Popp Family

The Popp name came to this area through Karl Konrad Popp. Karl Konrad was born in 1829 in Langenzenn, west of Fuertth Bavaria, Germany. Karl Konrad worked at a lumber mill owned by the Zorn family. It was at the lumber mill that Karl met the owner’s daughter, Margaretha Zorn. Since the Popp family was very poor, Margaretha’s father did not allow any association between Karl and Margaretha.

Karl or “Charles”, as he was later known, saved enough money for their passage to New York. Upon Karl’s and Margaretha’s arrival in New York in 1854, they were married and started their journey to the Saginaw Valley.

When in America, Charles again worked with wood and lumber. He cut wood for 15 cents a cord and saved enough money to buy land and build a log house.

In 1857, he bought 25 acres of virgin forest. A few years later he saved enough to buy 315 acres.

In 1888, he built a “Sears Roebuck” home at what is now 4784 Studor in Bridgeport, Michigan. Margaretha wrote her name in the wet cement of the cellar steps. As of 2005, her name was still on those steps in the home where Margaretha’s great-grandson, Stephen Popp and his wife Debra Schluckebier Popp live.

Charles and Margaretha had eleven children. At the time of Charles’ death on January 30, 1900, there were 31 grandchildren. Margaretha died on February 13, 1918. Both Charles and Margaretha are buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery in south Saginaw, Michigan.

One of their sons was also called Charles. He was born in Bridgeport in 1867. He married Caroline Augusta Gross. They had one son, George Albert. Charles died in 1943 and Caroline died on March 10, 1931.

George Albert Popp was born on February 25, 1902 in Saginaw, Michigan. He married Alma Maria Meinecke on May 14, 1927. They had three sons: Howard George, Bruce Arthur, and Donald Robert. George Albert died on April 22, 1952 and Alma Marie died on June 1, 1983.

Howard George Popp was born July 18, 1928. He married Betty Jean Fawcett in 1950. They had two daughters, Debra Marie and Linda Marie. Howard George died in July of 1984.

Bruce Arthur Popp was born on November 10, 1930. He married E. Jeanette Boyd on June 23, 1951. They had three children: Glenda Jeanette, Carrie Beth, and Michael Bruce.

Donald Robert Popp brought the Popp name to Frankenmuth in 1955. He was born June 4, 1934.

On February 12, 1955, at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, he married Ruth Lilly Bronner, the daughter of John and Lilly Bronner. They had three children: Tammi Ann Musgrave, Pami Ann Ward, and Terri Ann Baumann.