

Link Family



he Link family name came to this area through Kasper Link (1813-1878). Kasper was born in Rosstal, Germany and was the son of Heinrich and Anna Link. The couple had eleven children but only two sons and one daughter survived childhood.

In 1850, when Kasper was 36 years old, he married 26 year old Anna Margaretha Stengel. The ceremony took place in the Lutheran Church and 30 people attended the wedding festivities in the Stengel home.

The following year the young couple, along with their infant son, George, and the Stengel family, immigrated to the New World. After 56 days on a sailboat, they arrived in New York. Just prior to Christmas of 1851, they arrived in Amelith, located in Frankenlust Township, Bay County, Michigan. They were among the earliest settlers in this township. They bought a farm of 65 acres of woods. There were no roads to Bay City or to Saginaw. Fortunately, game was still plentiful and the larder was usually well filled with meat; but when other supplies were wanted, they had to follow a trail to the river and travel in a canoe to Saginaw, or Bay City. Besides clearing his land of timber, Kasper also followed his father's footsteps and became a "Schreinermeister" (master carpenter) with a crew of 10 to 20 men.

Anna and Kasper's son, George, died 4 weeks after arriving in America. Five more children were born to the couple and baptized at the Lutheran Church by Pastor Sievers. A surviving son, John Adam (1858-1922) was born in a log cabin where the family lived for 10 years until a frame house was built.

John Adam married Margaretha Barbara Kreutzer (1860-1950). Seven children were born to the couple which included: Clara, Herman, Walter Oscar, John Frederick, Oscar George, Elmer Edwin, and Selma.

Oscar George (1896-1973) was born at the farm in Frankenlust. The doctor's fee for his delivery was \$1.25. He worked on the family farm until his induction into the military during World War I, where he served in France. After his discharge, he pursued a career as a real estate broker and insurance salesman. At the age of 32 he married 22 year old Lydia Nast (1906-1983), a registered nurse from Cincinnati, Ohio. Their union was blessed with Margaret Lydia (born 1931), Oscar Nast (born 1933), Robert Roy (born 1936), and Carl David (born 1937). All of the children were baptized in the Methodist Church. The family moved to Reese when the children were small.

Margaret, a registered nurse, married Eldor Hetzner of Frankentrost in 1953. In 1973, Margaret and her family joined Immanuel Lutheran at Frankentrost, the church preference of her great-great-grandfather, Heinrich Link. They had two children and four granddaughters.

Oscar, who was born at home on the dining room table during the Depression, attended Albion College and University of Michigan where he received his Doctor of Dental Surgery. He married Elinor Rickert from Birmingham, Michigan. They had four children and eleven grandchildren.

Robert, born on his father's 40th birthday and a real estate broker for many years, was the distributor for Standard Oil Company in Roscommon County. He married Mary Williams from Roscommon. They had three children and eleven grandchildren.

Carl married Joyce Koonz from Gladwin. They owned Link Advertising, Inc. Their firm placed the first highway sign advertising the Bavarian Inn Lodge. The sign is located at I-75 and I-675.

Carl died June 29, 2005.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
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