

Schreiner Family



The Schreiner family name came to Frankenmuth in the mid 1800s through Marcus Heinrich Schreiner. Marcus had the distinction of being the community's first blacksmith. His father, Henry M. Schreiner, was a blacksmith in Altdorf Bavaria, near Nuernberg. He probably learned the trade from his father before he left Germany.

Marcus was born March 20, 1844. He married Rosina Barbara Krafft at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church July 10, 1870. Pastor Ottomar Fuerbringer officiated at the ceremony with John Georg Hubinger and John Georg Krafft as witnesses. Unlike Marcus, Rosina was born in Frankenmuth in 1847, two years after the community was founded.

Marcus began his blacksmith business at a shop along what is currently known as Main Street in Frankenmuth. The exact location is now the southern part of the lower lobby of the Bavarian Inn Restaurant.

Marcus sold the shop to his brother John Nicolaus Schreiner and used the money to purchase the Ranzenberger General Store. Ranzenberger was Frankenmuth's first business enterprise established in 1847. The store was located about 200 yards west of St. Lorenz Church on what is now the northern approach to the Dehmel Road Bridge. Marcus renamed it the "Schreiner Store".

Marcus and his wife Rosina had nine children. Johann Georg Konard was a storekeeper, while their second son Johann Georg purchased a farm on Block Road, north of Frankenmuth in 1905. It became the John G. Schreiner Stock Farm.

Three of the Schreiner children were teachers. Johann Martin was the oldest and was a teacher; Johann Ernst was a teacher as well as an organist; and Georg Friedrich was a teacher and a storekeeper in Royal Oak, Michigan. The oldest daughter, Anna Eichinger, was a housewife. The other two daughters, Mary W. and Emma Dorthea Malwine, never married. The youngest son, Heinrich Johann, worked as a postal deliveryman.

The grandchildren were: Edwin, Lewis, Art, Lydia and Elsie Schreiner; Agnes Trinklein, Rudolph, Walter, Albert, Herman Schreiner; Hedwig Maurer, Lorna Bernthal; Alfons, Walter Eichinger; Bernice, Marcus, Ruth Schreiner; Ernie, Gilbert, Harold Edgar Schreiner; Agnes Frinke; Erma McNiven, Ruth Bartlet, Theodore Schreiner; Edward and Robert Schreiner and an unnamed baby.

The Schreiner name remains prominent in the Frankenmuth area. Herman Schreiner, a grandson of Marcus Heinrich, continued his father's Stock Farm tradition. This farm is now in the third generation with John J. Schreiner as the operator of a cash crop farm.

Another grandson of Marcus Heinrich, Rudolph, also owned and operated a farm in the Frankenmuth area until his retirement. His son Roy continues that operation today. Grandson Albert had an interest in one of Frankenmuth's lumber milling operations. Another son, Walter, was a Lutheran pastor.

Marcus Heinrich's descendants number close to 200 persons, as of the year 2005. Marcus died October 7, 1893 when he was 49 years old. His wife died August 17, 1907. Both are buried in St. Lorenz Cemetery.



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