

Family history  
about  
Martin Langemeyer  
and  
Emilia Weller



By Paul Langemeijer (1954)  
Issue 18 April 2021

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## Introduction

This document is about Martin Langemeijer, his wife Emilia Weller and their children.

*This document is under development!*

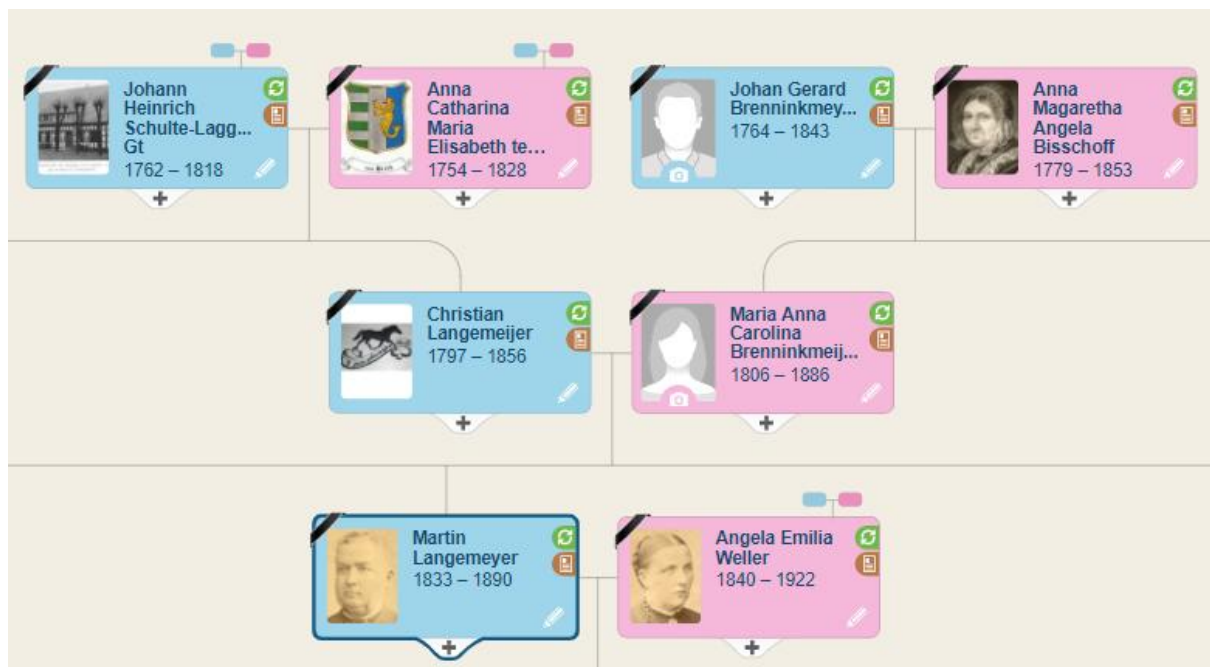
For additions or comments you are always welcome to respond.

The data comes from the following sources:

- "What I know about my ancestors", written door Paul Langemeyer (1871)
- [www.myheritage.nl/site-family-tree-583622501/stamboom-langemeijer-schulte-laggenbeck](http://www.myheritage.nl/site-family-tree-583622501/stamboom-langemeijer-schulte-laggenbeck)
- Archive Gerard Langemeijer (1920)

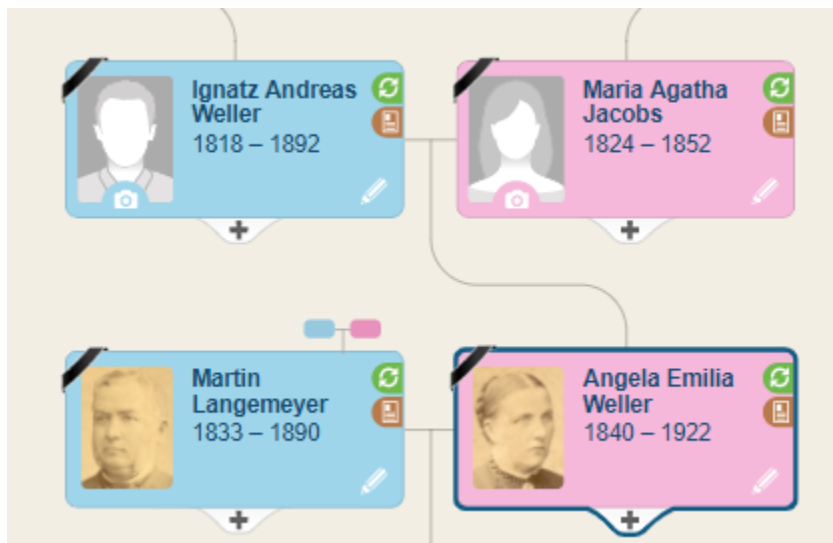


## Martin Langemeyer



Much is written about Martin's ancestors in the booklet "Was ich von meinen Vorfahren weiss", written by Paul Langemeyer (1871). Translations of this booklet can be found at: [Stories – Langemeyer – Schulte Laggenbeck](#)

## Emilia Weller



## Regina Schulte talks about Emilia

In this note Regina Schulte tells about Emilia to Gerard Martin Langemeijer (1920)

### A VISIT TO COUSIN REGINA

On a very hot day in May 1981, Ria, Otto and I visited our eighty-year-old cousin Regina Schulte in Arnhem. Despite the heat and her advanced age, Regina made a very vital impression. I hadn't seen her since the war years. It is wonderful to pick up the thread again for a conversation after 40 years. It cost her no effort at all. She was full of interest in how it had gone for me. Besides the fact that we would like to see her again, we had also come to hear from her about the holidays she used to spend with our grandmother in Mettingen. My father didn't tell me much about Mettingen and his parents. Via Regina, who is a lively storyteller, we hoped to hear something from the past. Regina's mother was called Maria Langemeijer and was a sister of my father. Maria Langemeijer was married to Max Voss, who was director of the Voss company — women's clothing — in Leeuwarden. (The Voss company was taken over by C. & A. around 1930. The name Voss was changed to FOXY FASHION in 1978).

Around 1910 Regina stayed with her parents, brothers and sisters many times in the summer at "Groszmutter" — Emilia Langemeijer — Weller. Holidays that sometimes lasted six weeks. "Groszmutter" was the widow of Martin Langemeijer, the founder of Langemeijer & Stöcker in Amsterdam. So Martin was my father's father. In earlier times it was very common in Mettingen for young men to go to the Netherlands to earn their living, while their husbands continued to live in Mettingen. Very occasionally my grandmother stayed with her husband on the Voorburgwal in Amsterdam, but it was customary for my grandfather to go to Mettingen by train every two months and then stay there for a few days. The flowers were then put outside. At Telsemeijer they met their old fellow townsmen and they played skating furiously. (a card game something like bridge). It often got late and people would say: "The bells don't count for us."

Regina could still remember about that time at "Groszmutter" and could talk about it. Bicycles were sometimes taken from Leeuwarden to Mettingen. Groszmutter lived in a nice big mansion, but the children still wanted to go out. The uvula included a piece of pasture because they kept a cow. At that time, Mettingen was very small and everyone had to provide their own dairy products. So hay was made and once a year they slaughtered their own fattened pig. Chickens and a buck were also part of the household. For fresh bread rolls one could go to bakery Grotmeijer. Often at the same time her uncles Clemens (my father) Ignatz and Gerhard also stayed there. Later also her cousins Martin and Vincent. Extra staff was therefore recruited.

According to Regina, my father was cheerful by nature. He liked to shoot starlings with a rifle and liked to get into mischief.

Uncle Gerhard was also very nice. Unfortunately, he died quite suddenly, within three days. My father was once going to paint a shed but put his ladder on a molehill, causing him to fall over with ladder and all and break his arm. Unfortunately, medical science was not so good

at that time. My father was left with a stiff elbow and it has always remained that way. Regina said that due to the long duration of the holidays, which sometimes did not run entirely parallel to the school holidays, many school days were missed. The schools in Leeuwarden and Amsterdam did not make any problems with those half Dutch German children.

Groszmutter went to church every day. She was very scrupulous and heavy-lifting. In the afternoon she withdrew to her room for prayer and that lasted for a long time. In the evening, the great torment for all guests was praying the rosary. That lasted more than half an hour because Groszmutter said a shooting prayer after every Hail Mary. Regina's father usually had to arrange something with the neighbors "coincidentally" at that time. The words: "Herr gib uns reue" were on Groszmutter's lips. She also often said: "Wir sind er übel an". Incidentally, she was one of the most wealthy people in Mettingen. The clergy in Mettingen were very strict. To the point of Jansenism. According to Regina, my father was a bit easier. When he was tired and went to bed, he sometimes said: "Lord du weiszt dasz ich dich belovn. Ich mache ein Keuszke und stap d 'rin". Incidentally, people went to church twice on Sundays. Early mass and to high mass. For the children there was a special Children's Thought in the afternoon.

But then again, Groszmutter Emilia had not had an easy childhood. Her mother died at the age of 37 and left behind 10 children, who was very young at the time and was raised by an old grandmother. When she died, her maid Anna Padberg, curiously enough from Heerenveen, took over the task of educator. Incidentally, a close bond developed between the two. later Groszmutter cared for Anna Padberg until her death. It is hard to imagine today how poor many people were in Mettingen before 1900. It was not for nothing that hundreds of people left for the Netherlands in the summer to earn something there.

One of Groszmutter's daughters was a nun and she was never allowed to visit. And one of the sons viz. Carl became a White Father. In 1905 he left for Tanganyka as a missionary. At that time a German colony in East Africa. Renina attended his first Holy Mass in Mettingen as a bridesmaid and remembered very well that the streets in Mettingen were decorated with greenery from the parental home to the church. She had a basket of petals to scatter on the street, but when she sat on the altar she was shocked to discover that she had forgotten to scatter the petals.

In 1925 Uncle Carl returned from Africa on leave. So after 18 years! He did not look very well-groomed. My brother Otto remembered that my father sent him to the hairdresser with uncle Carl to make him a bit more presentable. Incidentally, Uncle Carl did not want to return to his birthplace in Mettingen, because it had been sold. That had happened at the beginning of the war, so in 1914. Groszmutter had then gone to live with her daughter Agatha Heuer in Neuenkirchen.

After that, my father went to visit his mother in Neuenkirchen once or twice a year. Later, when I stayed in Neuenkirchen for a long time, people always talked about it: Groszmutter Zimmer. When my father visited Neuenkirchen, Regina was sometimes there too and then they sometimes went to Osnabrück together to get away from it all, because Groszmutter was not always cheerful. Yes, she wasn't in Mettingen during the holidays at the time. As a

child you thought: "It's nice to be in Mettingen, it's just a pity that Groszmutter is always there". But she was still a good woman. Year in year out she had 7 to 9 guests 6 weeks a year and that says a lot.

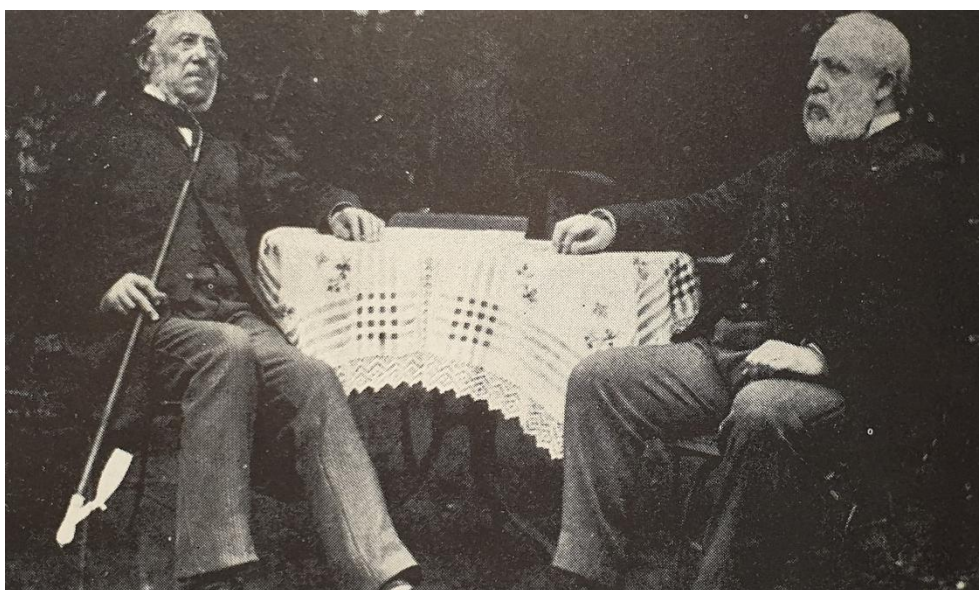
Regina had wonderful memories of the blue wagon heavily loaded with fresh laundry. One had to drive fifteen minutes more to get to the bleach where everything was spread out on the grass in the sun to bleach. Then they drove home again and the bleached goods were put through the mðËe1, folded and stored in the linen cupboard. People were then very satisfied after the work done and had had a lot of fun too.

Aunt Agatha's engagement to Clemens Heuer was also a sensation. Aunt Agatha went to pick up her fiancé from the station. The children had positioned themselves strategically to see how such a thing goes. The fiancées had kissed each other, well and that was something. With cousin Martin she played the game of "getting fiancées" for days until Groszmutter found out and that was not good. It was no longer allowed to be played.

These are all very simple things that Regina told us, but they do shed light on a time that was very different from ours. They worked hard and long; scrubbing, washing, haymaking, slaughtering, making or mending clothes. A deeply religious life; Unfortunately, religion was often more threatening than liberating, as it should be.

But still strong and tough people grew up. Everyone had to take care of themselves. There was no government that jumped in when people got into trouble. No unemployment benefit or W.A.O. The families had to help each other out and sometimes the church helped them a bit if they were in danger of getting stuck.

Often the mothers died quite young, they often had a double task if the men stayed abroad for months or longer. If the fathers succeeded in establishing a business abroad, their sons were brought into their business and the mother was left alone with her daughters. But the many family photos still show satisfied people. Self-confident men with long German pipes.



*Gerhard (1829) in Leo (1839)*

In Mettingen there are still many large houses built by merchants, who hoped to spend their last days there.

But we will have to have a lot of respect for all those Groszmutter in Mettingen.

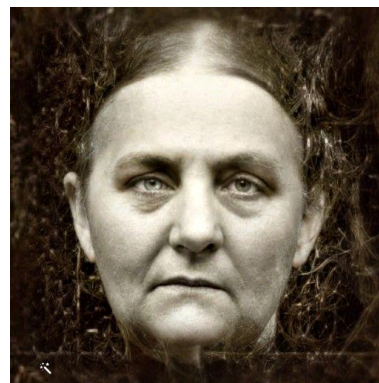
## Aunt Mies (Maria Alida ten Brink) talks about Emilia

During our engagement, Nettie and I (Gerard Langemeijer, 1920) visited Uncle Silf (Silverius Leo) and Aunt Mies in the van Breestraat in Amsterdam. Aunt Mies told me that grandmother Langemeyer (Emilia Weller) was a quiet and very withdrawn woman. She was rich but certainly not prominent. When she went to confession, she remained silent the day before and then went to church by horse and cart at 6 o'clock in the morning. After confession, she immediately went to communion. She was scrupulous, partly because hell was preached at the time.

After mass she went to an old seamstress and didn't say much else that day. At home she prayed the rosary every day and did so facing the church.

Later she moved to Neuenkirchen and lived with her daughter Agatha Heuer and had her own room there. My father went there to visit her several times a year.

I remember that when I was there for six months in 1938 to learn the German language, people still spoke of Groszmutter's Zimmer.



Emilia Weller

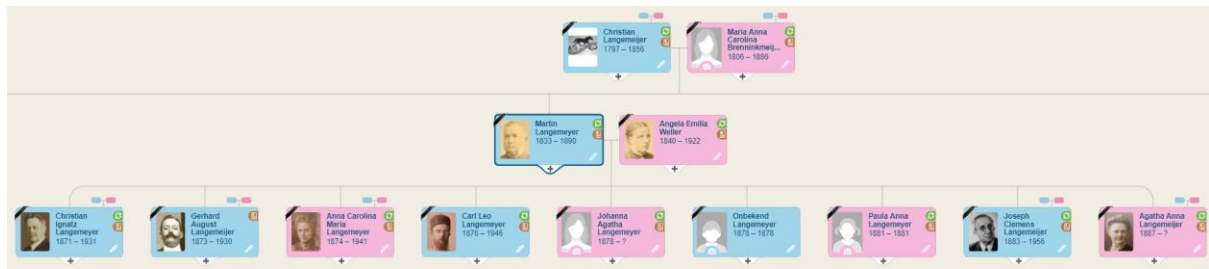
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Now that I think about it, it strikes me that my father never actually told anything about her. She will not have had an easy life either, because her husband Martin went to Amsterdam at a young age and her children Gerhard, Ignatz and Clemens also went to Amsterdam at a young age. Her son Carl became a white priest and worked in Africa all his life.

Her daughter Johanna entered an order that was very strict and was not allowed to leave the convent. Another daughter Maria, married to Carl Max Schulte, lived in Leeuwarden. In 1878 one of her children was stillborn after an emergency baptism. 11 Jan. 1881 a daughter Paula Anna was born who died that same year on 30 Jan. Finally, her youngest daughter Agatha left for Neuenkirchen. So she has always been quite lonely.

Her husband Martin died unexpectedly on June 13, 1890. He was outside smoking his long German pipe and suddenly fell to the ground as a result of a heart attack.

## Children of Martin and Emilia



Christian Ignatz (1871-1931)

Gerhard August (1873-1930)

Anna Carolina (1874-1941)

Carl Leo (1876-1946)

Twins Johanna Agatha and unknown son (1878)

It is certain that the unknown son died at birth. The day of Johanna Agatha's death (in the same year) is not known.

Paula Anna (1881-1881)

Paula Anna was born on January 11, 1881 and died on January 30 of that year.

Joseph Clemens (1883-1956)

Agatha Anna (1878-1848)