



## Palatines to America Conference Information and Registration Form

The Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America invites you to experience the past, present, and future in Cincinnati at the 2020 National Conference.

### Cross the Bridge to Yesterday

June 17-20, 2020

At the historic Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza  
Cincinnati, Ohio

#### Conference Schedule

Featuring	Dr. Michael D. Lacopo, Daniel R. Jones, Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, Dr. Allen Bernard, Ernest Thode, Kent Robinson, Diana Drubach, Katheen Reed, Andrew Houghtaling, and Lauren Kuntzman	
Wednesday	June 17	1:00pm—5:45pm Pre-Conference Workshop "Key Essentials of German Genealogy - From Basics to Success." presented by Kent Robinson, at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, 800 Vine St.
Thursday	June 18	9:00am—3:30pm Bus Tour of Over-the-Rhine led by Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann
Thursday	June 18	5:00pm Conference Registration—Salon F, Fourth Floor
Friday	June 19	7:00am Conference Registration—Fourth Floor Registration Area
Friday	June 19	8:30am Conference Lectures — Main speaker Daniel Jones, MS, AG
Saturday	June 20	8:00am Palatines to America National Membership Meeting
Saturday	June 20	9:00am Conference Lectures — Main speaker Dr. Michael D. Lacopo Conference ends at 4:30

This is a conference you won't want to miss!

#### HOTEL INFORMATION

**Rooms will sell out quickly, make your reservations now**

Cut-off date for reservations is **May 27, 2020**

Register by phone at 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667) Use group code: PALAM  
or make reservations online at <https://book.passkey.com/go/PALAM0620>

Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, 35 W. Fifth St, Cincinnati, Ohio

Reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card. Reservations must be cancelled prior to 11:59pm EST two days prior to arrival to avoid the cancellation fee. Your room includes the following complimentary services: Complimentary use of Snap Fitness at Carew Tower (a 13,000 sq. ft. Health Club), and complimentary guest room WIFI. For a complete list of all the Hotel amenities see <https://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/ohio/hilton-cincinnati-netherland-plaza-CVGNPHF>

Conference rate: \$149 (normal room rates are \$225-\$295 per night)  
Reservations open now!



## Pre-Conference Activities - SEPARATE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Wednesday, June 17, 2020**

### **Kent Robinson**

Kent Robinson is the past president of the Indiana Chapter and immediate past National president of Palatines to America—German Genealogy Society. He designed the presentations in this workshop based on his 15-years of German research experience and the type of questions that people generally ask at conferences, presentations, and during the chapter's outreach experiences. He has enhanced his knowledge of German genealogy by attending the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research on two occasions (German Genealogical Research and Reading German Records) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (Advanced German Research). He has also attended many national and regional conferences, read numerous books and articles, and viewed a number of webinars related to German genealogy. He has experience researching for at least 50 days at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and in at least 10 archives in Germany. He has traveled to Germany on 8 occasions and lived there for about 10 months in 2014. He has served on the Executive Committee of the International German Genealogy Partnership and the board of directors for the Indiana German Heritage Society. Workshop at Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.



#### **Key Essentials of German Genealogy— from Basics to Success**

This comprehensive 4-hour workshop is designed to give the beginner or individual relatively new to German genealogy research some basic information on how to proceed to have success in their research. Even those who consider themselves to be intermediate German researchers will likely learn new things as well. It will highlight key information that makes German research different from standard U.S. research, the types of records that one typically uses and the information they contain, how to overcome “barriers” for those who do not speak German, useful references and websites and how to use them, etc. A detailed syllabus (almost 100 pages, including an extensive 20 page bibliography) that includes the text from all of the PowerPoint slides will be provided to attendees so that they can mainly concentrate on the presentation with minimal need for taking notes. This is intended to be a learning experience that will enable individuals to take the next steps that are needed to further their German research. The sessions will end with a question and answer period. Topics to be covered are:  
1-Determining the Village of Origin, 2-History and Geography, 3-This and That: A Variety of Useful Information, 4-Resources: Books and Websites, 5-Using Records in the Homeland.

**Thursday, June 18, 2020**

### **Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann**

Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann is the author and editor of numerous books on German-American history and culture. He has received many awards, including the National Award of Merit (Bundesverdienstkreuz) of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Distinguished German-American of the Year Award and the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Society for German-American Studies. He served as Curator of the German-Americana Collection and Director of German-American Studies at the University of Cincinnati and is well known as “Mr. German-Americana.” He has been on the board of many national and international organizations and institutions, including the Society for German-American Studies; the Covington-Cincinnati Suspension Bridge Committee; and the Friends of the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. Currently, he is President of the German-American Citizens League of Greater Cincinnati and Curator of its German Heritage Museum. He serves as Book Review Editor for German Life Magazine and is on the editorial boards of the Yearbook of German-American Studies and The Palatine Immigrant. He edited a monographic series dealing with German-American history: *Neue-Deutsch-Amerikanische Studien/New German-American Studies* (34 vols.). He also assisted in the production of several PBS programs, including: “The German-Americans” and “Zinzinnati Reflections.”



#### **Tour of Over-the-Rhine, Cincinnati, Ohio, where German immigrants lived, worked, played and prayed**

We will leave the hotel at 9:00am and travel through downtown Cincinnati, past Fountain Square, and cross over the former **Miami-Erie Canal** (now Central Parkway) which was nicknamed “The Rhine” when many German immigrants settled to the north of the Canal. Our first stop will be **Washington Park**, which is flanked by Music Hall, Memorial Hall, German churches and includes statues of famous German Americans. Dr. Tolzmann will comment on the architecture, the German bilingual school, the brewery district area and Phillipus Church. Next stop is world famous **Rookwood Pottery**, where we will receive a tour by curator George Hibben, Rookwood historian. After the tour there will be an opportunity to shop for your Rookwood souvenirs. We will then proceed to **Findlay Market**, Ohio's oldest continuously operated public market and named the No. 1 Market by Forbes magazine. Findlay Market remains the bustling center of farm fresh, locally sourced, artisanal and specialty foods. Findlay Market is home to more than 40 indoor merchants selling meat, fish, poultry, produce, flowers, cheese, deli, and ethnic foods, in addition to sandwich shops, restaurants, and a beer garden. (Lunch on your own.) After lunch we will tour **Old St. Mary's Catholic Church**, which offers services in German, English, and Latin and is noted for its beautifully decorated interior. Our final stop of the day will be at **Moerlein Brewery**, where we will enjoy a behind the scenes tour and can refresh ourselves before returning to the hotel. Registration for the tour is limited to 30 persons. All registrations will be made as of the date received, either by mail or online registration on the website.



#### **John A. Roebling and his Suspension Bridge on the Ohio River**

As our banquet speaker on Friday evening, Dr. Tolzmann will cover the life and work of German immigrant John A. Roebling (1806-1869), with particular reference to the Suspension Bridge he built on the Ohio River, and which was dedicated on New Year's Day 1867. Now on the National Register of Historic Places, the bridge served as the prototype for the Brooklyn Bridge.

#### **Cincinnati's German Heritage**

This session on Saturday provides a visual historical tour of German immigration, settlement, and influences in the Greater Cincinnati area from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century Cincinnati became a major destination for German immigrants, eventually forming one of the corners of the so-called “German Triangle” along with St. Louis and Milwaukee.



# Conference Speakers

## 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. Topics:

### ***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.

## Lauren Kuntzman

Lauren Kuntzman, MA, MLIS, has over 20 years of experience in family history research. Currently, she manages Medina County District Library’s Family History & Learning Center and enjoys helping library patrons to find their roots. Her personal research interests include the Midwest, France, criminal ancestors, and finding living relatives. Topic:

### ***Introduction to Online Research in Alsace-Lorraine***

This lecture provides an overview of the online archives for departments within the historic region of Alsace-Lorraine. The lecture also includes examples of available records, and tips for making sense of the documents.



## Daniel R. Jones, MS, AG

Daniel Jones is an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Swiss and German research. He is currently a research specialist in Germanic and Slavic Europe for the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. After graduating magna cum laude from Brigham Young University, Daniel worked professionally for over a dozen years in helping several high-profile clients with research all over Europe. He has experience in numerous archives across more than a dozen countries in Europe, North America, Africa, and Australia. Daniel has also presented at multiple national conferences, including FGS and RootsTech, as well as the 2019 International German Genealogy Conference. Topics:

### ***Finding your European Ancestors: Record Types and Resources for Research***

European research strategies are very different from American strategies based on the records they produced.

This introductory class will examine the major record types that exist for most of Western and Central Europe.

### ***Germany: Complex Thinking -- Using non-parish registers to solve research problems***

When parish records aren't enough to identify a family, where do you go next? This class will look at different record types that have been used to solve brick walls when the parish registers just weren't enough.

### ***From the Alps to the Rhine: Your Swiss Research - What makes Swiss research unique?***

Come and find out the quirky aspects of tracing your family in Switzerland, including a discussion on indexed records, published genealogies, and online places you can go for help.

### ***The Search for Anna Hansen: Using Geography to Find German Records***

Want to figure out where the records of your German ancestors are? Come and learn what historical geography is and how it affected where to look for records. We'll be talking about what exactly "Germany" is and tools on how to identify where to go next for records.



## Dr. Allen Bernard

A Mercer County, Ohio native, now resident of Cincinnati, Dr. Bernard is an historical researcher, writer, architectural preservationist, and interpreter of local history. A retired school administrator and former university professor, he has traveled widely and is an avid collector of books and prints. He is the author of numerous publications relating to historic preservation, genealogy and two recent books: *Lost Treasures of Granville and Marion Townships*, and *The Measured Mile, Remembering the Main Street of St. Henry, Ohio 1947-1960*. He attended Fairfield University, Ball State University, and has an Ed.D. from the University of Cincinnati.

Topic:

### ***From Wotan to Boniface to the Statue of Liberty – A Perspective on the Evolution of German Religious Practice***

This presentation will focus upon the historical development of German religious practices from the beliefs of the ancient Germanic Tribes to the Reformation, and through the “Americanization” of German immigrants in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



## Ernest Thode

Ernie Thode became interested in genealogy in high school and graduated from Purdue University with a teaching certificate in English, German, and Speech and is still educating while talking about German genealogy in English. He received a Master's degree in German and also studied and taught at The Ohio State University. He was awarded first place in the ISFHWE Excellence in Writing contest for his "Ask Ernie" column in The Palatine Immigrant. His genealogy interests include German surnames, place names, immigration, and records sources. Topics:



### ***German Pioneers of Southeastern Ohio***

Two emigration parties of German-speaking Swiss, largely unknown by historians, settled near the Ohio River in 1819 following years of European wars and famine. Led by two divorced men -- one a baron from the leading family in Switzerland, the other the father of five out-of-wedlock children, soon to become six, but both condemned by the morals police -- each became stranded on the way downstream, but each made the best of it. They founded colonies that have left their mark in Ohio and the US -- a rear admiral, a champion golfer, and a settlement that has survived and grown as "the Switzerland of Ohio" for two centuries.

### ***Twelve Steps to Citizenship***

My father's immigration documents, from the USCIS Genealogy Program, typify the 12 steps required to become a citizen after 1906. These records go above and beyond passenger lists and include records from Germany, such as his birth certificate. I am glad I sent for them. He went from being Ernst Julius Wilhelm Thode (two syllables, TOE-duh) in the Weimar Republic of 1925 to being Ernest Thode (one syllable, rhymes with "rode") in the U. S. of 1935. We learn his reason for emigration, where he lived from birth to emigration, his good conduct reports, his physical description and medical record, his quota status, his American friends, and his family.

## Diana Druback

Diana Druback has researched many of her lines back to the 1500's in Slovakia, England and Germany and has visited her ancestral villages in Europe. She regularly lectures to central Ohio genealogy groups, organizations and historical societies and has had articles published in genealogical journals. Diana serves on the Board of the Ohio Chapter of Palatines to America and coordinates their German Community Forum. For twenty years, Diana has volunteered at two LDS Family History Centers, helping patrons with their genealogy. She and her husband spent two years restoring an early Ohio German farm cemetery, where four of his third great-grandparents are buried. Topics:



### ***Using FamilySearch Like an Expert***

FamilySearch is an amazing free genealogy website with the largest collection of genealogical and historical records in the world. You will learn advanced techniques to search for both indexed and non-indexed digitized records by using search options, browse all published collections, and catalogue searches. Also, we will briefly explore the FamilySearch Digital Library, Family Tree and the Research Wiki.

## ***The Power of Google for Genealogists***

Google offers many websites with information which should be taken advantage of by genealogists. You will learn how to use search operators to make your searches more precise and increase the possibility of useful results. We will explore the basic Google Alerts, Google News Archives, Google Earth, and YouTube as time permits.

## Kathleen Reed

Kathy Reed has been researching her German, Irish and English roots for the past 18 years. She is a Director-at-Large on the Hamilton County Genealogical Society Board and leads a regional DNA Interest Group. She shares her family history through two blogs and has had several articles published in genealogical publications. Topics:



### ***An Introduction to DNA***

In this session, we will discuss the different types of DNA (autosomal, Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA). You will learn which type will best help you answer your genealogical questions and where you can order a test. There will be an overview of the companies providing these tests and their strengths and weaknesses.

### ***How to Make German-American Connections Using DNA***

If you have German roots or German descendants living in America, you may want to reach across the pond in either direction to see if you can make connections using DNA. This session will include a discussion of what types of DNA may best help you succeed with examples of actual success stories.

## Andrew Houghtaling

Andrew Houghtaling is the Director of The Ninth Ohio: A Living History, an organization dedicated to educating the public by bringing to life the stories and experiences of not just the Ninth Ohio, but all German-Americans who served in the Civil War. He is a 2004 graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a degree in German Studies. Topic:



### ***Cincinnati Germans in the Civil War: An Examination of Birthplaces, Professions and Religion***

Composed of over 1000 men, only 50 members of the Ninth Ohio (First German) Volunteer infantry Regiment which served in the American Civil War were actually born in the United States. Join us as we explore the origins of Cincinnati's own Ninth Ohio, touching on subjects such as how migration trends, the labor market, and religious affiliation affected the make-up of the regiment so famous for its irresistible bayonet charges.



**2020 National Conference Registration Form**  
**Crossing the Bridge to Yesterday**  
**June 17-20, 2020**  
*Deadline for Conference Registrations May 27, 2020*

Please print

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Conference Package (Member)</b>	_____ × \$175	\$ _____
<b>Conference Package (Non-Member)</b>	_____ × \$210	\$ _____
<b>Includes:</b> lectures, handouts, syllabus, Friday lunch, Friday banquet, Saturday lunch		

Single day registration: includes lectures, handouts, syllabus, lunch on day of registration:  
 indicate Friday \_\_\_\_\_ or Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

(member) _____	× \$90	\$ _____
(non-member) _____	× \$105	\$ _____

Late Registration (after March 15, 2020) \_\_\_\_\_ × \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Conference Session : Key Essentials of German Genealogy  
 Wednesday June 17, 1:00pm to 5:45pm—Cincinnati Library  
 Fee includes additional syllabus \_\_\_\_\_ × \$50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Conference Tour of Over the Rhine  
 Thursday June 18, 9:00am-3:30pm \_\_\_\_\_ × \$60 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Friday Night Banquet (for non-registered guest) \_\_\_\_\_ × \$75 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Friday Lunch (for non-registered guest) \_\_\_\_\_ × \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Saturday Lunch (for non-registered guest) \_\_\_\_\_ × \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet Includes:** *Social Hour and Cash Bar, Dinner, Award Presentations, Entertainment, and Presentation by Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann*

**Conference Fee Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You must be a member at the time of registration to receive the member discounted rate.

**YES! I/We want to be a member of Palam: Individual at \$40 or Family at \$45** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter selected \_\_\_\_\_ (select one: CO, IN, OH, NC, NY, PA)

**TOTAL PAYMENT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to **Palatines to America**

**Mail Form and Payment to:** Palatines to America, PO Box 141260, Columbus, OH 43214  
*Registration and payment may be made online at [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org)*

*Attendees are responsible for making their own lodging arrangements.  
 See hotel information on front page.*

