

Haas & Bauer

Issue 6

Sept 1999

We're back

Due to writer's block I haven't sent out a newsletter in awhile. Hopefully this will return to being a quarterly newsletter sent out to aunts and uncles. This is a special mailing going to all cousins.

My goal is still the same, find out about my ancestors and how they lived. Once you start looking it is amazing the trail of paper documents that our ancestors left. I have collected a lot of stuff and eventually will share this stuff at the cost of copying. (All of this stuff is on the computer. The cost of sharing 3000-5000 images on a CD-ROM is about \$2)

New Stuff

Since the last letter I have gotten some new stuff.

I got a copy of Franziska Bauer's divorce decree from the 1898 from Jacob Bear. They didn't even make it to their 3 month anniversary before Franziska filed for divorce. She did get \$500 as a settlement. She had children with one man, married three others and the marriage to Bear is the only relationship that we can document the end of. Considering the times and the fact that Franziska lived in a small German-Catholic community, it makes one curious as to how the

church allowed her to get divorced.

The Volk-Ahern murder that took place in Plain in 1891 fascinates me. I have found several news articles about the "RACE WAR." (Germans vs the Irish) It is possible that one of the John Bauers was at the bar when the "fight" took place. I have copies of the news articles, court records, and Volk's record at prison. August Derleth wrote about this murder in the chapter of one of his books. His facts don't seem to jive with the actual facts of the event.

Looking at the obituaries of Franziska's sisters I found that not all of the Bauer sisters left Germany. At least one sister, Barbara Bauer-Liegel stayed in Germany.

I have copies of the WW I draft registrations (including Ludwig Haas's). I also started looking in the HOME NEWS to see if there are any articles about local boys in war. There appears to be a lot of interesting articles about this period tracking Ludwig and soldiers in general.

I found an excellent drawing of the interior cross-section of the NECKAR (the boat that Johann Haas came to America on). It was part of a 40-page marketing publication made up by the North German Lloyd shipping line. It gives many details about what the trip across the Atlantic was like.

I “found” the home town of Johann Haas. (I read Mary Van Allen’s history of the George Haas family.) The hometown is HINTERKLEEBACH which is south of Bayreuth near Bamberg. How Johann met his wife Kunigunda of Ebersberg (east of Munich) is a question to be answered. Hinterkleebach and Ebersberg are not exactly next to one another.

Trip to Germany

In first week in Nov 1999 I will be going to Germany with my parents. We will spending time in Waldmuenchen and Munich. This will be the first of several trips that I will make to Germany. The main goal will be to take a lot of pictures and video. We will be visiting some of the known places that our ancestors came from, including Irlach, Ast, Waldmuenchen, Ebersberg, Hinterkleebach, Bayreuth, Untergrafenried

I was able to find several sites on the Internet that have pictures and information about these towns in Germany.

Stuff we have

It is impossible to list everything that has been accumulated. This is a short list of some of the stuff we have. The list is not complete nor does it list the “best” stuff.

We have a lot of stuff about the ships that the HAASs and BAUERs came to America on. We have pictures of the ships, the passenger lists and a brief description of their trips.

I have the death certificates going back to my great-grandparents. I have the three marriage certificates of Franziska Bauer.

I have detailed probate records of Johann Haas and Johann Bauer and his brother Johann Bauer. It is interesting to see what they had when they died and who ended up with what.

I have several plat maps showing who owned what from the mid 1800’s to the 1920’s in the Franklin Township. One way to find out our ancestors is to see who their neighbors are.

Wisconsin and Federal census records show a great deal of information on people. I have copies of the FRANKLIN census from 1860 through 1920’s. I have copies for SPRING GREEN and BEAR CREEK for a few of the years. The census gives you some “small” facts about people. The agriculture census even gives you the number and type of animals that they have.

I have many books/documents covering local history, farming, Germany, Kraemers, genealogy and many other topics.

Around 1900 the pastors of St Luke’s and St Patrick’s wrote the history of their parishes from the mid 1800’s to the time that wrote their histories. These histories contain a lot of details about the early settlers.

I have copies of “unique” photos. These include historical photos of Plain, photos of various ancestors, photo of the cabin that the BAUERs lived in. I have arial photos of the PLAIN area taken in the early 1990’s.

I have thousands of “recent” photos of local cemeteries, churches and views of the area.

Where we got it

The Wisconsin State Historical Society library in Madison has EVERYTHING. It has almost every newspaper ever printed in Wisconsin. It also has numerous other newspapers. (They have the NEW YORK TIMES describing the arrivals of the ships of our ancestors.) It has the entire FEDERAL census. It has copies of passenger lists showing our ancestors arriving in the US.

The manuscript archive has unbelievable stuff. It is the repository for SAUK COUNTY's government records. Local history and life experiences are documented in donated papers. It is difficult to overstate what they have.

For example Doctor Bossard who served the area for numerous years, donated his billing records to the archives. You can see how he was paid with grain and other farm products. You can see when he cared for our ancestors.

This library has its catalog on the Internet and is "easily" searched once you know where to look.

You are given free access to most of the library's holdings. There are so many great things about this library on the Madison campus, that if you are researching family and local history you have to go there. I am planning on making some Saturday trips in Jan 2000.

The Sauk County Court House has birth, marriage, and death certificates. It has land transaction records. Probate records are also accessible. In some counties, if you want a certificate or document you have to fill out a request and wait for somebody to pull the record for you. In

Sauk they point you at the records and turn you lose.

The Spring Green Library has the HOME NEWS on microfilm. Their microfilm reader is also a printer. This makes it easy to get copies. They also have a card index that has a card for individuals. This card shows the issues of the HOME NEWS in which the individual was written about.

The Newberry Library (Chicago) is a treasure trove of information about a wide variety of things. The only drawback is that you have to do research the old fashion way. 80% of its holdings are only indexed in card catalogues. You have to fill out a request for books, which somebody has to go get. It can take over thirty minutes for you to get the book. However they have one of a kind books. I found an 1880 marketing brochure from the NORTH GERMAN LLOYD shipping company describing the NEKAR and the trip from New York to Bremen.

The Sauk County Historical Museum in Baraboo is a "new" source of data. It is "new" in that they have started to organize the stuff that they have on hand. After you have burnt out looking at documents at the court house, spend a few hours exploring through their stuff.

The Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) have microfilmed things from all over the world. Tracing their family tree is a big part of their belief that even dead people can be converted to their faith. In most big cities, they run Family History Centers in their churches. You search their catalog (which is now on the Internet), find the film you want, order it for \$3.50 and wait about two - three weeks. I have a copy of Franziska Bauer's permission to move to America. I have just sent away for films that might have data on

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Johann Haas and his family.

TRIVIA

Answers :

The names of Joseph Bauer's daughters that legally changed their names were Elizabeth and Lou Allen.

At the time of the last letter, I knew of 4 times that a HAAS married a RUHLAND. Esther/Ludwig Elsie/Cletus Rita/Francis and Ludwig's brother's child married a RUHLAND Bob and Laurie make 5

New questions :

-What is Ludwig Haas's name ?

-Why is the Blau Family History important to the Haas and Gruber Families?

-This newsletter shouldn't really be called Haas and BAUER. What should it be called?

CONTACT ME

I am looking forward to hearing from my cousins so that we can discuss how we can share data.

Send me your email address. This will allow us to share research over the Internet.

I am interested in "things" that you might have. I am especially interested in stories about my parents , aunts and uncles. I have my dad's diary from the 1940's. Stories about how my aunt Marlene "killed" my mother when they were children are funny.

If you have any questions, comments or things you would like us to look for in Germany, please contact