



Polish Genealogical Society of California

Presents a

Family History Seminar

GUEST SPEAKER: Stephen J. Danko, PhD, PLCGS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2009

Check-in: 9:00am

Seminar: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Oliva Avenue, Lakewood, California
(Located 2 miles north of the Long Beach Airport,
near the intersection of Lakewood and Del Amo Boulevards)

- Lectures:**
- 1) *Genealogy and the Changing Map of Eastern Europe*
 - 2) *A New Look at Immigrant Passenger Manifests*
 - 3) *Using DNA and Indirect Evidence to Establish Family Relationships*
 - 4) *Genealogy Blogs: New Ways to Disseminate Genealogy*

Registration fee includes a morning snack,
And a delicious Polish luncheon
catered by Teresa Turek

Info - Phone: 310-378-0877
Email: President@pgsca.org
Website: www.pgsca.org

Send check payable to PGS-CA with registration form to:

PGS-CA Seminar
c/o Janice Lipinski
5319 Via del Valle
Torrance, CA 90505-6239

Members PGS-CA \$40.00
Non-Members \$50.00
*New Member Fee + Registration \$60.00
Late registration [after Aug 8] add \$10.00

*Check website for membership information

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Registration Form

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

A confirmation letter will be sent with map and directions.

Genealogy and the Changing Map of Eastern Europe

Finding the place of origin of an immigrant is crucial to finding historic records for that immigrant's ancestors. Complicating matters are the changing borders in Europe during the past two centuries as the territorial acquisitions obliterated some nations from the map. Border changes in Europe affected not only the map of Europe, but also the records on which genealogists depend to document their ancestors' lives.

A New Look at Immigrant Passenger Manifests

Immigrant passenger manifests provide family historians with important information about the origin, immigration, and destination of their immigrant ancestors. Passenger manifests after 1892 frequently include marks and annotations that can provide additional information about the experiences and activities of the immigrant. Some of these notations were made at the time of immigration; others were made years or decades later. Some describe corrections to the manifest, but other annotations can lead to other records that document the lives of the immigrant.

Using DNA and Indirect Evidence to Establish Family Relationships

In the course of genealogical research, it is not uncommon to encounter situations where the paper trail disappears. In the absence of direct evidence for ancestral relationships, genealogists must turn to indirect evidence, relying on non-traditional sources for clues in order to prove a family's ancestry. By using less-tried sources, collateral relationships, and DNA evidence, researchers can establish relationships with sufficient confidence to satisfy the Genealogical Proof Standard.

Genealogy Blogs: New Ways to Disseminate Genealogy

One of the newest ways to publish genealogical information on the Internet is by the use of weblogs, commonly called blogs. Genealogy blogs include a wide range of subjects, including genealogy news, methodology, family history, and research diaries. Setting up and maintaining a blog is surprisingly easy and can provide benefits for your research in ways that other methods of disseminating genealogical information may fall short.

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``STEPHEN J. DANKO, PhD, PLCGS

Steve Danko was born in upstate New York and currently resides in San Francisco, California. He began seriously researching his family history ten years ago and, in the course of that research, has studied American, Canadian, and Polish Records. He has conducted research on location in Poland and Lithuania and has visited the villages in which his immigrant ancestors lived. Steve's research has led to an appreciation of history and languages. He has formally studied Latin, German, and Polish, and has acquired a working knowledge of several other languages.

Steve writes a daily genealogy research weblog (blog) at <http://www.stephendanko.com> where he posts images of the documents important in his family history and discusses the genealogical research process. In the course of writing his blog, Steve has reconnected with lost cousins in Poland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Steve holds a PhD in Botany and Plant Pathology and recently completed requirements for the Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies (PLCGS) from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies / University of Toronto. He is a member of the Polish Genealogical Society of California, the Polish Genealogical Society of America, the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, the Southern California Genealogical Society, the California Genealogical Society and Library, the San Mateo County Genealogical Society, Geshet Galicia, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and the National Genealogical Society.