

## Chapter 6

# Details of the Jacob Pinter Family

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Updated 2018

**B**y the early 1900's, the Henry and Jacob Pinter families had grown substantially. Jacob's 9 surviving children and Henry's 8 married and had children of their own. The family's growth occurred quickly starting around 1880 thru the present.

In fact, as of mid-2007, the number of direct descendants of Heinrich Pinter topped 900. This number counts only those children born with the last name of Pinter and does not count those men and women and their families who married into the Pinter family.

As you can image, the task of continuing to research and write about a family this size is next to impossible for one person. Consequently, Chapter 5 discussed only the immediate families of the grandchildren of Heinrich.

This chapter will include only known details about the Jacob Pinter family and it is not complete but rather reflects only that information that the author was able to collect to date.

This chapter, plus Chapter 7 regarding the Henry Pinter family, will be continuously updated as additional information becomes available.

Note that in the family tables below, many cells are blank. This is because that data was not available to me.

### **Gustav Hermann Pinter and Katie Leyes**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Born</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Died</b>	<b>Married</b>	<b>Date</b>
Gustav Hermann Pinter	3/4/1879	Selby	7/7/1953		1/15/1905
Katharine Leyes	9/18/1882		6/16/1953		
Herman Gustav	11/6/1905	Hall Tsp	7/1967	Marie Fenwick	
Lula Katherine	11/19/1906	Hall Tsp	7/30/96	Phillip J. Merkel	
Leo Jacob	12/18/1911	Hall Tsp	10/5/1988	* Rose Bernardoni * Laura Kankovsky * Edith Lunsford * Mary unknown	
Harold Philip	4/28/1914	Hall Tsp	11/1/88	Julia Filippini	9/26/1940
Gilbert Louis.	2/15/1917	Hall Tsp	2/2/98	Lena Bartoluzzi	
Lester Ralph	1/6/1921	Hall Tsp	2/26/45	Lillian Harris	7/25/1942

Gustav Herman Pinter was born 4 March 1879 in Selby TSP, Bureau Co. He was the first born to Jacob and Justina. His baptismal certificate states that he was baptized as Hermann Gustav on 22 June 1879. He was confirmed on 26 March 1893.

(One confusing thing about the Germans, apparently, was their tendency to reverse the first and middle names).

Gustav married Katie Leyes (pronounced Lee's) on 15 January 1905 in Selby Tsp. Their marriage certificate is about 20 x 14 inches in size and is quite colorful and ornate. Katie Leyes was born in Illinois 18 September 1882, in Hall Tsp, Bureau Co, and possibly in Ladd or in Malden, IL.

Gus and Katie farmed for a number of years of their lives. Gus also owned a blacksmith shop (or we assume he owned it) in Ladd at about the extreme north end of Chicago St. It is said that at least his sons Harold and Gilbert worked there, but I don't have any data as to when. There is also some sketchy evidence that they had this blacksmith shop when they lived North of Ladd. Gus was apparently very forgiving about moneys owed him for blacksmith work, and thus went bankrupt once or twice as a result.

We also believe that Gus ran a moonshine operation out of the North Ladd farm. Some have said that they were caught but I never found anyone who could say that they suffered any consequences.

Gustav died on 7 July 1953 after a two year heart-related illness. .

Katie died on 16 June 1953 after suffering a stroke while sweeping her porch. .

They are buried in the Spring Valley Memorial cemetery.

### **Lester Ralph Pinter**

I felt compelled to include a brief section about one of Gus and Katie's sons, and my uncle, Lester, who was killed in action in WWII.

Lester was a member of the 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry during WWII. His rank was Technician Fifth Grade. He was inducted in the Army in October 1942. He arrived in the Pacific in October 1943. He saw action in New Guinea, Netherlands East Indies, and, in the Philippines, Leyte, Mindoro, and Corregidor.

On 15 February 1945 Lester parachuted onto the island of Corregidor in the Philippine Islands in an operation to retake Corregidor from the Japanese. He was killed in action on Corregidor on 26 February 1945.

In actuality, Lester was killed on Monkey Point, Corregidor when a Japanese ammunition store was detonated. Details found on the Web explain the circumstances of his death:

This is from the web site:

[http://corregidor.org/heritage\\_battalion/abbott/navytunnel.html](http://corregidor.org/heritage_battalion/abbott/navytunnel.html)

On the morning of 26 February, as the First Battalion was getting ready to resume their attack to the East, a huge explosion went off in the Navy Intercept Tunnel. The actual cause of that explosion will, undoubtedly, never be known for certain. What is known is that a very large supply of high explosives was set off. People who were close to the site at the time have two somewhat different theories. One is that the Japanese, occupying the tunnel, chose to commit suicide by setting off the explosion, thereby taking many of the Paratroopers with them. This was not an inconceivable concept considering the Japanese had not hesitated to do the same thing in other locations, but on a much smaller scale. The other version, and the one which seems more likely, is that the explosion was set off accidentally by the tank, sitting on a small mound near the Main Entrance firing into the mouth of the tunnel. The force of the explosion was such that the tank was blown into the air and landed upside down. Whichever version is correct there is no doubt but what the explosion was a catastrophic event. Available records give the number of casualties for 26 February but do not break out those due to this event alone. It appears, however, there were about 30 Paratroopers killed outright and about 125 seriously injured. The real number of injured will never be known since a number of men with cuts and bruises, which would have been considered seriously disabling under other circumstances, did not seek help because they knew others needed help much more than they.

Lester Ralph Pinter received the Bronze Star, Silver Star, and the Purple Heart.

### **Ludwig (Louis) Adolph Pinter**

Louis (dad referred to him as Louie) was born 23 September 1895. I was not able to find much information about Louie. In the 1900 census, he was 4 years old. In the 1910 census, he was not listed in the Jacob/Justina household. In 1910, he would have been 14.

Louie died on 5 July 1912 at the age of 17. According to Elaine Peters Kutter, dad's cousin and daughter of Rose, he died of diabetes. He is buried in the Peru City Mausoleum in the same vault with his unnamed sister who died at birth.

### **Rose Ann Katherine Pinter and Ralph Peters**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Born</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Died</b>	<b>Married</b>	<b>Date</b>
Rose Ann Katherine Pinter	7/8/1900	Westfield	9/5/1993		9/10/1919
Ralph McKinley Peters	8/28/1894	LaSalle Co	4/11/1950		
Elaine R.	9/30/1920		N/A	Harold Kutter	9/11/1941
Arlet L.	2/26/1922	Peru		Robert Lunn	9/15/1946
Dale R.	11/7/1933				

Rose was born 8 July 1900. At the age of 19, she married Ralph M. Peters. The SSDI (social security death index) shows her last residence at death was LaSalle County, LaSalle Township, IL. She died there 5 September 1993.

### **Caroline (Carrie) Justina Pinter and Joseph Rett**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Born</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Died</b>	<b>Married</b>	<b>Date</b>
Caroline Justina (Carrie) Pinter	4/18/1898	Westfield	2/10/1918		1/1/1916
Joseph M. Rett	3/8/1890	Westfield	7/4/1961		
Caroline R.	2/10/1918	Westfield	5/14/2005	Dominick Palmeri	12/16/1936
Mona M	2/10/1918	Westfield		Delwin Lamps	10/3/1940

Caroline (my dad referred to her as Aunt Carrie) was born 18 April 1898 in Bureau/Westfield. She has also been hard to track. She is not listed in the Jacob/Justina household in the 1910 census. At this census she would have been only 12 years old.

She married Joseph Rett on 1 January 1916. Twin daughters, Mona and Caroline, were born on a very wintry day, 10 February 1918.

Carrie (mother) died in childbirth on the same day according to Wil Rett (see below). According to Norma Rett Martin, Carrie died of a severe hemorrhage that could not be controlled. She related that Carrie simply laid there and her voice became weaker and weaker as she expired. There was apparently nothing that could be done. Also, the babies were apparently born premature since one account states that they weighed 2 pounds and 2.5 pounds and were placed in dresser drawers that served as cribs.

Jacob Pinter's will names Mona and Caroline as beneficiaries. In the Will, Mona's name is spelled Mooney Maria and Caroline's is spelled Caralina Rosina. Their mothers name is spelled Carolina Regalia Rett. Since these names deviate from what is thought to be their real names, perhaps these are names that Jacob used with them.

Soon after they were born, they were separated. Caroline was placed with her grandmother Mary Hoffert Rett while Mona was placed with Mary Hoffert Rett's daughter Mamie.

The 1920 census shows that Mona was living with her father Joseph Rett and that they were living in the household of William and Mary Rett Doll in Bureau/Westfield. She was 1 year 11 months old, Joseph was 29. Caroline, same age as Mona, was listed as a granddaughter living with Matt and Mary Rett, (Joseph's parents) in Bureau/Hall. It seems that for some time after Carries death, the family lived separately.

In about 1922, Joe Rett married Laura Hassler, daughter of Anna Julia Pinter and Fred Hassler. As the twins got older, it has been said that they did not want to live with their father and his wife so they apparently stayed with their foster parents.

In the 1930 census, Joseph Rett is shown married to Laura (Hassler), with 2 children (Norma and Wilton). Laura was the daughter of Anna Pinter (dad's Aunt Annie) and Fred Hassler. He married her in about 1922 based on 1930 census info. We have a family picture taken around 1927 that shows Joe and Laura Rett, and their 4 children.

Wilton (Wil) Rett lived in Peru, IL, until his death on 29 March 2004, and is the son of Joseph Rett and Laura Hassler. He was about 77 years old at this death. I found him indirectly through a Google search on Jacob Pinter. Wil was a major source of information for this research.

### **John Henry Pinter and Leona Walter**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Born</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Died</b>	<b>Married</b>	<b>Date</b>
John Henry Pinter	1/3/1894	Westfield	1/9/1974		11/19/1919
Leona Louise Walter	6/4/1900	Westfield	9/13/1985		
Eugene L.	7/7/1921	Westfield	7/30/1994	Lois Scriba	1/13/1952
Wilbur J.	4/24/1923	Spr. Val	9/13/1987	Roberta Krueger	1/2/1949
Delbert J.	2/23/1936	Spr. Val	10/16/2004	Marcia Filippini	9/13/1969
Karen Ann	1/26/1939	Spr. Val	10/18/2010		

John Henry Pinter married Leona Walter. Leona Walter has ties back to Dorrie Simon and to Rachael Pinter Palmieri. Rachael's mom, Marcia Filippini, married Delbert Pinter. Delbert is the son of John and Leona. They had 3 other children as follows: Karen Ann, Wilbur, and Eugene.

John played on a baseball team and also was a violinist. Rachel Palmeri has provided pictures of John in a baseball uniform and with a violin with other musicians.

**Anna Julia Pinter and Fred Hassler**

Name	Born	Location	Died	Married	Date
Anna Julia Pinter	8/7/1880	Berlin	6/14/1972		2/28/1901
Friedrich John Hassler	9/9/1877	Selby	4/1/1946		
Laura Justina	1/7/1902	Hall	7/24/1993	Joe Rett	1/28/1922
Edna Katherine	5/1/1903	Hall	8/18/1925	Wm. Appel	9/2/1993
Harvey Rudolph	11/16/1904	Hall	8/10/1905		
Mildred Justine	8/8/1906	Hall	12/1/1992	Fred Mueller	6/30/1925
Infant daughter	10/12/1908	Hall	10/12/1908		
Viola Magdalena	8/23/1910	Hall		John Harzheim	5/29/1941
Irene Rose	6/23/1917	LaSalle Co	2/2/1994	Fred Fenoglio	9/2/1939
Laura or Lora Jean Appel	8/18/1925	LaSalle Co	11/11/1985	William Tieman	9/3/1944

Laura Jean Appel is the granddaughter of Anna and Fred Hassler. Her mother, Edna Hassler Tieman, died when Laura Jean was born on 18 August 1925, probably in childbirth. Her name appears as Lora Jean Appel in the 1925 Church on the Hill birth/baptism records.

Also, the spelling of the name Laura Justina in the COH baptism records could be either Laura or Lorena. Based on her descendant's inputs, we will assume Laura is correct.

**Justina Margaret Pinter and William Hahn**

Name	Born	Location	Died	Married	Date
Justina Margaret Pinter	4/20/1884	Berlin	3/25/1974		2/5/1905
William H. Hahn	8/1/1881	Westfield	6/16/1955		
Rose J.	12/8/1907	Berlin	4/25/2001	Arthur Fouth	9/2/1926
Herman W.	2/5/1913	Berlin	2/15/1913		
Infant son	4/4/1914	Berlin	4/4/1914		
Infant daughter	5/13/1916	Berlin	5/13/1916		

**Jacob Philip Pinter and Philippena Hahn**

Name	Born	Location	Died	Married	Date
Jacob Philip Pinter	3/27/1882	Berlin	7/20/1950		1/15/1907
Philippena Hahn	3/14/1886	Westfield	12/8/1968		
Elmer H.	11/8/1907	Westfield	4/16/1990		
Harry J.	9/24/1909	Westfield	3/24/1911		
LeRoy W.	8/10/1914	Berlin	4/9/2000	Lucille Gillan	2/22/1941
Rose K.	2/11/1921	Westfield		Earl Gillan	12/16/1939

### Henry Rudolph Pinter and Elsie Nickel

Name	Born	Location	Died	Married	Date
Henry Rudolph Pinter	12/9/1885	Berlin	6/3/1968		12/20/1911
Elsie Nickel	4/2/1892	LaSalle Co	3/7/1969		
Arthur H.	4/22/1912	Westfield	2/9/1961	Ethel Koerner	11/25/1937
Earl L.	5/29/1914	Selby	11/22/1989	Eileen Hahn	8/11/1946
Thelma C.	3/12/1917	Westfield	2/29/1988	Orian Ugland	11/25/1938
Perry G.	1/8/1919	Westfield	2/24/1997		

### Elizabeth Barbara Pinter and John Schlund

Name	Born	Location	Died	Married	Date
Elizabeth Barbara (Lizzie) Pinter	12/22/1887	Westfield	4/30/1970		12/4/1910
John Schlund	6/24/1884	Hall	7/15/1961		
Elyme M.	6/22/1911	Selby		Raymond Rauh	6/24/1931
Margaret K.	4/26/1914	Selby	8/23/1988		
Emanuel J.H.	4/25/1917	Selby	9/28/2006	Martha Hamer	2/3/1940

### Magdalena Martha Pinter and Louis Husser

Name	Born	Location	Died	Married	Date
Magdalena Martha (Lena) Pinter	1/18/1892	Westfield	12/15/1990		12/13/1911
Louis John Husser	10/11/1888	Berlin	6/4/1967		
Infant daughter	3/15/1915	Berlin	3/15/1915		
Infant son	3/29/1917	Berlin	3/29/1917		
Ray F.	6/12/1918	Berlin	8/13/2004	Dorothy Hamer	9/21/1946
Gale E.	9/22/1922	Berlin		Lois Koch	9/19/1943

### Infant Daughter

Jacob and Justina's last born child was a daughter. She did not survive and died the same day she was born: 2/28/1903. In addition, there is a family story that says there was a 13<sup>th</sup> child, but this is unproven.

## **The Croisant Family**

The Croisant family was an early and large family in the Bureau County area in this time frame. This name is pronounced Croy'zant. The Croisant family is documented in this chapter because Justina Croisant married Jacob Pinter. The Wunder family will be documented in Chapter 7 about the Henry Pinter family for similar reasons.

### **George William and Anna Margaret Croisant**

Justina Barbara is the daughter of William Croisant and Anna Margaret Wunder, as noted above. William and Anna had 10 children, so this is the complete family as of this writing (Note: the below list includes only 8 children, so two children may be unaccounted for).

In the 1880 census, Wilhelm indicated that he was a farmer and that his parents were born in Bavaria. He also indicated that Anna Margaret's parents were also born in Bavaria. In this census, only son John was listed as being at home at the age of 15.

When tracking the Croisant's residences, the data shows the following:

- 1841 – Hennepin, Putnam Co
- 1844 – Hollowayville
- 1850 – Bureau Co, Dover Township
- 1860 – Bureau Co, Selby Township
- 1870 – Bureau Co, Selby Township/Hollowayville
- 1880 – Bureau Co, Selby Township

I have found considerable information about Wilhelm and Anna Margaret Croisant on the Internet. This discovery occurred when I did a Google search on the name Croisant. I found this web site that documents this family:

<https://www.genealogy.com/ftm/s/h/u/Gail-R-Shulmire-Oregon/GENE4-0001.html>

The tie between the Shulmire family and ours is unknown at this time.

Here is a brief summary of the Croisants. Other details can be found at the above Web site:

Wilhelm Croisant left Edenkoben, Koenigreich, Germany, in 1841 at the age of 22, and sailed to the US, landing in New Orleans. He had departed from La Havre, France, a common port of departure from Europe in that time frame. He migrated then to Hennepin, IL, and then met and married Anna Margaretha Wunder 24 October 1844. She was born 27 October 1827. They then moved to Bureau County and purchased 40 acres of land in/near Hollowayville and began farming.

Anna Margaretha Wunder was born in Hornungsreuth, Neudrossenfeld, Bavaria, Germany, the daughter of Johann Michael Wunder.



The above web site contains data tracing the Croisant family back to France as far back as 1570. Most generations lived in Germany, however.

Wilhelm and Anna proceeded to raise a family of at least 8 children. These children were born between the years 1847 and 1864. Here is the family:

Name	Birth Year	Death Year	Married	Date
Wilhelm Croisant (George William Sr.)	11/4/1819	3/10/1898		10/24/1844
Anna Margaretha Wunder	10/27/1827	12/31/1909		
George William Jr.	2/11/1847	2/20/1933	Sophia Wiehard	10/8/1870
Elizabeth	5/9/1849	10/20/1909	John Genzlinger	10/10/1865
Anna Maria	4/23/1851	3/26/1916	Stephen Genzlinger	6/1/1868
Phillip Jacob	9/3/1853	4/11/1937	Barbara Anne Heintz	2/28/1875
John Louis	11/26/1855	11/20/1939	Katherine Ihrig	4/3/1877
Katherina	4/3/1858	5/28/1944	Gustav H. Hassler	3/8/1877
Justina Barbara	1/12/1862	4/4/1948	Jacob Pinter	10/28/1878
John	10/5/1864	1/14/1902	Lena Hoffert	
Johann George	10/11/1867	10/25/1867		

Wilhelm became a naturalized citizen in 1848.

In 1849, Wilhelm purchased 80 acres of Illinois prairie land by way of a program to purchase public land from the government. This information was found in the Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales database. He paid \$1.25 per acre. The land he purchased was: W ½ SW 30 17N 11E which is in the SW corner of Westfield Tsp. This tract of land appears to be very close to the land that Jacob and Henry farmed in the early part of the 1900's and as found in the 1905 maps found in the Bureau Co Courthouse.

There were no records of any such transaction for any Pinter name, including the various other spellings.

It appears that the Croisants joined the St. John Evangelical Church (Church on the Hill) west of Hollowayville sometime in their early married life and attended for some time with the Pinter family among many others. It also appears that some of the church membership became dissatisfied with the church and so split and formed their own church, which is today the Deutsch Protestant Evangelical Church in Hollowayville. In 1859 (August 26), they signed an agreement with a construction company to build the foundation and walls for this church. Wilhelm Croisant, Ludwig Merkel, Lorentz Heintz, and Jacob Genzlinger were the original individuals involved. The dimensions were 30 feet by 45 feet by 18 feet high (walls).

The connection between the Croisant family and the Pinter family occurs this way:

Adam Wunder's sister Anna Margaretha Wunder married Wilhelm Croisant and their daughter Justina married Jacob Pinter.

(It is also interesting to note that Adam Wunder married Elizabeth Weisenberger and their daughter Julianna Wunder married Henry Pinter.)

There is more about the Wunder family in Chapter 7.

### **Other Interesting Stories and Anecdotes About the Jacob Pinter Family**

- ✓ **Jacob** was often referred to as Jake.
- ✓ **Jacob** (as well as his brother Henry) also owned property in Miner County, South Dakota. His will, written in 1925, indicated he still owned the 240 acres purchased some time earlier. It is not known when this was purchased, or from whom, or how Jacob managed this property.
- ✓ **Jacob apparently liked to drink wine.** Leonard Martin noted during my visit in June 2005 that Jacob liked to go out to a small barn in the evening and imbibe. In addition, Justina would kick him out of the house if he drank too much wine, and he would retreat to the small barn.
- ✓ The family home in section 30 had a basement where milk was kept, cooled by the system.
- ✓ The family home had no plumbing until 1944. It had wood stoves in the living room and kitchen. Of course, Jake and Justina had moved to Ladd much earlier.
- ✓ When Jake and family occupied this property, they lived in a small cabin at the very north end of the section. Later, after selling coal rights, they were able to build the current house further south. Jake also built the corn crib.
- ✓ **Gustav Pinter (Gus) was into moonshine** while he lived on the farm north of Ladd. He was caught apparently once or twice but was never imprisoned, so the story goes. We don't know about any fines he may have paid.
- ✓ **Gus** owned a machine shop in Ladd later in his life and his sons worked there too. The shop did a lot of work for local farmers and Gus was very forgiving about fees owed ....so much in fact that he filed bankruptcy at least once as a result.
- ✓ **Gus** was a master building of buildings. He would visualize the structure and precut all lumber before beginning the task, so the story goes.

- ✓ **Gus** had a favorite saying that his son Harold often quoted: “Take hold of your own nose and you will have a handful”.
- ✓ **Gus** played a horn in a band when he was in his (apparent) twenties.
- ✓ **Gus’** house North of Ladd had small smoke house in the basement.
- ✓ **Gus** was in some way involved in the design and installation of street lamps in Ladd.
- ✓ **Jacob’s farm** in section 30 exists today. The barn looks very much like it did when Jacob and family lived there. The house has undergone major renovation. Other structures have been removed including the massive windmill next to the house.