

O'FALLON HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

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O'Fallon native and renowned artist Bernie Fuchs dies



Bernie Fuchs OTHS yearbook photo

Bernard Fuchs (pronounced Fewks), more commonly known as Bernie, died Sept. 17, 2009 in Fairfield, Conn., near his home in Westport.

He was born at home to Leo and Florence (Rapp) Fuchs at 105 E. 2nd St., in O'Fallon, Oct. 29, 1932. Leo, a meat cutter, abandoned the family when his son was only four years old, so the family moved to 506 E. Washington to live with Florence's parents, Jacob C. and Lena Rapp. Fuchs had a sister, Betty.

Fuchs graduated from O'Fallon Township High School in 1950. During the summer, Fuchs worked at the Oliver Dee Manufacturing

Company at 506 S. Lincoln Ave., O'Fallon. (Oliver D. Joseph was the son of Oliver C. Joseph, the auto dealer in Belleville.) An aspiring jazz trumpet player who had played in the OTHS band, that career option became history when he lost three fingers while working on a stamping machine in 1950. He was determined not to go into the coal mines where his grandfather worked. Jacob Rapp worked at the St. Ellen Mine in O'Fallon.

With \$2,000 for the loss of his fingers, Fuchs looked to a career in art, using the money to get into the Washington University School of Art. OTHS didn't offer art classes at the time and his total experience in art was in drawing Disney cartoons and characters from "The Wizard of Oz." But during his time at the art school, he worked tirelessly at drawing and painting in the basement of his grandfather's house. He graduated in 1954.

He eventually moved to Detroit, but returned to O'Fallon to marry Anna Lee "Babe" Hesse on June 11, 1955 at the Evangelical Church (now the United Church of Christ). She was the daughter of O'Fallon Mayor Henry M. and Alma (Friese) Hesse.

Fuchs' career was meteoric. He

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New Year offers interesting, new programs



Air Force Col. Matt Swanson visited the O'Fallon Historical Society meeting in September to talk about his time at the Pentagon in 2001.

Bill Wilson talked about Elizabeth Grotts and Rock Spring in August.

Coming up on Jan. 19 it's "Show & Tell." Members are to bring an item, preferably with O'FALLON imprinted on it, to share with the group.

To commemorate Valentine's Day at the Feb. 16 meeting, members should bring photos and/or items, plus stories of relatives' weddings to share with other members.

Brian Keller will present a new video of dirigibles from Scott Air Field on March 16.

Latest of Scout projects produces new, improved library

Ambassador Girl Scout Anna Husemann has completed her Gold Award project: refurbishing the first library in O'Fallon.

Anna is a senior at O'Fallon Township High School, the daughter of Kathy and Wayne Husemann.

Her project included replacing the dirty, worn carpet and painting the walls; fixing the blinds; and repainting and shelving all the books.

The Woman's Club established the first public circulating library in the room Anna worked on in 1930. The library's first home was in the northwest corner room on the second floor of the First National Bank Building, now part of the O'Fallon Historical Society Museum at Lincoln & State.

The library was originally set to open on March 14, 1930, but a delay in the shipment of books pushed the opening to Friday April 11. Since February of that year, the Woman's Club had been accepting donations of good books and money from the community at Klemke's store on E. State.

In the meantime, shelving was painted and the room decorated by George Meyer and the floor covered by Schwarz Furniture at no charge. Louis E. Fischer and Augusta Willard each made \$50 donations to help with the purchase of books. By early March, the

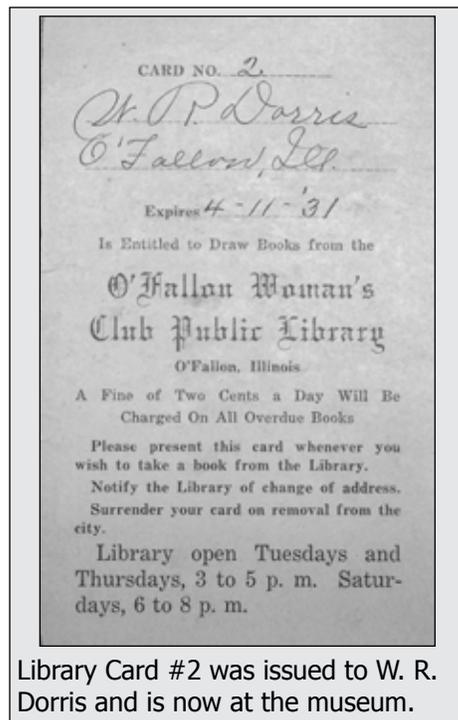


Anna Husemann, a senior at O'Fallon Township High School, shows off the cleaned up and refinished library on the second floor of the OHS Museum.

library had 110 books and by its opening more than 700, many donated and the rest purchased by the Woman's Club. The formal opening took place Saturday April 12 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Books could be borrowed through the purchase of yearly membership cards which cost \$1.00 and were good for any member of the family. Nat Isenburg purchased the first one and W.R. Dorris the second. William H. Bassett checked out the first book. The library was open every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturdays.

Today's visitors can access the room after getting the key from museum staff.



Library Card #2 was issued to W. R. Dorris and is now at the museum.

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Museum Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat 1-4 p.m.
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Mary Wiechert, 2011
Gerald Worms, 2012
Bill Peach, 2010



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was voted “Artist of the Year” at age 30 and was the youngest artist inducted into the Illustrators Hall of Fame for his lifetime achievement.

During his 20 years in the commercial illustration industry, he worked for such noted companies as Coca-Cola and Seagrams; created art for *TV Guide*, *Good Housekeeping*, and

Sports Illustrated, among other publications; and painted famous people, including John F. Kennedy, Jackie Robinson, Frank Sinatra and Bob Hope. He also has created six postage stamps. In 2004, Fuchs made his debut as an author with the self-illustrated story “Ride like the Wind: A Tale of the Pony Express.”

Bernie Fuchs produced hundreds of illustrations, including many posters (left), *TV Guide* covers (above), and the portrait below of the children of Bernie and his wife, Anna Lee, from the 1960s: from top, clockwise, Cindy, Elise and Derek. The portrait was used in a Christmas card.



Bernie Fuchs returned to the area in November 2003. The Schmidt Art Center at Southwestern Illinois College hosted a display of his works. (Photo by Brian Keller)

Fuchs’ wife remains in Westport. His three children also survive him: Cynthia Fuchs of Washington, Derek Fuchs of Casselberry, Fla., and Elise Fuchs of Torino, Italy; and three grandchildren.



Museum undergoing renovation

If you have time on your hands, Maurice Hesse has a job for you.

The O’Fallon Historical Society is undergoing a transformation, involving a lot of moving and rearranging of items.

Plans involve sections for famous O’Fallon born natives, Bernie Fuchs and William Holden; agriculture; kitchen;

revamped schoolroom; military history; Boy and Girl Scout rooms; and a research area.

Scout projects that have already completed the library and the Boy Scout room are so good, it’s no wonder the rest of the museum needs a good overhaul.

The project is expected to be completed in April. Call or email OHS if you can volunteer.

ROCK SPRING CEMETERY**Final Resting place of five Civil War Veterans *****Stones read by Gloria Dettleff and Dorothy Falk on 22 July 2006****Researched by Linda Potter and Dorothy Falk****©2009 O'Fallon Historical Society**

Editor's note: This is the second of three parts of the Rock Spring Cemetery biographies in a series about the people who are buried in the O'Fallon area pioneer cemeteries.

OBRIANT, James Wilson was born on 11 Feb 1863 and died 8 Aug 1864 at age one-and-a-half years. He was possibly the son of George and Eliza OBRIANT. He is buried in the Elliott lot in Row 14 and also has a J W O footstone.

Source: Tombstone.

PATTERSON, Charles H., son of James H and Eliza A (nee PEACH) PATTERSON, was born in IL on 28 May 1857. Charles resided with his parents and siblings on a farm in Evansville Township, T5SR7W, Post Office: Preston, Randolph Co., IL, in 1860. He died 26 Aug 1871 at age 14. His tombstone, in Row 6, says "Let not the errors of my youth, nor sins, remembered be; In mercy, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord, remember me. (Psalm 25:7). He also has a C H P footstone.

Sources: Tombstone, Census databases, OHS FTM file.

PATTERSON, Eliza A., daughter of William and Sarah (nee PEARCE) PEACH, was born in Horse Prairie, Randolph Co., IL on 17 Oct 1821. Eliza married James H. PATTERSON before 1842. In the 1850 and 1860 Censuses, Eliza was keeping house for her husband and children, Sarah, William, Robert, Edgar, and Charles on farms in Randolph County, IL. She died 4 Mar 1878 at age 56 years, 4 months, 17 days. Eliza shares a tombstone in Row 6 with James. Her tombstone says "Nearer my God to thee."

Source: Tombstone, Census databases, OHS FTM file.

PATTERSON, George, son of James H. & Eliza A. (nee PEACH) PATTERSON was born on 6 Oct 1860. He died on 6 Sep 1869, aged 8 years and 11 months. His tombstone in Row 6 says "Gone home to rest – early." He also has a G P footstone.

Source: Tombstone and OHS FTM file.

PATTERSON, Jas. H. was born in Illinois on 24 May 1811. He married Eliza A. PEACH before 1842. In the 1850 census, James was a merchant residing in Brewerville Township, T4SR8W, Randolph County with his wife and children, William, Sarah, Robert, & Henry. In 1860, James, Eliza and the children, Sarah, Robert, Edgar, and Charles, lived on the farm in Evansville Township, T5SR7W, Randolph County, IL, Post Office Preston. He died on 3 Nov 1877, aged 66 years, 5 months and 9 days. His tombstone in Row 6 says "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." The tombstone was by J. E. Lord, Belleville, IL.

Sources: Tombstone, Census databases, OHS FTM file.

PEACH, Charles H., son of William and Elizabeth Peach, was born on 9 Mar 1845. He died on 17 Jun 1856, age 11. He shares a tombstone with his mother and father in Row 4. His portion of the tombstone says "But in the morn, the prime of life when pleasing prospects wield their power, That young and gentle loving son fell as falls the fading flower."

Source: Tombstone.

PEACH, Elizabeth "Betsy," nee GROTTTS, was born on 24 Feb 1809, in western Madison County, IL, daughter of William and Sarah (nee BALL) Grotts. She married Leonard GREGORY on 3 Apr 1828, in Madison County, with her uncle Samuel Seybold, Justice of the Peace, officiating. In 1830, they resided with their infant daughter, Mary Jane, in an area named Gregory Settlement in Shoal Creek Township, Clinton County, IL. After Leonard's death, Elizabeth remained in Clinton County and later married William PEACH, Sr. on 21 May 1837, in Bond County, IL. The couple made their home in Oak Hill near Rock Spring in O'Fallon Township of St Clair County. There the couple had five children: Elizabeth (married Joel ELLIOT), Samuel Wesley (married Anna Richardson WIGGINS), John (married Harriet W. COOK), Charles H., and Eliza Ann (married Thomas Peach MOREY). Mary Jane Gregory joined her mother's family and married William OBRIANT on 11 Dec 1851. Elizabeth died in O'Fallon Township, St Clair County, IL, on 16 Feb 1858, age one week short of 49 years. Elizabeth shares a tombstone in Row 4 with Wm., Sr., and Charles H. Her tombstone says "She fell not when the frost had gathered 'round her brow, When silvery locks foretell the sage, we soon to death must bow."

Sources: Tombstone, Bridges' history, The Grotts/Seybold Family Heritage: Early Illinois Pioneers, by William D. Wilson, OHS-FTM

PEACH, Harriet W., nee COOK or COOKE, was born 19 Feb 1841 in Tennessee. She married John PEACH on 16 Jan 1862 in St. Clair Co. She died on 23 Sep 1873, age 32 years, 7 months, 4 days. Her grave in Row 2 has the only full grave cover in this cemetery.

Sources: Tombstone, Illinois marriages, Bridges' history.

PEACH, Malinda, nee LEACH, was born on 20 Jun 1830. She married William PEACH, Jr. on 12 Jul 1849 in St. Clair Co. She died on 16 Aug 1864, age 34 years, 1 month, 26 days. Her tombstone says "Asleep in Jesus far from thee, Thy kindred and their graves may be, But there is still a blessed sleep From which none ever wakes to weep. Blessed be the Lord because He hath heard the voice of my supplications." Malinda also has an M P footstone.

Sources: Tombstone, Bridges' history.

PEACH, Wm. Sr., son of William and Sarah (nee PEARCE) PEACH, was born 20 Oct 1800 in Newbury, Orange County, Vermont. He married Priscilla MCKINLEY in Randolph County, IL on 28 Nov 1825. History records in Newbury give the marriage date as 18 Dec 1825 and gives Priscilla's maiden name as SIMMONS. Their children were William, Lois, Rebecca, and Sarah.

The family moved to St. Clair Co. between 1826 and 1829. The 1860 census show William at age 60, O'Fallon Township, T2NR7W, land \$12,000, personal property \$800, with children still at home Samuel 20, John 18 and Eliza A. The 1870 census showed William as age 70, land worth \$6,000, personal property \$800, with wife Elmina age 52, and daughter Ann 20, and says all three were born in England. William died on 17 Mar 1875, age 74. He shares his tombstone in Row 4 with Elizabeth and Charles H. There is a worn verse.

Sources: Tombstone, Censuses, Bridges' history.

PECK, John Mason was born on 31 Oct 1789 in what is now Morris, CT. He was the only son of Asa and Hannah (nee FARNUM) Peck. Peck married Sarah "Sally" PAINE in 1809. They had met at a revival meeting of the First Congregational Church two years previous. When their first child, Eli, was born in 1810, they began to question the Congregational Church's practice of infant baptism. Unconvinced that the Bible mandated it, the couple gravitated toward the Baptist faith.

They moved to the Catskills in Sally's native New York and it was there that Peck was ordained a Baptist minister in 1813. In the years that followed he devoted to furthering his education, learning Greek, Latin, Hebrew, medicine, botany and other natural science disciplines. His true calling was in missionary work. In 1817, the Baptist Second Triennial Convention for Foreign Missions held in Philadelphia sent Peck and James E. WELCH to St. Louis to preach to the settlers and Indians in the Missouri Territory and form churches there.

By 1818, they started the “Western Mission Academy” in St. Louis which included a Sunday School for black children and adults—and slaves. Also that year, Peck founded the First Baptist Church of St. Louis, the first west of the Mississippi. As successful as his efforts were, tight finances and the belief that missionaries to the west would be no longer necessary, led to the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions to cut off support and send Peck to Ft. Wayne, IN to help with the Indian mission there. Peck, however, wanted to stay and he reached an agreement to do just that but without funding.

In 1822, however, he was appointed missionary for the Massachusetts Baptist Missionary Society. It was at that time he scouted for a permanent place to live. He chose a tract of land featuring a natural subterranean source of water called Rock Spring, located just northeast of present day Scott Troy Road and US Route 50. The property was on the Vincennes and St. Louis Stage Road. Peck built a house in 1822 as well as forming Rock Spring Baptist Church.

Besides spreading the Gospel, Peck was also active in the anti-slavery movement. He believed slavery to be evil, though he also believed it needed to be abolished through political rather than violent means. He organized the St. Clair County Society for the Prevention of Slavery in Illinois in 1823, and is credited along with Governor Edward COLES with preventing an Illinois Constitutional Convention in 1824 meant to allow slavery in the state.

Peck also had his eye on education. On 1 Jan 1827 he organized “The Rock Spring Theological and High School” which is considered the first college in Illinois, founded one year before McKendree College in Lebanon. The school would have as many as 130 students at its Rock Spring location and boasted a library of 1,200 books with maps and globes.

In 1829, Peck began publishing “The Pioneer of the Valley of the Mississippi,” the first religious newspaper in Illinois. Rock Spring was not an ideal place for the location of a school, however. The school was closed in 1831 and reopened in Upper Alton as the Alton Seminary. The name was later changed Shurtleff College in recognition of a donation of \$10,000 by Dr. Benjamin SHURTLEFF. The college closed in 1957 but the campus survives as the Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville Dental School.

Peck was a prolific author. His Guide for Emigrants is considered a classic. The first edition sold out and a “new” guide went through four subsequent editions. His Gazetteer of Illinois, first published in 1834, is such a valuable historical document that it’s still in print. He contributed articles on a regular basis to just about every newspaper in the region and beyond. He was a planter of churches and schools.

He was also the first postmaster in the O’Fallon area. He moved easily among the powerful and not so powerful and was respected by friends and adversaries alike. He gave freely and generously of himself even to the unintentional neglect of his own family. He was always on the go—he preached everywhere, was always raising money for his beloved college, and had a hand in just about everything of importance that happened in Illinois during his lifetime. In recognition of his achievements, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Systematic Theology from Harvard in 1852.

Sally Peck died in 1856 and he died two years later on 16 Mar 1858 at age 68. Both were buried at Rock Spring Cemetery, although John Mason Peck was moved to Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis. Sally’s grave remains at Rock Spring to this day. Peck is considered to have been the greatest man to have ever lived in the O’Fallon area.

Source: O’Fallon Sesquicentennial History Book.

PECK, Nevada E., a daughter of Henry M. and Eunice, nee MELVIN, PECK, was born on 26 Jul 1856. She died on 9 Aug 1858. Her tombstone in Row 11 says “Two years a child, an angel for eternity.” She also has an N E P footstone.

Source: Tombstone and Illinois marriages.

PECK, Sarah “Sally”, nee PAYNE / PAINE, was born on 31 Jan 1789 in Green County, N.Y. She was married to John Mason Peck in Litchfield, CT on 8 May 1809, by Rev. Amos Chase. Her husband purchased 80 acres for

the Rock Spring Theological and High School in O'Fallon Township, T2NR7W, for \$100 on 30 Apr 1821; 40 acres for \$50 on 12 May 1834; 40 acres for \$50 on 11 Dec 1835 and 40 acres for \$50 on 27 Dec 1836.

The 1830 census showed the family and seminary in St Clair County, IL, males were 1 under age 5, 2 between 5-10; 1 between 10-15; 3 between 15-20; 6 between 20-30; 1 between 40-50. The females in the household were 1 between ages 5-10; 4 between 15-20; 2 between 40-50; and 1 between 70-80.

Sally kept the seminary and home running while her husband traveled much of the time. They had ten children, seven survived to adulthood: Eli Paine Peck, Hannah Farnum Peck, Hervy Jenks Peck, William Carey Peck, Mary Ann Peck (married Samuel Gilpin SMITH), William Staughton Peck, John Quincy Peck, Infant Peck, Henry Martin Peck (married Eunice MELVIN) and James Ashford Peck.

She died at Rock Spring, IL on 24 Oct 1856 at age 63. Her tombstone is in Row 12, she also has a SP footstone.

Sources: Tombstone, land records, censuses, histories.

“Died at her late residence, Rock Spring, in this vicinity, at 6 o'clock, Sister Sarah Peck, consort of Rev. J. M. Peck, after a long illness, which she bore with Christian fortitude, patience and resignation. She was born in Greene County, State of New York, January 31st, 1789, professed to be converted and became a believer in Christ Jesus in the great revival, in Litchfield, Con. in 1807, was married to her late husband, J. M. Peck, May 8th, 1809, in the same town and state; was baptised in company of her husband by Elder Hermon HERVEY, in a little mountain stream in Windham township, Greene County, New York, Sept. 15th, 1811; moved with her husband and three children to St. Louis, Mo. 1817, and into Illinois and settled at Rock Spring in 1821. She was the mother of ten children, seven of whom lived to man's estate, and six survive her.

During the whole period of her husband's ministry, she was in the highest sense, a keep-mate in all his labors. She performed in a most effective sense the duties of a wife and mother. For weeks and months in succession during the absence of her husband, she was the head and governess of the household. To her skill, industry, patience, self-denial and prudent economy was he indebted to her for her ability and the opportunity done entirely so he could do the work where divine providence called him. Nor would it have been in his power to have done half the deeds he has performed, had not that excellent woman aided him, in the quiet (performance?) of domestic duties.

Her last days gave most satisfactory evidence of calm self-possession, strong faith and admission into that state, where sickness, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more.

She joined this church by letter from the late Rock Spring church, on the 8th of March, 1851.

Her exact age was sixty-seven years, eight months, and twenty-four days.”

Source: Oak Hill Church Minutes, 24 October 1856

Written by Rev. John Mason Peck.

A wreath was placed on Sarah's grave in 2006, 150 years after her death. The card on it said “This wreath was placed by First Baptist Church of Belleville, Illinois with gratitude for the Christian witness of Sarah Peck. 8-26-06.” John Mason Peck was the pastor at that church at one time.

POOS, Christina, nee HERDERHORST, was born on 29 Nov 1821 in Maaslingen, Germany. She married Gerd. Heinrich Poos in Germany, they immigrated from Petershagen to New York in 1857, destination Cincinnati. Immigrants were Heinrich 35, Christian (Christina) 36, Wilhelm 20, and children Heinrich 14, Herman 11, Whilhelem 10, Christian 5, Friederich 3 and August 3 months. Christina died on 4 Jun 1881 at age 59. Her tombstone, in Row 1, is in German and says “Mother.”

Source: Tombstone and Immigration Records.

POOS, Christine – “Died in County Hospital. Miss Christina POOS died in the County Hospital at Belleville at 3:30 o'clock Monday afternoon, aged 68 years, 7 months and 15 days.

The deceased was born in Germany April 7, 1852, and came to this country at an early age. She was a daughter of Henry and Christina POOS, who died in Germany some years ago. She was never married having made her home with various relatives. Until her removal to the hospital, she was staying at the home of a brother-in-law

and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph HAGEMANN, who reside northwest of Lebanon. Besides Mrs. HAGEMANN, she is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Herman POOS, at Decatur; William, at Mt. Olive; Fred, at Lebanon; Mrs. Frank EBERHARDT, O'Fallon.

The remains were brought to this city to the Schwarz funeral parlors and later taken to the HAGEMANN home from where the funeral was held today (Wednesday) to the Rock Spring Cemetery.”

Source: O'Fallon Progress 25 Nov 1920.

Christine's tombstone, in Row 1, is chipped.

POOS, Gerh. Heinrich [sic] was born on 22 Dec 1822 in Maaslingen, Germany. He married Christine HERDERHORST in Germany. They immigrated from Petershagen to New York in 1857, destination Cincinnati [sic]. The immigrants were Heinrich 35, Christian (Christina) 36, Wilhelm 20, and children Heinrich 14, Herman 11, Wilhelm 10, Christian 5, Friederich 3 and August 3 months. He died on 13 Oct 1897 at age 74. Heinrich's tombstone, in Row 1, is in German and says "Father."

Sources: Tombstone and Immigration Records.

ROSS, Emaline, nee PEACH, was born on 13 May 1817 in Randolph Co., IL, daughter of William and Sarah nee PEARCE PEACH. (Proof of parentage not found.) She and William D. ROSS were married on 7 Feb 1839 in St. Clair Co. Their children were Charles H., Sarah C., Eliza Ann, Mary Jane, William M. and Amos C. Ross. Emaline died on 13 Mar 1886 in St. Clair County. Her tombstone, in Row 5, says "Grandmother."

Sources: Tombstone and Bridges' history.

ROSS, Sarah – see DARROW, Sarah

RUNKWITZ, Aurelie – the last known burial at Rock Spring Cemetery.

Aurelie, a daughter of Augustus and Clara (nee LOMMER) Budina, was born on 27 Mar 1853 in Germany. She, her parents, and her brother, Gustav, immigrated to America in 1860. The 1870 census says Aurelie, age 20, was born in Sachsen (Kgr. /Land in Bundesrepublik) / Saxony. Her marriage to Hermann in the Illinois Marriage Database says Amilia Bettina [sic] married Herman on 31 Oct 1868. By 1900, Aurelie was a 49-year-old widow who lived with her son Richard, 23, and her mother Clara, 76, and two boarders. She had had five children of which four were still living. She owned their farm free.

In 1905, she moved to California but she returned in 1906 to nurse her mother. She then returned to California to live. She spent the winter of 1918 with her children. In 1930, she lived in Sawtelle, CA. She was a lover of nature and was especially interested in flowers. She was active in the Women' Auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic. She died at the home of her son, Richard, of O'Fallon, on 4 Jan 1932 at 1:35 PM. Aurelie's tombstone is in Row 2. There is also a D R footstone.

Source: Tombstone and Bridges' history

"Aurelia RUNKWITZ, Aged 79, Dies"

"Mrs. Aurelia RUNKWITZ, nee BUDINA, widow of the late Herman RUNKWITZ, and mother of E. H. RUNKWITZ, county superintendent of schools, died Monday afternoon at 1:35 o'clock at the home of her son, Richard RUNKWITZ, after a lingering illness, aged 79 years, nine months and seven days.

The deceased, who resided in California for the past 25 years had been in failing health for 18 months of infirmities of age. On December 12, last, the son, Richard RUNKWITZ and his wife went to California and brought the aged lady to this city where she made home with the son.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence of the son, 309 East Fourth street, where services were conducted by Rev. A. E. KLEMM, pastor of the Evangelical church. Burial was in the Rock Spring cemetery, east of this city.

Mrs. Aurelia RUNKWITZ was born in Kahla, Saxony, Germany, March 27, 1853, a daughter of the late August and Clara (nee LOMMER) BUDINA. At the age of nine years, she came to this country with her parents,

settling in the Rock Spring community. She was united in marriage at Belleville, October 20, 1868, to Herman RUNKWITZ, who died at the family home in Rock Spring, February 8, 1897. Five children were born to the union, one of whom preceded her in death. Those surviving are two daughters, Minnie, wife of Ferdinand REUSS, of Shiloh Valley township; Fannie, wife of George VOSSBRINK, of Union, Mo.; two sons, E. H. RUNKWITZ, of O'Fallon Township and Richard RUNKWITZ, of this city. She also leaves one brother, Gustav BUDINA, Sr., of this city; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was a member of the Women's Relief Corps of Sawrella, California."

Source: O'Fallon Progress 7 Jan 1932.

RUNKWITZ, Dorothea, also known as Sophie Dorothea, nee DRESCHER, was born on 21 Feb 1806 in Germany. She was married to Carl RUNKWITZ in the Oberkirche of Altenburg by Archdeacon Mlin on 5 Jun 1827. In 1834, under the auspices of the Giessner Auswanderungs Gesellschaft, the family, in company with a large number of colonists, emigrated to St. Louis, Mo. They sailed on the Johanna Medora and landed at Baltimore, MD on and made a six weeks trip by boat and wagon. They arrived in St. Louis on 24 Aug 1834. After residing in St. Louis for five years, they purchased their farm in 1839. The family built a log house, cleared several acres of hazel brush and trees, and cultivated the soil. In the 1850 census, Dorothea is shown as Duracier RONQUIT, age 45, born in Germany. Their first four children, Henrietta Thekla, Gustav Adolph, Charlotte and Thekla Hedwig were born in Altenburg, Germany. The next five, Alfred Hengist Horst, Richard, Carl, Herman and Sophie were born in Rock Spring. Carl, a farmer and bookbinder, died of cholera on 15 Jul 1849 and is buried on the hill just east of the old log house and directly south of the present home. Dorothea died on 17 Nov 1872 at age 66, her tombstone, written in German, is in Row 5 and says "Here Rests."

Sources: James E. DUNN and Erwin RUNKWITZ's histories, Censuses.

*RUNKWITZ, Hermann was born on 24 Mar 1844 in Rock Spring, IL, a son of Carl and Sophia Dorothea (DRESCHER) RUNKWITZ. In the 1850 census, his mother was a widow with five children still at home, of which he was one. He enrolled in the Civil War on 22 Sept 1864 as a private in Capt. Joseph Fuess' Co. E of the 43rd Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers to serve one year. He was honorably discharged from the service of the U. S. on 7 July 1865 at Little Rock, Arkansas, where he had served the greater part of his enlistment, by reason of the expiration of term of service under provision of the War Department Telegram dated 29 May 1865. His discharge was signed by Julius Schlaich, Capt. 27th Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers. At that time, he was described as 5 ft. 8 in. high, light complexion, hazel eyes, light hair, and a farmer by occupation. Hermann married Aurelia BUDINA (in Illinois marriages as Amilia Bettina) on 31 Oct 1868 in St. Clair Co. IL. Hermann, Aurelia and Minna, 9 months old were listed in the 1870 census for Shiloh Post Office, T1N9R7W. The family lived at Rock Spring on the first RUNKWITZ land near Bennett's Crossing, or the old BENNETT mine. He served several terms as School Director of the Rock Spring School. Hermann and Aurelia's children were Minnie Mathilda (married Ferdinand Leonard REUSS), Erwin Herman (married Caroline REUSS), Johanna, Richard Carl (married Bertha ZIMMERMANN) and Fanny Henrietta (married George Henry VOSSBRINK). The 1892 census substitute shows H. RUNKENITZ and Bros. owning 90 acres in Sections 35 and 36 in O'Fallon Township. Herman died on 8 Feb 1897 at age 52. His tombstone, in Row 2, is a government headstone.

Sources: Ancestry, Census & Civil War databases, IL databases, DUNN and Bridges' histories.

RUNKWITZ, Johanna D. was born on 10 Apr 1874, a daughter of Herman and Aurelia RUNKWITZ. Their family lived with Herman RUNKWITZ family in the 1880 census and consisted of Herman, Aurelia, Johanna, siblings Mina, Irwin, Richard, Fanny and Grandmother Clara BUDINA. Johanna died on 13 Jul 1880 at age 6. Her tombstone, in English, is in Row 4.

Sources: 1880 Census and tombstone.



Name That...Thing?

No, this isn't a photo archives of old torture devices—although if you made a teenaged boy wear item G, it might be considered torture.

What do you think these are? (And did you ever use one?) You can find all these items in the museum.

we don't know! You tell us.

A. Curling iron, needs heat to work. B. an autograph case; C. shoe covers, cheaper than buying another pair; D. stereoscope, 19th century 3-D; E. clothes plunger—not to be used to unstop latrines; F. grave marker; G. the latest in wool swimwear; and H.

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