

Wulf Family

First Wulfs came to Russia among those invited by Catherine the Great. Most of them were farmers. My great grandfather Rudolph Edward Karlovich Wulf and his wife Catherine Jakovlevna Weber had 12 children, 8 of them survived: Theodor, Leopold, Rudolph, Robert, Alexander, Bertha, Olga, Minna.

My grandfather Rudolph Edward Wulf was born on 28 August 1868 in Simbirsk (Ulyanovsk). His parents were farmers- entrepreneurs. His father Karl had a wine store and his mother was a gardener at a large estate. My great grandfather had brother Alexander who was a mechanic at a steam boat Vera that sailed on the Volga. Once the boat caught fire and this accident was reflected in a picture by Jacob Weber, my great grandmother's brother. My great grandfather was born in Tarlykovka of Saratov gubernia, later he was a teacher at the village school. His three daughters also became teachers. In 1912 Rudolph Wulf worked at a teacher training school in Rovnoe. At the end of the 1930s he was teaching German at Saratov Law School and was the head of Foreign Languages department. He was the author of several textbooks that were illustrated by Jacob Weber. Catherine Weber died in 1933 and in 1935 Rudolph Wulf married Bertha Phillipovna Gruenemaier. Rudolph Wulf died in March 1940; Bertha died in Siberia where she was deported in 1941. She had four children: Vitya, Volya, Lelya, Olga.

My great grandmother Catherine Weber was born in 1874. Her brother, Jacob Weber, was a famous artist. When she was 19 years old she married Rudolph Wulf. Catherine Weber was a very kind woman, she died in 1933 from typhoid.

The older daughter of Rudolph Wulf and Catherine Weber, Bertha, was born in 1895 and died in 1958. She married Georg Fries from Solotoe on the Volga. They had 3 children: Victor, Waldemar and Olga. Georg was an excellent agronomist. The Fries family was deported to Siberia at the beginning of WWII and the oldest son Victor was sent to Trudarmy. He survived, got married and had two children, Kseniya and Alexander. Victor died in 1998. His brother Waldemar moved with his family, wife Irina and daughters Olga and Marina, to Germany. Olga married a German and had daughter Anna. Marina moved to Germany with her Russian husband, but later they got divorce. Olga Fries was single, also moved to Germany and died there. Bertha died in 1958, Georg – in the 1960s.

Theodor, the second child of Rudolph and Catherine (1896 – 1943) had a talent for music, graduated from Pokrovsk gymnasium and then agricultural college. He went to teach at the same college and married Natalia Skripkina who worked at the same college as a laboratory assistant. They had two sons, Alexander, my father, and Valentin. In 1941 the family was sent to Siberia, and Theodor died there from tuberculosis. Alexander who was 13 years old managed to flee and get to Saratov to his grandfather Skripkin. After the war Alexander and Valentin