

One Saturday night Harold and Helen drove the buggy to town for the typical small-town shopping and socializing. Eventually, Helen was ready to go home, but Harold was not, so Helen took reins in hand, drove home and went to bed. Later, Harold found the buggy gone and telephoned her to get back to town and pick him up. Grudgingly, Helen went to the barn and hitched, not bothering to dress. Harold had said that he would start walking home and she would meet him along the road. Off she went in her nightgown.

Turning out of the lane, she saw someone coming from the north. Not wanting to be scrutinized closely, she clucked the horse to a fast trot. The buggies met on the small bridge and to her horror, she recognized her dad. There wasn't room for the two on the bridge but she dashed on and her wheels went up over the hub of her father's buggy. She picked Harold up and snuck home. The way Dora told the story, her dad talked for years about the crazy woman he'd met on the bridge in the middle of the night.

Dora said that all the Graf women were good with horses, except herself. When she tried to fasten a cinch belt, the belly would inevitably swell as the horse inhaled mightily thus making a comfortably loose belt for the drive. Here is a picture of Dora and Helen setting out from home with "old Prince". When big sister Dora looked at the photo years later, her comment was, "I'm driving!" Both girls look concerned.



Helen and Harry were married at Dora and Ed's farm. Dora made her wedding dress and the day of the wedding she stuck blooming hollyhocks in the spaces of the low radiator in the big bay window thus making a nice backdrop for the minister. That morning his daughters had told Frank Graf that he was to give the bride away. He was pleased but wished he had known so that he could have bought a new tie. Dora always regretted that

she did not think to offer him one of Ed's. Harry's sister was bridesmaid with Harold Graf being best man. Little Virginia Graf was ring bearer and Paul Graf "pleased the guests with a flower song" according to the Reveille. Other Graf relatives who served were Hazel Anderson who played Lohengrin's march and Herbert Graf who sang. After the wedding supper, everyone tried to keep an eye on the bride and groom to stop their get-away. Dora put on a coat, pulled a deep-brimmed hat over her face and grabbed the arm of one of the men; they rushed through the crowd pretending to be the escaping couple. They dashed to the cellar door to appear to be leaving through the basement. However, they didn't know that little Phyllis Smith and others had moved washtubs of water (where cut flowers had been stored) to the bottom of the stairs. The escapees stumbled right into the water. Later, when the real couple tried the same route, they got down the stairs and as far as the cellar door leading up and out. Nephews Paul and Frank Graf had been posted outdoors to keep a general watch for Helen and Harry. Paul saw the cellar door being raised and ran over and sat on it. Eventually, the happy pair managed to leave.

They set up housekeeping in the Chicago area where Harry was employed by a utilities company. After his death, Helen worked as a bridal consultant for Marshall Field's department store. Upon retirement she lived in Colorado near Janice and the grandchildren. Pictured below are Harold, Dora, Edna and Arthur with Helen on the right. The other group centers Helen among her immediate family.



VI 1. JANICE ADELE DOTY b. 31 Oct 1928 wed 28 Jun 1952 George Lauritz Hall Jr. b. 1 Dec 1928. Janice grew up in Oak Park, Illinois. She played violin in the high school orchestra

and enjoyed horseback riding. After graduating from Iowa Wesleyan, where she met George, she was a traveling representative for her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha. After they were married, she and George lived in the Chicago area until a vacation out West enthralled them. They moved their household to Colorado where, for one thing, they could expand their children's interest in horses. George worked in real estate, Janice taught school and many weekends were spent at horse shows.

Janice had always been interested in horses. She and Marilyn, being the same age, exchanged visits to each other's homes. The city cousin would visit the country cousin and vice versa. Marilyn remembers trips to children's theatre in Chicago as Jan does the trips to the farm. When the men would come in from the field, the two were right there to be lifted onto the backs of horses or mules as they relieved thirst at the water tank. The scratchy horse netting didn't matter nor the fact that the tired horses weren't moving. Imagination filled in details.

When Jan and Marilyn were about six, the parents were shopping in an Ottawa department store. The girls were playing tag at a sedate pace which gradually quickened. Jan turned the corner around a show case suddenly, and Marilyn, desperate to catch her, slammed into her crouching body. They both ended up sitting in the show case midst broken glass. After the first moment of paralyzed silence, the undamaged miscreants were sent out to the sidewalk to wait. Standing very still with their backs to the wall, they were not at all sure their parents would pick them up.

One year at Clear Lake, Marilyn's dad suggested she and Jan could catch frogs by jiggling a line with a red-cloth baited hook. So while the men fished out in the lake, the girls edged a row boat along the shore and found the bit of red cloth worked well. The frogs were huge, however, and neither of them wanted to take them off the hook. Two boys living in the next cottage were the solution; the six-year-old put the frogs in a box in the bottom of the boat; the slatted top was not heavy enough to keep the frogs in, so the four-year-old made himself useful by sitting on top of the box. When Ed saw the size of the frogs, he put a stop to the expedition saying these frogs must be especially introduced ones. Aunt Edna made good on her promise to cook frog legs for supper, however.

After living and teaching in Colorado several years Jannice went back to school and earned a Master's degree in Education. During their retirement Janice and George have spent much of their time on Garden Railroading. This involves not only a good-sized railroad system in their back yard, which at one time ran in and out of a basement window, but trips to train shows and comradery with other railroad buffs. Jan also has an avid interest in geology and local history, and she still teaches as a substitute much of the school year.

VII 1. CAROLE LYNN HALL b. 28 Jan 1954 wed 13 Aug 1977 Larry Joseph Kintz b. 12 Sep 1952. Lynn, as she is called, trained as a teacher, then had further schooling and is now principal of a Colorado school, as is husband Larry who started as a music teacher.

Early in her career Lynn was challenged with hepatitis which became more and more serious. She waited near Mayo Clinic in Minnesota till a replacement liver was available and now leads a full, productive life. Here she is pictured with Andrew Rasmusen while visiting in Illinois. She has Katie on her lap.



- VIII** 1. KATIE LYNN KINTZ b 27 Apr 1979 wed 16 Jun 2000 Adam Garvert b.
1 Oct 1977
IX 1. ANNA LYNN GARVERT 19 Sep 2004
2. GRACELYN NICOLE 12 Oct 2005
VIII 2. CHRISTOPHER ANDREW b. 8 May 1981

VII 2. SHARON LEE HALL b. 9 Feb 1956 wed 10 Jun 1978 Charles Dennis Wood, later divorced and married 2nd time 2 Nov 2002 Rick Lauer b. 10 Jul 1959. Sharon is also a teacher. She coached swimming at the Air Force Academy High School in Colorado Springs. As a hobby she and her husband raised Malamutes.

- VIII** 1. MEGHAN LYNN WOOD b. 28 Nov 1983
2. BETHANY ANN WOOD b. 2 May 1988

VII 3. WENDY ANN HALL b. 25 Dec 1957 wed 23 Dec 1982 Todd Bevin Mann b. 2 Nov 1958.

Wendy carried on the family tradition by also training in education and teaching. She and Todd spent several years in Alaska where he was in construction.

- VIII** 1. HEATHER ADELE MANN b. 21 Oct 1986
2. JAMIE LYNN MANN b. 6 Jun 1989

VII 4. CHRISTOPHER GEORGE HALL b. 24 Apr 1960 wed Paula ___ divorced, . Chris, after graduating from college, has worked in education-related jobs in the Bakersfield, California area. After furthering his expertise with an MBA, he is now Assistant Director of Environmental Education in Kern County High School District, a large district with 42,000 students. The first year Chris had this position, the district saved a million dollars in energy expenditures.

1. CHRISTOPHER DALE HALL b. 22 Apr 1986
2. MATTHEW HALL b. 15 Feb 1989
married 2nd time 11 Apr 1992 Brenda ___ b. 3 Oct 1960
3. AMY HALL b. 19 Nov 1993
4. ALLIE HALL b. 10 Sep 1995

This completes the description of Helen and Franklin Graf's eleven children. A picture of the family in about 1901 appears below.