

# Lang Family



he large family of the local blacksmith, Johann Stephen Lang, and his wife Margaretha nee Phaler, consisted of nine children of their own and an adopted daughter, the orphaned child of Mrs. Lang's sister. This family was among the acquaintances of Pastor

Sievers in the Altmuehl Valley of Franconia, in the village of Bubenheim.

Three of the Lang sons, Johann George (34), Johann Michael (33), and Christian (30), as well as the adopted daughter Maria Catherina Drusslein (24), volunteered to accompany Pastor Sievers to the intended colony of Frankenlust on the banks of Squaconning Creek.

When they left the port of Bremen in 1848, it was necessary to divide the party since no single ship had adequate accommodations. Separated from their leader, some of these settlers drifted to the state of Wisconsin, while others went only as far as Monroe, Michigan. A few went on to Frankenmuth, where they were later joined by Pastor Sievers.

Johann George completed the journey to Frankenlust, where he married another of the pioneers, Katherina Ziegler, on July 25, 1848. Unfortunately, he died seventeen days later.

Maria married Johann Adam Leinberger on July 8, 1849, and they established one of the early farms in Frankenlust.

Johann Michael and Christian remained in Frankenmuth.

On November 18, 1849, Pastor Craemer conducted the wedding ceremony uniting Christian and Maria Susanna Beyerlein.

Maria, along with her brothers, George Michael and Johann Michael Beyerlein, had emigrated from the town of Altenmuhr in Franconia.

Christian and Maria purchased one hundred and eleven acres of forest in Section 10, three miles north of the village, and began clearing the land and raising a family. They had seven children but only four survived: Anna Margaretha Maves, Barbara Bube, Elisabeth Catherina Braun, and Anna Barbara Maves. All raised their families in Saginaw.

On May 12, 1852, Pastor Roebbelin joined Johann Michael Lang with Barbara Breiter in holy matrimony. She had only recently arrived in Frankenmuth with her brother, Johann G. Breiter. Johann went on to establish a farm in section 4, was elected to two terms as Justice of the Peace, and served as School Director for 20 years.

Johann Michael and his bride also cleared a farm in Section 10, at the corner of Dehmel and King Roads. Their daughter, Sophia Anna Maria Zahnnow moved to Saginaw after her marriage. The name Lang, sometimes also spelled Lange, seemed to vanish from Frankenmuth about this time.

After a gap of several generations, some Lang descendants returned to Frankenmuth and St. Lorenz. Albert Maves and David Maves are great-grandsons of Christian and Maria. Mrs. Frederick Rosin nee Zahnnow is a great-great-granddaughter of Johann Michael and Barbara.



*Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge*  
*For copies of Family Histories go to [www.bavarianinn.com/familyhistory](http://www.bavarianinn.com/familyhistory)*