

# Boldt Family



The Boldt family was not involved in the early settlement of Frankenmuth. Frank Friedrich Boldt, born on December 27, 1877 in Karlsburg, Mecklenburg Germany, came to America in June 1903 on the ship "Graf Waldersee". His father, Karl Friedrich Boldt, had died and left his widow with a large family.

Frank served his military obligation in the German army. After his release, like many other young men in Germany, he faced economic uncertainty in his country. Jobs were scarce. Frank was 26 years old when he left Germany on June 6, 1903, and arrived in New York June 27, 1903. He immediately went to Eau Claire, Wisconsin where other immigrants from Mecklenburg had previously settled.

After about three months, he came to what was known as Saginaw town, Michigan. Here he found a job as a cigar maker.

He brought few personal belongings with him, but among those select items were his two accordions. It was not long before he was called upon to play at Frankenmuth gatherings and weddings, a service he continued after he moved to Frankenmuth, where he also played for the Gray Fox Club.

After he met Frieda Pagels from Birch Run, he would come to Frankenmuth by streetcar on weekends and Frieda would meet him in town with a horse and buggy.

They were married May 4, 1907 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth, by Pastor J.F. Zink. They bought a farm on Canada Road in Birch Run in a German Lutheran neighborhood, and became active members of St. John's Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth.

The couple was blessed with three children: Caroline, Harold and Florence.

Caroline M. Boldt married C.G. Hanes. He was a mail carrier in the Birch Run area.

Harold Pagels Boldt married Anita Zehnder. For many years Anita was a tour guide at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, and the unofficial historian of Frankenmuth's beginnings. Harold operated the Wolohan Elevator in Birch Run until his transfer to be superintendent of the Wickes Grain terminal in Carrollton, Michigan.

Florence Lillian Boldt married Fred Hubinger. They owned the Hubinger Meat Market located at the present site of the Frankenmuth Cheese House. Florence was also a hostess at the Bavarian Inn Restaurant, for many years.

Frank worked at S & E machine Shop on Junction Road during World War II. His wife, Frieda, was a cook at Fischer's Hotel. Their daughter Florence was a waitress and hostess at the same hotel. Later Frank and Frieda Boldt moved to the Sylvester (Dick) Sommers farm on Tuscola Road, along the Cass River, as caretaker and handyman. Frieda died there in 1937 at the age of 49. After her death, Frank made his home with his children.

Frank's descendants number nine grandchildren: Lois Jace, Jerold Hanes, Virginia Schreiner, James H. Boldt (Higher Education Board, Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod), Fred F. Boldt (Principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin), John F. Hubinger (Dept. Community Health Administrator), Ruth Ann Reinert, Mary L. Daenzer, David M. Hubinger (President Confections & Snacks Division, Nestle, USA), and 26 great-grandchildren.



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