

Scenes from Princeton's Past Event – Dr. Gustav G. Mueller & Edith (Schonberg) Mueller family story continues

In the September 28<sup>th</sup> edition of the Princeton Times Newspapers, the story on Dr. Gustave & Edith Mueller story ran. The story highlighted the Princeton Doctor who was known by many of our residents. Since that time, several people have commented that the story brought back great memories of the local doctor who assisted their family and friends. Following is a bit of information on others in the family who had strong ties to Princeton

When Princeton's unit of government was organized in 1849 under the name of Pleasant Valley, the village and surrounding rural area was all one governmental unit. St. Marie separated in 1852 but the village of Princeton remained in the township until 1865. The Village charter was granted in 1867 and included the entire township area until 1889. In 1916 The Village Board continued working on local projects and issued bonds for the paving of Water Street. The picture below shows Erich Mueller (Father of Dr. Gustave Mueller) laying the last brick on Water Street.



Separation began between the Village and the Town and ultimately in 1920, the Village was incorporated as the City of Princeton. Erich Mueller (father of Gustave) became the first Mayor of Princeton, serving from 1920 – 1928.

The previous story also highlighted that Edith (Schonberg) Mueller was involved in many community organizations. One of the organizations was the Band Mothers. Stories indicate the Band Mothers began in 1925 by a group of women – mothers of the children who played in the school band – who felt the need of a combined effort to support the band. The organization raised funds to pay the salary of the instructor, purchased caps for the band and later red capes. As the school district ultimately paid the salary of the band master, the band mothers were still active organizing a spring tournament and annual concert, buying all the band music, and once a year hosted a band members dancing party. The following picture shows off the band uniforms with Preston Hiestand (on right) and Gustave Mueller (Dr. Mueller's youngest son) as the Mascot.



Gustave and Edith had four children – 2 girls and 2 boys. Helen and Nancy were born in Windom Minnesota before the family came back to Princeton, and Robert and Gustave who were born after the family returned to Princeton.

Nancy became a physical therapist, having obtained her education in Appleton and also UW-Madison. Nancy passed away at the young age of 50 years old and is buried next to her parents in the City Cemetery.

Helen (Mueller) Brenner was a 1946 graduate of Princeton High School and continued her education at UW-Milwaukee and Madison where she majored in Home Economics and Child Education. Helen loved music and was in many competitions playing the grand piano. Helen lived in Fond du Lac with her husband David and their three children. Helen passed away in 2013.

Robert followed his father's footsteps in the medical field by receiving his medical degree from the University of Minnesota in 1965. After completion of his anesthesiology residency, Robert accepted a faculty position at the University of North Carolina and was a physician, researcher, and teacher for 37 years at the U-NC. Robert passed away in 2015.

And finally, Gustave and his wife Sara, now live by Green Lake. Gus attended college at UW-Madison and obtained his medical degree at Harvard. He met his wife Sara, who was a New Jersey native. After they returned to Wisconsin, Gus continued his medical career in Madison where he was a practicing Heart, Thoracic, and Vascular Surgeon. Sara was a home economics teacher for 18 years at MATC. Returning to this area, Gus served on the Green Lake County Board for several years and both Gus and

Sara were very active on the start-up of the Green Lake Chapter of Habitat for Humanity and the home building opportunities Habitat provided for individuals throughout the County.

To share information on those buried in the City of Princeton Cemetery contact City Hall at 920-295-6612 or email [mneubauer@cityofprincetonwi.com](mailto:mneubauer@cityofprincetonwi.com) or [cnickel@cityofprincetonwi.com](mailto:cnickel@cityofprincetonwi.com). We are also looking for a copy of the Band Mothers Cookbook which we could potentially reproduce.

Information for this article came from the Quas Qui Centennial Anniversary Book along with other documents from the Princeton Historical Society. From time to time we find slightly conflicting information on a date or name however always strive for accuracy.