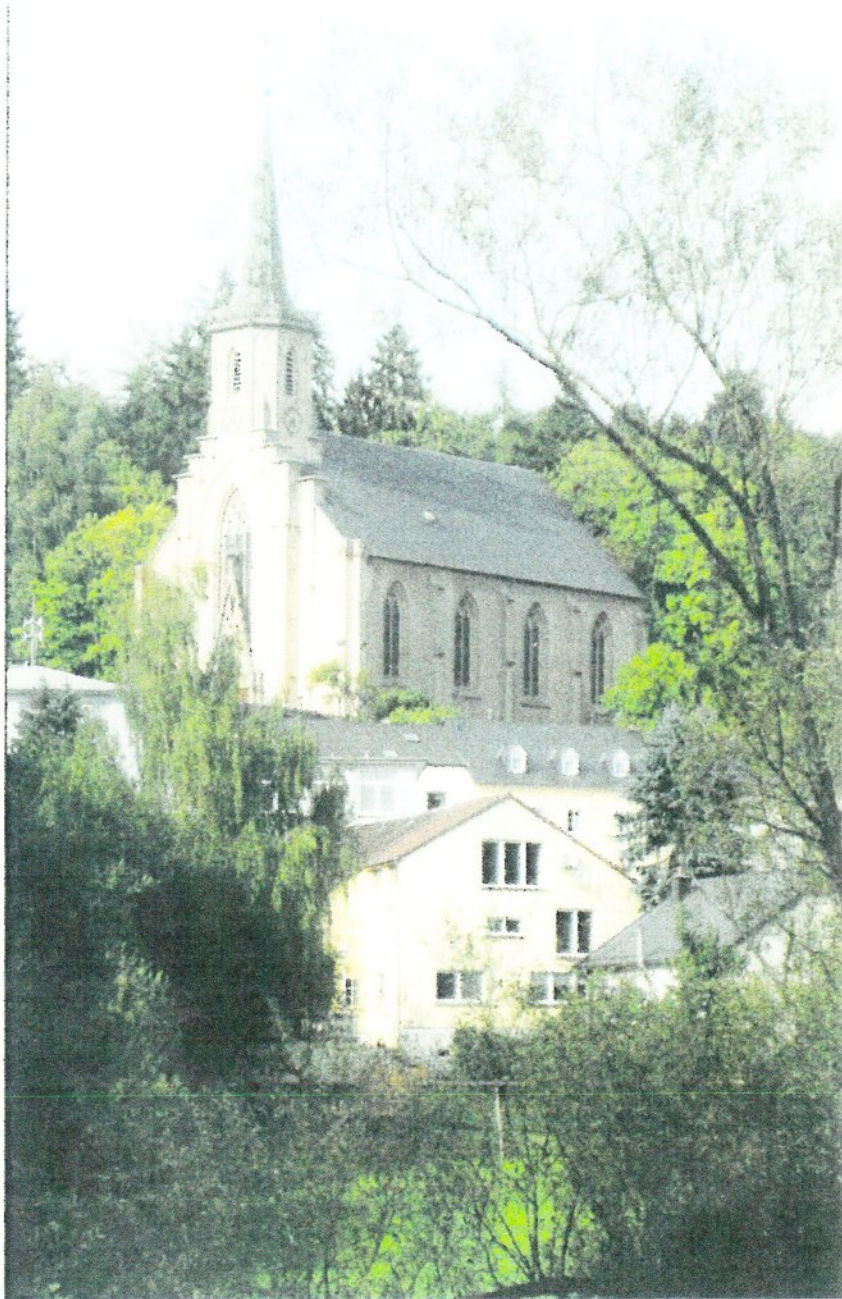


**THE**

**KAISER**

**FAMILY**

**HISTORY**



Church/House-Fischbach

This is the house, and church in the background, in Fischbach, Luxembourg where Nicolas B. Kaiser spent the early years of his life. The house was built about 1832 and is still occupied by a distant Kaiser cousin.

**The Kaiser Family History was written by Ron Goergen, husband of Joyce Christensen, who is the oldest daughter of Viola Baack Christensen. Viola's ("Vicki") mother was Olivia Kaiser Baack. Contributions were made by many family members and I sincerely appreciate the information and pictures provided to me.**

**German research was completed by Uwe Porten, a German genealogist whose assistance has been outstanding . Most of the information regarding the family in Luxembourg was found in the Catholic Church in Fischbach, Luxembourg and/or Civil Registry in Mersch, Luxembourg. Copies of records were translated into English by Mr. Porten.**

**The book consists of three parts:**

- a short history of Luxembourg, especially in the farming area of Fischbach**
- a narrative on the family with copies of some documents and pictures**
- a family tree of the Kaiser Family starting with Nicolas Kaiser (there were a lot of Nicolas Kaiser's) the first recorded Kaiser in Luxembourg. It should be noted that Catholic churchbooks in Fischbach start with baptisms in 1742, marriages in 1737 and deaths in 1738. There are no church or civil records before those dates.**

**The book represents a History of the Kaiser Family as of September 30, 2011. Subsequent births, marriage and deaths will need to be continually provided to keep the family history current. It is up to family members to provide this information.**

**ENJOY!! It has been a labor of love.**

**Ron Goergen  
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Peoria, AZ 85383**

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623-518-6292 (Home) or 623-693-2982 (Cell)**

#### **NOTE ON KAISER FAMILY COAT OF ARMS**

**I could not find a coat of arms for the Kaisers in Luxembourg. The only one 's I could find were from Germany and Austria and tie to the German Kaiser. Instead, I have used on the cover the coat of arms of the Grande Duchy of Luxembourg**



## THE KAISER'S

The first known Kaiser is Nicolas Kaiser who was born in Luxembourg about 1708. The location of his birth is not reflected in any church or official records of Luxembourg. We know that the Kaiser Family was initially around Fischbach, Luxembourg. Their church records on births/baptisms did not start until 1742.

It is also important to point out that the family name Kaiser was spelled in various ways from time to time, i.e. "Keyser", "Kayser", and "Meyers alias Keyser"

Before beginning on a review of the Kaiser Family, some information about Luxembourg is important.

### HISTORY OF LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg came into existence about the time of the beginning of the Holy Roman Empire. On February 2, 962, German Count Otto was crowned Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire and for 840 years, rulers of the Roman Empire were of German descent. On April 12, 963, Sigefroid, a count in the noble house of Ardennes, acquired a small ruined stronghold. Lucilinburhuc ("little fort or burg") and its surroundings were the beginning and the name became the name of the Kingdom and the town. Lucilinburhuc remained under German rule until 1443.

Ermesinde, a countess who reigned from 1196-1247, was a clever diplomat who succeeded in tripling the size of the country.

By the 14th century, the House of Luxembourg had begun to play an important role in Europe. In 1309, Henry VII, the count of Luxembourg became Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire and after him three members of his dynasty succeeded him.

During the reign of Emperor Charles IV of Bohemia, the House of Luxembourg ruled over the greater part of Europe. Luxembourg was made a Duchy in 1354 and before the century was over, Luxembourg reached a size four times its current size.

Unfortunately this period of unrivaled glory ruined its finances. It was mortgaged and pawned and passed through many hands until it was finally conquered by Philip, Duke of Burgundy in 1443.

For the next four centuries the Duchy lost its dynasty, its autonomy, its independence and it became a province. From 1443-1506 it belonged to Burgundy, from 1506-1714 to Spain, from 1714-1795 to Austria and twice it belonged to France - from 1684-1697 and from 1795 - 1914.



**The first partition of Luxembourg was decided at the Treaty of the Pyrennees in 1659 when the fertile and densely inhabited districts to the south were ceded to France.**

**In 1815 at the end of the Napoleonic Wars, the era of foreign rule came to an end. The Congress of Vienna decided that Luxembourg should regain her autonomy and made it a Grand Duchy. The Congress established the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Low Countries) - uniting Holland and Belgium under William I, Prince of Orange-Nassau-Vianden and Grand Duke of Luxembourg. Luxembourg was the most southerly of the Low Countries. The frontiers of Luxembourg were rearranged again and the country lost a district to Prussia.**

**In 1839, it had to cede the western half of its territory to Belgium (the present province of Luxembourg in Belgium). Napoleon III wanted Luxembourg as compensation for Prussia's increase in strength and war was averted only by the Treaty of London on May 11, 1867, and the Grand Duchy was placed under the protection of the powers that signed the Treaty.**

**Through all these centuries of foreign rule, Luxembourg never lost its individuality. Surrounded by France, Belgium, and Germany it is none of the three nor a mixture, but an entirely distinctive culture. The native language is as far from modern German as it is from Dutch - the area where it is spoken only extends to the boundaries of the countries as they were when Luxembourg was at its height geographically.**

**From 1814-1890, William I, II, III, the Kings of Holland, were at the same time Grand Dukes of Luxembourg. Since 1890, the Grand Duchy has had its own dynasty, the House of Nassau-Wilbourg. Grand Duke Adolphe reigned from 1890-1905, William IV from 1905-1912; and Grand Duchess Marie Adelaide from 1912-1919.**

**In the early 19th century the country was not doing well economically and thousands of Luxembourgers emigrated to the United States. During the period 1841-1891 it is estimated that approximately a third of the population emigrated to the United States.**

**It was not until the mid-century when iron ore was discovered in the south that the country began to prosper again. But then after a century of peace war came again and put an end to the prosperity. In August 1914, the Germans violated the neutrality of Luxembourg. They invaded and occupied the country. They did not interfere too much with domestic affairs but the joy of Luxembourg was great when the Central Powers collapsed. Three thousand Luxembourgers were killed fighting in French and American armies.**

**In 1918, the Treaty of Versailles, Luxembourg was again established as a free country and enjoyed 20 years of prosperity. Suffrage was extended to women, public welfare and social security systems were introduced, the standard of living improved and the steel plants prospered beyond expectancy. In 1930, Luxembourg was 7th in the world in steel production.**



**During these 20 years, Grand Duchess Charlotte, sister of Grand Duchess Marie Adelaide, was guardian of the country with her consort, Count Felix de Bourbon-Parma, whom she married in 1919 at the beginning of her reign.**

**When in 1940, Germany again invaded the country, Her Royal Highness realized that only with the help of the Allies could her country be saved. May 10, 1940 was a turning point in Luxembourg history - it ended the country's policy of neutrality. Luxembourg entered the war on the side of the Allies. The Grand Ducal Family and members of the government took refuge in Great Britain and the United States. Prince Felix and their son, Prince Jean, joined the British Army. Many young Luxembourgers, who managed to escape, volunteered for service in the British, Canadian, American, Free French, and Free Belgium armies.**

**Meanwhile in Luxembourg, a Nazi was appointed governor, the Grand Duchy was to become a province of Nazi Germany. Nazis were put at the head of every department, many officials were sent to concentration camps - all rights and freedoms were abolished; currency was replaced with the Reichmark, food and materials were confiscated, and the people were issued German ration books. The teaching of French, the official language for 800 years, was forbidden in schools as was religion. Streets were given German names, priests, lawyers, doctors and civil servants were arrested. It was a reign of terror. In August, 1942, compulsory military service in the German Army for men over 21 years was required. Women and boys over 16 were taken from schools and forced to work in German labor camps. Many were shot for resistance. It is estimated that 16,000 Luxembourgers were in German camps and many thousands more were deported right up to August, 1944.**

**On September 10, 1944, Luxembourg was liberated and the people of Luxembourg were wild with joy when they saw Prince Felix and Prince Jean among the first American soldiers entering Luxembourg. September 10-December 16 were happy and carefree days; then began the Battle of Ardennes (the Battle of the Bulge), a German counteroffensive. Germany overran the northern half of the country and the panic stricken people fled south forsaking all their belongings. Again, many were shot or deported. By December 22, General Patton of the U.S. Army was ready to attack and by February 13, 1945, the tide of the war had turned away from Luxembourg - this time for good. Thousands of American soldiers killed in battle are buried at Hamm.**

**The homes of 60,000 people were reduced to rubble, fields and pastures were cratered by bombs and alive with mines but the people devoted themselves to rebuilding their country after five years of misery and suffering. The war damages has been estimated at 11 Billion Francs.**

**By April 1945, many refugees began returning, food and clothing shortages were relieved by help from British and American Red Cross and U.S. Army supplies and UNRRA. The Grand Duchess and her family returned to the hearty welcome of her subjects and peace reigned again.**



Since the end of the war, Luxembourg has rebuilt her industry, the steel mills still playing a major role with tourism playing a big role. Agriculture is a very large part of Luxembourg's economy with cattle breeding and the exports of butter and meat being major items. Wheat, rye, barley, oates and potatoes are grown on the farms. Luxembourg also exports much iron ore, steel products, timber and roofing slates. Major companies operating in Luxembourg include Goodyear, Dupont and Monsanto with major factories that employ thousands.

Today, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is a constitutional monarchy. Legislative powers rest with the Council of State which has 21 members, chosen for life by the sovereign. It also has a Chamber of Deputies which consists of 56 members elected by the people. Executive powers are delegated to the Minister of State and his Cabinet.

Grand Duke Jean became Chief of State in 1964 when his mother, Grand Duches Charlotte abdicated after a 45 year reign. Jean was born in 1921 in Luxembourg City. He married Princess Josephine-Charlotte of Belgium in 1953. They have five children, the eldest of which is Prince Henri, born in 1955 who is the hereditary Grand Duke.

Luxembourgers have close cultural ties with neighboring Belgium, France and Germany. While maintaining a independent spirit, most Luxembourgers enjoy a high standard of living. They have better food and housing than many other European countries. They have an extensive government sponsored system for social security and health care.

Luxembourg has two distinct land regions, the Ardennes and the Bon Pays (Good Land) areas. The Ardennes covers the northern third of Luxembourg and the Bon Pays makes up the rest. The Ardennes are part of the mountain system that extends from Germany's Rhineland into Belgium and Luxembourg. River valleys cut through the regions low hills.

Most of Bon Pays is hilly or rolling plateau's with level areas along the reviers. The Attert, Alzette, Moselle and Sure rivers flow through the region.

Luxembourg is approximately 999 square miles in size, is predominantly Catholic and has three official languages - French (the national language), German (widely used in every day language) and Letzeburgesch (a dialect in local form of German)

[Excerpt taken from "Luxembourg Yesterday and Today" - printed by P. Linden, Printer of the Grand Ducal Court - Luxembourg. This section was taken from a reprint in the "History of the Schumacher Family" by Mrs. Ambrose Schumacher. Printed by Connie Schumacher-McKnight and Ann McKnight - 1984]

The Goergen Family Tree



Map of Luxembourg

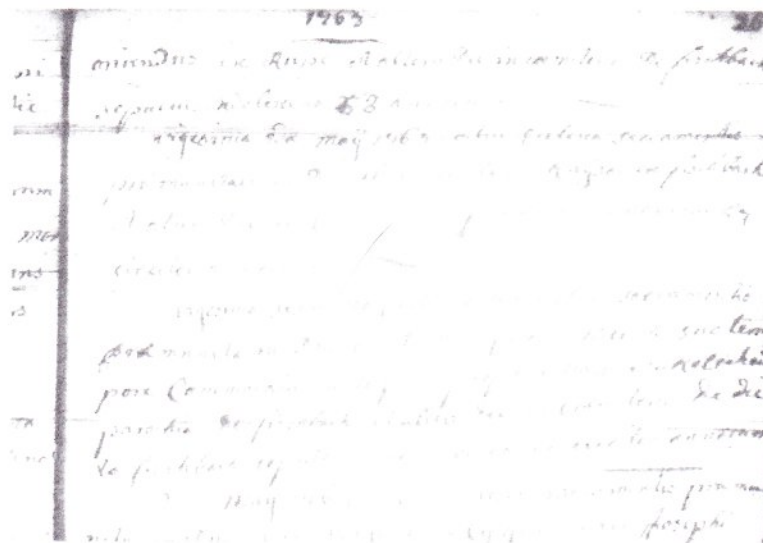
Map of Luxembourg today with indication of location of Fischbach, Luxembourg - the starting place for the Kaiser Family



## NICOLAS KAISER (First Recorded Generation)

**NOTE:** *You will note that there are five successive generations of "Nicolas Kaiser". I will refer to each by their respective generation.*

The first Nicolas Kaiser was born about 1708 - presumably in the Fischbach, Luxembourg area. Fischbach is located north of Luxembourg City and near the city of Mersch. He died on May 22, 1763 in Fischbach where he is buried. There is no record of his occupation.



Nicolas Kaiser Death Notice

***The record is from the Catholic church in Fischbach and states that Lord Nicolaus Kayser was buried the day after he died in the Fischbach cemetery***

Nicolas first married Anna Maria Leonardi, who died on June 15, 1747 in Fischbach. There is no record of her date or place of birth or the date and place of her marriage to Nicolas (presumably Fischbach). Catholic church records in Fischbach start with baptisms in 1742, marriages in 1737 and deaths in 1738. So if the marriage was in Fischbach, it was before 1737.

To this marriage were born six children. The first child, and the only girl, was Anna Maria Kaiser. She was born about 1734 and died on March 23, 1824 in Fischbach. Anna Maria married Nicolas Pettinger on November 18, 1765 in Fischbach. There is no record of his birth date or the date of his death. In the census of Fischbach in January, 1806, Anna Maria is listed as a widow living in her brother's house. We do not know Mr. Pettinger's occupation. There is no record of any children.

**There was a census in 1766 that indicates Nicolas' (1st generation) widow (Anna Maria) and her children were living in Fischbach at house # 7. The household included a man named Nicolas Pettinger, who as indicated above, had married the oldest child also names Anna Maria. This would make sense in that Nicolas (1st generation) had died in 1763.**

**In this census, the other five children of Nicolas and Anna Maria (Leonardi) Kaiser are recorded by three different "last" names, namely Kaiser, Pettinger and Meyers. It was probably a mistake of the recorder to assign the last names of Pettinger to two of Nicolas Kaiser's sons. Meyers is also a name the Kaisers appaently went by, most likely because that was the name of the house where they lived in Fischbach.**

**In Luxembourg, people were called not only by their family name, but also by their house name, which is the name of the house a family lived at. The house name can be identical or different to the family name. Often the house name derives from the name of the first inhabitant, the family that built the house, or a family that once had lived there previously. It happened, in some instances that real family names vanished gradually and were replaced by the house names.**

**The second child was Nicolas, who was born about 1735 and died on February 12, 1757 at the age of 22 years. He is buried in Fischbach and there is no indication that he married.**

**Michael Kaiser was the third child. He was born about 1738 and died May 3, 1793 in Fischbach. He died unmarried.**

**Franz Kaiser was the fourth child of Nicolas and Anna Maria. He was born about 1741 and died at the age of nine on June 15, 1750 in Fischbach.**

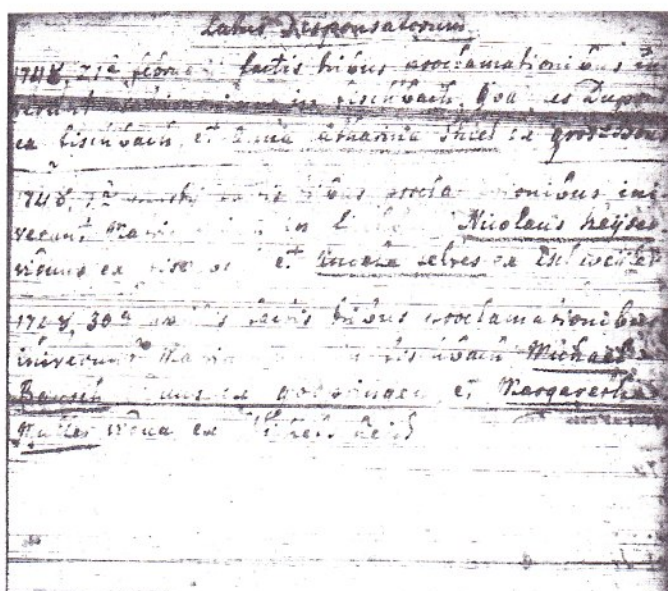
**The next child was Peter Kaiser. We do not know his date of birth but he was christened on April 13, 1744 in Fischbach. There is no record of his date of death or if he ever married.**

**The last child was Johannes Kaiser. Again, we have no record of his date of birth or death. He was christened in Fischbach on July1, 1746.**

**With six children to look after without a spouse/mother, and as was very common at the time, Nicolas married very soon after the death of Anna Maria in 1747. He married Angela Feltes on March 7, 1748 in Fischbach. Angela was born in Eschweiler, Luxembourg but there is no record of her date of birth. She died in Fischbach on February 25, 1784 - 21 years after Nicolas died.**

**The record of the marriage from the Catholic church in Fischbach below, indicates Nicolas as being a widower. Interesting, his name is spelled as "Nicolaus Keyser". As we saw from the record above - from the same church - his name was spelled "Kayser".**





Nicolas & Anna Feltes Marriage

Nicolas and Angela also had six children. Their first child was also named Nicolas. He was born on February 18, 1750 - which meant that at one time there were three people in the household with the name Nicolas, the father and two sons. This Nicolas died on January 11, 1814. There is no record if married, what he did for an occupation or where he died.

The first name of the second son is unknown (referred to in the records as "N Kaiser"). He was born on February 1, 1752 in Fischbach. He died in Fischbach on that date of his birth - February 1, 1752.

Next was Henrich Kaiser, who was born in Fischbach on August 9, 1753. He died in Fischbach on April 6, 1838. There is no record of his occupation and he never married. He is listed in the 1806 Luxembourg census as living with his older brother Nicolas' household.

Bernard Kaiser was the next son born on November 26, 1754 in Fischbach. He died on September 18, 1823 in Fischbach. He died unmarried and like his brother Henrich was living in his brother Nicolas' household in 1806.

Mathias Kaiser was the fifth son of Nicolas and Angela. He was born in Fischbach on April 8, 1756. He died on February 3, 1757 in Fischbach. He was less than one year old.

Anna Catharina Kaiser was born on April 2, 1758 in Fischbach. She also died before reaching one year old, dying on October 12, 1758 in Fischbach.

Thus, the first generation of Kaisers looks as follows:

- 1) Nicolas Kaiser, b. abt. 1708 in \_\_\_\_\_, LUXEMBOURG, d. 5-22-1763 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, m. Anna Maria Leonardi on \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, LUXEMBOURG, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-15-1747 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
  
- 2) Anna Maria Kaiser, b. abt. 1734 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 3-25-1824 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, m. Nicolas Pettinger on 11-18-1765 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_
  
- 2) Nicolas Kaiser, b. abt. 1735 in \_\_\_\_\_, LUXEMBOURG, d. 2-12-1757 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Michael Kaiser, b. abt. 1738 in \_\_\_\_\_, LUXEMBOURG, d. 5-3-1793 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Franz Kaiser, b. abt. 1741 in \_\_\_\_\_, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-15-1750 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Peter Kaiser, b. abt. 4-\_\_\_-1744 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Johannes Kaiser, b. abt. 7-\_\_\_-1746 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
  
- m. Angela Feltes on 3-17-1748 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in Eschweiler, LUXEMBOURG, d. 2-25-1784 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
  
- 2) Nicolas Kaiser, b. 2-18-1750 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 1-11-1814 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, m. Maria Catharina Elcheroth on 4-29-1777 in Steinsel, LUXEMBOURG, b. abt. 1751 in Asselscheuer, LUXEMBOURG, d. 12-15-1819 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) "N" Kaiser, b. 2-1-1752 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 2-1-1752 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Henrich Kaiser, b. 8-9-1753 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 4-6-1838 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Bernard Kaiser, b. 11-26-1754 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 9-18-1823 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Mathias Kaiser, b. 4-8-1756 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 2-3-1757 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 2) Anna Catharina Kaiser, b. 4-2-1758 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 10-12-1758 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG

The following document is very interesting. As mentioned above, the 1766 Census of Fischbach, indicated that Nicolas' widow (Angela Feltes) and some of their children were living with Nicolas' married daughter - Anna Marie - from his first marriage.

The Census indicates that in 1766 there were 23 homes in Fischbach, with 64 men over 16



years of age, 54 women over 14 years of age and 32 boys and 22 girls.

The household included Nicolas Pettinger, his wife Anna Marie (first daughter from Nicolas Kaiser's first marriage), Michael and Peter Kaiser, Ana Marie's brothers from Nicolas Kaiser's first marriage, Angela Feltes, Nicolas' widow from his second marriage and Nicolas, Henrich and Bernard, sons of Angela and Nicolas from the second marriage.

| Village de Fischbach |   | Paroisse de Meresch                      |  |
|----------------------|---|--|--|
| Nom de la Famille    | Moins des Femmes qui les habitent de l'Age de 14 ans en sus | Leur Etat, Profession, Art, Metier, etc. | Nombre des Enfants de l'Age de 14 ans en sus |
| Transport            |   |  |  |
| 1. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 2. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 3. Michel Feltes     |   |  |  |
| 4. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 5. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 6. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 7. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 8. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |
| 9. Jean Schmitt      |   |  |  |

1766 Fischbach Census

### NICOLAS KAISER (Second Recorded Generation)

Nicolas Kaiser, the son of Nicolas and Angela Feltes Kaiser (his second marriage) was born on February 18, 1750 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. He married Maria Catharina Elcheroth on April 29, 1777 in Steinsel, LUXEMBOURG.

It is interesting to note that Nicolas Kaiser, who was born and raised in Fischbach and went to the Catholic Church there, was dismissed from this church to the Catholic church in Steinsel so that he could be married.

Maria was born about 1751. The 1806 Luxembourg census indicates she was born in Nobressart, LUXEMBOURG which today is part of Belgium. According to her marriage record, she grew up in Asselscheuer, LUXEMBOURG. She died on December 19, 1819 in

**Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG.**

**Nicolas is listed as a farmer in 1793 on his son Lorenz' baptismal record. In 1779, he is listed as a shoemaker on the baptismal record of his son Johannes. Nicolas died January 11, 1814 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. They lived at House #9 or the Meisch" House**



*The Kaiser House at #9 or the Meisch House House is in the middle of the Town of Fischbach*

**Nicolas and Maria Catharina had 10 children.**

**Their oldest son, again named Nicolas, was born August 2, 1778 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. He married Anna Margaretha Geimer on May 16, 1809 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. Anna Margaretha was born on April 14, 1780 in Bivange, LUXEMBOURG. She died on July 1, 1852 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG.**

Nicolas Kaiser  
Marriage  
Apr 25 1777  
Catholic churchbooks of Stavelot, Luxembourg  
Marriages 1780-1795 page 280 (back sheet)  
Latin  
Only attached

1777

Asselscheuer On April 29 [ ] dispensed from proclamations, they got married Nicolas Kaiser, legitimate son of the late Nicolas Kaiser and Angela Felles, wedded couple from Fischbach and Maria Catharina Eicherot, legitimate surviving daughter of Henrich Eicherot and Maria Streng, wedded couple from Asselscheuer. Witnesses were Peter Eicherot, the bride's uncle from Asselscheuer and Nicolas Pebinger, the groom's brother-in-law from Fischbach.

**N. Kaiser Marriage Record**



**Nicolas and Anna Margaretha had two children - Nicolas and Franz. Nicolas was born June 13, 1810 in Fischbach and married Anna Michaelis on November 3, 1832 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG. Anna was born on December 11, 1811 in Landschied, LUXEMBOURG. They lived in Waldbillig where Nicolas is listed as a farmer. There is no record of any children.**

**The second child of Nicolas and Maria Catharina was Johannes Kaiser who was born December 31, 1779 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. He died at 4 months old on April 27, 1780 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG.**

**Next was Marie Elisabeth Kaiser. She was born in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG on February 16, 1781. There are no records on her date of death or place or whether or not she ever married.**

**The fourth child of Nicolas and Maria Catharina was Anna Maria Kaiser who was born in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG on December 21, 1783. Anna married Jacob Theisen on February 5, 1812 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. Jacob was a tailor. He was born in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG on December 19, 1784 and died on March 25, 1816. Anna died in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG on May 28, 1816. They did not have any children.**

**Franz Kaiser was born on May 12, 1785 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG and died on December 15, 1853 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG. Franz married Anna Maria Michaelis on February 6, 1815 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG. Anna was born on December 28, 1785 in Waldbillig and died on October 10, 1852 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG.**

**Franz and Anna Maria had two children - Margarethe and Mathias - both of whom died young. Margarethe was born on March 20, 1816 in Waldbillig and died on February 10, 1832 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG. Mathias was born on April 30, 1818 in Waldbillig and died on February 6, 1819 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG. Franz's occupation is listed as a "plougher" in civil records.**

**Maria Kaiser was the fifth child of Nicolas and Maria Catharina. She was born on May 26, 1787 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. She died at the age of almost 3 years old on May 3, 1790 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG.**

**Barbara Kaiser, the next child, was born on April 17, 1789 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. We do not know her date of death or the place or whether or not she ever married.**

**Lorenz Kaiser was born January 18, 1793 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. We will follow Lorenz in the next generation of Kaisers**

**Susanna Kaiser was the ninth child of Nicolas and Maria Catharina. She was born**



Susanna Kaiser was the ninth child of Nicolas and Maria Catharina. She was born November 30, 1794 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. We have no other information on her, so we do not know if she ever married or when and where she died.

The last child was Michael Kaiser who was born on November 6, 1799 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG. Again, the records do not indicate any further information on Michael Kaiser.

Thus, the family of the second generation Nicolas Kaiser and his wife Maria Catharina is as follows:

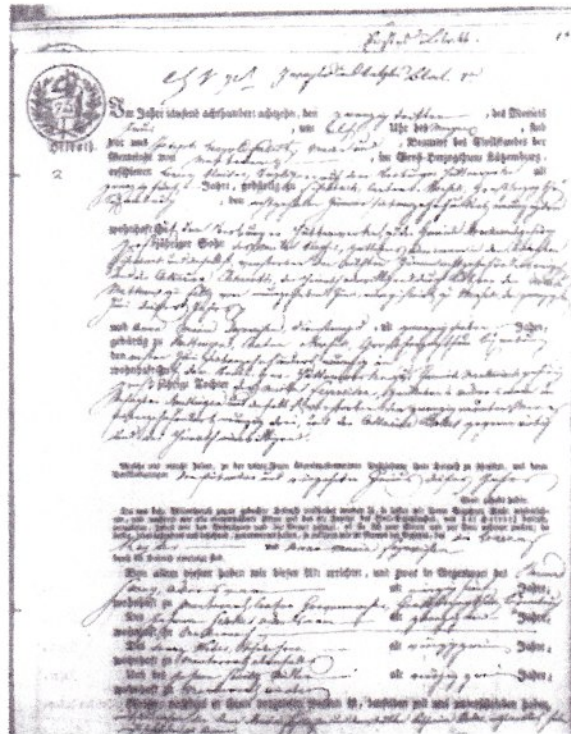
- 2) Nicolas Kaiser, b. 2-18-1750 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 1-11-1814 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, m. Maria Catharina Elcheroth on 4-29-1777 in Steinsel, LUXEMBOURG, b. abt 1751 in Nobressart, LUXEMBOURG, d. 12-15-1819 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Nicolas Kaiser, b. 8-2-1778 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 4-27-1841 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, m. Anna Maria Geimer on 5-16-1809 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, b. 4-14-1780 in Bivange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 7-1-1852 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Johannes Kaiser, b. 12-31-1779 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 4-27-1780 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Marie Elisabetha Kaiser, b. 2-16-1781 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Anna Maria Kaiser, b. 12-21-1783 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 5-28-1816 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, m. Jacob Theisen on 2-5-1812 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, b. 12-19-1784 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 3-25-1816 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Franz Kaiser, b. 5-12-1785 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 12-15-1853 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG, m. Anna Maria Michaelis on 2-6-1815 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG, b. 12-28-1785 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG, d. 10-10-1852 in Waldbillig, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Maria Kaiser, b. 5-26-1787 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 5-3-1790 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Barbara Kaiser, b. 4-17-1789 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Lorenz Kaiser, b. 1-18-1793 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 7-20-1878 in Le Mars, IA, m. Anna Maria Feiereisen on 6-23-1818 in Mantermach, LUXEMBOURG, b. 6-1-1791 in Reckange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 7-8-1856 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG
- 3) Susanna Kaiser, b. 11-30-1794 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Michael Kaiser, b. 11-6-1799 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_



**LORENZ KAISER (Third Generation)**

Lorenz Kaiser was the eighth child of Nicolas Kaiser and Maria Catharina Elcheroth. Lorenz was a daylaborer at the Berburg works in 1818 when he married Anna Marie Feiereisen on June 23, 1818 in Manternach, LUXEMBOURG. Anna had been a maid at the Bergurg works. The Berburg works were in the nearby municipality of Manternach. Later, from about 1819 to 1832 he worked as a daylaborer ("road mender") on the various roads in LUXEMBOURG.

It appears that at some time, the family moved to Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG which was probably closer to Lorenz's work.



I. Kaiser Marriage Cert.

Anna Maria was from Reckange, LUXEMBOURG where she was born on June 1, 1791. In 1818 she was a maid at the Berburg works. Anna died July 8, 1856 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG and Lorenz died in Le Mars, IOWA on July 20, 1878.

## The Goergen Family Tree

Lorenz Kaiser  
Obituary  
Jul 21 1878  
Newspaper: Luxemburger Gazette  
Issue: Jul 00 1878  
German  
Copy attached

+

**Obituary**

In His inscrutable way it pleased God the Almighty to summon our beloved father

**Lorenz Kaiser**

In an age of 89 years at Lemars, Iowa on Saturday July 20, 1878 7 o'clock in the morning provided with the Holy sacraments to a brighter world. The deceased was born in Fischbach Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg. He leaves behind two sons here in America and one sister in the old homeland.

The mourning bereaved

Lemars Iowa July 21, 1878

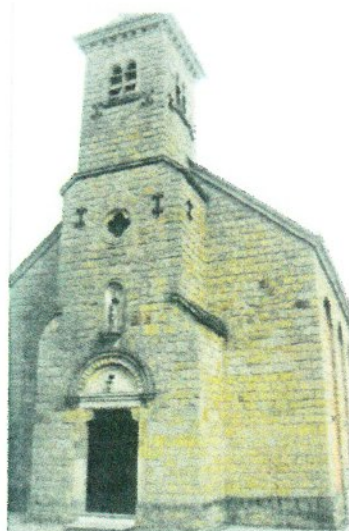
**May he rest in peace !**

[Follows a prayer]

[Note: In fact he was 85 years of age, and left behind two sons and one daughter.]

### Lorenz Kaiser Obituary

**Anna and Lorenz had six children - two of which died early. The children were Hubert, Susanna, another Hubert, Joseph, Angelique and Nicholas (who we will follow in the next generation). All of the children were born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG where Lorenz and Anna had moved.**



Church in Godbrange



**The first Hubert was born March 3, 1819 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. Hubert was a carpenter and a daylaborer. He married Barbe Ehlinger on July 18, 1850 in Junglinster, LUXEMBOURG. They had six children, of which only two daughter - Anna Marie and Josephine survived. Barbe Ehlinger was born in Olingen, LUXEMBOURG on September 15, 1818. She died in Le Mars, IA on June 2, 1875.**

**The children that died were Anne, born in 1851, Lorenz, born in 1858, Nicolas, born in 1859, and Louis in 1862. After Hubert's mother, Anna Maria Feieresen died in 1856, he moved his family into the home of his father Lorenz.**

**Hubert, Barbe, their daughters Anna Maria and Josephine, and Hubert's father Lorenz immigrated to the U.S. in about 1868. . They went to St. Donatus, Jackson County, IA where they joined Lorenz's youngest son Nicolas who had immigrated earlier.**

**Hubert and Barbe's daughter Anne Maria Kaiser, who was born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG on December 24, 1852, married R. D. Neumers in the U.S. sometime before 1875. I have found no further informaton on her.**

**Her sister Josephine, born on October 23, 1855 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, married a Mathias Kemp - date and place unknown - but presumeably in the U.S. Interesting, Mathias was born about 1847 in Luxembourg.**

**Lorenz and Anna Maria's second child was Susanne Kaiser. Susanne was born in Godbrange on April 16, 1821. She married Nicolas Hoss on February 3, 1848 in Junglinster, LUXEMBOURG. He was a daylaborer and linenweaver. Nicolas Hoss was born October 9, 1822 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG and died on April 8, 1904 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. Susanne died on June 23, 1863 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG.**

**Susanna and Nicolas had eight children of which only four survived - Hubert, Anne, Jean and another Anne.**

**Susanna and Nicolas' first child, Hubert, was born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG on April 1, 1849. He married Margaretha Gaspar on September 3, 1878 in Junglinster, LUXEMBOURG. Margaretha was born on July 19, 1852 in Zittig, LUXEMBOURG. Hubert was a farm-hand in 1871 but became a linenweaver, presumably in his father-in-laws' business , after his marriage in 1878.**

**Barb Hoss was the second child. She was born on August 1, 1850 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG and died on January 8, 1852 in Godbrange.**

**The third child of Susanne and Nicolas was Anne Hoss, who was born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG on October 16, 1852. She married Nicolas Schreiner on January 2, 1878**



in Junglinster, LUXEMBOURG. Nicolas, a daylaborer, was born on August 2, 1850 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. We have no record of either of their date of death or place of death or whether or not they had any children.

Jean Hoss was born on August 12, 1854 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. We have no further information on him.

The second Anne Hoss of Nicolas and Susanna Hoss was born June 4, 1857 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. Again, we have no further information on her.

The sixth child of Susanne and Nicolas was Angelique Hoss, who was born on December 1, 1858 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG and died on March 11, 1860 in Godbrange.

The next child was stillborn on November 2, 1860 in Godbrange. The child was not named.

The last child of Susanne and Nicolas was Catherine Hoss, who was born on May 13, 1862 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. Catherine died on March 6, 1863 in Godbrange.

The third child of Lorenz and Anna Maria was another son named Hubert, who was born July 16, 1823 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. Hubert immigrated to the U.S. in April, 1857. He was joined on the trip/immigration by Eva Arens and her daughter Anna Feiereisen. They arrived in New York on the ship *Mississippi*. Eva Arens was the widow of Dominique Feiereisen - brother of Hubert's mother, Anna Marie Feireisen Kaiser. Anna Feireisen was the daughter of Dominique and Eva (Arenth) Feireisen. We do not know where they went in the U.S.

Joseph Kaiser was the fourth child of Lorenz and Anna Maria. He was born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG on March 29, 1826 and died on June 9, 1827 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG.

Angelique Kaiser was born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG on November 10, 1828 and died on July 21, 1829 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG.

The last child, who we will follow as the Fourth Generation, was Nicolas Kaiser. Nicolas was born August 18, 1832 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG. Nicolas, as we shall see married Catherine Knewell in 1857. The couple had four children. After Catherine died, Nicolas married Anna Bauer in 1865 and they had eight children - the youngest was Oliva who married William Baack.

So the third generation of Kaisers', i.e. the family of Lorenz and Anna Maria, looks as follows:

- 3) Lorenz Kaiser, b. 1-18-1793 in Fischbach, LUXEMBOURG, d. 7-20-1878 in Le Mars, IA, m. Anna Maria Feiereisen on 6-23-1818 in Manternach, LUXEMBOURG, b. 6-1-1791 in Reckange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 7-8-1856

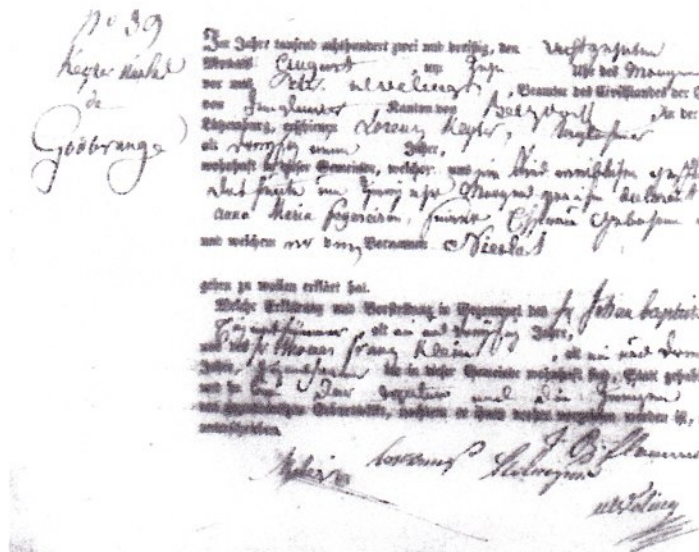


**in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG**

- 4) Hubert Kaiser, b. 3-19-1819 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, m. Barbe Ehlinger on 7-18-1850 in Junglinster, LUXEMBOURG, b. 9-15-1818 in Olingen, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-2-1875 in Le Mars, IA
- 4) Susanne Kaiser, b. 4-16-1821 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-23-1895 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, m. Nicolas Hoss on 2-3-1848 in Junglinster, LUXEMBOURG, b. 10-9-1822 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 4-8-1904 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG
- 4) Hubert Kaiser, b. 7-16-1823 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Joseph Kaiser, b. 3-29-1826 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-9-1827 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG
- 4) Angelique Kaiser, b. 11-10-1828 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 7-21-1829 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG
- 4) Nicolas Kaiser, b. 8-18-1832 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-19-1914 in Le Mars, IA, m. Catherine Knewell \_\_\_-\_\_\_-1857 in \_\_\_\_\_, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, d. 3-20-1864 in St. Donatus, IA m. Anna Bauer on 1-9-1865 in \_\_\_\_\_, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in Bayreuth, GERMANY, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_

**NICOLAS KAISER (Fourth Generation)**

As mentioned above, Nicolas Kaiser, son of Lorenz and Anna Maria Kaiser, was born in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG on August 18, 1832.



Nicolas Birth Cert.

The Goergen Family Tree

|  |
|--|
| Nicolas Kaiser                           |
| Birth<br>Aug 18, 1832                    |
| Civil registry of Junglinster, Luxemburg |
| Birth no 39/1832                         |
| German                                   |
| Copy attached                            |

No. 39  
*Keyser Nicolas*  
from  
*Godbrange*

In the year of 1832, on August 18, at 10 o'clock in the morning, there appeared before us, Peter Neveling, civil registrar for the municipality of Junglinster, in the county of Betzdorf, in the province of Luxemburg, Lorenz Keyser, daylaborer, 39 years of age, a resident of this municipality, who presented to us a child of *female* [mistake by the recorder] sex, that was born today, at 2 o'clock in the morning, to him, declarant, and his wife *Anna Maria Feyereisen*, and whom he declared to assign the first name of Nicolas to.

This declaration and presentation was made in presence of Johan Baptist Flammant, proprietor, 31 years of age, and Thomas Frans Klein, 31 years of age, proprietor, who are residents of this municipality.

The declarant and the witnesses signed this birth record with us, after it was read aloud to them.

[Original signatures:]

|       |                      |               |
|-------|----------------------|---------------|
|       |                      | J.B. Flammant |
| Klein | <i>Lorens Kaiser</i> | Neveling      |

Nicolas Birth Record

***English translation of Nicolas Kaiser's birth on August 16, 1832  
at the civil registry in Junglinster, Luxembourg***

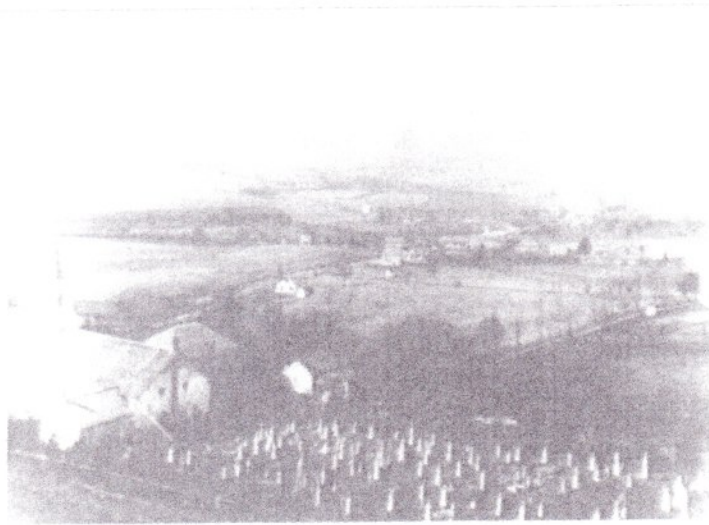
**He was apprenticed to a shoemaker when he was fourteen years old to learn a trade. He appears to have left Europe at about the age of twenty (about 1853) and immigrated to the U.S. He joined a large community of Luxembourgers in Eastern Iowa in the town of St. Donatus (Jackson County) which is about 10-15 miles south of Dubuque along the Mississippi River. St. Donatus is the patron saint of Luxembourg.**

**St. Donatus in those days was known as Testes des Morts by French explorers or priests. The name means Death's Head Creek. There are various stories on the origination of the name, but the commonly accepted one is of "heads floating in a creek" following an Indian War between the Fox, Winnebago and Sauk Indians and the Sioux Indians. The heads may also have been from a battle between various indian tribes and settlers. No one really knows.**



The story of St. Donatus is very interesting. It became a thriving Luxembourger community in the mid-1880's complete with a Catholic church, boarding school for girls, a high school for boys and a vibrant community. Bishop Mathias Loras of (Dubuque) Iowa establish a parish in 1851 and it was names St. Donatus Parish. The dominant priest for about 30 years was a Father J. Michael Flammang who was directly responsible for the building of the parish and its various buildings, including an outdoor Way of the Cross, which still exists.

*(One of the priests in 1853 was a Father Math Sweiger, who became a priest in Bellview, IA - about 30 miles south of St. Donatus. Father Sweiger married my great grandparents James O'Morrow (O'Meara) and Julia Gaffney in 1870 in Sabula, IA).*



Early St. Donatus

Nicholas is listed as one of 72 parishoners in 1856, along with the J. Knewell family, presumably the father of his future bride Anna Catherine Knewell.

The community of St. Donatus, which was a large community of Luxembourgers in western Iowa, was served by a famous ethnic newspaper called the The Luxembourger Gazette. The editor was a man named Nicolas Gonner and his paper became known as the "Gonner Papers". Copies of the "Gonner Papers" and The Luxembourger Gazette are available for reading at Loras College in Dubuque, IA and the state historical society library at the University of Iowa. They are all on microfiche and are in German Gothic script.

It is interesting that my German genealogy expert used some of the Luxembourg Gazette articles in his research of the Kaiser Family. He found copies of articles in Luxembourg newspapers.

Nicholas opened a shoe store in St. Donatus. In 1857, he married Anna Catherine Knewell. The couple had four children. The first child, Peter, lived almost five years. He was born

July 16, 1857 and died July 6, 1862. The second child was Catherine who was born January 18, 1859. Catharine never married.

Mary was born September 3, 1860 and married Nick Hanson. They lived in the Le Mars, IA area as well. The last child was Margaret, born May 31, 1862, who married Peter Nemmers of Le Mars, IA.

We know that Anna Catherine died March 20, 1864 and presumeably is buried in the St. Donatus Cemetery.

On January 9, 1865, Nicolas married Anna Bauer in St. Donatus. Anna was born in Bayreuth, Germany. This is in the area of Bavaria. She came to the U.S. when she was ten years old with her parents who settled originally near Dayton, Ohio but moved to the St. Donatus area. At this time there was a considerable number of individuals of German descent in the St. Donatus area.



Nicolas & Anna (Bauer) Kaiser

Catherine, Mary and Margaret all moved to Le Mars, IA with their father and step-mother (Anna Bauer) in 1875.

Nicolas and Anna (Bauer) had eight children. The first was Hubert who was born on October 26, 1865, presumably in St. Donatus. Hubert died July 8, 1868 and is buried in the first rows of the St. Donatus Catholic Church cemetery. Martina was born on January 30, 1867. She joined the convent and became known as Sister Carilia in the Sisters of Charity religious order. She was a school teacher in Brooklyn, NY for most of her life. I could not find her date and place of death.

Elizabeth was born November 27, 1868 but there are no further records on her. Aloysius was born on January 4, 1871 but died on October 21, 1873. He is buried next to his brother Hubert in the St. Donatus cemetery. John was born on February 10, 1873.

As mentioned earlier, in 1869, Nicolas' father Lorenz and his oldest brother Hubert and



**Hubert's family immigrated to St. Donatus from Luxembourg.**

**Sometime in May, 1875, the entire Kaiser family left St. Donatus and moved to Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA. Peter Gehlen, a German immigrant from the Jackson County, IA area, had started a grist mill on the Floyd River in a place which would be named Le Mars, IA. Mr. Gehlen returned to the St. Donatus area and led a group of prairie schooners on a trek across Iowa to the Le Mars area. The schooners were pulled by oxen.**

**Supposedly, Peter Gehlen made more than one trek with wagon trains. We do not know which one the Kaiser family was in, but it is believed that it was either the first or second one.**

**Interestingly, Peter Gehlen had been one of the original founders of St. Donatus having built a flour mill in 1848. He sold the mill in 1876 after moving to Le Mars, IA**

**In April, 1876, Peter was born in Le Mars. Following Peter's birth came Lillian for whom I have no dates, although she is buried next to Nicolas and Anna in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Le Mars. Lillian married a John Lewis on April 17, 1893 and lived in Evanston, IL for awhile. They ran a grocery store there. However, John was a little wild and liked to run around. Supposedly, he gave Lillian venereal disease and eventually left her. They had two sons - Vincent and Vernon. Vincent eventually ran a grocery store in Struble, married and had two children - Allen and Madeline.**

**The last child to be born was Oliva, born on January 11, 1882. We will follow Oliva shortly.**

**Nicolas opened a shoe store on Main Street in Le Mars, IA in a building he built. He also purchased farm land in Plymouth (Le Mars) and Sioux Counties. The "Lieb Farm", north of Le Mars was one of the farms. He later moved to a neighboring area called Struble, IA and was one of the first residents of the small town.**



Main Street - Le Mars, IA

*We are not sure which building was the original Kaiser shoe store*

Son's John and Peter ran a grain business in Struble for awhile. Peter and his step-sister Catherine (Kate) shared a house in Struble. Peter never married but he did have a relationship with one Clara Owen, a dress shop owner in Le Mars. Clara provided Peter's sisters with unsold dresses from her shop. Clara at one time was married to a traveling salesman from Des Moines, IA. Clara never obtained a divorce (church teachings) and this was probably the reason that Clara and Pete never married.



Nicolas and children

*Nicolas later in life. Daughter Olivia is on the right  
Kate & Peter in back. Lillie & Nicolas in front*

As mentioned before, Nicolas' father Lorenz died July 20, 1878 in Le Mars, IA.

Nicolas' wife Anna died December 12, 1898 from blood poisoning. The story is that she bruised her foot ( although she may have also had a large wood splinter in her foot). It appears that Anna also had diabetes. Doctors wanted to amputate the foot, but Anna refused and died from the infection.

Nicolas died at his home in Struble, IA on June 19, 1914 at age 82 years of age. He was a well known individual in the Le Mars area being one of the founders of the community. His funeral mass was celebrated by three priests according to his obituary. He became a



naturalized citizen on April 12, 1875 at the Plymouth County courthouse in Le Mars.



Nicolas & Anna's Grave

The fourth generation of Kaisers, Nicolas Kaiser and his family, looks like this:

- 4) Nicolas Kaiser, b. 8-18-1832 in Godbrange, LUXEMBOURG, d. 6-19-1914 in Struble, IA, m. Catherine Knewel about 1857 in St. Donatus, IA, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, d. 3-20-1864 in St. Donatus, IA
- 5) Peter Kaiser, b. 7-16-1857 in St. Donatus, IA, d. July 6, 1862 in St. Donatus, IA
- 5) Catherine Kaiser, b. 1-18-1859 in St. Donatus, IA, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-1935 in Le Mars, IA
- 5) Mary Kaiser, b. 9-3-1860 in St. Donatus, IA, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in Le Mars, IA, m. Nicolas Hanson on \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Margaret Kaiser, b. 5-31-1862 in St. Donatus, IA, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, m. Peter Nemmers on 7-27-1881 in Le Mars, IA, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
  
- m. Anna Bauer on 1-9-1865 in St. Donatus, IA, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in Bayreuth, GERMANY, d. 12-12-1898 in Le Mars, IA
  
- 5) Hubert Kaiser, b. 10-26, 1865 in St. Donatus, IA, d. 7-8-1868 in St. Donatus, IA
- 5) Martina Kaiser, b. 1-30-1867 in St. Donatus, IA, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ . Joined Sisters of Charity convent as Sister

- Carilia (or Sister Cortia). She was a teacher in Brooklyn, New York and had visisted her father in January, 1914 in Struble, IA
- 5) Elizabeth Kaiser, b. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in St. Donatus, IA, d. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Aloysius Kaiser, b. 1-4-1871 in St. Donatus, IA, d. 10-21-1873 in St. Donatus, IA
- 5) John Kaiser, b. 2-10-1873 in St. Donatus, IA, d. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Peter Kaiser, b. 4-\_\_\_-1876 in Le Mars, IA, d. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Lillian Kaiser, b. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in Le Mars, IA, d. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in Le Mars, IA, m. John Lewis on 4-17-1893 in Le Mars, IA, b. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, d. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Oliva Kaiser, b. 1-11-1882 in Le Mars, IA, d. 2-22-1945 in Le Mars, IA, m. William Baack on 7-20-1909 in Maurice, IA, b. 11-12-1880 in Clayton, IA, d. 11-24-1954 in Le Mars, IA

#### OLIVA KAISER (Fifth Generation)

Oliva was the youngest child of Nicolas and Anna (Bauer) Kaiser. Due to her father's successful shoe business, she was able to dress well and learned to play the piano.

She met William Baack, who was a delivery boy in her father's shoe shop in Le Mars, IA. William became acquainted with Oliva and they eventually decided to get married. Oliva's father Nicolas did not approve of William as he was a Lutheran and the Kaisers were staunch Catholics. The story is that Nicolas fired William because of his relationship with Oliva.

However, they married in July 20, 1909 in Maurice, Iowa and son Raymond was born in November 10, 1910. William took a job in Toller Drug Store in Sioux City, IA to support the family. He learned the pharmacy business but the family eventually moved to Struble, IA where William took over the local drug store. He also became the U.S. Post Master for Struble about 1915.



Struble Pharmacy



**There are pictures of William and his violin. Apparently he was quite the violin player and sometimes played publicly. Family lore has it that Oliva would play the piano and William would play the violin at local gatherings.**

**The State of Iowa passed a law requiring pharmacists to have a license. William decided not to sit for the two week course/exam and that family took up farming in the area. This did not work out and the family moved to Le Mars where William became a painter and interior decorator. They remained in Le Mars area for the rest of their lives.**

**William was an energetic person and helped the local doctor while he was the pharmacist in Struble. The story goes that the Baack family rarely was sick because William knew what medicine to make for his family.**

**He also took a lot of photographs. There are still pictures he took of early life in Struble and of the town itself.**



Struble, IA by Wm Baack

**William was raised a Luthern, a faith he held until his death. Supposedly his mother on her death bed asked that William and his brother Henry be raised as Lutherans - and they were.**

**However, his wife Oliva was Catholic. This did not cause a problem for William as all of the children were raised Catholic and he made sure they made it to mass on Sunday while he went to his Luthern services.**

**Oliva and William had six children - one boy and five girls. Most of the children were born in Struble, IA, although the latter ones were born in Ireton, IA. The children were Raymond, Mildren (Millie), Lucille (Lu), Elvera (Vera), Viola (Vicki) and Olivia (Babe). This was an extremely close family through all of the years. While William ultimately because a painter and interior decorator, Oliva stuck by and held the family together.**

The Goergen Family Tree



Wm & Oliva Baack Family

**The Baack home in Le Mars, IA is one that all grandchildren remember. The visits there and the family reunions in later years are all fond memories.**



Baack Home in Le Mars

**Oliva Kaiser Baack died on February 22, 1945 in Le Mars, IA. William died on November 23, 1954 in Le Mars, IA. Both Oliva and William are buried in the St. Joseph's Cemetery in Le Mars, IA.**





Wm & Oliva Baack's Grave

So, the family of Oliva Kaiser Baack is as follows:

- 5) Oliva Kaiser, b. 1-11-1882 in Le Mars, IA, d. 2-22-1945 in Le Mars, IA, m. William Back on 7-20-1909 in Maurice, IA, b. 11-2-1880 in Clayton, IA, d. 11-24-1954 in Le Mars, IA
- 6) Raymond Baack, b. 11-10-1910 in Sioux City, IA, d. 9-22-1948 in Akron, IA, m. Olivia Wilberding on 6-20-1933 in Remsen, IA, b. 2-4-1910 in Remsen, IA, d. 10-26-1955 in Le Mars, IA
- 6) Mildred (Millie) Baack, b. 5-8-1914 in Struble, IA, d. 5-10-1971 in Le Mars, IA, m. John H. Haag on 6-4-1935 in Le Mars, IA, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-1907 in Hospers, IA, d. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in Le Mars, IA
- 6) Lucille (Lu) Baack, b. 2-3-1917 in Struble, IA, d. 8-20-1991 in Forest Lake, MN, m. Andrew Haag on 4-28-1936 in Le Mars, IA, b. \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_ in Hospers, IA, d. 7-22-1972 in Forest Lake, MN
- 6) Elvera (Vera) Baack, b. 10-8-1919 in Struble, IA, d. 9-3-1981 in Le Mars, IA, m. Stephen LeRoy Carel on 1-15-1945 in Le Mars, IA, b. 4-12-1920 in Le Mars, IA, d. 5-1-1962 in Le Mars, IA

- 6) **Viola (Vicki) Baack**, b. 4-17-1921 in Ireton, IA, d. 8-16-2003 in Sioux City, IA, m. Elmer Christensen on 1-5-1943 in Granville, IA, b. 8-27-1919 in Granville, IA, d. 8-29-1979 in Granville, IA
- 6) **Olivia (Babe) Baack**, b. 11-9-1923 in Ireton, IA, d. 11-16-2001 in Kingsley, IA, m. Clifford Bauerly on 10-5-1942 in Le Mars, IA, b. 11-9-1922 in Remsen, IA, d. 3-5-1993 in Sioux City, IA

### **WILLIAM & OLIVA BAACK CHILDREN (Sixth Generation)**

#### ***Raymond Baack***

**Raymond was born November 10, 1910 in Sioux City, IA while William was working for Toller Drug Store.**



Young Ray Baack

**Raymond came up with nick names for all of his sisters which stuck through out their lives. Raymond, like his father became a painter and and interior decorator. He was a verteran of World War II.**



Ray Baack in WW II



He married Olivia (Oli) Wilberding on June 20, 1933 in Remsen, IA. They had six children - William, Jane, Mary Ellen, Ronald, Kenneth and Ray, Jr.

William married Barbara Nemmers in Le Mars, IA on June 9, 1955. They had seven children - Jeffrey, Julie, Mary, Kathie, Joseph, Gregory and Gary. William died on April 14, 1989 in Minneapolis, MN.

Jane married Leonard Rohde on December 30, 1957 in Le Mars, IA. Jane and Leonard had five children - Timothy, Susan, Barbara, Thomas, and Ann. They made their home in Sheldon, IA where Leonard was a teacher most of his career.



Jane & Len Rohde

The third child of Ray and Olivia was Mary Ellen Kaiser who married C. Richard Pedersen on October 29, 1955 in Le Mars, Iowa. C. Richard was an Iowa State Highway Patrolman. He died on February 15, 2011 in West Des Moines, IA where they lived.

Mary Ellen and C. Richard had four children - Debora, Robert, James and John.



Mary Ellen & Richard Pedersen

Ronald Baack was the next child of Raymond and Oli Baack. Ron, who was born in 1942 never married. He is an avid motorcyclist.



Ron Baack

Kenneth Baack was the next child of Raymond and Oli Baack. Kenneth married Mary Van Essen on May 7, 1966 in Le Mars, IA. They have three children - Elizabeth, Kay, and Kenneth Baack, Jr.

The last child of Raymond and Oli Baack is Raymond Baack, Jr. He married Linda Shearon on October 4, 1969 in Le Mars, Ia. They did not have any children.

Raymond Baack, Sr. died while painting a church steeple in Akron, IA on September 22, 1948. He made it down from the scaffolding but was dead before the doctor arrived.

The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Raymond and Olivia (Wilberding) Baack are as follows:

- 6) Raymond Baack, b. 11-10-1910 in Sioux City, IA, d. 9-22-1948 in Akron, IA, m. Olivia Wilberding on 6-20-1933 in Remsen, IA, b. 2-4-1910 in Remsen, IA, d. 10-26-1959 in Le Mars, IA
- 7) William Baack, b. 4-16-1934 in Remsen, IA, d. 4-14-1989 in Minneapolis, MN, m. Barbara Nemmers on 6-9-1955 in Le Mars, IA, b. 11-15-1934 in Le Mars, IA
- 8) Jeffrey Baack, b. 2-22-1956 in Le Mars, IA, m. Shara \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, b. 7-22-1952 in Lebanon, IN
- 9) Jennie Baack, b. 5-6-1981 in Medford, OR
- 9) Covey Baack, b. 11-25-1982 in Medford, OR
- 8) Julie Baack, b. 5-27-1957 in Le Mars, IA, m. Roger Guntren on \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, b. \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
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