

# Our Family News Letter

Issue 50

Greendale, Wisconsin

September, 2005

## Funeral Card for Maria Christina Henningfeld Found.

Maria Christina Dahlman, wife of Johann Theodor Henningfeld, died in Milwaukee on May 15, 1905. What makes this story unusual is that I didn't know when she died but I found out when a member of the Milwaukee Personal Ancestral File Users Group (MPAFUG), which I head up, sent me a photo image of her funeral card. When I asked where he found the card he said that it



was stuck in a memorial prayer book from the member's great grand uncle, Anton Porth. The club member was attending a Porth family reunion in northern Wisconsin at the time.

A biography of Johann Theodor Henningfeld gives some background information on the family.

“BIOGRAPHY: Johann Theodor Henningfeld arrived in America on 30 July 1845. He was married at Burlington, Wisconsin on 3 May, 1848. Marriage information is from St. Sebastian's Catholic Church records at Burlington. The marriage record also indicates that Maria Christina Dahlman was the widow of Louis Theule.

An 1846 church census for St. Mary's Burlington, Wisconsin listed him as being from Olfen, District of Ludinghausen. His age was listed at 29 years in 1846. In 1850 the family was listed with a son Henry, living at Burlington Township. His occupation was listed as a farmer with a value of property as \$400. In 1860 the family was living at Rochester, Racine County, Wisconsin. His occupation was listed as a farmer and the value of his land was \$1,500 while his personal estate was valued at \$200. The family was located in the 1870 census at Burlington, Wisconsin and lists all of the children except John. The family name was spelled HENNIFELD in the 1870 US Census. He died at the age of 59 and his wife moved to Milwaukee where she lived with her brother Anthony Dahlman for the next

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Our Family News Letter is published quarterly and is distributed without charge. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated. My home web page address is <http://www.execpc.com/~bheck/heck.html>

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30 years.”

Johann Theodor Henningfeld was the brother of our ancestor, and my great great grandfather, Franz Henningfeld. The Henningfeld family came over from Olfen and Vinum, Germany in 1845 and 1847, and settled in Racine County, Wisconsin in the Waterford, and Burlington area.

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Issue of Our Family News Letter

This issue of *Our Family News Letter* marks a milestone of sorts. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive issue. I started the newsletter in June, 1993, over 12 years ago. The newsletter was and still is intended to share information with the members – of our family and to instill pride in our family heritage.

*Our Family News Letter* is sent out for free every three months to over 60 family members. Hundreds of old photographs have been included within the pages of the newsletter. With this issue we mark 400 pages of family history, news, and announcements. The newsletter has witnessed the passing of quite a few of our relatives, supporters and friends of *Our Family News Letter* over the years.

Many readers of *Our Family News Letter* have encouraged me to continue writing and publishing it. Some have helped out by sending me photos of their branch of the family or by writing short stories about their family. Others have helped out financially by “slipping” me a check or cash to help cover the costs of the newsletter and postage to mail it out. It costs \$188.00 per year for me to print and mail the newsletter to you. I do it because I want to share our history with all of my “Cousins.”

I would like to give special thanks to those who have contributed financially recently to keep this newsletter going. My thanks go to **Shirley Heck**,

**Cheryl Ann Heck, Jeff & Sue Miller, Howard & Ann Heck, Dale & Corinne Wise, Philip Heck, Richard & Gladys LaBerge, Ralph Heck, Dave & Barbara Schneider, and Dick & Cel Heck.**

In that first issue of *Our Family News Letter* you could find articles about our 27<sup>th</sup> annual family picnic and one of the earliest picnics held at Brown’s Lake, Burlington, Wisconsin in 1948. In July, 2005, we gathered together again to celebrate a family tradition only this time it was the 39<sup>th</sup> annual family picnic.

Other articles that appeared in the first issue include “A Family History Lesson” which gave information about the Heck family starting with Johann Heck and his wife Anna Barbara Schaefer. Johann and Anna Barbara emigrated to America in 1852 with their four young children.

Another story in that first issue was about the search that Howard Heck from Minneapolis and I undertook to discover the ancestral home of the Heck family. We found it after a lot of searching of records to be Alendorf, Lois Aachen, Bizerk Kreis Schleiden, Prussia. That means Alendorf, near Aachen, in the district of Schleiden, in Germany. We actually found the location of the village by searching the marriage record of my great grandfather, Henry Heck at the County Court House, at Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Howard and Ann Heck were the first members of the Heck family to visit Alendorf since 1852. Don & Sharon Heck and Gloria and I visited Alendorf in 1989. We were the second Heck family to visit.

The first newsletter contained a story about the Johann Heck family’s trip from Alendorf through New York and on to Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. It continued with the migration of the family along with eight other Alendorf area families to Swan Lake, Minnesota near New Ulm. The article continued with the Sioux

Indian uprising of 1862, which drove the Heck family back to Wisconsin. The Civil War broke out that year and three of the sons of Johann Heck enlisted in the Union Army.

In 1867, Johann moved back to the Swan Lake area where he remained for the rest of his life. He died in 1885.

Following the Civil War, part of the Heck family lived in Wisconsin, part lived in Minnesota, and part lived in Canada. Today our branches cover most of the United States and Canada. We have family from Wisconsin to Texas and from Rhode Island to California and in the Alberta area of Canada. What a grand family we have.

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## From the Photo Album...



PJ Landrum with her boyfriend, Derek at the Prom, 2005. PJ, also known as Pamela Joan, is the daughter of Cindy Heck Landrum from South Carolina. PJ is just starting her senior year at high school.

## Gary & Lee Heck Attend “The Open” at St. Andrews in Scotland

Tiger Woods was especially happy this year at “The Open” held at Saint Andrews, in Scotland. He had two of his biggest fans cheering him on. Gary Heck and his daughter, Lee Heck flew over

to Scotland just to see Tiger and to enjoy a little golf themselves.



*Gary & Lee Heck standing at Saint Andrews Golf Course in Scotland in 2005.*



*Gary Heck, totally lost in Scotland, trying to find his way out of a farmer’s field.*

Gary and Lee rented a car for their drive in Scotland. Lee stated that her dad complained a lot about the car having the steering wheel on the wrong side of the car. Lee stated that her dad got lost many times but like most typical males, refused to stop and ask for directions. (Why would a guy want to stop and ask for directions? Men never get lost. They’re just taking the scenic route.) Gary mentioned that the picture above was of him driving on a two-lane road. He said

that when they encountered another car they had one heck of a time getting around each other. He mentioned that every time they came to a hill or curve they would slow down to about 10 miles per hour.

We understand that Gary really got into the Bagpiper thing over there as is evidenced by the following picture of him in a kilt and bagpipe in hand. Cute, Gary, really cute.



***Gary Heck shown trying his hand at the bagpipes while wearing a kilt. (Note: That really isn't Gary. I did some photo magic and cloned his face onto the body of a bagpiper. Since Gary can't read small print, he'll never know it.)***

Gary and Lee really had a great time in Scotland. They had a chance to golf at the Windyhill Golf Course, and to visit Edinburgh, the Royal Mile, Saint Margaret's Chapel, and the Hollyrood Castle.

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## Google Earth

For those of you with high a speed internet connection you might want to try a free program called Google Earth.

**Google Earth – Explore, Search and Discover**  
Want to know more about a specific location? Dive right in -- Google Earth combines satellite imagery, maps and the power of Google Search

to put the world's geographic information at your fingertips.

Fly from space to your neighborhood. Type in an address and zoom right in. Search for schools, parks, restaurants, and hotels. Get driving directions. Tilt and rotate the view to see 3D terrain and buildings. Save and share your searches and favorites. Even add your own annotations.

To download the free program go to

<http://www.google.com>

And click on MORE. Scroll down and click on Google Earth and then click on "Get Google Earth (Free Version)."

The program is so detailed that you can see cars clear enough so that you can identify the type and color of car.

If you don't have high speed Internet don't even bother downloading the program. The speed will be so slow that you won't be able to see any of the detail.

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***Brothers Bob & Dick Heck, 2005, in Florida.***



*Dick and Loraine Heck, 2005, in Florida. Note Loraine's T-Shirt: "Heck of a Gal".*

## Castle Gardens Web Site Open

August 1, 2005, was the day that the Castle Gardens web site opened with on-line passenger lists. Castle Garden was the port of entry for New York before Ellis Island. I tried the site and found that it was operational and it is FREE. The site has an index of passengers that can be searched by you. You can enter a first name and a last name or just the last name. Because of the high number of variations in spelling of first names you might want to try just last names. The lists appear to cover the period from 1820 to 1913. I found my great grandmother, "Clara Stratmann" on the site. The Castle Garden list however showed that her last residence was Hattendorf, Germany. All previous records show that she was from Hamm, Germany. I searched the ship's manifest on microfilm and could find no reference to Hattendorf.

If you enter a name like McNulty be sure to enter it also as Mc Nulty as you will get different results. The site does not contain any images of the records. I used Mapquest.com to locate Hattendorf. One is in Hessen, Vogelsbergkreis, Germany and the other is in Niedersachsen, Schaumburg, Germany.

I tried a search for the Henningfeld family but could not find any listed. I then tried a search using Hennigfeld and found three people listed as arriving on July 16, 1845. The three were:

**J. Hennigfeld** age 28 departed Port of Antwerp on board the ship Tremont, destination Wisconsin.

**Elizabeth Hennigfeld** age 31 departed Port of Antwerp on board the ship Tremont, destination Wisconsin

**Francis Henningfeld** age 21 departed Port of Antwerp on board the ship Tremont, destination Wisconsin

The first person was probably **Johann Theodor Henningfeld**. The second was his sister, **Catharina Elizabeth Henningfeld** who married **John Hoffer** in Burlington. The third person is shown as male however I believe that this is actually **Frances Henningfeld**, sister of **Johann Theodor Henningfeld**. She later married **Louis Sanders** at Burlington, Wisconsin. The three were siblings of **Franz Henningfeld** who emigrated to Wisconsin in 1847.

Here is the Castle Garden web address:  
<http://www.castlegarden.org/>

Ellis Island covers the period from 1892 to 1924. In case you have never checked out the Ellis Island site here is their address:  
<http://ellislandrecords.org/>

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## **Julia Burgess LePoidevin** **Found in Nebraska in 1870**

Julia Burgess was the daughter of Benjamin Burgess and Rebecca Chase. She was born in New York State on 15 November 1827. In 1836 she migrated to Wisconsin from Hannibal, New York at the age of eight years old.

It is believed that her mother died possibly while giving birth to Julia in 1827. Julia's father, Benjamin Burgess remarried in about 1828, to Amanda Foster in New York.

On 15 July 1847, Julia Burgess was married to Nicholas LePoidevin by Lewis Bridgeman, a Minister of the Gospel as is recorded in the Racine County vital records Volume 3, page 19.

In 1860, the Nicholas LePoidevin family was living in the town of Somers, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. In 1870, they were living in Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska. Julia was living in Beatrice in 1892 and 1910.

In the 1870 Census for the town of Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska, Julia was listed as 38 years of age, and her husband was 41. Three of her four children were listed; Charles was 22 and was sick with consumption, Louisa was 16 and Emma was 14. Elizabeth, age 19 had married Ezra M. Buswell in 1867 and was living away from her parents.

Birth and death information as well as a listing of all children of Julia was provided by Mr. Gail Richard Quackenbush, 5565 Nakoma Drive, Dallas, TX, 75209, On October 4, 1994. Mr. Quackenbush is a descendant of Benjamin Burgess and Rebecca Chase.

Julia died on 16 September 1911, and is buried at the Evergreen Home Cemetery, Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska. Her husband, Nicholas, died on 18 May 1891 in Gage County, and he is bur-

ied at the Evergreen Home Cemetery, Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska.

Also living in Gage County, Nebraska, were Julia's brother, Nehemiah Burgess and his family. Nehemiah was married to Sophia Ann Woodman.

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### **From Historical Newspapers...**

#### **From The Union Grove Enterprise, Thursday, 22 January 1885:**

"MARRIED Harris-McNulty: Near Kansasville, Wisconsin. January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1885, by John F. Banks, J.P., Mr. John Amos Harris and Miss Josephine McNulty, both of the town of Dover, Wisconsin. Mr. John Harris and his bride are well known in this vicinity and occupy a warm place in the hearts of their many friends. The happy couple left on the morning train for a western tour as far as Burlington. They have our best wishes for the future."

(Josephine McNulty was the daughter of Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess. Josephine McNulty Harris lived in Spooner Township, Washburn Co., WI as shown in the 1900 and 1910 Census. She was the godmother of Robert Steven Heck.)

#### **From The Racine Journal Times, Monday, 23 November 1914:**

"Bridesmaid and Best Man of Wedding 50 Years Ago Attend Anniversary of Event."

"Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Henningfeld of the Village of Waterford left today for Waukesha, where they will assist Mr. and Mrs. John Wurms of that place in celebrating their golden wedding anniversary Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Henningfeld were bridesmaid and best man at the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Wurms at the city of Burlington in this county 50 years ago. Mrs. Wurms is Mr. Henningfeld's sister. A large number of Burlington

and Waterford friends will attend the anniversary.”

(W. F. Henningfeld was William F. Henningfeld and Mrs. Wurms was Caroline Henningfeld, daughter of Franz Henningfeld and Catherine Elizabeth Richter.)

**From The Brown County Journal (Minnesota), Saturday, 28 November 1908:**

“Joseph Heck, aged about 50 years died last Friday at Clements, having been afflicted with cancer of the stomach. The funeral was held from the Swan Lake Catholic church on Tuesday. The deceased was a stepbrother of Mrs. Vincent Brunner, of St. George.”

(Joseph Heck was the son of Johann Heck and Susanna Sebenbrunner Zeren. Mrs. Vincent Brunner was Clara Heck, daughter of Johann Heck and Anna Barbara Schaefer.)

**From The Beloit Daily News (Wisconsin), Wednesday, 30 January 1985:**

"Eva Mae Brady, 91, formerly of 2407 Riverside Drive, died Tuesday afternoon at the Oakwood Acres Adult Home in rural Beloit. She was born on May 16, 1893, in Rockton Township, Illinois, the daughter of Frank and Nellie Chatsey Aspland. She married Joseph Brady on Feb. 3, 1914, in Belvidere, Illinois. He died on Dec 3, 1959. Mrs. Brady was one of the first nurses aides in the Beloit area, working at Beloit Hospital and in private homes. She was an active member of the Red Cross and active in the Blood Bank program. Survivors include one daughter, Dawne (Mrs. Gary Lichte of Beloit; six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren; a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Myra Brady of Rockton; and one sister, Edith Barber of Florida. She was predeceased by one son, Gilbert Brady, her parents and a brother, Frank Aspland. Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Rosman-Uehling-Kinzer Blackhawk

Chapel in South Beloit, with the Rev. Gail Heidtke of St. Paul Lutheran Church officiating. Burial will be in Rockton Cemetery. Friends may call from 10 a.m. until service time on Saturday at the funeral home."

(Eva M. Aspland Brady attended the funeral of Robert S. Heck with her grandmother Elizabeth McNulty Aspland in 1923.)

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## From the Photo Album...

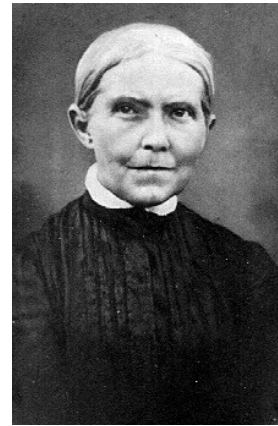


Don Heck in 1961 working at Carvel's Ice Cream Store on Rapids Drive in Racine.

# The Henry Heck and Mary Ann McNulty Family



Henry Heck 1839 - 1920



Mary Ann McNulty 1844 - 1912



James H. 1869 - 1943



Mary Ann 1871 - 1943



John Peter 1874 - 1936



Mathias 1875 - 1923



Elizabeth A. 1877 - 1965



Robert S. 1879 - 1923



Eva Clara 1883 - 1948



Laurence P. 1886 - 1960