

The Granat Family History

by Virginia Mapes March 17, 2012

Sweden

The number of Swedes doubled between 1750 and 1850, and the growth continued. In a country with few industries and cities, the burden had to be carried by the primitive agricultural society.

At the end of the 1860s, Sweden was struck by the last of a series of severe hunger catastrophes. The agriculture which was still only partially modernized had been struggling with difficult times. Now came a series of crop failures. 1867 thus became "the wet year" of rotting grain, 1868 became the "dry year" of burned fields, and 1869 became "the severe year" of epidemics and begging children. Sixty thousand people left Sweden during these three "starvation years." It was the beginning of the mass emigration which, with short intervals, was to continue up to World War I.

(Written by Ulf Beijbom)

John Richard Karlsson

Per (John) Richard Karlsson was born May 24, 1882 in Hova, Sweden to Karl Karlsson and Lovisa Johansdotter. [Richard's last name was changed from Karlsson to Granat when he was in the Swedish Military Service in 1905.]

Richard recalled walking the trails to school. However when winter came and the snow was deep, he would ski to school. It was so much faster because he could ski over the tops of the fences creating a shorter route.



Richard's childhood years in Sweden are somewhat vague. He had a sister Ellen and there may have been other brothers and sisters. They were a very poor farm family.

Richard remembered that he and the other children in the family were always hungry, for these were the starvation years for the farm workers. Richard did not talk much of the early years. They were probably too painful to recall.

The rumor is that Richard left home at age 13 after a fight with his father. Where he went or what he did after leaving home is not known.

Somehow he lived on streets of Sweden.

He had a reputation as a fighter that would have helped him survive.

Ellen Margareta Lindblad

Ellen was born May 18, 1886 on a little farm near Lyrestad, Sweden.

Ellen & Richard had attended schools in Sweden for several years.

Richard saw Ellen for the first time when she was coming out of a doctor's office. For Richard, it was love at first sight. Their courtship began.

Ellen and her family lived a



comfortable life in Sweden. Several times a year, the dressmaker would come to sew for the women in the family.

Twice a year, the cobbler would come to make shoes for all the members of the household.

The Lindblad's were devout Lutherans and walked an extensive distance to attend church.

Because of Richard's estranged relationship with his father and the fact that he had been on his own since 13, might have caused some anxiety with Ellen's parents. There was also a rigidly structured class society in Sweden. Richard was not in the Lindblads social class. The poor working class were often treated discourteously.

Ellen's older brother's were also very protective of her. They did not approve of her relationship with Richard.

The Lindblads
Ellen's Parents



In 1905, Richard was drafted into the Swedish Military Service.

Norwegians throughout Sweden don their festive garb to celebrate their country's national day on Tuesday, Dagens Nyheter reported that previously unpublished government records show that the two countries were perilously close to war in 1905.

That was the year Norway declared its independence, dissolving the union with Sweden that had been in place for over 90 years. The split has been viewed by history as being largely peaceful, despite 20 years of growing friction between the two countries....

In September 1905, in an atmosphere of suspicion, Sweden went so far as to send 5,000 fully-equipped soldiers to the Norwegian border. Norway responded with the partial mobilisation of its army. But with the posturing threatening to burst into conflict, Lundeberg met Norway's leader, Christian Michelsen and they reached a compromise.

(From "Sweden and Norway Were Close to War," *The Local Swedish News in English*, May 17th, 2005)

Richard Granat
(top right)



Richard and his company was on the border between Sweden and Norway when the conflict ended peacefully, May 17th, 1905. He later recalled to his sons, when they had been watching the border, a huge moose moved across the landscape in front of them. Every one of the soldiers shot at it.

Swedish Military Photo about 1905



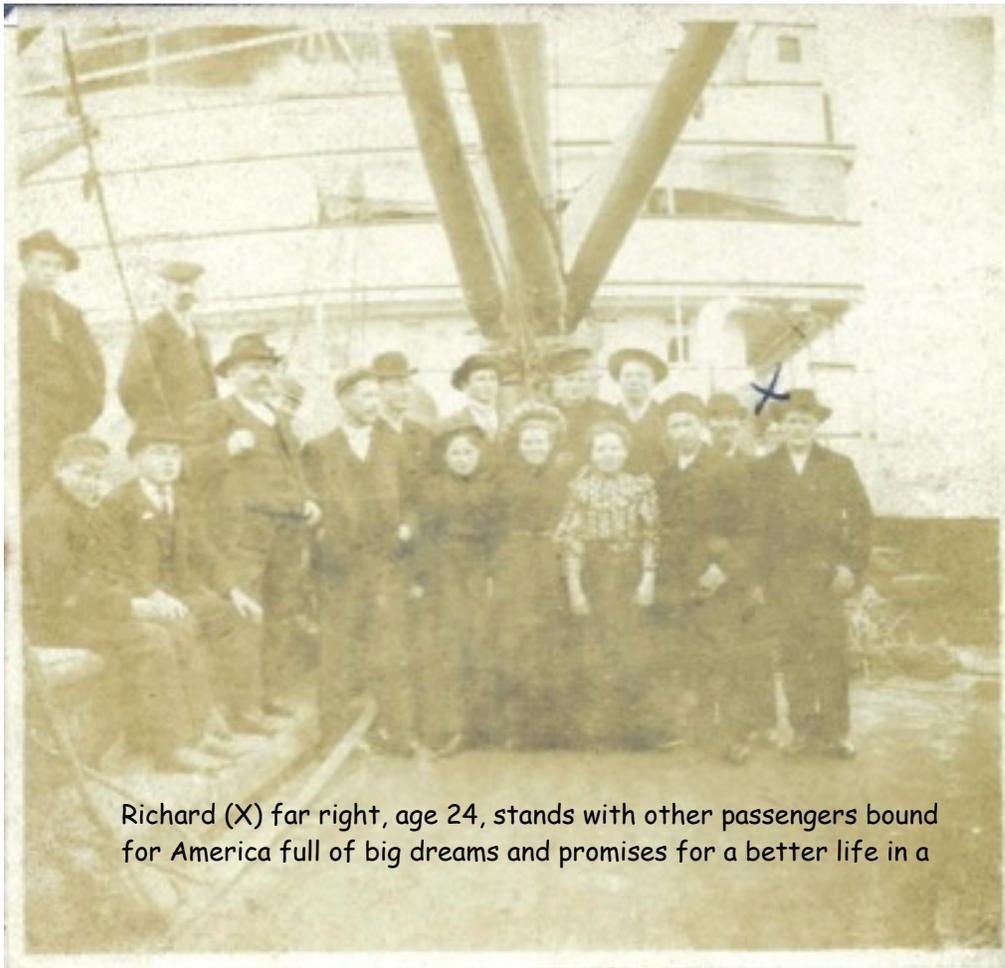
Richard Granat is in the top row, second right.

Back On the Home Front

Ellen and Richard were young and in love. Their romance grew and the courtship continued despite her family's concerns.

Sometime during 1905, Ellen gave birth to a baby boy. Richard and Ellen named him Gunnar. Ellen's parents refused to let her marry Richard. Ellen's brothers threatened Richard.

Perhaps Richard had gained new confidence in the military. He knew his future was limited in Sweden. His homeland did not offer him much at this point in time.



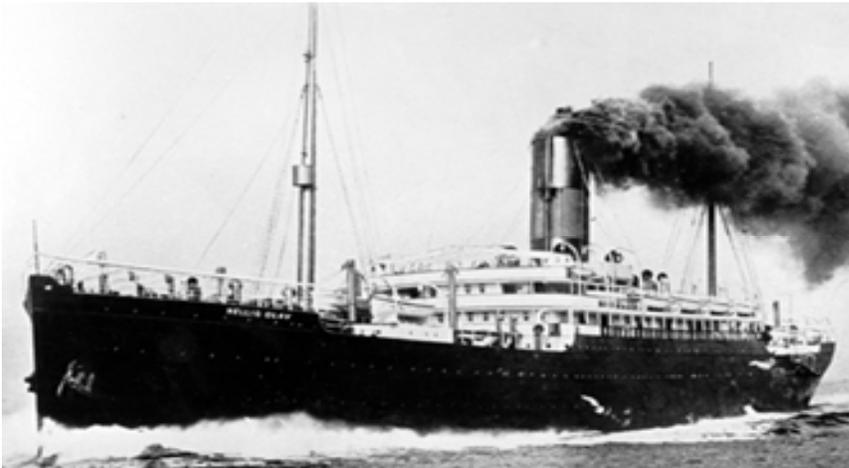
Richard (X) far right, age 24, stands with other passengers bound for America full of big dreams and promises for a better life in a

Richard Granat Bound for the United States of America

The United States presented him possibilities and life styles that could not have been in Sweden. He had heard stories where hard work, frugality, and perseverance would pay off. So he set off to America in 1906 to build a new life. The hope was to bring Ellen and his baby to America once he was established.

The following information is on record at Ellis Island:

First Name:	<i>Richard</i>
Last Name:	<i>Granat</i>
Ethnicity:	<i>Swedish, Scand</i>
Last Place of Residence:	<i>Sweden</i>
Date of Arrival:	<i>Oct 30, 1906</i>
Age at Arrival: 24y	Gender: <i>M</i> Marital Status: <i>S</i>
Ship of Travel:	<i>Hellig Olav</i>
Port of Departure:	<i>Copenhagen</i>
Manifest Line Number:	<i>0025</i>



Built by Alexander Stephen & Sons, Glasgow, Scotland, 1902. 9,939 gross tons; 515 (bp) feet long; 58 feet wide. Steam triple expansion engines, twin screw. Service speed 16 knots. 1,170 passengers (130 first class, 140 second class, 900 third class). One funnel and two masts. Built for Scandinavian American Line, in 1902 and named **Hellig Olav**. Copenhagen-New York service. Made some Hamburg-New York voyages for Royal Mail Lines, British. Scrapped in 1934.



Jamestown, New York 1906

Richard arrived in Jamestown, New York. The City of Jamestown was incorporated in 1886, and was once called the "Furniture Capital of the World." The peak years of Swedish immigration occurred between 1865 and 1900, and coincided with the rise of the city's furniture industry. A large proportion of the Swedes who came to Jamestown were skilled shoemakers, tailors, blacksmiths and woodworkers, and even at the peak of Swedish immigration in 1880, Swedes in skilled occupations outnumbered those doing unskilled work. A great many of the Swedes were skilled in making wood products and they quickly found jobs in Jamestown's furniture factories, where many operations were still performed by hand. By 1900, the Swedes generally made up a majority of the work force in furniture factories owned by Americans, and in companies owned by the Swedes; almost all the workers were Swedish.

Richard worked at the Art Metal Construction Company in Jamestown, New York in 1906–1909. This company was a pioneer in the manufacture of metal office furniture, library shelving, and doors.



Swedes in Jamestown

At one point, the Swedish people were the largest ethnic group in Jamestown. These Swedes were hard working, willing, literate people who wanted to establish a successful new life in the United States of North America.



Ellen Karlsson, Followed Her Brother, Richard to America in 1907

Ellis Island Records for Ellen Carlson [Karlsson]

First Name:	<i>Ellen</i>				
Last Name:	<i>Carlson</i>				
Ethnicity:	<i>Scand.</i>				
Last Place of Residence:					
Date of Arrival:	<i>Sep 17, 1907</i>				
Age at Arrival:	<i>21y</i>	Gender:	<i>F</i>	Marital Status:	<i>S</i>
Ship of Travel:	<i>Hellig Olav</i>				
Port of Departure:	<i>Christiania</i>				
Manifest Line Number:	<i>0026</i>				

Richard's sister, Ellen Karlsson immigrated to America a year after her brother. She took the same ship. This photo was taken of Ellen Karlsson in Jamestown, New York. Now Richard had family here in USA.



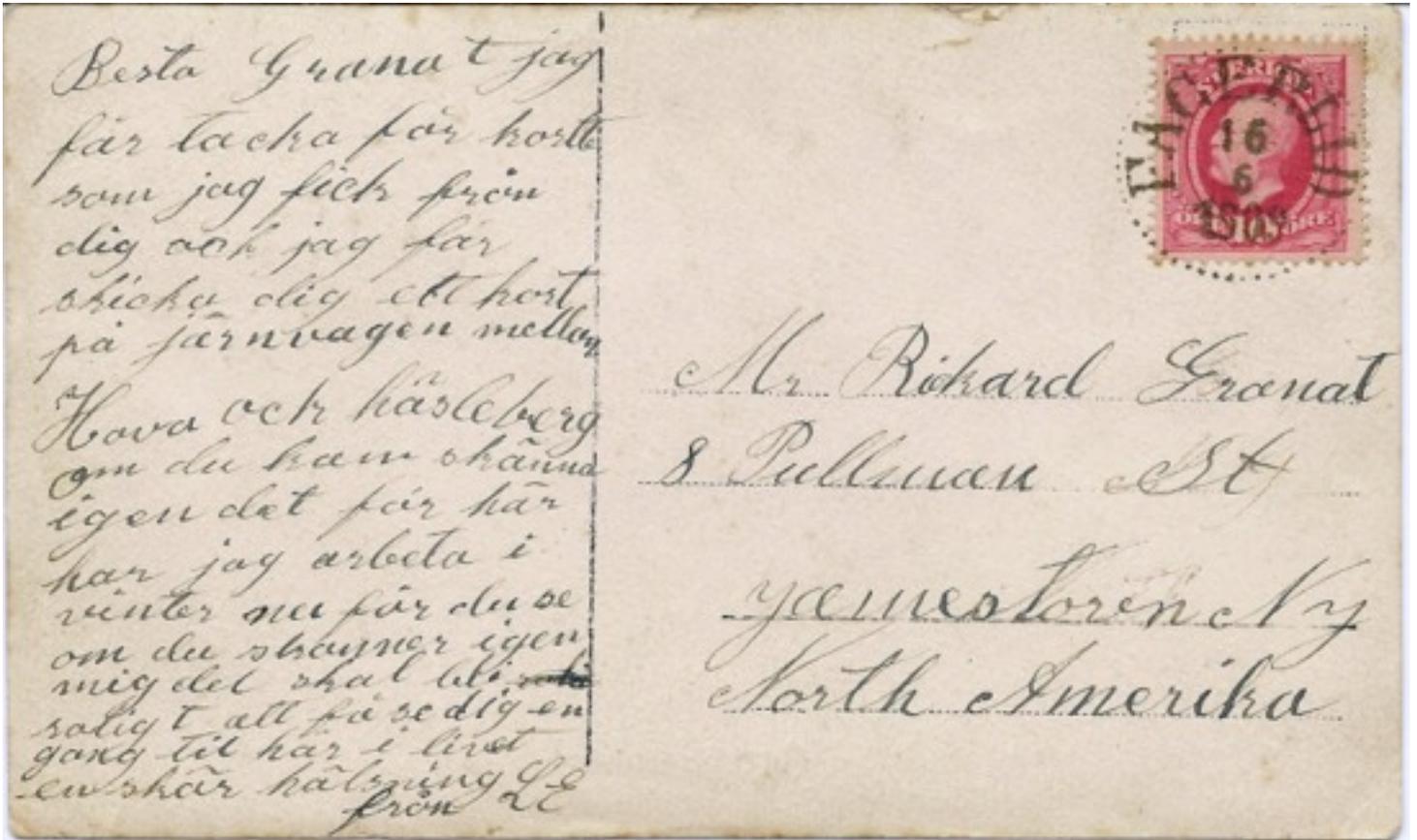
Richard (standing) at his sister's wedding (Ellen Karlsson—sitting) in Jamestown, New York. Sometime later she died in childbirth. Perhaps that fact made Richard wish even more for Ellen and Gunnar back in Sweden.



Richard's friends in Jamestown. (Sign: Potato Sacks for Sale)



Post Card from Sweden sent June 16, 1909 to Richard in Jamestown.



Reverse side shows his friends back in Sweden working in the snow.



Dapperly dressed Richard (left) and two friends in Jamestown, New York.



Richard Returned to Sweden in 1909 for Ellen and Gunnar.

Richard was doing well in Jamestown working for the Art Metal Construction Company. He worked relentlessly and had made many new friends. Success seemed certain.

Since Ellen's parents would not let her marry Richard, she decided to go to America anyway without their consent. Her parents would not allow Gunnar go with his mother to America. Ellen planned to send for him when she was settled and had a home. Gunnar was left with his maternal grandparents in Sweden.

Left: Gunnar in Sweden, sent to Ellen after she had arrived in America.

Names written long ago on the back of the Lindblad family photo show Ellen's family in Sweden. (left) One person is not named.

Gustav, Villhem, Lisa,
Mor far Lindblad



America

The exodus from Sweden reached its climax around 1910, when 1.4 million Swedish first and second generation immigrants were listed as living in the United States. Compare this to Sweden's population at the time: 5.5 million. Roughly one-fifth of all Swedes had their homes in America right before World War I.

Ellen Lindblad Records from Ellis Island.

First Name: *Elin*
Last Name: *Lindblad*
Ethnicity: *Swedish*
Last Place of Residence: *U.S.A.*
Date of Arrival: *Aug 13, 1909*
Age at Arrival: *28y* Gender: *F* Marital Status: *S*
Ship of Travel: *Lusitania*
Port of Departure: *Liverpool*
Manifest Line Number: *0015*

[Ellen's age at arrival would have been 23 years. The flourishes in handwriting in those times might have had the three misread as an eight; and her last place of residence would have been Sweden.]



Built by John Brown & Company, Clydebank, Scotland, 1907. 31,550 gross tons; 787 (bp) feet long; 87 feet wide. Steam turbine engines, quadruple screw. Service speed 25 knots. 2,165 passengers (563 first class, 464 second class, 1,138 third class). Four funnels and two masts. Built for Cunard Line, British flag, in 1907 and named **Lusitania**. Liverpool-service. Torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast; 1,198 lost in 1915.

The Journey

Ellen Lindblad made a very good friend on her journey to America. They kept in touch for many years. Ellen may have stayed with her friend after arriving in America. She eventually left for Oregon. She took the Great Northern Railway to Oregon. Crossing the country on the train, at one point she saw cattle up to their knees in snow. She thought about Sweden where the cattle were housed in barns out of the snow.

Richard Crossed Through Canada to Oregon. From Sweden, Richard had taken a boat to Scotland. He then boarded a train to Edinburgh where he took a ship to North America. His ship landed in 1909 in Canada. From Ottawa, Canada, Richard took the Canadian Pacific Railway to Sumas, Washington, from there came to Portland, Oregon. The entire trip took 28 days and in a journal he noted it was a long and very tiring trip.

At some point Ellen and Richard met in Portland, Oregon. What made them decide to locate to Portland? We are not certain. The 1910 United States Federal Census shows Richard Granat (27) living in Multnomah County with the Hagg Family and listed as a "Lodger" along with a fellow Swede, Amil Larson (22). Hagg is 28 and his wife Ester is 26. The Hagg's, from Sweden, have a baby Henry two years old. The young family took in two "Lodgers" perhaps renting them rooms to simply help fellow Swedes settling in Portland. There is no spouse is listed for Richard.

There were several Ellen Lindblads listed in the 1910 United States Federal Census, but none listed as living in Oregon.

Portland

Richard and Ellen were married December 28, 1911 settling into a new life in Portland. Papa worked on the wharf for Great Northern Lumber. Eventually he became a tallyman.



Great Northern Lumber

Richard fourth from left, in background.

Good Times and Sad Times

Ellen had worked in Portland, housekeeping for the Menefee family. Mr. Menefee owned a shingle mill. A December 21, 1916 newspaper article proclaimed, "Menefee shingle mill one of the largest of its kind."

In the years that followed her employment, Ellen read in the newspapers about the success of the Menefee family. Driving by the Menefee home, she recalled her early years as a housekeeper. Ellen remembered washing the many windows of the home.

Gunnar

Gunnar, their boy left behind in Sweden, was never mentioned to the new children born to Ellen and Richard in America. (However, someone from Sweden, perhaps Ellen's sister, did send a photo of Gunnar. It was found years later among Ellen's possessions. See page 15.)

Henry, in the later years after he had learned of his brother in Sweden, discovered that his parents had sent money twice to Sweden for Gunnar's ticket to America. The first time the money was kept—no child arrived. Years later Richard and Ellen tried again. This time the money was given to Gunnar. However now that he was older, he felt that he knew no one in America, and so he stayed in Sweden. (Eventually, Henry finally does meet his brother, Gunnar in Sweden—many years later.)

Granat Children Born in America

- **Ellen** Elizabeth born May 20, 1912
- Baby Boy (**William**) born 1914 died (Lone Fir Cemetery)
- John Richard born April 22, 1916 (Ricky as youngster, **Dick** when older)
- Karl Henry (**Hank**) Granat born February 2, 1918
- Ruth **Margaret** born September 4, 1930



Ellen Elizabeth Granat



John Richard born April 22, 1916 and Ellen Elizabeth Granat



Karl Henry Granat born February 2, 1918.



Ellen, Henry and Richard Granat

Home is Where the Story Begins

Richard and Ellen read the Swedish newspapers from Portland and Seattle and they had Swedish friends come to visit. There was an occasional letter from Sweden. Although they kept their Swedish way of life, they were happy in their new homeland. It truly was the land of opportunity compared to the hardships Richard had faced as a youngster in Sweden.

When Henry was born in 1918, Richard and Ellen must have felt blessed to have four beautiful, happy children. At this point in their lives, they were very successful. Richard had a job. The family had a home with a large lot, garden, small barn, and a growing family. The children appear well dressed and fed.

It was probably a challenge to preserve the Swedish language, customs, and heritage in their new world. Richard and Ellen did try. All the children spoke Swedish at home. Some traditions, customs, songs, and foods remained Swedish, especially those at Christmas time.

Photo at the left shows Ellen with the newspaper July 23, 1916.



World War I

On September 12, 1918 during WWI, Richard filled out his draft registration card, but was not drafted.

The Granat house was listed on that draft registration as 5628 50th Avenue SE. Henry recalls it was close to the Joseph Lane Grade School. It was a little brown house with a red barn behind it. This is the home where Henry was born.

One of Henry's fondest memories of Papa was when he was very young. Papa took Henry's hand and they walked on the board sidewalk with cross pieces to their red barn. Once inside, Papa opened a door and there was a newly born little brown and white calf—a Guernsey—snuggled in the straw.

Loss of a Son

As a youngster, Henry remembered going to Lone Fir Cemetery and seeing a shaky little wooden cross where his brother, William was buried. Henry was very young, dressed in knickers. There was a puddle where it had rained, he stomped in it and got all wet. (Over the years the cemetery records were lost and presently there are over 10,000 unknown graves at Lone Fir.)

The Census for 1920

The 1920, the Census lists Richard (37), Ellen (33), Ellen E. (7), John R. (3) Carl H. (1) and 11/12. The family is listed as renting the home in Errol Heights.

Bigger House for a Growing Family

Henry recalls Papa taking him to see the recent house he had obtained for his growing family in S.E. Portland. The house was in need of repair so Papa hired a carpenter to rebuild the house for \$2750. It was near the corner of 57th Street and 72nd Avenue. It was close to Errol Heights. Richard eventually purchased the property and Henry lived there until he was 14. That house no longer stands.



Most of the time, Portland was a happy time for the Granat family. Swedish was spoken in the home. As the children played in the neighborhood, they quickly learned English as their second language. After starting school, their English improved even more. Being bilingual was important and every afternoon following their day at school Ellen and Dick would sit down with their parents. "Here's what we learned today," and then shared what they were studying. This helped Mama and Papa learn the language, speaking and reading English. When Papa came home from work, he often had a newspaper so he could practice his reading.

Richard's military photo always hung in the front room of their home. Henry remembers when Papa's Swedish friends would come and visit. They would look at the military photo and say, "Oh, there he is!" (See Swedish Military photo page 5.)

Portland life was a delightful time for his mom and the family. Henry played with his friends. They asked, "Where do you live?" Henry replied, "I live in that big house." It was a nice house with a living room, bedrooms off to the side, kitchen, and upstairs. Dick and Henry had the upstairs attic. A bathroom was off the back porch. They had a big yard and friends to play with.

Music Was an Important Part of Family Life

Henry attended Joseph Lane School a few blocks away. When he came home for lunch or at the end of the day, he would always hear his mother singing. Music was an important part of their life. Mama was very musical. Ellen had a pump organ and took music lessons and Dick studied violin. Henry recalls his sister Ellen playing the pump organ and the boys standing around her, singing with Mama.

Food and Gardening

Mama also grew many flowers, fruits, and vegetables. She grew rhubarb, raspberries, kale, cabbage, beets, corn, potatoes, tomatoes, and carrots. She canned beans and fruit. They had a root cellar that Papa dug under the house where they stored potatoes, carrots and other root crops. Papa added pantry onto the house. It was a step down with many shelves where Mama could keep all her canning.

They also had a cow and the boys had the job of taking the cow to neighboring lots and staking it out in the field to graze. Then they would bring her home in the evening. When they grew older, the boys also learned to milk.

They had a chicken coop and about a dozen chickens so fresh eggs were available. Mama was very frugal, but her home was a welcoming one for her family. The kitchen smelled of egg coffee, Fattigman, and Pepparkakor.

Mama cut out recipes from the Swedish newspapers also gardening tips.

Dick standing with the Foxgloves in Mama's large flower garden.



Religion

The Granat kids attended Sunday School at the Methodist Church near their home. Mama and Papa were Lutherans and they wanted their children to have religious training.

Swedish prayers had been taught to the children:

*Gud som haver barnen kär,
se till mig som liten är.
Vart jag mig i världen vänder
står min lycka i Guds händer.
Lyckan kommer, lyckan går. . .
Den Gud älskar lyckan får. Amen*

The prayer translates to mean:

God who holds the children dear
Look to me, little as I am
Wherever the world will take me
My luck is in God's hands.
Luck comes and luck goes,
The one who loves God receives luck.

Another blessing

I Jesu namn
till bords vi gå
välsigna Gud
den mat vi få

Translates as

In Jesus' name
to the table we go
bless, God.
the food we get.



Dick is with a family dog, named Jiggs.

For a small amount of change, they could ride a streetcar anywhere in Portland. They could go to the stores and movies. Mama went to town to buy some of the clothing. She also sewed for her children. These were happy times, and things were good. Song filled their home, with Ellen playing the organ.

Henry was going to be able to take accordion lessons, but then hard times hit.

Earlier in 1923, a man had offered to trade his farm in the Yamhill—Carlton area that had acreage, house, barn, chicken house, and shed for their Portland home. Papa refused the offer. (During the years that followed, Henry often reflected how their lives might have improved if Papa had taken the offer.)

The 1930 Census, taken before baby Margaret was born, lists Richard (47), Ellen (43), Ellen (17), John (13) Carl (12) Home: Darlington.

Depression Years

Henry recalled one Christmas when the firefighters brought food for the family. Both parents did not want charity, but their meals that winter consisted of mostly potatoes and eggs. Mama had stored the eggs in a gel to preserve them.

Baby Margaret 1930

Clothesline in the background is where washing was hung to dry on sunny days. Clothes were washed by hand in a large tub. Sometimes a scrub board was used. Home made soap helped get clothing clean. (No disposable paper diapers in those days.)

Dick, Mama, holding baby Margaret, Ellen, Henry July 26, 1931





The boys seem to
have enjoyed
dogs.

Dick with the dogs,
July 26, 1931





Henry with the dog, July 26, 1931

Move to the McGill House

When the *Great Depression* hit, times were hard and Papa decided to move his family from the city to the country where he would have more land.

He rented their Portland home for \$10 a month (plus he paid for the city water) and moved his family, across the river, up *Germantown Road* to a McGill "house" in the hills above Portland on *Old Germantown Road*. This huge move was to a "house" Papa had never even seen.

Move to the McGill House High in Hills Above Portland

The Granats loaded their furniture and other belongings into a neighbor's truck and relocated to the hills high above Portland. What they shockingly discovered was a basic two-story house. The construction was simply two by fours with newspapers used for insulation between the studs.

No running water to the house to drink, bathe or wash clothes in. No water to wash the baby's cloth diapers! The bathroom plumbing was the simplest, an outhouse.

No electricity, no phone, no close neighbors, and no nearby store. It must have been upsetting for the little family coming from their comfortable home in Portland. They moved in and never did see the McGills.

Moving to the country, their lives changed drastically, especially the young boys who soon had adult responsibilities. Since the house had no running water, Henry and Dick found a nearby creek and used rocks to create a small dam with a waterfall forming a basin. Now they could dip their buckets to collect water to use at home. They also hunted game for the family meals. The boys became young men and their help was certainly needed. The Granat family lived at the McGill House for six years.

1931—1936

During this time, Papa bought some land further up Old Germantown Road, about half-a-mile away. Papa, Dick and Henry worked to clear the land. For the guys, everyday brought adventure, hard work and a sense of



Margaret, Mama, and Ellen on the Farm 1936

accomplishment. Dick and Henry became strong young men.

For Margaret, Ellen and Mama, it was a different story. Everyday chores continually repeated—meal preparation and clean up with no running water. Ellen and her daughters work was confined mostly to the house, especially when it rained. They did feed the chickens and gather the eggs. At times they had other livestock to tend to. In the summers they planted a garden and canned food for later. After six years, when another family move was planned to totally undeveloped land—life must have seemed somewhat overwhelming. Ellen commented that during those first six years up on old Germantown Road she was so isolated that she didn't see anyone but her family.

Sisters, Ellen & Margaret
1935





Mama near the hog pen. August 1936

New Land of Their Own

The supposed "clear land" Papa purchased was very steep and covered with brush and old-growth timber that had blown over. They cut up the downed trees into four-foot cordwood and sold it. Five more trees were cut down. It took about two weeks to burn out the huge old-growth stumps.

Next, Papa and the boys had to clear the land of all the brush. Finally a small section of land was cleared. With the sale of their Portland home for \$350, Papa had enough money to start construction. Building their new home began. Papa did not have a level so he created a level out of a wine bottle that he marked. (He didn't drink.)

Water

Papa, Dick, and Henry hand dug a six-foot square section around a natural spring, which was above the house. The well was about nine feet deep and they covered it and used a 1/2-inch pipe that ran the water down toward the house. The family had water until the summer—about in August—it would dry up. There was a little creek that ran along Germantown Road. If their water were gone, they would get water from the creek.

Dick, Ellen, Henry help on the farm.



They lived off the land.

They planted a vegetable garden and fruit trees. They raised animals. They had chickens for eggs, cows for milk, pigs for meat. Dick and Henry would hunt. It was very hard work living off the land. The boys often hunted for food, sometimes unsuccessfully.

Henry and deer



House on Old Germantown Road

Building the house continued. The first floor contained the kitchen and living room. The parents' bedroom was off the kitchen. Two other bedrooms were off the living room. A stairway led upstairs to the attic, which was Margaret's bedroom. There was no electricity. The bathroom was an outhouse by the barn. The kitchen contained a wood cook stove that heated the house and had a reservoir for hot water. They had a bench and a washtub. Baths were in the kitchen in the wash tub. Bath water was heated on their stove. Papa gave the boys their haircuts.

Walking to Portland

They did not have a car, so Papa had to walk down to town for supplies. Then he had to walk from St. John's across the river and back up Germantown Road hauling supplies and heavy sacks of flour for cooking. There was a large old-growth tree—Papa called it the "Half-way Tree," Papa always stopped there and would rest a bit then continue the trip home. As the boys grew older, they would often make the long walk up and down Germantown Road.

School

Henry had attended Liberty Grade School, a one-room school. There were 13 kids—all boys and one teacher. Later he attended Beaverton High School.

Fireplace on Old Germantown Road

One of Henry's first jobs was when he was 14. A neighbor, Mr. Hammerley, had a small house and wanted a fireplace built and had sent away for the plans. He asked Henry if he would build it for him. He said he would pay him 80¢ a day for his work. He showed Henry the plans. There were piles of sand, rock, and cement mix ready for the project, so Henry felt he could do the task. Henry agreed and started making the forms for the slab fireplace base from the diagram. He mixed the cement and poured it into the forms. The project was taking shape. The fireplace had a damper, which bewildered Henry at first, so he studied the plans very carefully and followed the directions. The rock and mortar walls went up and the chimney formed properly and it was finally a completed fireplace. When Henry was paid, he noticed he was short some money. "I could figure!" stated Henry.

When he asked Mr. Hammerley about the missing funds, Henry was told that he had sat down and rested.

Henry replied that he had sat down to carefully study the plans. But, Mr. Hammerley paid him only 69¢ a day. That fireplace was the main source of heat for the home for many years. The house with the fireplace Henry built still stands today, 78 years later—up on Old Germantown Road.

Dick and Henry worked many jobs during the summers. They helped the neighbors load and haul hay.

Life on the Farm

Papa had a pedal powered grindstone. It was located outside the kitchen. Here he would sharpen the tools like the knives, gardening tools, mowing scythe, weed cutters, and hoes. He also sharpened the lumbering tools, the froe, peeling chisel, barking spud, draw knife, and the felling ax. Papa also made little pot scrubbers for Mama by banding together little bunches of twigs.

The family also had a root cellar which had been hand dug. In this underground area, they kept the jars of canned fruit and vegetables from the hard work of the summer harvest neatly lined up on shelves. They also stored potatoes, carrots, beets, squash, pumpkins, turnips, rutabagas, parsnips, and apples. Onions and garlic were pulled out of the ground when the tops were brown. They needed to be cured. By braiding the tops together, they could be hung outside on the porch to cure. After a few weeks of curing, they were ready for hanging in the root cellar, or some other cool area of the house. The root cellar kept the produce fresh for two months or longer during the winter depending on what was being stored. The floor was simply dirt.

Kaffe

Tuesday dinner was often Swedish pancakes and pea soup. They had a coffee mill on the table and a percolator on the stovetop. Yes, Ellen put eggs in the coffee. (See recipe page 86 at end of book.) Mama made rye bread and ginger cookies were a staple. Sometimes there was lutfisk, pickled herring, brown beans, or meatballs.

Granat Christmas

God Jul. . . Och Ett Gott Nytt Ar!

Christmas was always a joyful celebration in the Granat family. Mama was strongly religious she made it an important focus for the holiday. The family always had a Christmas tree. They decorated the tree on Christmas Eve. They attached little metal candleholders on the tree branches and added real candles. On Christmas Eve, (Julafton) and Christmas Day, they lit the candles and all watched the glow.

The children also had Christmas stockings that were sometimes hung on a door. The children always got an orange in the toe of the stocking. It might be the only orange they received for the year, but at Christmas time that was a treat.

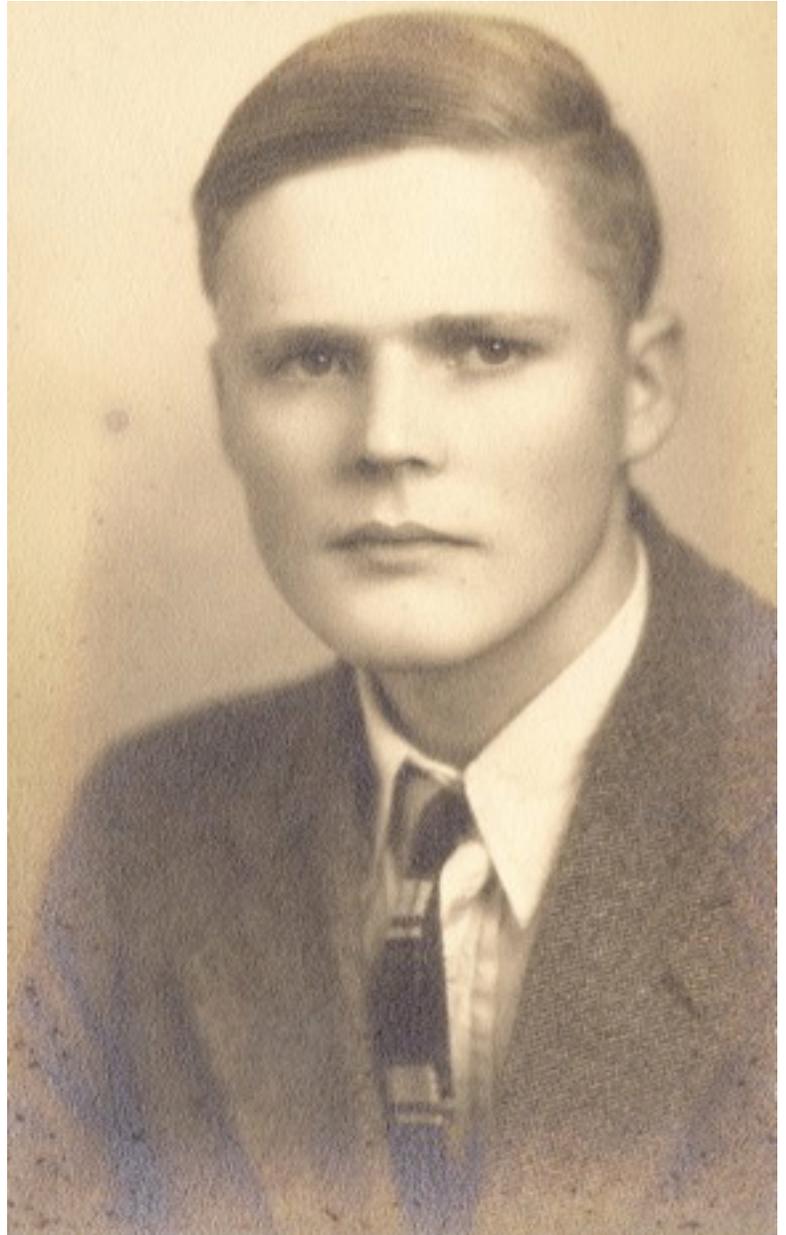
Mama baked Pepparkakor a thin crisp cookie. She rolled out the dough and cut out the shapes with circular cookie cutters. Rice pudding with fruit also was served at Christmas. Another family favorite was orange bread. Mama saved the orange peel to make this special bread at Christmas. With these simple treats, they considered themselves blessed.

They lit the candles once again on New Year's Eve and on New Year's Day. Following Christmas in Sweden, there was Epiphany on January 6, and later Hilarymas on January 13, which ends the Christmas season in Sweden.

Beaverton High School

Henry graduated from Beaverton High School in 1936. For his graduation day photo he received his first commercial haircut.

Henry Granat's Graduation Photo Beaverton, High School



Dick went to Benson High School, a trade school. Dick studied mechanical engineering. Dick had to complete his fourth year at night school. Later, Dick started Multnomah College. In those days, classes were held in the Portland YMCA. It was the first fully accredited two-year college in the U.S. Pacific Northwest. Dick was very athletic and played six-man football for them.

Henry and Dick also worked for the local farmers to help with the family expenses. Haying time was always a busy summer for them.

Over the years, with the financial help of the boys as grew older and had jobs, eventually the house was completed, and a barn, and chicken house were added to the farm.

Margaret

Margaret, the youngest child, had no nearby neighbors to play with, so she would have had to walk quite a distance to visit her friend's home. With no younger brothers and sister to play with, she was secluded on the farm. She found escape in books. She read constantly. Since their home had no electricity in those early years, if she wanted to read in the evening, she had to use a kerosene lamp.



Margaret Reading 1936.

Margaret attended Skyline School, which had been newly constructed. In the summer she worked picking berries. However, Margaret recalled she ate probably more than she picked. When she was older she would babysit for neighboring families.

One event Margaret fondly remembered was going to Washington Park and having a picnic with her mom before school started. However, Margaret stated most of the "Good Old Days" were not that good!

Margaret and Jiggs
July, 1940.



Margaret on the
farm with the
dogs

Henry Worked in
the Woods and

Gill Netting—Work, Work, Work

Henry worked splitting cordwood before he started the Gill Net fishing season. At first he worked for Tony Petrich. Then later work for Frank Jones (Jiggs) a friend and an Indian fisherman. Jiggs had a 27-foot Gill Net boat with a square stern.

In 1936, a year after graduating from Beaverton High School, and the spring on 1937 Henry worked rigging boats, getting them watertight for the fishing season. Boats were dry-docked all winter inside the cannery. Working for the Indian fishermen, he helped mend the nets with a fishing net needle.

Starting May 10 through August 26, 1937, Henry fished out of Altoona, in Wahkiakum County, Washington. They fished for salmon in the Columbia River on the Washington side of Harrington Point. That summer he worked Gill Netting with his friend Jiggs. Henry recalled, "When the fish were running it was wonderful!" Their biggest haul happened on the last one of the day. The net contained 6 salmon and weighted in at 452 pounds. The biggest Chinook weighed 84 pounds.

Hard Lesson

In the fall of 1937, Henry was getting ready to college. With his earnings plus his fishing money he had saved \$400. [This was a lot of money following the Depression Years.] About two hours after Henry had gotten home, a neighbor boy ran through the kitchen door. "You back from fishing?"

"Yes."

"Can I borrow \$35? I need it right now! I'll pay you back!" Henry loaned him the money. Later Papa was asking about the borrowed money. Papa seriously told Henry, "You'll never see that man again." [Sadly, Papa was wise in the ways of the world.]

Oregon State Fall of 1937

Henry left for Oregon State College. He rented a room with the Bennetts' at 406 North 11th Street in Corvallis. He did well that year earning a 3.10 grade average. Hank had brought with him a sack of potatoes for his meals. This was his meal most of the time.

May of 1938, Henry started the term and developed ulcers. His weight was 135 pounds. He ended up in the school infirmary for ten days and

was unable to finish his classes. He had not notified the Trigonometry professor that he would not be in class due to illness, so he had to retake the class a different term.

Later after Henry recovered, he continued to work in the woods until it was time for fishing. His bosses always knew Henry's schedule and that was fine with them. They knew he was working to finish college.

Over the next few years, Henry also worked for Pepsi Cola for two years whenever he was needed. He also worked for Copeland Lumber driving the truck. He also drove a bus for the Dorsey Bus Line.



With some of the money earned, Henry built a chicken house for his mom and she ordered 150 pullets.

The Girls—The Indians and the Fins

During those summers, Henry made some very good friends. When Henry was fishing, there was a very lovely young Indian girl living nearby. She was the sister to Jigg's wife Sarah. She did Henry's laundry. One evening when Henry arrived home, her father was waiting. He was naturally concerned about Henry's intentions toward his beautiful daughter. Henry tried to make it very clear to the tall father, that he was going to college—not interested in marriage.

There were also some very attractive Finnish girls that Henry danced with on the weekends at Naselle Community Hall. He remembered one Thanksgiving meal, with two turkeys and much wonderful Finnish food. Although these girls were charming and interested in Henry, he had ambition and wanted to complete college before getting romantically involved with anyone. Henry remembered how hard it was for his folks and he wanted to be certain he could provide for his own family when the time came.



December 1938, Dick went to Eastern Oregon over the Mackenzie Pass.

Henry Lands a Job With Consolidated Timber Company

In the fall of 1938, Lloyd Crosby the manager of Consolidated Timber Company told Hank that they needed a crewman for the survey crew. He suggested Hank apply for the job because he knew Hank was studying Forestry at OSC. Consolidated was salvaging timber from the 1933 Tillamook Forest Fire. Hank got the job. Hank started as a rear chainman. Then worked periodically over the next three years on the survey crew and became an instrument man. Hank always carried a hip whiskey flask in the back pocket of his survey coat full of whole milk. He always took it with him as he surveyed the hills. After three hours of bouncing close to his body as he hiked the steep burn area, he had buttermilk.

The loggers checked the burned logs and trees to see how far in they were damaged from the fire. If the burned area was not more than three inches deep and there was no sign of worms, the timber was salvaged for lumber. Hank recalled that one month in July was the record—180 million feet.

Hank lived with the loggers in the logging camp. The men slept in a bunkhouse during the week and usually went home on the weekends. The bunkhouse had four sets of metal bunk beds on each side of the room with a stove in the middle. There were nails on the wall near each bunk where the men could hang their knapsacks. The leg of every bunk stood in a can that contained coal oil. This was to keep the bedbugs off the bed. Hank recalled that the bedbugs still would drop down from the ceiling. There was also a cookhouse that served about 150 men meals each day.

Hank hopped on the "Crummy" on the railroad track that took him to the location the survey crew would be working.

As the years went by, new roads were cleared and railways were constructed with the help of the survey crew so the logging could continue. Hank and the crew had to survey for a railroad trestle to go over the Wilson River. A small satellite operation was to be located on the steep hillside across the river, and they needed a way to get the trees down off the mountainside.

In 1939, six years after the first forest fire, another started. Hank was in a "Speeder" on the wooden railroad trestle (which now was completed) over the Wilson River. The trestle was 400 feet long and 90 feet high over the middle section.

As the roaring fire neared the trestle, men below were using fire pumps called "airplanes" spraying water from the Wilson River on the wooden structure. Up above on the trestle, every few feet hung fire buckets of water. They were special buckets with curved bottoms. If sparks came from the cars going over the tracks, there was water to quickly put it out. (Being curved on the bottom, no one would take the buckets because they could not stand on the ground with the curved bottom.) The railroad used the trestle to get to the small satellite lumber camp across the river. Suddenly, the fire swirled around them and it was so

intense that Hank knew he had to get the other men who were working below. He yelled to the men to climb aboard the speeder! He parked on the grade and helped pull the men from the flames and smoke. About 12 men piled on and Hank grabbed the last fire buckets and poured the water over them as the "speeder" made the last trip across the wooden trestle to safety. Hank was the hero of the day! However, his bunkhouse burned along with his suitcase with his clothes. Hank and his friends made it to safety.

Back to College

Winter 1939 Henry was back at college. He loaded a 75-pound sack of potatoes above his seat in the bus. When he arrived in Corvallis, the bus driver jokes that he should have charged Henry freight!

Henry continued to work in the woods and gill netting saving for college. In 1940 he also was contracted to drive a school bus during the week. On the weekends he drove for the Oregon Motor Stage.

Fall of 1941, Henry started back at OSC and with his job driving buses to help with expenses; he was able to continue and finish school.

Henry earned his degree. He became a Fern Hopper (for Forestry Students) and attended the Fern Hoppers Ball. Spring 1944 Henry Graduated from OSC with his degree in Forestry.

Karl Henry Granat's Graduation
from Oregon State 1944
The War Years

Henry's draft number was 324.
Dick's number was 42. Dick went

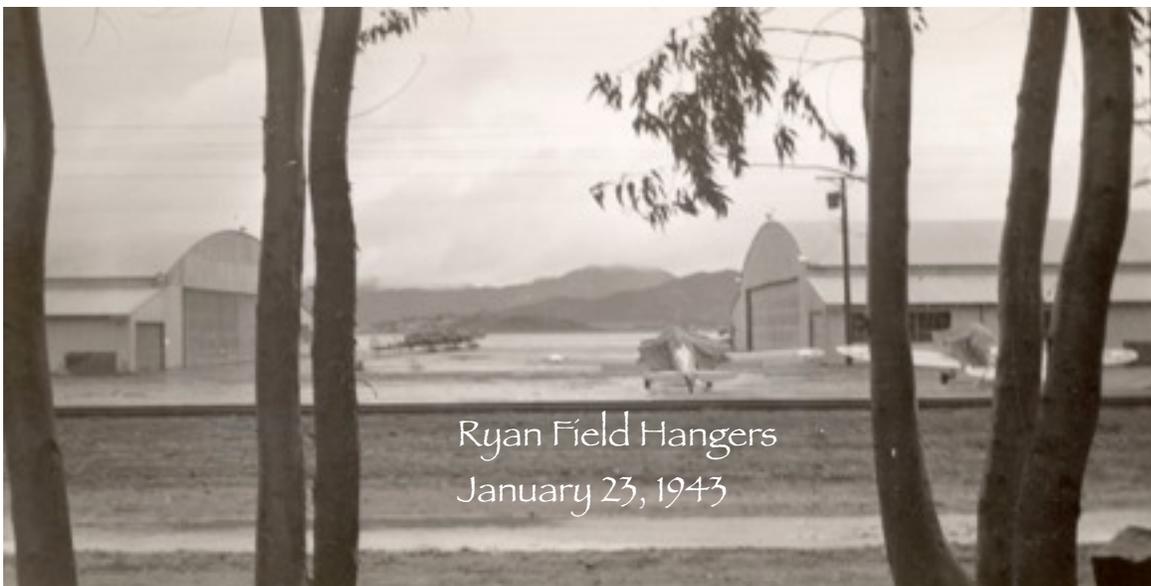


to Treasure Island in San Francisco and worked in the Coast Artillery. Then Dick volunteered for the Army Air Corp.

"Myself in fatigue clothes and belt." noted Dick Granat on the back of a photo sent to his family. Pacific Ocean in background.

On another photo, Dick stated, "Myself taken at barracks. I have a rifle at Order Arms. I am not bold, though I look it! My hair is matted down with medicine. My hair is really OK now soft and a nice brown color."

Dick at Ryan Field
Hemet, California
February 16, 1943





John Richard
Granat
December 7, 1943



Dick at the
Continental
Divide in the
Colorado
Rockies. March
7th, 1944



Dick Became a Bombardier and
Trained with the Hunter Crew

Men of the Hunter Crew (photo below)



Hunter Crew, May 4, 1944 Herington A.A.B. Kansas. Dick (who was known by his first name— John Granat during his enlistment) is in the top row, 2nd right.

Back row, left to right: Jim Hunter, Raymond Toll, Harry Parker, John Granat, and Anthony Caputo (passenger)

Front row: Cecil Hudson, Barto Montalbano, Palmer, George Walburg and James Evers.

Not pictured: Frank DiPalma.

Men of the Hunter Crew

The crew of a B-24 bomber consisted of ten men. It took five men to navigate and fly the plane: pilot, co-pilot, navigator, flight engineer and radio operator; one bombardier to drop the bombs; and four gunners to protect the plane from enemy attack: nose gunner, right waist gunner, left waist gunner and tail gunner.

The original members of crew #24 of the 854th squadron consisted of: Capt. James K. Hunter, age 22 - pilot from Hastings, Minnesota, Capt. Raymond Toll - co-pilot, Lt. Harry B. Parker - navigator from Salem, Oregon, T/Sgt Cecil E. Hudson - engineer and top turret gunner from Mesquite, Texas, T/Sgt Barto J. Montalbano - radio-operator from Brooklyn, New York, Lt. John R. Granat - bombardier from Portland, Oregon, Palmer - waist gunner, George M. Walburg - tail gunner, S/Sgt James L. Evers - left waist gunner from Dadeville, Alabama and Frank DiPalma - ball turret gunner from Rochester, New York. The Consolidated B-24 Liberator was one of three heavy bombers used in WWII.

WWII

The Hunter Crew Arrived in England

Dick had been shipped overseas. From June 22, 1944 through September 1944 Captain Hunter's crew flew at least 21 missions. On September 18, they were preparing a special assignment to fly at tree top level and drop supplies by parachute to 101st Airborne on the ground in Holland. Instead of carrying bombs and flying at a very high altitude, the bomb bays were filled with medical supplies, communication equipment, food, and fuel. It was the first time that heavy bombers were used to drop supplies at low level. The Hunter crew was the lead plane. Leaving England was delayed by fog. It was a 34-minute flight. When they reached the Dutch coast, they descended.

At 150 feet above ground, they could see the Dutch citizens cheering and waving at them. The planes were subject to heavy German anti-aircraft fire. They had been instructed not to return fire to avoid hitting the Dutch people.

Hunter's plane was hit on the right wing by a German 20 mm flak gun. This started a fire. As they tried to bring the B-24 down on its belly, at less than 50 feet the right inboard engine burst into flame.



The right wing dropped and was too low when the plane hit. The plane slid on the ground in a field, into a haystack and exploded.

Heat from the explosion was so intense that a neighboring farmhouse caught fire. There was one severely burned survivor the Dutch civilians found wandering along the road.

John Richard Granat (28 years old) and the rest of the crew had died. Later their bodies were buried in the Netherlands American Military Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, Holland.

The Dutch citizens of Udenhout have adopted the grave sites. To this day, the people of the town consider the nine men who were killed their liberators.

During the war years, Henry and his Indian friends had tried to enlist, and they were all refused.

**Missing Lieutenant
Now Reported Killed**

First Lieut. John Richard Granat, 28, was killed in action in Holland, according to word received from the war department by his wife, Cathleen June Clayville Granat of 8024 NE Oregon street. Earlier the wife was notified he was missing in action on September 18.



Lieut. Granat was born here, graduated from Benson Tech and Oregon Institute of Technology and attended Multnomah college. In September, 1943, he graduated from the army air force bombardier school, Kirkland Field, Albuquerque, N. M. He had been employed as a mechanic in a marine propellor works.

Also surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Granat, route No. 2, Portland; sisters, Margaret and Ellen Granat, and brother, Henry Granat, all of Portland.

Life After WWII

Henry's Work Continued

Henry had worked for Consolidated Timber from 1938 (off on between the gill net fishing) until 1944. Henry started employment with E.K. Woods in the spring of 1945. He worked for them for four years, until 1949. On Saturdays, he worked an egg route for his mom in St. Johns.

Swedish People in Portland—Early News Article

"The Swedish population of Portland is growing. Edwin O. Okerstrom is a tailor professionally, but after his day's work he is one of the most important links between Portland and Sweden, because not only is he one of the moving forces in the Swedish singing society, but also is an active leader in the preservation of the Swedish folk dances...Ever since he came here in 1925, he has been interested in preservation of the traditional folk songs and dances--particularly in preserving their traditional quality...The dances are beautiful and intricate, and instead of being merely exercises in rhythm, they have a "story" quality in them.

Undoubtedly Swedish song is the most important and most universally acknowledged contribution made by the Swedish immigrants to our modern cosmopolitan culture. Swedes are noted for their love of singing. The activities of the Swedish Male Chorus were seriously curtailed during the War, but with the return of the men the organization has been revived and the first concert was given to an appreciative audience on May 25, 1946."

Henry's family had always loved music. They would often sing with the records after they hand cranked the handle on the phonograph. All the kids and Mama would line up and sing with the records.

Henry loved to dance and would often go to the Norse Hall on the weekends. One evening he heard the Swedish Men singing. One of the members invited him to come to a practice. Eventually, they listened to his voice and he was invited to join.

In May 1945 Henry joined the Swedish Male Chorus of Portland. Being very musical, he enjoyed the Swedish songs and dances. His parents also enjoyed the concerts and socializing with their Swedish friends.

Henry is in the bottom right corner of the photo, 1950.

Henry continued with the Scandinavian Chorus and eventually became



president of the American Union of Swedish Singers.

“Hank” Meets “Lou”

At a dance in Portland at the Palais Royale, Henry met Louise Staats. Louise was there with her best friends Nedde and Nora Farhart. Nedde and Nora were from a large hard working North Dakota farm family with 11 children. Louise had been an only child. After work, Louise and Nora were taking an evening class at the Stenotype School in Portland.

Nedde, who had graduated, was teaching the class, since she had finished high school at age 17. After that, Nedde had taken her steno training in Detroit, Michigan where she had lived with her aunt and uncle for three years before she and Nora came to Portland, Oregon. The girls became instant friends.

Louise invited Nedde and Nora to live with her, her parents, and her two little girls. Nedde and Nora shared a room they rented from Lloyd and Jo Staats, Louise's parents. Louise loved finally having friends that were like sisters. They all took the bus to their jobs. Louise and Nora worked downtown and Nedde worked in the freight district. Nedde, Nora, and Lou all loved to dance. At the Palais Royale, Nedde and Nora would not dance with any guys wearing brown shoes. They thought brown shoes might belong to a farmer. Nedde recalls that Louise was so nice, she would dance with almost everyone.

Fortuneteller's Prediction

Louise had previously gone to a fortuneteller who predicted she would meet a tall handsome blond. The fortuneteller also told her that she saw trees or lumber in her future. So Louise danced with Henry Granat, the tall blond Lumberman at the Palais Royale. As the weeks and months went by, they got to know each other. Lou knew Hank must be the one for her! Hank loved Louise. Their courtship continued and they met often for lunch downtown.

Henry's Marriage to Louise

Henry married Mary Louise Staats on June 17, 1949 in Portland at the home of a friend. Louise's gold wedding band was a simple circle design of flowers. Henry's was a gold band with a small line of diamonds in the center.

Louise's wedding gown a soft pink. Nedde Farhart, the Maid of Honor wore a gown of soft yellow. Virginia and Alana, Louise's daughters were the flower girls dressed in white. It was a very happy day for the family and friends who joined the celebration. A reception was held immediately following the ceremony.



Louise and Henry Granat Marry June 17, 1949



Nedde Farhart, Louise Granat, Henry Granat, Louie Larson.



Louise gives Hank a bite of the white Wedding Cake. The Groom's Cake was chocolate.

Family Life

The Granat Girls

Henry now has an instant family with daughters Virginia and Alana.



Wedding Reception (left to right) Henry second from the left, Papa, Margaret Granat, Mama, Lloyd Staats, and Ellen Granat

The little family traveled all over as Hank called on saw mills up and down the Oregon Coast. Henry was now working for Twin Harbors Lumber Company out of Aberdeen. "We shipped a million board feet a day!" As Henry drove from saw mill to saw mill to buy lumber, he taught his young daughters all kinds of songs—some funny, "Great-Grand-Dad", "Down Under the Hill" (an Oregon State Drinking song—See song lyrics) — some sad, "Clementine." Some Henry just made up —"Entering Eugene." Henry and his girls were always singing.

Oregon State Drinking Song

Down under the hill, there is a little still,
Where the smoke goes curling to the sky,
You can always tell, by a whiff of the smell
There's good liquor in the air close by.

For it fills the air with fragrance rare,
And it's only known to a few,
So pucker up your lips and take a little sip,
Of the good old Mountain Dew.

Far from home,
From our friends we roam.
Our hearts with a longing fill.
When our thoughts drift back to that little log shack,
And the good old moonshine still.

For it fills the air with fragrance rare,
And it's only known to a few,
So pucker up your lips and take a little sip,
Of the good old Mountain Dew.

Virginia and Alana sang with glee—not realizing the meaning of the lyrics until years later.

Great Granddad

Great Granddad, when the West was young,
Barred the door with a wagon tongue,
For the times was hard and the redskins mocked,
And he said his prayers with his shotgun cocked.

He was a citizen tough and grim.
Danger was duck soup to him.
He ate corn pone and bacon fat.
Great-grandson would starve on that.

Great Granddad was a busy man,
Cooked his grub in a frying pan,
He picked his teeth with his hunting knife,
And he wore the same suit all his life.

Twenty-one children came to bless
The old man's home in the wilderness,
But great-granddad didn't lose heart,
The boys hunted rabbits and they caught right smart.

Twenty-one boys and how they grew,
Tall and strong on the bacon stew.
Slept on the floor with the dogs and the cats,
And hunted in the woods in their coonskin caps.

Twenty-one boys and not one of them bad;
They never got fresh with their great-granddad.
If they had, he'd have been right glad
To tan their hides with a hickory gad.

He raised them rough, but he raised them well.
If their heads began to swell,
He filled them full of the fear of God.
And straightened them up with an old ramrod.

Eugene

The Granat family moved to Eugene, Oregon and rented a small upstairs apartment. The girls' bedroom was a simple closet with two cots for beds. The tiny kitchen area had been a sleeping porch. A short plank served as a countertop. To wash dishes, Louise had to collect water from the bathtub. There was no refrigerator just a miniature door above the countertop on an outside wall. When opened, there was a wooden shelf to keep milk cold. It was. "Look out below!" if the door was opened too fast and the milk bottle knocked over!

Ginny started second grade in Eugene and had a hard time learning to read. After being hit by a car, a hospital stay, then recovering at home, she missed most of first grade. Louise spent much time helping her learn to read to catch up. Alana who was five also learned to read—very quickly.

Floral Hill Drive

Later that year, the Granat family found a fantastic home to rent in Eugene up on Floral Hill Drive. Located just off the 47-acre forested ridgeline of Hendrix Park, deer freely roamed the hills in this large natural habitat. The scenic, yet rugged wooded park area was filled with forest animals. Two elk had been added to the park creating an animal exhibit. With the background of the woods, our new home looked down over the surrounding countryside with a breathing view. Positioned in the hills overlooking Springfield, the Willamette River flowed below.

Louise had a complete kitchen where she could cook. The most appealing feature for the girls was with a huge party room that the kids used for a gigantic playroom. Now that they had more property, they got a dog and named her Candy. Jo and Lloyd Staats, Louise's parents raised some Beagle pups, and gave one to the family.

Jack Kullberg, one of Hank's Swedish friends from Battleground, Washington had also moved to Eugene. Jack's mother Ester Kullberg always joked that Jack had followed Hank to Eugene because he knew he could get a good meal. (Louise's cooking was hard to beat!) Jack lived at the bottom of the hill with his very young wife, Marilyn (who did not know how to cook.) Many evenings were spent with them. Jack played the banjo and guitar and everyone sang.

Snow

That winter of 1949, Oregon had a huge snowfall. Henry made a sled for the girls and all the other neighbor kids to enjoy. Since they lived so high on the hill, the downhill ride was thrilling. The snow continued and drifted high. The snow started the day before New Year's and the snow was so heavy, that when Henry took his family back to visit his and Louise's folks there still were snow banks at the sides of the road at Easter.

Empire, Oregon 1950—1951

From the hills of Eugene, the Granats' moved to the Oregon Coast. Their newly purchased home had land, woods with tall native rhododendrons that surround the house. The long driveway was white—being made of oyster shells.

It was a fixer-upper house. Although it was large, it had no bathroom, just an outhouse at the edge of the woods. One of the first projects for Hank (with the help of Louise's Dad, Lloyd) was to build a large garage and bathroom.

Louise painted the kitchen. (Louise was color-blind so sometimes what she thought was one color, turned out to be another.) Hank did not like the color, so it got re-painted. Louise also painted the worn-out kitchen floor and counter tops using black paint. Then she cut up sponges and dipped the squares into different colors. She sponged all colors in a random pattern on top of the black. It looked wonderful!

The girls' loved the two-story home with secret panels that went under the eaves in the top bedrooms. They played in the woods bending the small fir trees over to pretend they were riding horses. They were the "Ghost Girls" after the bad sheriff. On some weekends the family went to Sunset Beach.

The Snake in the Well

The coastal home had a hand-dug well in the sand. The night after they moved into the house, Hank went out to look at the well. He removed the rotten boards off the top to find the water level was about six

inches below. Suddenly, he saw a huge water snake swimming toward him.

The snake swam over and raised its head up several inches out of the water and looked Henry right in the eye. Henry quickly replaced the old boards covering of the well.

The next morning, Louise was so surprised to see a man driving up in a truck with cement casings for the well. She told the man she didn't have enough money for the new well casings and cover. The man replied, "Your husband has made all the arrangements!" The 25-foot well was cleaned and the cement casings were installed and the top was sealed. The well man told Henry later that the bottom of the well had many dead animal skeletons in it. After that, the water was finally fit to drink. Hank didn't dare tell Louise what he had seen that night.

Life was pleasurable on the Oregon coast. They made many new friends, like the Mevis family. Sometimes for weekend entertainment, the adults fixed dinner and played cards while the kids played. They had several children and Ginny liked to help out by "cleaning" the kids' room. (It usually consisted of making the beds and throwing the toys under the bed or in the closet so there was room to walk around.)

The school had been newly built and was very enjoyable for the family. Hank was elected PTA Treasurer, however he is so busy with his new job that Louise took over for him. They both helped the school with fundraising. One activity that stands out in Hanks memory was the Halloween Party. The game he remembered was, Pass the Parts of the Body—the peeled grapes as eyeballs, and cold noodles felt strange in his hands!

Many Portland friends came south to visit. Many weekends were spent playing Pinochle with Sven Jensen. Once a week, Hank took the family to over the bridge to Charleston. There was a wonderful little Galley Grill on the dock of the bay. They were served the best oysters. However, Alana and Ginny preferred a grilled cheese sandwich and fries.

Harbor Lumber

When they moved to Empire, Oregon Hank began work for Harbor Lumber Company. He worked with Burt Peterson and Henning (Shafer) Alquist. They had two small sawmills and needed logs. Hank had met

them the year before and now they wanted him to work for them. They usually bought the logs from the truckers.

Hank suggested that they locate some stands of timber, purchase the property and cut the logs themselves. That would be much cheaper. Shafer and Burt liked this idea so Hank spent a day at the Gold Beach Courthouse searching land records. He found the ownership records and the section corners of the land he thought would be good. He spent the night in a motel and started "cruising" the site on Friday.

Cruising Timber

Timber cruising involves walking or "cruising" a forest to measure the trees and collect other information about the forest. The primary purpose of cruising is to obtain a volume estimation to appraise and prepare timber sales.

Hank drove up a gravel road, parked his car, got his compass and was ready to locate the section of land. He spent the day cruising the timber and was trying to find a shortcut back to his car at the end of the day. He found a trail that cut through the neighboring property. Hank was tired and he knew this trail would save him some time.

He hadn't gone far when he discovered a little log cabin. A big hound dog barked and a neatly dressed couple came to the door and struck up a conversation. Hank explained what he was doing. They asked, "You haven't had supper have you?" He replied that no, he had not. So the couple invited Hank in.

Inside the cabin, what was so amazing was a 14-inch board of Port Orford Yellow Cedar nailed to the wall. It had round spaces that had been hollowed out for food. There was a small trough-shape carved slanting away from each of the round "plate" areas toward the outside edge of the board, so leftovers could be easily scraped off (maybe for the dog) and then the board washed off.

The beautiful Port Orford Yellow Cedar wood was so smooth from use. They pulled chairs up to the board and had supper. This couple with their simple way of living extended a welcome to a stranger who walked out the forest one evening. Hank said, "I guess they hadn't seen many people. Probably didn't get too many visitors."

The land in Port Orford, that Hank was cruising for Harbor Lumber turned out to be an excellent stand of old growth trees. This 80-acre tract of old growth was for sale for \$12,000. Friday night, Hank called and told them to buy it. Burt wrote the check. On Monday when Hank returned to the office, he discovered Burt had just sold the property for \$25,000 to a plywood company. Hank was shocked because although Burt had doubled his money over the weekend. The trees alone were worth \$250,000.

About this time, Hank was thinking he really wanted to be his own boss. That year 1951, Hank helped the company make so much in sales that they had to pay \$80,000 in excess profit tax. Although he was promised 5% of the profits, that never happened.

It was time to move on. Hank really felt strongly that the coast was not the best place to raise his young daughters.

Trip to Tillamook Burn

In 1951 there was another Tillamook Forest Fire. Hank took his family to view the area where he once worked.

The Tillamook Burn became the collective name for the series of large fires that began in 1933 and struck at six-year intervals through 1951, burning a combined total of 355,000 acres.

Foresters, professional tree planters and volunteers have worked painstakingly to reestablish the forest and its many resources. Oregon voters passed a constitutional amendment in 1948 authorizing \$12 million in bonds to rehabilitate the land. The long reforestation project, the largest ever undertaken, began in 1949. Helicopters were used for the first time for large-scale aerial seeding. On the ground, forestry crews, prison inmates and school groups planted trees by hand. In total, helping hands planted 72 million seedlings giving the burned-over landscape a new start.

Along with the reforestation came efforts at fire prevention. Crews worked to "fireproof" the forest with a network of roads that would provide better access for firefighters in the event of a fire. A network of forest lookouts was also established.

The Tillamook Burn was officially renamed the Tillamook State Forest by Oregon Governor Tom McCall on July 18, 1973. (Oregon Department of Forestry)

Beaverton

The following year the family bought a new home in Beaverton, Oregon. Here Hank and Louise could be closer to their parents. Ginny was now in fourth grade and considered each new school a chance to make new friends—and a new adventure. Alana, always cute and popular enjoyed the moves too.

(Alana still wanted a horse—and the girls both wanted a baby brother!) Louise loved children. The new house on Lang Avenue was near one of mom's high school friends. The neighborhood was full of kids to play with. One family had nine boys, little stepping-stones. Ginny loved to baby-sit and "clean" that house too!

In January 1953, Hank met with his friend Al Peirce, and is given a \$13,100 loan to start his own lumber company. Al told Hank, "Don't worry if you can't pay it back. You could come down and run the mill." Hank is on his way with his new business. From all his travels, Hank knows many of the sawmill owners all over Oregon. Henry started his own business—Blasen and Granat Lumber Company. He was now a Lumber Wholesaler.

Louise had a brand new two-bedroom home at 980 Lang Avenue in Beaverton. (Now 160th) Hank planted a huge dahlia bed, garden, and purchased a cement picnic table and benches.



Snowy Winter Day Lang Avenue (Now 160th)

Swedish Traditions

Hank continued singing with the Swedish Male Chorus. In December advent candles were lit, St. Lucia Day celebrated, straw ornaments put on the tree, and smorgasbords abound. Christmas Day there was julotta.

That summer, the Swedes came over for a huge housewarming party. They love the new house, but they are very surprised to learn that Louise is cooking on a small, two-burner hot plate and baking in a Westinghouse Oven. Hank bought her a new stove as his business succeeded.

The neighborhood kids love to come over. Now that she had her new stove, Louise always had the Smiley Pig cookie jar full of cookies. Louise was well known for her wonderful meals and desserts.



Hank and His Family Visit the Farm.

Papa and Mama's farm was close to Beaverton so the family visited often on the weekends. Virginia and Alana loved the animals. They played in the barn and jumped in the hay. They would swing from a rope in the loft.

In the hen house, they would feel for the warm eggs under the hens. Outside the chicken coop area, they would throw the guinea hens some scratch-feed. They liked to discover the cute new chicks.

Running into the woods, they found a forest home and created rooms with carpets of moss. Back at the house, they liked to listen to the old wind-up cylinder record player enjoying the music while munching homemade Swedish cookies.



Ginny and Alana with the new calf.
Prince gives Alana a kiss.



Baby Brother Arrives—Karl Richard Granat

Soon a baby brother arrives, Karl, born June 8, 1953. Now the girls are delighted because they wanted a baby brother. They learn all the Swedish baby chants and play with Karl. He is the cutest, happiest baby. All the ladies love Karl and Hank teaches him to wink and flirt.

Rida, rida ranka	Till en liten piga.
Hasten heter Blanka.	Vad ska hon heta?
Vart ska vi rida?	Jungfru Margareta
Rida sta och fria	

Summer 1954

Hank took the family on their first big vacation trip driving to San Francisco. They traveled down the Oregon Coast, at Port Orford they stopped at the beach. Alana had taken off her shoes and left them on the beach as she walked and played in the sand.

Suddenly, they notice the high tide waves are washing in and Alana's shoes are floating out to sea. A stranger on the beach grabbed her shoes and saves the day!

The family continued the travel through the Redwoods and on into San Francisco, where the National Swedish Convention is being held. The family rides the cable cars, shops, and visits China Town. It is great fun eating our meals out. Karl is now one-year-old and so cute. Hank has him wink at the waitresses and we get outstanding service!

At the convention, men toss Karl into the air and "fly" him around groups of singers. Karl laughs and seems to love it. He is just starting to stand by himself. Karl is holding onto Hanks hands starts to take a few steps. Alfred Anderson holds out his arms and is thrilled when the little guy takes his first steps to him. Karl is walking at the Swedish Convention!

One of the guest singers is Jorgi Jorgenson, singing "I Just Go Nuts at Christmas!" He brings down the house! We all love that song to this day.

The summer continues with baby showers and lots of sewing for the new baby coming soon.

New Baby in the House—Jody Karla Granat

Jody Karla Granat arrived, September 28, 1954. Hank says, "Karl is now outnumbered—three girls and one boy!" Louise is not pleased with that comment.

The girls were ecstatic with their new little sister. They were shocked to see waves of black hair when she was first born. However, this black "baby fuzz" all rubbed off eventually and she became blond.



Jody, Louise, and Karl in photo below.

Louise sewed clothes for her and loved to dress her up and comb her fine blond hair into a short "pony tail" on top her head.

Because of this hairdo, she became known as the little "blond bombshell" of the home. The house now was crowded and Granats' look for a home with land.

Shopping at J.C. Penney in Hillsboro

Louise was shopping in Hillsboro and struck up a conversation with a sales woman who had a farm in the country and wanted a small city house. Louise was looking for country property. It wasn't long before they traded properties. This was the start of Louise's interest in real estate.

A Farm House in the Country

Hank and Louise's new home was located on Logie Trail in Hillsboro, Oregon. It had about 43 acres, a barn, a shed, well house, hired man's little house and much land for cultivating a garden and gathering produce from the orchard. Hank and Louise fixed up the house and clean out the basement. They added new paint, new roof, and redid the kitchen area. Lloyd, Louise's dad, paneled the huge upstairs room for Ginny and Alana. Over the years they made many changes.



The Barn

The girls discovered an old cavalry saddle in the barn and threw it over a huge horizontal limb of a tree outside the kitchen window. Here they ride their "horse." They joined 4-H and loved having barn dances in the top of the barn. A wall ladder leads up to a massive dance floor in the hayloft. The flooring was made of vertical-grain Douglas Fir. The flooring was from the West Oregon Lumber Company in Linnton, Oregon—the last place that Papa worked! The hired man's house is cleaned out and fixed up for old Papa.

Religion Guides the Family

Hank and Louise and their family joined Bethany Presbyterian Church. They enjoyed the fellowship with the minister and his family and all the people there. Their children attend Sunday School, are Baptized, enjoy Vacation Bible School in the summers, and sing in the choir.

New Baby Boy Arrives—Kurt Lloyd Granat

February 1957 was cold and snowy. One evening, Hank could not make it up the hill. His car was stuck. Hank and Louise (who was nine months pregnant, and wearing her high heels, had to walk up Logie Trail in the snow. A few days later on another a snowy day February 6th, 1957, Kurt Lloyd Granat was born. A darling little blond baby boy, with the sweetest disposition and smile. Hank was happy, now Karl had a brother

so he wasn't outnumbered!

Karl, Hank holding Kurt and Jody in photo.



Louise, an only child, had longed for brothers and sisters to play with. Now she has her own home full of children. As they grow, she can not understand why her kids fight. She had always wanted someone to play with when she was a girl.

Louise and Kurt 1960



The Farm with a View

Their farm home has an amazing view from the kitchen and dining room windows. A sweeping panoramic scene of the hills surrounding, down to the Sunset Highway. At night the lights of Portland, Beaverton, Hillsboro and Forest Grove twinkle in the distance. The girl's upstairs rooms also have a fabulous view. Hank and Louise made changes to add a breakfast area, which also a marvelous view.

The First Horse

The Granats eventually gained a horse. Papa and Louise's dad, Lloyd had been looking for horses. Papa bought "Sugar" while Hank was out of town. When he returned from his trip, the girls told Hank to come down to the barn. They had a surprise for him. But the joke was on them. Hank got a few feet away from the barn and said, "I can smell it from here! I smell a horse!"

The 4-H Calf

Hank bought Ginny a Brown Swiss calf from Elmer Grossen and it went on to win Grand Champion at the Oregon State Fair. Alana had a beef animal. Chickens and a hen house are added in the barn. A dog and cats also join the Granat Helvetia Farm. At one time there was also a peacock.



Easter 1961 Kurt, Ginny, Karl and Jody coloring eggs.

The milk pasteurizer is on the counter. Hank hand-milked the cow, morning and night so the family always had fresh milk, cream, and butter. Louise even tired making cheese. The kitchen had been updated by Hank and Louise.

4-H Fun

Alana and Ginny discovered 4-H. There were cooking, sewing, livestock, and safety clubs. We met at homes in the community and established many friendships. Karl and Kurt learned to play chess at an early age and were very good at it! Hank taught his sons how to shoot and hunt when they were older.

Ginny married Ron Mapes, June 16, 1962.



Alana went to Switzerland for a year the summer of 1962.

Here Kurt wears the Contented Munchers 4-H Club shirt when visiting Ron and Ginny in 1962.

In Switzerland, Alana became friends with her art teacher's daughter, Kathy Schneider. When Alana came home from Switzerland, she brought Kathy with her. Kathy finished her senior year in America. The Helvetia area had begun as a Swiss settlement so Kathy felt at home and could chat with the locals. Kathy's brother came to the United States the next year and stayed with the Granats. These were the first of many kids to stay with the Granat family.

Old Papa on his old Oliver Crawler Tractor.





Christmas 1965 — Karl, Kurt, Ron Mapes in front.
Louise, standing, Jody, Ginny, and Alana on sofa.

Hank & Louise Build their Dream Home

Hank bought the neighboring land and this added seven acres to his property. With 50 acres, he and Louise decided to build a new, large modern house with an inground swimming pool on the new land.

Papa Goes Back to Visit Sweden.

Old Papa, age 80 returned to Sweden. He went back again at age 82. When he returned to Oregon, he had photos of Gunnar, his son who had been left in Sweden. He also had a photo of Gunnar's daughter and her two boys. The Swedish boys looked just like Karl and Kurt. Later we found out that they were Papa's grandchildren from the brother Hank had known nothing about.

In 1972, Hank and Louise were getting ready for a trip to "The Old Country" as Papa had called it. Hank was shocked to learn he had a brother who had been living in Sweden all these years. Hank found out this information from a Captain of the Swedish Salvation Army who had come to Portland.

Someone had kept in touch with the family in Sweden. Ellen and Richard had previously sent money for Gunnar to come to America, but he never did. At first he was too young.

When he was a teenager, he didn't know anyone in the United States, so he stayed in Sweden. Henry finally met Gunnar when he went to Sweden. He also met Gunnar's daughter, Gunvar and her husband Bengt Dahlstrom.



Old Papa had returned with photos of Ellen Lindblad's family farm home in Sweden. Taken in 1965 the home was still standing 79 years since Ellen had been born there. This is where her child, Gunnar, was raised by his grandparents.



Family Travelers

Hank and Louise vacationed with Karl, Jody, and Kurt traveling to Sweden. Returning from Sweden, Kurt and Karl went onto college. Jody worked in retail, buying and selling clothes. All the children married and started families of their own. So the Granat family continued to grow.

Välkommen!

Hank and Louise always opened their home to friends and family from all over the world. From Sweden, Switzerland, and Oregon, students and friends came—some stayed for a year. In return, Hank and Louise always had friends who wanted them to come and visit their homes and homeland. So they did.

Hank and Louise traveled with their family all over the United States, Canada, Caribbean Islands, Virgin Islands, Mexico, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Denmark. They went to Sweden three times, returning with Swedish hand made gifts for all the family members.



Hank in Sweden



Swedish Traditions

Hank at the base of the Swedish Maypole getting ready for the Midsummer Picnic. Pete Jacobson brings the top of the pole. Flowers were picked and all is ready for the ring dance around the Maypole. Hank and Louise were part of the Swedish Folk Dancers. Alana and Ginny were in the children's dance group.

Scandinavian celebrations and traditions were maintained by the Portland Swedish Male Chorus with the help of the Ladies Auxiliary. Singing and dancing filled all festivities. There were many Christmas programs and midsummer picnics which included smorgåsbords. In 1979 the women formed their own singing group the Scandia Ladies Chorus. Both choruses are members of the American Union of Swedish Singers which was formed over 100 years ago at the height of the immigration years. Swedes formed choruses in America to sing the songs that they remembered and loved from their homeland.



Depoe Bay

Louise continued her interest in real estate. As a child she loved to visit Depoe Bay. Slowly she and Hank started to acquire property there. Eventually with the help of Karl and Kurt, they changed the landscape of Depoe Bay by blasting out the rock cliff that bordered Highway 101 and constructing a series of shops on the Oregon Coast Highway. Named Lareisa Plaza in honor of their beloved granddaughter they had lost, they added condominiums above the shops. Friends and family are always welcome here.

The grandchildren married and had families. The Granat family numbers grew even bigger.

Hank and Louise were extremely generous sharing their land with their children. Louise and Hank loved their big family and always wanted them them nearby.

July 1979—Taking a cool dip in the pool



Cheryl, Margaret, Louise, Gunvar (Gunnar's daughter) her husband Bengt Dahlstrom visiting from Sweden, front row. Janet, Kurt, Walt, and Hank back row.



Margaret, Louise, Bengt, Janet near rim of pool.
Kurt, Cheryl and Gunvar, in the foreground, enjoy a swim on a hot summer day.

Swedish Singers

Hank stayed active with the Portland Swedish Male Chorus. In the early years, the women had always been the support group. That changed when the women formed their own Scandia Ladies Chorus. At one point almost all the Granat children and their spouses sang in the two choruses including young granddaughter Corinna. A few years later, other grandchildren joined in the singing. Jody, Hank's youngest daughter who loved to sing, went on to become the first woman president of the American Union of Swedish Singers. Jody is presently president of the AUSS Cultural Heritage Foundation the Alana is now the president of the AUSS until 2012.



The Years Fly

Sadly, Louise died July 25, 2006.

Two years later on February 2, 2008 Hank celebrated his 90th birthday with over 220 friends and family. Then in June 2008, Hank took his entire family on a cruise to Alaska. About this time the AUSS was having the National Swedish Convention in Portland. Many Swede singers from around the country arrived early and joined the cruise.

June 2009, Hank at age 91 took the family back to Alaska. This time even more family members and friends were included, the youngest was Hank's great-granddaughter baby Sophia Daisy Mapes.



Hank & Baby Sophia Mapes Cruising June 23, 2009

Special thanks to Jerry Jones for scanning all the old family pictures and creating high resolution photographs used throughout the story for the enjoyment of readers.

Historical Information

1933—Tillamook Forest Fire. An early account stated: "The virgin stands of age-old Douglas fir in the Tillamook region of Oregon, fired by lightning one summer afternoon, burned out of control to consume 12 billion board feet of timber.

When: At 1 P.M. on August 14, 1933.

The Loss: One death. 270,000 acres of forest destroyed. Economic loss to Oregon, \$200 million."

Perimeter area of fire	261,222 acres
Unburned area within perimeter	21,527 acres

*The "Tillamook Burn" describes the forest fire of 1933, which ravaged nearly 240,000 acres of prime forestland, most of it in Tillamook County. This fire killed almost 12 billion board feet of timber, enough lumber to build more than a million five-room houses.

Subsequent forest fires in 1939 and 1945 have also been included in the term "Tillamook Burn" although, combined, these fires consumed only one-tenth the timber killed in the 1933 fire.

A fourth fire, in 1951, spread over some 32,000 acres, but destroyed only 15 million board feet of logs and snags.

7.5 billion board feet of burned logs were salvaged between 1934 and 1955 out of the
13.1 billion board feet killed.

Source of Data: Oregon Department of Forestry

Resources: Books

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Nordstrom, Lars, ed. Swedish Oregon. Portland, Oregon: Swedish Roots In Oregon, 2009.

Resources: Websites

1910 United States Federal Census <http://www.ancestry.com>

1920 United States Federal Census <http://www.ancestry.com>

1930 United States Federal Census <http://www.ancestry.com>

Ellis Island Records

http://www.ellisland.org/genealogy/ellis_island_search_tips.asp

Hunter Crew Story WWII

<http://www.coulthart.com/jkhunter.html>

Oregon Marriage Records <http://www.ancestry.com>

Scandinavian Heritage Foundation

<http://www.scanheritage.org/NewWebPage>

Swedish Roots in Oregon

<http://www.swedishrootsinoregon.org>

"The Tillamook Story: An Oregon Legend: From Ashes to Forest."

Oregon Department of Forestry. http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/TSF/tillamook_story.shtml

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918 <http://www.ancestry.com>

Swedish Birthday Song
"Ja, må du leva"

Swedish Version

Ja, må du leva,
Ja, må du leva,
Ja, må du leva uti hundra år.

Ja, visst ska du leva,
Ja, visst ska du leva,
Ja, visst ska du leva uti hundra år

HURRAH, HURRAH, HURRAH!

English Translation

Yes, may you live
Yes, may you live
Yes, may you live for a hundred years.

Oh sure, you will live
Oh sure, you will live
Oh sure, you will live for a hundred years.

Swedish Egg Coffee (Kaffe)

This is Swedish traditional coffee making at its best. Always smooth, never bitter.

Measure 12 cups of fresh cold water into a large old-fashioned blue and white speckled enamel stovetop percolator. Bring water to boiling and add a pinch of salt. When the water is boiling, turn the heat down to medium, enough to maintain a slow boil.

Break an egg (shell washed) into a small mixing bowl and beat well. Set aside the shell for later.

Mix raw egg and one cup (dry measure) ground coffee. Stir the ground coffee into the egg and mix well to the consistency of wet sand.

Add the egg/coffee mixture to the boiling water and drop in the shell. Mix with a long wooden spoon. Continue stirring because the coffee will foam up and otherwise boil over.

Boil on medium for about three – ten minutes, or until the coffee is as strong as you like it.

Remove from heat and allow a couple of minutes for the coffee to settle. The coffee/egg will float in blobs at first, then settle to the bottom. Add 1/4 cup cold water will help the grounds sink to the bottom.

Pour slowly, and the grounds will stay on the bottom.