

Pietsch Family



he Pietsch name came to this area through Josef (Joseph) Pietsch. Joseph was born June 16, 1866 in Saufloz, Austria to Jacob and Barbara nee Neffe Pietsch. He married Wilhelmina Seibert born March 28, 1867 in Benatek, Austria. Joseph was a miller

by trade, working in a mill in Katcher, Austria. Two of their eight children, Frank and Marie, were born in Katcher, Austria. Before their third child Joseph was born in 1889, Joseph Pietsch moved his family to Frankenmuth and worked in the Hubinger Grist Mill. The family moved to Oregon in 1907, but returned to Frankenmuth a year later. They lived on Jefferson Street and the home was later owned by their daughter Marie and her husband Johann Ludwig Habke.

In 1914, Joseph was in partnership with Chris Fischhaber and Lorenz Weber in a grist mill in Millington, Michigan. The grist mill burned down in 1924. Joseph built a new mill in partnership with Alfred Fischhaber and later sold his share to Herbert Schleier. Joseph was a Mason, member of Lodge #258, Bridgeport, Michigan. He entered an apprentice program on May 15, 1894, received "Fellow Craft" degree June 12, 1894, and "Master Mason" July 17, 1894. He received his "Life Member" degree in April of 1937. Joseph was also associated with the Frankenmuth "Arbeiter Unterstuetzungs-Verein" ("Workers' Aid Association") and held the office of secretary 1889-1890.

Wilhelmina was known for her fine needle work. She did embroidery and crochet work on paraments for St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. Joseph died October 30, 1942 and Wilhelmina died January 3, 1928.

Frank Pietsch was born July 24, 1885 in Katcher, Austria. Frank had a remarkable memory – was knowledgeable in Michigan and local history, as well as baseball.

He belonged to the Detroit Coin Collectors Club. Frank was the Frankenmuth Township Treasurer for 23 years. In the 1940's, the township paid 100% of its taxes for eight straight years. This gained county and state recognition for its unmatched record. Frank died September 18, 1964.

Marie Pietsch Habke was born February 22, 1887 in Katcher, Austria and died January 12, 1956. She married John H. Habke March 9, 1910. Marie was a hard worker and known for her kindness to less fortunate people.

Joseph Pietsch was born in Frankenmuth July 27, 1889 and died August 2, 1943. As a young man he worked with his father in the Hubinger Grist Mill.

Rudolf Pietsch was born January 24, 1893 and died of influenza January 3, 1919 while serving in the United States Army during World War I.

Gisela Pietsch Matzke was born September 5, 1894 and died July 5, 1954. She was a homemaker and as a young woman worked in the Frankenmuth Woolen Mill.

Emil Pietsch was born July 29, 1896 and died September 22, 1956. He was a veteran of the United States Army, a laborer, an auto garage proprietor, and a machinist. As a young man he was an avid ball player.

Hermine Pietsch was born September 20, 1897 and died January 6, 1987. As a child she suffered damage from a high fever. She lived in Millington and was a homemaker for her father.

Louise Pietsch was born March 21, 1904 and died December 16, 1977. She lived in Millington most of her adult life. She was a graduate of the Detroit Conservatory of Music and was known for her talent on the piano.



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