

Mueller Family



he father of Johann Adam, Andreas Mueller, and his wife Margaretha nee Moeschel Mueller, were both born in 1802. They were farmers in Lindau Bayern, in the area of Kulmbach, Germany. Andreas was privileged to have “hunting rights” for small game which meant he could hunt the game and then sell it for meat and pelts. As their children grew, there was much strife in Germany. Coming to America offered peace and political freedom, greater opportunities and the availability of purchasing farmland at a reasonable price.

Andreas and Margaretha’s three youngest sons and their future brides came to America at different times. Johann Adam and Elizabeth nee Ramming came in 1857; Johann M. and Margaretha Barbara nee Schwarz, around 1869; and Johann George and Elizabeth nee Schmidt, around 1870. All three brothers were farmers and settled north of Frankentrost and joined Immanuel Lutheran Church. The area in which the three brothers settled was called the “Kulmbach Public School District”, named after the area in Germany from which the brothers emigrated. The school was located on the corner of Janes and Mueller Roads. All the Mueller brothers were great hunters and fisherman; very necessary skills in the early days of their settlement.

Johann Adam and Elizabeth built a log house on Mueller Road ¾ mile north of Frankentrost. As the family grew (nine children) a new house was built which as of 2005 still stands next to the house built by his grandson Herbert Mueller.

Adam and Elizabeth’s oldest son, Johann (Hans) Mueller and his wife Elizabeth and family, and also their son Albert and his family, lived on farms in the Frankentrost area their entire lives. Their son Oscar was a builder and built many barns and houses in the area.

Simon (Sam) was the musician of the family. During Sam’s teen years his father promised him a horse if he would stay on the farm, but his love for music caused him to trade his horse for a violin – his first musical instrument. After attending Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) and graduating with a diploma in cheese making, he returned to the “Franken” area and worked as a cheese maker in Frankenmuth, Frankentrost, Richville and Vassar. His love for music never left him as he was involved in providing music for 58 years, playing almost any instrument, with the exception of the piano which his wife Lydia mastered. His involvement included the Frankentrost, Vassar, Richville and Frankenmuth Concert Bands, the Saginaw Lutheran Band, the Saginaw Eddy Band, and the Saginaw Shrine Band. He was honored by the Frankenmuth Concert Band members for his 50 years of musical contribution to the Frankenmuth area. He and his wife, Lydia nee Veitengruber, had seven children, five of them deeply involved in providing musical enjoyment for others.

Louise Schnierla taught piano for many years besides being the organist and choir director for St. John’s Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth. Ruben, Arthur and Samuel (Sam) followed their father’s footsteps and became cheese makers or worked in a creamery. They, too, were all musicians. Ruben and Sam played drums in various dance bands. Elizabeth Zeilinger, whose husband owned Zeilinger Beverage, was also a singer. Howard, a gas station owner, played the accordion and organ. Fran Rupprecht and her husband Bernhardt (Junie), part owner of Rupprecht’s Sausage Haus, did a great deal of singing throughout the Frankenmuth area.

As of 2005, Simon and Lydia Mueller’s family had grown to include 18 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and 49 great-great-grandchildren.



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