

## *Descendants of Hans Mertz*

### *Generation No. 1*

1. HANS<sup>1</sup> MERTZ<sup>1</sup> was born Abt. 1590 in Diegelsberg, Uhingen, near Goeppingen, Baden-Württemberg, and died in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg.

Notes for HANS MERTZ:

Hans Mertz was a peasant born about 1590 in the village of Diegelsberg. Diegelsberg is today a part of Uhingen and affiliated to the parish Uhingen near Goeppingen in the Kingdom of Württemberg, Germany.

In 1594 Diegelsberg was a village of just 13 houses.

Hans probably married before 1617 in either Diefelsberg or Gruibingen, where his first known child was born. His wife's name is not known.

The church records of Uhingen (and Diegelsberg) start in 1634 as a result of the losses during the Thirty Years War. The marriage records of Gruibingen were also lost during the war, as were the book of burials. The available marriage book for Gruibingen starts in 1650.

More About HANS MERTZ:

Occupation: Peasant

Children of HANS MERTZ are:

- i. ANNA<sup>2</sup> MERZ, b. 27 December 1617.
- ii. HANS MERZ, b. 22 March 1619; d. Bef. 1622, Gruibingen.
2. iii. HANS MERZ, b. 14 September 1622, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 10 June 1681, Gruibingen.
- iv. PETER MERZ, b. 08 September 1626; d. 20 June 1700, Gruibingen; m. MARGARETHA, Bef. 1646, Gruibingen.

More About PETER MERZ and MARGARETHA:

Marriage: Bef. 1646, Gruibingen

- v. JERG MERZ, b. 15 January 1631; m. MARIA, Bef. 1654, Gruibingen.

More About JERG MERZ and MARIA:

Marriage: Bef. 1654, Gruibingen

- vi. MICHAEL MERZ, b. 23 September 1634.

### *Generation No. 2*

2. HANS<sup>2</sup> MERZ (*HANS<sup>1</sup> MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 14 September 1622 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 10 June 1681 in Gruibingen. He married BARBARA<sup>1</sup> Bef. 1644 in Gruibingen. She was born Abt. 1626<sup>1</sup>, and died 08 October 1684 in Gruibingen<sup>1</sup>.

Notes for HANS MERZ:

Hans was a peasant and a "Richter", or member of the local court. All villages had a local court for

lower punishments on the local level. Mostly six married men were elected to help the mayor in those criminal cases.

More About HANS MERZ and BARBARA:  
Marriage: Bef. 1644, Gruibingen

Children of HANS MERZ and BARBARA are:

- i. APOLLONIA<sup>3</sup> MERZ, b. 09 October 1644; d. 13 October 1644, Gruibingen.
- ii. CHRISTINA MERZ, b. 28 September 1647; d. Bef. 1653, Gruibingen.
3. iii. HANS JACOB MERZ, b. 04 December 1650, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 11 March 1701, Gruibingen.
- iv. HANS MERZ, b. 06 August 1651; d. 30 August 1695, Gruibingen.
- v. CHRISTINA MERZ, b. 12 April 1653, Gruibingen; m. GEORG MOLL, Gruibingen.

More About GEORG MOLL:  
Occupation: Weaver & member of the local court

More About GEORG MOLL and CHRISTINA MERZ:  
Marriage: Gruibingen

- vi. CHRISTOPH MERZ, b. 11 December 1654; d. Bef. 1656, Gruibingen.
- vii. CHRISTOPH MERZ, b. 10 March 1656; d. Bef. 1660, Gruibingen.
- viii. APOLLONIA MERZ, b. 20 April 1657; d. 09 March 1722, Gruibingen; m. SEBASTIAN BRANDSTEFF, Gruibingen.

More About SEBASTIAN BRANDSTEFF and APOLLONIA MERZ:  
Marriage: Gruibingen

- ix. CHRISTOPH MERZ, b. 25 February 1660; d. 02 May 1724, Gruibingen; m. ANNA NIEDERREUTTER, 13 June 1682, Gruibingen.

More About CHRISTOPH MERZ and ANNA NIEDERREUTTER:  
Marriage: 13 June 1682, Gruibingen

- x. ANNA MERZ, b. 14 July 1663; d. 16 January 1729, Gruibingen; m. ULRICH MOLL, Gruibingen.

More About ULRICH MOLL and ANNA MERZ:  
Marriage: Gruibingen

### *Generation No. 3*

**3.** HANS JACOB<sup>3</sup> MERZ (*HANS*<sup>2</sup>, *HANS*<sup>1</sup> *MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 04 December 1650 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 11 March 1701 in Gruibingen. He married ANNA KAUDERER<sup>1</sup> 1676 in Gruibingen, daughter of JERG KAUDERER and MARIA BAUERLIN. She was born 03 March 1652 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 11 December 1703 in Gruibingen.

More About HANS JACOB MERZ:  
Occupation: Peasant & brick maker

More About HANS MERZ and ANNA KAUDERER:  
Marriage: 1676, Gruibingen

Children of HANS MERZ and ANNA KAUDERER are:

4.
  - i. HANS JERG<sup>4</sup> MERZ, b. 26 March 1679, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 18 February 1749, Gruibingen.
  - ii. HANS JACOB MERZ, b. 02 April 1684, Gruibingen; d. Bef. 1692, Gruibingen.
  - iii. JACOB MERZ, b. 06 March 1692.
  - iv. ANNA MERZ, b. 24 July 1694.

*Generation No. 4*

4. HANS JERG<sup>4</sup> MERZ (*HANS JACOB*<sup>3</sup>, *HANS*<sup>2</sup>, *HANS*<sup>1</sup> *MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 26 March 1679 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 18 February 1749 in Gruibingen. He married ANNA BARBARA LEYRER<sup>1</sup> 15 November 1697 in Gruibingen, daughter of HANS LEYRER. She was born Abt. 1675 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died in Gruibingen.

More About HANS JERG MERZ:

Occupation: Peasant, brick maker & pipe maker

More About HANS MERZ and ANNA LEYRER:

Marriage: 15 November 1697, Gruibingen

Children of HANS MERZ and ANNA LEYRER are:

- i. ANNA MAGDALENA<sup>5</sup> MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 04 August 1699.
  - ii. HANS JACOB MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 26 December 1700; d. 03 December 1751.
  - iii. CATHARINA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 04 December 1702.
  - iv. URSULA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 10 February 1705.
5.
  - v. MICHAEL MERZ, b. 17 November 1706, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 01 September 1753, Gruibingen.
  - vi. ANNA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 13 May 1709.
  - vii. HANS CHRISTOPH MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 29 August 1714.

*Generation No. 5*

5. MICHAEL<sup>5</sup> MERZ (*HANS JERG*<sup>4</sup>, *HANS JACOB*<sup>3</sup>, *HANS*<sup>2</sup>, *HANS*<sup>1</sup> *MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 17 November 1706 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 01 September 1753 in Gruibingen. He married ANNA BARBARA MOLL<sup>1</sup> 26 November 1733 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, daughter of HANS MOLL and ELISABETHA STRAUB. She was born 10 January 1710 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg.

Notes for MICHAEL MERZ:

Michael was a marksman and a beadle. A beadle is a minor parish official who serves as an usher and preserves order at services.

More About MICHAEL MERZ:

Occupation: Marksman

More About MICHAEL MERZ and ANNA MOLL:

Marriage: 26 November 1733, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg

Children of MICHAEL MERZ and ANNA MOLL are:

6.
  - i. JOHANN GEORG<sup>6</sup> MERZ, b. 25 March 1735, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 17 April 1794, Gruibingen.

- ii. JOHANNES MERZ, b. 10 April 1737, Gruibingen; d. 20 December 1738, Gruibingen.
- iii. ELISABETHA MERZ, b. 13 June 1739, Gruibingen.
- iv. ANNA MARIA MERZ, b. 16 March 1742, Gruibingen.
- v. CHRISTINA MERZ, b. 16 March 1742, Gruibingen.
- vi. ANNA MARIA MERZ, b. 12 November 1744, Gruibingen.

*Generation No. 6*

**6.** JOHANN GEORG<sup>6</sup> MERZ (*MICHAEL<sup>5</sup>, HANS JERG<sup>4</sup>, HANS JACOB<sup>3</sup>, HANS<sup>2</sup>, HANS<sup>1</sup> MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 25 March 1735 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 17 April 1794 in Gruibingen. He married MARGARETHA BÖG<sup>1</sup> 02 February 1768 in Gruibingen, daughter of HANS BÖG and BARBARA. She was born 22 June 1727 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, and died 20 April 1802 in Gruibingen.

More About JOHANN GEORG MERZ:

Occupation: Peasant, weaver & pipe maker

Notes for MARGARETHA BÖG:

Margaretha's first husband was Matthias Straub. They had at least one child, Barbara Straub, born in 1749 in Gruibingen.

More About JOHANN MERZ and MARGARETHA BÖG:

Marriage: 02 February 1768, Gruibingen

Child of JOHANN MERZ and MARGARETHA BÖG is:

- 7. i. MICHAEL<sup>7</sup> MERZ, b. 27 July 1768, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 10 December 1819, Gruibingen.

*Generation No. 7*

**7.** MICHAEL<sup>7</sup> MERZ (*JOHANN GEORG<sup>6</sup>, MICHAEL<sup>5</sup>, HANS JERG<sup>4</sup>, HANS JACOB<sup>3</sup>, HANS<sup>2</sup>, HANS<sup>1</sup> MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 27 July 1768 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>1</sup>, and died 10 December 1819 in Gruibingen<sup>1</sup>. He married CATHARINA BRANSTEFF<sup>1</sup> 21 June 1791 in Gruibingen<sup>1</sup>, daughter of JOHANN BRANSTEFF and MARIA STRAUB. She was born 20 March 1768 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>1</sup>, and died 04 March 1832 in Gruibingen<sup>1</sup>.

Notes for MICHAEL MERZ:

Martin was a weaver in Gruibingen. He was known as Schwarz (Black in German), perhaps to distinguish him from other citizens of Gruibingen with the same first and last name.

More About MICHAEL MERZ:

Occupation: Weaver

More About MICHAEL MERZ and CATHARINA BRANSTEFF:

Marriage: 21 June 1791, Gruibingen<sup>1</sup>

Children of MICHAEL MERZ and CATHARINA BRANSTEFF are:

- i. ANNA MARGARETHA<sup>8</sup> MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 14 January 1792, Gruibingen; d. 06 June 1811, Gruibingen.
- ii. JOHANN GEORG MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 31 December 1792, Gruibingen; m. MARGARETHA GÖLZ<sup>1</sup>, 09 February 1820, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; b. 24 May 1790, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg.

Notes for JOHANN GEORG MERZ:  
Johann married in Gruibingen in 1820.

More About JOHANN MERZ and MARGARETHA GÖLZ:  
Marriage: 09 February 1820, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg

- iii. ANNA MARIA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 01 August 1794, Gruibingen; d. 11 September 1794, Gruibingen.
- iv. ANDREAS MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 24 September 1795, Gruibingen; m. ANNA CATHARINA STRAUB<sup>1</sup>, 11 January 1825, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; b. 20 May 1799, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg.

Notes for ANDREAS MERZ:  
Andreas married in 1825.

More About ANDREAS MERZ and ANNA STRAUB:  
Marriage: 11 January 1825, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg

- v. VEIT MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 31 January 1797, Gruibingen; d. 01 April 1798, Gruibingen.
- vi. JACOB MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 05 July 1798, Gruibingen.
- vii. MICHAEL MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 05 October 1799, Gruibingen; d. 08 November 1799, Gruibingen.
- viii. ANNA MARIA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 17 December 1800, Gruibingen.

Notes for ANNA MARIA MERZ:  
Anna married in Gruibingen 26 June 1838.

- ix. JOHANN MICHAEL MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 12 February 1802, Gruibingen; d. 23 May 1802, Gruibingen.
- x. JOHANNA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 11 August 1803, Gruibingen; d. 28 December 1805, Gruibingen.
- xi. JOHANN MICHAEL MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 16 October 1804, Gruibingen; d. 18 May 1807, Gruibingen.
- xii. ANNA BARBARA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 24 August 1806, Gruibingen; d. 10 September 1806, Gruibingen.
- xiii. ANNA CATHARINA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 16 July 1808, Gruibingen; m. JOHANN GEORG MOLL<sup>1</sup>, 23 January 1844, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg.

Notes for ANNA CATHARINA MERZ:  
Anna married in 1844.

More About JOHANN MOLL and ANNA MERZ:  
Marriage: 23 January 1844, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg

- xiv. ANNA BARBARA MERZ<sup>1</sup>, b. 17 April 1810, Gruibingen; m. MICHAEL NEUFFER<sup>1</sup>, 30 July 1844, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; b. 11 May 1815, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg.

Notes for ANNA BARBARA MERZ:  
Anna married in 1844.

More About MICHAEL NEUFFER and ANNA MERZ:  
Marriage: 30 July 1844, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg

8. xv. JOHANNA MERZ, b. 01 October 1812, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg; d. 15 July 1881, Gruibingen.

*Generation No. 8*

8. JOHANNA<sup>8</sup> MERZ (*MICHAEL<sup>7</sup>, JOHANN GEORG<sup>6</sup>, MICHAEL<sup>5</sup>, HANS JERG<sup>4</sup>, HANS JACOB<sup>3</sup>, HANS<sup>2</sup>, HANS<sup>1</sup> MERTZ*)<sup>1</sup> was born 01 October 1812 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>1</sup>, and died 15 July 1881 in Gruibingen<sup>1</sup>. She married (2) JOHANNES BÖRSCHL<sup>1</sup> 18 October 1842 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany, son of JOHANN BÖRSCHL and CHRISTINA BÄTZ. He was born 27 November 1799 in Jebenhausen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and died 06 September 1880 in Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>1</sup>.

More About JOHANNA MERZ:

Occupation: rag picker<sup>1</sup>

Notes for JOHANNES BÖRSCHL:

Johannes' father Johann Michael Börschl was from Eybach, a Catholic village near Geislingen, and his mother Christina Elisabeth Bätz from Weilheim unter Teck. Teck is a beautiful castle ruined in 1525 during the Peasants' War but later rebuilt. Both are in the former Kingdom of Wüttemberg.

More About JOHANNES BÖRSCHL:

Occupation: Shepherd<sup>1</sup>

More About JOHANNES BÖRSCHL and JOHANNA MERZ:

Marriage: 18 October 1842, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany

Children of JOHANNA MERZ are:

9. i. ANNA BARBARA<sup>9</sup> MERZ, b. 05 December 1833, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. 25 March 1895, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut.  
ii. CATHARINA MERZ, b. 31 December 1839, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. 18 September 1843, Gruibingen.  
iii. JAKOB FRIEDRICH MERZ, b. 16 February 1842, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. 04 July 1842, Gruibingen.

Children of JOHANNA MERZ and JOHANNES BÖRSCHL are:

10. iv. MARGARETHA<sup>9</sup> BÖRSCHL, b. 26 August 1843, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. Bet. 1904 - 1910.  
v. WILHELMINA ELISABETHA BÖRSCHL<sup>1</sup>, b. 25 September 1844, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>2,3</sup>; d. 16 October 1921, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut<sup>4,5</sup>.

Notes for WILHELMINA ELISABETHA BÖRSCHL:

Tante Elizabeth Boerschel came to America in September 1892, and lived with her niece Babette Habann Speiser until her death.

Tante Eliz. Buerschel mama's aunt born Sept 25 1844 came to America Sept 1890 and lived with mama (Babette Habann Speiser) until her death Oct 16, 1921. [Lydia]

In a newspaper obituary in June 1897 for Lydia Anna Speiser, flower arrangements were recieved from Mr. & Mrs. Boeshel and Mrs. Elizabeth Boeschel.

In the 1900 Census, Elizabeth Boerschel is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with Henry and Babette Speiser (Speizer on the census). She is 66 years old, single, and immigrated from Germany in 1892.

Elsbeth Boershel is found on the ship manifest July 28, 1903, with Henry Speiser and family returning from a trip to Germany. She is listed as an American citizen.  
[www.ellsislandrecords.com]

In 1904, Elizabeth Borschel is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, the home of her niece Babette Speiser. [1]

In the 1910 Census, Elizabeth Boerschel is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport with Henry and Babette Speiser. She is 64 years old, single, and born in Germany. Her year of immigration is 1884.

In the 1920 Census Elizabeth Brasschel is living in Bridgeport with Henry and Babette Speiser. She is listed on the census as a servant, although this was not entirely clear. Elizabeth is 76 years old, single, and was born in Germany. She may be a naturalized citizen, but those boxes on the census were not clear.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

More About WILHELMINA ELISABETHA BÖRSCHL:

Name 2: Elizabeth Boerschel

Immigration: September 1890<sup>5</sup>

- vi. JOHANNES BÖRSCHL<sup>6</sup>, b. 16 July 1846, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>6</sup>; d. 18 January 1901, Gruibingen<sup>7</sup>; m. CHRISTINE ELISABETH ZANKER<sup>8</sup>, 24 February 1881, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>8</sup>; b. 01 May 1844, Gruibingen<sup>9</sup>; d. 05 May 1917, Gruibingen<sup>9</sup>.

Notes for JOHANNES BÖRSCHL:

Lydia Speiser Reuther identified a picture in a Merz/Boerschel photo album as "My Great Uncle who was a Sheppard and his wife." She also noted that he immigrated to America.

I believe the picture is of Babette Merz Straub's half-brother Johannes Börschl and his wife Christine Zanker. Johannes' father, also Johannes Börschl, was a shepherd, so the younger Johannes may also have been a shepherd.

According the church records in Gruibingen, Johannes and Christine did not have any children. They died in Gruibingen, so it seems unlikely they immigrated to the US.

More About JOHANNES BÖRSCHL and CHRISTINE ZANKER:

Marriage: 24 February 1881, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>10</sup>

- vii. MARIA CATHARINA BÖRSCHL, b. 20 April 1851, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. 09 November 1851, Gruibingen.
- viii. GEORG LUDWIG BÖRSCHL, b. 06 May 1852, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. 16 May 1852, Gruibingen.
- ix. MARIA CAROLINA BÖRSCHL, b. 12 June 1855, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; d. 19 September 1855, Gruibingen.

*Generation No. 9*

9. ANNA BARBARA<sup>9</sup> MERZ (*JOHANNA*<sup>8</sup>, *MICHAEL*<sup>7</sup>, *JOHANN GEORG*<sup>6</sup>, *MICHAEL*<sup>5</sup>, *HANS JERG*<sup>4</sup>, *HANS JACOB*<sup>3</sup>, *HANS*<sup>2</sup>, *HANS*<sup>1</sup> *MERTZ*)<sup>10</sup> was born 05 December 1833 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>10</sup>, and died 25 March 1895 in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. She met (1) KARL HABANN. She met (2) UNKNOWN. She met (3) JOHANNES MARKUS SPANGLER<sup>10</sup>, son of MARCUS SPANGLER and CATHARINA MUTSCHLER. He was born 12 October 1835 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>10</sup>. She married (4) EDUARD JOHANNES STRAUB<sup>10</sup> 15 November 1869 in Gruibingen, Goppingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>10</sup>, son of JOHANN STRAUB and ANNA STÖHLE. He was born 25 February 1842 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>10</sup>, and died 05 February 1927 in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut<sup>11,12</sup>.

Notes for ANNA BARBARA MERZ:

Babette Merz was born Anna Barbara Merz in Gruibingen in the Kingdom of Württemberg on 5 December 1833. Babette is a nickname for Barbara, her calling name, or the name she went by. Babette was born out of wedlock. Although she carried her mother's name, her father Johann Georg Lutz was listed on her baptismal record. Johann was born 26 Nov 1811 in Zell near Aichelberg, and he did not admit he was her father at the time. He may have admitted it later, as Babette was in later times called Lutzin.

Babette was a florist. By 1868 she was a teacher of knitting.

Babette had four children out of wedlock - Catharina Barbara Habann with Karl Habann, Mathilda Dorothea Merz with Johannes Markus Spangler, Julius Merz and Karl Julius Merz. The father of the last two is unknown. Mathilda and Julius died young. Babette then married Johannes Straub in 1869. She was pregnant with their first born when they married. She had three children with him, only the oldest, Anna, survived childhood.

In 1883, Babette immigrated to America with her husband Johannes Straub, and children Babette Habann, Karl (Charles) Merz, and Anna Straub.

Babette's two half-sisters, who survived childhood, also immigrated to Bridgeport. Elisabetha Börschl (Elizabeth Boerschel) immigrated in September 1892, and lived with her niece Babette Habann Speiser until her death in 1921. Margaretha Börschl (Margaret Boerschel) and her son Adolf immigrated about 1890 to Bridgeport.

In a newspaper obituary for Lydia Anna Speiser, flower arrangements were recieved from Mr. & Mrs. Boeshel and Mrs. Elizabeth Boeschel.

A picture from a photo album of relatives of Babette Habann, Lydia Speiser Reuther identifies her "great uncle who was a Sheppard and his wife". He was Babette Habann's uncle (or Babette Mertz Speiser's uncle) and immigrated to America.

More About ANNA BARBARA MERZ:

Name 2: Babette Merz

Immigration: 04 September 1883, New York<sup>13</sup>

Notes for KARL HABANN:

Karl was a waiter from Eichstätt in Bavaria, Germany.

Marriage Notes for ANNA MERZ and KARL HABANN:

At this time, it does not appear that Karl and Babette were married.

Notes for EDUARD JOHANNES STRAUB:

Eduard Johannes Straub was born 25 February 1842 in Gruibingen, Goppingen oberamt (or district), in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg. He was a weaver from an old family in Gruibeingen. [2]

Today the town of Gruibingen is in the district (or Kreis in German) of Goppingen in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg. It has a population of 2300.

In 1890, John Straub is living in Bridgeport, Connecticut, at 392 East Main. He works for Wheeler & Wilson Mfg. Co. John and his wife Babette must be living with their daughter and son-in-law Christopher and Anna Becker who live at the same address. The following year they are living at 163 Shelton, again the same address as Christopher and Anna. [1]

In the 1900 Census, John Straub is living in the house of his daughter Anna Habann and her husband Christ Becker (looked like Belker on the census). He is 58 years old and a retired widower. John was born in Germany and immigrated in 1883. He may be a naturalized citizen.

In the 1910 Census, John Straub is living in the house of his daughter Anna Habann and her husband Chris (Gustavus on the census) Becker in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He is 68 years old, widowed, and was born in Germany. His year of immigration was unclear, but he did appear to be naturalized. John speaks German, not English.

In the 1920 Census, John Straub is living in the house of his daughter Anna Habann Becker and her husband Chris Becker. John is 77 years old (born about 1843), widowed, and born in Germany.

Services were held for John Edward Straub on February 8. He died Saturday [Feb 5] at the home of his daughter. Burial was in Lakeview Cemetery. - The Bridgeport Telegram, February 7, 1927, page 18.

[1] Bridgeport City Directories, 1890-91, Ancestry.com

[2] From the research of Martin Koepple in Germany, using the archives of Gruibingen, 2004

More About EDUARD JOHANNES STRAUB:

Name 2: Johannes Straub<sup>14</sup>

Name 3: John Edward Straub<sup>15</sup>

Date born 2: 25 February 1841, Germany<sup>16,17</sup>

Burial: Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, CT<sup>18</sup>

More About EDUARD STRAUB and ANNA MERZ:

Marriage: 15 November 1869, Gruibingen, Goppingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>19</sup>

Child of ANNA MERZ and KARL HABANN is:

- i. CATHARINA BARBARA<sup>10</sup> HABANN<sup>19</sup>, b. 16 May 1858, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>20,21</sup>; d. 28 June 1947, Bridgeport, Connecticut<sup>22</sup>; m. HEINRICH DAVID SPEISER<sup>22</sup>, 19 November 1887, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut<sup>22</sup>; b. 21 May 1850, Jesingen (Kirchheim unter Teck), Esslingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>22</sup>; d. 18 October 1921, Bridgeport, Connecticut<sup>22</sup>.

Notes for CATHARINA BARBARA HABANN:

Babette Katrina Speiser nee Habann. Born Grubingen, Wurttenburg, Germany, May 16, 1858. Parents Karl Habann - Babette Buerschel.

At age 15 yrs to Stuttgart 1 yr. then to Goppingen to learn sewing 9 mos. to Dr Monk 3 mos. then Switzerland for 3 yrs as personal maid to Baroness von Fischer geb von Blessen - 3 mos. in winter in Bern & rest of time in Eichberg near Thun. After 3 yrs returned to Dr Monk as his assistant & Mrs Monk for 5 yrs. At age 25 she came to

America with her mother sister & step father. Took 2 weeks to cross arriving Sept 4, 1883 in N.Y. Came to Bridgeport & after 4 yrs at age 29 married Henry David Speiser, widower with four children Henry 13, Hugo 11, Herman 9 & Emma 4 yrs old [Emma was actually 6]. Gave birth to seven children Helene, Elsbeth, Reinhold, Irma, Erich, Lydia Anna & Lydia Johanna. Lydia Anna died at age 11 mos. All born 425 Jane St. Tante Eliz. Buerschel mama's aunt born Sept 25 1844 came to America Sept 1890 and lived with mama until her death Oct 16, 1921 [daughter Lydia].

My mother's Dad was the son of a Baroness [daughter Lydia]. Karl was actually a waiter.

Babette was born in Gruibingen, Goppingen oberamt (or district), in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg, on 16 May 1858, to Karl Habann and Anna Barbara Merz. They do not appear to have been married. Her birth name was Catharina Barbara Habann [2]. Her calling name, or the name she went by was Barbara. Babette also went by the name Babette Katrina Merz, as recorded in the Speiser family bible when she married Henry Speiser.

Today the town of Gruibingen is in the district (or Kreis in German) of Goppingen in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg. It has a population of 2300.

When she first came to America, Babette worked as a servant. [Lydia Speiser to Catherine Reuther, Sept 1988]

In the 1930 Census, Babette is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. She is 72 years old and widowed. Babette was born in Germany, and lists her year of immigration as 1875. She is a naturalized citizen. Living with her are her daughter Elsbeth, 38, and a nephew Eric Speiser, 15, born in Connecticut, with his parents born in Germany.

IN 1944, Babette H Speiser, widow of Henry D, is living at 28 Alberta Street in Fairfield with her daughter Elsbeth. [1]

Babette made Christmas cookies every year. Many of the recipes were from Germany, and may have been from her own mother. Her wooden molds for Springerli were passed to Lydia, then to Lydia's son Cal, then to Cal's daughter Cathy. Babette even made it into the Bridgeport newspaper when they took a picture of her making Springerli for an article on holiday traditions from the "old county". Babette made other recipes such as herring salad and potato salad that continue to travel through the generations.

On Mon June 23, 1947 my mother fell while pulling a few weeds from the flower garden she loved and fractured her hip. Was taken to Bpt Hospital and had it set by Dr. Griswald. Passed away on Sat. June 28 at 4 min to 10 P.M. with all her children around her who had been with her since 10 AM when she was in a coma. Irma had spent the night with her and Helene relieved Irm @ 9 AM. Mama didn't recognize Helene. the last words she said to me at 10 P.M. Fri when I left were "Gehst ... schon Heim? Bi hut sich Gott, Gute Nacht." She was buried at Park Cemetary July 2nd Wed. Looked beautiful in her casket in a lavender dress amidst a wealth of floral pieces, Beautiful service at the church. Six of her seven Grand children carried her to her last resting place. Henry Broch, Eric & Bob & Warren speiser, Stuart and Charles Forbes. Reinhardt Grah sand Sicher im Jesu Armen Harre Meine Seele. At the grave pastor Reisch read from the German Hymnal #577. "Geht nun hin in grabt mein Grab" [Lydia Speiser's notebook].

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] From the research of Martin Koepple in Germany, using the archives of Gruibingen, 2004

More About CATHARINA BARBARA HABANN:

Name 2: Babette Katrina Merz

Burial: 02 July 1947, Park Cemetary, Bridgeport, Connecticut<sup>23</sup>

Confirmation: 21 April 1872, Gruibingen, Goppingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>24</sup>

Immigration: 04 September 1883, New York City<sup>25</sup>

Notes for HEINRICH DAVID SPEISER:

My Dad

Henry David Speiser born May 20, 1850 of Elizabeth Eiswein [Esenwein] & John Speiser in Jessingen, Wurttemberg Ger

Educated in Kirchheim High School - at age 14 to Mehringen to learn trade (Barrell making & beer brewing). Came to America at age 18 [about 1868 or 9] to escape military training and stayed until age 21. Then returned to Germany until 28 yrs of age. Settled in Bpt. and worked as foreman for Klaus Brewery. Later started own bottling business of soft drinks At age 36 married Babette Habann Merz [Lydia Speiser's notebook].

Henry was born in Jesingen, Kirchheim oberamt (or district), in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg. Today the town of Jesingen has become part of the city of Kirchheim unter Teck, in the district (or Kreis in German) of Esslingen in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

Heinrich David Speiser, living in the district of Kirchheim, applied at Wuerttemberg, Germany, in July 1869 to emigrate to North America. He was born 20 May 1850 in Jesingen. According to information about the Wuerttemberg Emigration Index, some immigrants left without permission, and sent word back to the Wuerttemberg state and town officials renouncing their citizenship. In the case of Heinrich, the application to emigrate in 1869 is probably accurate.

When Henry returned to Germany from America at age 21, he married Sophie after his future father-in-law promised to give him his brewery. Henry took his wife and 3 children, Henry, Hugo, and Herman, to America when his father-in-law did not keep his promise. [Lydia Speiser to Catherine Reuther, Sept 1988]

A search of the 1880 Census, dated 7 June 1880 (www.familysearch.org), turned up a Henry Spicer, age 30 (born in 1850), born in Wurttemberg, living in Bridgeport, Connecticut, with the John Sthiufler family, also from Wurttemberg. His marital status is married, but no wife is present in the household. Henry is working in a brewery. Three other young men from Germany are also living with the Sthiufler's, two working in a brewery. Sophie and their children arrived one month later on July 30 in New York.

After coming to America, Henry, Sophie, and family lived downstairs in a house also occupied by Babette Merz [should be Habann], her mother and step-father, and her sister. Young Herman used to visit Babette Straub when she was alone and sick. [Lydia Speiser to Catherine Reuther, Sept 1988]

In 1890 Henry Speiser is living in Bridgeport at 171 Jane Street. He is a bottler. In 1891 Henry is also operating a saloon at 394 East Main. Henry must have bought the saloon from his wife's brother-in-law Christopher Becker, as Christopher had a saloon at this

address in 1890. [1]

About 1898, Henry turned the saloon or tavern he owned at 1127 East Main over to his son Herman.

In 1904, Henry Speiser is operating an ale, lager and porter business from 425 Jane Street, also his home. In addition, he operates a saloon at 186 Railroad Ave. [2]

Henry applied to become a citizen of the United States October 23, 1884. He became a citizen on May 8, 1907. (Henry's naturalization certificate)

According to a newspaper dated May 18, 1907, as well as stationary Henry used, he was an agent for the Hupfel Brewing company of New York.

In the 1900 Census, Henry Speiser (Spiezer on the census) is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport. He is 50 years old, immigrated from Germany in 1869, and is a beer agent. Henry and his wife Babette, 42, have been married 15 years. She has had 7 children, 6 are living. All their combined children except Henry's sons Henry and Hugo from his first marriage are living with them. Also living with them is Elizabeth Boerschel, aunt, and John Kadlie, boarder.

In the 1910 Census, Henry Speiser (Herman on the census) is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He is 59 years old, and born in Germany. Henry is a brewing agent for a brewery. Living with him are his wife Babbett (Babette), age 51, also born in Germany, daughter Hellen (Helene), 20, Elizabeth (Elsbeth), 18, Reinhold, 17, Erma (Irma), 16, Erich, 15, Lydia, 12, daughter Emma Broch, 29, grandson Henry P Broch, 3, and aunt Elizabeth Boerschel, 64. Henry immigrated in 1869 and is a naturalized citizen. Babette immigrated in 1884.

In 1913-14, Henry Speiser is operating an ale, lager and porter business from 425 Jane Street, also his home. In addition, he operates a saloon at 384 Railroad Ave. [3]

In the 1920 Census, Henry Speiser is living at 425 Jane Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He is 69 years old and was born in Germany. Henry is a brewing agent for a brewery. Living with him are his wife Babette, 61, children Helene, 30, Elsbeth, 28, Reinhold, 26, Lydia, 22, grandson Erick, 4 11/12, and Elizabeth Brasschel (Boerschel). Elizabeth is Babette's aunt, but is listed as a servant?. Henry immigrated in 1869, and became a citizen in 1872. Babette immigrated in 1883, and is a naturalized citizen. Grandson Erich was apparently counted twice on the census, as he also appears with his parents Erich and Julia Speiser.

My Dad passed away 10 PM Oct 18, 1921 at age 71 of pneumonia and was buried Oct 21 at Park Cemetery. [Lydia Speiser's notebook]

[1] Bridgeport, Connecticut, city directory, 1890-91 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport City Directories 1913-14 (Ancestry.com)

More About HEINRICH DAVID SPEISER:

Date born 2: 25 May 1850, Jesingen (Kirchheim unter Teck), Esslingen district, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany<sup>26</sup>

Burial: 21 October 1921, Park Cemetary, Bridgeport, Connecticut<sup>27</sup>

Cause of Death: pneumonia<sup>27</sup>

Immigration 1: betw late 1878 and early 1879<sup>28</sup>

Immigration 2: 1869, From Germany<sup>29</sup>  
Naturalization: 08 May 1907, Bridgeport, Connecticut

More About HEINRICH SPEISER and CATHARINA HABANN:  
Marriage: 19 November 1887, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut<sup>30</sup>

Children of ANNA MERZ and UNKNOWN are:

- ii. JULIUS<sup>10</sup> MERZ<sup>31</sup>, b. 29 July 1863, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>31</sup>; d. 13 November 1863<sup>31</sup>.
- iii. KARL JULIUS MERZ<sup>31</sup>, b. 20 June 1865, Jebenhausen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>31</sup>; d. Bet. 1930 - 1944, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut; m. MARIA STROLIN<sup>32</sup>, Abt. 1892<sup>33</sup>; b. November 1870, Germany<sup>33</sup>; d. 27 December 1956, Hamden, New Haven Co, Connecticut<sup>34</sup>.

Notes for KARL JULIUS MERZ:

Charles was born Karl Julius Merz in Jebenhausen in the Kingdom of Württemberg on 20 June 1865. His calling name, or the name he went by, at his birth was Julius. By the time he got to America, he was Charles Merz. Charles' mother was not married when he was born and his father is unknown.

Charles is probably the Charles Mertz found in the 1890 & 1891 Bridgeport city directories working for Wheeler & Wilson Mfg. Co. [Ancestry.com]

In the 1900 Census, Charles Merz (looks like Mere) is living at 703 Ogden Street in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He is 34 years old, born in Germany, and immigrated in 1883. Charles is a cabinet maker. Living with him are his wife Mary, 29, and children Charles, 6, and Annie, 2. Mary was born in Germany and immigrated in 1888. Charles and Mary have been married 8 years. Mary has had two children, both are living.

In 1904, Charles Merz is listed in the Bridgeport City directory as Charles Merc. His is living at 54 Freeman Street, and is working for Wheeler & Wilson Mfg Co. [1]

In the 1910 Census, Charles Merz is living at 34 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is 45, and a cabinet maker of sewing machines. Living with him are his wife Mary, 39, and children Charles, 16, Annie, 11, and Lillian, 2. Charles is an apprentice; what type is not clear. The Merz are living near Charles' cousin Adolphe Boerschel and his family. Also nearby, on the next census page, are Charles' half-sister Anna Straub Becker & her family, along with her father John Straub.

In 1913, Charles Merz (Merc on the city directory) is working for Singer Manufacturing. [1]

In the 1920 Census, Charles Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street. He is 55, and a cabinet maker. Living with Charles are his wife Mary, 49, and daughters Anna, 21, and Lillian, 12. Anna is working, but her occupation was not clear on the census. The Boerschel's are still living close by, and the Becker's are a few census pages away.

In 1923 Charles and Marie are living at 54 Freeman Street. Charles works for Colombia Graphophone Mfg co. [1]

In the 1930 Census, Charles Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street. He is 64 and a cabinet maker at a machine factory. Living with him are his wife Anna (should be Mary), 59,

and daughters Anna W, 31, and Lillian, 22.

[1] Bridgeport City Directories (Ancestry.com)

More About KARL JULIUS MERZ:

Name 2: Charles Merz

Date born 2: June 1865, Germany<sup>35</sup>

Notes for MARIA STROLIN:

Mary's name is Mary on the 1900, 1910 & 1920 Censuses, but Anna in 1930 and in the 1944 Bridgeport city directory. Since her age is consistent with the earlier censuses, I assume she is the same person.

In 1944 Anna M Merz is living at 54 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. She is widowed from Charles J. Anna is living with her daughter Anna M. [1]

After her daughter died in 1948, Marie A Merz continued to live at her home on Freeman Street. [2]

In 1952 Marie M Merz, widow of Charles J, is listed as having removed to Hamden. [3] Daughter Lillian Merz Marshall lived in Hamden.

In November 1955, Mrs. Mary Merz of Hamden and Mr. & Mrs. Rush Marshall of Hamden attended a surprise 80th birthday party for Christian Strolin. [5] Christian was probably Marie's brother.

Maria A Merz, widow of Charles, died 27 December 1956 at age 86 at Hamden, New Haven, Connecticut. [4]

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1949 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport City Directory 1952 (Ancestry.com)

[4] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

[5] Bridgeport Sunday Post, Nov 6 1955, p A-12 (Ancestry.com)

More About MARIA STROLIN:

Name 2: Maria A<sup>36</sup>

Name 3: Mary<sup>37</sup>

More About KARL MERZ and MARIA STROLIN:

Marriage: Abt. 1892<sup>38</sup>

Child of ANNA MERZ and JOHANNES SPANGLER is:

- iv. MATHILDA DOROTHEA<sup>10</sup> MERZ<sup>39</sup>, b. 09 July 1861, Zainingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>39</sup>; d. 21 November 1874, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>39</sup>.

Children of ANNA MERZ and EDUARD STRAUB are:

- v. ANNA WILHELMINE<sup>10</sup> STRAUB<sup>39</sup>, b. 09 March 1870, Gruibingen, Goepingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>39</sup>; d. 19 September 1945, Bridgeport, Connecticut<sup>40</sup>; m. JOHN PETER CHRISTOPHER BECKER<sup>41</sup>, 29 August 1889, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co,

Connecticut<sup>41</sup>; b. 29 June 1867, Bremerhaufen, Germany<sup>41</sup>; d. 11 October 1957, Norwalk, Fairfield Co, Connecticut<sup>42</sup>.

Notes for ANNA WILHELMINE STRAUB:

Anna was a member of the First Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Ladies Aid Society. [1]

Mamie (Mary), Tillie (Matilda), and Johnnie Becker were in a photo in Speiser collection, identified by Lydia Speiser Reuther. They are children of Anna and Christopher.

The obituary for Anna lists five daughters - Mrs. Joseph Ryley of Westport, Mrs. William Schutt of Bridgeport, Mrs. Fred Paquette of Bridgeport, Mrs. Otto Salzer of Stratford, and Mrs. Thomas Linnenbrink of Fairfield, and two sons, Charles of Stratford, and Peter of Bridgeport. Anna had only four daughters. Mrs. Thomas Linnenbrink (Florence B in the city directory 1944) is actually her granddaughter, the daughter of Peter, and was raised by Anna and Chris.

[1] Kimberly Reinhard

More About ANNA WILHELMINE STRAUB:

Name 2: Anna Habann

Date born 2: 1870, Germany<sup>43</sup>

Date born 3: March 1870, Germany<sup>44</sup>

Burial: 22 September 1945, Lakeview cemetery, Bridgeport, Connecticut<sup>45,46</sup>

Immigration: 04 September 1883, New York<sup>47</sup>

Notes for JOHN PETER CHRISTOPHER BECKER:

Chris was reportedly born in Bremerhaufen, Germany. This is most likely Bremerhaven in the German state of Bremen. The city of Bremerhaven is located on the Geest River at its junction with the estuary of the Weser River some 37 miles north of Bremen in northwest Germany. It serves as the North Sea port for that city. There was a medieval settlement at Lehe on the site. The modern city was founded as a port for Bremen in 1827, and the municipality was formed by the amalgamation of three towns in 1845. Throughout the 19th century, Bremerhaven grew and prospered as both a fishing port and a passenger port.

In 1890, Christopher Becker is operating a saloon at 394 East Main in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He lives next door at 392 East Main. His wife Anna's parents Babette and John Straub are living with them. In 1891, Christopher is living at 163 Shelton, and no longer has the saloon. He must have sold it to his wife's brother-in-law Henry Speiser, as Henry is operating a saloon at this address in 1891. Babette and John Straub continue to live with Christopher and Anna. [3]

In the 1900 Census, Christ Becker (looked like Belker on the census) is living in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut. He is 32 years old, and was born in Germany. He immigrated in 1882 and is a naturalized citizen. Chris is working as a day laborer. Living with him is his wife Anna, 30. She was also born in Germany and immigrated in 1883. They have been married 10 years, and Anna has born 7 children, 4 are living. Their children are Tellie (Matilda or Tillie), 8, Marmie (Mary), 4, Carl, 3, and Adolph, 1. All the children were born in Connecticut. Also living with them is John Straub, identified as Chris's father on the census, but actually Anna's father.

In 1904, Christopher Becker is working for Connecticut Railway & Lighting Company

in Bridgeport. He is living at 551 Housatonic ave. [4]

In the 1910 Census, Christopher Becker (Gustavus on the census) was living in Bridgeport at 44 Florence Avenue. He is 42 years old, and was born in Germany. His year of immigration was unclear, but he is a naturalized citizen. Christopher may be working for an electric railroad, perhaps in a repair capacity. Living with him is his wife Anna, 40, also born in Germany. They have been married 20 years, and Anna has born 9 children, 6 are living. Their six children are Matilda, 18, Mary, 14, Carl (Charles?), 13, Adolphe (Peter?), 11, Anna, 7, and Elsie, 4. Matilda and Mary are working - Matilda in some kind of factory, and Mary is sewing in a lace factory. Also living with them is Anna's widowed father John Straub, 68. John is listed as Christopher's father-in-law. Living nearby, on the previous census page, are Anna's half-brother Charles Merz and his family, and Adolphe Boerschel and his family, relatives of Anna's and Charles' mother.

In the 1920 Census, Christopher Becker (or Becher) was living in Bridgeport. He is 53 years old and born in Germany. He immigrated in 1870 and was naturalized in 1908 or 1918. Living with him was his wife Anna, age 48/49, also born in Germany. Anna immigrated in 1880. Living with them were their children Mary, 24, Peter, 20?, Anna, 17, and Elsie, 14. All the children were born in Connecticut. Also in the house was Christopher's father-in-law John Straub, age 77, born in Germany. Christopher and Anna may have been naturalized citizens. Anna's relatives the Merz's and Boerschel's are living a few census pages away.

In the 1930 Census, Christ. Becker is living in Bridgeport on Hewitt Street. He is 62 years old and was born in Germany. He lists his year of immigration as 1882 and is a naturalized citizen. Christopher is a machine operator at a sewing machine factory. Living with him are his wife Anna, age 60, also born in Germany, daughter Elsie, 24, born in Connecticut, and granddaughter Florence, 9. Florence was born in Connecticut as was her father. Her mother was born in New York. Florence may be the daughter of Charles. Anna lists her year of immigration as 1883 and is a naturalized citizen. Elsie is working in a factory, the type of factory and work was unclear.

In 1944, Christopher J Becker and his wife Anna W are living at 194 Hewitt Street in Bridgeport. [2]

Chris J Becker died October 11, 1957, in Norwalk, Fairfield Co, Connecticut. He was 90 years old, and widowed from Anna. Chris's last residence was in Westport. [1]

[1] Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com)

[2] Bridgeport City Directory 1944 (Ancestry.com)

[3] Bridgeport City Directories, 1890-91, Ancestry.com

[4] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

More About JOHN PETER CHRISTOPHER BECKER:

Name 2: Christopher Becker

Date born 2: June 1867, Germany<sup>48</sup>

Date born 3: Abt. 1868, Germany<sup>49,50,51</sup>

Died 2: Aft. 1930

Burial: 14 October 1957, Lakeview Cemetery, Bridgeport, CT<sup>52</sup>

Cause of Death: Coronary Thrombosis<sup>52</sup>

Immigration: 14 April 1882<sup>52</sup>

Medical Information: Chris had Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease and Cancer of the Prostrate<sup>52</sup>

Occupation: Inspector for Singer Manufacturing Company in Bridgeport, CT<sup>52</sup>

More About JOHN BECKER and ANNA STRAUB:

Marriage 1: 29 August 1889, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co, Connecticut<sup>52</sup>

Marriage 2: Abt. 1889<sup>53</sup>

- vi. JOHANNES REINHOLD STRAUB<sup>54</sup>, b. 03 May 1871, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>54</sup>; d. 09 June 1872, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>54</sup>.
- vii. JOHANNA BERTHA STRAUB<sup>54</sup>, b. 27 September 1872, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>54</sup>; d. 26 December 1872, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>54</sup>.

**10.** MARGARETHA<sup>9</sup> BÖRSCHL (*JOHANNA<sup>8</sup> MERZ, MICHAEL<sup>7</sup>, JOHANN GEORG<sup>6</sup>, MICHAEL<sup>5</sup>, HANS JERG<sup>4</sup>, HANS JACOB<sup>3</sup>, HANS<sup>2</sup>, HANS<sup>1</sup> MERTZ*)<sup>54</sup> was born 26 August 1843 in Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg, Germany<sup>54</sup>, and died Bet. 1904 - 1910.

Notes for MARGARETHA BÖRSCHL:

In 1900, Margaret Borshel is living in Bridgeport, Connecticut, with her son Adolphe and his wife Mary. Margaret is 56, widowed, born in Germany, and immigrated in 1890.

In 1904, Mrs Margaret Borschel, widow of John, is living at 759 Shelton, Bridgeport, in the home of her son Adolf.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

More About MARGARETHA BÖRSCHL:

Name 2: Margaret Boerschel<sup>55</sup>

Child of MARGARETHA BÖRSCHL is:

- i. ADOLF JOHANNES<sup>10</sup> BÖRSCHL<sup>56</sup>, b. 19 April 1866, Gruibingen, Goeppingen district, Baden-Württemberg<sup>56</sup>; m. MARY<sup>57</sup>, Abt. 1893<sup>57</sup>; b. June 1870, Germany<sup>57</sup>.

Notes for ADOLF JOHANNES BÖRSCHL:

In a newspaper obituary in June 1897 for Lydia Anna Speiser, flower arrangements were recieved from Mr. & Mrs. Boeshel and Mrs. Elizabeth Boeschel.

In the 1900 Census, Adolphe Borshel is living at 759 Shelton Street in Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut. He is 34 years old, born in Germany, and a painter. Living with him are his wife Mary, 29, also born in Germany, and his mother Margaret, 56. Adolph immigrated in 1890, as did his wife and mother. Adolph and Mary have been married 7 years.

In 1904, Adolf Borschel is working as a painter and living at 759 Shelton in Bridgeport. His mother Margaret is living with him. [1]

In 1910, Adolphe Boerschel is living on Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is 43 years old and a painter. Living with him are his wife Mary, 39, and their adopted daughter Frada, 8. She was born in New York and her parents were born in Germany. Not too far away are his cousins the Merz and Beckers.

In 1920, Adolf Boerschel is living at 60 Freeman Street in Bridgeport. He is 53 years

old, and a painter. Adolf was born in Germany, immigrated in 1893, and is a citizen. With him are his wife Mary, 49, and daughter Frieda, 17. Not too far away are his cousins the Merz and Beckers.

The Boerschels are not listed in the 1923 Bridgeport City directory. They either moved to another town between 1920 and 1923, or passed away.

[1] Bridgeport City Directory 1904 (Ancestry.com)

More About ADOLF JOHANNES BÖRSCHL:

Name 2: Adolf Boerschel

Date born 2: April 1866, Germany<sup>57</sup>

Immigration 1: 1890<sup>57</sup>

Immigration 2: 1893<sup>58</sup>

More About MARY:

Immigration 1: 1890<sup>59</sup>

Immigration 2: 1893<sup>60</sup>

More About ADOLF BÖRSCHL and MARY:

Marriage: Abt. 1893<sup>61</sup>

#### *Endnotes*

1. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
2. "Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook."
3. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
4. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
5. "Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook."
6. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
7. Kathy Bonnell, RootsWeb transcription of church records.
8. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
9. Kathy Bonnell, RootsWeb transcription of church records.
10. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
11. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
12. "Bridgeport Telegram, Feb 7 1927."
13. "Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook."
14. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
15. "Bridgeport Telegram, Feb 7 1927."
16. 1920 Census.
17. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
18. "Bridgeport Telegram, Feb 7 1927."
19. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
20. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
21. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
22. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
23. Lydia Speiser Reuther.
24. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
25. "Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook."
26. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Oetlingen, Jesingen, Möhringen & Bebenhausen archives.
27. "Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook."
28. "Herman & Bertha Speiser's 50th wedding anniversary - newspaper," Bridgeport Sunday Post Dec 9, 1956.
29. 1900 Census.
30. "Speiser Family Bible (in German)."
31. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
32. "Bridgeport Post (Ancestry.com)," p. 31, Aug 4, 1948 - Anna Merz obituary.
33. 1900 Census.
34. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).

35. 1900 Census.
36. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
37. Photo identified by Lydia Speiser Reuther
38. 1900 Census.
39. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
40. "Obituary, Mrs. Christopher Becker."
41. Kimberly Reinhard.
42. Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2001 (Ancestry.com).
43. "Obituary, Mrs. Christopher Becker."
44. 1900 Census.
45. "Obituary, Mrs. Christopher Becker."
46. Kimberly Reinhard.
47. "Lydia Speiser Reuther's notebook."
48. 1900 Census.
49. 1920 Census.
50. *1930 Census.*
51. *1910 Census.*
52. Kimberly Reinhard.
53. *1930 Census.*
54. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
55. *picture identified by Lydia Speiser Reuther, "fig."*
56. Martin Koepple, doing research in Germany with Gruibingen archives.
57. 1900 Census.
58. 1920 Census.
59. 1900 Census.
60. 1920 Census.
61. 1900 Census.