

The Ancestors of Kathleen Kay Neufeld Toews

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A 2024
Toews

Updated 8/16/2024

By Arrel Toews



EJ Neufeld Family



John Fadenrecht Family

This document contains information and photos on the ancestors of my wife, [Kathleen Kay Neufeld Toews](#). For historical information on her cultural and religious heritage and early family history, see [Our Mennonite Heritage and Early Family History](#), also on this website. I have assembled this document mostly for our immediate and extended family, but also hope others might be interested as well. Many people have been very helpful in supplying information, photos, maps and more, and they are gratefully acknowledged in [End Notes](#) on p 59 - this work would not have been possible without their generous support and help.

Disclaimer: This is **NOT** an academic research document - I have included few formal references besides [weblinks](#) that are [underlined in purple](#). Many weblinks for people are to [findagrave.com](#), a valuable resource for departed ancestors. I will always appreciate suggestions for improvements, additions or needed corrections. I make no claims for accuracy but promise I have done my best! You may contact the author at atoews@hotmail.com

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Specific Ancestors: Now that we have Arrel out of the way, some ancestral information on my first wife, **Kathleen Kay Neufeld Toews (1; numbers refer to pedigree chart on p 60)**. Kathy was born on 27 August 1949 in the **Ochiltree General Hospital, Perryton TX** (below),



the only child of **Leon and Viola Fadenrecht Neufeld**. Kathy grew up in the Balko community, located in Beaver County in the OK Panhandle (see below). We met while students at **Tabor College** in Hillsboro, KS and married just after Kathy graduated from Tabor. I had graduated a year earlier and had just finished my first year of graduate

school in Physiological Chemistry at The Ohio State University in Columbus OH. We were married **19 June 1971** in the Balko OK Mennonite Brethren Church (see photo below). We have two daughters. **Erin Lynne** was born 28 September 1979; she and her husband **David A Lemon** and their two sons, **Austin Jacob** (born 9 August 2010) and **Benjamin Arrel** (born 12 May 2013) live in Crozet, VA. Besides being a full-time mother, Erin is a public health nurse for the Charlottesville VA area. Dave is a Senior Vice-President-Investments for Wells-Fargo Advisors in Charlottesville VA. **Laura Kathleen** was born 18 December 1985 - she lives in Bethesda MD, where she is a nurse educator at Georgetown University Hospitals. She married **Barron B Martin** on 23 March 2019 near Charlottesville VA. Barron is Senior Vice-President at Sands Capital Management in Arlington VA. Their son **Barron III** was born 18 May 2021 and daughter **Elizabeth Kathleen "Ellie"** on 28 March 2023.

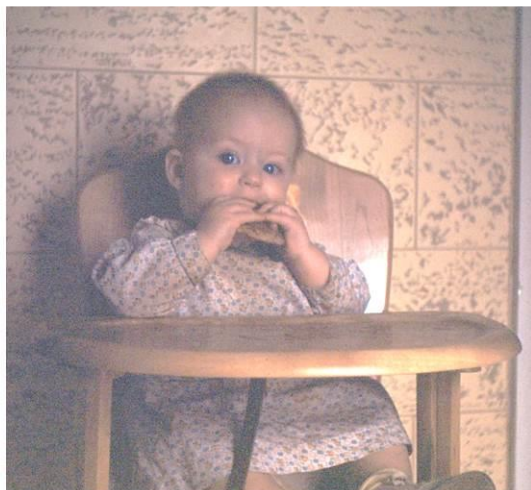


Note: Please also see "**The Ancestors of Arrel Toews,**" **George P & Anna Buller Toews Family,** and **Jacob A & Elizabeth Schmidt Voth Family** on our [ToewsVothKremlin family ancestor website](#).

Lots more in a later work on Kathy and Arrel's considerable family life together. Photos below were taken during our annual beach week, Surf City, NC, in June 2017.



Some photos of a **young Kathy Neufeld** are below: **top**, Kathy and her mother Vi taking a nap (L), and Kathy getting a bath in the kitchen sink; **bottom**, on the sofa, enjoying a cookie, and at age 9 months.





Above: Kathy at 1 year of age (L and center) and at age 4 years (R).



Above: Kathy & Vi, a young Kathy out and about, and first-grade Balko school photo

Below: Leon, Vi & Kathy Neufeld family through the years (L/R, ca 1955, 1968, 1969)



Kathy's Parents

Leon and Viola Fadenrecht Neufeld - Leon Neufeld (2) (photo at R) was born 18 November 1922 near Balko OK ("Megert Place" ~1 mile W of Balko School), the oldest child of **Edwin J and Alma Karber Neufeld**. He was a farmer in the Balko community his entire life. **Viola Esther Fadenrecht (3)** was born 15 February 1929 in Colony OK, the youngest of three daughters of **John R and Esther Froese Fadenrecht**. On 27 April 1947, Leon married Vi in Corn OK. They had one daughter, my wife, **Kathy**. **Leon** passed away on 23 April 2005 in Perryton TX and **Viola** on 20 March 2023 in Enid OK; both are buried in the **Balko MB Cemetery**. In her final years (2007-2023), Vi was a resident of the Golden Oaks Retirement Village in Enid OK.



Leon and Vi first lived in a small dugout/basement-type dwelling 4 mi E and 4 mi N, then $\frac{1}{4}$ back W from Bryans Corner (nothing remains of this dugout). In 1949, they purchased their farm W of Bryans Corner from Ruben and June Ollenberger when they moved to Buhler KS. When Kathy's great-grandmother Julia Neufeld died in 1955, Leon and Vi purchased her home and moved it to their new home-place, combining it with the small house already there.

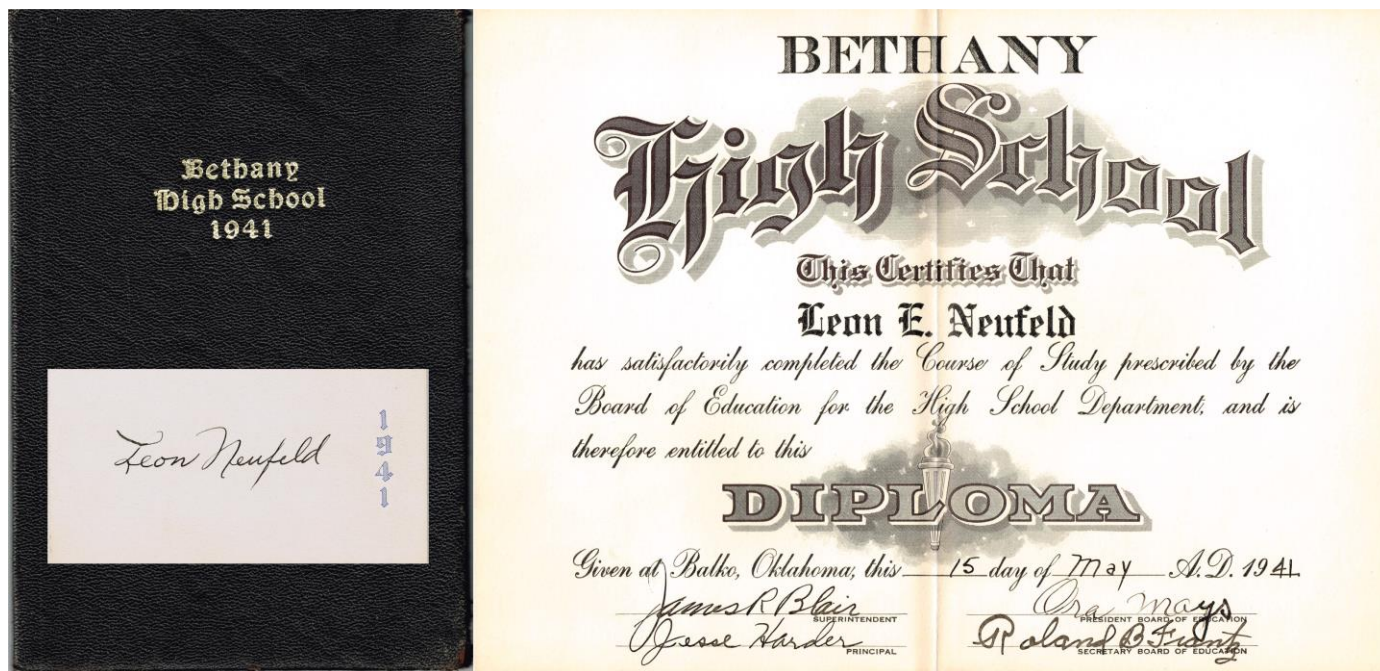
The **top photo** below shows the first home-place owned by **Leon & Vi Neufeld**, on OK-3/US-412, 3.5 miles W of Bryans Corner, N side - this is where **Kathy** grew up (photo taken years after they moved). The **middle L photo** shows Leon and Vi in front of their later home, previously the EJ Neufeld home-place (August 2004) while **middle R photo** shows Leon in the shade of the washhouse with water tank and windmill in back on this farmyard (July 2004).



Bottom photos show **Balko School**, where **Kathy** attended all 12 years.



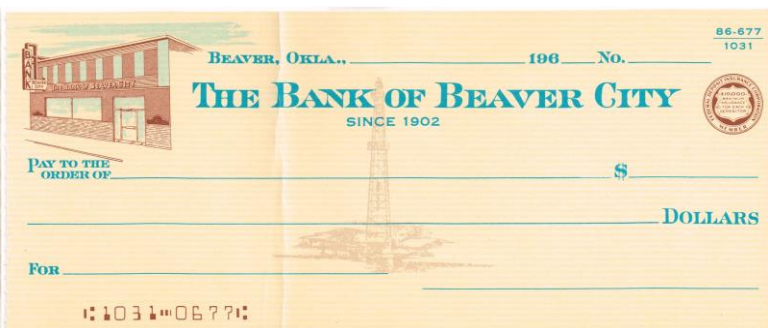
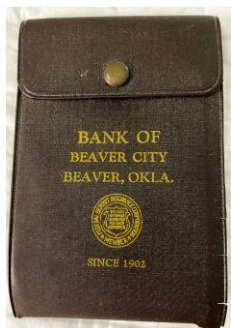
The 1941 Bethany School diploma for Leon Neufeld is shown below:



Below: (L) [Wedding of Leon and Viola Fadenrecht Neufeld 27 April 1947](#). Dorothy Neufeld Hagen L of Vi; facing bride; Gaylen Neufeld, John and Esther Fadenrecht (Vi's parents), Alma Karber Neufeld (Leon's mother). (R) [50th Anniversary celebration](#). Leon & Vi Neufeld, Kathy, Erin, Arrel & Laura Toews (1997).



Below: Bank of Beaver City checkbook, check, and Beaver County OK courthouse



Below: [Leon Neufeld](#) and [Viola Fadenrecht](#) as early adults. Perhaps the photo of Leon is his Bethany High School Senior photo.



[Viola Neufeld](#), ca 2000, when she was living at Golden Oaks Village in Enid OK; daughter [Kathy Toews](#) and [Viola Neufeld](#), Golden Oaks Village, November 2022.



An aerial view of the second [Leon Neufeld farmstead](#), looking SW, is below - this is the [EJ Neufeld homeplace](#) where Leon and his brothers and sisters grew up.



The [Balko community](#) in [Beaver County OK](#) was the center of the Kathy's Neufeld clan for several generations, so some information on that community and county are below. The [OK Historical Society](#) web-link for [Beaver County OK](#) is worth consulting for historical information.

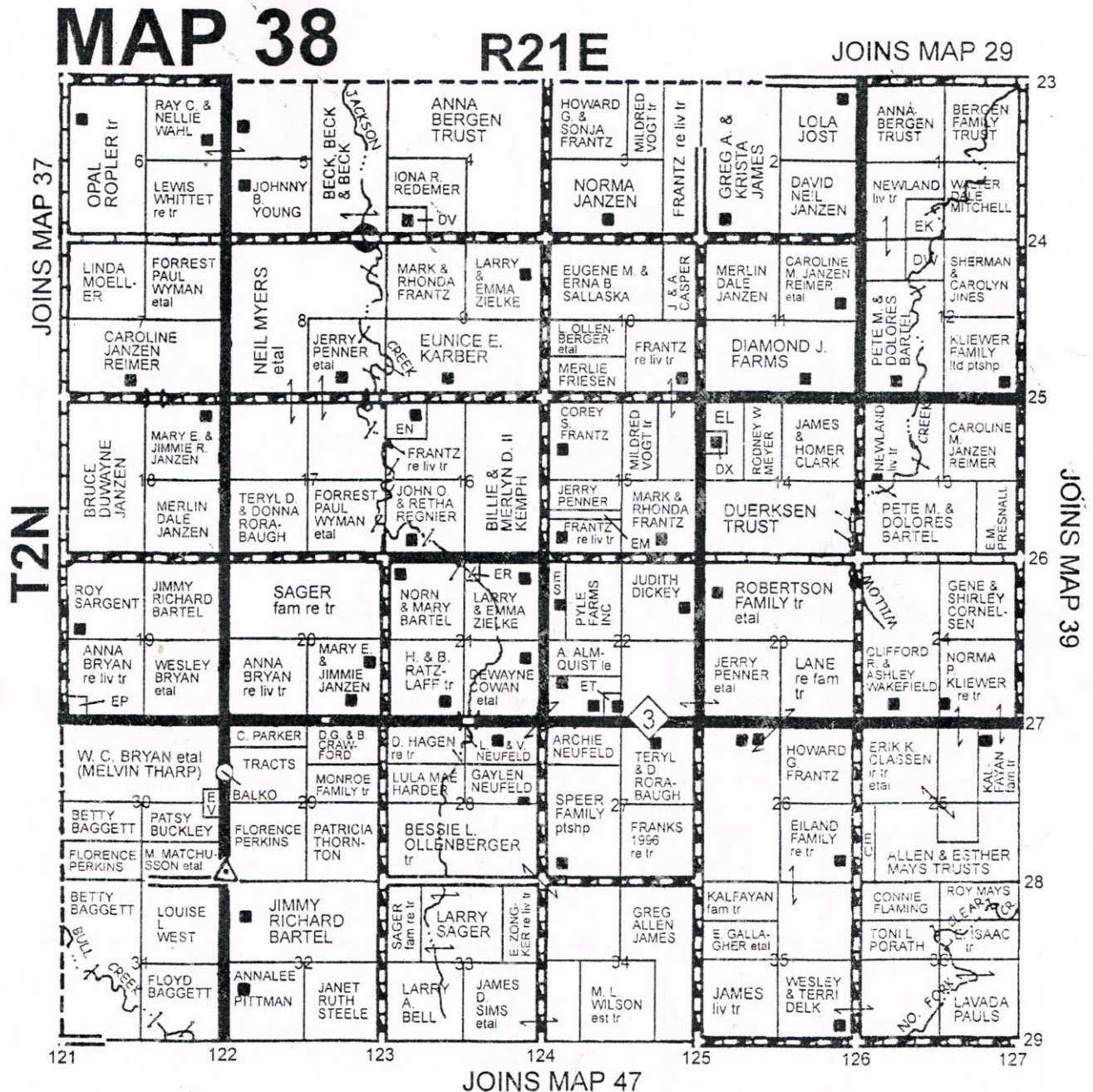
A [map of Beaver County](#) from the OK Publishing Company Photo Collection of the OHS is shown at R - it is interesting, albeit not geographically accurate.



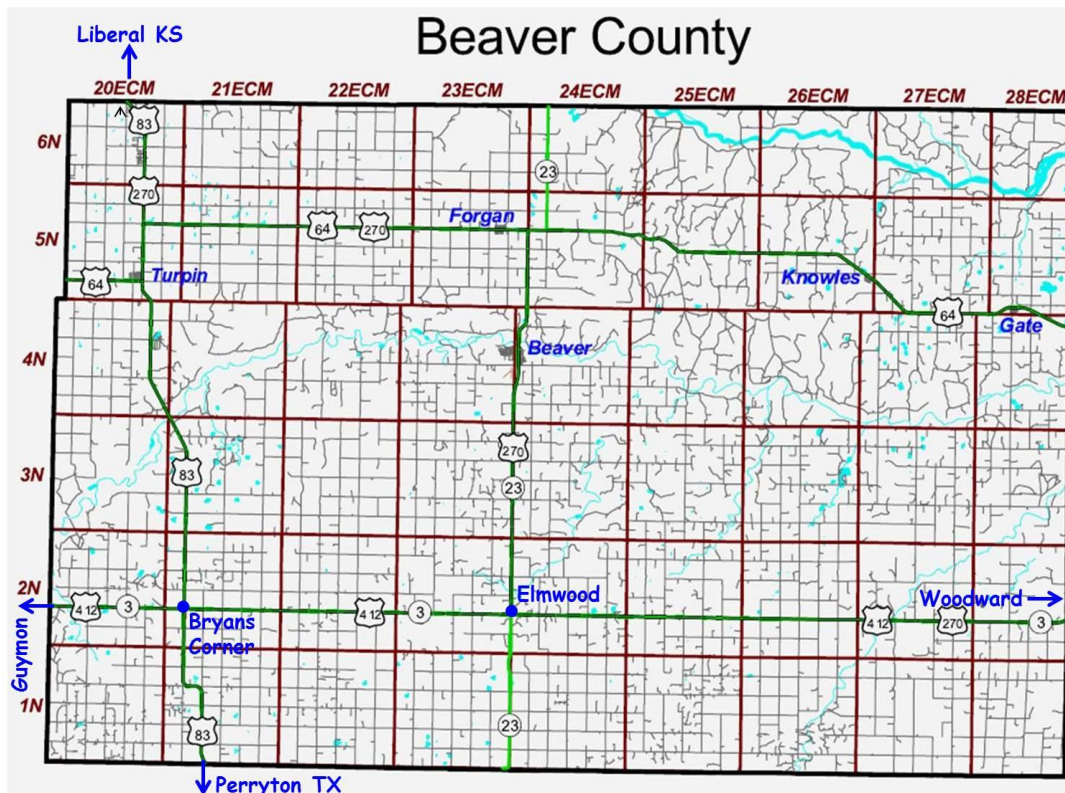
The Neufeld homeplace in Spring, 2009 is shown at R, looking ESE.



A plat map of T2N-R21E Township of Beaver County OK is shown below. This plat map contains most all of the Balko community, including the Neufeld farms and Balko MB Cemetery. From "Beaver County Oklahoma County Plat Ownership Maps," Western Cartographers, Series 4001, 2004.

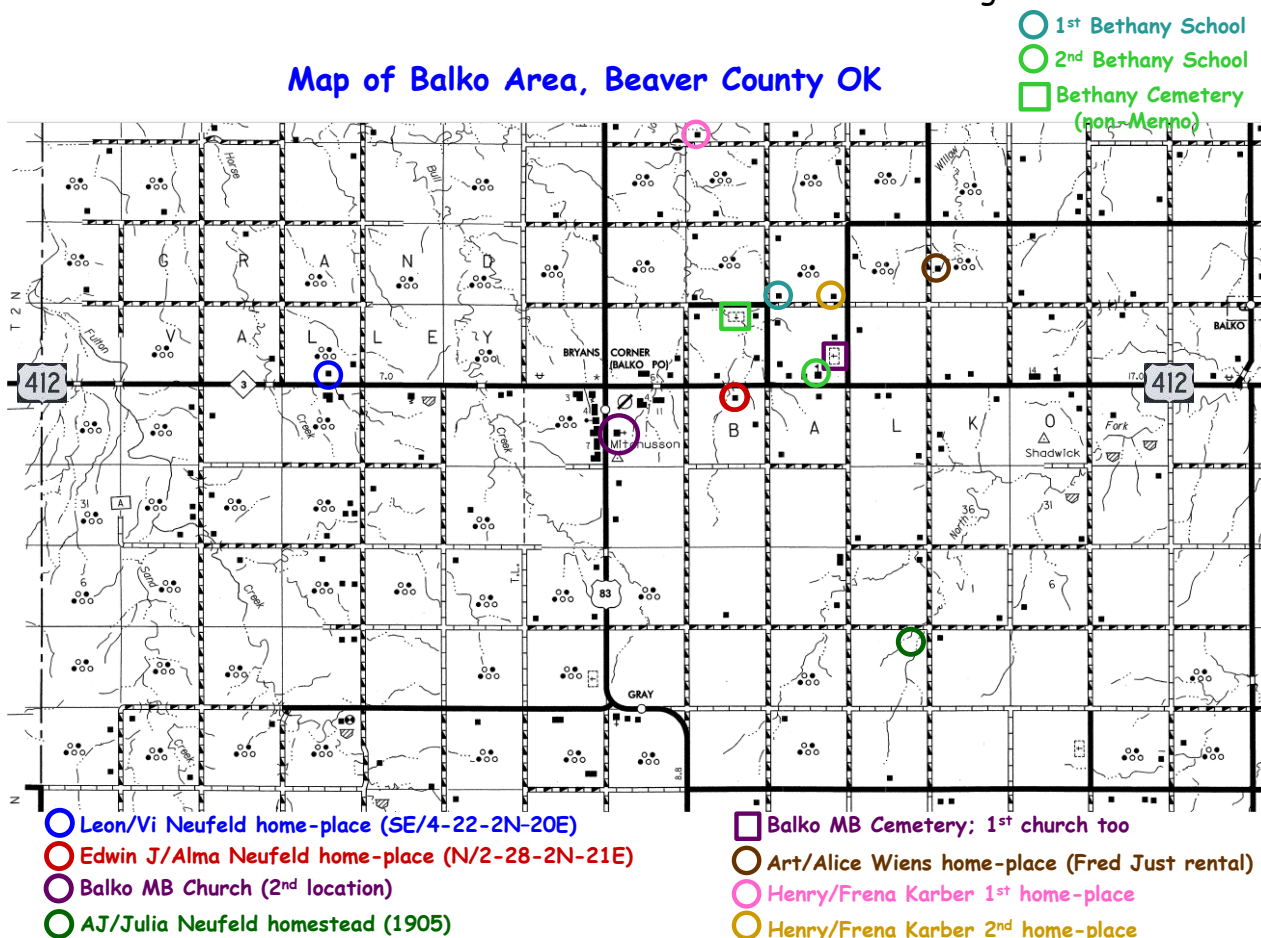


An accurate map of Beaver County by the OU Center for Spatial Analysis is shown below. The Balko Post Office and former Balko MB Church are located at Bryans Corner.



An annotated plat map of the Balko OK community is shown below. It may prove helpful for orientation as to the location of some families discussed in the following sections.

Map of Balko Area, Beaver County OK



Kathy's Grandparents

Edwin John Neufeld (4) (below L) was born 12 July 1899 in Marion County KS. On 6 November



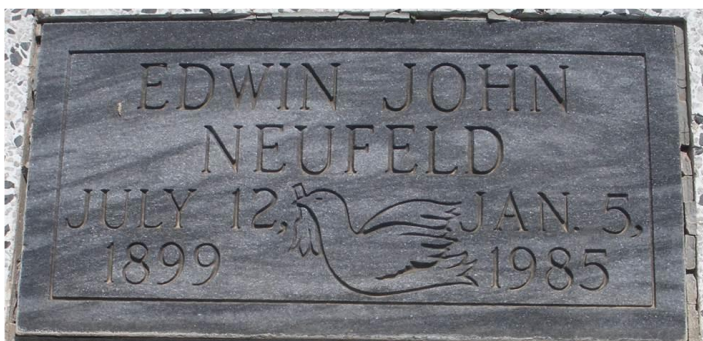
1921, he married **Alma Karber (5)**, born 7 February 1900 in Fairview OK. They lived on the Neufeld homeplace 1.75 miles E of Bryan's Corner OK, S side of US-412 for most of their lives, moving there in 1930. The current house was moved there in 1942/43.



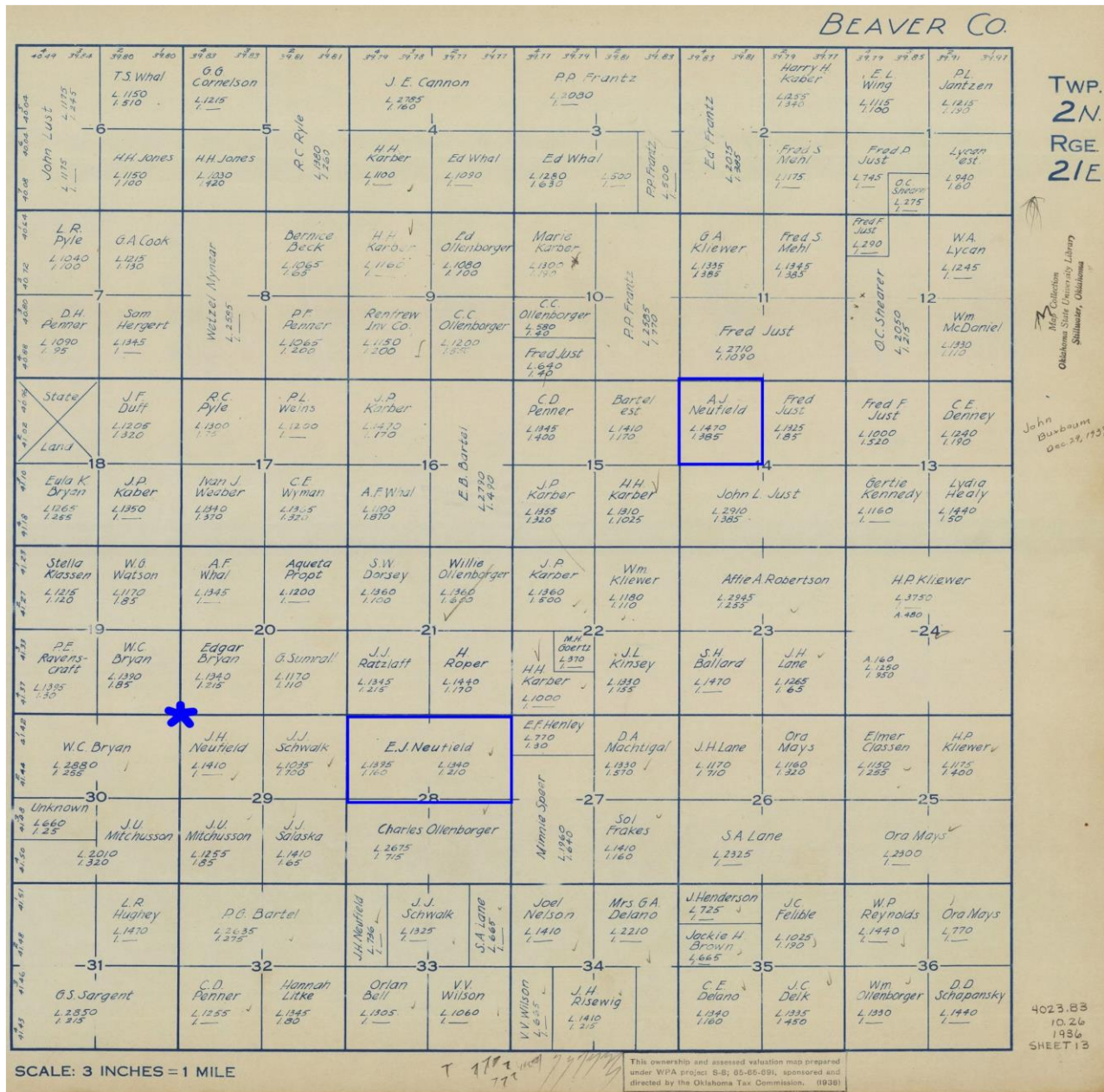
Edwin and Alma Neufeld had five children - **Leon**, **Lula Mae** (married Jess Harder), **Dorothy Lee** (married Allen Hagen), **Archie** (married Anna Ruth Cutrell) & **Gaylen** (married **Loretta Jost**). The photo below (L) shows **Leon**, Dorothy & Mae on an automobile ~1929/30. Note the "Perryton" sign on the radiator grille and the wash house and wooden windmill on the L. Below (R): **Leon**, Dorothy, Lula Mae Neufeld ~1928.



Alma died on 12 May 1962 and **Edwin** on 5 January 1985 in Hillsboro KS. Both are buried in **Balko MB Cemetery**. [Balko MB Cemetery Directory](#) is not current but worth exploring.



The [1936 WPA map](#) of T2N-R21E of Beaver County is shown below. [Edwin J Neufeld](#) (Neufeld) owns a half-section of land (N/2-28-2N-21E). His father (Kathy's G-Grandfather) [AJ Neufeld](#) owns NW/4 of Section 14. [Dave Ratzlaff's](#) Grandpa [JJ \(Jonathan Jacob\) Ratzlaff](#) is at SW/4 of Section 21, just N of EJ Neufeld - his grandson [Ken Ratzlaff](#) says JJ bought that farm on 31 May 1928 for \$6,000. [Roger Harms'](#) grandfather [Fred Just](#) is a major landowner! [Karbers](#) and [Penners](#) all over as well.



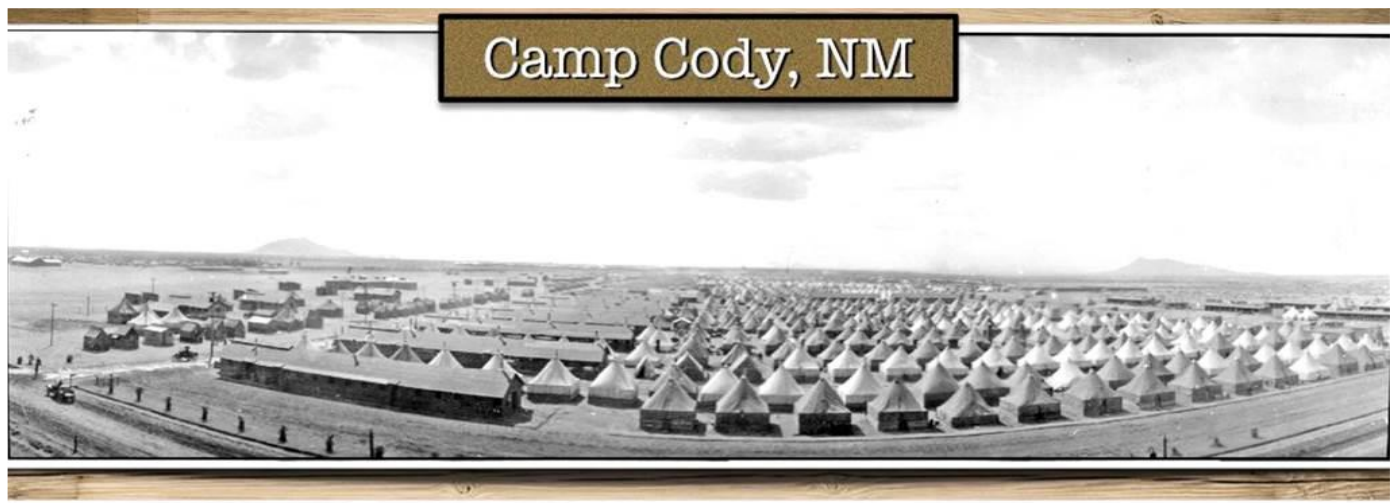
The current [Bryans Corner](#) (*) is at the intersection of [Highways US-412/OK-3 E/W](#) and [US 83 N/S](#) (common point of sections 19, 20, 29 and 30) - with Bryans owning the properties on 3 sides of this intersection, it is obvious how that name came about.

[JH Neufeld](#) (4th corner; NW/4-29) was part owner of a mercantile store in [Gray](#), 4 miles S and ½ E of the Corner in 1912; they relocated it from [Plainview](#), a tiny collection of stores and a school across the road from the MB Cemetery/parsonage (from Gaylen Neufeld).

Photos at R show [Edwin Neufeld](#) as a [Private](#) in the [US Army, 1918](#). The photo at L is his official US Army photo, and at R, he is shown in uniform at an unknown location. He was stationed at [Camp Cody](#) (yes, named after Buffalo Bill!) near [Deming NM](#), which housed up to 30,000 soldiers. He was only in the service for about 6 weeks before the armistice was signed, ending [WWI](#), so never saw any real action. The [Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918](#) was raging at the time, and he spent a good deal of his time in the infirmary.



Obviously a home-sick 19-year-old, his first letter home described the "most terrible, desolate land one could imagine." Archival photos of Camp Cody are shown below:

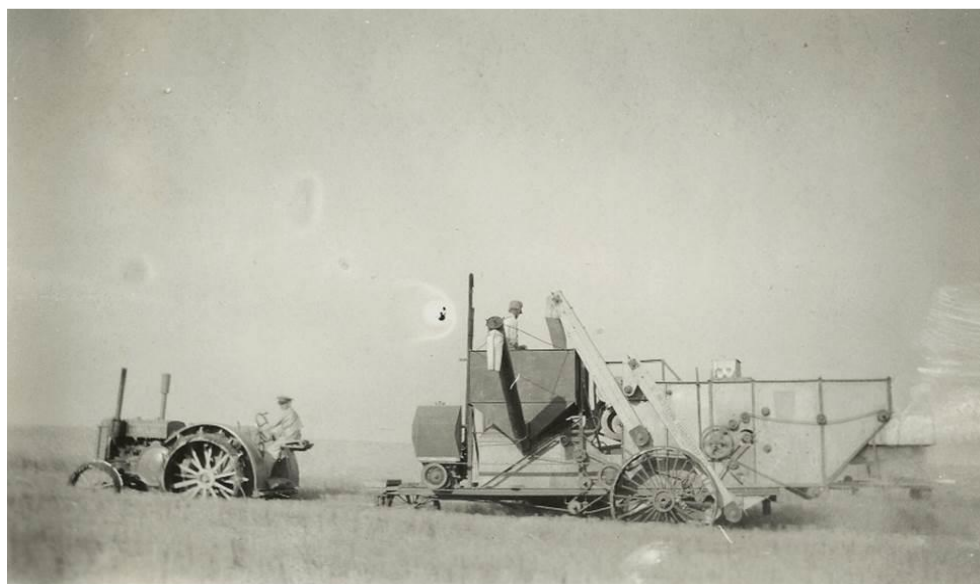
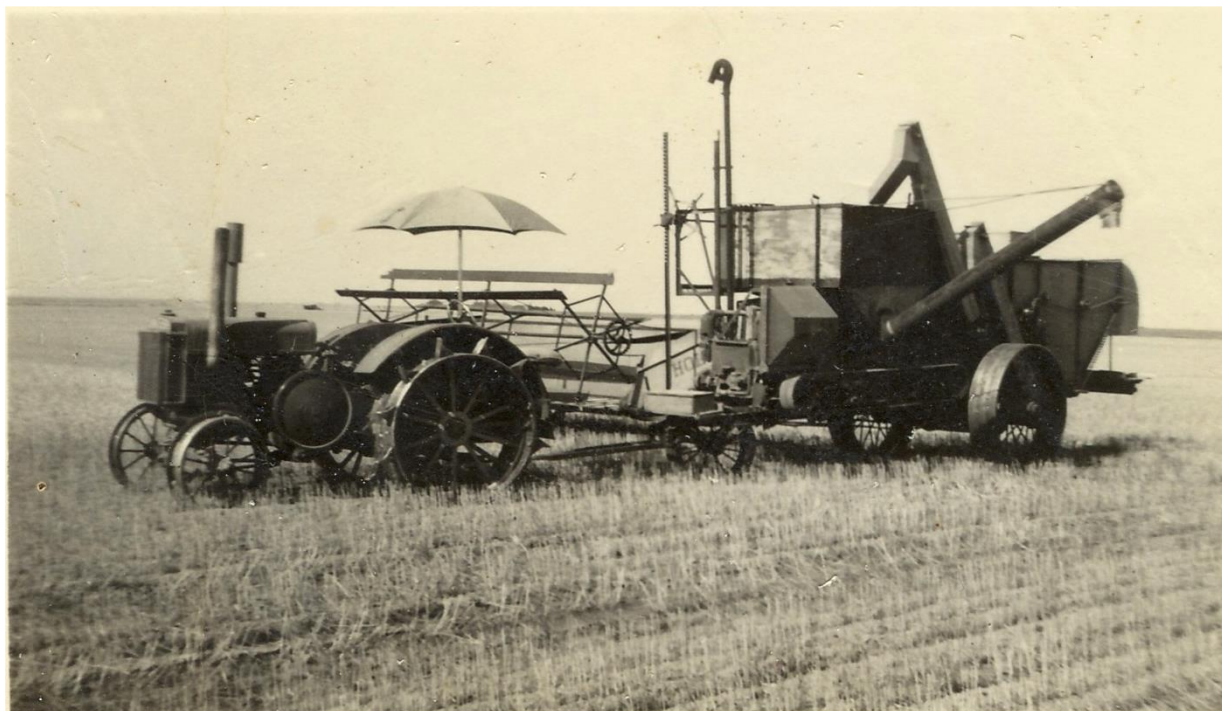


The children of EJ and Alma Neufeld attended local schools. The oldest, Leon, attended Union School, located ~5 miles S of the Neufeld home-place for grades 1 & 2, then the first Bethany School, located 2 mi E and 1 mi N of Bryans Corner, NE corner of that intersection (see Balko area plat map above for orientation). Daughters Lula Mae and Dorothy attended Bethany School all 12 years - this is where Jess Harder taught, and where he met his future wife, Mae. Son Archie attended the first 10 or 11 years, then graduated from the new Bethany School, located 2.5 mi E of Bryans Corner on the N side of OK Highway 3/US-412. Youngest son Gaylen attended the first Bethany School for 1st and 2nd grade, then the second Bethany School through the 8th grade - his parents then sent him to live with sister Mae and husband Jess Harder in Buhler KS, where he graduated from Buhler High School. See p 279 of *A History of Beaver County, V II (1971)* for Bethany School info and photos.

The top photo shows the first Bethany School in May 1925 - presumably End-of School Celebration Day! The lower photo shows the school ca 1941.



Some photos of harvest on the Neufeld farms with their [John Deere Model D tractor](#) and [1928 Holt combine](#) are shown below (date unknown):



This seems a reasonable place to document homes for the EJ Neufeld family and later for Leon and Vi Neufeld as well.

The [first house on the Edwin J Neufeld home-place](#) is shown below - this is the house in which Archie Neufeld was born in 1930 and later Gaylen on 25 February 1939.



Photo at R shows eventual distinguished Harvard scholar [Erwin N Hiebert](#) (1919-2012) in front of the above house. His memorial in the link above is well worth reading. At the time of his death, he was [Professor of the History of Science, Emeritus, at Harvard University](#). It is not known why he stopped by to visit the Neufelds - and if that's his bicycle or not!



Another photo of the [EJ Neufeld first house](#) is shown at L.

A different house was moved from [Forgan OK](#) approx. 37 mi to the Neufeld homeplace in [1943](#). The photos below show the house, moved by the Martens Brothers from Fairview OK, crossing the [Beaver River](#) (top) and about to be placed on its foundation on the Neufeld farmyard (bottom). The house was too wide for the Beaver River bridge, so one side was jacked up so it could hang over the E banister of the bridge! [Leon and Vi Neufeld](#) later moved to this home and farmstead ([1981](#)) from their earlier home-place 3.5 mi W of Bryans Corner. The house still stands to this day. Note wooden windmill tower at L in lower photo.




Photos at R & below show the [Leon & Vi Neufeld](#) yard and home on [1 June 2007](#), the day before Vi Neufeld sold the farm and buildings and moved to the Golden Oaks Retirement Village in Enid OK.

The bill of sale for this Neufeld farm auction is shown on the following page.



Bill of sale for farm auction of the Neufeld home-place, Saturday 2 June 2007.



NAYLOR
AUCTION and REALTY, INC.
Rt. 1, Box 65 (580) 646-3548, Balko, OK 73931




AUCTION

Saturday
JUNE 2, 2007

10:00 AM • BALKO, OK

SELLER: VIOLA NEUFELD
LOCATION: 2 Miles East of Intersection of Hwy. 3 & 83 (Bryan's Corner)

Real Estate and Personal Property
Real Estate sells at 12:00 PM

Real Estate: Prime location with Hwy. frontage and approx. 45 acres. Home is two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, kitchen, dining, living room, utility, Central heat & air. Outbuildings include 40 X 80 round top, cattle barn, shop, wooden grainery and other buildings.

Terms: 10% down day of sale. Abstracts to date, Warranty Deed will be furnished by the Seller. **Taxes:** will be prorated to the date of closing. Closing costs split 1/2 to the buyer, 1/2 to the seller. Possession at closing. Jamie Kee, Closing Agent. Any nouncements day of sale supersedes any prior advertising and take precedence. Dale Naylor is a single party broker for the Seller.

Household Personal Property
Jett II Handicap electric chair, new batteries, like new

Furniture
Divan; 4 rockers
Love seat w/ sleeper and 2 chairs to match
Drexel drop leaf dining table (3 leaves) 4 chairs
Drexel Buffet
Small dinette table w/ 2 chairs
Night stands
Desk w/ shelves; Small desk
Electric fireplace

Appliances
GE Refrigerator
Kenmore upright freezer
Chest freezer
Sharp carousel microwave
May tag washer and dryer
Antiques and Collectibles:

2 Double beds w/ dressers and chest of drawers
Singer sewing machine w/ treadle and attach.
Old irons (gas and diamond)
Dresser with bench
Ringer washing machine
Old license plates
Coal oil lamps

Unclassified Household:
Crochet bedspread or tablecloth
Bedding, tablecloths
Dolly stretchers
Nutcrackers; Humidifier
Crock pot, mixer, and many kitchen items; Fruit jars
Many cake decorating supplies
Christmas decorations (silver tree)
Flower arrangements, wall decor, pictures
Exercise bicycle
Grill; Camp stove
Tackle box, rod & reel
Moxberg .22 rifle


Shop tools and Nonclassified
Culkin Seed cleaner
Homemade power washer
4" Mayrath 18' auger, elect.
Log chains
JD 111 Riding mower, 36" deck, hydro
Lot battery chargers
Tire machine
Craftsman push mower
Creepers
Tire patch material
Lot shovels, rakes, forks

JD generator
New 1/2 air impact
New bench grinder
2 barrel stands
Extension cords
Mont. Ward Rota-tiller
Lot hyd. jacks
Screw jack
Homemade air compressor
Fisher anvil
Portable air tank
Chicago drill press, 12 speed
Heavy vise
Bench grinder on stand
Hyd. floor jack, band saw
Acetyline torch
1/2 socket set, new 3/4 socket set
180 amp. welder
Chain hoist
Binder rollers & belt pipe wrenches, hand tools, hammers, drills
Tap & die sets
Pipe threader
Wheel barrow, ladders, weed eaters
Carpenter tool box, carpenter tools
Table saw
Iron bedstead
Chicken brooder
12" 6" grain auger
Depot dolly, new dolly
Lot lumber; Cream can
Propane filler hose
Elect. chain saw; Skilsaw
1 gal. Sprayer; Meat saw
Lawn & garden tools
Wooden hen nest
Horse drawn cultivator
Many more items too numerous to mention.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
1. ALL SALES are final unless otherwise stated on the day of the sale.
2. SALES TAX: Buyer will collect unless you receive a Certificate of Resale with your tax number.
3. INCREDIBILITY: All descriptions used in advertising are based on the correct "vision" neither these descriptions nor any oral statement made by the Owner or the Auctioneer concerning any items are intended to constitute a warranty, either expressed or implied. All items are sold "as is" where they are.
4. RESERVATION: All items become your responsibility when sold. Buyer acknowledges risk of loss and damage property from time of purchase. Owner and the Auctioneer agree that merchandise must be removed promptly or be removed by Auctioneer's employees. Items not removed may be sold or stored.
5. RESALE: Auctioneer reserves the right to resell any property not paid for in full on the day and/or any items not removed by the announced removal deadline date. The buyer shall be responsible to the Auctioneer for the payment of resale, collection, and/or damage resulting from resale.
6. DISPUTES: The Auctioneer shall arbitrate any disputes between the buyer and the seller. A dispute arises between two or more bidders, the Auctioneer may, at his discretion, suspend the bidding. His designation of a buyer shall be final.
7. BUYER: Buyer agrees to hold Owner and the Auctioneer harmless for any personal injury to himself or his agents, and any property damage incurred when participating in this auction.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
Dale Naylor
OK 107486 - TX 7285
(580) 646-3548 - Balko, OK
(806) 435-1994



NAYLOR
AUCTION and REALTY, INC.
Rt. 1, Box 65 Balko, OK 73931

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
Randy Schreiner
AUCTNR0013438
(580) 423-7110 Texhoma, OK

Vi Neufeld's brand new home in the Golden Oaks Retirement Village, Enid OK, is shown at R. She had a very nice 3rd floor corner apartment with a deck overlooking wheat fields.



Photo at R is of the [Edwin J and Alma Karber Neufeld family](#).

(L/R): Lula Mae, Alma, Dorothy, Archie, Edwin J and Leon. (ca 1935 - Archie was born in 1930 and Gaylen in 1939).

Below: [Edwin J Neufeld](#) in his later years



Memorial obituaries for [Edwin J and Alma Karber Neufeld](#) from the Perryton TX Herald are shown at R.

A TRIBUTE
published in the pages of
THE HERALD
PERRYTON, TX.
MAY 16, 1962

Memorial Obituary
Entered Into Eternal Rest
Saturday, May 12, 1962

**Neufeld Services
Are Conducted
In Balko Church**

Memorial rites for Mrs. Alma Karber Neufeld were conducted at Balko Mennonite Church on Tuesday, May 15, with the pastor, Rev. David Block, officiating.

Interment in the church cemetery was directed by Goodner Funeral Home of Beaver.

Alma Karber Neufeld was born February 7, 1900, to H. H. and Frena Karber near Fairview, Okla. where she spent her early childhood under pioneer conditions.

In 1913, she moved with her parents to Beaver county where once again the family went through pioneering experience in the Bethany community.

At the age of 17 she was baptized and became a member of the Bethel Mennonite Brethren Church on May 20, 1917. She remained an active member of the church until her death.

On November 6, 1921, she was married to Edwin J. Neufeld and to this union was born Leon, Lula Mae, Dorothy, Archie and Gaylen.

One month before her death, Mrs. Karber and her husband visited each of the children. Shortly after returning, she entered the hospital for a heart condition.

Going home after a brief hospital stay, Mrs. Neufeld returned to the hospital on May 10, then passed away shortly before noon on Saturday, May 12.

She was preceded in death by her father and two sisters.

Surviving are her husband, Edwin; three sons, Leon Neufeld of Gray, Archie Neufeld of Denver, and Gaylen Neufeld of Manhattan, Kan.; two daughters, Mrs. Jesse Harder of Butler Kans., and Mrs. Allen Hagen of Hillsboro, Kan.; her mother, Mrs. H. H. Karber, eleven grandchildren, two sisters, and four brothers.

A TRIBUTE
published in the pages of
THE HERALD
PERRYTON, TX.
JAN. 9, 1985

Memorial Obituary
Entered Into Eternal Rest
Saturday, Jan. 5, 1985

EDWIN J. NEUFELD
Edwin J. Neufeld, son of Abraham J. and Julia (Goertz) Neufeld, was born July 12, 1899 in Marion County, Kansas.

At a very early age, in 1901, he moved to Hitchcock, Oklahoma, where his father operated a general store and post office. Four years later, in 1905, he moved to Beaver County, Oklahoma, where his father had homesteaded.

Edwin accepted Christ as his Saviour and was baptized May 20, 1917, at the age of almost 18 years, and accepted into the membership of the Bethel Mennonite Brethren Church at Balko, Oklahoma.

On November 6, 1921, Edwin married Alma Karber, also at the Bethel Mennonite Brethren Church at Balko.

Edwin was a lifetime farmer in the Balko area. He bought land from the Fred Litke's, who lived in Minnesota.

During the 1930's, things became so bad that Edwin was unable to make the payments. Edwin offered to give the land back, but Litke's graciously wrote back, saying "Pay us when you can". So folks persevered and the land was eventually paid off! Edwin and Alma survived the Depression and Dust Bowl years, and remained in the Panhandle.

Edwin took pride in his farming. He always wanted the work done right, and he had clean fields!

He faithfully supported the programs of his church, and was especially involved in MCC and CROP, as well as serving as a member of the choir and men's chorus in the early years, and on the church building committee in 1946.

He served the community as a member of the Bethany School Board. Edwin was very concerned about the proper rearing of his children.

His wife, Alma died May 12, 1962, after over 40 years of marriage. Edwin continued on the farm, until an accident on August 22, 1980, at which time he moved to Salem Home, at Hillsboro, Kansas, where he was a resident until his death. Edwin died January 5, 1985, at the age of 85 years, five months and 23 days.

Edwin is survived by his children: Leon and Viola Neufeld, Balko; Mae and Jesse Harder, Buhler, KS; Dorothy and Allen Hagen, Hillsboro, KS; Archie and Ruth Neufeld, Morrison, CO; and Gaylen and Loretta Neufeld, Emporia; as well as 13 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. He is also survived by three brothers: Arthur, Weatherford; Milton, Balko; and Albert, Reedley, CA; and four sisters: Elsie Wiens, Hillsboro; Louise Frantz, Perryton; Luella Briscoe, Bridgeport, TX; and Bernice Hiebert, Hillsboro.

He has been preceded in death by his wife, Alma, one brother, Sam, of Newton, KS; and one sister, Stella Neufeld, Wichita.

NEUFELD SERVICES HELD
Funeral services for Edwin John Neufeld were held Monday, January 7, 1985 at 2:30 p.m. from the Balko Mennonite Brethren Church with Gaylord Goertzen, pastor, officiating.

Organist was Lola Jost. Pianist was Carolyn Frantz. A quartet composed of Art Wiens, Clifford Granau, Roy Karber and Orlan Frantz, sang "When I'm Standing On Jordans Shore", "When My Soul Reaches Home", and "Sweetly Resting".

Casket bearers were grandsons: Roger Hagen, Terry Hagen, Douglas Neufeld, Randy Hagen, Fenton Harder and Daniel Neufeld.

Honorary casket bearers were Harvey Ratlaff, Carl Roper, John Ollenberger, Otto Roper, Desley Tice, Melvin Fleck and Bill Herndon.

Interment was made in Balko Mennonite Cemetery under the direction of Clark Funeral Service, Beaver, Oklahoma.

The photo below, taken ~1945, shows the **Edwin J Neufeld family**: (L/R) **Edwin J, Dorothy, Gaylen, Archie, Alma, Lula Mae & Leon**.



A later family photo below taken ~1947/48 shows **back: Dorothy & Allen Hagen, Mae and Jess Harder**; **middle: Gaylen, Edwin J & Alma Karber Neufeld**; **front: Archie Neufeld, Viola & Leon Neufeld**.



Right: **Edwin J Neufeld family**, ca 1982:
L/R, **Edwin J**, **Gaylen**, **Dorothy (Hagen)**, **Leon**,
Archie, **Mae (Harder)**; N of the house at
Neufeld home-place E of Bryan's Corner OK.



Left: **Edwin J Neufeld** and great-granddaughter **Erin Toews**, 1980; Leon Neufeld home-place W of Bryan's Corner OK

Below: Edwin J Neufeld family with spouses, ~1982: L/R, **Edwin J**, **Gaylen & Loretta Neufeld**, **Viola & Leon Neufeld**, **Ruth & Archie Neufeld**, **Dorothy & Allen Hagen**, **Mae & Jess Harder**.



Kathy's maternal grandfather John R Fadenrecht (6) was born 14 December 1902, 2 miles S and 2.25 E of Colony, Washita County OK. On 13 February 1927, in Hydro OK, he married **Esther Froese (7)**, born 22 November 1908 in Beaver County OK. They lived most of their adult lives near or in Cordell OK. John was initially a farmer 2 miles S and 2.5 miles E of Colony (see plat map, p 33), raising cotton and broom corn his daughters helped harvest, then after retiring from that occupation, he worked in a Western Auto store until he purchased a paint-wallpaper-Bible bookstore (Johnnie's Paint Shop) in Cordell. They lived out their days in [Cordell](#).



John passed away on 6 October 1991, and Esther on 9 November 1995, both in Cordell OK. [John](#) and [Esther](#) are buried in the [Bible MB Church of Cordell Cemetery](#), 1½ miles S and 3 miles E of [Bessie](#), Washita County OK.



John and Esther had **three daughters**, **Viola** and **twins Irene** (married to Dr. Jerome Adams) and **Arlene** (married to Jonah Schmidt). Shown **below L** (L/R) Irene, Viola in back, Arlene; **center**: Irene, Viola, Arlene as small children; **R**: Arlene, Irene, Viola as teenagers.

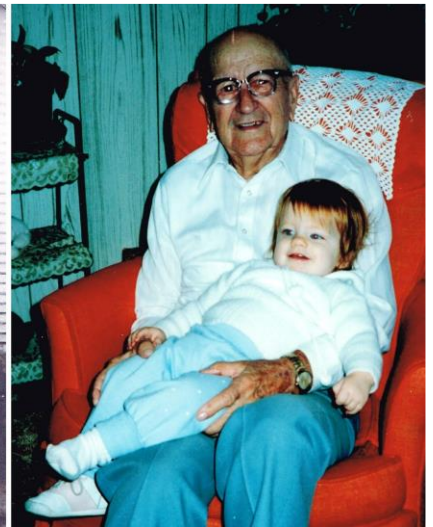


More photos of the [John and Esther Fadenrecht family](#), some graciously provided by [Jimmy Adams](#), son of Irene Fadenrecht Adams, are shown on this and the following page.

Top panel, L to R: [Esther and John Fadenrecht with newborn twins Arlene and Irene, 1928](#); [Esther, John, Vi, Irene & Arlene Fadenrecht](#); [Vi, Irene & Arlene Fadenrecht](#).



Below: [John Fadenrecht with new daughter Viola, ca 1929](#); [John Fadenrecht family](#); [John Fadenrecht and great-granddaughter Laura Kathleen Toews, Cordell OK, January 1987](#).



[John and Esther Fadenrecht, Laura, Erin and Kathy Toews, Cordell OK, ca 1990](#)





Below: [Arlene, Irene & Vi Fadenrecht](#); [Arlene, Irene, Vi, John & Esther Fadenrecht](#).

[John & Esther Fadenrecht family](#) photo taken December 1951 is below: Back row, from L: Leon & Vi Neufeld, Irene & Jerome Adams; front, Jonah, Loren Dean & Arlene Schmidt, Esther Fadenrecht with Kathy Neufeld on her lap, John Fadenrecht, Elaine Schmidt.



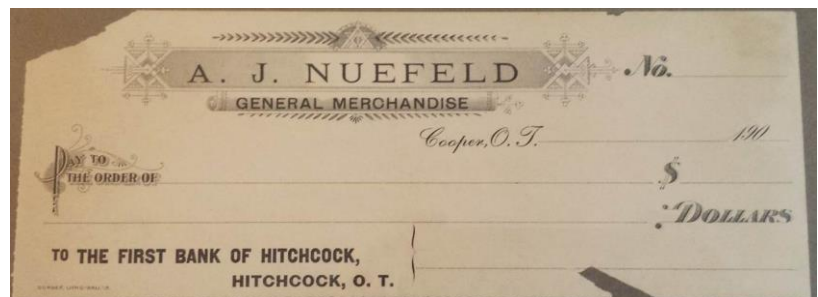
Kathy's Great-Grandparents

Abraham J Neufeld (8) was born 23 May 1869 in **Sparrau**, Molotschna, South Russia, the son of Abraham and Maria Toews Neufeld. He immigrated to the US with his family when 9 years old (see below). **Julia Goertz (9)** was born 31 December 1878 near Canada (~5 miles E of Hillsboro), Marion County KS, the daughter of Henry A and Minnie Unruh Goertz. On 3 January 1897, Abraham J and Julia were married in the Hillsboro Mennonite Church, with Pastor John F Harms presiding. For a time, Abraham and Julia lived in Hillsboro, KS, where he was a clerk in the [Schaeffler Mercantile Company](#) store, founded by [William F Schaeffler](#) in 1887. Elsie and Edwin J



were born in Hillsboro. In 1900, one year after Edwin was born, Abraham J moved his family to near **Hitchcock, Blaine County, Oklahoma Territory** where they settled at **Cooper**, a small community near Hitchcock, where he operated a "general merchandise" country store. On 21 August 1901, he was also appointed **postmaster** for **Cooper OK**, located at NW/NW/4-11-17N-10W and was discontinued 31 January 1906.

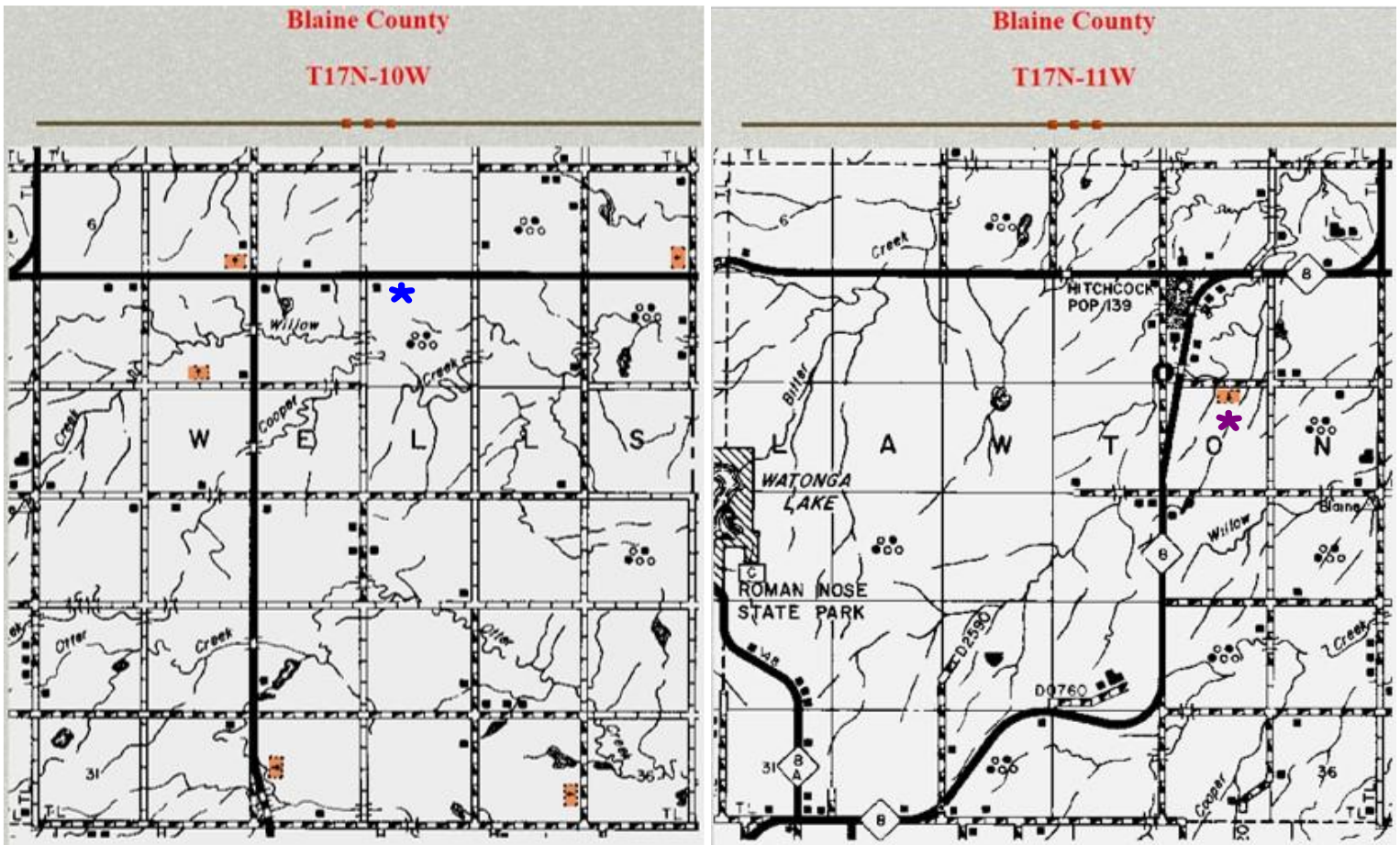
After just 4 years in Blaine County, the family moved to Beaver County in the OK Panhandle. Abraham J obtained a quarter section of land there as his homestead, moving his family there in Spring 1905. The move was made in a covered wagon into which furniture and household goods were loaded, drawn by their 2 bay horses, Max and Bill. Chickens were loaded onto a spring wagon with a coop built on it, drawn by another horse. The ~200 mile trip took about 9 days, including a Sunday overnight stop in Woodward. They lived in a small 1-room home already on the homestead, with an existing dugout used as a chicken house. Abraham soon went to work breaking up the prairie with a walking plow and the two horses, and planted milo, kaffir corn and sorghum for feed crops and broomcorn for a cash crop. He soon returned to Blaine County to get his small cattle herd, about 9 in number. The children milked 4 cows and herded their cattle on prairie land around their farm. Some of



the above from the typed memories of [Elsie Neufeld Enns Wiens](#) , sister to EJ Neufeld (appended; see p 60-61; date unknown).

The [Blaine County township maps](#) below show the locations of [Hitchcock \(Lawton Township; R\)](#) and [Cooper \(Wells Township; L\)](#). The presumed location of the [Cooper post office](#) is marked with * in the Wells Township Plat Map (T17N-R10W) at L below.

The [Cottonwood Cemetery](#) near Hitchcock where [Abraham P and Maria Toews Neufeld](#) (Kathy's GG-Gparents) are buried (see p 44) is located in the Lawton Township (T17N-R11W) Plat Map at R below, denoted by *.



Web links to relevant maps on [OkGenWeb.net \(Sooner State Genealogy\)](#) are shown below. This is a nice website for OK township and town maps going back to the late 1800s.

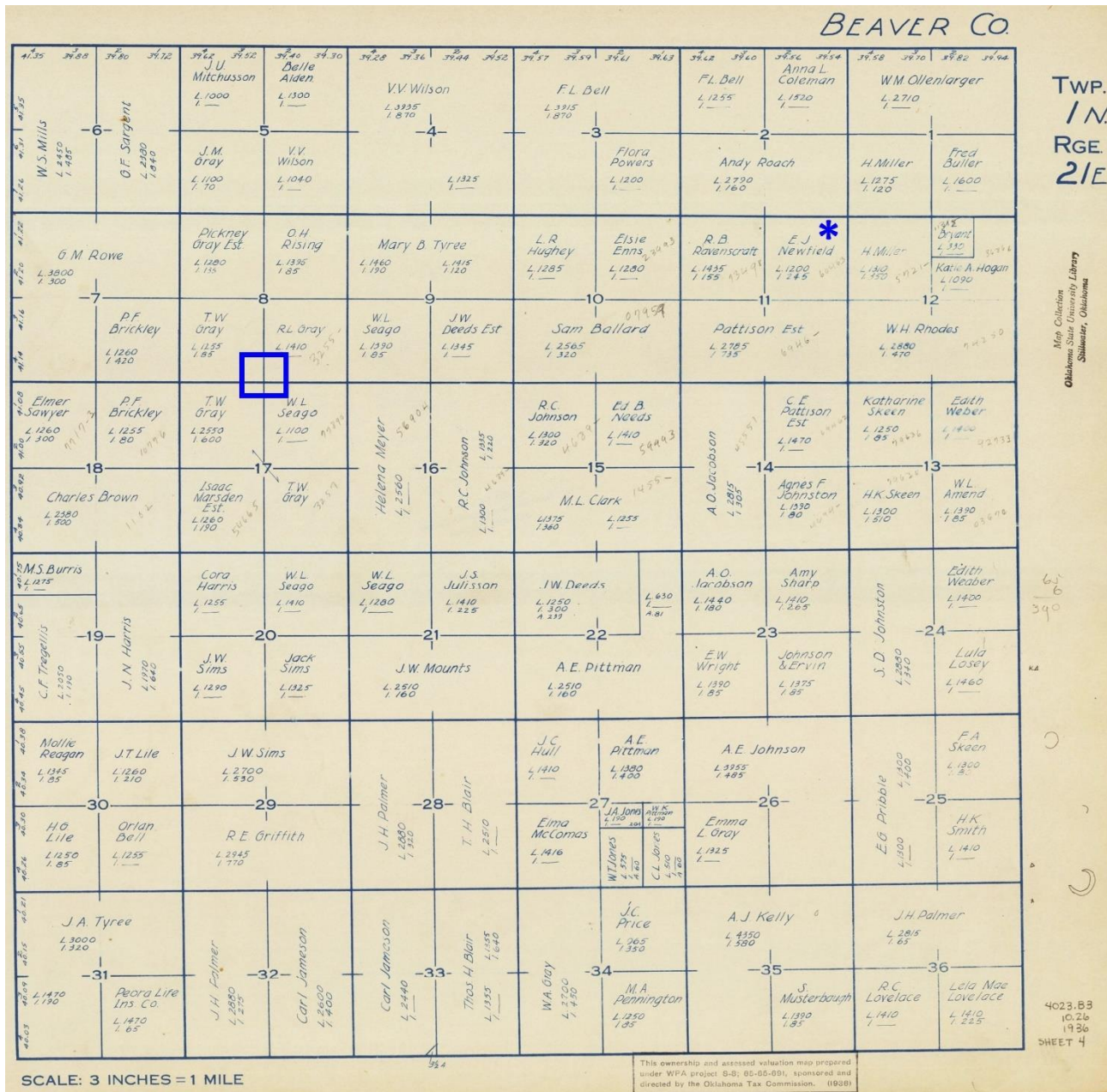
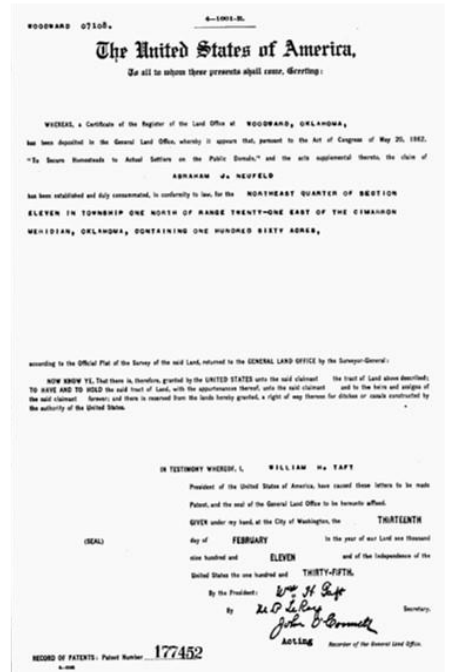
<http://okgenweb.net/okprojects/blaine/blaine-matrix.html>

<http://okgenweb.net/okprojects/blaine/blaine-towns-matrix.html>

<http://okgenweb.net/okprojects/blaine/bln-17n-11w.html> - Hitchcock (1895, 1915, 1972)

<http://okgenweb.net/okprojects/blaine/bln-17n-10w.html> - Cooper (1895, 1915, 1972)

The T1N/R21E Township map of Beaver County below shows the original homestead of **AJ Neufeld** (*; NE/4-11-1N-21E); in 1936, it was owned by his son **Edwin J Neufeld**. At that time, AJ was living on NW/4-14-2N-21E (see map on p 11). The original land patent for this homestead, granted 13 February 1911 is shown at R. **Blue box** denotes location of the nearby town of **Gray**. It was at one time a thriving town - the US Post Office was established 13 January 1906, at the time in Indian Territory. There is a very nice 5-page article on Gray with lots of photos, including the interior of the Plainview Hardware Store in "History of Beaver County, Vol II," 1971 (p 172). One photo shows **Buster Brown** himself at a community Trade Day promoting his shoes! Well worth a look!



This ownership and assessed valuation map prepared under WPA project 8-8; 85-85-031; sponsored and directed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission. (1938)

The [original Abraham J Neufeld home-place](#) was located 3.5 miles S and 1 mile E of the original site of the Balko MB Church (and site of the Balko MB Cemetery). The photo at R shows the AJ and Julia Neufeld original homestead several years later.



[Edwin, son of Abraham J and Kathy's grandfather](#), told his youngest son [Gaylen](#) that he could remember a TX cattle drive going by their place and it seemed to go on forever. When they had passed, there was not a blade of grass anyplace the herd had been!

The photo at R shows the [Abraham J Neufeld family](#). **Back row:** Art, [Edwin \(Kathy's grandfather\)](#), Sam, Milton; **Middle:** Elsie, Stella, Louella, Louise; **Front:** Abraham J, Albert, Bernice, & Julia



[Elsie Neufeld Enns Wiens'](#) memories of the [AJ Neufeld family](#) are appended.

[Abraham](#) died on 5 January 1940 near Balko, OK, and [Julia](#) on 6 August 1955. They are both buried in the [Balko MB Cemetery](#), 3 miles E and $\frac{1}{2}$ N of Bryan's Corner OK.



Henry H Karber (10) was born 20 November 1875 in Bloomington IL. **Frena Penner (11)** was born 11 November 1874 in Bloomington IL. On 16 September 1893, Frena staked out her homesteading claim near Hennessey OT during the [Cherokee Strip Land Run](#), aka Land Run of 1893 or Cherokee Outlet Opening. Henry and Frena were married on 15 August 1897 in Fairview OK. They owned a general merchandise store after moving from their farm SE of town. Later, when land was to be had in the OK Pan-handle, they traded their store for 320 acres of land in Beaver County OK near Boyd (1 mi E & 3 mi N of Bryans Corner, NE corner of intersection). There they built a sod house for their then family of 6 children - it had 2' thick walls of sod cut from the prairie with a wood-shingle roof and was cool in the summer and warm in the winter. It had 3 rooms - a parlor and 2 bedrooms. Later a wooden lean-to was added to their "soddie" with a kitchen/dining room and additional bedroom. They later moved to their second home-place 3 mi E and 1 mi N of Bryans Corner, NW corner (see [Balko plat map, p 8](#)).



Henry H and Frena Karber had 9 children: Harry H (married Luella Wiens), **Alma (married Edwin J Neufeld, Kathy's grandfather)**, Martha, A Harvey (married Lula Unruh), **Alice (married Arthur E Wiens)**, Verna, Reuben (married Agnes Sawatzky), Cecille Ruth (married Arthur Almquist), & Vernon Ray (married Edythe Wiens).

Henry passed away 16 July 1955 near Balko, OK and **Frena** on 23 November 1962 in Fairview, OK. Their earthly remains rest in the [Balko MB Cemetery](#).



Above: **Henry and Frena Karber, 1955.**

Mennonites in suits playing basketball in front of Henry Karber's barn on a Sunday afternoon (below). There were also two goals mounted in the hayloft on both ends, so when the loft was empty, a nice full basketball court. They even enjoyed inside night games, by the light of kerosene lamps!

Although officially frowned upon by fellow Mennonites, Henry encouraged his sons and friends to enjoy basketball games. This barn was moved on skids from the original Karber home-
stead, pulled by a Rumley Oil-Pull and another large tractor to the second Karber home-place.



Shown at **right** are **four generations of Neufelds/Karbers**: **Kathy Neufeld**, her Grandmother **Alma Karber Neufeld**, her Great-Grandmother **Frena Penner Karber** & Kathy's father, **Leon Neufeld**, on the home-place of **Great-Grandparents Karber** near Balko, OK (1 mile N and 3 E of Bryans Corner; April 1955).

Below: Alma Karber eating watermelon by Henry Karber threshing crew cook-shack.



Henry Karber threshing rig with Rumley Oil-Pull tractor, threshing machine, and cook-shack on the move is shown below. Note the woman in the cook-shack door, the men below, and the young girl to the L of the cook-shack.



Photo at R shows a close-up of the Henry Karber threshing crew cook-shack with (L/R) HH Karber daughters Alma & Alice Karber, with unknown child between. Alma would marry Edwin J Neufeld (Kathy's grandparents) and Alice would marry Art E Wiens (Leon's aunt and uncle).



The uncropped photo of the Henry Karber threshing crew on the move is shown below.

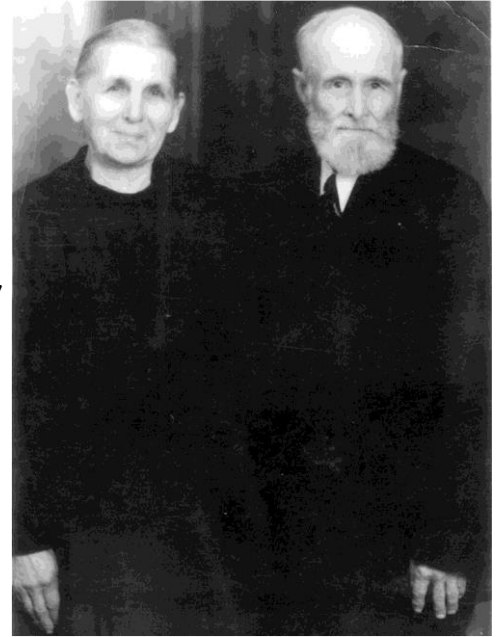


Rudolf Fadenrecht (12) was born 2 September 1857 in **Landskrone**, Molotschna, South Russia. Rudolf and his first wife Amanda Hinz Fadenrecht and their family immigrated to the US, leaving from Bremen, Germany on the Norddeutscher Lloyd Line's **S/S Hermann** and



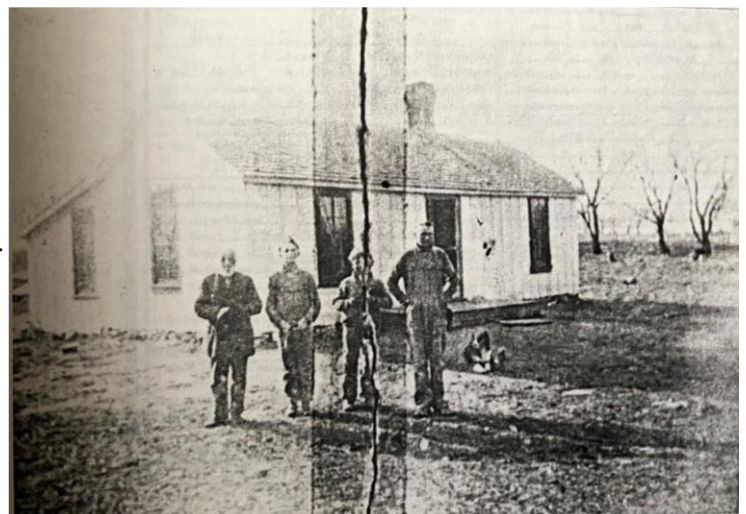
arriving in Baltimore MD on 24 October 1888. They settled in with Rudolf's brothers in Hamilton County NE. Then in 1895/6, he purchased a farm (160 acres) and a 40 for \$680 from the Northern Pacific Railway Company near Ulen, Clay County, MN, near the South Branch of the

Wild Rice River (ENE of Fargo ND and WSW of Bemidji MN), and he moved there with his family, farming and working as a carpenter. Amanda died on 24 May 1900 at Hastings NE. After Amanda's death, Rudolf decided to look for a new home, settling on a homestead 4.5 miles SE of Colony, Washita County, OK in 1902. In the course of his travels, he met a widow, **Susanna Janzen Koop (13)**. **Susanna Janzen** was born 28 March 1864 in South Russia, parents unknown.

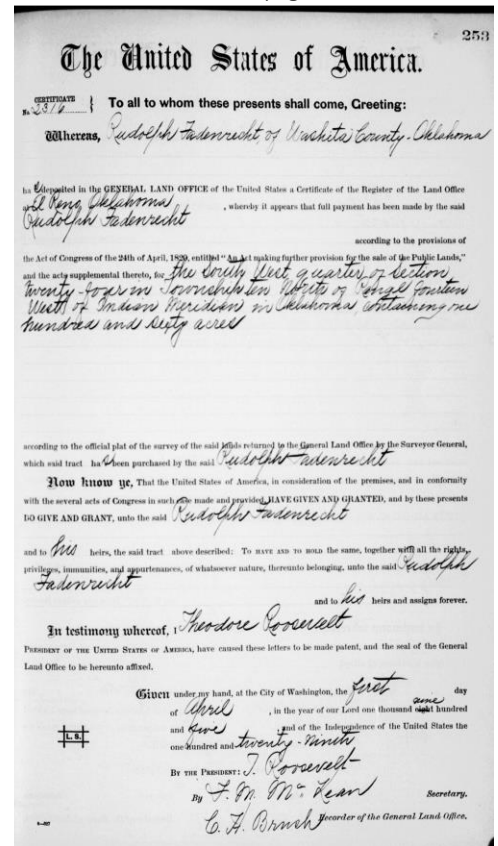


As a young girl, she was adopted out and forced to work "like a slave" for several sets of unkind foster parents. It is said she had only one dress, which she turned inside-out for Sunday services. Susanna married Heinrich Koop and gave birth to 4 children, but he died in May of 1898. Soon thereafter, Susanna and her young family, funded by others, managed to leave S Russia and come to America, arriving in NYC on 14 December 1899. Originally, they went to NE, but soon moved to around Inman, KS, living with Koop relatives. During this time, she met the widower Rudolf Fadenrecht, and on 26 February 1902, they were married in Buhler KS. **Susanna Janzen Koop Fadenrecht** is the **mother of Kathy's Grandpa John R Fadenrecht**, who was born 14 December 1902 near Colony OK, scarcely 9 months after the wedding.

Rudolph Fadenrecht homeplace, 2 miles S and 2.25 miles E of **Colony OK**. L/R: Rudolph & David Fadenrecht, neighbor-boy Abe Stelting, son John R Fadenrecht. Fadenrecht children attended the rural **Cobb Creek School**, which was only a half-mile W and a mile S of their home.

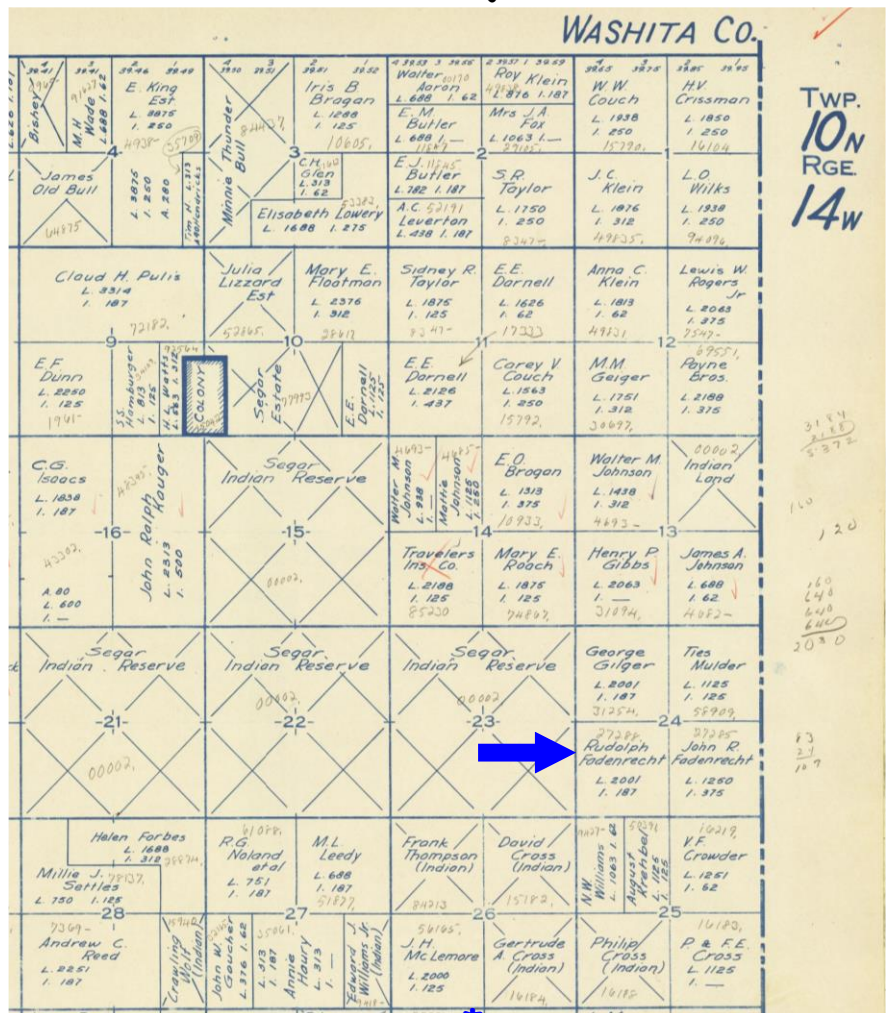


The land patent from [President Theodore Roosevelt](#) granting title to [Rudolph Fadenrecht](#) for his [Washita County](#) farm on 1 April 1905 is shown at R. The legal description is [SW/4-24-10N-14W](#). Rudolph's son, [John R](#), bought the farm just E of Rudolph's a bit prior to his marriage in 1927. John's farm is [SE/4-24-10N-14W](#). This farm borders [Caddo County](#) to the E. These farms lie just E of the [Seger Indian Reserve Lands](#). [BLM General Land Records Office](#)



The [Seger Indian Training School](#), founded in 1893 by [John H Seger](#), a white settler in Indian Territory, was immediately E of Colony (section 10),. He established the Seger Colony (precursor to Colony) in 1886 with 120 Arapaho from the Darlington Agency. His school taught farming and industrial skills to Native Americans until it closed in 1941; one of the buildings later became Colony's public school.

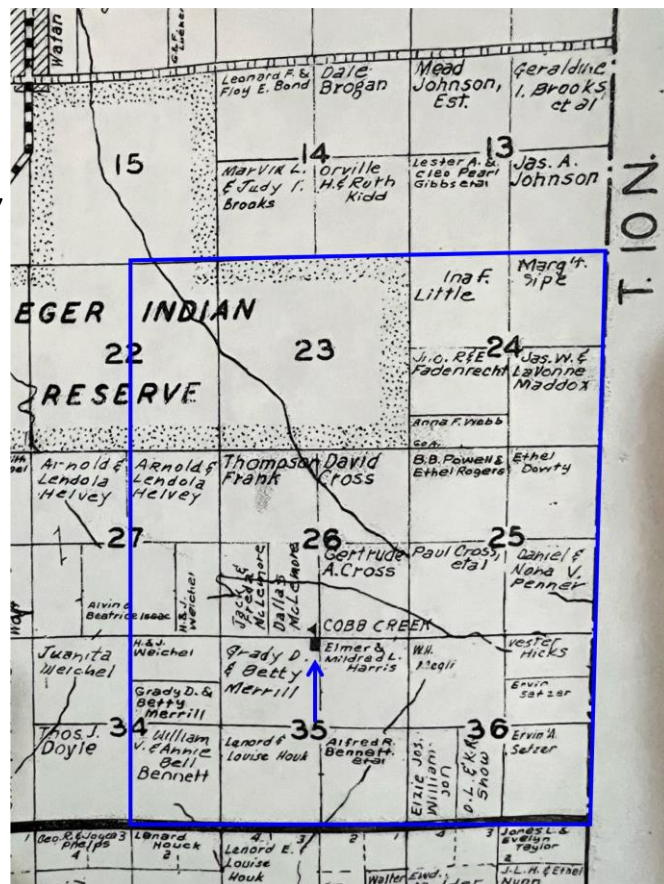
The homeplace of [Rudolph Fadenrecht](#), 2 miles S and 2.25E of Colony is shown in the [1936 WPA plat](#) map at R. (➡ below). His son [John's](#) farm is just E of this farm.



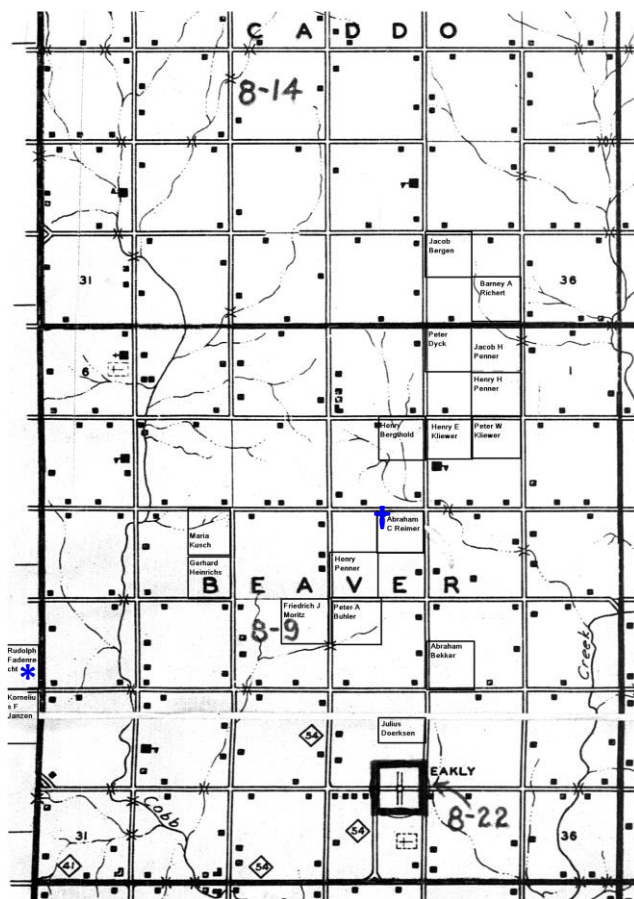
* denotes [Cobb Creek School](#) Fadenrecht children attended (see following page).

The Rudolph Fadenrecht children, including John, as well as John's three daughters, attended the [Cobb Creek School \(Dist 99; ↑\)](#), established in 1903. It was located in the NE corner of NW/4-35-10N-14W, ½ mile W and 1 mile S of the Fadenrecht farms in S/2 of Section 24. The blue box denotes Cobb Creek School district boundaries. Roads to the school location no longer exist (2023).

Map courtesy of [Matthew Goeringer, Washita County Museum](#), New Cordell OK



The Rudolph Fadenrecht family attended the [Caddo Mennonite Brethren Church \(†\)](#) 3 miles N of Eakly in [Beaver Twp \(T10N/R13W\)](#), Caddo County OK to the E of their farm (*) until it closed around 1918. Both [Rudolph Fadenrecht](#) and his eldest son, [Rudolph R](#) were leaders in this church. Its location is shown on the plat map at R, along with members of the congregation. The Fadenrechts lived just W of the Caddo/Washita County line. Map annotation by [Howard Foote](#); original from 1940s. Photos of the cemetery and plaques commemorating this church are on the next 2 pages.



Some photos of the [Caddo MB Cemetery](#), posted on findagrave.com by Tabor alum [Howard Foote](#) are shown below. The church building held its first services in November 1903; it was built on 3 acres of land donated by Abraham C Reimer. By 1906, a water well had been drilled and a hand pump installed to allow watering of horses on Sundays. The Rudolph Fadenrecht family stayed with this church until its closing around 1918.



Caddo Mennonite Brethren Church & Cemetery - July 2022

The Wichita-Caddo-Delaware Reservation was opened to settlement by lottery in July-August of 1901. There were more than two dozen German speaking Mennonites who acquired land mostly north of present-day Eakly through this process. Either they or their ancestors had immigrated to the US from Ukraine in 1874 or later and had first settled in Kansas or Colorado. A few had moved in the 1890s to an area west of Houston, Texas and survived the Galveston Hurricane of September, 1900 and then moved north with some stopping here in Caddo County. There were also a few families that were able to purchase school land. This group of people was the basis of forming two churches, one being the Caddo Mennonite Brethren Church. The other church was a group of Swiss Mennonites who formed the Springfield Mennonite Church two miles south-southwest of here, named after the Springfield School near where they had previously lived for a few years in Washita County during the 1890s.

The people started meeting for Sunday school in homes, with the home of Peter A. Buhler mentioned. By September of 1902, the group meeting on Sunday was so large that they had to purchase a meeting house was brought up. Abraham C. Reimer donated three acres of land for the church and the cemetery. By November of 1903, a church building was almost complete and was available for use. A water well was drilled and a hand pump installed by August of 1906, allowing the congregation to water their horses on Sunday at noon.

As new settlers, there are always difficulties, but the sandy soil and the lack of abundant rain really made it difficult. Their fellow brethren in Washita and Custer Counties were more fortunate as mentioned multiple times in church reports sent to the MB Conference German periodical, the *Zionsbote*. Slowly families started moving away to Washita County, back to Kansas and Colorado or even to California. The last report sent to the *Zionsbote* was on January 29, 1918. At the time, 13 families still attended with a total of 73 people.

Rev. Henry Berghold was the pastor for many years. His family was one of the families that came back north after the Galveston Hurricane. In addition there were the Abraham P. Schmidt and Rudolph Fadenrecht families that led the church. Rudolph Fadenrecht stayed with the church until its closing which was in 1918 or later. This church was involved in the uniting of 17 couples in marriage with at least one spouse being a member of the congregation.

Sometime after closing, the church building was moved onto private property and used as a barn for many years. Over the decades most of the grave markers deteriorated or disappeared with only four remaining. Ground penetrating radar attempted to locate the unmarked graves. Twenty-one graves were located and each has been marked with a headstone with the words "KNOWN ONLY TO GOD".

Advanced technology and increased access to archival information has provided additional history and burial information of the church. Obtaining additional information prompted the April 2021 engraving on the back side of the original Memorial Stone. For more information of the church, contact the Corn Mennonite Brethren Church in Corn, OK and the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies in Hillsboro, KS. In addition, a group of genealogical historians started gathering information in the 1970s and have created the Genealogical Registry And Database of Mennonite Ancestry more commonly known as GRANDMA. Almost all of the names of the burials in this cemetery are in that database. On the back side of this sign is a slightly more detailed burial listing than the April 2021 engraving on the Memorial Stone. The list includes the GRANDMA numbers "#" for all but one child.



Burial Listing - July 2022

- Abrahams, Henry (Heinrich)** #76210 March 21, 1828 – April 19, 1905. Husband of Helena Sperling Abrahams. A typewritten burial list put together in the 1970s states that Henry was buried next to the road.
- Balzer, Alvina** #30709 May 27, 1906 – July 1, 1909. Daughter of Abraham B. and Aganetha Penner Balzer.
- Balzer, Harry** #30758 August 17, 1910 – July 16, 1912. Son of Peter and Susanna Penner Balzer.
- Balzer, Henry (Heinrich)** #30707 August 6, 1903 – August 14, 1903. Son of Abraham B. and Aganetha Penner Balzer.
- Bartel, Albert** #1049269 March 10, 1905 – May 21, 1905. Son of Peter B. and Elizabeth Nickel Bartel.
- Bergen, Wilhelmina "Minnie" Zielke** #81691 June 25, 1884 – June 30, 1906. Wife of Ben Bergen.
- Fadenrecht, Amanda** #35263 February 25, 1906 – June 7, 1906. Daughter of Rudolph R. and Augusta Bartel Fadenrecht.
- Fadenrecht, Lisa (Elizabeth)** #753959 October 19, 1905 – October 19, 1905. Daughter of Rudolph and Susanna Janzen Fadenrecht. According to GRANDMA, a twin sister Anna survived and lived a long life.
- Janzen, Jacob** #26913 October 24, 1903 – May 6, 1905. Son of Cornelius F. and Katharina Neufeld Janzen.
- Kliewer, Menno** #1423526 April 7, 1913 – June 10, 1913. Son of Cornelius H. and Elisabeth Richert Kliewer.
- Kusch, Johnny** #40846 February 22, 1904 – November 22, 1914. Son of Henry C. and Maria Braun Kusch.
- Nikkel, David (D. D.)** #9218 October 18, 1850 – September 1, 1907. First wife - Helena Bergmann Nikkel. Second wife - Elisabeth Janzen Nikkel.
- Nikkel, Edna** – Currently no information from any source.
- Nikkel, Emma** #10177 July 4, 1898 – October 1, 1913. Daughter of David C. and Karolina Bergthold Nikkel.
- Nikkel, Ida Judith Nikkel** #9382 December 4, 1869 – March 7, 1907. Wife of Cornelius Nikkel. (maiden name and married name are both Nikkel)
- Nikkel, Teddy** #42677 January 2, 1913 – November 20, 1914. Son of Jakob David and Elisabeth Siemens Nikkel.
- Penner, Amelia "Mollie" Becker** #11702 October 25, 1885 – June 26, 1908. First wife of Jacob Heinrich Penner. Mollie was adopted by the A. Bekkers (Beckers). Her biological maiden name is not known.
- Penner, Anna Abrahams** #11700 December 6, 1854 – April 9, 1912. Wife of Heinrich H. Penner. The typewritten burial list previously mentioned and a handwritten burial list state that Anna was buried in a metal casket. Ground penetrating radar suggests that she may be buried next to her father Henry Abrahams by the road.
- Penner, Daniel** #11704 June 15, 1911 – June 15, 1911. Son of Jacob Heinrich and Helena Schellenberg Penner. (Jacob's second wife)
- Penner, Theodore** #11703 June 1, 1908 – July 4, 1908. Son of Jacob Heinrich and Amelia "Mollie" Becker Penner. (Jacob's first wife)
- Sallaska, George** – #725090 Son of John J. and Elizabeth Fast Sallaska.
- Sallaska, Johnny** – #725095 Son of John J. and Elizabeth Fast Sallaska.
- Sawatzky, Arthur** #49201 August 7, 1912 – July 4, 1914. Son of Abraham A. Sawatzky and Agnes Nachtigall/Graves Sawatzky.
- Schmidt, Edna** #49109 June 7, 1907 – January 11, 1913. Daughter of Heinrich J. and Alvina Berghold Schmidt.
- Schmidt, Samuel** #41823 February 22, 1906 – May 8, 1908. Son of Abraham P. and Sarah Bekker Schmidt. (Abraham's first wife)
- Siemens, Arnes Huebert** #42829 March 11, 1859 – November 15, 1911. Wife of Heinrich G. Siemens.
- Siemens, Jake** #52237 August 20, 1915 – December 26, 1916. Son of Abraham H. and Gertruda Goerzen Siemens.
- Zielke, Anna** #255716 March 2, 1904 – December 29, 1904. Daughter of Heinrich and Sara Bergen Zielke.

Two names originally engraved on the stone in 1998 were found to be buried in Washita County. Sarah Fast is buried in the Corn Mennonite Brethren Cemetery and Susie Balzer is buried in the Bible Mennonite Brethren Cemetery.

[Caddo Mennonite Brethren Church](#) and congregation (top) and a church gathering, location unknown (bottom), both early 1900s, both courtesy of Howard Foote.



Rudolf was a carpenter at heart, building homes in the Colony area, although he also farmed. He was also active in organizing congregations in both [Ulen MN](#) and [Colony/Eakly OK](#) and a good preacher who spoke from the heart. However, he was not musically inclined, as were some of his descendants. According to his son John, "he couldn't carry a tune in a sack if it was tied!" But his wife Susanna sang all the time, and a definite musical ability manifested itself in his family. His [son John, Kathy's Grandfather Fadenrecht](#), sang with the Gospel Team, a men's chorus at Corn OK for a total of 34 years, 17 of which he served as director.

[John R Fadenrecht](#) also directed the Men's Chorus at the Cordell OK MB Church for over 17 years. John, wife Esther, and daughter Irene made a record in 1951 singing "Jesus is the One" and "No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus" which was widely circulated. In addition, John's three daughters, Arlene, Irene & Kathy's mother Viola sang harmony parts as a trio in the Corn MB Church when 5 and 6 years old!

[Susanna Fadenrecht's](#) granddaughter, [Viola Fadenrecht Neufeld](#) (Kathy's mother), recalls her grandmother always wore a very fancy black ruffled cap with lace and beadwork for Sunday worship services. Vi remembers her always baking sugar cookies for her granddaughters and how she rocked the girls to sleep, singing "Bald ja bald, o wie shoen" (In the sweet by and by) for a lullaby. The usual dinner Susanna served was "Rentfleisch" - steak/roast with potatoes and gravy, but for Thanksgiving and Christmas, she roasted a goose and served it with sweet raisin pudding.

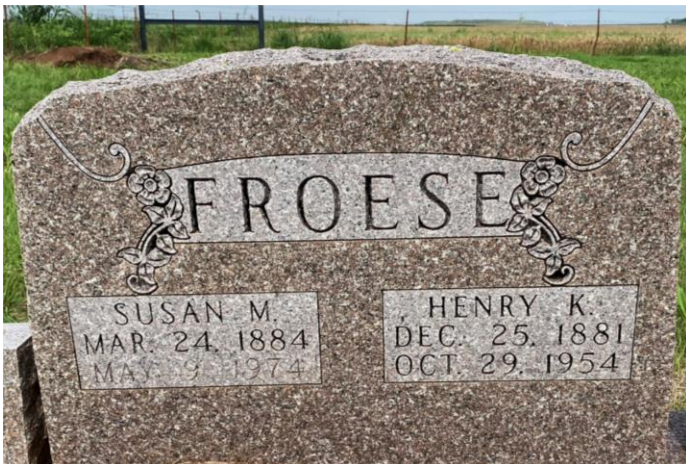
Both Rudolf and Susanna used "[Magenstärker](#)" and "[Alpen Kräuter](#)" stomach medicines, storing the empties under their house. They lived in this house all of their married lives and until their deaths.

Rudolph left this earth on 9 December 1942 near Colony, Washita County, OK, and Susanna passed away on 1 April 1947, also near Colony OK. [Rudolf](#) and [Susanna](#) are buried beside each other in the [MB Cemetery](#), $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S of [Corn \(Korn\) OK](#).

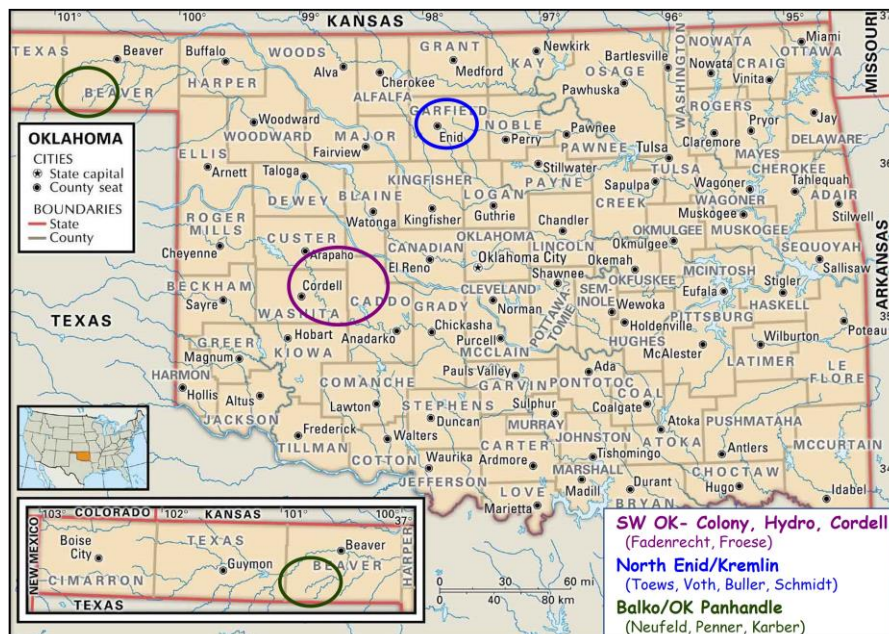


Kathy's Great-grandparents Froese: **Henry Karl Froese (14)** was born on Christmas Day, 25 December 1881 near Inman KS. On 5 March 1905, in Inman KS, he married **Susan Marie Janzen (15)**, born 24 March 1884 in Buhler KS. Their daughter Esther, born 22 November 1908, is Kathy's maternal grandmother Fadenrecht.

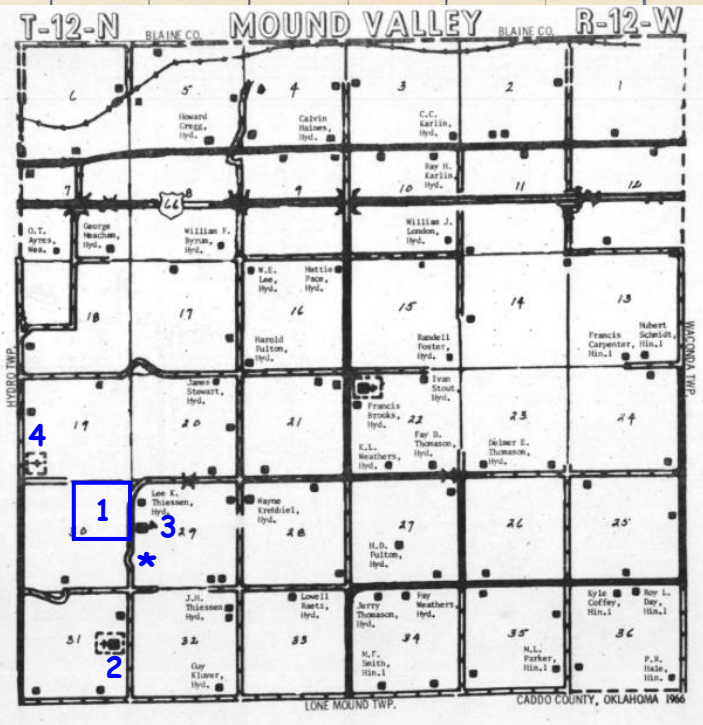
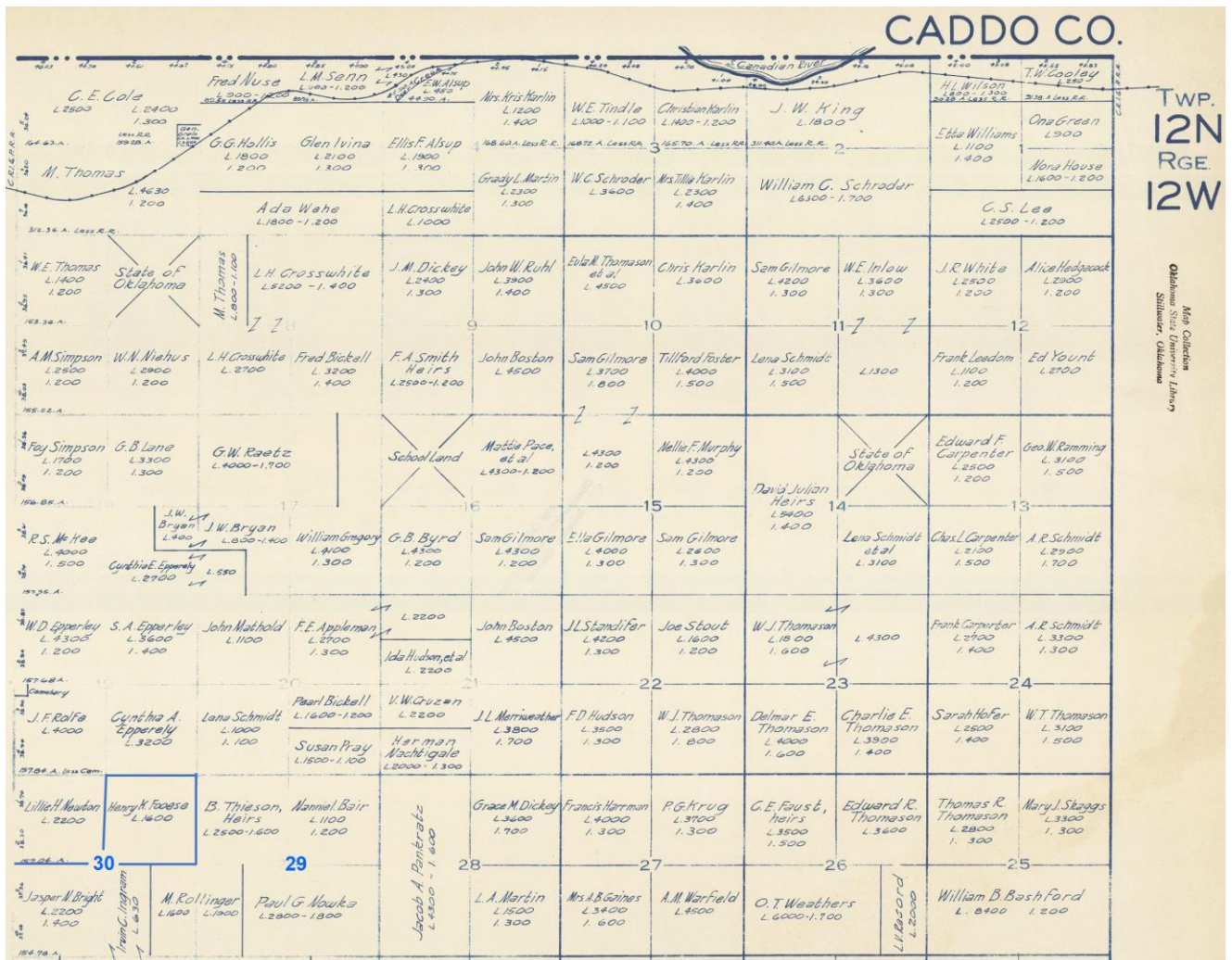
Henry died 20 October 1954 in Hydro OK and **Susan Marie "Susie"** died 9 May 1974 in Weatherford OK. They are both buried in the **Bethel Mennonite Cemetery** ~4 miles S and 4 miles E of **Hydro, Caddo County OK**.
 [Lat: 35.4719, Long: -98.50067]



To aid in orientation, I am including an **OK map** below denoting where various of **Kathy and Arrel's ancestors** lived in early OK.



The farm Henry K and Susan M Froese were living on in 1936 is shown in the 1936 WPA map of Mound Valley Township (T12N/R12W), Caddo County OK. The location is NE/4-30-12N-12W. This farm is very near the Mound School, Crown Mound, and Bethel Mennonite Church of Hydro Cemetery (former site of the Bethel Mennonite Church, now located in Hydro).



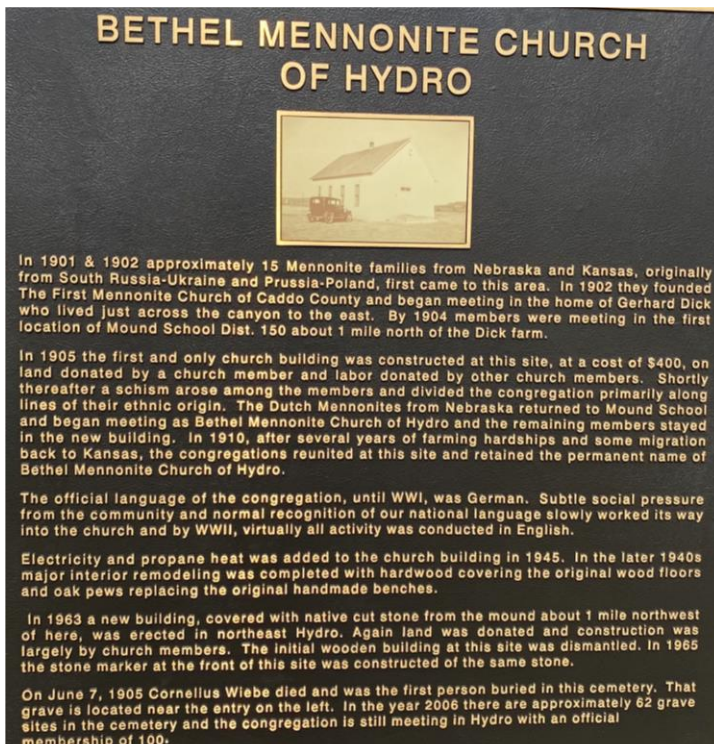
Plat map of Mound Valley Township

Caddo County OK:

- 1 Henry K Froese farm (NE/4)
- 2 Bethel Mennonite Church/Cemetery
- 3 Mound School
- * Crown Mound
- 4 Mound Valley Cemetery

The photo collage at R shows the [Mound School SE of Hydro OK](#) - the children of Henry and Susanna Froese, including Kathy's grandmother Esther, attended this school when young. [Crown Mound](#), approximately 4 miles S and 4 E of Hydro OK, is visible in lower panel. Photos ca 2000.

The [Bethel Mennonite Church of Hydro Cemetery](#) is located about 1 mile S of this school. It is the burial site for Kathy's great-grandparents [Henry K and Susan Janzen Froese](#) (see p38). The current Bethel Mennonite Church is located in the town of Hydro OK, just off historic [Route 66](#). Plaque below is at the cemetery (and former site of the Bethel Mennonite Church).



This region of Caddo County has a very interesting history, including those [natural limestone-capped sandstone mounds](#) - the [Wagon Road of 1849](#) taking adventurers to the CA Gold Rush runs just S of the cemetery. [Art Peters](#), Director of the [Hinton Historical Museum](#), has published an interesting book, "[Legend of the Mounds - A Collection of Legends, Stories, and History of the Mounds in North Caddo County.](#)" I have a signed copy.

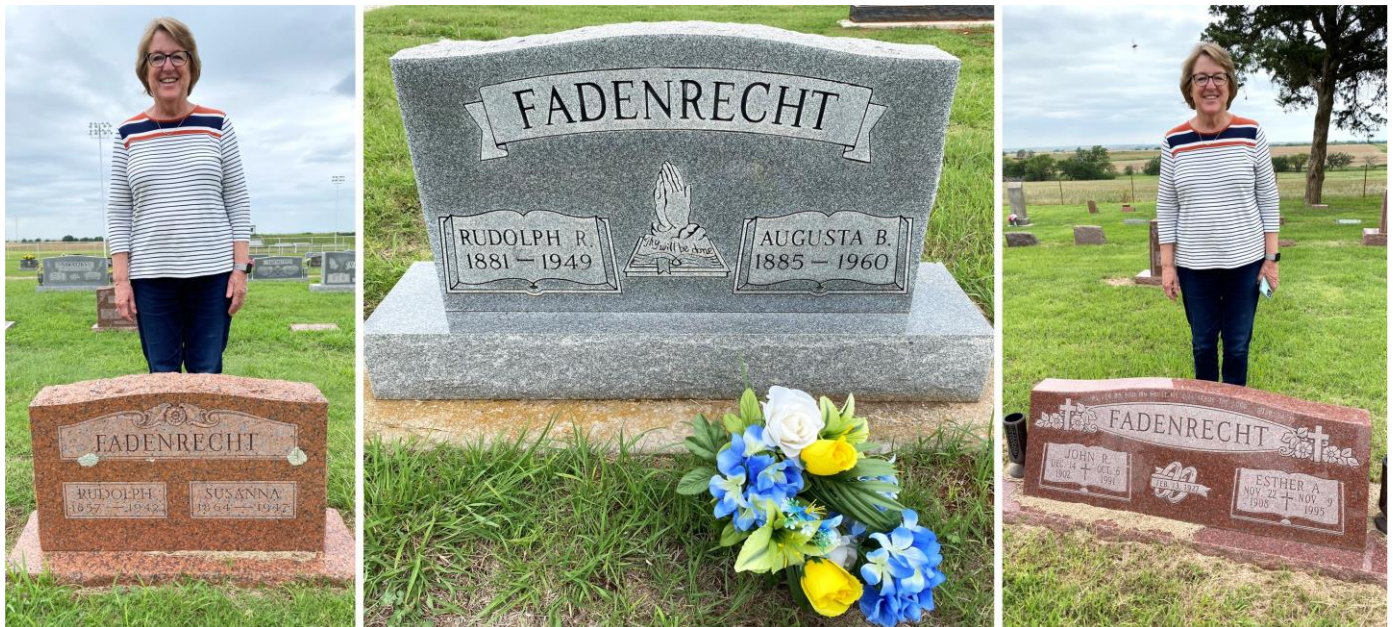
Kathy and I visited the [Hydro/Colony/Korn](#) area in [June 2023](#) and a collage of photos are shown on this page.



Above: Crown Mound looking N, Mound School cellar ruins looking NW, Myron Toews, Mound School ruins and Crown Mound, looking S. Only the cellar and some concrete foundations with a well casing remained in June 2023.



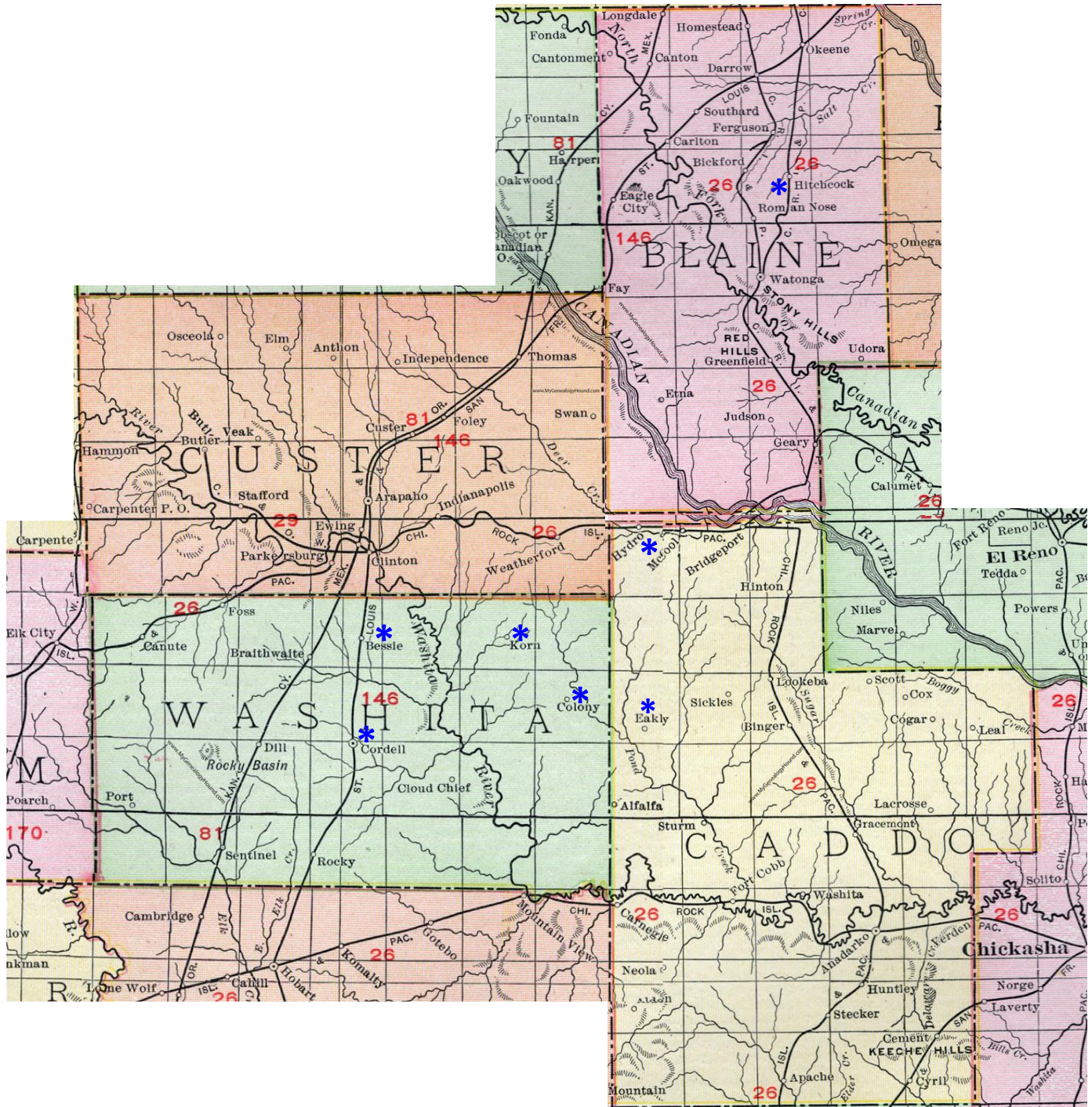
Above: Farms owned by John R Fadenrecht (L) and Rudolph Fadenrecht (R) SW of Colony OK (see plat map, p 33).



Above: Kathy at great-grandparents [Rudolph and Susanna Fadenrecht](#)'s grave, [Rudolph R](#) and [Augusta Fadenrecht](#) gravestone, Kathy at [John R and Esther A Fadenrecht](#) grave. First two at Corn MB Cemetery, third at Bible MB Cemetery near Bessie OK. Rudolph R was a half-brother to Kathy's grandfather John R Fadenrecht. All photos by Arrel Toews, June 2023.

Because of my unfamiliarity with the [SW OK geographical region](#), I am also including a map assembled from the [1911 Rand-McNally atlas](#). *denotes some relevant Mennonite communities in this area in early OK.

[Fadenrechts](#) and [Froeses](#) were in Washita and Caddo Counties, while the [AJ Neufeld](#) family lived near Hitchcock in Blaine County.



Kathy's Great-Great-GrandParents

I will include what we know about Kathy's **GG-GParents**. But for those interested in more, you may wish to consult the **Kathleen Kay Neufeld Toews Ahnentafel for ancestors tracing back to the early 1600s in W Prussia!** For example, 9th Great-Grandparents Gerdt and Gretke Jantzen Harms, both born about **1646**, were married on 23 January 1701 in Montau, Schwetz, **Prussia**.

Kathy's GG-Gparents, Abraham P & Maria Toews Neufeld and their family immigrated from the Molotschna, S Russia colony to the US in **1879**. **Abraham (16)** was born 25 April 1842 in **Sparrau**, Molotschna, S Russia, the **son of Peter and Anna Wiens Neufeld**. **Maria Toews (17)** was born 9 January 1844 in **Gnadenheim**, Molotschna, S Russia, the **daughter of Heinrich and Anna Penner Toews**. As a young man, Abraham P was apprenticed to master smith Johann Boldt in the Frisian village of Rudnerweide, Molotschna. Although much of Maria's childhood was spent in Waldheim, where her parents lived, she was forced to leave home and serve as a servant girl for the Abraham Mathiesen family in Rudnerweide - here she met Abraham P, and on 30 October 1866 they were married, with a Heinrich Toews officiating. Following their wedding, they established their home on the edge of Sparrau, where Abraham worked as a blacksmith. Only landowners - those with a **wirtschaft** - could live in the village center, and only land-owners had a vote in village matters. The lack of available land for new arrivals and for children of village members was a significant factor in the immigration of many Molotschna Mennonites, including most of our ancestors. Abraham and Maria came to the US on the Red Star Line's **SS**



S.S. SWITZERLAND, 1874 Red Star-American Line

Switzerland - they departed Europe from Antwerp, Belgium and arrived in Philadelphia on 24 June **1879**. Their accompanying children were **Abraham J (8; Kathy's Great-Grandfather)**, Maria (7), Anna (5), and Heinrich (1). Youngest son Peter Abraham was born 21 August 1881. This is the same ship voyage that brought **Arrel's GG-Gparents Jacob & Anna Neufeld Voth** and their family, including his **G-Gpa Jacob J Voth**, to the US.

Abraham and Maria and family soon made their home near Hillsboro, Marion County, KS and for a time lived on Adams Street in Hillsboro where he again worked as a blacksmith. Their next-door neighbor was **John G Hill**, a 38 year-old Scotch merchant **for whom the town of Hillsboro was named!** Two years after the birth of their last child, this family left the Mennonite Brethren Church - in the words of Abraham P himself, "March 12, 1887 we began

to follow the commandment of God in that we began to [keep the Sabbath day holy](#), and on March 13th we joined the [Adventist Church](#)." After 13 years in and around Hillsboro, Marion

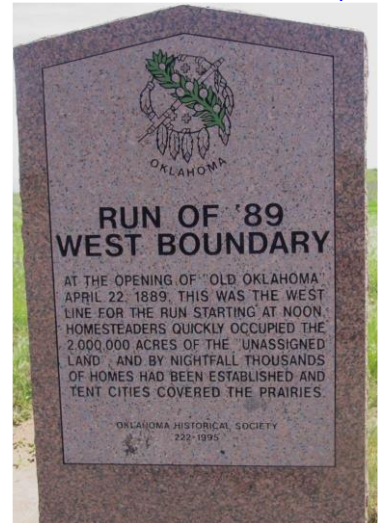


Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Neufeld and youngest son, Peter Abraham Neufeld.

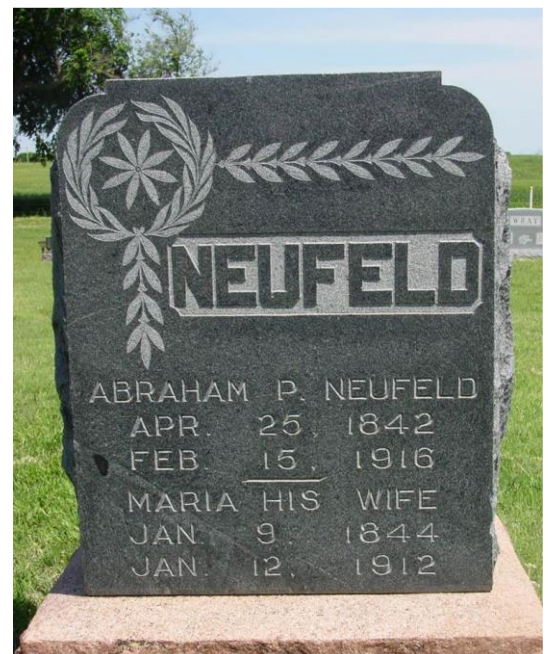
County, KS, Abraham moved his family to near Hitchcock, Blaine County, OT in 1892, just three years after the opening of the Oklahoma Territory in the [Land Run of 1889](#).

Youngest son [Peter Abraham](#) (see photo at L) was 11 years old when the [Abraham P Neufeld family](#) moved to Hitchcock OT in 1892 (for interesting reading, see the [Peter Neufeld family history](#) and related [maps](#) on p 62-3).

The marker for the western boundary of the OK Land Run of 1889 shown at R stands near where OK-51 crosses the [Cimarron River](#) between Okeene and Hennessey OK.



[Maria Toews Neufeld](#) died 12 January 1912 at Hitchcock OK - she is buried in the [Cottonwood Cemetery, SE of Hitchcock OK](#). [Abraham P Neufeld](#) died 15 February 1916 at the home of his son Abraham J Neufeld, near Balko, Beaver County, OK. His body was brought back to Hitchcock OK where he was buried beside his wife in the [Cottonwood Cemetery](#), SE of Hitchcock. Kathy and I visited this cemetery in May 2015 - a very peaceful and beautiful resting place for the earthly remains of Abraham and Maria Neufeld.



A bit about [Abraham P Neufeld's forebears](#) - not much is known: Abraham P's father and [Kathy's GGG-Gfather, Peter Johann Neufeld](#) was born August 1812 in Prussia and he died in 1882. He presumably moved from Prussia to Sparrau, Molotschna, S Russia with his parents and siblings in 1827 (see below) - he would have been about 15 years of age at that time. He married [Anna Wiens](#) in 1834/5 in Sparrau. They had 10 children: Johann, Peter, [Abraham P \(Kathy's GG-Gpa\)](#), Anna, Katharina, Helena, Maria, Jacob P, Cornelius, and Heinrich. Anna died in 1852 and Peter Johann 1882.

Peter Johann's father and [Kathy's GGGG-Gpa, Johann Johann Neufeld](#) was reportedly born in Prussia ~1785, and he married [Esther Penner](#), born 26 June 1786 in Schroop, Stuhm, Prussia. In 1827, the family, including son Peter Johann, moved from Zeyersvordenkampen, Prussia to [Sparrau, Molotschna, S Russia](#). These are the earliest known of Kathy's line of Neufelds in the Molotschna Colony, and they remained in Sparrau until immigrating to the US in 1879.

[Kathy's known family line of Neufelds](#) going back in time ends with Johann Johann Neufeld's father, [Johann Neufeld](#) - nothing is known save his name, although he presumably was born in Prussia. He was [Kathy's GGGGG-Gfather!](#) Nothing is known about his wife.

Johann Johann Neufeld's wife Esther Penner's parents lived in Schroop, Stuhm, Prussia, where Johann Johann was born. Her father Abraham Penner was born 30 Sept 1749 and died 14 Feb 1806. His wife Helene Penner (Esther's mother) was born 12 Aug 1764 and she died 11 Sept 1815. They are [Kathy's GGGGG-Gparents](#)

[Kathy's earliest known ancestors](#) are [Petter Harms](#), born about 1628 and died before 1665, and [Berent Jantzen](#), birth and death dates unknown. They are [Kathy's 10th Great-grandparents](#) (a lot of Gs!). Her [GGGGGGGGG-Grandfathers](#).

For detailed genealogical information, see the [Kathleen Neufeld Toews Ahnentafel](#), prepared from the [GRANDMA](#) database by [Alan Peters](#) in [September 2008](#). It is available upon request.

Kathy's GG-Parents Heinrich (Henry) A and Wilhelmine (Minnie) Unruh Goertz: **Henry A Goertz (18)** was born 29 Aug 1823, in Montau, Schwetz, W Prussia, of parents Franz F & Eva Klievert Goertz. **Minnie Unruh (19)** was born 2 February 1850 in Olszyn, Prussia, of parents Peter and Anna Ratzlaff Unruh. Heinrich came to the US in 1876, settling in the good farming area of Wilson Twp, Marion County KS.

Heinrich (54) and Minnie (28) married on March 15, 1877, and had 7 daughters (2 of which lived in KS) and 1 son; **Julia**, future wife of AJ Neufeld, was born in 1878. A year after coming to America, Henry was visited by his brother Franz from the old country, and liking it in Marion County KS, decided to stay after coming for Henry & Minnie's wedding.

[Some of above information shared by Mrs. Cyrus (L Dena) Goertz (Marion KS) at the Goertz Family reunion in Hillsboro KS 25 September 1994 - family info and photo courtesy of Gaylen Neufeld.]



Heinrich & Minnie Unruh Goertz family: back, **Julia**, Eva, David; Heinrich & Minnie; front, Tina, Nettie, Mary, Elizabeth (daughter Pauline not in this photo). **Julia** is Kathy's G-Grandmother Neufeld, wife of AJ Neufeld. [ca 1887-8; Elizabeth born 1888]

[Henry](#) died on 27 December 1903 and he is buried in the [Ebenfeld MB Cemetery](#) near Hillsboro KS. Following Henry's death, Minnie became involved with the German Baptists of Marion KS; perhaps this explains why they are buried in separate cemeteries. [Minnie](#) died 18 February 1934 near Balko OK and she is buried in the [Canada Cemetery](#) along US-56 E of Hillsboro, near Canada, Marion County KS. Photos below (L/R) are the Canada Cemetery, Ebenfeld MB Cemetery & [Ebenfeld MB Church](#), then gravestones of Minnie and Heinrich.



Kathy's GGG-Gparents in the Goertz family line are [Franz F](#) (b 24 Sept 1798, Nieder Gruppe, Schwetz, Prussia) and [Eva Klievert \(Kliwer\) Goertz](#) paternally, and [Peter Unruh](#) (b 29 Sept 1821, Olszyn Prussia; d 1905) and [Anna Ratzlaff Unruh](#) (b 8 Sept 1828, Duetsch Wymyschle, Masovia, Poland; d 22 Aug 1855, Olszyn, Masovia Poland) maternally.

The parents of Franz Goertz were [Dirk Goerz](#) (b Nov 1763) and [Maria Franz](#) (b abt 1765); parents of Eva Kliewer Goertz are unknown. Parents of Peter Unruh were [Erdman Unruh](#) (b abt 1879) and [Maria Goertz](#) (b 23 Feb 1781), and parents of Anna Ratzlaff were [Peter Ratzlaff](#) (b 23 July 1798) and [Sara Funk](#) (b 25 Aug 1804).

These are Kathy's GGGG-Gparents in the [Goertz family line](#). All were born and died in [Prussia/Poland](#).

Kathy's GG-Parents Julius and Maria Kliever Karber: **Julius Karber (20)** was born 8 March 1845, and **Maria Kliever (21)** on 19 December 1852, both in Deutsch-Kazun, Poland, a village on the left bank of the Vistula River Lowlands N of Warsaw. They were married 27 September 1870 in Deutsch-Kazun, Poland. They immigrated to the US in 1874 and first settled in the Peoria/Bloomington IL area. They had 11 children, including Kathy's **Great-Grandfather Henry H Karber**. After working several years to repay the cost of their immigration trip, they moved to **Marion County KS** near **Ebenfeld** (they appear there in the 1885 KS Census). They made the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889, staking a homestead near Fairview, OK where they lived until they moved to **Beaver County, OK** in 1914.

Julius died on 30 March 1921 and Maria on 2 October 1941, in the home of son JP Karber, near Bethany, Beaver County OK. They are buried in the **Balko MB Cemetery, Balko, OK**.



Maria Karber was known informally as "**Gogo**," for reasons unknown - she is shown at R in a photo taken on the Karber home-place near Balko OK.

Below: **Julius & Maria Karber**, location unknown.



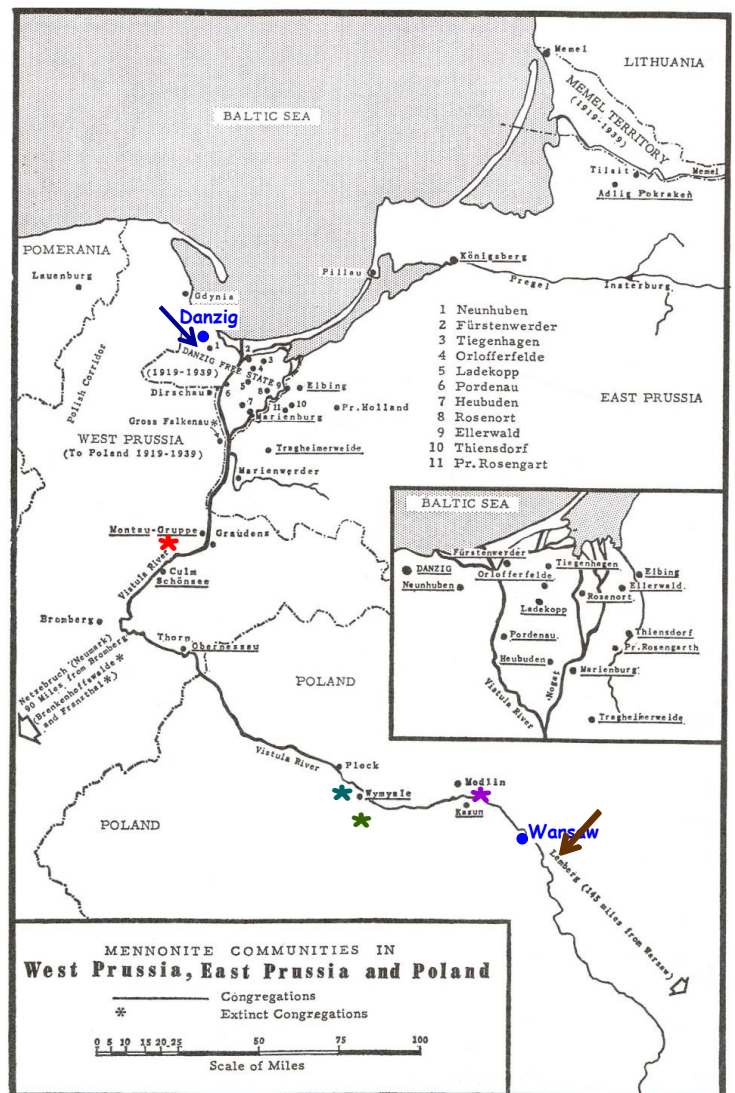
The **Julius and Maria Kliewer Karber** family is shown below: **Back row:** Mary, **Henry H,** David M, Lena, Peter J, Jacob; **Front row:** **Julius Karber**, Sam, **Maria Kliewer Karber**



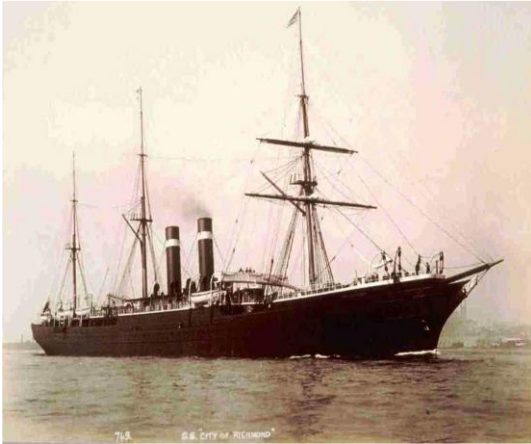
A map of **Mennonite colonies in West & E Prussia and Poland** (Becker, 1973) is shown at right.

Colonies were in the **Vistula-Nogat River deltas** and the **Vistula Lowlands** to the S. Note **Danzig (Gdansk)** on the **Baltic Sea** and **Warsaw** to the S on the map.

- * **Stuhm**
- * **Schwetz**
(Duetsch-Konopath)
- * **Olszyn**
- * **Duetsch-Kazun**

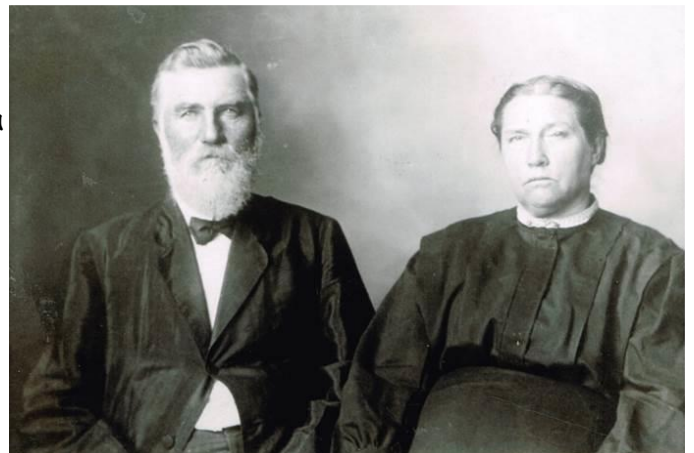


Kathy's GG-Parents Peter & Eva Schroeder Penner: **Peter Penner (22)** was born 14 September 1845 in the Wohlhinian District of Russian Poland, where he grew up with a very limited education. He was the **son of Benjamin and Maria Kurzhals Penner**. **Eva Schroeder (23)** was born 8 September 1854, also in the Wohlhinian District of Russian Poland. After eluding the military draft, on 1 March 1872 he married Eva. They had 11 children all told. In 1874, the Peter Penner family (only Mary, their first child, had been

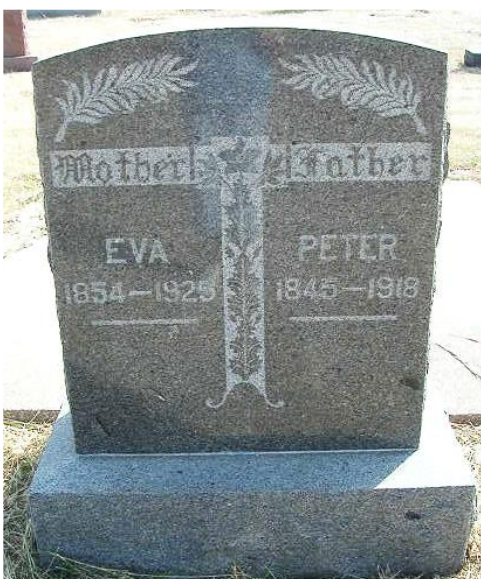


born) immigrated to the US aboard the Inman Line's S/S City of Richmond, which departed Liverpool & Queenstown, England, and arrived in NYC on 29/31 August 1874. The family of three then soon arrived in Bloomington IL on 3 September 1874. In 1875, they moved to near Halstead, Harvey County KS, then after 6 years, to Marion County KS, near Hillsboro. In 1892, the family moved to a homestead near Cooper, Blaine County OK, then in 1900 to a farm near Homestead,

Major County OK. Finally, his health failing, he and Eva moved one last time to Beaver County OK. Peter passed away on 31 May 1918, and Eva on 12 July 1925. (above information from written material by Henry H Karber, 14-15 August 1941) Peter and Eva are both buried in the Balko OK MB Cemetery.



Children of Peter and Eva Penner are: Mary, **Frena (married Henry H Karber; Kathy's Great-Grandparents Karber)**, Peter F, Eva, Bienna, Emily, Henrietta, Martha, Susie, Julia & Frank.



Kathy's GG-Parents Gottfried Ferdinand and Maria Matilda Klemm Fadenrecht:

Evangelical Lutheran Church records of [Schadwalde, W Prussia](#) clearly indicate the village of [Schadwalde](#), nearer to [Marienburg](#) and to Danzig, was the home of Kathy's GG-Gfather Gottlieb Ferdinand Fadenrecht, as well as his parents and grandparents from at least 1779 to 1857, and probably a good deal longer. This is the region of the Vistula-Nogat River Delta and home of most S Russian Mennonite families during this time period. There is some evidence that the first Fadenrechts came from [Northern Bohemia](#) to W Prussia in 1550-70; the earliest known reference to Fadenrechts there is [1425](#). The memories of early ancestors in W Prussia seemed to indicate the family originated in [Holland](#). We will likely never know! The name Fademrecht (they changed the "n" to "m" after arriving in the US) was quite prominent in and around the [Marienburg, W Prussia](#) area from before [1650](#).

Gottfried Ferdinand Fadenrecht (24) was born 28 December 1815 in [Schadwalde, W Prussia](#), the son of [Johann Jacob and Elizabeth Brohinski Fademrecht](#). They were members of the [Evangelical \(Lutheran\) faith](#). In later years, Gottfried Ferdinand is usually referred to as just Ferdinand (apparently, he did not care for his first name! - or maybe another Gottfried was around?). Ferdinand was by trade a carpenter/joiner/cabinet maker ("*ausarbeitender Tischler*"). Sometime prior to 1846, probably in his late 20s, Ferdinand married **Maria Mathilda Klemm (25)**; [Schadwalde Lutheran Church](#) records are strangely silent on the date and place of this union, and the Klemm name does not appear in any [Schadwalde](#) records, save for the mention of Maria. [Findagrave.com](#) lists her birth and death dates as 1817 and 1857, respectively. Nothing more is known of her heritage. She is, indeed, a "mystery lady!"

In 1857, Ferdinand, Maria, and their 3 surviving children (a fourth died after 1 month) began the long and difficult trip from W Prussia to the [Molotschna Colony](#) in S Russia on foot, pushing a cart containing their most vital possessions. The trip was no doubt more arduous because Maria was nearly due with her next child. Many Lutherans possessing special trade skills migrated to S Russia during this time period, hoping for employment with the more prosperous Mennonites (perhaps they recalled their former Mennonite heritage as well and snuck in?). They soon settled in the village of [Landskrone](#) (founded 1839), also the [home of Arrel's Toews ancestors](#). As they were making their way through the village, pushing their cart, the time came for Maria's delivery. They stopped at the home of Henry Froese and pleaded for assistance. The Froese family opened their home to them, sending their older children Jacob and Elizabeth off to bring in straw to make Maria a fresh bed near the oven for its warmth. Here on 2 September 1857, Maria delivered a small son, **Rudolf**. "Baby Rudy" survived, but Maria died shortly after childbirth. **Rudolf Fadenrecht is Kathy's Great-Grandfather**. Incidentally, the **Jacob Froese** who helped bring in the

straw for Maria's bed was the **grandfather of Esther Froese, Kathy's Grandmother Fadenrecht!** After Maria's death, Ferdinand continued his trade as cabinet/furniture maker ("*Tischler*"), raising his children as "*halbwaisen*" or half-orphans. Ferdinand's two oldest sons, Bernhard and Eduard, were forced to become "*dienstknaben*" or servant boys to unsympathetic hard masters, eking out a bare existence until grown.



When he was 68, "**Ferdinand**" Fadenrecht immigrated to the US with his middle son Eduard's family aboard the Norddeutscher Lloyd's "Schnell Dampfer" (fast steamer) EMS, leaving from Bremen, Germany and arriving in NYC on 13/14 June 1884. From there, they continued on to **Hamilton County NE**.

As noted above, **Maria** died in September 1857 in **Landskrone**, presumably where she is buried. "Gottlieb" **Ferdinand Fadenrecht** died at age 74, in 1889, in Hamilton County NE, having seen all 3 of his sons and their families safely come to America and settle in the Hamilton County area. He died at his son Bernhard's home near **Hampton NE**. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the early burial ground known as the Beaver Valley Cemetery, located on John Quiring's farm near Hampton, Hamilton County, NE (a marker erected in 1984 lists the names of persons buried there). We visited this cemetery and his son's farm on 25 September 2019 (photos below).

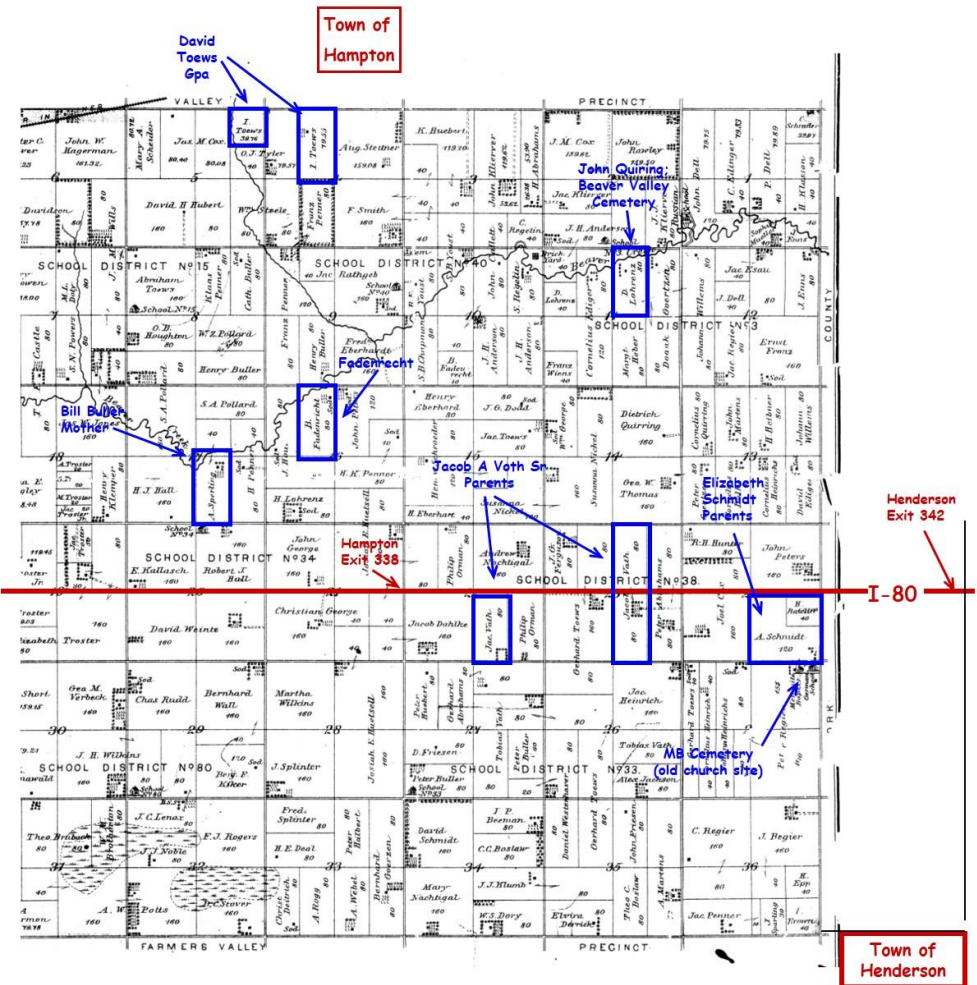
Kathy's known family line of Fadenrechts going back in time ends with Gottfried Ferdinand Fadenrecht and his parents, Johann and Elizabeth Fademrecht.



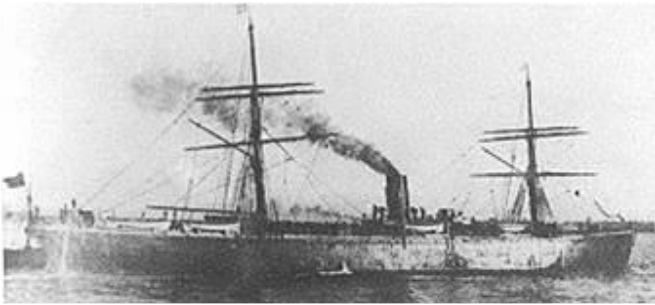
An 1888 Beaver Precinct, Hamilton County NE plat map is shown below. Bernhard Fedenrecht's farm, and the Beaver Valley Cemetery where Gottfried Ferdinand Fadenrecht is buried, are identified - along with several farms of Arrel's ancestors as well.

The September 2019 photo at the bottom shows the location of the farmstead of Bernhard Fadenrecht (Section 16).

BEAVER PRECINCT Hamilton County, Nebraska
Town 10 North Range 5 West. of the 6th Principal Meridian. 1888 Plat Map



Kathy's GG-Parents Jacob and Sara Kliever Froese: **Jacob Froese (28)** was born 27 April 1850 in [Landskrone](#), Molotschna, S Russia. He immigrated to America with his stepfather Martin Huebert and his family (his surname is incorrectly given as Huebert on the ship's passenger manifest). **Sara Kliever (29)** was born 31 Oct 1860 in Alexanderthal, Molotschna, S Russia. Her parents were **Gerhard G Kliever**, born 14 February 1834 in Alexanderthal and **Katherina Becker**, born 7 April 1838 in Muntau, Molotschna, S Russia. Sara's mother Katherina died on 25 March 1871 in Waldheim, Molotschna. The remaining family, Gerhard G "Kliver" (41; farm laborer), sons Gerhard (9) and Heinrich (2) and daughters **Sara** (15), Maria (13), Catharine (12) & Anna (8) came to the US in 1875, arriving from Antwerp, Belgium in NYC 4 August 1875 on the Guion Line's [State of Nevada](#). [Gerhard](#) died on 11 February 1913, and he is buried in the [Ebenezer Mennonite Cemetery](#), [Gotebo](#), Kiowa County OK (below R).

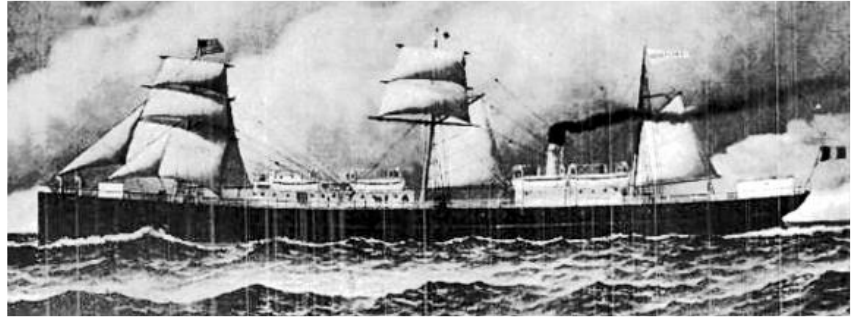


[Jacob Froese](#) died 9 June 1928 and [Sara](#) on 27 July 1949. They are buried in the [Hoffnungsaue Mennonite Church Cemetery](#), Inman, McPherson County KS. The photo below the gravestone is of the 1898 [Hoffnungsaue Mennonite Church](#), which was near Inman KS.



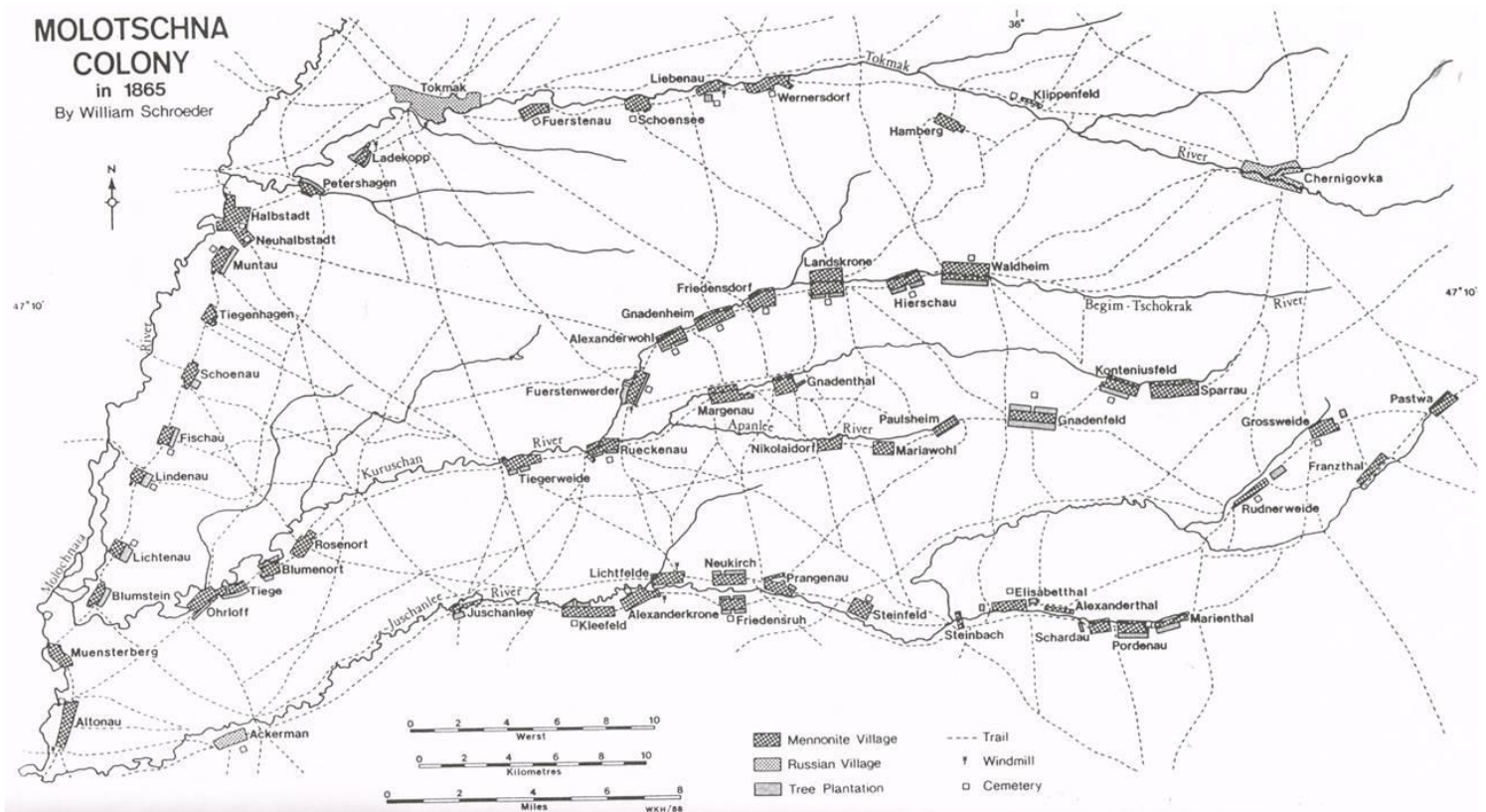
Nothing at all is known about the parents (26), (27) of Kathy's Great-Grandmother **Susanna Janzen** - she was adopted by several sets of unkind foster parents in Molotschna, S Russia - see her story under the Rudolf and Susanna Janzen Fadenrecht entry above (p 32).

Kathy's GG-Parents Jacob P (30) and Katharina Janzen Janzen (31): **Jacob P Janzen** was born 22 November 1861/2 in **Tiegerweide, Molotschna, S Russia**. His parents died when he was an infant and he was raised by **Mr/Mrs Heinrich & Maria Harder**, who brought him to the US in 1876. They departed Antwerp, Belgium on the S/S **Vaderland**, arriving in Philadelphia July 28, 1876. **Katharina Janzen** was born 30 January 1857 to **Heinrich and Susanna Hooge Janzen in Franzthal, Molotschna**. They were married 23 June 1882 in Inman KS. Jacob P died 24 March 1933 and Katharina 1 February 1937 (burial sites unknown).

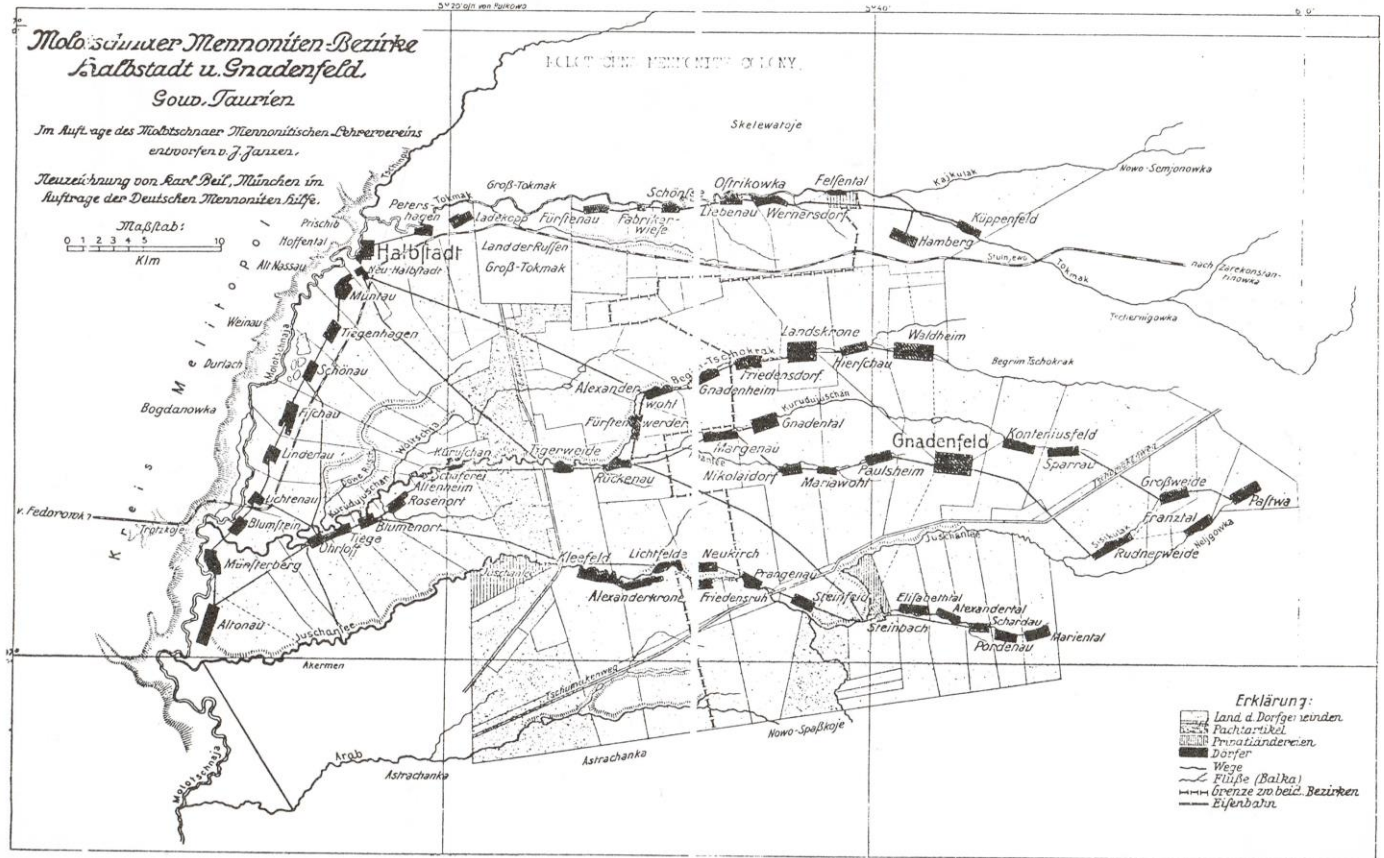


Maps of Kathy's Ancestors

A map of the **Molotschna Colony** villages in 1865 is shown below (Schroeder/Huebert, 1996). Many of Kathy's ancestors emigrated to the US from these villages, including 5 villages of **Schardau** and **Kleefeld** along the **Juschanlee River** and **Tiegerweide** on the **Kuruschan River**.



Another map of the **Molotschna Colonies** (in German script; Becker, 1973) is shown below:



Map below shows the **Volhynia** geographic region (in yellow). It encompasses portions of current SE Poland, SW Belarus, & W Ukraine. **Kathy's GG-Parents Peter & Eva Schroeder Penner** were born in this region and emigrated to the US from there in 1874.



End Notes

Neufeld Family Name: The Mennonite family name "Neufeld" and its many variations literally means "new field." Historian Gustav Reimer notes that **Neufeld** refers to "land reclaimed from the sea." The story of our Mennonite ancestors begins in Switzerland and the "Low Countries," Holland included, and the name first appears in the Mennonite church in 1694. In both Holland and the Vistula-Nogat River delta, the Mennonites were known for their ability to drain swamps and marshes and convert them into prosperous and productive farms. So Neufeld seems especially well suited for a family from that heritage.

Find A Grave: findagrave.com is a very impressive resource for finding gravesites and nice photos of gravestones and cemeteries. I have been amazed at how many ancestors' resting places, gravestones, and genealogical/historical data are available with this simple search engine! Lots of additional information as well. **Highly recommended by Arrel!**

Much of the **Neufeld Family** information comes from "**The Neufeld Family of Sparrau, South Russia**" assembled by **Peggy Goertzen** in Hillsboro KS, 1989. We have a copy.

Kathy's uncle **Gaylen Neufeld** has been particularly invaluable in supplying a treasure trove of photos, personal remembrances from relatives, and family histories he has assembled. We are deeply indebted to him and appreciate his time and efforts!

Much local historical information for communities (**V I**) and families (**Vol II**) in the OK Panhandle is available in **A History of Beaver County** (1971) - we have both volumes.

Information and some photos on the Penner and Karber Families is partially from "**The Penner Family History - 1960**" assembled by various Penner and Karber family members for a family reunion at the Bethany School Auditorium near Balko, OK on Sunday, 21 August 1960. **Howard Foote** was most helpful with information from the **Colony/Hydro** area.

The **GAMEO** web-link for the Mennonite "**Penner**" family name is interesting - records of the family have been found in the **Marienburger Werder** of **W Prussia** as early as 1592.

A good bit of Fadenrecht information and history is from the massive "**Fadenrecht Family Notebook**" assembled by **Peggy Goertzen** on behalf of **Viola Fadenrecht Neufeld**, April 1986. Lots of information for this work was gathered from many distant relatives by **Vi**.

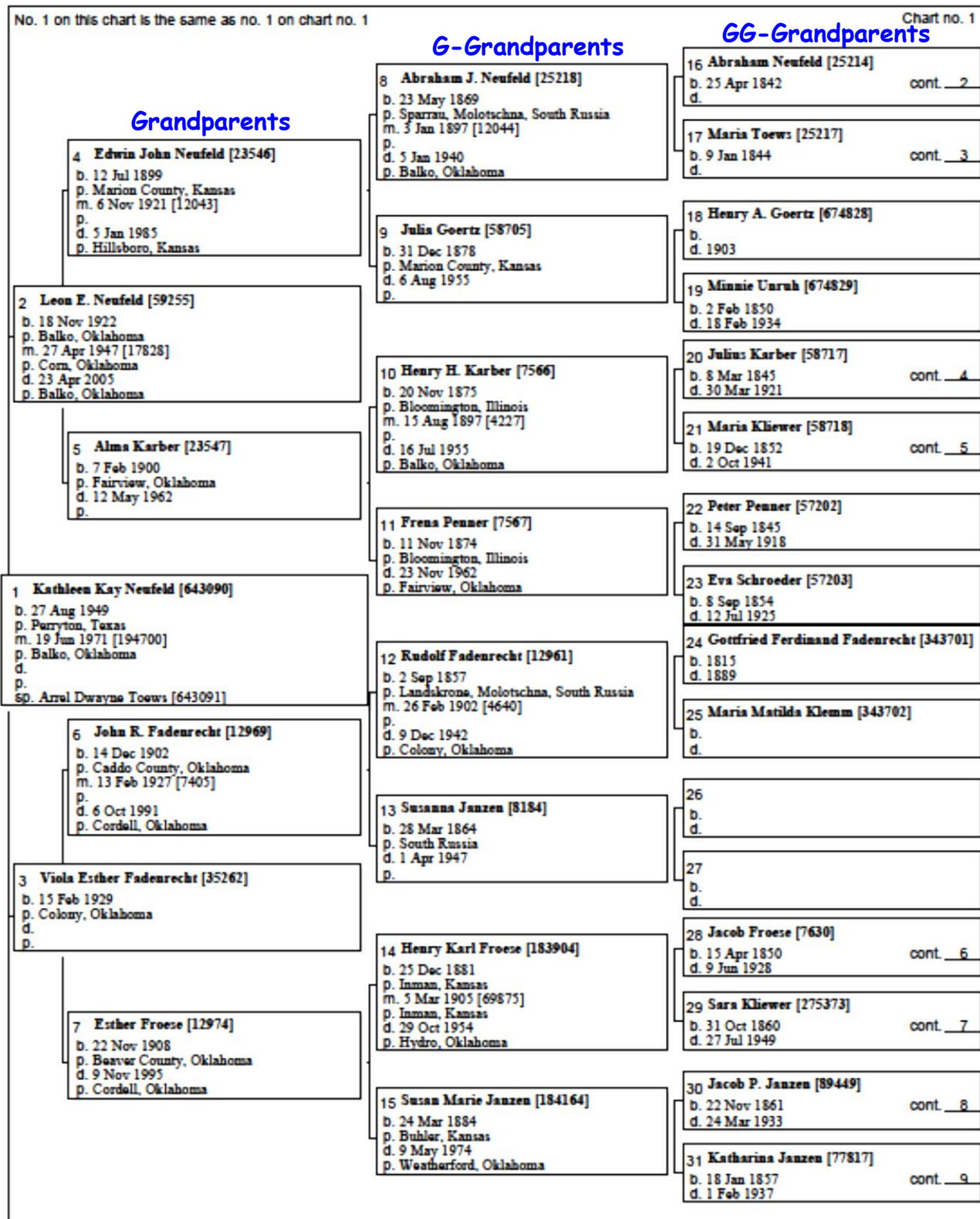
Finally, **my guiding light and wife Kathleen Neufeld Toews** has been essential - her love, guidance, and wise advice have been the most important factor in assembling this document.

Page 60 has the first page of **Kathy's family tree**, derived from the **GRANDMA database**.

I encourage readers to avail themselves of the **Arrel Toews** many **embedded web-links (underlined in purple)** revised & updated 16 August 2024

(#) in text indicates position of that person on Kathy's Pedigree Chart below.

Pedigree Chart for Kathleen Kay Neufeld



A partial pedigree chart for **Kathy's grandfather Edwin J Neufeld**, prepared from the GRANDMA database, is shown below:



[Elsie Neufeld Enns Wiens' memories of the AJ Neufeld family](#) are included below. Elsie was a sister of [Edwin J Neufeld](#), Kathy's grandfather. (provided by [Gaylen Neufeld](#))

About the A. J. Neufeld Family ^{Enns}
By Elsie (Neufeld) Wiens

Our father Abraham J. Neufeld was born in Russia, Molotschna Village S. Russia, June 4, 1869. His parents were Abr. P. and Maria (Toews) Neufeld, who came to America when Papa was a nine year old boy, in 1878. They lived in Nebraska at one time, later in Hillsboro, Kansas.

Our mother, Julia Goertz Neufeld, was born December 31, 1878, in Marion County, Kansas. Her parents were Henry A. and Minnie (Unruh) Goertz. Her father had lived in Prussia, Germany, and in Poland, but had come to the U.S.A. earlier than her mother, who came here as a girl, and worked as a maid in American homes. Later she was married and lived on a farm southeast of Canada, Kansas. Their home was a rock house, which Grandpa Goertz himself had built.

Papa and Mamma were married January 3, 1897, and lived in Hillsboro, where Papa worked as a clerk in the Schaeffler Mercantile Co. store.

Elsie and Edwin John were born in Hillsboro. Then the family moved to Oklahoma, where Papa operated a country store and was also postmaster. While living here Arthur and Sam joined the family.

When there was an opportunity to obtain some land in Beaver County Papa made a trip over there and selected a quarter section as his homestead. We moved there in the spring of 1905.

The move was made in a covered wagon into which furniture and household goods were loaded and which was drawn by our two bay horses, Max and Bill. Chickens were loaded on a spring wagon with a coop built on it and drawn by one horse. The trip took about nine days. On Sunday forenoon we arrived in Woodward and stayed the rest of the day in a livery and feed yard, resuming our journey the next morning, and a few days later we arrived at our home-to-be on the prairie of Beaver County, after a drive of about 200 miles, or so.

There was a small one-room house on our place, and a dugout near by. The family of six settled in that little house. The chickens were housed in the dugout. The horses were tied to the wagon, from which the mover top was removed, and were given some feed in it. Not long after our arrival we woke up one morning to see snow on the ground and on the horses' back. But there was not much of it, so it didn't last long.

Papa soon went to work, breaking up prairie with a walking plow and the two horses, and planted milo, caffir and sorghum for feed crops, and broomcorn for a cash crop. Also that first summer he went back to Blaine County to get the little herd of cattle he owned...I think about eight or nine head. As I remember there were four cows to milk, which was all Mamma's responsibility, until the children were able to help, and later to do it without her help. Also this was the beginning of herding cattle, at first Elsie's and Edwin's job. They herded them on the prairie round about, where no one was living, sometimes more than a mile from home. After a year or two Arthur was with Edwin, and Elsie was relieved from this duty, to be of some help to Mamma. Later the younger ones herded the cattle, when the older ones needed to do other work. There was one year when broomcorn pulling time came, and Elsie and Edwin were in the field helping Papa and Mamma do this work, and it was up to Arthur to stay at the house and take care of baby sister, Stella.

The first three years we had no chance to go to school. There was no school in our district, and Bethany and Blue Mound schools were too far away. But finally our school district was organized, and we had three months of school in a half-dugout that belonged to a homesteader who was not occupying it at the time. The teacher was Miss Le Ila Norris. Eventually there was a school house built west across the section from our house. The school term became a little longer from year to year until Elsie was in the eighth grade we had seven months. Some of those years when school began we had to stay at home the first week to help get the feed crops in.

In the fall of 1914 Elsie went to Tabor College as an academy Freshman and after that taught school a few years. She was perhaps the first student at Tabor from that community. Then no one else of the family went to Tabor until 1919-20 when Elsie went back for a year and Arthur went for that year plus one semester the next year. Next to go was Stella for one year, then Louise and Luella for two years. Finally Albert and Bernice also were Tabor students.

In the fall of 1915 Grandpa Neufeld came to live with us. He had lived with Uncle Pete and his family on his home place for a long time, now there was to be a change for him. That fall two rooms were added to our two room house, a kitchen and a dining room. Grandpa was seemingly fairly well when he came, but it was not long until he became much weaker, physically, as well as mentally, and was mostly confined to his bed and needed care. One morning - I believe in February - Mamma woke us up and said Grandpa had died in the night.

After 1920 came the years when the four brothers were married and with their families lived on farms in the community. Elsie was married after working in Hillsboro in the publishing house for almost twelve years. Louise was married a year later.

During these years our parents bought the Aaron Reimer farm and moved there, where they were closer to the church and lived more among the people of our church. This had been the wish of the family for some time.

As long as I can remember Papa was never a very strong, healthy man. As the years passed his condition did not improve, but rather worsened. He had not been able to do farm work for a number of years, but did help with the chores, and drive the car. Then that day soon after New Year's Day was much like other days, until in the evening he had helped with the chores, and after that complained of being dizzy. Mamma tried to help him walk to the house, but when they were near the door he collapsed and was carried into the house. That same evening he went to be with the Lord, on January 5, 1940.

After this Mamma continued to live in the same place for a while. Luella, Albert and Bernice were at home with her at the time of Papa's death. Luella went to work in Beaver before long, working for the telephone company, and while there was offered employment in Carlsbad, New Mexico, which she accepted. Bernice went to work in Wichita. Stella was also working in Wichita, and continued there. In June, following Papa's death, Albert and Evelyn were married.

While at Carlsbad Luella met Willard Briscoe, and they were married in 1943.

In the summer of 1940 plans were begun and a small house was built on Louise's and Rol's place for Mamma, and here she spent the following years. Arthur had taken over the home place and with his family has lived there since.

After working in Wichita for some time, Bernice was married to Otto Hiebert in 1946.

Mamma was living alone in her home, and she had good health for many years. But finally that began to fail in the early fifties. At last she could not live alone anymore, and was in Louise's home for some time, mostly bedfast. One at a time the sisters came and stayed for a while to help with her care. In the summer of 1955 she lingered until early in August. Her desire to be at home with the Lord became reality on August 5, 1955.

The article below regarding the [Peter Neufeld](#) family - he was the son of Kathy's GG-Grandparents [Abraham P](#) and [Maria Toews Neufeld](#) -and youngest brother of [Abraham J Neufeld](#), Kathy's G-grandfather, is from [Their Story: A Pioneer Days Album of the Blaine County Area](#) (Heritage Book Committee, 1977), amazingly available on Amazon.com! Scans of this article provided by [Gaylen Neufeld](#).

The locations of the original [Abraham P Neufeld homestead \(E/2-SE/4-7-16N-10W\)](#) and the [Peter Neufeld homestead \(E/2-NE/4-7-16N-10W\)](#) are shown on the [Blaine County OK Cedar Valley Township map](#) on the next page.

Peter Neufeld Family
Winnview Community



Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Neufeld and youngest son, Peter Abraham Neufeld.

The parents of Peter A Neufeld were Abraham P. Neufeld (b. Apr. 25, 1842; d. Feb. 15, 1916) and Maria (Toews) Neufeld (b. Jan. 9, 1844; d. Jan. 12, 1912). Both were born in Russia, and they married there. They had three small children, Abraham, Mary, and Annie, when they came to America in 1879 with a Mennonite migration and settled at Hillsboro, Marion County, Kansas. Mary later married Henry H. Fast and lived at Fairview, Okla.; Annie first married a Jacobs; her second husband was John Beckloff, and they lived near Hitchcock, Okla. Abraham married and lived in Beaver County, Okla. Peter, the youngest, was born at Hillsboro, Marion County, Kansas, August 12, 1881 (d. July 13, 1964).

Pete was eleven years of age when he came with his parents to Oklahoma Territory late in 1892, too late for the "run." They purchased 80 acres, the east half of the southeast quarter of section 7, township 16N, range 10W, Blaine County, which they "proved up" as their homestead, and where his parents spent the remainder of their lives in a 2-room house living with Pete and his family.

They came in a covered wagon bringing essential provisions and personal belongings; when arriving they first camped near the creek which runs through the property and while there an electrical storm came up, and lightning struck near by, but no one was injured. They lived in their covered wagon

until a dugout could be built, made by digging three feet into the ground then laying rows of cottonwood logs above, finishing with a roof of sod, in which they lived several years. Later, they built a one-room house over a cellar. Pete's father was a blacksmith by trade and he built his shop a small distance west of the house. Pete dug a water well himself, about 15 to 20 feet deep and walled it completely with rock. The water from this well is still being used on the farm which is now owned by Pete's son, Benjamin.

In 1905 Pete purchased 80 acres, the east half of the northeast quarter of section 7-16-10, adjoining his parents' homestead on the north, and certification of homestead title to Pete is shown of record as of January 9, 1905. Then in 1909 he bought his parents' 80-acre homestead.

About the year 1907 or 1908 neighbors were visiting in the Neufeld home on a Sunday afternoon; a tornado suddenly struck the house, turning it half-way around and tipping one corner into the cellar. There did not appear to be any damage elsewhere in the area; children were playing in a granary several feet away which was not touched by the wind-storm. The Neufeld family lived elsewhere for a time until the house could be moved off the cellar. One room was added, and the cellar covered with logs and earth.

During the years after coming to the Territory Pete made several trips to Kansas and on his return from one trip he brought his bride, Margaret Klassen, whom he had married November 28, 1909.

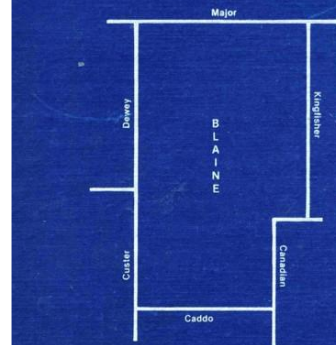
Margaret was born November 19, 1888, at Hillsboro, Kansas, one of thirteen children (two dying in infancy) of Russian born parents, Martin Klassen (b. June 19, 1861, d. May 28, 1954, in Kansas) and Carolyn (Schnark) Klassen (b. Aug. 25, 1862, d. Oct. 14, 1930, in Kansas) each of whom were teenagers at the time of coming to America with separate Mennonite migrations, settling in the Hillsboro area. They were married September 7, 1884.

Pete and Margaret made their home on the homestead in the 2-room house (Pete's parents living with them) until 1951, and raised their family in the growing Winnview community, nine miles east of Watonga. They became parents of nine children, three of whom died in infancy, Seymour, Josephine, and Jessemine. Six are now living: Mrs. Nona Estes of Watonga; Mrs. Malinda Steele of Wichita, Kansas; Mrs. Florence Waggoner of Fay, Okla.; Alfred of Alton, Illinois; Edmund in Wichita, Kansas, and Benjamin in Okeene, Okla.

As Margaret remembers, life was not easy on the plains, but she and Pete grew to adulthood with parents who were pioneers in the early Kansas settlement. It was not unusual for wives and young women of the Oklahoma plains to work in the fields. Many times Margaret worked in the cotton field, dragging a cotton sack while picking cotton and at the same time pushing along her baby in its buggy. This is just one instance of much of the farm work which had to be done by the husband aided by his wife.

Good well water was scarce and water had to be hauled for household use, even to supplement that of a cistern which they had. The men hauled water

THEIR STORY: A Pioneer Days Album Of The Blaine County Area



from Tobacco Springs several miles to the south; the roads were so rough that sometimes the barrels would upset and spill the much-needed water.

The Indians were friendly, often coming with items to "swap" for something. There were times when their neighbors to the west, "Mexican Joe" (who had been stolen at age 5 and raised by the Indians, given the name "Woman's Beard" — see separate article) would come with nothing more than tin cans, old shoes, or other items of that sort to swap, and the trade was usually made. Indians often picked cotton for them, then there was Red Bird and his wife who became friends and visitors; they would come and pitch their tent nearby and often stay several days, during which time they would bake their bread in Margaret's oven and cook food on her stove. One time Red Bird brought some red silk material and asked Margaret to make him a shirt. This she did. The Red Bird family lived six miles west and two miles north of Watonga.

Margaret says that she was told one time Pete and his neighbor to the east, John Dettweiler, went up north on Salt Creek and got a wagon load of salt to be put out for cattle. On their return they were caught in a downpour of rain and got home with very little, if any, of the salt.

About the year 1914 they bought an incubator, which she used to hatch baby chicks. This is now at the home of her daughter, Florence Waggoner of Fay, Oklahoma, and in the summer of 1975 Florence put this 60-year-old incubator to its regular use.

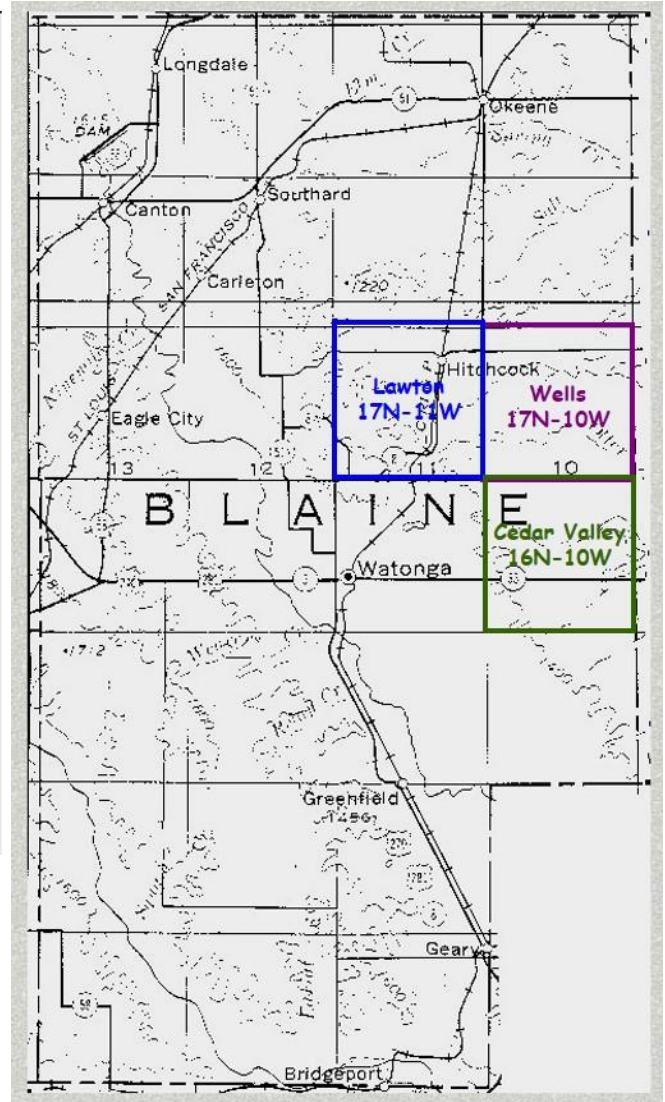
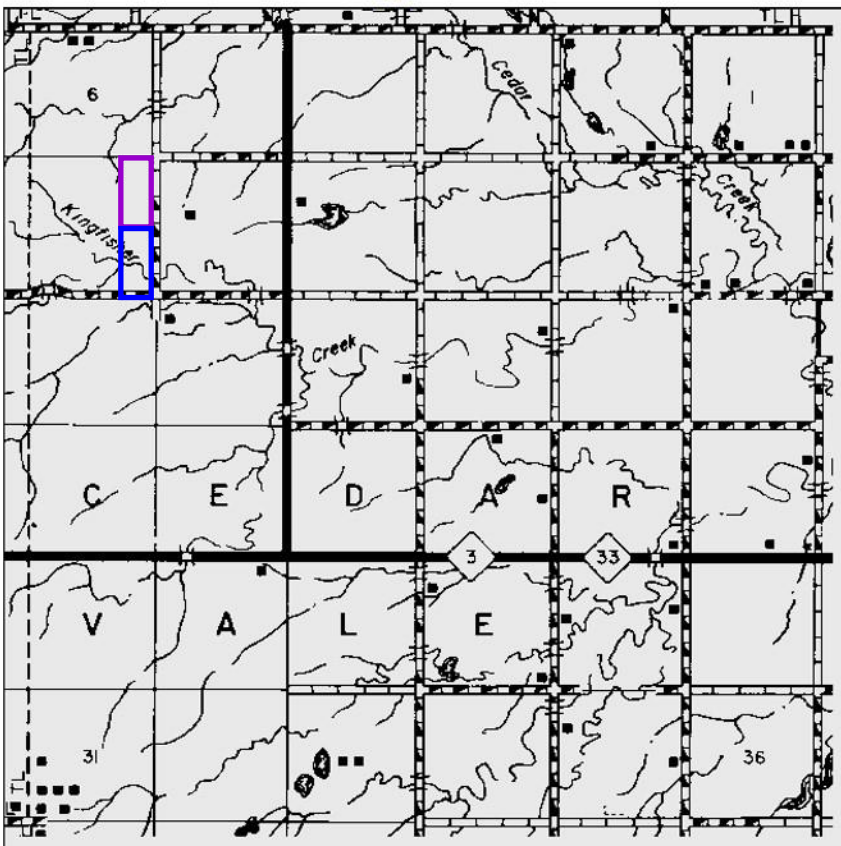
Pete and Margaret lived in the 2-room house over 40 years, after which it was modernized, and when their son Benjamin married, he and his wife moved to the home place and his parents moved to Fay, Oklahoma, to a farm which Benjamin provided, where they lived (five years) until 1956. That house was then moved into Watonga and is where Margaret is living at 812 West 2nd Street. Pete died July 13, 1964.

When Pete came to Oklahoma Territory, he attended the rest of his school years at the Winnview School (District 39). All of their children went to this school until it was consolidated with Hitchcock, and there they continued their education, all finishing high school except Nona. — By Margaret Neufeld

The locations of the original [Abraham P Neufeld homestead \(E/2-SE/4-7-16N-10W; blue\)](#) and the [Peter Neufeld homestead \(E/2-NE/4-7-16N-10W; purple\)](#) are shown on the [Blaine County OK Cedar Valley Township \(T16N/R10W\) map](#) below L.

A [1972 plat map of Blaine County OK](#) is shown below R, with the three relevant townships identified.

Blaine County T16N-10W



[Land patent information](#), including images of original patents, are available at the [BLM website](#) - a very interesting and valuable website. [Abraham P Neufeld](#) patent issued in 1903 and [Peter A Neufeld](#) in 1905, both in Blaine County OK. The patents are shown on the next page.

Land patents granted by President Theodore Roosevelt to Abraham P and son Peter A Neufeld for land in Blaine County OK are shown below - from BLM archives. Interestingly, they are both for 80 acres. Combined, they comprise land 1/4 mile wide and 1 mile long, running N/S. This configuration is similar to farms in the Alexanderwohl Colony near Goessel KS, and reminiscent of village configurations in the Molotschna Colony, S Russia.

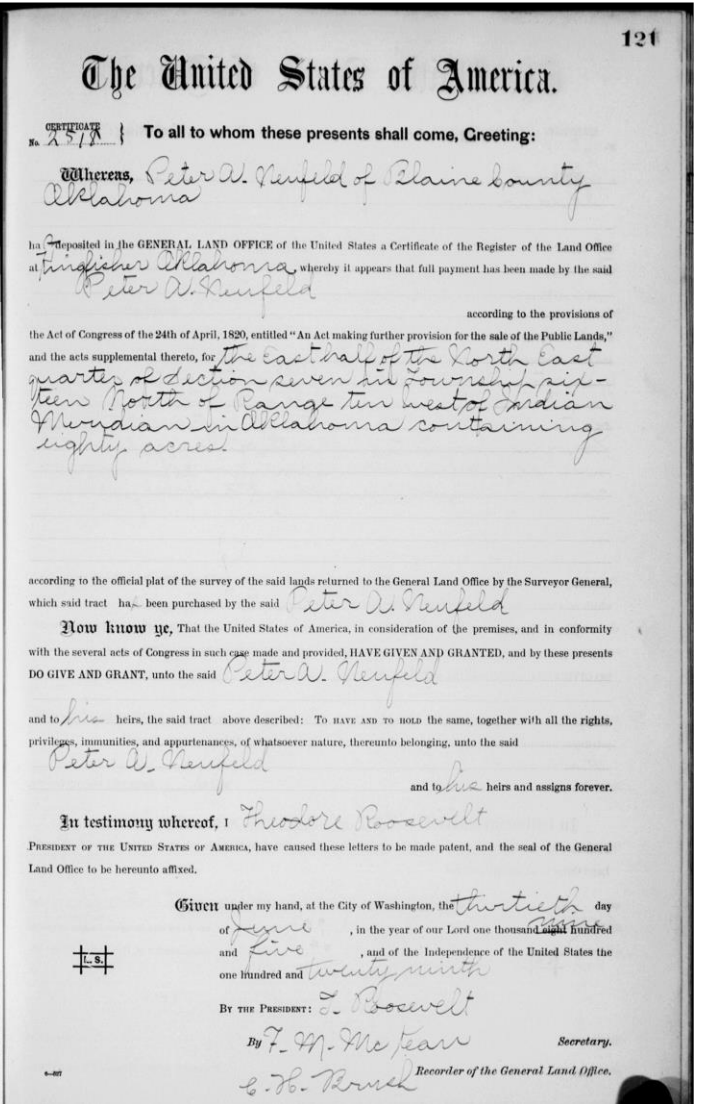
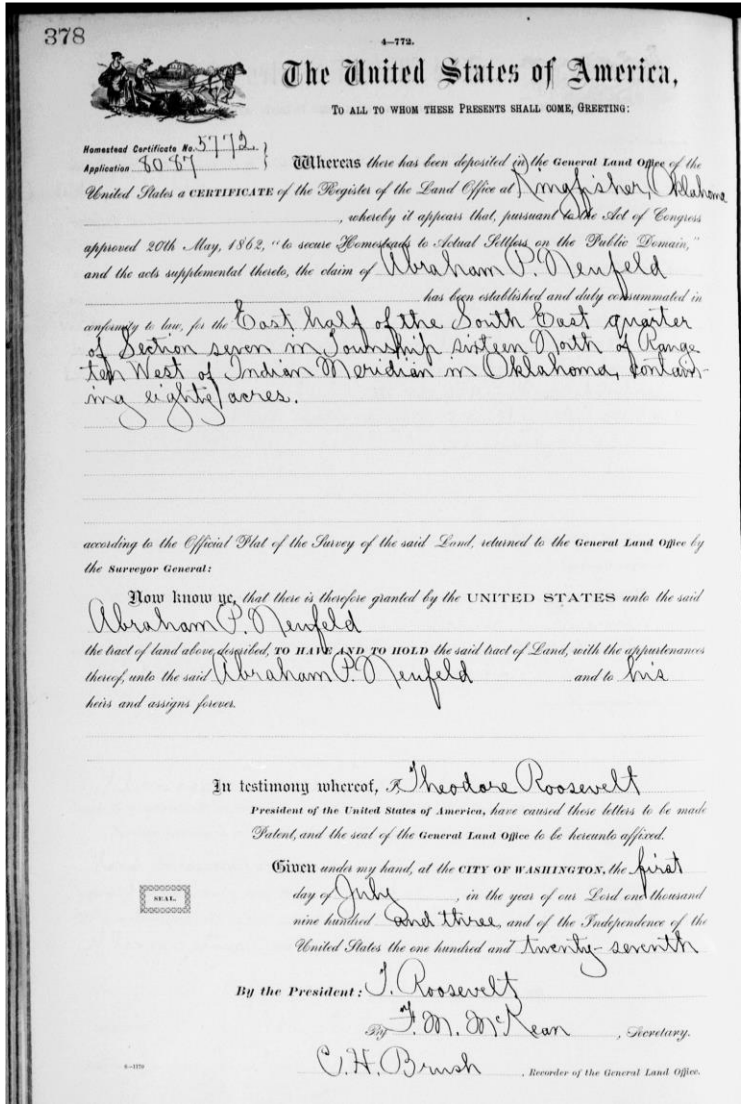


Photo at L shows home of Kathy's GG-Gmother Maria "Go-Go" Karber on the Karber homeplace near Balko OK. Date unknown. See p 50 for her details.