

Joseph Rastatter & Barbara Lindner

and

**Clara Friesenhahn, Anton Jochum
& Michael Rastatter**

The story of two German emigrant families
that came to America from a small German speaking Village in
the Banat region of Austria-Hungary in the early 1900.

Home was in:
"Deutsch Sankt Peter"
(German Saint Peter)
listed on immigration papers as;
N. Szt. Peter and Szt. Peter, Temesin

The family Church was:
La Biserica; Catholica pentru; Popa German
Address is now; Sinpetru, German. Jud.
Arad Banat; Romania, Europa.

Forward

As I sit here at the age of 76 and I look at the old pictures of our family that my mother left, I am overwhelmed with a feeling of wonderment, pride and amazement. My family were very brave and courageous people. They left their home, family and friends to come thousands of miles to a strange place. They did not know what to expect or how they would earn a living. Most of them did not even speak the new language. I don't think I would have had the courage or the determination to do it.

I often lament about how I wish that I had asked my grandparents and my parents about their early life in Europe and Cleveland. I remember bits and pieces of what I was told as a child, but not nearly enough. I should have written it down or tried to remember. I guess it wasn't important to me then. As I try to sort out the pictures, it's only now after they are gone, and I have read the history of the central Europe, that I realize my family were interesting people and a living part of important events in history.

When I say "My family" it is not just my parents, it is my Grandparents, my aunts, uncles, cousins and their friends. Perhaps, a good part of the village in the old country. More than 20 had arrived in Cleveland between 1904 and 1911. Although all of the people from the village did not know each other in the old country, they banded together after they arrived in Cleveland and some intermarried.

The group photograph (Opposite page) was taken in 1911 at the marriage of my uncle Tony Rastatter and Mary Jochum. It shows 24 former residents of St. Peter and 3 first generation Americans. Four generations later, in 1990, the descendants of this group may number over 1000 people. At the last group picnic held in mid 1970s, my father and mother were the senior family members with over 300 present.

I sit here in awe and marvel at the tales they could have woven if I had only asked. The tales would have been poignant stories of coincidence, love, courage, adventure, hard work, determination, and unfortunately also great tragedy and sorrow. As a descendants of these 24 people I now realize how fortunate we were that most of this group found a way to stay in America.

The members of the family that did not come to America, suffered great oppression after World War I. The treaty settlement of 1919, gave the Banat region to Romania. Within two years Romania became a communist country. By 1920, the oppression and upheaval was so great, it caused my Grandfather and Grandmother to return to their home in an attempt to help their two daughters. They were unable to return to America.

The tragedy and oppression increased for the residents of Romania, and the Banat area particularly, during the 1980s. The Ceausescu regime systematically destroyed over 7,000 of the the 15,000 villages of the Banat valley and forced everyone to relocate He was assassinated in 1989 and Romania is now still trying to establish Democracy.

I continue to be fascinated and at the same time bewildered by the fact two separate and unrelated families both with the name Rastatter came from the same European village. They met in Cleveland and their sons and daughters married, each had a large family. It now takes an ancestry chart to sort them out.

The story of how they met is fascinating. Under the circumstances, I can't just leave the pictures for future generations to look at and pass over without knowing the people and their story. With the encouragement and help of my husband Ollie, I have tried to put together as much of the story as I can. I want these pictures to have some meaning to all of my family's descendants. I hope it will help them to know and be proud of their great heritage .

Mary (Jochum-Skopin) Titchenal

December 25, 1990



The Joseph & Barbara Rastatter Family and The Michael & Clara (Jochum) Rastatter Family

In Churchland at the wedding of Tony Rastatter and Mary Joseph 1911

- Top row:** Brothers Michael Rastatter + Grandma Clara (Frisenjohn, Jochum) Rastatter (Stephen Jochum's Mother + Step Father), Man (?), Anna Lilli, Hen(?)
- 2nd Row standing:** Uncle Matt Farnbacher, Lady(?), Hen(?) Lady(?), Uncle Tony Shafter, Francis Wagner Lincher, Uncle Joseph Rastatter, Grandma Barbara (Lindner) Rastatter + Grandpa Joseph Rastatter (Theresa's Parents)
- 3rd Row sitting:** Girl (?), Aunt Catherine Farnbacher (Matt's wife + child) Man (?), Aunt Mary (Jochum) Rastatter + Uncle Tony Rastatter (Wedding Day)
- 4th Row:** Theresa (Rastatter) Jochum with baby Tony + Stephen Jochum, Aunt Anna Rastatter + Floor in center, Aunt Catherine Rastatter, Uncle James (Jack) Rastatter and Uncle Frank Lindner.

Anton Jochum married Clara Friesenhahn

before 1888 in St Peter, Hungary

b: 1859@

pl: St Peter, Hungary

d: 1894@

pl: St Peter, Hungary

b: 7/18/1865

pl: St Peter, Hungary

d: 1946

pl: Cleveland, All Souls Cemetery

Stevan

b: 3/22/1889

pl: St Peter, Hungary

m: Theresa Rastatter*

pl: Cleveland, Ohio

date: 7/29/1910

d: 5/17/1978

pl: Cleveland, All Souls Cemetery

Mary

b: 11/18/1893

pl: St Peter, Hungary

m: Antony Rastatter*[uncle Tony]

pl: Cleveland, Ohio

date: 1911

d:

pl: Cleveland, All Souls Cemetery

After Anton's death Clara Jochum married

Michael Rastatter

b: 1871@

pl: Arid or Temisvar, Hungary

m: Clara [Friesenhahn] Jochum

pl: St. Peter

between 1896 & 1888

d: 3/26/1936

pl: Cleveland, All Souls Cemetery

James [uncle Jack]

b: 4/8/1899

pl: St. Peter

m: 10/10/1923

pl: Cleveland

Betty Sietz

d: 7/23/1973

Anna

b: 7/17/1903

pl: St Peter

m: 10/3/1925

pl: Cleveland

Frank Lindner

d: 12/15/1980

Catherine

b: 4/5/1909

pl: Cleveland, Ohio

m: 1928

pl: Cleveland

John Wilsey

d: 1991

Anton Jochum may have had a brother that came to America

Clara Friesenhahn had three brothers and four sisters. Stevan, Franz & Hanz stayed in Hungary.

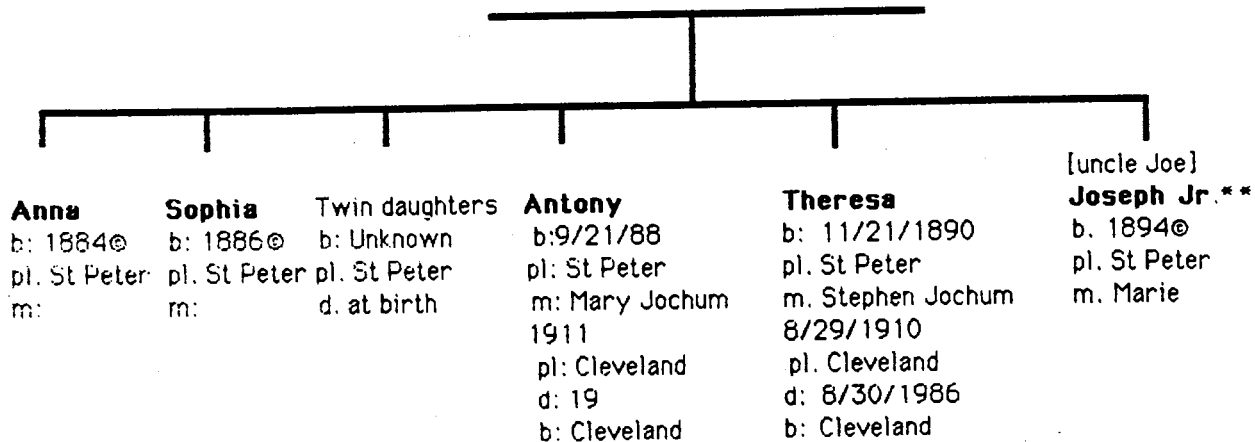
Three sister came to U.S.A. Margaret married Frank Christ, Catherine married Mathais Fernbacher,

Susan married George Schaffer. Her sister Anna stayed in Hungary and became a Nun, [Sister Honora]

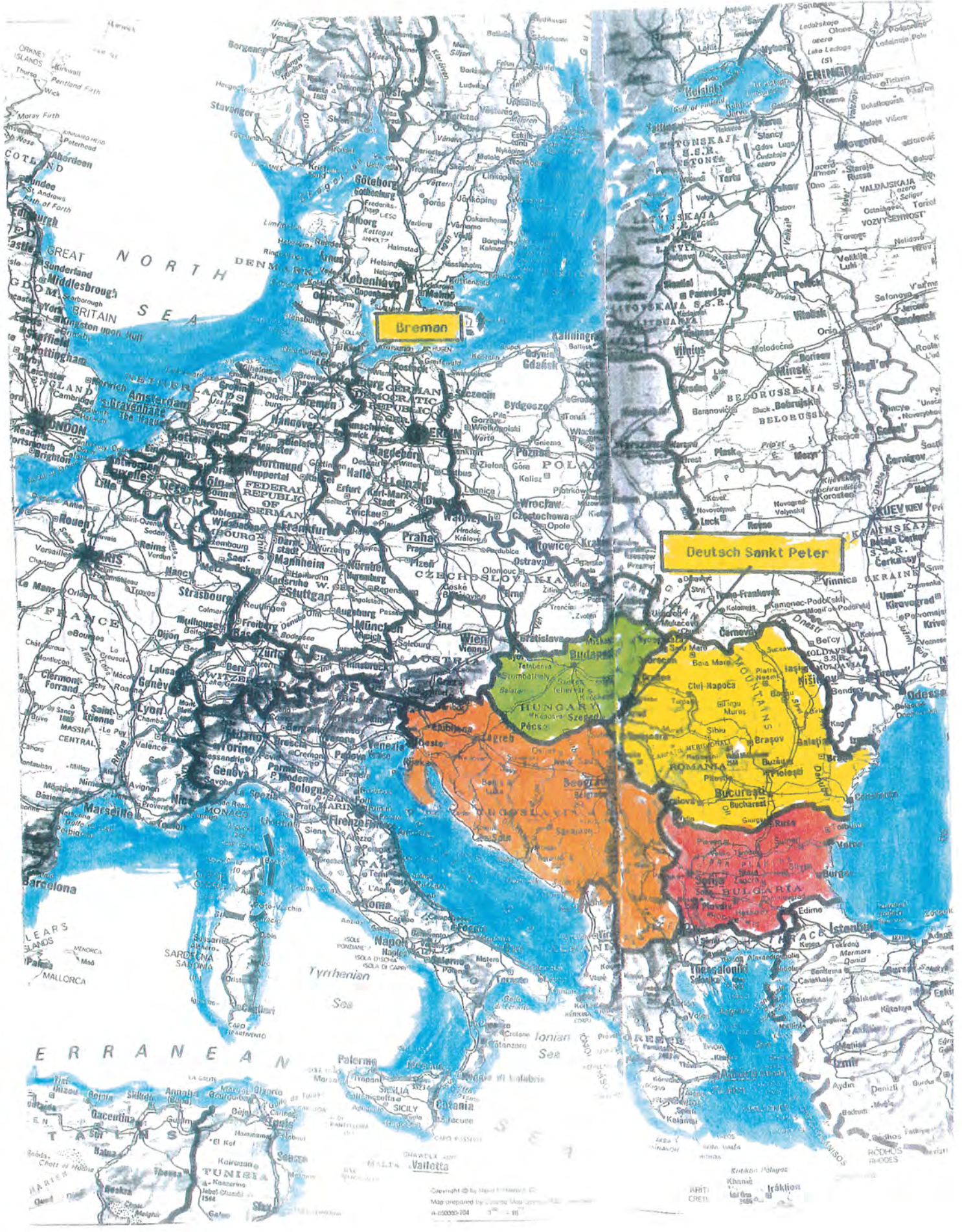
JOSEPH RASTATTER married BARBARA LINDNER**
 before 1883 in St. Peter, Hungary

b: 1860/ 53*
 pl: St Peter, Hungry
 d: 1947/54 age 94 *

b: 1862/57*
 pl: St. Peter
 d: 1941/46 age 84*



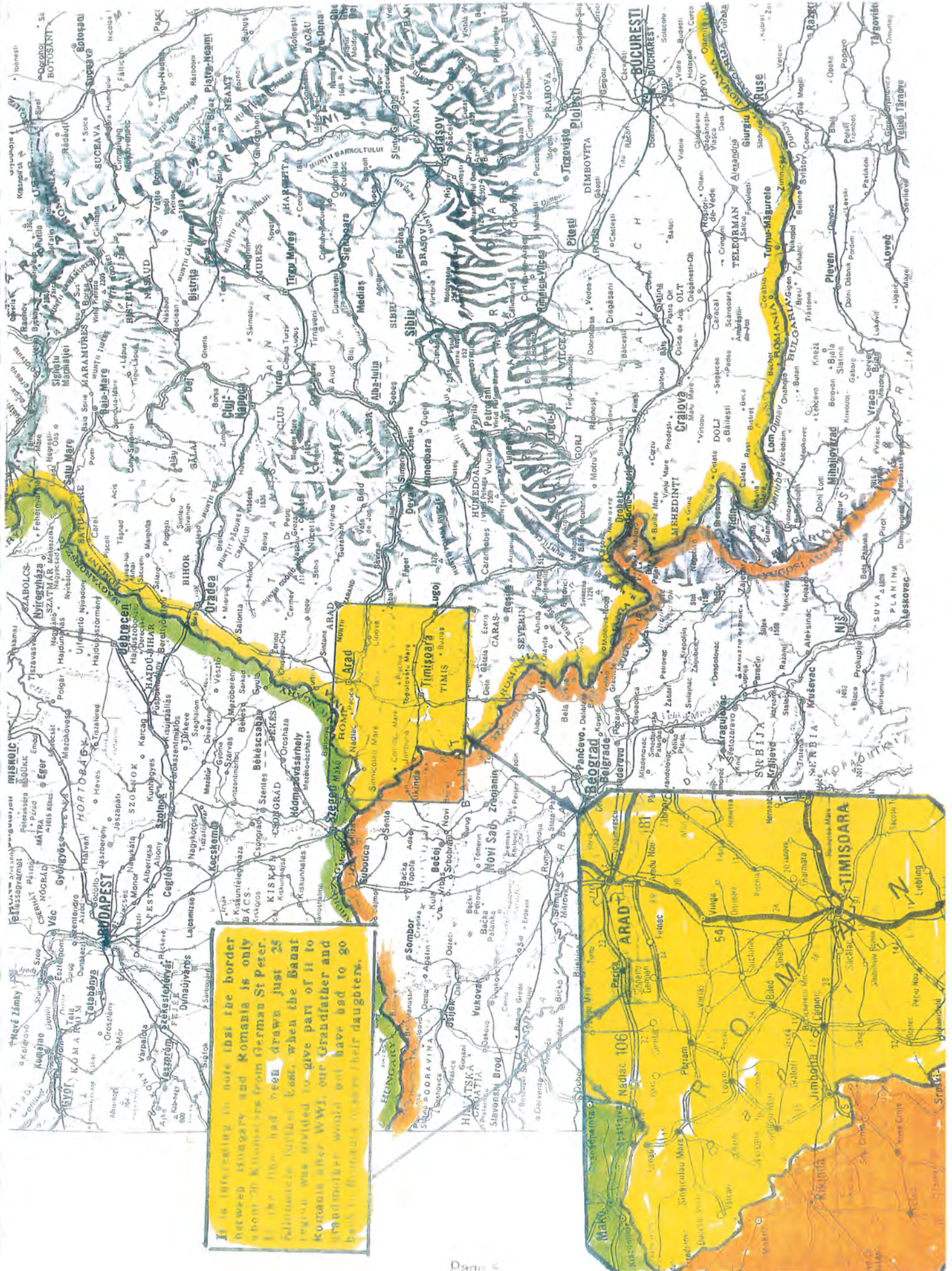
* The immigration papers of Joseph Rastatter Sr state he was 47 when he arrived in Baltimore. This would make his birth date 1860, however his family believes he died in 1947 at the age of 94. They also believe Barbara died in 1941 at the age of 84, so they may have been born earlier.
 ** The immigration papers of Joseph Jr. state Barbara Gleitsh was his grandmother's name.



Bremen

Deutsch Sankt Peter

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Map prepared by GeoSource Map Systems, Inc.
A 25005-104 1" = 16"



It is interesting to note that the border between Hungary and Romania is only about 30 kilometers from German St. Peter. If the two had been drawn just 25 kilometers further east, when the Banat region was divided to give part of it to Romania after WWI, our Grandfather and grandmother would not have had to go back to Hungary to visit their daughters.

Historical Background

In 1900, my family lived in the little Austria-Hungarian village of German Saint Peter (Deutsch Sankt Peter). It was a village of Catholic German speaking people surrounded by Hungarians (Magyars as my mother called them.). German Saint Peter was located between two large cities, Temisvar (Now Tomisoara, Romania) 22 kilometers to the north and Arad 22 kilometers to the south. This is about 120 miles south of Budapest.

It is said that at that time, the Banat region was a beautiful valley with flowers and wheat fields gently waving in the breeze. The foothills of the Transylvania mountains start their rise to heights of 1500 to 3000 feet not more than 30 miles away. The turmoil or poverty must have been very great to drive them to leave such a beautiful place to risk the unknown in America.

The families may have lived there for many generations. We are sure they were there in the 1850s. The family tradition has it; They originally come from the Alsace-Lorraine area. Jochum is the Bavarian spelling of Jachim (Eng./Ger.) Bavaria is not far from Alsace-Lorraine which changed rulers every few years during the 30 years war. (early 16th century)

Aunt Mary said, "She remembers hearing her mother say a Queen Maria Theresa gave land to the family to get them to move to St. Peter, Hungary". This may or may not be true, but history tells us that during the 16th and 17th centuries many Catholic Emperors and Queens gave land to their Catholic subjects to prevent the growth of Martin Luther's followers.

One of the first Habsburg Queens was Queen Maria of Bavaria in 1540 to 1570. Theresa Maria was Queen from 1652 to 1653. Both gave land to promote the settlement of Catholics in sovereign lands. This may account for the small German speaking settlement of St. Peter surrounded by Magyars. Also why a German with a Bavarian spelling of his name lived there.

The area had been fought over since recorded history. The Magyars (A wild horse People from the central Asian Steppes) invaded the land in the 10th century and became the Hungarians. The area was dominated by Rome until Martin Luther's Reformation movement established Protestant churches in Europe during the 16th century. German St. Peter must have been one of these pocket's of German Catholics fighting to retain their identity and religion.

The Habsburg rule began in 1526 with control over Bohemia and Hungary. Several European powers, Russia and the Turks (Ottoman Empire) battled over the area. It changed hands three times in the period between 1829 and 1878. Romania was formed in 1859. The area came under the domination of the Austria Hungarian Empire of Franz Joseph in 1878.

This is the background in which Joseph Rastatter (born 1857/60), Anton Jochum (born 1859), Clara (Friesenhahn-Jochum) Rastatter (born 1865) and Michael Rastatter (born 1871) grew up and lived through.

The 1840-1850 revolutionary movement in central Europe started a movement of many educated Germans to America. The turmoil in central Europe caused unbelievable pockets poverty at home and many emigrants expended almost everything to get to America. Nearly 4,000,000 men women and children arrived from central Europe between 1820 and 1920.

My grandparents, my father and mother came to Cleveland in the early 1900s as it was just emerging as a great industrial city with many job opportunities. When my parents arrived 30% of the Cleveland population had been born outside the U.S.A. They were very much a part of the great tide of emigrants from Germany and Austria-Hungary that came to America during the middle nineteenth and early twentieth century. History has shown us that these emigrants had a great influence on the the character and growth of America and Cleveland.

Anton Jochum and Michael Rastatter

My family's story starts with my Grandfather, Anton Jochum. It is believed he was born in the village of German St. Peter in the year 1859. This was the same year that Romania was formed and the Banat region including Temisvar, German St. Peter and Arad was made part of Romania. In 1878, twenty one years later the Banat region was again split off, this time as part of the Austria Hungarian Empire of Franz Joseph, Anton was 19 that year.

Nothing is known about his early life or his parents. It is thought he had one or more brothers that may have come to America. There are other Jochums in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Minneapolis and Chicago that came from the St. Peter area around the turn of the century. Some of these people may be related. [I will leave it to future genealogists to establish a connection]

We do not know how, or the date he met and married my Grandmother Clara (Gornik) Freisinhahn. She was born July 19, 1865, possibly in Temisvar or Arad. She and her sisters talked about their family as if they were well off, and lived in a city across the river from the village of German St. Peter.

She had four sisters and three brothers. Stevan, a Banker, Franz and Hanz, both Barbers (all stayed in Hungary). One of her sisters (Anna) became a Nun, Sister Honora with the family church. The other three sisters came to America and married other men from the old country. Margaret married Frank Christ, Catherine Married Mathais Fernbacher and Susan married Tony Schaffer.

Grandma Clara was 24, and Grandfather Anton 30, when they had their first child, my father, Stevan March 22, 1889. (He was known in America as Steve, though my mother still called him Stevan much of the time). Aunt Mary, their second child was born November 10, 1893. By then Anton was in business for himself as a cabinet maker.

On a tape recording my brother Tony has, my father Steve said, "He was born in a barn next to a house and shop his father was building. It had cabinet shop on one side, a general store in the middle and living quarters on the other side. The quarters consisted of a bedroom and a kitchen (An oven and fireplace in the wall.) with a porch across the front. It had the name, Clara and Anton Jochum carved in stone above the door".

"Anton worked as a cabinet maker and ran the cabinet shop, Clara ran the store, which was said to be the only store in the village. Anton made caskets among other things. Anton died with pneumonia in 1894, and is said to have told Clara which casket to use before he died".

Stephen was only 5 years old, and his sister Mary only was one year old, when their father died. Times were hard, just how Clara cared for her children and ran the store and cabinet shop we don't know. But, the story is told that she struggled for about two years, then her father who held some type of government job for 30 years in the city (Possibly Temisvar), knew a German family living there whose son, Michael Rastatter had just been released from the cavalry.

He had served as a sergeant in Franz Joseph's Cavalry. Clara's father thought he would make a good husband for Clara, and could help both his daughter and Michael by introducing them. Clara may have married him right away, or first hired him to work in the shop.

My stepgrandfather Michael was born in 1871. He joined the cavalry when he was 17 years old. Stayed in about eight years, rose to the rank of Sergeant. A sergeant of Franz Joseph's Cavalry was respected in Hungary in those days. He was proud of his rank. It made him feel important. His grandchildren said he continued to feel important all of his life and demanded service and respect. He used to brag, he never shaved himself in his life. (Maybe that's why he liked, or urged his stepson Stevan to become a barber)

When they were married we don't know, but they had their first child James (Uncle Jack) 5 years later. April 8, 1899. Whatever happened, after Clara and Michael were married they must have had a difficult time to make ends meet. One year before James was born, in 1898, Clara permitted her 9 year old son, Stevan to be hired out as a barber's apprentice. Perhaps by arrangement of one of her brothers, who were also barbers.

Children hiring out as an apprentice was not unusual in Hungary at that time. It gave the child training and reduced the cost to the household, maybe even paid them some money. In any event Stevan benefited from the experience.

Traveling barbers were important in those times in the Balkans. They traveled from country to country in a wagon, which was also their living quarters. They not only cut hair and had a folding barber's chair, but were also considered Surgeons and Dentists, they pulled teeth and treated many ailments by bleeding the patients with a scalpel or leeches.

Bloodletting was a popular medical technique until well into the 19th century. Barbers opened patients veins to remove "bad blood", and physicians employed leeches to treat a host of ailments. It was a popular treatment at that time. Although that seemingly macabre treatment fell into disfavor, often enough [and for reasons no one understood] the patient improved. The red and white barber pole was a symbol of this dual profession. It has remained the trade mark of a barber to this day.

Stevan still had his medical instruments when he came to America. He may have used them to treat some of the newly arrived European Immigrants he met on Davenport street, but he never used them after he was married, his wife my mother Theresa, threw them in the trash.

Too bad! It is interesting to note; a modern version of "bleeding" is gaining favor again. Known as apheresis, somewhat like dialysis, can selectively filter certain substances from the blood. Scientists now believe removing certain substances from the blood may help the immune system control the body's complex defenses against disease.

As a result of his travels Stevan learned to speak 7 languages. His linguistic ability served him well later in Cleveland. He had a barber shop in the ethnic section of the city, where many middle European lived. They liked to come to his shop and talk in their native tongue.

He told many stories about his apprentice days. Unfortunately, only a few are remembered. One story all the children remember was about the time he had to shave a Crown Prince, The Prince was not old enough to have whiskers. He could not tell him that or disappoint him. He therefore went through all the motions of sharpening his razor. Then he lathered the prince's face, hot towels and all. He then proceeded to shave the Prince. Each time, he turned the razor around and used the back side of the blade. The prince was happy when he was finished, and never knew that he did not get a shave.

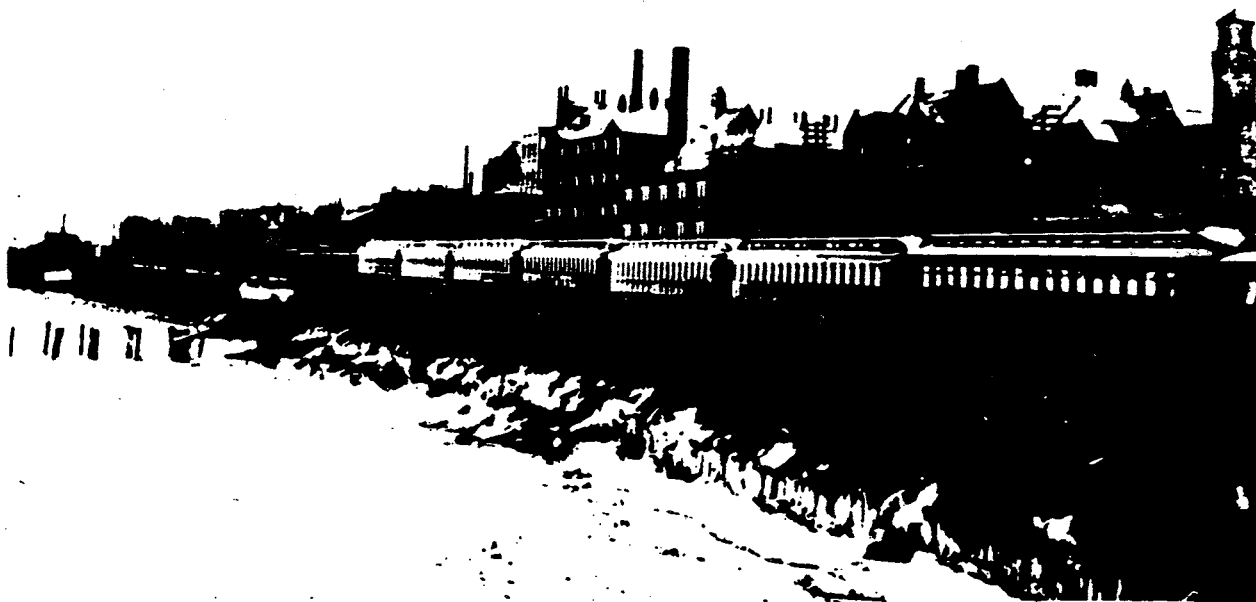
He could not have seen much of his mother or stepfather, he was away most of the time. He grew up on the road with most of his training and education coming from his master barber. He may not have had much, if any formal education. Nevertheless he got a good foundation somewhere, as an adult in America he was well read and informed. Both he and my mother, spoke English without a trace of an accent.

Aunt Anna was born July 17, 1903. Times were desperate and Michael must have been anxious to get to America where he expected to do better. No one knows the date he left, but it was probably as soon as Clara was able to take care of the new baby, in the fall of 1903. Perhaps a relative or a friend was already in Cleveland and had encouraged him to come.

His wife Clara, had to be a brave and determined woman. She had four year old, James and a new baby to take care of, with only ten year old Mary to help her. Stevan was still away as a barber apprentice.

It was thought a Friesenhahn or a Jochum may have lived in Cleveland as early as 1898. Whatever the reason Michael left, he first lived on Davenport Street in Downtown Cleveland. Many of the new immigrants lived there and could help each other and new arrivals. Michael worked at whatever odd jobs he could find.

Davenport Street was on the lake front with only the railroad tracks between it and the lake front, which looked much different from to day. Cleveland was a very busy railroad center at that time. The trains may have been interesting to watch, but the noise, smoke and coal dust was annoying to everyone.



The Lakeside Hospitals were still in their original locations on Lakeside Avenue between East Twelfth and East Ninth Street. Lake Erie lapped the base of the railroad tracks. Davenport Street started at fourteenth Street and ran to 22nd street. [The the land fill had not yet started, it added hundreds of acres of land for the municipal parking lot, the Memorial Shoreway, and Burke Lakefront Airport.]

It must have been a great comfort to the new German immigrants to find a downtown Catholic Church dedicated to serving German immigrants since 1855. It was only five blocks from Davenport Street at 17th and St. Clare. Michael must have especially felt at home, it was named the St. Peter Catholic Church. The family made it their church for many years. Later Michael's stepson, Stevan was married and many of his children baptized at the church.

When Michael had saved enough money, he sent for his stepson Stevan. In 1906, Stevan now 17 and his cousin, Tony Schaffer came to America on the same ship. Tony father George Schaffer married Clara's sister Susan. They all lived on Davenport Street and worked at odd jobs to save money to send for other family members. Stevan may have been able to get work as a barber.

Whatever happened, Michael and Stevan began to feel secure living in America and Cleveland. Things were still not good in the village back home. Clara had written about the problems she was having keeping things together. By 1907 they had saved enough money to send for the family.

Michael may have missed Clara and the family more than Stevan. Michael had left soon after Anna was born and didn't even know his daughter. As a barber apprentice, Stevan had been away from his mother and his home since he was 9 years old, almost half of his lifetime. This life style was not new to him, he was used to being alone and on his own. Nevertheless, he no doubt wanted to be with his mother, brother and sister again. Certainly, they were anxious for the rest of the family to share and experience the new and wonderful life style they had found in America as soon as possible.

They looked for a place big enough and moved to a house on 1319 Hamilton Street. He asked Clara to sell the house, shop and store. He expected the money they could get for the property in St. Peter plus the money he and Stevan had saved would be enough to get them to Cleveland. Both he and Stevan now felt secure and believed they could keep working enough to support the family.

Clara Rastatter after hearing from her husband, sold the store and cabinet shop to a doctor for \$300. This was quite a large sum at that time. Maybe enough to pay for the trip. She gathered up her things and her three children, Mary Jochum age 14, son James Rastatter age 8, and daughter Anna Rastatter age 4.

We must assume she made the long trip from German St. Peter to Breman, Germany by train. It would have been the only way to travel a distance of over 1000 miles. In any event in Breman, she boarded the ship "Breslau" bound for the port of Baltimore, U.S.A. It arrived there May 18, 1907.

This trip was a major turning point in the remainder of their lives. They met and traveled with another Rastatter family from German St. Peter going to America. The lives of the two Rastatter families would be closely entwined forever more.

The pictures on the following pages, show the family together again in Cleveland, St. Peter Church, Davenport and Hamilton Streets as they look today.

[*The family church in Romania is: La Biserica; Catholica pentru; Popa German; Sinpetru German. Jud. Arad Banat; Romania, Europa. The early family's history may still be in the records of this old church.]

The inscription on the Church reads:

HISTORIC ST. PETER CHURCH
Founded in 1855 by
Father John R. Lohr
Pioneer Ohio Missionary Priest
Third Church Built in Cleveland
Oldest in continuous service
First for German Immigrants
Building dedicated by
The Most Rev. Amadeus Rappe
First Bishop of Cleveland
Oct. 25, 1859



Steven and Theresa were
married and some of the
children were baptized here



Hamilton Street 1991

Davenport Street 1991





Michael and Clara (Jochum) Rastatter Family
about 1907 Cleveland
Standing: Clara's children, Stephen and Harry Jochum
Seated: Clara, Michael with daughter Anna,
son James standing in middle

Joseph Rastatter and Barbara Lindner

My other grandparents, the Joseph Rastatter family also lived in the village of German St. Peter during the same period as grandfathers Anton Jochum and Michael Rastatter and grandmother Clara. Even though the two Rastatter families become completely entwined with each other in America, it is believed they were not close in the old country. Like Anton Jochum, very little is known about grandpa Joseph and grandma Barbara before coming to America. What we do know, however makes a very interesting, romantic and poignant tale.

Joseph was born in 1860* and lived in German St. Peter. His wife Barbara Lindner was born in 1862*. It is not known how they met or when they were married. It would have been before 1883 as their first child Anna was born in 1884.

They had seven children, 5 daughters (Twin daughters died at birth) and two sons. Anna was born about 1884, Sophia was born about 1886, twin daughters date unknown, Anton (Uncle Tony) was born September 21, 1886, Theresa, my mother was born November 21, 1890 and Joseph Jr. (uncle Joe) was born in 1894.

Joseph owned a dairy farm. His daughter Theresa said they lived in a house with a barn attached for the cows. The house or barn may have had earth walls as Theresa remembers her mother using a rolled up piece of paper to burn bugs off the wall. Joseph sold the milk at the farm, the customers come to the farm to pick up the milk. Some of the surrounding farmer also brought milk to Joseph's dairy to be sold.

It is possible Michael Rastatter and Joseph Rastatter were distant cousins. Joseph named Michael his cousin and sponsor, his daughter Theresa, named Michael as her uncle on their immigration papers. Michael lived in the city (not St. Peter) and had been away in the army for many years before he married Clara. It is possible they were distantly related without much contact with each other in the old country even though the village of St. Peter was small.

The times must have been very difficult and troubled for many of the German Families in St. Peter. The village was made up of a group of Germans held together by the La. Biserica Catholic Church. They had always had problems, but more trouble had been brewing ever since 1878, when the Banat region had been split off from Romania and became part of Franz Joseph's Austria Hungarian Empire.

To make matters worse, in order to please his Hungarian Queen and to gain the Magyars (Hungarian) loyalty, Franz Joseph started a program of systematic Magyarization. The act of 1879 made the Magyar language obligatory in all state supported schools. Magyar was also the only language authorized for used by government administrators, postal and telegraph services.

In 1880, Hungary classified according to language consisted mainly of Magyars (47%), Germans (14%), Slovaks (14%), Rumanians (18%), Croatians and Serbs (7%). The percent Rumanian must have been higher around St. Peter, as the Banat region had been part of Romania until 1878.

Whatever the situation, it bothered the family. Theresa complained about the Magyars even in America. She probably spoke German at home. but she needed to know and speak Magyar at school.

Joseph may have been in some type of government organization. Theresa said her father had a drum and a uniform. He may have also been annoyed with Magyarization.

The hard life and the troubled times must have caused many of the Germans in the village to talk about what they could do. Many Germans had gone to America. Joseph thought about it also.

His first son Anton left the village to go to South America at the age of 14 in 1902. We don't know if he went by himself or with a friend. He did not like South America and advised the family not to follow him.

Exactly when or why, Joseph decided to go to America is not known for sure. Nor do we know if Joseph knew that Michael Rastatter had gone to Cleveland in 1903, or that his son Stevan and Tony Schaffer followed him in 1906--and in 1907 had sent for his wife Clara and the rest of his family. (See deductions from photographs for other possibilities on next page.)

However, we do know that early in 1907 Joseph decided to go to the U.S.A. and take his daughter Theresa with him. He left his wife, two married daughters, their husbands and young 14 year old son Joseph to run the dairy. Whether Joseph knew about Clara's plans or not; fate, coincidence or planing brought Joseph Rastatter and his daughter Theresa together with Clara Rastatter's family on the same ship "The Breslau" bound for Baltimore.

Both families were traveling on the lowest class fare. The ship had separate male and female dormitory sleeping accommodations. The policy of the ship required separating male and female passengers into two groups. If Joseph and Theresa were not prepared for this policy they may have panicked. Fortunately they either knew about Clara, or met them on the ship. She had the same name and took Joseph's daughter under her wing for the trip. Her son James was young enough to be permitted to stay with his mother, or he may have stayed with Joseph.

Theresa was 16 and Mary 14. They became good friends. Their class had to sleep in one of the lower sections of the ship. It was crowded, hot, not enough air and the sea was rough, many passengers were sea sick. It didn't bother Theresa or Mary. They would go up to the second class deck and had a good time meeting other young men and women. Sometimes they danced to the music other passengers would play. The ship, landed at the port of Baltimore, May 18, 1907.

The immigration papers of Jozef and Therezia (Hungarian spelling) show Jozef as 47 and a farm labor. He was 5'-6", Black hair, Blue eyes. Could read and write. Therezia, 5'-1"-brown hair and eyes. She was 16 and a maid servant. Jozef had \$42.00 in cash and planned to go to his cousin Michael Rastatter's house, 1319 Hamilton Ave, Cleveland. Therezia listed Michael as her uncle. They both listed themselves as Germans (race) and Hungarians (nationality). Their point of origin as N SZT Peter, Hungary. (They evidently had lived so long as Germans in Hungary, they wanted to make sure they retained their German identity in America.)

Clara of course had planned to travel on to Cleveland to meet her husband. It is not known if Joseph had planned to settle in Cleveland or decided to do so on the ship after meeting Clara Rastatter. Whichever, he came to Cleveland and fate was to bring the families even closer together. Joseph and Theresa settled on Davenport street as many immigrants before them.

One of the first things Joseph did after they were all together was to have their picture taken. He sent it home to his wife and daughters to show they were safe. (Top picture on following page) No doubt assuring the others he would send for them soon.

The bottom picture is of his wife Barbara, their daughters, husbands and children, son Joseph Jr. and a grandchild taken in St. Peter, Hungary. One can just imagine how happy they were to get the picture. They put the newly arrived picture on the table for a group picture to send back in return. The exchange of pictures must have given them great happiness at the time. Unfortunately world events would overtake them. This would be the last picture all of the family together. The two daughters and their husbands would never make it to America.

[While no one in the family remembers the details or the reasons for everybody coming to Cleveland. These pictures, plus the immigration papers that were found in Baltimore, provide some important clues. We can deduce a number of things from them. We don't know the date of these two pictures, but his son Anthony is in the one taken in Cleveland. Stephen Jochum later said, Antony came to Cleveland from South America one year before his mother came to Cleveland. Assuming Stephen meant his own mother Clara, it would mean Antony was in Cleveland before his own father Joseph, and came from South America in 1906.

In the second picture Joseph Jr. is still in Europe with his Mother. Immigration papers show Joseph Jr. landed in Baltimore October 22, 1908; He traveled alone and would have been 14 years old; on the Ship Brandenburg; The papers also said his mother paid for the passage and his father Joseph Rastatter lived in Cleveland on Davenport Street. He listed his occupation as a barber; He listed his Grandmother as Barbara Gleitsch (this must be his mother's mother and her maiden name.) and living in Szt Peter, Temesin: (Maybe she lived closer to Temisvar than the others, they listed N. Szt. Peter.) The papers also noted he could read and write, was 5'-2-1/2", Fair complexion, Blond hair, and brown eyes.

We know Joseph and Theresa arrived May 18, 1907, so the pictures had to be taken after May, 1907 and before October 1908. No one remembers when grandmother Barbara Rastatter came to America, the first picture we have of her in America is at Uncle Tony's wedding in 1911. The rest of her family was already here in 1908, she must have come between 1908 and 1911.

It is also likely that Joseph's son Antony wrote to his father about Cleveland after he arrived in 1906 and encouraged him to come. He probably knew or met Michael Rastatter and Stevan Jochum, if not before in St. Peter, at least in Cleveland. Therefore, it is likely Joseph knew Clara was coming to Cleveland before Joseph decided to come with his daughter. They probably planned the trip together.]

Joseph worked at odd jobs until he learned enough English and found a permanent job at Cleveland Twist Drill. Theresa worked as a domestic at some of the wealthy families in Cleveland while she learned to speak English, American ways and cooking. It is amazing, she learned English so well, she lost her German accent completely.

More relatives arrived from St Peter, they all went through the same indoctrination. They all attended the St. Peter Catholic Church in Down Town Cleveland, not far from Davenport and Hamilton street. They must seen a lot of each other. Stephen Jochum was a handsome and dashing young man. With his multiple language ability he was popular with all of the immigrants. His barber training gave him more opportunities than most of the others immigrants.

Theresa was a very beautiful young lady. She and Stephen were attracted to each other and fell in love. By 1910 Stephen had his own Barber Shop on St. Clare Ave. He asked Theresa to marry him. They were married August 29, 1910.

[* Joseph said he was 47 on his immigration paper in 1907. Based on this he would have been born in 1860. However, the family believes he was 94 when he died in in German St. Peter in 1947, in which case he would have been born in 1853.]

Joseph Rastatter and son Antony and daughter Theresa
in Cleveland about 1907/8



Barbara (Lindner) Rastatter with family in Austria-Hungary about 1907/8
Sitting: Joseph Rastatter, Mother Barbara Rastatter (Holding Grandson) daughters Anne and Sophia with husbands standing behind.
(Note picture of father Joseph Rastatter with daughter Theresa and son Tony in USA on the table.)

STEPHEN JOCHUM

At about age 20



Born March 22, 1889
in St. Peter, Hungary
Died June 17, 1978
Cleveland, Ohio

THERESA RASTATTER

At age 17 or 18



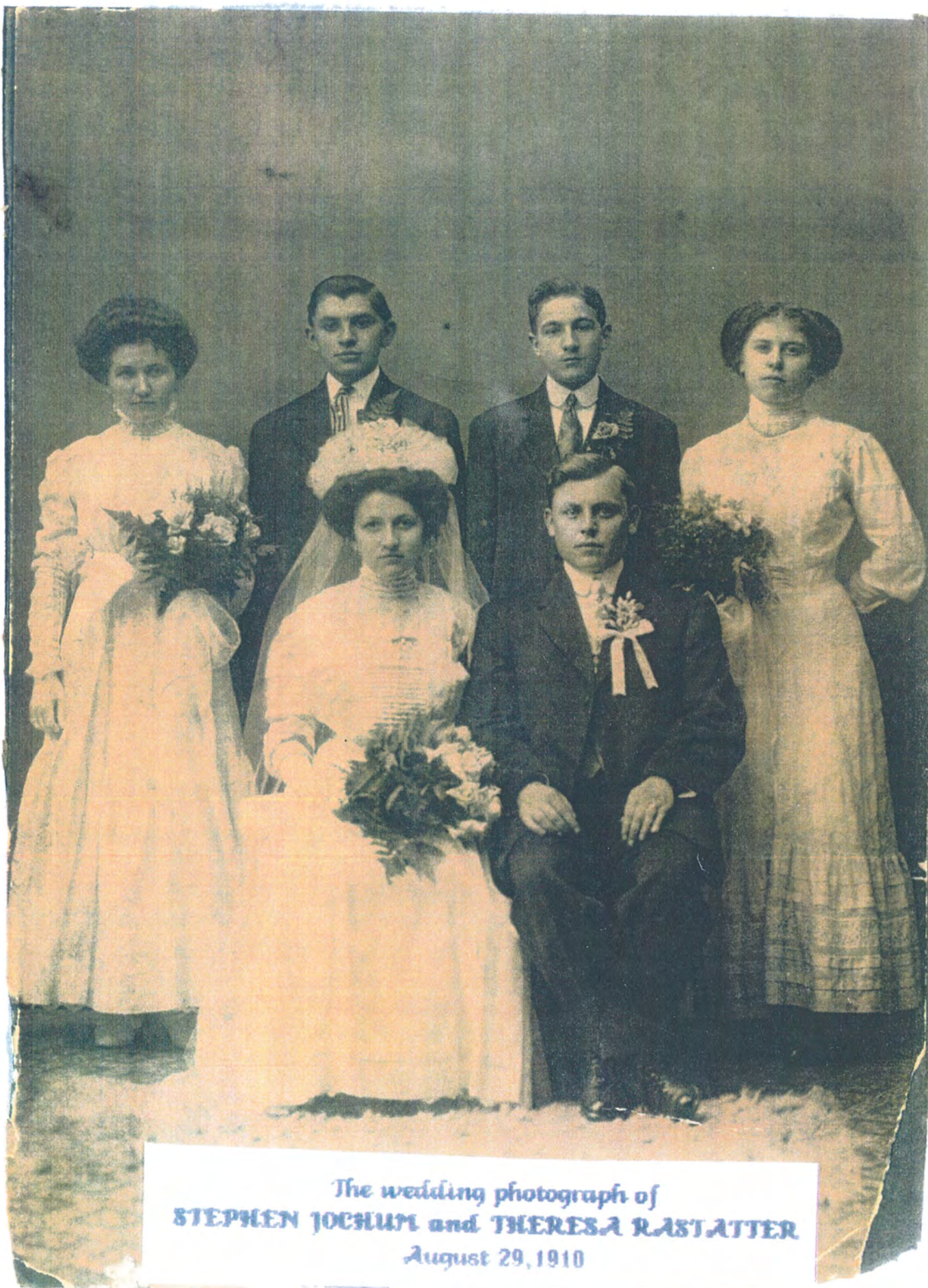
Born November 21, 1890
in St Peter, Hungary
Died August 29, 1986
Cleveland, Ohio

**Married August 29, 1910
Cleveland, Ohio**

age 19yrs. 10 months

age 21yrs. 5 months



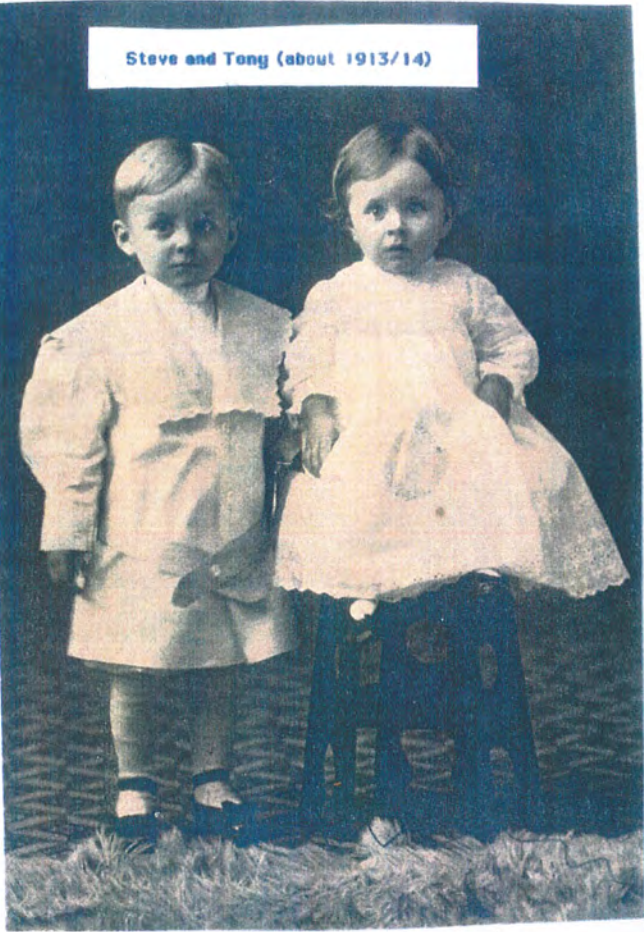


The wedding photograph of
STEPHEN JOCHUM and THERESA RASTATTER
August 29, 1910

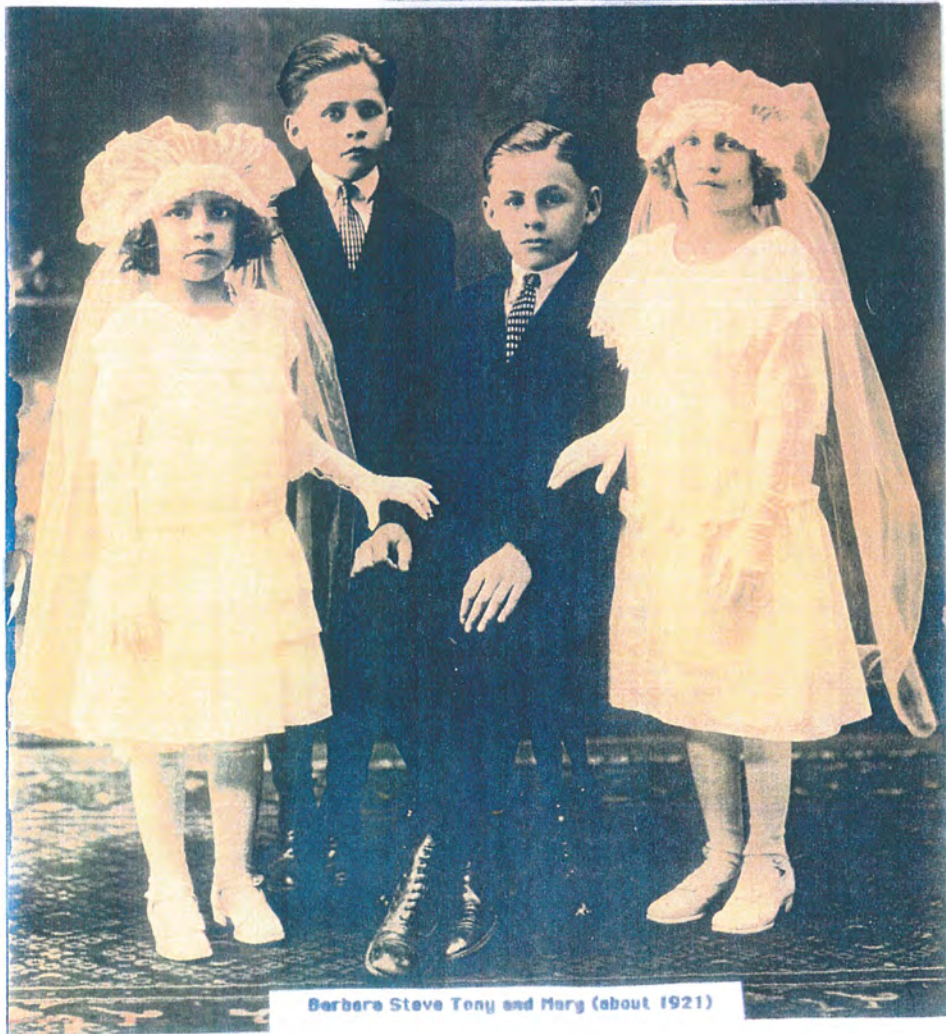


Seated: My mother, Theresa (Rastatter) Jochum, Grandpa Joseph Rastatter, Grandpa Barbara Rastatter (holding first grandchild Tony) And Steven Jochum. Standing: Uncle Tony Rastatter, Aunt Mary (Jochum) Rastatter, son Uncle (Joe) Joseph Rastatter Jr. (About 1911/12)

Steve and Tony (about 1913/14)



Steve, Mary and Tony (about 1916)



Barbara Steve Tony and Mary (about 1921)