

Schlesien History

Dear Aunt Helen, Margaret and John!

Margaret: As I promised in our phone conversation I am sending you the snapshots and photos from the prints amassed by my parents over the years. I'm also giving you a little background of each, perhaps your mother can give you more detailed information. I am not a biography writer, but hopefully my descriptions are clear as to individual identification. I made no annotations on the pictures other than placing a number on the back of each to correspond with the history of events, time and dates, as I can remember them. So let us start our journey into the past.

Picture #1: Bad Ziegenhals - now Glucholazy Prov. of Poland - was the home town of the Hoheisel family until 1945. Streets are about the same as when Iona and I saw the city four years ago. Only change I can recall was the linden tree had been removed. Building with cupola on the roof is the court house. Going to the right from center, you would reach the large cathedral.

Picture #2: Taken in Arnelsdorf, now Poland, original place where our descendants the Schmidts and Hoheisels are from. Wedding is of Grandmother Hoheisels sisters daughter. Our grand-parents are sitting in back of the groom. Next to the groom is the brides mother and father; next to them is their son and next to him is your mother (Helen) dressed in white with a gorgeous bow ribbon on her head. Straight back and slightly to the left from your mother is Uncle Bernhard. To his left starting the back row are my parents, my father with white tie and tuxedo, my mothers hair is up. In front of the tall fellow are Aunt Maria Pohl and Aunt Hedwig Radig, to their left is Aunt Anna Duell. To the far left Uncle Paul Hoheisel is just barely visible between two heads. He wasn't married until 12-02-23, so Aunt Maria, his wife to be wasn't present.

Picture #3: Aunt Hedwig and Uncle Rudolphs wedding in 1927. I am the kid in the sailor suit and next to me is Werner Pohl. Our grand-parents are to my rear and back of grandfather is Uncle Bernhard, back of him is my sister Ursula and my mother. Back row is your mother Helen and next to her is Uncle Paul and his wife Maria Hoheisel. In front of Maria Hoheisel is our cousin Hilda Pohl Tief; the fellow with eye glasses is Uncle George Pohl, to his left is Maria Pohl, next to the Priest. The two priests are Uncle Rudolphs uncles who presided over the wedding church ceremony.

Picture #4: Last picture taken of our Grand-parents Hoheisel. Grandmother was gravely ill, had lost much weight, one can see the edema in her leg. Picture was taken just before her death in December 1937.

Picture #5: Acting Society. Those who participated in the play were Aunt Anna, Aunt Martha, and Uncle Bernhard. Showing front side, looking back is Aunt Anna Duell, back of her is Aunt Martha Cookingham; back row by the clock is Uncle Bernhard with his partner.

Picture #6: Music Club Members. Aunt Martha with mandolin, third back is Aunt Hedwig Radig with her Tyrolean hat. Left from Aunt Martha is Anna Duell. This picture was taken just before Anna and Martha came to America in 1925.

Picture #7: Aunt Martha portraying an angel during a presentation by Actors Club.

Picture #8: Anna Duell on her trip to the USA.

Picture #9: Uncle Bernhard while on leave from the Russian front during World War II. Born July 15, 1908, died Feb. 6, 1942.

Picture #10: Uncle Bernhards family.

Picture #11: Our Aunt Maria Hoheisel. She was a kind thoughtful person, highly educated, very sophisticated, liked by everyone, was a wonderful wife to Uncle Paul. They were really in love; when she died, his life became complicated.

Picture #12: Uncle Paul Hoheisel.

Picture #13: Aunt Maria and Uncle Paul Hoheisel.

Picture #14: Uncle Paul, April 1972, after Maria's death. He went into deep depression and aged rapidly; he was in a lot of pain, it can be seen in his eyes.

Picture #15: Photo taken the day after Aunt Anna Duell's funeral in 1947. My mother Elizabeth, Aunt Martha Cookingham, and Lena Mueller.

Picture #16: Taken after funeral of Aunt Anna Duell in Columbus Ohio, 1947; Martha Cookingham, Helen Mueller, George Duell, Jr.

Picture #17: Radig Family. Cousin Wolfgang, Aunt Hedwig and Uncle Rudolph.

Picture #18: Cousin Hilda Pohl Tief and our Aunt Maria Pohl.

Picture #19: Hilda Pohl Tief.

Picture #20: Wedding of Barbara & Hans Pohl.

Picture #21: Sauer family, taken 1926. Aunt Elizabeth, Uncle Joseph, Walter & Ursula.

Picture #22: Elizabeth Sauer, 1946, while in California.

Picture #23: Happy group at a picnic in Columbus Ohio, 1945. Martha Cookingham, Ursula Sauer Franz holding her daughter born 1943 (Ursula Brackney now); Aunt Elizabeth Sauer. Back row, Edward Franz (Ursulas husband), Uncle George Duell, Aunt Anna Duell, George Duell, Jr.; Mary Jane Sauer, Walter Sauer.

Picture #24: Walter Sauer & Smokie, taken in 1948 at Columbus Ohio; had just been discharged from the hospital after spending three years there as patient.

Picture #25: Walter Sauer, PFC Regular Army Air Force, Dec. 1940. Home on Christmas furlough.

Picture #26: Walter Sauer and Ursula Sauer, June 1940; just before I enlisted in the Air Force.

Picture #27: Photo taken Largo Florida, 1967. Mr. Souner, Iona Sauer, our daughter Debbie who now lives in St. Petersburg, FL; Aunt Helen and Uncle Fred Mueller, and our youngest daughter Dani who resides in Ft. Scott, Kansas.

Copies: Death notices and obituaries and grand fathers message. Grandmother Hoheisel and Uncle Alfred Hoheisel notices written in the **Ziegenhals News**.

Have no photos of Uncle Alfred Hoheisel. I remember him from when he was home on furlough from the hospital in Breslau. He was a handsome man, looked very much like his brother, Uncle Paul. He was a uhlan in the light cavalry, fought with horses and lances. He was struck in the head by a Russian lancer and had brain and skull damage. He suffered tremendous pain which I witnessed at age five. I still remember how he cried and grandmother Hoheisel was helpless to give him comfort. It is frightful when a mother can't help her own son. He was a brave man. He had an operation performed in Breslau, but didn't survive. I learned early on about man's injustice to man.

From

Walter & Iona, she typed