



## **A happy anniversary to us : a century in Hamburg, 1876-1976.**

Merrill, Wisconsin: Quality Print, 1976

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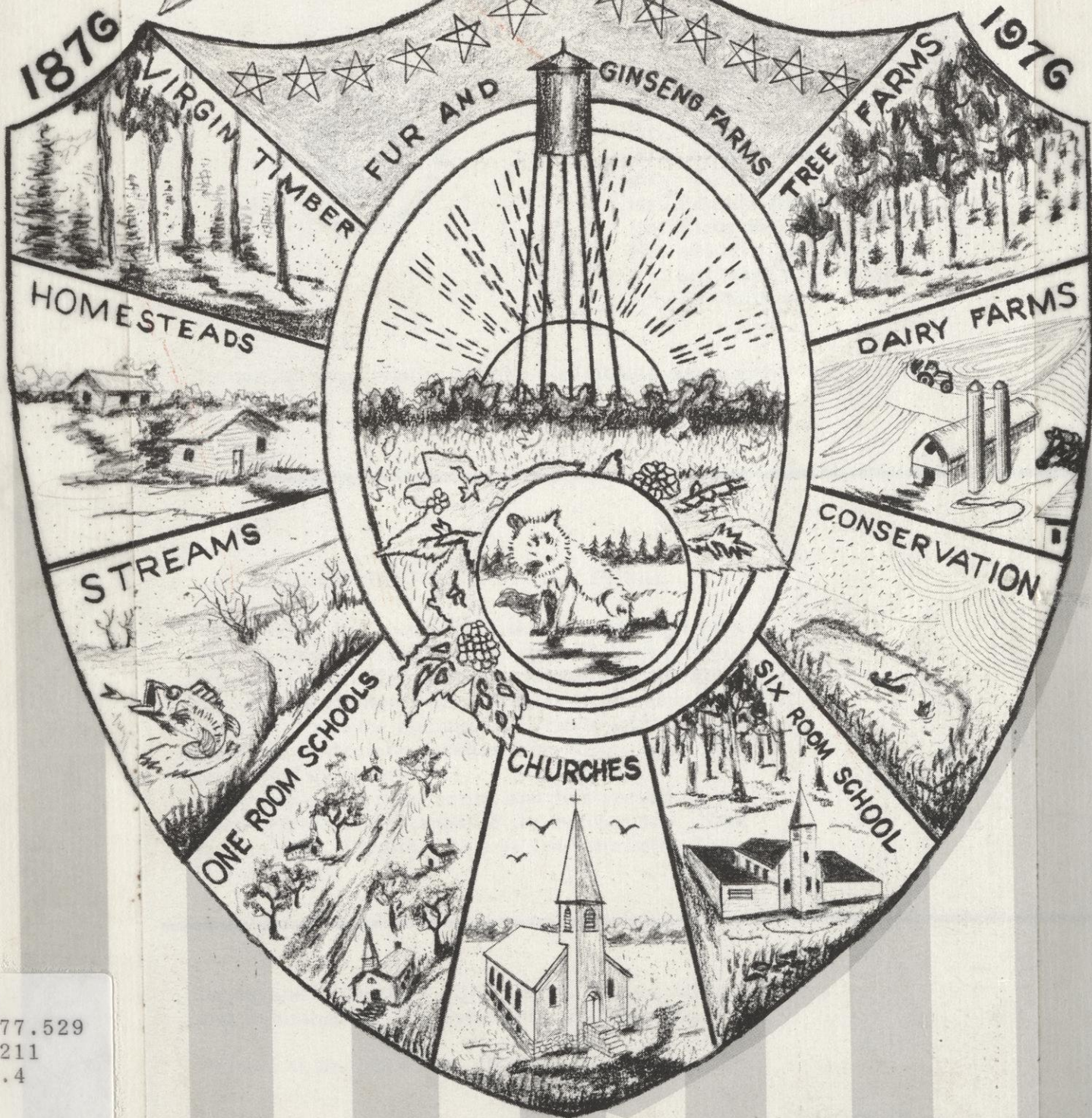


# A HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US

A CENTURY IN HAMBURG

1876

1976



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It is our wish to dedicate this book to our forefathers, who had the courage to brave the wilderness and the determination to carve a home for their descendants - this beautiful town of Hamburg.



The Committee:

Mrs. Lavern Teske, Chairman  
Mrs. Lenore Wade  
Mrs. Cecilia Storm  
Mrs. Deloris Bloch  
Mrs. Kathy Marquardt  
Mrs. Clara Roesler  
Mr. Edward Zinkowich  
Mr. Eldor Helmke  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bloch  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Voigt  
Mr. Erwin Brunow

"A special thank you to all who contributed material for the centennial book."

COVER DESIGNED BY BEN PUNKE

Mr. Punke has composed many outstanding works of art. One of which is a collage, "A Happy Anniversary To Us, 1776-1976," in honor of our nation's bicentennial and has been on display throughout Wisconsin. From the collage the cover of this book was derived, depicting scenes from Hamburg's first century of existence.

Ben is a commercial artist and has served as the Town of Hamburg's assessor for many years. Ben and his wife, Virginia, live at 3rd Lane in the Town of Hamburg.

Layout and Design by T. Bell and R. Teske, Editors and Publishers of Midstate Outdoors Magazine.

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Marathon County Public Library  
300 N 1st St  
Wausau WI 54403



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

In The Beginning.....	1
The New Township And Its Government .....	3
Town Officials 1876-1976 .....	8
America, Ever Changing - Ever Constant Farms of 1891.....	13
Century Farms 100 Years Of Family Heritage .....	15
Reflections .....	30
Industries.....	68
Time Marches On!.....	79
Hamburg Schools.....	81
Churches Of Hamburg.....	86
Clubs And Recreation.....	92
Early Pastimes.....	96
Hamburg Fire Department .....	100
Hamburg Post Offices.....	101
Those Who Served.....	103
Hamburg Today.....	105
The Longest Wed .....	107
Oldest And Youngest Residents Of 1976 .....	108
Our Centennial August 21-22, 1976.....	109
Hamburg Residents 1976.....	115
Index .....	125





MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD IS THE WISDOM

PASSED DOWN THROUGH GENERATIONS.



# *In the beginning...*

excerpts from CENTRAL WISCONSIN  
NEWSPAPER 1876

The committee on town organizations, made the following report, upon the petition of residents of town 30 Ranges 4 and 5, which was adopted.

The undersigned committee, on town and county organizations, having had under consideration the petition of Edward Haehlke and 49 others to divide the town of Berlin, and set off Ranges 3, 4 and 5 town 30 from said town, and create a new town under the name of "Hamburg," said town to be organized in April next. Your committee beg leave to report in favor of said petition, and ask, that said town may be created and set off as prayed for by the petitioners, and that the first election in said town be held in the school house of Dist. No. 10 in said town, and it was so ordered.

excerpts from LOUIS MARCHETTI

The town of Hamburg was set off from the town of Berlin February 10, 1876, to consist of township 30, ranges 3, 4 and 5. The first chairman and member of the county board was Carl Kleinschmidt. Hamburg was settled simultaneously with Berlin and Maine, but the

settlers remained few and their numbers grew slowly. They were all German emigrants for a good many years, coming from Pomerania, in Germany, the same province from where nearly the whole German emigrants hailed.

When the farmers of the present town of Hamburg made application to the county board for a separate town organization, township 30, range 5, was well settled, but only two families were in range 4, township 30. Range 6, the present town of Berlin, was as well settled as it is today, but the farms were smaller, of course, although farms with sixty acres clearing were many.

Fred Sellin had been for many years town clerk of the old town of Berlin, and the suit against the Wisconsin Central Railroad to stop the issuing of the bonds to that road, was carried on in his name. Politically he was the most prominent man in the town for many years, and lived in the territory organized as the town of Hamburg and became the town clerk and the organizer of the new town.

## PINES AND PROGRESS

The splendid white pine stood all through the hardwood forest of that town and furnished the logs which kept several mills running in this town for years, and there is a good supply of white pine standing in this township yet, although at this time the whole township is settled and big farms are on every section. The pioneers have nearly all gone to the long rest, but their children occupy and own the lands and fine farms which they helped to make.

The sawmills existing in this town, built after 1880, have all quit operations and have been removed; still much timber from this town is supplied to keep the Sellin mill in operation, which lies in the town of Berlin at the boundary line between the two towns.



At Ziegler Postoffice, which is also on the same boundary line in the town of Berlin, being range line between ranges 6 and 5, there is in the town of Hamburg a cheesebox factory, a feed mill, a lath and planing mill which is owned and operated by William Krinke; a tavern kept by Henry Huehnerfuss; a store by Bean; and a blacksmith and wagonmaker shop kept by Albert J. Bothner.

A good old road runs along the range line from the north county line as far south as the town of Emmett; at Ziegler's it is crossed by the Wausau and Athens road and quite a country business place has sprung up at the crossing of the road, being known in popular parlance as "Little Chicago."

In the town of Berlin, at Little Chicago, there is the store of William Beilke carrying a large stock of general merchandise, and a shoemaker and harness shop conducted by Leo Brandt. A cheese factory is three-fourths of a mile east from Little Chicago in the town of Berlin, and another one mile west on the same road, where there is another store carried on by E. Haehle. All together there are one creamery and four cheese factories in the town of Hamburg and much cream is collected by the creamery in Athens.

Four school districts each with one well ventilated modern schoolhouse take care of the education of a crop of healthy children.

Four German Evangelical Lutheran churches, each with a substantial good church edifice, testify to the Christian character of the community. At least two of these congregations, and probably three, trace their beginning back to the Rev. J. J. Hoffman, who was the first resident pastor in the town of Berlin--which included Hamburg at that time--and to his successor Rev. William Hudtloff.

The St. Peter's congregation built their present large church in 1887. The trustees of this congregation are A. Hoff, A. Mueller, F. Zastrow, and Frank Marth. The present pastor of this congregation, Rev. A. Koepp, resides in the parsonage built in the town of Berlin for Rev. J. J. Hoffman. He has several missions besides the St. Peter's congregation.

The German Evangelical Lutheran St. John's congregation built its present church in the year 1893; forty-three families belong to this congregation.

The German Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's congregation built their present edifice in 1895. The number of families which hold membership is twenty-six.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Salem's congregation built their church in 1896 and has thirty-eight members to constitute its membership.

The last three mentioned congregations have been for the last ten years under the spiritual care of Rev. J. Fraund, who resides in the parsonage adjacent to the St. John's (Johannis') church. All these congregations have joint or separate parochial schools.



W. Brunow and 1700 feet of pine logs by the Henry Bloch Saw Mill in 1925.



# ***The New Township and Its Government***

DIRECT REPRINT OF TOWN MEETINGS OF  
1876

At a meeting of the Voters and Inhabitants of the newly organized Town of Hamburg in the County of Marathon held on the 27th day of March 1876 at the Schoolhouse No. 1 in said Town, for the purpose to elect Inspectors of the annual town meeting which shall be held on the day of April 1876, in the Schoolhouse of said District. Edward Haehlke was chosen Chairman and Friedrich Sellin Secretair for said meeting.

On motion was passed that first the Board of Inspectors should be chosen for said annual town meeting. Elias Pick was chosen Chairman and Edward Haehlke, and Carl Kleinschmidt, as assistance Inspectors, and Henry Sellin was chosen Clerk for said annual town meeting.

On motion was passed to wit: That 3 assessors should be elected, and the town shall be divided in 3 Assessor Districts, which Districts shall be as follows, Assessors District No. 1 shall include the sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 Town 30 Range 5 and the sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 Town 30 Range 4, and the sections 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 Town 30 Range 3.

The second Assessors District shall include the sections 13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24 Town 30 Range 5 and sections 13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24 Town 30 Range 4 and sections 13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24 Town 30 Range 3.

The third Assessors District shall include the sections 25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36 Town 30 Range 5 and sections 25,26,

27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36 Town 30 Range 5 and sections 25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36 Town 30 Range 4 and sections 25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36 Town 30 Range 3.

And the new elected Town Board shall hire to every Assessor a man to assistance the Assessors by his duty.

A motion was passed that the chosen Board of Inspectors should make an estimation of the needed raised tax for the next annual Town meeting.

Signed  
Edward Haehlke, Chairman  
Fr. Sellin, Secretair.

We the undersigned chosen Board of Inspectors of the Town of Hamburg, Marathon County do estimate that it will be necessary to raise on all taxable property in said Town, seven hundred dollars as Town Tax.

And that it will be necessary to raise fifteen mill on all taxable property as Road Tax.

And that it will be necessary to raise on all taxable property for the purpose to build a bridge over the Big Rib River the sum to two thousand dollars as Special Road Tax.

And that it will be necessary to raise on all the taxable property 5 mill for school purposes for the ensuing year.

Dated this 27th day of March 1876

Signed  
Elias Pick  
Edward Haehlke  
Carl Kleinschmidt  
Attested  
Fr. Sellin, Secretair



#### Board Meeting 1876

Board met on the 5th day of April 1876

Present: Carl Kleinschmidt, Chairman and G. Seidler and John Voigt, Supervisor.

On motion was passed that the Town Boards of the Town of Hamburg and Berlin would meet together at the Schoolhouse No. 4 in the Town of Berlin on the 10th day of April next to settle the town matters between the Towns of Hamburg and Berlin.

On motion was passed that the Town Clerk of the Town of Hamburg should hold back in his possession the book desk, lest that the matter is settled between the said Town Boards to which Town said desk shall belong.

On motion, that the Town Board will meet on the 19th day of April next to assess the highway tax for the town for the ensuing year and make out the road warrants for the Road Overseers in the Town Clerks Office.

Board Adjourned.

Dated this 5th day of April 1876.

Fr. Sellin

Town Clerk

#### Board Meeting April 10, 1876.

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of Hamburg and Berlin meet pursuant to agreement on the 10th day of April 1876 at Schoolhouse No. 4 in the Town of Berlin.

Present A. W. Schmidt, Friedrich Gruenberg and Hermann Zimmermann of the Town of Berlin, and Carl Kleinschmidt, Gottlieb Seidler, and Johann Voigt of the Town of Hamburg.

The following motion was passed and agreed to divide the Town line between the said towns to keep in repair to wit: The South half from the mile between the Sections 36 Range 5 Town 30 and the Section 31 Town 30 Range 6, shall be kept in repair by the town of Hamburg, and the North half of the mile between said sections shall be kept in repair by the Town of Berlin. And the South half of the mile between the Sections 25 Town 30 Range 5, and the Section 30 Town 30 Range 6 shall be kept in repair by the Town of Hamburg, and the North half of the mile between said sections shall be kept in repair by the Town of Berlin. And the South half of the mile between the Sections 12 Town 30 Range 5

and the Section 7 Town 30 Range 6 shall be kept in repair by the Town of Hamburg and the

North half of the mile between said Sections shall be kept in repair by the Town of Berlin. And the South half of the mile between the Sections 1 Town 30 Range 5 and the Section 6 Town 30 Range 6 shall be kept in repair by the Town of Hamburg and the North half of the mile between said Sections shall be kept in repair by the Town of Berlin.

On motion was passed that the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Hamburg and Berlin would meet together at the Schoolhouse No. 2 of the Town of Berlin, on the 31st day of May next at 9 o'clock A.M. to settle the matters of said School District.

On motion was passed that the Town Clerk of the Town of Berlin shall give copys of the contracts of Gottlieb Woller, Joachim Nieman and Elias Pick to the Town Board of the Town of Hamburg, of the road work which was not expected by the Board of the Town of Berlin to this date, and the Board of the Town of Hamburg shall accept this work, and give a certificate that the work is accepted in accordance with the Contracts, to the Supervisors of the Town of Berlin, and said work shall be paid over by the County Treasurer and is in his hands.

On motion was passed, that the Chairman of the Town of Hamburg and Berlin shall appoint a Lawer for every Town to settle the School tax now as credit in the County Treasury. The two Town Boards could not agree in a other way in the matter, the said Lawer and Chairman shall meet together and as the same agree and decide shall it be accepted by both towns.

On motion was passed that the returned School Districts tax now in the hand of the County Treasurer which belongs to the Town of Hamburg is for the year 1875 \$31.10 and for the year 1874 \$247.44 and of the Town of Berlin of the year 1875 \$24.31 and of the Town of Berlin 1874 \$58.01.

On motion was passed that the debts which are on Road and Town expenses in the Town of Berlin to this date is in total amount of \$753.28 by deducting of cash in the Town Treasury and the Returned taxes as credit in County Treasury except legal charges which may come against said Town of Berlin, this amount of debts shall be settled between the two Towns if the law suit which is between the Town of Berlin and Lincoln County is decided, and this settlement shall be made in accordance of the value of the Assessment of the tax roll of the year 1875 of the Town of Berlin, and the cost of said law suit shall be paid from towns of said assessment roll, and in case there come and a cause any debts by the settlement between the Town of Berlin and Jenny in Lincoln County, against



said Town of Berlin all said debts shall be settled between the towns of Hamburg and Berlin, when said suit is decided in accordance of said assessment roll. And also the cost of the suit between the Town Treasure of the Town of Berlin, and the County Treasure of Lincoln County shall be paid from said town of Berlin and Hamburg just so as afore said by the other case.

And if the law suit should be lost or gained in every instances, both town Boards have to agree, and find further steps in the matter of this lawsuit.

On motion was passed that the desk of the Town Clerk, which was estimated to the value of \$25.00 which amount shall be divided in accordance of the assessment of the year 1875 between the both towns if the other matters of the lawsuits shall be settled and divided between said towns of Hamburg and Berlin.

Dated this 10th day of April 1876.

Attested: Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk of the Town of Hamburg; Charles Jehn, Town Clerk of the Town of Berlin.

Board met on the 19th day of April 1876

Present: C. Kleinschmidt, G. Seidler, John Voigt.

Board assessed the highway tax and made out Road warrants to Road Overseers in: Road Dist. No. 1, Fr. Rohloff-Overseer, \$31.75 assessed; Road Dist. No. 2, G. Woller-Overseer, \$75.02 assessed; Road Dist. No. 3, C. Voigt-Overseer, \$96.27 assessed; Road Dist. No. 4, H. Langhoff-Overseer, \$535.01 assessed; Road Dist. No. 5, Fr. Plautz-Overseer, \$137.15 assessed; Road Dist. No. 6, E. Pick-Overseer, \$477.76 assessed.

Total assessed: \$1352.96

Board adjourned sine die.

Dated this 19th day of April 1876.

Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk

Board meeting June 16th 1876

Board met at the Schoolhouse No. 10 in the Town of Hamburg on the 16th day of June 1876. Present Carl Kleinschmidt, Gottlieb Seidler and Johann Voigt, the following matters were arranged and passed to wit. That three men should be hired to accompany the Assessor to assess the wild land in Ranges 4 and 5. Franz

Marth, August Borchardt and Henry Pick were hired to the amount of \$1.90 per day. Franz Marth was given to assist H. Sellin. August Borchardt to assist H. Bartelt and Henry Pick to assist H. Langhoff.

On order was passed, that the present numbers of the Schoolhouses, in the new Town of Hamburg should be changed and that School Dist. No. 9 formerly of the Town of Berlin shall be called School Dist. No. 1 and formerly School Dist. No. 10 shall be called School Dist. No. 2 and formerly School Dist. No. 11 shall be called School Dist. No. 3 of the Town of Hamburg, which order is recorded in School Record of the Town of Hamburg.

On motion was passed that the Supervisors would given in contract the  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile on the Range line between A. Kickbusch and John Burmeister to the lowest bidders to construct and improve said Road.

Board adjourned to the last Monday in June being the 26th day of said month next to meet in the School No. 2 as Board of Review of said Town of Hamburg.

Dated this 16th day of June 1876.

Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk

Proceedings of the Board of Review 1876

The Board of Review for the Town of Hamburg in the County of Marathon meet in accordance with the assessment law, on the last Monday in June, being the 26th day of June 1876 at the Schoolhouse No. 2 of said town.

Present: Carl Kleinschmidt, Gottlieb Seidler, John Voigt, Fred Sellin, Henry Langhoff, Herrmann Bartelt and Henry Sellin.

The following resolutions were passed to wit:

1. That the Real Estate of the town shall be assessed in four classes, to the following prices to wit: 1. class of land shall be \$3.00 per acre; 2. class of land shall be \$2.00 per acre; 3. class of land shall be \$1.25 per acre; 4. class of land shall be \$.75 per acre.

2. Resolution, that the price of improved land shall be the double amount per acre as is said of the prices in the 1. Resolution by bush land.

3. Resolution, that the Farm buildings, houses and other buildings shall be assessed by the personal property of the owner, to one third of its real valuation.

4. Resolution, that the personal property shall be reduced to the following rates to wit: 1. class of Horses to \$75.00 per span, 2. class



of Horses to \$60.00 per span, 3. class of Horses to \$50.00 per span, 4. class of colts, from \$10.00 to \$25.00 per head.

5. Neat cattles shall be reduced, as follows: 1. class of Open \$30.00 per yook, 2. class of Open \$25.00 per yook, 3. class of Open \$20.00 per yook, 4. milk cows to \$10.00 per head first class, 5. milk cows to \$7.00 per head second class, 6. young cattles 3 year old to the prices as is said by milk cows, and 2 years old and yearlings to the price of \$3.00 a head.

6. Resolution, that the swine and hogs shall be assessed in 2 classes to wit: 1st class shall be \$2.50 per head, 2nd class shall be \$2.00 per head.

7. Resolution, that waggons, carriages and sleds shall be assessed to one third of its real valuation, except carriages for luxus shall be assessed to one half of valuation.

9. Resolution, that other personal property as machinery, shall be assessed to one fourth of its real valuation.

The Board fixed the assessment of personal property, and adjourned to the next Monday 3rd of July next, and will meet at the Schoolhouse No. 2, at 9 o'clock A.M. to correct the Assessment roll of the Real Estate for the Town of Hamburg.

On motion was passed that the Board of Supervisors would inspect defect Roads on the first day of July next.

Dated this 26th day of July 1876.

Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk

#### Equalization of Real Estate, July 3rd, 1876

Board met in accordance to adjournment at the Schoolhouse No. 2 of the Town of Hamburg on the 3rd day of July 1876, present all members of the Town Board and the Assessors for said Town.

The Real Estate was equalized by the Board of Review in accordance with the Resolutions passed by said Board on the 26th day of June 1876.

Mr. Smith of Wausau, agent of the Wis. Valley Railroad land, appeared for said Board and made a proposal, that the land of said Valley Railroad Co. should be reduced to \$10.00 per acre lot, which proposal was denied by the Board of Review, there were made only little changes on a few descriptions of said Railroad land in the Range 3, 4, 5 all other descriptions were accepted by the Board as the Assessors have fixed the valuation. (reduced \$1620)  
Board of Review adjourned.

On motion was passed by the Supervisors, that the same would hold public auction to give on contract to the lowest bidders work on Roads on following places in the Town of Hamburg to wit:

Monday, July 10th:

A.M. 8 o'clock by F. Voelker

A.M. 10 o'clock by Aug Kniess

Noon 12 o'clock by C. Kleinschmidt

P.M. 3 o'clock by H. Wendt

P.M. 5 o'clock by A. Kickbusch

Tuesday, July 11th:

A.M. 8 o'clock by A. Borchardt

A.M. 10 o'clock by C. Marth

Noon 12 o'clock by E. Haehlke

P.M. 3 o'clock by W. Schroeder

Made out Notices of Public Auctions.

Board adjourned to July the 5th next.

Dated this 3rd day of July 1876

Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk

Meeting of the Board of Review, July the 5th, 1876.

The Board of Review met on the 5th day of July 1876 at the Schoolhouse No. 2 of the Town of Hamburg, Marathon County according to agreement.

All members of the Board of Review were present.

The valuation question of the several classes of Real Estate was brought in reconsideration for said Board of Review and was accepted and agreed by said Board as follows: The 1st class of Real Estate in the Town of Hamburg shall be assessed to the price of \$2.00 per acre, and the 2nd class shall be assessed to \$1.50 per acre and the 3rd class shall be assessed to \$1.00 per acre and the fourth class shall be assessed to \$.50 per acre. And the agreement in force, and all the assessed Real Estate in the Town which is in the Assessment Roll shall be assessed in accordance with this agreement.

On motion was passed by said Board that all Buildings, as dwelling houses and barns, and other farm buildings, shall be assessed in a separately column in the Assessment roll, as personal property to the owners.

The Board of Review adjourned sine die.

Dated this 5th day of July, 1876.

Attested: Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk

#### Settlement of School District No. 2 1876

At meeting of the Supervisors of the Town of Hamburg and Berlin in Marathon County,



held on the 2nd day of September 1876 at the house of Fr. Rohloff in the Town of Hamburg for the purpose to settle the property of the School District No. 2 in the Town of Berlin, according to agreement of a Board meeting of said towns held on the 31st day of May 1876.

Present: C. A. Kleinschmidt, G. Seidler, J. Voigt of the Town of Hamburg, and A.W. Schmitt, F. Grueneberg, H. Zimmermann of the Town of Berlin. The following resolutions were passed:

Resolved: That the property of said District No. 2 shall be divided in accordance of the assessment roll of the year 1875.

The said Assessment roll shows, that the valuation of territory is as follows, the territory in the Town of Berlin is 1/6 of the valuation of the whole district.

And said Town Boards find in the books and records of said District, that in the Districts treasury was on hand \$11.91 in cash, which amount was divided to Town of Hamburg \$10.00 and the Town of Berlin \$1.91.

And further the Boards find, that said District has credit by the former School District No. 3 of the Town of Berlin, now a School District in the Town of Corning, Lincoln County, to the amount of \$205.47. Of this amount is entitled the part of School District No. 2 now in the Town of Corning, Lincoln County to the sum of \$25.00 and the balance of \$180.47 is entitled territory Town of Hamburg \$150.41 and the territory Town of Berlin \$30.06.

And it was further agreed, that the utensiles and apparatus of said School District was worth \$30.00, which property should be property of the territory of the Town of Berlin the sum of \$5.00.

And it was further agreed to appoint Fr. Rohloff of the Town of Hamburg, to take this credits and property in his hands, and W. Fischer was appointed for the territory of the Town of Berlin, and the said W. Fischer has to pay over to Fr. Rohloff in cash \$10.00. And the Order of the formerly School Dist. No. 8 of \$205.47 of this Order Fr. Rohloff if he has collected said order, has to pay to the formerly part of District No. 2 now in Lincoln County the sum of \$25.00, and to W. Fischer of the part of territory in the Town of Berlin \$35.06.

On motion was passed that the Town Boards of the Town of Hamburg and Berlin would meet on the 7th day of September 1876 next, at the town clerks office in the Town of Berlin to settle the town matters between the said town. The Board meeting was adjourned. Dated this 2nd day of September 1876

Attested: Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk of the Town of Hamburg; Charles Jehn, Town Clerk of the Town of Berlin.

Board meeting, Sept. 7, 1876 Hamburg and Berlin (settlement)

The Town Boards of the Town of Berlin and Hamburg, met together at the town clerks office of the Town of Berlin according to agreement on the 7th day of September 1876, for the purpose to make the Settlement between the two Town in the financial business of said Town.

Present: A.W. Schmidt, Fr. Grueneberg, H. Zimmermann of the Town of Berlin, C.A. Kleinschmidt, G. Seidler, John Voigt of the Town of Hamburg.

The settlement was made in accordance of the Assessment roll of the year 1875, and of the agreement of the two town boards, at a meeting held April the 10th, 1876.

The settlement included the \$1,200.00 paid over by the County Treasurer of Lincoln County to the Town Treasurer of the Town of Berlin.

And the two town boards find, that the Town of Hamburg is indebted to the Town of Berlin to the amount of \$114.84, which amount shall be paid over by the Town of Hamburg to the Town of Berlin on or before the 1st day of April 1878.

And the treasurer of the Town of Berlin must pay over the share of School District tax to the Town of Hamburg, as the amount are stated in the Board meeting April the 10th, 1876 and the 17th annual report of the Town of Berlin.

And the town and county school money shall be paid over from the Town Treasurer of the Town of Berlin, as if the town was not divided.

The share of Town and County School money belonging to the Town of Hamburg is \$101.13. And the School Districts money is \$278.54. Dated this 7th day of September 1876.

Attested: Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk of the Town of Hamburg; Charles Jehn, Town Clerk of the Town of Berlin.

Board met November 11, 1876 in the Town Clerks office; present Carl Kleinschmidt and Johann Voigt.

First made out an application to the County Board of Lincoln County in regard of the Road of Carl Krueger.

Second made out and lay out the Road of Fer-



dinand Hannemann and fixed the awards of damages to the owners of land through which said road passed.

Third made the list of the persons they have build dams and bridges which were the lowest bidders on the public auctions held in the Town of Hamburg, and which work was accepted by the Supervisors as follows to wit:

Names	Rods Long	Cost/ Rod	Total Cost
Dams			
W. Kleinschmidt	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$1.50	\$63.45
F. Kleinschmidt	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.21	29.64
L. Juedes	10	.99	9.90
	52 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.00	52.50
Henry Wendt	15	.98	14.70

Gotthilf Wendt	16	.40	6.40
	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.20	46.20
	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.40	25.90
Fr. Plautz	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.15	17.82
	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	.74	16.65
Carl Marth	9	.99	8.91
	8	1.10	8.80
Edward Haelke	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.10	10.45

#### Bridges

G. Wendt	69.20
	6.00

The following bill was allowed to Henry Sellin; Assessor Service, \$76.00  
Board adjourned sine die.  
Dated this 11th day of November 1876.  
Fr. Sellin, Town Clerk

## Town Officials 1876-1976

Assessor	Justice of Peace	Constable
1891 William Grieser	F.F. Matz	Fred Plautz Fred Wiedmann Aug. Beckmann
1892 William Grieser	Charles F. Baneck	Fred Wiedmann Fred Plautz
1893 F.F. Matz	F.F. Matz	Fred Plautz Herman Raasch Fred Wiedmann Fred Plautz John Kraft Fred Wiedmann Fred Plautz Julius Zastrow Fred Wiedmann
1894 Edward Haehlke	Wm. Grieser	Carl A. Wendt Albert Zastrow Albert Hoff
1895 Edward Haehlke		
1896 Edward Haehlke		

Chairman	Supervisors	Clerk	Treasurer
1876 Carl Kleinschmidt	Gottlieb Seidler Johann Voigt	Frederich Sellin	
1877 John Riemer	Fred Plautz Fred Radloff	Frederich Sellin	
1878 Bernhard Hanneman	Ferdinand Janke Ferdinand Voelkow	Carl Nieman	
1879 Bernhard Hanneman	Elias Pick Carl Kleinschmidt	Carl Nieman	



	Chairman	Supervisor	Clerk	Treasurer
1880	Henry Sellin	Wm. Grieser Carl Marth	Carl Nieman	
1881	Henry Sellin	Wm. Grieser Carl Marth	Carl Nieman	
1882	Henry Sellin	C. A. Borchardt Albert Zahn	Carl Nieman	
1883	Charles F. Baneck	Edward Haehlke Henry Baneck	Carl Nieman	
1884	Charles F. Baneck	Edward Haehlke Henry Baneck	Carl Nieman	
1885	Charles F. Baneck	F. Janke Frank Marth	Carl Nieman	
1886	Ferninand Sellin	Charles Hanke Ferdinand Kuehn	Henry E. Voigt	Wm. Grieser
1887	A.W. Raasch	George Grob Gottlieb Woller	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1888	A.W. Raasch	Carl Kleinschmidt Henry Sellin	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1889	Henry Sellin	Henry Wendt Charles Ziegel	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1890	Henry Sellin	Ferd. Hannemann Ludwig Wiederhoeft	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1891	Henry Sellin	Charles F. Hanke William Juedes	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1892	Henry Sellin	Otto Prochnow Henry Bauch	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1893	A.W. Raasch	Carl Woller (Friedrich Graebel	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1894	John C. Henrichs	Jan. '94 (Edward Haehlke May '94 (W.C.F. Trantow Charles Zastrow	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1895	John C. Henrichs	Frank Kysow Anton Thur	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1896	John C. Henrichs	Frank Kysow John Voigt	Henry E. Voigt	Frank Marth
1897	John C. Henrichs	Albert Hoff Carl Ziegel	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1898	John C. Henrichs	Gottlieb Wendt Carl F. Baneck	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1899	John C. Henrichs	Fred Wissman Albert Zimmerman	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1900	John C. Henrichs	Wm. Grieser Ferd. Kuehn	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1901	John C. Henrichs	Wm. Grieser Fred Schoenherr	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1902	John C. Henrichs	Wm. Grieser Fred Bukrow	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1903	Fred Sellin	Robert Woller Fred Graebel	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1904	Fred Sellin	Robert Woller Ernest Pruss	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1905	Fred Sellin	Ernest Pruss Robert Woller	John Seidler	Frank Marth
1906	Fred Sellin	Robert Woller Albert Zastrow	John Seidler	Henry Weiderhoeft



	Chairman	Supervisors	Clerk	Treasurer
1907	Fred Sellin	Frank Marth Frank Kysow	John Seidler	Henry Wiederhoeft
1908	Frank Marth	Ernest Schoenherr Frank Kysow	John Seidler	Henry Wiederhoeft
1909	Frank Marth	Ernest Schoenherr Frank Kysow	John Seidler	Henry Wiederhoeft
1910	Frank Marth	Robert Woller Ernest Schoenherr	John Seidler	Henry Wiederhoeft
1911	Frank Marth	Jul. Kuehn Frank Koeller	John Seidler	Henry Wiederhoeft
1912	Frank Marth	Jul. Kuehn Frank Koeller	John Seidler	Henry Wiederhoeft
1913	Frank Kysow	John A. Baneck Aug. Bartelt	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1914	Frank Kysow	Herman Henrichs John Baneck	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1915	Frank Kysow	Herman Henrichs John Baneck	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1916	Frank Kysow	John Baneck Ernest Pruss	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1917	Gust A. Polterman	John Baneck Ernest Pruss	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1918	Gust A. Polterman	John Baneck Ernest Pruss	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1919	John A. Baneck	Ernest Pruss Wm. Grieser	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1920	John A. Baneck	Ernest Pruss Otto Mootz	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1921	John A. Baneck	Ernest Pruss Otto Mootz	John Seidler	Wm. Schoenherr
1922	John A. Baneck	Chas. Ziegel Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Wm. Schoenherr
1923	Frank Marth	Ernest Schoenherr Otto Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Wm. Schoenherr
1924	Frank Marth	Ernest Schoenherr Otto Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Wm. Schoenherr
1925	Frank Marth	Otto Mootz Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Wm. Schoenherr
1926	Frank Marth	Louis Mootz Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Wm. Schoenherr
1927	Frank Marth	Ernest Schoenherr Louis Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Wm. Schoenherr
1928	Frank Marth	Edw. Nieman Louis Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1929	Edw. Woller	Louis Mootz Jul. Kleinschmidt	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1930	Edw. Woller	Jul. Kleinschmidt Chas. Ziegel	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1931	Edw. Woller	Wm. Mueller Chas. Ziegel	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1932	Theo. J. Helmke	Wm. Mueller Herman Krenz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1933	Theo. J. Helmke	Herman Krenz Wm. Mueller	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1934	Martin Lueck	Harry Emmerich Louis Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul



	Chairman	Supervisors	Clerk	Treasurer
1935	Martin Lueck	Harry Emmerich Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1936	Martin Lueck	Harry Emmerich Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1937	Martin Lueck	Emil Marth Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1938	Martin Lueck	Emil Marth Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1939	Martin Lueck	Emil Marth Ernest Schoenherr	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1940	Martin Lueck	Emil Marth Frank Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1941	Harry Emmerich	Emil Marth Frank Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1942	Harry Emmerich	Emil Marth Frank Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1943	Harry Emmerich	Emil Marth Frank Mootz	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1944	Harry Emmerich	Emil Marth Henry W. Wendt	Henry Wiederhoeft	Gust Paul
1945	Harry Emmerich	Emil Marth Henry W. Wendt	Melvin Woller	Harvey Woller
1947	Harry Emmerich	Walter Pruss Rudolph Natzke	Melvin Woller	Harvey Woller
1949	Rudolph Natzke	Walter Pruss Reinhard Koeller	Melvin Woller	Harvey Woller Vernon Woller
1950	Rudolph Natzke Walter Pruss	Walter Pruss Reinhard Koeller	Melvin Woller	Vernon Woller
1951	Walter Pruss	Reinhard Koeller Henry W. Wendt	Melvin Woller	Vernon Woller
1953	Walter Pruss	Reinhard Koeller Harold Thurs	Melvin Woller	Vernon Woller
1955	Walter Pruss	Elmer Kreihn Erwin Brunow	Melvin Woller	Vernon Woller
1957	Walter Pruss	Erwin Brunow Elmer Kreihn	Melvin Woller	Raymond Wohld
1959	Walter Pruss	Erwin Brunow Elmer Kreihn	Elmer Krohn	Raymond Wohld
1961	Elmer Kreihn	Erwin Brunow Edward Zinkowich	Elmer Krohn	Raymond Wohld
1963	Elmer Kreihn	Erwin Brunow Edward Zinkowich	Cyrus Pickruhn	Raymond Wohld
1965	Elmer Kreihn	Edward Zinkowich Erwin Brunow	Cyrus Pickruhn	Raymond Wohld
1966	Elmer Kreihn	Erwin Brunow Edward Zinkowich	Deloris Bloch	Raymond Wohld
1967	Elmer Kriehn	Lenard Hamann Erwin Brunow	Deloris Bloch	Raymond Wohld
1968	Elmer Kriehn/ Lenard Hamann	Erwin Brunow Lenard Hamann/ Edward Zinkowich	Deloris Bloch	Haron Henrichs
1969	Lenard Hamann	Erwin Brunow Edward Zinkowich	Deloris Bloch	Haron Henrichs
1971	Edward Zinkowich	Erwin Brunow Harry Balz	Deloris Bloch	Haron Henrichs
1973	Edward Zinkowich	Erwin Brunow Eldor Helmke	Deloris Bloch	Haron Henrichs



Chairman

Supervisors

Clerk

Treasurer

1975 Edward Zinkowich

Erwin Brunow  
Eldor Helmke

Deloris Bloch

Haron Henrichs

1976 Edward Zinkowich

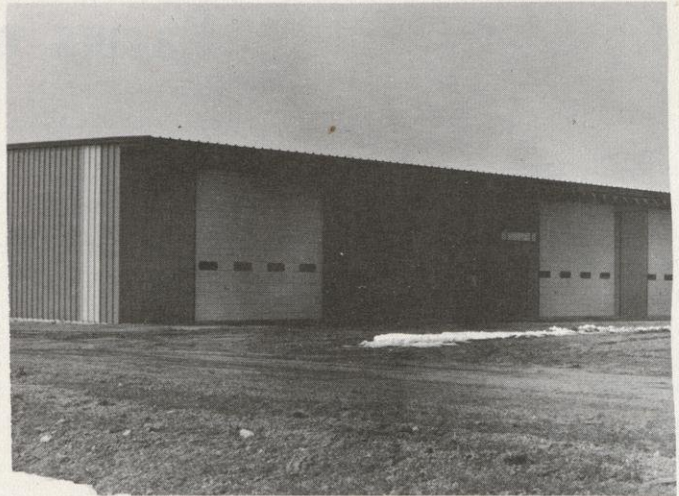
Erwin Brunow  
Eldor Helmke

Deloris Bloch

Haron Henrichs



Old Town Hall



New Town Shed



1976 Town Board (left to right) Haron Henrichs, Eldor Helmke, Edward Zinkowich, Erwin Brunow, Kathy Marquardt, Deloris Bloch



# America,

# Ever Changing - Ever Constant

## Farms of 1891

Ament, George	Sec. 34-30-5	Julick, H.S.	Sec. 30-30-5
Ament, John, Sr.	Sec. 28-30-5	Kankelfitz, Carl Jr.	Sec. 22-30-5
Baneck, Carl	Sec. 17-30-5	Kankelfitz, Carl Sr.	Sec. 22-30-5
Barteld & Riebe	Sec. 18-30-5	Kickbusch, Aug.	Sec. 25-30-5
Bauch, Henry	Sec. 26-30-5	Kleinschmidt, Carl	Sec. 8-10-15-30-5
Beckman, August	Sec. 15-30-5	Kleinschmidt, John	Sec. 10-30-5
Beneck, Carl	Sec. 9-30-5	Kniess, August	Sec. 10-30-5
Bernhardt	Sec. 24-30-5	Koehler, Frank	Sec. 33-30-5
Bloch, Ludwig	Sec. 5-30-5	Koehler, Gothilff	Sec. 34-40-5
Boettcher, Jul.	Sec. 29-30-5	Koeller, Aug.	Sec. 32-30-5
Borchardt, C.	Sec. 1-30-5	Kohlhoff, Aug.	Sec. 31-30-5
Borchardt, Ferd.	Sec. 27-30-5	Kolberg, Aug.	Sec. 21-30-5
Borchardt, Ferd.	Sec. 36-30-5	Kraft, August	Sec. 19-30-5
Borchardt, Henry	Sec. 25, 35-30-5	Kraft, John	Sec. 20-30-5
Brandt, Herman	Sec. 36-30-5	Krenz, Fred	Sec. 14-30-5
Brunow, Carl	Sec. 2-30-5	Kretlow, Frank	Sec. 32-30-5
Einert, Ernst	Sec. 10-30-5	Krueger, Ed	Sec. 2-30-5
Emmerich, Henry	Sec. 12-30-5	Kuehn, Edward	Sec. 17-30-5
Fischer, Carl	Sec. 33-30-5	Kuehn, Ferd.	Sec. 17-30-5
Fricke, Ernst	Sec. 6-30-5	Kuhfahl, F.	Sec. 24-30-5
Fricke & Wisman	Sec. 7-30-5	Kysow, Frank	Sec. 3-30-5
Fromm, Fred	Sec. 11-30-5	Langbecker, Albert	Sec. 1-30-5
Graebel, F.	Sec. 34-30-5	Langhoff, M.	Sec. 10-30-5
Grafunder, Albert	Sec. 32-30-5	Langhoff, Wilhelmine	Sec. 7-30-5
Grell, Carl	Sec. 9-30-5	Lilge, Fred	Sec. 26-30-5
Grieser, Wm.	Sec. 10, 16-30-5	Lipinsky, John	Sec. 29-30-5
Hanke, Chas.	Sec. 28-30-5	Luedtke, Fred.	Sec. 32-30-5
Hanke, Christ	Sec. 8-30-5	Marth, Carl	Sec. 27-30-5
Hannemann, Ferd.	Sec. 230-30-5	Matz, Ferd.	Sec. 35-30-5
Harnicke, H.	Sec. 28-30-5	Mielke, Wm.	Sec. 12-30-5
Hell, August	Sec. 24-30-5	Miller, Sarah	Sec. 29-30-5
Helmke, John	Sec. 11, 16-30-5	Mootz, Ludwig	Sec. 20, 21-30-5
Hinrichs, David	Sec. 12-20-5	Mueller, Aug.	Sec. 25-30-5
Hinrichs, John	Sec. 2-30-5	Newman, Thomas	Sec. 20-30-5
Hinrichs, Sophie	Sec. 1-30-5	Newmann, Fred	Sec. 36-30-5
Hoehne, Ferd.	Sec. 8-30-5	Niemann, Chas.	Sec. 12-30-5
Hoffman, George	Sec. 33-30-5	Niemann, J.	Sec. 16-30-5
Janke, Ferd.	Sec. 26-30-5	Niemann, Herman	Sec. 11-30-5
Janke, Wm.	Sec. 1-30-5	Plautz, Fred.	Sec. 26-30-5
Juedes, John	Sec. 26-30-5	Prochnow, Otto	Sec. 12-30-5
Juedes, Wm.	Sec. 25-30-5	Raasch, August	Sec. 4, 6, 8-30-5



Raasch, Henry	Sec. 4-30-5	Wellauer, Jacob	Sec. 25-30-5
Raasch, Herman	Sec. 6, 9-30-5	Wendt, Carl	Sec. 11-30-5
Raduenzel, Carl	Sec. 25-30-5	Wendt, Gotthief	Sec. 23-30-5
Ramm, Anton	Sec. 10-30-5	Wendt, Henry	Sec. 23,24-30-5
Rau, Gustav	Sec. 5-30-5	Wiedenhoeft, A.	Sec. 1,2-30-5
Ribatzke, C.	Sec. 6-30-5	Wiedenhoeft, Ludwig	Sec. 16-30-5
Riemer, John	Sec. 34-30-5	Woller, August	Sec. 3-30-5
Rohloff, Fred	Sec. 1-30-5		80 acres
Schliwetzky, John	Sec. 29-30-5	Woller, Carl	Sec. 2-30-5
Schmidt, Christ Sr.	Sec. 22-30-5		80 acres
Schmidt, Michael	Sec. 6-30-5	Woller, Robert	Sec. 3-30-5
Schoenherr, Fred	Sec. 17-30-5		80 acres
Schoenherr, Otto	Sec. 9-30-5	Woller, Fred	Sec. 2-30-5
Schultz, John D.	Sec. 28-30-5		120 acres
Seehafer, Christ	Sec. 36-30-5	Zahn, Albert	Sec. 26-30-5
Seehafer, John	Sec. 26-30-5	Zastrow, Albert	Sec. 17-30-5
Seidler, Charlotte	Sec. 17-30-5	Zastrow, John	Sec. 35-30-5
Seidler, John	Sec. 12-30-5	Zastrow, Chas	Sec. 35-30-5
Sellin, Henry	Sec. 25-30-5	Zastrow, Jul.	Sec. 20-30-5
Sellin, Fred	Sec. 24-30-5	Ziegel, Carl	Sec. 20-30-5
Sherry, Henry	Sec. 19-30-5	Zimmerman, Albert	Sec. 27-30-5
Smith, J.M.	Sec. 18,20,24-30-5	Zimmerman, Ferd.	Sec. 8-30-5
St. Peter's Society	Sec. 34-30-5		
Teske, Herman	Sec. 12-30-5		
Thurs, Anton	Sec. 22-30-5		
Trantow, Wm.	Sec. 13-30-5		
Urban, Chas.	Sec. 30-30-5		
Voelker, Fred	Sec. 2-30-5		
Voigt, Henry E.	Sec. 27-30-5		
Voigt, Herman	Sec. 22-30-5		
Voigt, John	Sec. 22, 23-30-5		
Voigt, John F.	Sec. 27-30-5		
Vorwalsky, Ferd.	Sec. 32-30-5		
Waldow, Ferd.	Sec. 29-30-5		
Weidman, Fred	Sec. 11-30-5		
Weisbrodt, Henry	Sec. 9-30-5		
Wellauer, C.	Sec. 34,35,26-30-5		

#### Early families owning a good size acreage:

Borchardts	520 acres
*Wollers	460 acres
Voigts	440 acres
Raaschs	434 acres
Niemanns	409 acres

\*Carl Woller also owned 80 acres in Maine, Sec. 15-30-6 and Fred Woller owned 120 acres in Sec. 5-30-7, Maine Twp., Marathon Co.



1891 - First home of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Wiederhoeft



# Century Farms

## 100 Years of Family Heritage

### Brunow Farm

by ERWIN BRUNOW

In 1869, Ervin Brunow's grandfather (Carl Brunow) homesteaded the family farm. The homestead laws at that time required that the homesteader live on the land for six months, build a house and start to clear the land. During this six month period, the homesteader could not work anywhere but on his land.

During the six months, Carl Brunow had to do some outside work and a watchful neighbor who had coveted the Brunow farm reported Carl to the authorities. As a result, Carl Brunow lost the farm and the man who had reported him took over the land.

It wasn't long before the new owner also infringed on the homestead laws and this time the shoe was on the other foot. Carl Brunow did the reporting this time and regained the family farm for \$200.00. This was the charge in order to do outside labor.

The rest of the story is told by the third generation of Brunow's on that land, Ervin Brunow:



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Brunow



Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Brunow and LaVern

"Mr. and Mrs. Carl Brunow bought the farm in 1871 for \$200.00. They built a small log house and barn during the first year. In 1880 they built a frame house with a bedroom and a kitchen. They built an addition to it in 1890.

In 1900, Carl Brunow deeded the farm over to Mr. and Mrs. August Brunow. August Brunow built a frame house on it in 1909. In 1911 August Brunow broke both of his legs in a logging accident.

In 1929, the farm was deeded over to Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Brunow, who sold the farm to Eugene Stahel in 1972. We still own 11/3 acres and live in the house my grandfather built.

Besides farming, I served as Supervisor for the Town of Hamburg for over 22 years. During that time I served under four chairmen. I was also director and treasurer for the Hamburg Cheese Factory."



# Borchardt Farm

by HENRY BORCHARDT

In 1873, August Carl Borchardt bought the present farm from some people in Illinois. August and his wife, Wilhelmina, had three sons and one daughter. After August's death, Henry Borchardt and his wife, Anna Langhoff, took over the family farm. They had three children, one son and two daughters. Henry Borchardt died at the young age of 33 years, after getting pneumonia. Anna and her young children kept the farm going. Later, when Edwin was married, he took over the farm. Edwin and his wife, Lorena Kreuger, had three children - one daughter and two sons. After Edwin's death in 1957, Henry assumed the responsibility of operating the family farm. He and his family and his mother are still living in the house that was built over 70 years ago.

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# Heldt Farm

by KARL HELDT

The Karl Heldt farm, celebrating its 102nd birthday, deserves a little reminiscing into its past.

Back in 1874, nine years after the Civil War, the United States government granted Carl Krueger the  $1\frac{1}{4}$  forty known as the NE of NW Sec. 2 Town 30 Range 5E under the Homestead Act. Parcel was 50 acres. The site for the buildings was chosen near a good running spring.

Sixteen years after the grant, Edward Krueger and wife Augusta (Gladys Heldt's grandparents) were given the farm from Ferdinand

Krueger, his brother. Records do not show how Ferdinand got it from Carl. Uncle Martin can remember his uncle Ferdinand because he always drove his horses full speed, which would impress a young boy.

The forty in the N.W. corner was given to Private Wm. D. Brumfield of Capt. Medley's Co. Virginia Militia from the War of 1812. He in turn sold the forty to Herman J. Brewer January 3, 1860 for an undisclosed amount. Brewer and his wife Sibille sold four years later to Lehmann Rosenheimer for \$150. Lehmann and wife Barbara sold four years later for \$200 making a profit of \$1.25 an acre. The new owner Fred Kiewert had it for 31 years. After his death his survivors formed the Fred Kiewert Co. They in turn sold said forty to Grandpa Krueger in 1899 for \$320 going for a top price of eight dollars an acre.

Grandpa Edward Krueger was a real go getter, with the co-operation of his family he broke a lot of land and was noted for picking all the stones from the fields including the smaller ones. With his four sons, they dug out the red granite rock to make room for the new house and barn, built about 1907.

Going back to 1889, Edward had been married for about five years to the former Augusta Woller. She was a loving wife and a good mother to their four children. Grandpa thought he had better buy more land. On May 20th he bought 10 more acres from his neighbor, Carl Brunow (Erwin Brunow's grandfather) for \$65.

Edward had another side line. He built coffins for \$1 apiece out of pine lumber and used the shavings in the bottom as a bedding. With the flug going strong, there was quite a demand for coffins. The last coffin he made was for Walter Kleinschmidt's grandmother.

On November 29, 1918, Edward Krueger met a brutal death, after an encounter with the herd bull in a large pen that is still in the center of our present barn. The family dog finally drove the bull into the pasture, but it was too late. Grandpa Krueger died of multiple injuries. Leaving a family of 13 children and his widow. The four sons were Paul (Gladys's father), Henry, Elmer and Martin. The nine daughters were Paulina (Mrs. Juluis Kleinschmidt), Anna (Mrs. Herman Kleinschmidt), Nora (Mrs. Carl Zastrow), Adela (Mrs. Paul Plautz), Sophia (Mrs. Arnold Lenius), Ella (Mrs. Dan Schledewitz), Francis (Mrs. Gust Teske), Lorena (Mrs. Edwin Borchardt), Theresa (Mrs. Herman Grell).

Two years later Grandma Krueger past away. The farm was then let out on bids within the family. Paul being the highest bidder was the new owner. Paul and his wife, the former





Minnie Pruss, farmed for 26 years. They raised eight children, Gilbert, Ethel (Mrs. Ernest Hinz), Melvin, Verna (Mrs. Axel Johnson), Gladys (Mrs. Karl Heldt), Clairmont, Edmund and Myron.

My father-in-law was a woodsman at heart. When I first lived here, Paul and I would be out in the woods all day long cutting logs and firewood with a twoman crosscut saw. By the time the sun set, I was ready to die but Paul could have kept sawing all night. He enjoyed the other end of a crosscut saw and splitting wood for the kitchen stove. His wife never had to ask for dry firewood.

It seems strange that when our daughter was born March 11, 1943, Gladys's mother died within six weeks and when our son was born June 12, 1948, Gladys's dad died within four weeks.

We bought the farm in March of 1946. We milked cows and really worked hard the first four years with out-dated machinery. Milk prices were high during this period, bringing \$1.38 a lb. for butterfat, making \$9.00 a cwt. We had Guernsey and Jersey cows and our test at one time was 6.5 B.F.

The summer of 1950, we sold our dairy herd and old machinery. At the auction, the auctionier was trying to get a 50¢ bid on my famous hay rack. Just then Bob Teske backed into my electric fence, which I had onto to protect our little spruce trees. Bob's arms flew up in the air and hollered HEY! and he had a hay rack! Horses harness went for 25¢ a pile. Cows averaged \$250 which was very high. Funny Gladys and I never missed milking especially when their tail had been soaking in the gutter.

We raised registered Polled Shorthorns from 1958 until 1972. Our farm at that time attained the name of KGJ Ranch, standing for Karl, Gladys and Jerome. The beef cattle were a real pleasure for me, but not enough profit for all the work and worry. The 34 head were sold to a doctor from Kentucky.

My family has enjoyed the farm and now it is also the grand-children. Steven at 5 said he wanted to be a 'fahma' when he gets big. The things we like the most about the farm is the fresh air, the fish ponds, the freedom of space and the good times with the neighbors at Church and celebrations. Its going to be hard some day to bid farewell to our friends, the beautiful maple trees, Spencer loam and everything else that composes this area.

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"Happiness depends not upon place or climate, but upon the state of one's mind."

# Hoff Farm

by MERLIN HOFF

The original farm was obtained from the United States, November 15, 1856 by Charles Zastrow, but it was not until May 21, 1857 that the land was deeded to Christopher Juedes who was born March 11, 1811 and died April 24, 1897.

On March 24, 1868, Christopher Juedes sold the land to John Juedes. The John Juedes family included his wife Emilia and five daughters, namely Mary Juedes Holtman who is still living in Missouri and is 97 years old, Rika Juedes Harberstich who resides at 1111 Eighth Street at Wausau, Wisconsin. She lives with her daughter Evaline and is 94 years old. Helen Juedes Nieman, Anna Juedes Hoff and Minnie Juedes Ziegler are deceased.

November 10, 1892, John Juedes and wife Emilie deeded the property to Albert Hoff and wife Anna Juedes Hoff. It was then that an agreement was recorded stating that the new owners must furnish a one dwelling house with rooms and cellar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of garden land fenced and cultivated, all the necessary fire wood cut and split for stove use and delivered to the house, feed, pasture and stable for 2 cows each year from the stock on the farm and to deliver annually 4 barrels of wheat flour, 25 bushels of potatoes, 250 lbs. of pork, 100 lbs. of beef, 60 lbs. of mutton, 2 bushels of peas, \$50.00 in cash and 1 dozen eggs every week for six months during the summer, and 100 lbs. of wool.

Albert and Anna Juedes Hoff had three children, namely Erwin, Alma Hoff Genrich, and Della Hoff Krause. Mrs. Alma Hoff Genrich who resides at the Hotel Wausau is the only survivor of this generation.

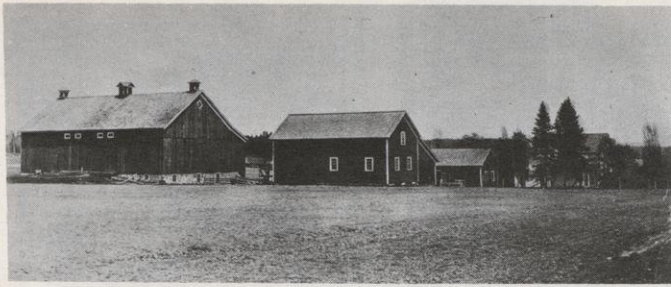
On August 17, 1823, Albert and Anna Juedes Hoff deeded the property to Erwin and Erna Hoff who farmed the land until December 1970. They had 2 children, Gloria Hoff Wiederhoeft and Merlin.

The family farm was purchased on February 20, 1973, from Mrs. Erna Hoff by Merlin and Arlyle Hoff who are the present owners. They received the Century Farm Award in 1975 at the Wisconsin Valley Fair at Wausau, and this year were invited to participate in Century Farm Awards Day at the State Fair at West Allis, Wi.

Being the bicentennial year they received a red, white and blue metal Century Award

plaque for over 100 years of continuous family ownership and were hosted by the Hill-





shire Farm Co., of New London, Wisconsin to a breakfast. The farm is in the family for 119 years and next to the Fromm Bros. is the oldest family farm in the town of Hamburg. The Hoff's have two children, namely Jolene and Tim, and with one son there could be a possibility of a 6 generation farm.

## Janke Farm

by EMIL JANKE

In the 1850s, Henry and William Janke moved from their home in Germany to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to seek their fortunes. For a while, they worked in the city, but soon tired of metropolitan life and yearned for property, a farm of their own.

In the spring of 1860, that dream became a reality as the brothers loaded their belongings, wives and sister into a covered wagon and headed for a hunk of wilderness in northern Wisconsin that is now known as Hamburg.

With only a map and a deed to guide them, the hardy band of travelers followed the Wisconsin River north. During the journey, the men slept outside on the ground while the women slept in the wagon. To preserve their meager food supply for the long, hard times ahead of them, they lived off the land as much as possible.

When they reached what is now known as highway A, the family ran out of roads and had to hack and chop their way through four miles of virgin brush and forest to reach their homestead.

When they reached their land they began construction on a 30 x 24 ft. log cabin. The cabin and homestead were built with speculation as to where the road, now Rainbow Drive was to be built. Without sophisticated surveying equipment or tools, the brothers tried to foresee the route of the road, not to be built for several years, and as a result the homestead ended up with a very long driveway.

The brothers had acquired three 80s and drew

straws to see which brother got what piece of land, and after three draws, William ended up with the farm that stayed in the Janke name for over 100 years.

During their first years on the homestead, they cut and burned trees and farmed around the stumps. The surrounding forest provided deer and bear for food. Groceries were gotten by trading butter and eggs in Little Jenny.

In 1868, a son was born to William and his wife. Herman Janke stayed with his father and farmed. He was married in 1891 to "the girl next door", Bertha Borchardt.

Two years later, the log house that had served for over 30 years was replaced by the present frame building. A frame barn followed seven years later.



Herman and Bertha had seven children. The youngest of these, Emil, was to remain to take over the family farm and be working it when he received the honor of being recognized as having a century farm.

Emil married Louise Schoenherr in 1926. He and his wife remained on the original Janke homestead until their retirement in 1970.

## Pickruhn Farm

by MRS. PRISCILLA UTECH

Augustus and Fredericks Kickbusch Borchardt, both born in Germany, migrated to the United States in the year of 1859. They purchased some land from the United States Government on April 15, 1859 and settled in the town of Hamburg, Marathon County, which then was the town of Berlin, Marathon County.

They experienced all the hardships of the early pioneers. They had to clear the land for a home, which was a log cabin, and barn for their few farm animals. All the trees



were felled with an axe and a double-handled saw. The stumps were burned out to prepare the land for their crops. In the early pioneer days, the grain had to be cradled by hand.

Children born to this couple included two sons, Frederick and Henry, and two daughters, Anna (Stark) and Amelia (Bliese). They were all born in the town of Hamburg, Marathon County.

Frederick Borchardt married Ida Marth and settled on the farm. At this time more acres of land were cleared and farming increased in production. Six children were born to this couple including four daughters, and two sons who died in infancy. They were Helen (Brandt), Anna (Pickruhn), Clara Borchardt and Alvina (Raasch).

In later years, Frederick and Ida razed the log house and built a brick house on the farm. In the year 1903, Ida gave birth to a child and they both died. Grandma Fredericka took care of the children. On October 9, 1906 the farm was deeded to Frederick Borchardt.

Duties on the farm were many and laborious. They had to grow and preserve all their food for the long cold winters. Clothing was homespun and wool was spun on the spinning wheel. Yarn was dyed and knitted into warm socks, caps and mittens. Mattresses were filled with straw and woolen quilts kept them warm on the cold nights. The homes were not built too warmly. The wood burning stove was used for cooking meals and heating their homes. Tallow was saved and soap was made in early spring in a large black kettle on an outdoor fire. Kerosene lamps and lanterns were used for lighting their homes and barns.

Ida Marth Borchardt was born on January 2, 1867 and died January 26, 1903 at the age of 36 years. Frederick William Borchardt was born November 23, 1861 and died May 28, 1919.

Anna Borchardt married Fred Pickruhn in the year 1912. They had seven children which included Lorinda (Mueller), Harley, Priscilla (Utech), Dorothy (Zimmermann), and Lorraine (Helmke). Floyd died in infancy. On August 10, 1917 the farm was deeded to Fred and Anna Pickruhn.

In the early 1920's, electricity was provided to the farmlands in the area which helped the farmers very much. It provided better light for the homes and barns. Radios provided entertainment and work was made easier for them.

In the fall of 1928, Fred was helping his neighbor harvesting the corn crop when his right hand was caught in the blades of the silage cutter, and lost his hand. Harley was still a young son in school, but the family all helped with the farmwork. His brother-in-law made a harness for him for his arm where tools could



Alvina Raasch, Clara Borchardt, Anna Pickruhn and father, Fredrick Borchardt.

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be fastened to help him in his work.

On May 5, 1930, tragedy struck the family. Anna gave birth to a child which took both of their lives. Anna was still young at the age of 38 years.

On June 3, 1939, Harley Pickruhn married Silvaline Brandt. They lived with Fred and helped him with the farmwork. In the year 1946, the farm was deeded to them. They were blessed with two sons, Jerome and Cyrus.

In the fall of 1946, a polio epidemic spread in the Hamburg area and other sections of Wisconsin. Cyrus, who was only five years old, became sick and was thought to be the flu. He was taken to the Holy Cross Hospital in Merrill

but was quickly rushed to the General Hospital in Madison and found to be a victim of polio. Both of his legs were paralyzed and had to be fitted with leg braces. He had to learn to walk with crutches. He was a very cheerful lad at home and in school in spite of this handicap. He received his education at LaFollette School in the town of Hamburg and graduated from Merrill High School. After graduation he took a position as a bookkeeper at the Athens Co-op Feed Mill in the town of Hamburg.

In the year 1950, the brick house was razed and a two story frame house was erected. Fred Pickruhn died on March 17, 1953.

In the year 1966, Harley and Silvaline sold the farm to Mr. and Mrs. John Sekorski who

at the present time are still operating the old Borchardt farm. Harley and Silvaline purchased a lot in the town of Stettin and built a new home there where they are now residing. Cyrus is making his home with them and has a position as an assistant terminal manager of Neuendorf Transportation Co. in Wausau.





## Langhoff Farm

See story in Reflections

## Weiderhoeft Farm

by LYDIA WEIDERHOEFT

August Weiderhoeft bought the farm in 1873. He worked for the Jahnke's and married Henry Jahnke's widow Amalia. Their family included Helen, Gustave and Louis Jahnke and Anna, Otto, Henry, Ida and Hulda Weiderhoeft.

Henry taught school a few years, but found the nervous strain too great, and instead took over his father's farm. He had the house enlarged and remodeled, putting in running water and electric lights. When that house burned down he had a new one built. He also replaced the small log barns with a large, modern one. He bought a tractor and good farm machinery. He also enlarged and improved the



herd now having an all-Hostein herd. He was town clerk and treasurer and chairman of the school board. He also held offices in St. John's Lutheran Church. He and his wife (Bertha Sellin) had ten children. The two older ones Nora and Paul died in infancy. Then came Edwin, Esther, Martin, Adeline, Henry, Doris, Harold and Raymond.

Martin bought the farm after his father's death. He stayed close to home and worked hard on the farm he loved. He and his wife Edna Schoenherr had three children Stanley, Jenine and JoAnn.

After his father's death Stanley purchased the farm and operates it today with his wife Lorraine (Kopplin) and their three children Lori, Dixie, and Chris.

## E. Zastrow Farm

by JULIE ZASTROW

Elisabeth Weber, the earliest known descendant of Paul Zastrow, was born 1838 in Dusseldorf, Germany. She was the only child of the Weber family. When her mother died, Elisabeth and her father moved from Germany and came to Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Her father died a few years later.

Because she was a young child, she was brought up by foster parents. While she was living in Oconomowoc, she met Gottlieb Seidler. Gottlieb was born 1827 in Oconomowoc. Then in 1860, Elisabeth Weber and Gottlieb were married.

When their son, John, was 2 years old they came to Hamburg with a team of oxen and a covered wagon. Here they slept in until they had their log cabin built. They settled here on Homestead land. In 1862, he purchased an additional 80 acres of land from Friedrich Marquardt.

In 1864, Gottlieb and Elisabeth had a daughter, Caroline. Caroline was born and raised on the Zastrow farm. When she was 21 years old she married Albert Zastrow. Albert was born in Pumern, Germany in 1885. He came from Germany and settled in Wausau. He worked there as a deliveryman. Caroline Seidler and Albert Zastrow were married March 18, 1885. They were also blessed with a large family. August and Ottilie were twins. They were born Jan. 18, 1886. August only lived one day after birth. Paul, March 14, 1887; Hedwig, January 13, 1889; Anna, January 30, 1891; Martha, April 27, 1893; Fritz and Frank were born



January 26, 1895. They were also twins, but they only lived 2 weeks after they were born. Emma, April 11, 1896; Erna, August 10, 1898; John, February 16, 1901; Martin, January 26, 1903 and the youngest member Paula. She was born April 17, 1905.

In the year of 1918, Albert Zastrow at the age of 67, and his daughter Erna, at the age of 20 died of what they called the "Flu of 1918". After Albert Zastrow died the responsibilities fell on Paul's shoulders. He took over the farm, cleared land, hauled logs to town and watched over the family. Then, June 28, 1924, Paul married Elisabeth Winter. She was born March 3, 1903 in Schlesrieg, Holstein, Germany. She sailed to America on a ship, and later moved to the town of Hamburg. When they were living in Hamburg, they had two children. Eldred, April 9, 1925 and Ellen, January 5, 1928. They were both born and raised on the Zastrow farm. In 1951, Eldred married Jean Borchardt, and in January 1957, Eldred then resumed the responsibilities of the farm.

To date Paul Zastrow has four grandchildren and still lives on this farm. Some of the things he likes to do are work on the farm, work in the woods and going fishing.

## Kickbusch Farm

by MRS ARTHUR KICKBUSCH

E  $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 25, Township 30 North, Range 5 East was deeded to August Kickbusch, March 1, 1866. It was deeded to his son, Albert Kickbusch August 12, 1896 for \$1.00 and a certain agreement. Then on December 23, 1938, it was deeded to Arthur Kickbusch and Albert Kickbusch Jr., twin sons of Albert Sr. and his wife Emma. On December 4, 1941, Arthur Kickbusch became sole owner of the farm.



## J. Zastrow Farm

by MRS. ELMER STURM

Gottlieb Carl Zastrow was born February 16, 1817, in Berlin, Germany. His wife Wilhelmina Loise (Wendt), was born March 23, 1825 in Berlin, Germany. Mr. Zastrow served in the German Army. They were overpowered by the French Army and later were forced to work for the French Army to fight in Russia. There Gottlieb C. Zastrow froze his hands and feet, because they were not dressed for the cold climate. Later he worked for the harbor of ships. He was employed on the ship and Mrs. Zastrow worked in the kitchen on the ship. It was then they decided to come to the United States.

The first white settler in the town of Hamburg was Gottlieb C. Zastrow, who bought some land in 1856 and moved there with his family and team of oxen in the spring of 1857. He cut out a road as he went west of the Little Rib River to his farm, which took two weeks. They built

a hut of brush with balsam and hemlock branches and a dirt floor serving as a rain shelter. On August 15, 1857, John Carl Zastrow became the first white child born in the town of Hamburg.

They had one son named Charles born in Germany in 1854 and two daughters. This family was brought up in the primitive wilderness that was then Hamburg.

The two sons followed their fathers footsteps and stayed with farming. The farm being equally divided between the two brothers when they became of age. Some of the land had been donated to erect St. Peter's Church and Cemetery. Some was sold for a tavern on the North East corner which is now occupied by the Athens Co-op Feed Mill.

John C. Zastrow was married to Bernhardine Matz, who was born April 29, 1857 in West Prossen, Germany. She was seven years old when she came with her parents to the United States. This union was blessed with five children, Ed, Bernhardine, Harry, John A. Jr. and Clara.

Charles Zastrow was married to Anna Marth being blessed with three children, one son Frank and two daughters, Martha and Alvina.

John A. Zastrow was born September 27, 1885. He was married to Ernestina Voigt, born March 1, 1887. They were blessed with three daughters, Adeline, Hilda and Viola. Mrs. Ernestina Zastrow died May 25, 1957.



John A. Zastrow received a 100 years recognition of the farm in the Zastrow ownership in 1957. He kept the farm in his name to the time of his death, January 30, 1974. A total of 118 years.

Vernon Schoessow and family had been renting and working this farm for twenty-two years. After John A. Zastrow's death, Vernon Schoessow purchased the farm in February of 1974.

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## Langbecker Farm

Albert Langbecker, March 15, 1866 to Emil Langbecker, September 6, 1918 to Albert Langbecker Jr., July 3, 1930 to Edward Langbecker March 23, 1943

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## Christian Farm

William Juedes, 1866 to Henry Juedes, 1907 to Arthur Christian, 1947.

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## Henrichs Farm

Jochim and Sophia Henrichs, October 22, 1873 to Herman and Pauline Henrichs, March 13, 1924 to Edward and Dorothy Henrichs, January 26, 1940 to Lyle Henrichs, April 13, 1973.



## G. Borchardt Farm

1876-1976

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## Fromm Brothers Farm

"The Golden Prophecy"

by LENORE FROMM WADE

"O, vo is dit America Gahl" (Oh, how gold this America is) were the first words attributed to Johan Fromm when in the autumn of a year in the 1840's, after a 59 day sail from Germany, Johan beheld the land to which he had brought his wife Johanna Kludt and two children. Himself a poor sheep herder who had saved his money in order to come to America, Johan had no idea how prophetic his words were to become. Nearly a hundred years later his four grandsons Edward, Walter, John, Henry, known as the Fromm Brothers, had made Hamburg famous as the "fox producing capitol of the world." The gold of autumn had indeed become "The Golden Prophecy" of achievement in land of opportunity. When in the late 1940's the silver fox market crashed, it was a golden fox developed by Fromms that brought back a successful market—once more the "golden prophecy."

The first Fromms made their way to the Milwaukee area by way of the Erie Canal and Great Lakes to Detroit and from there by rail. They settled in West Bend where friends and a real estate agent had directed them. In those days such agents often made all the arrangements by which people emigrated from Germany and found purchasable lands in the States. Whole villages were said to have moved out of Germany in just that way. The first Nieman to come to the "golden" land was Jochim Nieman, who appears to have come as a widower,



his grown children coming with him, but little is known about him except that he and the family settled in Cedarburg, north of Milwaukee. Family origins become clearer with his son, John Christian Nieman, grandfather of the Fromm Brothers and their sisters on their mother's side of the family. John Christian and his wife, Dorothea Kogerup established themselves and family in Hamburg about 1866 on a quarter section of land John had purchased from a soldier of a New York Militia in 1859. Both John and Dorothea were born in Germany, she in Mecklenburg Schwerien. They were some of the very first settlers in Hamburg.

Their 160 acres in section 11, Town of Hamburg, is still in the ownership of their descendants after the passage of 118 years. The descent came through John's daughter Alwina who married Fred Fromm, one of the sons of Johan and Johanna Fromm. Alwina was given the land as a dowry upon marriage. She was about 9 years old when she moved to Hamburg with her family, the same approximate age as her youngest living descendant now residing upon the same quarter section. This descendant is also a girl and the seventh generation counting down from old Jochim Nieman. John Christian, his son, had enough financial means to buy

160 acre tracts for his children - Carl (father of Walter and Bill Nieman of Hamburg), Maria (became Mrs. John Helmke), and Dora (married first to Roehl, then Beckman) a total of 640 acres.

Johan and Johanna Fromm had five living children - Sophia, born in Germany, Henry, Andrew, William, and of course Fred. The children of John Christian Nieman and his wife Dorothea were Alwina, Dora, Maria, Jochim, Hermann, Joe, and Carl. Joe went to Kentucky; nothing else being known of him. Jochim, Alwina's brother married Sophia Fromm, Fred's sister, and so a double relationship was established between the Fromms and Niemans which was repeated when Erna Nieman, daughter of Fred and Alwina, married Edwin Nieman, second cousin to Erna Fromm. After John Christian Nieman lost his wife Kogerup and the family was grown, he decided to leave Hamburg because of the cold climate. His son, Hermann went with him, and they located in Lockwood, Missouri, where prairie land was cheap at the time. He told John that they knew the life was hard and the climate harsh but the future was a good one for the children in the Town of Hamburg. Strangely, John Christian, having established most of his family



(1. to rt.) August Beckman, Herbert and Arthur Fromm, Fredrich Fromm, Alwina Fromm, Ed Fromm, Walter Fromm, Dora Beckman (Bartelt girl), Mrs. Herman Roehl and Herman Roehl.



in Wisconsin, left it in his later years.

However, when he and Dorothea first came to Hamburg, they lived in a log building which had the cattle and the horse barn at one end of it and the family living quarters at the other with the hay stored overhead on the cattle side and a wagon storage area separating barn and house. This was the European style used in the "old country". These first structures survived into the 1920's, when they were torn down, unfortunately, to make room for the growing Fromm business.

Today in a hollow to the east and north of the Walter Fromm residence on Highway F can still be seen what remains of the residence that John and Dorothea built after the log barn and house dwelling. This second home was also of logs but faced with wood siding and consisted of living room, dining-sitting room, kitchen, cellar, and second floor for sleeping. All of the house still stands except for the kitchen portion. The house is a fine example of the construction that was modern in the late 1860's to early 70's. It was in this house that Alwina Nieman and Fred Fromm were married in 1883. Two of their children, Arthur and Herbert, were born there. For a time this house also served as a place for the neighboring settlers to gather for Sunday worship conducted by a traveling pastor. Eventually a small school house, used also for worship, was built of logs on the southeast corner of Nieman's land. All that is left of this is the cemetery across from the present Maple Grove School.

Whenever the Niemans and other early settlers of Hamburg needed essential supplies, they would have a three day trip by horse drawn wagons to Wausau. The first night they would get as far as Tagesville Tavern. The next day they would get to Wausau, do their shopping for essentials like flour, kerosene, salt, sugar, calico cloth and then get back for another night at Tagesville, where they could get housing from a farmer who made a practice of putting up "travelers" from Hamburg.

About 1886, Alwina and Fred built their very own first home on another part of the quarter section. The house was of logs and about two main rooms down-stairs. It stood just east of the present Edward-Alice Fromm home on Highway F. In about 1900, the original log house received an addition measuring about 22 by 28 feet and stretching north to south and to the west of the first structure. A cellar was dug under the entire two portions of the dwelling. The cellar would fill up with water every spring. By 1905, a solution was tried by raising the house up 18 inches and putting some fill onto the basement floor, but each spring there was still a cover of water on the

floor. This old home had a rail fence in front of its lawn and only a few trees. Those days there were no lawn mowers to keep the grass cut. A hand scythe had to be used, and so the lawn got cut only a couple times a summer. Edward Fromm recalls how when there was a lighting and wind storm, his father would get an old shoe box down from his closet shelf which held his important papers and his bill fold, put on his hat and jacket, and then sit on the porch watching the storm. Mother and children would be called out of their beds if the situation was deemed serious enough.

Fred and Alwina gave their children a solid Christian education. At first the family were members of St. John's Lutheran Church. Some years later Fred found himself in a dispute as to whether he would donate some land he had



Original log house built in 1886



Frame addition added to house in 1900



cleared for the new church building. At that time he transferred to St. Paul's Church and helped put up the log building that was the first church there. Eventually, the family went back to St. John's, but Fred no longer attended then and Alwina would take the children herself. Church attendance required the women and children to sit on the left side of the church and the men on the right. This was an early custom that survived into the late 30's. When Edward and brothers were children, there was no organ to accompany the singing. He recalls how they liked to watch one of the adult men take a deep breath until he was red in the face as he kept singing from the ends of the hymn lines to the next so that the congregation would not lose the tune. There were always some self appointed singers who sang louder than any one else so that everyone stayed with the song. Alwina liked to sing and could sing loud, also. Church services were conducted in German language until fairly recent times, and children learned German before they learned to speak English. They would also learn how to write German script. This continued into the third generation in this locality.

A search of early cemeteries will reveal that infant mortality was high. Babies died not only from contagious diseases, a constant threat, but from stomach ailments related to lack of sanitation. Flies were everywhere, and table sugar bowls were lined in black with them frequently. One of the early morning things Alwina did in summer was to try to swoosh out the flies with her kitchen apron. Wells were shallow and cisterns were used to collect rain water off the roof so it could be used for washing. Since dishes would be washed with this water, also, the trail of contamination was easy. Alwina and Fred were more fortunate than some in that they lost but

two infants, and raised nine to maturity. Remedies for illnesses were homeopathic and few. Teas from basswood flowers and clover and various kinds of poultices were among them. If there was a doctor available, he often was not called until the patient was near death. The few foods that were purchased were supplemented by home raised meats and vegetables and fruits. Dried fruits were used a lot in the family, and sausage making was always a big event. The smoke house, made of field stone and well preserved, that stands near the John Christian homestead still today was the scene of occasional raids upon the smoked meats supply by hungry youths. Lard was used on bread by both the Niemans and Fred's children instead of butter since this was more usually saved for a cash sale in the city. Honey and maple syrup, of course, were sources of sweetening. A common dish especially popular at barn raisings was herring made with onions and vinegar after having been purchased in wooden barrels, where it was preserved in brine that had to be soaked out with water before preparation. Raising a large family in those days required a lot of work.

Alwina was a quiet, loving, honest, hard working person devoted to her children and her church. It has come down in the family that her donations were truly like the widow's mite, for she was not allowed to have but a few pennies in her possession, if ever, and this is all that she would have for the "Klingelbeutel" - the collection bag - in church or for a wedding gift to a cousin. Fred and her children considered her a good wife and mother. Pictures of her at the time she was married show her to have been of a husky build and sturdy. After years of hard work she concluded her last years with a serious varicose vein condition, an almost total loss of memory, and complete physical senility. Nevertheless, she lived to almost seventy years, a high life expectancy for women of those days.

Fred was a large boned, tall big man. He had a sense of humor, liking practical jokes, was a firm disciplinarian of his children, stubborn, independent, and sociable. He enjoyed making grape and cherry wine, some of which is still being cherished by his descendants. Wines were made also from dandelion flowers and elderberry. Fred was a fiddler at local tavern dances in the community and much enjoyed music. From him his children acquired an interest in music. When Fred became angry with the children, they would run for cover to Alwina. The children were her heart's fulfillment and anything untoward that happened to them affected her deeply. Fred was, however, the patriarchal head of the family. The



Fromm's Christmas preparation. Walter, Ed, Henry, Clara and Alwina Fromm. Hazelton piano in background.



highest compliment he could pay a woman was that she was a good mother and wife. In this his values were consistent with what all women were taught to become and hoped to attain. Fred was frugal and hard working. In his later years he kept on with wine-making as a hobby and with tending his apple orchard and taking the fruits to exhibit at the Athen's Fair.

Two luxuries were acquired by Fred which added to the quality of family life. A Buick car was purchased and a Hazelton piano. The car at that time cost about \$900-1000, gas being 8 cents per gallon. The piano was bought for \$125. Fred was able to afford these luxuries by way of rents he collected from land he owned in Iowa. With this Buick Alwina was taken to see her brother Jochim in Cedarburg. The trip took ten hours at an average speed of 25 miles per hour over rough gravel and mud roadways. Many stories are handed down in the family about the adventures with that Buick, for in those days it was not unusual on a trip to suffer broken axles or springs and find a back wheel was running down the road in front of the car, leaving the occupants in a state of panic.

The piano made music lessons possible for Edward, and later for Erna and Nora. Erna was thought talented enough to send away for some special musical instruction. Edward tells how he would ride along to Merrill, Jenny as it was called then, and climb up the steep hillside from the Wisconsin River where the Highway 51 bridge is now and to what has come to be called "The Mansion," a beautifully built home still standing next to the Holy Cross Hospital. His lessons cost 25 cents for a half hour. Several years ago Edward sat in that same mansion listening to his grandson Noren play the piano.

All of the children of Alwina and Fred acquired an avid interest in music as self expression and recreation. Consequently, a family "orchestra" came into being, consisting of Edward at the piano, Herb and Arthur with violins, Walter adding the clarinet, John on the horn, and Henry playing the flute and piccolo. This "orchestra" met daily after lunch and often in the evenings until late. The tradition of music has come down into the present generation. Edward feels that the experience of making music together helped forge the brothers into a close harmonious group and made it more natural for them to join together into building a business.

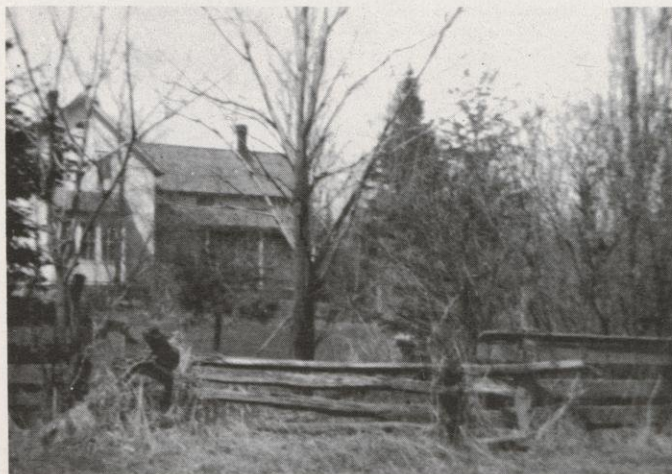
Education was highly valued by the Niemans and Fromms, and Fred hoped that all his boys would become teachers rather than farmers. All of them, with the exception of Henry and John, obtained a teacher's training and taught



Fred Fromm's Buick

elementary school at least for a time. John and Henry had no more than a seventh grade education, early putting their energies to the fascination of foxes and wild ginseng. After six weeks of teaching, Edward decided that there was a bigger future in Henry and John's dreams of domesticating foxes and ginseng, and so he joined them on the farm. Walter also left teaching after a little longer. Only Arthur and Herbert kept on with the teaching careers and Arthur stayed at it the longest. In the 1920's he came into the business by way of becoming manager of the Thiensville ginseng gardens.

In 1919, Edward married Alice Frederick, daughter of George and Martha Frederick of the Town of Corning. George was at various times in his life president of Trinity Lutheran Church, Berlin, where Edward and Alice were married. George also was at times town chairman and clerk of his town and assemblyman

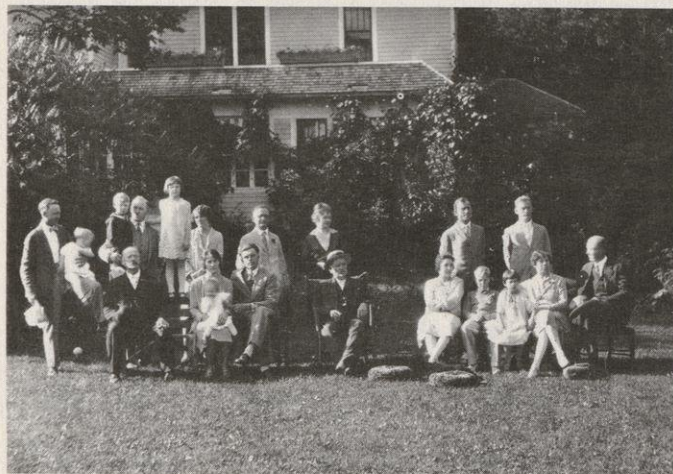


Fromm's house and yard in early 1900's



to the state legislature for a term. Two years after Ed and Alice married, the family home, into which they moved, was remodeled rather extensively. The kitchen portion was taken off and set north of the house to function as a wood working place for Fred and a place to dry his butternuts. Another part of the house was removed and became a granery and stood just north of where the Fromm Bros. main farm gate is now.

When Ed and Alice married they moved in with an "extended" family. For a short while until they, too, married Erna and Nora, sisters of Ed, continued to live in the same home. After the 1921 remodeling Henry had become married and had moved in with his wife Mamie Jacob.



Roadway in front of Fred Fromm house



Fromm's new home in 1920's

Fred and Alwina and Walter and John also lived in the same dwelling. By 1926, two children each had been born to the two young couples. For everyone it was an active bustling communal life style, for in this house also the early hired help of the growing Fromm business were fed and food for the first foxes was mixed. Small wonder that in such a vortex of people and activity life did not always flow smoothly or without confusion. For the children, there were a variety of adults functioning as parent figures to obey or evade. The women of the household, Alice and Mamie, early learned to participate in the growing business, a practice which continued for succeeding years.

By 1927, changes in the family's close communal style of living had begun. Mamie and Henry moved themselves and children into a home of their own in the woods area of the quarter section Nieman land. About the same time John Fromm moved into an apartment in a newly built warehouse building put up by the Fromm Brothers. Walter married Mabel Woller and soon had a place of his own. A "boarding house" was built to house and feed the growing number of employees and a cook was hired from a lumber camp to do the cooking in place of Alice and Mamie. His name was Gottfried Geiser. Later as the business grew, several women were added to the staff, and the meals that were turned out at the "Boarding House" came to have a great reputation for excellence—plenty of mashed potatoes and gravy and choice meats and garden raised vegetables with delicious pies and cakes and abundant whipped cream. The building was expanded after a while to provide sleeping room for employees and cooks. Sometimes Ed and Henry's children got the "treat" of staying over-night at the Boarding House when they were little. The sound they were awakened to was often the silver bell noise as Gottfried vigorously shook the scalded silverware in a big towel to dry it, his own automatic drying system.

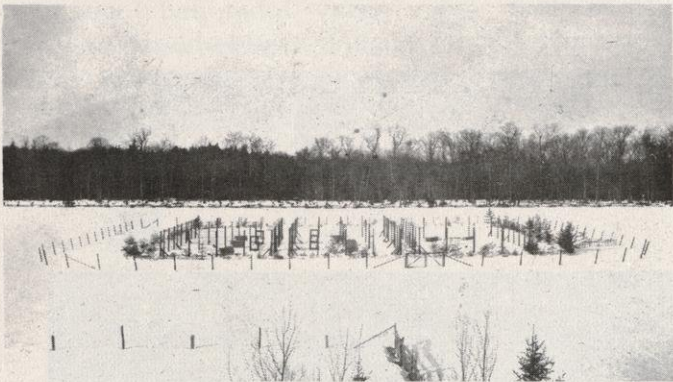
While the old home quieted down to becoming the residence exclusively of Ed and Alice and their children, Alwina and Fred continued to live there until their respective deaths, Alwina in 1928 and Fred in 1934. The Fromm Brothers' office premises, however, remained in this home for almost ten years longer. In 1942, the large home, which had seen the life of so many different occupants, burned. Extensively water soaked, it was impossible to save it, and it was torn down completely. All that remains to mark its location is a flower garden. A dwelling, originally a large garage, to the west of the old home was eventually remodeled into a very pleasant home where Ed



and Alice reside today, so that Edward has lived essentially all his 87 years on the same piece of ground given his mother long ago.

The Fromm Brothers business grew steadily over the years. Hard work, ingenuity, perseverance, and stubbornness against threatening defeat were traits of pioneer stock which the boys inherited. Early they developed a division of labor and responsibility between themselves. Henry and John concentrated on the animal production side of the business. Edward first did the bookkeeping. He managed the early ginseng gardens until Walter took over that area as Edward more and more became general manager and administrative head of the firm.

The first ginseng gardens were planted about 1902 and the first fox yards, six pens altogether, were set up by 1908. The foxes at first were red foxes caught in the timber land surrounding the home farm clearings. The aspirations of the boys for getting into a thriving business could not reach far so long as they suffered a lack of capital to invest. This is the point at which Alwina demonstrated the significance of her children to her and the astuteness of her judgement and strength of her independent spirit. In a moment of courage



First fox pens



Silver fox furs

and destiny when Fred was gone, Alwina was persuaded to allow the boys to mortgage the farm held in her name so that they could purchase their first pair of silver foxes. At the time this must have seemed a huge piece of feminine folly to patriarchal Fred, who had dreamed of having teachers not farmers. However, in a matter of years the Fromm Brothers vindicated their mother's faith in them.

While Alwina had provided the means for the first significant capital investment of the brothers, the second significant boost to the business came in the 1920's and also from the Nieman side of the family, then by way of John F. and Charlie Nieman, nephews of Alwina. The Fromm Brothers sold breeding stock to the men. The proceeds were invested in the Hamburg enterprise. Later the bond between Niemans and Fromms was strengthened when sister Erna married second cousin Edwin Nieman, son of John F. Out of this alliance developed Fromm Bros. Nieman Co. Erna had been given a small herd of foxes as a wedding gift. In the late 1930's, however the two family groups began to pull apart. This was completely final by the 1960's.

The years between the 1929 and 1947 saw a continual expansion of Fromm Brothers and its subsidiaries. There came to be a development of animal research and disease control that eventuated in Fromm Lab at Grafton, Wisconsin and an animal food business known as Federal Foods in Thiensville. Its Fromm Dog Food is still made today. The production of mink in large numbers was added to the Hamburg farm. Another development was the manufacturing of fox fur garments, first in New York City, and then in Merrill, Wisconsin. Throughout these years, an enormous growth in numbers of foxes and acreage of ginseng continued. Selective breeding produced a variety of color strains of foxes for which the Fromms became



At Chicago's World Fair, 1933. (l. to rt.) Walter Grit, Otto Thiel, Mr. Applebaum, and Henry Fromm



famous in the fur trade. Their ads could be found in the top fashion magazines like Vogue and Harpers and Town and Country. Hamburg saw its first fur auction when buyers came from all over the world to buy pelts at the Fromm Brothers' farm.

1947 marked the crash of long haired fur as a fashionable item, and foxes went into a decline everywhere that lasted almost twenty years. Only a few fox farms remained finally and most of these were very small. Fromm Brothers is today, however, still the largest in the country and never lost that position. Nowhere else can foxes be seen in large numbers roaming freely as though in the wild but enclosed in many acres of wood land.

The 1960's brought various split-offs of family groups within the Fromm enterprises. Mink was pelted out in 1969 because of a very depressed market. In 1975, the Walter Fromm stock was purchased, and Fromm Bros., Inc. today survives in the Ed Fromm family. A rather detailed account of the Fromm Brothers story is told in a book called "Bright with Silver" by Katherine Pinkerton. It narrates the family story through to 1947.

Edward Fromm contributed in many ways to his community besides what he gave to a business that through the years has provided employment to the area. He gave of his talents significantly in the field of library development in the county and state, to educational development in Merrill and Hamburg, and to county and state historical societies. In 1961, he was voted "Man of the Year" by the fur industry

and given a recognition and commemorative celebration by the fur trade in that city. The Hamburg Centennial-Bicentennial Celebration awarded him its Most Distinguished Citizen Award in 1976.

Walter Fromm, his brother, who stayed in the business with him until just before his death, joined with Mabel his wife to establish a large scholarship college fund for graduates of Maple Grove School. In so doing, Walter joined his interest in education to that of Edward's and gave back to his community some of the fruits of the Fromm enterprise, Fred's wish to have his family serve in the cause of education was thus fulfilled in a way Fred could not have imagined.

Looking back from the vantage point of today what do we see? What perspective can we get from a family story? Each generation is caught up in its own survival hardly aware that what it is doing is passed on for good or bad to cripple or build the next generation, to leave to it a legacy. The old frontiers have gone, New frontiers of mind and spirit are upon us which test and challenge character and abilities every bit as much as the past, however different there present frontiers appear from those of the first settlers in Hamburg. We prefer to believe that even today Johan and Johanna Fromm and Jochim Nieman would choose again to come to live in this land. If they could rise for a moment's glimpse, we believe they would say it was worth the struggle---for America is, indeed, a land "Oh so gahl."



Sacking ginseng seed



# The State of Wisconsin

Century Farm or Home Ownership Certificate

*Erwin Brunow*

HAVING PRESENTED PROOF OF PRESENT OWNERSHIP OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED  
IN MARATHON, COUNTY, WISCONSIN, AND, WHICH PROPERTY WAS ACQUIRED  
BY CARL BRUNOW IN 1871 AND HAS SINCE REMAINED  
IN CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP IS AWARDED THIS

## Century Ownership Certificate

BY THE

STATE OF WISCONSIN AND THE WISCONSIN EXPOSITION CENTER, STATE FAIR OF WISCONSIN,

DATED AND SIGNED AT MADISON, WISCONSIN

THIS 12TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1971

*Patrick J. Lucy*  
Governor, State of Wisconsin

*Vernon E. Wendland*  
Administrator, Wisconsin Exposition Center



ERWIN BRUNOW, Route 1, Merrill

# The County of Marathon

and

## Marathon County Agricultural Society

Century Farm or Home Ownership Certificate

ERWIN BRUNOW  
HAMBURG TOWNSHIP,  
SECTION 2

Having presented proof of present ownership of real property located in Marathon County, Wisconsin,

and, which property was acquired by CARL BRUNOW

in April 1, 1871 and has since remained in continuous Family Ownership is awarded this

## Century Ownership Certificate

by the

County of Marathon and the Marathon County Agricultural Society

Dated and Signed at Wausau, Wisconsin

This 12th Day of August, 1971

Chairman, Marathon County Board of Supervisors

Secretary, Marathon County Agricultural Society



# ***REFLECTIONS***

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## **Pioneer Days in Hamburg**

by ALMA FROMM

Let us go back for a hundred years or so, just for now, back to the pioneer days in Hamburg.

About one and a half miles west of Wausau Fair grounds, a road leaves Hiway 29 and turns north at the sign of the Stettin Drive. It was then and still is known as the old tote road, as the settlers always used this trail. It meanders through fields of fragrant clover, alfalfa and golden grain. But a century ago, there were no fields; not even a trail, only the virgin forest.

Mr. and Mrs. William Janke and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Janke and their mother were one of the first white settlers who came through this wilderness looking for a new home. It was the Spring of 1860. They came from Milwaukee with their covered wagon and oxen. They traveled north by west for about twenty miles and settled on a beautiful hardwood area and immediately settled a homestead claim signed by James Buchanan who was the fifteenth president of the United States. The woman had brought a few precious possessions with them; a red peony root, a purple lilac, a white iris. There was a piece quilt called "Bear Claws". These century old papers with the president's signature and the remains of the covered wagon may still be seen at the Janke residence. In the summer of 1961, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Janke, descendents of William Janke, received a century award plaque from Governor Gaylord Nelson for having held the land in the same family for one hundred years. They now belong to the Century Club and are guests of the Governor of Wisconsin at the State Fair every summer. Ten years later, Henry Janke was killed in a barn raising accident and his widow

married August Wiederhoeft who had established a homestead about a mile to the west. Their descendents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Wiederhoeft still have the same land and have also built up a fine farm home and orchard.

Herman Bartelt came in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Seidler arrived in 1863. The following year on May 16th, 1864, their daughter Caroline was born who was one of the first white children born in Hamburg.

The year was 1851. In Goldbaum, West Prussia of Germany, a shepherd was knitting for his family while watching the flocks. Johann Fromm was a tall heavy-set man of thirty-six

with fiery red hair. He would stick his knitting needles through his thick red beard and his ball of yarn in his shirt pocket when he parked his work. But he did not knit on Sundays nor did he allow his household to read except from the Bible. Lately the people in the village had been getting more and more excited over the wonderful stories of a far-away land where there was liberty and prosperity. A man could have his own land and flocks. He spoke of it to his wife Johanna who was two years younger. Could they even dream of going? It was a tremendous undertaking but finally they decided to leave their home-land. The following year, 1852, they sailed for America with their children. Sofie was eleven years old, John was five and Charley was two. The children were all excited as they danced ahead on the way down to the boat. They did not share their parents anxiety. It was a voyage of many months. Sometimes strong gales would blow the little sail-boat backwards farther than the distance they had covered in a week. Finally the happy day arrived when they could land. They did not stay in the East very long, however, but traveled Westward by boat, rail and oxcart until they settled down in West Bend,





J. Seidler family

Wisconsin. Four more sons were born there; Henry Andrew, Fred and William. The old homestead was given to William whose descendants still have the same land today.

Fifteen miles north of Golbaum, West Prussia, Joachim Nieman a forester was listening to the bird's song of early Spring as he walked through the woods. He was thirty-two years old and his wife Maria was thirty. Their children were John and Mary who was later to become the grandmother of the Helmke Brothers. He did not know his neighbor, Johann Fromm, nor were they destined to meet until much, much later, when they were both settled in the New World; one in West Bend, the other in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. He too had heard disquieting rumors in the forest village about a land across the sea where there was freedom. He talked it over many times with Maria. They were comfortable financially and there was no need for a perilous ocean voyage, but when they thought about their children and the future generations, they decided to sail for the foreign shore. They too sailed in 1852. The boat was blown about by strong winds and waves so progress was very slow. On clear nights, the North Star or Polaris was their guiding star. On stormy nights, they would huddle together and someone would read from the Good Book by the

dim light of the ships lantern. It was after just such a black stormy night came a beautiful dawn; brilliant blue and gold, and with a prayer of Thanksgiving they stepped ashore. They too travelled Westward until they settled in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. Twelve years later Joachim Nieman again had the wonderlust and walked north for about one hundred eighty-five miles to look for a new place. He found some timber he liked and immediately took out a homestead claim in 1864 in Hamburg, Wisconsin.

He walked back, gave his farm to his oldest son John who married Sofie, Fred Fromm's sister. In 1866, he brought his wife and six children into the wilderness. They brought many willow cuttings as the branches from the willow tree could be woven into baskets and many other useful articles. The little boys made willow whistles out of them as well. The little girls played with corn husk dolls with acorns as cups and saucers. Blond blue-eyed little Wilhelmine the youngest was five. Little could she know that one day her sons would become the famous Fromm Brothers Fur and Ginseng Co.

One of the first and most welcome visitors of these early years was Rev. John Jacob Hoffmann, the circuit riding minister who cared for all the spiritual needs of these early set-



tlers. He enjoyed warm hospitality at the Nieman home and always stayed with them when in the neighborhood. After religious services, there was fun and laughter in this happy home. The young people sang the songs their folks had brought from the forest villages of the old country. Rev. Hoffmann had other books in his bag too. He would read from one of them, "Prose and Poetry" by Fritz Reuter. As he read from this, grandma Nieman would remark that it was highly irregular to be reading aught but Holy Writ, as she looked at him from her knitting. The usual beverage was a brew made from wheat barley, rye, and peas roasted to a golden brown then ground in a hand mill and boiled. But when the minister came to call, some precious coffee beans were ground and the kitchen was filled with the delicious aroma of bean coffee cooking. The brand was McLaughlins 4 X X X X. There was white bread and kuchen. There was a grist mill in Stevens Point so the settlers would carry home a sack of flour on their backs through the woods, a round trip of about one hundred miles or so.

Another settler, Ferdinand Kleinschmidt, worked in a saw mill in Stevens Point. He always walked home to be with his family on week ends. On one occasion as he was walking home from Stevens Point with a load on his back, he heard a rustling and felt that he was being followed. He knew a shack on the trail so he hurried inside, kicked the door shut, set his load down and as he looked through the window he could see in the bright moonlight a huge black bear sniffing the air. If there would have been bacon it might have been a different story. The next morning he continued on his way and by Monday morning was back at his post in Stevens Point. Today his descendents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Kleinschmidt, the fourth generation still have the same land with a fine modern home just a short distance west of St. John's Church.

1870 saw the first school house built in Hamburg. It was built on Nieman land. It was made of hand hewn rock elm logs, 34 x 26 feet. A pulpit was built in the north west corner so the building also served as a church as St. Johns Lutheran was organized as a congregation in 1867 with Rev. I. W. Hudtloff as the first minister. The log school cost one hundred fifty dollars. Wages were one dollar and fifty cents per day. The ceiling was made of rough lumber and the snow sifting through would sizzle as it melted on the box stove. A tin pail was used for melting snow for drinking water but sometimes the teacher allowed the boys to get a pail of drinking water from the Niemans. The settlers received eighty-five cents for a cord of wood 2½ ft. x 4 ft. x 8 ft.

to be delivered to the school. During the summer, some one would wash the windows and blacken the stove for the enormous sum of twenty-five cents. The first teacher was Julius Kretlow who received one hundred sixty-five dollars for teaching four months English, one month German and two months German religious instruction in the summer. This building served them well until 1903 when a frame school was built across the road, the present location. The log school was sold in 1909 for twenty-six dollars. It can be seen today on the Edwin Bartelt farm. The old location became the Fromm cemetery. The new school house was 46 x 30 x 16 feet. In 1949, a wing was added and the building was modernized and painted red at a cost of \$45,000. It was officially named "The Maple Grove School". In 1952, the district became affiliated with the Merrill school system. In September of 1961, Edward Fromm the Chairman of the Board signed a contract for another addition at an estimated cost of \$95,000. Today a well known and well loved Hiway Patrol Chief plays Santa every Christmas to a host of happy children.

In 1875, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schoenherr came to Hamburg from Watertown, Wisconsin with their three sons, William, Gust and Ernst. They stayed the first winter at the Gottlieb Seidler home and in the Spring built their own log house on the one hundred twenty acres they had purchased for four hundred dollars.

The frontier was pushed Westward and the Western settlers gathered at the Albert Zastrow home for religious services. He was a son-in-law of Gottlieb Seidler. They were organized into a Congregation on December 2nd, 1880, St. Paul's Lutheran with Rev. Luedtke as the first minister. Their log church was built in 1895.

In 1880, the Hamburg Post Office was established. The mailing address had been Barney but now became Hamburg. Henry E. Voigt was appointed Post Master. He was school master, Notary Public, Justice of the Peace. He also published a poultry magazine in the Post Office. When the Republicans were in power, then Henry Voigt was Post Master and Frank Marth was the assistant but when the Democrats were in office then Frank Marth was Post Master and Henry Voigt was the assistant. Carl F. Baneck drove a stage to Wausau twice a week with the mail and passengers. The stopping place in Hamburg was the Charley Emmerich saloon. Then the mail bag taken to Henry Voigt Post Office, sorted and the mail belonging to this area brought back to the Emmerich saloon where each settler could call for his mail. That was the social center of the community. Many times the pioneer woman



would drive there with horse and buggy to get the mail and see what the stage had brought. Maybe there was a new bolt of calico or some new patterns. Often the settlers would walk there carrying a coal oil lantern and spend a social evening playing cards and exchanging the latest news.

It was Springtime in Hamburg and 1883. A young man from West Bend came north to call on a young lady he remembered from a party in Milwaukee. On July 18th, 1883, Wilhelmina Nieman and Fred Fromm were married. Her father Joachim Nieman, gave the bride a quarter section of land for a wedding gift. This farm was later to become the famous Fromm Fur and Ginseng Ranch.

A hardy group of German settlers, these, who were all of one mind and religion. They shared each others joys and sorrows. When there was a death in the family, all would come to offer what help they could. There was no need for words. A firm hand clasp spoke volumes. As they pushed the forest farther and farther from their doors, and plowed there furrows, they dreamed of future fields and harvests. They had a certain sense of security and contentment; pride in progress and achievement. The cradle, scythe and flail were replaced by the reaper, binder and the horse power threshing and wood sawing.

The pioneer women valiant and true, played no small part in conquering the wilderness. She worked at her husband's side in field and forest besides raising a large family. Late in the evening by the light of her coal oil lamp, she would spin, knit and sew for her loved ones. Wool was sheared from the sheep. Very few articles of clothing were store-bought. Sometimes she had a chance to go to Wausau when farm supplies were badly needed. That meant a round trip of about fifty miles sitting on a board in a lumber wagon behind a team of slow plodding farm horses. She received eight cents a pound for her butter, ten cents a dozen for the eggs. Calico and muslins were ten cents a yard. Shoes cost fifty cents per pair. She made her own yeast from hops. Soap was made from lye from the ashes. She used brown dye from the butternuts.

1893 saw the building of our St. John's Lutheran Church. When it was completed, a bell was purchased in Milwaukee from a famous bell maker and his son who had brought the craft from the old country. It cost four hundred and fifty dollars and was the best to be had. It has played an important part in the lives of all and has been ringing many times in its sixty-nine years. It's clear, deep resonant tone can be heard for half a dozen miles in every



Emmerich Tavern

direction. It has tolled slowly many times when a pioneer was laid to rest, but there were also happy times when it rang merrily for weddings.

About this time a call went out for help at the Rib River landing also known as The Gust Waehrlich landing. The Rib River originates in Rib Lake about forty miles to the north west. It forms a natural boundary between the Hamburg and Halsey townships. Logs were hauled to the Gust Waehrlich landing and saw mill. Headquarters were established on the west bank of the river. A cook house, sleeping quarters, horse barns. About twenty men were employed. George Fredrick Esswsin furnished all the venison the crew could eat which was about six deer every week. As the logs were sawed into lumber, it was made up into rafts by Herman Raasch who would stake, spike, bolt and wire-tie it to a log foundation; about fifteen or twenty thousand board feet of lumber to each one. In Spring, the Rib River was a roaring, raging yellow torrent half a mile wide and could be heard for many miles around. Then the buyers would come, buy the rafts of lumber and float them down stream to St. Louis.

It was the autumn of 1903. Nature yielded a rich golden harvest in garden, field and orchard. The quiet, serene country side echoed with the long shrill whistle of a huge slow-moving black monster, the steam engine. Together with the threshing machine, it slowly moved from farm to farm separating the grain from the straw. It took several days at each place depending on the amount of grain. Many, many cords of wood were needed to feed the



black monster. The water boiler always had to be full to be converted into steam for power. About twenty-four hundred gallons of it were used each day. Herman Raasch was the machine operator; Herman Henricks the engineer and Herman Woller the water boy who had a large wooden tank mounted on a horse-drawn wagon which he took to the nearest creek and filled by means of a large hose and pump. The women too were busier at this season of the year when vast quantities of food had to be prepared for the hungry threshers. The meals were served on the lawns, weather permitting. Boards were placed on saw bucks for tables. There was chicken soup with noodles and dumplings. Roast chicken with stuffing seasoned with onion, sage, marjoram, savory, thyme. Huge roasts of pork and lamb with gravy for the mounds of snowy whipped potatoes that had butter oozing all over. There were jams and quivery jellies for the feather-light hot biscuits. There were pickles of dill, crab apple, beet and chow-chow. Large bowls of mashed baggies. There was crisp cole slaw. And the pies consisted of juicy apple and pumpkin with whipped cream three inches high and plenty of honey over that. There were many kinds of kuchkens, doughnuts, cakes. Thick sweet cream to melt with the many gallons of hot bean coffee. Only about four or five items were store-bought, the rest of the food all came from the land. Beer was bought at the Charley Emmerich saloon at one dollar fifty cents per quarter. A gallon of grain alcohol was bought for two dollars and diluted according to the likes or dislikes of the host for each individual. Kuemmel was soaked in it over night to give it added flavor. After supper, some of the weary workers would bury themselves deep in the warm fragrant oats for a short nap before the evening chores and then the festivities began as there always was a party with dancing when the threshing was finished at one place. The orchestra consisted of Fred Fromm who played the fiddle; Herman Roehl had an accordeon. Some one had a mouth organ, and someone else would scrape a broom handle on the floor for the bass. Some of the compositions; Red Wing, Silver Bell, Turkey in the Straw, Arkansas Traveller, Oh Suzanna, Lindenau, Isabella and Mariechen and many others. The lilting music drifting out would blend with the eerie call of the wild geese as they winged their way southward on the frosty Autumn air. The last one was always Home Sweet Home and so to bed for a few hours of sleep before that five o'clock whistle from the steam engine would waken one and all.

It was Summer and 1910. There was a big commotion and excitement in Hamburg. Any one

driving along the roads was prepared to jump down from their rigs any time to hold the horses by their bridles, as they were very much afraid of this strange new menace. Fred Fromm had bought the first automobile, a black Buick.

Most of the Pioneers are gone now, only a few widows remaining who remember the hardships of those old days. Mrs. Pauline Schoenherr, Mrs. Alma Block, Mrs. Martha Bloch, Mrs. Gustie Ziegel, Mrs. Paul Langbecker, Mrs. Herman Krenz. But to all their descendents, they have left a wonderful heritage in so many ways.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schoenherr, parents of Alma Fromm.

A word to farmer's sons. If your fathers own good farms, which are not mortgaged, don't all abandon your homes. One of you, at least should remain to carry on the farm, when your father's lease of life has expired. You might possibly do better in some other business, but you had better not risk a change. N.Y. Observer.



# Henry Voigt Heritage

by LORRAINE VOIGT RUSCH

Henry E. Voigt Sr. was born in Dodge Co., Wisconsin, July 21, 1859 and died April 30, 1926. He moved to Hamburg with his bride, the former Amelia (Emilie) Hiller in 1881 along with his parents, the John Voigt's. Henry was an only child. They established a farm in Section 27, where his son Arnold and Arnold's son Carl still live. Their first home was a log house and it was built on the hill north of the present homesite. The log house was moved down the hill a few years later and an addition was built to it. That served as a home, printing office and post office until 1919 when Arnold had the new house built. This still serves as a home for Arnold and Carl.

Henry served the community as a teacher in the English Public School District #2 for 10 years. I have a voucher issued by the school clerk Charles Hanke, dated March 7, 1884, which authorizes the treasurer August Koller to pay Henry E. Voigt the sum of \$100.00 for his services as a teacher. I have no way of knowing if this was for the entire school term or not.

He also was the town clerk for 12 years and Hamburg Postmaster for 28 years from November 1889 until his death.

In 1888, he established Der Gefluegel-Zuechter Publishing Co., which published the only German language poultry journal published in the United States. It had world-wide circulation and some countries listed on the partial mailing list I have are England, Germany, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Mexico, India, Russia and Austria. These are in addition to the United States, in which it was widely circulated.

Most of the records have been lost or destroyed, but from what is available I have gathered the following facts:

His obituary states the following, "The deceased was a great lover of flowers and poultry, and through the medium of Der Geflueger-Zuechter did much to inoculate in others the same spirit he possessed".

The paper was published in Mr. Voigt's home for 9 years (1888-1907). On March 26, 1904 the company was incorporated with capital stock of \$8,000.00 (8,000 shares @ \$1.00 each par value). Upon incorporation, he received 4,500 shares, as the appraised value of his business on that date was \$4,500.00. The other 3,000 shares were put up for sale and many of the buyers were subscribers of the poultry paper.

37.
APRIL 1926.
12.

## Der Geflügel-Züchter.

\*\*\* Herausgegeben von der \*\*\*

**Der Gefluegel - Zuechter Pub. Co.,**  
HAMBURG, WISCONSIN.

Entered at the Post Office at Hamburg, Wis., as Second Class matter. 10 Cents the Copy.



**Herr HENRY E. VOIGT, Gründer dieser Zeitschrift, gestorben.**

Näheres über seinen Lebenslauf auf Seite 223.

He was president of the corporation, his wife was vice-president and daughter Belinda served as secretary. He also served as treasurer.

At the May 6, 1905 stockholders meeting, approval was granted to begin construction of a new printing office building. Building began in the spring of 1906; it was a brick structure 24' x 48' and when completed also housed the Hamburg Post Office. On December 16, 1906, the Board of Directors authorized Henry to make a trip to Chicago to purchase new machinery for the printing office. One month later he reported back that he had found the most suitable equipment at the Barnhard Bros. & Spindler Foundry in Chicago. He ordered a Standard flatbed printing press with steam splitter and overhead fixtures at the cost of \$1,200.00; A Perfection stitcher (stapler), \$115.00; and an Eclipse newspaper folder costing \$225.00. (A note on that --- I was talking to the owner of Roto-Graphic Co. yesterday and he has a folding machine similar to what this was like except it was smaller, being used for folding business letters. He told me that to replace that machine today would cost \$13,000.00.)

The minutes of the April 27, 1907 stockholders meeting state that the stockholders present went and inspected the new printing



office which was in full operation getting out the May 1907 issue of *Der Gefluegel-Zuechter*. All was found satisfactory.

Many oldtimers will remember that Frank X. Thuma was associated with Mr. Voigt in the publishing business. No one seems to remember just when he came to Hamburg except that Arnold Voigt remembers his father telling him that Mr. Thuma came walking down the road, his belongings in a sack thrown over his back, asking for work. He was a typesetter who had left Germany but would never talk about why he left nor did he speak of a family left behind. He evidently arrived before the business was incorporated as he was one of the first stockholders (200 shares), was on the Board of Directors, for some time secretary of the corporation, and most importantly, foreman of the printing department. He had sleeping quarters above the printing office and took his meals with the Voigt family. He kept the printing and publishing business going after the death of Henry Voigt. (He was proficient in both German and English.)

The business never prospered as well as Mr. Voigt dreamed it would. What I can make of the minutes of the meetings that are available, indicated that he had problems getting competent help and that the stock and subscriptions did not sell as well as he had hoped. The stockholders were to try to win new readers by selling subscriptions, but with the outbreak of World War I, times were hard and the interest in German papers dwindled. However, the corporation managed to keep going until Mr. Thuma's death in February of 1936. In April 1936, the corporation was dissolved and the assets sold to pay outstanding debts.

One interesting sidelight of the minutes of the 1914 stockholders meeting was where Mr. Voigt tells the stockholders that he doesn't feel that his salary of \$40.00 per month is out of line. (I don't know if he had received complaints that the head of the corporation was taking too much salary... things haven't changed much have they?) He tells how he works on Sundays like on weekdays and always until late in the evening, yet he earns only half as much as a buttermaker; yet the buttermaker only has to make butter and does not have to break his head worrying about where the money is coming from to pay the bills like he has to. He went on to tell them that he did not think that they would be able to find anyone who would want to undertake his position for less than \$125.00 per month and if they could they were welcome to give that person his job. He continued as president of the corporation until his death so evidently his message got through to the stockholders:



Henry E. Voigt Sr., Postmaster; Frank X. Thuma, typesetter and Arnold F. Voigt, star route carrier.

The old printing office building was torn down in 1946, having outlived its usefulness. It was a sad time for Arnold as he was 15 years old when it was built and he remembers how thrilled and happy his father was when it was put into operation. One remnant of the business remains... the log poultry house Henry built where he raised and experimented with raising species of fowl, which would be the subject of articles in his journal.

Amelia (also known as Emilie) Hiller was born in Pommern, Germany in 1862, the eldest of 13 children of Carl and Pauline (Reck) Hiller. They came to America when Emilie was 3 years old. One infant died on the trip and was buried at sea. The family settled in Columbus, Wisconsin. In 1879, three daughters, Bertha 9, Minna 5, and Emma 3, all died within a week of diphtheria.

Hamburg was a wilderness when Henry and Emilie moved here in 1881. Indians roamed the area and camped for the winter in the area where Norbert Novitzke now lives. Emilie was very frightened of them and they used to come to the homestead out of curiosity. If Henry was away at school teaching and she



Printing Press





Henry Voigt Family - 1893

was home alone, she lived in fear. Finally, Henry told the indian chief to ask his people to please stay away when he wasn't home because his wife was afraid. She evidently got over that fear because in later years she told of how she and Mrs. Frank Marth, Sr., went to see an indian baby that had been born in the camp.

Emilie also got very lonesome and homesick for her family back in Columbus. Her son Arnold tells of the time he remembers his mother walking to the end of the road leading to the farm (now Third Lane and County Hwy A) and just sitting there looking southward, longing for her mother and sisters especially.

They had seven children, Alvina (Zastrow), Belinda (Juedes), Clara (Schuster), Arnold, Henry, Adelia (Dobberstein), and Clarence. Emilie died in 1929.

## Two Families came to Hamburg in 1886

by STELLA TREU RADUENZEL

Karl Ludwig Raduenzel and his wife Gustina Bahr Raduenzel migrated to the United States of America in the year 1884 from Mienken, Krs. Arnswalde, Province of Brandenburg, Germany.

They brought with them Karl's mother Christina Quade Raduenzel then 83 years old and blind, and their five youngest children, Augusta, Louise, Emilie, Emma, and August.

Their eldest daughter Wilhelmina was married in Germany to August Carl Mueller. The Mullers came to the United States in or about the year 1880. They settled at Farmington, Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Their two oldest children Emma and Willie were born there. Muller's three other children, Anna, Amanda,

and Paul, were born in the Town of Hamburg, Marathon County, Wisconsin.

When the Karl Raduenzel family came from Germany they also settled at Farmington to be near their daughter and son-in-law, and lived there until both they and Mueller family came to the Town of Rib Falls. Here they lived for one year while they cleared land on adjacent farms they had purchased one mile north and one mile west of Little Chicago. They built log houses for their families and moved there in 1886.

August Raduenzel was only seven years old when they came to America. Many times while crossing the ocean, he had the responsibility of leading his blind grandmother. And also after they lived in Hamburg, while the rest of the family were busy clearing the land and with household chores, he had to take care of her many needs. He told of the many pranks he played on her (being young and not realizing her handicap). He hid things or kept them out of her reach or sometimes just stood real still so she did not know where he was, etc.

With eight people in the home to feed, the Raduenzel family spent many long hours clearing land of stumps and stones so they could raise food for themselves and their cattle.

August, being the only son in the family, took over the farm and the care of his aging parents in 1900. He constructed a brick house, and in 1905 he married the former Bertha Plautz. Four children were born to this union, Hilda, Elsie, Willie and Raymond.

Willie and his wife, the former Stella Treu, lived with his parents for six and one-half years. Through the depression years (in the 1930's) Willie trucked for his father. He hauled gravel in the town of Hamburg during the summer months to pay the taxes on the farm, and also hauled pulp wood during the winter months to pay for feed for the cattle and also the summer's supply of tractor fuel. Their milk checks went as low as \$14.00 for two weeks and for a while, while the milk strike was going on, there were no milk checks. Willie and Stella had three daughters, Phyllis, Lois and Janis - all born in Hamburg. They moved to Wausau after the death of Willie's mother in 1938.

Raymond and his wife, the former Adeline Pagel, inherited the farm. August made his home with them until the time of his death. They had two children, Eunice and Andrew. Raymond sold the farm to Gustave Thurs and moved to Wausau, where he lived until he went to California, and later to Oregon.

Present owners of the former Raduenzel farm are Raymond and Mary Ann Heldt.

The Mueller farm is now a fourth generation



farm. First owners were August Mueller and his wife Wilhelmina, next owners were Willie Mueller and his wife Elizabeth, third owners were Gustave Thurs and his wife the former Gertrude Mueller, present owners are Orvil Thurs and his wife Iris. They have two children, Scott and Sherrie.

Paul Mueller and his wife the former Ruth Schuster, bought a farm one mile north of Little Chicago. They had two children, Adeline and Elgardt. In 1945, Elgardt took over the ownership of the farm.

# Woller Family

by DELMA WOLLER

Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Woller

Fred C. Woller was born in the town of Hamburg. He was the son of Gottlieb and Charlotte (Kleinschmidt) Woller. He was married to Augusta Baumann,

June 19, 1897. Augusta was born in Germany. At the age of five her parents sailed to America, landing at Baltimore, Maryland. They traveled to this area to make their home because a few years before relatives and friends from Germany had settled here.

Fred and his wife obtained a homestead, eighty acres of virgin timber in the North East quarter of Section 4, town of Hamburg.

Their obligation to the Government for the homestead was to clear five acres of land, build a home and live there five years. After living there six years they sold the homestead to Gamble and Bissell Lumber Company of Wausau, Wi.

In 1907, they bought the homestead originally acquired by Fred's parents, Gottlieb and Charlotte Woller and lived there the rest of their lives.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Woller and Mrs. Mabel Fromm

Erwin Woller

Erwin Woller is the son of Fred C. and Augusta Woller. He attended Maple Grove School and is a graduate of the Wausau Business College. Erwin, together with his brothers Harry and Emil owned and operated Woller Bros. Fox and Mink Ranch. He helped organize and incorporate Ranchers Fur Auctions of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1959 and was its Vice President for fourteen years. He also was a director in the American Mink Ranchers Association of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In 1962, he became affiliated with Cash Loan Co. Inc., Merrill, Wisconsin and has served as secretary through the years.

In 1969, Erwin and Emil Woller, Eldor Hanni and Eldred Thiel incorporated and bought Hamburg Cheese Manufacturing Co. located at Rainbow Drive and Lane 2. Following this the Hamburg Cheese Manufacturing Co., Corn Belt Cheese Factory located on County Trunk F owned by Eldor Hanni and Riverside Cheese Factory in the town of Stettin, owned by Eldred Thiel were consolidated. The corporation then built Wisconsin River Valley Cheese Inc. in the town of Maine at the Intersection of Hwy. K and County Trunk A. After its completion the other three factories were discontinued.

In the summer of 1970, a retail cheese store was opened in the front part of the plant and was managed by Erwin Woller.

In 1972, the Corporation sold controlling interest in Wisconsin River Valley Cheese Inc. to Anco International of Stanford, Connecticut. In addition to producing American cheese a research program was carried on developing a Gourmet Cheese Spread. It became known as 'Rondele' and was first marketed in 1974. The plant now known as Ino Food Corp. produces Rondele exclusively and it is marketed throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, South and Central America.

In 1973, a new retail store was built and is known as Cheese "N" More Store Inc.

He was also President of Northern Mining Corporation and Vice-President of Wistex Talc Inc., a Wisconsin, Texas Talc Corporation.

In 1972, he was one of twelve investors who built a cheese packaging plant at Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin known as Cheez-Co. Inc. and was on the board of directors of that corporation. In 1974, they sold the plant to Brooke Bond Foods, Inc. of Lake Success, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Woller live on the homestead acquired by Erwin's grandfather, Gottlieb Woller in 1871. The late Emil and Sylvia Woller also resided on this land which has been in the Woller family since 1871 with an interim of fourteen years from 1893 to 1907 when Erwin's father, Fred C. Woller acquired it.



## Delma Woller

Delma (Rux) Woller was born in the town of Rib Falls. She received her elementary education at the Hillside School, town of Rib Falls. She is a graduate of Marathon County Normal School and taught in rural schools for six years. In 1931, she was married to Erwin Woller. In addition to being a homemaker she is Vice President of Cash Loan Co. Inc. of Merrill, Wisconsin and is a member of Marathon County Extension, Berlin Homemakers Club. She belongs to the Wisconsin Association of Women Highway Safety Leaders Inc. and serves on the Marathon County Highway Safety Commission. She also is a member of the Altrusa Club of Wausau and presently serves as its President.

Erwin and Delma are members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Town of Berlin. They have two daughters Barbara (Mrs. Gerald) Seeley and grandsons Kris and Marc of Angola, Indiana and Faye (Mrs. Lynn) Greenfield of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

## Emil Woller

Emil Woller was the son of Fred C. and Augusta Woller. He was in business with his brothers Harry and Erwin operating Woller Bros. Fox and Mink Ranch located on Rainbow Drive, Hamburg. He was affiliated with Ranchers Fur Auctions and American Mink Ranchers Association of Milwaukee, Wisconsin River Valley Cheese Inc., and Cheez-Co. Inc. of Wisconsin Rapids. He and his wife Sylvia were members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Town of Berlin where Mrs. Woller taught Sunday School for many years.

## Sylvia (Kummerow) Woller

Sylvia (Kummerow) Woller was born in the town of Stettin and attended the Vilas School. In 1927, she was married to Emil Woller. She was a graduate of the Marathon County Normal School and continued study at Wisconsin University - Stevens Point. At the time of her death in 1967 she was teaching Kindergarten at the Maple Grove School, Hamburg. After her death Emil Woller and the Maple Grove School P.T.O. established a Sylvia Woller Award Scholarship. It is available to students enrolled in the Maple Grove attendance area during grades three through six and a resident of the Maple Grove attendance area at the time

of high school graduation.

The annual Award is in the amount of \$400.00 payable during the first year of post high school study at an approved institution offering a one, two, three or four year course. Final selection will be made at the Maple Grove School by the Sylvia Woller Award Committee.

Recently, two such awards have been given yearly.

Mr. and Mrs. Woller have a son, Gary and a granddaughter, Ailson residing at Mt. Prospect, Illinois.



Sylvia Woller with fawns

## Harry and Helen Woller

Harry also was a son of Fred C. and Augusta Woller. He attended Maple Grove elementary school and graduated from the Wausau Business College. In 1929 he was married to Helen Hass from Merrill, Wisconsin. He was a partner with Emil and Erwin in fox and mink ranching and deer farming. In the late 1950's he sold his interest in the partnership to his brothers Emil and Erwin. He and Helen sold their Hamburg home to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Czech and then moved to Merrill, Wi. They had one son, Harry Jr. who now resides in Waukesha, Wi.

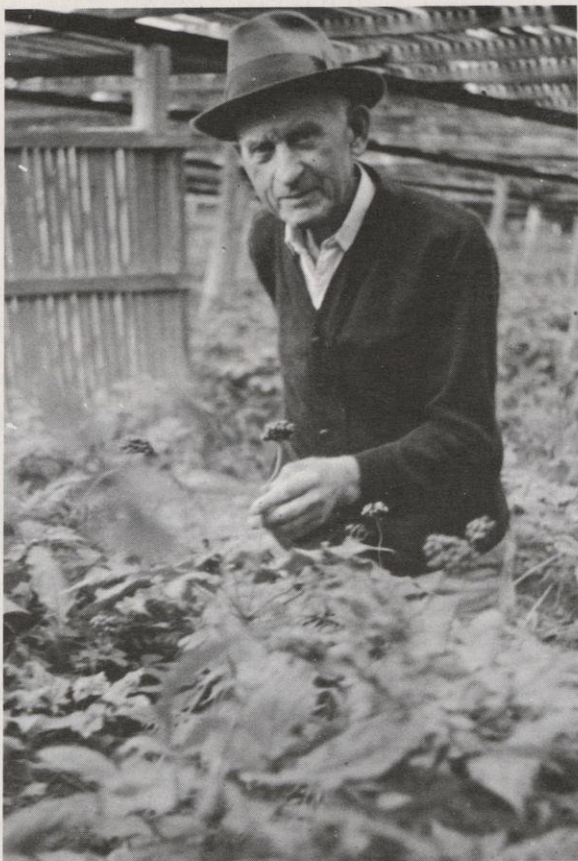
## Lillian Woller Daul

Lillian was the youngest of the children in the Woller family. In 1927 she was married to Edward Daul and they lived in Merrill, Wisconsin. They were the parents of two children, Mr. Robert Daul of Park Ridge, Illinois and Mary Ottusch, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

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If a man be only true to himself, it will be very difficult for others to over reach him.





Walter Fromm, husband of Mabel Woller, in a ginseng garden.

#### Walter Fromm

Walter Fromm was born in the town of Hamburg, the son of Frederick and Alvina Fromm. He was a graduate of the Marathon County Teachers Training School at Wausau and the Wittenberg Military Academy at Wittenberg, Wisconsin. He taught at the La Follette School, town of Hamburg.

He was affiliated with Fromm Bros. Inc. and served as Secretary, Treasurer. The Corporation most frequently referred to as, "The Company" was the pride of his life. All his years were devoted to its betterment and common good. He loved his work.

Following the pattern of his life one can see he admired great men: Luther Burbank - by the way he loved his gardens, vegetable and flowers; John James Audubon - by the many designs of bird houses abounding on their home grounds and being a member of the Audubon Society all

#### American Know-How

In seventeen hundred and seventy-six  
A group of American mavericks  
Renounced a yoke of tyranny-  
The tax on stamps, the tax on tea.  
Our fathers felt that we were fit  
To tax ourselves and you'll admit  
We have been very good at it.

his adult years. Edward William Bok, who inspired him to pattern their home grounds in Florida after those at the Singing Tower. It

was Bok who wanted the Singing Tower grounds to be, "A place of repose for the human spirit" and Walter often spoke of their Florida home grounds as a place to pause and rest the human spirit. Their grounds were equally as beautiful, with pines, palms and oaks, fruit trees of all kinds, birds and flowering shrubs in abundance. Another naturalist and philosopher he admired for his quotation was Henry David Thoreau who once said, "In Wildness is the preservation of the World". Walter's belief in preserving the World's natural resources is shown by his numerous subscriptions to nature magazines and by his lifetime membership with the National Geographic Society.

He had a great command of the English language. The flourishes of adjectives in a simple letter were comparable to phrases by great poets. One was awed by his writings. He looked upon nature with reverence and often referred to the poets who wrote, "The trees were God's first temples" and "Only God can make a tree". He was a man of nature and it made him humble, a man loved by all who knew him.

He was married to Mabel Woller who shared all his views of nature. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Woller. Besides their Hamburg home on County Trunk F. they maintained summer homes at Buffalo Lake, near



Celebrating Mrs. Fred Woller's 90th birthday. Seated (l. to rt.): Emil and Sylvia Woller, Edward and Lillian Daul and Mrs. Fred C. Woller. Standing: Erwin, Faye, Delma Woller and Mabel and Walter Fromm.



Woodruff, Wisconsin and another at Lake Kabetogama, near the Canadian border in Minnesota. Their winter home in Florida was located near Lake Wales.

Their travels took them to all parts of the United States.

As a legacy to the community in which they lived they established the Walter and Mabel Fromm Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the fund shall be to provide education in an accredited college, university or nursing school in Wisconsin (foregoing not to include Technical or Vocational School or training) and limited to four years, to students at a school selected by the student in his or her application. Students are to be selected from worthy graduates of Maple Grove School who have attended all grades in said Maple Grove School of Hamburg, Wisconsin who also graduate from Merrill High School after attending all grades of said Merrill High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Fromm were members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Town of Berlin, Marathon County and Grace Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida.

The legacy to the people of Hamburg by Walter and Mabel Fromm shall long be remembered. The community has been greatly enriched by them, having lived here.

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## An Old Time Threshing Scene

by DELMA WOLLER

What was an old-time threshing with the steam engine like in the early days (1910-1935) before combines?

A threshing machine, steam engine and water wagon was a common sight during the months of late August and September back in the "good old days". In Hamburg there were several privately owned machines. The "thresher" as the owner was often called, took as many jobs as he felt he could do in a certain length of time. Unless there was a special reason the customers remained the same year after year.

In the area where I grew up it was a cooperative enterprise. The machine (separator), engine and water tank wagon was a company affair owned by fifteen to seventeen neighbors and housed in a specially built threshing machine shed, on land donated by one of the farmers. At threshing time neighbor helped neighbor until all were threshed, usually beginning the first week in September and taking three to



Binding Oats

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four weeks to complete the circuit. The saddest day for young farm boys was when the threshers came on the first day of school.

There were several reasons. One was the fascination and awe of the engine itself, as puffing smoke and live steam, made its way slowly along the country road, pulling the separator behind. To let farmers know the "rig" was on the move, the whistle was blown every quarter of a mile.

The caravan would also include the ever-present horse-drawn wooden water tank wagon, necessary to keep the steam boiler supplied with water.

It was an exciting moment when the word was flashed along the party line that the "threshers" had finished on the farm a mile or so away and our place was next. From that time on everyone was instructed to listen for the whistle blast to check how far away the machine might be.

Mother's helpers made quick last minute plans to feed the "threshers", while the farmer himself made the necessary preparation for room to set up the "rig".

Sometimes the rig came in late afternoon after finishing at the neighboring farm, some-

times it came midforenoon, no matter when, it had to be set up before the threshing could begin.

The "setting up" crew was small, giving the rest of the men a chance to go home for two or three hours, depending on what repair had to be made.

The machine or the separator unit was positioned into place in the middle of the barn floor with highly stacked mows on each side - every available space stacked with oats, winter wheat, barley and sometimes dried pea vines.

The steam engine was maneuvered into posi-



tion, and holes were dug into the ground for the big driving wheels to drop into so that the rig was stationary. The long drive belt would be unrolled and one end placed on the power take off wheel of the engine, and the other placed on the driving wheel of the separator. The belt was given a half twist but we (small girls) never knew why.

When all was ready, the boiler filled with water from the tank wagon, the firebox filled with chunks of dry wood from the recently stacked rows of wood sawed the previous winter or spring, and "a good head of steam" was up, the lever was thrown, and the belt began to move through the arc of its long way from the engine to the separator, a distance that had to be just right.

By this time all hands were back at their designated station of work, - a blast of the whistle and everything was ready to go. Two or three men with pitchforks were stationed in the mow to toss the sheafs (or bundles as most often called) onto a platform or the machine where the strawstack was to be. The first bundle of grain was fed into the separator maw where flashing knives bit into the sheaf cutting the binder twine that held the bundle together. The conveyor then moved it into the separating mechanism proper. In a few minutes out came the kernels of new grain falling into a container that served as a scale. An example - Oats weigh 32 pounds a bushel, so the scale was set at 32 pounds. When the container filled with enough oats to equal 32 pounds an automatic release shut off the flow of grain and tipped the container so the grain flowed into the sacker at the side of the separator. This scale automatically added up the numbers of containers filled thus determining the number of bushel of oats threshed at that farm. When another kind of grain was started, say, barley, weighing 48 pounds a bushel, the scale was set at



Load of bundles

48 pounds and so on.

The straw was blown out onto the ground. The blower tender's job was to start the stack in a circle as large as the farmer wanted. As the threshing progressed the stack became a pyramid of straw.

Atop the stack of new straw stood the stackmen with his pitchfork arranging the new straw as it fell, a hat pulled down over his head, wearing a blue denim (lemonade) jacket and a bandana handkerchief around his neck to protect against the chaff (barley was the worst) which no shirt collar could keep out.

"The Carriers", were the young men who carried the sacks of grain from the sacker to the grain bins located on the same floor where the threshing took place. If the farmer had a granary (building for storing grain) and extender was attached to the sacker so the grain would flow down to the cattle barn below where it fell into sacks attached to the extender.

The granary usually was a distance away from the barn, mainly, as a safety precaution against loss in case of a fire. The carriers then had a longer distance to carry the sacks yet no one complained when shoulders ached. Only when dry peas, weighing 60 pounds a bushel and unwieldy to carry were threshed, the weight of those heavy sacks did bring groans from the carriers.

The most glamorous figure to all small boys was the engineer, as he piled chunks of wood into the firebox, checked the belts, got out his long spouted oil can and went over all moving parts.

The water wagon was stationed near the boiler for convenience when transferring the water to the boiler. A never-to-be-forgotten thrill for small boys was a chance to have a ride on the water wagon to the creek, three quarters of a mile away. When it arrived at the water's edge the hose was lowered into the water. The tank master would man the pump's lever handle (back and forth) to draw the water into the tank. When it was filled the wagon made it's way back to the "threshin" machine.

Farm wives made plans more than a week in advance, baking cookies for the 9 o'clock forenoon lunch and 4 o'clock afternoon lunch. During threshing time, morning and forenoon was a hectic time in the farmers household. There was the milking to be done in the very early hours to have it out of the way by the time the threshers arrived for breakfast, between 6 and 6:30 am.

After breakfast there were the proverbial dishes to be done, milking cans, pails and other utensils to be washed and put away before lunch at 9 o'clock. Lunch usually consisted of thick slices of home made bread, home made butter,



liver and summer sausage, colby, cheddar or brick cheese and the cookies, white sugar and molasses and/or homemade raised doughnuts.

While the crew was having lunch food was already being prepared for dinner. The roasting meats – pork, mutton or veal were in the oven early to be done by the time apple pies (August or Dutch apples were best) were ready for baking.

There was always a garden which furnished new potatoes, vegetables – pickles, corn, carrots and cabbage for salad made with homemade cooked dressing thinned to the proper consistency with cream, "snatched" from the top of last evenings can of milk. Father never knew or pretended he didn't for this was for the men who were guests at the time.

Young boys and girls looked forward to threshing time for aunts, cousins and grandma would come to help prepare the food. It was grandma who peeled all the potatoes and it took many a potatoe. Threshing took from two to two and one half days at our house. We were at about the halfway of the circuit and the machine sometimes was given a good overhaul before moving on and many times it was at our house over the weekend, – no one threshed on Sundays.

When the call for dinner – "Come and eat" – was given the engine was shut down, the separator wore down its roar, the men came toward the house – but not the tank master for he would first unhitch his team, water them and hang a feed bag over their head or place a box of feed before them.

On a bench on the porch, was a pail of water, a wash basin, a dish with soap and towels. Not everyone washed, the young men with their pride did but the older men went to the table as they were. In the crew were eighteen or twenty men seated at a table seating fourteen and another of six or more if needed. Each man was on his own to give thanks silently. After they were seated the hot food was brought to the table by "the cooks" who had labored all fore-

noon around the very hot wood-burning kitchen stove plus another one in the summer kitchen. The food began to disappear, a helping of potatoes became three or four mouthfuls. The women beamed as the meat platter, bowl after bowl of potatoes, vegetables and salad were emptied and had to be refilled. The meal was topped off by a generous slab or two of freshly baked apple pie and numerous cups of coffee or glasses of lemonade. After their hunger was satisfied, one by one left the table to go and sprawl under the shade tree until the whistle sounded to return to work. After the crew had



"Moving" Robert Krueger with horses

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eaten the table was reset and the cooks, children and whoever else was left had their feast.

Back at the engine, the engineer was piling more chunks of wood into the firebox, checking the belts, and going over all the moving parts with his long spouted oil can. When all was in readiness the afternoon threshing began but not until a toot of the whistle was sounded. As the engineer threw the lever the giant (separator) slowly came to life and the large maw of the separator began to bite into the sheaves. Then came the familiar swishing and rattling sound inside the separator and the straw began to come out of the blower and grain blown down the chute to the sacker.

By that time the teamster had his team and water wagon ready for the trip to the creek for more water. And so the afternoon wore on till 3:30 lunch break, then continuing again till the whistle blast at 6:30 or so, ending the threshing but not the day for supper was on the table waiting for the men to come in. It might be potatoe salad, baked beans, wieners, bread and butter and of course coffee. Then everyone left for home, except the one who tended the engine over night, he spent the night at the farmers home. All fell into bed, "dead tired" only to awaken in the morning and go through the same procedure again.

For boys and girls coming home from school it was a sad moment to find the threshers had

finished their farm and moved to the next neighbor for it meant the eventful time was over for another year.

The modern combine, which made the old-fashioned method obsolete had it's merits. But with the departure of the steam engine with it's two ever-present units the separator and water wagon, together with mutual cooperation of





On watertank (l. to rt.): Walter Niemann, Robert Woller, Herman Woller. In background: Carl Krenz, Wm. Henrichs Sr., Willie Henrichs, Carl Nieman. Foreground: Herman Henrichs, Herman Raasch, Fred Krenz, Paul Miller, John Seidler, Martin Helmke, Ben Helmke, Aug. Beckman, Robert Krenz, Willie Henrichs Jr., John Emmerich, and David Henrichs.

neighbor helping neighbor as the rig moved from farm to big farm, something of the friendly neighborliness of the by-gone era faded from the scene.

Henry Curtis - Quote: "Make your plans as fantastic as you like, because twenty five years from now, they will seem mediocre. Make your plans ten times as great as you first planned, and twenty five years from now you will wonder why you did not make them fifty times as great!"

By one who grew up in a neighboring town of Hamburg, but after marriage has happily called Hamburg "Home" - Delma Rux Woller.

We know all about shooting stars, but we often forget that this world of ours is a revolver.

## Little Chicago

by KAROLYN FANCKOWIAK

A lumberjack enjoying the night life at the Huehnerfuess tavern suggested that the settlement be called "Little Chicago", reminiscent perhaps of other times and places. Although that was the origin of the name of Little Chicago, the settlement had been carved out of the forested wilderness several decades before so that at the time it included two taverns, a blacksmith shop, shoe repair shop and a harness shop at the crossroads of the Athens and Wausau road (107 and County Trunk A) in the farming community of the Town of Hamburg, Marathon County.

The pioneers who carved out the settlement and surrounding are from the wilderness began arriving in 1857 from Pomerania, Germany.





Huehnerfuss Bar; Leonard Mathwich, Ed Brandt's father, Arthur Giese, Paul Krienke, Fred Haasch, Woller in coat, Elgart Huehnerfuss (boy), Herman Huehnerfuss. In back; Fred Merg and August Bartelt

Another wave of settlement followed in the 1870's after the Franco-Prussian War. Some English families were reported to have settled in the area but soon move on, for it was a common practice to seek settlement among those from the same home country. Many people pushed through the wilderness from Berlin, Wisconsin and Watertown, Wisconsin to this area to be with their friends even though appealing sites were passed along the way. One early settler exchanged his sandy 80 acres near West Bloomfield for 80 acres of timber and farm land of far greater value that was considered too far in the wilderness by the owner. These German immigrants had a number of reasons for coming to this particular area, but realized even though a work shortage existed in the cities, wages could be received by working in the lumber camps and selling the timber as their land was cleared. Their needs might be summarized, "We should prefer a large tract of land near a navigable river, and well adapted to stock raising.

The Big Rib River ran through the area about 5 miles to the west, although a small creek trickled through Little Chicago. Little Chicago is situated on the swampy area that was built up in order to save the better lands for farm-

ing. Tales have been told as to how dirt and timber were used in an attempt to make early roads passable.

The land, which was suitable for farming, was easily acquired. Land speculators, such as Louis Scheffer according to court house records, accumulated large amounts of land that had been granted to southern soldiers or their widows for service in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, and resold it for a large profit. John Koehler, a son of one of the first settlers in the area, located land and timber for settlers purchased from Charles Winton who settled in Wausau. Beside the land sales held at Stevens Point, land was also obtained at tax sales for the sum of taxes assessed, the cost and charges for the sale sold by the county treasurer for as little as \$16.77 for a quarter section in 1862. Land was also available from the Wisconsin Valley Railroad Co. in 1874 after the company disbanded.

The settlers' reasons for coming and the method of acquiring land may have differed, but they all needed to display initiative, frugality and the ability to work hard along with the determination to make a successful living on their land to which they traveled on trails or tote roads through the woods often requiring two weeks to make a 90 mile trip. Of these pio-



neer's outstanding characteristics, cooperation can not be overlooked, for cooperation was needed on all levels to be successful. The family unit worked hard to overcome the problems of providing a living. After land was cleared, gathering the timber into burning piles for there was no sale at this time of the timber crop and other crops needed to be raised on this land. The seeds were harrowed in among the stumps which were a long time in decaying. Much hand labor was required to tend the necessary potatoes and other vegetables and wheat. The large families supplied this labor. The boys were expected to stay at home and help and planned, with assistance from home, to buy and improve some land for when he was ready to establish his own home. The first of livestock, ox team, food and feed had also been raised on the home farm. The bride's parents would contribute when able. Even when the home farm passed to one of the sons, cooperation

and provision was evidenced, as shown in the terms of the agreement between my great-grandfather and his son in 1896.

. . . the first party hereby agrees to furnish and deliver to the second parties yearly during the natural life the following mentioned goods and articles: 100# beef, 25# summer sausage, 60# mutton or 1 good sheep, 10 chickens in the fall, 100# salt, 15# coffee, 20# prunes, 80# sugar, 16# rice, 15# oat meal, 8# raisins, 10# good wool, 55 dozen eggs, 4 gallons maple syrup, 1 bushel barley, also all the dry hardwood cut and split for stove length that they may use, also 1 cow, which must be fed, pastured and stabled and which they may exchange whenever they choose or deliver therefore yearly 60# butter and daily 2 quarts Milk, also shall furnish them a parcel of land for garden use, also to furnish them with two rooms and buttary in the dwelling house upon said premises and the free use of water, also to furnish them with the necessary clothing they may need and to do their washing and house cleaning and to furnish them with medical aid and attendance and also to pay them \$30.00 in cash yearly. . . Second parties further reserve for themselves the use of the team 12 miles in each year.

Such agreements were common and show the self sufficiency of the family unit and frugality in the use of multipurpose animals as well as in other aspects of life. "Coffee" was at many times a brew made from roasted and ground wheat, barley, rye and peas. A preserve made from boiled carrots sweetened with beet juice



Wausau Road through Little Chicago

was a change from the lard and goose grease that replaced the precious butter. In many cases the water supply was a five minute walk away, so even water economy was practiced.

As the family lived in need, skills from old country provided not only an enjoyable work, but also an added income source, as much work of this sort was done after chores. Fredrick Nuemann, one of the early settlers who did his own carpenter work and much for his neighbors, for sometime worked in partnership with George Ziegler in the delicate work of clock-making, designing birdhouses, paper baskets and plaques like, "What is home without Mother?"

That plaque helps to point out the importance of the woman's role in the family unit. If the wife died, the husband was sure to remarry soon because of the difficulty in carrying on the household without her skills. In one case a woman was recommended by a teacher in Germany after the death of his first wife. She traveled from Germany alone to make her life in this area and to supply the skill necessary to make soap, candles, butter and wooden slippers along with the other household and farm duties required of her.

Cooperation was needed and experienced more on the community level. The established settler did much to help newcomer and offered them supplies until their home was built. Until the community could furnish the supplies at Ziegler's store and post office, the grist mill and blacksmith shop in Little Chicago, a fifty mile trip had to be made to Stevens Point and a little later to Wausau, 18 miles away, for the supplies. The poor conditions of the roads made the trip even more difficult.

Roads were built by clearing timber, cutting stumps, digging ditches and throwing dirt to the middle later when stumps were rotted, to work off the tax assessment but still lands fre-



quently were lost to tax delinquency.

The raising of log barns and houses called for the effort of neighbors to push the skids up 18 to 20 feet with long poles. Often serious and fatal accidents occurred.

In times of illness and in concocting home remedies, the settlers worked together. Broken limbs were often set by an old country shepherd. The blacksmith in Little Chicago pulled teeth. Because of the time element involved in bringing the doctor from Wausau many people died, especially in childbirth. Wayside graves still remind the community of the epidemics which allowed no time for a different burial and the distances from the churches or ministers to perform a funeral rite.

The circuit riding minister, Rev. Hoffman, was one of the first and most welcome visitors of the early years. He enjoyed the warm hospitality as he stayed with the families when he

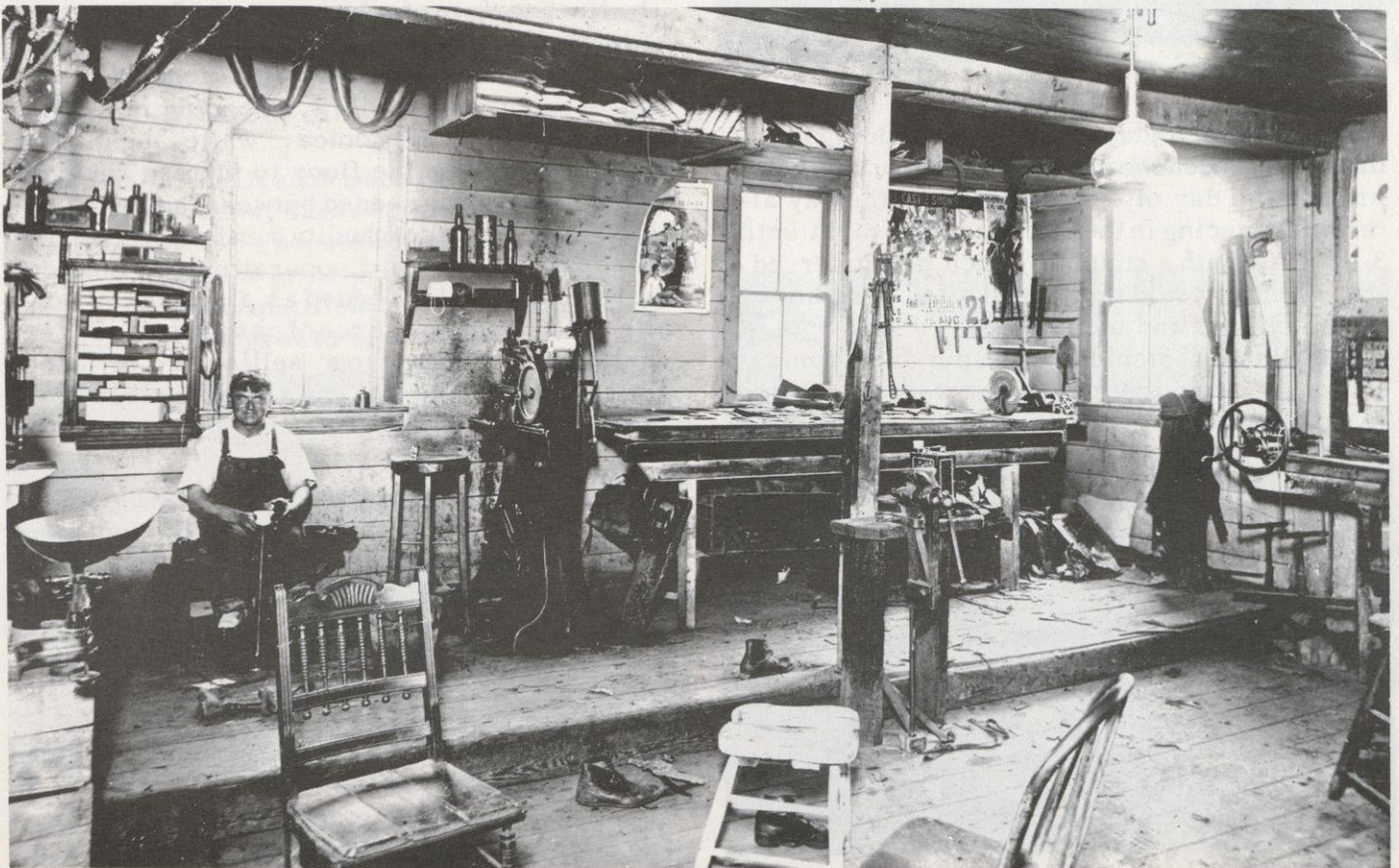
was in the neighborhood. After religious services in the homes, there was fun and laughter as the young people sang the songs their parents had brought from the villages of the old country. The old people questioned it that he should read from some of the other books in his saddle bag other than the Bible. St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran congregation was founded in 1861. Through the lack of cooperation, by

several factions in the community, weaker congregations and some friends were lost. Possibly as a result four Lutheran congregations exist in Hamburg today.

Later, schools were the meeting place for services as well as home, Maple Grove was the first school to be built in 1870, LaFollette School soon followed. As Mr. Koehler puts it, "Schools were built by the first settlers, but very poor teachers, who had to teach some English but didn't understand it. Settlers were just about all German."

Mail was distributed at church services from the post office at Ziegler's store in Little Chicago. The Hamburg Post Office published a poultry magazine, the "Geflugel Zuechter" and did other printing. The mail was brought from Wausau by Carl "Barney" Baneck during the week by stagecoach.

In addition to the needs fulfilled by the church, gatherings of various sorts also fulfilled a social need and work was done through this cooperation of the neighbors at the same time, as illustrated here from 1870 to 1900. Threshing was high point of the summer work. Like the log barn raisings, the neighbors worked free, being repaid for their help when the twenty men or so made the rounds and came to his farm to separate the oats from the straw with the community owned horse-powered threshing machine. "It was lots of fun, even if



Leo Brandt Harness Shop



working around the dusty machine all day and sleeping in the barns, as there was plenty of straw. There was a special feast at each meal and five meals a day," is how Mr. Koehler described it. Meals were often served on the lawns, weather permitting, with boards on sawbucks for tables holding vast quantities of food. In the evening, a nap was taken before chores, for festivities and dancing would follow.

Parties for the stripping of feathers, which would be a monotonous job alone, also mixed work with pleasure. As the hard core of the

feathers to be used for feather beds and pillows were removed, jokes were told by the women as they sat around the table. Lunch was served. The making of quilts also became pleasant work as a group of women gathered to tie the wool between the layers of fabric.

Dancing was a favorite activity. The square dance, waltz, and polka were commonly done in houses and graineries and later in halls, like the one in Little Chicago, particularly at Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. Records seem to have been set by their dances which began at 7:30 and lasted until 3 or 4 AM, remembering then their three or four mile walk home. Masquerade dances with prizes got an all out effort.

Another opportunity for social gathering was the birthday party. Mrs. Borchardt described it as "a big mob" in attendance playing Fruit Basket Upset. The lunch, of course cannot be forgotten.

Like the birthday party, the wedding celebration is much the same today. Usually celebrating the day of the wedding and the day after with dancing in the afternoon and night until 3 or 4 AM with a midnight lunch being served. Mr. Nuemann said they would often walk home, do the chores and then sleep.

The Mission picnics with pot luck dinners and church services held in the woods are also carried on today.



W. F. Beilke Store



A. J. Fehlhaber Place.

The superstitions and special holidays of the Germans had a unifying effect on the community.

It provided conversation and rituals which united them. Spring water was believed to be sweet before sunrise Easter morning but while getting this water not one word was allowed to be spoken. Angels were also said to dance in the sunrise on Easter morning. Before Lent, the children went to the neighbors to beg candy, apples and other goodies but their main prize was sausage. On Easter, balsalm or spruce branches were used to persuade to share eggs.

Another uniting factor was Little Chicago. The Huehnerfueess tavern was a gathering spot of lumberjacks where they played pool, cards and danced for activities after logging at the Sellin mill, built in 1872. Dancing to fiddle, accordion and harmonica, while the jug or broom scraped on the floor to furnish rhythm.

The cooperation needed between family members as well as community members for many reasons can be seen. Cooperation with outside community was also needed as a source of supplies and as a main source of cash income. The early income came from selling two or three cows a year and raising and training steers for oxen to work when three years old.

Butter was another product of the agricultural community which added to the income. The butter carried to market from wooden mould presses was traded for an equivalent of 10¢ to 12¢ a pound. Cash was received for a better quality butter which was sold to private families in Wausau. The community aided growth of this beginning industry by establishing two cheese factories and a creamery within one mile of Little Chicago.

Wool served as another source of income. The wool was spun and knit into stockings and mittens for family use. The surplus was sold



for woodsmen at \$2.75 for 10 pair of mittens and \$.35 for a pair of stockings.

Later and on a larger level the outside community cooperated by purchasing the logs of the farmers as they cleared their lands. The lumber was shipped to Rib Falls and to Marathon City, but much of it was used by the farmers for buildings.

The Cheese Box Factory, evolving from a grist mill to a sawmill to a planing and lath mill and finally to the box mill, made round boxes for transporting cheese. The farmers again supplied logs to the mill.

Instead of a single event or factor aiding the growth of the community, it can be seen that cooperation as a family unit, as an agricultural unit, and as a community dealing with the outside can be credited with boosting the growth of the area and maintaining its existence.

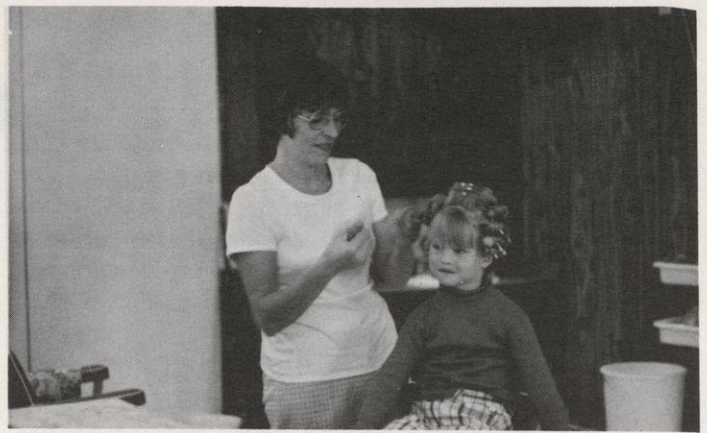
Although this cooperation in early years made Little Chicago successful, competition was a destroying element. There were no stores in a six mile radius. The settlement had grown to include a box factory, grist mill, blacksmith shop, two stores, tavern, shoe repair shop, two cheese factories, a church, school, sawmill, hardware store, and farms surrounding the area. Strong competition was probably a big factor for the decrease in growth of Little Chicago. Ever after the Box Factory closed less than 18 years ago, area farmers were still dependent on Little Chicago for many of their supplies even though competition had destroyed future competition.

Little Chicago today can now boast of Brickner

Motors, Athens Branch Bank, library, machine shop, two taverns, hardware and supermarket, beauty salon and a population of about 50. The early settlement grew with cooperation, but over use of competition crippled cooperation and stunted the growth of the area.



Bank of Athens



Country Curl Beauty Shop,  
Virginia Weiks, Manager



Steidinger's Bar



Steidinger's Store



# Langhoff Family History

by ESTHER BLOCH

Johann Heinrich (John Henry) Langhoff was born on April 19, 1834, in the town of Dortmund, Province of Rhein Prussia. He was the older of two boys and there were six sisters. About his boyhood I know nothing, but I remember hearing his sister, Aunt Caroline, say that when he had to go into military training, he got very homesick so his father and his father's bachelor brother went to visit him. From lack

of sleep and loss of appetite he had lost so much weight that they did not recognize him.

The family name was not always Langhoff. It was "Essmann". In many countries of Europe it was the custom to take the name of the farm which they owned and lived on, therefore when the family in the course of time purchased a place named "Langhof" or "Langhoff" because of the long farmyard, the family went by that name, "Heinrich von Langenhoff", "von" meaning "from", translated "Henry from Longyard". However by Grandfather's time the "von" had been dropped and it was plain Langhoff.

Wilhelmina Friederika Louise Kniess was born in the village of Regenwalde, in the Province of Pommerania, on January 18, 1842. She was the oldest child and then came August (born August 28, 1846), Johannah (1849) and Carl (1856). Their mother's name was Dorothea Rusch. She was born October 19, 1816 and died December 2, 1878. The father's name was Gotthilf Kniess. He was born September 12, 1820 and died April 28, 1901. Both are buried on Trinity's cemetery in the town of Stettin. The children must all have been grown when the family decided to come to the states. This was shortly after the steamship became popular for travel. Many of the old sailboats, not wanting to go out of business, lowered their rates so low that some charged only \$12.00 per person, steerage class. Even at that rate, Gotthilf Kniess did not have enough ready cash for the crossing for six people, so he sold his daughter Wilhelmina's dowry, her pillows and feather-

beds. They ran into stormy weather so the voyage took seven weeks. I do not know why they settled where they did, or when they bought their land, I do know that Grandmother worked

in the boarding house at Single's Mill in the town of Stettin before her marriage.

Grandfather had a girl friend in Germany whom he intended to marry. However, his sister Caroline made a great fuss about this because the girl was of a lower class than they were. The Langhoff's did not belong to the Lord's class that owned thousands of acres of woods and farm lands but they were middle class land owners with several hundred acres. Aunt Caroline considered it a terrible disgrace to marry somebody of a lower class so she finally broke it up. Grandfather was disgusted about it. He finally decided to give up his right as older son, to the family farm in favor of his younger brother. He was paid either \$2,000.00 or \$3,000.00 in cash and decided to go to America. He came over in 1865 and for a time worked with some surveyors and at other jobs. In January 1868 he bought the present Langhoff farm. He built a small log barn, a log house about 25' x 25', bought a team of oxen and some cattle. Money was no worry to him (at any time). He always said that the log house was only temporary, he would replace it with a finer house and use this one for a barn. However, all their ten children were born in it, three were out of it to the cemetery, and both he and Grandmother died in it and the neighbors gathered there to take them to their last resting place.

Grandfather also bought several other places of land which he later sold to other incoming settlers. One of these was the eighty acres west across the road from Kenneth Bloch's home where Roger Wendt now lives.

After several months, living the life of a lonely bachelor in the sparsely settled community did not appeal to Grandpa. He inquired where eligible girls could be found and was directed to the Gotthilf Kniess home in the town of Stettin, on the banks of the Little Rib River. He went over on a Sunday, a distance of about 14 miles. The younger daughter Hannah already was keeping company with a man by the name of Wilhelm Pepke but the older one, Wilhelmina had no boy friend. They talked the matter over and it was decided that in three weeks time, Hannah, who was very handy at



dressmaking, could get a dress done. They were married on April 14, 1868 by Pastor E. Sitzmann, who served the Trinity Lutheran Church of Stettin. Witnesses to the wedding were August Kniess, Johanna Kniess and Wilhelm Pepke. Grandfather was thirty-four year old (lacking five days) and Grandmother had been twenty-six in January. On that very same day and year in Germany, Caroline Langhoff married August Fuhlhage. Neither couple knew about the other's wedding. Aunt Caroline had a dress of black taffeta, Grandmother's was of navy blue linsey-woolsey. The material was handspun, hand-woven and every stitch of it was hand sewn. It was a neatly fitting garment and Grandma surely got all the wear out of it. It is threadbare but still in the family. Aunt Caroline's taffeta broke apart with age.

So here in America, free of sister Caroline's dictations, Heinrich Langhoff married a girl from the lowest class, a shepherd's daughter. Three months later the Fuhlhages came to Wisconsin also, and settled in the town of Berlin, a mile north of the Naugart Church, St. Paul's Lutheran, on the farm now owned by Ewald Mathwich. Aunt Caroline was always very dominating and never let Grandma forget that she was of a lower class and I suppose the lower classes were used to this and took it, at least Grandma did.

The following year, on January 23, 1869 a daughter, Eliza was born to the couple. The next year Henry Junior came, then William in 1872, one daughter in 1874, probably stillborn, August 1875, Albert, March 3, 1876, another daughter 1877, Anna, July 25, 1879, Minnie, June 18, 1881, and an infant son July 29, 1884. Difficulties had set in and Grandfather got a doctor from Merrill to deliver the infant. However, he lived but an hour.

When Eliza was between two and three years old, Aunt Caroline deliberately took her along and brought her up. Caroline had no children of her own. Grandmother did not like it at all but she had nothing to say. She often remarked that Eliza would have been a great help to her as all the other living children were boys until Anna and Minnie. The two girls are buried on the old cemetery across from Maple Grove School. Fromm's put markers on all the graves on it. John is buried next to his parents on St. John's cemetery. The church had not yet been built but the site for it, and for a cemetery had been purchased a number of years before the church was built. The congregation was organized in 1867. Maybe they did not choose a name for it right away because Mother always said that Grandpa suggested the name

St. John's because it was the name of his church in the old country.

Grandma's older brother, August Kniess, later bought a quarter section west of Langhoff's. Close to this land was a spring. Here, too, Grandpa made a salt lick and when Grandmother would say they were getting low on meat, Grandpa would go over there evenings and get some fresh venison.

On summer evenings sometimes a small fire was made in the yard near the door with some dry cow chips on it to smoke the mosquitoes away. Screen doors and windows were unheard of at that time. The flies came in at the open door and windows and also went out there too. The rough pine floor was scrubbed with a broom, rinsed with clear water which was swept out of the door. A mop could not be used on it. Bed bugs were common in these old log houses. They were kept in check by heating a boiler full of water every Saturday, probably the rinse water, and pouring dippersful of it along the lower edges of the wall. The walls of these cabins were also whitewashed, once or twice a year, generally in spring for Pentecost. The ceiling of the cabin had six inch beams above which was a bedroom for

the four boys. The two girls slept downstairs. Mother said that the Christmas tree was often nailed to a beam on the ceiling for lack of room on the floor. There was a homemade ward robe or "Kleiderschrank" in the room. When neighbors came over occasionally and it was bedtime for the girls they would open a door of the wardrobe and undress behind it. The cabin had only one room downstairs.

East of the yard was a large orchard of grafted apple trees. The German settlers were used to apples and pears from the old country, but I often wondered where Grandpa bought these trees. Not every farm had an orchard. Later when Carl Nieman and David Henrichs came over they both knew the art of grafting and started large orchards. Mother did not know where her father got them from but she said the orchard was there as far back as she could remember.

Grandmother never learned the art of knitting socks and mittens. She could do plain knitting but could not turn a heel or close a toe. It was the custom in the old country that the shepherders knitted in their spare time while herding, so Grandmother, her mother and sister, did the spinning while Great-grandfather Kniess did all the knitting. After the Fuhlhages arrived here in America Aunt Caroline insisted on doing the knitting. Grandma often remarked that she thought the large number of skeins that Caroline took along should give more socks and



mitts than what she did return. This was found to be true when Mother stayed with her for a while when she was going on sixteen. Aunt Caroline at that time was living in Wausau and was a widow. Mother helped at the knitting and when a number of pairs would be done, Aunt would say, "We can take these to the store and buy ourselves some groceries". The neighbor, Carl Wendt, taught Aunt Anna and Mother the art of knitting.

John Henry Langhoff was a very easy going man and a free spender. He liked his liquor and this not only undermined his pocket book but his health as well. He had much trouble with hemorrhoids, the hemorrhaging kind. He got remedies from the old country but the orders were also to abstain from all liquor as this dilated the blood vessels more. The remedies did not give too much relief and the ailment that today is so easily cured, weakened him so much with the constant hemorrhages that he died on September 15, 1888, at the age of 54½ year, leaving Grandmother a widow at age 46, with six of the seven children, the youngest seven years old.

Mother said it was a rainy fall day. Her mother kneading the rye bread for the weekly baking. When the end came near her father called her to him and asked her to say the Lord's Prayer. After his passing, somebody built a pine coffin. Mrs. Carl Woller sewed a white shroud, a shirt that reached from shoulders to the feet. For the funeral some neighbor brought a bouquet of gladiolus. Mother thought they were too beautiful for words. One floweret had broken off and she put it into the cellar hole under the cabin but when she looked for it the next day, it was gone. She thought the rats must have carried it away.

The day of the funeral was also rainy. It was a steady fall rain. The coffin was loaded on a big farm wagon. Grandma sat on the seat beside the driver. The funeral was held in the little log school that still served as a church. After the services the procession drove to the grave. The rain was falling steadily so Grandma did not get off the wagon but stayed on the seat under an umbrella. When they got home after the funeral, Aunt Caroline spared no words telling Grandma what a disgrace that had been, not to get off the wagon. Mother had been given a hat that formerly belonged to her sister. It was sopping wet. She took it off and swung the water out. Another lecture followed.

The following winter the estate was settled. Grandma had to go to Wausau for this. She went along with a neighbor but it was decided that she would find a way home with some sleigh the next day, as court proceedings would prob-

ably last until late in the day. She was through sooner than she had expected so she decided to go home anyway, riding along with outgoing teams and walking when necessary. All went well until she was within four miles from home. Not nearly all the town roads had been cut through or opened up. In winter, sleighs went

over fields and through sheltered woods where the snow would not close the tracks. It was on one of these woods roads, in the dark that she took the wrong branch and lost her way. At last seeing a gleam of light she went toward it and came to the Carl Kankelfitz farm, a mile farther west than she should have gone. They were then a young couple with two small children. They asked her to stay overnight and go home the next morning. Branches had snagged her winter hood and this the young woman repaired for Grandma. The next morning she finished her journey by daylight.

Grandfather left this world with a debt of \$1,500.00. This was quite a load at that time. However, Grandma was determined to pay it. The boys were growing up and during the winters, worked in logging camps. They handed most of their earnings over to their mother which she applied on debts. The wise counsel of a good guardian, John Helmke Sr., helped her through the last eleven years of her life.

Mother worked for the Fromm family from age eleven to thirteen. Her wages were 50¢ per week and during the five school months, seven Saturdays were considered a week. On school days she and the Fromm children walked the three-quarters of a mile home for dinner. When occasionally Mother Fromm would go to town, Father Fromm would prepare dinner. He made potatoes with jackets on, mashed them on the children's plates and liberally spooned maple syrup over them saying, "So, nu mann immer schoen esse, schmeckt ok schoen susse".

Several years after Grandfather's death the Fuhlhage's sold their farm during midsummer and moved to the outskirts of Hortonville. Aunt had a flock of half grown goslings. These she brought to Grandma who kept them until Thanksgiving season when Aunt came up, helped butcher them and sold every one of them. For her work and feed she gave Grandma the coarse wing and tail feathers, stripping feathers they were called. Grandma thought she could have given her at least one goose for Thanksgiving.

Eliza married August Tasche in Hortonville about 1894. Later they moved to Wausau. William married Emma Petraschewski. Anna had married Henry Borchardt on December 9, 1897.

For the summer season of 1899 Albert went to work on the wheat fields of the Dakotas. Henry was working somewhere in the neighborhood.



Grandma, August and Minnie worked the home place. Grandma had had much trouble with pneumonia. They said she had it seven times in all. They always got a doctor from Merrill for her and she pulled through six times. In the middle of October in 1899 she had another attack, the seventh. They got a young English doctor, again from Merrill. A week went by. She did not improve. On the afternoon of the 26th of October, Mother washed her and combed her hair. (It was dark brown and not a single gray one yet.) After that she said, "Tonight I will die." Although pneumonia was always considered a serious disease, nobody thought she was at death's door. The guardian came over for the evening and the neighbor lady, "Aunt Gustie Kleinschmidt". Mother told her of Grandma's prediction but she too thought it wasn't that serious. True to her word, she went to sleep that evening and stayed asleep at the age of 57 years and 9 months.

That same evening in Dakota Albert had a sudden uncanny feeling that something was wrong at home. It was so strong that he asked for his wages, packed his clothes and took the train for Wisconsin. The next day August drove to town to buy a coffin and sent a telegram to Albert. (He was already half way home.) Shortly after August came home, Albert came home also.

They washed and dressed Grandmother, "Aunt Gustie" again assisting. After the coffin was there, she was put into it and it was carried onto the hay barn floor. The house now needed heat and it was too warm to keep the body there. When the time for the funeral came, the casket was taken back into the house. Aunt Caroline, now a widow for three years and living in Wausau in retirement had to be gotten for the funeral. After it was over she said to Mother "Jetzt Kann ich ja eure Mutter sein. Jetzt konnt ihr mich Mutter nennen" (translated: "Now I can be your Mother. You can call me "Mother" now.) to which Mother replied, "You can never take the place of our mother".

Henry then married Anna Henrichs and came home to live. The estate was settled in early winter. It went to the highest bidder. The brothers had talked it over as to what each would bid for the farm. Mainly I think it was between Henry and August. William already

had a farm and I do not know how Albert stood on the matter.

August's bid was \$3,200.00. Of the \$1,500.00 debt of eleven years ago there was \$800.00 left. This was deducted as were all other bills and the balance was divided among the six younger children. Eliza waived her share

because she had received an inheritance from the Fuhlhages. However, she asked that Mo-

ther be given \$100.00 because she had worked for Eliza for almost two years and she asked

that this be considered her wages for that time.

Henry bought a farm and moved onto it. August asked Mother to stay on and keep the house for him. He paid her a weekly wage of \$2.00 per week. They worked the farm for a year and on December 13, 1900, August married Wilhelmina Krenz. This left mother without a home and without a job.

By the time Grandfather Krenz's six boys had grown to manhood, the town of Berlin was filled up. No more government land was available so Grandpa bought four pieces of land in Hamburg.

Several of the boys and one of the sisters went over, after a house was built. They cleared the land and erected a log barn on three of the places and another house on a second place. Thus Uncle August Langhoff got acquainted with Aunt Minnie and her brother Herman with Minnie Langhoff. Therefore when August and Minnie were married Grandfather Krenz suggested to Herman that there was no sense for Mother to go look for a job. The house had already been built by Herman and William the summer before, although no rooms were plastered, they could finish off a few quickly and have their wedding also. This was done. Dad and Mother were married on December 27, 1900.

From here on August and Minnie Krenz Langhoff took over. There were seven sons and six daughters born to them. Johnny died at the age of three months of scarlet fever, the rest grew to man and womanhood. Martin and Bernard took over the old home in 1943. Martin passed away in 1962. Bernard was sole owner for a while. Due to ill health he sold the place to to Edwin who is now living on it.

The first century is finished. We look back over the past. The first generation is at rest, all except Wilhelmina. She will be 87 on June 18, 1968; the second is coming along with some already gone home, the third is in its best years and the fourth is really a crowd already. The little log cabin was replaced by a large brick house 1909. I well remember the old yard with its barnyard gate and in my imagination I can picture Grandmother, a widow, standing in the cabin door and calling when she saw Richter, the murderer, at the gate, with a haunch of venison on his shoulder, "Richter, you don't have to come courting me. I won't marry you!" (Story in Rib Mt. Echoes I)

A hundred years has many memories and many recollections.







# Emmerich - Woller History

by MRS. CARLOS ROHRBACHER

The basic attraction of Wisconsin was the land itself. According to its eulogists, the attractions of Wisconsin depended on the work of both God and man. To the thousands of German immigrants "work" was always "the name of the game", and among their most prized possessions was "The Holy Bible".

Peter Emmerich had adventure in his blood. Hadn't stories of adventure in America been handed down in the family since the 1700's when John Nicholas Emmerich left the homeland to make a fortune in furs in America? Wasn't it also called the "land of milk and honey"? Wasn't this new land inviting him to leave the known -- his city of Emmerich on the Rhine River in Rhenish Prussia, Germany -- for the unknown? His dark eyes sparkled with antici-

pation as he made arrangements for the long journey.

And, it was a long, hard journey in a sailing ship and upon landing he found it was also a long, hard trip to Wisconsin. But the words, "Golden Opportunity" kept repeating themselves in his mind, and there is great strength in young bodies -- especially if a "rainbow" is in the picture.

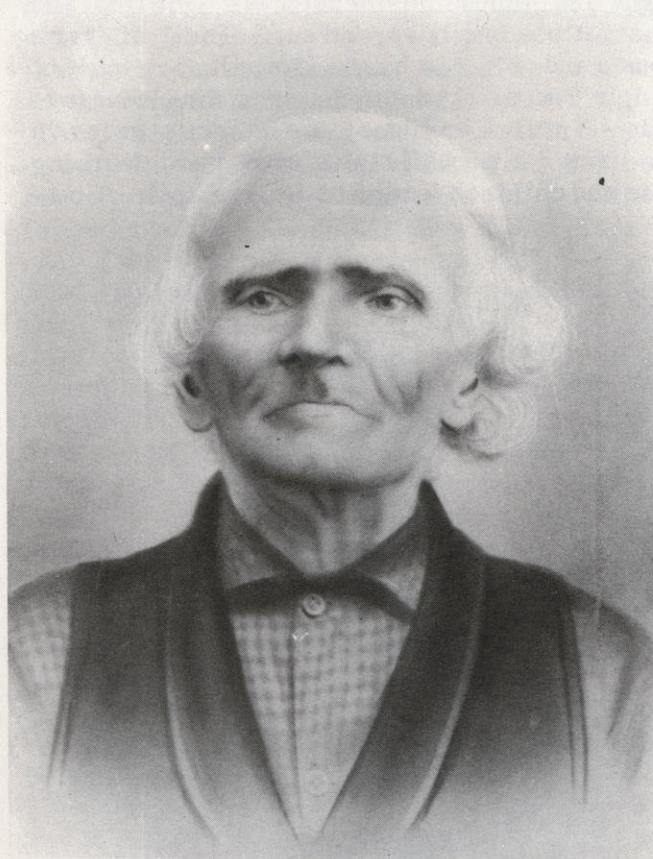
It would be a good life for Peter and his wife Gertrude (Kunz) and their children but as in all lives, there was joy and sorrow. Each child, great-grandchild and great-great-grandchild would have an interesting story to tell if they were asked. They would fill books.

To be a pioneer in Wisconsin in the 1840's surely must have been high-adventure. So much was happening in all fields. It was on August 1st, 1846 that Peter Emmerich eagerly filed his intention to become a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES and he appeared before the District Court for the County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory to renounce forever "all allegiance or fidelity to any Foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to Frederick William, King of Prussia of whom he was at that time a subject".

He had settled in what is now known as "Holy Hill Country" south of the city of Milwaukee. Then on the 12th day of October, 1857, he appeared at the Circuit Court at West Bend, Washington County, Wisconsin, and became a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

Thereafter, he kept hearing and reading reports of "good farm land" and "big trees" up North. John Muir had written, "Oh, that glorious Wisconsin wilderness!" And, more and more people were heading in that direction. They were busily clearing land for wheat fields and livestock. Thomas Jefferson had said,

"Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God, if ever he had a chosen people..." Peter and Gertrude were Bible reading people and were bringing up their family according to it. Gertrude agreed that the land stories sounded good, they had money to buy



Hamburg pioneer farmer, Peter Emmerich  
1815 - 1896



land, and that they should "Go North". She loved her dashing, dark-haired husband and would have followed him anywhere. Peter knew he had made a good choice when he looked at his lovely wife and healthy children. Peter agreed with John Adams concerning a good wife, "...A man can be a idiot all the days of his youth but if he makes the one right decision (a good wife) he is instantly converted into a genius." A farmer needs a good wife! He knew that she knew he wasn't exactly a genius but he was taking care of a growing family very well. He knew how to work and wasn't afraid of it. He could work land and make it pay. The stories sounded more and more interesting on "land in the North" and cheap. He had to plan a good future for his wife and children. He'd been lucky so far and if Lady Luck was winking at him again he wasn't about to look the other way. Then, too, the state constitution and school law of 1848 already promised free-schools all over the state for his growing family. So preparations were again made to travel.

It was in the 1860's that Peter and Gertrude and family made the trip to northern Wisconsin in horse-drawn wagon and settled in Marathon County, Hamburg Township.

They were to have 10 children: Mathew, Mary, Margaret, Martin, John, Anton, Joseph, Peter, Jacob and Henry.

Peter died at the home of his youngest son, Henry, in 1892, at the age of 82. Gertrude died in 1900 at 76 years of age. They are both buried in the Marathon City cemetery. Their dream of living and dying in America was fulfilled.

Peter's youngest son, Henry Peter Emmerich, was born in Richfield, Wisconsin, February 2, 1861, and came with his parents to Hamburg at an early age. He attended school and was taught farming. He was a well-built young man and willing to learn. After wooing and winning the pretty daughter of Gottlieb and Charlotte (Kleinschmidt) Woller, Miss Anna Augusta, they were married in Hamburg on May 7, 1888. They lived to celebrate their Golden Anniversary in Merrill. Anna, only 16 when married -- having been born to Marathon County pioneers. Anna's parents, Gottlieb and Charlotte Kleinschmidt Woller, were married on March 22, 1860, (Civil War years) in the Town of Berlin. Gottlieb Woller was born in Germany on March 6, 1838, son of Martin Woller. His wife, Charlotte, was the daughter of F. and Caroline Kleinschmidt. Gottlieb Woller died on November 29, 1902, and his wife Charlotte died on November 11, 1886. She was born in 1841. They are buried in the Town

of Hamburg in the cemetery across from Fromms.

Gottlieb Woller and wife Charlotte farmed in Hamburg Township. Their children were Carl, twins Augusta and August, Ferdinand, Robert, Fred, Anna, Lena, Willie, Gustave, Otto, and Herman.

Gottlieb Woller served on the Town Board of Hamburg in the year of 1887.

The farm was purchased eventually by his son Fred, father of Erwin, Emil (Dec.), Lillian (Dec.), Harry (Dec.), and Mabel Woller Fromm (Dec.). Erwin and wife, Delma, still live on the land. Gottlieb Woller homesteaded

in 1871 in Hamburg. Like all good pioneers with forethought he built his first log buildings near a spring from which sprang the creek running through the property. His strong, willing hands built the little log house which can still be seen on the property. Anna Woller Emmerich was born on this land in 1872. Sec. 2, Twp. 30, R. 5. The Wollers were and are good, productive farmers. They were also in the fox-mink raising business, as well as the growing of ginseng, the forked aromatic root usually sold to the Chinese. They were also in cheese making, store-keeping, and other businesses as Gottlieb and Charlotte's family spread out. Their big farm homes and big red barns (some homes built of Ringle red brick) dot the surrounding countryside. In earlier times, the men cut timber in the Winter-time while the sturdy, hard-working wife and children tended to the livestock. Gott-



Gottlieb Woller - 1838-1902. Grandfather of Mabel Fromm of the Walter and Mabel Fromm Scholarship to Merrill High School - largest on record (over a half million dollars).



lieb also stressed the need for public service, setting the example himself. His grandson, Fremont C. Woller, son of Herman, served as Register of Deeds of Lincoln County, Merrill, for 18 years - 1929 to 1947. Gottlieb's descendents have branched out into many fields of endeavor. Many are college graduates. They have all inherited a love of the land. Every year a Woller family reunion is held to catch up on family history. Mrs. Leonard Woller now has the family records.

At the time Henry Peter Emmerich and Anna Woller were married in 1888, Henry and Anna lived on their land in Section 12-30-5, and he was proud of his 80 acres. Gottlieb gave his daughter, Anna, a cow and \$25 to help them get started. Henry was strong and ambitious and was always to do a good job in taking care of Anna and his children. It was on this land in Hamburg, Marathon County, that Henry's and Anna's first child was born on December 22, 1889. They named her Nora Emma Augusta, the two second-names after her God-mothers which was customary at that time among the German families. When a young Lady, Nora was to teach in the rural schools of the district, and she would be the first teacher at the then new Greendale School. She graduated from the Lincoln County Normal in 1905, and her first school was at Richland Center, Wisconsin. Thereafter she taught at various places including Corning and Town of Pine River Schools, Catawba and at Medford.

Nora taught before and after her marriage to Oswald Rohrbacher of Merrill. They had one son, Carlos S. Rohrbacher, who is now Vice-President of the Anson & Gilkey Co., of Merrill. He and his wife live at 615 N. Center Ave., Merrill. Nora and Oswald lived to celebrate their Golden Wedding after having been married in Milwaukee on September 10, 1913. Nora died on October 20, 1970 at 81 years, and her husband on March 3, 1976 at 88 years. They are both buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

Henry and Anna Woller Emmerich had 11 children; Nora, 1899-1970; Lester, 1891-1918; Alice Sukow, 1893-; Mabel Rostalsky, 1895-1976; Byron, 1898-1960; Orella Storm, 1903-; Melvin, 1907-1967; Merrill Henry, 1909-; Priscilla Valentine Zimmerman, 1911-; Wallace, 1914-1942; Frances Albrecht, 1916-.

Alice (Mrs. August Sukow) and Orella (Mrs. Clifford Storm) were also teachers in the area. Orella taught the Center School in the Town of Corning, and Alice taught in the Town of Scott, the Snow Hill and the Weber School, as well as in other communities.

Their grandparents and their parents always stressed education. Gottlieb Woller's granddaughter, and daughter of Fred C. Woller,

Mabel, and her husband, Walter Fromm of Rt. 1, Hamburg, set up the largest scholarship trust fund -- over a half-million dollars -- ever given to the Merrill High School. It was set up for the Maple Grove School graduates.

Henry and Anna Emmerich lived to celebrate their Golden Wedding in Merrill after pioneering in Hamburg and Merrill. Henry died on May 9, 1942, and his wife Anna on Feb. 23, 1957. They are buried in Snow Hill Cemetery. Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are scattered in many states.

Peter Emmerich and Gottlieb Woller would be glad to know that their many grandsons and great-grandsons served their adopted country well in the Armed Forces. One of them, Jack Storm, got back to see the city of Emmerich on the Rhine River in Germany, that his great-grandfather Peter had left so many years ago. Today almost every profession is represented by the great-grandsons and great-granddaughters. Peter's grand-children would undoubtedly say, "You really were a genius because you came to America and gave us unlimited opportunities."



Oswald and Nora Emmerich Rohrbacher



# The Gotthilf Koehler Farm

by ESTHER BLOCH

Gotthilf Koehler came to America in 1855. He had had a good job in Germany being a valet to a well to do man but he planned to sell his estate and so that would be the end of the job. He was offered the job of head shepherd but there was little chance for advancement and not much of a future for his family. His brother had come to West Bloomfield six years previously and kept urging Gotthilf to come to America so he decided to emigrate. He also came to West Bloomfield but the piece of land that he bought there was very sandy so he stayed only two years, in the meantime some of his relatives had gotten acquainted with the splendid hardwood and pine lands with fertile clayed soil in what is now the Town of Hamburg in Marathon County.

In the winter of 1857, Gotthilf came alone in the month of February, a trip of about ninety miles, walking most of the way. He cleared land for about a month near a small creek, where he had selected a building site, across the road from Norbert Novitzke. He then returned to get his family in time for the spring planting. The family of five plus a crate of chickens plus four cows tied to the back of the wagon, pulled by two oxen arrived in April. The trip had taken about two weeks but the last two days and nights it rained constantly so they found the building site under water and the covered wagon was home for the first day and two nights.

The morning after it stopped raining, the nearest neighbors; two miles distant came, built and finished the first house that day. This house burned down about two years later. A son was born in it and several months later the mother died, in 1861. She was the first person to be buried on St. Peter's Cemetery. The baby was cared for a year or more by a

Mrs. Juedes, living across from the cemetery.

The next house was built farther up the hill to the east. It was kept for many years for new settlers to live in until they had a place of their own built. The Peter Luecks were one of these families.

Gotthilf Koehler married a second wife by

the name of Tewes. She had been recommended by a teacher in Germany and traveled over here to marry him. There were three children born to her but none lived. When the last child was born, Gotthilf walked to Wausau for a doctor but when he came back she had died. Her family in the meantime had come as far as West Bloomfield in order to be near their daughter. They felt that it was their younger girl's Emilie's duty to marry her brother-in-law and care for the children. To this couple four boys and three girls were born.

Herman Koehler used to say that he could only remember his father as an old man. His mother was nineteen years of age when she married his father and he, Gotthilf, was forty-five. The oldest son was nineteen at this time and Herman Koehler used to say that the younger half brothers were so young that they appreciated a mother but the older one caused her much grief, there only being a difference of five years in their ages.

A third house, a frame building was built where the present house now stands, in 1874. It burned in 1904. The present house was then built in 1905, the barn also. It was at that time considered one of the most handsome houses in the neighborhood.

The main income in those days was from the sale of two or three cows a year, steers to be sold as oxen, ready for work when three years old. The use of oxen was considered more practical than horses. An ox would work if fed only hay and straw in winter and in the end would still bring a good price for beef. Oxen were used very much for logging.

Home made butter was another source of income and after the roads were better, a milk house was built near the well and the house in the 1900's. The stone building still stands today. A concrete cooling tank cooled the milk before it was poured into the milk bowls for the cream to rise. This gave a better tasting butter and was sold to private customers for several cents a pound more than at stores. Mrs. Koehler made cloths from the good edges of the linen bed sheets to wrap around the rolls and prints of butter.



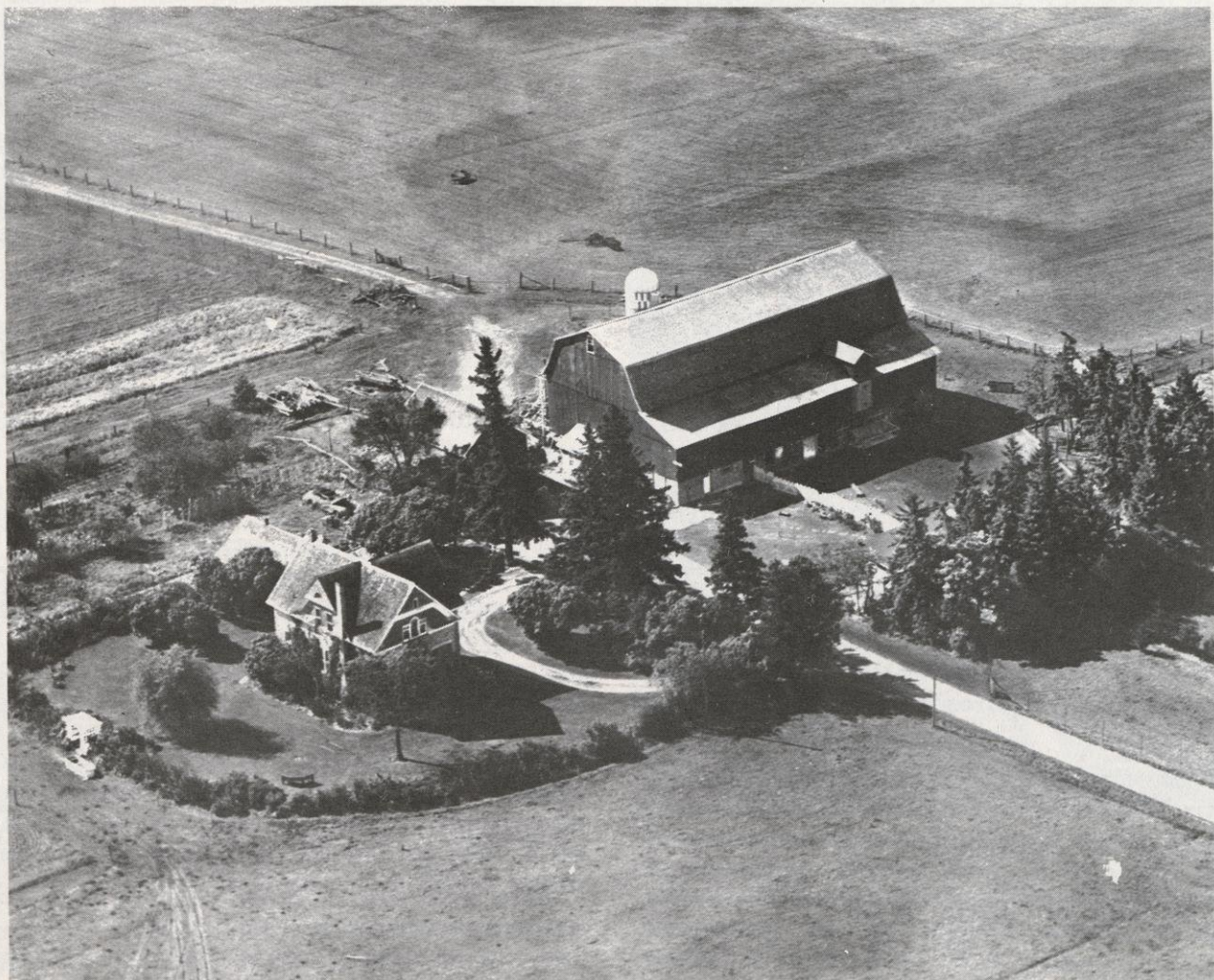
The wool of the sheep was spun into yarn and knitted into socks and wool mittens. The surplus, not needed for the family, was sold to stores where it was readily bought by lumberjacks. Herman Koehler records that in 1894, they received \$2.75 for ten pairs of mittens, at another sale, they received \$3.00 for ten pairs. Socks sold for \$.35 a pair.

The records of the Town of Hamburg tell us that Gotthilf Koehler took the job of building a bridge across the Rib River on what is now County Trunk A. For this he was paid the sum of \$1,000 which at that time was a goodly sum of money but one has to remember that the abutments had to be built of fieldstones and the truss work was made of timbers. Rib River at that time was a larger river than it is today. Logs were floated down it and records tell us that rafts of lumber were floated down it at the turn of the century when the Wehrlich mill was in operation. This sum of money for the building of the bridge applied on the cost of the farm.

Before this bridge was built, people rafted across the river. It was the only way of getting across. That is why we have so many wayside graves. At that time there was no

church or no cemetery closer than St. Peter's at Hamburg.

Of the sons of Gotthilf Koehler none took to farming except Frank, the oldest son of his first wife. Gotthilf bought him a quarter section of land in Section 33, west of the home place. Herman, a son of the third wife wanted to study for the ministry but his parents thought that his brother John who was weak and sickly should be given an education instead but he did not care for this. He worked in the lumber yards in Athens and then in Wausau for land buyers. Thus John Koehler got into the real estate business and located some of Hamburg's settlers. The German immigrants, often landed in Chicago's stock yards where they were able to get work. These people were not paid too much, they didn't know the language and were glad to get work to keep alive, working in the slaughter houses, the glue works, and etc. Therefore, when German speaking land agents like John Koehler came to these places and told them of German farming localities, they often gladly bought farms in these unsettled regions. We have families like the Prusses, the Kottkes, and others who started in Chicago and ended up in Hamburg.





# Early Times of Ginseng

by ESTHER BLOCH

A New Farming Industry-- About seventy-five years ago, some dealers in medicinal herbs discovered that ginseng was growing in the woods of Marathon County and offered a good price for the dried roots of the plant, which were exported to China. The gathering of ginseng roots was made a work for boys and girls, like the picking of berries, and as the price for it paid fairly well for the work, it was gathered up year after year, until it was all harvested, and wild growing ginseng has almost entirely disappeared. It takes seven years to grow roots large enough for commercial use, and then when the main root is dug up it does not grow again. But as there is a steady demand for this product, Mr. J.H. Koehler made a study of the plant, planted it under the same condition as it grew in the woods, in shaded enclosures, making shade by boards and brush and succeeded in raising the plant and large roots, and he became an authority in ginseng planting and raising. He has edited and printed a book, "Ginseng and Golden Seal Growers' Handbook," which is recommended to every prospective ginseng grower, and from which we quote the following:

"The root of ginseng is used for medicinal purposes, to some extent in this country, but chiefly in China. It is therefore an article of export, bought up by dealers in this country for that purpose. While an official drug in this country, according to the United States Pharmacopoeia from 1840 to 1880, it is at present classed among the unofficial drug plants and quoted as such on page 51, Bulletin, No. 89, United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry. From the results obtained by recent scientific investigation, indications seem favorable that the real merits

of ginseng may also soon be discovered in this country, and that it will prove to be a very valuable drug. The Chinese and Koreans place a high value on it, and, indeed, regard it as a remedy for nearly all diseases. From the humblest citizen through all the grades of society, including men of the most profound eastern scholarship, high officials and em-

perors, the inhabitants of China for ages have had unlimited faith in the power of ginseng to prevent and cure many of the ills of the human body. It is also said to be used by the wealthy class for seasoning meat."

John H. Koehler, who has been prominently identified with the lumber industry for many years, and is treasurer of the Winton Lumber Company, of Wausau, with offices in the Marathon Bank Building, is probably still better known in connection with the ginseng industry, which through his interest and efforts has been developed into a business of vast volume. He was born at Hamburg, in Marathon County, Wisconsin, in 1866, and is a son of Gotthilf and Emelia Koehler, both of whom were born in German and the father is deceased.

Until he was twenty-four years of age, John H. Koehler was employed on his father's farm in Marathon County, in the meanwhile having secured a public school training at Hamburg. He then went to Merrill, Wisconsin, and worked in a lumber yard for two years for \$1.50 a day, and there gained his first practical knowledge of lumber. He came to Wausau, April 1893, and worked as cruiser for the Wisconsin Land Company for a few months, later entering the sales department for the same company and established branch offices at Chicago and Milwaukee and at other points, always retaining, however, his home at Wausau. It is estimated that through his individual efforts Mr. Koehler, as land agent, has brought over 500 families to Marathon County as permanent settlers. In 1901, he became associated with C.J. Winton of Minneapolis, and C. S. Gilbert and others of Wausau, in the lumber business and this partnership has continued, and in this connection Mr. Koehler has visited many parts of the South and West, as well as parts of Canada, purchasing valuable timber tracts. Besides his local interests, which consist principally of some valuable real estate on the west side in the city of Wausau, he is financially interested in the Rose Lake Lumber Company of Rose Lake, Idaho, and is also president of the Koehler Land Company of Medford Wisconsin.



Under the management of J.H. Koehler, ginseng growing had become an industry to limited extent, and the following firms have engaged in it on a large scale, to-wit:

Badger Ginseng Company, a corporation which has 5 1/2 acres in the city of Wausau in ginseng. Capital stock is \$50,000. Officers were: J. H. Koehler, president; A. F. Rapraeger, vice-president; A. A. Bock, secretary; W. H. Koehler, treasurer.

The Wausau Ginseng Gardens have 3 3/4 acres in ginseng. Capital stock, \$35,000. Officers were: J. H. Koehler, president; H. Denfeld, vice-president; H. J. Seim, secretary; W. H. Koehler, treasurer.

Wisconsin Ginseng Gardens, Incorporated. Officers: J. J. Koehler, president; Lydia Koehler, vice-president; W. H. Koehler, secretary and treasurer.

It was in 1901 that he began to raise ginseng, at first as a fad, for his own recreation, but later in the same year organized the Wisconsin Ginseng Garden, of which company he continues to be the head, and as the industry has been developed, through his intelligent management other companies have been organized. Mr. Koehler was also president of the Badger Ginseng Company and president of the Wausau Ginseng Gardens, the latter of which was incorporated in 1908, with a capital stock of \$30,000, the Badger Ginseng Company being incorporated in 1910, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The business has grown to enormous proportions, the export of the root to China being very heavy. Mr. Koehler is an authority on the growing of this valuable medicinal plant and has written a book on the subject. He is a man of pronounced public spirit and has been a valuable citizen ever since locating here in 1893. John Koehler was sometimes referred to as the "Father of the Ginseng Industry."

Mr. Koehler was married first to Miss Ida Boettcher, who died in 1904, survived by four children: Emma, Elsa, Gertrude, and Florence. His second marriage was to Miss Lydia Hirschmann. He was reared in the Evangelical Lutheran Church and has always remained connected with this religious body and is interested in promoting its avenues of influence and benevolence.

There are several other gardens from one-half to one and one-half acres in extent throughout the country and the raising of this medicinal root promises to become a profitable article of export from Marathon County.

After John Koehler got into the ginseng business, the old home farm was completely planted with the root. The William Thiedes were now renting the farm and they shared somewhat in

the profits. Mrs. Thiede was a sister, Hulda Koehler, and they rented the Koehler farm until 1928 when they sold their personal and moved to Chicago. Then Reinhold Schmidt's rented it for two years. The place was vacant for several months.

In July, the Edward Blochs moved on as tenants for the next fourteen years. They weathered the depression of the thirties and the drought. It was impossible to buy a farm at that time as there was no income to pay it. Many people lost what they had previously bought. Then too, the place was not for sale. It was an estate belonging to John's daughters and Herman of Medford. To him the old home place was very dear but none of his sons were interested in farming.

In the fall of 1944, John's daughters decided that they wanted the estate settled so out of the clear blue came the ultimatum, either buy or get off. After looking around at other places they decided that the home place looked the best, so after being in the Koehler family for 97 years it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bloch in November of 1944.

Edward Bloch sold the place to his neighbor, Norbert Novitzke in 1971. In 1976, Norbert Novitzke sold it to Ivan Thurs, who will probably farm it as long as he is able.



Modern Ginseng arbor on Ellsworth Zastrow farm.



# The Krenz Family

by ESTHER BLOCH

When Micheal Friedrich Krenz was through with his military training in Germany, he asked for a furlough in order to visit the United States.

When he was through with his basic training, he was given an aptitude test and placed into the hospital as doctor's assistant. He had to take up the study of Latin in night school in order to work with medicine. He did not mind this kind of work but did not like the idea that he could be called back into the army at any time. In fact, it came in handy in the early pioneer days. He was often called upon to set bones, stitch up cuts and gashes and treat minor ailments, using the Homopathic medical books for guidance. He came to the States in the spring of 1854 and immediately applied for citizenship. Thus it was that when the Civil War was at it's height in 1864, Friederich Krenz was among the first draftees.

After arriving in the town of Berlin in 1856, he sent for his mother, stepfather, sisters, stepsisters and stepbrothers. His stepfather, August Anklam, did not relish cutting a farm out of the virgin forest so his stepson, Friedrich, helped him build up his buildings and started clearing on what is now the Zernicke

farm. For this his stepfather bought him 80 acres of land from the government. This is now the Gilbert Krenz farm.

On April 5, 1860, Friedrich married Wilhelmina Genrich. They made a clearing on their own land and erected log buildings. In March of 1864, a daughter, Louise, was born to them and in the fall of that year Friederich Krenz was called in the draft. A friend of his tried to convince him to run away, avoid the military service, but Krenz answered "If I am destined to come back again, I will be back." This same man, who tried to convince Friederich to run away, died in a log drive two months later.

Krenz's regiment was supposed to go with General Sherman in his march across the south. He wrote a number of letters home but he could never expect an answer because their whereabouts were never sure. They also did not get any pay until they caught up with General Sherman. Their marching song was "We are coming Father Abraham, three hundred thousand strong." This was the number of men that were in that draft.

His letters described the march across the southland and told about some of the destruction. From Atlanta they marched "to the sea," the Atlantic Ocean where they boarded a ship to go to Washington for discharge. The weather was very stormy and the soldiers asked the captain of the ship, to turn back, they feared shipwreck. However, he would not until they threatened the captain, said they would put him in chains and they would take over the ship. He then agreed saying, "Now, I have a legal excuse, I can say, the passengers mutined." He turned back and after the storm had died down they got to Washington D.C. safely. Here they were discharged. Krenz was paid in government land containing much pine, which was the only valuable timber at that time. This land adjoined the home farm.

In one of his letters to his wife, Friedrich told her to see to it that she get "Bounty" money which the town raised to pay to the families of the drafted men. The Berlin book states that she received \$12.00 but it does not say if this was for a year or a month.



Herman Krenz home and front yard



The Krenz family consisted of four girls and six boys. However, the oldest girl, Louise, died of diptheria at age 14, on her father's birthday. The children of the family are as follows:

Louise	Bertha - Mrs. Henry Hamann
John	Herman
August	Minnie - Mrs. August Langhoff
Carl	Robert
William	Emilie - Mrs. Otto Bloch

Pastors influenced some of the children in their instruction classes. Herman Krenz was encouraged to attend the Lutheran University at Watertown. He attended for two years, and then small pox broke out. Vaccinations were done throughout the college. This was quite new and its method not too well understood so that infections set in and in several cases even the arm was amputated. Herman also was a victim of the infection and was hospitalized for four weeks. He was sent home at the end of the school term with a license to teach school. He taught one year. Then a tornado went through the Town of Berlin, taking down many trees in Friedrich Krenz's woods. Herman felt it was his duty to help with working up the downed timber.

By this time Berlin's government land was practically all sold, so Friedrich Krenz bought land in the Town of Hamburg for his remaining four sons. William was to take the home farm and August the Samuel Jahns Farm which had been bought many years before. August had married Martha Bartelt and they moved onto this farm.

One hundred and sixty acres in Section 14 was bought for John, and also 160 acres in the same section for Carl. A frame house was built on each piece, also a log barn. Whenever the boys could be spared on the home farm, they and their sister, Bertha would move into Hamburg where they cleared land and built buildings. Their sister Bertha was their housekeeper. During the summer months, Bertha often took her youngest sister, Emilie, along for company. When Carl married Wilhelmina Wendt, daughter of Henry Wendt Senior, they moved into their house which is now the home of Mrs. Mildred Krenz. Herman's land was 160 acres in the northwest corner of Section 13. Robert's farm was in Section 24. This consisted of 240 acres. Part of it had been owned by a man named Hell. It had a large clearing and an old log barn on it. But 160 acres was still in timber. Robert never married. The land was left to two great nieces and two great nephews when Robert died.

In the meantime on April 5, 1899 the boy's housekeeper had married Henry Hamann, a widower from the Town of Frankfort, the son

of Friedrich Krenz's Civil War comrade

On December 5, 1900, John Krenz married Helena Kniess, daughter of August Kniess. December 13, 1900, August Langhoff married Wilhelmina Krenz. Then at Friedrich Krenz's suggestion, Herman married his fiancée Wilhelmina Langhoff, who had kept house for her brother ever since August took over the Old Langhoff Farm. Herman's house was far from being finished, but in the two weeks prior to the wedding, three rooms were plastered and the wedding was held in the old Krenz home, on December 27, 1900. They always called it, the third day of Christmas.

Herman Krenz was always a progressive man. He was one of the founders of the Hamburg Telephone Company. He also started improve-

ment of the cattle in his part of the town. He bought pure bred Holstein bull calves from such places as Nickolas Grimm, the Marathon County Farm, who dealt their cattle from a radius of several miles to improve their herd.

For many years, he was a clerk in the Maple Grove School and secretary in the parish of St. John's, St. Paul's and Salem Churches.

In the first years of farming, the farmers started a Farmers Union Organization of which he was a staunch supporter. When the Farmers Cooperative Cheese Factory was started, he was one of the stockholders.

When later a cheesemaker in the Town of Berlin, absconded with some of the patron's money, Herman was one of the organizers of the Corn Belt Cheese Manufacturing Company, also a Farmer's owned project, and he drew the plans for the building.

But as the old saying goes, "Everything has its rise and its fall," so it is with individuals, industries, kingdoms, and countries, we reach our peak and then our decline.



Digging for the foundation of Herman Krenz's barn - 1912.



# Pioneers of Hamburg



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zastrow



Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Eggergluess



Mr. and Mrs Carl Wendt

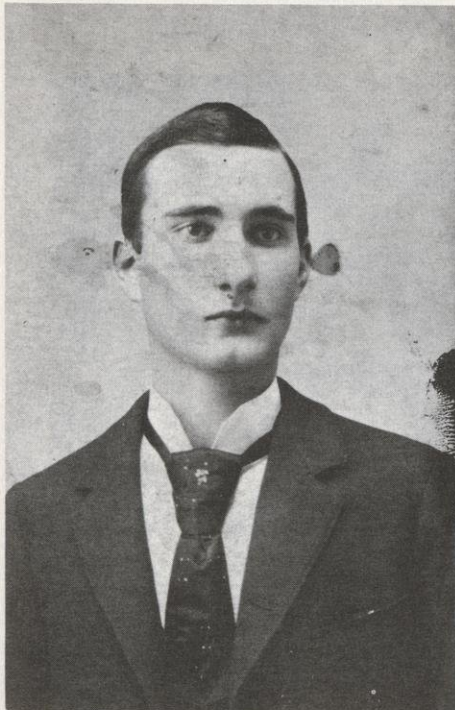


Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pruss





The Teske family. Back row: Gust, Robert, Otto, Wm., and Fred.  
Front row: Mrs. H. Teske, Lena Teske Butt and Herman Teske.



Joseph A. Emmerich  
Merrill Industrialist  
Born in Hamburg



Mr. and Mrs. Henry  
Borchardt



Mr. and Mrs. Henry  
Weiderhoeft





Mr. and Mrs. Ed Raasch



Glady's Krueger Heldt and  
Clairmont Krueger



Delma Woller, Harry and  
Helen Woller, Dewey and  
Emma Kysow



Clara and Albert Langhoff



Esther Bloch (rt) and friend



Grandmother Henrietta Heldt  
and Karl Heldt





Emma Thiel



Herman Henrich's Family



Mr. and Mrs. Gust Rau. Edmund and Herman  
Riemer's grandparents



August Brunow Family



Mrs. Fred Woller  
90th birthday



# *Industries*

## **Logging**

by ERWIN BRUNOW

In the early 1870's, when settlers immigrated to this area, they found huge tracts of virgin timber. At first, trees were chopped down, to clear the land, to provide logs for dwelling, and to plant crops to sustain the settlers during the long winter months. There was no market for logs or firewood. Huge logs were dragged on piles and were burned.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's, saw mills began to operate in the area, sawing the logs into lumber so people could build houses and barns made of lumber.

In the early 1900's, August Brunow hauled lumber from Nichol's Mill in Hamburg. He arose at 2 o'clock in the morning, drove the five miles to the mill, loaded up the lumber and was home around 7 a.m.. He then fed his team of horses, ate breakfast and delivered his load of lumber to Merrill, and returned

home by 7 p.m.. This 12 hour work day was repeated daily.

In 1902, August and Otto Brunow cut basswood trees and hauled the logs to Haffermann Mill,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles north of the county line FF. They were paid \$2.00 a thousand for logs, without limbs.

In 1918, during the first World War, veneer oak logs were sold for over \$100.00 a thousand in Merrill.

During the drought years of 1930's many birch and hemlock trees died. Dry hemlock was cut for pulp and Rothschild mill paid \$3.25 a cord.

Around 1950, mills began to buy ties for \$50.00 to \$75.00 a thousand feet.

Due to proper forest management, logging could be carried in Hamburg for many generations to come.



Left to right: August Mueller, Gustave Kleinschmidt, Wilhelm Penn, Reinhold Fehlbaum, Art Sellin and Herman Borchardt.





Lumber Camp, 1894



Henry Bloch's Mill, 1920



Hanke Factory



Loading logs at Henry Voigt's



Logs at H. Bloch's

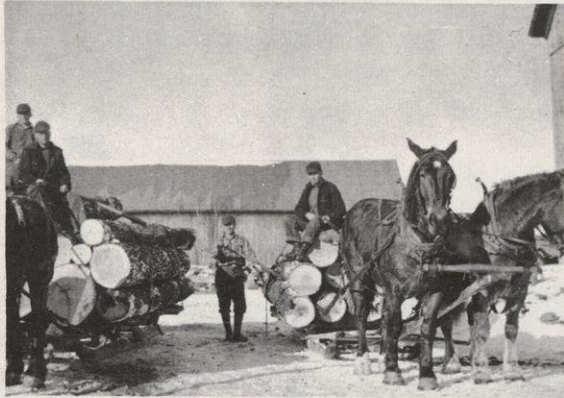




Weisbrod Saw Mill



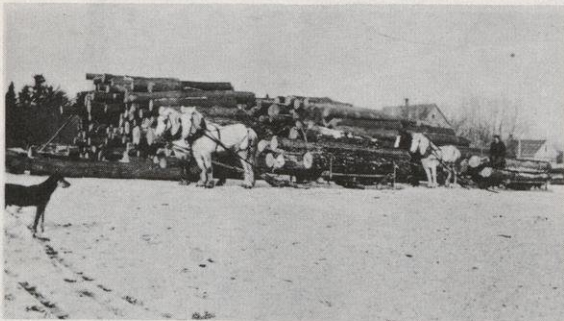
Loading at Herman Voigt's  
(Elmer Krohn Farm)



Emil Janke, Fred Schoenherr, Martin  
Kanklefitz and Reinhold Schmidt



Logging at Voigt's



Hauling logs at Herman Krenz's



Jennie, Diane, David Voigt, Margie Werner  
and Sheldon Voigt



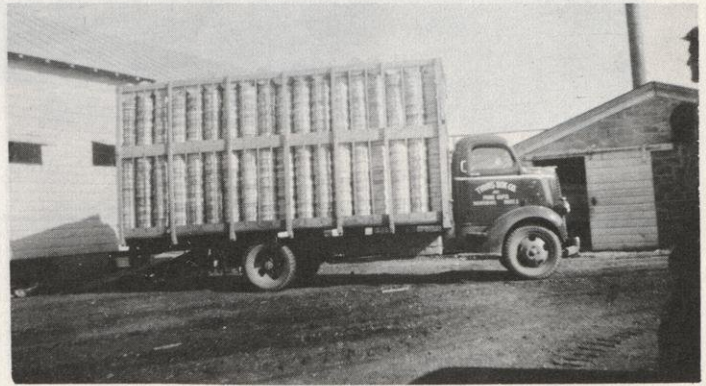
# Little Chicago

## Box Factory

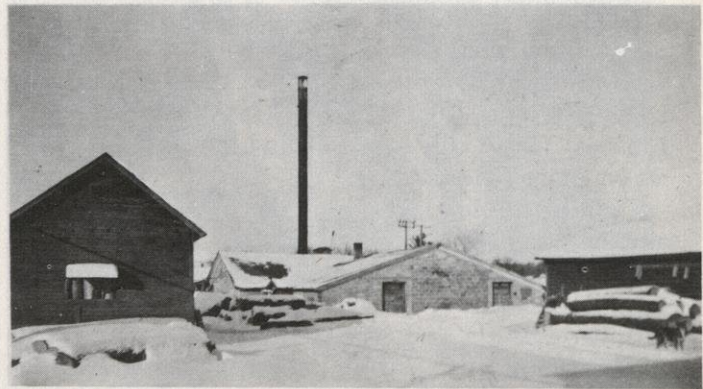
The Box Factory was built by a Prehn (Art Prehn's Grandfather) and first it was a Grist Mill. He sold it to Plautz brothers. They still ran it as a grist mill and sold it to a Mr. Krienke. In 1915 or 1910, he sold it to Hanke brothers and they started the Box Factory. It was then sold to Tesch who lost it and it fell back to the Hanks. Hanke sold it to Harry Henrichs who sold it to Thurs Bros.



Thurs' Saw Mill



Trucking Cheese Boxes



Thurs' Box Factory - 1938





Syrup Camp at Ed. Bloch's

## Maple Syrup

The early settlers in the area now known as the Town of Hamburg, Marathon County, Wisconsin had to depend on the land for many of the necessities of life as stores were few and far, and money was scarce.

The land was good to these people and provided them with almost all of the basics. Food was found in the form of wild game, fowl and fish, berries and more. Many tools were formed from the forest, and medicines were made from wild plants.

Even on the luxuries, sugar, was in abundance.

The settlers got their sweetening in two ways. One of them was from wild bees that made honey in hollow logs and trees and the other from maple trees.

The hard or "sugar" maple was and still is one of the most common trees in the Hamburg area. Each spring, as winter started to lose her position to the warm days of early spring,

the settlers would take to the "sugar bush", drill holes in the maples, fit these holes with wooden spouts and collect the sweet sap in a wooden bucket sitting on the ground under the spout.

A horse-drawn sled, fitted with a large wooden tub, was taken to the trees to collect the sap. The settlers carried the sap in the wooden buckets and dumped their contents into the tub.

The sap was taken to a large, shallow pan that was fitted on top of an open stove, made of stones. The excess water was cooked out of the sap until a thick, brown, sweet liquid was formed. This "syrup" was canned and the excess was sold.

Part of each spring's produce was cooked beyond the syrup stage until a sweet, brown candy-like substance was left. This candy took the place of the "store bought" kind and was used in place of "store bought" sugar.



Although not every farm has a "sugar bush" today, many Hamburg families still make maple syrup in their wood lots.

Many of these families still cook in the traditional methods, with only the substitution of a tractor for the horse in sap collection.

As in most other things, technology has changed the maple sugaring time drastically. Today, many people make syrup on a commercial basis. For these people, plastic receptacles and pipelines have replaced the open wooden and tin buckets, and stainless steel

condensers have replaced the open boiling pans.

Even with the improvements, many of the trees tapped today are the very same trees that our great-grandparents tapped so many years ago. It still takes 50 gallons of sap to

make a gallon of syrup, and the nip in the early spring air and the smell of the earth coming to life in the sugar woods are still the same. Maybe things haven't changed so much after all.



Paul Lueck and Arnold Voigt



Arlene Oelke Teske and Francis Weibel at Bloch's Sugar Camp



Firing up the syrup "stoves"



Enjoying a spring day in the "Sugar Camp"



# Raasch's Blacksmith Shop

Raasch's Blacksmith Shop



Ed Raasch's Blacksmith Shop was built in 1914. His brother, Louis, was his first hired hand as he opened shop. Then Louis Schlueter became his main hired hand. Martin Rohloff also worked there for a time before he open-

ed his own shop. His son, Norman Raasch, who now lives at Merrill, also helped his father with many hours of work in the shop. Mr. Raasch retired from blacksmithing in 1967 after 53 years.

Eddie Nieman, Gust Schoenherr and Ed Raasch





# Wehrlich Mill

Story procured from the memoirs of August Bloch.

About 1881, a German by the name of Wehrlich, living in Watertown, Wisconsin, bought thousands of acres of land along the Big Rib River in Marathon County. There he built a dam and a sawmill, which was run by waterpower. Wehrlich had an office in Watertown and there hired many of his German acquaintances and sent them north to work for him. In winter cutting and hauling logs to the river, in the spring, floating them down river to the mill sawing the logs into lumber. The lumber they would pile and fasten into rafts, coupling one raft to another, so that one man could steer them and float them down the Big Rib River into the Wisconsin and at Prairie Du Chien, into the Mississippi River down to St. Louis. There Wehrlich had a lumber yard.

Many Germans left Watertown to work for Wehrlich in the pinery. After the pine timber was taken off, Wehrlich would sell the land to his working men, allowing them to work it off on a payment plan. Many Germans from Watertown bought land on this plan. Among these were John and August Kraft. All went well for several years, until the time of Cleveland's Depression. Wehrlich could not sell his lumber, so he could not pay his working men or meet his other payments. This worried him so much that he committed suicide by shooting himself in his Watertown office. After his death, those who had bought land from him on the payment plan, either had to pay cash or lose their homes. Most of them borrowed the money and paid up.

The Wehrlich mill had been taken over by his creditors and was again running at full speed and here was a chance for the settlers of the neighborhood to earn extra cash. Here too, Griggle, the young man living on the Tietz Homestead, now the Hamburg Dump, worked. His two young children who had been left motherless when their mother died, stayed home alone, but often going over to the August Kraft

place, sometimes asking for a piece of bread, but coming mostly out of sheer loneliness.

The mill building later burned. The dam was still there, when the Pennsylvanians of Rietbrock's project were there. Parts of the crumbled dam can still be seen to this day.

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## Ament's Brickyard

by MR. MARTIN LUECK

Ament's brickyard was located in the town of Hamburg about three and eight-tenths miles west of Little Chicago on County Trunk A, on a farm later owned by Harry Zastrow. The brickyard was started and operated by John Ament Sr. and his two sons; John Ament Jr. and Andrew. They operated on a small scale and most of the brick buildings built in the neighborhood at that time used the Ament brick; like the Salem Church, (it's demolished now) and the Thayer Public School (has been converted into a home, located on the 5th Lane and County Trunk A) which were built in 1896.

The brickyard was built on a low part of the farm, called a swamp, in those days. The clay was dug out of the ground to the depth of 6 to 8 feet, then ground through a crude mill and then pressed into a wooden form, the size of a brick, then placed into an open top covered shed and left to dry, before placing it in the baking or drying kiln. The kiln was built out of brick, which measured 20' x 30' x 20'. The dried brick was placed openly and spaced and had a fire built under it, keeping it fired constantly, till the brick turned red, by using dry kilned wood.

One odd thing about the Ament brick was; when the fresh clay was molded into forms, it had to be squeezed out, and to do this Ament used his thumb, which left his thumb print in the brick about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" deep. His identification left a mark to remember.

The drying shed was open on the sides and on one part of the shed about 30' long and 20' wide, an upstairs was added on, and became a dance hall, where the young people gathered and had a heck of a good time. Admission was from 15 to 25¢ which included all the beer you could drink.

Later in the 1890's another brick yard was started in the Athens area, and the Ament's discontinued their. The older folks died, young John Jr. was accidently shot during the hunting season and Andrew got married and left Hamburg to whereabouts unknown.



# Fromm's Machine Shop

Information procured from the abstract of Herbert Fromm Jr.

William Bloch was discharged from the army after World War I in early 1919. He was now on his own and so purchased the little piece of land from Albert Kickbusch Sr., that is now Herbert Fromm Junior's machine shop. He built the building, dividing it with a heated room on the north where he could work on cars in winter. He started selling Dort cars. Business prospered and soon this first building was too small. He bought the location of the present Little Chicago Garage. The old building was bought in 1928, by Julius Zunker who used it as a blacksmith shop. In 1939, Raymond Plisch bought it and continued in it as a smith. In 1939, Ervin Bunge bought it and started a machine shop in 1944. The back part was now used as living quarters. In 1966, Herbert Fromm Jr. bought it and still continues in it.

William Bloch then went into the Town of Berlin (Little Chicago), where he built what is now the Brickner Garage.

# Hamburg Cheese Factories

In the early 1900's farmers began producing more milk than could be used in the home.

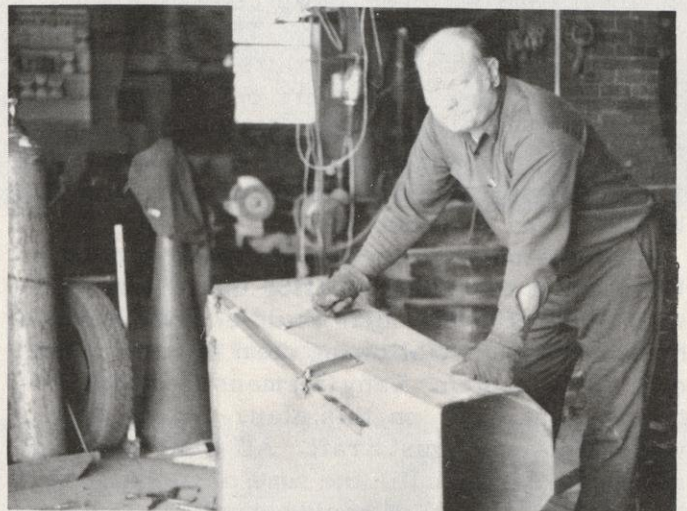
Farmers banded together and formed cooperative cheese factories, hiring a cheesemaker to produce cheese from the surplus milk.

Milk was brought to the factory by the farmers via horse and cart. The cans of milk weighing about 85 pounds.

Cheesemakers contracted farmers to supply them with firewood to keep the steam boilers operating. As cheese makers bought their own factories, they usually looked for 40 acres or more of standing timber, so they could make



Fromm's Machine Shop



Herbert Fromm



Bill Riemer and Henry Fricke Hauling milk  
(Now Eddie's Bar)



their own firewood to keep their boilers operating. This job was usually done in winter, when the supply of milk was low and cheese made every three days.

The residue of the milk, whey, was taken home by the farmers to be fed to their pigs, which each farmer usually raised.

Hamburg had five cheese factories in the early 1900's. At present, the Hitzke factory was remodeled into a home by T. Mader. Kubitz factory was torn down and replaced by a home inhabited by Wm. Laufer. The 1915 farmer factory became the Balz in 1925 and in turn became the Krenz in 1927 was converted into a tavern operated and owned by Ed. Zinkowich. Hamburg Cheese factory is used as a No. 2 storage warehouse by Ino Corp. Honeybee, operated by Johnson in the early 1900's is still in operation as a branch of the Swift Cheese factory.



Hamburg Cheese Factory



Honey Bee Cheese Factory  
Frank and Charles Zastrow



Brick factory replaced  
Hamburg Cheese Factory

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#### A CURE FOR LOVE

Reprinted from Central Wisconsin Paper  
Circa 1876

Recommend to take twelve ounces of dislike, one pound of resolution, two ounces of powder of experience, large sprig of time, fourteen drams of the spirit of dishonor, one quart of the cooling waters of consideration. Set them in a gentle fire of love, sweeten it with the sugar of forgetfulness, skim it with spoon of melancholy, put to the bottom of your heart, cork it with the cork of a sound conscience, and let it remain and you will instantly find care, and be restored to your right senses again. Those things are to be of the apothecary, at the house of Understanding, in Prudent Street in the Parish of Contentment



Cheese factory operated by Arneson



# Marth Wood Shavings

Marth Wood Shavings Supply, Inc., started out as Marth Turkey Farm by Milton and Geraldine Marth in 1959. Wood shavings must be used for bedding for turkey's. The first load of wood shavings was purchased from a plant at Hayward, Wisconsin. It was an inferior quality bedding, so Mr. Marth reasoned, "There must be better quality shavings right in our area." With this in mind he contacted many woodworking plants in the surrounding communities. Several factories gave him contracts to purchase all their sawdust and shavings. Other area turkey growers also wanted him to supply their bedding needs. So with the purchase of a used 1952 Chevrolet truck, Marth Wood Shavings Supply was established. Turkey growers declined in the area, but the particle board manufacturing plants demands were greater and the business kept expanding. With the constant growth it became necessary to incorporate on April 1, 1971.

On January 1, 1972, Paulette and Kenneth Natzke (daughter and son-in-law of the Marths) bought a portion of the stock and became partners in the business. It became necessary to build a 60 x 140 ft. building in the spring of 1974, to house the trucks and supply a new maintenance area. In the spring of 1976 another 100 x 140 ft. building was required for storage facilities.

Marth Wood Shavings trucks can be seen throughout the State of Wisconsin on pickup and deliveries, supplying bedding needs for dairy, beef, turkey, chicken, duck and horse farms. They further supply the needs for manufacture of particle board, flake board, pool, croquet, and bowling balls, wood flour (used in plastics), and toilet seats. The low grade material is sold for fuel at local plants.

Marth Wood Shavings Supply, Inc. is located on the very south-east corner of the township on Highway 107. At the present time there are 19 employees of which 14 are Town of Hamburg residents.



Flock of 1600 turkeys.



Modern Shaving Industry



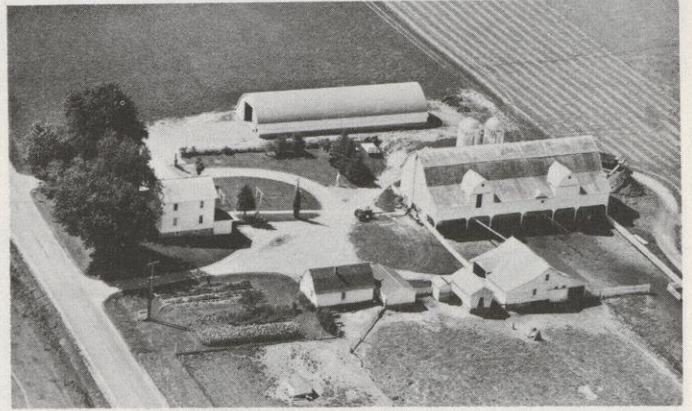
Milton Marth and part of his fleet of trucks



# Time Marches On!



Henry and Gene Voigt Farm (old)



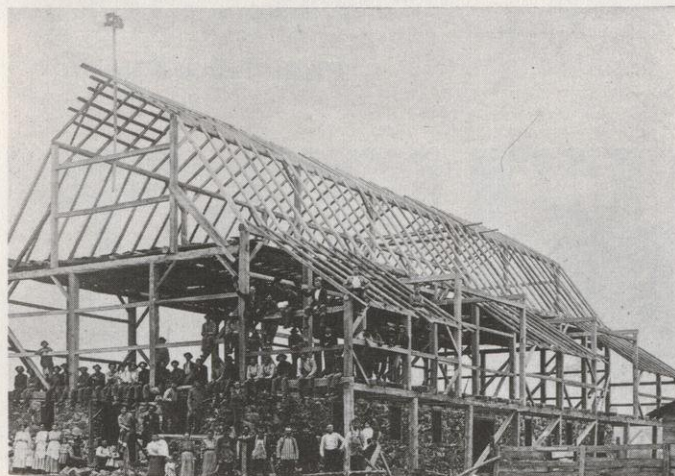
Henry and Gene Voigt Farm (new)



Hay "hocks" on August Langhoff Farm



Ben Helmke and family



Barn Raising - Henry Borchardt Farm



Walter Kottke family





Butchering Geese



Making Sausage



Reinhold Kriehn (1913)



Lathe Mill at Henry Voigt Farm



First Truck Plow



Moving Helmuth Wendt's House



Erwin Brunow's  
1925 car



Erwin Brunow's 1976  
car. 51 years of safe  
driving record.



# Hamburg Schools

## Maple Grove School

by ESTHER BLOCH

Hamburg was still a part of Berlin when on September 26, 1870, a group of voters met at the home of Joachim Nieman to discuss the building of a school house. It was decided to build the school out of logs, the cracks were to be mudded (chinked), the inside whitewashed and the outside to be finished off with siding. One hundred and fifty dollars was to be raised on all taxable property to pay for it. The men working on the building were to be paid \$1.50 per day. The actual cost of the building was \$151.53. Wood to heat the building the first year was bought for \$1.85 per full cord. Into the northwest corner a pulpit was built so that it could also be used as a church.

The first school terms were for five months, beginning in November. Later it was changed to five months of public school and one month in the German language. Text books were furnished by the school district.

This building was built on the southeast corner of Section 11, township 30, range 5, east. Size of the building was 26' x 34'.

In 1876, when Hamburg was incorporated as a separate town, this district was changed to District No. 1, of the town of Hamburg.

At the annual school meeting in July 1902, a motion was made to levy \$200 for a school building fund. That same year a special meeting was called on December 12, to determine the new school site. The yard of the first school was also used as a cemetery until a piece of land for the future church was bought on May 2, 1876 and the present St. John's Cemetery was started. The southwest corner of Section 12, across the road from the old school, was selected as the building site. In



Maple Grove School in 1930's







Ziegel's School Bus

1903, at a special meeting in August it was decided that the school should be built on a one acre lot exclusive of the road and in the middle of the lot. The building was to have pine siding and to be painted white. By 1904, the school was built on the present site.

A picture of the first school and church can be seen in St. John's Church basement.

For some years, the Fromm Bros. has given a set amount of money for education. In 1949, they decided to use this money for the Maple Grove School. The basement with its ground floor had been used to store the wood for the big wood box next to it. The basement floor was excavated more and a cement floor put in. The remodeling did not stop here. More classrooms were built around the original school. In 1952, this school district along with District Number 2 and 3 were added to the City of Merrill School System. In 1962, two more classrooms and a multipurpose room were added. The outside of the building had been painted red. The district from which the pupils were picked up extended far into the Town of Corning.

The Sylvia Woller Scholarship Award was established in 1967. It provides a scholarship to either a technical school or college if the recipient has attended Maple Grove School and graduated from the Merrill High School.

In 1975, the Walter and Mabel Fromm Scholarship was established. This is a four-year grant given to enable students from Maple Grove to attend college in the State of Wisconsin.

## MAPLE GROVE BASKETBALL

by JIM KLEINSCHMIDT

The 5th and 6th grade basketball league in Merrill school district was reorganized in 1971 to include the outlying schools. Maple



Maple Grove's Basketball Team in action.



1975 Team, 10 wins and 0 losses  
Front (l. to rt.): Coach Jim Kleinschmidt, Kirk Kleinschmidt, Dale Kohnhorst, Mark Rininger, Tom Clark, Mike Plisch, John Moeck, Bryon Kleinschmidt, Scott Kleinschmidt, Coach Rick Arneson. Back: Terry Plisch, Dennis Kohnhorst, Tim Pruss, Scott Thurs, Steve Kleinschmidt, David Wendt, Jerry Bloch, Steve Stahel, Andy Seliger (missing).



1972 Team, 7 wins and 2 losses  
Front (l. to rt.): Kevin Kottke, Mark Czech, Dan Czech, Billy Schmidt, Lee Hoepfner, Larry Block. Back: Mark Henrichs, Danny Arneson, Mark Woller, Steve Liebe, Terry Kottke, Scott Achterberg, Russell Wetterau, Bryon Drake and Gordon Roesler.



Grove was a member from the start. During the first three years competition was among all elementary schools. Since 1974 the four country schools and six city schools participated in separate leagues.

Elementary basketball gives all boys in the 5th and 6th grade the opportunity to participate in organized sports. In most cases it is the only time these boys will do so and the basic basketball procedures learned plus sportsmanship discipline required are things they are grateful for.

Starting with a 1 win 6 loss record the first year, Maple Grove has been champion or co-champions since 1974. They have compiled a record of 43 wins and 17 losses. The team is coached by Jim Kleinschmidt, assisted by Rick Arneson.

The Maple Grove Parent Teachers Organization supports the team and have supplied the attractive red and white uniforms.

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## LaFollette School, District No. 2

La Follette School was the second one built in what later became the Town of Hamburg. It was directly west of the present fire house. Made of logs as were all the early schools, it was also used as the first St. Peter's Church.

When the new District No. 2 was built, it was located on the present fire hall site. The entry doors faced west. The enrollment was so

large that by 1929-1930, two teachers were employed. LaVern Searing taught the upper grades in the main room and Doris Kutz Forsmo, the lower grades in the large entry, chairs with arms were used instead of desks.

In the summer of 1930, the building was remodeled. The west entry doors were removed and put into the south wall. On the west wall and also the east, six windows were placed. Two chemical pit toilets were installed which had to be pumped regularly like septic tanks are now. Next to these was a boys hall in the southwest corner and a girls hall in the southeast corner. A central entry hall opened to the south.

During the Depression years when the W.P.A. works were in progress, a basement was put under the building and a north entrance leading into the basement and also into each room was added. A wood furnace was installed. The basement provided room for the wood and also a playroom in inclement weather. This was now a State Graded School, second class. When the schools were given names, La Follette, was chosen. Senator Bob La Follette was popular among the common people of Wisconsin.

In 1952, this school district was added to the Merrill School System. La Follette, like Barney School was bought by Mr. Edward Fromm for the price of \$1.00 and given to the Town of Hamburg, by him. It was then converted into a fire hall, to house the tanker and fire truck, for a while also an ambulance. The ambulance was not a new one and was later discontinued and the new and modern ambulance of Athens,



Walter Fromm, Teacher 1906-1907



now serves Hamburg, and Berlin and in emergencies, also other communities. The hall is the center for serving meals and refreshments for the annual tractor pull, which draws about 5,000 spectators yearly.

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## Barney School

The deed of the Barney School is listed as follows:

On the nineteenth day of October, 1881 the Wisconsin Valley Railroad Company deeded one acre of land in the southeast quarter of the southeast 1/4 of Section eight of township 30, R. 5 E., for the price of \$1.00.

It was the third school built; therefore, it was District No. 3. Later on when schools had to have names it was named Barney after Carl Baneck who lived on the opposite corner and for a while had the post office in his home and was the postmaster. It was Baneck's post office and later dubbed "Barney".

The first school was not built of logs as the first ones usually were. It was a white frame building. In later years, it was so crowded with children, often three or four in a double desk, that in 1925 a real modern new school was built, complete with basement and a furnace and wood storage room. The rest of the basement was a recreation room.

In 1952, Barney School was joined to the Merrill School System. The grade school children were bussed to the Maple Grove School and the high school children to the Merrill High Schools. The building was bought by Edward Fromm and given to the Town of Hamburg to be used as a town hall, which purpose it serves to this day.

In 1976, the town of Hamburg celebrated it's town centennial and the bicentennial of the nation with a two day celebration and was highly successful. In fact, it was so well liked that it was suggested that the town shed be used more often for various celebrations.

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## Craig School

Craig School was built in 1917 because Barney School was badly overcrowded. All the children in Halsey on the east side of the Rib River went to Craig even if they lived in Hal-

sey. That is why the new school was a joint school, Hamburg and Halsey. When in the year 1952, Barney and LaFollette joined the Merrill district, Craig decided to discontinue the school. The building was sold to Arnold Krueger. It still stands today and is used for storage.

The children living in Hamburg were bussed to the Merrill schools and those living in Halsey of the old Craig district were taken by bus to Wells school in the Town of Halsey. Wells was located on Highway F in the Town of Halsey. A bridge, had by this time, been built across the Rib River, where Amco Park is now, so that the Halsey children on the east bank had easier access to the west side. In 1954, Halsey decided to close its one-room schools and join the Athens village schools.



Former Barney School



Barney School in the 1920's



# Thayer School

The first Thayer School was a log building on the southeast corner of section 29. What year it was built we were not able to ascertain as no one seemed to have any of the early records.

One of the first teachers was Henry Voigt Senior, the father of Henry and Arnold Voigt. While dismanteling an old log building on the Voigt farm, a receipt was found for \$100, stating that he had been paid this amount for teaching the school but it did not state for what length of time this payment was.

The next school was a brick veneer building on the northeast corner of Section 32. This

was a joint district with some pupils from the northern edge of Rib Falls attending also.

Families being larger than they are on the average today, the school became overcrowded. In the year 1923, when Edmund Hannemann was the teacher, the enrollment was fifty-five pupils.

When the Wausau Lumber Company was operating its mills in the village of Rib Falls, they built a school for the children of their workmen. Their mills closed in 1927, when all the timber of their landholding had been cut. Not having anymore employment, most of the families moved on and the school was practically empty, so in the 1930's this school was bought by a newly organized district in the northwest part of the town. The building was moved onto what is now Highway S and named Decourcey.

This eliminated the overcrowded conditions in Thayer School.

When the schools consolidated, joining with a high school district, Thayer voted to join the Athens school system. The building was sold and converted into a home.



Thayer School in 1951. Joyce Zastrow Voigt (teacher). Left row: Charlotte Lueck, Lorena Graveen and Bonnie Wendt. Middle row: John Zastrow, Wilfred Graveen, Calvin Salefske, and Vernon Graveen. Right row: Delwin Thurs, Eldred Haehlke, Elton Henrichs, Ronald Thurs, Caroline Wendt, Dariene Hamann, Dale Prochnow and Charles Zastrow.



# Churches of Hamburg

by ESTHER BLOCH

## Salem Church

In the late 1800's, Fred Rietbrock of Athens, went to Connellsville, Pennsylvania to visit some friends and relatives from the old country. He found them in dire straits. They were coal miners and the country was in what was termed "Cleveland's Depression". The coal mines were closed and people were without any income whatsoever. Rietbrock told them of the many acres of timberland that he owned. He made them a proposition. If they wanted a home of their own, he was willing to help them get a start. They had no money of their own so he would pay their railroad fare and contract to every man forty acres of land and build a house on it. Whatever supplies they needed they could get at the company store in Athens. In the winter the men could work in his logging camps and in the summer in his sawmill in Athens. In spare time, they could clear the land for a farm and eventually have a farm of their own. This kind of talk impressed the miners but they would not be led into doing something rash. They called a meeting and chose three men to go to Wisconsin to study Rietbrock's proposition.

They must have talked favorably about it in Connellsville because about sixty families and their minister signed up to move as soon as Rietbrock had made arrangements with the railroad company to bring them to Athens.

The minister came with the last consignment. His name was Lemmerdine. Rietbrock had built a large house for him on the west bank of the Rib River. There they also built a large log building that was used for a meeting house and as a church. The building could house several hundred. Rietbrock also paid the minister's salary.

Rietbrock's plan did not materialize as expected. The miners soon realized that there was a big difference in picking and shoveling

coal and chopping down trees and sawing logs.

In the spring of 1897, times began to get better. Many factories started operation and needed coal, so the miners in Connellsville started to work again. Most of the miners went back there.

In the meantime, the minister had acquainted himself with the surrounding neighborhood. He saw the need for another church in the region west of St. Peter's Church and organized a congregation. They decided to build a little church and called it Salem. Pastor Lemmerdine got disgusted with the elders. He must have felt that they were not pushing the building of the new church as fast as he felt they should. He told them, "Ihr seid nicht Vorsther Ihr seid Nachsther", meaning, "You are not leaders, you are draggers". The year after the church was built, the pastor also went



Salem Church





Rev. Neubauer

back to Pennsylvania. It was then that the Rev. Mr. Neubauer was called to serve as vacancy pastor, thus accounting for the appearance of Salem members in confirmation and other records of St. Peter's Church.

Then came the Rev. Jacob Reiff. Fortunately, he was still single and so he boarded round. In 1901, Salem joined St. John's and St. Paul's. They had built a parsonage in 1898.

The first baptism in Salem is recorded as that of Arthur Friedrich Frank Bugs. The charter members were:

Fred Luedtke	Carl Urban
August Koeller	George Grob
Frank Koehler	Carl Westfall
William Kretlow	John Riemer
Ferdinand Pickruhn	Fred Braun
Ferdinand Waldow	C. Poog

The building committee consisted of Fred Luedtke, August Koeller and Frank Koehler.

The first confirmation class consisted of the following:

John William Esswein  
 Emil Henry Koehler  
 Herman William Carl Luedtke  
 Martin Leopold Koehler  
 Ed Fred Grob  
 Henry Jacob Grob  
 Alfred M. Weise

Otto Carl William Waldow  
 William Frank Fred Waldow  
 Ferdinand Emil Puckruhn  
 Herman Jacob Kramm  
 Herman Julius Butt  
 Paul O. William Luedtke  
 Peter V. Bergen  
 Maria Anna V. Bergen  
 Anna Bertha V. Bergen  
 Maria Emma Westfall  
 Wilhelmina Maria Johanna Kretlow  
 Maria Carolina Pawlewsky

(We wondered if the V. in all the Bergens stood for "von Bergen").

Salem celebrated its fiftieth anniversary but as the years went by it became the largest congregation of the three churches in the parish and the building was the smallest of the three. There was no basement under it. It was decided to build one large church and unite the three churches into one congregation. Dissension started among the congregations and the plan was discontinued, the members joining other congregations. The building was torn down, but the bell, the name and year plate, are still on the northeast corner of the yard.

Information procured from the story of The Pennsylvania Settlement and the clippings of the records of the Fiftieth Anniversary.

Esther K. Bloch

## Pennsylvania Church

When Fred Rietbrock's settlement on the banks of the Rib River was started in 1896, he also built a large meeting house of logs, large enough to seat about 200.

We feel that we can class this as being part of Hamburg's history as the Town of Halsey had at that time not yet separated from Hamburg. This church was served by Pastor Lemmerdine, who also was paid by Fred Rietbrock to serve the settlers and attend to their spiritual needs.

Whether there were any burials during the brief stay of the Pennsylvanians, I do not know. There are no records and no gravesites that we know of, but after they left, the building was plundered of its valuable furnishings, like doors and windows and the building fell into ruins. For many years parts of it could still be seen and even today parts of the dam built for Wehrlich's mill can be found.



This dam connected the east and west sides of the river but today there are but few traces of what once was a lively settlement.

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## St. John's Church

In 1870, when the first school in Hamburg was built on the southeast corner of Section 11, township 30, range 5 east, a pulpit was built into the northwest corner so that the building could be used for church purposes. Previous to that time the earliest settlers of that locality had gathered in their homes for prayer, hymn singing and worship of their Lord.

The first mention of a pastor serving the people of this area is that of John Jacob Hoffman, a circuit riding minister on horseback who often rode into the wilderness areas to call on settlers and to serve them with Word and Sacraments.

With the arrival of Pastor J.F. Hudtloff, the St. John's congregation was founded in 1867. Pastor Hudtloff lived in a parsonage just east of the Friederich Krenz home in the Town of



St. John's Church



Ladies Aid

Berlin. The incorporation of the congregation took place on February 7, 1887. This was the second church founded.

On May 2, 1876, two acres of land were purchased from Herman and Wilhelmina Bartelt, a mile west of the school house to be used as a cemetery and also as the site of a future church building. The first funeral in the church was Helena Janke Wiederhoeft, wife of Ludwig Wiederhoeft in 1894.

The present church building was built in 1893 and dedicated that fall. In 1938, during the pastorate of the Rev. Herman C. Schedler the



Ladies Aid of three congregations

church building was enlarged, the chancel area being added.

In 1899, the parsonage was built by St. John's and St. Paul's congregations. The kitchen area was added to the parsonage in 1917.

In January 1971, the attic was converted into an upstairs bathroom and an additional bedroom. An oil furnace was installed in 1959.

A Ladies Aid was organized on August 2, 1917, with the aid of Pastor Wm. Keturakat. During his pastorate a choir was formed and a Young People's Society was organized which later be-



came the Walther League. In July 1948, a Sunday School was organized. In 1960, St. John's affiliated itself with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as a voting member.

The younger women have an organization called the Mary Martha Guild which is very similar to Ladies Aid.

## St. Paul's Church

In 1880, a number of people were having church services in the homes. The Herman Koehler family were among them. They were some of the earliest settlers and by this time some of the town's prosperous settlers. They had a three seated buggy and a small portable organ which they would take along every Sunday. This added greatly to the services. Mr. Koehler noted that in the warm days of summer when the doors were open, the chickens went in and out at will for screen doors were unheard of. When the homes were too small to accommodate the people they met in the first Barney School. This was commonly done by pioneers, but one man in the community was familiar with the laws and reported them, they were conducting religious services in a public school. It was then in 1895 that the congregation decided to build a little log church on land donated by Albert Zastrow on the site of the present church.

The congregation had been organized in 1880 by a traveling missionary from the Wisconsin Synod, by the name of Luedtke and the congrega-

tion was incorporated in 1887 in Wausau at the Register of Deeds.

A cemetery was started a quarter of a mile



St. Paul's first log Church

east of the present town hall.

In 1899, St. Paul's and St. John's erected a parsonage. In 1901, Salem's congregation joined St. John's and St. Paul's as a parish served by the Wisconsin Synod.

In 1926, St. Paul's decided to build a new church. A parish meeting was called and they asked St. Paul's to dissolve and join the other two. Snow plows were starting to open the roads for car travel in winter, Salem was only 2 3/4 miles south of St. Paul's and St. John's was only 2 1/4 miles away, but St. Paul's would not agree to it so they built the present building that summer and it was dedicated that fall.

In the spring of 1927 the basement was finished and a two month religious summer school was started. From that time on, confirmations were held in the church and also Christmas Eve services.

In the meantime when Pastor Beawer was serving the parish he was asked to be vacancy



Present St. Paul's Church



St. Paul's and St. John's Summer School  
Christine Hutloff, teacher



pastor at Emmanuel. They were unable to get a pastor so they finally gave Pastor Beawer a call and asked to join St. John's and St. Paul's as a parish. This was done.

Then in the summer of 1975, St. Paul's decided that they would like to become independent and leave the parish. They did so. They are now being served by Pastor H. Gieschen of the Town of Scott. They have no synodical affiliation.

Information procured from the recollections of Herman Koehler, Mr. Paul Zastrow, and the 50th Anniversary Book of St. Paul's Church.

## St. Peter's Church

The first services to the settlers were conducted by intenerant circuit riders. The first of these were the Rev. Paul Strieter and the Rev. Karl Hoffman of the Missouri Synod. These early services were conducted in the homes of the settlers. On June 1, 1862, St. Peter's congregation was organized. Services were then held in a log school house on the southeast corner of Section 26, now owned by Merlin Hoff.

A salary offer was made in 1882 to the pastor. The following is his salary for a year:

\$150.00 cash  
23 bushels of wheat  
46 bushels of oats  
3 acres planted with clover

Extra fees payable to him were these:



St. Peter's Church

Church baptism	\$1.00
Home baptism	1.50
Marriage ceremony	3.00
Confirmation	3.00
Funeral service	1.00

It was noted that the congregation must have been pleased with its pastor's work for they added some hay, straw and a sack of potatoes, per year.

In 1887, the congregation built a frame church on one fourth acre of land, of Section 35, donated by John Zastrow Sr. The church was built west of the cemetery. The congregation had previously purchased one half acre of land from Mr. Zastrow for cemetery purposes. This was the first cemetery in Hamburg and the first person buried on it was Hanna Koehler, first wife of Gotthilf Koehler, in the year 1861. Because this cemetery was so far away from many of the parishoners, we have many wayside graves and cemeteries, as the Lueck cemetery, the grave on the corner of the old Luedtke place, the graves of the Riemers and others, on County Trunk A, west of Prochnows.

The first parsonage was a log building, one mile west of the church. Twenty acres of land in Section 34 was given to St. Peter's Church by the Wisconsin Valley Railroad Company in 1881. Fifteen acres of this was sold to Frank Aschbrenner in March 1919. The remaining five acres were sold to him in 1922. St. Peter's Church received \$2,000 as the result of this transaction. The agreement stated that the little school building on the northeast corner was to be reserved for church usage.

This had been built after the log parsonage was torn down. This parsonage had been used for religious instructional purposes for many years.

The little school building on Ashbrenner's land was moved next to the church but in 1949, after a basement was put under the church, this school house was sold.

Land for a new parsonage was bought in 1922, from Paul Borchardt. A narrow strip of this land lay north of the LaFollette School property. In 1941, this was sold to the school district because friction developed, because this was used by the pastor for his garden and the school children, sometimes trespassed, so the district bought it to avoid further trouble.

In 1949, a basement was built for the church building and the church moved onto it. The steeple was removed and two towers were built onto it. In 1962, a fellowship hall was added on to the church and the congregation celebrated its centennial that fall.

Information procured from the Centennial book of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hamburg, WI



# Wayside Graves and Cemeteries

by ESTHER BLOCH

Traveling along our highways we sometimes see a few lonely graves and then wonder, "Whose they are? Why were they buried here?" One such a grave was close to my childhood home on what is now Highway 107. A large spruce tree stood next to the fence. The fence and three wooden gates made a little enclosure, no marker otherwise. Mom said it was the grave of Grandpa Mohr, who used to help out at delivering babies in the neighborhood years before. He was a Catholic in the very predominantly Lutheran community and in those days, each denomination had its own cemetery and would not allow burial of anybody from another church.

As the years went by the wooden enclosure around the tree crumbled, a tornado blew down the tree and for years we could see the mouldering stump, but today I think I could not find its location anymore. Ironically, a half mile north of this grave, also on Highway 107 there is a nicely fenced cemetery with gray granite markers and a neatly mowed lawn, a modern pet cemetery.

As we travel west on County Highway A toward Athens, about one-fourth mile west of Prochnow's corner we see a clump of brush along the side of the otherwise clean roadside. Years back when we went to the village we could plainly see the two white marble head stones that marked the graves of Grandma and Grandpa Riemer. There was no cemetery closer than Athens to the west or St. Peter's to the east. The Rib River crossed the road that led to St. Peter's Church and Cemetery and the only means of getting across, for years, was by poling across on a raft. Later on a boat was kept on each side. Salem's Church and Cemetery was not started until 1897. I was told that there are at least eleven graves on this spot, one eleven year old girl who died of burns when she poured kerosene on a smoldering fire. Also, some infants who died when contagious diseases swept the neighborhood.

Such was the case of the three graves in the Luedtke pasture, also on Highway A. Two young boys, Albert and Robert Luedtke about five and seven years old died of diphtheria and are buried in a corner of the pasture, next to

Highway A. When later on a newborn unnamed sister died, she too was buried next to her brothers. A clump of lilac bushes marks the spot.

A mile south of the Salem Cemetery on Highway A is the little Lueck cemetery of about eight or nine graves. A boy of about six years died February, 1878, when the snow on the country roads was very deep. Not wanting to make the trip to St. Peter's Cemetery, the family decided to bury him on the corner of the farm. Since then other deceased members of the family were laid there. All graves have markers and the little plot is always neatly mowed.

When Joseph Emmerich bought a farm in the northwest corner of Berlin, they found the graves of two boys of the former owner named Strehlow in the pasture. The boys had died when a pestilence swept through the country. This so discouraged the parents that they sold the place and moved on. The graves were enclosed in a little fence, but in time it crumbled and as new land was broken, the grave site became a part of the plowed fields.

While gathering material from the Luedtke family, Mrs. Luedtke mentioned that one fall while she and her husband had been working up tops for firewood, on a piece of logged land, she saw an immense wasp nest in a tree top. Going closer to it she noticed a number of regular mounds, but no markers on them. She thought she could still find the place again. I was told to inquire of the old settlers that used to live around there. One man definitely verified the story that the graves were there and could still be found.



# Clubs and Recreation

## Hamburg

### Homemaker's Club

by MRS. HAMANN

In November 1922, a meeting sponsored by Mrs. Harry Zastrow, of the town of Hamburg, was held at her home. Miss Vangel Russell, Marathon County home agent was present.

The purpose of this meeting was to interest Women of the area in organizing a club.

Several weeks later, the Hamburg Women's Club was organized at the home of Mrs. Wm. Bugs, under the leadership of Miss Vangel Russell, the home agent. Officers were elected and are as follows: President, Mrs. Harry Zastrow; Vice-President, Mrs. Alfred Johnson; Secretary, Miss Ella Kretlow; Treasurer, Mrs. Walter Plisch.

Besides the elected officers, the following ladies became members of this organization: Mrs. Wm. Bugs, Mrs. Gust Polterman, Mrs. Otto Graveen, Mrs. Olga Koeller and Mrs. Martin Lueck.

Monthly meetings were held in the homes of the members. Some of the first lessons, given by the home agent, Miss Russell, were a millinery demonstration and canning.

The Club members also made dress forms and quilts at their meetings.

A quilt made by the Hamburg Women's Club was given to Miss Russell as a Wedding gift.



Vangel Russel (l.) and 1st club president, Mrs. Henry Zastrow (rt.)

The Hamburg Women's Club was also active in providing community entertainment. Quite a number of plays were given in the years of 1926 to 1936. These plays were held at Otto Lueck's Hall.

Card parties for the public were held at the former town hall. Proceeds from these were used to donate to charitable organizations, one the Club favored, was Mount View Sanatorium.

A donation was given toward the remodeling of the former town hall. They also purchased a piano for the town hall, which was then used as a community center.

A piano was also purchased for the former Thayer School in 1931.

Donations were given to the Red Cross, Easter Seals, Heart Fund, Cancer Drive and March of Dimes. Needy families and shut-ins in the community were remembered at Christmas.

Members of the Club also took part in the many interesting and worthwhile lessons, provided through the County home agent's office, such as the making of mattresses, footstools, refinishing furniture and many sewing projects.

In 1947, the Club adopted the name - Hamburg Homemaker's Club.

In 1950, the Club had a membership of 23 members.

In 1955, a wheelchair was purchased for the use of the community, and is still available to



Cast of Play - Down Pettiecoat Lane





### Hamburg Homemakers

anyone in the need of it.

Again in 1965, a donation of 2 portable hair dryers and a portable television was given to Mount View Sanatorium.

In 1972, the Club observed its 50th Anniversary with a dinner party for members and husbands.

At the present time the Club has 12 members which are the following: charter member Mrs. Martin Lueck, Mrs. Fred Ziegel, Mrs. Lenard Hamann, Mrs. Leroy Schlinkert, Mrs. Allen Baneck, Mrs. Gene Voigt, Mrs. Levi Klockziem, Mrs. Vernon Schoessow, Mrs. Ronald Dietrich, Mrs. Frank Schuelke, Mrs. Steven Schlinkert and Mrs. Gerald Borchardt.

## Hamburg 4-H

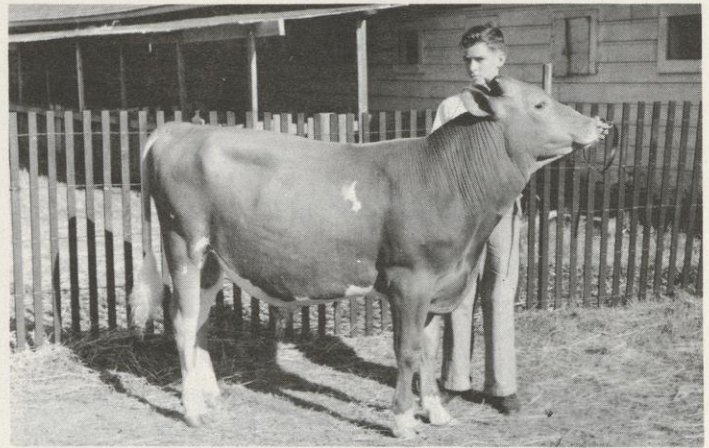
by MRS. JIM KLEINSCHMIDT

"To Make The Best Better" is the motto of 4-H clubs throughout the nation. To this end 4-H members have strived to learn for themselves and better their communities.

The earliest record of the "Hamburg 4-H" dates back to 1934. The records for the "Field and Home 4-H" goes back to 1937. Both clubs were active in the Hamburg area until 1949 when they combined into one club, known as the "Hamburg Field and Home 4-H Club".

Some of the adult leaders of these clubs were:

The vote for independence of the 13 colonies actually came on July 2, when the Continental Congress adopted Richard Henry Lee's Resolution for Independence. This paved the way for Jefferson's Declaration of Independence, approved on July 4.



Chester Knab, winner of Showmanship contest 1938

Mrs. Walter Plisch, Mrs. Albert Barnowski, Louetta Lueck (Mrs. Clarence Krueger), Arlene Henricks (Mrs. Jim Voigt), Mrs. Evard Hanke, Herbert Haehlke, Jr.

The regular monthly meetings of these clubs were held in members homes some years and at times (when the group was too large) in the old Hamburg Town Hall. The Health project was stressed and found many active participants. Other popular projects were; Dairy, Field Crops, Conservation, Tractor Maintenance, Gardening, Clothing, Foods & Nutrition, Food Preservation, and Home Improvement.

These clubs produced many county winners in a variety of events, as is evident from the award pictures shown here from just one year.

Participation in the county softball league was a favorite activity. Members often attended State 4-H camp.

The club experienced waning interest when television became popular. In 1956 they disbanded, turning the \$50.00 treasury over to the Marathon County Leaders Federation.



Outstanding 4-H Club in Marathon County, 1938



# Hamburg Happy Hearts

by MRS. JIM KLEINSCHMIDT

4-H club work embodies a fourfold program, namely the development of the head, heart, hands and health. The individual club projects carried by the members and the club meetings go a long way toward such development. But all activities of the 4-H program are of immeasurable value.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Baneck invisioned such development for the youth of Hamburg, when, in 1963, they contacted county leaders and asked for help in organizing the club that later choose the name Hamburg Happy Hearts 4-H.

Through the years the adult general leaders have been: Mrs. Ben Punke, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Baneck, Mrs. Jim Kleinschmidt, Mrs. William Fromm and Lee Schoenherr. Currently the club is lead by Dale Borchardt and Debra Klockziem.

The club has numbered between 25 and 38 members each year, ranging in age from 9 to 19. They carry a wide variety of projects for which many parents have served as project leaders. Some of the most popular are: Drama, Plants, Poultry, Sheep, Dairy, Clothing, Foods, Food Preservation, Knitting, Wood Working, Exploring 4-H and many more.

Hamburg Happy Hearts 4-H has regular monthly meetings at Maple Grove School. They actively participate at the Wisconsin Valley Fair, Wausau and Athens Community Fair. The group especially enjoys drama. They have often been recognized as the county's outstanding group in this field. Demonstrations rank high in activity importance. All members



Mr. and Mrs. Alan Baneck



Members of Hamburg Happy Hearts 4-H, 1971. 1st row (lt. to rt.) Bonnie Schoessow, Cheryl Mueller, Beverly Tapper, Irene Schoessow, Susan Seliger, Denise Klockziem, and Carol Mueller.

2nd row: Harold Schoessow, Jeff Tapper, Steve Emmerich, Keith Kleinschmidt, Mark Bloch, Bryon Bloch, Steve Klockziem.

3rd row: Lisa Seliger, Kathy Bloch, Darla Klockziem, Dawn Schoessow, Dale Borchardt and Rodney Emmerich.

4th row: Jeanette Schoessow, LeAnn Wendt, Bob Weiderhoeft, Karen Zinkowich, Sandy Baneck, Debbie Klockziem and Karman Kleinschmidt.

participate in a local demonstration contest and many on the county level. Members compete in the county softball and volleyball league. They have worked for beautifying the community, promoting June Dairy Month, and have been regulars in the Sylvia Woller Memorial Scholarship Talent Show.



Project meeting at the home of Mrs. Jim Kleinschmidt



Several members of Hamburg Happy Hearts have been personally rewarded for the extra effort and leadership displayed in the 4-H program. Those who have represented Marathon County in state events were: 4-H Interstate Exchange Program-Michigan 1967 Judy Baneck; Citizenship Shortcourse, Washington D.C., 1968 Tom Mueller; State Club Congress, Madison, 1966 Judy Baneck and Tom Mueller, 1969 Sandra Baneck, 1972 Karman Kleinschmidt; State Fair Demonstration 1973 Karman Kleinschmidt and LeAnn Wendt, 1975 Karman Klein and Debra Klockzeim.

The 4-H program does help develop in our youth heads for clearer thinking, hearts for greater loyalty, hands for larger service and health for better living in our community, country and world.

## Rainbow Riders Snowmobile Club

The Hamburg Rainbow Rider's Snowmobile Club held it's first meeting on March 13, 1976, at the Hamburg Town Hall.

Our first officers were: Ellsworth Zastrow, President; Kenneth Natzke, Vice-President; Paulette Natzke, Secretary; and Alta Ziebell, Treasurer. At the present time, our officers are Kenneth Natzke, President; Ronald Thurs, Vice-President; Susanne Zastrow, Secretary; and Alta Ziebell, Treasurer.

The Club built and is maintaining 45 miles of trails in and around the Town of Hamburg. We have been involved in a number of fund-raising projects in order to achieve this. They include an auction, raffles, selling food and operating a dunk tank at the Hamburg Centennial, a sparn-farkle, and making tavern signs for our trails.

We have also received contributions from area businesses.

The Club now meets on the third Monday of each month (except June, July, and August) at the Hamburg Town Hall. Club membership is open to anyone interested in joining at a cost of \$10.00/year for a family and \$6.50/year for a single person. Club patches are also available.

Our present membership includes 55 families and 9 singles.

Happy Snowmobiling!





# Concertina Carl

by JOYCE VOIGT

Carl was always interested in music. He used to play the harmonica, hum, sing, and whistle any place or anytime.

About eight years ago he made up his mind to learn to play the concertina for a pastime. He took three or four lessons and decided that he could learn at home, which he did. Soon he was playing for small parties, but playing alone was no fun! Carl found a tuba and a set of drums. Our son, Randy, learned to play the tuba and Jeff played the drums. Their family band was called "Concertina Carl and the Boys". Later Rhonda learned to play the drums and protested the name when she played with them.

When it became an occupation instead of a hobby, Carl got "Tiny" Hack as another drummer. The children still play with him when

other activities do not interfere.

Carl has been playing for almost any occasion. He plays with as many as four or five pieces, which ever the customers want.

Ed Schield, an old-timer on the saxophone, plays with him quite often.



Concertina Carl

## Early Pastimes



Knitting. Mrs. Arnold Voigt with Valerie (l.) and Rhonda (rt.) Voigt.



Ladies Aid of St. Peter's  
Church, 1930



Knitting Club: (l. to rt.)  
Mrs. Albert Brandt, Mrs.  
Reinhold Fehlhaber, Mrs.  
Herman Huhnerfuss, Mrs.  
Robert Hanke, Mrs. Au-  
gust Jahns and Mrs. Albert  
Bothner

Tatting Club, 1914, on Edward  
Krueger farm. 1st row: August  
Thurs, Leslie Henrichs, Theo-  
dore Woller. 2nd row: Walter  
Kleinschmidt, Gertie Krueger,  
Nora Krueger, Emma Woller,  
Esther Henrichs, Orella Juhlke,  
Erna Borchardt. 3rd row: Hel-  
multh Krueger, Bennie Woller  
(with hat), Emil Kleinschmidt,  
Ella Krueger, George Krueger,  
Minnie Kleinschmidt, Ida  
Sheaier (teacher), Paul Woller.  
4th row: August Kleinschmidt,  
and Herbert Fromm.







Outing in syrup woods on  
Gust Lueck Farm

Typical Sunday picnic



Birthday Card Club: (l. to rt.) Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Hoff, Mr. and Alfred Voigt, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Voigt, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Emmerich, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wohld, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Voigt and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Henrichs. Meeting were held on member's birthdays.





# Hamburg Fire Department

by HERMAN STEIDINGER

Hamburg Fire Department was incorporated on October 1, 1961. The former LaFollette School was donated by the town to serve as the fire station. The site was chosen because most of the volunteer fire men were located in this area.

The officers of the fire department are as follows:

**Fire Chief:**

Wayne Birkett	1961-1968
Harold Weiderhoeft	1968-1971
Kermit Bloch	1968-1971
Herman Steidinger	1971--

**Assistant Chief:**

Gene Voigt

**Captains:**

Gerald Borchardt  
John Sekorski

**Lieutenant:**

Vernon Schoessow

**Secretary and Treasurer:**

Roger Nofsinger

At present there are 30 volunteer firemen. There are three fire trucks. In 1961, a truck tanker was purchased. In 1965, a truck pumper and in 1972, a truck van.

In 1975, Berlin was contracted to be served by the department.

An average of 10 to 25 fires are fought a year.

An ambulance was also bought in 1967. It made runs in 1968 and 1969. The last run was made in 1969.

In order to increase the funding for the fire department a tractor pull was started in 1974. It has proved so successful, that it has become an annual event.



Tractor Pull 1976





Brothers lining up



One of the big ones



J. Brickner, Fred Krueger and son, Carl Voigt (M.C.) and George Brandt



# Hamburg Post Offices

by MRS. CECILIA STORM

Barney Post Office established March 23, 1894

Postmaster:	Appointed:
Charles F. Baneck	March 23, 1894
Charles F. Emmerich	April 1, 1899

Barney Post Office was discontinued August 31, 1904 with mail service to Hamburg.

Post Offices in Hamburg, Wi. 54438

Hamburg, Marathon County, Wisconsin

Established as Hamburg on May 6, 1879

Discontinued on April 19, 1880

Reestablished as Hamburg on March 15, 1886

Name changed to Hamburg on June 19, 1893

Postmasters:	Appointed:
Bernhard Henneman	May 6, 1879
Ferdinand Matz	Mar. 15, 1886
Henry E. Voigt	Aug. 16, 1889
Frank Marth	Jun. 19, 1893
Henry E. Voigt	Nov. 28, 1898
Frank X Thuma	Jun. 7, 1926
Theodore Helmke	
Acting	Feb. 1, 1934
Confirmed	Jul. 23, 1937
Melvin H. Woller	
Assumed Charge	Jul. 31, 1959
Acting	Aug. 14, 1959

Mrs. Almyra M. Woller

Assumed Charge Jan. 5, 1962

Acting Jan. 9, 1962

Walter R. Schoenherr

Assumed Charge Jun. 18, 1965

Cecilia T. Storm

Officer in Charge Jul. 22, 1972

Assumed Charge Feb. 23, 1974

Mail Carriers:

Gust Polterman

Ernst O. Butt

Frank Aschenbrenner 1920-1957

Elmer Sturm 1957-1958

James H. Kleinschmidt 1958-

The Post Office Dept. 1876 Central Wis.

The Post Office Dept. has selected the design for the three-cent stamped envelope, to be used during the Centennial exhibition. The stamp will be in the form of a shield having at the top and bottom the dates "1776" and "1876". Beneath the upper figures will be the words, "Three Cents". Upon the face of the shield will be a post boy and a network of telegraph poles and wires, and beneath an engine and a postal car.



Post Office May 1959



Jim Kleinschmidt, mailman and Cele Storm, Postmistress.



## UNITED STATES DOMESTIC LETTER RATES

1845, July 1	Under 300 miles, per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce	(Prepaid)	5¢	(Collect)	5¢
	Over 300 miles, per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce	(Prepaid)	10¢	(Collect)	10¢
1851, July 1	Up to 3000 miles, per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce	(Prepaid)	3¢	(Collect)	5¢
	Over 3000 miles, per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce	(Prepaid)	6¢	(Collect)	10¢
1855, April 1	Prepaying of postage made compulsory.				
	Up to 3000 miles, per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce		3¢		
	Over 3000 miles, per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce		10¢		
1863, July 1	Distance differential eliminated				
	All parts of the U.S., per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce		3¢		
1883, October 1	Letter rate reduced one-third				
	U.S., per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce		2¢		
1885, July 1	Weight increased to 1 ounce				
	U.S., per 1 ounce		2¢		
1917, November 2	War emergency				
	U.S., per 1 ounce		3¢		
1919, July 1	Restoration of pre-war rate.				
	U.S., per 1 ounce		2¢		
1932, July 6	Rise due to depression				
	U.S., per 1 ounce		3¢		
1958, August 1	U.S., per 1 ounce				
			4¢		
1963, January 7	U.S., per 1 ounce				
			5¢		
1968, January 7	U.S., per 1 ounce				
			6¢		
1971, May 16	U.S., per 1 ounce				
			8¢		
1974, March 2	U.S., per 1 ounce				
			10¢		
1975, December 28	U.S., for 1st ounce or fraction				
			13¢		
	For each additional ounce or fraction				
			11¢		



Country Mailman



# Those Who Served

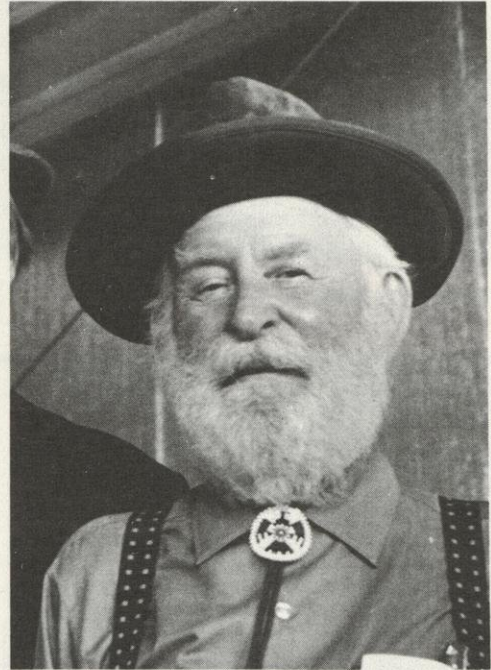
Hamburg Veterans of World War I, World War II, Korean, Vietnam, Army Reserves, and National Guards.

Roger Hennemann  
Lee Chisnell  
Raymond Brueggemann  
Jack Zielazowski  
Arden Fellbaum  
Delos Kohnhorst  
Lyle Weise  
Aronol Riehle  
Angelo Hoeft  
Roger Nofsinger  
Steven Westfall  
Robert Session, Sr.  
Steven Schlinkert  
Stanley Wiederhoeft  
Pastor Lawrence Sturgis  
James Berndt  
Lloyd Hamann  
Robert Czech  
Lloyd Kottke  
John Sekorski  
LaVern Henrichs  
Harland Westfall  
Thomas Reese

Aloysius Shara  
Donald Brandt  
Kenneth Bloch  
Frank Koeller  
Theodore Gesiki  
Robert Weiks  
Richard Riemer  
Ray Lapinske  
Delmar Schug  
Gary Langbecker  
Delos Schultz  
Ellsworth Zastrow  
Kermit Bloch  
Louis Winslow  
Donald Falk  
Harold Hamann  
Jim Kleinschmidt  
Ernest Chaloupka  
Milton Giese  
Elton Henrichs  
Herman Tapper  
Norman Krueger  
Norman Wetterau

Melvin Bartelt  
Mark Seliger  
Lavern Teske  
Ervin Roessler  
Ronald Dietrich  
Wilfred Kuehn  
Norbert Novitzke

Lester Bloch  
Marvin Butenhoff  
Ervin Hoeft  
Melvin Kuehn  
Jerome Pickruhn  
Delwin Thurs  
James Kalepp



Oldest living Veteran, Ed Fromm



Norman Wetterau and Robert Nass



LeRoy Schlinkert  
 Raymond Heldt  
 Robert Kriehn  
 Eugene Roesler  
 Victor Gruling  
 Albert Vanis  
 Robert Schedler  
 Eugene Schedler  
 Werner Zuleger  
 Frank Marth  
 Karl Grell  
 John Zastrow, Jr.  
 Larry Ziebell  
 Bryan Drake  
 Karl Heldt  
 Larry Natzke  
 Alvin Blaubach  
 Wilfred Graveen  
 Gerald Zocher  
 Leroy Zocher  
 Elroy Kriehn  
 Algart Salefsky  
 Robert Hoeft

William Kriehn  
 Kenneth Bluett  
 Donald Rudolph  
 Robert Sessions, Jr.  
 Clifford Mootz  
 Allen Kleinschmidt  
 Clement Brandt  
 Edward Fromm  
 Eldred Haehlke  
 Reginald Huebner  
 Darrell Krohn  
 Henry Hamann  
 Tommy Ashbrenner  
 William Wiesner, Jr.  
 James Marth  
 Ray Blaubach  
 George Blaubach  
 Vernon Graveen  
 Elroy Zocher  
 Hilbert Zocher  
 Norman Salefsky  
 Adoph Zocher  
 Donald Kottke  
 Jose de Figueiredo  
 ("Smally")



Presentation of colors at Centennial.



Marlin Post 10203

## Departed Veterans

### Salem's Cemetery

Kohlberg, Edward	Spanish
Bugs, Carl	Spanish
Rierner, Alfred	WWI
Bugs, Otto	WWI
Haehlke, Arthur	WWI
Haehlke, Paul	WWI
Giese, George	WWI
Zastrow, Carl	WWI

### St. Peter's Cemetery

Marth, Paul	WWI
Arndt, Max	WWI
Flemming, Earl	WWI
Wiederhoeft, Harold	WWII
Seehafer, Ervin	WWII
Voigt, Edward	Air Force

### Maple Grove Cemetery

Wittkopp, John	Indian War
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### St. John's Cemetery

Schoenherr, Walter Jr.	Korean
Stahel, Erwin	WWII
Bugs, Frank	WWI

### St. Paul's Cemetery

Mootz, Otto	Spanish
Bloch, Henry	Spanish
Kottke, Charles	WWI
Raasch, Louis	WWI
Vandre, Omar	WWII

We wish to apologize if we have slipped up on the names of some veterans. It was an enormous task.

Esther Bloch



# Hamburg Today

Hamburg has grown into a thriving agricultural community of approximately 838 inhabitants. Many diversified industries are located in Hamburg.

Trucking industries of cattle, loggers, milk, and shavings are located in the area.

Custom work, bulldozing and a sawmill are operated by Art Steidnger, who serves many needs for the area farmers.

Athens Feed Mill is located in the area.

Gold Star Poultry farm, operated by the Chisnell family has a huge flock of birds housed in modern facilities. Daily egg deliveries are made to surrounding cities in the area.

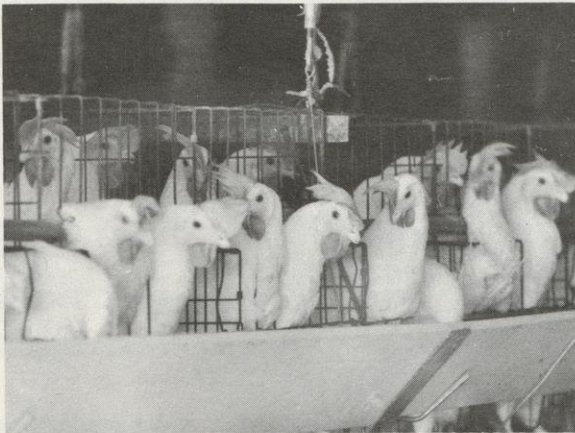
A modern cheese factory is located near the feed mill, serving the industry of dairying.

Herbert Fromm, manages a machine shop, in the old blacksmith shop at Little Chicago.

Four taverns operate in Hamburg, Herman Steidinger, Jack Zielazowski, who also operates a general store, Eddie Zinkowich and Earl



Allen Baneck's Dairy Farm



Chisnell's Chicken Farm



Spraying for Army Worms



Athens Co-op



Norbert Novitzke



Prochnow are the present owners.

A hardware grocery supermarket in Little Chicago, owned and operated by Herman Steidinger serves the needs of area residents.

The Bank of Athens has a branch bank in Little Chicago. A library is located in the bank serving the needs of both adults and children.

Virgina Weiks is operator of the Country Curl Beauty Salon located adjacent to the hardware complex.

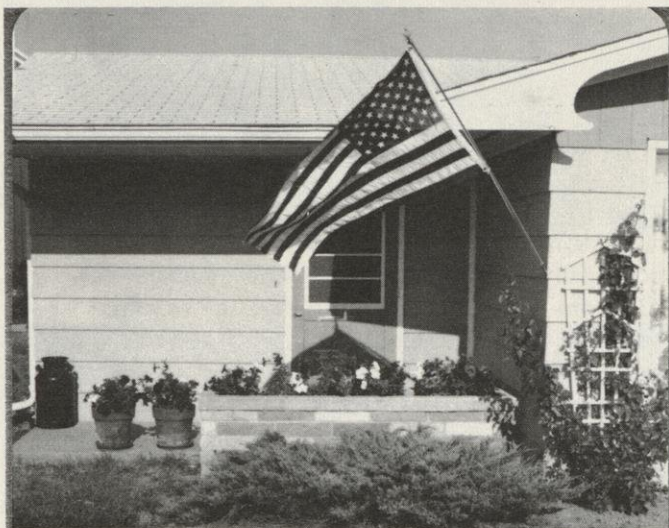
Hamburg can also boast of a fire department to serve its needs and the needs of the neighboring townships.

Mink and fox raising are still profitable enterprises.

Ginseng culture - largest in Hamburg at one time - has spread to surrounding areas as the crop depleted the nutrients it needed in the soil and the land was reverted back to farming. At present some agricultural farms have planted several acres of ginseng for supplemental income.

On the eve of our celebration a new magazine — was published. Midstate Outdoors featuring

articles on fishing, hunting and other outdoor activities was created by Randal Teske and Terry Bell.



Haron Henrich's home



Prochnow's Bar



Jack's Bar



Prochnow's Ballroom



Eddie's Bar



# The Longest Wed

Martin Lueck, one of the areas most dedicated public servants, was born on his father's farm in the town of Hamburg on February 27, 1888. As a boy and a young man he worked with his father on their farm.

In 1910, at the age of 22, he got his first taste of public service by acting as the Census Enumerator for the Town of Hamburg.

On May 23, 1894, at the age of 26, Mr. Lueck was married to the former Elsa Hamann who was born in the town of Frankfurt on May 23, 1894. They were married at St. John's Church in the Town of Wien.

After their marriage, Mr. Lueck took his new bride to his own farm in the Town of Hamburg, where they raised five children; Norman, Everett, Leslie, Adeline and Wilfred.

In 1934, Mr. Lueck once again stepped into the lime light as a public servant when he was elected Chairman for the Town of Hamburg. He also served as the Town of Hamburg's assessor from the years of 1922-28, 1930-40.

After seven years of serving the populous of the township, Mr. Lueck was elected to serve

the people of the area in Madison as a state assemblyman, where he served from 1941 until 1956. In 1956, Mr. Lueck was appointed to the state circuit court as a clerk of courts where he served until 1958.

In 1958, at age 70, Mr. Lueck came home to stay in the home he and his wife built just down the road from their farm that their oldest son, Norman, took over when Mr. Lueck was elected to the state assembly in 1941.

Mrs. Lueck is an accomplished seamstress and still carries on her vocation, as she did in the past. Mrs. Lueck is an active member of the Homemakers and was one of the charter members of the Homemakers group.

Retirement didn't mean spending the rest of their lives in a rocking chair to Martin and Elsa Lueck. After coming back from Madison, Mr. Lueck served as an elder of the Salem Church until it disbanded and then as an elder and secretary for Trinity Church in Athens.

At a spry 88, Mr. Lueck still gardens, cuts firewood and they both play cards every chance they get.



Mr. and Mrs. Martin Lueck



60th Anniversary

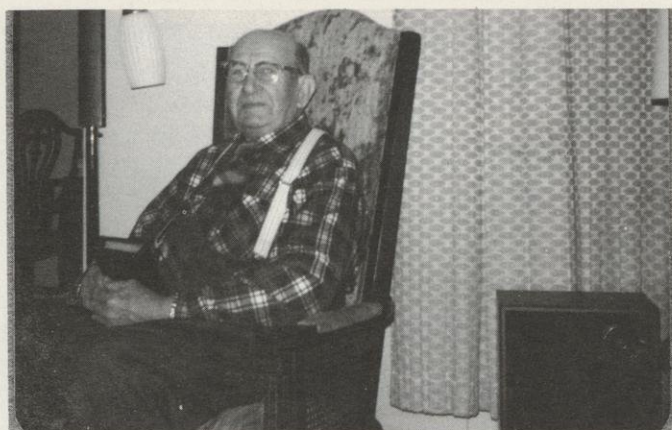


50th Anniversary



# Oldest and Youngest Residents of 1976

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Mr. Zastrow was born March 14, 1887, in the Town of Hamburg, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert Zastrow. In 1918, he took over the family farm, and on June 28, 1924, he was married to Elizabeth Winter.

He retired in 1957 and his son, Eldred, took over the farm. Mr. Zastrow is an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church where he served on the church council for a number of years.

His hobbies are fishing, hunting and smoking his own homemade sausage. He still enjoys working in the woods and helping around the family farm.

The Zastrows also have a daughter, Ellen Vandre, and four grandchildren.

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Sarah Golz (Mrs. Frank Mootz), was born March 7, 1890 in Palatine, Illinois to Mr. & Mrs. William Golz. When she was two years old, the family moved to St. James, Minnesota.

Then when she reached the age of 12, the family moved to the Town of Hamburg and settled on what is now the Walter Schoenherr place. She helped plant the pine trees that are still standing in front of the house.

On Nov. 21, 1908, she was married to Frank Mootz, who passed away in March, 1970.

Her children are Edna, (Mrs. George Weber) of Willis, Michigan and Elmer Mootz of Hamburg.

Submitted by Mrs. Mary Mootz, Hamburg.



Kurth Allen Schultz, youngest citizen of Hamburg in 1976 was born at Medford, April 23, 1976. Parents are Mr. and Mrs. Delos Schultz. He has three brothers Kevin, Keith and Kenneth.



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY T

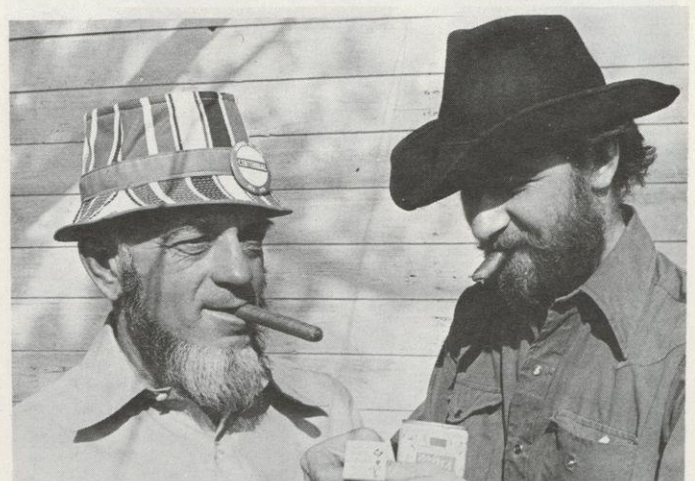


Queen of the Centennial, Candy Mootz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs Clifford Mootz.

## ***Our Centennial August 21-22, 1976***



Queen and her court: (l. to rt.) Janice Westfall, Kathy Bloch, Lori Helmke, Queen Candy Mootz, LuAnn Kottke, Beverly Tapper, and Gloria Kalepp (missing).



Leo Bloch and Melvin Kuehn





Beard Contest



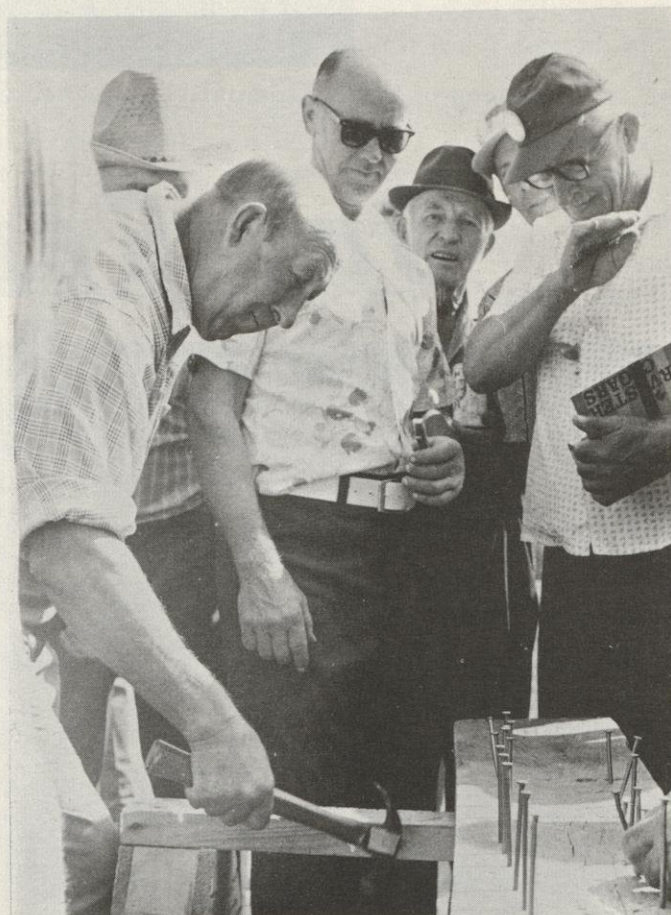
Rope Pulling Contest



Crosscut Sawing

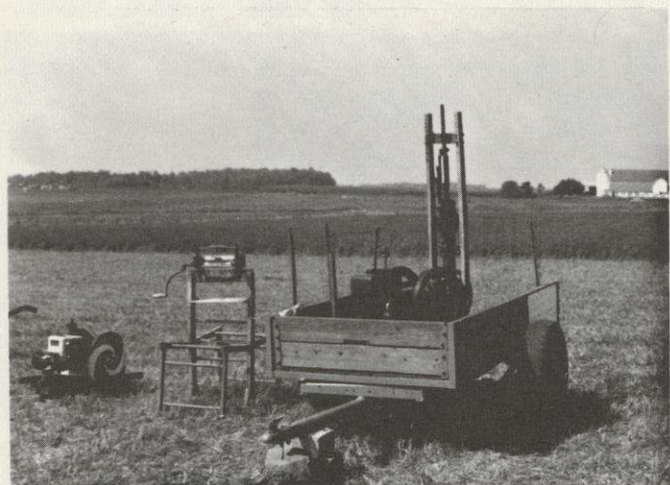
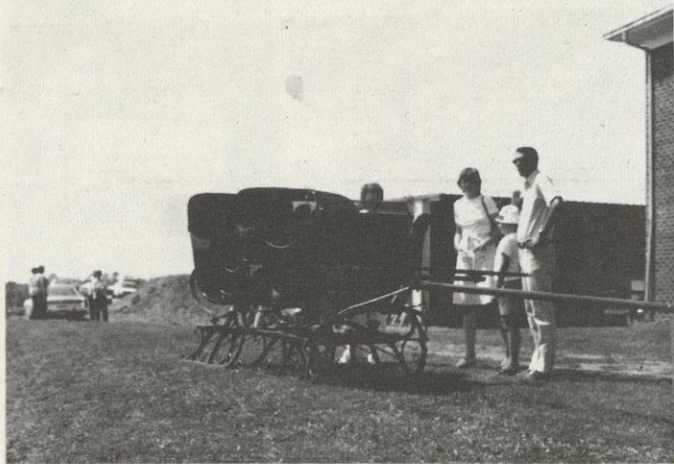


Milking Contest between Town of Berlin Chairman, Charles Bartelt and Town of Hamburg Chairman, Ed Zinkowich. WINNER: Town of Berlin.



Spike Driving Contest. Edmund Riemer, Eldor Helmke, Henry Wendt and Erwin Brunow.









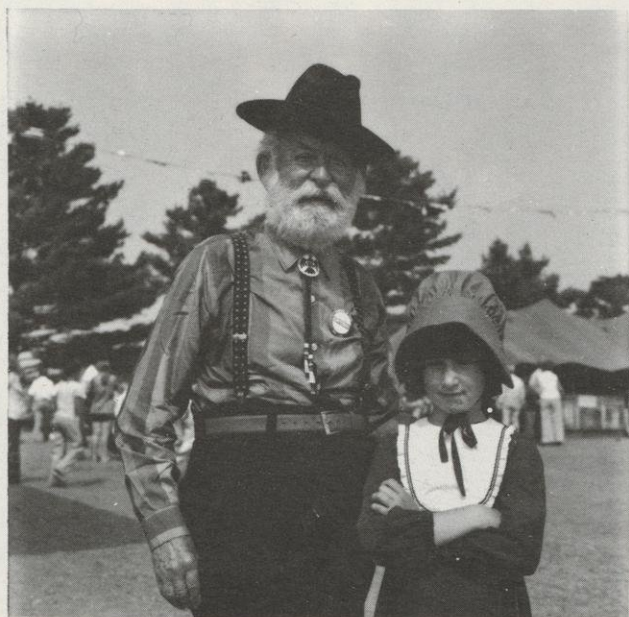
Wendy Zastrow in dunking tank



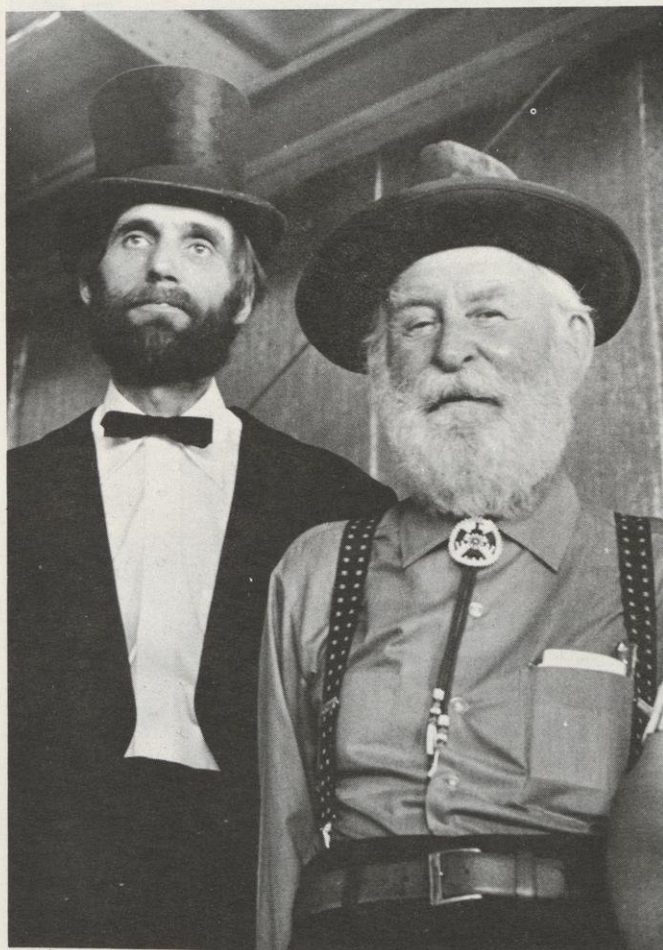
LeRoy Zastrow



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weiks



Ed Fromm and great-grandaughter, Robin Dahir



Jim Kleinschmidt and Edward Fromm





Centennial Day in Town Hall



Concession stand



"Just Looking"



The Crowd



Martin Lueck receiving citation  
for service as past town chairman.



Ray Ott, Marathon County Clerk





### WINTER RETAINS ITS GRIP ON HAMBURG'S PAST.

Remnants of a milk wagon owned by Emil Janke's father and can still be seen in the Hamburg woods.

Printed in 1857  
Central Wisconsin Paper

Century on Century rolls away,  
And time with a ruthless hand  
Crumbles to dust, the cottage roof  
And breaks the household band.

Time changes in it's mad career,  
The things of other days;  
The flower we cherished in the spring,  
The autumn wind decays.

The playground of our childhood days. . .  
Now changed that sacred place;  
There hardly is one lineament  
Left there for us to trace.

The morning of our life we pass,  
'Neath pleasant fairy sky;  
The star of happiness shines bright,  
But soon 'twill fade and die.

The friends that we have loved so well  
And once did kindly greet;  
Will warmly take a long farewell,  
And then will coldly meet.

Where once we saw a dimpled cheek,  
And auburn tresses lay,  
How soon we see deep wrinkled lines,  
And tresses turn to gray,

Then until time shall be no more,  
And changes shall pass away,  
With an uninterrupted reign,  
OLD TIME o'er all will away.



# Residents of Hamburg 1976

Compiled by RHONDA VOIGT

Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Achterberg, William Lois Voigt	Woods-Farming Weinbrenner	Jane (Achterberg) Sabatke, Scott, Jay, Paul, Thomas
Albrecht, Michael Sandra Weiler	Farming Student-Housewife	
Arneson, Duane Theresa Wilcox	Supervisor Secretary	Rick, Patti (Arneson) Borch- ardt, Randy, Daniel, Laure
Alwin, Brent Kris	Farming	Shane, Jessie
Baneck, Allen Lois Erdmann	Farming Housewife	Judy (Baneck) Mueller, Sandy
Baneck, Edwin Emma Wendt	Farming Housewife	Melvin, Allen
Baneck, Elmer Elsie Borchardt (Dec.)	Farming	Marwald
Bartelt, Edwin Eleanora Leistikow	Laborer-Farmer Homemaker	Warren, Melvin, Avila (Bar- telt) Zinkowich
Baumann, Lylas Jean Hoff	Mechanic Housewife-Fromm Bros.	Scott
Becker, Earl Judith Utech	Custodian I.N.O. Foods	Sherry, Timothy, Cindy
Becker, Leroy Anna Augustine	Mechanical Engineer Housewife-Fromm Bros.	Donna (Becker) Smith, Mary Ellen (Becker) Wright, Sally (Becker) Yungerman, Helen (Becker) Ives, Leroy, Frank, Earl, Mary Ann (Plisch) Kropp, Clarence Plisch, Clifton Plisch, Wayne Plisch Diane, Paul
Bernardi, Clarence Linda		
Berndt, James Carol Westfall	Employers Ins. Beautician	Christopher
Blaubach, Larry Julie Westfall		Trina, Travis
Bloch, Dan (Dec.) Alice Baneck		Lorraine (Bloch) Boehm
Bloch, Edward Esther Krenz	Retired Farmer Retired Teacher	Althea (Bloch) Balz, Kenneth, Kermit
Bloch, Kenneth Deloris Zoicher	Farming Homemaker-Tn.Clerk	Kathleen, Sherry, Russell, Mary Lou
Bloch, Kermit Lynett Thurs	Wausau Homes Crane Op. Housewife	Bryan, Mark, Darrin
Bloch, Leo Rose Mootz	Farming	Natalie (Bloch) Krueger
Bloch, Lester		



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Bloch, Raymond Rosella Woller	Farming-Laborer Housewife	Diane (Bloch) Holtet, Larry, Jerry
Bloch, Willard Ardell Woller	Farming	Dale
Bluett, Ken Betty Hall	Carpenter Housewife	Michelle
Boehm, Vernon Lorraine Bloch		Debra (Boehm) Balz, Leon, Sharon, Donna
Borchardt, Gerald Irene Steidinger	Farming Housewife	Geraldine (Borchardt) Voigt, Roger, Dale, Jo Ann
Borchardt, Henry Marjorie Wiesner	Farming Housewife	Barbara, Edwin
Borchardt, Lester Alice Graveen	Fromm Bros. Housewife	Audrey (Borchardt) Lieder, Marilyn (Borchardt) Kriehn
Borchardt, Edwin (Dec.) Lorena Krueger	Retired	Bernice (Borchardt) Hoeper, Vernon, Henry
Borchardt, Oscar (Dec.) Nora Mais	Retired	Mary Ann (Borchardt) Hoeft, Reuben, Beverly (Borchardt) Sczygelski Craig (Dec.)
Borchardt, Roger Patti Arneson	Cheesemaker Housewife	
Borchardt, Vernon Florence Grell	Farming Farming	Fay (Borchardt) Pawlowski, Bruce, Gail, Lola
Brandt, Donald Roselyn Radloff	Marathon Chees Corp. Housewife	
Brandt, Harry Florence Fiedler	Retired Badger Basket	Arlyn (Haehlke) Heise, Eldred, Marlene (Hehlke) Schlag, Du Wayne
Brueggeman, Ray Lucille Krueger	Printer I.N.O. Foods	Sherry (Brueggeman) Olson, Cathy, Rose, Steven, Lisa, Amy
Brunow, Erwin Gredla Sodke	Supervisor, Tn. Housewife	La Vern
Butenhoff, Marvin Margaret		Robert, Roy, Carol
Chaloupka, Ernest Jeanette Mallarkey	Election Adm. Housewife	Christine, Jill, Amy
Christian, Art Belinda Juedes		Charlen, Ordell
Chisnell, Lee Barbara		Leslie, Cheryl, Teresa, David, Colleen, Jerry, Christopher, Amy
Czech, Robert Beth Winter	Mink Rancher Housewife	Lori, Mark, Daniel
Dietrich, Ronald Darlene Hamann	Farming Housewife	Elizabeth, Kristen
Eggersgluess, Hilbert Falk, Donald Carol	Farming	Laurie, Steve, Peter, Mary
Fellbaum, Arden Arlene Hahn	Marathon El.-Farming	Randall, Brenda, Susan
Fromm, Edward Alice Frederick	Pres. of Fromm Bros. V. Pres. of Fromm Bros.	Lenore (Fromm) Wade, Doris (Fromm) Tead, Johanna (Fromm) Stefano



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Fromm, Herbert Sr. (Dec.) Alma Schoenherr		Herbert, William, Norman
Fromm, Herbert Jr. Marjorie Oelke	Welder Homemaker	Robert, Karen, Eric
Fromm, William Alice Bortz		Galen, Jeremy
Gesicki, Ted Candace		April
Giese, George (Dec.) Bertha Wiese		Milton, Gertrude (Giese) Krueger, George
Haehlke, Alfred Ethel Kufhal	Farming Housewife	Merlin, Donald
Haehlke, Arvid and Herbert	Farming	
Haehlke, Eldred Nancy Balz	Farming Housewife	Mark, Cheryl, Perry, Evan
Hahn, Adolph Sylvia Borchardt	Retired Retired-Housewife	Arlene (Hahn) Fellbaum
Hamann, Arnold (Dec.) Viola Graveen	Carpenter Housewife	Lloyd, Harold, Milton
Hamann, Harold Lenora Zocher	Farming Housewife	Rodney, Randall, Laurie, Larry
Hamann, Lenard Belinda Petznick	Semi-Retired Housewife	Darlen (Hamann) Dietrich
Hamann, Lloyd Marlene Czech	Mink Rancher-Paper Mill Homemaker	Kathryn, Gregory, Cynthia
Hanson, Eric Karen		Chet, Roy, Mike, Renae
Harder, Frederick Lynne Henrichs	Farming Housewife	
Hein, Richard Colleen		Daphne, Penny
Heldt, Karl Gladys Krueger	Farming-Ins. Ag. Receptionist	Sharon (Heldt) Sandwisch, Jerome
Heldt, Ray Mary Ann Blaubach	Farming Homemaker	Tammy, Ricky
Helmke, Eldor Mildred Behrendt		Diane, Marlene, Marie, Laurie
Henneman, John Hattie Fishbach	Retired Retired	Doris (Henneman) Westfall, Dolores (Henneman) Butt, Roger
Henneman, Roger Phyllis Tessmer	Foreman Housewife	Gary, Wayne
Henrichs, Ed (Dec.) Dorothy		Lyle, Philip, Linda, Barbara
Henrichs, Haron Alvira Augustine	Farming Housewife	Lynne (Henrichs) Harder, Thomas, Leslee
Henrichs, LaVerne Joyce Augustine	Farming Secretary	Michael, Mark, Timothy, Todd
Henrichs, Leslie Minnie	Retired Retired	Evelyn (Henrichs) Mullins, Emery, Haron, Arlene (Hen- richs) Voigt, LaVern, Elton
Henrichs, Lyle	Farming	



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Hernandez, Gary	Welder	Amy
Andrea Balgord	Housewife	
Hoeft, Angelo	Laborer-Woodworker	Charles, Elizabeth
Joyce Lemke	Housewife	
Hoeft, Ervin		Angelo, Robert, Sherry
Elvera Luedtke		
Hoff, Ervin (Dec.)	Farming	Gloria (Hoff) Wiederhoeft,
Erna Fishback	Housewife	Merlin
Jahnke, Robert	Packer	Scott, Craig
Carol Hoepfner (Dec.)		
Kalepp, James	Farming	Gloria, Jamie, Jimmy, Daniel,
Karen Krueger	Housewife	Kevin Krueger, Nancy Krueger
Kickbusch, Arthur	Farming	Karolyn (Kickbusch) Franck-
Marion Wiedow	Housewife-Librarian	owiak, Mary
Kleinschmidt, Edlor	Truck Driver	Judith (Kleinschmidt) Plisch,
Verna Bartelt	Housewife-Marathon	Shirley (Kleinschmidt) Voelz,
	Cheese Corp.	Alan, Perry
Kleinschmidt, James	Rural Mail Carrier	Karman, Keith, Kirk,
Carol Mathwich	Receptionist	Kimberly
Kleinschmidt, Norman	Retired Farmer	
Minnie Krenz	Housekeeper	
Kleinschmidt, Perry	Truck Driver	Tracy
Marcia Westfall		
Klinger, Jerome	Truck Driver	Kim, Kevin, Keith
Ruth Ann Schoessow	Housewife	
Klockziem, Levi	Farming	Debra, Steve, Darla, Denise,
Delphine Wilde	Housewife	Danny, Doralyn, Dean
Kloth, Fred	Farming	Randy, Sandy, LaVonne
Lynette Klockziem	Housewife	
Koeller, Dale	Truck Driver	
Marilyn Remus	Employers Ins.	
Koeller, Frank	Truck Driver	Gerald, Karen, (Koeller)
Nila Hoge	Bookkeeper-Athens Co-op	Wieler, Dale, Sandra
Kohnhorst, Delos	Foreman	Dennis, Dale, David, Duane,
Marian Doering	Housewife	Daniel, Debra, Dawn
Kottke, La Vern		Diane, Faye, Lu Anne,
Phyllis Krause		Christine
Kottke, Loyd	Farming-Construction	Terry, Tamara (Kottke) Graham,
Marian Hanson	Homemaker	Kevin, Brad, Wade, Kent, Audra,
		Craig, Corey
Kottke, Walter	Retired Farmer	LaVern, Loyd, Marjorie (Kottke)
Adelia Kleinschmidt	Housewife	Krause, Phyllis (Kottke) Krause,
		Donald, Carol (Kottke) Krause,
		Betty, Wallace, JoAnne, Marlene,
		Wayne, Kathy
		Diane, Susan, Bruce
Krenz, Ed (Dec.)		
Millie Kottke		
Krueger, Arnold (Dec.)	Farming	Norman
Anna Zastrow	Retired Housewife	
Krueger, Edwin		
Krueger, Norman	Ironworker	
Gertrude Giese	Housewife	
Kuehn, Melvin		
Kuehn, Norman	Retired	Wilfred, Irene, Melvin, Sandra
Rosa Kottke	Fox Feeder	



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Langbecker, Edward Ruth Hagedorn	Farming Housewife	Gary, Linda (Langbecker) Staus
Langhoff, Bernard Langhoff, Edwin Alice Eggersgluess		August
Lemke, John Judith Klinger	Truck Driver Housewife	Stacy, John Jr., Jennifer
Londerville, Lloyd Marilyn Lucht	Farming Housewife	Laurie (Londerville) Wilichowski, Warren, Michael, Janice
Lueck, Martin Elsa Hamann	Retired Farmer Homemaker	Norman, Evard, Leslie, Wilfred, Adeline (Lueck) Borke (Dec.)
Luedtke, Marvin	Retired Farmer	Joyce (Luedtke) Rusch, Mary Ann (Luedtke) Teske, Judy, Jerome (Dec.)
Luedtke, William Darlen Woller	Truck Driver Factory Worker	Todd
Mader, Vernon Eunice		Lynette, Kurt, John, Michael, Kerry
Marquardt, Kenneth Kathleen Rhoda	Farming	Heather
Marth, Milton Geraldine Henrichs	Pres. Marth Wood Shavings Housewife	Sandra (Marth) Martyn, Paulette (Marth) Natzke, Carol (Marth) Edwards Walter (Dec.)
Means, Edna Gralow		
Melland, Lynn		
Miller, Michael Diane		Fawn, Star
Mootz, Clifford Virginia Raasch	Farming-Mechanic Housewife	Dennis, Rodney, Star (Mootz) Blume, Candy
Mootz, Edwin Molly Herdt	Farming-Froom Bros. From Bros.	
Mootz, Elmer Mary Bidwell	Farming Housewife	
Mootz, Frank (Dec.) Sarah Golz	Farming Housewife	
Mootz, Rodney Geraldyn Raasch		
Natzke, Kenneth Paulette Marth	V. Pres. Marth Wood Shavings Bookkeeper for Corp.	Jerome, Julie
Natzke, Eric Linda Fiedler	Farming Housewife	Eric Jr., Kenny, Amaryllis, Larry, Muriel (Natzke) Zink- owich, Mavis, Allen Carol, Jim Jr., Marjorie, Joyce, John Timothy
Nevens, James Frances		
Nofsinger, Roger Bonnie Haugh	Cheesemaker Homemaker-Bank Teller	
Novitzke, Norbert Helen Frieders	Farming-Cattle Dealer Housewife	Terrance, Clarice, Mark
Oelke, Myron Paul, Gust (Dec.) Anna Zastrow	Feedmill Emp. Retired	Erich, Norma (Paul) Bucks, Ada (Bucks) Doering, Martin
Paul, Gary Karen Schmidt	Farming-Fromm Bros. Office Worker	
Paul, Martin Elaine Borchardt	Farming Housewife	Gary, Pamela



Name Wife's name	Occupation	Children
Peltier, Gene Sharlene Hamerla		Michael, Bernadette, Roxanne, Theresa, Anna Marie, Laureen, Nichlas, Joseph Jerry
Petznick, Ray (Dec.) Hazel Behrendt		
Pickruhn, Jerome Carol Punke	Bulter Steel Blgs. Housewife	David, Barbara, Dale
Plisch, Clarence Judy Kleinschmidt		Ricky, Terry, Keane Michael
Plisch, Clifton Kathleen Ament	Laborer Housewife-Mother	Karrie, Edwin
Prochnow, Earl Alice Leichtnam	Farming, Tavernkeeper Beautician	Dale
Pruss, Merlin Marlene Buttke	Farming	Timothy, John
Pruss, Walter Greta Haehlke	Retired Farmer Housewife	Merlin
Punke, Bernard Virginia Cappel	Commercial Artist Housewife	
Raasch, Ben Esther Kriehn	Retired Housewife	Ellsworth, Leland, Marcella (Raasch) Bloch, Virginia (Raasch) Mootz
Raasch, Eldor Arlene Woller	Beef Farming Housewife	Guardian for Colleen Egan
Radloff, Delmar Reese, Tom Ethel	Fromm Bros.	
Riehle, Arnold Riemer, Edmund Riemer, Herman Riemer, Raymond Hattie Gruling	Farming-Laborer Farming Night Watchman Fromms Fromm Bros.	Lorraine (Riemer) Kleinschmidt, Richard
Rininger, Marvin Carole Davies	Farming Housewife	Sherri, Polly, Kelly, Tammy, Mark, Beth, Leslie, Steven - grandson
Roesler, Edwin Clara Plautz	Retired Housewife	Kenneth, Joanne (Roesler) Gesicki, Eugene
Roesler, Ervin Dorothy Boxrucker	Wausau Homes Housewife	John, Linda (Roesler) Becker, Bonnie (Roesler) Myszka, Gordon, Gene
Rudolph, Donald Suzanne Lueck	Farming Housewife	Michael, Kimberly, Tracy
Schara, Aloysius Lorraine Sodtke	Night Watchman-Farming Housewife	Ruth (Schara) Bessette, James, Paulene
Scheiderer, Leroy Florence Retterath	Retired Housewife	Eugene, Robert
Schlinkert, Leroy Elizabeth		Steven, Susan (Schlinkert) Becker, Kathy (Schlinkert) Schuelke, Debbie (Schlinkert) Schaefer
Schmidt, William Evelyn		Scott Drake, Gary Drake, Bruce Drake, Bryan Drake
Schoenherr, Fred Leora Hilmerhausen	Farming Housewife	Lee Ann (Schoenherr) Arneson, Lanette
Schoenherr, Walter (Dec.) Mavis Krohn	Former Postmaster Homemaker	Gary, Bruce, Susan, Mary



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Schoessow, Harold Dora Mundt		Judy (Schoessow) Hall, Ruth Ann (Schoessow) Klinger, Dawn (Schoessow) Gauerke, Donald, Harold
Schoessow, Vernon Lucinda Langhoff	Farming Housewife	Sandra (Schoessow) Bartishofski, Jeanette, Irene, Bonnie Rebecca, Michael
Schuelke, Frank Kathy Schlinkert		
Schug, Delmer Charlotte Wogernese	Construction Housewife	Tina, James, Heather, Ginger
Schultz, Delos Lavone Schultz		Kevin, Keith, Kenneth, Kurt
Sefton, David Nancy Jones	Cheesemaker Housewife	Scott
Seidler, Leroy Loretta, Krueger	Receiving Clerk Shoe Factory	Debra, Timothy
Sekorski, John Pearl Brandt	Farming Housewife	James, Bruce, Laurie, Timothy, Cynthia
Seliger, Mark Karren Holzem	Tile and Carpet Housewife	Mark, Lisa, David, Daniel, Michael, Susan, Ann, Andrew, James, Matthew, Sara, Kara Robert, Ar Donna (Sessions) Mathwich, Andrew, Michael, Corey
Sessions, Robert Ida Olson	Machinist Housewife	Lynda Halder, Ken Sparr
Sparr, Kenneth Norma Hoover	Inventory Supervisor Housewife	Eugene, Gerald, Phyllis, (Stahel) Zocher
Stahel, Ervin (Dec.) Clara		Steven, Sherri, Sheila
Stahel, Eugene Mary Zogg	Farming Housewife	
Stahel, Herbert Hazel Schultz	Farming Housewife	Georgina (Hoeppner) Wood, Carol (Hoeppner) Jahnke (Dec.) Glen Hoeppner, Lee Hoeppner
Steidinger, Art Elaine Heise	Excavating Contractor Housewife	
Steidinger, Herman Mavis Uekert	Owner: Steidinger Bar & Store Owner: Steidinger Bar & Store	Steven, Kay, Kevin, Sue
Storm, Cecilia (Kloss)	Postmaster	Thomas Pesanka, George Pesanka
Sturgis, Rev. Lawrence Anita Ginder	Lutheran Pastor Legal Secretary	
Sturm, Elmer Viola Zastrow		Judy, John
Tapper, Herman Elida		Jeffrey, Mike, Beverly
Tead, John Doris Fromm		Edward, Stanley, Alice (Tead) Baer
Teske, Lavern Arlene Oelke	Farming Teacher	Joy (Teske) Porath, Randal
Thiel, Emma (Woller)	Retired Housewife	Victor
Thurs, Algart Shirley Wilde	Farming Housewife	Karen
Thurs, Delwin Judith Kurtzweil	Foreman-Michels Pipeline Const. Housewife	Todd, Michelle
Thurs, Harold (Dec.) Stella Peters		Richard
Thurs, Ivan Sandra Altfillisch	Farming Housewife	Michelle, Jennifer, Karrie



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Thurs, Lyle	Semi-Truck Driver	
Susan Voigt	Housewife	
Thurs, Orville	Farming	Scott, Sherrie
Iris Strei	Housewife	
Thurs, Richard	Northern Door	Cynthia, Michael
Bonnie Kleinschmidt	Weinbrenner	
Thurs, Walter	Farming	Ronald, Delwin, Sherry (Thurs)
Hilma Hardt	Farmwife	Gayken
Thurs, Wilmer	Farming	Lyle, Ivan, Kathie, Kenneth,
Alladine Wilde	Housewife	Randy
Utech, Eldor (Dec.)		Judith (Utech) Becker
Lillie Giese	Agriculture Work	
Vandre, Omar (Dec.)		Beryl
Ellen Zastrow		
Vanis, Albert		
Margaret		
Voelz, Alfred	Farming	Beverly (Voelz) Springer,
Frieda Schiller	Housewife	Roger, Ronald, Du Wayne
Voelz, Du Wayne	Farming	Amy, Wendi
Lynne Sullivan	Housewife	
Voelz, Roger	Farming	Brenda, Russell
Shirley Kleinschmidt	Housewife	
Voigt, Arnold	Retired Farmer	Doris (Voigt) Staus, Deloris
Herta Plisch	Housewife	(Voigt) Scheu, Marion (Voigt)
		Haehlke, Lorraine (Voigt) Rusch,
		Carl, Mae (Voigt) Mathwich,
		Earl, Lola (Voigt) Schmidt, Don,
		Lois (Voigt) Achterberg, Edward (Dec.)
		Jeff, Randy, Rhonda, Valerie
Voigt, Carl	Farming-Musician	
Joyce Zastrow	Housewife-Teacher	
Voigt, Dennis	Machinist	Joan, Tracy
Pearl Hoff	Housewife	
Voigt, Gene	Trucking	David, Diane
Jennie Krenz	Housewife	
Voigt, Gerald	Clerk	Heidi, Shane
Geraldine Borchardt	Rater	
Voigt, Henry	Retired Farmer	Allen (Dec.), Leila (Voigt) Artus,
Bertha Hahn Buch Voigt	Housewife	Gene, Avila (Buch) Kreuger,
		Earl Buch
Wade, Lenore (Fromm)	Farming	Leora (Duersten) Dahir, Althea
		Duersten, Martha Duersten,
		Chester Wade, Noren Wade, Peter
		Wade.
Walczak, Robert		
Diane		
Weiks, Robert	Mechanic	Julie, Robert, Darrin, Gina
Virginia Brickner	Hairdresser-Housewife	
Weise, Arno	Fromm Bros.	Eugene, Marlene (Weise) Marth,
Viola Fellbaum	Fromm Bros.	Arno, Lyle
Wendt, Henry	Retired	Roger, Inez (Wendt) Berndt
Gladys Klebenow	Housewife	
Wendt, Roger	Farming	Marjean, Le Ann
Arlene Plautz	Housewife	
Werner, Oskar	Machinist	Maria, Oskar
Maria Hallabrin	Housewife	
Westfall, Clifford	Mechanic	Jason, Jeremy
Barbara Krueger	Housewife	



Name Wife's Name	Occupation	Children
Westfall, Daniel Sharon Pawlowski	Laborer Housewife	Sandy, Tracy
Westfall, Eugene Dolores		Leslie, Eugene, Clifford, Mark, Pamela, David, Charlene (West- fall) Schultz, Danny, Karen (Westfall) Novitzke, Janice, Russell
Westfall, Harland Dores Hennemann	Foreman—Urban Steel Bldgs. Housewife	Steven, Julie (Westfall) Blaubach, Lori, Marsha (West- fall) Kleinschmidt, Clark
Westfall, Leslie Ann Heier	Foreman Housewife	Leslie, Brad
Wetterau, Norman Bernice Luedtke		Paulett (Wetterau) Czech, Kathy (Wetterau) Brice, Russell
Wiederhoeft, Harold (Dec.) Gloria Hoff		Bob, Marilyn (Wiederhoeft)
	Supervisor Marathon Cheese Corp.	Grunenwald, Jean (Wiederhoeft) Reed
Wiederhoeft, Stanley Lorraine Kopplin	Farming Housewife	Lori, Dixie, Chris
Wiedow, John Clara Baguhn	Retired Farmer Housewife	Marion (Wiedow) Kickbusch, John
Wilichowski, Calvin Laurie Londerville	Farming Farming	
Winslow, Louis Alberta Weltzin	Supervisor Ino Foods Housewife	Linda (Winslow) Marthaler, Lee, Lois, Laura, Lonnie, Lu Ann
Wittstock, Gerd Woller, Emil (Dec.)		
Sylvia Kummerow (Dec.)	Fur Business Teacher	Gary
Woller, Erwin Delma Rux	Business Man Homemaker	Barbara (Woller) Seeley, Faye (Woller) Greenfield
Woller, Vernon Ethel		Jolene, Kaye, Randall, Rodney, Brian, Mark, Karla, Patti
Wood, Richard Georgiana Hoepfner	Inspector Marathon El. Factory Worker—Marathon El.	Terrence, Robin
Zastrow, Eldred Jean Borchardt	Farming Farming	Kay (Zastrow) Drake, Julie, Jolene
Zastrow, Ellsworth Sussanne Kuckhahn	Farming—Herbalist Housewife	Heidi, Wendy, Matthew, Holly
Zastrow, Eric Lydia Wendt	Retired Farmer Housewife	Arlene (Zastrow) Radke, Gladys (Zastrow) Holz, Ellsworth
Zastrow, LeRoy Emma Ewan (Dec.)	Farmer—Const. Worker	John, Dr. Charles
Zastrow, Paul Elizabeth Winters	Retired Farmer Housewife	Eldred, Ellen (Zastrow) Vandre
Ziebell, Wilbert Alta Buch Ritter Ziebell		Larry, Donald, Leander, Tom, Virginia (Ritter) Bartelt (Dec.)
Ziegel, Fred (Dec.) Martha Lutzke		Eldora (Ziegel) Zocher (Dec.), Elaine (Ziegel) Artus
Ziegel, Merlin Betty	Farming Housewife	Randy
Zielazowski, Jack Dorothy Kottke	Owner Jack's Bar & Store Owner Jack's Bar & Store	Sandy, Cindy, David, William, Daniel, John, Jocelyn (Plautz) Krause, Jeff Plautz
Zinkowich Edward Martha Zocher	Tavern Operator Housewife—Bartender	Darrell, Allen, Karen, Jodi
Zocher, Henry Helen Weide	Farming Housewife	Gerald, Phyllis (Zocher) Lehmann



Name  
Wife's Name

Occupation

Children

Zuleger, Werner  
Holly Tindell

Foreman Wausau Steel  
Housewife

Sandra (Altfillisch) Thurs,  
John Altfillisch, Charles  
Altfillisch, Tim Zuleger,  
Deanna Zuleger, Kris Zuleger

# What day was it?

You can find out what day of the week it happened

A perpetual calendar is one that shows the day of the week for any year desired. The one below may be used to find any day of the week from 1776 to 1976. It's easy to use. For example, to find on what day of the week the Declaration of Independence was signed (July 4, 1776), look for 1776 in the Table of Years. The letter *h* follows. Next, look for *h* in the Table of Months. Under *h* and opposite July in this table is the number 1. In the Table of Days, look under the column headed 1. The number 4 is opposite Thursday. Therefore, the Declaration of Independence was signed on a Thursday.

(Calendar adapted from The World Book Encyclopedia)

TABLE OF MONTHS

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	k	l	m	n	p	q
Jan.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Feb.	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3
Mar.	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	5	6	7	1	2	3	4
Apr.	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
May	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	3	4	5	6	7	1	2
Jun.	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
Jul.	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Aug.	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	4	5	6	7	1	2	3
Sep.	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	7	1	2	3	4	5	6
Oct.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
Nov.	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	5	6	7	1	2	3	4
Dec.	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	7	1	2	3	4	5	6

TABLE OF YEARS FROM 1776 TO 1976

1776h	1801d	1826g	1851c	1876p	1901b	1926e	1951a
1777c	1802e	1827a	1852m	1877a	1902c	1927i	1952k
1778d	1803f	1828k	1853f	1878b	1903d	1928q	1953d
1779e	1804q	1829d	1854g	1879c	1904n	1929b	1954e
1780p	1805b	1830e	1855a	1880m	1905g	1930c	1955f
1781a	1806c	1831f	1856k	1881f	1906a	1931d	1956q
1782b	1807d	1832q	1857d	1882g	1907b	1932n	1957b
1783c	1808n	1833h	1858e	1883a	1908i	1933g	1958c
1784m	1809g	1834c	1859i	1884k	1909e	1934a	1959d
1785f	1810a	1835d	1860q	1885d	1910f	1935b	1960n
1786g	1811b	1836n	1861b	1886e	1911g	1936i	1961g
1787a	1812f	1837g	1862c	1887f	1912h	1937e	1962a
1788a	1813e	1838a	1863d	1888q	1913c	1938f	1963b
1789d	1814f	1839b	1864n	1889b	1914d	1939g	1964i
1790e	1815g	1840l	1865g	1890c	1915e	1940h	1965e
1791f	1816h	1841e	1866a	1891d	1916p	1941c	1966f
1792q	1817c	1842f	1867b	1892n	1917a	1942d	1967g
1793b	1818d	1843g	1868i	1893g	1918b	1943e	1968h
1794c	1819e	1844h	1869e	1894a	1919c	1944p	1969c
1795d	1820p	1845c	1870f	1895b	1920m	1945a	1970d
1796n	1821a	1846d	1871g	1896l	1921f	1946b	1971e
1797g	1822b	1847e	1872h	1897e	1922g	1947c	1972p
1798a	1823c	1848p	1873c	1898f	1923a	1948m	1973a
1799b	1824m	1849a	1874d	1899g	1924k	1949f	1974b
1800c	1825f	1850b	1875e	1900a	1925d	1950g	1975c

TABLE OF DAYS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mon.	1	Tues.	1	Wed.	1	Fri.	1
Tues.	2	Wed.	2	Thurs.	2	Fri.	2
Wed.	3	Thurs.	3	Fri.	3	SUN.	3
Thurs.	4	Fri.	4	Sat.	4	Mon.	4
Fri.	5	Sat.	5	SUN.	5	Tues.	5
Sat.	6	SUN.	6	Mon.	6	Wed.	6
SUN.	7	Mon.	7	Tues.	7	Thurs.	7
Mon.	8	Tues.	8	Wed.	8	Fri.	8
Tues.	9	Wed.	9	Thurs.	9	Sat.	9
Wed.	10	Thurs.	10	Fri.	10	SUN.	10
Thurs.	11	Fri.	11	Sat.	11	Mon.	11
Fri.	12	Sat.	12	SUN.	12	Tues.	12
Sat.	13	SUN.	13	Mon.	13	Wed.	13
SUN.	14	Mon.	14	Tues.	14	Thurs.	14
Mon.	15	Tues.	15	Wed.	15	Fri.	15
Tues.	16	Wed.	16	Thurs.	16	Sat.	16
Wed.	17	Thurs.	17	Fri.	17	SUN.	17
Thurs.	18	Fri.	18	Sat.	18	Mon.	18
Fri.	19	Sat.	19	SUN.	19	Tues.	19
Sat.	20	SUN.	20	Mon.	20	Wed.	20
SUN.	21	Mon.	21	Tues.	21	Thurs.	21
Mon.	22	Tues.	22	Wed.	22	Fri.	22
Tues.	23	Wed.	23	Thurs.	23	Sat.	23
Wed.	24	Thurs.	24	Fri.	24	SUN.	24
Thurs.	25	Fri.	25	Sat.	25	Mon.	25
Fri.	26	Sat.	26	SUN.	26	Tues.	26
Sat.	27	SUN.	27	Mon.	27	Wed.	27
SUN.	28	Mon.	28	Tues.	28	Thurs.	28
Mon.	29	Tues.	29	Wed.	29	Fri.	29
Tues.	30	Wed.	30	Thurs.	30	Sat.	30
Wed.	31	Thurs.	31	Fri.	31	SUN.	31



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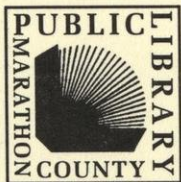
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## INDEX

Centennial Celebration.....	109
Century Farms.....	15
Churches and Cemeteries .....	86
Clubs .....	92
Farms Of 1891.....	13
Fire Department .....	100
Hamburg Today .....	105
Industries.....	68
Post Offices .....	101
Reflections .....	30
Residents .....	115
Oldest.....	108
Youngest.....	108
Longest Wed .....	107
Schools .....	81
Town Officials .....	8
Veterans .....	103



