

Tap into Family History

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International

19th Genealogical/Cultural Conference

Milwaukee, Wisconsin October 17–21, 2023



CGSI



Program and Registration Booklet

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MILWAUKEE HOTEL AND ON-SITE ACTIVITIES

WHAT DOES THE CONFERENCE FEE INCLUDE?

The full three-day CGSI member or nonmember fee entitles registrants access to:

- The Whova pre- and postconference virtual networking platform
- Attendance at Wednesday evening's Manifest Films' Double Feature Film Festival
- CGSI's **new** Thursday evening Translation Night
- Any of the 48 Thursday–Saturday 75-minute sessions
- Lunches Thursday–Saturday
- Friday morning's Keynote Address
- Friday evening's Parade of Kroje (fashion show with folk dress).
- Use of the CGSI Traveling Library, space permitting, with an admission ticket. Library research includes either use of CGSI books or one-on-one assistance from a volunteer research consultant.

Exhibitor room access is available to everyone, including the public.

All registrants will receive a 120-plus page Conference syllabus with speaker handouts and a welcome bag.

Tuesday and Wednesday Tours are optional educational events and require registration and payment.

Wednesday morning's koláče baking workshop taught by Ann Cramer requires a **separate \$15 registration fee** and is limited to the first 15 registrants. The workshop is held off-site at Blessed Sacrament Church in Milwaukee. To help ensure people get to the church, CGSI will try to arrange for carpooling using the Whova platform and direct email.

The four Czech folk-art workshops by Daniela Mahoney are limited to the first 25 persons and require a **separate \$15 registration fee**. The other seven language or writing workshops all require a **separate registration**, but no fee to attend. These workshops are limited to 36 registrants in a classroom setup.

The Friday and Saturday dinners and the Saturday ethnic entertainment are **optional** events and require separate payment on the registration form.

ACCOMMODATIONS/RESERVATIONS

The host hotel is **The Ingleside Hotel, 2810 Golf Rd, Pewaukee, WI 53072**. The Ingleside has 194 guest rooms, including two Hospitality Suites. It is conveniently located off Interstate 94. Didi's Supper Club and bar offers an amazing selection of craft cocktails, beer, and pub-style food. You will find a nice selection of steaks, chops, pasta, and their popular Friday fish fry.

A block of rooms has been reserved for Conference guests beginning on Sunday, October 15, through Saturday, October 21. The CGSI group room rate is \$119 per night for a standard room (two queens or a king) with single or double occupancy, plus applicable taxes.

Triple or quad occupancy is available at \$10 per adult. The Ingleside Hotel has ample free open lot parking for guests and visitors.

To ensure this rate you must make reservations by **September 15, 2023**. Reservations received on or after September 16, 2023 will be provided on a space-available basis at best available rate.

The best and easiest method to make reservations is by accessing the special CGSI guest block on our website, **cgsi.org**. Click on 2023 Conference on the top right of the menu, then select Hotel Info, then click on the "Direct Booking Link for 2023 CGSI Conference." Although rooms are available starting Sunday, October 15, there is no conference activity on Monday, October 16, so unless you have your own plans in the area it would be best to save those limited rooms for people who do.

You can also call The Ingleside Hotel at 262-547-0201 and ask for the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society group rate of \$119. Please note that The Ingleside will charge for one night at the time you make the reservation. This payment is refundable if you have to cancel your hotel reservation.

Check-in is at 4 p.m., but you can request early check-in by calling the front desk on the day of arrival; however, it cannot be guaranteed. Check out time is **11 a.m.** on the day of departure.

All guest rooms and hotel spaces offer complimentary high-speed wireless internet. The hotel is totally non-smoking. The Ingleside Hotel does not offer any shuttles. Guest rooms come with a fridge, work station with data port, 43-inch flat screen TV, Bath and Body Works toiletries, and hair dryer.

The property has a 1.5-mile wooded jogging/walking trail and an 8.2-mile bike trail. It is adjacent to the Pewaukee Golf Club, and the hotel's Springs Water Park with more than 45,000 square feet of water park adventures. Day passes are available for purchase, based on availability.

Reserve early as room types are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Plan your travel schedule to include time for our Tuesday and Wednesday tours, and for independent sightseeing and research. CGSI's Conference page contains a document listing local attractions and dining options.

The Ingleside Hotel will set up a breakfast buffet for attendees on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 19–21 at \$16 per person age 12 and older.

TRAVELING TO THE CONFERENCE

By Car

Take Interstate 94 east from Madison for one hour to Exit 291 (Meadowbrook Road) in Pewaukee. From Chicago, Racine, or Milwaukee, take Interstate 94 (Highway 41) northwest to Exit 293. Turn left just past the Kwik Trip

Gas Station onto Golf Road. The hotel's address is 2810 Golf Rd, Pewaukee, WI 53072. We advise you to use map software or your vehicle's navigation system.

By Air

Most air travelers will fly into General Mitchell International Airport, 5300 S Howell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207. The Ingleside Hotel is located 25.6 miles northwest of the Mitchell Airport—a 30-minute drive during non-peak hours. If you have friends or relatives living elsewhere, like Chicago or Minneapolis, you could fly to one of those cities and drive. The hotel does not provide shuttle service, but you could hire an Uber or Lyft driver to take you to the hotel. CGSI will have a rideshare bulletin board on the Whova networking platform for at least three weeks before the Conference. You can look for others who are flying into Milwaukee to share the cost of a ride. Taxi rates found online are \$75–\$95 each way. The two cab companies listed are Yellow Cab Co-op (414-271-1800) or American United Taxi Cab (414-220-5000).

VIRTUAL PRE-CONFERENCE NETWORKING

Our 2021 Virtual Conference included a few weeks of access to the **Whova** online platform, where you could meet and discuss topics posted on a bulletin board, videochat through "meetup sessions" on attendee scheduled topics, and attach pins to virtual maps of the Czech Republic and Slovakia to show where your ancestors had lived. By reviewing the maps, you can identify others on the platform who share ancestral villages or districts. You can also schedule your own "regional networking" round-table discussions. All these avenues, available for 2023, will enable you to share information with others on common interests or geographic areas. CGSI leadership will schedule orientation sessions to familiarize you on navigating Whova.

Note: Conference registrants will automatically receive a link to the Whova platform. For an admission fee of \$25, the Whova online platform can be available if you are unable to attend the conference. See the registration form on the CGSI website to make your payment.

REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN

Conference check-in will be available from 3–6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 18. Persons attending Wednesday's tour may register upon return. Check-in will also be available all-day Thursday, in the mornings of Friday and Saturday, and as needed. Day-of-conference registration for walk-ins will be available; however, lunches and, depending on the number of walk-ins, speaker handout material may not be available.

People taking tours will receive temporary stick-on name tags, and will receive their conference badges, meal tickets, syllabus, and free handout bags after their tour has returned. But Tuesday's tour groups, along with Wednesday's group, will receive the temporary stick-on badge.

EXHIBITOR ROOM

Check out a wide selection of genealogical books, supplies, t-shirts, ethnic products, folk art, collectibles, and travel and professional research information. The CGSI will have a full complement of items, including *History of Slovaks in America*, *History of Czechs in America*, *History of Slovaks of Cleveland and Lakewood*, genealogy how to books, auto atlases, tourist fold out maps, and cookbooks. Some of our speakers, sponsors, other profit and nonprofit businesses will also be selling. The exhibitor area is open to the general public.

CGSI TRAVELING LIBRARY/ INTERNET RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

A selection of our most-used library reference books will be available for on-site research during the conference. These will include the 1651 Religious Census, 1653 Berni Rula census (both cover only Bohemia), an index to the Moravian land registers of 1656-1679, plus gazetteers, maps, and atlases. Traveling Library staff led by Iveta Blahútová and Janis Douglass will assist with using these

reference materials, and they will assist with genealogy research questions using internet and paper resources, including Czech and Slovak Archive websites, FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com, and CGSI members-only databases.

The Library Research process will revert to our prior in-person conferences with one-on-one research consultation. If you plan to seek assistance at the conference, we ask that you submit your research roadblock in advance to conferencechair@cgisi.org and it will be reviewed by consultants. Please include sources you have searched and what your research goal is for this roadblock. Remember to bring ancestor's names, dates, locations and records that relate to your questions. Also bring a photocopy of any family document with information you need help with.

TRANSLATION SERVICE

Time permitting, persons fluent in Czech, German, and Slovak will be available for a fee to help translate brief documents or summarize longer documents. If you need help, check in at our registration table and we will refer you to someone who can assist. If you know you will

need assistance, email the conference chair at conferencechair@cgisi.org. If you want to volunteer your language skills, please let us know. Translators will work in the Networking/Hospitality Room, or if they are a exhibitor, at their exhibitor table.

NETWORKING ROOM

The Networking room will be used for translation assistance, sharing information with fellow researchers, small group discussions, posting of messages regarding surnames and villages, or locating another registrant who may share a common surname or village. This area is not staffed.

SILENT AUCTION

The CGSI will conduct a Silent Auction, slimmed down from what we have done at our last six conferences. You can get information about the Silent Auction near the CGSI Registration area.

TOURS, MOVIES—THE THINGS YOU'LL SEE

TOUR NUMBER 1—TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 RACINE & CALEDONIA—'CZECH BETHLEHEM'



Departure: Ingleside Hotel—7:30 a.m.
Return: Ingleside Hotel—5:30 p.m.

Price \$75 per person, includes deluxe motor coach, guide fees, lunch, driver tip and admissions.

CGSI members Arlene Gardiner and Susan Chapman will lead this motor coach tour to one of the early Czech rural settlements in the United States. Most of these early settlers came from the Czech-Moravian Highlands and the Orlické Hory (Eagle Mountains).

Many Czech families stopped in Caledonia before moving further west/southwest to such places as Minnetonka and Silver Lake, Minnesota; Cedar Rapids and Ely, Iowa; Clarkson, Nebraska; and Cuba, Kansas.

Stops include the Bohemian National Cemetery in Caledonia with its monument in memory of Bohemian immigrants, an 1888 Bohemian Schoolhouse, Caledonia Historical Village at Linwood Park, St. John Nepomuk Catholic church in Racine for

lunch, and the Racine Heritage Museum. The cemetery ground is not always level and the multilevel Racine Heritage Museum is not handicap accessible (no elevators).

Matej Zika (later known by Matthias Secor), one of Racine's oldest Czech settlers and a mayor of the city, owned a wooden trunk manufacturing business. Some of Secor's work may be on display in the museum.

Drive by sites include a statue of Karel Jonáš, a lieutenant governor of Wisconsin and consul general to Austria-Hungary in Vienna, and the Karel Jonáš's house in Racine.

TOUR NUMBER 2 – TUESDAY OCTOBER 17 MILWAUKEE GENERAL TOUR

Departure: The Ingleside Hotel—8 a.m.
Return: The Ingleside Hotel—4:30 p.m.

Price, \$75 per person, includes deluxe motor coach, guide fees, lunch, driver tip, and admissions. Tour guides will be Dee Nordgren and Mary Jane Scherdin

This motor coach tour begins at UW-Milwaukee's Library of the American Geographical Society, home of one of America's foremost geography and map collections and a significant collection of Czech, Slovak, Bohemian, and Moravian maps.

Next stop is the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM), one of the largest galleries in the nation, which includes the craftsmanship of a chandelier designed by Chihuly (Slavic descendant) and unique paintings by Wisconsin native, Georgia O'Keeffe.

The tour ends at the spectacular Quadracci Pavilion and the moveable sunscreen, the Burke Brise Soleil, designed by Santiago Calatrava for the Milwaukee Museum. The MAM is currently closed on Tuesdays, and its board will decide in August whether to open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If the museum remains closed, the alternate tour stop will be the Frank Lloyd Wright Burnham Row houses. The museum tour includes a great deal of walking.

Lunch will be served at the famed Mader's German restaurant (founded 1902). Guests will have a choice of three entrees. These will be shared to those who register. Dessert will be apple strudel topped with custard, a Wisconsin specialty.



After lunch the group will visit Milwaukee's Third Ward and the Milwaukee Public Market, the first and largest food and craft market in the city. The market encourages locally owned food artisans and retailers.

To top off the day, the group will visit the Renaissance-style Basilica of St. Josaphat, including hand-painted columns. Docent Eva Barczyk has written *Footprints of Polonia, Polish Historical Sites Across North America*.

**TOUR NUMBER 3—WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18
MILWAUKEE ETHNIC AND HISTORICAL TOUR**

Departure: Ingleside Hotel – 8 a.m. Return: Ingleside Hotel – 5 p.m.

Price \$85 per person, includes deluxe motor coach, guides fees, lunch, driver tip and admissions.

This motor coach tour of Milwaukee area ethnic sites will be led by Ed Langer and Frank Matusinec, two experienced local historians/tour guides. First stops will be Cudahy and the charming Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society Museum and the Cudahy Depot

(1893), which many Slovaks used as they built new lives there. Also included is the former Slovak church St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church (1908).

Next, we will walk the Streets of Old Milwaukee and view the Czech, Slovak, Austrian, and German homes in the European Village at the Milwaukee Public Museum. We will visit Milwaukee's two most important repositories for genealogical records, the Milwaukee County Historical Society and the Milwaukee City Library's Frank Zeidler Humanities Room.

The group will lunch at Milwaukee's famed Mader's Restaurant (founded 1902). A choice of three entrees will be available and will be shared to those who register.

Drive by the original rectory (1869) of the St. John Nepomuk Church, the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist (cornerstone 1847), and Old St. Mary's Catholic Church (1846), the first German Catholic parish in Milwaukee. Discover traces of the Zeidler brothers, who served as Milwaukee mayors, as we drive by the Frank P. Zeidler Municipal Building, City Hall (1895) and Zeidler Union Square.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7–9:30 P.M. DOUBLE FEATURE
FILM FESTIVAL**

Pictures from the Old Country

Manifest Films

Susan Marcinkus and Larry Jacobs

This 30-minute film was produced in Slovakia, the ancestral area of producer Susan Marcinkus. A short question-and-answer period will follow.

Czechs in Chicago: A Home In the Heartland

Manifest Films

This 90-minute documentary tells the story of the Czech immigrant experience in Chicagoland, chronicling the history of Czechs as an ethnic group, featuring many personal stories of recent as well as earlier immigrants and their families, as they became a vital part of the city. The film appeared on Chicago PBS television station WTTW.

WORKSHOPS—OCTOBER 18–21

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Koláče and More
Ann Cramer

(Maximum 15 participants; \$15 fee)

Location—Blessed Sacrament Church in Milwaukee

Learn how to make traditional round koláče, the most famous of Czech bakery products. Koláče are known to follow Czechs from cradle to grave, as they are served at every one of life's important events. Participants will leave with one-dozen koláče. In addition, see how



versatile this dough is, and all the other bakery pieces you can make with it.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

9–10:15 A.M.

Case endings of Czech Language
Anna Cookova

(No registration fee)

Location—Lapham 3

"Nemluvím česky dobře, snažím se, ale ty koncovky jsou strašné!" (I don't speak Czech well, I am trying, but those endings are terrible!) If you have said to yourself things like "My family's name is "Dvořák", but why is it sometimes spelled "Dvořáková", "Dvořákovi", "Dvořákové" etc.?" Or "Why can "František" sometimes be spelled "Františka" or "Františku" but still be referring to a male named "František"? Or "Why can "Františka" be "Františku" or "Františky" but still be referring to a female named "Františka"?" If Czech endings on words have confused you, join us to start to understand the method to the madness!



10:45–Noon

Fashion Jewelry from Czech Glass Beads
Daniela Sipkova-Mahoney

(Limit – 25 participants; \$15 fee)

Location—Lapham 1

Participants will learn about the history and techniques associated with making fashion jewelry made from Czech glass beads. During this 60-minute workshop, each participant will create two or three pieces of jewelry (necklaces, bracelets, and possibly earrings) as time allows.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 (CONTINUED)**1:30–2:45 P.M.****Traditional Glass Bead Ornaments**
Daniela Sipkova-Mahoney*(Limit – 25 participants; \$15 fee)***Location—Lapham 1**

Participants will learn the history of glass ornaments made of hollow beads, a craft that originated in the village of Ponikla in northern Bohemia. The presentation includes a lecture about the Rautis company, which was instrumental in preserving the traditional glass bead-making technology and manufacturing processes dating back almost 150 years. Each participant will complete two ornaments gravitating from simple to more complex designs.

3:15–4:30 P.M.**Intro to Czech for Genealogy Research**
Kate Challis*(No registration fee)***Location—Lapham 3**

This Czech class will be a fun, interactive, hands-on language learning experience led by a professional linguist and teacher. Be ready to be an active participant! You will move, talk, sing, laugh, and learn! By the end of this class, participants will be able to:

- Say hello, goodbye, and speak some basic greetings in Czech
- Say yes, no, please, and thank you in Czech
- Count from 1-10 in Czech
- Identify month names and major Christian holidays in Czech
- Identify most basic words for family members and family relationships in Czech
- Identify important verbs about vital information (born, baptized, died, buried) in Czech
- Identify common Czech names, and your name day.

4:45–6 P.M.**Discovering and Interpreting Family Artifacts**
Evelyn Funda, PhD*(No registration fee. This is the only workshop/presentation where no competing program is offered.)***Location—Lapham 3 or Hearthside**

This session focuses on tips for identifying and “reading” family artifacts. Participants will learn how to recognize ordinary or unexpected objects as potential evidence of a family fuller story. As we examine a range of artifact examples (e.g., a bridal shower gift list, a notebook of English language exercises, a farmer’s pocket ledger), we’ll expand our notion of what kinds of items can be meaningful. Participants will leave the session with a

list of their own evocative family artifacts and a sense of how to interpret them through close examination, memory, juxtaposition, and supplemental research.

Note: This session is a good introduction to “Workshop for Writing about Family Artifacts.”

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**9:15–10:30 A.M.****Learning to Decipher the Old German Script—An Introduction**
Antje Petty*(No registration fee)***Location—Lapham 3**

Anyone who has held an old German letter in their hands knows that not only is the language different, but so is the writing. This workshop will provide an introduction to learning to decipher Old German Script. We will work with schoolbooks, letters, and other resources from Max Kade Institute collections that were used by German-speaking immigrants in the 19th and early 20th century.

11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.**Tips for Writing about Family Artifacts**
Evelyn Funda, PhD*(Limited—preregistration required; no registration fee)***Location—Lapham 3**

Participants will apply some of the interpretation techniques of close examination, memory, juxtaposition, and supplemental research to writing about their family’s artifacts. Guided by writing prompts, participants will work on depicting nuances of character that can be revealed by the physical things that family members kept, treasured, or sometimes hid. Laptop recommended.

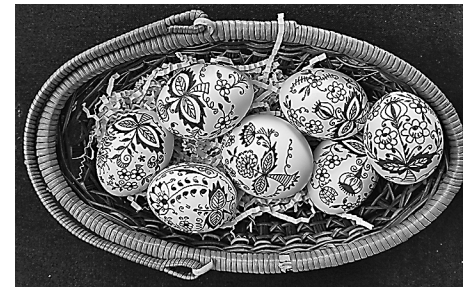
Note: Attending “Discovering Family Artifacts” is highly recommended but not required, although participants should come with a sense of family artifacts they could write about.

1:45–3 P.M.**Working with Old German Documents**
Antje Petty*(No registration fee)***Location—Lapham 3**

You found a family record written in German. You made a copy. What do you do next? This workshop will present strategies on how to efficiently interpret historic German-language documents, even if you do not speak the language and cannot read the script. The focus will be on 19th-century materials such as birth, death, and marriage certificates, travel documents, and contracts.

3:30–5 P.M.**Christmas Crafts and Traditions**
Daniela Sipkova-Mahoney*(Maximum 25 participants; \$15 fee)***Location—Lapham 1**

During this 90-minute workshop, the instructor will discuss the highlights of Christmas meals, crafts, and other traditions, while participants learn how to create old-fashioned Christmas tree ornaments, including wheat and straw ornaments, paper stars, and dough ornaments.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21****8–9:15 A.M.****Egg Decorating Using Blue Ink and Straw Method**
Daniela Sipkova-Mahoney*(Maximum 25 participants; \$15 fee)***Location—Lapham 1**

Egg decorating was an integral part of celebrating spring and Christian religious holidays in the Czech lands and Slovakia. The speaker provides a comprehensive narrative while participants work on their projects, mastering two different styles of egg decorating (blue ink and straw/ribbon application).

9:45–11 A.M.**Conversational Czech—Who Wants to Be a Millionaire Style**
Anna Cookova*(No registration fee)***Location—Lapham 3**

One of the best ways to dive into conversational Czech is to watch Czech TV. Game shows are a great start. Of all game shows, Kdo chce být milionářem (Who Wants to Be a Millionaire) is my favorite. It is great, not only for learning and practicing Czech, but also for those bits of Czech culture that people would not necessarily think to talk about. Come practice your Czech with us and come prepared with a short introduction about yourself in CZECH! This workshop is meant for those who have already taken Czech lessons in the past. It is not those with no Czech language experience.

PRESENTATIONS—OCTOBER 19–21

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

7:45 A.M.—4:45 P.M.

On-Site Registration and Check-In

8:30–8:45 A.M.

Conference Orientation

9 A.M.—5 P.M.

Exhibitor Room—Oakton Ballroom

Free admittance to general public

9 A.M.—4:30 P.M.

CGSI Traveling Library

Library use coincides with breakout session times. Advance reservations required (passes available at CGSI Registration table).

BREAKOUT 1—9–10:15 A.M.

T1 Beginning Slovak Genealogy
Lisa A. Alzo

Curious about your Slovak roots but don't know where to begin? This session discusses how to begin the research process using both traditional and online sources and provides an overview of how to organize your information. Learn how to build a family tree and identify your ancestral town or village, how to locate and interpret vital records, and discover key strategies for overcoming the most common pitfalls and problems specific to researching Slovak ancestors.

T2 Administrative Divisions of the Czech Lands from the Middle Ages to the Present
Marek Blahus

Understanding the administrative division of one's ancestral homeland and its development is crucial for a genealogist, because such information can:

- Help identify the modern location
- Determine who or which institution was responsible
- Determine where written records could be found today.

This presentation provides an overview of how the administrative divisions of the Czech lands developed throughout history. Using maps to illustrate, the speaker will provide names for each type of division in all applicable languages as well as recommend reference works.

T3 Finding Bohemia by Way of England
Joan Naomi Steiner, PhD

Family stories can be well-intentioned, but sometimes misleading. Dr. Steiner tells how her beliefs about her family's origins were incorrect and how she discovered their true origins. Steiner was not the only person born and raised in Calumet County who believed that her family originated from Germany. Other German Bohemian descendants have a similar story. While it is true that these families spoke German, descendants now have evidence to prove that their families originated from today's Czech Republic. Steiner has gathered descendants' reactions to what it means to originate from today's Czech Republic.

T4 DNA Is Digital: Understanding Blocks and Segments
Kevin Borland

Understanding the digital nature of DNA is key to unlocking the value in DNA results. This course teaches the basics of DNA inheritance and how to apply a set of core genetics principles to solving frequently encountered genetic genealogy problems. Specifically, we will focus on applying three principles:

- Each chromosome has a paternal and maternal copy.
- DNA is inherited in blocks and segments.
- The cM as a statistical unit of measurement enables us to draw various conclusions useful for genealogy.

We will also debunk some common misperceptions and learn to avoid beginner DNA pitfalls.

MORNING BREAK—10:15–10:45 A.M.

BREAKOUT 2—10:45 A.M.—NOON

T5 The Cycle of Life in Bohemian, Moravian, and Slovak Villages
Helene Cincebeaux

Our ancestors' lives revolved around the seasons with rituals and celebrations that brightened their work-a-day lives. Celebrations involved traditional verses, music, food, song, and dance. This visual presentation begins with New Year's customs, spinning bees and courting parties, Fasank, spring planting rituals, christenings, Easter events, raising the maypole, birth and wedding celebrations, harvest festivals, hody, wakes, All Soul's Day, death customs, Advent, and Christmas. The church was the heart of the village and life events were celebrated from christenings, weddings, and funerals. Yet some pagan customs still remain. The presentation features images from the past 50 years.

T6 Racine, the Czech Bethlehem
Janis Douglass

From 1848 through the end of the 19th century, Racine and the adjacent township of Caledonia were destinations of so many Czech immigrants that the area was known as "the Czech Bethlehem." Racine Czechs became successful in politics and commerce, created a thriving ethnic community, and started the first Czech language newspaper in the United States. Their influence was strongly felt in other Czech communities throughout the country. This presentation discusses the history of the Racine Czech settlement and the lives of its most prominent members and a few typical immigrant families.

T7 Jakob Sternberger: The Story of an Immigrant from German-Speaking Bohemia to Wisconsin
Antje Petty

Jakob Sternberger (1822–89) was one of many disillusioned emigrants who left Europe after the failed revolutions of 1848/49 and settled in Wisconsin. He grew up in Kaaden (Kadaň) Bohemia, where his grandfather had been the city's first mayor. Sternberger had studied law and mining engineering at the University of Prague, but in Wisconsin he fulfilled his dream to own land, trying his hand at farming. This presentation draws on the *Jakob Sternberger Collection* of letters and other documents housed at the Max Kade Institute, which provides unique insights into 19th century life in America and Bohemia.

T8 Jewish Genealogy 101
Dr. Adina Newman

This presentation provides foundational skills to conduct Jewish genealogical research. Attendees will learn strategies to:

- Identify ancestral origins
- Recognize naming conventions
- Locate records overseas
- Understand specific nuances found in Jewish genealogy

Also discussed will be popular databases and repositories for Jewish genealogical research, including specific databases in the present-day Czech Republic and Slovakia.

LUNCH (INCLUDED IN CONFERENCE FEE)
NOON–1:30 P.M.

BREAKOUT 3—1:30–2:45 P.M.**T9 What Can We Learn about Freedom from Communist Czechoslovakia?****Gabriela Bereghazyova, PhD, and
Zuzana Palovic, PhD**

The recent global pandemic brought to the surface the dilemma that humankind has been trying to resolve since time the dawn of civilization: Where does safety and security end and unfreedom begin? The failed communist experiment with totalitarianism in Czechoslovakia gives us a glimpse into how power operates when it goes unchecked, and how freedom was eroded under the guise of safety and security. This presentation outlines the strategies implemented in Czechoslovakia that contributed to the establishment of totalitarianism, which was in place for 41 years. It shows us that exceptional measures implemented during a “crisis” have the tendency to linger.

**T10 All You Should Know before Visiting Your Ancestral Village
Jan Dus**

Are you considering a trip to the Czech Republic or Slovakia? Do you want to get off the beaten path and visit your ancestral villages? This lecture will tell you what to expect and how to get ready for it:

- What should you consider when planning your trip?
- What should you not forget to pack in your suitcase?
- Are small towns different from Prague or Bratislava? In which respect?
- How to relate to locals
- How to survive Czech and Slovak hospitality
- How to keep relationship with your relatives after having returned back home

**T11 The Civil Code of Austria and Why It Matters for Czech Researchers
Kate Challis**

The *Allgemeines bürgerliches Gesetzbuch* (ABGB) or the Civil Code of Austria was enacted in 1811 and used through 1950. These laws based on principles from Roman law, which is quite different from the law systems in the United States, which are largely based on British Common law. This presentation will briefly discuss the history of the ABGB and where it can be found (in German and in English translation), but most of the time will be spent discussing principles in this civil code that are of greatest significance to genealogists because they deal with matters of birth, marriage, death, and inheritance. The ABGB defines the age of majority, what parents owe their children, who is allowed to inherit, and how the inheritance must be recorded.

T12 Crowd-sourcing Carpatho-Rusyn Places**in the United States****Christine Hrichak**

Carpatho-Rusyns may not be a well-known ethnic group, but we have quite a presence if you know where to look. A collaborative Google Map created in 2020, to which people could add Rusyn places all around the US, now contains more than 520 Rusyn locations in 28 states and Washington, DC, and more than 150 former Rusyn locations. This talk discusses the purpose of this project, information sources, how to use the resulting map, and an interactive demo.

AFTERNOON BREAK—2:45–3:15 P.M.**BREAKOUT 4—3:15–4:30 P.M.****T13 Interesting Stories of Famous and Obscure Sights in the Czech Republic****Miroslav Koudelka**

The Czech Republic has a variety of tourist sights, except the sea. This presentation introduces both the world-famous ones and those not listed in every guidebook. Besides basic data on the objects, the talk focuses on remarkable stories of actual events and interesting legends and lore. They are accompanied by pictures of those sights, showing their magnificence, beauty, and interesting aspects. Locations of each are shown on a map so you can see their proximity to your ancestral area and you can include it in your travel plans.

T14 My Little Town: The Carpatho-Rusyn villages of Zboj and Nova Sedlica, Slovakia**Bill Tarkulich**

This talk describes the life and times of people in two small villages that are literally “at the end of the road.” The villages are remote, difficult to get to, and often primitive in their lifestyle. Source material includes oral history, newly uncovered memoirs, and regional history. The presentation focuses on the pre-1914 period, but also describes how war and socialism fundamentally rocked the social fabric of the villages. Topics include agriculture, landowners, military conscription, religion, government, nearby villages, superstitions, and emigration.

T15 No More Excuses: 10 Family History Writing Tips for Procrastinators**Lisa A Alzo**

Often the most difficult part of writing a family history is getting started. If you feel stuck due to information overload, lack of time, or writer’s block, you are not alone. In this session, you will get ten simple tips to stop procrastinating and start writing! Learn how to organize your project with outlines and storyboards and discover methods for starting your story and sticking to a writing schedule. A brief overview of tools and apps to help keep you on track will also be provided.

T16 Searching for Czech Cousins Using Autosomal DNA**Marek Blahus**

More than 40 million people worldwide have already taken an (autosomal) genealogical DNA test. This talk explains how autosomal inheritance works and how it reflects on the list of DNA matches, which is the most important part of your test results. You will learn which databases are popular among Czech researchers, how to enter them and how they can be used to validate one’s traditional research or search for living genetic cousins. The speaker will also showcase some tools (e.g., chromosome browsers, raw data export, chromosome mapping) and warn about the overestimated “ethnicity estimates.”

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 7–8:30 P.M.
TRANSLATION NIGHT (NEW EVENT)**

Translation Night, a CGSI innovation, is designed to help you gain skill in reading and interpreting what you discover in online archives. This evening’s presentation will comprise reviews of a variety of birth, marriage, and death records submitted by conference attendees. Our panel of research professionals will highlight the process they use to decipher these historic documents, with key learnings about the formats, terminology, and verbiage used between the 1600s and 1900s. Audience members will be able to ask for additional information from the panel. A partial list of resources to help you understand the content of the records will be included in the syllabus, and an expanded version will be available online through our CGSI website.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 20**7:15–9:15 A.M.****Registration and Check-in****8–9 A.M.****Keynote Address and Opening Session****Singing of Czech, Moravian, Slovak and Carpatho-Rusyn National Anthems, and the Star Spangled Banner****Keynote Speaker—
Benjamin Frommer
Ghetto without Walls**

The Identification, Isolation, and Elimination of Bohemian and Moravian Jewry, 1938–1945, examines the wartime destruction of one of the world’s most integrated and intermarried Jewish communities.

**General Announcements
(conference chair)**

BREAKOUT 1—9:15–10:30 A.M.**F1 Rooted in Ancient Legacy: Seasonal Traditions in Slovakia**
Gabriela Bereghazyova, PhD, and Zuzana Palovic, PhD

The rich tapestry of annual customs in Slovakia is anchored in the folk rural culture that stems from pre-Christian history. Most folk customs performed during important holidays bear symbolisms and meanings that long precede Christianity. In the context of Europe and beyond, Slovakia is exceptional because it keeps the ancient customs alive in everyday family and community life. This contribution traces the origins and spotlights living traditions throughout the year to bring a new understanding to practices passed down through generations and performed not only by Slovaks in Slovakia, but also the Slovak diaspora in North America and beyond.

F2 How to Research Czech Birth/Marriage/Death Registers on the Internet—A Practical Lesson
Miroslav Koudelka

The key question is location, and this presentation discusses:

- How to determine the village/town, parish, and archive where the needed records are available
- Strategies to access the records in particular archives (7 State Regional/Provincial Archives and City of Prague)
- Tools to make the search easier
- How to overcome obstacles, including nonstandard handwriting
- Gothic script (kurent)
- Ancient Czech, Latin, and German
- Local dialects
- Occasional mistakes.

You can learn the individual steps in researching a specific family, deciphering the script, and understanding the data.

F3 What Did Babka (and Everyone Else) Do During the War?
Bill Tarkulich

World War II wreaked havoc not only on the lands of Eastern Europe, but also on its people. This presentation delves into how the larger geopolitical events from 1938 to 1945 impacted the daily lives of rural villagers in Slovakia, Poland, Ukraine, and Hungary. The destiny of men, women, the weak, the poor, Jews, and Gypsies took many paths: Refugee, draftee, resistance fighter, slave laborer, arrest, gulag prisoner, deportee. The impact of puppet governments, German and Soviet occupation, as well as battles within the villages are also explored.

F4 Before the Boat—Exploring the Practicalities of Tickets, Train Travel, Ports, and the Shipping Industry at the Turn of the 20th Century
Joe Gayetsky

After planning visits to my ancestral villages throughout Slovakia, I began to think of their journey in an entirely different way. My journey required a smartphone, translator, GPS, and rental car; so what did they need? Instead of thinking that their journey began with a boat ride, I asked myself, "How did they get to the boat?" This talk looks at mainly looking at ticket agents, train routes, emigrant halls, and changes in the shipping industry, which made it feasible for so many Slovak immigrants to leave their remote villages for America.

MORNING BREAK—10:30–11 A.M.**BREAKOUT 2—11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.****F5 Exploring New Frontiers in Genealogy**
Lisa A. Alzo

Artificial Intelligence (AI), Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) and the Metaverse. You may have heard these terms on the news, but what do they have to do with genealogy? This session demonstrates how these emerging technologies will shape a new frontier in family history, including how we research our ancestors and share their stories. Learn how AI is being used for record indexing, translation, working with images, and writing family narratives. A brief overview of using avatars in the metaverse for genealogy education will be discussed, along with possibilities for creating NFTs to show provenance for photographs, heirlooms, DNA, and more.

F6 Time Machine
Jan Dus

This lecture will take you back to see what everyday life was like for your ancestors in 1800s. What would it be like to visit them and see first-hand their marriages, families, food, work, school, and free time? This lecture will offer you a fun introduction to the social history of Habsburg monarchy in 1800s with a special focus on the Czech Lands and Slovakia. We will especially zoom in on the everyday life of those social groups, which most frequently migrated to the USA.

F7 The Moravian Field Register
Marek Blahus

Would you be keen on doing a "phone book lookup" for your 17th century Moravian ancestors? Well, obviously, they had no phones back then, but looking up your ancestral surname in the Moravian field register (1669–1679) feels almost like that. This talk explains the history, organization, recorded information, and accessibility of this unique resource for Moravian genealogy, which was recently (2015) fully indexed. A total of 189,102 personal records have been alphabetized and published in two volumes having the size and the feel of an actual phone book.

F8 Settlement and History of Lanškroun Manor
James Kleinschmidt

Prior to settlement, Lanškroun Manor in Northeast Bohemia about 100 miles east of Prague was a largely unsettled forested land crossed by trades routes. This presentation begins before settlement, through the initial settlement by Franconian settlers in the 13th century and ending with World War I, including emigration to the United States (Wisconsin and Texas) and life in the United States for those emigrants.

LUNCH (included in conference fee)
12:15–1:45 p.m.**BREAKOUT 3—1:45–3 P.M.****F9 Surrounded by Beauty—Czech and Slovak Folk Dress—What Our Ancestors Wore, Why They Wore it, and What It Meant**
Helene Cincebeaux

Folk dress, or kroj, was a village person's glory. Young girls learned to sew and embroider at their mothers' knees to fill their dowry chests. What's fascinating about village folk dress is how it changed like fashions do today. Your kroj told so much about you . . . whether you were young or old, married or single, rich or poor, a young recruit off to war, or a nursing mother, widow or widower. This presentation showcases folk dress with images from the past 50 years showing how kroj reflected the region lived in, their work in the village, and their place in society.

F10 Wives, Widows, and Daughters: The Working Women of 19th Century East Bohemia.
Diana Bigelow

Knowledge of an individual's occupation can provide valuable insights for the family historian. However, the lives of 19th century working women are too often hidden under the rubric of "wives, widows, or daughters" of the male head of household. This talk explores 19th century parish records that reveal the real stories of wives, widows, and midwives; maid servants and farmworkers; spinners and factory girls; and the unwed mothers and beggars of rural Bohemia when both political and economic revolutions were changing the very nature of female work and life.

F11 How to Use Czech Land Records *Kate Challis and Greg Nelson*

Czech land records are genealogically rich, digitally accessible, and linguistically challenging. If your ancestors owned land in Bohemia, Moravia, or Silesia before 1885, these records can be useful for bridging matriky record gaps that exist due to record loss. This presentation is geared toward the intermediate/advanced Czech genealogist who is already comfortable and familiar with matriky records, old Czech handwriting, and jurisdictions in the Czech lands and focuses on what land records are, how they are organized, and where to find them today. Emphasized are online collections that are increasingly being made available. This presentation will also explore several interesting case studies that illustrate the value of these records.

F12 Beer in Czech and Slovak History *Jan Dus*

This lecture will help you understand the importance of beer in Czech and Slovak societies throughout their history. Where did beer originate? Why did beer become so important in Central Europe? Was the church prohibiting beer or was it the biggest brewer? Why was beer virtually present in every household? What did beer mean for Czech and Slovak cultures? What was the position of beer in family lives?

AFTERNOON BREAK—3–3:30 P.M.

BREAKOUT 4—3:30–4:45 P.M.

F13 Strengths of Local Bonds: Czechs in Milwaukee, 1880–1918 *Stepanka Korytova and Gerald Novotny*

A microscopic study of Sokol in Milwaukee will be presented to illustrate the evolution of attitudes and perceptions towards events in the motherland and to the activity of the Czech elite from 1880–1918. The presentation will also focus on the unexpected indicators of localism: The Czechs in Milwaukee coexisted and aligned themselves with Germans, an alliance that that would have been deemed impermissible by the elite Czech-American organization supporting T. G. Masaryk's goals.

F14 Czech Immigration and the Americanization Debate, 1880–1930 *Evelyn Funda, PhD*

This social history presentation focuses on Czech immigration within the context of the national identity debate in America from 1880–1930. Upon arrival, our ancestors stepped into a culture fueled by anti-immigration sentiments; and immigrants faced overwhelming pressure to give up all traces of their ethnic identity and assimilate as quickly as possible. Dr. Funda draws on original sources from popular culture, including political cartoons, a propaganda film, opinion pieces defining the Czech ethnic character, and a Teddy Roosevelt speech about “the problem of hyphenated Americanism.” She also discusses how Czech-American intellectuals addressed stereotypes directly to reframe the conversation about Czech immigrant contributions.

F15 High Tide of High Hopes and Unlimited Opportunities: The Population Shift from Tepl/Teplá Monastery Villages in Western Bohemia to Calumet County, Wisconsin, Beginning in the 1850s *Joan Naomi Steiner, PhD*

A simple family history research project evolved into a detailed examination of a significant German Bohemian immigration to Calumet County in eastern Wisconsin. The area of western Bohemia in which these families resided saw an end to feudalism at roughly the same time as Wisconsin earned statehood in 1848. Steiner explains the five-parish research project that uncovered this wave of immigration. Included are firsthand experiences recorded while researching rare and invaluable records and stories in the Czech Republic and Germany. Complete research findings are detailed in Steiner's book, *A German Bohemian Immigration: The Population Shift from Western Bohemia to Calumet County, Wisconsin*.

F16 Interpreting History of Rusyn Villages Based on Church Schematismus Data *Christine Hrichak*

This presentation discusses “Schematismus” books (diocesan overviews) available online for the Diocese of Munkacs, Hungary, from 1814–1915. The Diocese of Munkacs (today the Eparchy of Mukachevo) historically included Transcarpathia (Ukraine) and parts of eastern Slovakia. I compiled and analyzed data pertaining to my Carpatho-Rusyn ancestral villages for a different perspective on the region's history. I will discuss how I used the Schematismus books, the two selected villages and my ties to each, my data collection method, and some findings such as population changes in the villages.

6–7 P.M. DINNER Optional—see registration form at cgsi.org

Green salad with choice of dressings, roast pork, braised cabbage or sauerkraut, bread dumplings, rolls and rye bread basket, fruit torte, coffee, tea, iced tea. (cash bar for alcohol)

Vegetarian or special dietary substitute available. Please specify your requirements on the online form.

7–8:30 P.M.—PARADE OF KROJE

Our emcees, Helene Cincebeaux and Ann Cramer, will have either full or partial folk dress for attendees to model who don't have their own kroje. Be prepared to share a description and short story with the emcees in advance of the conference telling how you obtained your kroj.

Those who register will receive a confirmation letter with Helene and Ann's email addresses for people to contact them.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

7:15–8 A.M.
REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN

BREAKOUT 1—8–9:15 A.M.

S1 Precious Wooden Churches and Magnificent Icons of Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia That Survive to This Day *Helene Cincebeaux*

When few could read and write, villagers learned their religion from church walls. It began when Sts. Cyril & Methodius brought Christianity to the land. Churches were erected, many of wood, with materials at hand, and some still standing six centuries later. Built by Huguenots, Habans, Catholics, Lutherans, Wallachians, Gorals, Rusyns, Greek Catholics and Orthodox, they survived religious persecution and war. Enjoy a visual presentation of wooden churches, bell towers, and shrines that remain—protected as national treasures—and view priceless icons, processional banners, incredible altars, statues, and shrines.

S2 Find It Yourself— Genealogical Resources Available Online *Jan Dus*

This lecture will give you information and tools to perform as much genealogical research as possible on your own. What basic facts do you need to start genealogical research in the Czech Republic and/or Slovakia on your own? How can you identify the website for the regional archive that covers your ancestor's birthplace? What resources are available online? How do you use the 1824–1843 cadastral maps website for the Czech Republic? How do you find current information about towns? When should you hire a professional genealogist?

S3 More than Manifests: A Baker's Dozen of Immigrant Ancestor Records *Lisa A. Alzo*

When searching for immigrant ancestors, most beginning genealogists immediately try to “cross the ocean” to find records in Europe. But before you make that leap too soon, it is important to first find your family in all possible North American records to determine the town or village of origin. This session presents 13 (a baker's dozen) of resources to check beyond passenger arrival manifests. Also included are examples and specific search strategies for locating key records of foreign-born ancestors, and documents of ethnic-based communities and neighborhoods.

**S4 A Crash Course
in Practical Genetic Genealogy**
Dr. Adina Newman

This presentation covers the different types of DNA tests, how to navigate the major commercial testing companies, third-party tools to make sense of DNA results, strategies to locate DNA matches, further educational opportunities, and other resources. A case study will pull together the strategies introduced.

MORNING BREAK 1—9:15–9:45 A.M.

BREAKOUT 2—9:45–11 A.M.

**S5 Population and Urbarial Census
of Hungary from the 1600s–1930**
Bill Tarkulich

Census records are useful not only to build a family tree, but to glean insight into what life was like in those times. This presentation provides a description of the purpose, organization and collection methodology of 11 censuses conducted by the Kingdom of Hungary. The talk discusses where the original census documents are located and their contents, and explains how to interpret the information. Pointers to online access for each census will also be provided. This presentation will describe best-practice research strategy and methods. A case study of the 1869 Census will be included.

**S6 Homes of Our Czech Ancestors
in the Old Fatherland**
Miroslav Koudelka

This presentation focuses on traditional houses in the Czech Lands and it discusses the shapes of cities and villages and locations of houses including descriptions of typical houses (e.g., layouts, building materials, rooms in living sections, and functions of farm/business sections, and equipment). It also discusses the differences between city buildings and country farms and cottages, according to the owners' social positions, and other kinds of community buildings. Also discussed are the various architectural styles in the country.

S7 Early Wisconsin Czechs
Kate Challis

This presentation explores the lives of some of the most prolific, early Czech pioneers in Wisconsin, including Vojtěch Náprstek, František Fischer, Isaac Neustadt, Soloman Adler, Nathan Pereles and his wife, Antonín Kroupa, Matěj Žika, František Korizek, Vojtěch Mašek, Karel Jonas, Jan Posler, František Andrlé, Vojtěch Stranský, and Jan Karel. These early Czechs were businessmen, entrepreneurs, politicians, political refugees, activists, philanthropists, soldiers, teachers, husbands, wives, and philosophers. They paved the way for other Czechs to follow in their footsteps, creating a great legacy of freedom and leaving a rich cultural heritage, and they deserve to be remembered.

S8 Farmers of Lanškroun Manor
James Kleinschmidt

Lanškroun Manor is located about 100 miles east of Prague near the current Polish Silesian border. Throughout much of its history until the railroads brought industrialization, the manor economy was based on agriculture with a local weaving industry based on locally grown flax. This presentation surveys the designated farms shown in the Lanškroun Manor in the 1830s cadastral maps. The presentation includes survey techniques and a summary of farmers in the maps. The history of agriculture in the manor before the 1830s will also be presented including a summary of the families included in the 1651 Faith Survey.

LUNCH (INCLUDED IN CONFERENCE FEE)
11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.

BREAKOUT 3—12:30–1:45 P.M.

**S9 How Computers Can Help Us
Understand Czech**
Marek Blahus

Knowledge of Czech language is very useful for Czech genealogical research, but few people find the time and talent required to fully master this difficult Slavic language. Fortunately, much can be achieved with the help of computers. This presentation uses computational linguistics to introduce a selection of freely available online tools useful for English speakers. You will learn how to look up words (including inflections) in a dictionary, use machine translation in the browser, determine the correct pronunciation of Czech words and names, and produce the special Czech characters with diacritics, where appropriate.

**S10 Futures Trading:
Emigration and the Changing Economy
of 19th Century Lanškroun**
Diana Bigelow

The decision of our Czech ancestors to abandon the towns and villages of their birth for uncertain futures in America was often caused by personal economic circumstances that made any future at home seem impossibly bleak. This talk outlines both national and local economic trends and crises that impacted the Lanškroun region of East Bohemia as related to the sustained emigration from that area, the source of many Czech settlers to Wisconsin. On the other hand, as will be explained, it was the Austrian educational system that provided highly engaged American citizens among these Czech immigrants.

S11 Reconstructing Clara Dzyban
Kevin Borland

Clara Dzyban was born 1891 in the Carpathian Mountains in southeastern Poland near Slovakia. She was a Lemko, a regional ethnic group speaking a dialect related to Ukrainian, and practicing Orthodox Christianity. While Clara died 32 years ago, she leaves four generations of descendants, including the speaker. This talk will discuss the use of Borland Genetics to reconstruct portions of Clara's genome using her living descendants' DNA. This is a crash-course in the requisite DNA concepts and empowers attendees to reconstruct their ancestors in the same manner used to reconstruct Clara.

**S12 How to Use Austrian Military
Personnel Sheets
for Genealogy Research**
Kate Challis and Greg Nelson

FamilySearch has digitized the *Grundbuchblätter Diverse: Böhmen, Mähren, Schlesien, 1820-1864*, which are the military personnel sheets for soldiers of the Austrian army born between 1820 and 1864 in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia. These records include vital information, a physical description, and a record of the soldier's military service. They often do not include extensive information about family relationships. This presentation will teach you about these records, how to access them, and how to use them for genealogical research.

AFTERNOON BREAK—1:45–2:15 P.M.

BREAKOUT 4—2:15–3:30 P.M.

**S13 The Old Country and the New World:
Recovering Severed Ties**
*Zuzana Palovic, PhD,
and Gabriela Bereghazyova, PhD*

For almost two centuries, Slovaks have been leaving their homeland, with the largest exodus occurring at the turn of the 19th century when one third of the nation emigrated to North America. The Slovak diaspora in the New World maintained contact with their homeland, but this contact was interrupted by World War II and the communist coup in Czechoslovakia. Today, 34 years after the Velvet Revolution, the impact of the era can still be felt. Nevertheless, 2022 brought an important breakthrough and allowed the descendants of Slovak migrants to claim citizenship by descent.

S14 Sedlák, Pasekář, Fleischhacker or Inquilinus? Let Us Get Acquainted with the Professions of Our Czech Ancestors
Miroslav Koudelka

The presentation introduces expressions referring to professions and/or social status during the period of emigration to America. Most of the population engaged in farming, we start with whole-plot-land farmers down to subtenants, followed by various crafts, and finally, other kinds of jobs and social positions. Descriptions span feudal and modern social structures, and languages including Czech, German, and Latin, plus some regional dialects.

S15 German and Czech Emigration from Landskron/Lanškroun, Bohemia to the Midwest
Edward Langer

This presentation covers the emigration of Germans and Czechs from the district of Landskron/Lanškroun, Bohemia to the American Midwest. It will discuss how social class, ethnicity, and religion affected the process of emigration. It contrasts village and farm organization in Bohemia and Wisconsin and it discusses the political situations in Bohemia and Wisconsin in 1848, and how they affected the ability to emigrate and the willingness to accept immigrants. Slides will include church and farm buildings in Bohemia and Wisconsin.

S16 Get Organized with Research Logs
Lisa A Alzo

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced genealogist, learn how research logs can help you maximize your research time and increase success. Through examples, learn what exactly a research log is, why you should use one, and how to create and maintain a personalized, easy-to-use system with tools such as Microsoft Excel, AirTable, Evernote, Notion, and more.

4–5 P.M.—CGSI MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Come learn what your society has accomplished during the last year and what our future plans are. Vote for the new slate of candidates and meet your hard-working volunteers.

5:45–6:45 P.M.—DINNER
Optional—see registration form at cgsi.org

Czech variation of a Greek salad, chicken paprikash served over noodles, green beans, rolls and bread basket, poppyseed cake, coffee, tea, iced tea (cash bar for alcohol)

Vegetarian or special dietary substitute available. Please specify your requirements.

7–9 P.M.—ENTERTAINMENT
Included with paid meal; otherwise an event admission fee of \$15—see cgsi.org

Tatra Slovak folk dancers (adults and children), directed by Andy Tiarks; St. Paul South Bohemian Bagpipe Ensemble, directed by Frank Trnka.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For Conference questions not covered in this booklet, please email Paul Makousky at conferencechair@cgsi.org or call 651-739-7543 evenings or weekends. The member registration rate applies if you join the CGSI by filling in the membership information on the registration page and paying the membership fee. All tickets for meals and entertainment will be held at the hotel and distributed with your ID badge. Registration and payment must be made online through the CGSI website at www.cgsi.org and clicking on 2023 Conference in the top right.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations will be accepted for any reason accompanied by a written notice, and received by September 22. No cancellations will be accepted after September 22, except for death of a family member or major illness to yourself or a close family member. Refunds, minus a \$25 cancellation fee, will be issued upon written notice and explanation.



St. Paul South Bohemian Bagpipe Ensemble



Tatra Slovak Folk Dancers

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Lisa A. Alzo, MFA, grew up in Duquesne, Pennsylvania and has written 11 books and hundreds of magazine articles.



Lisa has served on the CGSI Board of Directors and is a regular contributor to *Naše rodina*. She is an online educator and writing coach for Research, Write, Connect (researchwriteconnect.com) and developed the Eastern European Research Certificate Program for the National

Institute for Genealogical Studies. For more information, visit lisaalzo.com.

Gabriela Bereghazyova, PhD, holds a doctorate in political and social patterns of Slovakia, with a focus on corruption.

She completed her university education in Slovak cultural studies in Slovakia before pursuing further academic interests in social sciences in the United Kingdom. In her work, she merges her knowledge of folk culture and customs with an understanding of mindsets and history. Dr. Bereghazyova has written four books.



Diana J. Bigelow uses a demographic approach to genealogy that focusses on individuals in the context



of their unique social and economic culture, uncovering some exciting insights. For years, Diana has been obsessed with why her Iowa Czech ancestors left their ancestral hometowns, and she shares the results of this approach in her talks and her book, *Quitting Bohemia: Discovering the 19th Century World that*

Created the Czech Diaspora.

Marek Blahuš is a Czech (Moravian) IT scientist, computational linguist, polyglot, Wikipedia contributor



and pioneer of Czech genetic genealogy, based in Brno. Genealogist since the age of 13, he learned English while researching a distant Chicago-Czech connection and helping members of a Czech-American mailing list. Today, he has a working knowledge of approximately ten languages. He has spoken at CGSI confer-

ences in 2019 and 2021.

Kevin Borland is the chief scientist at Borland Genetics, which hosts a leading third-party autosomal DNA database. Kevin

holds a bachelor of science degree in physics from MIT and since 2013 has been developing genetic genealogy technology largely focusing on mathematical reconstruction of genomes of the deceased. He has appeared on the TV show *Relative Race* and serves on the board of mitoY-DNA.

Kevin is also an attorney in Virginia and the District of Columbia.



Kate Challis is a fourth-generation Texas Czech who earned a BA in French teaching from Brigham Young



University, an MA in applied linguistics and TESOL from Iowa State University, and is working on a PhD in applied linguistics and technology (also at ISU). She works on the Ground Truth Development Team in FamilySearch, where she is responsible for transcribing, translating, and annotating historical records to

build the machine learning model for computer-assisted indexing. Kate and her husband Danny have five children and live in Ames, Iowa.

Helene Cincebeaux is a long-term CGSI member and two-time board member. She has traveled exten-



sively in and led 80 tours to the Czech Republic and Slovakia for 50 years, visiting 3,000 villages. She has published five books on traditions, folk dress, and genealogy, and more than 100 articles in magazines and journals. For 34 years Helene has edited the magazine *Slovakia* and had edited *Morava Krasna*

(16 years). She directs the Facebook group *Slovak Pride*, and the *Slovak Pride* database (30,000 surnames and villages). She has received two medals from Slovak Republic and has done 30 major folk dress exhibits.

Anna Cooková is owner and founder of CzechTalk, LLC and has been teaching Czech in various Czech-

American communities for more than 13 years and online since 2012. She enjoys translating old letters, journals, and other documents and helping people with all things Czech. Anna serves as education director for American Sokol, with a passion to build bridges between Czechs and



Americans through education in Czech language, history, and culture. She and her husband, Philip Cook, have one daughter, Fiona Cooková, and they are raising her to be bilingual, and to enjoy all things Czech.

Ann Vojta Cramer, a member of Sokol Milwaukee, supervises the group's baking sessions.

The volunteer bakers meet to bake for the Milwaukee



Holiday Folk Fair and the annual Sokol Milwaukee Czech Dinner. Ann feels it is important for her family to value their Czech heritage and has taken them to the Czech Republic three times. She has an extensive collection of Czech Moravian costumes and is always looking for more.

Janis Douglass was born and raised in Racine, Wisconsin. She holds a BA in anthropology and linguistics, has pursued graduate studies in Library Science, and has a law degree from the University of Minnesota. Janis has been doing genealogy research for more than 50 years. She was an early adopter of DNA in genealogy and has written and presented on a variety of genealogical topics. Since 2016 she has



served as CGSI's library chair.

Jan Dus, a professional genealogist, Presbyterian minister, and humanitarian worker, has studied in Czechoslovakia, the United States, and Germany. Jan offers a variety of genealogical research services and trips to ancestral villages throughout Central Europe. During the past 20 years, he has provided services to more than 800 clients. Jan speaks seven languages, is CEO of the humanitarian organization Camino, and frequently volunteers with Doctors without Borders. He has been presenting at CGSI conferences since 2009.



Benjamin Frommer, our keynote speaker, is an associate professor of history at Northwestern University and the author of *National Cleansing: Retribution against Nazi Collaborators in Postwar Czechoslovakia* and *The Ghetto without Walls: The Identification, Isolation, and Elimination of Bohemian and Moravian Jewry, 1938-1945*. Frommer's work has been supported by the Masaryk Institute of



the Czech Academy of Sciences, and others. He teaches courses on the Holocaust, World War II, the Cold War, and topics related to nationalism, totalitarian rule, ethnic cleansing, and the prosecution of war criminals. He holds a PhD from Harvard University.

Evelyn Funda, PhD, is a retired professor who has published numerous articles on immigration history and how Czech history and culture influenced the American writer Willa Cather. She is also author of the award-winning memoir *Weeds: A Farm Daughter's Lament*, which traces her family's immigration from Bohemia and Moravia to a modest farm in southwestern Idaho. She often leads



writer's workshops on using treasured family objects to write family history.

Joe Gayetsky, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with degrees in history and engineering, has researched extensively into understanding the practicalities of the emigrant experience. His work centers mainly on building a greater understanding of the practical aspects of their lived experiences. With great-grandparents of Slovak, Rusyn, and Hungarian origin, he has been able to compare and contrast the many different routes of travel taken by his ancestors in leaving their villages and venturing to America.



Christine Hrichak of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania has been researching her Carpatho-Rusyn roots for about 20 years. She enjoys sharing information using maps, data analysis, and photography. Her interests range from local history, especially in eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, to Carpatho-Rusyn geography and culture. In 2021, for the 50th Hrichak Family Reunion, she self-published a booklet sharing the family's genealogy, roots, and rare documents.



James Kleinschmidt began his genealogical quest in the early 1990s focusing on his mother's Lanškroun roots. His interest in Lanškroun Manor results from his mother's European ancestors with Lanškroun roots. Ancestors include more than 50 families and 16 villages in the Lanškroun Manor. Primary villages include Čermná, Horní and Dolní Třešnovce, Rudoltice, and Ostrov. Families include

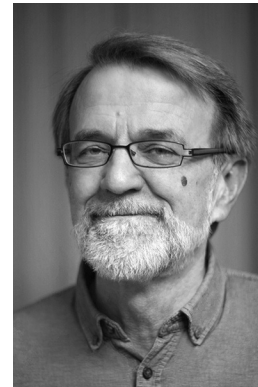


Jansas, Langers, Janisches, Hebbs, Wurst, Kleckers and many others.

Stepanka Korytova-Magstadt, an educator and an interdisciplinary and international scholar, is the former director of the Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Interpersonal Violence, and past director of Global Studies at semesterat-sea.org. She specializes in international migration, international and global studies, social justice, and teaching introductory and upper-level courses in history. She teaches at Mount Mary University, Milwaukee, and teaches the Czech Language at University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. She has written the book *To Reap a Bountiful Harvest: Czech Immigration Beyond the Mississippi, 1850-1900*, published by Rudi Publishing in Iowa City (1993).



Miroslav Koudelka studied history, Czech, and English in Olomouc, Czechia and Bratislava, Slovakia, with an graduate degree in Czechoslovak History. Originally a teacher, he has been a professional genealogist since 1992 and has performed hundreds of research projects for individuals from the US and other countries. Mirek works as a tour guide and interpreter on clients' personalized ancestral trips to the Czech Lands and Central Europe. He speaks frequently



at genealogical conferences and has written and translated publications in the US, Czechia and Slovakia. He is CGSI's regional representative for the Czech Republic.

Edward G. Langer, a retired tax lawyer/CPA, started researching German and Czech emigration from the Lanškroun District in 1974 and first traveled to the area in 1979. In 2019 the town of Lanškroun voted to bestow the town medal on him. His work has been published in English, German, and Czech. He is a frequent speaker and has served on the board of numerous nonprofits. For more information, visit www.edlanger.com.



Daniela Mahoney was born in Prague, where she studied international business and foreign languages. She came to the US in 1982 but she cherishes her Czech heritage and has developed educational programs emphasizing preservation of cultural crafts. Every year Daniela travels to US and Czech communities to offer classes and lectures on egg art, paper crafts, glass bead projects and fiber arts inspired by Czech customs and traditions. Daniela holds a masters degree in geriatric social work from Portland State University.



Greg Nelson is the content strategy specialist for Europe, East Europe, Central Asia, and various US States at FamilySearch. He previously served as database administrator and web developer with the State of Utah. His moonshot goal is to reconstitute all the families in his ancestral homelands of England, Scotland, Denmark, Sweden, and Ohio. He holds a BA in Russian, an MA in Slavic linguistics and literature, and a BS in computer science. He resides in Stansbury Park, Utah.



Dr. Adina Newman, EdD, creator of My Family Genie, is an internationally renowned professional genealogist and educator specializing in Jewish genealogy, DNA, social media, and New England. She cofounded the DNA Reunion Project at the Center for Jewish Genealogy, a program to raise awareness and provide Holocaust survivors and their children with commercial DNA kits. She also moderates a Jewish DNA Facebook group and serves on the program committee for her local Jewish genealogical society.



Gerald Novotny is the third generation in his family to be a member of Sokol Milwaukee, where he took gymnastics classes as a child. All of Gerald's ancestors were Czech, making him either a third, fourth or fifth generation Czech-American. He is retired after 40 years as a civil engineer with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and In 2005 he rejoined Sokol and has been a director of its gymnastics program since 2010.



Zuzana Palovic, PhD, was born during the final years of the Soviet European domination, and her family fled the communist regime as political refugees, finally becoming naturalized citizens in Canada. Dr. Palovic studied at institutions in the US, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, completing her PhD in Eastern European migration at the University of Surrey. Dr. Palovic's work delves deeply into the Central and Eastern Europe, examining critical cultural, emotional, and mental structures. She is a published author of five books.



Antje Petty is associate director of the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. She connects the institute with communities across the state and beyond through presentations, workshops, and other outreach events. Antje has extensive experience researching the family histories of German-speaking immigrants including those who came from regions that are part of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.



Joan Naomi Steiner, PhD, has uncovered records relating to more than 500 people from Tepl/Teplá Monastery Villages in Western Bohemia who immigrated to Calumet County, Wisconsin, beginning in 1850. Dr. Steiner details information about each in her book, *A German Bohemian Immigration: The Population Shift from Western Bohemia to Calumet County, Wisconsin*. The U.S. Embassy in Prague invited Dr. Steiner to showcase family stories of Calumet County German Bohemian settlers. Her three exhibitions were held in Prague in August 2020, 2021, and 2022. For more information, visit germanbohemi-anwisconsin.com.



Bill Tarkulich, BSEE, MBA, retired, is of Carpatho-Rusyn and German descent and has visited and exchanged much information with researchers, residents, and family in his ancestral villages in the easternmost borderland region of Slovakia. His present work includes the local political, social, and military history of this area. He has written several papers and delivered many presentations throughout the United States and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society.



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2023 MILWAUKEE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

The CGSI uses RegFox, an online payment service, to collect the fees for the 2023 conference. To expedite payment processing and data collection for planning purposes, we will not use a paper registration form. If you have any problems with the online registration, please contact Paul Makousky, conference chair, at conferencechair@cgsi.org.

Each person attending the entire conference or one of the particular events, including tours, dinners, and entertainment must complete their own registration form. If you cannot attend the conference but would like to participate in the pre- and post-conference virtual networking using the Whova online networking app, you must also register online following the same process.

To register, click on cgsi.org/2023-conference/2023-cgsi-19th-genealogical/cultural-conference.

Or go to cgsi.org, then in the top right of the page click on 2023 Conference

Then look for the Registration page on the drop-down menu.

After you have registered a confirmation with some reminders and other important information will be sent to you. We are collecting from each registrant the sessions they plan to attend to help us assign sessions to the appropriate size meeting room. Please help us by completing the form.

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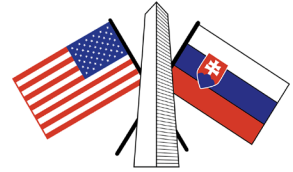
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