



February 2, 2020

## **CROSS THE BRIDGE TO YESTERDAY**

PALATINES TO AMERICA PRESENTS DR. MICHAEL D. LACOPO AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THEIR 2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE, JUNE 17-20, 2020 IN CINCINNATI, OHIO



### **Dr. Michael D. Lacopo**

Dr. Michael D. Lacopo is a retired small-animal veterinarian born and raised in northern Indiana. He takes a scientific approach to his research as he does to his profession. Researching since 1980, he has lectured internationally and written for numerous periodicals and journals. A self-described “all-American mutt,” his research skills cover a broad range. Michael’s interests and strengths include

Mennonite research, German and Swiss research, especially as it pertains to the 18<sup>th</sup> century immigration to America, among many other topics. He makes many trips throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest states chasing ancestors in primary repositories, and also devotes a considerable amount of time to European research, being proficient in reading German script.

Having ancestors from many geographic locales as well as immigrants spanning the 17th century to the 20th century, Michael has a wide variety of proficiencies. He believes that as genealogists we should tell the tales of our ancestors and is a vocal proponent for learning the social history that interweaves our ancestors into the fabric of the past. Dr. Lacopo is the keynote presenter on Saturday, June 20 and will present the following sessions in the Pavilion Ballroom:

***The German Immigrant Experience in the 18th Century***

Many of us have German immigrants into Pennsylvania, but few of us fully understand what it meant to our ancestors. This lecture provides basic knowledge of the sociology behind the immigration experience.

***Methods for Identifying the German Origins of American Immigrants***

If all you know from conventional records is “Germany” as a place of origin, then this lecture will help you mine other resources to locate WHERE in Germany your ancestor came from.

***German Genealogy on the Internet: Beyond the Basics***

The Internet age has brought genealogy to our fingertips over the last two decades, and subsequently we can find our German ancestors easier. But it still takes some digging and some know-how. This lecture will discuss some online sites that all German genealogists should be aware of. American sites will be covered, but a strong concentration on lesser used German sites will be discussed, as we are missing vital clues by not being truly “international” in our Internet research endeavors!

***How to Overcome Brick Wall Problems in Pennsylvania German Research***

Several case studies will be presented showing lesser-utilized research tactics, repositories and resources used to find information about our Pennsylvania ancestors.

For more information about the conference and to register, see the website at [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org)