

# Our Family News Letter

Issue 81

Greendale, Wisconsin

June 2013

## Henry Joseph Henningfeld: A collection of newspaper articles from 1876-1936

The following series of articles from various newspapers published in Iowa tell an interesting story about Henry Henningfeld, the head of the Henningfeld family in Rock Valley, Sioux County, Iowa. Henry Henningfeld, sometimes shown as Henningfield, was born in Rochester, Racine County, Wisconsin on 22 February 1849. He was the son of Johann Theodor Henningfeld and Maria Christina Dahlman. Johann Theodor Henningfeld was the younger brother of Franz Arnold Henningfeld, my great great grandfather.



Four generations photo L-R: Henry Joseph Henningfeld, Anna Maria Henningfeld Greiner, Frank Greiner, and Frank Greiner.

**WHY THEY HAVE FAITH IN NORTH  
WESTERN IOWA - The Future Outlook Very  
Encouraging Indeed**

It has always been the aim of the publisher of the Herald to give—or spread, before its reader's good, wholesome facts. A "county paper should always treat on such matters as would be of interest to its patrons—and not try to excel an Eastern daily in giving facts which are of no importance to the country reader—simply because he wishes to fill his space and it takes time to write live articles. We have all come here to gain a living and learn by experience. Every year we learn a little—we learn what is good for this climate in the way of seeds—what we need and what we do not need—and experience is always coming from older persons. We shall now proceed to state what is meant by "goodseed," after which it is our intention to draw a few comparisons with other sections of country. "Good seed" is what we want. Mr. Henry Henningfeld, of Burlington, Racine County, Wis., is "good seed." He has purchased Cap Wyatt's place over in Settler and also adjoining farms. He is "goodseed" and the example he will set when he arrives and takes hold will do much good to the county and surroundings. He will be out shortly and commence the erection of sheds for 2,000 head of sheep, cattle etc. He is an old experienced farmer and knows where the money lies. Wool and sheep are the lowest now and farmers consider this an excellent time to commence raising sheep in a new country. He is to be out next spring with 13 carloads of cattle and sheep accompanied with all the necessary farming tools, etc. His brothers are also coming. (Sioux County Herald October 5, 1876)

Henry Henningfeld and his brother Louis were in town Sunday last. Louis is going back to Wisconsin to spend the winter, returning again in the spring. (Sioux County Herald October 24, 1878)

Henry Henningfeld of Settler was over Tuesday, bringing to town a couple of his old Wisconsin

acquaintances who were out here for the purpose of looking at land. The result is that Wm Richder (Richter) had bought Sidney Brewington's place and will move out in the spring and take possession. Barney Richder (Richter) will come as soon as he can sell his property in Wisconsin. (Sioux County Herald November 14, 1878)

William Cottondick (Kortendick?), a cousin of Henry Henningfeld, arrived here a few days ago and will buy land on section 10 in Settler Township. (Sioux County Herald March 13, 1879)

Henry Henningfield has purchased a farm in Minnesota. (Sioux County Bee December 28, 1900)

Mr. Henry Henningfield, of Rock, Valley, the owner of many broad acres of Sioux county land and one of the first settlers of Rook Township was a Hull visitor Monday. While here he placed a seed corn local in the Index and you need not fear to buy of him. (Hull Index April 3, 1908)

Henry Henningfield of Rock Valley and Mrs. P. J. Hanlon of Alexander S. Dak., the former a brother of Mrs. August Kottman and Mrs. Joe Sandschulte and the latter a sister of the same ladies, were here last week visiting with them. (Upper Des Moines Republican April 21, 1909)

Henry Henningfield has sold his feed mill and lot to William De Blunk who will tear it down and erect a fine residence during the summer, which will be a splendid improvement over that dingy old mill which was an eye sore to all the residents in that vicinity. (Alton Democrat February 18, 1911)

Frank Henningfeld and Mrs. Rudloff, of Shadron, Nebr., arrived in Rock Valley Monday and are visiting relatives and former friends here. Both are former residents of Rock Valley. The former is a son of Henry Henningfeld of this city, and the latter is a daughter of Mrs. Henningfeld. This is the first time they have visited in Rock Valley for about ten years. (Rock Valley Bee January 9, 1931)

Henry Henningfield asks for a court order requiring Mary Greiner and Henry J. Greiner to at once return to him all money taken from the plaintiff and to return to him all Cities Service shares and other property of every description and kind. He also asks that the guardianship be terminated and that the defendants be required to pay all costs of the action. (Hawarden Independent October 27, 1932)

Announcement of a marriage license issued at Canton, S. D., to Mr. Henry Henningfeld and Mrs. Harriet E. Wright appeared in the Des Moines Register and Leader Tuesday morning. The contracting parties are both very well known in Rock Valley having lived here for many years, and they have the respect of all who know them. (Rock Valley Bee November 4, 1932)

The case of Henry Henningfield vs. Mary Greiners and Henry Greiners was dismissed at defendants' cost. (Hawarden Independent November 17, 1932)

In the matter of the guardianship of Henry Henningfield it has been ordered by the court that the guardians shall pay to said Henry Henningfield the sum of \$100 per month payable in two installments each month beginning with the month of January 1933, and to be used and expended for his household expenses and support. (Alton Democrat January 27, 1933)

In the care of Henry Henningfield by Mary Greiner and Henry J. Greiner, his guardians, against Harriet E. Wright, wherein plaintiffs seek to have marriage of Henry Henningfield and Harriet E. Wright of Rock Valley annulled, the plaintiffs files a motion to have petition dismissed, which case is dismissed with prejudice and the costs taxed to said plaintiffs. (Alton Democrat February 24, 1933 front page)

An order was issued authorizing the guardians of Henry Henningfeld to deliver their deed to Dena Baker upon the payment of the balance of the purchase price with interest on the NW 1/4 of Sec. 24-97-47. (Rock Valley Bee June 16, 1933)

After oral arguments were heard in the matter of the guardianship of Henry Henningfeld, the matter was taken under advisement. (Hawarden Independent April 26, 1934)

ROCK VALLEY CITIZEN DIES – Henry Henningfeld passed away Friday morning after a long and severe illness. Deceased leaves three children, Frank Henningfeld, Mrs. Henry Rudloff, Mrs. Mary Greiner, and the widow, Mrs. Wright Henningfeld. Mr. Henningfeld was 85 years old. (Alton Democrat September 28, 1934)

**Henry Henningfeld, deceased** In the above matter the court ordered that Emma W. Henningfeld, executrix pay W. C Leonard as attorney fees the sum of \$500.00 for ordinary services and \$250.00 for extraordinary services and that this allowance shall include the amount to be paid F. T. McGill by W. C. Leonard and to Te Paske and Te Paske for services rendered at the request of W. C. Leonard. (Sioux County Capital May 14, 1936)

The final reports of Emma Henningfeld, executrix in the estate of Henry Henningfeld, were approved by the court. (Ireton Ledger October 8, 1936)

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## What ever happened to Joel Burgess?

Benjamin Burgess and Rebecca Chase had seven children. One of their sons was Joel Burgess born about 1821. The only record that we had for **Joel Burgess** was his marriage on 19 February 1845 at Racine County, Wisconsin to Emily Sheldon.

While conducting a newspaper search of the **Southport Telegraph** on the internet, I found a Commissioners Notice dated 9 December 1845.

It states: "The undersigned Commissioners appointed by the Judge of Probate to examine the claims against the estate of **Joel Burgess** late of Southport, deceased, will meet at the office of J.

B. Jillson in Southport on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January 1846 at 1 o'clock P.M. Also at the same place and hour on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1846. Commissioners: J. V. Quarles, G. W. Cole, J. B. Jillson."

This indicates that Joel Burgess died sometime in 1845, less than a year after his marriage.

I checked the pre 1907 Wisconsin vital records and found Joel's marriage to Emily Sheldon listed in Racine County, Wisconsin Volume 1, page 0040. There was no record of his death in the pre 1907 Wisconsin vital records.

On 23 December 1845 there was a marriage between Emily Burgess and H. W. Woolson in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. It will take a little more research to determine if that Emily Burgess was the widow of Joel Burgess.

A search of the Racine and Kenosha County newspapers from 1845 did not yield a record of the death of Joel Burgess.

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## The Migration Of The Benjamin Burgess Family

Cheryl Heck and I have been busy researching the migration of the Benjamin Burgess family from New York to Vermont to Western New York State, and finally to Wisconsin.

Benjamin Burgess was the first of our Burgess family to migrate to the Wisconsin Territory. He was my great-great-great grandfather.

Benjamin Burgess was born about 1794, probably at White Creek, Washington County, New York. He married Rebecca Chase in about 1818 and lived in East Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont according to the biography of their son, Alonzo Burgess.

The 1820 United States Census listed the Benjamin Burgess family as living in Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont. The children were not listed by name but were listed

within age brackets. The names of those listed would probably have been Benjamin Jr., Nehemiah Ebenezer, Alonzo, the father Benjamin Sr., and Rebecca, the mother.

By the 1830 United States Census we find the Benjamin Burgess family living in Ira, Cayuga County, in Western New York State.

On **2 March 1824**, Benjamin Burgess purchased 50 acres of land from Simon Annable in Ira, Cayuga County, New York for \$720.00.

On **22 May 1828**, Benjamin Burgess and Nathan Pierce purchased 50 acres of land from Solomon Moss in Ira, Cayuga County, New York for \$550.00. On the same day, Benjamin Burgess and Nathan Pierce purchased 100 acres of land from Solomon Moss in Ira, Cayuga County, New York for \$1,600.00.

On **9 December 1828**, Benjamin Burgess and Nathan Pierce and Nathan's wife, Sylvia sold 10 acres of land to Arnold Herrington in Ira, Cayuga County, New York for \$200.00. This was a significant transaction because it listed Sylvia as the wife of Nathan Pierce. It is believed that this Sylvia was the first born child of Benjamin Burgess and Rebecca Chase.

It would have been very unusual for Benjamin Burgess to jointly purchase land with another couple, Nathan and Sylvia Pierce, unless they were related in some significant way. Thus we are concluding that Sylvia Pierce was the daughter of Benjamin Burgess. According to a biography of her brother, Alonzo Burgess, Sylvia died at an early age.

On **5 April 1830**, Benjamin Burgess of the town of Ira, Cayuga County, New York sold to Alfred Foster of the town of Hannibal, Oswego County, New York, 150 acres of land by quitclaim deed in Ira, Cayuga County, New York for \$500.00.

This is the most significant transaction we have found in our research because Alfred Foster was the Father-In-Law of Benjamin Burgess.

Unlike most other property deeds, a quitclaim deed contains no title covenant and thus, offers the person buying the land no warranty as to the status of the property title. Because of this lack of warranty, quitclaim deeds are most often used to transfer property between family members, or as gifts within a family.

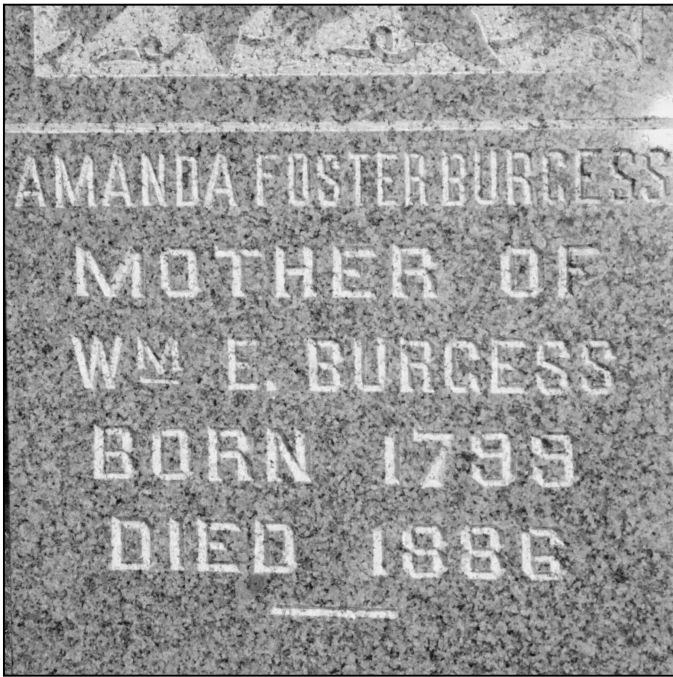
On **15 March 1834**, Benjamin Burgess sold 25 acres of land to Allen Morse in Ira, Cayuga County, New York for \$325.00.

On **13 November 1835**, Benjamin Burgess purchased 112 acres plus two-thirds of an acre from George D. Wickhuns in Hannibal, Oswego County, New York for \$563.00.

On **19 December 1835**, Benjamin Burgess and his wife, Amanda, sold 112 acres plus two-thirds of an acre to Watson Earll Junior in Hannibal, Oswego County, New York for \$1,125.00.

On **5 March 1836**, Benjamin Burgess arrived in Wisconsin where he located on a tract of Government land on the Pike River near the town of Somers, adjacent to the Village of Southport, now Kenosha. At that time the Territory in which Southport was situated was in Milwaukee County. In 1836 it was set off as Racine County, and in 1850 it was set off as Kenosha County.

Benjamin Burgess and his wife Amanda started a sawmill on the Pike River. The site of the sawmill is on the land described as the South West quarter of Section One, Township Two North, of Range Twenty-Two East containing 160 acres. Following Benjamin's death in March 1838, the United States Government officially transferred the land to Amanda Burgess on **15 November 1838** by certificate number 1018. President John Tyler transferred the land for the United States. This information is contained in the Abstract of Title number 48533, for the land which today is located about one mile from Petrified Springs Park. The land is right next to land owned by the Parkside University in Kenosha County. Benjamin Burgess is probably buried somewhere on the 160 acres of land where the sawmill operated. Amanda Foster Burgess died on 10 June 1886 and is buried about one mile away from the sawmill site at the Oakwood Cemetery.



**Tombstone of Amanda Foster Burgess.**



**Ira and Hannibal New York are located 8.1 miles from each other.**

**A= White Creek, Washington County, NY**

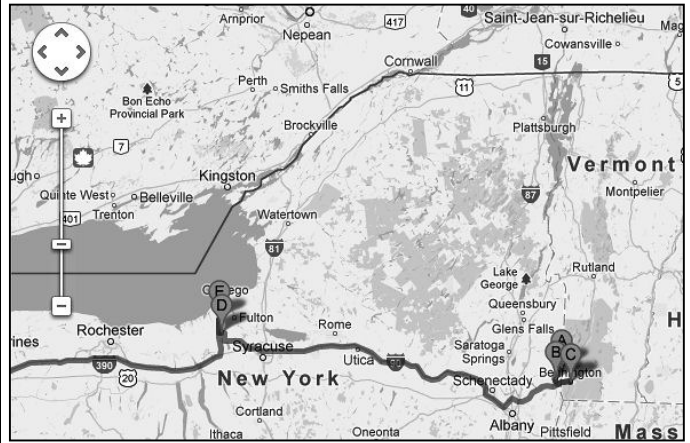
**B= Hoosick, Rensselaer County, NY**

**C= Bennington, Bennington County, VT**

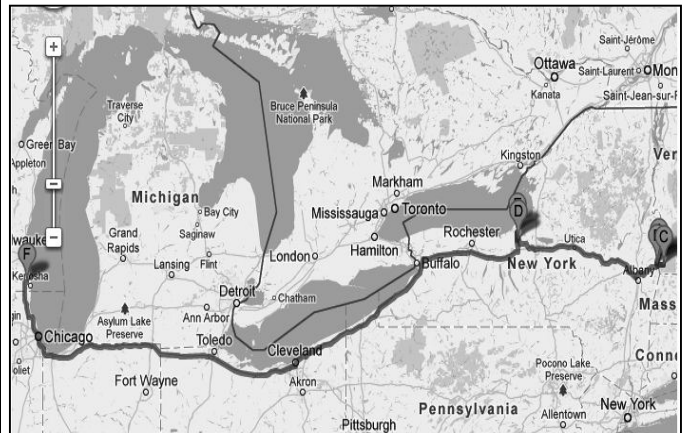
**D= Ira, Cayuga County, NY**

**E= Hannibal, Oswego County, NY**

**F= Somers, Kenosha County, WI**



The dark path on the maps show the route of travel from New York to Vermont, to Western New York, to Wisconsin.



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Donations to help cover the costs of publishing and mailing are greatly appreciated. If you would like to have your favorite family photos included in future issues of Our Family News Letter, please send them along with a full description to me at the following address. Please indicate if you want the photos returned.

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## History Comes Alive at Old World Wisconsin.

If you would like to experience what life was like in early Wisconsin you should be sure to visit Old World Wisconsin located in Eagle, Wisconsin. The photo below was taken by Gloria and Bob Heck at a Civil War encampment held at Old World Wisconsin several years ago.



The photo at upper right was taken from inside of the General Store and shows reenactors playing their part in a dispute over moldy bread. The local inhabitants were complaining to the military personnel that the owner of the General Store was trying to sell them infested bread.



## Mr. Burgess Lost At Sea On The Great Lakes

While doing some research in early Wisconsin newspapers, I found an article in the **Southport Telegraph: 9 April 1844:** "In the same gale by which the schooner WAVE was wrecked, we learn that the VICTORY was also lost with all on board. On the VICTORY, and lost with her, we learn, was a Mr. Burgess, formerly of our village."

**Buffalo Commercial Advertiser: 15 April 1844:** "Rumor says the VICTORY is on the beach some miles below Chicago – crew and passengers perished. We deeply regret to learn that Mr. Burgess, a young man from this place was on board."

**Buffalo Daily Gazette: 17 April 1844:** "Five of the crew of the VICTORY have been washed ashore near the head of the lake, lashed to a fragment of the vessel, all dead."

We do not know who Mr. Burgess was but from the three articles we can tell that he was a young man, that he lived in Southport at one time, and that his last residence was Buffalo, New York. There were several Burgess families in the Southport area during that time period.

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# Special Thanks to Our Contributors

The following readers sent in contributions to help defray the cost of publishing Our Family News Letter for 2013. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated.

**Frank and Andrea Lamping**

**Louise Havens**

**Howard & Anne Heck**

**Don Johnson and Family**

**Sue & Jeff Miller**

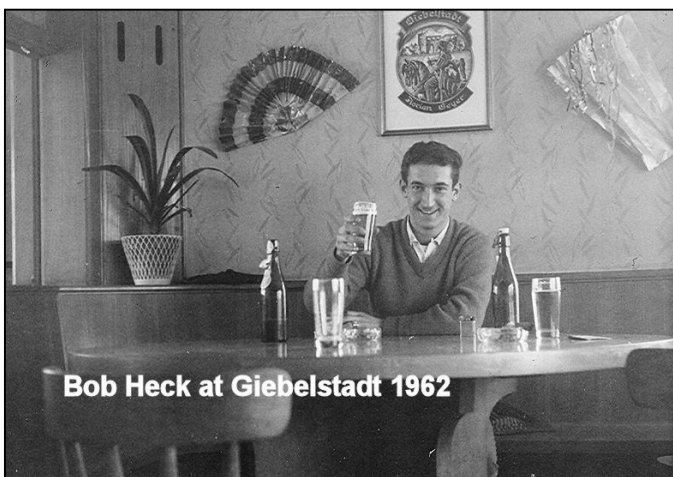
**Corinne & Dale Wise**

**Mary Kay & Dave Hansen**

**Ellen & Bill Stiner**

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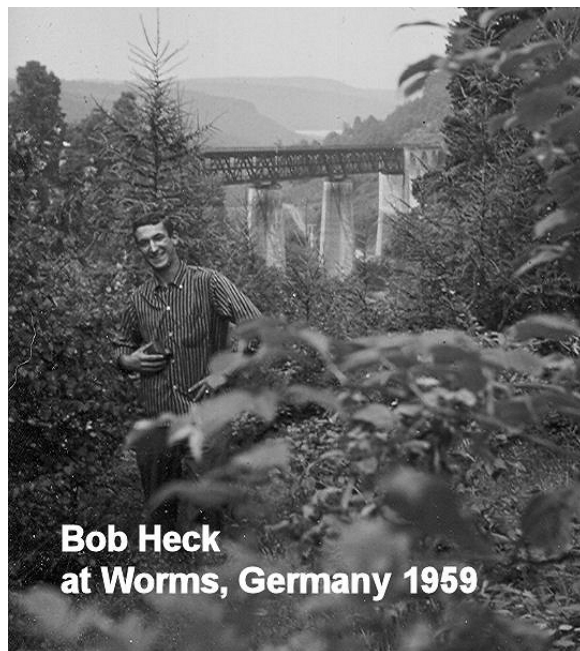
## **Photos From The Past**



**Bob Heck at Giebelstadt 1962**



Lower Left: Bob Heck enjoying a beer at Giebelstadt, Germany in 1962 at the Florian Geier Gasthause. Above Center: Bob Heck participating in a "wood choppers" dance at the Grandcafe Rainer Gasthause in Innsbruck, Austria in 1961.



**Bob Heck  
at Worms, Germany 1959**

## Four Brothers & Their Sister



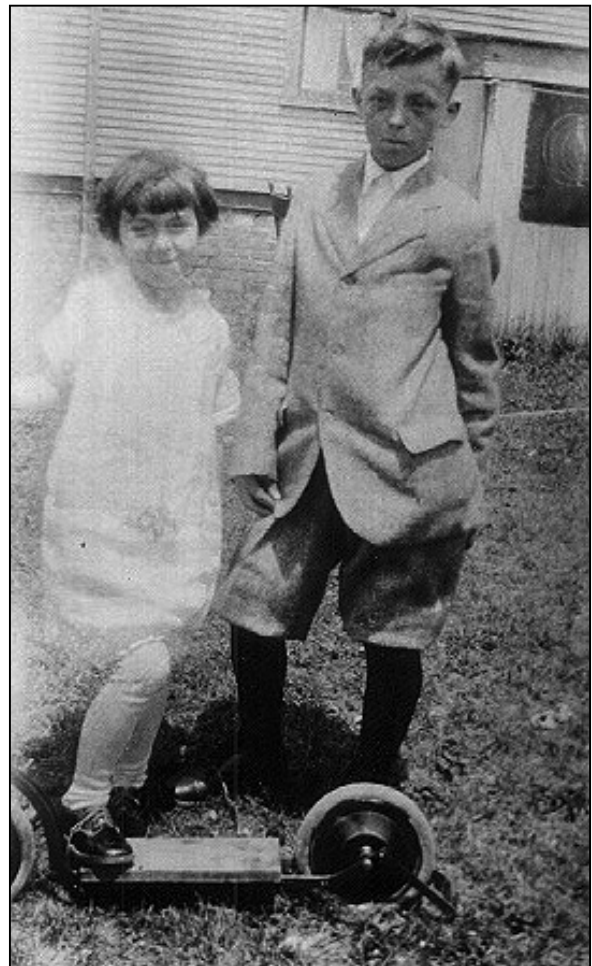
Clarence Heck Sr. standing next to farm equipment probably at Waterford, Wisconsin.



Alvin Heck Sr. on a camping trip as a teenager. Alvin often went camping with his brother, Robert.



Robert G. Heck making dinner while on a camping trip.



Bernice Heck with her brother Edward Heck.