

Haubenstricker Family



Theodor Haubenstricker (1830-1907) and his brother Karl (1835-1918) brought the family name to Frankenmuth. The two were born to Heinrich Friedrich Christian Haubenstricker (1796-1857) and wife Amalie nee Drechsler, both of Nuremberg Germany. Heinrich was a dye manufacturer and book dealer. His father, Friedrich (1753-1833), had been the chief judge in Wendelstein Nuremberg.

Karl left Germany at age 13 with his parents to live in Tennessee. Later, his parents returned to Germany. At the 1850 census, Karl was a laborer boarding with a family of Swiss immigrants in Knox County, Tennessee. In 1860 he moved to Frankenmuth where his brother Theodor had settled. In 1850, at age 20, Theodor had sailed across the Atlantic on the ship *Elizabeth* with a group of German immigrants and Pastor Herman Kuehn, who intended to begin the fourth "Franken" colony in Michigan (Frankenhilf). Passenger Carl Gottlieb Ammon described the ship's journey: "*We were so famished and weak [from seasickness], we felt as if it would be impossible for us to complete the trip . . . As severely as we were afflicted by this plague, we felt constrained to praise God. He has so richly comforted us that even in those difficult times we never regretted our emigration . . . The provisions we brought with us did more for our recovery than all the medications . . . If the sight of land was enjoyable after a long journey at sea, the sight of the shores of New York was even more so.*" Theodor Haubenstricker first worked as a laborer in the colony Frankenlust, boarding with Johann Conrad and Eva Schmidt; then he moved to Frankenmuth.

Both brothers found immigrant brides and married in Frankenmuth at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. In 1853 Theodor married Margaretha Koeppendoerfer. They had twelve children between 1854 and 1873. Seven of those children died: one in infancy, three as young children, and three in their teens or twenties.

The surviving five children all married and worked their farms southeast of Frankenmuth: John married Katharina Beyer and had 10 children; Kunigunde married Johann Michael Scharrer and died from childbirth complications; Jacob married Sophie Beyer and had five children; George married Caroline Daenzer and had four children; and Fred married Barbara Schmandt, farmed in Thetford Township, and had one son. Brother Karl married Pauline Wilhemine Ranke in 1861. Their first child lived a year, and in 1864, Pauline died from childbirth complications. In 1865, Karl married his second wife, Margaretha Mader. They had five children: Ferdinand married Barbara Reindel and farmed in Frankenmuth Township; Johann [John] became a meat-cutter and lived in Saginaw and Detroit with his wife Cora; Luise [Louisa] married carpenter Christian Plambeck and lived in Saginaw; Christiane married George Richter and lived in Cadillac; and Maria [Mary] married John George Haenlein, a farmer in Saginaw Township on Shattuck Road.

The Haubenstricker brothers bought and sold farmland to support their growing families. Theodor bought 46 acres near 3620 S. Dehmel Rd. in 1855, then, sold it in 1865 when he purchased 80 acres at 12415 Junction Rd. He sold that farm to his brother Karl in 1878 when he bought a farm at 12220 Busch Rd. in Birch Run Township. Generations of Haubenstrickers have continued that farm after Theodor: George & Caroline, Herman & Anna, Arnold & Vera, and Steve and Lori. Descendants of Theodor also have farms in the vicinity. Karl's farm on Junction Rd. passed to his son Ferdinand in 1902, then to Otto in 1942. After Otto's death, the farm passed to his sister Agnes (Mrs. Elmer Weber) and her children. They sold the farm to Walter and Doris Bauer.

The longest-living Haubenstricker was Hilda nee Keinath Haubenstricker, wife of Ernst (grandson of immigrant Theodor); born in 1895 and died on Mother's Day 2003 at the age of 107 years, 8 months.



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