

FRANZ ZAUMEYER

Updated: March 2020

FRANZ ZAUMEYER

BORN
NOV 1838

DIED
7 DEC 1930

Emigrated From Bohemia in 1865: First Zaumeyer in America

An emigrant from Bohemia who was both an accomplished Milwaukee tailor and a man with a mysterious past

LIFE SKETCH

IMMIGRANTS FROM BOHEMIA

Franz was a married father of two when he emigrated alone to the United States. His wife and two boys joined him about 2 years later, settling in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The family would eventually consist of six sons and two daughters.

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MYSTERIOUS PAST

Franz was from Bohemia (present-day Czech Republic). The big mystery of his life was his ancestry. He was elusive about his family origins while alive, claiming to have been raised by his uncle, the archbishop of Prague. Further investigation shows that he was simply the illegitimate son of a young Prague woman.

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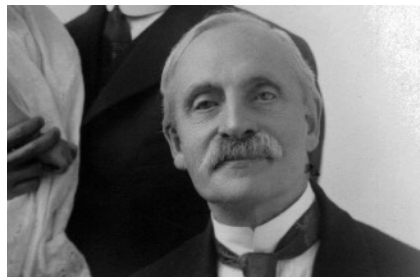
VITAL STATISTICS & SOURCES

Key dates, locations and other facts of Franz's life are listed here, including sources, where known.

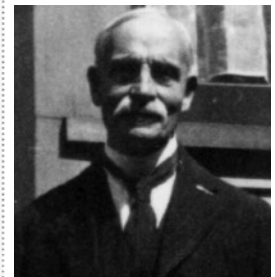
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Franz Zaumeyer and Magdalena Grünes Zaumeyer, undated

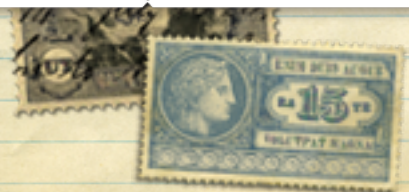


Franz about 1916



Franz in 1920

Franz was trained as a tailor while growing up in Bohemia. He ran a successful tailoring shop in Milwaukee for 30 years.



A Bohemian Couple Emigrates to the New World

In 1864 a young couple in the little Bohemian town of Falkenau an der Eger stepped into St. James parish church at one end of the town square. There they said their vows.

The groom was 26 year old Franz Zaumeyer. He had been raised in Prague, but now had a tailoring business in Falkenau just off the main square on Butterscheibe Street.

The bride, five months pregnant with their first child, was 23 year old Magdalena Grünes. She came from a prosperous family that lived just 6 miles out of town. She had been living in the nearby town of Carlsbad, Bohemia.

WHERE IS BOHEMIA?

Franz and Magdalena were Bohemians. Bohemia is modern-day Czechia. When we picture the Czechia these days we often

think of a backwards, mostly agrarian country punctuated by drab, Cold War-era cement buildings. But in the 1860s Bohemia was at the height of its gilded-age glory. Its capital city, Prague, was a cultural and architectural center.

They lived and worked in the little town of Falkenau an der Eger (often abbreviated as Falkenau a.d. Eger). Falkenau is the German word for “falcon,” and the town was situated on the Eger River. Falkenau was part of the northwest, ethnically German part of the country, sometimes referred to as the Sudetenland. To the east were the ethnic Czechs.



Franz and Magdalena Grünes Zaumeyer, photo undated

Below is the old town square in Falkenau a.d. Eger today. St. James parish church visible at the far end of the square





If you are looking for Falkenau a.d. Eger today you must look for it by the new name it was given in 1918. At the end of WWI the borders of the Austro-Hungarian empire were redrawn, giving birth to, among other countries, Czechoslovakia, in which Falkenau was situated. So it was renamed from a German name to a Czech name. On modern maps it is called Sokolov, which is Czech for “falcon.” It is about 90 miles west of Prague.

FRANZ LEAVES BOHEMIA

Life was good for the Zaumeyers. Bohemia had enjoyed peace for the 15 years since the end of the 1848 Revolution. Their first child, Anton, was born in late October, 1864.

But in 1866 came the Austro-Prussian war. Bohemia sat right in between Austria and Prussia. Bohemian men, as part of the Austrian empire, were conscripted for 3 years of mandatory military service. Neither Franz, nor his uncle who had raised him, nor apparently, Magdalena, wanted Franz to fight in this war, so the decision was made to leave the old world and to start a new life in America.

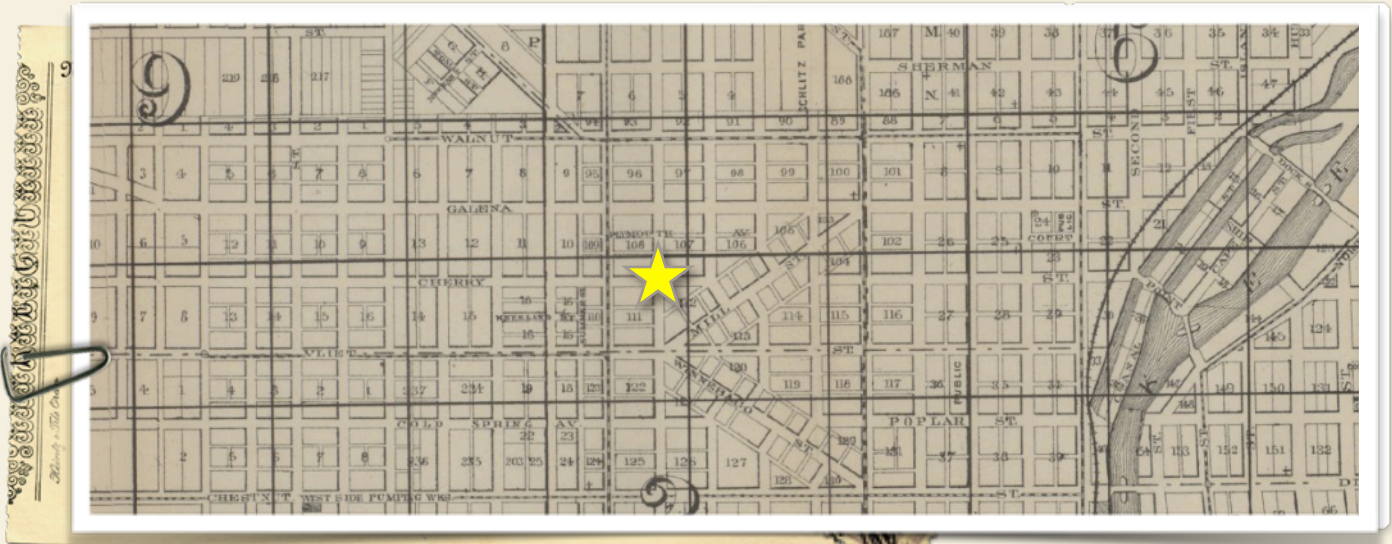
Unfortunately Magdalena became pregnant with their second child, and it was decided that it would be unwise for her to travel in her condition. So Franz left for America alone, with the plan to send for Magdalena and the children once he had established himself. It was probably also reassuring that pregnant Magdalena’s family lived close by. They had a large manor house and vast estate (referred to as “Schloss Grünes” by Lawrence Zaumeyer when he visited them in 1945). Perhaps she and Anton moved in with her parents until it was time to emigrate to the United States.

Under cover of darkness, and with the help of one of Magdalena’s brothers, Franz slipped across the Eger River and escaped to Hamburg on horseback, eventually making his way to America.

When their second son was born in Falkenau in early 1867, under Grünes family pressure he was baptized with the name Matthaues, but his name was soon changed to Maximilian, in honor of the Austria-born Emperor of Mexico, and he was known as Max for the remainder of his life.

Falkenau a.d. Eger, a small town in the ethnically German northwest corner of Bohemia, was the source of many Milwaukee emigrants, including Franz Zaumeyer.





ARRIVAL IN AMERICA

Franz arrived in the United States via ship from Germany in 1866. When he arrived in Wisconsin, he headed for Milwaukee's thriving community of expatriate Bohemians, Ward 9 of the city, on the west side of the Milwaukee River.

The Falkenau area was the source of many of Milwaukee's emigrants in the latter half of the 19th century. One researcher found that in 1850 about 10% of the family names found in Falkenau could be found in Milwaukee city directories. By 1856 the number had risen to 23%, and by 1885, 56% of the surnames found in Falkenau could be found in the Milwaukee city directory. Clearly Milwaukee was a popular place for Bohemians fleeing Falkenau.

Magdalena and the two boys crossed the Atlantic by steamship and arrived in Milwaukee at the end of September, 1867.

The Zaumeyer family moved into a house on Cherry Street, around the corner from St. Joseph's German-Catholic Church. The church was located on Cherry Street between 11th and 12th. Most of the German-Bohemian surnames appearing in the city directories of that period were attached to homes within walking distance of the church.

The Zaumeyer children were all baptized at St. Joseph's. Unfortunately the church no longer stands; its location is now under a section of Interstate 43, the north/south freeway artery that runs through Milwaukee.

Franz began referring to himself as "Frank" soon after arrival in America. I will continue to refer to him as Franz in this document to avoid confusion with his son, Frank, Jr.

OCCUPATION

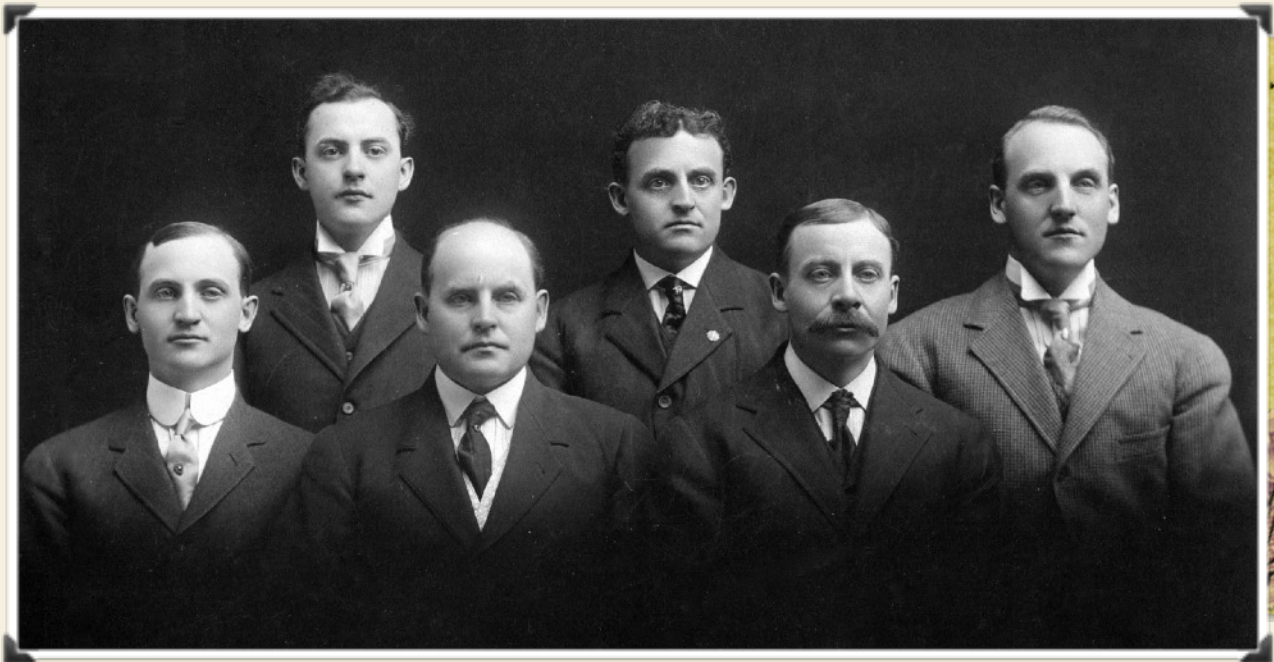
Franz had been trained as a tailor in his youth and had been a successful tailor in Bohemia, so it was only natural that he work as a tailor in Milwaukee.

He was one of Milwaukee's first tailors. By 1872 he had set up his own shop at the corner of Fourth St. and Wisconsin Ave. He ran the business for over 30 years at the same location, retiring in about 1905. The building no longer stands as it was razed to make way for the Boston Store, which is still in operation at that site.

1866 map of Milwaukee shows the location of the Zaumeyer's first home in America

Milwaukee's historic Boston Store, built on the property where Franz Zaumeyer's tailoring shop had been located





GROWING FAMILY

No sooner had Magdalena joined Franz in Milwaukee than the family began to grow with the addition of 4 more sons and two daughters.

Anton	29 Oct 1864
Maximilian	5 Feb 1867
Charles	2 Nov 1869
Frank Jr.	3 Jan 1872
Hedwig	3 Sep 1874
John A.	27 Jul 1879
Louis F.	19 Nov 1881
Magdalena	3 May 1885

The Zaumeyer children by and large stayed in Wisconsin.

Anton was a book keeper at Pabst Brewing Company for many years, with a

wife and two sons. He retired to Neenah, Wisconsin.

Max worked at a malting company, eventually marrying and raising a family of 3 children.

Charles, a clerk and grain buyer, raised a family of four children with his wife in Milwaukee.

Frank Jr., born and raised in Milwaukee, was in the clothing business downtown. He spent 4 years in San Antonio with his wife Christine and two small children, but returned to Milwaukee.

Hedwig, known as Hattie, married Peter J. Berger, a machinist at a motorcycle company, and had three children with him in Milwaukee.

John worked at a knitting works, married in his late twenties and had a son at age 43. Sometime between the ages of 40 and 50 the family moved to Los Angeles and he worked at a chicken ranch there. He died in Los Angeles.

The Zaumeyer sons, about 1912. Left to right: John, Louis, Anton, Charles, Max, Frank, Jr.

Below is a picture believed to be of Hedwig about 1897



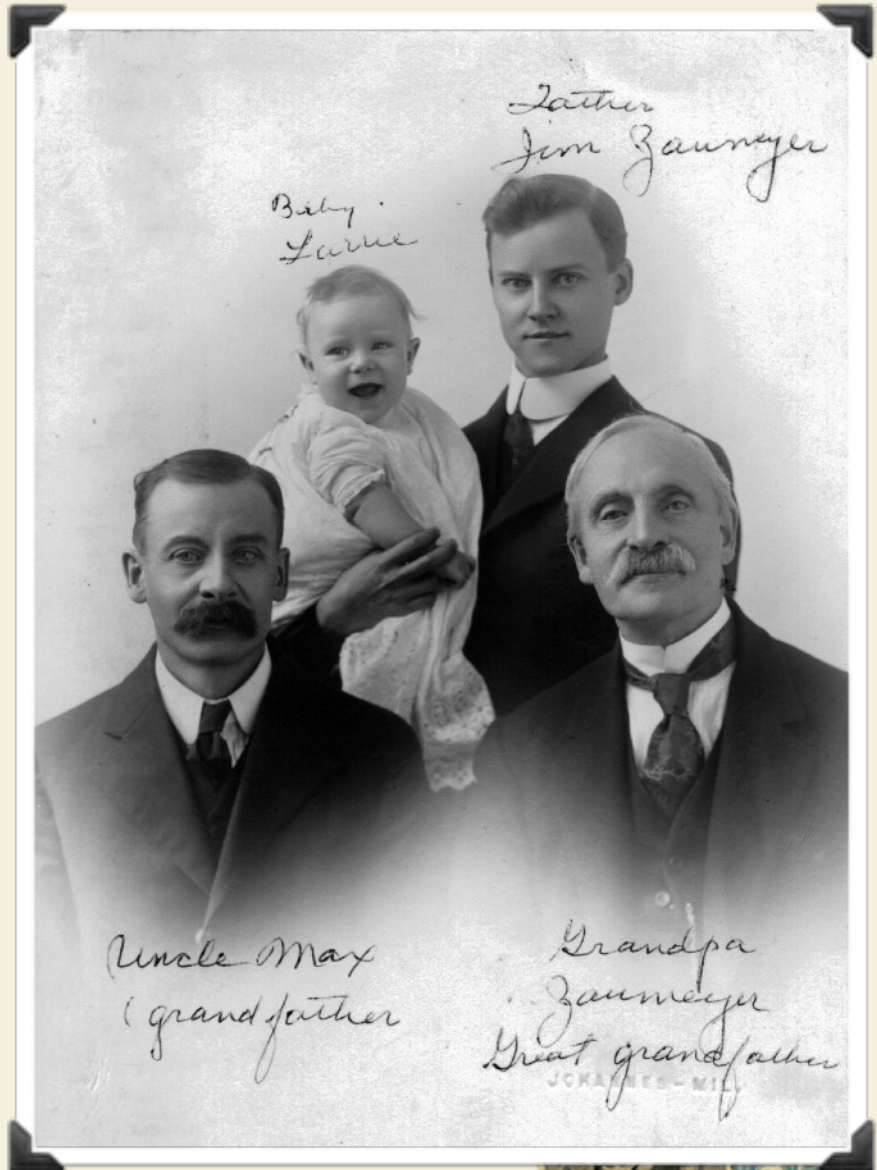
Louis worked as a cashier at the National Fire Insurance Company in Milwaukee for 40 years, marrying and having one son.

Magdalena, known as Lanie, married Ed Scherzer, a machinist at a Milwaukee knitting company, and raised three children in Milwaukee.

RETIREMENT

Franz retired from his tailoring business in about 1905. He and Magdalena celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Pabst estate in Wauwatosa. The entire family, except for Frank Jr. And his family, gathered for a commemorative photo (next page).

Frank Jr. And his family missed the occasion because they were living in San Antonio, hoping that the climate there was better for the health of his wife Christine who had tuberculosis. Unfortunately she passed away in the spring of 1911, so Frank Jr. and his two children, Bert and Norma, moved back to Milwaukee and into the home of Franz and Magdalena. Note: Norma Zaumeyer is my grandmother.



Four generations: Franz, Max,
James, Lawrence
about. 1916

LAST YEARS

Magdalena passed away in July of 1913. Franz would live another 17 years. Initially he moved in with Frank Jr., who had bought a home on McKinley Avenue in Milwaukee and added a kitchen and sunroom so Franz would have a private living space. He lived there until at least 1924.

Later, he spent some time living with eldest daughter Hattie and her husband Peter Berger until near his death in 1930.

Franz Zaumeyer's health failed in his last few months, which he spent living at St. Camillus nursing home. He died 7 December 1930, at the age of 92, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

But this doesn't tell the whole story of Franz Zaumeyer. Read on to learn of his very mysterious past...

Veteran Tailor, F. Zaumeyer, Dies

Frank Zaumeyer, sr., 93, retired tailor, who years ago had his shop on the site of the Boston store, died Sunday after a long illness. He lived at 727 Fourteenth av., Wauwatosa.

Mr. Zaumeyer was born in Austria and came to Milwaukee in 1868. In 1872 he started in the tailoring business at Fourth st. and Wisconsin av., and remained there until his retirement about 25 years ago.

Surviving Mr. Zaumeyer are six sons, Anthony J., Max, Charles, Frank and Louis, all of Milwaukee, and John of California, and two sisters.

Funeral services will be held at 8:30 a. m. Wednesday at the Feerick undertaking rooms, 4620 North av., and at 9 a. m. at St. Anne's Catholic church, Thirty-sixth and Wright sts. Burial will be in Calvary cemetery.



Family picture taken on Pabst Estate in Wauwatosa for the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Magdalena and Frank Zaumeyer Sr. 1909

Wife seated in front of husband

Back row: John Z., Tony Z., Louis Z., Peter Berger, Frank Zaumeyer Sr., grandson, Ed Scherzer, Max Z., Charles Z

Seated: Myrtle Dawson Z, Ell Doelnes Z, Hattie Zaumeyer Berger, Magdalena Gruenes Zaumeyer, Lane Scherzer, Harriet Z, Agnes Z

In front: Grandchildren: Ray, Carl Z, Gerald Z, Agnes, Lourain Z, Hattie Berger, Gilbert and Victor Berger

Not pictured: Frank Jr. and Christine Schreiner Zaumeyer and their children Norma and Bert who were living in San Antonio

Franz Zaumeyer's mysterious past

ILLEGITIMATE SON OF A BOHEMIAN NOBLEMAN?

Franz Zaumeyer was elusive about his past. We know he came from Bohemia, but who were his parents? Family lore is that Franz was fathered illegitimately by a Bohemian nobleman named Schwarzenberg, and raised by the Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague, whom he referred to as his uncle. But is the family lore correct?

As Franz neared death, son-in-law Peter Berger asked him, "Pa, who are you really?" Franz replied, "Nein, nein, der Abwehr!", which, translated means: "No, no! The secret police!" Who fears the secret police 65 years after emigrating? To this day there is still confusion about the specifics of his birth:

- Descendants of son Max Zaumeyer report that Franz often referred to "...my uncle, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague..." and that Franz "was raised in the cardinal's residence." At one point in time, Franz asked the Cardinal questions about his parentage and the Cardinal purportedly replied, "I am your uncle and that is all you need to know!"
- Descendants of son Charles Zaumeyer heard that Franz "was raised by an uncle who may have been a doctor. He was the son of a nobleman," but also that "Franz was raised in an orphanage."
- Descendants of son Frank, Jr. heard that "Franz was the illegitimate son of the Prince of Bohemia. His mother was a favorite mistress named Ann Attebury (English). The Prince's brother, who was a Cardinal, educated him and he was taught the trade of tailoring and given the name of Zaumeyer, loosely translated as tailor."

Despite the pervasive, multi-generational family lore that a Schwarzenberg nobleman fathered Franz, there is precious little documentary evidence. (Don't worry: we are still going to explore the possibilities in more detail.) There is, however, documentary evidence about Franz's mother and the circumstances of his birth and early life.

BIRTH AND EARLY LIFE

Franz Zaumeyer was born to an indigent 26-year-old woman named Anna Zaunmayer, who was admitted to the Prague Foundling Home maternity hospital on November 16, 1837, and gave birth the next day to Franz, who was born with the umbilical cord wrapped around his neck. He was baptized that day at the adjacent Church of St. Apollinaire. Her intent was to give the baby up to the Foundling Home to be placed into the foster family program. In order to pay for his placement in the program Anna agreed to perform services of wet nurse at the Foundling Home for a period of time. Nine days after he was born, Franz became the ward of foster parents Johann and Anna Schindilk.

By 1851, 13-year-old Franz was living in Prague in the home of the widow Anna Pirner, who was likely his grandmother. It was at about this age that he would have entered an apprenticeship as a tailor. He continued the profession of tailor in Prague until sometime in his mid-twenties, when he moved 100 miles west to Falkenau an der Eger and opened a tailor shop. There he met and fell in love with Magdalena Grünes. They were married in Falkenau an der Eger, which is where this story began on page 2.



Schwarzenberg family tree

Family lore is that Franz was fathered illegitimately by a Bohemian nobleman named Schwarzenberg

FRANZ ZAUMEYER'S FATHER

It is not known exactly who Franz Zaumeyer's father was. It is not known if Franz himself knew unequivocally who his father was. Throughout his life he was vague, but definitely wanted the family to believe that he was raised by the Archbishop of Prague, whom he referred to as his uncle. Before we explore which individual may have fathered Franz, let's get some background on the Schwarzenberg dynasty, one that you may not have heard of before.

THE SCHWARZENBERGS

The Schwarzenbergs are an aristocratic family of Frankish and Bohemian descent. The family was first mentioned in 1172. A branch of the Seinsheim family was created when Erkingen I of Seinsheim acquired the Frankish barony of Schwarzenberg, the castle Schwarzenberg and the title Baron of Schwarzenberg, in 1405–21. At this time, they also possessed some fiefdoms in Bohemia. In 1599 the Schwarzenbergs were elevated to Counts and in 1670 to Princes. The House of Schwarzenberg came into extensive land holdings in Bohemia in 1661 through a marriage alliance with the House of Eggenberg. In the 1670s, they established their primary seat in Bohemia.

In the late 18th century, the House of Schwarzenberg was divided into two titled lines. The elder line (from which Franz Zaumeyer is descended) died out in 1965 with the death of Heinrich Schwarzenberg, the 11th Prince of Schwarzenberg. The second line was established with Prince Karl Philipp of Schwarzenberg at Orlik, Murau and Vienna. Today the two lines are united under the current head of the house, 83-year-old Karel Schwarzenberg.



The Schwarzenberg coat of arms 1792

The coat of arms has changed over the years as new families and dominions were added.

After a Schwarzenberg participated in the 1598 rout of the Turkish army in Hungary, the emblem was altered to include the head of a Turk, his eyes being pecked out by a raven.



Schwarzenberg residence, Krumlov Castle, by Ferdinand Runk (1824)

SCHWARZENBERG HOLDINGS

The Schwarzenbergs owned property all over south and west Bohemia that they had either inherited, bought or were granted. This included large tracts of forest land, many small towns and buildings. All told it added up to over 950 square miles of land (about the size of Luxembourg). They created ponds, planted forests and introduced new technologies in agriculture. Most of their holdings in Bohemia were nationalized upon the formation of the Czech Republic after WWII.

The Schwarzenberg holdings also included several castles and palaces, most of which are still in operation today as museums, tourist attractions or active residences:

- **[Top]** Orlik Castle in Orlik nad Vltavou, South Bohemia
- **[Center top]** Rosenburg Castle, South Bohemia
- **[Center bottom]** Palais Schwarzenberg, Vienna
- **[Bottom]** Hluboká Castle, Hluboká nad Vltavou, South Bohemia
- **[Prev. page]** Krumlov Castle in Český Krumlov, South Bohemia
- Schwarzenberg Castle, Scheinfeld, Franconia
- Gimborn Castle in the Rhineland
- Vimperk (Winterberg) Castle, South Bohemia
- Třeboň Castle, South Bohemia
- Čimelice Castle, South Bohemia
- Zvíkov Castle, South Bohemia
- Murau Castle, Styria, Austria
- Palais Schwarzenberg, Prague
- Palais Salm, Prague



Schwarzenberg castle at Hluboká nad Vltavou (Frauenberg), Czech Republic. This was the residence of Johann Adolf II zu Schwarzenberg

THREE SCHWARZENBERG BROTHERS

For now we will focus on three members of the Schwarzenberg family, three brothers, each of whom may have fathered Franz Zaumeyer.

In 1794 Prince Joseph zu Schwarzenberg married Belgian Princess Pauline of Arenberg. In the first 15 years of their marriage they had three sons and six daughters. Then came the tragic events of 1 July 1810, when Joseph and Pauline travelled to Vienna to attend a ball celebrating the marriage of Hapsburg princess Marie-Louise to Napoleon. It was hosted by the Austrian Ambassador, Joseph's brother Charles zu Schwarzenberg. He had a large ballroom erected in the garden of his residence but during the ball some gauze draperies caught fire, the flames spread and soon the entire house had gone up in flames. Napoleon and Marie-Louise escaped, but several of the prominent guests died, including the 36-year-old Pauline, leaving her sons, 11-year-old Johann, 10-year-old Felix, and 1-year-old Friedrich, motherless. Their father never remarried, but raised his nine children together with his youngest sister, Eleanore Sophia.

The three brothers each achieved great success in life, and one of them, according to family lore, may have been the father of Franz Zaumeyer. But which one? We will look at each in turn.

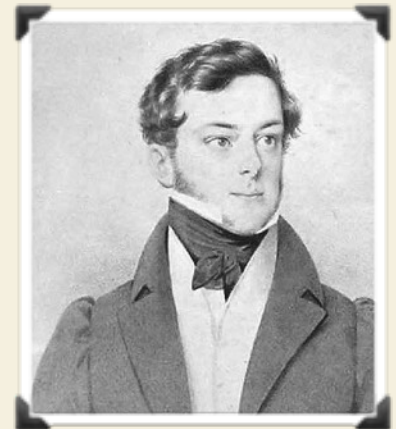
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Felix zu Schwarzenberg



Johann Adolf II. zu Schwarzenberg



Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg

FELIX ZU SCHWARZENBERG

Prince Felix zu Schwarzenberg was born 2 October 1800 in Böhmisches Krumlov (now Český Krumlov), Bohemia. He was the middle son. He entered the diplomatic service, where he served in several Austrian embassies. During his time in London and Paris he had an affair with Jane Digby, whom he deserted after causing her husband to divorce her, and making her pregnant. He had two children with her out of wedlock, a daughter in 1829 and a son in 1830.

By 1848 he had risen to such prominence that he was named Prime Minister of the Hapsburg Austrian empire, a position he held until his untimely death four years later. During his tenure he restored the Hapsburg empire as a European power following the Austrian Revolution of 1848.

He died suddenly in Vienna on 5 April 1852, having never married.

JOHANN ADOLF II. ZU SCHWARZENBERG

Prince Johann Adolf II. zu Schwarzenberg was born 22 May 1799 in Vienna. He was the eldest of the three brothers.

Johann Adolf II was adept at managing the vast holdings of the family. His land wealth was enormous. He held forests, fields, meadows, and ponds, not only in Bohemia but also in Austria and Germany. In Bohemia alone, he controlled nearly

500,000 acres. Estate income came mainly from the sale of timber. There were numerous lumber mills as well as a resonant wood factory and other industrial capabilities closely associated with agriculture and forestry: breweries, distilleries, sugar mills, lime works, brick works and graphite mines.

Johann married Eleonora von Liechtenstein (1812-1873) in Vienna in 1830, with whom he had two children, a son Adolf Joseph (1832-1914), and a daughter, Mary Leopoldine (1833-1909).

Although Johann was not a professional politician, he was known to travel on state business occasionally. He made frequent trips to England beginning in 1825. He represented Austrian Emperor Ferdinand at the coronation of Queen Victoria in London in 1838. When traveling, he was sometimes accompanied by his wife. It was on these trips to

England that they fell in love with the Tudor architecture of Windsor castle. As a result, they completely remodeled their residence, the Hluboká Castle in the Tudor style.

FRIEDRICH ZU SCHWARZENBERG

Friedrich Johannes Jacob Celestin zu Schwarzenberg was born on 6 April, 1809 in Vienna. He was the youngest of the three brothers. From a young age he devoted himself to studying for the priesthood. Friedrich began his theological studies in Salzburg and completed his last year of study in Vienna, where he was ordained to the priesthood at the age of 24 and sent to Salzburg. Friedrich was thought so highly of, that a papal dispensation was requested to elevate him to Archbishop of Salzburg in 1835 even though he was not, according to canon law, old enough. It is worth noting here that Archbishop Schwarzenberg was living in Salzburg in 1837, the year Franz Zaumeyer was born, making him an unlikely candidate to be Franz's biological father.

While living in Salzburg, Schwarzenberg was named a Cardinal at the age of thirty-three in 1842.

European Archbishops lived literally like kings. They lived in castles every bit as luxurious and extravagant as royalty. This was especially true in Salzburg, which had been built up by fabulously wealthy "prince-archbishops" who had both ecclesiastical as well as secular authority.

As Archbishop of Salzburg, Friedrich would have lived and worked in the Residenz Palace, in which Salzburg's prince-archbishops had lived for hundreds of years. Although Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg was both a prince



Johann Adolf II. zu Schwarzenberg



Eleonora zu Schwarzenberg



Cardinal-Archbishop
Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg

and an archbishop, he was not one of Salzburg's prince-archbishops. Secular power was removed from Salzburg's archbishop when Salzburg became part of Austria in 1815.

Through the years it has been reported by Zaumeier family members that Franz was either raised in an orphanage, in the Cardinal's episcopal household, or in the Cardinal's residence. As noted, it is unlikely that Archbishop Schwarzenberg was Franz's biological father, but is it possible that at some point Schwarzenberg took responsibility for the upbringing of Franz Zaumeier? If so, why?

In 1850 Cardinal-Archbishop Schwarzenberg was transferred to Prague, Bohemia by Pope Pius IX. Franz Zaumeier would have been about 12 years old when this happened. He told his family that he was raised by "my uncle, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague." And the church record of his marriage states that he was from Prague.

As a twelve year old boy in Prague, Franz Zaumeier could well have lived in the Cardinal-Archbishop's Palace.

Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg remained the Archbishop of Prague until his death on 27 March 1885.



Top: Archbishop's Palace, Prague

Middle, bottom: Residenz Palace, Salzburg



ON MISTRESSES

Could Franz's mother have been the mistress of one of the Schwarzenberg brothers? It is certainly not out of the question. Within European ruling houses and imperial dynasties, the rules of marriage followed strict protocols that almost always called for arranged unions between heirs to the throne and women suitable in terms of noble status. This was also the case with the Schwarzenbergs: Both Johann Adolf II and his great-grandfather Joseph Adam married princesses from Leichtenstein. The Leichtensteins, like the Schwarzenbergs, were owners of vast tracts of land in Bohemia, Germany and Austria. A marriage uniting these two dynasties could both enhance and protect the long term interests of both families.

The purpose of marriages within the nobility was not love. It was property and the need for an heir. The wife was essentially a purse and a brood mare. Mistresses thrived in these circumstances.

Mistresses have abounded in all ages. Today it is generally considered morally wrong for a man to take a mistress, but years ago having one or more mistresses was common, even expected of European nobility. Even powerful church leaders, such as popes, cardinals and archbishops were known to have mistresses. Nearly all of the monarchs of Europe had mistresses, some quite publicly.

Mistresses were often chosen as carefully as wives. In many cases the mistress was no secret to the wife. Sometimes the wife even arranged and encouraged the relationship. Aristocrats travelled extensively and wives knew their husbands would be lonely.

Mistresses of the nobility were treated well, often living in palatial homes with full staff and receiving a generous annual salary. The beautiful Mirabell Palace in Salzburg was built for the prince-archbishop's mistress, Salome Alt. She was also the mother of the 15 children he fathered. The aristocrat often arranged for the financial independence of his mistress upon his death.

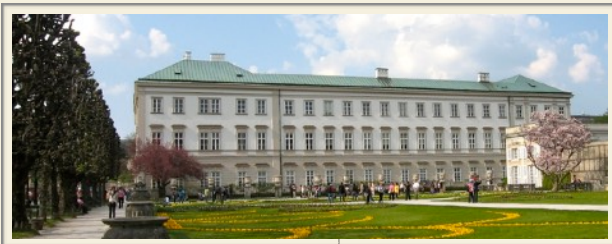
All this changed in the latter half of the 19th century. Royal mistresses were frowned upon by a public that began seeing them as 'morally improper.'

ON BASTARDS

Noblemen would often have several children by the same mistress. For example, Felix zu Schwarzenberg, who never married, had two children by Jane Digby.

The legal position of the illegitimate children of German nobles was inferior to that in other parts of Europe, such as in France, where bastards were presumed to inherit their father's noble status, or in Italy, where illegitimate sons were often legitimized as heirs. Few German bastards established themselves as nobles. The factors were not so much religious or political factors as social, especially due to the German definition of nobility and the increasing lineage consciousness of German nobles.

So Franz, if he was an illegitimate son of a Schwarzenberg, was ineligible to be raised as one. His financial needs, however, would, according to custom (and law), be handled by his father. It was reported by his children that Franz seemed to have a source of income beyond his tailoring that enabled him to live a comfortable life, the implication being that he was receiving supplemental income from the Schwarzenbergs. But I have not seen any documentary evidence of this.



Mirabell Palace, Salzburg, built by the then prince-archbishop for his mistress and their many children.

As enticing as the story that he was the offspring of nobility is, in all likelihood Franz's origin story is quite unremarkable: that he was simply the offspring of an unwed mother and was raised in the foster system of 19th century Prague. And his reported upbringing by the Archbishop of Prague can be explained by the fact that the Prague Foundling Home was administered by the Catholic church and young Franz may have had opportunities to visit (or be housed at) the Archbishop's Palace there.

But before we give up on the Schwarzenberg bastard theory, let's examine each Schwarzenberg in a little more detail. Here is my analysis for which Schwarzenberg brother may have fathered Franz Zaumeyer:



Prince Johann Adolf II



Prince Friedrich



Prince Felix

Possibility #1:

His father is Prince Johann Adolf II zu Schwarzenberg.

According to one family source, Franz's "mother was a favorite mistress named Ann Attebury (English)." Johann Adolf was known to travel frequently to England. (However, another source indicates that Franz's mother was "a girl from Marienbad, Bohemia," so the 'English mother' theory is not conclusive.) The identity of 'Ann Attebury' seems to be lost to history. But we do know that Johann Adolf II was in England for Queen Victoria's coronation on 28 June 1838. Franz claimed different birth dates over the years, often 15 November 1838. Is it possible that Franz was conceived by English mistress Ann Attebury in early 1838 while Johann Adolf II was in England for the coronation?

For me it just doesn't add up—it all seems too much like a conspiracy theory. It is interesting to note that his actual birth mother's name was, Anna, though...

Possibility #2:

His father is Prince Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg, then the Archbishop of Salzburg.

He was raised by a man he referred to as "my uncle, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague," a reference to Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg. It should be noted that in Europe a priest's children (especially a bishop's or pope's children) were usually called their "nephews." So it is possible that Franz was the son of Friedrich zu Schwarzenberg. A most pointed tradition in this regard is as follows (as passed down from Franz to son Max, to son James, to son Lawrence): At one point in time, Franz asked the Cardinal questions about his parentage and the Cardinal purportedly replied, "I am your uncle and that is all you need to know!"

I have low confidence in this theory, primarily because Friedrich lived 210 miles from Prague and Franz's mother Anna lived in Prague.

Possibility #3:

His father is Prince Felix zu Schwarzenberg, future Prime Minister of Austria.

Felix was never married and had a history of philandering. That he sired illegitimate children with Jane Digby was well documented, perhaps because he was such a public figure. If Franz Zaumeyer were the result of one of Felix's affairs it seems that this would be similarly documented, indicating a lower probability that Felix is the father of Franz.

But he was clearly a philanderer and it is not out of the question that he fathered Franz who was then raised by his "uncle" the Cardinal-Archbishop.

In my opinion, if one of Schwarzenberg brothers fathered Franz Zaumeyer, Felix is the most likely. But that's a big if...

ORIGINS OF NAME "ZAUMEYER"

Zaumeyer is a very unique name. None of the popular surname registries online is aware of its source. Searches on google, yahoo and bing rarely find Zaumeyers other than those who are descended directly from Franz Zaumeyer in the United States. Ancestry.com, which has access to billions of records has no entries for Zaumeyer until the 1867 ship manifest that documents Magdalena and her sons' arrival. There are very few Zaumeyers in the entire world.

So where did the Zaumeyer name come from? Over the years many of his descendants have offered theories:

Theory 1: Franz made up the name when he emigrated in order to disguise some past deed and start a new life in the United States.

Although this may have been done by other immigrants, it is unlikely the case with Franz. In his birth and baptism records at the Prague Foundling Home his last name is recorded as "Zaunmeyer." The church in Falkenau an der Eger where he was married recorded his name as "Zaumayer" (according to Lawrence Zaumeyer who saw the record personally in 1945). And when Magdalena emigrated she travelled under the name "Zanmeyer" (most likely a spelling error on the part of the steamship operator).

Theory 2: The Schwarzenbergs made up a surname for him, that the name Zaumeyer is a bastardized name given to a bastard child.

Some family members have surmised that Zaumeyer is a variation of "Saum Meyer," or "Stitch master"--a tailor, which became Franz's lifelong profession. The word for tailor in German is "schneider" but Franz was given the oblique Zaummeyer (stitch master) instead. Some said the European practice was that illegitimate offspring of nobility were often given a surname that corresponded to their future career.

Theory 3: Franz was born a Zaumeyer and he made up the whole Schwarzenberg thing.

Based on documentary evidence we know the name is not made up. Franz's birth mother was a Zaunmayer, so Franz was a Zaunmayer. Interestingly, in 1961, Gerald Zaumeyer, while serving in the military in Germany, contracted with a professional heraldry researcher in Munich to investigate the origins of the name Zaumeyer. The report, which the family generally deemed to be of very low veracity, finds the name "Zaunmeier" and indicates that it is the same as Zaumeyer. According to the report, August Ottokar Zaunmeier was the bailiff of the Marienburg Castle in Würzburg, Germany in 1429 and one of his descendants, Friedrich Albert Zaunmeier was a bodyguard for the Elector of Falkenau a.d. Eger in 1681.

Based on existing records and evidence, it is clear to me that the Zaumeyer name was not made up, nor was it assigned to Franz by Bohemian nobility. He was born in Prague to an unwed mother, Anna Zaunmeyer, and kept her name the rest of his life, settling on spelling it Zaumeyer.

- 
1. Zaumeyer
 2. Zaumayer
 3. Zaunmeyer
 4. Zaummeyer
 5. Zaumeier
 6. Zanmeyer
 7. Zahnmeier
 8. Zaunmayer

Each of these spellings was used by or about Franz at some point in his life:

1. Most correspondence
2. Church marriage record, 1864
3. Citizenship papers, 1884
4. Naturalization papers 1884
5. Church baptismal records
6. Ship manifests, 1867, 1921
7. Church baptismal records
8. Maternity hospital records

There are other variant spellings, often written by clerks who were simply doing their best to write what they thought they heard:

- Zaumeier
- Zinsmeyer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Although this biography is not a scholarly effort, it is built on a strong foundation of family documents, source documents, and generally accepted historical analysis. There are no doubt some errors, for which I apologize and hope are minor. That said, I am indebted to the following:

- My aunt Susan Zimmerman, uncles Thomas Engelhardt and John Engelhardt for providing me with copies of most, if not all, of the Zaumeyer-related photos, documents and verbal recollections that came through the line of Frank Zaumeyer, Jr.
- My grandmother Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt, daughter of Frank Zaumeyer, Jr. for her written monograph describing Franz Zaumeyer and the Zaumeyer family. She first piqued my interest in the mid 1970s by giving me a card catalog card for a book about the Schwarzenbergs and telling me that we were descended from “the illegitimate son of an Austrian prince.” It wasn’t until the internet that finding information about the Schwarzenbergs became possible.
- Chris Zaumeyer who likewise provided photos and historical documents from the Max Zaumeyer line, much of which had been prepared by Lawrence Zaumeyer in the 1980s. Lawrence did a lot of leg work to collect the family traditions and facts from all branches of the Zaumeyer tree, and made special acknowledgement to “cousin Margaret Decker” for her help in compiling the data.
- Soraya Z Garner, who generously shared information from her research findings about Franz’s birth and mother.
- Also google, wikipedia and ancestry.com provided critical information, not just historical background, but even scans of essential historical documentation that clarified several parts of this story. For example, ancestry.com’s search engine allowed me to find the passenger manifest for Magdalena and Anton Zaumeyer’s emigration to America.

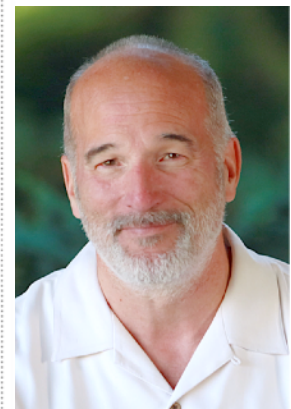
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

It has been said that a person dies three deaths. The first death is when their heart stops beating. The second death comes when the body is lowered into the ground and out of sight. The third is that moment when their name is spoken for the last time. I am committed to sparing my ancestors the third death by digitizing and then sharing their stories, documents and photographs. I am the great-great grandson of Franz Zaumeyer. I am proud to have Zaumeyer blood in my veins. Family history is one of my hobbies. I am committed to digitizing and then sharing the stories, documents and photographs of my ancestry. I can be reached at bgoodwin@mac.com.

Brad Goodwin, Vancouver, Washington, March 2020



Franz Zaumeyer and son Frank Zaumeyer, Jr. with Frank Jr's daughter Norma, 1920



Author Brad Goodwin

Source material

CATEGORY	FACT OR EVENT	SOURCE
BIRTH	DOB 15 Nov 1837	US passport application, Jul 1919
	Born with umbilical cord around his neck at Prague Foundling maternity hospital of 26-year-old Anna Zaunmayer, who paid for the birth by becoming a wet nurse for the Foundling home; baptized same day and handed over to foster parents Johann and Anna Schindilk.	Nurses notes from Fund of the Regional Hospital and Prague Foundling Home, National Archives of Czechia, document in author's possession
	Lived in Prague home of Anna Pirner, who may have been his grandmother, 1851	Prague residential registration papers, 1851, both here and here
IMMIGRATION	On a ship that sailed from Bremen, Germany in 1865	US passport application, Jul 1919
	Came to Milwaukee in 1868	Obituary
	Emigrated in Nov 1866	Naturalization papers, 20 May 1884
	Applied for citizenship 20 May 1884	Naturalization papers, 20 May 1884
	Immigrated because uncle and guardian didn't want him to spend three years in compulsory military service	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt
	The two year delay between his arrival in the US and his wife's arrival was because of the ages of the two babies--not financial.	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	Gerald Z. to Lawrence Z, ltr., 3 Aug 1977, "...he had to leave the country in a hurry due to some political affairs as Austrians were 'persona non grata' in Bohemia at this time."	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	There was an old gentleman (in his 90's) who, as a young boy had helped Franz "escape" crossing the Eger river at night and go by horseback to Hamburg, Germany for his subsequent trip to America. Note this is an eyewitness account related to Lawrence Z. by the man.	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
MARRIAGE	Magdalena lived in Carlsbad prior to her marriage to Franz	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt
	He married Magdalena Grünes, daughter of a well-to-do landowner (about 6 miles from Falkenau).	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	The marriage record in the church in Falkenau, June 14, 1864, reads: ZAUMAYER, Franz, a tailor from Prague (Groom) Grünes, Magdalena, maiden (Bride)	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984 Marriage image available online here .
	There were three Grünes families in Falkenau in 1945, two disclaimed any relationship. The third, residents of Schloss Grünes (a huge manor house and vast estates at which Lawrence stayed in 1945), said they were the relatives of Magdalena.	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
DEATH	DOD 7 Dec 1930	Obituary
	Died at his home in Wauwatosa	Obituary (4 generations)
	Died at St. Camillus nursing home, 554 Twenty fourth St, Milwaukee	Obituary (short)
	Died as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt
	Buried in Calvary Cemetery, Milwaukee	Obituary

Source material

CATEGORY	FACT OR EVENT	SOURCE
OCCUPATION	Tailor at Fourth St. and Wisconsin Ave. (site of the Boston Store) 1872 to about 1905	Obituary
	Was one of the first tailors in Milwaukee	Obituary (4 generations)
	Franz had a tailoring business just off the town square in Falkenau, on 13 Butterscheibe (Butter Wheel) St. This was blown up by the Germans in their 1945 retreat.	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt and typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984. Author's note: Some histories state that Butterscheibe street was destroyed by Allied bombing.
	Franz had some source of income, beyond his tailoring, that enabled him to live a comfortable life	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
RESIDENCE	332 Grand Ave Milwaukee	1889 Milwaukee directory, as found on ancestry.com
	Moved in with son Frank Jr. upon the death of wife Magdalena 1913-1924	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt
	Lived for a short time with daughter Hedwig Zaumeyer Berger Sometime after 1924	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt
	Lived with daughter Hedwig Zaumeyer Berger	1930 US Census
	Spent his last years at St. Camillus Nursing Home	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt
	Lived at 727 Fourteenth Ave, Wauwatosa, WI at time of death	Obituary
	Lived where a group of Bohemians lived, found a home on Cherry Street, around the corner from St. Joseph Catholic church	Written memories by his granddaughter Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt

Source material

CATEGORY	FACT OR EVENT	SOURCE
PARENTAGE	James Zaumeyer to his children: Franz often referred to "...my uncle, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague..."	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	Our tradition (as recited by my father James Jacobi Zaumeyer) was that he was raised in the cardinal's residence.	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	From Charles Zaumeyer's line: "...he was raised by an uncle who may have been a doctor. He was the son of a nobleman." (Ltr Margaret Decker to Lawrence Z., 11/28/82)	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	James Zaumeyer's statement to his second wife and reported to Lawrence Z., in ltr. 4/17/74, "Your dad always told about his grandfather (Franz) being the son of a religious...."	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	There is a tradition in Charles' lineage that "Franz was raised in an orphanage." Reaffirmed in letter from Margaret Decker to Lawrence Z. 11/2/84.	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	James Z's recitals specified that Franz had been reared in the Cardinal's Prague menage.	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	Told to Max, to James, to Lawrence from Franz: At one point in time, Franz asked the Cardinal questions about his parentage and the Cardinal purportedly replied, "I am your uncle and that is all you need to know!"	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	On his deathbed, when asked by Peter Berger (Hedwig's husband), "Pa, who are you really?" he replied, "Nein, nein, der Abwehr!", translated as: "No, no! The secret police!"	Typewritten documents by Lawrence Max Peter Zaumeyer, Dated: 1982 - 1984
	"Franz was the illegitimate son of the Prince of Bohemia. Mother was favorite mistress names Ann Attebury (English). The Prince's brother, who was a Cardinal, educated him and he was taught the trade of tailoring and given the name of Zaumeyer, loosely translated as tailor."	Typewritten notes of from a family photo video tape created for Norma Zaumeyer Engelhardt's 80 th birthday. Although the notes do not indicate who wrote them, I believe they were a transcript of Norma's comments about each photo.
	CHILDREN	The second child was baptized "Matthias" under Grünes family pressure but was shortly changed to Maximilian, after the Austrian Emperor of Mexico. Max told this to grandson Lawrence. Similarly, the next child Karl (Charles) was named in honor of the Empress Carla.
	The baptism records for both Anthony and Matthias (renamed to Max upon arrival in the US) are in the church in Falkenau a.d. Eger.	Anton's record can be found here . Max's (Matthaeus) record can be found here .
	Birth dates for Franz's children Frank Jr, Hedwig, John and Magdalena (as listed in the body of the document).	Baptismal records from St. Joseph's church in Milwaukee. The church was not able to find the record of Charles when a search was made in May 2010.

APPENDIX: SCHWARZENBERG RESEARCH

The House of Schwarzenberg produced many military commanders, politicians, church dignitaries, innovators and patrons of the arts. Some of the notable members are:

- **Johann zu Schwarzenberg** (1463-1528), Bamberg judge, and friend of Martin Luther
- **Adam zu Schwarzenberg** (1583-1641), advisor of George William, Elector of Brandenburg
- **Georg Ludwig zu Schwarzenberg** (1586-1646), Austrian statesman during the Thirty Years War
- **Karl Philipp I zu Schwarzenberg** (1771-1820), Austrian general and field marshal
- **Felix zu Schwarzenberg** (1800-1852), Austrian statesman & prime minister
- **Friedrich Johannes Jacob Celestin zu Schwarzenberg** (1809-1885), Archbishop of Salzburg and Prague
- **Karel Schwarzenberg** (living), former Chancellor to Czech President Vaclav Havel and Minister of Foreign Affairs
- **Eleonore zu Schwarzenberg** (1682-1741), reportedly the inspiration for Dram Stoker's "Dracula"

When researching the Schwarzenbergs you will notice that they are referred to as either **von Schwarzenberg** or **zu Schwarzenberg**. The names of German nobility are preceded by the preposition *von*, meaning *of*, and sometimes by *zu*, meaning *at*. In general, the *von* form indicates the place the family originated, while the *zu* form indicates that they still have their original feudal holding or residence. I have chosen to use the *zu* form throughout this document for consistency and because it appears to be the most commonly used in the official genealogies.

Because the Schwarzenbergs were from Bohemia, a land that is both German and Czech ethnically and historically, their names are sometimes represented in the German fashion and sometimes the Czech fashion, depending on time and circumstance. In addition, some sources anglicize the names in the English fashion. For example, Johann Adolph II. zu Schwarzenberg might be referred to as:

- Johann Adolf II. zu Schwarzenberg (most common, and the one I used)
- Johann Adolf II. von Schwarzenberg (German)
- Jan Adolf II. ze Schwarzenberka (Czech)
- John Adolph of Schwarzenberg (English)

Note the roman numerals **II** in the middle of Johann's name. In the same way as the Kings of England and France often shared the same name, but added a number to distinguish which monarch (for example King Henry VII and King Henry VIII), these roman numerals are to distinguish German nobility that share the same name across generations. Johann Adolf II. zu Schwarzenberg's fourth great-grandfather was Johann Adolf I. zu Schwarzenberg.

Because the Schwarzenbergs were from a titled family, their history and genealogy are well documented. If you want to learn more about the Schwarzenberg dynasty, including many interesting stories of their exploits and accomplishments, please refer to the references here, which are a good starting point.

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/House_of_Schwarzenberg
- <http://www.almanachdegotha.org/id101.html>
- <http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=cs&u=http://www.schwarzenberg.cz/>
- http://www.ckrumlov.info/docs/en/mesto_histor_schwar.xml
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rUPDJ-jgv4>

The Schwarzenberg Line

For simplicity, only the direct line is represented



Updated 4/15/2010