Descendants of Johannes Riedesel

Generation 1

1. **Johannes**[1] **Riedesel** was born on October 15, 1842 in Wunderthausen. He died on October 15, 1891 in Blue Mounds, Dane, Wisconsin (Union Cemetery, Milwaukee). He married **Maria Katharine Lauber**, daughter of Johannes Lauber and Maria Elisabeth Homrighausen, on January 20, 1869 in St Louis, Missouri. She was born on January 14, 1848 in Wunderthausen. She died between 1912–1919 in Probably Milwaukee.

Notes for Johannes Riedesel:
Known as John. Born in Känels house in Wunderthausen. He was the fourth of five known children of Johannes and Florentine (Ruppert) Riedesel who lived in the house then known as Känels. The family poor even by the local standards. Came to New York on the ship "Union" from Bremen on October 21, 1867. On the same ship was a 19-year-old Maria Lauber and several others with Wittgenstein names. Johannes Riedesel and (Maria) Katharine Lauber were married in St. Louis in 1869. They apparently lived there until sometime around 1880 when they moved to Milwaukee. At the time of his suicide death in 1891, he had been working as a plasterer. The registration of his death references a "Union Cemetery" as his place of burial; I have not found a gravesite for him or other family members. There may have been no money.

The record of their children is far from clear. I don't find any documentation on Kitti or Louisa. By implication they were alive in 1900 according to the 1900 Census. I cannot locate an 1880 Census record. A birth and death of a daughter Lena Emma (1878-1880) is recorded, yet another Lena Riedesel from this family went on to marry and have children, and she was almost the same age.

Notes for Maria Katharine Lauber:
Born in Hohmanns house in Wunderhausen. Came to New York on the ship "Union" from Bremen on October 21, 1867. She was 19 at the time. On the same ship was a 20-year-old Johann Riedesel and several others with Wittgenstein names. They lived in Missouri for several years but moved ot Milwaukee some time in 1880. She is listed in a 1912 Milwaukee city directory but not in the 1919 edition. The 1900 Census says she had five living children at the time; that implies the two oldest whose names we have (Kitti/Catherine and Louisa) were alive but I can find nothing more about them.

Johannes Riedesel and Maria Katharine Lauber had the following children:

i. Kitti[2] Riedesel was born about 1869.

Notes for Kitti Riedesel:
She is named as a living sibling at the time of the birth of her sister, Mathilda in 1883. Kitti is almost certainly a nickname (for Catherine?).

ii. Louisa Riedesel was born about 1870.

Notes for Louisa Riedesel:
She is named as a living sibling at the time of the birth of her sister, Mathilda in 1883.

iii. Infant Riedesel was born about 1874. He died on June 27, 1874 in St Louis, Missouri.

2. iv. Lena Riedesel 1st was born about 1877. She died in 1961. She married **John L.Schmidt** He was born about 1867 in Mecklenburg, Germany. He died after 1940.

Notes for Lena Riedesel 1st:
I am guessing that this Lena and Lena Emma were twins. The latter definitely died in 1880, but when sister Mathilda was born in 1883, the record lists another Lena as "living issue" of the family. It appears that Lena was employed in 1900 as a servant in a Milwaukee family.

v. Lena Emma Riedesel 2nd was born on December 20, 1878 in Missouri. She died on November 05, 1880 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

vi. Louis William Riedesel was born on March 31, 1881 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He died in January 1968 in Wisconsin.

Notes for Louis William Riedesel:
As of his 1936 Social Security application, he was employed by "Emil Klug" in Milwaukee, and it says that he was born in Milwaukee.

I think he is the Louis Riedesel in the 1920 Census living in Milwaukee with the J. L. Smith family. His status was as the "brother in law." The wife of J. L. Smith is named Lena and her birthplace is clearly given as Missouri. Both Louis and Lena list "West Phalia" as the birthplace of both parents. Lena's age was 42 so she is a few years older. This suggests that the parents lived in Missouri (probably St. Louis) before coming to Wisconsin. The 1920 Census schedule is blurry as to his place of birth.

He apparently never married.

3. vii. Mathilda Wilhelmia Ida Riedesel was born on June 06, 1883 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She died on April 18, 1957 in Sheboygan, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, United States of America. She married **Harry Albert Barber** on May 09, 1908 in Milwaukee. He was born on July 01, 1880 in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, United States of America. He died on April 15, 1967 in Hartland, Waukesha County, Wisconsin.

Generation 2

2. **Lena**[2] **Riedesel 1st** (Johannes[1]) was born about 1877. She died in 1961. She married **John L.Schmidt** He was born about 1867 in Mecklenburg, Germany. He died after 1940.

Notes for Lena Riedesel 1st:
I am guessing that this Lena and Lena Emma were twins. The latter definitely died in 1880, but when sister Mathilda was born in 1883, the record lists another Lena as "living issue" of the family. It appears that Lena was employed in 1900 as a servant in a Milwaukee family.

Notes for John L.Schmidt:
Known as Smith in America.

John L.Schmidt and Lena Riedesel 1st had the following children:

i. Isabella Vida Mathilda[3] Smith was born on October 29, 1904 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She married an unknown spouse about 1904.
ii. Lewis A. Smith was born about 1910 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
iii. Edwin Smith was born about 1912 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
iv. Harry Smith was born about 1913 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
v. Nelson Harry Smith was born on September 10, 1914 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He died on July 02, 2005 in Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

3. **Mathilda Wilhelmia Ida**[2] **Riedesel** (Johannes[1]) was born on June 06, 1883 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She died on April 18, 1957 in Sheboygan, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, United States of America. She married **Harry Albert Barber** on May 09, 1908 in Milwaukee. He was born on July 01, 1880 in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, United States of America. He died on April 15, 1967 in Hartland, Waukesha County, Wisconsin.

Harry Albert Barber and Mathilda Wilhelmia Ida Riedesel had the following child:

i. Beryl[3] Barber was born about 1911.