

WESTERN MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

GOT ANCESTORS?! 2019 “WHO’S YOUR DADDY?!”

FEATURING

MICHAEL D. LACOPO, DVM

AT THE

SALVATION ARMY GRAND RAPIDS KROC CENTER

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER 9AM – 4:45PM

- **HOOSIER DADDY?**
- **I AM POOR, OBSCURE, PLAIN, AND LITTLE**
- **DECONSTRUCTING YOUR FAMILY TREE**
- **HI, WE’RE RELATED!**

WMGS Sales Table – Network with other Genealogists – Door Prizes

OUR SPEAKER – MICHAEL D. LACOPO, DVM



Dr. Michael D. Lacopo was born and raised in northern Indiana surrounded by extended family always willing to tell tall tales. Intrigued by his maternal family’s claim to be kinfolk of Abraham Lincoln, and his paternal family’s stories of murder and mayhem, he took to genealogical research in 1980 to substantiate these family stories.

Genealogical research as a hobby was in its infancy in the 1980s. Combing libraries, archives, cemeteries and courthouses as a teenager, Michael gained the skills needed to become a keen researcher. His first major challenge in the world of research was tackled by finding his adopted mother’s birthparents in 1982. You can read about this adventure at his blog at Roots4U.blogspot.com with some engaging story-telling, plot twists and new findings!

Although a budding genealogist in the 1980s, Michael completed his doctorate in veterinary medicine in 1991, while still spending time honing his research skills. As befitting a doctor, Michael treats his genealogical research as he would medicine – carefully, methodically and completely. Several genealogical journal articles and publications appeared along the way. In 2013, Michael retired from his medical career to pursue genealogical research full-time as a profession.

He has contributed to numerous periodicals and has helped numerous people in their quests to locate their relatives – living and dead. He appeared in USA Today in 2000 discussing genealogy and the proposed destruction of the federal census tabulated in that year.

(Continued on back...)

DVM = Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

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QUESTIONS? – SEND EMAIL TO SEMINAR@GOTANCESTORS.COM**

REGISTRATION FORM

Please help us reduce costs by using the online registration form on our website at <http://GotAncestors.com/registration/>. You can choose to pay online using your credit card or PayPal, or print out your completed form from your online registration and mail it to us with your payment. If you don't have Internet access, please complete the form below and mail it with your payment to the address at the bottom of this form.

Please use one form per person attending the Saturday Seminar.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
eMail: _____ (even if mailing in this form, please include your eMail address)

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER:

GOT ANCESTORS?! – “WHO’S YOUR DADDY?!”

Fee before 25 September 2019 = \$44. After 24 September 2019 = \$49.
(includes beverage service throughout the day)

Registration \$ _____

LUNCH:

Choose only one

This year you have the choice to bring your own lunch if you wish.

\$ _____ 0

OR PURCHASE

A box lunch provided by the Grand Traverse Pie Company. \$11
(includes a sandwich, bag of chips and a **COOKIE**.)

OR PURCHASE

A box lunch provided by the Grand Traverse Pie Company. \$12
(includes a sandwich, bag of chips and **PIE**. – note you will randomly get Cherry, Apple or Blueberry pie.)

Choose one of the 5 different sandwiches listed below – please **circle your choice**.

Ham and Havarti

Grand Traverse Club

Turkey Cheddar

Chicken Pesto

Mediterranean Veggie

Lunch \$ _____

OPTIONAL – JOINING WMGS

Check here if you wish to also join WMGS as a new member for 2019 or renew your existing membership (see below). \$20

\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

WMGS Members who attend the Seminar will receive a \$10 voucher in their registration package. This voucher can be used at the WMGS Sales Table, or can be used toward your 2020 Membership. Membership is \$20 per year for members living in the USA.

Please make cheque payable to **WMGS** and mail to:
Got Ancestors?! Registration
Roger Moffat
3020 76th St SE
Caledonia, MI 49316-8398

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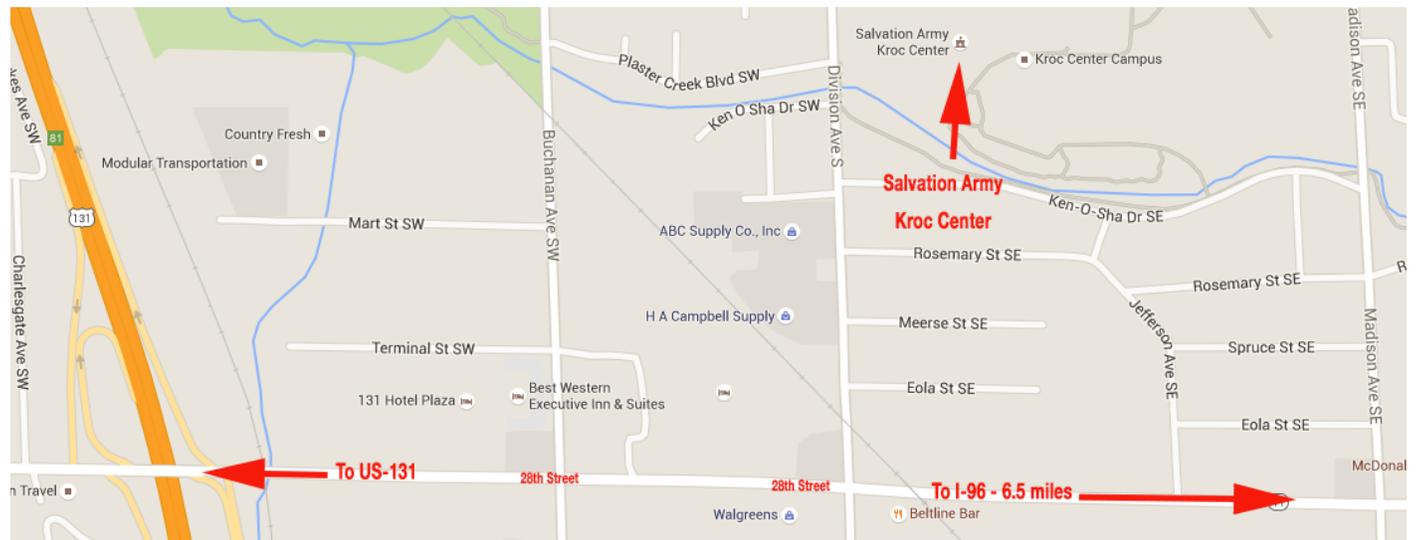
SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2019	
8:30 –9:00 AM	REGISTRATION
9:00 – 10:15 AM	<p>“HOOSIER DADDY?” TALES OF A RELUCTANT BLOGGER AND HOW BLOGS CAN ENHANCE YOUR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH</p> <p>Your speaker started his blog, “Hoosier Daddy?” in February 2014 with intentions far different from what developed over the course of nearly two years of writing. Learn from his examples the various uses of Internet publishing for your genealogical research. Hone your skills as a writer, tell stories, compile your genealogy, share with others, and allow others researching the same families to find you. Take a journey with your lecturer into the blogosphere and learn how this resource can be a means to breaking down your brick walls.</p>
BREAK – SALES TABLE	
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	<p>DECONSTRUCTING YOUR FAMILY TREE: RE-EVALUATING THE “EVIDENCE”</p> <p>When information passed on from researcher to researcher doesn't “add up”, it's time to tear down the walls and rebuild anew. This methodology lecture shows how erroneous conclusions can sneak into our research uncontested. This lecture is pertinent especially today with so many Internet family trees that get copied and pasted into our own research.</p>
LUNCH	
1:45– 3:00 PM	<p>“I AM POOR, OBSCURE, PLAIN, AND LITTLE.” RESEARCHING THE INVISIBLE ANCESTORS.</p> <p>If your ancestors had little money, they did not buy and sell land, they did not leave wills or probates, they did not purchase stones for graves. How do you find them? This lecture will show you how!</p>
BREAK –SALES TABLE	
3:30 – 4:45 PM	<p>HI, WE’RE RELATED! SUCCESSFUL COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR DNA MATCHES</p> <p>Do your DNA matches respond to your queries? Are you enticing them with your knowledge or driving them away with gibberish? How do you get strangers to get on board with your genealogical endeavors by sharing their DNA?</p>

You can stay up to date with the latest conference news at our website <http://GotAncestors.com/> and by subscribing to the RSS feed from the “blog” at <http://gotancestors.com/feed/> or click the link for “Entries (RSS)” at the bottom of any page on the website.

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THE SALVATION ARMY GRAND RAPIDS KROC CENTER



The Salvation Army Grand Rapids Kroc Center is located at 2500 Division Ave South, Grand Rapids, MI 49507.

Entry is from Division Avenue. You can get directions from <http://grkroccenter.org/about-us/directions/>

Parking is FREE!

(Our Speaker, continued from front page)

His national lecturing began in Sacramento, CA, at the National Genealogical Society's national conference in 2004, and has continued with several local, state, national, and international conference speaking engagements to this present day.

Michael's interests and strengths include Mennonite research, German and Swiss research, especially as it pertains to the 18th 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.

In addition to his story-telling and educational blog, Michael's presence can be found online at www.Roots4U.com, or for more up-to-date lecture and research information, at his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Roots4U>.

MESSAGE FROM WMGS PRESIDENT – MINDY KOOLE

When Roger told us who was going to be our speaker for the annual conference, I was intrigued to learn that he was a vet. Because my husband served in the Air Force for 20 years I immediately thought we would be learning about researching soldiers or war records. Then I learned that he was the other kind of vet. I was not sure what to think so I "Googled" him. I found his online presence and got caught up reading his blog.

You also may find that interesting, especially the researching for an adoptee part. So... that being said:

I cordially invite you to save the date and make your plans to attend the WMGS Annual Got Ancestors event on October 12th, at the Salvation Army Kroc Center and hear the presentations of Michael D. Lacopo DVM.

See ya there!

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