

Hazel Dell School #3 in 1930-1934

© 2016 by Robert A. "Bob" Christiansen, updated 1 May '16.

The one-room Hazel Dell #3 school, also called the Oakdale School, served northwestern Hazel Dell Township in Pottawattamie County, Iowa north of Council Bluffs.

I wrote this report as a tribute to my aunt, Ethel (Larson) Torneten, on her 100th birthday, June 16, 2012. Before marrying Oscar Torneten in 1934, Ethel taught the Oakdale School for four years, from the fall of 1930 to the spring of 1934, during the early years of the Great Depression.

Aunt Ethel had more students than average for a one-room rural school. Ethel also had a better memory than most people her age. In her early 90s, Ethel listed 31 of her students, along with their parents. Aunt Ethel also provided photographs of her students and matched the students on these photographs with the students on her list.

- Photo #1, taken in front of the school, includes 20 students.
- Photo #2, taken at the rear of the school, includes 23 students.

Contents	page
Known Hazel Dell #3 Teachers	2
Ethel Larson and Her Students	3
Ethel Larson's Hazel Dell #3 Students - Index	4
Photos #1 and #2 – Oakdale School around 1931 and 1934	6
The Hazel Dell #3 Subdistrict	8
Photos #3 and #4 – Ethel Then and Now	10
Families of Ethel Larson's Hazel Dell #3 Students	12

For general information about Hazel Dell Township schools, including a diagram of school locations in Hazel Dell Township, see my report *Boomer and Hazel Schools*.

For an 1875 map and a current map of Hazel Dell Township, see my report *Boomer and Hazel Dell Townships Overview*.

I would appreciate hearing from you if you have further photos with identifications. My contact information is in the *Acknowledgments and Sources* section of *Boomer and Hazel Dell Schools*.

Known Hazel Dell #3 Teachers

- 1929-30 Aunt Ethel's predecessor at Hazel Dell #3 was Dorothy Thompson from Weston, in the southeast corner of Hazel Dell Township. Dorothy boarded with the Charles Madsen family. Dorothy was the daughter of Frank Thompson and Mary Catherine Brokman.
- 1930-34 Ethel Torneten, d/o Andrew & Maggie Larson of the Hazel Dell #5 area, married Oscar Torneten.
- Aunt Ethel's successor at Hazel Dell #3 was Thelma Springer, the daughter of Vern and Mae Springer who lived in the Hazel Dell #5 subdistrict.
- After Thelma Springer, Vena Mae Butler of Crescent Township taught at Hazel Dell #3. Vena was the daughter of Daniel and Bertha (Hale) Butler of the Crescent area. Vena married Lloyd Estes.
- 1943-44 LaVerne Johnson, Rt. 4 Council Bluffs, d/o Willie Johnson and Sophia Jensen who lived in Dane Hollow in Hazel Dell Township. LaVerne married James Morrow and lived in Detroit.
- I'm told that around ten years after Aunt Ethel had left Hazel Dell #3, discipline had deteriorated to the point that the directors felt compelled to hire the toughest teacher in the area to restore order. I understand that the new schoolteacher, Zina (Collins) Powell, a steely middle-aged widow from Boomer Township, soon restored order to the school.
- 1953-54 Mrs. Mabel Lawrence

Ethel Larson and Her Students

About Ethel (Larson) Torneten:

My aunt, Ethel Larson, was the 6th of nine children born in Hazel Dell Township to Andrew A. Larson and Karen Margrethe Hansen. Ethel and her siblings grew up on a rented farm in meager circumstances and attended Hazel Dell #5, the Center School.

The nine Larson siblings, along with their double cousin, Evelyn (Larson) Sherbondy who grew up nearby and attended the Parish School, comprised a close-knit extended family. Ethel, her older sisters Florence and Leona (my mother), her younger sister Helen, and her cousin Evelyn were all teachers, having taken normal training at Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs.

Ethel graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in 1930. While in Council Bluffs she first boarded with Cecile Baldwin, who was getting a divorce from Bill Baldwin. Later she boarded with Claude and Grace Sparks, who had three boys, Claude Jr., Donald and Robert.

For all four years that she taught school, my Aunt Ethel boarded with Peter Olsen Jr. and his wife, Anna Peterson, who lived about 3/4 miles east of the school. Ethel lived in a small unheated room on the first floor of the Olsen home. Ethel sometimes shared the room with the Olsen's teenaged granddaughter, Mildred Beedle, who was attending high school in Council Bluffs. Mildred had lost her mother in 1918 and later her father in 1935 and was adopted by her Olsen grandparents.

I have neglected to ask Aunt Ethel what she earned as a rural schoolteacher. Aunt Helen, teaching at a neighboring Oamek school the year after Aunt Ethel retired, earned \$45 a month, and paid \$12 a month for room and board with the Clarence Oamek family.

After her four years of teaching at Hazel Dell #3, my Aunt Ethel left the teaching profession and married Oscar Torneten, a farmer from Hardin Township. Oscar and Ethel raised three children. Ethel lived in the same house in Hardin Township for 75 years and died at the age of 102 in the Bethany Home in Council Bluffs.

Ethel Larson's Students:

I list the 31 students whose names Aunt Ethel recalled, along with their parents, on the following page. Later I've included brief information about each student and their family.

As of June 2012, I believe that nine of Ethel's 31 students are still living, the youngest being 83.

Ethel's students were born from 1916 to 1928. Most of her male students were of the right age to participate in World War II from 1941 to 1945. I know of eleven of her students who were in the Armed Forces during World War II, and another who joined soon thereafter.

One of Ethel's students, George "Junior" Jorgensen, died in the service of his country during World War II when a German submarine sank his ship in 1945.

Ethel Larson's Hazel Dell #3 Students - Index
(two pages; see the indicated page for more information)

page 12: Children of Hans Christian Hemmingsen and Christina Rasmussen:

Charles Hans, deceased, married Evelyn (Eissler) Fate.

Robert Henry, deceased, married Geraldine Lucille "Gerry" Burke.

page 13: Children of Scott Hemmingsen and Sadie Butler:

Virginia Belle, deceased, married Thomas Leonard Kinzer.

Beverly Bonita married Robert E. Whitman.

page 14: Children of Harry Clair Hough and Esther Green:

Marjorie, deceased, married Marvin Peters.

Mary Jane, deceased, married Fred Petersen.

Darrel, deceased, married Eileen Hoffman and subsequently divorced.

Marilyn, deceased, married Albert Jisa.

Marion, deceased married Howard L. Seager.

page 16: Child of Roy W. Hough and Cora Estella Hutchison:

Francis B. "Pat", deceased, married Delores Ring.

page 17: Children of George E. Jorgensen and Marion M. Ham:

George Eugene "Junior", deceased, married Betty Ann Enselman.

Wayne, deceased, married Betty Ann Enselman after Junior died in World War II.

Jesse John, deceased, married Sara L. Mathiesen.

page 19: Children of Charles Madsen and Gladys Spittler:

Arnold, deceased, married Leona Mae McKeown.

Marvin married Carolyn Dewaele and subsequently divorced.

Viola, deceased, married Robert E. Pendgraft.

Betty, deceased, married Floyd Ron Shadden.

Leonard married Sharlene Whiteley.

page 21: Child of Ernest Price and Thelma Smith:

Robert E. married Joan Lang.

page 22: Children of Arthur J. Rief and Ethel M. French:

Esther M., deceased, married Wayne Peters.

Thelma married Walter J. Ambrose.

Ila, deceased, married Orville L. Hicks.

page 23: Children of John H. Thompson and Margaret Rief:

Frieda Sophie, deceased, married David Steinberg.

Carl Peter deceased, married Helen L. Leco.

Leonard, deceased, married Betty Jean (Pike) Vance.

Edna Mae, deceased, married Gilbert R. Belt.

page 25: Children of Bayard Child "Barney" Vance and Laura Rebecca Higgins:

Charlene, deceased, married Orie Mann.

Lyle Asa, deceased, married Esther L. Duncan.

Byerl Bayard, deceased, married Betty Jean Pike and subsequently divorced.

page 26: Grandsons of Minnie (McNelly) Laveck Bauer:

These two boys were sons of Minnie's daughter, Lyal (Laveck) Peterson Stark. Their surname was changed from Peterson to Stark after Lyal married Frank Stark.

Richard D. Peterson/Stark married Lorraine Taylor.

Eugene Lyle "Gene" Peterson/Stark.



Photo #1 - Oakdale School about 1931

Front Row: Arnold Madsen, Marvin Madsen, Pat Hough, Lyle Vance, Byerl Vance

Middle Row: Leonard Thompson, Thelma Rief, Ila Rief, Viola Madsen, Virginia Hemmingsen, Betty Madsen, Darrell Hough, Edna Thompson, Robert Hemmingsen

Back Row: Carl Thompson, Esther Rief, Mary Jane Hough, Ethel Larson - Teacher, Marjorie Hough, Frieda Thompson, Charles Hemmingsen

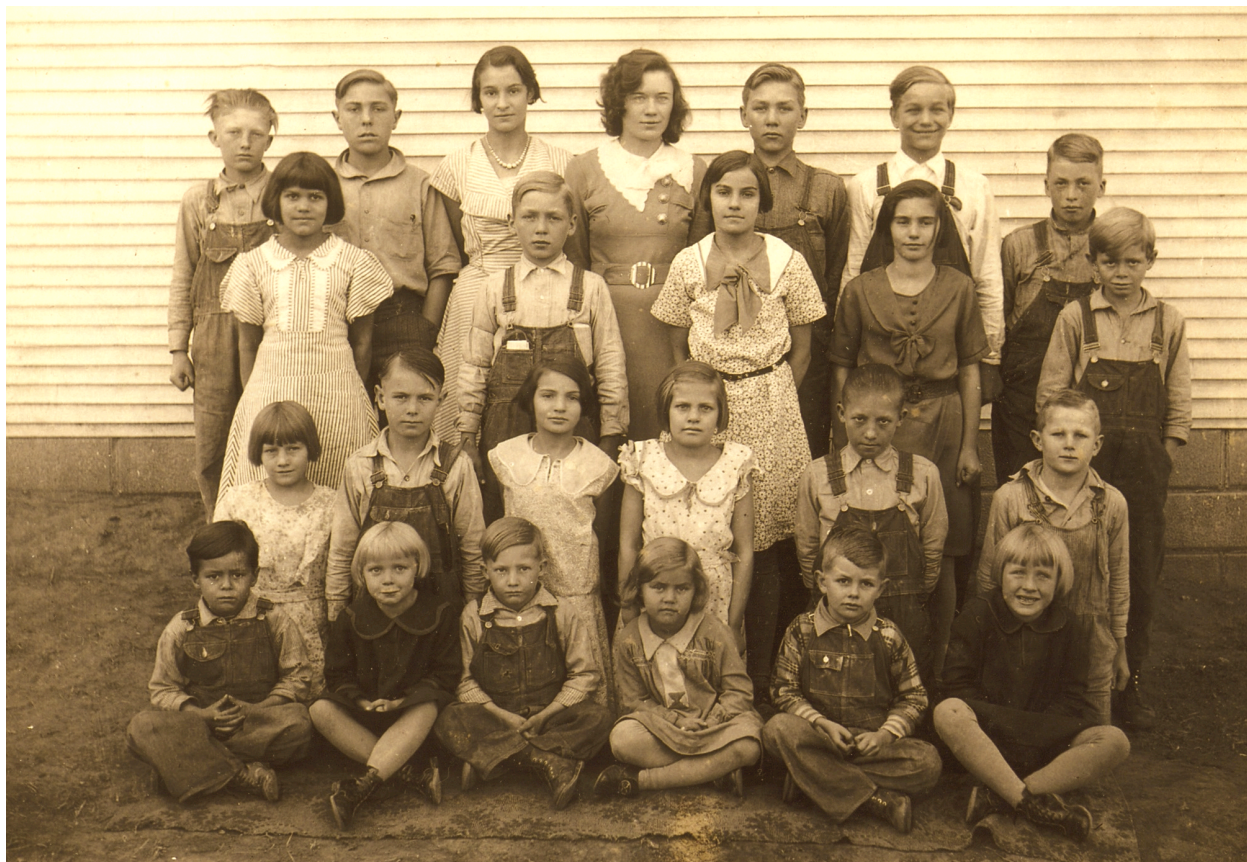


Photo # 2 - Oakdale School about 1934

Front Row: Gene Peterson, Marion Hough, Leonard Madsen, Beverly Hemmingsen, Robert Price, Marilyn Hough

Second Row: Betty Madsen, Pat Hough, Ila Rief, Viola Madsen, Marvin Madsen, Darrell Hough

Third Row: Edna Thompson, Jesse Jorgensen, Thelma Rief, Virginia Hemmingsen, Richard Peterson

Back Row: Arnold Madsen, Robert Hemmingsen, Esther Rief, Ethel Larson – teacher, George Jorgensen, Leonard Thompson, Wayne Jorgensen

The Hazel Dell #3 School Subdistrict

There is a 1930 plat of the Hazel Dell #3 school subdistrict on the following page.

Pigeon Creek flows through the northern part of subdistrict #3, and the old highway from Council Bluffs to Missouri Valley passes through the west end of the subdistrict. Originally this was the Lincoln Highway, the first paved highway across the United States. Later it was known as US 30 alternate, still later Iowa highway 183, and now it has been demoted to county road L20.

Much of the land in the four sections that comprise the Hazel Dell #3 subdistrict is hilly and difficult to farm.

In the northwest corner of subdistrict #3, the county road from Boomer Township (formerly county road J, now L36) meets the highway mentioned above. This intersection was sometimes marked on maps as the Reels corner. Here was the site of Rief's Hall, which served as a grocery store, as the Reels post office from 1884 to 1904, and as a meeting and dance hall.

Sievert Rief Sr. erected the two-story Rief's Hall around 1884. Sievert Rief and his son-in-law, William Southern, sold groceries at this location for many years. Sievert Rief retired in 1907 and William Southern later moved to Honey Creek and then to Harrison County. Around 1920 Minnie Laveck had a store at this location. Around 1925 Rief's Hall blew away.

About a half mile south of Rief's Hall, along Pigeon Creek, was the site of an old flourmill. Perry Reel, his son, Clay Reel, the Paris family, and the Wager family ran this mill over the years.

Both Rief's Hall and the nearby flourmill had vanished from the Hazel Dell #3 subdistrict before Aunt Ethel began to teach.

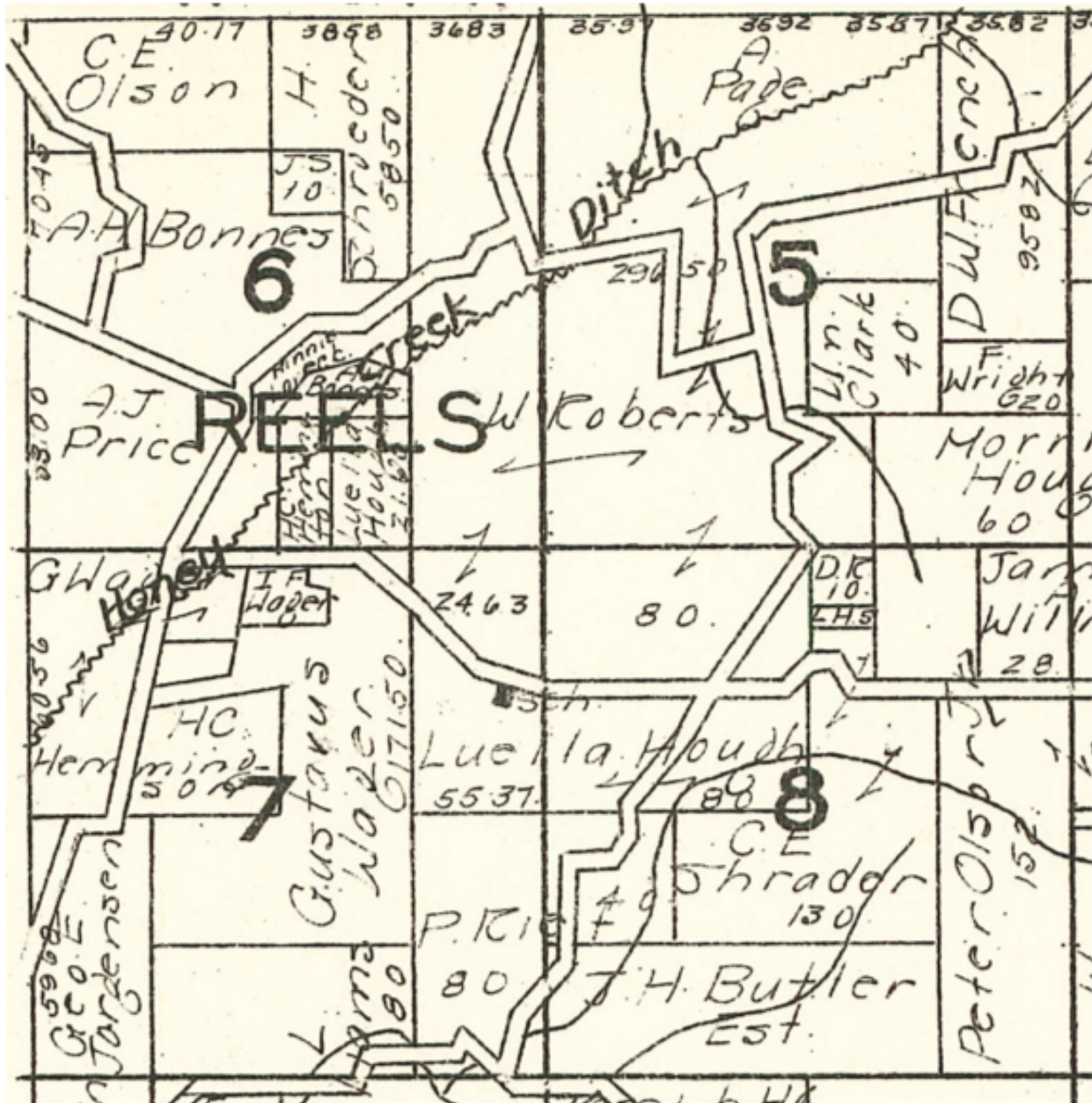
The Oakdale School, which served the Hazel Dell #3 school subdistrict, was about four miles northeast of Crescent, Iowa. Although Crescent was the nearest town, once Rural Free Delivery began early in the 20th century the farms in the subdistrict had either Council Bluffs or Honey Creek addresses.

In the 1954-55 school year, Hazel Dell #3 was still in operation, with Mrs. Mabel Lawrence as teacher. I don't know when the school closed or what happened to the school building.

1930 Plat of the Hazel Dell #3 School Subdistrict (copied from 1919 plat)

The following plat is in error; "Honey Creek Ditch" should read "Pigeon Creek Ditch".

The Oakdale School, marked by "Sch" on the following plat, was located in the northeast part of Section 7. Aunt Ethel boarded in the northeast part of Section 8, and walked a mile down a hilly road to her school.





Ethel Larson and her sister, Helen at Oakdale School c. 1934



Ethel Torneten, Helen Petersen and Evelyn Sherbondy 2008
(courtesy of Carolyn Christiansen)

Families of Ethel Larson's Hazel Dell #3 Students

Children of Hans Christian Hemmingsen and Christina Rasmussen:

Hans Christian Hemmingsen was born in Denmark in 1868 to Hemming Christoffer Hansen and Gunild Clausdatter and immigrated in 1888 as a young man.

Christina Rasmussen was born in Denmark in 1875 to Mads Rasmussen and Matilde Jensen and immigrated in 1878 with her family as a young girl.

Hans and Christina Hemmingsen married in April 1895.

Hans Hemmingsen's sister married Henry Scott of Hazel Dell Township. Christina Rasmussen's sister married John Alexander Hansen of Hazel Dell Township.

Hans and Christina Hemmingsen lived on the west side of the highway between Crescent and Honey Creek just south of Pigeon Creek from 1906 until they died. Later their son, Everett, farmed the home place.

Hans and Christina Hemmingsen are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Hans and Christina Hemmingsen had nine children, Scott Glen, Fern, Everett, Duane, Franklin, Mildred, Charles and Robert. Charles is pictured on the first photo, and Robert on both photos.

- 1 Charles Hans Hemmingsen** (21 Jan 1918 – 24 Jul 2002) married Evelyn D. (Eissler) Fate (30 May 1915 – 26 Sep 1989) in Pottawattamie County in March 1954. Evelyn Eissler was born in Nebraska to Ernest Theodore Eissler and Grace Applegate.

Charles Hemmingsen lived in Omaha, Nebraska, where he probably died.

I believe Charles Hemmingsen had two children, and his wife, Evelyn, had two children from a previous marriage to Guy Fate.

- 2 Robert Henry Hemmingsen** (3 May 1920 – 29 Jan 1987) married Geraldine L. "Gerry" Burke (14 Sep 1923 – 2 Nov 2001) on June 14, 1942. Gerry Burke was born in Missouri Valley, Iowa to Thomas Burke and Alice Brown who lived in Harrison County before moving to Council Bluffs in the late 1920s.

Robert Hemmingsen was a pilot in the Army Air Force during World War II, receiving his wings in 1944.

Robert Hemmingsen settled in California where he died in Sacramento County.

Robert H. and Gerry L. Hemmingsen are interred in Cavalry Catholic Cemetery, Citrus Heights, Sacramento County, California.

Robert and Gerry Hemmingsen had three children.

Children of Scott Hemmingsen and Sadie Butler:

Scott Hemmingsen was the oldest child of Hans and Christina Hemmingsen mentioned above.

Sadie Butler was one of sixteen children born to Joseph Henry Butler and Mary Catherine McMullen of northwestern Hazel Dell Township.

Scott and Sadie Hemmingsen married in March 1920.

Scott and Sadie Hemmingsen may have lived on her father's farm, the Joseph Butler place about 3/4 miles south of the Hazel Dell #3 school as the crow flies.

In 1940 the Scott Hemmingsen family moved to two miles south and east of Underwood, where they were still living in 1971.

Scott Hemmingsen lived to be 101 and died in South Carolina in 1998. Scott and Sadie Hemmingsen are interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Scott and Sadie Hemmingsen had two children, Virginia and Beverly. Virginia appears on both photos, and Beverly on the second photo.

- 3 Virginia Hemmingsen** (29 Nov 1923 – 18 Jun 2011) married Thomas Leonard "Leonard" Kinzer (17 Jan 1916 – 14 Dec 1998). Leonard Kinzer, the son of Pearl Kinzer and Georgie Thorpe, was raised in Center Township east of Oakland, Iowa and was a farmer.

After marrying Leonard and Virginia lived in the Oakland area for a time and later lived in Council Bluffs. Virginia died in a nursing home in Missouri Valley at the age of 87.

Leonard and Virginia Kinzer are interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Leonard and Virginia Kinzer had three children.

- 4 Beverly Hemmingsen** (3 Jul 1928 -) married Robert Whitman (19 Feb 1925 -) in Council Bluffs on November 29, 1947. Robert Whitman was the son of Theodore H. and Martha (Simons) Whitman of the Council Bluffs area.

As of 2012 Robert and Beverly Hemmingsen were living in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Children of Harry Clair Hough and Esther Green:

Harry Hough was the son of Milton Clement Hough and Leona Pratt who lived in Crescent Township.

Esther Green was the daughter of Charles Green and Hattie Howland who lived in Hazel Dell Township before moving to Council Bluffs.

Harry and Esther Hough married in October 1913.

Harry and Esther Hough originally lived in Crescent. Between 1920 and 1925 they moved to Hazel Dell Township.

In Hazel Dell Township Harry and Esther Hough lived in Section 7 about a mile southwest, as the crow flies, of the Hazel Dell #3 school. This farm was owned in the 1930s by Esther's uncle, Frank Howland, and after Frank Howland's death it was owned by Harry Hough. As of 2011 a Hough descendant is still living on this farm.

Harry and Esther Hough are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Harry and Esther Hough had seven known children, Thelma, Norma, Marjorie, Mary Jane, Darrel, Marion and Marilyn, of whom Marilyn and Marion were twins. Marjorie and Mary Jane appear on the first photo, Darrel on both photos, and Marilyn and Marion on both photos.

- 5 **Marjorie Hough** (22 Jul 1918 – 1 Jan 1970) married Marvin A. Peters (21 Aug 1909 – Jul 1987). Marvin Peters was one of the eight sons of Lewis Peters and Ida Axtell of Boomer Township. After graduating from Hazel Dell #8, Marjorie attended and graduated from high school.

In the April 1940 census, Marvin and Marjorie Peters were living in Rockford Township, perhaps in Honey Creek, and he was working as a garage mechanic. The Marvin and Marjorie Peters family later lived in Section 30 in southwestern Boomer Township, in a second house on the farm where he was raised.

Marvin and Marjorie Peters are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

Marvin and Marjorie Peters had at least three children.

- 6 **Mary Jane Hough** (14 Jun 1920 – 25 Jul 1986) married Fred Carl Petersen (14 May 1913 – 24 Dec 1970). Fred Petersen was the son of Carl Petersen and Anna Schroder of Rockford Township and the cousin of my uncle by marriage, the late Victor Petersen.

In the April 1940 census, Fred and Mary Jane Petersen were living in Rockford Township. By 1950 they had bought the Grossman farm in Section 31 of southwestern Boomer Township. Fred Petersen died in 1970 and the farm was subsequently rented out. Eventually it was sold to Danny Hansen.

Fred and Mary Jane Petersen are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

Fred and Mary Jane Petersen had three children.

- 7 Darrel M. Hough** (25 Jan 1926 – 9 Feb 2004) married Eileen Hoffman (31 May 1926 -). Eileen Hoffman was the daughter of Peter Hoffman and Josephine Kenkel.

Darrel Hough served in the infantry in the European theater during World War II.

Darrel Hough farmed his parents' home place in Hazel Dell Township, Section 7.

Darrel and Eileen Hough were divorced. I don't know where Darrel is interred.

Darrel and Eileen Hough had four children, one of whom died in early childhood.

- 8 Marilyn Ann Hough** (1 Feb 1928 – 31 Jan 2000) married Albert Victor Jisa (14 Oct 1926 – 28 Apr 2003) of Oconto Falls, Wisconsin at St. Francis Church in Council Bluffs in 1951.

Albert and Marilyn Jisa farmed in the Oconto Falls area until their retirement.

Albert and Marilyn Jisa are interred in the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Spruce, Wisconsin.

Albert and Marilyn Jisa had five children.

- 9 Marion Hough** (1 Feb 1928 – 26 Mar 2003) married Howard L. Seager (25 Oct 1917 – Feb 1985) around 1944 while Howard was serving in the United States army.

Howard and Marion Seager lived in the Lake Manawa area just south of Council Bluffs. After her death, Marion was cremated.

Howard and Marion Seager had three sons.

Child of Roy W. Hough and Cora Estella Hutchison:

Roy Hough was the son of George Riley Hough and Luella Mae Schwartz of northwestern Hazel Dell Township.

Cora Hutchison was the daughter of William James Hutchison and Eliza Nixon Meginness of east central Hazel Dell Township. Cora was the sister of John Benjamin "Ben" Hutchison of Hazel Dell Township.

Roy and Cora Hough married in April 1916.

Roy and Cora Hough were probably renting from his widowed mother, Luella (Swartz) Hough in Section 8 about a quarter mile southeast of Hazel Dell #3, as the crow flies.

In 1940 Roy and Cora Hough, along with son Francis, were living on a rental farm in York Township. Roy and Cora Hough later lived in Council Bluffs and the McClelland area.

Roy and Cora Hough are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Roy and Cora had three children, Merle, Marvin and Francis "Pat". The youngest, Pat, is pictured on both photos.

10 Francis B. "Pat" Hough (27 Jan 1924 – 24 Apr 2002) married Delores Ring (6 Jan 1922 – 22 Dec 1981) in June 1948. Delores Ring was the daughter of John and Carrie Ring of Neola, Iowa, and the sister of Louis and Frank Ring.

Pat Hough served in the United States Navy during World War II.

Pat and Delores Hough lived in Neola after they were married, then lived in Council Bluffs, and later lived in Neola.

Pat and Delores Hough are interred in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Neola, IA.

Pat and Delores Hough had five children.

Children of George E. Jorgensen and Marion M. Ham:

George E. Jorgensen was the son of Jens Jorgensen and Johannah Sophia Lagerholm who farmed in the Council Bluffs area. George's sister, Ella was married to Nate Darrington of Boomer Township.

Marion Ham was the daughter of Harvey Ham, the Honey Creek station agent for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, and Pearl Etta Carter.

George and Marion Jorgensen married in September 1916.

George and Marion Jorgensen lived in Section 7 on the east side of the highway south of Hans Hemmingsen from before 1919 into the 1930s.

The George Jorgensen family moved to George's parent's farm near Pacific Junction, Iowa between 1935 and 1938. In 1940 George and Marion and their three children were living on this farm, with his widowed father living nearby. By 1954 George and Marion were living in Murray, Nebraska south of Plattsmouth and by 1964 they were retired and living in Council Bluffs.

George and Marion Jorgensen are interred at the Grange Cemetery, along with their first child, Ruth, who died as a baby.

The three surviving children of George and Marion Jorgensen, George Jr., Wayne and Jesse, are pictured on the second photo. They are missing from the first photo, although I believe the Jorgensen family was living in the subdistrict at the time it was taken.

- 11 George Eugene "Junior" Jorgensen** (7 Mar 1920 – 9 Apr 1945) married Betty Ann Enselman (14 Oct 1920 – 28 Jun 1999). Betty Ann Enselman was the daughter of Louis Henry Enselman and Maude Hover, who lived in the Glenwood, Iowa area and are buried at the Plumer Settlement cemetery south of Council Bluffs.

George Jorgensen served in the United States Navy, joining shortly after Pearl Harbor and served as a signalman. He died twenty-five miles northeast of Ostend, Belgium near the end of World War II. His ship, the 1,000-ton army tanker Y-17, was carrying high-octane aviation fuel from the terminal at Hamble on the south coast of England to Belgium. The midget two-man German submarine U-5309 torpedoed the Y-17. The Y-17 carried a crew of 19, mostly civilians, and sank with no survivors.

- 12 Wayne Warren Jorgensen** (26 Mar 1922 – 21 Feb 2000) also served in the United States Navy during World War II. He was discharged for medical reasons before World War II ended.

Wayne married his brother's widow, Betty Ann (Enselman) Jorgensen, in January 1947.

After marrying, Wayne and Betty Jorgensen lived near Plattsmouth, then Elkhorn, and then Arlington, all in eastern Nebraska.

Wayne and Betty Jorgensen are interred in Arlington in Washington County, Nebraska, where they may have died.

Wayne and Betty Jorgensen had four children.

- 13 Jesse John "Jess" Jorgensen** (24 Apr 1924 – 3 Feb 2012) joined the United States Navy in December 1942 and served until 1946. He was based in Hawaii.

Jesse Jorgensen was on the crew of a landing ship tank, LST-478, which was active in the central and southwest Pacific from November 1943 until the end of World War II.

Jesse Jorgensen married Sara L. Mathiesen, the daughter of Detlef Mathiesen and Margaret Nagle. Detlef Mathiesen, an employee of the Union Pacific Railroad, had moved to Council Bluffs from Grand Island, Nebraska. Detlef died in an explosion in the Union Pacific railroad yards in 1943.

After living in Shenandoah, Iowa for a few years, Jesse and Sara moved to Murray, Nebraska and to Huron, South Dakota in 1960. He remained in Huron until his death.

Jesse Jorgensen is interred in Resthaven Cemetery in Huron.

Jesse and Sara Jorgensen had three children.

Children of Charles Madsen and Gladys Spittler:

Charles Madsen was born in the Neola area to James Peter Madsen and Petrina Jensen.

Gladys Spittler was born in Hazel Dell Township to Phillip Spittler and Maggie Harris.

Charles and Gladys Madsen married in October 1918.

I believe that in 1930-1934 the Charles Madsen family was renting about $\frac{3}{4}$ miles east of the Hazel Dell #3 school. Their farmstead in Section 8 was in a hollow south of Peter Olsen Jr., down a dead-end road now abandoned.

Charles and Gladys Madsen may have moved to Section 30 in southwest Hazel Dell Township before 1950. Don Thompson believes they may have moved first to a farm just to the south of their previous residence.

Charles and Gladys Madsen are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Charles and Gladys Madsen had eight known children, Arnold, Marvin, Viola, Betty, Leonard, Mildred, Donna and Mona. The four oldest appear on the first photo, the five oldest on the second photo.

- 14 Arnold Ashley Madsen** (29 Mar 1921 – 22 Dec 2008) married Leona Mae McKeown (18 Jan 1929 -). Leona McKeown was the daughter of Raymond McKeown and Clara Cobb who moved from northwestern Pottawattamie County to Council Bluffs in the 1920s.

Arnold Madsen served in the United States Army during World War II.

Arnold and Leona Madsen lived in Council Bluffs.

Arnold Madsen is interred in the Crescent Cemetery.

Arnold and Leona Madsen had six children.

- 15 Marvin Madsen** (26 Jan 1923 -) married Carolyn Dewaele from Crescent on December 18, 1948. Carolyn Dewaele was the daughter of Oceil Dewaele and Mabelle Williams and the stepdaughter of Fred L. Petersen of Crescent.

In the April 1940 census Marvin Madsen was a hired man working for Arthur J. Rief who had left Hazel Dell Township and moved to Harrison Township near Dunlap in Harrison County.

Marvin Madsen served in the Army Air Force during World War II.

Marvin and Carolyn Madsen were divorced before 1971. Marvin later lived by School Hill Rd. in Section 30 of Hazel Dell Township a few miles north of Council Bluffs.

- 16 Viola Madsen** (24 Feb 1924 – 18 Feb 1991) married Robert E. Pendgraft (16 Aug 1925 – 20 Jul 1975) on October 8, 1953. Robert Pendgraft was the son of Homer Pendgraft and Myrtle Bird who farmed southeast of Underwood.

Viola had two earlier marriages, to George E. Nowlin and to Gerald Pond.

Robert and Viola Pendgraft lived in Council Bluffs.

Robert and Viola (Madsen) Pendgraft are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Viola had one child from her first marriage, to George E. Nowlin. Viola had twins from her second marriage, to Gerald Pond, but one of the twins died in infancy.

- 17 Betty Lou Madsen** (23 Feb 1926 – 22 Jul 2001) married Glen I. Newman (20 Sep 1925 – 11 Sep 1984) in September 1944. Betty (Madsen) Newman lived in Council Bluffs. She had Glen had four children before divorcing around 1954.

Subsequently Betty married Floyd Ronald Shadden (5 Dec 1926 – 25 Mar 1979). Floyd R. Shadden was the son of Floyd Allen Shadden and Vere Alter of the Persia, Iowa area.

Floyd R. Shadden had seven children by a previous marriage to Eileen E. O'Grady.

Floyd R. and Betty Shadden lived in Council Bluffs.

Floyd and Betty (Madsen) Shadden are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

I believe Floyd and Betty Shadden six children, in addition to the eleven children from their previous marriages.

- 18 Leonard Leroy Madsen** (16 Jan 1928 -) married Sharlene L. Whiteley (9 Nov 1933 – 7 Oct 1996) in Council Bluffs on November 5, 1954. Sharlene Whiteley was the daughter of Mrs. L. E. Whiteley of Council Bluffs.

Leonard Madsen had served in the United States Navy after World War II, enlisting in March 1946.

Leonard and Sharlene Madsen lived in Council Bluffs.

Sharlene (Whiteley) Madsen is interred in Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Leonard and Sharlene Madsen had three children, one of whom, John Joseph Madsen, is deceased.

Children of Ernest Price and Thelma Smith:

Ernest Price was the son of Arthur John Price and Laura Catherine Schroeder who lived in northwestern Hazel Dell Township.

Thelma Smith was the daughter of Benjamin Albert Price and Maude Parish who lived in south central Boomer Township.

Ernest and Thelma Price married in October 1926.

Ernest and Thelma Price may have lived on his maternal grandparents' farm in Hazel Dell Township, Section 6, about a mile north of Hazel Dell #3, across Pigeon Creek, and back in the field. Ernest's maternal grandparents were Claus and Charlotte Schroeder, and an uncle, Harry Schroeder, owned this farm. This farm is where Derald and Gladys Blois first lived when they married.

Ernest and Thelma Price may have later lived in Nebraska, although by 1949 they were living in the Missouri Valley, Iowa area.

Ernest and Thelma Price are interred in the Grange Cemetery.

Ernest and Thelma Price had two known children, Robert and Dean, of whom the older, Robert, is pictured on the second photo.

- 19 Robert Ernest Price** (8 Oct 1927 -) married Joan Lang of Craig, Nebraska around 1950. As of 2007, Robert and Joan were still living in Craig.

Children of Arthur J. Rief and Ethel M. French:

Arthur Rief was born in Crescent Township to Juergen "John" Rief and Antonia Edgar. Ethel French was born in northwestern Hazel Dell Township to David W. French and Bertha Cafferty. Arthur and Ethel were married around 1914.

Arthur and Ethel Rief may have lived on the farm of her father, David French, about a mile and a half northeast of the school, David French having moved to Rockford Township.

Arthur and Ethel Rief later lived in Harrison County near Dunlap.

Arthur and Ethel Rief are interred in the Grange Cemetery with their oldest child, Gilbert, who died as a teenager.

Arthur and Ethel Rief had four known children, Gilbert, Esther, Thelma and Ila. The three youngest are pictured.

- 20 Esther M. Rief** (26 Mar 1921 -23 May 2004) married Wayne Carl Peters (15 Jul 1915 – 23 Mar 2002) in 1939. Wayne Peters was the son of Carl Peters and Rose Ellen Peterson of Boomer Township.

Wayne and Esther Peters farmed in the Logan, Iowa area.

Wayne and Esther Peters are interred at the Grange Cemetery.

Wayne and Esther Peters had three children, one of whom died in infancy.

- 21 Thelma M. Rief** (5 May 1923 -) married Walter Joseph Ambrose (27 Aug 1922 – 7 Dec 1998). Walter Ambrose was born near Pisgah, Iowa to Henry W. Ambrose and Bertha Neckar who were farming in Jackson Township, Harrison County in 1925 and 1930.

Walter Ambrose served with the 2nd Infantry Division in Europe during World War II, both in Normandy and in the Battle of the Bulge. He was wounded and won the Silver Star.

Walter and Thelma Ambrose farmed. Starting in 1966 they lived in Lincoln Township south of Walnut, Iowa.

Walter Ambrose is interred in the Atlantic, Iowa cemetery.

Walter and Thelma Ambrose had four children.

- 22 Ila Rief** (16 Jul 1925 - 11 Mar 2016) married Orville L. Hicks (19 Oct 1922 – 15 Oct 2001). Orville Hicks was the son of W. L. and Edith Hicks who were living in Crawford County, Iowa in 1930.

Orville and Ila Hicks lived in Dunlap, Iowa where Orville ran a trucking company.

Orville and Ila Hicks had two children.

Children of John H. Thompson and Margaret D. Rief:

John Harrison Thompson was born in Missouri to James Elliot Thompson and Elizabeth Coil.

Margaret Rief was born in Hazel Dell Township to Peter Rief and Sophia Mandelko. Peter Rief was the second husband of Sophia (Mandelko) Bracker. Through her first marriage, Sophia Bracker was the grandmother of the Bracker children of Aunt Ethel's generation the last of whom, Sara (Bracker) Billesbach, died in May 2012.

John and Margaret Thompson married in November 1910.

The John Thompson family spent several years around 1920 living in northeastern Colorado in Laird, Yuma County.

When Aunt Ethel was teaching, John and Margaret Thompson were living on the farm of her father, Peter Rief, $\frac{3}{4}$ miles south of the school as the crow flies.

John and Margaret Thompson's oldest son, John William, was the father of Donald Thompson, who lived with Vernon and Thelma Larson while a teenager.

John and Margaret Thompson are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

John and Margaret Thompson had nine known children, John William, Freeman, LeRoy, Frieda, Carl, Leonard, Edna Mae, Virginia and Earl. Frieda and Carl appear on the first photo. Leonard and Edna Mae are pictured on both photos.

23 Frieda Sophie Thompson (5 Mar 1916 – 31 Aug 2007) married David Steinberg.

Frieda was living in Council Bluffs in the mid 1950s. As of 2004 Frieda with living with her younger sister, Edna, in the Council Bluffs area and as of 2006 was living in Mesa, Arizona where she died.

I don't know where Frieda Thompson is interred.

Frieda (Thompson) Steinberg had one known child.

24 Carl Peter Thompson (3 Oct 1917 – 7 Nov 1964) married Helen L. Lecoe, a native of Montana. Helen grew up in eastern Montana in Rosebud County east of Billings.

In the April 1940 census, Carl Thompson was a hired man for Newton Stephens, a farmer in northeastern Crescent Township.

Carl Thompson was wounded and won a bronze star while serving in the United States Army Air Force during World War II.

Carl Thompson remained in the Crescent area after returning from World War II. Carl lived at times on his parents' home place. Before Carl's early death he bought the farm northeast of his parents' home place where Charles Madsen lived in the early 1930s, as well as land just east of Crescent.

Carl Thompson is interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Carl and Helen Thompson had five children, the oldest of whom served with the United States Marines during the Vietnamese War. One of their children, John Wayne Thompson is deceased.

25 Leonard Thompson (10 Jun 1920 – 5 Apr 2006) married Betty Jean Pike (2 Aug 1928 – 18 Nov 2001).

Betty Jean Pike was the daughter of William H. Pike and Ruth G. Bell of Council Bluffs, and had previously been married to Byerl Vance.

Leonard Thompson served in the United States Army during World War II from 1942 to October 1945.

Leonard Thompson remained on or near his parents' home place after returning from World War II. Leonard Thompson farmed and trucked. He ran a corn shelling operation, for a time in conjunction with Aunt Ethel's brother, Vernon Larson.

Leonard and Betty Jean Thompson are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

Leonard and Betty Jean Thompson had three children, one of whom, Leonard Eugene Thompson, is deceased.

26 Edna Mae Thompson (29 Aug 1924 - 4 Feb 2016) married Gilbert R. Belt (18 Apr 1916 – Jun 1985) in December 1941. Gilbert Belt was the son of Joseph E. Belt and Juanita M. Wright of southwestern Rockford Township.

Gilbert and Edna Belt farmed in the Crescent, Iowa area. From about 1945 to 1952 they lived on her parent's home place, later moving to the Missouri River bottom west of Honey Creek, Iowa.

Edna (Thompson) Belt was living in Council Bluffs area as of 2003 and in the Crescent, Iowa area as of 2006.

Gilbert and Edna Belt are interred in the Grange Cemetery, although Edna was cremated.

Gilbert and Edna Belt had two children, one of whom died as an infant.

Children of Bayard Child "Barney" Vance and Laura Rebecca Higgins:

Barney Vance was born in Clark County, South Dakota to Asa Vance and Frances Florance. Laura Higgins was born at Shelby, Iowa to John Martin Higgins and Gennieve Shearer.

Barney Vance and Laura Rebecca Higgins married in Pottawattamie County in January 1918.

The Barney Vance family lived in Grove Township in 1920 and in Washington Township in 1925.

In the 1930 census the Barney Vance family was renting in the Hazel Dell #3 subdistrict. In 1940 they were living in Boomer Township. Later they lived in Garner Township and in Council Bluffs.

I currently don't know where the Vance family lived in the Hazel Dell #3 subdistrict.

Barney and Laura Vance are interred in Oaklawn Cemetery north of Oakland, Iowa.

Barney and Laura Vance had nine children, Charlene, Lyle, Byerl, Max, Darlene, Betty, Phyllis, Keith and Linda. Lyle and Byerl are pictured on the first photo. Perhaps the Vance family had already left the subdistrict when the second photo was taken.

27 Charlene Vance (18 Oct 1918 – 25 Nov 2002) married Orra Earl "Orie" Mann (21 Oct 1907 – 8 May 1992) on July 25, 1942. Orie Mann was the son of Clarence Lemuel Mann and Cora Mabel Gaisford.

Aunt Ethel named Charlene Vance as one of her students, although she does not appear on Aunt Ethel's Hazel Dell #3 photos.

Charlene (Vance) Mann was living in Omaha, Nebraska in 1945 and later lived in Colorado and Arizona.

Charlene (Vance) Mann probably died in Omaha, Nebraska. I don't know where she and Orie are interred.

Orie and Charlene Mann had one child.

28 Lyle Asa Vance (4 Jun 1921 – 28 Nov 2002) married Esther L. Duncan

Lyle and Esther Vance lived at Treynor, Iowa, where he was a truck driver. Lyle and Esther evidently divorced and Esther married Mr. Cochran.

Lyle Vance moving to Council Bluffs in 1989.

Lyle Vance is interred in the Garner Township Cemetery.

Lyle Vance had nine children, of whom six were deceased as of 1 Jan 2014.

29 Byerl Bayard Vance Sr. (29 Nov 1922 – 2 Sep 2012) married Betty Jean Pike (2 Aug 1928 – 18 Nov 2001).

Byerl and Betty Jean Vance had at least one child and subsequently divorced. Betty Jean then married Leonard Thompson, who appears as number 25 on this list.

Beryl Vance married Phyllis and was living in Council Bluffs in 1951 and Treynor in 1952. Beryl and Phyllis had at least two children.

Byerl Vance married Patricia Steburg (6 Jun 1933 -) on March 7, 1953. Beryl and Patricia lived in Fort Dodge, Iowa, where Beryl worked for the Hormel packing plant for 30 years.

Byerl Vance is interred in North Lawn Cemetery in Fort Dodge. Byerl Vance had eleven children, two of whom preceded him in death.

Grandchildren of Minnie (McNelly) Laveck Bauer:

Minnie McNelly was the daughter of Henry McNelly and Martha Yeager who lived in Missouri, in Mills County, and in Council Bluffs before moving to the Los Angeles area sometime before 1920.

Minnie married Ovela M. Laveck in Pottawattamie County in December 1893. After marrying, Ovela and Minnie Laveck lived in Keg Creek Township in Pottawattamie County and St. Marys Township in Mills County before moving to Hazel Dell Township before 1910.

Minnie and Ovela divorced before 1915 and Minnie married Mr. Bauer in the early 1920s. Minnie and Mr. Bauer were also divorced.

Minnie Laveck lived on a small farm at the Reels corner where county road J (now L36) met the old Lincoln highway. She lived there from before 1915 to after 1945. Around 1920 she ran the store in Rief Hall, which is thought to have blown away around 1925.

Minnie had six daughters, Bessie, Nellie, Elva, Lyal, Geraldine and Leona, from her first marriage to Ovela Laveck.

Two grandsons of Minnie Laveck are on the second photo. These grandchildren were born in Colorado to Lyal Laveck and John Peterson, lived in Kansas City, Missouri, and then moved to Council Bluffs in the early 1930s. The Peterson children lived with their grandmother while their mother worked at Brandeis in Omaha. Sometime in the 1930s their parents divorced and around 1940 Lyal (Laveck) Peterson married Florbert Aloysius Casper "Frank" Stark, who was a railroad engineer with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad.

After their mother remarried, the Peterson brothers changed their surname to Stark.

30 Richard D. Stark (b. Peterson) (abt May 1925 -) married Lorraine Taylor from Council Bluffs in 1950. After marrying, they moved to Price, Utah where Richard was a dispatcher for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. They were living in Sunnyside east of Price in 1954. Later Richard Stark worked in a lumberyard in the Salt Lake City area.

31 Eugene Lyle "Gene" Stark (b. Peterson) (abt May 1927 -) joined the United States Navy in August 1945 just as World War II was ending. Gene Stark served on the escort carrier Kalinin Bay during its final voyage from San Diego to Boston early in 1946.

As a historical footnote, sixteen months earlier, in October 1944, the Kalinin Bay had been an active participant in the Battle Off Samar, in which a lightly armed naval force supporting the invasion of Leyte in the Philippine Islands fought off a much stronger Japanese force. The Battle Off Samar marked the first use of Kamikaze planes by the Japanese. It was part of the Battle of Leyte Gulf, perhaps the largest naval battle in history.

Eugene Stark worked for a business in the Silicon Valley area of California.