

The first documented Weintrauts in the United States

Augustus Weintraut was born on April 28, 1831, in Hamburg, Germany. He married Mary Ann Scheurer and they had seven children together. He also had one daughter from another relationship. He died on November 29, 1888, in Washington, Pennsylvania, at the age of 57, and was buried in Bally, Pennsylvania. According to the 1880 Census he lived with his family in Washington, Berks County, Pennsylvania and was employed as a tree agent. According to [WikiTree](#), Augustus was a famous Fraktur (designer of elaborately decorated certificates—a skill based on German Gothic font) of the Goshenhoppen area of Pennsylvania (Berks, Lehigh, Montgomery and Bucks County)

- *Augustus F. **Weintraut**, of Washington township, received last summer from Germany a small amount of Speltz wheat (white and red) which be sowed in drills, in the latter part of October, in a light, rich soil, and the same stands firm and good, and has attained a length of four feet (Reading Eagle, 26 June 1884)*

When Mary Ann Scheurer was born in October 1841 in Berks, Pennsylvania, her father, Sebastian, was 37, and her mother, Mary, was 27. She married Augustus Weintraut and they had seven children together. She also had one daughter from another relationship. She died on April 11, 1904, in Bally, Pennsylvania, at the age of 62.

Children of Augustus and Mary Ann Weintraut

Charles F Weintraut (1864-1865)

Paul Maximilian Weintraut (1866-1955)

- certified mason
- married Sallie Rorer
- In 1930 had in his household stepchildren: Thomas Mock (40) and Ethel Rorer (41), and granddaughter Helen Rorer (12)
- Died in Boyertown in Berks County
- *Weintraut, 89, a former resident of _____ died yesterday in the home of a stepson, Horton J. Mock, in this borough. A stone mason by profession prior to his retirement, Weintraut was born in Bally, a son of the late Augustus and May (Shiery). He was a member of St. Columbkille's Roman Catholic Church here and also the borough's Keystone Fire Company. Weintraut, who had resided with his stepson for the past nine months, is survived by his widow, Sallie (Anthony) Weintraut; another stepson, Horton Mock, and two stepdaughters: Mrs. Ethel Rorer, Philadelphia, and Bessie, wife of Cambria Kolb, this borough. Also, four sisters: Mrs. Emma Zimmerman; Mary; Norah, wife of Samuel Coleman, and Mrs. Ella Wolfgang, all of Reading. Funeral will be held Thursday at in the Schwenk Funeral Home (Reading Eagle, 31 May 1955)*

Edward Eugene Weintraut (1868-1917)

- certified mason
- in 1884 he was acquitted of larceny of a gun, the property of Anton Kemmerer (*Reading Times*, 13 August 1884)
- married Hattie Kupfer on 31 December 1891 in Allentown
 - According to Dad's memoir, *Hattie had infantile paralysis and wound up with one short leg and had to wear special boots, one of which was three inches short. She had a noticeable limp. In her old age she lived alone in an apartment. She loved listening to church services on the radio and spent most of her time in solitude. In later years she spent six months with each child. We would get her for six months. She was really never a bother, but I think she disturbed my Mom at times. She gave me my first Bible, one with a leather cover and a zipper. I still have it now after 70 years!*
- the 1900 census indicates that Edward and Hattie had three children: Walter Franklin (1884-1955), Hazel (1895-1974), and Edward Aloysius (1898-1950)
- On 8 March 1902 *The Plain Speaker* published a lengthy story about litigation against a city engineer. Edward Eugene provided testimony about the quality of the work under investigation
- The 1910 census shows two more children: Pauline (1900-) and Albert (1908-1977)
- In 1911 he was awarded the contract to brick set one Edge Moor boiler at the plant of H W Butterworth and Sons Company, 2417 East York Street (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 30 May 1911)
- the 1930 census shows that Hattie had married the painter John Govin in 1918 — one year after Edward's death—and lived in Philadelphia with her son Albert and her stepson Harry (1915-)
- his death certificate states that a *Resident of Mauch Chunk Passes Away in this City. Admitted to St Joseph's Hospital suffering with heart failure three weeks ago, Edward Weintraut, aged 49 years, died in the institution at 10:15 PM on Monday. Mr Weintraut was taken to the hospital from the home of his sister, Mrs Samuel Coleman, 754 North 13th Street, with whom he was visiting, having arrived in Reading from his home in Mauch Chunk one week before. Deceased was born in Bally and was a son of Augustus and Mary Weintraut, both deceased. He was a bricklayer. His widow Hattie (nee Cooper): six children, Walter, Hazel, Edward, Pauline, Albert and Harry, all at home; one brother, Frank, of Gablesville; and four sisters, Mrs John Zimmerman, Philadelphia; Mrs Samuel Coleman and Mary and Ellen Weintraut, all of Reading, survive. He was a member of the Bricklayers Union and the Catholic denomination. (Reading Eagle, 13 March 1917)*

George Augustus Weintraut (1871-1895)

Emma Weintraut (1873-1963)

- married John Zimmerman who, according to the 1930 census, as employed as a baker, and in the 1940 census, worked as a wrapper in a bakery
- According to the 1950 census, Emma and Samuel had six children: Marrian Zimmerman (1903-1981; never married; housekeeper), Edward Joseph (1917-1990; brusher in a hosiery factory), Charles (truck driver), Arthur (knitter in a hosiery mill), and Henry (construction laborer), and Edward H. Emma's obituary indicates that she had 11 grandchildren
- Her death certificate claims she died from acute myocardial failure and generalized arteriosclerosis
- *Mrs Emma E Zimmerman, 89, widow of John Zimmerman, died last night in her home at 764 North 13th Street. Born in Bally, a daughter of Augustus and Mary (Schurer) Weintraut, Mrs Zimmerman was a member of St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. Surviving are five sons: John C, Charles H, Harry A, and Edward J, all of Reading; Edgar Hm of Thompsonville, Connecticut; a daughter, Marian, of Reading, and 11 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, a great-great-grandchild, and a sister, Mts Nora Coleman, Reading (Reading Eagle, 2 January 1963)*

Mary Elizabeth Weintraut (1877-1962)

- The 1950 census has Mary listed as a housekeeper in a hospital. She never married
- Her death certificate states she was a seamstress and died due to general circulatory failure, myocardial failure, and general debility and senility
- *Mary E. Weintraut, 85, formerly of 1303 Walnut St., died yesterday afternoon in the Wer_____ State Hospital, where she had been a patient since October of last year. A native of Reading and daughter of the late Augustus and Mary (Scheirer) Weintraut, she was a member of St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church. She is survived by two sisters, Emma, widow of John Zimmerman, Reading, and Nora, widow of Samuel Coleman, Reading, and several nieces and nephews. Funeral will be held from the Dougherty Funeral Home Thursday at followed by a High Requiem Mass at _____ in St Paul's Church. Burial will be made in Gethsemane Cemetery (Reading Eagle, 18 March 1962)*

Ellen Magdalena Weintraut (1879-1957)

- married Ambrose Wolfgang (1888-1944) on 29 April 1918 in Colebrookdale, Berks County
 - *Ambrose R, son of Mr and Mrs William Wolfgang, and Eilen Magdalena Weintrout, 754 Thirteenth Street, Reading, were married in Reading. Mr Wolfgang ist well known in town here and is a soldier located at Camp Meade. While in town he was employed with liveryman Peter B Eschbach (Reading Eagle, 24 April 1918)*
- The 1920 census has her and her husband living with his mother Sarah Wolfgang in Colebrookdale, Berks County. Ambrose is listed as a laborer in a casket workshop

- The 1930 census has Wolfgang and Emma living in Reading, Berks County, with their nine-year-old daughter Mary Magdalene Wolfgang (5 October 1920). Ambrose is listed as a laborer in a roading company
 - Mary married Calvin Scheeler Weiss (1917-2017) on 1 July 1939
 - In 1940 they were living in Lititz, Lancaster County. Both were employed in a show factory: Calvin as a caster and Mary as a seamer
 - In July 2014 Mary died in Ellsworth, Maine (where they owned a cabin next to their daughter), and was buried in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania
- The 1940 census has Emma and Ambrose living in Colebrookdale, Berks County. Ambrose was employed as a laborer in a government project
- Her death certificate states that she died in a car accident, suffering pulmonary embolism and a fractured left femur

Honora Dorothy Weintraut (1882-1964)

- married Samuel Wistler Coleman (1888-1944) on 27 June 1903 in Greenville, Berks County
- The 1950 census has Nora and Samuel living with their two children Robert and Mary Ann in Reading, Berks County. Samuel and were employed as a maintenance man in the school district; Mary Ann as a clerk
- According to his death certificate, Samuel Coleman (Senior) died at age 74 from injuries sustained when he was hit by a car at 8 PM on 10 April 1948: acute hemorrhaging, compound fracture of right tibia, lacerations of the right lung, heart, and liver. He had been employed as a school maintenance man.
 - *Mr. Coleman (Junior) was graduated from the former Reading Catholic High School and LaSalle College. He worked with the city highways department in 1940-42. Mr. Coleman was recently most prominent as a leader of the Reading Bipartisan Defenders "no" the recent city charter election. He went to the hospital on Feb. 27, the day the electorate defeated the charter change proposal. Mr. Coleman had unsuccessfully sought the Democratic county chairmanship in 1958, losing to Atty. John E. Born in Reading, he was a son of the late Samuel W. and Nora (Weintraut) Coleman. Surviving in addition to his widow are a son, Charles B., at homeland four brothers, Leonard S., Gerald R., Robert W., and Alfred S., all of Reading (Reading Eagle, 28 March 1971)*

Children of Edward Eugene and Hattie Weintraut

Walter Franklin Weintraut (1894-1955)

- *Walter Weintraut, son of Edward Weintraut, of Jeddo, picked some of the largest blueberries ever seen in the town of Stony Ridge, a short distance from his home. One of the berries by actual measurement was 13-16 inches in diameter. It was larger than a normal sized cherry (The Plain Speaker, Hazelton, 24 July 1903)*

- married Hattie Reichard in 1919
- The 1920 census has Walter living with his wife Hattie in her mother's house, Emma Reichard, along with Emma's daughter Mary E Flarman. Walter is listed as a bricklayer for the new Jersey Zinc Company.
- The 1930 census has Walter and Emma living with their son Normal in Lehighton. Walter is listed as a mechanic
- The 1940 census has Walter and Emma living with their son Normal in Lehighton. Walter is listed as a bricklayer for the zinc company. Norman lives in the house next door with his wife Leona and son Ronald. He is listed as a bricklayer for a construction company
- The 1950 census has Walter and Emma in Lehighton. Walter is listed as a bricklayer in the construction industry. Norman is listed as a gas station attendant.
- *Walter Weintraut, a native of Jeddo, died yesterday at Gnadon Huetten Hospital, Lehighton, where he had been admitted on Sunday. A son of the late Mr and Mrs Edward Weintraut he was a bricklayer by trade and after leaving the North Side, located at Lehighton, where he worked for the New Jersey Zinc Company ..."* (The Plain Speaker, Hazleton, 11 October 1955)
- According to Dad's memoir, *Hazel's brother Walter moved to Lehighton and was a brick layer. He had a son.*

Hazel Mathilda Weintraut (1895-1974)

- *Ms Hazel Weintraut, of Philadelphia, is visiting Mr and Mrs John Coper (sic: Kupfer), West Broadway (Mauch Chunk Times-News, 13 May 1914)*
- in 1917 she married Emil Hohrath, a native German. Hazel gave birth to four children: Emil (1918-2007), Eleanor (1921-2005), Hazel (1922-2000), Helen (1926-2006)
- The 1930 census has Hazel and Emil living on Redner Street with two children. Emil is listed as a "dealer in the egg business."
- The 1940 census has Hazel and Emil living with their four children on Redner Street in Philadelphia. Emil and his son Emil are listed as being salesmen on a "butter and egg route." Hazel was employed as a cook in a lunchroom.
- The 1950 census has Hazel and Emil separated. Emil is listed as a roomer with the Hagele family on Myrtlewood Street in Philadelphia. He was employed as a watchman in a lumber mill. Hazel was living with her daughter Helen and her small family in Philadelphia. Hazel is listed as being employed in the cosmetic industry
- According to Dad's memoir, *Aunt Hazel had one son and three girls. Her husband, Emil, lost his grocery store in the Depression. He earned money by traveling around town in his car, selling fresh eggs from his home. We had a piano in our house. No one played except Aunt Hazel. She could not read music, but she was a superb player. Her brother Albert was a painter and had one daughter. Her brother Harry drove the largest oil truck ever. He would visit us during the day and park his truck outside the house.*

Edward Aloysius Weintraut (1898-1950)

- *Edward A Weintraut, of Williamsport, and Cecelia Boletcin, of Clearfield, were united in marriage by Justice of the Peace C Irwin Lewis at his office on Saturday morning last. The bride is a very excellent young woman and the man of her choice is a popular bricklayer of his home city. At the conclusion of a wedding tour the newly weds will go to housekeeping at Williamsport (Altoona Tribune, 3 August 1921)*
 - Helen E Irwin Wright (1870-1944) married Roland Curtin Wright (1863-1940). They started their family on 216 South Front Street, Clearfield, Pennsylvania, USA. This is the family for whom Cecelia was listed as a servant in the 1920 census. The 1930 census has Cecelia and her brother Frank immigrating to the USA in 1912
 - Helen's parents were Fred Betts Irwin and Emma S Rheem Irwin; Roland's parents were Frederick William and Marian Bartram Curtin
- The 1930 census has Edward and Cecelia living on Hirst Street in Philadelphia, sharing their rented home with their two children along with Cecelia's brother and his wife and daughter. Edward is listed as a steam fitter for city hall
- The 1940 census has Edward and Cecelia renting a house on North 62nd Street in Philadelphia. They live with their two children and a roomer named George Moore. Edward is listed as a bricklayer for the public school system
- The 1950 census has Edward and Cecelia renting a house on North 62nd Street in Philadelphia with their son. Edward is listed as a bricklayer for the board of education
- Edward died in 1950. His death certificate does not display any details
- According to Dad's memoire:

My Dad, Edward Aloysius, was born in Jeddo, PA as were his other family members. His family roots were in Germany. Everyone in his family was Catholic. As a youth, Dad was expected to become a priest, but nothing ever came of this. After Mom and Dad married, they spent their early years living in quarters above a garage. Later they came to South Philadelphia to set up a home.

When Mom was approached wrongly by a young parish priest, Dad became furious, left the parish and moved with his wife to West Philadelphia. After this incident he never had any contact with the Catholic church except when I and my sister were christened at Our Lady of the Rosary Church at North 63rd Street ... My Dad purchased the home at 34 North 62nd Street. He was able to get a mortgage because of his job and his assets in the Teacher's Credit Union ... Every two weeks Dad received his pay check. Money was so important to us. My parents rented out one bedroom to take in a little more cash. We

had three bedrooms., My sister and I in one; Mom and Dad in one; and one bathroom.

Our new home on North 62nd Street worked out well ... Dad especially loved his daughter and due to the Depression he did not look forward to another child. I was his unwanted boy. He wanted no more children after me ... Dad worked for the Philadelphia Board of Education, a position he held until his death. He had passed the certification test for the steam fitters engineer to get the job. In time he became a foreman with several workers under his supervision. His was responsible for maintaining and installing all heater units in Philadelphia schools. These constantly needed repair. Working for 22 years around asbestos (up at 6 and home by 4:30), combined with his habit of smoking three cigarette packs every day, finally led to his death.

After Dad's day at work he would nap each night on the sofa for one or two hours. He paid strict attention to me. He wanted to get up at a certain time to hear Amos and Andy on the radio every night. I fixed clocks approximately until 10 pm, so I had to sit with him and scrub and clean wheels with pumice (white powder) and hot water in the sink. God help me if he found any leftover pumice on the parts! Dad was very strict with me, giving me commands and never a hug or a kiss. He was a good provider, working all day and then at home. As I was growing up, I was scared of talking back. I started to stutter when I was 9 years old and carried it with my speech until I was 13 or 14 ... Working around all those chemicals as a youth, I'm amazed that it did not ruin my health. I never smoked. When making bases of brass I needed to hold the parts together. Dad would solder them together permanently. Many times I would see my finger burning ("Don't be a baby!", he would say). Many nights I would be up to 11:30 or midnight, and Mom would come down and say "Let the kid go to bed!"

In addition to his five-day work-week, Dad would get all dressed up to visit antique stores in search of clocks to repair. This was his hobby. I remember as a boy I had to sit at kitchen table across from Dad, watching and learning time fundamentals. I learned mechanics and how to use cleaning solutions (benzine).

I told my father that I wanted to pay board (\$25 weekly) and save the balance (\$29) for a new car. He was so upset that he did not talk to me for three or four weeks. I simply gave the money to Mom, telling her that it was only fair that I paid for staying at home. Naturally, she was on my side. I soon had \$800 saved up, and I started doing some

repairs independently to increase the amount. I told Dad that I really wanted a car and could now pay it off in full. The war was still on and new cars were hard to buy; dealers even wanted money "under the counter" so that they could put me on line to get one direct from the factory. One night Dad came home and told me he had found a brand-new coupe style car, grey and chrome with fancy whitewalls and big yellow fog lamps, six cylinder with automatic transmission: a Hudson. I had never heard of this make. I was flabbergasted, but happy that he took me to the showroom at 40th and Chestnut. I had enough cash to pay for 90% of it, and I took out a loan from Dad to pay the balance. He made the arrangements at the Teachers Credit Union.

My Dad never took a vacation or went to the movies or went shopping. I guess I was about 12 when I first went to the movies at 60th Street, two blocks away. It was on a Saturday. The old woman two houses down invited Mom, Leona and me to her vacation home in Pine Beach, NJ, near the banks of the river near the ocean. We did have a lot of fun. Dad never went. I guess he had his own fun whenever we went away, since we stayed for about a week.

At some point Dad, who was always out on Saturdays, started coming home later on Saturday night. Mom would pounce on him and fight for an hour. "Where were you? What were you doing?" We never had a car or a TV, but he got a phone hung in the dining room, so Dad could call his girl friend from South Philly. He must have told Mom about some of the goings-on. He had the nerve to receive phone calls from his girlfriend at home, and he also called her with whispered conversations. He was always home on Sundays. Mom would be all upset and cried bitterly. Finally she had a phone put in our roomer's closet upstairs, so that if anyone called Dad, she could listen in as a spy. I'm sure he would have cursed and punched her out if he had ever known about it. She had the bell in the phone disconnected and told the roomer never to say a word about it. The roomer was greatly disturbed himself about the problem. During the week after 7 pm, every time the phone rang in the dining room, she would hurry upstairs to sit in the closet and listen to the conversation. She was not able to confront Dad with her secret, fearing that her life was in danger.

At this time at home Dad showed me twenty \$100 bills. My uncle told me his woman friend, an Italian woman with a 25-year-old son, liked Dad a lot and provided him lots of money to gamble, where he made out OK. This was where he was spending his Saturday nights: seeing

his girl friend. After being spied on by Mom for quite a few months, he found the phone and ripped it out of the wall and all hell broke loose. We still had the phone in the dining room. I tried not to answer it when it rang because I still stuttered at home. Outside the house I talked very well. I was paying off my car on time. Dad wanted me to drive him out to a Lincoln car dealership on City Line Avenue in the posh area called Bryn Mawr. Dad had ordered a brand new twelve-cylinder Lincoln coupe. I saw him pay for it in cash. It must have cost over \$3000. It was the most beautiful car I had ever seen and he parked it outside the house while he got his driver's license. How he was set. Every Saturday morning he would drive off in his Lincoln, never taking Mom anywhere. I think maybe once he drove the family (with Mom and Leona) to show off the car to his brother up in Lawndale. He was a real big cheese now, but he still went to work at the public school every day.

He was deeply involved with the woman in South Philly. Mom had me shadow him one Saturday night, but red lights made it hard to keep up the pursuit. One day she paid my boyfriend to follow him in his old jalopy, with her in the passenger seat. I don't know how this turned out. One time, Mom caught the woman on the phone while in the closet and told her off good, that was when Dad ripped the phone out of the wall. The friction at home was tremendous; I was happy to be away at work or driving around in my car.

Pauline Weintraut (1900 -)

- According to Dad's memoir, *Pauline was very flamboyant and married a police captain from Chicago. Later she was married to a big blow, a nice man who sold freight cars.*

Albert Weintraut (1908-1977)

- According to Dad's memoir, *Hazel's brother Albert was a painter and had one daughter*
- The 1930 census has him listed as a painter. He was living with his mother and stepfather on Germantown Avenue in Philadelphia
- In 1931 Albert married Jean M Bamberger.
- The 1940 census has him listed as a painter. He was living on Robbins Avenue in Philadelphia with his wife Jean and their daughter Pauline. It's interesting that they owned their own house—something that was out of reach for many Americans at this time, especially for one in his early 30s
- The 1950 census reveals a lot about this family. Albert and Jean shared their house on Robbins Avenue with their daughter Pauline and her husband William Erisman. All are employed: Albert as an air conditioning repairman in a hosiery mill; Jean as

a topper in the hosiery mill; William as the proprietor of an auto accessory store,
where his wife worked in sales