



Joseph and Mary Bodensteiner Family

Cecelia, Theresa, Christina, Elizabeth, Angela, Margaret
Joseph, Henry, Mary, Joseph, Mary



Elizabeth and John Heying, Cecelia and Adam Meyer,
John and Mary Holder, Bernard and Christina Bushman;
Margaret and Peter Timp, Margaret and Joe Bodensteiner, Joseph and Mary Boden-
steiner, Henry and Mary Bodensteiner, Fred and Angela Vollmecke.
(Not present for the picture - Theresa and John Baptist Blong.)

JOSEPH and MARY BODENSTEINER FAMILY

Mary Gehling
 b 3 Oct 1850
 pb Wesson, Westphalen, Germany
 d 31 Jan 1931
 pd Festina, Iowa
 Father - Herman Gehling
 Mother - Elizabeth Hartman

Great-great-uncle:

Joseph Bodensteiner
 b 26 Aug 1840
 pb Bernrieth, Bavaria
 d 3 Feb 1919
 pd Festina, Iowa

(For Joseph's parents see page 12.)

Married 9 Nov 1869 at St. Lucas, Iowa.

Joseph and Mary farmed 2 miles West of St. Lucas, and retired in Festina.

Their children:

- I. Margaret Bodensteiner b 21 Oct 1871 St. Lucas; d 23 Nov 1963 Ossian
 m 17 Sep 1889 Peter Timp b 11 Nov 1863 Fort Atkinson; d 4 Mar 1926 Ossian
 Farmed S of Ossian; retired in Ossian.
 1. Theodore Timp b 30 Jun 1890 Ossian; d 4 Apr 1920 Ossian
 m 26 Aug 1919 Carrie Scheidelmantel b 22 Jun 1895 Ossian; d 31 Aug 1978
 Farmed S of Ossian. Decorah
 2. Joseph Timp b 28 Mar 1892 Ossian; d 21 Jun 1918 Ossian
 Farmed with his father S of Ossian.
 3. Leo Timp b 9 Apr 1895 Ossian; d 30 May 1951 Spencer
 m 8 Aug 1922 Adel Etteldorf b 19 May 1899 Ossian; d 6 Sep 1966 Toledo
 Leo was a teacher in Luana for many years, and in the Tama-Toledo area.
 4. Christine Timp b 6 May 1897 Ossian
 m 7 Sep 1919 Frank Moellers b 30 Oct 1891 Festina; d 7 Apr 1974 Decorah
 Farmed S of Ossian, retired to Ossian.
 5. Philip Timp b 22 Oct 1900 Ossian
 m 2 Jun 1925 Alexia Kleve b 18 Apr 1900 St. Killian, MN
 Farmed the home place S of Ossian; retired in Ossian.
 6. Agnes Timp b 22 Dec 1902 Ossian
 m 6 Feb 1922 John Hanken b 10 Jul 1896 Festina; d 29 Sep 1955 Castalia
 Farmed SW of Castalia; Agnes lives in Ossian.
 7. Arnold Timp b 28 Dec 1905 Ossian; d 14 Jan 1958 Ossian
 Arnold was crippled at an early age as the result of polio;
 was a milk delivery-man in Ossian.
 8. Cecelia Timp b 25 Jun 1909 Ossian
 m 2 Apr 1929 Ludwig Schissel b 24 Sep 1901 Ossian; d 5 Mar 1972 Decorah
 Farmed N of Ossian, later operated an egg and produce house in
 Ossian.
 9. Hildegard Timp b 22 Jan 1911 Ossian
 m 9 Sep 1931 Henry Beckman b 5 Oct 1905 Rosthern, Saskatchewan, Canada;
 Farmed, and later managed a gas station in Ossian. d Jun 1976 Ossian
 Hildegard lives in Ossian.

II. Angela Bodensteiner b 17 May 1873 St. Lucas; d 10 Apr 1974 Calmar

m 17 Apr 1891 Fred Vollmecke b 1856 Germany; d 20 May 1931 New Hampton
Farmed SE of St. Lucas, and near Festina after 1913.

1. Joseph Vollmecke b 29 Mar 1892 St. Lucas
Rev. Joseph Vollmecke, ordained to the priesthood 15 Jun 1935
in Dubuque; now retired in Calmar.
2. Mathies Vollmecke b 22 Feb 1895 St. Lucas; d 7 Sep 1936 Techny, IL
Brother Benedict, S.V.D.; Society of the Divine Word, Techny, IL
Brother was a carpenter and did construction work.
3. Mary Vollmecke b 2 Apr 1897 St. Lucas
Sister M. Corona, Dominican Order in Racine, WI; 50th Jubilee in 1973.
Sister was a homemaker, now retired in Racine.
4. Christine Vollmecke b 25 Oct 1899 St. Lucas
Sister M. Verona, Dominican Order in Racine, WI; 50th Jubilee in 1973.
Sister taught second grade, now retired in Racine.
5. Leo Vollmecke b 12 Mar 1902 St. Lucas
m 16 Sep 1941 Mary Tersehr b 1 Jul 1912 Kent, MN
Farmed NW of Fort Atkinson, now retired in Fort Atkinson.
6. Cecelia Vollmecke b 1906 St. Lucas; d 6 Jul 1918 Festina
7. Margaret Vollmecke b 20 Dec 1909 St. Lucas
Sister M. Venetta, Dominican Order in Racine, WI; Sister was a home-
maker, now retired at Pewaukee, WI.

III. Elizabeth Bodensteiner b 2 Oct 1874 St. Lucas; d 22 Nov 1935 New Hampton

m 14 Jan 1896 John Heying b 11 Feb 1859 Alstatt, Germany; d 3 Feb 1936 Festina
Farmed NE of Festina.

1. Mary Heying b 29 Dec 1896 Festina
m 24 Oct 1916 Victor Reicks b 1 Aug 1890 St. Lucas; d 19 Oct 1974 St. Lucas
Farmed 2 mi SW of St. Lucas; Mary lives in St. Lucas.
2. Ida Heying b 2 Sep 1898 Festina
m 11 Feb 1920 Frank Elsbernd b 22 Sep 1894 Festina; d 14 Feb 1964 Calmar
Farmed SW of Calmar; Ida lives in Calmar.
3. Margaret Heying b 15 Nov 1899 Festina
m 15 Nov 1921 Felix Moellers b 13 Sep 1896 Festina; d 6 Mar 1971 Ossian
Farmed SW of Ossian; Margaret still lives on the farm.
4. Peter Heying b 25 Mar 1901 Festina
m 26 Jan 1926 Agnes Bohr b 25 Mar 1906 Ossian; d 18 Aug 1978 Decorah
Farmed NE of Festina; retired to Calmar.
5. Joseph Heying b 23 Apr 1903 Festina
m 1 Jun 1926 Rose Bohr b 23 Feb 1904 Ossian; d 28 Jan 1972 Calmar
Farmed NE of Festina; retired to Calmar.
6. Hildegarde Heying b 30 Dec 1904 Festina
m 27 Jan 1925 William Bohr b 18 May 1897 Ossian; d 9 Apr 1973 Ossian
Farmed SW of Ossian; Hildegarde now lives at a care center in Cresco.

7. Anna Heying b 23 Mar 1907 Festina
m 20 Jun 1929 John Bohr b 28 Feb 1902 Ossian
Farmed W of Ossian, retired in Ossian.
8. Aloysius Heying b 28 Oct 1908 Festina
m 7 Apr 1931 Marie Kuennen b 9 Jun 1909 Festina
Farmed near Granville; retired on the farm.
9. Fredoline Heying b 25 Oct 1910 Festina; d 15 Dec 1978 Dubuque
m 7 Oct 1930 Florian Buchheit b 3 Oct 1901 Festina
Farmed NE of Ossian, retired to Ossian. Florian was parish janitor.
10. Hilarius Heying b 19 Aug 1914 Festina
m 6 Jan 1937 Josephine Langreck b 22 May 1916 St. Lucas
Live in West Union; own and operate Heying Enterprises.

IV. Christina Bodensteiner b 24 Jul 1876 St. Lucas; d 15 Nov 1960 Ossian
m 23 Nov 1897 Bernard Bushman b 5 Aug 1869 Ossian; d 22 Jan 1940 Ossian
Farmed 6 mi SW of Ossian.

1. Marie Bushman b 13 Jun 1899 Ossian; d 9 Sep 1945 Ossian
m 2 Sep 1918 Henry Emery b 9 Apr 1882 Ossian; d 25 May 1962 Cedar Rapids
Lived in Ossian; Henry was a carpenter.
2. Peter Bushman b 10 Apr 1901 Ossian; d 11 Apr 1974 Ossian
m 7 May 1924 Martha Sand b 28 Jun 1903 Freeport, MN; d 23 Oct 1973 Ossian
Lived in Ossian; Peter was custodian at the Senior Hospice, and church.
3. Edward Bushman b 2 Jul 1903 Ossian; d 12 May 1970 Cedar Rapids
m 22 Jan 1929 Pearl Sharp b 30 Apr 1906 Decorah; d 31 Aug 1976 Cedar
Lived in Cedar Rapids; was employed at Dearborn Brass. Rapids
4. Rose Bushman b 7 Oct 1905 Ossian
m 9 Jun 1930 Oscar Huinker b 14 Apr 1905 Festina; d 25 Nov 1960 Oelwein
Rose lives in Oelwein, where Oscar was the Culligan water softener dealer.
5. Albert Bushman b 12 Aug 1907 Ossian; d 9 May 1966 Festina
m 22 Jun 1931 Marie Massman b 15 Aug 19 Festina; d 20 Apr 1978 Fayette
Farmed near Festina; Marie was a part-time postal clerk.
6. Evelyn Bushman b 11 Mar 1910 Ossian
m 23 Nov 1931 Lynn Leibold b 16 Dec 1901 Fort Atkinson; d 19 Aug 1969
Farmed near Charles City; Evelyn lives in Charles City. Charles City
7. Raymond Bushman b 5 May 1912 Ossian
m 10 Jan 1933 Juleta Kleve b 30 Jul 1910 Ossian
Farmed $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi SE of Festina; retired to Festina in 1966.
8. John Bushman b 5 Dec 1914 Ossian
m 20 Oct 1937 Helen Huber b 7 Nov 1912 Calmar
Farm near Ossian.
9. Henrietta Bushman b 9 Aug 1918 Ossian
m 25 Aug 1961 George Krumm b 18 Apr 1908 Decorah
Live in Decorah; Henrietta is a beautician; George is a barber.
10. LaVerne Bushman b 6 Aug 1924 Ossian
m 20 Nov 1951 Rita Brincks b 1 Sep 1925 Ossian
Farm S of Festina.

- V. Theresa Bodensteiner b 8 Jan 1879 St. Lucas; d 10 Jun 1924 St. Lucas
 m 9 Jan 1900 John Baptist Blong b 31 May 1874 St. Lucas; d 22 Apr 1927 St. Lucas
 Farmed near St. Lucas.
1. Frank Blong b 29 Jan 1901 St. Lucas
 m 19 Apr 1942 Elizabeth Lennars b 29 Nov 1896 Caledonia, MN; d 25 Sep 1957 Waucoma
 Farmed W of Waucoma, Frank is retired on the farm.
 2. Paul Blong b 25 Feb 1903 St. Lucas
 m 4 Mar 1935 Margaret Balk b 24 Dec 1901 Fort Atkinson
 Farmed W of Waucoma, now retired on the farm.
 3. Ida Blong b 15 Sep 1904 St. Lucas
 m 3 Jun 1924 Henry Lansing b 10 Aug 1896 Ossian; d 30 Nov 1969 Ossian
 Farmed N of Ossian, Ida lives in Ossian.
 4. Hilda Blong b 28 May 1906 St. Lucas
 m 17 Jun 1947 Alf Lechtenberg b 15 Sep 1904 Festina
 Live in Calmar; Alf was employed at Bucheit Produce, now retired.
 5. Elizabeth Blong b 26 Sep 1907 St. Lucas
 m 10 Feb 1942 Albert Bruening b 29 Aug 1906 Calmar
 Farmed SW of Calmar, now retired on the farm.
 6. Dorothy Blong b 28 Mar 1909 St. Lucas
 m 15 Oct 1940 Albert Scholbrock b 16 Jul 1910 Festina
 Farm near Waucoma.
 7. Edwina Blong b 25 Aug 1910 St. Lucas
 m 17 Nov 1937 Clem Mihm b 24 Sep 1910 St. Lucas
 Farmed SW of Waucoma, retired on the farm.
 8. Julius Blong b 5 Sep 1914 St. Lucas; d 8 Sep 1914 St. Lucas
- VI. Joseph Bodensteiner b 17 Jan 1881 St. Lucas; d 17 Jan 1881 St. Lucas
- VII. Cecelia Bodensteiner b 28 Oct 1882 St. Lucas; d 5 Sep 1975 Calmar
 m 4 Oct 1909 Adam Meyer b 28 Jul 1888 St. Lucas; d 5 Nov 1976 Calmar
 Farmed 2 mi NE of Calmar, retired and lived in Calmar.
1. Raymond Meyer b 17 Sep 1910 Calmar; d 8 Nov 1976 Decorah
 m 12 Jan 1938 Josephine McDonnell b 26 Apr 1918 Denison
 Farmed W of Spillville; Josephine now lives in Spillville.
 2. Aloysius Meyer b 20 Jan 1914 Calmar
 m 14 Nov 1940 Julitta Wenthold b 2 Nov 1914 Festina
 Farmed 1½ mi SW of Waucoma, now retired in Springville.
 3. Evelyn Meyer b 4 Apr 1918 Calmar
 m 13 Sep 1939 Edwin Bullerman b 2 Oct 1914 Festina
 Farmed NE of Calmar, now retired in Decorah.
 4. Irene Meyer b 9 Jan 1921 Calmar
 m 26 Nov 1941 Edwin Einck b 20 Dec 1913 Greenwood, WI; d 23 Apr 1975
 Farmed NE of Calmar; Irene lives in Calmar, is a nurse's aide.
 5. Arnold Meyer b 12 Jun 1925 Calmar
 m 21 Jun 1944 Jeanne Frana b 18 Apr 1928 Calmar
 Farm 2 mi NE of Calmar.

- VIII. Joseph Carl Bodensteiner b 10 Mar 1885 St. Lucas; d 17 Feb 1968 Decorah
m 25 Sep 1906 Margaret Drilling b 20 May 1885 St. Lucas; d 6 Oct 1973 Decorah
Farmed SE of St. Lucas, in 1913 purchased a farm NE of Ossian, retired in Ossian.
1. Leonard Bodensteiner b 19 Aug 1907 St. Lucas
m 22 Jul 1939 Helen Adams b 24 Dec 1907 Decorah
Live in Decorah; Leonard was an extension economist at Iowa State University; Helen was a drama instructor at Luther; both now retired.
 2. Marcellus Bodensteiner b 8 Jan 1909 St. Lucas
m 5 May 1937 Anne Fanning b 29 May 1910 Offaly County, Ireland
Live in Cedar Rapids; Marcellus was a buttermaker in Cedar Rapids; lived in Earlville while he was a dairy plant fieldman, now retired.
 3. Agnes Bodensteiner b 28 Jun 1910 St. Lucas
m 28 Jun 1933 Victor Winter b 10 Jul 1903 St. Lucas
Farmed 1 mi E of Earlville, now retired in Earlville.
 4. Hugo Bodensteiner b 3 Feb 1912 St. Lucas
m 3 Apr 1937 Ruth Sherwood b 16 Jan 1914 Coronado, CA
Owned and managed the Bodensteiner Mfg. Co. in West Des Moines, then farmed near Postville, now retired in Clermont.
 5. Evelyn Bodensteiner b 8 Aug 1913 St. Lucas
m 22 Aug 1933 Elmer Hawkins b 16 Jun 1908 Ossian; d 23 Jul 1973 Ossian
Farmed NE of Ossian, purchased the Joseph Bodensteiner Estate in 1959. Evelyn lives on the farm.
 6. Christopher Bodensteiner b 7 May 1915 Ossian
m Sep 1941 Betty Elizabeth Petifish b 12 Nov 1918 Ankeny
Farm near Riceville.
 7. Lucille Bodensteiner b 8 Jan 1917 Ossian
m 6 Sep 1941 Samuel Fanning b 9 Mar 1912 Offaly County, Ireland
Live in Floral Park, NY; Samuel is a professor of history at St. John's University in New York City, now semi-retired.
 8. Leo Bodensteiner b 12 Jul 1918 Ossian
m 20 Aug 1942 Nadine Shaver b 27 Apr 1922 Newtown, MO
Farm near Iowa Falls.
 9. Peter Bodensteiner b 15 Jan 1920 Ossian
Rev. Peter C. Bodensteiner, ordained to the priesthood 28 Jul 1945 at Dubuque; now pastor at Cascade.
 10. Olivia Bodensteiner b 16 Aug 1921 Ossian
m 11 Sep 1945 Ambrose Ward b 28 Mar 1916 Winthrop
Farm near Fayette.
 11. Cletus Bodensteiner b 5 Oct 1923 Ossian
m 21 Oct 1944 Vera Shaver b 2 Mar 1926 Newtown, MO
Live in Long Beach, CA; Cletus is a doctor of medicine.

IX. Henry Bodensteiner b 3 Jan 1887 St. Lucas

m 25 Jan 1910 Mary Giesing b 2 Jan 1887 Festina; d 5 Mar 1920 Castalia *
Farmed N of Castalia, retired in Ossian.

* Henry m 28 Apr 1951 Caroline Bushman Roberson b 13 Jan 1889 Ossian; d 24 Nov
Henry now lives at The Senior Hospice in Ossian. 1974 Decorah

1. Irma Bodensteiner b 31 Jan 1911 St. Lucas; d 25 Nov 1975 Ossian
m 26 Nov 1936 Glen Brannon b 3 Jun 1908 Waucoma; d 24 Feb 1960 Lourdes
Farmed near Lourdes.
2. Gregory Bodensteiner b 2 Jul 1912 St. Lucas
m 8 May 1935 Agnes Balk b 30 Sep 1909 St. Lucas
Farmed N of Castalia, now retired in Ossian.
3. Leona Bodensteiner b 19 Aug 1914 Castalia
m 30 Mar 1937 Theodore Balk b 13 Sep 1915 Eden
Farmed N of Castalia, now retired in Ossian.
4. Esther Bodensteiner b 25 Apr 1916 Castalia
m 14 Apr 1936 Raymond Balk b 30 Aug 1913 Eden
Farmed near Decorah, then worked in Sterling, IL, where they retired.
5. Helen Bodensteiner b 7 May 1918 Castalia
m 12 Jun 1940 Clarence Drilling b 16 Nov 1905 Waucoma
Farmed 1 mi E of Waucoma; retired in Waucoma.

X. Mary Bodensteiner b 10 Nov 1889 St. Lucas; d 31 Oct 1931 Ossian *

m 10 Feb 1911 John Holder b 3 Jun 1886 St. Lucas; d 1 Apr 1956 Ossian
Farmed NE of Ossian.

1. Raymond Holder b 1 Dec 1911 Ossian
m 21 Jun 1937 Rita Kruse b 7 Mar 1917 Jackson Junction
Farm NE of Ossian.
 2. Irvin Holder b 3 Dec 1915 Ossian
m 1 Jun 1937 Lucille Otters b 1 Jun 1915 Fort Atkinson
Farm near Hawkeye.
 3. Rita Holder b 24 Jul 1918 Ossian; d 11 Feb 1920 Ossian
 4. Jerome Holder b 15 Jun 1922 Ossian
m 23 May 1944 Anastasia Schwamman b 17 Feb 1920 St. Lucas
Live in Waucoma; Jerome worked at the lumberyard, now retired.
 5. Linus Holder b 11 Feb 1931 Ossian; d 26 Jan 1943 Ossian
- * John m Jun 1933 Isabelle Eichensur b 7 Dec 1902 Prairie du Rocher, IL;
d 1 Oct 1963 Whittier, CA
1. Richard Holder b Nov 1935 Ossian
m 19 Jun 1960 Marjorie Bode b Mankato, MN
Live in Whittier, CA; Richard is vice-president of an orange juice
processing plant.

H. HENRY and THERESIA KUENNEN

Great-great-aunt:

(Maria) Theresia Bodensteiner

b 31 Mar 1842
pb Bernrieth, Bavaria, Germany
d 7 Feb 1864
pd St. Lucas, Iowa

Great-great-uncle:

(Herman) Henry Kuennen

b 1834
pb Lastrup, Oldenburg, Germany
d 3 Nov 1919
pd St. Lucas, Iowa

Married 28 May 1861 in St. Lucas.

Henry and Theresia farmed just west of St. Lucas. He was the first schoolmaster in St. Lucas. He also sold nursery stock, planted all the trees and hedges on the parish grounds, and trimmed them regularly. He is most remembered as walking with trees in one hand, and a shovel in the other.

Their children:

I. Maria Margaret Kuennen b 8 May 1862 St. Lucas; d 12 Sep 1862 St. Lucas

Baptismal sponsors: Her grandfather, Gerhard Kuennen
Her aunt, Margaret Bodensteiner

II. John Carl Kuennen b 3 Sep 1863 St. Lucas

Baptismal sponsors: His uncle, Carl Bodensteiner
His aunt, Catherine Kuennen

Little Maria died at four months, just two weeks after the first two Bodensteiner children died. Perhaps she also died of the black flu, or diphtheria. We found no record of John Carl's death, but believe he died soon after birth. Just five months later, Theresia Bodensteiner Kuennen died at the age of 21, and Henry was left alone . . .

H. Henry Kuennen married Gertrude Steffes in July of 1864.

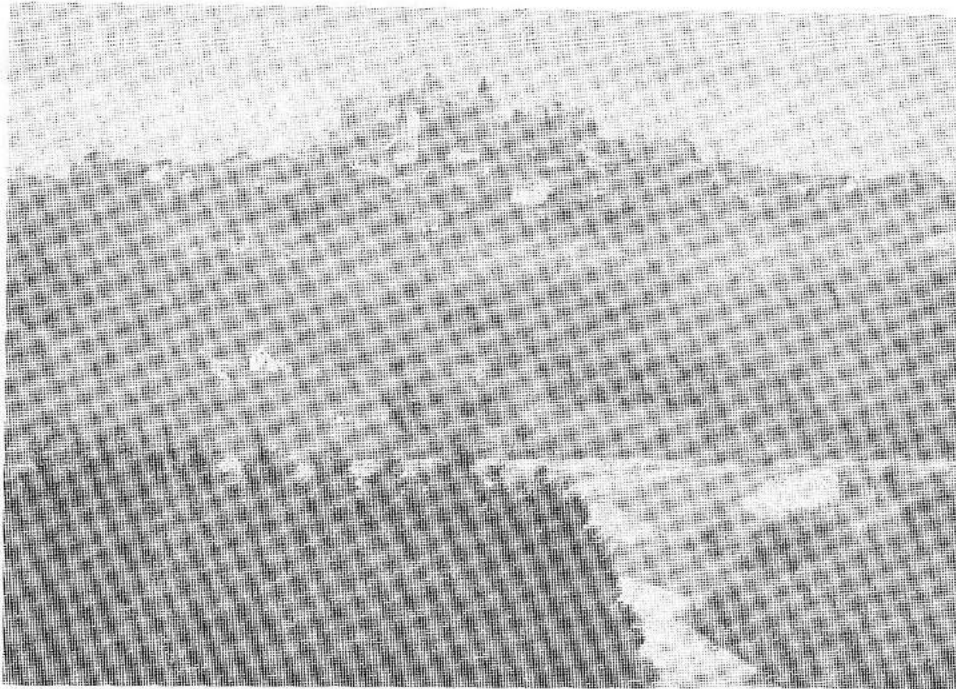
Children born to them:

1. Margaret Kuennen, married Clemens Mihm
2. John H. Kuennen, married Theresa Martin
3. Theresa Kuennen, married Carl Martin

After Gertrude's death, Henry married Cecelia Foreman in January, 1871.

Children born to them:

1. Louis L. Kuennen, married Ida Kuether
2. Magdalene Kuennen, Sister Edwina
3. Ben H. Kuennen, married Mary Perry
4. Henry (Hank) Kuennen
5. Sophie Kuennen, married Harry Martin



Leuchtenberg, Bavaria - "the old, old town at the top of a great hill".

Great-grandfather John Carl Bodensteiner was born on a farm near Bernrieth, and baptized in the church in Dollnitz, but the church at Leuchtenberg has special significance for us. Most of the information from Bavaria was out of "der Kirchenbuecher von Leuchtenberg". Apparently, there is no longer an active church in the little village of Dollnitz, and all the records were transferred to Leuchtenberg, and recently to the bishop's central archives in Regensburg.

Great-grandmother Margaret Balk Bodensteiner was born on a farm near Lerau, and was baptized at Leuchtenberg, as were all the other members of her family.

The church was built in 1124, and renovated in 1974, when it was 850 years old! Ben Schaufenbuel took several pictures of the interior, and it is lovely.

The walls are deeply embossed, and all white with lots of gold leaf accents. The massive columns which are part of the main altar, look like blue marble, richly decorated with gold. The organ pipes are adorned with similar, but smaller, columns.

Over the altar is a huge painting, and the ceiling over the main body of the church has another much larger oval painting. No wonder that it attracts so many visitors, as does the old castle which was built in 1144.

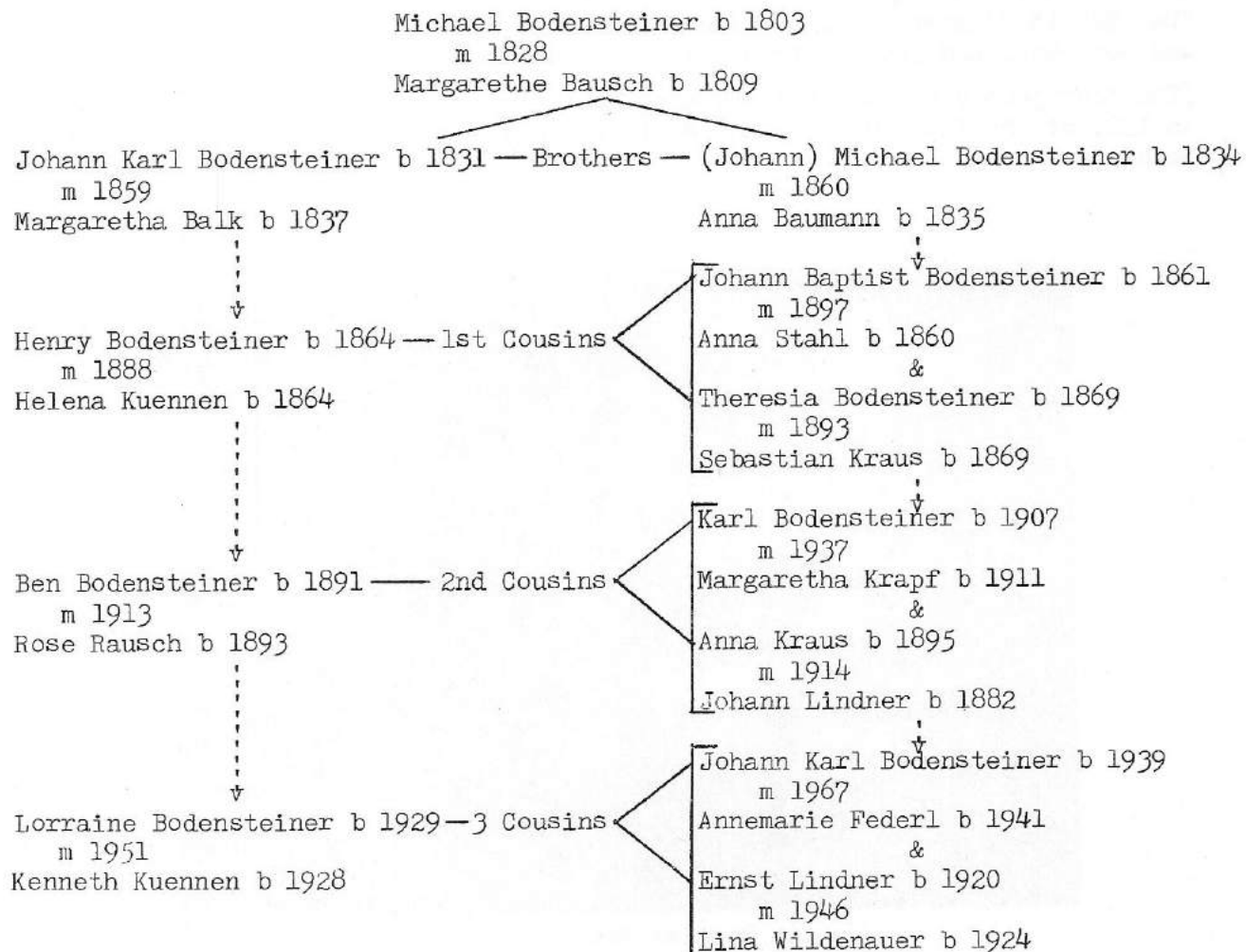


In September 1977, Ben, Tony, Mary Jane and Marvin could easily see that they were, indeed, in the land of the Bodensteiner's. Their first stop in the area was at the Rathaus (courthouse) in Vohenstrauss. Inside, was a bronze plaque honoring men who were "Gefallen und Vermissten" in the Peoples War, and World Wars I and II. The names of George Bodensteiner and Herm Bodensteiner were inscribed on it. Along a stairway, was a huge composite picture of men who had fought in wars. And there were photos of three Bodensteiner's.

The clerk in the Rathaus told them of a Lindner in Wieselrieth who was related to the Bodensteiner's. They found Ernst Lindner at his implement business, and showed him the brief biographical sketch I had sent with them - all of the data was from great-grandfather's writings. He invited them to his home where he looked through his family records and ancestors' pictures. They met Ernst's wife, Lina, and their daughter-in-law who could speak English quite well, and she and Ernst accompanied them to the farm of young Johann Karl Bodensteiner.

When they showed Johann Karl my letter, he recognized the name of his great-grandfather Michael! And he remembered hearing that Michael did die at the age of 38, just as great-grandfather had written: "Second brother Mike died 8 December 1873, 38 years old." This young man not only was great-grandfather's namesake, but he also owns and works the very farm where our Johann Karl was born - at Bernrieth No. 1!

Ben's mission was accomplished! He had found our closest cousins in Bavaria! Proof of our relationship came, in time, from the bishop's central archives over there, and from my correspondence with Johann Karl and Frau Lina Lindner. The diagram below shows how we are related:



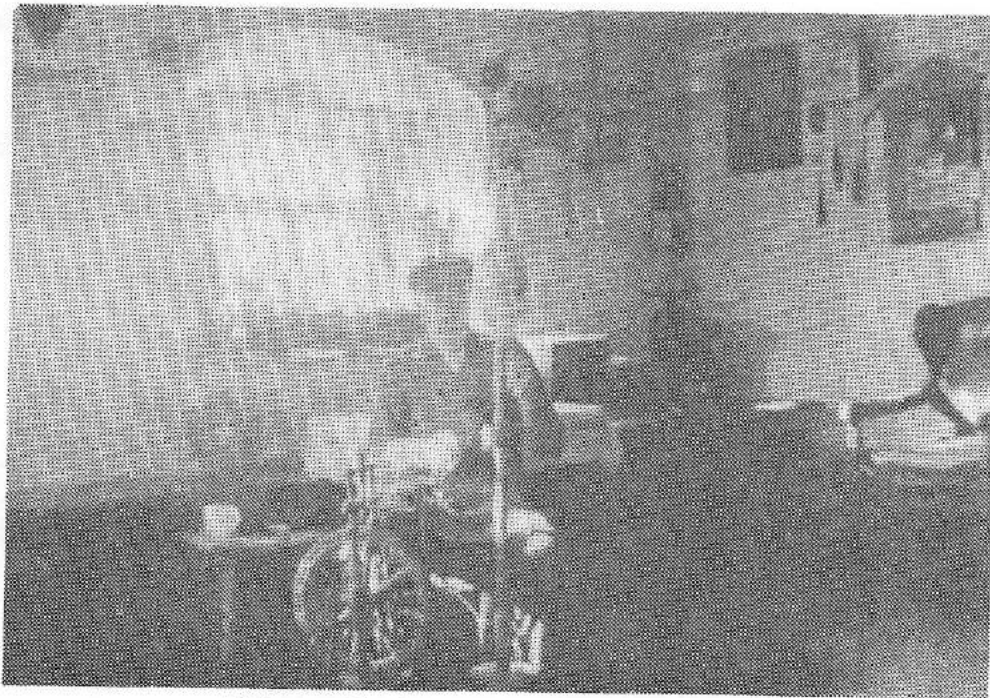
Great-grandfather's nephew, Johann Baptist Bodensteiner, came to America and worked in a bakery in New York state - perhaps it was in Buffalo. After eight years, he returned to Bavaria.

The pictures on this page were sent to me by Johann Karl, grandson of Johann Baptist.



"Um 1922 in Klammer - Baptist Bodensteiner (sein geburtshaus) mit Frau Anna und Sohn Karl und Tochter Karolina. Bodensteiner-Hof, Bernrieth."

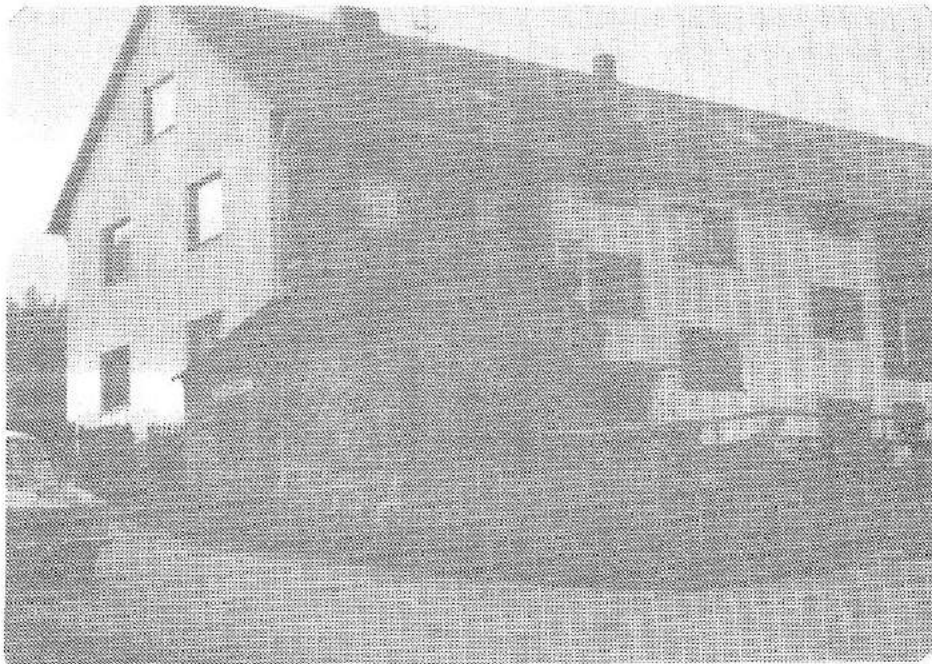
(The four people on the left are not identified. Perhaps they were the owners in 1922 of the farm where Johann Baptist was born, and he and his family came back to visit.)



"Johann Baptist Bodensteiner"
- at his spinning wheel.



September 1977. At Johann Karl's farm - great-grandfather's birthplace.
Tony Schaufenbuel, Ernst Lindner, Ben Schaufenbuel, Mary Jane Mueller, the young
Frau Lindner - Ernst's daughter-in-law, and three of Johann Karl's children.
(Their parents were working in the field.)



The new house of Johann Karl and Annemarie, built in 1968.
The old house had been built in 1831, the year great-grandfather was born.



May 1978. At Johann Karl's farm near Bernrieth.

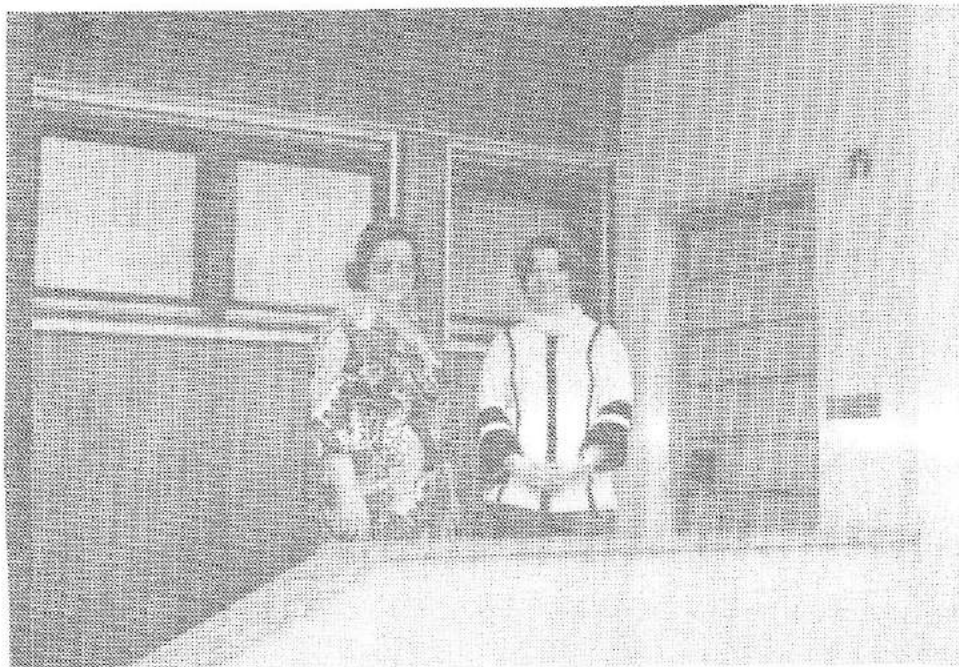
"Die Oma" (grandmother) Margaretha Bodensteiner, Annemarie and Johann Karl, Ernst and Lina Lindner's daughter, and Daniel Bodensteiner. The Bodensteiner children: Johannes, Karl, Michael, Maria; and a grandson of Ernst and Lina.

This picture, and the one on the opposite page, were taken by Gary Bodensteiner, son of my cousin Irvin. He was stationed with the Air Force in Germany for a number of years. Just before he was due to return to the States, his brother Daniel flew over there and together, they toured Germany. I had sent along a letter with the names and addresses of our newly-found Bodensteiner cousins. And just like Ben and his group, Gary and Danny found both families to be just great!

Recently, Annemarie sent me another very nice letter, in which she tells about their family and their farm. (She writes in German, and although I enjoy translating myself as much as I can, I go to Mom for the "official" translation. Mom also translates, or writes over, my letters to them - in German.)

Annemarie: ". . . Hans (Johann Karl) and I were married in 1967. In 1968 we tore down the 137-year-old house, and built the new house. We have four happy, lively children: Karl (10), Michael (9), Johannes (7), and Maria (4). Oma, mother of Hans, lives with us. She works with us on our farm. Hans has six brothers and sisters, all married and all have children. Sometimes we celebrate together. For example, last Sunday when our Michael received Holy Communion for the first time, we invited all our brothers and sisters, and it was very nice."

"Through the years, we have rented additional land and enlarged our farm and 'stall' (stable or barn). We need newer and larger machinery, which we buy from the Lindner's. At the present time, we work 40 hectare of useful, workable land. Of this, 26 hectare are rented land. (A hectare equals 10,000 square meters, or about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres.) In the barn, there are 30 milk cows and about 20 young cattle. We plant rye, oats, barley and some wheat. One-half of the grain is fed to our own livestock. We also have 'Silo-Mais' for our cattle and potatoes for about 20 hogs. Half of our acres are greenland (hay and pasture?). 'Wir haben sehr viel arbeit, aber wenn wir gesund bleiben, schaffen wir es schon.' (We have very much work, but if we remain healthy, we will get it done.) . . ."



Frau Lina Lindner and her daughter, by their home in Wieselrieth.

Because Ernst and Lina have a daughter-in-law who can speak and read English quite well, I wrote my longest letters to them - in English. As I received Bodensteiner data from the archives over there, I would pass it on to them, and they would share it with Hans, who lives only 2 kilometers away. Then, both families would write, telling me where they fit into our family. Both Ernst and Hans are my third cousins, as our great-grandfathers, Michael and Johann Karl, were brothers.

Ernst's grandparents, Theresia Bodensteiner and Sebastian Kraus, owned a sawmill at Neustadt/Wn. Their daughter, Anna Kraus, married Johann Lindner and they were in the implement business in Wieselrieth, that is now owned and operated by Ernst and Lina. Their business card reads: "Johann Lindner, Zetor-Traktoren, Import-Vertrieb-Ersatzteillager". (Zetor Tractors, Import - Sales - Service.) According to those who have visited there, they have a huge business. A very large inventory of tractors and machinery, and many employees. With a large family, and now grandchildren, we can understand when Lina writes: "Man kommt mit der Zeit gar nicht mit, so schnell vergeht sie." (We cannot keep up with the time, so fast it goes.) Not unlike here in America! Ernst is also the agent for the Beyer & Co. Bleikristall factory (lead crystal).

After my first letter, Lina asked around in the area for possible Balk and Marx relatives - great-grandmother Margaret's families. There still are some, most are farmers, and some of the old homesteads still exist. In the Marx family, there is a "Chronicle", and Lina writes: "Wenn Sie einmal hierher kommen, können Sie alles nachlesen." (When we once come there, we can read it all.) I have sent these families a complete resume of Margaret's ancestors, but so far they have not been able to tell me where they fit into our family - or even if they do . . .

Ernst and Lina and several of their children, have been to America already. We sincerely hope that they will come again soon, and this time visit their newly-discovered relatives!

THE JOHN G. BODENSTEINER FAMILY

of Walhalla, North Dakota.

Two postcards saved from 1914 were the clues that led to the discovery of relatives in North Dakota. Together, they were a scene of the small town of Walhalla, in the extreme northeast corner of the state. Mom had written on the back of one, long ago: "We got these from a distant Bodensteiner relative in 1914, after the man had our name from a German Catholic paper. He must have been Grandpa Bodensteiner's cousin, and we gave the letter to him."

Dad and Mom couldn't remember what, if anything, Grandpa had done about the letter. But they kept the cards, and brought them out when we started this family history project.

I wrote to the postmaster of Walhalla, asking if there were still any Bodensteiner's in his town, or if anyone there still remembered the name . . . He responded with the addresses of Joe and Herb! He added that they "are good friends of mine, real nice people with nice families."

Joe and his wife, Bernice, answered my "Dear Cousins" letter, and we have been corresponding and visiting on the phone for almost two years now. We have been anxious to meet each other, and perhaps it will happen in June when they travel to Illinois to visit their son and his family.

I was fortunate to meet one member of their family. Early in January of this year, their daughter Janice and I visited for several hours one afternoon, on the 50th floor of the IDS Tower in Minneapolis. (She and her husband were living in St. Paul then; we were in the city for a convention.) She is a very nice young lady. Now, I am more anxious than ever to meet more of her family. Our fathers were third cousins, yet in comparing notes, we found they had many of the same attributes. No wonder that the first time Joe and I visited on the phone, he seemed so much like one of the family - so easy to talk with.

Dad really wanted to know how we were related to them. He liked this family he had never met, and would get misty-eyed with each new letter or phone call from them. It took quite a few letters to the archives in Bavaria, but my persistence finally paid off when, just a week before Dad died, we learned that he and Joe were third cousins! Joe's great-grandmother and Dad's great-grandfather were sister and brother. (See page 11.) The diagram below shows the relationship:

Mathias Bodensteiner		
m 1793 Anna Elisabeth Hilburger		
Maria Anna Bodensteiner b 1800-sister-	brother--	Michael Bodensteiner b 1803
m Joseph Bodensteiner b 1796		m Margareth Bausch b 1809
Johann Georg Bodensteiner b 1842 -1st cousins-		Johann Karl Bodensteiner b 1831
m Rosina Baiert b 1850		m Margarethe Balk b 1837
Joseph Bodensteiner b 1879 ---2nd cousins---		Henry Bodensteiner b 1864
m Eugenie Gapp b 1879		m Helena Kuennen b 1864
Joe J. Bodensteiner b 1916 ---3rd cousins---		Ben Bodensteiner b 1891
m Bernice Sauer b 1927		m Rose Rausch b 1893
Janice Bodensteiner b 1956 4th cousins---		Lorraine Bodensteiner b 1929
m James Halverson		m Kenneth Kuennen



The sons, and two youngest daughters, of John and Rosina Bodensteiner.

Joseph John George

Rose Anna Rosina

THE JOHN and ROSINA BODENSTEINER FAMILY

Rosina Baierl
b 9 Jan 1850
pb Oberlind, Bavaria
d 17 Sep 1922
pd Walhalla, North Dakota
Father - Lorenz Baierl
Mother - Christina Fleischmann

John George Bodensteiner
b 16 Sep 1842
pb Unterlind, Bavaria
d 1898
pd Walhalla, North Dakota
Father - Josef Bodensteiner
Mother - Anna Bodensteiner

Married 18 Apr 1871 in Vohenstrauss.

Witnesses were: Josef Bodensteiner from Unterlind
Peter Wittman from Oberlind

On their marriage record, John's occupation is listed as "Gutler", which means an overseer of a farm, or estate. A daughter preceded them to America, and to North Dakota, and persuaded them to come to this country. In 1896, John and Rosina, and their nine children made the big move. They settled on a farm near Walhalla, North Dakota, but John died only two years after coming to America.

Their children:

I. Elizabeth Bodensteiner b 18 Jul 1871 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1944 North Dakota

m Jacob Gapp b Cavalier County, ND
Farmed 1 mi W of Mt. Carmel, ND.

1. Albert Gapp, married Clara Fischer
2. Anna Gapp, married Dan Fischer
3. Ernest Gapp
4. John Gapp
5. Joe Gapp, married Loretta Knoph
6. Emma Gapp, married John Schneider
7. Charles Gapp, married Lorentia Kartes
8. Leo Gapp, married Josie Kram

II. Anna Bodensteiner b 1 Jun 1873 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1933 North Dakota

m John Gapp b Cavalier County, ND
Farmed $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi NW of Walhalla, ND.

1. Henry Gapp, married Josie Georges
2. Albert Gapp, married Doris Gendreau
3. Charles Gapp
4. Edna Gapp
5. John Gapp
6. Mary Gapp
7. George Gapp
8. Alphonse Gapp
9. Frank Gapp

III. Barbara Bodensteiner b 20 Apr 1875 Oberlind, Bavaria; d in Bavaria

IV. Mary Bodensteiner b 27 Oct 1876 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1949 North Dakota

m Nick Urlaub

Farmed 2 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.

1. George Urlaub, married Blanche Beauchamp
2. Emma Urlaub, married Phillip Stremick
3. Bill Urlaub, married
4. Henry Urlaub, married Anna Ermer
5. Mary Urlaub, married Edward Chaput
6. Frank Urlaub, married Bernice Lothspeick
7. Annie Urlaub, married Bill Gillis
8. Bernice Urlaub, married Gus Willard
9. Albert Urlaub, married Aggie Buettnner
10. Rosina Urlaub, married Andrew Ermer

V. Joseph Bodensteiner b 10 Jun 1879 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1969 Walhalla, ND

m 1911 Eugenie Gapp b 26 Jan 1879 Walhalla, ND; d 1941 Walhalla, ND

Farmed 5 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.

1. Joe J. Bodensteiner b 11 May 1916 Walhalla, ND
m 25 Jun 1947 Bernice Sauer b 5 Mar 1927
Farm, with Herb, the home place 5 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.
2. Herb Bodensteiner b 31 Oct 1917 Walhalla, ND
m 18 Oct 1949 Patricia Sauer b 4 Jul 1929
Farm, with Joe, the home place 5 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.
3. Mary Bodensteiner b 19 Jul 1920 Walhalla, ND
m 23 Sep 1954 Joe Gretter b 12 May 1907 Grand Forks, ND
Live in Grand Forks, ND; Mary works at the Piggly Wiggly Bakery;
Joe is a retired lumberyard manager.
4. Albert Bodensteiner b 26 Mar 1919 Walhalla, ND; d 1944 Walhalla, ND

VI. Barbara Bodensteiner b 1 Sep 1881 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1971 Walhalla, ND

m August Gapp

Farmed 7 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.

1. Joe Gapp
2. Mary Gapp - Sister Mary Rogene
3. Christina Gapp - Sister Barbetta
4. Mathilda Gapp
5. John Gapp
6. Edward Gapp
7. Herbert Gapp
8. Anna Gapp
9. Leonard Gapp

VII. John Bodensteiner b 1886 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1940 North Dakota
Farmed, with George, 4 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.

VIII. Rosella Bodensteiner b 1888 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 1977 North Dakota
Lived with John and George.

IX. George Bodensteiner b 1889 Oberlind, Bavaria; d 30 Jan 1978 California
Farmed, with John, 4 mi NW of Walhalla, ND.

X. Anna Bodensteiner b 1891 Oberlind, Bavaria

m Henry Hoffarth

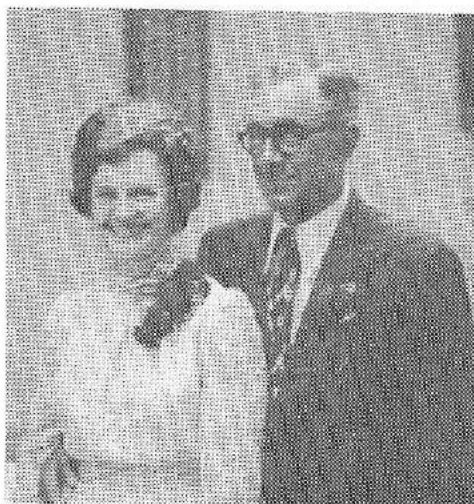
Farmed $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi NW of Mt. Carmel, ND. Anna lives in Langdon, ND.

1. Romeo Hoffarth, married Mabel Fischer
2. Patricia Hoffarth
3. Ethel Hoffarth, married Edward Lill

The Family of
Joseph and Eugenie Bodensteiner
of Walhalla, North Dakota.



Eugenie and Joseph



Bernice and Joe



Carol, Maureen, Ellen, Jolean, John, Jean, Janice, Linda
Joe, Ronie, Bernice



Mary Bodensteiner Gretter

Mary and Joe Gretter
are the parents of two
children: Joanne and Gene.



Patricia and Herb



Arlene, Jim, Jacinta, Gerald, Ann, Mary Jane, Patricia, Herb

