

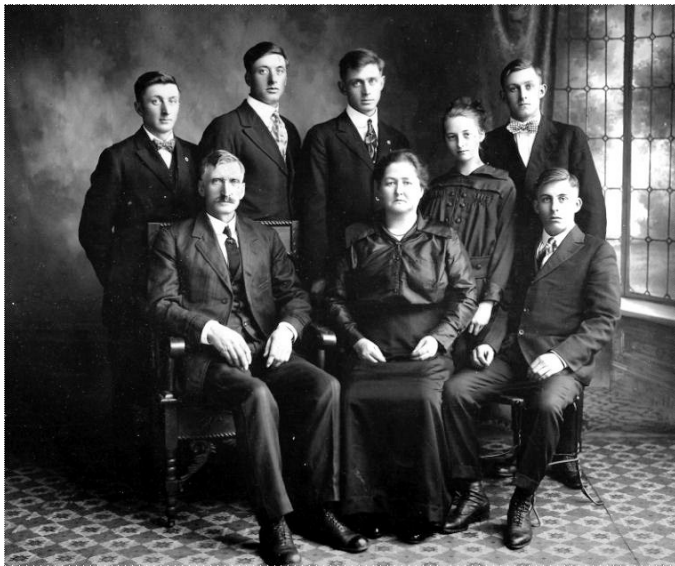
Our Family News Letter

Issue 103

Greendale, Wisconsin

December 2018

Meet your distant relatives



L-R Standing: Charles, Frederick, Rudolph, Loretta, and Bernard Henningfeld. Seated L-R: Louis J. Henningfeld, Annie Stallman Henningfeld, and Norbert Henningfeld.

From the Commemorative Biographical Record for Racine County published in 1906:

LOUIS J. HENNINGFELD. "One of the representative farmers of Yorkville, Racine County, has a fine farm of 103 acres in Section 11. He is a self-made man in all that the term implies, having begun his business career without capital, and all that he possesses today represents years of toil and judicious management."

"He was born Nov. 11, 1861, in the town of Norway, Racine County, son of Henry and Christina (Holland) Henningfeld, natives of

Westphalia, Germany. In 1837 Henry and Elizabeth (Dahlmann) Henningfeld, the grandparents of our subject, came to America and settled in Racine county, where both died soon after, he in 1838, and she in 1840. They were both natives of Germany, where Mr. Henningfeld served as a soldier in the Napoleonic wars."

Editor's Note: *The Commemorative Biographical Record for Racine County published in 1906, states that Louis' grandparents were Henry & Elizabeth (Dahlmann) Henningfeld and that they died in 1838 and 1840. This is the only record that shows a Henry Henningfeld and Elizabeth Dahlmann connection. I believe that Louis' grandparents were actually Johan Wilhelm & Elizabeth Bruggerman Henningfeld who died on 13 January 1849 and 28 February 1851 respectively.*

Church records from St. Thomas in Waterford, Wisconsin indicate that William Henningfeld lived in Waterford and died at the age of 44 years, 10 months. His death was also listed in the Catholic Church record of St. Mary's at Burlington, Wisconsin on LDS film 1862504.

Elizabeth married John Herman Alberts on 16 December 1849

In the 1850 US census of Wisconsin, for Norway Township, Herman Alberts, age 39, is listed as head with Elizabeth Alberts, age 40, who is Elizabeth Bruggerman Henningfeld Alberts. Her children, all listed as Heningfelt are listed as Henry (17), Elizabeth (14), William (10), Carle (7), Frederick (3) and Mena (1). All of the chil-

dren were born in Germany except Mena who was born in Wisconsin.

“On the maternal side, Louis Henningfeld's grandfather was Herman Holland, also a native of Germany. He also came to America in 1837, and settled in the town of Waterford, Racine county, on a farm, which he afterwards sold, moving to the village of Waterford, where he died, aged seventy-two years. He was also a soldier in Germany. His wife, Elizabeth Wink, lived to be seventy-one years old.

Henry Henningfeld came to America with his parents in 1837, and settled in the town of Norway, Racine County, where his people had taken up Government land. Until February, 1905, he lived in Racine County, in the latter year removing to Phillips, Price County, where he and his wife still reside. While in Norway (*Racine County*) he owned a farm of ninety-three acres, but this he afterward sold to purchase a piece of property near Waterford. “



Editor's Note: *The photo at lower left shows Henry Henningfeld and his wife, Christine Hal-len or Hollen, parents of Louis J Henningfeld. They lived in Norway, Wisconsin and in Phillips, Wisconsin.*

“Although drafted for the Civil war Mr. Henningfeld obtained a substitute. He was prominent in township affairs, served as assessor, and held numerous other offices.

He and his wife had these children: Fred, of Yorkville township: Louis: Lizzie, wife of George Kortendick, of Waterford, Wis : John, of Waterford ; William, of Phillips : Henry, of the same place ; Annie, wife of William Rusmiller, also of that place: Theodore and Joseph, of Phillips; and Christina and Larry, of Price county.

Louis Henningfeld was reared on his father's farm in Norway Township, and attended the district and public schools of Waterford. He lived at home until fifteen years of age, and then worked out, by the month, for a few years. In 1889 he purchased his present farm of 103 acres in Yorkville Township, and here he has made his home to the present time.

On Aug 20, 1887, he married Miss Annie Stallman, daughter of Arnold and Johanna (Roener) Stallman, and these children were born to this union: Charles, Frank, Rudy, Bernie, Norby and Loretta.

Mr. and Mrs. Henningfeld are members of the Catholic Church. He served as supervisor of Dover Township for one term. He comes of an intelligent German family, and is one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of the township, his farm comparing favorably with any in the locality.

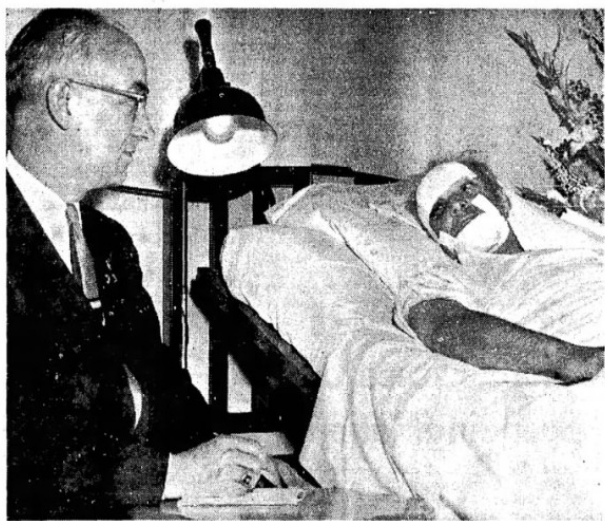
The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Henningfeld, Ernest Stallman, came to America in 1850, and settled in Waukesha County, where he died when

over eighty years of age. Mrs. Henningfeld's maternal grandfather, a native of Germany, also settled in Waukesha County. On coming to America, he located near West Allis, where he followed coopering. He died at an old age, his wife, Elizabeth, being eighty years old at the time of her death.

Arnold Stallman, father of Mrs. Henningfeld, a tinsmith, came to America in 1850, in his twenty-first year, and settled in North Greenfield, now West Allis, Wis. He now lives in Waukesha, where his last years have been spent in farming. He married in Milwaukee Johanna Roener, who had come to this country when thirteen years of age, and they had eleven children, as follows: Arnold, Eliza, Frances, Charles, Paulina, Annie, wife of our subject, Louis, Adolph, Emma, Julia and Laura.”

From the Newspapers...

Racine Journal Times: May 26, 1957



NEIGHBORLY ALDERMAN — Ald. Robert G. Heck, whose 7th Ward is “next door” to the 9th Ward of Ald. Joseph D. Venturini, has offered to act as “ex-officio alderman” for the 9th Ward while Venturini recovers from an auto accident in St. Mary’s Hospital. With pad and pencil Ald. Heck takes notes on unfinished business the traffic-injured lawmaker wants done. Venturini suffered a broken foot and lacerations last Tuesday when his auto ran off Highway 38.

The article below the picture reads:

“NEIGHBORLY ALDERMAN — Ald. Robert G. Heck, whose 7th Ward is “next door” to the 9th Ward of Ald. Joseph D. Venturini, has offered to act as “ex-officio alderman” for the 9th Ward while Venturini recovers from an auto accident in St. Mary’s Hospital. With pad and pencil Ald. Heck takes notes on unfinished business the traffic-injured lawmaker wants done. Venturini suffered a broken foot and lacerations last Tuesday when his auto ran off Highway 38.”

Editor’s Note: Robert G. Heck was the father of Gary, Bob, and Don Heck.

Racine Journal Times: November 7, 1922, and The Waterford Post 14 November 1922..

Editor’s Note: The following shows the difference in reporting an obituary. Margaret Henningfeld was the wife of William F. Henningfeld from Waterford, Wisconsin. William was the brother of our Henry F. Henningfeld from Burlington.

Racine Journal Times:

“OBITUARY Henningfeld.

Margaret Henningfeld, age 72, pioneer resident of the town of Waterford, passed away at 7 o’clock this morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John D. Roberts, 1801 Grand Avenue. Mrs. Henningfeld was born in Milwaukee. Her maiden name was Margaret Gruter. Forty-eight years ago she was united in marriage to William Henningfeld, a native of Waterford, where she lived for 48 years, making her a pioneer of that section of the county. Mrs. Henningfeld was a Christian woman; kind hearted and always ready to assist any person in sickness and distress. She was a devoted wife and an indulgent mother. Her husband died four years ago. She has resided in Racine about a year. She is survived by nine children — John Henningfeld, of Mukwonago; Frank and Leo, of Waterford; Mrs. Rose Dempsey, of St. Paul; Mrs. Mayme Loomis and Mrs. Lawrence Alby, Waterford; Mrs. Winifred Roberts, of this city and Miss Kathryn Henningfeld,

Milwaukee; four brothers and two sisters, and 15 grandchildren. The funeral will take place on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the St. Thomas church in Waterford."

Waterford Post:

"The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Henningfeld, which was held at the St. Thomas Catholic church on Saturday morning, was largely attended, the Rev. J.W. Pierron officiating. The floral tributes were many and beautiful. Mrs. Henningfeld leaves to mourn her death five daughters, four sons, two sisters, four brothers, and 15 grandchildren. Burial took place in the Waterford Catholic cemetery. Those who sadly bore the body to its final resting place were four sons, namely: John, of Mukwonago; Leo and Frank, of our village; Will, of Milwaukee; also two sons-in-law, J.D. Roberts, of Racine and L.G. Alby, of our village."

Racine Journal Times: October 16, 1960:

Editor's Note: The following story appeared in an article about the Racine Raiders, a semi-pro football team.

"The club's front office has come up with a novel gimmick to stimulate activity at the gate. Bob Heck, Alderman of the 7th Ward, will kick off to start the game, but it won't count because both sides want to be sure he is out of the combat zone when hostilities begin. Heck, who has little or no football background, reportedly spent some time Saturday afternoon in kicking a ball around so as to make a favorable impression in his grid debut."

Racine Journal Times: October 13, 1935:

WEDDINGS

"Miss Loraine Heck, 1226 Park Avenue, and Nicholas Pier, 1305 Chatham Street, October 10th.

Racine Journal Times: March 15, 1936:

"BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Heck, 1460 Douglas Avenue, a daughter, March 10th."

Editor's Note: The previous birth announcement is for Joanne Mary Heck Pfeiffer. I promise not to tell her age.

Racine Journal Times: Saturday, February 28, 1920:

"THOMPSONVILLE, WISCONSIN

Mat Heck was called to Waterford Tuesday, by the serious illness of his father.

Mrs. Mat Heck spent Thursday in Racine.

Mr. and Mrs. Mat Heck left Sunday morning for Waterford, where they will attend the funeral of his father."

Editor's Note: The Thompsonville articles pertain to the death of Henry Heck who passed away on February 20, 1920 at Waterford, Racine County, Wisconsin. Thompsonville is located on the 5-1/2 mile Road just west of Racine near I-94.

Our Family News Letter On-Line.

Thanks to my son, Bill Heck, 103 issues of Our Family News Letter are now available to you online and for free. They are available to you at the following web address:

<http://ourfamilynewsletter.com/>

Just go to the web address shown above and select a year and then an issue. There are four issues per year starting in 1993. Each issue is usually eight pages in length and in PDF format. That's over 800 pages of our family history!

You should feel free to share the web address and the newsletters with other members of your family. **If we don't share our family history, someday there won't be anyone around to tell our story.**

Thanks to our contributors...

My deepest thanks go to all of our readers but especially to those who are the contributors who help keep this newsletter going with their generous donations and pictures. Articles about our family are always welcomed. What do you remember as a kid? What do you remember about your deceased relatives? This list is for the period January 2018 to October 2018.

Frank and Andrea Lamping
Alvin and Carolyn Heck
Shirley Heck
Don and Sharon Heck
Cel Heck
Steve and Cara Pfeiffer
Bobbie Heck

Contributions to keep Our Family News Letter going are always welcomed and can be sent to:
**Robert J Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive,
Greendale, WI 53129.**

MURPHY'S LAW OF GENEALOGY

You need to be a family history researcher to really appreciate all of these Murphy's Laws.

The public ceremony in which your distinguished ancestor participated and at which the platform collapsed under him turned out to be a hanging.

When at last after much hard work you have evolved the mystery that you have been working on for two years, your aunt says, "I could have told you that."

You never asked your father about his family when he was alive because you were not interested in genealogy then.

The will you need is in the safe on board the Titanic.

Copies of old newspapers have holes occurring only on the surnames.

John, son of Thomas the immigrant whom your relatives claim as the family progenitor, died on board ship at the age of 10.

Your great grandfather's newspaper obituary states that he died leaving no issue of record.

Another genealogist has just insulted the keeper of the vital records you need.

The relative who had all the family photographs gave them all to her daughter who has no interest in genealogy and no inclination to share.

The only record you find for your great grandfather is that his property was sold at a sheriff's sale of insolvency.

The one document that would supply the missing link in your dead end has been lost due to fire, flood or war.

The town clerk to whom you wrote for the information sends you a long handwritten letter which is totally illegible.

The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relationship to its current spelling or pronunciation.

None of the pictures in your recently deceased grandmother's photo album have names written on them.

No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, owned property, was sued or was named in a will.

You learn that your great aunt's executor just sold her life's collection of family genealogical materials to a flea market dealer 'somewhere in New York City.'

Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

The 37 volume, 16,000 page history of your country of origin isn't indexed.

You finally find your great grandparent's wedding record and discover that the bride's father was named John Smith.

The family you are looking for will be on the last page of the unindexed (of course) census film that you check. However, if you begin at the end of the roll, they will be on page 1.

The microfilm that you have diligently searched page-by-page will have an index at the end.

All of your spouse's ancestors will be mentioned in county histories. None of yours will be.

If you need just one record, the microfilm will have page numbers. If you need 3 or more records, there won't be any page numbers and the records will not be in the proper order.

The book you need most will be out being rebound.

You will need item 23 on a microfilm roll that has 22 items. The rest of the film is continued on another roll that will not be in the drawer, and the librarian will tell you that it is "missing, and presumed lost."

Just before the entry you need, the records will end. They will begin again two years after the date you need.

If one brother is left out of the genealogy of a family, guess whose ancestor he will be?

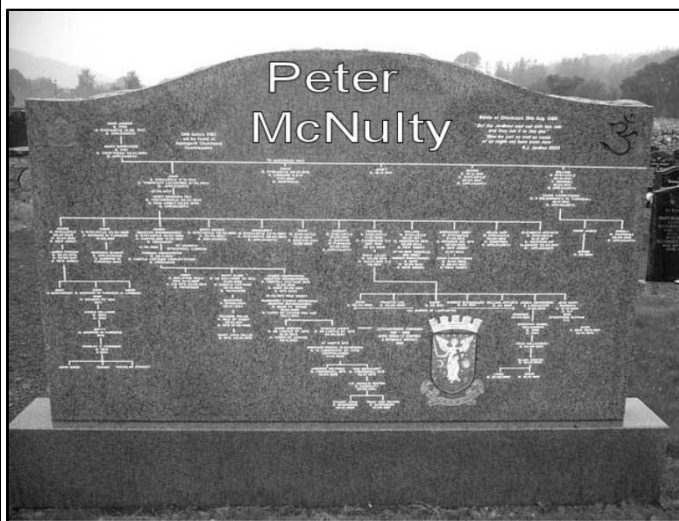
If there is a family history on one branch of the family -- it won't be yours.

When you finally find the microfilmed probate records of your missing link to a rich and/or famous line, the book will be so tightly bound that you can only make out the first two letters of the name of the one who MAY be your ancestor.

The researcher you hired to read the original records at the courthouse will inform you that only the particular probate packet you need is missing.

After spending a week at Family History Library in Salt Lake City, you finally find the book that will tell you about your ancestors ten minutes before closing time. Needless to say you have to return home and will probably never make it back to Salt Lake City again! Nor, will you remember the name of the book!

From the photo album...



No, this isn't Peter McNulty's tombstone. I found a picture of the tombstone on the Internet and couldn't resist doctoring it up by adding Peter's name to it. I plan on using it in one of my Power Point presentations at a future meeting of our genealogy group. My cousin, Cheryl Ann Heck keeps asking me if I found Peter McNulty yet so this one is for her.



The collage shown is from the Racine County Militant, a book about Racine County and the Civil War. Two of the men pictured above are from our family. One is of John Henry Hoffer who was married to Catharina Elisabeth Hen-

ningfeld, sister of our Franz Henningfeld. (Starting at the lower left corner go three to the right and up 4.) The other is Frederick Henningfeld, a nephew of Franz Henningfeld. . (Starting at the lower left corner go four to the right.)

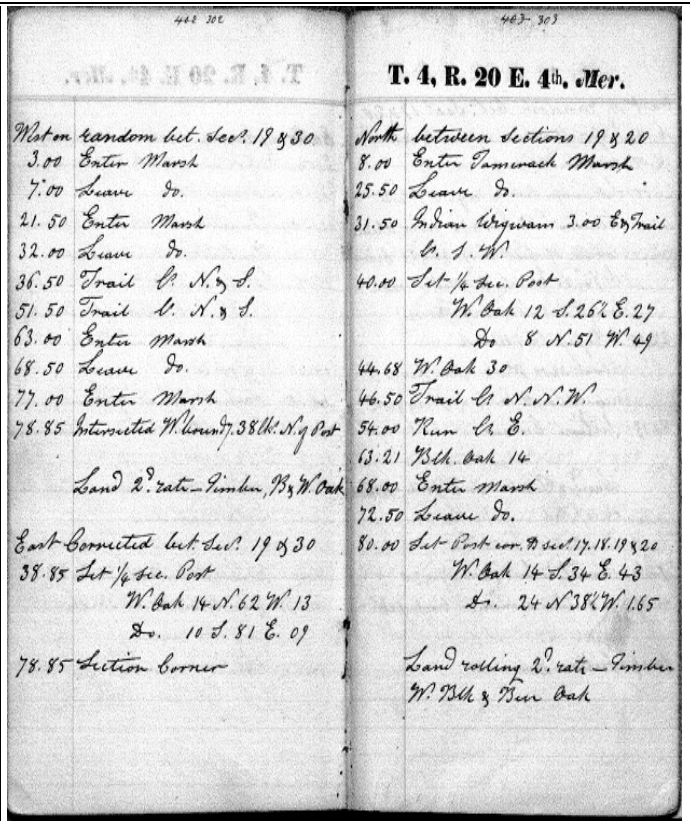
BIOGRAPHY: Frederick W. Henningfeld served in the Civil War. His death certificate lists his father as William Henningfeld, and the mother is unlisted. His Civil War pension record states that he served in Company "A", 43rd Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry. Frederick W. Henningfeld was listed in his parents probate record. Parents were shown as William and Elizabeth Henningfeld. Racine County Box 419: File 7184. In 1890, Frederick Henningfeld was listed in the St. Louis directory as living at 3818 Parnell Street.

MARRIAGE: Marriage information from the Declaration for Widow's Pension gives date of marriage and states that the marriage took place at St. Louis, Missouri and that it was performed by Father Schroeder, the Pastor of St. Liborius Catholic Church. St. Liborius was a German Catholic Church located at 18th & Hogan in St. Louis. The parish was in operation from 1856-1991. It has been closed since 1991.

OBITUARY: St. Louis, MO: Henningfeld - Entered into rest on Friday, January 25, 1918, at 8 a.m., Frederick Henningfeld, beloved husband of Anna Henningfeld, after a short illness, aged 71 years. Funeral will take place on Monday, January 28, at 7:30 a.m., from residence, 1630 Knapp Street, to St. Liborius' Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. HENNINGFELD, FREDERICK St. Louis Post-Dispatch January 27, 1918 .



Picture of Gary Heck, my brother, taken from an 8mm movie film taken in about 1942. The movie was taken at 1212- 1/2 Hagerer Street in Racine.



Shown above is the survey description of land owned by Franz Henningfeld in Norway Township, Racine County, Wisconsin. On September 28, 1850, he entered into a mortgage in Norway Township for 40 acres of land described as SE-1/4, SW-1/4, Section 30, Township 4, North of Range 20 East. The land cost \$55. What is interesting is that on the fourth line on the right side of the survey is written, "31.50 Indian Wigwam 3.00 Fox Trail."

The Fox Trail is probably Highway 36 today.

Join "What The HECK"

If you would like to learn more about our family, join our **Heck Family Facebook Group**. Log into Facebook and search GROUPS for "What The HECK". You can then request to join the Group. All we ask is that you state how you are related to the Heck family.

You can also send an e-mail message to Cheryl Ann Heck and ask her to send you an invitation to join the "What the Heck" group. Cheryl's address is whatdahek@sbcglobal.net