

The Third Generation

Our distant ancestor, Carl Gottlob Bogenschneider, the son of Carl Gottfried Bavenschneider and Louisa Hintze, was born around 1782 in Woltersdorf. The exact year of birth cannot be determined, as the existing church records of this place go back only to 1790. Carl Gottlob was twenty years old when his father died. The family tradition of the school teacher ends with him. Apparently due to the limited purse of the father and the difficult conditions caused by the freedom wars, it appears it was more advisable to learn a profitable handicraft. As a result, Carl Gottlob turned to the occupation of carpenter. In accordance with the custom of the time, it was required that the young associate go on distant migrations with knapsack and stick, including a long trip to Vienna. He also showed an artistic inclination. He played a flute, which accompanied him on his journeys. The flute is retained to this very day in our family. It demonstrates his love for music. He returned to the Pomeranian homeland, and lived in Neuhaus by Falkenwalde, where he resided in the house of his future invalid father-in-law, Sergeant John Friedrich Lenz.

Johann Friedrich Lenz, a man our family loved to discuss, was an honorable and strong man with an imposing body stature. Originally a carpenter, he had served three rulers (the old Fritz and both of the successors Friedrich Wilhelm) as a soldier exhibiting creative thinking, and he acquired a gold medal, a rare war honor in the army. Under the great king, he had participated in the Bavarian Succession War. From 1792 to 1795, he had participated in the Rhine campaign against the French. After leaving the army, he received a military pension. He also received land from the King in Neuhaus, where he cultivated himself and died after years of leisure on 7 February 1820. He was well-known in the Stettiner garrison as he would dress in military stockings and shoes when he came to collect his pension and would march in a military parade manner and would greet the officers.

Not only did his daughter bring Johann Friedrich Lenz into a relationship with the Bogenschneider family, but he was himself in a second marriage with Maria Elisabeth Hintze, a niece of Louisa Hinze, the wife of Sexton Carl Gottfried Bavenschneider in Woltersdorf.

Carl Gottlob Bogenschneider became acquainted with maiden Johanna Charlotta Lenz at his work at the Brunn manor. She was steadfast and faithful to her father, and she handled the business records of the manor.

At that time the flames of war enveloped the country. The French had invaded and the area was occupied by hostile troops, and troops were quartered at the manor Brunn. A French soldier, went into the kitchen, and wanted to fondle and kiss the maiden Charlotta by force. However, as a child of a soldier, she grabbed a stoker from the fire and struck the aggressor in the face. Charlotta had to hide for five days fearing revenge until the soldiers finally left.

The rage of the people fermented against the evil torturers, and some secretly sought revenge through bloody deeds against them. Charlotta saw workers from the neighboring Seven Mills kill two chauffeurs and rob them of their horses.

The winter of 1812/13 brought heavy snow and severe cold weather. Charlotta Lenz narrated how the older people wore mittens and stocking caps to bed. In addition, there had been a harvest failure. The farmers were not able to save oat seeds for sowing the next spring because it was eaten by the French war horses, along with the last stems of hay and last bundles of

straw. Also, in Brunn the lack of fodder made it nearly impossible to bring the cattle through the winter. Even the thatched roofs of the houses and barns were used to feed the sheep. The animals were fed the straw from the roofs on the ground to satisfy their hunger.

Today, whenever there is need, it awakens the remembrance of the French and a reminder of those times, the great need and how the compulsion of a demonic oppressor raged in the home of our ancestors.



The Brunn manor was owned by the old-established Ramin family, which to the present day is in the possession of the manor. At the place where the manor house is now located, was a small brewing house, in which Charlotte Lenz operated her business producing a strong barley drink. The manor house was at that time on the west side of the road across from the manor land. Nearby stood an enormous tree grove with stairs and a gallery. Here the owners probably enjoyed some beautiful days, and where occasionally there was music for dancing for the villagers.

Carl Gottlob Bogenschneider and Charlotta Lenz were married on 30 November 1809 at the church in Brunn, and they established a business place and workshop next to the house of the brew master's father in Neuhaus.

There the next son and heir of our family saw the light of the world on 8 October 1812: Carl August Ferdinand, my grandfather.

Around 1814, Carl Gottlob moved to Völschendorf and then to the neighboring Brunn. Finally, Calvary Officer Ludwig von Ramin let him build his own house on the site of a former mutton stable, the property previously being a sheep farm, and granted him land and cattle. The manor lord, probably judged the young Bogenschneider positively, and let the accommodation be especially well appointed. Today the forester's lodge is located in the Brunn manor. Carl Gottlob and Charlotta had fourteen years of a happy marriage, which produced six children, three sons and three daughters. They had a quiet and undemanding life, undemanding like the time described in the song:

*Yes, I am happy, that it goes as it will!
Living under my roof I am glad and still.
Through a door that has everything one's heart could desire;
but I am satisfied that this is the value of gold.*

But like his father, Carl Gottlob also suffered an early death. He died on 6 April 1824 from a "heat disease," a type of pneumonia which he contracted while working outdoors.

Carl Gottlob experienced a nameless eventful time including the Napoleonic conquest, the fall of Prussia, and the great war of liberation, from which the fatherland grew to a new greatness.

Charlotta Bogenschneider remained in distress with their six children, because the oldest daughter, Caroline, was only thirteen years, and the youngest son, Wilhelm, only thirteen months old. Destitute as she was, Charlotte placed some of the children with relatives. The others she supported with a very modest existence from her husband's joinery which was continued by a helper. In April 1825, she entered into a second marriage with Earl Filter, who took over the workshop of Carl Gottlob Bogenschneider and took over the former mutton stable as his own. It was soon shown, that Filter was an easily excitable man, who flared up also from the slightest cause in anger and which turned to mistreatment of his wife and his stepchildren. The oldest son, Carl Bogenschneider, had the most difficult time because he learned the carpentry business from the stepfather. After three years, Filter succumbed to a throat disease. In 1826, Johanna (Hanna) Filter, the only child in their marriage was born to Filter and Charlotta Bogenschneider. Johanna later became the wife of the ship-owner Wilhelm Lange in Güstow near Stettin.