

Our Family News Letter

Issue 79

Greendale, Wisconsin

December, 2012

Meet Your Cousins Alvin & Carolyn Heck Falcon, Colorado

Alvin and Carolyn Heck sent in the following article for Our Family News Letter.

We moved to Colorado 26 years ago on April 23, 1986. Al worked at Evans Army Hospital on Fort Carson and later went to the Academy School District in the Maintenance Department. He retired in 2000 and then in 2005 moved to Falcon, Colorado, a smaller community of about 27,000. He is presently a volunteer at the Falcon Fire Department.

Al enjoys his time helping at the fire department and they appreciate his help.



Alvin Heck standing next to a Falcon, Colorado Fire Truck in 2012.

Al's wife, Carolyn, retired from Memorial Hospital in 2005. She continues to work there two days a week, as needed. Al and Carolyn have enjoyed traveling throughout Colorado and many other western states. They also enjoy walking, gardening, going to baseball and hockey games, visiting family and friends and Al's favorite sport: fishing.



Al and Carolyn Heck have lived at Falcon since 2005.

Guess Who, from 45 Years Ago



Guess Who from 45 Years Ago

That picture was taken at Serb Hall in Milwaukee on July 1, 1967 and yes, that is Gloria and Bob Heck, your Editor of this newsletter.

I was showing my nine-year-old granddaughter, Lauren Heck, some pictures from my wedding day. Lauren looked puzzled when she said, "Grandpa I recognize Grandma Gloria on the pictures but who was that man that she was with?" Jokingly I told her that was her first husband.

Lauren looked at me even more puzzled and said "I didn't know that Grandma Gloria was married before." I told her that she wasn't married before and that I was her first husband.

At that Lauren groaned, "Oh Grandpa!"

Captured Images from 8mm Movies

Following are a few images that I captured from an 8mm movie. I used the computer to enlarge and enhance the images.



The four photos on this page were captured from a home movie taken by my dad, Robert G. Heck, of his brother, Clarence Heck, and Clarence's family. The first three were believed to have

been taken in front of the Clarence Heck home, in Racine, Wisconsin in about 1939. The last photo was taken at my first birthday party in 1941.



Clarence and Fanny Heck in 1941.

Special Thanks to **Our Contributors**

The following readers sent in contributions to help defray the cost of publishing Our Family News Letter in 2012. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated.

Frank and Andrea Lamping

Bob and Lorraine Heck

Alvin and Carolyn Heck

Joanne Pfeiffer and Family

Gary and Carol Heck

Our Family News Letter has been published and distributed every three months for free since June 1993. A total of 79 issues have been sent to our readers containing 632 pages of our family's history. Hundreds of pictures have been included, some old and some new and a few in between.

Currently I mail the newsletter to 60 families from all over the country.

AZ: Lake Havasu City

CA: Livermore, Saratoga, Torrance

CO: Peyton, Colorado Springs, Golden, Durango, Bolder

FL: Fort Meyers, St. Augustine

ID: Boise

IL: Schiller Park, Barrington, Naperville, Crystal Lake

IN: Griffith

KS: Winfield

MN: Brooklyn Park, North Oaks, Kasota, Aitkin, White Bear Lake, Browns Valley

MO: Springfield

OR: Eugene

RI: Providence

SC: Westminster, Williamston, West Pelzer

TX: Muldoon

WA: Puyallap, Bothell

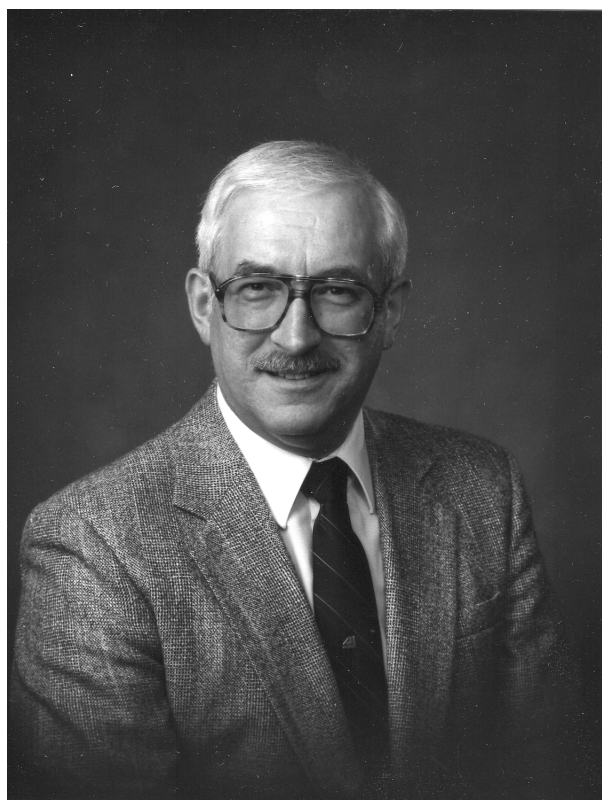
WI: Racine, Wausau, Franklin, West Bend, Beaver Dam, Whitewater, Burlington, Port Washington, Waukesha, Union Grove, New Berlin, Franksville

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Your Editor: Robert J. Heck in 1992

Louis Ray Henningfield

1925 – 2012

Louis Ray Henningfield, 87, of W. Jefferson Street, Elkhorn died Saturday, May 5, 2012 at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center after a brief illness. He was born on the family farm on April 16, 1925, the son of Ernest and Eunice (Kelly) Henningfield.



Louis attended Dover School and Rochester Agricultural School. He married Bernadine Baumeister on Nov. 27, 1943 at St. Mary's Church in Burlington and they were married for 68 years. Louis bred cows through the 1950's and then became a Walworth County Deputy, retiring as a Sergeant after 22 years of service. Retirement did not slow him down as he became very active in the Lakes Area Seniors. He served as President for 8 years and will be remembered for

planning many of the wonderful destination bus trips. "Louie" will be remembered in so many ways. He loved playing cards and passed that tradition on to his children and grandchildren. He also loved fishing and received great joy from teaching the grandchildren how to fish and as a result, we all have many great memories from fishing at Alex's pond.

Beloved husband of Bernadine, cherished father of Wayne (Melinda), Steve (Bonnie), and Betty (John) Coates. Dearest grandfather to Kyle, Ryan, Chessie, Whitney, Drew, Nick, Noah, Sarah and Calvin and five great-grandchildren. Brother of Marie Kurkman, Dorothy (Robert) Ludwig and Vern (Carol) Henningfield. Louie was loved and will be missed by other relatives and many dear friends.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Sharon; grandsons, Martin, Steven and Nathan; sister, Mildred and brothers, Francis and Edwin. A private service for the family will be held at a later date.

A wonderful life has come to an end; he died as he lived everybody's friend.

The Henningfield family was assisted by Haase-Lockwood & Associates Funeral Homes and Crematory of Elkhorn.

NOTE: Louis Ray Henningfield's great great grandfather was Johann Wilhelm Henningfeld, the brother of my great great grandfather, Franz Henningfeld. That makes Louis Ray Henningfield the 4th cousin of Robert John Heck, your Editor. Frank Lamping, one of our readers is Louis Ray Henningfield's 2nd cousin 1 time removed.

Search the Illinois Northern District Naturalization Index 1840-1950 at the following web address:

<http://tinyurl.com/Naturalization-Index>

This card file is an index to petitions for residents of northern Illinois, northwestern Indiana, southern and eastern Wisconsin, and eastern Iowa.

I entered a search for the Naturalization index card for my great great grandfather, Franz Henningfeld. I couldn't find him listed with that spelling but finally found him when I did a search for H*feld residing in Wisconsin. Using a wild card such as * in this case means find anyone with the last name that starts with an H and ends with feld.

I found Franz Henningfeld listed as Franz Huingefeld, naturalized in Racine, Wisconsin in 1856. The NARA (National Archives and Record Administration) publication number was M1285, roll 81. Also listed was the Family History Film number 1432081, digital folder number 004641154, image number 01720. This means that the image of the index card has been digitized and can be found on-line for free using the web address on the previous page.

We Survived!

Here are a few thoughts on how we survived growing up in the 40's, and 50's.

As infants and children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, no booster seats, no seat belts, no air bags, bald tires and sometimes no brakes. Riding in the back of a pick-up truck on a warm day was always a special treat.

We ate cupcakes, white bread, real butter, bacon, and we drank Kool-Aid made with real white sugar, and we weren't overweight. Why? Because we were always outside playing. We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day, and we were okay.

During the summer we got to play outside at night for a few hours. We played kick-the-can, hide-and-seek, and other games that we made up.

We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever. We used to say that you had to eat a bushel of dirt before you

die. Saturday night was the only night that we took a bath. The water was sure dirty when we finished. We always had to scrub the black ring out of the bathtub before we were finished.

We would go out in the backyard at night and sleep in the grass covered only with a bed sheet. I don't ever remember using insect repellent. We could see the Milky Way and a million stars just by looking up. There were so many stars that we had a hard time finding the constellations. It was always fun trying to spot shooting stars.

We never wore shoes except for school and church. Every kid in the neighborhood knew what it felt like to stub a toe.

Every kid in the neighborhood had a skate key and during the summer wore it around their neck tied with white grocery store string. In the winter we would ice skate but our skates were always way too big requiring that we wore three pair of wool stockings. None of the boys had figure skates, just well worn hockey skates.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and we never rang their doorbell. Instead we just stood on their porch and hollered, Oh for Earl or Oh for Chuck. Eventually someone would come to the door.

We shared one soft drink with four friends and no one actually got sick from this.

Somehow or other we survived all of this. Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn't it?



Oh, in case you are wondering, that picture at the bottom of the previous page is of my brother, Gary Heck, learning how to roller-skate in 1941. And yes, that is a pillow tied to his butt. That was before kneepads, elbow pads, and helmets were invented.

Logan Henderson's 1st Soccer Game



Logan Henderson, age 4 years, is shown at the center of the picture in the dark jersey playing in his first soccer game in 2012. Logan is the son of PJ (Pamela Joan) and Michael Henderson, and grandson of Cindy and Dennis Landrum, and great grandson of Gary and Carol Heck, all from South Carolina.

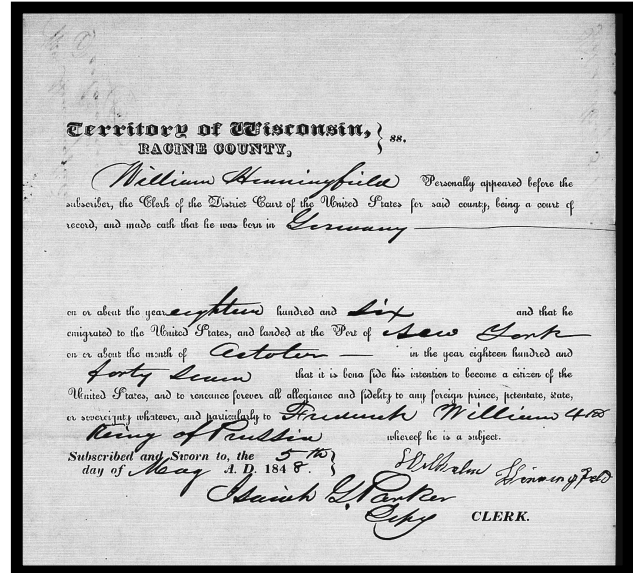
Cindy says, "I guess one way to get to the ball is to grab the shirt of one opponent and the hand of the other."

Thanks to Cindy and Gary for sharing this great photo with our readers.

If you would like to share photos with our readers, send them to me as an attachment with a description at
bheck@execpc.com

Johann Wilhelm Henningfeld

Using the FamilySearch web site I found the Declaration of Intent of Johann Wilhelm Henningfeld shown as William Henningfield in the document. He was the brother of my great great grandfather, Franz Henningfeld. Johann Wilhelm



is shown as being born in 1806 in Germany. He filled out his Declaration of Intent to become a citizen of the United States in Racine, Wisconsin on 5 May 1848. He stated that he arrived in New York in October 1847.

The web site that I used was quite long so I created a Tiny URL to make it easy for you.

<http://tinyurl.com/Racine-Naturalizations>

The site actually lists all counties in Wisconsin. Select a county and then you will see a list of items. They normally start with an index. If you find someone that you are looking for, copy down the document number. In the case above the number was 2430. Scroll down until you find a range in which your document number fits. In this case document number 2430 was found on page 64 of 153 pages in the series.

I also found a Henry Henningfield in document 2611 filed on 1 November 1856 in Racine County, Wisconsin.

Henry Henningfeld and Christine Hallen



The photo above is a very crude photo of the Henry Henningfeld and Christine Hallen family taken in Phillips, Wisconsin about 1911. The photo shows Henry and Christine seated at center surrounded by six sons and three daughters.

They had eight sons and five daughters for a total of 13 children born between 1859 and 1878.

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 (sic). 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, De-

ember 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."

Editors Note: This Henry Henningfeld was the same one that I listed at the end of the previous page. This Henry Henningfeld of Phillips, Wisconsin was a first cousin of my great grandfather, Henry Henningfeld of Burlington, Wisconsin.

William Everington Burgess

The following biography was found on Google Books under Racine and Kenosha County history.

"William Everington Burgess is a prominent farmer of Somers Township, residing on Section

8, and a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of Kenosha County, the history of which would be incomplete without this mention.

Our subject was born in Erie County, New York, May 2, 1830. The family is of English descent and was probably founded in America in early Colonial days, for the grandfather of our subject was a native of New England.

Benjamin Burgess, father of William, was born in Vermont, and when a young man went to New York. He was twice married, his second union being with Amanda Foster, a native of the Empire State and a daughter of Alfred Foster, a mechanic and well-known citizen of the community in which he resided. After a few years' residence in Erie County, New York, Mr. Burgess removed to Oswego County, where he was engaged in the milling business, and manufacture of lumber for a number of years.

Alfred Foster came to Wisconsin in 1835, to make locations for friends, and finally took up his residence in Kenosha County, where he resided until his death. Benjamin Burgess and his family followed him in 1836. They started in the month of February with teams and sleighs, and from Michigan continued to journey with wagons, at length arriving in the Town of Southport, now known as Kenosha, on the 9th of March. He made a location in what is now the Town of Somers, where he took a claim and built a mill engaging in the manufacture of lumber.

The family endured much exposure, suffered from sickness and many privations came upon them during the first year. They had to live in covered wagons ere their cabin could be built. As a result of this exposure, Mr. Burgess died after two years, in March, 1837. His widow then carried on the business and when the land came into market paid for the same. She reared her family and lived to an advanced age. She passed away in 1887, when in her eighty-eighth year.

In the family were two sons and two daughters. Martha is the deceased wife of Charles Ticknor,

of Racine; Belinda married Thomas Dow, of Racine; and Cyrus, a sailor on the lakes, met his death by drowning.

William E. Burgess, the eldest of the family, during his boyhood aided his mother in carrying on the farm, and as soon as old enough worked out as a farm hand, his earnings going toward the support of the family. His educational advantages were necessarily very limited and after he was grown, he spent one year in the Kenosha High School, under Prof. Harvey, afterward Governor. One of his first ventures was in the milling business, and he engaged in the manufacture of lumber for several years. In the meantime he was married in Kenosha County, October 17, 1850 to Miss Jane R. Leet, daughter of Charles Leet, a pioneer, who aided in the development and building of Kenosha County. She was born in Delphi, New York, and during her girlhood, came to Wisconsin in 1837.

When Mr. Burgess relinquished the milling business, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on which Somers Station is now located, and in the three succeeding years, placed it under a high state of cultivation. He then returned to the mill, having charge of that business for two years, after which he bought another farm. It was operated by Mr. Burgess for two years, and he then sold it and bought an eighty-acre tract of timber land upon which he made his home for a similar period. Having cleared and improved it, he sold at an advance of \$36 on the acre, thus realizing a handsome profit on his investment. In 1870 he bought the farm which is now his home, fenced it, and has made the well-tilled fields yield him a golden tribute. This farm comprising two hundred and twenty acres is a valuable one, pleasantly situated about a mile from Somers Station.

In 1872 and 1873 Mr. Burgess traveled for J.I. Case & Co. making sales and showing how to operate machines, where an experienced man was needed for that purpose. Since that time, he has devoted his energies chiefly to agricultural pursuits."
