

The Pagel Family Times

Volume 4

1999

THE PAGELS IN TEXAS

August and Louisa Spieckermann Pagel

This is the fourth in a series of biographies of our earliest Texas Pagels.

Augustus (or August) Pagel, the third child of Gottfried and Friedrike Dikow Pagel, was born February 25, 1838 in Pomerania in the village of Kordenhagen. His family sailed to Texas in 1850 on the "Brasilian" (or "Besselian") and settled in the small German community of Willow Springs in Fayette County.

His mother died some time soon after giving birth to her ninth child in 1853 and his father remarried in 1855 to Johanna Zorn Fritsche. In about 1858, August Pagel moved to Lavaca County with his father, step-mother and unmarried siblings. In 1860 he renounced his allegiance to Friedrich Wilhelm, King of Prussia, and became a citizen of the United States.

On January 2nd of the following year he and Johanna "Louisa" Spieckermann were married by Pastor J. C. Roehm, a Lutheran minister who served at Frelsburg in Colorado County and the surrounding area. Louisa was born on December 14, 1840 at Musherin in Pomerania to Friedrich (Fritz) and Wilhelmina Spieckermann. Her family immigrated to Texas when she was nineteen. Her brothers and sisters included Wilhelm Spieckermann, Minnie Koehler, Friedrich Spieckermann, and John Henry (David) Spieckermann.

The newlyweds lived in Fayette County for one year and then farmed at Pagel Settlement southeast of Hallettsville where his father lived. (In his will, written in September 1871, Gottfried Pagel noted that August had already received five hundred dollars from him. Furthermore, since August did not work with his father until he was twenty-two as his older brothers did, August was to return one hundred dollars to his father's estate! Gottfried died August 3, 1873.) In about 1875,

The Pagel Family Reunion is Taking a Field Trip!



Please join us at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 11
when we gather at Wayside Manor Farm
in Willow Springs, Texas
for the 1999 Pagel Family Reunion.

Please bring a covered dish with serving utensil for our noon luncheon. Coffee, tea and tableware will be provided. See back page for directions. This is always a good opportunity to get those old photographs identified!

August Pagel moved his family to Witting where he farmed and ran a gristmill. The family grew to eventually include five children:

1. William Pagel (1 Dec 1861 - 5 Dec 1939), who married Martha A. Sanitz on December 22, 1896 and farmed in Jackson County near Ganado.
2. Frank Pagel (17 Jul 1863 - 19 Aug 1935), who married Emma Sauer on September 7, 1885 and owned the Shiner city light plant.
3. Lydia Pagel (25 May 1865 - 27 May 1949), who married Emma's brother, Carl Sauer, on July 3, 1884 and farmed in Gonzales County.
4. Ophelia L. Pagel (31 Dec 1867 - 23 Jan 1926), who married Joseph J. (Joe) Smith, a Canadian-born cotton ginner, on January 13, 1883 and lived at Witting and in Hallettsville.
5. August Louis Pagel, Jr. (Mar 1877 - 30 Jun 1943), who married Margaret Lee (Maggie) Clark and lived in Lavaca and Jackson Counties.

With their children grown, the Pagels moved to Ganado in about 1898 and lived there until about 1912. At that time they retired to Shiner in Lavaca County where their son Frank lived. Au-

(Continued on back page)



August and Louisa Pagel

In Remembrance

This issue of *The Pagel Family Times* is dedicated to the memory of those who passed away in the last year:

Carl Defibaugh
Natalie Heinsohn

Lillye Harvey Heisler Jakubek
and also to those whose deaths we learned at our last reunion:

Benno Fisbeck
Roland Henrichs
Boyd N. Hill
Lydia Pagel White

Do You Wish to Stay on Our Mailing List?

We have a number of cousins who enjoy receiving the Pagel Times newsletter, but have not attended the reunion in years. We want to keep in touch with you, but keeping up a large mailing list gets expensive when reunion attendance (and therefore income) is low.

If you haven't attended the reunion in the last five years and you want to ensure that you stay on our mailing list, please take the time to send Rox Ann Johnson a note at 11105 Scotland Well Drive, Austin, TX 78750. You can E-mail Rox Ann at roxannjohn@aol.com or phone 512-250-8424 to give updates on family births, deaths, and marriages. Address changes are also very important.

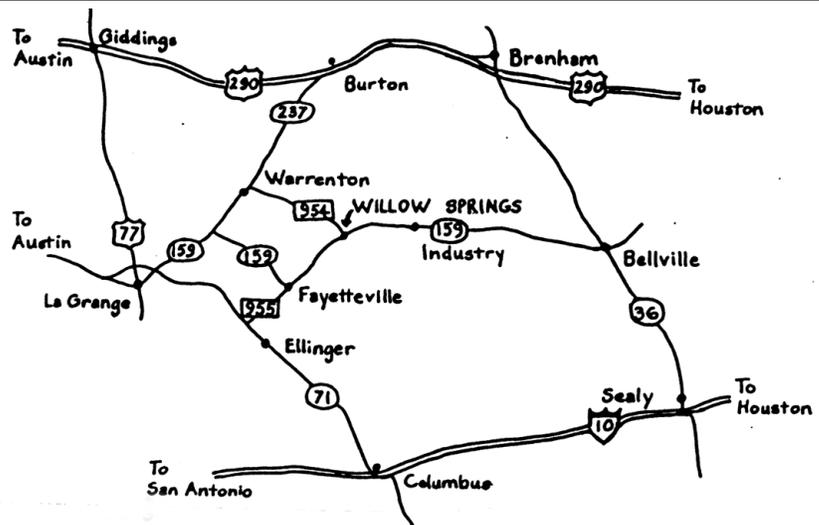
(The Pagels in Texas continued)

gust Pagel suffered from rheumatism and died in his home on January 21, 1915 after an illness of several weeks caused by influenza. He was seventy-six years old. Louisa remained in good health until her sudden death on November 23, 1916 at age seventy-four. They are both buried in the Shiner City Cemetery in Lavaca County.

This issue of *The Pagel Family Times* was edited by Rox Ann Albrecht Johnson, secretary/historian of the Pagel Family Reunion, who takes full responsibility for its content. Comments and questions may be directed to her at 11105 Scotland Well Drive, Austin, TX 78750, (512) 250-8424, roxannjohn@aol.com. *The Pagel Family Times* © 1999

The Pagel Family Reunion

11105 Scotland Well Drive
Austin, TX 78750-3607



Willow Springs is located halfway between Fayetteville and Industry and about 90 miles from both Austin and Houston. The phone number at Wayside Manor is (409) 249-3236.

Wayside Manor Farm

In 1866 Friedrich Wilhelm Pagel and his wife Magdalena bought an 86-acre tract at Willow Springs just a mile or so from the spot his father first settled after immigrating from Germany. They built a rock house over a cellar and covered it with plaster. They farmed and ranched and ran a general merchandise store and post office. Friedrich Wilhelm Pagel died in 1873. An inventory taken at the time of his death showed he owned 405 acres of land.

When Magdalena died in 1886, the tract with the house was bought by her daughter and son-in-law, Emma and Ernst Albrecht. An adjacent tract was bought by her son, Frank Pagel. The Albrechts continued to farm and ranch on the site and they added a second story to the house. They ran a cotton gin, and after selling that, they opened a machine shop and chair factory on the farm where they manu-

factured raw hide chairs. Ernst also had a blacksmith shop for his own use and a peach orchard and poultry yard.

Ernst and Emma retired to Fayetteville in 1922 and their son Oscar and his wife Isabel bought the farm. Oscar established a modern hatchery and feed mill and Isabel had a nursery with a large greenhouse. In the 1930's the old rock house was torn down and a two-story frame house was built over the cellar of the earlier house.

Their son Warren inherited the farm in 1976. Warren was teaching in La Grange by that time and used the house as a vacation home and leased the pastures. Warren died in 1983 and the farm is presently owned by his wife Dorothy Albrecht and their three children who are hosting the 1999 reunion. A daughter, Laurie Worthington, is living there.