

The descent of Patrick A. Wild from Charlemagne



Patrick A. Wild
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Charlemagne died more than a thousand years ago, but his blood still runs in the veins of countless thousands of people. Not only princes and high nobility, but also many middle-class families can trace their ancestors back to the great emperor with greater or lesser certainty. But, if it is a kind of genealogical sport for us today, which at times was particularly popular to be a descendant of the Carolingians, it was more so for the members of earlier generations. We know what an enormous role the descent from noble blood played in the early Middle Ages. The old biographers of important personalities cannot do enough in their emphasis. Belonging to the small circle of families of the noblest blood was the prerequisite for political prestige, which was only waived in exceptional cases, and it was extraordinarily difficult for a lower-ranking person to be accepted as an equal in this ruling upper class of the people. For those times the descent from the ruler who had created the Western Empire had more than vanity value. Even if it was not the constitutionally established prerequisite for appointment to the office of ruler, as has probably been asserted, it did grant a political and social prestige that was highly significant for the whole position of life.

This appreciation of Carolingian origin naturally declined over the centuries. When the old imperial sovereignty sank into the grave with the great Hohenstaufen, the nimbus that the share of the blood of their creator had once granted had also completely faded.

So I believe that the question of which personalities of these earlier centuries can really be proven to be descendants of Charlemagne is not only important for the genealogist, but for the historian in general. On the following plates, I will attempt to show his demonstrable or at least highly probable descendants up to the present generation of Glarus families, that is, throughout 13 centuries.

For the first 14 generations in particular, I have based myself on the carefully researched and recognized work of Erich Brandenburg, which was reprinted in 1995 in a facsimile reprint of 1935 with corrections and additions¹. For the following generations up to the 20th generation I have based myself on the two pedigree works by Rübél-Blass² and Benziger-Müller³. As source for the last generations up to the 36th generation I used the genealogy work of Kubly-Müller from Glarus⁴.

Color Coding for social status

High nobility	Emperor, King, Duke, Prince
Lower nobility	Count, Baron, Knight
Higher officials	Bailiff, Governor, Landammann, Judge, Ambassador
Lower officials	Community offices such as Tagwenvogt, Administrator the charity or church funds etc
High educated / Entrepreneurs	Doctor, Lawyer, Professor, Factory Owner etc.
Lower educated	Tradespeople, Factory worker, Farmer
No information	

¹ Brandenburg Erich, Die Nachkommen Karls des Grossen, facsimile reprint of 1935 with corrections and additions by Manfred Dreiss and Lupold von Lehsten, Neustadt an der Aisch 1995.

² Rübél Eduard, pedigree Rübél-Blass, Volume 1: Text, Volume 2: Pedigrees, Zurich 1939.

³ Benziger-Müller Ralph / Zwicky von Gauen J.P., ancestors and descendants of Dr. Ralph Benziger and his wife Maria Donata Benziger née Müller, Zurich 1975

⁴ Kubly-Müller Johann Jakob, Genealogies of the Canton of Glarus, manuscript in 36 volumes, Glarus 1893-1923, with updates until about 2004

	Charlemagne	
	King of the Frankish Empire and Emperor from 800-814	
	*	02.04.747
	Chasseneuil near Poitiers, France	
	oo	770 with Hildegardis von Vinzgau
	†	28.01.814
	Aachen, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany	

Biography	<p>Charles the Great (Latin Carolus Magnus or Karolus Magnus, French and English Charlemagne) was King of the Frankish Empire from 768 to 814 (until 771 together with his brother Karlmann). On December 25, 800, he became the first Western European ruler since ancient times to attain the imperial title, which was renewed with him. The grandson of the Hausmeier Karl Martell was the most important ruler of the Carolingian family. The Frankish Empire reached its greatest expansion and development of power under him.</p> <p>Charles succeeded in securing his power in the Frankish Empire and considerably expanded it in a series of outward campaigns. The Saxon wars, which lasted from 772 to 804 with interruptions, were particularly costly and bitterly fought. Their goal was the conquest and forced Christianization of Saxony. Charles also intervened in Italy and conquered the Longobard Empire in 774. A campaign directed against the Moors in northern Spain in 778, however, failed. In the east of his empire, he ended the independence of the tribal duchy of Bavaria in 788 and conquered the remaining empire of the Avars in the 790s. The borders in the east against the Danish and Slavic tribes and in the southwest against the Moors were secured by the establishment of Marches. The Frankish Empire rose to become the new great power alongside Byzantium and the Abbasid Caliphate. It encompassed the core part of early medieval Latin Christendom and was the most important state entity in the West since the fall of Western Rome. Charles ensured effective administration and strove for a comprehensive educational reform, which resulted in a cultural revival of the Frankish Empire. The political highlight of his life was the coronation of the emperor by Pope Leo III at Christmas in 800, which created the basis for the Western medieval empire. In the ranks of both the Roman-German emperors and the French kings, he is counted as Charles I. His main residence Aachen remained the coronation site of the Roman-German kings until the 16th century.</p> <p>In 1165 he was canonized by antipope Paschalis III. Charles is considered one of the most important medieval rulers. He had a lasting influence on the collective European historical consciousness; already during his lifetime he was called Pater Europae ("Father of Europe"). His life was repeatedly addressed in fiction and art, with the respective contemporary view of history as the starting point. In 1949, the city of Aachen founded the International Charlemagne Prize in recognition of his merits, which is awarded annually to outstanding personalities who have rendered outstanding services to European unity.</p>
	Sources

	Ludwig I. the Pious	
	King of the Frankish Empire and Emperor from 813-840	
	*	08.778
	Chasseneuil near Poitiers, France	
	oo	819 with Judith von Altdorf
	†	20.06.840
Ingelheim am Rhein, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany		

Biography	<p>Louis I (called Ludwig the Pious), was king of the Frankish Empire (in Aquitaine since 781, in the entire empire since 814) and emperor (813-840). He was the son and successor of Charlemagne and initially successfully continued his reform policy. In disputes with his own sons, he was temporarily deposed twice (830, 833/34), but Louis the Pious did not succeed in creating a Franco-German empire capable of surviving - three years after his death, the Franco-German empire was divided in the Treaty of Verdun (843). He was married in second marriage to Judith von Altdorf, daughter of Count Welf I.</p>
	Sources

	Gisela from Cysoing	
	* 819-822	
	oo approx. 836	with Eberhard Margrave of Friuli (Unruochinger)
	† 01.07.874	
	Cysoing, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France / at the Cysoing Abbey	

Biography	Gisela was the daughter of Emperor Louis the Pious and his wife Judith. Around 836 she married Eberhard Margrave of Friuli and had ten children with him. Together with her husband, Gisela founded the abbey Sainte-Calixte de Cysoing. Together they oriented themselves to spiritual values, even as laymen, following the example of Charlemagne's court.
Sources	Brandenburg, page 2 / III. 14 b

	Berengar I of Friuli	
	King of Italy, Emperor	
	* approx. 850	
	oo approx. 880	with Bertila from Spoleto
	† 07.04.924 (murdered)	
Verona, Veneto, Italy		

Biography	He was the third son of ten children of Eberhard († 866), Margrave of Friuli, and his wife Gisela († 874), daughter of Emperor Louis the Pious. Since 874 he succeeded his father as Margrave of Friuli. After the deposition of Charlemagne, Berengar I was crowned King of the Longobards in Pavia in 888 by Bishop Anselm of Milan. However, when the East Frankish King Arnulf advanced with an army, Berengar of Trento paid homage to him as King of Italy. In 889 Berengar was defeated by his opponent, Duke Wido III of Spoleto, on the Trebia (Wido was crowned Emperor by Pope Stephen V in 891). After his death in 894, the East Frank Arnulf moved again across the Alps and occupied Northern Italy. After Arnulf's withdrawal in 895, Berengar fell away from him again and shared the rule of Upper and Central Italy with Wido's son, Emperor Lambert, Duke of Spoleto. After Lambert's deposition in 896 (he died in 898) and Arnulf's death in 899, Berengar tried to seize the entire Longobard Empire. Berengar's position was seriously endangered by the defeat against the Hungarians on the Brenta in 899 when they invaded in 899/900, and therefore Louis, King of Lower Burgundy, was called to Italy and became Emperor in 901. In 905, Berengar was able to oust Ludwig by capturing him during one of his Italian campaigns, blinding him in Verona. However, Berengar was not crowned emperor by Pope John X until 915. Constant uprisings caused him trouble; their instigators, the Margraves of Ivrea and Tuscany as well as Bishop Lambert of Milan, wore the crown of Italy to King Rudolf II of Hochburgund in 919. On July 29, 923, Rudolph completely defeated Berengar near Fiorenzuola, near Piacenza, and when he called the Hungarians to his aid, he also alienated the few who had remained loyal to him. Even in Verona, which had always stood by him, a conspiracy developed. Berengar I was murdered in Verona on April 7, 924.
Sources	Brandenburg, page 2 / IV. 26

	Gisela of Friuli	
	* approx. 880	
	oo approx. 898	with Adalbert I. (the rich) Margrave of Ivrea
	† 910-915	

Biography	Giseala of Friuli was a daughter of Berengar I of Friuli, who was King of Italy in 888-889, 896-901 and 905-924 and Emperor from 915-924. Gisela married before 900 the margrave Adalbert I of Ivrea.
Sources	Brandenburg, page 3 / v. 18

 Tschudi ¹	Jost Tschudi	
	Landammann 1521-1523, Landessekkelmeister 1524	
	*	18.04.1462
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	
	†	15.05.1527
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Jost Tschudi was a resident of Glarus and only retired to his home town in later years. Landammann 1521-1523, then again 1524 Landeckelmeister. He helped the 5 villages to lead the trial regarding Murg, Terzen and Quarten. 1516 he helped to establish eternal peace between the crown of France and the Swiss Confederates. He was also envoy to Baden. His name was the "younger" Landammann Jost.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE09 / Glarus Tschudi #71 / GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #1 Benziger, page 164 / XIV / 9304 Historical Yearbook, Volume 24, 13.15 Pedigree Tschudi, page 95-98 Melchior Schuler, Geschichte des Landes Glarus, page 154 Lexicon Leu, Volume 18, Page 350

 Tschudi ¹	Johannes Tschudi	
	Councillor and Judge	
	*	1500
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	1535 with Maria Sontag
	Glarus, Glarus, Switzerland	
†		
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Johannes Tschudi was a protestant councillor and judge in Schwanden. He was married to Maria Sontag, who probably came from the Great Walser Valley in Vorarlberg. He undertook great journeys.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE09 / Glarus Tschudi #120 / GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #2 Benziger, page 164 / XIII / 4652

 Tschudi ¹	Rudolf Tschudi	
	Councillor 1614, judge of five in 1602, Governor 1629 and Landammann 1631-1634	
	*	1566
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	1535 with Sara Egli
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
†		
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Johann Rudolf Tschudi was judge of five in 1602, 1614 councillor in Schwanden, 1620 on the annual account in Baden, 1622 envoy to Baden and from 1631-1634 landammann. In 1631 he helped to draw up the choir statutes and then also became a choir judge.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #6 Trümpy chronicle, pages 341 and 345

 Tschudi ¹	Rudolf Tschudi	
	Tagwenvogt and churchwarden in Schwanden	
	*	11.07.1605
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	02.03.1647 with Elsbeth Stüssi
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
†		
18.03.1679		
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Rudolf Tschudi was Tagwenvogt and churchwarden in Schwanden. He lived in Höschetli and was married to Elsbeth Stüssi von Linthal.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #20 Trümpy chronicle, pages 341 and 345

7. great-grandfather

27th Generation

	Tobias Tschudi	
	Master turner	
	*	25.02.1652
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	25.11.1673 with Barbara Bühler
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
†	25.02.1713	
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Tobias Tschudi was master turner in Schwanden and married to Barbara Bühler von Schwanden. A turner produces mainly handcrafted or technical turned and milled parts from wood.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #34

6. great-grandfather

28th Generation

	Johann Rudolf Tschudi	
	*	25.01.1680
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	02.11.1709 with Salome Fluri
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	†	17.06.1738
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Tobias Tschudi was married to Salome Fluri von Schwanden.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #73

5. great-grandfather

29th Generation

	Tobias Tschudi	
	Cotton Wadding merchant in Schwanden	
	*	18.07.1710
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	01.11.1737 with Elsbeth Hefti
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
†	17.06.1738	
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Tobias Tschudi was a cotton wadding merchant in the Oberdorf in Schwanden and his first marriage was to Elsbeth Hefti von Schwanden.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Tschudi #114

4. great-grandmother

30th Generation

	Salome Tschudi	
	*	02.07.1745
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	oo	25.07.1773 with Mathias Wild
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	
	†	02.07.1779
Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland		

Biography	Salome Tschudi was the fifth child of Tobias Tschudi, the cotton wadding merchant and married Mathias Wild from Schwanden in a second marriage. She died shortly after giving birth to twins.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Wild #81 / 90

3. great-grandfather

31st Generation

	Rudolf Wild	
	*	22.07.1778
		Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland
	oo	02.05.1809 with Veronika Leuzinger
		Mollis, Glarus, Switzerland
	†	02.05.1835
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	

Biography	Rudolf Wild was married to Veronika Leuzinger from Mollis. The wedding took place in Mollis and the couple also lived in Mollis for the first years before they moved to Schwanden.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Wild #120

2nd great-grandfather

32nd Generation

	Mathias Wild	
	textile printer	
	*	25.10.1818
		Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland
	oo	09.09.1845 with Verena Schärer
		Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland
†	31.01.1872	
	Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland	

Biography	Mathias Wild, like many other textile printers in Glarus, worked in a textile factory and was married to Verena Schärer from Schwanden.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE24 / Schwanden Wild #168

Great-grandmother

33rd Generation

	Verena Wild	
	*	12.03.1852
		Schwanden, Glarus, Switzerland
	oo	02.07.1874 with Fridolin Wild
		Mitlödi, Glarus, Switzerland
	†	30.01.1931
	Albisrieden, Zurich, Switzerland	

Biography	Veronika Wild from Schwanden was the third child of Mathias Wild and Verena Schärer and married the fieldworker, timber merchant and Tagwenvogt Fridolin Wild from Mitlödi.
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE17 / Mitlödi Wild 135

Grandfather

34th Generation

	Fritz Wild	
	Construction engineer ETH	
	*	29.10.1899
		Mitlödi, Glarus, Switzerland
	oo	11.05.1925 with Maria Elisa Nussberger
		Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
†	26.09.1976	
	Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland	

Biography	Fritz Wild was born on October 29, 1899, the youngest of four children and attended the elementary schools in Mitlödi/GL. His father died when he was not yet 19 years old and he was especially raised by his sister Verena, who was 13 years older. After graduating from the cantonal school, he began to study civil engineering at the ETH in Zurich. Fritz Wild initially worked for a construction company in Germany, where he was responsible in particular for the planning and construction of bridges in Germany, which were destroyed by the war. Afterwards he worked for Schächli Bauunternehmungen in Zurich, where he planned in particular the construction of overhead power lines.
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	<p>Through his friend Albert Nussberger, who was studying chemistry at the ETH at the same time, he got to know his sister Maria. After completing his studies, Fritz Wild married Maria Elisa Nussberger on May 11, 1925, and their only son Fritz Wild was born on April 15, 1929. Three years after his birth, the marriage was divorced on April 29, 1932, and Maria moved with the 3-year-old Fritz to her parents in Sent/GR. On February 17, 1945, Fritz Wild married Frieda Hofer in Zurich. This marriage remained childless.</p> <p>After the death of his second wife in 1970, Fritz Wild devoted himself in particular to his two hobbies, stamp collecting and the breeding of cacti and succulents. For the breeding of cacti and succulents he built his own greenhouse in front of his house at the Ackersteinstrasse in Höngg/ZH.</p> <p>Fritz Wild died of heart failure on September 26, 1976, behind the wheel of his car in front of the house at Ackersteinstrasse 114 in Zurich.</p>
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE17 / Mitlödi Wild 166

Father

35th Generation

	Fritz Wild	
*		
	Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland	
oo		with Solange Pierre
	Basel, Basel-City, Switzerland	
†		

Biography	
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE17 / Mitlödi Wild 81

Myself

36th Generation

	Patrick Albert Wild	
*		
	Basel, Basel-City, Switzerland	
oo		with Regula Esther Wild
	Pfeffingen, Baselland, Switzerland	
†		

Biography	
Sources	Kubly-Müller GE17 / Mitlödi Wild 81