Grueber Family

The Grueber name was brought to Frankenmuth in 1846. Paulus Lorenz Grueber, his wife Barbara nee Winkler, his sister Margaretha Barbara, and her husband Christoph Hoerlein, were a part of the large group that came in 1846. Both couples were married on March 18, 1846, two of the ten couples married by the Pastor Peter Von Hanfstangel. The wedding took place in the living room of Pastor Hanfstangel’s parsonage.

On March 22, 1846 they boarded a converted tobacco ship, the Tuckewitz, and sailed for New York, arriving there on May 9, 1846.

Lorenz P. Grueber was the son of Johann Paulus, master weaver, and his wife Margaretha Barbara nee Knörr. He was born September 7, 1817 in Neuendettelsau, Germany and was baptized two days later on September 9. His sponsors were Lorenz Grueber from Wilherndorf and Johann Paulus Knörr, a soldier in the Royal Bavarian Army. Lorenz’s wife Barbara, born September 15, 1816, was the daughter of Johann Georg Winkler from Leuzdorf and his wife Kunigunda nee Körn.

Upon their arrival in Frankenmuth, Lorenz P. and Barbara lived in the communal home located near their log cabin church until the year 1851, when he bought some land from the U.S. government through a land grant signed by then President Millard Fillmore. The original Grueber Homestead is still located at 5250 Maple Road.

Lorenz P. and Barbara had five children: Christoph, John George, John Michael, George Leonard and Margaretha Barbara. Lorenz P. died October 10, 1875.

Christoph was born in 1847 while the parents still lived at the communal home. He grew up and married Kunigunde Loesel, daughter of Lorenz Loesel.

They made their homestead on a farm that, as of today, is still in the Grueber family and presently owned by Kenneth and Sue Grueber. Christoph and Kunigunde had 9 children: Margareta Riess, Pauline Weber, Leonard, Johanna Weber, Conrad, Martha Daenzer, Alfred, Rev. Lorenz and Ida Petzold.


John Michael and his wife Kunigunde nee Brenner, had two children: Margaretha Ursula Anna Rosa Keinath and Johann George.

George Leonard and his wife Ursula Weiss had three children: Christoph Adam Otto, Adam Christoph and Marie Margaretha Lydia (Mrs. Stephen Nuechterlein). An adopted daughter Lydia Bierlein (Mrs. Erwin Bickel) was also a member of the family.

Margaretha Barbara and her husband John George Fischer had one child, Emma (Mrs. Stephen Knoll).

It is interesting to note that at the time of Frankenmuth’s 100th anniversary, the Grueber family was able to count more than 70 first and second cousins, spouses, and offspring who had served the Lutheran Church as either pastors or teachers.