



10:00 AM — 10:15 AM

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

10:15 AM — 11:15 AM

**Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of German Military Records**—Military records for Germany are an under-utilized resource. Because there was no unified Germany prior to 1871, one must search for records under prior jurisdictions. Many records have not survived. This talk will walk through the steps of finding the records that do exist. It will highlight military records available for the former Kingdom of Hanover, which claims a rich collection.

11:15 AM — 11:30 AM

**BREAK**

11:30 AM — 12:30 PM

**He Took *Her* Name: Understanding German Farm Names**—In certain geographic areas of Germany, the custom of German farm names has been in existence since about 1000 A.D. In this custom, a farm carried the surname and anyone who inherited that farm assumed that name as his surname. Usually this was a son of the farmer, but if it was a daughter, her husband would have to change his surname to hers. This lecture explains some of the common pitfalls a researcher may encounter when researching in one of these areas and how to overcome them.

12:30 PM — 1:30 PM

**LUNCH**

1:30 PM — 2:30 PM

**Stymied by Stieglers: Solved Using Indirect Evidence**—German immigrant, Christina Stiegler, arrived in the United States with her sister in 1874. Other Germans with her surname lived near her, alternating between Cincinnati and Iowa. No United States sources name a town of origin for any of these individuals. A current descendant's DNA match suggests a district in Bavaria for the Stieglers' origins. Emigration records, historic gazetteers, and church records provide indirect evidence to find Christina's town of birth.

2:30 PM — 2:45 PM

**BREAK**

2:45 PM — 3:45 PM

**So, You've Found Your German Town of Origin, Now What?**—Finding your ancestor's town of origin can be exciting, indeed. Once this piece of information is found, you might be left wondering how to get records from the other side of the ocean. This lecture focuses on how to get records for German towns.

Questions: [indianapalam@gmail.com](mailto:indianapalam@gmail.com)



**Teresa Steinkamp McMillin**, Certified Genealogist® is the author of the *Guide to Hanover Military Records, 1514-1866 on Microfilm at the Family History Library* and the owner of Lind Street Research, a company dedicated to helping people discover their German ancestry. Teresa conducts research on behalf of the U.S. Army to aid in repatriating soldiers missing from the nation's past conflicts. She has taught at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG) Academy for Professionals. She created and recorded courses for Ancestry Academy and Legacy Family Tree Webinars. She is a popular speaker for national, regional, and local genealogical societies. Reading German gothic script found in German records prior to the mid-1900s is second nature to her. Researching ancestors in Chicago and other areas of the Midwest is another of Teresa's specialty areas. She is a multi-year attendee of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG). Teresa is a member of the National Genealogical Society, the Association of Professional Genealogists, as well as many German and local genealogical societies. Teresa chairs the committee for the Board for Certification of Genealogists monthly webinar series. She is a genealogy volunteer at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library.