

Waupaca Area  
Genealogical Society  
Quarter Newsletter  
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Volume 25 Number 1

March 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Here it is 2017 a new year with changes. A new president and vice president for WAGS. It certainly is different than sitting on the side as a member. However I am looking to you - the members - to help us decide what our group wants. No suggestion will be overlooked as your opinions help greatly.

I would like to see membership increase, attendance at the meetings increase and more a more visible presence in our community. Your ideas on how we might be able to accomplish these goals would be appreciated.

I want to thank you all in advance for your continued support in WAGS.

Nancy Weasner

EARLY WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Weyauwegian  
Weyauwega, Wisconsin  
July 4, 1856

MARRIED – In the town of Amrous, Portage County, Wis., June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1856, by the Rev. Wm. E. Hamilton, MR. SAMUEL LINSEY, of Waupaca and MISS ROXEY HUMISTON, of the former place.

Waupaca Republican  
December 23, 1881

Mr. O.W. Stetson and Miss Lizzie Mumbrue were united in the holy bonds of matrimony last evening by Rev. Armstrong. May happiness and prosperity attend the happy pair as the plod along together o'er the rugged path of life.

Waupaca Republican  
September 16, 1881

Married – LINCOLN-HUMISTON, At the Baptist church in this city, Tuesday evening, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, 1881. MR. CHARLES LINCOLN, of Stevens Point; and MISS LIBBIE HUMISTON, of this city, Rev. W.C. Armstrong officiating. Miss Zelia Smith, of Appleton, as bridesmaid and Caleb J. Shearer, of this city, as groomsman.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON TAGGART

By J.J. Johnson

George Washington Taggart was born in Preble, Cortland County, New York on February 22, 1813 and was of Scots/Irish descent. He was one of ten children born to Dr. Robert and Hannah (Todd) Taggart. At one time or another both of his parents had taught school and at the age of 16 George followed in their footsteps. He also learned to do surveying while still a youth. George's siblings were Samuel (lived only six days), Lucinda (Mrs. Nelson Walker), Mary (who died when two years, 3 months of age), George (who died at one year, four months), Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel Wells), Sarah (Mrs. William James), Daniel (married to Thate Allen), Esther (who died at the age of 46 years), and Harriet (Mrs. Nathaniel White).

George's father was born May 21, 1781 and died March 24, 1843. His mother was born November 14, 1783 and died November 8, 1867. Robert was one of eight children born to Reverend Samuel (1754-April 25, 1821) and Elizabeth (Duncan) Taggart. The Rev. Samuel was a pastor in Coleraine, Massachusetts and served as a member of the United States Congress in 1803. His father, James Taggart, was a church elder who lived in Londonerry, New Hampshire.

In 1831, when George was eighteen years old, he moved with his parents and the family to Byron, Genesee County, New York. He lived there until deciding to move west in 1836. He rode fifty miles to Buffalo, New York where once a month a boat would leave for the then village of Chicago. In 1836 boats running west did not have set schedules but rather left whenever the boat's owner decided he had enough of a load to justify the journey. After arriving at Buffalo, George had to wait a week for the boat to be loaded so it could leave for Chicago. Enroute the boat was delayed on the St. Clair Flats at Michigan so it did not arrive at Chicago until eighteen days after having left its home port.

By that time George had determined to head to Racine, Wisconsin. Racine would become the second city in the state of Wisconsin but at that time it consisted of only three frame buildings. A stagecoach made a trip from Chicago to Milwaukee three times a week but did not stop at Racine so it was necessary for him to make his way back down to the settlement. At Chicago and Racine George secured work as a carpenter.

He took up a squatter's claim along the Fox River near what would later become the village of Rochester, in Racine County. In the fall of 1837, with a home now ready for a wife and family, he determined to return east to Ypsilanti, Michigan to get married. The trip back did not go as smoothly as his journey west. He planned to go to Chicago on The Pennsylvania but it was delayed to such a point that instead he boarded a schooner that arrived at Chicago on a Sunday - just a few days after leaving Milwaukee. Despite his anxiousness to continue his journey, he looked for any boat heading toward Detroit but it was not until Friday before he found a brig headed that way.

The brig was the Queen Charlotte which was headed for Detroit. The Queen Charlotte had been a renowned brig during the War of 1812. It had been the flagship of British Commodore Berkeley when he made the famous statement: "We have met the enemy and they are ours". The Queen Charlotte had lain underwater for more than twenty years when it was raised and began serving as a passenger boat in the Great Lakes.

Even when the captain and pilots didn't lose their bearings the voyage from Chicago to Detroit took longer than it would take a vessel to cross the ocean at that time. But on this trip the pilot did lose his bearings and they were forced to retrace their way to get back on course. When they finally reached Detroit difficulties arose in landing and it became necessary to use a tug to get the passengers ashore. George's difficulties in securing his bride did not end there as the stage from Detroit to Ypsilanti got stuck a number of times, requiring George and the other passengers to get out in the mud and help push the stage over the ruts.

On October 16, 1837 George Washington Taggart married Eunice Louisa Fulton at Ypsilanti, Michigan. Eunice was born January 31, 1815 in Parma, Monroe County, New York to Captain Robert and Eunice Clark Fulton. Eunice's family had claims to some renown. Her father was a second cousin to Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat and his uncle had won the world championship as a marksman at a competition in Creedmore, England. Her bother Levi gained fame as the creator of the Fulton and Eastman system of penmanship and bookkeeping. Later Levi became superintendent of the Western House of Refuge in Rochester, New York, a position he held for twenty years before moving to Cincinnati, Ohio where he held a similar position. Levi was nationally recognized for his progressive insistence in providing industrial training to criminals as a means of reforming them so they could fit profitably back into their communities when released.

Eunice had left New York in the fall of 1836 to live with her sister in Ann Arbor, Michigan until her marriage to George. The couple left Michigan two days later, traveling through Buffalo and Batavia on their way to Byron where they spent the winter of 1836-1837 with George's parents. During the trip they rode the Tonawanda railroad for a distance of eight miles. George would often remark that it was his first ride on a steam car.

In the spring of 1837 George returned to his claim at Rochester, Wisconsin and Eunice followed later that summer. The Taggart's pre-empted their claim in 1838. To supplement his living, George taught school for a time, teaching the first school in western Racine County. He also became Rochester's second postmaster. However, the Taggart farm was located between two streams which were soon afterward dammed causing a large tract of the country to be overflowed. The resulting decay of the vegetation in the area had an effect on George's health so in the fall of 1849 he, along with five of his neighbors (believed to be Taylor and Columbus Caldwell, James Potter, and Jarvis and Alonzo Rice), headed into the Indian Lands to seek a location for new homes. They stopped at the settlements at Tomorrow Falls and Tomorrow Mills. Later the name of the settlement Tomorrow Falls became known as the Falls of Waupaca and later still it was called Waupaca Falls and is now known simply as Waupaca.

They found land along the Walla Walla Creek, south of these settlements, which seemed to suit their needs so they erected a log shanty and left two of the younger men, J.S. Potter and Columbus Caldwell, to "hold the fort" and watch over their claims while the others returned to arrange for prairie schooner trains to return the following May with their families and belongings which included horses, cattle, pigs, chickens and one sheep. While waiting for the others to return from Rochester, the two men attached a long cotton pennant to a tall tamarack to which they had removed the bark. On the pennant the men placed the words "Liberty Valley" in red paint to signal the travel weary settlers that they had reached their destination. The date of their arrival was June 5, 1850, ten days after they had set out from Rochester. To celebrate they set out a barrel of wild honey and set about cleaning the shanty - which mainly consisted of turning over its floor boards. While the adults rejoiced at spending a night with a roof over their heads, the children chose to sleep on the bed of the wagons. The following day the group gathered cranberries - the first they had ever seen - and discovered their one sheep had disappeared never to be found again.

George decided to move his family on to Waupaca Falls in hopes of securing use of the water power from the five falls in the area. At the time Erastus Sessions, Joseph Hibbard, William Hibbard, William Cooper, David Scott, Judge Ware, Elder Baxter and Silas Miller were establishing homes with their families and bachelors H.M. Gard, Dana Dewey and a Mr. Miller were also living at The Falls. Sessions was living in one wing of his home and Taggart temporarily moved his family into another of the wings even though it had no floor, windows, door or roof although a roof and floor were quickly added and a table pushed up against "a zinc" served for a door. After six weeks he still had not obtained a controlling piece of the water power so he took his family back to the Walla Walla creek area.

In December 1850 a post office was established at Walla Walla and George Taggart became its first postmaster.

On February 17, 1851 a legislative act established the organization of Waupaca County. George Taggart was elected Treasurer at the first county board meeting on April 1, 1851. In the November elections that year Taggart was elected county surveyor. While he continued farming he held that office for forty years and even did survey work in other counties. He was one of three men appointed to appraise the school lands in the winter of 1852-53/

At a meeting in the Village of Mukwá on March 8, 1852 Lind was supposedly the first of six townships created in Waupaca County. What is now Dayton Township was originally part of the Township of Lind but was separated into a separate township on December 7, 1852. Taggart is credited with suggesting the name Walla Walla be changed to Lind in 1852 and in 1853 naming Dayton Township in honor of Lyman Dayton.

While the first township meeting in Lind took place at the house of Thomas Spencer, the Taggart home eventually came to be known as the Red House and became a popular meeting place.

November 1857, the family moved to Weyauwega (building one of the first houses in that community) where in 1864 he was appointed the undersheriff by C.M. Fenelon. He was reappointed to this position in 1865 and in 1866 was elected sheriff of Waupaca County which he held yet in 1867. A brick jail and residence for the sheriff were built in 1867. In 1868 he was again appointed undersheriff. He held the position of special deputy sheriff for many years after that and received the position of justice of the peace in 1871, another

position he held for many years. George Taggart also served as a United States mail carrier from 1876 to 1881 from Weyauwega to Orihula.

For over 60 years he was a member of the International Order of Odd Fellows, representing the organization from Rochester to the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin in 1849. Besides his membership to Weyauwega's I.O.O.F., he was a charter member of the organization in Waupaca and New London.

Eunice Taggart died on May 29, 1899 after an illness that had affected her off and on for over five years. The last time she was struck by the malady it lasted three weeks but about a week before her death she had a stroke causing paralysis. George, who by then was quite deaf and nearly blind, although described as being "still spritely", failed rapidly after Eunice's death becoming quite feeble although his mind remained sharp. Sadly, he committed suicide on November 18, 1900 by hanging himself in the barn with a halter.

George and Eunice had six children: Mary Louisa, Hannah Eliza, Ida Jane, Helen Rosaline (who died while an infant), George Washington, and Robert Fulton.

Mary Louisa Taggart was born July 13, 1838 and died January 6, 1867. She was married to Columbus Caldwell, the first commandant of the Wisconsin Veterans' Home in King.

Hannah Eliza Taggart was born in 1840 and died in 1935. She was married to Melvin Patchin. Hannah Taggart Patchin, was prominent throughout the state in women's suffrage, social work and the Women's Christian Temperance Union. While she died at her son's, Melvin, home in Jamestown, New York, her body was brought back to Weyauwega to be buried.

Ida Jane Taggart was born November 24, 1848 and died November 6, 1916. After the death of her sister, Mary, Ida married Columbus Caldwell. The Columbus Caldwell family is best discussed in its own paper.

George Washington Taggart, Jr., was born March 14, 1842 and died April 27, 1933. He was the last member of the Weyauwega Grand Army of the Republic and was the donor of a memorial to the First Wisconsin Cavalry in 1931. George operated a mercantile business in Weyauwega. At the time of his death he was bedridden since having broken his hip the previous October.

Robert Fulton Taggart was born March 16, 1851 and died November 28, 1928. Robert taught in various public schools in Waupaca County for a number of years and in 1873 was a member of the first class to graduate from the law department of the University of Wisconsin. He practiced law for a number of years in Kaukauna before returning to Weyauwega where he opened a law practice. In 1882 he and his brother George opened a general store in Weyauwega. Robert held many village offices and was justice of the peace for Weyauwega for over fifteen years. At the time of his death he was both a justice of the peace and a court commissioner.

Neither George nor Robert ever married.

### BOOKS ADDED TO THE SHELVES

History of the Wisconsin Veterans' Home (published 1926)

### PAST NEWSPAPER NOTES

Waupaca Republican  
September 15, 1882

**MARRIED – HILL-POPE.** At the Methodist Parsonage in this city, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1882, by Rev. C.E. Carpenter, Mayford Hill, of Royalton, and Miss Inez M. Pope, of Waupaca.

Waupaca Republican  
September 15, 1882

**PARFREYVILLE** – It is true that Garrie Rappleyea was married to Emma Fletcher two weeks ago last Sunday, by Rev. Baker of Rural. No cards.



WAUPACA COUNTY  
 PLAT: 1901  
 BEAR CREEK

Owner's Name      Section

Adams, M.	01
Ahrens, J.	06
Backhaus, G.	10
Backob, C.	09
Baier, R.	30
Beckman, T.	21
Beggrow, Mrs.	01
Bell, J.	35
Benick, H.	33
Bentz, J.	02
Berndt, H.	31
Bock, M.	16
Boettcher, W.	07
Boettcher, W.	08
Bohn, J.	11
Bokse, A.	15
Bonke, A.	09
Bonke, A.	16
Borchardt, H.	23
Brackob, C.	10
Brackop, F.	15
Bruss, F.	02
Burke, J.	07
Campbell, R.	19
Campbell, T.	33
Cannon, J.	33
Casey, T.	27
Casey, T., Jr.	25
Casey, T., Sr.	25
Casey, T., Sr.	36
County	34
Cuthbertson, A.	25
Dake & Bulone	01
Delto, C.	31
E.H.	03
Eggleston, A.	20
F.S.	15
Felnow, T.	03
Firehammer, R.	04
Fishbeck, F.	21
Fishbeck, F.	28
Flanigan, T.	06

Freund, H.	06
Furst, C.	32
Genske, E.	22
Gensler, F.	11
Gietzek, J.	36
Gomall, H.	03
Gomall, H.	10
Gorman, M., Est.	12
Gould, J.	01
Hanish, J.	12
Hannish, J.	10
Hanson, C.	08
Hanson, F.	17
Hanson, F.	18
Hanson, H.P.	07
Hanson, H.P.	18
Hanson, L.P.	17
Hanson, L.P.	18
Hardwig, G.	09
Hardwing, C.	09
Hass, W.	09
Hass, W.	10
Heaenen, G.	36
Heckman, C.	13
Heckman, C.	24
Henfer, J.	07
Hoffman, J.	03
Hoffman, J.	02
Hoffman, R.	09
Hubble, Mrs.	25
Huettl, W.	01
Huettl, W.	12
Humm, G.	27
Hyde, F.M.	13
Hyde, F.M.	14
Hyde, F.M.	24
Johnson, C.	07
Johnson, P.	18
Jorgensen, A.	18
Kelley, T.	19
Kelley, T.	20
Kiefer, J.	13
Kiefer, J.	23
Kiele, A.	28
Kiele, A.	28
Kiele, G.	16
Klegin, A.	34

Klemm, A.	27
Klemm, A.	29
Klemm, C.L.	21
Klemm, C.L.	28
Klemm, T.	07
Klemm, T.	08
Klemm, T.	18
Klemp, F.	04
Klemp, F.	03
Klemp, F.	10
Klemp, H.	12
Klemp, W.	03
Klemp, W.	02
Knapstein, T.	15
Knapstein, T.	22
Korb, L.	02
Kortbein, F.	05
Kortbein, F.	05
Kreklow, A.	31
Kroening, F.	13
Kroll, E.	04
Kroll, E.	04
Kronbery, C.	22
Krott, E.	09
Kruger, A.	22
Kruschke, J.	24
Kubetz, F.	05
Kubitz, F.	07
Laux, J.	07
Lemke, J.	22
Lemke, J.	23
Lemke, Mrs.	15
Lemke, Mrs.	16
Lichtenberg, C.J.	16
Lichtenberg, G.	29
Lichtenberg, G.	32
Long, G.	10
Long, G.W.	05
Long, J.	11
Long, J.	14
Long, L., Mrs.	05
Long, M.	12
Long, W.	11
Lowney, J.	26
Lundt, O.	17
Mahn, G.	08
Mares, J.	36

Mares, Joe	35
Mares, John	35
Mares, P.	35
Matuszezak	02
Matuszezak, C.F.	01
McGinty, P.	27
McGinty, P.	33
McGinty, P.	35
McKone, J.	35
Meidam, W.	28
Metsenhelder, J.J.	12
Metsenhelder, J.J.	13
Millard, I.	33
Miller, A.	15
Miller, E.	33
Miller, E.D.	14
Miller, F.	28
Miller, J.	31
Miritz, A.	11
Mirkas, A.	07
Mirkas, A.	07
Montey, J.	18
Morgan, W.	21
Morgan, W.	29
Mortenson, P.	08
Moser, F.	12
Much, F.	05
Much, H.	08
Mullarkey, D.	33
Mullarkey, Jas.	32
Mullarkey, John	32
Mullarkey, John	33
Mullarky, John	28
Mullarky, John	29
Mulvey, F.	23
Munsert, M.I.	01
Myers, C.	24
Neely, D.	19
Nelson, C.L.	18
Oeniske, Mrs.	30
Ohm, C.	22
Ohm, C.	23
Olniske, H.	21
Pasehl, J.	06
Pastel, O.	10
Peters, W.	06
Peters, W.	07

Peterson, A.	17
Peterson, H.	17
Phillipi, G.	23
Phillipps, G.	36
Phillips, A.B.	24
Phillips, M.W.	26
Phillips, R.	01
Piper, W.	09
Plumb, S.	12
Plumb, S.	13
Postel, O.	15
Postel, W.	05
Potrikus, A.	06
Pribnow, F.	25
Pribnow, F.	34
Raddatz, E.	34
Radke, W.	04
Raiser, J.W.	15
Raisle, J.G.	29
Raisler, E.	22
Raisler, J.G.	17
Raisler, J.G.	30
Raisler, J.W.	14
Raisler, J.W.	23
Reinke, A.	23
Rice, B.	29
Rice, B.	30
Ritch, W.	16
Roberts, R.N.	34
Roesler, A.	14
Roesler, A. & J.	15
Roesler, J.G.	21
Roesler, W.	20
Rohl, Chas.	32
Rohl, Chris	32
Roloff, R.	04
Roughan, P.	26
Roughan, P.	27
Ruddy, B., Mrs.	13
Ruschke, F.	16
Russ, A.	34
Russ, A.	35
Scharnow, A.C.	17
Scharnow, C.	29
Scharnow, C.A.	20
Scharnow, C.A.	21
Scharnow, W.	17

Schmakenbery, F.	21
Schmakenbery, F.	28
Schmiedeke, F.	21
Schmiedeke, F.	22
Schmiedeke, L.	21
Schmiedeke, L.	22
Schmiedelke, F.	16
Schoelopf, A.	26
Schoenfeld, C.	17
Schoenhide, H.	15
Schoenhide, H.	16
Schoenke, G.	16
Schoepke, C.F.	20
Schoepke, C.F.	29
Schoepke, J.	19
Schoepke, W.	19
Schoess, W.	27
Schroeder, A.	20
Schroeder, A.	33
Schroeder, A. & J.	17
Schroeder, C.F.	21
Schroeder, H.	09
Schroeder, J.	19
Schroeder, J.	20
Schroenrider, F.	23
Schultz, C.	01
Schultz, S.	01
Schultz, W.	31
Shackett, T.	05
Stenson, M.	20
Stenson, M.	33
Sullivan, C.	25
Sullivan, M.	27
Sullivan, P.	26
Tellack, A.	18
Tellack, E.	18
Thiele, F.	34
Thielke, C.	14
Thielke, W.	03
Thielke, W.	02
Thoma, E.	34
Thomack, C.	30
Thomack, C.	31
Thomack, C.	32
Thomack, J.	30
Thomack, J.	32
Thorn, R.	36

Tichten, C.	28
Tietz, W.	27
Tietz, W.	34
Timm, A.	27
Timm, W.	19
Tornow, A.	08
Tornow, W.	08
Tummell, F.	22
Tummell, F.	27
Turnow, O.	05
Tyrell, G.	24
Tyrrell, C.	36
Tyrrell, G.	36
Tyrrell, L.	24
Tyrrell, W.	36
Vainkie, E.	19
Vetnow, T.	04
Vetnow, T.	03
Vollbrecht, H.	09
Walker, C.	36
Wenshlag, A.	06
Wiekert, W.	35
Wilke, A.	30
Wilke, C.	30
Wilkie, A.	26
Williams, L.B.	25
Yeager, F.	03
Yeager, H.	01
Yeager, N.	02
Yost, C.	10
Yost, C.	15
Young, H.	12
Zehlke, C.	04
Zehren, N.	02
Zichtenberg, G.	31
Ziegelbauer, W.	25
Zirbel, H.	03

#### PAST NEWSPAPER NOTES

Weyauwega Chronicle  
Weyauwega, Wisconsin  
May 7, 1881

H.S. Dixon, of New  
London, died of lung fever  
April 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### PAST NEWSPAPER NOTES

Janesville Gazette –  
Janesville, Wisconsin  
April 9, 1873

A telegram last week summoned Mr. J. T. Dow to the bedside of a dying father and mother at Weyauwega, Wis. All of the family of sons and daughters were present except two in Iowa, and the messenger for the parents was only a few hours apart in his calls. After a journey of a little more than fifty years together, in death they were not divided, for, from their earthly home, the coffins were taken together and rest side by side in the same grave while the golden "wedding is celebrated on the shores immortal. Only a few days of illness and the silvery cord was loosened and the golden bowl broken, but the mourners mourn not without hope.

Oshkosh Northwestern  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin  
February 2, 1878

Weyauwega – News came here today that the husband of Mrs. James Gasman, formerly Miss Carrie Tarbell of this place, was killed by being run over by a wagon. He lives on his ranch, forty miles north of Plum Creek, Nebraska, and was on his way home from Plum Creek when he was thrown from his load and run over, fracturing his skull and breaking his jaw bone. He expired shortly after being carried to his ranch, and asking for his wife, who was off visiting.

#### PAST NEWSPAPER NOTES

Weyauwega Chronicle  
Weyauwega, Wisconsin  
April 30, 1881

Mrs. Hobson, of Waupaca, died last Wednesday after living without food for nineteen days.

Waupaca – A terrible accident occurred Thursday morning in the mill owned by James at Saxville. A boy named Wm. Magdaiz, while working in the mill was struck by a slab and thrown on the saw, cutting into his body diagonally from the shoulder and scattering his vitals over the floor of the mill, killing him instantly.

Waupaca Republican  
Waupaca, Wisconsin  
May 20, 1881

Last Friday afternoon our citizens were surprised to hear of the death of Nathan Tabor – surprised because he was on the streets the preceding Sunday and at church on that evening. During Sunday night his mother heard him vomiting, and going to him at once, found him very sick and deranged. A physician was called, when it was found that he had been seized with that dread disease cerebro spinal meningitis, and he died after five days of intense suffering, at the age of 23 years. His funeral was attended at the Baptist Church Sunday afternoon, Rev. H. Brotherton officiating, and was one of the largest funerals seen in Waupaca in a long time. Nathan was the second officer in the Temple of Honor, and that organization turned out in a body and took charge of the remains.

### Calendar of Events & Meetings

The Waupaca Area Genealogical Society meets 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month in the lower level meeting room of the Holly History & Genealogy Center, 321 S. Main St., Waupaca, WI. Our meetings are open to the public and we invite you to bring a friend. For updates or changes in the meeting schedule please check the events calendar online at <http://www.wigenweb.org/waupaca/WAGS/WAGS.htm> or email [WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com](mailto:WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com).

March 11, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting - Roundtable discussion.</b>
April 8, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – Roundtable discussion.</b>
May 13, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – Roundtable discussion.</b>
June 10, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – To be announced. Roundtable discussion.</b>
July 8, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – To be announced. Roundtable discussion.</b>
August 12, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – To be announced. Roundtable discussion.</b>
September 9, 2017 Saturday – 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – To be announced. Roundtable discussion.</b>
October 14, 2017 Saturday, 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – Family History Month. To be announced. Roundtable discussion.</b>
November 11, 2017 Saturday, 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – Election of Officers and review of by-laws. Roundtable discussion.</b>
December 9, 2017 Saturday, 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society – Brunch. Time and location to be announced.</b>
January 13, 2018 Saturday, 9 a.m.	<b>Waupaca Area Genealogical Society Meeting – To be announced. Roundtable discussion.</b>

### FROM: NOTES ON THE EARLY SETTLERS OF RURAL, WAUPACA COUNTY, WISCONSIN

In June, 1850, came George Barnhart, Joseph Robbins, Aaron L. Forbes, John Forbes, and Anthony Forbes, with their families, twenty persons in all. Barnhart lived in a covered wagon for about six weeks. He built a shanty on the SE Quarter, Section 15. He later moved to Section 11. Some of the Forbeses settled in Lind.

**Officers**

President: Nancy Weasner  
 Vice-President: Richard Townsend  
 Secretary: Carolyn West/Glenda Rhodes  
 Treasurer: Pam Sannes

**Committees**

Accessioning: Sue Dunbar  
 Historical Scrapbook: Jean Spiegelberg  
 Pioneer Certificate: Darlene Ryan  
 Newsletter Editor: JJ Johnson  
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 Research Committee: Sue Dunbar, J.J. Johnson, Mary Mathwig, Jean Spiegelberg, Kevin Knitt

Membership: \$10.00 Individual and \$15.00 Library, society or family (two people living at the same mailing address). When submitting membership or renewal, please include your name, address, email address, telephone number, and surnames you are currently researching. Also include whether you prefer receiving the newsletter via email or US Postal Service. Send check or money order to WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, Wisconsin 54946-0042. The membership year runs January 1 through December 31 and includes the quarterly newsletter. (March, June, September and December) Newsletter established October 1993. For meeting information see the activity and meeting calendar within this newsletter.

To contact officers, please send to: WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, WI 54946-0042 or email [WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com](mailto:WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com).

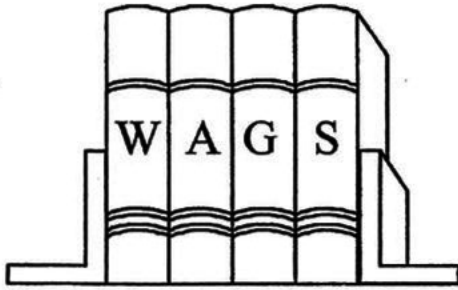
Articles, queries, etc. submitted for publishing in the newsletter must reach the editor by the following deadlines or the item will be held over for a future newsletter. All items submitted for publication will be published as space permits. Queries are free to members and \$1.50 per query to non-members. Items submitted for publication can be sent directly to: JJ Johnson, 725 Larsen Street, Waupaca, WI 54981 or emailed to [catunga@sbcglobal.net](mailto:catunga@sbcglobal.net)

**Newsletter deadlines for sending information:**

Issue: March	Deadline: February 1
June	Deadline: May 1
September	Deadline: August 1
December	Deadline: November 1

The purpose of the society shall be to generate an interest in genealogy, provide a meeting place for the exchange of genealogical ideas, to inform people of the value of and the need for preserving family and local history for posterity, assist members and others with genealogical research, to receive, hold and invest monies, dues, gifts, sales, interest, etc. and to hold and administer property for the benefit of the society and for its educational purpose

The Waupaca Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) is classified as a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



# Waupaca Area Genealogical Society

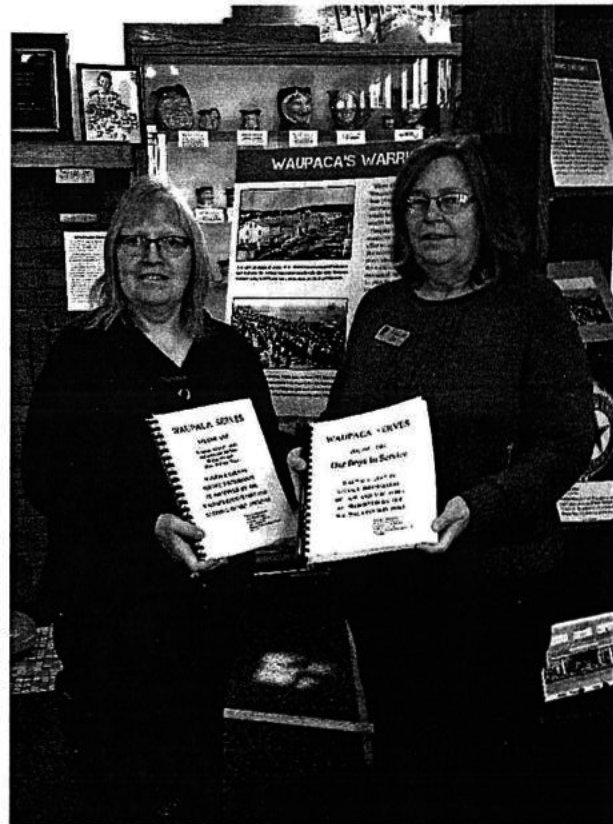
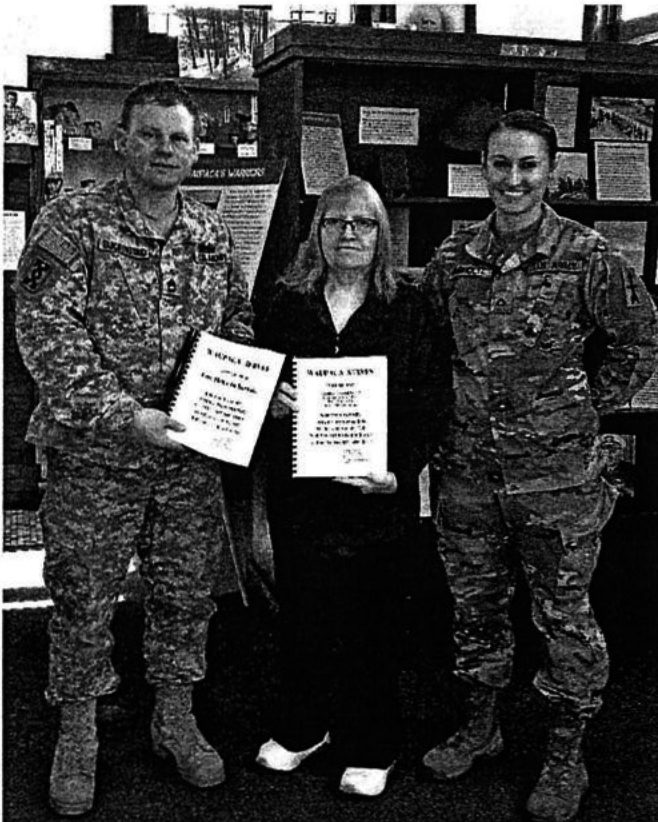
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WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, WI 54946-0042  
[WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com](mailto:WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com)

Volume 25 Number 2

JUNE 2017

## National Guard, VFW Receive Histories of Waupaca National Guard Unit



In appreciation of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Waupaca's National Guard unit the Waupaca Area Genealogy Society presented the two set volume of "Waupaca Serves", a history of Waupaca's National Guard and a partial history of the men and women who have served our country through military service since Waupaca was settled. In the photos above, Nancy Weasner is pictured making the presentations to Chad Bjornstad and Danielle Bucholtz of the Wisconsin National Guard in Waupaca and a set to Lynn Tolle, secretary of VFW 1037. An additional set of the four existent copies of these books is available for research and viewing at the Holly History and Genealogy Center in Waupaca, where the presentations were made.

As many of you have probably noticed, WAGS has been able to retain its membership dues over the years despite the rising costs of things. One of our large expenses is our quarterly newsletter. We feel the newsletter is an important means of keeping in touch with one another, especially our members who live too far away to be able to attend meetings. In order to best serve our membership you will have noticed the newsletter has been a topic of discussion at the past few meetings. We truly appreciate the members who are able to receive the newsletter via e-mail as it helps considerably. It has been decided that as of January 2018 we will continue to hold the amount of the membership dues for those who are receiving the newsletter via e-mail however for those members that for various reasons need the newsletter sent by postal mail the dues will be an additional \$5.00.

WAGS also provides the newsletter to various libraries and organizations. If you are an organization or library that receives the newsletter we are asking you to please let us know if your copy can be sent via e-mail. If that is possible please contact us with the address to which you want the newsletter sent. Organizations sending their newsletters to WAGS can e-mail them to [WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com](mailto:WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com) if you wish. Thank you all for your assistance in this matter.

WAGS would like to offer our condolences to members Sue Dunbar and Mary Mathwig. Sue's husband, Harley, passed away on February 13, 2017 and on March 19, 2017 Lewis Hansen, Mary's father and Sue's uncle, passed away. We also want to offer our condolences to family and friends of one of our original members Pauline Janssen and to long time member JoAnn Flater.

On a brighter note, Nancy Helback recently returned home from Texas where she met her new great-grandson, Anthony Scott Reed – and I suspect did a little early spoiling.

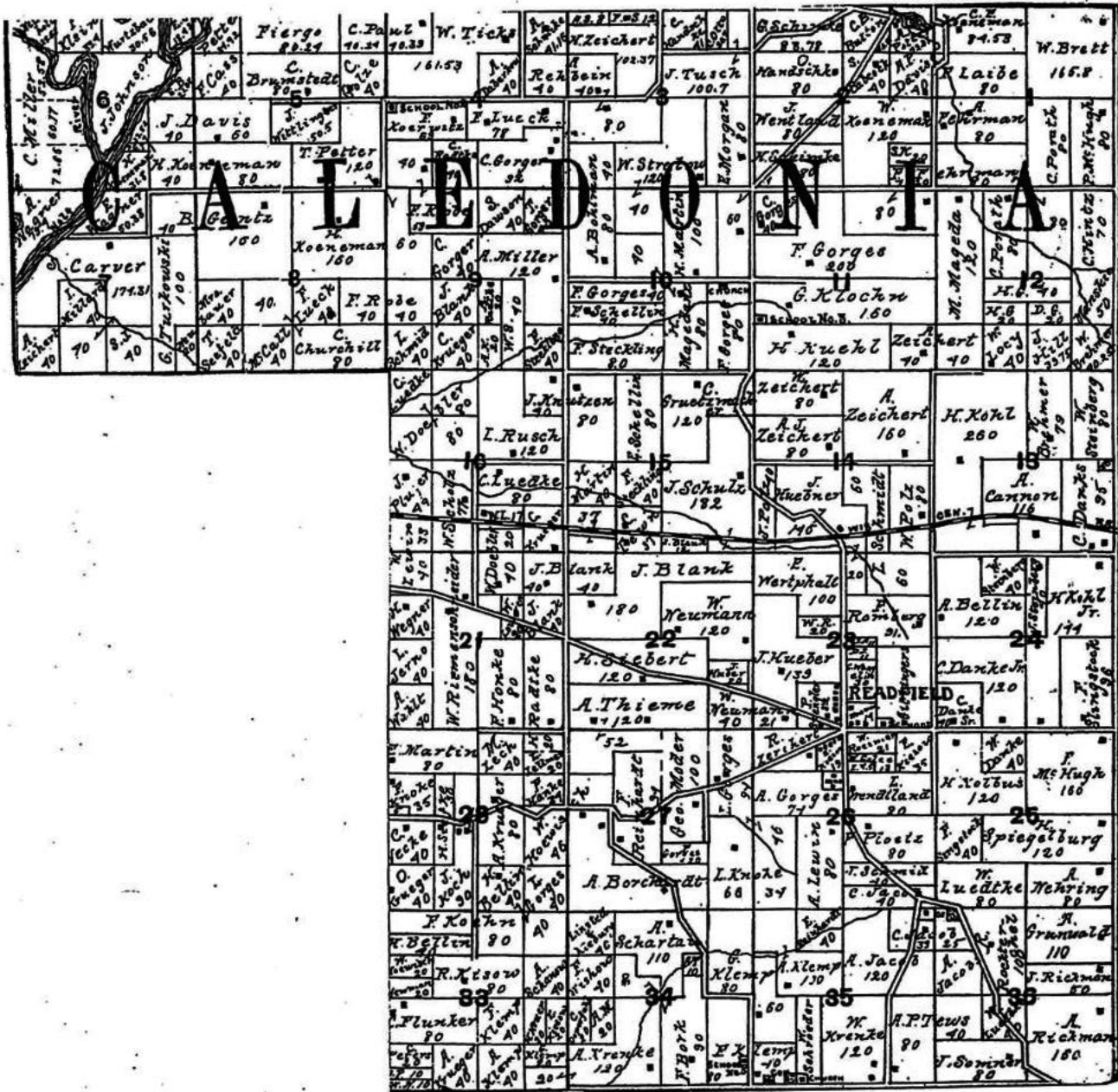
#### INFORMATION ADDED TO THE FILE CABINETS

Bammel, Marjorie A., Obituary, page 79  
Bammel, Paul F. – Obituary, page 80  
Breier, Lester E. – Obituary, page 70  
Drivas, Peter – Obituary, page 79  
Ernest, Joyce (Durrant) – Obituary, page 81  
Lutz, Robert C., Jr. – Obituary, page 80  
Maasch, Patricia – Obituary, page 80  
Mixson, Col. Archibald M. – Genealogy and military information, obituary, etc.  
Mork, William E. – Obituary, page 81  
Penney, Asher – Genealogy and pictures  
Penney, Frank – Biography  
Petersen, Rev. A.S., Obituary, page 79  
Radley, Forrest A. – Obituary, page 78  
Rasmussen, Deborah J. – Obituary, page 80  
Ryan, Anthony James – Obituary, page 81  
Steiner, Dr. John H. – Obituary, page 77  
Taggart, George Washington – Biography  
West, Roy E. – Obituary, page 78  
Wilms, Boye - Biography  
Kapitzke, Anton – Pioneer certificate documentation

#### BOOKS ADDED TO THE SHELVES

Axtell Genealogy by Carson A. Axtell  
A Photo Album of the Past Vol. II by Malcolm & Margaret Rosholt

# 1901 Waupaca Plat Map of Caledonia Township



From Ware's History of Waupaca County: At the annual meeting of the county board held at Mukwa, on November 15, 1853, township 21, range 14, was separated from the original Town of Mukwa and called Caledonia. In the same year the first couple to be married consisted of F. M. Fowler and Sarah J. Littlefield, who were united by Squire A. B. Kinnear on June 22, 1854. The first child born in town was a boy of James McHugh, and the first death was that of a boy of John Littlefield, August 25, 1856. At the formation of the Town of Fremont in 1865, sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32 were taken from Caledonia and attached to the former.

WAUPACA COUNTY  
 PLAT: 1901  
 CALEDONIA

Owner's Name      Section

Brett, W.	01
Ehrman, F.	01
Fehrman, A.	01
Koeneman, C.	01
Laibe, F.	01
McHugh, P.	01
Porath, C.	01
Babcock, S.	02
Button, C.B.	02
Davis, A.P.	02
F.F.	02
Handschke, O.	02
Koeneman, W.	02
Potter, A.	02
S.K.	02
Schimke, G.	02
Schimke, H.	02
Wentland, J.	02
A.S.	03
Bohlman, A.	03
F.S.	03
Handsch, C.	03
Morgan, E.	03
Otto, C.	03
Rehbein, A.	03
Strelow, W.	03
Tusch, J.	03
Zeichert, H.	03
Daberkow, A.	04
Gorger, C.	04
Koerwitz, F.	04
Lueck, F.	04
Paul, C.	04
Petter, T.	04
Radtke, C.	04
Rehbein, A.	04
Robe, F.	04
Schneke, A.	04
Tinks, W.	04
Brumstedt, C.	05
Cass, F.	05
Davis, J.	05
Fiergo	05

Koeneman, H.	05
Paul, C.	05
Petter, T.	05
Wittlinger, J.	05
Davis, J.	06
E.S.	06
Johnson, J.	06
Klein, F.	06
Koeneman, H.	06
Miller, C.	06
Neidhold, C.	06
S.B.	06
Wurtzbach	06
Carver, S.	07
Gentz, B.	07
Leichert, A.	07
Millard, I.	07
S.J.	07
Turkowski, G.	07
Wagner, A.	07
Wagner, E.	07
Bauer, Mrs.	08
Churchill, C.	08
Gentz, B.	08
Koeneman, H.	08
Lueck, F.	08
McCall	08
Robe, F.	08
Seefeld, T.	08
A.K.	09
Blank, J.	09
Dawson, S.	09
Gorger, C.	09
Gorger, T.	09
Krueger, C.	09
Miller, A.	09
Petter, T.	09
Radtke, A.	09
Robe, F.	09
Schmid, L.	09
Steckling, F.	09
W.S.	09
Bohlman, A.	10
Gorges, F.	10
Magedanz, H.	10
Martin, H.	10
Schellin, F.	10
Schimke, H.	10

Steckling, F.	10
Strelow, W.	10
Fehrman, F.	11
Gorges, C.	11
Gorges, F.	11
Klochn, G.	11
Kuehl, H.	11
Zeichert, A.	11
Brehmer, W.	12
D.G.	12
Fehrman, F.	12
H.G.	12
Hill, J.	12
Hintz, C.	12
Lacy, W.	12
Mageda, M.	12
Manskie	12
Ponath, C.	12
Zeichert, A.	12
Brehmer, W.	13
Cannon, A.	13
Danks, C.	13
Kohl, H.	13
Steinberg, W.	13
Huebner, J.	14
Polz, J.	14
Polz, W.	14
Schmidt, L.	14
Zeichert, A.	14
Zeichert, A.J.	14
Zeichert, W.	14
Blank, J.	15
Gruetzmach, C.	15
Knutzen, J.	15
Krueger, C.	15
Lewin, C.	15
Martin, H.	15
Schellin, E.	15
Schulz, J.	15
Steckling, F.	15
Doebler, W.	16
Knutzen, J.	16
Krueger, C.	16
Lewin, W.	16
Luedke, C.	16
Plujer, J.	16
Rusch, L.	16
Scholz, W.	16

W.L.	16
Blank, J.	21
Doebler, W.	21
Honke, F.	21
Jerno, L.	21
Lewin, W.	21
Lowen, W.	21
Radtke, H.	21
Reimenschneider. W	21
Wahl, A.	21
Wegner, H.	21
Blank, J.	22
Huber, J.	22
Neumann, W.	22
Neumann, W.	22
Siebert, H.	22
Thieme, A.	22
D.J.	23
Giblingers	23
Hueber, J.	23
Huebner, J.	23
Neumann, W.	23
Romberg, F.	23
Stengler, P.	23
W.R.	23
Wangelin, C.	23
Wertphalt, E.	23
Bellin, A.	24
Danke, C. Sr.	24
Danke, C., Jr.	24
Kohl, H.	24
Slingstock, F.	24
Steinberg, J.	24
Steinberg, W.	24
Danke, W.	25
Kolbus, H.	25
Luedtke, W.	25
McHugh, F.	25
Nehring, A.	25
Singstock, F.	25
Spiegelburg, H.	25
E.K.	26
Galze, W.	26
Gorges, A.	26
Gorges, I.	26
Jacob, C.	26
Kiesow, E.	26

Knohe, L.	26
Lewin, A.	26
Ploetz, F.	26
Roesmer, W.	26
Schmidt, J.	26
Wendtland, L.	26
Zerchert, R.	26
Borchardt, A.	27
Gorges, F. or P.	27
Gorges, I.	27
Knohe, L.	27
Moder, Geo.	27
Reinhardt, F.	27
Thieme, A.	27
Bellin, H.	28
Gorges, L.	28
Hanke, F.	28
Hoewis, W.	28
Knoke, F.	28
Koch, J.	28
Krueger, A.	28
Krueger, O.	28
Martin, E.	28
Stefke, H.	28
Vecke, C.	28
Zech, M.	28
Zellmer	28
Bellin, H.	33
Flunker, C.	33
Kiesow, E.	33
Kiesow, R.	33
Klemp, A.	33
Klemp, F.	33
Klemp, G.	33
Koehn, F.	33
Krenke, A.	33
Krueger, A.	33
Neuer, H.	33
Peters, C.	33
Schanow, A.	33
W.H.	33
A.M.	34
A.T.	34
Bork, F.	34
Doperfahl, C.	34
Klemp, F.	34
Klemp, G.	34
Krenke, A.	34

Linsted & Kieburg	34
Schartau, A.	34
Weshow, F.	34
Jacob, A.	35
Jacob, C.	35
Klemp, A.	35
Klemp, F.	35
Klemp, G.	35
Krenke, W.	35
Reinhardt, E.	35
Schroeder, W.	35
Tews, A.P.	35
Grunwald, A.	36
Jacob, A.	36
Jacob, C.	36
Luedske, W.	36
Rickman, A.	36
Rickman, J.	36
Rockterchet, R.	36
Somner, J.	36
Tews, A.P.	36

**From Wayne and Alta  
Guyant  
in November 1974:**

Section 5, Caledonia Township, Waupaca County, Wisconsin. On the Clarence Seefeldt farm on Seefeldt Road, approximately 5 miles northeast of Fremont: Davis family burials.

DAVIS, JOB G., died March 16, 1869 aged 64 years, 7 months, and 8 days.

SUSAN, wife of Job G., died March 10, 1871 aged 67 years, 9 months.

They died from a contagious disease and their small home was burned.

These graves are on a knoll about 40 rods south of the Seefeldt buildings. The area is covered with old machinery. The markers are lying flat on the ground.

## They Were Prisoners

By J.J. Johnson

When watching or reading of the lives of prisoners of the Germans and Japanese during World War II most of us don't often think of this happening to people from this area. It always seems to be watched in the abstract but to some people in the Waupaca County region it was all too real. Some of those who became prisoners of war from the Waupaca County area are listed below:

**James Hall Austin**, the son of George of Austin of Spokane, Wash. and nephew of the Guy Mumbrues of Waupaca, enlisted on January 5, 1940. He was reported as missing by the Navy on May 6, 1942 but it was not until April of 1943 that his family finally learned that he had been taken prisoner in the Philippines by the Japanese after the fall of Corregidor. Austin was taken to Kyushu Island in Japan where at least during part of his internment he was held in Fukuoka P.O.W. Camp No. 1.

**Pfc. Marvin Bartel**, the son of the Henry Bartels of Fremont, was reported missing in France on January 18, 1945. At the end of March it was learned he was a prisoner of the German forces when the Bartels received calls from people as far away as Colorado who had heard Marvin on a broadcast aired by the Germans on the 23<sup>rd</sup> on which he stated he was a prisoner and was in good health. Bartel was held in Stalag 11B near Fallingbosten, Germany. Allied forces liberated the camp on April 16, 1945. Bartel is buried in the cemetery at the Wisconsin Veterans' Home, King, Wisconsin.

**Pvt. Edward Beckwith, Jr.**, a paratrooper in Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 508<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, was reported missing in France on June 6, 1944 (V-Day). He had enlisted May 1942, entered service that October and went overseas to England in December 1943. His mother, Minnie Beckwith of Waupaca (his father had died August 26, 1940), learned Edward was missing through the War Department in the middle of August and a couple long weeks later was further advised that Edward was being held as a prisoner in Germany. In a telegram on December 11 Mrs. Beckwith was notified Edward had died October 26 in the prison camp. She received a letter of confirmation on December 19.

**Lieut. Thomas H. Betow** of Marion, Wisconsin, a bombardier on a B-17 assigned to the 551<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Squadron, was taken prisoner by the Germans when his plane was shot down over the Bay of Biscay. The men were fired upon in their survival dinghies by a German shore patrol resulting in seven of the ten crew members being killed. Below had entered service in March 1941 and qualified for cadet officer's training on February 28, 1942. On February 18, 1943 he graduated as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and began service with the Eighth Air Force of the Army Air Force. He had nineteen successful flights over Germany before being shot down on his twentieth run. He survived eighteen months in the German prison camp Stalag Luft 1 in Barth, Germany before being liberated by Russian forces in May 1945. Betow was returned to the United States August 15, 1945. On November 1, 1945 he was hired as Undersheriff Officer of Waupaca County.

**Bernard Brophy** was held a prisoner at a Japanese mining company. He was taken prisoner at Hong Kong in 1941 and was liberated from Fukuoka Prison Camp in September 1945. His information will be given in another issue.

**Captain Sam Bloom** was born in Portland, Maine and lived in Milwaukee until he graduated from high school. From there he attended colleges in New York and at one point he lived in Stevens Point from where he often visited his cousin, Mrs. Carl Cohen in Waupaca and had many friends in Waupaca. Bloom, an eye, ear and nose specialist serving as a Captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, began active duty at Camp Lee, Virginia on May 1, 1941. He was later assigned to Ft. Stotsenburg in the Philippines and on December 10, 1941 was stationed at Corregidor.

On May 6, 1942 he was captured by the Japanese when they over-powered the Allied forces on Corregidor. He was moved to a number of prisoner of war camps. He was at Bilibid for a short time, spent two years in Cabanatuan #1 and a year in Santa Tomas. During this time he served as an ENT specialist to the internees and as the Chief of Public Health through which he was able to avert many epidemics of dysentery and diphtheria.

He was liberated by the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry on February 3, 1945. Later he was assigned as an ENT and plastic surgery service at the Valley Forge General Hospital. He retired as Major AUS in November 1946.

**Mildred Caisotti**, a daughter of Kelly Kettleon of Manawa, spent about two years interned as a prisoner of Germany in France. She had married Frenchman Pierre Caisotti in Chicago in 1929 and in 1931 the couple lived first in Nice and later moved to Paris. Pierre was taken into German custody in September 1942 and when

the Germans took Paris she tried unsuccessfully to leave France, getting only as far as Portugal. She returned to her home in Paris where German police gave her ten minutes to get ready to be taken into custody. She was housed in the monkey house at the city's zoo with 200 other people. From there she was moved to Vittel in the Vosges Mountains in France where the Germans had constructed high fences around nine hotels there to use as an internment camp for American and British women. The women were allowed to govern themselves, cook their own food, and could watch French and German movies. Three days after D-Day they learned of the Allied invasion of France and began celebrating the victor, an action for which the leaders were punished. The women could hear guns being fired on October 15 and the voices of American soldiers. Mildred was back in Manawa by February 1945 where she awaited some word on the disposition of her husband of whom she had heard nothing since he had been taken away in 1942.

**Pfc. Theodore William "Bill" Cook**, the son of Mrs. Oscar Cook of Waupaca, entered service on May 23, 1944. Bill was reported missing in Luxembourg on January 21, 1945. The family received their first word from him in April 1945 which indicated he had been taken prisoner. He arrived back at New York after having been a prisoner of war in Germany for a few months. He was expected to receive a 60 day furlough to see his family shortly after his arrival back in the United States on May 21, 1945.

**Pfc. Marion Crosson**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Crosson of Sheridan, went missing in action over France on September 17, 1944. It wasn't until the middle of November that the Crosson family learned their son was a prisoner of war. According to a letter written October 21 from Crosson, he had been wounded in the arm by a machine gun but was being taken care of by American prisoner of war doctors at a hospital at Stalag 13-D in Germany. Crosson was fortunate to be one of the prisoners on board the exchange ship Gripsholm in February 1945. He arrived in New York City on February 26 from whence he was sent to a Chicago hospital where he anticipated he would be recuperating for about a month before being allowed a furlough to see his family.

**Pfc. Lewellyn P. Faulks**, the son of Mrs. Elizabeth Faulks of Weyauwega, was one of twenty-one Wisconsin soldiers that were captured by the Germans in October 1943 according to one source while another gives his date of capture by the Germans as being July 23, 1943 in Sicily. (Also from this area in that group was **Pvt. Douglas Donnon** of Wautoma.) Faulks spent thirty-one months overseas of which he was a prisoner in Stalug Luft # 3 in Germany for twenty-one of those months. He was honorably discharged at Fort Sheridan in August 1945.

**First Lt. Vernon E. Forseth**, the son of Henry and Agnes C. Forseth of Iola, was a bombardier on a B-24. He was assigned to the 66<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron. On August 16, 1944, during his 25<sup>th</sup> mission, his plane was shot down by flak, the wing of the plane being destroyed to the point that the men had to bail out. He was taken prisoner by the Germans and placed in Stalag Luft #3 where he remained for eight months. With the advance of Russian troops the Germans had the prisoners make a forced march in below-freezing temperatures to another camp fifty miles away. It took the men over four days to reach their new camp. Forseth's family had been told he was missing in action and it was not until the middle of January 1945 that they learned through a letter he had written to them on August 19, 1944 that he had been a prisoner of the Germans.

**Lieut. Russell Gardinier**, entered service in 1940 and became a bombardier on a B14 stationed in North Africa. He took part in a number of raids on the Middle East. During a second raid in October 1942 on ships located in the Mediterranean Sea near Naples, Italy his Flying Fortress was shot down by Italian fliers in Navarino Bay in Greece. His family learned on December 10, 1942 that he had been reported as being missing in action. The men who survived the crash were picked up by Italian ships and on December 29, 1942 it was reported through the International Red Cross that Gardinier was a prisoner of war in Italy.

In the summer of 1943 Gardinier was moved to German prison camp CC 21 located near Chieti, Italy from which he eventually managed to escape. His family was notified around mid-January that he was back in the hands of the Allied forces - which was the first word they had heard of him since August 3, 1943.

On January 19, 1944 he was given a 30-day furlough to visit his family before reporting to Truax Field in Madison. Gardinier stated that he was generally treated well while imprisoned although food rations left a lot to be desired. He praised the Red Cross for all the work they did to help the prisoners by supplying food so the men had enough to maintain their health, besides the donations of other items.

**Sgt. Clifford Golke**, the husband of Doris Anderson Golke of Sheridan, was an engineer on a B-17 bomber called the "Lucky Strike" and was reported missing during a mission over France on 10 April 1944. He had been stationed in England. In the beginning of July 1944 Mrs. Golke received a notice from him that he was again safe in England. In the news account it appeared he had been in a German prison camp that had been recaptured by Allied forces however records indicate that when his plane was shot down he was found by members

of the French Underground who helped him escape into France. On June 6, 1944 (D-Day) he arrived in Spain which was considered a neutral country.

**Lt. Robert J. Green**, the son of the James Greens, had belonged to the Waupaca National Guard. The unit was mustered into federal service in the fall of 1940. Green belonged to the 578<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron located at the RAF Wendling in Norfolk, England. He was a bombardier on a B-24 when his plane, the "Hellzdroppin", was shot down near Bremen, Germany and he became a prisoner of war after parachuting out of the plane on October 8, 1943. At first he was held in Stalag Luft 3, where he was prisoner 2827.

Two days before his capture he had written his brother Leonard (who was stationed in Australia) that he had thus far taken part in two missions, and in the second his unit had been engaged in battle for a half hour with heavy casualties on both sides. In describing the situation he wrote "I believe I would rather spend three months on the Russian front in a slit trench than thirty minutes like that" and that "the German Air Force is far from beat. If you saw the picture "Air Force" – they didn't stretch the truth a bit in that picture."

In writing his parents on October 26 he remarked that he was not allowed to write often but that the Red Cross was helping with food and that his family could send him a package no more than every sixty days. The package could not weigh more than eleven pounds. Items allowed were furnished by the War Department and could include a pipe, cigarettes and food but Green wanted to be sure they sent some chocolate.

At the end of May 1945 the Army Signal Corps forwarded a photo to the Waupaca County Post of two German prisoners cutting the hair of American prisoners that had been liberated on May 29<sup>th</sup> by the 14<sup>th</sup> Armored Division. One of the Americans was Robert who had been freed while at Stalag 7A at Moesburg.

Green remained in the Air Force serving in Korea and Viet Nam. He retired as a Colonel.

**Fred E. Jenner, Jr.**, a tail gunner on a B-17 and the son of the Fred Jenners in the Bunker Hill District, became a prisoner of war in Germany after being shot down on April 6, 1944. Jenner had received his training at Marson Field, Florida and gone overseas March 4. A card mailed October 15 from Camp Stalag 17B, Luft, 8 (and received January 26) was the first word they had heard from Sgt. Jenner. The parents had sent a half dozen packages and letters although none had reached him at the time he wrote his family. Jenner was eventually liberated and arrived back in the United States on June 5, 1945 having passed through a Recovered Allied Military Personnel Camp near a French port. He and the other men there told many stories of German atrocities, starvation diets, and forced marches of hundreds of miles from one camp to another.

**Pfc. Gordon O. Jensen**, the son of the Walter Jensens of Waupaca, was reported missing in action on December 11, 1944 (the Jensens had received notification of such on December 27). Jensen served in the 104<sup>th</sup> "Timberwolf" Division in Germany in the 415<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and his parents had gone four months without word of their son (his last letter being dated December 8). Also worrying was the fact that their letters to him from as far back as October were being returned - sometimes as many as four a day and this continued through April when they received a letter from Gordon (written January 11, 1945) advising them that he was a German prisoner at Stalag Luckenwald. Gordon wrote "he "was well, and safe, and lucky to be where he was."

Jensen was liberated on April 18, 1945 and arrived at Fort Sheridan on May 15. He and others liberated from the German prison camp were mid-ocean on their way home when they heard the announcement of the of Allies victory in Europe. After the initial celebration by the men they began to question whether the news meant that they would be shipped to the Pacific theatre once they arrived back in the States. August found Jensen in the AAF Regional and Convalescent Hospital in Miami, Florida. At the hospital the men were able to sketch, paint, work in machine and woodworking shops, study music and languages. Jensen became part of a singing quintet and was a forward on their football team.

Once at home he described some of his experiences in captivity reporting he was treated fairly well initially but that the further into the country that he was moved, the less food and care was provided. Many moves were made on foot – the longest march being 22 miles in one day. What little water he received was not fit to drink and there was little food given the prisoners. One of his most bitter experiences was when he was moved in a box car crowded to the point where the men had to stand for several days and going three days without any water during part of the trip. He reported there was no heat in the box car and that many men died from pneumonia without receiving any care.

Also liberated with Jensen were **Private Garth Hanson** the son of Mrs. Fred Hansen of Waupaca and **Private Gordon Heath**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Heath who were former Waupaca residents but living in Manitowoc at the time.

**To be continued in next issue.**

## ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES WAGS HAS ADDED TO THE FAMILY FILES

Kienert, Avis I. - Obit page 82  
Wohlt, Raymond R. - Obit page 82  
Behm, Dorothy Minnie - Obit page 82  
Petersen, Marie M. - Funeral Card page 82 & Obit page 89  
Raschke, Delores "Dede" - Obit page 83  
Loehrke, Norman E. - Obit page 83  
Kubisiak, Lillian M. - Obit page 84  
Webster, Barbara - Obit page 84  
Wendt, Luella - Obit page 85  
Glascoe, Dr. Gary - Obit page 85  
Reigel, Dr. Richard P. - Obit page 86  
Nieland, Dennis M. - Obit page 87  
Feathers, William E. - Obit page 87  
Patterson, Dr. Lawrence G. - Obit page 87  
Lind, Bernice (Boreson) - Obit page 88

Waupaca County Post  
April 9, 1931

### Seek Danish Papers Here Dan-Americans Archives Society Seeks Information About Danish Immigrants

A letter has been received by Miss Caroline Eckardt, who is employed in Campbell's store, from the Dan-American Archives society of Aalborg, Denmark, telling of the search being made by this society for interesting letters, books, and papers of Danish people who have immigrated to the United States.

There are at least 800,000 Danes or persons of Danish extraction in the United States and this society is eager to trace the history of these settlers. The only way that this can be done is by finding old letters, papers, pamphlets, and similar pieces of writing which would reveal the things which they have done.

#### Establish Library in Denmark

Several well known men on both sides of the Atlantic have formed the Dan-American Archives society and at Sohngaardshom, which is a big manor house outside of the city of Aalborg, the archives and library have been placed.

The collected material will be properly cared for by the archivist, and private letters will be handled with discretion and will not be accessible to the general public. Anyone having any interesting papers which they wish to contribute are requested to send them to the Dan-American Archives society in Aalborg, Denmark, in care of Sv. Waendelin, archivist.

### Danish Emigration Archives

For those doing Danish research you may want to check the website [www.udvandrerarkivet.dk](http://www.udvandrerarkivet.dk). They advertise that searches can be done in The National Danish Database on Private Archives. They do charge for searches in the immigration records from 1868 - 1939 but can refer patrons to "genealogical societies all over Denmark and about 600 local and regional archives." "Following a number of scandals in which unsuspecting emigrants were conned by Danish emigration agents, The Danish parliament passed more stringent regulations on May 1, 1868. According to the new law, The Copenhagen Chief of Police was to approve and monitor all emigration agents in Denmark and authorize all overseas tickets made out in Denmark. This was to be done whether an emigrant would be traveling directly from Copenhagen to the United States or indirectly via another European harbor for destinations overseas."

**Officers**

President: Nancy Weasner

Vice-President: Richard Townsend

Secretary: Carolyn West/Glenda Rhodes

Treasurer: Pam Sannes

**Committees**

Accessioning: Sue Dunbar

Historical Scrapbook: Jean Spiegelberg

Pioneer Certificate: Darlene Ryan

Newsletter Editor: JJ Johnson

Website Manager: Paula Vaughn

Research Committee: Sue Dunbar,

J.J. Johnson, Mary Mathwig,

Jean Spiegelberg, Kevin Knitt

The purpose of the society shall be to generate an interest in genealogy, provide a meeting place for the exchange of genealogical ideas, to inform people of the value of and the need for preserving family and local history for posterity, assist members and others with genealogical research, to receive, hold and invest monies, dues, gifts, sales, interest, etc. and to hold and administer property for the benefit of the society and for its educational purpose.

The Waupaca Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) is classified as a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

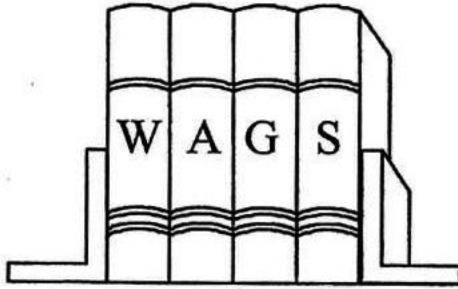
Membership: \$10.00 Individual and \$15.00 family (two people living at the same mailing address) ~~When submitting membership or renewal, please include your name, address, email address, telephone number, and surnames you are currently researching. Newsletters will be sent via e-mail unless otherwise specified. Send check or money order to WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, Wisconsin 54946-0042. The membership year runs January 1 through December 31 and includes the quarterly newsletter.~~ When submitting membership or renewal, please include your name, address, email address, telephone number, and surnames you are currently researching. Newsletters will be sent via e-mail unless otherwise specified. Send check or money order to WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, Wisconsin 54946-0042. The membership year runs January 1 through December 31 and includes the quarterly newsletter.

Articles, queries, etc. submitted for publishing in the newsletter must reach the editor respectively on the first of February, May, August or November respectively or may be held over for a future newsletter. All items submitted will be published as space permits.

Waupaca Area Genealogy Society

P.O. Box 42

King, WI 54946-0042



# Waupaca Area Genealogical Society

## Quarter Newsletter

est. 1994

WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, WI 54946-0042  
[WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com](mailto:WaupacaAreaGenSoc@hotmail.com)

Volume 25 Number 3

SEPTEMBER 2017

The Waupaca Area Genealogy Society wants to remind members that for most of us the 2018 dues need to be sent in by December 31, 2017 and that the individual membership cost has changed to \$12.00 for an individual membership but remains at \$15.00 for family memberships (two or more members living in the same residence). According to the treasurer reports we are still in good shape from all the various projects we have done in the past years however we did need to consider the rising cost of expenses and address these concerns. As an acknowledgement to the careful stewardship of the membership this is the first raise in dues in all the years I have belonged to WAGS and I have not talked to anyone who has belonged longer who can remember when the last increase was made.

Sadly one of the charter members of WAGS, Lawrence Webb, recently passed away. Those who had the privilege to meet Lawrence will remember him for his generosity in sharing his time, resources and general knowledge in helping anyone he could.

On a brighter note, Nancy and Jeff Weasner recently welcomed a new granddaughter, Julianna Quinn Zarnott.

The Holly History and Genealogy Center has been especially busy this summer. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to visit it yet there are some amazing resources for both genealogical and historical research on the Waupaca area along with some information that crosses into some of the adjoining counties. Since the last newsletter the following information has been added to the records already available at this historic Carnegie Library:

#### Family Files

Kaptlzke, Anton - Pioneer Certificate & documentation  
Music by Dale Russell filed under Family Records & Resources  
Miller, Mrs. John - obit - page 90  
Nelson, Will - obit - page 90  
Peterson - obit - page 90  
Henning, Arthur - obit - page 90  
Mather, Waita Eaton - obit page 90  
Holcombe, Alvin H. - obit page 90  
Clark, Chester - obit page 90  
Mauritz, Otto - family genealogy information  
Eisentraut, Edward - military information  
Andrews, Clifford - a biography  
Fitzpatrick, John - obits and land records

The following websites for Norwegian research was passed around to members at a recent meeting:

Norway Scanned Archives – <https://media.digitalarkivet.no/en>

Norway Search for Person or Place – <https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en>

Old Digitalarkivet site in Norwegian/English –

<http://gda.arkivverket.no/cgi-win./WebMeta.exe?spraak=e>

Norwegian-American Genealogy Resources – Astri My Astri Publishing (click LINKS)

<http://www.astrimyastri.com>

It was also noted that a number of the Wisconsin probate court records are now available on line. If this is an area you are researching try: [www.wcca.wicoarts.gov](http://www.wcca.wicoarts.gov)

## WAGS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Waupaca Area Genealogical Society meets 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month in the lower level meeting room of the Holly History & Genealogy Center, 321 S. Main St., Waupaca, WI. Our meetings are open to the public and we invite you to bring a friend.

September 9<sup>th</sup> – It was decided to again have a get together in December in lieu of a regular meeting. During the September meeting a vote will be taken to determine if members want to have a potluck dinner at the HHGC or have a brunch at a restaurant (Dutch treat) for the December get-together. If you prefer to go to a restaurant please indicate where you would like to hold this event. A round table will be held after the meeting.

October 14<sup>th</sup> - Jean Spiegelberg will present a program on how to back up your computer files of our family history after the meeting. A round table may be held if time permits.

November 11<sup>th</sup> – The meeting will include a review of the By-Laws and the election of officers whose terms end this year. A round table may be held if time permits.

Also, Jesse Cuff, the Waupaca County Veterans Service Officer will give a presentation starting at 10:00 on how to find your military ancestors. He will use a power point presentation with handout sheets for those attending. The program will last approximately a half hour and he will take questions after the presentation.

**NOTICE:** WAGS will be needing a new editor for the newsletter starting in 2018. This position can be filled by one or more persons. Information on getting started will be made available. WAGS offers four newsletters a year; one in March, June, September and December. If you or someone you know would be willing to fill this position please contact one of the board members.

If you haven't been on WAGS' website lately we encourage you to do so. Not only does it contain information that might be of help to you and sites that you might enjoy, but offers the opportunity to put some faces to the names you see if you receive a copy of the minutes of the monthly meetings. It can be found at: <http://www.wigenweb.org/waupaca/WAGS/WAGS.htm>

Congratulations to Chari Towne on her pioneer certificate for her ancestor Anton Kapitzke who came to Waupaca County in December 1869 ! If you have an ancestor who would qualify for a pioneer certificate from Waupaca County you can obtain a copy of the application at WAGS' website.



WAUPACA COUNTY  
 PLAT: 1901  
 DAYTON

Owner's Name	Section
A.B. & P.A.H.	32
A.B. Est.	26
Allen, G.	06
Allen, M.	06
Allington, M.E.	02
Ashdoron, H.	06
Ashdoron, H.	07
Ashman, S.	14
Ashman, S.H.	04
Austin, C.	36
Baker, C.E.	11
Baker, C.E.	14
Baker, N.L.	11
Baker, N.L.	14
Baker, O.	15
Ballard, S.	28
Barlow, W.C.	10
Barnhart, D.L.	14
Barrington	35
Barrington, A.J.	03
Barrington, W.H.	33
Barrington, W.H.	34
Barrington, W.H.	35
Barton, M.	07
Beasley Est.	04
Bemis, C.H.	08
Bemis, C.H.	09
Bemis, C.H.	17
Benhewdo	04
Bensley Est.	05
Bowers Est.	32
Brown, E.E.	12
Buck, A.L.	23
Button, A. Est.	25
Button, A. Jr.	35
Button, S.	25
Button, S.	36
Button, S.	36
Button, T.	26
Butts, R.	33
Caldwell, W.F.	31
Calkins	09

Calkins,	04
Calkins, F.	04
Camp Cleghorn	04
Chady, J.	20
Chamberlain, J.	16
Christensen, M.	09
Christensen, N.	08
Christensen, N.	08
Christenson, C.	06
Christianson,	05
Chas.	
Clapp, E.S.	25
Clark, J. Est.	24
Clopp, E.S.	26
Collier, D.	19
Colligan, H.	31
Court, G.	13
Court, T.	14
Court, T.	15
Currier	11
Dake, R.F.	04
Darling, J. Mrs.	30
Darrow, A.	01
Day, M.V.	14
Dickinson, O.	'8
Divine, E.	20
Dunn, F.	19
Dunn, F.	20
Eastman, H.	29
Eastman, H.	32
Eaton, S.F.	34
Eaton, W.S.	34
Emmons, C.	08
Emmons, Chas. E.	05
Ernst, H.	15
French, F.	01
Furlong, E.	08
G.K.	01
Gable, H.	24
Gallup, S.	13
Gill, T.	32
Goble, W.	26
Gotham, O.	12
Green	17
Gruner, A.	14
Gruner, A.	15
Gruner, A.	23

Gruner, E.	12
Gurley, B.	01
Gurley, F.	11
Gurley, T.	11
H.S.B. Est.	32
Hall, H.	11
Ham, P.A.	33
Hanawalt, W.	33
Hanawalt, W.B.	35
Hanson, O.	01
Harden, W.	07
Pleasant Valley Farm	
Harden, W.	07
Hartman, W.	06
Hartman, W.A.	05
Hatch, J.	07
Hebbard, W.	02
Holman Bros.	01
Holman Bros.	02
Holman Bros.	11
Holman, C.	15
Holman, C.E.	21
Holman, C.E.	21
Holman, C.E.	22
Howard, W.	06
Hudnell, R.M.	09
Huntoon, C.	02
Huntoon, C.	03
Huntoon, J.	02
Huntoon, J.	03
Hyatt Est.	04
Hyatt, A.E.	12
Hyatt, A.E.	13
Hyatt, H.	09
Isaac, J.	14
Isaac, J.	23
J.P.	10
Jacobson, C.	28
Jay, J.	30
Jensen, J.P.	20
Jones, T.	29
Jones, T.	30
Kartz, W.	26
Kinney, O.	08
Larson, A.	02
Lawrence	04
Lewis, J.	18

Lewis, J.	20
Lovejoy, A.	27
Lovejoy, A.	28
Mallette, J.P.	04
Maynard, E.I.	21
Maynard, T.	17
McAllister, J.	13
McAllister, J.	24
McAllister, S.	08
McCallum, Mrs.	35
McCrosson, R.	03
McGill	16
McLean, A.	25
McLean, C.	24
McLean, R.J.	13
McLean, R.J.	23
McLean, W & J	25
Merchant, B.	36
Merchant, G.	25
Minton, C.	30
Mumbrill, G.	25
Munger, P.	06
Nelson, J.	11
Nelson, R.	07
Newsom, J.	25
Newsome, G.	35
Newsome, J.	26
Newson, G.	25
Newson, J.	36
Newson, J.A.	27
Ogden, C.S.	14
Ogden, C.S.	24
Ogden, C.S.	30
Olson, H.	01
Packard, W.S.	33
Pantridge, A.	13
Perrey, L.	02
Peterson, H.	08
Peterson, H.	09
Pinkerton, R.	22
Pinkerton, R.	23
Pinkerton, S.D.	22
Pinkerton, S.D.	23
Pinkerton, S.D.	26
Pinkerton, S.D.	27
Polan, S.S.	35
Poland, S.S.	34

Pope, T.	17
Potts, A.R.	09
Potts, A.R.	10
Potts, W.	10
Pottserub	10
Radley, A.	20
Radley, G.	20
Radley, G.	21
Radley, G.	29
Radley, J.	29
Radley, W.	20
Rasmus, J.	19
Rasmus, J.	20
Rasmus, J.	30
Rice, A.	13
Riley, G.	23
Riley, S.	15
Robertson, A.M.	19
Robertson, W.	30
Robins, J.	30
Robinson, H.	17
Rogers, C.	18
Rogers, C.	30
Rogers, E.	07
Rogers, E.	18
S.B.	28
S.D.P.	26
S.R.	01
Schoonover, M.	35
Schroeder, C.	21
Schroeder, C.	28
Shoemaker, G.	33
Shoemaker, L.F.	16
Shoemaker, L.F.	21
Shoemaker, T.	15
Shoemaker, T.	16
Shoemaker, T.	21
Shoemaker, T.	22
Sill, A.P.	02
Smith, A.O.	32
Smith, O.	03
Smith, W.	12
Spencer, L.	05
Spencer, L.	06
Stinemates G.	34
Stinemates, E.	35
Stinemates, E.E.	27

Stinemates, W.	34
Stratton, C.	27
Stratton, E.W.	34
Stratton, E.W.	35
Stratton, Mrs. L.	24
Stratton, O.	27
Stratton, W.	33
Suhs, J.	28
Swift, E.	19
Swydam, G.	31
Meadow Brook Farm	
Tarr, J.	32
Tarr, L.	10
Tarr, L.	15
Tarr, W.	32
Terrel, F.R.	09
Terrill, I.	12
Testin, Chas.	31
Testin, H.	31
Testin, H.	32
Thomas, J.	16
Thomas, W.	01
Timreck, A.	03
Town, B.	30
Trull, E.L.	18
Trull, T.L.	18
Vaughn, A.	07
Virgin, C.W.	15
W.M.	03
W.R.	10
Wakeman, W.	12
Weege, F.	19
Whitney, H.	01
Wilde, J.	28
Pearl Creek Farm	
Wilde, J.	29
Pearl Creek Farm	
Wilkens, R.E.	11
Wilkins, A.E.	08
Wilmot, D.	02
Woodard, T.	02

**Waupaca Republican**  
March 14, 1884

A little son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. I. Smith of Fremont, aged about one year, and a bright little boy, was buried last Saturday.

JAMES THOMAS, ANOTHER OLD PIONEER, GONE  
The Sage of Bunker Hill In Our Boyhood Days  
(By D.F. Burnham)

Last week the remains of James Thomas, 82, were brought from his late home at Pine River and laid to rest in the Thomas family lot in Lakeside cemetery. "Jim" Thomas was the last survivor of a family that came to Waupaca county in the autumn of 1849 and were welcomed to share the hospitality of their crude home by the late John M. Vaughan and family, during the time James Thomas, Sr., required to erect a log house on the 360 acre tract on both sides of highway 10, east of Waupaca in Bunker Hill district. Eighty acres of the original Thomas farm is now the home of L.C. Virchow, noted poultry breeder.

There were 10 children in the Thomas family: William; Mary Jane, later Mrs. David Yarns; John, one of the soldiers in the Civil war who did not return; George, the first white child born in the Town of Waupaca, on May 1, 1850; Hattie, later Mrs. Ira Spencer; Cassius, whose wife was Mattie Cochrane; Allie, later Mrs. Orlando Bills; Fred, whose wife was Mollie Campbell of Hope, Ill., later the home of Fred and family; James, the long-to-be-remembered "Jim" Thomas, capable, kind hearted and jovial; Belle, later Mrs. Frank Allen, and Minnie, later Mrs. Charles VanOrnum.

When this writer was a pupil at Bunker Hill school, Fred, James, Belle and Minnie Thomas were among names recorded on the school register, along with Fred Redfield and Wallace Haze, Ellen Redfield, later Mrs. Germond, was the teacher.

Well do we recall the winter when Jim was recovering from injuries he sustained when thrown from a colt and dragged under the frightened animal, when his jaw was so fractured he could eat no solid foods for months; how the neighbors sent berry juice for the patient by children calling to express sympathy. We recall, too, how helpful Jim was to instruct this writer in the art of mowing marsh grass with a scythe; also how to keep the scythe sharp by use of the whet stone. After our vain attempts, Jim would take our scythe and put on the keen edge while he lectured us to avoid the danger of indulging in drink that had made slaves of some of our acquaintances.

It was Cash Thomas who took the spade to dig for wolf pups and forgot to take along a basket and so brought nine little wolves home by using his undershirt for a receptacle. By tying the sleeves about the top opening he made a sack. A \$5 county and a \$6 state bounty netted the hunter \$99, which lacked a dollar of paying for the first Osborne No. 8 reaper to find a buyer in Waupaca. And to enable Cash to save his 30 acres of over-ripe oats he engaged his brother, George Wallie Hazen and this writer to bind on stations and Oscar Gotham to shock the oats in the last three days of the week. The 14-year-old boys were paid off at \$1.50 per day, men's wages. "Because you have done the work of men, you shall have men's wages," Cash told us as he handed out the money.

Other old neighbors: Joel Hammond, sons Harrison, Charles and Icham; Alonzo Vaughan, sons James and Raymond; Augustus Chandler, son Fremont; Uncle Charles Beadleston, the first man to take samples of Waupaca potatoes down along Water street, Chicago, in the fall of 1971. "Now that we have a railroad we can supply Illinois farmers with such potatoes as they cannot raise on their rich, black soil," Uncle Charlie advised the farmers along Maple Lane. His sons, Charlie, Jr., and Carmi, were others on the list. Hosea Harrington, sons Orion, LeRoy and Linus; Paul Kissinger and sons Philip, the cheese maker, Herman, the land clearer who at 10 was engaged in similar work when his nephew E.P. Kissinger, visited him last summer in Oregon; Ed, the Marion hardware merchant, and Will P., the Holstein breeder until a short few years ago; Henry Kobiske, whose son, Ed, still holds forth on the old homestead. Ed and Loren Prink and Adelbert Wilcox were other late residents of Maple Lane and Bunker Hill community who were known to Fred Redfield and this writer.

## They Were Prisoners – Part 2 of 3

By J.J. Johnson

**Cpl. Werner Fredrick Jensen**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jensen of Ogdensburg, was taken prisoner by the Japanese with the fall of Corregidor. He was born to Christian and Karla Peterson but when Karla married Andrew Jensen he took the Jensen name. Werner enlisted in the Marine Corps on March 7, 1939 and was assigned to Company A, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment. (Prior to being assigned to the Philippines he served with the Marine Detachment in Tientsin, China.) As a prisoner he was shipped from the Philippines on a hell ship to Camp Osaka in Japan. Jensen was able to write at least two letters during his imprisonment. One, dated July 18, 1943 and received at the end of December of 1943 told his family he was "in good health and ... being treated as well as can be expected under the circumstances". Besides sending his love he asked they contact the family of Tony Kuretich in New Mexico to let them know Tony was "in good health and working every day" as for some reason Kuretich was apparently not allowed to write home himself at that time. A second, similar letter was received around mid-March, 1945. "Sgt." Werner Jensen spent forty months as a prisoner of the Japanese, most of which was spent at Osaka. On October 9, 1945 he arrived in Manawa, where his parents were then living, for a 90 day furlough. Jensen was discharged from service on December 15, 1946 at the rank of Platoon Sergeant.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Howard C. Johnson**, the son of the Carl Johnsons and a navigator on an Army Transport Command plane carrying gliders with parachute troops from England since D-Day, went missing in action over Holland on September 19, 1944. It is likely that he was shot down during "Operation Market Garden". The Johnsons were notified of such on October 10 and on February 20, 1945 received a letter from Howard. The letter was dated October 10, 1944 from Stalag Luft 1 near Barth, Germany. Johnson stated that as a prisoner of war he had finally arrived at a permanent camp and that he was uninjured. According to Johnson there were 16 men assigned to a barrack and they were allowed one shower per week. He spoke well of the Red Cross through which he had gotten some clothes, toiletries and cigarettes. He added that he was looking forward to getting back home and expected to receive a 30 day furlough to visit them when that happened. Johnson had spent eighteen months in the European Theater before his capture and arrived back in the United States at San Antonio District AAF Personnel Distribution Command in early October 1945.

**Pfc. Curtis Johnson**, the nephew of Mrs. Peter Mortensen and Mrs. Albert Abrahamson of Waupaca, went overseas in November 1943 and was stationed in England until D-Day in France. Johnson was a paratrooper and was reported as being missing since D-Day. It was learned later that he had been shot in the shoulder and wrist. Johnson had been captured by the German forces and hospitalized. As the American troops drove the Germans back the Germans left the American prisoners behind. His family was notified in a letter dated August 19 that he had been among the prisoners liberated from the prison camp.

**Pfc. Darnell Kadolph**, will have his information in the next newsletter regarding his capture and escape.

**S/Sgt. Donald Keating**, the son of James R. and Della (Mead) Keating, was with the 738<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron as an assistant engineer and waist gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber. On March 19, 1944 Keating's plane was shot down. It was not until May 21, 1944 the International Red Cross was able to inform his parents that he was a German prisoner of war and that he had been wounded but they did not know to what extent at that time.

In mid-June the War Department confirmed that Keating was a prisoner of war and wounded but relayed it could be one to three months before they would know where he was being held. Keating did spend part of his incarceration in Stalag Luft #4.

It was also in mid-June that the family received a letter from Virginia Groat of Chicago whose husband had been the pilot on the plane. She had recently met with Frank Salisbury in Chicago who had also been on the plane but had managed to escape being captured by the Germans. While he was not allowed to tell anything about his escape he did relate what had happened on March 19<sup>th</sup> and Mrs. Groat passed on what she had been told:

"They started out for Styre, Austria. Before they reached their target they were forced to turn around because a heavy overcast came in. Prior to this mission the crew had 10 German fighters to their credit. This was their tenth mission. They were considered a "hot" crew. In other words, they were good fighters. Frank said Don was one of the coolest men in the crew. He was a real fighter. Well, as the plane turned back it was attacked by eleven German fighters. In this raid they shot down five or six German planes. However on their plane one motor was shot out and two others caught on fire. So my husband fought to keep the ship level and ordered the men out. They bailed out at about 25,000 feet. Frank said my husband was last out and 15 seconds after he bailed, the ship exploded. It had a

full load of live bombs which they could not release because the mechanism jammed. It took Frank 20 minutes to get to the ground. They landed in a mountainous, wooded area in about two feet of snow. That's how he lost track of the boys. Heard that day that the Gestapo had picked a few fellows up. Frank is certain that Don cannot be hurt bad. He thinks he must have been hurt when he landed because his guns were the last to quit shooting, which indicates he was not hit while in the plane. Frank thinks he may have broken a leg or something like that, but nothing more serious because the snow broke their fall.

"The boys bombed Anzio, Cassino, Berlin, Regensburg, Vienna, Rome, Styre, etc., and been in three major campaigns. ... We can be so thankful the boys are alive. It is a miracle they got out of that dying bomber. Maybe we will hear from them soon. Last week when I got the news it seemed like a huge weight was lifted from my heart. I do hope we will hear more good news soon."

Allied forces liberated the prison camp in which Keating was held on May 31, 1945. During his incarceration military personnel had traveled to Waupaca where his parents were presented with an Air Medal he had been awarded.

**Ensign Raymond Larson**, the son of the **Charles M. Larsons**, was born in Waupaca but grew up in Hong Kong. Charles had worked as a civil engineer for the Socony Vacuum Company in Hong Kong for 23 years (bringing the family back to Waupaca for vacations about every five years) when the family was taken prisoner by the Japanese. The family was repatriated after about six months of internment. In April, 1943 he and fellow Waupaca high school seniors Keith Harrington and Marshall Riley were sworn in as reserve navy aviation cadets at Chicago. Larson was formally enlisted August 1943. Word was received that Raymond died during a routine flight off Malokai Island in January 1947.

**Pvt. William Larson**, Raymond's brother, had been born in Canton, China, spent six months as a Japanese prisoner and was repatriated as an American with his family on the exchange ship Gripsholm in 1942. In 1945, at the age of 17, Larson was a student at the University of Illinois where he was one of three people asked to take a special course in Japanese. Due to his age he was required to receive permission from his parents. On February 20, 1945 it was reported that he had been appointed acting Cadet Sergeant in the Army Specialized Training Unit.

**Colonel A.M. Mixson** was a prisoner of the Japanese for three and a half years after the fall of the Philippines. His story will be featured in the Waupaca Historical Society's newsletter. For those not belonging to the Waupaca Historical Society a digital copy can be received upon request through WAGS.

**S/Sgt. Edward Carl Prochnow, Jr.** of Waupaca was reported missing in action. On April 5, 1945 the Waupaca County Post reported that the Provost Marshal General had notified the family that Prochnow's name had been mentioned in some of Germany's propaganda as being a prisoner of war but the war department was not able to confirm the information at that time. Still, it gave the family some hope that Edward was still alive. Prochnow had been assigned to the 112<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and took part in the Battle of the Bulge. The battle began on December 16, 1944 and he had been captured on December 20<sup>th</sup>. He was taken to Stalag 13C at or near Hammelburg am Main, Germany.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Wilmer "Chick" Sanders**, a bombardier on a B-24 in the European theatre and the son of the William Sanders family of Parfreyville, was reported missing on September 11, 1944. His plane had been shot down near Magdeburg, Germany. In November it was learned he and his whole crew had been captured by the Germans on that same date. At the end of December the family received a card from him postmarked September 15 confirming he was a prisoner, at Stalag Luft 1. When he wrote he indicated that he expected to be moved to another camp within a couple of days. There were no restrictions on the number of letters Sanders could receive but correspondence had to be written on "prisoner of war paper" which could be obtained at the post office.

In his letters home in September he wrote glowingly of the Red Cross from which he said he received a package each week. Additionally he mentioned he and the other POWs had formed a football team to help keep in shape, occasionally did K.P. for his room (having even made a cake), and was able to take advantage of what he termed was "a pretty nice library" where he spent a lot of time. The men were also having some books made for them that showed pictures of "Kriege" life. He noted some of the books being made were very clever.

On September 13, 1945 the Waupaca County Post reported Sanders had recently been released and had arrived at the San Antonio District, AAF Personnel Distribution Command.

**Pfc. Jerome L. Schulist**, the son of Mrs. Martha Schulist of Rosholt, was reported being a prisoner of war of the Germans in January 1945. He had actually been captured on September 10, 1944 and was held at Stalag 7A which was located at or near Moosburg, Germany. Allied troops liberated the camp on April 29, 1945.

Sgt. Neil Torrsell, the son of the Einar Torrsells of Waupaca, will have his information written up in a separate article.

Lieut. John S. Van Epps "Jack" was the son of the C.F. Van Epps of Norco, California and was the great-grandson of Andrew and Jane Van Epps who had been Waupaca residents. A former Waupaca resident and friend of the family sent word back to Waupaca in July 1943 that Van Epps, a bomber pilot, on a B-26 with the 438<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, had been reported missing in action over Africa on June 18, 1943 and died in July 1943. Fortunately the information was incorrect as in August 1943 the War Department advised the family that Van Epps, who had been missing in action, was a German prisoner of war in Rome, Italy after having been shot down in Sardinia. Van Epps was initially held in Chieti, Italy's POW camp PG 21. When the Germans took this camp over from the Italians he was likely moved to a camp in Germany. Van Epps, with another flyer in the camp, escaped and after wandering 24 days reached Allied lines in December. He arrived back to his home in California on December 19.

Sgt. Gilbert "Gibby" Wandtke of Manawa, was a gunner on a B-24 bomber with the 67<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squad. During a mission in May 1943 the plane was damaged by flak and Wandtke was wounded in the knee from the shrapnel. The hit also knocked out the communication system but Wandtke managed to make it to the rear of the plane to warn the rest of the crew that they needed to bail out of the plane. Despite his efforts three of the crew members were killed when the plane crashed into the Baltic Sea. Danish fishermen were able to rescue the remaining crew but the surviving crew ended up being taken prisoner by the Germans on May 14, 1943. They were imprisoned in Stalag 17B near Krems, Austria.

Wandtke kept up his spirits as indicated by a report in the Wisconsin State Journal, November 1, 1945 where it was reported that while he was a P.O.W. he wrote a letter to Oscar Wiesman, the owner of a Weyauwega car dealership, to order a new car: "Now, Oscar, here's what I want you to do. This letter is my order for the very first car you get off the production lines when I return home - I don't care whether it's a 1944, 1945, 1946 or 1950. When the automobile is delivered I want a bottle of whiskey in the glove compartment and a blonde in the front seat."

In another letter sent to Bill Voss, the Manawa undertaker, written around August 1944 he wrote describing the conditions in the camp in such a manner that it was able to get past the German censors. The letter, published in the Waupaca County Post on August 10, 1944 as a reprint from the Weyauwega Chronicle follows:

"Dear Bill:

"You ask me to write something about life as a P.O.W. so here goes. The part of the country our camp is in is real nice. It is quite like the area a few hundred yards past the old Bigford farm on the opposite side of the road. We live in large barracks, about the same as the big barracks which burned down next to old Hotel Manawa, so you can see we are well housed. We have Red Cross parcels most of the time, and they are swell, plus German rations, which are about the same as the ones at the new plant built in 1941 near the Borden plant, so there is nothing to worry about eats. The discipline is about the same as Waupun Prep school. The guards are pretty nice fellows. Both they and the civilians I have seen remind me of that settlement near Weyauwega. What was that big shot's name over there, Haywood or Hayworth? We have a (missing line in paper?) and library. The books and instruments are donated by the American Y.M.C.A. So all I have to do is sweat out the armistice. Hope, Bill, that your line of work will be plentiful over here. Give my regards to all of them and tell them I'm feeling fine.

"Regards, "Gibby

"Just in case you didn't know the code, the area past the Bigford farm to which the letter refers, is a swamp. The barracks that burned next to the Hotel Manawa was a livery stable. The rations similar to thoes at the new plant near Borden factory has to do with the new sewage system installed at Manawa. Waupun Prep school, you will be interested to know if you live outside of Wisconsin, is the state prison. "That settlement near Weyauwega" is the insane asylum. And Bill Voss, himself, we will repeat, is an undertaker."

First Lieutenant Ernest D. Wenberg, the son of Rev. and Mrs. J. Wenberg (Mrs. Wenberg was Edna Grover of Waupaca), was a doctor in the medical corps and went overseas in October 1944. He was reported missing in Germany on December 21. Wenberg was taken captive and incarcerated in Stalag 12A to "9B" located near Limburg An Der Lahn, Germany. He died December 23 either while attempting to escape or executed for making an unsuccessful attempt to escape.

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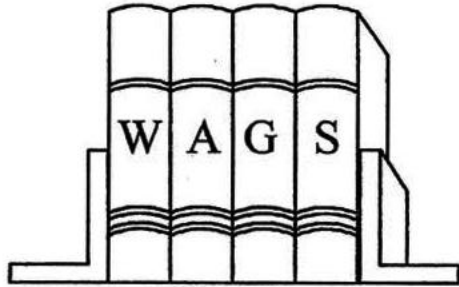
The purpose of the society shall be to generate an interest in genealogy, provide a meeting place for the exchange of genealogical ideas, to inform people of the value of and the need for preserving family and local history for posterity, assist members and others with genealogical research, to receive, hold and invest monies, dues, gifts, sales, interest, etc. and to hold and administer property for the benefit of the society and for its educational purpose.

The Waupaca Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) is classified as a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Membership: \$10.00 Individual and \$15.00 family (two people living at the same mailing address). There is a \$5.00 fee for those wishing their information sent through the postal service rather than digitally. Please include your name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and surnames you are currently researching. Newsletters will be sent via e-mail unless otherwise specified. Send check or money order to WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, Wisconsin 54946-0042. The membership year runs January 1 through December 31 and includes the quarterly newsletter.

Articles, queries, etc. submitted for publishing in the newsletter must be received on the first of February, May, August or November to be considered for the next newsletter. All items submitted will be published as space permits.

Waupaca Area Genealogy Society  
P.O. Box 42  
King, WI 54946-0042



# Waupaca Area Genealogical Society

Quarter Newsletter

est. 1994

WAGS, P.O. Box 42, King, WI 54946-0042  
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WAGS again had a successful summer at the Holly History and Genealogy Center thanks to the following members who volunteered Saturday mornings so people could access the many resources in the building: Pam Sannes, Sue Dunbar, Darlene Ryan, Nancy Helbach, JJ Johnson, Glenda Rhodes, Jean Spiegelberg, Carolyn West, Elva Larson, Susan Stood, Mary Mathwig and Richard Townsend. Many thanks to you for giving of your time Saturday mornings. In fact, Pam Sannes and Sue Dunbar were two members who worked almost all the Saturdays, enjoying the time to meet people and go through the various resource materials available in the building. Many thanks to the above, Nancy W.

Since our last newsletter the following items have been added into the family files:

- Johnson, Soren – Pioneer Certificate and documentation
- Stensen/Stinson, Tellef – Pioneer certificate and documentation
- Campbell, Duncan – Biographical information and his obituary
- Christoph family – Obituaries, articles and letters
- Keys, Benjamin & Mary – genealogy information

Also the following books have been added to the shelves:

- A Standard History of Waupaca County, Volumes 1 & 2 by John M. Ware
- Scrapbook # 35 (with items covering from 1855 to 2000 and indexed by Sue Dunbar)

For those who have not been in the Center lately, Sue Dunbar has not only been doing the accessioning Thursday but has been labeled shelves and some of the books for everyone's convenience. Many thanks to Sue for all she has been doing to make researching easier.

Nancy Weasner has been busy working on programing for the coming year so mark your calendars!

January 13 – Karla Leppen - the 1940 Census

February 10 – Jim Walker – Challenges of African/American Genealogical Research: A Personal Journey into the Unknown

March 10 – James Gardner – Waupaca County Asylum Deaths

April 14 – Round Table

May 12 – To be announced – Holly History and Genealogy Center open house 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

June 9 – Karla Leppen – 3 R's of Monument Care

July 14 – To be announced – Round Table

August 11 – James Gardner – King Veterans Home Cemetery

September 8 – To be announced

October 13 – Lakeside Cemetery Walk ????

November 10 – To be announced - Election of Officers and Review of By-Laws

December – Christmas Brunch – location and time to be announced

## From bio of Robert Taggart in Ware's History of Waupaca County

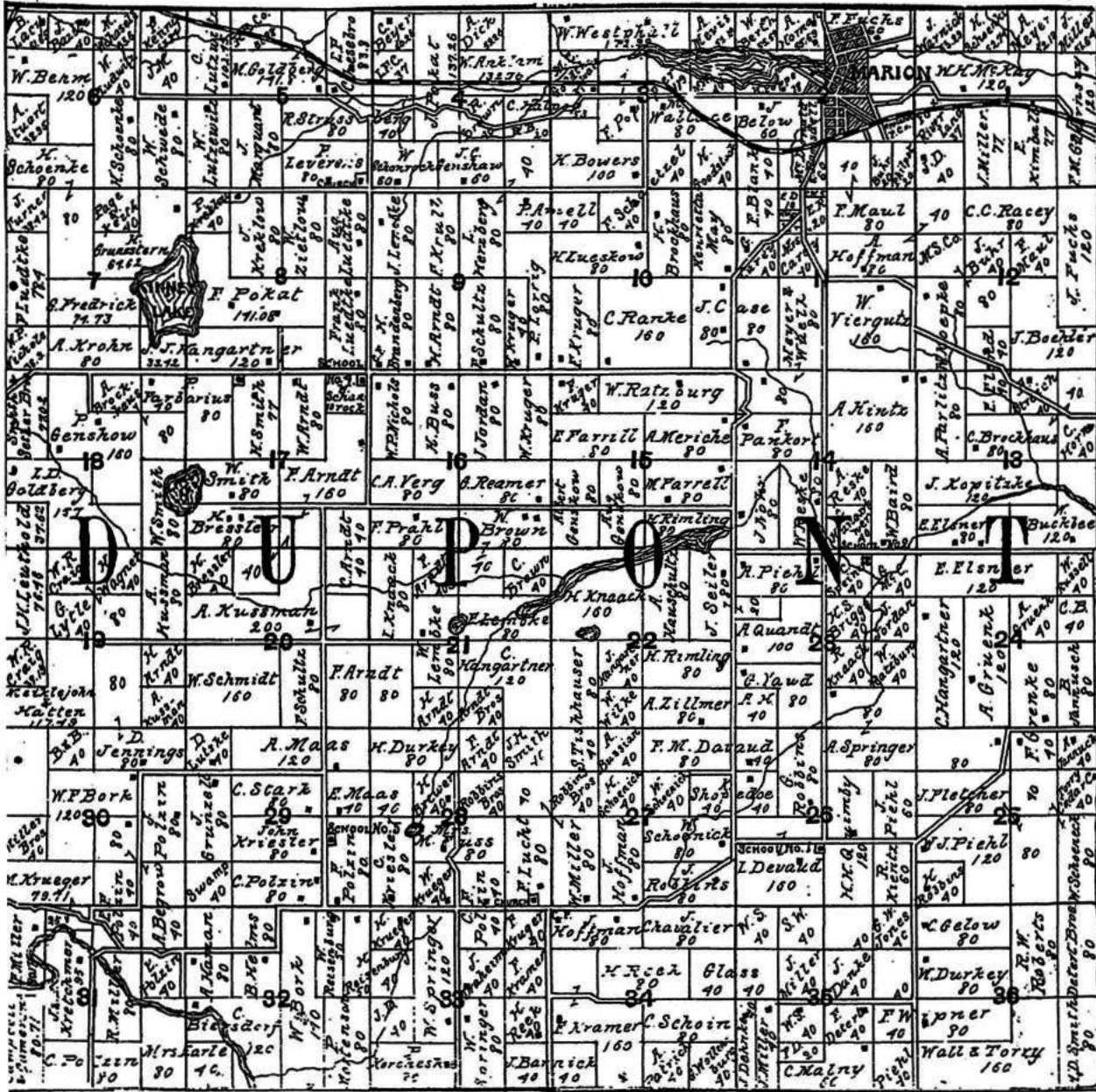
Venison was a treat and all fresh meat, save to the hunter, a rarity. The only bridge the stream could boast was made of fallen trees with all their branches intact, piled together above the falls, and the pedestrian steadied himself by holding onto the branches as he scrambled over.

The memory of this sojourn by the scribe [John Ware] goes back to hunting strawberries with Mrs. Miller, then a grandmother, who held tightly to her hand while crossing the dangerous bridge in their pursuit. To a peculiar variety of frogs or toads which dwelt in the rocks, we children delighted to, clamber over. To the profusion of wild roses which opened each morning and which there was a good natured rivalry to be first to pluck. To a mishap which sent the hat of Mr. Gard into the river and beyond recovery. Until its loss could be made good he appeared in the headgear of generous young Miller who dug trenches in the maternal sunbonnet because he was less proud or more courageous than his friend; also to a visit to see Mary Hibbard, who had the proud distinction of being the first white child born in the county. The picture books and remnants of luxury displayed in the rude home of David Scott, the roof of which was formed of hollow logs sawed in halves, one tier being first laid with their rounded sides down and the upper tier reversed so the edges of two logs fitted into each hollow and each trough during showers became an independent water conductor. From a spring nearby, the only good drinking water was found, wells not having come into use.

The Swedish nightingale being then in the height of her fame, Mr. Taggart selected that as the name of the post office which was about to be established and of which he was the first postmaster, and the town later took on the same cognomen. Five other post offices were established within the boundaries of what is now Waupaca County. Fremont and Mukwa were said to be in Brown County. Ira Sumner was postmaster of the former place, and Caleb E. Hobart, of the latter. Greenwood and Waupaca were thought to be in Marquette County. Simon C. Dow was chosen the postmaster at Greenwood, and David Scott at Waupaca. Weyauwega and Lind were supposed to be in Winnebago County. Benjamin Birdsall was the Weyauwega postmaster. The mail for this vast territory was carried in a single pouch thrown over the shoulders of a slightly built man past middle age who proudly styled himself "Old Zack." You who think money came readily to the people who blazed the way for civilization, little know their deprivations. The only way of earning a dollar was making shingles by hand and they brought but 10 shillings per thousand. It was thirty miles to the nearest store. If supplies were absolute necessities, "Old Zack" packed them for a consideration. Even this seeming blessing had its drawbacks if millinery was to be purchased for the messenger was color blind. He was commissioned to select some cherry red silk to line a hood which was to be the "best bonnet" of a young lady. When the silk came it was yellow and white changeable. There was great consternation but "Old Zack" loudly protested "that it was cherry red" for the merchant of whom he purchased it told him so. The only alternative was to submit with the best grace possible. One Sabbath morning, after the piously inclined were safely off at church, it was whispered that "Old Zack" had just entered the happy state of matrimony. Old and young bestirred themselves and in a trice every vehicle to be found and all quadrupeds capable of being yoked or harnessed were pressed into service, and the bachelor sanctum invaded by those curious to witness the home-coming of the bride. The opinion prevailed that the visual organs of both parties to the contract were defective. The young gentlemen declared they did not envy the groom. They however kissed the bride with all possible ardor, and were treated to a wedding feast of pancakes and molasses, the best provision the larder afforded.

The killing of a calf by wolves close to Mr. Taggart's dwelling led to a project looking toward a reduction of their number. Accordingly a large pen was built with a trap at the door and meat inside. Perhaps Mr. Wolf said no, thank you! At any rate he waited for a second invitation. Later the display of huge carcasses of some which were poisoned caused a creepy, chilly sensation to come over the youthful part of the neighborhood, if indeed their seniors were not similarly affected. The only real excitement came through elections. If a road was to be laid out or changed, it was necessary for Mr. A. to get supervisors who thought as he did, while Mr. B., who lived in a different section, worked equally hard to secure officers who were contrary minded. When the contest for establishing the county seat ran highest, the county was credited with more ballots than the entire population—men, women and children. Perhaps this would have been like a family secret and not gone out into the world but for the fact that the governorship was changed thereby and an investigation collapsing the bubble showed that some of the returns were manufactured in Madison by one who outrivaled his constituents in creating big majorities. The governor was ousted and his opponent given the reins. At home there was chagrin and disappointment. The defeated side believed that honestly they were the stronger and that by fair means they would have been victorious, but they dared not ask for an overhauling.

# 1901 Waupaca Plat Map of Dupont Township



From Ware's History of Waupaca County: On the 17th of November, 1864, the county board set off township 25, range 13, from the Town of Union, to be a separate political body under the name of Dupont. Settlement had commenced in 1857, when O. A. Quimby and family located on the present site of Marion, although J. W. Perry & Son had erected a small sawmill there. In 1859 L. Devaud and Phoebe A. Quimby were married by Isaac Ames, justice of the peace, and their son, F. M. Devaud, born in the following November, was the first white native of what is now Dupont Township. ... In 1862 the settlement which had become known as Perry's Mills was made a station on the mail route from Waupaca to Shawano, and in the following year a regular post office was established there with A. J. Quimby as postmaster. About 1874 the name was changed to Marion. ... As stated, the year 1864 marks the organization of the town. Its first meeting for the election of officers was held April 1st of that year and the following were chosen: chairman, M. Griffin; supervisors, M. Farrell, O. A. Quimby; clerk, J. C. Quimby; justices of the peace, O. A. Quimby and M. Griffin.

WAUPACA COUNTY  
 PLAT: 1901  
 DUPONT

Owner's Name      Section

A.H.	23
Amell, P.	09
Amell, P.	10
Anklam, W.	04
Arndt Brothers	21
Arndt, C.	17
Arndt, C.	17
Arndt, C.	20
Arndt, F.	17
Arndt, F.	17
Arndt, F.	20
Arndt, F.	21
Arndt, F.	28
Arndt, H.	09
Arndt, H.	19
Arndt, H.	21
Arndt, W.	17
Arndt, W.	17
B & B A.	30
Baird, W.	14
Baird, W.	14
Barnick, J.	33
Barnick, J.	34
Bazile, J.	06
Begrow, A.	30
Begrow, A.	31
Below, J.	02
Berm, W.	06
Berth, W.	02
Beyer, C.	04
Biersdorf, C	32
Blank, F.	02
Blank, F.	11
Boehler, J.	12
Bork, W.	32
Bork, W.F.	30
Bowers, H.	03
Brandenberg, H.	09
Bressler, H.	17
Bressler, H.	17
Bressler, H.	20
Brewer, H.	28
Briggs, H.S.	23

Brockhaus, A.	18
Brockhaus, A.	18
Brockhaus, C.	13
Brockhaus, C.	13
Brockhaus, H.	10
Brown, C.	21
Brown, R.	04
Brown, W.	16
Brown, W.	16
Brown, W.	21
Buckbee, W.	13
Buckbee, W.	13
Buhr, J.	02
Buhr, J.	12
Buss, H.	16
Buss, H.	16
Bussian, A.	27
C.B.	24
C.W.	11
Campbell & Cameron	31
Carey, G.	11
Carey, Mrs.	11
Case, J.	10
Case, J.	11
Chavalier, J.	34
Chesebro, L.F.	05
Craig, W.R.	19
Danke, J.	35
Davaud, F.M.	26
Davaud, F.M.	27
Dehnke, J.	35
Detert Brothers	36
Detert, F.	35
DEvaud, L.	26
Dick, A.	04
Draheim, J.	33
Durkey, H.	28
Durkey, W.	36
E.D.	11
E.R.	11
Earle, Mrs.	31
Earle, Mrs.	32
Eland, E.	12
Eland, E.	13
Eland, E.	13
Elsmer, E.	13
Elsner, E.	13

Elsner, E.	24
F.D.	35
Farbarius, P.	17
Farbarius, P.	17
Farbarius, P.	18
Farbarius, P.	18
Farrett, M.	15
Farrett, M.	15
Farrill, E.	15
Farrill, E.	15
Fletcher, J.	25
Fox River Land	01
Fredrick, G.	07
Fuchs, F.	02
Fuchs, J.	12
Fuss, M., Mrs.	28
Gelow, C.	36
Genshaw, J.C.	04
Genshow, P.	18
Genshow, P.	18
Genskow, Albert	15
Genskow, Albert	15
Genskow, Aug.	15
Genskow, Aug.	15
Glass	34
Glass	35
Goldberg, L.D.	18
Goldberg, L.D.	18
Goldberg, M.	05
Goodstock, H.	03
Grenke, A.	24
Grenke, F.	24
Grenke, F.	25
Gruenk, A.	24
Grunestern, H.	07
Grunzell, J.	29
Guernsey, F.M.	01
H.W.	11
Halpop, C.	03
Halpop, C.	04
Haman, A.	32
Hangartner, C.	14
Hangartner, C.	14
Hangartner, C.	21
Hangartner, C.	24
Hangartner, J.	22
Hangartner, J.J.	07
Hangartner, J.J.	08

Hauschultz, A.	22
Helms, B.	32
Herzberg, L.	04
Herzberg, L.	09
Hintz, A.	14
Hintz, A.	14
Hoffman, A.	11
Hoffman, A.	12
Hoffman, J.	27
Hoffman, J.	34
Homar, A.	02
Horn, C.	13
Horn, C.	13
J.D.	01
J.D.	33
J.M.	06
Jannuch, A.	25
Jannusch, B.	24
Jennings, D.	19
Jennings, D.	30
Jones, G.W.	35
Jordan, J.	16
Jordan, J.	23
Jordon, J.	16
Kenny, P.	06
Kieritz, R.	26
Kimball, E.	01
Knaack, L.	21
Knaack, R.	23
Knaak, H.	22
Koepke, W.	12
Kopitzke, J.	13
Kopitzke, J.	13
Korenesky, P.	33
Kramer, F.	33
Kramer, F.	34
Kreklow, J.	08
Kreklow, P.	08
Kretchmer, J. & E.	31
Kriesler, John	29
Krohn, A.	07
Krueger, F.	33
Krueger, H.	33
Krueger, M.	30
Krueger, M.	31
Krueger, W.	28
Kruger, F.	10
Kruger, F.	15

Kruger, F.	15
Kruger, W.	09
Kruger, W.	16
Kruger, W.	16
Krull, F.	09
Krzesle, C.	28
Kussman, A.	19
Kussman, A.	20
L.F.C.	04
Lacy, B.	06
Lembke, F.	21
Lembke, J.	09
Lembke, W.	21
Leuthold, J.H.	18
Leuthold, J.H.	18
Leuthold, J.H.	19
Leverens, F.	05
Lorrig, P.	09
Lucht, F.	28
Ludwitz, W.	06
Luedtke, Aug.	08
Luedtke, F.	07
Luedtke, Frank	08
Lueskow, H.	10
Lutske, D.	29
Lutzewitz, C.	05
Lutzewitz, W.	05
Lytle, G.	19
M.S. Co.	12
M.W.	02
Maas E.	29
Maas, A.	29
Maas, E.	28
Malny, C.	35
Marquart, J.	05
Maul, F.	11
Maut, F.	12
May, Henrietta	10
McDonald	02
McKay, W.H.	01
Meiklejohn & Hatten	19
Meriche, A.	15
Meriche, A.	15
Mevis, A.	03
Meyer & Wueh	11
Meyer & Wueh	14
Meyer & Wueh	14

Meyer, A.	01
Miller Brothers	30
Miller W.	27
Miller, F.	31
Miller, J.	01
Miller, J.	35
Miller, J.	35
Miller, R.	31
Miller, W.	28
Mortenson, P.	32
Nichols, W.P.	07
Nichols, W.P.	16
Nichols, W.P.	16
Nohr, J.	14
Nohr, J.	14
Page & Keith	07
Pankort, F.	14
Pankort, F.	14
Parlitz, A.	13
Parlitz, A.	13
Patrich, A.	34
Philpot	02
Pichal, A.	23
Piehl	35
Piehl, W.J.	25
Pokat, F.	08
Pokat, J.	04
Polzin, C.	29
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**Waupaca County Republican  
January 14, 1887**

**DIED - CONVERSE -**  
On Friday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 1886. George Converse, deaf and dumb brother of Mr. and Mrs. T.F. Pope, of Dayton, Wis., aged 72 years.

**Waupaca Republican  
December 31, 1886**

David James was called to Lind Tuesday on the sad occasion of the death of his sister, Mrs. Sarah, wife of Walter Hobson. She was 41 years of age and leaves four children

**Waupaca Post  
October 11, 1883**

Nels Hansen, who sold his farm last spring and moved with his family to Washington Territory, has returned and will hereafter make this town his future home, having purchased 40 acres of land near the Grange Hall, of Charles Churchill. Mr. Hansen liked Washington Territory but the climate did not agree with his family, losing one child while there.

**Waupaca Republican  
September 7, 1883**

Mrs. Ed Gordon received a telegram Tuesday from her father, Judge O.F. Weed who is in Washington Territory, that her mother died Monday at Medical Lake, in that territory, where she has been stopping with the hopes of gaining her health. The news comes with a sad and sudden shock to her daughter and her family, as well as many friends in this county. All who knew her loved her for her kind heart and excellent qualities. A son, Fred Weed, a young attorney lives in New London.

## **Bernard Brophy**

By J.J. Johnson with assistance from Bill Handrich, Jim Gardner and Sue Dunbar

In looking at some of the people with ties to the Waupaca area who were prisoners of war during World War II, member Bill Handrich has sent us the following information on Bernard Brophy who served in the Canadian army during World War II and became a prisoner of war of Japan.

Brophy was the son of Bernard F. and Esther Steenberg Brophy (Esther later married an Erickson of Frederick, Wisconsin) was born May 17, 1921 in Port Arthur, Canada. He and his younger brother Wilfred "James" Brophy were sent to the state public school at Sparta, Wisconsin when their parents separated in April 1925. In July of the same year both boys became the foster children of Mr. and Mrs. Chester S. Bumpus who became residents of King, Wis. Their half-sisters Ione and Irene Erickson remained in Frederick, Wisconsin with their parents. Bernard chose to go by the Brophy surname while his brother used the surname Bumpus.

Brophy attended schools in Lake Tomahawk, Minocqua and attended high school at Rhinelander from September 1936 until leaving it in March 1937. After leaving school he worked on dairy farms near Fort Atkinson and Waukesha.

In the fall of 1940 he attempted to enlist in the Marines but was rejected due his having been born in Canada. He then went to Canada where he worked for a while on a boat on Lake Huron's Georgian Bay in Ontario. When the season closed he was not able to find other employment so he decided to return to Wisconsin but for some reason was not allowed back into the United States. Left with few options, he enlisted in the Canadian Royal Rifles regiment where he became part of the regimental band. He was stationed at an air base in Newfoundland where he served during the spring and early summer of 1941, receiving a 30-day furlough in September. Brophy tried to visit his foster parents at King, Wis., but once again was not allowed to cross the border into the United States so he returned back to his camp which was located near Quebec.

When the regiment sailed for Hong Kong, China that same year, the newspaper reported 20-year-old Bernard Brophy of Waupaca, Wisconsin as one of four American volunteers among the troops. Considered one of the first battles of the Pacific Theatre in World War II, Hong Kong was attacked by the Japanese on December 8, 1941. The Japanese committed six bomber squadrons besides 20,000 men. These troops completely over-whelmed the smaller British forces, many of whose men were suffering from malaria. On December 25 Governor Sir Mark Young surrendered to the Japanese. Friends of Brophy had heard nothing from him since he had shipped to China and feared for his well-being. It was not until around the end of October in 1942 that it was learned that Brophy, listed then as serving with the Royal Rifles Regiment in the 186<sup>th</sup> Canadian army, was a prisoner of the Japanese. In the announcement of his capture, Bernard was listed as being from Lake Tomahawk, Wisconsin. Other records would list him as a civilian prisoner of war.

Meanwhile, Brophy's brother James had enlisted in the Canadian army in May 1942. He served as a signalman in Canada, England, France, Belgium and Holland. After V-E Day on May 8, 1945 James was part of the 120-mile march that the Canadians made to Berlin. Upon his return to Canada he spent a 30-day furlough with his foster parents at King, Wis., apparently not having the problems crossing the border between the two countries that Bernard had experienced. James died on March 15, 1946 in Mountain Sanatorium in Hamilton, Ontario.

Several months after his capture Brophy was moved to Fukuoka Prison Camp located in Japan. The camp was built by the Mitsui Coal Mining Company and the prisoners were leased to the company by the Japanese army. Prisoners were forced to work in the mines even when in what was described as "deplorable health". Brophy received a few letters from home but was not allowed to write to anyone until October 1943, telling his family that he was "well, working and earning wages." According to reports, while the Japanese army received recompense from the mining company for the prisoners' labor, the prisoners themselves were only paid five cigarettes a day and lived on starvation diets. Asao Fukuhara, the camp commandant was eventually executed for war crimes for the treatment of the prisoners.

Records vary as to whether the camp was liberated on September 2<sup>nd</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>, 1945. About ten days after being moved from the camp they traveled through Nagasaki, witnessing the destruction from the atomic bomb which had been dropped there. Brophy arrived in Canada on October 2 and spent about four months in a hospital in Victoria, British Columbia. So emancipated was he from his time as a P.O.W. that by October 12 he had already gained almost thirty pounds while being treated for other conditions from his imprisonment. Health issues continued to plague Brophy as it was reported on March 19, 1946 that he was in the veterans' hospital in London, Ontario for problems related to his treatment as a prisoner during the war.

## Darnell Kadolph

Pvt. Darnell "Red" Kadolph, the son of the John Kadolphs of Weyauwega, enlisted for military service on February 14, 1941 and was sent to the Philippines in March 1941 where he received his training. In the Philippines he first served in the military police and later played the drums in the Fifty-ninth Coast Artillery Regiment (C.A.C.) band. He was among the men captured by the Japanese when Corregidor fell in May 1942. While the family's letters only reached him sporadically they received a card from him in December 1942 and then nothing until January 1945 when he wrote how much the letters they sent helped his morale.

Kadolph was imprisoned in Luzon in the Cabanatuana prison camp where he played in the "The Cabanatuan Cats", an orchestra organized by the prisoners. Treatment by the guards was brutal.

On December 13, 1944 he was taken to Manila where he was loaded onto the "hell ship" Oryoku Maru on which 1,618 American prisoners were being transferred to a Japanese prison camp. As the men were whipped and pushed by their guards, the civilian Japanese returning to Japan in face of the advancing Allied forces laughed at the skeletal men in their ragged clothing. Inside the hold of the ship temperatures rose to 120 degrees and the lack of ventilation not only increased the odors of the sweaty men and human waste but slowly caused the oxygen in the area to be used up.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> bombs dropped by American planes, which were unaware that the ship carrying the 2,000 fleeing Japanese also had its hold filled with prisoners of war, landed close enough in the water to cut a hole in the ship bringing sun and oxygen to the prisoners. Another bomb killed and wounded many of the Japanese passengers. The remaining Japanese were taken to an island in Subic Bay during the night while Kadolph and the other prisoners were left in the hold. Lt. George Petritz described that night as being "another night of savagery and murder". According to Petritz, had the transport ship not been bombed ninety percent of the men in the hold would have suffocated en route before reaching Japan due to the conditions in the hold.

The next day another American attack struck the vessel as the Japanese soldiers were in the process of forcing the prisoners to swim to an island about 500 years away. It was later learned that only about 1,200 of the prisoners survived the bombing. Kadolph and Petritz escaped being recaptured by swimming in the opposite direction, apparently unseen by machine gunners on shore due to the sun's rays blinding their vision. Information seems to indicate the two men were not together during the swim away from the sinking ship but each was found by Philipinos and hidden near Trebawa Bay by Fortunato Millado. After being disturbed by a wild boar while sleeping one night it was arranged for Petritz to spend several weeks hiding out with Philipino guerillas operating in the area while Kadolph stayed with Millado until January 29, 1945 when he was picked up by a PT boat and taken aboard the USS Fletcher.

In an airmail letter written February 2 aboard an American ship Kadolph let his family know he was on his way home. In the letter, which was received around the 20<sup>th</sup> of February, he wrote the following excerpts:

..."finally after 31 months of living rather primitively I am back in the hands of good old Uncle Sam. I have just tasted my first American meal, seen my first American movie and observed the American flag for the first time since my capture."

"In all this period I had never given up hope, not for a minute, knowing that all of you were praying for me on the other side of the world."

In his second letter home, written while on the Philippine Islands, he indicated that despite his family having written regularly he had not received news from home since June 1943, blaming the slowness of the Japanese censorship at prison camps. He did not include many details about his situation as Army 62 would not allow him to write of his escape or his time in hiding "with the natives" while waiting for an opportunity to rejoin American forces. Due to what he termed as the usual army red tape and their need for a medical check-up he did not expect to get home any time soon and it was not until June 14, 1945 that the Waupaca County Post reported he was back home in Weyauwega. He had spent five days in Washington on official business before flying to Milwaukee where his family met him and drove him home for a ten day furlough before he had to report to Brookfield, Texas. At Brookfield he was given a check-up before being admitted to Brooke Convalescent Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

James Gardner, in researching Kadolph's story, found an article in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune on June 21, 1945 that told of Weyauwega holding a Darnell Kadolph Day. The day was not celebrated with a lot of fanfare but rather with people purchasing bonds for the Seventh War Loan. The town went over its quota with \$17,550 worth of E bonds and \$8,365 other series of bonds sold, bringing their total bond sales up to \$113,274. Their quota had been \$100,000.

Through his research, James Gardner also found that Kadolph did write a couple articles about his experiences. One was "Hell Ships" which was published in Argosy's July 1963 issue and the other "The Lost Treasure of Corregidor" which came out in the Bluebook on December 1964. He also found a January 1965 newspaper article that reported Kadolph was working on a book to be entitled "Life in a POW Camp" which he hoped to have published in 1965.

(Petritz' story can be found at <https://www.northernexpress.com/news/feature/article-129-escape-from-a-floating-hell/> Much of the information from this article that pertained to both men has been incorporated in this article.)

### Neil Einar Torssell

Sgt. Neil Torssell, a photographer and gunner with the 99<sup>th</sup> Heavy Bombardment Group, was born on April 19, 1920 in Waupaca, Wisconsin to Einar and Lucy (Andreass) Torssell. He had enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corp in October 1940 and after training was assigned to a base near Cambridge, England.

He was later assigned to the 348<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron in North Africa on a B-17 that was called "Dee Zip Zip". On July 5, 1943 Torssell was on a bombing mission in a Flying Fortress to an Italian airfield at Gerbini, Sicily, Italy in preparation of the Allied invasion that was to begin the evening of July 9<sup>th</sup> when his bomber was shot down. This was his 16<sup>th</sup> mission and during them he had served on both B-17s and B-25s. He later received the Purple Heart medal for wounds he had received.

His parents first received word on August 8 that he had been shot down through a Sgt. Hall who had been with Torssell during training at Selfridge Field in Michigan. According to Hall's telegram Torssell was a prisoner of the Italians and later the Germans.

The War Department formally advised the family on September 17<sup>th</sup> that Torssell had originally been reported as being missing in action on August 5 and later learned he was being held as a prisoner in Camp 59, near Astola, Italy. As far as word from Torssell himself, he had written his parents in July but it did not reach his parents until February. In a letter from Camp 59 he wrote, "I don't like to be tied up." In a later letter written in August 1943 he wrote that he was still a prisoner but was feeling fine. He compared the weather to that of Wisconsin's in the Fall and reported that the prisoners were getting Red Cross packages from which he and "a couple pals pooled their rations and 'had a feed'."

Then, in July 1944, the War Department notified his family that he had escaped from Camp 59 on September 14, 1943 and had rejoined American forces then stationed in Italy on June 29, 1944 (some reports give the date as June 26). Torssell had wandered through Italy for approximately nine months after his escape before he came across the American troops.

Upon his return to the United States he was sent to the Army Air Forces Redistribution Station and was afterwards assigned to a ground photo laboratory at the Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma. Later he served at Truax Field in Madison, Wisconsin. He was discharged from service in September 1945 at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. After his discharge he worked at a photo shop in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Torssell married Elfrieda Nickel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on December 28, 1946. They had two children: Steve and Carol. They had moved to Sleepy Eye, Minnesota in 1956 where he continued his interest in photography, opening the Tre-Mar Photography Company. In addition to his photography, his free time he enjoyed model railroads, fishing, and bowling.

Neil died October 16, 2016 at the Oak Hills Living Center in New Ulm, Minn.

The above articles ends our series on prisoners of war during World War II who were from this area. We are thankful for the military service of all our men and women and trust their work will never go unnoticed or unappreciated. May God bless each and every one of them and their families for their service and sacrifices for our country and the cause of freedom.

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The purpose of the society shall be to generate an interest in genealogy, provide a meeting place for the exchange of genealogical ideas, to inform people of the value of and the need for preserving family and local history for posterity, assist members and others with genealogical research, to receive, hold and invest monies, dues, gifts, sales, interest, etc. and to hold and administer property for the benefit of the society and for its educational purpose.

The Waupaca Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) is classified as a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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