

THE STORY OF
JOSEPH KAUFMANN

*idbid
5-31-20*



AND HIS FAMILY



JOSEPH AND ELIZABETH

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FOREWORD

In compiling this story of the Joseph Kaufmann family, I was greatly handicapped by the fact that the sources of my information, for the early part of this narrative, were perhaps a generation or two too late to remember completely accurate and full details for this work. I have however tried my best to set down the facts and dates of my story, putting it together as correctly and truthfully as it was given to me. Hopefully, in the event of error noticed by the reader, he will remember that for the most part very little had been recorded with pen but mostly remembered and verbally handed down from former friends and relations.

I hope this history will be of value to this as well as future generations of the Kaufmann family and also that interested decendants will keep adding data and family lineage as time passes. To facilitate these additions, I have used a looseleaf binding so that new pages may easily be inserted if so desired.

As our knowledge of the early Kaufmann settlers in the United States is so very limited and because the Osterhaus family was so closely tied in relation, I have set forth what early information I was able to gather together about them hoping it will be of interest.

I am grateful to Mrs. Victor Lustig and her son the Reverend Fr. Victor Lustig for their information relative to the Ferdinand Kaufmann family. I appreciate the help I received from Mr. and Mrs. John Osterhaus and also my cousin Henry Hoene of Greencreek, Illinois, who spent much time in this effort. To the members of the Joseph Kaufmann family, who willing responded to my inquiries, and especially to my wife's mother, Josepha Kaufmann Romain, I wish to say thank you kindly.

My wife, the former Magdalena Romain, is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kaufmann and has ever held them in high esteem. It is on her behalf that I offer you this chronological account of Joseph Kaufmann and his family.

August Edward Hoene

Cottonwood, Idaho
Issued in the year 1976

PART ONE

This story begins with the birth of John Frederick Osterhaus in Germany in 1806. When a young man, he joined the German Army, from which he was discharged at Osnabrück in April, 1833. Following this, he, with several friends, came to America, where in 1840 he was issued a deed to some land by President VanBuren. This was mostly wooded land near the small town of Teutopolis, Illinois.

Mr. Osterhaus, with two companions (Fischer and Dornkamp), at first lived in a dugout (a space dug into the ground, bridged by small poles and covered with grass or leaves) while they, using their few crude tools, built a log cabin and began to clear the land.

The following year he met and married Elizabeth Nieman, a daughter of Herman and Mary Selhorst Nieman, who came here from Oldenburg, Germany in 1839. Also with them were three sons and brothers of Elizabeth, all of whom pioneered this south central section of Illinois.

The newly married couple immediately moved into John's new cabin. Many of the early pioneer immigrants, who settled in this area came from Germany, being directed there through a German land locating agency out of Cincinnati, Ohio. Some also came from New Orleans, up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, then inland to Teutopolis and Effingham, Illinois. Most of these early comers were members of the Catholic Church. Their religious needs were ministered by priests traveling horseback from Vincennes, Indiana and later, after a parish was established there, from Teutopolis, Illinois.

John Frederick Osterhaus donated forty acres of land, the site of the present settlement of Greencreek, Illinois, to be used for a church, school and graveyard for the growing Catholic population.

On July 15, 1842, a son, John Henry, was born to them. When this boy was just past two years old his father, Frederick Osterhaus, died; and it is presumed he was buried there. As records were kept in so many different places by so many different priests, some of whom entered the records in Latin or German and some not keeping any, it is not possible to enter all dates of this chronology exactly in correct sequence.

On November 20, 1845, Elizabeth Nieman Osterhaus was again married; this time to Ferdinand (sometimes called Bernard) Kaufmann in St. Francis Catholic Church in Teutopolis, Illinois. Witnesses to this wedding were Clement A. Nieman and Joan Fischer.

Ferdinand Kaufmann was born in North Germany in a land then called Prussia, in 1810. We do not know anything about him until he was twenty-seven years old. On the 20th day of June, 1837, he left Bremen, Germany and arrived in the port of New York on the 16th day of August, almost two months later. I was not successful in finding his name in the index of passengers arriving in New York, which is kept in the National Archives, but the above information was taken from his declaration of intention filed when he applied for citizenship in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 9, 1844. There were several rumors disclosed during my research - one that he was rumored to be the sole survivor of a shipwreck in which his relations were lost; another that he may have been a stowaway in a wine barrel on board ship. These rumors have no basis for fact, and I was not able to verify them.

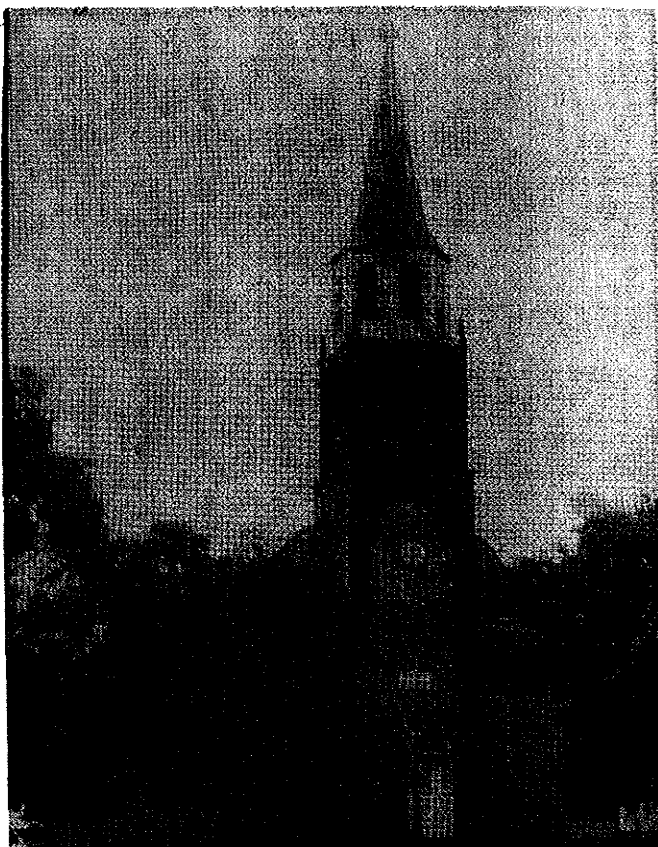
I am inclined to believe the data on his declaration of intention, a copy of which I received from the clerk of the Court, which action originated in Hamilton County, Ohio. His name also appears as Ferdinand on a photostatic copy of his marriage certificate; and at the church in Teutopolis, it appears "Bernard." It was common practice for those early Germans to use either their first or second name or both.

After the marriage, Ferdinand Kaufmann moved with his wife, Elizabeth, and stepson, John Henry Osterhaus, to the log cabin located about one and one-half mile southwest of the present settlement of Greencreek. An outside stairway led to an upstairs in the cabin, and later as the family grew this was used for sleeping quarters.

Mr. Kaufmann was a fairly small man with several peculiarities of character. He never wore his hat but carried it with him always under his arm. He absented himself from home on occasion, sometimes days at a time. He was, I was told, somewhat of an introvert, a quiet man about whom we know little. He worked hard to support his family, raising succeeding crops of corn, tobacco, sorghum, vegetables and feed for his livestock. Oxen were used in those times as power to till the soil and to transport produce.

John H. Osterhaus, his stepson, told how his stepfather would butcher hogs in the wintertime, process, then store the cured pork in hollowed out logs until summertime when he would load the meat on a wagon to which he would yoke a team of oxen and head for St. Louis, one hundred or more miles to the West. He was wont to also load several calves on the wagon, tie a milk cow behind and, driving a few fat cattle ahead, be off to sell his produce in the big city, carrying his hat under his arm.

Returning in several weeks, Mr. Kaufmann would bring the family's "store boughten needs" for the ensuing year. There was not much that needed to be bought during those early times. mostly spices, coal oil for lamps, lubrication, medicines,



St. Mary's Parish church at Greencreek, Illinois, where many of the principals of this story were baptized, married or buried. This is the original church which was destroyed by fire in the early 1940s and replaced by the present church now being used there. The land on which this building stood and also the school and cemetery ground was donated by John Fredrick Osterhaus in 1842 or 3 and I was told he was the first one to be interred there.

Joseph and Elizabeth Kaufmann were married in this church and the first seven of their children were baptized there.

When they were married they lived in quarters in the schoolhouse just North of the church.

The cemetery is close by a little South and West. A forest fire once swept through and destroyed many of the grave markers making the location of some older graves quite difficult.

This is a picture of old Ferdinand Kaufmann's grave marker. Notice the engraver left off one N probably did not have room for it.

Below the name the inscription reads 22 Sep 1863 Alter 53 Jahr. (Age 53 years). From this we determined his birth in the year 1810.

When my friends went to the cemetery to search for this grave it was necessary for them to wire brush and scrape the stone before they could read the information that it contained.



tools, tinware, cloth and other necessities, perhaps also some candies and trinkets for the missus and children. Early Greencreek settlers raised their own fruit, vegetables and beef and produced tobacco, leather goods, mollasses, cornmeal and whatever else was needed. Nuts grew wild and were gathered and stored in the fall. Many people wore wooden shoes, and children ran barefoot during the good weather. Not much money was in evidence, produce being used as a medium of exchange for lumber, flour and other manufactured goods. Almost every farm had its own blacksmith shop and most pioneers were able to fashion their iron needs in that interesting nook.

Washing the family's clothes was a real chore being done on a corrugated washboard which stood in a wooden vat or tub and using homemade soaps. Ironing, if any, was done with a flat iron heated on the kitchen stove. No plumbing being available, water was carried in a wooden or tin pail from a nearby spring or drawn from a hand-dug well in the back yard. A small building set over a deep pit served as the family toilet and was called a backhouse or privy.

I was unable to find a copy of Ferdinand Kaufmann's death certificate, consequently I cannot say of what he died. On the 21st day of September, 1863, he executed a will, a copy of which I was able to find, in which he bequeathed all of his personal property (including a share in a thrashmachine owned in company with a John Bingamon, Samuel Ramsey and William Calson) to his beloved wife Elizabeth Kaufmann. Witnesses to this will were N. E. Tarrant, A. B. Jansen and H. H. Mette. I give you these names in case some reader may know of these men.

Ferdinand passed away the day following the making of the will, September 22, 1863, and is buried in the Greencreek cemetery. A picture of his grave marker will be found in this manuscript.

Sometime following the death of her husband, Elizabeth Kaufmann moved to and lived in a house nearer the church, and there she looked after her daughter Catherine. On September 12, 1897, thirty-four years after Ferdinand's death, Elizabeth passed away and also is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery at Greencreek, Illinois.

Following is the family information and lineage of Frederick Osterhaus and Ferdinand Kaufmann. First listed are members of the Osterhaus family, the information received from Mr. and Mrs. John Osterhaus of Effingham, Illinois.

John Frederick Osterhaus	Married	Elizabeth Nieman
1806 - 1845	1841	2-28-1820 - 9-12-1897

Had one child:

John Henry Osterhaus	Married	Mary H. Dust
7-15-1842 - 2-24-1919		12-21-1852 - 8-8-1909

Had two children:

Mary Osterhaus	Married	Herman Knoppe
6-29-1883 - 7-24-1926		8-4-1879 - 5-3-1948

Had eight children:

Joseph Knoppe (Popular Bluff, Missouri)
Ms. Anna Knoppe (St. Louis, Missouri)
Law. Knoppe (St. Louis, Missouri)
Mrs. Frank Aubuchon (St. Louis, Missouri)
Mrs. Joe Ryan (Phoenix, Arizona)
Mrs. John Ryan (Phoenix, Arizona)
Mrs. Robert Aubuchon (Kansas City, Missouri)
Mrs. Freelin Ferguson (Peoria, Illinois)

Henry Osterhaus	Married	Catherine Niebrugge
1-24-1889 - 9-1-1960	1909	9-2-1887 - 12-12-1969

Had five children:

Anna
Born and died 9-10-1910

Anna	Married	Ferd. Vahling
9-15-1911		10-26-1904
Cecilia	Married	Harry Sandschafer
4-14-1916		9-28-1913
Francis	Became a St. Clare Sister	
2-13-1918		
John F. Bernard	Married	Francis Eliz. Kroeger
8-7-1913		10-29-1916

Had one child:

Mary Jane	Married	Ronald Kile
1-11-1950		1-27-1947

The Ferdinand Kaufmann Family

Ferdinand Bernard Kaufmann	Married	Elizabeth Nieman Osterhaus
1810 - 9-22-1863	11-20-1845	2-28-1820 - 9-12-1897

Their children:

Ferdinand, Jr.	Married	Mary Jansen
10-16-1846 - 7-30-1938	1872	2-2-1851 - 3-22-1873
	Married	Mary Dust
	1-11-1876	5-3-1853 - 4-27-1927
Sophia	Married	Henry Jansen
12-29-1849 - 3-23-1922	11-15-1868	6-4-1848 - 11-13-1922
Catherine	Not married - she was epileptic	
3-25-1851 - 3-22-1900		
Clemens	Married	Melanie Jansen
8-5-1853 - 1-21-1900		1860 - 1937 (remarried Jos. Schmidt)

Joseph 5-29-1856 - 3-28-1952	Married Elizabeth Maria Nuxoll 11-17-1885 10-8-1870 - 8-20-1955
John 12-13-1858 - 2-23-1874	Died age 15 yrs. 2 mos. 10 days
Anna 3-2-1861 - 11-1-1880	Became Sister Blandina 8-4-1880
Franz 9-26-1863 - 5-12-1874	Died age 10 yrs. 7 mos. 16 days

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The Ferdinand Kaufmann, Jr. and Mary Dust Family

Anna 3-9-1877 - 1-20-1956	Married John Kenkel 10-1-1878 - 10-6-1949
John 4-14-1879 - 7-25-1967	Married Elizabeth Koester - 7-25-1952
Sophia 6-7-1881 - 10-14-1951	Married Joe Hackman 8-29-1874 - 8-27-1941
Ferdinand Clemens 11-29-1883 - 8-27-1952	Married Kathryn Harmon 5-6-1885 - 5-12-1975
Dora 1-6-1886 - 12-25-1955	Married Joe Fallert 1-7-1878 - 1-22-1961
Mary 7-27-1888 - 2-24-1968	Married Louis Behrman 10-19-1885 - 8-25-1956
Tony 9-20-1890 - (Living in Effingham)	Married Sophia Schwert 10-20-1894 - 10-20-1961
Joe 1-22-1893 - (Living in Effingham)	Single

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The Sophia Kaufmann and Henry Jansen Family

Henry 1873 - 1959	Married Mary Ann Adams 1875 - 5-23-1942
Antone 3-6-1871 - 10-9-1948	Married Bernadine Nuxoll (Mrs. Jos. Schmidt) 6-20-1867 - 5-15-1945
Ferdinand	Died at age 6 yrs.
Joe Peter 1878 - 1966	Married Clara Lustig 1883 - 1944
Anna 3-18-1881 - 11-21-1961	Became Sister M. Michaelis, a Franciscan