

1990 April 22
copied this out.

Peter Lorenz (Sr.) -

Magdalena (Trapler) Lorenz.

^(came) to Canada in 1908 April

also five other families;

3 Lorenz families, Peter, William & Joseph. (brothers)
and two Shulz families, also a Martin Lockert
he was a single then.

Mary, Leo, Nellie, Joe were born in the old country
in Dolina town Austria. (the rest of Family in Canada)

Magdalena Lorenz had two brothers; Jacob & Joseph
& two sisters: Dorothy and Josephine. (Sophie)
these were her real brothers & sisters.

She also had 4 step-brothers and two step-sisters.

Magdalena Lorenz (Trapler) her father was:

{ Ludwig Trapler. (father)
married Margaret (Polhaber) (Mother)

Magdalena (Simon's mom) was the 3rd in the family
Josephine, her sister was 4th & 2 yrs old when
her mother died.

Ludwig remarried & had 4 more boys & 2 girls

Information I got from Mary Kissinger
1962

n: Leöna Rosenmeier

to: Lois Lorenz

sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 6:08 PM

Subject: Marriage record

I'm pretty sure I have a copy of the marriage record but I'll have to search. As I said, I haven't worked on genealogy for a long time and I have oodles of materials, sometimes not well organized.

Yes, lots of Lorenz families in Galicia, lots of Lorenz families in the Pfalz, lots of Lorenz families in Chicago (as of when I was a child). My husband says I'm related to nearly everyone. Of course, not all Lorenzes are actually related to me; it just seems that way. And there are the Sebastians, Gewerths, Millers/Müllers, and on and on--and now they're related to you too. Or is it your husband who is the Lorenz?

Here is part of a letter to me from my grandmother, Magdalena Möss:

And now about the family tree. I can't tell you much. I came to Chicago in 1905 from Austria and I forgot almost everything. I was 16 years old. My maiden name was Magdalena Mö. My father's name was Ludwik Möss. My mother's maiden name was Barbara Lorenz. My parents were born in a village by the name of Hoffnungsau. They were married in the town names Dolina. They had 13 children, seven boys and 7 girls. Four children were born in Hofnungsau. Catherine died a baby, Jacob, Bill (William), then I was number four. I was one year old when we moved to a village nearby. My father bought some land with a house. I was very nice. The name of that village was Rachin. We had a very nice place, up on the hill. There the rest of the children were born. After me was Elizabeth, Caroline, Peter, Marie, Frederick. Joseph and Johnny died babies. Then was Christine and the last one was Jacob. The oldest brother Jacob died when he was 21 in 1906. That's why my parents named the youngest brother Jacob. Elizabeth was 17 when she died. Caroline was Wanda's mother. You must remember her. Wanda came to Chicago as a D.P. (displaced person). She lived with us on Lowell Avenue. Caroline died in Germany. I believe it was in 1960. Peter married a Russian girl. He lived in a town by the name of Poznan, belongs to Poland. Frederick in Vienna, Marie is in Chicago, Christine is in Germany and Jacob is now in San Bernardino, Calif. I haven't mentioned my brother Bill. He is two years older than I am. He is now 77. Came to Chicago in 1905. Three years later he enlisted in the army, served Uncle Sam 27 years and retired. When World War II broke out, he enlisted in the Navy, was teaching the boys to fly helicopters, met with an accident, was in the hospital for a while and then retired. He is married, has a son and a daughter. Lived in San Bernardino for many years. Sold his house, lived with his son last winter. In the last letter he said in spring he was going back to San Bernardino. I didn't get a letter from him this summer so I don't know if they are in California or in Mexico. His son lives in Mexico, married but I don't know if he has a family.

My grandmother and grandfather were born in another village nearby. The name of that village was Obliska. They were married in Obliska, then bought a house in Hofnungsau. They had that I remember 3 boys and 5 girls, all born in Hofnungsau. My mother was the oldest, Barbara, next was Joseph, then Elizabeth, Margaret, Catherine. My Aunt Catherine died in Chicago, maybe you remember Uncle and Aunt Hayne [I think that's spelled Hahn or Hehn]. Come to think you were too small when they died. They had to boys Bill and Joe. Then there was Peter and William Lorenz. The girl was Caroline, No. 8. Maybe you remember my Uncle Bill; he visited us in 1954 or 55 from Canada. He stayed by us 6 weeks. My uncles and their families left Austria I believe it was in 1909 and went to Canada. They took grandmother with because she was a widow. Her home was then with her youngest son, Uncle Bill. Uncle Joseph, Peter, Bill and Grandma and their wives are dead - died in Canada. I have a lot of cousins in Canada.

My grandmother's maiden name was Cathine Peterman. I don't know grandfather's first name, the second name was Lorenz. My grandfather and your dad's grandfather were brothers. You see my mother and your dad's father were first cousins. You dad's family and my family are from the same place, not the same village, but we all belonged to the same town, Dolina. My grandfather died in Hofnungsau, so did Aunt Elizabeth. I don't know nothing about the others. My mother died in World War I, I believe of double pneumonia. My father died at 73. I don't remember what year, in Rachin. The state was Galizia, the town Dolina, near Stryj. Close to the Hungarian border. The next closest border was Bucovina, by the Carpathian woods. Galizia belonged then to Austria. Franz Joseph was Kaiser over Austria and king over Hungary. Now I don't know where it belongs.

This letter was sent to me when I was living in Seattle in October 1964. It was more than 20 years before I did any further searching but I couldn't have found anything if it weren't for this letter. The Uncle Bill mentioned was YOUR Bill and I do sort of remember him. As far as I know Wanda still lives in the Chicago area and has a son. She married a Hendricksen but is divorced and I haven't been able to locate her. I think it was Caroline's daughter I received a letter from just after the war, from Germany. She was getting married and needed fabric to make a wedding dress, which I sent her. Her letters were in German and German script and at the time I couldn't read them. Apparently, I threw them away after Grandma translated them for me.

The Zentner Saga, as remembered by Thaddeus (Teddy)
Fourth son of John & Margret Zentner

So the story goes. Wilhelm Zentner grew up in Galicia (Austria) got married in Klein Fontel to a young lady by the name of Anna Maria Lorenz, the daughter of Henrich Lorenz.

They applied for Passport and traveled through to Breslau where they were to take the boat for New York USA. but something delayed them, as Anna Maria was heavy with the twins, Barbara & Josef – who is said to have died en-route. His death is registered at Wpg. Man. Their journey interruption left them behind the rest of the group they were to embark with after crossing Atlantic to New York. They came to Chicago and then by boat to about fifty miles from Winnipeg where they spent over a year. The house was on east Portage Ave. 1/2 Block from Main St.

Working in Winnipeg was just not for Wilhelm with the large family. So they bought a wagon, harrow, disc, several horses a cow and ox & chickens. Loaded this and departed for the then North West Territories where land was available to homestead. An uneventful trip till they got to the Assinaboine River where the axle of the wagon broke. Wilhelm being a handy man made a new one and continued on till they had another breakdown.

Wife and five children they “planted” themselves for the winter. A hole was dug, the wagon was turned over to cover it. Sod was cut and a “house” was made.

The area was open for homestead so knowing some of the families they applied for 1/4 sec of land. N.W. 1/4 of Sec 4 in Church Bridge M.

This Land was rather stony but had a slough for water and enough grass for feed for the animals. Grass was cut by hand and stacked for winter animal feed. After receiving the homestead rights they built a house and log barns.

My father (John) was eleven years old when they hauled the wood from Assinaboine. (he remembered his age because he started to use Club chew Tobacco “plug” to keep the tooth ache from making him cry).

The first steam engine in the area was bought and driven in from North Dakota. John was the “engineer” had his steam papers. Threshing was done from “stacks” after cutting the farmer hauled the sheave to the stack and there the threshing machine was set up between them and four men kept feeding the thresher.

After the steam engine they bought an Advance Humley, rated at 15-30 horse power and also a thresher that had a chain drive feeder, so advanced the sheaves were hauled from the field and threshed without the “stack” and the grain was elevated, weighed and tripped down a chute into a grain bin.

Another aside. When the yard sale was made after all had passed on Teddy was putting things together plus the “Copper Coil” and some very old hand tools. Wilhelm was a Teacher-Smith, wood worker and also father as they raised a family. Teddy even turned the forge blower for Grandfather to sharpen plowshares.

Anna Maria used to worry about “Dahda” as the “brew” he used to make was not legal but the mash made good treat food for the milk cows (its other use.) Dahda had a hiding place for himself and also the finished product.

Anna Maria was a short stout woman with much patients. Hand washing clothes and cooking on a wood burning stove, canning homegrown and wild fruit& vegetables. No fridge so everything was kept in the "keller" a dugout below the house addition that was used for the kitchen and pantry.

Anna Maria did also make a lot of clothing, mostly hand sewing using the sugar and flour bags for the bedding and pettie coats for the girls. The canning was from wild fruit, gooseberry, raspberry, strawberries, chokecherries, pincherries, blueberries (Saskatoon's), high bush cranberry. Even the tea was local hand picked and dried "chamomile". The wash was done on a hand rub board and hung out in the wind to dry, in winter it freeze -dried (no modern convenience).

The cooking was taught to the daughters also, those other necessary knowledge to raise their families.

All this was done while raising a family of 21 children - 18 survived .Two died the same day in the flu epidemic of 1918. At that time several of the older children were married and had Anna Maria as grand ma. "GROSS MUTTER"

Teddy had quite a few meals with the family, also Sunday get togethers with the married ones families.

Now for some new found old Data

Wilhelm Zentner born Feb 28-1860
Married July 12 1885
Klien Fontal 13 (Russia)
Died at Langenburg Sask Oct 5 1949-
(Teddy was pall bearer)

Anna Maria Lorenz Khotovsk. Ukraine 15 Oct 1866
Married July 12 1885
Died Sept 13 1941
Buried at Langenburg Sask . R.C. Cemetery

These pages are written to conserve some of the "history" as "Teddy" remembers .So it may not all be "gospel"

**I have been asked to make some additions to the saga....

During their travel from Winnipeg to the North West Territories they lived off the land. Wild meat, beaver, prairie chicken, squirrels. Rabbits and fish must have been good with a sling shot. With no cold storage, things had to be cooked and used the same day or the next. No time for smoke curing but the beans were bought dry. Was never talked much about this except that my father mentioned that they had beaver meat and that he also caught some fish "jigged".

As for more on Anna Maria, we picked berries, rhubarb, plums, gooseberries, currants in her backyard garden. Also used her cabbage cutting board to cut cabbage for sauerkraut, which was put into barrels to ferment under pressure (big stone) and water for winter use. Cucumbers were also put into barrels for dill pickles.

Gros Motters place was the gathering place for the family get togethers on Sunday and when the moved away children (girls) came for the yearly holiday visit.

The six sons that she had all stayed in the Langenberg area. Four married and had families. Two stayed single and lived with their parents until they passed away. The daughters moved away to neighboring towns, married to Carpenters, Grain buyers and some we really don't know what trade they belonged to, but all seemed to have increased the number of grandchildren for Anna Maria. All these were welcome at the old homestead and many may remember more than I, as I am the youngest son of the oldest son of Maria.

Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2003 6:06 PM
Subject: The Old Country and the Voyage

Walter Lorenz was born in Dolina, Province of Strier, in Austria/Hungary October 5 1888.

"We lived in an area of about 10 houses, with good rich land. The walls of the house were plastered with clay. No one had any lumber to build with...The floors were also covered with clay. The family left out of a need to stay free from communism which was fast closing in. "

The Lorenz family were one of 3000 people who sailed from Bremen Germany in 1900, and arrived in Ellis Island New York in November of that year. They included Henry Sr., his son Jacob, and his wife Margaret, and their children, Henry, Frank, Walter, Lena, Mary Mildred, Jacob and John.

"We had really rough weather. One sailer said it was the worst in 18 years. the voyage took 6 instead of 4 days and many people were seasick. One man died aboard ship, but the body was not dumped into the sea....instead brought to New York. Many people passed a couple of hours dancing each night. When we docked in New York families were divided up and counted. The place was called "Kettle Garden"....on the now infamous Ellis Island.

From New York the family travelled to Winnipeg, where they spent a few days at the home of Philip Gower (a friend of Jacob Sr. in the old country) Then they journeyed south to Cavalier City North Dakota, and spent the remainder of the winter in a vacant house. In the spring they moved to Crystal Springs North Dakota, where Jacob Sr rented a farm.

Lena, Mary and Walter went to school for a couple years. The two oldest (Frank and Henry) worked on the farm.

Around 1902, the family moved west to Osnabrock North Dakota and rented another farm. Walter worked on this farm for 3 or 4 years until they moved again, to Langdon ND

A few years later (1912) the Lorenz family came to Canada, and took up a homestead 20 miles south of Melfort Saskatchewan....which is now Pleasantdale.

"We pitched in helping neighbors.....The land was sandy and poor for farming. It rained a lot so there was enough vegetation. We grew barley, oats and wheat, but sometimes could only get 50 cents a bushel. As for our social life, we went to a few dances in one of the school houses."

On October 2, 1916, when Walter was 28, he married Amelia Fetter on her parent's farm in Watson Sask. She was the daughter of Agnes and Philip, formerly of Samara Russia. According to Walter, they only knew each other for a few weeks, meeting on a visit to Watson.

Henry Sr. died in Pleasantdale on October 29, 1922. According to family records he was 117 and reputed to be the oldest living citizen in Canada.

My Grandfather Walter recalled these stories in 1981 at the age of 92. He had a wonderful memory, and was a great help to me. The rest of his story carries on with his family life with Amelia (my Grandmother) and their children. I do remember that he never wanted to speak German....and during the war, as with many families of German descent was ashamed, and afraid to admit his heritage. My Aunt Agnes who is the oldest (11 years older than Mom) just turned 85, August 2 and is doing great. She still lives in Yorkton....and may have some stories of her own. We have some tape recordings of Grampa reciting poetry, and singing.....and telling stories, which certainly makes this family tree more interesting. The information he supplied me with above are his recollections, and perhaps not exact dates etc.

I hope you find this of help...and interest

Laurie

Background Information

Germans immigrated to the central and eastern parts of Galicia between 1782 and 1789 at the invitation of the Austrian Emperor Josef II. Primarily from southwestern Germany, the immigrants established colonies that flourished for the next century. In 1867 the government in Vienna had surrendered matters of domestic policy to the Poles and as a result, the German ethnic minority gradually lost the long established right to be educated in their own language. They experienced discrimination in government offices as well as in the courts. By the 1880s the area was densely populated and there were increasing restrictions on land purchases. The German culture and livelihood was being threatened. All of these factors may have influenced the decision of the Lorenz family to leave Galicia.

Peter Lorenz was the first member to leave his homeland arriving in New York City on December 20, 1905 aboard the S.S. Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse. The passenger manifest indicates that he was en route to the home of his brother-in-law in Chicago Illinois. Undoubtedly, Peter's wages would help to finance his family's immigration. Fifteen more Lorenz family members arrived in New York City on April 5, 1908 aboard the S.S. Amerika. Joseph, Mary and their five children as well as the newly-married William and Mary, accompanied Peter's wife Magdalena and their four children. Catherine Lorenz, a widow since 1883 may have had no choice but to travel with her three sons.

Slightly different information can be obtained from the Passenger Manifests completed in New York as compared to the one completed in Hamburg. The New York Manifest records the limited funds that each family was declaring: Magdalena - \$50.00, William - \$25.00, Joseph - \$90.00 and Catherine - \$20.00. It is however more general as to the place of origin. The list prepared in Hamburg is specific about their town of origin, Rachin. There is an age discrepancy for Catherine between the two records with the Hamburg list being more likely to be accurate.

Following their arrival in New York, the families traveled by train and finally by oxcart to complete their five thousand mile journey. The Lorenz family began life in their new homeland.