

# *Introduction*

by Ken Pinter  
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Genealogical research is a never-ending process. Just when you think you know it all, something else pops up. Nevertheless, it is an extremely rewarding process. It is also an addictive process. You start out innocently trying to find out who is this and that person, and you end up getting so close to your ancestors that you feel that you know them personally. And, because they accomplished so much with so little in an era that had few conveniences to make their life easier, you begin to hope that you are worthy of being their relative.

The Pinter family of Bureau County, Illinois, is such a family.

Heinrich and Elizabeth Pinter came to America around 1848 to 1850, raised two sons and tried to establish a better life. Tragedy and hard work confronted them. In spite of this, however, they succeeded in raising two sons who in turn raised 19 children. Eighteen of these children had families of their own until, by the time this book was written, there were over 900 direct descendents of Heinrich and Elizabeth.

## **Scope**

The period of time between Heinrich and Elizabeth's birth and today is a span of about 208 years. As I began my research and then decided to write this book, it became obvious that the family grew significantly between the early 1900s and today and that it was impossible for me to write about that period and do it any justice. Therefore, this book is limited in scope to the period of the late 1700s to about 1930.

## **Acknowledgements**

Genealogy research is both a rewarding and a frustrating effort. It is most definitely a joint effort. Lots of sharing happens. Today it is called networking. It is important to recognize and thank my resources for the story you are about to read. My resources, in no particular order, are:

## **Persons**

- ✓ Wilton Rett (1926 – 2004)
- ✓ Harold Pinter (1914 – 1988)
- ✓ Lena Bartoluzzi Pinter (1918 – 2004)
- ✓ Ruth Walch May (1914 - 2008)
- ✓ Dorrie Walter Simon
- ✓ Jane Genzlinger Merkel
- ✓ Harold and Elaine Peters Kutter
- ✓ Leonard and Norma Rett Martin
- ✓ Ken and Shirley Morgan Pierson
- ✓ Bill and Betty Pinter Linker

- ✓ Myrna Schlegel Teauseau
- ✓ Rachael Pinter Palmeri
- ✓ Gil Pinter
- ✓ Mark Pinter
- ✓ Bob Husser
- ✓ Karen Pinter
- ✓ Dorothy Husser
- ✓ Floyd Pinter
- ✓ Donald Schlund
- ✓ Plus many others

### Places

- ✓ [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) (census data plus more)
- ✓ [www.genealogy.com](http://www.genealogy.com) (ship records)
- ✓ [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) (The Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints (Mormons) (Stäfa church records))
- ✓ St. Johns Evangelical Church (COH) and staff
- ✓ The Bureau County Genealogical Society (BCGS) and staff
- ✓ The Bureau County Historical Society (BCHS) and staff
- ✓ The Bureau County Public Library and staff
- ✓ Bureau County Courthouse and staff
- ✓ Putnam County Courthouse and staff
- ✓ Many other Internet sites as cited in the text
- ✓ Plus many others

### Things

- ✓ St. John's Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Booklet, 1924, by Pastor Ernest Lack
- ✓ Maps and Sketches of Bureau County, Illinois, 1867, by N. Matson
- ✓ History of Bureau County, Illinois, 1885, by H.C. Bradsby

...plus, everyone else who may have contributed a story or a picture or a tidbit of information about the family.

### **Accuracy of Content**

The author has made every effort to be as accurate as possible when writing this book. However, it is not impossible for there to be an inaccuracy here and there. When the author was unsure about something, he noted that uncertainty. When information from two or more sources was in conflict, that conflict was mentioned.

The reader should notify the author if inaccuracies are noticed in the book.

The author apologizes for any inaccuracies that might exist and any names that may have been inadvertently omitted.

*Ken Pinter*