

# Our Family News Letter

Issue 88

Greendale, Wisconsin

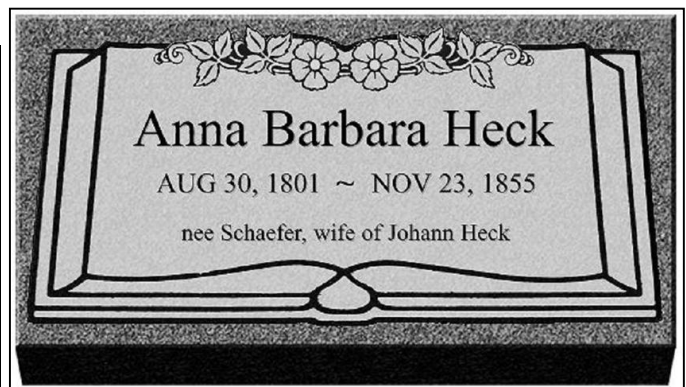
March 2015



## Tombstone Footing for Anna Barbara Schaefer Heck Completed

Thanks to our cold weather here in Wisconsin, the tombstone that we ordered for Anna Barbara (nee Schaefer) Heck, while completed, has not as yet been cemented in place with epoxy. The tombstone has been inscribed and the eighteen inch deep cement footing has been dug and poured. However, the epoxy cannot be used in cold weather. Spring and warm weather is on its way so it won't be long before Anna Barbara's final resting place will be marked. She has been buried in an unmarked grave for 160 years.

Anna Barbara Schaefer Heck arrived in New York at Castle Garden on 16 April 1853 along with her husband Johann, and their children, Peter, Anna Lucia, Henry, Joseph, and Clara.



Anna Barbara Heck only lived in America for two and a half years, dying on 23 November 1855 at Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin.

Anna Barbara Heck was my great-great-grandmother and was the patriarch of all of our Heck descendants from Wisconsin and Minnesota.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Maria Catharina Henningfeld Plate mystery solved.



At Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Burlington, Wisconsin, there is a large tombstone marking the graves of Henry Plate and Kathrine, his wife. She was born at Olfen, Kreis Coesfeld, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany on 12 August 1840, and was given the name Maria Catharina Henningfeld. She was the daughter of Franz Henningfeld and Catharine Elizabeth Richter. Note that in American records her name was shown as Kathrine.

I found that she was married to Henry Plate in Racine County, Wisconsin on 7 April 1885, at the age of 45 years. I had her listed as the mother of Lizzie, Albert V., Amelia, Adolph J., and Hugo Plate. The problem was that in researching the five children, I found that all of them were born before 1883. This indicated that the five children were the children of Henry Plate but not of Maria Catharina Henningfeld. There must have been an earlier marriage for Henry Plate.

I checked the Burlington, Wisconsin newspapers on the [burlingtonhistory.org](http://burlingtonhistory.org) web site and found that Henry Plate married Frances Rohman on 8 November 1860.

The obituary of Henry Plate cleared up part of the mystery.

Following is his obituary:

Friday, 4 July 1913, The Standard Democrat, Burlington, Wisconsin, page 1.

"HENRY PLATE FOUND DEAD - Succumbs to Heart Failure after Retiring Wednesday Night The startling news spread rapidly over the city yesterday morning that Henry Plate had been found dead in his bed at his home on the corner of Pine and Kendall streets yesterday morning. Heart failure took him away without pain and without a struggle.

Mr. Plate, well advanced in years and a little feeble, had been in his usual health Wednesday night and retired shortly after 10 o'clock It was his custom during the summer to get up between 4:30 and 5 o'clock and work in the garden or about his place of business. He had not stirred at 5 o'clock and his wife attempted to wake him. After a few minutes wait she found that he had entered the sleep that knows no awakening here.

Chief of Police Beller and Judge Wood were notified and summoned a coroner's jury, who brought in a verdict of death from heart failure. In the death of Henry Plate Burlington loses a substantial citizen, a man of quiet and unassuming manners, a man whose word was as good as his bond, and we believe a man without an enemy.

Mr. Plate was born in Germany, July 5, 1836, and will be buried on his 77th birthday. He came to America and Burlington with his parents in 1844 and the family settled in the town of Wheatland, where he grew to manhood. In 1860 he was married to Miss Francis Rohman and they went to Chicago to reside. She passed away there and in 1885 he was united in marriage with Katherine Wiesman, of Waterford. They came to Burlington in 1889 and have resided here since. Besides his wife he is survived by three children, Mrs. Lizzie Pitt and Albert Plate, of this city, and Adolf Plate. The latter is employed with a railroad construction party. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Wm. Marmueller, of this city.

He was in the saloon business in Chicago for a number of years and on coming here built the

saloon and residence opposite the Soo line depot. He conducted the saloon and boarding house successfully for twenty years, and in the meantime built another house on the corner opposite. The funeral of Mr. Plate will take place from St. Mary's Catholic church at 9 o'clock Saturday morning, with interment in the Catholic cemetery.

To the sorrowing widow, children and relatives all extend sincere sympathy."



Photo of Henry Plate found on the Ancestry.com web site. Several family trees had this same photo, however there were some variations on his year of death.

The obituary of Henry Plate showed that his second wife was Katherine Wiesman of Waterford, Wisconsin. Was Katherine Wiesman actually Maria Catharina Henningfeld? The answer was found in the obituary of Kathrine Plate, which follows:

Obituary: Burlington Standard Democrat, 24 Aug 1923, Friday.

"Mrs. Henry Plate Died Last Friday Morning. Well Known Matron Passed Away While Sitting In Chair.

Mrs. Henry Plate, who last Wednesday celebrated her eighty-third birthday, passed away suddenly at the home of her niece, Mrs. John Litzler, last Friday morning from heart failure. She was up that morning as usual and passed away sitting in her favorite rocker.

Funeral services were held from St. Mary's Catholic church Monday morning, Rev. J. A. VanTreek officiating. Her remains were laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery.

**Catherine Henningfeld** was born in Germany August 15, 1840, and came to this country when a child, her parents settling at Waterford. Here she grew to womanhood and married **Fred Wiesman** (sic). After his death she married **Henry Plate** and for many years they conducted the boarding house opposite the Soo Line depot. Mr. Plate died some ten years ago and for the past two years she has made her home with Mr. and Mrs. John Litzler.

She is survived by three children, Albert, of Milwaukee, Adolph, and daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Pitt, of Chicago; also by three sisters, Mrs. John Wurms and Mrs. John Lieber, of this city and Mrs. Elizabeth Millartz of Hortonville (sic), Wisconsin."

Note that the obituary incorrectly shows that three children survived her. The three surviving children were actually her stepchildren.

Additional research showed that she did not have any children either by her first marriage or her second marriage.

The 1870 US Census for Chicago was searched and Henry Plate and his first wife Frances were listed with three children living in the 12<sup>th</sup> Ward. A search of the 1880 US Census for Henry Plate found him living in Washington Heights, Cook County, Illinois. He was listed as a widower and had four children and his mother-in-law living with him.

\*\*\*\*\*

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. If you would like to see some of your old photos in it, send them to me at my e-mail address: **bheck@execpc.com** along with a description.



The Henry Heck home at Kansasville, Racine County, Wisconsin in 2015. He owned the home and small store front in July 1881.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Laurence Joseph Heck 1931 - 2015



**Racine Journal Times:** "Laurence Joseph Heck, "Larry", age 83 passed away Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at Racine Hospice House. He was born in Racine April 2, 1931 son of the late Clarence and Frances (Nee: Pier) Heck.

Larry proudly served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War stationed in Germany. On July 24, 1954 he was united in marriage to the love of his life, Nancy M. Petersen who preceded him in death June 25, 1994. Larry owned and operated Heritage Building Supply. He was a former member of the Knights of Columbus and was active in the Racine Kilties Drum and Bugle Corps Parents Club in the 70's. He enjoyed gardening and was an avid Green Bay Packer Fan. Above all he treasured time spent with his family and friends and will be dearly missed.

Surviving are his 6 children, Joan M. Thompson, Cathy A. Turner, Steve (Theresa) Heck of Conover, WI, Sue Jensen, Lynda (Rudy) Rick, Laura (Eric) Armantrout; 12 grandchildren, Michelle (Rudy) Navarro, Erica (Craig) Gagnon, Bryan

Thompson, Kyle Turner, Patrick, Alex, and Christopher Heck, Casey (Daniel) Prohaska, Hayden and Chiyel Rick, Emily and Rylie Armantrout; 5 great grandchildren, Caitlin, Bailey, Abby, Caleb and Parker; siblings, Richard (Cel) Heck, Dolores (Bernie) Kunka, Shirley Heck, Clarence (Mary) Heck, Gene (Carol) Heck, Mary Kay (Dave) Hansen, Donna (Al) Benedict; brother-in-law, Don Johnson; sisters-in-law, Lorraine Heck, Judy Gayhart; nieces, nephews, other relatives and dear friends. In addition to his parents and wife he was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Theo Turner; sister, Marjorie Johnson; brother, Robert Heck; sister-in-law Joan Hansen, brothers-in-law John Gibson, Ron Hansen, and Jim Gayhart.

Funeral services will be held at the funeral home, Sunday, February 8, 2015, 3:30 p.m. with Reverend Mark Jones officiating. Interment with Full Military Honors will be held Monday 12:00 P.M. noon at the West Lawn Memorial Park Chapel, 9000 Washington Avenue. Relatives and friends may meet with the family at the funeral home Sunday 1:00 P.M. until time of service at 3:30 P.M."

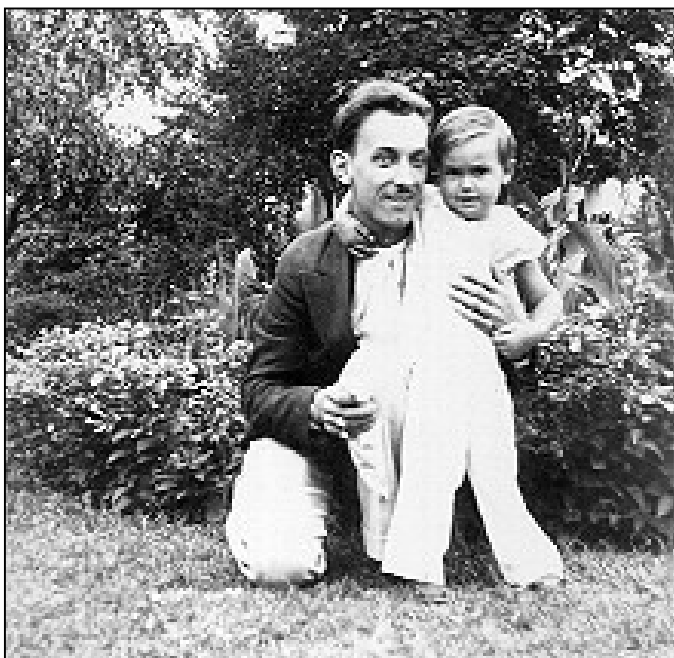


Photo of Larry Heck with his Uncle, Robert Gerald Heck in about 1935.



1935 photo L-R: Larry, Bobby, Richard, Dolores, Margaret Henningfeld Heck, and Marjorie Heck.

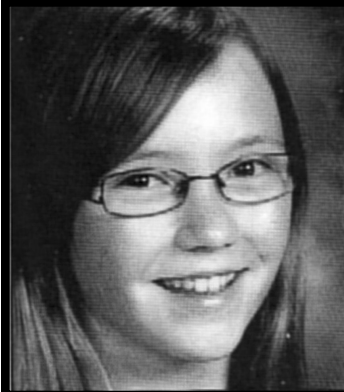


1935 or 1936 photo L-R: Larry, Richard, Bobby, Shirley, Dolores, and Marjorie Heck. The three photos on this page were from the photo album of Robert Gerald Heck (1909 – 1995).

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Larry's children, grandchildren and siblings. He leaves behind a large family and many friends. At his funeral the family shared hundreds of photographs and video images, which brought many smiles to those who were there.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Lauren Emily Heck Enters National American Miss Pre-Teen Pageant.

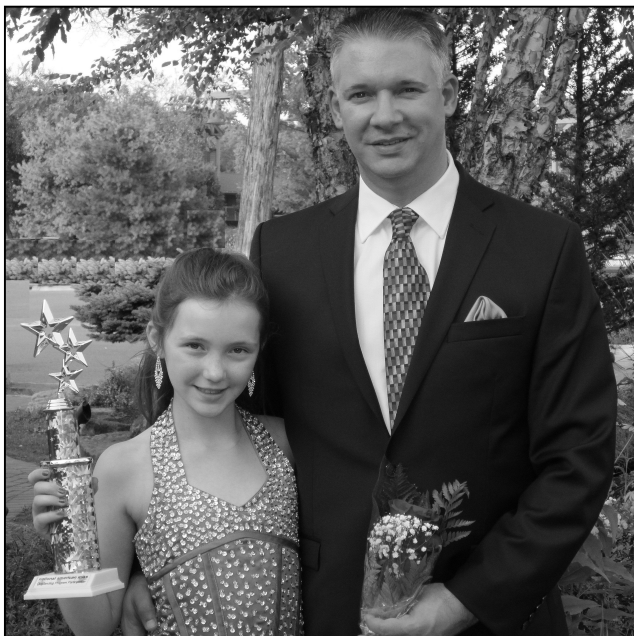


### 49. Lauren

Lauren Heck of Franklin.  
Sponsors: O'Malley Dentistry;  
Inspire Salon; Nails by Niki;  
Corrective Spinal Care; CICI's  
Pizza; Ricardo's Pizza; Panther  
Pub; Dave & Susan Kress;  
Strelow, Gates, & Chadwell  
Families.

In August 2014, Lauren Emily Heck, the 11-year-old daughter of Dave and Judi Heck, and granddaughter of Gloria and Bob Heck, took part in the 2014 NAM Wisconsin State Pageant at the Wisconsin Dells.

Lauren had been recommended for entry in the pageant by either a teacher or by a scout leader. The person making the recommendation is kept secret. Lauren was interviewed locally by pageant officials and within a few days was notified by mail that she had made it to the Wisconsin State Pageant level.



At the Wisconsin Dells she was interviewed again at the private level. She played piano for the talent portion of the pageant, and her Dad escorted her during the formal wear presentation. Lauren and her dad, Dave, are pictured at lower left.

During her personal introduction she stated that she wanted to become an author when she grows up. Lauren loves to write stories and has a vivid imagination. She also talked about the plays that she has been in and her activities in the school band. Lauren won a trophy for Advertising.



Lauren and her sister, Grace, are with their parents, Dave and Judi Heck in this 2014 photo.

Lauren has qualified for the 2015 Pageant scheduled for August at the Wisconsin Dells.

## 1830 Census Results for Ira, Cayuga County, New York

**Head of household  
Benjamin Burgess**

<b>Home in 1830 (City, County, State):</b>	<b>Ira, Cayuga, New York</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Males - Under 5:</b>	<b>1 William E. (2 months)</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Males - 5 thru 9:</b>	<b>3 Joel, Alonzo, Nehemiah ( 7 yr) ( 8 yr) ( 9 yr)</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Males - 10 thru 14:</b>	<b>1 Benjamin Jr. (11 yrs)</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Males - 30 thru 39:</b>	<b>1 Benjamin Sr. (36 yrs)</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Females - Under 5:</b>	<b>2 Julia (2 yr), Patience (4 yr)</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 14:</b>	<b>1 Sylvia (12 yr)</b>
<b>Free White Persons - Females - 30 thru 39:</b>	<b>1 Amanda (31 yrs)</b>
<b>Total Free White Persons:</b>	<b>10</b>

The table above shows the results of an 1830 US Census search for the Benjamin Burgess family. The census only lists the full name of the head of the household and the number of persons in each age bracket for all members of the family. The names and ages of the other family members is not listed in the census but were added by me to see how they fit in the record.

We are sure that this is the same Benjamin Burgess family that migrated to Southport, now Kenosha, Wisconsin in 1836. The 100 acres of land that the family was living on at Ira, Cayuga County, New York was sold in 1830 to Alfred Foster, father of Amanda and father-in-law of Benjamin Burgess.

The first child listed was William Everton Burgess, the first child of Benjamin Burgess and his second wife Amanda Foster. All of the other children were from Benjamin Burgess and his first wife Rebecca Chase.

We know that William Everton Burgess was born on 2 May 1830 and was likely conceived on

2 August 1829. We also know that Julia Burgess was born on 15 November 1827.

Based on this census of 1830 and the dates on William and Julia we can conclude that Rebecca Chase Burgess died between 15 November 1827 and 2 August 1829. This narrows her date of death to 1 year, 8 months, and 18 days.

Since Benjamin Burgess was a widower with very young children he probably married Amanda Foster shortly after the death of Rebecca Chase Burgess. Rebecca Chase Burgess may have died during or shortly after the birth of Julia.

Since Benjamin Burgess purchased the same 100 acres of land on 2 May 1828, which he later sold to his father-in-law, we can conclude that Benjamin was in Ira by early 1828. The 1910 Census states that Julia was born in New York State in 1827. Therefore we can conclude that Rebecca Chase Burgess died at Ira, Cayuga County, New York. We originally thought that she died in Vermont.

Ira, NY would be the place to look for her death.

# The Heck Family Picnic July 12, 2015

Remember the mess that was caused by the Racine Ironman Triathlon held on the same day as the Heck family picnic in 2014? It took us almost an hour longer to get to the Leisure Center for the picnic because of all the bike races, jogging races, and blocked streets. We almost concluded that we couldn't get to the Leisure Center from any direction. Finally a police officer let us through a barricade and we arrived in time for the picnic.

This year things will be different. After years of fighting the Triathlon, the Heck Family Picnic has been moved up in the calendar to the second Sunday of July. It had always been held on the third Sunday of July. This year it will be held on the second Sunday, July 12, 2015 so please mark your calendar.



2013 Heck Picnic: Standing in line for some great food.



Breakfast with the Heck Family Picnic golfers in 1999.



Five sisters at the Heck Family Picnic in 1989. L-R: Paula, Marjorie, Cheryl, Lois, and Mary. They are the daughters of Robert and Lorraine Heck.

"Remember that everything that you read on the Internet is not necessarily true."

*Benjamin Franklin 1776*