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AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER

In Memoriam: JOSEPH (JOE) EVERETT

It is with deep sadness that the Foundation for East European Family History Studies (FEEFHS) announces the passing of our friend, colleague, and longtime supporter, Joseph "Joe" Everett.

Joe was a devoted member of the FEEFHS community and played an important role in advancing our educational mission. For many years, he coordinated FEEFHS's Polish and Russian genealogy courses, helping researchers develop the skills needed to discover and preserve their East European family histories. His extensive knowledge, patient teaching style, and willingness to assist others made him a trusted mentor to countless genealogists.



Beyond his formal responsibilities, Joe was a strong advocate for genealogical education and collaboration. He generously shared his expertise with beginners and experienced researchers alike, always encouraging others to overcome research challenges and make new discoveries about their ancestors. His enthusiasm for family history research and his commitment to helping others embodied the spirit of FEEFHS. Professionally, Joe served as head of the FamilySearch Library at Brigham Young

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genealogical community through his involvement in numerous societies, conferences, and educational programs.

Those who had the privilege of working with Joe will remember not only his knowledge and accomplishments but also his kindness, generosity, and dedication to serving others. His contributions to FEEFHS and to the field of genealogy will have a lasting impact.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Judith, and to his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Joe will be greatly missed by the FEEFHS community, and we honor his memory with gratitude for his years of service, friendship, and dedication to preserving family history.

Joe's obituary may be viewed [here](#)

FEEFHS 2026 CONFERENCE

Our 2026 conference was a huge success, thanks to all of our wonderful presenters and everyone working behind the scenes. We are deeply grateful to all who attended, and it was a pleasure connecting with you in person.

We look forward to seeing you online for our next virtual conference!

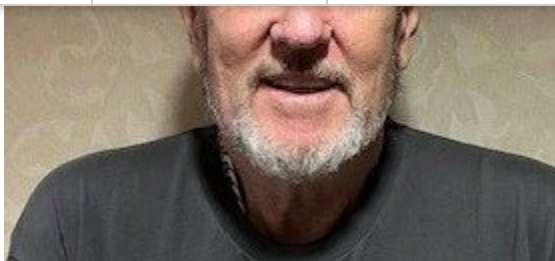
If you joined us this year, remember that you can **access the pre-recorded classes** on our website. Click below to access the videos.

VIEW RECORDINGS

Honoring the Service of Thom Edlund



After 32 years of dedicated service to the Foundation for East European Family History Studies (FEEFHS), Dr. Thom

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our heartfelt gratitude for his decades of commitment, vision, and service to the East European genealogical community.

Thom's contributions to FEEFHS have been both extensive and transformative. As

President of FEEFHS for almost two decades, he helped guide the organization through a period of significant growth and change. Under his leadership, FEEFHS evolved from an umbrella organization serving numerous East European genealogy societies into a leading educational organization dedicated to teaching family historians, researchers, and professional genealogists how to conduct effective East European genealogical research.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire FEEFHS community, we thank Thom for his 32 years of extraordinary service and dedication. We wish him all the best in his well-earned retirement and look forward to celebrating the lasting impact he has made on FEEFHS and East European genealogical research.

Thank you, Thom, for your leadership, scholarship, mentorship, and friendship. Your contributions to FEEFHS will be remembered for many years to come.

Thank you for your ongoing support and participation in FEEFHS. Your passion for Eastern European genealogy strengthens our community and inspires everything we do. We look forward to learning, researching, and connecting together in the months ahead.



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