

Miller Family History · 1815 - 1983 Golz Family History · 1823 - 1988

by Marion Joanne Miller Eitemiller August 2020

### THE MILLER FAMILY CHRONICLES: INTRODUCTION



God has been recording family genealogies since He created Adam and Eve. It was important to Him that each generation should know those who blazed the trail and made a way for those who came after them. Sometimes these records were called chronicles; "an historical account of events arranged in order of time usually without analysis or interpretation such as a chronicle of the Civil War". Other times they were labeled as a genealogy. A genealogy is an account of the descent of a person or family. In the Bible there are two Old Testament books entitled Chronicles. They both include the line of kings in Old Testament times as well as the order in which they served. In the New Testament there are two examples of family genealogy; Matthew begins his book with the genealogy of Jesus Christ starting with Abraham and ending with Jesus. Luke begins his genealogy with Jesus and traces his line all the way back to Adam.

The purpose of this project is to give an account of the Miller family and its "branches". Trees have many branches. Most have too many to count accurately. They are all connected to one another and all nourished by the same root. In Psalm 145:4 God reminds us; "One generation will commend your works to another;

they will tell of your mighty acts." God has been at work in the Miller family performing "mighty acts". Those acts may not have been noted in newspapers, books or the evening news casts. Nevertheless, they are the work of God in the life of one family and they need to be passed to the next generation for His glory.

### **Acknowledgements**

This project was not created in a vacuum. There were several people that came along beside me, looked over my shoulder and gave me encouragement and good advice. They appeared me at just the right time and gave me encouragement and helped me over the next hurdle. They are all an integral part of the story and I am deeply grateful for them.

Not too far into my search for Miller family history I received an email from someone named Tom Masey in Iowa. He was working on the John Miller family on Ancestry.com and discovered I was too.

He thought we might be able to help one another. His wife Carolyn was a distant cousin of mine. Over the next few years we shared our knowledge of the Miller family and also became good friends. We visited them several times on our way from Colorado to Wisconsin. The John Miller family Bible with handwritten birth and death dates of his family was their gift to me the last time we saw them. He did this in the hope that it would be preserved for future generations. Much of the Miller family lore that you are about to read was the result of Tom's earnest and careful search. Tom and Carolyn have both passed away.

Aunts and Uncles on both sides of the family were a great help as well. They shared many stories from their childhood as well as stories that had been passed down to them through the years.

Last, but definitely not least, I want to acknowledge and thank my entire family for encouraging me and cheering me on. A special thank you goes to my daughter Marilyn Nyquist, her husband Karl and their son Erik Nyquist for the hours of work they have put into making all of the findings available and readable for anyone who is interested. Without their help it would have been a very difficult and cumbersome document to wade through on the internet and may have eventually been obliterated. They gave it life and accessibility for which I am deeply grateful.

Marion Eitemiller

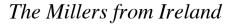
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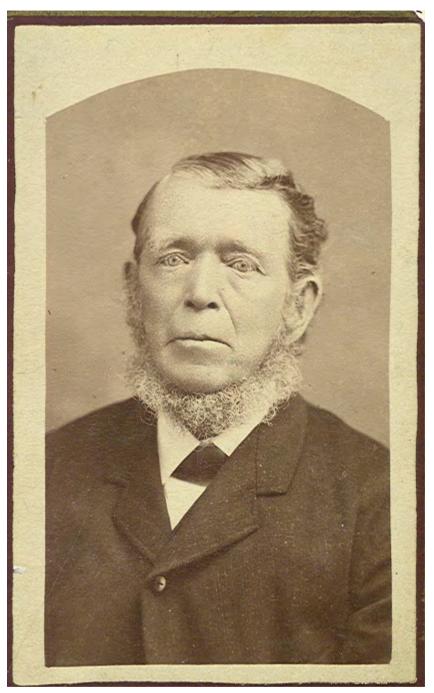
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# Clayton Anson Miller Paternal Line

### 1. John the Patriarch





John Miller 1815-1891

This photo has intrigued me since I was a young girl. It had a great part in my desiring to find out more about the family from which I descended. John Miller is the patriarch of the Miller family. His father Robert was a weaver by trade married to Kathleen. They had two sons, John and Samuel and a daughter named Ann.

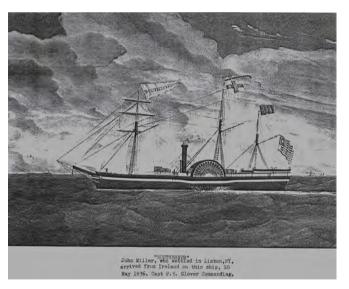
John was born in Balinasloe, County Galway, Ireland in 1815. (County Galway is on the west side of Ireland). He was born in Ireland but most certainly of English heritage. When John had a family of his own in America he named all of his children after English Royalty.

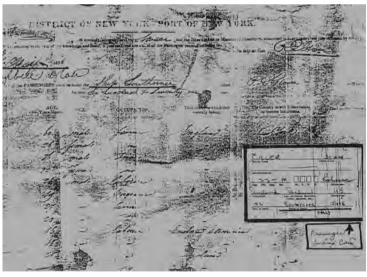


Family lore states that when Robert died the Catholics dug up his grave, cut out his tongue and hung him in the city square. He was a member of the Orange Order, an organizer of a Orange Lodge and quite a politician, speaker and outspoken Protestant during a time in Ireland's history when there was wide-spread and well founded hatred between the Catholics and the Protestants.

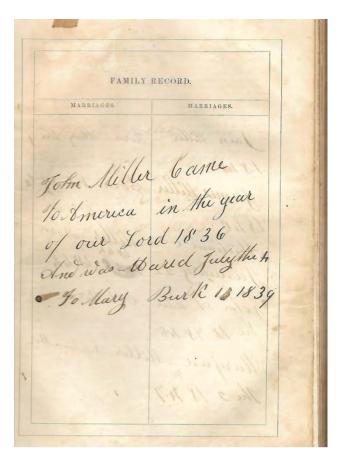
It seems apparent that the Millers were part of the "plantation" of English Protestants in Ireland. Before moving to Ballinasloe, Robert was a weaver by trade and the family lived in Galway.

Within days after their father's death in 1836, the two sons fled by ship to America ("Fled for their lives in the dark of night", according to family lore).



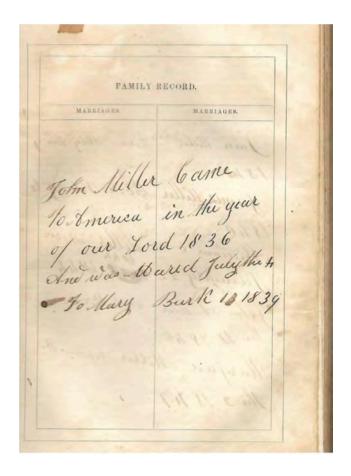


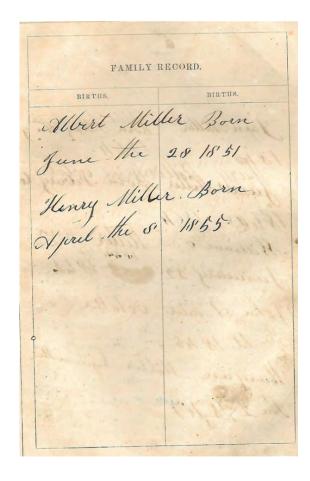
John and Samuel arrived in New York in May 1836. They settled in Lisbon, St Lawrence County, New York near the St Lawrence River. (The history of Lisbon indicates that it was originally known as Lisburn after a city in northern Ireland near Belfast. Lisbon seemed to be a magnet for the immigrating Irish, and John and his brother may have had that destination in mind when they left Ireland. They both became small dairy farmers in the state New York. Hugh Bell, a long time friend of the Millers, moved onto the farm next to John and Samuel. They all lived on "Miller Road".



A page from John Miller's Bible in his own handwriting. (As of this writing I have the Bible in my possession. It was passed on to me by a distant cousin on the Miller side of the family.)

Following is the recording of the birth of the children born to John and Mary in John's own handwriting and found in his Bible which he purchased in America.





Jain, born in 1840, died in 1864 leaving her sister Mary as the only girl in the family. Henry was my great grandfather.

# Family Group Sheet for John Miller

| Husban  | d:  | John Miller  |    |
|---------|---|--|----|
|         | Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Death:<br>Father:<br>Mother; | Apr 1815 in Balinaskoe, County Galway, Ireland<br>04 Jul 1839 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York<br>18 Aug 1891 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York<br>Robert Miller<br>Kathleen                              | 10 |
| Wife:   |   | Mary Burk  |    |
|         | Birth<br>Death:<br>Father:<br>Mother:               | 1812 in Belfast, Antrim, Ireland<br>18 Oct 1864 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York<br>Thomas Burk  | P  |
| Childre | nt  |  | _  |
| F       | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Death:                           | Jain Miller<br>30 May 1840 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York<br>14 Jul 1864 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York  | -  |
| 2<br>M  | Name<br>Birth:<br>Marriage<br>Death:<br>Spouse:     | James Miller 06 Feb 1842 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York 02 Mar 1874 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York 23 Mar 1926 in Madrid, Boone County, Iowa Mathilda Miller   | B  |
| M<br>M  | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Death:<br>Spouse:   | William Orange Miller 22 Jan 1844 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York 30 Oct 1870 in Janusville, Bremer, Iowa, USA 02 Jan 1920 in Minneapolis, Ottowa County, Kansas Martha Louisa West                                     | 1  |
| 4<br>M  | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Death:<br>Spouse                 | John Alexander Miller  18 Oct 1845 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York  15 Aug 1933 in Palouse, Whitman County, Washington  Anna Livingston   | 1  |
| F       | Name:<br>Both:<br>Marriage:<br>Death:<br>Spouse:    | Mary Ann Miller 02 Sep 1847 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York, 1876 in Ogdensburg, St Lawrence, New York, USA, 05 Oct 1924 in St Maries, Benewah County, Idaho Alvah Preston Pray   | 6  |
| 6<br>M  | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Marriage;<br>Death<br>Spouse:    | Albert Miller 28 Jan 1851 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York 05 May 1891 in Boone, Boone, Iowa, USA 17 Jan 1938 in Madrid Boone County, Iowa Hattie Spratford  | 1  |
| 7<br>M  | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Marriage;<br>Burut               | Henry Miller 08 Apr 1855 in Lisbon Township, St Lawrence County, New York 24 Jul 1880 in Almond, Portage, Wi Jan 1891 in Bardwell Cometery, Plainfield, Waushara County, Wisconsin 02 Jan 1891 in Plainfield, Waushara County, Wisconsin | 6  |



John's brother, Samuel
Samuel and John sailed to America together as single men.
Once here they found brides and the two families lived on adjacent farms in New York.



The John Miller brothers minus Henry From the left: John Alexander, born 1845, James, born 1840, Albert, born 1851, and William Orange, born 1844. (This picture of all of Henry's brothers was taken after Henry died)

A little over a year after John and Mary's last child was born he and his brother Samuel became citizens of the United States.

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| sation, and having proved to the satisfaction of the said &                                     | cust that he had in     |
| all respects complied with the requirements of said acts of con                                 | igress to entitle him   |
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Mary Burk Miller Gravestone in Flackville Cemetery, Lisbon, St. Lawrence County, New York.

Mary died 18 October, 1864 and four months later her daughter Jain died. At the time of her death none of her children were married, but some had moved west. Believe it or not, the picture above is Mary's gravestone.

Three years after Mary's death John married Elizabeth Bell, "the girl next door" who was twenty four years younger than he was. Three children were born of that marriage; Netty in 1860, Emma in 1869, and Joseph in 1874.



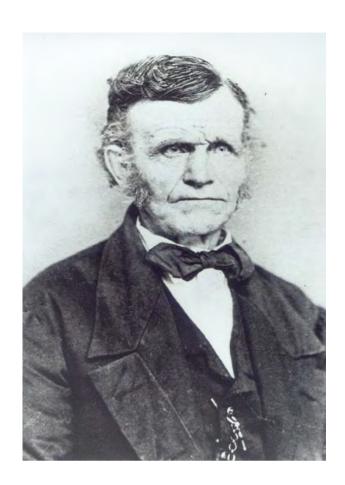
John Miller died on August 18, 1891 John Miller's gravestone. Lisbon, St. Lawrence County, New York

### The Contested Will

John had a legal will drawn up and signed by him in February 1861, three years before his wife Mary died and one month after his son Henry died. In August of 1891 John Miller was failing and close to death. Elizabeth, concerned that she and her three children be taken care of after her death, took it into her hands to have John sign another will that left everything to her and to her three children. She died in 1910.

John's first family contested this second will since it left them nothing. John's first family was large and scattered from New York to the state of Washington. John Alexander filed the suit and it went all the way to the supreme court of New York State. It was clear from the testimony of eye witnesses that John the patriarch definitely was too ill to realize what he was doing when he signed the second will.

The case was finally settled in favor of John's first family but it was years before it was all disperrsed and apparently my grandfather Herbert never received his share. At a time when Herbert and Phoebe faced foreclosure on their home in Brooklyn, Wisconsin Phoebe was heard to say, "If only your brothers had given you the inheritance you had coming..." (Herbert was probably too young at the time of distribution to receive his share. It was entrusted to one of his brothers who was to see that he got it when he became of age.. That never happened.)



Charles Henry Miller, 1797 - 1886 Charles was the uncle of John and Samuel, brother of Robert Miller.

Uncle Charles immigrated to the United States at some point after John and Samuel. He had come close to death at the hands of the Irish Catholics who were not at all happy with the English, and understandably so. Charles fled quickly leaving his wife and family behind. He headed for Lisbon, NY where his nephew John lived. In 1842 Charles married Agnes Nancy Geddes who was seventeen years younger than he was (Without divorcing his wife in Ireland).



Agnes Nancy Geddes - 2nd wife of Charles



Charles and Agnes Nancy Miller

This was a second marriage for both of them and together they had ten children.

At some point Charles and Agnes moved out to Boone, Iowa.

### 2. John and Mary's Family

John and Mary's first child was a girl born on May 30, 1840. There are no pictures of her. Her life ended at age twenty four in 1864.



James Miller 1842-1925

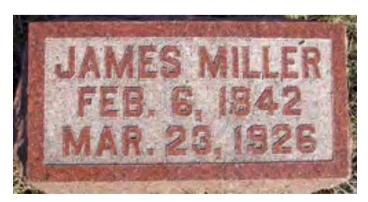


Matilda Miller Miller

In 1874 **James** miller and Matilda were married. They were cousins. Matilda Miller was the daughter of his uncle Charles. They were married in March, 1874 and left immediately after the wedding for Boone County, Iowa.

"They lived in a rented house but were soon able to buy one hundred and sixty acres of farm land. James built a small house and broke land that had never before been worked. Gradually he added the barns and outbuildings necessary. He firmly advocated the principles of the Republican Party and cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln and continued to support that party for the rest of his life." (Excerpts from a book entitled "Boone County Book - 1902).

James and Matilda had one child named Lennie James.



James was buried in Mount Hope Cemetary Madrid, Boone County, Iowa.



Lennie James and wife Bertha and their only child.

Lennie and his second wife Maud, daughter of his uncle William.

(Another pair of Miller cousins that married.)





Lennie was buried in the same cemetery as his parents. He was father to five children.



William Orange Miller 1844-1920



Martha Louise West 1854-1920

William was born in Lisbon, New York but followed his brother James west to Boone, Iowa where they both farmed.

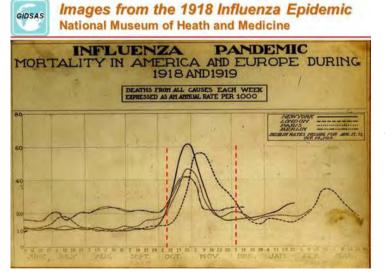
It was there that William met his bride Martha and they were married in Janesville, Iowa just north of Boone in the year 1870.

They had nine children; Lillie and John both born in Boone, Iowa; Bertha born in Canton, Kansas, and Mary, Maude, Winnie, Albert, Mattie and Henry were all born in Durham, Kansas. (Their son Henry was born in January of 1891 shortly after the death of his uncle Henry Miller in Plainfield, Wisconsin which perhaps accounts for his name).

Sometime after all their children were born William and Martha moved to Minneapolis, Kansas, just one hour north of Durham. It was there that William died in January of 1920 followed by his wife Martha in June of 1920 and finally their daughter Mary died in August of 1920.

### The Spanish flu

It was one of the greatest pandemics the world has seen, Smith said, even greater than the bubonic plague during the Middle Ages. It was nicknamed the Spanish Flu, the Spanish Lady and the Blue Death. Old-timers called it the grippe. German soldiers called it Flanders fever. One in every four Americans caught it, and 12,000 Kansans died of it or its complications. There are few Kansas cemeteries that don't hold victims of the 1918 flu.



Whether or not this was the cause of three deaths in their family within six months is unknown. Some articles extended the dates to include 1920. Nevertheless their deaths must have been tragic.



Gravestone for William and Martha Miller



John Alexander Miller 1845-1933

Like his siblings, **John Alexander** grew up on the family farm in Lisbon, New York. Like many young men of his time, John longed to go west. When he heard that family friends, the Bowdens, were heading to the new state of Wisconsin he decided to go with them. He was the first of his family to leave home.

The travelers found their way to Almond, Portage County, Wisconsin. John Bowden and John Alexander Miller opened a store in Almond known as the "Bowden-Miller Paint and Wagon Store". John Alexander met and married Anna Livingston who had immigrated from Austria with her parents and brother. The young couple soon had a daughter they named Mabel. She was followed by two babies who both died in infancy.

Unfortunately the Bowden Paint and Wagon Store burned to the ground after prospering for several years. John Alexander, along with his wife and daughter, moved sixteen hundred miles further west to Palouse, Washington. After moving west they had two sons; Elroy and Henry. Fortunes were being made in grain out west and John Alexander was determined to be in on it. He eventually owned 7,000 acres of wheat land and became quite wealthy.

Wealth doesn't free us from all of life's sorrows. At age seventeen their son Elroy was crushed under a falling tree and died. His death certificate lists him as a student.

John and Ann had another son named Henry who was younger than Elroy and also born after their move to the state of Washington.



This is their daughter Mabel with a young boy. Roy or Henry?

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Elroy J Miller death certificate



Elroy Miller gravestone



In 1929 John Alexander returned to Wisconsin to visit his siblings and extended family. He stopped in Princeton to visit his nephew, Herbert and his family. The above photo is Lillie Golz, her future mother-in-law Phoebe Miller, and John Alexander at the Princeton airport where they would all unexpectedly see Clayton parachute from an airplane. (You can read that story on page 111)



During his trip east, John also stopped in Iowa to visit family members. His brother Albert is standing on the far right, his nephew, Lenny James at the far left. John's daughter Mabel is in the front row, left. (She and her husband next to her may have accompanied John Alexander on this trip from Washington since he was getting up in years. He died four years later.)

It's likely that another reason for this trip was to be present at the final hearing of his father's contested will which took place in Lisbon, New York. (See page 10)



John Alexander on the far right with brothers, Albert and James who both lived near Boone, Iowa.

I'm assuming the younger men are their sons. They're pretty proud of their Iowa corn.



Mary Anna Miller Pray 1847-1924

Like all of her siblings, Many Ann was born in Lisbon, New York. Her only sister, Jain, was seven yearsold at that time and probably happy to see another girl in the family. Unfortunately Jain died when Mary was seventeen. It was the first death in their family and unfortunately was followed just four months later by the death of her mother at age sixty two.

By this time Mary's older brothers had all moved to Wisconsin and Iowa. She became "mother" to her two younger brothers, Albert age thirteen and Henry age ten.

At age twenty nine Mary Ann married Alvah Pray.



Alvah Preston Pray 1851-1907

They were married in 1876 and soon after their wedding they moved west from New York to Wisconsin. It would be one of many moves that the Pray family would make.

On their trip west they stopped in Chicago where their first son was born in 1877. By1880 they were living in Oasis Township, Portage County, Wisconsin. Their neighbors were Alfred and Phoebe Collins, parents of Imogene, who would one day be the wife of Mary's brother Henry. Mary and Imogene had become friends before Henry arrived in Wisconsin.

In 1880, three years after Mary and Alva's first son George was born, Mary gave birth to their second child Etta Mabel in Oasis. She was followed two years later by a brother, John Edgar.

Mary had another two year break before William Henry was born in 1884 and a three year break before Ethel Mary was born in 1877.



Ethel Mary Pray

Albert Preston followed in 1889 and Edward James in 1891. Unfortunately between the birth of her last two sons her older daughter Etta Mae died at age ten leaving the Prays with six children.

They farmed in Oasis but never owned a home there. Alvah apparently wasn't happy with farming and worked for the Chicago Northwestern Railroad. It's not certain just when he moved his family north but by 1900 they were living in Rome township in Adams County, Wisconsin where Alvah found a job in the booming lumbering business. In 1905 their children had grown up and were scattered in logging camps throughout northern Wisconsin. In 1907 Alvah died suddenly of a heart attack at age fifty six leaving Mary alone. Their youngest son was age sixteen at the time of his father's death.

# S1.50 per year in Advance. O E. BOWEN..... Editor and Proprietor Friday, May 3rd, 1907



### Died at Hackley.

Alvah Pray, aged 56 years, passed away last Saturday at Hackley with heart failure. The deceased leaves a wife and six children, five sons and one daughter, to mourn the loss of a loving husband and kind father. The remains were brought to Eagle River Tuesday morning and services held at the Congregational Church, Rev. C. W. Plnkney officiating.



Three years after Alvah's death Mary moved west to live with her daughter Ethel Mary.

Alvah and Mary's eldest son George lost his wife in childbirth in 1903.

Brother William lost his first son to cholera at age five months. He and his wife later had triplets...all boys. They all enlisted on the same day for service during WWII. (I don't know if they all made it home again or not.) William's one daughter was named Mary after her grandmother.

Mary's daughter Ethyl married Carl Knabe from Germany and together they moved west to St. Marie's, Idaho.

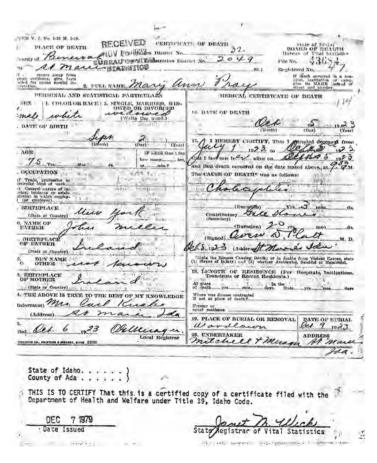
In October of 1923 Mary Ann died of a gangrenous gall bladder at age seventy five while living with Ethyl in Idaho. Because of the high cost of shipping her body back to Wisconsin it was decided that she would be buried in St Marie's cemetery in Benewah, Idaho



Mary Ann Miller Pray, 1847-1924

Mary Ann was the only girl in the Miller family after the death of her older sister Jain in 1864. To my knowledge there are no pictures of Jain.







Albert Miller 1851 - 1938

Albert was born in Lisbon, St Lawrence County, New York like all his siblings before him. He was born four years after his sister Mary Ann. When he was sixteen years old his mother Mary Burke Miller died.

Not too long after her death John married Elizabeth Bell, the girl next door and not much older that Albert's older sister.

About this time his older brothers started moving west to Wisconsin and Iowa. Albert decided to follow in their steps and headed west. He spent five years in Wisconsin near his brother John Alexander before moving to Iowa to be near his brother James.



Albert and his wife Hattie and their five children. Like his brothers, Albert became a farmer.



Hattie and Albert in their later years.

### ALBERT MILLER ANSWERS SUMMONS

Pioneer Resident Passed Away Monday at His Home Here Following Long Illness

Funeral Services Held Yester-day Afternoon at the Christian Church

Albert Miller, a pleaser resident of the Madrid community, passed way Monday, January 17th following on littless of considerable furnition. He was 80 years, 6 months and 18 days of age, and find then the greater portion of his life in the immediate community.

life in the immediate community. This decreased was born in Lisbon, New York, June 28, 1853, and grew to manhood there. At the age of 26 years he self; the unps to tolke the early plousers into the watern country and came directly to this community. With the exception of the years which were spent to the state of Wisconin he made his home in Madrid and Garden township since, a period of 62 years.

When arrivable in Gender towns.

When arriving in Gerden town-ship from his sestern home, he found it writably in the state of nature, the preceded the railway by six or seven years when the greater share of the transportation of sup-



ALBERT MILLIER

ALBERT MILLER

plies was by wagen train.
On May 3, 1886, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Mass Hattle Strautored of Mongona, and to this basehold free children were born, all of whom are tiving. The children are formy Miller of Amen, Alya Miller, who has been by fathers capable surse firmed in the cold form, and Mahel Terry of Des Monne. There are thirteen grantethildren.

He is also survived by one half-sider, Mr. Haller Shaw of West Money, New York, file death was the first to occur in his immediate family circle.

Mr. Miller, upon coming to this country, was united with the Carden Prairie Congregational chards and incisorbeely was one of linear-best members. He was a sheaffail christine He was a Strady school christine He was a Strady school

and undersheety was one of linearinst members. He was a stending school
teacher for many years and otherwise accided in the work of the
charge, first serving under Rev.
Parmenter a planear crimister.

He followed farming as a profession and managed his place in
Greene township up built 1928 at
which there his faiting health foreon him to reitre. It was at this time
that he moved to Macirie and was
mitted with the Christian church.

An EARLY PIONEER

An Harly PIONEER

An Harly PIONEER

The Miller's long span of pears
in the Madrid community has enabled him to see many changes.
He came here when Madrid was in
its infancy, when there were norollways, when the country surrouncing had not left the plow to
any great extent and when the
ringed spirit of the placear was
serely needed. During thrase years
Mr. Miller sanisted greatly in the
formation of the community and
its social life, He was of quiet nature, few of words, but in the limit
of duty he could be depended upon. He gered for fifteen years as
Garden township tristoe, and as
has been mentioned previous, was
leacher and experimendent in the
work of the Garden Prairie church
Mr. Miller's hard few years were
given over to her failinger, beauth
and during the peat several stocks
he showly slipped away.

The Tuneral services were held
Wednesday at 2 p. m. at the formand at 2:00 at the Christian church
her have the Barrier, his passor,
in charge Burial was made in Mr.
Hope centery.

Music was furmaned at the terrtors by Rex. Hellinger, Dorotty
Scott, Mrs. O. M. Scott and C. J.
Coderquier. They were accompanied at the plant by Mrs. Irone
Morning: They same "Face to
Pace," "He Night There," and Mr.
Chierquier. They were accompanied at fine flows. Frant Johnson, Pete
Carisce, George Rathon, A. G. Bullington and A. E. Scottman.

Albert was eighty six years old when he died.

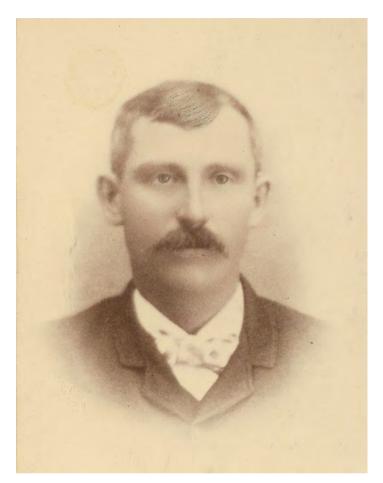


Henry Miller 1855-1891

**Henry** was the youngest child of John and Mary Miller.

He was my great-grandfather and for that reason I have written more about him in the following pages.

# 1. Henry Miller



Henry Miller 1855-1891

Henry was the last of seven children born to John and Mary Miller. Like all of his siblings he was born in Lisbon, St Lawrence County, New York. He grew up on the family farm with a house full of brothers and only two sisters. At the time of his birth the west was opening up and land was cheap, fertile and plentiful. Henry listened as his older brother John Alexander talked of one day heading west.

John's dream came true in 1880 as he headed west with a friend of the family and settled in Almond, Portage County, Wisconsin. Henry was anxious to follow his brother as soon as his parents would allow it. In 1880 Henry's dream to head west also came true. He and his brother Albert, made the long trek from northern New York to Almond, Wisconsin, a trip of about 870 miles. Henry settled in with his older brother, John Alexander and his wife Anna Livingstone who had immigrated with her family from Austria. Anna's younger brother became a good friend to Henry as they both learned the blacksmith trade from John Alexander, Henry's brother. Five years after William and Albert arrived in Wisconsin Albert decided to move to Iowa where his older brothers James had settled.



The picture above is a daguerreotype photo of Henry Miller (on the left) and his friend, Anna's brother. Henry's brother John and his friend, John A. Bowden, had opened the Miller-Bowden Paint and Wagon Shop in Almond. They were among the earliest settlers in the area. Henry's only sister Mary and her husband Alvah Pray had moved to Wisconsin as well. By 1888 all of John and Mary's children were living in either Wisconsin or Iowa.

# 2. Henry Meets His Bride

Imogene Collins was born in 1859 in Wautoma, Wisconsin to Alfred and Phoebe Collins. She was the third child in a family of ten. Sometime before 1870 Alfred moved his family to the small town of Oasis north of Wautoma. It was in there that Imogene Collins and Mary Miller Pray became acquainted. Through their friendship Imogene and Henry met and were soon married.



On July 24, 1881 Henry and Imogene began their married life in a small house in Almond. Imogene was the third of ten children including one who died in childbirth. Like Henry's parents her grandparents had also immigrated from Ireland.

The picture of Henry and Imogene above is a daguerreotype meaning that the image was printed on tin which was bendable. Over time this picture may have gotten bent and thus lost one corner. I'm assuming that this was their wedding picture. Someone two generations later has labelled the picture as one of grandpa and grandma.

A notice in the Almond newspaper read...

#### **MARRIED**

Miller-Collins: At the residence of the brides parents, Oasis, Waushara County, Wisconsin, July 24th 1881, by Rev. C.E. Smith. Henry Miller of Almond and Genie Collins of Oasis.

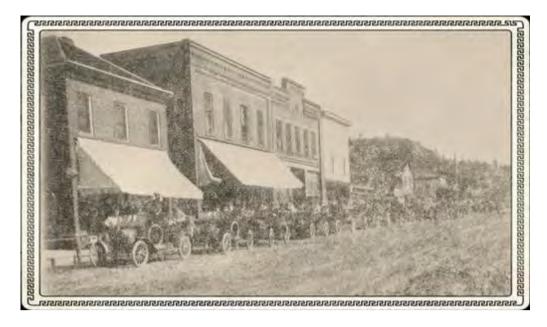


Henry and Imogene's first home in Almond, Wisconsin. This home would be the birthplace of their three boys, Martin Otis born on January 28, 1882, Fred P. born on June 29, 1883 and Herbert Anson born on March 20, 1888

# 3. Move to Plainfield, Wisconsin



In 1888 Henry and Imogene and their three boys moved to Plainfield, Wisconsin. Henry's older brother John Alexander had left Almond and moved to the state of Washington. For whatever reason Henry and Imogene decided to move.



Plainfield Wisconsin

Henry worked as a blacksmith and Imogene kept busy with three growing boys and a larger house to take care of. Life was good.



Herbert, Henry, Otis, Imogene and Fred

This family portrait was taken around 1890 based on Herbert's birth date of 1888 - Herbert looks to be around two years old.

## 4. Henry's Unexpected Death

New Years Eve of 1890 Henry came down with pneumonia and two days later he was ushered into God's presence leaving Imogene shocked, brokenhearted and alone to raise their three very young sons. Herbert was only three years old at the time of his father's death. Henry was only thirty five.

### HENRY MILLER OBITUARY

At his home in the village of Plainfield, Wis., January 2, 1891, Henry Miller, aged 35 years, 9 months and 26 days.

Mr. Miller was the son of John and Mary Miller, and was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 8, 1855. He came to Wisconsin in 1877 and settled at Almond, Portage Co. Was united in marriage to Miss Imagene Cotlins, July 24, 1881, and to them have been born three sons.

Brother Miller was converted and joined the M. E. Church, in August, 1889, being a member of the Almond charge; moved to the village of Plainfield in March, 1890, and united with the church at Plainfield. His death, which came with a suddenness appulling to all this neighbors and triends, was occasioned by pneumonia, and was by all considered a great calamity, but doubtless, The swift stroke but not to him. ministered an abundant entrance into the everlasting king lum of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Still sounds the great utterance of the Divine Master, heard amid the fading flowers, the falling leaves, of the loved, "He that liveth and believeth in me shall never die,"

"By the bright waters now thy i t is east: Joy for thee, happy friend, thy bark hath past The rough sea's soum."

"Now the long yearnings of thy soul are stilled— Home, Home, thy peace is won, the heart is filled, Thou art gone home."

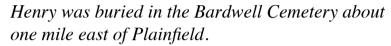
Deceased was an honored member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, joining the Almond Lodge about 10 years ago. The Lodge, in a body, were in attendance at the funeral.

He leaves a wife and three sons, a father, four brothers and one balf brother, one sister and two half sisters, and a host of friends to mourn his loss, but their loss is his eternal gain.

The funeral was held at 2 o'clock, January 6th. The attendance was large, the M. E. church being filled to overflowing. The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. A. W. Alder

(The M.E. Church refers to the Methodist Episcopal church)







In case you are wondering about the Odd Fellows Hall that Henry belonged to, the following may help.

#### **Odd Fellowship Teaches:**

- Wise and serious truths and opens up before its members opportunities for useful service.
- Belief in a Supreme Being, the Creator and Preserver of the Universe.
- The lesson of fraternity, that all are of one family and therefore brethren.
- The importance of the principle of Friendship, Love and Truth.
- The privilege and duty of individual sympathy, mutual assistance and every-day service to ones fellows.
- That humanity was intended to be one harmonious structure.
- That each individual is a unit in that God-made temple.
- Its members how to stand on their own feet, yet walk in step with their neighbors.
- · The difference between right and wrong.
- That it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Henry's wife Imogene was a member of Rebekah's Daughters which was the ladies counterpart of Odd Fellows. Both organizations are still in existence.

## 5. Imogene Carries On Alone

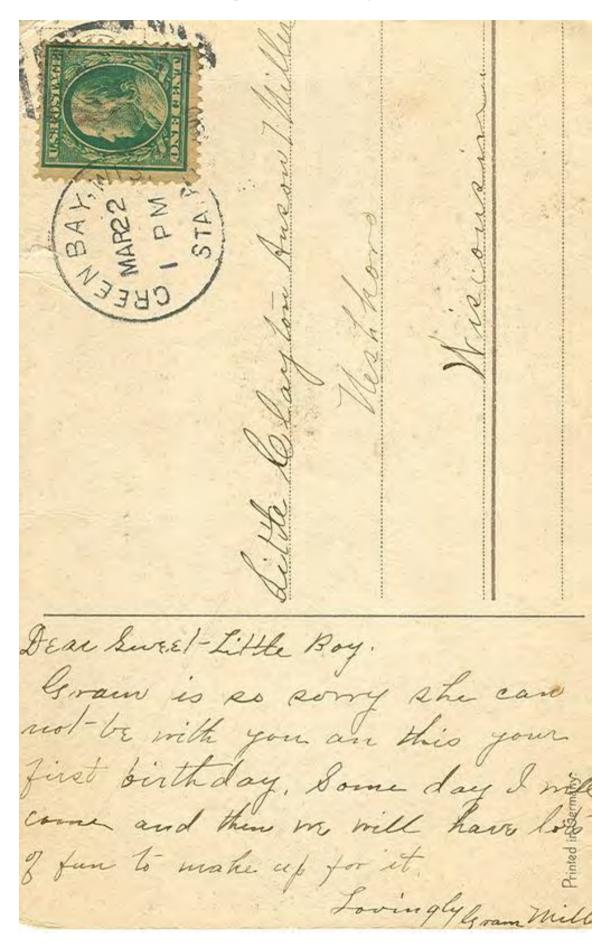


The sorrow and sadness is evident in Imogene's eyes in this portrait. She did what any mother in her situation would have to do in order to care for her three boys. She made a living by baking and taking in ironing. I'm sure her family also rallied around her and helped her. She was able to stay in their home until all the boys were grown and out of the house. Her real estate taxes for the year 1901 were \$9. When her youngest son Herbert married in 1908 he and his new bride Phoebe lived with her in the house in Plainfield.

Genie, as she came to be known, raised her three boys alone and then enjoyed her grandchildren. When Henry and Phoebe moved to Neshkoro, Wisconsin which was about twenty miles south of Plainfield, Imogene sold the family home and moved in with them to help with the grandchildren. Phoebe was experiencing a muscular problem that was beginning to hinder her balance. Genie occasionally traveled to visit her other sons. When she did she would send post cards to her grandson in Neshkoro.



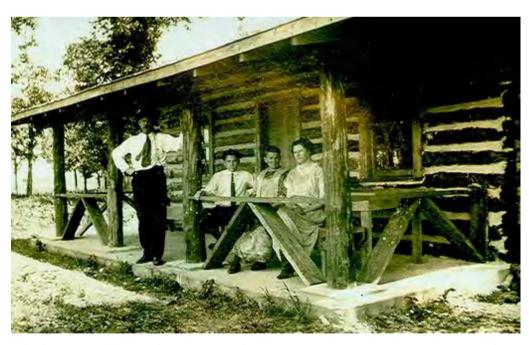
Genie occasionally traveled to visit her other sons. When she did she would send post cards to her grandson in Neshkoro.



When Herbert and Phoebe moved from Neshkoro to Princeton, Imogene moved back to Oasis to be with her parents. Later she moved a few miles south to Wautoma, Wiconsin. It was there that she met and married John R. Jones in 1919. He was well known in Wautoma having been the sheriff for some time.



John R. Jones



Pictured above is John and Imogene's home in Wautoma, Wisconsin. Left to right are John R, Clayton, Imogene and Phoebe Miller. Clayton appears to be highschool age in this picture which would date it around 1926. Genie would only live another three years.

## MRS. JOHN R. JONES

Imogene Collins, daughter of Alfred and Phoebe Collins, was born in the village of Wautoma, Nov. 1, 1859. She, with her parents, moved to a farm about one and one-half miles from the village where they lived until they

finally settled in Oasis,

In 1880 she was united in marriage to Henry Miller of Almond and to this union were born three children: Otis, Fred and Herb-While in Almond she and ert. her husband united with the Methodist church of which she was a member until her death. The family lived in Almond until 1889 when they moved to Plainfield., On January 2, . 1891, the husband and father was called Home. Mrs. Miller, then, with her three children moved to her farm in Oasis mear her - fathar. Later she again went to Plainfield where they lived until 1909. While here she was a member of the Rebekahs and of the Neighbors. In 1909 she moved to Neshkoro where her son Herbert was engaged in the bank. In 1912 she came to Wautoma, and in June 1919 was united in marriage to John R. Jones of that place.

During the last year she occasionally spoke of not feeling well but never complained. It was not until a few weeks ago that her condition was thought at all serious. She so lost herself in her life of devotion to her husband and those about her that even she little suspected the seriousness of her illness, until the physician advised her going to the hospital at Madison. It was here that she yielded to the call and passed to her final reward at 11:40 on the morning of March 19th. 1929

She leaves to mourn her her devoted husband, her three sons: Otis of Bellingham, Wash., Fred of Nooksack, Wash., Herbert of Princeton, wis.; also her iwo surviving brothers: Ezra Collins of Chicago, Jabe Collins of Independence, Missouri.; two surviving sisters, Mrs. Howard Serles of Fond du Lac of Wantoma. Mrs. G. E. Dafoe besides her nine grandchildren and numerous other relatives and a host of friends, for she was a woman of sterling character and was loved by all for none knew her but loved her.

## 6. The Henry Miller Family

*Otis* (as he came to be called) graduated from Plainfield High School. He married Rosetta Henrietta Halverson (nickname "Etta").

In the 1910 census Otis and Etta were living in Green Bay, Wisconsin. In 1925 they moved to the state of Washington where Otis's uncle John Alexander Miller had settled. On their way west their daughter Margot Anabelle was born in Brown City, Idaho. They eventually had four daughters, but I don't know in what order. Margot may have been the first. She was followed by Janice, Jean and June.



Martin Otis Miller 1882-1964



Jean Miller and the family dog

Otis and his wife Etta are buried in Ferndale, Whatcom, Washington. To my knowledge Otis never served in the military. But here's his registration at age 60

| SERIAL NUMBER   I. NAME (Prin                                      | 0   | ORDER NUMBER                           |
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Young Fred Miller at work, but where?

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Fred's military registration



Jack Donald Miller only child of Minnie and Fred



Fred P Miller and Minnie C. Winemiller Miller on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Fred and Minnie are buried in Skaget, Washington



Herbert Anson Miller 1886-1966

*Herbert* was my paternal grandfather (known to me as "Granddad"). His story begins on the following pages.

## 1. The Herbert Miller Family

## Family Group Sheet for Herbert Anson Miller

| Husband  | <b>!</b> :   | Herbert Anson Miller   |         |
|----------|--|--|---------|
|          | Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Burial:<br>Death:<br>Father:<br>Mother: | 20 Mar 1886 in Almond, Portage County, Wisconsin<br>15 Sep 1908 in Stevens Point, Portage Co, WI<br>1966 in Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin<br>30 Aug 1966 in Appleton, Wisconsin<br>Henry Miller<br>Imogene Collins | Ellips. |
| Wife:    |  | Phoebe Genevieve Wilson  |         |
|          | Birth:<br>Death:<br>Father:<br>Mother:                         | 18 Jul 1887 in Amherst, Portage County, Wisconsin<br>17 May 1972 in Waukesha, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, USA<br>Thomas Wilson<br>Janett Roe   |         |
| Children |  |  |         |
| T<br>M   | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Death:<br>Spouse:              | Clayton Anson Miller 22 Mar 1909 in Plainfield, Waushara County, Wisconsin 17 May 1930 in Alexandria, Alexandria, Virginia, USA 01 Jan 1983 in Deland, Volusia County, Florida Lillie Virginia Golz                                  | 9       |
| 2<br>F   | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Death:<br>Spouse:              | Emily Loraine Miller 22 Jul 1912 in Plainfield, Waushara Co., WI Abt. 1930 in Waukesha, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, USA 10 Oct 1984 in Waukesha, WI Ken Hoeft  | 9       |
| 3<br>M   | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Death:<br>Spouse:              | Keith Gerald Miller 09 Jan 1916 in Neshkoro, Green Lake Co., WI 17 May 1940 in Monroe, Adams, Wisconsin, USA 13 Nov 1997 in Waukesha, WI Muriel R Lehman   |         |
| F        | Name:<br>Birth:<br>Spouse:                                     | Inez May Miller<br>08 Aug 1925 in Princeton, Green Lake Co., WI<br>Bill Fitzgerald   |         |

Notes:

## 2. Herbert's Growing Up Years

On March 20, 1886 Herbert Anson Miller was born in this house in Almond, Wisconsin to Henry and Imogene Miller.





The Herbert Miller Family Herbert was the youngest of three boys. His brother Otis Martin was born in 1882 followed by brother Fred P. in 1883.

In 1888, when Herbert was two years old, Henry moved his family about seven miles east of Almond to the larger town of Plainfield.



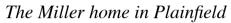
Plainfield, Wisconsin in the late 1800's



Once settled Henry worked at building up his blacksmith business while Imogene took care of the three active and growing boys. Unfortunately in January of 1891, just two years after moving to Plainfield, Henry died very suddenly of pneumonia leaving Imogene alone to raise their three boys.

Growing up without a father had to be difficult. Fortunately Herbert and his brothers had several uncles living nearby.





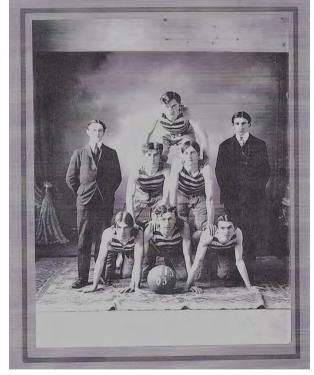


Herbert





The three brothers all attended this school from first grade through high school.



Herbert (on the far left in this picture) helped manage the high school basketball team. The game of Basketball had just been invented in December of 1891. By the time Herbert reached high school it was "the rage".



This may have been Herbert's high school graduation portrait.

## 3. Herbert's Budding Banking Career and Marriage



Washara County Bank Herbert seated on right

After his high school graduation Herbert got a job as bookkeeper in the local bank and lived at home with his mother.



His next job was at The First National Bank in Stevens Point which was about thirty miles north of Plainfield.



MAIR STREET. STEVENS POINT, W.S.

Stevens Point in the early 1900's

Herbert seated at left in the bank.



Phoebe Genevieve Wilson

It was while working here at First National Bank in Stevens Point that Herbert met a lovely young girl by the name of Phoebe Wilson.



Phoebe was living with her parents, Tom and Nettie Wilson in Stevens Point and working as a telephone operator. (To learn more about Phoebe's early years go to page 91).

How the young couple met is unknown. But in September of 1908 they were married at the home of Phoebe's parents. The wedding was a small, family affair at her parent's home. Twenty people attended and were all served supper at the Wilson home after the ceremony. The bride was dressed in her traveling attire..."a green broadcloth suit". The out-of-town guest were the groom's mother, Imogene Miller, and his older brother, Otis and his wife (His brother Fred may have already moved his family to the state of Washington by this time). At 11:30 p.m. the bride and groom departed on their thirty mile drive to Herbert's home in Plainfield where they would make their home with Imogene.

## STEVENS POIN'

#### MILLER--WILSON.

Philippid Banker Course to Steven Point for a Bride.

Hertert A. Miller of Plainfield and Miss Phoeis Generieve Wilson of this city were married Tuesday evening at 9 o'clock at the home of the bride's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wilson at 611 Division screet by Rev. James Blake of the Repulst chareb. The ceremony was performed under a red belt hung to an arch of red berries and green leaves in the bay window. There were no attendants. The bride was attired in a traveling suit of green broadcloth with hat and gloves to match and wore a walst of cream lace over cream satin.

After the aermony a weading supper was served to a company of about 20, the tables being prettly decorated with smilax, reases and carnatines. At 11:30 they took an auto for a night ride to Plainfield where they are to make their future home, going to housekeeping at once.

The bride is the youngest daughter family. She fine suployed as night operator in local telephone evolvange for the past three years and in a young wetuen of exceptional worth. Mr. Miller was formerly employed for a few months as bookkeeper in the First Kutions) bank here, resigning about two years ago in order to accept a position as cashler of the Wausbara Conney Bank at Plainfield. He is a steady young man of substantial chargeier and enjoys the confidence of all his BASOGIALES.

The greats from out of fown werehis brother. Otto Miller and wife, of Green Bay, and his mother, Mrs. Miller of Plainfield



The Wilsons' living room in Stevens Point where Herbert and Phoebe's wedding took place with twenty people attending. Unfortunately there are no pictures of the wedding or the newlyweds.

The brides outfit is described in the newspaper article at left.



Clayton Anson Miller March 22, 1909- 1 January 1983

Clayton, Herbert and Phoebe's firstborn, was the third generation to live in the family home in Plainfield.

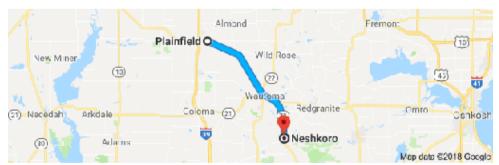
(You can find Clayton's full story on page 99)



Emily Loraine Miller July 22 1912 - 10 October 1984

Herbert and Phoebe's second child, **Emily**, was born in the family home in Plainfield.

Not long after Emily's birth Herbert accepted a new job as cashier in the bank in Neshkoro, Wisconsin. This required a move of about twenty miles south.





44

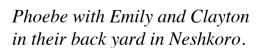


The Miller Home Neshkoro, Wisconsin

Their new home was located one block from "downtown" which consisted of the bank, a grocery store and a few other buildings and always a tavern. Behind their house was the small lake called "The Mill Pond".



A boat ride on the Mill Pond with "Aunt Maude" Phoebe's sister.







Keith Gerald Miller

1916-1997

It was in Neshkoro that Herbert and Phoebe's third child, **Keith**, was born.

About this same time Phoebe was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy and advised not to have any more children for her own health as well as the possibility of passing the disease on to her offspring. Unfortunately by this time Emily and Keith had already inherited the disease although it would not manifest itself until they were in their late teens.

Rather than live in the large family home in Plainfield by herself, Herbert's mother Imogene sold the old homestead and moved into the Miller's small house.



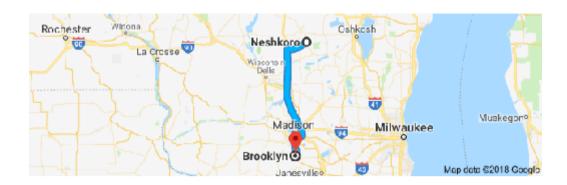
Phoebe fishing on the bank of the Mill Pond.



Clayton and Emily fishing in the Mill Pond

#### The Move to Brooklyn

In 1918, six years after moving to Neshkoro, the Millers made another move, this time to Brooklyn, Wisconsin. Herbert's mother Imogene went to live with her father Alfred Collins in the Collin's homestead in Oasis, Wisconsin. Her mother had recently died.



Clayton was in the forth grade when Herbert and Phoebe moved their family one hundred miles south to Brooklyn, Green County, Wisconsin, a town of about 500 people. Once again Herbert was cashier of the bank there.



The Millers lived in this spacious home which was quite a change from their small home in Neshkoro (But no lake out back this time).

After renting for a time they purchased this home with a mortgage. Phoebe's parents, Tom and Nettie Wilson, moved to Brooklyn as well and lived in an upstairs apartment next door to Herbert and Phoebe. Tom got a job in a dairy and Nettie helped Phoebe with the children. Because they had purchased their home in Brooklyn and had to make mortgage payments every month, they decided that they would put the extra space to good use and rent it out to boarders. They had a single man in one room and a married couple in another.



This photo was taken while the family was living in Brooklyn. Tom and Nettie who are sitting in the front seat with Clayton on the hood. Behind Tom is Emily, Phoebe, her sister Maude. Keith is the little guy between Phoebe and Maude. (I don't know the man next to Keith. He may have been one of their boarders.) I believe the young woman in the foreground is a friend or neighbor. The man sitting on the running board with the camera is Frank Hull, Maude's husband. (Phoebe's brother in-law).



Emily, Keith and Phoebe in front of their home in Brooklyn

#### The Miller Move to Princeton, Wisconsin



In 1924, six years after moving to Brooklyn, Herbert accepted a job as cashier of The FirstNational Bank of Princeton, Wisconsin. This would be their third move in less than twenty years. They packed up their belongings, headed fifty miles north to Princeton and settled in the home at left on Water Street, just four blocks from the bank.



First National Bank of Princeton



The Princeton State Bank

Princeton had a population of around one thousand. The main street was three blocks long and in that three blocks there were fifteen saloons. At the time Herbert took this position as cashier the bank was The First National Bank. It later became the Princeton State Bank and finally the the Farmers and Merchants bank.



Herbert was thirty six years old and each move was an advancement in his career as a banker.

It was the era of John Dillinger and the Al Capone gang from Chicago. These notorious robbers never stayed long in one place but they liked to hide out in the back woods of northern Wisconsin and rob a bank here and there for a bit of extra spending money

Bankers had to be on their guard and ready for anything.



Herbert and Phoebe on the front steps of their home in Princeton.



Keith was a chubby boy in elementary school. Phoebe's parents, Tom and Nettie also made the move to Princeton. They bought a home about four blocks away from Herbert and Phoebe. Nettie helped with the three children and the house work.

By the time the Millers moved to Princeton Clayton had already completed his first year of high school. He entered Princeton High School as a sophomore.



Phoebe, Keith and Emily on their front steps in Princeton



Against doctor's orders Phoebe became pregnant with the Miller's fourth child... a girl whom they named **Inez Mae**.



Inez Mae Miller in her swing



In 1931 Herbert left his job as cashier of the bank in Princeton and abruptly moved his family back to Brooklyn. (Clayton and Lillie were married by this time and continued to live in Princeton and work in the bank).

The reason for the Millers' move is not clear. It may have involved a loan that Herbert made to a Princeton resident who wanted to open a car dealership but had no collateral.

The Millers resettled in the home in Brooklyn. Inez was six years old at the time and still remembers that she spent one day in the first grade in Princeton and then they left town and headed to Brooklyn. Unfortunately this time Herbert didn't have a job and the mortgage on their home was not yet paid off. They took in borders and Herbert tried selling Electrolux vacuum cleaners. But with a depression going on no one was buying. He finally found a secure job in the Post Office. Unfortunately in spite of how hard he worked there just wasn't enough money to pay the bills. They had no choice but to forfeit their home just \$600 short of paying off the mortgage. This was probably the lowest time in the life of their family. The bank foreclosed on their home and they moved to a smaller home near the edge of town. Inez remembers it as not being a very nice part of town.

In 1939 things began looking up. Herbert took a job in Waukesha, Wisconsin as a bookkeeper for Waukesha Motors. (Waukesha is is a town about an hour southeast of Brooklyn and about five miles east of Milwaukee.) This was the largest city Herbert and Phoebe had ever lived in.





Waukesha's population in 1935 was 1,700. An Interurban street car between Waukesha and Milwaukee ran daily on the hour. Quite a change for this small town couple...and their youngest daughter.

Herbert and Phoebe were able to rent the lower level of this beautiful home on Hartwell Avenue. Phoebe's muscular dystrophy had advanced to the point of having to hang onto furniture as she moved about the house. Nevertheless she still enjoyed cooking. She just had to do it sitting down.

In one corner of the kitchen was a bird cage, the home of a canary named "Pretty Bird" who sang to her as she prepared meals.







This ornate fireplace, imported from Germany, was a cozy spot where Phoebe loved to sit and read.

This tea set belonged to Phoebe and was used on special occasions.





My aunt Inez and I became good friends during that era. My aunt Emily and her husband Ken lived within walking distance from the streetcar line and from Herbert and Phoebe in an upstairs one bedroom apartment.

After Emily's marriage to Ken ended she got a job as head housekeeper at the Avalon Hotel in downtown Waukesha.



Keith and Muriel lived east of town. He and Herbert both worked at Waukesha Motors.

The big house on Hartwell soon became too big for Phoebe and Herbert to take care of. They moved to a medium sized home closer to the business district and later to a smaller home further from town.

## 5. The Family Multiplies

Clayton and Lillie's Story

They were married in May of 1930 and continued to work at the bank. This photo was taken after they were married.

(Go to page 167 for their full story.)



#### Emily's Story



Emily...all dressed up. Probably in high school.



After high school Emily was spending time with a young man by the name of Earl Biggs. Ironically Earl was Lillie's cousin (Son of Hattie Biggs). This picture and the one of Clayton and Lillie (above) look very much alike and may have been taken at the same time. The ring on Emily's left hand looks very much like an engagement ring.

That wedding never took place.

Emily married Ken Hoeft in the late 1930's. They lived in Waukesha near Herbert and Phoebe. They were divorced and Emily never remarried. (See more on Emily's life on page 60)



#### Keith's Story



Keith's adult journey began when he set out by himself from Brooklyn after high school in search of a job. He was hired by Waukesha Motors in the city of Waukesha and spent the restof his career working in that same place.

Inez and big brother Keith in their grandparents yard in Princeton.

He was a great outdoor man and loved to fish and hunt. (By this time Keith was already experiencing some of the symptoms of muscular dystrophy one of which was his lack of ability to raise his arms above his head).





...but eventually he found a woman to love.

He also loved his pipe...



Muriel Lehman had a sweet, quiet nature. She and Keith met in Green Lake, WI where her parents owned a cottage. No doubt Keith was there to fish, but caught a wife in the process. They had a small, quiet wedding in the Methodist church in Ripon, Wisconsin where Muriel's family lived and where she was born.



Emily is on the left with Muriel to her left. Across the table are Herbert and Phoebe with Wayne and Marilyn, Keith an Muriel's children. Keith is taking the picture. He and Muriel waited nine years before having the two children in the picture because they were waiting for the results of tests being conducted to determine how this type of muscular dystophy was passed on. The study concluded that only the female could pass on the disease.

### Inez's Story



Cute little Inez about age five.

Inez with her friends Lois Golz and Jackie Hancock in the Golz's front yard.





Inez and her "watch dog" in the back yard in Princeton (The rather run down house in the background belongs to the neighbors).



Inez age six - dressed for her first and only day of school in Princeton.



Teenage Inez



Inez all grown up and in her motorcycle boots. She was dating a young motorcycle enthusiast at the time. They had been introduced to each other by Emily's husband, Ken.

In October 1942 she married her motorcycle "buddy", Gib Liebhauser. They moved north toMenasha, WI and raised a family of four girls and two boys.

1942-Wedding day for Gib and Inez. They were married in the Catholic church and the reception was at the Miller home on Hartwell Ave. Gib is second from the left in the back row.

Except for my brother Jerry and I, the people in this photo are all members of Gib's family.





Ken (Emily's husband) on the left with Gib next to him. Inez in the wedding gown, Herbert, Lille, Clayton. I'm the one enthralled by the bride and next to me is my brother Jerry. Emily is on the far right. Phoebe is not in the picture. The newlyweds made their home in Menasha, Wisconsin with some of Gib's sisters.

Inez gave birth to six children; two boys and four girls. Gib died in 1999.



Inez and Bill Fitzgerald

Inez married Bill Fitzgerald who was born in 1935 and died in 1999 leaving Inez as a widow once again.

As I write, Inez is ninety four years old and living with her youngest daughter, Janet.

This was a summer gathering of most of the Miller family that took place in Menasha at Herbert and Phoebe's new home.

Front row: Inez and Keith and Muriel's children Marilyn and Wayne.
Middle row: Phoebe, Lillie, Muriel, Emily Back row: Herbert, Gib Liebhauser (Inez's husband), Keith, Clayton.





Keith, Muriel, Clayton, Lillie, Emily and Inez early 1950's

The Rest of the Story...

I tell the following story not to shame or judge, but to share a branch of the family you may never learn about otherwise. All family members are precious.

Several years after Emily's death in 1984 her brother Keith received a phone call from a woman in Texas claiming to be Emily's daughter with the birth certificate to prove it. She had been adopted at birth by a young couple and was now herself a mother. Her motivation for contacting Emily's family was precipitated by the fact that she had been diagnosed with muscular dystrophy and her teenage daughter was also showing signs of it. She was attempting to track down the source of the disease and learn what she could about it. She was also trying to find her birth father.



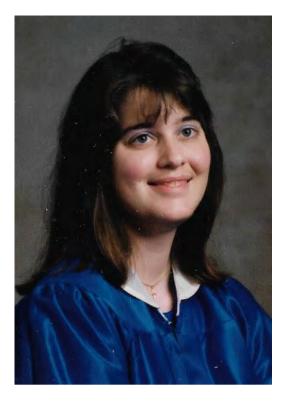
A young Ginger Hoppe (Emily's daughter)

She was born in Texas and immediatly adopted by a young couple with the last name of Hoppe. She grew up in a loving Christian home knowing that she was adopted.



Ginger Hoppe Garner and her husband Jimmy

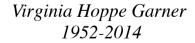
Ginger's husband was involved in prison ministry in the Austin, Texas area. They had one daughter whom they named Flaine.



Elaine Garner (Emily's granddaughter)

By the time this was disclosed to the family Herbert, Phoebe and Emily were no longer alive. Emily's siblings were shocked, surprised and bewildered. How in the world did Emily manage to keep this a secret for all those years?

After hearing this story I wanted to reach out this new-found cousin. She and I had a few phone conversations which we both enjoyed and kept in touch on email for several years. I sent her some photos of her mother Emily for which she was very greatful. We lost touch with each other but several years later I made another attempt to connect with her. In the process I came across her obituary on the internet with the picture below (Taken quite awhile before she died).





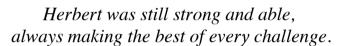
## 6. Herbert and Phoebe - Their Later years

Emily was still in Waukesha working as head housekeeper for the Avalon Hotel. Her muscular dystrophy had advanced to the point that she was unable to care for her aging parents. Keith and Muriel had two children to take care of plus they lived several miles away on the opposite side of the large city.

Herbert and Phoebe decided to relocate to Menasha, Wisconsin where Gib and Inez and their family lived. A lovely one-level home became available. They would be just one back yard away from them.



The Millers' new home in Menasha, Wisconsin





Phoebe kept smiling in spite of her disability, but her desire to have a well kept house could sometimes be quite demanding on Herbert.





In August of 1966 Herbert had a stroke from which he never recovered.

For awhile Phoebe lived alone in their home in Menasha with the almost constant help of her four granddaughters. Soon that also became unworkable and Phoebe was moved back to Waukesha where she lived in the Virginia Nursing Home. Her son Keith and his wife Muriel and their children still lived in Waukesha as well as her daughter Emily.



Phoebe and Muriel Keith's wife



By this time I was married and our family of four children lived in Arlington Heights, IL (about a two hour drive from Waukesha). We would drive north to Waukesha to visit Phoebe in her new "home" as well as Emily and Keith and Muriel and their children. The photo above was one of those occasions.

(From left to right is Phoebe, Emily, me holding Cheryl, Glen, Marilyn, Muriel, Clayton and Lillie (who were visiting from Washington D.C.).

## Herbert Anson Miller

924 Harding St., Menasha 1964 Age 80, passed away at 1:15 a.m. Wednesday. He was born March 20, 1886 in Almond, Wis. and had been a resident of Menasha for the past 11 years prior to which time he resided in Waukesha. He was formerly employed by the Waukesha Motor Company in the tabulating department; he was a member of the Waucoma Masonic Lodge No. 90 and had been honored as a 50 year member; was a member of the Twin Cities Retired Mens Club: a member of the Methodist Church, Neenah. Mr. Miller is survived by his wife; two daughters, Miss Emily Miller. Waukesha, Mrs. Gilbert Lieb. hauser, Menásha; two sons. Keith, Waukesha, Clayton Washington, D.C.; one brother. Fred, Burlington, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday from the Laemmrich Funeral Home, Menasha. Interment will be in Amherst. Masonic services will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday. Friends may call at the funeral home from to 9 p.m. Thursday.



# Mrs. Herbert

Mrs. Herbert Miller, who resided at the Virginia Nursing Home, Waukesha, the past several years, died on Wednesday, May 17, 1972, at the Waukesha Memorial Hospital. Afflicted with arthritis, she became ill and was hospitalized only a few days. She had attained the age of 84 years.

Mrs. Miller, nee Phoebe Wilson, was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wilson, who too, for several years lived in Princeton. While a resident in Princeton from about 1924 to 1931, her husband, the late Herbert A. Miller, was cashier in the Farmers - Merchants National Bank.

Immediate family survivors are two sons and two daughters, Clayton Miller, DeLand, Fla., Emily Miller, and Keith Miller of Waukesha, Mrs. Gilbert (Inas Mae) Liebhauser, Menasha; also ten grandchildren and 15 great

grandchildren.

Funeral services were Saturday morning, May 20th, at Waukesha, followed by interment in the cemetery at Amherst, Wis.

Herbert and Phoebe'were buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Wisconsin - the small town where Phoebe was born. She's buried next to Herbert and surrounded by her parents and aunts and uncles.

# Clayton Anson Miller Maternal Line

## 1. The Flemings and The Van Harts

### RACHEL VAN HART'S FAMILY

Following is an article found on the internet.

"The family is of Holland lineage. Michael being a native of Holland and the progenitor of this name in America. Coming to the new world he settled in Falls township prior to the revolutionary war. He acquired a tract of land near Morrisville, which for many years was known as Van Hart's Island. His son, Jacob Van Hart, was a laboring man and spent his entire life, so far as is known, in Upper and Lower Makefield townships and in Newtown."

| H       | usband: Michael Van Hart   |   |
|---------|--|---|
|         | Born: 1750<br>Married: Abt. 1784<br>Died: 08 Mar 1850  | in: Crossing the Atlantic in: Jackson Twp, Tioga Co., Pa                          |
|         | Wife: Pamela Hunter  |   |
|         | Born:  | in: England   |
| (       | CHILDREN   |   |
| I<br>M  | Name: William Van Hart<br>Born: 04 Dec 1785  |   |
| 2<br>F  | Name: Mary Van Hart<br>Born: 03 Aug 1788   |   |
| 3<br>F  | Name: Nancy Van Hart<br>Børn 1: 07 Aug 1790<br>Børn 2: 06 Aug 1790<br>Married:<br>Spouse: Joesph Woodford                | in: Pennsylvania<br>in: Pennsylvania  |
| 4<br>F  | Name: Rachel Van Hart<br>Born: 01 Jun 1792<br>Died: 1864<br>Married: 28 Feb 1812<br>Spouse: Thomas Fleming               | in: New Jersey<br>in: Amfierst, Portage, WI<br>in: Lower Makefield, Bucks Co., PA |
| 5<br>F  | Name: Sarah Van Hart<br>Born: 19 Nov 1794<br>Married:<br>Spouse: Unknown Garwood   |   |
| 6<br>F  | Name: Hanna Van Hart<br>Born: 15 Sep 1796  |   |
| 7<br>M  | Name: Michael Van Hart<br>Born: 06 Oct 1797<br>Married:<br>Spouse: Susanna Unknown                                       | in: Pennsylvania  |
| 8<br>M  | Name: James Van Hart<br>Born: 10 Nov 1799  |   |
| 9<br>M  | Name: Patrick Van Hart<br>Born: 12 Oct 1801  |   |
| 10<br>F | Name: Laura Linton Van Hart<br>Born: 05 Jun 1803<br>Died: 08 Apr 1890<br>Married: 06 Sep 1822<br>Spouse: William Everitt | in: Bucks co, PA<br>in: Jackson Center, PA<br>in: Bucks, Pa                       |

Rachel's father, Michael Van Hart was born in 1759 while crossing the Atlantic on a ship en route to America. As an adult he was an innkeeper of what was at that time called "The Ferry Tavern". Michael also ran a ferry that crossed the river to New Jersey. The following quote is from an address to the Fort Washington chapter of The Daughters Of The American Revolution in 1915:

"Michael A. Van Hart, deceased, was owner and landlord for a long term, and until recently it was and may still be owned by his heirs. This old hostelry was much frequented in the days of the Revolution, and here, in December, 1776, the Continental soldiers made wassail, and drank to the success of their cause and the downfall of King George the Third in his American Colonies."

In about 1780 Michael Van Hart met and married Pamela Hunter who was born in England. They had five children. As a little girl I occasionally asked my Grandma Miller where our family came from. Her answer was always "We are Irish and English and Pennsylvania Dutch." I never knew what "Pennsylvania Dutch" meant but I have learned that the term refers to people who were born in Holland and immigrated to the America. That was true of the Van Harts. They settled in Lower Makefield and later in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

|        | Husband: Thomas Fleming  |  |
|--------|--|--|
|        | Born: 01 Oct 1792<br>Married: 28 Feb 1812<br>Died: 22 Sep 1855   | in: Trenton, Hunterdon Co., New Jersey<br>in: Lower Makefield, Bucks Co., PA<br>in: Amherst, Portage, WI |
|        | Wife: Rachel Van Hart  |  |
|        | Born: 01 Jun 1792<br>Died; 1864<br>Father: Michael Van Hart<br>Mother: Pamela Hunter   | in: New Jersey<br>in: Amherst, Portage, WI   |
|        | CHILDREN   |  |
| T<br>F | Name: Hannah Fleming<br>Born: 03 Nov 1816<br>Died: 08 Jun 1901<br>Married: 16 Mar 1834<br>Spouse: William G Rice                 | in: New Jersey<br>in: Coloirado<br>in: Pennsylvania  |
| 2<br>M | Name: William Van Hart Fleming<br>Born: 24 Aug 1819<br>Died: 10 Oct 1887<br>Married: 20 Jan 1843<br>Spouse: Caroline Eliza Wylie | in: Trenton, Mercer Co., NJ in: Amherst, Portage, WI in: Great Bend, Susquehanna, PA                     |
| 3<br>F | Name: Maria Fleming<br>Born: 06 Jul 1822<br>Died: 19 Dec 1901<br>Married: Abt. 1856<br>Spouse: Rubin Thompson (Thomas            | in: Trenton, Mercer Co. NJ<br>in: Amherst, Portage, WI   |
| 4<br>F | Name: Phoebe Fleming Born: 07 Dec 1825 Died: 14 May 1916 Married: 08 Jun 1850 Spouse: William Wilson                             | in: Trenton, Mercer Co, NJ<br>in: Steven Point, Portage, WI<br>in: Southport, Chemung Co., New York      |
| 5<br>F | Name: Harriet Fleming<br>Born: 01 Mar 1827<br>Died: 21 Jan 1890<br>Married: Abt. 1856<br>Spouse: Robert Wilson                   | in: New York in: Amherst, Portage, WI in: Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin                                    |
| 6<br>F | Name: Parmelia Fleming<br>Born: 14 Feb 1830<br>Died; 22 Jul 1889<br>Married:<br>Spouse: Alonson T Ryerson                        | in: New York<br>in: Amherst, Portage, WI   |
| 7<br>M | Name: Benjamin Fleming<br>Born: 21 May 1833<br>Died: 28 Sep 1912<br>Married: 1858<br>Spouse: Anne A. Loing                       | in: Jackson Township, Tioga Co., PA<br>in: Amherst, Portage, WI<br>in: Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin       |

Thomas Fleming and Rachel Van Hart were married in February 1812 in Lower Makefield, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. His parents immigrated to America in the mid to late 1700's. The VanHarts sailed from Holland in 1759.

The name of Thomas's father is not known for certain but may have been Benjamin Fleming. Thomas more than likely had brothers and sisters based on the fact that large families were common back then. Nevertheless, I have never been able to verify that fact. I have only found a "Sheriff's Sale" record dating back to 1844. Thomas Fleming and a William Fleming were both selling farm land in Tioga County Pennsylvania. William may well have been a brother of Thomas. That same record also lists Michael Van Hart with land for sale in the same area. (Michael Van Hart was Thomas Fleming's father-in-law.)

September 22, 1855, only two years after the Flemings settled in Amherst, Wisconsin Thomas, the family patriarch, died. Rachel lived for another nine years, making her home with her children.



When this photo was taken the tombstone had become covered with lichens, making it difficult to read. I visited the cemetery in the late 1900's. By that time it had been there for over one hundred years.

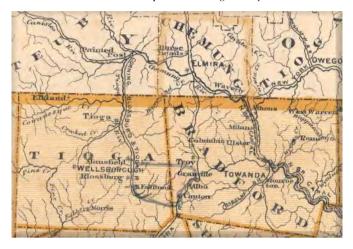


Nine years after Thomas died as the Civil War was ending, Rachel died and was buried next to Thomas.

I have no obituary for either of them.

## 2. The Thomas Fleming Family

Thomas and Rachel's life together began in 1812. They lived in Trenton, New Jersey until around 1826. In those fourteen years they had four children, Hannah, William, Maria and Phoebe. Sometime before March of 1827 they moved the family to what became known as the Tri-State area. It consisted of three counties all bordering each other. Tioga County and Bradford County in Pennsylvania and Chemung County in New York. Their youngest son, Benjamin, was born in Jackson Township in Tioga County. Phoebe and her husband William Wilson were married in Southport, Chemung County.



Times were apparently difficult for Rachel and Thomas Fleming at this time, in spite of the fact that they worked hard farming. In 1834 an Assessment of Jackson Township stated that Thomas Fleming was unable to pay the "schooling tax" for his daughters Maria, Phoebe and Harriet. That same year the Fleming's oldest child, Hannah and her husband William Rice set out for the west. They made a brief stop in Wisconsin but finally settled in the Delta, Colorado area. In 1843 the Fleming's oldest son William was married to Caroline Eliza Wiley. Not long after that they set out on their trip west.

In the mid 1850's the Fleming family made the long trek from the Pennsylvania and New York border area to the pristine wilderness of Wisconsin. (Wisconsin had become a state in 1848.

The Fleming Family (In birth order)

Hannah Fleming - 1816-1901 Hannah was born in Trenton, New Jersey, the firstborn of Thomas and Rachel Fleming. In 1834 she married William O. Rice while the Flemings were living in Pennsylvania. Shortly after her marriage to William G Rice they moved west spending some time in Wisconsin and then moving on to Delta, Colorado. They spent the rest of their life there.



This is the only picture I have of Hannah and William's family. This is their daughter (name unknown) with her husband, Rufus Axtell.



William Van Hart Fleming 1819-1887



William married Caroline Elize Wylie while the two families were living in Pennsylvania.



Caroline Eliza Wylie Fleming 1822-1906

William was born in Trenton, New Jersey. In 1843 he married Caroline Eliza Wylie in Great Bend Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. William was the second in the Fleming family to move west.

## A lot of the story about William and Caroline can be found in the article below which was written by one of their nieces.

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Fleming name is believed to be Scottish.

When William V, was in Great Bend, he narried Caroline Wylie, a daughter of Melauchton Wylie and Elizabeth Jarvis. The Wylie family later became permainent settlers in the town of Eau Pleine.

William V. and Caroline emigrated to Illinois in 1844, when he was 25. Leaving his wife in Illinois, he backpacked into the central Wisconsin pineries of Portage County, where he could pursue his occupation as a shingle weaver. He settled first in the Eau Pleine area and built a log cabin and sawnill on the Little Eau Pleine River, near the confluence with the Wisconsin River, where the settlement of Eau Pleine had become a stopping place for lumber-jacks and forest rangers. Fleming logged and erected various sawnills in the district, as well as investing in the production of lumber.

Many stories have been told of

investing in the production of lumber.

Many stories have been told of incidents in the Fleming logging camps. In mid-winter when the imberjacts left the timber at dusk, the long evenings gave time for entertainment in the bunkhouses.

the long evenings give time to entertainment in the bunkhouses.

Caroline joined her husband in Eau Pleine not long after he arrived, and records show their (irst child, Withelmina, was born in Eau Pleine in 1847.

Caroline's father, Melanchton Wylie, came to the Eau Pleine about 1853. The next year, he built a instelly and dance hall near the DuBay truding post.

The "Northerner," a side wheeler steamer for river use, was constructed to make the brip from Stevens Point to Little Bull Falls (Mosinee). After a larger boiler was built in 1836, the Northerner could accommodate 30 passengers and several tons of freight.

The steamer can excursions

several tons of freight.

The steamer can excursions between Stevens Point and the Wylie lavern and dance hall, which was called the "Piymouth," it took the Northerner one and a half hours to make the trip against the active current.

descendant or French ruguenous who were probably exiles to Holland thiring the secution by the Catholics in it. I'th century. The sojourn in Holland of the following generations would account for the Dutch name of Van Hart. The Fleming name is believed to be Scottish.

When William V, was in Great. Bend, he married Caroline Wylle, as daughter of Melanchton Wylle and Elizabeth Jarvis. The Wylle family later became permaient settlers in the town of Eau Pleine.

William V and Caroline emigrated to Illinois in 1844, when he was 25. Leaving his wife in Illinois, he backpacked into the central Wisconsin pineries of Portage County, where he could parsue his



William died in 1887. Caroline carried on for another ten years with her children and grandchildren.





Caroline in her later years. I assume that this huge spinning wheel belonged to her.

## Maria Fleming 1822-1901

Maria was born in Trenton, N.J. and was still a young girl when her family moved to Pennsylvania and later to Wisconsin. In 1856, after arriving in that newly formed state, she married Rubin Thompson.

Phoebe Fleming 1825-1916

Thomas and Rachel's fourth child, **Phoebe**, married William Wilson while the Fleming family was living in Southport, Chemung County, New York. Phoebe and William Wilson were my great great grandparents.



I found this portrait in my Aunt Inez's collection of family pictures. I'm quite certain that it's Phoebe Fleming, but cannot prove it. There was no identification on it. This may have been taken (or painted) shortly before her wedding to William Wilson.

Phoebe Fleming Wilson and her husband, William Wilson.

They had five sons and one daughter. Their son Thomas was my greatgrandfather.



Phoebe FLEMING

Wilson, Phoebe (Fleming) Death Certificate

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Department of Health - Breaks of Vital Statistics

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Transfer -

 ${\it Phoebe's death certificate.}$ 

Phoebe Flemming Wilson Obituary "Amherst Advocate - May 18, 1916

LAST ORIGINAL SETTLER DIES Came to Amherst When It Was But A Wilderness

Many people in the village and vicinity will feel sincere regret over the death of Mrs. Phoebe Wilson who expired at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C.F. Haertel at 218 Mill Street Stevens Point, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 P.M., (14 May 1916) after a long illness a nearly a year. Mrs. Wilson had been a resident of Amherst village for over 62 years, previous to April 5 1915, when she was forced to give up her home here and move to Stevens Point, in company with her daughter, Mrs. Mary Fowlie, on account of poor health of both Mrs. Wilson and her daughter.

Phoebe Fleming was born at Trenton, NY (s/b NJ) Dec., 7, 1824 the daughter of Thoma and Rachel Fleming. On the 8th day of June 1850, she was married to William Wilson a Elmira, NY by Rev. Moses Crow. In the fall of 1853 they came to Wisconsin and for a year or two lived at the pinery near Knowlton and vicinity. A little later they came to Amherst, Wis. where a brother of Mrs. Wilson; Wm. V. Fleming had taken up a large section of land, which he subdivided with his sisters and one brother, making them adjoining property. These sisters were Mrs. Alanson Ryerson, Mrs. Rueben Thomson, Mrs. Wm. Rice, Mrs. Robert Wilson and one brother Benjamin Fleming, all deceased. Mr. Wilson passed away Dec. 30, 1898. Her immediate family consisted of five sons and one daughter; Robert, Thomas, and Mrs. C.F. Haertel of Stevens Point, Estile of Ashlan Richard and Henry of the village. One daughter, Mrs. Mary Fowlie passed away June 8, 1915.

The body was brought to Amherst Wednesday afternoon on No. 12 Soo passenger and taken to the M.E. church where services were held. She has been a devoted member of the M.E. church since but a child. The Interment was made in Greenwood Cemetery in the family lot. Rev. J.J. Gelling officiating.

## Harriet Fleming 1827-1890

Phoebe's younger sister **Harriet** married Phoebe's brother-in-law (William's brother) making them sisters-in-law as well as sisters. Ponder that for awhile) The Fleming family and the Wilson family became life-long friends (and relatives). They moved to Wisconsin together and were both credited with being founding fathers of the town of Amherst, Wisconsin.



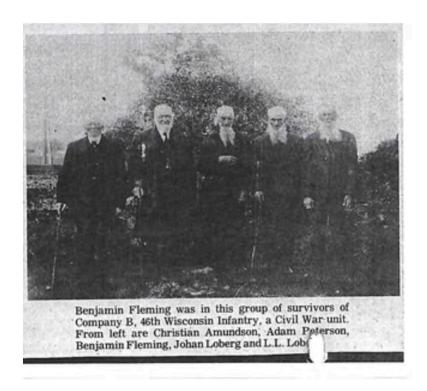
Parmelia Fleming 1830-1889

Parmelia married Alonson T. Ryerson in Amherst, Wisconsin.

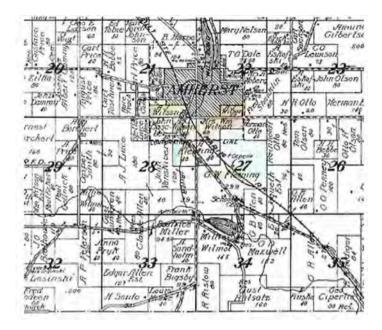
There were no children born to their marriage. Parmelia died at the age of fifty-nine. Her husband died eleven months before that.

## Benjamin Fleming 1883-1912

**Benjamin** was the youngest of the Fleming children. Like his brother William, he was instrumental in the formation of the city of Amherst. Both of them held positions of leadership and both were respected. Ben was the only one in the family to serve in the Civil War. The picture below shows Ben with the other men from Amherst who served in that war. I'm guessing the picture was taken many year after the war. The war started in 1861 when Ben was in his thirties at that time.







SYNCOMYSIAN

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The above map of Amherst shows the land belonging to the Flemings and the Wilsons. The Flemings built the first school in Amherst and were among the families that established the first Methodist church in the area. Both families donated land for cemeteries. The Fleming Cemetery was called Lower Amherst Cemetery. Most of the Flemings are buried there. The Greenwood Cemetery was a gift to the city as well. Most of the Wilsons are buried there including my grandparents, Phoebe and Herbert Miller and their daughter Emily.

Above is a county map of Wisconsin. The green area marks the two counties where the Flemings and Wilsons settled. Portage County to the north and Washara County adjacent to it on the south. The county bordering Portage county to the east is where Laura Ingalls and her family lived for a brief time. "The Little House In The Big Woods" was written by Laura and describes life at that time and place in the 1800's.

## 4. The Barton Organ

For the musicians reading this family history I'm including the story of the Barton organ since it was invented and built by the grandson of William and Caroline Flemings. Dan Barton was born in Amherst and married Milicent, William and Caroline's oldest daughter. Dan and Milicent's son, also Dan, is the inventor and builder of the Barton Organ. Nevertheless, to hear the actual organ played at the Chicago baseball stadium use the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4R6xR9XY6MA



If you still want to learn more here's another link: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bartola\_Musical\_Instrument\_Company">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bartola\_Musical\_Instrument\_Company</a>

## 5. Fleming-Wilson Reunions



This may have been the first family reunion. It is made up of the Wilson side of them family. My great grandfather, Tom Wilson, is just behind and to the left of the little boy twisting around to look at him. His wife Nettie is not on the picture. She may have already been too ill to attend. She died in 1929. These first reunions were held at Lake Emily in Amherst.



This reunion was held around 1929 at Green Lake, Just east of Princeton, Wisconsin. There are several Wilsons you may recognize like Clayton and Lillie Miller (They were probably not married yet).



Thomas (Tom), Henry, Edith, Richard and Estil

Tom was my great grandfather (father of Phoebe Wilson Miller). This photo was taken at the same Fleming/Wilson reunions that is pictured above. It took place before the death of Richard in 1927. Henry lived until 1953. I was in college by then and would have remembered him. I don't remember his name ever being mentioned. (???) He was living in Stevens Point, WI when he died.



Clayton and Lillie are on the left in the back row separated by an unknown girl. If you have a real good eye you can find half of Keith's head.



Another Wilson Family Reunion
You may recognize some of these people from the above photos. This is just the Wilson side of the family.



This is probably the latest Wilson Family Reunion. The only one I recognize is Henry on the front row to the far right, wiping his eye. He died in 1952.

## 1. The Weeds In Our "Garden"

This picture was taken in the early 1800's at the Weed home in Wautoma County, Wisconsin. One of the young women in this picture is Phoebe Weed, my great great grandmother. Her parents are seated in the front row. Phoebe's mother may have been a descendant of the King of Powys, Wales.



The Henry Weed Family

Following is a bit of the history of Powys royalty...

Bleddyn Sais King of Gwynedd and Powys was born in 1023 in Powis, Montgomeryshire, Wales. He was married in 1044 and died in 1075 in Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, Wales. His father was born in 978 AD in Powis, Wales and died in 1032 in Powys Castle. Tracing that line down through the ages will bring you finally to the family of Phoebe Weed. The original castle has since been destroyed. The one pictured above is built on the sight of the original castle. Does that make Phoebe a princess???

Centuries later the parents of both Phoebe Weed and Alfred Collins migrated from New York state to Wisconsin and settled in Washara County where they met and were married. The year was 1852 and Wisconsin was a newly formed state. Alfred farmed the land and Phoebe raised the children.



The original castle was destroyed and another built to take its place (seen above)



Phoebe's father died on the family homestead in Washara County.

## 2. The Collins Family

| Spouse:   |                              | Alfred Collins  |                                  |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
|           | Birth:<br>Marriage:<br>Death | 09 Sep 1824 in Brockville, Leeds, Ontario, Canada<br>27 Jul 1852 in Wautoma, Washara, Wisconsin<br>18 Jun 1904 in Oasis, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA | ALFRED N<br>COLLANS<br>TTA - MDA |
|           | Father:<br>Mother:           | Jesse Collins<br>Johanna Burns  | 1032 - 1827                      |
| Spouse:   |                              | Phoebe A Weed   |                                  |
|           | Birth                        | 16 Feb 1832 in Greeffeld, Saratoga, New York  | 1000                             |
|           | Death:                       | 04 Aug 1907 in Plainfield, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA   | - 60                             |
|           | Father                       | Henry C Weed  | - 30                             |
|           | Mother.                      | Asenath Dake  | - 1                              |
| Children: |                              |   |                                  |
| 1         | Name:                        | Ida Colims  | 1. 2                             |
| F         | Birth:                       | 1852 in Wautoma, Washara Wisconsin  | Sec. 25.                         |
|           | Scouse:                      | George Abbot  | 3080                             |
| 2         | Name:                        | Ezra Edwin Collins  | の場                               |
| M         | Birth:                       | 01 Jun 1856 in Wautoma, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA  | Sec. 2                           |
|           | Death:                       | 1939 in Maywood, Cook County, Illinois  |                                  |
|           | Spouse                       | Frances Gertrude Della Maude Sills  | Test.                            |
| 3         | Name:                        | Salle W. Cottins  | -0                               |
| 14        | Birth:                       | 1858 in Wautoma, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA   |                                  |
|           | Death:                       | 1928 in Deerfield, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA   | -40                              |
|           | Spouse                       | Leta May Vromm  |                                  |
| 4         | Name:                        | Imogene Collins   | - 5.0                            |
| F         | Birth:                       | 01 Nov 1859 in Wautoma, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA  | A                                |
|           | Marriage:                    | 24 Jul 1880 in Almond, Portage, Wisconsin, USA  | 1                                |
|           | Death:                       | 19 Mar 1929 in Wautome, Wausham, Wisconsin, USA   |                                  |
|           | Spouse:                      | Henry Miller  |                                  |
| 5         | Name:                        | Harriet J. Hattie Collins   | 100                              |
| F         | Birth:                       | 1862 in Wautoma, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA   | - 10                             |
|           | Death:                       | 1887 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin  | - 27                             |
|           | Spouse:                      | Howard C. Searles   |                                  |
| 6         | Name                         | Fred B Collins  | 466                              |
| M         | Birth:                       | 20 Jun 1865 in Wautoma, Wayshara, Wisconsin, USA  | - 0                              |
|           | Marriage:                    | 26 Feb 1893   | - 4                              |
|           | Death                        | 10 May 1920 in Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac.  |                                  |
|           | Spouse:                      | Ann Cheszinski  |                                  |
| 1         | Name:                        | Jabez W Collins   | -                                |
| M         | Birth:                       | Mar 1870 in Oasis, Waushara; Wisconsin, USA   |                                  |
|           | Death:                       | Aft. 1929 in Independence, Missouri   | - 40                             |
|           | Spouse                       | Lida Lakin  | 1.3                              |
| 8.        | Name:                        | Gertrude Smith Collins  | - 4                              |
| F         | Birth:                       | 10 Mar 1872 in Oasis, Waushara, Wiscomin, USA   | (7) E                            |
|           | Death:                       | 16 Jul 1956 in Royal Oak, Michigan  | 930 V                            |
|           | Spouse:                      | George Eber Dafoe   | -16                              |
| 9         | Name;                        | Jesse Collins   |                                  |
| M         | Birth:                       | 14 Jul 1875 in Oasis, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA  | 100                              |
|           | Death:                       | 09 Sep 1875 in Oasis, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA  | - 35                             |
| 10        | Name                         | Harold Collins  | - 10                             |
| M         | Birth:                       | 18 Sep 1877 in Oasis, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA  | 100                              |
|           | Marriage:                    | 25 Dec 1909 in Plainfield, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA   | - 4                              |
|           | Death:                       | 16 Apr 1927 in Kenosha, Kenosha, Wisconsin, USA   | - 2                              |

With names like Burns and Collins it would seem obvious that they immigrated from Ireland. However it is difficult to trace them since so many of the official records were destroyed in the famous Dublin Post Office fire that resulted from the war between Ireland and England in 1919.

Jesse Collin was my great-great grandfather on my father's side of the family. He and his wife Joanna Burns married in the early 1800's in Saratoga, New York. They had five children; Alfred, Margaret, Samuel, Jesse and Charlotte. Their son Alfred C. married Phoebe Ann Weed in 1852 in Washara County, Wisconsin. That's where our known story begins.

## The Family of Alfred and Phoebe Collins

Below are Alfred and Phoebe's ten children in order of their birth.

Ida Collins-1852 (?)

Ida arrived the first year of Alfred and Phoebe's marriage. She married George Abbot and they had three children, a son named Kneeland and two daughters, Maude and Edna. After Albert died Ida married Album Cummins.



Ezra Edwin Collins 1856-1939



**Ezra** married Frances Gertrude Della Maude Sills. (known as Maude) They lived in Brookfield, IL, a suburb of Chicago where Ezra made his living as a house painter. They had four children; Ray, Harry, Ethel and Pearl.

He's holding me in this picture. As a child I remember hearing my dad's family talk about "Uncle Ezra". He died when I was four years old.

Selie was born in Wautoma, Wisconsin. He married Lela May Vromm. He died in Deerfield, in Waushara County, Wisconsin. Selie and Lela May had three children; a girl they named Ruby and two boys, Arthur and Jesse.

Imogene Collins 1859-1929

Alfred and Phoebe's fourth child, **Imogene**, married Henry Miller. They had three boys, Fred, Otis and Herbert (my grandfather). Their father Henry died when Herbert was about four years old. After raising her three boys Imogene married John R Jones, who was at one time the sheriff of Waushara County. She is buried next to her first husband, Henry in the Bardwell Cemetery in Plainfield, Wisconsin (Her full story can be found on page 25).



Harriet J. Collins (Hattie) 1862 - 1887

Harriet was born three years after her sister Imogene. She married Howard C. Searles. Three daughters were born to them; Hazel, Lena and Edna.

Fred Collins 1865-1920

**Fred** was born in Almond but early in his childhood the family moved to Oasis, a small town in Waushara County Fred married Anna Cheszinski in 1893. They lived on the shores of Huron Lake in Oasis, Waushara County. Their children were Vernon, Arvilla, Hazel, Raymond, Royden, Harold. Anna died giving birth to their seventh child.

Below is an item from the Oskosh newspaper of July 24 1976 concerning Fred and Anna's youngest living child, Harold

## Harold E. Collins

WAUTOMA — The Rev. Edward Ketcham will officiate at services at 1 p.m. Monday at Ayars Puneral Home, Wautoma, for Harold E. Collins, 69, Rt. 2, Wautoma

According to a Waushara County authority, Mr. Collins died of an apparent suicide at his home this week. The exact date is still unknown; authorities said.

The son of Anna and Fred Collins, he was born Dec. 31, 1996, in the Town of Oasis, Waushara County. He married Edna Martin on Oct. 19, 1929, in Waukegan, Ill. He moved to Plainfield in 1940 and started the Ben Franklin Store there. In 1960 they bought the Ben Franklin Store in Wautoma and operated it until 1973.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 268 of Plainfield, the Scottish Rite and Zer Shrine of Madison. Mr. Collins is survived by his widow; one brother, Dr. Royden Collins, Madison; and one sister, Mrs. Andrew Oleston, Madison.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home, where Masonic rites will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Burial will be in Union Cemelery, Wautoma



The obituary for Fred and Anna's third child, Raymond appears below.

Raymond Collins, Native Of Oasis, Dies In West

Raymond Collins, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Collins was born January 30, 1899 in the town of Oasis and passed away from a heart attack on Sunday night.

He spent his younger days here

He spent his younger days here and at the age of eighteen left for the West. He resided at Casper, Wyoming; and Butte Montana. At Butte he was employed as superintendent of the copper mines. His health failed and he underwent major surgery while in Butte. The family then moved to Cle Elum, Washington where they have resided for the past eight years.

He leaves his wife, the former Sarah Hardesty; two brothers Harold of Plainfield and Dr. Royden of Madison; and one sister Mrs. A. M. Oleston of Minneapolis, his parents, a brother Vernon and a sister Hazel Collins, preceded him in death.

Harold Collins and his sister Mrs. Oleston left Monday evening by plane for Washington, where funeral services were held at Cle Elum, Wednesday.

Hazel and Harold, two of Fred and Anna's children. Hazel was a school teacher having graduated from Waushara County Normal and Oshkosh State Teachers College, now known as University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She died in 1943 after a brief illness.

#### Jabe W Collins 1870-1929

**Jabe**'s first wife was Lida A. Lakin. They were married in September of 1893. They had two children Kenneth and Vera. Jabe's wife Lida was twenty five when she died in 1899 after an illness of about four months.

In about 1902 Jabe married Clare Bently Laken in Ashland Wisconsin. In August of 1943 Jabe's daughter Vera was living in Los Angeles where she married Fred Lynde. This was her second marriage. Her first marriage was to a man named Morgan. Jabe died in Independence, Missouri. How he got there and why is a mystery.



Kenneth and Vera

Gertrude Collins 1872-1956

I knew her as "Aunt **Gertie**". She was the only one of Collins children that I met. Our family would often make the trip to Wautoma to visit them.



Eber Dafoe was born in Canada just eight miles from the famous Dr. Dafoe who became well known as the doctor who delivered the Dion Quintuplets around 1935. They may have been related but I've not been able to make that connection.

The photo at left of Aunt Gertie and her husband Eber was taken on my family's last visit with them in 1952. Uncle Eber was principal of the high school in Wautoma and later became superintendent of schools there. They raised seven children, five girls and two boys.

At right is Gertie, her daughter Gertrude, Eber holding Imogene, Edith, Gladys and Alice. After this picture was taken Gertie and Eber had two sons, William and Donald. They had a third son that died in childbirth.





Doctor William Dafoe

He became a doctor in Appleton, Wisconsin after graduating from University of Wisconsin, Harvard Medical School and advanced surgical training at Mayo Clinic. Every year my dad would make an appointment to see "Doc Dafoe" for his annual check up. This continued even after they moved to Washington D.C. The following link to Doc Dafoe's obituary is worth the time it takes to read it. https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postcrescent/obituary.aspx?n=WilliamDafoe&pid=173291067&fhid=1

 $Below\ is\ another\ link\ that\ gives\ you\ a\ peek\ into\ what\ their\ two\ sons, Donald\ and\ William\ accomplished.\ Also\ a\ closer\ look\ at\ Muriel, Doc$ 

Dafoe's wife.

https://www.google.com/search?

q=doctor+donal+dafoe&rlz=1C1CHBF\_enUS833US833&oq=doctor+donal+dafoe&aqs=chrome..69i57j69i60l2.13139j0j4&sourceid=chrom 8

Jesse Collins July 1875-September 1875

Harry Collins 1877-1927

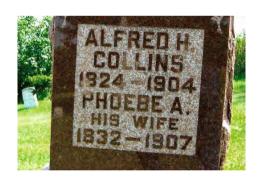
Harry married Millicent Iona Goult in 1908. They had one son named Robert.

Harold, the youngest child of Alfred and Phoebe married Millicent Goult and to them were born three children. Their first child died at birth, the second died at age three, that left only Wayne who grew to manhood.

So...the Collins family begins with a king and ends with a Hollywood Star and a couple of outstanding doctors! I can only imagine how many Collins descendants are still living and scattered around the world.

#### Death of Alfred Collins.

Alfred Collins was born in Brockville, Canada, Sept. 9, 1824, and died at the old home in Oasis, June 18, 1904, aged 79 years, 9 months and 9 days. When a child, he, with his parents, moved to New York, where July 27, 1852, he was married to Miss Phebe Weed. They came to Wisconsin in the same year and settled at Wautoma, where they resided for 15 years. The family moved to Oasis in 1867, where the family of nine children were reared, all of whom with the faithful wife and mother survive him. Alfred Collins was one of the oldest residents of Waushara County, having resided here for 52 consecutive years. Twenty-one years ago he was converted and joined the M. E. Church, since which time he has been one of the best examples of what God's grace can do for a man. As a neighbor and friend he ranked among the best of men. Esteemed by all his acquaintances and beloved by children in general, he filled the measure of his day and passed on to be at The funeral was conducted from the old homestead, June 21st. Rev. J. E. Holden officiating, assisted by Rev. F. H. Harvey, of Richland Center. F. H. H. land Center.



H. A. Miller, backkeeper at the First National bank, was at the old home in Plainfield yesterday to attend the funeral of his grandmother, Mrs. Alfred Collins, a pioneer resident of Waushara county. Mrs. Collins was 76 years of age. The direct cause of death was heart trouble, but she had heen an invalid for several weeks because of a paralytic atroke. The body was laid at rest beadle her late hisband in the cemetery at Oasis.

H.A. Miller was my grandfather. Pheobe and Alfred Collins were his grandparents.

## 1. The Wilson Forefathers

The Wilson family in America goes back to 1766. In that year James Wilson was born in Sussex County, New Jersey. (His parents names are unknown to me at this time.) He married Susannah whose maiden name is unknown.

James and Susannah had four children; Lydia, John, Sarah, and Estill.

Estill is the Patriarch of our family and was born October 20, 1796. He married Mary Polly McWhorter, daughter of John McWhorter and Margaret Carr who immigrated to America from Scotland. Estill and Mary Polly (known as Polly) were married in September of 1817 in Sussex County, New Jersey. Sometime between then and 1826 the family moved to Chemung County, New York. It was there that they met the Flemings. Of the five children born to Estill and Polly two of them (William and Robert) married Fleming daughters, Phoebe and Harriet.

| H      | lusband: Estill Wilson   |  |
|--------|--|--|
|        | Born 1: 20 Nov 1796<br>Born 2: 1796<br>Married: 22 Sep 1817<br>Died: 25 Mar 1875<br>Father: James Wilson<br>Mother: Susannah<br>Other Spouses: M | in: New Jersey in: New Jersey in: Sussex Co. NJ in: Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin  Mary Ann Hall (or Amelia) |
|        | Wife: Mary Polly McW   | horter   |
|        | Born: 18 Jul 1795<br>Died: 26 May 1855<br>Father: John Mcworter<br>Mother: Margaret Carr   | in: New York<br>in: Chemung, New York  |
| -      | CHILDREN   |  |
| 1<br>M | Name: James Wilson<br>Born: 29 May 1818<br>Died: 07 Apr 1893<br>Married: 1843<br>Spouse: Sally (Sarah) V   | in: Sussex County New Jersey<br>in: Amherst , Portage, Wisconsin   |
| 2<br>F | Name: Sarah Wilson<br>Born: 1821<br>Died: 1825   |  |
| 3<br>M | Name: William Wilso<br>Born: 19 Feb 1826<br>Died: 30 Dec 1898  | in: Wells Twp, Bradford, Pennsylvania<br>in: Amherst, Portage, WI  |
|        | Married: 08 Jun 1850<br>Spouse: Phoebe M Fle   | in: Southport, Chemung co., PA   |
| 4<br>M | Name: Robert Wilson<br>Born: 14 Apr 1828<br>Died: 13 Jun 1894  | in: Wells Twp, Bradford, Pennsylvania<br>in: Amherst , Portage, Wisconsin                                  |

Mary Polly died in 1855 at the age of 59 and was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Horseheads, Chemung County, New York. After her death Estill moved the family to Waupaca County Wisconsin.

in: Eau Pleine, Portage, Wisconsin

in: Wells Twp, Bradford, Pennsylvania

A grave marker indicates that he was a soldier between the years of 1861 and 1865-the years of the the Civil War. Estill remained single until after the war when he married Mary Ann Hall in Wisconsin. She died and five years later he married Amelia, his third wife. In the 1870 census Amelia wasliving alone in Stevens Point. Estill became known as "Hick" Wilson. He died in 1875 and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Amherst, Wisconsin. Our family line is carried down from Estill to his second son, William.

Married: Abt. 1852 Spouse: Harriet Fleming Name: Lydia Wilson

Born: 1832



# 2. The William Wilson Family

Our ancestry traces back to William Wilson, the first son of Estill and Polly McWhorter.

| Spouse:   |           | William Wilson   |        |
|-----------|-----------|--|--------|
| -         | Birth:    | 26 Feb 1826 in Pennsylvania  | 100    |
|           | Marriage: | 08 Jun 1850 in Southport, Chemung co., PA  | 154    |
|           | Death:    | 1898 in Amherst , Portage, Wisconsin   |        |
|           | 200       | Estil Wilson   |        |
|           | Father.   | The state of the s |        |
|           | Mother:   | Mary Polly Mowhorter   |        |
| Spouse:   |           | Phoebe M Fleming   |        |
|           | Birth:    | 07 Dec 1824 in Trenton, Mercer County, NJ  | 3.3    |
|           | Death:    | 14 May 1916 in Stevens Point, Portage, WI  | -      |
|           | Father:   | Thomas Fleming   |        |
|           | Mother    | Rachel Van Hart  | a      |
|           | muule).   | Desired April Desir  | SEE SE |
| Children: |           |  |        |
| 1         | Name:     | Robert Benjamin Wilson   |        |
| M         | Birth:    | 09 May 1851 in Southport, Chemung Co. NY   |        |
|           | Marriage: | 1929 in Amherst, Portage County, Wisconsin   | 199    |
|           | Burial:   | 1936 ; Forest cemetery, Stevens Point, Portage County, WI  | A      |
|           | Death:    | 07 Mar 1936 in Stevens Point Portage, WI   |        |
|           | Spouse.   | Minnie A. Wood   |        |
| 2         | Name:     | Estil Wilson   |        |
| M         | Birth:    | 17 Oct 1852 in Southport, Chemung, NY  | 100    |
|           | Marriage: |  | 200    |
|           | Burial:   | 1932 ; Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., WI  |        |
|           | Death:    | 31 Oct 1932 in Green Bay, Brown, Wis.; Complications from a stroke   |        |
|           | Spouse    | Sara A McLaughlin  |        |
| 3         | Name:     | Thomas Wilson  | 877 In |
| M         | Birth     | 02 Oct 1856 in Amherst, Portage, Wi  | 16     |
|           | Marriage: | 08 May 1877  | -      |
|           | Burial    | 1935 ; Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., WI  | -94    |
|           | Death:    | 29 Nov 1935 in Stevens Point Portage, WI   | -04,-  |
|           | Spouse    | Jeanette (Nettie) Roe  |        |
| 4         | Name:     | Mary Wilson  |        |
| F         | Birth:    | 01 Nov 1857 in Amherst, Portage, WI  |        |
|           | Marriage: | 25 Nov 1874 in Amhersi, Portage, Wisconsin   |        |
|           | Burial    | 1915 : Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., Wi  |        |
|           | Death:    |  |        |
|           | Spouse:   | James Fowlie Jr  |        |
| 5         | Name:     | Richard Wilson   |        |
| M         | Birth:    | 21 Dec 1859 in Amherst, Portage, WI  |        |
|           | Marriage: |  |        |
|           | Death:    | 17 Apr 1927 in Amherst, Portage, WI  |        |
|           | Spouse:   | Hattle Freeman   |        |
| В         | Name:     | Henry A. Wilson  |        |
| M         | Birth     | 24 Jan 1864 in Amherst, Portage, Wi  | 100    |
|           | Marriage  | 28 Jul 1885 in Pine River, Waushara County, Wisconsin  | 4      |
|           | Death     | 14 Jul 1953 in Stevens Point, Portage Co., WI  | 11     |
|           | Spouse:   | Mollie Nelson  | G.A.   |
|           | Name:     | Edith W. Wilson  |        |
|           | Birth:    | 07 Jun 1966 in Amherst , Portage, Wisconsin  | 1-74   |
|           | Marriage: | 20 Oct 1885 in Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin   | 100    |
|           | Deglin    | 10 May 1945 in Stevens Point, Portage, Wisconsin   | -      |
|           | Burial    | Greenwood Cemetery, Amheral, Portage Co., Wi   |        |
|           |           | Carl F Heertel   |        |
|           | Shores.   | 3400 F 31000 (II)  |        |



William Wilson 1826-1898

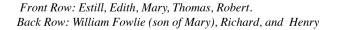
William, son of Estill, married Phoebe Fleming while the two families were living in the Tri- County area of New York and Pennsylvania shown below.



Tioga and Bradford counties are in Pennsylvania. Chemung is just across the New York stateline. The Wilsons lived in Bradford County, Pennsylvania and the Flemings just north of them in Chemung County, New York.



William Wilson and Phoebe Fleming were married in June of 1850 in Elmira, Chemung County, New York. Three years later they moved west to Wisconsin along with William's family. By this time William and Phoebe had two sons, Robert age two and Estill age one. Phoebe and William had five more children after arriving in Wisconsin. Thomas (my great grandfather) was the first of the Wisconsin born children. He was followed by Mary, Richard, Henry and Edith.





William and Phoebe's first child **Robert Benjamin** was born in Southport, Chemung County, Pennsylvania. He was quite young when his family made the long trip from Southport to a fledgling town of Amherst, Wisconsin. In 1929 he married Emma Donzella.





They had one child, Myrtle Jane. This picture was taken when she was about four years old. Emma died some time after that and Robert married again. This time to Minnie Wood. Robert died in 1934.

#### ROBERT WILSON 1851-1934

Robert was born in Southport, Chemung County, New York on May 9, 1851. When he was two years old the family packed their belongings and headed west to Amherst, Portage County, Wisconsin. They were pioneers who farmed on land that had never before been plowed. Robert spent his boyhood there and attended the first school built in the village. At a very young age he was running rafts of lumber down the river to St. Lonis.

On June 29, 1875 Robert married Emma Dollie Warren and for the first five years they continued to live in Amherst. From 1880 to 1900 they lived in Knowlton, Marathon County, Wisconsin where Robert farmed.. They had three children, Edith C., Earl and Myrde Jane. Just a few houses away from them lived Robert's brother Tom, his wife Nettie and their family. In 1900 the family moved to Stevens Point where Robert was in the lumber business.

In his early years Robert worked in lumber camps and operated logging camps of his own in northern Wisconsin. In later years he worked for the state highway commission building roads.

His wife, Emma died in 1926 and in 1929 he married Mrs. Minnie Wood.

Robert died March 7, 1934 in Stevens Point, Wisconsin where he is buried in the Forest Cemetery. At the time of his death his three children were still living. Edith Gilden of Anacortes, Washington and Myrtle Jane Menzel of Stevens Point, and Earl who was living in Stevens Point. Robert was one of the oldest residents in the county when he died at age 83.

### OBITUARY - ROBERT B. WILSON

Stevens Point Daily Journal - Monday, March 9, 1934

Robert B. Wilson, for many years identified with the early logging industry in Wisconsin and one of the oldest residents of Portage County, died Saturday night at 10.45 o'clock at his home at 313 East Avenue. He had been in ill health since February 1935. He was confined to bed most of the time for five months and continuously for the past two months.

Mr Wilson was born on May 9, 1951 in Chemong County, New York. He came to Wisconsin with his parents, the late William and Phoebe Wilson in 1853 locating on a farm in the town of Amherst. Mr Wilson spent his boyhood there and attended the first school built in the village. He also attended the Red and White School of Amherst and was a member of its association. At a very young age he started to run rafts of lumber down the river to St Louis.

His marriage to Miss Eruma Warren took place on June 29, 1875. The couple continued to live in Amherst and 10 years later moved to Knowlton. They came to Stevens Point in 1900. Mrs Wilson died in 1926.

During his early life Mr Wilson worked in humber camps and operated logging eamps of his own in northern Wisconsin. In later years he was road foreman for the state highway commission in the construction of highways.

Mr Wilson was married in 1929 to Mrs. Minnie Wood who survives as do his two daughters, Mrs A A Menzel, 615 Ellis Street, Mrs William (error) Gilden of Anacortes. Washington, a son Earl A Wilson of 615 Ellis Street, a sister Mrs. Carl Haertel, 102 Pine Street, a brother Henry Wilson and five grandchildren.

#### Estill Wilson 1852-1932

**Estil** was born in Southport, Chemung, New York. As a toddler he made the cross county trip to Wisconsin with his parents William and Phoebe and his big brother Robert. He married Sarah McLaughlin 1892 in Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

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Above is Sarah's death certificate. She died in Ashland, Wisconsin where she and Estil were then living.

17 Oct 1852 Southport, Chemung, New York, USA & Gender Male Died 31 Oct 1932 Green Bay, Brown, Wisconsin, USA &

## 

Estel Wilson, a former Amherst man, passed away at the Odd Fellows Hospital at Green Bay Monday, October 31st, (1932) at half after six o'clock in the afternoon, death coming as the result of a stroke. Mr. Wilson has been at the Odd Fellows home for practically the past three years and has suffered one or two strokes prior to the one which resulted in his death. The former ones were however, not sever and his health had not been considered precarious until the past five or six weeks. "Et" Wilson as he was familiarly know to Amherst people, was born October 17th, 1852, at Southport, Pa. When a child of tender years he came to this vicinity with his parents, William and Phoebe Wilson, and his boyhood was spent here and he attended the local schools.

He was married to Miss Sarah McLaughlin, also of Amherst, October 9th, 1874 and to this union three children were born, all of whom are living. The couple resided here for a time and Mr. Wilson conducted a meat market. From here they went to other places for stays of short duration, and eventually located in Ashland where Mrs. Wilson passed away eight years ago. Her remains were brought here and burial was made in Greenwood cemetery.

Mr. Wilson is survived by his three children: Bert Wilson of Spooner, Mrs. Gust

Mr. Wilson is survived by his three children: Bert Wilson of Spooner, Mrs. Gust Sanders (Clara) of Ashland and Mrs. Harry Newton (Mabel) of Morris, Wisconsin; also three brothers, Robert Wilson of Stevens Point, Thomas Wilson of Anicortia, State of Washington and Henry A. Wilson of Amherst; and one sister, Mrs. Carl F. Haertel (Edith) of Stevens Point, and several grandchildren and other distant relatives.

Services will be held from the local M.E. church this week Thursday afternoon, November 3rd, at half after one o'clock, Rev. Charles E. Olson officiating, and burial will be made by the side of his wife in Greenwood cemetery. The casket bearers will be J.L. Van Skiver, Harold Munchow, Joseph Kochn, A.S. Smith, William McCune and A.A. Menzel.

Out-of-town relatives who are present at this time for the funeral are Mrs. Beulah Weeks, a granddaughter, of Minneapolis; Mr. and Mrs. Bert Wilson and two daughters, Patricia and Victoria of Spooner; Mrs. Harry Newton of Morris, L.E. Chapman of Minneapolis and Mr. and Mrs. William McCune of Stevens Point. Buried Greenwood/St. James Cemetery, Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin, USA Person ID

Buried Greenwood/St. James Cemetery, Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin, USA β-Person ID 122 McKinney / Schnurrer Tree Last Modified 07 Jul 2008 Father William WILSON, b. 19 Feb 1826, Wells Twp., Bradford, Pennsylvania, USA β, d. 30 Dec 1899, Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin, USA β-Mother Phoebe FLEMING, b. 7 Dec 1824, Trenton, Mercer, New Jersey, USA β, d. 14 May 1916, Stevens Point, Portage, Wisconsin, USA β-Married 8 Jun 1850 Elmira, Chemung, New York, USA β-Family ID F60 Group Sheet Family Sarah Ann MCLAUGHLIN, b. 14 Feb 1857, Knowlton, Marathon, Wisconsin, USA β, d. 1 Jul 1922, Ashland, Ashland, Wisconsin, USA β-Married 9 Oct 1874 Amherst, Portage, Wisconsin, USA β[] Children



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Estill's Death Certificate

Estill died in 1932. His obituary at left is long but informative.

#### Thomas Wilson 1856-1935

**Thomas** was the third son born to Phoebe and William. You can read his story in the Thomas Wilson section on page 91.

Mary Wilson Fowlie 1857-1915

At age seventeen Mary married James Fowlie. To them was born a son they named Henry. Mary and James divorced and she and Henry moved into the home of her parents. At one point she opened a hat store in Amherst. She and her sister Edith were both active in the Temperance Union that was quite active at that time in history. Her health was not good and she preceded her mother in death by two years due to kidney failure. At the time of her death Mary was living in Stevens Point, Wisconsin.



Phoebe Wilson and her daughter Mary

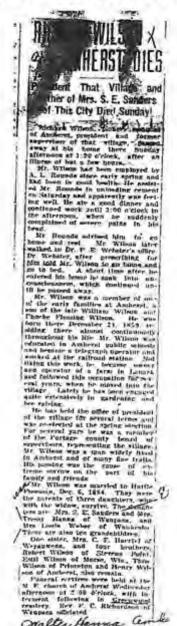
Richard Wilson 1859-1927

Richard married Hattie Freeman in 1884 He died suddenly after a brief illness leaving his wife Hattie and three married daughters, Mrs. S.E. Sanders, Theresa Hannah and Mrs. Louis Weber. As a young man Richard learned Morse code and worked for the railroad. Later he became a farmer.





# **Richard Wilson Obituary**



#### Henry A. Wilson 1864-1953

In 1855 Henry married Mollie Nelson. They lived in Pine River, Waushara County, Wisconsin.



Edith Wilson 1868-1945

Edith married Carl F. Haertel in 1886. They had two children, William and Phoebe Mae.



Stevens Point Journal - 7 Jan 1899

Died at his residence in this village Friday December 30 of rhuematism of the heart, Hon. William Wilson in the 74<sup>th</sup> year of his age. The above announces the taking from us of one of our oldest residents and most highly esteemed citizen, friend and neighbor. Mr Wilson came to Amherst in 1853 and has seen the wilderness of that day develop into the rich and prosperous community of the present. He was a land mark and one that will be greatly missed, probably as much if not more than anyone in our midst. His history is written in the records of the town and county and is a most honorable one. No one can ever say that Mr Wilson knowingly did him wrong in act or word. He leaves a wife, five sons and two daughters, all married and with homes of their own, except one daughter who lives at home. He was buried on Tuesday, followed the grave by his mourning friends and relatives from near and far.

"Our businessmen showed their esteem for Mr. Wilson and family by closing their businesses during the funeral."

"The funeral of Hon. William Wilson was the largest ever seen in this village."

Stevens Point Journal - 3 Jan 1899

William Wilson, one of the oldest residents of Amherst, died very suddenly at Amherst at 11:20 o'clock. Mr Wilson has been troubled for years with rhuematism but was in his usual state of health up until 10 o'clock Friday evening when he began to feel ill and died in a little over an hour. The funeral was held this afternoon. Those who attended from this city (Stevens Point?) were A M Nelson, Mrs. L A Pomeroy, and Mrs G A Manthey.

William the patriarch's Obituary

# 3. Phoebe Fleming - Wilson's Life

Phoebe's parents, Thomas and Rachel Fleming, made the long trek to Wisconsin with their family. After arriving the family's first project was to establish a Methodist Church. Unfortunately Thomas Fleming, only lived to enjoy their new home surroundings for three years. He died in 1855 and was the first to be buried in the Lower Amherst Cemetery (which later became known as the Fleming Cemetery).

The year after Thomas died, Phoebe and William had their third son and named him Thomas after his grandfather. In 1877 Phoebe became a grandmother for the first time when her daughter Mary and her husband, James Fowlie, were blessed with a son whom they named Henry. (perhaps after his uncle) Unfortunately, before young Henry was three years old, Mary and James divorced. Mary and her son moved in with her parents, Phoebe and William. Go back to page 84 and you will find grandson William in the picture with his mother Mary and his aunts and uncles. (He's the first one on the left side in the back row.) By this time he is a young man and probably benefited from growing up with all of his uncles. In 1898 Phoebe's husband William died just two years short of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Phoebe lived for another seventeen years, enjoying her children and grandchildren. Mary's health was failing and Edith, the youngest of Phoebe and William's children took both of into her home in Stevens Point.



At left is a photo of Phoebe and her older daughter Mary (I believe that's Edith, the younger daughter on the far right trying to get out of camera range with the umbrella). This is the last known photo of Mary. She preceded her mother in death in June of 1915 a year before Phoebe died. She looks either unhappy or pained in this picture. These were the early days of photography. Thus the pictures were nowhere near the clarity we know now. But I'm grateful for the picture, such as it is.

Phoebe FLEMING 1924 1918 Wilson, Phoebe (Fleming) Death Certificate

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This copy is difficult to read, but it appears that Phoebe died of arterial sclerosis plus something else with hypo-static pneumonia contributing to her death.

Phoebe Flemming Wilson Obituary "Amherst Advocate - May 18, 1916

LAST ORIGINAL SETTLER DIES Came to Amherst When It Was But A Wilderness

Many people in the village and vicinity will feel sincere regret over the death of Mrs. Phoebe Wilson who expired at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C.F. Haertel at 218 Mill Street Stevens Point, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 P.M., (14 May 1916) after a long illness of nearly a year. Mrs. Wilson had been a resident of Amherst village for over 62 years, previous to April 5 1915, when she was forced to give up her home here and move to Stevens Point, in company with her daughter, Mrs. Mary Fowlie, on account of poor health of both Mrs. Wilson and her daughter.

Phoebe Fleming was born at Trenton, NY (s/b NJ) Dec., 7, 1824 the daughter of Thoma and Rachel Fleming. On the 8th day of June 1850, she was married to William Wilson a Elmira, NY by Rev. Moses Crow. In the fall of 1853 they came to Wisconsin and for a year or two lived at the pinery near Knowlton and vicinity. A little later they came to Amherst, Wis. where a brother of Mrs. Wilson; Wm. V. Fleming had taken up a large section of land, which he subdivided with his sisters and one brother, making them adjoining property. These sisters were Mrs. Alanson Ryerson, Mrs. Rueben Thomson Mrs. Wm. Rice, Mrs. Robert Wilson and one brother Benjamin Fleming, all deceased, Mr. Wilson passed away Dec. 30, 1898. Her immediate family consisted of five sons and one daughter; Robert, Thomas, and Mrs. C.F. Haertel of Stevens Point, Estile of Ashlandard Stevens Point, Estile of Ashlanda Richard and Henry of the village. One daughter, Mrs. Mary Fowlie passed away June 8.

The body was brought to Amherst Wednesday afternoon on No. 12 Soo passenger and taken to the M.E. church where services were held. She has been a devoted member of the M.E. church since but a child. The Interment was made in Greenwood Cemetery in the family lot. Rev. J.J. Gelling officiating.

## PIONEER OF COUNTY DIES IN WISCONSIN

The Cheming Valley Reporter

The Cheming Valley Reporter says.

Through the courtery of Ire B Payne the Reporter am given a copy of the Advocate of Amberst. Wis, dated May 18. This toper contains an account of the life and death of Mrs. Proces Wilson, who formerly resided in Cheming country and was related to the late William I Harnes of this village and the late William I day of the village and the John Bales, now a residents of Milliant. The Advocate prints the following. Hammond of Sullivanville and also to John Beles, now a residents of Millineri. The Advocate prints the following:

Many people in the village and vicinity will fact sincere regret over the death of Mrs. Phoobe Wilson, who supled at the home of our daughter, Mrs. C. F. Haertel, Stevens Poots, Sunday, after a leng tilness. Mrs. Wilson had been a resident of Amberst for seer 62 years previous to April 5 1815, when she was forced to give up her home bees and move to Stevens Point, in company with her daughter. Mrs. Mary Freille, an account of coor health of both Mrs. Wilson and har daughter. Posts Ferming was norn in Trention, N. T., Dec. 7, 1824, daughter of Thomas and Rachel Fleming. On June 3, 1856, she was married to Win. Wilson at Elmira, N. Y., by the Hey Mose Crow. In the fail of 1853 they came to Wistonsin and for a year or Iwa lived in the Pinery near Knowlism and vicinity. A life there has been a double of she was ween to wistonsin and far a year or Iwa lived in the Pinery near Knowlism and vicinity. A life is they came to Misconsin and far a year or Iwa lived in the Pinery near Knowlism and vicinity. A life is they came to Misconsin and far a year or Iwa lived in the Pinery near Knowlism and vicinity. A life is the property of the Wilson had been a Miscons. When R. Alanson, Herson, William and the subdivided with his sharer and one brother, Thomas and Ars. C. F. Haerelle of Stevens Point, Estile of Ashvisial Bichiard and Heavy of the William had been and one daughter Hobert, Thomas and direction from Mary Frayle passed away December 30, 1898. Her immediate samily consisted of five some and one daughter Hobert, Thomas and Mrs. C. F. Haerelle of Stevens Point, Estile of Ashvisial Bichiard and Heavy of the Misconsider and taken to the M. E. Church since but a child. The laterment was made in Green, when her and taken to the M. E. Church where services were held. She has been a devoted member of the M. E. Church since but a Green would be a faith. The laterment was made in Green with the Article in the Steve

And finally the article in the Stevens Point Journal about Phoebe's death. I included it because it lists all the people present at the funeral plus some colorful descriptions of the decorations.

#### Phoebe Wilson Obituary:

### 20 May 1916 Stevens Point Journal

The body of Mrs. Phoebe Wilson who passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C F Haertel in Stevens Point Sunday afternoon and whose obituary has been given elsewhere in the Journal, was brought to the village on Soo passenger train No. 12 on Wednesday afternoon and taken to the M.E. church where services were held by Rev. J.J. Gelling. The church was beautifully decorated in white and lavender bunting with cut flowers. Songs were sung by Mrs. B. Harvey and Miss Virginia Mason with Mrs. A. P. Een accompanist. The interment was made in the Greenwood cemetery in the Wilson lot. The acting pallbearers at Stevens Point were sons Robert, Thomas, Richard, and Henry, C.F. Haertel a son-in-law, Wm H Fowlie a grandson. Those who acted in the same capacity in Amherst were chosen from the friends and neighbors of the deceased, P.N. Peterson, C.N. Fenton, A.P. Een, John Van Skiver, Burton Harvey and George Smith. The flower arrangements were in charge of Mesdames L.A. Pomeroy, C. M. Fenton, C. N. Kates, and Miss Cora Turner. The following is a partial list of the out of town people who were present: Mr. And Mrs John Fowlie and son Clifford of Sheridan, Mrs. Luella Wood, Mrs. R.S. Blair, Kathryn Webster, Mrs. W. Webster, and Sherman Sanders, Almond. Mr and Mrs. Herman Ebert and Susan Hathaway, Plainfield. Mr. And Mrs. Robert Wilson, Mr and Mrs. Thomas Wilson, Mr. And Mrs C. F. Haertel, Mr. And Mrs. Frank Hull, Mrs. A.M. Nelson, Earl Wilson, Wm H Fowlie and Allen Behrendt of Stevens Point, Mrs. H Strodhoff of Oshkosh, Miss Myrtle Wilson of Wyaweaga, and Maurice G. Wilson of Kenosha. Mr and Mrs G.W Fleming, M A Fleming, Asa Wilson, Otto Lenner and Jame Webster were in Stevens Point Wednesday to attend the funeral of their aunt, Mrs Phoebe Wilson





Thus ended the life of one of the family's great pioneers. She was my great-great grandmother.

# 1. The Wilson Family

## Family Group Sheet for Thomas Wilson

| Spouse   | K 6       | Thomas Wilson  |                           |
|----------|-----------|--|---------------------------|
|          | Birth:    | 02 Oct 1856 in Amherst, Portage, WI  | 11)                       |
|          | Marriage: | 08 May 1877  |                           |
|          | Burial:   | 1935; Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., WI   |                           |
|          | Death:    | 29 Nov 1935 in Stevens Point Portage, WI   | 1/2                       |
|          | Father:   | William Wilson   |                           |
|          | Mother:   | Phoebe M Fleming   | ETA SPERIORES AND SPERIOR |
| Spouse   |           | Jeanette (Nettie) Roe  |                           |
| 7.7      | Birth:    | Sep 1861 in Knowlton, Marathon, WI   |                           |
|          | Death:    | 1929 in Princeton, Green Lake co., WI  |                           |
|          | Burial:   | 1929 ; Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., WI  |                           |
|          | Father:   | Jerrous Rowe   |                           |
|          | Mother:   | Penietta Unknown (possibly Stowell)  |                           |
| Children | 1:        | A strange of the stra |                           |
| 1        | Name:     | Alice Wilson   |                           |
| F        | Birth:    | 15 Sep 1878 in Knowlton, Marathon, WI  | 4 引起                      |
|          | Marriage: | 12 Oct 1893 in Knowlton, WI  | 11                        |
|          | Death:    | 19 Apr 1971 in Anacortes, Washington   |                           |
|          | Spouse:   | Leslie Warren  |                           |
| 2        | Name:     | Delbert William Wilson   | 6                         |
| M        | Birth:    | 08 Jan 1882 in Knowlton, Marathon, Wisconsin   | ( **)                     |
|          | Marriage: | 1913 in Wisconsin  | V                         |
|          | Death:    | 23 May 1969 in San Luis Obisbo, CA   | 737                       |
|          | Spouse:   | Inez M Johnson   |                           |
| 3        | Name:     | Maude Wilson   |                           |
| F        | Birth:    | 19 Mar 1884 in Knowlton, Marathon, Wisconsin   |                           |
|          | Marriage: | 1903   | N. E.                     |
|          | Burial:   | May 1945; Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., WI   |                           |
|          | Death:    | 20 May 1945 in Anacortes, Washington   |                           |
|          | Spouse:   | Frank Hull   |                           |
| 4        | Name:     | Phoebe Genevieve Wilson  | Land Control              |
| F        | Birth:    | 18 Jul 1887 in Amherst , Portage, Wisconsin  |                           |
|          | Marriage: | Sep 1908 in Stevens Point, Portage, WI   | 145                       |
|          | Burial:   | May 1972; Greenwood Cemetery, Amherst, Portage Co., WI   |                           |
|          | Death:    | 17 May 1972 in Waukesha, Wisconsin   |                           |
|          | Spouse:   | Herbert Anson Miller   |                           |

## Notes:

#### Thomas Wilson

a1900 Census - Thomas is living in Knowlton Twp, Marathon Co, WI with his wife Jeannette (Nettie) age 38, their son Delbert (18), daughter Maude (16) and daughter Phoebe (12) They are living just 3 houses away from Thomas's older brother Robert and family. 1880 and 1900 Census show Tom and Nettie living in Knowlton, Marathon co., WI 1910 Census they are in Stevens Point, Portage co., WI Thomas is working as a laborer doing odd jobs. 1920 Census - Tom and Nettie are living in Brooklyn next door to their daughter Phoebe and her family. According to his obituary, after Nettie died in 1929 Thomas moved to Anacortes, WA to live with his daughter, Alice Warren for a time and then moved back to Stevens Point where he lived with his daughter Maude Hull. Also mentioned in his obituary is the fact that he was a meat cutter by trade and also did carpentry work. 1614 Wilson, Thomas Roe, Jannett 15 Apr 1877 (from Marriage Books Nos. 1, 5 and 8. Register of Deeds, Marathon County, Wisconsin



Thomas Wilson 1856-1935

Thomas was the third child born to Phoebe and William Wilson and their first to be born after the Wilsons settling in Wisconsin.

Thomas attended the school that had been built by his uncles, the Flemings. However, Tom much preferred to be fishing on the Tomorrow River near his home than going to school. His parents had been among the first to settle in Amherst. He was surrounded by aunts and uncles.

When he was twenty years old he met Jeanette ("Nettie") Roe, age sixteen. They were married in May of 1877 and lived in Knowlton, Wisconsin near Nettie's family.

Nettie was born in New York State but her parents moved to Wisconsin. She and her older brother, George H., were the only children born to Penietta and Jeshurun Roe. Her father served in the Civil War. At that time Nettie was only two years old.



Jeanette (Nettie) Roe Wilson 1861-1929

Nettie's mother, Peniettta died at the age of thirty nine when Nettie was only eleven years old. She left her husband Jerrous on his own to raise their two young children.

According to the 1870 US Census, Jarius Row (another spelling of his name) was working as a lumberman. Son George was in school at age 14, but Nettie, at age 8, was not at school. Living in the house with them was a seventy year old woman by the name of Alvie Stowell and a young girl age 15 by the name of Mirillas Stowe. Alvie may have been Nettie's aunt and Mirillas Nettie's cousin. At age fifteen it's possible that Mirillas was Nettie's teacher at home. But why?

## U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles

Name: Jerrous Roe

Residence: Plover, Wisconsin

Enlistment Date: 8 Nov 1862

> Rank at enlistment:

Private

State Served: Wisconsin

Survived the Yes

War?:

Service Record:

Enlisted in on 11 Aug 1862.

Mustered out on 23 May 1863.

Roster of Wisconsin Volunteers: War of the Rebellion Sources:

# 2. Tom and Nettie's Family

Alice Wilson Warren 1878-1971

Alice married Leslie Warren in 1899 in Knowlton, Marathon County, Wisconsin. Tom and Nettie lived with them until the young couple moved to Skagit, Washington. By 1910 they had four children. Leslie's father, Aaron was living with them and Leslie was farming. The 1920 census shows their family consisting of two boys and two girls from ages two up to sixteen. Sometime within the next ten years they moved to Anacortes, Washington where Leslie was doing repairs for a lumber company. Their son Wilson, age 26, was a garage mechanic. Their second son was a fireman on a tugboat. Daughter Margaret at age 16 was still in school.

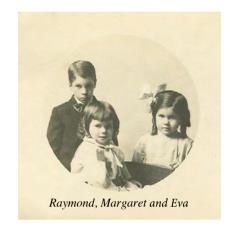




Alice and three of their four children



Alice and Leslie Warren family





Phoebe and her sister Alice in their later years.

Alice's husband Leslie died in 1935. He was sixty three years old. Alice remained in Anacortes and lived to be ninety seven years old.

Delbert William Wilson 1882-1969

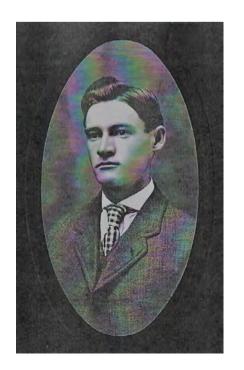
Nine years after Alice was born, Tom and Nettie had a son they named **Delbert** (Nine years was quite a gap back then. They may have lost one or more children during that nine year period). At age twenty Delbert was while still living at home with his parents in Stevens Point. He married Inez Johnson and in the early years of their marriage they made their home in Stevens Point where their only child was born, a girl they named Ora. Delbert was working as a switch-man for the railroad. Ten years later in 1920 Delbert and his family were living in San Luis Obisbo, California. Delbert was employed as Yard Master with the railroad, a job he held for the rest of his working years. He died in 1969 and is buried in San Luis Obisbo.



Delbert in his senior years.



Delbert's wife Inez.



#### Maude Wilson 1884-1945

Maude married Frank Hull in 1903. (She was only 13???) They lived in Steven's Point and had one son named Wilbur. After Frank died Maude married Elmer Gilden. They moved to Washington State. When Maude died in 1945 her body was shipped back to Stevens Point for burial. Their son Wilbur married a woman named Beryl who became seriously ill. Her sister moved into their home to care for her. Quite soon after Beryl died Wilber married her sister. Wilbur and his second wife had one son whom they named Peter.

During that period of his life Wilbur became interested in the occult which resulted in a move to Casadaga, Florida, a mecca for "Palm Readers" and the occult. He became known as "Rev. Wilbur Hull" and was well regarded among his peers there.

In the 1950's while vacationing in Florida we paid a visit to Wilbur and his family. Driving into the town of Casadaga we were met with the Spanish moss hanging from the trees. There was no sign of people out and about nor were there any children playing. Several unprofessionally made signs

directed people to a palm reader or spiritualist. Wilbur's home also had a sign in front inviting people in for a "reading". The inside of the house was dark and foreboding with its low ceilings and dark paneled walls. We ate lunch in their rather dreary kitchen, and at one point, out of the blue, Wilbur looked at me and said, "You have anaurora about your head." How does one reply to that??? (I wish now that I had asked him what that meant. But at the time I was embarrassed just to have everyone looking at me.) After my parents moved to DeLand, Florida in 1960 Clayton made occasional visits to seehis cousin Wilbur who by that time was bedridden.

If you're curious about Wilbur and his "ministry" in Casadaga, Florida you can click the following link (It's a bit lengthy but keep reading and you'll find several interesting paragraphs specifically about Wilbur Hull). https://www.nytimes.com/1970/03/15/archives/in-floridas-cassadaga-the-mediums-are-the-message.html



**Phoebe** was the youngest of the Wilson children. Phoebe on the left with her cousin Bessie Munchow (I don't know what occasion called for the look-alike dresses. It could have been their confirmation).



Phoebe and her sister Maude with their mother Nettie. By this time Phoebe was beginning tos how signs of something being physically wrong. It shows a little here in her facial expression.







Phoebe lived with her parents in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. After graduating from high school she worked as a telephone operator (I'm not certain which one is Phoebe on this photo).



Tom and Nettie seated in front. Behind them are Alice, Phoebe and Maud. Son Delbert may have already married. Phoebe seems to need to hang onto the chair in order to keep her balance.

Another photo of Nettie (on the left) and her girls, Alice, Phoebe and Maude. By this time Phoebe and Herbert were married (The rest of Phoebe's story may be found on page 42.)



# 3. Tom and Nettie's Life

Tom and Nettie were married in 1877 and lived in Knowlton, Wisconsin during the early years of their marriage. Later they lived with their daughter Alice and her husband until her family moved to the state of Washington. In 1905 Tom and Nettie moved to Stevens Point and in 1910 Tom is listed in the census as doing odd jobs.



Phoebe, Keith, Inez, Nettie (standing) Tom, Maude and Clayton enjoying dinner together at Tom and Nettie's house in Stevens Point.



Both of these photos are of Tom and Nettie's living room in Stevens Point



In 1918 when their daughter Phoebe and her husband, Herbert moved from Neshkoro, to Brooklyn, Wisconsin with their three children, Tom and Nettie followed them. By this time Phoebe had been diagnosed with muscular problem had advanced to the point that she needed help with the children and keeping house. Tom and Nettie lived in an upstairs apartment next door to the Millers. Tom found work in a dairy and Nettie helped Phoebe with the children.

In 1924 when Herbert took a job in Princeton, Wisconsin Tom and Nettie move there as well. They moved into a house on Howard street which was within three blocks from Herbert and Phoebe. One year after that move Phoebe gave birth to their fourth child, Inez. Nettie was there to help but not too long after that she became ill and was soon bedridden. Tom and Nettie's two older daughters came to help - Maude from Stevens Point, Wisconsin and Alice from Anacortes, Washington. In August of 1929 Nettie died of colon cancer. Tom stayed in Princeton and spent a lot of his time gathering clams from the Fox River and selling the shells to jewelry makers. Tom's Obituary states that he was a meat cutter and carpenter.



This photo of Tom and Nettie may have been taken while they lived in Brooklyn next door to Phoebe's family. The young boy is Keith, Clayton's younger brother. I assume thats Tom and Nettie's car in the background.

Mrs. Thos. Wilson, Princeton, Formerly of Amherst

Amherst, Wis. Aug. 30 - Mrs. Thomas Wilson, a former resident, died early Saturday morning at her home at Princeton, Wis.after a long lingering illness.

Mrs. Wilson submitted to an operation April 26 1928 in a Madison hospital and for a few months she seemed to be improving.

Two daughters, Mrs. Fransis Hull of Stevens Point and Mrs. Lesli Warren of Anacortes, Wash, Had been at her bedside constantly for the past five months.

Mrs. Wilson was highly esteemed and had a large circle of friends here, at Princeton and at other places where she had resided. She had never taken any active part in matters of a public character, but her life was spent in a modest quiet way in her home. Born at Ployer

She was born in Plover Sept 13, 1861. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs Jeris Roe. On May 8, 1877 she was married to Thomas Wilson in the town of Knowlton where they resided for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in September, 1927 at their home in Princeton. Their four children were present. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson also lived for a number of years in Stevens Point, their home being at 616 Division Street. They lived 10 years in Brooklyn, moving to Princeton three years ago.

Four children were born to Mr. And Mrs. Wilson. Delbert W. Wilson of San Luis Obisbo, Calif.: Alice. Mrs. L.A. Warren of Anacortes, Wash.: Maud. Mrs. F.W. Hull of Steven Point: Phoebe, Mrs. H.A. Miller of Princeton. The widower also survives.

The remains were brought here Monday at 2:30 p.m. by auto hearse and taken to Greenwood cemetery for burial. Short services had been held at Princeton at 11:30 a.m. The pallbearers were all relatives of the deceased. G.W. Fleming, M.A. Fleming, A.J. Wilson, C.F. Haertel, Maurice G. Wilson and Harold Munchow. The Rev Blake of Stevens Point officiated at Princeton and at Greenwood cemetery.

Mr. Wilson and his family have the sympathy of the community in their loss of a loving wife and mother.

Nettie's Obituary



After Nettie died Tom made the long trek to Seattle, Washington to live with his oldest daughter Alice and her family. Later he moved back to Stevens Point to live with his daughter Maude and her family. Tom died six years after his wife, Nettie.

## 4. The Medical Mystery Solved?

It was finally determined that Phoebe had a form of muscular dystrophy. Her son Keith and daughter Emily were also beginning to have symptoms. When Keith and Muriel married they were dubious about having a family for fear their children might also get this disease. Providentially at that time there were tests underway to find the cause of this specific type of muscular dystrophy. It took nine years, but when the findings were released it revealed that this form of the disease was only passed down through the female. Keith and Muriel proceeded with their plans and had a boy named Wayne and a girl named Marilyn. Neither of them were stricken with it. However, Phoebe and Herbert's daughter Emily had a child out of wedlock. That child also developed the disease as did her only daughter. The conclusion takes us back to Nettie Wilson. She had to be the carrier of the disease even though to my knowledge she never had it herself.



Emily and her mother Phoebe



On the left are Emily and Muriel. Herbert is holding Keith and Muriel's daughter, Marilyn. Next to them is Phoebe in her wheel chair. The children are Keith and Muriel's son Wayne and daughter Marylin. Neither of their children ever had symptoms of Muscular Dystrophy.

As a young child I remember my grandma having to hang on to furniture in order to keep her balance as she walked through her home. As the disease got worse she began using a cane and finally a wheelchair. She was determined to do as much as she possible could for as long as she could. She loved to take a car ride to the west end of Waukesha to watch the sun set across the empty fields. In order to do that she had to stand up from her wheelchair by hanging on to Herbert's shoulders. Then slowly and carefully walk down the few stairs to the back door. Once there, the two of them would turn around and she would lower herself into the passenger seat. The procedure had to all be done in reverse when they got home.

# Clayton Anson Miller

# 1. Clayton's Early Years

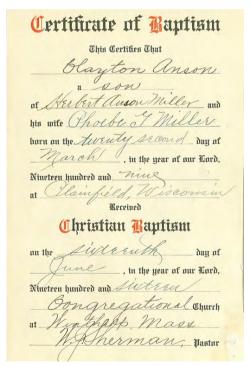
Clayton Miller was born in Plainfield, Wisconsin in the house that his grandparents, Henry and Imogee, had purchased in 1888. When Henry's youngest son Herbert married Phoebe they lived here with Imogene. Herbert's first two children, Clayton and his sister Emily, were born here.





Clayton Anson Miller Born 1909

William Howard Taft had just been inaugurated President of the United States and later that year the 16th amendment was passed giving government the power to tax personal income. The Wright brothers delivered their first military plane to the Army and the first concrete was poured for the Panama Canal; the first colored moving picture was demonstrated and the first HAM radio broadcast was heard, the first Lincoln penny was issued.







The above certificate indicates that Clayton's infant baptism wasn't until he was seven years old and took place in Massachusetts. ???? A mystery that may never be solved. There was a Sherman family living in Plainfield. Clayton's father had been on the basketball team with a boy named Sherman. The Methodist church that the Millers were attending had its headquarters in Massachusetts. But it's still a mystery.

Clayton dressed in the fashion for little boys in those days.

# 2. A Move to Neshkoro, Wisconsin





In 1912 Herbert became the cashier of the bank in Neshkoro, Wisconsin. They moved their family and belonging the thirty miles south. Herbert used to tell me stories of his encounters with gypsies who came into the bank and tried to distract him in order to steal money out of his cash drawer.



This is one of the houses the Millers occupied in Neshkoro. It backed up to a small lake known as "The Mill Pond" where Clayton learned to fish...a sport he would enjoy for many years to come.



The Mill Pond behind the Miller House in Neshkoro





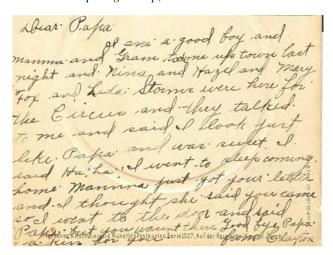
Over the years Clayton had quite a few vehicles.



Sear Sweet-Little Boy.
Graw is so sorry she cans
not-be with you are this your
first birthday, Some day I will
come and then me will have lots
I fun to make up for it
Lovingly fram Will

This card addressed to "Little Clayton Anson Miller" is from his grandma Imogene. It's postmarked Oshkosh which is where Herbert's brother Otis lived. (Note the one cent postage stamp).

Obviously Phoebe wrote this card to Herbert. By this time Imogene was living with them.





As an adult Clayton made his own wooden bow and arrows and hunted deer and pheasants with good success. It all started at this age.



Clayton's little sister Emily was born in on July 23, 1912.



Phoebe with Clayton and Emily in their backyard.



Herbert, Phoebe and Clayton plus Phoebe's older sister Maude out "boating" on the Mill Pond.

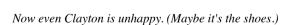
In addition to boating the family enjoyed camping. They had a 10x15 foot tent that the family sometimes slept in in the back yard. They camped on the other side of the mill pond for a week or two at a time.

Clayton enjoyed fishing in the mill pond. Emily got to hold the worms and doesn't seem too happy about that.





In 1916 when Clayton was eight years old his brother Keith Roy was born. Clayton seems delighted to have a new brother. The rest of the family is either tired or miffed about something.





# 3. A Move to Brooklyn, Wisconsin



In 1918, when Clayton was beginning third grade, Herbert accepted a position in a bank in Brooklyn, Wisconsin. Brooklyn was about one hundred miles south of Neshkoro. It was a town of about 500 people.

The Millers purchased this lovely home in Brooklyn. It was the first time they had owned a home of their own.



I'm guessing this was a confirmation class at their church in Brooklyn. Clayton is third from the left in the front row. The Millers would have followed their pattern of attending a Methodist church.

This photo was taken around 1919 in Brooklyn. Clayton is ten years old and beginning to look quite grown up in his suit and tie. Keith (on the left) seems either proud of or oblivious of his blond ringlets. Emily at age eight is a lovely young lady. You can't miss the bow!!!





Keith and Clayton (Two sad boys)

No more curls for Keith. At this age Clayton was becoming interested in radio. He and his friend built spark-gap transmitters that had a range of five or six miles. They went from that to Continuous Wave transmitters. These were the very earliest days of radio and Clayton was fascinated with it.



Clayton, Keith, Phoebe, Emily and Phoebe's sister Alice



Clayton is sitting on the hood of the car (looking rather glum). Phoebe parents, Tom and Nettie Wilson are sitting in the front seat. (They had moved to Brooklyn in order to help Phoebe who had been diagnosed with muscular dystrophy.) Behind Tom is Emily. Phoebe, Keith and Phoebe'sister Maude arein the back. Maude's husband is sitting on the running board. The girl behind him and the man behind her are unknown (Maybe neighbors).



Another photo taken the same day.

# 4. Move to Princeton, Wisconsin

In 1924, Herbert took the job as cashier of the bank in Princeton, Wisconsin. They rented out their home and once again packed up their belongings and headed ninety miles north.

Princeton was about twice the size of Brooklyn with a population of around a thousand people, bigger than any town their family had lived in so far. Phoebe's parents also moved to Princeton at that time.



An aerial view of Princeton in the late 1800's



The Princeton business district was only three blocks long. It was never as busy as shown on the above photo except on Cattle Fair Day...the day local farmers brought their cattle to town to sell.



The Miller home on River Street in Princeton in 1924, about five blocks from the bank.

Clayton was beginning his sophomore year of high school. The school was three blocks from home and two blocks from the bank where Herbert worked. First grade through eighth grade met on the first floor and ninth through twelfth grades met on the second floor with Mr.Rudie as principal of all grades.

The 1920's were known as "The Roaring Twenties". It was the era of Prohibition, Calvin Coolidge's Presidency and a popular dance called the Charleston. WWI was history and many believed the good times would never end. It was the early days of airplanes, radios, telephones, moving pictures and Model T Ford cars.

For Clayton, in his sophomore year of high school, this was the era of opportunity and discovery. Radio had gripped his imagination keeping him up all night tuning and re-tuning the short wave radio he had built, repeating into it, "Calling CQ, calling CQ". (?) Every night brought new adventure and excitement. He had a peach crate full of '"calling cards" from people he had contacted by radio. From his home in Princeton he located places as far away as Pittsburgh and San Francisco. He could hardly fathom the miraculous sound of the Navy Band reaching him thousands of miles away and traveling on nothing but air waves. Night time was the only time to catch these stations when the sound waves bounced off the darkness.

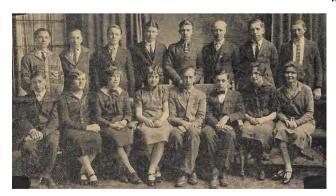
His mother Phoebe tried to get Clayton to turn the radio off and go to sleep but in reality she was quite amazed at the night time broadcasts herself. Clayton would catch up on lost sleep on the weekends. Clayton was a challenge as well as a blessing to raise. Since Phoebe's mobility had begun to fail he had been so considerate...always there to help when she needed him.

There was the time her favorite cat disappeared for three days and no one seemed to know what happened to it. It was Keith who finally revealed the story. It seems Clayton was working on one of his electrical experiments and figured out how to electrify the round lid from their wood-burning kitchen stove. Having accomplished that, he decided to see how the cat would respond to contact with the electrified lid. Holding the cat directly above the lid he let it drop feet first onto it. The cat hit the lid and came straight up only to drop a second time. After which he shot out through the screen window. When Phoebe heard the story she didn't know whether to laugh or be angry. Clayton was unpredictable, adventurous, creative, determined, imaginative, dependable, and opportunistic.





Clayton's sophomore class. He is the second person on the left in the first row (A young woman by the name of Lillie Golz is the fourth person from the left on the first row.)



Clayton's is on the far left, second row, directly behind that same girl.



Clayton is on the far left and right next to him is Lillie.



Clayton joined the Boy Scouts when he lived in Brooklyn. Now as a Sophomore in High School he continued with the local Boy Scout Troop and in 1932 became the Scout Master for the Princeton Troop.



He was a young man of many interests and before long that included a place in the high school band playing the clarinet (He's directly behind the bass drum).



### Clayton Takes Charge of Daily Exercises

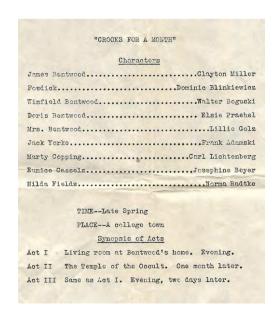
"Class, attention!" All turned to the front for everyone expected to see Mr. Rudie giving the commands for the daily exercises. But, no, were our eyes deceiving us? There stood Clayton Miller issuing orders which we immediately observed.

Clayton has been taking Mr. Rudie's place in giving exercises for a few days. Everyone obeys his slightest command, for it is an honor for one of our fellow students to instruct us. We extend our congratulations to Clayton; although we must warn him not to get too near the edge of the platform for fear his poise might vanish. Sthaal Parev 1926

It never took Clayton long to get involved and gain the respect and admiration of his peers.



Clayton became interested in public speaking and joined what was then known as the "Forensic Group" (Today the term forensic is known in connection solving crimes). This group would today be called the debate team (Clayton is on the top row)



For three years Clayton had been so busy with school and extra curricular activities that he had not taken close notice of a classmate named Lillie Golz. It wasn't until they played the parts of Mr. and Mrs. Brentwood in the class play that both of them began to notice and appreciate one another.

# Clayton Miller Presents Banner to Princeton H.S.

New Tradition Is Established by the Class of 1927

Clayton Miller, Senior class president, has the honor of presenting the Senior banner won in the subscription contest. Details of the earning of the banner, its value, and presentation are given in Clayton's own speech.

#### Miller Gives Speech

One of the problems in this school at the beginning of every year is the matter of getting subscriptions for our official paper, the Triangle. This is usually solved by an inter-class contest in which the winning class receives an award. This year the reward was a banner, an emblem of appreciation of service rendered to the Triangle. We Seniors won the banner.

Two years ago our class won the banner that was awarded. It was not accomplished without considerable effort on our part; because there were three other classes who also wanted that banner. The class that gave us the best competition was the class of last year, the class of 1926. This year they were no longer one of our rivals, the only new class being the freshmen. After carefully estimating the ability of this new class and deciding that they would not be dangerous, we selected for our motto "What we have done before we can do again." Our assumption was right for we were again winners of the subscription contest.

Our attention was then called to the fact that we would have two class banners. Not needing two, we decided to give it to the school. The question then arose, "Who is going to take ones of the honners!!

take care of the panner;

We finally came to the conclusion the Seniors could be best trusted to perform this task. We therefore desire to present the banner to the whole school, but to give it to the Seniors of 1928 to keep until they leave this school. When they graduate, it will be their duty to place it safely in the hands of the next Senior class, and give them the message that I have given you, and they in turn are to pass it on to the next Senior class and so on; in order that the tradition we have established may be upheld.

It is with pleasure that I present this banner to you, the Junior president, and request that you do your part in carrying on the tradition.

-Clayton Miller, '27.



Clayton's graduation picture

Clay



MILLER, CLAYTON

Commercial Course Class Treasurer '26; Class President '27 Glee Club '26, '27; Triangle Staff '25, '26; Final Local Oratorical Contest '25; District Oratorical Contest '26; Sub-District Oratorical Contest '27; P. H.S. Band '27; "Crooks For a Month" 27; Presentation of All-School Banner 27.

Go where he will The wise man is at home.



The Senior Class of

Nineteen Hundred Twenty Seven

of Princeton High School

Cordially invites you to be present

at the Commencement Exercises

Thursday, June second

at eight o'clock

Opera House

June 2, 1927 Opera House

Lillie Golz Carl Lick
Norma Radtke Joseph
Walter Bogucki Elsie
Clayton Miller Cl
Richard Klapper
Arnold Kuehneman
Dominick Blinkewicz

Carl Lichtenberg
Josephine Beyer
Elsie Praechel
Clarence Oelke
Frank Adamske
Victor Yahr

Colors Royal Blue and White Motto Leaders not Followers Flower White Rose

Senior Class Day Exercises High School Assembly Room 7:45 p. m. May 25, 1927

#### Class Roll 1927

Lillie Golz

Elsie Praechel
Clarencs Oelke
Clarencs Oelke
Victor Yahr
Frank Adamski
Walter Bogucki
Carl Lichtenberg

Colors
Colo

#### Officers

| President      | <br>.Clayton Miller |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Vice President | <br>Frank Adamski   |
| Secretary      | <br>Elsie Praechel  |
| Treasurer      | <br>.Clarence Oelke |

# 5. Clayton's Parachute Jump

# Leaps in Chute First Time Up To Save the Day

PRINCETON, Wis., Sept. 3.—
(A. P.)—Despite the fact that he never before had been up in an airplane, Clayton Miller, 20-year-old bank clerk of Princeton, Wis., made a 3,000 foot parachute jump here on Monday and so prevented the dedication of the city's airport from lacking a scheduled feature. Miller volunteered to make the jump after a professional jumper, who had been hired for the occasion, failed to make his appearance.

One newspaper article says the event was the dedication of the city airport and another says it was the dedication of the city hall.

Clayton and Lillie began dating and already he was referring to her as "my better half." During their courtship, Clayton had a memorable adventure which is recorded in these newspaper articles. The article below tells the details of the event well.

# Young Banker Doubles' for Parachute Jumper

Princeton, Wis.—When a parachute jumper didn't show up here Monday to give the folks at the dedication of the new community hall a thrill, Clayton Miller, 20, nonchalantly climbed into the cockpit in his place, went up to 1,600 feet and dived off to a perfect landing. It was the first time he had been near a parachute.

Miller, assistant cashier at the Farmers & Merchants bank here, said Tuesday that he had asked for the privilege of jumping earlier in the week. He had been up in planes before. So when the regular jumper didn't appear someone sought him cut.

#### Get Father's Permission

"I'd told him I was 21 but everyone knew I wasn't," he said, "and the pilot wouldn't take me up until my father permitted it. That's the only thing I was afraid of, that he'd refuse, but he let me go. I didn't tell my mother or the 'better half' though. No, I'm not married, but my girl decides lots of things for me."

Few of the Princeton residents in the bank,

Princeton, Wis.—When a paraing the jump until after he had
chute jumper didn't show up here landed.

"I stood on the wing beside the pilot quite a while before he told me to jump," Miller said. "I had intended to jump so I'd land on the field but the wind had shifted when we got up. I just dived off and then I dropped about 400 feet before I pulled the ring. Boy, it pretty near pulled me to pieces."

#### Gave Crowd a Thrill

"Why didn't you pull it as soon as you could?" he was asked,

"Oh, I thought I'd give them a thrill for their money," Miller laughed. "I got a big kick out of it myself. They said I turned over several times before the chute opened, but I didn't know it. I came down about a quarter of a mile from the field, right at the edge of the river."

field, right at the edge of the river."

Asked if he intended to give up banking for 'chute jumping now that he had succeeded in his first trial,

Millor gaid.

"No, I guess not. The better half has kinda decided I'm going to stay in the bank"

Airplanes and flying were the rage at this time. Charles Lindberg had made his famous trans-Atlantic flight about a year before this. Barnstormers were in their hey day. And Clayton had caught the bug!

The people of Princeton who witnessed that event never forgot it. Many years later I was back in Princeton for a visit with relatives. An older relative (Carl Otto) was quite ill with Parkinsons disease and didn't enter into the conversation. But as we were leaving he called out, "Is that Clayton Miller's daughter?" I replied in the affirmative and went over and sat next to him. He related to me his recollections of that historic event with perfect clarity and a touch of pride for having been an eye witness.



Soon after graduation from high school both Clayton and Lillie began working at the local bank where Clayton was head cashier. Lillie had applied for a job here a few months before she graduated from high school and was hired. Lillie was the Bookkeeper and Clayton a teller. Their starting salary was \$25 a month each. They both got a raise of \$5 a month after the first year and \$10 a month after the second year.

After graduating from high school Clayton joined the Princeton City Band (He's fourth from the left in the front row). On summer evenings the band played concerts in the bandstand at the newly dedicated city park.





They also took part in all the holiday celebrations and parades.It was an all male band except for the baton "twirler". Every Memorial Day the band would lead the parade and march across the river to the city cemetery. The rest of the parade would consist of the entire public school marching and waving American flags.

In May of 1930, in the midst of the depression, Clayton and Lillie took a train trip to Washington D.C. along with 560 others from Wisconsin. The trip was sponsored by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. They were were in Washington to for two full days plus their travel time going and coming. The total cost for each of them was \$27.50. This included transportation, two nights in a hotel, sightseeing tours and meals.



# Miss Lillian Golz and Clayton Miller Of Princeton Married In East

Probably the biggest event on the entire "On-to-Washington" tour of the Green Lake county delegation which returned Sunday night was the surprise marriage of Clayton Miller, son of H. A. Miller, president and cashier of the Princeton Farmers and Merchants' National bank, and Lillian Golz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Golz, which was solemnized at Alexandria, W. Va., early Saturday.

While most of 560 Badger tourists were still asleep or were preparing for the day's sightseeing, the young couple stole away from their hotel in the national Capital and taxled to historic ground where they were married by the Rev. D. L. Snyder.

Later they joined the Green Lake county crowd at Mt. Vernon and had it not been for the taxi driver "spilling the beans" the newlyweds might have escaped detection until their return home. But the event was tipped off and from that moment Mr. and Mrs. Miller were the center of interest. They were cheered, they were riced and they were labeled, all of which they took good-naturedly.

Not content with this, W. F. Christ, master of ceremonies for the Baltimore and Ohio Railway company, telegraphed ahead to Gerritt, O., and when the special pulled into the station there was waiting for delivery a huge wedding cake which was broad aboard and served by the young couple to their 560 guests at the unexpected wedding reception. The couple was taken the entire length of the 15-coach train, introduced, showered and feted. Mr. Miller won fame last September when, at a Labor Day celebration to raise money for Princeton's new community house, he jumped from an airplane 1,500 feet above the city and landed safely in a parachute. No one knew he was to do the stunt and he had never before made a jump. Later he and another young man purchased a plane and made a few flights but finally wrecked the ship.

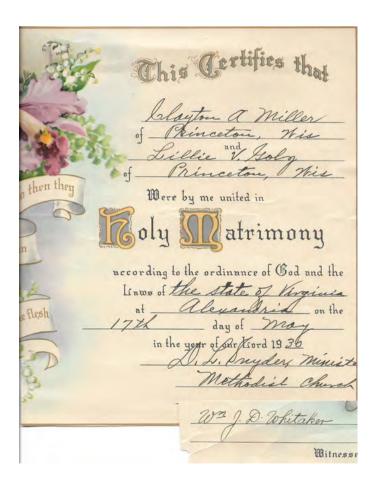
Mr. Miller is assistant cashier in his father's bank, and Mrs. Miller is bookkeeper. Both were graduated from Princeton High school in 1927 and have been working in the bank since. They have been sweethearts since school days. A telegram sent to their parents from Washington announcing their marriage, has not yet arrived in Princeton.

But is was more than a sightseeing trip for the young couple...

Couple In "On-To-Washington"

Jaunt Steals March On Tour

Travelers, Weds In Alexandria



The legal proof of their marriage.



Their carriage ride from the pastor's house to Mount Vernon.



The beaming new bride in her wedding dress.



To continue Clayton and Lillies story see page 167

The "newly weds" peeking out from behind their fellow-travelers at the US Capitol building.

# Lillie Virginia Golz Paternal Line

# 1. The Golz Family Immigrates To America

Karl Wilhelm Golz was born in Bromberg, New Procknow, Germany in 1823. In 1850 he married Ernestine Henretta Kelm, daughter of John and Sophie Kelm. Ernestine was born in 1823, the same year as her husband Karl. They had two children, Julius Wilhelm and Emily Louise both born in Germany.

In 1866 Karl and his family left their home in Germany and immigrated to America. They settled in the small town of Princeton, Wisconsin. Ernestine died in 1897.



This spinning wheel was one of the few items that Ernestine brought to her new home in America.

#### 2. The Golz Patriarchs

#### The Julius Golz Family

Karl is in the center of the picture with the white beard and hands on his hips (This is the only known picture of Karl. His son Julius is to his left. Matilda, Julius's wife is to his left holding one of their eight children. This is also the only pictue I have of Matilda in her younger years). Ernestine doesn't appear to be in the picture. She died in 1897 at the age of seventy one. The young man sitting on the wagon is my "Grandpa Golz."



The Golz Family Farm



This log cabin was the original home of the first owners of the Golz farm and it is still standing on the property



This farm was purchased shortly after they arrived in Princeton. It is one mile east of the small town of Princeton (It was in front of the smaller barn that the family picture above was taken). As of this writing it is still owned by descendants of Karl Golz and is listed in the Wisconsin registry of "Century Farms of Wisconsin" which are kept in the historical state records in Madison, WI.

# Family Group Sheet for Julius Golz

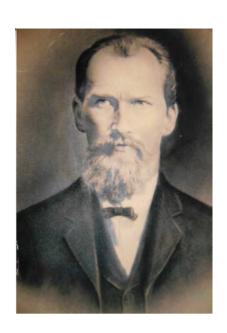
|   | Husband:             | Julius Goiz   |
|---|----------------------|---|
|   | Birth:               | 14 Jul 1857 in Prussia  |
|   | Death:               | 19 Jun 1907 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Burial:              | Jun 1907 in Memory Hill Cemetery, Princeton, Green Lake,  |
|   | Marriage:            | Wisconsin 17 Apr 1879 in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Marquette County,  |
|   | maringu.             | Wisconsin   |
|   | Father:              | Karl Wilhelm Golz   |
|   | Mother:              | Ernestine Henrietta Kelm  |
|   | Wife:                | Mathilda Stibbe   |
|   | Birth:               | 29 Mar 1864 in Town of Mecan, Marquette, Wisconsin, USA   |
|   | Death:               | 28 Jun 1937 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Burial:              | Jun 1937 in Memory Hill Cemetery, Princeton, Green Lake,  |
|   | Father:              | Wisconsin Carl Ludwig Stibbe  |
|   | Mother               | Augusta Bartz   |
|   | 0.100.0              | rugosa osat   |
|   | Children:            |   |
| 1 | Name:                | Carl Edward "Ed" Golz   |
| М | Birth:               | 26 Apr 1880 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, United States  |
|   | Death:               | 03 Dec 1943 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, United States  |
|   | Burial:<br>Marriage: | Dec 1943 in Memory Hill Cemetery, Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin 06 Apr 1905 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, United States |
|   | Spouse:              | Ida Theresa Krueger   |
| 2 | - 25                 | Herman Theodore Golz  |
| M | Name:<br>Birth:      | 23 May 1882 in Princeton, Green Lake: Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Death:               | 05 Jan 1961 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Marriage:            | 13 Feb 1909 in St Johns Lutheran Church, Princeton, Green Lake,   |
|   | .,                   | Wisconsin   |
|   | Spouse               | Johanna Otto  |
| 3 | Name:                | Minnie Elizabeth Golz   |
| F | Birth:               | 07 Sep 1884 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Death:               | 15 Feb 1963 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Marriage:            | 02 Sep 1906 in Green Lake County, Wisconsin Heinrich Gustav Edward Bierman  |
|   | Spouse:              | us a lead color of the  |
| 4 | Name:                | Amelia Louise Golz  |
|   | Birth:               | 17 Oct 1886 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Death:               | 31 Jul 1950 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA 16 Apr 1904 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA                         |
|   | Marriage:<br>Spouse: | Edward Ferdinand Zanto  |
| 5 | 22,000               | Martha Mathilda Golz  |
| F | Name:<br>Birth:      | 06 Jun 1889 in Green Lake County, Wisconsin   |
|   | Death:               | 11 Jan 1969 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Marriage:            | 11 Sep 1910 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Spouse:              | William Frederick Lunow   |
| 6 | Name.                | William Julius Golz   |
| М | Birth                | 17 Feb 1892 in Green Lake County, Wisconsin   |
|   | Death                | 02 Oct 1943 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Marriage:            | 10 Jun 1914 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Spouse:              | Flora Dumdee  |
| 7 | Name:                | Clara Laura Golz  |
| F | Birth:               | 18 Feb 1898 in Green Lake County, Wisconsin   |
|   | Death:               | 03 Feb 1963 in Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, USA   |
|   | Marriage:            | 21 Jun 1918 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Spouse:              | Arthur Hugor Oelke  |
| 8 | Name:                | Albert Marvin Golz  |
| M | Birth:               | 21 Oct 1904 in Green Lake County, Wisconsin   |
|   | Death:               | 17 Jun 1954 in Princeton, Green Lake, Wisconsin, USA  |
|   | Marriage:            | 21 Dec 1930 in Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA   |
|   | Spouse:              | Mildred Irene Kaatz   |

Julius Golz, 1857-1907

Julius met and Mathilda Stibbe were married in 1879 when she was only fifteen years old. One year later their first son Carl Edward was born, named after his grandfather. They had a total of eight children.



Julius and Mathilda with their first child, Carl Edward



Albert was on two years old when his father died. At the time three of her children were already married. Her son Herman was living on his own farm with his two sisters, Minnie and Martha. That left William (Willie), Clara and Albert to help with the farm.



Julius died on 1907 and is buried in St John's Lutheran Cemetery located south of Princeton.

 ${\it Matilda\ lived\ for\ another\ twenty\ years\ after\ her\ husband\ died.}$ 



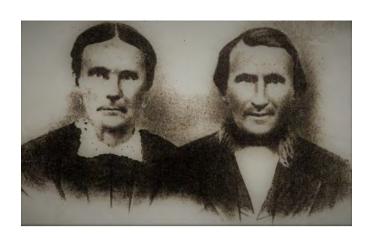
Matilda Stibb Golz - 1864-1937



Matilda's grave marker.

# 3. Julius and Mathilda

Mary Augusta and Carl Stibb (Mathilda's parents and my great-great grandparents)



Carl was born in 1828 in New Procnow, Germany. Mary Augusta was born in 1829 in Poland. They immigrated to the United States and settled on a farm near the town of Mecan in Marquette County, Wisconsin. Their family consisted of two boys and two girls, one of which was my great grandmother born in 1864. Their daughter Mathilda was born in 1864 on her parent's farm in Mecan, Wisconsin, a small farming community about eleven miles from the Golz farm near Princeton.



Matilda and Julius were married in April of 1879 when she was only fifteen years old which was not uncommon in those days. One year later in, April of 1880, their first child was born. They named him Carl Edward after his grandfather Karl.

Their second child, Herman Theodore, was my grandfather. They had a total of eight living children plus one that died in infancy. There were four boys and four girls all born between 1879 and 1904.



Herman Theodore Golz 1882-1961



Julius died in 1907 when his youngest child, Albert Edward was only two years old

# 4. Young Herman Theodore Golz

Carl Edward ("Ed") and his brother Herman with sister Minnie behind them.





Another picture of that "threesome" Herman and Carl (back row left and center) and Minnie their sister, front row left. (I don't know the other three people.

# 5. Herman Meets Johanna



I'm assuming that this picture was taken in the early 1900's. Herman is seated at the far right and behind him and to his right is a woman named Johanna Otto who would one day be his wife. I'm not certain of the occasion for this photo but it may have been Cattle Fair Day in Princeton. On the first of each month local farmers brought their saleable livestock to town to sell or trade. It was a bit of a holiday with other activities going on as well.



Johanna Emily Otto



I have been told that the March Cattle Fair was the biggest and busiest. Farmers were anxious to buy and sell cattle and be ready for the summer ahead. In 1935 I was born on the March cattle fair day. My parents were living in the upper level of one of the stores on the left side of the street.



Cattle Fair Day in action in downtown Princeton in the late 1800's.

## 6. Herman Takes A Bride

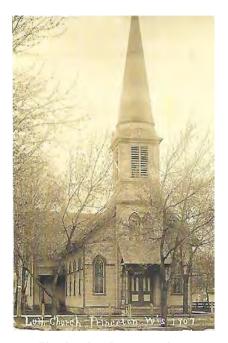




The entire wedding party. On the far right is Johanna's older brother Carl. The woman directly behind Johanna is Herman's sister Ida. The rest of the wedding party I don't know.

Last Monday afternoon the wedding bells sent their melodious tones across the distance hills of Pleasant Valley; which proclaimed unto themselves the marriage of Johanna E. daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Otto to Herman Goltz. The newly married couple were reared and have been in our midsts all of their lives. The wedding ceremony was performed in the St. John's Lutheran church, at 2:30 p. m., at Princeton, Rev. Hoyer officiating. A bountiful supper was served to all the guests present. This community extends their heartiest congratulations and wishing them a long and prosperous life of much joy and happiness as they journey onward through this world.





The church in Princeton where Herman and Johanna were married.



A memento from the wedding

When the newlyweds came out of the church Herman's brother Ed was waiting for them in his horse-drawn wagon, not to give them a ride, but to challenge them to a race through the streets of Princeton. There had been an early thaw that year and the streets were very muddy. Herman accepted the challenge with his bride seated next to him. It's not known whether Johanna's dress was soiled or not but I was told it was a wild ride.

The dress is still in existence and in the possession or Johanna's great granddaughter, Tammy Zonka. At the time that I'm writing this it would be one hundred plus years old and in beautiful condition.

While Herman, Johanna and Ed were racing through the muddy streets of Princeton the family and wedding party and guests gathered at the Otto farm to celebrate in true German style which meant music, food and lots of beer.

# 7. Herman and Johanna's family.

Herman and Johanna settled into their farm home on Green Lake Road where Herman had been living and farming. The following December their first child arrived.

> Lillie Virginia - My mother December 18, 1909

Two years later, on February 23, 1911, Herman and Johanna suffered the loss of an infant daughter named Alice. She died on the day of her birth.



Elmer Otto, was born January 21, 1914



The Golz family in about 1923



Arden Lester Golz January 6, 1921



Johanna and Herman may have thought that their family was complete but...



Lois Carolyn born August 31, 1926 Her older sister Lillie was a senior in high school by the time Lois was born.



Lois and her Grandma Otto with the Willys-Knight



Lillie holding little sister, Lois

You can find the story about the car and the family who owned it on page 134. When this picture was take Lois's sister Lillie was about to be married.

# 8. Herman's Jobs



Herman wetting down the unpaved street in downtown Princeton.



He kept the team of horses in his barn at their home in Princeton

Herman farmed before he was married and continued to farm for awhile afterward. But he was prone to "heat strokes" after working in the fields under the hot summer sun. It was discovered that his body was unable to perspire and farming was more than his body could handle. He got a job with the county of Green Lake maintaining the roads in and around Princeton and all of Green Lake County. By this time the Golz's had moved into town.



The letter at left was sent to Herman from his employer. It gives you a glimpse into the kind of work that Herman did. It was sent to him in the hospital in Fond Du Lac...about thirty five miles from Princeton indicating that he must have had a serious problem. People in those days weren't prone to go to a hospital unless their ailment was serious. But because of that hospital visit we have this little bit of information about him and his work.

In the 1940's people were beginning to enjoy the luxury of running water in their homes. In addition to plowing and keeping the streets "clean", Herman was on the crew of men who dug trenches from the street to each house in order to lay the pipeline that brought running water to the homes.

#### 9. Who Was Louise Fabrice?

#### Louise Fabrice (from Chicago)

At right is a Letter to the Editor of the Princeton Times Republic newspaper from Louise telling of her Princeton memories and extended times with Johanna and Herman Golz. I have not been able to find out who this woman from Chicago was, how my Grandparents knew her or why she would be visiting them in Princeton every summer. But it gives you a peek into the family from her perspective.

Below is a photo of Louise's son John Hancock with Lois and Inez Miller at the Golz home in Princeton. The house behind them is where Lois's grandparents, "Mamma and Papa Otto" lived.



The Princeton Times Republic Princeton, Wisconsin Dear Mr. Editor:

I have a copy of your newspaper before me as I write. It was sent to me by Mrs. Herman Golz who has known me since I was a very little girl Johanna and Herman know how dearly I love Princeton. You see, my summers were spent on the farm of Ludwig Otto, Johanna's father, along with my brother and sister and my mother.

and sister and my mother.

Now that I am a granny, I often think of those early days on the farm and what a nuisance we must have been. How the Otto's ever tolerated our mischief will always be a mystery to me. We called them Papa and Mama and simply adored them. Oh, Papa Otto threatened to skin us alive when he'd catch us washing our dirty bare feet in the horse trough or caught us lassoing a very young pig, but he never touched us. To use a cliche, we soon learned that his bark was much worse than his hite.

As for Mama Otto, she was a marvelously understanding and kind woman. She was always ready with a bottle of Wathin's liniment and words of comfort to take the hurt from a bruised knee. She was always ready with fresh cookies and doughnuts, but I doubt she ever succeeded in completely fill-

doughnuts, but I doubt she ever succeeded in completely filling our cavernous stomachs.

I think God must have used the same pattern to make Johanna and Herman Golz that he used in making Papa and Mama Otto. Having stayed in the Golz home over a long and happy period or two, I know how kind they are. In fact, I think I was their first almost permanent visitor very soon after they were married and lived on a farm in a township called Brooklyn, if I'm not mistaken in the name.

If I were blindfolded and withink Schergin had it haved

If I were blindfolded, and Multiple Sclerosis hadn't lamed me, I'm sure I could find my way through Princeton without help. Although I was born in Chicago and have lived here a good part of my life, Princeton is like Chicago . . . my hometown . . in affection.

n . . . in affection. Now that Mr. Westfield's verses are not appearing, per-

haps you will give space to a poem of mine.

Good luck to you and to your fine newspaper. And my good wishes to all the fine people in Princeton, Wisconsin. Louise Fabrice Handcock

Lois and Inez became good friends during the time that the Millers lived in Princeton. They were both the youngest childin their family andtheir oldest siblings married each other.

# 10. Home In The Early 1900's

This photo of Johanna and Herman's house was taken in about 2004 but the outside still looks exactly as it did when I was a child. Herman and Johanna's first child was born on the farm the winter after they were married. It was a bitter cold winter and it became clear that the farm house was not conducive for raising small children. They purchased a home in Princeton from the Spooner family. This picture is of that home. It was situated at the end of Howard street (although at that time there were no street signs.) It backed up to a "sandpit" which provided a wonderful playground for their children and grandchildren. The sandpit was an area about three blocks long and a block wide. It had formerly been a source for sand used in construction. That operation ended and in my early childhood and it was a wonderful large sandbox in my grandparents backyard. Just beyond the sand pit was a wooded area with a creek winding through it. Basically it was a wonderful back yard.





The Golz Home in Princeton



Arden getting ready to ride of into the sandpit.

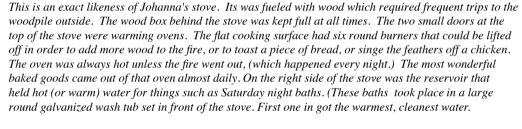
In the winter the sandpit became a ski slope. On the left is my aunt Lois with her two of her friends. I was the little tag-along who wanted to do whatever my Aunt Lois did.

Because the Golz house stood at the end of the street visitors seldom drove to the end of the road to park. Instead they drove up the driveway and entered the house through the back door. The front door wasn't even visible from the street. This meant that most visitors were welcomed into the kitchen much to my grandmother's dismay. It was the kitchen where most of Johanna's activities took place which meant it could be in disarray for the better part of the day.

Come along and I'll take you on a tour through the the Golz home.

#### The Kitchen





Every spring Johanna ordered two or three dozen baby chicks that were delivered to the local post office and brought home peeping loudly. For the next few weeks the chicks were kept in a box behind the stove until they were able to withstand the spring weather. When these littlechicks grew to be adults they produced all the eggs that Johanna needed to make delicious cakes, pies and cookies.

Every Saturday it was Herman's task to pick out one or two of the older hens in the chicken coop for Sunday dinner. With hatchet in hand he would catch his prey, grabbing it by the legs and laying it across a tree stump. One "WHACCCK! and off with its head. But when he let go of it the poor headless chicken ran in circles, squawking until it finally dropped dead. It was then plunged into a pail of very hot water in order to make plucking the feathers easier. Once all the feathers were plucked (which made the poor chicken look very naked) Herman would take it into the kitchen for Johanna to finish the process. She would remove one of the round lids off her cook stove, hold the chicken by the neck and feet and slowly rotate it over the open flame in order to singe off all the pin feathers. The number of chickens that were sacrificed depended on how many dinner guest were going to show up the next day after church. (Johanna's mother-in-law had a habit of inviting guest to Johanna's house as she left the church without asking Johanna or letting her know how many she had invited.)



Cupboards with glass doors were mounted on the south wall of the kitchen. This was where Johanna kept their everyday dishes.



The small platter on the left was usually used for the Golz's favorite supper...a ring of balogna sausage made at Megows meat market in downtown Princeton. The green and white dishes were for everyday use

"Company" dishes were also kept here. The lower cupboards held the pots and pans and and a huge pull out bin for flour. (They bought their flour in fifty pound clothe bags bags decorated with designs. This was a wonderful bonus for a seamstress like Johanna. Her "flower sack dresses" were always attractive.

To the left of the kitchen stove was a cupboard for cooking utensils. On the linoleum covered counter top was a water pail filled with water from the outside pump. It held about five gallons of water but had to be refilled often. A long handled dipper was used by anyone and everyone who needed a drink.

The kitchen table was rectangular and comfortably seated eight people for informal meals. But it was so much more than a place to eat. In the fall it would become a butcher block for butchering a pig...and all day project that included more than pork chops and ham. It included rendering the fat for lard, cutting some into bacon strips, caning the meatier parts to store in the cellar. It was a messy, bloody task. The kitchen table was also surface for Johanna to cut out a pattern for a sewing project. Almost daily it was work space for kneading bread or rolling out a pie crust, or mixing up a batch of rolls or doughnuts.

Neighbors, friends and family often dropped in to visit and enjoy a cup of coffee there. In the evenings it was often used as game table. The warmth of Johanna's kitchen was much more than what the wood stove provided.

Summer time brought flies to the kitchen...hundreds of them. They would cling to the outside of the screen door until someone entered or exited the house. Sooner or later they would be drawn to the sweetness of the fly tape suspended from the ceiling and land on the sticky tape. Once landed they never escaped. When it got too full of flies to be effective it would be taken down and disposed of and another one put in its place.



Up until the late 1900's there was no running water in the Golz house. All water used for cooking, washing dishes, brushing teeth, or taking a bath had to be pumped from the pump outside.

(The photo above was probably taken in the late 60's or early 70's. Long after the Golzes had running water in the house the pump stood as a reminder of days gone by).

#### The Wash Room



Johanna and Herman had a small room built off the kitchen, referred to as "the wash room." It was a long narrow room with metal sink at the far end. On the left side of that sink was a pump (like the one the left) that provided water for hand washing and shaving. The pump had it's own reservoir but often had to be 'primed' by pouring water into the top of it before pumping. Once they were finished with "cleaning up for dinner" the dirty water was emptied from the wash bowl into the sink where it ran into a bucket hidden behind a cloth curtain.

Grandpa's "razor strop" hung on the wall to the left of the sink. On the counter below stood his shaving mug and a soft round brush used to apply a sudsy lather to his face. Carefully he scraped off his whiskers with the sharpened razor.

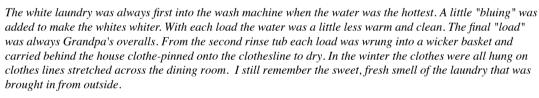




The biggest object in the wash room was the washing machine stored behind the door. Every Monday morning it would be pulled out either to the kitchen or the back porch, depending upon the weather. It was an upgrade from washing everything by hand. The two rollers above the tub squeezed the water out of the clean clothes before putting them into the rinse tubs.

Grandma Golz's wash machine was very much like this one. In the winter Grandma would make room for it and two rinsing tubs in the kitchen. In the summerthey would roll the three pieces out onto the back porch.

The water for the wash machine and the hot water rinse tub were heated in a large "boiler" on the wood stove Then my mother and Grandmawould each take a handle and together carry the water to the machine and fill the tubs. The clothes were put through the wringer by poking them into it with an old broom handle.





The boiler



At left is a photo of the iron Johanna used before they had electricity. The washboard in the background was also a necessity. The "peg" clothespins were the only kind available before the spring version was invented.

This Philco Model 90, originally belonged to Clayton and Lillie (You will find it in the picture of their first kitchen, Clayton Miller's Life and Family: Section 4). Clayton and Lillie purchased floor model and gave their small one to Herman and Johanna. During WWII Herman would sit (or sleep) in front of this radio every night and listen to H.V.Kaltenborn. If the grandchildren got too noisy he would wake up and say..."Hortma, Hortma", (German for "Listen, Listen") and then go back to sleep.

If you're interested in what a newscast in the 1940's sounds like you can hear it at this website).

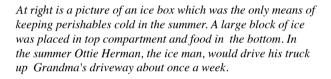
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The Golz's connection to the "outside world" came in the form of radio...but not until into the 1940's



Johanna's sewing machine was part of the furniture and strategically placed under the north facing kitchen window. There she made most of her family's clothes. She also made most of my clothes. If I found something in the Sears Catalog that I liked I would show it to her and in a few days I'd be wearing it. She had taken sewing lessons from two sisters who had been seamstresses in Europe. I was in junior high beforeI discovered that there were "store bought" dresses.





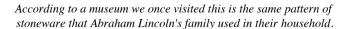


After choosing the right size block of ice out of the back of his truck he'd put a leather mat on his shoulder and, with his ice tongs in the ice, he somehow manage to swing the ice block onto the leather and carry it into the house where he lowered it into the ice compartment. Grandma Golz would give him his twenty five cents and he'd be off to his next delivery (The ice that the ice man delivered in the summer was harvested from the Fox River in the winter).

A steep, narrow stairway led from the kitchen down into the cellar. Here Johanna's canned fruit, vegetables and meat were all preserved in glass canning jars and stored. It was also called the "fruit cellar" because apples and other fruits were stored there as well as vegetables like carrots, onions rutabagas and cabbages harvested from her garden. The temperature was pretty much the same year around. The floor was sand (Many years later when she was living alone in the house and in her 80's, Johanna fell down the cellar stairs where she laid the entire day before a neighbor found her. She had broken a hip and it was decided that she should no longer be living there by herself).

#### The Dining Room

The dining room was situated between the kitchen and parlor. It was furnished with a large dining room table covered with a lace tablecloth, a buffet, a comfortable wooden rocker, and Grandma's collection of house plants. These plants grew in an oblong white wicker planter placed in front of the south-facing double window. These windows plus a single window facing west were covered with lacy white curtains. An exterior door led from the dining room onto the wrap-around front porch. Every Sunday the dining room table was set with a white linen table cloth and napkins. Her "Sunday" dishes were white stoneware with a gold rim and a gold leaf in the center.







Every fall Herman would enlist a few men from the neighborhood to help him move the wood stove from the woodshed into the house. It would be carefully and strategically placed on the linoleum flooring in the dining room. Once in place the stove pipe was connected from the top of the stove to the hole in the wall that led outside. (In the summer that hole was covered by a round ornamental "pipe cover" in order to keep the flies out of the house.)

Once that was done the stove was polished and made ready for the long, cold winter months.

Every morning before dawn either Johanna or Herman would gather an armload of wood from the wood box behind the kitchen stove and start the fire in the wood stove.

In the spring the stove was moved back to the woodshed after it had been thoroughly cleaned of ashes and soot...a very messy task.

#### The Master Bedroom

Johanna and Herman's bedroom was small and yet furnished with what seemed like a huge bed and dresser. These two pieces were made of dark oak. The bed had a high headboard and footboard. It was covered with a goose down mattress and quilt. The dresser featured a large oval mirror framed in dark oak. It's flat surface was covered with a "dresser scarf" on which were placed an ornate hand mirror and comb, a decorative little dish with hairpins and their wedding picture.

The only seating in the room was a cloth covered wooden box with a bit of padding on the top surface. This was placed under the double window facing north...the only windows in the room, covered with lace curtains.

A very small clothes closet occupied the space under the stairs that lead upstairs. This closet held all of Johanna's and Herman's clothes and shoes, plus the "chamber pot".

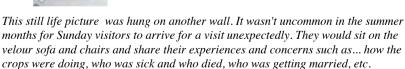
A wide doorway (with no door) led to their bedroom from the dining room. For privacy they hung a heavy plush drape in the doorway in the winter and beaded curtains in the summer.

#### The Parlor

The parlor (or living room as it was later called) was on the east end of the house with a large window facing east and a smaller window on each side of the room facing north and south. The windows were all covered with (you guessed it) lace curtains.



A large picture of Julius Golz, Herman's father, hung proudly on the wall next to the upright piano (which no one knew how to play).







One of the features of this room was the desk with a rounded glass door. Whenever I was at "Grandma's" on Saturday (which was cleaning day) it was my job to dust the desk or "secretary" as they called it. At that time the shelves behind glass were filled with framed pictures of family and relatives.

#### The Upstairs

A steep set of stairs lead to the upper level of the house.

At the top of the stairs was a bedroom with two windows facing north. It was furnished with a double bed and a tall wardrobe with double doors where out-of-season clothing was stored, and a long cloth covered box window seat similar to the one in Herman and Johanna's bedroom.

But the most interesting piece of furniture (and a strange piece to have in a bedroom) was an RCA windup Victrola.

The top of the "Victrola" lifted to reveal the round felt covered turntable and the movable arm that housed the phonograph needle. The twelveinch round records were stored inside the double doors at the bottom. To play music required choosing a record, placing it on the turntable, tunring the crank on the side of the machine until it was tight, turning on the Victrola and carefully lowering the needle onto the outeer edge of the record. My friends and I spent hours up in that room playing and replaying records, singing and dancing around the room.





A second bedroom faced south and looked out onto the sandpit behind the house. It was furnished with a bed and chest of drawers. A low door led from there into the attic where anything that wasn't being used was stored.

The third room was used as a storeroom. It was stacked half way to the ceiling with dozens of boxes filled with fabric, photos, old toys, Christmas decorations ...and one can only imagine what else. (Johanna seldom got rid of anything.) A narrow walkway led through the stacks of boxes and Johanna seemed to know what was in every one of them in spite of the fact that only a few of them were labelled.

Spring cleaning included cleaning the living room rug without a vacuum cleaner. It was done by tearing up old newspapers and moisteningthem with water and then scattering them onto the rug. The wet paper was then swept into a pile with a broom while most of the dirt from the rug clung to the newspapers. The only large rug in the Golz home was in the parlor. The smaller rugs were hung on the clothesline outsideand the dirt was beaten out of them with a carpet beater.





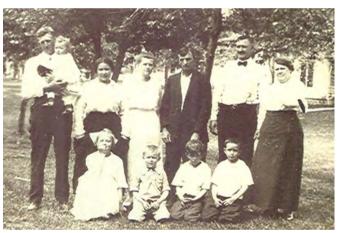
Johanna also loved growing flowers and vegetables.

And last, but not least... the "outhouse"...the necessary room. The Golz outhouse looked very much like this in size but had no blue accents or door decor. It stood behind the woodshed and was not visible from the street or to visitors pulling up to the back door. It was a "two holer" with an old Sears and Roebuck catalog handy as a substitute in case the toilet tissue was all used up. In the summer it was alive with the buzz of flies.



# 11. The Family Grows Up

The following family photos give us a peek into the life that the Golz family enjoyed.



This is a photo taken in the early years of Herman and Johanna's marriage.

Left to right: Johanna's brother Carl and his wife Fronie. Carl is holding their first daughter, Gertrude. Johanna's half brother Richard Bircholz, and his wife Josephine are on the right. In the middle are Johanna and Herman. The children kneeling in front from left to right are Lillie and Elmer and the Reiser boys from Fronie's first marriage (There is more of Carl and Fronie's story on page 151.



The completed Golz family: Arden, Elmer, Lillie Herman, Lois, Johanna



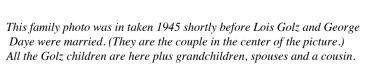
The young Golz family before Lois was born.



Clayton and Lillie - 1930



This photo was take around 1932. Lois and Johanna are on the left. Next to them is Keith Miller, Lillie with her brother Arden in front of her. Next to them is Herbert Miller and his youngest child, Inez. (Clayton was the photographer) Clayton and Lillie met while his family was living in Princeton but by the time this picture was taken the Miller's were living in Brooklyn, Wisconsin.







In 1933 Elmer married Virginia Pocat.



From left to right, Hattie Biggs (Johanna's sister) Johanna, Rosemarie Raush (Johanna's half brother's granddaughter) Lois, her fiancee George Daye, Herman, Arden, Virginia, (Elmer's wife), Lillie, and Elmer. The children sitting on the grass are Marion, Jerry, (Clayton and Lillie's children) and Diane, (Elmer and Virginia's daughter). Photo taken by Clayton back in the days before timers on cameras.



Lois and her bridesmaids plus two "Junior Bridesmaids"

That's me on the left. Standing next to me is Lois's cousin, Rosemary. The two women on either side of Lois are high school friends of hers. On the far right is Elmer's daughter, Diane.



Arden Golz in his Army uniform 1945

By the time this photo was taken World War II had ended. After being drafted in 1945 he spent six weeks training in Texas and was on his way to Italy when the Japanese surrendered. He spent some time in Italy as an MP guarding at prison camps both in Italy and on the Isle of Capri. After returning home he became a dedicated farmer. He enrolled in classes through the University of Wisconsin and completed them at home. It would be almost twenty years before he took a bride. Arden spent the rest of his life farming on the land that his great grandfather had purchased in 1886.



Johanna and Herman lived in their house in Princeton until some time in the 1950's when they moved back to the Golz Homestead a mile east of Princeton. Arden had been farming it and living with his parents in Princeton. The farm had changed very little since Carl Golz, the patriarch had purchased it. The house had been remodeled a bit but the out-buildings were pretty much the same except for a few coats of paint.



Arden and his bride, Luella



Arden loved farming and took several courses in agriculture by correspondence through the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Once the renters left and the house was vacant, Johanna and Herman decided it would be economical for all three of them to rent out their house in Princeton and move to the farm which was debt free. Five months later Arden, at age forty, married and brought his new bride (Luella) home to live on the farm. Luella was a widow with three grown children from her previous marriage. They were now adults and no longer living with her.

In June of 1963 God blessed Arden and Luella with a daughter whom they named ickie. She would be the only child from their marriage..

Vickie was a flower girl at her cousin Nancy's wedding. Glen was the ring bearer. (That's Lois in the background.) How sweet is this?



This is one of many family gatherings at what became affectionately known as "The Daye Farm" by the family. (It's the home of Lois and George Daye.).

Back row left: George Daye, his son Dennis in front of him. Johanna, Nancy, (the Daye's oldest daughter), Elmer Golz, Arden, a family friend. In the front row are Donna, (Daye's younger daughter) Lois Daye, Virginia (Elmer's wife) Lillie Miller, Vickie and her mother, Luella, and Clayton.

# 12. Johanna's Mother, Sister and Nephews

The house next door to the Golz's was owned by Johanna's parents. After Ludwig died in 1930. His wife, Johanna, continued to live there until she became too ill to stay alone. She was moved to her daughter Johannah's home next door where she spent the rest of her life.

The Otto house stayed in the family for some time after Johanna Otto died. At one point her daughter Hattie, who was now a widow, lived in the house. But being a rather adventurous and strong-willed woman in her seventies, she was never one to let a lot of grass grow under her feet. She decided to follow up an ad in the paper for a housekeeper/cook for a man named Louie Paulson who lived about two hours north of Princeton in the small town of Gillett, Wisconsin. That seemed a bit of a scandal to some of the relatives, especially her sister Johanna. I'm not too sure it worked out very well for Hattie either.



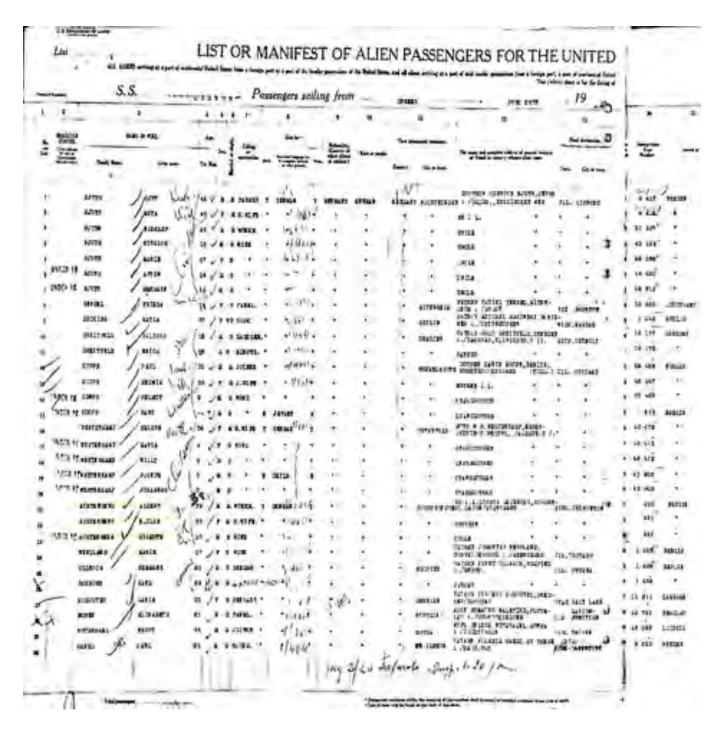
Hattie's Family Plus Johanna and Herman

Hattie is peeking out from behind Marge, Alan's wife. The two men in the back row are her sons Earl and Alan. Earl's wife Bertie is to his right with their daughter Pat in front of them. I don't know the girl between Marge and Johanna. Alan and Marge had no children.

# 13. The Auchtenbergs of Germany

I never met the Auchtenberg family but as a child I often heard their name mentioned. I knew that the big green car in my grandparent's garage belonged to the Auchtenbergs. Now that I can look back at history (family and world history) I find it to be a fascinating and poignant story. What follows is information that I have been able to put together from the ship's manifest and passenger list as well as what I've heard from my family and a better knowledge of the historical events in Germany at the time.

On July 2, 1925 Albert and Emilie Auchtenberg, along with their ten year old son Helmuth, arrived in the port of New York City on the ship Columbus that sailed from Bremen, Germany. Helmuth's birth city is listed as Schneidemuenhl which was located very close to the border between Germany and Poland. (The same area the Golz's and Otto's had emigrated from.) According to the ship manifest Emilie Auchtenberg had a brother living in that city by the name of I. L. Ludwig Majewski Schoen. Their destination is listed as Princeton, Wisconsin. At that time immigration into the United States was restricted only to those who had someone to sponsor them. Emilie Auchtenberg and Johanna Golz were related, but it was her cousin and his wife who sponsored them.



Helmuth and his parents are listed seventh from the bottom

# New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957

Name: Helmuth Achtenberg Arrival Date: 2 Jul 1925 Birth Year: abt 1915 Birth Location: Germany Birth Location schneidemunh Other: Age: 10 Gender: Male Ethnicity/Race-German /Nationality: Port of Departure: Bremen, Germany Port of Arrival: New York, New York Ship Name: Columbus Search Ship Database:

In 1924 (the year that the Auchtenberg's sailed to America) the Johnson-Reed Act limited the number of immigrants coming into the United States from Europe including Eastern Germany. Somehow the Auchtenbergs got through the red tape and arrived in Wisconsin.. (Which by the way had more German immigrants that any other state in the US at that time.) I don't know where the family settled but Helmuth graduatedfrom high school in Milwaukee which is about one hundred miles south of Princeton. There may have been more jobs available there.

Helmuth was ten years old when they arrived in America. He graduated from high school in 1933 at age 20. Language may have slowed down his education. (By this time the "h" at the end of his name had been dropped and he was listed as Helmut.)

In January of 1939 Auchtenbergs made a decision to return to their home town of Scheidemuenhl, Germany for the purpose of retrieving a sum of money that was owed them. This turned out to be a rather fateful decision.



Helmut Auchtenberg age 20 Graduation Picture 1933

They sailed out of New York Harbor and headed for Germany. By the end of that same year they were back in their home town in time to experience the terrible night called "Kristallnacht" (The internet will give you a peek into that horrible night).

Once there Helmut took the time to write a long letter to Clayton. He writes well and tells of his impressions as he sailed out of New York Harbor (I'm including the letter in full here because of the historic time frame in which it was written). This letter also verifies that Helmut and Clayton had become well acquainted and shared an interest in HAM radios. The Auchtenbergs apparently spent a fair amount of time in Princeton.)

Jan 14 1938

Lear Clayton and Lilli:

It is about time that it let you know what is going on here in Servary. First I want to till you about tripe from Wilwanker, wie left on the Work coping Pay afternoon from Wilwanker on the World Shore train and arrived in Aniego we took a taxi to the depot for where we structed our tripe to Mew York at 6 or clook a how later the wind in Mew York the filtroing evening at 7 " clook. In Mew York we had to take a bus to the harbor of Trans Cream Lines. The seemeny at right in Mew York is just wounderful with all its lights and tall buildings. We also serve the great R.C.A. Ratio Building in the distance. It sure is a tall and greatest radio building in the world, This 's hour ride by bus alone Twee world, this 's hour ride by bus alone Twee world while seeing.

Even Lives were stationed. An elevetor took we about seven story up right wests to our slup lest our passeports and Baggage were checked over before we would go on board the slip.

From this 1th floor of this building we could go right across a ladder into the slip. You can emajore how tall a slip can be. And this was in the tallest point to enter the slip. All visitors were collowed to come on board the "Europa" until 15 minutes before it left New York Harbor.

Com slip left at 12:30 mid-night the 28th of bloombor. It would bear here bitter if our slip had sailed dwing the day from thew York, but still the harbor lights at right I will never forget. There is a song that some one wrote "Harbor Lights" but it some is true every word of it. Well that evening every one went to bed. The next worning we were at light sea and could only see the ocean and the sky

Every morning at 7 was bed sall for . way me to get up. At 7.20 was call for bleskfest From people sat on one table which was loved with white liver, nappines, also fresh flowers on the table and a deily Henre. he could order education be pleased . In example: Toast Tourto Juice Bruge Juice, a agree of eggs Ingraficit Office Sea, etc ( This was breakfest,) It 10:00 we had a light lunch on deck and also at the same to have concert. If you ever have heard a bend ement on board a big ocean liver you really have heard something. At 12:00 occlock we had dinner and everyone had his or her exten seat. We had the finest acommidation bitter than our fotal shoulder Milwurhee. At 3:= "slock wenter with count of 4 men. At 6:20 olale we had super and Leveryone received what head ordered. Every evening they show on board and if the younger folks did not core for shows they gove a dance until 12:30 in the coming. These 54 days past away so fast, that it could have lastel for weeks. One can easily sel, why sailors like to be at sea and travel from one seaport

of the wern, They seed lave tell you of some of their experiences I also sow the machines of our stope the the point where I saw the machines of our standing 37 feet under the see level, That will give your some idea how days a ships like funder water, the mem below work only 4 hours a day under such warmfaut dall sie. I was your most the time on board, because it really interested me to see everything.

interested me to see everything.

Our field landing place was Electioner France where once first mail and passenger were sured and our mext stop was Touthampoton England. Thou there we dosed the Clement and arrived in Eremer haven the following afterwoon the 3 of the The second of Pec, was fathers Dicklay am board our slipe. This we ever lift out, for found what I want out that evering at 18th at my muches, they save were plant to that evering at 18th at my muches, they save were plant to see us. We stayed in the for a few days and there continued our journey to subsidial whe was a few days to visit my course who is general Hungar in a large to visit my course who is general Hungar in a large to visit my course who

I will remain there for sometime and at
the same time will try and locate some
Radio operator to carry out plan that we
talked has I left Princeton. It wish so easy
to get connections with some of these
fellows, as you and I thought. And if
I do, I will let you know when, what
time, and a certain date of our connections.
It is 40'clock the 14th of family the afternoon
and in Princeton it is 90'clock in the moning
When you folks get up, then it is wanty
time for us to go to bed.
I wish, I could talk English
every day with some one. There are people
here, that have very good schooling, but
if it comes to talk English. It is only
haby talk for us. A person that wants
to talk English as we do has to
come to the United States and

Seare—the right English Language,
There is much more to write, but can't
think of it all. I will make it a good
trip, when I take the trough the "Polish Coridor"
In other words Polish Territory, Look it up
on the Atlas you will understand
My Pass sure comes in handy when
I go tette Pank and wants to dash in
my Traveling Checks. I will close for
today and hope that you blayton, tillin,
and the baby are OK.

Best Regards to Golg's
Mr. and Mrs. Abder, Lois, and
Elment Mife! Baby, and Jamily Beerman
and also led Otto and Jamily.

Best Regards send to you all

Louily Majewski Family Meyer for
Tather and Mother and Myself.

On September 1, 1939 Germany invaded Poland and three days later England and France declared war on Germany.



The last known contact from Helmut was this photo of him in his Nazi uniform. In trying to determine what the emblems on his hat represent I was only able to discern that he had a fairly high rank.

Emilie died in a concentration camp. It is unknown why she was imprisoned. They weren't Jewish.



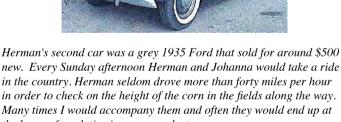
The Achtenberg's Wilys-Knight that was being stored in Herman and Johanna's garage awaiting their return was sold in 1945 for \$100.

## 14. Golz Family Autos

Herman and Johanna are the only ones that I can clearly identify in this photo. I assume that this was their first car. That may be Lillie on the running board.



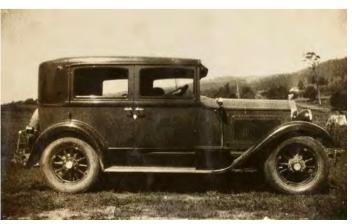
Herman's second car was a grey 1935 Ford that sold for around \$500 in the country. Herman seldom drove more than forty miles per hour in order to check on the height of the corn in the fields along the way. Many times I would accompany them and often they would end up at the home of a relative in some nearby town.





The Model T

The Willys-Knight that the Achtenbergs owned was parked in the Golz's two car garage right next to their 1935 Ford. Herman never drove it but my friends and I used to enjoy sitting in it. It was a pretty fancy car for its day. After the war the Achtenbergs were never heard from again. Herman finally sold it for \$100 (In 1926 a Willys-Knight sold for \$1,850).



## 15. Herman and Johanna's 50th Anniversary







Herman and Johann and their children

All but Lillie were still living within five miles of their parents. Lillie and her family were now living in Maryland, just outside of Washington D.C.



Johanna and Herman - February 1959

Johanna had always been the strong one in their marriage, outspoken, quick-tempered. Affection was only shown if Herman was going to be gone for a long time. On those occasions he always came home with a gift for her. Johanna always kept busy at home. For relaxation she would read her monthly magazine, "Women's World". Herman would do whatever Johanna asked.

The original St. Johns Lutheran church in which they were married in had been torn down and a new church was built across the street. It was in this church that the anniversary celebration was held.



#### 16. Herman's Last Breath

Just two years after celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, on a cold January morning in 1961, Herman came in from outside where he had been helping Arden with his chores. He pulled out a chair from the kitchen table, sat down and breathed his last breath.

#### Herman T. Golz

A lifelong town and city Princeton resident, Herman T. Golz, died unexpectedly Thursday morning January 5, 1961 at his farm home on highway 23 A heart attack caused his death after he hand assisted his son Arden with work out doors. He attained the age of more than 78 years.

His remains were in state at the Wachholz Funeral home from Sunday until Monday mornng, Jan. 9th, and thereafter at St. John's Ev. Lutheran church where services were held at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. Walter Strohchein officiated Burial was in Memory Hill St. John's Lutheran cemetery, Princeton.

Pallbearers were neighbors Gilbert Hebbe, Billy Daye, Harold Zellmer, Milo Bierman, Gilpert Dreger and Karl Huenerberg.

Herman Theodore Golz was

STATE OF WISCONSIN GREEN LAKE COUNTY COURT IN PROBATE STATE OF WISCONSIN. OREEN LAKE County. Arden Golz being duly sworn, says that he is the of the estate of Herman Golz, s/k/s Herman T. Golz Executor and that the following annexed is a true inventory of the real and personal property owned by the deceased or in which he had an interest or joint terraincy at the time of his death which has come to the possession or knowledge of this deponent, or to the possession of any spher person for this deponent and that upon diligent inquiry the deponent has not been able to discover any other property belonging to the estate. 1st day of March 1061 L. I. Krieser Notary Public, Green Lake County, Wis. OATH OF APPRAISERS STATE OF WISCONSIN. OHEEN LAKE County SS. Eilbert Erueger , each for himself, on oath says: I will faithfully discharge the duty of appraiser of this estate according to the best of my ability. So Halp Me Goo Subscribed and sworn to before me this Hilbert Erueger let day of March 19 61 Clarence Celke L. I. Krieser Nesary Public. Green Lake County, Wis-STATE OF WISCONSIN. GREEN LAKE C 1069%5731E 1 150722664E C 123893447E Q 202240023E I 206444736E 1945 100.00 117.72
1945 50.00 57.94
1946 100.00 114.20
1947 25.00 27.32
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porn May 23, 1882. His parents were the late Julius and Mathida, nee Stibb, Golz, town of Princeton. He received his early education inthe Pleasent Valley rural school (now closed); and was a life long member of St. John's Lutheran church. He was inited in marriage to Johanna Otto on February 22, 1909. They were privileged to osberve their golden wedding anniversary in February 1959. After their marriage he farmed in the town of Brooklyn followed by residence n the city of Princeton for many years. The past years resided with their son Arden on the Goz farmstead.

While living in the city Mr. Golz was employed by the Green Lake County Highway depart men't and City of Princeton.

Survivors are his wife Johanna, two daughters, Mrs. Clayton Miller, (Lillie), Washington, D.C. Mrs. George Daye (Lois), Neshsoro; two sons Elmer O Golz rural Princeton and Arden at ho me; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren; also three sisters, Mrs. Will Lunow, (Martha), Mrs. Henry Bierman, (Minnie), of Princeton, and Mrs. Arthur Oelke (Clara), of Fond du Lac; nephews and nieces.

An infant daughter Alice his brothers Edward, William and Albert Golz and a sister, Mrs. Edward Zanta (Amelia) preceded him in death.

Relatives and friends from away who called at the funeral home Sunday or attended the services were from Montello, Neshkoro, Ripon, Green Lake, Mar-

He was buried on the same day that John F. Kennedy was inaugurated President

Herman's Estate

#### 17. Family Reunions

As the clipping below states, Martha is the only living descendant of Julius and Mathilda Golz. The rest are in-laws.

On the left is Ed Zanto, husband of Amelia. Ida, (wife of Carl) Mildred, (wife of Albert) Martha, Johanna, (wife of Herman) Henry Bierman, (husband of Minnie) and Art Oelke (husband of Clara).



In attendance at the Golz family reunion on Sunday, August 28th with Mrs. William Lunow (Martha Golz) Princeton, who is the only living one of eleven children of the late Julius and Mathilda (nee Stibb) Golz, were Mrs. Edward Golz, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Golz, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Golz, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Golz, Mr. and Mrs. Vilho Mutka and son John of Horicon, Mrs. Alfred Wegner, Sr. of Stevens Point, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wegner, Jr. and children, Alfred Wegner, Jr. and children, of Ripon; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wegner, Jr. and children, of Ripon; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Golz and family, Markesan; Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Bierman and Daniel, Green Lake; Mrs. John Maines and children of Sayner; Mr. and Mrs. George Daye and family of Neshkoro; Arthur Oelke, Mrs. Fred Bickelkaupt and daughters, Fond du Lac;

Those from Princeton were Edward Zanto, Sr., Henry Bierman, Mrs. Armand Golz and family, Mr. and Mrs. Arden Golz and Vicki, Mr. and Mrs. Arden Golz and Mrs. Allen Schultz and Linda, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Golz and family. Mr. and Mrs. Amanda Keel of Markesan was a guest.

The total attendance was 75 members.



Members of the late Julius Golz family held a family reunion at the Princeton Community Hall on Sunday August 28th with 62 members of the family attending.

day August 28th with 62 members of the family attending.

Of the eleven children of Julius and Mathilda (ne Stibb) Golz, the only one still living is Mrs. William Lunow (Martha Golz), Princeton. She was in attendance Sunday.

Attending from Princeton were Edward Zanto, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Armand Golz and family, Henry Bierman, Mr. and Mrs. Argondows, Mrs. Herman Golz, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Argondom Golz and Vicki, Mr. and Mrs. Florian Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Schultz, and Linda; Mr. and Schultz, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Schultz, and Linda; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Schultz, and a Golz and family. Mrs. Amanda Keel, Markesan, was a guest.

Julius Wilhelm Ferdinand

Golz and family. Mrs. Amanda Keel, Markesan, was a guest.

Julius Wilhelm Ferdinand Golz was born July 14, 1857 and came to the United States in 1866. In 1867 he bought the Golz farm, where the Arden Golz farm now resides, from a Judge Myers. April 17, 1879 he married Mathilda Stibb who was 15 years old at the time. They had il children, and there are now 91 living descendants. Pass year Mrs. Keel drew up a family tree back to Julius Golz, and has brought it up to date. Plans are trace it further back. Another reunion is planned for 1968 at the Princeton Community Hall with Mrs. George Daye and Edward Zanto, Jr. in charge This year the arrangement were made by Mrs. Gordo Keel and Mrs. Florian Marshall.



Golz family members at the 1966 reunion

These clippings are a bit repetitive and redundant, but they give you an idea of newspaper reporting in a small town.

## 18. Mathilda Golz...the family Matriarch



The summer of 1935 I attended my great grandmother's 71st birthday. I was only four or five months old at the time but my earliest memory is of her long black skirt rustling in the grass as she passed by me.



All of Mathilda's family attended the celebration with the exception of her husband and one daughter who both preceded her in death. The rest of the people in this picture are all part of the Golz family. I'm one of two great grand children in the photo. (I'm sitting on the ground on the left in front of my aunt Lois.) The other great grandchild is Elmer and Virginia's daughter Dianne in her father's arms on the far right.

The Julius Golz family



Four generations - Lillie (my mother), me, Herman Golz (my grandfather), Matilda Golz (my great grandmother)

Mathilda died two years later having outlived her husband by thirty years.



The Grave Marker for Julius and Matilda Golz

The following "essay" was written by Matilda's son-in-law, Art Oelke, who was married to her youngest daughter, Clara. It gives you a picture of the family dynamics, but also a better picture of Matilda who was widowed in 1907 shortly after Clara was born. She was left to raise the children and keep the farm running. Sounds like she ran a tight little ship.

My Mother-In-Law By Arthur Delke

When I think of my mother-in-law, I think of a little woman weight I a little over 100 pounds. She and Julius Golz were married when she was I cars old and they took care of Julius' parents on the farm. Julius and my mother-in-law, Mathilda, had I2 children, four of whom died, and they worked hard. She used to carry the baby in back of the shock when she was following the reaper raking and tying up bundles.

At one time they owned five farms, all paid for! Julius died in 1907 and at his funeral I sang with the German school children.

My mother-in-law. Nathilda, was the one I had to face when I asked for her daughter's hand in marriage. When I asked her if her pretty blond daughter could be my wife, Nathilda said, "Do you think that you can support her?" I said, "Mrs. Golz. I have a nice fruit farm and I certainly can!" She then asked her daughter. Clara, "Is this what you want?" When Clara said "Yes," Mrs. Golz said that If that was what her daughter wanted, go ahead, but not to ever come home complaining. Woll, Clara never complained to her mother and God gave me a saint to live with.

Mrs. Golz told me that I should call her mother instead of Mrs. Golz. Clare and I were engaged for about three months and every other night and every Sunday I would walk three miles from my farm to my Clara's mother's farm. Their home was built on the side of a hill and the roof of their back porch was only about four feet from the ground.

the were married July 21, 1918. No wife had invited about 200 people and they all came. My mother-in-law furnished the wedding dinner and I furnished the liquid refreshment, including 32 gallons of beer. That night we had two big chivalrees--one from my friends and one from Clara's neighborhood. My mother-in-law invited them all in to eat and I furnished the refreshments. Then when

- 3 -

to take her to Fond du Lac to some eye doctors to see what could be done about her eyes. Clara and I took her by the arm and we went up and down the steps to see the eye doctors. They all said that in order to cure her, she had to have an operation on her eyes and as she was 72 years old, they wouldn't operate. That was the opinion of five doctors. Then Dr. Gardner said we should bring her to the hospital and he would operate on one eye first. So he operated on one eye and she had to lie quiet for three weeks and not touch the eyes or the bandages. One of her children was with her in the hospital day and night for three weeks. When they removed the bandages, she could see well with this one eye.

Five weeks later she had a stroke. She was rushed to the hospital and we got there about 9:00 o'clock the next morning. Dr. Gardner, who had performed the delicate eye operation, did not want her to die. But all the care was to no avail. There were nine doctors standing at her bedside when she died.

Now I always believe that when your time is up, you have to go and when your time is not up, you are going to stay. We belong to God.

How many are left of the eight Golz children? They were all happily and successfully married and that makes 16. The only ones left are Mrs. Herman Golz and myself, two in-laws. God says that "Those who love me and do my commandments, I will bless them into the thousands of generations." All of these children, some were wealthy and some held public office, were good children.

Two grandchildren were vice presidents of banks that had millions in deposits,
One grandchild was a millionaire and one was chief engineer at the Haptist Assembly

It really was a miracle when Jesus made me a member of this wonderful family.

— it was all over, by some misunderstanding, Clara and I had to sleep on the parlor floor on our wedding night! The next morning, we got up a little late and my mother-in-law wanted Clara to stay there and help her clean up this mess. But we would not consent to anything like that. Just think, we should leave Clara there for a week on the first week of our marriage! For me it was a very busy time of the year and so Clara and I walked to our home three miles.

About two weeks later Clara said, "Arthur, why don't you hitch up the team and go to my mother's house and pick up my dowry." I thought, "Dowry, what does she mean by dowry?" I already had the best and prettiest woman in the world. When I got to my mother-in-law's house, I had the first and only quarrel with her. She said we were ungrateful, that she nearly killed herself in the heat cleaning up all the wedding night mess and now I had come to get the dowry. I expected a couple of comforters or a couple of towels. But she gave us a whole wagon full of six quilts, some filled with real sheep's wool, some hand-woven towels, all kinds of pillows, sheets with fancy needle work. Besides this, she gave us two very good milk cows and \$1,400 cash.

Three years later we were forced to self our strawborry farms because we could not get pickers. In April, 1922, we moved to Form du Lac: We had sold our farm and with our friends' help we got a job with the Reuping Leather Company. On January 30, 1922, our only daughter, Arleen Clara, was born. We were the only couple that had ever left Princeton and it almost broke my mother-in-law's Heart. Nine years later I got a contract from the J. R. Watkins Company and I got to be a Watkins dealer and we only lived about 15 miles away from my mother-in-law's place.

When I sold my farm, some of my relatives came and wanted me to give them
my farm machinery. But my mother in-law got the machinery and paid me for it.

My mother-in-law became blind. She lived in only part of her house. Her youngest son had rented the Farm and he lived in the other part. We went to see her about once a month and she bumped into everything. Clara and I decided



Picture: Art Oelke (author of the above essay) and his bride, Herman's sister Clara on their wedding day.

#### 19. Johanna's Later years

After Herman died Johanna decided to move into town and let the "newlyweds" (Arden and Luella) have the family farmhouse to themselves. She moved back to Princeton and rented a small bungalow just one block from the business section on Water Street (downtown Princeton). She was able to walk to the bank, post office and grocery store.

This is the only photo I have of Johanna's last home. She only lived there for a few years. When the renters of her home on Howard street moved out she decided to move back "home". One morning, after living there alone for several years, she headed down the steps to the cellar and fell. Unable to get herself up again she laid there all day until one of the neighbors found her. She had broken a hip and spent time in the hospital recovering. Her children agreed that it was no longer wise for her to be living alone. For a time she lived with Lois and George on the farm but ultimately had to be moved to a nursing home in Princeton.



At the time this picture was taken in 1979 she was living with Lois and George on their farm in Neshkoro, WI.



Johanna celebrated her 90th Birthday with her family minus Elmer who died suddenly in 1977 just as his father had and as his daughter would. Lillie made the flight from Florida to Wisconsin every August for her mother's birthday and the annual high school reunion (Clayton was gone by this time as well.





Johanna's ninety first birthday was celebrated with her granddaughter Nancy. (Lois's older daughter). With them in the picture are Nancy's grandchildren and Johanna's only great grandchildren.



The tomb stone for both Johanna and Herman in the Lutheran Cemetery in Princeton, Wisconsin.



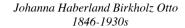
One more birthday for Johanna. This one was celebrated in a nursing home in Princeton. She died on September 20, 1985 at age 97.

## Lillie Virginia Golz Maternal Line

## 1. Ludwig and Johanna

Ludwig Otto was born in Schneidemuhl, Germany to Gottlieb and Anna Marie Otto. He immigrated to the United States about 1884 along with his brothers, Gustave, William and Gottlieb. They settled west of Princeton, Wisconsin where they farmed together for several years.







Ludwig Otto 1849-1927

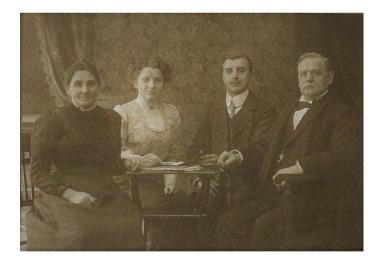
In 1877 Ludwig married Johanna Haberland Birkholz, a newly widowed young woman with two young boys.

Johanna Sanberg Haberland was born in Potsdam, Germany to Maria Dorothea and Johann Gottlieb Sandberg. She married Gottlieb Haberland in Germany and they were blessed with three children... two girls and a boy.

Johanna Sandberg Haberland (Mother to Johanna Haberland Birkholz Otto) Born early 1800's -Death date unknown.

The older man on the right in the picture at right is Frederick, brother of Johanna Haberland Otto. He is the son of Johanna and Gottlieb Haberlalnd. The woman on the far left is Fredrick's wife with two of their children.





Johanna Otto's sister. (Name unknown) The young girl is perhaps her granddaughter. (Thes bottom two pictures were sent to Johanna Otto from Germany.)

Johanna Haberland was born in Kropstaedt, Brandenburg, Germany. At the age of nineteen she immigrated to the United States. She is the only known immigrant to America from her family. Once in America she traveled directly to Princeton, Wisconsin where she lived with her aunt. In 1871 she married Wilhelm Birkholz who had arrived in America earlier that same year.



Wilhelm Birkholz 1846 - 1875



Johanna Birkholz Otto 1847-1930

Wilhelm was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1871. He and Johanna Haberland were married that same year. Two sons were born to this marriage in the next four years - Emil Frank in 1872 and Richard two years later.

Unfortunately Johanna's marriage to Wilhelm was to be tragically brief. One fall morning in 1875 he stepped on a rusty nail while feeding the pigs. He wrapped it in a woolen cloth and went to work. Two days he died of tetanus or "lock jaw" as it was called then. At that time there were no vaccines to prevent the disease nor was there a cure for it. He died three days later on August 18, 1876 leaving Johanna alone to raise their two very young boys plus one on the way.



Emil Frank Birkholz 1872 - 1959 Wilhelm and Johanna's firstborn.



Emil, his wife Lillie and their daughter Elsie.

Emil Frank Birkholz, 87, formerly of 914 Cherry St., died Sunday a' 5 20 pm at Winnebago State Hospital, where he had been a patient 12 days

In failing health since 1951, Mr Birkholz had been living with his daughter, Mrs Jack Garrity, Butte des Morts, for the past eight months

He was born in Ripon on May 1, 1872, son of the late Mr. and Mrs William F. Birkholz, and came to Oshkosh in 1893. He was married in 1892 to Lillie Graves Wolf, who preceded him in death on May 27, 1902. He then was married on July 5, 1903 to Meta Kelin, who died April 25, 1942.

Mr Birkholz was employed by John Pool Gun Company for many years, and then continued to do gun work at his home. He also had been employed by R. McMillen, Company until the concern closed.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Garrity: two sons, William F. Birkholz, Oshkosh, and Ervin F. Birkholz Beloit: two sisters, Mrs. Hattie Biggs. Gillet, and Mrs. Herman Golz Princeton: five grand-children, three great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Preceding in death were one son in infancy, one brother, Richard

Richard and his second wife, Josephine.

O Birkholz in 1952, and one half-brother, Carl Otto in 1941.

Services will be held Wednesday at 2 pm at Mallery & Seefeld Funeral Home, with the Rev. Erling W. Rabe pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ofniciating, Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home from Tuesday at 3 pm until the hour of services

Daily Northwestern, Oshkosh, WI Mon. August 10, 1959 page 4



Richard Birkholz 1874-1952

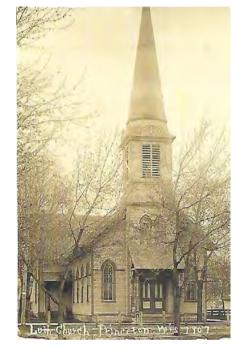
Johanna and Wilhelm's second son, Richard was known as quite a ladies man. His first wife was Minnie Baker. One daughter Florence, was born to this marriage. She would be his only child though he had multiple marriages. After Minnie he married Josephine and then Becky. For awhile Richard worked as a machinist but was more of an adventurer and outdoors man. He and his third wife, Becky settled down in Twin Falls. Idaho where he is buried.



Becky, third wife of Richard

Becky and Richard drove back from Idaho to help take care of his mother who was bedridden in her final years. Becky is credited with teaching her niece Lois Golz how to speak in English. Lois was four years old and up to that time had only spoken German.

Richard died in 1952 and is buried in Twin Falls Idaho.



## JOHANNA'S SECOND MARRIAGE

On March 8, 1877 Johanna Haberland Birkolz and Ludwig Otto were married in St John's Lutheran Church in Princeton, Wisconsin.



Johanna's Second Family

The youngest, Johanna, her mother Johanna, Carl and Hedwig (or Hattie as she came to be known). Johanna and Ludwig lost their first child when he was eighteen months old. The three children in the above picture all lived to adulthood. Johanna, the younger in the picture at left would one day become my Grandma Golz.) With the two boys from Johanna's first marriage, they now had five children. In those days this would have been considered a small family.

## 2. Ludwig Otto - The Patriarch

In 1884 Ludwig purchased land in Green Lake County between Princeton and Green Lake and the family moved to that location.Carl, daughter Hedwig (Hattie) and Johanna Emily were born to them on this farm.

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In 1906, Ludwig became a citizen of the United States. I have found no evidence that Johanna was ever naturalized. German was the only language spoken in their home.

## 3. The Ludwig Otto Family

Carl Fredrick was born on the Otto family farm in January of 1881. In 1917 he married Veronica Mueller, known as "Fronie". She had immigrated to America from Hungary and settled in Chicago where she was married to Robert Rieser. Two boys were born to them before Robert died. Their names were Robert and Charlie. Fronie's final instruction from her dying husband was to take the two boys and go to Princeton were his Aunt Oestrich lived. She followed his instruction and as a result met Carl Frederick Golz whom she married.



Carl Fredrick Otto 1881-1941

Carl and his bride, Veronica (Fronie) in the center of the picture. Three children were born to this marriage - Gertrude Johanna, Melvin Carl and Verona.

#### Fronie



I don't remember ever meeting Uncle Carl but he seemed to be plagued by harrowing accidents. At one point he fell out of the silo on the Golz farm. At another time he was dragged by a horse for quite a distance. If that wasn't enough, he was hit over the head by a girlfriend and had to have a plate put in his head as a result. This resulted in some medical and mental difficulties as time went by.

I will always connect him with a traumatic event in history. Carl died in December of 1941. The funeral was held on December 7th. Afterward the family gathered at the home of my grandparents for a light supper. Toward the end of the evening I noticed the entire family huddled around the little radio in the kitchen. As they listened they seemed to appear more and more agitated about something. I was only six years old at the time but I could sense thatsomething was very wrong. I don't remember ever asking, but even if I did there was no way at the age of six that I could fully understand the magnitude of the event. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor would change so many things in our country and in our lives.



June 24, 1917

## UNITED IN MARRIAGE.

REISER-OTTO

Last Sunday afternoon, June 24th, 1917 at the home of the bride in this city, occured the marriage of Mrs. Froni Reiser with with Mr. Carl F. Otto in the midst of a number of relatives and friends. Rev. A. G. Hoyer of the St. John's Lutheran church conducting the wedding ceremony.

The bride was prettily attired in a gown of pale blue silk and carried a bouquet of bridal roses. Her attendants were Misses Elsie Birkholz of Oshkosh and Lillian Lueck of Ripon. The groom was attended by Messrs Richard Verch of this city and Carl Larion of Chicago.

After the wedding ceremony which took place under a large wedding bell, the newly weds and invited guests repaired to the dinning room, which was decorated in national colors, and an elegant wedding dinner was partaken of.

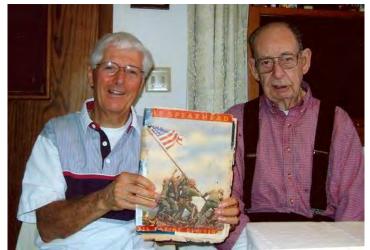
The afternoon was spent in games, an sements and general jollification.

The bride is a lady who came here from Chicago about a year ago and has during her short residence here gained many warm friends and acquaintances.

The groom is a son of the respected family Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Otto, east of this city. He is a young man with the best of habits and character. He is industrious and painstaken in all dealings and well worth the lovable young woman whom he has chosen for his life partner.

The young couple will make their home on the farm of his parents.

The Republic joins their friends in extending congratulations and wishing for them prosperity thru life's long journey.



Carl's son, Melvin Carl (who went by the name Carl) was among the the US troops wholanded and fought on Iwo Jima. He lived to see the raising of the American flag on that war torn island and returned home.

Years later he shared his pictures and memories with my husband and I at his dining room table just months before he died of Parkinsons disease. His wife said that we were the first people he had ever shared his war stories with.



Hedwig "Hattie" Otto 1883- 1970



Earl, Hattie, husband Dan and Allen

Ludwig and Johanna's second child, **Hattie**, seemed to march to the beat of a different drum. As a single woman she moved to Kenosha, WI and found work in a thread factory. It was there that she met and married Dan Biggs. Dan was fond of his liquor. When they came to Princeton to visit Johanna and her family Dan's interest was downtown where there were fifteen taverns to visit within a three block area.

Hattie became a widow when Dan died as a result of fall from a plum tree. By this time the boys were grown and living in Milwaukee. Hattie decided to move back to Princeton. Her parents had both passed away and she took up residence in their home next to Johanna and Herman. She was content for awhile and she and Johanna seemed to enjoy each others company. But after a few years Hattie decided that life in Princeton was too quiet for her. She followed up an ad in the paper and took a job as "cook and housekeeper" for a man living alone in a small town in north-east Wisconsin.

Hattie's son Earl married Bertie. They had four children. He worked as a policeman in Milwaukee. Allen married Marge. They had no children.



Hattie, her family and Herman and Johanna

An interesting twist to the Biggs story is that at one point Earl Biggs and Emily Miller (Herbert and Phoebe's older daughter) were engaged to be married. It never happened ????



Johanna Emily Otto was born to Johanna and Ludwig in their farm home on the "Green Lake Road" (That looks like the family laundry tub next to her with the family dog sitting on it).

Johanna Emily Otto-1889-1984

When Johanna was old enough to attend school she and her family were living on a farm between Princeton and Green Lake, WI. She attended a country school with grades one through eight all in one room. Her sister, Hattie, was six years older than Johanna and perhaps had already finished eighth grade when this picture was taken. Johanna is in the center of the front row (next to the tall girl in black with the white apron). Johanna is wearing a black dress as well with a decorative belt and a necklace.





By the time Johanna was in the eighth grade a new teacher had arrived. Fred Fenski wasn'tmuch older than she was. Johanna was not just a "stricken" eighth grader...she was in love and wanted to marry Fred. That never happened.



Fred Fenske



Ludwig and Johanna's last home

They vacated their farm in order to move into Princeton when the house next door to their daughter Johanna became available. By this time they were getting up in years and were looking for an easier life.

## 4. Golden Wedding Anniversary

#### PRINCETON, WIS.,

## GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The 50th wedding anniver-sary of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Otto was pleasantly observed on Tuesday, March 8. Dinner and supper was served at the home of their daughter Mrs. Herman Golz to nearest relatives and friends who came in.

Mrs. Joanna Birkholz was unit-

In 1927 Johanna and Ludwig celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary which at that time was called a Golden Anniversary.

ed in marriage with Mr. Ludwig Otto on March 8, 1877 in the St. John's Lutheran church, this St. John's Lutheran church, this city, by Rev. John Hoyer. Three children came to bless their union: Mrs. Herman Golz and their son Carl; Princeton; Mrs. Dan Biggs, Kenosha. All were present at the anniversary.

The diving room and tables

The dining room and tables were decorated in gold, appro-

mriate the occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto were remembered with wedding cakes, many bouquets of cut flowers,

many bouquets of cut nowers, gold pieces and various gifts. Many greetings were extended this worthy couple by local rela-tives and friends, also greetings

tives and friends, also greetings came in from Germany.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Herman Golz and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Otto and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Otto and family, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Huenerberg and daughter and son Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Tassler and son David, Mr. and Mrs. August Salzwedel, Miss Helene Schultz, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Birkholz, Mr. and Mrs. John Garriety of Oshkosh, Mrs. Dan Biggs of Kenosha, and Edward Gohlke of Neshkoro.

The Republic joins Mr. and Mrs. Otto's many friends in extending congratulations and in wishing for them many more years of happy wedded life.

## 5. Johanna Otto's Will

On the following page is a portion of Johanna Otto's Will. The list of benefactors includes a Mrs. Theodore Sommerfelt.

This is a photo of Annie Sommerfelt (in the wheel chair) her husband on the left and on the far right, Johanna holding me. (I don't know who the other woman is.)



The question is...who was Annie??? Where did she fit into the family? This may be theanswer... it's the story as it was told to me by my Aunt

Johanna Otto (wife of Ludwig Otto) at some point early in their marriage, was asked by a friend to keep her very young daughter, Annie, while she went to Chicago to find work. A significant amount of time passed before they received any correspondence from the mother. Finally a letter arrived and in it Annie's mother asked Johanna Otto to put a name tag on her four year old daughter and send her on a train from Princeton to Chicago (a trip of about one hundred fifty miles). She assured Johanna that she would be at the train station in Chicago to meet Annie.

Grandma Otto was very reluctant to send such a small child alone to Chicago and wrote the mother a letter expressing her reluctance. She never heard from the mother again.

The woman in the wheelchair in the preceding picture is that Annie all grown up and married to the man on her right...Ted Sommerfeldt. She and her husband lived in Green Lake and would often visit my grandparents. Annie and my grandmother were raised like sisters. Thus, even in her will Johanna Otto continued to take care of her.

| Names of Heira<br>or Legatees     | Relationship<br>if any | Distribu-<br>tive shares | Exemp-<br>tions | Rate of<br>tax | Amount<br>Tax |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Emil Birkholz<br>Richard Birkholz | son                    | \$300.00                 | \$2000          | 2%             | None          |
| Mrs. Theodore Sommerfeldt         | daughter               | 100.00                   | 11              | 17             | 11            |
| Carl Otto                         | son                    | 979.03                   | 17              | 11             |               |
| Hedwig Biggs                      | daughter               | 1679.03                  | 11              | 11             | 12            |
| Johanna Golz                      | daughter               | 479.03                   | 10              | 17             | - 0           |

Another interesting question that Johanna's will raises is why the obvious difference in the amounts bequeathed to her children?

## 6. Ludwig and Johanna Obituaries

Ludwig Otto died in April of 1927, just one month after their fiftieth wedding anniversary. His wife, Johanna died about three years later in May of 1930. It was customary in those days for the deceased to be placed in a coffin located in the living room (or parlor) for three days allowing friends and family to view and "pay their respects". A piece of black crepe fabric was hung net to the outside door along with a bouquet of dark colored flowers.





Ludwig and Johanna's grave markers.



#### OBITUARY LUDWIG OTTO

Died, in our city, Monday, April 11, Mr. Ludwig Otto after an illness dating to the beginning of the year. A complication of diseases causing his demise. Mr. Otto was born in Lemnitz, Provinz, Germany on March 5, 1848, and was at the age of 79 years, 1 month and 6 days. He cameto America in 1873 and settled in Princeton and here he has passed most of his years with the exception of a brief period when he was employed in the vicinity of Markesan. He was united in marriage

the vicinity of Markesan.

He was united in marriage with Johanna Haberland, nee Mrs. Birkholz, in 1877 then residing on a farm west of this city. Later they resided on a farm on the Princeton-Green Lake highway. For the past nine years, however, they were residents of the city. Just recently they celebrated the anniversary of their golden wedding.

residents of the city. Just recently they celebrated the anniversary of their golden wedding.
To their ever happy union
four children were born: Carl,
ca the old homestead; Mrs. Dan
Biggs of Kenosha and Mrs. Herman Golz of Princeton. One
child preceded him in infancy.
Thus has passed away an old
and respected resident of Green
Lake county whose morality and
integrity of character were unquestioned, and to whose virtues
al! who knew him must bear
witness. He was a thoroughly
unselfish man ever placing the witness. He was a thoroughly unselfish man ever placing the comfort of others above his own, and finding the best happiness in deeds of kindness, showing "by his workt" his belief in the truth that Christian grace abounds where charity is seen; that when we climb to Heaven its on the rounds of love to men. that when we climb to Heaven its on the rounds of love to men. He will be greatly missed in the neighborhood where so many years he has been so friendly and sympathetic, but none will feel his loss as will the dearones whose home has been so darkened by his journey across the river, for he was a loving husband and a tender father. The funeral services were conducted at the St. John's Lutheran church, Thursday af-

The funeral services were conducted at the St. John's Lutheran church, Thursday afternoon of last week where a large concourse of people had gathered to pay him their last tribute. Rev. A. G. Hoyer was the officiating pastor and spoke in glowing terms of the deceased.

#### MAY 29, 1930

#### OBITUARY MRS. JOHANNA OTTO

Died in our city, Sunday, May 25, Mrs. Johanna Otto, after a lingering iliness. A complication of diseases causing her demise. Johanna Haberland was born in

Kropstaedt, Brandenburg, Germany Kropstaedt, Brandenburg, Germany, on June 6, 1846 and was 83 years, 11 months and 18 days of age. She came to America in 1871. She was united in marriage with William Birkholz in 1871. From this union 2 Elikinois in 1811. From this union 2 children were born: Emil, Oakhosh, Richard of Buth, Idaho. Her husband passed away in 1875. In 1817 she was united in marriage with Ludwig Otto to which union 4 children were born: Carl Princeton; 'Mrs. H. Biggs, Kenosha; Mrs. Herman Goiz, Princeton, One child neceding. Mrs. Princeton. One child preceding. Mr. Otto passed away on April 11, 1927 and since that time she has made her mome with her daughter, Mrs. Her-man Golz and who accorded her ev-ery care and attention in her declin-ing years.

She was a devoted mother never she was a devoted mother never complaining during the months that she was ailing but unselfishly doing for her own until the end. Hers was a Christian life and filled with beaut-iful thoughts and deeds of loving and kindness for everyone. She had not an enemy in the world but hosts of an enemy in the world but hosts of friends by whom she was loved and honored. While her passing away seems hard to bear she was prepared and we must not question God's will, but feel that her mission is futilled and her heavenly spirit is hovering near to guide and comfort us.

She is survived by her children, 13 randchildren, 2 great grandchildren, esides a large circle of friends.

The funeral services were held at the St. John's Lutheran church last Wednesday afternoon. Intermen was made in West Side cometery Rev. A. G. Hoyer, her paster official ed and payed a beautiful tributé in

The Republic extends sympathy to the bereaved children and relative

# Lillie Virginia Golz

## 1. Lillie Virginia Golz





Lillie Virginia Golz 1909-1988

Lillie was born on the Golz family farm on December 18, 1909. She was the first child of Herman and Johanna Golz. Not too long after she was born Herman and Johanna decided to move into the nearby town of Princeton to a house that was better built to withstand the cold Wisconsin winters.



This is picture of the Golz farm that appeared in the Princeton Times Republic just before it was torn down in the mid 1900's (or perhaps before.) It wasn't this bad when Herman and Johanna lived in it.

A rare photo of farming on the Golz farm. The woman on the left holding the baby is Johanna's mother holding Lillie. To her left is Johanna. That's Herman sitting on the wagon, Johanna's brother Carl Otto standing next to him and a hired hand on the far right.





This is a picture of the Golz home in Princeton. It was taken many years after their family was grown and married with families of their own. The appearance hasn't changed much over the years.



Lillie at about age three.

## 2. The Family Grows

Herman and Johanna's second, Alice, died soon after her birth. Their third child they named Elmer. Lillie was then five years old.



Elmer and Lillie



Elmer Otto Golz 1914-1977



When Lillie was a senior in high school she finally got a baby sister. Lois Carolyn Golz Lillie and Lois



Arden Lester Golz - 1921-2011 Lillie and Arden

## 3. Lillie's Growing Years



Lillie and her siblings grew up in the little town of Princeton pictured above. The entire "downtown" area was three blocks long. The population was around one thousand.

An arial view of Princeton with the Fox River meandering through it. The history that took place on the Fox River is an interesting story. But that I leave that to you to search out. Lillie attended a Lutheran School about a mile from her home. There were no school buses and her parents didn't own a car at this point. So she walked that mile to school and back every day and in every kind of weather. (There were no "snow days" back then.) With her books and her lunch pail she walked nine blocks through downtown Princeton, across the Fox River bridge, and still another four blocks to get to her school.





She loved school from the very beginning. All her classes were conducted in German. She was very fond of her teacher, Mr. Militzer. They corresponded with one another long after she had finished her first eight years of schooling there. He's the gentleman in the back row on the far left (He looks a bit like Charlie Chaplin).



Lillie's Confirmation

At age thirteen Lillie was confirmed in the Wisconsin Synod Lutheran Church, the church that her parents had been members of since before they were married. Confirmation in the Lutheran Church was a reaffirmation of faith in Christ, a follow up to their infant baptism. It was similar to a graduation after a specified time of teaching on the doctrines of the Lutheran faith.



The confirmation class.
Lillie is third from the left in the back row.

## 4. High School years



In her ninth year of school Lillie enrolled in Princeton Public School. No more daily walks across the river. The high school was only five blocks from home. The upper grades were held on the second floor while the elementary grades met on the lower level (Which is where I went to school until I was in fourth grade).

Princeton Public School

One of the extra curricular activities Lillie joined was the Girls Glee Club (Lillie is third from the right in the last row).





Lillie's Freshman picture used in the Princeton High School Yearbook. All dressed up in a satin dress that her mother probably made for her. She has obviously had her hair "mar-celled" for the picture A Marcel iron was similar to modern day curling irons, but instead of being cylindrical it was wavy. And instead of plugging it into electricity they held it over the fire in the kitchen stove to get it hot.

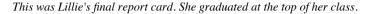


A Marcel Iron

Agnes Heineberg was Lillie's best friend for most of her high school years. They lived just three blocks from each other plus their mothers were distantly related.

Lillie was on the Triangle staff, which included the newspaper and yearbook. She was a serious student and not one to get involved in too many activities lest it cause her grades to suffer. Her report cards were always filled with A's and Excellent's.

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|              |          |         |         | -       | 55       |         |           |         | 3       | 0        |            |         |         |          |          |          |         |          |            |          |         |          |          |          |         |                      |
|              |          |         |         |         |          |         |           |         |         |          |            |         |         |          |          |          |         |          |            |          |         |          |          |          |         |                      |
| CITIZENSHIP  | 7        |         |         |         |          |         |           |         |         |          |            |         |         |          |          |          |         |          |            |          |         |          |          |          |         |                      |
| TIMES TARDY  |          |         |         | D.      |          |         |           |         |         |          |            |         |         |          |          |          |         |          |            |          |         |          |          |          |         |                      |
| H. D. ABSENT |          |         |         |         | 0        |         |           |         | 0       |          |            |         |         | 0        |          |          | 1-1     |          |            |          |         |          |          |          |         |                      |





As her senior year of school approached she looked to the future and what might be her next step after graduating. She liked working with numerical figures and keeping things in order. She decided to apply for a job in the local bank (where her classmate Clayton Miller's father was head cashier). Following is the her letter of application.

Orneiton, Mri.
April 1, 1927

Mr. H. A. Miller, Cachier

Farmers + Merchante Nat'l Bank

Trunciton, Muccinin

Gentleman:

J wish to apply for a position

as Bookpeepler + Stenographer

in your bank, as I whderstand
there will be a vacancy.

J will graduate from Princiton

High Ichael this coming June and
well complete a fuel coarse in

Brokkeepfry, and Stenographic work.

J which to recommend me

Rudie, Principal of the local high
school and mr. Geo. V. Reley for

any references in regard to my

Christie and work

Thanking you for a favorable

consideration of thee matter, I am

you're respectfully.

(Miss) Tillie Bog

Little did she know that H. A. Miller would one day be her father-in-law. She was hired and began working the day after graduation.



Lillie's Graduation Portrait

GOLZ, LILLIE V. Billy

COMMERCIAL COURSE

Class Treasurer '24; Glee Club '25,
'27; Commercial Club '25; Triangle
Staff '25, '26, '27; Prom Committee '26;
District Rapid Calculation Contest '24;
District Bookkeeping Contest '25; District Typing Contest '26; Volley Ball
Team '25; "Crooks For a Month" '27;
Valedictorian '27.

Modest, sweet, and always neat.



Yearbook picture and activities

Lillie always claimed that she and Clayton weren't interested in each other romantically in high school. Ironically they played the parts of Mr. and Mrs. Bently in their senior class play. After high school they both worked in the bank (The rest of the story can be read on page 167).

#### COMMENCEMENT

Opera House, 8 p. m. June 2 Music-High School Band. Junior Band March Village Chimes Precision Salutatory-Miss Elsie Praechel Music-High School Glee Club. Thy Beaming Eyes To a Wild Rose Valedictory-Miss Lillie Golz. Solo-Selected-Mr. A. Peterson. Address-Professor Thomas Lloyd Jones Music-High School Band College Boy Have a Little Fun Presentation of Diplomas-Mr. N. H. America-Band and Audience.

Lattie Roly.

The Valedictory - 1927

Parents, Teachers & Citizens of this Community:

I have been melected valedictorian of the clasm of 1927 and as a representative of this class I want to thank you for the privileges granted us. We have just completed four years of high school and feet greatly indebted to you for making it possible for us to attend a good school. A high school education is really of great value, for it is not only the foundation for a higher education but also for success. The heritage of the American public school is without question one of the greatest elements in the moulding of a character, because it is the only institution adapted to the needs of joung people who need to learn the machinery of government, the history of our ideals, our patriotic emotions, our principles, and their application.

As Reservon has said, there are three fundamental relations that underlie education: the debt we owe the past, the relations of human prother hood, and the relations between man and Mature. The school, I sepeat, is the only institution that aims to establish these relationships.

Just as a carpenter who wishes to build a barn, starts with a foundation, so every person who wishes to be a success should begin with a high school education. A recent report of the United States Bureau of Education shows that a boy with a common school education has practically one chance in nine thousand of general recognition as a successful man in some department of human endeavor and usefulness, but the boy with a high school education increases his chances about twenty-two times. A college education gives a young man about ten times the probability of success and advancement possessed by the High school graduate or two hundred times the opportunity that is

open to the boy with only a common school education.

The poet says

'Tis education forms the common mind.

Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined!

Experience seems to teach that he is right. Going to high school means more than four years spent in the atmosphere of books. It is an investment in self-development. The student invests four years of his time and when the four years are over he has completed the most important investment he will ever make. For the rest of his life he will draw dividends on this investment. Besides the cash dividends there are far more valuable dividends, not to be counted in dellars, which the graduate draws year by year through his enjoyment of life, his griendships and his trained appreciations.

School fits people for life in this great world. The student learns to appreciate the opinions of others for it is in school that he comes in contact with different personalities. His associations with pupils and teachers put him at ease and give him a chance to learn tact and poise which in turn make the man happier and besides, bring him a higher salary than he could possibly get if he were without the ability to get along with people.

The advice of Age to Youth is -- Prepare.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing.

Drink deep or taste not the Pierian spring

Their shallow draughts intoxicate the brain and drinking largely sobers us again. Prepare for your life work with an education for what the world needs more than anything else is trained minds. What would you think of a jeweler who had a very valuable diamond and who ground only one facet, leaving the most beautiful brilliancy shut up in the inside where no one could ever see it, appreciate it, or utilize its value. Age mays to Youth, "Finish the grades, complete

Lilllie's Valedictory speech.

Clayton and Lillie Miller

## 1. The Newly Weds Back in Princeton



Once they got over the shock, Lillie's parents had formal announcements printed and Clayton and Lillie had a wedding portrait taken.







The following Christmas Clayton was thoughtful enough to remember the people at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. He sent them a Christmas greeting and above is a copy of their response.

#### 2. Newly Weds On Their Own

Now that they were married they had to face the hard reality that they didn't have enough income between them to rent a home of any sort. Lillie's parents offered them an upstairs bedroom and breakfast. Clayton's parents offered them their noon meal. The young couple alternated between the two sets of parents for their evening meal.

Clayton asked for a raise at the bank and threatened to quit if he didn't get it. His dad raised his salary to \$75 a month. A year later they were able to move into their own apartment for \$10 a month. It was above a drug store and directly across the street from the bank.



Clayton and Lillie's First Home

Their apartment had no running water so Clayton carried it up from the pool hall/tavern next door. They had a chemical toilet and also an outhouse. When the chemical toilet needed to be emptied Clayton would carry the bucket downstairs and across the street to bank of the Fox River. In the dark of night he empty its contents into the river and return home (All the other stores along the river did the same thing. Some had their outhouses built right out over the river.

I found the following bit of history on this building on the internet:
The building was built in the late 1800's by a man named David Waite who was born in 1825 in Jamestown, NY. In his adult years he was engaged in mercantile pursuits in Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin before moving west to Omaha and finally Denver, Colorado where he became governor in 1892. The building was finally destroyed by fire in the mid

This is a photo of their kitchen. The stove was fueled by gasoline. This same stove served them will into the 1940's. Lillie never liked have the gasoline in her kitchen.



Several other items in this picture are still vivid in my memory as well. The radio sitting on a small table on the far right. (As I write this in 2019 I am still using and enjoying that table.) I remember the teakettle on the stove, the pail on the sink which held their drinking and cooking water, the table under the window, and the refrigerator. These were all still in use well into my childhood.

| Assured     |      | Residence  | Company  | Property<br>Opt-14 | Ant. | Rate | 1928 | 1929 | 1930 | 1932 | 1903 | 1934 | 1936 | 1000 |
|-------------|------|------------|----------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Oct. 9      |      | Oct. 12.   |          | Lupes              |      | .15  |      | 4    | +    |      |      | 4    | +    | 1    |
| egge        | 21   | coffee car | 8 .08    | lenon              |      | 110  |      | 4    | +    |      |      | 4    | +    | ļ    |
|             | .36  | milk       | .06      | Corneta            | rel  | -08  |      | 4    | +    | Н    |      | 12   |      | 1    |
| Carrata     | .04  | Henburge   | .05      |                    | 1    | 62   |      | 4    | +    | Н    |      | 3    | 5    | H    |
|             | .12  | Creen      | 10       |                    |      |      |      | 4    | +    |      | Н    | 3    | 2    | ł    |
| Selmen      |      |            | 14       | Oct 1              | 5    |      |      | 4    | +    |      | -    | 06   | 4    | ł    |
| grape-nuts  |      |            | 108      | milk               |      | .06  |      | -    | +    |      |      | 10   | -    | Ļ    |
| head        |      | Barras     | 15       | Mille              | -    | 08   | Н    | +    | +    | Н    | 16   | 1    | +    | +    |
| milk        | 06   |            | .66      | Butter             | -    | 26   | -    | -    | +    | 0    | 4    | 10   |      | ł    |
|             | 121  | - 4        |          |                    |      | 40   | H    | +    | +    |      | 43   | 9-4  | 4    | ł    |
| 0           |      | Oct. 13    |          |                    |      | _    | H    | +    | +    | Н    | Н    | +    | +    | +    |
| Oct. 10     |      | met        | .06      |                    | -    |      | Н    | +    | +    | Н    | Н    | +    | +    | +    |
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| Creek       | . 11 | 101        |          |                    |      |      | Н    | +    | +    | Н    | Н    | +    | +    | t    |
| Breek       | .06  | Oct. 14    |          |                    |      |      |      |      | +    | Н    | Н    | +    | t    | t    |
|             | .36  | milk       | .06      |                    |      |      | H    | 1    |      |      |      | +    |      | +    |
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| In of       | .06  |            | 10       |                    |      |      |      | T    |      | П    | Ħ    |      | T    | t    |
| Butter      | 25   | Tue Bas    | ulik) 10 |                    |      |      |      |      | T    | T    |      | 1    | +    | t    |
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|             | -41  | Sugar      | 77       |                    |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      | +    | +    |

Lillie's Grocery List and Expenditures

Both Clayton and Lillie were fastidious record keepers. The above record was kept during the depression. It looks like they shopped daily for items such as milk. The IGA store was right across the street and owned by their high school classmate, Vic Yahr.



Since his high school days Clayton had been fascinated with radio...almost as much as he was with airplanes. (Maybe more) It was part of who he was so naturally he found a place for a short wave radio in their new home. One night as he was searching the airwaves for someone to communicate with he came across a radio program from someplace in Germany. What he didn't realize was that his radio was also coming through on the radio in the pool hall downstairs. It created quite a stir down there. One of the guys heard it and hollered out to his buddies..."Jeepers Cripes, we got Germany!!" (Germany was in the news a lot those days with wars and rumors of war in Europe)



Clayton took part in the training described below, probably during his high school years, or shortly after he and Lillie were married.

"A Citizens' Military Training Camp (CMTC) was established at Camp McCoy.(Wisconsin) It, along with several others in the state, was authorized by the National Defense Act of 1920 as an extra measure in preparing for the nation's military readiness. The camps provided an introduction to military training for young men of high school or college age to prepare them for Reserve or National Guard duty."

Clayton's brother Keith had his heart set on joining the CMTC as well. (Still following his brother around.) In taking the entrance test he was unable to raise his arms above his head which meant he couldn't qualify. This was the first indication that he had inherited his mother's muscular dystrophy.

Clayton never had to use his military training during World War Two.



## 3. Clayton's Years of Boy Scouting



In 1924 when Clayton was 14 years old and living in Brooklyn, Wisconsin he joined The Boy Scouts of America and for the next twenty one years he was involved in the organization either as a scout or a scout master.



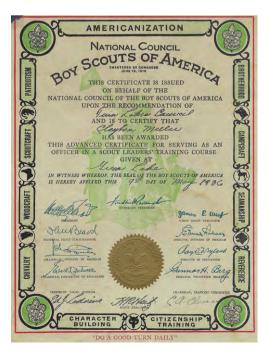
In 1932 he became an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 25 in Princeton. He soon became head Scoutmaster, a position he held for the next nine years.



He was well-liked by his scouts who kept in touch with him long after he had left the troop and moved to Chippewa Falls, WI.



The above letter came with a twelve inch tall bronze statue of a boy scout that was proudly displayed in our home for many years.



In 1936, Clayton received this recognition for serving as an officer in a Scout leader's training course in the neighboring town of Green Lake.



These were some of his scouts.

# Princeton Scouts Organized 35 Yrs. By E. L. HIESTAND

President, Twin Lakes Council
The Boy Scouts of America are celebrating their 40th anniversary. Troop 25 of Princeton is now 35 years old. It was originally chartered and sponsored by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad.

Twenty-three years ago Clayton Miller was Scoutmaster. He took all his scouting in the local troop. He was scoutmaster for eleven years. He did a very fine job and was highly regarded throughout the town. When he became bank examiner, he was compelled to give up his scout work.

In 1950 this article appeared in the Princeton paper.

There was a little Dutchman
His name was Johnte Verbeck
He Made the finest sausages
And saurkraut and speck.
One day he invented
Invented a machine,
Now all the neighbors cats and dogs
Will never more be seen.

Oh Mr. Wr. Johnie Verbeck
How could you be so mean?
Ictoldlyou you'd be sorry for in ling
Inventing that machine.
Now all the neighbor's cats and dogs
Will never more be seen;
They'll all be ground to sausages
in Johnie Verbeck's machine.

One day the thing got busted The darn thing wouldn't go. So Johnie Verbeck he climbed inside To see what made it so. His wife she had a nightmare Came walking in her sleep. She gave the crank an awful yank And Johnie Verbeck was meat.

Ch Mr. Mr. Johnie Verbeck - - - -

Above are the words to a song that was popular among Boy Scout Troops nationally, likely at the same time Clayton was a scoutmaster.

#### 4. Church



Not far into their lives together Clayton and Lillie had to make a decision about which church they would attend. Lillie's family were all members of the Wisconsin Synod Lutheran Church while Clayton's family were Methodist. The Lutheran Church had some pretty rigid rules for membership, among them an exclusion of the Boy Scouts. Clayton was not willing to give up his Boy Scout work for a church he was not used to in the first place. For some reason they decided against the Methodists as well and chose a little Evangelical church just three blocks from their house. Perhaps the fact that Ed Mevis, Clayton's new boss as the bank, was also a prominent member of this church had something to do with their decision. It was there they stayed and were quite involved in the life of this church.

The Evangelical Church in Princeton, Wisconsin (Have you noticed the prominence of electrical wires in some of the photos?)

#### 5. Carol Virginia Miller



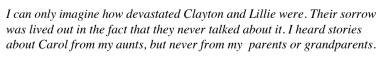
In January of 1933 Clayton and Lillie learned that their first child was on the way. She was born on September 7, 1933.



Mr. and Mrs. C. a. Miller announce the arrival of

"Carol was a beautiful baby." Those were my Aunt Inez's words as she described her to me many years later. Unfortunately the happy parents soon learned that their new daughter was only to be with them for a brief time. The doctor had discovered that she had spina bifida which is an incomplete closure of the backbone and membranes around the spinal cord. In 1933 they had nothing that could be done to correct it. Carol died on December 29 of the same year... just three months and seven days after she was born.







Those months between September and December must have been devastating. The sadness seems noticeable on Clayton's face...



...and on Lillie's face as well.



Lillie, Johanna (holding Carol) and Virginia, Elmer's wife.



Family members gathered in Clayton and Lillie's apartment above the drug store aftert Carol's funeral. The people who attended from left to right are; Elmer, (Lillie's older brother) and his wife Virginia, Johanna and Herman (Lillie's parents) in the back row. Lois (Lillie's sister) in the front row next to her brother Arden. Lillie is behind Arden. The woman behind Clayton was a friend of the family.



#### Litt'e Carol Virginia Buried.

Died, at her home in our city, l'ttle Carol Virginia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Miller.

Death came with friendly care,

The opening bud to Heaven conveyed, And bade it blossom there.

Carol Virginia was born on Sept. 7, 1933, and was at the age of 3 morths and 7 days. Spina bifida was the ailment she was afflicted with. The funeral services were held from the home last Saturday afternoon. Interment was made in Wort Side cemetery. Rev. A. G. Hoyer efficiated.

Thus a happy home the shadow of a little grave has follen and only the memory of a little chid is left, how uplifting its influence.

She leaves her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Miller, besides her grandparents, and other relatives.

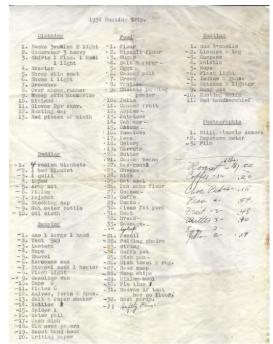
We extend our sympathy to the bereaved ones.

#### 6. A Camping Trip in 1934

Clayton loved the outdoors. Whether it was camping, hunting, fishing, canoeing, or hiking...he loved being involved in it.



All nicely dressed in their best camping attire as they cook their evening meal.



Above is a list of supplies needed for another camping trip. It's titled " 1934 Hunting Trip" (Amazing to see the price of a six pound roast for \$1.00)

It seems that Clayton kept himself quite busy in the year or two after Carol died. They both went back to work at the bank.

#### 7. Clayton and Lillie's Second Child



Marion Joanne Miller - born March 1, 1935

Certificate of Birth Registration

The World of Tomorrow is in the Hands of the Children of Today

Certificate of Birth Registration

This is in Certify that a registered certificate of the birth of your child has been filed and is now carefully preserved in the Official Records of the State of Wisconsin in the State than of Health office of Madison.

Name Lakes A Sanne Meller Madison.

Name Lakes A Sanne Meller Birth Place of Child Annelton, Jelen Loke Date of Birth Made Sanne State Registrar of Vital Statistics

I was born on the day of the March Cattle Fair so the streets in the picture to the right were bustling with people. "Doc Miller" delivered me aided by Elsie Prachel the midwife. Doc Miller's office was conveniently located just across the street above the bank. My nine year old aunt Lois was my diaper service. Walking from her home at the south end of town, every day she delivered clean diapers and carried the soiled diapers home to be washed by her mother.





Fortunately for all of us I was a healthy baby. They must have looked me over pretty carefully because they did discover a small hematoma on my head. A hematoma is a localized collection of blood outside the blood vessel, probably caused by the trauma of birth in my case. They had it removed by using radium which at that time was still in the experimental stages. Who, in a small town like Princeton, would have scoped out the use of this on newborns? (And without the Internet???) Did they know if there were any side effects? Risks? Here's a quote found on the Internet.

"By 1910, radium was manufactured synthetically in the U.S. But before the effects of radiation exposure were well understood, radium ended up in a lot of crazy places for its purported magical healing properties and its glow-in-the-dark novelty."

In this photo the site of the hematoma can be seen on the left side of my head. To this day hair has never grown in that spot.







In spite of the danger of using Radium for a simple hematoma, I was a healthy baby and to my knowledge never had any side effects.

#### 8. Clayton's Adventures, Creativity and Heroism



This is a photo of the diving mask that Clayton and his friend Lester concocted. Lester's son Dan is modeling it. By the looks of the canoe on top of the car they may be about to try it out.

A few newspaper clippings will give you a glimpse into some of Clayton's adventures. I hesitated to include some. They portray a bit of life in a small town.

Thanks to expert advice given by Dr. Priske, Clayton Miller, we are told, has made use of a smoking process for deodorizing his clothes so that the deer would not catch his scent. The process, we understand involves burning some holes in the clothing, but the results are quite effective, and should be a big help to a bow-and-arrow hunter.

Just two more articles to give you a bit of the small town flavor and also a glimpse into Clayton's personality and friends (This was in the local paper!!!)

#### TWO MEN AND A CANOE:

Launched our canoe at 7 o'clock Sunday morning at Nekoosa. Sighted Petenwell at noon. No Indians. Saw some ducks too far away for a good shot. No deer, lots of cows. Had roast beef for supper. . out of a can.

Slept under the stars with Venus shedding the brightest light of all. Still no Indians but lots of musquitoes. Shooting poor. more ducks. Strong headwinds that more than offset the advantage of traveling with current. Try to figure out how many paddle strokes to the mile and how much could be accomplished if the same amount of energy was put to a more useful purpose ,for instance like spreading manure . . problem involved too much mathematics. Toward sundown sight Standing Rock at Wisconsin Dells. Still no Indians. Make safe landing. Had very interesting trip. Saw lots of water and a wonderful experience paddling probably close to 70 miles down through the heart of Wisconsin on the beautiful Wisconsin River. Log written by

> Clayton Miller Bill Hobart.

Col - 1938

Clayton Miller has a rather unusual recipe for broiling steak—out in the wide-open spaces. It consists of first rubbing steak well with some poison ivy leaves; then lash said steak to a green stick; next singe (or smoke) the steak; roll well in sand, and then dunk the "remains" in slightly-scummy river water; then finish broiling the by then so-called steak. The final step is optional and entirely up to the individual taste. Some prefer to masticate the "finished product" liberally sprinkled with "sauce de ashes." We—the "we" is editorial threw our's in the river.

Clayton Miller is authority for the statement that it is not necessary to go to Florida to enjoy the sensation of a mosquite bite. Says that while he was working in his basement the other date, a fullgrown buzzer came out, working on all cylinders, and proceeded to tap him. He was, no doubt, a direct descendant of one of the billions that visited us last fall during the excessive September rains.

Feb 1939

#### LOSES LIFE IN FOX RIVER

Ewald Kelm lost his life in Fox river last Saturday at 9 p. m., when his automobile plunged down a steep embankment on Wisconsin street, rolled over the fire dock and settled in 10 feet of water with its wheels in the air. Miss Mabel Baskin and her brother Arthur of Milwaukee and Kelm's two children David and Dorothy who were in the Kelm car were rescued.

Arthur Baskin himself escaped from the submerged sedan and sav... ed his sister and the two children from a watery grave in an unaided last minute rescue.

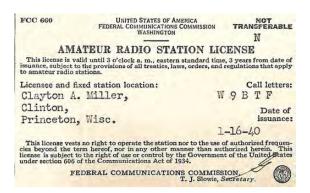
Kelm, Saturday night, accompanied by his children, was prepared to motor to this city. He entered the city from the east by way of High. way 23 and 73. He turned left at the Auditorium on Wisconsin street which intersects with Farmer street he continued toward the river instead of turning unto Farmer street and apparently lost control of his car.

Although a life long resident of this community and thoroughly fam. iliar with the city, Kelm failed, for some reason that probably will nev.

Clayton Miller, Addison Berwick and Oscar Dreblow, were among the first on the scene. They cast off their clothing and plunged into the river in an effort to rescue Kelm. They experienced difficulty in enter ... ing the overturned car. When they succeeded they found Kelm's lifeless body in the rear seat. The body was taken to shore where Dr. O. P. Schnetzky and Dr. G. G. Mueller who had been summoned, pronounc. ed him dead. The doctors stated that Kelm lost his life not by drown... ing, since his lungs contained little if any water, but through a heart attacked induced by fright.

Dr. Schnetzky attended the Kelm children while Dr. Mueller attended Miss Baskin. The physicians work... ed hours over the victims of the ac... cident to save their lives.

I cut off the last few lines just listing the survivors. The Kelm's were distantly related to Lillie's family. Clayton's love for radio was still alive and well in 1940. Unfortunately, one year later when WWII started the US Congress suspended all use of amateur radio. However this was not to be the end of Clayton's love for radio and his use of it.





"Amateur radio is a hobby and, by law, completely non-commercial. Individual amateur "ham" radio operators pursue the avocation for personal pleasure through building their own radio stations and communicating with their fellows globally, and for self-improvement via study and practice of electronics, computers, and radio and TV wave behavior. Radio amateurs are, thus, "amateurs" in the true sense of the word: pursuit of an activity only for the love of it. Radio amateurs can not broadcast or transmit music and other general public entertainment programming. The amateur radio use of the air waves is for personal satisfaction and for forwarding the "state of the art" of electronics and communication techniques." (Wikipedia)

#### 9. The Move To A House

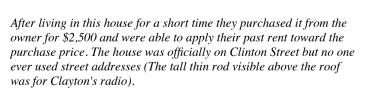
In 1935 Clayton and Lillie were able to rent a house five blocks from the bank and nine blocks from Lillie's parents. Their rent went from \$15 a month for the apartment above the drug store to \$25 for this comfortable home. Like several other houses in Princeton, this house had been moved down the frozen Fox River from the town of St Marie, about a mile north of Princeton. It was built with hand-hewed logs that could still be seen in the basement. The town of St Marie became a "ghost town" when the railroad was built and ran through Princeton rather than St Marie.



The first room people entered when they came in the front door was a sun room. It was a bright and cheery room with four windows facing the street and two on the side. The two windows in the middle of the lower level brightened my parents bedroom. My bedroom is just above. Every fall an open-bed truck loaded with black coal would drive into our driveway and run a wooden chute from the truck through the basement window that had been opened for the occasion and into the "coal bin". Every morning throughout the cold, snowy winter Clayton would go down to the basement before leaving for work, open the furnace door and shovel the cold "clinkers" that were left after the coal had burned down to ashes. These were dumped into a metal bucket and new coal was shoveled into the furnace and lit. My Dad carried the bucket of clinkers out of the basement and dumped them on the street in front of our house to add some traction to the icy roads. This sounds a bit tedious until you remember that Clayton had to empty the chemical toilet into the river. Their new home had a bathroom and and a kitchen with running water.



The winters in Wisconsin were long and cold. The first snow usually came about Thanksgiving and started with a few flakes which often grew more fierce as the day progressed. Before it ended the ground was covered and we never saw it again until late March.







At some point during their stay in this house they had asbestos siding put on it which improved the appearance.

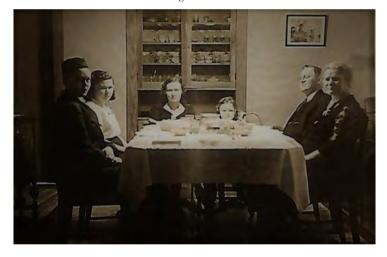
The Living Room

The sofa on the left is still in use in 2019 having been reupholstered several times. It has traveled from Princeton to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, to Tacoma Park, Maryland to De Land, Florida and finally to Colorado Springs, Colorado. It has served the family well. I also still possess the afghan hanging on the chair that Lillie is sitting in. It was crocheted by my maternal grandmother. Our Christmas tree was usually set up in the corner between the sofa and where Lillie is sitting.

The wooden column on the left was duplicated on the other side of the doorway and separated the living room from the dining room.



The Dining Room



Clayton's brother Keith and sister Inez on the left. Lillie and Marion at the far end of the table and Clayton's parents, Herbert and Phoebe on the right. The built-in China cupboard was a focal point in the dining room. The windmill picture on the wall is still being enjoyed in my current home. In the early 2000s I was able to revisit the interior of this house that held so many memories for me as a child. The china cupboard and the wooden columns between the living and dining room were still there. But the rest of the house had been changed, taking my memories with them.

In the 1940's a wall phone was installed in the dining just to the right of the china cupboard. Our phone number was 69J. We had a party line and I discovered that when the phone rang twice it was ringing the other party on our line. If I picked up the ear piece very carefully without making it click I could listen in on other people's conversations.







#### The Dark Room

The basement was like most basements in those days...dark and damp. But my most vivid memory of our basement in Princeton was "The Dark Room". Clayton's photography became a bit more sophisticated. He not only took a lot more pictures but he also set up a darkroom in the "cellar" and did his own developing. I liked being down there with him in the dim light from the red bulb hanging above the shallow pans that held the developing solution. Hewould put what looked like a blank piece of paper into the solution and like magic a picture of some one or something would begin to appear on it.

#### 10. A New Baby Brother

Early one crisp fall morning (October 2, 1939) Clayton and Lillie's third child was born at home with the help of Doc Miller once again. I was awakened that morning by my dad who told me there was a surprise waiting for me downstairs. There in my parents bedroom, asleep in a small white bassinet was a little baby. "A new baby brother", my dad said. I had no idea what a difference that would make in our household.



Gerald Roy Miller October 2, 1939



That tiny baby grew fast. When he was about the size he was in the photo I was exposed to Scarlet Fever and quarantined to the sun-room so that if I got it he wouldn't. That quarantine lasted for three weeks. I slept there, played there and ate there. I still remember the day my dad opened the sun-room door and said, "Would you like come out now?"



 $Our {\it first experience with a professional photographer.}$ 



When I got my long-awaited tricycle I was not at all sure that I wanted to share it with my brother, Jerry. Fortunately it was a long time before he could reach the pedals and by then I was on to other things.

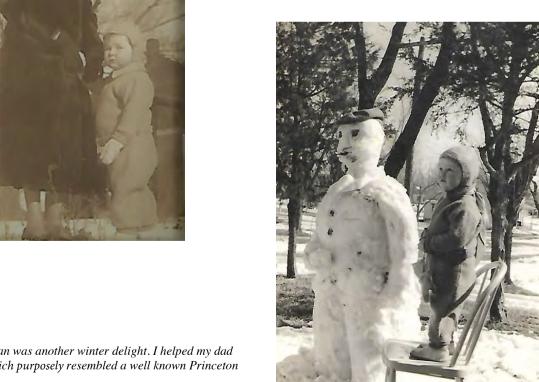


I was born in 1935 when the country was slowly recovering from the Great Depression. I was too young to have any memories of the hardships my parents and grandparents were experiencing. But toward the end of the 1930's when I was still quite young I remember "hobos" coming to our door as well as my grandmother's. They asked politely if they might have something to eat. They were given a plate of hot food that they ate while sitting on the back porch steps. When they finished they thanked their host, returned the empty plate and continued back to the train depot to catch a ride to their next stop, hoping to find a job somewhere. They seemed to know where they could get a good meal. It was a fair walk from the train depot to our house and even further to the Golz's. It seems that word got around among the hobos as to where they could find a sympathetic heart and good food.

#### 11. Wisconsin Winters



Wisconsin winters could be wild but wonderful once the sun came out again. Everyone shoveled their sidewalks and the resulting snowbanks made great places to climb and slide down. My dad liked to make a bit of a sledding hill in our back yard. It was steep but it would keep a sled moving for quite a ways.



Making a snowman was another winter delight. I helped my dad make this one which purposely resembled a well known Princeton resident.



Christmas was always a magical time in the middle of winter. This was my first and also the first Christmas in out new house. The tree was put up in the sun room that year. From there the lighted tree could be seen as you drove by at night. It was a live tree cut from some nearby woods and stored outside until Christmas Eve when it was brought in and decorated after the children were in bed. The Christmases I remember always had the tree set up in the living room.



Winters were long in Wisconsin, but summer would eventually come. One of the favorite things to do in the summer was to go to Green Lake for a swim. Green Lake was one of the bigger lakes among the many lakes in Wisconsin and it was definitely the deepest at over 300 ft. It was a fifteen minute drive from Princeton. "The Terrace", as the west side of the lake was called, was one of the few sandy beaches. How about the bathing attire including the little "beanie" Clayton is wearing??? Next to him is Johnny Hancock (who was a friend of the family.) then Arden(Lillie's brother) who doesn't look to happy about posing in his bathing suit. (And rightly so.) And finally Lois (Lillie's sister) with her gaze fixed on Clayton. This is one of my favorite photos from that era.

#### 12. Camping Getaway.



This was camping in the 1940's before the days of big sporting goods stores. Lillie preferred the comforts of home and her own kitchen while Clayton enjoyed cooking out of doors. Mosquitoes are ferocious in northern Wisconsin which is the reason for the mosquito netting covering the entrance to the tent. I'm guessing that Clayton built the picnic table from dead wood found in the wooded area around them.

Clayton still loved to go camping (Lillie was not quite so enthusiastic). This photo was taken while they were camping in northern Wisconsin. I remember my mother coming back with a terrible sun burn that kept her from staying out on the water in a canoe for too long.



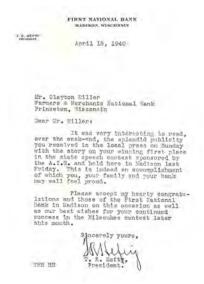
#### 13. Banking and Other Achievements



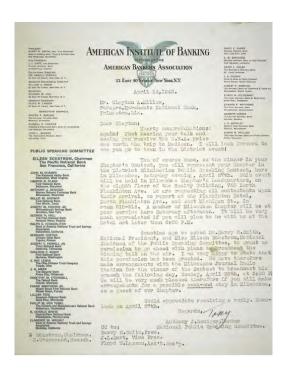
In 1940 Clayton attended The American Institute of Banking School held at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. I'm not certain whether the speech contest was in conjunction with the class or if it was a separate occasion.



Like the Boy Scout statue, I remember this silver trophy on display in our home in Princeton. It was a large round silver plated bowl on a short pedestal. Around the top edge of the bowl was a border of silver plated flowers. At the time I had no idea of it's significance.

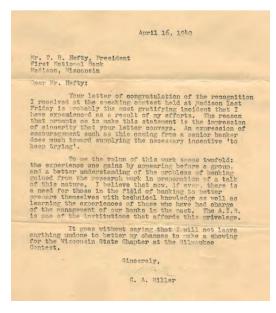


Congratulations from Madison, Wisconsin

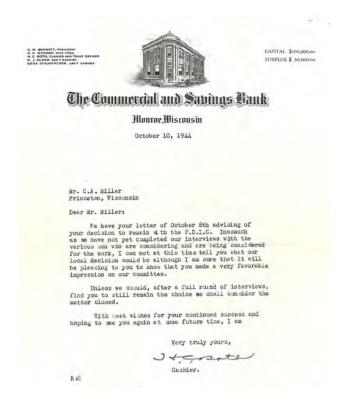


"The American Institute of Banking (AIB) is a venerable educational and training institution for the United States based banking industry which was established by the American Bankers Association (ABA) back in 1907."





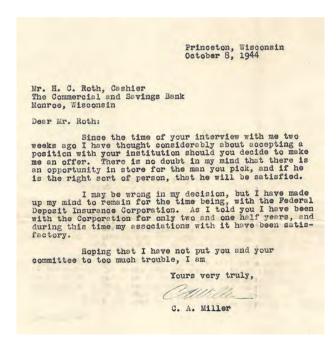




It appears that after one and a half years with the FDIC Clayton is still "assistant" status and this document says that he is getting a raise of \$100 a year. He may have been a bit discouraged by this time. The country was still at war and things may have been a bit austere. The following letter leads me to believe that Clayton had put out some "feelers".

Whether it was because he was still only an assistant examiner or whether it was Lillie who was tired of being alone all week - possibly both or maybe none of the above.

This letter and the following one probably crossed in the mail. By the time Monroe responded Clayton had already made his decision to stay with the FDIC.

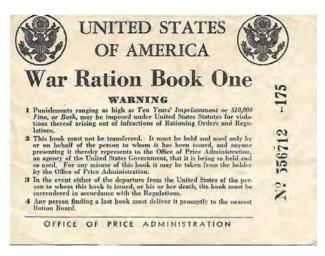


Clayton remained with the FDIC



For Lillie life was just as different as it was for Clayton. Her nights were long. She had her friends and neighbors and was in a bridge club in addition to taking care of her two children. Living close to her parents and siblings helped a lot. But she was no doubt lonely. She may have felt like a misfit knowing that her friends' husbands all had local jobs and came home at night.

#### 15. Life During the Second World War



| of this l   | Book has sign  | ions. (A f   | ather, mother, on case of quest  | ly after the lawful he<br>I are void if detached<br>or guardian may sign<br>tions, difficulties, or c |
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I was six years old and too young to remember much about the war. Nevertheless I was well aware of the sense of fear and concern in the adults around me. Food items and gasoline, along with many other commodities, were rationed. All families were issued Ration Books filled with tear-out stamps entitling them to a given amount of sugar or so many gallons of gasoline.

|  | POLD BACK  | POLO BACK   |
|--|--|---|
|  | Certificate  | of Registrar  |
| This is to Certify ti<br>tions administered by the<br>agency of the United Sta | nat pursuant to the Rationing Orders and Regula-<br>e OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION, an | 5 in 150 ha 150 |
| (Name, Address, and Descrip  | tion of person to whom the book is imped;)   | has been lessed the attached War Ration Stamps this 12th, day of Cota.  |
| Miller   | Clarton Anson  | 1942, upon the basis of an application signed by himself (3, herself ), or on his or her behalf by his or her bushapd  , yeth  , fatheg  , mother  , exception  . (Greek one.)  |
| (See asso) (See No. or F. O. For Princeton (Oty or bone) Stempe                | Green Luke Wisconsin   | Local Barel No. 294-1 Crospy Green Lake State \$1,00010 in the call, the candidate of the control of the control of the call of the candidate.  |
| //   | 22 20  | CANNIKC SUGAR BERLIN 6824 OCT 7.43 AMT. VIL   |

This is the back and front of Clayton's Ration Book for "canning sugar". Each stamp was good for eight pounds of sugar. Below is the inside of the same book. The stamps are the three numbered boxes at the bottom and were torn off and redeemed at the time of purchase. Apparently rationing ended before they used all their stamps.

This is Clayton's Registration Certificate for the Draft. As you can see from the right hand edge of the card, he did carry it with him at all times. As a result we can't see what year this was issued. I would guess it was 1942 since it's dated October and WWII started in December of 1941. December of 1943 Clayton's draft classification was 1A, meaning that he was eligible for the draft.

| 1. 1. W. |   | ON CERTIFICATE  It in accordance with the  of the President of the United States |
|----------|---|--|
| 1/1/2    |   |  |
| ,        | Clayton Anson   |  |
| a di     |   | on, Green Lake, Wis  |
| 2        | (No. and street or R. F. P. C.) has been duly registered this | dev of October   |
| b        | Sam   |  |
| 12       | Registrar for   | Princeton, Wis   |
| 1/3      | (Precinct)  | (Ward) (City or county) (State)  |
| 0 . 1.   | BE ALERT { Keep in touch with<br>Notify Local Board           | your Local Board.<br>immediately of change of address.                           |
| 0 /10    |   | ITH YOU AT ALL TIMES   |
| J. MA    | D. S. S. Form 2   | 16-17105   |
| 13       |   |  |

Clayton's Registration Certificate

| Appeal from classification by<br>local board must be made         |  |
|---|--|
|   | Oldy tou Auson Militer   |
| within 10 days after the mail-                                    |  |
| ing of this notice. You may                                       | Order No. 1065 has been classified in Class 1A   |
| file a written notice of appeal                                   |  |
| with the local board, or you<br>may go to the office of the local | / (I Intil   |
| board and sign appeal form on                                     | (Until   |
| back of Selective Service Ques-                                   | by I Local Board.  |
| tionnaire (Form 40).  | 5 7 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2  |
| Within the same 10-day pe-  | Board of Appeal (by vote of to).   |
| riod you may file a written                                       | President.   |
| request for personal appear-                                      | Dec. 11, 1043 //////   |
| ince before the local board.<br>If this is done, the time in      | The state of the s |
| which were may enneal is ex-                                      |  |
| which you may appeal is ex-<br>ended to 10 days from the          | notice in addition to your Registration Certificate (Form 2), in your personal   |
| late of mailing of a new  | posse sion at all times—to exhibit it upon request to authorized officials—to  |
| Notice of Classification (Form                                    | surrender it, upon entering the armed forces, to your commanding officer,  |
| 57) after such personal ap-                                       | DSS Form 57. (Rev. 3-29-43)  |
| pearance.   | Cut along this line to detach card   |
| If you are the first person to                                    | il is based on occupational grounds, you may, in accordance with Selective Service   |
| take an appear and such appear                                    | the case to the board of appeal having jurisdiction over the area where you work.  |
| If an appeal has been taken                                       | and ye are classified by the board of appeal in either Class I-A, I-A-O, or IV-  |
| and one or more members of  | the board of appeal dissented from such classification, you may file appeal to th  |
| President with your local board                                   | within 10 days after the mailing of notice of such classification.   |
| For advice, see your Govern                                       | ament abbeel agent.  |
| The law requires you: (1)   | To keep in touch with your local board; (2) to notify it of any change of any fact which might change your classification; (4) to comply with the  |

Again in 1945 Clayton's classification came up as I-A.

| Ohann and  |  |  |   | ^         |
|--|--|--|---|-----------|
| NOTICE   | OF CLASSIF   | ICATION  | App. not Req.   | 11        |
| Clayton  | Anson  | Mill   | er  | 110       |
| (First name)   | (Middle name)  | (Last na   | me)   | Ma        |
| Order No. 1065   | . I as been classifi   | ed in Class  | A   | - M       |
| (Until   | late for Class II-A and I  |  | _)  |           |
| by Local Board.  Board of Appeal   | (by vote of  | to).   |   | S saum in |
| President. Feb. 3 , 19.4   | 5 Ban  | Member of local bo                                     | Julie   | On On     |
| The law requires you, sub<br>notice, in addition to your Re<br>possession at all times—to es<br>surrender it, upon entering the<br>DSS Form 57. (Rev. 12–10. | ject to heavy penal<br>egistration Certifica<br>khibit it upon requ<br>he armed forces, to | ty for violation<br>te (Form 2), in<br>est to authoriz | n, to have this<br>n your personal<br>ed officials—to |           |

Clayton was certified fit for limited military service. By 1945 we had moved to Chippewa Falls and he was never drafted because his government job qualified him for deferment. The war ended in September of 1945.



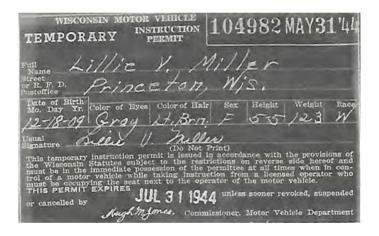
Clayton was appointed to chair the "Aviation Section" of the Green Lake County Council. His love for flying and all things related to it was still alive and well.

I found this on the Wisconsin Historical Society website:

"The Wisconsin State Council of Defense worked with federal officials to ensure that Wisconsin citizens would support the American cause during World War I. It outlines food drives, Liberty Loan promotion, recruiting activities, the Council's journal entitled"Forward", and other home-front efforts which, in the words of one historian, tried "to change an anti-militaristic democracy into an organized war machine."

#### 16. The Changing Scene

Clayton's new job required that he be "on the road" from Monday to Friday. Gas rationing was still in effect so Clayton began using public transportation more often. That meant he needed a ride to and from the public transportation. Not wanting to leave the car sitting out all week it was decided that Lillie should get a drivers licence. My mother was not very excited about the idea but Clayton was determined that she learn.





This is similar to the family car we had in the '40's that Lillie learned to drive.

#### 17. Another Big Decision

In the summer of 1945 Clayton was offered a position as "Examiner" with the FDIC for which he was elated. Unfortunately it required a move to Chippewa Falls in northern Wisconsin. For Clayton it was an easy decision. He loved a new challenge and had experienced the pulling up of roots and moving to another town several times in his growing up years. Lillie, on the other hand, had NEVER moved outside of Princeton in all of her thirty six years. The prospect was a struggle for her. She knew it meant leaving all that she loved and had ever known since birth...all that was familiar.



Clayton's new territory was much too distant to make commuting from Princeton wise or practical. The move was made in October of 1945, after school had started. This meant that my bother and I had to enter classes that were already in session...and we were "the new kids". I was in the fourth grade and Jerry was just starting first grade. It was difficult for both my brother and I, but we recovered and soon made friends.

For my mother it was a little more difficult. She wasn't in a classroom with new friends every day, but rather home alone. Clayton would sometimes have to leave on Sunday afternoon in order to be ready to start examining a bank on Monday morning. At the end of the week he often didn't get home until Saturday mid-morning depending on how far away he had worked that week. His territory was most of northern Wisconsin.

#### 18. A New Home

Chippewa Falls was a town of about 4,000 people...four times as big as Princeton. Clayton and Lillie had made a trip in September to look for a place for our family to live. They found a house to rent on Columbia Street.

It was a big two story house with five bedrooms, one full bathroom (literally between the kitchen and dining room) and a "half bath" upstairs with a toilet and sink. There were two sets of stairs leading upstairs; one in the front entry hall and the other leading from the kitchen. My mother could not fathom the fact that it was going to cost them \$50 a month to live there. She felt that was way too extravagant.

We were at the top of the Columbia Street hill and just three blocks from the down town business area. Like their house In Princeton, there was a retaining wall in front of the house. In the back was a two car garage which included a tool shed on one side and a loft above the garage. The garage was accessed by an alley. The house was heated by an oil-burning furnace. No more shoveling coal in the morning or carrying out the "clinkers". For the first time in their married life they had to purchase a washing machine. It was one of the first "front load" models. (Clothes dryers were not yet on the market.)



The house to the east of us was rented to a family by the name of Cripe. Next to them lived US Senator, Robert Wiley and his southern wife "Tommy" (This impressed my mother).

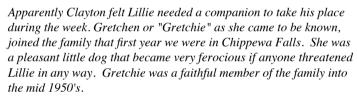


#### 19. Clayton and Lillie Enter a New Chapter of Life

Clayton and Lillie were thirty six years old when they made this life-changing move to Chippewa Falls. Lillie had the more difficult situation. She had never had to face moving to a place where she knew no one. In the next weeks and months she would be left at home to settle my brother and I in school, get her new home set up and spend lonely nights at home while Clalyton was travelling the northern part of the state examining banks. Fortunately the neighbors to the west were friendly and helpful. But to the east lived Ella Viles who was a tiny little "old lady" we seldom saw outside, nor did she respond to a knock on her door. She kept her shades pulled day and night. Her house was a dull grey that looked like it had never been painted.



Clayton, on the other hand, was excited about his new career and new assignment as Examiner. With Lillie's help he would pack his suitcase every Sunday and head to the next bank to be examined. Late Friday night or Saturday morning, depending on the distance he had to travel, he would return home for the weekend. Saturday would be spent doing the necessary work around the house and catching up on what had happened during the week. As time went on they got to know some of the neighbors and Saturday evenings were often spent playing bridge with Pat and Byron Anderson who lived across the street (Byron was a local bank cashier so he and Clayton bonded right away).







Lillie's love for reading inevitably led her to visit the local library located just four blocks from our house. Before long she had gotten up the courage to inquire about possibly working there. She was hired and thoroughly enjoyed working with books, but also meeting new friends. Before long she was attending the local Women's Club and also playing bridge with several ladies. She was beginning to enjoy "big city" life with all the great stores within walking distance of home.

#### 20. Looking for a Church

Finding a church was important to Clayton and Lillie. They found one within walking distance of our house. They liked the Pastor (Reverend "Chet" Schendel) and his wife very much and kept in touch with them even after we had moved away. My parents were both active in the social life of the church...my dad of course was only home on weekends so could not be quite as involved as Lillie. She made many friends and enjoyed the women's activities.



Lillie with some of her "church" friends.

The lady second from the left lived just across the alley from us.



Ennuanuel Ebungelina Church

EARL E. HUBLETER. Momenter

PRINCETON, WISCONSIN

December 5, 15th

Mr. and Mrc. Clayton Miller
322 %. Columbia Street
Ohippem Falle, Wisconsin

Dear Friends:

It was greath hearing from you. I imagine that by now
you are pretty well settled and are beginning to experience the
thrill of new friendamings in your new church and community.

It is no more than right that your church membership be
thrill for new friendamings in your new formed the church letter
directived to Chippem Falla. I have formeded a church letter
directived to Chippem Falla. I have formeded a church letter
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morning.

Hearing your little impromptu testimony with regard to
how much the church had ment to you. Lay—that was a real
thrill for me and for everybody size at that Walfare Aid party.
The Sunday School is beginning work on the Christmas program. Of course we have larion and Jerry, for they always did such
a good job when it came to appeaking thair pieces. We do hope
your plans work out or blast you'll be able to gend this here at
Course we're annious to see you again.

We felt that the bottom dropped out of things when the
Hilter left, Cur feelings hit a new lew today when we loarned
that the Margadia are leaving at the first of the new year.

Jok has accepted a job at loat. So it as you active in terms of real
Christian service in your new church hone.

Sincerely yours,

To the left is a letter that Clayton and Lillie received from their Pastor in Princeton after they moved to Chippewa Falls.



December 25th fell on a Sunday in 1948. I left for church early that day in order to get ready to sing in the choir. From the choir loft I scanned the congregation for my parents but they were not there. I found that strange and wondered why. After church the pastor informed methat my dad had a heart attack and was in the local hospital. I was stunned and concerned. Ultimately it turned out not to be as serious as we feared. He had coronary thrombosis that had not damaged his heart and only required rest.

Dear Ars Thieler

Have keen interested on Running how your Rushaus

Cause out! Do Rape Re will continue to be with you.

Djist that may be you'd like to run to nomain club with me this aph - at 2: 30 - I so come along about 2: 30

Hape you can 90-Tommy

I don't remember opening gifts that day. We were all in shock.

One of the good things that came out of Clayton's hospitalization was a note of sympathy from Tommy Wiley. (She was the wife of the U. S. Senator who lived two door down from us. She was from Kentucky and agreed to move to Wisconsin if her husband would build her an antebellum mansion. He did and she moved. After Clayton's heart attack she sent Lillie the note at left.

I don't remember whether or not Lillie accepted this invitation. I'm certain it would be daunting for her to go up the stairs to the pillared front porch and ring her doorbell.

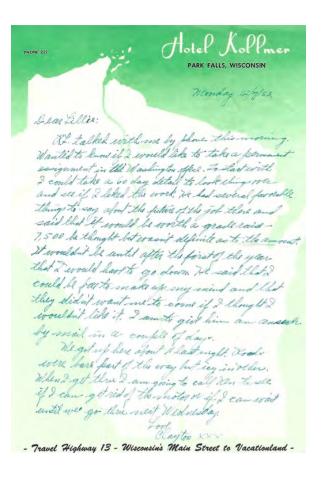
#### 21. Another Move

On December 7, 1953 Lillie received a letter from Clayton which would once again throw her life into an unsettled state.

That summer our family spent the month of July living in a rented furnished house in Washington D.C. in order to get a feel for what life in the capitol city would be like. Clayton spent a lot of time at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation learning what a job there would entail. Meanwhile the three of us enjoyed visiting The Smithsonian Institute, Memorials and the Capitol building. We sat in on a session of Congress and had the privilege of personally meeting with our neighbor, the Honorable Senator Robert Wiley...husband of Tommy Wiley.



Our pass to enter the Senate Chambers



After much deliberation my parents made decision to move to Takoma Park, Maryland, a northeast suburb of Washington, D.C. They signed a contract on the house pictured below which was under construction at the time.



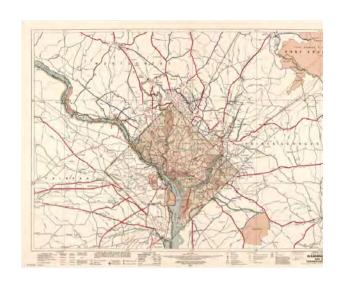
The home they chose was a three bedroom ranch with a walk out basement. It backed up to an open area with a creek and large mature trees. It was the most modern of all the homes we had lived in thus far. There were three bedrooms, one bathroom, a full walk-out unfinished basement which they later finished into an "all purpose" room.

I decided to transfer from the college I was attending in Illinois to the University of Maryland, just two miles from our new home. Jerry was going into his senior year of high school and was about as happy about moving as Lillie had been when they moved to Chippewa Falls.

#### 22. Life In Washington D.C.

Our new home was in Takoma Park, a suburb of Washington D. C. (Takoma Park is a little to the right of the northern point of the D.C. Metro area.) My dad rode the city bus to work to avoid having to park downtown. My brother rode a bus to school for the first time. He was a senior in high school and the move was probably the hardest on him. We moved in October which made it even more difficult for him in that classes had already begun. My mother enjoyed getting acquainted with her new neighbors. (She was a pro at it by this time.) The family got involved in a church just three blocks away from our house. I worked in the city for a while until I got a job as a dental assistant within walking distance of our house. I sat out a year in college because classes had already started at the University which was a mile and a half away from our home.

For more one Clayton and Lillie's life in DC see page 200.



#### 23. Travel Expenses



The receipt from Clayton's hotel stay in Washington on a business trip to the "home office". It adds up to \$100 plus a one dollar valet charge.

In 1954 we packed up our belongings and headed for Takoma Park, Maryland.

#### 24. Move to Deland, Florida

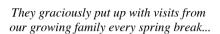
While still working for the FDIC in Washington, Clayton and Lillie took a trip to Florida with their retirement years in mind.

They found this home in Deland, Florida and purchased it a year before they retired. They were anxious to get to a warm climate where there was no snow to shovel in the winter... only walks on the beach. Their Florida home had a shaded back yard where my mother enjoyed growing the unusual tropical plants. They rented it out for one year until Clayton retired and they could make the move.





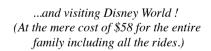
They both enjoyed walking on the beach at Dayton and New Smyrna beaches which were a mere thirty minutes away. For them it was a very different world than they had known before.





FOAGIES LIQUOR BEEF

Cheryl getting far too much exposure to the sun...







It was no surprise to anyone that Clayton would get involved in the Florida chapterof the Civil Air Patrol. What was surprising was that Lillie also got enthusiastically involved.



CAP PROMOTIONS — Nine members of the DeLand Senior Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol recently earned promotions. From left, Albert J. Stebbins, 2Lt., Joseph B. Snively, 2Lt., David L. Johns, 2Lt., Lillie V. Miller, 1Lt. and Marvin H. Donaldson, 2Lt. Receiving promotions but not pictured were Morris J. Siglin, 2Lt., Harold W. Bowman, 2Lt., Ernest L. Meixner, 2Lt. and John T. Teitscheid, 2Lt.

Lillie never became a pilot, but she wasn't afraid to fly with the boys when necessary.

Remember the quiet young woman from Princeton, Wisconsin? Clayton never parachuted out of a plane after his first jump in 1929, but his feet left the ground myriads of times.





### Princeton High Reunions



On August 19, 1978 a second group of Princeton High School graduates enjoyed dinner at Scharenberg's White Lake Beach Resort, celebrating their 51st. reunion. This was the class of 1927 pictured here Miller, Mrs. Lilly Golz Miller, Norma Radtke Rozek, Mrs. Josephine Beyer Rozek, and Arnold Kuehneman. Second row: Frank Adamski, Richard Clapper, Walter Bogucke, Clarence Oelke, and Carl Lichtenberg. After fifty one years there are only two classmates missing. Clayton and Lillie were the only ones that were no longer living in Princeton. They drove to Wisconsin from Florida every summer for this reunio and to see family back in their home state. I never heard either one of them express any regrets for having moved away. I'm certain that they both would have said that the three moves they had since 1945 had enriched their lives. But I'm certain they never felt superior to their friends back in Princeton either. They looked forward to this time with them and with family. In fact Clayton, as class president, was the organizer of the event every summer.

Your NARFE News Editor adds this photo to supplement Mrs. Miller's report. It was taken at the DeLand Chapter's Installation ceremonies. It gives readers a look at the officers of the Chapter which hosted the District 3 meeting. They stand on each side of Ralph Mauriell, Federation President, who acted as Installing Officer. To the right of Ralph are Bob Gallup, Chapter President, and Louis Vecchione, Vice President. To the far left in the photo is Clayton Miller with Secretary Lillie Miller alongside Ralph, Lillie is the little attractive lady responsible for the above report.



Back in Florida and yet another interest and responsibility. The National Association of Retired Federal Employees (affectionately known as NARFE) had just been launched and Clayton and Lillie became part of it...in fact vice president and secretary of the local chapter.



In May of 1980 Clayton and Lillie made a trip to to Wisconsin to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary with family and friends. Lillie's mother, Johanna, was the only one of their parents still living and she was in her nineties. Most of their siblings were there. Below is a copy of the newspaper article in the Princeton Times Republic.



Golden Wedding Anniversary (Celebrated in Wisconsin)

1704

# Golden wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Miller have returned to their home in DeLand, Fla., after spending 10 days with Mrs. Miller's mother, Mrs. Johanna Golz, and Mr. and Mrs. George Daye at Neshkoro.

On Sunday, May 18, Mr. and Mrs. Miller entertained at a 1 o'clock dinner at Scharenberg's White Lake Beach Resort in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. Guests were their children and grandchildren: Mrs. Wm. Eitemiller and daughter Marilyn, Aurora, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Miller, Ann and Tom, Crystal Lake, Ill., also Mrs. Johanna Golz, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Miller, Wayne Miller, Emily Miller, Waukesha, Mr. and Mrs. Arden Golz and Vicki, Princeton, Elmer Golz, Steven Jones, Green Lake, Mr. and Mrs. George Daye, Ronald Daye, Neshkoro, Dennis Daye, Racine, Sue Peter, Union Grove, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Jones, Gayle and Linda, Friendship, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Quinn, Tammy and Kevin, Westfield, and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Standke, Fond du Lac.

On Saturday, May 24, the Millers attended the reunion of their graduation class--Princeton High School, Class of 1927--at the Heidel House, Green Lake.



Our family.

Jerry, Me, Lillie and Clayton



Four generations: Marion, Lillie, Marilyn and Johanna

#### 25. Clayton's Cancer

In the early 1980's Clayton learned that he had prostate cancer. It was definitely a concern but didn't slow him down a lot. Lillie noticed that he was taking longer naps.

The beginning part of this article is missing so I don't know if they were referring to Clayton when it spoke of someone retiring "early next year." But Clayton was never a "quitter". He took his responsibilities in the CAP seriously...finding lost planes. And now it was Clayton who was "losing altitude".

By the fall of 1983 the cancer had spread to his bones. That Christmas they came and spent Christmas with us. (We were living in Nebraska at the time.) This was the last time we saw him. A week later he died in the hospital.



ITC Clayton Willer was a member of Civil Air Patrol for more than 32 years. He learned to fly in a JNAC in 1929 and began his Cival Air Patrol flying when he joined the Eau Claire Squadron of the Wisconsin Wing in October 1950. At that time he owned a Luscombo which he used part time in connection with his work as a Bank Examiner for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. His territory covered several counties in the northeast section of the state. and in the wintertime it was necessary that the plane be equipped with skis. In 1954 when he transferred to the Washington, D. C. area to work in the Federal Daposit Insurance Corp. office there, he transferred his Civil Air Patrol membership to the Prince Georges Squadron, College Park, Maryland. Here he served first as training officer and later communications officer, In September 1963 he became a staffmember of Maryland Wing as Assistant Daputy for Communications. He remained in this position until his retirement in the fall of 1969 when he soved to Deland, Florida, In March 1970 he became a member of the Deland Squadron and his first duty assignment was that of Advisor, Avidently he received this assignment because he was so much older than other members of the Deland Squadron and because he was a Lt. Col., the grade he had achteved in June 1968. He later took over the position of communications officer for the Deland Squadron and on 1 July becames the commander,

He received the Middle East Region Award of Nerit in 1961 and 1962 and the Meritorious Service Award from Mational Headquarters for the period / July 1964 to 30 June 1965 and again for the period 25 March 1970 to 22 October 1974. He logged more than 2400 hrs of flying and his 201 file supports evidends of having flown close to 300 SAR sorties. Ib addition to these sorties, there were many more for which there is no documentation due partly to a lost log book and lack of recording sorties prior to 1961,

21t - July 1955 11t - Jan. 1957 Capt. - April 1959 Major - Nov. 1963 LTC - June 1968



Mr. Miller, 73, lived at 1245 N. Garfield Ave. He was born in Plainfield, Wis., and

Ave. He was norn in Franmenc, wis., and moved to DeLand from Washington, D. CLAYTON C., 13 years ago. A University of MILLER Wisconsin school of banking graduate, Mrs. Miller was a bank examiner in Wisconsin before he served with the federal government.

An instrument rated pilot, Mr. Miller was active in the Civil Air Patrol organization for a number of years. He also served as a president and treasurer of the local chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employee until recently was treasurer of the the First United Methodist Church in DeLand.

Survivors are his wife, Lillie; a daughter, Marion Eitemiller of Aurora, Neb.; a son, Gerald N. Miller of Denver, N. C.; a brother, Keith, of Waukesha, Wis.; two sisters, Emily Miller of Waukesha and Inez Fitzgerald of Menasha, Wis.; and six grandchildren.

The family requests that in lieu of other remembrances, the constitute and training of the constitute of of the co

memorial donations be made to the operations and training center building fund of the Florida Wing of the Civil Air Partrol.

The Allen-Summerhill Funeral Home of DeLand is in charge of arrangements.



Memorial Plaque placed the CAP Headquarters



Clayton, and later Lillie, were both buried in the Princeton where their first child Carol was buried.

#### 26.1983-1988



In 1986 she was able to meet her first great grandchild, Jessica, Dave and Sue's first child.

After Clayton's death Lillie continued to live in their home in Deland, Florida. She and Clayton had made many friends there, many of them were widowed like herself. She enjoyed going out to lunch and to local cultural events.

In 1984 she took a European trip with her sister in law, Muriel. Ironically Muriel's their pastor was Rev. Schendel who had been Clayton and Lillie's pastor in Chippewa Falls. He had arranged the trip with several other people. It was a bus trip that toured through France, Switzerland and Italy. Lillie saw sights that she had only read about...Notre Dame Cathedral, the Swiss Alps, Venice, and Rome. She had come a long way from the small town girl in Wisconsin.



Lillie and Jessica got reacquainted again in 1987 when Lillie flew to Colorado for her granddaughter Cheryl's wedding.



Cheryl and Lane's wedding at Glen Eyrie, in Colorado Springs, Colorado



Lillie with her grandson Dave at Cheryl's wedding in 1987

Sue, Marilyn, Me and Lillie

In December of 1987, just six months after attending Cheryl's wedding, Lillie was diagnosed with a very fast growing colon cancer. Bill and I quit our jobs in Colorado Springs and went to Florida to be with her on her final journey.

On December 18, 1987 Lillie celebrated her 78th birthday. It would be her last. My brother Jerry was there from North Carolina for the special occasion.



For a couple months we were able to enjoy life pretty much as usual. But Lillie was failing rapidly.



Glen and his wife Karen were able to get to Florida to visit Lillie in early spring. Her last project was knitting a baby sweater with matching cap for their first baby, her second great grandchild, Ruth, whom she never got to meet.



This is the last formal portrait taken of Lillie for the church directory in January. She lived for another three months and went to be with the Lord on April 14, 1988. Her body was flown to Wisconsin were she was buried beside her husband Clayton and next to their first daughter, Carol.





The gravestone to the right of Clayton and Lillie's is their firstborn, Carol who died in 1933.

#### 27. Twelve years of Big City Life

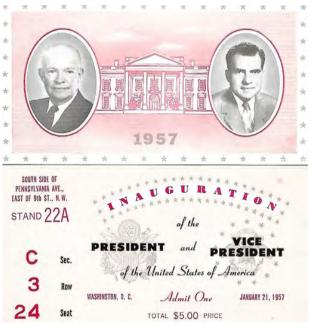
Clayton's office was in the heart of the city on 17th Street, just a few blocks from the White House. Rather than drive into the city he chose to take the bus. He would get on just two blocks from our house and then walk about five blocks to his office once he got into the city. I soon found a job in the same area and we would ride together to and from work.





All four of us were "out of our element" and some of us enjoyed that more than others. Rather than feeling lonely in this new environment, Lillie seemed to thrive in it. She was not afraid to ride the bus into the city just to watch the parade of some important dignitary or foreign visitor. Not too long after they moved she applied for a job at the FDIC and was accepted

Working for the US government in Washington DC afforded Clayton and Lillie many opportunities for a "front row" seat on the festivities and pomp and circumstance...something Lillie seemed to thrive on. (And not to be forgotten...This is where Clayton and Lillie were married in 1930.)



They also received official invitations to one or two inaural balls. To my knowledge they never attended the affairs.



Clayton never lost his interest and love for radio. While living in Maryland he joined the Civil Air Patrol because of his continued love for flying. That led him to a long time involvement with Civil Air Patrol (CAP). The article on the following page by a fellow CAP member gives you another glimpse into Clayton. I'll let her tell the story. She actually reveals things I never knew.



They were more inclined to attend the FDIC parties.



#### THE FACES BEHIND THE VOICES . . . FLANT 13

By 1/Lt. Patricia D. Dudrow, Plant 18

Captain Clayton A. Miller was born in Plainfield, Wis-consin, "some" years ago. One has difficulty in deciding just how many years "some" are, since Clayton has the

type of personality that keeps you guessing all the time. I will explain:

The Sedate, Conservative, Well-Adjusted, Adult Clayton:

Clayton followed in his fa-ther's footsteps by going into the field of banking. He is a graduate of the School of Banking conducted at the Uni-versity of Wisconsin After versity of Wisconsin. After working in a bank for fifteen working in a bank for fifteen years, he became a bank examiner for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and is now a review examiner in their Washington office.

He and Mrs. Miller are members of Trinity United Church of Christ. Mrs. Miller was church secretary for four years and Clayton served as chairman of the finance or served. of the finance committee and was a member of the choir.

The Other Clayton:

Clayton is an excellent pilot with more than 900 hours flying time. His interest in flying dates back to 1929 when he made a parachute jump at the dedication of the local airport after a professional jumper who had been hired for the ocasion failed to make an ancosion failed to make an ap-pearance. The principal incen-tive was the \$25.00 . . . used to buy flying time.

Clayton's wife-to-be, Lillie, who was watching the jump. rather unconcerned, grew six gray hairs that day when a friend stepped up and said, "Lillie, I understand that's Clayton making the jump."

This same year, Clayton and a friend purchased a JN4C (Jennie). Some years later he (Jennie). Some years later he owned a Luscombe which he used in connection with his work as an examiner. The family (not more than two at a time) also used the Luscombe to go ice-fishing and for other pleasure trips. Skis were standard equipment for the pkae.

There is one story they tell . . . one morning after spending the night away from home, it turned out that the tempera-

thre was just right to make the snow sticky and they found that the plane wouldn't take to the air. Tricks, such as lifting one ski at a time, seemed to be of no avail . . The "other" Clayton showed thru . . he asked bille to get out . . . too much weight in the plane. Sure enough, he could take off then. BUT this really did not solve his problem, did it?

Somonous after trying again.

Sococoo, after trying again, and again, and again, and again, he managed to get the Luscombe off the ground with Lilie aboard. (Six more gray hairs for Lillie.)

Lillie is one of Clayton's high school classmates who says he paid no attention to her until she was his wife in their class play just before graduation. Again the "other" Clayton showed thru... they eloped!

Clayton became interested in radio about the time he en-tered high school and received his Ham ticket in 1924. His call sign was W9DSH and later W9BTF.

Work interfered with his in-terest in radio for a number of terest in radio for a number of years and he let his Ham ticket expire. It wasn't until 1957 when he moved to the Washington area and became affiliated with the Prince Georges Squadson of CAP that he again became active in radio communications. He opinionally intendicate in the controlly intendicate in the controlly intendicate in the program of the cations. He originally joined the Eau Claire Squadron of CAP in the Wisconsin Wing.

Plant 13 is the first alternate Plant 13 is the first alternate control station for the Mary-land Wing. It is operated by Captam Miller and his stient partner, Lillie. (Not really as gray-haired as I've made her ... and really not too silent, either.) In order to leave room to walk in their home in Col-lege Park she has made one fast rule ... no more radio last rule . . . no more radio genr comes in until a piece goes out . . fair exchange! But she has so many against her. All the communicators in the Wing, in fact.

Clayton and Lillie are the parents of one son and one daughter, and are grandparents

Captain Clayton A. Miller is one of the most fascinating peo-ple we have ever had the pleas-

ple we have ever had the pleasure to meet.

In his pin-stripe suit you would never think he would be taught dead in a flight suit.

He is one of our best mission pilots and his services in Communications are unsurpassed.

In fact there are so many, many adventurous tales to tell about Plant 13, we just may run a series on the "Two Sides of Captain Miller" or "One More Gray Hair for Lillie."



A few friends and family members made the long trip from Wisconsin to visit out family. In the above photo Clayton and Lillie are enjoying a visit from our pastor in Chippewa Falls and his family. The man on the far left was US Senator Alexander Wiley, and our neighbor in Chippewa Falls.



Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Miller, former residents of Princeton who now reside in Washington, D.C., relax at their cottage on Green Lake during their vacation. Their son, Jerry, and daughter, Marion, are also enjoying the lake activities.

Every summer Clayton and Lillie made the fifteen hour drive back to see friends and family. They enjoyed renting a cottage on Green Lake and entertaining visitors there.



The combined Golz's and Miller families
Back row: Jerry (my brother) Herbert, Lillie, Virginia and Elmer,
Muriel and Keith, Mr. and Mrs. Lehman (Muriel's parents)
Middle row: Inez, Phoebe, Marion, Diane.

Front row: Marilyn and Wayne Miller (Keith and Muriel's children)

Clayton and Emily.



Clayton's family at a Green Lake Reunion. Left to right: Keith, Emily, Phoebe, Inez, Clayton and Herbert

1967 marked Clayton's twenty fifth year of service at the FDIC. The following letter recognized that and promised a special remembrance.



FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION WASHINGTON

May 31, 1967



FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
WASHINGTON

December 13, 1967

Mr. Clayton A. Miller 1625 Drexel Street Takona Park, Maryland 20012

Dear Mr. Miller:

Your completion of twenty-five years of service with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation is an occasion calling for special recognition.

The more of respect that surrounds the operations of the Corporation has been largely earned through the dedicated allegiance of our pergonnel. May 1, on behalf of the members of the Board of Directors and those who preceded us, express our thanks to you for your contribution to this success.

Sometime during the month of December you will be presented a usell recembrance in recognition of your Silver Anniversary of service to the Corporation. In the meanwhile we want you to know that you have our best wishes.

K. A. Randall

Mr. Clayton A. Miller Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Miller

This year of your Silver Anniversary with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation clearly makes it appropriate for us to resterate our appreciation of your service to the Corporation over a period of twenty-five years.

On behalf of the present Board of Directors and those preceding us, I want to thank you for your contributions to the success of the Corporation and to the respect which you have helped it earn.

Merely as a small token of the occasion, it is a pleasure for me to note that you have received one of the Corporation's traditional silver bowls. Although it can only be symbolic of your service, it carries our gratitude

K. A. Randell

Sincerely your

This letter was followed up six months later with the letter at right.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION: Washington, B.C. 20428

DEPLOS DE TOE SHARMAN

October 29, 1969

Mr. Clayton A. Miller 1625 Drexel Street Takoma Park, Maryland 20012

Dear Mr. Miller:

Your retirement from your position with the Division of Bank Supervision has been accepted.

The Board of Directors appreciates the faithful service which you have rendered the Corporation during your long term of employment which began in May, 1942, and it is our hope that you will have many future years of health and happiness.

Sincerely

K. A. Randall Chairman

#### Dear Friends at FDIC:

The party given on the occasion of my retirement October 31 is something Lillie and I will never forget. To us, the day was especially meaningful since we started our business careers on the same day in a bank in Wisconsin (some forty-two years ago) and were now retiring from our duties on the same day.

We wish to express our appreciation for the generous gift presented at the party. Although it was suggested the money might be used for fishing equipment, we are thinking of using it for a clock with chimes. We would like to have something lasting as a remembrance. Then too, if we are awake to hear it chime at seven in the morning, it will bring back memories of our many friends who are wending their way to work at that time back in Washington.

We will be moving to Deland, Florida, and take with us many pleasant memories of our association with FDIC and the Credit Union. Lillie joins me in extending sincere best wishes to all of you. We hope that we will be able to return from time to time to renew friendships.

Thank you again.

#### Clayton Miller



MR. CLAYTON A. MILLER

Mr. Clayton Miller came to the Corporation in May 1942, as an Examiner in the Madison, Wisconsin, District. Prior to coming to the Corporation, he worked as a Cashier in Farmers-Merchants National Bank, Princeton, Wisconsin. Mr. Miller was a Review Examiner (Senior) in the Division of Bank Supervision before retiring the last of October.

Mrs. Lillie Miller was Assistant Treasurer in the Credit Union. She had worked in the Credit Union since 1964. The Millers will be moving to Florida.



## About The Author

Marion Joanne Miller Eitemiller (b 1935) took on this genealogy project in earnest after her husband Bill died on New Years Eve 2016. She said she needed something useful to do, but was primarily motivated by her desire to recount the work of God through generations of ordinary people. She states in her own introduction

God has been at work in the Miller family performing mighty acts. Those acts may not have been noted in newspapers, books or evening newscasts. Nevertheless they are the work of God in the life of one family, and they need to be passed to the next generation for His glory.

Marion also cherishes a lifetime of memories: her own recollection of her grandparents, her parents and various aunts, uncles and cousins are vivid, occasionally mysterious and often entertaining. In the final analysis, Marion simply believes the stories of the lives of her forebears need to be preserved and retold.