

Pagels Family



The Pagels name came to the area in Saginaw, Michigan when Ludwig Johann Friedrich Pagels and Carolina Friederica Johanna Elise nee Grube were married in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church on December 7, 1873. They had both just emigrated

from the same area of Germany to Saginaw. Ludwig was born in Warsow. Carolina was born in Grosse Marko. These were two of the seven villages comprising their church parish, Schorrentin, which is in Mecklenburg-Schwerin. Schorrentin is about 140 kilometers northwest of Berlin toward Neukalen and northwest of the Kummerower See, "bei Malchin". They were both baptized and confirmed in the Schorrentin Church.

Ludwig's parents, Johann Friedrich and Maria Sophia nee Severenz, did not emigrate nor did Carolina's mother, Maria nee Becker. It is believed that these three were already dead. Her father, Johann Grube, came to America with her and her sister Wilhemine. Her brother, John James Grube, came 8 years later. Ludwig, now known as Fritz, and his wife Carolina, bought a house on the corner of Woodbridge and Stephens, in Saginaw. Fritz found employment with Remer Brothers. They had seven children: William, Emma, John, Wilhemina, Adolph, Fred and Frieda.

In 1893, Ludwig and Carolina bought a farm on the northeast corner of Gera and Canada Roads. William, the oldest son, was employed in Saginaw; he did not come along, but bought the home in Saginaw the following year. John purchased the farm across Canada Road. Since his family alone now bears the Pagels name in the area, the family history is concluded with their story. Adolph stayed for a while but soon married and moved back to Saginaw. Fred Jr. took over the farm when Fritz became ill, but in 1923, he also went back to Saginaw. All three of the city dwellers worked with wood. Fritz's daughters raised their families in the Frankenmuth area.

Emma, the oldest, married August Berg, had the largest family, and cared for the parents during their terminal illnesses. Carolina died at the Berg home in Saginaw in 1908. Fritz died in 1911, at their farm on Block Road, after they had moved here in 1910. Her son, Gilbert Berg, lived on that farm, and her youngest son, Melvin, lived nearby. Wilhemina (Minnie) married Ernst Pohlmann, a well-known farmer, and raised her family of three a couple of miles southwest of Fritz's home. They moved to Saginaw in 1928. The youngest daughter, Frieda, married Frank Boldt; they bought the farm east of Fritz's place, across Pagels Road, where their family of three was raised. Frieda died in Frankenmuth in 1937. Her surviving child was Florence Hubinger.

John and Julia nee Keller Pagels raised a family of six: Erwin, Norman, Lawrence, Elsie, Frieda and Wallace. Erwin worked on the home farm, where he and his wife, Millie resided. They had five children, of which daughter, Bonnie nee Pagels Grim, lived in the Birch Run area. Norman taught school briefly in Frankenmuth, but then left the area. He and his wife, Helen, lived in central Michigan for many years. Helen then resided in Florida. Lawrence (Doc) retired from the office at Carling Brewing Co, shortly before his death. Doc's widow, Lorine, and three daughters, Mrs. Dave (Judy) Hiles, Mrs. Cliff (Sally) White, and Mrs. David (Peggy) Miller, and most of their families, lived in the Frankenmuth/Birch Run area. Elsie married Alfred Matzke, taught school in Frankenmuth and Birch Run, retired in Frankenmuth and lived there until her death, August 19, 1988, at which time she was working with the committee putting this history and mementos together. Frieda, a nurse, joined the Army Air Corps Evacuation Service during World War II. After the war she resided in Florida until her death. She married Victor Story. Wallace, his wife Frieda, and family lived in northern Michigan for many years.



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