

# JOHANN to SYLVIA STEHLIK

**Sylvia Stehlik** was born January 30, 1891 and died December 24, 1938 in Vail, Crawford County, Iowa. She married William Oscar Yankey in 1910. William Oscar Yankey was born on April 6, 1885 in El Dorado Springs, Cedar, Missouri and died on June 22, 1962 in Woodbine, Harrison County, Iowa. Sylvia Stehlik Yankey spent her entire life in Crawford County, Iowa except for six years in Arkansas and Oklahoma. William Oscar and Sylvia Stehlik Yankey are buried in the cemetery in Vail, Crawford County, Iowa.

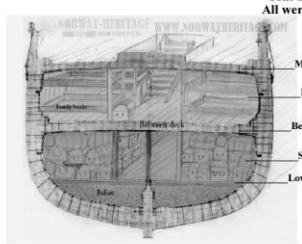
Sylvia Stehlik was the daughter of Anna Barta and John Stehlik. Her siblings included Stanley, Joseph, John, Jr., Josephine (Mrs. Joseph Bukacek), Matilda (Mrs. Hans Rasmussen), and Anna (Mrs. Hans Henrichsen).

**Johann Stehlik** is the earliest known family member. In 1849 he was a retired cottager (farmer)<sup>1</sup> living in Vrist with his wife, Eleonora Radek, daughter of Thomas Radek. This information is from the marriage record in the catholic parish Snezne (Nemecke) of 1843-1894.<sup>2</sup> The passenger records of Germany list their home town as Vrist (Wrischt in German) which is now part of the town, Nemecke. The town is in the The Czech Republic and the Moravia Highland region. In 2001 the Vrist had 41 people and is located on the Vrist River. This region was German speaking from the 13<sup>th</sup> century until the end of WW II. After the German speaking people were sent to Germany and now the region is mainly Czech speaking.<sup>3</sup> Given names are written in various forms such as Latin, German, or Czech. A person born as Joannes in Latin, would be Johann in German and Jan in Czech.

NAME	AGE	RESIDENCE	REMARKS
Josef Stehlik	58	Austria	
Josefa Stehlik	52	Austria	
Josef Stehlik	31	Austria	
Franz Stehlik	27	Austria	
Joh. Stehlik	16	Austria	

S.S. Weiland  
Between Deck Passengers  
Ancestry.com

Passenger List: S. S. Weiland  
Between Deck Passengers  
From Hamburg via Le Havre  
Port of New York  
June 28, 1876  
Josef Stehlik, age 58  
Josefa Stehlik, age 52  
Josef Stehlik, age 31  
Franz Stehlik, age 27  
Joh. Stehlik, age 16  
All were from Austria



Cross section of typical passenger ship  
Main deck with a Between deck  
above the Lower deck.  
Between Deck 6 to 8 feet high.  
Ballast was below the lower deck.  
From  
www.NorwayHeritage.com



S. S. Weiland  
c. 1882  
The original ship launched in 1874  
had one smokestack but was  
re-fitted with two smokestacks in 1882.  
From  
www.NorwayHeritage.com

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**Josef Stehlik** and his wife, Josefa, Franz, Josef and Joh. (John, Sr.) immigrated to America on the *S. S. Wieland* on June 28, 1876 arriving from Hamburg, Germany on January 14, 1876 via Le Havre, France to the Port of New York, New York. It is probable that the family traveled on the Elbe River from Bohemia to Hamburg, Germany where they boarded the *S. S. Weiland*. The family ultimately came to Iowa from New York. Most of the Stehlik immigration to America occurred from the mid-1870's to the mid-1880's. Stehlik is a common name in the Czech Republic.

Church records from the catholic Parish Snezne (Nemecke) the children Josephus (born August 6, 1845) and Franz (born August 3, 1847) as illegitimate and Franciscus (born September 15, 1849) and Johann (born December 26, 1860) born after the marriage. A daughter was born on July 9, 1848 and died on July 10, 1848 as a complication of eclampsia. Josef Stehlik claimed to be the father of the older boys at the time of Josef and Josefe Radek Stehlik's wedding on February 11, 1849. The family listed their native tongue as German and their religion in 1860 as Evangelist.<sup>4</sup>

The spelling of the Stehlik name had variations. The oath of citizenship signed by Charles Stehlik uses the spelling as "*Stehlyk*" on his application of November 8, 1888 in Johnson County, Iowa.<sup>5</sup> He signed his name Karrel Stehlyk. The name Stehlik means goldfinch..

The Bohemian settlers in Linn County left their native land because of political persecution and oppression. These settlers were the largest and most important group of foreign immigrants in Linn County. They were not renters and often entered agriculture as a vocation. The early settlers came by train to the Mississippi River and then by hired wagon teams to Linn County. Luther Brewer and Barthinius Wick stated that "*They brought with them, and abundance of patience, industry, perseverance, and hope. Their beginning was full of hardships, privations, and obstacles. Their chief capital was their health and willingness to toil, and their ability to stand hardship. These were their native heritage. Coming to this country poor, unacquainted with its customs, its language, and its laws, their beginning had but few silver linings.*"<sup>6</sup>

*"A large majority came to this country very lightly endowed with worldly goods, but they were strong in health and body and not afraid to work. A very large percentage of these people belong to the laboring class. The women in the families worked hard, if not harder, than the men. The first ambition of these people after their arrival in this country was to own a home. The father would work, the mother would work, and the children would work in order to buy and pay for a home."*<sup>7</sup>

The Bohemian people belonged to the Presbyterian, Bohemian Methodist, and the Reformed Churches. Some practiced in the simple form of the Moravians.<sup>8</sup>

The background for the migration from Bohemia to America had its beginnings with the Bohemian Reformer, John Hus. On July 6, 1415 John Hus was burned at the stake for his beliefs of simplicity of life, brotherly love, and purity and "*personal*" religion. These doctrines promoted a personal religion and immediately conflicted with the organization of the Roman

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Catholic Church and later with the Lutheran church under the teachings of Martin Luther during the Protestant Reformation. The Bohemian's were Protestant did not speak the German language.

A rebellion followed the execution of John Hus and the Bohemian citizens began a revolt against the Roman Catholic Church in what was known as the Hussite Wars. Initially the Bohemians prevailed but ultimately the Church regained power. Ferdinand I of Austria became King of Bohemia and the country joined the Habsburg Empire. The years between 1436 and 1618 there was relative religious freedom in Bohemia.

On August 28, 1619 when Ferdinand II, a counter-reformer, became the head of the Habsburg Empire, part of the German Confederation, and he moved to suppress the Bohemian Empire. This suppression of Bohemia was the beginning of the first mass migration as many Protestants began to leave the country. This began the Thirty Years War. The ramifications of this War are discussed under Andrew Yankey's biography.<sup>9</sup>

The Habsburg Empire which originally was mainly in Austria expanded during an alignment with the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church. Between 1699 and 1737 the Habsburgs claimed the land of Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia. The Catholic Church encouraged this action as the Church influence was expanded with the Habsburg Empire expansion. In 1741 Maria Theresa, who was the leader of the Habsburg Empire, ceded a major part of Silesia to Prussia. Frederick II the Great became the leader of Prussia and Silesia which was north of Bohemia. In 1744 Frederick II invaded Bohemia which was part of the Habsburg Empire. Almost all of the major countries in Western Europe were involved in these wars and treaties. This was known as the War of Austrian Succession. Two factors were involved in these wars which included the concern first over the developing expansion and power of Prussia and second the expansion of the Roman Catholic Church with the expansion of the Habsburg Empire.

Maria Theresa and her two succeeding sons, Joseph II and Leopold II instituted major reforms that benefited the peasants of Austria and Bohemia. Wars and conflicts between the states in Europe continued and the Seven Year's War between Bohemia and Prussia was won by the Prussians and the power of Austria declined. The late 1860's to the early 1870's were of great economic expansion but a stock market crash in 1873 led to great turmoil. The Jewish community had not been allowed to develop professions or trades as the other citizens but they could deal with money lending. Money lending was thought to not be a respectable profession. The Jewish community was blamed for the depression and stock market collapse. It was in this period of economic collapse and religious suppression that led to more migration to America. Additionally conscription of men for the armies of the Habsburg Empire continued in preparation for the probable conflicts with Russia. After 1882 German and Czech languages were considered equal but before that time only the German language was used by the government of the Habsburg Empire. In the Czech language "*český*" means Bohemian and Czech.<sup>10</sup>

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**John, Sr. and Anna Barta Stehlik home  
Vail, Crawford County, Iowa  
c. 1935**

Photo provided by:  
Ruth Yankey Noeick



**Bohemia Map  
(Source Unknown)**

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**John, Sr. and Anna Barta Stehlik family**  
Back: Matilda, Stanley, Josephine  
Second: Joseph, John, Jr., Sylvia, Anna  
Front: John, Sr., Anna Barta Stehlik  
Stockholm Township, Crawford County, Iowa  
c. 1910

Photo from postcard to  
Anna Stehlik Hindricksen  
Provided by: Ruth Yankey Noeck



**Unknown Stehlik family**

**John Stehlik, Sr.** is listed in 1880 Iowa Census <sup>11</sup> as living in the household of Frank Taunner, from Bohemia, and his wife and family. John Stehlik, Sr. was listed as a laborer, age 17, and having been born in Bohemia as were his parents. Anna Barta, listed as a servant, was also in the same household, age 17, and she and her parents were born in Bohemia. Their ages do not match later records of this couple.

The Josef and Josefa Stehlik family reportedly left their homeland because of religious conflicts. On June 16, 1874 the *S.S. Wieland* was launched by the Alexander Stephen & Sons, Glasgow, Scotland but never operated by the Adler Line. The *S. S. Wieland* was a steam ship with one funnel and two masts and in 1875 it was sold to the Hamburg-American Line of Hamburg,

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Germany for its maiden voyage on June 25, 1875. The ship was operated by the HAPAG line until 1895 when it was sold. It had an original speed of thirteen knots. In 1882 the ship was outfitted with two funnels and a higher superstructure. The ship could carry ninety passengers in first class, one hundred in second class, and eight hundred in steerage or “Between deck Passengers” with a crew of one hundred and ten. The ship was three hundred and seventy-five feet long and forty feet wide.<sup>12</sup>

The passenger records <sup>13</sup> of the German *S. S. Wieland* from Hamburg, Germany and Le Havre, France list the following:

Josef Stehlik	58	Workman	Austria
Josefa Stehlik	52	Wife	Austria
Josef Stehlik	31	Children	Austria
Franz Stehlik	27	Children	Austria
Joh. Stehlik	16	Children	Austria

The family used several designations for their origin country. In 1870 Austria controlled the region where they lived. On the 1885 Iowa Census they listed their home as being in Bohemia but on the 1895 Iowa Census they listed their home as Austria. Actually they lived in the area called Moravia which is currently in The Czech Republic.

On June 28, 1876, 14 days after departure, the *S. S. Wieland* arrived in New York, New York under the command of Captain C. Hebick. There were one hundred and seventeen cabin passengers and four hundred and fifty-seven “*Between deck Passengers.*” The cabin passenger list does not differentiate between first and second class passengers. The Josef Stehlik family traveled in the “*Between deck Passenger*” area of the ship and are listed as passengers number 229 to 233.<sup>14</sup> The trip from Hamburg, Germany to New York on the *S. S. Wieland* took thirteen to fifteen days.<sup>15</sup>

The between deck was just below the main deck and above the hold of the ship. Initially this was an area for livestock transportation and called “steerage” for steers or cattle. This area was for the cheapest priced ticket when used for the transportation of people. The US Passenger Act of 1819 allowed two persons per five tons of the ship on any vessel coming to the United States.<sup>16</sup> Thus the ship’s weight is often reflected on passenger list declarations by the Captain of each ship.

The entrance to the between deck was from a hatch on the main deck that would be closed during rough weather and the passengers would tie themselves to the bunks during storms. The between deck space was 6 ½ feet to 8 feet high. Tiers of bunks on each side of the ship from stem to stern or compartments of bunks with a small area to eat would be the arrangement. The ventilation was often very poor and a common toilet was located on each side of the ship. Luggage was placed in the hold and the passengers brought their own food for the trip to supplement the ship’s rations which was usually only water. Common cooking stoves were often used as some passengers did not have a warm meal the entire trip. The crew would often burn tar to overcome the stench of the between deck area. Leaving the homeland was described as “*a funeral for the living*” because of the sadness of those leaving and those remaining. Many of the accounts of

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such Atlantic Ocean crossings describe the ice fields that the ships navigated. <sup>17</sup>

The obituary of John Stehlik, Sr.<sup>18</sup> records that he “*was born in Czechoslovakia on Dec. 26, 1860. He came to America as a young man and worked in eastern Iowa for a number of years. On Feb. 1, 1882, <sup>19</sup> he was united in marriage to Anna Barta in Johnson County. To this union were born three boys and four girls.* <sup>20</sup>

*He was preceded in death by his wife and a daughter, Sylvia, Mrs. Oscar Yankey. <sup>21</sup> Mrs. Yankey died on Dec. 26, 1938 and his wife 17 days later on Jan. 10, 1939.*

*For the past seven years his health had become impaired and much physical discomfort caused him considerable suffering. The last six months he failed noticeably and was confined to his bed intermittently sometimes two of three days at a time. On his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday Dec. 26 he suffered a fainting spell and has been confined to his bed since. He steadily grew weaker, suffering intervals of severe pain. He passed slowly away and died Saturday Jan. 5, 1946 at an age of 85 years and 9 days in the home of his son, John.”*

*“He is survived by 3 sons and 3 daughters:*

<i>John of Vail</i>	<i>Mrs. Josephine Bukacek (Mrs. Joseph) of Westside</i>
<i>Joseph of Vail</i>	<i>Mrs. Anna Hendricksen (Mrs. Hans) of Breda</i>
<i>Stanley of Denison</i>	<i>Mrs. Mathilda Rasmussen (Mrs. Hans) of Westside”</i>

The author remembers John Stehlik living on his farm east of Vail, Iowa. He maintained a garden and grape vines near the house. A photo of the family home is in one of the authors books. <sup>22</sup>

Joseph Stehlik was married to Lillian Eunice Clauson and John Stehlik, Jr. was married to Ruth Harriett Clauson. The women were sisters.

Anna Barta Stehlik was born on July 27, 1881 and died on January 10, 1939. She had been in failing health for over one year and grew rapidly weaker after the death of her daughter, Sylvia Stehlik Yankey, who died on December 24, 1938. Her brothers and sisters preceded her in death. In 1877 Anna came to America from Czechoslovakia with her parents and they settled in Johnson County, Iowa. On February 1, 1883 she married John Stehlik, Sr. in Johnson County, Iowa. They lived in Johnson County for the first year after their marriage and then moved to Crawford County, Iowa. In June of 1884 their oldest daughter, Josephine, was born in Linn County, Iowa.

The 1880 Iowa Census, Linn County, <sup>23</sup> lists the following:

Stehlik, John	17	Hired man	single	Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia
Barta, Anna	17	Servant	Single	Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia

John Stehlik could read and write but Anna Barta could not at the time of the 1880 Census. They were living with the Frank Taunner family.

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The 1885 Iowa Census, Crawford County <sup>24</sup> lists the following:

Stehlik, John	24	Farmer	Bohemia
, Ann	23		Bohemia
, Josephina	1		Iowa
Barta, Frank	62	Farmer	Bohemia
, Anna	60		Bohemia

At the time of the 1895 Iowa Census <sup>25</sup> they were living in Crawford County, Iowa. The Census lists the following:

Stehlik, John	34	farmer	Austria	Entitled to vote
, Annie	33	keeping house	Austria	
, Josie	11		Linn County, Iowa	
, Matilda	9		Crawford County, Iowa	
, Stanley	8		Crawford County, Iowa	
, Silvia	5		Crawford County, Iowa	
, Hannah	2		Crawford County, Iowa	

In 1906 they built a home northwest of Vail, Iowa and lived there the remainder of their lives. Their children included Josephine, (Mrs. Joseph Bukacek), Matilda, (Mrs. Hans Rasmussen), Stanley, Joseph, Sylvia, (Mrs. William Oscar Yankey), and John, Jr. John, Sr. and Anna Barta Stehlik are buried in the Vail Cemetery, Vail, Crawford County, Iowa. <sup>26</sup>

The 1900 Iowa Census, <sup>27</sup> dwelling # 113, family # 118 lists the following: John Stehlik, age 39, born in December 1860 in Bohemia, immigrated into the United States in 1877; Annie, age 37, born in July 1863 in Bohemia, immigrated into the United States in 1878; Mathilda, age 14, born in August 1886 in Iowa; Stanley, age 13, born in February 1887 in Iowa; Silva (Sylvia) age 10, born in January 1890 in Iowa; Annie, age 7, born in February 1893 in Iowa; John, age 3, born in July 1896 in Iowa; and Joe, age 9 months, born in August 1899 in Iowa. John Stehlik was renting his farm at this time. Living in the same household was a Bukacek, (Unknown first name), age 20, listed as a servant, and was born in Bohemia in February 1880. This individual immigrated to the United States in 1895 and could read and write but not speak English.

Joe Bukacek, age 23, lived with the Pachta family Dwelling # 112, Family # 117, and immigrated to the United States in 1891 from Bohemia. He later married Josephine Stehlik.

The 1910 Iowa Census <sup>28</sup> lists the following: W.O. Yankey, age 25, head of household; Flora (sister), age 36; Sarah C., age 55; and Noah, age 62.



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Photo provided by:  
Ruth Yankey Noels

**Back: Unknown men**

**L/R Front: Emma Risler Stehlik, Matilda Stehlik Rasmussen,  
Anna Stehlik Hindricksen, Sylvia Stehlik Yankey,  
Josephine Stehlik Bukacek (holding Stanley Bukacek)  
c. 1923**



**Sarah Sites Yankey  
Vail, Crawford County, Iowa  
c. 1945**



**Sarah Sites Yankey  
William Oscar Yankey  
Vail, Crawford County, Iowa  
c. 1945**

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**John Stehlik, Sr.**  
b. December 26, 1860  
m. February 1, 1883  
d. January 5, 1946

**Anna Barta Stehlik**  
b. July 27, 1861  
d. January 10, 1939

c. 1935

## John Sr. and Anna Barta Stehlik Children



**L/R: Stanley, Joseph, John Jr. Stehlik**  
c. 1920



**L/R: Josephine, Anna, Matilda, Sylvia Stehlik**  
c. 1920

**JOHANN to SYLVIA STEHLIK**



Photo taken at:  
John and Anna Barta Stehlik home  
Crawford County, Iowa

Photo provided by:  
Ruth Yankey Noeek

**Back row: Anna Barta Stehlik, John Stehlik, Sr.,  
Joseph Bukacek, Hans Hindricksen, William Oscar Yankey,  
Hans Rasmussen, Stanley Stehlik, John Stehlik, Jr., Blanche Bukacek,  
Joseph Stehlik, Josephine Stehlik Bukacek (partially hidden), Emma Riser Stehlik  
Second row: Sylvia Stehlik Yankey, Anna Stehlik Hindricksen, Matilda Stehlik Rasmussen,  
Marie Vivian Yankey, Lloyd Francis Yankey,  
Front: Vivian Rasmussen, Pearl Rasmussen, Stanley Bukacek, Edna Hindricksen,  
c. 1922-1923**



**John Sr. and Anna Barta Stehlik**



**Stehlik Cousins  
L/R: Stanley Bukacek, Edna Hindricksen,  
Vivian and Pearl Rasmussen  
Marie Vivian and Lloyd Francis Yankey**

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**Francis Joseph Stehlik Family**  
L/R: Francis, Michelle, Lori, Sharon, Olive Lacey Stehlik  
c. 1981



**Lillian Clausen Stehlik,  
Joseph (seated) and Wesley John Stehlik**  
c. 1965

Photos provided by:  
Wesley Stehlik  
Francis Stehlik



**Ruth Clausen Stehlik and  
John Stehlik, Jr.**  
c. 1964

The 1910 Iowa Census lists the following:

			Yrs.	Mar.		Immigration
Stehlik, John (Sr.)	head	49	27		Bohemia	1877**
, Barta*	wife	48	27		Bohemia	1878
, Matilda		24			Iowa	
, Stanley		23			Iowa	
, Sylvia		20			Iowa	
, Anna		17			Iowa	
, John		13			Iowa	
, Joe		10			Iowa	

\* "Barta" was Anna Barta Stehlik. \*\* John Stehlik, Sr. immigrated with his parents in 1876.

Living in Stockholm Township in 1910 was Laura and Wilson Judy, page 121, dwelling # 126, family # 127; Jacob and Annie Riggleman, page 194, dwelling # 58, family # 58; John and Annie Judy, page 195, dwelling # 85, and family # 85. All of these families were from West Virginia and associated with the Yankey families.<sup>29</sup>

The 1920 Iowa Census<sup>30</sup> lists the following:

Stehlik, John S.	60	Head	Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia
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, Meg Eva	59	Wife	Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia
, Stanley	33	Son	Iowa	Bohemia	Bohemia
, John	23	Son	Iowa	Bohemia	Bohemia
, Joe	10	Son	Iowa	Bohemia	Bohemia

At this time Anna (Barta) Stehlik was called Meg Eva and could read, write, and speak English. Their native language was Bohemian and they owned their farm.

The 1930 Iowa Census <sup>31</sup> lists the following:

Stellick, John	Head	69	Czech	Czech	Czech	Immigrated 1877
, Annie	Wife	68	Czech	Czech	Czech	Immigrated 1878
, John	son	32	Iowa	Czech	Czech	

In the 1930 Iowa Census <sup>32</sup> some of the Stehlik family members are recorded as Stellick (sic) including John, Sr. and Anna Barta Stehlik and Stanley, Emma, and Edward Stehlik. In discussing this name discrepancy with Francis Stehlik, son of Joseph Stehlik, he commented “*I was born in 1929 and never saw or heard of the Stehlik name spelled Stellick (sic).*” <sup>33</sup>

William Oscar and Sylvia Stehlik Yankey had two children born in Vail, Crawford County, Iowa. Lloyd was born December 22, 1910 and Marie Vivian was born October 14, 1912. The first two years of their married life they lived on a farm north of Vail, Iowa. Oscar, Sylvia, Lloyd, and Marie along with Noah and Sarah Yankey, his parents, moved to Ink, Polk County, Arkansas in 1912 where they lived for three years. Ink, Arkansas is west of Little Rock near the Arkansas-Texas border. A fire caused by a Warm Morning Stove destroyed their home. Noah and Sarah Catherine Crites Yankey returned to Denison, Crawford County, Iowa. The William Oscar Yankey family then moved to Sayre, Beckham County, Oklahoma located in the far southwestern corner of the state. On Christmas morning their home was once again destroyed due to a Warm Morning Stove. Lloyd was age 7 and Marie was age 5 in 1917 when they returned to Vail, Crawford County, Iowa.

The family lived south of Vail, Iowa and farmed and had a dairy. Marie Yankey Baker remembers carrying pails of milk from the barn to the cream separator in the house. Phillip Baker, grandson, remembers stacking hay with horses using a Jayhawk on their farm north of Vail, Iowa after William Oscar married Gladys Christensen in 1948. Oscar bought one of the very first Ferguson tractors with a hydraulic three-point hitch that were soon replaced by the very successful Ford 8N tractor. This three-point hitch revolutionized farm implement attachment to tractors forever.

Sylvia Stehlik had a cerebral hemorrhage on December 19, 1938 while on the way to Vail, Iowa from their farm south of Vail. She was taken to the home of her daughter, Marie Vivian Yankey Baker. She improved during the next week and it was thought that she would recover. On Saturday morning, December 24, 1938, she sustained another stroke and died suddenly with her daughter and son-in-law, Leonard Baker, at her bedside.

Her obituary further reports that “*Mrs. Wm. Oscar Yankey, aged 47, passed away at the home of*

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*her daughter, Mrs. Leonard Baker, on Saturday, Dec. 24, 1938. Her death was the result of a stroke.*

*Sylvia Stehlik was born in Stockholm Township, Crawford County, Iowa on January 30, 1891. She has spent most of her life in this vicinity with the exception of nearly six years which were spent from 1912 to 1917<sup>34</sup> in Arkansas and Oklahoma. She was united in marriage to William Oscar Yankey at Denison. To this union two children were born Lloyd Francis and Marie Vivian. For the first two years of their married life they lived on a farm north of Vail. Then with their children they moved to Ink, Ark. And three years later they moved to Sayre, Okla. In 1917 they returned to the vicinity of Vail where they have lived since resided and by hard work and careful planning built up their home.*

*Mrs. Yankey was taken suddenly ill on Monday evening, Dec. 19 on the way to Vail. She was taken to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Leonard Baker, where she suffered a stroke. Her condition improved and all hope for her recovery was renewed her family having done all they could to ease her suffering and made her comfortable. On Saturday morning she was stricken by another stroke and passed suddenly away with her daughter and son-in-law at her side.”*

*Another report is that “she was especially known as a home maker and lover of her home, and her years were spent in living ministrations for her loved ones. She will always be remembered with tender gratitude for her unselfish toil in behalf of her family and her parents whom she showed unusual affection and tireless effort to make their declining days happier. She was greatly devoted to her grandchildren: Phillip Baker and Myrna and Janet Loy Yankey. Every one will remember her for her kindness and consideration for others rather than for herself. She lived an unselfish life. Her industrious living and sacrificial labors of love have made her memory sweet. Her friends as well as loved ones will greatly miss her not because of her labors of love but for her quiet and sincere way of doing things that helped people along in thrift or trouble. Her hands were hardened in service for others but as tender in motherly touch as is common of true motherly love”.*

*Surviving members of her family are her husband, W. O. Yankey, two children, Lloyd and Mrs. Leonard Baker; and three grandchildren, Phillip Baker, Myrna and Janet Loy Yankey; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Stehlik; three brothers, Stanley, Joseph, and John Stehlik; three sisters, Josephine, Mrs. Joseph Bukacek; Matilda, Mrs. Hans Rasmussen; and Anna, Mrs. Hans Hendricksen.”<sup>35</sup>*

*Sylvia Stehlik died December 24, 1938 after suffering the second cerebral hemorrhage. Her funeral service was on Monday, December 24, 1938. Rev. Emery E. Zimmerman was in charge of the services in the Presbyterian Church. The music was from the Presbyterian Church choir under the direction of Mrs. W.H. Beck. The pallbearers were Aaron Hamblen, Raymond Dieter, Earl Harrington, Everett Crane, Theodore Hawley, and Charles Fisher. She was buried in the Vail Cemetery, Vail, Crawford County, Iowa.<sup>36</sup>*

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Phillip Leonard Baker, M.D.

Topeka, Kansas

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<sup>1</sup> A Retired farmer, miller, or cottager, was an older farmer that sold his house or farm to a new holder who was usually a relative. The new holder had to care for the former holders who were usually his parents or his in-laws. The care to be provided was carefully and academically recorded in detail. The stipulations might include living and heating in the household, care of animals, field management, and how the new holder would assist the older one.

<sup>2</sup> Church Record, Josef Stehlik and Joosefa Stursa, Church Records, catholic Parish, Snezne (Nemecke) 1843-1894. Present day city would be Nemecke, The Czech Republic

<sup>3</sup> Martin Pytr, personal communication and research, 2015

<sup>4</sup> Church Record, Josef Stehlik and Joosefa Stursa, Church Records, catholic Parish, Snezne (Nemecke) 1843-1894.

<sup>5</sup> Charles Stehlyk (Stehlik) Oath of Citizenship, Johnson County, Iowa, November 8, 1888

<sup>6</sup> *History of Linn County Iowa*, Luther Albertus Brewer and Barthinius Larson Wick, Vol. I, The Pioneer Publishing Co., Chicago, 1911, page 122

<sup>7</sup> *History of Linn County Iowa*, page 123

<sup>8</sup> *History of Linn County Iowa*, page 125

<sup>9</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bohemia>, 2007

<sup>10</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bohemia>, 2007

<sup>11</sup> 1880 Iowa Census, Linn County, Putnam Township, page 351 C

<sup>12</sup> Palmer List of Merchant Vessels: North Atlantic Seaway: *An Illustrated History of the Passenger Services linking the Old World with the New*, Bonsor, N.R.B., Vol. I, 392, Michael P. Palmer, 2000

<sup>13</sup> District of New York, Port of New York, Passenger Records, S. S. Wieland, June 28, 1876, Ancestry.com

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Palmer List of Merchant Vessels: North Atlantic Seaway: *An Illustrated History of the Passenger Services linking the Old World with the New*, Bonsor, N.R. B., Vol. I, page 392, Michael P. Palmer, 2000

<sup>16</sup> The penalty for excess passengers was one hundred and fifty dollars per passenger over the allow number

<sup>17</sup> *Between Deck-Steerage*, [www.norwayheritage.com](http://www.norwayheritage.com)

<sup>18</sup> Obituary, John Stehlik, Sr. , Vail Observer, 1946

<sup>19</sup> The actual date was February 1, 1883

<sup>20</sup> The names of three of the daughters are not known

<sup>21</sup> Grandmother of the author

<sup>22</sup> *Movers and Settlers: The Yankey Family*, Phillip L. Baker, MD, 2011

<sup>23</sup> 1880 Iowa Census, Linn County, Putnam Township, page 351 C

<sup>24</sup> 1885 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Stockholm Township, Section 34

<sup>25</sup> 1895 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Stockholm Township, dwelling 128, family 134

<sup>26</sup> Obituary, Mrs. John Stehlik, Sr., Vail Observer, Vail, Crawford County, Iowa, January 1939

<sup>27</sup> 1900 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Stockholm Township, page 114

<sup>28</sup> 1910 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Stockholm Township, page 199

<sup>29</sup> 1910 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Stockholm Township, page 121, 191, 195

<sup>30</sup> 1920 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Milford Township, page 28

<sup>31</sup> 1930 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Milford Township, page 22B

<sup>32</sup> 1930 Iowa Census, Crawford County, Milford Township, page 22B

<sup>33</sup> Francis Stehlik, personal communication with the author, December 2009

<sup>34</sup> Other family records list their return in 1915. 1915 was probably the date because Marie Yankey Baker reported starting school in Iowa at age 4 when her brother, Lloyd Yankey began his schooling. Marie would have been 4 in 1916

<sup>35</sup> Obituary, Sylvia Stehlik Yankey, January 1939

<sup>36</sup> The original biography was published in *Movers and Settlers: The Yankey Family*, 2011 and revised and expanded by the author in 2015