

Appold Family



he name Appold came to this area starting with Johann Kasper Appold born on August 9, 1825 in Vestenberg Bayern, Germany. He was the son and second eldest of six children of Johann George and Margaretha Barbara nee Schleier. Johann George was a “zimmermeister” or journeyman carpenter. Like his father Johann George, Johann Kasper became a carpenter by trade.

At the age of 20, Johann Kasper joined the Bavarian army and served for six years. In the spring of 1852, he and his younger sister, Maria Barbara, decided to join a group that Pastor Loehe was sending to “America.” Their destination was the “Franken” colonies in the Saginaw Valley. They left Bremen on April 24, 1852 on the “Regina” or the “Florian” arriving in New York in June, 1852. They arrived in late summer in Frankenmuth and discussed land acquisition with a Mr. Hubinger. At the suggestion of Pastor Ferdinand Sievers of Frankenlust, Johann Kasper bought less expensive land there and joined the group who had established Frankenlust in 1848.

At the same time Johann Kasper Appold and his sister Maria Barbara were sailing to America, Barbara Arnold and her younger brother Georg Michael Arnold were sailing on the same vessel. Barbara Arnold was born June 21, 1824, in Gros-Haslach, a neighboring village of Vestenberg. August 3, 1853, Johann Kasper Appold married Barbara Arnold, and Georg Michael Arnold married Maria Barbara Appold. The marriages were consecrated by Pastor Ferdinand Sievers at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Frankenlust.

After three years of living on land owned by Pastor Sievers, Johann Kasper and Barbara bought various parcels of land in Frankenlust Township, eventually ending up with over 300 acres.

Johann cut down the pine trees and cleared the land for farming. He erected a saw mill and operated it for 12 years before selling it to Schaller and Stevens. The original homestead is still in the family. It is located on Stone Island Road, and is recognized as a “Historic Centennial Farm”.

Johann Kasper was very active in the community affairs of the township, serving as highway and drainage commissioner, justice of the peace, school inspector, and for 25 years school moderator. He also was active in the Republican Party, serving as delegate to many conventions.

Johann Kasper and Barbara had seven children:

George Michael was a farmer. He was born September 21, 1855 and died August 19, 1929.

John Jacob was a farmer. He was born June 18, 1857 and died February 9, 1929.

Mary Barbara was a housekeeper and never married. She was born on January 26, 1859 and died on August 31, 1935.

John George was a teacher. He was born on May 27, 1860 and died May 31, 1935.

Christian was a farmer. He was born on December 17, 1861, and died April 14, 1956.

Fred lived with his sister, Mary, and never married. He was born on November 17, 1865 and died in 1930.

Leonard was a teacher in Sebawaing, Michigan. He was born on November 6, 1869 and died February 24, 1942.

A total of 30 grandchildren came from the five marriages and at this writing one is still living, at 94 years young. There are a total of 525 descendants that have been identified. Johann Kasper Appold died April 9, 1903 and Barbara died December 1, 1890. Both of them are buried in the St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery in Frankenlust.



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