

**The Frederick Krause Family**  
**Submitted by Lynette Buchanan, Great-Granddaughter of Pauline Wallner, and**  
**Gayle Coyer, Great-Great Niece of Pauline Wallner**  
**Sacred Heart Settlement, Renville County**

In the spring of 1862, our German immigrant family with a group of extended families settled in the Sacred Heart Creek area in Renville County. The Krause family and niece Pauline were from Posen Province, Prussia, and had immigrated first to Marquette County, Wisconsin in 1857.

Our family members were Frederick Krause (“T. Krause” or “T. Krus” in most accounts), his wife Dorothea, son Fred Jr., 4, daughter Emma, 2, and their niece and foster-daughter Pauline Wallner, 12 (mis-noted as Frederick’s sister-in-law in most accounts). The Krause family were members of the German Evangelical Association church. In Wisconsin, they converted from Lutheran to Evangelical Association and often large groups of related families moved to new areas to settle and to start new congregations.

There was a congregation of the church in the Sacred Heart Creek area and a congregation in the Middle Creek area. On Sunday, August 17th, they held a joint service at one of the member’s homes and there were 130 people in attendance. By August 19th, almost 100 of these people had been killed and most of the rest had been taken captive. About 11 close family members of the Roesler and Henning families (called Horning in most accounts) were all killed. The wives of these families were sisters to Dorothea.

Our family was with what was known as the “Kitzman Party” of the Sacred Heart settlement, who were 13 families in 11 wagons who decided to travel east onto the prairie to escape, before turning southwest to Fort Ridgely. They were found by the Dakota and most of them were killed. Frederick Krause escaped to Fort Ridgely and Dorothea, Fred Jr., Emma and Pauline were taken captive. Dorothea, Fred Jr, and Emma were released at Camp Release. However, Pauline and another girl, Henrietta Nichols (who was also 12 years old), were still missing.

Dorothea said she wouldn’t leave the camp until Pauline was found. She and Henrietta were finally found about two weeks later in another Dakota camp. It’s unclear but it seems that they were found by soldiers who were looking for additional Dakota camps. This story is told in *Captured by the Indians*, by Minnie Buce [Busse] Carrigan, p. 34. We are still trying to locate information about where they were during this two-week time period.

A dispatch of Colonel Sibley in the St. Paul Pioneer Press, October 5, 1862, stated there were still 12-15 captives with the Indians. He stated they were being retained as the wives of Dakota men. Whether this is accurate or not, we don't know. The family was reunited at Fort Ridgely in October. Along with other refugees, they went to Fort Snelling for the winter. Frederick cut firewood for 25 cents a cord to make a living. Two-year old Emma died there in November.

The Krause family moved to Waseca County where they had five more children. Frederick suffered from mental illness after the tragic events, and in 1885 he was committed to the Rochester Insane Asylum where he lived for the rest of his life.

Pauline married Frederick Roeske and they had ten children. This next generation was mostly all farming families and they continued as members of the Evangelical Association church (which merged with the United Brethren church which merged with the Methodist Church).