

Zwerk Family



he Zwerk name came to this area through Adolph Zwerk. Adolph and his wife Johann Korgmann were already married when they made the voyage in 1852. They arrived in Frankenhilf May 15, 1852. Frankenhilf was established four years earlier and was still wooded and isolated.

Adolph was born November 13, 1813 to John and Dorah (Sim) Zwerk in Hornsdorf near Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. He grew up, worked as a farmer and married Johanna. They had a son Carl (Charles) before they left Germany.

Adolph and Joanna's children and grandchildren were:

Carl (Charles) was born in Germany in 1848 and was only four years old when he sailed to America. He married Mina Qualman and settled in Saginaw as an owner of a meat market. He had two children: Gustav and Jennie Sanderhoff.

Herman was born July 12, 1852 on board ship as it traveled across the Atlantic Ocean to America. He married Emma Schnettler in 1881 and then he married Helen Langlass in 1889. Herman and Helen had three children: Henry of Saginaw, Herman of Richville and Bertha Burket of Richville.

Adolph was born in 1858 and married Emma Sommer. They resided in Saginaw, Michigan and he was a painter. They had three children: Harriet, Ellen Dambacker and Francis Boelter.

Ella was born in 1860 and married John Kamm. They located near Richville, Michigan and had seven children: Michael, Emma Rechlin, Elizabeth Schluckebier, Adolph, Henry, Herbert and Albert.

Alfred was born in 1862 and married Liesetta Schnettler on November 15, 1885. They resided in Denmark Township, Tuscola County, Michigan. Their children were: Emil, who married Elizabeth Siegelko; Wilhelmina, who married Oswald Auernhamer; and Walter, who married Wilhelmina (Mina) Auernhamer.

Gustav was born in 1864 and married M. Langlass. They had four children: Caroline List, John Jr., Augusta DeMott and Otto.

Plat maps dated in the late 1800's show that Adolph succeeded his dream to buy land in America. He purchased 70 acres of farmland in Section 29 of Denmark Township between two railroad lines. The parcel was northeast of the center of town and St. Michael's Lutheran Church. By 1902 his operation expanded and he purchased 41 more acres for a total of 120 acres.

Adolph died July 5, 1903 at the age of 89. His wife died February 26, 1910. The couple is buried in the Blumfield Township Cemetery.

As of the year 2006, members of the family still own Zwerk's original acreage, plus other parcels in the township.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
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