

Scenes from Princeton's Past Continuing with the Siepert Family

Gottlieb Sr. and his wife Anna *Breitkrauz* Siepert's son Gustav was born in Germany on August 26, 1850, and died on October 15, 1910 in Fond du lac. He departed with his parents and siblings from Bremen, Germany and arrived in America on June 27, 1870. Gustave married Sophronia *Bechtel* in 1875. Sophronia was born in West Salem, Ohio, on September 13, 1854, and died on July 30, 1928. On the 1910 US Census Gustave's occupation was listed as a bartender at a saloon. Gustav and Sophronia had eight children, daughters Genevieve "Jenny", Anna, Viola, Irene, and Margaret, and sons Fred, Carl "Charlie", and Eugene. Irene and Eugene were twins and were born on December 3, 1894 in Princeton, and Eugene died on March 18, 1895, in Princeton. Viola was born on September 24, 1892 in Princeton and died on April 5, 1895, in Princeton. Two of Gustav and Sophronia's children died 19 days apart. Sophronia's obituary stated she died at the home of her daughter in Beliot, WI, after a lingering illness. Her funeral took place at St John's Lutheran Church in Princeton, and was officiated by her Pastor Reverend A. G. Hoyer.

Gustave and Sophronia's son Fred was born in Ohio on April 27, 1881, and died on May 16, 1947. Fred married Melina "Lena" *Raasch* on June 4, 1903, in Princeton. Melina was born on May 18, 1881, and died on January 21, 1857. Fred was said to be short in stature, only being 5' 6" tall. Fred and Melina had three children, two boys, Clarence and Herbert, and one daughter Viola. Clarence was born on June 1, 1904, and Herbert was born on June 18, 1908, and Viola was born on May 22, 1910. Fred and Melina lived in Neshkoro after they married and their three children were born in Neshkoro. They lived in Neshkoro until 1930. Fred was a harness maker and owned his own shop in Neshkoro. Sometime in 1930, Fred and Melina moved to Princeton and on the 1930 US Census lived on Clinton Street, and Fred owned a harness shop in Princeton. Also, on the 1930 US Census, living with Fred and Melina was their daughter Viola, who was a teacher, and Fred's Sister Irene who was listed as an apprentice at a beauty shop. On the 1940 US Census, Fred still owned his harness shop and they were listed at living on Farmer Street, and had two lodgers Onolee Cole, who was a teacher, and Ruth Weinauf, who was a waitress at a local restaurant.

Buried in the City of Princeton Cemetery from the Siepert Family are Gustav and Sophronia and their children Eugene and Viola and son Fred and his wife Melina.

The information for this article came from findagrave.com and Ancestry.com, and family member from Saskatchewan, Canada, Ken Neumann. If anyone has any information or photos of the Siepert Family or anyone else buried in the City of Princeton Cemetery, please contact City Hall at 920-295-6612 or mail to PO Box 53 or bring to City Hall at 531 S Fulton Street or email mneubauer@cityofprincetonwi.com or cnickel@cityofprincetonwi.com.

The Band Mother's Cook Book is still available and can be purchased at City Hall in Princeton or at the Berlin Journal Newspapers Office. The City of Princeton is in the Milk Moola Program from Kwik Trip, and is saving the caps from milk products. If anyone has any caps that they are not saving for another organization, the milks caps can be dropped off at City Hall. The money from the milk caps is going toward purchasing the cleaning solution to clean the gravestones in the cemetery. Thank you to everyone who has turned in milk caps or milk bag tops.

The re-published Princeton, WI, Quas Qui Centennial Books, which is the history of Princeton from 1848 to 1973, are available and were recently reprinted by the Berlin Journal Newspapers. The Quas Qui

Centennial Books can be purchased at City Hall at 531 S Fulton Street in Princeton or contact Mark Judas or Patty Wiancki at US Bank at the Princeton Branch. The books can be sent in the mail, if anyone does not live in the area and would like to purchase a book. The Quas Qui Centennial Book will be the companion Book to the 2023 Quarto Sept Centennial Book that is being compiled and will be printed and available with the History of Princeton from 1973 to 2023. The Quarto Sept Centennial Book will be available later in the year 2022.

Fred Siepert



Fred and Malena Siepert



Malena Raasch and Frederick Siefert Wedding photo June 4, 1903



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Fred Siepert in his harness shop

