

# Our Family News Letter

Issue 7

Greendale, Wisconsin

December, 1994

## Don and Sharon Heck become genealogical researchers in Connecticut!

During a recent trip to Connecticut to see their son Steve, Don and Sharon Heck took up the challenge to help out with some of our family research. I had asked if they and/or Steve could check some records at Voluntown, Connecticut, and perhaps look through a few cemeteries in the area.

Voluntown is a relatively short distance from Groton where Steve Heck lives and works as a research chemist for Pfizer.

Our research into the Burgess side of our family indicated that Benajah Burgess, son of John Burgess, may have lived in Voluntown in the late 1700's. This was like looking for a needle in a haystack. Chances of them finding anything was rather slim.

Don and Sharon spent several hours walking through cemeteries but without much luck. While checking at an archives however they really hit a gold mine of information. They found a land transfer record from December 25, 1787, in which John Burgess transferred land in Voluntown to his son Benajah Burgess for the sum of six hundred pounds. Witnesses to the transaction included a brother and a sister of Benajah.

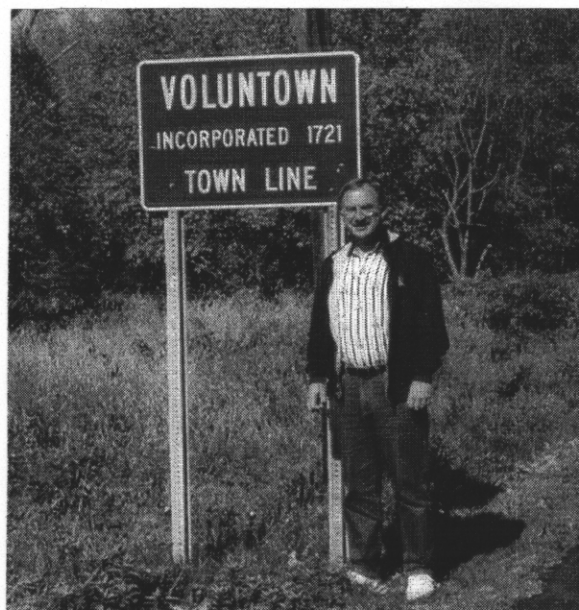
While Don and Sharon were bit by the genealogy bug, they didn't quite catch the "disease." Sharon said later that it was a lot of fun but that she and Don really didn't know what they were looking for.

Just so you know how John and Benajah Burgess relate to Don, the following chart is presented:

John Burgess (1710 - 1795)  
Benajah Burgess (1761 - 1830)  
Benjamin Burgess (1799 - 1836)  
Patience Burgess (1823 - 1894)  
Mary Ann McNulty (1844 - 1912)  
Robert Steven Heck (1879 - 1923)  
Robert Gerald Heck (1909)  
Donald Gerald Heck (1945)

A transcript of the land transfer record is on the last page of this news letter. Can you imagine trying to find that land today considering the way that it was described in 1787?

We know from the land record that John Burgess was not able to read or write or to even sign his own name. He used his "seal" to legalize the document in place of a signature. His seal was a hand drawn face.

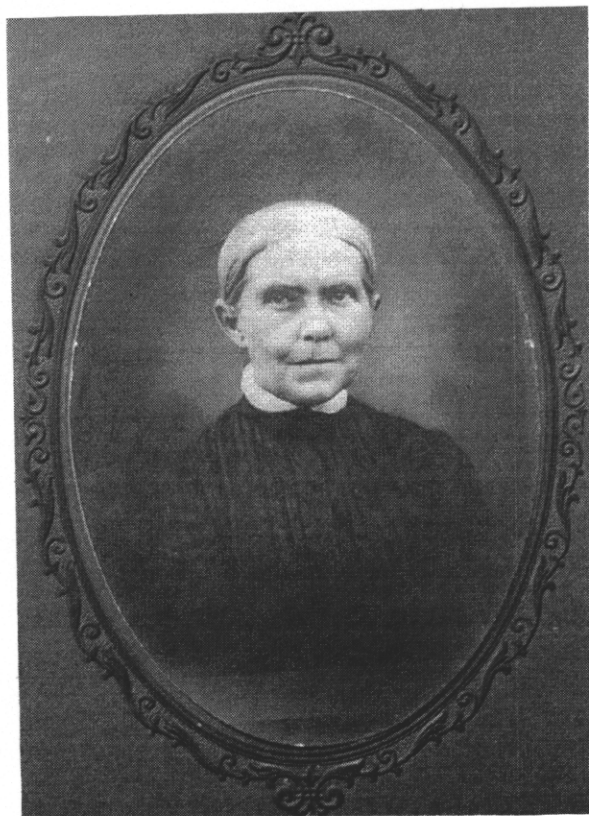


Don Heck at Voluntown, Connecticut, 1994

## Meet Mary Ann McNulty Heck 1844 - 1912

Mary Ann McNulty was born at Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin on March 11, 1844. She was the second child of Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess. Mary Ann had six brothers and five sisters. Two of her brothers died at an early age and her younger sister Julia was killed at the age of five from a blow to the head by a thrown rock.

By 1850 Mary Ann was living with her family in the town of Pike in Kenosha County. By 1860 the McNulty family was living on a farm about a half mile south of St. Francis Xavier Catholic church at Brighton. The farm was on the same road as the church. The land is still being farmed today, but all that remains of the original farm house is part of the foundation.



**Mary Ann McNulty Heck**

On January 16, 1869, Mary Ann McNulty was married to Civil War veteran, Henry Heck at St. Francis Xavier church in Brighton

Among other places, Mary Ann and Henry lived in Dover, Kansasville, and Burlington, all in Racine County, Wisconsin. She must have been a patient person to have put up with Henry and his get rich quick schemes over the years. She stood by him when he gave up farming to become a saloon keeper in Kansasville. That escapade only lasted a few months, but Henry doubled his money in that time. You can almost hear Henry in his German accent telling her, "Sees Du! Ich told you so."

The picture of Mary Ann at left was probably taken about 1900. The studio photograph was found in a suitcase in a barn in Waterford along with other pictures owned by Lizzie Heck Plucker, daughter of Mary Ann and Henry Heck.

Mary Ann died on April 7, 1912 at Burlington. Her obituary follows:

*"Death came as a relief to end the sufferings of Mrs. Henry Heck, who died at her home in Burlington on Sunday morning, aged 68 years. She was afflicted with cancer and for years had been a patient sufferer but bore the affliction with true christian fortitude. Mrs. Heck was born in Somers, Kenosha county, and her maiden name was Mary McNulty. She was a loving, dutiful wife, a devoted mother, a kind neighbor and one respected and esteemed by all. The past sixteen years the family resided in Burlington but prior to that lived in Dover and Brighton and have many acquaintances and friends. Besides the aged husband five sons and three daughters mourn her loss, viz: Robert and Matt, of Racine; Lawrence, of Milwaukee; John, of Waterford; James Heck, Mrs. Alfred Plucker, Mrs. A. Grosstueck and Miss Eva Heck, of Burlington. The funeral was held from St. Charles church at Burlington yesterday"*

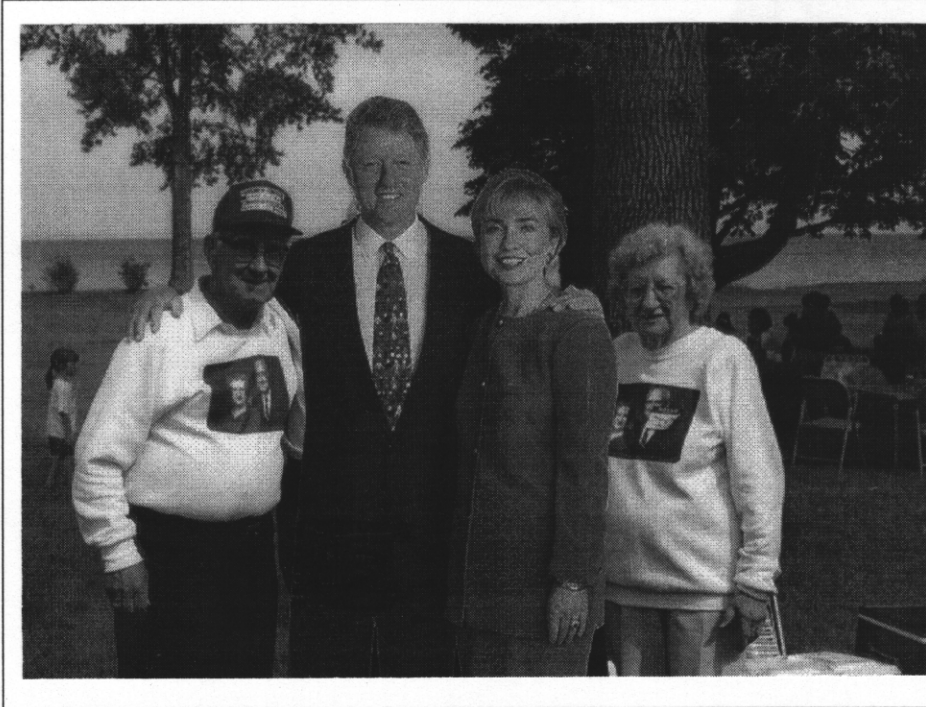
Mary Ann McNulty Heck is buried beside her husband at the St. Mary's cemetery, Burlington, Wisconsin.

**This newsletter is written and published  
by Robert J. Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive,  
Greendale, WI 53129 Phone (414) 421-7143**

## Bill and Hillary Clinton Visit Racine To Ask Bob Heck's Advice On How To Run The Country!

Hillary promptly reminded Bill that he was speaking to the master of the house.

Bill excused himself and asked if he could PLEEEEEEASE speak to Robert G. (Bob) Heck.



At that point Bob Heck walked into the room with his work clothes on. He was dressed in black slacks covered with a multitude of colored paint splatters from years of painting. His shirt carried an old moose emblem on the shoulder, which matched the color of his tie.

The tie took Bill and Hillary by surprise to say the least. After Bill regained his composure he asked Bob if he could spare a few minutes to help him get the country back on the road to recovery.

Dateline: Racine, WI -- Bob Heck, retired Alderman of the 7th District, was surprised recently when a large black limousine pulled up to 1306 Jones Avenue. Three Secret Service agents got out and opened the rear door. Bill and Hillary Clinton stepped out and briskly made their way up the steps to the front door. After seeing the sign to use the rear door they walked down the steps, turned the corner and made their way to the side door.

With great trepidation they ignored the signs warning of a vicious dog, and rang the door bell. Mary Heck answered the door and invited the Clintons in. She promptly offered them original Bohemian Kolaches covered with powdered sugar.

Hillary sat there at the kitchen table with a ring of powdered sugar surrounding her mouth while Bill asked Mary if the master of the house was available to help save America from doom and disaster.

They were just about to enter the Heck Oblong Office decorated in a 1959 motif when Mary suggested that they all go to Heck Park for some pictures. Bill thought that the country could wait and agreed.

The sun was at a steep angle and cast shadows on their faces so it was necessary to use flash attachments.

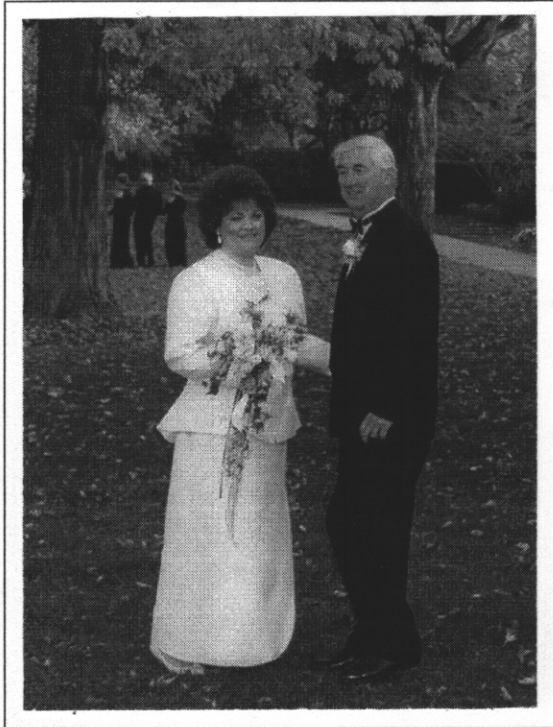
Just as the flash bulb went off.... Mary threw the light switch and told Bob, "Wake Up! Wake Up! It's time to take the garbage out!"

Dreams are neat except when they are interrupted at the wrong time. Just think Dad. Just five more minutes and America could have been saved.

If you have a story to tell about your family why not share it with the rest of us? Then I won't have to make up a story like this one.



## Gary Heck Weds Carol Brack...



On the evening of October 21, 1994, Gary Michael Heck was married to Carol Jean Brack in a candlelight ceremony at St. John's Chapel, DeKoven Foundation, Racine, Wisconsin.

The Maid of Honor was Linda Schneider, sister of the bride, and Bridesmaids were: Traci and Jodi Brack, daughters of the bride, Cindy Landrum and Lee Heck, daughters of the groom, and Sheila La-Pour, friend of the bride.

The Best Man was Bob Heck, brother of the groom, and the Groomsman was Don Heck, brother of the groom.

The chapel was decorated with flowers and candles which provided a memorable setting for the ceremony. The chapel had stained glass windows that were dated 1845. Those who attended the service got to experience first hand what it was like to sit in an early English style pew. The pews, which faced the center aisle, were straight backed and very narrow.

Carol and Gary held a reception in the Great Hall following the ceremony. The Great Hall, which was built during the time of the Civil War, was creatively decorated by the wedding party the night before.

Carol and Gary left the following day for a honeymoon in Door County, Wisconsin. You can write to the newlyweds at 345 Chickasaw Dr., Westminster, SC, 29693.

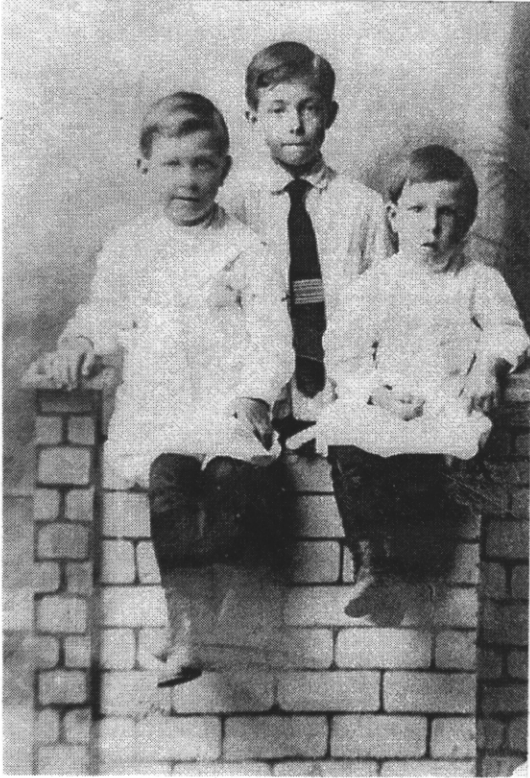


## Meet your cousins...

...Cindy Landrum with her sister Lee Heck and Cindy's children, John Theron Landrum and Pamela Joan (PJ) Landrum. Cindy and her husband, Dennis, live in West Pelzer, South Carolina. Lee lives in Milwaukee. This picture was taken at Wind Point, Wisconsin in October, 1994. John and PJ are great grandchildren of Robert G. and Mary A. Heck of Racine.



## From the photo album...



L-R: Robert G., Clarence, and Alvin Heck about 1913 at Racine, WI



The wedding of John Heck and Anna Koetterhagen about 1898 at Waterford, WI. Standing L-R: Lizzie Heck, Ben and Emma Koetterhagen, and James Heck.



L-R: Don and Bob Heck on a typical day of golf. Bob was playing his second shot out of the parking lot while Don served as caddy. Both earned honors for "Best dressed golfers of 1994".



Fred Henningfeld, son of Henry and Clara Henningfeld

**Descendants of Henry Heck listed by birthday.**  
(Age is shown as the age on their last birthday in 1994)

January

2 Ronald John Heck Age: 45  
3 David Andrew Heck Age: 25  
7 Justin Einer Age: 25  
10 Mary Elizabeth Bark Age: 9  
11 William Scott Heck Age: 23  
15 James R. Jensen Age: 41  
15 Debra Sandberg Age: 37  
16 Samuel J. Bark-Ladach Age: 10  
17 Lindsey Susan Bark Age: 14  
18 Gary Michael Heck Age: 56  
18 Jenny Lyn Pfeiffer Age: 6  
22 Karen M. Heck Age: 31  
28 Daniel Paul Pfeiffer Age: 35  
29 Jean Marie Koenen Age: 55  
30 Dolores Mary Gibson Age: 60  
30 Heidie Bortman Age: 11  
31 Edward James Bark Age: 46

February

1 Kurt Weiss Age: 31  
2 Alvin James Heck Age: 83  
3 Christine Merritt Age: 4  
3 Keeghan Starr Age: 4  
4 Marjorie Doris McGhee Age: 29  
4 John Matthew Suchla Age: 28  
6 Patricia Berger Age: 48  
6 John Robert Bedessem Age: 27  
6 Sherry Lynn Heck Age: 26  
7 Susan Marie Bark Age: 34  
10 Herbert W. Heck Age: 55  
11 Jr. Lester Jr. Frenz Age: 51  
13 Alan Thompson Age: 48  
14 Mary Elizabeth Kyburz Age: 37  
17 Barbara Ann Heck Age: 54  
17 Lynda Jean Rick Age: 27  
18 John Theron Landrum Age: 7  
19 Jodene Pfeiffer Age: 31  
20 Cara Lynn Pfeiffer Age: 32  
21 Ronald P. Mundt Age: 27  
22 Stephen J. Pier Age: 30  
22 Ginger Shane Age: 15  
23 Susan Lynn Jensen Age: 32  
24 Judi Lynn Behrendt Age: 27  
26 Brian Fincutter Age: 4

March

3 James Nicholas Heck Age: 32  
7 Patricia Heck Age: 52  
7 Christina Marie Hawkins Age: 15  
10 Joanne Mary Pfeiffer Age: 58  
16 Ruth Heck Age: 59  
21 Barbara Ann Schneider Age: 36  
21 Casey Larie Jensen Age: 4  
22 Richard John Heck Age: 66  
22 Steven Laurence Heck Age: 35  
22 Lyle III Schwartz Age: 12

23 Carol Heck Age: 30  
24 Pamela Joan Landrum Age: 6  
26 Jamie Marie Pfeiffer Age: 6  
28 Jeanie Marie Mrazek Age: 31  
28 Kieth Plucker Age: 28  
30 Jeffery Allen Heck Age: 31  
30 Nicole Weiss Age: 3

April

Simone Starr Age: 2  
1 Lorraine Bakke Age: 55  
1 Steven Mark Pfeiffer Age: 34  
2 Lawrence Joseph Heck Age: 63  
2 Kathleen Heck Age: 44  
3 Todd Joseph Hietpas Age: 29  
4 Thomas James Pfeiffer Age: 9  
5 Lori Sue Suchla Age: 29  
9 James Thomas Gibson Age: 34  
9 Sandy Heck Age: 25  
10 Tanya Lago Age: 13  
11 Lee Ann Heck Age: 30  
12 Theodor Turner Age: 43  
12 Claire Marie Bark Age: 42  
12 Tammy Menheer Age: 32  
12 Konrad Frenz Age: 25  
12 Brian Frenz Age: 22  
12 Kyle Turner Age: 8  
13 James Allen Bark Age: 45  
17 Barbara Jean Bedessem Age: 48  
17 David N. Pier Age: 33  
17 Tracy Kristine Heck Age: 21  
18 Robert W. Bedessem Age: 51  
18 Margaret Bortman Age: 34  
18 Michelle M. Thompson Age: 18  
19 Bryon Alan Thompson Age: 16  
23 Mark Koenen Age: 31  
24 Lance Schwartz Age: 11  
29 Mary Catherine Hansen Age: 53  
29 Cheryl A. Heck Age: 38

May

3 Sherri Fincutter Age: 31  
3 Monique Menheer Age: 8  
4 Raymond James Heck Age: 89  
4 Jonathan David Pfeiffer Age: 3  
5 Mary Heck Age: 39  
8 Derrick Berger Age: 26  
9 Robert Gerald Heck Age: 85  
9 Donald Gerald Heck Age: 49  
11 Loraine Christina Pier Age: 87  
11 Bernice Heck Age: 85  
13 Mathew Heck Age: 22  
16 Ann Therese Kelley Age: 33  
17 Edward Jacob Bark Age: 72  
17 Christine A. Mundt Age: 27  
17 Jody Lynn Heck Age: 21  
19 Karen Koenen Age: 26  
23 Julie Ann Turvaville Age: 28

25 Katheryn Frenz Age: 50  
26 Richard John Heck Age: 39  
28 Frances E. Heck Age: 89  
28 James E. Heck Age: 29  
29 Cecelia Heck Age: 59  
31 Bernice Pier Age: 58

June

1 Debbie Shane Age: 39  
2 Jr. Alvin James Heck Age: 56  
3 Sandra Lynn Heck Age: 30  
4 Patricia Jean Merritt Age: 54  
5 Patricia M. Hietpas Age: 30  
6 Laura Jo Heck Age: 24  
9 Timothy James Bark Age: 14  
12 Michael Robert Heck Age: 35  
14 Aaron Michael Bark Age: 10  
16 June Rose Hawkins Age: 14  
16 Jamie Itzenheiser Age: 8  
18 Dana Joanne Mrazek Age: 3  
20 Robyn Heck Age: 19  
21 Karen Einer Age: 51  
25 Lorraine Heck Age: 59  
26 Paula Colleen Doleshal Age: 25  
29 Gwendolyn DeGrave Age: 82

July

1 Carolyn Marie Heck Age: 50  
1 Andrew Fincutter Age: 8  
7 Michael Heck Age: 33  
8 Carol Ann Pier Age: 29  
9 Kathlyn Frenz Age: 44  
13 Lawrence Sandberg Age: 37  
14 Shirley Frances Heck Age: 59  
14 Kenneth Kyburz Age: 13  
16 Richard Plucker Age: 53  
18 Virginia Frenz Age: 78  
18 Ryann Claire Bark Age: 7  
19 Steven John Behrendt Age: 28  
20 Peggy Plucker Age: 52  
20 Steven Donald Heck Age: 25  
22 Julia Ann Pfeiffer Age: 3  
23 Marjorie Jean Johnson Age: 65  
23 Nancy Schwartz Age: 58  
23 Todd Schwartz Age: 27  
24 Andrew Michael Heck Age: 5  
25 Sharon Dianne Heck Age: 48  
27 Joan Marie Thompson Age: 39  
27 Rebecca L. Christensen Age: 30  
28 Amanda Plucker Age: 10  
29 Gina Heck Age: 30

**Descendants of Henry Heck listed by birthday.**  
(Age is shown as the age on their last birthday in 1994)

August

- 1 Clinton Berger Age: 24
- 2 Catherine E. Pfeiffer Age: 9
- 4 Jennifer M. Kyburz Age: 12
- 7 Kenneth Frenz Age: 25
- 8 Timothy Hawkins Age: 37
- 8 Michael Allen Bark Age: 20
- 9 Cynthia Sue Landrum Age: 32
- 11 James P. Martin Age: 15
- 12 Dorothy Pier Age: 56
- 12 Robert Michael Heck Age: 32
- 13 Erica Lynn Thompson Age: 14
- 13 Jacob Matthew Suchla Age: 5
- 14 Daniel John Kelley Age: 34
- 16 Debra Jean Heck Age: 30
- 16 Laura Jane Bakke Age: 27
- 17 Anthony David Bark Age: 18
- 18 Rebecca Lee Pfeiffer Age: 12
- 19 Dennis Ray Landrum Age: 39
- 21 Bonnie Heck Age: 51
- 22 Mary Heck Age: 54
- 26 Colleen Patricia Bark Age: 43
- 26 Nathan Wade Heck Age: 5
- 27 Michelle Heck Age: 27
- 27 Kimberly Einer Age: 19
- 28 James Bernard Pier Age: 58
- 29 Nicholas B. Pier Age: 91

September

- 2 Clarence Joseph Heck Age: 57
- 3 Marvin Pfeiffer Age: 58
- 4 Paulette Helene Bark Age: 48
- 5 Mary Ann Heck Age: 82
- 6 Dennis Heck Age: 33
- 6 Joseph Timothy Bark Age: 18
- 8 Amanda Kelly Pfeiffer Age: 5
- 10 Shannon Shane Age: 13
- 11 Susan Lyn Spiedel Age: 28
- 11 Amy Marlene Heck Age: 22
- 12 Robert Merritt Age: 55
- 13 Gladys Julia Heck Age: 89
- 13 Kathleen Anne Martin Age: 38
- 16 Carol Heck Age: 56
- 18 Eugene Bernard Heck Age: 56
- 19 Robert Jerome Heck Age: 62
- 19 Allen Frederick Bark Age: 43
- 19 Kevin Starr Age: 23
- 19 James Alvin Pfeiffer Age: 10
- 20 Kory Allen Heck Age: 4
- 21 Dianna Hodgson
- 24 Katherine Ann Starr Age: 24
- 25 Grace Plucker Age: 79
- 26 Cindy Lago Age: 38
- 26 Michael DeGrave Age: 15
- 29 David Alan Schneider Age: 38

October

- Timothy Lloyd Hawkins Age: 10
- 1 Kimberly Ann Heck Age: 10
- 2 Lisa Marie Bark Age: 13
- 4 Philip Frenz Age: 45
- 4 Mary Lori Pfeiffer Age: 37
- 7 Joanne Marie Heck Age: 44
- 8 Gloria Jeanne Heck Age: 50
- 8 Billie Jo Heck Age: 29
- 10 Linda Heck Age: 34
- 10 Lisa Heck Age: 29
- 10 Michelle Anne Pfeiffer Age: 12
- 13 Roger Kyburz Age: 37
- 14 Ralph Heck Age: 63
- 15 Angela Maynard Age: 10
- 16 Patrick James Martin Age: 7
- 17 Robert John Spiedel Age: 5
- 20 Kenneth Bortman Age: 9
- 23 Deborah Itzenheiser Age: 33
- 23 James David Bakke Age: 23
- 23 Joy Christine Pfeiffer Age: 8
- 26 Scott Lago Age: 16
- 27 Gilbert DeGrave Age: 62
- 27 Ronald J. Heck Age: 54
- 28 Colette McCracken Age: 28
- 30 Vickie Weiss Age: 31

November

- 4 Lois Jean Hawkins Age: 36
- 6 Jaimee Lynn Heck Age: 8
- 7 Kelly Ann Heck Age: 23
- 9 James Spiedel Age: 28
- 12 Wendy Schwartz Age: 31
- 12 Sharon Wasliewski Age: 25
- 13 Nicholas Francis Pier Age: 56
- 14 Catherine Ann Turner Age: 38
- 15 Susan Marie Pier Age: 32
- 17 Charles John Mrazek Age: 30
- 19 Sarah Elizabeth Heck Age: 30
- 21 Tasha Merritt Age: 9
- 23 Richard Koenen Age: 55
- 23 Patricia Koenen Age: 30
- 23 James Michael Heck Age: 25
- 23 Elizabeth P. Bark-Ladach Age: 13
- 27 William Merritt Age: 33
- 28 Anise Margaret Heck Age: 83

December

- 4 Sharon Merritt
- 4 Donna Jean Benedict Age: 48
- 4 Thomas P. Pier Age: 32
- 5 William Edward Bark Age: 15
- 6 Gregory Thomas Bark Age: 39
- 6 Lyle II Schwartz Age: 37

- 8 Robert John Heck Age: 54
- 10 Brian R. Bedessem Age: 25
- 11 Ryan Sandberg Age: 9
- 20 David Michael Pfeiffer Age: 37
- 21 Jr. John Roberts Gibson Age: 37
- 22 Andrew DeGrave Age: 95
- 29 Lyle Schwartz Age: 59
- 29 Stephen M. Heck Age: 33
- 29 Timothy R. Bedessem Age: 27
- 30 Kenneth Robert Heck Age: 60
- 30 Jymme Jeannette Bark Age: 39
- 30 Rebekah Ann Bakke Age: 20
- 30 Justin Itzenheiser Age: 11
- 31 Lila Jean Maerzke Age: 31

**Are you on this list?**

If you don't see your name on this list then it is safe to assume that I never got it from you or never found it in the public records. If you will send me the information, I would be happy to add it to my computer data base. If you decide to ignore this request, then you will never have a surprise birthday party from me. Likewise you will probably never get an anonymous birthday card from any of your unknown relatives.

**I need your help!**

**P-l-e-a-s-e** take a few minutes or an hour or so and jot down some of your favorite stories of your family that you would like to share with others. Send a photograph of your family if you can and I will return it to you if you wish. You don't have to be a polished writer to get published in this news letter. Please send to:

**Robert J. Heck**  
**4910 Steeple Dr.**  
**Greendale, WI 53129**



## The transfer of land from John Burgess to his son, Benajah Burgess at Voluntown, Connecticut, in 1787.

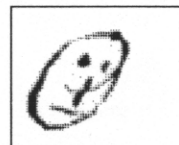
"To all people to whom these presents shall come Greeting. Know ye that I John Burgis of Volluntown in the County of Windham in the State of Connecticut for and in consideration of the sum of six hundred pounds Lawfull money to me in hand Before the Ensealing of these presents well and truly paid by Benajah Burgis of Volluntown in the County afore sd, the Receipt whereof I Do acknowledge and my self there with Satisfyed and have given granted Bargained and Sold and Do by these presents give grant Bargain sell and convey and confirm unto him the said Benajah Burgis his heirs and assigns forever two certain tracts of Land Lying in Volluntown in the County afore said one of which Lots contains by Estimation fifty acres be the same more or Less and is Bounded as followeth (viz) Begining at a white oak tree marked which is Joshua Spencer Southwest corner of that Lot that his house stands on in Ebenezer Smiths South Line thence westerly to John Russells Land to a meer stone thence East by a Lot of Joshua Spencers Land to a meer Stone then South by sd Spencers Land a straight Line to a small Brook to a meer stone on the Bank thence Southwest to a white oak stump by sd Spencers Land then runing northwest by said Spencers Land to John Russells southeast corner to a stake and stones then runing southwest by John Russells Land to a Black oak tree on the Bank of the River then up the stream of said river as it now runeth to a great Rock Just Below Smiths mill then Easterly by sd Smiths Land untill it comes to the Highway that Leads to Providence. Still by said Road untill it comes to Robert Montgomerys Land to a stake and stones thence north by sd Montgomery Land to where two Brooks meets thence Runing up the northermost Brook by said Montgomerys Land to Joshua Spencers Land to a heap of stones thence west to the Bounds first mentioned."

"The next or second Lot contains about one hundred and thirty acres be the same more or Less Bounded as followith (viz) Begining at a heap of stones northwest of Joshua Spencers house in Ebenezer Smiths north line thence Runing north by the Road that Leads north to Esqr Coles till it comes to Thomas Greens South East corner to a stake and stones which is a corner thence it runs in the South Line of sd Greens Land westerly to his South West corner and then Southerly in the old Line of parke and church to Asa Montgomerys Land then Easterly by sd Montgomerys Land to Ebenezer Smiths northwest corner then by sd Smiths Land to the Bounds first mentioned. To have and to hold the sd granted and Bargained premises with all the previledges and appurtenances there unto Belonging to him the said Benajah Burgis his heirs and assigns forever as an absolute Estate of Inheritance forever and I the sd John Burgis for my self my heirs Executors and administrators Do covenant and ingage the above and before Demised premises to him the sd Benajah Burgis his heirs and assigns against the Lawfull Claims and Demands of any person or persons whatsoever forever hereafter to warrant and Defend by these presents in witness whereof I the sd John Burgis have here unto set my hand and seal this 25th Day of December AD 1787 Signed Sealed and Delivered in the presence of us."

Thomas Burgis  
Asa Montgomery  
Ruth Burgis

Recorded by Benjamin Dow, Recorder.

John Burgis (His Seal)



Before Robert Dixson, Justice of the Peace