

Our Family News Letter

Issue 74

Greendale, Wisconsin

September, 2011

Meet some Sylvester McNulty descendants...

In Issue 73, June, 2011, I wrote about connecting with descendants of Sylvester McNulty.



L-R: Bob Quinlin, Tina Marie Kaczmarzewski, and Bob Heck.

Photo at upper right: Bob Quinlin and Tina Kaczmarzewski with a hand on the tombstone of Patience Burgess McNulty at the cemetery at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. Bob Quinlin is the great-great grandson of Patience Burgess McNulty. Tina is the great-great-great Granddaughter of Patience.

Photo at lower right: Sylvester McNulty and Ellen Loretta Conboy McNulty with their children L-R: Ruth and Mary McNulty. The picture was taken in about 1897.



Sylvester McNulty, the youngest child of Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess, was born in November 1869 at Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. I found Sylvester listed as six months old in the 1870 Census for Dover, Racine County, Wisconsin. His father was listed as Peter McNulty age 55, a Saloon Keeper. Patience, his mother, was listed as 43 years old.

Ten years later in the 1880 Census for Dover, Peter McNulty was listed as 79 years of age and indigent, and Patience was 60 years of age. Indigent is legally defined as a person so poor and needy that he/she cannot provide the necessities of life such as food, clothing, and decent shelter for himself/herself. Sylvester McNulty was found working on a near-by farm and was 11 years old.

The farm was located at the intersection of Highway 75 and Church Road in Dover, Racine County, Wisconsin. This is just East of Saint Mary's Catholic Church and North of Kansasville. The house was located on the North-East corner of the intersection.

Sylvester McNulty was the youngest brother of Mary Ann McNulty, wife of Henry Heck. Mary Ann McNulty was my great grandmother.

Tina, who lives in Indiana, and her Uncle Bob Quinlan, who lives in Chicago, drove up for an all-day visit to Wisconsin in June 2011. I took them on a tour of Racine and Kenosha County and showed them where Sylvester lived and where Patience and Peter McNulty were buried. I also took them to the place where Benjamin Burgess operated a sawmill in 1836 on the Pike River in Kenosha County. We spent a lot of time reviewing pictures and documents that they brought with them and many of those that I had collected over the years.

One of the surprising things that Tina and her Uncle Bob Quinlin found was that Sylvester McNulty was the subject of a Missouri Supreme Court decision. Sylvester and his oldest daughter, Anna McNulty, were taking care of an elderly neighbor for quite some time. As the elderly

neighbor was on his deathbed he decided to change his Last Will and Testament. The elderly neighbor summoned a Court Judge and other neighbors to witness and accept his new Will. In the new Will he left His home, land and property to Sylvester and 75 acres of land to Anna.

While the elderly neighbor didn't have a surviving spouse or children, other relatives filed a suit claiming that Sylvester and his daughter applied excessive influence on him to change his Will. The case went all the way to the State Supreme Court. The Supreme Court decided in favor of Sylvester and Anna.

Tina and her Uncle Bob provided me with the picture of Sylvester shown on the first page of this newsletter.

It was great to finally meet descendants of Sylvester McNulty. I look forward to discovering more information on this branch of our family.



Seated L-R: Ruth, Thomas, Anna, Standing L-R: Sylvia, Lillian, and Kathryn, the children of Sylvester McNulty and Ella Lorreta Conboy.

This newsletter is written and published by **Robert J. Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive, Greendale, WI 53129.**

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A Special Thank You

I would like to take this time to thank all of you who sent in articles, photos and donations to keep this newsletter going. Your kind words and generous financial help have kept this newsletter going for the past 18 years. This issue is number 74. I issue a new newsletter every three months. While many of you have contributed over the years, the following were the donors so far in 2011.

- Cheryl Heck**
- Jim Heck**
- Rick Heck**
- Richard Heck**
- Cel Heck**
- Barb Heck**
- Carlos & Virginia Henningfeld**
- Shirley Heck**
- Don & Sharon Heck**
- Steve and Cara Pfeiffer**

Thank You, Thank You.



Shelbina, Missouri, the hometown of Sylvester McNulty.

NAME: *Heck, Henry* Certificate No. *21301* (S-P. A. L.) *4088+*

Disability No. *173191* ARMY INVALID. *1907 Feb. 10, 1914*

Service: *Pres. G. 19 Chev. Inf.*

INSTITUTION:

| Class | Rate | DATE OF COMMENCEMENT | DATE OF CERTIFICATE | Class | Rate | DATE OF COMMENCEMENT | DATE OF CERTIFICATE |
|------------|-----------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Inc</i> | <i>30</i> | <i>Feb 10 1914</i> | <i>APR 1 1914</i> | <i>Inc</i> | <i>30</i> | <i>Feb 10 1914</i> | <i>APR 1 1914</i> |
| <i>Inc</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>MAY 22 1907</i> | <i>MAY 22 1907</i> | <i>Inc</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>MAY 24 1912</i> | <i>MAY 24 1912</i> |
| <i>Inc</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>21 Feb 1907</i> | <i>29 Apr '10</i> | <i>Inc</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>24 Feb '10</i> | <i>JUN 10 1918</i> |

Transferred from: *MILWAUKEE* Transferred to: *PH 21 1920*

Group: *2730* Remarks: *2730*

NAME: *Henry Heck* Certificate No. *173191*

Remarks: *173191*

| Tr. | Qr. | Day. | Amount. | Tr. | Qr. | Day. | Amount. | Tr. | Qr. | Day. | Amount. | Tr. | Qr. | Day. | Amount. | Tr. | Qr. | Day. | Amount. |
|-----|-----|------|---------|-----|-----|------|---------|-----|-----|------|---------|-----|-----|-------|---------|-----|-----|------|---------|
| 1 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| | 1 | 1/6 | 287 | | 1 | 7 | 45 | | 1 | 4 | 90 | | 1 | 4 | 120 | | 1 | | |
| | 2 | 10 | 36 | | 2 | 5 | 45 | | 2 | 4 | 90 | | 2 | 4 | 120 | | 2 | | |
| | 3 | 4 | 36 | | 3 | 7 | 45 | | 3 | 4 | 90 | | 3 | 4 | 120 | | 3 | | |
| | 4 | 1 | 36 | | 4 | 5 | 45 | | 4 | 4 | 90 | | 4 | 4 | 120 | | 4 | | |
| | 1 | 15 | 36 | | 1 | 5 | 45 | | 1 | 4 | 90 | | 1 | 4 | 120 | | 1 | | |
| | 2 | 10 | 36 | | 2 | 5 | 45 | | 2 | 4 | 90 | | 2 | 4 | 120 | | 2 | | |
| | 3 | 11 | 36 | | 3 | 8 | 45 | | 3 | 4 | 90 | | 3 | GROUP | | | | | |
| | 4 | 9 | 36 | | 4 | 7 | 45 | | 4 | 4 | 90 | | 4 | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 5 | 36 | | 1 | 11 | 45 | | 1 | 4 | 90 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| | 2 | 6 | 36 | | 2 | 4 | | | 2 | 4 | 90 | | 2 | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 12 | 36 | | 3 | 4 | | | 3 | 4 | 90 | | 3 | | | | | | |
| | 4 | 11 | 36 | | 4 | 4 | | | 4 | 4 | 90 | | 4 | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 6 | 36 | | 1 | 4 | 75 | | 1 | 4 | 90 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| | 2 | 5 | 36 | | 2 | 4 | 75 | | 2 | 4 | 90 | | 2 | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 8 | 45 | | 3 | 4 | 90 | | 3 | 4 | 90 | | 3 | | | | | | |
| | 4 | 6 | 45 | | 4 | 4 | 90 | | 4 | 4 | 105 | | 4 | | | | | | |

The document above shows the United States Veterans Administration Pension Payment Card for **Henry Heck**. The record shows that in 1907 he was getting \$12 per month or \$36 per quarter. By 1910 his pension was \$15 per month or \$45 per quarter. In 1913 his pension jumped to \$25 per month or \$75 per quarter. The next jump took place in 1914 when his pension was set at \$30 per month or \$90 per quarter. In 1919 he jumped to \$40 per month or \$120 per quarter. He died in February 1920 and that is where the record ends.

What was life like in 1907?

The average life expectancy in the U.S. was 47 years old. Henry was 68 years old in 1907.

Only 14 percent of the homes in the U.S. had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

A three-minute call from Denver to New York City Cost eleven dollars.

There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S., and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The average wage in the U.S. Was 22 Cents per hour.

The average U.S. Worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

Henry Heck lived on his \$144 per year pension.

Heck Family Celebrates at 2011 Picnic.

July 10, 2011 saw the gathering of the descendants of Robert Steven Heck and Margaret Frederica Henningfeld. Known simply as the "Heck Family Picnic", it was a celebration of 45 years of consecutive family gatherings. This year we had family from Fort Meyers, Florida (Bob & Loraine Heck), White Bear Lake, Minnesota (Bob & Pat Heck Merritt), and Livermore, California (Dave and Mary Kay Heck Hansen).

There were actually more people attending the picnic this year but some had to leave early and some were just hard to round up for the picture. It was a hot day so we had many taking advantage of the huge swimming pool at the Leisure Center.

Bocce ball was lead by Dick Heck in the field at the Leisure Center and a golf tournament was headed up by John Suchla at Shoop Park near the Wind Point Light House. The golfers started out the day with a breakfast at the Douglas Avenue Diner.



Shown above is the 2011 group picture taken at the Leisure Center, near Wind Point in Racine, Wisconsin.

Shown above the group picture is Bob Heck with his first cousin, Mary Kay (Heck) Hansen. Mary Kay and her husband, Dave, were welcomed guests from California at the 2011 Heck Family Picnic.



Mary Kay (Heck) Hansen, Pat (Heck) Merritt and her husband, Bob Merritt 2011.

Meet Ale and Brookie Petersen...

Shown in the picture below are twins, Ale and Brooklyn (Brookie) Petersen with their grandmother, Mary (Heck) Kyburz while their mother, Jennifer (Kyburz) Petersen looks on. Jennifer is married to Adam Petersen.



The twins were born on 27 April 2009. Brookie became ill and was diagnosed with Lymphan-

giomatosis, a rare disease of the Lymph system. She has been hospitalized many times and has had several surgeries.

Ale has been growing up as a normal child but Brookie's progress has been slowed down by her health issues. While Ale walks and runs as a normal two year old, Brookie had not taken her first steps.

Last month Brookie had to have surgery to correct a large hernia problem. The picture at lower left was taken right before her surgery. The surgery went quite well and two days after, Brookie took her first steps. This event was recorded by video camera and it was exciting to watch. The excitement of her parents, grandparents and other relatives were a testimonial about how rare those first steps really were. Disbelief would be the best way to describe the event.

Two days later Brookie was running around the table chasing her sister Ale. This was also captured on a video. One would never believe that two days prior she was taking her first steps. It was really exciting to watch this miracle unfold.

I think a lot of prayers were answered.

Congratulations to Ale, Brookie, and the entire family.



The picture at left is the wedding picture of Alois Heck and Mary Lang taken on 28 May 1907 at West Newton, Nicollet County, Minnesota. Alois was the grandson of Johan Heck and Anna Barbara Schaefer.

Glider flown by Bob Heck ends up in a museum in Germany.



Bergfalker Mu 13E in museum at Wasserkuppe.

In the large photo below is shown the solo glider pilot graduating class of 1961 at Giebelstadt, Germany. Standing at far right is your editor, Bob Heck. Six of us graduated and we are shown with our two pilot instructors.

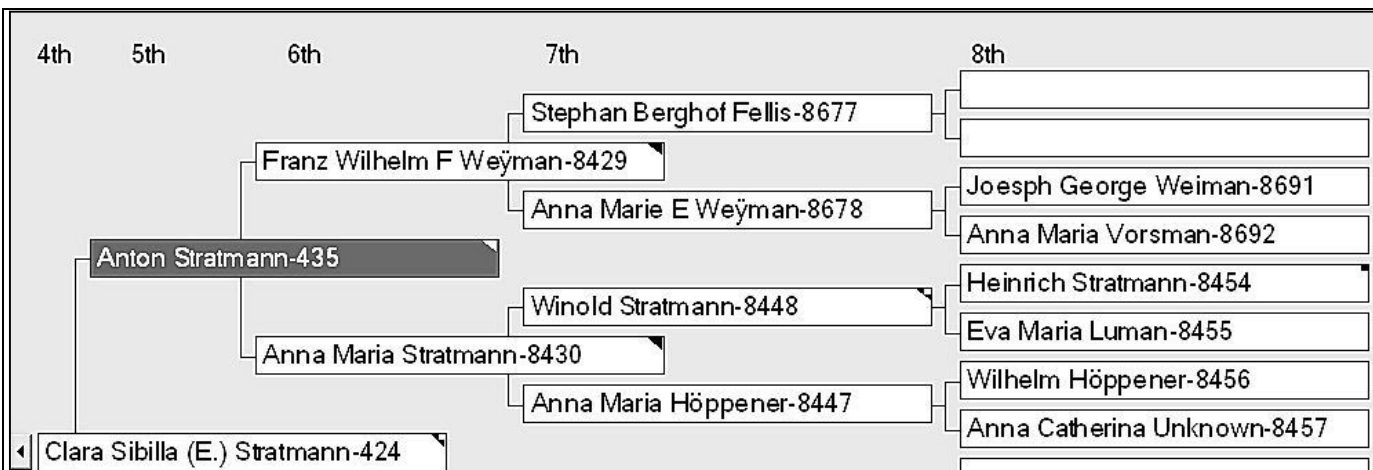
The glider that we used was called a Bergfalker (Mountain Hawk) Mu 13E. Our club, the FlugsportClub Giebelstadt, assembled the glider from a kit. After 30 years of use the glider was repainted and donated to the Deutsches Segelflugmuseum (German Glider Museum) at Wasserkuppe, Germany. Wasserkuppe is located near Gersfeld-Rhon, Germany just north of Wurzburg.

The glider was designed in 1955/1956 and was assembled from a kit at the American Giebelstadt Air Force Base. The German glider club was allowed to use a bombed out building on base provided that it was fixed up. The building became



1961 photo of the solo pilot graduating class at Giebelstadt, Germany.

our clubhouse and was used for meetings and for storage of the glider.



Research Continues for Clara Stratmann Ancestors.

Cheryl Heck, her dad, Bob Heck, and your editor Bob Heck, have been actively working on reading microfilms from Oestinghausen, Germany. The microfilm contains copies of the original Catholic Church records from the village. The records are in Latin so it is a big help to have Cheryl's dad helping us out.

From the pedigree chart you can see Clara at lower left. Her father, Anton Stratmann is shown with his parents, grand parents and great grandparents.

Clara was born in 1847, her father, Anton, in 1813, and her grandfather, Franz Wilhelm Weymann, in 1752. Her great grandfather, Stephan Berghof Fellis, was born in 1726.

Surname confusion?

If you are confused about the surnames, remember that in some areas of Germany, when a couple married, the wife took the name of the husband if they lived on land from his family. If the couple lived on land owned by the wife's family, the husband took the name of the wife.

In Scandinavian countries many families had a farm name added to their name. For example, Gloria's great-great grandfather was Salve Tellefsen Helle where the name Helle was

actually a farm name. Adding a farm name helped identify who the person was. Gloria's great grandfather was named Telef Salveson (son of Salve) but took the name Thomas Sullivan when he lived in Illinois. His sister was shown as Gurn Salvesdatter (daughter of Salve) but took the name Julia Sullivan. His younger brother was born as Eivind Salvesen Helle but he took the name Avin Solvin.

From the Newspapers...

The following article was found in the Rock Valley Bee located in Rock Valley, Sioux County, Iowa, dated 20 July 1945. The subject, Catharina Presik, was the wife of Louis Joseph Henningfeld. Louis, born at Rochester, Wisconsin, was the nephew of Franz Henningfeld.

Mrs. Henningfeld, 89, Succumbs Here After 65 Years in Valley. From Luxembourg in 1880 Lived Here Ever Since.

Mrs Henningfeld, long resident, passed away Tuesday, July 17 after a few days' illness. Enjoying good health until just a few days before her death, Mrs. Henningfeld had passed her eighty-ninth birthday April 25. She lived in Rock Valley for 65 years.

She was born in Luxembourg on April 25, 1856. In 1880, when she was 24, she came to the United States with her two brothers, and took up residence in Rock Valley. On January 4, 1881, she married Louis Henningfeld, and they lived in

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for a month before moving back to take up residence on a farm 2-1/2 miles west of here. Eight children were born to the couple, but four died in infancy. In 1911 the family moved to town and on October 9, 1912, Mr. Henningfeld passed away. Mrs. Henningfeld lived here until her death.

Surviving are four children: Charles, Julius, and Lawrence Henningfeld, and Mrs. Louise Burgers, all of Rock Valley. There are five grandchildren.

Wisconsin Rapids Newspaper, Saturday, 6 July 1940:

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Brott and daughter Mrs. Joe Goodwin and daughter Mary Alice of Seattle, Washington, came Wednesday to the Fred Henningfeld home. Mrs. Brott is a sister of Mr. Henningfeld and this is her first visit here in 36 years.

Henry Henningfeld at Phillips, Price County, Wisconsin.

The following anniversary announcement was in the **Burlington Standard Democrat** on Friday, 10 Feb 1911.

"Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henningfeld celebrated their golden wedding at their home in Phillips, Wis., Thursday, Feb. 2. Some eight years ago they moved from Waterford to Phillips. They were old residents of this vicinity and their marriage half a century ago was performed in the first Catholic Church built in this village. The bride's name was Christina Holland. Their union was blessed with eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, and all are living except one son."

Phillips, Wisconsin Newspaper Thursday, June 6, 1918:

Henry Henningfeld, Sr. Last Thursday afternoon, Memorial Day, saw the close of the life of the above named citizen of this place, after a ripe

old age, spent actively and honestly, and in his death this city has lost a good citizen, his neighbors a most peaceable and kind friend and his immediate relatives an exemplary parent. Deceased was born at Westphalia, Germany, December 20, 1832; being 85 years, 5 months and 10 days old at the time of his death.

He came to America in 1847, locating at Waterford, Racine County, Wis., where he resided until about 13 years ago, when he moved to this city. He was a mason by trade, but for many years was engaged in farming. He was married on Feb. 2, 1861, to Miss Hallen, who survives him and is only a year or two younger than he was. On Feb. 2, 1911, they celebrated their golden wedding in this city. This union was blessed by the birth of eleven children, all still living but one son, William, who died in this city in 1907.

The ten surviving children all of whom were present at the funeral services, conducted by Father Keclik at the Bohemian Catholic church Monday morning, June 3, are six sons -- Frederick of Union Grove; Louis of Phillips; John of Waterford; Theodore of Burlington; Joseph and Henry Jr., of this city; four daughters -- Mrs. Geo. Kortendick of Waterford; Mrs. Wm. Rossmiller of Burlington, Wis., Mrs. Aug. Rapp of this city and Mrs. Chas. E. Hicks of Catawba.

There are also 43 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren as immediate relatives to mourn his death. Among those who attended the funeral was Godfrey Hallen of Marinette, brother of the widow. This large family circle have the sympathy of Phillips people in the loss of their beloved relative, who died not of any particular diseases, but who rather passed quietly from the scene of activity after spending a long and useful life.

Henry Henningfeld was the son of Johann Wilhelm Henningfeld and Catherine Bruggerman. He was the nephew of Franz Henningfeld.

There is a large number of Henningfeld and Heitkemper relatives buried at Phillips.