

## The Barmaster Family

By Richard "Terry" Busch and Mary Jane Devlin

In our November 2016 newsletter we featured the Barmaster homestead on Jacobs Road in Lincoln. At that time we said we would tell more about the family in a later newsletter.



The two adults in the photo are William Frederick Barmaster and his wife, Mary Johanna Fredericka Oldenburg Barmaster. William Frederick was born in the United States in 1879 and died of leukemia in December 1936. His father, Frederick Burmeister, (1822-1887) and mother, Hannah Schuknecht, (1849-1910) emigrated to the United States from one of the German states at some undetermined date. Frederick Burmeister kept this spelling of his surname because that's the way he is identified on his gravestone in Smith Cemetery on Gloria Drive in the Town of Penfield, New York. Somewhere along the line, however, the surname was Anglicized to Barmaster because Frederick Burmeister's wife, Hannah, is identified on her gravestone, in the same cemetery, as Hannah Barmaster. Their children took the Barmaster surname.

Mary Johanna Oldenburg was 17 months old when she emigrated to the United States with her parents, Henry August Oldenburg (1860-1917) and Fredericka Wackrow Oldenburg (1861-1932), from the German Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. They arrived in New York City on November 1, 1884, along with 360 other passengers from the German states. William Frederick Barmaster and Mary Johanna Oldenburg were married in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the hamlet of Roseland on September 21, 1904.

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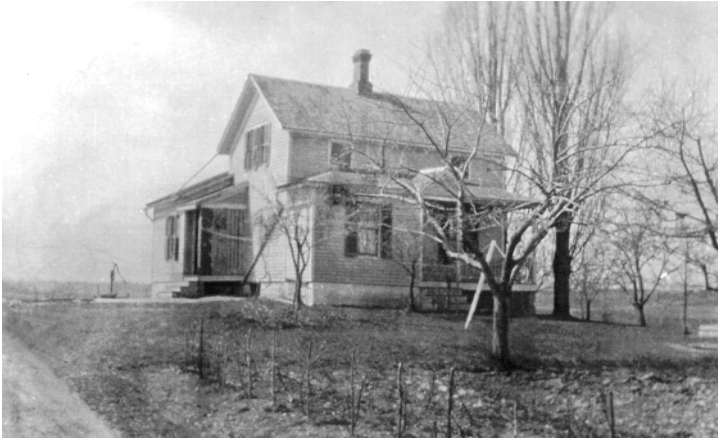


This photo of William Frederick and Mary Barmaster and their children was likely taken at the Barmaster farm on Jacobs Road, which at the time had a mailing address of Lincoln, New York. The property, in the Town of Walworth, now carries the address 434 Jacobs Road, Macedon, New York. William Frederick's parents had purchased the 22-acre property in January 1875 from William and Alzina Holdridge for \$1,025, and the Frederick Burmeister/Barmaster family lived there in a log cabin, according to family lore. The same lore suggests that the cabin was located on the approximate Jacobs Road site of the present home of Ronald "Ron" and Wendy Forman, a grandson of William Frederick and Mary Barmaster.

As a youth, William Frederick Barmaster left school after the fourth grade because he had to help support his mother after his father's death. He learned to be a carpenter, and he used that skill to build the present day house at the 434 Jacobs Road address. The family believes that a smaller version of the present structure was ready for his bride in September 1904. Together, the Barmasters and their children worked this rich muck land raising annual crops of carrots, potatoes, celery, sweet corn, squash, pickles and other crops, including hay, wheat, and corn for their horse and cow. There were also fruit trees on the property. William Frederick built the substantial barn that still stands opposite the farmhouse today. There was an outside well, and of course, an outhouse, but not near the well!

The Barmaster children in this photograph attended the Clemens School on the southwest corner of County Line Road and the original route of Atlantic Avenue. That one-room building was renovated into a single family home many years ago. After William Frederick died in 1936, Mary Barmaster, with all but one of her children grown, remained on the farm and rented the land to nearby farmers. During the mid-1940's, Mary sold the farm to her daughter, Helen Barmaster Forman, and her husband, Clint. Mary lived with them until her death at 99 in 1982.

Many of their descendants settled in the area. The original home is owned by Ron Forman and his family. Ron works for the Walworth Highway Department. William married Helen Copeland and bought a house on Bills Road. That property is now owned by William's and Helen's grandson Wally Wyse. Hazel married William Busch and settled on Sweet's Corners Road. Two of their three children still live in the area. Howard settled in the Macedon area.



**Jacobs Road Barmaster home 1920**



**The former home of William Barmaster on Bills Road**