

The August and Bridget Arndt Family

August Arndt immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1871 at age 11, along with his parents, Henry and Charlotte (Raush) Arndt. August lived with his family in Michigan for a few years before moving to the Marshfield area. August married Bridget Brannan in May 1889. Bridget was the daughter of James and Mary (Cavanaugh) Brannan. The Brannans, with their two daughters Bridget and Minnie (Mary) and son James, were the first settlers of Milladore. They eventually moved to the Hewitt area, where August and Bridget met.

August worked the land in the town of Marshfield until 1892, when he moved his then small family of two daughters and a son to a home in the city of Marshfield. By 1915, August and Bridget had 13 children: Katharine (born 1889), William John (born 1891), Henrietta (born 1892), Monica (born 1894), Anna (born 1896), Mary (born 1898), Elizabeth Helena (born 1900), Caroline (born 1902), August Michael (born 1904), Henry John (born 1906), Joanna Myrtle (born 1908), Rosemary (born 1909) and Raymond (born 1915).

In Marshfield, August worked at the old Stave Factory for many years. A few years before he died, he took a job at the Roddis Company of Marshfield. Because he had developed a product for the company, he was told that his job was secure until he retired. However, diabetes cut his job short. He died on August 10, 1926, at age 67 after going into a diabetic coma.

Bridget remained in Marshfield until 1940, when she moved to one of her daughters' homes in Milwaukee because she was in poor health and had no children left in the Marshfield area. She passed away on April 18, 1942, at age 70. Both August and Bridget are buried in Marshfield.

Because Bridget was a strict Catholic, her children were raised in this faith, although August remained Lutheran and belonged to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Marshfield at the time of his death.

Robert Henry Arndt, a grandson of August and Bridget, remained in the area with his wife Shirley (Hasselberger), two daughters Barbara and Sandra, and son Gregory until 1961, when he took a position in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Robert's and Shirley's oldest daughter, Sandra, remained in Marshfield. On September 22, 1962, she married John Paul (Jack) Lehnerr, son of Fred and Mary (Drackley) Lehnerr, in Marshfield. A daughter, Lisa Marie, was born to Sandra and Jack in 1963, and a son, Daniel Robert, followed in 1970. In 1990, Lisa married Eric James Hansen, in Marshfield, and their first child, Victoria Elizabeth Lehnerr Hanson, was born in 1992.

Robert's and Shirley's younger daughter, Barbara, married Veral Campbell, son of Wilmer Francis and Elda (Long) Campbell, on August 9, 1969, in Red Wing, Minn. Barbara and Veral have one daughter, Gia Nicole, who was born in 1976. They live in Eagan, Minnesota.

Robert's and Shirley's son, Gregory, the youngest in the family, married Sue Gimm in 1981 in Menomonie, Wisconsin, and a daughter, Shawna, was born to them that year. Gregory and Sue divorced in 1984, and in 1988, Gregory married Mary Leistor in Menomonie, Wisconsin.

All of Bridget's and August's children eventually left Marshfield. Most moved to the Milwaukee area. The other descendants of August and Bridget Arndt are scattered throughout the United States.

*Submitted by Sandie Lehnerr
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