

September 17, 1973

Hello again,

I am enclosing some new Fischer information to add to what you already have. With the help of a Dr. Kneule in Germany, who spent six hours searching official church records, we now have 10 more ancestors' names and some dates. Most of the Fischers were listed as "Zimmergeselle" which I have been told means carpenter or a handicraftsman called guildsmen back then. I have been told that there used to be different degrees or grades of experience, like a beginner and up. So "Zimmermann" or "Zimmergeselle" are guildsmen with different levels of experience. "Soldner" means mercenary or one who is hired by another. The letter from Dr. Kneule said "they were also always handicraftsmen (guildsmen), people who took in lodgers and who married women from the local areas". "From 1880 on, their name disappears from the church records, thus I must assume that around 1884 the whole family left for America." "It would be very difficult to determine whether or not you still have living relatives in Germany." "I hope you are pleased with these results". Dr. Kneule is with the Evang. Luth. "Pfarramt" or parish in Neudrossenfeld bei Bayreuth.

The following is a certified quotation from the baptismal register of the Evangelical Lutheran Parish of Neudrossenfeld. (John A. Fisher) Fischer, Johann--the fourth child of Johann Fischer, carpenter in Altdrossenfeld by Bayreuth and of wife, Catharina (born Merkel in Altdrossenfeld) was born on 12 Feb. 1877 in the evening at 5:45 p.m. and was baptised on 25 Feb. 1877. The baptismal sponsor was Johann Stenglein, a carpenter in Mainleus.

On Katharina Fischer's death certificate she was listed as "Kate" Fischer, so evidently this was her nick-name.

Also, instead of Johann and Katharina Fischer having five children, we have learned that they had six children. They were married on November 9, 1869 from the church records. Johann's birth date of July 25, 1843 in Altdrossenfeld is correct and Katharina's of April, 1847 in Altdrossenfeld correct with the 9th being the correct date. Their children, all born in Altdrossenfeld, were listed as Johann-Jan. 28, 1870; Johann, Dec. 25, 1871; Maria, Feb. 1, 1875; Johann, Feb. 12, 1877 and another we did not know of: Andreas, born Sept. 13, 1879 who died shortly after on Sept. 19, 1879.

There was a question raised on the Johann Fischer, (born 1843) about his middle name, whether it was George or Henry. There is no listing of a middle name on any of the church records so I guess it is still questionable. On his death certificate it is listed as John----Fischer so that wasn't any help either. I was told it was George and then I was told it was Henry, so without any proof I've just been calling him Johann Fischer.

I have enjoyed gathering all this new information for myself and hope you enjoy it, too.

Sincerely,
Shirley Sisk
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Darien, Wis. 53114

Ten Ancestors to add to Fischer History
(names are underlined)

Katharina Merkel's father was Johann Peter Merkel in Altdrossenfeld.

Johann Fischer's father: Johann Fischer, born April 3, 1788 in Altdrossenfeld as the oldest son and died Nov. 25, 1874 in Altdrossenfeld. Mother: Maria Adler, allegedly born June 26, 1806 in Tannfeld. Her death contract is not available for her at present. They were married Dec. 18, 1831 in Neudrossenfeld.

Maria's father was Johann Adler "Tagelöhner" in Tannfeld

(1788) Johann Fischer's father: Johann Fischer, born Jan. 11, 1755 in Altdrossenfeld and died Mar. 30, 1810 in Altdrossenfeld. "55 Jahre alt". Mother: Elisabetha Amschler born May 19, 1760 in Neudrossenfeld and died Jan. 31, 1829 in Altdrossenfeld "69 Jahre alt". They married Nov. 26, 1780

Elisabetha's father and mother were Johann Amschler and Elisabetha Sophia Reiff from Langenstadt.

(1755) Johann Fischer's father was Jacob Fischer "Söldner" in Altdrossenfeld. Mother: Dorothea Höttinger.

Johann Fischer, born 1755, was a "Zimmergeselle" and "Soldner".
Johann Fischer, born 1788, was a "Zimmergeselle" and "Soldner".
Johann Fischer, born 1843, was a "Zimmergeselle".

Johann Stenglein, baptismal sponsor was listed as a "Zimmermann" and Johann Fischer listed here as a "Zimmermann", too.