

On Dec. 5, 1986, the following information was furnished to Lorraine Frantz Edwards by Wayne FRANTZ, 17901 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. He received the information from his uncle, Harry Warner FRANTZ, who apparently did the research in (and prior to) March, 1949. The following is an exact copy (possible misspelling and all...):

FIRST GENERATION OF FRANTZ FAMILY IN AMERICA

MEMORANDUM ON ARRIVAL OF MICHAEL FRANTZ IN AMERICA  
(Research by Harry Warner Frantz)

Washington, March 22, 1949

Michael Frantz, immigrant ancestor of this family in America was born in the Canton of St. Jacob, near Basle, in Switzerland in 1687, according to the "History of the Brethren."

"Pennsylvania German Pioneers," by Ralph B. Strassburger contains facsimile copy of the passenger list of the ship Molly, which arrived at Philadelphia, September 30, 1727. On this list in small German script is the name "Michel Frantz." The name is not clearly legible, and "Michel" may be "Michael."

At head of list, and part of it, is the note: "Palatines imported in the Ship Molly. John Hodgeson, Mr., from London, who hereunto sett their hands, 30th Sep. 1727, in the presence of the Gov. & Council."

In same book is a facsimile passenger list entitled: "A List of Passengers Names and Ages on board the Ship Samuel Hugh Percy Comr. From Rotterdam (Qualified August 11, 1732)."

This list contains 11 names of persons with names similar to "Frantz," who would appear circumstantially to related to the "Michel Frantz" who had arrived at Philadelphia about three years earlier. The given names of these persons have persisted in the Frantz family in America through many generations. English officers often spelled German names phonetically, a fact which would explain the variation in spelling of surname.

These 11 names are:

Christian Frants, Sr.	aged 47
Christian Frants, Jr.	aged 26
Anna Frantsin	aged 37
Barbara Frantsin	aged 20
Eva Frantsin	aged 19
Magdalena Frantsin	aged 15
Judith Frantsin	aged 12
John Frants	aged 7
Michiel Frants	aged 6
Veronica Frants	aged 8
Elizabeth Frants	aged 3

Christian I  
family



The "Michael Frants," aged 6, in this list might have been son of "Michel Frantz" since the latter had a son subsequently known as "Michael II," said to have arrived in America when a child. However, there is contradictory information on this point. The German Gospel Visitor contained an account of the ancestors of one Aaron Frantz: published in Mahonnig County, Ohio, in 1883. This said in part:

"I find an account of the organization of the Brethren Church, in Conestoga, White Oak, Lancaster Co., PA, on the 29th of September, 1727. In the twenty members that then constituted that organization, Michael Frantz was baptized and included in that number, and became their first minister and afterward was ordained elder in Conestoga and White Oak. Said Michael Frantz died in 1748. He was born in Switzerland, September 1, 1687. Came to America on September 30, 1727.

"Michael Frantz (No. 2) was born in Germany in 1727, and came to America September 30, 1727. He was afterward married to Magdaline Zug, and sometime moved to Botetourt Co., Virginia, and to them was born eight sons and one daughter."

"The History of the Brethren" contains a biographical sketch of Michael Frantz (No.1). This said that he served the Church "with exemplary care and fidelity until the day of his death, December, 1747." Another record says in the year 1748. His remains are burried in the old graveyard near the Cocalico.

"He was not only approved of as a good and efficient preacher, but he was also a very ready writer, and a composer of religious hymns. Brother Christopher Saur of Germantown published a collection of his poetic and other productions, in 1770, under a German title which, translated to English, means: "Plain Instructive Considerations and a Short Convession of Faith by the Pious Teacher Michael Franzen, formerly leader of the Baptizer-Congregation in Canestogoe--now put into print for the General Welfare."

"Writings of Michael Frantz" were edited by Floyd Mallot, professor of Bethany Biblical Seminary, Chicago, and published in the magazine "Schwarzenau." The foreword said:

"Few men have had more influence than Elder Michael Frantz in determining the character and course of the Brethren. Michael Frantz came to Pennsylvania from Switzerland, September, 1727. Baptized by Peter Becker September 29, 1734, he was immediately made exhorter. In 1735 he was made elder of the Conestoga Church. This congregation was the third organized in America, but its position made it the real 'mother church.' Until his death in 1748 he presided over the congregation. His geographical location and his natural talents, together with his unusual force of



character all combined to make him one of the most important men in Brethren annals."

The above biographical data might give impression that Michael Frantz was engaged exclusively as a preacher. Actually the work of a preacher in small country church probably took only part of his time, and his ordinary vocation was undoubtedly that of a farmer.

## SECOND GENERATION IN AMERICA

MICHAEL FRANTZ, II  
(Research by Harry Warner Frantz)

Washington, March 27, 1949

Michael Frantz, immigrant ancestor of many Frantz families in America, arrived at Philadelphia September 30, 1727, on the ship "Molly" from London. No other "Frantz" is mentioned in the passenger list of that ship, and it may be surmised that Michael Frantz came in advance of his family to locate his intended land and home-site in the Colony of Pennsylvania.

Michael Frantz, who became an elder of the Brethren Church, is known to have had a son named Michael, hereinafter referred to as Michael II or Michael the second. The place and date of birth of Michael II are not stated in any publication or letter that I find.

On the ship "Samuel" from Rotterdam came to Philadelphia in August 1732 eleven persons named "Frants" or "Frantsin," which is evidently a variation in spelling of "Frantz." In this list is Michiel Frants, aged 6. Circumstantially, it would seem that the party that came to Philadelphia on the "Samuel" were relative of Michael Frantz, and that the child of 6 may have been his son. The senior members of party on the "Samuel" were Christian Frants, Sr., aged 47, and Anna Frantsin, aged 37.

A Family Record of Daniel Frantz, Jr., and Daniel Frantz, Sr., written and translated from the German by Israel Frantz, son of Daniel Frantz, Jr., January, 1809 contained the following paragraph:

"Now, concerning my grandfather, Michael Frantz the second, and son of Michael Frantz the first, I have been informed of my father, Daniel Frantz, the first, that his father Michael Frantz the second was brought to America at the age of two years; and as mentioned that Michael Frantz the first came to America in the year 1727. Without any doubt he brought his two year son Michael along. Further, I have been informed that Michael Frantz the second died at the age of 82 years in Virginia. I have seen him with my own eyes. He died in the year 1807 or 1808. Now go back 82 years, and



you will get back to the year 1725, two years before his father's coming to America."

Harry Warner Frantz makes the observation that Michiel Frantz, 6 years old when the "Samuel" arrived in Philadelphia in 1732 would have been 82 years old in 1808, strong indication that he and Michael Frantz the second, who died in Virginia were identical.

The record written by Daniel Frantz the second said that Daniel Frantz the first was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on February 9, 1763, and afterwards married to Anna Garst. "At what time my father and grandfather and others emigrated to Virginia is partly unknown to me; probably from the year 1784 to 1788.... There is no doubt at all of us being the descendants from our ancestor Michael the first from Switzerland. My grandmother Frantz's maiden name was Zug."

The "History of Lancaster County" (Philadelphia 1833) listed Michael Frantz in 1780 among the taxable persons in West Cocalico, for 115 acres, 2 horses, 2 cows, value 256 pounds. It also reported that Michael Frantz and John Frantz on November 3, 1778, took oath of allegiance at Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

In Pennsylvania Archives militia rolls reported Michael Frantz as a private third class at Hill Town, May 23, 1781. A muster roll for the 2d Battalion Lancaster County Militia included Michael Frantz among those to make a tour of duty to Buck's County.

Name of Michael Frantz was among signatories to a "Petition of Sundry Citizens of Cocalico" presented to the County (Lancaster) Commissioners in 1782, reporting their Distress from Tempest and Flood, submitted by Freeholders of the County of Lancaster. The storm had occurred on May 21, 1782.

None of these items further identifies "Michael Frantz." They related either to Michael Frantz II, or his son of same name. Michael Frantz is believed to have lived in Lancaster County until about 1784 or thereafter.

Michael Frantz II married Magdalena Zug in Pennsylvania at unknown date and place. A letter written by Michael Zug at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, March 15, 1904, to David Frantz, Cerro Gordo, Illinois, stated:

"Our ancestor Ulrich Zug fled by reason of religious persecution from the Canton of Zug, Switzerland, in the year 1727. He settled in Lancaster, PA, and raised a family of six sons and two daughters. Names and intermarriages are all known. One, Magdalena, was married to Michael Frantz, Jr. He came with his father Michael, Sr., to America only three days later than Ulrich Zug. Michael Sr. was baptized September 29, 1734 by the Brethren and became the first



minister and elder of the Conestoga and White Rock Church of Lancaster Co., PA. Michael and Magdalena Frantz, Jr. moved from Lancaster Co., PA to Botetourt Co., VA (time not known) where they raised a family of eight sons and one daughter, viz. Michael, Thannas, Abraham, Christian, Jacob, Daniel, Peter and David. Now these are the third generation of their mother's as well as their father's side in America."

The author of above letter, Michael Zug in postscript said that he was the fifth generation of Ulrich Zug, and nearly 22 years old.

According to Philadelphia ship records, Ulrich Zug, Peter Zug and George Zug, first cousins, arrived there September 27, 1727, in the ship James Goodwill, from Rotterdam via Falmouth.

In 1727, 348 Palatine families, 1240 persons came to Pennsylvania, at the invitation of the Penn family.

An undated letter written by S.R. Zug, at age 92, from Palmyra, Pennsylvania, said:

"In 1727 Ulrich Zug and wife came from Switzerland to his wife's brother, Michael Bachman, about 4 miles north of where Lancaster now is along Little Conestoga. They went to White Oak Valley in Warwick Township, now Penn, where Bachman took up over 1000 acres of land, by Warrant, of which he gave Zug 1000 acres and an allowance, etc., for 60 pounds sterling, and sold the balance to others. Bachman was in the country years before. When Zugs came to America they were Mennonites, but she united with the Church of the Brethren in 1741, he in 1742, Peter in 1747, Magdalena in 1748, John 1749, Michael 1752, Jacob 1761, Christian 1769."

In Lancaster County Court House is record: "The account of Barbara Zouck, Admin. on estate of Ulrich Zouck.... She charges herself with the goods and chattels mentioned in Inventory...in amt of L 126-3-6. Exhibited in Office at Lanc. the 11th day of May, 1748. Among farm and household goods is, 'To Bible and books L 4-6-0.' Appraised by Ulrich Burkhard and Peter Zuk."

Barbara, widow of Ulrich (mother of Magdalena) apparently lived until about 1759, when the heirs of Woolrick Tzuke sell a tract of land situated in Warwick Twp., Lancaster Co., acquired title in 1743. The title dates back to the Penns. Woolrick Tzuke died intestate. Magdalena Tzuke is among eight children named. Signatures to deed, except one, were signed Zug. Hans Bachman, the father of Barbara Zug, is said to have been one of the pioneers of the Swiss colony which arrived in Philadelphia in September 1710. They were granted 10,000 acres of land on Pequea Creek, Lancaster County. Michael Bachman, as son of Hans, also came early and was a large landholder in Lancaster County.



A personal letter accompanies the researched information by Harry Warner Frantz:

5804 Aberdeen Road  
Bethesda, 14, Md.

Dear Howard and Mary Ann:

I thank you for your letter, and inquiry about Kathleen. She did not recover as rapidly as I hoped after leaving the hospital in January, and we still keep a nurse at home. However, her general health is much better, and she gets out a good deal, attends church occasionally, and tries to reciprocate the numerous generous favors from friends and relatives. With spring, the Lord willing, I hope things become better for Kathleen, as she is a very wonderful person, and rarely ill. The doctor does not permit her to drive the car, and that at times causes some difficulties, as I have not driven for many years. I have continued at my work as usual, and Washington is very busy place at this season.

I have noted Viola's interest in family history, and am glad to help her. I enclose copies of memoranda about the first two generations of the family that lived in America.

Viola's line of descent thereafter is as follows:

David Frantz, wife Elizabeth Garst, lived in Virginia;  
Michael Frantz, ususally referred to as Michael IV,  
    (second wife Susanna Neher), lived most of his life  
    near New Carlisle, Ohio;  
John Frantz, wife Magdalena Saltzman, lived near Cerro  
    Gordo, Illinois;  
Noah Frantz, brother my father John, Michael and Jacob,  
    lived in California.

Some years ago I collected much information about the Frantz family, but found that it took more time, energy and sometimes cash for research than I could afford. If I should ever retire I might try to do a small book on the subject--not genealogy but just family history. The Frantz-es in early generations were nearly all farmers, but they had a gift for marrying very refined and talented woment, and the maternal lines are interesting.

We hope that youy have a happy vacation in Nova Scotia, and if you come via Washington please visit us. Kathleen, too, sends her love.

Sincerely,

Harry W. Frantz