

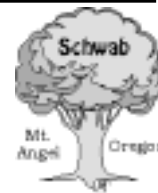
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# Generations

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## The Schwab Family Newsletter Summer, 1995



### 1996 Reunion Needs Help

**Charlotte Schmidt**

The Mt. Angel Oktoberfest building has been booked. A few of the family members who have done the planning for the reunions met at Lou and Bonnie Schwab's house on June 6. The next reunion is scheduled for July, 26, 27, 28 1996. The reunion is **not** that far away.!

We must have workers for the following tasks:

- Music .....
- Talent Show .....
- Cousins' Band .....
- Friday Evening Entertainment .....
- Saturday Night Dance .....
- Sunday Mass .....
- Food Purchasing .....
- Meal Prep .....
- Friday Dinner .....
- Saturday Breakfast .....
- Saturday Lunch .....
- Saturday Dinner .....
- Sunday Breakfast .....
- Camping for RVs and Tents .....
- Mass Liturgy .....
- Mass Collections .....
- Genealogy and Souvenir Sale .....
- Cookbook .....
- Volkswalk .....
- Registration .....
- Banking .....
- Beverage Sales .....
- Children's Games .....
- Golf and Receptions .....
- out-of-town Accommodations .....

Pick one or more and contact Charlotte Schmidt at (503) 235-3723 or 314 SE 29th, Portland, OR 97214.

**Don't delay**, the success of this reunion depends on you not some other cousin.

Plans are in the works for a special presentation of the Louis and Josephine Schwab family history for this reunion. Next year, 1996, will be the 115th year since they settled in Mt. Angel. Many of our cousins

have visited Germany and relatives there and are loaded with pictures and stories and maps that are fascinating.

Thanks to everyone who sent their family's updated addresses. Please send updated addresses to **Patrick Schwab, 195 Kevin Way SE, Salem, OR 97306**. Make copies of the newsletter and send to members of your family who did not receive a copy of the newsletter. Updating the mailing is important. We will have another edition of the newsletter pre-1996 reunion and we don't want to leave anyone out!!!!

### Genealogy Update

**Charlotte Schmidt**

Cousin Karen Perlich and mom Marge are putting all the genealogy information they received from Barbara on the computer. They will need **ALL** of our families information from 1981 to 1995 to bring everything up to date: Births of spouses and children, adoptions, deaths, marriage dates and any change in marital status. When you send this in, please note your Schwab grandparent's name.

Send all genealogy information to Karen Perlich, 1930 Gardner Rd. Stayton, OR 97383. The new genealogy book will be available for purchase at the 1996 Reunion. Please send this data as soon as possible, it is a big job and will take a lot of work and time for Marge and Karen.

### St. Mary's Church Restored

**Patrick Schwab**

June, 1995 the Catholic Church building was rededicated marking its full restoration. On March 25, 1993 the nearly hundred year old church was damaged by an earthquake. The church had been unsafe to occupy since the quake. The parish of St. Mary's was very delighted to have their church back.

The Schwab family has a historical stake in the building. Some of our family members helped build the church in 1912.

In 1992, the family responded to a request to help restore one of the stained glass windows in the church. We pledged \$6,000 to restore the altar window

titled *The Offering of Melchizedek*. Over the last several years family members have sent \$5420 to our family treasurer, Carol Piatz. We have paid off the pledge with money that was in the Schwab Reunion account but we could certainly use a few more donations to replace the \$580 we pulled out of the account. Please send donations to Carol Piatz, P.O. Box 285, Mt. Angel, OR 97362.

Some names of the donors did not make it in the last newsletter. They are: Jack and Flora Schwab, Randall and Scott Tracy, Robert and Jeanette Kruse, Art and Mary Schwab.

## Sister Rosula and Mother Gaudentia

### Patrick Schwab & Louis Schwab

Dorothea and Caroline Schwab were two of Louis and Josephine Schwab's seven children. Dorothea (Sister Rosula) and Caroline (Mother Gaudentia) entered the Sisters of Providence both on the same day and took their novitiate vows at Vancouver, Washington in August 15, 1882. Dorothea was 16 and Caroline was 19 at the time.

What follows is a touching retelling of the Sister Rosula's life by Sister Mary Leopoldine. This history was written for Sister Rosula's funeral. Sister Mary Leopoldine has done an excellent job in telling part of our family's history. We thought it would be important to reprint the testimonial in total. Mother Gaudentia's story follows after Sister Rosula's.



Mother Gaudentia

John Schwab

Sister Rosula

\*\*\*\*\*

**March 17, 1940**

In Memorial.

Sister Rosula of The Blessed Sacrament  
( Dorothea Schwab )

Communicated from Sacred Heart Hospital  
Spokane, Washington.

Born December 31, 1865, in Dunlap, Iowa; daughter of Louis Schwab and Josephine Winterer, both parents born in Germany; entered the novitiate in Vancouver, Washington, August 15, 1882; made profession August 25, 1884; died at Sacred Heart

Hospital, Spokane, Washington, Palm Sunday, March 17, 1940; interment in Holy Cross Cemetery, Spokane, Washington.

This day the community of Sacred Heart Hospital mourns the departure of a worthy religious who for fifty-seven years gave to the Institute of Providence all the resources of her activity, her devotedness, her piety, which merited to be crowned with a Golden Jubilee of service in the Lord's vineyard.

Suffering for years from diabetes which daily was gaining intensity, on the first day of 1940 our beloved Sister Rosula of the Blessed Sacrament finally consented to leave her employment for hospital treatment, fully realizing the gravity of her illness. In a short time her condition became alarming and the Last Sacraments were administered. After many long weeks of mental anguish and physical pain, the days from Passion Sunday became a veritable passiontide for the dear patient and for the sisters who kept watch beside her. On the feast of the compassion of Our Lady, the chaplain deemed it wise to administer Extreme Unction a second time. It was the close of the retreat so a large number of sisters were in attendance to answer all the

prayers for a departing soul. But life was not extinct. Our divine Savior had reserved Palm Sunday for her entrance with him into Jerusalem.

It was a long vigil of prayer by her devoted sisters, who remained at the bedside with rosary in hand, praying unceasingly until death came.

Born into the  
home of a model

Christian family, in which the reading of the lives of the saints, the recitation of the rosary, night prayers and catechism were a daily occurrences, the early training of each of the seven children in profound faith, in thoughtfulness for others, in kindness for the poor, was a fitting preparation for their future lives. The rigorous climate and failure of crops in Iowa finally convinced the pious parents that in another locality better living conditions could be found for their growing sons and daughters.

In the fall of 1881, the family of nine boarded an emigrant train for San Francisco. Thence by boat, after a stormy sailing, they reached the Port of Portland, in Oregon. The Willamette Valley offered the best

opportunity for fertile acreage and Catholic surroundings. Under the leadership of Prior Adelhelm Odermatt, the Benedictine monks had selected a desirable location, twenty five miles from Portland, on which they would erect a monastery. A town-site, now Mount Angel, was also carefully planed, and Catholic families were invited to make their homes near by. This arrangement seemed ideal. Here the Schwab family settled and soon became outstanding as parishioners and citizens. Mother Theresa, then superior of St. Vincent's Hospital, Portland, had asked the good Prior Adelhelm to send her any young women desiring employment. Accordingly announcement was made at the following Sunday Mass. The two Misses Schwab, Dorothea and her older sister, as yet unacquainted in their new surroundings, eagerly accepted the invitation. A few days later they knocked at St. Vincent's.

Contact with Sisters filled their hearts with longing to embrace religious life. August 15, 1882, they were received into the novitiate at Vancouver, Washington. Scarcely had they become accustomed to their postulant dress of purple serge, when their father was stricken with blood poison, and taken to St. Vincent's. The two sisters were summoned to his death bed. Clad in their purple dresses they hastened to receive his last blessing. Almost to ill to speak, his only words to them were "My daughters, you are where I have always prayed for you to be-to wear a religious habit." What a trial! But faith and Christian resignation calmed their legitimate grief. They turned to God in prayer, and piously made a fervent novitiate. On August 25, the hitherto inseparable sisters pronounced their perpetual vows. For the first years of religious life Sister Rosula of the Blessed Sacrament was engaged in teaching in our schools of Tulalip, Vancouver, Walla Walla, Colville, and Sprague.

When more hospital personnel was required, the superiors selected Sister Rosula to prepare for the nursing profession. Missioned to Sacred Heart Hospital in 1898, prayerfully and with renewed ardor, she plunged into the work with all the energy at her command. And how well performed her duty, forty-seven years of unselfish devotedness tells the story.

When in 1910 the new Sacred Heart Hospital was sufficiently completed to begin the transfer of patients, Sister Rosula was foremost in the preparation for moving and arranging for ambulances as well as other means of transportation.

Then the task of furnishing the large hospital and meeting the increased expense of maintaining it brought anxiety to the superiors. Not in the least fearful, our devoted sister volunteered to organize a bazaar. The entire city and countryside were visited personally. Her natural affability and friendliness won the good will of

all she approached in the name of charity. No one refused assistance. The results of her efforts were magnificent.

In 1912 a new field of activity was opened when she was assigned to the duty of directress of the School of Nursing in St. Ignatius Hospital, Colfax, Washington. During the influenza epidemic of 1918-19, the president of the State College at Pullman, a few miles distant from Colfax, urgently called for volunteer nurses to care for the hundreds of student victims. Sister Rosula with five or six student nurses organized a hospital unit on the campus. For a month they watched night and day beside the stricken and dying. Through her vigilant care many a victim had the privilege of receiving the Sacraments before death came.

Sister Rosula was again missioned to Sacred Heart, Spokane, in 1929, for the office of registrar. Her many years' experience with the sick qualified her in a special way for admittance and general information office. Filled with confidence in God and with a simple childlike faith, all her energies were put forth to do the work the best of ability.

The treasures of kindness and charity contained within her heart for the most neglected in the Lord's vineyard, in later years found an outlet in the attention she gave the inmates of the Poor Farm, by collecting clothing, literature, bonbons, and other comforts for her dear needy friends. Every year, near the holiday season, a pilgrimage was made to Broadacres to distribute gifts and spread happy Christmas cheer among God's less fortunate. This particular feature was her last work, though sorrowfully she yielded to others her place for her final visit.

In 1934 Sister Rosula of the Blessed Sacrament in company with her own beloved sister, Mother Gaudentia, and other happy companions, celebrated her Golden Jubilee, the crowning joy of her life. Fifty years of a life, so fruitful in good works done for the greater glory of God, well merits our unstinted praise.

The funeral service took place in our chapel with all the solemnity due to a Jubilarian. His Excellency, Most Reverend Charles D. White, our Bishop, was present in the Sanctuary and gave the last absolution. The Mass was offered by the chaplain, Reverend John Durgan, S.J., assisted by Very Rev. S.P. Buckley, and Reverend John T. Corbett, S.J., who had served as an altar boy at the religious profession of our dear departed in 1884. Fifteen priest were present and followed the funeral cortege to the Sisters' plot.

Our dear Sister Rosula of the Blessed Sacrament is now one of our venerable departed ones. In that heavenly country where the legitimate ties of earthly affection are perfected in God, Sister Rosula will not forget the dear ones she left behind, of her much loved

Community, including the many friends to whom she was endeared. This is our consolation and the hope of an eternal reunion.

Sister Mary Leopoldine, F.C.S.P.

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The following letter from Reverend John T. Corbett, S.J., is one of many scores that were received by Mother Gaudentia.

March 18, 1940

Dear Reverend Mother Gaudentia:

At last your sister has gone to her well-earned reward. Whilst the touch of nature prompts me to condole with you and yours in temporary visual separation, Christian faith, hope and charity bid me congratulate you on the election of your sister to the ranks of the Blessed. May your wishful prayers and those of your many friends speed her soul heavenward where she now belongs! In furtherance of this destiny I will offer up the Holy Sacrifice for the repose of her soul in our St. Patrick's Church here on Tuesday, 7:00 A.M., March 19, remembering that on August 15, 1884, I served the Mass of her profession where she pronounced her religious vows; and thanks to the good God that little alter-boy can now offer up Holy Mass for a soul that kept her vows faithful to the end, when faith merges into vision and hope merges into charity.

I will consider it an honor to assist at your dear Sister's obsequies in your hospital chapel and at the grave, God's acres.

With expressions of esteem for you and all your folks and with sincere sympathy for you in your bereavement and with a heart full of gratitude to you, your good sister, and all the Sisters of Providence through whose motherly Christian kindness under the Providence of a good God, I was led, on the death of my own good mother, from Astoria to Vancouver, to Spokane to the Jesuit Novitiate, to the priesthood, to this blessed day that witnessed the achieved goal of your Sister's life.

(Signed) John T. Corbett, S.J.

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## Mother Gaudentia

March 6.-In Memoriam.-

Mother Gaudentia (Caroline Schwab).  
Forwarded from Sacred Heart Hospital,  
Spokane, Washington, Provincial House.

Born at Dunlap, Iowa, November 9, 1862; daughter of Louis Schwab and Josephine Winterer: entered the Novitiate August 15, 1882: professed



Mother Gaudentia

August 25, 1884: died at Sacred Heart Hospital, Spokane, Washington. March 6, 1950, age 87 years, 3 months and 25 days, of which 67 years, 6 months and 19 days were spent in religion. Interment in Holy Cross Cemetery, Spokane.

Over a century ago were born in Germany the future parents of Mother Gaudentia. In their adolescence, they emigrated to the United States. There they became acquainted, married and settled in Dunlap, Iowa, where seven children came, in turn, to adorn their home. Caroline ranked third among the four girls and three boys.

The father, talented and industrious, was doing well on a sheep ranch, teaching German at the same time: but, as he put the spiritual welfare of his family before the temporal, he deplored the fact that there was no Catholic School in the region, and one hundred miles existed between his home and the nearest church. This was in pre-automobile time. Having heard of the many advantage the West had to offer, and, in particular, that the Benedictine Fathers and Sisters were to open schools in Oregon, for boys and girls, respectively, he decided to risk his all, and depart westward, with his family. The journey, as far as San Francisco, was made on a very slow emigrant train, thence by boat to Portland, Oregon. The travelers settled, in October, 1881, twenty-five miles farther, at Mount Angel, Oregon, then called Fairfield. (should be Fillmore) Caroline was barely 19 years of age. Shortly after, at the parish church, a Benedictine Father, in a sermon, called on young ladies to go to help the overburdened Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent Hospital, Portland,

Oregon. Caroline and her younger sister decided to answer the appeal. After a few months of daily contact with our Sisters, the two young girls knew that they also were called to join the legion of virgins.

They were most welcome to our family. Unknown to them, Divine Providence had visibly directed their steps to this safe and peaceful harbor. Not long after, when the Benedictine Sisters, who had counted on them, came to establish their house, they found them happy at Providence. A great trial however visited them, three weeks after their entrance; their beloved father died following a very short illness. The two generous novices made profession together, and the younger one, our dear Sister Rosula of the Blessed Sacrament, preceded her elder by ten years into eternity.

Vancouver retained for some time Sister Gaudentia professed, as companion at the bishopric, the sacristy and kitchen. Then she was transferred to Sacred Heart Hospital, Spokane, where she worked one year in the kitchen and twenty years with the patients. A new assignment had her spend one year in Seattle, after which she returned to Spokane, always employed at the bedside of the suffering. Mother's kind, sympathetic heart made of her an appreciated nurse. Other gifts of nature, however, fitted her equally well for government. Those in authority knew or guessed it, and appointed her Superior at St. Ignatius Hospital, Colfax, Washington. After devoting herself during a double term there, she served for another double term, in the same office, at Sacred Heart Hospital, Spokane, and was ministering in the same capacity at St. Vincent Hospital, Portland, when on November 1, 1926, a new nomination placed her at the head of St. Ignatius Province. Six years later, she laid down this burden to take back that of local Superior- this time, at Columbus Hospital, Great Falls, Montana. At the end of this long stretch at the helm, the strength of the good pilot was giving way. On November 1, 1938, Sacred Heart Hospital, for the fourth time, open wide its doors to this faithful worker who served still and to the end, at the post of local assistant.

Mother Gaudentia had benefited by a sound training at home, with her thoroughly Catholic, strong-principled, and hard-working parents. At the Novitiate, her good spirit and docility of character had caused her to profit fully by the formation dispensed during this first period of the religious life. Moreover she had had the advantage of living with Sisters who belonged to the first half of the century of the Community, among whom was Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart. No

better school could there be for one to learn the practices of our Mother Foundresses and imbibe their spirit. These successive teachings and contacts had enriched Mother Gaudentia. In her turn, and for her part, she endeavored to transmit to followers this sacred inheritance.

Though unskillful at manual work, her devotedness to duty and to the Community she deeply loved was entire and true. Nature had endowed her with such simplicity that it would have been impossible for to disguise her aims; a child-like simplicity which endeared her to all. This admirable disposition caused her to be unassuming and unexact, and inspired her with that sense of justice so appreciated in a Superior.

Charity was among her characteristic traits; charity to her Sisters, to the patients, to the poor, to all! And how she loved peace and endeavored to make it reign in the houses committed to her care! She was endowed with an even, peaceful cheerfulness, and contributed to the agreeableness of recreations, where she enjoyed to be, with her Sisters. She appreciated and encouraged the last manifestation of good will, and one felt that the gratitude she expressed for services rendered her was straight from the heart. To simplicity and charity, she joined a sincere humility, offering thus the model of a true Servant of the Poor.

On the memorable dates of her jubilees-in 1934 and 1944-she had enjoyed the homage of earth and the joy of Heaven.

She had always, however, thought of death as a terrifying ordeal. Last July she had to submit to a surgical operation. Her convalescence was long and her cure incomplete. All the while she hoped that life would be lenient and allow her to tarry a little longer in this world; but cancer had not been conquered. The pain increased and the patient understood that the end would soon be at hand. She asked for Extreme Unction and, in her love for her religious family, requested that all be present at the ceremony. She begged pardon for the disedification she might have given, asked for prayers, recited the Credo, renewed her vows, and answered the liturgical prayers in a loud and fervent voice. How impressive it was! Mother Gaudentia lingered another month, during which she drank at the bitter cup of physical and moral suffering, alleviating the pungency of the draught by constant prayer.

Mother Lucia, provincial superior, and some Sister's were at her bedside, in the absence of Sister superior, when she expired most peacefully, at 1:15 P.M., under the absolving hand of our Chaplain.

Remarkably numerous were the members of her beautiful family- among whom priest and religious- who assisted at the funeral, solemnly celebrated in our chapel, at 9 o'clock, two days later. An unusual number of priest also attended. His Ex the Most Rev. Edward Kelly, Bishop of Boise, Idaho, whose family is allied, by marriage, to that of Mother Gaudentia, was to officiate. On account of his train being late His Excellency the Most Rev. Charles D. White, Bishop of Spokane, replaced him, assisted by Rev. John Coleman, pastor at the Cathedral, as archpriest: Rev. Oaklay O'Connor, pastor at the Sacred Heart Church, and Rev. Stephen Buckley, pastor of St. Augustine's as deacon and sub-deacon; Rev. Clement Regimbald, S.J., professor at Gonzaga University, and Rev. Frederick Bromham, o.f.m., pastor of St. Francis of Assisi's Church, as deacon and sub-deacon of honor. Scholastics from Mount St. Michael's filled the other ecclesiastical functions. His Ex. Bishop Kelly, who arrived during Mass, took his place in the sanctuary, with his deacon and sub-deacon, the Rev. John Gubbins and James Linden, Jesuits, professors at Gonzaga. His Ex. our Bishop gave an eloquent sermon in which he recalled these words of St. Paul, "We have not here below a lasting city", and emphasized the beauty and merit of religious life, which

Mother Gaudentia had chosen from her youth and lived to such an advanced age.

May God grant unto His faithful servant eternal rest, and may she pray for us, whom she so sincerely loved!

Sister Veronica of the Cross, F.C.S.P., Provincial Secretary

**Patrick Schwab**  
**195 Kevin Way SE**  
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