

## Henry Heitz of Westbarthausen in Westphalia, the City of St. Louis, and High Ridge in Jefferson County, Missouri

by Dan Vornberg

**J**ohann Heinrich Heitz, who went by the name of Henry in Jefferson County, Missouri, was born in the farming community or *bauerschaft* of Westbarthausen (West Barthausen), located near the common border of Westphalia and Hanover, on 1 May 1825. Administratively, the town was part of Halle County or *Kries* in Westphalia until 1969 when it was consolidated as part of Gutersloh County, but a portion of the area's religious administration, along with two other Westphalia communities of Klekamp and Ostbarthausen (East Barthausen), were part of the Hanover Evangelical Parish of Dissen, within the administration of the Bishopric of Osnabrueck. A portion of Westbarthausen including the village was in the Parish of Borgholzhausen to the east and a portion was in the Parish of Bockhorst to the south. Some families attended church in a parish outside of the geographical boundaries of the parish where they lived for reasons of family history or preference. The family of #2 Westbarthausen were members of the Dissen Parish.<sup>1</sup>

Henry's immediate family was a blended one. He was the son of Franz Wilhelm Heitz (1797–1872) and Anna Maria Elizabeth Franke (1800–1826), who were married in 1822. Henry's grandfather was also named Franz Wilhelm Heitz. Henry's mother, Anna Marie Elizabeth, was the daughter of Johann Diedrich Franke and Maria Elisabeth Majenean. After Henry's mother died in September of 1826, his father married the sister of his first wife. Her name was Marie Catherine Franke, born in 1807. That marriage occurred on 23 May 1827, also in the Dissen parish.

Both the Heitz and Franke families carried the old feudal title of *Colonus* or *Colon* and were therefore of the same social/economic standing. In feudal times, the families would have owed allegiance to the ultimate landlord or *Gutsherr*, and his approval for the marriage would be required. A match between children of such families was usually acceptable. Taxes would be levied to compensate for the potential adjustment of future revenue to the *Gutsherr*, a form of inheritance tax. Although Napoleon ordered the end to the practice of landlord approval of marriages



Location of the town of Dissen within Osnabrück district



<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dissen>>

the practice of landlord approval of marriages during his reign, culture is not easily changed, and aspects of what was an acceptable marriage continued.

Henry had only one full-blood sibling, a brother named Franz Wilhelm Heitz, who was born in 1823, two years Henry's senior. To their father's second marriage six children were born, all half siblings to Henry, although they shared the same maternal grandparents. Those children were Friedrich Wilhelm (1829–1829), Wilhelmina Charlotta (1830–?), Franciska Henrietta Charlotta (1833–1839), Heinrich Christoph "Christian" (1836–1909), Friedrich Wilhelm "Fred" (1839–1907), and Johann Heinrich Ludwig "Ludwig" (1846–1925). Christian and Fred would eventually follow Henry to St. Louis.

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In this area of northwestern Germany, including a portion of the former Napoleonic kingdoms of Hanover and Westphalia, the custom and law for those families with *Colon* status was that the youngest son of the first marriage of the farm owner inherited the farm in its entirety. If there was no living son, then the youngest daughter inherited. When a daughter inherited, then the children born to her after the inheritance took the farm family surname rather than her husband's name, and her husband would then adopt the farm name as his surname as well.<sup>2</sup> This practice has occurred in the author's family line both with males and females.

If for some reason no heir was available, the representative of the *Gutsherr* would install someone to take over the responsibilities of that farm. The establishment of specific farms for which families had full *Colon* status goes back to 800–1100 AD, so it is possible the Heitz family occupied this farm and mill for an extended time, barring a complete interruption in the line. Later, sometime between 1300 and 1500, additional farms were established in this part of Germany with half *Colon* status, called *Halberbe*. These people paid lower taxes. In order to study genealogy in this area of Germany, it is essential to understand these economic and social concepts. Otherwise, periodically families simply seem to disappear, when in fact they have merely changed names according to the established structure.

While finding no reference as to why the practice of youngest inheritance was established, the presumption is that the father would probably not be ready to step down when the oldest son became of marriageable age. In the Heitz case, however, Franz Heinrich, Henry's older brother, took charge of the farm in Germany when his father quit farming. According to Henry Heitz's birth order, as the younger son he would have had the birthright to be the *Colon* of the Heitz farm in Westbarthausen. So why did he leave and give up his birthright? At this point the answer is not known for certain. Henry's mother died when he was only sixteen months old, so there was not a long time between the birth of the oldest child



*Letter from Henry's youngest half-brother Ludwig Heitz in Germany informing his family in Missouri of their father's death, dated 4 January 1872; privately held by Charles Diehl, Fenton, Missouri, 2010*

and the youngest child, only two years rather than a more typical fifteen or twenty year difference. Although he was the younger child, Henry would still have had an extraordinarily long wait to inherit the management responsibilities of the farm when his father retired or died. It may have been unacceptable to him to postpone his career for years before he assumed this responsibility. His father lived another fourteen years after Henry immigrated to America. (See image above.)

Henry joined the army while still in Europe during the period of the Revolution of 1848. His honorable discharge paper from the Fifteenth Infantry-Regiment of Bielefeld details that he was in service from 1848 to 1851 as a *Landwehmann*, the lowest rank in the *Landweher*. The papers are dated 1852.<sup>3</sup> He was in a branch

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The honorable discharge certificate of Johann Heinrich Heitz from the Bielefeld 15<sup>th</sup> Landwehr Regiment

of the military forces that were called up on demand and had a much shorter period of service than the regular army. In the American military, the unit might be referred to as a “reserve” unit. So when he mustered out of the army, faced with more waiting to make his mark, and perhaps family dissonance, he elected to emigrate.

Henry was involved with a young woman who later became his wife in St. Louis. This may have been a factor as well, as a child was born to them on the passage to America prior to their marriage. He and this young woman came on the ship *Bremen* out of Bremerhaven arriving in New Orleans on 31 May 1858.<sup>4</sup> His destination, declared to the captain who filled out the manifest, was St. Louis. The child, named Bremus, survived the arrival in New Orleans, but the census of 1860 does not mention him or a child of this age by any other name, so it is presumed he died prior to the census.

Henry brought his wife-to-be, Henriette Wilhelmina Charlotta Westenhoff, with him on the ocean voyage and river trip to St. Louis. She was born in 1832 to Catherine Elizabeth Westenhoff and her husband Barnard Heinrich Lahrmann, who adopted the farm surname Westenhoff when they married. They were from the same commu-

nity of Westbarthausen and also of a family of *Colon* status. Johann Heinrich Heits (spelling as recorded in the recorder’s office) and Henrietta Wilhelmina Wastenhoff (also spelled as recorded) were married on 31 July 1858, in St. Louis by a Justice of the Peace.<sup>5</sup> Tragically, she died within a few days of their marriage on 2 August.<sup>6</sup> It is unclear whether she was sick at the time and they decided to marry to legitimize their son and/or their own status, or whether she was killed accidentally shortly after the marriage.

In 1859 Henry declared his intent to naturalize in the County of St. Louis court system. He was naturalized in St. Louis County on

12 September 1868, and the act is recorded there.<sup>7</sup>

Some months after the death of his first wife, Henry acquired a farm in Jefferson County, Missouri, purchased from George Henry Hess and his wife, Louise, on 16 March 1859. Henry paid \$1,240 for two tracts of land totaling eighty acres in Sections 26 and 27 of Township 43, Range 4 East, near the village of High Ridge.<sup>8</sup> This property was close to that of Heinrich Wilhelm Delbruegge, who was from Neuenkirchen by Melle in Hanover. Heinrich Wilhelm’s brother, Peter Heinrich Delbruegge, had migrated to Dissen Parish from Neuenkirchen Parish and probably would have been acquainted with Johann Heinrich Heitz there. (Peter had moved to St. Louis in 1854 and settled in the city, continuing his career as a carpenter’s laborer.) Apparently through the interaction of these neighbors, an arrangement was made for Henry Heitz to marry Heinrich Wilhelm Delbruegge’s sister, Katherine Wilhelmina Maria Elisabeth Delbruegge. She sailed on the ship *Olbers* from Bremen to New Orleans, arriving on 11 June 1859.<sup>9</sup> Henry and Katherine were married in St. Louis on 25 July 1859. Johann Will, the Minister of the Gospel at St. Paul’s German Evangelical Church

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performed and registered the marriage.<sup>10</sup> In the civil license, Johann Heinrich declared himself born in Borgholzhausen, Prussia, the nearest larger town in the district of Westbarthausen, and she declared her birthplace as Neuenkirchen in Hanover. The American couple took up residence in High Ridge in Jefferson County.<sup>11</sup>

Katherine's parents and the two siblings in the family who had not already immigrated to Missouri came with her for the wedding and took up permanent residence in Missouri with the family.<sup>12</sup>

Henry was thirty-six years old when the American Civil War began, and by that time he had several young children from his second marriage to Katherine Delbruegge to provide for. His role in the war was limited to participation in the home guard unit in High Ridge. He enrolled on 9 August 1862 in High Ridge as a private in Company C of the 80th Missouri Regiment. Years later, his widow applied for a pension but was turned down, because only a federal unit was eligible for those benefits, and his unit was never mobilized into federal service.<sup>13</sup>

Henry Heitz and his wife Katherine Wilhelmina Delbruegge had three children within four years, Franz Heinrich (1860), Wilhelm Heinrich (1861), and Anna Maria Elizabeth (1863). They were all born in High Ridge, but were baptized at St. Paul's Church in St. Louis. Katherine Wilhelmina died in childbirth with Anna Maria, and Johann Heinrich was once again widowed. As adults, the children of the Heitz-Delbruegge family group moved to St. Louis and made their home there.<sup>14</sup>

Henry subsequently married Wilhelmina Klemme on 31 May 1864 in St. Louis.<sup>15</sup> Wilhelmina brought one child, Freidrich Wilhelm "William" Klemme, born 1855, with her from a previous marriage. To protect the inheritance rights of the children, Henry and Wilhelmina prepared a prenuptial agreement and registered it with the Recorder of Deeds in Jefferson County.<sup>16</sup> The agreement calls for a share-and-share-alike division of property between Henry's three children from his second marriage, Wilhelmina's child from her first marriage, and any



*The wedding portrait of Johann Heinrich Heitz and his third wife, Wilhelmina Klemme, taken in Missouri in 1863. In the possession of Kathy Koebel of Jefferson County, Missouri.*

children they might have together. This is interesting because in Prussia the practice was for the youngest male from the first family to inherit all of the property, making only modest allowances for others in the family. They explicitly decided on a more egalitarian division. On the same day they signed and registered the agreement in Jefferson County, they were married in St. Louis County. P. Lorentzen, the minister who married them, served at the Christ the King German Evangelical Church in Florissant in north St. Louis County. Unfortunately, while some records of the church survive, the church marriage records are apparently lost for that period. Henry and Wilhelmina Klemme had no children together.

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Henry's fourth and final marriage was to Maria Katherine Trecker, who was born in Prussia in 1837. They were married at St. Peter's German Evangelical Church in north St. Louis, on 12 September 1868.<sup>17</sup> This is the church where his two brothers who had immigrated to St. Louis were members. Katherine and Henry had four children: Heinrich Frederick "Fitz" (1871), Heinrich Wilhelm Christian "Christian" (1872), Johann Frederick August "August" (1874), and Catherine Bertha Wilhelmina (1876). This wife outlived Henry, dying in High Ridge on 12 April 1925. She is buried at the St. Martin's German Evangelical Church, now part of the United Church of Christ in High Ridge.<sup>18</sup>

The 1876 Jefferson County atlas listed J. H. Heitz as the owner of 120 acres in Township 43 Range 4 East. In association with the 1860, 1870, and 1880 population census, for those who had farms there were special schedules that detailed their farming activities and revenue. The 1880 agricultural census had one hundred questions, and the answers form a comprehensive look at Henry's farm. He was the owner of sixty acres of improved and sixty acres of unimproved woodland. The value of the land and buildings was judged at \$2,000 with an additional \$150 of farm implements, \$260 in livestock, and \$30 in fencing. He paid \$200 that year to hired labor amounting to thirty weeks of work in 1879, and the products he produced were valued at \$600. He had fifteen acres of mown grass and fifteen acres in hay. In livestock, he had two horses, three mules, three milk cows, and seven sheep on hand. One calf and two lambs were dropped during the year and one head of live cattle and four live sheep sold. He produced 150 pounds of butter and clipped five sheep. He had fifteen swine and sixty poultry and sold ninety dozen of excess eggs. He had seven acres in Indian corn producing 200 bushels of corn, four acres in oats producing forty bushels, thirty acres in wheat producing 500 bushels, and three acres in potatoes producing 200 bushels. He had seven bearing apple trees producing five bushels of apples valued in total of \$2. Finally he worked six acres for forest products worth \$12. The farm was the

same size and produced about the same amount from 1870 to 1880, but between 1860 and 1870, he had added forty acres of land and nearly doubled his production.<sup>19</sup>

Henry Heitz died on 11 December 1880. He had been attended by E. J. Thurman, M.D., from 7 March to 9 December 1880. He was suffering from bronchitis that was affecting his ability to work.<sup>20</sup> His estate was announced in the *Jefferson County Democrat* 14 June 1881 and administered in the Jefferson County Court system, with his last wife, Maria Katharina Heitz, as administrator. Although the local Jefferson County newspaper did not carry an obituary, one did appear in the St. Louis *Westliche Post*, a prominent German language paper in the city. The obituary gives the details of his funeral visitation at the house and confirms that Heinrich Christian Heitz and Frederick Heitz, listed above and discussed below, were his brothers. It was common for rural Germans who had St. Louis City connections to have a formal, paid German death announcement in St. Louis to reach the friends and relatives there, as well as an obituary in Jefferson County with more information for their neighbors and relatives there. Although no burial record or tombstone is found at St. Martin's in Jefferson County, it is assumed that he was interred there in the plot with several of his wives, including his last spouse Katherine Trecker Heitz.

Many young Germans and in some cases entire families immigrated directly to St. Louis from the adjacent parishes of Neuenkirchen and Dissen in Hanover, and Borgholzhausen in Westphalia. Some followed their older siblings; others accompanied their parents. Two of Henry's half brothers followed him to St. Louis. The first was Fred Heitz who arrived in 1860, two years after Henry.<sup>21</sup> He married Wilhelmina Thias, who was born in 1840 in the same parish in Germany. They married at St. Peter's German Evangelical Church in north St. Louis in 1866 with Henry Heitz as the best man.<sup>22</sup> The couple has no children recorded in the church or in subsequent census enumerations. He was listed as a grocer at each census up until his death in May of 1907.

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He is buried at St. Peter's Cemetery. Minnie lived another ten years and died in 1916. She apparently also had relatives who immigrated to St. Louis.<sup>23</sup>

The second brother to immigrate was Christian Heitz, who came in 1867, ten years after Henry's arrival and after the American Civil War. Like his brother Fred, he stayed in St. Louis. He married at St. Peter's German Evangelical Church on 12 September 1868. His bride was Miss Katherine Wilhelmina Schluter, and his best man was his brother Fred.<sup>24</sup> He first worked as a teamster but became the owner of a glass business by 1880. The couple had four children baptized at St. Peter's: Emma in 1869, who never married; Wilhelmina Lina, baptized and died in 1873; Friedrich "Wilhelm," 1874, who married Elizabeth but had no children; and another named Wilhelmina Lina, 1876, who married Martin Fitzmaurice and bore children. Neither of Henry's immigrating brothers had descendants bearing the name Heitz that live on, but their genetic footprint may survive through the Fitzmaurice line.<sup>25</sup>

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### **Endnotes**

1. Dissen Evangelische Gemeinde (Dissen, Kries Iburg, Hanover), *Baptism, Marriage, Confirmation, Burial Registers 1810–1855*, Duplicate (Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany: Minden Repository), microfilm no. 1,051,772, Family History Library [FHL], Salt Lake City, Utah. European vital records of Heitz, Westenhoff, and Thias families are taken from this source and not cited individually.
2. Larry O. Jensen, *A Genealogical Handbook of German Research, Volume 1*, revised ed. (Pleasant Grove, Utah: Jensen Publications, 1980), 105–110; Roger P. Minert, "Surname Changes in Northwestern Germany," *German Genealogical Digest* 16 (Spring 2000): 6–17. Further discussion of name practices in this area is discussed in an article by Carol L. Whitton, "Johann Henrich Klocke of Lippe-Detmold: An Identity Hidden by a German Farm Name," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 98 (June 2010): 111–119. It has also been regularly discussed at the St. Louis German SIG cluster meetings by local researchers who have ancestors from this area in Germany including the author's lines. The author has also encountered this practice of farm names in his genealogy in the south of Bohemia in a much more limited and irregular application.
3. Photocopy of military discharge certificate of Johann Heinrich Heitz, original issued 1 October 1852. Fred Heitz of Kirkwood, a descendent, obtained copy from family records on a visit to Westbarthausen in the 1980s.
4. "Atlantic Ports, Gulf Coasts, and Great Lakes Passenger Lists, 1856–1860," database, *Ancestry.com*. (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 April 2010), entry for Heinrich Heitz, age 33, Wilhelmina Heitz, age 26, and Bremus Heitz, born on passage 12 April 1858; arrived New Orleans, Louisiana, 1858, aboard the *Bremen*, Roll M259-46.
5. C. Koeml, Recorder, City of St. Louis, Missouri, marriage record, 9: 2. Mr. John Henry Heits, Miss Henriette Wilhelmina Charlotte Westenhoff, 31 July 1858, recorded 7 September 1858. St. Louis County Library [SLCL] microfilm 6134. FHL microfilm 528,176; St. Paul's United Church of Christ, *Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, Burials 1848–*, (Webster Groves, Missouri: Eden Seminary Archive, United Church of Christ.), Johann Heinrich Heitz, Wilhelmina Westenhoff, 25 July 1858, UCC microfilm EVUC-109 and 110.
6. St. Louis Genealogical Society, *St. Louis Death Registers, An Index to Deaths Recorded in the City and County of St. Louis 1850–1908*. St. Louis Genealogical Society Vital Records Series CD103: Version 1.0. Henrietta Heitz, 1858, St. Paul's Cemetery.
7. City of St. Louis records 2: 476. Johann Heinrich Heitz naturalized in St. Louis County, 12 September 1868.
8. Jefferson County, Missouri, Deeds, 597 (Hillsboro: Office of the Recorder of Deeds), George Henry Hess and wife Louise to Heinrich Heitz, 16 March 1859.
9. "Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New Orleans, Louisiana, 1820–1902," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 26 June 2010), entry for Justus Dellbruegge, age 62, Ann Dellbruegge, age 60, Heinrich Dellbruegge, age 23, and Caroline [*sic* Catherine] Dellbruegge, age 17; arrived New Orleans, Louisiana, 1859, aboard the *Olbers*, micropublication M259. RG036, Rolls 1–93.

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10. E. Reemle, Recorder, City of St. Louis, Missouri, marriage record, 9: 321. Johann Henrich Heitz, Miss Katherine Wilhelmina Delbruegge, 25 July 1859, recorded 16 November 1859. SLCL microfilm 6134. FHL microfilm 528,176. Certified Copy issued 1 July 1980 by Sharon Quigley Carpenter, Recorder of Deeds.
11. 1860 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Meramec Township, High Ridge, p. 82, dwelling 647, family 637, John H. Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010), citing National Archives microfilm publication M65, 3 roll 621. Also Schedule 4, Production of Agriculture in Meramec Township in the County of Jefferson, Missouri, 7–8.
12. Henry Dellbruggher [sic], Pension file, no. 75,164, War of 1861, Co. G, 25th Ind. Vols., Record Group 15, Records of Veterans Administration, National Archives, Washington. Killed in action at Bentonville, North Carolina, 21 March 1865. Details of the immigration of the rest of the family were set out in a deposition by Anna Catharine Stratman Delbruegge, when she applied for a “mother’s pension” based on the support of another son, Hermann Heinrich Delbruegge, who died in the Civil War.
13. Missouri Secretary of State, “Soldiers’ Records: War of 1812 – World War I,” database, abstracts, *Missouri State Archives* (<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers>), Henry Heights [sic]; Della Lang, “Johan Heinrich Heitz,” *The Best of Reflections, Pioneer Families of Northwestern Jefferson County*, (Reprinted and indexed by the Jefferson County Genealogical Society, 1984); Della Lang, e-mail message to Dan Vornberg, 17 March 2010.
14. St. Paul’s United Church of Christ, *Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, Burials 1848–*.
15. Julias Conrad, Recorder, City of St. Louis, Missouri, marriage record, 12: 76. Johan Heindr Heitz, Wilhelmina Klemme, 31 May 1864, recorded 4 December 1865. SLCL microfilm 6136. FHL microfilm 528,178.
16. Jefferson County, Missouri Deeds. T: 480, John Henry Heitz, grantor, Wilhelmina Klemme, grantee, 3 May 1864. The core condition is “... concerning the property now belonging to the said Johann Heinrich Heitz and also such other property as may hereafter be acquired is held and enjoyed by Wilhelmina Klemme, (subsequently) the prior children of John Henry and Wilhelmina and future children share and share alike...”
17. Julias Conrad, Recorder, City of St. Louis, Missouri, marriage record, 13: 551, John Heitz, Mar Kath. Trecker 5 April 1868, recorded 9 May 1868, filed 30 November 1868. SLCL microfilm 6136. FHL microfilm 528,178; St. Peter’s Evangelical and Reformed Church (St. Louis, Missouri), *Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, 1843–1981*. (Webster Groves, Missouri: Eden Seminary Archive, United Church of Christ). UCC microfilm EVUC 20, 21, and 22, SLCL or FHL microfilms 1503031, 1503032, and 1503033.
18. St. Martin’s German Evangelical Church, *Marriage, Baptism, Burial, and Confirmation Records, 1869–*. Jefferson County, Missouri. Microfilm UCC collection.
19. 1860 U.S. census, Jefferson Co., Missouri, population schedule, Meramec Township, High Ridge, p. 82, dwelling 647, family 637, John H. Heitz. Also Schedule 4, Production of Agriculture in Meramec Twp. in the County of Jefferson, Missouri, 7–8; 1870 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Meramec Township, Hillsboro, p.42, dwelling 309 family 309, Henry Heits, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010), citing NARA, microfilm publication M59, roll 783. Also Schedule 3, Production of Agriculture in Merimbec [sic] Township in the County of Jefferson, Missouri, enumerated 20 July through August 1870 by S. A. Rippy. 7–8; 1880 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Missouri, population schedule, Meramec Township, High Ridge, p. 142 (stamped), enumeration district (ED) 195, sheet 23, dwelling 194 family 202, Henry Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010), citing NARA microfilm publication roll 696. Also Supplemental Schedule 2 Productions of Agriculture in Meramec Township in the County of Jefferson, compiled on 15 June 1880 by Wm Bryan, Enumeration District 195, p. 16D; Agricultural Census Books 1880, Missouri microfilm roll 25, Jasper Co., p. 15, Lafayette Co., p. 4.
20. “Heinrich Heitz,” obituary, *Westliche Post* (St. Louis), 13 December 1880.
21. 1880 U.S. census, St. Louis City, Missouri, population schedule, enumeration district [ED] 85, sheet 21A, dwelling 99, family 234, Fred Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010); citing NARA microfilm roll 721.

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22. St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church, *Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, 1843-1981*.
23. 1900 U.S. census St. Louis City, Missouri, population schedule, enumeration district [ED] 272, sheet 12B, dwelling 245, family 292, Frederick Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010); citing NARA microfilm publication T623, roll 896; *Gould's St. Louis, Missouri, City Directory* (St. Louis, Missouri: David G. Gould Publishers, 1900), also subsequent years 1901-1910, Fred Heitz family; "Frederick Heitz," obituary, *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, 1 June 1907; "Missouri Birth and Death Records," database, Missouri State Archives (<http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/> : accessed 9 June 2010), entries for Frederick Heitz, Wilhelmina Heitz.
24. St. Peter's Evangelical and Reformed Church, *Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, 1843-1981*.
25. 1870 U.S. census, St. Louis City, Missouri, population schedule, St. Louis subdivision 17, Ward 9, p.142, dwelling 595, family 1228, Christ. Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 819; 1880 U.S. census, St. Louis City, Missouri, population schedule, enumeration district [ED] 54, sheet 30B, dwelling 173, family 283, Christian Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010); citing NARA microfilm roll 719; 1900 U.S. census, St. Louis City, Missouri, population schedule, enumeration district [ED] 299, sheet 2B, dwelling 34,

family 36, Christ Heitz, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 May 2010), citing NARA microfilm publication T623, roll 897; *Gould's St. Louis, Missouri, City Directory* and subsequent years 1901-1910, Christian Heitz family; "Christian Heitz," obituary, *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, 10 September 1909.

Dan Vornberg is recently retired from a career in environmental engineering and affairs in the global mining and metals industry. A St. Louis County native, he and his wife became interested in genealogy in the late 1970s. His ancestry is a quarter German, a quarter German-Bohemian, all arriving in the United States in the mid-nineteenth century, and the rest a mixture of colonial arrivals from the British Isles. He has been active in the Jefferson County Genealogical Society and has given talks and classes on methodologies for tracing European heritage. He serves on the StLGS Research, Education, and Finance Committees.

Dan started research on the Heitz family to assist someone else and learned that the Vornberg and Heitz families were neighbors in Germany at one time. Dan's great-grandmother was a Delbruegge, a niece to Katherine Wilhelmina Delbruegge, Henry's second wife. Later, August Heitz, Henry's son from his fourth marriage, was a carpenter and lived at Dan's father's house for some years.



Section heading from *The Carnation*, yearbook of McKinley High School, winter 1911, featuring one of the curricula of the period