

Kohlhoff Family



he Kohlhoff name came to this area through Georg Heinrich Kohlhoff. It is thought that Georg and his wife, Elizabeth (February 24, 1870-April 18, 1961) were both born and also married in the Gelsenkirchen area of Germany.

Georg Heinrich served in the infantry of His Majesty the Emperor and King, Wilhelm I the Great. At Kaiser Wilhelm I the Great's 100th birthday, Georg Heinrich received the medal of Canon Bronze. He was a musketeer in the infantry regiment of Count Barfuss, 4th Westphalian Number 17.

Georg (Henry) left Germany and came to the United States early in the 1900's. He worked in St. Charles, Michigan as a coal miner and a farmer. After he had saved enough money he returned to Germany and then later returned to America, bringing the rest of the family with him. He lived in Saginaw for a short time and then, in 1917, he purchased a farm in Arbela Township, south of Tuscola, at the corner of Barnes and Bray Roads. Besides farming, the Kohlhoff's had a milk and egg route in their vicinity. One of the Kohlhoff's customers was Mr. Henry Fischer, who operated the Fischer Hotel, now the Bavarian Inn Restaurant.

Georg (Henry) Kohlhoff must have been well known in Frankenmuth because Otto Trinklein, President of the Frankenmuth State Bank, gave him a personal loan, with no interest, so that he could visit his sick father in Germany.

Another anecdote, remembered by George (Henry's) grandson Charles, is that one time when Henry was on his way to the Star of the West Mill, the horses of the wagon in front of him "spooked". Henry grabbed the reins of the horses and brought them to a stop but, in the process, he broke his leg.

Georg (Henry) and Elizabeth had seven children: Walter, Henry, Fred, William, Arthur, Frieda and Alvina.

Walter and Arthur attended St. Lorenz Lutheran School.

Walter married Agnes Howard and they had six children: Charles, Howard, James, Mary, John and Jack.

Henry married Irene Roenicke and they had four children: Leo, Norman, Winfield and Delano.

Fred married Hattie Spitz and they had six children: Fred Jr., Judy, Kenneth, Clara, Dorothy and Violet.

William married Elizabeth Oelberg and they had two children: Ruth and Donald.

Arthur married May Tappan and they had six children: Frances, Rose, Betty, Mary Ann, Shirley and Evelyn.

Frieda married Charles Ruhlman and they had one daughter, Ruth.

Alvina married Peter Hoerner and they had one son, Jack.

Georg (Henry) died in 1942 and Elizabeth died in 1961.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
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