

Henry Stuessy - supplement

From: "Tom Danner" <td8530@gmail.com>

Hello Matt,

My name is Tom Danner and I live in St. Louis. I just read the 2 parts of your article, "The murder of Henry Stuessy". Henry and his wife, Margaretha, are my great-great-grandparents. The oldest child mentioned in the article is my great-grandfather, Jacob Stussie. There are a few details you wrote I wasn't aware of such as the names of the lawyers involved, but everything else is what I've read and heard in the past. We still don't know how Jacob Stussie got to St. Louis but we do know he was in a local orphanage until age 18. I think one of the other Stuessy children also were sent to St. Louis.

Here in St. Louis, Jacob married and had 5 children before passing away at the young age of 40. One of those children, Harry J. Stussie, joined the St. Louis Police Department and died in the line of duty in a traffic accident at the age of 32. One of Harry's children, also named Harry, was a Judge in St. Louis County, Missouri for over 30 years. I thought that was interesting that in a few generations there was a murderer, police officer and a judge.

Thank you for the article. I had some old newspaper clippings from the internet I used to assemble the rough story to share with family members. In the future I'll also include your 2 part write up. Very well done. Thank you!

Tom Danner

I found your articles just doing an internet search on Stuessy Murder. And I do search a list of about a dozen things from time to time.

I have a lot of stuff here - just doing a brain dump so sorry for the lack of organization.

I've attached a photo of the Jacob Ruegg family.
It includes Jacob and his 2nd wife Barbara Elmer Ruegg.
Also included is my 2nd great-grandmother Margaretha Ruegg Stuessy and her half sister Verena F. Ruegg Freitag.

There is a difference of opinion on the identity of the two older women in the photo.
The photo was sent to me by Bob Elmer who writes the New Glarus "Family History Notes" newsletter.

I don't know if he has ownership rights to the photo but if needed I can ask him about that.

I have a little more information about Burkhard Bram.
He was eventually released from prison and went on to marry.
He and his wife had one son.
The son is also named Burkhard Bram (8 Jan 1920 - 13 Oct 1956)
His wife had other children as well and a husband before and after mr. Bram.
Burkhard died 31 August 1931 and I've attached a fuzzy copy of his obit.
I also have a newspaper article that shows a delayed pardon hearing in 1911.
I believe he was released later that year or sometime the following year.

Concerning the Stuessy descendants, I have some information.

Children:

Jacob 4/6/1872 – 7/10/1912
Barbara 3/10/1874 -
Henry 11/18/1875 - ?
Mary 4/12/1877 – 1960?
Fred 2/6/1879 – 2/5/1958
Edward 5/28/1881- 1/19/1965
Son, 1882 Name unknown

The children were at first taken in by close neighbors and relatives. Edward, a baby at the time, fussed so much that he was allowed to be taken to his mother while she was in the county jail so that she could comfort him. He did spend some time there with his mother while she was awaiting trial.

Jacob, Henry, Mary and Edward went to the orphanage in St. Louis, MO where they remained until they were old enough to leave on their own.

Edward moved back to New Glarus. They had a son named Herbert who was a member of the Brodhead Board of Education for 10 years, resigning during his fourth term upon his election to the mayor's office.

Barbara stayed in Wisconsin and lived and worked for the Jacob Voegeli Sr. family.

Fred was raised by Casper Swickey and his wife who never had any children of their own.

A seventh child, a ten pound boy, was born in jail while awaiting trial which was postponed due to her pregnancy. The child was taken away and no details as to where this child was raised were known to the family. It is also unknown if the child was that of Heinrich or Bram. Many years later, a man named Herman Knobel came to visit the family of Ed Stuessy. He claimed to be a relative and it is thought it could have been the child born to Margaretha while in the county jail.

Any of the decenants I contacted all said the same thing - the murder was not talked about within the family.

My grandmother told my mom the story only one time and after grandma was done, she said it would never be discussed again. And she never did.

Besides a police officer and a judge in my line of the Stuessy family, I'm aware of one member of the NC State Assembly, and B&B owner in northern Wisconsin, a lounge owner in Wisconsin and the Mayor of Brodhead, Wisconsin.

I know I threw a lot of stuff out here. Feel free to use any of it you'd like. If permission is needed for the photo, let me know.

BRAM Bruno B., aged 67 years, Aug 31 residence 1926-A N 25th st. beloved husband of May Bram (nee Sturm), fond father of Burkhard Mrs. Mildred Day, Mrs. Lorraine Ludwig, Mrs. Hazel Maht and Le Roy Belzer Remains in state at The Independent Mortuary 1451 N 27th st Funeral services Thursday, Sept. 3, at 2 p. m. in Interment Arlington



PARDON HEARINGS POSTPONED.

Madison, Wis., July 27.—Action by Gov. McGovern on twelve pending pardon cases has been postponed until October 2. The cases are of prisoners held at Waupun for terms varying from two years to life imprisonments, among them Edward Eckbert, sent up from Jefferson county in 1878, and **Rurhard Bram** sent from Green county in 1883, both for murder. The application for pardon of Edwin C. Story, the banker at Belleville, who pleaded guilty to embezzlement several years ago, has been set for October. The pardon will be advocated by Attorney Rufus E. Ela. The postponement of these cases was due to the great amount of work pressing on the governor incident to the work of several new state commissions and to many outside en-

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