

Spletzer Family



The Spletzer name came to Frankenmuth with Edgar Robert Spletzer (Bob) in 1971. Bob had just graduated from Concordia Teachers College at River Forest, Illinois, with a Bachelors degree. St. Lorenz Lutheran School needed a fifth grade teacher who would work with the youth of the congregation and help with the sports program.

In 1973, Bob resigned from this teaching position, and from then on, his career took some interesting twists and turns.

The first turn came when Bob began a painting business. The talent he used in high school and college to help pay for his education, proved to be valuable once again. In addition, he was musically inclined and played in Marv Herzog's Bavarian Polka Band for six years. During this time, the band toured the United States four times, traveled to Hawaii, toured Europe, cruised the Caribbean and recorded six albums.

From 1979 to 1986, Bob played with the Harold Mitas Orchestra, again touring the United States, the Caribbean, and recording two more albums. During these band years, Bob worked as a Polka D.J. for ten years on WKCQ, and also performed as a solo artist.

From 1982 to 1988, Bob owned and operated the Dead Creek Saloon on the southern outskirts of Frankenmuth.

Edgar Robert's father, Edgar, was born in 1920 and was an administrator in various Lutheran elementary schools. His grandfather, Adolph, and his grandmother, Emilie nee Nicolai, came from Dombee in northern Germany, arriving in Chicago in 1910.

Adolph was a baker by trade. His grandparents on his mother's side were Herman and Marie Kulmann Thalman.

Edgar Robert Spletzer was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin on April 20, 1948 to Edgar and Elizabeth nee Thalman. Bob was baptized on Mother's Day of 1948 at Hilbert, Wisconsin. He was confirmed at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights, Illinois on April 15, 1962.

On October 25, 1986 he married Carla Jean Bronner at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. Carla is the daughter of Wally and Irene Bronner, owners of Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland. After a couple years, Bob's career took another turn. In 1988, he joined the Bronner family business as Human Resource Manager and Building Coordinator.

As of the year 2006, Bob and Carla reside in Frankenmuth with their three sons: Ryan born March 6, 1990; Paul born December 3, 1991; and Gregory born September 29, 1994.

Bob served as chairman of the St. Lorenz Board of youth, chairman of the Board of Elders, former Deacon and member of the Church Council. Bob also served as chairman of the Frankenmuth Convention and Visitor's Bureau Board of Directors, and as chairman of the Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
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