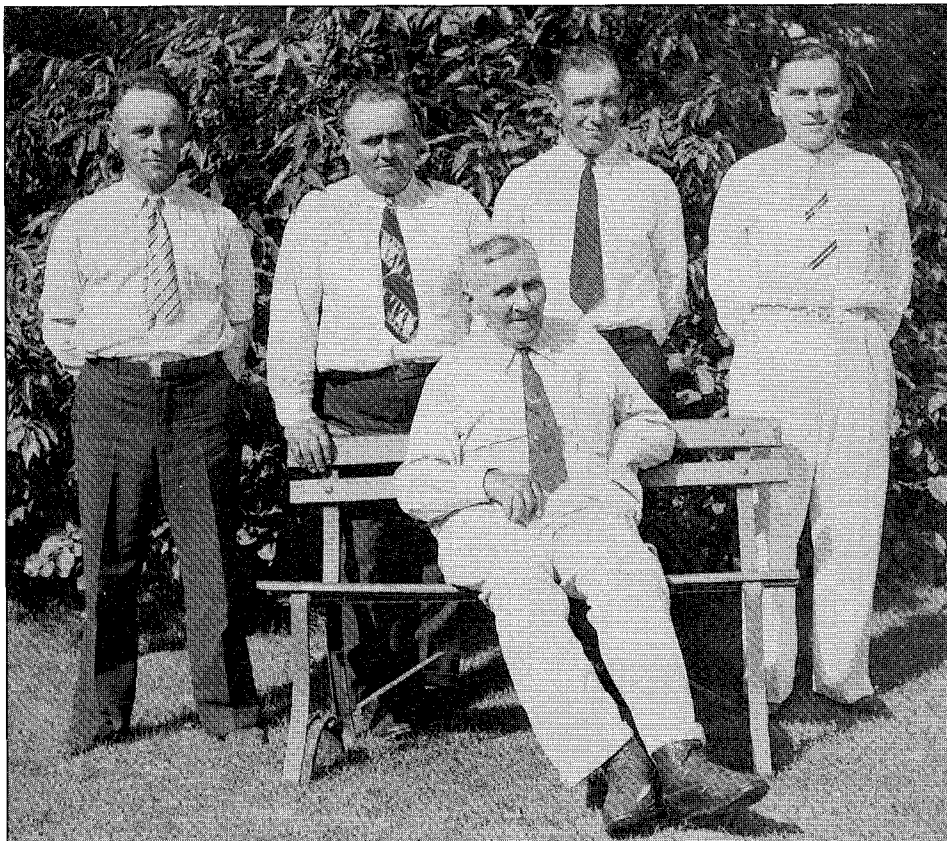


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William Ashworth, seated; l-r Merton, Theodore, Harold, and Sidney Ashworth

William and Millie Sherman Ashworth

William Washington Ashworth was born in 1872 in Columbia County, the youngest of eight children of Benjamin and Sarah (Woodhead) Ashworth who had migrated from England in the early 1860s. William's mother Sarah died when he was quite young and he was raised mainly by an older brother, John Ashworth and the brother's wife, Mary.

William Ashworth married Millie Sherman Hancock in Columbus, Wisconsin in 1896. Millie was born in 1867 on a farm in Columbia County, the fifth of nine children of Harmon R. and Mary R. (Stiles) Hancock. Her grandparents, Isaac B. and Sally S. Hancock had moved from New York to Wisconsin territory in 1846. Millie studied and taught music for several years before her marriage.

After their marriage, William and Millie Ashworth lived and worked on rented farms in Columbia and Waushara Counties before moving in the fall of 1907 to a farm they purchased in Richfield township in Adams County. They continued to live there the rest of their lives, farming and raising a family of five boys. Millie Sherman (Hancock) Ashworth passed away in 1935. William Washington Ashworth passed away in 1941.

The five sons of William and Millie Ashworth were born in Columbia County and raised on the Richfield township farm in Adams County. Sidney Wallace Ashworth was born in 1897. Harold Dewey Ashworth was born in 1898. Theodore Roosevelt Ashworth was born in 1900. Ralph Willard Ashworth was born in 1903 and died of pneumonia in 1914. Merton William Ashworth was born in 1905.

In 1915, the two oldest Ashworth sons, Sidney and Harold, began sawing lumber when Harold purchased a five horsepower

gasoline engine and wood saw and they began cutting lumber brought to them by local farmers. This was the beginning of Ashworth Brothers, a firm that was to last for over 50 years. In 1917 they added custom threshing and in 1920 they got their first commercial contract. Also in 1920, the ownership of Ashworth Brothers changed from Sidney and Harold to Theodore and Harold. In 1929 Ashworth Brothers began cutting ice on Friendship Pond for the Chicago and North Western Railroad in cooperation with George Nemetz, the local ice man. They bought the ice business from Mr. Nemetz in 1935 and delivered ice in Adams and Friendship until 1952.

In 1949, Ashworth Brothers received a contract with the Wisconsin River Power Company for the biggest job they were to undertake. They were to clear the land for Castle Rock and Petenwell Lakes. The Castle Rock and Petenwell operation continued until 1952.

During that time, Ashworth

Brothers employed crews of nearly 1,000 people.

Ashworth Brothers continued logging and sawing lumber until Theodore's death in 1967 and Harold's retirement in 1968. The business was then sold to Theodore's son John, who still operates the Ashworth Mill in Quincy township.

Sidney Wallace Ashworth married Gertrude Hanson. Sidney and Gertrude moved to Mauston, Wisconsin and operated a hotel and restaurant. Sidney and Gertrude had one child, Grace (Ashworth) O' Keefe. Sidney married a second time to the former Nettie Gibson. Sidney and Nettie had three children. Shirley (Ashworth) Foss; Sidney Ashworth, Jr.; and Sharon (Ashworth) Rose. Sidney Wallace Ashworth, Sr. passed away in 1978.

Harold Dewey Ashworth married Lydia Dittburner in 1924. Harold and Lydia had one daughter, Dorothy (Ashworth) Comstock, born in Dellwood in 1926. Lydia passed away in 1933. Harold married Ida Stormoen in 1937. Harold and Ida had three children: Harold Dewey (Butch) Ashworth, Jr., Carole Fay (Ashworth) Cleary, and Patricia Ann (Ashworth) Jameson. Harold (Butch) Ashworth, Jr. now lives in Garden Grove, California. Carole (Ashworth) Cleary now lives in Portage, Wisconsin. Patricia Ann (Ashworth) Jameson lives in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Harold Dewey Ashworth, Sr. passed away in 1980.

Theodore Roosevelt Ashworth married Mildred Vivian Marsh in 1933. The couple lived in Dellwood for a time after their marriage until moving to Friendship in 1937. Theodore and Mildred had three children: John Hancock Ashworth, Lucille Ann (Ashworth) Davis, and Jeanne Mae (Ashworth) Wasko. John Hancock Ashworth lives in Adams. John owns and operates the Ashworth Mill in Quincy. He is married to the

former Nadine (Stormoen) McManus. Lucille (Ashworth) Davis lives in Adams. Lucille worked as a social worker for many years and is now on the staff of Woodland Girl Scout Council in Wisconsin Rapids. She is married to Harry Davis. Jeanne Mae (Ashworth) Wasko lives in Germany. Jeanne works for the Department of the Army. Theodore Roosevelt Ashworth passed away in 1967.

Merton William Ashworth continued to farm the property in Richfield township originally purchased by his parents. Merton married Ruth Foster in 1938. Merton and Ruth had two children: William Howard (Bill) Ashworth and David Ashworth. Bill Ashworth lives on the farm in Richfield township adjoining the house and farm that his grandparents bought in 1907. Bill owns and operates Ashworth Feed and Implement Company in Coloma. He is married to the former Mary Smart. Bill and Mary Ashworth have two sons: Mark Ashworth, who lives in Adams; and Howard Ashworth who lives in Coloma. David Ashworth is married and lives in Janesville where he is employed by Chevrolet. Merton William Ashworth passed away in 1981.

Horace and Lucy Babcock Atkins

The Horace (1816-1901) and Lucy (Babcock) (1822-1909) Atkins Family came to Wisconsin in 1845 from Erie County, Pennsylvania, settling at first in Dane County where they lived for nine years. They moved to Friendship in 1854, settling on property he bought from Fred Thomm, east of the present Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative. There Horace built a home for his family. It was one of the first buildings erected at or near Friendship. At that time there were only a few roughed-in dwellings in the area and Ho-Chunk lived in them. Horace said that his children only had Ho-Chunk children to play with.

In 1859, Horace sold his land in Friendship and moved to Chester (formerly part of the Town of Grand Marsh, now Town of New Chester). Their home was located on Highway E, just one mile east of the village of Grand Marsh.

They had four children: Nellie, Arthur, Levi, and Lavinia. Nellie (1851-1941) married Solomon Woodward of Oxford and had a son by the name of Eugene (1874-1958). Eugene worked for the Houslets of Oxford tending their horses.

Arthur Dwight (1855-1935) married Belle Irene McElwain (1862-1932), her parents Calvin Caleb McElwain (1826-1907) and Betsy McElwain (1823-1907), were among the first settlers in the Town of New Chester. Their farm was on 6th Avenue, where the railroad tracks cross 6th. Arthur and Belle were blessed with a son by the name of Raymond Bruce (1884-1948).

Ray married Ethel Burgdorff (1888-1921), the sister of Omar Burgdorff. Ray was a teacher in the Rock House Prairie School, located on the corner of 6th and Ember, but he will be better known as a photographer. He took the postcard photos of Grand Marsh and the surrounding area and developed them in the darkroom of his home. His pictures are now a large part of the history of the area.

Ray and Ethel adopted a little girl they named Eva Pearl (1913). Eva was a teacher in the area schools until her retirement from Grand Marsh Grade School in 1975. Eva married Emil Werner (1905-1973) and that union was blessed by a son, Jack Donald. Eva and Emil lived their entire married life on the Horace Atkins home place. There Emil farmed and

later drove school bus for the Grand Marsh Grade School. After Emil's death and her retirement, Eva sold the farm and moved to Friendship where she resides today. Jack married Rebecca (Rosalie) Banks and they had two sons, Jim and John.

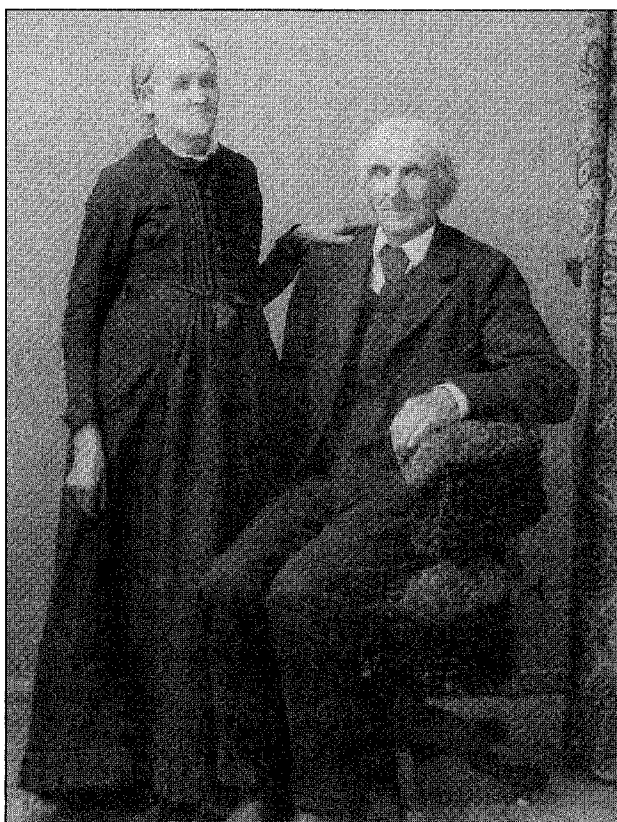
Levi Elroy (1848-1936) married Sara Belle (1855-1941) in 1871 and lived all their married life in New Chester township on Elk Avenue. Elroy, as Levi was affectionately called, will be remembered for his leadership in starting the Grand Marsh Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1896. Both Levi and Sarah were charter members of the church and instrumental in the building of the Rock House Prairie Seventh Day Baptist Church and Rock House Prairie School located on land donated by the Ripley Family on 6th Avenue. Levi was also Justice of the Peace for 40 years.

Levi and Sarah raised nine children. The first two, Jesse (1872-1891) and Lilly (1874-1891) died in their teens. The other children were Minery, Lucy, Alice, Nellie, Bessie, Arthur and John.

Minery, Lucy, and Alice married three Morgan brothers, Alva, Thomas, and James. (Their descendents are under the Morgan Family.)

Arthur (1882-1971) married Cora Tichner (1893-1989), the daughter of Dr. W.D. and Ella (1853-1935) Tichner, the local dentist, residing in the apartment upstairs in the Ephram Miller's Mercantile Store. They continued to reside on the Levi Atkins homestead and took care of them in their declining days. Arthur and Cora had an un-named daughter, that lived for two hours. Later they sold the Atkins Farm and moved into a home on Franklin Street in Grand Marsh.

Nellie married a man by the name of Keach, divorced him and married a man with the last name of McLain. They lived west of Oxford.



Horace and Lucy Babcock Atkins

Bessie married John Keach of Viola. They ran the Mercantile Store there for many years.

John moved to Almond and became the depot agent there.

Lavinia (1842-1869) was married to J.S. Dickenson. They had a daughter by the name of Ida (1869-1954). Lavinia died when Ida was born, so Ida was raised by her grandparents, Horace and Lucy Atkins. Ida married Walter Hutchenson (1865-1948) and had three daughters, Agnes (1903-1906), Ethel (1906), and Alice May (1908). The family moved to California soon after Alice May's birth.

George Washington and Louise Share Ault

George Washington Ault was born in 1858 and grew up in Monroe, Wisconsin on his father's farm. He met and married a German woman named Louise Share in Monroe, Green County, and after having seven of their nine children, migrated to Monroe Center, Adams County. They bought a farm, and had their next two children. Shortly after having their last child, Louise Share died leaving George to raise the children on his own. On top of this great tragedy, George and his nine children lost everything in a fire that happened just after his wife's death. They lost everything they had, except the piano!

They saved the piano because it meant so much to the whole family. When family and friends would come Julia (my great grandmother) would accompany her brother on the fiddle, and the family would play and sing all night long. According to my grandmother, great grandma Julia used to joke that she herself helped carry the piano out of the burning house, but she was just a girl at the time. After raising his nine children, and fighting his way through the tough times of the fire, George Washington died in 1913. His love of music and laughter, and his strong will flowed on through the generations.

Julia Mary Ault was born in 1892, and grew up in Monroe Center on her father's farm. She played the piano at family gatherings, and was a very hard working girl. She claimed that when her mother died she helped raise the other children, but that is hard to believe since she herself was just a girl, and the fourth to the youngest at the time. They were a middle class family, and unfortunately Julia was born cross-eyed. As a young girl Julia was very self-conscious about this so she got a full time job cleaning homes to make enough money to buy glasses, and believe it or not they corrected her eyes.

The Aults happened to be neighbors with the York family which was where Julia met her husband Robert Sherman York. They grew up together, and played together. They were married on Christmas day 1910.

After Julia married Sherm they moved to Viroqua to work at the county farm. They worked there for two years, and then moved back to Adams County because the railroad had come and offered many new jobs.

Julia and Sherm had two children. Norman and Odette (my grandmother). Seven years after my grandmother was born the family struggled to make it through the Depression. Working on the railroad was at the time considered a very good job. Still Sherm was laid off for two years with part time work in the second year after the Depression started, and there were hard times. Since there was little meat and money, Sherm and Norman would hunt squirrel, and Julia took up a job as a seamstress. She was very well known in the community for her

work. My grandmother never had a store bought dress or coat until she was a senior in high school. Another interesting thing that my grandma told me about the Depression is that during the Depression when my great grandfather did have work many times hobos from the railroad would follow the workers home and ask for a meal.

Sherm and Julia persevered through the Depression, and managed to raise two bright talented young people. Even though my great grandmother was such a strong willed woman, she denied her German heritage because she was so ashamed of being German after the Second World War. My great grandmother died in 1975, one year before I was born. Still, her strong will and musical skills passed on.

My grandmother Odette York was born in 1922. She grew up in Friendship, went to high school in Adams-Friendship where she met my grandfather Fred Veeder. She was the second homecoming queen of Adams-Friendship high school, as was I my senior year. This made it even more special for me. She married my grandfather after studying two years at the Institute. Their children are: Dennis, Jeanette, Carol, Bette, and Robert. Submitted by: Jeannette Batko

Richard and Helen Baer

Our settling in Adams County in the Town of Monroe was because of our love for the Petenwell Park and Flowage, water skiing, swimming and the many different animals we've had.

We bought the old Taylor farmhouse in 1965. We thought it would be a great place to complete raising our family of four girls, a son and later another son.

After selling "Baer Movers", a successful business in Bellwood, Illinois, we found work not as plentiful. Dick, an ambitious person, did everything from putting up fences, chimneys, brushing, working at the park and the Monroe Center Land Fill.

Two of our teenagers also worked at the park. Petenwell Park was a great place to work, close to home, the outdoors was healthy and the surroundings beautiful. Hazel Kramer, a woman of the outdoors, and John Mikoda, a farmer, worked there and fit in perfect with the campers and the young folks. During their lunch break John would reminisce while sharing his home-grown melons with our son, Mike. Hazel filled the campers in on how the lake was developed. The campers thrived on her interesting stories.

When Hazel and John worked there they had no conveniences. The two of them would walk through the park of several hundred units on a busy weekend collecting from each unit. There was no garbage pick-up. John or Mike would haul it by tractor and wagon to the local dump. The outhouses were painted and kept clean.

Frank and Sharon Mead eventually replaced John and Hazel. The improvements began with funding in the late seventies and early eighties and continue.

Our daughter, Cathy, worked during this time, collecting fees, raking, picking up the trash and surviving Frank and Sharon's teasing, still remaining good friends.

Candy, our oldest daughter, enjoyed riding through the park on her horse, which was an attraction for the campers, until a "No Horseback Riding" sign was enforced. She loved taking her horse wading along the shoreline which is now Petenwell

Pines. Our beach time was four hours every afternoon.

We have seen the changes through the years. The park is growing along with the community. Retired couples move here to avoid the hectic city living only to find the conveniences aren't here.

Our 100 year old community church, once filled, now has ten members supporting it. The old timers have passed away and their gifts and pictures are treasured. The church bell rang out loud and clear at noon for the Sesquicentennial. What a joyous sound!

The corner store now stands empty and for sale, once a busy place.

The old schoolhouse has been restored and is a successful business, a convenient pick-up stop for campers.

The changes over the years bring to a close many fond memories of good times we had in a healthy environment.

We are fortunate they haven't strayed too far from home, five of our children live in the surrounding communities.

Horace and Sally DeMott Baggs

The present day Baggs family can trace their kin back to the year of 1819 when Horace Baggs was born in Black Hawk, New York. The name of his parents and when or how they arrived in New York is unknown. In the 1840's he came west by way of the Great Lakes, helping to clear the forest lands and settling on a farm in the area known as Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

Around the time that Horace Baggs was growing up in Elkhorn, another family by the name of William DeMott traveled from New York along with their daughter Sally Melissa. The DeMott family settled at Elkhorn in Walworth County. Eventually Horace and Sally met and were married in 1846. She was 13 years old and he was 27. They had two sons, Omer, who was born in 1850 and Frank Herbert, born on March 6, 1852. In a few years, Horace and Sally separated and she and baby Frank moved in with her parents to the Town of New Chester, Adams County, Wisconsin.

Frank grew up in this small farming community and on July 1, 1876, he and Samantha Elizabeth McFarlin were married by the Justice of the Peace, Simeon S. Phelps, in the Town of Lincoln. Their first son Horace Herbert, was born in the Town of New Chester, July 27, 1877. In the next few years, Frank and Samantha would move to a farm of 40 acres in Section 26 in Lincoln township. Their second son, Samuel, was born there on March 22, 1881.

In April of 1886, a third son was born but died about three months later. Samantha, his mother, passed away about 25 days after his birth. Both mother and baby are buried at the New Chester Cemetery.

Frank Baggs and his two sons Horace and Sam, lived as bachelors on these 40 acres for several years. Because all three of the men were dedicated farmers, they acquired a farm of around two to three hundred acres located just to the North of the intersection of County Highways G and M, Sections 11 & 12 in Lincoln township.

In 1893, Frank married Jessie (Grieves) Hamilton who had a daughter, Winnie, from a previous marriage. Now the family of five lived in a log house and decided that as long as farming was their living, it was more important to build a new barn rather than a new house. Later, two more children came along.

Daughter Jessie who was born in 1895 and Frank Omer in 1897. As the family grew, the need for a new house became a priority so a beautiful, white, two story home was erected to accommodate them.

In time, the children grew up and moved on. The first son Horace married Clara Wright in 1901 and moved back onto the original 40 acres and farmed. They had two daughters. Ethel (Alvin) Grieves and Vivian (Dean) Babb. Later, all of Horace's family would move to the Beloit, Wisconsin area. The second son, Samuel, married Lillian Finel in 1902. They moved to a farm further North on Highway G in Section 2 of Lincoln township and continued to farm and raise their family that consisted of five boys and two girls. Samuel Edward (1903-1958), Samantha Elizabeth (1904, died at one month of age), Harvey Arthur (1905-1975), Herman (1907-1997), Lillian Mary (Huyck) (1909), Charley (1910-1996) and Joey (1916).

Winnie Hamilton went on to marry Merrill Wright and moved to the Rockton, Illinois area. Daughter Jessie married Henry Kietzman of New Butler, Wisconsin, Frank Omer never married but lived on the farm for 92 years until his passing. By this time, Father Frank had passed away in 1927 and Mother Jessie in 1938. All are buried in the New Chester Cemetery.

Most of the Samuel Baggs family has continued to live in the Adams County area. His wife Lillian passed away in 1927 and was buried in New Chester Cemetery. Sam kept on farming and taking care of his family and lived to be 90 years old. His son Harvey married Enid Thurber in 1927. They lived on a farm in the Cottonville area and Harvey delivered milk to many in the Adams-Friendship area for a good many years. They had four children namely, Norman (Darleen) Baggs of Kenosha, Phyllis (Rodney) Tobler of Nekoosa, Rodger Baggs of Hancock, and baby June who died in infancy. Harvey died in 1975, and Enid passed away shortly thereafter in 1979. They are buried in the Mt. Repose Cemetery in Friendship.

Herman Baggs married Shirley Hayes in 1932. They lived on a farm next to the original 40 acres in the Town of Lincoln. Herman graded and maintained the county roadways in that area with his team of horses. They had three children. Baby Delores who died as an infant, Doreen (Jim) Beall of Littleton, Colorado and Donald (Carol) Baggs of Chandler, Arizona. Later, Herman, Shirley and their family moved to Adams in 1941 and Herman continued to work for the Adams County Highway Department. By that time they were using power-driven graders and not horses. He lived to be 90 years old and passed away in December of 1997. He and baby Delores are both buried at the New Chester Cemetery.

Mary Baggs married Dail Huyck in 1940. Mary, Dail and his daughter, Shannon, lived most of their married life in Beloit, Wisconsin until Dail passed away in 1966. He is buried in the Mt. Repose Cemetery. Mary moved back to the family farm and lived with her dad and brother Charley. Both Edward and Charley never married and spent all of their life on the farm. Edward passed away in 1958 and Charley in 1996.

In 1937, Joey Baggs married Thelma Mussey and moved onto a farm located on County Road M in the Town of Adams. For several years, Joey hauled milk for the Westfield Creamery and also continued to farm. They have two sons, Sam (Marilyn Markee) who currently live on County Road M and Jim (Jeannette Collins) who currently live in Bastrop, Texas.

Joey has done farm work all of his life. After leaving the milk route he helped Henry Jacobs haul livestock for farmers in Adams County and all of the surrounding areas. Joey, along with his son Sam, continued to work the land and raise beef cattle on the home place as well as his farm on M and G.

With all of the descendents of Sam and Lillian Baggs, it seems certain that the Baggs name will be carried on for many years to come. Following are the younger generations, many of whom still live in Adams County:

Norman and Darleen (Burns) Baggs, daughter Debbie (Forest) Shivers and son John (deceased).

Rodger Baggs, five sons and one daughter. Terry, Tom (Charlene Tomschin), Mike (Susan Revels), Tim, Tony and Michele (Lewis II) Holmes.

Phyllis and the late Rodney Tobler had two daughters and one son. Priscilla (Richard) Obermeier, LeAnne (Sonny) Roberts and Leo (Cathy).

Doreen and Jim Beall had one daughter Connie Mae (Barry) Power.

Donald and Carol Baggs had four sons and one daughter. Michael (deceased), Larry (Wendy), Bobby (Lynn), Donald Jr., and Sherrie (Pete) Steele.

Sam and Marilyn Baggs had two sons. David (Bobbie Scheel) and Darin (Amy Mecklenburg).

Jim and Jeannette Baggs had one son Eric.

Most all of the original farms are still in the Baggs families. Jim and Jeannie Baggs own the farm of his Grandpa Sam with his Aunt Mary Huyck living in the farm house.

The original Frank Baggs farm has been divided between Dave, Bobbie and son Jonathan Baggs living in a home that they built on the property West of County Road G and Thelma and Joey Baggs owning the property East of the Highway.

Herman and Shirley Baggs bought the original 40 acres and had it in the family until just recently.

The Joey Baggs farm has also been divided between Joey and Thelma living in the farmhouse and Darin, Amy and their four children, Sammie, Bobbie Jeanne, D. J. and Mariah, building a new home on the East side of 7th Drive which is the West side of the original farm property.

Sam and Marilyn have kept the remainder of the farm and continue to live on County Road M.

Terry Baggs, Tom and Charlene Baggs, Lewis II and Michele (Baggs) Holmes all currently live in Adams County.
Submitted by: Thelma Baggs

Stuart and Margaret Burian Bell

I, Margaret Louise, married Stuart C. Bell, son of Lynn and Mae Bell from Gays Mills, Wisconsin at St. Joseph's Church in Adams on October 28, 1950. We made our home in Friendship. I had been hired in 1949 as the first secretary at Adams-Friendship High School, working for A.H. Loken, principal. Stuart, who had been in the Marines in World War II, had worked for E. Tex Reddick in Gays Mills. When Reddick brought Regal Products (they manufactured boats and built the buildings which eventually became Terrace Homes in Adams) to Adams County, Stuart came with the company, but he left there in March of 1951 and became a brakeman with the Chicago North Western Railroad. He was injured while working on the train at South Beaver Dam on July 11, 1957, and

was hospitalized at St. Michael's in Stevens Point until August 5 and was unable to work for many months after that. The doctors said he could no longer work at his job on the railroad, so he took a course in radio and television servicing and in March of 1959 we opened Roche-A-Cri Television in Friendship in the north half of what is now the Friendship Bait Shop. We moved the business to 252 South Main Street in Adams in December 1959, purchasing the building from George Gerber. In March of 1958, I had been hired by the Adams County Office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in Friendship, where I worked until August 15, 1965, when I went to work full-time at Roche-A-Cri TV with my husband. We had two children: William Stuart, born August 6, 1951 at Riverview Hospital in Wisconsin Rapids and Mary Kathryn, born August 27, 1955 at St. Michael's Hospital, Stevens Point.

Stuart and I were active members of several organizations and members of several others. Members of St. Joseph's Parish, we worked many hours for activities there.

I was on the board of directors of Adams County Memorial Hospital for three years, resigning when we moved to Wisconsin Rapids in November 1993. We sold our home, 101 S. West Street in Friendship, which we built in 1960 and moved to Wisconsin Rapids to live with our daughter Mary when my husband's health began to fail. Stuart died February 18, 1997, and is buried at St. Leo's Cemetery, Friendship. I still belong to the VFW and Legion Auxiliaries in Adams-Friendship, the Adams County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Mound View Golf Club.

Our son William married Bonnie R. Callendar, daughter of Robert and Jewel Callendar from Green Bay on August 7, 1976. They reside now in Wausau, Wisconsin and have two children, Nicole Lynn born February 2, 1980 and Christopher Robert, born November 23, 1982. Bill worked for one year at Award Mobile Homes in Adams, in the same building Stuart had worked in when he came to Adams, and left to work on the Chicago North Western Railroad as a clerk-operator and then doing dispatching work. He left C&NW Railroad and enrolled at North Eastern Technical College, receiving a degree in Quality Control. He currently is employed by Fulton Performance Products, Mosinee. Bonnie graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a BA in Art Education, and came to Adams-Friendship for her first teaching position, at Friendship Grade School. She was active in school and community projects, assisting the drama efforts of her students and the community in the beginning productions of the Sand County Players. She currently teaches Art and coordinates computer technology at Wittenberg Elementary School.

Mary has not married, and holds both a BA in English Education and an MA in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She taught English at Rhinelander High School and is currently the Library Media Specialist at West Junior High School in Wisconsin Rapids. Active in local social and professional groups as well as the Wisconsin Rapids Education Association, she has been elected to represent her colleagues in Wisconsin, serving two terms on the National Education Association Board of Directors.

Submitted by: Margaret L. (Burian) Bell

Reuben and Hannah Beal Bloss

Rueben Bloss was born in Pennsylvania in September 1810. He married Hannah Beals, born in August 1812, and they had two children, Lydia and George. Following Hannah's death, Rueben had a second marriage to Amanda DeMott.

Of Rueben's two children, Lydia Bloss was born in December 1839. She went on to marry Isaac Hartson and start a family of her own. George Bloss was born in June 1848. He married Mary Larkins and they had two children, Frank, born in 1875, and Mabel, born in 1876. In 1897, two years after Mary's death, George was married a second time, to the widow Jane Schoonover McClyman. They also had two children together, Carl, born in 1898, and Vera, born in 1900. George died in 1911, and Jane in 1918.

Of George Bloss's four children—Frank, Mabel, Carl and Vera Bloss—Frank married Myrtle Hunt and they adopted one son, Donald. Frank died in September 1942. His son, Donald Bloss, married Helen Gaffrey and they had one daughter.

Mabel Bloss married Herman C. Zimbeck and they had three sons: Kenneth, Frank and Robert Zimbeck. Kenneth Zimbeck married Thelma Carlton and had a son, Kenneth Jr. Nothing is known about Mabel's other two sons.

Carl Bloss married Sylvia Jones and they had two children: Clifford and Marion.

Vera Bloss married William Earl Fenner of Friendship and had two children: Sarah and Earl Fenner. Members of Vera's line of Bloss descendants to reside in Adams County today.

Amos P. and Corrine Briscoe

Amos P. Briscoe and wife Corrine along with five children moved from Baraboo to Adams to work on the new line of the Chicago and North Western Railroad. About the same time his brother George Briscoe and family also moved to Adams to work on the railroad. They were both engineers, George was the conservative one. Amos on the other hand enjoyed life and enjoyed breaking his own speed records on his railroad runs.

Amos left the railroad in about 1927 and took over the operation of the Adams Hotel for two or three years.

The Briscoe Family was composed of Amos and Corrine; our parents, Raymond and Corrine; Marieta, age 93 and living in Milwaukee; Aubrey-89 and lives in Roswell, New Mexico; Oroville-86 a retired priest and lives in Leesburg, Florida; and Duane who lives in Naples, Florida.

Years after I left Adams I met and later married Meg Dalton, from the Town of Dalton, Wisconsin, which was one of the stops on the "Scoot" during its daily run to and from Milwaukee.

Submitted by: Toots Voboril

John and Anna McLaush Bruckner

The original Bruckner homestead in New Chester was built by John Bruckner about 1860. He had married twice, but each of his American wives had died in childbirth. He decided, then, that a girl from the Old Country would be healthier, so he wrote to a home for widows in Germany asking for a wife. None of the young women wanted to go so they all said a prayer and then drew straws. Thirty-three year-old Anna McLaush was the "lucky" one. When John wrote to her, he told her that he had the largest house for miles around. That it was even though it was

a log cabin. It had basement, kitchen, living room and large bedroom downstairs with the upstairs as another huge bedroom.

Even so, when Anna saw the wilderness here, she wished she could go back immediately. She stayed though and they raised three sons Edward, Sam and Louis. Ed and Sam were to move to Colorado when they were older but Louis stayed here to farm the nearly 300 acres and to marry Augusta Stroschein a nearby neighbor.

Louis and Augusta were married when she was 16 and he 31. As a wedding present her father helped to build a house for them on the Bruckner land, a few hundred feet from the log cabin in 1896. Augusta had come over from Germany when she was five years old. Her father, John Stroschein had received many letters from relatives who were over here and he came first to see it. It was as good here in America as they said. He decided to stay and sent for his family. His wife, Justina, the children, Augusta, Emil and Justin, and Justina's mother arrived and were very surprised at the wilderness too.

Anna and Justina both must have adjusted and passed on wonderful qualities to their children for both Louis and Augusta are remembered as hard-working but kind and fun-loving parents. Louis would travel whenever an opportunity would arise such as the World's Fair in St. Louis. Augusta would go with him when she could. Any circus within "horsetraveling" distance was a must for the Bruckner family.

Besides the seven children, who were all born in the house, there was usually a grandmother around as Augusta and Louis took care of both mothers until they died. At one time, Louis tore off the kitchen of his house and used the wood to build his mother a house much closer to his than the log cabin. He added another section to his own house. In all, he added three sections on to the original home.

They also took in a 14-year-old girl from a broken home and raised her as one of their own. She later returned after she married with her husband and lived in the house that Grandmother Anna had lived in.

Augusta always had lots of chickens and milking cows which she and Louis would go right up to in the barnyard and milk while the cows stood there and chewed their cuds. Besides farming, Louis had a sorghum mill and would work there cooking sorghum for people from 4 a.m. until 10 p.m. each day.

One day in May 1912, Louis had worked up a sweat pulling a horse marker for early potatoes. He then got on the corn planter and thus got a chill. He came in the house, put on a heavy fur coat and went to bed. A few hours later, Louis Bruckner was dead at the age of 46.

Augusta married Fred Henke about two and one-half years later. From this marriage came two girls, Dorothy (Cottrell) of Oxford and Annie. The family's first car was a Model T which Fred bought when Lewis was old enough to drive.

When Annie married John Dornacker, Augusta sold the farm to them and moved to Oxford. She had lived in that house for 47 years. Still in Oxford after Fred's death, she continued to sew and doing piece-quilts for her children, 12 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren. She remained alert, although ill, up to her death in 1966 at the age of 87.

Annie and John raised four children, Kenneth, Duane, Mary Ann, and Roger in this house. John died November 22, 1966 having farmed and dealt in machinery for 26 years.

Daniel Burgdorff

Daniel Burgdorff was born in Lindenkamp, Germany, in March 1796. He married and had nine sons, eight of whom had already grown to manhood when their mother died. Two sons went to Australia, married and made their homes there. Two more sons, one a banker and one a merchant, came to America, settled in Evanston, Illinois and raised families there. Nothing is known of what happened to the other five sons.

In August 1848, Daniel Burgdorff married a second wife, 23-year-old Wilhelmina Burkhart, and they had four more sons together: Theodore, Werner, Henry, and Fred Burgdorff.

As Daniel was 69-years-old when he migrated with Wilhelmina and their four sons to America, it is a wonder that he survived the six-week ocean voyage from Bremen, Germany.

After staying in New York for a time, the Burgdorffs came west to New Chester and settled on a farm that, around 1935, was still owned by a Burgdorff descendent. Daniel died on the farm at age 88, and Wilhelmina remained alone there until failing eyesight compelled her to live with her sons. She lived with one, and then another, until her death in 1914, aged 89.

Daniel was a musician of noted ability, especially on the violin. In his homeland he had been a miller, owned a grocery store, and owned a 13-acre farm which, in Germany, made him "well-to-do." They left it all for the hard work of breaking a farm and building a house in America. They died happy.

Frank and Lena Fenner Burgdorff

Frank Fenner was born in New Chester in November 1872, third child of Henry and Lucy. He was a fine musician. He married Lena Burgdorff of New Chester in November 1890 and they made their home on farms in Adams County. After nearly 17 years of marriage, Lena died in Coloma of heart failure and diphtheria in 1907. They'd had no children. Frank had a second marriage to Emma Hanson of Big Flats. They made their home in Oxford, and had two daughters, Elizabeth and Hazel, who each married and had children.

Fred and Alice DeMotte Burgdorff

Fred Burgdorff was the youngest son of Daniel and Wilhelmina Burgdorff. He married Alice DeMotte of New Chester and they had three children: Herbert, Omar and Ethel.

Herbert Burgdorff married and with his wife, Pearl, lived at Weyauwega, Wisconsin for many years. By 1935, they had moved to Blanchardsville, Wisconsin, where Herbert was a merchant. He and Pearl had two sons—Harold and Allison—and a daughter who married a salesman and lived in Chicago. As a young boy, Herbert's eldest son, Harold, was afflicted with infantile paralysis. Despite the resulting handicaps he faced, he went on to become a successful stenographer and bookkeeper in Madison. Second son Allison married a Belleville girl.

Omar Burdorff was a farmer and also became a succesful merchant who, for many years, kept a hardware store in Grand Marsh. He married Ethel Phelps. They had one son, Olaire, daughter Blanche and a daughter who died at birth.

Ethel Burgdorff married Ray Atkins of Grand Marsh and made their home at a farm there. They adopted a daughter who married and became a teacher.

Henry and Mary McGowan Burgdorff

Henry Burgdorff, third son of Daniel and Wilhelmina, married Mary McGowan of New Chester. They both died on their Brooks, Wisconsin, farm after reaching old age. They had seven children, all born on Daniel and Wilhelmina's original farm. These were Roy, Carrie, Lynn, James, Inez and Mayme Burgdorff, along with a son who died in infancy.

Roy Burgdorff married Pearl Eddy of Easton and had five children one of whom died very young. They lived in Mauston where Roy had a garage and worked as an auto mechanic. Carrie Burgdorff married a buttermaker from Brooks, Clifford Stafford. They had one son and divorced at middle age. Lynn Burgdorff married Mayme Donovan of Grand Marsh and they had one son. Lynn was a real estate and insurance salesman, and an excellent musician. They made their home in Adams.

James Burgdorff became a railroad man in Adams, married late in life, and had no children. Inez married James Donovan. They lived in Adams and had a son and a daughter. Mayme Burgdorff became a successful school teacher.

Theodore and Sarah Fonda Burgdorff

Theodore Burgdorff, eldest son of Daniel and Wilhelmina, was born in Lindenkamp, Germany in June 1850. He was 15-years-old when he came to America. Although he had been educated in Germany, he went to school during his first year in America in order to translate his knowledge into the English language and usage.

In August 1873, he married Sarah Marie Fonda of Adams County. They made their home on a farm at New Chester until five years before his death, when they bought a home in the village of Grand Marsh. Theodore died there of a stroke in September 1929, aged 79.

On their 50th wedding anniversary, more than 100 friends, relatives, and neighbors gathered to celebrate at their New Chester farm. A large table was constructed under the trees to hold all the good food brought by the guests.

Theodore and Sarah Burgdorff had three children: Bertha, Lena and Chloe. Chloe died the same day she was born in 1878. Her two older sisters, Bertha, born in 1874, and Lena, born in 1876, married into the local Fenner family. Many of Bertha's descendents still live in Adams County today.

Werner and Annie McGowan Burgdorff

Werner Burgdorff, the second son of Daniel and Wilhelmina, was born in Lindenkamp, Germany. He married Annie McGowan of New Chester and they made their home on a farm there. They had four children: Nellie, Margaret, Lois and a baby son who died in infancy.

Nellie Burgdorff married Ted Dowere of Westfield, a farmer. They had five children, one son and four daughters. Margaret Burgdorff married William McWilliams of Russel Flats, near Westfield, and they had two daughters. Lois Burgdorff married Adolph Peters and they had seven children. They made their home at Elkhorn, Wisconsin, where Adolph was a farm produce dealer.

Anton and Anna Syrbus Burian

My great grandparents on my father's side, Anton and Anna (Syrbus) Burian, were both born in Bohemia (Czech

Republic). They came to the United States in 1870, with my grandfather, who was then three years old. Anton and Anna had adopted my grandfather, John, and knew he had a brother who was adopted by a family who came to the United States also, but they settled in Michigan and the two families never had any further contact. Anton and Anna lived in Chicago for six months before coming to Adams County, Wisconsin. They lived in Friendship for four years, then went to Pilot Knob, where they homesteaded the original part of the farm (87 acres) in Lincoln township, which is still in the family.

Anton Burian became a U.S. citizen January 20, 1880. Grandpa John Burian became a citizen June 13, 1901, after all his children were born. John Burian married Anna Korec in 1891 and had seven children. One daughter was born dead, and one died in infancy. The children who survived were: Mary (Burian) Kirslenlohr, born December 30, 1892; Anna (Burian) Peterson, born May 2, 1894; my father, William Burian born November 27, 1895; Clara (Burian) Ziska, born February 11, 1898; and John Burian born July 12, 1900.

Submitted by: Margaret L. (Burian) Bell

Arthur C. and Bernice L. Johnson Byers

Arthur Christopher Byers was born April 7, 1901 in New Haven township, Adams County, Wisconsin the son of George and Eva (Evans) Byers. He attended Pleasant View school in the Town of Jackson. In 1922, Artie was working in Sheboygan. He married November 10, 1926, Bernice Lillian Johnson at the Presbyterian Manse in Oxford, Wisconsin. Bernice was born November 4, 1906 New Chester township, Adams County the daughter of Lorenzo and Grace (Adee) Johnson. Bernice attended Bloss Grade School in New Chester township and graduated from Westfield High School and taught at Wolf Lake School for two years. Artie and Bernice first farmed on his father's farm and in October, 1942 purchased a dairy farm in New Haven. In 1970, they retired and spent their summers in Adams County and their winters in Bradenton, Florida until 1989 when they sold their home in Florida. Artie died June 28, 1991 in Baraboo, Wisconsin and is buried at the Lakeview Cemetery near Oxford. After Art's death, Bernice went to live at Harmony Manor in Portage.

Children: Elaine Eva, Myron Hollis, and Kenneth Dell

George and Eva Evans Byers

George William Byers was born November 27, 1862, Douglas township, Marquette County, Wisconsin, the son of Christoph and Maria (Hees) Bayer. He married Eva Elvina Evans November 12, 1889 in New Haven township. Adams County, Eva was born September 5, 1870 in Wisconsin, the daughter of Jacob and Thurrisa (Jackson) Evans. In 1893 George and Eva bought the Jimmie McIntyre farm in New Haven, Adams County. George died November 23, 1915 at his home in New Haven from stomach cancer and is buried at the Lakeview Cemetery near Oxford. A few months after George's death, on February 3, 1916, Eva placed the following ad in the Oxford Times; For Sale-Wagon nearly new, buggy sulky cultivator, drag, plow team weight 2,400, driving team weight 2,000, light double harness, black mare weight 1,300. Call at George Byers' farm five miles SW of Oxford. Eva married second, Robert J. Platt, December 29, 1919 in Milwaukee.

Robert died June 15, 1939. Eva was a member of the Royal Neighbors of American, the Neighborhood Club and The Davis Corners Methodist Church. She died July 8, 1947 and is buried at the Lakeview Cemetery near Oxford.

Children: William J.; Charles George; Ray Frank; Iva Theorize; Infant born and died July 10, 1899, buried Lakeview Cemetery; Arthur Christopher; Elmer Alfred; Ada Isabelle.

Myron H. and Joan L. Ellinger Byers

Myron Hollis Byers was born June 27, 1939 in Adams County, Wisconsin, the son of Arthur and Bernice (Johnson) Byers. He was baptized August 17, 1941 at the Oxford Community Bible Church in Oxford. Myron graduated from Oxford High School in 1957, the same year he joined the Wisconsin Air National Guard. On July 24, 1959, he graduated from Janesville Vocational and Adult School with an Air Frame and Power Plant Certificate. He worked in Chicago for a short time for a major airline moving to Madison in 1963 where he was employed with the Wisconsin Air National Guard as an airplane mechanic until his retirement in January 1995. He married Joan Lucile Ellinger at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oxford Wisconsin on April 18, 1964. The ceremony was performed by Reverend Lee Eggloff. Joan was born January 4, 1943 in New Chester township, Adams County, Wisconsin the daughter of Harvey and Olla (Rathbun) Ellinger. She graduated from Adams-Friendship High School in 1960 and worked at the Wisconsin Telephone Company in Madison until 1968. Myron and Joan lived in Madison and owned a farm in New Haven, Adams County, which they cash cropped. This farm was the farm of Myron's father. At Myron's retirement, they moved to the farm in Adams County.

Children: Rodney Lee, born November 6, 1964; Aaron Kendall, born September 21, 1967, died September 23, 1976 from Hyline membrane disease, buried Lakeview Cemetery, Oxford, Wisconsin; Rhonda Lynn, born January 21, 1969.

James and Agnes Lukas Capek

James Capek was born September 28, 1866 in Magdelina, Bohemia, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Capek. He married Agnes Lukas about 1896 in Bohemia. Agnes was born at Liebnitz, Bohemia on January 23, 1875, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Lukas. James, Agnes and their four children came to America on the ship Chemnitz, arriving at the port of New York, on the 26th of October 1906. While living in Bohemia, James' occupation was as a mason. Their last residence, before coming to America, was in Liebnitz, Bohemia. According to the Chemnitz passenger ship records, they knew before leaving from the port of Bremen, Germany that they were going to Friendship, Wisconsin. The six of them came with only \$85. Their four children were Rose Capek, born August 20, 1892, Marie Capek born August 20, 1896, Frank Capek born September 26, 1902 and Annie Capek, born July 15, 1905. Another son, Edward Capek was born September 17, 1908 after they arrived in Friendship.

In Friendship, James was a mason and also a railroad car repairman. He declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States on the 23rd of September 1813 at the Friendship Circuit Court in Adams County. He was naturalized on September 2, 1920 in Adams County.

Agnes died May 30, 1911 in Adams County at the age of 38 of heart problems. James later married Emma Heyak on May 22, 1916. James died September 5, 1937 at his home in Adams County of arteriosclerosis.

Submitted by: Carol Setliff

Frank and Josephine Wolf Capek

Frank Capek was born May 21, 1868 in Zleby County, Caslav, Bohemia. He migrated to America in 1884, locating in Chicago. He married Josephine Wolf on June 30th, 1890 in Chicago at St. Procopius Church. To this union nine children were born. They moved to the Town of Rome, Adams County, in 1900 and located in the southwest corner of Section 35, in an area known as the Bohemian Settlement. Here he carried on the occupation of farming. Josephine passed away in 1934 and Frank stayed on the home farm until 1943 when he moved to Nekoosa. He was an avid birder and enjoyed observing wild birds in their habitat, and also raised canaries and homing pigeons. He passed away in 1958, and they are both interred in the Rome Cemetery, Adams County.

Submitted by: Marlene M. Murray

Harry and Dora Fenner Castner

Dora Mae Fenner was born at Lincoln in November 1915, the thirteenth and youngest child of Frederick and Bertha Fenner. She became a successful restauranteer while still a young woman. She married Harry Floyd Castner of Loyal in October 1937 and they made their home in Wausau. They had four children: Floyd, Russell, Karen and David Castner. First child, Floyd, was born in May 1939 but died within an hour of his birth. The other Castner children went on to marry and start families of their own.

Albert and Anna Miller Catchim [Ketchum]

Albert Catchim (our grandfather) was born September 23, 1829 in Sussex County, New York; he passed away September 21, 1901 in the Town of Lincoln, Adams County, Wisconsin.

Anna Miller was born June 10, 1834 in Ulster, Ireland and married Albert Catchim on October 25, 1851. Anna passed away April 16, 1921. Albert and Anna moved from New York to Adams County, Wisconsin in the year 1861.

Seven children were born to this union: William: (died in infancy), Douglas: (passed away at age 14), Amanda: (married Fred Schiber and to this union two children were born. Arthur, who married Etta Leach; and Marge who married Nels Paulson. No children were born to this union). Amanda was also married to Sam Demott. Mary: born in New York on March 25, 1853; married John McMahon on November 14, 1884. Three children were born to this union; Frank McMahon-deceased, Leon McMahon-deceased, and Iva McMahon Johnson of Westfield, Wisconsin. Alvina: born October 11, 1960 in the state of New York. She married Andrew Ebsen on October 23, 1895. One child was born to this union, Ina Ebsen Hale. Alvina passed away on March 3, 1937. Oscar: born in Chemong County, New York on February 22, 1863 and married Caroline Cummings on September 27, 1885. Five children were born to this union; Leonard, Albert Leslie, Nellie, Ruth, and Royal. Leonard was born September 2, 1886, married Florence Huber and they had one child, Bernol J. Albert Leslie, born December 12, 1888, was

married to Alma Cleland and they had one child, Ruth Lewis. Nellie, born December 31, 1890, married Maurice Treadway and they had three children; Hubert, William, and Caroline (Atkinson) Treadway. Ruth, born October 6, 1892, married Carl Vogler and they had four children; Donald, Geraldine (Bates), Maxine (Elkington), and Arlene Rose. Royal was born August 22, 1894 and had no children.

After Caroline passed away on November 1, 1900, Oscar married Nancy Warner on April 17, 1901, and seven more children were born; Florence, Floyd, Fern, Elza, Merlin, Howard, and Lester. (I can't find dates when Caroline or Nancy passed away). Florence Elizabeth was born May 1, 1902, married Hugh Parks, and had three children; Jeanette (Schoblocker), Dale, and Doris (Kaleas).

Floyd Ebenezer was born January 3, 1904 and passed away at the age of 11. Fern Amelia was born October 31, 1905 and married Benjamin Nelson. They had two children, Robert Frederick and Benny. Fern passed away on May 26, 1990. Elza Reuben, born on February 14, 1901(d: May 1974), married Edna Wade (b:December 30, 1912 and d: January 21, 1981) and they had two children; Barbara (Volkening) and Elza Jr. Merlin Ellis was born March 24, 1914 (d:June 1976) and married Effie Wilson. They had four children; Mary Lou (Smith), Patty, Peggy, and Janice. Howard Chester married Mavis Buchholz and they had one child, Terrance Dale. Howard was born August 12, ? and passed away in the 1940's. Lester Carl, born in October 1923, passed away December 16, 1960. He was married to Lois ? and they had three children; Joann, Renee and Denise.

The last of Albert and Anna's children, Myrtle, who passed away in the early 1940's, had married Ethan Babcock. Nine children blessed this union; Frank (deceased), Mabel (deceased), Leon of Jamestown, North Dakota, Ernest of Spokane, Washington, Lois of Portland, Oregon, Earl (deceased), Clarence (deceased), Frederick of Spokane, Washington, and Russell of Spokane, Washington.

Albert Catchim had a sister, Mary, who married Charles Cavanaugh. Mary and Charles lived in the Town of Lincoln, and had three children; Perry, Wilmont and Daniel.

Perry married Della Bidwell and had three children; Charlie, Frank, and Mayme. Charlie married Bessie Hale and to this union was born one child, Willam, who married Betty Reinhold. Frank married Polly Dramaski and Mayme married Claude White.

James Miller was a brother to Anna Miller Catchim. He was born in Ireland on February 14, 1832 and died February 19, 1905. He married Eliza Benedict and they had one son, Ephram Miller. They all came to the Town of Lincoln from New York and all passed away in Adams County where they are buried in the Rock Cemetery in the Grand Marsh area.

Elza R. Ketchum Sr. had two children. Elza Ronald Ketchum Jr. was born August 17, 1934 and married Eveleen ??? on March 28, 1953. To this union was born three children: Dale Edward, (September 20, 1953), Patricia Ann (August 24, 1956), and Lynn Marie (November 14, 1957). None of them were married at the time of this writing. Barbara Jean Ketchum, born June 20, 1939, married Edward Volkening on April 9, 1960 and they had two children: Shelley Lynn (November 7, 1960) married James McManus on April 24, 1982. Sharon

(March 16, 1964) married Chester Wolfe on August 13, 1989 and they have one child, Alia born on August 17, 1990.

Albert Ketchum had one child, Ruth (Lewis). Ruth had two half sisters: Alvera Lord who married Ray Lumbey; and Lyalus M. who married Ken Thompson. Lyalus and Ken were divorced and she was then remarried to Al Deering. Alvera and Ray had two children, June and Jean. Lyalus and Ken had four children; Darrell, Dawn, Dale and David. Lyalus and Al had two children, Darwin and Duane.

Ruth married Evan Lewis. To this union six children were born: Joy, Jimmy, Gay, Cherrie, Jeanie Marie, and Richard.

Jonathan and Sarah Ann Pettigrove Colby

Jonathan Corliss Colby, son of Jacob and Mehitabel Pool (Corliss) Colby, was born October 2, 1806 at Bradford, Orange County, Vermont, and died at Easton, Adams County, Wisconsin on July 23, 1887. He married Sarah Ann Pettigrove on April 25, 1838 in Washington County, Maine. She was a daughter of Thomas and Mary (McCurdy) Pettigrove and was born at Calais, Maine on August 27, 1809 and died at Easton, Adams County on July 9, 1895. The family bible states that the wedding was performed by Reverend William Brown. Jonathan Colby and his wife Sarah are both buried in Easton Cemetery. After his marriage to Sarah Ann Pettigrove, Jonathan Colby made his home in Topsfield, Washington County, Maine. They lived there for about twelve years and seven of their children were born there. In the 1850 census they are in the home of Sarah's parents and a little later that year they removed to Adams County Wisconsin. Family tradition states that they came "by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee and thence to Adams County by ox team". They stopped for a while on the banks of White Creek and were known as the first white settlers

there. They removed to Easton within a year, and there Jonathan surveyed forty acres, entered a claim, cleared the land and erected a shanty. At this time the land was all Indian land and not on the market. He later bought more land and finally had a farm of about 160 acres. This farm still remains in the Colby family and is farmed by Jonathan's great grandson, Richard Colby.

When the Town of Easton was organized, Jonathan Corliss Colby was chosen supervisor. In 1870 he was the treasurer of the school board. He was a man of retiring disposition and did not accept public office. Through hard work, he accumulated a good estate. He was a consistent member of the United Brethren Church, and a man respected by all in the community for his honesty and good citizenship.

Submitted by: Marge Colby

Warren Ildo and Jennie May Halstead Colby

W.I. Colby was born at Easton, Wisconsin on July 17, 1855 to Jonathan and Sarah Ann (Pettigrove) Colby. He became a farmer and made his lifetime home on the Colby homestead at Easton. He died at home September 24, 1948, just past 93 years, and is buried in the East Easton Cemetery.

Warren was one of the early students of the East Easton School formed in March, 1854. The first treasurer was Jonathan Colby, Warren's father. The schoolhouse was built of logs and Amanda Hicks was the first teacher, hired for three months for 12 shillings per week. In November 1870 a special school meeting was called and it was voted to build a new frame schoolhouse on a stone foundation and painted white, to be furnished complete before the 20th day of October A.D. 1871. This was done and George Hatch taught the school in 1871 and 1872. His sister, Eva Hatch, taught in 1873. It was the Hatch



Len Colby and Tom Colby at the family store in Easton.

brother and sister that encouraged Warren to go to Ripon College, which he did. He enrolled in the English Academy there in 1876-77. He was quite musical. His sister, Annie, played the family organ. He conducted singing school, a popular neighborhood pastime in those days. Neighbors assembled in the evening just to sing together. Often times they had no organ—they did not need it. Warren gave them the pitch with his tuning fork and they sang by note. He also sang bass in a quartet and sang at funerals and at neighborhood musical affairs. Other members of the quartet in later years were Herbert Reid (tenor), Grace Burdick and Florence (Halstead) Neff (soprano) and mother sang the alto part. When I grew older I helped with the soprano.

One of my earliest recollections was of attending one of my father's singing schools. I had spent the night with Aunt Fode and she took me with her. My father was so surprised when he looked up and saw me standing there. I remember he was sitting at the desk reading by lantern light. He also helped organize the Easton Brass Band. They played at county fairs and other celebrations in the local area. I remember going to a fourth of July celebration at Briggsville where I saw my first rag-a-muffin. A big wagon load of young men suddenly appeared—all masked or "blacked up" and attired in raggedy clothes. It was difficult to name them. I remember the crowd pulling one off the wagon and trying to find out who he really was. The band had uniforms of a deep blue trimmed with gold braid and brass buttons so they presented a very attractive appearance.

Warren Colby was active in school affairs as was his father before him. He was clerk on the school board from 1902 to 1908 and treasurer from 1909 to 1924. His daughter, Dorothy, had just completed the school year of 1923-24 and he did not think it fitting that he should continue on the board since a member of his family was to continue for another term. He was called to serve in various official positions in his township, among them being town chairman.

On February 3, 1900, he and three other Easton farmers: J.M. Schoff (Jerry), G.W. Stevens (George), and William Risk (Bill), incorporated the Easton Dairy Products Association to make cheese.

A Mr. Swigee had a cheese factory at Point Bluff (now the Olp farm) and was doing well. I went once with father to see this factory in operation. So they built a cheese factory at Easton, now a tavern, and hired a cheesemaker. The business flourished for many years. Roy Trumball was the cheesemaker for several years and he was very well liked. He married Ruth Henry, daughter of the Honorable John A. Henry, who kept the village store and post office.

But, like so many small business operations, it succumbed to progress. Creameries gradually took over the markets. Its patrons began leaving the factory and buying home separators like De La Val and Sharples, and selling cream instead of milk. They then had two benefits, the cream was picked up by a hauler and they had skim milk for their calves. The cheese factory was finally discontinued. My father was one of the last to leave. He bought a Sharples Separator that stood in the dining room for years and was a mankiller as I recollect.

My father and mother's married life was spent almost entirely on the old Colby homestead, but at first they lived with his folks for a short while. I think I was born in the old house.

Meanwhile my father had bought the 80 acres to the east and built a small house on it into which they moved as soon as it was ready. They lived there until Aunt Annie died in April 1897. Soon after they moved back to the old house. Dorothy was born there.

Father decided to remodel the old house during the early 1900's. Wilson Eddy did the carpenter work and Roy Pease of Friendship did the plastering. A man from Quincy named Schlater did the chimney work. The little new house on the 80 was moved over and attached to the other. It is now the kitchen and dining room of the house as it stands today.

Later, the barn on the 80 was moved over but later was torn down entirely. The old barn remains the same through the years except for some additions on the outside and some alterations on the inside. One year father had it painted red with the name Oldfield lettered on it. That has long since washed away. Barney Oldfield [pioneer racing car driver] was big news in the papers at that time. We thought Oldfield was most appropriate because it was one of the earliest farms in that area.

Later on my father bought the "Frink Lot" but that is another story. He often told us a story of how he stole some apples from Mr. Frink's apple tree. Then, feeling guilty about it, he went and asked the old lady for some apples. She looked at him and said, "Young man, I think you have some already".

Jennie May Halstead was born January 29, 1868 in Darlington, Wisconsin. She came with her parents, Isaac and Lydia Halstead, to Easton, Wisconsin when she was ten years old and grew to womanhood there. She and her friend, Elsie Cooley, now Mrs. Walter Snider, went to Milwaukee together and worked in a factory there for a short time. It was a shirt factory. She became a school teacher and taught the Easton School in 1889--spring term of three months at \$16 per month. She had a second grade certificate. W.H. Woolsey was clerk. She also taught five months of school, beginning September 1890, receiving \$16 for the first three months and \$17 for the last two months. A.S. Neff was clerk at that time. She also taught three months there in 1891, spring term. She was teaching at Roche-a-Cri in March 1892 and she was married on June 21, 1892 to Warren I. Colby at Easton by A.C. Marden of White Creek. She was 24 and he was 37. Uncle Arch Neff and Aunt Mary (Halstead) Neff were witnesses. Her married life was spent almost entirely on the old Colby homestead.

Jennie May Colby died at her home in Easton very suddenly on Sunday, November 14, 1948, aged 80 years, nine months, and 16 days. Her little grandson, Richard Colby, had gone into her room to call her to dinner but could not wake her. She was lying on her couch reading when death came. She outlived her husband almost two months and she chose the hymn "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" to be sung at her funeral. She is buried in Easton Cemetery.

Submitted by: Irene Colby Oakes

Edwin and Catherine Hickson Crane

Edwin Crane was born in County Kerry, Ireland where he met and married Catherine Hickson from County Kerry also. They migrated to this country during the potato famine in Ireland. They first bought land at Adams Center where their only child was born. John C. Crane was born November 14, 1868. They bought pieces of land in White Creek because it was

better soil. They eventually sold the farm in Adams Center and built the home in White Creek on County Trunk H.

Their son, John, grew up there and was plowing with a team of horses when he was only 11 years old. All of his life he had a great love of horses. He also had a great love of the fine arts, not typical of the farmers of that time. His daughters had piano lessons and played very well.

He met Antoinetta Louisa Struck in Marshfield, Wisconsin where she was working at a dry goods store. She was born November 9, 1873 in Kilbourn, Wisconsin. They were married January 31, 1899 in Kilbourn. They made their home on his farm in White Creek. Their children were Dorothy Crane (born November 22, 1899) and Catherine Crane (born February 19, 1901.) Albert Crane (born July 4, 1903) and John Louis Crane (born October 10, 1905) both died in infancy. Then Florence Crane (born October 10, 1910). All the children were born there at the farm house. They went to school at White Creek School. Then Dorothy and Catherine went to High School at Kilbourn. At the time the town had to pay three dollars a year for tuition for each of the girls and the neighboring farmers weren't very happy he had to educate his daughters. They both became teachers and taught many years in the area schools.

John Crane died in the flu epidemic on March 15, 1919 and the daughters graduated from Kilbourn High School in June 1919. Catherine was the class Valedictorian and Dorothy was the Salutatorian.

Catherine managed to keep the farm by sharecropping. She had to sell all the animals to raise money as Catherine was struck with nephritis which at that time could be fatal. She was sent to Waukesha to a clinic that treated her with rest and a special diet. She spent a year completely bedridden but did survive and went on to a very productive life. Her first teaching job was at Five Oaks School. Then she taught for four years at the Holmville School. While teaching there she met Leo Klein at a box social. They dated for about a year and then were married on April 21, 1924 at Saint Joseph's Church in Adams. They had six children: Florence, then Leo Jr. who was born with spina-bifida, Dolores, Daniel, Robert and then Kenneth. Both girls were born on Christmas day. They raised their family during the Depression years, which was a very difficult time for everybody, but especially for the farmer.

During the war years, 1941 through 1945, Catherine worked as the Post-Mistress in the Friendship Post Office. Then again in 1949 when the Klein family farm was sold to build the Castle Rock Dam.

On August 16, 1965, Governor Knowles congratulated Leo and Catherine for their Century Farm Recognition.

Leo passed away March 8, 1967, when he suffered a fatal heart attack. On September 7, 1983, the Klein family was honored when the shower building opened at Castle Rock County Park, it was dedicated to August and Leo Klein and their families. The park is located in the area where the original Klein farm home was. Catherine stayed on at the farm until 1987. In the meantime she did sell the farm to the Harold Morley family, but had the right to live in the home as long as she wanted. As her health deteriorated the children felt she was better off in a small apartment which they found in Mauston where there were many extra amenities. She didn't want to go, but once settled in there she did enjoy the companionship of the other seniors and

the many functions there the community put on for them. Then Catherine passed away February 11, 1991 just a week before her 90th birthday.

Dorothy Crane married Frank Kosobud June 6, 1923. They had two sons, Francis and Carl. Frank retired after over 30 years working on the railroad. Dorothy worked at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and she retired after over 30 years there. They lived in Madison and raised their family there. Frank passed away in December of 1973. Dorothy lived in her own home until July of 1998. She had a fall in the winter of 1997 and passed away on July 28, 1998 at the age of 98.

Florence Crane worked at the University of Wisconsin and was secretary to the Dean of the School of Agriculture. She retired after 35 years there. She still lives and maintains her home in Madison, Wisconsin.

Submitted by: Dolores Filtz

Archie R. Crothers

Archie R. Crothers was born April 14, 1887, on a farm his grandfather purchased from the government in the late 1840's. There he spent his entire life, and died 100 years later within a few feet of where he was born.

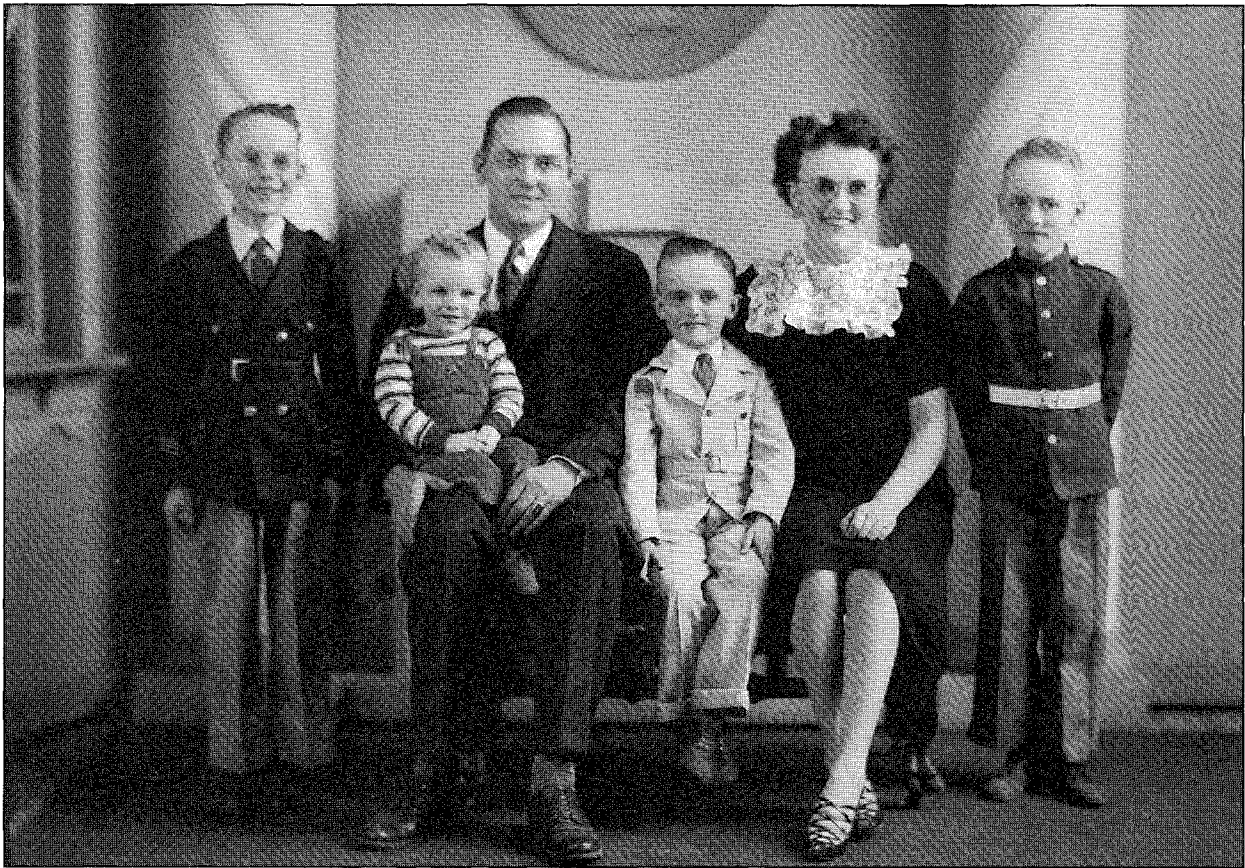
His father, James Morris Crothers, was born in 1847 near Montreal, Canada, the fourth of ten children born to J.M. Crothers Sr., and Ann (Briggs) Crothers. J.M. Sr. was born and raised near Belfast, Ireland, and was the son of George Carruthers and Margaret Graham. Ann Briggs was the daughter of Robert Briggs, an Irishman who fought in the Battle of Waterloo.

James I and Annie were married in 1840 and promptly migrated to Canada. In 1856 they purchased the Jordan farm on the south shore of Jordan Lake in Adams County, where they lived for the rest of their lives. James II grew of age there and in 1866 married Julia Ward of Big Spring. Julia, the daughter of Ira C. Ward and Ursula (Edwards) Ward, was born in Lake Mills, Wisconsin in 1847. When she was two, Ira moved his family to this wilderness where bear were a common sight and their closest neighbor was Chief Pretty Man and his family. Ira and his friend, Richard Rose, are believed to be the first two farmers to enter and claim farms in the area now known as southern Adams County.

Ira chose a piece of land on a ridge with white and red oak timber, close to spring water, with rocks in ample supply for building needs. He built a farm and raised his family by trading beef and wheat for lumber at Pineries to the north. Later, he raised hops and, in 1868, erected a hop kiln for processing. The kiln, constructed of hand hewn Wisconsin pine rafted down the river from the lumber camp, still stands today. Direct descendants of these people, as well as their livestock, continue to live on the same farm.

Around 1870, Ira was struck by lightning. After a lengthy recovery he sold his farm to Julia and James Crothers and spent the remaining years of his life operating the Ward Feed Mill in Big Spring.

Archie's parents lived and raised their family on the Ward farm. James II was active in local affairs; serving on the town board, county board, and as sheriff of Adams County. Julia was active in raising her large family and helping with school and



l-r, Elton Ray, Jr., Harry, Elton R., Richard, Irene, and Thomas Davis

church activities. Julia died in 1921 and James II in 1927. They are buried in the Big Spring Cemetery.

Archie attended the Ward School for eight years and went on to High School in Portage for one year. There he lived with his older brother who was Columbia County Clerk of Court. He then returned home to farm, all of his brothers having pursued other careers. In 1913, he married Laura Clough, born in New Haven in 1889 to Charles and Eva Clough.

Charles Sylvester Clough, known as 'Vet' was the son of Steven Clough and Polly Compton. Steven's father, Moses, was a soldier in the War of 1812. Moses was born and worked in the granite quarries of the East. Following a dynamite blast that blinded him, he and his wife moved to Wisconsin and raised a large family under difficult pioneer conditions. He would live to old age without seeing his new home.

Steven and his brothers were stone masons and carpenters by trade. A surviving example of their work is the Big Spring Church, built in 1875.

Charles Clough died of heart trouble, leaving behind a wife and four young children. Eva Clough was descended from, among others, the Eighme family who were very early settlers near Eighme Pond in Adams County. Re-named 'Amey' Pond by modern map-makers, the pond is about eight miles east of Wisconsin Dells on the south side of Highway 23.

Laura Clough attended the Badger Valley School, graduated from Kilbourn High School and taught until she married Archie in 1913. Archie and Laura farmed in Big Spring for the rest of their lives. Laura died in 1954.

Archie was active in all facets of local politics, serving as Town Clerk for the Town of New Haven and many years on the

Ward School Board. He was serving on the Wisconsin Dells High School Board when the new high school was built.

Archie enjoyed keeping abreast of current events and told stories of the good old days to many friends who enjoyed spending time with him during his last years. He died in June, 1987 and is buried in the Big Spring Cemetery. His son Erwin operates the farm today. Erwin and his wife Ruth (Ramsey) have two children: Kenneth and Marie.

Elton R. and Irene Weber Davis

Elton Ray Davis came to Adams County in 1935 having been hired to teach science at Adams-Friendship High School. Elton was originally from Granton, Wisconsin, the second son of Thomas Sherman and Lessie (Heath) Davis. Sherman Davis was a farmer and Elton quoted him as saying "If you want to keep a boy on the farm, don't let him go to school after he's 14 years old." It seemed to hold true for Elton, who took an interest in science on the farm and went on after high school to Stevens Point State Teachers College (now UW-Stevens Point) where he graduated with a Bachelor of Education Degree in 1928. He never went back to the farm. He taught high school in Mattoon, Wisconsin before coming to Adams County.

Elton's wife, Irene Elizabeth (Weber) Davis accompanied Elton to Adams County. Irene and Elton had married the year before in Stillwater, Minnesota and brought along a new baby, Elton Ray Davis, Jr. Irene was originally from Eau Galle, Wisconsin, the eldest of five children of Arthur William and Katy (Meehan) Weber. Irene received a one-year rural teaching certificate from River Falls College and taught in a one-room schoolhouse in Arkansaw, Wisconsin. She returned to college,

this time at Stevens Point where she met Elton Davis, and earned a two-year certificate. Irene taught school in Tigerton, Wisconsin before marrying and moving to Adams County.

Elton Davis taught at Adams-Friendship High School for 28 years until his death in 1963. The principal, and his boss for all but the last few years was his good friend Alfred H. Loken. Elton principally taught Physics and Chemistry, but also taught General Science and other courses, including, at least once, Algebra. His class room/science lab was on the northeast corner of the main floor of the old wing of what was then the high school. When the new wing was built in 1952, his room was on the east side of that wing facing Main Street. Mr. Davis's science classes were remembered by many former students as filled with experiments and demonstrations that often had surprising results. A soda acid fire extinguisher that shot a stream of liquid 30 feet out the laboratory window, and copper electroplating that turned silver half-dollars into giant pennies were two such memorable experiments.

Probably his favorite class and hobby was teaching radio and being advisor to the Adams-Friendship High School Radio Club. An amateur radio operator himself with the call letters W9EIL, Mr. Davis helped several generations of students earn their "novice" license and build their own radio transmitters.

Always interested in the lives of his students after leaving high school, Elton turned down opportunities to leave Adams-Friendship High School because he wanted to be there when former students returned to visit.

Irene Davis stayed away from teaching for a time after arriving in Adams. After Elton Ray, Jr. three more sons were born to the Davises: Thomas William, Richard Joseph and Harry Paul. In the late '40s, Mrs. Davis began filling in at teaching assignments where there was a need. She taught first and fifth grades at Adams Grade School and kindergarten at Friendship Grade School. In 1950, she took a permanent job as fifth grade teacher at Adams Grade School. Through evening and weekend classes Irene received her bachelors degree in 1955. Mrs. Davis continued teaching at Adams Grade School until 1966 when she moved away from Adams County. Irene Davis passed away in 1984 in Sarasota, Florida.

As of 1998, Elton and Irene Davis's sons are living productive lives. Ray Davis is a college professor at St. Johns College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Tom Davis lives in Adams and is married to the former DeAnn (Van Tassel) Baumgartner of Adams. Tom is a retired social worker and is owner and manager of Davis Associates; a Shaklee dealership. Dick Davis is married and is an engineer with RCA in El Paso, Texas. Harry Davis lives in Adams and is married to the former Lucille Ashworth of Friendship. Harry is retired from federal government service and works as a radio announcer.

Submitted by: Harry Davis

Luke Robbins and Nancy Crane Dickinson

My great grandparents, Luke Robbins and Nancy Crane Dickinson, arrived in Wisconsin in early spring of 1846. It is not known where they first took up residence but Luke was a Methodist Episcopal lay preacher and rode the Southwestern Union Circuit out of Necedah, until 1848. His main occupation was farming.

Luke was born November 3, 1815 in New York to Cotton and Mary (Polly) Dickinson. Nancy Crane was born possibly in Cayuga County (now Tompkins County) in 1822 to Henry and Sarah (Greene) Crane, in New York.

They were married September 1, 1840 in Tioga County New York. Two children, Sephron (April 27, 1842) and Mary Jane (September 15, 1844) were born in New York. Four children: Amelia (August 15, 1847; Asel (March 23, 1850); John Wesley (January 15, 1852); and Ashkol Leroy (June 26, 1853) were born in Wisconsin.

In the late 1850's Luke purchased land in Adams County. Later this land was sold and Luke purchased a lot along the railroad tracks in Wisconsin Rapids in 1867.

Submitted by: Grace Gross

John and Mary Catherine Mead Donovan

During the great Irish migration to America, circa 1855, John Donovan and wife, Catherine Mead Donovan, both born in Middletown, County Cork, Ireland, came to Adams County.

In 1864, they purchased eighty acres of land in Section 31 of the Town of Lincoln.

On the Adams County census of 1860, John and Catherine Donovan show the birth of two sons, John Jr. born in 1858 and Timothy born in 1859, all residing in Lincoln township. Further records show a pair of twin boys born in 1862, William and Richard, and a daughter, Catherine born in 1870. These children all attended the rural school in the area, which might have been located near Rock Cemetery. The family were Catholic and the nearest church was at Pilot Knob.

Only two of the Donovan children chose to remain in Adams County, when they became adults and they were John Jr. and Richard. Timothy settled in Austin, Minnesota and became successful, owning a furniture store and undertaking business. William, also chose Austin and operated a construction company; daughter Catherine, became a creative milliner, also in Austin. John Jr. married Mary Kennedy and raised a family of five daughters and one son, farming land in Lincoln township. Richard married Sarah Arner, whose parents were also immigrants from Ireland and they too remained residents of Adams County until their death. Richard, besides farming, dabbled in well digging, played the bass Viola in a rag-tag orchestra for many house dances; and for a few years operated a blacksmith shop in Grand Marsh.

Catherine Mead Donovan died in 1885 and was buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Briggsville, Wisconsin. John Donovan married the second time and fathered another son, James, in 1888; John's death occurred in 1890, and he was buried beside his first wife.

Submitted by: M. Delores Maynard Chervenky

Claude James and Rose Brickwell Ellis

I was born to Rose (Brickwell) Ellis and Claude James Ellis, February 14, 1927. There were nine of us. Our parents raised us in the Town of Lewiston, Columbia County, Wisconsin. There was Delilah (Elmer) Kock; Josephine (Edwin) Lapp; Betty (Rueben) Schwellenbach; Willard (Lorraine) Ellis and after Lorraine died he married Lucille (Paske) Devine; Sarah (Weldon) Morse; Stanley (Donna) Ellis;

Velma (Harold) Gaffney; Rodger (Mary Ellen) Ellis and Jon (Marge) Ellis.

My brother Willard served four years in France in World War II, Stanley three years in Italy, Rodger three years in Korea, and brother-in-law, Reuben Schwellenbach served four years in the Philippines.

Some of my family are now deceased but they are quite close by in Columbia County. My roots are in Adams County.

My grandfather and grandmother were Willard and Delilah (Taylor) Ellis and lived on County P, New Haven on a farm that used to be known as the Max Hyatt farm. My grandfather was born in 1838 in Diana, Lewis County, New York and my grandmother was born in Franklin County, New York, in 1854. Grandpa served in the Civil War and was a prisoner at Chicaumaqua. My father was born to them in 1879 and his brother Jesse had been born in 1876, never married, and died in 1923. My grandpa died at the age of 41 when an open well caved in on him. He was digging in Big Spring on the farm where he was born. My grandma Delilah Ellis died at the age of 34 in 1888. Her obituary said she sat in a chair two weeks before she died.

Our father and Uncle Jesse were raised by their aunt and uncle, Charles and Louisa Sheldon.

Mom was Rose Brickwell and was born and raised across the field from our home farm.

I went to Oak Knoll School and Portage High School and graduated in 1945. I met Harold Gaffney and was married in 1947 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Briggsville. We celebrated our 50th Anniversary in September, 1997. After we married we lived on Harold's family farm. He was born and raised there as was his father, Frank Gaffney. His mother was Nellie Hayes who came from the Town of Jackson. She worked for Frank's parents taking care of them and keeping house. His grandma was in a wheelchair.

When Harold and I met, Mom told me that Harold's great-grandparents had bought and owned a Kassner farm from my grandpa Brickwell. Our grandfathers, John Gaffney and Joseph Brickwell, had gone into the Civil War together and were taken prisoners in the battle of Chicamaqua and were prisoners in Libby prison where both survived and came home, married and raised their families. Our grandparents had only lived three miles apart.

Submitted by: Harold and Velma Gaffney

Harold Feldman

On August 12, 1998, at Wisconsin State Fair, Harold Feldman was honored for currently farming his family's "Century Farm". It qualified because of the continuous family ownership for over 100 years. At 78 years of age, Harold isn't just farming his 55 acres, he also continues his craft as one of the area's finest carpenters, for DEK Enterprises. (Last year, he worked for DEK Enterprises and farmed 150 acres!)

Harold's grandfather, Edward, moved from Chicago to 2537 Hwy Z, Friendship, establishing their homestead (according to records) on January 1, 1897. He left behind his general store where he also sold liquor, in Chicago, possibly because of the promise of cheap land. Edward, from England, and Bertha, from Germany, had six children—Charlie, Emma, Arthur, Edward, Elmer, and Hugo. In 1919, the home was built.

Harold recalls a humorous story he was told about his father, Edward, when he was a young man. The country store was located near the site of the current Quincy Town Hall. The Feldman's horse was used to going to the store and post office site. When Edward was riding it to get to a relative's house further down the road, he expected to keep going past the store so when the horse abruptly stopped to go to the familiar store site, Edward kept moving right over the horse's head.

Edward Ernest Feldman, Jr. married Sarah Smith (daughter of William and Mary Smith). They farmed. Harold was their first born, followed by Elaine (Staurseth, married, living in Minneapolis), Garth (of Friendship) and Evelyn (Fansel, married, and living in Madison). Edward served in World War I. His brother, Elmer, was killed in France, near Germany, during the war.

Harold was born July 18, 1920. In 1926, when he was six years old, Dellwood was subdivided. The Adams roundhouse was about halfway between Chicago and St. Paul so practically every steam engine passenger train that went through stopped in the Adams area. A large water tank filled the engines. Harold's Aunt Emma worked in the kitchen there, being exposed to the cold of the cooler as well as the heat from cooking, and later became ill. The Dellwood area thrived until the early 1930's when the Great Depression left buildings, even the spectacular ballroom, called the Dellwood Pavilion, empty for years.

May 5, 1933, Harold graduated from grade school at 13. Harold did not attend high school because there was no way for him to get back and forth to town. Schools did not provide bus transportation. His sisters stayed in town and his youngest sister rode the first bus. He recalls cleaning the maple floor of the old granary that same month, for his grandparents' 50th wedding anniversary dance, with music and the newly legal beer. His grandparents attended the World's Fair in Chicago and brought back souvenirs for Harold and his siblings.

He played on baseball teams for 13 years. One team, Dellwood, played west of the current Dellwood Pavilion, where the storage buildings are built.

Harold worked on the family farm. He did whatever had to be done, and he was able to do. He plowed with four horses. He cut wood, fed calves and did general farm work until he took his first job off the farm fifty years ago. Harold experienced his first work on the road when he began work October 8, 1948, on the Petenwell Dam. It was his first time away from home. This job lasted into 1951. A mural painting of this work is displayed in the Wisconsin Center on the UW-Madison campus.

At age 21, he was drafted into the service for World War II but workers in agriculture were also needed so he was sent back to stay on the farm.

He worked at Badger Ordnance in Baraboo twice, first as a general laborer, and then laying shingles in 1953. In 1955-1956, he worked as a carpenter for Clarence Mathe in Illinois. He's kept records on all his carpenter jobs and has done work for dozens and dozens of satisfied customers throughout the county, building cottages, garages, homes, barns and decks. When he was asked to do work for his sister in Minnesota, he road the "400" there.

Living near Castle Rock Lake, Harold has found numerous arrowheads of varying sizes on his property, especially along the bottom land bank. Before the lake water level was raised, he

found them by the island. In his free time, he enjoys fishing the area several days each week.

Submitted by: Marti J. Sopher and Dennis E. Korzuchowski

Jacob and Anna Martha Fenner

In 1847, Jacob and Anna Martha Fenner migrated to America from Essen, Germany accompanied by their four sons: Harvey, John, Herman, and Henry Fenner. The family settled for a time in Pennsylvania before coming to the newly designated county of Adams, Wisconsin, where they made a farm in New Chester. Wisconsin land records show that by 1855, Jacob owned 300 acres of Adams County land, and three years later added 40 acres more to his holdings. Jacob and Caroline lived on their New Chester farm the rest of their lives.

Harvey and Augusta Cook Fenner

Harvey, the eldest son of Jacob and Caroline Fenner, was born in Germany in 1828. He married the day before starting to America. Like his parents, Harvey and his bride, Augusta Cook (b. Germany 1832), settled at New Chester. They would have and raise ten children there—four daughters and six sons.

Harvey and Augusta were devout Christians and raised their children to be good, honest, sober, and hard-working men and women. They were always well-liked and respected by their friends and neighbors. Harvey fought for the Union during the Civil War. Having lived to old age, he died on his Adams County farm in 1914. Augusta died in New Chester in 1916.

The ten children of Harvey and Augusta Fenner were John, Martha, Rachel, Harvey Jr., Henry, Adam, Gustave (also known as August or Gus), Sarah, Caroline and Otis Fenner. Eldest daughter Martha (1851-1918) lived at home until all of her siblings were grown, having helped her mother a great deal in raising them. Late in life, she married Charles DeMotte, her girlhood sweetheart. She mothered his seven motherless children at Genos, Minnesota, where she eventually died.

Rachel Fenner (1854-1923) married Joseph Roller and started a family of her own at Packwaukee and Gustave Fenner (1867-1921) did the same in Minnesota. Sarah Fenner (1870-1908), taught school for several years before she died of heart problems while still unmarried. She is buried at Hillside Cemetery in Coloma. Otis Fenner (1876-1928) lived all his life on the farm where he was born, and nursed his parents in their old age. After their deaths he married Mabel Parks of Brooks, but they had no children.

Harvey and Augusta's son Henry Fenner (1862-1934) married Emma Lapham of Friendship and they had three children—two daughters and a son. When last heard from, they were in western Nebraska.

Several of Harvey and Augusta's children went west to South Dakota. John, Harvey Jr. and Adam each took government homesteads at Iroquois, and Caroline married her husband there, but they eventually left the state. John Fenner remained in South Dakota until he became too old to farm, and returned to Wisconsin. He never married and died at Portage, Wisconsin, in 1942. Needless to say, the South Dakota branch of Fenners who originally hailed from Adams County, Wisconsin, is now quite large. Harvey Jr. and Adam, who stayed and raised families there, had 15 children between them, and that was roughly four generations ago.

Harvey Fenner died in 1914, and Augusta Fenner in 1915. Both are buried at the New Chester Church Cemetery, as is Otis Fenner and his wife Mabel.

Herman and Sarah Cable Fenner

Herman, third son of Jacob and Caroline Fenner, was born in Germany in 1836. He married Sarah Cabel of Illinois. Herman dealt in real estate and Sarah taught school. They lived in Oxford for much of their lives, but did venture to other locations once or twice; they first bought a house in Portage, then a plantation in Virginia. When they sold the plantation, they went to Omaha, Nebraska. They then came back to Oxford, and both eventually died there. Like his brothers, Herman was a Civil War veteran. He and Sarah had six children: Fred, Johanna, Thomas, Cora, George and Ione.

Nothing is known about their daughter Cora. Son Fred married a French widow with one son and they lived on a farm near Endeavor. Johanna Fenner went to Black Hills and married a French miner named Du Boise. They eventually divorced and she brought their four sons to live on a small farm in Oxford. Her eldest son died in boyhood. When last heard from, Johanna was in California.

Thomas Fenner married a Virginian girl whom he later divorced. He returned to Wisconsin and was married again, to a widow from Oxford, and they made their home at the resort town of Winter. They had no children. George Fenner was the inventor of Fenner's Weedless Fish Bait. He also married an Oxford girl. They lived at Winter for several years and George was still residing there when last heard of. They had no children. Ione Fenner married John Polivka of Friendship. When they divorced, Ione and their son John Jr. went to live in Winter. John Sr. continued living in Friendship.

Herman Fenner died in 1931 and is buried at the Oxford Cemetery.

Henry and Lucy Wilson Fenner

Henry, the youngest son of Jacob and Caroline Fenner, was born in Essen, Germany in March 1840.

He died at his home, at the age of 80 on July 1, 1920, where he lived his entire life after coming to America.

He arrived in America at the age of seven, and then moved to New Chester in Adams County. He served during the Civil War, becoming a lieutenant in General Grant's Army. He held many high offices both during his enlistment and in politics in later years. While in the army, he marched in the famous march to the sea that the song, "Sherman's March To The Sea," was written about. He came through the war unscathed. In February 1866 he married Lucy Ann Wilson of Grand Marsh. Henry and Lucy went to housekeeping on the farm selected by Jacob and Caroline on the banks of Fenner's Lake near New Chester.

Henry and Lucy had eight children: Fredrick, Adeline, Frank, Mary, Edwin, Albert, Laura, and Raymond Fenner, each of whom married and started their own families. When Henry died in 1920, Lucy went to live with their son Frank. Within a few years, she contracted pneumonia and, having been in poor health for some time, died in 1923. She and Henry are buried at the New Chester Church Cemetery.

Frederick and Bertha Burgdorff Fenner

Frederick Fenner was born at New Chester in November 1866, the eldest child of Henry and Lucy Fenner. He was baptized in the Evangeline Lutheran Church and raised on his parents' farm. He was married to Bertha Emmaline Burgdorff of New Chester in June 1890, by Warren Wilson, a Justice of the Peace at Grand Marsh.

Frederick engaged in farming and lumbering for most of his adult life. He took his family to live in several different places—the first years in Coloma and Westfield, and most of the last 20 years in Clark County. He and Bertha had 13 children, four girls and nine boys.

The patriarch of this large family, Frederick Fenner, died of diabetic complications in August 1939. Bertha went on to live with son Clarence in Eau Claire, where he ran a restaurant, until her death in July 1956.

Those nine children of Frederick and Bertha Fenner not accounted for here went on to marry and start families—and stories—of their own.

Edward and Annie Fenner Walker

Annie (Adaline) Fenner was born at New Chester in 1868, second child of Henry and Lucy Fenner. She married Edward Walker of Grand Marsh in June 1889, at the Methodist Church in Westfield. They are known to have lived on a farm in Grand Marsh at some point, and when Annie died, she died at home in Cottonville. Their four children were orphaned while still young, as Annie died of typhoid fever in November 1902, and Edward died of tuberculosis in December 1903. He died in Knoxville, Iowa.

Not much is known about the descendants of Edward and Annie Fenner Walker. Two of their children's names are unknown. One daughter, Chloe, died prior to 1935. Another daughter, Fern, married a barber, Fred Draeger, and lived in Sheboygan. Fern was raising their four small children, three girls and one boy, when she was shocked and killed by an electrical wire. One of those girls, Iva, married a Kentucky man named Sinnett and made her home in that state. Fern's son, Truman Everette, died while very young.

Edwin and Eliza Beals Fenner

Edwin Fenner was born in New Chester in 1880, fifth child of Henry and Lucy. He married Eliza Beals, also born at New Chester. They made their home in Sheboygan and later at West Allis. Edwin was a carpenter by trade. He and Eliza had two sons, John and Edwin Jr.

Albert and Margaret Stelter Fenner

Albert Fenner was born in January 1882, sixth child of Henry and Lucy Fenner. He became a farmer. He married Margaret Stelter, a widow with one daughter named Mavie. They were married at Margaret's home in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin in December 1918. Albert died on his Adams County farm of pneumonia in February 1934. He and Margaret had one daughter, Lucille Fenner.

Albert and Laura Fenner Gerth

Laura Fenner was born in New Chester in 1884, seventh child of Henry and Lucy Fenner. She married Albert Gerth of

New Chester and they lived on a farm adjoining Fenner's Lake. They had four children: Alvin, Frederick, Raymond and Dorothea.

According to Bertha, "Laura's marriage to Albert was doomed from the start. She was very young and Albert was twice her age, besides being an only son - the youngest in a family with two children, with very wealthy parents. Albert was deaf and dumb almost from birth, but he was very well educated. He was naturally pampered from babyhood. He lived in North Dakota with his sister, and died in October 1942."

Laura eventually divorced Albert and, with her youngest child Dorothea, went to Brainford, Minnesota. She met and married a man there named Norgard, a farmer and a widower with three children - one girl and two boys. He and Laura had one son together. Laura died in October 1942.

Of her five children, Alvin Gerth died in infancy. Fredrick Gerth became a farmer in North Dakota, and Raymond Gerth, a baker in Milwaukee. He died in Spokane, Washington in August 1942. Dorothea Gerth married a man named Sellers and they had two sons and one daughter. Nothing is known of the son from Laura's second marriage.

Raymond and Carrie Williams Fenner

Henry and Lucy Fenner's youngest child, Raymond Fenner, was born at New Chester on Halloween Day, 1887. He married Carrie Williams of Big Flats. They never had children and made their home at Janesville for many years. Ray was a mechanic in a farm machine company, and later a truck owner and driver.

Arthur and Effie Fenner Nelson

Effie Fenner was born at New Chester in April 1891, the eldest child of Frederick and Bertha Burgdorff Fenner. She grew up in Coloma and after finishing her elementary education, completed a course of study in business at Portage. After graduating from the business school she worked for some time in the office of her father's lumber business. She then went to work at the Coloma State Bank as a bookkeeper.

While working at the bank she met 41-year-old Arthur Olaire Nelson, a native of Joy, Illinois. They were married in November 1911 at the L. Smith home in Coloma.

Arthur and Effie Fenner Nelson had four children: Lee, Alice, Norbert and Iris Nelson. Their first child, Lee, was born in Preston in August 1912 and died the same day.

Roy and Flossie Fenner Shorey (See Shorey)

Joseph and Rachel Fenner Roller (See Roller)

William and Vera Bloss Fenner

William (Bill) Earl Fenner was born at New Chester in June 1893, third child of Frederick and Bertha Fenner. He married Vera Bloss at New Chester in October 1919 and they had two children: Sarah and Earl.

The couple homesteaded at Jump River for several years after Sarah was born, but returned to Adams County and remained for the rest of their lives. Bill's main occupations were pulp cutting and trucking, although he also worked the canning companies alongside Vera for many years. When the Adams

County Memorial Hospital was built during the 1960s, Vera went to work there as a nurse's aide. "Fenner Trucking" was eventually passed down to son, Earl, who carried it on successfully until the 1980s, when the business passed from father to son again. Mike Fenner now runs Fenner's Excavating from the Adams County farm where his mother and father first made "eyes" at each other as teenagers. The enterprise has grown large enough to provide good jobs to several area families.

Bill Fenner died in September 1971 and is buried at Fordham Cemetery. Vera passed on in August 1979. Their last home still stands a few miles north of Adams on Hwy 13.

Of their two children, Sarah Jane Fenner was born at New Chester in April 1920. She married Wilfred Carter in 1939 and they had six children together before divorcing. They were Virginia, Roger, Dick, William, a baby son that died at birth in 1947, and Dorothy Carter. Sarah later married Art Anderson and they also had two children together: Augie and Bobby Jo Anderson.

Earl George Fenner was born at Jump River in February 1924. He married Dorothy Voboril in 1941 at Dubuque, Iowa—he was 17 and she was 16. Dorothy died of heart failure in 1981 and is buried at Fordham Cemetery in Friendship. Earl retired in 1984 from a long career on the railroad. Earl and Dorothy had five children: Dianne, David, Judith, Nancy and Michael Fenner, all of whom still reside in Adams County.

Frederick Jr. and Nina Peck Fenner

Fredrick Jr. (Theodore) Fenner was born at New Chester in November 1894, fourth child of Frederick and Bertha. In November 1915 he married Nina Peck of Lincoln at Friendship. They had one son, Kenneth Fredrick Fenner, born in Lincoln in April 1918.

Harry and Bernice Hawkins Fenner

Harry Egbert Fenner was born at Coloma in May 1902, the seventh child of Frederick and Bertha Fenner. He married Bernice Hawkins, a widow, at Duluth in October 1922. They made their home in Eau Claire. Harry died in October 1976. Harry and Bernice had four sons: Harry Jr., Edwin, Donald and Victor Fenner.

Jesse and Esther Lockram Fenner

Jesse Ervin Fenner was born in August 1903, the eighth child of Frederick and Bertha Fenner. He married Esther Georgia Lockram of Knapp, Wisconsin in December 1924 at St. Paul, Minnesota. Esther was born in Bismark, North Dakota in March 1909. They made their home at Eau Claire and had five children: Ervin, Clyde, Irene, Douglas and Kenneth.

Herbert and Anita Davel Fenner

Herbert Harold Fenner was born at Preston, Adams County, in August 1907, the tenth child of Frederick and Bertha Fenner. He married Anita Davel of Loyal at Neilsville in September 1927 and they made their first home together in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. There, Herb worked in construction, helping to build many highways, runways and army camps in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In 1951 he purchased equipment on his own and began working for himself. He retired in 1972 when Anita

suffered a massive stroke, and cared for her until her death in October 1974.

Robert and Margaret Goetz Fenner

Robert Leon Fenner was born at Lincoln in October 1912, eleventh child of Frederick and Bertha. He was married in May 1936 to Margaret Goetz of Loyal at the Sacred Heart Church of Marshfield. They lived in Marshfield for some time, where they had twin daughters, Jean Marie and Jeanette Mae Fenner, in February 1937.

Christian and Minnie Hintz Fritz

Christian and Wilhelmine "Minnie" Fritz came to Adams County by covered wagon from Illinois about 1871. Christian was born to John Fritz and Marie (Stopel) in Rosendorf, Germany on January 9, 1843. Wilhelmine "Minnie" Hintz was born in Bronka, Germany on November 10, 1853.

Many German families came to America between 1850 and 1870. Chris and Minnie both came to America in 1865. Before coming they needed to obtain permission, hold certificates from pastors, school officials and tax collectors. It is quite possible they might have been part of the same group or congregation.

It is not surprising that they chose to move on to the northern part of Illinois. Newspapers in Germany carried messages telling about the rich soil, good harvest and job opportunities in the upper Mississippi River Valley.

Christian Fritz and Wilhelmine Hintz were married in the Lutheran Church in Dundee, Kane County, Illinois on September 29, 1869. One son, Chris Fritz Jr. was born in Illinois in 1871.

Also in 1871 they purchased land along the river on County Trunk Z in the Town of Quincy. The farm was Lots number one and two, Section 33, 95 acres, with two acres set aside for a mill or blacksmith shop in the Town of White Creek. They purchased this land from Charles and Mary Hacker for \$1,050 cash in hand.

More children came to bless this marriage: William-1873, Charles-February 4, 1874, John-1876, Anna-1880, Martha and Mary Kathryn (Catherine)-1882, Minnie S.-1884, Albert S.-1885, Ernest R.-1887, and Francis (Frank)-1889.

The 1900 Census showed that Minnie Fritz had 11 children and all 11 were alive.

Christian Fritz, declared his intent to become a citizen of the United States of America in Adams County on November 6, 1876.

In an effort to get his folks to retire John Fritz purchased the farm. Later Minnie (Fritz) Heitman and her husband Herbert Heitman owned the farm. Christian and Minnie went back to West Dundee, Illinois to retire. Christian Fritz died in 1927 at the age of 84 and Minnie Fritz died in 1943 at 89.

This history will now follow the descendents of Charles Fritz, the third son of Christian and Minnie Fritz, born February 4, 1874.

Charles attended the Five Oaks School and was confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church at Quincy, County Trunk Z.

For some time the Fritzs ran a ferry across the Wisconsin River from the Fritz Farm in Quincy. Ferries in those days were quite often moved across the river with a pole. Some were pulled across with connecting ropes and a team of horses. Many times



Martha Zimmerman

the place chosen for the ferries would have been used as a common crossing by the Native Americans. Common rates in the late 1800's were five cents for a foot passenger, twenty five cents for a horse or mule without a rider, forty cents for a team of horses or oxen. Rates doubled after dark, but young people still went over to Castle Rock in Juneau County for dances. Edward and Sarah (Smith) Feldman of Quincy went to Mauston for supplies and to catch the train since the railroad had not yet come to Adams.

In the early 1900's Charles was working in Illinois. He joined the National Guard during the Spanish American War.

In 1902 Charles came back to Adams County to marry Martha Zimmerman. The Zimmerman family lived on the farm on Fern Avenue and County Trunk Z that would later be known as the Fritz farm. Charles and Martha were married in that farmhouse on February 4, 1902 at 8:30 pm. Reverend Martin Hasz of the Quincy Lutheran Church officiated. Martha Amelia (Zimmerman) Fritz was born in Danzig, Prussia, now a part of Poland, on October 19, 1884 to Louisa (Suchland) Zimmerman (1857-1937) and Julius Zimmerman (1854-1922). They came to America in 1886. They lived in Chicago for five years, then came to Adams County to purchase the farm on Fern Avenue and County Trunk Z. In 1902 Charles and Martha purchased the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman moved to the Juneau County area.

Martha and Charles lived on that farm and raised their family: Arnold Julius (1903-1976), Olive Mary (1904-1915),

Agnes Elizabeth (1905-1993), Carl Anton (1908-1964), and Clifford John (1916-1920). They farmed in the Town of Springville until 1925. They then moved to Church Street in Wisconsin Dells to semi-retire. Martha worked in the Dells Laundry while Charles did carpenter work and continued to thresh for the farmers in Springville and Quincy with his steam engine and threshing machine. He threshed for Ernest Heitman, John Dehmlow, Willie Anklam, and John Avery in the Town of Quincy and Chris Byers and John Zentner in the Town of Springville. They were very active in the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wisconsin Dells. Charles died April 19, 1953 at the age of 89 and Martha died March 28, 1966 at 81.

Olive and Clifford died as children.

Agnes Elizabeth married Marvin Kite June 22, 1929. They had one daughter Carol Ann Kite born April 15, 1945. They lived in Madison.

Carl Anton married Doris Ellenor Thoren on June 9, 1934. They had six children. Wayne Carl (May 31, 1935); Nesta Karen (April 21, 1937); Neil Thoren (June 26, 1940); Bruce Donald (January 4, 1945); Gary Thomas (March 9, 1952); and Wyatt Jon (January 1, 1956). Carl and Doris lived in Milwaukee most of their lives. They were both killed in an auto accident October 24, 1964.

Arnold Fritz, the oldest son of Charles and Martha Fritz, attended Point Bluff School. He worked at various jobs as well as working on the farm. On October 18, 1925, at St. John's Lutheran in Quincy, he married Anna Marie Christensen, daughter of Dusine (Hansen) Christensen (1875-1936) and Andrew Christensen (1870-1950). Arnold and Anna now own the farm on Fern Avenue and County Trunk Z. Arnold often hired Hiram Maxey to work by the day. The Maxey's were among the first colored families to come to Adams County.

Three children were born into this marriage. Arnold A. Fritz Jr. (1926); Wilbur H. Fritz (1928); and Adeline Christina (1930-1987).

Arnold and Anna left the farm in 1955. They moved to Adams. Arnold worked as a custodian at the Adams-Friendship High School until 1967. He was active in the Credit Union, the Farmer's Union, and the Immanuel Lutheran Church. In later years he made the daily trip to get the mail, but first he enjoyed a game of Pinochle at the round table in the back of Rank's bar.

Anna was a Grey Lady at the Tomah VA Hospital. She was always busy catering to her beautiful violets, crocheting, or making her famous buttermilk doughnuts.

Arnold died June 18, 1976 and Anna passed away on November 30, 1978.

Adeline Fritz married Louis Harding on December 11, 1949 in St. John's Lutheran Church in Quincy. They had three sons. Gary (1951); Bryan (1953); and Larry (1961). They live near Gurnee, Illinois. Adeline died May 10, 1987.

Arnold A. Fritz (Arnie) married Jean R. Kiesling on August 6, 1949. They have one son, Steve (1957). They added their Godson, Wyatt Fritz, son of Carl and Doris Fritz, to their family in 1967 after the death of his parents. Arnold and Jean live in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. Arnie retired after 37 years with the Wood County Highway Department. Jean retired from teaching after 42 years. They are enjoying their three grandsons and have traveled extensively since retiring.

Wilbur Fritz married Ruth Ann Jensen, daughter of Ruth Matilda (Bredison) Jensen and Henry Jensen of Arkdale on October 21, 1950. Wilbur and Ruth Ann purchased the family farm on Fern Avenue and County Trunk Z. Four children blessed this marriage. Susan Jane (1955); Charles Wilbur (May 12, 1957); Robert and Roberta (September 1, 1963).

Susan (Mrs. Douglas Alderman) is Director of Information for Select Sires in Plain City, Ohio. They have two children, Stacy (1989) and James (1991).

Charles is doing Animal Research at Covance Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin. He and Betty have two sons, Keith (1984) and Brian (1986). They live in Horicon, Wisconsin.

Roberta (Fritz) Gorder works for Community Services of Adams County and lives in White Creek, Wisconsin with children Jenny (1987) and Chris (1989).

Robert lives near the family farm and works for Oxford Lumber. He has one son, Jesse (1993).

Wilbur and Ruth Ann live near White Creek, Wisconsin. They still own the family farm on Fern and Z. They are currently renting it out to Michelle and Rodney Griffin. Wilbur enjoys his work on the Adams County Board and other civic organizations. He maintains an active interest in farming and still likes to hunt. Ruth Ann is a volunteer driver for Social Services of Adams County. She is very involved in church activities at Adams Trinity Lutheran Church and other organizations. She enjoys her cats. They are both life time residents of Adams County.

Submitted by: Jean and Arnie Fritz

Alonzo David Fuller

Alonzo David Fuller was born April 29, 1881, in the Town of Brookfield, Waukesha, Wisconsin. His parents, David Harmon Fuller and Alma Frost came to Waukesha from Livingston County, New York. The elder Fullers had come west to experience the richness of agriculture in Wisconsin. David had two sons, Morgan and George, by a first marriage to Lydia T. Frost. After her death he married her niece, Alma. David and Alma had two sons, Lester and A.D., who was affectionately called "Lonny."

David Fuller eventually sold his farm in Waukesha and moved to Green Lake County where he continued farming. His son Morgan attended nearby Ripon College, but with rugged individualism, David again wanted to move on. His last farm was on the Burr Oak Prairie near Coloma Corners in Waushara County.

David Fuller died in 1893. Despite his life-long attempt to satisfy the homesteading spirit and better himself by purchasing good farms, his final speculation was a mistake. The prairie farm was not suited for agriculture. After her husband's death, Alma and her two sons went by train back to Livingston County, where they separated and stayed with various relatives. A.D. lived with an uncle, Reuben Cole.

It was a sad year for the young boy. He helped with farm work during the summer months and attended school during the winter, but often had to look after his uncle who frequented the local tavern. A.D. would wait all evening in the wagon until someone would bring his uncle out to go home. While in New York, however, A.D. did have some delightful experiences. It was there he saw his first large circus.



l-r Tressa with Blanche; Marion behind Evelyn, standing; A.D. "Lonny" Fuller with Kenneth

About 1895, the Fullers returned to the prairie at Coloma Corners, where in summer A.D. worked on neighboring farms to help support his mother, and continued his schooling during the winter.

A.D.'s work day began early and often lasted ten hours, for which he received fifty cents. After a few years he became quite proficient at farm work and his pay increased to \$1 per day. He was quoted as saying, "The hardest job I ever did was digging and picking up potatoes." By practicing much thrift, he finally managed to save enough money to buy a horse and buggy: the horse costing \$50, the buggy \$40, and the harness \$10.

Alonzo Fuller received a good education and finished the eighth grade at the local country school. His subjects were reading, arithmetic, grammar, history, physiology, spelling and writing. He was a fine student and retained much of his learning, at one time "spelling the school down." Even near the end of his life he could still quote verses that had been written on the school's blackboard years earlier, along with naming every bone in the body in proper order.

Throughout his young life, A.D. continued to farm and care for his mother. Neighbors took a special interest in him and he brought joy to many homes with his musical talents. He learned the violin and could play for dances or just for fun. He was also an excellent whistler and could chord on the piano. Many entertaining evenings were spent with his friends. About 1896 some of these friends took him to Portage where they saw Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show.

On December 25, 1903, at Coloma township, Waushara County, Alonzo David Fuller married Tressa May Pells, the youngest daughter of Jeremiah and Charlotte (Parks) Pells. Tressa was a school teacher and taught in various schools around the county.

The newly married couple continued to live on the Fuller farm at Coloma Corners where they cared for Alma until her death in 1906. A.D. worked at the nearby skimming station where cream was separated from whole milk. The skim milk was taken by farmers to feed their pigs and A.D. would take the cream to Hancock where it was made into butter at the creamery. He operated the skimming station for about five years, until it was closed due to the availability of hand cream separators for home use.

On July 26, 1908, Marion Charlotte Fuller was born to A.D. and Tressa at Coloma Corners. About a year later the Fuller family left their farm for North Dakota. Tressa's sister, Edith (Pells) Burdick and her husband, Charles, had already located there and, no doubt, influenced the move. A.D. filed a homestead claim and "proved up" on it.

The Fuller's next three children were born in North Dakota: daughter Evelyn Alma on August 21, 1910; son Kenneth Alonzo on October 4, 1913; and daughter Blanche Ida on June 27, 1915.

In 1915 the Fullers received word that Tressa's father, Jeremiah Pells II, was in ill health and wanted his daughter to come back to Wisconsin. Tressa's mother, Charlotte, had died in 1907 and her father, living in the Town of Richfield, Adams County, would leave the Pells farm to the Fullers if they would come home and care for him.

Although A.D. did not want to leave North Dakota, the family returned by train to live with Tressa's father until his death in January of 1919. Prior to leaving their western homestead, the Fullers had an auction which brought \$1,919.10. Selling their farm for \$3,000 was not as successful. It went to a relative who failed to make full payment.

The Pells farm, two miles west of Coloma Corners, in Section 2 of Richfield township proved worn out when A.D. returned. On November 29, 1919, he held an auction, moved to the Roberts flat building in Friendship and purchased the local dray line from F.J. Thomm.

The neighboring community of Adams had developed as a result of the location of the railroad which had been constructed a few years earlier. Trains deposited freight at the depot in Adams and it was A.D.'s job to deliver it to the local merchants. He used a team of horses until April of 1920, then continued with a new Ford truck purchased the previous fall. A.D. sold the freight business in August of 1920 to Arthur Feldman, then worked on construction of the first Highway 13 through Adams.

In June, 1920, the Fuller family moved from the Roberts' flat into Mrs. Marble's house on First Street. A.D. eventually purchased the Allen Galbraith house located just west of Friendship Lake, at the southern base of Friendship Mound.

Included with the purchase of the Friendship house was the job of Watkins "peddlership". Supplies and a wagon had been left with the house so A.D. began travelling around the county selling his products, usually staying overnight and returning the next day. During these trips he made many acquaintances and being a likeable fellow, these acquaintances often became good friends.

1923 introduced A.D. to ten years of public service. At the persuasion of his friends he ran for and won the office of Adams County Treasurer.

On January 14, 1923, another son, George Willard was born, and during his tenure as County Treasurer, A.D. purchased the former Waterman grocery, joining the IGA chain and becoming the owner of the first such store in Friendship at what is now 306 Main Street. His wife operated the store until becoming severely ill with pneumonia and passing away on December 22, 1928. She is buried in the White Cemetery, Town of Coloma, Waushara County.

Left with five children to care for, A.D. sold the IGA store to Iver Dashner in January of 1929, and in 1933, when his County Treasurer position ended, returned to highway construction as a supervisor.

On September 22, 1932, A.D. Fuller married Nora B. Lewis, daughter of Mathew Lewis and Martha Hessler, at the minister's home in Wisconsin Rapids. Nora had been a high school English teacher who, at the time of the marriage, was working at the local bank.

In 1935 the Adams County Board of Supervisors appointed A.D. Fuller to the position of Welfare Director. A pension department had been established under the Federal Social Security System which was later expanded to include outdoor relief and pensions under one large welfare program. A.D. was its first director and held this position for over 17 years. He retired from this position in 1953 at the age of seventy-two.

Although several were born out of state, the Fuller children grew up in Friendship. Marion Charlotte Fuller's first marriage was to Lyle Kanneman of Westfield, Wisconsin, on September 5, 1931 at Rockford, Illinois; second to Joe Dvorak of Monroe Center on January 18, 1940, at Nekoosa, Wisconsin; and third to Willis Klatt, May 30, 1945, at Merrimac, Wisconsin. She died at Columbus, Wisconsin, on December 7, 1966.

Evelyn Alma married Charles Russell Odekirk, son of Charles Reginald Odekirk and Martha Kosin, at Emerald Grove, Dane County, Wisconsin, on May 6, 1934. For many years Evelyn lived in Port Edwards and was a registered nurse for the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Company. She now resides in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Kenneth Alonzo Fuller served his country in World War II, married Laura Wood, and later worked on highway construction until his death July 13, 1958 at Milwaukee.

Blanche Ida Fuller, married Edward Earl Koch at Rockford, Illinois, on July 11, 1933. They lived in Tomah, Wisconsin, where at one time she was a secretary at the Veterans Hospital. Blanche died on May 11, 1995, at Sauk City, Wisconsin, and is buried beside her husband in the White Cemetery.

George Willard (Bud) Fuller, married Marcella Alman, daughter of AvoId Alman and Minnie Fjelsted, at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, on December 29, 1949. George served his country in the United States Marine Corps, owned and operated the Fuller Funeral Home in Eau Claire, is now retired and resides with his wife in Eau Claire.

Nora (Lewis) Fuller passed away on January 28, 1965, at Friendship. After the death of his wife, Alonzo David Fuller lived with his daughters, then moved to the Adams County Memorial Hospital Nursing Care Unit where he enjoyed visiting with many friends.

Alonzo David Fuller died on April 4, 1971 at Friendship just twenty-five days before his 90th birthday. He was a member

of the Congregational Church of Friendship, Quincy Lodge No. 71 F & AM, the Modern Woodmen and two professional welfare associations. He and wives Tressa and Nora are buried in the White Cemetery, Coloma township, Waushara County, Wisconsin.

John and Bridget McCall Gaffney

On April 10, 1883, John Gaffney purchased 180 acres of land from Bridget McCall in the lower part of Adams County, Town of New Haven, Sections 11, 13, and 14. John was born in Ireland and later became a United States citizen serving in the Civil War.

They raised five sons and one daughter: John, William, Frank, Harry, and Edward and Mame (Mrs. Mike O'Brien).

When Frank and wife Nellie purchased from his father January 2, 1915, they and their son, John Harold, and five daughters, Helene (Mrs. Don Bloss), Anna (Mrs. Sam Zentner), Katherine (Mrs. Chet Evans), Margaret (Mrs. Ken DeGarmo), Dorothy (Mrs. Francis Coon), farmed it.

When Frank retired in 1962, he sold it to John Harold and wife Velma, where they are farming in dairy with their son, Dan. They have one other son, Dennis, two daughters, Jane and Virginia (Mrs. Allen Rathman), and five grandchildren.

A Centennial celebration was held on the family farm front yard in June, 1983 with 100 attending.

The Gaffney children made a banner which was held there. Asked if the farm would be in the Gaffney name for another 100 years, John Harold laughed and said, "I hope so".

Submitted by: Harold and Velma Gaffney

Frank and Margaret McNutt Hale

Frank D. Hale was born in the state of New York on July 16, 1861 to James J. Hale and Catherine (Benedict) Hale. As a young child, he came to Wisconsin with his parents, settling in Lincoln township, Adams County. On October 6, 1889, Frank Hale married Margaret McNutt. Margaret was born in the state of Pennsylvania on March 19, 1869. Her parents, John McNutt and Margaret (McKinley) McNutt, were Irish immigrants. As a child, Margaret moved to Adams County with her parents.

After Frank and Margaret Hale were married, they settled on a farm in Lincoln township, Adams County. Frank enjoyed playing the violin and often played at barn dances. He was self taught and played by ear rather than reading music.

Four children were born to Frank and Margaret: Bessie (Cavanaugh), John J., Pearl (Osborn) and Ruby (Clark). In 1919 Frank and Margaret moved from their farm in Lincoln township to Grand Marsh. Margaret Hale passed away on July 21, 1931. Frank Hale passed away on September 18, 1935. Both are buried in the Gould Rock Cemetery.

James and Catherine Hale

James J. Hale was born in Tiagra County, New York on September 29, 1831 to John J. and Rebecca Hale. In 1858, he married Catherine C. Benedict, daughter of Ansel Benedict and Polly (Edwards) Benedict. Catherine was born on December 11, 1839 in Chemung County, New York.

After their marriage, James and Catherine Hale lived in New York until 1863. The family then moved to the Town of Lincoln, Adams County, Wisconsin where they purchased a

farm. James and Catherine had six children: George, Frank, Alice (Waite), Merrit, William and Eugene.

James Hale was active in both the Spring Bluff school board and the Lincoln Town Board. He passed away on May 27, 1905 and his wife, Catherine, passed away on February 27, 1917. Both are buried in the Gould Rock Cemetery.

Carl William and June Esther Hollman Hanke

June Esther Hollman was born March 16, 1926, the daughter of Edward and Mary (Lish) Hollman at their farm "Horseshoe Bluff", Lincoln township, Coloma, Wisconsin. She attended Pilot Knob School. June had one sister Irene who was stricken with polio and died at the age of 18. June married Carl William Hanke from Trempeleau County, Whitehall, Wisconsin. He was the son of William and Katherine (Herzfeld) Hanke on December 12, 1943 in Belton, Texas. Carl's tour of duty with the U.S. Army during World War II was with the 162nd Infantry in the Pacific Theater. During this time, June returned to Friendship and worked at the Hotel. After the war, Carl continued to sell the Prairie Farmer Magazine and play accordion on WLS Barn Dance. Upon completion of trade school he worked for AJ Petite and Co. of Appleton for 18 years as construction superintendent on many homes, motels, churches, and schools around Wisconsin including the A-F High School addition in Adams.

Carl was a member of the Carpenters Union #653 until his retirement. Carl had a special talent for woodworking too. Some projects he made were china cabinets, tables, servers, child's high chairs, table and chairs and many unique items made from odds and ends.

In 1953 they purchased the home they were renting from Maynard and Vivian Williams previously owned by Frank Higbee. The original deed is Grantor U.S. to Luther Stowell, June 19, 1855. Carl's handiwork in carpentry brought about much remodeling in their home. Two apartments were made for renters and after several years converted into a one family dwelling. They lived here together for 53 years till Carl's death in 1996 and June still resides there. Carl and June had one child, a daughter, Carlette-Rhea born on June 12, 1947 in Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin.

When the Adams County Memorial Hospital was built June worked in Lab and X-ray departments for several years and then in the Purchasing Department as director until she retired after 28 plus years of dedicated service.

Carl was also a lifelong musician entertaining people with his music whether playing on his accordion, banjo, violin, or harmonica while performing with his band "Carl Hanke & the Harmonizers" or in later years his "One Man Band for Senior Citizens" at clubs, Bingo Fests or for veterans at the VA Hospital in Tomah, Wisconsin. One interesting fact, Carl was an exceptional and very talented musician able to sit in and play all types and styles of music with anyone, but he could not read music... He played all music by ear.

Both Carl and June were active and involved in their community. Carl was a lifelong member of the VFW Post #6279 and American Legion Red Cloud Post #250. He was proud to be a part of the Honor Guard and enjoyed performing musical songs for patriotic ceremonies. June is also an auxiliary member of these organizations as well as the Friendship Fire

Department auxiliary. Carl was honored for 50 years of dedicated service to the fire department where he served as President for many years. Carl and June were participants in the Friendship Centennial celebration. Other community positions Carl held were: Village Assessor for 13 years, Village Board Planning Commission and Village Board Trustee for 14 years. Carl was instrumental in raising contributions for and building the public restrooms at the Village Park.

Community awards received by Carl Hanke were: The Good Neighbor, People Helping People, Community Improvement, and the Community Service Award. In 1963 Carl and June turned their flag hobby into a small business venture, Hanke Flags. They received numerous honors for patriotism as well as prizes for parade floats. They enjoy seeing the flags they sold flying throughout the U.S. June continues the business today. Carl was also a member of the Ski Patrol at Sky Line Ski Area for many years and both the Hanke's are members of the Moundview Snowmobile Club.

Even more than their ties to their community was their devotion for one another and to their family. Their daughter, Carlette-Rhea married Gary Robert Machan, son of Robert and Hazel (Neugart) Machan of Lincoln township, Coloma, Wisconsin on June 18, 1966 at St. Joseph's in Adams. Two sons, Brian Lee (June 16, 1969) and Darin Scott (November 21, 1970) were born in Pittsfield, Illinois. Carl and June enjoyed their two grandsons the most of all. In 1992, Carl and June were married 50 years and celebrated their anniversary by once again renewing their wedding vows. Carl passed away October 18, 1996 at their Friendship home where he had lived for 53 years. He is buried at Mt. Repose in Friendship. A Living Tree Memorial in Carl's memory is planted at the Adams County Historical Society's historic McGowan House on the lawn adjoining the property where Carl lived.

Submitted by: June Hanke



l-r Charlette-Rhea Machan and June Hanke

Isaac and Lydia Bloss Hartson

Lydia Prudence Bloss was born to Reuben and Hannah Bloss in December 1839. She married Isaac Hartson and they had two children: Alice and Charles.

Alice Hartson married Ed Starks. They had one son, Earl. After Ed's death, Alice married a man named Brevington.

Charles Hartson married Nora Hyatt. He and Nora had five children: Fred (1886), Mildred (1887), Ruby (1888), Alice (1890), and Harley (1907). Charles lived long enough to see all of these children grown and married before he died in 1940: Fred married Amanda Trapp and they had two sons, Wayne and David Hartson; Mildred married William J. Ritchie and they had two children, Howard and Helen Ritchie; Ruby Hartson married Roy Stitzel and they adopted one son, Richard Stitzel; Alice married Charles W. Rosecrans and they had three children: Irma, Robert, and Charles Rosecrans; and Harley married Evelyn Fullerton and they had at least three sons: Fred, Harley, and James Hartson.

Walter Helm

Born of German immigrant parents on a farm near Oshkosh, Walter Helm was the seventh son, born on the seventh day of the seventh month in 1887. He had one sister.

Though many believed that all the Government lands in Wisconsin had been claimed, in 1915 land titles were corrected and a 160-acre parcel of unclaimed land turned up west of the Marquette County line, in Jackson Township, Adams County.

Walter was working in the woods of north central Wisconsin for a man who had a friend in the land office at Wausau.

"One day he came to me and said, 'How would you like to homestead some land?' I said, 'No sir, I tried that on the Blackfoot Reservation in Montana and again in South Dakota during my roving days, and the numbers I drew were too high to wait for.' But when he gave me a description of the land, and it was right here in Wisconsin, I came down to look at it, by train from Merrill to Adams."

It was March 17, 1915, and there was snow on the ground, but the 160 acres had three spring fed lakes, all forest. Helm saw clover peaking through the snow on a neighboring field. He went back and filed for the homestead. A government requirement was that he had to swear he had seen the land.

Helm left his job up north and went back to Oshkosh to gather up his belongings. His mother gave him a stove, couch, bedding, chairs. At a lumber yard going-out-of-business sale, he saved \$1,000 on lumber, enough to build a shanty. All this he loaded on a boxcar he'd rented, and came to Oxford by railroad.

Helm's claim surprised the local farmers. His land backed the Adams County Poor Farm and they were using part of it for pasture. A neighbor on the west had fenced into it, too.

He roomed at the Oxford Hotel where they let him store his furniture in the barn. "The hotel was run by a couple who didn't stay long. Bedbugs got into my things!"

Walter walked 10 miles to his claim every day, and back at night because there was no other place to sleep, and it was a while before he could afford horses.

His new neighbors brought their teams to help stump and brush the acreage the government said he had to clear, and to help build his shanty.



back row Eva, Dale, Neal, Mother, Walter Helm, front row Jean, Faith, and Sid

"Right after the basement was dug, we had a bad forest fire, but we backfired and with water from the lake saved all but one bundle of shingles." When the shanty was ready to live in, Helm hired 3 farmers for \$3 each to bring his things out from Oxford.

Government regulations required he live in the shanty six months out of a year for three years. "I had to prove to Uncle Sam I could make a living, then in five years he'd give me the land. I wasn't married, and didn't know if I'd stay around, so I bought the land at the end of three years for \$1.25 an acre."

Helm's first crop of corn froze on the 31st of July, but he'd had the foresight to plant rutabagas, too. "Everybody liked the baggies and I made more money from them than the corn that year."

After the two-room shanty, Helm built a granary, and what he calls the "old barn" where he had room for a team of horses, two cows, and a corncrib. Later he added 200 more acres to the farm, clearing most of it, and built a new barn for twenty-eight cows from lumber it took three men all winter to cut. Rocks used in the foundation of the house and walls were hauled off Helm's fields.

Always a church-goer, Helm walked to Davis Corners to attend services. He met the girl he wanted to marry at a party there. "It took me four years to convince her I'd make a good husband. We were married in 1921. She came to this claim in the woods and afterward told her friends she never had a lonely day in her life."

He added to the shanty so there were kitchen and dining room, living room and three bedrooms.

The Helms had three sons (including twins) and two daughters. They celebrated forty-eight wedding anniversaries.

The family always had a cellar full of potatoes. They raised good alfalfa and corn, but the boys didn't want to farm when they grew up. Walter says that is understandable. They have good jobs.

The last homestead in central Wisconsin was sold nearly twenty years ago, and the land stands idle now (part has been subdivided and developed).

Walter Helm was past president of Master Farmers of Wisconsin. He was clerk of Jackson Township for twelve years, and Sunday School Superintendant for thirty. He died in 1985.

Peter and Karen Hendricksen

Peter Hendricksen was born in Ellinglying, Denmark, September 5, 1823, son of Henrik Mortensen and wife Karen Anderadotter. He came as a married man, 47 years old, with his wife, son James Peter and daughter Susanne to America and settled in Pine River for four years and in 1874 moved from there to the Town of Big Flats, Adams County, Wisconsin. They lived

in a log house on this property and farmed the land.

As recorded, on January 8, 1891, Peter and wife Karen transferred this property to their son, James Peter, also known as Jens P. and his wife Ella for their care and support.

Karen Hendricksen passed away on March 22, 1906 and Peter continued to live in the log house near his son, James Peter and later lived with his daughter, Susanne, who now was Mrs. Niles Petersen and lived just across the road.

Peter passed away on October 6, 1916 at the age of 93.

James Peter and his wife, Ella, continued farming the land. Five children were born to this union, Sofus Chris, Lars Christian, Anne Karen, Sophia, and Emma. After the death of James Peter, the land was transferred to Sofus as recorded on September 24, 1929.

Sofus married Olga Hayes on October 23, 1928 and started life together on a rented farm nearby. After Sofus' father was no longer able to farm, Sofus and his family moved back and lived in the log house and continued farming the land. In 1924 he built a new house for his family. Three children were born to this union, James Christian, Irvin Darwin, and Laura Ella. In 1937, Sofus passed away, the result of an auto accident. His wife and family continued to farm the land. Ella Hendricksen with son, Lars Chris, and daughter, Sophia, moved to the village of Friendship, Adams County.

On August 29, 1946, James married Rose Kouba and as recorded on December 19, 1946, they purchased the farm from his mother, Mrs. Sofus (Olga) Hendricksen, et al. His mother, brother, and sister moved to Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.

Three children were born to this family, Richard James, Thomas Joseph, and Carol Marie.

Throughout the years the home that was built in 1924 by James' father was remodeled, including a basement, bathroom, and enclosing a porch.

Farming continued raising corn, oats, alfalfa hay, and dairying. The last of the milk cows were sold in August of 1986. From then on beef animals were raised until May 7, 1997, when the last of the animals were sold.

In September of 1993, 158 acres were transferred to daughter, Carol and husband, John Jefferson. They have a son, Christopher. James and Rose continue to live on two acres where the buildings are located.

The wooded acres were cleared and an irrigation system installed. The first irrigated crop was potatoes. In 1998 all the ground was cleared and planted to corn.

Submitted by: Mrs. James C. Hendricksen

John Leonard and Barbara Heberle n Hesler

John Leonard Hesler was born in Bavaria, Germany, on June 18, 1815. On June 25, 1854 he married Barbara Heberlein, born October 22, 1827 near Rothenberg, Bavaria, Germany.

On May 15, 1854 John Leonard Hesler purchased forty acres, in Section 27 of the Town of Lincoln. On October 1, 1858, John Leonard Hesler received title to an additional 80 acres in Section 27. In 1869, records show that John Leonard Hesler also held title to eighty acres in Section 34.

All of the above properties, 120 Acres in Sec. 27 and 80 Acres in Sec. 34 were eventually sold, as better tillable land with less stones was purchased beginning in 1863.

On May 13, 1863, John L. Hesler purchased eighty acres in Section 28—the first parcel of the present Hesler Farms—from the Smith family of Massachusetts and Kentucky. The Heslers gave the Smiths a mortgage for \$150 on June 12, 1863, which was satisfied on March 30, 1865.

On May 3, 1875, John L. Hesler purchased another sixty acres in Section 28 from Caroline A. Wilson. The 140 Acres in Section 28 have been owned by the Hesler Family until today.

In January, 1883, a stranger appeared at the Hesler home representing that he desired to purchase a heavy team for use in the Pineries. A bargain was made for Hesler's team of mules at a price of \$400. He paid \$5 and said he had money deposited in a store in Junction City, and agreed to pay Hesler's expense for the round trip if he would go with him to deliver the mules and receive his pay at that place.

John Leonard Hesler was never seen again. His body was found in early April in the Town of Siegel, Wood County. An inquest found his skull had been fractured by blows from a heavy weapon, probably Fenner's mule whip, and had also been penetrated by two pistol bullets. Funeral services were conducted at the Hesler home in the German language and later in English at the Phelps School. More than 100 carriages and wagons were present. After events worthy of a western adventure story, Fred Fenner was eventually arrested and convicted by a jury in Wisconsin Rapids. He was ordered confined for life, with the stipulation that on January 19 of each year he be in solitary imprisonment to reflect on his crime. In 1904 he requested a pardon. Letters were written by the Hesler



l-r back Mary Orlana Perkins Hutchinson, Walter Hutchinson, Lute Hutchinson, and Azalia Hesler Hutchinson, l-r front Jane McQuarters Hutchinson and Calvin Hutchinson

family, led by oldest son Andrew, and friends in an attempt to prevent it. They were unsuccessful, and he was pardoned, and was sometimes seen in the community.

After their marriage in June of 1854, John Leonard and Barbara Hesler had seven children (four boys and three girls) from 1856 to 1874. Barbara Hesler died April 16, 1905 on the family homestead living with son John Hesler and wife Azalia.

The oldest son Andrew Hesler was born on April 9, 1856. His early manhood was spent on farms and in the logging camps of the northwoods. On October 22, 1883 he married Margaret Campbell of Lawrence, Wis. and settled on their farm in Sec. 35 of the Town of Lincoln where he served as town clerk and on the county board. A daughter, Laura F. Hesler was born December 24, 1892. In 1905 they moved to Friendship, where he was a partner with Walter Greenwood in Hesler and Greenwood Hardware Store which was located on east Lake Street in Friendship four lots east of Main Street.

He served as Adams County Clerk of Court for eight years after which they moved to Adams, where he served as village president. He worked as manager of the Penny Warehouse, and later as foreman of the supply store of the bridge and building department of the Chicago & North Western Railroad, where he continued until 1926 when he moved to Oxford to live with his daughter, Laura Riley. His wife had passed away on July 23, 1925. He died at Laura's home on January 5, 1942.

Laura F. Hesler had taught music, and on June 7, 1915, married James E. Riley, a cousin of James Whitcomb Riley, of Oxford, who was employed in the telephone construction department of the North Western Road in Adams. They lived in Oxford and operated a drug store in Oxford where James was a druggist, until their retirement, when it was taken over by their son Charles "Bud" Riley. Daughter Anna Lu Riley married Henry W. Kolka, a college professor at Superior, Wisconsin.

Their second child, Martha Hesler, was born June 11, 1858. On April 19, 1887, she married Matthew R. Lewis, the only son of early pioneers in the Town of Adams. They made their home in Section 21 of the Town of Adams where Mathew "Mattie" Lewis farmed. He served on the school board for 40 years and served as town assessor for several years. They had five children. Martha Hesler Lewis died May 21, 1912; Matthew Lewis on December 14, 1942.

Tressa Lewis, born March 6, 1888, never married, was a school teacher, and lived for many years after her retirement, down the street from her brother Andrew and his family, in Grand Marsh.

A son Leonard Lewis born February 24, 1890, lived on the family farm, was a veteran of World War I, and a rural mail carrier in Adams for 30 years. He married Bessie Kosobud on June 26, 1920, she died the following year. On June 24, 1940, he married Rose Wesley, and they had two children.

Gertrude Lewis born November 3, 1891, never married, worked as secretary to an attorney in Wisconsin Rapids, and spent her vacations traveling throughout the world.

Nora Lewis was born June 4, 1895. She graduated from Milwaukee Teacher's College, taught in Manitowoc and Ripon and was employed by the Friendship State Bank before her marriage, and after at the L. Picus and Sons store in Friendship. On September 22, 1932, she married Alonzo "Lonny" D. Fuller, a widower with five children.

Andrew Lewis, born January 11, 1900, married Eva Morgan on August 22, 1933 in Westfield. They lived in Grand Marsh. They had a son James Lewis and a daughter Evonne Lewis Cushman both living in Oshkosh, and four grandchildren. Andrew Lewis died October 24, 1984, and Eva Lewis March 12, 1992.

Mary Hesler was born December 29, 1859. On March 5, 1882, she married James Gorslein from the Endeavor area. His family had come from Pennsylvania in 1859. After their marriage they lived on a farm near her parents, later moving to Nekoosa where they lived until Jim's death on November 17, 1928. Their son Guy Gorslein was born May 26, 1883, and was attending college when he accidentally shot himself while out hunting on December 29, 1901. After her husband's death, Mary Hesler Gorslein lived with relatives, first the Matthew Lewis family, then at her husband's step-brother Fred Gorslein's farm home near Endeavor. On November 16, 1939 she died when the home burned to the ground.

Henry Hesler was born February 8, 1862. He died December 19, 1887 of kidney disease.

John Hesler was born March 9, 1865.

Elizabeth Helsler was born April 25, 1869. She suffered from scarlet fever as a young girl, and became deaf and dumb. She was educated at the Delavan School for the Deaf, and lived with family members including her brother George "Mike". After she reached middle age she lived in the Columbia County home in Wyocena. She died on April 23, 1966.

George Mickel "Mike" Hesler was born May 17, 1874. He lived on the family farm until December 1, 1897, when he married Rosetta Schlegel whose family was from the Green Lake area, and moved to a farm located in Section 33 in the Town of Lincoln. His wife died November 28, 1922. They had one son, Lyle Arden Hesler born April 11, 1899. Mike was active in township and school activities, holding offices in both. After his wife died, he and his son kept the home and worked the farm in a loyal partnership. He died August 15, 1941. Lyle lived his entire life on the farm in Lincoln where he farmed until 1951. He became a maintenance worker with the Chicago & North Western Railroad where he worked until June 30, 1961. On December 21, 1944, he married Gertrude Regan Howell, who had one daughter. Lyle Hesler died on August 6, 1961.

John Hesler, the fifth child of John Leonard Hesler and Barbara Heberlein Hesler, was born March, 1865. He lived his entire life on the family homestead in the Town of Lincoln where a new 2-story farmhouse was built at the end of the 19th Century. In 1912 a new kitchen wing was added, resulting in the home as it exists today, except for enclosing the porch.

He continued to farm on the ancestral farm after his father was murdered, and other brothers and sisters married and moved away. On June 5, 1901 he married Azalia ("Zell") Hutchinson, who had grown up less than a mile away. John and Zell had two children. Frank Hesler was born January 29, 1903. Grace Mae Hesler was born January 18, 1908. She married when a young woman, and left the area. She now lives in California with a daughter, one of her six children.

During his 20's and 30's Frank spent much of each year working on fruit and cattle ranches in southern California, helping build mansions in Hollywood, playing bit parts in early

movies, and working at Frank Perkins' and Mary Perkins' (his aunt) lumbering operation in Spokane, Washington.

In 1941 Frank returned permanently to the Hesler homestead and on June 19, 1941 married Geraldine Storandt, daughter of one of the early families to settle in Wisconsin Dells, who was the local school teacher. John and Zell retired to a house on the north edge of Westfield. Azalia "Zell" died September 25, 1949, and John Hesler died at the Friendship Rest Home on February 20, 1962.

In 1949 Frank acquired the eighty acre Hutchinson (his Mother's parents) homestead one-half mile to the west. He later purchased the Hesler homestead from his father John Hesler. In 1957 he purchased 80 acres in Section 30 from his sister, Grace. On May 16, 1958 Frank and Geraldine Hesler purchased the 180-acre Guenther Farm located directly across the road from the Hesler homestead. After Frank's death on July 13, 1977, Geraldine Hesler purchased another 79-acre farm on County Trunk G in Section 14 in the Town of Lincoln. Hesler Farms is now over 550 acres located in Lincoln township.

After Frank Hesler and Geraldine married in 1941, she stopped teaching, and they farmed, raising dairy and beef cattle, and in the early years also sheep and hogs. In the early 1960's theirs became one of the first farms in the area to put in an irrigation well and begin growing vegetable crops. Frank Hesler was also a dealer for Oliver and Mayrath farm equipment and Blaney seed corn, and provided sales and service for several brands of chainsaws.

Frank and Geraldine Hesler had two children. June Hesler: Valedictorian of her class at A-F High School, Graduate with Honors from Madison Business College, later recipient of an Honorary Degree from Madison Business College, Certified Professional Secretary, and owner of Hesler Realty in Friendship since 1975. Roy Hesler: Salutatorian of his class at A-F High School, Graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Engineering with Bachelors Degree in Nuclear Engineering, Masters Degree in Mining Engineering, and Masters Degree in Geology. He is a Certified Professional Engineer and a Microsoft Certified Computer Engineer working as a Computer Specialist for the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management in Denver, Colorado.

June Hesler and Roy Hesler are the only members of the family left with the Hesler name.

Submitted by: June Hesler

Edward and Mary Lish Hollman

Edward Hollman was born in Adams County, Wisconsin Town of Lincoln on December 27, 1893, the son of Michael and Katherine (Voboril) Hollman. There were eight siblings in the family. As a young man Ed helped his father build Pilot Knob Catholic Church. Mary Effie Lish was born in McCammon, Idaho on December 6, 1904, the daughter of William and Effie (Sisson) Lish. Mary, still a baby, moved to Adams County from Pocatello, Idaho with her siblings and Mother on a train while her father herded horses across the country to farm in Wisconsin. Edward and Mary were married on June 30, 1920 in the Town of Richfield, Adams County. Together they cleared the land and built their homestead and farm known as "Horseshoe Bluff" in Lincoln township. Here they farmed and raised two daughters. June Esther Hollman was born March 16,

1926 and Irene Violet Hollman, born September 28, 1934. Both girls were born at home. June married Carl William Hanke of Whitehall, Wisconsin on December 12, 1943 in Belton, Texas. After his military service they made their home in Friendship.

In 1945, Ed and Mary sold their farm and moved to Friendship at 201 West First Street where they resided until their deaths. Both Ed and Mary were employed at Badger Ordnance Plant in Baraboo during the 1940's. The Hollman's were saddened when their youngest daughter Irene, a senior in high school, was stricken with polio and passed away while in Madison for treatment in October of 1953. Edward then managed the Onalaska Pickle Station in Adams for many years while Mary worked in Portage as a cook and waitress. She also worked at the Beanery in Adams and the Friendship Cafe. When the Adams County Memorial Hospital opened, Mary began her employ as a Nurses Aide. She was honored for ten years of dedicated service as well as for her exceptional care with patients. After she retired in 1969 she enjoyed working summers at the Winnebago Gift Shop at Wisconsin Dells and in her bountiful garden. Ed and Mary loved to play cards (Euchre) with family and friends and were members of the A-F Senior Citizens where Mary also called Bingo.

The Hollman's were fortunate to share their devotion to each other and celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary in June of 1970 with friends and family along with their wedding party and minister in attendance. (Hollman Brothers married Lish Sisters) In 1985 Ed and Mary were blessed to celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary with the A-F Senior Citizens. Ed's health deteriorated and he passed away on December 30, 1985 at the age of 92.

Both Ed and Mary really enjoyed spending time with their family. Their grandchildren and two great grandsons were their pride and joy. Mary continued living in Friendship at their home and spent the winter months in Florida with her daughter and son-in-law. Mary died February 3, 1992 at the age of 87 at Villa Pines Living Center in Friendship. Both Ed and Mary are buried at Mt. Repose cemetery in Friendship. In October 1996 the Hollman home was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Goc who operate New Past Press, Inc.

Submitted by: June Hanke

James and Sadie Maynard Hollman

James Hollman was born December 4, 1886 in Adams County. He was the third child of ten born to Kathryn and Michael Hollman.

James' father Michael came from Bohemia where he served a term in the Austrian (Bohemian) Army and then came to live in America. Soon after his arrival he settled in the Town of Lincoln and accumulated much real estate. Upon his retirement he divided his farm land among his sons and he and his wife moved to Friendship for the remainder of their lives.

Little is known of James during his younger years, however, it is known that he purchased 58.5 acres in the Town of Lincoln for \$525 on November 9, 1910. On March 22, 1911 he married Sadie Maynard of the Town of Springfield, Marquette County.

Sadie F. Maynard was the daughter of Frank and Charlotte Maynard born March 26, 1884 in Springfield township. Frank and Charlotte in later years ran a harness shop in Coloma

although at one time they lived a few miles east of the farm Jim purchased. Sadie attended local schools in Marquette County and taught in public schools 7-1/2 years until she married in 1911. Sadie especially liked to read and was loved by her students. Her love of reading was shared by their children: Mae Charlotte, Barbara Adella, Ellis James and Doris Annabelle.

Life on the farm was not easy. Sadie sewed everything her three girls wore, pieced many quilts and knit many mittens, caps and scarves. She could bake the best of anyone with the least of supplies. Some of her grandchildren remember her beautiful flowers, especially the hollyhocks.

Life wasn't easy for Jim either. The farm land was covered with large stones making plowing a harder chore than usual. Jim grew corn, rye and potatoes on the farm. His daughter Barbara remembered how cold it was when she and her siblings worked in the field digging the potatoes to be sold. Sadie raised chickens for a little extra "pin" money. Jim was active in the community and served as Treasurer for the Buckhorn School for many years. He also served the Town of Lincoln as a road inspector and health officer. Barbara remembers the work it was for her father when he would have to plow the snow from the roads with horse and plow.

Horse and buggy was the way of life when Jim and Sadie first married. The purchase of a Ford touring car November 10, 1917 was such an event that Jim saved the receipt from the purchase and it was recently found in old records. The price of the car \$160.

Jim could be stubborn at times. Area residents still remember the fence line dispute Jim was engaged in with his neighbor Nick Hanson. Although Jim won the argument, there was some resentment between the two men for many years.

Sadie died November 5, 1951 at the Divine Savior Hospital in Portage. Jim farmed alone for a number of years finally selling the farm and living in a mobile home on his daughter, Barbara Kappel's land. He worked as a surveyor's helper for a number of years before retiring. Later he moved his mobile

home to property near Friendship Pond. He spent the last days of his life at Friendship Manor passing away on August 28, 1979 at a grand age of 92.

Ruel and Luna Searles Hotchkiss

Ruel Hotchkiss, son of Chester and Betsey (Gillett) Hotchkiss and great-grandson of Jason Hotchkiss, a Revolutionary War soldier, was born July 10, 1831, in Hampton, Washington County, New York. He and Luna Searles, daughter of Alonzo and Betsey (Van Bogart) Searles, were married in Wells, Vermont, on January 6, 1861, and soon moved to St. Lawrence County, New York.

In 1863 Ruel enlisted at Canton, New York, in Co L, 7th New York Heavy Artillery. He served in the Union Army at Ft. Reno, Washington, D.C. and on May 8, 1864, received a disability discharge from duty because of pneumonia. Ruel returned to his family in St. Lawrence County where their first child, Ernest A. had been born on December 30, 1863.

During the summer of 1865, the Hotchkiss family joined the migration to the midwest and set out for Wisconsin by covered wagon. They stopped first in Sharon, Walworth County, where Ruel's older brother had settled. Later they went north and bought a farm in Richford, Waushara County. Here they remained four years, during which time two more children, Caddie and Mortimer, were born. Caddie married Howard Quimby and moved to West Plainfield, Waushara County, where she died April 13, 1895. Mortimer married May Martin in 1892, moved to a farm near West Plainfield, and died April 9, 1929.

On November 8, 1869, Ruel Hotchkiss purchased the west one-half of the northeast quarter of section 3 in Richfield township, Adams County, from Charles P. Cooke for \$200. This 80 acres of land had been originally granted by the Federal Government to William Fish in the 1850's and was successively owned by David Allen, Richard Barker and Charles P. Cooke.

Two more daughters were born to the family after their move to Adams County. Cora was born in 1874 and died in 1877. Carrie was born in 1878 and died in 1889.

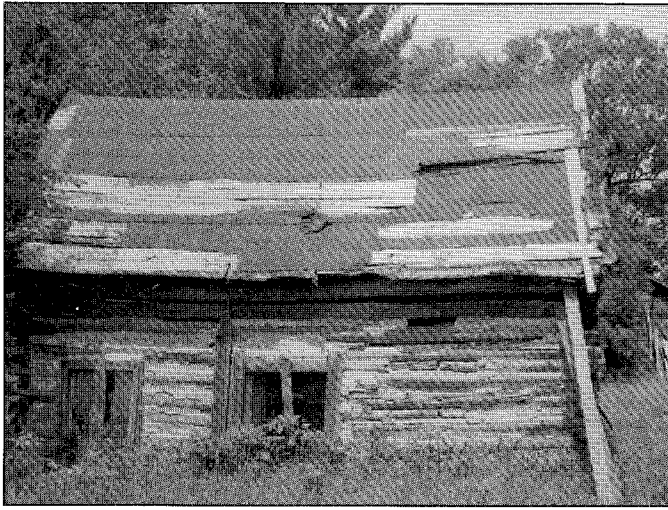
Ruel Hotchkiss had been in poor health since the Civil War and during his last years much of the work on the farm was done by his son, Ernest. After Ruel's death on October 5, 1880, Ernest, then only 17 years old, continued to work the farm and provide for his mother until her death in 1906.

When the Town of Richfield was surveyed, a new road was laid out at the north end of the farm on what is now Chicago Avenue. The Hotchkiss family built a new house on this road from lumber cut on the farm. Roofing shingles for the early settlers were provided by a neighbor named Sheldon. A log barn was built of tamarack for four horses, and another rough log barn for cows and storage of hay.

In May of 1899 Mrs. Luna Hotchkiss deeded the farm to her son, Ernest, and that spring he built a new house which stills stands today. That same year a neighbor suffered a broken leg and a



James and Sadie Maynard Hollman



Barn on Hotchkiss Property

Miss Paulina Mahlke of Coloma came to care for her. When Miss Mahlke wanted to visit her mother, Ernest Hotchkiss was asked to provide the transportation. From that buggy ride a romance developed and Ernie and Lena were married September 3, 1899 at the home of the bride's mother.

One daughter, Mildred, was born to Ernie and Lena on October 17, 1900. Mildred attended Hancock High School and Ripon College, and on June 6, 1928, she married James Harold Banville. A son, Robert, was born to the Banvilles on October 17, 1936.

Ernest built a large barn in 1910 and in 1917 he bought his first car, a Model T Ford, which was used only in summer because the roads were generally impassable in winter. In the thirties the growing of strawberries and other fruit had become profitable and the Hotchkiss's increased that acreage.

After Ernest died on May 1, 1940, his wife, Lena, continued to grow strawberries. A number of regular customers would come to the farm each June to buy crates of berries. Others were sold in town. Lena also continued to keep chickens and work a large garden. And with hired help she grew corn and oats, continued to grow clover for seed, and planted some 40,000 white and red pine seedlings.

Electric power was installed at the farm in 1945 and a plumbing system was added in 1958, but by 1960 Lena contracted to place most of the crop land in the federal conservation reserve. At this time she retired from active farming but continued to plant a large garden every summer.

After 1967 Lena spent a few winter months each year with her daughter in Chevy Chase, Maryland, where she died March 20, 1971.

Mildred Hotchkiss's husband, James Harold Banville was born on a farm in Winnebago County, attended schools in Elo and Ripon, graduated from Ripon College in 1923, and received his Master's Degree in Administration from the University of Wisconsin in 1934. He was also a graduate of the National War College. From 1923 to 1940 he was a high school teacher and junior high principal in Ripon, and was also employed as Director of Scouting.

In 1930 Mildred and Harold built their first home in Ripon, Wisconsin, and continued to live there until 1940 when J. Harold received his reserve officer's commission and a call to

serve in military service. In 1942 he transferred from Reserve to Regular Army and was assigned to Classification and Personnel of the Army Ground Forces.

While Harold was stationed at various posts, Mildred and son Robert lived nearby, at their home in Ripon, or the ancestral Hotchkiss farm in the Town of Richfield.

J. Harold was eventually assigned to the Army Ground Force, Fort Custer, Washington D.C., and in 1945 to the Joint United States Advisory Group to the Republic of China for a three-year appointment as Adjutant General U.S. Army Forces, Far East. He acted as advisor to the government of Chiang-Kai-Shek, during the Chinese Civil War.

In 1957 he was assigned to assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel Department of the Army, stationed at Camp Zama, Japan, and in June of that year was promoted to Brigadier General of the Army Ground Forces. His decorations included the Legion of Merit. Following his promotion J. Harold was ordered back to the Pentagon as assistant Chief of Staff for the Personnel Department of the Army. On June 30, 1957, he retired from active service and joined the staff of the Retired Officers Association, becoming Executive Vice-President in November of 1964.

James Harold Banville passed away on October 20, 1981, at his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and was buried with Honor Guard and Chapel Service at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Banville's son, Robert, attended elementary and secondary schools in Hancock and Ripon, Wisconsin; Washington D.C., and Arlington, Virginia. He attended Ripon College during 1954-1956 and received his B.S. Degree from George Washington University, Washington D.C. in 1958.

Robert received his Master of Science Degree in 1960 and Doctor of Philosophy Degree in 1964 from Catholic University



l-r Ruel, Ernest, Caddie, Luna and Mortimer Hotchkiss

of America, and became employed as a microbiologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

After resigning from the Dept. of Agriculture, Robert lived at home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and Taos, New Mexico, giving full attention to study and writing. His concern that many people of the world were hungry and at war led to the posthumous publication of his writings by his mother in 1993. *Virtue in Government* is widely read and used in schools. Robert was also concerned about problems of conservation of pure air and water. His estate provides bequests for Far East refugees and charities needing agricultural and political aid.

Robert Banville died at Taos, New Mexico on June 9, 1988, and was buried at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Mildred continues to live in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and having helped establish the Banville-Hotchkiss Memorial Archives at the McGowan House in Friendship, is a valued supporter of the Adams County Historical Society.

Frantisek and Mary Kostal Hovorka

Frantisek (or Frank) Joseph Hovorka was born on December 22, 1857 in Bohemia. Bohemia was then part of the Austrian empire and it is now part of the Czech Republic. Frank was the son of John Hovorka and Barbara (Sabot) Hovorka. Per an old newspaper article, Frank was originally from Trebesov, near Rychnov in Kraluv Hradec in what is now the Czech Republic. He was about ten years old when he came to America on a steamship with his parents. It took him 16 days to travel across the Atlantic. After reaching New York, his family moved to Chicago, Illinois.

Frank's family settled in the old Bohemian section of Chicago. There Frank met his future wife, Mary Kostal. Mary Josephine Kostal was born to Thomas and Anne Kostal on May 16, 1859 in Bohemia. An old newspaper article states that Mary was from Novosedlo, near Pisek, in the Bohemian region of the current Czech Republic.

Mary left Bohemia on a sailing ship with her family at the age of seven. It took six weeks before the family reached New York. Mary's family then moved to Chicago, Illinois where her

father passed away after living there about nine months. As the eldest child, Mary helped her mother support the family by working in homes and factories.

Both Frank and Mary's families lived for several years on the streets of Dekoven and Bunker in the Bohemian section of Chicago. All of them witnessed the Great Chicago Fire. On June 22, 1879, Frank Hovorka and Mary Kostal were married. Later they moved to California Avenue, which was also occupied by Bohemians. They lived there for 15 years. During this time, Frank worked with wood in a Chicago factory.

Ten children were born to Frank and Mary including: Joseph, Elizabeth (Nekar), Frank Jr., Mamie, Julia (Pinta, Rezek) John, Twins—Henry and Barbara (Moshure), Emma (Kozlik) and James.

In 1904, after 25 years of marriage, Frank and Mary missed country life and moved their family to the Town of Quincy in Adams County, Wisconsin. Some of their older children chose to remain in Chicago. In Adams County, Frank and his family lived on a small farm where Frank sold cream. He also owned and operated a planing mill (saw mill). Frank became well known in the area while running the mill. Many of the homes in Quincy township at that time were constructed with the lumber he made.

Frank and Mary Hovorka lived in Quincy township until their death. Frank passed away on July 9, 1935 and Mary on July 9, 1942. Both were buried in the Bohemian National Cemetery in Chicago. After their deaths, Frank and Mary's farm was inherited by one of their children. The property was then sold to the Wisconsin River Power Company. The property is now located under Castle Rock Lake. Frank and Mary's youngest child, James Hovorka, survives and lives in Quincy township. In 1999, he turned 100 years old.

Frank and Rose Lev Hovorka Jr.

Frank Joseph Hovorka Jr. was born on January 30, 1886 in Chicago, Illinois to Frank Hovorka and Mary (Kostal) Hovorka. When his parents moved to Adams County, Wisconsin in 1904, Frank remained in Chicago. There he married Rose Lev on October 25, 1904.



Women and Children of the Hovorka Family about 1925



l-r, Frank Jr.; Millie, in front; Rose; Mary; Mabel; Frank III; Emma, in front; Jim; Ella; Henry; Rose; and Edward Hovorka

Rose Lev was born in Bohemia on October 23, 1887 to William and Elizabeth Lev. When Rose was a baby, her family left Bohemia for America, settling in Chicago, Illinois. Rose's parents, William and Elizabeth Lev, had seven children. In addition to Rose (Hovorka), there were Ann (Vondrisha), Bill, Charlie, Emma (Hovorka), James and Mamie (Nelson).

A few years after their marriage, Frank Jr. and Rose (Lev) Hovorka moved from Chicago to Quincy township, Adams County, Wisconsin. There Frank Jr. helped with his father's saw mill, farmed and sold cream. Later he quit farming and worked on the Adams railroad.

Thirteen children were born to Frank and Rose: Mary (Misek), Frank III, James, Ella (Moshure), Mabel (Wormet), Edward, Henry, Joseph, Rose (Sinclair), Emma (Kopus), Mildred (Mueller), Charlie and John.

In 1928, Frank Jr., Rose and all but one of their children moved back to Chicago after living in Wisconsin for about 17-20 years. Rose (Lev) Hovorka passed away on September 26, 1952 and Frank Hovorka Jr. passed away on March 20, 1963. Both are buried in the Oak Hill cemetery in Mount Carroll, Illinois. Several of Frank and Rose's descendants currently live in Adams County, including two of their children, Frank Hovorka III and Mabel (Hovorka) Wormet.

Urban and Anita Bonnett Huber

Urban Huber of Nesselwangen, Uberlingen, Baden, Germany, migrated with his widowed mother, Josepha (Meyers) Huber to America in 1848. After living in New York City and learning the shoemaker trade, he moved to Walworth County, Wisconsin hearing of its very good crop land.

Urban married Margaritta Hoffman in 1854. Understanding that central Wisconsin was favorable for settlement, they traveled north until funds ran out which brought them to Adams County's Jackson township in 1858.

Andrew, one of their eight children also homesteaded in Jackson township purchasing his 200-acre farm for \$200 December 6, 1897. Andrew married Katherine Witz and their children were: Leonard, Tressie (Slowey), Winnie (Crass), and Nellie (Gay). Beulah died in infancy.

Leonard married Anastacia (Nettie) Jarosh in 1908. About 1912 Leonard and Nettie ventured to Alberta, Canada near Jarosh relatives where they farmed for 12 years and had their children: Harold, Vivian (Staufenbeil), Stanley and Urban.

Moving "home" to Jackson Township in the early 1920's brought them back to Wisconsin dairy farming.

Harold and Stanley married and moved to nearby farms. Vivian married and moved to Waukesha, Wisconsin. Urban continued on the "home" farm. Leonard and Nettie retired there, spending winters in Bradenton, Florida as does Urban in his retirement.

Anita Bonnett (William Bonnett and Anna Donovan) boarded in the Huber farmhome while teaching school at Pleasant View School (Jackson School). Urban and Anita dated



Anastacia (Nettie) and Leonard Huber

and married in 1944. Their children are: Gary William, Carol Ann (Podoll), Susan Marie (Wohlfert), and Rose Mary (Huber-Pauls). Anita passed away in 1986.

Gary continues as 4th generation to operate the Huber homestead raising grain crops.

Gary has two sons: Lawrence Anthony, and William Gregory. Carol Ann has four daughters: Christina Ann, Jaclyn Marie, Michelle Lynn, Jennilee Rose, Susan's three children are: Jennifer Marie, Amanda Mary, and Daniel Merle.

Submitted by: Carol Ann Podoll

Calvin Thomas Hutchinson

Calvin Thomas Hutchinson was born on December 24, 1829. On March 1, 1860, he received his Master's Certificate as a Sail Vessel Master (Captain) from the Board of Lake Underwriters (Great Lakes) in Buffalo, New York.

On May 10, 1861 he enlisted into military service at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was mustered into the military service of the United States on July 13, 1861, at Camp Randall, Madison, Wisconsin. At the time of enlistment, Calvin T. Hutchinson gave his residence as Three Mile Bay, Jefferson County, New York. He did not list his place of birth. At that time records show that he was 31 years of age, single, had blue eyes, brown hair, light complexion, was five feet, ten inches in height, and by occupation a seaman.

He was wounded twice in battle, and discharged from active military service as a 1st Lieutenant in Company B of the 5th Regiment of Wisconsin infantry Volunteers on March 25, 1864. He was paid \$334 for wounds received in action. He was engaged in action at Lee's Mills, Williamsburg, Antietam, Gettysburg, Rappahannock, Garret's Hill, Seven Days Fight, Fredericksburg, South Mountain, Myres Heights, and Salem Heights.

On December 1, 1864, he was married to Jane McQuarters, at the home of John Tebo and wife in the Town of Lincoln, by Levi Torrey, Justice of the Peace. His occupation was shown as farmer and wagon maker in the Town of Lincoln. Jane McQuarters was born June 9, 1840, the 4th of nine children born to John McQuarters and Agnes McNaught McQuarters, who at the time of the marriage lived in the Town of Springville, Marquette County, Wisconsin. The McQuarters family had come from Scotland and New York.

On May 10, 1864, Calvin T. Hutchinson purchased the N 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 29, Town of Lincoln, Adams County, Wisconsin. On May 20, 1864, he paid the purchase money in full. Also on May 10, he gave a note and mortgage to the Commissioners of the School and University Fund in the amount of \$162.

Jane Hutchinson had received Certificates to teach in Adams County in 1862 and 1863, and in Marquette County in 1863 and 1864. On the 29th day of October, 1890, she was appointed Postmaster of Spring Bluff, Town of Lincoln.

Calvin and Jane Hutchinson had two boys, Walter A., born August 19, 1865 and Lute A., born March 7, 1871; and three girls, Editha A. born August 27, 1867, Mary Orlana born January 29, 1869, and Azalia born January 5, 1876 while living on the family farm and homestead in Sec. 29, Town of Lincoln. The youngest girl, Azalia, married John Hesler of the Town of Lincoln.

Calvin Hutchinson died December 11, 1892, and Jane Hutchinson died April 25, 1915 while living on the Hutchinson family homestead with her son Walter and family. Both are buried in the Pine Cemetery, Town of Lincoln.

The other four children married, and moved to California (Walter and Lute), Washington State (Mary Orlana Perkins who married Frank Perkins), and Missouri (Editha Chaney who married Ora Swallow Chaney). The two sons each had two daughters who lived.

The Hutchinson family homestead was inherited by the oldest son, Walter. On August 3, 1940, he deeded it to his daughters Ethel Perry and Alice Harpster, and on August 17, 1949, his daughters and their husbands deeded it to Frank Hesler, their cousin, and his wife Geraldine Hesler. It is now a part of Hesler Farms.

John Adam and Lenna M. Jacobs

John Adam Jacobs Sr. came to this country about 1854. The inscription on the gravestone at the Pine Cemetery gives his birthplace as Wildenau, the Oberpfalz, Bavaria.

When he arrived in the United States, John Adam came to New York and found work. Shortly after, he sent for his family, wife Lenna M. (Died February 21, 1890), sons (John Adam Jr. and George Henry) and daughters (Barbara [Islin], Sarah [Francis] and a third daughter Mary [Cunningham]).

At first they lived and worked on a farm on an island in Lake Erie or Lake Ontario, part of New York state. Later they came to Walworth County, Wisconsin. During the Civil War, sometime between 1860 and 1865, they came to Adams County to the farm where Dean lived, about two miles from our current farm.

John Adam, Jr. and George Henry later married two Holmes sisters: John Adam, Jr. (1844-1927) married Eliza Holmes (1846-1932). The daughters also married but I know less about them: Barbara (1849-1921) married into the Islin Family; Sarah married Henry Francis; Mary (?) married into the Cunningham family.

John Adam, Jr. and Ann and their family lived in several places in the Adams County area. They had five sons (Charles, John, Herbert, Fred and DeWitt) and six daughters (Eliza, Mary, Margaret, Clara, Jennie, and Ida [?]). Charles married Arvilla Chatfield and had a son, Odel. John and Jennie from his first marriage had Harlan, Lester (who lived in North Dakota but now lives in Arizona with his wife Ann), Leota (who lives in North Dakota and married Kermit Perhus), and Bernidine (who married Severine Nelson and lives in South Dakota); John and his second wife, Olga, had Annabelle (who married Warren Foss). Herbert and his wife Eva had Lionel, Marshal, and Zelda. Fred and his first wife, Stella, adopted Verne; his second wife was Belva Twist and his third wife was Lois Garlic Parkin. Mary married Harvey Irish and they had Opel and John. Margaret married John McFarlin and had Howard (who married Lorretta) and Darwin (who married Agnes Thomas). Eliza married Warren Underhill and had eight children, Frank, Etta, Ernie, Olive, Fern, Mabel, Earl, and Wayne. Clara married Steven Hewitt and had two children, Jean and Winifred. DeWitt Jacobs (who died at about age 12) and Mary (daughter of J & M) Cunningham are buried in our great-grandfather's lot in Pine Cemetery.

George Henry and Eliza lived in Walworth County for two or three years but moved back to the old farm in Adams County in the late 1870's. By that time, Adam and Lenna had built a new house. Later the two homes were moved together at the location where Dean and Allie lived. George Henry and Eliza had two sons, William and Albert, and two daughters, Minnie and Emma. William married Lois McFarlin and they had three sons, Henry (who married Eugenia Jost), William (who married Joyce Johnson), and Robert (who married Mary Ruth Hoffman). Albert married Ruby Smith and they had one son, Dean (who married Lillian Douglas). Minnie and Emma never married.

Barbara married Augustus Islin about 1866 and they had two children, Louis Albert (born 1870) and Mary Elizabeth (born 1875). Louis married Lenna Coon; they lost two boys and adopted Jennie. Jennie married Lynn Bartram. Mary married Charles DeMott; they had one son Victor (who married Hazel Blackburn).

Sarah and Henry Francis had two sons, Lafayette and Loffallete (Lovellete?) and one daughter, Nora Siems. J and M (Mary?) Cunningham had two sons, Fred and Laverne, and one daughter, Mary (buried at Pine Cemetery - her headstone is inscribed "daughter of J & M Cunningham").

William Holmes; his wife was Annie Mitchel Holmes and came from Lincolnshire, Great Britain. They lived in Walworth County some and in Adams County. Our grandmothers, Eliza and Ann, also had three uncles that owned property in Adams County.

Two of these uncles, Richard and Thorp, are buried in a cemetery about 20 miles south of here, near Jordon Lake. They never married. The other one, Sam Holmes, lived and owned land about three or four miles south of us. Our grandmother had one brother, John. John and Fanny, his wife, visited us several times. They had two children, one named Clara.

Submitted by: Henry Jacobs, Jr.

Wayne and Betty Griese Jefferson

My grandfather, Ceylon Stowell was born in Massina, New York, August 22, 1838 and came to Aztalan, Wisconsin at age six and soon after the family moved to Big Spring, Town of New Haven, Adams County, Wisconsin. He was the son of Jasper and Betsy Dake Stowell. Jasper was made the first postmaster November 20, 1850.

Ceylon Stowell served in the Civil War for three years with Co. D, 10th Wis. Vol. Inf. He married Mary Ann Nephenthaler on March 18, 1865. She was born in Baden, Germany on September 20, 1844 and came to this country as a child. Her mother died on the ocean and her father soon after.

Eleven children were born to this union of which my mother, Marcia Ethel, was the ninth, on March 14, 1884. She grew up in Big Spring and clerked in the store.

My father, Emil Charles Griese came to the area as a buttermaker. Dad was born at Concord, Jefferson County, June 14, 1887 to August and Ida Rusch Griese, the eldest of eight. They were married at Big Spring September 14, 1910 and lived there for a time before coming to Friendship. He worked for the Chicago and North Western Railroad Co. as a locomotive fireman and engineer. My brother, Burton Griese and I were both born in Adams. Dad served as Adams County Sheriff while laid off from the railroad during the Depression years. He was shot in the chest at Big Flats in September 1933 while investigating a disturbance at the store. He recovered, finished his term of office and went back to work on the railroad.

After graduating from Adams-Friendship High School I worked at the local lumberyard. I married Wayne Jefferson on November 16, 1944 at Rochester, Minnesota. We continued our dairy farm on his family farm northwest of Friendship.

This farm was a Century Farm in 1980 having been settled by his grandfather, Mathias Krejchik, when he arrived from Bohemia. He was a shoemaker and the family farmed. Wayne's



Wayne and Betty Jefferson family l-r front, Mary, Carla, Marcia, Betty, Donna, Merna, l-r back, Joyce, Dean, Bruce, Tom, Jan

mother, Jennie, was a baby when they came. She was born June 18, 1880. She graduated from Friendship High School in June, 1897 and was a school teacher. She taught at several rural schools and met Bert Jefferson at Monroe Center. Bert, born April 1, 1880 at Monroe Center, was the son of John and Marilda Kane Jefferson. They were married at Friendship on August 15, 1906 and lived at Monroe Center several years before purchasing the family farm from her brother, Charles Krejchik and moving to Friendship to farm. Jennie was town clerk for the Town of Adams for 17 years. They had six children; John, Mabel, Mildred, Harold, James, and Wayne.

Wayne and I (Betty) have ten children. Mary and husband David Olson farm near Stoughton. She teaches in Madison. They have a son Brian and daughter Katey. Merna and husband Dan Elmer have a restaurant and motel near Neillsville, Wisconsin. Marcia and husband Randy Canear live in Nashville, Tennessee and she is a physical therapist. Joyce, who farms, raises pick-your-own berries and feeds calves. Jan is a paramedic with the Madison Fire Department. Dean and wife Isabel Molina live in Madison and he works for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture. They have a daughter Rebecca, and a son Erik. Donna Rebholz lives in Madison and works at Wisconsin Center. She has two daughters, Alicia and Allison. Bruce and wife, Sheri Dexter, both work for the U.S. Prison system at Greenville, Illinois. They have twins, Justin and Jessica. Tom and wife Gail Zaucha live in Madison and he works as a Systems Engineer. Carla and husband Cary Utterberg live in Golden Valley, Minnesota and works for Dayton's Department Store and have two sons, Max and Sam.

Wayne served the community in many capacities. He was director of the Friendship School Board, president of the Fair Board and active in many farm organizations including Farm Bureau, ASCS, and Alto Cooperative. Wayne passed away suddenly on May 20, 1983. Betty continues to live on the farm and was Adams Town Clerk for 48 years, was a 4-H Leader, has been a member of Homemakers (now HCE) for nearly 50 years. Currently she is involved with Mr. Repose Cemetery Association, Adams County Historical Society, and the Adams County Home and Community Educators as their treasurer.

Submitted by: Betty Jefferson

Ottar and Doris Eliza Christiansen Jensen

Ottar Jensen and Doris Eliza Christiansen were two young people who were brought together in a community under similar circumstances. Each had been uprooted from his or her childhood home, whether willingly or unwillingly, and each was under the care and guidance of an aunt. Perhaps this was the common bond. Their friendship developed into romance, and culminated in their marriage and eventual ownership of the farm located at what is today identified as 1546 15th Avenue in Strongs Prairie township, Adams County.

Ottar Jensen was born August 20, 1887 in Flisa, Norway, to Ole and Pernilla Dammen Jensen. Ole Jensen was a tailor. He and Pernilla had 11 children: Marius, Karoline, Ole, Elise, Inga, Kristine, Ottar, Paul, Thora, Margit, and Anna.

Four of the Jensen children, Ole, Elise, Inga and Ottar, migrated to America. Ottar Jensen came to America in September of 1904 when he was 17 years old. He was a passenger on the SS United States which sailed from

Christiana, now Oslo, on September 8 and arrived in New York City on September 19, 1904. Also on board this ship was Helga Jensen, wife of brother Ole, and their three children. Ole had come to America the previous year.

After passing through Ellis Island, Ottar, along with Helga and her children, came to Necedah, Wisconsin, having been "sponsored" by his paternal aunt, "Tante" Maria, and her husband, Eberhardt Erickson. The Ericksons owned a farm north and a little west of Arkdale. Ottar worked as a farm hand for the Ericksons during the farming seasons, but winters were spent laboring in logging camps in the then heavily wooded forests in north central Wisconsin. On occasion he was able to obtain work as a carpenter, a skill he had learned in Norway.

Doris Eliza Christiansen was born April 21, 1890 in Chicago, Illinois. Her parents were Kasper Thorvald and Dorothea Olsen Christiansen who had both migrated from Norway in the early 1880's. In 1902, Kasper Thorvald and Dorothea separated. Dorothea moved to Santa Barbara, California to seek employment as a dressmaker. Kasper Thorvald remained in Chicago. Doris Eliza was 12 years old. She and her younger brother, Walter, age 7, came to live with Kasper Thorvald's sister, Maren Larsen, in the Arkdale area.

Maren Larsen, a professional midwife, schooled and trained in Norway, came to America between 1870 and 1880 with her husband, Edward Larsen. They settled on Chicago's southside, near the Indiana border, and Mrs. Larsen engaged in her chosen profession of midwifery with offices near 97th and Commercial (then Houston Avenue). She was a large woman and suffered greatly with emphysema and related illnesses. Hoping to find relief in fresh country air, she relocated to Adams County where she purchased and resided on several farms in the Arkdale area before purchasing 320 acres of undeveloped land about two miles east of Arkdale from a Thomas Makin, probably in the late 1890's.

So Doris Eliza, too, was transplanted to the countryside in Adams County. She and her brother, Walter, made occasional visits to see their father in Chicago, but their education continued in this area. Walter attended Sullivan school, and both Doris and Walter received religious training and confirmation at Trinity Lutheran Church in Arkdale. Doris also



Ottar and Doris Jensen family

served as a household helper for her aunt. Mrs. Larsen continued tending to expectant mothers in the area, and was often away from home for days at a time.

As previously stated, the 320 acre property was undeveloped and lacked buildings of any kind. About 1906, Mrs. Larsen began planning and probably in 1907, engaged her nephew, Christian Nordlie, and Ottar Jensen as carpenters to erect the large house and the barn on the southwest corner of the acreage.

Mrs. Larsen's health did not improve to a great extent, but she continued to attend expectant mothers in the area. It was customary, and often necessary, in those times for her to take up residence for days at the home of the patient. Her intent in building this big house with five bedrooms was to encourage the expectant mothers to come to her home during the lying-in period so she could nurse and tend them while simultaneously keeping an eye on farm obligations, necessary improvements and construction. The purpose of Mrs. Larsen's huge farmhouse was never realized due to the fact that her own health deteriorated to such an extent that she could not adequately give the needed care during her last years. Mrs. Maren Larsen passed away in 1915 and willed the farm to her brother, Kasper Thorvald, Doris' father. Maren Sophia Larsen, along with her husband, Edward, and her mother, Karen Thorsen, is buried in the West Arkdale Cemetary.

On March 8, 1911, Ottar Jensen and Doris Eliza Christiansen were married in Chicago, Illinois. They returned immediately to Adams County, and made their first home on a farm owned by Mrs. Larsen near the junction of State Highway 21 and County Highway N. Here their first son, Clifford, was born in 1912. In 1913, Ottar was encouraged by a paternal uncle to relocate to the rich and fertile farming area of Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Here a daughter, Mildred, was born in 1913, and a son, Marvin, in 1915.

Upon Mrs. Larsen's demise, however, with the big farm being willed to Doris' father, who lived in Chicago and worked at Western Electric, and who had no interest in or knowledge of farming, he offered it to his daughter and son-in-law at a very reasonable price. Doris and Ottar returned from the verdant Minnesota valley to Adams County where they felt at home. Doris had actually lived in the house several years, and Ottar had indeed, not only helped with its construction, but had also assisted in making the land arable by clearing the forest and "breaking" the land for cultivation.

Was the house too big? No indeed. Here seven more children were born to Doris and Ottar: Evelyn, Walter, Gladys, Wilbur, Norma, Kermit and Ethel. Of the ten children, three boys died in infancy, Marvin at the age of two months, Walter of scarlet fever at 15 months, and Kermit, of staphylococcus infection at three months.

This became the Jensen family farm. Doris and Ottar lived there the rest of their lives. In addition to dairy cattle, they raised corn, rye, oats, alfalfa, sweet clover, potatoes and cucumbers.

Ottar was an active member of the community. He held positions on the Arkdale School Board and the Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church Council. Utilizing his skill as a carpenter when farm obligations permitted, he often helped in the construction of public buildings, some of which include the cattle barn at the Adams County Fairgrounds, a large addition

to Trinity Lutheran Church in Arkdale, and in making a two room school out of the little one room school in Arkdale used in the early 1900's.

Ottar Jensen succumbed to cancer on July 17, 1967. Doris Jensen died on March 16, 1975 following a stroke. Their son, Wilbur Jensen, had continued to operate the farm, and had eventually purchased the entire holdings which included additional acreage totaling 507 acres, following Ottar's death in 1967. In 1988 Wilbur sold the entire farm to Adams County. A portion is now used as Adams County's sanitary landfill.

In 1990 Fritz and Norma Jensen Riese purchased the farmhouse from Adams County and had it moved about one-half mile south, to the corner of County Highway N and State Highway 21. They wished to reside in the house, and it was deemed hazardous to use drinking water at the original site, in case toxic wastes from the landfill might leak into the ground and contaminate it.

It took three days for the house moving company to jack up the house and place the flatbed beneath it for the move to its new location. As the house moved slowly down 15th Avenue, the ground gave way beneath one of the wheels and the house fell into the ditch! After three more days and new equipment, the move was successfully completed. The two story farmhouse now stands happily in its new "home" at 1602 County Highway N. The Rieves continue making family, friends and neighbors welcome at all times, just as Doris and Ottar did during their lifetime of occupancy.

Submitted by: Pamela H. McDaniel

William Warren and Violet Wilson Jordan

George W. Wilson and Beulah S. (Ripley) Wilson settled in Quincy township, Adams County, Wisconsin in the late 1800's where one of their 13 children, a daughter, Violet Hannah Wilson, was born on April 20, 1883.

William Warren Jordan was the son of Charles Jordan and Caroline Tewksbury.

William Warren Jordan and Violet Hannah Wilson were married on August 3, 1921 in Medford, Taylor County, Wisconsin. They had two children, a son, Raymond Arthur Jordan (B: July 8, 1922-D: June 13, 1988), and a daughter, Thelma Irene Jordan (B: October 16, 1924 in Belvidere, Illinois). The family lived on Elm Street in a home built out of a chicken coop and a railroad car in Adams, Wisconsin since the time that Raymond was three years old and Thelma was three months old. Being so young, she has no memory of her father for at that time he had left the family and traveled to "parts unknown". He never did return, but Thelma has a couple of notes which he wrote to her and her brother.

Violet was a great cook, did babysitting, and took in washing to earn money for the family. While at home, Thelma was expected to do the dishes and to be home on time. Her mother taught her to value honesty. She went to school at the Adams Grade School and Adams-Friendship High School, working hard to graduate in 1942. She had lots of friends in school and at that time her ambition was to be a nurse. In later years, after raising her family of seven children, she became a nurse's aide at the Adams County Memorial Hospital where she worked for many years.

The weekends were spent going for rides in a car and on one of these week-ends Thelma attended a barn dance on County J where she met Omer Lee Robinson (B: January 25, 1916 - D: April 28, 1953), a 26-year old construction worker and truck driver from West Virginia and the son of Ira Robinson and Mary Catherine (Stump) Robinson. He lived with and worked for Orrie Williams. He had black curly hair, was good looking and very nice. Their first date was a night at the movies and she doesn't remember the movie, but does remember how much she enjoyed being with him. They "kept company" for about eight months and Omer said to Thelma one night, "Let's get married". When she told her mom about it, mom said "It's about time". They were married in Friendship, Wisconsin on the afternoon of June 20, 1942. She wore a blue dress with a white collar and Omer wore a suit. There was a party "with a beer keg" at the family home afterwards where they received a set of dishes as a wedding gift from Orrie and Veda Williams. They did not go on a honeymoon as Omer returned to work as a long distance truck driver and he also worked on the railroad as a fireman. They lived with Violet on Elm Street for a few months and then moved to Chicago where they lived with Thelma's half-brother for a short while and then they moved to a basement apartment at 1424 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago. Their first of six children, Mary Lee Irene Robinson, was born in Chicago on December 4, 1942. She was named after her paternal grandmother, Mary, her dad's middle name, Lee, and her mother's middle name, Irene. Mary Lee had black hair when she was born and looked like her mother. Thelma still remembers the first time that Mary Lee sneezed! She looked very funny.



l-r front, Randall Haskins, Mary Lee Robinson, Thelma Haskins, Charles Robinson, l-r back, Dennis Robinson, Samuel Robinson, Geraldine Robinson, Edward Robinson.

Over the next ten years, Omer and Thelma had five more children: Dennis Eugene (B: November 4, 1944 in Clarksburg, West Virginia), Samuel Lee (B: September 29, 1945 in Washington DC), Geraldine May (B: May 15, 1947 in Adams, Wisconsin), Edward George (B: November 26, 1949 in Adams, Wisconsin), and Charles Alan (B: October 9, 1952 in Adams, Wisconsin).

Omer then became ill and was in the hospital for surgery when he passed away on April 28, 1953 at the age of 37 leaving his young wife and six children. It was hard times for Thelma and the children for a few years, but Thelma was finally able to go out and work at a factory for a while and then she worked in a local restaurant until starting her training to become a nurse's aide. She then worked at Adams County Memorial Hospital until her retirement.

In September of 1954 Thelma married Albert Henry Haskins (B: August 5, 1928-D: October 24, 1980) and on September 9, 1955 their only child, Randall Aaron Haskins was born in Sparta, Wisconsin. Thelma and "Hank" were separated the next year and he moved to Washington state when they were finally divorced.

On December 2, 1967, Thelma married a third time to Cecil Bernard Binger (B: March 13, 1919-D: September 22, 1977). They had no children. She is still living in her mother's home on Elm Street in Adams and is active in her church, Royal Neighbors, the Adams County Historical Society, AARP, and Senior Citizens Group.

Mary Lee is now married to Gordon K. Klaus (retired from 22 plus years in the U.S. Air Force and now works for the Wisconsin Air National Guard in Camp Douglas, Wisconsin) and lives south of Grand Marsh. She works in real estate, has her own property rental company, does research in family genealogy and has been working on the family history for about ten years, and is a working member of the Adams County Historical Society. She has one daughter, Janis Kay Beyer.

Dennis is re-married to Nancy Lou Najemnik, has five children; David Eugene, Duane Edward, Dale Eric, Delores Elaine (Irwin), and Darby Erwin. They have 15 grandchildren; Shawn Westley Dillingham, Shane Anthony Robinson, Ryan David Robinson, Gregory Thomas Robinson, Travis Eric Robinson, Eric Robert Robinson, Jessica Nicole Peckham, Joshua Scott Robinson, Desiree' Ann Robinson, Kody Gordon Irwin, Kasey Duane Irwin, Kiley John Irwin, Kolt Irwin, Devin Eric Robinson, and Dustie Eve Robinson. Dennis was also married to Theresa Marie Keuffer and they have two daughters, Danaca Dawn and Chelsea Ann. Dennis worked as a semi-truck driver and lives in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.

Samuel married Janie and they have three children; Dawn, Jenny Rebecca, and Samuel Lee, Jr. Samuel then married Irene Lyn Dickinson in 1975 and they have twin daughters, Stephanie Catherine and Stacy Lyn. Sam and Irene live in Aurora, Illinois where they both work. Irene has three sons; Shawn Michael Renaud, Jon Anthony Renaud, and Michael Arthur Renaud. They now have three or four grandchildren.

Geraldine (Gerry) married Richard Glen Wagoner in 1966 and they have one daughter, Carol Marie Wagoner. Geraldine then married Keith Edwin Lanphear (1976) of White Creek, Wisconsin and they have three children; Michael Alen Lanphear, Tonya Marie Lanphear Ellis, and Keith Edwin

Lanphear II. They have two grandchildren, Gregory and Rebecca Ellis. Geraldine is a working member of the Adams County Historical Society and Keith has been employed by Scott Construction of Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin for many years as a truck driver. He also drives for the county as a volunteer driver for shut-ins, etc. by taking them to medical appointments when needed.

Edward married Marsha Allen and they have two children, Marcus Lee and Meredith Lynn. Edward now lives in Florida and has his own auto repair business.

Charles married Marie Ellen Winchester in 1972 and they have an adopted son, Robert Allen Winchester, a daughter, Cathy Ann Robinson Cavanaugh and a son, Mathew Gordon Robinson. They have three grandchildren; Destenee' Mae Winchester, Bryanna Brooke Cavanaugh, and Trevor William Cavanaugh. Charles (Charlie) has worked many years as a dispatcher for the trucking firm at Castle Rock Container in Adams. He is also a working member of the Adams County Historical Society.

Randall, son of Thelma and "Hank" Haskins, lives in Adams after "coming home" to Wisconsin from New Mexico where he lived for many years and had his own electrical shop. "Randy" now works for Scott Construction, is a carpenter and electrician, and is also a working member of the Adams County Historical Society. He is married to Sandra Lee (Revels) and they have two daughters, Tracy and Shannon and three grandchildren: Morgan, Chantell, and Brooke.

Submitted by: Mary Lee I. Robinson Klaus

Johann and Elisabeth (Karner) Kappel

Grandpa Goes to America -- as told by his son, Walter Kappel.

Near the turn of the century, Grandpa was a master cabinetmaker living in Traiskirchen, Austria. He owned his own shop with apprentices and journeymen working for him. But Grandpa's dream was to own his own farm with land enough to support his family. But the land in Austria belonged to the wealthy, with little hope for Grandpa to realize his dream.

Sometime during the late 1890's Grandpa Johann Kappel traveled to America for a visit. America...the country that was to help Johann realize his dream come true. In November of 1909 Johann, together with his wife Elisabeth and little six year old Adolph, boarded the Hamburg-American Line "Graf Waldersee" for the six day adventure to the new land...the land of opportunity...the land where all men could own land and become rich.

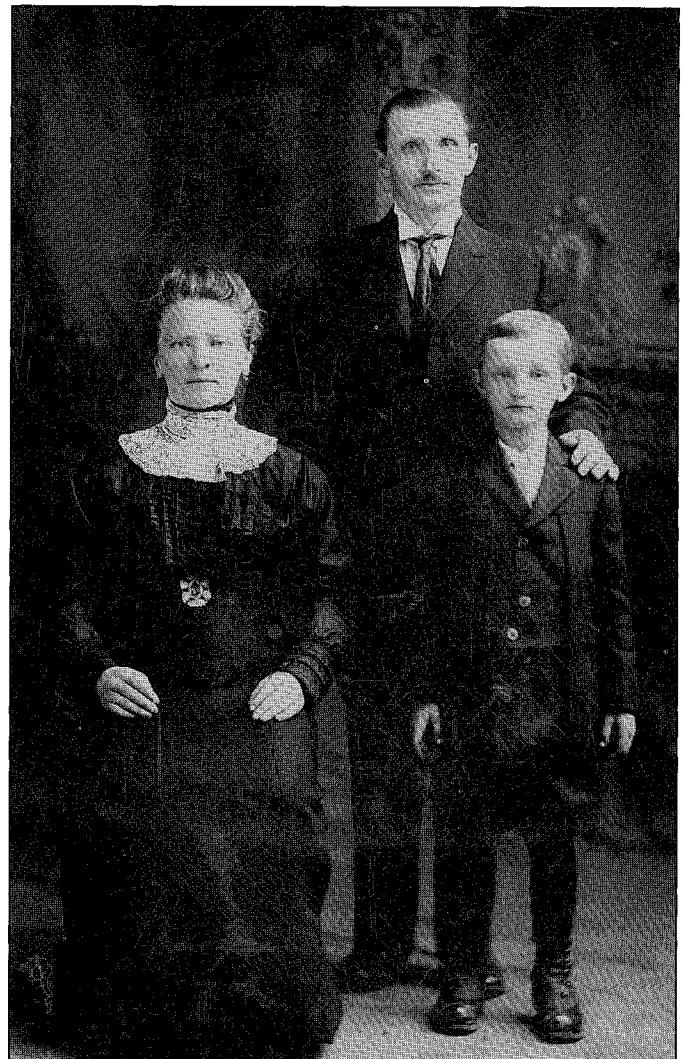
Sponsored by Elisabeth's second cousin, John Herold, in Chicago, the family arrived on Ellis Island, New York and traveled to Chicago. Here Johann easily located a job with Pullman Car Shop making the wooden inlays on Pullman railroad cars. They worked hard to learn a little of the English language, enough to become United States citizens and enough to raise the money to buy farmland. On May 24, 1914, another son, Walter, was born to the family. By 1919 they had accumulated enough funds to purchase an 82 acre farm from J. Shepherd located in Preston township, Adams County.

Early in 1920 the family moved in. They began immediately to plant corn, rye and potatoes. They had a few head of cattle; cows, horses, pigs, chickens and ducks. Elisabeth sold eggs for .09 cents a dozen. It was a meager living at best but

in Johann's eyes life couldn't be better. Elisabeth who was reluctant to leave her home in Chicago, soon came to love the country life and it was in 1920 that the last son, Richard, was born.

It didn't take long for the oldest son, Adolph, to realize that his Pa wasn't cut out to be a farmer. Adolph struggled along with Johann to make the farm profitable. Johann found work occasionally with Peter Sorenson, Sr., and Clarence Rous building houses and Adolph, who was found to be especially talented as a mechanic, was able to pick up odd jobs for some needed cash. During the summer months work was also found in the pea fields in Beaver Dam.

As time went on, the family became poorer and poorer and in 1934 the family put the house up for rent and headed back to Chicago. Johann went to work for the Niemann Table Company, a furniture factory, to make enough money to support his family. But by 1930 the Depression had hit the country and there was no longer any work to be found in the city. Johann decided it would be better to be broke in the country where they had plenty of food than to live in the city with money in short supply. He packed up his family and on October 31, 1930 again headed for the farm in Preston township. He had \$125 in his pocket, no cattle and nothing but a long winter ahead. He bought a 21 year old team of horses with harness for \$75 from Bill



l-r Elisabeth, Johann, and Walter Kappel

Gorton which he used to haul wood to town for sale, charging .75 cents per cord, piled. He had only enough money to purchase overshoes for the boys and wrapped his own feet in gunny sacks. Borrowing a little money, he purchased a cow and once again commenced to farm. Now Walter was old enough to do his share of the farm work along with brother Adolph and his father.

In 1935, for adventure and \$30 a month, Walter joined the Civilian Conservation Corps in Long Lake, Wisconsin. The agreement was that \$25 was sent home to help his parents and Walter was allowed to keep \$5 for his own personal use. Walter worked for the CCC from April 1935 until April 1936 when he returned to the farm. At this time the family purchased an additional 80 acres in Preston township for \$1000 from the Ashworth Brothers. In 1936, on the land purchased in 1919, Walter planted hundreds of white pine, Norway pine and spruce, some of which his son-in-law cut in 1992 to build the family garage.

In the fall of 1936, Adolph moved back to Chicago to get a job to earn money to pay off the new land recently purchased and the new barn they had built. Walter followed in the fall of 1937 working at Continental Can as a machine operator for \$18.45 a week and living in a rooming house costing \$2.50 a week. With the debts reduced, the brothers returned to Preston in the spring of 1940 to once again farm the land.

In 1940 following his high school graduation, young Richard joined the Army Air Corps and by 1942 Walter followed. Adolph was not physically fit and stayed on to help his parents as best he could. Richard's plane was shot down over Germany on March 23, 1944 and he became a prisoner of war, released when the war ended. Johann died December 30, 1947 at the grand old age of 79.

In the 1950's Adolph sold 80 acres of the farm to replenish his cash supply. Adolph later married Iva Rozelle of Arkdale and lived on the farm until his death in 1963.

Walter learned to love the area in Preston township. He married Barbara Hollman of Lincoln township and in 1944, while stationed in Galveston, Texas, Walter bought 160 acres of land in Preston township across from what is now the Roche-A-Cri State Park. When Walter was discharged from the Service, he and Barbara made their home in Chicago but returned each

summer to work on the land. In 1947, Walter cut the trees for lumber that would be used to build their home in 1948. In 1951, Walter brought his family home to Preston township permanently. In 1952 Walter, along with his wife and four daughters, planted 5000 trees here. In the spring of 1998, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources purchased the land to be added to the Roche-A-Cri State Park.

Although in the early 1990's Richard sold another 20 acres of the original farm bought in 1919, Walter still owns 61 acres. What began as a dream for a young man in Austria, continues today in the hearts and minds of each of Johann's descendants. They love America and its freedom to dream and are thankful for a country which allows its people the opportunity to fulfill those dreams.

Submitted by: Karen K. Church

Frederick and Caroline Muff Klaus

Frederick Klaus is believed to have come to this country from the area of Korblesz, Germany in the early to mid 1850's, settling in the Chicago, Illinois area. At that time he would have been in his early 20's, for he was born about September 4, 1832. It is not known if he was on his own or if other members of the family migrated along with him.

In the mid 1860's he married Caroline Muff, another immigrant from Germany. She was born in the Saxonbury area of Germany on January 7, 1841. At the age of 15, she departed her home, sailing aboard the ship *Meta*, out of Bremerhaven, Germany and arrived in New York on September 8, 1857. According to the ship's records, her destination was Chicago, Illinois. She was listed on the passenger list as a 15 year old servant girl. Sometime prior to 1865 she met Frederick Klaus and in about 1865 they were married and their first child, Hermon, was born in 1866 in Chicago. Their next three children, Henry, John Ernest and Anna, were also all born in Chicago.

Sometime after their daughter Anna was born in 1872, and prior to October, 1875 when the youngest child, Frederick Carl was born, they moved to Adams County. They settled in the White Creek area, acquiring 120 acres of land on the north end of Rattlesnake Bluff. They made their home on the east side of this bluff and started farming. They either purchased the stagecoach stop at this location or, shortly after they bought the land, it became the stop. The stagecoach from Kilbourn City, after stopping at White Creek, proceeded along the west side of Rattlesnake Bluff, crossed over to the east side at the notch, proceeding north along the east side, stopping at my great grandparents place, exchanging horses and then continuing north to Friendship. This operation continued into the very early 1900's.

Frederick Klaus, (great grandfather) died on September 19, 1898 and is buried in Mount Repose Cemetery, Friendship. One son, John Ernest, had died in 1890 of consumption, at the age of 20 years. He is also buried in Mount Repose Cemetery. Great grandmother, Caroline, stayed on with this occupation for a short time with the assistance of her children which were all grown by this time. Then, shortly after their father's death, the two oldest sons, Henry and Hermon, decided to head west. By the turn of the century, Henry was already farming in Colfax, Washington. He remained there, married and raised a family.



l-r Tom White, Metta and LaVere Klaus

No one knows what happened to Hermon. Their daughter, Anna, and youngest son, Frederick Carl, stayed on with their mother into the 20th Century, and Anna married William Wintersteen. She had one son and then, at the birth of her second child, she and the baby died. They are both buried together in the White Creek Cemetery.

Frederick Carl, the youngest of the family, married Mary Grace Wintersteen in 1905. Mary Grace was the sister of William and the daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Moore) Wintersteen. William Wintersteen married Anna Klaus, sister of Frederick Carl Klaus. The Wintersteen's were a large family, a total of 12 children, all being born in the Point Bluff and White Creek area of Adams County.

After Fred and Mary Grace were married they continued to live in the White Creek area, and their son, LaVere Wintersteen Klaus was born there in 1906 and another child born in 1919, was lost at birth. Fred, who had worked on a farm all his life, continued in this occupation as a farm laborer in the White Creek area. Sometime around 1914 they moved to Holmsville, (now Dellwood), and purchased a house. This house is still there today, located on the east side of Highway Z and north of the railroad tracks. The driveway directly across the road from the store, that travels along the tracks, leads to this house.

Fred operated the potato houses that used to be on the north side of the track. In about 1917 he purchased the store and operated this until 1920, when they sold the store and moved to Nekoosa. It is believed that Fred worked at the paper mill in that town until after their son, LaVere, was married in 1927. Shortly after taking up residence in Nekoosa, Caroline, Fred's mother, died on July 18, 1920. She was buried beside her husband in Mount Repose Cemetery. Fred and Mary Grace returned to Adams County and lived in various places, including a house west of Houghton's Rock. This house burnt while they lived there. Much of their later life was spent on a farm on the north side of County Highway E, the first house east of 10th Avenue. The barn was on the south side of the highway and during the time they lived there it was a small dairy farm. They continued this farming operation into the 1950's, at which time they moved into Friendship. Even after moving into town, Fred continued to farm, this time as a potato farmer, raising potatoes in several locations around the town. One of these places was a long field that ran north and south, west of the houses that are directly across Highway 13 from the old high school. Another was in the field west of what was the Doctor Treadwell house, which is west of Highway 13 on First Street in Friendship. They continued to live in Friendship until Mary Grace died on March 25, 1957, at this time, Fred went to live with his son LaVere out of town on Duck Creek Avenue and later back in town at the old Doctor Treadwell house. He died on June 16, 1963 and is buried, along with his wife, in the White Creek Cemetery.

Fred and Mary Grace's son LaVere married Metta Gustin in Nekoosa, Wisconsin on December 24, 1927. Her father, George Gustin, worked at the paper mill in Nekoosa. He originally came from Waushara County. The Gustin family lines can be traced back to the 1500's, with the first of his lineage coming to America in the 1640's. LaVere and Metta continued to live in Nekoosa until after their first child, Kenneth was born in 1930. After this, they moved to Adams County, where their second child, Glenn was born in 1932. After this,

they mostly stayed in Adams County, with a couple of short stays in Milwaukee, where LaVere worked for the A.O. Smith Company. Their third child, Yvonne was born in Adams in 1935, but when their fourth child, Ronald, was born in 1937, we find them in Milwaukee. However, in 1938, when the fifth child, Lawrence was born they are in Springville township, Adams County. They were again in Milwaukee in 1940 when their sixth child, Gordon, was born. After this, all the rest of their 13 children were born in Adams County. The triplets, Matt, Marion, and Marie, were born in White Creek in 1941, 11 months after the birth of Gordon. Elaine was born in 1942, Alice in 1944, Allan in 1946, and Sandra in 1949. Of these 13 children, Marie died at the age of 17 months and 14 days of spinal meningitis and is buried in the White Creek Cemetery, Kenneth Grant was killed in an automobile accident east of Patrick's Lake in 1955. Glenn Frederick, a retired engineer, is living in Arizona. Ronald, a retired electrician, is living in Nekoosa and the rest of the family live and work in Adams County. There are numerous offspring of these children scattered throughout Adams County.

All six of the sons were in the military: Kenneth with three years in the Marines and a Korean War Veteran; Glenn, four years in aviation in the Navy, serving in Cuba; Ronald, seven years in the Air Force, serving in Germany; Lawrence, six years in the Army and 16 1/2 years in the Marines, a two-time Vietnam War Veteran; Gordon, 22 1/2 years in the Air Force and a Vietnam War Veteran; Merritt (Matt), three years in the Army and a East German Border Veteran; and Allan, four years in the Navy, a Vietnam War Veteran, into Vietnam when it was only considered an Expeditionary Force, with numerous other trips into Vietnam. These six boys gave 66 years of their lives to their country and had two in each branch of the service, Lawrence having served with both the Army and the Marines.

Grandmother, Mary Grace's side of the family is another old American family. The first of this lineage came to America in the early 1700's, first settling in New Jersey and from generation to generation, moved across America. Great grandfather Jacob Wintersteen married Hannah Moore in September 1855 and shortly after this they departed Ohio for Wisconsin. He purchased a lot in the Town of Point Bluff in December 1855. Their first child was born at Point Bluff, Adams County, in 1856. They were to become the parents of 14 children, all being born in Adams County. All grew to adulthood in Adams County, with the exception of Rollin, who drowned in White Creek Mill Pond on December 12, 1872, at the age of 14 years.

Jacob and Hannah first moved to Point Bluff, where they lived for about the first ten years of their marriage. Shortly after 1866 they built a house about two miles south of White Creek. Here they raised their children and remained for the rest of their lives. Jacob was a farmer by occupation, owning about 160 acres of land. As the battles raged in the Civil War and the north pleaded for more troops, Jacob enlisted in August 1864 in Company K, 38th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment. This Company was almost entirely recruited from Adams County. They fought in the battle at Hatcher's Run, Virginia and were in the assault on Petersburg on April 2, 1865 where they led the right of the assaulting columns on Fort Mahone, which was captured and thus requiring the Confederates to evacuate

Richmond, which shortly led to the surrender of the Rebel Forces and the end of the war. After the surrender of Confederates under General Lee, the 38th Regiment marched to Washington D.C. and participated in the Grand Review, where the 38th was given the honors of leading the entire Review.

After his return from the war, Jacob went back to farming. He must have been fairly successful in this occupation, for there was never any indication of hardships with this family. He ran for several township offices, serving several times as Constable, a couple of times as Assessor and at least once as Justice of the Peace. Jacob also loved to trap. In the last part of November, 1904, while trapping, he got his feet wet, caught pneumonia and died on December 1st of that year. His wife, Hannah, continued to live on the homestead for the next ten years and died on July 17, 1914. Their homestead still remains, now owned by the Jerry Hazel family in White Creek.

Hannah's parents, Charles and Marietta (Carlton) Moore, my great grandparents, had come from Ohio the same time Jacob and Hannah came. They also originally lived at Point Bluff, later moving to the farm next to their daughter. The house they lived in is no longer there.

Besides Hannah, they had a son, George, who married a young lady from the Springville area, Harriet Squires, and had a passel of kids. Great grandfather Charles was also involved in Public Office in Springville township, once beating his son-in-law, Jacob, for Town Supervisor. Charles Moore's father, Elihu Moore's lineage is traced back to the early 1800's in Ohio. Hannah (Carleton) Moore's lineage in America goes back to about 1637 when Edward Carleton, along with his wife, Ellen (Newton) Carleton came from England to the American British Colony of Massachusetts. Their offspring moved out into the new world and after several generations, eventually arrived in Adams County. Charles and Marietta are both buried in the White Creek Cemetery.

There is still a lot of the offspring of these old families living in Adams County. Inez (Wintersteen) Zellmer lived on Highway B, south of Highway A. Her son, Wayne Zellmer lives on the home place. Also there is Wanda (Thorn) Hazel and the Witt families around the White Creek area, Marjorie (Wintersteen) Juno who lives near Oxford and Wayne Thorn who lives in Plainville, the Ed Oakes and the Thaine Colburn families, the Gordon Platt family and Lamar Wintersteen near Wisconsin Dells.

Submitted by: Gordon K. Klaus

Leonard and Augusta Otilie Kleimenhagen

Leonard Kleimenhagen was born on December 20, 1851 in Herrenbreitungen, Germany. He had a twin sister Amynta, sisters Marie and Wilhelmina, and a brother August. Leonard, Amynta and Wilhelmina came to America.

After serving over three years in the German cavalry, Leonard set out alone for America, landing in New York on November 1, 1874. He spoke no English but secured employment as a butcher in Brooklyn.

In April of 1875 he headed for Minnesota. He stopped off, however, to visit relatives in Portage, and upon their suggestion came to Kilbourn where he found employment at his trade.

On December 15, 1878 he married Augusta Otilie Sorgel of Portage. He also sent for his twin sister Amynta, who arrived

in 1880. In 1882 she was married in Chicago to Ernest Storandt, and they later moved to this area.

In 1877 he opened a retail meat market on Broadway in Kilbourn which he ran for eight years. In the meantime, he began buying and selling livestock, and eventually it took up the greater part of his time.

He remained a stock dealer for 32 years, 25 years of which John Sullivan was a partner. Leonard was one of the largest livestock men in the state and enjoyed the confidence and respect of the biggest men in the meat packing industry in Milwaukee and Chicago. In 1912 he retired from business.

Leonard served for many years as a member of the Columbia County Board, as trustee of the village of Kilbourn and for 12 years as President of the village board.

Leonard and his wife Augusta (Sorgel) had four children: Walter, advertising manager at the Harley-Davidson Motor Company of Milwaukee; Karl, treasurer and superintendent of the Carus Chemical Company in La Salle, Illinois; Joan, a home economics teacher; and Arthur in business in Kilbourn.

Arthur was born in Kilbourn on February 7, 1890. He married Anita Michaelis of Milwaukee on January 16, 1932 and they had two sons: Arno K. and Richard A.

Arthur served as Kilbourn's postmaster for about ten years before going into the clothing business. He was in partnership with Norman Magoon from 1928 to 1955, when his son Arno bought out Magoon's share. The business operated until December, 1964.

Arthur A. Kleimenhagen died in March, 1958.

Leo and Catherine Crane Klein

Leo Klein and Catherine Crane met at Holmsville School (now Dellwood) where she taught school.

Their dating was mostly to parties in peoples' homes where they went with the horse and cutter. After about a year of dating, they were married on April 21, 1924 at St. Joseph's Church in Adams, Wisconsin. On their wedding day it rained and snowed and their car (which was a model T Ford) got stuck and they had to call a farmer with a horse to pull the car out and were late for their wedding.

After the ceremony, her mother had a dinner for them at her house and then, that night, there was a party at the Klein family home.

They lived on the family farm in Quincy township in Adams County. Their first trip, after their wedding, was to Seymour, Wisconsin to visit Aunt Frances.

All their children were born at the Klein family home, and the elder Klein family (grandparents) lived there also until they died.

The farm was sold to the Wisconsin River Power Co. In 1949 and in the spring of 1950 the Castle Rock Dam on the Wisconsin River flooded the remaining land in Adams County for the purpose of a County Park. Leo and Catherine then moved to Catherine's family home on Hwy H near White Creek in 1948 where Leo continued to farm and became involved in politics. They had been moderately active in community affairs as Catherine had served many years on the school board. In so doing, she was partially responsible for hiring the teachers at Hadlock School. Most of our teachers had been her students.

Catherine had graduated from Kilbourn High School in 1919. She was Valedictorian and her sister, Dorothy, was Salutatorian of their class. Then they went to summer school at Milwaukee Downer Teacher's Training School. They both started their teaching careers that fall. Catherine taught at Holmsville for four years. During World War II, she was Post-Mistress at the Friendship Post Office. After the War, when farming slowed, she also worked at the Department of Motor Vehicles in Madison during the 50's and some of the 60's.

After moving to the Crane farm in White Creek, Leo became very active in politics and was the town chairman for many years. He also served on the county board and was chairman of the Democratic Party for Adams County. Among his many activities, he served on the hospital board of directors, the parks commission and the highway commission. Leo suffered a heart attack in September of 1965 and was recovering fine until a second attack took his life on March 7, 1967. He was buried at St. Leo's Cemetery in Friendship.

After Leo passed away, Catherine spent her winters in California and her summers on the farm. That was her life until 1987 when she began to fail and needed the security of more care in traveling and at home. She, unwillingly, moved to a Senior Home in Mauston where she had her own apartment. Once there, she liked it, and wished she had moved sooner. Her heart was failing and hard as she tried to keep going, the body wasn't able. Her greatest difficulty in later years was her

hearing. She still enjoyed going to church, and her biggest joy was going to the Lakeside Cafe for breakfast.

Catherine passed away February 11, 1991, just one week before her 90th birthday.

Six children were born and raised on the Klein farm: Florence Bernice born on Christmas, 1924; Leo John, Jr. born on April 24, 1926; Dolores Marie born on Christmas, 1927; Daniel August born on August 1, 1929; Robert Louis born on June 30, 1931; and Kenneth Joseph born on December 18, 1938.

All, except Leo, attended and graduated from Hadlock Grade School and Adams-Friendship High School. One of the honors during the school years, Dolores was the Salutatorian of her class and used her mother's speech for the commencement address. Times were about the same...both graduated just at the end of a war.

Florence and Dolores went to Chicago, where Florence worked as a secretary at Crane Co. and worked on the Manhattan Project there. No one knew, until after the war, what it was all about. Dolores attended lab school and became a registered Medical Lab Technician. They met their husbands in Chicago, married, and then moved to the West coast.

Leo, Jr. was born with spinal-bifida and attended school in Milwaukee, where he had certain surgical procedures performed to enable him to walk in braces with crutches. After Leo, Sr. passed away, and after much indecision, it was finally decided to place Leo, Jr. in the Christian League Home in



l-r front, Bernard Klein, father August Klein, mother Rosalia E. Klein, Celia Klein Custack, l-r back, John Klein, Mike Klein, Leo Klein, Tracy Klein Lund

Walworth, Wisconsin where he has been since.

Danny died on September 30, 1949, in an accident on his job at the Petenwell Dam Project.

Robert joined the Navy in February 1951 and after completing his enlistment in February 1955, earned a Civil Engineering Degree at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville. He works for the State of Wisconsin in that capacity in Madison.

Kenneth arrived as a late surprise, much to the pleasure of his sisters, but, it was quite a survival struggle for him, with big brothers and cousins shoving him around. He continues to live in the Town of Quincy, where he is employed as the Highway Maintenance man. Kenny and his wife, Joanne, have also opened the Lakeside Cafe, which is now a thriving business.

Besides being "home" for Leo and Catherine's family, the farm was still "home" for the various visiting aunts and uncles, bringing along their children for vacations.

In later years, the Castle Rock County Park was dedicated to August and Leo Klein, and to all their family, as the original owners of the land where the Park is located. It is fitting to celebrate the family reunion here.

Submitted by: Florence Klein-Ramocinski and Dolores Klein-Filtz

Frank and Mary Urs Kouba

Frank Kouba was born in Chicago November 11 1887. He was married to the former Mary Urs at New Rome in 1912. She was born in Bohemia February 2, 1890 and married Frank Kouba in December 1912 in the Town of Rome, Adams County, Wisconsin. He preceded her in death.

Mary was a member of a rural Adams County school board for 20 years and was also a member of the Western Bohemian Fraternal Association.



Mary Jo and Mary Kouba

They had two sons Joseph and Emil, two daughters, Mrs. Rose Hendricksen, Mrs. Ella Peterson, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Joseph and Mary Kaim Kulmatycki

My father, Joseph Kulmatycki, came to the United States in 1905. My mother, Mary Kaim, came here in 1908. They landed at Ellis Island, New York. My mother could not speak English. She had her name pinned to her shirt and her brother Joe's name in Chicago. Her brother picked her up at the railroad station.

My parents met in Chicago. They were married in September of 1913. My father owned a shoe repair shop. In 1922 they decided to move to Wisconsin. They bought the Big Flats Store in Adams County in 1922. My brother, Teddy, my sister, Anna, and myself were born there. They operated the store until May of 1972. My father became an American citizen on June 14, 1937. My mother became an American citizen on June 14, 1943.

Frank Serles and I (Lil) were married November 14, 1946 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, which we still attend. Our reception was at the Friendship Hotel. We lived in Wisconsin Rapids, where we had two children, Randall and Cheryl. We moved to Friendship when we bought the City Service Station in 1952.

Frank ran for Sheriff in 1954 on the Democratic ticket. He won the election. He took office January 6, 1955. He held office for two terms, which consisted of two years per term. I ran for office November 1958 and won. I was the first woman Sheriff of Adams County. During this time we had another son we named John in 1959. I also had another term in office in 1965 and 1966. We went out of office in 1969 after 14 years.

Frank worked for Adams-Marquette Electric from January 1969 to 1987. We also bought the Friendship Hotel in July 1975. We were involved in that business until January 1989.

Frank retired from AMEC in 1987. Frank still works for the Electrical Co-op and we are both bailiffs for the Sheriff's Department. I also work at the "76", Pat's Clock Tower Cafe. I work there three days per week.

We still live in Friendship. We have seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. We enjoy our retirement and all of our family.

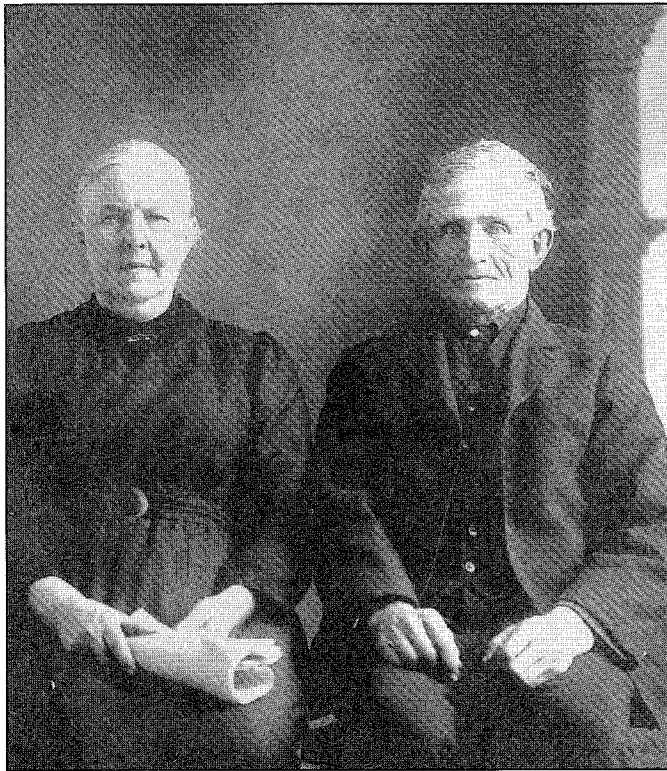
Submitted By: Lil Serles

James and Lydia Proper Leach

James Wellington Leach was born in Genesee County, New York, February 4, 1822. He and his wife Lydia B. Proper moved to Wisconsin, settling in the Town of Richfield, Adams county, on what is now Cottonville Avenue on June 19, 1859. He resided on the same place the remainder of his life, passing away January 24, 1916. During those fifty-six years he held various township and school offices and was Justice of the Peace for more than thirty years.

Three of James Wellington Leach's six sons lived their entire lives on Cottonville Avenue. David Nelson on the home place in section 2, Perry Franklin across the road, and James Barnhart a mile west. Charles Peter lived on what is now Chicago Avenue and never married.

David Nelson Leach was married to Alma Barton and after her death he married Annie Hollman. Three of their children



Augusta and James Barnhart Leach

lived for some years in the Town of Richfield. Belva married Walter Henne and lived on the old home place. Edward owned a farm a mile north on Chicago Avenue. After moving to town, his sister Sadie and her husband Joe Kurrack lived on the place now owned by Lee Gold. Son Charles David Leach married Edith Blackburn and remained in Adams County.

Perry Franklin Leach's son Ray lived his entire life with his family on his father's place. Perry's daughter Jennie married Albert Lyons and raised her family in Adams County. The Lyons' son, Walter, lived most of his life on County J near Friendship.

James Barnhart Leach married Augusta Stowell of Big Spring and resided for some time on County G in the Town of Colburn. About 1900 they moved to a farm one mile west of the old home place on Cottonville Avenue where they lived the remainder of their lives. Augusta (Stowell) Leach's sister, Aurie, married Elmer Booth and lived on Aspen Avenue. One of the Booth daughters, Alice, married Frank Day of Easton. Another daughter, Bertha, married Asa Myhill of Richfield and lived for many years on 4th Avenue in the Town of Colburn.

James' son Leon and family lived on Cottonville Avenue, one-fourth mile south of the family home. Another son, Leroy, who married Anna Bundt, a sister of Ida Bundt Leach, lived just west of the family home for several years, then moved to the first place east of Leon on Cottonville Avenue. Another son, Walter, owned and operated a sawmill doing custom sawing and lived in the Town of Colburn on Chicago Avenue most of his life. All were farmers.

James Barnhart's daughter, Aurie, was a country school teacher and married Edwin Winchester on March 24, 1909, and lived in New Chester.

The following Winchester family members spent much of their lives in the Adams and New Chester area: Floyd

Winchester, Ruebena Kleven, Exzilda (Sponable) Cochrane, Mayella (Cochrane) Lyons, Calvin Winchester and Hollis Winchester.

Luther and wife Amanda Beeman, their son Erwin and wife Ruth Huyck, lived on Cottonville Avenue in the Town of Richfield. Erwin and Ruth owned and operated a sawmill for many years. Their son, Floyd owned Beeman's Body Shop in Adams.

Albin Leach, son of James Barnhart Leach, married Ida Bundt, daughter of August and Otilie (Dahlke) Bundt on December 28, 1920. The Bundts resided on 9th Avenue in the Town of Preston where they operated a sorghum mill for many years. Albin and Ida continued to farm, doing all his work with horses until 1952. He and many neighbors worked on the town roads using their horses and horse-drawn equipment. Albin also held school offices in the Meadowview School District.

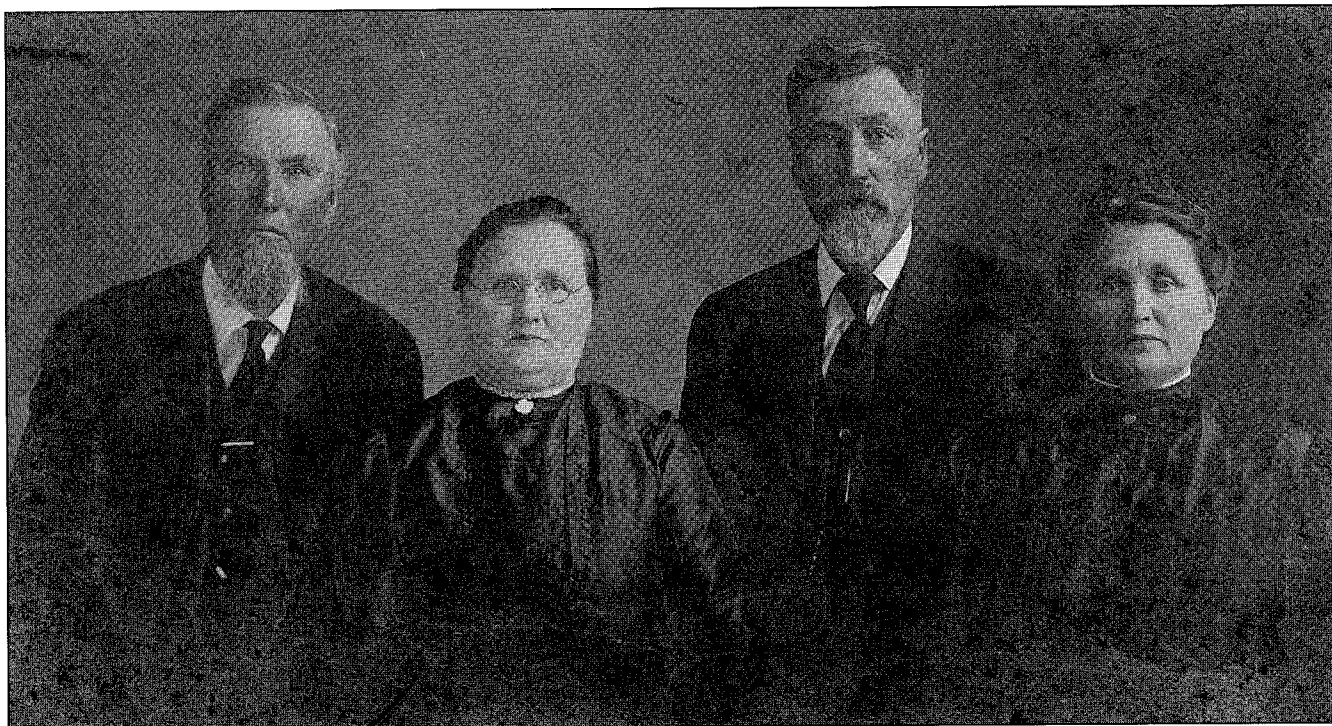
Helmer and Myrtle Lecy

In 1861 when Christopher Christophersen Lyse left Norway with his wife Helga and their five children (one died before they left), little did he imagine that today the Lecy family would still remain in Adams County and still own the little farm on which he settled.

Instead of merely existing on a five acre farm, always having their backs up against the mountains, now Christopher and his family could have a farm larger than they had ever conceived of in their fondest dreams. They set sail from Stavaenger in May 1861 on the sailing ship "Hebe" and sailed for five weeks across the Atlantic to Quebec. From there it is told they boarded a train for Niagara, Canada. At Niagara, they boarded a ferry to go across the St. Lawrence River near Niagara Falls to Buffalo, New York, where their baggage was inspected in customs and finally they entered the United States. From Buffalo they took a ferry up the complete length of Lake Erie to Toledo, Ohio. At Toledo they boarded a train for Dubuque, Iowa. They traveled on a slow train across Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, finally reaching Dubuque.

Still another separate trip was to come. At Dubuque they got on a river steamer and steamed up the Mississippi River to Winona, Minnesota. The final leg of the journey was no easy short trip either. Once they disembarked at Winona, they had to travel East, presumably by horse and wagon, back to central Wisconsin and to Arkdale. Christopher and Helga settled on an 80 acre tract of land in the Town of Strong's Prairie located in the southwest corner of what is now the intersection of County Road N and State Highway 21. The house which he constructed was a log home but had siding on it to cover the logs. Part of the old log home today has been reconstructed inside of the Historical Society building at the Adams County Fairgrounds. The property is still in the family, being owned by Inez Lecy Sweet as her father, John, Christopher's son, stayed at home with his parents in their older years and took care of the elderly couple and was therefore deeded the property.

Helga died around 1865-1868 and Christopher remarried Marie (unknown last name). To this union, six children were born. As the family grew up and married, they scattered throughout the Strong's Prairie area to start their own farms and families. A few moved west to Minnesota.



l-r Barney, Betsey, Jim and Anna Lecy

The church played an important role in the Lecy family. The early pioneers of the Arkdale area started a number of churches and the Lyse (Lecy) name can be found in the early church records and the records of today. A touching scene was recorded in 1867 communion records as Iver Iverson Lyse, son of Iver Olson Lyse, and his entire family took their last communion in Arkdale right before leaving on their trip to western Minnesota, leading a wagon train. Christopher was labeled a "frafalden" on the church membership record for moving to the Hauge church (Hauges were strict and not well thought of by the Norwegian Lutheran Congregation's pastor). This word was often used by concerned Norwegian Lutheran pastors who felt that joining the Hauge church was equivalent to apostasy. Frafalden means "fallen away" or "apostatized". Later all the churches in Arkdale joined and the Lecys are still worshipping there today.

Berge Lecy (Christopher's son by his first marriage) married Britha Quam in 1875 and settled on 20 acres of land about three miles west of the original Lyse farm. (In fact, three Quam sisters married three sons of Christopher Lyse). On this farm five children were born and the family moved to a larger 80 acre farm for the rest of their lives, living with their son, Ole and his wife, Helen, until their deaths. The family farm is now owned by Ole's son, Helmer Lecy and his wife Myrtle. In 1978 the farm was named as a Century Farm by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture. The Lecy's still remain active in their community and church. Today, you will find the Lecy name attached with other long time Adams County names such as Bredesen, Ostby, Klein and Pedersen.

Submitted by: Helmer Lecy

George and Emma Landers Lowman Grover and Edith Gonscherek Lowman

George Washington Lowman lived in Kilbourn about 1928-1931. In 1931 he moved to Adams County with his wife,

Emma (Landers) Lowman. Grover Cleveland Lowman of Alma Center met Clara Edith Gonscherek of Dell Prairie. Grover and Edith married on September 24, 1937 by Judge Charles H. Gilman in his office in the court house in Friendship. George and Grover Lowman with their wives, lived between Davis Corners and the Dells. They lived on Old Highway 13 on a turkey farm where they worked for awhile. Other places they lived were Van Dyke place and Roy Coon place on Highway B. George Lowman worked for Standen Boats in the Dells. He was a great trader and he could take anything and trade it for something else. George and Emma had no children, Grover and Edith had two children, Rachel Marie, and Quincy who died in infancy. Rachel Marie Lowman married Samuel Keith Rasch of Springville on July 12, 1952 in Decorah, Iowa.

Submitted by: Samuel Rasch

Joseph Emmet and Emma Feldman Marsh

William A. Marsh was born in 1844 in Massachusetts, married the former Jettie R. Lovell in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1879 and settled in Quincy township in Adams County shortly after their marriage. William and Jettie had one child, Joseph Emmet Marsh, born June 4, 1880 in Quincy.

Jettie R. (Lovell) Marsh was born in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1853 the youngest of three children of William and Jane (Belden) Lovell. The eldest child, Charles William Lovell died at age three in 1850. The second child, Jennie Lovell was born in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1851. Jennie Lovell married Robert E. McCausland in 1870 in Adams County. By 1880, William and Jane Lovell also had settled in Quincy township.

Joseph Emmet Marsh, who went by Emmet, married Emma Feldman in 1906 in Quincy. Emmet and Emma had six children, all born in Adams County. Gilbert Lovell Marsh was born in 1907, Mildred Vivian Marsh in 1909, Gladys Mae

Marsh in 1911, William Edward Marsh in 1913, Bertha Louise Marsh in 1916, and Carol Fae Marsh in 1924.

Emmet Marsh farmed in Quincy until the early 1920s when he moved the family into the city of Adams and bought the management of the Railroad Eating House, known as "The Beanery."

The whole family worked in the Beanery during the early years along with others who maintained the wide-spread excellent reputation of that decidedly unpretentious all-night restaurant. Those were tragic times for the Marsh family, however as Emma Marsh passed away at age 40 in 1926 and nearly three-year-old Carol Fae Marsh died in 1927. Emmet continued to manage the Beanery until 1936. During that time he also served for a time as Mayor of Adams. He also became the Adams County Welfare Director. As Welfare Director he initially saw clients at a table in the Beanery until an office was made available in the court house in Friendship. Joseph Emmet Marsh passed away in 1938.

The eldest of the children, Gilbert Lovell Marsh lived most of his life in Adams County. He married Averil Pierce and later Marie Decker. Gilbert had two children, Margaret (Marsh) Beeman, who now lives in Adams County and Richard Marsh of Plainfield. Gilbert passed away in 1972.

Emmet and Emma Marsh's oldest daughter Mildred Vivian worked in the Beanery from the time she was 14 until her marriage to Theodore Roosevelt Ashworth in 1933. Mildred and Theodore lived for a time in Dellwood, then moved to Friendship where Mildred still lives. Theodore was a partner with his brother Harold in Ashworth Brothers Lumber and Millwork until Theodore's death in 1967. Mildred and Theodore had three children: John Hancock Ashworth, who now lives in Adams, Lucille Ann (Ashworth) Davis who also lives in Adams, and Jeanne Mae (Ashworth) Wasko who lives in Germany.

Gladys Mae Marsh became a teacher. She taught for a time at Adams Grade School, then taught for many years in Wauwatosa, but made her summer home with her sister Mildred in Friendship. She had retired from teaching, and was living in Friendship when she passed away in 1995.

Bertha Louise married Walter Smith and later Ernest Greene. Bertha lived her adult life on an Adams County farm. She had four children: Betty (Smith) Dehmlow now lives in Adams County; Dorothy (Smith) Kleeman lives in Neenah; Joan (Smith) Kronstedt lives in Adams County; and James Smith lives in Adams. Bertha Louise (Marsh) Greene passed away in 1970.

William Edward Marsh married Lasca McCollough. The couple lived in Adams for a number of years. When living in Adams, William worked at Badger Ordnance in Merrimac and later as a warehouse bookkeeper for Wisconsin River Power Company. When Petenwell dam was completed William became an operator there and moved the family to Necedah. William and Lasca had four children, all born in Adams County: Donald Marsh now lives in Necedah; Gary Marsh lives in Monona; Cheri (Marsh) McMillan lives in Las Cruces, New Mexico; and Nanette (Marsh) Mayer lives in Farmington, Minnesota. William Edward Marsh passed away in 1985.

Clarence and Lucille Mikoda Mathe

This summer, more than sixty years after his family's home had burnt down, Clarence Mathe found himself standing only feet away from where it had stood. He had been called to the area to give an estimate on repairing a home that now stood near the site of the old homestead.

Clarence's grandparents, Otto and Emma Anderson made their home where Melody Waves was later built, near Czech and 20th, after part of the land was sold to Charlie Tuttle. At 19, Emma had come to the area from Norway. They homesteaded in the area around the 1900's and produced ten children (eight girls and two boys): Lena, Agnes, Clara, Minnie, Alice, Ellen, Ella, Elmer, Olga and Otto Jr.

Clarence's parents were Clara, the third oldest, and Hans Mathe, of Sweden. Hans came to the area with a trade, as a steam shovel operator (heavy equipment operator). He worked on the sewer and water lines in Wisconsin Rapids and Nekoosa.

Clarence's grandfather had died in his early 40's. Clarence was born December 6, 1923. When Clarence's mother died in 1931, he went to live with his grandmother. When their home was on fire, the fire department responded from Adams, getting stuck in the mud, on Easter Sunday morning. They were pulled out of the mud with a team of horses. The homestead burnt down in 1937 and sat empty until 1946 when the Power Company started buying bottom land in preparation of creating the lakes. His grandmother was an extraordinary woman, raising Clarence and his four siblings (three boys—Harold, Edmund and Robert—and a girl, Lorraine) while five of her own were still at home. She did the laundry using a washboard and sent the children to church in Arkdale every Sunday—a walk of at least six miles. When she attended with them, they took Dolly, their horse, and buggy. Clarence plowed the field behind a horse, walking barefoot in the wet sand. Clarence's Grandmother farmed the land and raised the children alone!

They had no phone, no electric, no indoor plumbing. There was a spring in the ground on their land. The pump froze up in the winter so they carried water from the spring. Houses were set on stone blocks. The summer kitchen was the site of cooking, canning and washing clothes. It was shut up for winter because it lacked heat so meat was hung in it for storage. The well was about 30 feet deep. In the summer, it contained a cold cylinder where they stored cheese, sausage, and butter in a bucket that had a flour sack tied on top of it and a rope tied to it for retrieval.

One of Clarence's earliest memories of childhood is of the new scooter he got for Christmas when he started kindergarten in Nekoosa. When his family moved, he couldn't go back to school until he was eight because in those days, you couldn't get into school if it was full enrollment. Clarence attended the Dellwood school which was also known as the Tamarac School or Norwegian School. His teacher was Alta Johnson. Clarence built fires for her before school started, walking to school every morning early enough to warm the building before the rest of the children arrived.

The first time Clarence met Lucille Mikoda, the Monroe Center school came to play ball at the Dellwood school. Basketball was played at the Monroe Center Town Hall by using a basket with no bottom in it. Football was played on the cinders and gravel by the Dellwood store—scars on Clarence's knees make it easy to recall those days! He and Lucille graduated 8th

grade together at the fair grounds. He moved to Illinois to live with his aunt and uncle. There, he played baseball while attending Highland Park High School. He also was good enough in music to receive lessons free of charge, playing the bassoon in the marching band. The school system required \$500 to attend if you were from out of state and his family couldn't afford it after his freshman year. Lucille attended high school in Adams-Friendship.

On St. Patrick's Day, 1943, at 19 years of age, Clarence went in the service, served two years and nine months, and saved his thank you letter from President Harry Truman, acknowledging the young men who served their country. Clarence accredits earning rank as Sargeant to willpower, making up your mind to accomplish something and common sense. On his 21st birthday, he went AWOL to celebrate. At 21, he faced the Battle of the Bulge on his first day in war. He met his brother Eddie in Germany. On December 23, 1945, he got out of the service.

Clarence returned to the area when he got out of the service to see Lucille but says she stood him up for another, he had his carpenter tools stolen, and his cousin rolled the car. So he went back to Illinois. He married on April 7, 1947, lived there, and had one child, Howard. That marriage lasted five years. In 1947, at age 25, he started contracting for himself and has been a successful carpenter for 52 years, recognized as one of the finest for building new homes in the area. Lucille, at age 23, married Mel Pollock in October, 1948, had two children (Mark and Marcia) and was widowed November, 1951. When Clarence came to the area to fish the summer of 1952, he and Lucille were reintroduced. They married November, 1954. In 1959, he realized he was coming up to this area, staying until Wednesday and wanting to return Thursday. So, in 1960, he built here and they moved their family here.

Besides raising their six children (Mark, Marcia, and Howard from previous marriages and their three—Connie, Carol and Curt), Clarence and Lucille note opening their Hiawatha Motel 32 years ago as one of their biggest challenges in life. Their children each came up with names and slogans for the resort and they settled on Hiawatha because of the history of the Hiawatha Trail along the Wisconsin River.

Submitted by: Marti J. Sopher and Dennis E. Korzuchowski

Samuel and Isabelle McCaustland

On August 3, 1859 on a ship anchored in the harbor off Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Isabelle had just given birth to a healthy, robust baby boy. She and Samuel named their first born James West McCaustland. This started the family McCaustland in the United States.

They moved to Kilbourn, Wisconsin then to Quincy in Adams County. Samuel and Isabelle had nine children, James West, Annie B., Tommy, Willie M., Sammy B., Lizzie L., Thomas P., Mary E., and Mathilda G.

The second of their nine children, Annie B., was born on that farm on August 1, 1862. She married a man named Wiggington. She lived in a rooming house in downtown Milwaukee for many years before going to Mauston to live with Mary and Tillie. Annie died in Mauston sometime during the 1950's.

Samuel and Isabelle's third child, Tommy, was born on December 21, 1864 and died four years later. The fourth child was Willie M. He was born April 30, 1867. He died on April 4, 1876, shortly before his tenth birthday.

Sammy B. was their fifth child. He was born December 21, 1867 and he died less than a year later on July 31, 1868.

The sixth child born was Lizzie L. She was born December 9, 1869 and died August 31, 1871.

Samuel and Isabelle's seventh child, Thomas P. was born on March 19, 1872. He married a woman named Hattie. Thomas and Hattie lived and raised their family of four or five children in Roberts, Wisconsin. They died sometime in the 1950's or 60's.

Two and half years later, on September 2, 1874 their eighth child, Mary E. was born. Mary wed a gentleman named Edward Dunning. After Ed died, Mary lived with Annie and Tillie in Mauston until her death in 1974, just shy of 100 years old.

Mathilda "Tillie" G. was born in Mauston on Christmas Day, 1878. She was the last child. She married Ed Hofmeister. Tillie died in Mauston in the 1970's and is now buried in Roberts, Wisconsin.

Samuel D. and Emma E. Mason McChesney

Samuel D. McChesney born in Sparta, Wisconsin, while still a small boy he came to Adams County with his parents after living in Elgin, Illinois having made the trip from Elgin to Adams by ox team. The place they settled and he grew to manhood on what was then almost unbroken wilderness. In Mauston, Wisconsin he married Emma E. Mason on July 27, 1879. Samuel Davis McChesney owned 120 acres outside of Grand Marsh in Section 8, ten acres on Forest Street and Park Street in Grand Marsh, and 20 acres just southwest of the Chicago North Western Railroad tracks. In the 1900's there was a McChesney addition that sat on Grant Street on the south, Park Street on the east, North Main Street on the north, and Charles Street on the west. Samuel Davis and Emma had 12 children: Maggie (B: 10/6/1886--D: 8/5/1985), Sarah (B: 3/11/1881--D: 8/17/1966), Jane Pearl (B: 11/6/1890--D: 2/1/1964), Oscar (B: 1895--D: 7/17/1967), Mary (B: 1888--D: 12/29/1973), Retta (B: 7/30/1889--D: 9/3/1966), Henry (B: 10/21/1884--D: 12/28/1982), Gladys (B: 3/18/1901--D: 12/8/1957), Samuel (B: 11/6/1904--D: 3/13/1956), and children that died in infancy. Henry McChesney was the pickle master at Grand Marsh. Rex McChesney, son of Oscar, owned the Country Store on the corner of Highway G and State Road 21 and sold it on September 25, 1967. In 1912 the potato buyers erected an office on Samuel McChesney's land south of the Village of Grand Marsh. Oscar was a patrolman for Adams County and he patrolled County Trunks H & G in Section 30 in 1932. Henry worked for the railroad. Other McChesneys owned land in Section 10 & 17 New Chester (William and Eva), and Dewey McChesney enlisted in the Air Corps in 1942.

Alexander and Mary Lane McFarlin

The Alexander McFarlin family has resided in Adams County since 1854.

Alexander McFarlin (1811-1883), a blacksmith by trade, and his wife, Mary Lane (1817-1891) arrived in Adams County on June 15, 1854 from Trumbull County, Ohio. This arrival

date is documented in a date book presently in the possession of Henry Jacobs, Sr. The family settled on 40 acres of land in the Town of Lincoln. This land was obtained through a land grant which was granted to Peggy McFarlin, widow of Alexander McFarlin (Sr.), who had served in the War of 1812.

After arriving in Adams County, Alexander and his family engaged in farming. Their family consisted of the following ten children: Alexander, (1836-1860), Samuel (1838-?), William (1841-1927), Martha Jane (1843-1926), Stewart David (1846-1901), Mary Rosella (1849-?), Sarah Rosetta (1851-1897), Elizabeth Samantha (1854-1886), Samuel Lane (1857-1933), and Amanda Melvina (1860-1879).

Of these children, William, Stewart, Elizabeth and Samuel resided in Adams County most of their adult lives and a number of their descendants reside here in Adams County.

When William McFarlin died, his obituary stated that, "The Town of Lincoln loses its oldest pioneer citizen, who has held many offices of trust in his home town". He was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and had participated in county affairs his whole life. He was a civil war veteran and a member of the GAR. He was certainly well known and well respected throughout both Adams and Marquette Counties. Many of his descendants settled in the Marquette County area. William is buried in New Chester Cemetery.

Stewart married Almira Frances Hedden at Friendship, in 1878. Almira's parents were residents of Adams County and are buried in Mt. Repose Cemetery. Stewart and Almira had four children: Myra, Lois, John and Mary. Of these children, Lois, John and Mary remained in the Adams County area.

Lois was a school teacher in Adams County for many years. She married William Adam Jacobs in 1913.

John married Margaret Jacobs who, interestingly, was a sister of William Jacobs, husband of Lois McFarlin. They had two children including Edgar Darwin McFarlin who for a number of years owned and published the Oxford Shopper.

Mary McFarlin, a school teacher for many years in Adams County, married Gustev Stelter and both resided in Adams County during their lifetime.

Elizabeth Samantha married Frank Baggs. They had two sons, Horace and Samuel. Samuel remained in Adams County and married Lillian Finel. The Baggs family is well represented in Adams County and a number of descendants of Elizabeth Samantha carry the Baggs name to this day here in Adams County, particularly the descendants of Elizabeth and Frank's son, Samuel.

Elizabeth died at the age of 34 years and is buried in the New Chester Cemetery.

Samuel Lane married Clara Pierce in 1881 at Friendship. Of this union, seven boys were born. Five of these sons, Leslie, Leon, Clifford, Holace, and Stewart, remained in Adams County for much of their lifetime.

Leslie is remembered as having been a mail carrier for many years. He and his wife, Mary (Wilcox), resided for many years in a residence at the north end of Belfast Street in Friendship, formerly known as the Atcherson Hotel, which was originally constructed around 1857, when the Village of Friendship was first settled. Leslie was known as a great horse aficionado and ran a horse barn in Friendship for many years. The barn was built in the 1920's out of stone salvaged from the

old Adams County courthouse annex building which had for many years served as the offices of the county clerk, treasurer and recorder of deeds.

Leon operated a dray-line service in the Adams-Friendship area for many years. His wife, Mabel (Rous), I believe, was a school teacher.

Clifford married Myrtle (Smith) and was well known as a farmer and cattle dealer in the area. His descendants continue to farm in southern Adams County.

Holace was a grader operator for Adams County. His wife, Lila (Roberts) was a teacher in the area for many years.

Stewart and his wife, Alyce (Wade) operated several businesses in the area, including the White Star Cafe in the 1930's, Mac's Dairy Bar in the 1950's and Mac's Standard Service in the 1960's. During World War II, Stewart was a fireman at the Badger Ordnance Works in Baraboo.

John and Margaret McKinley McNutt

John McNutt was born in November 1844 in Ireland. He came to America about 1854 when he would have been ten years old. John married Margaret McKinley around 1868. Margaret was born in Ireland to John McKinley and Elizabeth (Densmar) McKinley on October 17, 1846. She left Ireland around 1850 to come to America when she would have been four years old.

After they were married, John and Margaret McNutt lived in Pennsylvania, where two of their children were born. In approximately 1878, the family moved to Adams County and settled in Lincoln township, Adams County. A few years later, they moved to Jackson township where John farmed until his death. John and Margaret had four children: Margaret (Hale), Robert, John Jr. and William. Their daughter, Margaret, married Frank Hale and raised a family in Lincoln township (see Hale history).

John McNutt Sr. passed away on October 14, 1914. His wife, Margaret, passed away on February 15, 1907. Both are buried in the Gould Rock Cemetery.

Albert and Anna Miller

Anna Miller and her first husband, Fred Goetz, came to the Grand Marsh area in 1885 to farm. After the death of Fred Goetz in 1892, Anna met Albert Miller in Chicago and they were married 21 September 1894. Then they came to farm on Anna's farm in Section 21, New Chester township, Adams County. Albert bought the farm from Anna on 15 September 1894 for \$250. He also bought a farm nearby in Section 17 where their children were born.

In 1911, the Chicago & North Western Railroad built a line through the area and a new Grand Marsh was built near the depot. The A. Miller concrete block two story mercantile store was completed in 1911 by Albert Miller to take advantage of the arrival of the railroad. Located at the corner of North Main and Miller streets as of 1998 it is operated as an auto parts store.

In 1907 Albert bought 40 acres in Section 7 and built a concrete block farm house. They had four children, John, Dora, Joseph and Thomas.

Harold and Hazel Osborn Morgan

Hazel N. Osborn was born in Lincoln township, Adams County to Walter and Pearl Osborn.

On March 4, 1937, she married Harold T. Morgan in Waukegan, Illinois. Harold was the son of Thomas Morgan and Lucy (Atkins) Morgan. He was born on July 31, 1913 in Easton township, Adams County (See Morgan history).

Soon after Harold and Hazel were married, they made their home on the Osborn farm where Hazel had grown up. There they assisted Hazel's mother with the farm. Harold and Hazel raised pigs and cattle and sold milk and cream. Later the dairy cattle were sold and they began raising beef cattle for market.

In addition to working on the farm, Harold completed many "odd jobs" which included: working on the construction of Highway 13, building homes, cutting wood and helping to clear the land where Castle Rock Lake now exists. Harold also served on the Lincoln Town Board for 26 years.

Hazel Morgan also held various jobs over the years in addition to working on the farm. She worked at RayoVac, Badger Ordnance, Brakebush, Villa Pines Nursing Home and Wallendal Supply. In addition, Hazel has been active in the Grand Marsh Development Corporation and a member of the Adams County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary since both organizations were first formed.

Hazel and Harold had two children. Both were born in Adams County: Larry (who passed away in Vietnam in 1968) and Sandra. Sandra is the Economic Support Supervisor and W-2 Program Manager at the Adams County Department of Social Services. She married William Wormet on August 28, 1965. William is self employed. Their children are Tamra and Jeffrey.

Justin and Polly McTier Morgan

Justin and Polly McTier Morgan claimed Homestead Act land in Easton in 1893. Justin was a direct descendent of the Justin Morgan who developed the famous Morgan horse.

There they built a log home to live in until a larger plank house could be built. There they raised their 11 children, Florence (married Harold Durnford), Lottie (married George Snider), Grace (married Ross Caves), Jessie (married John Edwards), William (married Irene Mink), Frank (married Modjeska Mink), Miles (died-1939), Frederick (married Charlotte Lamphear), Alva (married Minery Atkins), Thomas (married Lucy Atkins), and James (married Alice Atkins).

Justin and Lucy acquired a great deal of land in the latter part of the 19th Century and gradually gave portions of it to their



l-r front, Polly, Grace, l-r back, Jessie, Lottie, Florence Morgan

sons. After Justin's death, Polly became a mid-wife and divided her land among her sons. Thomas took over the homestead after the boys built Polly a smaller home north of the homestead and across the road in the Town of New Chester.

Polly married her neighbor, Chebar Winchester (1854-1932) around 1910. Chebar's house was moved across the road after they married on land purchased by Polly's son Frank and wife, Modjeska. Today, their grandson, Tracy Hamman, wife, Stacey and children, Amber and Travis reside there.

Frederick (1876-1936) purchased the Grand Marsh Mercantile from Al Miller (1861-1930) and along with his wife, Charlotte (1883-1910) ran it until they sold it to Norman (1901-1976) and Mary (1903-1974) Kurth. They had five children, Bertha, Edna, Berniece, Merton, and Leonard (1910). Charlotte died in childbirth. Soon after that Fred married a woman by the name of Sanna. They had one child drown in infancy. The marriage ended in divorce. Edna, being the eldest raised her brother and sisters.

Bertha married Elton Bacon and farmed in Easton. They were the parents of Wilbur who lives on his parent's homelace.

Merton (1906-1989) married Clara Mantifold (1906-1967) and inherited the Fred Morgan homelace. They were the parents of Howard, Frederick, Maureen (Ken Holden) of Marshfield, Daniel (Marilyn) of Wisconsin Dells, Nancy (David Marsh) of Kellner, and Lola (Harold Wilson) of Wisconsin Rapids.

Edna (1903-1993) married Stanley Wagner (1897-1994) and they farmed the old Wagner homestead in the Town of Lincoln. Today their grandson, Mark, lives and farms on the homestead. They were the parents of five children: Mary Jane (Vern Golz) of Wisconsin Dells; Robert of Portage; Jean (Harold James Hilliard) of Wisconsin Dells; Harvey (Beverly Knitter) of Adams, president of the Grand Marsh State Bank; and Alice (Charles Parr) of Adams, executive director of the Adams County Chamber of Commerce.

Frank (1887-1953) and Modjeska (1902-1984) managed and ran the Grand Marsh Mercantile for Frank's brother, Fred. They had two children, Alsace Lorraine and Wayne.

Lorraine, a cook at Grand Marsh Grade School until her retirement, married Leonard Hamman (1903-1971). They were the parents of Leonard (Paula Hamman) of Medford and Tracy (Stacey Hamman) of Grand Marsh.

Wayne, married Shirley Cavanaugh, lives in Milwaukee and has three children, Wayne Jr., Kandi, and Michaela.

William (1895-1991) and Irene had a son, Durwood (1931-1934) and a daughter, Thelma (Mattson). They lived in White Creek and in later years in Easton. Will was a carpenter and worked on road construction.

Since the brothers, Frank and William, married sisters, Modjeska and Irene Mink, their children were double cousins. Frank and Modjeska's grandsons, Leonard and Tracy, married the Hamman sisters, Stacey and Paula, making their children double cousins, too.

James (1885-1941), worked on the railroad and his wife, Alice (1889-1972), was the Grand Marsh telephone operator. When the hospital and clinic was built in Adams (1936), Alice worked there. They lived in Grand Marsh, having purchased the old Fenner house east of the Miller Mercantile. They had three daughters Eva, Ila, and Jacqueline.



l-r unidentified, unidentified, Jim Morgan, Tom Morgan, George Snider, Walt Snider, unidentified, Floyd Morgan

Eva (1909-1992), a school teacher in the Adams-Friendship School District, married Andrew Lewis (1900-1984) of Adams. Andy was a railroad brakeman all his working career. They lived in the James Morgan home after he died and his widow, Alice, had moved to a home on the west end of Grand Marsh. They had two children, Yvonne (Charles Cushman) and James (JoEllen Moore), both of those families live in Oshkosh.

Ila (1912-1982), married Wayne (Jerry) Dahlke (1907-1996) of Westfield. He and his brothers owned the Westfield Power and Light Company, that services the villages of Brooks and Grand Marsh. They had one son, Dennis (Barbara Kasubaski) and he and his family resided in the Westfield area.

Jacqueline married Ralph McNamara (1923-1968) and they lived in the Westfield area. Jackie is still in the nursing profession. They were the parents of Sandra (Tony Tonz), Tamara, and Kim. Later, she married Walter Bean and they became the parents of Jay.

Thomas (1881-1941) and Lucy (1886-1969) had six children: Lester, Floyd, Clifford, Harold, Belva, and June. They took over the Justin Morgan Homestead and farmed their entire lives.

Lester (1905-1970), a farmer and a carpenter married Catherine Donnally and lived in Plainville. Catherine was a teacher, but had to give it up when she got married. She helped Lester on the farm that they bought next to her parents' home on the Wisconsin River.

Floyd (1907-1984), married Mildred Hamstengel (1916-1988) and they farmed in the Town of Quincy. He also worked in construction. Floyd enjoyed music and taught himself to play the fiddle.

Clifford (1911-1992), who took over the homestead when his father was ill in 1942, farmed. He married Leah Coon of Davis Corners, a teacher in the Adams-Friendship Area Schools. They were the parents of Robert (1946) and Thomas, who owns the old Grand Marsh Mercantile building and has an auto parts store there.

Milfred (1909-1976), purchased the homestead of his grandmother, Polly after he married Dorothy Lobby (1911-1984) of the Town of Lincoln. Milfred, affectionately called Happy, ran the Grand Marsh Gas Station and Garage in Grand Marsh and worked for the county in the Highway Department. They had two sons, Milfred T. (1931-1985) who married Jewel Nichols and resided in the village of Easton. Jr. or MT, as he was called, worked in construction. He and his wife, Jewel, were instrumental in getting the Rustic Road through the Town of Easton recognized and designated. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter. Happy and Dorothy's other son, Dean (Barbara Fritschler) of Grand Marsh, worked for the State of Wisconsin as a firefighter and special warden.

Harold, who married Hazel Osborn, farmed the old Osborn Homestead in the Town of Lincoln and raised two children. Larry (1943-1968) passed away while on service to his country in Viet Nam and Sandra (William Wormet) of Adams. Sandy and Bill are the parents of Tami and Jeff.

Belva, who along with her husband Clarence Kurth (1903-1987) ran a store in the village of Easton. They were the parents of Eleanor, Lana, Lorna, and Darrell. Eleanor (Jack Riddle) reside in Holcomb. Lorna (1935-1988) married Robert Heitman and they lived in Easton. During her last years, while battling leukemia, Lorna spent her time writing a cookbook for her five children, using all their favorite recipes. The book was typed, but not put together when she passed away. Her family finished her work and published it, with all proceeds going for cancer research.

Belva and Clarence's son, Darrell (Jannette Needham) lives in the village of Easton. He and his wife had four children. Darrell is retired from the State of Wisconsin as a firefighter. Their daughter, Lana (Kenneth Byers) lives in Rockton, Illinois.

June married Charles VaVrinia of the Town of Rome. They built a home in Saratoga and had two children, Pat (Roger Kester) and Tom.

Alva (1877-1960) and Minery (1876-1968) lived in Brooks. They were the parents of Eldon, Elda, Verla, Rellis, and Erlo.

The brothers, James, Thomas, and Alva married the three Atkins sisters, Alice, Lucy, and Minery, making their children double cousins.

Lottie (1899-1992) and George Snider (1896-1979) were the parents of Irvin, Clara, and Georgie. George worked on the railroad and farmed in the Grand Marsh area, later moving to the Waukesha area.

Grace married Ross Caves and lived in the Wild Rose area farming and trucking. They were the parents of Merna Bell, Gordan, and Robert.

Florence was married to Harold Durnford and resided in Oconomowoc. They were the parents of Olive, Ross, Henry, John, Ronald, Pauline, Harold Jr., Gerald, and Holiday.

Miles (Died-1939) moved to Delavan and married a woman known as Mattie. Their children were Verda, Ethel, Hazel, Joyce, Jean, Donald, Lyle, John, and Kenneth.

William Roswell and Roancy Davis Murray

William Murray was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on November 16, 1825 and migrated to America in 1845, landing in Canada. In the spring he crossed the border at Ogdensburg, New York and located in St. Lawrence County where he married a native, Roancy Davis born May 17, 1835, daughter of Roswell and Mary Collar Davis.

In the spring of 1855 the family moved to Milwaukee by boat and then to Oak Grove, Dodge County. In the spring of 1856 the family moved to Little River, Town of Weyauwega,

Waupaca County, by covered wagon and oxen. He enlisted in March 1864 in the 38th Wisconsin Infantry under Major Roberts, fought in the battle of Cold Harbor, and was wounded at Petersburg on July 30, 1864. He was granted a disability discharge in January 1865 and in the spring of 1867 moved to Dayton township, Waupaca County.

In 1897 the family moved to Big Flats township, Adams County, Wisconsin. In 1917 he moved to Nekoosa and passed away there on May 3, 1920 and was interred in the Evanswood Cemetery at Little River, Weyauwega township. He and his wife Roancy had three sons and five daughters.

His son, William Roswell Murray was born February 14, 1863 in Weyauwega township, Waupaca County. Luella Francis Sawyer was born November 6, 1865 in Belmont township, Portage County. They were married September 12, 1886 at the Grant Church, Belmont township, Portage County. They farmed in Belmont until 1897 when the family moved to the Town of Big Flats, located in the northeast corner of Section 28 in Adams County. They followed the occupation of farming, breaking land, and lumbering. In 1917 the family moved to Nekoosa and was employed there. William passed away in 1934 and was interred at the Riverside Cemetery at Nekoosa.

Submitted by: Fred A. Murray

Lars Peter and Oline Oleson Nelson

Oline Oleson and her younger sister Margrethe, migrated from Denmark to Wisconsin in about 1885, settling in the Green Bay area. She met Hans Nielsen (an only child) who, with his parents, had also migrated to Wisconsin. They were married on Hans' 30th birthday, December 7, 1889. Oline, who's birthday was January 21, 1866, was just six weeks away from her 24th birthday. Following their marriage they moved to Big Flats, where they homesteaded land and built a log cabin on 13th Avenue, 1/4 mile south of County Road C on the west side of the road. Their son, Andrew, was born to them on September 26, 1890. Hans worked as a logger, and on February 28, 1891 he was involved in a logging accident and was killed. He had overloaded his sled with logs and as he went down a slight depression the chain broke and the whole load rolled over him. He was taken to his home where he died in a matter of minutes. He was buried in Niebull Cemetery, Town of Big Flats. Oline carried two trees from their home and planted one at the head and one at the foot of his grave. They are still there today, over 100 years later.

Oline then returned to Green Bay with her five-month-old son and worked at the Green Bay House Hotel, where she met Lars Peter Nelson, who was born in Denmark on September 17, 1866, and at two years of age, came with his parents Gorgen and Caroline Nelson to live at Denmark, Wisconsin which is near Green Bay. Lars first worked as a logjammer, which he was very good at, and then he went to Green Bay House as a night clerk. Oline and Lars were married on February 16, 1894 and went to Oline's homestead in Big Flats to live. Lars, like so many others in the area, raised potatoes and farmed for a living. They were blessed with five children: Martin, Victor, Harry, Milton, and Eva. When Oline was six months pregnant with her 6th child, Lars, she had an accident. She came around the house after dark and didn't notice that a wagon was there and ran into the tongue of it; not a bad bump, but enough to kill the fetus which didn't



Oline and Lars Peter Nelson

abort for about three weeks, not until the doctor removed it. By then septicemia had set in and she died on May 30, 1905. She was buried at Niebull Cemetery.

Lars stayed around for one year and tried to get help in caring for his family, but was unable to do so. He then sold his farm and placed all his children but Eva locally. Mrs. Hansen of Oakridge took Milton, Nels Hansen of Arkdale took Victor, Martin stayed with the grandfather of Herbert Peterson, and Harry went to Esburn Mathews - the father of Jesse York, Esther Humphrey and Stella Jensen. Lars took Eva to Green Bay to place with his sister Christine. He worked again at Green Bay House, and then decided to go west. He homesteaded a wheat ranch near Kennewick, Washington. He remarried in 1912 to Christie Christensen and moved to Viola, Idaho, and later went to Canada where he worked in a logging camp. His second wife died from the result of an auto accident on February 22, 1922.

In 1928, his son Victor located him in Canada and got him to return to Arkdale where he lived with him until his death on February 11, 1937. He is buried at Niebull Cemetery next to Oline. Lars and Oline have two grandchildren living in the Arkdale area. Clifford, the son of Victor, who has two children, Darwin and Pamela Raymer and their children Curtiss, Darroll, Nelson, Bradley, and Brittanie Raymer. Dolores Nelson Dolge, the daughter of Harry, has a daughter Roxanne Dolge Nelson and her three sons, Justin, Tyler, and Lance Nelson.

Three of Lars and Oline's children are also buried at Niebull Cemetery - Martin and his wife Margaret (Peterson), Victor and his wife Alfrida (Hansen) and Eva and Mark Bovee. Submitted by: Dolores Dolge

Roy and Della Ward Nichols

The year was 1906 when Roy Nichols began farming in Adams County. Roy married Della Ward in 1913.

Roy's father, Charles Nicholson came to America from Sweden in 1856 and soon after shortened his name to Nichols. Roy was born in DeKalb, Illinois and moved to Adams County, Wisconsin in 1906 to start farming. Later I took over the farm. Now my son, Kendal, is running the farm.

Della's roots go back to great-great grandpa John Ward, who came to America from England in 1850 and settled in Waukesha, Wisconsin. His son, William Ward, moved to Springville township in Adams County to take up farming when he was 16 years old. He married and started a family that included a son, Charles Ward, who was Della's father.

Enter Roy Nichols, my dad. After grade school he attended a business school in Rockford, Illinois for a couple of winters. Being twenty-one years old and ready to make his mark, he discovered that the price of land in Illinois was just too expensive. Word was that land in central Wisconsin was less expensive.

In September 1906, Grandpa Charles paid him his wages for the work he had done all summer which was \$25 per month. He boarded a train and headed to Kilbourn, Wisconsin in search of cheap land.

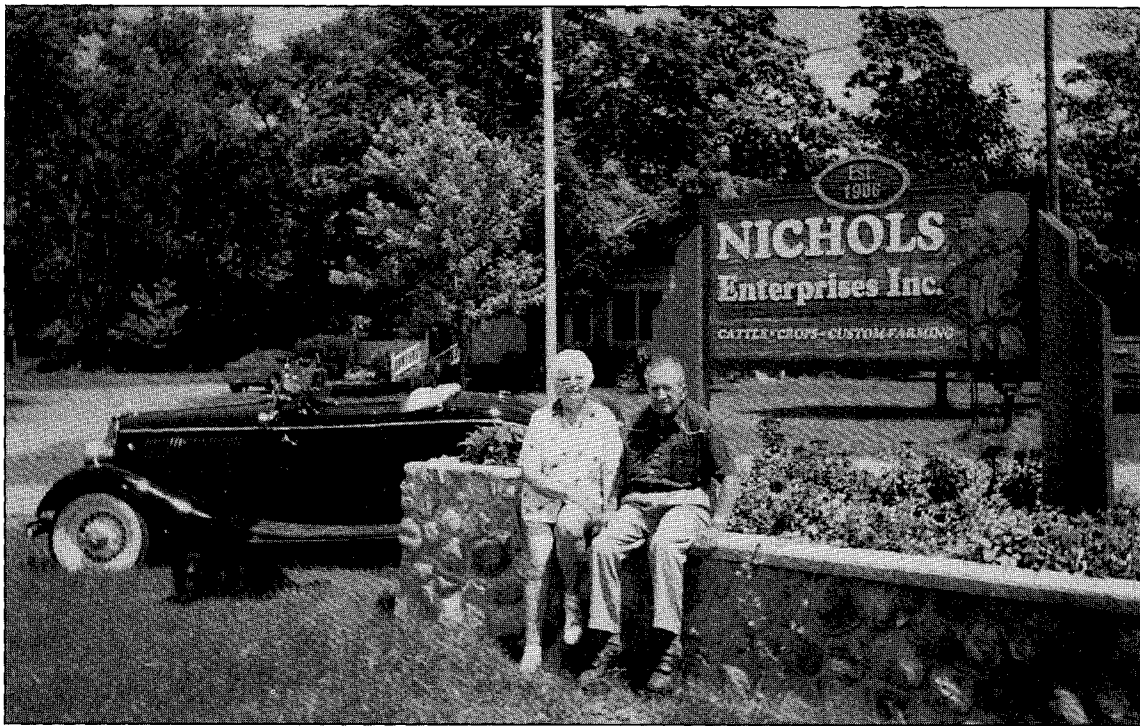
A realtor hitched up his team of horses and buggy, drove Dad 12 miles to the north and sold Dad the first eighty acres of the present Nichols Farm for \$23 per acre. This farm is located east of County B and is on both sides of County I, Section 30, Town of Jackson.

According to my grandfather on my mother's side, the first 80 acres that Roy bought were so poor that you could see a jackrabbit running for forty rods through the buckwheat.

Today, with top management and center pivot irrigation, our son, Kendal is bumping the 200-bushel per acre of corn and 60 bushels per acre of soybeans. A potato grower renting some acreage from us is looking for 500-100 pound bags per acre.



Charles and Mattie Ward, Oxen team Tige and Lion



Lee and Clayton Nichols

Dad never lived on his 80 acres. Instead, he rented a good farm on County Highway B, south of County Highway I, for seven years, where the brick house still stands. Dad, being deft in horses and cattle, raised rye, corn, potatoes, hogs.

Things were looking up for Dad in 1912. He had met my mother, Della Ward and he bought a new buggy in Kilbourn for \$65. Mother and Dad were married in 1913 and had four children. Donald Nichols now lives in Crawfordsville, Indiana; Helen Nichols Lowe lives in Friendship, Marion Nichols Natvig lives in Madison, Wisconsin; and I still live on the Nichols Farm, Jackson township, Adams County.

Dad bought the Charlie Garlock farm, located between his 80 acres and Davis Corners. A new barn went up in 1916. In 1920, the year that I was born, mother got her dream home. It was a kit house from Sears-Roebuck & Company, that cost \$6,500. Dad rented the farm out to the hired man for one year so he could help the contractor assemble the new home. The basement was dug with a team of horses and a slip. Dad built a very solid house. After nearly 80 years, Lee and I still live in this beautiful home.

Enter the north side of the family, "The Wards", my mother's family. My great-great grandfather, John Ward, brought his family from England about 1850. They came up the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, and settled on a small farm near Waukesha.

Now to great grandpa, William Ward. When Grandpa John died on a trip to the west, Grandma had nothing so she let Willie out to a farmer as an indentured servant for \$3 per year plus board. At age 16, when his time was up, he took off for the north where he heard that there was good land to homestead.

He found his prize quarter section in Springville township in Adams County. It consisted of good stands of white oak and burr oak and a spring on the south edge to provide water. There was one serious problem: another dude was looking over the same parcel of land.

The land office was located at Stevens Point, nearly 100 miles north. Who would get there first to file on the land? The other dude took the stage. Grandpa William started trotting. It was in the springtime, and part of the stage trail was very muddy. Gramps would catch up with the stage whenever it was stuck in mud, with the drivers cutting saplings to pry up the stage to put brush under the wheels. He would trot on by and take the lead. Soon the stage would pass him when the road was once again hard. Not to be denied grandpa William Ward finally beat the stage to the land office to make his \$1.50 down payment and he thus had his roots down; and it is still owned by relatives to this day. Lloyd Bork and his family still live there.

William's son, affectionately known as Charlie Ward, was a very colorful figure. Charlie was Della's father. Charlie was known all over this area for his knowledge of history, horses, cattle, farming, and especially of human nature. In the 1930s and early 1940s, he would go all over the Midwestern States with his oxen team and covered wagon. One of his favorite oxen teams, Tom and Jerry, tipped the scale at 5,400 pounds when he sold them. That's a lot of "ox" power. Charlie's cattle and horses loved him. He was also loved by almost everyone that knew him.

Roy Nichols was also well respected. In his lifetime, he held several town and county positions. Likewise, I have been involved with the Adams County Fair Board, Board of Adjustment, Wisconsin Beef Producers, Kilbourn Co-op, Wisconsin Corn Growers, Wisconsin Livestock Board and National Corn Growers Board.

In 1928, Dad bought a new Goodison Threshing Machine. In 1930, feeling the need for more belt power, he bought a new Case 4-plow tractor. He threshed for a large circle of neighbors. Then we had a great depression that was hard on Dad, as it was on many farmers. He had been paying the interest for his land each year, thinking the collateral was safe. All of a sudden, in the early 1930s the bank called in its markers. Roy would have

lost the farm if it hadn't been for President Franklin D. Roosevelt. One of the first bills that he got through Congress was the National Farm Recovery Act. This act saved thousands of farms across the country. The government paid the mortgage, but for the next 20 years the farmers had to make two payments each year to the government to cover the interest and payment on the principle. This not only saved the farms, but it taught farmers fiscal responsibility.

In 1937, Roy bought his new car, a Packard, from the Earl Anderson Garage in Friendship. Later that year, he bought the Will Garlock farm, which added another 120 acres to the Nichols Farm. The farm now had grown to 420 acres.

Roy was always proud of his purebred Brown Swiss cattle. About 1930 he started showing them at the Adams County Fair.

In the fall of 1940, I was planning to attend Stout State College. Dad let me take my pick from the herd to show at the Adams County Fair to help with my college expenses. I earned \$110 in prize money, quite a bit when the annual entrance fees for college was \$425.

Over the years, Lee and our five kids have sold nearly one-hundred beef steers through the 4-H. There was always one standing rule, that \$100 from each steer sold had to go into a certificate of deposit for college. All the kids had sufficient funds for the first two years of college.

Megan Nichols, age 10, a fifth generation Nichols, showed her first steer at the Adams County Fair this year, 1998, and won the Grand Champion Award. One week later, she brought him back to the Central Wisconsin Livestock Show, and again won the Grand Champion Award.

In 1943 Roy was getting up in years, so he conducted a farm sale and sold all of the old horse drawn machinery and earned enough money to finally pay off his mortgage on the farm.

A turning point occurred on the Nichols farm in 1945, I had met Leona Baraga earlier when we were both working in Milwaukee. We decided to get married because our backgrounds in 4-H and farming led us both to feel that the farm was the place to raise our family. We picked September 15, 1945 for the day of our wedding.

I came home in February to get the old farm rolling, to tear down two old houses for lumber, and to help the carpenter build our new home across the road from the big house. That is where our wonderful family started to develop and grow. They are Patricia, a graduate from UW Oshkosh, with a Masters Degree from UW Madison, Kendal, a graduate from UW La Crosse, who decided that the Nichols farm was for him. Janet graduated from UW Stout; Barbra graduated from UW Madison; Carrie graduated from UW Milwaukee.

While 1945 was a huge turning point for the Nichols Farm, 1960 was a much larger explosion for Adams County agriculture. That was the time reverse rotary drilling came into the picture, where you could flush out a well in less than twenty-four hours and give you one thousand gallons of water per minute from a nearly unlimited supply.

Today hundreds of semis leave Adams County loaded with peas, sweet corn and potatoes; and look at the beautiful fields of field corn and soybeans.

The Nichols farm has kept up with dramatic changes in Adams County agriculture. Kendal now farms 1,700 acres, 1,200 of which are under the pipe.

In the year 2006, Kendal and Marcia will take the farm into the century mark. Nichols continues to be a proud name in Adams County agriculture.

Submitted by: Clayton Nichols



l-r Sunshine, Grandpa Sorenson, Clara, Mabel, Nellie, Hannah, Lola, and Peter

Oliver and Sigrid Field Olson

Oliver Oksnaes was born on January 14, 1887 in Bergen, Norway, the son of Ole and Katherine Oksnaes. He came to the United States in 1906 and changed his name to Olson. In 1913 he worked on the bridge gang for the railroad in Adams, Wisconsin. On May 14, 1916 he married Sigrid E. Field of Strong's Prairie, Adams County, Wisconsin. She was the daughter of Edward and Maren (Larson) Field. Oliver and Sigrid Olson were the parents of Marion Olson Wellner, Betty Olson, Opal Olson, Norman Olson, Lawrence Olson and Ralph B. Olson. Ralph married Clara Mae Anderson on April 23, 1944 in Arkdale, Wisconsin. Clara Mae was the daughter of William and Clara (Sorenson) Anderson. Ralph and Clara Mae Olson had two children, Carol Olson Klaus and Thomas Ralph Olson. Carol married Merritt (Matt) Jack Klaus and Thomas married Alice Metta Klaus. Carol and Matt have two children, Brenda Sue Klaus and Brian Jay Klaus. Thomas and Alice also have two children, Kimberly Jo Olson Peterson and Thomas Ralph Olson.

Edward Peterson was born in Oslo, Norway on May 14, 1876. He married Maren Larson on April 23, 1898 and in search of better economic conditions they came to the United States in 1905. Upon arrival he changed his name to Field because there were too many people by the name of Peterson already in the States. First settling in Chicago, Illinois, in 1916 they moved to a farm in Arkdale, Wisconsin. The farm was a bust and while two of his sons worked the farm he took up employment at the Port Edwards Paper Company in the early 1920's. In 1928 he moved his family to Port Edwards and sold the farm in 1929. He continued to work as a carpenter at the Port Edwards Mill until 1941, when he retired. He was a self taught folk singer and at the least little suggestion he would sing while he accompanied himself on the concertina. His playing was not in the least hampered by the lack of four fingers on his left hand that he lost at the age of 14 while working in a Norwegian match factory. His wife, Maren died in 1957 and he passed away at the age of 94 on February 23, 1971 and is buried in the Riverside Cemetery, Nekoosa, Wisconsin. Edward and Maren had ten children. Besides Sigrid there was Earl, Edward Jr., Kenneth, Helen O'Dell, Margaret Field, Ester Keyzer, Dagny Randrup and another son and daughter.

Peter Sorenson, the son of Hans and Hannah Sorenson, was born in Denmark on January 6, 1865. At the age of seven he came to America with his parents. They first settled at Poysippi, Wisconsin and later moved to Niebull in Big Flats township, Adams County. This is where he grew to manhood. In 1892 he married Marcia Higbee of Friendship, Wisconsin. They resided in Friendship for a number of years. To Peter and Marcia, 11 children were born, two died in infancy, the others were Harry Sorenson, Nellie Anderson, Clara Anderson, Hannah Simon, Marcia Banovec, Alfred Sorenson, Mabel Fell, Lola Devine and Peter Sorenson. Peter died on November 10, 1945 and Marcia died on November 10, 1920. Marcia (Higbee) was the daughter of Frank and Helen G. (Barnes) Higbee. Frank Higbee was born September 28, 1842 in New Albion, Cataugus County, New York. His parents, Henry Higbee and Anna (Nichols) Higbee, both died in New York. Frank enlisted on September 5, 1861 in Company B 64th New York Infantry. He fought in many battles and was shot in the left arm above the elbow in the Battle of

Antietam. He was removed from the battlefield to a field hospital where his arm was amputated. After three months of recovery in a hospital he was discharged and sent home on December 13, 1862. He married Helen Barnes at Portville, New York on November 22, 1867 and in 1869 he moved his family to Preston township, Adams County. While he lived in Preston he filled various town offices. In 1882 he served as the Chairman of the Town Board of Supervisors. He moved his family to Friendship, Wisconsin in 1883 and served as the Under Sheriff of Adams County. He was a charter member of the Grand Army of the Republic Post #122 and twice he was the Commander of the Post. While living in Friendship he resided in the house just north of the McGowan house.

William Anderson, the father of Clara Mae (Anderson) Olson was born on April 15, 1898 in Monroe County, Wisconsin. He was the son of Nels and Ida (Michael) Anderson. In the early 1930's he established a garage and automobile sales agency in Adams and for many years sold the Hudson automobile. In 1918 he married Clara Sorensen. She died in 1954 and in 1958 he married Evangeline Steinagel. William Anderson and wife Clara were the parents of two sons and four daughters; Robert, William Jr., Mrs. Patricia (Harold) Fallos, Mrs. Margaret (Bernard) Miller, Mrs. Clara Mae (Ralph) Olson and Mrs. Elsie (Fred) Moshure. He had two brothers, Francis and Earl Anderson.

Earl Anderson, the brother of William, was born on January 3, 1895 in Marathon County. His family moved to a farm in Big Flats, Adams County, sometime prior to 1916, for on November 29, 1916 he married Frieda M. Jenson of Big Flats, Wisconsin. Frieda was the daughter of R.K. and Marie Jenson. She was born on March 29, 1899 in Big Flats. Earl and Frieda were the parents of five children; Harold E., Russell W., Evelyn Mangum, Margie McManus, and Betty Jane Jameson. Earl was the owner and operator of Anderson's Garage and Machine Shop on West Third Street in Friendship, Wisconsin. This garage is now owned by Jim McManus.

Submitted by: Gordon K. Klaus and Carol Olson Klaus

John and Gertrude Sack Peterson Oppedesan

John Oppedesan migrated to the U.S. in 1908 and he didn't want to be known as an Italian because the Italians were not very well thought of at that time, so he either legally (or not) took the letter "o" off of Oppedesano!!! He worked for the CB & Q railroad out of Chicago, Illinois for a few years then moved to Wyeville, Wisconsin where he met and married Gertrude H. Sack. When the railroad abandoned Wyeville, he moved to Adams in 1926. He was active in the Adams Masonic Lodge for over 50 years, also active in the Adams Fire Department and he played Santa Claus for the Christmas shows at the Adams Theater. He served in the U.S. Army in 1918 and was a member of the American Legion Post #250. John is buried at Mt. Repose Cemetery in Friendship.

Gertrude H. Sack Oppedesan was born of immigrant parents from Germany. She was the first Sunday School teacher at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Adams. She and John had one daughter and one son.

Shirley Oppedesan Baumel had two sons, Stanley and Larry. Her husband, John Baumel, died in 1976 and she was



Orin Osborn Homestead, Town of Lincoln

then married to Charlie Kirkkoff in 1979. In 1997 she divorced and now resides in Sparta.

John F. Oppedesan served in the U.S. Army from 1943-1946 with the 1019th Engineering Treadway Bridge Company in France and Germany. He played trombone with the Larry Woodbury Orchestra from 1942 until 1963 when he led his own group, The Jack Opie Band until 1975. "Jack" clerked in the Adams post office from 1949 til 1963 when he became a rural carrier on Route one and worked there until retiring in 1975.

Geraldine Peterson Oppedesan, wife of John F., was adopted by Bill Peterson and came to Grand Marsh, while still a teenager. She was best known as a drum major for the A-F High School band in the late 1940's. She worked as a cook in the A-F School district for 27 years, retiring in 1993. John and Gerry had three children, Carmen J. (John Tipton), Daniel J. (Teresa Heitman), and Janis R. (Kenton L. Massen).

Leroy and Margaret Blackburn Osborn

Leroy L. Osborn was born in Chemung County, New York on August 29, 1854 to Orin D. Osborn and Thirza A. (Moffatt) Osborn. He came to Adams County as a child in 1866 with his parents who settled in Lincoln township.

Leroy married Margaret Blackburn on April 22, 1878. Margaret was the daughter of Richard Blackburn and Mary (McMealy) Blackburn of Russell Flats (in Marquette County). She was born on October 16, 1856. Her father was born in England and her mother in Scotland.

Leroy and Margaret Osborn lived on the farm established by Leroy's father, Orin. Leroy was "a very ambitious and industrious person", according to his obituary. He grew crops, raised red polled cattle and owned many other properties. He also operated a general store. The store was located next to his

house, and it is plotted in the 1900 plat book. The store was later purchased and moved from the property to Grand Marsh.

In addition, Leroy was involved in the Spring Bluff school board. Meetings were occasionally held at his store. Leroy was also active in the Lincoln Town Board. Annual town board meetings were held at his home from 1879-1891.

Leroy and Margaret had three children: John, Emma (Nogle) and Walter. Their youngest child, Walter, married Pearl Hale in 1910. Following their marriage, Walter and Pearl made their home with Walter's parents (Leroy and Margaret) on the Osborn farm. Later, Leroy and Margaret closed their general store and moved to a different property located in the Town of Lincoln. Walter and Pearl remained on the Osborn homestead and took over farming on the property.

Leroy passed away on May 21, 1930. His wife, Margaret, had passed away prior to this on January 5, 1917. Both are buried in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Lincoln township.

Orin D. and Thirza A. Osborn

Orin D. Osborn and his family came to Adams County in 1866. There Orin purchased land in the Spring Bluff area of Lincoln township from Lucius S. Harris on April 27, 1866. Today this property is still owned by family members.

Orin was born in New York around 1829. According to the 1870 census, Orin was a 41 year old farmer. His wife, Thirza, was also born in New York. She was 39 years old during the census, so she was born approximately 1831.

The census lists three children who were all born in New York, Leroy (age 15), Sophronia (age 14) and Sylvia (age 6). In addition, the census lists Jonah (age 83) who was born in New York. No relationship is identified between Jonah and Orin, but you could speculate that he was Orin's father.

In addition to his farm, Orin owned several other properties in the Town of Lincoln. He was also active in the Lincoln Town Board. Records show that the annual town meetings were held at Orin's home from 1871-1878. He was paid \$5 a year for use of his house and lights for town purposes.

The property Orin purchased in 1866 is still in the family. The home located on this property is believed to have been built by Orin. His great granddaughters were told the home was once used as a stagecoach stop and travelers stayed overnight in the home. There is some validity to this story based on an article in the January 1, 1876 issue of the *Adams County Press*. The article states that in the Town of Lincoln, "Mr. O.D. Osborn keeps the only hotel in the town, and there the public are hospitably entertained".

Family stories also say this home was originally built on a different area of the farm's acreage. It was later moved to its present location and an addition was built onto the home. There is also validity to this story. When comparing Adams County plat books, the plotted location of the home changed between 1880 and 1900.

By 1880, the home was listed as Leroy Osborn's residence (Orin's son). Leroy remained in Adams County and raised his family on this property. At this time it is unclear what happened to Orin and his wife Thirza after 1879. Land title records indicate that Orin was deceased as of 1903. Orin's daughter, Sylvia (Buer), left Adams County and relocated to Michigan. Orin's other daughter Sophronia (Smith) also left Adams County for parts unknown.

Walter and Pearl Hale Osborn

Walter Osborn was born in Lincoln township, Adams County on July 18, 1889 to Leroy Osborn and Margaret (Blackburn) Osborn. He grew up on the farm that was established by his grandfather, Orin Osborn. Later, Walter raised his own family on this farm.

Walter married Pearl Hale on June 3, 1910. Pearl was born on November 5, 1892 in Lincoln township, Adams County to Frank Hale and Margaret (McNutt) Hale. After their marriage, Walter and Pearl moved in with Walter's parents. His parents later moved to a different property in Lincoln township.

Walter was a farmer and breeder of red polled cattle. His wife, Pearl, was a mail carrier and drove her horse and buggy to collect and distribute the mail. Walter and Pearl had three children: Vern and Viola (who were twins) and Hazel. Their son, Vern, passed away at the age of 12. Their daughters, Viola and Hazel, currently live in Adams County. Hazel still resides on the Osborn homestead.

On July 25, 1937, Walter passed away at the age of 48 and was buried in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Lincoln township. Pearl remained on the homestead, assisted on the farm by her daughter and son-in-law, Hazel and Harold.

Years later, in 1954, Pearl married Claude Cleland. He also preceded her in death. Pearl passed away on November 13, 1967. She is buried beside Walter in the Pine Grove Cemetery.

Carl and Louise Kamien Palenske

Carl Palenske was born in Pommern, Germany on December 3, 1846. He migrated about 1875 from Germany, coming to Chicago, Illinois. Louise Kamien was born in

Bacowien, Pommern, Germany on January 6, 1854. She migrated about 1872, from Germany, coming also to Chicago, Illinois. They married in 1877 in Chicago and lived at 406 Ridgeway Avenue. Carl was a cabinet maker there. While in Chicago they had five children, Emil, born 1878, Minna 1885, Louise 1888, Martha 1893 and Carl 1897. On the 30th of October 1890, Carl was naturalized in Chicago. They attended St. John's German Lutheran Church in Chicago, where the children were baptized.

They moved from Chicago to Adams County in the fall of 1890, buying 80 acres of land in Quincy, Wisconsin for \$400. They joined St. John's Lutheran church where their children were later confirmed. They lived out their lives in Adams County. Carl died March 6, 1919 at the age of 73. He is buried in the Quincy Cemetery in Quincy beside his wife Louise. She died November 14, 1912 of pneumonia at the age of 58.

Submitted by: Carol Setliff

Joseph and Sarah Langdon Parks

Joseph Parks, his son Frank E. Parks, and Frank's infant son Hugh Owen Parks came to Adams County from Marathon County in 1892. Joseph Parks, born in 1825, had originally come from Oswego County, New York, and had previously lived in Fond du Lac. He had been a soldier in the Civil War, serving in Co. A, 18th W.V.I.

Joseph married Sarah Ann Langdon in the Town of Hannibal, Oswego County, New York on January 24, 1849. Sarah Langdon was born May 12, 1830 and died April 18, 1894. On July 13, 1892, Joseph Parks purchased 120 acres in Sections 22 and 23 of the Town of Lincoln (Vol. 37, P531, Adams County Deeds). Joseph Parks died in Saint Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington D.C. on October 12, 1903 and was buried in Leola Cemetery.

Joseph's son Frank E. Parks, was born in Fond du Lac on August 4, 1867. In 1890 he married Lorena Baxter, who died in 1952. He came to Adams County in 1892. He was employed for some time as a stagecoach driver. He was elected to the Office of Adams County Treasurer in 1912. He also served as Adams County Sheriff in the 1920's as well as in many other public offices. Frank owned land in Sections 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 in the Town of Lincoln (Vol. 32, P587; Vol. 40, P42; Vol. 48, P426; Vol. 55, P447; Vol. 67, P465) and later owned the farm where Mound View Golf Course is now located. He died on December 19, 1962, one of the oldest residents of Adams County at that time. Frank Parks had two sons: Hugh Owen Parks who had preceded him in death, and William Forest Parks who lived in Chicago. He had two daughters: Belle Hester Parks Jones of Friendship, and Irene Gertrude Parks who married Vern Lewis, and later Ed Marsh and they lived in Racine.

Hugh Owen Parks, Frank's oldest son, was born in Spencer, Marathon County on January 23, 1892. He married Florence Ketchum of the Town of Lincoln on May 25, 1926. After they were married they lived on Main Street in Friendship and Hugh operated the garage in the building still located on the southeast corner of Highway 13 and County Trunk J. Next they moved to a farm near Coloma for a short time, and then to a farm on 5th Avenue in Section 20 of the Town of Lincoln. In 1941 they purchased and moved to a farm on Dakota Avenue in Section 1 of the Town of Lincoln. Hugh Parks died December 8, 1958.

Florence Parks died on April 8, 1990. Their eight year old son Alan died in 1936. They had three other children: Jeanette Scholblocker of Wisconsin Dells (son David); Dale Parks of Friendship (Children, Alice, Alan, and Denise); and Doris Kaleas of Columbus (son Keith).

Submitted by: Alice Parks and June Hesler

Peter C. and Margrethe Oleson Pedersen

Margrethe Oleson, Oline's sister, was born in 1867, and came to Wisconsin from Denmark in about 1885. Her husband, Peter C. Pedersen, came to Wisconsin when he was 13 years old. He was born April 1, 1875, Margrethe and Peter were married October 13, 1894. They lived in Big Flats, where he was active in church and town government, serving as chairman, clerk, treasurer, and assessor. They moved to Milwaukee in 1923, but returned to Big Flats in 1931. They had five sons, Walter, Louis, Thomas, Hans and Victor. Margrethe died on February 22, 1939. Peter died on April 15, 1958. They are both buried in Niebull Cemetery.

Hans married Hilda Olson and they had 11 children. Those living in Adams County include Gladys McKinley, Virginia Chaffee, Esther Stevens, Caroline Henriksen, Norman Pedersen, Velna Williams, and Myrtle Lecy.

Arthur W. and Maud Evelyn Burroughs Pells

Arthur William Pells, second child and first son of Jeremiah and Charlotte (Parks) Pells, was born May 19, 1875, on the family farm in the southeast quarter of section 2, Richfield township, Adams County, Wisconsin.



Winifred holding Mabel Pells

He attended the Fish School where, at the age of seven, his "regular attendance, good deportment and good recitations" during the term ending on February 2, 1883 earned him a diploma of honor.

About 1899 Arthur purchased 80 acres of farmland in the northwest quarter of section 2 and a few years later added another 25 acres with a house to the south. Arthur lived here with his sister, Clara Pells, until his marriage.

In May of 1900 he rented his farm and, together with friends Charles Skeele, Dan LaRue and a team of horses, travelled through the west. A year later he hired out to neighbor Clarence Newton, and during the winter of 1902 he and brother-in-law Alonzo Fuller went north to work in the "woods."

Two years later he was in Garland, Utah, where he had gone with a drove of 500 cattle. From there he went to Albion, Idaho, then back to Wisconsin and began working for the Union Telephone Company installing lines and service from Plainfield to Westfield.

On June 20, 1905, Arthur married Maud Evelyn Burroughs, daughter of Robert Morris Burroughs and Mary Ulissa (Smith) Burroughs of Nekoosa, Wood County, Wisconsin. The marriage took place at the home of the bride's parents "...midst a profusion of wild roses and syringas..."

The Pells' first child, Mary Evelyn, was born on March 18, 1906, and died January 30, 1907, in Richfield. Following children, Winifred Maud, November 11, 1908, and Mabel Irene, May 28, 1917, were both born on the family farm.

Arthur Pells raised potatoes and rye, along with cucumbers, strawberries and all other necessities needed for a self-sufficient farmer. He owned a cow or two and a team of horses, and was one of the earliest growers of alfalfa in the Town of Richfield. Annually the family would pick wild blueberries on the marshes west of the farm. The milk pails full of the berries easily provided 100 or more quarts of canned fruit per season.

In May of 1908 Arthur hauled lumber from Hancock for the construction of his new barn, and Maud cooked for the barn-raising crew, keeping them well supplied with brown bread, fresh from the steamer on the wood-burning cookstove.

Winifred Pells attended the Fish School through the primary grades, two years at Alexander High School while living with her grandparents at Nekoosa, and graduated from Coloma High School in 1925.

In April of 1925, A.W. Pells held an auction at his farm prior to moving to Ripon, Wisconsin, where daughter Winifred began college that fall. Arthur worked on the Ripon College campus as a maintenance man and Maud cleaned classrooms. Daughter Mabel attended Roosevelt Grade School, Ripon High School and graduated from Ripon College in 1935.

Following Winifred's graduation from Ripon College in 1929, the Pells family made an extensive trip west, their destination being California to visit friends and family. Maud noted the 7,697-mile-trip cost \$92.02 in gasoline and five flat tires on their Pontiac car.

Arthur and Maud Pells continued to live in Ripon until their daughter Mabel graduated from college, then purchased a home near their daughter, Winifred, in Hancock. Their summers were usually spent on the farm in Richfield, and during the latter part of their lives they lived alternately with their daughters.

Maud Pells passed away on February 8, 1953, at the home of her daughter, Winifred, in Hancock. Arthur Pells passed away on July 3, 1953, at the home of his daughter, Mabel, in the Town of Hancock, Waushara County. Both were buried in the White Cemetery, Coloma township.

Winifred Maud Pells married Rudolph Lloyd Carlton on June 20, 1933, at Ripon, Wisconsin and made their home in Hancock, Waushara Co. Rudolph passed away on July 14, 1986, and Winifred on January 16, 1995, both at Wild Rose, Wisconsin. Daughter Cecilia M. Carlton currently lives in Denver, Colorado, and son Jerry W. Carlton resides in Hancock.

Mabel Irene Pells married Clifford Earl Marshall on May 29, 1943, at Wisconsin Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin, and made their home on a farm east of Hancock. Clifford Marshall passed away on June 2, 1995, at Wild Rose, Wisconsin. Mabel currently lives in Plover, Wisconsin, and daughter, Ann Marie Marshall, in Rockford, Illinois.

Jeremiah I and Polly Ann Gardner Pells

Jeremiah Pells was born in 1781 "on the Mohwak Flats, New York," and married Polly Ann Gardner prior to 1837. Polly was born in Canada on February 1, 1817, her father being a native of Connecticut and her mother Canadian.

Little is known of the family prior to the late 1830's when they made their way westward to southern Illinois. Here their first child Lucy Ann was born in 1837 and William Henry in 1839. By 1840 the family had migrated to Rock County, Wisconsin Territory. In 1845 their second son, Jeremiah II, was born at Albion, Dane County. Two more sons were born at Albion, David in 1848 and George Michael in 1852.



l-r, William, Jeremiah, George Pells, seated, unidentified, and Sarah Pells

The Pells family continued to live in the Town of Albion where Jeremiah had a farm. About 1854 they moved to Adams County, and on July 14, 1856, Jeremiah purchased eighty acres in section 13, Town of Richfield, from James and Welthy Myhill for the sum of \$350. Here on the family farm two more daughters were born, Susan in 1856 and Sarah Jane in 1858.

On June 30, 1860, Jeremiah Pells I died and was buried in the White Cemetery, Coloma township, Waushara County. His wife, Polly, continued to farm the eighty acres and care for three young children with the help of sons David and Jeremiah II. She passed away on May 31, 1891, and is buried beside her husband.

With the exception of William Henry and George Michael, the Pells children and some of their descendents continued to live in or near Adams County .

Lucy Ann Pells married three times, first to James S. Lane of New Chester township, Adams County, about 1860; secondly to Joel Caves of Richford, Waushara County, in 1881; and third to Charles Lewis Courter of Richfield township in 1898. She died on October 26, 1916, at Richfield township.

William Henry Pells was a private in County D of the 23rd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War and took part in 14 battles, including the siege and capture of Vicksburg. He married Sardinnia Prudence Cheesbrough on September 20, 1867 at Stoughton, Dane County. William farmed in Albion township, Dane County, where he died on April 7, 1914.

Jeremiah Pells II continued to live in Richfield township after serving in the Civil War and married Charlotte Parks in 1871 at Coloma, Waushara County. He died in 1919.

On August 22, 1864, at the age of 16, David Pells enrolled at Friendship in Co. K of the 38th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and was "accidentally" shot while on picket guard duty near Poplar Grove Church, Virginia. He died at the division hospital on October 14, 1864. His body was never brought home but a memorial monument was placed in the White Cemetery by relatives in 1995.

George Michael Pells married three times. First to Francis Marie Bentley in 1880; second to Jennie May Heistman in 1895 and third to Jennie Gunderson Thomson in 1927. George died at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1933.

Susan Pells married Henry F. Shurtliff of Newton, Marquette County in 1874. The Shurtliff's made their home in Dickinson, Stark County, North Dakota, where Susan died in 1919.

Sarah Jane Pells married James A. Sisson, a native of Hillsdale, Michigan, on January 25, 1873. Eleven children were born to the Sissons; six dying in infancy and one in her fifth year. Daughter Nora Deffenbough lived in Nebraska; Ila Moody lived in Plainfield, Wisconsin; Mildred Parkins lived in Richfield township. Daughter Effie married William A. Lish at Pocatello, Idaho, on June 7, 1900. For many years the Lish family lived on a farm in Richfield township. "Wid" Lish died in 1970 and Effie in 1977. Sarah Sisson died at the home of her grandson, Ernest Lish, in the Town of Richfield on March 11, 1916. James Sisson died at his daughter Effie's home on September 25, 1938. The Sissons and Lish's are buried in the White Cemetery.

Jeremiah II and Charlotte Park Pells

Jeremiah Pells II, third child and second son of Jeremiah Pells and Polly Ann Gardner, was born at Albion, Dane County, Wisconsin, on February 6, 1845, and moved north with his family to Richfield township, Adams County, in 1854. In 1860 the elder Jeremiah died, leaving Polly and her fifteen-year-old son Jeremiah and four younger children to tend the 80 acre family farm.

On September 3, 1864, Jeremiah, age nineteen, volunteered for one year's service in the Civil War at Janesville, Rock County, Wisconsin. He was described as being six feet one inches tall, with hazel eyes, black hair and dark complexion. With enlistment being credited to Albion, Jeremiah was mustered into Co. E, of the 1st Regiment Wisconsin Heavy Artillery on September 23, 1864, at Madison. He was furnished with a knapsack, haversack and canteen, and paid a bounty of \$33.33 with \$100 due.

Battery E of the 1st Heavy Artillery left Wisconsin on October 3, 1864, proceeding to Washington, D.C. and was assigned duty defending that city at Fort O'Rorke where it remained until mustered out of service. Jeremiah Pells was on duty the night President Lincoln was assassinated, and 14 minutes after the fatal shot was fired, received orders to let no one pass under any circumstances.

Jeremiah was discharged from federal service as a private on June 26, 1865 at Fort O'Rorke, Virginia.

After the war Jeremiah continued farming in Richfield township, but often went north to work at logging camps in the pineries. In January of 1867 he was near Grand Rapids (Wisconsin Rapids), Wood County, and was receiving \$35 a month pay. When the ice broke he helped raft lumber down the Wisconsin River.

On August 3, 1871, Jeremiah Pells was married to Charlotte Parks by Reverend George Slater, a Methodist Episcopal minister, at Slater's home in Coloma township, Waushara County. Charlotte, daughter of William B. Parks and Mary Mead, was born on January 18, 1852, probably at Fulton, Rock County, Wisconsin. Her parents had been married at West Almond, Allegany County, New York, in 1846 and migrated to Rock County about 1850. About 1857 they moved on to Richford, Waushara County, where Charlotte's father enlisted for service in the Civil War and died April 9, 1862, from wounds received at the Battle of Shiloh. Charlotte's mother died on October 27, 1865.

In May of 1881, Jeremiah acquired the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of section 11. He received a Tax-Certificate from Adams County Treasurer, B.H. Powers, after paying \$1.73 of unpaid taxes on the forty acres adjoining his farm on the east.

On April 28, 1883, Jeremiah enlarged his farm with the purchase of the north half of the northeast quarter of section 11 from James and Augusta Leach in payment of \$175. This 80-acre parcel was located across the road from the Pells home.

All of the Pells children were born on the Pells farm in section 2 of Richfield township. Mary Edith was born September 23, 1872, married first Charles Burdick of Coloma, Waushara County, on October 7, 1889 at Richfield, and second, Gilbert Chapel, at Vancouver, Washington, in 1913. Mary Edith died November 1, 1953, at Lynwood, California.



Jeremiah II and Charlotte Pells

Arthur William Pells was born May 19, 1875, and married Maud Evelyn Burroughs on June 20, 1905, at Nekoosa, Wood County, Wisconsin. He died July 1, 1953, in the Town of Hancock, Waushara County. Arthur and Maud Pells lived on a farm in Section 2, Richfield township.

Clara Ann Pells was born January 25, 1878, and married Frank Charles Jacobs on September 26, 1908, at Coloma. Clara died October 24, 1962, at Berwyn, Illinois.

George David Pells was born September 29, 1882, and married Jessie May Lamphear at Stark County, North Dakota, on August 2, 1911. George died at Janesville, Wisconsin, on August 8, 1956.

The Pells' youngest child, Tressa May, was born May 29, 1885, married Alonzo David Fuller on December 25, 1903, at Coloma township, and died December 22, 1928, at Friendship.

The Pells children attended what was later known as the Fish School, located at the northwest corner of County Highway G and Cottonville Avenue. Their father was active in school affairs, serving as director, treasurer and chairman of various annual school meetings. He handled the funds for the construction of a new school in 1885 and was often paid for cleaning the school before terms began.

After the Town of Colburn was formed from the northern half of Richfield and the southern half of Leola. School District No. 1, Town of Richfield, became known as Joint District No. 1, Towns of Richfield and Colburn.

In 1886 Jeremiah joined Tom Eubanks Post No. 150 of the Grand Army of the Republic at Hancock, Waushara County. This Civil War Veterans organization had been organized in 1884 and included members from neighboring townships in Adams County. He held various offices, including delegate to GAR conventions and Senior Vice Commander of the Post.

Jeremiah Pells was a member of the Adams County Board of Supervisors at its annual session in the courthouse in Friendship on November 9, 1886.

During the last decade of the 19th century, Jeremiah Pells filed for invalid pension as a veteran of the Civil War. He had been troubled with deafness since discharge and attributed the problem to artillery firing during service. In January of 1900 he was granted a pension of \$6 per month.

Charlotte Parks Pells died at age 55 on December 7, 1907, at home in Richfield township and was buried in a lot next to her husband's parents in the White Cemetery, south of Coloma Corners. As was customary the Tom Eubank Women's Relief Corps adopted a memorial to their departed member and draped their charter in black for sixty days.

After his wife's death, Jeremiah Pells, remained on the farm, but made extended visits west. In June of 1909 he left for Dickinson, North Dakota, to visit his daughter, Edith Burdick and family, then on to the Seattle Exposition, the National GAR Encampment at Salt Lake City, and visits with friends in California. Most of 1911 was spent in North Dakota where his daughter Tressa and husband, A.D. Fuller, had moved a year earlier. In 1915 the A.D. Fuller family came back to Wisconsin to live with and care for Jeremiah on the Pells farm.

Jeremiah Pells passed away at his home in the Town of Richfield on January 20, 1919, at the age of seventy-three. He was buried next to his wife in the White Cemetery.

Nels Peterson

In Denmark, young men were required to serve in the military. It was to avoid this, that Nels Peterson first considered moving to America. There had been relatives and friends that had already come to this land and written back telling of the land that was bountiful and free. Nels left his native Denmark for America.

Nels' relatives had settled in a place called Wisconsin. There was much undeveloped land that was available for no cost. The land was suitable for farming. Nels had been a farmer in Denmark, so off to Wisconsin he went.

He chose to settle in Big Flats. It was close to a marsh (now part of a public hunting ground in the Town of Colburn). The wild marsh grass could be harvested for hay. Farmers from as far away as Arkdale, Monroe Center, and Hancock would travel to cut this grass. Nels spoke no English when he arrived. Many of the Danes clustered together in this area because of language and religious ties.

Nels Peterson moved here in 1872. He traveled by train to Necedah. The first year he lived with the Henningsen family until he could build his own log cabin. The land was all forested and needed to be cleared for planting. The first draft animals used for clearing were a horse and cow. As they cleared land, many arrowheads were discovered, signs of an early Indian settlement by the creek. (The breaking plow, grub hoe used for digging out stumps, and adze used to hew cabin logs are still at

the farm. So are the pulley used for lifting water from the open well with rope and bucket, and the muzzle loader gun he used for hunting).

In 1880, papers for ownership of 160 acres were issued under the Homestead Act to Nels Peterson. President Theodore Roosevelt signed Homestead Certificate 4850, granting another 40 acres to the Peterson farm. These 40 acres were granted to Christian Peterson, Nels' son. At the same time Nels was clearing and settling land, his cousin, Soren Peterson was also claiming land. This land was eventually inherited by descendants of Nels Peterson. Because of back taxes owed, the land had to be auctioned off at a sheriff's sale. The land was purchased back and is part of the Peterson farm. Additional acreage was added to the farm from time to time to bring it up to the 400 acres it is today.

The present farmhouse was built in 1910. Lumber was supplied by Peter and Chris Peterson. Total cost for the house was \$500. The first car was purchased in 1926, a Chevrolet with side curtains. The first tractor was used on the farm in 1947—John Deere with a hand crank. The first milking machine was installed in 1952 and is still in operation today.

In the early 1900's, the farmers organized a telephone company. It was known as the "Big Flats-Colburn Co.". One wire was used for transmission. Phones were battery operated. A switchboard was located at Big Flats.

As in any farm of the time, there was no indoor plumbing and an outhouse was used. The last cold trip to the outhouse was made in 1958 when the modern bathroom was installed. The old outhouse still stands as a reminder of days gone by.

In October 1970, the barn burned to the ground. Although no livestock was lost, the winter supply of hay was gone. Gone too, were the threshing machine, milking machine pump, and manure spreader. A decision had to be made. Did farming continue? Yes.

In 1991 the farm and its owners were recognized as a Century Farm during the Wisconsin State Fair. Herbert Peterson is the current owner. Herbert's dad, Christian, was born in the house and spent his entire life there. He raised three boys; Herbert, Martin, and Madison. Herbert took over ownership of the farm in the early 1970's and has been there ever since. He has fond memories of his boyhood on the farm. He remembers there was no electricity while he was growing up; the boys had to milk the cows by lantern-light. They swam in a nearby drainage ditch.

As a boy, Herbert attended the Niebull school. In the winter a horse-drawn cab stopped at the farm to pick the children up. Although he worked 40 years and has since retired from the paper mill, he also managed to farm some crops. Herbert and Dorothy raised five children of their own on the old family homestead. Daughter Kathy still lives on the farm, while the others have left home. Daughter Peggy Werner lives on the property across the street, and her sister Sue Seegert lives in Hartland. Tom lives on a farm "just down the road", while the other son Peter lives in Nekoosa in Dorothy's father's house. The latest Peterson to own the family homestead said he always "felt like I had an obligation to keep it together". "We hope we can pass it on down to our kids".

The Peterson farm is over 100 years old and six generations have lived and worked here.

James and Magdaline Suchy Polivka

The James Polivka family has resided in Adams County since 1874.

James Polivka (1829-1885) was born in Bohemia. He married Magdaline Suchy (1832-1897) and to this union were born five boys. The family came to America in 1870 from Strychovice, Bohemia. After landing in New York City from a sailing vessel, which took nine weeks to cross the Atlantic Ocean, they moved on to Chicago, Illinois. The family was in Chicago at the time of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. While in Chicago, they attended St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church which was located on the cross street of Des Plaines and DeKoven. In 1874, they moved to Adams County as they were able to purchase 40 acres of land there for the same amount that a block of land cost in Chicago. Records indicate the family owned land and engaged in farming in Richfield township. James died in 1885 as a result of burns received while trying to rescue horses from a burning barn. Both James and Magdaline are buried at St. Methodius Cemetery, Lincoln township, Adams County.

Joseph (1856-1936), the eldest son, came to America with his parents when he was 14 years old. He worked in the logging camps in northern Wisconsin. He also worked on the construction of the Wisconsin Central railroad from Stevens Point to Portage, Wisconsin, where all the dirt for cuts and fills for the railroad bed was moved with wheelbarrows. Joseph and Josephine (Uher) were married in 1882 by a missionary priest from LaCrosse, Wisconsin. The ceremony took place in the county courthouse in Friendship, Wisconsin as there was no Catholic church in the area.

Josephine Uher (1857-1939) was 17 years old when she came to America with her parents on a steam boat from Strakonice, Bohemia. The family arrived at Baltimore, Maryland. From there they went by train to Kilbourn, Wisconsin (now Wisconsin Dells) and then by stage to Friendship, Wisconsin. Finally, they settled upon a farm in Burr Oak Prairie, Richfield township, Adams County, Wisconsin. After their marriage, Joseph and Josephine moved to a farm in Lincoln township, Adams County. There were 13 children from this union. Three sons, Peter, Louis, and Carl, remained in Adams County.

Peter Polivka spent his early years farming with his dad, also hiring out to other farmers. About 1904, with his brother James, he traveled to North Dakota to take up homesteading. Also, he worked in a freight house in Dickinson, North Dakota. He returned home and around 1910 worked in construction for the C&NW Railroad building its line through Adams County. Afterwards he farmed his own 200 acre farm in the Town of Lincoln until his death.

He always kept a blackboard in his barn covered with figures of actual and projected crop production. He was mathematically inclined and could do extensive math in his head. He never farmed with modern machinery—he used a team of horses. His house consisted of a two-room building with no indoor plumbing or heating. As of 1998, his residence, barn and outbuildings still stand at the intersection of County Highway G and Duck Creek Avenue. He cooked his meals on a wood stove. Peter never married. He died in the Pines River Sanitarium (tuberculosis), Stevens Point, Wisconsin in 1961.

Louis married Nina Wrchota (1893-1960) in 1918. Nina was born in Waverly, Iowa. Nina's mother died when she was about two years old and she went to live with her maternal grandmother in Kansas. At the age of six her father, Edward Wrchota, remarried in Adams, Wisconsin and sent for her. [Note: Edward Wrchota was the brother of William Wrchota who first ran a successful saloon in Friendship around the turn of the century and then, in 1912, built the "Hotel Wrchota", now commonly known as the "Friendship Inn" and considered one of the most significant buildings still in use in Adams County].

Nina was a country school teacher before her marriage to Louis. She started teaching at the age of 16. She was an avid reader and some of her books are now in the archives of the Adams County Historical Society.

After Louis and Nina were married they moved to a farm in Lincoln township. They spent all of their married lives on this farm. Louis was town clerk for several years. Louis died in 1961 and Nina in 1960. They are buried in St. Methodius Cemetery, Lincoln township.

Louis and Nina raised two children, Bernard (1919-1969) and Alta (1922-1997), on the family farm at the southern intersection of County Highway G and M. Both Bernard and Alta graduated from Adams-Friendship High School.

Carl Polivka, the ninth child, also remained in Adams County and farmed the family farm. In 1926 he married Violet Hoskins. They had four children, Lois, Bernadelle, Theron and Stuart, all of whom graduated from Adams-Friendship High School. Carl died in 1946. His wife, Violet, was active in the Grand Marsh community and for many years was the postmaster in Grand Marsh.

Of these three brothers only Louis' son, Bernard, continued to farm in Lincoln township. Bernard died in 1969. His wife Margaret Borzick died in 1970. Their eldest daughter, Linda Polivka McFarlin, of Friendship, is the only direct James Polivka descendent still residing in Adams County. She is presently the Health Director at Public Health, the position historically known as the county nurse.

Joseph J. I and Ludmela Burian Polivka

Joseph J. Polivka I was born in Klatovy, Bohemia in 1826. He served in the Army for many years under the Emperor of Austria. He was 35 years old when he married Ludmela Burian. In 1872 they came to the United States with their three sons and Ludmela's parents. Albert was ten, Joseph was four and James was two years old.

The family stayed in Chicago a short time with Ludmela's sister Anna. It was right after the Chicago fire and some of the rubble was still smoking. After they moved to Friendship they stayed with Hodans — a family from the same village in Bohemia — until Joseph could build a house and outbuildings out of hand hewn logs. The house still stands today at 724 Co Hwy J, Friendship.

Joseph spoke five languages and because of this he was the treasurer for the Town of Preston for many years. He acquired a great deal of land in Preston, Adams and Richfield townships. As his sons grew up, he gave each of them farm land.

Submitted by: Mary Carol Polivka Baron and Eva Polivka Soldat

Joseph J. II and Mary Ann Nagel Polivka

Joseph J. Polivka II was born February 3, 1868 in Klatvoy, Bohemia. He came to the United States with his parents and grandparents when he was four years old. He grew up on a farm about six miles east of Friendship. He went to the Fordham School, but only when there was no farm work to be done. The teacher was always a man with a strong ruler and a heavy hand. Joseph was left handed, but was made to write with his right hand.

The Fordham School was located about one mile west of Joseph's home on which is now Co Hwy J. There had been a village there before the Civil War. In about 1858 some of these buildings were moved to the new Village of Friendship, three miles to the west. This village had been named "Fordham" because the ox teams hauled freight from Portage to Stevens Point on what was called the "Rapids Road". These teams forded the creek at Fordham, so hence the name.

Several of Joseph's fingers were bent out of shape from playing baseball. Baseball gloves and mitts were unheard of in those days. One of the teams he often competed with were Indians who lived three miles north of Fordham.

Joseph often spent the winter working in a logging camp in the northern part of the state.

On November 5, 1893, Joseph married Mary Ann Nagel at St. Leo's Catholic Church in Friendship. They lived on a farm about five miles east of Friendship for over 55 years. Joseph built all of the buildings and cleared most of the land himself. Farming was very hard work in those days and prices were low. Cattle to be sold had to be driven on foot to Westfield. Produce (grain, potatoes, etc) had to be hauled by wagon or sled to the nearest railroad station at Necedah or Coloma. This was an all-day job.

In 1916, Joseph started working for the highway department on State road 21 (now Co Hwy J) at that time the road was nothing but a trail — his route was from Friendship east to the Waushara County line. He dug out trees, then graded and surfaced the road with clay dug from pits along the Fordham Creek. He used his own team of heavy draft horses. When he retired in the 1930's he was earning \$150 per month.

Joseph was a great hunter, trapper and fisherman. He remembered when the first trout were planted in the Fordham Creek in about 1878. The biggest trout he ever caught was a Rainbow that weighed 11 pounds. He was an excellent shot and loved to hunt deer — it didn't matter to him that there was no open deer season in Adams County until 1937.

Submitted by: Mary Carol Polivka Baron and Eva Polivka Soldat

O. Michael and Mary Burris Pratt

My great grandparents on my mother's side were Michael Pratt I and Mary (Burris) Pratt. Both were born in Ireland, probably Wexford County, as that is where their children were all born.

They came to this country from a port in England and landed in New York in 1867. Why they traveled to Adams County, Wisconsin to settle, I do not know. They settled and homesteaded land west of Friendship. They had a 40 acre plot east of 16th and about 1/4 mile off what is now Co Trk J. They had 80 acres west of 16th and north of Deerborn Avenue. They

also had 160 acres west of 16th and south of Deerborn Avenue. They built their home and several other farm buildings on the 20 acres to the west end of the 80. There was a strip of woods and a small field just west of the buildings. They cleared portions of the 40 and 80 for fields. The 160 acres were mainly used for pasture, except for two fields.

Michael and Mary Pratt and three of their sons, James, Patrick and John are buried in a Catholic cemetery on Hwy 80 south of Necedah, Wisconsin. My mother told me that she was small when her grandmother died and she remembered riding in a wagon to Necedah for the burial. When they first came there was no Catholic church in Friendship (and Adams was not there) and that is why they are buried in Necedah.

Their daughter Johanna, married Daniel Sullivan, and I have known several of their descendants.

Their daughter, Mary, married Mahlon Smith I. Mahlon I was born in 1853 and died in 1927. Aunt Mary Smith was born in 1857 and died in 1936. They lived in Friendship, Wisconsin where Friendship park is now. He ran a mill where Friendship Dam is located. I remember going there when very young. They are buried in Mount Repose Cemetery west of Friendship. Their son Mahlon II and his wife, Ethelyn, were always friends of my folks. My husband Stuart and I rented from them when we were first married. I also knew Mahlon and Mary's daughter Libbie and her husband Clarence Rous and their son Percy and his wife Bertha (Pierce) Smith. Mahlon II and Ethelyn and Perc and Bertha are buried in St. Leo's cemetery west of Friendship.

My grandfather, Michael Pratt II, married Almina Stewart, who was born in the Town of Big Flats to James and Mary Ann Stewart. Michael and Almina lived in the Pratt farmhouse and had seven children.

James never married and is buried in the family plot at St. Leo's.

Katie died at four years and seven months. Her father had sent her to the house for his coat. There were matches, she caught fire and burned. She is also buried in the Pratt family lot in St. Leo's cemetery.

John who was born in 1892, killed by a train on the railroad crossing on 16th in 1921.

Edward (born June 27, 1895) married Agnes Polivka November 10, 1925. She died December 14, 1967. Edward died December 21, 1979. They had no children but were my Godparents. Aunt Agnes' Aunt Barbara Srb worked in the McGowan home for many years. Edward and Agnes are buried in the cemetery by St. Methodious Catholic Church in Lincoln township.

My mother, Mary Margaret (Pratt) Burian.

Sybil (Pratt) Huber married Clifford Huber June 30, 1930 and lived in Brooks, Wisconsin and also on his family farm when his parents retired. When they retired they returned to their home in Brooks and sold the family farm.

Cecilia (Pratt) Pierce married Ray Kenneth Pierce. They had three children: Raymond, Joanne (Don) Haufschild, and Wayne, and in 1944 moved to Milwaukee. They returned to Adams when Ray retired and they are buried on the Pratt plot in St. Leo's Cemetery, as is their son, Raymond, born in 1925, died in Adams in 1988.

Submitted by: Margaret L. (Burian) Bell

John Rasch

John Rasch was born July 15, 1904 in the Town of Colburn, the son of Samuel and Mary (Tranta) Rasch. John's father came to the Adams area about 1891 with his first wife, Katie and one of the children. Katie died February 12, 1895 and Samuel then married Jane Gethers on September 2, 1895 in Westfield, Wisconsin. They had a son, William, born April 11, 1896. Samuel then married Mary Tranta about 1898 and they had ten children: Alma, Margaret, Joseph, John, Gertrude, George, Josephine, Selmer, Elsie, and Orville. John, the subject of this writing, married in Waukegan, Illinois on October 25, 1929 to Leona Marie Roller, the daughter of Wallace and Jane Pearl (McChesney) Roller and great grand daughter of the Reverend James Henry McChesney. John and Leona lived various places including: Watertown, Wisconsin in 1929 where he worked on a farm near Columbus doing odd jobs like road construction, sawmill, and farming.

About 1939-1940 he bought 160 acres in the Town of Springville in the east part of Section 4, 80 acres in Section 3, and 80 acres in Section 10. John, son Samuel, and father-in-law, Wallace, cleared land for a house and for a pasture across from the house land. John bought a house in the Town of Easton on County Trunk E and moved the house over on the land in Section 4, Town of Springville, where they lived until 1975. They also lived north of Friendship during the winter of 1932, spending it with Leona's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Martin. They lived a short time in 1933 on the Kehl Farm, lived on Highway B and then moved to a house across from the Springville Town Hall. John and Leona both worked at Badger Ordnance Works during World War II (1943-1945), John also worked for Ashworth's, and Leona worked for Edmund Matczynski on his chicken farm in the east part of Easton township (Section 34).

John and Leona have three children: Samuel Keith (11-6-1934), Phyllis Elizabeth (4-12-1938), and John Wallace (2-9-1943). John Rasch passed away on February 13, 1977 and Leona passed away September 24, 1978. They had lived in Adams from 1975 until their deaths.

Submitted by: Sam Rasch

Carl and Emilie Grosse Riese

Carl August Riese was born in Prussia, (East Germany), in 1852. He married Wilhelmine Emilie Grosse at the Afra Evangelist Lutheran Church in Leuben, Germany. She was born June 25, 1853 in Perba, Prussia. Children were usually named after aunts and uncles and then called by their middle names. This was a German tradition that this family observed.

In 1902 Riese and his son, Herman (Otto) Riese migrated to the United States. They arrived in Philadelphia on September 11, 1902. According to a Warranty Deed dated January 20, 1903, they lived in Hancock County, Iowa, when August purchased 160 acres in the Town of Big Flats from Sarah Ellis, a widow, living in DuPage County, Illinois. On October 30, 1903, Emilie left Dresden, Germany and sailed out of Hamburg on the S.S. Pennsylvania bound for the United States to join her husband and son. She brought with her daughters, Ida (Martha), age 16, and Martha (Lina), age 10. Daughter, Anna L., stayed in Germany, but sent her daughter, Anna Lena with Emilie as her own daughter. They arrived in New York on

November 12, 1903. Then they traveled to Necedah, Wisconsin where they were met by her husband and son.

August died the following year on June 3, 1904. Otto worked the farm in Big Flats with the rest of the family until about 1910. The Big Flats School was located on the Southwest corner of the property as listed on the 1910 plat map. At that time the Town of Big Flats was located 1/2 mile west of its present location.

Daughter Marie and her husband Oswald Sauer came over a year or so later. Oswald Sauer, a blacksmith, left Dresden and sailed from Hamburg, Germany, June 9, 1905 on the S.S. Pretoria. He arrived in New York on June 24, 1905. He lived with the Rieses and worked in a stone quarry. His wife, Marie, and daughters, Frida, age 11, and Ella, age 9, sailed from Hamburg, Germany on March 2, 1906 on the S.S. Blucher. They arrived in New York on March 14, 1906. They went to Milwaukee before coming to Big Flats. Their first son, Walter, was born here in 1909. They had two more sons, Harold and Otto. Oswald Sauer owned property in Section 23 and 26 in the Town of Big Flats in 1919. He later purchased property in Section 27 and 35. Harold and his wife, Iva, live in Friendship. Otto's wife, Myrtle, and daughter, Shirley, still live on the family farm.

Wilhelmine applied for citizenship, October 4, 1905, at the Adams County court house. Wilhelmine and minor children, Lina, age 17, and Anna, age 13, received citizenship September 27, 1910, along with Herman Riese. They were living in the Town of Monroe at that time.

Wilhelmine purchased 40 acres in Section 22, Town of Big Flats, December 5, 1913. This property is now owned by her great-grandson, Harry Carl Riese. Wilhelmine spent summers with her son, Herman, and winters with her daughter, Martha, in Milwaukee. Many relatives visited the Rieses farm during the summer months. Wilhelmine died January 29, 1948 and was buried next to her husband in the Big Flats Cemetery.

Daughter, Anna L., was married to Robert Sauer in Germany, he was the brother of Oswald Sauer. Two sisters married two brothers. Anna L. had nine children: Anna Lena, Frieda, Emma, Martha, Ida, Gertrude, Lina, Meta, and Otto. On December 1, 1923 daughters, Frieda, Emma, and Martha sailed on the S.S. Mount Clay and arrived in New York, November 12, 1923. They lived in Milwaukee, working as housekeepers while learning English. Robert Sauer died in 1929 and Anna L. didn't come to America until after World War II. Daughter, Frieda married Julius Blunck. She now resides in the Village of Friendship with her daughter and son-in-law, Elaine and Eli La Valley. She celebrated her 97th birthday on March 22, 1997.

Herman Otto Riese married Martha Martin, November 15, 1913 at the Big Flats Church. They lived and farmed in Arkdale, Big Flats, Strong's Prairie and for about ten years in Lake Geneva. They had seven children: Hilda, Carl, Ida, Herman, Fritz, Elmer, and Donald. Fritz and his wife, Norma, live near Arkdale.

Martha married Rudolph Ottenburg in Milwaukee. They had two children, Gertrude and Alfred.

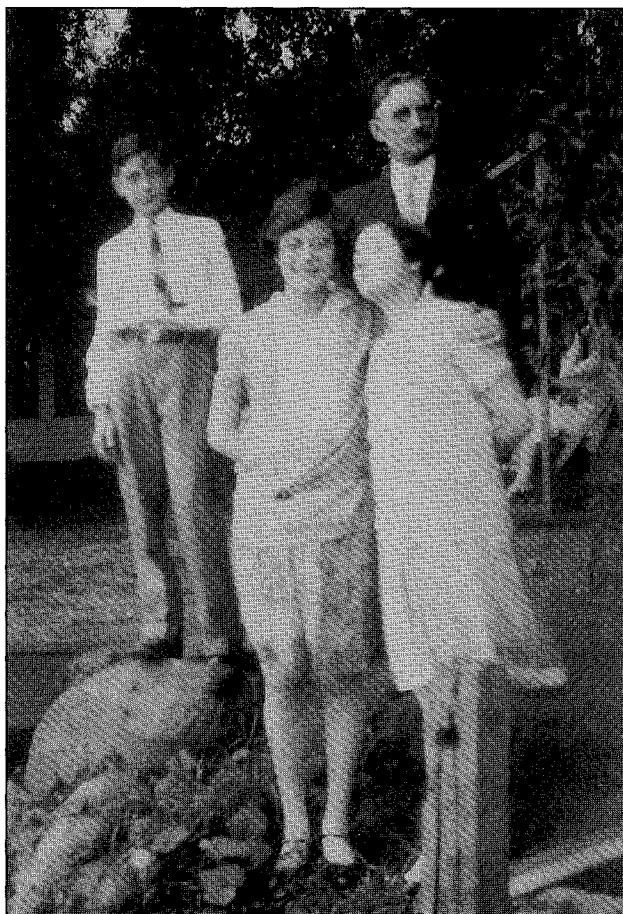
Lina answered a newspaper ad for a person to work in a greenhouse and moved to Grand Forks, B.C. Canada. She met and married Carl Frank Wolfram. They had four children: Adelaide, Frank, Carl, and an adopted daughter, Bertha.

Granddaughter, Anna Lena Riese, who Emilie raised as her own, later lived in Milwaukee with Martha and Rudolph Ottenburg. She married Frank Zernia and they lived in Milwaukee. They spent summers at their cottage at North Lake in Waukesha County. She had seven children: Harry Riese, Dorothy Zernia Genet, Fred Zernia, Ruth Eileen Zernia Strupp, Walter Zernia, Wallace Zernia, and Frank Zernia. Anna's husband, Fred, died in 1944. On July 28, 1945 Anna and her sons bought a farm in the Town of Colburn, Adams County on County Highway C from Peter Hanson. Construction on a new home was started in 1953. By 1955 it was a working farm. Wallace purchased an additional 160 acres of land a mile up the road in the Town of Big Flats. Harry Riese, Ruth Eileen Strupp, and Wallace Zernia still live in the area.

Joseph and Rachel Fenner Roller

Rachel Fenner was born at New Chester in 1854, the third child of Harvey and Augusta Fenner. She married a railroad section boss named Joseph Roller and they made their home at Packwaukee, Wisconsin where Rachel died in 1923. They had four children: Emma, Anna, Levina, and a son who died while a small child.

Emma Roller married Fred Mills and they made their home at Endeavor, Wisconsin, with their four daughters and one son. Annie Roller married a Montello man and lived at Montello, Wisconsin. She had no children. Levina Roller married and eventually divorced Hugh Yates of Westfield, Wisconsin. They had one child who died at birth.



Morris and Anna Rosin Family

Wensel and Thressa Roller

Wensel and Thressa Roller who came to America in 1854 first to Jefferson County, Wisconsin, and then to Adams County, settled near Grand Marsh. Wensel Roller was born November 1, 1827 in Leschwan, Bohemia. Married Thressa Bergal in Bohemia in 1846. Wensel died January 17, 1890 and Thressa died June 25, 1914. They had 11 children: Joseph, Wensel, Anton, Andrew, Niola, Simon, (last three mentioned died in 1859), William, Henry, Samuel, and twin boys (names unknown) left in Bohemia. William Roller owned 80 acres in the Town of New Chester in Section 12. Sam Roller owned 180 acres in Town of New Chester, Section 12. Wensel Roller owned 20 acres in Town of New Chester, Section 12. William Roller also had 80 acres in Section 11 of New Chester. Dates when they owned the land are unknown. There was a W. Roller who owned 20 acres in Section 12 and 40 acres in Section 13 in New Chester. They owned most of the land around what is known today as Roller Lake. Wensel and Thressa Roller joined the German Evangelical Church in 1863. Wensel was well liked and busy with the church and had his whole heart in public work, was a pillar to the area.

Other Rollers who lived in the area were: Robert Roller, owned 75.12 acres in Section 28 and 156 acres in Section 27 in the Town of Easton in 1970 (the corner of Evergreen Avenue and 9th Drive. Robert W. Roller owns 25 acres in the Town of Strongs Prairie, Section 1 on Chicago Drive. Wallace Roller was a carpenter and tried farming on the side. Robert Wallace Roller joined the Navy in 1943. Miss Elizabeth Roller was a teacher at Easton School in 1915.

Morris and Anna Rosin

My grandparents, Morris and Anna Rosin, made their debut as Adams County farmers in early 1909, to the amazement and concern of their new neighbors, who wondered how they could possibly survive.

The Rosins knew nothing about farming. To make matters worse, my grandfather was 44 years old and ill with stomach ulcers when he launched his improbable new career. Both Morris and Anna were Jewish immigrants to America from Czarist Russia who had lived all their lives in cities and towns. To buy their 200 acre dairy farm in Springville, they had sold their successful dry goods store in Chicago, so they faced ruin if the farming venture failed. They had a baby daughter to support, plus another on the way.

Worried local farmers asked my grandfather how he intended to manage his farm without any practical experience.

"I will learn farming by reading books," he explained confidently.

The farming community expressed its collective skepticism about his chances for success by nicknaming him "The Book Farmer".

My grandmother, Anna Rosin, seemed, if possible, less suited to the rigors of turn-of-the-century farm life than her husband. Only 26 years old, she was tiny, ladylike, and extroverted, with expressive eyes, an endearing smile, and an indestructible sense of humor. She loved parties and crowds, feared large animals, and could not tell a hen from a rooster.

The Rosins settled into their new home, and the close-knit community took them under its wing, offering help, advice, and

a sense of belonging. A hired man was engaged to help with the toughest jobs until my grandfather's health improved.

During his two decades in Chicago, he married twice, but lost his first wife to tuberculosis, the second to divorce. He was 42, with three grown children when he married Anna Borland, 24, in 1907.

Like Morris, my grandmother was a Russian Jewish immigrant, who had come to Chicago with her parents when she was 16. Their marriage made her an American citizen.

The Rosin farm, purchased from the Brandenburg family, had a farmhouse and barn on gently rolling pastureland, with a trout stream at one end and a forest at the other. Dorothy Anna Rosin (my mother) was born on the farm in 1909. Sixty-five years later she wrote about her childhood home this way:

"For the first ten years of my life, I was fortunate enough to live on our idyllically beautiful farm in the Dells area of Wisconsin. A small creek ran through it, so that one had to go over the little bridge to get to the barn from the house, and my sister, a year older than I, usually joined me in looking for pollywogs under the bridge...The barns housed the chickens, the cows, our pet calves, and the horses. Large areas were forested, but of course there were the fields and the garden...On the farm there was beauty wherever you looked."

The family grew rapidly. Soon there were five Rosin children: Bernice (the eldest, born in Chicago), Dorothy, Bertha, Ned, and Sidney. The latter four were all delivered at the family farmhouse by Dr. Duclos, the Kilbourne doctor who ushered much of the local populace into the world.

My grandfather's health and farming skills improved rapidly. Before long, the farm supplied all the family's food, plus milk, cream, butter, and cheese for sale. The Rosins raised dairy cattle, plow horses, and chickens, mostly for their own use, but they also raised pigs - to sell, not eat.

The Rosins became respected members of the farm community, on friendly terms with their neighbors - the Brandenburgs, Ryans, Billings, Wittigs, Elderkins, Grovers, Cooks, Woods, Olsons, and others.

As the farm prospered, my grandfather's status in the community rose to the extent that he was selected to serve on the school board of the one-room Springville school. The Rosin children walked to the school, which taught all elementary grades and was conveniently located just the other side of the neighboring Wittig farm.

My grandmother gained popularity with the farm wives, who admired her competence as a fine cook, devoted mother, and excellent housekeeper. They appreciated her warmth and willingness to laugh at her own mishaps as a rookie farm wife.

My grandmother's early misadventures in animal husbandry became cherished topics for the community's gossip hotline, the rural telephone party line.

The telephone had come to rural Springville township in the form of a single party line that linked all the community's widely scattered farm families. Privacy was nonexistent, since anyone could pick up the home phone receiver and listen in on everyone else's conversations.

There was the time she tried to make roosters sit on eggs because she could not tell the difference between roosters and hens.

The fiasco started when a neighbor told her she could quickly increase her chicken flock by buying fertile eggs for her own hens to hatch. It was easy, the neighbor said. If your hens were already sitting on their own eggs, you simply added some new ones. Or, if the hens had no eggs, their maternal instincts would make them hatch the boughten ones.

My grandmother had noticed that most of her chickens seemed to be unemployed, neither laying nor hatching eggs. It never occurred to her that they might be roosters, not hens. To my grandmother, chickens were chickens.

She bought fertile eggs, arranged them in nests in the barn, caught the roosters, and sat them on the nests. The wayward fowl showed no shred of maternal instinct. They abandoned the nests at once, squawking in an offended way and flying back to the barnyard.

Over and over, my grandmother recaptured the roosters and returned them to unwelcome maternity. Again and again, the roosters fled the nests.

Another memorable story for the gossip hotline began when my grandmother had to feed the pigs. Ordinarily, she had no role in the Rosins' pig-raising venture. My grandfather and the hired man cared for the pigs, which my grandmother avoided because she found them repulsive.

On this fateful day, the men were away, so my grandmother got the task of feeding the swine. She boiled their swill as instructed but forgot to cool it before pouring into the pigs' trough.

The hungry pigs all grabbed big mouthfuls of the scalding food, then cried out in pain and ran around their pen yelling, their mouths wide open.

My grandmother had always thought that the holes in the pigs' snouts - their nostrils - were their mouths. Now, seeing the gaping openings under their snouts, she concluded that the pigs' heads were falling off.

Racing to the house, she grabbed her phone. "Help, I've killed the pigs!", she cried. In minutes, another Anna Rosin story was speeding along the community party line, to be relished and retold for months to come.

The annual harvest was a community occasion, a rare opportunity for farm families to socialize. Harvesting crops with horse-powered equipment was a tremendous task, so farm families with their draft horse teams took turns helping each other harvest.

The Rosins and their team were regular participants at community harvests.

Only one family was excluded from the community's help at harvest time. As long as anyone could remember, the lone black farm family had to harvest alone.

When my grandfather learned of the situation, he was outraged. Deeply committed to American ideals of equality and social justice, he felt he must persuade his neighbors to treat the black family as equal members of the community.

He contacted each of his neighbors as the harvest season approached. "If you want me and my team at your harvest, plan to help our black neighbors with theirs", he told them.

That year, for the first time, Springville's black family joined in the cooperative harvest.

When their eldest child neared high school age, the family faced a dilemma. There was no high school close enough to the

farm for the children to attend. My grandparents were determined to give their children a good education, an opportunity they themselves had been denied in Russia. But my grandfather could not bring himself to give up the farm.

Reluctantly, the Rosins decided to rent the farm to another farmer and move back to Chicago so the children could attend high school and possibly even college.

In 1919, the family moved to Chicago, where they opened a dry goods store on West Chicago Avenue, in a dreary commercial neighborhood where the family had to live in a crowded flat over their store.

My grandmother was pleased to return to the bustling city with its 'modern' conveniences and close relatives nearby, but my grandfather and the children sadly missed the farm. For years afterwards, the Rosins returned to the farm at every opportunity for summer and vacation visits.

My grandfather never realized his dream of returning to his beloved farm. By the time his children finished high school in Chicago, he was elderly and extremely ill with a circulatory disorder. Doctors advised him to move to a warmer climate, away from the Midwest's harsh winters. My grandparents moved to Los Angeles, California, which in those pre-smog days was viewed as a health spa.

My mother, Dorothy Rosin, accompanied them to Los Angeles, where she eventually graduated from the University of California with a bachelor's degree in science.

My grandfather died in Los Angeles on December 23, 1939. Until his death, he refused to sell his farm.

After World War II, the Rosin sons, Ned and Sidney, returned from Army service uninterested in farming. The family decided to sell the farm to a neighboring farmer to ensure that my grandmother would have adequate funds to live comfortably for the rest of her life.

My mother, Dorothy, and her brother Ned felt a sense of connection to the farm all their lives, visiting it when they could. Ned married and settled in Chicago, then in Stokie, where he raised his son and daughter. On holidays, he took his family to visit the farm and walk in the woods. My mother lived the rest of her life in Los Angeles, so her visits were rare. She visited the farm with Ned on her occasional trips to the Midwest to see family there...The Book Farmer

Submitted by: Judy Noah

Gottlieb Ludwig and Alvina Schulz Schroeder

Gottlieb Ludwig Schroeder was born March 16, 1851 at Benzien, Hinter Pommern, Germany. He migrated to the United States from Germany about 1869, landing at the port of New York, then going to Chicago, Illinois. Alvina Schulz was born November 10, 1844 at Gorn, Hinter Pommern, Germany. She migrated to the United States from Germany about 1870, going to Chicago, Illinois. It is unknown whether their families knew each other before migrating.

Gottlieb Schroeder and Alvina Schulz both attended St. John's German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chicago. They married at this church on March 24, 1872. Alvina's father is unknown, but her mother was Ernestine Schulz, who later married Ferdinand Wargowsky.

Gottlieb and Alvina's first two children were born in Chicago; John in 1872 and Henry in 1874. They lived in

Chicago about six years before going to Adams County, Wisconsin. On the 30th of August 1875, Gottlieb Schroeder and John Mietzke, who also came from Germany to Chicago, bought 120 acres of land in Quincy, Adams County. They paid \$165 for the property. They were farmers. Gottlieb Schroeder, John Mietzke and their wives were some of the founders and leaders of St. John's Lutheran Church, Quincy.

Gottlieb and Alvina had nine more children, all born in Quincy: Wilhelmina, 1876, Wilhelm, 1877, Leo, 1879, Louise, 1879, Albertine, 1881, Fredrick, 1882, Katharine, 1884, Gottlieb, 1886 and Carl, 1889. All were baptized and confirmed at St. John's. In 1883, Gottlieb purchased 80 acres in Quincy for \$60 and a few months later he purchased another 40 acres for \$140. On the 27th of January, 1886, Gottlieb signed his Declaration of Intention to become a citizen in Adams County. On 29 December 1891, Gottlieb signed over his land to his wife, Alvina. We do not know exactly when he died, because there is no record at the Adams court house of his death. We assume it was shortly after he signed his property over to his wife. His headstone at Quincy Cemetery says he died in 1892. We know from an obituary of one of his children in 1911 that he did die of tuberculosis. By 1911, he, three daughters and two sons all had died of tuberculosis.

Alvina died of heart problems on June 24, 1933, at the home of her daughter, Katherine, at the age of 87. She was affectionately known as "Gramma". Her oldest son, John, lived with her his whole life, helping to care for her. Gottlieb and Alvina are both buried in Quincy Cemetery.

Submitted By: Carol Setliff

Wilhelm and Louise Palenske Schroeder

William Schroeder was born October 24, 1877 in Quincy, Adams County, the son of German immigrants, Gottlieb Ludwig Schroeder and Alvina Schulz. William was the fourth child of eleven. He was baptized December 18, 1877 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Quincy, Wisconsin. His parents were farmers, owning a farm in Quincy.

On June 28, 1902, William married Minnie Wolfram at St. John's Lutheran Church, Quincy. They had twins, Arthur and Mildred on May 6, 1903. Minnie died of tuberculosis on April 11, 1904 at the age of 27 with her babies only 11 months old. Fifteen months later, William lost his baby daughter, Mildred at the age of two years. His mother Alvina helped care for little Arthur.

William married Louise Palenske on December 19, 1906 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Quincy. She was the daughter of Carl Palenske and Louise Kamien, immigrants of Germany. Louise was born July 17, 188 in Chicago, Illinois. William was a farmer and owned his own farm.

William and Louise's first son, Walter, was born in October 1907. Their second son, Ernst was born in March 1909. Walter died September 24, 1909 of tuberculosis, just before his second birthday and is buried in Quincy Cemetery. His obituary reads: "High Chair Empty Now...While many of our county people were enjoying themselves at the Fair, Friday, grief was entering the home and rending the hearts of Mr. and Mrs. William Schroeder. Walter Carl died of lung trouble at their home. He would have been two years old October 5th". Herbert was born November 22, 1910 and died at the age of five months of

accidental suffocation. Gerhardt was born July 10, 1912, Alvine December 22, 1914 and died a few months later. Louise was born June 29, 1916; William, December 21, 1918; Ronald, January 27, 1921 and Margaret, January 9, 1923. Little Lauretta was born April 29, 1925 and died a few days later of tuberculosis.

On May 15, 1928, William also died of tuberculosis at the age of 51. Louise died March 1, 1940 at the age of 51 of cerebral hemorrhage.

Submitted by: Carol Setliff

Roy and Flossie Fenner Shorey

Flossie Fenner (1892-1983) was born at New Chester, the second child of Frederick and Bertha Fenner. She attended school at New Chester, Preston, and Coloma. In 1911 she married Roy Shorey of Coloma Corners at the Methodist Parsonage in Coloma. They had five children: Harold, Marjorie, Erma, Verna and Forest Shorey. All of these children married and, except for Marjorie, had children.

Following a series of strokes, Roy Shorey died in Rhineland, Wisconsin, in May 1968. Flossie died in 1983, aged 90.

Harold and Jeanette Monte Shorey

Harold Roy Shorey was born at Lincoln in June 1912, son of Roy and Flossie Fenner Shorey. He married Jeanette Monte of Argonne in June 1934, at Crystall Falls, Michigan. They made their home at Argonne for many years, then moved to Crandon, where they lived until Harold died in 1974. He and Jeanette had four daughters: Janice Marjorie (1935); Patricia Ann (1939); Nancy Rozilla (1941); and Karen Mary (1945).

Arthur and Marjorie Shorey Labine

Marjorie Rosella Shorey was born at Lincoln in December 1913 and became a successful school teacher. She married Arthur Labine of Tipler in June 1935 at the Argonne Catholic Church and they made their home in Tipler. When they retired



James Sr. and Mary Shipla

they built a house in Crandon and were still living there in the 1980s.

Clarence and Irma Shorey Radliff

Irma Flossie Shorey was born at Coloma Corners in September 1919. She married Clarence Radliff at Crystal Falls, Michigan in June 1937. They lived in his home town of Argonne, Wisconsin, and had one son, Allen Roy, in December 1949.

Kenneth and Verna Shorey Lyons

Verna Jessie Shorey was born at Coloma Corners in June 1922 and attended the County Normal at Rhineland. She married Kenneth R. Lyons in October 1947 and they made their home in Crandon. She had been teaching for 33 years when poor health finally forced her retirement in 1976. She and her husband had two children, David (1949) and Sheryl (1955).

James Sr. and Mary Vlk Shipla

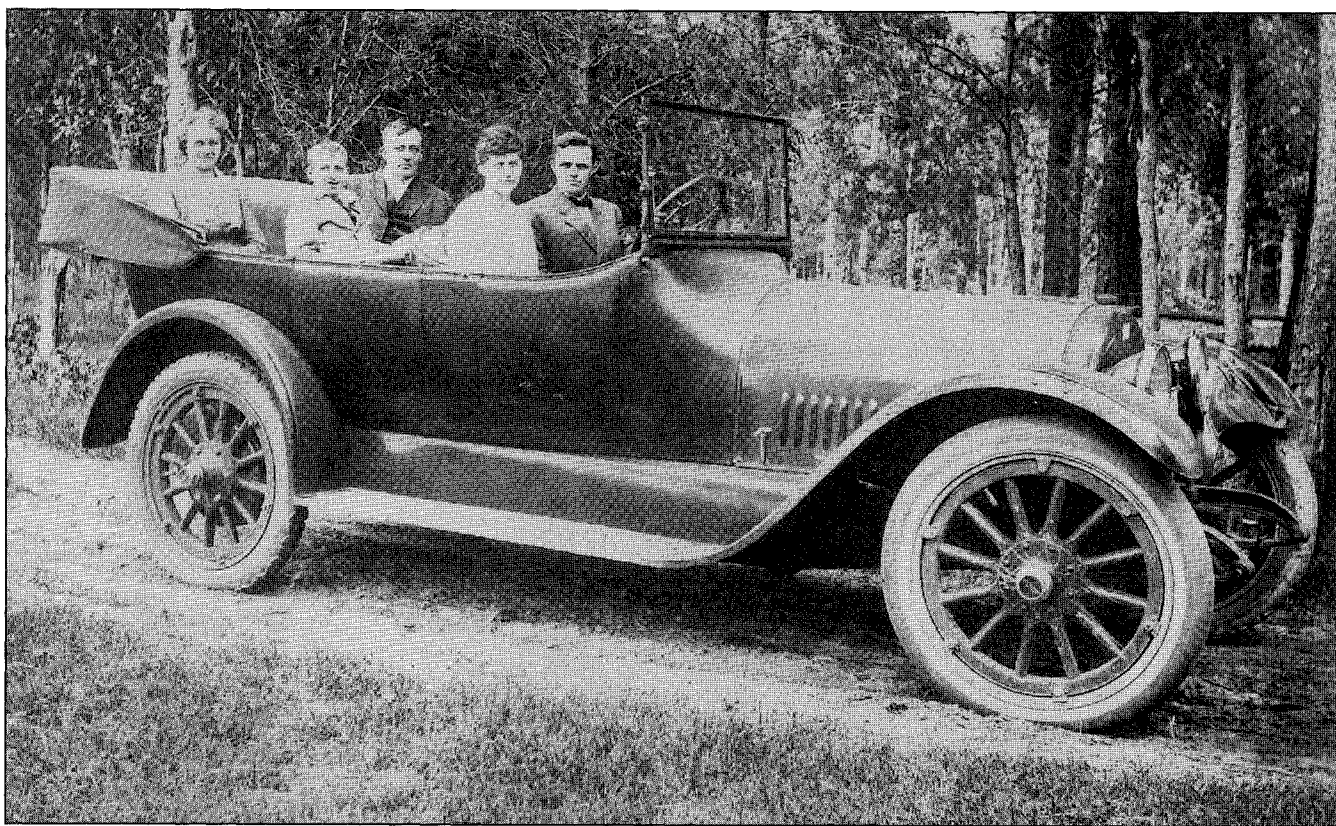
The Shiplas and Siplas are related, but since 1900 in Adams County and Chicago, James Shipla, Sr. (B: 1872-D: 1960) all of his children insisted the name is SHIPLA and should be spelled with an "H". They said "Sipla" is the Czech way of writing the name (used in Europe) because in Czech language "S" has the sound of "SH".

James Shipla, Sr. was born in "Bohemia" (Czech Republic) September 16, 1872. He was the son of Mike Shipla and Mary Vodipka who were married in 1857 in the village of Velenov in Bohemia. They had five sons and three daughters and in 1890 all migrated to the U.S.A. and settled in Chicago. They soon moved to land six miles east of Friendship where the Shipla farm was developed and is still in existence and in the Shipla family in 1998. In 1894 James Shipla, Sr. married Mary Vlk in Adams County. She, too, came from Velenov in "Bohemia" (B: August 25, 1873-D: February 12, 1949) but came to Chicago at a different time than the Shiplas. In Chicago she was a maid at the famous Palmer House Hotel (in 1998 the Palmer-Hilton is still in business but rebuilt and remodeled).

James Shipla, Sr. and his wife Mary bought the farm from his parents and raised four sons and five daughters. The farm was developed into more farming land: James Sr., and later with his sons Joseph and William, "broke" land with only an ax, grub hoe, horses and a plow (no bulldozers then).

James Sr.'s sons were Joseph (B: 1895-D: 1974), James (B: 1897-D: 1963), Anton (B: 1899-D: 1966) and William (B: 1910-and still living in Adams County on the farm). He is a Veteran of WWII. Daughters were Anna Shipla Hayer (B: 1902-D: 1978), Emma Shipla Janda (B: 1906-still living in Cicero, Illinois), Agnes (B: 1908-D: 1922), Jean Shipla Krakora (B: 1912-D: 1991) and Lillian Shipla Krakora (B: 1914-living in Adams County). James Shipla's sons Joseph and William spent most of their lives working on the farm in Adams County. Anton worked on the farm in his early life (going to Chicago in the winters to work in the factories) and later settled in Chicago.

James Shipla Jr., when only 14 years old, went to work for George Polivka on Polivka's farm northeast of Friendship. The Polivka's sold their farm and moved to Friendship where James Shipla, Jr. and George Polivka built the first power dam. In



l-r, Marie Shipla, Otto Shipla, James Shipla, Mary Polivka, and George Polivka

1917 James moved to Chicago and worked for Western Electric Company until 1925, then developed Yellow Trail Service Station on the famous Route 66 in Berwyn, Illinois, where he worked and lived for 30 years.

Of the next generations, Joseph and William never married. James Shipla, Jr. married Marie Vlkova in 1919 and had one son, Otto J. Anton married Mary Steffa in 1927 and they had no children. Anna married Michael in 1926 and they had one son, Raymond (B: 1928-D: 1994). Emma married Anton Janda in 1939 and they had no children. Jean married Frank Krakora, Jr. in 1936 and they had a son Robert and a daughter Mary Ann. Lillian married Joseph Krakora in 1938 and they had one daughter Nancy.

Of the children noted in the above paragraph, Otto, a University professor, did not marry. Raymond, an electrical parts worker, did not marry. Robert, an electrical engineer, married Ruth in 1965 and had three sons, Robby, Randy, and Ricky. Mary Ann married Michael Huber in 1968, a geologist and Viet Nam War Veteran, who died in 1993, and they had four children, Jennifer, Aimee, Katy, and Nathan. Nancy married William Haight III in 1973 and they had three children, William IV, Vicky, and Ginny.

Submitted by: Otto Shipla

Matej/Mike and Mary Vadipka Sipla

Matej/Mike Sipla and Mary Vadipka Sipla came from the very small village of Velenovy, Bohemia. Mike was born in February 1833 and Mary on November 15, 1841. They were married in the 1850's in Bohemia, where he was a barrel maker. They came to Chicago, Illinois about 1886 with their eight children attending St. Procopius Catholic Church, where

several of their children were married and grandchildren baptized. Mike signed his Declaration of Intent to become a citizen of the U.S. on March 7, 1890 in Chicago, Illinois followed by his naturalization on March 20, 1894. His oldest son, Mike Jr. signed his naturalization papers that same day. Mike and Mary lived in Chicago several years before coming to Adams County to farm. Their eight children were Mike, Jr., Joseph, Barbara, Anna, James, Frank, Mary, and Anton.

In April 1894, Mike purchased 40 acres of land in Adams County for \$125. In May 1894 for \$1.87 in back taxes, he purchased an additional 40 acres in Adams County. He was a farmer. On the 1905 and 1910 census records, Mike and Mary were living with their son, James, and his family.

Mary died October 10, 1911, at the age of 62 of old age and general failure. Her parents were Albert Vadipka and Katie Santivar, both born in Bohemia. Mike died at his home six miles east of Friendship on April 18, 1914. He had gone down by the creek near his house when he suffered heart failure at the age of 81. They are buried at Fordham Cemetery, outside of Friendship.

Submitted by: Carol Setlif

Michael and Marie Capek Sipla

Michael Sipla was born March 29, 1892 in Chicago, Illinois, the son of Bohemian immigrants, Matej Sipla and Anna Sipla. He was baptized at St. Procopius Catholic Church, Chicago, Illinois. Michael was raised from his pre-teen years in Adams County by his aunt and uncle, Barbara and Anton Voboril. Mike worked on the Chicago and North Western railroad for 46 years, never getting laid off during the Depression, even when many others did. The family would

occasionally ride the passenger 400 train to Milwaukee, to visit relatives. Mike played the concertina and did carpentry work, including turning old radios into dressers for his granddaughters. Prior to working on the railroad, he worked for the WPA, building Hwy 13. He was a clever mechanic and often fixed his Uncle Joe's Model T Ford, along with many other vehicles. He picked up a 1922 Chevy in crates at Coloma, Wisconsin and put it together for his Uncle Anton Sipla. Marie read the directions, while Mike put it together. It was Anton's first car and he paid \$300 for it.

Marie Capek was born August 20, 1896 in the area of Magdalina, Bohemia, the daughter of James Capek and Agnes Lukas. Their family of six came to the United States from Liebnitz, Bohemia. They came on the ship called Chemnitz, leaving Bremen, Germany and landed at the port of New York, on October 26, 1906. They came directly from New York to Friendship, Adams County, Wisconsin. Marie was only ten years old when they came over from their homeland. According to the ship's Manifest of Alien Passengers, they knew exactly where they were going before they left the old country, as it states their final destination was Friendship, Wisconsin.

Mike Sipla and Marie Capek were married on November 13, 1913 at Friendship, Wisconsin. To this union were born seven children, Josephine Sipla in 1914; Charles in 1916; Otto in 1917; Victor in 1920; Alice in 1923; Clara in 1928 and James in 1931.

Mike and Marie had cows, pigs, and chickens on their farm. Marie would separate the milk for cream, and buttermilk. She would churn her own butter and make her own ice cream. She had a very large garden, which included a large patch of strawberries and rhubarb. Having a family of nine, she canned a lot of her garden surplus for the long winter. She made beer and rootbeer, using a capper for bottling. Of course with that large of family there was plenty of washing to be done, using a wooden tub. Some of her homeland recipes were used, including kolatches, which were fruit filled roll deserts and klimpers, which were egg pancakes with cinnamon and sugar. She also liked to crochet doilies and the edges on pillowcases.

Marie died June 26, 1947 of uterine cancer at the age of 50. Mike died March 20, 1961 in Adams County, at the age of 69. They are buried at Fordham Cemetery, Friendship.
By Carol Setliff

Nels and Alice Warp Smedbron

Nels Smedbron was born near Kongsberg, Norway, August 18, 1859, the son of Nils and Buhl Smedbron. He was born in a small place with thatched roofs, his home included a small dwelling house, a small stable just large enough to keep two or three cows and a blacksmith shop. It was located in the slope of a mountain, along a highway made of stone at a place where the mountain stream crossed the highway about one mile above the City of Kongsberg. His father was a blacksmith, living near a bridge, hence the name Smed (smith) broen (bridge) which became Smedbron in English spelling. Nels attended school there and finished Middle Skole. He was confirmed in the Lutheran faith and ranked third in a class of 350. He also sang in the choir at Kongsberg.

Nels' father died suddenly from a heart attack and his helper then ran the business. It had been Nels' expectation to

inherit the shop but before he was of age his mother married the hired man. Then Nels decided to come to America as he had heard that many opportunities awaited the "newcomer" to America. It was against his mother's wishes that he came to America. October 9, 1880, at the age of 21 years, one month, and two days, he arrived in America and came directly to Arkdale, Wisconsin arriving in November 1880.

Upon Nels' arrival in Arkdale he went to work for Hanson and Hegna (acquaintances from Norway) who were wagon makers and general blacksmiths. When they moved to Washington State, Nels purchased their business. By then they were making lumber wagons in addition to blacksmithing and a carpenter was needed to do the woodwork so James Larson joined him in partnership. When wagons became manufactured in quantity, Smedbron and Larson could not compete with the prices so they discontinued that part of the business.

Nels was an expert in his work and granddaughter Clara describes the following: "Tire setting was a big share of the work then and I still remember the thrill it was to see the tires heated to red in the forge, carried outside by long iron tongs then cooled in a water trench to right contraction to be dropped over the wooden wheel laid on a round stone, with a hole in the center for the hub to fit in and left to cool over the wheel. The winters were occupied with horse shoeing; roads were frozen and horses needed iron shoes to protect their feet. He knew how to handle horses and had very little trouble with even the most ornery of them. For his horse shoeing he had a slate on the wall to keep record of the jobs, sometimes as much as three and four weeks ahead. After Mr. Larson's death Nels worked alone until his sons could help. Although he was offered work in other places he stayed in Arkdale the rest of his life".

Granddaughter Beulah adds: "Father had a gift of helping the injured which were so numerous at the mills. The doctors (so few) could not take care of all so they had father setting broken legs and arms using splints. They said there never was one single crooked leg or arm that father set. He also relieved many an individual of an aching tooth and jaw by acting as the town dentist. He worked as an investigator for many insurance companies in regard to eligibility and also answered inquiries about people who had applied for jobs near home and far away. Also the political factions in Madison, Wisconsin regarded Nels' opinion and advice highly and he served the Republican Party in many cases on the local level.

Nels was united in marriage to Alice Warp of Strong's Prairie in June of 1882. To this marriage eight children were born: Clara (1884) married Hans Urtis, Bena (died at three years of age), Marie (died in infancy), Norval (married, unknown spouse), Thomas (married Nora Paulson), Beulah (1894) married Elmer Tabor, John (married, unknown spouse), and Carl (1899) married Ida Mattison.

Alice died in 1932. It was at this time that his son Carl and family moved into the home with Nels. He passed away at home on February 17, 1941 after a long illness at the age of 81 years and six months".

Lorenzo Dow and Eliza Fisher Smith

The following info is taken from an article from the 1928 newspaper.



Ernest Smith

Lorenzo Dow Smith, the oldest man in this section of Wisconsin and a resident of Adams County for more than 70 years, died Friday, January 28, 1928, five days after he had attained the age of 101 years. While Mr. Smith had been in poor health for several weeks and it was anticipated that he would probably not see another anniversary of his birth, his death seemed sudden and unexpected to those who had been with him up to the time it took place. He had appeared to be in about the same state of health for several days and had conversed intelligently with his visitors up to the day preceding his death, so that they were quite unprepared to learn that he had passed away. If all the facts of "Grandpa Smith's" life and the things he has witnessed could be written down we should have greater knowledge of the history of Adams County than has ever been put in print.

When Lorenzo Smith came here in 1855 there were only a few scattered white families in this section and Adams County had not yet been organized. The area that it contains was part of Juneau County, and continued to be so for several years thereafter. He located on Section 21, Township 16, Range 5 in the Town of Quincy and most of his years since then have been passed on the land then taken up or in its near neighborhood. In the earlier years of his residence here there was little incentive to raise farm crops for the market and most of what they planted and cultivated was for their own home use. Their chief source of cash income was in lumbering which was an industry of immense importance for 25 or 30 years following the first settlement of this section. Mr. Smith, like most of the early settlers entered the employ of one of the big lumber companies, going into the logging camps for the winter to chop wood, going down the river in the spring, with the rafts of logs or sawed lumber, and then putting in the summer on his home place,

clearing and improving it and raising the food supplies that should carry the family through the following winter. On some of the rafting trips down the river, he went as far south as Memphis, Tennessee, while many of them took him as far as St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Smith was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, January 23, 1827 and grew to manhood in that state. The name given him, "Lorenzo Dow", is that of a famous Methodist preacher of Ohio's pioneer days and suggests that Mr. Smith's parents were devout adherents of that faith.

Lorenzo married Eliza Fisher in Ohio and four children were born to them before they moved west to settle in the wooded wilderness of central Wisconsin in 1855. Among those then resident in the area now included in Adams County were "Buck" Kingsbury, Stillman Niles, S.P. Berry, Leonard Greenwood and Miles Avery. The last named is said to have been a full cousin of John D. Rockefeller and from time to time members of the Rockefeller family came to visit him.

In course of time settlement increased and quite a village grew up on the east bank of the Wisconsin River to which the name Quincy was given. There being no bridge at that point nor for many miles north and south of it, a ferry was a necessity, and for several years L.D. Smith operated the ferry at Quincy, making communication possible between those on the east and west sides of the river. The ferry landing on the west side of the river was at what is known as "Table Rock".

Nine children in all were born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith. One of these died in infancy. Two daughters, Mrs. A.P. Coty and Mrs. William Fiegel died in mature life and the mother also passed to the great beyond years ago. Six children survive, their names and residences being as follows: Delbert Delos Smith, William H. Smith, Mrs. George Atchey, and Mrs. Dan Morley, all of the Town of Quincy; Mrs. J.W. Vaughn of Medina, Wisconsin, Mrs. W.C. Foss of Kilbourn, Wisconsin. There are 31 living grandchildren, 59 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild, making a total of 91 persons directly descended from this old patriarch of Quincy. The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at the home of D.D. Smith, the son with whom he had lived in the declining years of life and he was laid to rest in the cemetery by the side of the faithful wife who preceded him years before.

This info was submitted by a great-great-great grandson, Keith E. Lanphear.

His son, Delbert Delos Smith stayed at the homestead and farmed until his death at the age of 82 of an apparent heart attack. His wife was Jane Fedderly who is related to the Fedderly's of Wisconsin Dells. To this union was born five children, two of which died in infancy. One son, Lorenzo Delos Smith, moved to the village of White Creek in the spring of 1932. He and wife, Alice Irene (DeVoe) Smith were married in 1920 and they were the parents of three children, Delos Delbert, Julia Jane, and Ernest C. Lorenzo sawed lumber on a saw mill, he did threshing, hulling and corn shelling.

In August of 1933 Lorenzo built a 13'x14' building and started a tavern. A short while later he added an 8' storage room making the building 21'x14'. In 1941 they built a dance hall and had Saturday night dances. In 1942 they built a larger bar east of the dance hall. In 1947 they added on again and joined the bar and dance hall. It was the "Hot Spot of many a Saturday night". Lorenzo (Wren as he was known to most people) ran the bar

until his death in 1951, then his wife Alice and oldest son Delos continued.

Of the three children, the two boys never married. Son Ernest was drafted into the Army in his senior year of high school. He was somewhere overseas fighting for his country when his class graduated. After returning from the service, he worked at Badger Ordnance, Baraboo, Wisconsin, worked at the boat factory in Adams, Wisconsin until it closed, and then started his own business of installing septic systems. Daughter Julia Jane married Clyde Lanphear to which five children were born; Larry, Laurie (who died in infancy), Keith, Wayne, and Meryl. Clyde served his country in World War II. After leaving the Army his main occupation was as a carpenter. After the death of Alice in 1979, her two sons and daughter took over the bar. Delos passed away in 1989, leaving Ernest and Julia and her children sole heirs of the family bar. As of this writing, the Smith White Creek tavern has been in the same family for 66 years. Ernest, Julia, and her son Wayne now take care of the bar. Of Julia's other children, Larry works cutting pulp. Keith is married to Geraldine M. (Robinson) Lanphear, works road construction and they have three children; Michael, Tonya, and Keith II. Meryl works in Wisconsin Dells.

Bernard and Gund Elizabeth Rommel Storandt

In the latter part of the 1800s, Ernest, Wilhelm, and Karl Storandt left their home and migrated to America. Their brother Heinrich and sisters Sara and Marie remained in Germany. These were the six children of Bernard Storandt and his wife Gund Elizabeth Rommel of Germany.

The three brothers, and their families, lived out their lives in the Kilbourn area.

Wilhelm married Anna Seabert and they had four children: Frederick (Amelia Jensen); Marie (Harvey Jensen); Bertha (Carl Herwig); and Amelia.

Karl had married Christiana Heimel in Germany before coming to America and their sons, Richard and Ernest, were also born there. They had two more children in America: Augusta (Pickel) and William.

Ernest Storandt was born in Herrenbreitungen, Germany in 1852. In Chicago, Illinois, on March 14, 1882, he married Amynta Kleimenhagen of Kilbourn City. She had come from Germany to join her twin brother Leonard Kleimenhagen. The Storandts and Kleimenhagens came from the same area of Germany and had known one another before coming to America.

In 1883 Ernest and Amynta had a son, Wilhelm August, and in 1885 a daughter, Lydia Augusta. In 1885 the family moved to Wisconsin and established themselves on a farm in New Haven, seven miles from Kilbourn City. One wall in the kitchen of their farmhouse was what remained of an old stagecoach stop that had been on the property.

In 1909 Ernest, Amynta and Lydia moved from the farm to their newly built home at 731 Elm Street in Kilbourn, presently owned by Ronald Newell. The Ernest Storandts were charter members of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kilbourn.

Son Wilhelm (William) had remained on the farm. He married Bertha Wilhelmina Leege on September 10, 1917 at the home of her parents, Menno and Dena Borchers Leege, in

Newport. Wilhelm and Bertha had nine children: Geraldine, Walter, Mabel, Homer, Irene, Betty, twin sons Earl and Erwin, and Ina Mae.

Their children attended the same one room school known as Badger Valley, School District #8, New Haven township, which their father William and his sister Lydia had attended before them. During High School, Geraldine Storandt lived with her grandmother and helped to care for her.

Lydia was married on April 8, 1912 to Harry Horton Sabin from Iowa. Harry was in the construction business and helped build the Kilbourn Dam and power plant. They eventually moved to Marley, Illinois where they operated a Clover Farm Store for 33 years. Their children were Eleanor, who married Francis Nelson of Marley, and Homer, who married Lillian Cooper of New York.

James and Louisa Knudson Stone

James Stone came to America in 1873 from Bridgewater, Lincolnshire, England where he was born. Louisa Knudson came from Sken, Norway in 1871. They were married November 13, 1876 in Waukegan, Illinois. They purchased land in Springville township, Adams County. They started with 120 acres and increased their holdings to 720 acres. Six children were born to them: Henry in 1876, Carrie 1878, Frank 1880, Lizzie 1882, Samuel 1884 and Mary 1888.

Mr. Stone passed away May 30, 1890. Louisa continued to operate the farm with the help of the children. The house burned within five years of her husband's death and Louisa and the children spent the winter living with a neighbor while a new home was being erected.

Louisa lived there alone and blind in later years. She died December 30, 1929. Louisa and James are buried in Davis Corners Cemetery as are her sons Henry and Samuel and her daughters Carrie (Frank) Bork and Mary (Charlie) Rice.

Henry and Anna (Gertson) farmed for a time and then he worked in Milwaukee. Their children were Pearl, Robert, Donald, James, Stella, Lois and Pauline. Carrie married Frank Bork and they farmed in Springville. They had no children.

Frank and Ethel Eddy spent their entire lifetime farming. Ethel was a rural teacher. They had six children: Verna (Ervin) Hickathier, Evelyn (Charles) Klicko, and Irene (Wendell) Ingrahm, all three of the girls taught in the rural schools in Adams County. Theodore (Stella Heitman) was a farmer and worked for many years for the Adams County Highway Department. Clinton (Genevieve Holden) continued on his father's farm. Lyle (Dorothy Endthoff) farmed and was a rural mail carrier until his retirement.

Lizzie married Henry Cook, also a farmer. They had a son James who died as a teenager and a daughter Elsie (Martin Heitman). She too taught in the rural schools as her mother had.

Samuel (Mabel Thorne) also farmed until the death of his wife. He was elected Sheriff of Adams County and served 12 years between 1929 and 1950. They had one daughter, Genevieve (Levi Foss) who followed in her mother's path and became a teacher, retiring in 1985.

In 1932 Sam married Ella Ostby. They lived on Highway 13 south of Adams. He passed away in 1970 the last of the children of James and Louisa Stone.

Mary married Charles Rice on July 4, 1911. They had no children. Louisa was totally blind for about seven years and Mary walked to her mother's three or four times a week doing her laundry and baking.

When the youngest child became of age, Louisa gave each of them 80 acres. Frank's parcel still belongs to his descendants and Carrie's belongs to her niece's sons.

Viola Osborn Stuebs

Viola M. Osborn was born in Lincoln township, Adams County to Walter and Pearl Osborn. In her early 20s, she moved to Milwaukee. There she met Lester Stuebs who she married on May 25, 1941. They had two children, Kenneth and Gary. Vi worked for many years as a meat cutter/wrapper at a local grocery store in Milwaukee. In 1973, Vi and Les retired to Grand Marsh in Adams County. Since then, Vi has been very active in the Grand Marsh Development, assisting with the Corn n' Tater Festival and Fish Frys. She has also been a member of the Grand Marsh Harmony Homemakers. Vi's husband, Lester, passed away in 1991.

Swan and Augusta Carlson Swanson

Swan Swanson was born at Jonkoping, Sweden in 1860. His wife, Augusta M. Carlson, was born in September 1867, also at Jonkoping. Swan was of Lutheran persuasion and, after emigrating to America, lived variously at a Lake County Illinois home, at a City of Adams home, and at a farm in Preston township. Swan died in 1921, and Augusta died in Chicago in

January 1927. She and Swan are both interred at Mount Repose Cemetery in Friendship. They had five children: William, Ruby, Edna, George and Lawrence Swanson.

William Swan Swanson was born in December 1889. He married Estelle Rudolph and they had two children: William Jr. and Robert. William Sr. died in January 1951. Ruby Swanson was born around 1890 and died young, around 1920. She married Roderick MacLean and they had twins, Dorothy and Donny. Edna Margaret Swanson was born in August 1898 and married Frank Voboril. They had seven children and many of their descendants continue to live in Adams County today.

George Swanson was born in 1903. He married a woman named Thelma whom he later divorced. They had a son, Brook, and an adopted son, Larry. George died in 1955 and is buried at Mount Repose. Lawrence Swanson was George's twin brother. He had a brief marriage to an unknown woman, never fathered any children, and died in March 1961.

Leon Evertt and Martha Elizabeth Walsh Taylor

Leon Evertt Taylor was born in Monroe Center on November 11, 1886 to Chauncey A. and Eva Melissa (Williams) Taylor. Leon and his brother Eugene traveled the area taking pictures as Taylor Brothers Photography.

On February 13, 1913, in Briggsville, Wisconsin, he married Martha Elizabeth Walsh and they lived at Monroe Center until November 8, 1915 when they purchased the farm of Martha's father, Patrick Walsh. Martha was born on this farm on August 16, 1885. They had six daughters: Elizabeth Eva (Roy Cleary) born February 4, 1914; Acelia Walsh, (Albert Wedde) born January 7, 1916; Helen Dorothy (Gilbert J. Cleary) born February 16, 1919; Goldie Leona (Frederick Thomas) born October 9, 1920; Vera Mae (Tyler R. Smith) born May 14, 1924; and Violet Marie (Donald Wiswell) born July 8, 1928. They farmed until the time of Leon's death on March 29, 1962 in Portage, Wisconsin. He was buried in Briggsville. Martha continued to live on the farm until March 27, 1971 when she felt she could no longer live alone. At this time, she sold the farm to her grandson, Jim Cleary and his wife Marion.

Martha lived at the Oxford Convalescent home until her death on October 16, 1976 in Portage at the age of 91 years. She is buried at Briggsville.

Gilbert A. and Cora Bell McKee Tucker

Gilbert Austin Tucker was born in 1869 in Stockton, Illinois. He married Cora Bell McKee in 1892, and lived in Illinois where three of their children were born, Sadie Bell Tucker, Wilbur James Tucker, and Winnie Leone Tucker. They must have moved out west after the children's births because sometime around 1898 Gilbert and Cora Bell and family moved back to Plainville, Adams County, Wisconsin from South Dakota. Their fourth child, Avery Newton Tucker was born in Plainville in 1901. In 1905, Cora became ill with pneumonia and died at the age of 31. After Cora's death, father and children moved to Kilbourn, Wisconsin where he worked for various people. He worked for Mary Crosby, the Higby's and others. His five children went to Plainville School. Edna's mother, Sadie Belle (Tucker) Galitz was one of them. Gilbert Austin Tucker married a second time to Jennie Wilson in 1919 in Minneapolis, Minnesota and they had one son, Charles Gilbert Tucker.



Gilbert Tucker and Unis

Sadie Belle Tucker and Arthur Frederick Galitz were married in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. They had four children born in Wisconsin Dells: Evangeline Mildred, Robert William, Edna Eleanore, and Dorothy Pearl. Arthur Galitz ran the livery stable on Oak Street in Wisconsin Dells and he also built an apartment over the stables for them to live in (after great trouble with the city). Edna remembers living there. He also worked for the undertaker, Eaton, and he worked for Roseberry's Funeral Home for many years. Sadie worked for the Pines Resort on the Old River Road when she was about 21 years of age.

Edna Eleanore and William Robert Henriksen were married in Wisconsin Dells on July 5, 1935 on the same day as her brother Robert and his wife, Gertrude Week. Edna and Bill have two sons, William Robert and Joseph Daniel. They ran the Easton Store from 1961 thru 1976 and she remembers working the day that President Kennedy was shot. She also remembers the day that the store burned down. Bill and Edna are retired and now live in their own home on Highway 13 south of the intersection of County Highway H. One son lives in the Wisconsin Rapids area and the other son lives in Florida.

Fred and Odette York Veeder

My great-grandfather, Frederick Steven Veeder, married Nellie Miriam Bury. He worked as an attorney in Wonewoc and Mauston. Old newspaper clippings on record in the Mauston Library record their social activities. A letter dated February 3, 1955 from Harry W. Barney to my dad reads in part "You bear the name of your grandfather, Fred Veeder, and can well be proud of that fact, for he was a fine citizen and highly respected in his profession in an area of several counties... All the Bury girls were very high type women and took prominent places in civil, church and school affairs. Your own mother... impressed me as being a very fine character." A tall monument in the cemetery in Wonewoc, Wisconsin attests to the status of Frederick's father, Samuel Veeder. Frederick insisted that my grandfather, Charles Adelbert Veeder, study law as well.

Charles first married Belle Sherwood. They had three daughters, Elizabeth, Jeannette, and Barbara. Charles worked as an attorney for a congressman in Washington, D.C. He was a prolific writer and describes his life there in graphic detail

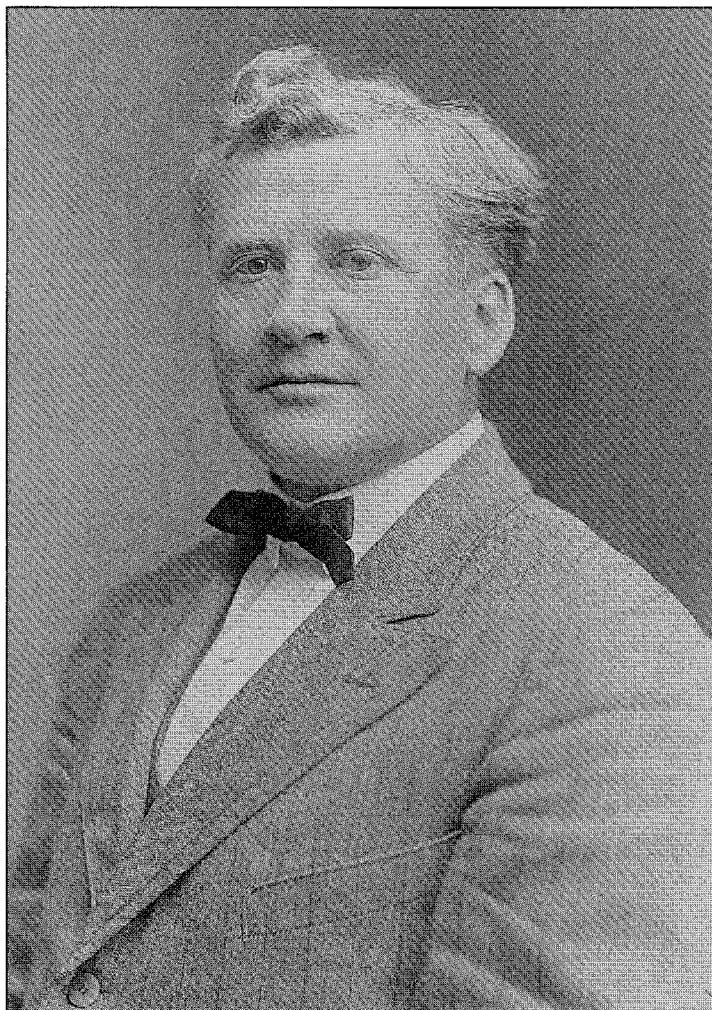
in letters to Belle, as she had remained near his father and mother in Mauston, Wisconsin. After Belle passed away, Charles fell in love with a teacher, Grace Eugenia Harris. Grace's father was a professor of horticulture. Ribboned love letters remain in the family, letters from Charles to Grace postmarked from cities where he was working, written sometimes from a lonely boarding room, sometimes from the train or the depot and addressed to Friendship, Wisconsin. They describe his current court cases, events of the day, his concerns about his young motherless daughters and especially expressing his love for Grace. They married and had five more children — Mary Ellen, Alberta, Frances, and twins Frederick and Nellie.

While Charles Veeder served as district attorney for Adams County, the family lived in a white house behind the courthouse, the same home that Judge Duane Polivka grew up in. For some years Grandfather worked in affiliation with Mr. Purvis of the abstract company and rented an office upstairs at 109-111 Main where the Adams County Abstract Company is now located. His daughter Elizabeth worked for him as a secretary. She died of the flu at 22 years of age. When women came to him for advice and could not afford to pay, he offered to give them work in his home, helping Grace with the housework and the children.

He also ordered Sears and Roebuck houses to have built for sale. Several still stand in Friendship. Jeannette died at age 16 in Washington D.C. after a train trip to the city. Charles passed

away while all the children were still at home, leaving Grace land-poor during the Depression. She had no choice but to sell the land for cash. They owned the triangular piece of land in Friendship where the funeral home, motel and several residences now stand, going east to the Bohemian Hall. She sold that parcel for \$9 an acre. Grace passed away while Dad and Nellie were still in school. Barbara had graduated from college and was teaching school. The older sisters helped to raise their younger siblings.

My dad, Frederick Samuel Veeder was born in 1920. One day when he was swimming at Friendship Lake, he saw Odette York dive off the raft. Odette (my mother) was an accomplished pianist. She rode the Scoot to Milwaukee for advanced music lessons, entitled to a free pass because her dad, our grandfather, Robert Sherman York, worked for the Chicago & North Western Railroad. Dad attended Platteville University



Charles Adelbert Veeder

and they married on September 2, 1940. Fred worked at Picus Store and as a chemist at Badger Ordnance during World War II, then invested in Veeder's Market in Friendship. Four children were born, Jeannette Marie in 1941, Dennis Frederick in 1943, Carol Ann 1946 and Bette Jean in 1947.

Odette and Fred were active in the community. Eastern Star members marched to peppy tunes when Odette played piano for their meetings. One day, Mr. Ritchie, the president of the Adams County State Bank, came into the store and said to Dad "Fred, we'd like you to work at the bank." Dad said, "I don't know anything about banking." Mr. Ritchie, cigar in mouth said, "We figure if you can make a living while meat is rationed, we could use you at the bank."

Mother taught music lessons, baked homemade bread and volunteered as choir director of the Friendship Congregational Church for many years. She always thought it was funny that the same people she'd danced with the night before at the Bohemian Hall or at Dellwood were at church on Sunday morning. She made sure the hymns were played at a lively tempo. Together with other community members, Fred and Odette worked for the Friendship Centennial celebration with the goal of earning money to construct a new hospital. About that time, a family picture was taken...a little too soon. Surprise! Robert Charles was born, the first baby in the new hospital.

Some of Dad's accomplishments include: president and director of Adams County and M & I Bank; agent for Banner Insurance; treasurer of the March of Dimes for 29 years; member of Adams and Friendship Fire Departments; Sunday school teacher, Deacon and Trustee at Friendship Congregational Church; charter member and president of Adams County Chamber of Commerce; co-chairman of Friendship Centennial; director for Adams County Memorial Hospital; Master and treasurer of Quincy Lodge #71; Worthy Patron of Quincy Chapter #177; member of Castle Rock Scottish Rite Club; member of Hearts of Wisconsin Shrine Club; member of A-F Lions Club; organizer of the Adams County Development Corporation which brought to Adams County Roche-A-Cri Clinic; Metalfab, Inc.; Castle Rock Container and Friendship Homes.

He was known as "Uncle Sam" to folks who needed a loan. Attorney Donald L. Hollman tells us that not only did he loan money through the bank, but often loaned money from his own pocket. Mother tells of the time he had lumber delivered for a new garage and gave the lumber to a family who needed a home. Dad worked at a high energy level, walking swiftly he projected a cheerful image and said he would be more apt to loan money to a man in his dirty work clothes than a man who dressed up for the loan application. Yet, we never saw him, even mowing the grass, wearing anything other than a white shirt and a tie.

I grew up in Friendship where we learned to "Rock around the Clock Tonight" in Murphy's garage, cheered at local football games, baked and sewed for entries at the Adams County Fair, climbed Friendship Mound and went swimming and ice skating at Friendship Pond and read the books recommended by Winn McGowan from the Friendship Library. Once I went "cooning" watermelon with some school friends. When we sliced open the melon, it wasn't ripe. We went back and left a note for the farmer, "Thanks but the melon wasn't even ripe!". The next day at the supper table Dad asked "What

did you do last night?" I said, "Nothing..." He brought forward the note. I had written it on bank stationery and the farmer had brought it in to him!

In 1959 I married George Paul Woodruff. Our children are: Lynnette, 1959; Jon (Toby) 1961; Laurie 1963; Jodie 1965; and Jennifer 1974. We have seven grandchildren, two of them — Danny and Kelly Woodruff are sixth generation here in Adams County. In 1995 I married Frank Batko, live and work here in Adams County, selling real estate for Pavelec Realty since 1979.

Lynnette married Paul Faga in 1979 and had a daughter, Meghan in 1982. She then married Kevin Traas. Their daughter, Tonia was born in 1989. Jon's family remain residents of Adams County. He married Karen Rank in 1979 and son Tobias Woodruff, was born in 1980. Jon married Shirley Ann Burdick in 1982. Their boys Danny, 1982 and Kelly 1992, are sixth generation in Adams County. Toby (Jon) is a wood carver and carves eagles, bears, trolls, even a life size statue of Jesus on the Cross. He uses only his chain saw. Laurie married Bill Ebert. Then she married Mark Mosher. Twin daughters, London and Morgan, were born in 1994. Laurie teaches English at Oshkosh North High School. Jodie works with troubled youth in Adams County and at the Rhinelander Daily News. Jennifer teaches English at A-F High School.

Submitted by: Jeanette Veeder Woodruff Batko

Anton and Antonie Pichova Voboril

Antonin "Anton" Voboril was born in May 1831 at Nova Ves #14, Bohemia, where his father was a house owner and worked as a bricklayer. In November 1855, Anton married Antonie Pichova at Posna. He was working as a bricklayer at Nova Ves #14 like his father. Twenty-two years later, the couple migrated to the United States. Their ship's passenger list showed him to be 46-years-old, and she, 45. Their passage was listed as "between decks." They departed from the port of Bremen, Germany on May 15, 1877, and arrived in New York about two weeks later, May 30, 1877.

Anton and Antonie Voboril brought five children, ranging in age from about two-years old to 18 years, with them to America. Also along was a Marie Voboril (b. 1862-63), possibly a niece or sister of Anton. On March 20, 1879, Anton became a U.S. citizen in Pennsylvania, where the family lived for a time after leaving New York. His naturalization papers listed his last name as "Woboril." By the 1880 census, the Voboril's were living on a farm in Adams County. Anton was no longer a Czech bricklayer/mason, but a mid-western American farmer. The five Voboril children brought to America were Frank (Francis), Joseph, Kate, Anton Jr. and Josephine. Another daughter, Anne, was born in the U.S.

Frank Voboril was born in Bohemia in August 1869. He married Bertha Vitaka in 1906 and they had at least two children. Census records of 1905 and 1910 show Anton and Antonie as members of son Frank's household, along with two children, Harry and Anna. Frank and Bertha perhaps had more children later.

Joseph Voboril was born in Bohemia in August 1870 per his birth certificate (his obit says 1872). In 1898 he married Coloma's Amelia May Rittenhouse (b. 1881) and by 1910 they had three children: George, Grace and Ray Voboril. Joseph died in Mauston in November 1940.

Kate Voboril was listed age 18 when the family migrated to New York, placing her birth around 1858-59. Her married name was Hollman.

Josephine Voboril was born in 1874-75. In her brother Joseph's obituary, Josephine's married name is listed as "Ellis." On a death certificate, however, she is listed as an informant with the last name "Keyes." There is also some question as to her possible association with George Monroe Ramsey.

Anne Voboril was born in Wisconsin in 1879-80, when her parents were between 48 and 50 years of age.

Antonin (Anton) Voboril Jr. was born to Anton Sr. and Antonie in May 1864 at a solitary homestead (house #30) near Vejvary and Pacov (Bohemia) Czech Republic. In June 1894 he married Barbara Sipla in Adams County. Barbara Sipla was born in January 1869 in Bohemia, the daughter of Mike Sipla (d. 1914) and Mary Vapka (d. 1911). Anton died in 1935 and Barbara in 1952. Both died in Adams and are buried at Mount Repose Cemetery in Friendship. The couple had seven children and still have descendants living in Adams County today.

Anton Jr. and Barbara Sipla Voboril

Anton and Barbara Sipla Voboril had seven children, all born in Wisconsin. It appears that Barbara Sipla also raised a nephew named Mike Sipla, born in Illinois in 1892 and listed as "nephew-son" on census reports. The children of Anton and Barbara were Mary, Annie, Josafena, Emily, Lillian, Jim and Frank Voboril.

Of these children, Mary Voboril was born in July 1895 and eventually died in Friendship. She married Harry Roberts and had two daughters, Hazel Roberts Allen and Ruth Roberts. Annie (Anna) Voboril was born in June 1898 and married Aurthur Terrell. She died in 1977 and is buried at Mount Repose. Josafena (Josie) Voboril was born in June 1900. She married Harry Terrell and lived in Wisconsin Rapids.

Emily (Emila) Voboril was born in 1902. She married Vernon McGraw and had four children: Rodney, Leona, Phyllis and Lorraine. She also had an illegitimate child named Roy whom was raised by her mother, Barbara. Emily was still alive in 1983. Lillian (Lila) Voboril, was born in August 1904. She married William C. Pekowsky (d. 1937) and had the following children: Dorothy, Donny, Robert (a Dane County, Wisconsin judge), another son and another daughter. Lillian is buried at Westfield.

Jim Voboril was born in 1906 and never married. He was a railroad man and lived on a farm in Friendship, on 10th Avenue near Hwy J, for many, many years. The farm was eventually purchased by his nephew-in-law, Earl Fenner. Earl Fenner passed the farm to his son, Michael, who still lives there today. Jim Voboril died in February 1979 and is buried at Mount Repose.

Frank Voboril was born in Friendship in December 1896. He married Edna Swanson at Adams in November 1919. He owned a farm in Friendship and a home in the City of Adams. Both died in Adams, Edna in 1953 and Frank in 1959, and are buried at Mount Repose Cemetery. They had three children: Margaret, Dorothy and Frank Jr.

Youngest child, Frank "Sonny" Voboril, Jr., was born to Frank and Edna in April 1934. He died in December, 1940 following a long and painful childhood illness. Margaret

"Margie" Edna Voboril was born to Frank and Edna in July 1920. She married George Cekan in 1939 and they had two children: Richard "Dick" and Georgianna Cekan, both of whom married and raised families in Adams County. Margaret died in October 1982. Dorothy Jean Voboril was born to Frank and Edna in September 1925. She married Earl G. Fenner in 1941 at Dubuque, Iowa. She died in 1981 and is buried at Fordham Cemetery. Many descendants of Margaret and Dorothy Voboril continue to reside in Adams County today.

Stanley and Edna Morgan Wagner

Stanley was born and worked on the original family homestead of Ignace and Mary Wagner, his parents, in the Town of Lincoln, 550 Dyke Avenue, Grand Marsh, Wisconsin. In 1930 he married Edna Morgan, daughter of Fred Morgan of the Town of Easton also in Adams County.

Stanley and his brother, John, farmed for most of their lives. Stanley and Edna were Catholic with 8th grade educations from Adams County schools. They lived in a house by the farm for about two years and then moved in with his parents. Stanley's interests included hobbies in nature, gardening, cattle, pigs and chickens, and reading...most were to make a living. Edna loved to cook, sew, garden and read. Their main joys were family, their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and religion. The maintenance of St. Methodius Catholic Church was a highlight and a duty and love that was passed down for children and their families. They always loved having company, sharing visits, cardplaying, dancing, Grand Marsh Community Club events, farm, work (haying, threshing, etc.) with neighbors, relatives and friends.

Stanley and John were farming acres, raising pigs, chickens and dairy cattle. The farm is still in the family owned by Harvey and Beverly Wagner and is now under irrigation growing potatoes, corn, green beans, soy beans and peas. Harvey's sons Mark and Perry work on the farm and Charles and Alice's son Scott Parr manages this farm along with some other Adams County land he owns including his grandfather, Willard Parr's land in the Town of Easton.

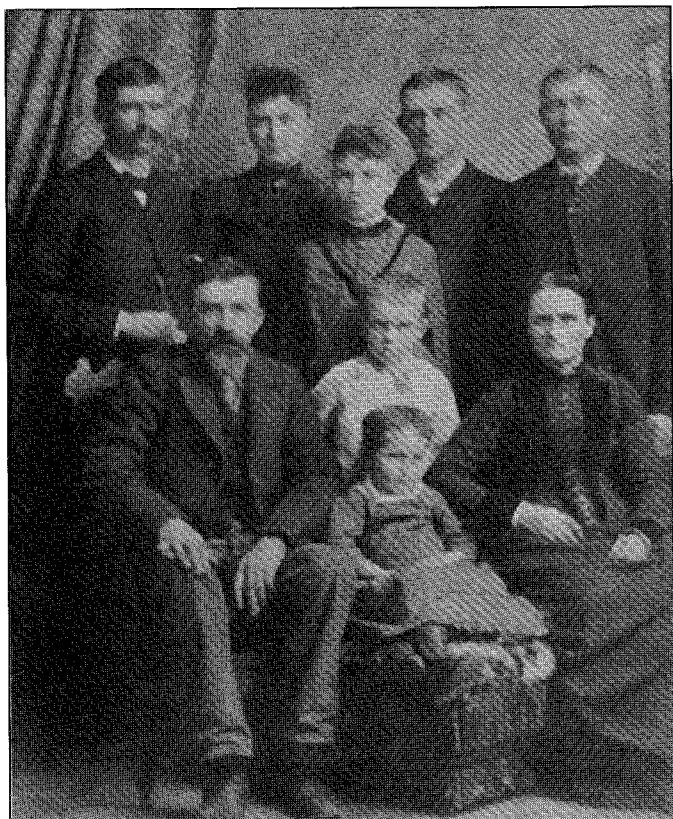
Stanley and Edna Wagner's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren built a cottage at Patrick's Lake on land given them by John Wagner in 1971 and enjoy summer weekends getting together there and remembering their roots in the Grand Marsh area.

Submitted by: Alice Parr

Patrick and Elizabeth Ball Walsh

Patrick Walsh was born in 1838 in County Cork, Ireland and he migrated to the Port of New York in July of 1859. He settled in the Town of Lewiston, Columbia County, Wisconsin. He was a section hand foreman for the railroad and he applied for citizenship on November 2, 1869 in Juneau County, Wisconsin. On October 20, 1862 he married Elizabeth Ball. She was born on February 3, 1843 in Manchester, England and came to the United States in 1851 with her parents Robert and Martha (Gosling) Ball, two brothers and three sisters. They settled in Lewiston Township, Columbia County.

Patrick and Elizabeth lived in Lewiston until May 10, 1876 when they bought a farm in New Haven Township, Adams County, Wisconsin. They had eight children: Robert J. (B:



l-r front, Patrick George, Martha, Elizabeth, l-r back, Robert, Mary, Sarah, Thomas, and William Walsh

August 15, 1863), William (B: July 27, 1865), Thomas J. (B: June 25, 1867), Mary (B: December 15, 1869), John (B: January 13, 1873), Sarah Elizabeth (B: January 26, 1875), George Milton (B: April 3, 1883), and Martha Elizabeth (B: August 16, 1885). They lived on the farm where Elizabeth died on March 30, 1912 and she was buried in Briggsville, Wisconsin. Patrick continued to live on the farm and on November 8, 1915, his daughter and son-in-law, Leon and Martha, bought the farm. They moved in and cared for Patrick until the time of his death on November 24, 1920. His was the last horse drawn funeral in this area and he was buried in Briggsville.

Submitted by: Helen Marie Geiger

Almer and Helen Bruckner Warp

Helen Bruckner, daughter of Sam Bruckner, married Almer Warp September 6, 1919. Almer was born October 28, 1895 and died September 10, 1967. They had nine children: Arden LeVere, August 18, 1920; Orlando Arnold, July 3, 1922; Harold Thomas, September 18, 1923-September 24, 1950; William Gervio, November 2, 1924-October 27, 1974; Eilef John, October 20, 1927-December 10, 1996; Alma Helen, October 28, 1933; Samuel Hans, July 14, 1936; Ulmer Bruckner, October 3, 1940.

Arden married Marion Kruger November 1, 1941. He served in the army from February 1943 to November 1945. Their children are Sally (Silvia Jean) and Ardie.

Orlando married Hanni Swanborn December 13, 1948. Their children are Lanny and Esther (Esty). Orlando and Hanni divorced. He married Flora Lannagan, one step daughter, Sue. Orlando enlisted in the Army from February, 1940 to April 1960.

Harold married Jean Puckett October 15, 1949 and had one daughter Bonita Lynn. Harold was in the service from February, 1943 till his death (killed in action in Korea. September 24, 1950). He first served in the Navy and then the Army.

William married Frances Wormet August 10, 1946. Their two children, Sandra (died in infancy) and William (Billy Boy). William served in the Navy and the Marines in the Marshall Islands, May 1943 to November 1945. He died in a farm accident November 6, 1976.

Irma married Vince Kramer August 25, 1945. Their children are Vincent (Butch), Thomas, Susan and Peggy. Irma and Vince divorced. Irma died of cancer October 27, 1974.

Eilef married Yevonne Goldsmith April 5, 1954. Their daughter is Barbara. Eilef served in the Merchant Marines and Army from May, 1944 to November 1952.

Alma married James Thurber March 10, 1951. Their children are James, David, and Lori. Alma won the Mrs. Wisconsin Contest in 1964 and 1966.

Samuel married Darlene Kotka January 4, 1958. Their children are Sammy, Cheryl, Scott, and Steve. Sam served in the Army, December 1953 to April 1957.

Ulmer married Barbara Butsback November 3, 1962. Their children are Leslie and Donna. Ulmer was in the Navy and Marines October 1957 to 1961.

All seven of the Warp boys were in the service, five in the Army and four in the Navy, two in the Marines. Well it adds up, as some were in two different services. Altogether from 1940 to 1961, there is 50 years of service through WW II, Korea and the start of Vietnam. The five oldest were all overseas on VJ Day. Three also served in Korea.

Hans and Bertha Kames Warp

Miss Bertha Kames was born May 18, 1857 in Strong's Prairie and was the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Kames. In June 1881, she was united in marriage to H.J. Warp oldest son of Thomas Warp.

About two years of their married life was spent at Marshfield, Wisconsin. During the rest of the time, they lived in Strong's Prairie buying his father's farm.

Thomas and Karen Warp

Thomas and Karen Warp and family left their homeland in Norway and migrated directly to the Roche-A-Cri settlement in Strong's Prairie township, Arkdale, Wisconsin. They came by mail ship and were on the sea 16 weeks. The weather had been rough and food supply low. Immigrants had to furnish their own provisions excepting drinking water. One of the children died on the ship and was buried in the ocean. My mother, Elena (Alice) Warp was the first white child to be born in the settlement, 1859.

There were two brothers of Thomas who lived near them, also a sister, Mrs. Ole Thompson,

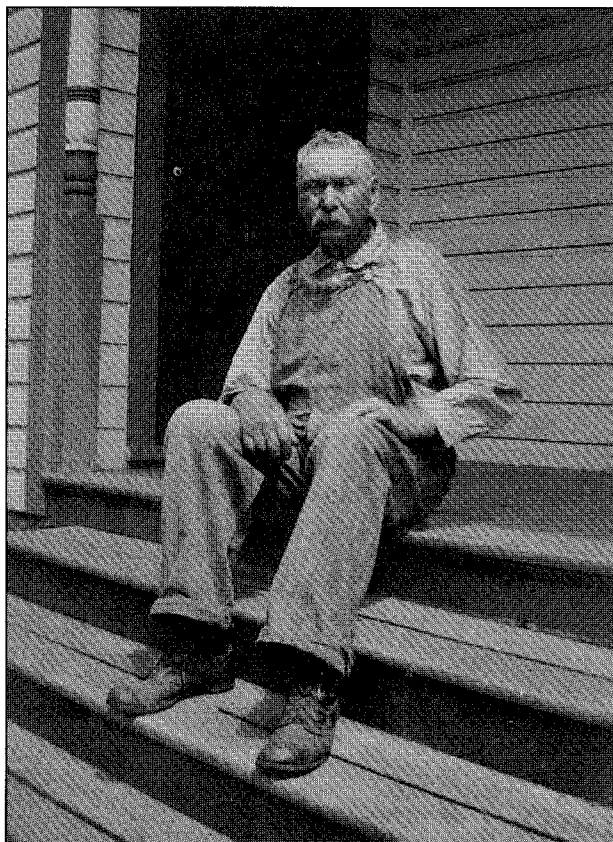
Karen Warp died from a heart attack when 49 years old and left ten children. The oldest daughter, Anna (Mrs. Strand) took over the housework and when she married, our mother became the housekeeper. There were six sons, Hans, Ole, John, Thomas, Henry, and Orlando and four daughters, Anna (Mrs. Martin Strand), Maren (Mrs. Ed Schulson), Maria (Mrs. Carl Anderson), and Elena Alice (Mrs. Nels Smedbronn).

Grandfather Thomas Warp was strong and ambitious, converting his homestead to croplands. Their best cash crop was raising hops and I can remember the large buildings or kilns where the hops were dried. Each hop vine had a pole to grow up on and when the crop was harvested, the farmer had to hire pickers, as many as 30 or more. My mother cooked the meals for her father's crew and many pickers slept there too. Those were jolly times for many, with dancing at night.

Warp built the first frame house in the neighborhood. I was born in that house. He also bought the first Singer sewing machine so many of the women around came to do their sewing on the new machine. Later, he bought a kerosene lamp, but it was an ornament on the shelf for eight years before he would let them use it. He was afraid it would explode.

Hans Warp married Bertha Karness who lived near on the farm now owned by Shirley's (Mrs. Bob Smedbron) father. Hans bought the Warp farm from the family. He and Bertha built a fine home and raised six children. Hans was the only son to marry.

John Warp, Thomas's brother, served in the Civil War and was wounded in the battle of Chattanooga. The wounded could not be taken care of at that time like now and he lay on the battle field three or four days in the heat and sun. When his Captain came to inspect, he found John and asked if he could ride home if he gave him his horse which was white. John got on the horse and rode horseback for two weeks when he came home to Arkdale. His wounds were infested with maggots. He was cleaned and nursed tenderly but died five days after getting home. The white horse was a pet in the community as long as it lived.



Hans Warp

When I was a girl in elementary grades we always had patriotic programs on Memorial Day and ended our parade at John Warp's grave, placing a flag on it. A white slab marks his grave at the West Cemetery near Arkdale. He was the first soldier buried there.

John Warp (son) homesteaded land near Grafton, North Dakota.

Ole died young in the Arkdale area. Thomas, who suffered from asthma came to live with his sister, Mrs. Anderson, near Grand Forks, North Dakota. His health improved there. Henry worked for Arpin brothers for many years and spent his last years with his brother Hans, where he died. He suffered from asthma and heart trouble. The last I heard of Orlando, he was in Minneapolis.

One time a wagonload of neighbors drove off to pick blueberries. My mother and Mary Thompson, then young girls, strayed away from the group and were lost. They had to be left in the woods because it was urgent for some parents to get home at night. Mother said she and Mary finally came to a herd of cattle that belonged home, so they followed the cattle all night thinking they were on their way home. It rained during the night to add to their misery. Early the next morning several men formed a search party and drove to the blueberry area and finally found them.

Submitted by: Clara Smedbron Urtes



Berta (Bertha) Warp

William and Emma Bernicke Wegert

William Fredrick Wegert was born April 24, 1869 in Defiance County, Ohio. His wife, Emma Bernicke, born September 24, 1874 in Colpin, Germany migrated to America and arrived in Ohio in May 1892 at the age of 17. They were married on August 1, 1895 in the same county. They brought their family to Quincy township, Adams County in 1908.

The Wegert family while in Defiance County, Ohio, had three daughters and two sons: Emma, 1896; Erna, 1897; Herta (Hattie), 1899; Rudolph Wilhelm Fredrick, 1901; and William H., 1902. In 1903 the family moved to Kankakee County (Great Park area), Illinois. The family farmed, and William operated a machine/blacksmith shop. The family increased by two: Harold K., 1904; and Elsa C., 1907.

Along with shop and farm work he treated seed potatoes using his steam engine to heat water probably using the formaldehyde solution that required hot water. During this time there was a great disease problem with potatoes.

The Wegert family which came to Adams County when the family of nine grew to 13: Esther, 1909; Bertha, 1911; Henry, 1913; and Harvey J., 1915. They attended St. John's Lutheran Church on County Road Z. They attended grade school at Five Oaks School and high school in Adams. The children grew up in Adams County and gradually had families of their own.

Emma Marie Wegert, first born daughter, married Gottlieb W. Schroeder of Adams County in 1915. Children born to this union were: Edward G, 1916-1920; Thelma E., 1918; Gottlieb died in 1956 in Adams County of accidental drowning.

Thelma E. married Orie F. Collier in 1937. Their children are: Charlotte Ann, 1938; Bruce E., 1939; and Fredric, 1945.

Erna H. Wegert, 1897, married Floyd Steffen in 1933. Three children were born: Patricia M. Steffen (Kallenberg) Cook, 1934, now living in Terra Amerilla, New Mexico. Twins, Norma G. and Norman H. both died in infancy followed by their mother in 1936.

Herta (Hattie) Wegert, 1899, married John B. Avery in 1915. Three children were born in Quincy: William H., 1915, married Genevieve Dick in 1941; William J., 1942. William H. entered Army service at the height of World War II and lost his life in 1944 in the Battle of the Bulge. He is buried in the American Cemetery in Belgium. William J., 1942, married Arnita Haugen. Their children are Debra and Shellie.

Ellen L., 1920, married Dennis A. Wormet in 1938. Their four children were born on the Wormet farm in Quincy.

Rudolph Wilhelm Fredrick Wegert, 1901, married Agnes Kujawa of White Creek in 1928 at Red Wing, Minnesota. Agnes was born in Mosinee in 1912. They farmed in Adams County while raising their eight children. Rudolph died in March 1955. Their family includes:

Betty J., 1929, married Clayton (Squeek) Rodger in 1948.

Rudolph R., 1930, was born in the Spence place just north of the old Feldman farm in Quincy, County Hwy Z. Soon after, the family moved to a vacant home on the J.O. Immet property near the west end of Quincy Bluff. They farmed and subsisted on wild game, fish, vegetables and mother's excellent cooking and baking.

Some attended McBride school until 1938 when they moved to the Wegert farm nearby where the children attended Five Oaks School.

While living in Quincy, the family resided on the Wegert farm, the Pollex farm and Betty Heitman's farm, the place they left in February, 1943 when they moved to a farm just south of Brooks on County Road G near Harvey Ellinger's family farm.

Rudolph (Buddy) helped on the farm as his brothers and sisters did until August, 1948 when he enlisted in the US Marine Corps. During his nine years which included various assignments, he also took part in the movie "Sands of Iwo Jima" in 1949 just three years after the 1945 battle. John Wayne, Forrest Tucker and John Agar starred in the movie. After the Korean War, he returned in late 1952 and served in the United States.

Rudolph married Alice L. White of Tomah in 1956 in Adams County. Their children are: Sheila M., 1956; Rudolph A., 1959; Lynn, 1961; and R. Jay, 1967.

Rudolph R. continued his service with the Reserves from 1957 to 1990 when he retired. It included six more years of active duty with service in Viet Nam (1968-69) along with other assignments. His main hobby is completing the "Wegert Family History". They live at Poynette on the Wisconsin River but spend a lot of time in Adams County.

Frances M., 1932 married Hollis Fullmer in 1950. Their children are: Ray (Rick) H., 1951 and Vicki Lee, 1953.

Marilyn J., 1933, married Larry Swanson. Their children are: Jerry D., 1950 and Larry E., 1952. Marilyn married Carroll L. Peronton, 1957. Their children are: Carol O., 1959; Vance I., 1960; James, 1962.

Dolores Ann, 1934 married George A. Radl, 1955. Their children are: Cheryl Ann, 1956; Marie A., 1957; Victoria L., 1958; Timothy G., 1966. Dolores died in 1990.

William F., 1935 married Betty L. Nelson. Their children are: Debra L., 1957; William, 1959; Howard, 1961.

Yvonne A., 1937, died 1990.

Sandra J., 1939 married Robert G. Hicke. Their children are: Catherine Y., Michael R.C.

Wilhelm H., 1902 married Iola J. Baumel. Their Children are: Elaine E.; Edward J., 1939; John E., 1944.

Harold K., 1904-1984, married Olive Hunter in 1927. He then married Norma Brown. Olive died in 1990 and Norma died in 1989.

Elsa C., 1907 married Lloyd S. Bentley. Their children are: Kenneth H., 1927. Elsa married Edward Moran in 1931. She married Lloyd D. Sullivan. Their daughter is Vernita E., 1936.

Esther, 1909 married John Van Winkle. Their son is Ronald H., 1931.

Bertha, 1911-1974 married Harry Wormet. Their children are: Joan, Loretta, Shirley, Harry Jr. Harry died in 1985. Bertha and Harry were in the livestock and farming business for many years off County Hwy F.

Heinrich (Henry) B., 1913 married Pearl M. Nemetz. Their children are: Vernon D., 1938; Dennis H., 1943. Henry B. married Jeanetta Duddleston. Their children are: Linda, Donna, and Jay H.

Harvey J., 1915 married Viola V. Baumel. They live in Baraboo at 429 Lynn Avenue since 1942. He served in the Army, September 1944 to September 1945. Involved in a serious vehicle accident he was discharged after recuperating in an Army hospital. His primary work was auto mechanics and the machinist trade, retiring in 1977. Their children are:

Harvey, 1938; Harold A., 1942; Evelyn J., 1946; Dawneen E., 1949; Bonnie Kay, 1950; Diane Sue, 1952; Helen M., 1953.
Submitted by: Rudolph R. Wegert

Robert and Delores Kleven Witcraft

Hillaboe-Kleven-Witcrafts are descended from a Norwegian family traced back as far as 1190's.

Hans Sjursen Kjosas Hillaboe (1798-1879) married Herborg Pedersdatter Aarhus (1798-1876) in 1826. They lived in Hardanger, Kjosas, Arrhus, and Utoick in Norway. Hans was a teacher in Norway. He left for America with his wife, son and daughter and settled in the Roche-A-Cri area of Arkdale, Wisconsin.

Sjur Hanson Hillaboe (1826-1892) son of Hans and Herburg married Gertrude Romohr (1833-1909) in 1857 and lived in the Roche-A-Cri area of Arkdale. The Wisconsin Census of 1860, Adams County, (Strong's Prairie) listed Sjur, 32, Gertrude 25 as a farmer and housewife. To this union was born Hans, Henry, Ole, Herman, John, Anna, Peter, Helena, and twins Inger and Sarah.

The original deed for this location was recorded on March 9, 1855 to Sjur and Gertrude Hillaboe in the U.S. Entry Book. This land is now owned in part by Delores Kleven Witcraft, Kenneth, and Donald Kleven whose grandmother was Helena Hillaboe Kleven. The family has continuously retained parcels of this area for 144 years.

Helena Hillaboe Kleven (1873-1960) was the only decendent of Sjur and Gertrude Hillaboe to remain in Adams County her entire life. She married Martin Kleven (1868-1952) (Norway) in 1896 and raised a family of nine children. Marvin (1906-1981) retained ownership of this property, where his children, Delores, Kenneth and Donald still reside.



Sjur Hanson and Gertrude Hillaboe

In a handwritten ledger recording the activities of the Hillaboe family as they lived in the Roche-A-Cri area of Adams County in the time period of late 1870s, this was recorded by Anna (Helena's sister) who was about ten years old. She describes the hardships as told by her grandfather of coming from an old established home into an entirely new and strange world. When they came to Roche-A-Cri there were only three white families besides the Hillaboe family for her grandmother to neighbor with.

Anna speaks of the loneliness and dread of wild animals and Indians. She recalls the trips from her home to Arkdale on foot twice a week to get the mail brought by stage for her family as well as neighbors. She recorded the wonderful faith of her parents and grandparents and their struggle to maintain and establish the Lutheran church in the Roche-A-Cri area. She also records the education provided by her grandfather and mother. This pioneer family in Roche-A-Cri is the roots of bankers, physicians, educators, college professors, business men, ministers, governors and legislators, farmers, scientists, etc.

Mrs. Dorothy Clark of Westfield is a granddaughter of Helga Hillaboe who was a sister to Sjur, the great grandfather of Delores, Kenneth and Donald.

Submitted by: Delores Witcraft

Albert and Mabel Hovorka Wormet

Albert Herman Theodore Wormet was born on October 29, 1905 in Portage Wisconsin to John Wormet and Mamie (Stahl) Wormet. At that time, Albert's parents lived in the Town of Adams, Adams County. But, since the family had a log home and the weather was cold, Mamie went to Portage to stay with her parents until after Albert was born.

Albert was the eldest of 13 children. On February 2, 1928, he married Mabel Hovorka. Mabel was born on March 16, 1911 in Quincy township to Frank and Rose Hovorka Jr. Albert and Mabel made their home on the family farm with Albert's parents (John and Mamie). Albert assisted his father with work on the farm and trading livestock.

After his father passed away, Albert inherited the farm. He continued farming in addition to holding several other jobs. He cut timber, worked at Badger Ordnance, as a construction worker, was a night watchman at Castle Rock Container and helped to clear the land where Castle Rock Lake is now located. Albert's wife, Mabel, worked in the home and was also employed as a Nurses Aid at Friendship Manor Nursing Home for about 27 years.

Albert Wormet passed away on September 25, 1991 and is buried in the Quincy Cemetery. His wife, Mabel, continues to live on the family farm. Albert and Mabel Wormet had seven children: Frances, Albert Jr., John Louis (died 1935), Herbert (died 1965) Karen, William and Randall.

Frances Wormet married William Warp. They managed a ranch in rural Coloma for many years. They had three children: Sandy (Wruck), Sue Ellen (deceased) and William Jr.

Albert Jr. (or Bud) Wormet owns A-F Motors in Adams. He married Janet Slater and they had three children: Pela (Steiner), Timothy and Tadd. Janet passed away in 1977 and Bud later married Penny Van Natta Follen.

Karen Wormet married Norman Stevens (later divorced). They had one child, Kelly Ann (deceased). Karen has worked

for many years at the women's clothing store in Adams, currently known as Carole's Fashion Delights. Prior to this, she worked in the District Attorney's office at the Adams County Court House.

William Wormet married Sandra Morgan. They had two children: Tamra and Jeffrey. William is currently self employed. He and his wife own and manage residential and farm rental properties.

Randall Wormet worked for many years at AF Motors. He married Peggy Chilewski (later divorced) and they had two children: Trisha (Brockel) and Chanin.

Henry and Louise Wormet

Henry Wormet was born December 16, 1824 in Prussia, located in the northeastern region of Germany. He came to America from Germany in the early 1870s with his wife, Louise or Lizzie, and their four children. According to family stories, their name was shortened to "Wormet" when they arrived in New York. Prior to this, their name was possibly Wormeth.

Henry and his family first located to Illinois where they became farmers. Shortly after moving there, Henry's wife passed away. They lived in Illinois for approximately three years. Then the family moved to Iowa. After two years there, they moved to Wisconsin and settled in the Town of Quincy, Adams County.

On April 3, 1880, Henry purchased land from Frederick Dittburner in Quincy township. The 1880 Adams County census lists Henry and his children. (The family's name was listed as Warmit. The name is frequently misspelled in other records. Variations include: Warmet, Wormert, Wermert and Wermitt).

At the time of the 1880 census, Henry was listed as a 56 year old, widowed farmer. The records indicate that Henry and his children were all born in Prussia (Germany). Henry's children are listed in the census from eldest to youngest as: Henry Jr., Theodore, Lizie, and John.

Family stories say that the children were afraid to go out at night because there were so many Indians in the area.

According to Henry's obituary, he had a wife at the time of his death. Marriage records indicate a Henry Warmet who married Eva (surname Emeli) on April 17, 1887. And, local news in the Adams County Press states that Henry Wermert of Quincy married a Mrs. E. Hartwig of Chicago on this same date.

Henry was 67 years old when he died on January 25, 1891. According to his obituary, his death was "startlingly unusual" Henry and his wife were "acting as watchers" beside the remains of his deceased neighbor. Henry was asked to pray and then sing. When he finished singing, he complained of feeling warm, went outside and collapsed. He died of an apparent ruptured blood vessel and is buried in the Quincy cemetery.

Two of Henry's sons, Theodore and John, remained in Adams County and raised families.

His daughter, Lizzie, moved to Minnesota and has descendents who live there. It is unknown what happened to Henry's son, Henry Jr.

John and Mamie Stahl Wormet

John Herman Wormet was born on February 15, 1868 in Germany to Henry and Louise Wormet. He migrated with his family to America in the early 1870's.

As a child, John worked with his father, Henry, on the family's farm located in Town of Quincy, Adams County. He later lived with his brother, Theodore until he married Mamie Stahl. Mamie was born on August 20, 1884 in Portage, Wisconsin to Albert Stahl and Louise (Rhode) Stahl. Her parents were German immigrants.

John and Mamie Wormet were married on November 24, 1904. Before they were married, John had built a temporary log home on property he owned in the Town of Adams. He later built a barn and a permanent house that are still located on the property. This home is still in the family.

Thirteen children were born to John and Mamie Wormet, seven of which survived into adulthood. They are: Albert, William, Anne (Stein), Mae (Stormoen), Grace (Dunn), Caroline (Strand) and Howie.

In addition to farming, John was in partnership with his brother, Theodore. They ran a successful stock buying business for many years. The Wormet brothers were well known in the area. Many residents recall seeing the Wormet's large cattle drives along County Hwy Z. The brothers also owned a large amount of real estate, which they later divided between themselves. This real estate was handed down to their children. Some of this property is now part of the Quincy Bluff and Wetlands Natural Area.

John Wormet passed away on June 13, 1945 and Mamie Wormet passed away on December 16, 1960. Both are buried in the Quincy Cemetery.

Frank and Doreene Miller Zernia

Franklin Zernia was born August 2, 1935 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Fred Edward Zernia and Anna Lena, nee Riese. He was the youngest of seven children. He grew up in Milwaukee and went to 20th Street School where he graduated from 8th Grade on June 17, 1949. He worked as a gas station attendant while attending Boy's Trade and Tech High School. He received a certificate from the Board of School Directors of the City of Milwaukee for Technical Electrical Course of Study.

He moved to Big Flats soon after he graduated from Milwaukee Boys Tech in 1953. He then worked on the farm owned by his mother on County Highway C in the Town of Colburn. Frank worked for the Adams Columbia Electric Cooperative (ACEC) as a line supervisor until he was disabled in a work accident in the early 1960's. From then on he worked for his community.

Frank married Doreene Charolette Miller on August 25, 1957 at the Friendship Congregational Church. He was a 21 year old electrician. She was a 20 year old secretary. The ceremony was preformed by Reverend Samuel D. Robbins. His brother, Wallace Zernia and Darleene Romell were witnesses. Walter Zernia and Carol Miller also stood up in the wedding. Niece and nephew, Gary and Judy Zernia, were ring bearer and flower girl.

He became an Adams County Deputy Sheriff in 1957 and the Friendship Fire Chief in 1964. They lived in Friendship until they built a house and moved to Big Flats.



Frank Zernia

He became the Big Flats Fire Chief in 1980; Emergency Government Director in 1991. He also was the Chief Deputy Coroner, a Big Flats Supervisor for four years, and the Big Flats Town Chairman for six years. In 1980 he implemented the Adams County paging system and helped to establish the weather tower on Friendship Mound.

Frank was diagnosed with esophagus cancer in March of 1994. His wife, Doreene, died of colon cancer on July 23, 1994. Even though he was in ill health, he found the strength to lead the rebuilding of Big Flats after a tornado struck the town on August 29, 1994. Frank died November 15, 1994 at the Adams County Memorial Hospital. He was buried next to his wife at Niebull Cemetery, Town of Big Flats. He was given a Chief's Funeral.

It was like a monarch had passed on for indeed, he was a leader in the community. The caravan of firetrucks and pick-up trucks, squad cars and tornado-scarred cars wound past the partly built firehouse and out to the cemetery. The procession was two and one half miles long and it stopped next to Doreene's grave. While family and friends gathered at the grave site a crackling came over the police radio, the Adams County Police dispatcher sent out Frank Zernia's last page. She announced an Emergency in Big Flats, and that Frank Zernia had taken his last call and gone home. The minister tapped the top of Frank's coffin and said, "You're home, Frank," as 150 balloons of red, white, and blue were released.



They may not all be family, but they belong in the book: Jack's Hayloft Serenaders performed throughout Wisconsin in the 1940s and early '50s, including at least one radio broadcast on the WLS National Barn Dance. In addition to playing and singing as themselves, they also impersonated country stars like Lulu Belle and Scotty, Patsy Montana, Minnie Pearl, the Adkansas Woodchopper and the Hoosier Hotshots. In real life, they were (l-r), Wilbur McChesney, Jack Werner, Don Huss, Willard Phillips, Harold Wohlfert, Leah Morgan, Shirley Needham, Bonnie Chatfield, Jeanette Kurth, Emil Werner, Mary Huss, Roselie Werner, Donald Banks, Eva Werner, Alma Werner, Effie Banks, Cliff Banks and Dave Alverson.

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