

The Nehrenz Network Newsletter

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Vol. 19 - No. 1 December 2016 "The Nehrenz Family Gravestones"

From the Editor - Dave Nehrenz - davenehrenz@aol.com 902 Carey Dr. Norman, OK. 73069

Hello to the Nehrenz family members and friends! The last issue of this newsletter was in December 2015 and the topic was "The Nehrenz Family Geography." By now you have realized that a new issue is sent only once per year.

This issue will be dedicated to **the gravestones of various Nehrenz people** all around the country. I know this might sound like a morbid topic, but we learn many things about our ancestors when we visit cemeteries. The information on the gravestones, the location of the cemeteries and the records kept by the caretakers are **vital sources of data about our beloved family members.** I have always found cemeteries to be peaceful places for walking and meditating.

Over the 21 years in which we have had this Nehrenz network, many of you have sent us pictures of your family members and their final resting places. **This issue will feature photos of some tombstones of people** in our extended Nehrenz family. Also there will be **stories** which have been collected and shared **about those people.**

That leads me to **a project that I would like to propose to all of you.** The two ancestors of ALL the Nehrenz descendants in the country are **Johann Christian Theodor and Johanna Maria Elizabeth Nehrenz. They are buried in the Wade Scranton cemetery in an unmarked grave.** It has always been a mystery to me why their immediate family did not make a plan to place a marker on their parents' burial plot. **But now we need to correct this.** From the records of the cemetery, we know exactly where they are buried. Various people have visited the spot, including my family.

Here is my proposal. **I have contacted a monument making company in Cleveland, and researched the cost of purchasing a gravestone to be inscribed and placed on their grave plot.** I have set up an **online GoFundMe account** to which you may go and donate for this project. Once the funds are raised, I will be glad to oversee this project to honor our ancestors. **As you page through this newsletter, there will be the information about how you can help in this effort.**

This fall, I returned to Ohio to visit my parents, Clyde and Ruth Nehrenz. The three of us, plus my sister Kathryn Zellers, made a trip to Cleveland and visited the Wade Scranton cemetery. We stood at the spot where our first Nehrenz ancestors are buried and all agreed that we need to make this happen. **We need to honor Johann and Marie, who left Trolenhagen, Germany in October 1869 and brought their children to Cleveland, Ohio.** This was 147 years ago!

Here is a list of **the original ancestors** of us all. It is a handy reference guide to our family tree. Send me an email if you want to upload the whole family file. Again, thanks for your interest and for taking the time to read this newsletter!

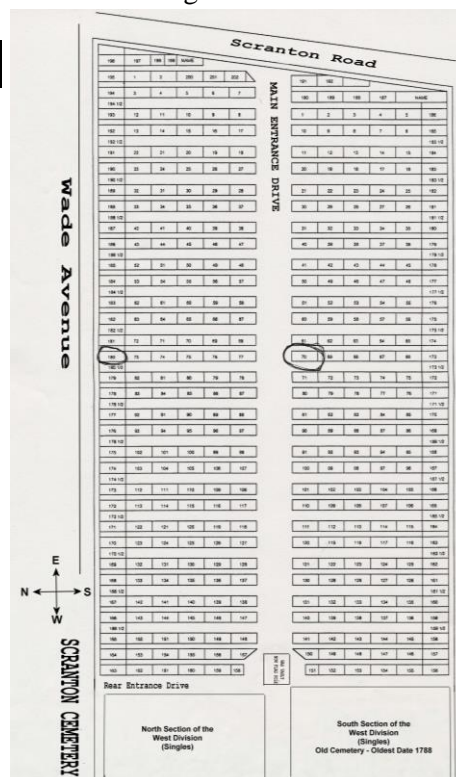
Descendants of Johann Christian Theodor Nehrenz

The Patriarch and Matriarch of all the Nehrenzs in the U.S.A.

Johann Christian Theodor Nehrenz 1820 - 1888
 +Johanna Maria Elizabeth Lempke 1818 - 1889

Their seven children:

1. "Friedrick" - Frederick Christian Martin Nehrenz 1844 - 1906
 +Henriette Johanne Friedricka Lohrenz 1844 - 1906
2. "Christian" - Johann Christian Friedrick Nehrenz 1846 - 1916
 +Freiderika "Rike" Bahlke 1850 - 1893
3. "Carl" - Johann Carl Friedrick Theodor Nehrenz 1848 - 1913
 +Minnie Wilhelmina Schultz 1856 - 1936
4. "Minnie" - Caroline Wilhelmine Friedrike Nehrenz 1850 - 1914
 +Herman W. Martens 1850 - 1913
5. "William" - Carl Ludwig Wilhelm Nehrenz 1853 - 1928
 + 1st Wife - Christine Beth 1859 - 1902
 + 2nd Wife - Susan Kuehne Koenig 1863 - 1928
6. "Jane" - Johanne Friedrike Caroline Nehrenz 1855 - 1921
 +Charles Johann Friedrich "Karl" Beier 1852 - 1899
7. "Henry" - Heinrich Christian Theodor Nehrenz 1861 - 1906
 +Mary- Lucia Maria Rupprecht 1868 - 1953



The cemetery is at the southwest corner of Wade and Scranton streets in Cleveland, Ohio. Spot #180 right up to Wade Ave. is where they are buried. Their son William is buried at spot #70 next to the middle row



Here is the most impressive gravestone of all the Nehrenz people. This is the monument for Frederick Nehrenz, the eldest son of Johann and Maria. It is located in Lutheran cemetery in Cleveland, Ohio. He came to America in 1871, two years after his parents. We assume he stayed behind in Germany to settle the family estate. His wife's name was Friedricka (Lohrenz). They had five children, but only three lived into adulthood: Henry, William and August. Fred was a railroad watchman. He died in 1906, 60 minutes after injuries from a railroad accident. His wife also died in 1906. They were members first of Trinity Lutheran and then later of Immanuel Lutheran church. Standing by the stone are Clyde and Dave Nehrenz.



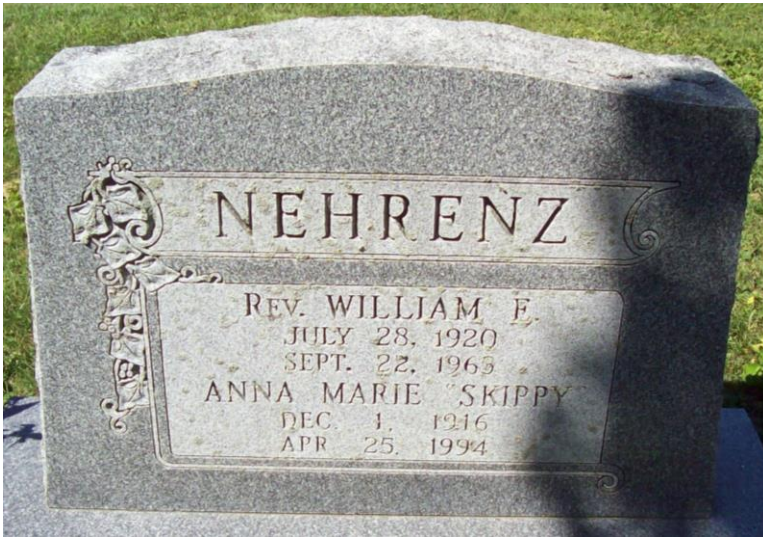
At the top is the gravestone for Henry and Mary (Rupprecht) Nehrenz. He was Frederick's youngest brother and he also died in 1906. There are also stones for three of their seven children: Anna (Nehrenz) Lawrence, and two sons who died very young, Carl and Henry Nehrenz. These are also in Lutheran cemetery in Cleveland. Mary outlived all the original Nehrenz siblings and did not die till 1953. It is unfortunate that more people did not interview her about the Nehrenz family history.



Also in Lutheran cemetery in Cleveland are the gravestones of the Martens family. Wilhelmina (Nehrenz) married Hermann Martens and they had three children. At the left is their son Frank Martens and his wife Katherine. Below are the stones for their two daughters Hanna and Emma Martens. Hermann was a teamster and tallyman working for Mills Carlton Co. They were married on Reformation Day - Oct. 31, 1873 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cleveland. The pastor who officiated at their wedding was Rev. Friedrich Wyneken who was a famous clergyman and one of the founders of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.



Franklin Martens was the son of Frank and Katherine Martens and he married Dora (Kamps) - his second wife. The father and son owned a bakers' supplies company called Martens Distributing Co. in Cleveland. Franklin lived at 1639 Lewis Dr. in Lakewood, Ohio. He had two sisters: Wilma (Martens) Phelps and Dorothy (Martens) Burnside. The Phelps lived at 2211 Chesterland Ave. and the Burnside lived at 1576 Victoria Ave. also in Lakewood, Ohio. Many of the Nehrenz relatives lived within a few blocks of each other.



Pastor William Nehrenz was the son of William Nehrenz. He was a distinguished professor and linguist who was fluent in many languages. He helped found the Lutheran seminary in Mexico City. He was pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Toledo, Ohio. Noted lecturer and linguist, author and publisher of theological articles and booklets. First Professor of Theology at the Lutheran College and Seminary, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Also at his death, beloved Professor of Old Testament, Hebrew, and Systematic Theology at Augsburg Theological Seminary in Mexico. His ministry also extended to the handicapped, especially the deaf-mute and blind groups. He died in Helsinki, Finland, of Hodgkin's disease. He had been attending the assembly of the Lutheran World Federation in Helsinki in 1963.

Carl and Lenora Beier lived in Medina, Ohio. He was Assistant VP of the Union Bank of Commerce, Euclid at E. 9th, in downtown Cleveland. He was president of the Cleveland Kiwanis club. His father was Otto Beier who was a bookkeeper and office manager. His grandparents were Carl and Jane (Nehrenz) Beier. His grandfather Carl was a molder and laborer who died of cancer at 47 years old. His grandmother Jane was a widow in 1920. She and her son George lived with her brother William Nehrenz and his family. She would die the next year in 1921



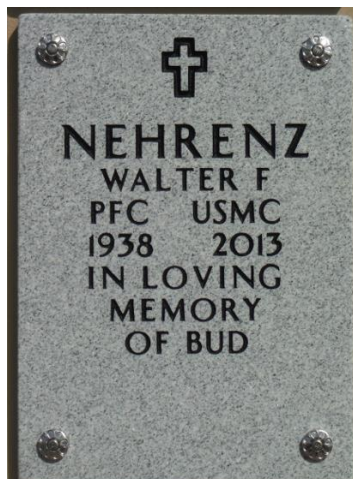
These gravestones are difficult to read because of the weather-worn lettering and the moss growth on the stone. The top stone is Carl Nehrenz who was one of the seven children of Johann and Maria. He was born in Trollenhagen and died in Madison, Wisconsin. The lower stone is his son Edmund Nehrenz who would later move to Chicago. Edmund was a machinist and tool maker. Carl was a member at St. John's Lutheran Church in Madison. He started out in Cleveland, but by 1878 had moved to Wisconsin. We have no information about why he moved there, while all the rest of his family remained in Ohio. His wife Minnie (Schultz) Nehrenz, was a very nice person and a good cook. Later in life she fell, broke her hip and died in old age with the injury. They also had two other sons named Frank and Percy, and a daughter named Carolyn. Frank disappeared in 1911. Carl worked in a factory in Wisconsin and developed a serious problem with his lungs from that work and died from a lung condition. As he was dying, he was asking about his eldest son Frank, and no one could answer his questions to his satisfaction. A very sad story.

Also in Wade Scranton cemetery is the burial spot of Johann's and Maria's son William Nehrenz and his wife Christine. This is also an unmarked grave. We know the exact location of their burials. Providing a tombstone for them would also be a good idea in the future. William was born in Trolenhagen in 1853 and died in Cleveland in 1928. He outlived his parents and all of his siblings. He and his first wife Christine (Beth) Nehrenz had eight children. After she died he married Susan (Koenig) Nehrenz in 1904. He was a plasterer. The family tree of his descendants is nine pages long and extends to seven generations. Next time you visit Cleveland, look up the street address and go see the house in which he raised his eight children: 2930 W. 12th St.

NOTE: There are so many men named William Nehrenz that it can be very confusing. The William buried in the spot pictured here was the son of Johann and Maria. He also had a son named William. Frederick, who was the eldest son of Johann and Maria, had a son William E. Nehrenz. Then this William E. had a son also named William E. who was the pastor. And there were more Williams who have since died. There is still another William living today in Ohio.

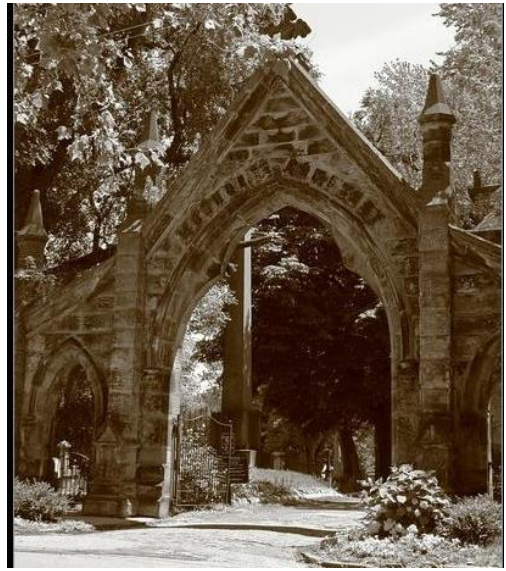


All of the gravestones below are some of the many descendants of William Nehrenz. Many of them were veterans who served our country. Information about each of them is available. If you send a request, the data could be sent to you as an attachment, for you to download and save. Send us your information also.

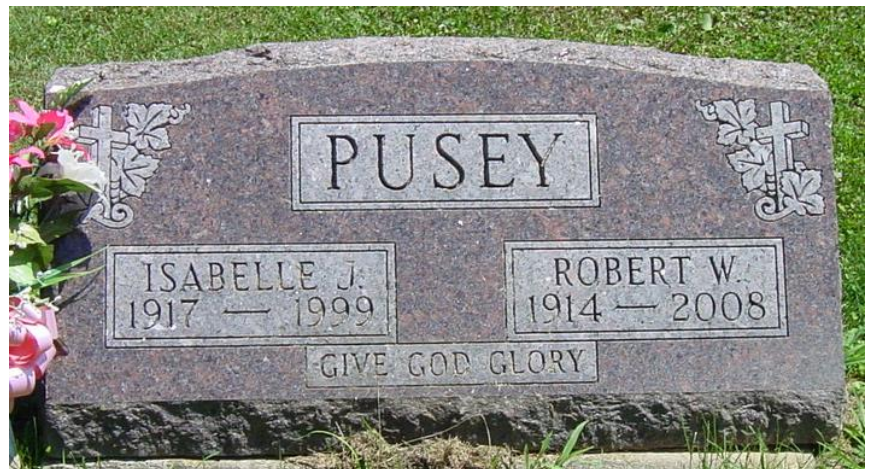




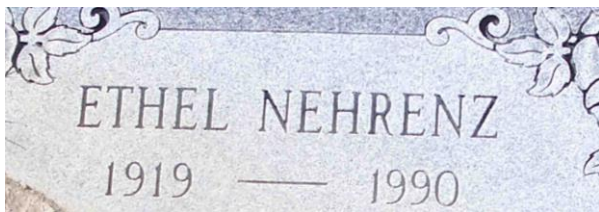
The Monroe Cemetery in Cleveland is where Christian Nehrenz and his wife Friedricka are buried in an unmarked grave. Some of their other family members are also buried there.



Louise Nehrenz, Christian's daughter, married John Schnur in 1890. She was born in 1870 in Germany



The other surnames associated with the Christian Nehrenz family include: Schnur, Fraundorf, Puluti, Boroff, Tonkli, Malloy, Schaloske, Brunn, Beal, Yauger, Pusey, Hoffman, Barlow, Butts, Richards, Pierson and Webb. Christian's wife Friedricka died in 1893 of arsenic poisoning. He lived until 1916 as a widower. They had 10 children and she died when her youngest child was only 3 years old. He died at 70 years old at Warrensville Farm. He was a laborer and bricklayer. It appears that they lost 6 of their 10 children in childhood, and only 4 survived into adulthood. They had difficult times.



From August Lohr's obituary: He was married July 5, 1919, at Cleveland Ohio to Mae Nehrenz. He graduated from Concordia Teacher's College in 1916 and took the call to St. Matthew's in Cleveland that same year. He left for Fort Wayne in 1923 and served there at Emmaus until 1945, then moved to St. Peter's in Huntington until his death.

George Halter owned a sheet metal processing plant in Cleveland. He and his wife, Clara Nehrenz were married Aug. 29, 1914 by Rev. George Eyer. His son, George L. married Esther Lutz. Just to keep things interesting, he has a grandson also named George.

Clara (Nehrenz) Halter, in about 1972, said that her brother John Nehrenz was a singer who sang duets, and liked to ride motorbikes. He worked for the railroad company, and wanted to become a doctor, but did not have enough money, so he became a dentist instead. Clara was an outstanding Lutheran Christian who would go door to door inviting people to church.

Harold H. Nehrenz, in the Navy: 615 60 25, RM2c, V-6 U.S. N.R. Positions: Anchored in lagoon of Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands. In 1972 worked with Sentry Mfg. and developed one of four U.S. quartz resonators for quartz timepieces.

Marjorie (Nehrenz) Hoffmeyer was raised in Bay Village, Ohio, and moved to Dallas in 1944 where she worked for the Sherwin-Williams Co. On Dec. 18, 1943, Marjorie married John E. Hoffmeyer in Lakewood, Ohio. Marjorie was a member of Zion Lutheran Church of Dallas and the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. They moved to Kaufman, TX. in 1984.

Walter David Strucely and Norma Clara Nehrenz were married September 12, 1958 at Zion Lutheran Church- Dallas, TX by Pastor Carl Gaertner. They had three sons. For many years they lived in Garland, TX.

Ethel Nehrenz -U.S. Cadet Nursing Corps 1945- studied at Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing in Cleveland and at one time was living at 1547 Mars Ave. in Lakewood with her family. She married Eugene A Rowland on Dec. 18, 1979.

Eckhardt Emden Sautter married Ruth Clara Halter in 1943. They lived in Maple Heights, OH., Flint, MI., and Mesa, AZ. They had four children.

George Halter Jr. worked with his father in the Halter Metal Products Co. until the business folded in the depression years of the 1930s. Later he was an AAL representative. He married Esther Lutz in 1940. They had three sons.



Nehrenz Ancestors Gravestone Fund on gofundme

Here is the link: gofundme.com/nehrenz-ancestor-memorial-stone

In order for us to place this gravestone on the burial plot of Johann Christian and Johanna Maria Nehrenz, the cost estimate is as follows: **\$2700.00 for the gravestone, plus taxes of \$216.00 plus \$350.00 fee by the cemetery to place the stone, for a total of \$3266.00.**

These figures come from Ed Kotecki at Kotecki Family Memorials, 3636 Pearl Rd. in Cleveland, Ohio. A GOFUNDME account has been setup to which you can donate. Follow the link above and give towards this effort, if you feel so moved. We will track all the funds that come in with the goal of raising the entire amount. During the winter months in Cleveland, they stop placing gravestones until April, after the ground thaws. So it would probably be the summer of 2017 when the gravestone would be placed. After 129 years (1888-2017) it is fitting that we place a memorial gravestone to mark their burial spot. Once it is placed, we will send you the exact directions to the cemetery and the burial plot, so the next time you visit Cleveland, you can go see the gravestone and pay your respects.

HELP WITH THE COSTS - Each one of these issues costs about \$250 for paper, copying and postage. About 180 copies were mailed. Any help towards this expense is appreciated !

CHECK OUT THE NEHRENZ NETWORK WEB PAGES:

Nehrenz Family Home Page created by Dr. Guy Nehrenz

(includes color versions of all these newsletters) <http://drnehrenz.com/nehrenznet/>

Nehrenz Family Genealogy Files:

<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/n/e/h/David-R-Nehrenz/index.html?Welcome=104251027>

FACEBOOK PAGE:

<https://www.facebook.com/david.nehrenz>

Send family information, copies of old letters, photos and other Nehrenz memorabilia to:

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Information, Upcoming Events, Corrections, anything you want to share, mail or e-mail it to us.

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The Gravestones of the Nehrenz Families



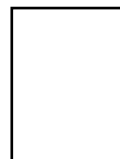
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