

Our Family News Letter

Issue 33

Greendale, Wisconsin

June, 2001

Ellis Island Web Site Open...

After about five years of work the Ellis Island web site opened to the public in April, 2001. The site was very busy for the first few weeks since it was reported on national news and in nearly every newspaper in the country.

During the first six hours of operation over 50,000,000 people logged into the site. There were probably an equal number who were unable to get in. Now that the smoke has settled, it has become a lot easier to get into the web site.

The web address is:

<http://www.ellislandrecords.org>

The Ellis Island site lists passengers who came through Ellis Island, New York from 1892 through 1924. Prior to 1892, Castle Garden, New York was the place where immigrants landed.

I was able to look up and find my mother, Mary Mikel, her parents, John and Anna Mikel and their son, Bohumil Mikel. My mother was shown as Maria Mikel, while my grandfather was shown as Jan Mikel. By doing a search just on the Mikel name I was able to find them all.

The records show the name, ethnicity, place of residence, date of arrival, gender, marital status, ship of travel, and port of departure. You can also look at the ship manifest and see who traveled with your ancestor. You can also get detailed information about the ship that they traveled on and in many cases see a photograph of the ship.

Those from Uhersky Brod, Czechoslovakia traveling together with my grandfather were Frantisek (Frank) Zak, Rudolf Benedikt, Anna Rehocova,

and Marie Masacikova. Grandpa was 28 years old when he came to this country in 1912. Grandma followed in 1914 and was 26 at the time. John was 28, Bohumil was three and Mary was 11 months.

We all need to put ourselves in the shoes of our ancestors to get an appreciation of what they went through. When the Mikel family left Moravia in 1912 and 1914, they knew that they would never see their parents again. They were going to a strange country with just the belongings that they could carry in a single trunk. They were going to Racine, Wisconsin which had a small Czech community. The language in Racine would be the same as in Moravia within the ethnic community.

Our Burgess ancestors came to this country from England on a sailing ship in the 1630's. Their greatest fear was surviving the 45 day Atlantic crossing and coming to a country of which very little was known. Nearly every ship crossing the Atlantic at that time had disease and death on board. The area west of the colonies was considered unexplored wilderness filled with savage Indians. Life expectancy back then was about 35 years.

Peter McNulty came over from Ireland in 1834 also on a sailing ship. He arrived in St. John's New Brunswick after a month on the high seas. From

This News Letter is written and published by
**Robert J. Heck, 4910 Steeple Drive,
Greendale, WI 53129**

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**

there he traveled to Boston on a smaller ship to find his way in a new country. He worked his way up to New York state, married Patience Burgess and migrated to Kenosha County, Wisconsin in 1836.

When the Henningfeld family came over from Germany in 1845, things were much different. Steam ships were now being used for the Atlantic crossings. Europe was in a famine because of massive crop failures. The Henningfelds came with their entire family and set up their farms near Waterford, Racine County, Wisconsin.

The Heck family came over in 1852 by steam ship with a small group of Germans from Alendorf. They set up a community near Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. In 1857, 11 German families, including the Heck family, migrated to Swan Lake, Minnesota.

Our ancestors were very brave people. They took chances that many of us today would never even consider. Some arrived in this country with nothing or next to nothing. They stayed and worked hard to establish themselves and they survived.

Rosemary (Heinrichs) Reynolds Hospitalized

We were sorry to hear that Rosemary Reynolds from Wausau, Wisconsin fell and broke her hip. She had surgery to repair the fracture and is in the process of recovering. She loves to get cards from friends and relatives so why not drop her a line to help cheer her up?

You can write to her at home at the following address:

**Mrs. Rosemary Reynolds
Marywood Center
1821 North Fourth Avenue
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401**

Rosemary is the oldest daughter of Mollie Henningfeld and Frank Heinrichs. Rosemary enjoys reading this newsletter and she would enjoy hearing from you.

Geraldine M. Zarnke 1918 - 2001

Geraldine M. Zarnke, 83, 3008 Martin Avenue, Rib Mountain, died Wednesday, April 25, 2001, at the home of her daughter in Wisconsin Rapids.

She was born March 17, 1918, in Racine, daughter of the late Frank and Amelia (Henningfeld) Heinrichs. She married Roy Zarnke on September 7, 1938, at St. Therese Catholic Church, Rothschild. He preceded her in death on January 8, 1999.

Geraldine had been a member of the Sweet Adelines women's barbershop singing group. She was also a member of the choir at St. Matthew Catholic Church and the Holy Name of Jesus Parish. She enjoyed playing cards, bowling, sewing and loved to cook.

Survivors include four daughters, Barbara Riordan, Milwaukee, Elizabeth Zarnke, Wisconsin Rapids, Linda (Alan) Thomas, Milwaukee, and Kathryn (Thomas) Campbell, Milwaukee; two sons, Charles (Betty) Zarnke, New Berlin, and Paul (Gail) Zarnke, Wausau; seven grandchildren; four sisters, Rosemary Reynolds, Wausau, Lorraine Teuke, Wausau, Dorothy (Jack) Johnson, Shawano, and Joan Wooley, Green Bay; one brother, Gordon (Margaret) Heinrichs, Wausau; and a sister-in-law, Beverly Heinrichs of Stevens Point. Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Carl, Francis and Eugene Heinrichs.

The funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Monday, April 30, 2001, at St. Matthew Catholic Church, Wausau. The Rev. Fr. John Parr will preside. Burial will be in Restlawn Memorial Park, Wausau. Friends may call on Sunday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Peterson/Kraemer Funeral Home, 3400 Stewart Avenue, Wausau, and again on Monday from 10 a.m. until time of services at the church. There will be a parish vigil service Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Stewart Avenue funeral home.

The family requests any memorials go to the retired nuns of St. Matthew Parish, 2700 Westwood Drive, Wausau WI 54401.



35th Consecutive Heck Family Picnic
July 15, 2001

On **Sunday, July 15, 2001**, the descendants of Robert Steven Heck and Margaret Frederica Henningfeld will once again gather as a family to celebrate our rich heritage and to enjoy each other's company. This will be the 35th consecutive year that we have done so. The picnic will be held at the Light House at Wind Point, near Racine, Wisconsin.

The events start out with breakfast at the **Hammez restaurant** located at the corner of High Street and Douglas Avenue in Racine. Golfers and non-golfers alike are invited to attend the breakfast which has become a tradition associated with the family picnic. **Breakfast is served at 7:00 AM.**

Following breakfast we will meet at Shoop's Park overlooking beautiful Lake Michigan. Our annual golf tournament begins with the assignment of teams and batting order. You don't have to know how to golf in order to participate. Trust me, if you saw some of our family members swing a golf club you would swear they were either playing hockey or baseball. **The golfing begins at about 8:30 AM and runs until about 11:30 AM.**

Many of our golfers only golf once a year at the family picnic, but we have ways of equalizing them

with the pro golfers who participate. In the past we have had everyone use a putter made from an old combat boot. We had them putt with a hammer. We had them putt with a rubber shafted putter. One time we even had everyone draw a number to find out which iron they had to use for the entire course. It was neat seeing Don Heck use a 9-iron on a par 5 hole.

The cost for golfing is \$5.00 plus green fees for 9 holes. The \$5.00 is used to pay for the fabulous gifts that even Tiger would love to own. We even have a Masters style jacket that is awarded to the golfer who comes closest to their predicted score. The jacket has become a tradition at the Heck picnic. It is a blistering red jacket with a fine crest on the left pocket. The traveling jacket was won by Steve Pfeiffer. Steve Pfeiffer and John Suchla volunteered to help out with the 2001 golf outing organization.

Contact Steve at (262) 639-2434 or John at (262) 884-9113 to let them know that you are golfing. They will also update you on any last minute changes in the schedule.

Following golf, we begin the Heck family picnic at the Light House. The picnic starts at noon with fun, games, and lots of great food. Each family brings their own meat, soda, beer, lawn chairs and a dish for the house. All of the extras are provided. There are some grills available but if you have one that you can bring please do so. The grills tend to get a bit crowded with over 100 brats or steaks going at the same time.

There are a whole series of games for the kids as well as the adults. Everyone has a great time and spends a lot of time going over photo albums and family history books. Please bring along your own photo album to share memories with your cousins.

There is a fee of \$5.00 assessed to each family which goes toward rental of the Light House facility. If you have any questions or need more information about the picnic, **call Cel Heck at (262) 639-5370 or 639-6064.**

The Heck Family at Burlington, Wisconsin

In September, 2000, the Heck family was on display at the Burlington, Wisconsin Centennial Family Celebration. A nice display was set up by Ralph and Ruth Heck, 340 Donald Street, Burlington, WI 53105.

Ralph Heck is a great grandson of Henry Heck 1839 - 1920. Here is how he is related:

Henry Heck & Mary Ann McNulty
James Heck & Wihelmina Hoernemann
Raymond Heck & Gladys Wiesenthal
Ralph Heck & Ruth Nienhaus

The article read at the ceremony honoring families who have lived in Burlington over 100 years follows.

The Heck's of Burlington

"John and Anne Barbara Heck arrived in Wisconsin in 1852 from Alendorf, Germany and settled in Brighton with their five children. In 1857, the family along with other extended family members moved to the Swan Lake area in Minnesota."

"In the spring of 1861 John and Anne's son Henry returned to Brighton and was employed as a farm hand until he enlisted in Company K, 19th Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers."

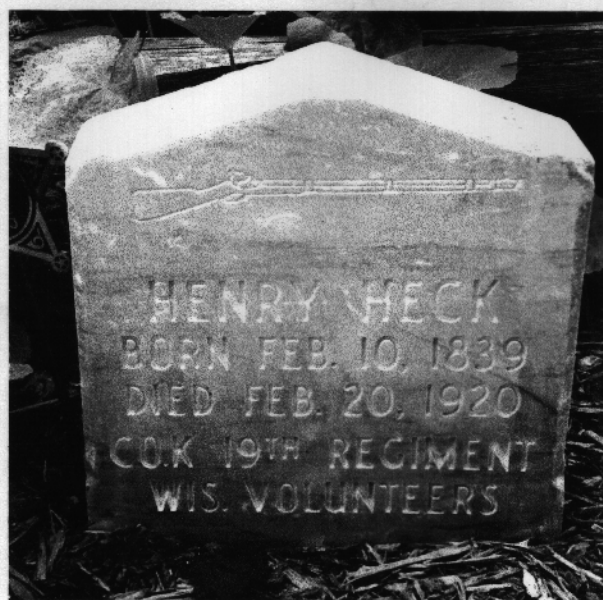
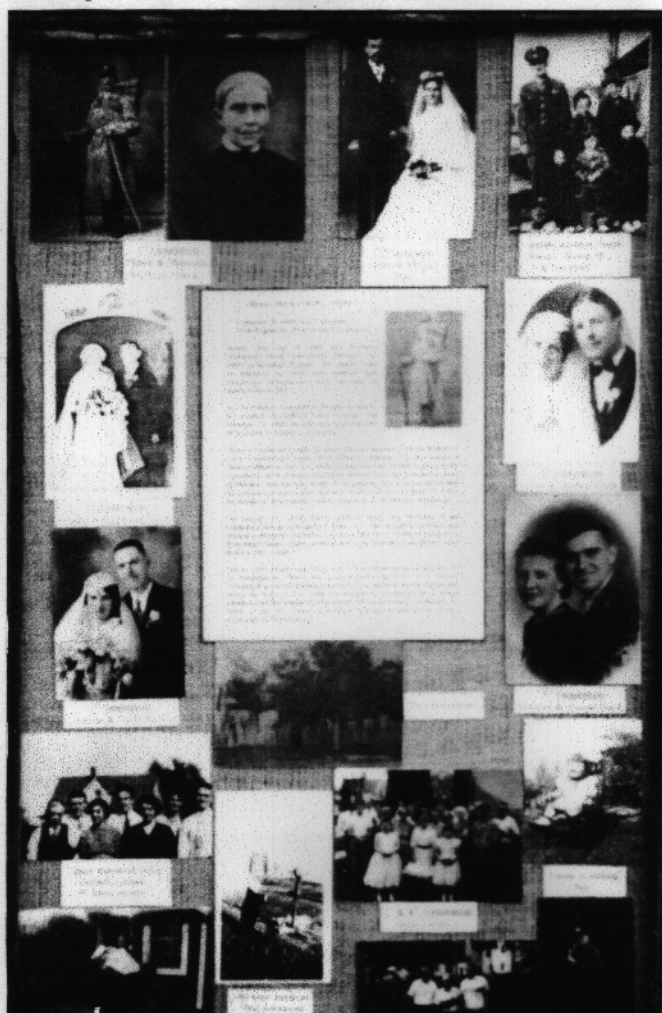
"Wounded in the Battle of Drewy's Bluff, Henry was mustered out of the army April 29, 1865, 19 days after the Civil War ended."

"Returning to Brighton he married Mary Ann McNulty. They raised eight children and were engaged in farming until 1896 when they moved to Burlington."

"Henry died February 20, 1920. He and his wife are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Burlington, however Henry's original gravestone was refurbished and has been placed in the gardens near the Log Cabin in Wehmhoff Park."

"Today the 4th, 5th, and 6th generations of Heck's are living in Burlington.

Ralph and Ruth were kind enough to send along some pictures which are shown below.



Land Transactions involving Burgess Family
Members in Plymouth Colony in the 1600's

MFD Vol 2, January 1900 #1, pg 29
Plymouth Colony Deeds

1652 BRADFORD GOVNR

Witnesseth these presents that wheras Miles Standish by order was appointed to satisfy an Indian whose name is called Josiah Dwelling at Nawsett for a smale Tract of Land lying att Manomett and graunted to Thomas Burgis senior of Sandwidge the which said tract of land the aforsaid Josiah the Indian hath barganed and sold unto the aforsaid Miles Standish in the behalfe of the said **Thomas Burgis** to him and his heires forever; The said Josiah hath given graunted enfeofed and absolutly sold the said Tract of Land to the aforsaid Miles Standish with all and singulare the emunities therunto belonging with all and singulare all the upland meddowes wood underwood privilidges and benefitts therunto belonging or any way apertaining;

The said Land being bounded to the southward by a marked tree by the mersh and from that tree to a fresh brooke; and from the said tree to another marked tree to the Northward which said tree stands to the Eastward of **Thomas Burgis** his sonn in lawes house; and all the said tract both upland and Meddow with all the said emunities within the said Tract soe bounded as aforsaid To the said Miles Standish in behalfe of the said **Thomas Burgis** senior to him and his heires forever; To the which said bargan and sale the said Josiah the Indian for himselfe or any other Indian or Indians to free the said title from Molestacon from time to time Doth bind himselfe his heires executors and adminestrators feirmly by these presents.

Witnessse his hand this third of March 1652
Josiah his marke Witnessse William Paddy.

MFD Vol 8, April 1906 #2, pg 73
Plymouth Colony Deeds

Witnesseth These presents That **Thomas Burgis** of Sandwidge hath absolutly barganed and sold to francis Allen of Sandwidge to him and heires for ever a pcell or tract of land being within a ffence which said upland I the said **Thomas Burgis** senr bought of Thomas Boardman. as also a pcell of meadow bought of the said Thomas Boardman as aforsaid this meadow bounded with 2 Creekes lying before or Joyning to the aforsaid upland to the said ffrancis Allen to have and to hold to him and his heires forever; This Bargane and sale acknowledged by **Thomas Burgis** senir and **Dorathy** his wife this 5t of Aprill 1654 before mee Myles Standish
The Marke of **Tho T Burgis**

MFD Vol 9, January 1907 #1 pg. 46
Plymouth Colony Deeds

[**THOMAS BURGIS TO JOHN JENKINS**]

This Indenture made the 27th Day of December Anno Dom 1654 Witnesseth that **Thomas Burgis** of Sandwidge hath given graunted bargained and sold and Doth by these presents give graunt bargaine and sell unto John Jenkins of Sandwidge aforsaid all those pcells of land aftermencioned; which is to say one pcell of meadow with the creekes; being two acres more or lesse being Layed out thirteen pole wide begining att the upland and soe Runing Downe to the mayne River lying between Mr ffeaxes land his upland lying on the south end and his meadow lying on the west side and the maine River on the north end and the abovesaid **Thomas Burgis** his meadow lying on the east side And six acres of upland two acres lying in the home lots in the 2cond Range bearing forty poles longe and eight pole wide begining att the old ffence square with goodwife Botfish on the west end and soe homward to the first Range Mr ffreemans land lying on the south side and the abovesaid **Thomas Burgis** his land lying on the east end and the north side with foure acres more of New ground att the further end

therof; westward bearing the whole breadth thereof south eastward; To have and to hold the said lands and meadows with the creekes with whatsoever therto belongeth unto him the said John Jenkins his heires and assignes for ever; And the said **Thomas Burgis** Doth for himselfe and his heires exequitors and adminnestrators Covenant and graunt to and with the said John Jenkins his heires and assignes that they shall and may peacably Inioy and possesse the same and that the said lands and prmises are free from all former graunts and bargaines and that ye said **Thomas Burgis** shall and will warrant the same from Mr Leverich or any other that shall pretend any claime from him also graunting that it shall and may bee lawfull for the said John Jenkins to enrowle or enter in the Records att New Plymouth this his acte and Deed for the better Securitie of his title; In Witness wherof the pty above mencioned have Interchangable put his hand and seale heerunto the Day and yeare above written; The valluable Consideration for which these lands were sold is ten pounds

Sealed Signed and Delivered **Thomas Burgis**
in the prsence of (seale)
Ralph Allen
Gorge Allen

MFD Vol 18, April 1916 #2, page 88-89
Plymouth Colony Deeds

[**THOMAS BURGE, SR., TO LT. JOSIAS STANDISH**]

1663 Prence Govr:
The 10th of July 1663
Memorand: That **Thomas Burge** senir: of Sandwich in the Jurisdiction of Plymouth in New England in America plantor Doth acknowldige that for and in Consideration of a Considerable sume to him already payed by Leiftenant Josias Standish of Sandwich aforsaid in the Jurisdiction aforsaid hee hath freely and absolutely bargained and sold enfeofed and Confeirmed; and by these presents Doth bargain

allianate sell enfeofe and Confeirme unto the said Leiftenant Standish one quarter pte or one pte of foure of a Certaine Tract of land lying and being att a place Called Mannomett in the Jurisdiction aforsaid which said Tract of land was purchased by Captaine Standish by the appointment of the Court of Josias of Nausett an Indian Sachem; in the behalfe of the said **Thomas Burge**, as appeers by a Deed bearing Date the third Day of March anno Dom: 1652 which said Tract is bounded to the Southward by the marked tree by the marsh; and from that tree to a ffresh brooke; and from the said tree to another marked tree Northward which said tree stands to the eastward of Esra Perreys house; To have and to hold the one quarter pte or one pte of four of the said whole tract of land both upland and meddow with all and singulare the appurtenances belonging therunto unto the said Leift: Josias Standish to him and his heires and assignes for ever; The said quarter pte or one pte of foure of the said tract of land bounded as aforsaid both of the upland & meddow with all the said **Thomas Burge** his Right title and Interst
of and into the said quarter pte of the said tract of land; with all and singulare the appurtenances belonging therunto; To appertaine to the onely proper use and behoofe of the said Leift: Josias Standish to him and his heires and assignes for ever unto the onely proper use and behoof of him the said Leift: Josiah Standish to him and his heires and assignes for ever;

Comment: The land transactions of Thomas Burgess, shown as Burgis or Burge, is an important part of our family history. These documents show that Thomas Burgess knew and did business with Miles Standish. The location of the land is in Manomet and Manomet Point on Cape Cod Bay. Today the land is probably worth several million dollars. Thomas Burgess was my 8th great grandfather or my great great great great great great great grandfather.
Bob Heck

Voluntown		Under 16	16 & over	Female	Total
346	Heads of families				
John Gungell	3				
Robert Jackson	1	3	3		
John Galt	1	5	3		
William Briggs	1	1	2		
John Montgomery	1	1	2		
Miriam Parry	2	2	2		
Maryam Green	2		2		
Wheter Galt	2	1	4	1	
Charles Hutchinson	1	4	3		
Benjamin Galt	1	2	2	1	
Primo Negro					3
Quincy Weston	1	4	3		
James McCallgal	2	1	4		
John Burley	2	3	1		3
George Mattheson	1	1	7		
Deafull Matheson	1	1	2		
Rudwin Matheson	1	1	1		
Ebent. Seacat	1	1	1		
John Smith					3
Asoniga's Waiter	3		1		
Benj. Congdon	2	2	2		
Robert Wilson	3	1	3		
Wm. Vaughan	2	3	4		
John Vaughan	5	3	0		8
Thomas Matheson	1	2	3		
347					
John White	1	12	3		
John Wilbur	2	3	3		
John Mary	2				
John Wyley	1	1	1		
John Matheson	2	1	2		
John H. Wines	2	3	3		
John Green	1	1	1		
William Shaw	1	1	1		
John. Bangs	3	2	5		
Thomas Thompson	2	1	2		
George Conner	1	1	1		
John. Lang	2	3	3		
William Thwait	1	1	3		
Benj. Merritt	1	3	2		
John Knox	1	2	3		
Andrew Knox	1	1	3		
Benj. Montgomery	2	1	4		
John Montgomery	2	1	6		
John. Rye	1	1	1		
James Gibbons	1	1	1		
John. Angell	1	1	1		
Hyacinth Kingdon	3	2	2		
John. Burgess	1	1	4		
Benj. Burgess	2	2	4		
David Montgomery	1	1	1		
Joshua Spence	2	3	4		
John. Green	1	1	4		
Joshua Smith	3	1	5		
John. Montgomery	2	1	4		
John Phillips	1	1	3		
Henry Adams	2	1	2		

The two images above are from the 1790, US Census of Voluntown, Connecticut. On the right image you will find **Benajah Burgess**. The three numbers to the right of his name indicate that there were 2 male children under 16 years of age, 2 males 16 and over, and 4 females in the household.

Benajah Burgess* purchased land from his father, John Burgess, at Voluntown, Connecticut, in December 1787, about 2-1/2 years prior to the taking of the census. In the land sale record the land is described in detail with several references to the adjoining landowners. Names mentioned in the land record include Joshua Spencer*, Ebenezer Smith, John Russell, Robert Montgomery*, Esqr. Coles, Thomas Green*, Asa Montgomery*. The document was witnessed by Thomas Burgess*, Asa Montgomery* and Ruth Burgess. Those shown with a * following their name can be found on the right image. **Benajah Burgess** had a brother named Thomas Burgess.

Note that there is a George Matteson shown as Mattheson on the left image. **Benajah Burgess** was married to Zilpha Matteson, daughter of George Matteson.

35 th Heck Family Picnic

Sunday, **July 15, 2001** - Lighthouse - Noon

Cel - Dick Salad	Barb - Dave Salad	Jim - Karen Veggies & Dip	Clarence - Mary Am. Potato Salad	Shirley Ger. Potato Sa
Gene - Carol Cole Slaw	Vickie- Kurt Cookies	Sandy - Mike Dessert	Allen & Clair Pretzels	Suzie-Jeff Cookies
Larry Blueberries	Joan Pineapple	Theo- Cathy Pasta Salad	Jim- Sue Dip & Chip	Linda - Rudy Wrapped Candy
Eric - Lora Salad	Dee - Bernie Salad	Jamie - Carol Cookies	Kevin - Becky Cookies	Kathy - Jim Dessert
Bob - Lorraine Watermelon	Mary - Roger Strawberries	Tim - Lois Salad	Mike Grapes	Paula Games
Bob - Pat Wrapped Candy	Kevin - Kathy Olives - Pickles	Al - Donna Cheese -Crackers	Mich - Joel Nuts	Albert- Y Dip & Chip
Marvin - Joan Beans	Jeanie & Malcolm Shrimp/cream	Steve - Judi Cantaloupe	Ann - Dan Special K. Bars	David - Mary Brownies
Bob - Gloria Salad	Bill - Tracy Dessert	Gary - Carol Olive-Pickles	Don - Sharon Salad	Lori - John Cookies
		Steve & Cara Salad	Janice - Tom Cookies	Dan - Patti Cookies
			Dave - Judi Dessert	Amy - Adam Snacks

Breakfast 7 Hammez

Golf : 8:30 Shoop's Park

Reservations Steve 639-2434

or John 884-9113

\$5.00 Fee plus golfing fee

Bring:
Table Cloths
Table
Balls & Bats

Bring
Meat
Soda
Beer
Chairs

Provided
Hall
Coffee
Plates

Silverware
Grill
Napkins

Cost \$5.00 per family

Please call if you can not come so we can fill in. If you don't want your name on the list we will take it off. It is not fair to others if you don't bring your share

Also - how many children under the age of 10 that will be coming

Next Yr. Picnic 3rd Sunday July 15th, 2002

Regrets at : 639-5370 or 639-6064

Please bring serving spoon for your items