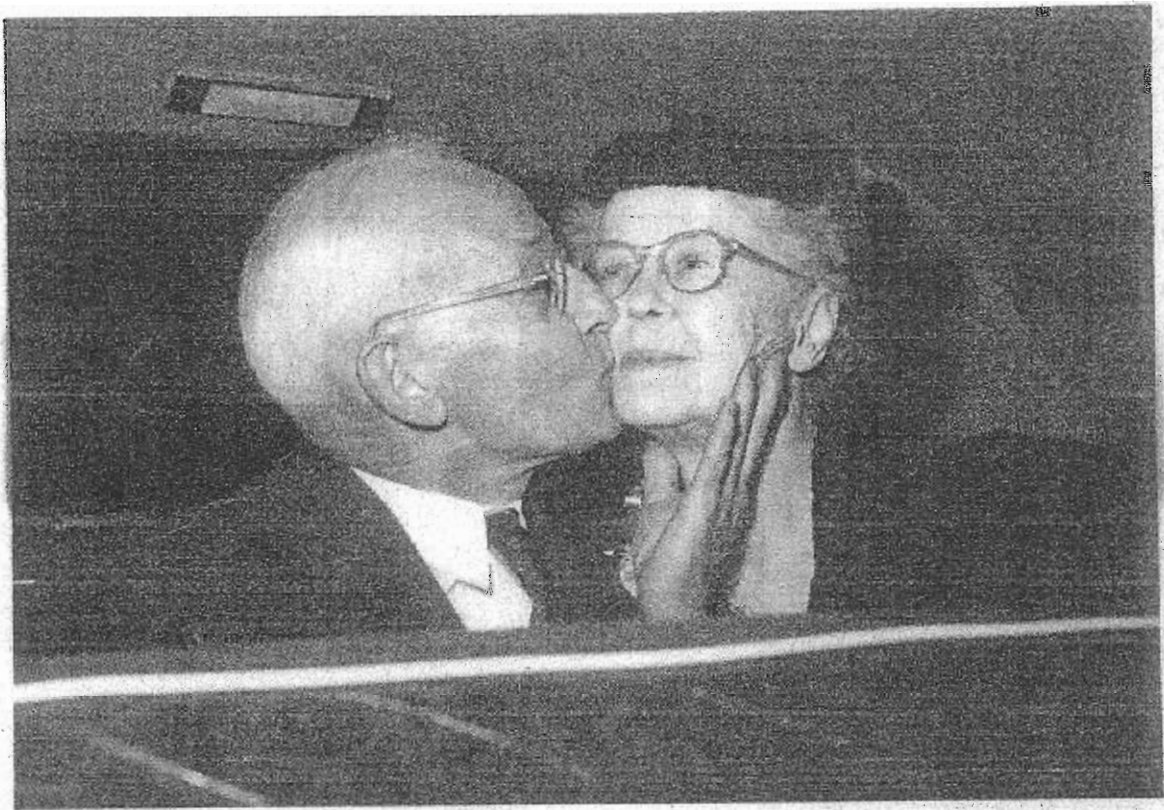


OUR COMMON HERITAGE

LILLIAN REINECK & WINFIELD HEVENOR

Their Life and Family

As Seen By
Their Loving Grandson
JOHN VAN DE HOUTEN



Happy 50th Anniversary

OUR COMMON HERITAGE

Lillian Reineck & Winfield Hevenor

We are the Hevenors - over 130+ of us and growing. There are now five generations with more coming. Sure, each generation splits in half, but it is normal to look for a partner who is compatible. We are all different but the ethics, intelligence, educational drive and family we have retained from this heritage is obvious when we look at these descendants.

They were very family oriented and their pride and love of this family would be great when they look down on us. It is hoped that this write-up will help reflect their memory in those of us that knew and loved them. It is also desired that those who never knew them will better understand them and the family heritage we have.

Lillian Fredericka Reineck and Winfield Scott Hevenor were married on November 12, 1901 in New Brunswick, New Jersey - where Lillian had spent her entire life.

President William McKinley had been assassinated in Buffalo in September of 1901 and Theodore Roosevelt had just become president.

This was before women were allowed to vote and alcohol prohibition was strongly debated. The year before, in 1900, the paper clip was invented. Many Civil War Veterans were still alive as were a few Mexican War veterans. Trains had been revolutionizing transportation and relocating the population. Black and white movies were just beginning - without sound. In 1903 the Wright Brothers flew the first airplane at Kitty Hawk and the Teddy Bear was designed. Cars had just started to become available when Henry Ford opened the first assembly line plant that year. The first automobile trip from San Francisco to New York was from May 23 to August 1 in 190

In 1904 a policeman arrested a woman in New York City for smoking cigarettes in public.

Win was born August 31, 1875 in Rhinebeck, New York. His parents were Benjamin Jacques Hevenor and Lucy Higham. Benjamin was a Civil War veteran. He later received a disability pension as the result of non battle injuries he received while in service. He took part in the battles of Chattanooga, Vicksburg, Gettysburg and Antietam and was with General Sherman in his famous march to the sea. His brother Mathias served in the same NY State Regiment as Benjamin in 1861. He died on July 13, 1862, but it is not currently clear if it was a Civil War related death. Another brother, Reuben Macy, who had moved to Illinois earlier, served in an Illinois Regiment. .



Ben in Uniform

Benjamin's parents were Robert Daniel Hevenor and Eliza Folger.

It was this Folger line of the family that ties us back to Benjamin Franklin, and other very interesting New England persons. For those not sure, Benjamin Franklin is our first cousin "X" times removed. In my case he is 9 times removed.

Eliza was half Dutch ancestry, through her mother Maria Van Loon - and half English. Lucy Higham's family was English. It is through Lucy's line that I traced (and sent copies of to the family) the Hevenor family back to Royal Ancestry - and beyond. Another irony is that one Dutch family was named Lagranjie/La Grange - a name that will frequently appear as you read on.

Robert's ancestors were all German with many going back to the German Palatines who settled in Columbia County NY - a very interesting story. I have only been able to trace the Hevenor name back to 1775 in Rhinebeck where they just appeared from somewhere else - but they were obviously of German heritage.

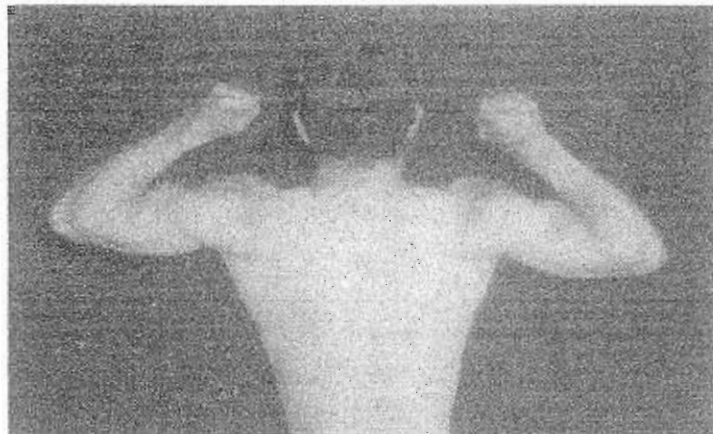
Win was named after his uncle Winfield Scott Hevenor, who was, in turn, named after the famous Mexican War General. Win was the second of ten children with seven living to adulthood.

The family moved to Albany after 1880 - where his parents had been married and his mother, Lucy, had grown up. Win's father was a blacksmith and toolmaker. Win's grandfather, Robert, was also a blacksmith. Win's parents were active in the Lutheran Church - his father serving on the session. Ben became blind with, then incurable, cataracts. Ben lived in Albany until his death at 98 years of age. His father had lived to 94.

About 1895, when he was 20 years old, Win decided to go to the Alaska Klondike. He probably had completed his High School education and, much as Jack London in his "A Call of the Wild", he undoubtedly was more interested in developing his independence and maturity than he was in gold. He rode his bike from Albany to De Kalb, Illinois - where he stayed with a cousin for about a year. This was before paved roads and not too long after bicycles developed into the two equal sized wheels we have today -- and no pneumatic tires then.

His cousin was his father's brother's (Reuben Macy Hevenor) daughter. Her married name was Margaret Smith. She often visited us in LaGrange with her son, Folger Smith. Folger wrote a brief family history for his nephews, which is fascinating. It had a great deal of fiction in it. But it sounded good. (See attachment)

After saving some money, Win took a train to Washington State. He worked in a logging camp where he developed pneumonia - disrupting his plans for the Klondike. He returned to New York by train going through Canada. It's hard to imagine the beauty and splendor of these areas before the day of the car and mass emigration to the West. Though many cities were growing fast, it wasn't until the 20th century that civilization changed massive portions of the land. To see this beauty would be a fantastic dream come true.



Picture of Win used in a YMCA ad

Upon his return to Albany, Win worked for the YMCA. He became Secretary of the Boy's Department. He actively pursued physical fitness there. A picture showing his back muscles was used in ads for the Y. He used many Indian clubs and dumbbells to build up his muscles - doing many different tricks with them. He exercised all of his life - contrary to the idea

that this is a late 20th century fad. I remember him doing exercises in the morning when he got up and I wondered "What's an old guy like him doing that for?" Now that I'm older than he was at that time, I'm well aware of why it should be done.

While working at the Y in 1899, a note was written in his Bible by Union Civil War General Oliver Howard. Then in 1903 another visitor, Confederate Civil War General John B. Gordon added to what Gen. Howard had said. This is copied in the Appendix. Though deteriorating and hard to read, it reflects their thoughts. The Bible is currently in the Heritage Room of the La Grange Presbyterian Church, with a copy of these pages. The originals I have had treated and sealed for preservation – wishfully, it should have been sooner.

The current game of basketball was originated in 1891 in the Springfield, MA YMCA. They decided to go on tour to advertise it and the first competitive game ever was played in the Albany, NY Y, in January 1892. There were, then, 7 players on a side. Baskets were put at each end, but the bottoms were left in so no one could claim the ball hadn't gone in for a score. A basket counted 3 points and a foul shot one.

On the Albany team was Win's brother, Roy Hevenor (at 14 years of age) and another player, Harold Hinman, later became a Supreme Court justice. Albany won the game 9 to 5.

Coincidentally, the first intercollegiate football game was played in New Brunswick, NJ. The 1869 game was played between Rutgers and Princeton.

Win went on a trip to New Brunswick, NJ for a YMCA meeting that was to change the rest of his life - and arrange ours. While there he met Lillian Reineck - a member of the Second Presbyterian Church and a teacher in the city. Presumably, he had gone to church and met her there.

She was born in New Brunswick on January 27, 1874 - the second of four children. Her father had died when she was ten years old. Her mother raised the family - with the help of her oldest son. That son, Edward, was fourteen, but by laws of the time he was an adult. He dropped out of school and went to work soon after the death of their father. The three remaining children all grew up and went to college. Lillian had two years of college schooling to become a teacher. Her sister, Edna, who was later a kindergarten teacher in Oak Park, IL, probably had the same schooling. Her brother, Robert, went to Rutgers University in New Brunswick and received a degree in Civil Engineering. He went to work for the Coast and Geodetic Service out of Washington, DC - traveling around the West in many desolate areas. After I went to Washington, DC in 1951, I often visited Uncle Rob. We went out for dinner and talked a lot during my first two years there. I then went into the U S Navy and then was transferred back to D. C. after two years in Philadelphia. Rob had just died and I went to his burial in the Arlington National Cemetery. He had been in the Army during World War I.

Lillian's mother, Olive Elma Farnsworth, grew up in East Smithfield, PA. This is still a very rural area which I have visited several times and found to be fascinating. Olive's father, David, had come to Pennsylvania with his parents from Guilford, VT in 1813. He returned to Vermont to marry Philana Atwood Haven from Halifax, a small town near Guilford and returned to Pennsylvania to have their family. Both families can be traced back to the early 1600s in Massachusetts and, again, to the Royal Ancestry I've previously documented.

At 6 pm on November 12, 1901 Winfield and Lillian were married in Lillian's church. Her brother, Ed, was now living in the Chicago area, but returned to give away the bride. Her sister, Edna, played the organ. The maid of honor was a friend, Miss Matilda Waker and the best man was Royal Hevenor, Win's brother. His mother Lucy, and brother Horace attended. Lillian's

aunt and uncle, Elijah and Emma Farnsworth of Atchinson, Kansas also attended. Considering transportation in those days, it was difficult and expensive to attend far away weddings.

They left on an early evening train on their wedding trip. After the honeymoon they lived in Albany. Their first daughter, Winifred Farnsworth Hevenor, was born on May 16, 1903.

Lillian had several cousins, on the Farnsworth side, in Kansas and more in Wisconsin. Her maternal grandmother, Philana Atwood Haven, died in Denver, CO in 1902 at 85 years of age. There were Farnsworth's in Wisconsin, around Monroe, that I never heard mentioned. There was another cousin, the Reverend Henry A. Miner, a Congregational minister in Madison. He died at 103 years of age in 1932. Two of her Farnsworth mother's widowed sisters, Ella Elliott and Francis Burroughs lived in Las Cruces, New Mexico and often visited.

Other cousins who I remember well were the Schultz's in Lake Mills, WI. They were related to the Reineck side. Many of us visited their farm and loved being on Lake Mills. Two of their daughters who I remember, were located a few years ago and we have been corresponding since.

A short time later, Win decided to go into sales and they moved to Indianapolis, IN. There he traveled from town to town selling men's underwear for the Munson Co. of Albany. He was on the road for about four days a week and home for three. In a letter he wrote to his daughter Winnie in 1911, he said, "I ate at the table in a hotel with two little women not nearly as big as you are and yet either of them is older than your Father. Years ago they acted as bridesmaids at the wedding of Gen'l Tom Thumb. Ask Mother about them, I think she knows. The Gen'l was one of the littlest men in the world and he married a woman no bigger than he was. They went all over the world with P. T. Barnum's Circus."

They had several homes in Indianapolis. Ruth was born on Capital Avenue on July 13, 1906. Margaret and Carolyn were born at 31st and Ragner - Margaret on March 1, 1910 and Carolyn on August 1, 1911. Winnie and Ruth were at playful ages and played a lot together, such as climbing the six cherry trees in their yard. The first home they had rented. The second they bought. They later traded it in their move to Illinois - but that deal fell through.

After they were married they had attended a Lutheran Church in Albany. When they moved to Indianapolis, there was a Presbyterian Church across the street from their home and they decided to attend there.

In 1911, Lillian's brother, Ed Reineck, had started a wallpaper business on Ogden Blvd. and Talman Avenue in Chicago - the Commercial Wallpaper Company. It had one printing machine. In the 1900 Census, Ed was shown as living in Cicero, IL as a tenant. It showed his business, only briefly, as Wallpaper. I can only guess, but there were several wallpaper businesses in New Brunswick. Ed probably worked there and may have been working for them in sales, or such, thereby coming to the Chicago area. He then used that knowledge leading to the startup. Ed hired his brother-in-law, Win, as a salesman. Win became Secretary and, after Ed's death in December of 1930, Vice-President and Secretary.

Accordingly, in 1914 they moved from Indianapolis to Maywood, IL where they rented until the summer of 1918, just before the end of World War I, when they moved to a rented house on North Brainard Avenue in LaGrange, IL. A year later they bought the house at 20 East Ogden Avenue, where they lived until 1950. (Ogden Avenue was named for the first Mayor of Chicago.)

In case you didn't know it - in 1915 the Marx Brothers family had a farm at the junction of La Grange Road and Route 66.

The religious upbringing of the family was, perhaps, the strongest individual influence on the children - outside of the family itself. Much of this is still carried to current generations. In many of us, though we may not be strong churchgoers, there is a strong personal ethic and beliefs carried down from them.

As mentioned, Win's parents were active in the Lutheran Church. His father had been brought up in the German Reformed Church in Rhinebeck, NY. The paternal line, the community and their German background were their major influences. His mother's side was English. His paternal grandmother was half English, from Nantucket Island, and half Dutch, from the original 1680 Dutch settlers along the Hudson. These ancestors lived in Athens and Cossackie, NY and earlier in Albany, NY. There are two homes in Athens on the Historical Building list of NY - built in 1709 and 1720 - by our Van Loon gggg+grandparents. A book, "The Albany Protocol" contains the written notes of the first Lutheran minister in the colonies - part of his congregation being the Athens, New York Dutch community. Many references to our ancestors are found throughout these records.

All of this background led Win to a very deep religious commitment. He was a deacon and an elder in the LaGrange Presbyterian Church. In the 1930s I remember his giving the sermon, during services, when the minister was absent. I also remember that his weekly donation to the church was \$7, a large amount back in the 1930s but not a tithe.

Folger Smith, in his history previously mentioned, spoke of Win as "the best Christian I have ever encountered." I have included more of Folger's write-up in the appendix.

Lillian's paternal grandfather and grandmother came from Germany in 1834 - on the brig Franklin. They embarked from Bremen and arrived in Baltimore, MD. They first settled in Frederick, MD. He had been a tailor and lay minister in Helmershausen, Germany, and continued in Maryland. There his minister convinced him to study for the ministry and he was ordained in 1837. The family then moved to Shrewsbury, PA, south of York. Here he was pastor in the Reformed Church (now United Church of Christ). Several of his sons, John's brothers, also became ministers.

Lillian's mother, Olive, as mentioned grew up in a rural Pennsylvania area. Papers I have suggest the depth of her religious background as a young girl - later I hope to type some of these up for the family as they're extremely interesting. She went one year to Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, a girl's college where religion was the principle emphasis. In papers from the school I have, home keeping was specifically excluded from their curriculum, as that was the responsibility of the student's mothers. It is still a beautiful and outstanding Women's College.

Lillian was also active in the LaGrange Presbyterian Church. Among other activities, she was President of the Women's Association in 1923. They were not very socially inclined except with respect to the church. She was active in the LaGrange Women's Club and played bridge with a church group. I don't remember her or Win socializing outside of church activities or family.

Lillian and Win never had an alcoholic drink in their lives - until late in life a doctor told Lillian that a little wine would help the heart. A bottle of wine sat on the shelf for years until she tried some. It stayed open for a while longer. They had been very much for prohibition. I remember occasionally going on a drive with them after prohibition was repealed. They would look for a place to eat, but would only go to restaurants that did not serve alcohol. During a visit once, Carolyn Whitcomb noticed the open bottle - and came to me completely astounded, asking what it was. Win's father had also been very much against alcohol, but this wasn't typical of all

his siblings. Lillian's family appeared to be more consistently this way.

Education was also an important aspect in their lives and family. As mentioned, the younger three of Lillian's family all had some college as did her mother, Olive. Ed apparently hadn't, due to the need to help support the family. He obviously had the ability and motivation to learn. School was important to him and he had a major role in the four girls going to college. Win only had a high school education, but this was considerably above average back then. Ironically, in 1900, 60% of high school graduates were females, but less than 25% of those receiving bachelor's degrees were female. Of course, in 1900 only about 2% of 23 year olds received bachelor degrees. By 1930, about 6% of 23 year olds received degrees and these were about 40% female - that was about 4.5% of all females.

Winnie was admitted to Wooster College - a Presbyterian College in Ohio - for The 1920-21 school year. She was the first of the four sisters to attend college and receive Bachelor's degrees. Even today that rate is excellent. Ruth commented that their parents were the inspiration and Uncle Ed helped out financially - otherwise they might not have made it.

Winnie graduated in 1924. Ruth attended New Jersey State Teachers College (affiliated with Rutgers then) for 2 years and then attending the former Froebel Teacher's College in Chicago graduating in 1928. Margaret graduated from Wooster in 1931 and Carolyn graduated there in 1932.

This is just one facet of their having four outstanding daughters. It is apparent that this goal of education has been carried on to all following generations. Of the 13 grandchildren only Joan, after three years of college, didn't graduate - because after Al Hannas received his degree they decided to get married. Of the next generation there is only one I know of without a college education and he (my son Doug) has established an excellent business of his own through hard work.

Another aspect of this is the high ability of the family offspring. Without this inherent ability, college graduation is not an alternative - a very talented group of people.

Ruth remembers how, in the 1920s, they used to take turns with Ed Reineck's family serving Sunday dinner. Without a car, they took 3 streetcars to the Reineck's home (after Sunday Church service, of course). But they were driven home by Ed and Irene in their Hupmobile.

In 1928 the wallpaper company was moved to a larger facility in Hammond, Indiana - on the state line south east of Chicago. The new building had 115,000 square feet of floor space and started with six printing machines. There was the capacity for 6,000,000 rolls of paper a year and expected to employ 60 to 75 people.

Win and Lillian temporarily moved there to assure that the startup was done right. To complicate it, Uncle Ed Reineck died December 19, 1930 after a long illness. He would go to Hammond for half a day - driven by a chauffeur/handyman. Later, he tried to run the company and its move from his home - until his death.

Mr. Lee, who became the president, also lived in La Grange.

Win became Vice President and Treasurer of the company. They had kept the home in LaGrange and after a period, Lillian, understandably, wanted to move back to La Grange - so they packed up and returned. Ruth had moved to Hammond in 1928 as a schoolteacher. When her parents were there, she and a friend and co-teacher, Florence Schaeffer, lived with her parents. When they left, she stayed in Hammond teaching kindergarten until she married in 1938. Back then a married woman was not allowed to be a teacher.

Winnie had married in 1926 - to Ed Van de Houten. She had worked at Cook County

Hospital in Chicago. There she became friends with a co-worker that introduced Winnie to her brother-in-law. Shortly after they married they moved to Kansas City, Missouri where Ed was district sales manager for the Pulver Gum Company. However, when the depression hit it affected his job. Also his previously wealthy parents lost virtually all their assets after the 1929 crash. As a result, in 1930 Winnie and Ed moved to live with her parents in Hammond, IN, with their son, the first grandchild. Later they also moved to LaGrange, living with her parents until 1949. The depression was to go on for ten years until World War II started. Unemployment was above 30% for a short period. In 1932 the average for the year was 23.6%. Those with jobs, often, could barely survive.

The house in LaGrange was a large wood framed building built before the turn of the century. It had a large front porch and lot. On the corner to the West was a gas station, later Sinclair. Diagonally across the side yard was the John Boose Funeral Home. The father had started it and then the son took over. South of the funeral home was an open space with the Breen's Cleaners and the Best Way Laundry next to the streetcar and railroad lines. The Laundry was owned by the Smith family. Both Harris Smith and John Boose were members of the choir in the Presbyterian Church.

To the South was an area Win used to grow vegetables. He always loved to garden. Every year a horse and plow was brought in from the Kemman farm in LaGrange Park. Then the grounds would be hand tilled and planted with corn, beans, squashes, tomatoes, etc. It was, of course, delicious when fresh and many were canned and stored in the basement for later use.

Further to the South was a private tennis club (built in 1895 with two clay courts) and a small parking area. Below the house to the East was an unimproved road and open field with some wooded areas. This ran along Ogden Avenue to the streetcar line and bridge over Ogden Avenue. It was a great place for a young boy to play, including a memory of starting a fire in the field and the LaGrange fire department coming out. This area was never improved until now where expensive condominiums have been built.

It was one block south to the streetcar line that went to 48th and Cicero Avenue, there connecting to the Chicago lines. Next to that was the C B & Q Railroad for both cross country and suburban trains - and a suburban station for the commuters to downtown Chicago or other stops of the commuter train. Even some of the cross country trains stopped there as the first stop out of Chicago to pick up passengers. This made it very convenient to go into the city to shop or have fun. Next to that was the downtown area with drugstores, grocery stores, a Woolworth's Five & Dime store, etc. For a nickel or a dime it's surprising what could be bought back in those days before a minimum wage law was passed in 1938, requiring at least \$.40/hour pay. The Chicago Tribune was 2¢ and an ice cream cone at "Prince Castle" was 3¢ - both into the 40s.

Ogden Avenue was a main road to Chicago from the west, with many trucks loaded with farm products and livestock. Even at 2am you could hear them going by, though you got used to it. Occasionally there would be an accident and a calf or a pig would get loose and have to be caught after it ran around for a while.

Originally, this was the Chicago-Dixon Road. In the 1830s a stage bumped and shook westward from Chicago. It was then called "the worst road a person could ride". In wet weather it became a muddy trail. About 1850 it was "paved" with three inch thick, eight foot wide planks and became known as the Southwestern Plank Road. The town was originally called "Kensington". As there was already a town of that name in Illinois, Franklin Cossitt, who owned most of it then, renamed it La Grange after the town in Tennessee he had come from. That in

turn was named after the ancestral home in France of Marquis de Lafayette, the Revolutionary War hero. The "La Grange Centennial History" published by the La Grange Area Historical Society provides an interesting history of the town and early settlers on to 1979.

There was only one useable bathroom in the house on Ogden - with a sink, tub and toilet - for all who lived there. In addition to Ed & Winnie, their son, John, the twin daughters, Caryl and Joan and in 1934 another son, Richard. Margaret would be home from college for the summer until she married in 1931 and Carolyn for another two years until she graduated. There were other out of town family visitors. Win's brother Roy would work for Win as a salesman for part of the year during the depression. Plus there was local family that would come for Sunday dinners etc. Win's oldest brother, Bob, and his wife Marjorie, lived in Clarendon Hills to the West a few miles. Ed and his wife Irene lived to the north in Lake Forest. Aunt Edna lived in Oak Park.

Ruth once told me that her Uncle Bob Hevenor had a photographic mind. He worked for a pharmaceutical company and could speedily recite all medicines, uses, side effects and prices anytime. Anything he ever read he could relate to you in detail. He was really something. Ironically, he wasn't as successful as some of his brothers.

Win had never learned to drive. It had been easy for him to take the train to work at the original plant. It was next to a stop on the way to the Union Station. Though Winnie and Ed both drove they couldn't afford a car after the depression hit, so public transportation was needed. After they moved back to La Grange, Win commuted to Hammond every day by train. He took the Suburban C B & Q train to the Union Station in Chicago. He would then walk across town to Michigan Boulevard where he would take the Illinois Central train to Hammond - returning at night. In bad weather he could take the "L" across town. He would buy the Chicago Tribune in the morning and the Daily News at night. These were the two more conservative papers in the city.

In 1935, at 60 years of age, Win learned to drive and bought a brand new Oldsmobile. I hate to think how cheap it must have been. The license plate was 38895, a number he kept as long as he had a car. He would drive the 35 miles to Hammond and return at night. He would wake at 6 am every day. He never used an alarm clock. He would shave, always using an old fashioned straight edged razor - only used by barbers now. For breakfast there would always be bacon. He would leave the house at 7am and return at 6pm.

The twins were born in 1932 and Dick in 1934. The eight people began to put a strain on the house and, I'm sure the family. But I'm also sure it was little noticed. There were two boys and the first twins known in the family since two distant cousins that were born in 1822. Even granted I have a little bias, it's hard to imagine a more fun family than this. The girls were adorable and a great attraction. The boys were also cute (of course) and - there were now two boys to fill the past void.

In the mid 1930s, major changes were made inside the house. The partition between the living room and parlor was removed to make one large room. A half bath was built between the kitchen and dining room and a shower was added to the upstairs bath. The coal furnace was modified from a shovel loaded one to an automatic stoker with a thermostat. It only required filling once a day. They bought an automatic washing machine for the basement. The icebox was replaced with an electric refrigerator - no need for the iceman to come anymore. Most of the house was redecorated, with - surprise - wallpaper. Plus a two-car garage was added to handle

the new Oldsmobile. The painting and wallpapering was done by Ed V., he had previously worked in the trade – but was unemployed during most of the depression.

The basement was full size and had room for coal and wood, a large workshop, a place to iron, the laundry and storage space for the canned goods. There was the old fashioned type of exit to the outside with steps and lift doors - the clothes could be hung out to dry in the summer. Plus there was extra storage room if needed under the stairs, behind the furnace, etc.

The attic was also full sized. There was a bedroom in front and a bathroom at the head of the stairs coming up. Neither was used much as it was unheated in the winter and hot in the summer - and not very well decorated. The bedroom in front had an old phonograph player and a lot of old records the girls had from the 20s as well as some classics. The window, facing East, was a great place to watch the fireworks on the 4th of July. The attic was also loaded with old family papers, books, etc. That's part of what got me interested in family history as there were many letters going back 100 years from different people in the family - primarily Lillian's. When her aunts in New Mexico died in the 20s their items were stored there. These were stored in several antique trunks. There were 100s of old 3-D pictures, using an 1800s stereoscope. Books I remember were on the Boer War in Africa and the Civil War - plus many more. Old magazines from the 1800s, letter envelopes with old stamps and letters inside which undoubtedly would provide great historical background on different parts of the country now. I can hardly imagine what Las Cruces, NM would be like when two unmarried, but very religious, women moved there to help setup the telegraph in the West. What we think about are the old western movies with the cattlemen and the dancing girls. There was also an old phonograph record player – the kind that had to be wound up to play. A lot of old 1920s records there which I loved to listen to.

In any case this was one of my favorite places. Everyone else pretty much stayed out of it except to get something that was stored there. There are, fortunately a few old things that have been saved but most were discarded when the house was sold in 1950.

Throughout the 20s and 30s there were hired women to help with the chores. They would hire ones who were in need, thereby helping them as well. Earlier they often had a live in maid. Several were from private schools. They would work and earn some money and lodging while attending school. Ruth remembered one, "Crazy Mary", who would go into the basement where the mousetraps were and release them. Later I was put in the back bedroom that the maids had used, so there was no longer a place for them to stay. A later maid who I remember, Lucille, commuted from Brookfield. She had six toes on each foot and was very thin haired and probably of limited intelligence. She had few skills but gradually learned, even helping to cook after awhile. She was there for a number of years and the last maid I remember.

Ruth also remembers they used to help out some of the hobos with food. In fact she felt there was a mark for them to see on the sidewalk showing this was a good place to ask for help. One, "One-Eyed Jack", came around fairly often. He would help out a little bit with some chores in return for a little help.

A lot of the work was also done by Winnie. She did the shopping at the A & P, on a budget of \$20 per week for 8 people. There was often prime rib and Yorkshire pudding on Sundays and good meals throughout the week. Bread was often homemade - & delicious. We occasionally had squab - which was raised by our A & P butcher. Another delicacy was fried lamb kidneys for breakfast. Normal breakfasts were bacon and eggs, no one knowing then about cholesterol. Coffee was "Eight O'clock" ground when it was bought.

A couple of times a year, Win would get gifts from paper manufacturers in the West. One

was a whole large salmon. We'd have that, in part, roasted for Sunday dinner – and the rest for other meals. Plus he'd get a large container of smelt. We'd have these for both dinner and breakfast, as long as they lasted.

Win and Lillian drank green tea at dinner time - something that has become popular these days as being healthy.

Holiday meals were both delicious and large - with twenty or more family members often being there. Win also received gifts from business relations, such as paper companies. Every year they would send a large whole salmon from the Northwest. This would be made into several different delicious dishes. Another was a large package of smelt, a small fish, which would be used for dinner and for breakfast until used up. I don't seem to remember there being the concern about freshness then as there is now. And they always seemed fresh. Fresh eggs would come from Lillian's cousins in Lake Mills, WI - in a large crate of 144 eggs. To preserve some, they were soaked in a glass water solution to seal them until needed.

The milkman, W. Croak, delivered milk regularly – originally by horse and buggy. It was placed on the back porch and we would get it and put it in the icebox – later the refrigerator. In the winter it would freeze a little with the frozen cream pushing the cardboard lid up by the time we brought them in.

In addition to the vegetable garden, the yard had many flowers and shrubs that Win also took care of. There was a grape arbor with delicious grapes. These were made into jelly and stored in the basement. (The jelly jars were sealed with wax – not in Mason Jars.) There were six lilac trees - beautiful in the spring. The back (west) yard had flower gardens, a birdbath and trees, including a crab apple that was also used for jelly. There were elm trees in the front of the house and some great shrubs on the south edge of the front yard and around the front porch. More flower beds were on the south side by the fence. There was lawn all around the house, requiring, in those days, hand mowing.

The Depression Era was very severe and many stories exist about people and their hardships. Tales of "Okies" going to California - e.g. in John Steinbeck's Grapes of Wrath were common. Bread lines were well known. Drugs were a minor problem then, though there were problems in some areas. It was the severity of the economic conditions - a time that, hopefully, will never recur.

The family was very isolated from these conditions. Win's income was more than adequate to handle the expenses. It was probably the peak of the inexpensive wallpaper market they serviced. By 1950, the success of "Kem Tone" and other do-it-yourself paints had a serious impact on their market. LaGrange was a town of middle class working families. Hobos would appear asking for handouts and sleep in the wooded areas towards the tracks. There were some Afro-American families in LaGrange. But they, too, were in better shape than most throughout the country - hiring out as maids and handymen or laborers around town. Though poor they had homes and food.

Win and Lillian were against any type of credit card or borrowing money. Of course, they didn't have to and credit cards weren't common then. There was one exception – a charge card for Marshall Field's department store at State and Randolph in Chicago. Lillian would shop there regularly. She would go by train and the "L", which went from the Union Station to the second floor of Field's – very convenient. To make it easier in those days, Fields would deliver anything. So she never had to lug packages back with her. Some things just don't change for the better.

Their travel that I recall was primarily to Lake Mills, WI and several times to Manistique, Mi. But I do remember they once took a tour to the southwest by train, visiting various National Parks – a big change.

Our family doctor was Dr. John Gardner. In 1941 he was one of 12 doctors in La Grange. During the '30s he made house calls - charging \$2 a visit. That was more than a lot of people could even pay then. With a contagious disease (mumps, chicken pox, etc.) it was better than going to the doctor's office. Plus he made sure the quarantine sign was posted on the door. But house calls were made for less serious reasons also – very convenient for us.

In June 1934, the Brookfield Zoo opened. It was about 4 miles from the house and easy to get to by streetcar. Then in 1936, the first Giant Panda bear was obtained from China, a fact that made the zoo famous. I recently read a book "The Lady and the Panda" about the woman who managed to bring the Panda back from China just before the Communists took over.

When they had moved to La Grange, they continued to attend the Presbyterian Church. Ruth became a member in 1918 – currently the longest active member with 90 years of it.

Win served as a church Elder. I remember several times in the 30s when he gave the sermon in the absence of the minister. Until 1967 the number of Elders at one time was seven. In January 1972 an announcement in the church bulletin read:

"Upon recommendation from the nominating committee, the Congregation elected for the first time in history two persons to the office of Elder Emeritus: Mr. Arthur Hall and Mr. Winfield Hevenor. These men were so honored because of their long and dedicated service to Christ and this church."

Besides being against alcohol, their beliefs included other restrictions. Going to a movie on Sunday was considered wrong. Carolyn once mentioned that her mother told her sewing on Sunday was wrong.

Sunday movies had been a big issue in the 1920s. No movies were allowed to be shown in La Grange on Sundays. When the La Grange Theater asked to be allowed to open on Sundays the village trustees considered it. Forces on both sides of the issue were formed. After some months the trustees finally granted permission.

Win and Lillian said prayers when they went to bed. Win said a blessing when we sat down for dinner:

"Dear Heavenly Father. We thank you for this food. Bless it to our use and us to thy service."

When I was a teenager, Win was looking for something in his dresser drawer, unsuccessfully. He was upset when he couldn't find it, saying "I can't keep a damned thing around here." That was the only time I ever heard such a word from either of them.

On October 29, 1929 the stock market crashed. Losses from 1929 to 1931 were estimated to be \$50 billion (in 1930 \$). Unemployment reached 12 million people in 1932. La Grange was affected, though not as much as many others. The La Grange National Bank closed but reopened in January 1934 as The First National Bank of La Grange,

In 1935, General Motors opened their Electro Motive Division Plant in La Grange to make diesel locomotives.

Franklin Roosevelt was elected president in November 1932 with 22,827,000 votes to Hoover's 15,760,000 votes. In the next few months a number of new social and economic measures were passed – including banking regulation, funds for the jobless, job creations, raising agriculture prices, setting wage and production standards for industry, etc. A short time later

Social Security was started. As significant as these and later measures were, the Depression lasted until World War II. Also in 1933 prohibition was ended.

One of the early measures passed in 1933 directly affected the extended family – the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). This program recruited unemployed young men to fight destruction and erosion of natural resources. Over 3 million young men were involved in it during the 1930s.

On September 4, 1931, their daughter Margaret married Gilbert H. Lewis (Gib) in the Presbyterian Church of La Grange. They had met during school in La Grange. Gib had graduated from Purdue University with a Mechanical Engineering degree in 1929. He also had been a member of the ROTC. After graduating he received an officer's commission and was active in the Reserve. After graduation he went to work at G & W Electrical Co. on the south side of Chicago. In 1933 he was called up to be commander at the Manistique, Michigan CCC Camp – on the Upper Peninsula near Lake Michigan. This was one of hundreds of camps around the country. Several times Win and Lillian visited them – going by train.

About 1934, one CCC enrollee was Rupert Klein – getting \$25 a month. He had graduated from Michigan College of Mining in 1932 as a Metallurgical Engineer. Due to the depression even young college graduates had a difficult time. Shortly, he was promoted to "Educational Advisor" at \$100 a month. He had a college debt of \$400, which he paid off in five years. (They should be so lucky today.)

After several camps he was assigned to Manistique under Gib's direction. They became close friends and Gib soon introduced him to Ruth. Though they wanted to get married, Rupe wanted to pay off his debt first. Ruth wanted to continue to teach for awhile. They were married on August 27, 1938.

Carolyn and Bailey Whitcomb met while attending Wooster College. They were married on October 14, 1935. The reception was in the Ogden Avenue home. Winnie made the wedding cake. The almost 3 year old twin girls saw it and took a couple of handfuls to eat.

When Winnie noticed it she filled the gap with frosting so no one could see what happened.

Bailey worked near Buffalo for Bethlehem Steel Co. for many years. In the late 30s they built a home in Hamburg, NY which they kept for 50 years until they moved to Langhorne, PA.

In our Farnsworth ancestry, the Whitcomb name also appears – the same ancestors as Bailey's. These were in the Lancaster, MA area as early as 1653. John Sr. and John, Jr. were active in the incorporation of the town. One of today's streets is named Whitcomb. In 1675, 1676 and 1697 there were massacres in the area as a result of King Philip's War between the Indians and the settlers who had taken over the land. No Whitcombs but other ancestors were killed during these massacres. (A number of ancestral lines were there.)

In our living room there was a radio to listen to. I remember some of my favorites were



Generation 2

"Little Orphan Annie", "The Lone Ranger" and "The Shadow" and, of course, the Chicago Cubs games. There were also the classic comedians – Jack Benny, George Burris and Gracie Allen, etc. On Saturday night there was "Your Hit Parade" playing the top 10 popular songs. In about 1941 they added a young singer named Frank Sinatra. Every time he appeared all the girls in the theater would scream and yell over the air waves. From that he became famous. Also on late Saturday night was Dave Garroway who later went on TV with the "Garroway at Large" show for a few years. He then was asked to start a morning show "The Today Show" that is still on.

Lillian often read in the Living Room as it was a great place to relax. There was a large picture window in the East and regular windows on the South side. The front porch was also an excellent place to relax when the weather and the bugs permitted. There was a piano in the Living Room that Lillian liked to play for relaxation.

In the front entrance hall there was a bookcase area with a number of classics and reference books. It also was the location of the telephone. I'll never forget the number – La Grange 2093. When you picked up the phone an operator answered "Number Please?" That is if no one else was on, as most were party lines with two or more homes sharing. For long distance you gave them the city, state and number. It was often cheaper to send a Western Union telegram rather than call across the country. It would be hand delivered to the location it was sent to.

Both of my parents read books from the La Grange Library. Often the newly published mysteries that cost 2¢ a day to check out were their favorites. Their room was at the front of the house on the second floor with a sleeping area and a living area. They stayed there most of the time. They were both cigarette smokers but restricted it to their area. Unfortunately, they both died from diseases caused by their smoking. Winnie enjoyed crossword puzzles and playing solitaire. Her favorite crossword was the Thursday Chicago Daily News diagram less puzzle. She was also in a bridge club that periodically met at various houses – playing in the downstairs Living Room occasionally.

Lillian was a quiet, old style wife. Religion, husband and family were the most important things to her. I well remember how she used to sit by the window in their bedroom darning socks. They were made with natural materials – easy to wear holes in them and expensive to just replace them. I believe she strongly enjoyed doing that.

In 1927 the La Grange American Legion Post started the "Sunday Evening Club". Various famous speakers and entertainers made presentations in the Lyons Township High School auditorium – on a one or two a month schedule during the normal school year. Free seating was provided and a collection was taken to meet expenses. A membership could be purchased for \$10 a year which provided a reserved seat. Lillian and Win were regular subscribers.

It's difficult to summarize the speakers. They were nationally and internationally known persons – elected officials, ministers, explorers, musicians, educators, etc. I particularly enjoyed the world explorers – Burton Holmes, Admiral Richard Byrd, Martin and Osa Johnson, Lowell Thomas, etc. Names that most would recognize even today include Amelia Earhart, Robert L. Ripley and Sgt. Alvin York (WW I hero). But the best known now, was probably the Baron Von Trapp Family Choir.

In the 1939/40 season, one speaker was William Patrick Hitler, nephew of Adolph. He had been born in England. For a while when his uncle was in power he had lived in Germany – but he left and became an anti – Fascist touring speaker. He had written an article in Look Magazine "Why I Hate My Uncle".

I went through a phase of getting autographs. Everyone's favorite of these is by Helen Keller. Others are Burton Holmes, Archduke Felix of Austria and Rudolph Ganz.

I also have one by Arthur Compton who won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1927. He became the president of the University of Chicago. In 1942 the first nuclear chain reaction was produced at U. of Chicago under the direction of Arthur Compton, Enrico Fermi, and others. His father had been Dean of Students at Wooster College when Winnie attended and she knew Arthur quite well. He was also one of three brothers who became university presidents.

Unfortunately, these Sunday night programs ended in 1959 – the victim of television.

As the 30s ended the economy made a slight comeback. Hitler had started his takeovers. In 1939 he annexed Austria and dismembered Czechoslovakia. In 1937 a US "Neutrality Act" prevented intervention in Europe. However, in 1939, US military expenditures were increased. In September 1940 the first peacetime draft in US history was approved – just before the 40 hour work week law went into effect.

Then – Pearl Harbor.

Winnie had decided to go back to work in the late 30s. First, she took a job making salads in the Marshall Field's restaurant. Soon she took another position with the Army Signal Corps teaching mathematics to trainees learning electronics. A High School friend of hers told her about a position under his supervision at Western Electric Company in Cicero. She decided to accept it – testing a new technology product called permalloy cores. Years later these became the first "bits" of computer memory.

Ed had tried to enlist in the Navy but was turned down due to testing positive for diabetes, which he was unaware of. He then entered the civilian service with the Signal Corps and went to England as an instructor. He was nearby when his brother, Tues, was killed by a German "buzz" bomb. He returned to the US and La Grange in 1943.

Gib had stayed active in the Army Reserve. In early 1941 he was called up to active duty as a Captain. He was stationed in Lawton, Oklahoma where the family was living on December 7, 1941. He was promoted and they moved to Arcadia, California where the Santa Anita Race Track was being converted to an Army Camp. After a while there he was transferred to Washington state. The family moved up there but kept the home in Arcadia which they had bought. When he was sent to Europe the family moved back to California until the war was over. They wanted to stay there when the war was over but jobs were difficult as everyone else wanted to be there also. As a result, Gib returned to his old company and they bought a house in La Grange on Brainard Avenue. He was a full colonel at the end of the war and was appointed a Lt. Colonel in the reserve which he actively participated in after the war – teaching in the Chicago area.

Rupe and Bailey were not required to go into the military and remained where they were employed.

Television wasn't yet in homes until after the war (although it was developed by a distant 21 year old cousin, Philo Farnsworth in 1927). The newspapers and radio were the primary source of information. On December 7, 1941, the telephone system was overloaded with calls. I clearly remember listening to the radio about what was happening – not unlike we all did on 9/11. Movie theaters showed a news film between feature movies - the main source of actually seeing what was happening in the war.

When we went to war many items we depended on became scarce. Gasoline was rationed to cut down unnecessary car use. Most were limited to 3 Gallons per week. Win, however,

qualified for "A" level as he needed to drive to Indiana daily. In fact, there was not a gasoline shortage, but a shortage of other related materials such as tires. New cars also were not available so continued use of what was available was necessary.

Meats, sugar, butter and coffee were rationed. By saving and recycling grease which was used in munitions, extra coupons could be obtained. Winnie got her lamb kidneys from the butcher, with them still embedded in the fat. That was processed and added a little to our supply. While it was somewhat difficult, it wasn't so tightly controlled that anybody suffered. For most things, there were black markets. But La Grange was relatively free from them.

Automobiles weren't being built as their facilities were required for military equipment. As the war continued the non availability of spare parts became an increasing problem.

Federal taxes were increased. In 1941, only 10% of the population was paying taxes. In 1944 nearly all employed people were paying. In 1943, Roosevelt signed a bill for income tax to be withheld from paychecks. (I wonder if they had said it would be temporary?)

When the war ended, the economy was in good shape. La Grange had new manufacturing companies close by with available jobs. As new cars became available people increased their use in driving to work. Roads weren't like they are today. The Pennsylvania Turnpike was the first major road with tolls and limited access.

Win switched from Oldsmobile's to Packard's after the war.

I remember when we got our first television in the late 1940s. Although a variety of shows were watched, I particularly remember his watching boxing matches and the Miss America Contests.

What had been a railroad community in La Grange and others along the Burlington RR, soon began to expand. It is difficult to relate the extensive growth to the north and south in the bare spaces there before WW II.

Though most manufacturing was strong, wallpaper was having difficulties. Win and Frederick Lee were in their 70s and decided to sell the company (I'm not sure if the Ed Reineck family was still involved in these decisions.) Shortly after the war, it was sold to the Imperial Wall Paper Company, one of the major manufacturers. They operated the Hammond plant but closed it at some later point.

Wallpaper was printed using large printing presses with a different roller for each color. These were carefully manufactured and aligned so the paper came out visibly in high quality. As the patterns changed from year to year, new rollers were made, not an easy task. Many of these have remained throughout the family and made into lamps. They are not only very attractive, but bring back deep memories.

The Klein and Lewis families were settled in their homes in La Grange. An anti-trust suit was filed against AT & T for the rights to the permalloy cores Winnie was testing. They were now to be used for computers. AT&T lost and Arnold Engineering Co., part of the Allegheny Steel Corp., approached Winnie to see if she would accept work with them. She agreed and, in 1949 Winnie and Ed moved to Marengo, IL, 45 miles NW of La Grange. John was attending Illinois Institute of Technology. The girls were starting at U. of Iowa. Dick was still in high school, but stayed in La Grange, as Lyons Township HS was the better school.

The Ogden Avenue house was now too large and unnecessary. In 1950 it was sold for \$29,000 – a lot in those days. The value was primary in the location potential. Win and Lillian then bought the home at 4217 Linden Avenue in Western Springs. This was a single story house compared to the multi level house they had - ideal for them. Much of what they had in the old

house was discarded due to lack of room.

In 1950, Lillian had a stroke. She was taken to Mercy Hospital on S. Michigan Ave. in Chicago. Win spent a lot of time there and others in the family went there as much as they could, hoping for the best. It was less than a mile from Illinois Tech where I was a student. I went to see her many times. Although she was in a coma and couldn't speak, I was always sure she reacted, showing she knew it was me there.

Then the Doctor told Win there wasn't anything else he could do for her and he might as well take her home to die. Win went with her in an ambulance heading to Western Springs. Then by a miracle, Lillian came out of her coma half way to their home. Although she always showed signs of her illness, she lived another eight years.

Win carefully took care of her as she showed some recovery. Although fragile she could get up and around.

In November 1951 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family gathering. The group picture (see attachment) included 26 people. The 4 daughters and 3 son-in-laws and nine grandchildren were there. Of the Whitcombs, only Carolyn could make it due to the distance. Bert decided to hitchhike from college in Ohio, but after about half way there he knew he wouldn't make it in time and returned to school. Others were:

Edna Reineck and her roommate Bertha Rife

Margaret Horlock (Ed Reineck's daughter) and her children Jean and Robert

Margaret Smith (Win's aunt) and her son Folger

Al Hannas, Joan's fiancée

The next June Joan and Al Hannas were married – the first of the grandchildren. Service was in the Presbyterian Church – before air conditioning was available. The official temperature at Midway Airport (no O'Hare then) was 102.5 degrees.

The minister was Wendell Halverson, the first of two Halversons, to minister at the church. In the La Grange Centennial History a story of his was written:

"On the day I baptized my son Timothy, his young sister came to watch. My habit was to ask parents "What is the Christian name of this child?" I decided to treat my son like everyone else, so I looked at his mother and asked "What is the Christian name of this child?" She screwed up her mouth a bit and said "Timothy Greenwood." The congregation chuckled. My daughter, Ingrid, returned to her Sunday school class and said to the teacher: "My daddy baptized my baby brother and didn't even know his name.""

Other weddings soon followed leading to the start of the next generation of their great grandchildren. Several lived in the area and others visited frequently, so Lillian and Win saw the family growing.

In September 1957, their daughter Margaret died of breast cancer.

Win had a Packard automobile, having switched from an Oldsmobile after the War. They were able to go to Church and get around locally.

In January 1959 Lillian had another stroke and died one day before her 85th birthday.

Now living alone, Win continued his love of gardening and took up a new hobby, painting pictures. He always knew how to draw. He took a few lessons in water color and oil painting. From there he started the painting pictures we all can relate to. He did at least 85 pictures, many of which are still in the family as prized possessions. (This is a talent that didn't come down to me. Art was always my worst subject. I'm also somewhat color blind, probably from Lillian's father.)

Painting was his winter hobby as he kept busy gardening, weeding and cutting the grass. Peonies were his favorite with up to 36 varieties and colors in 1970.

In the winter he was the first on the block to shovel the snow from the sidewalks and driveway. In 1967 there was a big snow. At 92 he was one of the few to shovel it. It took him 4 hours to do it.

This didn't escape the neighbors. In 1970 a young 17 year old neighbor wrote a poem about him – "A GREAT MAN" This is enclosed in the attachments. I tried to find Rob Hearn, the neighbor, through an Internet search, but was unsuccessful.

In the summer of 1959, Carolyn Lewis Ireland and her husband Gary Ireland spent the summer with him. Then they returned to Wooster College for school.

Many of us visited him. Ruth, of course, was his closest family member and helped him during the years.

For his 90th birthday in 1965 there was a surprise party held for him at Ruth's house. Attending were Bert and Mary Lewis, Linda (Klein) and Howard Vardaman and Carolyn (Lewis) and Gary Ireland.

For his 96th birthday there were 16 attending his party at Ruth's.

In the late 1960s after her husband died, Winnie moved in with him. She was legally blind but still able to do many things as she could partly see out of the corner of her eyes. She still could cook and help him – and he could help her. She did visit her 4 children and their families, so he was still alone at times.

In early 1969, while driving his Packard, he was hit by a car that ran a red light. Packards were out of business and parts were difficult to find. Accordingly, he gave up his car at the age of 93.

Ruth would drive him to Church on Sundays and helped him out as necessary. He was still very active – up by 6 in the morning still. He was still exercising doing situps, etc. and then had breakfast. His breakfast consisted of three strips of bacon, toast, two canned peach halves, orange juice and two cups of coffee.

Kathryn Winslow wrote a column – "Social Studies" for the Chicago Tribune. She wrote about Win twice in her columns – his 94th and 95th birthdays. Also several pictures were in the newspapers on his birthday.

Win had kept a scrapbook with a lot of this in it and more. All was a great help in preparing this story of them and their families.

In 1971 Win had his 96th birthday and continued in good health until the end of the year. He then had a stroke and went to the hospital. As he improved some, he went to recuperate at Ruth and Rupe's house. He had a second stroke and died on January 10, 1973. Services were held in the La Grange Presbyterian Church and he was interred next to Lillian in Bronswood Cemetery.

Both Lillian and Win lived longer than any of their siblings. Again – good genes.

At that time, his descendants included his four daughters, 13 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren – 47 in all. I can't be sure of the exact number now as it keeps changing and what I have probably is missing some. There are now several great-great- great grandchildren – the new wave.

My list from Ruth's 100th birthday shows 127 descendants plus 60 spouses. There are 4 more in my line plus ? others.

Several times I have visited Rhinebeck, NY to see what I could learn about the town and

the Hevenor living and working arrangements. Once I was walking around when I saw an elderly man. I thought to ask him some questions about what might have happened back then. When he started to speak he sounded just like my grandfather. I never thought of his having an accent – but now I knew. (Of course, we didn't have accents around Chicago except ruff and crick for roof and creek.)

Much has changed around the town we grew up in. (But not all.) outside of the town it has filled in with developments, other new towns and shopping centers. Fortunately the Forest Preserves are still there and La Grange still has much of its old aura. But, Oak School that we went to for 6th to 8th grades in La Grange Park is now “The American Nuclear Society”.

Along La Grange Road between the RR and Ogden Avenue there are a lot more shops of all varieties – and none of the old ones. The area East of these shops where our house and open areas was is now a condominium development – Beacon Place. This is a large complex with 2003 prices, that I have, starting at near 10 times and going up to 25 times what their house sold for in 1950– who would have guessed? The area where the house was is a part of the parking lot.

The YMCA that was across the street has been moved and as I last knew was still vacant.

When Ruth and Rupe decided to sell their house they moved to “Plymouth Place” a senior facility about 2 blocks north of Ogden Avenue on La Grange Road – but in La Grange Park. Ruth is still living there.

So ends my memories of my grandparents and the wonderful loving people that they were. I'm sure others have other memories that we would all enjoy.

In 2006 there was a great celebration of Ruth Klein's 100th birthday – with over 50 family members attending. All nine of her nieces and nephews were there plus some of the Lewis descendents. Of course, Linda and Jeff with their families were the key attendees and planners. It was a great reunion, hopefully, not the last one of the Hevenor family. The biggest problem is the way we are spread across the entire country making it difficult to put plans together.

I know we would all love it and are open for any ideas and suggestions.

Let's do it!

Finally, I would like to thank my dear Aunt Ruth for the help she has provided over the years. She provided copies of material and read early portions of this - verifying and adding to what is included above. Others have also been of great help. THANK YOU.

INFORMATIONAL NOTES

1. I decided to provide a copy of this to every adult descendent, plus a few more, currently listed. Typically, items like this are limited and even lost. More copies will help insure, with everyone's help, that all will know about their ancestors and their importance in the future when the now babies get to read it.
2. I have written several other documents which have been sent to my family and cousins – not everyone. If anyone wishes to have a copy of one of these let me know. I'll be happy to provide them.
 - a. HEVENOR-REINECK FAMILIES their ROYAL ANCESTRY
 - b. WINIFRED FARNSWORTH HEVENOR VAN DE HOUTEN
HER LIFE
 - c. NEECE/VAN DE HOUTEN FAMILY
 - d. Seven short write – ups on ancestral portions of the family

I currently have in process the ancestral genealogies of both the Hevenor and Reineck families. These will take some time – but I do hope to do these in the near future. In any case I do have them pretty well traced back to their beginnings in America and in some cases Europe. My files have the information and I'd be happy to answer any questions. Plus any one who is interested in working on genealogy let me know, I'll be more than happy to work with you.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Picture of Win and Lillian's 50th Wedding Anniversary

1. a Names of attendees

2. Genealogical listing of current Win and Lillian's descendents

There are other, maybe better, options of showing this info. Due to trying to conserve space I am using this one. If anyone wants another type of listing, let me know.

Thanks goes to Kevin Ireland for much of this information. He spent a lot of time doing this for Ruth's 100th birthday.

3. Picture of Ruth's 100th Birthday Attendees

4. Excerpt from Folger Smith's Family Write-up

5. From Win's Bible – Words of Generals Howard & Gordon

6. "A Great Man" by 17 year old Rob Hearn

Win & Lillian's 50th Anniversary - 1950



Winfield & Lillian's 50th Wedding Anniversary
In Western Springs, Ill.
Married November 12, 1901

LAST ROW

Carolyn Hevenor Whitcomb
Margaret Reineck Horlock (Ed Reineck's daughter)
Joan Van de Houten
Allan Hannas
Winifred Hevenor Van de Houten
Edward Van de Houten
John Van de Houten
Richard Van de Houten

MIDDLE ROW

Margaret Smith (Winfield's cousin. When he rode his bicycle west in 1896, he stayed at her house in Dekalb, Ill. for a year.)
Margaret Hevenor Lewis
Bertha Rife (Edna Reineck's friend and roommate in Oak Park)
Winfield & Lillian Hevenor
Caryl Van de Houten
Edna Reineck (Lillian's sister)
Ruth Hevenor Klein
Gilbert (Gib) Lewis

FRONT ROW

Folger Smith (Margaret's son)
Winfield Lewis
Jeffrey Klein
Jean Horlock (Margaret's daughter and owner of the picture copied)
Linda Klein
Carolyn Lewis
Rupert Klein
Robert Horlock (Margaret's son)
William Lewis

Descendants of Winfield & Lillian Hevenor

1	Winfield Scott Hevenor	1875 - 1972	
	+Lillian Fredericka Reineck	1874 - 1959	
2	Winifred Farnsworth Hevenor	1903 - 1974	
	+Edward Davey Van de Houten	1897 - 1964	
3	John Robert Van de Houten	1929 -	
	+Mary Gay Rife	1929 -	
4	Lisa Gay Van de Houten	1936 -	
	+Arthur William Szafranski	1943 - 1995	
5	Lydia Sage Szafranski	1978 -	
5	Emily Gay Szafranski	1981 -	
	+Michael Henry Hamilton	1980 -	
6	Arthur Hamilton	2005 -	
6	Madeline Sage Hamilton	2007 -	
5	Molly Kate Szafranski	1985 -	
5	Laura Lucinda Szafranski	1989 -	
5	Anna Clare Szafranski	1992 -	
5	Lily Szafranski	1996 -	} 7
5	Brent Szafranski	1997 -	
5	Mikhail Szafranski	1999 -	
5	Hallie Szafranski	2002 -	
4	Gretchen Van de Houten	1957 -	
	+David Bruce Siegrist	1955 -	
5	Clara Sage Siegrist	1983 -	
	+Jonathan Richard Wolf	1981 -	
6	Ian Wolf	2003 -	
5	Alexandra Elise Siegrist	1985 -	
5	Jeffrey Philip Siegrist	1989 -	
4	Douglas Rife Van de Houten	1960 -	
	+Loretta Jean Goldthrite	1966 -	
5	Nicolaas Van de Houten	1984 -	
5	Michael Van de Houten	1986 -	
	*2nd Wife of Douglas Rife Van de Houten.		
	+Sharon Elaine Paternosko	1965 -	
5	Kristen Taylor Van de Houten	2000 -	
4	Kenneth John Van de Houten	1962 -	
	+Bonawynn Kae Powers		
	*2nd Wife of Kenneth John Van de Houten:		
	+Levie Mae Mabasa Diapo	1965 -	
5	Bethany Grace Van de Houten	2004 -	
5	Nathaniel James Van de Houten	2006 -	
4	Anna Kristine Van de Houten	1966 -	
	+Jay Reasoner Miller	1964 -	
5	Jacob Reasoner Miller	2003 -	
5	Jason Robert Miller	1999 -	
	*2nd Wife of John Robert Van de Houten.		
	+Adele Rosemary Meyer	1933 -	
3	Joan Farnsworth Van de Houten	1932 -	
	+Allan Everett Hannas	1930 -	
4	Caryl Ann Hannas	1953 -	
4	Raymond Allan Hannas	1956 -	
	+Colleen McDowell		
5	Benjamin Lee Hannas	1981 -	
5	Mallory Ann Hannas	1983 -	
5	Christopher James Hannas	1983 -	
5	Patrick Colin Hannas	1986 -	
4	Cynthia Lee Hannas	1958 -	
	+Richard Chapman Greeder	1954 -	
5	Richard Scott Greeder	1980 -	
5	Erin Joan Greeder	1985 -	
4	Susan Margaret Hannas	1960 -	
	+David Sareault	1960 -	
5	James David Sareault	1991 -	
5	Andrew Patrick Sareault	1994 -	
4	Martha Jean Hannas	1961 -	
	+Rich Tillman	1957 -	

.....	3	Caryl Davey Van de Houten	1932 -	
.....		+Gene Saunders	1932 -	
.....	4	Gregory Saunders	1956 -	
.....		+Robin Fawn Wilk		
.....	5	Daniel Saunders	1984 -	
.....	5	Sarah Saunders	1984 -	86 ?
.....	4	Patricia Sue Saunders	1957 -	
.....		+Thomas Lain		
.....	5	Dylan Ashlyn Lain	1993 -	
.....	4	Barbara Jean Saunders	1959 -	
.....		+Edward Lick		
.....	5	Gregory Mark Lick	1993 -	
.....	5	Allison Jean Lick	1993 -	
.....	5	Chris Lick	1995 -	
.....	4	Cynthia Joan Saunders	1961 -	
.....		+Bret Wagner		
.....	5	Emily Jean Wagner	1988 -	
.....	5	Robert Wagner	1995 -	
.....	5	Stuart Wagner	1995 -	
.....	4	Martha Lynette Saunders	1966 -	
.....		+Mark Steven Saum		
.....	5	Kayleigh Ann Saum	1992 -	
.....	5	Paige Elizabeth Saum	1995 -	
.....	4	Joseph Michael Saunders	1969 -	
.....		+Jennifer McKeone	1970 -	
.....	5	Elizabeth Saunders		
.....	5	Caitlin Mary Saunders	2006 -	
.....	3	Richard Scott Van de Houten	1934 - 1999	
.....		+Michelle Jean Auldridge	1936 -	
.....	4	Debra Jean Van de Houten	1957 -	
.....		+Steven Latter	1957 -	
.....	5	Bret Steven Latter	1989 -	
.....	5	Julene Marie Latter	1990 -	
.....	5	Kyle Joseph Latter	1994 -	
.....	4	Vicki Lynn Van de Houten	1959 -	
.....		+David Huchette		
.....	5	Joseph Huchette	1991 -	
.....	5	Daniel Huchette	1992 -	
.....	5	Michelle Huchette	1997 -	
.....	4	Steven Scott Van de Houten	1960 -	
.....		+Mary Annette Mansfield	1959 -	
.....	5	Brooke Annette Van de Houten	1991 -	
.....	5	Brandi Michelle Van De Houten	1994 -	
.....	4	Richard Alan Van de Houten	1962 -	
.....		+Nancy Whitley	1962 -	
.....	5	Thomas Whitley Van de Houten	1995 -	
.....	5	Christine Marie Van de Houten	1996 -	
.....	5	Katherine Anne Van de Houten	1996 -	
.....	4	David Bruce Van de Houten	1964 -	
.....		+Deborah Melinda Middleton		
.....	2	Ruth Elma Hevenor	1906 -	
.....		+Rupert Klein	1909 - 2002	
.....	3	Linda Lois Klein	1939 -	
.....		+Howard Craig Vardaman	1939 - 1975	
.....	4	Julie Ruth Vardaman	1975 -	
.....	4	Stephen Phillip Vardaman	1969 -	
.....		+Kristina Nida Mereckis	1971 -	
.....	5	Lauren Ruth Vardaman	2006 -	
.....	5	Sophia Elizabeth Vardaman	2006 -	
.....		*2nd Husband of Linda Lois Klein:		
.....		+Royce Dale Hall	1940 -	
.....	3	Jeffrey Scott Klein	1945 -	
.....		+Barbara Susan Groesch	1950 -	
.....	4	Erin Michelle Klein	1974 -	
.....		+Lance Dueker	1969 -	
.....	5	Jacob Daniel Dueker	2001 -	
.....	5	Allison Ruth Dueker	2004 -	

.....	4	Winfield Scott Klein	1975 -	
.....		+Tracy Ann Proteau	1979 -	
.....	4	Michael Kipling Klein	1979 -	
.....		+Meghan Lewis Beard	1979 -	
.....		*2nd Wife of Jeffrey Scott Klein:		
.....		+Jeanette Kay Schmidt	1950 -	
.....	2	Margaret Irene Hevenor	1910 - 1957	
.....		+Gilbert Hastings Lewis	1908 - 1976	
.....	3	Gilbert Hastings Lewis Jr.	1932 -	
.....		+Mary Jane Rowe	1936 -	
.....		*1st Wife of Gilbert Hastings Lewis Jr :		
.....		+Mary Helene Luce	1934 -	
.....	4	Gregory Hastings Lewis	1966 -	
.....		+Lisa Britton		
.....	5	Mary Helene Lewis	1999 -	
.....	5	Sarah Vercellino Lewis	1993 -	
.....	5	Nicole Vercellino Lewis	1991 -	
.....	4	Shane Stewart Lewis Lewis	1971 -	
.....	3	Winfield Hevenor Lewis	1935 - 1997	
.....		+Nancy Jean Dutton	1935 -	
.....	4	Brian Winfield Lewis	1965 -	
.....		+Natalie Vladimirovna Smirnova	1975 -	
.....	5	Maria Nicole Lewis	1997 -	
.....	5	Alexandra Natalia Lewis	2001 -	
.....	4	Barbara Jean Lewis	1966 -	
.....		+Joseph Michael Gurskey	1966 -	
.....	5	Laura Emily Gurskey	1994 -	
.....	5	Lynn Elizabeth Gurskey	1996 -	
.....	3	William Kiloh Lewis	1935 -	
.....		+Susan Jane Fuller	1936 -	
.....	4	Michael William Lewis	1958 -	
.....		+Carolyn Mary Novosad	1963 -	
.....	5	Andrea Rose Lewis	1989 -	
.....	5	Jeffrey William Lewis	1990 -	
.....	5	Adam William Lewis	1990 -	
.....	4	Ellen Jane Lewis	1962 -	
.....		+Francis Joseph O'Donnell	1949 -	
.....	3	Carolyn Francis Lewis	1938 -	
.....		+Gary Evans Ireland	1938 -	
.....	4	Kevin Matthews Ireland	1961 -	
.....		+Stephen Craig Davis	1955 -	
.....	4	Erik William Ireland	1963 -	
.....		+Holly Rachelle Hargraves	1968 -	
.....	5	Nicole Marie Ireland	1998 -	
.....	5	Brenden Patrick Ireland	2001 -	
.....	4	Todd Winfield Ireland	1963 -	
.....		+Kathryn Jane Latimer	1964 -	
.....	5	Hayden Frances Ireland	2000 -	
.....	5	Conor Evan Ireland	2002 -	
.....	5	Carson Boyd Ireland	2004 -	
.....		*2nd Husband of Carolyn Francis Lewis:		
.....		+John Sollenberger Jr.	1941 -	
.....	4	John Gilbert Sollenberger	1976 -	
.....		+Terri Ann Carlson	1978 -	
.....	2	Carolyn Louise Hevenor	1911 - 2005	
.....		+Burton Bailey Whitcomb	1908 - 2000	
.....	3	Judith Helen Whitcomb	1939 -	
.....		+Richard Renault Lanham	1935 -	
.....	3	Martha Jean Whitcomb	1941 -	
.....		+Gilbert Roy Smith	1942 -	
.....		*2nd Husband of Martha Jean Whitcomb:		
.....		+Edward Humphrey		
.....	3	Margaret Ruth Whitcomb	1944 -	
.....		+Robert Leslie Lichtenstein	1946 -	
.....	4	Katherine Lichtenstein	1978 -	
.....	4	Sara Judith Lichtenstein	1980 -	

Ruth's 100th Birthday
July 13, 2006



Excerpts From Folger Smith's Family Write-Up

Folger Smith was the grandson of Reuben Macy Hevenor, Benjamin's brother. His mother, Margaret, was the one Win stayed with in Illinois, on his way to the Gold Rush. Her son Folger was the second son. He lived from 1901 until 1980. He and his mother often came to visit on Sundays and special occasions such as the 50th Wedding Anniversary. He wrote a family "history" for his nephew in 1978. Only a portion has to do with our family, so I've excerpted most of that here. He makes it sound very interesting but most of it is pretty imaginative. Or to give him some credit, he wrote it even though he didn't know much about it. As a result don't believe anything unless you already know about it.

1. Van Hoeffner, Dutch Patroones, had a large estate along the Hudson River near Rhinebeck, NY from New Amsterdam era. Was subdivided among heirs. Don't know when the name was shortened and Anglicized to Hevenor, but Robert Macy Hevenor, my (great grandfather) had a large farm estate. Do not know when it was passed on to his heirs.

2. Also don't know how the Hevenors, Folgers and Macys were entangled, as the latter two were from Nantucket. I had an idea they were English, but those names are scarce in England as in the USA. I never was in Holland long enough to check, but suspect the Folgers and Macys were Dutch. Both were wealthy owners of whaling ships and did a little privateering during the Revolution and War of 1812. Possibly some pirating in between.

I do know my granddad, Reuben Macy, spent summer vacations in Nantucket with both families. He often mentioned his grandpa Folger, who died at 102, after being hit by a bicycle. One of the Folger women married Ben Franklin.

Notes by me: There wasn't any Van Hoeffner in the line. There were Hevenors in Rhinebeck in 1775. I don't have his grandfather's date of death, but if he was 102 I'm sure I would have heard it. It's worth a little research sometime. The Folgers and Macys came to the Hudson river at the start of the Revolutionary War so they could go whaling away from the British ships. They were definitely English not Dutch. I have never seen any information that they did any pirating, etc. Ben Franklin's Folger was his mother, Abiah, who had married his father Josiah Franklin.

2. Ben had a son, Winfield Scott Hevenor, who also ran away to the Yukon gold rush. He barely survived pneumonia on the trail, and too weak to go on, made his way back. He lived with mother and dad for a year or so in Rochelle, Ill. And when stronger went back east to Albany and got married. He liked the middle west and returned to La Grange, IL. Later he acquired a wallpaper factory in Hammond, IN. but always resided in La Grange. It was a daily 50 miles each way, commute by train to Chicago, a mile walk across the loop, another train to Hammond and another mile walk to the plant, about 2 hrs each way. In the 30s he started to drive it. The business prospered.

Win was quite a person. He raised four daughters thru college. One son-in-law with four kids

became an invalid and he took the family of six and raised the four grandchildren thru college.. Win was very religious. He tithed. He was the best Christian I ever encountered (and most of them I mistrust). He never talked religion or proselyted. He was strict, but all his family respected and loved him and all turned out well. When he retired at 80, he gave his factory to the employees, the shares of each based on their years of service. After his wife died he lived alone in their home, did his own cooking and kept a neat clean house. When in his mid nineties, a blind daughter came to live with him before she died. At 97 he re-roofed his house. At 99 he had a mild stroke. Went to a daughter's house to convalesce and about a week later went to sleep at the breakfast table, permanently. I knew him well and loved him. He was worth knowing.

Notes by me: None on the above. It's all covered in what I have written. There is a lot more in what he wrote but mostly about other parts of his family. If anyone is interested, I can make a copy of the seven pages for you.

From Win's Bible

This Bible was Win's at the time he worked for the YMCA in Albany, NY. It is currently in the Heritage Museum of the La Grange Presbyterian Church. The pages below have been copied for the church copy. The originals are in the possession of John Van de Houten

1899!!

Many thanks for the
Loan of this precious
Word – Albany Y.M.C.A.

Jan 8, 1899

“God is Love”

His loving kindness gives
life. – The manifestation
Is in that person, Jesus
Christ. The Holy Spirit
Is a great Electric Light
Which cannot fail to
Show us God in Christ.
Oliver O Howard

In all sincerity
I join Gen'l Howard

In his declaration

Of the truths he

pens on opposite

page. With every good

wish I am

Faithfully yours

J B Gordon

Nov 11th 1903

A GREAT MAN

BY

Rob Hearn, age 17

August, 1970

I know of a man,
He lives right next door.
This man is unique,
But I wish there were more.

This man has a garden,
I wish you could see
With roses and lilacs,
And pink peonies.

He has one more talent,
A great one, I'm sure.
He takes dabs of oil,
And creates a picture.

Why if you could see these,
They'd dazzle your eyes.
If he entered an art show,
He'd take away first prize

And his proudest achievement,
(It's now common knowledge)
He's helped thirteen grandchildren
All straight through college

But his one characteristic
I'll always admire
The size of his heart's
An inflated tire.

But there's two groups of people,
(They're almost in rage.)
They constantly argue
This man's real age.

There's one group that says
"Just do it technically,
Face up to it,
He's pushing a century."

But those others, they know
From the warm friendly smile,
And the glow in his eyes,
The youth is there, it can't be disguised.

And we all know now
You don't need to be smart,
To see that his timeless youth
Is there, shining through his heart.