

Nuechterlein Family



The known history of the name Nuechterlein dates from about 1514, when a Nuechterlein immigrated to the area which later became the town of Tettau (Kingdom of Thuringia).

The family lived in Thuringia until 1676, when Johannes "Hans", son of Christoph and Anna (nee Schumann), married Barbara Schmidtner at the church in Rosstal (Kingdom of Bavaria). Rosstal is about 100 miles from the town of Weissen where Hans grew up.

Orphaned at the age of four, Hans had been raised by his godfather, Hans Wumbholtz, who was a Schreinermeister (master carpenter) in Weissen. The family trade was carpentry and cabinet making for many generations.

Hans' great grandson, Johann Jakob, married Christina Körber and raised six children: Anna Barbara (b. 1806), J. Georg (1803), Johann (1811), J. Jacob (1814), J. Ferdinand (1818), and Christina (1821). Johann Jakob died in 1843 and is buried in Rosstal.

Between 1846 and 1851, the four Nuechterlein brothers and sister, Christina, came with their families to Frankenmuth from Rosstal, Germany.

Anna Barbara married Georg Deindörfer and remained in Germany. Johann Jacob (b. 1814) was the only brother whose descendants carry on the Nuechterlein name in the United States.

Trained as cabinet makers in Germany, Jacob and his brothers became farmers in Frankenmuth.

Johann Jacob married Anna Margarete Breiter in 1843 and they had seven children: Johann, Anna (Barbara), J. Jacob, J. Christoph, J. Ferdinand, (Anna) Barbara, and J. George.

The two girls married Levi Steltzriede and Georg Reinert, respectively, and were farmers in the area.

Johann, Johann Ferdinand, and Johann George also farmed.

Johann Jacob operated a cabinet making shop at 545 S. Main Street and worked with his brother, Johann Christoph, making wood caskets for Nuechterlein Mortuary, just up the street.

Johann Jacob and Anna Margarete had 49 grandchildren and 177 great-grandchildren.

A number of businesses in Frankenmuth were founded by their descendants including Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company, Frankenmuth Travel, Nuechterlein Electric, Nuechterlein Funeral Home (today Cederberg), Nuechterlein Hardware, Nuechterlein Jewelry, and Weiss Farm Implement.

Today their descendants number over one thousand, live all over the United States as well as overseas, and have been active in business, agriculture, science, and government.

Many have served the Lutheran Church as pastors, teachers, and active lay workers.



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