

**Col. Friedrich Hecker - Summerfield
Illinois Cemetery
Information Marker**

PART 3

**Pictures from the September 2026
Dedication with a representative group
from Hecker's hometown in Germany**















FRIEDRICH HECKER
GEB.
28. Sept. 1811
GEST.
24. Mär.
1881
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1881

Friedrich Hecker
Sept. 7 - 14. 2025
Visit of the German
Hecker Delegation
to the USA
Fighting for Liberty





SEEWALD

FREDERICK SEWALD
BORN MAY 24, 1867
DIED SEPT 22, 1907

SEWALD

SEWALD

FURTHER READING
 (1) *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 45, 12, 1653-1660 (2006)
 (2) *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 45, 12, 1653-1660 (2006)

**COLONEL
HECKER
GRAVE**



11-1881)

was wounded at the Battle of
time to rejoin his regiment at
led the 3rd Brigade, XI Corps,
titanoga Campaign.

Colonel Hecker was honorably
Army in March 1864 and returned
After the war, he remained an influential
writing and lecturing on politics and
audiences especially loved his impassioned

giant tree with broadly spreading
a shadow under whose protection
human happiness flourish. Three
principle of unity and liberty for all
stars and stripes, the symbol of
ankind!"

Friedrich Hecker
uttgart, Germany

his ardent
two



Hecker speaking at the Second Chamber,
Grand Duchy of Baden, in 1848.
Friedrich Hecker Papers, Manuscript
Manuscripts, University of Michigan



COLONEL HECKER GRAVE



GRAVE



FRIEDRICH HECKER (1811-1881) *A Voice for Liberty*

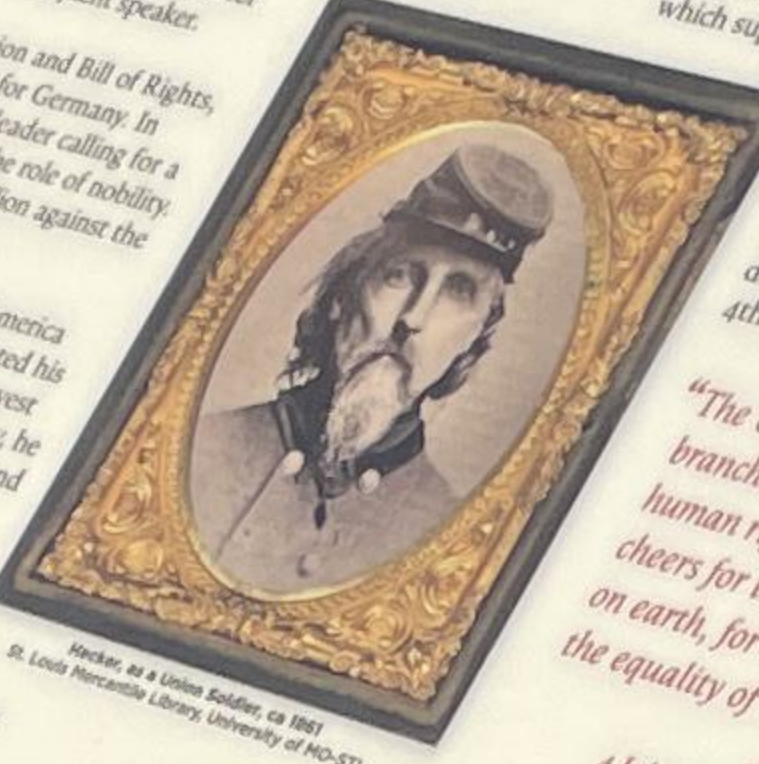


A man of principle, Friedrich Karl Franz Hecker fought for democracy and freedom in both Germany and America. Born in Eschborn, Germany to an educated and distinguished family, Hecker studied history and earned a law degree in his early twenties. In 1842 he was elected to the Baden State Assembly where he made a name for himself as a charismatic and eloquent speaker.

Reversing America's Constitution and Bill of Rights, Hecker sought the same ideals for Germany. In March 1848 he was a prominent leader calling for a democratic government, reducing the role of nobility. In April, he led a general armed rebellion against the Baden government.

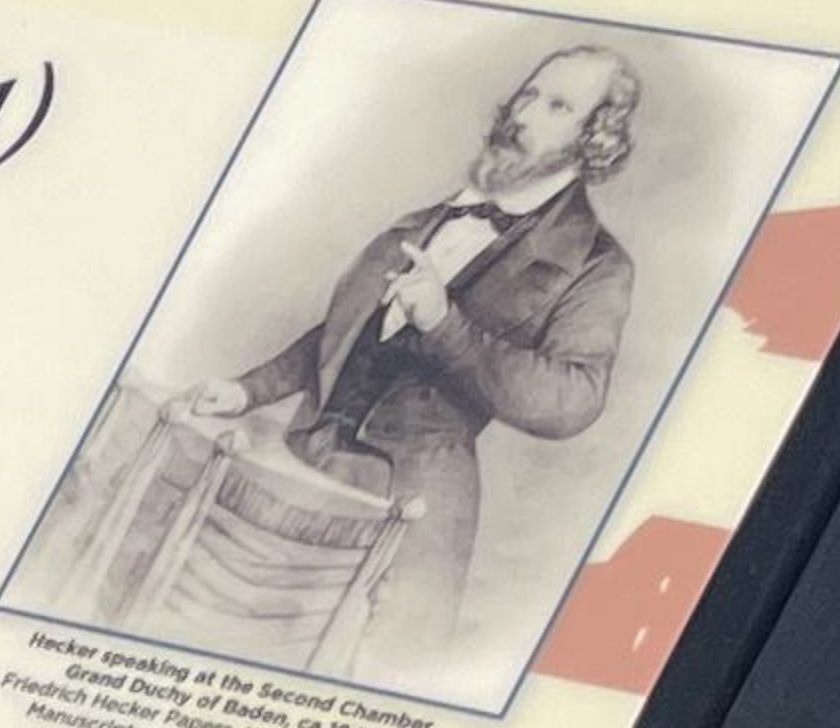
When this revolt failed, Hecker fled to America under a charge of treason. Thousands greeted his arrival in New York that October. Traveling westward near St. Louis, in Summerfield, Illinois, he quickly won widespread fame for his speeches, writings, and political activity. As a nationalist leader of the German-American community, he helped form the emerging Republican Party. Like other German political refugees and former revolutionaries of the time, he was known as a Forty-Eighter.

During the Civil War, Hecker's opposition to slavery and commitment to democracy led him to enter at age 50 in the Union Army. Initially serving in the 4th Missouri Regiment, he saw action in the Camp Jackson Affair. Hecker subsequently rose to the rank of Colonel, commanding first the 24th and then the 32nd Illinois regiments.



Hecker is remembered for his ardent defense of democracy and his patriotism to two countries: Germany in 1848 and the United States in 1861. These dates are inscribed on the sides of the Penion Park monument, erected by the German-American community the year after Hecker's death to honor his devotion to liberty and the ideals of the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights.

While rallying his troops, Hecker was wounded at the Battle of Chancellorsville. He recovered in time to rejoin his regiment at Gettysburg. Hecker later commanded the 3rd Brigade, XI Corps, which supported troops in the Chattanooga Campaign.



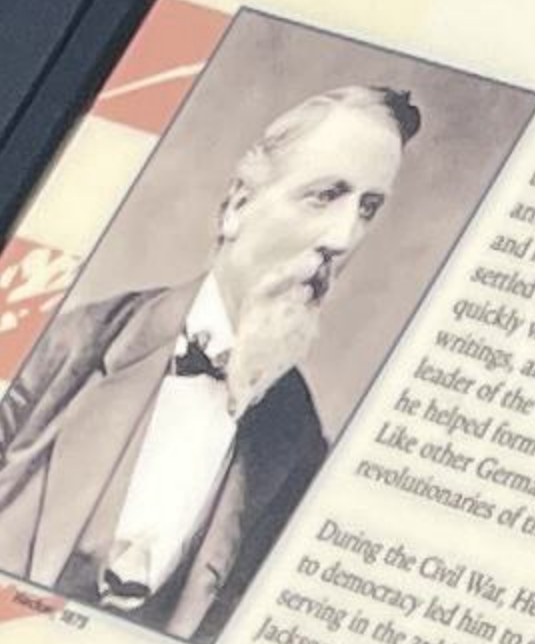
Hecker speaking at the Second Chamber, Frankfurt Diet of Baden, ca. 1848

"The Union [is] a giant tree with broadly spreading branches, casting a shadow under whose protection human rights and human happiness flourish. Three cheers for the principle of unity and liberty for all on earth, for the stars and stripes, the symbol of the equality of mankind!"

—Friedrich Hecker
4 July 1873 Stuttgart, Germany



Hecker monument, Summerfield, Illinois



Visiting Hecker

Hecker's grave is located in the St. Louis Mercantile Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri. The grave is marked by a tall, dark, rectangular gravestone with a decorative top.

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FURTHER READING

Frederick, Susan. *Friedrich Hecker: Two Lives for Liberty*. St. Louis: St. Louis Mercantile Cemetery, 2006.

No name was listed through a transcription of the Civil War records. American-American Heritage Press, and members of the Hecker family. Copyright © 2012 by the American-American Heritage Press, St. Louis.



COLONEL
HECKER
GRAVE
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FRIEDRICH HECKER (1829-1883)
A Hero for Liberty

Hecker was a German immigrant who became a prominent figure in the American Civil War. He was a member of the German American League and was known for his leadership in the 1848 Revolutions. He was also a member of the German American League and was known for his leadership in the 1848 Revolutions.

LAUER

SEEWALD

SEEWALD

SEEWALD



FRIEDRICH HECKER
GEB.
28. Sept. 1811.
GEST.
24. März 1881.
FRIEDRICH HECKER
GEB.
28. Sept. 1811.
GEST.
24. März 1881.





FRIEDRICH HECKER

GEB.

28. Sept. 1811.

GEST.

24. März 1868

JOSEPHINE

GEBNE EISENHARDT

FRAU VON

FRIEDRICH HECKER

GEB.

7. Mai 1821

GEST.

HECKER

In
Ehrerbietung
Gemeinde
Angeltachtal

von
Vorkämpfer
für die
Freiheit

GOL.
THEODOR
SZABO

Friedrich Hecker



Sept. 7 - 14, 2025
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Hecker Delegation
to the USA

Fighter for Liberty



Mrs. William F.
HECKER III
BORN FEB. 1945
DIED FEB. 5, 2005
WILLIAM F.
HECKER SR.
BORN FEB. 22, 1916
DIED NOV. 10, 2004

HAROLD F. HECKER
BORN DEC. 19, 1926
DIED FEB. 4, 1996
ANNA SPRANE HECKER
WIFE OF
HAROLD F. HECKER
BORN JUNE 15, 1889
DIED SEPT. 3, 1955

FRIEDRICH HECKER
GEB.
28. Sept. 1811.
GEST.
24. März 1865.

JOSEPHINE
DEBNE EISENHARDT
FRAU VON
FRIEDRICH HECKER.
GEB.
7. Mai 1820
GEST.





LAUER

BETTIE
MAR. 14, 1879
OCT. 15, 1957

DAVID
FEB. 23, 1874
DEC. 23, 1935

KATHERINE SEEWALD
1843 - 1949

KATHARINE SE
BORN
FEB. 2, 1822
DIED MAR. 29,
JOHN P. SEEW
BORN SEPT. 8,
DIED APR. 23, 1

SEEWA



FRIEDRICH HECKER
GEB.

28. Sept. 1811.

GEST.

24. März 1888.

JOSEPHINE

GEBNE EISENHARDT

FRAU VON

FRIEDRICH HECKER.

GEB.

7. Mai 1821.

GEST.

4. JULI 1916.

ALEXANDER HECKER

GEB. 2. MÄRZ 1854

GEST. 27. NOV. 1905

ERNEST HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1856

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 4. MÄRZ 1858

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1860

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1862

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1864

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1866

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1868

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905

JOSEF HECKER

GEB. 1. APRIL 1870

GEST. 1. APRIL 1905



FRIEDRICH HECKER
GEB.
28. Sept. 1811.
GEST.
24. März 1881.

JOSEPHINE
GEBNE EISENHARDT
FRAU VON
H. HECKER.
GEB.
1821.
ST.
1916.

In
Ehrerbietung
der
Gemeinde
Ansbach

COL.
FRIEDRICH HECKER
1811-1881