Our Family News Letter

Creating a Family History Book

Following is an outline that I used for a presentation to the MPAFUG (Milwaukee Personal Ancestral File Users Group), a computer-genealogy research group.

Creating Your First Family History Book by Bob Heck.

2. What is Genealogy?
• A collection of a name and three dates: birth, marriage and death?
• **No! No! No!**
• Genealogy should be the **preservation** and **sharing** of the history of our families.

3. Have you ever stood at the grave of an ancestor and thought…
• …I wish that you had **left a note** telling me where you were born?
• …I wish that you had **told a story** to your family telling them about how you got to this country?
• **I Have!**

4. How many of you have said to yourself…
• …If only I had taken the time to ask Grandpa where he came from?
• …Someday I'm going to write a book about my family so that my grandchildren will know and understand where their family came from?
• … I remember my best Christmas present. I should tell my Grandkids about it.

5. Tonight we will look into creating that **First Family History Book**.
• You may have collected a lot of the data.
• You may have collected a lot of documents.
• You may have collected a lot of pictures.
• You collected a lot of stories in your mind.
• Now is the time to learn how easy it is to share these with your family.

6. How are we going to do that?
• We will use genealogy programs to create the book. There are two programs that I recommend.
• PAF (Personal Ancestral File) FREE
• Legacy FREE and COMMERCIAL $

7. While PAF is no longer being given technical support at the FHC (Family History Center) at Salt Lake, It is still a great program.
• MPAFUG has been given permission to provide FREE downloading of PAF on our Public Web Page. **http://mpafug.org**

When you get to the MPAFUG web page you will see on the lower left hand side of the screen, **Download PAF-5 and PAF Companion.** Left click the Download PAF-5. On the next screen, select
Click here to download PAF5 English (Windows); most popular program
PAF5 English.

If you need help in learning PAF-5 it is available by clicking HELP at the top of the screen. There you will see a Getting Started Guide, Users Guide, and Lessons.

• The FHC at Salt Lake has recommended three other genealogy programs: **Legacy, RootsMagic** and **Ancestral Quest.** All three do a great job in creating a book but all three are commercial programs.

8. Using PAF to create an Ancestry Book:
• I created a 64 page book of my 244 direct ancestors in 5 seconds going back 20 generations.
• It included Photos, all of my Notes, many Documents, Sources, every page Numbered, and a complete Index. All in 2 seconds!!!

9. To create an ancestry book in PAF, select Reports and Charts.

10. Select Ahnentafel (Ancestry) in BOOKS.

11. Click preview of the Ahnentafel Book to see the finished product before you print it.

Note that an Ahnentafel ancestry book contains all of your direct line ancestors but no siblings, cousins, aunts or uncles. It only contains you, your parents, grandparents, and great grandparents back as far as your data will take you. In the case of my 64 page book, it went back to my 18th great grandparents. That means my great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great grandparents.

12. Using PAF to create a Descendants Book:
• I created a 167 page book of 807 descendants of my grandchildren's 7th Great Grandfather in 6 seconds going back 11 generations.
• It included Photos, all of my Notes, many Documents, Sources, every page Numbered, and a complete Index. All in 3 seconds!!!

Note that a Descendants Book includes you, your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents AND all of the siblings, spouse, cousins, aunts and uncles as far back as your data will take you. The Descendants Book is often called a Modified Register Report or Book.

13. Select Modified Register (Descendancy) in BOOKS.

14. Three ways of printing your Book
• 1. You can print the book yourself and have it bound at a printing shop.

• 2. You can select **Print to File** in PAF, however that prints in RTF format, which changes picture sizes and locations. It also requires that you generate the index in WORD.
• 3. You can print to **PDF995**, a free program that creates a PDF file looking exactly like the original and includes the index.
• Using 2 or 3 you can send or take the file to a print shop for printing and binding. You can also e-mail the PDF file to anyone as an attachment and they will be able to view and print the entire book for themselves.

15. To get the Free download of PDF995, go to the following web address:
• **http://www.pdf995.com/**
• **PDF995** is a small free program that sets itself up as an additional printer on your computer.
• When you print a file you can select the printer PDF995 and it will create a PDF file and save it to your hard drive.

16. Legacy Deluxe Version 8.0 is available for $29.95 at the following web address:
http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/

Note that the $29.95 version is for downloading. If you would like a CD of the Deluxe Version it can be ordered at the same address for $39.95.

17. Using Legacy to create a Book
• There are two versions of Legacy.
• 1. **FREE** Version (Free)
• 2. **DELUXE** Version 8.0 ($29.95)
• The Free Version is limited to **90** Reports and Charts, and is limited to four generations. It is a great way to learn about the Legacy program at no cost.
• The Deluxe Version has **124** Reports and Charts, and allows 100 generations.

18. You Can Download the
FREE Version or the DELUXE Version of Legacy.
• **http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/**
• The FREE Version is called the **Standard Edition.**
• The DELUXE Version costs $29.95

19. Reports Page in Legacy 8.0

20. Select Publishing Center.

21. Legacy creates a Table of Content automatically.

22. Modified Register Report in Legacy.

23. Family Picture Tree, allows you to create a Family Tree containing pictures of your ancestors and descendants.

24. Legacy will save in PDF, RTF, and HTML
• PDF is used to send to a Print Shop or to share by sending an e-mail attachment to your relatives.
• HTML is used to create a web page.
• RTF is used to view in a Word Processor.

25. Best Function in Legacy 8
• Perhaps the best function in Legacy 8 is the **Multiple Lines of Descent Report.**

26. Multiple Lines of Descent.
Note that using the multiple lines of descent report you can select each branch of your family and generate one book without duplicating individuals. In the past you would have to generate each branch and then edit each one in order to combine them into a single book.

27. Legacy has a mobile version called **Families 2.0.**
• $14.95 iPhone, iPod Touch, or an iPad Tablet. (Families 2.0)
• $14.95 Android Family of phone and tablet Products. (Families 2.0)
• Any change made on your mobile device can be synced back to your home computer.

Are there any questions before we create a few books?

During my presentation I asked for a volunteer with a second hand on his or her watch. I told them to tell me when to start creating a book and I would tell them when to stop.

I said that I would create a 167 page book which would go back 11 generations and would have all pages numbered, include photos of people and images of birth, marriage and death records, in color, and would be indexed, have a table of contents, and source references. It would be ready for printing and binding.

I got the GO sign and three seconds later I said, "STOP". Everyone was astonished as we reviewed the finished book on the projection screen.

Added Note: There is an 89-year-old lady that I play sheepshead with at the Wisconsin Athletic Club. We call her Grandma. We work out five days a week and then relax while playing cards afterwards.

She heard me talk about writing a family history book and that tweaked her interest. She does not own a computer but she wanted to preserve some of her thoughts and memories. She told me that she didn't think there was much to write about. I told her to start with earliest memories and just jot down some notes. Be sure to include a short section on her ancestry. She only knew a little about her grandparents but nothing beyond them.

A week later she told me that she had written about 30 pages and was just up to the time that she was in the eighth grade. We all laughed and encouraged her to keep at it. A week later she said that she had written 67 pages and it only had her up to when she was a sophomore in high school.

She talked her grandson into transcribing her 67 pages into a computer while she continues to write her life story. Her fellow card players give her a lot of encouragement every day to keep on writing.

I think that everyone should take some time and think about what will happen to your memories after you are gone. Why not start a journal or create a family history book?
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Guide to Wisconsin Newspapers 1833-1957

When researching newspaper articles either on-line, at a library, at an archive, or at a historical society facility, it would be nice to know what newspapers were available in a community and what years and dates they published.

For example, you might be surprised to learn that the City of Racine, Wisconsin had 47 different newspapers published. The earliest was published in 1836. There were five newspapers published in Burlington, one in Waterford, three in Union Grove, and one in Norway, Wisconsin.

The following web address will take you to a web site containing the Guide To Wisconsin Newspapers 1833-1957.

http://tinyurl.com/WI-newspapers-2page

By just clicking on the pages you can scroll forward or backward through the book. The book is 338 pages long and is arranged by Counties and then by Cities. In the book you can find all of the newspapers published in a county, town or city along with the dates of starting and ending publications.

The book also includes foreign language newspapers published in a county, town or city. If you are researching your German ancestors, there is a strong possibility that they subscribed to a German language newspaper. Many newspapers would only include articles about a person if they were also a subscriber of that newspaper.

Case in point: A friend could not find an obituary for her Polish great grandfather in the Milwaukee newspapers. I asked her if she checked the Polish newspapers published in Milwaukee? There we found a very long article about her great grandfather and it included a picture of him. It even gave the name of his Village where he was born in Poland.

I find this book to be one of the best tools for researching newspaper articles since it includes all of Wisconsin's counties.

You should be aware that the Racine Public Library has most of the Racine newspapers on microfilm. The Wisconsin Historical Society Regional Archives Center (ARC) located at Parkside University in Kenosha County also has many of the Racine and Kenosha County newspapers on microfilm. The Burlington Public Library has all of the Burlington newspapers on microfilm, plus the Burlington Historical Society has an on-line index of the newspapers.

You can search the Burlington Historical Society index at the following web address:

http://www.burlingtonhistory.org/records.htm

At the Burlington web site you will find the following on-line databases.

PEOPLE OF BURLINGTON AND VICINITY - A Searchable Database

MARRIAGES OF PEOPLE OF BURLINGTON AND VICINITY - A Searchable Database

BURLINGTON EVENTS" 1835 ~ 2006 - A Searchable Database

BURLINGTON HISTORIC PHOTO DATABASE

BURLINGTON HOMES & FARMS - interim

CIVIL WAR DEAD OF BURLINGTON AND VICINITY: 1861 - 1865 (Chronological)

If you search the Burlington Historical Photo Database for Heck you will get two photos. One is a WWII photo of Joseph Heck, grandson of Henry Heck. The other photo is a post Civil War picture of Henry Heck in his Civil War uniform.

If you search for our group of family names in the "Search People of Burlington and Vicinity" you will find the following impressive number of articles or references:

94 Heck
59 Henningfeld
81 Henningfield
22 McNulty
47 Burgess
15 Stratman
19 Heitkemper

When you are searching a database you will see a cryptic code on the far right after each entry, To find out what that code means, click on References and Sources at the top of the screen.

As an example, **SFX Cem** stands for St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery at Brighton. The reference goes on to say "Copy in files of Burlington Genealogical Society Cemetery. R.14 = row number 14 (row 1 is closest to Hwy."
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New Information About Clara Stratmann…

While researching a passenger list from Castle Garden, New York, for the year 1868, I found the listing of Clara Stratmann. The record stated that her last residence was at Hattendorf, Germany.

We knew that She was born and raised near Hamm in the Village of Rhynern. I used Google Maps to locate Hattendorf, which is 90 miles, as the crow flies, South-East of Hamm, Germany. While we have no idea of why she was living at Hattendorf, we can only guess that she was living there as a servant or domestic maid. She could have been a Nanny for one of the local farmers or businessmen. Clara was 20 years old when she came to Racine County, Wisconsin in 1868.

Five years later, on 6 May 1873, Clara married Henry Henningfeld at Burlington, Wisconsin. Clara and Henry were the parents of Margaret F. Henningfeld who married Robert Steven Heck in Milwaukee on 15 October 1903. Margaret and Robert are the progenitors of the Heck-Henningfeld descendants from Racine, Wisconsin.

Satellite view of modern day Hattendorf, Germany. Distance from Hamm illustrated below.
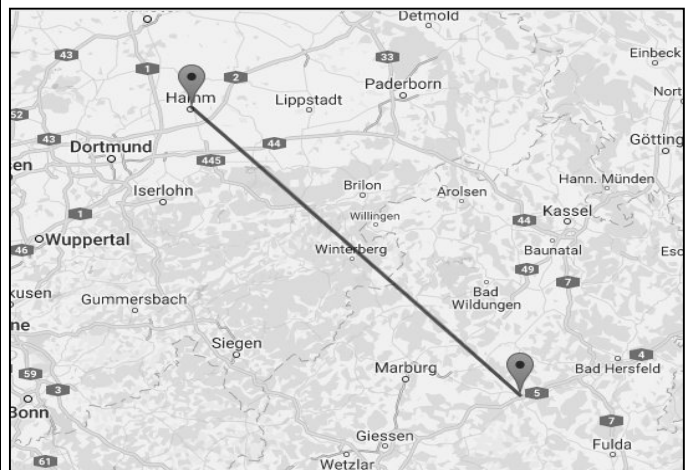
Gloria and Bob Heck's First Cruise…

Gloria and I have been married for 49 years and we never took a cruise, until this year that is.

Back in January 2016, we received a phone call from some very good friends, Joan and Mike Nikolai, from Pioneer, California. Joan was the Maid of Honor and Mike was our Best Man in 1967. A year earlier, Gloria and I were in the wedding party for Joan and Mike.

Joan and Gloria grew up together in Milwaukee's south side, and Mike and I were fraternity brothers at the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

L-R: Joan and Gloria in about 1959.

When Joan called Gloria in January, she told her that their two sons, Patrick and John, had given them a cruise to Alaska for an anniversary gift. She said that the whole family was going on the cruise and that if we would like to join them we would have to pay our own way but we could take advantage of the group discount. That sounded good to us so we started planning the trip, which was scheduled for late July and early August.

1st row L-R: Patrick and John Nikolai. 2nd row: Joan and Mike. 3rd row Carol, Tedra, and Bob Heck. Last row L-R: Gloria Heck, Emily, Tyler, Ally, Mary and Steve.

Joan Nikolai and Gloria Heck at Ketchikan, Alaska in 2016.

Photos from 8mm Movies…

Robert G Heck and son, Bob in 1942.

Bob Heck, your Editor, eating an ice cream cone in about 1943.

At lower left: David Heck, son of Gloria and Bob, at his 1st birthday party, 3 January 1970.

Gary Heck watching a man filling the car with gasoline in 1942. When was the last time you saw a service man fill a gas tank for you?

That reminds me of a story back when I was 17 years old. I borrowed the family car to go out on a date. I recall that I picked up my date but needed to buy some gasoline. I drove to the service station at the corner of Goold Street and North Main Street with my date sitting next to me. I asked for 25 cents worth of regular. (No sense in over filling the car with my tight budget.)

Three service men worked on the car. One was under the hood checking the oil, while another was adding gas to the tank. The third guy was washing the windows and he asked if he could sweep the carpeting in the car. Feeling cheap, I told him to make it 50 cents worth of gas instead of 25 cents. I come from a long family of big spenders.

This newsletter is written and published by **Robert J. Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive, Greendale, WI 53129.**
Our Family News Letter is published quarterly and is distributed without charge. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated. If you would like to see some of your old photos in it, send them to me at my e-mail address: **bheck@execpc.com** along with a description.

Grandma's First Husband…

Quite a few years ago, my granddaughter, Lauren Heck was looking at our wedding picture. She was probably only five or six at the time. She had this puzzled look on her face. I asked her what was the matter? She said that she recognizes Grandma Gloria on the picture, but who was that man with her? I told her that was Grandma Gloria's first husband. She looked at me and said, "I didn't know that Grandma Gloria was married before?" I told her that she wasn't, and that I was her first husband. Lauren groaned and said, "Oh Grandpa!" We still laugh about that story to this day.

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Don Heck and Paul Ryan

As many of you probably know, my younger brother, Don, is very active in supporting Viet Nam veterans. He has helped get the traveling wall to Racine and he has participated in parades and other activities involving veterans. We are all very proud of him and support his activities. This year the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Paul Ryan, recognized him.
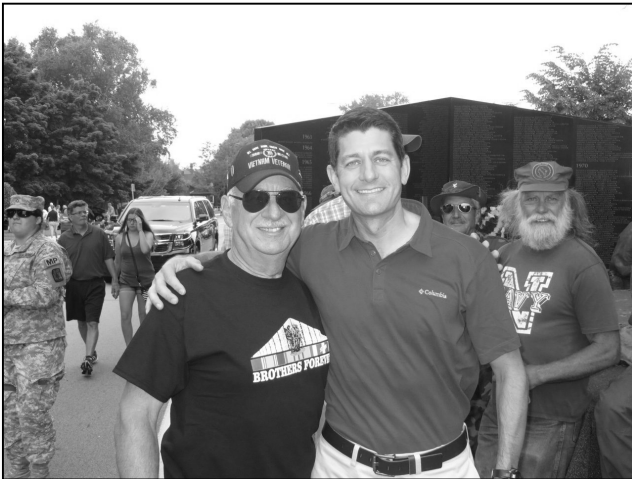
Don Heck with Paul Ryan in 2016 in Racine.

Thanks to our Contributors…

As many of you are aware, I have been writing and publishing the newsletter since June 1993. The newsletter is published every three months and I have never missed a deadline through 94 issues.

Back in 1993 I was asked to give a talk to our Computer-Genealogy group on the subject of how to create a family history newsletter. Since I had never written a family newsletter this was quite a challenge. I started out thinking about what I would like to see in a newsletter. I wanted it to be historical and educational to our family readers.

I researched the costs and gave thought to how to finance a newsletter. I checked the cost of printing, cost of envelopes, and the cost of postage. I even considered the cost of address and return labels. I decided that the return address could be stamped on the envelope to save weight. That would allow me to send four sheets of 20 pound paper with eight sides of printing and a staple.

I created what I thought would make a good newsletter and used it as a handout at my presentation. I had extra copies so I decided to send them to my cousins, brothers, parents and aunts and uncles.

My conclusion was that the newsletter could be financed by the generous donations of the readers if you do a good job in keeping them interested.

My deepest thanks goes to all of our readers but especially to those who are the contributors for 2016.

Frank Lamping
Alvin & Carolyn Heck
Steve Pfeiffer
Delores Kunka
Shirley Heck
Lorraine Heck
Ellen Steiner
Cel Heck (Rick, Barb, Jim, and Sherry)