

Our Family News Letter

Issue 24

Greendale, Wisconsin

March, 1999

**Dolores Heck Gibson and Bernard Kunka
exchange vows on February 27, 1999.**



Dolores Gibson exchanged wedding vows with Bernie Kunka on Saturday, February 27, 1999, at Saint John Nepomuk Catholic Church at Racine, Wisconsin. A dinner reception followed at the Fifth Street Yacht Club in Racine.

The picture above was taken at the Heck family Christmas party in 1997, at the Leisure Center in Racine. Dolores and Bernie have been attending our family functions for some time now.

I'm sure that everyone will join me in wishing the "newlyweds" a very happy married life together. Bernie is a welcomed addition to our family.

Did you know that the Heck family arrived in Wisconsin in the spring of 1852?

New Henningfeld Researcher Found In Germany:

A German researcher named **Jürgen Hennigfeld**, from Düsseldorf, found my Internet home page which contained all of our Henningfeld history back to the 1600's. He sent the following e-mail letter to me.

Subject: Hennigfeld

Date: Thu, 28 Jan 1999 19:41:18 +0100

From: Jürgen Hennigfeld

<j.hennigfeld@cityweb.de>

To: bheck@execpc.com

Dear Mr. Heck

I was very surprised, to find anything about my family in the internet. And I was pleased, to realize, that we have indeed the same roots. Your No.1, Johann Henrich Wilhelm, born 1779, is in my documents as Johann Heinrich Wilhelm, born at the

same time and the same place. This man is a brother of Florenz Hennigfeld, which was my great great great grandfather. The father of both was Bernhard Wilhelm Hennigfeld, born 13.05.1748, married with Elisabeth Stallmann, born 1749. Bernhard Wilhelm died 13.04.1818.

This News Letter is written and published by
**Robert J. Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive,
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The News Letter is published quarterly and is distributed without charge. Contributions to help cover the costs are appreciated. Our home page address is:

<http://www.execpc.com/~bheck/heck.html>

My e-Mail Address is: bheck@execpc.com

*Very interesting is the fact, that also in your Documents there are two women, named Stallmann or Stalman, Pauline *1863 and Annie *1865 and I think, that they come from the Family of Elisabeth Stallmann. Another thing is interesting, but maybe, there is something wrong. You say, that your No. 2, Johann Henrich, born 1805 was married with Elisabeth Dahlmann. This Elisabeth Dahlmann also married in 1829 another Johann Heinrich, *1803, son of Florenz, and therefore a cousin of the other Johann Henrich. Maybe Elisabeth married twice, perhaps because "my" Johann Heinrich died in young years. (In my documents they had no children).*

Something to the spelling of our name: The original way of writing is Hennigfeld, and this is also the most usual way of writing today in Germany, there are only some Henningfeld and a few Hennigfeldt writings. The reason is, that many writers of church documents or in the administrations wrote wrong. Sometimes it was corrected in the next generation.

And another thing for correctness: The area of Henrichenburg, from where our grandfathers come, was not belonging to Prussia before 1815. It belongs to the Duchy of Westphalia and comes to Prussia after the Napoleon Wars as agreed on at the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

But now I have some questions:

- 1. In which relationship are you standing to the Henningfeld-family?*
- 2. Who is or who was Grandaunt Martha?*
- 3. Why you can tell very much details of the older Henningfelds, but less of the younger ones (place and date of birth, occupation, place of living and so on)? Have you addresses from the still-living Henningfelds? How many Henningfelds still live in Racine County?*
- 4. Have you been in Germany for genealogical research?*

5. The wife of your No. 24 William F., Mrs. Margaret Gruter, was born in 1850. Their last two children were born in 1901 and 1910. At this time Margaret was 51 and 60 years old. I don't think, that it was possible, to give birth in this age. What is the reason for this?

I think, that's enough for the first time. Please excuse my bad English language, I hope you can understand it anyway.

If you are interested, you can get all my documents (10 generations, about 300 persons) as a GEDCOM-file.

*Your sincerely
Jürgen Hennigfeld*

I hope to correspond with Jürgen in the next few months in order to add his branch of the family to our branch. I have already sent him 75 pages of our Henningfeld and Henningfield descendants.

Shirt tail relatives with the Kelloggs of Battle Creek?

While researching some of our Burgess line I came across the following in the book, "The Kelloggs In The New World"

Artemetia Howe (a descendant of the Kelloggs family), daughter of **Austin Howe**, born in Goshen, CT, 6 May 1822, married **Alonzo A. Burgess**, born 27 Aug 1820, son of **Benjamin Burgess** and **Rebecca**. Artemetia died 3 May 1864. Alonzo was a farmer and resided in Kenosha and Racine Counties, Wisconsin.

Children:

Mary Armenia Burgess, born 23 Jun 1845, died 18 Jul 1846. **Adelia Ann Burgess**, born 5 Jan 1847, married 5 Jan 1880, Richard Wagner, resided in Beatrice, Nebraska. **Emeretta Angeline Burgess**, born 11 May 1848, married 1 Jan 1867, M. D. LaFayette Cook, resided in Kenosha, Wisconsin. **Frederick Alonzo Burgess**, born 20 Sep 1850,

resided in Sylvania, Racine County, Wisconsin. **Caroline Amelia Burgess**, born 2 Sep 1852, married Elliot Utley Cook, resided in Somers, Wisconsin. **Martha Artemetia Burgess**, born 13 Oct 1854, died 13 Feb 1873.

Alonzo A. Burgess was the brother of Patience Burgess. Patience Burgess married Peter McNulty, and their daughter, Mary Ann McNulty married my great grandfather, Henry Heck.

Meet some new cousins...

Louise Friend Havens and her husband John Havens from Winfield, Kansas, found us on the Internet through my home page. Louise is a descendant from Benjamin Burgess and Rebecca Chase as follows:

Louise Friend Havens

Vern Friend

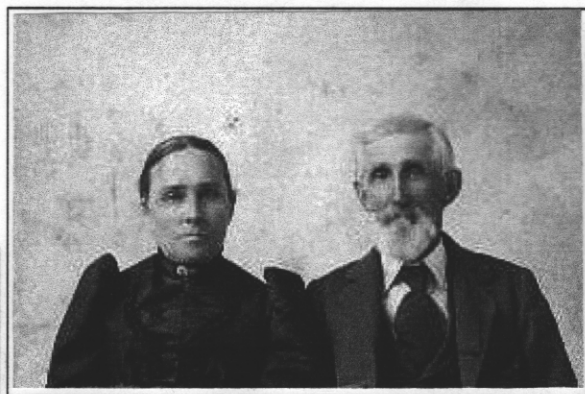
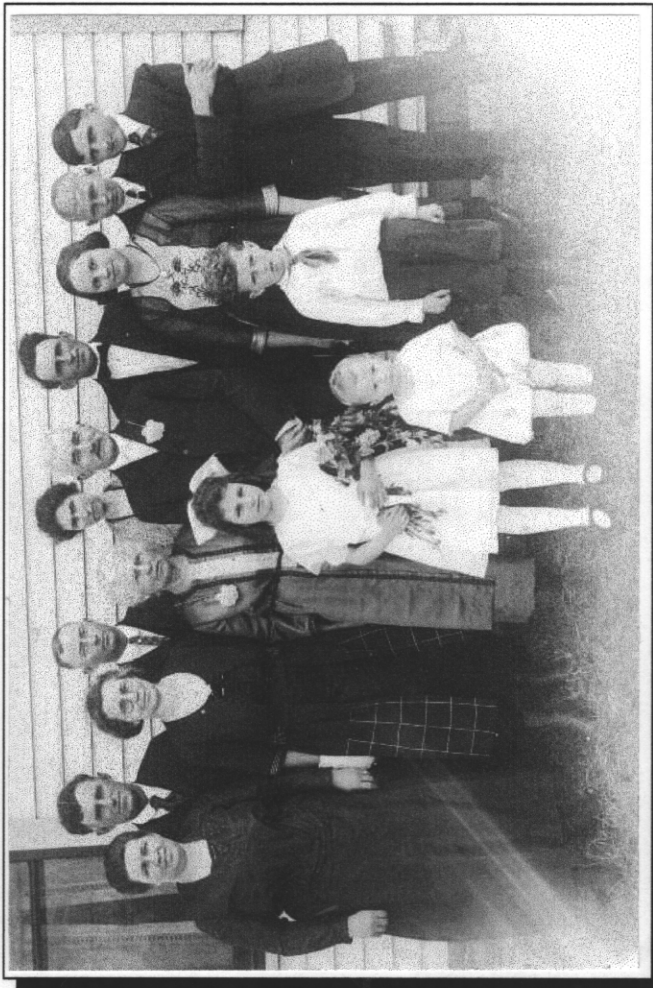
Gertie Richardson

Julia Florietta Burgess

Nehemiah E. Burgess

Benjamin Burgess and Rebecca Chase

The following pictures were sent by e-mail from Louise Havens and are: Lower Left: Louise and John Havens 1998. Upper: Nehemiah E. Burgess Jr. (Pete) and Rose Comstock with their family on their 50th anniversary. Lower Right: Esther Burgess and Dave Quackenbush.

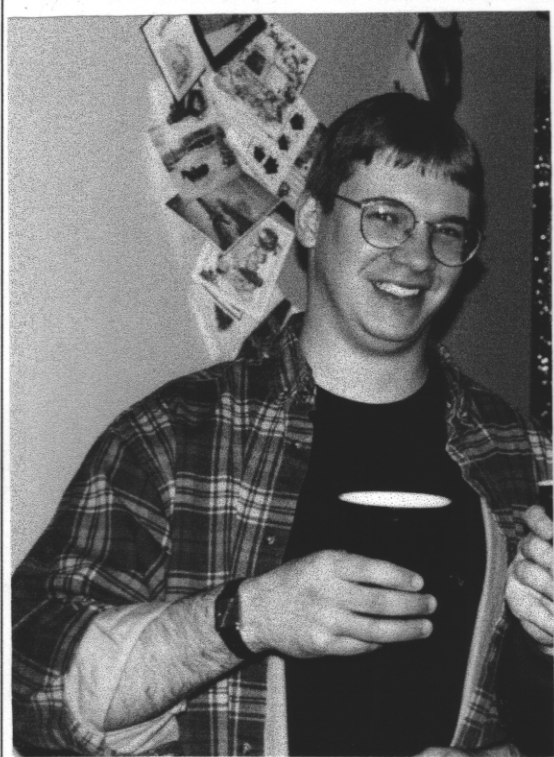


Esther Burgess and Nehemiah E. Burgess Jr., were children of Nehemiah E. Burgess Sr. and Sophia Woodman.

We hope to learn more about when and why Nehemiah E. Burgess and Sophia Woodman migrated to Nebraska. Perhaps Louise can fill us in on the details of this very large branch of our Burgess family.



Dave Heck turns 30...

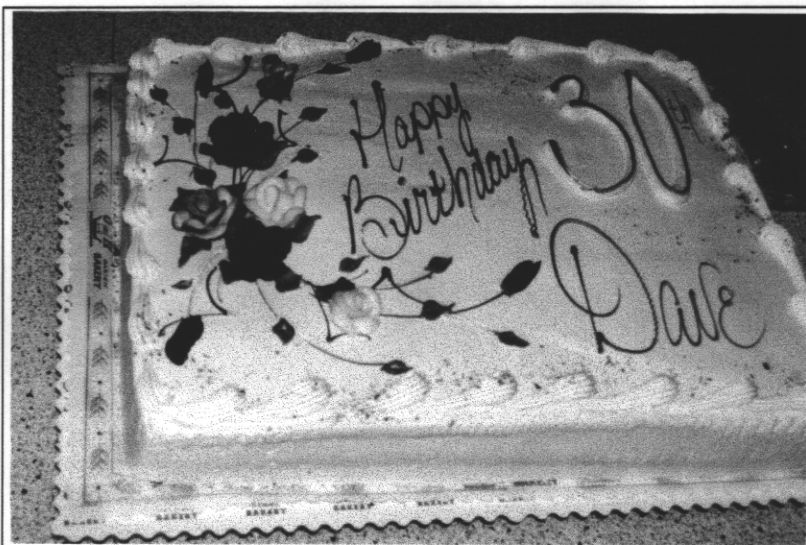


Dave Heck was given a surprise 30th birthday party by his wife, Judi, about a week after his birthday. Did Judi mess up on the date of January 3rd? No, not exactly. It seems that Dave was suspecting that someone would throw a surprise party for him and he was doing everything in his power to avoid getting caught. Little did he suspect that Judi would throw a party long after his birthday and never did he suspect that the party would be at his own house.

The ever resourceful Judi had lots of help from family and friends in keeping the big secret. There were about 50 friends and relatives invited to the party, and most were in the 25 to 30 age bracket. Some of the guests came from as far away as Arizona and Indianapolis.



The noise and music was loud and the beer flowed freely. The food was great. We even saw Dave walking around with a martini that was big enough for ten people.



The "old folks" left around 11:00 PM, and the younger crowd kept the party going until 7:00 AM. Seven people ended up sleeping over on the floor, couch, beds or wherever they could find a cozy corner.

Judi celebrated her XXth birthday on December 25th. Yes, the poor girl was born on Christmas Day. Since it isn't polite to reveal a ladies true age, I won't. However, the picture of Judi and Dave shown on this page was taken on December 25, 1997. Go figure.

**"Memories 1911 - 1930 Lorraine,
the Farm, and Me"
by Lolita Henningfield Manske, 1998**

The following paragraphs were taken from the above titled book written by Lolita Manske for her family. Lolita sent me a copy of the book which covers the first 19 years of her life. The book was so fascinating that I couldn't put it down until I had read all 72 pages of it.

Our many thanks go to Lolita who has a real talent for writing. Her memories of events from over 70 years ago are as sharp and crisp as the day they occurred.

"We lived on two acres of land by a railroad track in Burlington, Wisconsin. There was a barn, a horse, a cow, and chickens. I adored my sister, Lorraine, who took over much of my care as mom suffered from severe headaches much of the time. I was baptized Dolores Lolita Naomi Henningfield. Our name was Henningfeld, but because my dad was getting too many bills for someone else, dad changed it to Henningfield."

"There were five children in our family. Lorraine, 1898; Dorothy, 1900; Florian "Bob", 1901; Roland "Babe", 1902. They were all 17 months apart. I checked in 9 years later, November 20, 1911."

"I remember 'Boy' (Florian), as he was then known, built a club house out of old boards and doors from some building. He and Babe would not let me in which frustrated me and made me cry. I guess I was a pest at three or four years old. They would make a fire in there and roast frog legs from the frogs they caught in the ditch along the railroad tracks. I can still here my mom yelling, "You kids got my salt shaker again?"

"Lorraine was called "Sis" then and loved to wade in the water and loved to catch snakes. She would snap their necks and yell, "Ma, look at my wash." She would have a string of snakes hanging over a fence."

"I have many memories of that home. One memory was when I was three. I decided to wash my black kitten in a pan of water that had been set out for the chickens. I wanted a white kitten and as hard as I tried that black would not come off. When mom rescued the poor little thing she was in sad shape, but she recovered."

"I remember on cold winter nights with the parlor closed off we would sit around the pot bellied stove with it's bright orange windows glowing. Mom would peel an apple all the way around without breaking the skin. She would put it on the top of the stove and it would curl and twist, and it would smell so good."

The Open Air School

"Enter Aunt Lil and the 'Open Air School,' the 4th grade. She was my Uncle Harry's second wife, a big bosomed woman and I didn't like her. I liked Uncle Harry's first wife Aunt Emily but they didn't like each other. Aunt Lil thought I was a too skinny and puny looking kid. Because my cousin Eleanor had been enrolled in the special health school, Aunt Lil convinced my mom I should go there too. My life may have turned out differently if my dad had been around when this decision was made, but he traveled for a living and was gone nine weeks at a time. "

"Anyway, down to the Health Department we went where a Dr. Plyte decided after feeling the glands in my neck, said that I had tubercular glands and qualified for the 'Open Air School.' All I needed was to have my tonsils out which didn't happen until I was 33."

"When I say I was acclimated to cold at 3 weeks, I was 'finished', after being in that school for four years. There were two large rooms down, that divided grades one to four and four to eight, and two large rooms up. Eight high windows in each room were open to the weather."

"We did our school work wearing coats and sometimes mittens on our hands. We wore wool boots

over our shoes that went up to the knees. Often we had a wool blanket over our knees on really cold days."

"At noon we were served health foods like a hot shredded wheat biscuit that had a cut tomato over it. On my first day at school we had cod fish and gravy over mashed potato which I absolutely could not get down. The rule was one could not leave the table until ones plate was clean. I spent the next two hours in the dining room alone until 2:00 p.m. when school was out. In the mean time the rest of the kids rested upstairs on cots with one or two wool blankets to keep them warm. At 2:15 we were sent home."

I'll include more brief stories from Lolita's book in future editions of Our Family News Letter.

A Special Thanks To Some Of Our Readers....

During the past Christmas season, many of you expressed your thanks to me for writing Our Family News Letter. Some of you included donations to help defray the high costs of producing a news letter such as this. My special thanks go out to Sue (Bark) and Jeff Miller, Lolita Manske, and to Howard and Anne Heck for their generous contributions.

I started this news letter in June, 1993 and have issued it every three months since that time. This issue is the 24th consecutive issue. Most news letters never make it half this far. People lose interest, or we just run out of things to write about. Our family history is rich and fascinating. It is enjoyable to research in nooks and crannies all over the place just to find a small clue of our past. Howard Heck and Lolita Manske have taken steps to help preserve our history. Both have written books on the subject. If you would like to contribute stories or pictures of your memories, please send them to me. We can work together to put them into a news letter format.

Thanks again to all of you. for supporting Our Family News Letter.

What I gave for Christmas...

Last year for Christmas (1997) I gave my sons a CD that contained 800 photographs from my photo albums and from the albums put together by my parents in the 1920 - 1940 time period. Each picture was identified, scanned and cut into a CD with my computer.

This year for Christmas (1998) I created a CD containing 800 feet of 8mm movie films that my parents took of their grandchildren starting in 1962. Background music was included in the CD to give them some life. I gave a copy to my sons and daughters-in-law, and to my nieces and nephew.

The Minnesota Hecks ...

from the book "*The Hecks From Alendorf, Germany*" by Howard W. Heck, 1991. Library of Congress catalogue card number 91-91844.

"The Chicago Land Society sent a committee in 1854 to Minnesota to search for a suitable site to purchase land and establish a community for its members. After investigating a site near Swan Lake and another near LeSueur, they finally chose New Ulm. The Turner Settlement Association heard about the new settlement in New Ulm and in 1856 sent a search committee to investigate. They struck an agreement with the Chicago group and a new organization called the German Land Association of Minnesota was formed. Settlement started in earnest which attracted German-speaking settlers to the new city and surrounding area."

"Johann (John) Heck and his family came to the New Ulm area along with other families from Wisconsin. The Swan Lake Catholic Church Centennial book lists nine original families who settled here in 1857. They were Leonard and Lucy (Heck) Boor; Egidius and Margaret (Schuck) Giefer and daughter, Sophie; John and Susan (Zeren) Heck and family; Peter and Angela (Schaefer) Jutz and son,

John; John and Anna Elizabeth (Schuck) Miller and family; Henry and Clara (Jutz) Epper Reising and her children from her first marriage; Johann and Katherina (Lux) Schaefer and family; Mathias and Elizabeth (Nei) Sondag; Mr. and Mrs. Anton Zins and family, and their son John and his wife."

Anna Lucy (Heck) Boor was the daughter of Johann Heck and his first wife, Anna Barbara Schaefer. She was born in 1836 at Alendorf, Germany. Lucy (Heck) Dorn was the daughter of Johann Heck and his second wife, Susanah Zeren. Lucy was born in 1857 at Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin.

Johann Schaefer, who married Katherina Lux, was the brother-in-law of Johann Heck by his first marriage to Anna Barbara Schaefer. That is to say, Anna Barbara and Johann Schaefer were brother and sister.

From the photo album....



These picture and those on the next page are pictures of the descendants of Nehemiah Burgess and Sophia Woodman. Nehemiah and Sophia were married on 17 May 1843 at the Southport, Wisconsin (now Kenosha) Baptist Church. They are shown at left. Top photo is of Esther Burgess, daughter of Nehemiah and Sophia. Esther married David Quackenbush. The bottom picture is Gertie (Richardson) and Wiley Friend with their daughter Ethel. Gertie was a granddaughter of Nehemiah and Sophia.



The picture above is the Henry and Julia Florietta (Burgess) Richardson family in April, 1904. Julia was the daughter of Nehemiah Burgess and Sophia Woodman from Nebraska.

Back L-R: Arthur, Willis, Lewis, Walter.
 Middle L-R: Chloe, Ida, Jean, Else, Gertie.
 Front L-R: Henry Jr., Henry, Orvel, Jesse, Julia, Edgar. The picture at right is of Julia Florietta (Burgess) Richardson.

The following information is in "The Woodmans of Rhode Island" book, page 114:

"Almond and William J. Burgess had traveled through Nebraska after being discharged from the Union Army following the conclusion of the Civil War. Having selected the general area for the family to settle, they returned to the family home-

stead in Racine County, Wisconsin, and shortly thereafter, in 1867, the entire family came to Gage County, Neb. They traveled by covered wagon, driving a heard of sheep the entire distance. They crossed the Missouri River by ferry at Brownsville, Neb. Once in Gage County they staked their homestead, receiving their 160 acre grant from the United States government under the Homestead Act."

