

## “How does this work?”

Henry Strobel, Revised September, 2010

● “**Explore Our Family Tree**” includes **everyone** but with no personal details, or optionally no dates for persons born after 1910. Click on its links or “trees” to explore.

● If you click on **Branch 1, 2, or 3, Photos and Documents, or Family Album**, which are reserved for family and relatives, you will need to ask for a **username** and a **password**. Please include your name, address, and relationship. You need only do this again when we periodically change the password. Family data, questions, or corrections are always welcome. Thanks!

To E-Mail <mailto:books@henrystrobel.com>  
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*Strobels of Southern Indiana* is independent and non-commercial, our gift to the family.

Disclaimer: Information has come from various sources and much of it has not been verified with primary sources.

- A *family tree* tells a story of people and their relations.
- An *ancestors report* is like a tree with the branches (ancestors) spreading upward (or to the right).
- A *descendants report* is like a tree upside down with the branches (descendants) spreading downward.
- Both trees are shown in levels, called *generations*.
- We can flesh out the bare branches of the tree with facts, photos, comments, articles, documents - like fruit or ornaments.

**Pdf reports** under Branch 1, 2, or 3, are easy to read or print, using your Adobe Reader™, with its handy *find* and *magnify* tools. Ancestors and descendants reports include notes and documents but only one photo (if available) per person. For example, *Descendants Report, STROBEL BRANCH 1*, is a narrative 50 page illustrated file, which will take some minutes to download. Others are smaller and faster. Ask if you don't see the one you need. There are also selected individual documents here.

**Photos and Documents** gives one click access, listed by name.

**Family Album** is a gallery of over a thousand captioned photos. Lots of information and insight here. Sorry, not alphabetical. Explore.

**Photos and Documents** and **Family Album** does not include all the items in our database. **Reports** will contain no more than one picture per person. Ask if you are looking for more.



**About the Strobel Brothers** - Paul is a businessman and a lifelong resident of Tell City, Indiana except for nine years in the USAF. Henry also grew up in Tell City and is a violin maker and publisher near Salem, Oregon. They are the sons of the late Henry Alois Strobel, Distinguished Service Cross WWI hero, born just across the Anderson River from the Benedictine archabbey of St. Meinrad, Spencer County, Indiana and the late Catherine Eberle Strobel, born in Tell City, Indiana.

Paul compiled his family tree beginning about thirty years ago. About 2004 he suggested that I publish it. I took it on as a family project, broadening it and discovering the connection with our German ancestors. This took long hours over hardly legible manuscript microfilms, but now we can see here the original church records in the priests' German and Latin handwriting. We could now visit the town of Obertsrot, Baden, Germany and know we are with relatives.

**This family tree** was begun for our own Strobel family (branch 1), descended from Martin Strobel b. 1757, Baden (and Adam Eberle b. 1804, Trier) Germany. However, I have added two additional "Strobels of Southern Indiana" branches. All three came to settle on the Indiana side of the Ohio River, two in the same year and one three years later, all were from within a five mile area in Germany and evidently knew each other in Indiana.

Strobel (branch 1) from Obertsrot, Baden, Germany to St. Meinrad (or Fulda), Indiana

Strobel (branch 2) from Hilpertsau, Baden, Germany to Cannelton, Indiana

Strobel (branch 3) from Gaggenau, Baden, Germany to New Albany (or Floyd County), Indiana

With that research and with all the Strobels who volunteered their information at the *Strobels of Southern Indiana* web site, the number of persons in the tree has approximately quadrupled. We think all three “branches” are related, but do not yet have all the connections. These Strobels are now spread throughout the United States. It has been a pleasure to meet so many of them, if only by email. We would also appreciate any further information - for example, about our “disappeared” great-grandfather Alois Strobel, born 1826 in Baden, Germany and married in 1853 to Elizabeth Mueller, who died in 1863 in Fulda, Indiana. In fact ,when I began to publish this tree we were unaware that Alois was our actual great-grandfather, his children apparently having been left to grow up with his brother Mathias Strobel.

A philosophical comment: Factual history is always good, but some may worry about privacy - we have tried to be discreet. It's the personal stories of real people that make it relevant and interesting. Every man leaves this earth making room for others, but he is quickly forgotten except for his works, the love of his children, and poor efforts like this, which may help us remember, and be remembered. We look for a timeless reunion.



### A Word about Names by Henry Strobel

People spell names anyway they choose, so allow for a variety. For instance, Graff became Graf. Hurrle became Hurle, and then Hurley. The formidable looking BAECKER in our tree (capitalized to make surnames stand out) is another way of using a German *umlauted* a. Typographical difficulties eventually turned this into Backer, or perhaps Baker or Becher in some cases. Similarly Mueller was sometimes simplified to the English Miller. This can make following a name down through a tree difficult, and sometimes we have to be flexible.

Many had a Latin baptismal name, like Aloysius. Sacramental records were usually in some style of Latin or German handwriting. Names can differ by language. Some examples follow.

<i>Latin:</i>	<i>German:</i>	<i>English:</i>
Andreas	Andreas	Andrew
Carolus	Karl	Charles, Carl
	Dietrich	Theodore
Franciscus	Franz	Francis, Frank
	Friedrich	Frederick
	Fritz	Fred
Georgius	Georg, Jurgen	George
	Hans	Jack
Henricus	Heinrich	Henry
	Heinrike *	Henrietta
Jacobus	Jakob	Jacob, James
Joannes	Johannes	John
Laurentius	Lorenz	Lawrence
Ludovicus	Ludwig	Louis, Lewis
	Marie, Maria	Mary
	Rudolph	Ralph
Teresa	Theresia	Theresa
	Wilhelm	William

\* This is an important example for us since Heinrike is the form used in this genealogy but *Heinike* is used in those of Joseph William Graf and Augustine J. Fredrich. Perhaps it was a change based on pronunciation, Heinike being easier to say, at least in America. A standard dictionary of first names lists Heinrike as the feminine form of Heinrich and it is so used in her emigration record. (I have not seen her baptismal record.) Later the English form Harriet, or Henrietta “Rickie” seems to have been used.



**First names:** <http://behindthename.com>

**Last names:** <http://surnames.behindthename.com>

and (see next page)

## **The introduction to the Oxford Dictionary of American Family Names:**

[http://content.answers.com/main/content/img/oxford/Oxford\\_DAFN/preface.html](http://content.answers.com/main/content/img/oxford/Oxford_DAFN/preface.html)

provides a good explanation of where family names (surnames) came from.

Excerpt from a web article by Juliana Smith

“Beyond misspelled names, we may find ancestors who changed their name for whatever reason. I have two ancestors who took on the name of their stepfathers, and over several generations, one of the surnames in my husband’s family tree morphed from Gruenzweig to Greenzweig to Greene.

My own great-grandfather spelled his last name Mekalski and Menkalski, and to really confuse me, for more than ten years he also adopted the name Wagner. he couldn’t find work because they weren’t hiring poles. since he spoke German, he arbitrarily changed the family name to Wagner and found work. when world war i broke out, being German wasn’t so popular so he reverted to Menkalski. to further complicate things, the family used a variety of endings. his sister Bertha used the feminine ending -ska (Menkalska), and several other relatives, including his father went by Mekala.

And of course our ancestors weren’t the only ones to change their names. Clerks and census takers with bad handwriting all took a crack at them, and then well-intentioned indexers took their turn. That said, the story about names being changed at Ellis Island is a myth. Passenger manifests were created when the immigrant purchased his ticket overseas, and furthermore, Ellis Island employed interpreters to communicate with immigrants.”