

Wolfersberger

St. Clair County Illinois

George Wolfersberger
and
Theodore Wolfersberger

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WOLFERSBERGER
St. Clair County Illinois

Compiled by

George Wolfersberger
assisted by
Theodore Wolfersberger

Detroit Michigan 1954

Revised 1960 1972 1984

Material obtained by personal interviews, letters,
cemetery records, tax and census records from micro-
film at the Burton Historical Collection in Detroit
Michigan, and the Newberry Library in Chicago Illinois.

George Wolfersberger
112 N. Mountain St.
Ironton, Missouri
63650



Wolfensberger

Martin and his descendants have always spelled their name WOLFERSBERGER, but the original spelling was WOLFENSBERGER. The first entry into America was by John Wolfersberger, his wife and two sons. They landed here on the sailing ship, THISTLE OF GLASGOW from Germany, on August 29, 1730. They settled in Pennsylvania. John's grandson, also named John, moved to North Carolina in 1787. He shortened his name to SPARGER. (Compendium of American Genealogy.)

Some of his descendants changed their name to WOLFESPARGER, WOLFENBARGER, some reverted back to the original spelling, WOLFENSBERGER.

In the book, "Deutshen Geschlechter Buch" it states that at least 7 men with this name left Switzerland after the Protestant Reformation in the 1600s for Germany and Alsace Lorraine. Our ancestor was one of these seven, and he went to Lorraine. The era is referred to as the 3 hundred year war, these men left Switzerland to preserve their religion - and their necks.

We all descend from a knight named Baldebert Von Wolfsburg that lived in a castle in Bauma, near Zurich. His remains are still buried in a monastery named Ruti, his Coat of Arms is displayed in the monastery. Baldebert born 1233 died 1259. Generally speaking, the ones that moved to Germany used the N in their name, the ones that moved to Lorraine used the R. There are many exceptions. The foundations of the castle are still there near Bauma, some have been restored, others are still in ruin.

Baldebert is thought to be a Crusader Knight, in his life he might have been to the Holy Land in the 6th Crusade 1248-1254. On the Coat of Arms 3 hills are shown. Three hills always depict Jerusalem - the Crusaders goal.

Still, it could mean something entirely different. Wolfensberger means, literally, a dweller of the mountains of the small wolves, therefore a wolf is shown against a series of mountain peaks.

Who will ever know?

March 1, 1994

Dear Larry,

Enclosed are copies of my Dad's family history files that I thought would be useful to you. I'll list them below so that we can refer to them by name the next time we talk.

1. Record of Wolfersberger Families in America
Written by George Wolfersberger, 1969
2. Wolfersberger - St. Clair County, Illinois
Written by George Wolfersberger, 1984
3. Letters : Europe file contents
4 carbon copies of letters sent in 1962
Response to letters not found
4. Wolfensberger - Out of Wolfensberg in Canton Zurich
translation from German-Swiss Genealogical Book
5. Family Tree of Charles Patrick Wolfersberger
Compiled by Suzanne M. Wolfersberger-Borba
2309 Stone Circle
Bishop, CA 93514
6. The Wolfensbergers' 1967 Year-End Letter
Written by Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger
2327 South 103rd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68124
7. Family Tree of Martin Wolfersberger
Compiled by George Wolfersberger, 1956

I've included Suzie Borba's stuff because she was corresponding with my Dad shortly before he died and is interested in the Wolfersberger family history. She might be a good resource of information on the West coast.

The other items are everything I could find that relate to Martin's branch of the family or have something to do with European people and places.

I hope this helps in your research of the Wolfersberger family name. Anything you find on your trip will be extremely important to putting the pieces together. This is where my Dad had trouble finding information and I know that he would have liked to take the trip that you are about to take.

Good Luck!



Charlie Wolfersberger

I N D E X

Any person that was born in America with the name Wolfersberger, descendant of Martin and Katherine that came here in 1843, has a number (XX) in this history. It is for identification only.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| (1) Franz son of Martin and Katherine. | (42) Lorraine son of Otto |
| (2) Michael " " " | (43) Orville " " |
| (3) Joseph " " " | (44) Cyril " " |
| (4) Caroline daughter of Martin | (45) Christine daughter of Lorraine |
| (5) Lillian " " | (46) Sandra " Orville |
| (6) Christina " " | (47) Douglas son " |
| (7) Ida daughter of Joseph | (48) Bruce " " |
| (8) Isidor son " | (49) Kelly daughter Douglas |
| (9) Matilda daughter " | (50) Karissa " " |
| (10) Frank son of Michael | (51) Mathew son " |
| (11) Julius " " | (52) Jennifer daughter " |
| (12) Anna daughter " | (53) Katherine daughter Bruce |
| (13) Emil son " | (54) Sarah " " |
| (14) Mary daughter " | (55) Bonnie daughter of Cyril |
| (15) August son " | (56) Diane " " |
| (16) Otto " " | (57) Rosalie " " |
| (17) Otilie daughter " | (58) Sally " " |
| (18) Lucy " " | (59) Marie " " |
| (19) Clarence son of Frank | (60) Geraldine " " |
| (20) Marcel " " | (61) Debra Jo " " |
| (21) Lillian daughter " | |
| (22) Theodore son of Julius | |
| (23) Minnie daughter " | |
| (24) Walter son " | |
| (25) Irene daughter " | |
| (26) Viola " " | |
| (27) George son " | |
| (28) Phylis daughter of Walter | |
| (29) Barbara " " | |
| (30) Robert son " | |
| (31) Catherine daughter " | |
| (32) Thomas son " | |
| (33) Richard " " | |
| (34) Charles son of George | |
| (35) Chris daughter of Charles | |
| (36) Jesse son " | |
| (37) Anne daughter of George | |
| (38) Cordelia daughter of August | |
| (39) Onita " " | |
| (40) Marcella " " | |
| (41) Dorothy " " | |

December 7 1984

THE FAMILY OF MARTIN WOLFERSBERGER

Martin Wolfersberger, his wife Katherine and a five year old son, Franz, came from Lorraine to America in the year 1843. They entered this country at New Orleans and sailed up the Mississippi river on a flat boat to St. Louis Missouri. First they settled in French Village Illinois, then moved to a farm 2 miles north of Mascoutah Illinois, in St. Clair County.

Martin born January 1800 - died February 27 1860
 Katherine born died 1880

Katherine's maiden name was Sherrer, and she had a brother that came to St. Clair County 4 years previously. Undoubtedly he influenced his sister and her husband to leave Europe and come to America. Both Martin and Katherine are buried in the old Catholic cemetery 2 miles west of Mascoutah.

Martin and Katherine had the following children:

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|
| (1) | Franz | born Dec. 1838 | - died March 1870 |
| (2) | Michael | born Jan. 1844 | - died Oct. 23 1911 |
| (3) | Joseph | born April 1850 | - died Jan. 1882 |
| (4) | Caroline | born 1854 | - died 1944 |
| (5) | Lillian | no information | |
| (6) | Christina | born May 1849 | - died Feb. 1903 |

- (1) Franz married Elizabeth Hulliung. He died at the age of 32 due to a small pox epidemic. Apparently they had two children:

Christine born 1865

Marcel born 1867 these children are listed in the 1870 census.

After the death of Franz, his widow married a man named Boehm. He had two children from a previous marriage who both went to California.

- (2) Michael married Louisa Braun. She was born in Stuttgart Germany and came to America with her parents. Louisa was 3 years old when her mother died in New Orleans due to an epidemic. Her father took her to St. Louis where he died when she was 11 years old, also due to small pox. They lived on Market St., between 16th and 17th streets. A family named Seifert raised Louisa. They operated a butcher shop and were acquainted with the Laquet family. Mr. Seifert later married a Turlotting. Louisa was 15 years old when she married Michael.

Louisa born Dec. 23 1849 died Aug. 10 1935

- (2) See Michael and Louisa on page B

- (3) Joseph married Margaret Hopfinger. He died at the age of 32 due to small pox. He had 3 children and his widow married Louis Worms after Joseph's death. the children of Joseph and Margaret are as follows:

(7) Ida born 1877. Never married, lived in Belleville.

(8) Isidor bn 1879 - died the same year.

(9) Matilda born 1880 - died 1947. Matilda married Joseph Laquet of O'Fallon Ill. They had 3 children, two died in infancy, a daughter, Pearl married Forest Johnson. They had 3 children: Donald Lee bn. 1930
 Marcia Jo bn. 1945 Pixie Marie bn. 1932

Donald Lee has a daughter, Daphne Dean. Bn. 1953

Pixie Marie married Paul Seibert. Two children:

Debra Jo born 1954

Tommie born 1956

This group lives in Olney Ill.

Michael and Louis's children:

- (10) Frank bn. 2 - 15 - 1869 - died 3 - 24 - 1914
 (11) Julius bn. 6 - 4 - 1870 - died 6 - 29 - 1944
 (12) Anna bn. 1872 - died 7 - 3 - 1965
 (13) Emil bn. 1875 - died 1878
 (14) Mary bn. 2 - 13 - 1879 - died 8 - 7 - 1968
 (15) August bn. 1882 - died 4 - 6 - 1962
 (16) Otto bn. 4 - 17 - 1884 - died 3 - 6 - 1966
 (17) Otilie bn. 1887 - died 1951
 (18) Lucy bn. 1891 - died 1920

- (4) Caroline married August Staub. These children:
 Herbert
 Edmund

Tinna - married Julius Christ. These children:
 Erwin deceased Edward deceased
 Oliver deceased Henry
 Lorraine Lawrence

- (5) Lillian married Anton Jung of Murphysboro Illinois. These children:
 Minnie August
 Anton Sigmund
 Julius

- (6) Christina married Nicholas Poirot of Belleville Illinois.
 These children: Louisa bn. 1867 4 children
 Carolina bn. 1868 2 "
 Edmund bn. 1871 did not marry
 Anna bn. 1873 2 children
 Otto bn. 1875 did not marry
 Raymond bn. 1877 10 children
 Walter bn. 1880 4 "
 Adolph bn. 1882 3 "
 Oscar bn. 1885 1 son
 Edna bn. 1887 1 son

- (10) Frank married Sophia Kuehn. These children:
 (19) Clarence bn. 12-13-1893 died 6 - 18 - 1901
 (20) Marcel bn. 10-21-1895 died 7 - 15 - 1971
 married Pearl Schnitzmeyer. No children.
 (21) Lillian bn. Jan. 1905
 married Harold Messmer. No children.

- (11) Julius married Elizabeth Laquet. These children:
 (22) Theodore bn. 1 - 5 - 1902 - died 6-23-1981
 (23) Minnie bn. 6 - 23 -1904
 (24) Walter bn. 8 - 14 -1905
 (25) Irene bn. 1 - 19 -1908
 (26) Viola bn. 9 - 23 -1911 - died 6 - 16 - 1984
 (27) George bn.10 - 2 -1919

- (22) Theodore married Mildred Teets, then Alma Thidedou from Canada.
 no children.

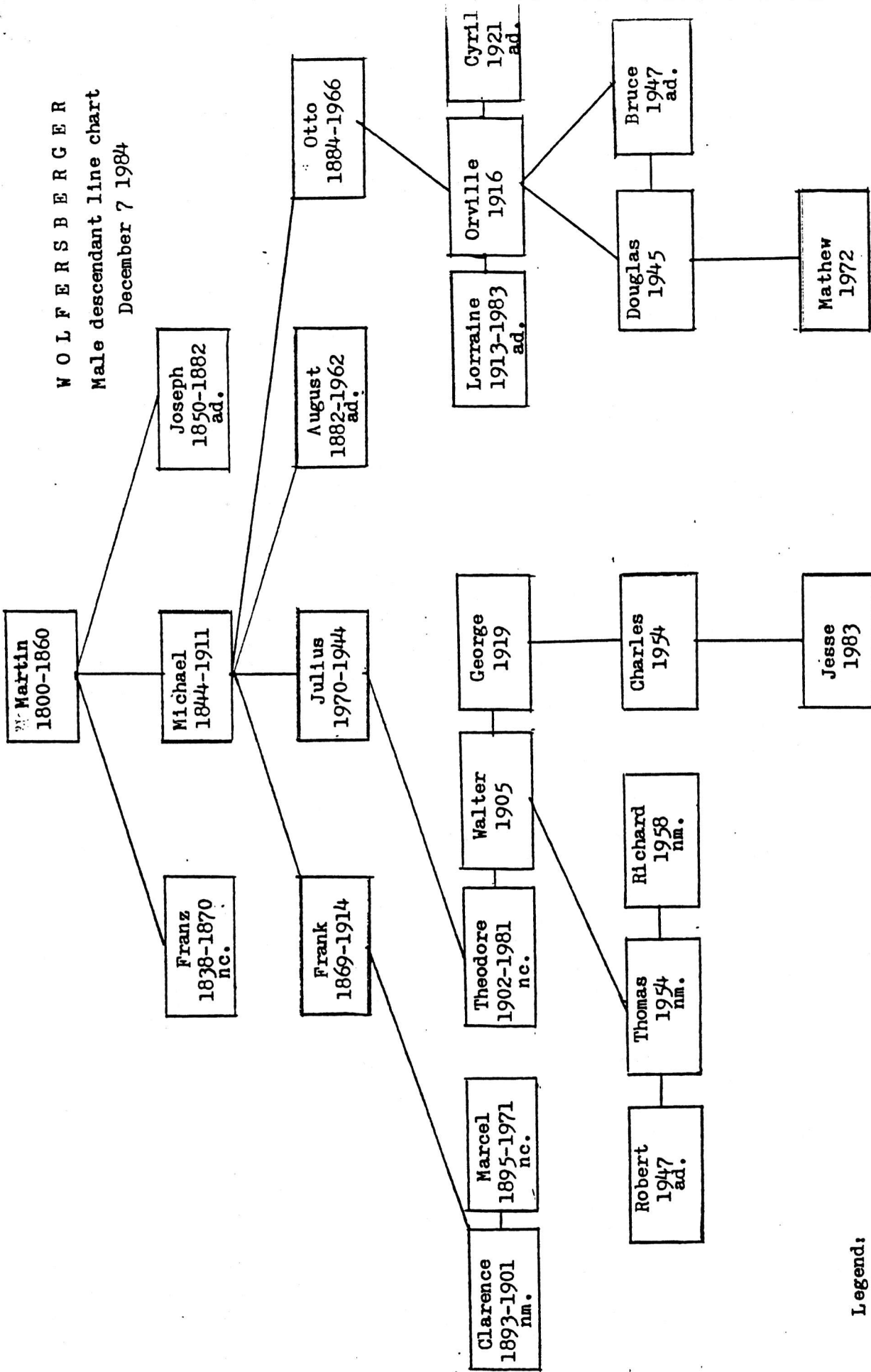
- (23) Minnie married Leland Reimann.
 daughter Marilyn bn. 1-6-1937. Married Thomas McLaughlin.
 These children: Maureen
 Thomas

- (24) Walter married Martha Goestenkois. These children:
 (28) Phylis bn. 11-19-1940
 (29) Barbara bn. 8-17-1945
 (30) Robert bn. 7- 6-1947
 (31) Catherine bn. 11-10-1950
 (32) Thomas bn. 2- 7-1954
 (33) Richard bn. 7- 6-1958
- (28) Phylis married Les Wesolik. These children:
 Lisa bn. 8 - 4 -1965
 Christine bn. 2 - 8 -1970
 Dina bn. 3 -24 -1972
- (29) Barbara married Terry Knox. These children:
 Julie bn. 11-14-1976
 Christopher bn. 3-12-1979
 Jennifer bn. 4- 7-1980
- (30) Robert married Donna Osborne. One adopted daughter.
 (31) Catherine married John Carpenter. These children:
 Mike bn. 5 - 10 - 1979
 Kim bn. 4 - 8 - 1982
- (32) Thomas. Not married.
 (33) Richard. Not married.
- (25) Irene married Vernon Gaffney (died 1967) No children.
- (26) Viola married Walter Bien (died 9-14-1984) These children:
 Darrel bn. 6 - 8 - 1947 Married Christine Sfarza, then Mary Hodges.
 Adopted daughter Michelle.
 Kathleen bn. 9-29-1949. Married James Norman. These children:
 Liza bn. 8-26-1972
 Maria bn. 12-19-1973
 Eric bn. 2-23-1976
 Carol Anne bn. 11-7-1951. Married Ray Christopher. No children.
- (27) George married Aquina Dantzer. These children:
 (34) Charles bn. 11-20-1954. Married Debra Jackson. These children:
 (35) Chris bn. 9-12-1980
 (36) Jesse bn. 7-22-1983
 (37) Anne bn. 6-11-1956. Married Bill Brouillette, then Jim Hughlett
 No children.
- (12) Anna. Did not marry
 (13) Emil. Died as an infant.
 (14) Mary married August Haas. These children:
 Adelia deceased.
 Elsie bn. 1903 died 1982
 Elenora bn. 1904
 Erwin bn. 1906 deceased
 Elmer bn. 1909
 Gilbert died as a youth (bn 1911)
 Raymond bn. 1912 deceased
 Lucille bn. 1916 died as an infant
 Cletus bn. 1919
 Dorothy bn. 1924

D

- (15) August married Mary Schupp. These children;
 (38) Cordelia bn. 5-1-1907. Married Louis Kehrer. These children:
 Louis August bn. 1928 (Cordelia d. 12-1977)
 Rita Marie bn. 1933
 Vincent bn. 1935
- (39) Onita bn. 3-15-1910 married Raymond Hecker. These children:
 Donald bn. 1933
 Marilyn bn. 1934
- (40) Marcella bn. 9-17-1917. married Clark Lager. One adopted daughter:
 Mary Louise bn. 10-26-1945
- (41) Dorothy bn. 11-22-1922. Never married.
- (16) Otto married Isabelle Rehberger. these children:
 (42) Lorraine bn. 12-7-1913 married Mildred Dahl. Lorraine died 11-3-1983
 (45) Christine bn. 9-17-1950. Christine married Taylor.
- (43) Orville bn. 9-3-1916 married Marie Neuman. these children:
 bn2-7-43) (46) Sandra Marie - Married James Friederich. These children:
 Brian Scott - bn. 4-1-1968
 Shari Lynn - bn.10-17-1970
- (47) Douglas bn. 1-30-1945 married Catherine Hoskins. these children:
 (49) Kelly Jean bn. 9- 26-1967
 (50) Karissa Marie bn 1- 16-1970
 (51) Mathew Douglas bn. 10-17-1972
 (52) Jennifer Louisebn. 9- 7-1975
- (48) Bruce John bn.10-16-1947 married Mary Jo Neal. Children:
 (53) Katherine Maureen bn. 5-18-1978
 (54) Sarah Kristin bn. 4-11-1980
- (44) Cyril bn. 1-23-1921 married Kathryn Kuehn. These children:
 (55) Bonnie Kay bn. 6 - 17 - 1943
 (56) Diane Marie bn. 7 - 5 - 1945
 (57) Rosali bn. 1 - 8 - 1950
 (58) Sally Anne bn. 7 - 7 - 1952
 (59) Marie Beth bn. 6 - 29 - 1953
 (60) Geraldine bn. 1 --29 - 1956
 (61) Debra Jo bn. 2 - 24 - 1959
- (17) Otilie Married Albert Christ. These children:
 Edna bn. 1911 married Albert Hulliung. 9 children
 Alvin bn. 1913 married Josephine Rieder 7 children
 deceased Gilbert bn. 1915 married Laura Wildhaber 2 children
 deceased Hubert bn. 1917 married Carnation Haas 2 children
 Mildred bn. 1919 married Erwin Hoffman 6 children
 Raymond bn. 1921 married Troja Piroska
 Eugene bn. 1923 married Loretta Engleman 2 children
 Marie bn. 1925 married Erwin Kehrer 5 children
 Catherinebn. 1926 married Carl Kehrer 4 children
- (18) Lucy Never married.

WOLFFERSBERGER
 Male descendant line chart
 December 7 1984



Legend:
 nm. - not married
 nc. - no children
 ad. - all daughters

CONCLUSION

This is the last revision that I will ever make of the WOLFERSBERGER family history. It began in 1954 and is ending in 1984.

I can feel the chill wind of the autumn in my life, and watch the leaves slowly drifting to the ground, from which they came.

I have spent countless hundreds of hours on this history, hours which I perhaps should have spent with my wife and children when they were young.

There were many trips to libraries, Chicago, Jackson Ohio, to the downtown libraries of Detroit. I have spent many hours visiting and talking to different people, some of which I never knew before.

I have stood by the graves of many people that once had the name WOLFERSBERGER. At least one that fought in the Revolutionary War in the late 1700s. That trip alone cost me a week out of my life - and I shed tears when I stood there at his burial site. We were not related in this country, but we did have one thing in common. A name.

I have derived much pleasure and a grand sense of accomplishment from the past 30 years, and now it has come to an end.

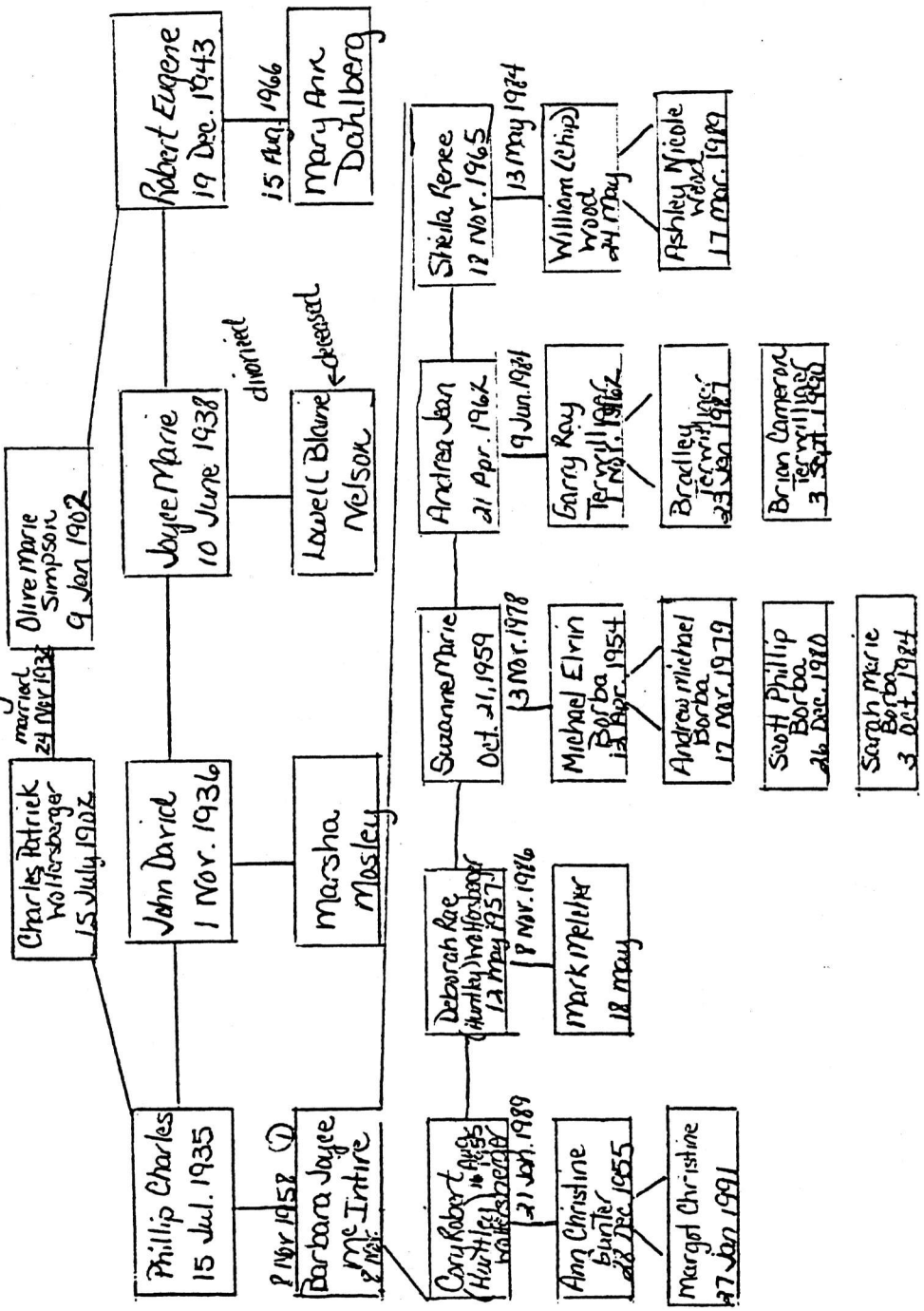
I met two brothers in the late 50s that came to America for a visit. They came from Switzerland to Detroit and I found them after searching for 3 days in the downtown hotels. Can you imagine how I felt when I met these men - our families have been apart since the 1500s, when my ancestor left that country and migrated to Lorraine.

I ask only two things. Keep this history for you'r generations to come, and keep up making additions to the history as new ones are born.

Even as I write this, new children are being born, and some of the others are preparing to leave this world. A family history is never complete.

George Wolfersberger
Ironton, Missouri
December 12, 1984

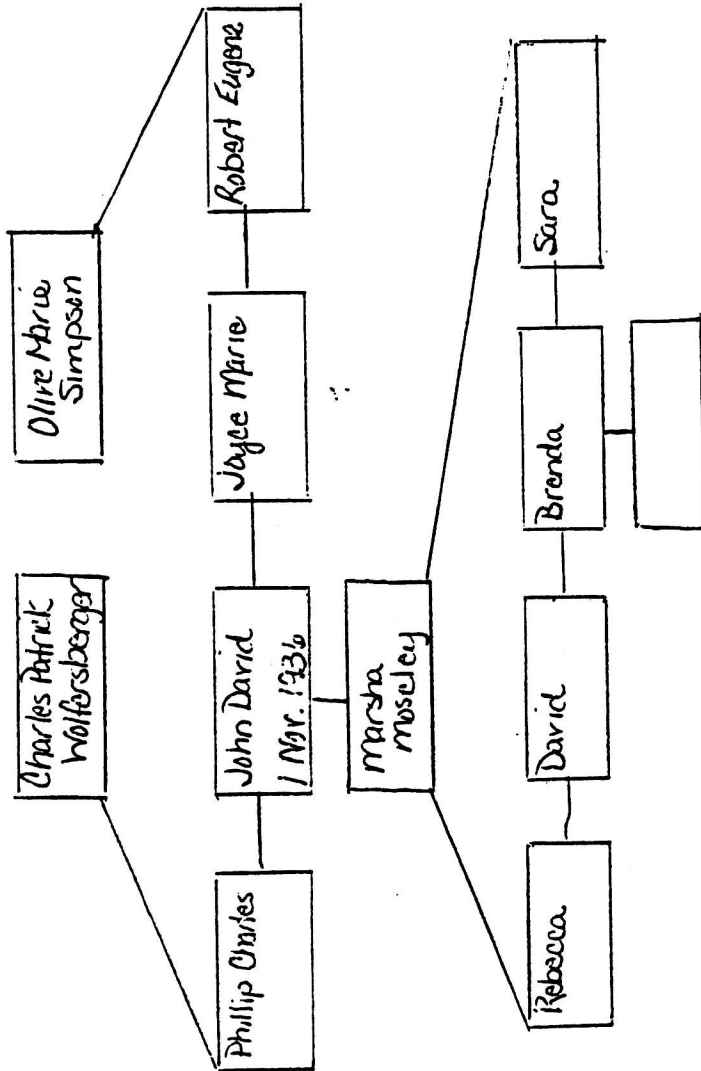
Wolfsberger



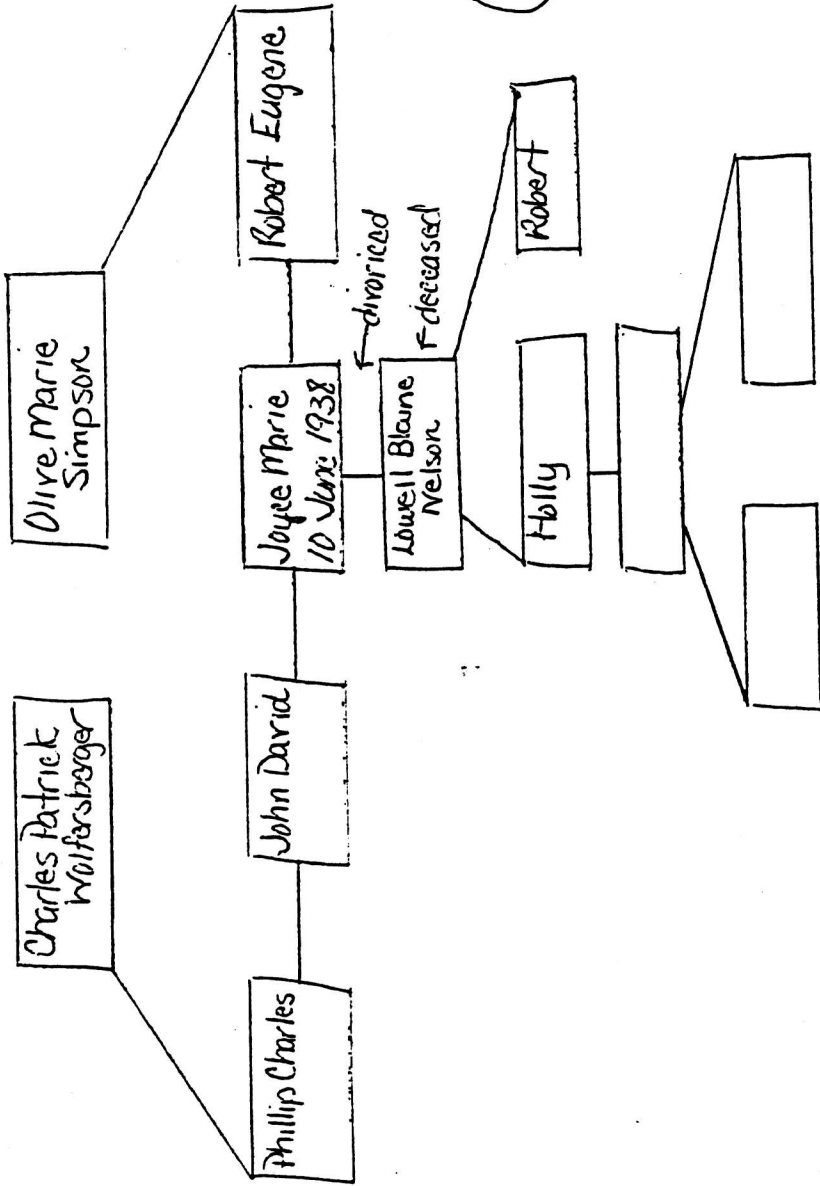
11 June 1927
Donna Mae Useiton

Cory + Deborah
from Barbara's previous
marriage. Adopted by
Phillip C. Wolfsberger

Wolferberger

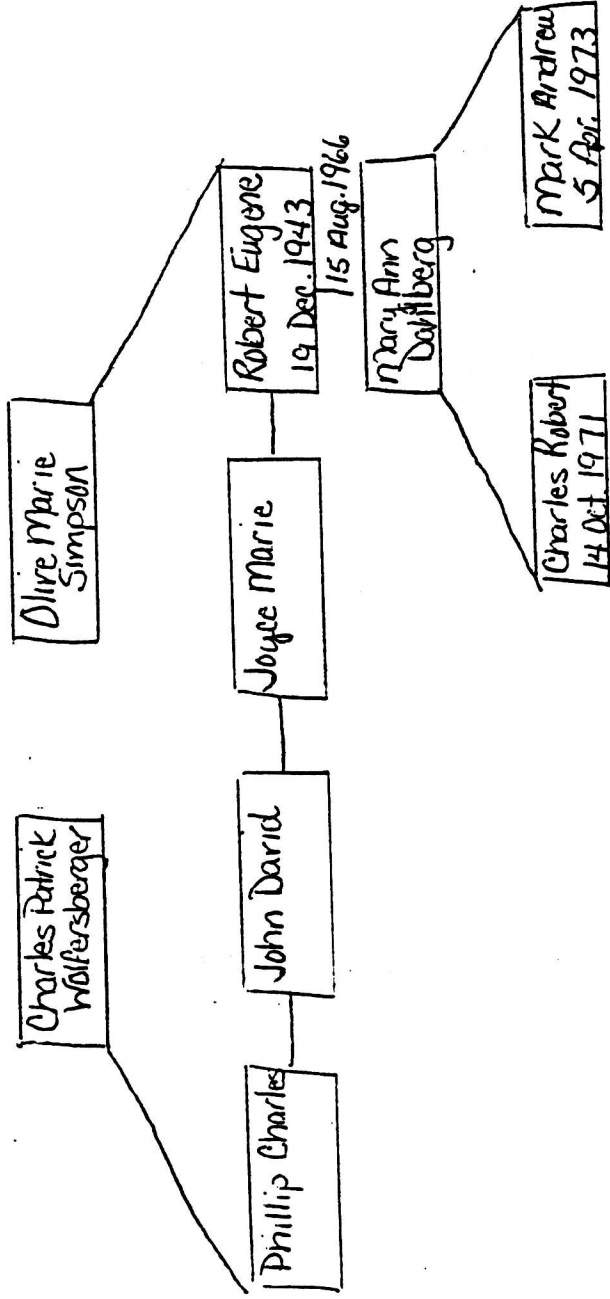


Waltersberger



Holly + Robert were adopted.

Wolfsberger



WOLFERSBERGER

ST. CLAIR COUNTY ILLINOIS

LILLIAN
ANTON
JUNG

MINNIE ANTON JULIUS AUGUST SIGMOND

TANIA OSCAR EDMUND HER

JULIUS
CHRIST
6 SONS

LORAIN 1913 ORVILLE 1916 CYRIL 1921
MILDRED DAHL MARIE NEUMANN KATHRYN KUEHN

CHRISTINE 1950 SANDRA MARIE 1943 DOUGLAS ROBERT 1945 BRUCE JOHN 1947

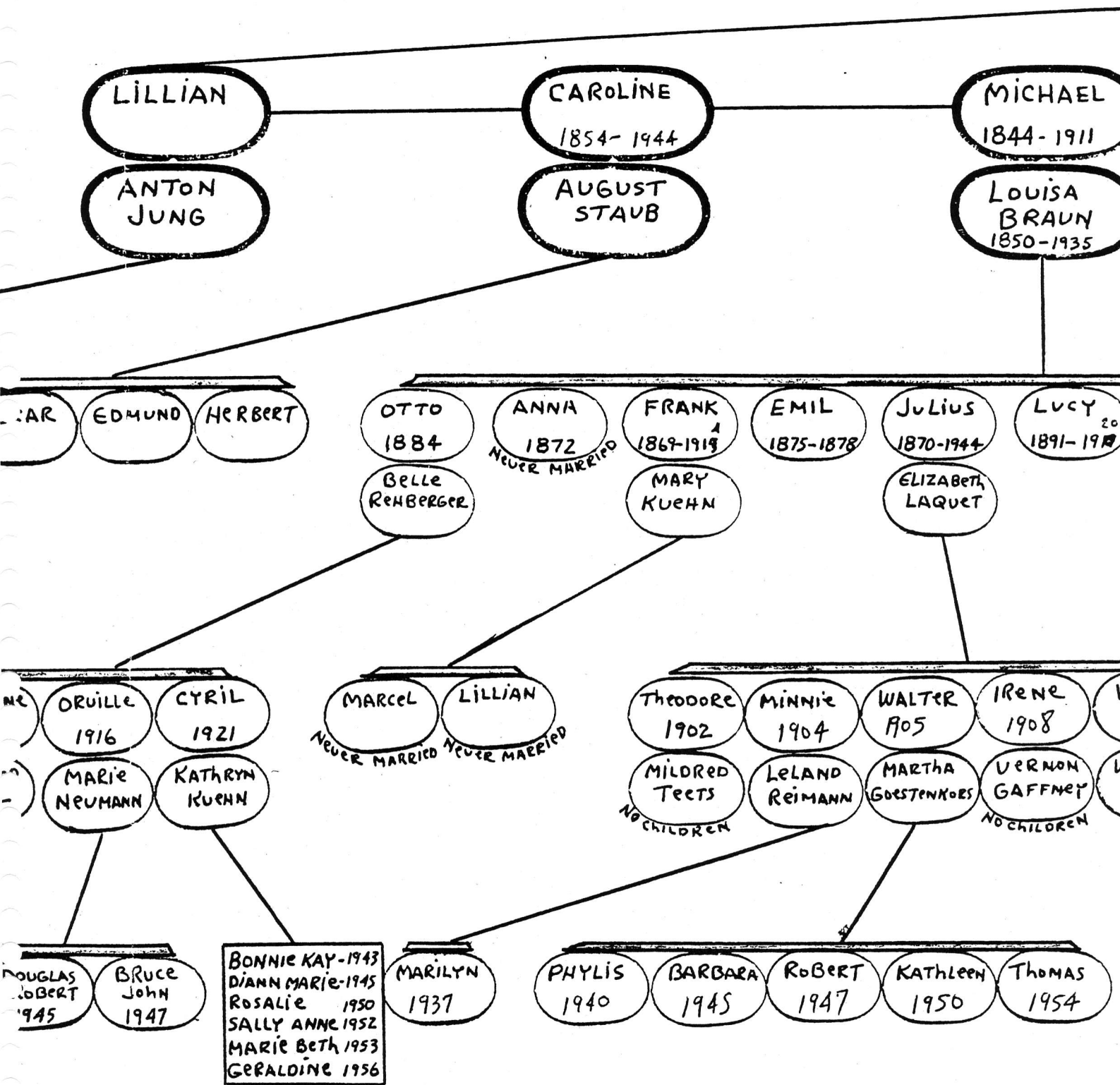
BO
DIA
RO:
SA
MA
GEI

NOTE

MARTIN AND KATHERINE CAME FROM ALSACE-LORRAINE IN THE YEAR 1843 WITH THEIR SON RANZ, AGE 5. THEY SETTLED IN A FRENCH VILLAGE, WHERE MICHAEL WAS BORN 1 YEAR LATER.



LOUISA BRAUN WAS BORN IN STUTTGARD GERMANY. ARRIVED AT NEW ORLEANS IN 1853. HER MOTHER DIED THERE, AND HER FATHER WENT TO ST. LOUIS, WHERE HE DIED IN 1861. SHE WAS RAISED BY A FAMILY NAMED SEIFERT. SHE MARRIED MICHAEL AT THE AGE



MARTIN
1800-1860

KATHERINE
SHERER
-1880

MICHAEL
344-1911

FRANZ
1838-1870

Joseph
1850-1888

LOUISA
BRAUN
850-1935

ELIZABETH
HULLIUNG

2
- BOEIM

MARY
HOPFINGE

LUCY²⁰
1891-1919

MARY
1879

AUGUST
1882

OTILLIE
1887-1951

ANNA
CRISTINE
1865
NO INFORMATION

FRANK
MARCEL
1867

IDA
1877
NEVER MARRIED

ISIDOR
1879
DIED AS INFANT

AUGUST
HAAS

MARY
SCHUPP

ALBERT
CHRIST

9

IRENE
1908

VIOLA
1908

GEORGE
1919

CORDERIA
1907

ANITA
1910

MARCELLA
1917

DOROTHY
1922

VERNON
GAFFNEY
10 CHILDREN

WALTER
BIEN

AQUINA
DANTZER

LOUIS
KOEHR
3

RAYMOND
HARKER
2

CLARK
LAGER
1

BOY
DIED IN
INFANCY

THOMAS
1954

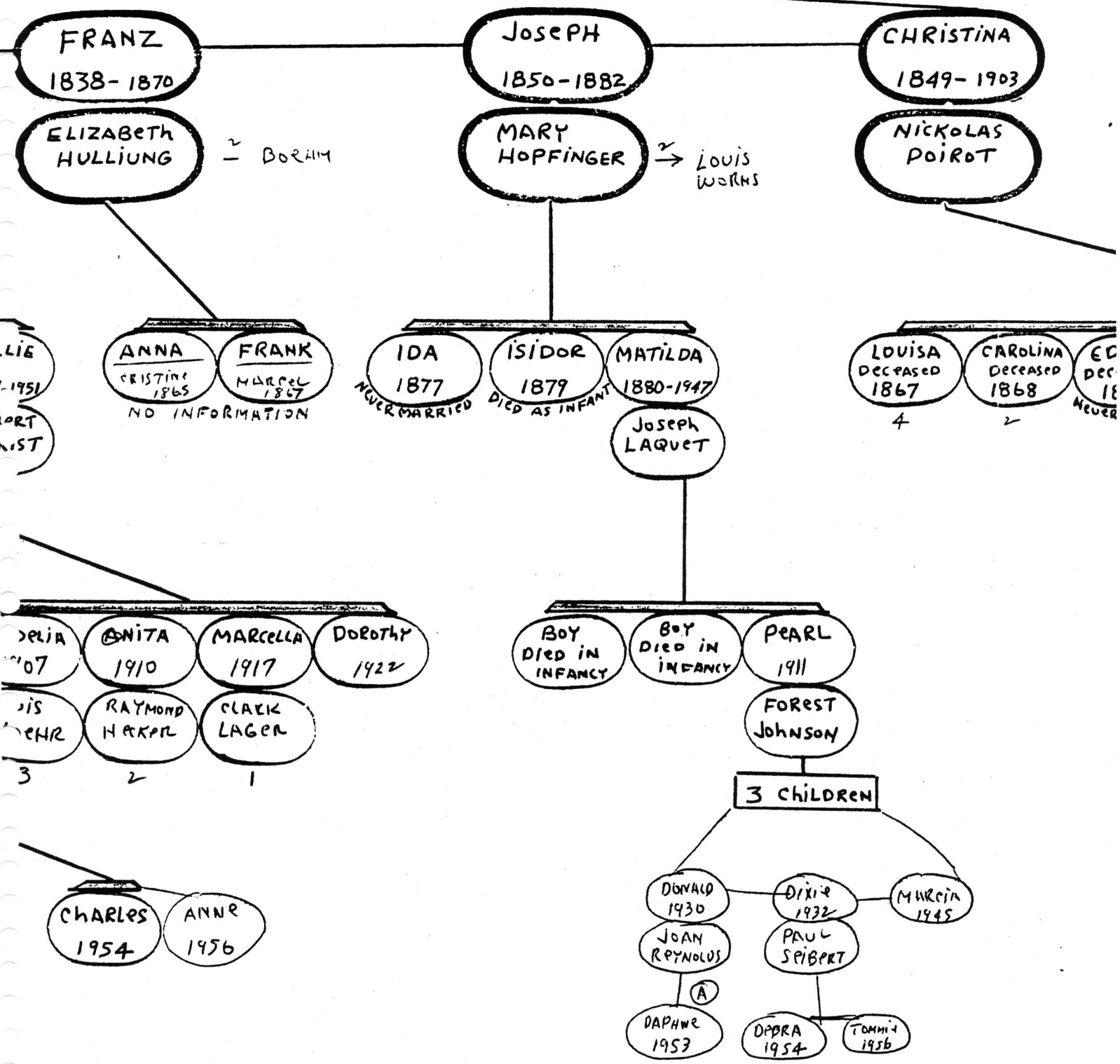
DARRELL
1947

CARROL
ANN
1951

KATHLEEN
1949

CHARLES
1954

ANNE
1956



CHRISTINA
1849-1903

NICKOLAS
POIROT

LOUISA DECEASED 1867 4

CAROLINA DECEASED 1868 2

EDMUND DECEASED 1871 NEVER MARRIED

ANNA DECEASED 1873-1955 2

OTTO DECEASED 1875 NEVER MARRIED

RAYMOND DECEASED 1877 10

WALTER 1880 4

ADOLPH 1882 3

OSCAR DECEASED 1885 1

EDNA DECEASED 1887 1

2

MURCIA 1945

OMMI 1956

||

This chart is NOT AS YET COMPLETED - AND NO DOUBT THERE ARE IMPERFECTIONS ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS ARE WELCOMED. APRIL 1956

||

George Wolfersberger
16254 Santa Rosa Dr.
Detroit 21, Michigan