

Reindel Family



The community of Frankenmuth was well established by the time George Adam Reindel arrived in the late 1860s. Fields of crops stretched the length of six miles and the colony occupied an entire township. Log

houses were upgraded to frame homes and the land value had greatly increased over the original prices the first settlers paid when Frankenmuth was founded in 1845. Some said land was selling for \$100 an acre with more distant forest land going for as much as \$40 an acre. The original price was about \$2.50 an acre.

Frankenmuth was linked to Saginaw by a good plank road which made travel easy. East Saginaw was a good market for hay and lumber so the local farmers were prosperous.

Although many of the earlier hardships were overcome, some settlers wrote home to Germany about problems.

Frankenmuth had a brewery and beer garden that offered opportunities to spend the evenings away from home drinking and gambling. However, the brewery and beer garden were owned by "outsiders" not Frankenmuthers.

The fact that the Lutheran church did not have a steeple so it could be recognized from a distance was also considered a shortcoming. But the congregation did take good care of their pastor and built him a spacious, new parsonage.

When Reindel arrived, he built a log cabin near the corner of South Dehmel and Bradley Roads. He was not only a farmer, but also a carpenter.

Reindel married Anna nee Birk on October 20, 1868 before they immigrated to America. She was born June 19, 1844 in Trossingen Wittenberg, Germany. He was born October 20, 1838 in Schoftersheim Wurzburg, Germany. Reindel was confirmed April 18, 1852. His confirmation text was Psalm 119:30, "*I have chosen the way of truth; thy judgments have I laid before me*".

The couple's marriage was blessed with 12 children. Magdalene Margaretha Barbara Haubenstricker was born August 1, 1869 while Anna Christine was born February 8, 1871. Their first son Johann Georg was born March 7, 1873 and was a carpenter. Their second son Georg Adam was born March 25, 1877 and was also a carpenter.

Their other daughters were: Anna Margarethe, born October 14, 1879; Anna Barbara, born March 10, 1883; Sophie Sohn, born April 26, 1884; Eva Magdalena, born April 14, 1886; and Rosina Margaretha Ruff, born April 22, 1892.

Their other sons were: Johann Leonhard, a farmer; Wilhelm Gottlieb, an architect and carpenter who was co-owner of Reindel and Schreiner Lumber Company; and Friedrich, a farmer.

They had 20 grandchildren.

Reindel and his wife both died in 1909. He was 71 and she was 65. They are buried in St. Lorenz Cemetery.