

SCHAWÉ GENEALOGY

The Schawe surname is uncommon today in the U.S. as well as in Europe. Records of early Schawe families date to 1635 in the villages around Perleberg, Brandenburg Province of Prussia, now DDR, or East Germany.

Descendants of this family immigrated to Texas in the mid 1800's. The Schawe surname is also recorded in Holland, 1700's. Descendants of that line immigrated to Ohio and Kentucky, and are named in the book, SONST UND JETZ (THEN AND NOW) published in 1878 in Cincinnati. No link between these families has been found, although there are Germanic characteristics in the immigrant pioneers attesting to the Nordic origin.

The first known history of the Schawe family of Laaslich, Brandenburg, Prussia, began in 1722, according to the pastor of the Evangelical Church District, Pfarrer Dietrich Koch. Since these records gave the date of death and age with day, month and year, birth-dates were simple to calculate. Pastor Koch traced the Schawe line, underlining my direct ancestors. He also included twelve pictures that he made of the 'Schawe nest' in the small village of Laaslich, including the present countryside with the church steeple in the distance, the 'Alte Schawe Hof', or old Schawe homestead, the village with the Laaslich sign, the interior and exterior of the ancient small rock church, built in the mid 1500's, and the old cemetery near the church. Pastor Koch also included a map sketch of this area.

Below is a copy of the SCHAWÉ GENEALOGY as received from Pfarrer Koch.

- Generation I Hinrich Schaawens born 1635, died 1723. (Spelled Schawe in later records)
Married Engel Weeding born 1649, died 1723
- II Hartwig Jochen Schawe born 2 January, 1682, died 23 July, 1731
Married Grete Lise Blum
- III Hans Jochen Schawe born 1714/1715 (records lost WWII), died 1777
Married Anna Jap born 1730, died 1761
Jürgen Schawe born 1730, died 1761
Catharine Elisabeth Schawe born 8 September, 1728
Hartwig Heinrich Schawe born 24 March, 1732
- IV Descendants of Hans Jochen and Anna Jap Schawe
Ilse Marie Schawe born 23 November, 1753
Sophie Gottlieb Schawe born 19 October, 1775
Christian Schawe born 14 August, 1758 and died 14 March, 1799
Married Marie Louise Jacobs, daughter of Ulrich Jacobs
- V Descendants of Christian and Marie Louise Jacobs Schawe
Christoph Schawe born 13 August, 1784
Friederich Schawe born 21 December, 1786 (Death records lost WWII)
Christian Schawe born 11 September 1789
Anna Catharina Schawe born 3 June, 1792
Jochen Schawe born 18 July, 1795
* Heinrich Schawe born 7 September, 1798
- VI Descendants of Friederich Schawe and Dorothea Blum Schawe, born 4 September, 1791, daughter of Dietrich (Dirk) Blume and Sophie Neubauer Blume of Metrich. Her paternal grandparents were Dietrich and Catharina Dorothea Busse Blume. He was a soldier and landowner, born 1722. Four of Friederich and Dorothea Schawe's six children immigrated to Texas at various times.
- VI-] Catharina Dorothea Schawe born 15 March, 1814, married Joachim Friederich Jahnke born 1805 in Gula, near Perleberg. Both died in Washington County. This family, with six of their eight children came to Galveston in October, 1860, aboard the ship, Fortuna. The two oldest married and remained in Prussia. Many descendants continue to live in the Washington County area.



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Generation VI-2 Joachim Friederich Schawe born 3 February, 1817, in Laaslich and died 15 June, 1888, in Brenham, Texas. He went to Havelberg, a nearby small city as a youth to apprentice in the tobacco industry. His occupation at the time of immigration was listed as 'Tobak spinner' or cigar maker. He married Dorothea Henriette Krüger born 7 April, 1813, in Havelberg. She was the daughter of Christian David and Elisabeth Lindemann Krüger. Her grandfathers were Joachim Friederich Krüger and Joachim Johann Lindemann.

Joachim Friederich (Fred) Schawe and Dorothea Schawe, plus their four sons and one daughter, left the port of Hamburg, Germany, in August, 1852, and sailed aboard the ship, Washington. They embarked in Galveston and then on to Houston by boat raft to Allen's Landing, now North Main Street, Houston, and settled in a community that became known as Salem, about 3½ miles southwest of Brenham.

Generation VI-3 Christoph Schawe born 31 August, 1819, and died in 1868, in Washington County. He married Sophie Marie Bartels in Laaslich. She was the daughter of Joachim Bartels of Reetz, a large land owner.

Christoph and Sophie and their nine children immigrated to Texas in 1867, and settled in the Salem community. One daughter was born here. Two of their children, Wilhelm, born 1853 and Louise born 1856, married a son and a daughter of Christian Wiede, who immigrated from Klockow, Prussia to Washington County, now known as Wiedeville. This family donated 7 acres of land and became charter members of the Lutheran Church organized and built about 5 miles northeast of Brenham. Three of their children moved to the general area of Maxwell, Caldwell County. A biographical sketch of Christoph Theodor and his wife, Malinda Hohlt, is to be found in TEXAS THE COUNTRY AND ITS MEN, by L.E. Daniels, pages 271-272.

Generation VI-4 Caroline Schawe born 6 June, 1822, married and lived in Perleberg.

" VI-5 Catharina Marie Schawe born 16 March, 1825, married Christoph Schmidt and lived in Dergenthin, near Perleberg.

" VI-6 Louise Marie Schawe was born 7 March, 1828, and died 21 October, 1883, in Washington County. She married Johann Joachim Christoph Wernicke of Boberow, near Perleberg, in 1850. They had two children, who both married cousins after immigration. The son, Friederich Wernicke married Louise Schawe, daughter of Christoph and Sophie, and Anna married Herman Jahnke, son of Catharina and Joachim Friederich Jahnke. Following the death of Wernicke, Louise Marie married Johann Wilhelm Gottlob Müller, born 30 August, 1835, son of Johann Müller, a bricklayer of Boberow. Two daughters were born to this union in Prussia, and a son in Texas 1870. They immigrated in 1869. The small community of Muellersville in Washington County, was named for the son, William, who operated a general store and post office here about six miles southeast of Brenham.

* Heinrich Schawe, an uncle of J. Friederich Schawe, together with his wife, Marie Rebstock Schawe, and their five children, immigrated to Washington County in 1847. They moved from this area in about 1866. Henry Schawe, Jr., born 20 April, 1832, and his brothers-in-law were large land owners in Fayette and Colorado Counties. This family is featured in a biographical sketch in A TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS, Volume II, pages 362-363.

From: THE SCHAWÉ FAMILY IN GERMANY AND TEXAS 1635-1977, and from my files of various sources.

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YOUR GENEALOGY EDITOR SAYS---

"Keep those cards and letters coming. It's your interest that makes this whole thing work, and keep on working."