

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Alek Steven Leonard Senator _____

Lived at Stanley, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 26 April 1958 Manchester, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Janette K. Berra 14 Oct 1989

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was a member of the Buchanan Court Farm Bureau

B. Civic responsibilities Chamber of Commerce; United Way; assistant fire chief with the Stanley Volunteer Fire Department

C. Profession Farmer; real estate appraiser

4. Church membership Catholic

5. Sessions served 77th 78th General Assemblies 1997-1998; 1999-2000

Here may be more info.

6. Public Offices

A. Local Member of the Adlai Stevenson Board;

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death _____

8. Children Three children were adopted when he married Janette - Anthony; Charles; Juliana Elizabeth; Michael John; Emily Renee

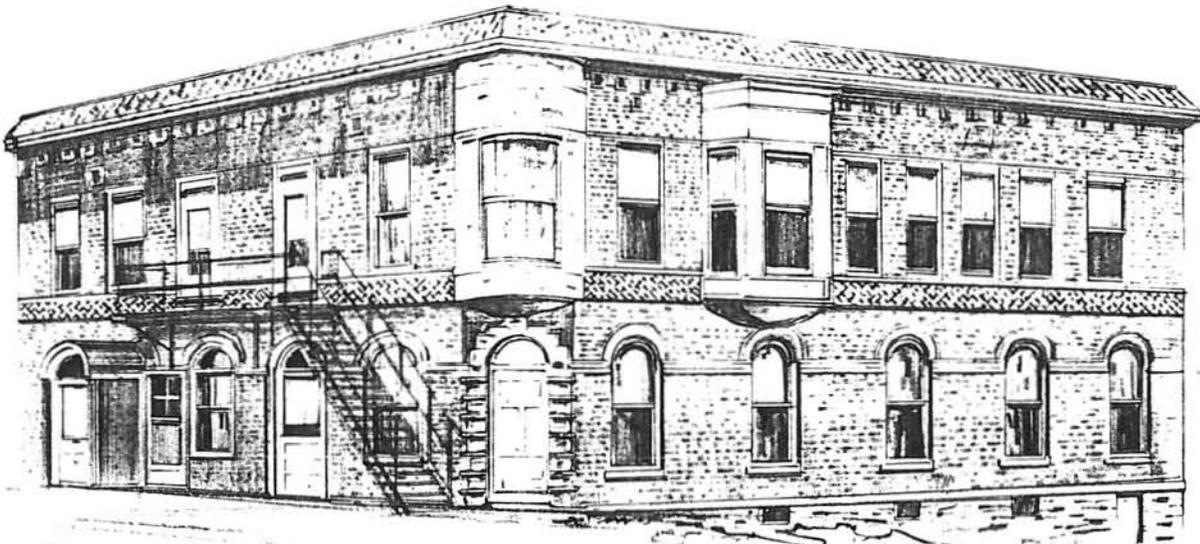
9. Names of parents Gerald Leonard and Inabel (Griffin) Alek

10. Education Graduate of the Delwain, Iowa High School, 1976

11. Degrees Graduate of Upper Iowa University, Fayette, Iowa,
in Political Science, 1980

12. Other applicable information _____

HERITAGE OF



*Fayette County Historical Society
& Fayette County Genealogical Society
West Union, Iowa*

FAYETTE COUNTY IOWA 1996

mother about 1880; and Karolin Anderson, (1874) who emigrated at 18 by herself from Norway, near Oslo. Myrtle attended ISU at Ames.

George was Elgin postmaster for several terms until 1933. He then went into business with his father, John, and brothers in John Falb & Sons auto dealers, and was a Chevrolet dealer for 50 years. In 1955 he bought out his brothers, Walter and John Jr. His son-in-law, Leo Lehman, joined the business in 1956 and took over when George retired. George was mayor of Elgin for 14 years in the 1940s, a member of Masons and Shriners, Lions Club, American Legion, Methodist Church and active in the Community Club. Myrtle was a member of Eastern Star and the Elgin Study Club. Their children are:

Georgana (1928) a graduate of SUI, who went to India with the Methodist Church, and married John Foster, professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Karolin (1932) married Leo Lehman, son of Max and Lillian Lehman, a Swiss descended family who were farmers south of Elgin. Leo became a partner and owner of John Falb & Sons auto dealers; Karolin is a retired kindergarten teacher spending 28 of her 30 years of teaching in the Valley Schools. They have four children: Kara Weigel (1953), husband Paul; reside in Woodward with daughter, Marah. Linda Cline (1955), husband Mike; farm near Elgin with children, Ryan, Cody, and Christy. LeAnn Larson (1956), husband Gary, and children, Nick and Abbie; Gary is in a farm operation and LeAnn is co-publisher of the Fayette County Union. Kris Whitchee, husband Merle and children Brooke and Kyle reside in Janesville.

Other children of the Falbs include:
Greta Burks (1936), is a resident of Waterloo.
John P. Falb (1937), a civil engineer, Bureau of Reclamation, Cody, Wyoming.

There were 14 grandchildren. George died 1985 and Myrtle in 1988.

Submitted by Georgana (Falb) Foster

JOHANN JACOB AND CATHERINA (WELTI) FALB

Johann and Catherina (Welti) Falb came to Fayette County from Landiswyl village, Berne Canton, Switzerland, in 1869, and lived on a farm in Brainard near Elgin, with their children, Mary, Anna, Rosetta and Louisa; John (1873) and Fred (1879) were born here. In about 1890 the family moved to Elgin. Johann died in 1901 at 62, and Catherina in 1925 at 89.

Rosetta and Louisa died in their thirties. Anna did not marry and lived in Elgin until her death in 1949.

Mary married Hans Keiser, a Swiss, in 1894; he was a music teacher and postmaster in Elgin (died 1936). Their daughter, Edith, married Claude Huisinga, a farmer in Aplington, Iowa, and son, Harry, was an MD in Florida. Mary died 1963 in Elgin.

In 1894, John Falb married Mary Walther (1872) of Elkader, daughter of Johann Walther, a wagonmaker, and Christine Kohlerman who emigrated from Eisenbach, Germany, in 1883. Their children: Amelia Stallbum; Linna (Mrs. Leroy) Smith; Emma (Mrs. Fred C.) Schultz and William Walther, who lived in Clayton County.

Fred Falb married Elizabeth Benson, Elgin, in 1900 and lived in LaCrosse, WI; son, Louis.

Submitted by Georgana (Falb) Foster

JOHN O. AND SARAH A. (MAHAN) FALB

John O. Falb purchased the West Union Motor Company in 1966. West Union Motor was later renamed John Falb Company. John is the son of John Falb, Jr. born in Elgin, Iowa, in 1909, and Honorine (Otley) Falb, born in Canton, Minnesota in 1908. She later moved to Fayette, Iowa, where she grew up. Sarah "Sally" (Mahan) Falb was born in Newton, Iowa. John and Sally moved to West Union in 1967 with



L to R: John O. and Sally Falb, Amy and Gregory Young, Kristan Falb and John R. Falb - October 1995

their children, John Robert Falb, born on October 7, 1961, and Kristan Anne Falb, born on April 13, 1964. Amy Elizabeth Falb was born on October 28, 1969, after the Falbs had moved to West Union.

The Falb family rented a duplex on East Elm Street until November 1971 when they moved into their newly constructed home at 604 North Vine Street where John and Sally still live. Sally Falb has been the Fayette County Economic Development executive director since July of 1990.

John Robert Falb graduated from North Fayette High School and the University of Iowa. He received his MBA from the University of Chicago and now lives in Iowa City, and is in banking. Kristan Anne Falb graduated from North Fayette Schools and the University of Iowa. She now lives in Thousand Oaks, California, and is in therapeutic recreation at a private hospital. Amy Elizabeth Falb graduated from the North Fayette Schools and Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. She now works at Rotary International in Evanston. She was married to Gregory Young on October 7, 1995, in West Union. They reside in the Chicago area.

John O. Falb is still the owner of John Falb Company, with dealerships in both West Union and Elgin.

Submitted by John and Sally Falb

JOHN AND MARY (WALTHER) FALB

John and Mary (Walther) Falb were married October 30, 1894, in Elkader, Iowa. Their children were Herbert (1898-1981), George (1899-1985), Marie (1901-1991), Walter (1903-1969) and John Jr. (1909-1980). John was a cattle buyer and a butcher for Falb's Meat Market, in a building he bought on Center Street, Elgin, in 1893 with his brother, Fred Falb, and in which the family still lives. Falb's Market continued in business by son, Herbert, and grandson, Leo, for more than 75 years.



Front: Walt, John Jr., John Sr. and Marie Falb; back: Mary (Walther), Herb and George

In 1912 he bought his first automobile, and later became a General Motors automobile dealer (John Falb and Sons, with Herbert, George, Wal-

ter) with branches in West Union and Guttenberg. John Jr. Falb operated Falb Motor Co. Postville for several decades. In the 1990s dealership in West Union, run by grand- John O. Falb, was combined with the Elgin garage as John Falb Co. John Falb Sr. also had farm implements.

In 1945 grandson, (Robert, son of Herbert) started a farm implement business on M Street, Elgin, now located in West Elgin, opened with his son, Roger Falb. John Falb Sr. was town marshal, a life long member of the Masonic Lodge, and his wife, the Eastern Star. He continued to farm around Elgin.

John and Mary's 4 children:
Marie, graduated from UIU, was a teacher married Emmet Morris who was a school administrator in Chicago area; daughter, Jean Williams.

Herbert, married Esther Feller, Elkader, was Falb's Market owner, liquor store manager, Elgin, and auto dealer, West Union; child: Leo and Robert.

Walter married Bernice Phillips, Postville, graduated UIU, was a teacher, auto dealer, leaser, sold insurance, and was president of Elgin School Board 25 years, children: Jane Whipple, Marilyn Larson, Kent.

John Jr. graduated from SUI, married Honorine Otley (died 1994), was an automobile dealer in Postville, on State Highway Commission; children: John O., Kathryn, Richard, Mary C.

Great-grandchildren in Fayette County include Larry Falb, Roger Falb, Elgin, and great-grandchildren Wendy, Shannon, Shane Falb, Elgin, and Tiffany (Falb) Kulshammer, West Union.

Mary Falb, expert German cook, died in 1960. John then married Mabel Holzer, Elgin. He died 1960.

Submitted by Georgana (Falb) Foster

WALTER AND BERNICE MARTHA (PHILLIPS) FALB

Walter Clarence Falb was born in Elgin June 7, 1903 to John and Mary (Walther). He graduated from Elgin High School and University of Iowa. On April 22, 1927 he married Bernice Martha Phillips in Postville, Iowa was born July 23, 1903. After teaching for a year, Walter joined his dad and brothers in Falb and Sons auto dealership. In the 1940s and Jim Bailey operated a GM dealership in Guttenberg. Walter was a Mason, member of the Community Club and president of the Elgin School Board for 25 years. After selling his car in the Elgin garage, he sold insurance and started an auto leasing business. He was an avid baseball player and fan and an Iowa Hawkeyes booster. Bernice was active in the OES, WSCS and Elgin Methodist Church, Elgin Study Club and the BATOFFE bridge club. Walter died July 1969 and Bernice Feb. 26, 1988. Both are buried in the Elgin Cemetery.

Their children are: Jane K., born 11/29/1907, married Jack C. Whipple, three children, grandchildren; Marilyn M., born 4/14/1910, married R. D. Larson, five children, nine grandchildren; and Kent P., born 6/24/1940, married Maxine B. Vlasak, two children. Both daughters taught school for 30 years. Kent has been a trainer for the Detroit Lions football team and active in the National Trainers Association.

Submitted by Jane Whipple

GERALD AND INABEL (GRIFFIN) FALB

Gerald Leonard Falck was the second son of Otto and Ethel (Hesner) Falck at La Fayette. Moved to a farm near Arlington then to present home near Aurora. Otto and Ethel lived on this farm for over 50 years and are enjoying it.



Gerald and Inabel Falck

Inabel (Griffin) Falck was born on a farm near Masonville, the fifth child of Walter and Hazel (Moorhouse) Griffin. Lived in the Masonville, Lamont and Stanley area where Walter Griffin lived until his death in 1968.

Jerry and Inabel Falck farmed most of their lives in Fayette County. They were married at the Stanley Union Church June 24th, 1951. At that time Jerry was working at the Coast to Coast store in Oelwein and Inabel was teaching at Hazleton. Later they started farming near Strawberry Point, then to a small farm near Aurora. Jerry went to college at Upper Iowa and after graduation started teaching in the Oelwein Community school system where Inabel had been teaching.

Moving to Stanley in 1967, they lived there until retirement in 1991.

They are the parents of four children. Janet (Falck) Freeman and husband, Dan, live in Worland, Wyoming, with son, Jacob. Janet is a graduate of Northern Iowa and at present working on her masters. She is in social work and Dan is assistant superintendent for the training school.

Steve and Janette (Serra) Falck live on the family farm with their four children, Tony 14, Joanna 11, Michael 9, and Emily 8. Steve has his BA and Janette is teaching at Upper Iowa working on her PHD.

Jodi (Falck) Muller and husband, Brian, have two children, Morgan 2 1/2 and Zackary 6 months. Jodi has her masters and is a speech pathologist for Area III working at the East Buchanan schools. Brian is a funeral director at Shelly's Funeral Home in Manchester and also works for Leonard Witt Funeral Home in Elkader.

Their son, Richard, is in the group home in Oelwein and is working for Goodwill. Inabel is on the Oelwein Goodwill Advisory Board and Jerry is president of the Alternative Living Corporation. A good many hours are spent as a volunteer for the handicapped.

Over the years they have been very active in their church and community and have enjoyed spending many hours serving on boards and committees.

Submitted by Inabel Falck

JOHN AND HERMINA (POST) FALCK

John A. Falck was born at Lamont, Iowa, on December 9, 1931, the son of Otto and Ethel (Hesner) Falck. He married Hermina Post at Altus, Arkansas, on April 7, 1956.

They purchased their present farm in Section 26 of Scott Township in 1966. John is a veteran of the Korean War and served from 1952-1954 in the United States Army. They are members of the Sacred Heart Church in Oelwein.

John and Hermina are the parents of two daughters and two sons, John Jr. (1961) and Kevin John (1964), both deceased in infancy.

Christi Marie, born August 31, 1958, married T. J. Stecklein June 14, 1986. They are the par-



John and Hermina Falck

ents of three sons: Zachary John, born December 7, 1987; Shawn Kenneth, born December 9, 1989; and Derek James, born March 2, 1992.

Carmen Lynn, born February 3, 1960, married Tim Jack June 21, 1980. They are parents of Amanda Renee, born March 14, 1981; and Adam Timothy born February 5, 1984. Carmen married Steven Kopf October 8, 1988. They are the parents of Stephanie Lynn, born September 2, 1990; and Sophie Marie, born May 14, 1992. Submitted by Hermina Falck

OTTO AND ETHEL (HESNER) FALCK

In 1852, 34 year old Lorenz Falck and his wife, Sally Glass, emigrated from their family village in Balbronn, Province of Alsace, Germany, with their young sons to America. Along with Lorenz Falck's young family was his younger brother, Jacob, and Sally's brother, Lorenz Glass.



Otto and Ethel Falck

They located in Iowa on a farm near Fort Atkinson, Winneshiek County, IA. The children of Lorenz Sr. are Lorenz Jr., Charles, Frederick, Mary, Elizabeth and Jacob.

Lorenz Jr. met and married Mollie Zelliott from Allegheny, PA. Their children were William, Caroline, Emma, Ida and Elizabeth. Lorenz Jr.'s wife, Mollie, died in childbirth with Elizabeth. Lorenz later married Anna Falck and

they had 11 children: Sophia, Fred, Theodore, Charles, Walter, Margaret, Saloma, Walter, Freda, Leon and Lydia.

William C. Falck, son of Lorenz Jr., started farming for himself on an 80 acre farm near St. Sebald west of Strawberry Point. On October 13, 1897, he married Anna Emilie Sophie Wolf of Aurora. They had 11 children: Elsie, Emilie, Dorothy, Lydia, Lewis, Helene, Otto, Erma, Myra and Carl; (one died in infancy).

Otto L. Falck, son of W. C. Falck, was born in Fayette County, November 2, 1908. He married his high school sweetheart, Ethel Hesner, May 5, 1928. They began farming near Lamont. They moved to the farm, where they currently reside, in March 1940.

Otto and Ethel raised five sons and one daughter. William "Bill", born July 27, 1929, married Sharon Lee (Sharff) June 29, 1958. Gerald, born August 20, 1930, married Inabel (Griffin) on June 24, 1951. John, born December 9, 1931, married Hermina (Post) on April 7, 1956. James, born February 4, 1935, married Ruth (Christopherson) May 4, 1963, divorced 1993, married Velma (Bienfurg) July 30, 1994. Robert, born September 21, 1939, married Sandra (Lunn) October 16, 1964. Marcia, born May 20, 1945, married Lucian Angelo October 24, 1970, divorced 1978. Married David Haier June 5, 1987.

Submitted by Steven Falck

STEVEN AND JANETTE SERRA-FALCK

Steven L. Falck and Janette K. Serra met on July 5, 1989, at Driver's Improvement School in Waterloo, Iowa. Within seventeen days they were engaged and on October 14, 1989, they were wed at the Stanley Union Church at 1:30 by Pastor Timothy Stewart.

Steve became an instant father of four children: Anthony "Tony" Charles (9), JoAnna Elizabeth (6), Michael John (4), and Emily Rene (3). All five moved in with Steve on the Morgan farm. In November 1992, they moved to the home place 1/2 mile east of Stanley.

On August 10, 1992, Steven legally adopted the children at the court house in West Union. In court Steven proclaimed to the children, "In this world I have two things that mean the most to me, Janette, my wife, and you, my children, and my name—of which I'm deeply honored to be able to share with you."

Steven is a graduate of political science at Upper Iowa University and a sixth generation farmer. He also raises llamas. Steve is a member of the Oelwein School Board, a religious educator and youth group leader for Sacred Heart Church, a coach for little league, a member of the Exchange Club, and assistant fire chief with the Stanley Volunteer Firefighters.

Janette is an assistant professor of psychology at Upper Iowa University. She is working on her Ph.D. at Drake University. Janette is a youth group leader and a volunteer at the grade schools.

Tony is a 4.0 student and a four sport athlete. He plays the baritone and the piano. JoAnna is on the honor roll and plays the drums. She also sews and likes to perform in plays. Michael is a collector of many things. He loves sports and plays the piano. Emily plays the piano and enjoys reading.

Submitted by Steven Falck

ELMER AND GEORGIA (GRANT) FARR

Elmer and Georgia (Grant) Farr came to Fayette County in the early 1900s to a farm northeast of Waucoma from Vernon County, WI.

Their children were Carol, Clifford and Donald E.; Ralph died in infancy.

Carol was a school teacher and later married Fritz Krause; they farmed near Renwick, IA.

Clifford, a buttermaker, married Jessie Brooks of Ottumwa, IA. Their daughter, Martha (Farr) Pittman, resides in Pittsburgh PA.