

Our Family News Letter

Issue 53

Greendale, Wisconsin

June, 2006

Google Earth Updated

If you happen to have a high-speed cable or a DSL connection for your computer Internet service you might want to take a look at the Google Earth program.

If you go to <http://www.google.com> and then click on **MORE** you will get a list of free programs on the Google system. One is called **“Earth”** and that is the one that is normally referred to as Google Earth. Click on it and then select the **FREE** version of the program.

After it is installed on your computer you can open it and begin your search of the entire world. Basically it is a program that has satellite and high altitude reconnaissance photographs of the entire earth. You can type in an address or just a city & state and you will zoom in to the exact location. The detail depends on which city or country you are looking at. The most detailed city is Las Vegas. The resolution being used there is the new standard being applied all over the country.

You can zoom in on the view and see details that will really surprise you. You can even tell what type of car is parked in your driveway. I was happy to see that much of Germany has been updated to a higher resolution but it's not quite to the level of Las Vegas.

You are probably wondering what Google Earth has to do with family history or genealogy. In a nutshell it gives you the ability to see where people lived. It also puts in perspective the relative distance between villages. Today we take for granted that in order to get from one place to another all a person had to do was hop in the car and drive there. In the past there were no automobiles so travel to neighboring villages usually

involved either walking or riding in a horse pulled wagon.

The following picture is from Google Earth and is of the Village of Alendorf, Germany, the ancestral home of the Heck family.



Alendorf, Germany using Google Earth.



Las Vegas, Nevada using Google Earth.

In both photos, it is possible to zoom in even further than what I have shown you here. Also the photo images are in full color on the Internet. You can also copy and print them in color.

I looked at the Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany where I was stationed in 1959. I found the barracks and even the snack bar right across the street. Again, the detail was amazing.

There is a tilt and fly capability using Google Earth that lets you "fly" just a few hundred feet off of the ground. Be sure to try that function.

1918 Alien Registration

In 1918 at the start of World War I, any alien living in the United States was required to register with the federal government. While conducting some research on the subject for a talk I was giving I discovered that Joseph Heck, brother of Henry, Peter and Clara Heck, had filled out the registration form. The cost of obtaining a copy of the form was \$10.00 from a company called IronWorld Discovery Center, 801 SW Hwy 169, Suite 1, Chisholm, MN 55719. The completed form didn't shed too much light but was worth it just to see what might be available.

The parts of the form filled out by Joseph Heck are shown in **bold** text. It was interesting that Joseph spelled Alendorf with two L's and that he didn't know the address of his wife in St. Paul.

Joseph Heck arrived in America in 1853 with his brothers and sisters and parents. He lived in Wisconsin until 1857 and then moved to Minnesota with his family. In 1861 he was an assistant to the Post Chaplain at Fort Ridgely near New Ulm. On April 2, 1862 he enlisted in Company B, 4th Infantry Regiment of Minnesota. Joseph was injured when the upper deck of his transport boat, the John J. Roe, collapsed on him. He was in the hospital from May, 1862 through the end of the year as a result. He later fought in the Siege of Vicksburg, The Siege of Chattanooga,

and the Battle of Missionary Ridge. Joseph was discharged from the service on April 4, 1865 at St. Paul, MN. Joseph was married in 1882 but separated in 1887. His marriage is listed on page 51 of the church records of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, New Ulm, MN. Witnesses to the wedding were Joseph Stutz and Clara Heck Brunner.

MARRIAGE: Holy Trinity Catholic Church records, New Ulm, MN, pg 51, LDS film 1685741.

!DEATH: Death certificate CertID# 1919-MN-001524. Joseph Heck is buried at St. George Catholic Cemetery, West Newton Township, Nicollet County, Minnesota. He is buried next to his sister, Clara Heck Brunner and her husband, Vincent Brunner.

Following is the text of the Alien Registration Form for Joseph Heck.

Page One Text

STATE OF MINNESOTA
MINNESOTA COMMISSION OF PUBLIC
SAFETY

Alien Registration and Declaration of Holdings

This registration blank to be forwarded to J.A.O. Preus, State Auditor, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Brown County
New Ulm Town/Village/City
____ Serial Number

1. Full name of Alien Registrant: **Joseph Heck**
2. Street Address, Postoffice Box or R.F.D. Route: **520 North Broadway**
3. Village, City, or Town: **New Ulm**
4. Length of residence at the foregoing place: **Since October 1917**
5. Give Age Last Birthday: **77 Years**
6. To what country do you claim allegiance?: **United States of America**
7. Where Born: **Allendorf, Prussia, Germany**
8. Date of Birth: **Feb. 17, 1841**

9. Port of entry to United States: **New York City**
10. Date of Arrival in United States: **Don't know exact date - either 1852 or 1853**
11. Married?: **Yes**
12. Is Wife living?: **Yes**
13. Residence of wife, if living: **St. Paul, Minn, Don't know exact address**
14. Do you speak and write English?: **Yes**
15. Have you a trade or profession, and what?: **No, Was a farmer**
16. In exactly what line of work are you at present engaged?: **Not working now**
17. Give names and ages of all living children, and state which are attending public schools: **Alois Heck, aged 31 years**
18. Have any of your male relatives taken part in present war either for or against the United States and its allies?: **Yes, Three nephews: Joseph Heck, serving with US troops; Henry Brunner, aged 23 years; Edward Brunner aged 25 years, serving with US troops.**
19. Did you register under selective draft, and if so, where?: **No**
20. What is your serial number?
21. Did you claim exemption from military service and why?
22. Have you ever taken out first papers of naturalization in the United States? If so, state where and date: **Has honorable discharge from Civil War**
23. If you have taken out first papers of naturalization why have you not taken out second papers?: **Was under the impression that father took out 2nd papers before I arrived at age of majority.**

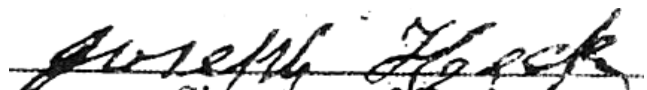
Page Two Text

24. If you have never taken out the first papers of naturalization, why have you not done so?: **Understood I didn't need to, because I had served in Civil War.**
25. Do you own or have interest in any farm lands in any County of Minnesota? If so give legal description, approximate value of your equity, and state whether you are resident thereon.:

No
26. When did you acquire interest in above described lands?
27. Do you own or have interest in any city lots or other real estate in State of Minnesota? If so give legal description and approximate value of your equity therein.: **No**
28. When did you acquire interest in above described property?
29. Do you own or have equity in any farm or city property outside of State of Minnesota? If so give legal description and approximate value of such equity.: **No**
30. Do you own any stocks, bonds, or other securities? If so give name of corporation and amount owned.: **No**
31. Is any person holding in trust for you any Minnesota farm or city property? If so give name of person, description, value of such property, and how long held in trust.: **No**
32. Give legal description of all real and personal property held by minors for which you may be guardian, stating when property acquired and relationship of minor?: **None**
33. Do you own any personal property such as cattle, sheep, horses, autos, farm machinery, etc? If so, what, and approximate value?: **No**
34. Have you sold or transferred any property since the United States declared the existence of a state of war with Germany? If so, give description and to whom sold or transferred?: **No**
35. Have you a safe deposit vault and if so, where is it located?: **No**
Miscellaneous remarks: **Have \$200 in local bank.**

I do solemnly swear that the answers to Questions Nos. 1 to 35 inclusive as above recorded are complete and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date - 7 July 1918


Signature of Registrant

Enrollment Taken and Card Issued Albert Steinhauer, Agent, Minnesota Commission of Public Safety

Peter McNulty & Patience Burgess in 1840

Peter McNulty arrived in the United States in 1834 at the Port of Boston. He left Northern Ireland on April 10, 1834, from Warren Point on the eastern side of Ireland. Peter was 27 years old and single. He arrived first at Saint John's, New Brunswick and then probably after transferring to a smaller ship arrived in Boston on June 11, 1834. Typical sailing time from Ireland to Canada in 1834 was from six to eight weeks, depending on the type of ship and on the weather.

In 1834, Delmonico's, one of New York's finest restaurants, provided a meal of soup, steak, coffee & half a pie for 12 cents. While that doesn't seem like a lot for a meal, in 1834 it was quite high.

Also in 1834, "Turkey in the Straw" became a popular tune in the US.

Peter seems to disappear for a period of time but he apparently made his way to Western New York around the area of Hannibal in Oswego County. It is believed that he met the young Patience Burgess there in about 1835 or 1836. Peter was 29 and Patience was probably 13 or 14.

There is little doubt that the Burgess family was not all that happy about an older Irish man calling on a much younger English girl. Patience's mother, Rebecca Chase Burgess, died before 1836 and this probably help.

Patience's father, Benjamin Burgess, married Amanda Foster from the Hannibal area and emigrated to Southport, Wisconsin in 1836. It appears that Patience married Peter McNulty and

emigrated with him to Shawneetown, Gallatin County, Illinois. In the 1840 US Census, Peter McNulty is found with a young lady in Shawneetown. Peter is shown as being between 30 and 40 years of age and the young lady is shown as being between 15 and 20 years of age. No other people were living with Peter McNulty according to the 1840 census. By the 1850 census for Gallatin County, Illinois there were no McNultys living in that area.



Shawneetown, Illinois shown in the south-east part of the State.

There is no proof that the young lady in the 1840 census was Patience Burgess McNulty since only the name of the head of the household was given in the census. In 1840, all other members of the family would have been listed by sex and age bracket. The ages exactly match those of Peter McNulty and Patience Burgess McNulty. The 1840 census was typically taken in June or July of that year.

Peter McNulty was not found in the special census for the Wisconsin Territory taken in 1836 and 1838. The Burgess family was found in the census of those years but not the McNulty family.

On December 10, 1840, Peter McNulty purchased land from the US Government in Racine County, Wisconsin. Racine County was later split into Kenosha County and Racine County. It appears most likely that the McNulty family had moved from Illinois to Wisconsin between July, 1840 and December 1840.

A special census for Wisconsin taken in 1842 lists Peter McNulty as living in Pleasant Prairie, Racine County, Wisconsin. Shown in that special census were Peter McNulty, one adult female and one male child. That same year Peter purchased land at Southport, now known as Kenosha, Wisconsin from his step-father-in-law, Alfred Foster. On November 22, 1842, Peter applied for naturalization and stated that he was 35 years of age.

Peter and Patience had 13 children between 1842 and 1869. Listed in order of birth: Henry, Mary Ann, Adaline, Elizabeth, John, Peter, Benjamin, Daniel, Julia, Lawrence, Josephine, Loretta and Sylvester. Mary Ann McNulty, the second child of this union, was my great grandmother who married Henry Heck in 1869.

Peter McNulty died some time between June 1, 1880 and June 1, 1885. Patience died on August 29, 1894 and is buried at the cemetery at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church at Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. Peter is buried a few miles away at the cemetery at St. Mary's Catholic Church, at Dover, Racine County, Wisconsin. There is a tombstone marking Patience's grave but none marking the grave of Peter McNulty.

Did you know...? John Burgess and Hannah James were married at Little Compton,

Rhode Island by Justice Richard Billings on April 3, 1740. The intentions of marriage were published on March 15, 1740. This information was found in "**Vital Records of Rhode Island 1636 - 1850**" Volume 4, Little Compton, Part VI, references 75, 178 by James N. Arnold, published in 1893.

"**Vital Records of Rhode Island 1636 - 1850**" Volume 4, Little Compton, Part VI, by James N. Arnold has a very large listing of the Burgess family members in Rhode Island. The Burgess record begins with John Burgess' father, Thomas Burgess who was born in 1668 and died on July 1, 1743. Thomas had three wives and 15 children.

Thomas Burgess and Esther Richmond:

- (1) Edward born 1692
- (2) Deborah born 1694 died July 1779
- (3) Lydia
- (4) Esther born 1696
- (5) Abigail

Thomas Burgess and Martha Wilbour:

- (6) Joseph born 6 Aug 1708
- (7) John (my great great great great GF)
- (8) Mary born 18 Sep 1712
- (9) Thomas born 25 May 1714 died 19 May 1792
- (10) Martha born 28 Mar 1716

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>

My e-mail address is bheck@execpc.com

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- (11) Jacob born 11 Nov 1717 died 18 Sep 1768
- Thomas Burgess and Patience Williams:**
- (12) Mercy born 22 Feb 1722
- (13) Rebecca born Jun 1725
- (14) Martha born Apr 1727
- (15) Nathaniel born 17 May 1729

Thomas Burgess married Esther Richmond in 1691. Esther was born in 1669 and died on 12 Nov 1706. Thomas then married Martha Wilbour Clossen, the widow of Timothy Clossen, on 24 Oct 1707. The marriage was conducted by Justice Joseph Church. Martha was born on 20 Aug 1684, and died before 1721. Thomas then took a third wife, Patience Williams, in 1721.

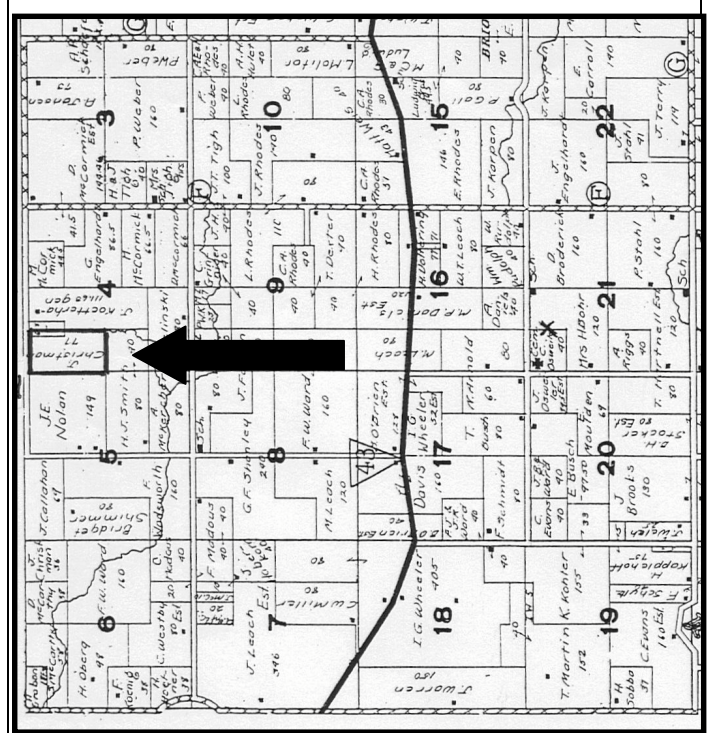
Johann Heck land in Brighton, Wisconsin 1864

After the Sioux Indian uprising at Swan Lake, Nicollet County, Minnesota in 1862, Johann Heck took his family and returned to the Brighton Township, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. Johann had emigrated from this area to Minnesota in 1857 along with about nine other German families.

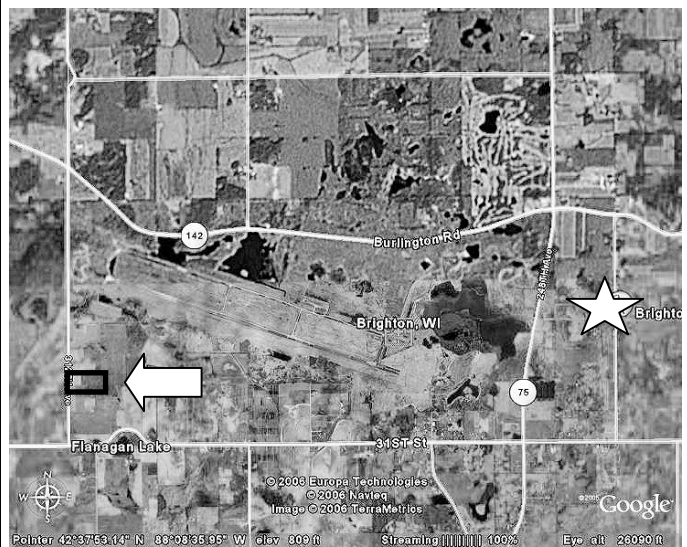
On October 17, 1864, Johann purchased 80 acres of rich farm land for \$6.25 per acre. The total sale was for \$500.00 to be paid as follows: \$200 to be paid on December 1, 1864; \$100 to be paid on October 17, 1865; \$100 to be paid on October 17, 1867, with an interest rate of seven percent.

Johann must have run into some problems because on November 16, 1867, he entered into another mortgage on the same land for \$100 on a two-year promissory note. That note had a solicitor's fee of \$25 and an annual interest rate of eight percent.

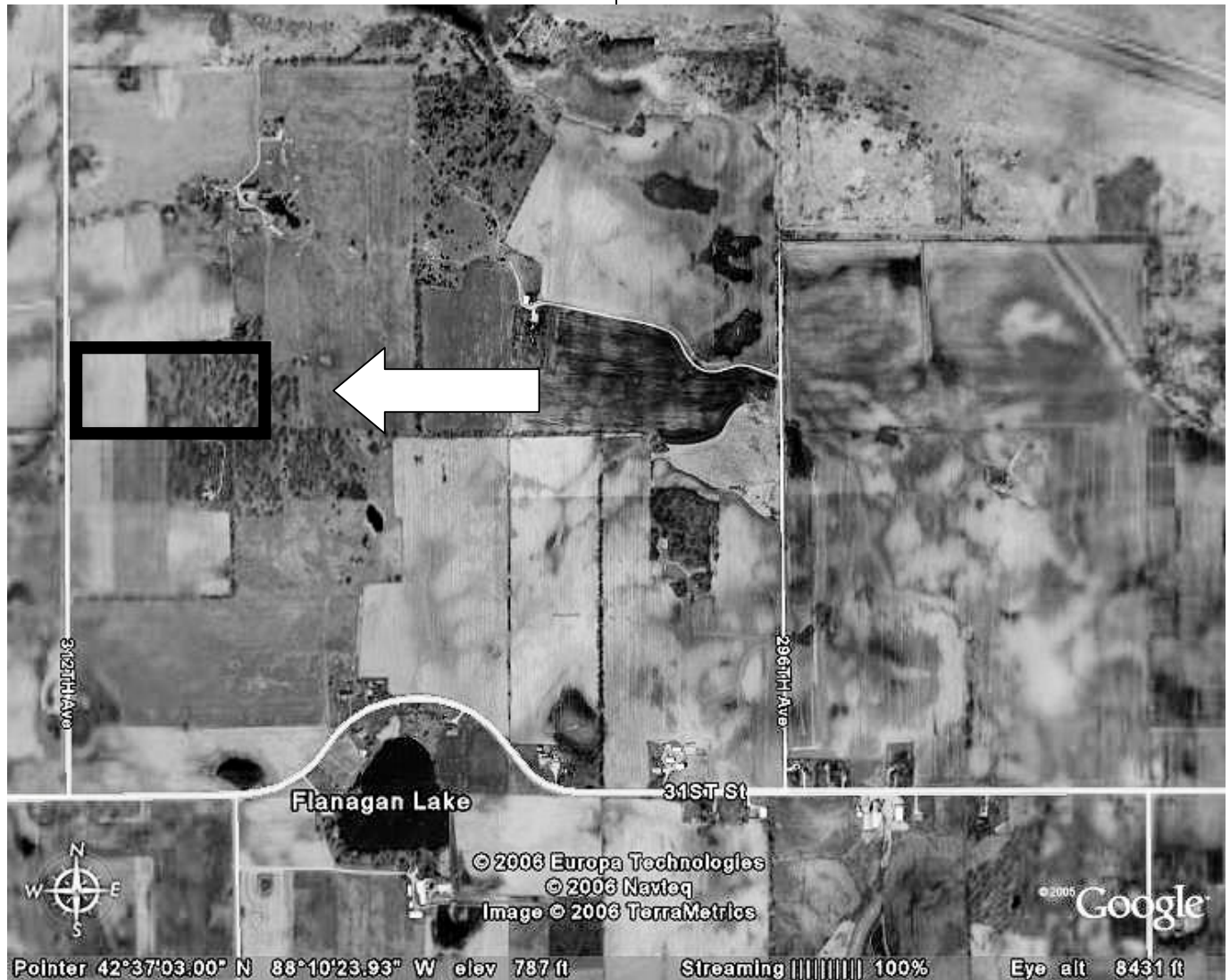
The land was described as being the South Half of the South West Quarter of Section Number 4 in Township 2 North, Range 20 East.



The Johann Heck land is shown in the box to the left of the black arrow.



The Johann Heck land is shown just southwest of the Bong Air Base runway. The base was never completed and the area is now known as the Bong Recreation Area. The land is shown as a small black box to the left of the white arrow in the lower left part of the photo.



In 1868 or 1869, Johann returned to the Swan Lake area of Minnesota. We don't know if he rented out his land at Brighton, Wisconsin or just sold it outright.

If you go to Google Earth and zoom in on the area shown above you will see that the land is being farmed at the present time. Flanagan Lake is just over a mile southeast of the land that the Heck family owned. You can see the lake on the photo above where the road bulges around the north end of the lake. This puts things in perspective. The view of the land in the photo above was taken from 8,431 feet which is about 1.6 miles above the earth.

The Heck family probably didn't have much time for fishing during the planting season but most likely were able to get away during the winter for a little ice fishing on Flanagan Lake.

On the previous page the white star on the second photo indicates where St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church is located. Next to the church is a small cemetery where Anna Barbara Schaefer Heck is buried. Anna Barbara is buried somewhere in that cemetery in an unmarked grave. The distance from the Johann Heck farm to the cemetery is six miles. Patience Burgess McNulty, mother-in-law of Henry Heck is also buried at that cemetery. Her grave is marked.

Thank You...

I would like to send a very special Thank You to those of you who have contributed over the past few months to keeping this newsletter alive and well. Your kind words and generous donations tell me that you do appreciate getting, reading and sharing Our Family News Letter. This issue is the 53rd consecutive newsletter that I've sent out. Some months it is really easy to find things to write about. Some months it is a little tougher.

If you would like to share a memory or a story about the Heck, Henningfeld, Schaefer, Richter, McNulty, Burgess, Brunner, Mikel, Pastyrik, Stratman, Chase, Matteson, or any other branch of the family, please feel free to contact me. I'll even help with the editing. My e-mail address is bheck@execpc.com

A special thank you to: Tom & Pam Kebis, Mary Kay & Dave Hansen, Marjorie Ayo, Laila & John Suter, Lorraine & Bob Heck, Howard & Ann Heck, Marjorie & Don Johnson, Sue & Jeff Miller, and Kathy Lerud.

From the Photo Album...



Shown at lower left is the Vincent Brunner - Clara Heck family in 1884. 1st row L-R: Clara, Frank, (Yes, Frank is in a dress.) Lucy, Vincent Brunner. 2nd Row L-R: Josephine, Alfred Brunner. 3rd Row L-R: Joseph, Anna, Ferdinand, John Brunner. Clara Heck was the sister of Henry, Peter and Joseph Heck. She came to America when she was 10 years old in 1853.



In the photo above the children of Clara Heck and Vincent Brunner are shown. Back row from L-R: John, Joseph, Ferdinand, and Alfred. Front row from L-R: Josephine, Lucy, Anna and Frank. The picture was taken before 1943.



Congratulations & best wishes to Peggy Ann Murray and Robert Michael Heck. Peggy & Bob were married in Racine, Wisconsin on 8 April 2006.