

# Family History Notes

Summer 2022

## The Curious Middle Initials of New Glarus Men

The tradition used by some New Glarus men of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries “creating” a middle initial has been previously explained in this newsletter. But to my knowledge, this old-time and possibly unique New Glarus tradition has received little if any mention in other New Glarus-related publications. Until perhaps the 20<sup>th</sup> century, men were not typically given middle names. (Note: Some men had names such as Johann Jacob, Johann Heinrich and Johann Peter but these were not considered a first name followed by a middle name. But rather, these were examples of what could be considered compound names.) And in the New Glarus area this absence of middle names led to confusion due to



multiple Fred Zweifels, John Duersts, Jacob Hoeslys, and so on. So in the years from the late 1800s to the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, men without middle names (and most of them were without) used the first letter of their wives' maiden names as their middle initial.

For example, local funeral director Werner Zentner who was married to Maria (Mary) Legler, went by Werner L. Zentner. Many readers may remember local hardware dealers Henry B. Hoesly and Jacob S. Disch. Henry had married Lena Blum and Jacob married Bertha Streiff. Jacob S. Disch's uncle was known as Jacob



A. Disch because that Jacob had married Maria Altmann. And Jacob Hoesly who married Barbara Legler was known as Jacob L. Hoesly. There are dozens of examples of these area men's middle initials and these have been documented and are found on the pages 10-12 of this newsletter.

A variant on this tradition was when a man used the middle initial of his



mother's maiden name. As explained by his grandson Dr. Fred G. Blum, Fred Hefty became known as Fred K. Hefty – K coming from his mother's maiden name Kundert. And it appears there might be an even smaller variant in which the men, if they had married a widow, used the initial taken from the widow's married name. For instance Jacob Hefty married the widow Verena (Ruegg) Freitag and was known as Jacob F. Hefty. These variants are found on page 13 of this newsletter.



Pictured on this page are: Werner L. Zentner, wife Mary née Legler and daughters Euphemia (Fay) and Dorothea (Dora); Jacob L. Hoesly and sons Andrew and Fred; Jacob S. Urben and wife Tillie née Stuessy; Henry Z. Duerst who had married Verena Zentner; and John E. Duerst [sic Durst] who had married Anna Elmer (the latter two photos from the 1932 Maennerchor group composite photo).

### **Presidential Middle Names**

Middle names were not the norm in the past and that practice can be verified by an examination of U. S. Presidential middle names. Eighteen of our presidents including Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Truman had no middle name. Franklin Pierce did not have a middle name however he may have been known as Franklin K. Pierce with K. being derived from his mother's maiden name Kendrick. Harry Truman was the last president not possessing a middle name. He was known as Harry S. Truman; however the S did not stand for anything.

Seven presidents had middle names using their mothers' maiden names including Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Richard Milhous Nixon and Ronald Wilson Reagan. Three presidents had the maiden name of their grandmothers including George Walker Bush and Joseph Robinette Biden.

Thirteen of the presidents had middle names taken from their fathers, grandfathers and other relatives. These thirteen include John Quincy Adams, William Henry Harrison, James Abram Garfield and Dwight David Eisenhower. And five presidents had middle names with no known or identified family connection including Warren Gamaliel Harding, Donald John Trump and Ulysses S. Grant who was named Hiram Ulysses Grant at birth.

### **And Another Middle Name to Note**

One of the original seven NASA astronauts was Walter M. Schirra, Jr. Wally Schirra was the first astronaut to go into space on three separate occasions and only one of two astronauts to fly in the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions. Pictured is a NASA photo of Schirra in his project Mercury flight suit. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Schirra's birth will occur in March of 2023.



Wally was named for his father Walter Marty Schirra, Sr. And Marty was the maiden name of Walter Sr.'s mother, Josephine. Josephine Marty was a Swiss native who immigrated and married another Swiss immigrant, Adam Schirra, in 1882. She was said in one article to be a *Schwyzlerin* – a woman from Canton Schwyz. And indeed Marty (spelled with a “y” not an “i”) is an old Canton Schwyz family name. Josefina and Josefa are common girl's names in Schwyz. The Schirra family (originally Schira) originated in the remote mountain village of Loco in Canton Ticino. Astronaut Wally Schirra visited Loco and commented, “In space, I've never been as frightened as [I was] driving from Locarno to Loco in the car.”

### **Fred G. and Miriam (Eye) Blum Memoirs**

The volunteers at the Monticello Area Historical Society continue to offer an expanding array of online documents, audio, photographs and obituaries relating to Monticello area people and places. One



example is the addition of the memoirs of Dr. Fred G Blum Jr. (pictured) and his wife Miriam (Mickey). The Blums' 400+ pages of memories are an enjoyable read and a wonderful tribute to the Blum, Hefty and Eye families. Many family stories are shared regarding their parents and grandparents, the Hefty-Blum homestead farm and the numerous travels taken by the family members. Although the Blum and Hefty families have deep roots in New Glarus and Monticello, Fred was raised in Madison's Nakoma neighborhood before the Fred G. Blum Sr. family moved to California, New Jersey and Florida and back home to Madison. Fred and Mickey and their children moved to the Hefty-Blum Homestead Farm between New Glarus and Monticello in 1965. Both Dr. and Mrs. Blum passed away in 2017.

Fred's great-grandparents were all born in Canton Glarus, Switzerland, and all were contributors to the early growth of the New Glarus and Monticello communities. These eight great-grandparents were Fridolin and Dorothea (Stuessy) Blum, Gabriel and Barbara (Hefti) Schindler, Thomas and Barbara (Kundert) Hefty and Dietrich and Verena (Elmer) Freitag. Gabriel Schindler was an original settler of New Glarus in 1845 and Fridolin Blum was an original settler of nearby New Bilten in 1847. Thomas Hefty was one of the five founders of the Bank of New Glarus. The Dietrich and Verena Freitag farm was the site of Green County's first Swiss cheese factory. And Dietrich was elected first president of Monticello's Swiss Reformed Church. Gabriel and Barbara Schindler were early New Glarus main street business people – he a blacksmith/merchant and she selling millinery and confections.

The buildings found on the Hefty-Blum Homestead farm buildings are all discussed, including the 1861 stone barn, the cheese factory, the 1878 dairy barn, and the impressive farm house. Family trips ranged from Fred's grandparents' 1915 family driving/camping trip to the west coast when western roads were just dusty trails, trips to visit Hefty cousins in Renwick, IA, and visiting Canton Glarus with his wife and parents. Fred recalls his "Aunt" Rose (Zweifel) Hefty of Renwick making "funce", a rare reference to *Fänz*, a peasant dish from Canton Glarus made with flour and cream.

One of the family tales related in the Blum memoirs was the 1928 marriage of Fred's Aunt Berdie Blum to Herman Theiler (pictured). Their unusual wedding received national coverage. The *Wisconsin State Journal* stated, "*Younger Generation Again – As if marriage under any circumstances were not thrilling enough, Herman Theiler and Miss Bertie [sic] Blum of Monticello, Wis., shocked the old folks by having their wedding ceremony performed above the city in an airplane at "high noon".*" Indeed, Herman and Berdie, circled above Chicago in an airplane where they exchanged vows.



Among the other stories related in the memoirs include the purchase of the complete but obsolete newspaper printing equipment from the "New Glarus Post" owners. The Blums purchased the 1870s cheese factory building at 400 Railroad Street for \$400 in which to store the equipment before donating the historic equipment to the New Glarus Historical Society. (If you read the memoirs you will learn why this cheese building was so inexpensive.)

Dr. Blum mentioned that his maternal grandfather, Fred K. Hefty, added the middle initial "K" from his mother's maiden name, Kundert. This "K" was to distinguish him from the several other Fred Heftys in the region. This New Glarus phenomenon of area men creating a middle initial is discussed in another article found in this newsletter.

### **Oluf Stenbrotten and Norwegian Transhumance**

Oluf Stenbrotten (1898-1984) of Blanchardville was a native of Norway who emigrated to America with his wife Olga and small son John around 1927. Oluf was born near the village of Bagn in the region of Valdres, Norway. Valdres was the ancestral home of many Blanchardville-area people of Norwegian descent. And Oluf served as a link between Blanchardville people and their relatives in Valdres. Before he died Oluf documented his recollections of his years in Norway as well as his life in Wisconsin. His comments on seasonal grazing of cows and goats add a Norwegian perspective to the subject of transhumance (seasonal movement of cattle) as discussed in the *Family History Notes* Spring 2022 issue. Oluf uses the word *seter* meaning seasonal mountain pasture which is derived from an older Norwegian word *sæter*. The following paragraphs (very slightly edited) are from Oluf's memoirs regarding his early life including farm life, fishing and even some mythical forest spirits.

*My father died when I was almost three years old. My oldest brother Michael was ten, Knudt was eight, and sister was four. My father died in the wintertime. There was much snow. There were no neighbors to go to for help so my mother had to put on her skis and go a long way to town for help. We children had to sit in the kitchen and keep the fire going to keep it warm.*

*The fall after my father died we had to move home to the valley. We had a couple of cows and six goats. Mother tied the bed clothing to the back of one of the cows. We walked the long way, one Norwegian mile, about seven U.S. miles. Later this forest area was purchased and made into two farms, and part was used as a seter for many years. When I was twelve years old I worked as a herder for two summers. I herded thirty cows and sixty goats and became known and well acquainted with the forests. There was much good "setermat" (food from the seter). There were two seter, one for each farm.*

*Each farm had a seter where the cows and goats were fed on the grass. They had to be brought in to be milked so the cream and milk could be made into butter and cheese. To be out in the woods all day among the brush and stones and try to keep the herd and flock together was no easy task. Unpleasant rainy weather made it still more uncomfortable, but the big problem was to get them rounded up and brought in at night. The next morning we had to be ready to go again.*

*Each farm had a man whose job it was to gather the goods that had been made. The butter and cheese were put into containers and hung on each side of the horse's back. This is how it was taken down to the valley once each week. Butchering time is a time many folks come to the farm. People from the farms, the husman (hired help) and the husmanfolk (people who live on the small parcels of land) can have a cow, some sheep and a pig for butchering. They pay rent by working in the spring with the planting, haying in the summer, harvesting in the fall, and in the winter by working in the woods. They sometimes can earn a little money. On a small lot they may grow food for themselves. Many of these husmanfolk came to the United States.*

*Haying time was a busy time. No machinery in those days. Many men, each with a scythe, would cut the hay, and girls with rakes would follow and rake it together. If the weather was good everything went well; but if it rained for a few days, then it took a while. When the hay was dry they could haul it on sleds or wagons with wheels, pulled by a horse. If the farmer didn't have a horse, the hay was hauled in on a man's back. Sometimes the wife and children helped. This was the way on all the seter at home (about the 1860's).*

*Holer seter bygda lies on the east side of Holera River and another river flows through Valdres Valley. Another river together with Holera is called Boven. Here beyond the forest is a place called North Boven Stenbrotten. Many evenings after I was through with goat herding I went fishing in the Holera River. I would catch one or so and move onward. I kept on until I came to a place where Boven joined Holera until I came to Tidemans Fossen. Don't know why they called it this. There was a bridge there and another road to a Saterlag. You could go on the other side of Holera. By then I had many fish and went home the long way in the evening darkness. At that time there were many underground people in these wooded areas. These underground people were called "Huldre Folk." These Huldre Folk [forest spirits] were looking for young boys and girls and tried to take them into their Huldre Home. It was beginning to get dark, and the Huldre Folks were around. They carried their fork and hoe. After that fishing trip I ran as fast as I could. My heart was beating so loud I had to stop and get my breath, but just for a moment and I went on.*

*Oluf and Olga (Flattum) Stenbrotten's children were daughter Ruth (Mrs. Paul) Duerst of New Glarus, and sons John Stenbrotten who married Beatrice Voegeli of Monticello, son Olin who married Joan Wyss, and youngest son Donald who married Lila Conklin.*



## Pet Milk to the Rescue?

This year's infant formula shortage revealed an interesting story about infant formula prepared by mothers and consumed by babies in the 1930s to the 1950s. According to many articles, Pet evaporated (aka condensed) milk diluted with water and with added Karo corn syrup was a homemade infant formula commonly fed to American babies. More sophisticated infant formulas such as Similac and Enfamil were introduced to the American market in the 1950s – Similac in 1951 and Enfamil in October, 1959. These retail products became the norm and the homemade formula declined. (To those readers not from New Glarus, evaporated/condensed milk was canned in the New Glarus Pet Milk plant between 1910 and 1962.)

From a spring 2022 article written by Kresha Faber, “. . . for several decades through the twentieth century, a simple evaporated milk formula was the most commonly recommended baby formula by physicians across the Americas and Europe. In fact, it wasn't even produced commercially. Evaporated milk was known for being easy to find and inexpensive, so physicians simply gave parents the instructions and parents prepared the formula at home – homemade baby formula WAS the officially recommended baby formula! Numerous studies were also published between the 1920's and the 1950's documenting its safety and efficacy.

*While today's commercial formulas are much more sophisticated – they are truly a formula of ingredients which provide very exact amounts of a precise list of nutrients shown to help babies grow optimally – homemade evaporated milk formula is surprisingly simple for being able to provide the macronutrients your baby needs in the short-term.”*

And that same recipe is still the recipe that is recommended by the World Health Organization as a suitable short-term option for a hungry baby and mothers having limited feeding options.

- 1 13-ounce can (354 mL) full-fat evaporated milk
- 2 ⅓ cups (19 fluid ounces // 562 mL) clean water, preferably slightly warm
- 2 tablespoons blackstrap molasses (or dark corn syrup, maple syrup)

## Fridolin Durst and Wives

A descendant of Fridolin and Magdalena (Streiff) Durst (originally Dürst) was puzzled about three different wives being documented for her great-great grandfather Fridolin. Various online and



published sources have correctly stated that Fridolin Durst first marriage to Magdalena Streiff occurred in 1848. Fridolin and Magdalena had six children but only two sons lived to adulthood – Fridolin, Jr. born in Canton Glarus and Johann Heinrich born in New Glarus. The Durst homestead was located in the *Schmürzentali* -- the small valley running west from the New Glarus which was said to mean “roasting valley”. The valley was possibly so-named because there were no springs originating in the short valley. Son Johann Heinrich (known locally as John E. Durst; see photo page 1) stayed on the home farm and his brother Fridolin became a Yolo County, CA farmer in 1873 and where his Durst descendants still farm today.

However some of these same online and published sources have stated that Fridolin married Anna Maria née Streiff, the widow of Georg Streiff and later the widow of Gabriel Zimmermann. But was this second marriage of Fridolin Durst to Anna Maria correctly documented?

The New Glarus Swiss Church records indicate that Fridolin Durst did marry a second time but to a woman by the name of Maria (Fuhrer) Streiff (recorded as Maria Furrer in the church records). This Maria Fuhrer, a native of Gadmen, Canton Bern, was the widow of Johann Jacob Streiff, the brother of the aforementioned Anna Maria (Streiff) Zimmermann. Fridolin and Maria (Fuhrer) Streiff married on March 8, 1883, a year after the death of Fridolin's first wife Magdalena. And the handsome Durst gravestone (pictured on previous page) lists second wife Maria (1827-1898) in addition to first wife Magdalena.

Anna Maria (Streiff) Zimmermann died May 7, 1883, two months after the marriage of Fridolin Durst and Maria (Fuhrer) Streiff and was buried in the New Glarus Swiss Reformed Cemetery. Her grave marker is the distinctive "tree trunk" monument (pictured). The marker of her second husband Gabriel Zimmermann is found in the "cemetery" in the Swiss Historical Village.

Area descendants of Fridolin and Magdalena (Streiff) Durst included Quinton Ott, John and Cloyance Zentner, Darrell Durst, Dorothy (Durst) Wainwright, Fritz Durst and Maynard Hefty – all deceased.



### Who was Fred Marty of Chicago?

A Marty family historian also requested help. He had spotted the name Fred Marty in a small item in the April 6, 1899 "Monroe Weekly Times" newspaper. The single paragraph relayed the news that letter carrier Fred Marty, his wife and baby had all perished in a Valentine's Day fire in Chicago in their Arlington Flats apartments. The paragraph also mentioned that Fred was a native of New Glarus.

However the records of the Marty family historian as well as various New Glarus records did include this particular Fred Marty. Online Find a Grave records do verify that Frederick H. Marty, his wife Agnes and 4 day old baby Edwin all died on February 14, 1899. Chicago newspapers reported that their bodies were not found for nearly two weeks and the family was not buried until a month later. The grave information indicated that Fred was born October 13, 1865

Using that birthdate, an examination of the 1870 and 1880 census records for Chicago show a John Marty, wife "Uplonia" and son Freddie. The father John was born in Switzerland in 1841 and was employed as a saloon keeper (1870) and cigar maker (1880). John Marty died in December of 1884 in Chicago and according to his gravestone was age 43 years old and 3 months when he died.

With this information on John Marty, a probable link to a New Glarus family can be made. Immigrant Fridolin Marty and his wife Ursula née Zentner had a son Johannes born in September of 1841. This Marty family appears to have immigrated around 1853. Johannes (John) Marty had married German-born Appolonia Hoeren (as seen spelled as Appolinia, Appollina or Uplonia and Horan or Hoerner).

John Marty of Chicago had three brothers and sisters-in-law in New Glarus -- Heinrich and Verena (Duerst) Marty, Jacob and Rosina (Wichser) Marty, and Fridolin and Louisa (Dietz) Marty. A sister Salome Marty married Jacob Eierdam and they lived in Chicago.

Going back to the initial question, "Who was Fred Marty of Chicago?" He was a grandson and nephew of early New Glarus residents and a cousin to many more. One of his Fred's first cousins was John Henry Marty of New Glarus (see following article).

### Appolonia (Marty) Zweifel

Appolonia Marty was born in 1892, the daughter of John Henry Marty and Barbara Schindler. Her paternal grandparents were Heinrich and Verena (Duerst) Marty. Her maternal grandparents, Fridolin and Rosina (Durst) Schindler, were the proprietors of Schindler's Hotel, the building we know today as Tofflers Pub and Grill. In fact the accompanying photo of Schindler's Hotel from the mid-1890s shows little Appolonia Marty (child second from the left) holding the hand of her grandfather Fridolin. All four of Appolonia's grandparents were born in Canton Glarus.



Although the name Appolonia was occasionally found in Canton Glarus, Appolonia Marty's name was not passed down from her ancestors as was the custom. This is verified by an examination of her ancestors going back five generations. But given the information presented in the previous article regarding her Marty relatives in Chicago, it seems probable that the name Appolonia may have been taken from her great-aunt Appolonia Marty. Appolonia Marty of Chicago died in 1891 and Appolonia Marty of New Glarus was born in 1892.

Appolonia Marty of New Glarus married Edward W. Zweifel in 1911. Their son Homer was born in 1913 and another son died in infancy. Sadly, husband and father Edward died at the age of 29 in the influenza epidemic in 1918. Appolonia Zweifel was a teacher at New Glarus, Monticello and Argyle schools and served as a correspondent for the "Monroe Evening Times". The picture at right shows Appolonia, a New Glarus teacher in the 1928-1929 school term. Appolonia Zweifel was one of the founders of the New Glarus Public Library in 1934 and was its first librarian serving for 13 years.



Son Homer Zweifel married Helen Frick of New Glarus. Homer obtained his funeral director license in 1941 and purchased a home from the Mrs. Anton Ott, Sr. estate the same year in which to operate his funeral home. The Zweifel funeral establishment operated until about 1948. Homer and Helen Zweifel moved to Montello, WI where Homer died in 1956. Appolonia outlived her husband and both sons, dying in 1975 at the age of 82.

### Close Encounters of the Wilde Kind

In February of 1953 New Glarus housewife Mrs. Gilbert (Dora) Ott saw an unusual light hovering in the western night sky. Dora called Eugene Stuessy who was the head of the local Ground Observer Corps (GOC) post. (The GOC was a Civil Defense group of local volunteers who scanned the skies with binoculars looking for enemy aircraft in those Cold War days.) Eugene called Albert Kaech who was manning the GOC observation site built in 1951 and on Legion Hill above the Pet Milk factory. Kaech had already observed the hovering light and had alerted the GOC authorities in Chicago.

Stuessy and Kaech watched the light and then drove west on Highway 39 to further explore. They observed that the light was low on the horizon and had a glowing center with a white outline which seemed to change shape and change directions. Dora Ott also noted a white halo and reported she saw the light the following night in approximately the same location and time. Their unexplained encounter with a UFO was reported in the *Monroe Evening Times* of February 21, 1953 but remained unexplained.



In January and again in March of 1987 a multitude of UFO sightings were reported in the Belleville and New Glarus areas. Many locals witnessed the silent clusters of lights. Some, although not all, described the object's cigar shape.

New Glarus native and resident Sherry Wilde (pictured) has perhaps the most curious and intriguing stories to tell of her UFO encounters. As reported by Barry Adams in 2018 for AP News, “*Sherry Wilde*



*grew up on a 160-acre dairy farm, attended a one-room schoolhouse [Tyvand] near Blanchardville and lives in a Parade-of-Homes-worthy house built in 2003 located in a 200-acre, rural subdivision she developed in the 1990s northwest of New Glarus. And since she was about 8 years old, Wilde said she has had regular contact with aliens — she's been in their ships, had them visit her in her bedroom and has seen them while driving, including one incident at Highway 92 and what is now Legler Road southeast of Belleville. She believes she has*

*nearly 30 hybrid children born to aliens after her eggs were harvested on several occasions and continues to have meetings with Da, a gray alien who has been her primary contact through the years.*



*She has spoken at conferences about her abductions, has appeared in several YouTube videos and in 2013, wrote a 212-page book, “The Forgotten Promise: Rejoining Our Cosmic Family,” about her life of alien experiences. “I don't care what people think of me . . . it's just a crazy life. I just don't know what to do about it. I am this person.”*

*Wilde said she was unaware of her abductions until 1988. After the UFO sightings in Belleville, she approached [renowned UFO investigator Don] Schmitt, who was in Belleville in June of 1987 to announce the results of the investigation into the [Belleville] sightings. Less than a year later Wilde traveled to the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago to undergo hypnosis, which revealed to her a series of abductions. She later met with psychologists who she says all agreed that she was “mentally sound.” Further hypnosis sessions, she said, revealed more memories of abductions. In the following years, she said she encountered more visits from aliens”*

Sherry's book has received overwhelming approval from readers (89% 4 and 5 star ratings on Amazon). One reader commented, “This book is the greatest evidence of extraterrestrial contact I have come across. Provocative, spell binding and amazingly surreal you will read this book more than once.”

\*\*\*\*\*

Sherry Wilde is a direct descendant of Schwanden, Canton Glarus immigrants David and Elsbeth (Figi) Wild. In addition to Sherry, other David and Elsbeth Wild descendants include Terry Argue, Darold Albertson, Russ Moser, Dianne (Wilde) Kundert, Lou Ann (Wild) Colby, Kathy (Wild) Falk, Carmen Ott, and Lon Goecks.

[Link to Sherry Wilde Interview](#)

### **1950 U. S. Census**

The data collected in 1950 census is now publically available. Census data becomes available 72 years after collected. Images of the 1950 census records can be found at the National Archives website and the census data is also becoming available at sites like Family Search and Ancestry. Here is a link to the [National Archives 1950 Census](#).



## Maye Musk

You may have seen the face of Maye Musk on television commercials or on magazine covers. She has been a fashion model for decades and continues modeling now in her 70s. Maye was the oldest model to grace the cover of “Cover Girl” at age 69. Her youthful appearance may be due to her college degrees in dietetics and nutrition. And Maye is also the mother of Elon Musk, the enigmatic entrepreneur and (currently) world’s richest individual.



Maye (pictured right from her Twitter account) was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada as Maye Haldeman. Maye’s grandfather, John Elon Haldeman (pictured left; am I imagining a resemblance to Elon Musk?), was born in Richmond, McHenry County, IL and John Elon’s parents had been married in nearby Walworth County, WI. The Haldemans



The Haldemans are descended from early Pennsylvania Dutch people, whose ancestry goes back to the German Palatinate and before that to Canton Bern, Switzerland. In Bern the surname Haldeman was generally spelled Haldimann. And according to WikiTree, the earliest Haldimanns in Maye’s line were from the Canton Bern villages of Signau and Steffisburg, both known as homes to early Anabaptists. Subject to persecution, these Anabaptists fled to the German Palatinate and later to Pennsylvania where they became known as the Pennsylvania Dutch.

The genealogical links to Maye and Elon’s Swiss ancestry appear to be authentic. But their amount of Swiss blood is nominal since so many generations have passed since her ancestors left Canton Bern. And most of the wives of Maye’s Haldeman ancestors were not of Swiss background.

## In Memoriam

Carla (Lewis) Ufken passed away in May, 2022. She was a sweet lady who was the mother of my classmates Dan and Dave. And she enjoyed local and family history. At the Green’s Prairie Cemetery tour, Carla pointed out the small marker of 28 year old Sophia Halder. Sophia was one of 16 children born to Swiss immigrants Jacob and Barbara (Preisig) Halder. Sophia may be the only Swiss or Swiss-born person found in that small Yankee cemetery. And Carla Ufken mentioned that she, too, was also a Halder descendant. Before the Jacob Halder family moved to the New Glarus area, they were members of Brooklyn, NY’s *Grütliverein*. That group sought a settlement site which offered inexpensive farmland. And in 1869 the Halders and other Swiss founded what became Helvetia, WV.

Mary (Steussy) Shanahan passed away in 2016 and her husband Larry recently passed away in 2022. The New Glarus Historical Society announced that \$2000 was bequeathed from the Shanahan estate. I recall recruiting Mary to serve as a guide at the Swiss Historical Village and she eagerly accepted. Mary was one of a handful of New Glarus residents who had 100% Glarner ancestry. Her ancestors (half of them in common with Dr. Fred G. Blum) included Dietrich and Verena (Elmer) Freitag of the Freitag Homestead farm, Thomas and Barbara (Kundert) Hefty of the Hefty-Blum Homestead, Melchior and Katharina (Legler) Stuessy, and Heinrich and Maria (Oswald) Geiger. Mary’s grandfather Henry Steussy was the mercantile partner of Solomon Levitan.

Dr. Leo Schelbert, Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois Chicago, also died in 2022 at the age of 93. Dr. Schelbert, a Swiss native, was the eminent historian regarding Swiss immigration to America. His book “New Glarus – 1845-1970” remains a cornerstone of local history accounts. When I discovered the “lost” notebook of New Glarus founder Judge Niklaus Dürst in the archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Dr. Schelbert immediately volunteered to transcribe and translate the handwritten contents of Dürst’s notebook. And thanks to Dr. Schelbert’s efforts, the Dürst notebook was subsequently published.

**New Glarus Area Men from A to Z (Altmann to Zweifel)**  
**whose Middle Initial is Believed to have been Derived from Wife's Maiden Name**

<b><u>Husband's Surname</u></b>	<b><u>Husband's Given Name</u></b>	<b><u>Husband's Middle Initial</u></b>	<b><u>Wife's Maiden Name</u></b>	<b><u>Wife's Given name</u></b>	<b><u>Husband's Baptized Name</u></b>
Altmann	Caspar	K	Kundert	Sarah	
Altmann	Caspar	L	Luchsinger	Barbara	
Babler	Jacob	B	Buehler	Anna	
Baumgartner	Herman	R	Ruetten	Rita	
Blum	Fred	S	Schuler	Mary Ann	
Blum	John	G	Gemperli	Anna	
Disch	Jacob	A	Altmann	Maria	
Disch	Jacob	S	Staley	Della	
Disch	Jacob	S	Streiff	Bertha	
Disch	John	H	Hoesly	Elizabeth	
Disch	John	S	Schmid	Katharina	
Disch	Caspar	M	Meier	Maria Elsbeth	
Disch	Caspar	R	Robb	Lillian	
Duerst	Edward	W	Werndli	Rosina	
Duerst	Edwin	F	Freitag	Barbara	
Duerst	Emil	S	Streiff	Esther	Emil Heinrich
Duerst	Fred	B	Bohren	Anna	
Duerst	Fred	H	Hoesly	Salomea	
Duerst	Henry	E	Eley	Zella	
Duerst	Henry	H	Hoesly	Louisa	Henry Melvin
Duerst	Henry	Z	Zentner	Verena	
Duerst	Herman	Z	Zentner	Fayme	Herman Albert
Duerst	Herman	W	Wild	Barbara	
Duerst	Jacob	Z	Zentner	Mary	
Duerst	John	B	Blum	Maria	
Duerst	John	G	Girschweiler	Maria Ida	
Duerst	John	S	Streiff	Anna	
Duerst	John	W	Werndli	Barbara	
Duerst	Nicholas	F	Freitag	Euphemia	
Duerst	Nicholas	S	Streiff	Elsbeth	
Duerst	Samuel	A	Altmann	Rosina	
Duerst	Samuel	G	Geiger	Rachel	
Duerst	Thomas	S	Steiner	Eliza	
Durst	John	E	Elmer	Anna	Johann Heinrich
Durst	John	Z	Zweifel	Florence	John Christof
Elmer	Jacob	H	Hefty	Verena	
Elmer	Julius	W	Waeffler	Bertha	
Elmer	Werner	L	Luchsinger	Grace	
Freitag	Clarence	W	Wittwer	Wilma	
Hauser	Oswald	A	Anderson	Emma	
Hauser	Oswald	H	Haegele	Anna Maria	
Hefty	David	W	Wittwer	Christina	
Hefty	Fred	D	Disch	Anna	
Hefty	Fridolin	S	Sarbacker	Catharine	
Hefty	Gustave	G	Grossenbacher	Clara	Pankratius

Hefty	Henry	B	Becker	Anna	
Hefty	Henry	H	Hoesly	Anna Barbara	
Hefty	Henry	S	Schneider	Anna Bertha	
Hefty	Jacob	B	Blum	Olga	Johann Jacob
Hefty	Jacob	K	Kempfer	Clara	Johann Jacob
Hefty	Jacob	M	Marty	Walburga	Johann Jacob
Hefty	John	D	Duerst	Barbara	
Hefty	John	E	Elmer	Maria	
Hefty	John	K	Kleppe	Agnes	
Hefty	John	S	Streiff	Bertha	Johann Jacob
Hefty	John	Z	Zweifel	Verena Alice	Johann Dietrich
Hefty	Sam	T	Truttmann	Bertha	
Hefty	Thomas	A	Altmann	Anna Katharina	
Hoesly	Henry	B	Blum	Lena	
Hoesly	Henry	G	Grossenbacher	Hermine	
Hoesly	Henry	H	Hefty	Esther	
Hoesly	Jacob	B	Becker	Rosina	
Hoesly	Jacob	D or Dt	Domholdt	Barbara	
Hoesly	Jacob	K	Kundert	Amalia	
Hoesly	Jacob	L	Legler	Barbara	
Hoesly	Marcus	F	Freitag	Verena	
Hoesly	Rudolph	F	Freitag	Regula	
Hoesly	Rudolph	S	Stauffacher	Barbara	
Jenny	Peter	K	Klassy	Emma	
Klassy	Fridolin	H	Hammerly	Emma	
Klassy	Peter	O	Ott	Louisa Verena	
Klassy	Peter	H	Hoesly	Barbara	Johann Peter
Klassy	Peter	L	Legler	Emma	Johann Peter
Klassy	Peter	Z	Zwicky	Henrietta	Johann Peter
Klassy	Sanuel	B	Becker	Anna	
Klassy	Samuel	W	Waeffler	Emma	
Kundert	Abraham	H	Hoehn	Louisa	
Kundert	Fred	V	Voegeli	Elsbeth	
Kundert	Jacob	D	Deal	Anna Maria	
Legler	David	S	Strauss	Rosina	
Legler	Fridolin	D	Duerst	Margaret	
Legler	Henry	H	Hefty	Elsbeth	Johann Heinrich
Legler	John	D	Duerst	Magdalena	
Lengacher	Rudy	B	Baumgartner	Euphemia	
Marty	Caspar	K	Klassy	Katharina	
Marty	Edward	B	Bontly	Rosina	
Marty	Edward	W	Wittwer	Hildegard	
Marty	Fred	D	Duerst	Anna Maria	
Marty	Fred	N	North	Katharine	
Marty	Henry	H	Hoesly	Rosina	
Marty	Jacob	B	Butts	Augusta	
Marty	John	G	Glausen	Maria Rosa	Johann Christof
Marty	Joseph	H	Haegele	Kathryn	
Marty	Matt	A	Arnold	Anna	
Marty	Matt	D	Duerst	Amelia	
Ott	Anton	D	Duerst	Maria or Mary	Anton John
Ott	Anton	I	Ingold	Hulda	Anton Christian



Ott	Jacob	K	Klassy	Anna Barbara	Gottfried Jacob
Rhyner	John	S	Stuessy	Barbara	
Schiesser	Fred	H	Hirt	Louise	
Schmid	Adam	D	Duerst	Anna Maria	
Schmid	Mathias	Z	Zweifel	Margaretha	
Schneider	John	B	Becker	Leona	
Schneider	John	F	Fricker	Anna	
Streiff	Fred	B	Bolliger	Sibilla	
Streiff	Fred	F	Freitag	Maria	
Streiff	John	L	Legler	Lena	
Streiff	Peter	H	Hurlburt	Dorothy	
Streiff	Peter	S	Schindler	Elsbeth	
Streiff	Robert	S	Streiff	Emma	
Stuessy	Fred	D	Duerst	Barbara Emma	
Stuessy	Fred	V	Voegeli	Bertha	
Stuessy	Fred	W	Werndli	Regula	
Stuessy	Jacob	L	Luchsinger	Anna	
Stuessy	John	K	Klassy	Elizabeth	
Urban	Jacob	S	Stuessy	Tillie	(or mother Schiesser)
Voegeli	Alfred	B	Bontly	Theresa	
Voegeli	Fred	K	Krieg	Magdalena	
Wild	Fred	M	Ming	Maria Magdalena	
Wittenwyler	Matt	B	Becker	Maria	
Wittwer	Samuel	D	Dick	Rosina	
Zentner	Caspar	D	Duerst	Kathryn	(or mother Disch)
Zentner	Oswald	H	Hammerly	Rosina	
Zentner	Werner	L	Legler	Maria	
Zimmerman	Marvin	R	Remy	Elma	
Zweifel	Fred	E	Elmer	Margaret	
Zweifel	Fred	G	Gisler	Josephine	
Zweifel	Fred	H	Hefty	Barbara Bertha	
Zweifel	Fred	S	Segessenmann	Lena	
Zweifel	Fridolin	A	Adank	Anna Barbara	
Zweifel	Fridolin	K	Klassy	Barbara	
Zweifel	Henry	H	Hauser	Katharina	
Zweifel	Henry	J	Jaggi	Frieda	
Zweifel	Jacob	H	Hefty	Rosina	Johann Heinrich
Zweifel	Jacob	S	Schindler	Katharina	
Zweifel	John	B	Babler	Lilly	
Zweifel	John	M	Marty	Anna	
Zweifel	John	S	Streiff	Barbara	
Zweifel	Joe	E	Eichelkraut	Barbara	Jost
Zweifel	Nic	H	Hauser	Verena	
Zweifel	Nic	K	Kundert	Kathryn	
Zweifel	Walter	E	Elmer	Maria Magdalena	

**New Glarus Area Men with Middle Initial and whose Middle Initial is the Same as Mother's Maiden Name**

Babler	Henry	E	mother	Elmer	
Duerst	Fridolin	H	mother	Hoesly	
Duerst	Henry	G	mother	Gallati	(or wife Geiger)
Elmer	Nicholas	H	mother	Hefty	
Hefty	Fridolin	K	mother	Kundert	
Hefty	Henry	T	mother	Theiler	
Hoesly	Joseph	D	mother	Domholdt	
Hoesly	Henry	K	mother	Kubli	
Knobel	Fred	B	mother	Babler	
Legler	Herman	D	mother	Disch	
Stuessy	Robert	W	mother	Werndli	
Zentner	Casper	D	mother	Disch	(or wife Durst)

**New Glarus Area Men who Married a Widow and whose Middle Initial is the Same as Wife's Married Name**

Duerst	Henry	G	Geiger	Ursula	nee Marty
Hefty	Jacob	F	Freitag	Verena	nee Ruegg
Klassy	Peter	Ch	Christen	Rosa	nee Duerst

**New Glarus Area Men with a Middle Name and whose Middle Initial is the Same as Wife's Maiden Name**

Duerst	Robert	Harvey	Haessig	Florence	
Eichelkraut	William	Heinrich	Hoesly	Amelia	
Geiger	Jacob	Caspar	Carrell	Estie	
Hefty	Herman	D	Duerst	Anna	Dietrich Herman
Klassy	Samuel	Peter	Pluss	Wilma	
Kundert	John	H	Hoesly	Anna	Johann Hermann
Legler	Lee	Grant	Geigel	Anna	
Marty	Charles	Rudolph	Rufer	Bertha	
Ott	Peter	Edward	Engen	Beulah	
Wild	Mark	Syrus	Staley	Charline	
Zumkehr	John	D	Duerst	Rosa	David Johann
Zweifel	Herman	Peter	Pernot	Lois	