

Reinbold Family



his history is dedicated to our forefather, Ludwig Reinbold, his wife Catherine, and to all of their descendants in the United States. It is to be noted that their main reason for coming to America was to seek religious freedom.

Ludwig Reinbold (1801-1867) was born in Baiersdorf, Germany. His father, George Ludwig Reinbold, a tailor and widower, married Katharina Margaretha Hemeter, the youngest daughter of the weaver, George Michael Hemeter. According to custom, their upcoming marriage had to be announced three times at regular church services and on the fourth Sunday, after attending church together, the ceremony was performed at the regular service.

Ludwig and Katharina left Germany in 1847 on the ship Creole with three sons: Ernest (8), George (6) and Theodore (4). After a journey of 67 days, they arrived in New York in June 1847. The better part of the three months had been spent in traveling from their native Bavaria to Frankentrost, Michigan.

The name Reinboldnager was shortened to Reinbold when they arrived in America.

The farm on which they settled in Frankentrost was purchased from a government land office at Marshall with the price being 77 cents per acre. Ludwig, with his wife and three sons, selected a 100 acre farm in Section 31 and 32 in Blumfield Township. Later this farm was split and William P. Reinbold and Adam Reinbold made their homes there. Ludwig was the first of the settlers in Frankentrost to use horses on the farm. The other settlers still used oxen as they had been accustomed to doing in Germany.

Lumbering was very important to the economy of these early settlers. Many days were spent working in the lumber mills. The greatest period of lumbering activity was between 1850 and 1880.

Ludwig and Catherine had five sons and two daughters: Ernest, George, Theodore, John and Christ; Margaretha and Anna. All of them married local people. All except Anna established their homes in the Saginaw Valley. Anna married a blacksmith, John Wagner, and they moved to Ellenwood, Kansas; and later in 1896 they moved to Oklahoma (they had 12 children born in Kansas). Many of the descendants are farmers in Saginaw Valley, Michigan and in Oklahoma and Texas. The descendants of Ludwig and Catherine are many and are spread over the entire United States with many, many different professions.

The original home that Ludwig built was west of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Frankentrost. The barn that remains is still part of the original structure built by Ludwig. The second home was built just south of the William P. Reinbold residence. This was a log house, which was moved to Frankenmuth and rebuilt by William A. Zehnder.

Tragedy struck the Reinbold family nineteen years after settling in Frankentrost, when Ludwig (according to church records) was critically hurt by a runaway horse and wagon accident. He died December 5, 1867 at the age of 66. This was ten years after Johann Christ was born. Catherine, 9 years younger than Ludwig died at the age of 63 and was buried next to Ludwig in St. John's Cemetery in Frankentrost.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
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