

January 2010

Ancestral Newsletter #2

Happy New Year to you all!

As we begin our new decade, Franz "Ferry" Rieder is here again to take us back two decades. The photo of Ferry was taken around the time of his marriage to Anna Brecht (1890's)---our reference point. In this issue, we will journey back about 20 years, to what was probably a very exciting and fearful time in the Rieder family experience ---the trip to America in 1873.

Ferry's father, George Rieder, was from Loewendorf, Oberpfalz, Germany. He was (as far as we know), the only one from his original family to come to the U.S. George brought his wife, Margaret Daschner, and children with him. (See genealogical chart for names and dates).

Hope you enjoy this issue as much as I enjoyed putting it together.

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Hi Jim,

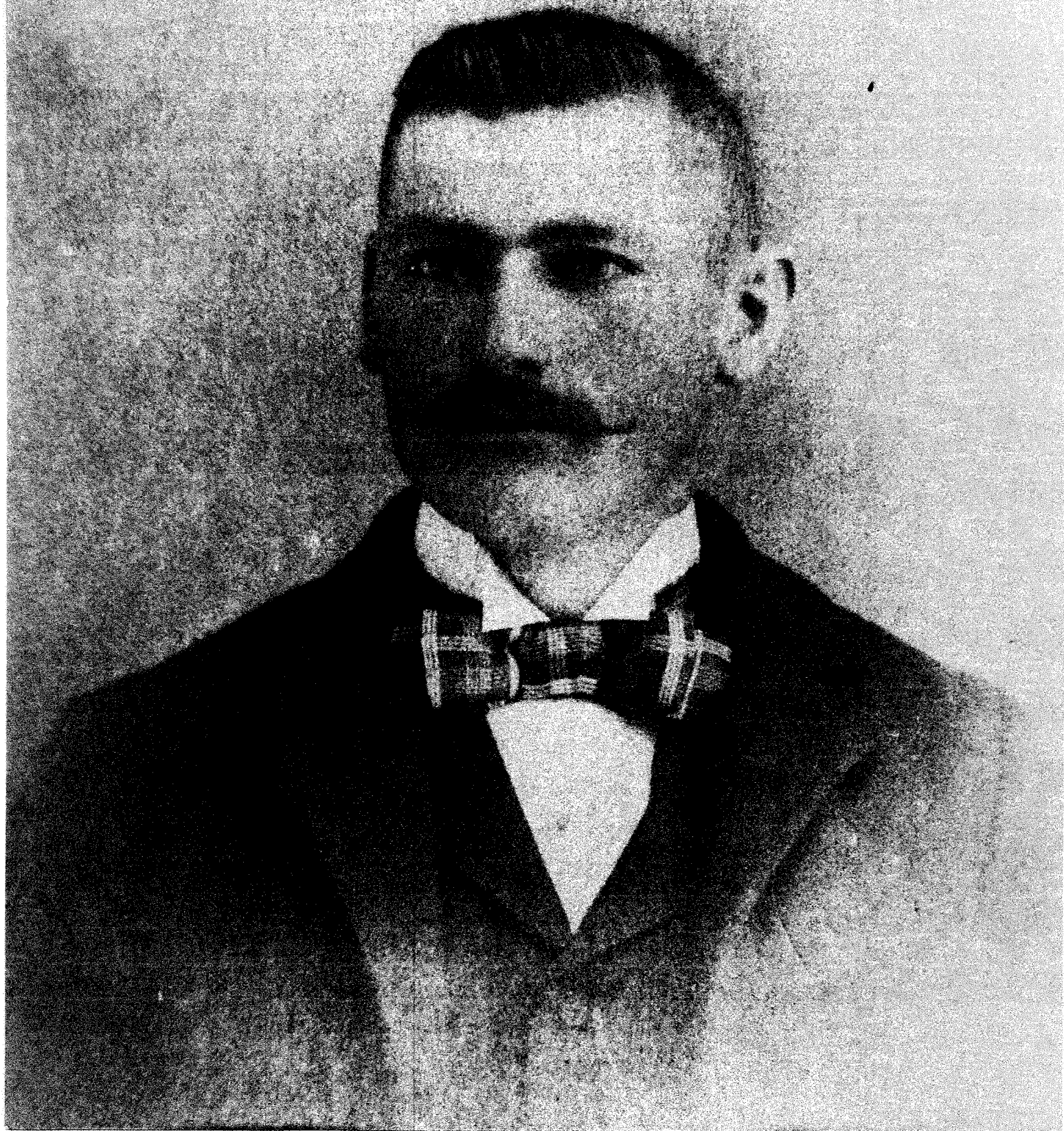
Missed you at the Weitzer Christmas party. Guess you had a meet or something that day - at least that's what someone said.

Anyway, I'm moving right along with these newsletters. I've got the next one almost complete. I have such a fun time putting these together and I'm glad you are interested. I think you'll like this one.

Have a great 2010!

love,

Debby

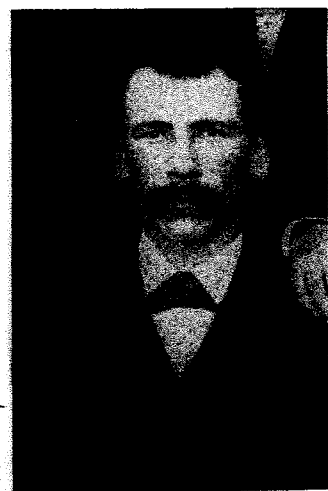


Two year old FRANZ Xaver "Ferry" Rieder came to America, in 1873, with his parents George and Margaret (Daschner) Rieder and 6 of his brothers and sisters. This photo of Ferry was taken in the 1890's.

Emigration to America

It seems that the family was living at Schwarzenfeld at the time of their leaving Germany.

Michael, the oldest son, was the first to leave for America, in 1872, at the age of 18. Perhaps to avoid being drafted into the army. This was one year before the rest of the family. After arriving at New York he worked on a ship. But fellow workers made fun of his manner of speaking German (the Bavarian dialect?). He quit there and went to Buffalo, N.Y.



Michael

The rest of the family followed in 1873. They sailed from Bremen on the S.S. KAISER WILHELM I and arrived at New York on July 12, 1873. This ship was not a large one; it carried only about 275 passengers. The Passenger List enumerated the Rieder names and ages as follows: George Rieder, 50, farmer; Margaret Rieder, 42; Theresa, 17; George, 14; Joseph, 13; Margaret, 7; John, 3; Franz [Xaver], 2.

"In the year 1873, the George Rieder family decided to come to America. The party consisted of father, mother, and six children. My grandmother was the second oldest of the family. She was 17 years old at the time.

They came on the ship "Kaiser Wilhelm." It took them 18 days to reach this country. On the way over a terrible storm overtook them. The water came into the ship and they got lost. They could not get into touch with any nation; but after three days an American ship found them. They arrived in Buffalo, New York the fourth of July, 1873. Here they lived for one year." (As told by her grandmother to Bernice Lins Serdy) [The date of arrival is not correct.]



Theresa

In 1874, the Rieder family moved to Wisconsin and settled on a farm a few miles southwest of Plain in the Town of Franklin. "When they came to Wisconsin they thought it was wild. Wolves, rattle snakes and wild cats bothered them." (Bernice Lins Serdy).

My grandmother, Theresa Rieder Lins, once said that they were so disgusted that they would have gone back to Germany if they had the money for the trip.

There were friendly Indians still around at that time. Grandma once mentioned that an Indian squaw came either to her place or to a neighbor's to visit or to beg for some food. The Indian mother carried her little papoose in a cradle [the kind used by Indians to carry their infant children]. The Indian mother hung the cradle with the baby on a post, and went into the house. Wild boars were still around; and while she was in the house a wild boar came up and quickly killed the child and had partly eaten it before the mother noticed anything had happened.

According to the Wisconsin State Census of 1875 the George Rieder household consisted of 5 males and 3 females. This suggests that one of the sons was not living at home at the time, either Michael or George. Later that year Theresa was working at the George Lins, Sr., home.

The Federal Census Report of 1880 indicates that only Joseph, Margaret, John and Franz Xaver were living at home with the parents. Michael had already married in 1877. George apparently was a hired man for Michael Bindl and family. It was not indicated where Theresa was living at the time.

George went out West, as a young man, and was never heard from again.



George

The parents, with their two youngest sons, John and Franz Xaver, moved to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in 1887 when Michael's wife died. Michael needed help to care for his two small children. They assisted Michael in moving to Subiaco, near Paris, Ark. Here their son, John, died in November of that year. When Michael remarried in May 1888, George and Margaret returned to Wisconsin, with their son, Franz Xaver. They did not like it down there.



*John
Died at age 18.*



*John's Grave
Subiaco Cemetery
Herman, Ferry, (Couple Unknown)
and Al Weitzer*

Summer 1930

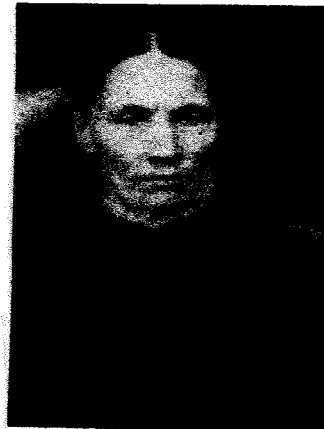
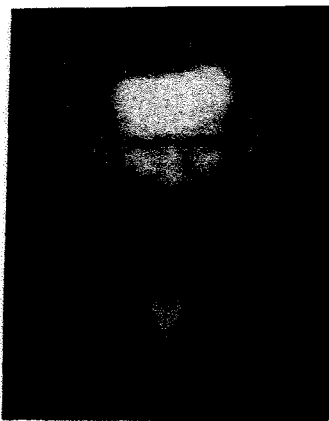


*At the farm in Arkansas
Al Weitzer looking through
car window. Others Unknown.*

It is not clear where George, Margaret and son, Xaver, lived after their return. Xaver married in 1897. Joseph, after his marriage with Justina Lins in 1884, took over his parent's farm. Theresa had married George Lins in 1880, and lived on a farm west of Plain since 1882. George and Theresa built a log house for her parents near the main house.

George Rieder became a U.S. citizen two and a half years after arrival in America; therefore, sometime in 1875 or 1876. [As noted in the Federal Census of 1900].

George Rieder died on December 4, 1901. There are two versions of what led to his death. As told by Theresa Rieder Lins to her daughter Emma Lins Haas: "Grandfather died in their log house; he was sick only two days. Mother said Grandpa walked from the farm to the church two days before he died (died with pneumonia, she said). She sent Albert to the log house to see how Grandpa was. He said Grandpa ate a big bowl of soup. And the next morning he put his head on grandmother and died." Another version, as Anne Rieder Huenner heard the story told: "he came to Joseph's farm to trim grape vines, and died in the grape arbor." [Perhaps this refers to some other person.]



Emma Lins Haas tells of her grandmother's subsequent years: "Grandmother lived in the log house for some time; then she stayed with mother; and she moved to uncle Ferry [Ferry Rieder, her son] for a while. Then she came back to mother. She was sick; she had Bright's disease. She got an open sore and mother had to put cloths around it..." Margaret Daschner Rieder died on June 26, 1913. The funeral was held at St. Luke's Church, Plain, and she is buried next to her husband in the old parish cemetery. The obituary printed in the July 10, 1913 of the SPRING GREEN HOME NEWS mistakenly gives the date of the George Rieder family's arrival at New York or Buffalo, as July 5, 1873. The correct date of arrival at New York is July 12, 1873. Likewise, George and Margaret Rieder did not stay fourteen years in Arkansas, but only for one year according to family tradition.



Rieder } Back Row: Joseph, John, Ferry, Theresa, Margaret
FAMILY } Front Row: George, Michael, George Sr., Margaret (Daschner) Rieder

HUSBAND		WIFE		CHILDREN		WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE		OTHER MARRIAGES	
NAME	PLACE	NAME	PLACE	NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE	MONTH	YEAR	CITY	STATE	DATE	NAME	DATE
George Rieder	Plain, WI	Margaret Daschner	Plain, WI	Rieder Michael	Oct. 11, 1853				Loewendorf	Germany	1877	Mary Brisk	March 12, 1936
June 5, 1823	Loewendorf, Oberpaltz, Germany	Sept. 25, 1831	Darstein, Germany	" Theresa	March 17, 1855				Loewendorf	Germany	Nov. 10, 1880	George Lins	March 1, 1938
Dec. 4, 1901	Plain, WI	June 26, 1913	Plain, WI	" George	1858 or 1859				"	"	May 27, 1884	Justin Lins	Aug. 28, 1949
Sebastian Rieder	Plain, WI	Johann Daschner	Plain, WI	" Joseph	Oct. 23, 1860				"	"	William Miller	Sept. 6, 1929	
				" ?	1862?				"	"			
				" Margaret	Dec. 8, 1864				"	"	Nov. 16, 1896	Anna Brecht	Apr. 10, 1951
				" ?	1866 or 1867				"	"			
				" John	Sept. 11, 1869				"	"			
				" Franz Xavier 'Foxy'	Nov. 25, 1870				"	"			

Two died in infancy in Germany, one was named Alois.
The 3rd born, George, went out West.

Michael Remained in May 1888 (after first wife's death) to Victoria, Ithle.