

# Vondrachek.net

Place: Reedsville

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# Anna Hayek

\*19 Jun 1851 - †1 Mar 1942

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Father: Wencel Hayek (\*1816 - †1893)

Mother: Anna Prikop (\*1820 - †1911)

Siblings: Frantiska Hayek (\*1846 - †1917)  
Mary Hayek (\*1848 - †?)  
John Hayek (\*1859 - †1945)  
Justina Hayek (\*1862 - †1958)

Husband: Joseph Frank Vondrachek (\*1847 - †1933)

Children: Joseph Anton Vondrachek (\*1875 - †1957)  
John Vondrachek (\*1877 - †1964)  
Charles J Vondrachek (\*1879 - †1959)  
Wencil Francis Vondrachek (\*1882 - †1920)  
Mary Vondrachek (\*1885 - †1898)  
Albert Edward Vondrachek (\*1887 - †1977)  
Caroline Anna Vondrachek (\*1889 - †1978)  
Emil Edward Vondrachek (\*1892 - †1980)  
Louis Francis Vondrachek (\*1895 - †1950)

Birth: 19 Jun 1851  
Bohemia

Wedding: 10 Feb 1874  
(Joseph Frank Vondrachek)

Death: 1 Mar 1942  
Valley City

# Charles J Vondrachek

\*25 Nov 1879 - †16 Mar 1959

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Father: Joseph Frank Vondrachek (\*1847 - †1933)

Mother: Anna Hayek (\*1851 - †1942)

Siblings: Joseph Anton Vondrachek (\*1875 - †1957)  
John Vondrachek (\*1877 - †1964)  
Wencil Francis Vondrachek (\*1882 - †1920)  
Mary Vondrachek (\*1885 - †1898)  
Albert Edward Vondrachek (\*1887 - †1977)  
Caroline Anna Vondrachek (\*1889 - †1978)  
Emil Edward Vondrachek (\*1892 - †1980)  
Louis Francis Vondrachek (\*1895 - †1950)

Wife: Caroline Safranek (\*1889 - †1950)

Children: Bernard Vondrachek (\*? - †2013)  
Marie Vondrachek (\*? - †2004)  
Anna A Vondrachek (\*1912 - †2013)  
Adele Lucy Vondrachek (\*1914 - †2014)  
Edward Charles Vondrachek (\*1917 - †1998)  
Norbert W Vondrachek (\*1922 - †1999)

Birth: 25 Nov 1879  
Reedsville

Death: 16 Mar 1959  
Waterford

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Note: <sup>a)</sup> Charles Vondrachek's family arrived in Montana in 1909 from Wisconsin. Caroline Vondrachek was born in a small village near Prague. After her mother's death, she came to the United States in 1903 along with her brother to live with her uncle and aunt. The uncle was running a boarding house in Milwaukee catering exclusively to the Bohemians. There Caroline met and married Charles Vondrachek, however, soon after the wedding he was diagnosed with tuberculosis. It was recommended to them to move to a dry place. They chose Montana, where land was still available and the climate was dry. While building their first shack, they lived in a tent. They had to dig a well three hundred feet deep only to find water so alkaline, that the whole project had to be abandoned. The water was then hauled in the buckets on a wagon half a mile to the house from a small well. Times were hard. Caroline's and Charles' daughter, Adele, remembers her mother turning to her Bohemian Bible, the only possession she kept from her homeland. The crops were continuously threatened by dust storms, cyclones, and grasshoppers. Unfortunately, there was little the farmers could do except spread poison and pray. Firewood was also scarce. The family had to travel miles to gather timber for winter supply. Everybody was anxiously waiting for springtime. Soon the Chinook winds of early spring began to blow "making the snow become honeycomb, and causing it to disappear overnight. The coulees began to run full, like rivers, almost the only running water we ever saw" reminisces Adele. By 1925 the Vondrachek family was well exhausted and defeated by the elements, and after the last poor harvest, they decided to return to the midwest, first to North Dakota, where Charles' parents farmed. But the small farm could not sustain another family, so they moved on to Milwaukee. Charles went to work for a steel factory, but in a year he developed cyanide poisoning. He took up farming once again renting a farm in West Bend, Wisconsin. The stock market crash forced the farmers to sell their crops for 15 cents a bushel. The family again lost everything.

# Joseph Frank Vondrachek

\*30 Jul 1847 - †11 Mar 1933

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Father: Albert Vondracek (\*1813 - †1891)

Mother: Frances Brazda (\*1820 - †1892)

Siblings: John Vondrachek (\*1838 - †1912)  
Frances Vondrachek (\*1840 - †1874)  
Francis Joseph Vondracek (\*1844 - †1917)  
Adalbert Vondracek (\*1850 - †?)  
Mary Vondrachek (\*1857 - †1936)  
Anna Vondrachek (\*1858 - †?)

Wife: Anna Hayek (\*1851 - †1942)

Children: Joseph Anton Vondrachek (\*1875 - †1957)  
John Vondrachek (\*1877 - †1964)  
Charles J Vondrachek (\*1879 - †1959)  
Wencil Francis Vondrachek (\*1882 - †1920)  
Mary Vondrachek (\*1885 - †1898)  
Albert Edward Vondrachek (\*1887 - †1977)  
Caroline Anna Vondrachek (\*1889 - †1978)  
Emil Edward Vondrachek (\*1892 - †1980)  
Louis Francis Vondrachek (\*1895 - †1950)

Birth: 30 Jul 1847  
Bohemia

Wedding: 10 Feb 1874  
(Anna Hayek)

Death: 11 Mar 1933  
Valley City

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Note: <sup>a)</sup> This Joseph and Anna and many of their children moved to Valley City, North Dakota. Those children remaining in Wisconsin were Joseph Anton, Charles(maybe), and Wencel.  
Intention to file petition for naturalization:  
STATE OF WISCONSIN, MANITOWOC COUNTY  
Joseph Vondrachek  
Personally appeared before the Subscriber, the Clerk of the Circuit Court of said county, being a Court of Record, and made Oath that he was born in Bohemia in or about the year Eighteen Hundred and forty-seven, that he emigrated to the United States and landed at the port of New York in or about the month of September in the year Eighteen Hundred and sixty four that it is bona fide his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State of Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to Emperor of Austria whereof he is a subject. Signed: Joseph Vondrashek  
Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 29 day of Oct. 1892 John Chloupek, Clerk of the Circuit Court by E. S. Chloupek.  
Owned 400 acres on "Old Bohemian Road" in the Reedsville/Grimms area. He sold it to leave and make his fortune in North Dakota. He lost his first years of crops to hail and locusts.