

Our Family News Letter

Issue 47

Greendale, Wisconsin

December, 2004

William E. Burgess 1830 - 1903

WILLIAM E. BURGESS, farmer, Sec. 8; P.O. Somers; born in Oswego Co., N.Y., in 1830; his father, Benagh Burgess, who was a native of Vermont, came to what is now Kenosha Co. in 1836, and engaged in business in a saw-mill located on Pike River, in what is now the town of Somers, in which business he engaged until his death, in the spring of 1838. At an early age, William entered the milling business, which he followed up to 1850, when he went into farming, in which he is at present occupied. Mr. William Burgess has been Assessor of the town of Somers for the past two years, and has held the office of Town Treasurer. He married, in the town of Somers, in 1850, Miss Jane Leet, a native of the State of New York, and a daughter of one of Kenosha's Co.'s earliest settlers (Mr. Charles Leet, who died in Somers Feb. 11, 1874). Mr. William Burgess has ten children living - Mary A., born Aug. 5, 1851; Martha E., Oct. 30, 1852; Virginia L., Mar. 11, 1855; Charles L., March 15, 1857; Cyrus E., Aug. 23, 1859; George F., Jan. 23, 1861; William E., Oct. 29, 1865; Hattie J., March 9, 1868; Burdett H., Nov. 9, 1870; Robert C., May 9, 1873; and Della, April 25, 1863 (died June 27, 1863). Mr. Burgess' mother, Amanda Burgess, formerly Miss Foster, is still living; she was born in the State of New York in 1799; her father, Mr. Alfred Foster, was one of Kenosha's first settlers, having been one of the exploring party who came to Wisconsin in 1835; he built the first saw-mill in what is now Kenosha Co. Mr. Burgess is owner of 247 acres of land.

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The biographical sketch above was from a Racine and Kenosha County Biography of Citizens.

Meet your cousins...

Donald Sylvester Henning was born a Henningfeld but changed his name to Henning in later years for professional reasons.



Don and his late wife, Carol, are shown in the picture above.

Donald S. Henningfeld was born on September 2, 1918, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was the second child of Sylvester William Henningfeld and Alice Eva Gillmeister. The first child of the union was Gordon Henningfeld who died at the age of six years in 1916. Sylvester W. Henningfeld was the son of Henry Henningfeld and Clara Stratman.

In 1935, Donald Henningfeld was a member of the wedding party for my parents, Robert G. Heck and Mary Ann Mikel. Donald was the first cousin of Robert G. Heck. Donald's father and Robert's mother were brother and sister.

Donald graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1942 with a BS degree in mechanical engineering. He was a registered Professional

Engineer in the State of Wisconsin. He also attended the Milwaukee Art Institute and the Layton Art Gallery. He served in the US Army from July, 1945 to October, 1946 with the rank of T3.

On September 11, 1948, Donald Henning and Carol Jean Habeck were married in Milwaukee. Carol graduated from the University of Wisconsin and from the Wisconsin College of Music. Carol died from cancer on May 14, 2004.

Donald and Carol have one son, Paul Harvey Henning, born on December 11, 1949. Paul is married to Mary Ann Platts, and they have one child, Graham Thomas Henning.



Donald S. Henning standing next to the grave marker of his great grandfather, Franz Henningfeld at the St. Thomas Cemetery in Waterford, Wisconsin in October, 2004.

Donald S. Henning has the distinction of designing one of the three final versions of the 2004 Wisconsin quarter. His original design was one with a badger, deer, eagle and a fish on it but he was asked to “simplify” the design as it had too much detail on it for making coinage. Donald redesigned the coin by removing the badger, eagle and some of the trees from it. Donald’s design received 97,010 votes while the winning – design received 137,745 votes. The winning design has a cow’s head, a block of cheese and an

ear of corn in it. Ugggh!!!

Wisconsin Commemorative Quarter: Scenic Wisconsin

The natural beauty and resources in Wisconsin rival those of any place in the world. Our waterways, which we have in abundance, will always be a key resource for our rural and urban areas. Numerous lakes and streams typify the northern part of the state, while urban skylines grace our skies in the southern half of our state. Major rivers flow from the east to the mighty Mississippi in the west. Bluffs from LaCrosse to Wisconsin Dells show the state's glacial heritage, and our east and northern borders are the Great Lakes -- Michigan and Superior. Designed by Donald S. Henning, Grafton



The before and after designs by Donald Henning are shown above.

Things found in old newspapers...

My brother, Gary Heck, made it **BIG** in the newspapers of two Wisconsin cities in 1940. The Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune had a brief announcement on July 15, 1940 while the Stevens Point Daily Journal ran the same article on July 11, 1940.

“Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heck and son Gary of Racine were Monday dinner guests at the Fred Henningfield home while en route to their home from Minneapolis.”

More newspaper stuff...

Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune: 18 Aug 1936

“Funeral at Wild Rose for Mrs. McNelty.”

“Wild Rose, Wisconsin - Funeral services were held Sunday at the Methodist church here for Mrs. Clara McNelty, a lifelong resident of this community. She was 77 years old.

Mrs. McNelty was born March 19, 1859, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Christie. On August 14, 1881 she married Larry McNelty.

Those from away who attended the funeral were Robert McNelty, Denver, Colorado; Mrs. Jennie Clark and Mr. and Mrs. Sid Bonneville, Chicago; Mrs. Addie McLennon, Park Ridge, Ill; Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Roberts and Donald McLennon, Wausau; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grayson and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Grayson, Racine; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rockman, Clintonville; Mrs. Adam Dibble, Antioch, ILL; and Mrs. Maud Neurille, St. Louis, Mississippi.”

Note: Larry McNelty was born Lawrence McNulty, son of Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess. He was the brother of Mary Ann McNulty Heck and of Loretta McNulty Dibble shown as Mrs. Adam Dibble in the obituary.

Stevens Point Daily Journal: 17 Aug 1935

“There was a reunion of the McNelty family over the weekend at the home of Mrs. Clara McNelty. Those present were R. F. McNelty of Denver, Colorado, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Roberts and sons, Deane and David, of Wausau. Mrs. Ralph Rockman and sons, Bobby and Wayne of Clintonville, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grayson of Racine.”

Stevens Point Daily Journal: 17 Aug 1935
Plainfield Briefs

“Mr. and Mrs. George Henningfield and Mrs. Margaret Heck of Racine were Sunday guests of their brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Henningfield.”

Lorraine Heinrichs Teuke 1920-2004

Lorraine Teuke

Lorraine Teuke, age 83, died with fortitude and grace on Aug. 28, 2004.

She was born Lorraine Ruth Heinrichs to Amalia (Mollie) and Frank Heinrichs on Dec. 15, 1920, in Racine, and lived in Wausau from the age of 2 until she moved to Middleton in 2002.



Lorraine Teuke

She was recording secretary of the Wausau Rotary Club for 38 years, was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow and was the first woman Rotarian in the Wausau club. Lorraine and her late husband, Gib, were active in St. Anne Parish and in the Wausau community. Together they taught WSI (water safety instructor) courses at the Woodson YMCA, where Lorraine taught adult swimming for more than two decades and served on the ‘Y’ board of directors for 13 years. She also officiated at WIAA swimming and diving meets.

Lorraine loved music and sang for many years with Wausau Pro Musica. She was a longtime member of the choir of St. Michael Catholic Parish; before that, she directed and sang in the choir at St. Anne’s. She read widely, supported public radio for more than six decades, and traveled the world with friends and family. She stayed in contact with her high

school chums, had many friends in Wausau, and made many more in her short time at Middleton Glen. Lorraine was close to her brothers and sisters and saw them often over card games.

She is survived by two sisters, Dorothy Johnson of Shawano and Joan Woolley of Green Bay; and her children, Lori Teuke Baker (Bill) of Milwaukee, Judy Morman (Michael) of Knoxville, Tenn., Mary Brodhead (Rob) of Springfield, Mo., Molly Rose Teuke (Michael Murphy) of Madison, Michael Teuke (Patti) of Birmamwood, and Ann Sweeney (Tommy) of Madison; her granddaughter, Carrie Marohl (Jeremy) and great-granddaughter Megan Marohl.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gilbert, sisters, Geraldine Zarnke and Rosemary Reynolds, and brothers, Frances, Eugene, Gordon and Carl Heinrichs.

We, her family, and many, many friends will miss her dearly.

There will be a small, informal gathering from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 8, at Middleton Glen in Middleton. Mass will be said in her memory at St. Bernard’s Catholic Church in Middleton and at St. Michael Catholic Church in Wausau.

Contributions may be sent in her honor to Wisconsin Public Radio, 821 University Ave., Madison WI 53706.

We were saddened to learn of the death of **Lorraine Heinrichs Teuke** on August 20, 2004. Lorraine enjoyed reading “*Our Family Newsletter*” and had sent notes to me in the past about her family. Our sympathy goes to her family and her two sisters.

I remember attending a family reunion in Wausau, Wisconsin many years ago and I especially remember Lorraine and her sisters singing many old favorites. Her side of the family was blessed with talent. My side were good listeners.

2004 Speaking Tour Completed

My genealogy workshop speaking tour in Waukesha County, Wisconsin has now been completed. The Waukesha County Federated Library System obtained a grant from the State of Wisconsin for conducting 39 two-hour workshops on Genealogy Research. I was asked to conduct all 39 sessions.

The attendance far exceeded expectations with 1,148 people attending the workshops that started in March and ended in October. I really enjoyed conducting the sessions and in the process got to meet a lot of people interested in family history.

At one of the sessions an elderly lady came up to me at the break time and asked if my family ever lived on Jones Avenue in Racine. I told her that we did live there and I was curious as to how she knew the family. She said that she lived on Walton Avenue right behind us and that she and her sister were our baby sitters back in 1945. Her name was Helen Just and her sister was Dorothy Just.

We gave each other a big hug and talked about the old neighborhood. It is a small world.

Our club, the Milwaukee Personal Ancestral File Users Group (MPAFUG) gained a lot of new members during the year as a result of the genealogy workshops. The club now has 450 members from 18 states and two foreign countries. The average attendance at our monthly meetings is over 200. Our club is considered the fastest growing PAF users group in the world.

The Waukesha County Federated Library System is attempting to get a new grant for 2005 so that we can continue the genealogy workshops. They stated that the workshop is the most successful program that they have ever offered.

If we get new funding I'll let you know about it.

Letter from Southport 1838

The following letter was found at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library web site.

<http://libtext.library.wisc.edu/wipionexp/data/images/Letters2s/S/p2s0002.jpg>

The letter was written in April, 1838, from Southport, now Kenosha, Wisconsin. The letter was written by G. P. Post to his "father" which I suspect may have been his father-in-law. What makes this letter interesting is that it was written one month after my great great grandfather, Benjamin Burgess, died at Southport. The letter gives a view of life in the Wisconsin Territory in 1838. I did not correct any spelling errors as they add character to the letter. Editor

Southport, Wisconsin Territory, April 26, 1838

P. Fonda Esq.

Dear Father - Your letter of March 27th came duly to hand which I was happy to receive and perused it with great pleasure. I perceive you and family are all well, and no doubt are enjoying yourselves very well. My health has generally been very good since I returned from the East. I expect to return East sometime late this fall and perhaps stay through the winter. We had very pleasant weather all last fall. February was a very cold month, March was very pleasant and mild. This month I am sorry to say has been very wet and cold. Much North wind so much so that grass does not start up much. I hope we will have a change for the better by the first of May. The last years crops came in very well, and what little wheat that was sowed last fall looks well this spring.

As this country is yet new they do not raise all their eatables, particularly flour & meat which is shipped from Ohio and Michigan. Those two articles are scarce as deer this spring but money is full as scarce. I think we feel the scarcity of money more this spring than any time before.

The oneley money we have in circulation is Michigan and there banks are in such a reched condition that people can not pass it. Con-siquently all kinds of trade is down and it is im-possible to sell any kind of property for good money. We are in hopes to see better times by the first of June.

I shall rite to you again the last of May or first of June, in consiquence of the derangment of the curenicy it operats very seriously on this cuntry, as it putts a check on all kinds of enterprize. I have been at this place and vicinity ever since I returned from the East. I have a very plesent place to board, and enjoy myself as well as cir-cumstances will admit. This cuntry remains helthy as usual , at least we have no prevailing diseases, such as Bilious or fever and ague, it is true that we have sicknes and die here as in all other places, as my experiance heretofore goes to prove that.

Our teritory will probably bee divided this spring before Congress adjourns, and organize a new teritory on the West side of the Missipi River making the river the line. The name of the new Teritory will bee Ioia. Congress has not pased a premtion to settlers on the Government Land. It has pased the Senet and has beend carrid to the Lower House. It will no dout bee hard fought on its final vote but we think it will pass. The land in this district has not yet been orderd for sale, and we hope it will not bee this season, unless the times change for the better, soon.

A steam boat pased in sight yesterday from Buf-falo I supose on her way to Chicaugo. This is the first up this spring.

May the Lord bless you and render your re-maining years happy. Accept my love to all the family.

I remain very respectfully yours,
G. P. Post

Guess who's in the tractor?



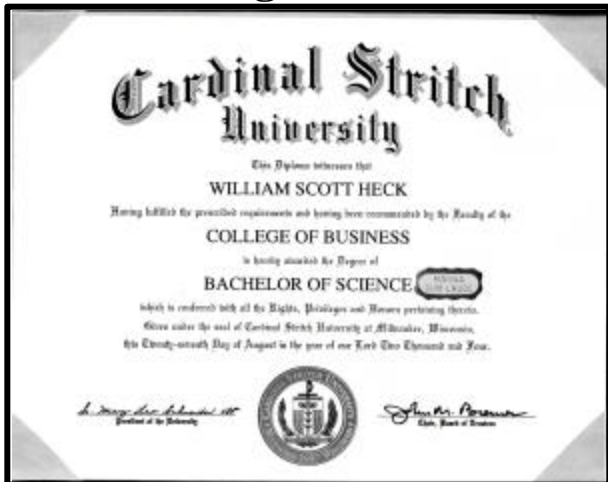
Now for a close up...



Nathan and Nicholas Tappen, grandsons of Don and Sharon Heck, look like they were at the controls but in reality we understand that Don was actually driving the Case IH tractor in the Racine 4th of July 2004, parade. Amy and Adam Tappen look happy that the parade was over as I understand that they were greatly concerned that Don would run over a few parade goers.

Don was so excited about the event that he really tried to take the tractor home as part of his toy tractor collection. Well Don, maybe Case IH will give you one for retirement.

Bill Heck Graduates from Cardinal Stritch University with high honors.



Bill Heck, son of Gloria and Bob Heck, graduated from Cardinal Stritch University with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Business on August 27, 2004. His degree was in Information Systems Management.

What makes this really special is that Bill graduated Magna Cum Laude while attending evening classes and while working 40 to 50 hours a week for Cooper Power Systems. Bill was living in Racine, working in Waukesha and going to school in Brown Deer. Bill had straight A's with the exception of one class in which he received a B+. Congratulations, Bill.



Bill Heck and Fargo were passing out candy to the neighboring kids on Hallo ween, 2004.

One Person Gets More Spam Than Anyone

You think YOU have it bad when it comes to spam littering your e-mail box. Bill Gates has it the worst of all. Reuters reports that the Microsoft Corp. head honcho gets a whopping 4 million e-mails a day, making him very likely the most "spammed" person in the world.

On the other hand, only a few of those millions of junk e-mail messages actually make it through the anti-spam technology filters and into Gates's inbox, according to Chief Executive Officer Steve Ballmer.

Cemetery Records On Line

If you go to the following web address you will reach the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catholic Cemeteries web site.

<http://cemeteries.org/genealogy.asp>

The Milwaukee Archdiocese owns and operates eight cemeteries in southeastern Wisconsin. They are: All Saints Cemetery, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin; Calvary Cemetery, Milwaukee; Holy Cross Cemetery, Milwaukee; Holy Trinity Cemetery, Milwaukee; Mount Olivet Cemetery, Milwaukee; Resurrection Cemetery, Mequon, Wisconsin; Saint Adalbert Cemetery, Milwaukee; and Saint Joseph Cemetery, Waukesha, Wisconsin. Cemeteries that are owned and operated by individual parishes are not included in the database.

By doing a search for Henningfeld, I found the following names listed:

A. F. Henningfeld, Carlos H. Henningfeld Sr., Julia Henningfeld, Maria C. Henningfeld, Maria Lousia Henningfeld, and Walburga Henningfeld.

By clicking on each name on the web page you will get a summary for that person. In the case of Maria C. Henningfeld, I clicked on her name and

found that she died on 18 May 1905 at the age of 84 years. Her last address in 1905 was 620 Eleventh Street in Milwaukee. She was buried at the Calvary Cemetery in Block 6, Section D, Row 348.

Maria C. Henningfeld was Maria Christina Dahlman. She was first married to Louis Theule, probably in Germany. Louis died on 16 August 1847 at Burlington, Wisconsin. They had one child, Christina Theule born in about 1844. Maria married a second time at Burlington to Johann Theodor Henningfeld, the younger brother of our Franz Henningfeld. The second marriage took place on 3 May 1848, at Burlington. Marriage information was found in St. Sebastian's Catholic church records at Burlington. The marriage record also indicates that Maria Christina Dahlman was the widow of Louis Theule. St. Sebastian church later became St. Mary's Catholic church.

Johann Theodor Henningfeld died at the age of 59, in 1875, and his wife moved to Milwaukee where she lived with her brother Anthony Dahlman for the next 30 years.

A check of surrounding graves on the internet indicated that Julia Henningfeld, age 42, A. F. Henningfeld, age 35, Maria Louisa Henningfeld, age 27, and Orville Aloysius Federman, age 84 were also buried in the same block and row. Julia Henningfeld was the daughter-in-law of Maria Christina Henningfeld and the wife of Frederick William Henningfeld. A. F. Henningfeld was the son of Maria Christina Henningfeld and was named Francis Anthony Henningfeld. Maria Louisa Henningfeld was the daughter of Maria Christina Henningfeld. The relationship of Orville Aloysius Federman is unknown.

Carlos Henningfeld and his wife Walburga are buried at the Holy Cross Cemetery. Carlos was a brother to my grandmother, Margaret F. Henningfeld Heck, and a twin to Sylvester Henningfeld.

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

Our Family News Letter is published quarterly and is distributed without charge. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated. My home web page address is <http://www.execpc.com/~bheck/heck.html>

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Thanks to our readers...

Contributors during 2004 include Howard & Ann Heck, Jeff & Susan Miller, Dale & Corinne Wise, Philip & Antoinette Heck, Richard & Gladys LaBerge, Ralph Heck, Dave & Barbara Schneider, Dick & Cel Heck.

During this holiday season I would like to thank all of you who have contributed articles, photos, and by check to keep this newsletter going. This is the 47th consecutive issue of Our Family News Letter which started in June, 1993. A total of 376 pages of newsletter have been published, all of which are aimed at telling our family history stories.

From the photo album...

On the following page you will find pictures of our granddaughter, Lauren Emily Heck, daughter of Judi and Dave Heck. Starting at top left and going clockwise: 1. Lauren in prison, or at least behind bars. 2. Free from jail. 3. At the zoo with Grandma Gloria. 4. At Disney World in Florida with her mom, Judi, and grandparents Joan & Dale Wehrman. 5. At home looking for a DVD. 6. So this is what a duck is supposed to look like. Lauren had a busy summer and is looking forward to Christmas!!!!

