

Scheiwe Family



The Scheiwe name came to America through Theodore Scheiwe's grandfather, Christopher Scheiwe, who was born in Rothenburg, Germany in 1827 to Philip and Sophia nee Schwinning Scheiwe. In 1847, Christopher and his parents and his brother John came to America, going directly to the Chicago, Illinois area. Here Christopher farmed in the Des Plaines River Valley. He later came to Will County and purchased 80 acres in Crete Township. Through hard work and good management he ranked among the successful farmers in the township, soon working 435 acres. Christopher held several offices of public trust as Constable, Township Treasurer and Justice of the Peace. He was a charter member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Beecher (Eagle Lake), Illinois.

Christopher and his wife Sophia nee Luecke had eight children. The eldest, William, was born in 1853. In 1878, William Scheiwe married Sophia Halfeldt. They farmed near his father's farm. Some years later they moved to Horton, Minnesota to a larger farm. In 1908, they returned to Illinois to help an ailing uncle on his farm near Addison. After the uncle's death, they moved to Chicago where they owned and operated a general store.

William and Sophia had eleven children. The middle child, Theodore Scheiwe (1888-1978), graduated from Concordia Teacher's College at Addison, Illinois in 1912. He served congregations in Wartburg, Illinois, Appleton, Minnesota, and Woodburn, Indiana. In 1926, he was installed as the teacher of the Northeastern District School of St. Lorenz Congregation in Frankenmuth, a one-room school, where he taught grades one to eight, teaching both English and German. In 1946, he moved to the St. Lorenz Main Street School, where he taught until his retirement in 1957. Mr. Scheiwe served St. Lorenz for 33 years and the church at large for 45 years.

During his service to St. Lorenz he sang with the church choir for several years, was assistant director of the Gera Dramatic Club (a youth group), served on many church committees, served as janitor of the one-room school where he taught and the public school located next door.

The congregation presented him with a certificate of congratulation upon his 50th anniversary of service to the church; and the 1958 St. Lorenz School Annual was dedicated to him.

Mr. Scheiwe raised chickens for which he received many "blue" ribbons at the County Fair. He did book-keeping for Reindel and Schreiner Lumber Co. and spent his summers gardening and painting.

Theodore married Clara Schmidt in 1915 when teaching in Wartburg, Illinois. Their oldest daughter, Ada (Waldemar) Ziegler, was born two years later. Her husband farmed in Frankenlust, the third Franconian immigrant community. Ada and her husband had three sons.

Erema (Howard) Nuechterlein, the second daughter, was born in Appleton, Minnesota, several years later. She and her husband were part owners of Nuechterlein Hardware, a business on Main Street in Frankenmuth. Erema sang with the Bavarian Singers, a well-known ladies singing group.

Waldemar, their only son, was also born in Appleton. As a graduate of the Aviation Institute of Kansas City, he taught airplane mechanics to soldiers during World War II, later working for United Air Lines at the Denver, Colorado Airport. He and his wife Evelyn nee Stuenkel had four children.

Laverne, the youngest daughter, and the only child born in Frankenmuth, married Roy E. Boike and lived in Taylor, Michigan. The couple had three children.



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