

# Scharrer Family



The date that Michael Scharrer established the family name in the Frankenmuth area is believed to be about 1860. John Michael was born in Foerrenbach, Frankischen Schweiz in Germany, near Switzerland in 1835. He came to America at age 10 with his parents, Conrad and Barbara (Fischer) Scharrer. Conrad was a barrel maker (Buettnergeselle) in Germany.

They left Germany on February 13, 1845 and got married on board ship on April 20, 1845. They, with their son John Michael I, settled in Pennsylvania before any of the first immigrants came to Frankenmuth. Conrad and Barbara never moved to Michigan, but in 1860 their son John Michael Scharrer, with his wife Magdalena Pelzy born in 1828, moved to Birch Run, Michigan to farm.

The couple had five children. All their sons, like their father John Michael I, were farmers. John Michael Scharrer II married Kunigunda Haubenstricker. Their children were Bernard and a daughter that died in infancy. Bernard and his wife Gladys Riethmeier had two sons, Harold and Michael. After Kunigunda died, John Michael II married Anna (Schultz) Krueger. Her children from a previous marriage were Caroline and Verna Krueger who married Oswald Schmitzer.

The second child, John George Scharrer, married Anna Ranke. Their children were Herbert, Herman, Amanda Meinert and Milda Rittmueller. Herbert married Laura Haubenstricker and they had Robert, Delmer, Mildred and Erna Richards. The next son Herman married Lydia Zehnder, the first cousin of Eddie and Tiny Zehnder, owners of the Zehnder's and Bavarian Inn Restaurants. Herman and Lydia had four boys and four girls. They were Clarence, Arnold, Edgar, Lucille Weiss, Kathleen Weiss, Marvin, Doris Schlaefke and Carolyn.

Amanda Scharrer married Walter Meinert. Their children were Martha Owens, and Carl and Roland Meinert. The last child was Milda, who married teacher Ernest F. Rittmueller. Their children were Walter, Gilbert, Franklin, Marion Braeutigam and Eunice Drew.

The third child of John Michael I and Magdalena was John Leonard who married Mary Schmitzer. They had eight children: Ella Matzke, Walter, Lillian Tiffuf, Louis, Albert (died at an early age), Florence Moore, Lorna Nart and Lena Schluckebier. Ella and Louis Matzke's children were: Rudolph, Esther Pavlicek, William, Marie Jones, Ruth Cribbens, Harold, Lillian, Ann Bronner-Langley, Ruben and twins Norbert and Herbert.

The fourth child of John Michael I was John Edward Scharrer who married Lena Zimmerman. Their children were Martin Scharrer and Cecilia Haubenstricker, both adopted. Martin and Martha Herzog Scharrer had Shirley Hegenauer-Heckroth, Irene Hartman, Marie Thieme, and Edward Scharrer. Ceclia married Erwin Haubenstricker and they had Ivan and Leona Deuring-Reinert. They also lost a daughter, Violet, at birth.

The only daughter of John Michael I and Magdalena Scharrer was Barbara who married Fred Stellwag. After Fred died she married Louis Schmitzer.

According to records available as of 2006, John Michael I and Magdalena Scharrer had 16 grandchildren, 61 great-grandchildren, 178 great-great-grandchildren, at least 228 great-great-great-grandchildren and 50 great-great-great-great-grandchildren for a total of 538 descendants. John Michael I died in 1911 and is buried in Frankenmuth. His wife Magdalena died two years earlier.



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