

Zoellner Family



he Zoellner name came to this area through August Zoellner I, who was born in Nuernberg, Germany and emigrated to the United States in 1854 when he was twenty-one years old. He initially settled in the Detroit area where he met his future wife, Maria

Barbara Schaeffer. Maria was born March 18, 1842 in Bavaria, Germany.

August and Maria were married in 1858. They left Detroit and relocated in Saginaw County, where they purchased a 40-acre tract of land on Hermansau Road. August worked at the Whittier Lumber Mill which was located along the Saginaw River.

From the Hermansau area they moved to Kochville Township on Bay Road. August built a frame house there which was later destroyed by fire. He rebuilt on the same location and that house also burned down when a fire swept through that area. Saginaw Valley State University is now located on this land.

After fire had destroyed his first two houses, August purchased another 40 acres, just across the road, and there he built a brick house. The house was cross-shaped and today remains basically the same on the exterior. The "cross-house", as it was referred to, is located at 6105 Bay Road. From there he walked to the Whittier Lumber Mill every working day.

August and Maria were blessed with eight children: Andrew (March 12, 1861-February 19, 1937); Johann Heinrich (May 16, 1863-April 4, 1922); Georg (December 19, 1867-December 26, 1867); Johanna Margaretha Pauline "Lena" (b. May 5, 1870); Elise "Lizzie" (b. April 20, 1873); Anna Louise Katharina "Louise" (b. September 18, 1884); Anna Barbara Lisette "Lizzie" (April 17, 1880-1948); and Johann Karl August "August II" (January 20, 1884-August 12, 1978).

All the children were born in Saginaw Township and baptized at St. John's Lutheran Church in Amelith.

Son Johann Heinrich "John" married Kunigunda Schmidt. They had five children, all born in Saginaw Township on Bay Road, where they lived across the street from August I, John's father. Their five children were: Louise, Regina, Emil, Oscar and Helen. Johann and Kunigunda eventually relocated in Bridgeport Township, where he purchased a farm at 6620 Junction Road. From there he moved into the village of Frankenmuth and built the house located at 159 South Main Street.

Many of John and Kunigunda's children married into Frankenmuth families. Louise married Edwin Fechter who was the owner of Fechter Hardware (later Leslie Hardware and then Gilroy's). They had two daughters, Marcella and Viola. Regina married Bernhard Uebler who farmed on Loesel Road. They had three children: Harold, Lillie and Wilbur. Emil married Gertrude Mead and lived at 10555 Bradley Road. They had nine children: Robert, Alice, Dorothy, LeRoy, Katherine, Melvin, Cleo, Byron and Karl.

Oscar married Rebecca Metzger and had two children: Marion and John. When Anna passed away, Oscar married Ella Ederer. There were three children from that marriage: Lillian, Esther and Herman. Helen, the youngest child, married Arthur Mossner, who owned the former Frankenmuth Block and Tile Company. They had one daughter, Betty Ann.

August II married Anna Zeilinger and they had five children: Lorina, Emilie, Clarence, Richard and Helen. Emilie married Edwin J. Veitengruber and resided in Frankenmuth. Helen married Raymond Daenzer and resided on King Road in Frankenmuth Township.



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