honey and poppyseed or it can be a savory side dish mixed with sauerkraut. A bread dough is baked after being formed into small balls. The balls are broken apart from each other, rinsed with boiling water (to soften the crust) and then tossed with the flavoring component.

The recipe given here is too small to make in a Kitchen-aid mixer with a kneading hook.



(AI generated image
picture Bing image create
DALL·E 3, small
Poppyseed Bobalki)

Sweet bobál'ky: toss the bread balls with ¼ cup honey mixed with ¼ cup ground poppyseed (or more).

My great aunt would sometimes add some hot milk to the poppyseed bobál'ky and chill it to make a cold mushy kind of poppyseed bread pudding.

Savory bobál'ky: toss with fried onions/sauerkraut/butter.

There are many recipes online with pictures of each of the steps.

Dobrá chuť!

Denni Hlasatel (Daily Herald) Newspaper:

CGSI just posted this newspaper where you can look for your family members in the news! CAGC Member Wayne has a paper copy of the obituary index and used this great resource for his family. Wayne has offered to look obituaries up for people who may be interested: Wayne Hacholski: mathac@earthlink.net If you join CGSI.org, you can view only the years that they have digitized and there is NO INDEX. (see below)

The *Denni Hlasatel* was a Chicago Czech-language daily newspaper founded in 1891 and published through 2006, making it the longest-running Czech serial in the world. Issues of the *Denni Hlasatel* contained obituaries which are immensely useful for genealogy. It is estimated that the *Denni Hlasatel* printed close to 100,000 obituaries over the course of 115 years.

CGSI is proud to have acquired digitization and publication rights to use, copy, distribute, publish and present all issues of the *Denni Hlasatel*. For this effort, microfilm has been digitized and the images are being processed into PDFs of individual. Currently about 10 years of issues are available with additional years becoming available every month over the next year.

To learn more about this unique resource, [visit the *Denni Hlasatel* Archive home page](#). This unique resource is only available to members of CGSI.

Once you find the record, you can submit a request through CGSI:

[Denni Hlasatel Request | Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International](#)

Only CGSI members logged in to CGSI.org can access the Denní Hlasatel issues.

If you need log in help, [watch the video on this page](#). To find out more about CGSI membership, [go to this page](#).

Denní Hlasatel Years

1891 | **1892** | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | **1896** | 1897 | 1898 | **1899**

1900 | **1901** | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 | 1906 | **1907** | 1908 | 1909

1910 | 1911 | 1912 | **1913** | **1914** | 1915 | **1916** | 1917 | 1918 | 1919

1920 | **1921** | 1922 | 1923 | **1924** | 1925 | **1926** | 1927 | 1928 | **1929**

1930 | 1931 | 1932 | **1933** | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | **1939**

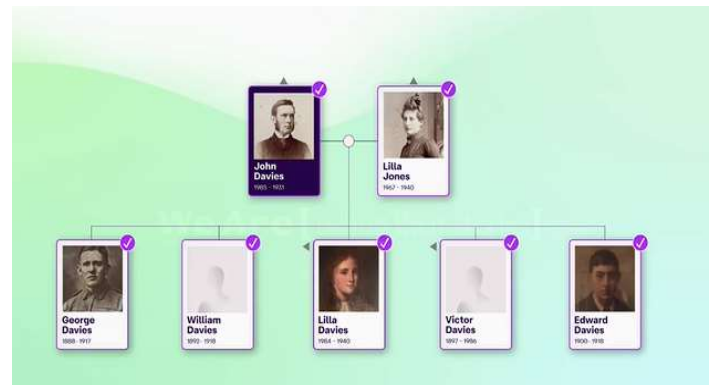
1940 | 1941

If you join the Illinois Czech group, they allow you to search their Obituaries Index online, One person suggested a method to request the actual Obituary when you find it: They order their Denni Hlasatel obituaries online through the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library** in Springfield. www.alplm.aeon.atlas-sys.com/

New Archive-Type Platform for Genealogy: by Mary Shade

I heard about this new website called WeAre.xyz when I searched for a GoogleEarth speaker. It is based out of the UK. Then it came up again with Carole McCulloch from Australia for our AI class. She uses it all the time. www.WeAre.xyz Below are the pricing, but you can use it for free. You can store all types of documents in WeAre.xyz.

The site states: *“At WeAre.xyz, we are all about making it simple and delightful to make an online archive of anything that floats your boat. We’ve started with two areas of personal passion: family history, and ‘one place study’ history (a house, a village, a national park, any heritage site...)..... we built WeAre.xyz to showcase lives and capture memories, to share with relatives and invite them to fill in the gaps. It is truly ‘our’ online family archive; each family member who logs in becomes the central person of the site.”*



WeAre.xyz

Product - Demo Pricing Ab

Pricing (30 day free online archive trial with all p

BLOGGER Free up to 100MB	ARCHIVER \$4.99/month up to 100GB \$49/year	ARCHIVER PLUS \$11.99/month up to 1TB (1000GB) \$119/year
Unlimited Blogs	Online Archive 30 day free trial	Online Archive 30 day free trial
• Unlimited personalized Blog creation	Up to 3 separate Archives	Up to 5 separate Archives
Online Archive 30 day free trial	• Free access for invited members*	*Archive members - up to 20
• Unique Blog/Archive integration	• Simple to use content creation	Unlimited Blogs
• One click populate Archive with Blog posts	• In-built member interaction features	• Premium features
• One click post Archive content to Blog	• All underpinned by 3D Globe Map builder, family tree builder and index	• *Ghostwriter AI (ChatGPT) 500 queries per month
• Build custom 3D maps and trees in posts	• Import GEDCOM option	
• All underpinned by 3D globe map builder, family tree builder and index	• Archive download for local backup	
• Import GEDCOM option	*Archive members - up to 10 free	
Premium feature trial	• Free access and content creation	
• *Ghostwriter AI (ChatGPT)	Unlimited Blogs	
	• Unique Blog/Archive integration	
	• One click populate Archive with Blog posts	
	• One click post Archive content to Blog	
	• Build custom 3D maps and trees in	

WeAre.xyz

WeAre.xyz Home Families Navigator Help Add Content Archives Blogs

The camera in the clouds

Our Little House on the prairie

USS Saratoga loss

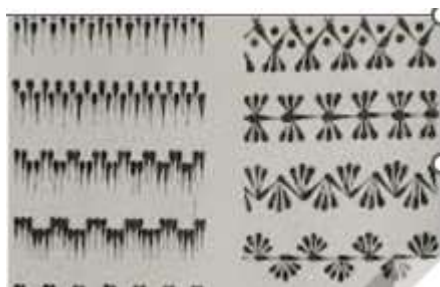
The Road to the Ayala

Tragic loss of one brother, two survive.

Pysanky Egg Decorating:

By Mary Shade

While in Slovakia, I attended a traditional Pysanky egg decorating class at Presov University Rusyn Language Studium. It involves applying melted wax to the eggshell in a design, then dipping it into different colored dyes. This website has other pictures. They gave us beginners sample templates to help us become artists!



https://www.pysanky.info/Podillia/Kulzhynskyi_1.html



Mgr. Zdenka Citriaková, PhD class, sample of professional pysanky eggs

CAGC Participated in FamilySearch Library Family History Fair/Expo Sept 2024



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.

WEBINARS:

Legacy Family Tree Webinars has a webinar list showing: [Familytreewebinars.com-Future](https://www.familytreewebinars.com/Future)
The Legacy webinars are free for a week after live presentation.

[www.Familytreewebinars.com](https://www.familytreewebinars.com)

RootsTech had several talks about topics that are now online from 2019. To access them, go to [www.ReadingCzechParishRegisters: Marriages](https://www.ReadingCzechParishRegisters.com/Marriages)

RESOURCES: Online

Czech Gazetteer for villages: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Czech_Gazetteer_K
Austrian research guide — www.feeffhs.org/sites/default/files/guide/austrian_research.pdf
Beginner's Czech blog: www.czechgenealogy.nase-koreny.cz/p/contact.html?m=1
ICARUS church books & local history — www.icar-us.eu/en/
Moravian Heritage Society — www.czechusa.com/index.html
FEEFHS Slovakian page — www.feeffhs.org/resource/slovakia
FEEFHS Czech Republic page — [www.Czech Republic Resources | FEEFHS](http://www.Czech_Republic_Resources_|_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
Czech Archives webinar: [Introduction to Czech Archives - YouTube](#) (Sokol Milwaukee)
[Matriky - ACTA PUBLICA \(mza.cz\)](http://Matriky - ACTA PUBLICA (mza.cz))
Austrian genealogical forum — www.forum-ahnenforschung.eu
Pilsen-Munich archives Sudetenland project (English) — www.tinyurl.com/mj6v6r7
www.Holocaust.cz
Historical Atlas of Czech towns: [Historical Towns Atlas | Historický atlas měst \(cas.cz\)](#)
Passenger lists Bremen: [www.Bremen Emigrants \(passengerlists.de\)](http://www.Bremen_Emigrants (passengerlists.de))
Czech newspapers —
www.digitalniknihovna.cz/
www.tschechien-online.org
www.prag-aktuell.cz
www.pragerzeitung.cz
Slovakia Newspaper — www.spectator.sme.sk/
Slovak dictionary: www.slovake.eu/en or [www.Slovak dictionaries \(savba.sk\)](http://www.Slovak_dictionaries (savba.sk))
Slovak genealogy website Bill Tarkulich: www.iabsi.com/gen/public/
Beginner's Slovakia Research: www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Slovakia_Beginning_Research
Bohemian church registers — www.tinyurl.com/gsp6ykr
Surname database www.SlovakPride.org
PODCAST » [Slovak Ancestry \(slovak-ancestry.com\)](http://Slovak_Ancestry (slovak-ancestry.com))
[www.Arolsen Archives.org](http://www.Arolsen_Archives.org) for Holocaust
www.Mapy.cz for both Czech and Slovakia locations
[www.Arcanum Maps - The Historical Map Portal](http://www.Arcanum_Maps - The_Historical_Map_Portal)
www.zanikleobce.cz website for vanished towns
www.slovník.juls.savba.sk Historical dictionary for Slovakia
www.kdejsme.cz for places where Surname is common.
www.portafontium.eu/ for PILSEN records or German Bohemians (Bavarian)
Mapire.eu
[Europe in the XIX. century | Arcanum Maps](#)
<https://scitacieharky.sk/mapy>

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: Farah Takriti. Please email Annette Gathright with questions: anettka@aol.com or Mary Shade: meshade@gmail.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.

