

**Rosina BLAUER**

**10-23-1853 to 9-13-1934**

**and**

**Jacob LIEBERKNECHT**

**8-30-1840 to 6-30-1903**

**and**

**Their Descendants**

MARRIAGE OF ROSINA BLAUER to JACOB LIEBERKNECHT on 12/23/1875

Rosina born in Switzerland 1853; arrived in Iowa, age 9 in 1862; lived with her parents and siblings on the family farm west of Grandview, Iowa; married Jacob 12/23/1875; Jacob died June 30, 1903; Rosina died 9/13/1934.

Jacob born in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, 8/30/1840. The eldest of nine children born to Nicholas and Catherine Reibold Lieberknecht, natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. His father, Nicholas, practiced his shoe-bootmaking trade in Pennsylvania during the 10+ years the family lived there; he continued it in Grandview, Iowa, on arrival there in 1851 during the few months the family lived in town until a farm was purchased west of Grandview in Grandview Township. The children attended the village school in Chambersburg and then in Grandview.

Jacob and Rosina lived on their farm in Concord Township until their respective deaths. Grandson, Ralph Lieberknecht, has owned this farm for a number of years, and he and his wife, Kathrin still live there.

Jacob and Rosina were active members of the German Congregational Church in Grandview where the services were conducted in German for many years. Jacob was a communicant of the church and active in other community affairs, including reorganization of some of the school districts, a school board member, justice of the peace, politically a Republican, member of the Board of Trustees for Grandview Township and a member of the Louisa County Board of Supervisors.

Jacob's brothers and sisters: Margaret, John, Mary, Henry, William, Mary (one Mary died in Pennsylvania during the 10 years the family lived there), Lewis and Benjamin.

Children born to Rosina and Jacob Lieberknecht: Hilton Frederick; William Herbert; Leila Mabel; Anna Ruby; and three children who died in infancy.

Newspaper clippings or obituaries of Jacob in 1903 and Rosina in 1934 included comments or quotes as follows:

Quote-"Her (their) home was open to so many people, a constant flow of wanderers, waifs, cousins, her parents, his mother, and others who stayed for a while, or who lived there for a period of years."

Quote-"Her husband, Jacob died of Bright's Disease in June 1903, age 63. He had been sickly for some time, though he was able to largely carry on his regular activities. At the time of his death, he was serving his 11th consecutive year as a county supervisor with frequent presence in the county seat in Wapello (10 or 12 country road miles from their home). He is leaving four children, Hilt, Herbert, Leila, and Ruby and a wife who has been an invalid for many years.

Quote-"Rosina's gentle concern for, and acts of generosity and kindness to all kinds of people was not by much talking, but by doing, endearing her to many." It is any wonder that cross words, sharp tones, complaining phrases, and unkind gossip were as foreign to her daughter, Leila, as they were to this lady Rosina.

It was before grandpa Jacob's death in 1903 when the present house plan was made and used to enlarge the original structure. The plan included labor saving and comfort factors of a Furnace- for burning full length cords of wood cut from their timber, or sometimes coal in later years. The furnace heat through room registers was shut off from certain rooms all or part of the time and there was some use of pot bellied stoves for heat. Running water for a bathroom and kitchen faucets was supplied from a farm well by way of pressure from the reservoir built in the house attic. A cistern with pump near the house furnished soft water. Later in 1903, gas jet lights were installed in several walls with the energy source

in the basement. (Rural electrification did not occur until the 1930's). My memory says gas lights were "special" and infrequently used, just as I recall the horrible, smelly, gray, chemical powder-water mixture when uncle Herbert changed drums, or "recharged" the light energy. Smelly- but I still accompanied him to watch what seemed mysterious and fascinating.

Well within my scope of memories in the late teens and 1920's were a number of things which were continuations of their life in the late 19th century- the cistern with it's hand pump near the house for a supply of soft water; kerosene lamps to be filled and chimneys washed daily; pot bellied stoves used to take the chill off rooms; wood to be chopped and carried into the house for the kitchen range; clothes washing on the scrub board and boiling clothes on the kitchen range on wash days, -later the gasoline engine powered wringer washer; ironing with flat irons heated on the kitchen range; sewing, mending, baking; spring and fall housecleaning including carpet beating used to remove accumulated dust from the rugs which were removed to the yard for the process; gardening, weeding, harvesting, the garden, the fruit trees, the bushes- to be prepared, cooked, dried, preserved, or canned for later eating during the off seasons; soap making; rendering lard; smoking or canning meat following butchering; the festive atmosphere along with work, delicious foods, and lots of people around at time of the threshing crew which was made up of neighboring farm folks; setting hens and the process of birth of baby chicks, along with chickens to feed and water; eggs to gather to eat or sell for staples at the store or for "pin money"; milk to separate or skim from freshly hand milked cows, and butter and cottage cheese making.

Nor let us forget the trips to town to shop or visit; the help to neighbors in emergencies or in cooperative neighborliness; trips to church or family outings on Sundays- horse drawn or later the open touring car- over dirt roads that mired down wheels in deep ruts after rains. Don't forget the sled and tinkling sleigh bells, the box socials, the spelling bees, the chatauquas, music contests or song fests, the quilting bees, and other good times attended by folks to varying degrees. All this- and still- we know our ancestors found time to read, study, visit, -and possibly get more out of life than we, for even the simple pleasures were more scarce, or took greater effort to participate, and so more meaningful much of the time.

With these segments of background, let us add another dimension. Implied or already mentioned are the factors taken by a young bride (Rosina) who became the helpmate of the eldest son (Jacob) of a tribe (Lieberknecht); the compassion and open arms for the many who came to their home; the organizational ability and stamina needed to operate effectively in the physical demanding era. Let us allow our minds to wander at leisure as we live, and feel with, and for Rosina through some of her physical and emotional involvement.

She came to Louisa County in 1862 at nine years of age with adjustments needed for a new language, new customs, scenery, and environment. Until their deaths, German language was the media used by Rosina's parents and those who conversed with them, at least in the home. This probably also occurred with Jacob's parents when they were in the home. Throughout her life, Rosina's grace offerings at meal times continued in the German Language.

In spite of the obituary newspaper comment in 1903, I don't see how Rosina had the time "to be an invalid for many years"! If she was, considering her physical and emotional drains, it is certainly understandable.

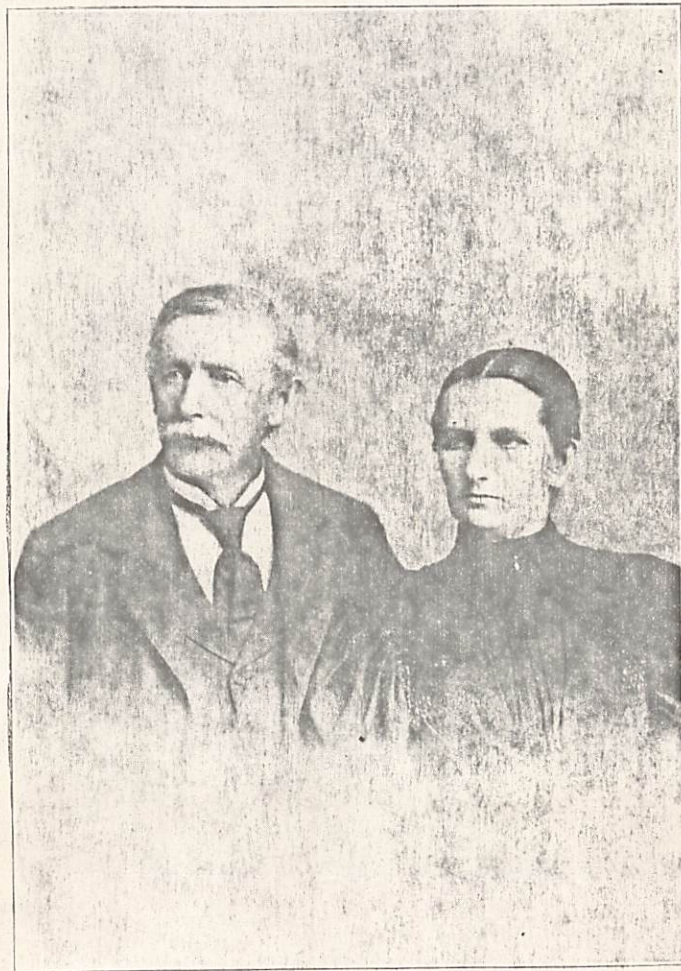
In closing, if sometimes we, with our myriad material conveniences call our selves tired in body, or mind, or spirit, maybe we are.

But let us occasionally allow ourselves a tangent thought for renewed perspective and rejuvenation, to drift out to encompass a family member in Rosina's home 60, 70, or 100 years ago.

Respectfully submitted to the  
Blauer Family Reunion.

Jean Williams Croy, granddaughter of Rosina and Jacob  
daughter of Leila Lieberknecht Williams and  
Harold Ralph Williams

Edited in part  
by  
James F. Blauer



MR. AND MRS. JACOB LIEBERKNECHT



Rosina Blauer Lieberknecht  
and her husband  
Jacob Lieberknecht



Marriage Certificate of Jacob  
Lieberknecht & Rosina Blauer



*Geo. Hubert Knelt & Wife  
Rosina Blumer*

*Home of Jacob, Rosina & their family.*



Aunt Rosa Lieberknecht  
home &

uncle "Jake" Lieberknecht  
parents of

Hilton "

Herbert "

Ruby "

Lula "

(near Grandview, La)



M.C. Escher, *Three Worlds*, 1955 © 1990 M.C. Escher  
Heirs c/o Cordon Art - Baarn - Holland

Dear Cousin Jim,  
Kathrine & Ralph moved  
about 2 years ago to a  
retirement center. Here's  
their current address:

5101 Grebel Place  
Sarasota FL 34232

Glad to be of help. I'm  
also glad that someone  
is interested in keeping  
the family history. I'm  
sure it's a lot of work!

Charlotte Walker

C Warren  
52731  
Columbus det IA  
PM  
10 20 98

Lunch Wagon 1890s  
23 USA



M.C. Escher Book of 30 Postcards - Magna Books

Jim Blauer

418 Pirate Rd

Norport Beach CA 92663



Roy Victor Malay

Marian Williams Malay



Phoenix, Arizona,  
October 27, 1947.

Dear Cousins John <sup>and</sup> Dolly:

You may not have heard that Elmer <sup>and</sup> I were married Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> and are enjoying a wonderful trip - down thru Missouri, Okla., Texas, into Old Mexico, New Mexico <sup>and</sup> now Arizona. We are at Mabel <sup>and</sup> Doug's (Windward) now. We have seen so many new sights - I am so glad that we were able to arrange such a fine trip.

With love, Ruby <sup>and</sup> Elmer

A one cent Post paid Post to John and Dolly Elmer by Ruby Elmer through their home. They visit relatives in Phoenix Arizona



Ruby & Elmer Elmer

Ruby and Elmer Elmer



**A. Ruby Smoke**  
 COLUMBUS JUNCTION — Mrs.  
 A. Ruby Smoke, 90, died Tuesday

evening, Dec. 9, at Burlington Medi-  
 cal Center. *1980*

She was born May 22, 1890, in  
 Concord township to Jacob and Ro-  
 sina Blauer Lieberknecht. She mar-  
 ried J. Elmer Smoke Oct. 12, 1947,  
 at Wilton.

Nieces and nephews survive.

Funeral: pending at Stacy-Lewis  
 funeral home here.

**Honored At Shower**

A post nuptial shower honoring Mr.  
 and Mrs. Elmer Smoke, whose wed-  
 ding took place in October was given  
 by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Walter at  
 their home near Letts on Tuesday  
 evening, November 18.

Games and contests were the diver-  
 sion of the evening. Gifts were pre-  
 sented in a decorated basket, and re-  
 freshments were served at the close

of the evening. Mrs. John Blauer, of  
 Xingley, Iowa poured.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Walter  
 Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Wied-  
 erecht and Harlan of Wapello; Mr.  
 and Mrs. Charles Shellabarger of  
 Conesville, Mr. and Mrs. Elery  
 Watts, Marilyn and Carol of Mont-  
 pelier; Mr. Ed Dankert of Muscatine;  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Blauer of Ting-  
 ley, the honorees Mr. and Mrs. El-  
 mer Smoke. The guests were cousins  
 of Mrs. Smoke.

TUESDAY, OCT. 14, 1947—3  
 MUSCATINE (Iowa) JOURNAL

**Lieberknecht  
 and Smoke  
 Vows Taken**

*Oct. 12-1947*

Announcement is made of the  
 marriage of Miss Ruby Lieber-  
 knecht and James Elmer Smoke  
 which took place at 4 p.m. Sun-  
 day at the home of the Rev.  
 and Mrs. C. B. Larson of Wil-  
 ton. The single ring ceremony was  
 read by the Rev. Mr. Larson in  
 the presence of Mrs. C. B. Lar-  
 son and Ed Dankert of Musca-  
 tine.

The bride wore a two-piece  
 dress of aqua blue with gold  
 trim.

Following the ceremony refresh-  
 ments were served by Mrs. Lar-  
 son. Later the couple left on a  
 motor trip to Phoenix, Ariz.,  
 where they will visit the bride's  
 cousins, Mrs. Charles Campbell  
 and daughter, Mary Campbell,  
 and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lischer,  
 and a niece, Mrs. Jean Croy  
 and daughter, Priscilla Sue.



Seasons Greetings



from our house to your house

Kathleen

Ralph

Mark

Lieberknecht

## Kenneth Hanson Died Monday

Kenneth Hanson, a resident of the community for many years, passed away at his home in Galesburg, Monday afternoon, June 23, after an illness of almost two years. Mr. Hanson was born and raised near Galesburg, Illinois.

He was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Lieberknecht of this community in 1936 and they lived on a farm east of Columbus Junction until Mr. Hanson became ill and was unable to continue with the farm work.

He is survived by his wife, three children, his father, and several brothers and sisters.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 2:00 o'clock at the Johnsonville Funeral Home at Galva, Illinois.

Among those from this community who attended the funeral service for Kenneth Hanson Wednesday afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Newell and Joe, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Newell, Mr. and Mrs. Buryl Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Shellabarger, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lieberknecht and Mark, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Henke, Mr. and Mrs. Orval McCormac, Lewis Newell, Fay Foster, Rudolph Schlichting, Lewis Dallmeyer, Walter Westerbeck, Mrs. Ralph Morris, Mrs. L. M. Dallmeyer, Mrs. R. Bonnicksen, Mrs. Hazel Clark, Mrs. Burl Reed, Mrs. Elmer Smoke, Mrs. Eugene Werner and Miss Virgilia Williams.

A more complete obituary will be printed next week.

## W. H. Lieberknecht Died Monday

Herbert Lieberknecht, a lifelong resident of Louisa county, whose entire life was spent on the farm on which he was born east of Columbus Junction, died at 11 p. m. Monday, June 3, 1946.

Mr. Lieberknecht suffered a stroke of paralysis many years ago and has been cared for by Elmer Smoke.

Although handicapped in this way he maintained a keen interest in educational and church work and also successfully directed the operation of his farm.

William Herbert Lieberknecht, son of Jacob and Rosina Blauner Lieberknecht was born October 6, 1883.

He attended the rural schools and also took a business course at Burlington.

He is survived by his sister, Miss Ruby Lieberknecht and several nephews and nieces. His parents, one brother, Hilton and one sister, Mrs. Leila Williams, preceded him in death.

Funeral services were held this Thursday afternoon at 2:30 at the Grandview Community church conducted by the Rev. C. B. Larson.

Burial in the Grandview cemetery.



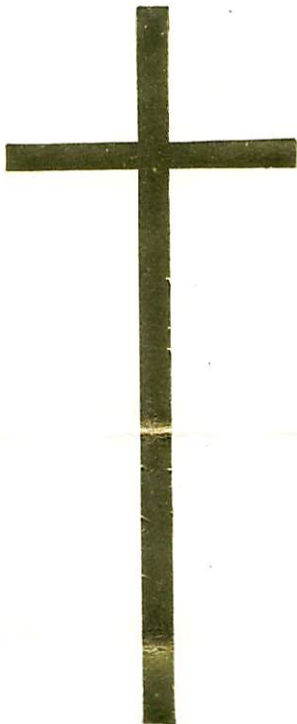
Mrs. Kathrin Lieberknecht  
5101 Grebel Pl.  
Sarasota, FL 34232-2635



*Ralph Lieberknecht  
Passing*

*James F. Blauer  
418 Pirate Road  
Newport Beach  
California 92663*

92663+5223



Mr James Blauer

Your "supplement 2000" to the  
Blauer Family Tree arrived today.

So before your letter is mislaid  
will give you word to update  
your paper.

Ralph Hilton Lieberknecht died  
June 10, 2000.

Service and burial were at  
Columbus Junction, Iowa - and Indian  
Creek Cemetery.

As you can see we had had  
a marriage of sixty seven years.

Sincerely  
Kathrin Lieberknecht  
5101 Grebel Place  
Sarasota, Florida

34237-2635

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*In Loving Memory of*

Ralph Hilton Lieberknecht

August 10, 1912      June 10, 2000

*Afterglow*

*I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one,*

*Id like to leave an afterglow of smiles*

*when day is done. I'd like to leave an echo*

*whispering softly down the ways,*

*of happy times and bright and sunny days.*

*I'd like the tears of those who grieve*

*to dry before the sun,*

*of happy memories that I leave behind*

*when the day is done.*

**Son Of**  
Hilton and Ethel Browning Lieberknecht

**Married to**  
Kathrin Howell  
April 2, 1933

**Father to**  
Mark Lieberknecht

**Clergy**  
Rev. Tom Douglas

**Eulogy**  
Jay Fullmer

**Music**  
Marilyn Schlutz

**Honorary Pallbearers**  
Lewis Newell      Herbert Newell  
Woodrow Shearer

**Pallbearers**  
Jay Fullmer      Dave Hanson  
Lewis Dallmeyer      Dean Gipple  
Paul Masonholder      Tom Howell

**Services**  
Thursday, June 15, 2000 at 10:30am  
Stacy-Lewis Funeral Home  
Columbus Junction, Iowa

**Interment**  
Indian Creek Cemetery  
Rural Columbus Junction, Iowa





Peace  
on  
Earth

EARL CARLTON HUBAND  
PRISCILLA W-WILLIAMS

*married June 14, 1997*



*Paul & Priscilla December 1998*



# NOW LET'S SEE...

*All would be right in heaven  
(if only for a moment)  
if Earl Carlton Huband  
and  
Priscilla Webster-Williams  
would let friends know  
their new address...*

*6543 New Market Way  
Raleigh, NC 27615  
919-431-0064*

*Email remains the same -  
wilhub@earthlink.net*



Dear James,

Greetings from our home in Raleigh where we have been getting to know our environs and building a new life. Recently, I've been reading the proverbs of many cultures and prayers of all faiths, as if to gather bits of heaven to ground and plant me firmly in this new place. Earl joined a health club where he works out several times a week. Gifts for the heart and soul.

Raleigh is not paradise, but certainly not the hell a Cambridge co-worker warned me of (her geography distorted, her sense of northern superiority hurtful.) We enjoy our townhouse in this city of trees. Winter climate is most pleasant. Economy fantastic (but a good public transit system is sorely needed.) Optimism is in the very air, the pace of life (but not drivers) is slower. Cultural opportunities are there for the taking. All this and health too - I'm 5 & 1/2 years past cancer!

Earl and I attend "Friday Noon Poets" at the UNC - Chapel Hill, where we have met several fine poets. In November we enjoyed a week-end conference sponsored by the NC Writers' Network -- largest state-based writers' org. in the US -- in the splendid Blue Ridge Mountains. We've joined the NC Poetry Society which sponsors several Saturday workshops throughout the year. Local bookstores offer readings. Most importantly, we write and push poems out of the nest.

This is a time of adjustment and for finding new avenues of work, friendship, and belonging. We miss our "old" friends and hold you in our hearts. We wish you peace, joy, and fulfillment in the Year 2000.

Hope your surgery went well & that the New Year is kind to you -  
Love, Priscilla & Earl

By the way - Rebecca & Michael McLaughlin are now divorced & Rebecca has taken back her maiden name - Johnson.