

# History of the US branches of the **BORMANN** Family

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## Introduction

The visit of Kurt Bormann in November 2010 and personal circumstances motivated the author to assemble the information on the Bormann family collected over the years and spread in papers and files. This note is dedicated to the many Bormann visitors from 1965 to 2010, starting with Jeanne, continuing with Mary Ellen, Paul, Nancy, Gene, John, Bernard, Carol, Barb, Helen and Ernie, Mary, Therese, John, Eleanor, Bob, Phil, Charlene, Sue, Stan, David, Kathy, Ellen, Carolyn, Kurt and Everett.

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Claude Lanners

Luxembourg, December 15, 2010

Update: April 10, 2012

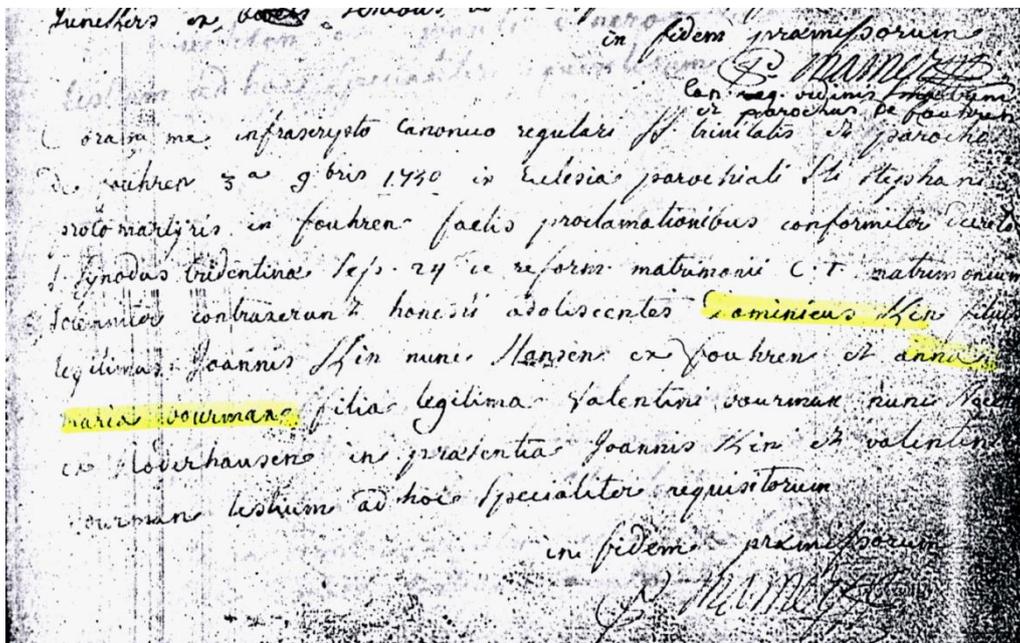
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## Generation 1

**Valentine Bormann, Bourman, Bornmann** is the first member of the family we have a written trace of. According to different sources he was a farmer in Rodershausen. There are two villages Rodershausen, one in [Luxembourg](#) (population 90 parish/commune of [Hosingen](#)) in the river Our valley and a second in today's Germany about 8 miles south-east (population 184, commune of [Neuerburg](#)). It is not possible to determine which is the one Valentine comes from. The records of the Luxembourg Rodershausen have been lost in WWII during the Battle of the Bulge.

Valentine Bormann is first mentioned in the marriage record of his daughter Anna Maria with Dominicus Kin in [Fouhren](#) 3.11.1750:



ANL RP 087 Vol. 1 Photo Rob Deltgen to CL 11.11.2010

Coram me infrascripto canonico regulari SS. trinitatis de? parochia de Fouhren 3a 9bris 1750 in ecclesia parochiali Sti Stephani protomartyris in Fouhren factis proclamationibus conformiter decreto synodiis tridentinae sep? .... reform. matrimonii c. ...? matrimonium solemniter contraxerunt honesti adolescentes Dominicus Kin filius legitimus Joannis Kin nunc Hansen ex Fouhren et Anna Maria Bourman filia legitima Valentini Bourman nunc Hoceter ex Rodershausen in praesentia Joannis Kin et Valentini Bourman testium ad hoc specialiter requisitorum.  
in fidei praemissorum  
signature

Before me undersigned regular canon of the Holy Trinity of the parish

of Fouhren the 3rd of november 1750 in the church of the protomartyr St. Stephan in Fouhren the banns made in conformity with the decree of the tridentine synod on the reform of marriage have contracted solemnly marriage the honorable adolescents Dominic Kin legitimate son of Joannes Kin now Hansen from Fouhren and Anna Maria Bourman legitimate daughter of Valentine Bourman now Hoceter from Rodershausen in the presence of Joannes Kin and Valentine Bourman witnesses who have been specifically requested for this certifying the above noted

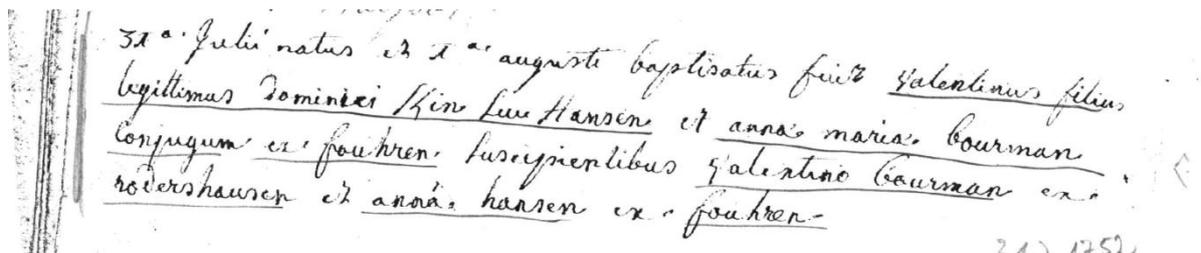
Signature of the priest

Comment:

- This is a **basic document for the Bormanns**, as it is the first known source mentioning the name.
- Valentin Bourman nunc Hoceter (name of a person or family) would suggest that Valentine had married a woman Hoceter or living in a house called Hoceter from his present or past owner. The name of his wife is however given in later records with Nickels. For his son in law Dominic Kin the addition "now Hansen" is clear: his mother was Anna Hansen.
- The reference to the "tridentine synod" means the Council of Trent.

The [Council of Trent](#) (Trento, Northern Italy) 1545-1563 dealt mainly with the consequences of the Protestant Reformation initiated by Martin Luther in 1517. One of the reforms adopted made the marriage before a priest mandatory. In a decree dated 11.11.1563 the introduction of marriage registers was decided, followed by baptism and death registers. The implementation of this decree was however delayed and started in Luxembourg only after 1600: First St. Nicolas parish Luxembourg City-1601, Feulen-1644, Oberpallen-1660 (Hottua 1693), Consthum-1677 (Lanners 1679), Fouhren-1740. This decree is of paramount **importance for family historians**, as it will generate the first and reasonably complete records of plain people, as were our ancestors. The church was the only centrally organized institution structured locally in parishes and present in every village. It will be only after 1795, when the French authorities organize the local administration in communes, that civil records are introduced. They are almost complete and of high information quality, well-structured with annual and decennial tables.

A second source for Valentine Bormann is the baptism of the eldest son of his daughter Anna Maria, Valentine Kin born 31.7.1752 in Fouhren.



31<sup>a</sup> Julii natus et 2<sup>a</sup> augusti baptisatus fuit Valentinus filius  
legitimus Domini Kin Luc Hansen et Annae Mariae Bourman  
Conjugum ex Fouhren suscipientibus Valentino Bourman ex  
Rodershausen et Annae Hansen ex Fouhren

ANL-National Archives Luxembourg RP-Parish records

Translation of Latin original:

The 31<sup>st</sup> July was born and the 1<sup>st</sup> August was baptized Valentine legitimate son of Dominic Kin or Hansen and Anna Maria Bourman spouses from Fouhren holding (over the baptismal font = godparents) Valentine Bourman from Rodershausen and Anna Hansen from Fouhren.

A third reference to Valentine Bormann is the marriage record of his son Johann Bormann with Anna Katharina Berscheid in 1767 in Gentingen.

There are no dates available for Valentine. Based on his children's birth and marriage records, we can situate his lifespan from about 1700 to about 1775.

### The name BORMANN

The etymology of the name Bormann, also Borman, Bourman, Bornmann is quite clear. “*Born*” in German means well, source, fountain. The city of Paderborn is built at the source of the Pader river. The “*Born man*” was the person that lived at and/or took care of the local well. In the spelling Bourman, we find “*Bour*”, the Luxemburgish version of well. We should not forget that the area east of the Our river where Rodershausen and Gentingen are situated was part of the Duchy of Luxembourg until 1815 and the [language spoken](#) was “*Moselfränkisch*”, which has become today's Luxembourgish and is still practiced by the local population, for instance Margarethe Bormann in Gentingen.

Despite the obvious importance of the fountain keeper's mission, the name is not very frequent in Germany today: [Geogen](#) estimates there are about 8500 people bearing the name, rank 918 of the most common names. Have a look at the [Bormann geography](#) worldwide. In Luxembourg there were 46 Bormann in 1880 and 59 in 1984. The White Pages in Luxembourg [list](#) today 48 Bormann.

No concern, the infamous Nazi leader Martin Bormann is not of our lot. He was born in Halberstadt, Saxony-Anhalt in the center of Germany, far off our area. Nor is astronaut Frank Borman, commander of the Apollo 8 mission in 1968. The media in Luxembourg raised the question of a possible Luxembourg origin and interviewed our cousin Aloyse Bormann who was mayor of Feulen in those years (Luxemburger Wort 30.12.1968).

Valentine Bormann and Susanna Nickels had as far as we know 6 children:

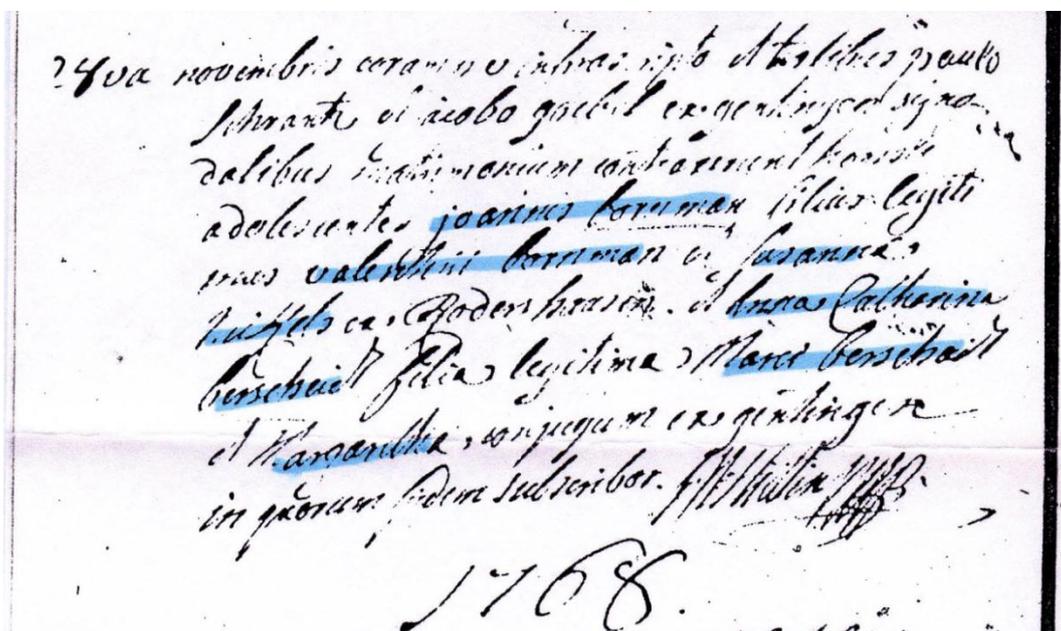
1. **Anna Maria Bourman** born about 1726 in Rodershausen who married Dominic Kinn 31.7.1750 in Fouhren. They have 775 known [descendants](#), among them **Margaret Kinn** 1914-1996 (Clarence Barth) and **Bernadette Kinn** 1920- (Peter Stockunas) who researched the Kinn family and the early Bormanns in the 1980s. They “discovered” Valentine Bormann and published the Kinn family history in a book: *Perpetual Motion, The Genealogy of the Kinn Gales Families*, 1992.

Margaret and Bernadette are 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins of Ernest J. Gales, St. Joseph 1900-1982 and visited Helen and Ernie Gales-Bormann in St. Joe.

2. **Johann Bormann** born about 1730, **our ancestor**, of whom **3164 descendants** are listed in the author's database.
3. **Johann Bormann**
4. **Maria/Margaret Bormann**
5. **Johann Bormann**
6. **Susanna Bormann.**

## Generation 2

**Johann Bormann** was born about 1730 in Roth next to Vianden and married 8.11.1767 in Körperich **Anna Katharina Berscheid** born 15.10.1746 in Gentingen, parish Körperich.

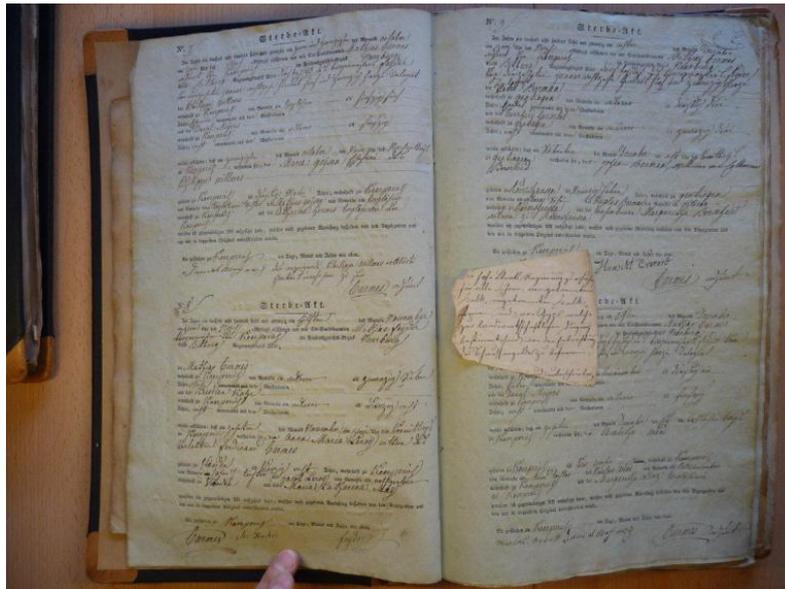


Marriage record Bormann Johann-Berscheid Anna Catherina sent to Helen Gales by Bernadette Kinn Dec 17, 1990; Mail Helen Gales to Claude Lanners Aug 9, 2006.

8 va novembris coram me infrascripto et testibus Paulo Schwartz et Iacobo? Goebel ex Gentingen signatura ? datibus matrimonium contraxerunt honesti adolescentes Joannis Bormann filius legitimus Valentini Bormann et Susannae Nickels ex Rodershausen et Anna Catharina Berscheid filia legitima Marci Berscheid et Margarethae conjugum ex Gentingen in quorum fidem subscribo(r). Signature of pastor

Translation of Latin original: On the 8th of November (1767) before me (pastor) who signed and the witnesses Paul Schwartz and Jacob Goebel from Gentingen ..... have married the honorable young people Joannes Bormann legitimate son of Valentin Bormann and Susanna Nickels of Rodershausen and Anna Catharina Berscheid legitimate daughter of Marcus Berscheid and of Margaretha spouses from Gentingen in whose good faith I sign. Signature (illegible)

[Thomas Pick](#), an American researcher who transcribed the [Eifel](#) church records, mentions that a Bommes Valentinus and his wife Nickels Susanna from Roth, Vianden had at an unknown date a son Joannes who married later an Anna Katharina Berscheid. The absence of date is of course somewhat annoying and the late Thomas Pick is not considered as a top paleographic expert, but this is however a serious hint. Johann's birth year could be around 1730, if we can believe the age of 97 years noted in his death record 7.12.1826 in Gentingen. Anna Katharina Berscheid was born in Gentingen 15.10.1746 and passed away 22.12.1799 also in Gentingen.



Civil records register Commune of Körperich Photo Georges Eicher  
Johann Bormann death record upper right

Johann Bormann and Anna Katharina Berscheid became the parents of 7 children all born in Gentingen:

**1. Markus Bormann** born 17.12.1769 married **Katharina Haler** in 1790. They lived in the Berscheid-Bormann home place and have 204 known [descendants](#), among them **Margarethe Bormann** and her husband **Franz Joseph Wenzel** who are now the owners of the old property. A grandson of Markus, **Johann "Peter" Bormann** born 15.5.1828 in Gentingen, was probably the **first Bormann settler in the New World**, as he married in 1860 in Jacobs Prairie, Stearns County, MN **Mary Jane Weidert**. [11 descendants](#) are known. ([Info Jemp Weidert](#))

**2. Peter Bormann** born 4.12.1772 who is **our ancestor**. He married **Catherine Zenner** in Lipperscheid and their known descendant count stands at 2667 in the author's database in February 2011. An invitation to every reader to bring this number up with recent events. See Generation 3.

**3. Mathias Bormann** born 9.7.1775 died in 1787.

**4. Margaretha Bormann** born 15.5.1778 married **Peter Meyers** from Geichlingen where the family lived. 249 [descendants](#) are known, essentially of their son **Peter** 1818-1891 who

married in 1848 in Dasburg, D **Elisabeth Schaeler**. This family “emigrated” in the 1860s 30 miles West to Belgium where descendants still live, among them **Jacques Roth** and **Georges Benoit** who have their family tree on [Geneanet](http://Geneanet).

**5. Elisabeth Bormann** born 23.6.1781 married Michael Piro from Ralingen. They had 1 daughter we know of.

**6. Heinrich Bormann** born 15.6.1785.

**7. Johannes Bormann** born February 1791 according to a letter addressed by Bernadette Kinn to Helen Gales 17.12.1990. His existence is not confirmed, as he is not mentioned in the Körperich/Gentingen parish book by Richard Schaffner.

Johann Bormann is the first Bormann resident in Gentingen, where Bormann descendants are still living. In the 1766 census decreed by Empress Maria Theresia of Austria (Luxembourg was a Duchy with the Habsburg emperors as Dukes 1715-1792) a Bormann family is not mentioned, which is consistent with the date of Johann’s marriage. His bride’s family is however listed (Language: French):

Entry 3:

- Men older than 16 years: Marc Berscheit Laboureur et charron (Farmer and wheelwright) Pierre ? servant
- Women older than 14 years: Marie Berscheit (= his wife Maria Margaretha Clerf), Anna Catharina (our ancestor) Margarete Berscheit
- Women younger than 14 years: Anne Marie Berscheit, Marguerite Berscheit

This is all consistent with parish records information we have. A son Mathias died 1760 at age 6.

Village de Gentingen Paroisse de Körperich					
Nombre des Familles	Noms des Hommes qui les habitent de l'âge de 16 ans en sus.	Leur Etat, Profession, Art, Métier ou autre moyen de subsistance.	Noms des Femmes de l'âge de 14 ans en sus.	Noms des Garçons au-dessus de 16 ans.	Noms des Filles au-dessus de 14 ans.
1	Marie Berscheit	Laboureur et Charron	Elisabeth Berscheit	Berni Muller	Elisabeth Muller
	Margarete Berscheit		Margarete Berscheit	Mathias Muller	Anna Muller
	Marie Berscheit	vallet	Margarete Berscheit		
	Jean Berscheit	vallet	Anna Marie Berscheit		
	Marie Berscheit	Laboureur et Charron	Margarete Berscheit	Mathias Berscheit	Therese Berscheit
	Jean Berscheit		Marie Berscheit		
	Marie Berscheit	Laboureur et Charron	Elisabeth Berscheit		
	Jean Berscheit	vallet	Marie Berscheit		
	Marie Berscheit	Laboureur et Charron	Margarete Berscheit		
	Jean Berscheit	vallet	Marie Berscheit	Philippe Berscheit	Anna Berscheit
	Marie Berscheit	Laboureur et Charron	Margarete Berscheit	Jean Berscheit	Marie Berscheit
	Jean Berscheit	vallet	Marie Berscheit		

ANL MF-A-XIV Cadastre de Marie-Thérèse 1766 Photo Claude Lanners 19.9.2009



ANL Carte de Ferraris, Planche 241 Diekirch

The Gentingen church, cemetery and Bormann-Berscheid farm can be identified on a map of the Austrian Netherlands (including Belgium and Luxembourg) drawn by [Count de Ferraris](#) 1771 to 1778. As Johann Bormann (1730-1826) married Anna Katharina Berscheid from Gentingen (1746-1799) on 8.11.1767 and as our ancestor Peter Bormann was born here 4.12.1772, this map shows an exceptionally “real time” shot of the very early history of our family.

Gentingen has a beautiful roman style church dedicated to St. John Baptist that dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century and got its present structure in 1710: Our ancestors saw it much the same as we can appreciate it today. It is surrounded by the churchyard where the Bormann family grave is still visible and cared for by our cousin Margarethe Wenzel-Bormann.



Wikipedia, Gentingen church May 2007

A different view of the church is [here](#).



Ellen Belle-Bormann and Carolyn at the Bormann grave Gentingen 24.2.2009

Over the last 20 years, several Iowa and Minnesota Bormann delegations have paid a visit to Margarethe Bormann in Gentingen. “Margret” was born 30.11.1959 in Daleiden. Her parents were Franz Bormann 1913-1981 and Theresa “Resi” Horper 1925-1989. Franz farmed on the family property and Resi operated a guesthouse for tourists who like the very scenic Our river valley. This is a view from 1985 when Barb Gales visited Gentingen.



After the death of Franz, the land around the house was converted into a camping ground. **Margret** married **Franz Wenzel** in 1989 (he has also Bormann roots) and they have 3 children: Anne born 1994, Peter born 1996 and Paul born 1999. Franz and Margret make their living with the [camping ground](#) and the old barns and stables have been replaced by a modern camping infrastructure. The guesthouse activity has been stopped and Franz operates a small [distillery](#) processing local fruit like apple, pear, plum and grain. Have a look at [Google Maps](#) Gentingen.

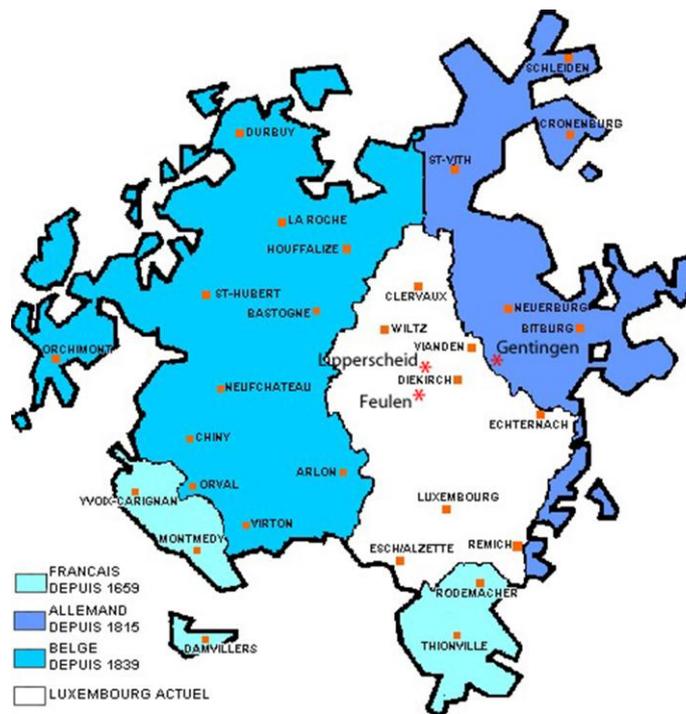
Franz Wenzel and Margarethe Bormann at the visit of Kurt Bormann 25.11.2010

## Gentingen-Luxembourg or Gentingen-Germany

Gentingen is situated in the valley of the river Our which forms today the border between the two countries, on the German side. Until the French Revolution, Luxembourg and the Eifel area with Gentingen were both part of the Austrian Netherlands and thus inside the same political entity. Marriages across the Our river were as normal as anywhere else in Luxembourg. So for the early Bormanns the question just did not exist.

At the reshaping of the European political map after Napoleon's defeat at the [Congress of Vienna](#), Luxembourg became an independent state under the form of a Grand Duchy, but was amputated from big parts of territory on the east to Germany and a few years later on the West to Belgium, as you can see on this map:

**The three splits of Luxembourg: 1639** Southwest to France, **1815** Northeast to Germany, **1839** West to Belgium are documented on the map following:

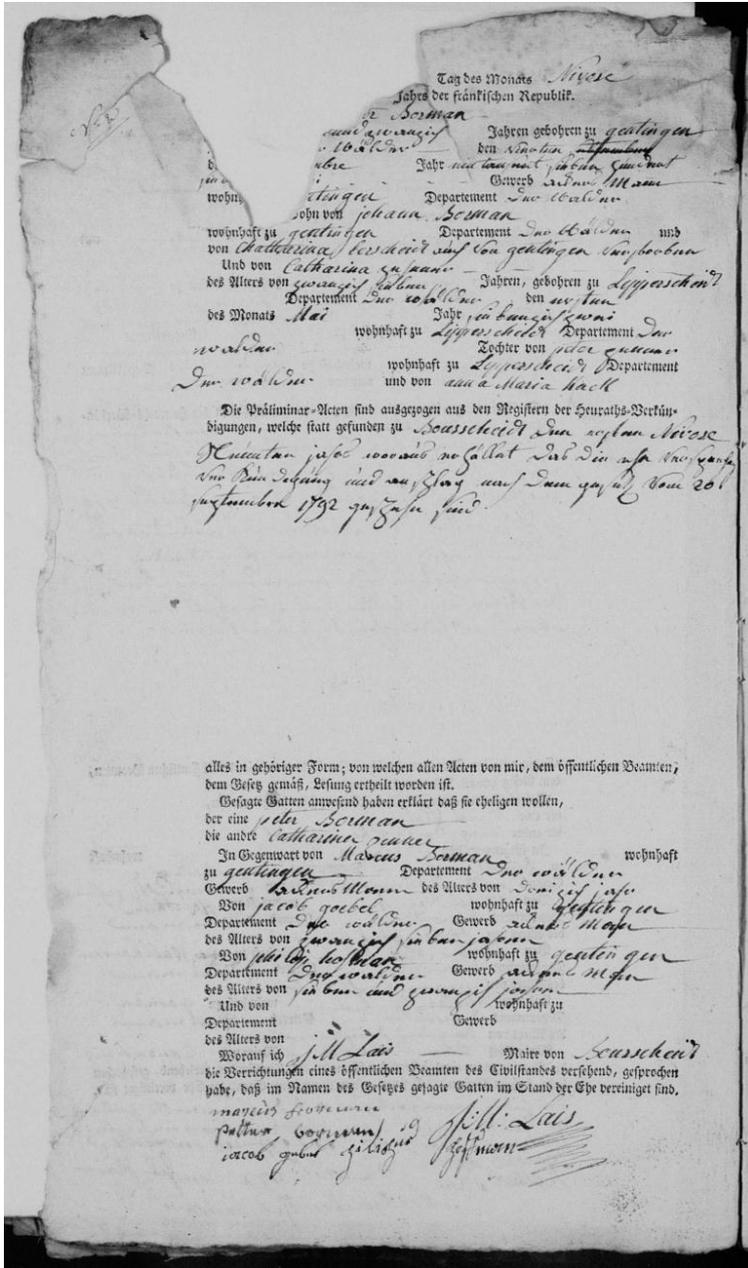


Source: roots.lu Page Emile Erpelding, by Nathalie Hames

The history of Luxembourg is presented [here](#).

**Generation 3**

**Peter Bormann** was born 4.12.1772 in Gentingen. He married in 1801 **Catherine Zenner** born 1.5.1775 in Lipperscheid where the couple will live.



(On the 12th ?) day of the month Nivôse (9<sup>th</sup>) year of the French Republic (marriage record of Peter) Borman (age nine) twenty years born at Gentingen (Department of) Forests the fourth (of the month of December) year 17 hundred seven (ty two) profession farmer resident ( in Gen)tingen Department of Forests son of Johann Borman resident at Gentingen Department of Forests and of Catharina Berscheid also Gentingen deceased and of Catharina Zenner age 27 born at Lipperscheid Department of Forests 1.5.(17)72 resident at Lipperscheid daughter of Peter Zenner Lipperscheid and of Anna Maria Hack .....

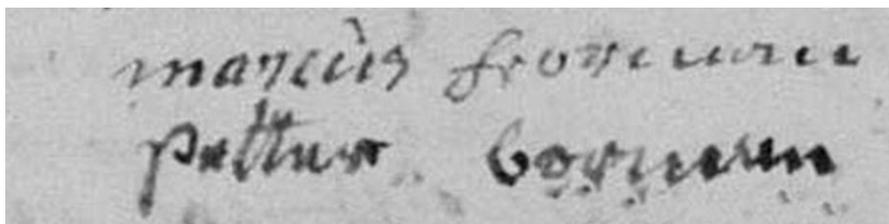
Witnesses:  
 Marcus Borman Gentingen farmer 30  
 Jacob Goebel Gentingen farmer 27  
 Philip Hofman Gentingen farmer 27  
 Officer: Laeis, mayor of the commune of Bourscheid.

Comment:  
 A piece of the register has been torn away, so that the day of marriage is uncertain: the following record is Nivôse 13<sup>th</sup>: so we can narrow the date down to the 12<sup>th</sup> at the latest, unless there were 2 marriages on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The 12<sup>th</sup> Nivôse Year 9 is January 2nd, 1801.  
 German in Gothic characters (Fraktur), names in Latin characters.

Familysearch Bourscheid M 1797-1890 Image 375 M Bormann Pierre-Zenner Catherine

## A Premiere: The first BORMANN autograph

Whereas the name Bormann appeared in 1750, the signatures under the marriage record of Peter Bormann and Catharina Zenner 2.1.1801 are the earliest known hand written evidence of a Borman(n). To paraphrase French philosopher Descartes: “*I write, so I am*”.



Marcus is the elder brother of Peter and obviously took over the family farm in Gentingen. He is the ancestor of Margarethe Wenzel-Bormann. Both sign with one *n*. The characters are a mix of Latin and gothic: Marcus puts a gothic *b*, Peter (Petter) a latin *b*, no capitals.

Earlier signatures may be hidden in notary deeds for marriage contracts or sales. An invitation to future researchers.

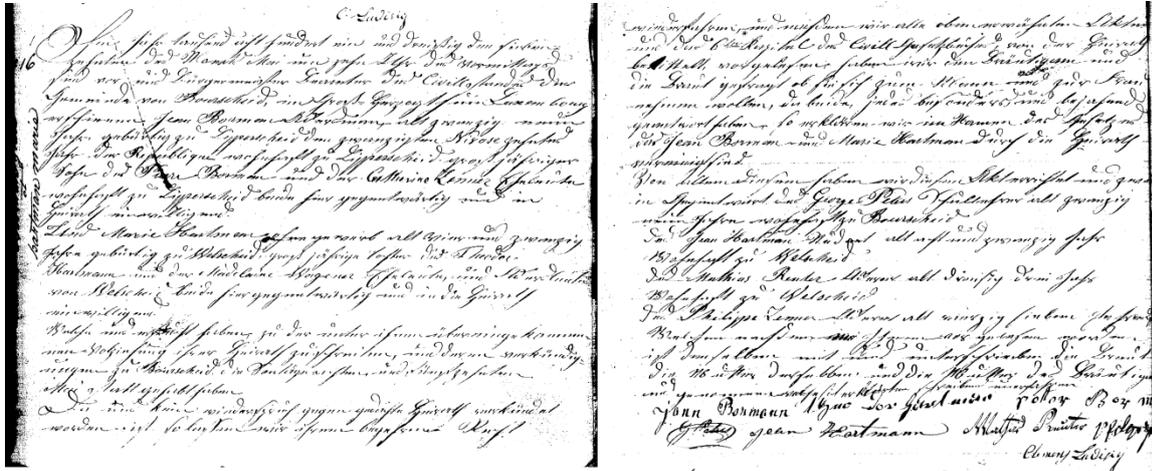
Peter Bormann and Cathrina Zenner had 4 children:

1. **Johann Bormann** born 10.1.1802, our ancestor.
2. **Maria Bormann** born 24.1.1805. She remained single and lived at least until 17.12.1865 when she made her last will.
3. **Maria Bormann** born 7.12.1807. She married Marc Mossong from Brandenbourg and 5 [descendants](#) are known.
4. **Michel Bormann** born 5.4.1810. He married Marie Elisabeth Schroeder in Selscheid, Eschweiler. They have 76 known [descendants](#).

Catharina Zenner died 29.3.1850 in Lipperscheid and Peter Bormann passed away 6.12.1859.

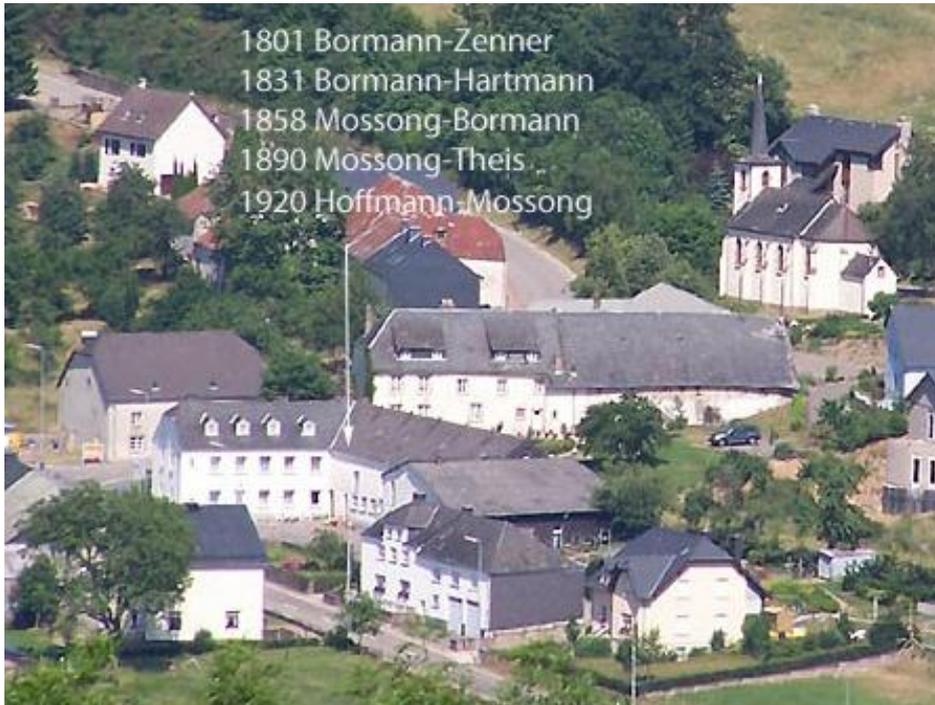
**Generation 4**

**Johann Bormann** was born 10.1.1802 in Lipperscheid and married 17.5.1831 **Maria Hartmann** who was born 7.7.1806 in Welscheid.



EC Bourscheid Mariages 1831

Johann Bormann farmed in Lipperscheid and he is told in the 1855 census to live in the “Jakobshaus”.



Lipperscheid Source: [Luxalbum.lu](http://Luxalbum.lu)

Johann Bormann and Maria Hartmann had 8 children.

1. **Catherine Bormann** born 13.4.1832. She married in 1858 **Jacques Mossong** from Brandenburg and they took over the family farm. They have more than 70 [descendants](#), among them **Irène, Lily and Delphine Hoffmann** living opposite the old family property in Lipperscheid. Helen and Ernie Gales-Bormann visited them 11.4.1999. Also among their descendants are Franciscan Sisters **Delphine, Jeanette and Judine Klein** who live retired at the Assisi Heights Convent in Rochester, MN.

2. **Peter Bormann** born 19.10.1833. He is the **ancestor of the Iowa Bormanns** and married **Suzanne Link**. Their [line of descent](#) is the longest with 1981 entries known.

3. **Marie Bormann** born 2.11.1835. She married in 1859 **Johann Jungels** from Wallendorf, Germany and they have 63 known [descendants](#). 3 of their children emigrated to the US and Claude was in touch with one of their great grandchildren, **Paul Flynn** who lived in Las Vegas in 2003.

4. **Mathias Bormann** born 23.8.1837. He married in 1868 **Marguerite Britz** from Hoscheid-Dickt and they have 37 known [descendants](#). One of their gg-grandchildren, **Claude Loesch**, is an active genealogist in Luxembourg.

5. **Michel Bormann** born 23.8.1839. He is the **ancestor of the Minnesota Bormanns** and of some Luxembourg family lines, including Claude's. He married **Madeleine** called **Pauline Link** born 21.8.1843, a sister of Suzanne, 31.5.1865. A total of 473 [descendants](#) have been recorded.

6. **Catherine Bormann** born 8.7.1841. She married **Michel Hansen** and they had 1 child.

7. **Marie Bormann** was born 1.4.1846 and died the day after.

8. **Jean Bormann** born 18.7.1847. He moved also to Feulen and married in 1875 **Anne Marie Elisabeth Heinen**, born in Niederfeulen 31.3.1839. They have 26 [descendants](#). Their son **Jean Pierre "Jemmy" Bormann** was murdered in 1919. Story on page 45.

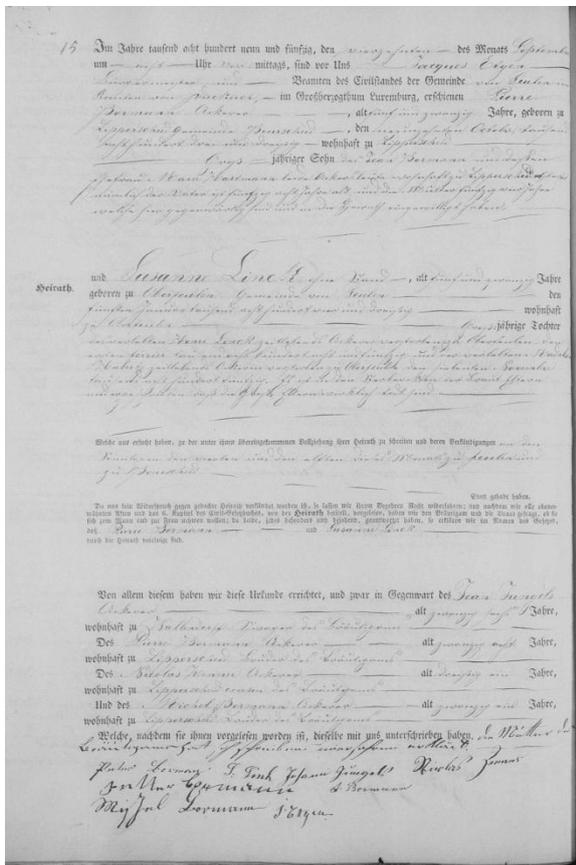
Maria Hartmann passed away in Lipperscheid 18.8.1870 at 64 years and Johann Bormann 13.6.1884. He had then 82 years and lived at his home with his daughter Catherine Mossong-Bormann and her family.

From the 5<sup>th</sup> generation onward, the history of the US descendants of the Bormann family splits into what we call here the "**IOWA**" and the "**MINNESOTA**" branches, going back the first to **Peter** Bormann 1833-1886 in the "**Hojes**" house and **Michel** Bormann 1839-1911 in the "**Broch**" house, both in Oberfeulen.

# The "IOWA" BORMANNNS

## Generation 5

**Peter Bormann** was born 15.10.1833 in Lipperscheid and he married in 1859 **Susanne Link** born 5.1.1834 in Oberfeulen where they farmed in the place the Lin(c)k family had been on since 1812. Whereas it is easy to understand that Peter left Lipperscheid, situated in a hilly and not very fertile part of the Ardennes hills, we will never know why he "landed" in the Link family in Oberfeulen.

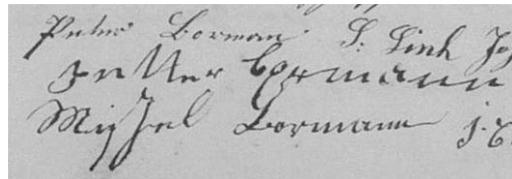


Commune of Feulen 14.9.1859

Pierre Bormann Ackerer (farmer) 25 years resident in Lipperscheid

Susanne Linck 25 years resident in Oberfeulen

Signatures



Upper L: Peter Borman (groom)

Upper R: S. Linh(k) (bride)

Middle: Petter Bormann (father of groom)

Bottom: Michel Bormann (brother of gr.)

A gentle mix of spellings and Gothic/Latin characters!

Familysearch.org Feulen M 1818-90 Image 443

Peter and Susanne had 9 children:

**1. Jean Bormann** born 18.9.1860. He married in 1890 **Marie Majerus** from Welscheid and they farmed on the family farm. The parents had passed away in 1886 and 1882. They had 2 daughters, and the eldest **Marguerite** born 1.4.1891 married **Jean-Pierre Elsen** in 1915. Their son **Auguste** married **Anna Hendel** in 1950. Daughter **Delphine** married in 1978 **Paul Reiser** from a neighbouring farm. **Delphine Reiser-Elsen** has been the host to many

Bormann visitors. Over the last years the farm buildings have been modernized with a state of the art stable housing 200 heads of cattle for meat production. The old stables have been torn down and replaced by a new lodging. Son **Claude Reiser** is taking over the farm.

Jean Bormann and Marie Majerus (photo around 1907, Hojes Photo Collection) have 60 [descendants](#).



**2. John Peter Bormann** born 27.5.1862. John Peter became a priest, was ordained 30.8.1885 and served in different Luxembourg parishes. He travelled to the US with his brother John Baptist in 1921 as we can see on the [Ellis Island immigration registers](#). From 1920 to 1929 he was a dean in Grevenmacher and passed in Mersch 29.11.1944. He rests in the family grave in Feulen.

**3. Nicholas Bormann** born 15.4.1864. He married **Justina Altman** and they are the ancestors of Helen Gales Bormann and of Kurt Bormann. 548 [descendants](#) are listed. More details page 21.

**4. Jacques Bormann** born 13.1.1866. According to the 1890 census he left Feulen in 1889 and managed later on a mess of the French army in Metz. He married **Catherine Gravier** 19.2.1897 at Distroff, Moselle, France. Their son is **Father Louis Bormann** who visited Algona and St. Joseph and who is well remembered in Iowa. Jacques Bormann died in 1903 when Louis was only 2 years old and his widow married **Charles Bartheld**.

**5. Peter Bormann** born 23.1.1868. Peter emigrated in 1888, following no doubt his brother Nicholas who had come to the US in 1885, and married 9.2.1891 in St. Joseph, IA **Anna Erpelding** born 4.2.1872 in St. Joseph. On 13.12.1893 Peter became a US citizen abjuring “*allegiance to .. the Emperor of Luxembourg*”(sic). The family lived initially on a farm established on land Peter had purchased in Sherman Township as open prairie. In 1900, they moved to St. Joe where Peter became a partner of Nick Gales in the General Store known as Gales and Bormann. For some years, Peter was also the postmaster of St. Joe, but in 1908 the family moved back to the farm. From December 1912 to March 1913, Peter made an extended visit to Luxembourg. Our Bormann-Erpelding Heritage 1985 p.31-34.





**B Peter, Anna, Fr. Louie— 1947**

Peter Bormann 1868-1952-Anna Erpelding, Fr. Louis Bormann 1901-1969 Iowa 1947 Our Bormann-Erpelding Heritage 1985 p.45

Peter and Anna had 8 children:

1. [Nick Bormann](#) born 27.2.1892 married Anna Schmalen,
2. [Henry Bormann](#) born 2.4.1894 married Victoria Kenkel,
3. [Peter Bormann](#) born 17.4.1896 married Amanda Reding,
4. John Baptist Bormann born 10.1899 died 1901,
5. [Charles Bormann](#) born 12.1.1901 married Anna Hartman,
6. [Justine Bormann](#) born 29.2.1904 married Mathew Becker,
7. [Hilaria Bormann](#) born 12.3.1907 married Peter Nicholas Erpelding,
8. [Rosalia Bormann](#) born 3.10.1908 married Arthur Illg.



**Back: Henry, Nick, Justine, Charlie, Pete. Front: Rosalia, Peter (B), Anna, Hilaria**

Peter Bormann 1868-Anna Erpelding and children Our Bormann-Erpelding Heritage 1985 p.45

They have in Claude's records 1.142 [descendants](#), among them:

- **Eleanor Bormann** \*1923 (Albert Thilges) who visited Luxembourg in 1995 and 2000 and who is the editor with Norma Reding-Becker of the Bormann-Erpelding family history: **Our Bormann-Erpelding Heritage, 1985** and of the St. Joseph Centennial History book.



The Albert Thilges-Eleanor Bormann family June 1980:  
 Back: Charlene, Michelle, Paula, Albert, Lynnette,  
 Front: GERALYN (GERI), Maribeth, Eleanor, Joel,

- **Bob Bormann** \*1925 from St. Joseph whose daughter **Charlene** (Dale Givens) also visited Feulen.

- **Howard John Bormann** \*1931 from St. Joseph who married Donna Rae Weydert \*1932. Donna Rae is a member of the [Luxembourg Weydert family](#) which has been researched by Jemp Weidert who has good contacts to his St. Joe relatives.

**6. Mathias Bormann** born 6.5.1870. “Hojes Mätt” from the house name of the Link-Bormann farm in Oberfeulen, emigrated in 1891 together with his cousin Nicolas from the Broch house and arrived in New York 12.2.1891 on the “Westernland” from Antwerp. He indicated as destination Dyersville on the immigration form. He farmed later in the St. Joe area and married 16.1.1895 **Anna Erpelding** born 5.1.1870 in St. Joseph. ( the two Anna Erpeldings were second cousins, grandchildren of Nicolas Erpelding and Ludovique Olinger from Betzdorf). According to the St. Joseph Centennial book he returned to “Germany” in 1904. In fact he reentered Ellis Island March 26, 1905. 168 [descendants](#) are known, among them **Phil Eischen**.



Mathias Bormann 1870 and children about 1918: Peter, John, George, Frank, Mary, Math and Anna Hojes Photo Collection

Mathias and Anna had 6 children, all born in St. Joseph:

1. [John Bormann](#) born 18.1.1896 married Elizabeth Reding,
2. Peter Bormann born 10.1897,
3. [Mary Verna Bormann](#) born 6.5.1899 married Anton Becker,
4. [Anna Mary Bormann](#) born 6.5.1899 married Alex Nicholas Eischen,



Back row: Phil, Marvin, Verna, Robert and Harold  
Seated: Anna Bormann 1899 and Alex Eischen Photo about 1956  
Mail Helen Gales-Bormann 11.3.2012

The Phil Eischen Ruth Muller family: Tom, Bette, Nancy, Ruth and Phil Eischen 1929 Photo about 1983 Mail Helen Gales-Bormann 11.3.2012 Ruth and Phil hosted Claude 28.3.1992 in Whittemore. Phil was co-owner of Muller-Eischen Implement (farm machinery) located between Algona and Whittemore.



- 5 [George Bormann](#) born 1901 married Anna Reding,
6. [Frank Bormann](#) born 2.5.1903 married Rosalia Kirsch.

**7. Henry Bormann** born 7.7.1872. He emigrated in 1890 and moved to Colman, SD after a short stay in St. Joe. Apparently he came back to Luxembourg, as a Henry Bormann from Oberfeulen boarded the steamer “Kensington” 13.5.1899 destination New York. Henry married **Elizabeth Jungblut** in 1903. They had one daughter **Isabel** and 11 [descendants](#) are known, among them **Debra LeBrun** from Dell Rapids, SD whose husband **John Rausch** created a most interesting [site](#).

Henry Bormann 1872 and daughter Isabel about 1920 Hojes Photo Collection



[Jack](#) LeBrun 1899, son Kenneth 1925, Isabel Bormann 1904  
Photo Dell Rapids, SD about 1941 Hojes Photo Collection

**.8. John Baptist Bormann** born 1.7.1874. He also became a priest and was ordained 10.8.1898. He served in different parishes and finished his “career” as a dean in Grevenmacher in 1939, having followed his brother John Peter in 1929 in this assignment. In 1921 he had accompanied his elder brother on a visit in Iowa. John Baptist passed away 29.3.1948 in Mersch and was buried in the family grave in Feulen.

**9. August Bormann** born 29.1.1878. The Feulen censuses list him in 1895 and 1900 as working in Metz, France. He died about 1908 and was buried in Feulen in the family grave.

Susanne Link died 14.4.1882 in Oberfeulen and Peter passed away 4 years later 31.7.1886.

6 of the 9 Bormann brothers in Luxembourg about 1905:  
Back: Jacques Bormann 1866, Henry 1872, Rev. John Bapt. 1874, August 1878  
Front: Jean 1860, Rev. John Peter 1862.  
Nick, Peter and Math already emigrated.  
Hojes house Feulen Photo Collection and Helen Gales-Bormann





Bormann brothers 1921 in Iowa: B: Henry 1872, John Bapt. 1874, Matt 1870, Fr: Nick 1864, John Peter 1862, Peter 1868, Hojes house FeulenPhoto Collection

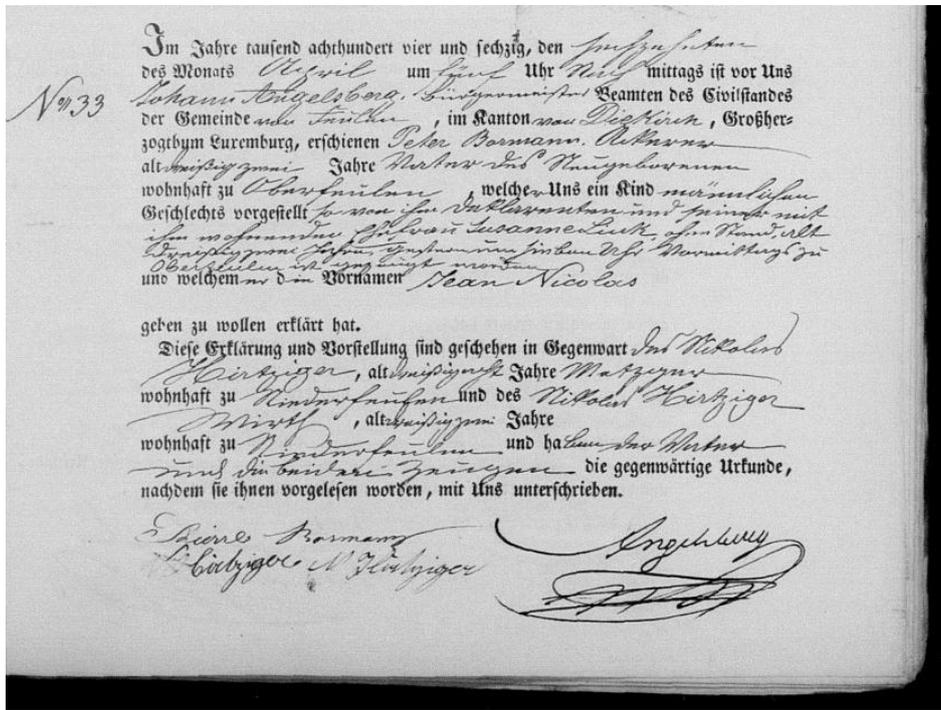
This is a view of the family grave in 1985, the monument displaying four members of the Bormann generation listed above: John Baptist, August, Jean and John Peter (Jean, right).



Since about 1990, the old cemetery is no longer used and the monuments disappear progressively. This is a picture of the Bormann name plates in 2006 after the monument had been taken away. With a view on the entrance of the church, it will allow later visitors to spot the grave place when the remaining name plates will have been removed. Although the last monument did not show the names of Peter Bormann and Susanne Link, we can assume that they have been buried here, as most likely the Link generations before.

Generation 6

**Nicholas Bormann** born 15.4.1864 in Oberfeulen as Jean Nicolas:



Familysearch.org/recordsearch Luxembourg, Feulen, Naissances 1833-90 Image 714

Nicholas “Nick” emigrated to the US in 1885 together with his cousin Nicolas Bormann born 11.10.1866 of the Broch house and arrived in New York 19.3.1885 on board of the “Noordland”.

5	me	41		
6	H. Alendt	41		
7	Ch. Braier	45		
8	J. Weber	41		
9	J. Heintz	32		
10	J. Weidert	41		
11	M. Marguer	44		
12	M. Altmann	40		
13	Ant. Friesen	44		
14	J. Bormann	41		

Ancestry.com Noordland 19.3.1885 NY p.3 192 N Bormann 20 farmer

He married 16.12.1889 in St. Joseph, IA **Justina Altman** who had Luxembourg roots as well: she was born 26.2.1870 in Imbringen, Junglinster. The family is quite well documented in the book [“Bormann-Altman Genealogy”](#) prepared in 1989 for the centennial of their marriage by four of their descendants. It served for the following description and pictures.



JUSTINA ALTMAN and NICHOLAS BORMANN  
Wedding Picture Dec. 16, 1889



NICHOLAS AND JUSTINA FAMILY HOME  
This house, built around 1899, provided more space for the growing family. It is remembered as the scene of many happy family gatherings. In 1957 this house was replaced with a modern ranch-style home.

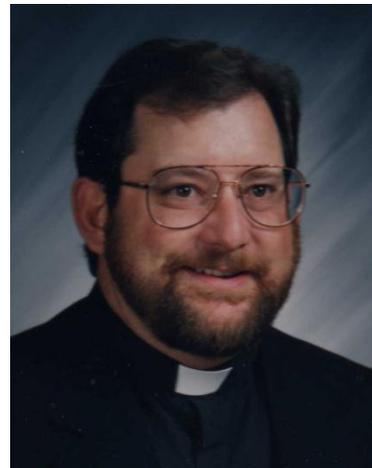
Bormann-Altman Genealogy, 1989

Nick and Justina farmed in the St. Joe area and had 9 children:

**1. Michael Bormann** born 25.9.1890 in St. Joseph. Michael married in 1918 **Philomena Elizabeth “Minnie” Kohlhaas** and they became the parents of 5 children, among them Clarence Kasper and Helen Stella, parents and grandparents of Bormann visitors to Luxembourg. 146 [descendants](#) are known.

**2. Susan Bormann** born 23.12.1891. she married in **1912 Kasper Lawrence Kohlhaas** and 82 [descendants](#) are listed.

**3. Mathias Nicolas Bormann** born 18.10.1893. He married **Catherine Kellner** in 1922 and 52 [descendants](#) are known, among them **Rev. Paul Donald Bormann** who was born January 16, 1959 and grew up on a farm near LuVerne IA in Kossuth County. In 1977 he graduated from Bishop Garrigan High School in Algona, IA in Kossuth County. Father Bormann attended the St. Paul Major Seminary in St. Paul, MN. On June 1, 1985 he was ordained a priest in his home parish - St. Benedict Church in St. Benedict, IA. Father Bormann has served as pastor of several parishes in the Sioux City Diocese, He is currently pastor of the parishes in Pocahontas and Rolfe in IA.



**4. Anna Bormann** born 13.10.1895. She married **John Geishecker** in 1916 and they have 71 [descendants](#). Their great-grandson Jeffrey Klein has a [family tree](#) online.

**5. John Peter** born 20.11.1897 in St. Joseph married **Clara Bernadette Stessman** in 1933. They have 22 [descendants](#).

**6. Ernest Jacob Bormann** born 17.11.1900 married in 1934 **Anna Mary Kramer**. They have 17 [descendants](#)., among them **Edmund Berte** who has also Luxembourg roots and visited his relatives in Mersch in the 1990s.

**7. Lorenz Nicholas Bormann** born 18.10.1902 in St. Joseph married in 1936 **Julia Anna Thilges**. 54 [descendants](#) are listed.

**8. Edward Bormann** born 14.7.1904 in St. Joseph married in 1935 **Mary Rose Becker**. 49 [descendants](#) are listed.

**9. Stella Angela Bormann** born 3.4.1908 married in 1936 **Matthew Edward O'Connor**. 53 [descendants](#) are listed.

Justina passed away 30.8.1945 in Algona and Nick 18.12.1953.



Nick Bormann-Justine Altman family about 1929 at family farm St. Joseph, IA  
Photo by Fr. Louis B. to Auguste Elsen, probably 1947



Bormann-Altman Genealogy, 1989, photo 1936



Bormann Nicolas \*15.4.1864 Photo Algona Note by Father Louis Hojes Collection

### Generation 7

**Michael Bormann** was born 25.9.1890 in St. Joseph and he married 7.5.1918 a St. Joseph girl, **Philomena Elizabeth called Minnie Kohlhaas**, born 29.11.1893. They farmed in Sherman Township section 18 and lived there until their retirement in 1954. Michael died 2.9.1972 and Minnie 5.8.1973, both in Algona and they are buried in St. Joseph.

They became the parents of 5 children.

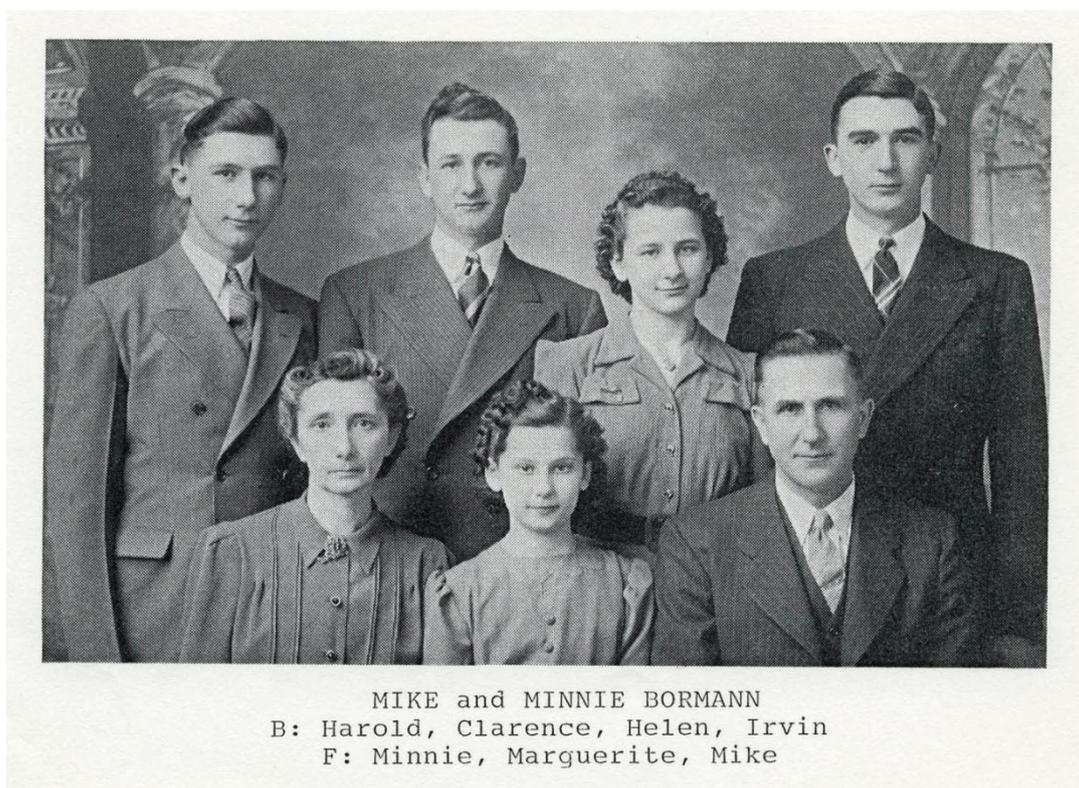
**1.Irvin Nicholas Bormann** born 11.8.1919. Irvin served in the Army in WWII and died during the Monte Cassino battle in Italy 1.2.1944. His remains were returned to the United States in October 1948 and buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery at St. Joseph.

**2.Clarence Kasper Bormann** born 3.8.1921 at St. Joseph. He married **Caroline Anne Kollasch** and they have 59 [descendants](#). Their daughter **Ellen** and granddaughter **Carolyn Belle** visited Luxembourg in February 2009. Grandson **Kurt** followed in November 2010. Daughter **Connie** married **Gerald Bernardy**, whose **nephew Dan** is the husband of [Connie Lanners](#), a cousin of Claude.

**3.Harold Henry Bormann** born 14.9.1923 at St. Joseph, IA. Harold married **Irene Kollasch** in 1954 and they have 33 [descendants](#) listed.

**4.Helen Stella Bormann** born 31.3.1928 married 19.2.1952 in St. Joseph **Ernest Mathias "Ernie" Gales**. They have 47 [descendants](#) in 2011.

**5.Marguerite Clara Bormann** born 29.10.1930. She married **Maurice Peter Laubenthal** in 1952 and 20 [descendants](#) are listed.



Bormann-Altman Genealogy, 1989

## Generation 8 Clarence line

**Clarence Kasper Bormann** was born 3.8.1921 at St. Joseph. On 20.11.1945 he married in Whittemore IA **Caroline Anne Kollasch** born 23.8.1921 in Whittemore.

They have 7 children:

[1.Philip Michael “Phil” Bormann](#) born in Fort Dodge, IA.

[2.Corinne Marie Bormann](#) married Brian Christopher D’Silva.

[3.Constance Lee “Connie” Bormann](#) married Gerald Bernardy

[4.Merrill Charles Bormann](#) married Brenda Lee Edwards.

[5.Ellen Dolores Bormann](#) married Carl Christopher Belle.

[6.Karl Louis Bormann](#) married Bonita Sue Ludwig.

[7.Marita Anne Bormann](#) married Rufus C. Sanders.

## Generation 9

**Philip Michael “Phil” Bormann** married **Ann Marie Wilson** from Livermore, IA. They have 3 children: Erika Ann, Erin Elizabeth and Kurt Philip. In 1998 he married Rosemary Reinders Pingel from Algona. Phil farms in the St. Joe area.

## Generation 10

**Kurt Philip Bormann** married **Nicole Timmins**. Kurt is orthopedic surgeon and completed his education in Germany in 2010. While being in Europe, Kurt, Nicole and Everett visited the old Bormann places in Gentingen and Luxembourg 26-28.11. 2010.

## Generation 11

**Everett Bormann**, son of Kurt and Nicole.



## Generation 8 Helen line

**Helen Stella Bormann** born 31.3.1928 married 19.2.1952 in St. Joseph **Ernest Mathias “Ernie” Gales**. They farmed in Sherman Township Section 34 until they retired in 2001 and moved into the village of St. Joseph. Helen has been very involved in family history as a co-author of the St. Joseph Parish book and of the Bormann-Altman Genealogy. She reinitiated the contact with the Luxembourg Bormanns that had been lost since Father Louis Bormann’s last visit in Algona and St. Joseph in 1960. Through her cousin Marie Bormann from Madison, MN, she got the address of Claude Lanners in Luxembourg. After exploratory missions of Carol, Barb, Therese and Mary, Helen and Ernie visited Luxembourg in 1990, in 1993 and again in 1999. At the occasion of business trips to the US, Claude met Helen and Ernie and part of the family in Minneapolis in 1983 and in 1992 in St. Joseph. Michel Lanners and Edmée Thein took part in [RAGBRAI](#) in 1997 and were hosted by Gales family members in St. Joseph.

Helen is **the Bormann family historian** par excellence and helped the author of this note with her knowledge and proofreading. **Thanks so much Helen.**



The first meeting 13.4.1983 in New Brighton, MN at Cecilia House-Gales’ home: Ernie, Claude, Helen: of course discussing family history!

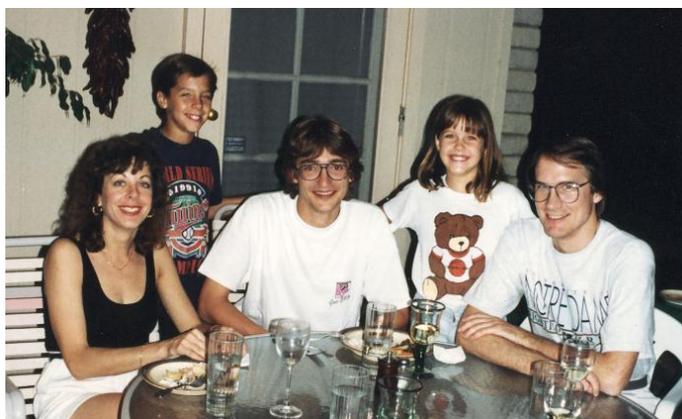
Helen and Ernie became the parents of 11 children:

**1. Steve Gales** married **Elizabeth Ann Edel**. They live in Mason City, IA.

**2. Cecilia Gales** married **Stephen House** and they live in New Brighton, MN.

**3. Paul Gales** married **Patricia O’Donnell** and they settled in Phoenix, AZ.

Patricia, Christopher, Michel Lanners,  
Kerry, Paul Gales  
Visit Claude and Michel Phoenix  
10.10.1992



**4. John Gales** died at birth in 1957.

**5.Dolores Gales** married **Art Cullen** and they live in Storm Lake, IA.

**6.Charlie Gales** married **Elizabeth Wentling** and they live in Pennsylvania.

**7.Barb Gales** married **Dan Haag** and they made their home in Eau Claire, WI.

**8.Carol Gales** married **Jim Dory** and likes it cold. They live in Nome, AK, Carol was the scout sent by Helen to explore the past and so on a December day in 1982 Claude got a call at



his office from an American speaking girl mentioning Bormann. That name rang a bell to Claude and he jumped in his car to pick her up at the Luxembourg railroad station where she had just arrived. Carol came in from Ireland where she studied. She is still remembered as the “girl with the cap”. You can see at this picture why.

Photo 2.1.1983 Bormann house  
Gentingen Mariette Lanners, Carol

Gales, Resi Bormann-Horper 1925-1989

**9.Mary Gales** married **Steve Rottler** and they live in Seattle,WA.

**10.Mary Louise Gales** was born and died 23.10.1965.

**11.Therese Gales** married **Mark Gaertner** and they live in St. Paul, MN.

Barb Gales visiting  
Luxembourg 8.1985  
Allison ...  
Barb  
Mariette Lanners-Eicher  
Michel Lanners 1968  
.....



Claude Lanners on visit in St. Joe 28.3.1992  
 Eleanor Thilges-Bormann  
 Helen Gales-Bormann  
 Joel Thilges  
 Carol Gales  
 Ernie Gales



Wedding Therese Gales-Mark Gaertner 8.5.2009 Mineapolis, MN



The Gales-Bormann children:  
 Back: Charles, Steve, Dolores,  
 Carol, Paul, Barb  
 Front: Cecilia, Ernie, Therese,  
 Helen, Mary

[Opening](#) ceremony of the [Luxembourg American Cultural Center](#) in Belgium, WI 8.8.2010, attended by a Luxembourg official delegation headed by Minister of Culture [Octavie Modert](#), here pictured with the Gales family who is a donator of the museum.  
 L to R: Jenna Gales 1988, daughter of Steve, Helen Gales-Bormann 1928, Octavie Modert, Ernie Gales 1929, Barb Gales 1961 with daughters Emily 2000 and Allison 2004 Haag, Therese Gales



1969, Nicole Gales 1981, daughter of Paul Gales and Patricia O'Donnell.

During the Heritage Weekend 14.8.2011 of the [LACS](#) in Belgium the **Gales-Bormann** were among the **Honored Families**.

Back: Barb Haag-Gales,  
Therese Gales, Ernie  
Gales, Emily Haag,  
Helen Gales-Bormann,  
Nicole and Patrick  
O'Connell-Gales  
Front: Dan and Alison  
Haag



60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Ernie Gales -  
Helen Bormann  
19.2.2012



## Generation 9

**Cecilia Mary Gales** married **Stephen Francis House**.

## Generation 10

**Angela Marie House** married **Kieran Houlahan** and they live in Sydney, Australia.

## Generation 11

**Liam Houlahan** was born in February 17, 2010 and he is the first great grandchild of Ernie and Helen.

## The “Hojes” house in Oberfeulen

This century old property was the take-off deck for the Iowa Bormanns. It draws its name from a Hagen/Hages family back in the 1600s, Hojes in Luxembourgish.

The present building dates from 1753 as we are told by the keystone of the entrance door frame, nicely chiselled and showing symbols of love, fertility and prosperity. No doubt the owners were well-off compared to the generally very modest condition of the rural population and they had a good taste for embellishing their home.



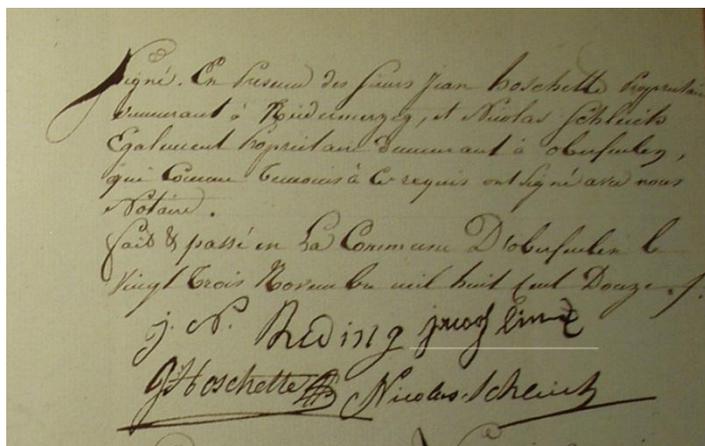
A (positive) [swastika](#), meaning good fortune, is topped by the construction year 1753. An explanation for the horns on top of a head ? could not be given by Georges Calteux, specialist in rural architecture and co-initiator of the [Roots and Leaves Museum](#) at the Luxembourg American Cultural Center in Belgium, WI

On the map drawn by Count de Ferraris, the property can be clearly identified, alongside the still existing road to Heiderscheid, today house number 1.

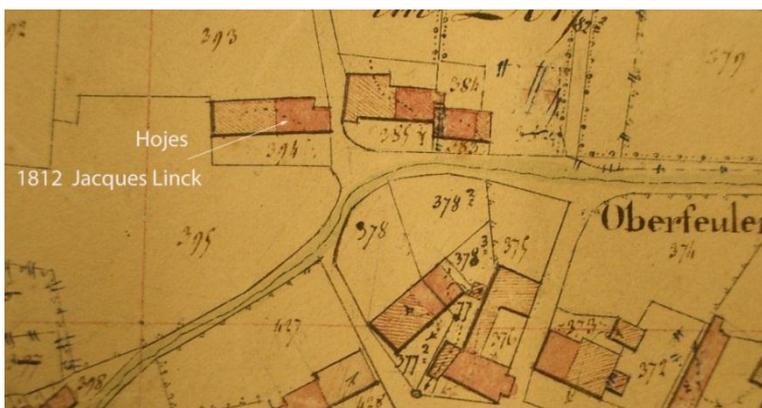


ANL Extrait Carte Ferraris 1776 Oberfeulen  
Photo Claude Lanners

The house entered into the family property when **Jacques Link** bought it in 1812. In a deed passed 23.11.1812 by notary Michel Blum from Ettelbruck, Elisabeth Krack, spouse of Johann Nikolaus Reding, a miller resident in Fouches, Arlon, Belgium, sold to the “*farmer and innkeeper Jakob Linck*” from Niederfeulen the “*house, barn, stables, sheep stable, yard with the garden and orchard called Hoyes*” situated in Oberfeulen for the price of 3000 francs. The notary deed is filed at the National Archives in Luxembourg, MCN 02359.



About 15 years later, around 1826, 10 years after the country's independence, the first real scale land register was drawn to document land ownership. Lists of the owners stated the size and the value of property, both to settle disputes but also to create an objective and, even more important, complete data base for fiscal purposes. Tax was based in those days on the yield of land and calculated on surface.



ACT Plan cadastral Oberfeulen Photo 5467 Claude Lanners 13.12.2005

Four decades later, the owner is Peter Bormann who married Susanne Link in 1859. Here is an extract of the land owners list showing for him plot 393 garden, 394 house and stables, 395 meadow, as shown on the above map. In 2010, this property is still in family hands with Paul and Delphine Reiser-Elsen.

Commune de Oberfeulen

**BULLETIN DES PROPRIÉTÉS**

Bormann Peter avec son épouse Susanne Reiser-Elsen

LIEUX-DITS.	SECTION.	Ancien Numéro des parcelles.	Nouveaux Numéros supplémentaires.	Classe de la parcelle supplémentaire.	NATURE de CULTURE.	CONTENANCE.	CLASSES.	REVENUS.	ANNÉE de la notation.		ARTICLE de la section.	Nombres de propriétaires.
									Revenu.	Classe.		
Hoyes	B	393	91	91	Jardin	16 00	1	11 00	1100			
		394	92	92	maison grange	17 00	110	11 00				
		395	93	93	pré	15 00	1	20 00				
						38 00		32 00				

ACT Luxembourg

The following pictures document the house over a 90 years period :

About 1920

Photo brought by Barb Gales

L to R:

Marie Catherine Bormann \*1897

Emile Elsen \*1916 ?

Jean Pierre Elsen \*1886

Auguste Elsen \*1918 ?

Marguerite Bormann \*1891



August 1985 Visit of Barb Gales  
Delphine Reiser-Elsen, Barb Gales,  
Marie Louise Steichen (Kehmen),  
Emile Elsen, Anna Elsen-Hendel  
épouse Auguste Elsen, Claude  
Lanners.



17.4.2006



Summer 2010

The old stables have been demolished and are being replaced by a house for sons Marc and Claude Reiser



Visit Kurt Bormann  
26.11.2010

Paul Reiser, Delphine  
Reiser-Elsen,  
Anna Elsen-Hendel,  
Kurt Bormann, Everett  
Bormann, Nicole Bormann-  
Timmins



## The Hojes farm in late 1944



Photo Ernie and Helen Gales-Bormann Mail to CL 10.1.2011

Drawing by Emile Mergen born 1913 who lived opposite the Hojes house. It decorated during decades the living room of the Elsen family where it was admired by all American visitors in the 1980 and 90s. Stored away and shown to Kurt Bormann by Delphine Reiser-Elsen 27.11.2010. Kurt found its condition "alarming", of course a consequence of exposure to light and dust during 50 years.

It is a view from Emile Mergen's house towards NE and shows in front the "Mechelbach" brook and in the centre the Hojes house. Details of house are totally consistent with the photo of approximately 1920 featuring the Jean-Pierre Elsen-Marguerite Bormann family on page 32. Army vehicles and tank with soldiers having guns on the shoulder, star on truck left, Jeep in front of barn identify the scene as either the liberation by the US troops after Sept. 10 1944, or rather during the Battle of the Bulge because the trees don't have leaves and this concentration of troops in Oberfeulen was not likely at the first liberation in September. During the Battle of the Bulge Oberfeulen was taken by the German army on December 21st, 1944, but reoccupied again by US troops one week later. There was not too much damage on buildings, but inside the houses because "the US troops behaved like in enemy country" as the mayor complained. (François Decker, Feulen 963-1963, p.288). Maybe this is a reason why there are virtually no documents left in the Hojes and Broch houses, inhabited during more than a century by the same families and where there were no doubt a number of photos, notary deeds and letters from US emigrants kept.

## Father Louis Bormann

Louis Bormann was born 1.11.1901 in Thionville, Moselle, France, to Jacques Bormann (Generation 5, 4<sup>th</sup> child) and Catherine Gravier. His parents owned a restaurant in Thionville where Louis started his high school education, continued at the St. Augustin college in Bitche.



After having studied theology and philosophy he was ordained priest in Metz Cathedral 18.7.1926. He served in different parishes of the Metz diocese: Montigny-les-Metz, Beyren, Mondelange (1935-1953) and archpriest at Ste Ségolène in Metz.



25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ordination 15.7.1951 Mondelange

In 1962 he semi-retired and became the chaplain at an institution for homeless girls in Borny-Metz. It is here where he passed away after a stroke 22.9.1969 at 68 years. He was buried at the Saint- François cemetery in Thionville in the family grave. On the monument the inscription: Bormann-Bartheld-Gravier.



Photos: Claude Lanners 9.11.2004

Although he was very committed to his service, Father Louis enjoyed life and liked travelling. Claude Lanners visited him several times in Mondelange and in Metz and was

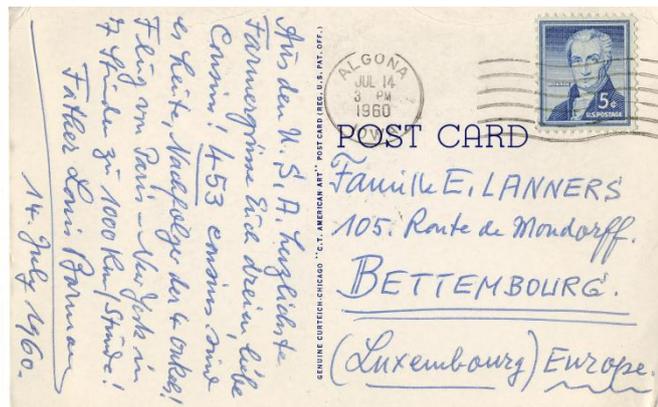
impressed of his mountaineering gear, rope and ice ax, hanging on the wall of his office among photos of his mountain tours. That might well have been the origin of Claude's love for the mountains, involving many weeks of hiking and skiing.

In 1947 Father Louis boarded the Queen Elizabeth and visited his cousins in Iowa and in Minnesota where he is still remembered.



The Bormann family reunion photo with Father Louis 7.9.1947, cemetery hill in St. Joseph

In July 1960 he made a second trip by jet and sent a card from Algona dated 14.7. 1960. The descendants of his 4 Bormann uncles had reached the number of 453.



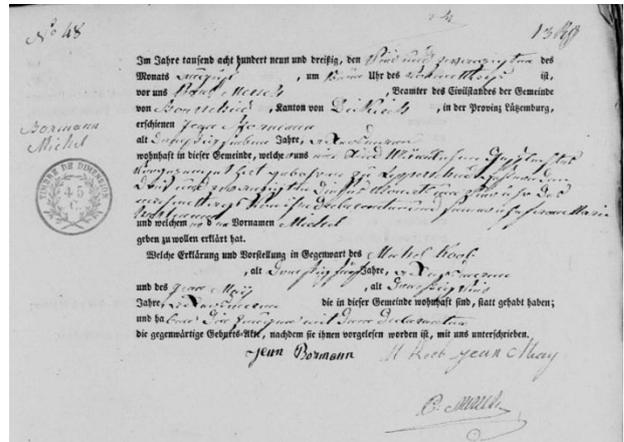
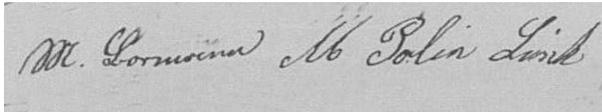
The housekeeper of Father Louis was for many years, until his Mondelange assignment, Anna "Matti Aanny" Bormann born 23.8.1878 in Oberfeulen, a cousin of his father. She died in her homeplace, the "Broch" house in Oberfeulen, in 1949.

# The "Minnesota" Bormanns

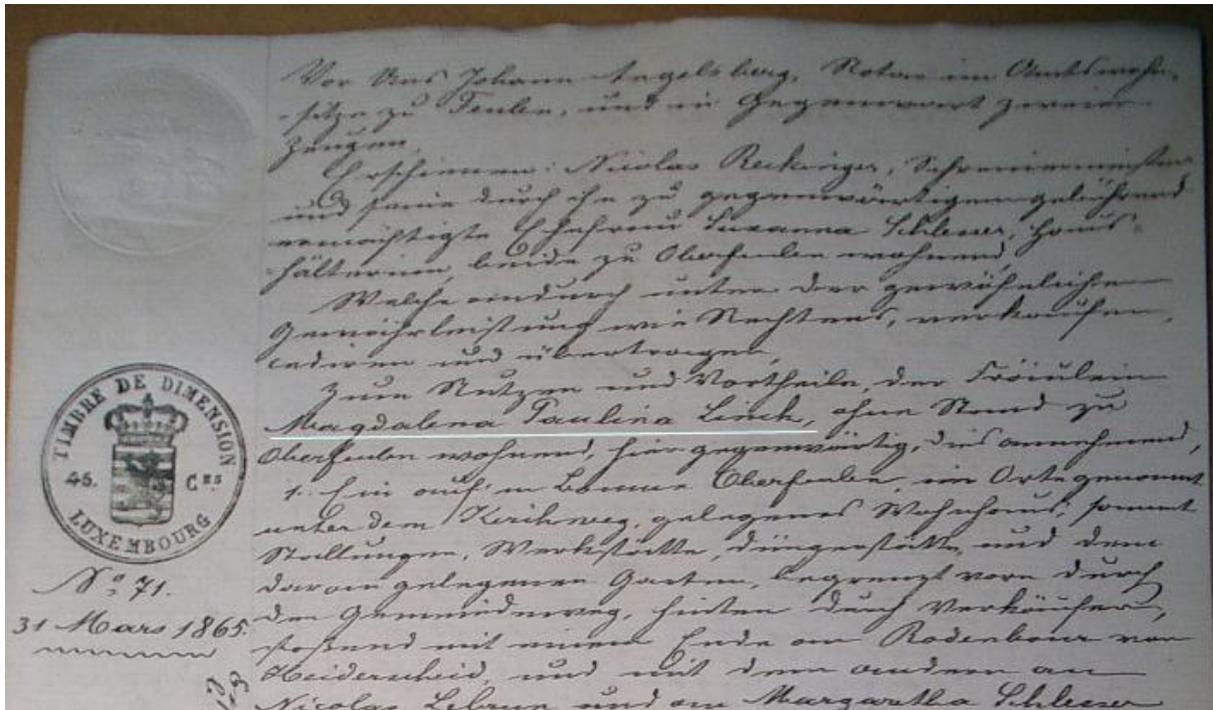
## Generation 5

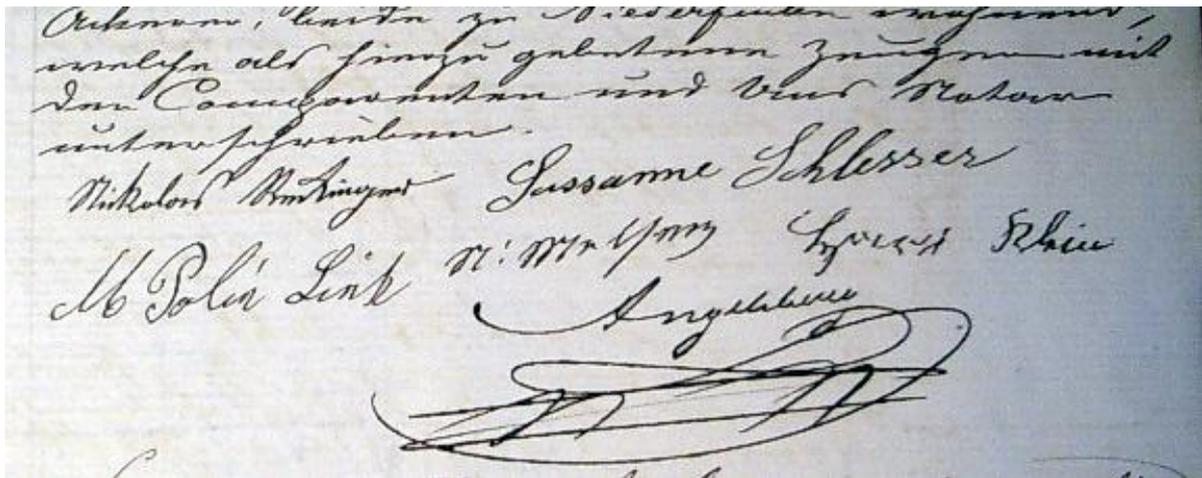
**Michel Bormann** was born 23.8.1839 in Lipperscheid.  
 Familysearch Bourscheid N 1797-1871 Image 624 Record 48

He married 31.5.1865 in Feulen **Madeleine** called **Pauline Link** born 21.8.1843 in Oberfeulen.



We don't know how Peter and Susanne became acquainted, but it is not unreasonable to think that Michel saw his future bride at his brother's wedding when he was 20 and she 16 years old. Five and 1/2 years later they will be a couple. Two months before the wedding took place, Pauline, had bought a property in Oberfeulen along the road to the parish church as it is documented in a deed before notary Angelsberg 31.3.1865 (ANL MCN 1910, 71):





ANL MCN 1910 Angelsenberg 71 Vente Reckinger-Madeleine Pauline Link 31.3.1865

The acquisition included a house with stables, workshop, manure place and garden, 2 fields and a meadow for a price of 3.000 francs. Although the price was to be paid over 3 years, one may wonder how a 22 year old girl could enter such a commitment. We can assume that she had got a startup capital from her father, maybe in the context of her sister Susanne and husband Peter Bormann taking over the family farm.

The house and the meadow (plot 280) can be seen on the survey map to be dated about 1840. The house is the nucleus of the future “Broch” house, stables and barn that will expand towards the right side.



ACT Administration du Cadastre Luxembourg Photo Claude Lanners

Michel Bormann and Pauline Link will be the parents of 9 children:

**1. Nicolas Bormann** born 11.10.1866. He will emigrate and marry **Catherine Goebel**. They have 30 [descendants](#).

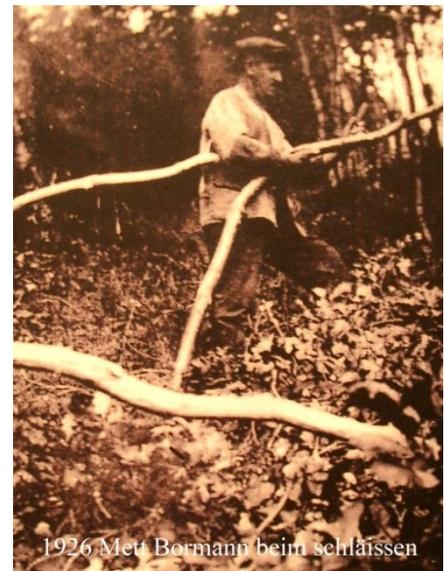
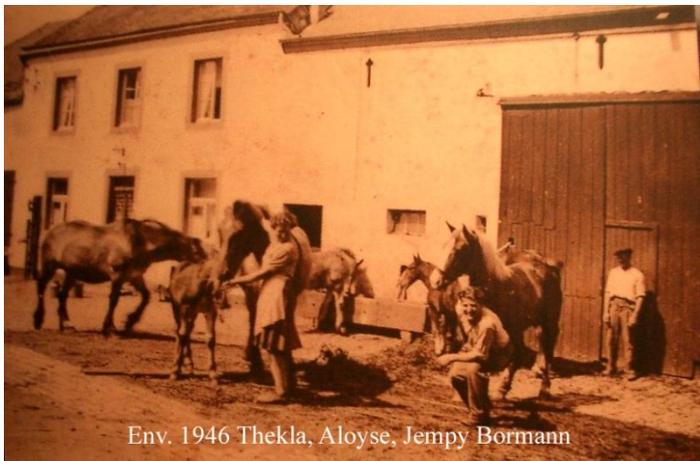
**2. John Bormann** born 25.11.1868. He will also emigrate and marry **Sophie Lebrun**. 324 [descendants](#) are known.

**3. Susan Bormann** born 24.12.1870. Susan also emigrated to the US, probably in 1893. She stayed for some time with her brother Mike and then went to Chicago. Around 1920, she was back in Feulen and kept for some time the household of her deceased sister Justine Hottua-Bormann in Niederfeulen. Susan returned to the US and died 30.1.1948. She never married, but had a "friend" as Jempy Bormann (1918-2008) told Claude.

**4. Marie Bormann** born 2.12.1872 died in 1877.

**5. Mathias Bormann** born 22.2.1875 took over the family farm and married **Elisabeth Neu**. They have 49 [descendants](#). Their son **Aloyse** 1914-1994 took over the farm and he married **Thekla Becker** 1909-1991. After they had retired, their son **Josy** continued the farm activity. He married **Wiesia Wobszal** from Poland. The two generations have hosted many American Bormann visitors.

Wiesia, Claude Lanners, Patrick Bormann, Jempy Bormann 1918-2008, Josy.  
Broch house 5.10.2005



Mathias "Mätt" Bormann 1926 cutting and peeling young oak trees, the bark being sold for tanning, a century old income source from local forests, the core wood being used for heating. This activity was called "Schlässen" in Luxembourgish.

**6. Anna Bormann** born 23.8.1878. Anna stayed single and kept for many years the household of Father Louis Bormann, the son of her cousin Jacques from the Hojes house. After retiring, “Matty Aany” as Claude remembers her, returned to her home place where she passed 29.10.1949.

**7. Michael Bormann** born 7.11.1880. He emigrated to the United States in 1901, settled first in Sioux County, IA, then worked in South Dakota before acquiring a farm near Madison in Lac Qui Parle County, MN. Mike married **Mary Lebrun**, a sister of Sophie, on 15.2.1911.



They have a daughter **Marie** born 24.11.1911 who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in the Lutheran Home in Madison. **Marie is thus the first Bormann to cross the century threshold.** The US Bormann are a very well aging kind. In the list of the 50 longest living individuals in the author’s database are 5 Bormann who lived in America. 2 scratched on the 100: Marie’s cousin Nicholas Paul who passed at 99 and 8 months and Edward Bormann from St. Joseph, IA who lived up to 99 and 10 months.

In Summer 1950 Marie and her cousins Dolores and Roseanna Bormann (daughters of John B. and Sophie Lebrun) from Madison, MN visited Luxembourg. The photo at the Broch house Oberfeulen features the 5 Mathias Bormann sons and 3 of the 6 Justine Hottua-Bormann children.



Back: Dolores Bormann 1919, Aloyse Bormann 1914, Marie Bormann 1911, Jos. Bormann 1909, Mich Bormann 1910, Nick Bormann 1912  
 Front: Alice Hottua 1919 , Léon Hottua 1915, Suzanne Lanners-Hottua 1910, Roseanna Bormann 1916, Jempy Bormann 1918



Claude Lanners on visit in Madison 4<sup>th</sup> July 1980: Back: Marie Bormann 1911, Dolores Bormann 1919; Front: Claude 1939, Dora Bormann-Anderson 1910-2010, Jeanne Bormann 1946 (Dora's daughter).

**8. Justine Bormann** born 24.2.1883. She married 17.6.1909 in Feulen **Nicolas Hottua** born 9.8.1883 in Niederfeulen. Nicolas was a blacksmith and the couple lived in the Hottua family house in Niederfeulen. They had 6 children, among them **Suzanne Hottua** born 4.4.1910 who married **Eugène Lanners**. Suzanne and Eugène are the parents of **Claude Lanners**. By 2011 Justine had 62 [descendants](#).



September 1944:  
An American truck passing by the Hottua-Bormann forge in Niederfeulen during the liberation of Luxembourg. Four months later the house will be seriously damaged during the Battle of the Bulge.



**9. Marie Bormann** born 10.8.1885 died in 1889.

## The first Bormann photo in Europe



This is a highly interesting photo, especially for the “European” side of the Michel Bormann-Pauline Link descendants, **most likely the first family photo made**. It is not present any more in the Broch house in Feulen where it was supposedly shot and has been brought to Claude by Kurt Bormann during his visit in November 2010. According to the owner, Helen Gales-Bormann, (who got it from Marie Bormann born 1911), it shows the Michel Bormann-Pauline Link family from the Broch house in Oberfeulen.

L to R Back: Anna 1878, Matt 1875, Michael 1880, Justina 1883

Front: Pauline (Madeleine) 1843, Marie Link 1838, sister of Pauline, Michel 1839.

The age of the children situates the **date of the photo around 1897**.

The people shown are consistent with available information, especially with the 1895 and 1900 censuses. Nicolas, John and Susan are already in America. The only problem is Michael 1880, the father of Marie Bormann from Madison, MN, who looks pretty young (small) compared to his siblings. Marie seems to have been of restricted growth, standing between Pauline and Michel who are seated. Maybe her physical condition is an explanation why she followed her sister into her household. Have a look at the ladies’ dresses!

A true discovery!

## Generation 6

**1.Nicholas Bormann** was born 11.10.1866 in Oberfeulen. He emigrated at the age of 18 together with his cousin Nicholas from the Hojes house. They arrived in New York 19.3.1885 on board of the Noordland and indicated as destination Dyersville, IA. In late 1890 Nicholas came back to Luxembourg and left for good in 1891. He arrived in New York 12.2.1891, again in company of a cousin of the Hojes house, this time Mathias. Nicholas continued to live in Iowa and married 29.9.1898 in Alton, IA **Catherine Goebel** who was born 9.5.1878 in Remsen, IA. The family finally settled in Lake Qui Parle County in Western Minnesota.

Nicholas and Catherine had 7 children and [30 descendants](#) are known:

- 1.John Casper Bormann** born 16.9.1897 died 13.3.1894 in Madison, MN.
- 2.Josephine Bormann** born 28.4.1899.
- 3.Michael John Bormann** born 4.7.1901 died 1984 in Madison.
- 4.Nicholas Paul Bormann** born 30.7.1904 in Madison is the father of Stan Bormann.
- 5.Sylvester Mike Bormann** born 16.1.1908 died 1920.
- 6.Pauline Bormann** born 22.3.1911 in Madison married **Cliff Lund**. She passed away 22.11.2006 in Madison. There are no descendants.
- 7.Maurice George Bormann** born 4.10.1919.

**2.John Bormann** was born 25.11.1868 in Oberfeulen. He emigrated to the US in 1888 and lived with his brother Nick in Alton, IA. John married 7.11.1894 **Sophie Lebrun** born 31.3.1875 in Oberfeulen. She came to the US in 1886 with her widowed mother and her sister Mary who will be the wife of John's brother Michael. In 1909 he bought 1/2 section of land 2 miles West of Madison.

Monument on Madison catholic cemetery in honour of John and Sophie Bormann. John had donated the land for the cemetery.



Sophie Bormann-Lebrun 1875-1971 at her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday



John and Sophie had 12 children and [324 descendants](#) are known:

1. **Mary Bormann** born 18.3.1896 married **Nick Gengler**.
2. **George Bormann** born 13.10.1897 married **Rose Schilmoeller**.
3. **Michael Bormann** born 21.3.1900.
4. **Anna Bormann** born 11.3.1902 married **William Kemen**. Their son Eugene “Gene” visited Luxembourg in 1962.
5. **Catherine Bormann** born 27.11.1903.
6. **Alphonse Bormann** born 20.2.1905 married **Marie Bauler**.
7. **John Bormann** born 10.3.1907.
8. **Joseph Bormann** born 1.1.1909 married **Dora Anderson**. They had 9 children and 3 of them visited Luxembourg: **Jeanne, Mary Ellen** and **Nancy**.
9. **Martha Bormann** born 28.5.1911.
10. **Veronica Bormann** born 18.4.1914.
11. **Roseanna Bormann** 20.8.1916.
12. **Dolores Bormann** born 26.3.1919. Dolores visited Luxembourg in 1950 with her sister Roseanna and her cousin Marie.

### Generation 7 (Nicholas Bormann 1866 line)

**Nicholas Paul Bormann** was born 30.7.1904 in Madison, MN and married 4.11.1933 **Viola Skoog**. The couple lived in Madison and had 2 children:

1. **Susan Katherine Bormann** born 30.10.1937. Sue married **Richard Gossman** and they have a son Scott.
2. **Stanley Nicholas Bormann**.

4 generations of the Nicholas Bormann line August.1995:  
Back: Nicholas Bormann 1904-2004, Sue Gossman-Bormann 1937, Scott Gossman 1958,  
Middle: Stan Bormann 1941, David Bormann 1970 Viola Bormann-Skoog 1909-2008,  
Front:, Laina and Danielle Gossman



## Generation 8

**Stanley Bormann** was born 27.3.1941 in Madison. Stan married **Shirley Kestell** and they have 2 children, David and Kathy. The family visited Luxembourg in May 1996 and a family reunion was held on May 25 in the "[Hennesbau](#)" hall in Niederfeulen.



Melissa Bormann-Davies (later divorced from David), David B., Wiesza B.-Wobszal, Claude Lanners, Jempy B., Théophile B., Susan Gossman-B., Justina B., Josy Bormann, Gilles B., Christiane and Jessica Bormann, Myriam Bormann, Jean-Marie Bormann, Monique B.-Wewer, Fernande B.-Kayser, Shirley B.-Kestell, Patrick Bormann, Stan Bormann

Stan was back again in Europe in the following years for business reasons and passed by in Luxembourg. On one of these trips he brought Claude the Family Tree Maker genealogy software with about 1700 US Bormanns both from Minnesota and from Iowa. This is the data base Claude is still working on and which has been extended by other related or allied families like the [Hottua](#), and [Lanners](#). It is online [here](#).

## Generation 9

**David Bormann** married **Mary Madill** and the couple lives in San Jose, CA.

## Generation 10

**Gia Bormann** is the daughter of David and Mary.

## Generation 7 (John Bormann 1868 line)

**Joseph Bormann** was born 1.1.1909 in Madison. He married **Dora Anderson** 7.6.1929 and the couple farmed in the Madison area. They had 9 children:

**1. Mary Ellen Bormann** born 20.6.1929. She married **Dr. Bernard Kaiser** and they have 5 children: Paul \*1955, Peter\* 1956, Maureen \*1957, John \*1961, Bernard \*1963. Mary Ellen and Paul visited Luxembourg in May 1989.

**2. James Robert Bormann** born 1.6.1931. He married **Patricia Mosey** and they have 5 children: Bradley\*1955, Douglas \*1956, James \*1957, Mitchell \*1961 and Tamara \*1965.

**3. Raymond Alphonse Bormann** born 31.8.1933.

**4. Aloys Roger Bormann** born 15.6.1935.

**5. Joseph John Bormann** born 23.9.1939. Joseph Bormann married Merianne Puskey and they live in Kansas City where Joe worked for the Department of Agriculture. They have 3 daughters: Kristine \*1967, Susan \*1971, and Jill \*1972 who are married and live in Texas.

**6. John "Jack" Bormann** born 15.6.1943 married Gail Redepenning and they have 3 children: Brenda \*1963, John \*1966 and Matthew \*1973.

**7. Jeanne Kathleen Bormann** born 22.7.1946.

**8. Patricia Bormann** born 6.2.1949:

**9. Nancy Jo Bormann** born 8.12.1959. She married Scott Tofte and they have 3 children.

## Generation 8

**Jeanne Bormann** was born 22.7.1946 in Madison. She married **Jim Riis** and they live in Pierre, SD. The couple has 2 children: Jenny Dora born 1978 and Joseph Carl born 1984. Jeanne was the first Minnesota Bormann to visit Luxembourg in 1967 after her aunts Dolores and Roseanne in 1950.



The picture shows Jeanne with the Aloyse Bormann family at the Broch house in Oberfeulen 10.6.1967. Jempy Bormann 1918-2008, Claude Lanners 1939, , Mariette Lanners-Eicher 1942, Aloyse Bormann 1914-1994, Jeanne Bormann 1946, Thekla B.-Becker 1909-1991, Jean-Marie Bormann 1949, Francy Bormann-Meyers, Josy Bormann 1951, Francy Bormann 1953, Théophile Bormann 1947, Mich Bormann 1910-1987.

## Generation 9

Jenny Riis was born 28.7.1978. She married in 1995 **Chad Babcock** and they have 3 sons.

## Generation 10

**Colter Babcock** was born 19.6.2006.



The Jeanne Bormann family at their home in Pierre, SD, 31.10.2011

Chad Babcock, Henry Babcock 2010, Jenny Babcock-Riis 1978, Joe Riis 1984, Bridger Babcock 2008, Jim Riis 1947, Colter Babcock 2008, Jeanne Riis-Bormann 1946

## Overview on **BORMANN Emigrants** to the United States

No	P.	Name	Date, place of Birth	Date of Emigr.	Living in	Descendants known
1	21	Bormann Nicolas	15.04.1864 Oberfeulen	1885	St. Joseph, IA	589
2	44	Bormann Nicholas	11.10.1866 Oberfeulen	1885	Madison, MN	30
3	17	Bormann Peter	23.01.1868 Oberfeulen	1888	St. Joseph, IA	1.142
4	44	Bormann John	25.11.1868 Oberfeulen	1888	Madison, MN	354
5	18	Bormann Mathias	06.05.1870 Oberfeulen	1891	St. Joseph, IA	168
6	40	Bormann Susan	24.12.1870 Oberfeulen	1893	Chicago, IL	0
7	19	Bormann Henry	07.07.1872 Oberfeulen	1890	Colman, SD	12
8	41	Bormann Michael	07.11.1880 Oberfeulen	1901	Madison, MN	3
		<b>Total: 8</b>				<b>2.298</b>

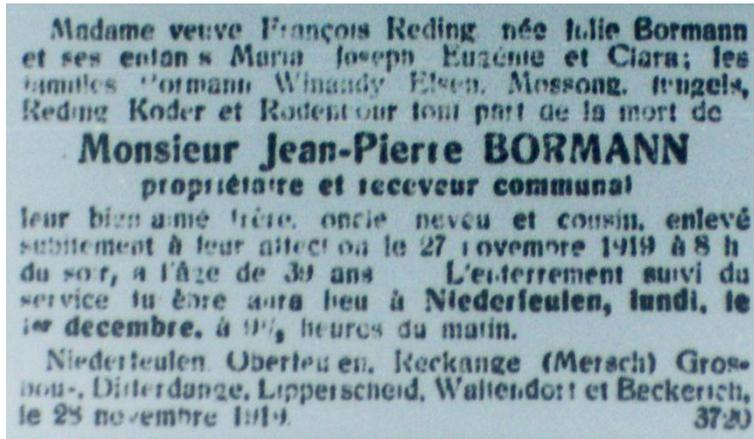
### The murder of Jean Pierre « Jemmy » Bormann

The “LuxemburgerWort”, the country’s main newspaper reported on page 2 of its November 28, 1919 edition: *“Our village has been shocked by the murder of our commune treasurer J. P.Bormann. He has been shot in the head last night on the road from Ettelbruck to Niederfeulen, but not robbed. The killed has been a well estimated and charming man, whose tragic end is complained by all. We hear that he was in company of the school teacher Miss Schock from Niederfeulen. Outside Ettelbruck a man jumped from behind a tree and with the words “Do you know me?” he fired and hit Bormann in the head. The murderer escaped.”* In 2005 Claude had a conversation with Claire Risch-Reding, a niece of “Jemmy” and then aged 90. She confirmed and completed the information above.

Miss Schock, the local teacher, was lodged at the Reding (Kéitzen) house and helped also bringing up the 4 children, among them Claire, whose father, the brother-in-law of Jemmy, had passed away 2 years ago. Jemmy, 39 years, single and younger brother of Claire’s mother Julie Reding-Bormann, lived also in the family and gave a hand on the farm, as his job for the commune was part time only. On the day of the crime, he had accompanied Miss Schock to Ettelbruck to buy Saint Nicholas presents for the children.

The culprit was not found, but Miss Schock was sent to jail and suspected. She died 6 months later.

Local rumours pointed to a J.P. Steichen, mill- and landowner of Oberfeulen, who was said to have proposed without success to Miss Schock. Did she have an affair with Jemmy? Jealousy would have been a plausible reason. Jemmy Bormann from the Broch house (1918-2008), godchild of the victim, confirmed the facts as well as the supposed identity of the murderer.



ANL Luxemburger Wort 29.11.1919, page 2, col. 4

The Niederfeulen Bormann house goes back to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bormann who came from Lipperscheid to Feulen:

1. Peter Bormann born 1833 married in 1859 Susanne Link from the Hojes house in Oberfeulen and they are the ancestors of the Iowa Bormanns.
2. Michel Bormann born 1839 married in 1865 Pauline Link who had bought the Broch house in Oberfeulen and they are the ancestors of the Minnesota Bormanns and of Claude Lanners.
3. **Johann Bormann** born 1847 married in 1875 **Anne Elisabeth Heinen** from the “Kéitzen” house in Niederfeulen. Jemmy was the son of that couple. The family goes on, but has left Feulen.

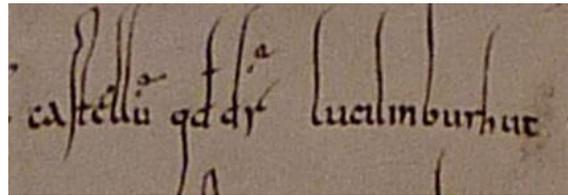
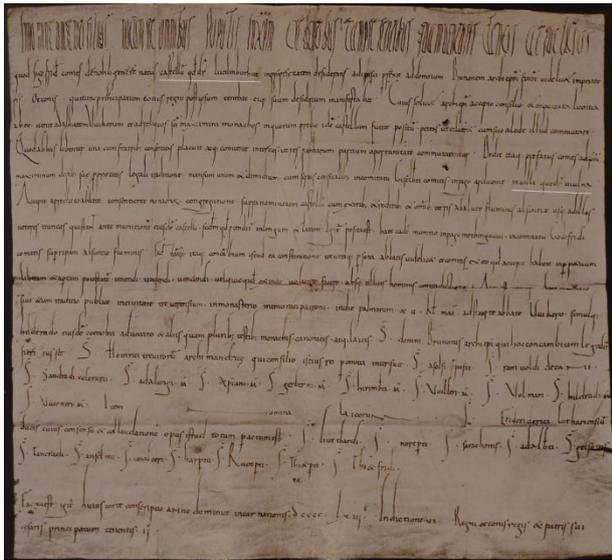


The “Kéitzen” house, formerly Bormann-Reding, 2, Rue Eugène Reiser Niederfeulen,  
Photo Claude Lanners 2005

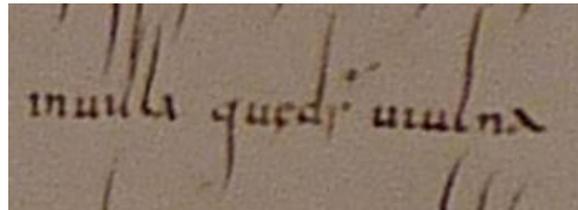
## 963 FEULEN and LUXEMBOURG

The area around Feulen has been occupied by man since at least 500 BC. In the Roman period after 54 AD several “villae”, a kind of farms, existed and the parish church may have been built on the remains of such a farm or possibly a pagan worshipping place. The first written trace is found in 893: Fulina.

The “official” entry into history dates however from 963. In that year, on Palm Sunday, April 12, a count Siegfried exchanged in the abbey of St. Maximin in Trier a piece of land he owned in Feulen “viulna” against a castle situated on a rock which was going to develop into Luxembourg “lucilinburhuc”.



“castellu q(uo)d d(icitu)r lucilinburhuc”  
*the castle called lucilinburhuc*



“in villa que d(icitu)r viulna”  
*in the village called viulna = Feulen*

This document, which is kept in the archives of the city of [Trier](#) (Germany, 30 miles east of Luxembourg), is considered to be the birth certificate of the country of Luxembourg. In 1963 millennium celebrations took place on a national level but also in Feulen .

The castle developed later on into a fortress that was considered as one of the most important in Europe and put Luxembourg in the center of political rivalry among the European powers Austria, France and Spain. Frequent wars and changing control of the fortress took a high toll on the population which remained very poor. Initially a county, Luxembourg was later on a Duchy and controlled a territory three times bigger than its present size.

## The Oberfeulen Churches

Places that have been familiar to all the Bormann emigrants are the parish church where the Sunday high mass was celebrated and the Chapel where the daily mass was held.

The parish church, situated between Oberfeulen and Niederfeulen and surrounded by the cemetery, was built in 1725 and is a national monument. The centuries old linden trees have already heard the gossip of our ancestors before and after mass.

A lasting souvenir is the window donated by Pauline Bormann-Link, the mother of the Minnesota Bormann emigrants.



Oberfeulen chapel

A historic and photographic report on the Oberfeulen churches can be seen at [http://www.lannersnet.lu/files/CHURCHES\\_Oberfeulen.pdf](http://www.lannersnet.lu/files/CHURCHES_Oberfeulen.pdf)

## Emigration to the United States of America

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century as many as 70,000 people, about a third of the population, left Luxembourg, most of them to the United States.

A number of reasons motivated people to leave (**push factors**):

- Difficult living conditions after the turmoil of the French revolution in a country with a reduced territory, politically independent but economically unable to survive on its own;
- Lower child mortality and bigger families; on farms, only one son could take over; the other children had limited possibilities: marry into other families or stay as farmhands;
- Military service and wars in Europe.

On the other hand the United States seemed attractive under different aspects (**pull factors**):

- Availability of land and possibility to buy at favourable conditions, at certain periods and locations even for free (homesteading);
- Improving travel conditions with technological progress (railway, steamships);
- Aggressive promotion by emigration agencies;
- Positive reports from those who had settled in the US.

Three immigration waves from Luxembourg into the US can be identified:

1. From 1830 to the mid 1840s to the West of New York State and Ohio;
2. From 1846 to 1860 to Illinois, eastern Wisconsin and eastern Iowa;
3. From 1860 to 1900, with a peak in the 80s, to Minnesota, the Dakotas, and western Iowa: St. Joseph, Algona, Gilbertville, Remsen.

The Bormanns were part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave. The Iowa boys from the Hojes house left: Nick in 1885, Peter in 1888, Henry in 1899 and Mathias by 1891. The Minnesota folks from the Broch house: Nick in 1889, John in 1887, Susan in 1893 and Mike in 1901.

More info on the Luxembourg emigration can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

In order to keep the contact between immigrants and to help those being in need, associations like the [Luxembourg Brotherhood](#) were created. The LBA is still active in some areas.

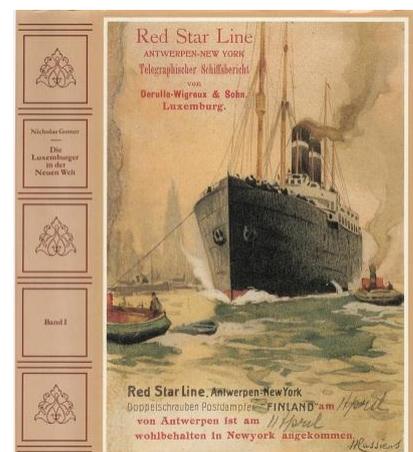
Another link between the Luxembourg immigrants was the [“Luxemburger Gazette”](#), a newspaper edited in Dubuque by Nicholas Gonner and published from 1871 to 1918. It is a most helpful resource to find information on Luxembourgers

and has about 20 entries of Luxembourg Bormanns. A source still to be tapped, thanks to Jean Ensch and Jean-Claude Muller who indexed the name and location entries and made them thus available on 680 pages in Volume 2 of their reedition of Nicholas Gonner’s [“Luxembourgers in the New World”](#)

Cover of the 1985 reedition of Nicholas Gonner’s reference work “Die Luxemburger in der Neuen Welt”.

Pictured is a facsimile of a postcard the emigration agency used to send to the family announcing the arrival of the ship, here the Finland April 11 in New York.

In our days, the [“Luxembourg News of America”](#) offers a news



platform for the American-Luxembourg community.

The relations between Luxembourg and the descendants of Luxembourg immigrants are now best served by the [“Luxembourg American Cultural Society”](#) that operates the Cultural Center in Belgium, WI with its [“Roots and Leaves Museum”](#).

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- *Livre des Emigrants (Emigrants Register)* of the Derulle-Wigreux Emigration Agency ANL Microfilm FMD 028
- Helen Gales-Bormann, St. Joseph, IA
- Stan Bormann, Surprise, AZ
- [Thomas Pick](#)
- Claude Lanners family documentation and [database](#).

## The Author

Claude Lanners was born 18 July 1939 in Dudelange, Luxembourg. He married Mariette Eicher in 1963 and the couple has two children, Martine born 1965 and Michel born 1968, and 5 grandchildren. They live in Luxembourg City.

During his professional life Claude was a civil servant working for the Ministry of Economy in the economic development area and promotion missions to the United States gave him the opportunity to visit the Bormanns in Madison, MN and St. Joseph, IA.

From his mother, a granddaughter of Michel Bormann and Pauline Link of the Broch house in Oberfeulen, he inherited his interest in family history and he spent most of his time when retired researching and writing down the history of the [Lanners](#), [Hottua](#) and Bormann families.

Back: Claude Lanners and daughter Martine Ruiz-Lanners  
Front: Bob Lanners, Daniel Ruiz, Nick Lanners, Pit Lanners, Michel Lanners, Laura Ruiz  
Photo Edmée Lanners-Thein  
9.2009 Pétange



Edmée and Michel with, Nick, Bob and Pit and grandpa Claude. 19.2.2012



Easter 2010 in the new apartment: Claude and Mariette with Martine, husband Jose Manuel Ruiz, Daniel and Laura



14.6.1967 Claude Lanners, Mariette Lanners-Eicher, Jeanne Bormann from Madison, MN, Sisy and Eugène Lanners, Bettembourg

7.12.1965 105, Rte de Mondorf, Bettembourg: Claude, Mariette Lanners-Eicher, Suzanne and Eugène Lanners-Hottua, Martine Lanners

