

## Fall 2025 Seminar

15 November 2025

9:30 am – 4:30 pm



# CO-PAL-AM

Colorado Chapter, Palatines to America

*Researching All German-Speaking Ancestors and Their Descendants*

The Colorado Chapter of Palatines to America is pleased to announce that Alex Tolksdorg has accepted our invitation to be the speaker at our Fall seminar, 15 November 2025. Visit [www.copalam.us](http://www.copalam.us) for more details.

### About Alex:

Alexander Tolksdorf is a genealogist and speaker, specializing in German, Dutch, and Eastern European research. He began his personal journey in high school, inspired by a trip to Ellis Island and through a correspondence with his great uncle in Germany, who also was an active family historian. All four of his grandparents immigrated to the United States in the 1950s following the Second World War; as such, the majority of his research experience and focus is in European sources. Paternally, his family is German, primarily from the Prussian provinces of Westphalia, Posen, and East Prussia. Maternally, his family roots are Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Lithuanian. Thus far, Alex has uncovered and actively researches family lines in Ukraine, Germany, Lithuania, Belarus, Poland, and Russia.

Through this work, he has become very comfortable with research in these counties; including overcoming the language barriers, lack of online record access, and lost or missing records. He relies on civil, church, and a plethora of other records for his research, and finds that all provide illumination and the tools to break down brick walls. Alex believes that standard records only tell part of the story, with the many additional forms of documentation providing color and texture to a family history.

Alex enjoys his work as a financial analyst at the Ford Motor Company and is a former President of the Ford Genealogy Club. He is also active in the Ukrainian American community of Metro Detroit, serving as a former treasurer of the Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor, the treasurer and circulation manager of the Detroitski Novyny, the local community newspaper, the chairperson of the Supervisory Committee of the Ukrainian Selfreliance Michigan Federal Credit Union, and a board member of the Ukrainian American Archives and Museum. During his spare time when he is not researching, Alex enjoys walking and exercising with his wife, Katelyn, and their dog, as well as working on his car, a 2014 Ford Mustang GT. Alex is an Accredited Genealogist (AG®), credentialed by the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen<sup>SM</sup>) for the Germany – East region.



### Alex's Topics:

1. Maximizing Research Success in the Arolsen Archives
2. Eastern European Genealogy for Beginners
3. Tracing your Dutch Roots
4. How to Get your Family Engaged in your Research

# COPalAm 2025 SPRING SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

**The seminar will be a hybrid event.**

**A recording will be made available for 30 days to those who register.**

**In-person attendees who register by 27 October 2025 will be eligible for lunch with Alex,  
There will be lots of door prizes for both in-person and virtual attendees.**

**In-person:**

Highlands Ranch Senior Center  
200 E. Highlands Ranch Parkway  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

**Virtual - via Zoom**

An email with Zoom access details and handouts will be sent to all attendees.  
Registration is \$50 per person

**Register electronically using PayPal:** go to <https://www.copal-am.us/> and click on the seminar registration link.

**Register by mail:** complete the form below and mail it with **your check payable to COPalAm**

Colorado Palatines  
P.O. Box 51186  
Colorado Springs, CO 80949

**You will be sent an email confirmation when your registration form and payment are received.**

NAME: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER: YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_  
(Last Name/First Name)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City/State/Zip Code)

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: 2) \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER: YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_  
(Last Name/First Name)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City/State/Zip Code)

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of registrations \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending in person \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending virtually \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fees	Number	Amount	Total
	_____	\$50 per person	\$ _____

QUESTIONS or for membership info, contact Sandy Carter-Duff at [registrar@copal-am.us](mailto:registrar@copal-am.us) or call 303-478-0876.  
Questions about the seminar, contact Jennifer Bigham at [president@copal-am.us](mailto:president@copal-am.us) or call/text 720-454-9297