

Riethmeier Family



The Riethmeier name came to this area through Johann Jakob Riethmeier. Johann (December 5, 1818) and his wife, Maria Barbara nee Schweikher (February 19, 1822), left their home in Kirchberg Wuerttemberg, Germany and settled at 2190 Reindel Road.

Years ago this was known as "Middle Franken", the area between Frankentrost and Frankenlust. The couple married on July 24, 1853. Maria Barbara had two children, Johann Jakob and Katherine Dorothea, who they raised as Riethmeiers. Johann and Maria had three more children: Johann Jakob, Louise and Johann Gottlieb. Johann Jakob died September 26, 1882 and was buried on Dehmel Road near Gera, Michigan. Maria lived until 1916.

Johann Jakob, born in Wuerttemberg in 1847, married Maria Margaretha Laux February 20, 1870 at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. They had three children: William (1870), Dorothea (1873) and Carl J. (1893-1977). Johann Jakob was a farmer in Blumfield Township, Saginaw, Michigan. Katherine Dorothea, born in Kirchberg in 1850, married John Leonard Kloha September 15, 1867 in Frankenmuth. They lived in the Bay City area and had 14 children.

Johann Jakob, born May 8, 1856 in Gera, Michigan, married Maria Margaretha Ortner (December 25, 1861) on June 20, 1883. They lived on the "Old Hill Farm", north of Gera. Besides farming, Johann Jakob and his son Albert operated the General Store in Gera from 1903 to 1910. Jacob, Maria and their family were faithful members of St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Richville, Michigan. Maria died November 10, 1931 and Jacob died in 1932. They are buried in St. Michael's Cemetery. The couple had nine children: Johann Herman (March 20, 1884-February 23, 1968) was an ordained minister and married Clara Wilhemina Sophia Nemitz; Albert George Gottlieb (December 17, 1885-March 27, 1969) never married;

Caroline Sophia Katharina (November 9, 1887-August 14, 1964) never married; Anna Maria Laura (May 27, 1889-July 9, 1967) married Arthur Walter; Alfred (born 1890) died at birth; Florence Katherine Dorothea (October 7, 1891-April 19, 1979) married Otto Georg Leonhardt Bernreuter; Bertha Louise Katherine (August 23, 1893-September 4, 1970) never married; Veronica Marie (June 26, 1900-November 15, 1995) married Martin Fred Rupp and after Martin died in 1933, she married Fred Charles Metzger; Edwin Carl Emil (March 14, 1907-September 24, 1992) married Ida Helene Loesel and farmed at 1610 South Gera Road.

Louise was born in 1858. She married Reverend Joseph Wuerthner. They had six children: Clara L., Jacob C., Sophie A., Hannah, Otto and Theodore H.

Johann Gottlieb was born November 23, 1865 at Gera, Michigan. Johann married Anna Rank (1864-1934). They farmed the homestead on Reindel Road and retired to a home in Saginaw, Michigan. They had nine children: Emil Wilhelm (January 14, 1889-July 19, 1972) married Marie E. Engelhardt and, with some help from his mother, operated the General Store in Gera from 1910 to 1965; Lydia Maria (July 11, 1890-June 16, 1990) never married and lived in McAllen, Texas; Julia Dorothea (April 11, 1892-August 1986) married Colonel Basil B. Albert and lived in Roanoke, Virginia; Lillian Katherine (September 1, 1893-October 14, 1973) never married; Helen Louise (October 13, 1896-1983) married George Hackbardt; Raymond Henry (May 19, 1903-November 3, 1970) married Lorna Stueber; Theodore Otto (December 19, 1904) married Gertrude Emma Caroline Ortner in 1940 and after Gertrude died in 1941, he married Clara Frieda Marie Bernecker and lived in Saginaw; Alice Marie (January 14, 1907) married Arno Huegel and lived in Ferndale, Michigan; Evelyn Pauline (May 20, 1909) married Walter Moderow and lived in Reese, Michigan.



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