# Who Was Baby Buehlow?

In the summer of 1878, Wilhelm Boldewahn fathered a child So who was Wilhelmine "Minnie" Buelow and what happened to the child after 1878? 'Minnies' known to be living in the area in 1878

- 1. Minnie Buehlow born 1862 in Wisconsin, lived in Nekemi, WI (Oshkosh)
- 2. A Wilhelmine Buehlow married an William Fredierich Arndt in Oshkosh in 1866
- 3. A Wilhelmine Henr(ietta) Fredericke Bulow was born Jan 1863 in Oshkosh
- 4. A Marie Henr(ietta) Wilhelmine Bulow was born July 1863 in Oshkosh
- 5. A Maria Henriette Wilhelmine Bûlow born Sept 1863
- 6. There is one older candidate born 1851 in Germany

Which Minnie is the Minnie who gave birth to Baby Buelow?

Could one of the 15-16 year old Minnies have been the mother of Baby Buelow?

Do any DNA matches tie into Wilhelm Boldewahn and Wilhelmine Buelow?

What happened to Minnie Buehlow Taube after she left Oshkosh?

# In the summer of 1878, **Wilhelm Boldewahn** fathered a child

The child's mother was **Wilhelmine Buehlow** and she lived in or near Oshkosh Wisconsin. Wilhelmine's age, her parents, and where her family came from are not known, but Wilhelmine sued Wilhem for support and he was charged with <u>bastardy</u>. Bastardy was often a civil, not a criminal matter and used to determine paternity and secure child support for an illegitimate child. In Wisconsin at the time bastardy was treated as a criminal case. William was bound over for trial in May 1878 (before the birth of the baby) and released pending a \$100 bond. He was tried in September 1878, after the child was born. He pled guilty, refused to provide a surety or bond to pay for the support of the mother and child and he was sentenced to 3 months in jail. After those 3 months he had no further obligation to support the mother or child. No mention of Wilhelmine or the child can be found after these events of 1878.

So who was **Wilhelmine "Minnie" Buelow** and what happened to the child after 1878?

- 1. The first step is to look for any Minnie or Wilhelmine Buehlow who was in Oshkosh Wisconsin in 1878, ages 14-30 (years 1848-1862)
- Search using Minnie, Minna or Wilhelmine
- Search using various spellings of Buehlow
- Exclude any women with the married name of Buehlow

(links below go to either Ancestry.com or Newspapers.com - you will need a subscription to access them).

# 'Minnies' known to be living in the area in 1878

1. Minnie Buehlow - born 1862 in Wisconsin, lived in Nekemi, WI (Oshkosh) to parents Minnie Jahnke and Henry Buehlow according to the 1870 US census records. Her parents were married in Germany and came to the US on or around 1862-63. She would have been 16 at the time of Baby Buehlows birth

This same Minnie Buehlow - born in 1862 in Wisconsin lived in Nekimi, WI (Oshkosh) with parents Minnie Jahnke and William Buehlow in 1880 (Census records show that this is the same family as in 1870). The father's name William may be a second name or a nickname name for Henry as most German families gave their children multiple names. On the census, the town is listed as Vinland (where the Boldewahns later bought a farm) William Buehlow's father John Buehlow age 71 is living with them. He is Minnie's grandfather

By 1900, Minnie Buehlow was no longer living with her parents. (Records from the 1890 Census were destroyed in a fire)

The 1900 Census says that Minnie's parents were married in 1861 in Germany and came to the US in 1862. They may have been from **Baerwalde**, **Kreis Neustettin**, **Pommern** because their oldest daughter **Augusta** is listed on the Baerwalde birth register in 1861, one year before they emigrated to the United States. On that birth register, Augusta's father is **Friedrich Wilhelm Buelow** and her mother is listed as **Wilhelmine Jahnke**.

In <u>1862</u>, two <u>Buehlow families from "Alt Valben" came to the US via Quebec, Canada.</u> The exact relationship between the group is hard to determine. <u>Alt Valben may be Alt Valm, Kreis Neustettin which is next to Baerwalde</u>/Bärwalde district in an area that is now part of Poland. The church records for Alt Valm can be found in the Evangelische Kirche Bärwalde (Kr. Neustettin).

Interestingly, the group listed above the Buehlows on the ship register is the **Abraham** family from **Gruenwalde**, **Kreis Neustettin** which is where the Boldewahn family came from. Gruenwalde is 20 km north east of Alt Valm (a few hours walk)

On the 1862 sailing ship *Emely*, leaving Hamburg, with 286 passengers

Household Members (Name)	Age	Relationship
Johann Bülow	28	
Caroline Bülow	24	Frau (Wife)
Auguste Bülow	9/12	Tochter (Daughter)
Wilhelm Bülow	27	
Wilhelmine Bülow	30	Frau (Wife)
Auguste Bülow	1	Tochter (Daughter)
Christian Bülow	53	Vater (Father)

This Minnie will be referred here as Minnie Buelow 1

Minnie Buelow 1 later goes on to marry Herman F. A. Arndt in 1882 at age 20. On her marriage certificate her name is Withelmine T. A. Bülow and it states she was born in Nekimi, WI. Her father is Wilhelm and her mother is Wilhelmine Janhke

These facts together confirm that **Minnie Buelow 1** was the daughter of Wilhelm Beuhlow and Wilhelmine Janhke and that she was born in Wisconsin and living in Oshkosh at the time of Baby Buehlow's birth. Her parents came from Alt Valm, Baerwalde, Kreis Neustettin.

### 2. A Wilhelmine Buehlow married an William Fredierich Arndt in Oshkosh in 1866

(her age is not given) but her father is listed as **Joh? Buelow, Nekemi, WI** She may be the sister of William Buehlow. She's most likely not a candidate for the baby's birth as the mother in the 1878 newspaper article was unmarried

### 3. A Wilhelmine Henr(ietta) Fredericke Bulow was born Jan 1863 in Oshkosh

to parents **William and Minna (maiden name not listed),** baptized Sept 2 1863. Her godparents were listed as ???**richt** and **Henriette Buelow**. She would have been 15 at the time of the baby's birth. We have no further records about her or her parents.

We will refer to her as Wilhemine Buelow 2

### 4. A Marie Henr(ietta) Wilhelmine Bulow was born July 1863 in Oshkosh

with parents William and Henriette Buelow. She was baptized in August 1863. She would have been 15 at the time of the baby's birth. We have no further records of Maria HW 3

(She will be referred to here as Maria HW 3)

## 5. A Maria Henriette Wilhelmine Bûlow born Sept 1863

in WI to parents William and Henrietta Buehlow. She was baptized December 1863, She would have been 15 at the time of the baby's birth. She was confirmed in Oshkosh on April 23 1876. alongside her older sister Auguste Buehlow who was born on June 10 1862. Her family moved to Minnesota around 1878 and she married Fred Reinke in 1885

"Mrs. Marie Reinke, 87, died Friday at her daughter's home in Rapidan. Mrs. Reinke, the former Marie Buelow, was born Sept. 16, 1863 at Oshkosh, Wis. In Winnebago County. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith by the Rev. Hopps of Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

At the age of 15 years she moved to Good Thunder with her parents. She was united in marriage to Frederick Reinke on March 28, 1885."

She will be referred to here as Maria HW 4

### We now have 4 Candidates

**Minnie Buelow 1** (age 16 at time of Baby Buelow's birth) - she marries Herman Arndt in 1885 in Oshkosh Wisconsin

Wilhemine Buelow 2 (age 15 at time of Baby Buelow's birth) - no further records

Maria HW 3 (age 15 at the time of Baby Buelow's birth) - no further records

Maria HW 4 (age 15 at the time of Baby Buelow's birth) - moved to Minnesota on or after 1878

### 6. There is one older candidate born 1851 in Germany

Wilhelmine Buehlow age 27 from Germany

To trace this older Wilhelmine, we need to backtrack from her death

A Minnie Buelow died of suicide in 1897 in Streator, III. Her obit lists her as being born March 22, 1851 in Baerwalde, Kreis Neustettin Germany (no record of her birth found) and coming to the US in 1875 (one ship manifest shows a Wilhelmine Buelow, single, arriving in 1874) to live with relatives in Oshkosh (no record). She moves to Colorado in 1882 and marries Henry Taube (no record) and they move to Streator ILL around after 1884 (no record) (all of this information comes from the newspaper obituary and has not been validated)

According to the newspaper article, she gives birth to **Mary Buelow ca. 1883** (no record, her birthdate comes from her mother's obituary). An older son named <u>William was born around 1884 in Cripple Creek Colorado</u> (the newspaper lists his age as 6 years, undercounting his age by 8 years. He was 13 according to his baptismal record). Minnie then had a son **Albert Henry Taube** in Illinois in 1892 (<u>Illinois Social Security record lists mother as Minnie Bielow</u>, location Streator, ILL). The obituary lists 2 other unnamed children in Minnie Buelow Taube's 1897 obituary. They're presumably dead). <u>An earlier newspaper report shows Minnie lost a baby girl Minnie 18 months old on Sept 3 1891. An Illinois death record confirms this)</u>

Minnie's daughter **Mary R Buelow** married **William Riede** in Oshkosh Wisconsin in 1900. Her marriage license lists her parents name as **Henry Buelow** and **Wilhelmine Buelow** and her birth location as **Wisconsin** (not Colorado or Illinois). Interestingly, on the 1900 Census she is living with her husband William "Reedy" at 205 Oregon Street, but she is listed under her maiden name "Mary R. Buelow". By the 1920s the family name had been corrected to Riedi in city directories.

Mary R Buelow's descendants are DNA matches to the Boldewahn family. When Mary Buehlow died in 1965 they listed her birth year as 1878, birth location as Steator, ILL and Albert Taube as her "step brother" (obit). It does not list her parents.

She will be referred to here as Minnie B Taube 5

## Can we find a record of the mother Minnie B Taube 5's birth in Germany?:

Unfortunately, the Baerwalde birth records for the years 1850-1855 are missing.

<u>There are a few Minna/Minnie/Wilhelmine born in the 1850s in Baerwalde, Kreis Neustettin</u>-most around 1857 which would be be too late to match her

There are confirmation records for the village in the early 1860s (which is when children born in the early 1850s would have been confirmed) but they have not been indexed. There are several Buelow children confirmed In the 1860s with birth years in the 1850s who lived in Alt Valm but their names and genders are difficult to make out.

# Which Minnie is the Minnie who gave birth to Baby Buelow?

We have 4 Minnies all aged 15-16. And one Minnie age 27

Possibility: Mary R Buelow's (age 27) parents were not Henry and Minnie Taube, but Minnie Buelow Taube and William Boldewahn.

If we go by **Mary R Buelow's obit**, she would have been the Buelow relative who came to Oshskosh to live with relatives, possibly Wilhelm and Wilhelmine Buehlow in the 1870s. She would have been 27 years old at the time of the baby's birth.

Factors in favor of Mary R Buelow being the mother of Baby Buelow and of Baby Buelow being Mary R. Buelow:

- The obituary timeline for **Mary R Buelow** being in Oshkosh matches the baby's birthday.
- Multiple DNA matches between descendants of the Boldewahn family and her daughter Mary's descendants.
- Her daughter Mary lists Henry Buelow and Wilhelmine Buelow as her parents when she marries in 1900. There was a Henry and Wilhelmine Buelow living in Oshkosh at the time, however their ages were much older. So much older that if they were Mary's parents, the biological mother would have been 47 at the time of Mary's birth. There is no record of any birth to the couple and none of the Census records show a Mary living with them.
- If Mary R Buelow really was Henry Taube's daughter, she would have listed Henry
  Taube and Wilhelmine Buelow as her birth parents on her marriage certificate. Instead
  she listed a Henry Buehlow. If Henry Taube was her step-father, it may have been easier
  to swap the Taube name out for Buehlow to present her mother as married at the time of
  Mary's birth
- Mary R Buelow's birthdate and birth month in her obit (July 1878) matches the birthdate of Baby Buehlow (summer 1878)
- Mary and Henry Taube's older son William was born in Cripple Creek, Colorado in 1884 according to his death certificate and all other government paperwork. He was baptized in Oshkosh on May 3 1885. His baptism record indicates he was born on Nov 3 1884 in Colorado. This implies that after Mary and William were born, the Taube family stopped in Oshkosh, evidencing the family had ties to the Oshkosh area
- In a later newspaper article, Mary is living in Oshkosh in the 1890s. In 1900 she married William Riede in 1900 Oshkosh Wisconsin.

#### **Against**

- Birth years of daughter Mary listed in her mother's 1897 obit do not fit (our records show Baby Buelow was born in 1878 and the obit claims Mary was born 1883. However the obit also miscalculated the age of her brother William, saying he was 6 years instead of 13)
- On her marriage certificate, Mary Buehlow does not list her mother's birthplace as Germany but as Wisconsin. The 1897 newspaper article states her mother Minnie Buehlow Taube was born in 1851 in Baerwalde, Germany
- In Mary's obit, **Albert** is not listed as Mary's half- brother but as her step brother.

The issue with newspaper articles: Newspaper areas are unreliable, names and dates are often inaccurate

The newspaper obituary stated that Mary discovered her mother's body in the basement and that she was 14. However, Mary would have been 19 years old if she was born in 1878.

A short time after her mother died, the newspaper reported that Mary Taube, who had come to Streator Illinois due to her mother's death, was returning to Oshkosh. This implies that Mary was not present when her mother died. It then stated that Mary would be returning back to her "home" in Oshkosh, also implying that she did not live with her parents. It is possible that Mary was living with her Oshkosh relatives in the 1890s and had been asked to come to be with her mother during her increasingly severe mental illness and was present when her mother died.

# Could one of the 15-16 year old Minnies have been the mother of Baby Buelow?

Yes.

However, 2 of the Wilhelmines disappear from the records.

We have no DNA matches to the descendants of the Wilhelmine who moved to Minnesota in the year 1878, the year Baby Buelow was born. It is possible the baby did not travel with her or if it did, it did not survive - in which case there would be no DNA matches with the Minnesota families

The second Minnie stayed in Oshkosh and married into the Arndt family. We have no DNA matches to her children or grandchildren. Again, Baby Buelow may have been put up for adoption or died - in which case there would be no DNA matches with the Arndt family name

The only confirmed DNA matches are with descendants of Mary R Buelow.

# Do any DNA matches tie Mary R Buelow's descendants into Wilhelm Boldewahn?

To do this we have to use **DNA matching, where we measure the number of centimorgans** (cm) (number of shared DNA fragments) and look at the data ranges. If you get half of your DNA from one parent you receive 3700 cm (or 50%). A brother and sister share 2200 cm (or 25%). As we move generations further and further down the centuries, the number of centimorgan matches grows smaller. These matches can still be used to pinpoint connections, especially if the DNA match has a family tree where you can see how many generations have passed.

For the 4 young Minnies, we have no known DNA matches to the Boldewahn family

However, there are two DNA matches to the Minnie Buehlow who was born in Germany in 1851. Those DNA matches are through her daughter, Mary Buelow.

The key to this next part is to find a connection to Mary R Buehlow to see if she is the daughter of Wihlem Boldewahn and Wilhelmine Buehlow. To do this, we need to look for DNA matches of her descendants with family trees. In order for there to be a connection with Wilhelm Boldreahn, there must be both a DNA and family tree match with one of Mary's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mary's husband's name was Riedi/Riede/Reedy. So we look for DNA connections to her 9 children or their descendants:

Mary and William Riedi children:

John William Reidi 1900–1957

Marion Mary Elizabeth Riedi Babler 1901–1987

William George Reidi 1903–1988

Florence Wilhelmina Reedy Riedi 1905–1907

Frank Mauritz Reidi 1908–

Carl Reidi 1909–1965 Lawrence Wenzel Riedi 1912–1985

Margaret Ann Reidi 1914–1996

## Harold Joseph Riedi 1918–2009



#### The first Riedi DNA match is 79 CM

If this match and my parent share the same ancestor (Wilhelm Boldewahn), then here are the possible connections

For my parent: Wilhelm is their grandfather

Person 79 CM, the match could be either

- 3rd cousin
- 2nd cousin 2x removed
- Half 2nd cousin 1x removed
- Half 1st cousin 3x removed
- 2nd cousin 1x removed
- Half 2nd cousin
- 1st cousin 3x removed
- Half 1st cousin 2x removed

(these combinations cover 65% of the possible combinations)

This family tree for this match, shows the possible connections between my parent and Person 79 cm

Person 79 cm—> Parent —> **Harold Riedi**— Mary Buehlow (married Riedi) —-> Wilhelm Boldewahn = **Half 1st cousin 2x removed** 

Person 79 cm also has a shared DNA match with one of the Schoblaski children. **Henriette Boldewahn** was Wilhelm Bodewahn's sister who came to Oshkosh and married Johann Schoblaski.

The second Riedi match is Person 68 CM to my parent

Person 68 CM could be either

- 3rd cousin
- 2nd cousin 2x removed
- Half 2nd cousin 1x removed
- Half 1st cousin 3x removed
- 2nd cousin 1x removed
- Half 2nd cousin
- 1st cousin 3x removed
- Half 1st cousin 2x removed

(these combinations cover 65% of possible combinations)

A second family tree shows this possible connection: Person 68 cm ———> Parent — Marion Riedi———> Mary Buehlow (married Riedi) ——> Wilhelm Boldewahn = Half 1st cousin 2x

This indicates that Mary R Buehlow (married Riedi) could have been the daughter of Wilhelm Boldewahn and Wilmeinine Buelow

# What happened to Minnie Buehlow Taube after she left Oshkosh?

**1882** - Minnie moves to Colorado, meets Henry Taube, a recent immigrant from Switzerland, they marry

1884 Minnie and Henry Taube have William in Cripple Creek, Colorado

- **1885** They are in Oshkosh, WI where William is baptized.
- **1885-1891** They settle in Streator, Illinois. At some point they move to 1008 South Bloomington.
- 1890 Baby girl Minnie Taube is born
- 1891 Sept 3, Baby Minnie Taube dies at age 16 months
- **1891 or 1892 -** according to a later newspaper, Minnie began experiencing "mental unbalance".
- 1892 son Albert is born
- <u>1894</u> Minnie was reported to suffer from a large tumor growing on her tongue. Her husband Henry Taube decided to take her to Chicago to have it removed, but a local doctor persuaded him to stay and allow him to remove it surgically. She is able to walk home after the surgery
- <u>1896 March 3</u> she and her husband go to Chicago to remove a cancer which had caused "throat trouble"
- 1896 March 20. Minnie was reported to have been in hospital in Chicago for removal of a cancer. Mr Henry Traube received a telegram saying she was not doing well and had 'lost her reason' and found her in 'deplorable condition' and brought her home.
- <u>1896 April 17</u> Minnie is judged to be insane and is taken to Kankakee, Illinois insane asylum. Cause of insanity was listed as the result of the cancer operation. In a later newspaper report, she was reported to have jumped into a well prior to her being committed
- 1897 Jan 22 Minnie walks home from the Kankakee asylum (52 miles, 20+ hr walk) in the middle of winter and declares herself well. Newspaper says she seems to be able to talk rationally and appears sane but will need to go before a board of inquiry.

### 1897 - February - June

A later newspaper article states that during this period, Minnie makes multiple attempts to kill herself, daughter Mary is reportedly present and prevents her mother from dying

- <u>1897 June 1- June 16</u> newspaper reports that Minnie makes numerous attempts to kill herself by hanging and drinking poison. Her daughter Mary prevents them and the family pastor visits to talk to her mother
- <u>1897 June 17 Minnie kills herself</u> the newspaper reports her body was found by her 14 year old daughter Mary

### 1897 Minnie Buelow Taube is buried in Streator, IL

- <u>1897 July 3 1897</u> Henry Taube announces he plans to place his two sons [Albert age 6 and William age 13] into an orphanage in Muscatine, Iowa
- <u>1897 July</u>- newspaper article states that Mary Taube who was "called here due to the death of her mother" has left Streator, Illinois and returned home to Oshkosh. This contradicts earlier newspaper reports that Mary was already in Illinois when she found her mother dead.
- **1898 Jan -** Henry Taube remarries to Mary Bauhofer 6 months after his wife's death. She is from Switzerland and recently arrived in the US
- **1900** Now in Oshkosh, age 22, daughter Mary marries William Riedi from Iowa. She is 8 months pregnant. They settle in Oshkosh and go on to have 9 children
- <u>1903 May 22</u> Henry Taube attacks his second wife Mary Bauhofer and drives her into the street. She refuses to press charges
- **1905 -** son Albert is still in the Muscatine, Iowa orphanage he is 13 years old. By this time William is over 18 and out of the orphanage
- 1908 July 06 Henry Taube is listed in the Streator, Illinois newspaper tax assessment, \$10
- 1909 Sept 27 William Taube marries Loretta Mae Bussar
- 1911 Henry Taube has an illness (attack of paralysis), can no longer do hard labor
- 1911 Loretta leaves William and moves to St Joseph MO
- 1912 July 19 William is arrested for adultery he is in the middle of a divorce and his wife left him to return to Missouri. He shows up at his father's house in Streator ILL with a woman from Quincy. His step-mother reports him to the police when he refuses to leave. He pays a fine and is released
- 1912 Nov 7 William Taube and Loretta Bussar are granted divorce
- **1913 Nov 6 -**William marries Marion Campbell. They later have 2 children Gilbert (1916) and Marion (1920). They live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 1916 March 1- Harry Taube Seeks election as tax collector in Streator, Illinois and wins
- **1916 Sep 2** Son Albert marries Ella P Beyrow and they go on to have 3 children. They live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

- 1917 William Taube and Marion move to Indiana
- 1922 Wiliam Riede, Mary Buehlow Taube's husband dies in Oshkosh, WI
- **1925 Dec 27-** Henry Taube dies in Streator, La Salle, Illinois. The night before he sets his house on fire trying to use a flame to thaw out a frozen pipe. The newspaper states he dies of a lingering/lengthy illness and the article contains numerous inaccuracies.
- 1940 Marion Campbell, William's wife dies.
- 1946 William remaries to Sarah M. Gilleo
- 1947 William dies in Indiana at age 73
- **1965** Mary Buehlow Riedi dies in Oshkosh, WI at age 87. She is survived by her many children and her "step-brother" Albert
- 11 October 1967 Her brother Albert dies in Milwaukee at age 70