

**RLH: KENNEDYS-MOVERS AND SHAKERS: CAST OF CHARACTERS
TO EARLY RIB LAKE HISTORY**

Data is from the *Rib Lake Herald* unless otherwise noted.

By: R.P. Rusch and Cindy A. Sommer

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Internet availability: The most current version of this document, “Kennedys-Movers and Shakers,” is accessible at www.riblakehistory.com.

Cross References: The authors have scanned thousands of photos and documents of Rib Lake history. Each item is indexed and assigned a number. Such items are referenced here by their identification number, e.g. #10999. These images may be accessed at www.riblakehistory.com: “8. Photo & Document Collection.”

*“K is for Kennedys – my there is a stack of ‘em,
Yet in other places there is a lack of ‘em,
Now is our chance to get a good whack at ‘em.”*

~~From the 1910 Twentieth Century Club “Primer,” #13563~~

Sources: Unless otherwise indicated, information is from the *Taylor County Star & News* for events prior to 1902, and thereafter from the *Rib Lake Herald*.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page #	Name
A)	The Four Kennedy Brothers
1	<u>John J. Kennedy</u> , a/k/a J.J. Kennedy His children: Donald Angus Kennedy Christina “Tina” Maud Kennedy, l/k/a Mrs. Nathan McDougall Jeannette Kennedy, l/k/a Mrs. David Moffet Myers William G. Kennedy Elbert Carpenter Kennedy
19	<u>Angus [B?] Kennedy</u> His children: John E. Kennedy Lillie Mae Kennedy Willard “Bill” Kennedy Dan Kennedy
22	<u>Hugh J. Kennedy</u> His children: Anna Mae Kennedy Stuart, a/k/a Stewart Kennedy Harold A. Kennedy
25	<u>William J. Kennedy</u> His children: Earl F. Kennedy Anna C. Kennedy
B)	Other Kennedys – some not kin of John J. Kennedy:
27	Allen Kennedy, a/k/a Allan J. Kennedy Mary K. Kennedy, a/k/a Mrs. Allen J. Kennedy Their children: Leonard Kennedy John A. Kennedy (NB-not the same as John A. p. 29) Mayme C. Kennedy Marcella E. Kennedy

- 29 Daniel B. Kennedy, a/k/a “Long Dan”
- 30 Hugh A.B. Kennedy (Bookkeeper)
- 30 Jerry Kennedy
- 30 John M. Kennedy
- 31 John S. Kennedy
- 33 Louis Kennedy
- 34 H.D. Kennedy
- 34 A.B. Kennedy (Blacksmith & Wagon Maker)
- 34 John A. Kennedy
- 35 Hugo Kennedy
- 35 Alice J. Kennedy (L/K/A Mrs. Arthur W. Pollatz)
- 35 Lena Kennedy

Photos

Photo 5-19-1884

Photo, John J. Kennedy, c. 1890, Founder of Rib Lake

I. JOHN J. KENNEDY “J.J.” 12/24/1845 – 4/12/1928

- Founder of Rib Lake.
- Born 12/24/1845, in Ninth Concession of Charlottenburgh Township, just north of Monro’s Mills, Ontario, Canada, his father was John Hugh Roy Kennedy.
- Immigrated to U.S. in 1860. By Oct. 30, 1876, is married and living in Spencer, WI. At Spencer J.J. is joined by at least one brother and his brother-in-law, Duncan McLennan, who manages Kennedy’s business, which consists of logging white pine; “He (JJK) put in about 11,000,000 feet of logs last season, 5,000,000 on the Oglemon(?) [River], 4,000,000 on the south fork of the Yellow River [in Taylor County], and 2,000,000 on the Eau Pleine River [in Marathon County].” *History of Northern Wisconsin c. 1880*.
- Died April 12, 1928, at his home in Portland, Oregon.
- Married Flora M. McLennan, a.k.a Mary Flora, a/k/a Mary Flora McLennan, 10/28/1847 – 1/31/1910.
- 11/7/1880, Star News: “J.J. Kennedy and brothers will lumber on Yellow River in this [Taylor] county the coming winter.”
- 4/23/1881, Star News: “The Kennedy brothers, who have been putting in logs on the north fork of the Yellow River [in Taylor County], left a crew of men to take advantage of the flood.”
- 6/1881: In the History of Rib Lake by Guy Wallace, #11889B, Wallace explains that in the summer of 1881 J.J. Kennedy had a chance meeting with George Curtis of the Curtis & Carpenter Lumber Firm of Wausau; J.J. explained his intention to open up a lumber mill east of Prentice:

“Curtis then told him he could make him a real proposition, as they were planning on putting a large mill in a big tract of pine just east of Chelsea, and if J.J. would go in there, the company would build the mill and he could saw their pine out by the thousand and buy up pine for himself.

“The result was that J.J. took the next train back [to Spencer], and Curtis, J.J. Kennedy, and A.J. Perkins started out from Medford on the old Wausau tote road, on horseback, and landed on the shores of Rib Lake, and after looking the job over, came to the agreement which resulted in J.J. Kennedy starting the mill which he ran and afterwards bought for himself.”
- 8/9/1881: “Mr. Angus Kennedy came to Rib Lake on the 9th of August, 1881, with his brother J.J. Kennedy and several men. That year was known for its wet fall, and work on the log boarding house, log barn and subsequently the sawmill, progressed very slowly.” *Rib Lake Herald*, May 15, 1903.
- 8/10/1881: According to Mrs. Gustav Bielenberg: “In 1881 J.J. Kennedy with a company of 3 came from Spencer to Westboro by trail, carrying their packs and provisions and blankets on their backs, to what now is known as Rib Lake. The first night they camped on a point of the lake. They estimated the timber and looked around for a mill site, deciding on locating the mill on the exact spot of the present mill of the Rib Lake Lumber Company.”
- 10/1/1881, Star News: “Work on the Kennedy brothers’ mill at Rib Lake, in the Town of Chelsea [sic] is being rapidly pushed forward. A road has been cut to the mill site. It will be graded and turn-piked and fitted for use both in summer and winter. The mill is expected to start operating 10/29/1881.”
- “In November, 1881, J.J. transferred his lumber enterprise from Spencer to Rib Lake,” RLHe 12/20/1912

- 12/2/1881: First log sawed at Kennedy's sawmill at Rib Lake, according to Ray Voemastek, #12285.
- 12/19/1881: "John J. Kennedy of Spencer" buys his first real estate in what will become in 1885 the Town of Rib Lake: West ½ SE ¼, Sec. 12 33 2E and S ½ SE ¼, Sec. 14 33 2E. These four forties cost \$950. See #13423B.
- 12/26/1881: Buys first land on the shores of Rib Lake, Gov't Lot 9, including the Kennedy house site, #16364B.
- 4/1/1882: *Star News*: "At Kennedy Bros. Mill last Wed., Mr. Skinner lost his right arm by an accident. Mr. Skinner was a night watchman and was attending to his duties as such, when the accident occurred. His right arm came in contact with the blade of the saw about five inches from the wrist and was lacerated up to the elbow. The victim was about 31 years of age and well known."
- 4/5/1882: Buys 40 quarter quarters (40s) of land, 1600 acres, in Town 33 and 32 and Ranges 32 and 33 North. Deed reads: "...J.J. Kennedy of Village of Spencer..." Marathon County, Wisconsin. See #10959.
- 1883: Donates lumber for buildings for first Taylor County fair with Butterfield & Ferguson Lumber Company of Medford [History of Taylor County 1922-23 by F. Krueger, Ed.]
- 6/12/1883: Successfully lobbies the United States Postal Service to establish an official post office "in Kennedy's store" on the shores of Rib Lake; J.J. Kennedy's brother-in-law, Duncan McLennan, was the first Postmaster; see image #15638.
- 4/30/1885: *Spencer Tribune*: "The new band saw at J.J. Kennedy's mill at Rib Lake was set in motion last week for the first time, and its working gave satisfaction. The saw is manufactured by J.R. Hoffman & Co. of Fort Wayne, Ind., and their agent, Mr. P.G. Ayers was on the ground to see it start. The carriage attachment was manufactured by E.P. Allis & Co., Milwaukee, and has a number of late improvements, which add to its effectiveness in working. When ordering the band saw, Mr. Kennedy insisted on having a steam feed put in, and very much against the will of the manufacturers, who so far had never used the feed with the saw. Its workings fully demonstrated the judgment of Mr. Kennedy in having it put in, and Mr. Ayers will hereafter advocate steam feed. The sawmill has received a general overhauling, and a number of improvements added, among which are two sets of live rollers. Ground has been broken for a planing mill, which will be in operation by the middle of May. The sawmill will start up with a stock of over 13 million ft. of logs. In making improvements in and about the mill, the store and office have not been forgotten. The store building has been extended, and a suite of commodious rooms set off for an office, which have been elegantly finished and furnished, and now are occupied by the bookkeepers, one of the rooms being used as the private office of Mr. Kennedy. Rib Lake and its surroundings are such as make it a very pleasant resort, and already arrangements are being made by parties from abroad to spend the coming summer months at the lake. To meet the requirements of such parties as may come, a number of improvements and attractions in and about the lake grounds and hotel are in contemplation, and will be completed before the season." [NB. *John J. Kennedy overruled advice of band saw manufacturers and "insisted on having a steam feed put in..." John J. Kennedy had a brilliant mind in the field of mechanical improvements-Robert P. Rusch 6/9/2011]*
- 10/24/1885: *Star News*: "J.J. Kennedy will try for about 10,000,000 ft. of logs this coming winter, which means he will probably put in 12,000,000 ft. John always makes his logs overrun his estimates. His old stock of logs is not yet cut out..., but if the weather holds another month, he thinks that by running night & day ... he will clean his pond."

- 1/2/1886: *Star News*: “John Kennedy says he can make roads but not snow. On Monday & Tuesday last he put in each day 125,000 ft. of logs. He shovels snow into that [sleigh] road and the teams went right along.”
- 1/23/1886: *Star News*: “J.J. Kennedy’s mill at Rib Lake will start up for the winter’s run about the middle of next month.”
- 2/27/1886 *Star News*: “ The sawmill owned by J.J. Kennedy, consists of a circular and a band saw for cutting logs, gang edger and trimmer, double cutting shingle machine, and the necessary small saws for cutting up slabs and mill refuse. There is no place in the mill where the “lubber lift” is required for moving lumber or timber. The power is furnished by steam from 4 large boilers, the machinery being driven by a large powerful engine. This mill, last year, sawed 12,000,000 ft. of timber and was not crowded beyond its capacity. For the past 3 months the mill has been undergoing thorough repairs, fitting it for the long run. Mr. Kennedy also has a planing mill where, in addition to the machinery used in dressing the several grades of lumber, he also has machinery for working up cull lumber, usually a drug on the market, into boxed stuff, car roofing, etc. Attached are commodious sheds for storing the dressed lumber until shipped. A switch track runs from the lumber yard to the north side of the planing mill. The engine room is of brick and contains a splendid 14 x 24 engine. The logs for the sawmill are cut in the surrounding forests, and hauled to the lake by horse teams over ice roads, the main road being 7 miles in length and of solid ice 18 inches to 2 ft. thick the entire distance and about 10 or 12 ft. wide. The sleighs are the Common Sense, with a 6 ft. run (6 ft. between runners) and an 8 ft. bunk for 2 horse teams, the 4 horse teams use a 9 ft. bunk. The loads put on these sleighs would make a prairie farmer who had never been in the woods think that the loaders are lunatics. The logs are all scaled on the landing and the loads run from 3,000 to 5,000 ft. There are 3 camps on the main road, all having a full crew of men and teams under the supervision of a competent foreman. There is another camp south of an arm of the lake, but has a shorter road of its own built and kept in repairs with sprinklers also. There is still another camp at Worthington’s Lake. The Rib Lake branch of the Wis. Central Railroad runs by this lake, and in summer the logs will be loaded on flatcars and taken to the mill by rail. Mr. Kennedy now has on lakes nearly 10,000,000 ft. of logs and is banking from 150,000 to 200,000 daily. There are about 80 horse teams hauling logs from the several camps, only a part of them belonging to Mr. Kennedy, the rest being owned by the men who drive them and who are working their teams by day.”
- 3/10/1886: Edgar T. Wheelock visits Rib Lake and reports
 - a) J.J. Kennedy’s mill sawing 12,000,000 feet of lumber annually
 - b) The “Village” of Rib Lake has about 170 people and 37 dwellings
 - c) Every building but 2 owned by J.J. Kennedy
 - d) “No spirituous nor malt liquors nor other brain befuddling beverages are sold within the village or nearer than Chelsea.”
- 4/10/1886: *Star News*: “Peter Doyle at Rib Lake superintending the building of an addition to Kennedy’s mill. The Rib Lake mill is shut down until the ice goes out on the lake and additions to the mill are completed.”
- 11/22/1886: with 7 others, co-signs \$40,000 bond for Taylor County Treasurer, John Gay; John J. Kennedy is jointly and severally liable. See #14621
- 11/27/1886: *Star News*: “Two carloads of horses, 16 stands, passed thru Medford Tues. on their way to Rib Lake for J.J. Kennedy. He will use them this winter for hauling logs.”

- 12/10/1886: Pays \$500 for right to cut all the white pine (i.e. stumpage contract) on SW ¼, Sec. 16, Town 32, 3E. Deadline for cutting is 4/1/1888, see #14622. This stumpage contract is typical of hundreds Kennedy signed.
- 12/13/1886: J.J. & seven other men incorporate the Medford Land and Mining Company of Medford, Wisconsin; "...for the purpose of buying, selling and dealing in real estate, exploring and mining for iron and other minerals."
- 12/23/1886: With others, incorporate the Medford Union Mining Company
- 12/25/1886: *Star News*: "The continued favorable weather for logging is doing wonders for lumbermen in the shape of road making. J.J. Kennedy of Rib Lake reports rushing logs to the lake at a rate of 150,000 ft. per day."
- 12/28/1886: co-signs \$5,000 bond for his friend, Albert J. Perkins, just elected Taylor County Clerk, Doc. #14623.
- 12/29/1886: with his long-time business associate, Albert J. Perkins (first mayor of Medford), sells right to cut pine on 67 quarter quarters for \$5,000 to a La Crosse, WI, buyer, in T31N R2 & 3 West, Doc. #14624.
- 2/20/1887: *Star News*: "J.J. Kennedy says his main logging road is a model this winter and adds that it is the best road he ever saw. Last fall he purchased a snow plow designed for logging roads, and with this & his sprinkler, he has a perfect [sleigh] road."
- 2/20/1887: *Star News*: "Pictures of a jumbo load at Rib Lake are on display at Suit's Drug Store. The load was made up of 15 16-foot logs, scaled 10,550 ft. and was hauled 5 ½ miles by 4 horses." [Kennedy is logging at least 5 miles from his mill on the shores of Rib Lake-Robert P. Rusch.]
- 4/2/1887: *Star News*: "J.J. Kennedy has completed his logging operations for the winter. His mill will not start up until the ice in the lake melts."
- 4/16/1887: *Star News*: "Rib Lake mill will start up for the season Monday and run day and night." (emphasis added)
- 10/2/1887: *Star News*: "Kennedy started up his new mill at Boyd, Wisconsin, and will run it night and day until he thins out the pine he owns here."
- 1/3/1889: J.J. has 125 teams of horses sleighing logs and makes extensive mill improvements.
- 8/3/1889: *Star News*: "There is a prospect that the Rib Lake branch of the Wisconsin Central Railroad will be built through to Tomahawk in the immediate [future]. J.J. Kennedy, the Rib Lake lumberman, is working to that end with excellent prospect of success. If this road is built, it will open up tracts of timber and vacant gov't. lands that will prove valuable."
- 8/3/1889: *Star News*: "J.J. Kennedy, of Rib Lake, is beginning to emancipate himself from the pine slavery, and is now prepared to appreciate the excellence of hemlock and other N. Wis. timbers. There was a time when a Wis. lumberman was timber blind to everything but pine. Mr. Kennedy says he believes there is more money in the hemlock, tamarack, and hardwoods of N. Wis. than there ever was in pine and he also says that this belief is gaining ground. He is right, of course, and the time is coming, and coming right soon, when a man who has a good crop of timber on his land, even if it is not pine, will have an investment that will pay better than bonds."
- 10/26/1889: *Star News*: "The J.J. Kennedy mill, at Rib Lake, shut down last Monday, to start up again some time in the winter."
- 1/25/1890: Taylor County Board approves paying J.J. \$114.55 "For goods furnished paupers." [J.J. had given needy person food, clothing or other necessities from his store.]
- 3/15/1890: J.J. personally conveyed the body of one of his laborers to the home of his family in Dorchester, Wis. Joseph Morass was killed unloading logs from a sleigh.

- 7/12/1890: *Star News*: J.J. helps organize State Bank of Medford and is elected to its initial Board of Directors.
- 7/26/1890: With four other men, travels to St. Paul, Minnesota, to see horse racing.
- 12/25/1890: *Star News*: “J.J. Kennedy has nearly completed the summer’s cut in his Rib Lake mill, and during the winter he will make extensive improvements. Already workmen are engaged in framing a large addition to the mill 90 x 98 ft., which will take the place of a part of the mill to be torn down. He will also add a battery of 5 boilers and will remove the 2 old engines, replacing them by 1 large engine 26 x 30. Other improvements are in contemplation.”
- 1/10/1891: *Star News*: J.J.’s children, Jennie and Donald, spent Christmas vacation at home in Rib Lake on recess from their Evanston, Illinois, boarding school.
- 1/31/1891: *Star News*: Opens pine camp three miles northwest of Whittlesey, with Gilbert & Perkins. Hopes to bank logs on Black river and run them in the spring to Medford and “If a bargain can be struck for the sawing, [the logs] will be cut by the Medford mill.”
- 2/8/1891: John J. Kennedy’s “Camp #3” is in Sec. 16, T32N-R3E; see #14483, dated 2/8/1891. Logs from Camp 3 are sleighed 8 miles to Kennedy’s mill in Rib Lake.
- 5/1/1891 John J. Kennedy shuts his sawmill down early to allow its workmen to attend a circus at Medford. *Star News*: A special train transports the circus-goers between Rib Lake & Medford.
- 5/9/1891: *Star News*: “J.J. Kennedy has arranged with the Shaw’s to build a tannery at Rib Lake this present season. In the meantime arrangements have been made at Rib Lake to peel a stock of bark this present season.”
- 6/23/1891: J.J. and wife Flora M., sell land to F.D. Shaw on condition that Shaw build and have in operation a large tannery by Jan. 1, 1893; #12277; thus commences the huge Rib Lake Tannery. [THE 1891 CONSTRUCTION OF A TANNERY IN RIB LAKE COMMENCES A SYMBIOTIC, HIGHLY PROFITABLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JOHN J. KENNEDY AND FAYETTE D. SHAW--Robert P. Rusch.]
- 7/11/1891: Helps to found the State Bank of Medford and serves on its first Board of Directors. “Though stern, he was a friendly man, honest and trustworthy...” *Star News* 6/2/1977, #13903B
- 8/1/1891: *Star News*: “Work was commenced on the Rib Lake Tannery to be built by T.F.M. and F.D. Shaw, last Monday. Mr. Drake, the company’s boss mechanic, going up that day to superintend operations. The new tannery will be in operation this fall.”
- 9/5/1891: *Star News*: Editor labels J.J. “The star mill man” for his massive, modern mill improvements that increased capacity by 25%, resulting in daily mill production for two shifts of 260,000 to 300,000 board feet of lumber.
- 9/5/1891: *Star News*: “The writer visited Rib Lake last Tues. for the 1st time since the improvements were made in the mill at that place last winter. The town itself has not changed greatly but the mill has been entirely rebuilt. The saws now operating are a circular and a resaw on the north side and a large and small band saw on the other, beyond which are edgers, trimmers, etc. The lumber is handled by machine rollers and carriers until it comes to the grading shed where the cars are waiting to distribute it about the yard. A ten block shingle machine has been added. The machine is presided over by Willie Allie, the vet shingle sawyer with whom the writer worked...many years ago. The improvements in the mill have increased the capacity about 25% and the cut is now from 130,000 to 150,000 ft. of lumber per day and 130,000 shingles. 75 men are employed in the mill and yards in the daytime. 3,000,000 ft. were put in pile during the month of August as a result of a 23 day run.”

- 11/21/1891: *Star News*: At Rib Lake the shingle mill shut down several days ago, and the sawmill was also about to close for the season, as the ice on the lake is several inches thick. ****Note: the hot pond had not yet been installed.****
- 4/30/1892: “JJK is elected by Taylor County Republican Convention with Albert J. Perkins as delegates to the Wisconsin State Republican Convention.” *Taylor Co. Star & News*
- 8/18/1892: Curtis Brothers Co. sells Govt. Lot 10 (including the sawmill) to J.J. Kennedy and wife; Doc. #14399.
- 12/3/1892: **KENNEDY BEGINS FIRST LOGGING RAILROAD IN TAYLOR COUNTY AND ONE OF THE EARLIEST IN STATE OF WISCONSIN.** “JJK has 1 ½ miles of iron laid on his logging railroad – will have about 5 miles by spring.” *Taylor County Star & News*
- 12/24/1893: “His daughters are home for the holidays from Lake Forest, Illinois, boarding school.” *Taylor County Star & News*
- 6/10/1893: *Taylor County Star & News* quotes the Minnesota Lumberman biography, see next page. It proves J.J. Kennedy has been simultaneously cutting pine & hemlock.
- 11/1/1894: *The Stevens Point Gazette* pays J.J. a well-earned complement: “J.J. Kennedy, the prosperous mill owner of Rib Lake, and whomever man who has ever been in his employ as well as all others who know him, delight to shake his hand, was in [Stevens Point] last Thursday.”
- 11/17/1894: co-signs \$6,000 bond for newly-elected Taylor Co. Sheriff, William A. Warren; Doc. 14737
- 12/5/1894: signs pine stumpage contract for \$380 allowing him to log all the pine timber on SE NE, Sec. 31, T33-3E. This was one of dozens of such contracts J.J. Kennedy signed, by which he obtained logs for his mill. This parcel of land is adjacent to land owned by the Gerstberger family, which eventually became the Gerstberger Pines County Park, preserving a magnificent stand of old growth forest, including towering white pine.
- 5/1/1895: entered into land contract, selling 40 acres of land [NE ¼ NE ¼, Section 25, T33-2E] for \$200 to Anton Kauer. This was cutover land. In 2011, it is a fertile farm field, except the NE tip, which houses Zondlo’s Bar & Ballroom.
- 5/23/1895: creates “Original Plat of Rib Lake.” This subdivides land into lots. This plat affects land south of Railroad Street and remains in effect today.

J. J. Kennedy.

The Minneapolis Lumberman thus speaks of J. J. Kennedy, the man who does the heaviest lumbering business in Taylor county to-day, and who does not fall far below the largest lumbering firms in North Wisconsin:

J. J. Kennedy of Rib Lake, Wis., is one of the pioneer lumbermen of the Badger state. He has been in the lumber business since his youth, and has grown up in it, understanding it in every detail, and at his pleasant home at Rib Lake, has one of the finest manufacturing plants in this section. He spent his early years in New York state where he contracted for telegraph poles for the Western Union Telegraph company. Mr. Kennedy came west and settled at Spencer, Wis., over twenty years ago, remaining there some five years, lumbering for himself. Finally he gave up the operating of his mill at Spencer, and cut logs on contract for mill men. While in the logging business, Mr. Kennedy met the Curtis Brothers of Clinton, Iowa, and Mr. J. E. Carpenter, the head of the company, and took a contract to cut logs for them at Ogema, Wis. Some three years later Curtis Brothers & Co. purchased a tract of Wisconsin Central pine, bearing some two hundred and fifty million feet of pine in central Wisconsin, and Mr. Kennedy took the contract for cutting it for Curtis Brothers & Co. For the past twelve years he has been engaged in this work, his mill at Rib Lake last year turning out some twenty-two million feet of pine, fifteen million feet of hemlock and twenty million shingles.

The mill consists of two De Groat, Giddings & Lewis bands, Allis rotary and Egan band resaw, Perkins ten-block and a hand saw shingle mill. The plant is located six miles from Chelsea, on the Ashland branch of the Wisconsin Central road, which is about ten miles in length. There is over two miles of track in the yard, which gives them the best possible facilities for loading, as a track runs at the rear of each pile. The cut runs well to uppers, as the mill is located in the heart of one of the finest bodies of pine and hemlock in the northwest. The company now has in pile at this place about fifteen million feet of pine, eight million feet of hemlock and ten million shingles. During the time Mr. Kennedy has been cutting for Curtis Brothers & Co., he has picked up considerable pine here and there throughout the state, and has before him a supply for his mill for a number of years to come.

6-10-18 TAYLOR CO.
STAR & NEWS
MEDFORD, WIS.

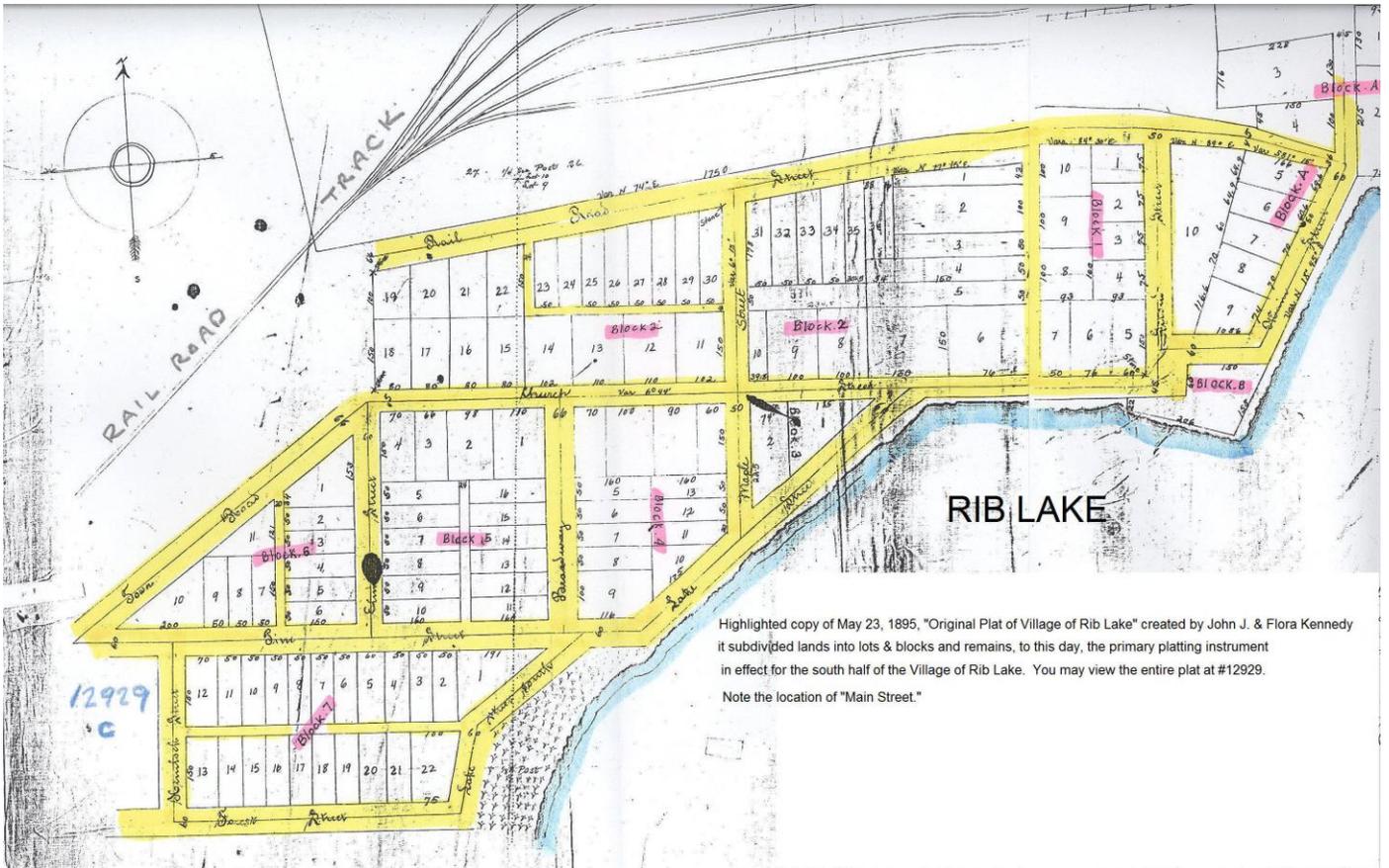
JOHN J. KENNEDY,
A/K/A "J. J."
12-24-1845
ONTARIO, CANADA

4-12-1928
PORTLAND, OREGON

FOOT NOTES:

- 1) A MAGAZINE
- 2) SPENCER: A VILLAGE 30 MILES SOUTH OF RIB LAKE.
- 3) OGEMA: A VILLAGE 10 MILES N RIB LAKE.
- 4) A BAND SAW
- 5) WIS. CENTRAL RAILROAD, L/K/A "SOO LINE"
- 6) "OPPERS", BETTER LUMBER GRADES

R. P. RUSCH
9-24-2012
RIB LAKE, WIS.



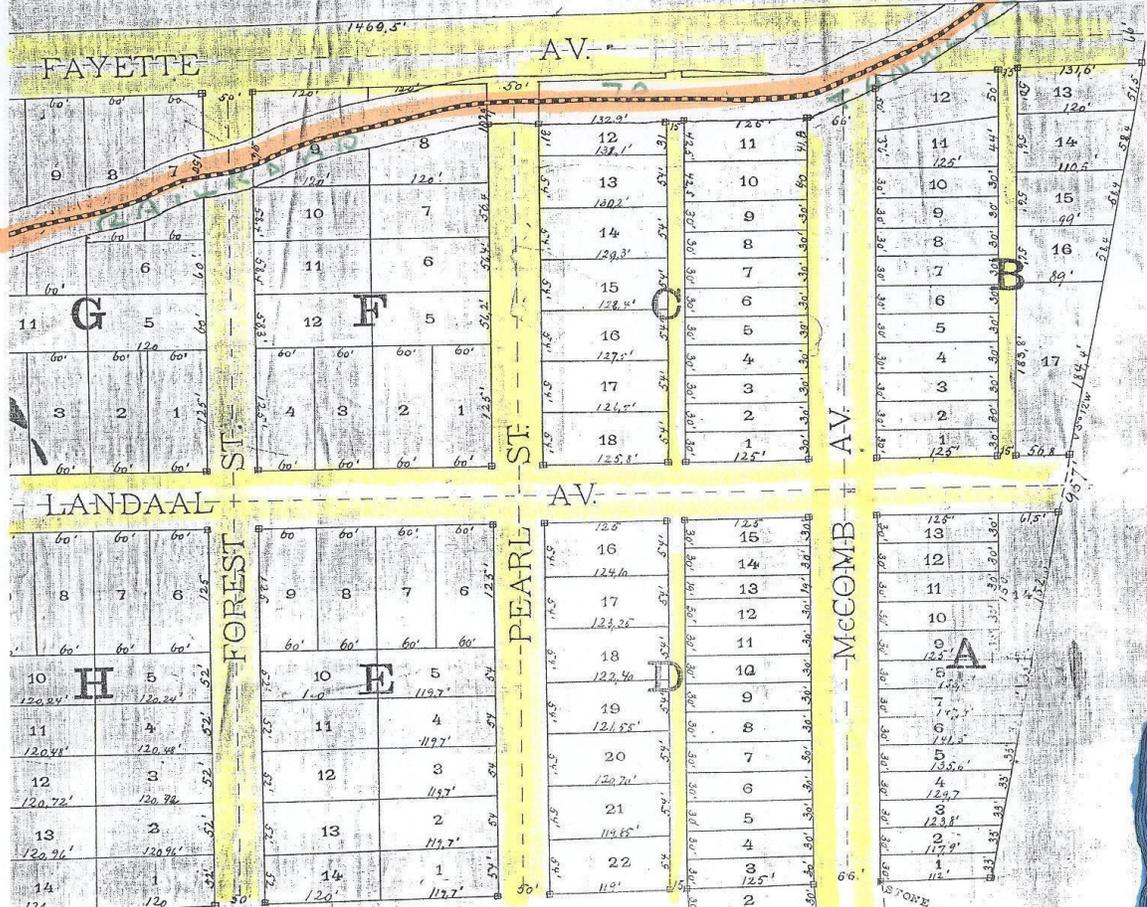
- 5/2/1896: *The Phillips Times*: “Rib Lake Items: Our sawmill is now running all night as well as all day. Rib Lake is now one of the most hustling, busy bergs in the state. This new departure in the mill was rendered necessary by the constantly increasing demand for lumber. As soon as the present stock of logs is manufactured, Mr. Kennedy has many millions of ft. at Whittlesey which will be brought in so as to keep the mill in constant operation the whole season. The tannery runs at its usually hustling rate and still continues to turn out an immense number of hides daily. It seems that nothing can check the inevitable progress of our town. New buildings are everywhere growing up and property is increasing in value, and settlers are pouring in to till the splendid agricultural land in the vicinity. Activity in every dept. of business is plainly visible, and undoubtedly Rib Lake is entering upon one of those steady, progressive eras of prosperity which, in contraindication to so many phantom, rapid and transitory booms, give a place a sure and permanent financial footing. Yes, Rib Lake is certainly an oasis in the Sahara of business stagnation and financial depression which prevails in this country.” (emphasis added)
- IN THE NATIONAL FINANCIAL PANIC OF 1896, SUFFERS FINANCIAL DISASTER.
- 10/28/1896: Illustrating John J. Kennedy’s desperate financial plight: John J. Kennedy cannot pay a debt of \$125.62 owed to Swift & Co. and judgment is taken for that paltry amount against Kennedy and docketed in the Taylor Co. Clerk of Court office, see #14827.
- 8/31/1896: signs 10 separate mortgages totaling \$75,531.10, as part of a desperate & complex financial bail-out plan. While the first mortgage is to the First Wisconsin Bank of Milwaukee for \$47,442.49, the 4th mortgage is to his brother Hugh’s son-in-law, Philip Ferguson, for \$2,000.

- 8/21/1897: J.J. Kennedy helps A.C. McComb, who creates a plat, "McComb's Racing Park Addition to Rib Lake" (including the modern business district of the Village of Rib Lake); see photo #10771. The plat was created from land previously owned by J.J. Kennedy and his wife, Flora, but deeded to "A.C. McComb of Oshkosh, Wisconsin" on Aug. 12, 1897; see #13809.



15296 c. 8/21/1897 plat of McComb's Racing Park Addition to Rib Lake, Wis.

PLAT
OF
MCCOMB'S RACING PARK ADDITION
TO
RIB LAKE,
WIS.



NOTES STONE MONUM.

DETECT

ed for record the 23rd day

D. 1897 of 9 o'clock A.M.

Wm. J. Neuberger
Registered.

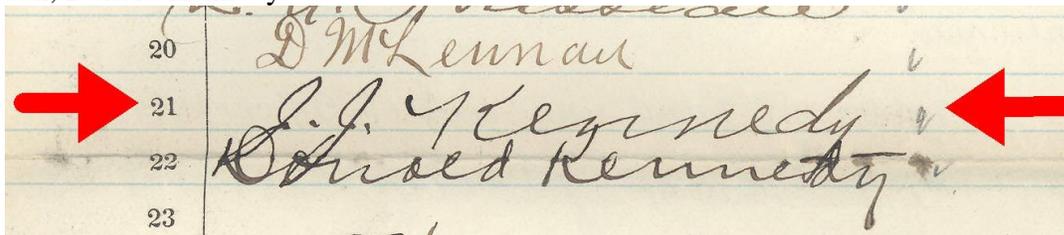
I, R. Duncary, surveyor, do hereby certify that I have surveyed and
McComb's Racing Park Addition to Rib Lake, Wis., and being
and was a part of Lot Ten of Section Twenty Six (26) in Township Twenty
Two (2) East of the fourth principal meridian in the County of Taylor
shown on the annexed plat, the same being as marked and described.

- 10/27/1897: The *Phillips Bee* reports: “Fire on Monday evening destroyed the large sawmill of J.J. Kennedy at Rib Lake, together with 75,000 feet of lumber. The loss is estimated at \$87,000 with partial insurance...”
- 10/30/1897: *The Star News* reports: “The mill was one of the best in northern Wisconsin and had cost Kennedy about \$80,000 to construct. It was partially covered by insurance, and Mr. Kennedy says his whistles will again be tooting in 60 days. (emphasis added)
- 10/30/1897: *Phillip’s Bee*: “Rib Lake: The large sawmill plant of J.J. Kennedy, together with about 75,000 ft. of lumber, was destroyed by fire last Mon. night. The fire is supposed to have started in the filing room. A. Howard and Nels & Wallace Nolan of this place, who were running the shingle mill dept., returned home Wed. They report that the fire had gained considerable headway before being discovered. Hard fighting of the flames kept them from spreading to the main lumber yard and the town. We also understand from them that the mill will be rebuilt as soon as possible. The loss was partially covered by insurance. N.E. Lanes Companies carried about \$21,000 of the insurance.”
- Kennedy’s new mill will have a respectable capacity of 75,000 board feet of lumber per day, see #14290F.
- 12/17/1898: J.J. buys a Phoenix steam hauler to improve distant log transport to his Rib Lake mill. “Will pull up to 11 loaded log sleighs.”
- 6/29/1899: Incorporates J.J. Kennedy Lumber Company with A.W. Sanborn & Angus Kennedy.
- 7-1-1899: John J. Kennedy Lumber Co. enters into a “supermortgage” (Doc. #14412) paying off 10 mortgages dated 8-31-1896. “Supermortgage” is signed by John J. Kennedy as president and his son, Donald, as secretary of John J. Kennedy Lumber Co.
- 8/5/1899: *Star News*: Planing mill and 2,000,000 feet of lumber burn. Loss of \$12,000.
- Intimately and actively involved in running his lumber business.
- 2/3/1900: KENNEDY MILL SAWING 100,000 FEET DAILY -- Rib Lake is a busy little city, and on some other occasion the Fat Man [nickname for the editor/owner of the *Star & News*, Peter Danielson], may take a notion to write of the town and its industries, This disjointed tale simply mentions one or two personal friends, and is intended more to advertise the fact that the Fat Man is a genuine horseman than it is to call attention to the beauties and possibilities of the village of Rib Lake. Everybody in the city is more than busy; the large plant owned by the Kennedys is in full operation and sawing lumber day and night at the rate of 100,000 feet a day. The businessmen are all enjoying a liberal patronage, and there is no better small town in Northern Wisconsin than Rib Lake. (emphasis added)”
- 6/3/1900: A highly positive article about J.J. Kennedy Lumber Co. is published in the “*American Lumberman*” magazine under the title of “The Home of Hemlock.” The first paragraph of the article reads:

“J. J. Kennedy’s name will go down in lumber history as the pioneer hemlock manufacturer of Wisconsin. He may not have been the first lumberman in this section to make hemlock lumber, but he was the first to make a specialty of hemlock. The J. J. Kennedy Lumber Company is sawing night and day at its mill at Rib Lake, equipped with a circular and a McDonough band resaw, and it is just about as “smart” a mill as one can find in the north. The action of the carriage is exceedingly lively and but little time is lost. The company has about 22,000,000 feet of logs in the lake, which will be sawed this year if possible, the mill running night and day, summer and winter. The company has a large planing mill, excellent leading and shipping facilities, four dry kilns of 60,000 feet capacity

each, and in fact everything necessary for making good hemlock lumber and putting it on the market as it should be.”

- 9/14/1900: as president of the J.J. Kennedy Lumber Co., Inc., contracts to sell company for \$525,000 to W.A. Osburn, et al, Doc. 13888
- 10/5/1900: highly complimentary biography published in “The Mississippi Valley Lumberman” entitled “Self made and well made.” See #14050. Biography implies that J.J. Kennedy is about to retire, viz. “He has earned the rest he is about to take, but as he is in the prime of life, it is hardly likely he will be content for long to keep out of active business.” “In the manufacture of hemlock lumber, Mr. Kennedy has been one of the pioneers.”
- In 1902, heads successful efforts to incorporate Village of Rib Lake.
- 5/9/1902: Elected a director of W.A. Osburn Lumber Co., to which J.J. Kennedy had sold out. [On 5/9/1902 the W.A. Osburn Lumber Co. changed its name to the Rib Lake Lumber Co.]
- 1/26/1903: Buys 20 shares of stock in newly-organized First National Bank of Rib Lake for \$5,000. JJK & every other shareholder signs bank organization certificate, see image #15619B. John J. Kennedy’s signature is bracketed by his brother-in-law, Duncan McLennan, and his son, Donald Kennedy.



- 2/20/1903: His home on the shores of Rib Lake burns to the ground. One of the few items saved from the fire was the dining room table. As of 11/13/2010, the table is a prized heirloom of John J. Kennedy’s great-granddaughter, Barbara Fredenburg, of Newberg, Oregon.
- 3/13/1903: He sells his stock in the Rib Lake Lumber Company and travels to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, to check out new lumbering prospects.
- 4/3/1903: “Mr. J.J. Kennedy returned from his trip to the south, where he went to recuperate.”
- 6/19/1903: J.J. and son, Donald, “have returned from their western trip.” [this is Rib Lake Herald’s first report that J.J. had been out west. NB-J.J.’s brother, Angus, and family, moved west on 5/22/1903.]
- 7/10/1903: "J.J. Kennedy of Rib Lake spent Friday in our village calling on old friends. He was just returning from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he has invested in real estate."
- 7/17/1903: "J.J. Kennedy is improving the house formerly occupied by Attorney Pringle. When the improvements are completed, it will be one of the best buildings on Main Street."
- 8/7/1903: “An ice cream sociable [sic] will be given on J.J. Kennedy’s lawn Saturday evening, August 15, for the benefit of the library.’
- 9/4/1903: “J.J. Kennedy has returned from his western trip. He was at Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, and informs us that work on his new sawmill is fairly underway. Rib Lake people are glad to hear it and wish him much success.” (emphasis added)
- 10/23/1903, J.J. Kennedy is quoted in the *Milwaukee Sentinel* as saying “Don’t you believe it for a moment” when asked if it was true that J.J. intended to leave Wisconsin, see #13434. [Note that the reporter erroneously wrote Rice Lake rather than Rib Lake.]
- 12/4/1903: “J.J. Kennedy returned from Idaho last Saturday morning, hale and hearty. He reports that all the former Rib

13434

“Don't you believe it for a moment,” said John J. Kennedy of Rib Lake at the Hotel Pfister, when asked if it was true that he intended to leave Wisconsin, and go into the lumber business in Idaho.

“I have lived in Wisconsin most of my life, and mean to stay here. I have been out in Idaho two or three times to give my son a little advice about how to build the mills he has out there, but have no intention of moving. I have sold out my lumber interests in the Rice Lake company and have retired. Just at present I am engaged in remodeling and enlarging my house, and when I get that finished will settle down and take comfort in Wisconsin, which I consider to be the best all around spot on earth.”

- Lakers are quite well, that the new mill will soon be completed and that the place is growing.”
- 1/8/1904: “J.J. Kennedy, with his sons and brother, is building a large sawmill in Idaho to cut pine.” From the *Milwaukee Sentinel* reprinted in the *Rib Lake Herald*.
 - 1/15/1904: “J.J. Kennedy, with E.H. Walker, Atty. Wm. Pringle, and James Radicker, directors of the Rib Lake Lumber Company, went to Milwaukee to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rib Lake Lumber Company.”
 - 1/27/1904: By Quit Claim Deed recorded January 27, 1904, J.J. Kennedy and his spouse, Flora M. Kennedy, conveyed to their daughter, Jeanette Kennedy, Lot B of J.J. Kennedy’s original plat of the Village of Rib Lake [this had been the residence of J.J. and Flora that burned 2/20/1903.]
 - 9/16/1904: Board of Directors of RLLC appoints J.J. Kennedy as “Walking Boss” – superintendent of all RLLC camps.
 - In 1904-1905, J.J. Kennedy is actively involved in Rib Lake activities, including Republican politics and helping to run the Rib Lake Lumber Company.
 - 1/1/1905: According to Ruby El Hult, *Steamboats in the Timber*, the Kennedy Brothers had purchased 50 million board feet of white pine in the region directly tributary to Coeur d’Alene Lake by 1905; see Doc. #16987E. The same source reports a “Bradford Kennedy Co.” had a registered log mark; image 16987F.
 - 6/8/1906: J.J. Kennedy is still living in Village of Rib Lake on 6/15/1906. Rib Lake High School faculty entertained school seniors on J.J. Kennedy’s lawn. The home is the site for an oyster supper on Oct. 20, 1904; the 20th Century Club uses the event as a benefit fo the Rib Lake Public Library; “everybody is invited.”
 - 6/29/1906: J.J. “has gone to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, on an extended visit.”
 - 9/7/1906: “J.J. Kennedy, who has been in the west for several weeks, returned home [Rib Lake] on Monday.”
 - 11/15/1906: John J. Kennedy and spouse, Flora M. Kennedy, re-conveyed to their daughter, “Jeanette Kennedy of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee” their home/residential parcel in the Village of Rib Lake now correctly described as Block B of the original plat; the original deed was recorded January 27, 1904, and contained a mistake in the legal description.
 - 1/25/1907: “We [at the Rib Lake Herald] are informed that Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Kennedy have decided to make Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, their home. This will elicit regrets from their large number of friends in all parts of this section.” [THIS TERSE COMMENT IS ALL THAT THE ANNALS OF THE RIB LAKE HERALD PROVIDE IN ANNOUNCING THAT THE FOUNDER OF RIB LAKE WILL PERMANENTLY LEAVE – RPR.]
 - 4/12/1907: “It is reported that Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Kennedy are coming to pack their household goods to ship them to Coeur D’Alene, Idaho.”
 - With no public explanation and with no public farewell, J.J. and his wife, Flora M. Kennedy, leave Rib Lake on an unknown date.
 - 5/17/1907: “Mrs. J.J. Kennedy and her daughter, Jeanette, who is a teacher in Memphis, Tennessee, are expected to arrive soon and pack up their household goods preparatory to shipping them to Coeur D’Alene, Idaho, where the Kennedys intend to live in the near future.”
 - 8/9/1907: "Art Talbot has returned from Salmo, British Columbia, where he went about a month ago. He did not like it there as well as in Rib Lake. He reports having seen John J., Angus, Burt and William Kennedy and says they are doing well."
 - 11/1/1907: “J.J. Kennedy of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, is here on a short visit at home of Postmaster and Mrs. D. McLennan.” [THIS IS J.J. KENNEDY’S LAST KNOWN PRESENCE IN RIB LAKE.]

- 1/24/1908L “The household goods of J.J. Kennedy were packed and shipped to Spokane this week.”
- 6/28/1908: Judgment entered against John J. & Flora Kennedy & widows and heirs of W.A. Osburn-none of whom contested the lawsuit. The plaintiffs, RLLC & U.S. Leather Company, sue to “quiet real estate title,” i.e. put a court ruling of public record that none of the defendants have any title or claim to lands owned by RLLC & U.S. Leather Company, Doc. #14883. [In 1906 the U.S. Leather Company purchased the stock of the RLLC and made the RLLC a wholly owned subsidiary.] The judgment of 6/24/1908 shows that J.J. and Flora M. Kennedy were residing with their son, Elbert, in the City of Spokane, on 3/12/1908.
- Flora M. Kennedy died January 31, 1909, and was buried out of her home in Spokane, Washington.
- 5/13/1910: “Miss Jeanette Kennedy, who is well known here as the daughter of J.J. Kennedy, the founder of Rib Lake, arrived here last Friday and is a guest at the home of her uncle, Postmaster McLennan. Her present home is at Spokane, Washington, where she lives with her father.”
- 9/22/1911: “J.J. Kennedy and his boys are now somewhere in British Columbia.
- 1920: Census says J.J. lives/rents in Portland, Oregon – no spouse – with children Donald A., age 42; Janette, age 40; William C., age 37 and Elbert C., age 35 – see #11748 & #11751.
- 8/20/1920: *Spokane Chronicle* quotes J.J. as saying: “Moving pictures of accidents and hazards have a more lasting effect upon workmen than lectures.” J.J. was a speaker for the Spokane Medical and Safety Board. See #11750.
- 4/26/1928: Article in *Taylor County Star-News* reports: “J.J. Kennedy died April 12, 1925, at his home at Portland, Oregon.”
- Kennedy Burial: 4-14-1928: J.J. Kennedy was buried in Riverview Cemetery, Portland, Oregon, in Section 4, Lot 378, Grave #1.
 - On 7/20/1955 J.J. Kennedy’s remains were moved to Section 4, Lot 448, Grave #1, Riverview Cemetery, at the behest of his son, Elbert. In 2010, J.J. Kennedy remains there. Three of his children occupy adjacent graves: Grave #2-Jennette Myers, nee Kennedy; Grave #3-William G. Kennedy; Grave #4-Elbert (Bert) C. Kennedy.
- 1/28/1935: The Wisconsin State Geographic Board recommended to the Taylor County Board of Supervisors the renaming of Muddy Rib Lake; “The name Kennedy has been suggested by the Rib Lake Commercial Club, in honor of J.J. Kennedy, a lumberman who founded Rib Lake about 50 years ago.” The Taylor County Board approved the name change, see #14974.

CHILDREN OF JOHN J. AND FLORA M. KENNEDY, NEE McLENNAN:

- A. Donald Angus, born Oct. 30, 1876, in Spencer, Wisconsin.
 - Born Oct. 30, 1876 in Spencer, Wisconsin
 - Donald A. Kennedy was intimately involved with his father’s lumbering activities in Rib Lake. Donald A. Kennedy worked in the office. When John J. Kennedy sold out to the W.A. Osburn Lumber Company in 1901, Donald A. served as the “secretary” of the new corporation, e.g. on 6/12/1902 Donald A. signed a land contract on behalf of W.A. Osburn Lumber Co.
 - Son of J.J. and Flora M. Kennedy, according to obituary of Flora dated 2/12/1909. Variety of sources indicate that Donald A. Kennedy is intimately involved in

lumbering businesses with his father, J.J. Kennedy, of Rib Lake; following the economic Panic of 1897, Donald takes a greater role in J.J. Kennedy's business; this may be an effort to protect J.J. from unhappy creditors.

- 10/27/1900: W.A. Osburn Lumber Company files first set of Articles of Incorporation, #10995, lists Donald Kennedy as secretary.
- 4/22/1902: Authored letter to "Edward Van Gliessin, Esq." on the stationery of W.A. Osburn Lumber Company which reads: "Dear Sir: The Town contemplates putting in a pipeline from the tannery company's pump over to the main street, then down McComb's Avenue to a point near our dressed lumber shed and from there over to the bank of the lake near the mill. The committee which has charge of this matter thought it best to have a survey and plans made, and I write this to ask you if you have time to undertake this job. If possible, I wish you could give me your reply at once, stating when you could get at it and what you would charge for your services. This is a move in the right direction, and we trust that you can undertake the work mentioned. Yours very truly, Donald Kennedy." (You may view the document, including Donald Kennedy's signature, by consulting the CD "Rib Lake History", #10667.)
- 5/6/1902: Donald Kennedy is secretary of W.A. Osburn Lumber Company. Amends the Articles of Incorporation of the W.A. Osburn Lumber Company, changing the corporate name to "RIB LAKE LUMBER COMPANY" (emphasis added).
- 1/26/1903: Helped organize the First National Bank of Rib Lake and subscribed for 20 shares of stock, see image #15619B. This is JJK's actual signature. His brother-in-law, Duncan J. McLennan, signed before, and his son, Donald Kennedy, signed after JJK. See above under JJK for signature.
- 3/10/1903: Amended Articles of Incorporation of the RLLC show William Pringle, not Donald Kennedy, as secretary.
- 6/19/1903: Returned with J.J. Kennedy from western trip.
- 10/30/1903: *Rib Lake Herald* reports: "Angus Kennedy and his sons, John E. and Dan Kennedy, are working on a sawmill at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, for J.J. and Donald Kennedy." See document #16987D "At the mouth of the Spokane River, "Red Roaring" Dan Kennedy built the Kennedy Mill. This was later the B.R. Lewis Mill. When Lewis went broke in 1908, Blackwell bought him out, and the Blackwell Mill operated on this site until 1938." See *Steamboats in the Timber* by Ruby El Hult, Caxton Printers, Ltd, Caldwell, Idaho, 1952, page 88.
- 5/14/1904: In the name of "Donald A. Kennedy and Bernard Assmann" acquired by deed for \$930 from J.M. Perry and Mary Perry 3 acres of land on the western shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, for a sawmill.
- 4/20/1906: *Rib Lake Herald*: "Donald Kennedy, eldest son of J.J., has an important position with a Gloveton, Texas, lumber firm". He has left the Village for the west.
- 2/13/1907: W.A. Osburn Lumber Company files second set of Articles of Incorporation. #10996, and a third set of Articles of Incorporation, #10997, both of which list Donald Kennedy "as secretary of the W.A. Osburn Lumber Company".
- 8/23/1907: Donald visits Rib Lake friends for 3 days – reports he and his father (J.J.) are interested in British Columbia forest lands.
- 6/1/1961: "Word has been received here of the death in Portland, Oregon, on May 17, of Donald Angus Kennedy, 84, member of one of the earliest Rib Lake families.

¶ Funeral services were held in the chapel at Riverview Cemetery, where he was buried. ¶ He was born in Spencer on Oct. 30, 1876, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy founded the first sawmill here in 1881. The son had been associated with his father in various lumbering activities prior to moving to Oregon in 1910. ¶ Surviving are the widow, Winifred, a brother, Burt Kennedy, and two sisters, Mrs. Nat McDougall, and Mrs. David Moffet Myers, all of Portland. Miss Anna Mae Kennedy of Rib Lake, and her brother, Harold, now in Canada, are cousins."

B. Christena Maud, a/k/a Tena, a/k/a Christina, born 9/16/1872, Norwich, New York, died 1/23/1970, Mt. Angel, Oregon. Date of marriage to Nathan Allen (Natt) McDougall is 12/31/1902, thereafter Mrs. Natt McDougall.

- 12/31/1902: Marries Natt McDougall of Milwaukee. Will thereafter reside in Waverly, Iowa.
- Christena's daughter was Marian McDougall Herron, and her granddaughter is Barbara Fredenburg, whose magnificent collection of Kennedy photos and documents are scanned in beginning at #14045 through #14106.



C. Jennette, born October 1874, in New York, a/k/a Mrs. David Moffet Myers, born c. 1876. Between 5/10/1910 and 6/18/1910 held legal title, as "Jeanette Kennedy," to Lot A, Block A, original plat of Rib Lake. This lot was across the street from the former Rib Lake home of her parents. See Doc. #13873.

- On at least one occasion, Jennette returned to Rib Lake to visit, photo #14102, shows her with 14 relatives and people in Rib Lake c. 1920.
- 11/21/1941: Once president of the 20th Century Club, Jeanette Kenendy, "no longer lives in Rib Lake." She is now Mrs. David Moffet of Seattle, Washington."
- Attorney Gene Krug, then probating the estate of Anna Mae Kennedy, in his letter dated 7/29/1963, refers to her as "Jeanette Kennedy Myers, 846 SW Vista Avenue, Portland, Oregon."

D. William G. Kennedy, 6/15/1880 – 11/1/1955.

- 6/4/1897: At the “commencement exercises of Rib Lake Public School” “Willie Kennedy” graduating from 9th grade-spoke on the “History of Wisconsin,” see #15521.
- 9/22/1900: *Star News*: Goes to Lake Forest, Illinois, “to attend college”.
- 9/18/1903: “Studies law at Cornell University.”
- 11/24/1955: WILLIAM G. KENNEDY DIES "Word of the death at Portland, Oregon, of William, 75, son of J.J. Kennedy, founder of the RLLC, has been received here by his cousins, Miss Anna May and Harold Kennedy. A bachelor, Mr. Kennedy is survived by two sisters, Mrs. MacDougal (Tina), and Mrs. Muffet Meyer (Jeanette), and two brothers, Donald and Burt, all of Portland. ¶ The J.J. Kennedy family moved from Rib Lake to Portland some 50 years ago, and have lived there since. William was engaged in the railroad business until his retirement. Mrs. Meyer lived for some time in the east, but returned to Portland upon the death of her husband, within the past year. ¶ Burt Kennedy, also a bachelor, visited in this village two years ago."

E. Elbert Carpenter Kennedy, 1/5/1884, in Rib Lake – 2/18/1973, Mt Angel, Oregon, a/k/a/ “Bert.”

- 1/29/1904: Attends party in Rib Lake.
- 12/23/1904: “Bert Kennedy came home from Lake Forest, Illinois, to spend Christmas at home. He is a student at Lake Forest College.”
- 6/28/1907: Writes Rib Lake from Meadows, British Columbia, Canada; wants to hear of Rib Lake news. He is part of a “Rib Lake colony.”
- 5/14/1953: “Bert Kennedy, Portland, Oregon, cousin of Anna Mae Kennedy, visited friends and relatives here last week, staying at the Central Hotel. He drove to Willow Lake for a visit with the Charles Talbots. Enroute here he visited the Bob McLennan family, Oak Park, Illinois, his sister in New York and Mrs. Cella Begley Holmes, Wisconsin Rapids. The Holmes drove Mr. Kennedy to Rib Lake. This was his first visit back here since he left 47 years ago [1906].”
- KENNEDY DIES IN OREGON "Elbert C. Kennedy passed away Feb. 18, 1973, at the Benedictine Nursing Center, Mount Angel, Oregon, where he had made his home for the past 8-/12 years. ¶ Rib Lake was founded by his father, John J. Kennedy, who started a mill in the town. Elbert C. Kennedy was the first child born in Rib Lake, Jan. 5, 1884. He is the last of his generation. ¶ Mr. Kennedy is survived by a nephew and a niece, Mr. Jack McDougall, Los Altos, California; and Mrs. Joseph Herron, from Portland, Oregon. ¶ Funeral services were Feb. 22, 1973, in Portland, Oregon. Vault interment will be in Riverview Cemetery, Portland, Oregon."

II. ANGUS KENNEDY, [Not A.B. Kennedy] 5/1851 – c. 1930

- Brother of J.J.
- Intimately involved in running the Kennedy lumber operations at Rib Lake.
- Born May, 1851, in Canada.
- Wife is Sarah C. Allard, born January 1858.
- Immigrated to U.S. in 1868.

- 6/26/1880: Listed in United States Census at Spencer, Wis., occupation “lumberman” with wife Sarah C. and 4-year old son, John [E.].
- 8/9/1881: “Mr. Angus Kennedy came to Rib Lake on the 9th of August, [1881], with his brother J.J. Kennedy and several men. That year was known for its wet fall, and work on the log boarding house, log barn and subsequently the sawmill, progressed very slowly.” *Rib Lake Herald*, May 15, 1903.
- 2/27/1886: Edgar T. Wheelock, editor, *Star News*, reports that Angus Kennedy is General Manager for the J.J. Kennedy Rib Lake lumber operations and owns one of the two houses in Rib Lake which are not owned by J.J. Kennedy.
- c. 1890: Serves as “Walking Boss,” i.e., woods superintendent, for his brother’s, J.J. Kennedy’s, logging operations around Rib Lake.
- 3/18/1892: Sarah, Mrs. Angus Kennedy, is president of Taylor County chapter of Women’s Christian Temperance Union per Taylor County Star & News.
- 12/13/1897: *Rib Lake Herald*: Angus Kennedy leads reconstruction of J.J. Kennedy’s Rib Lake mill, which had burned in the summer of 1896. “The lumber interests of J.J. Kennedy was in the hands of his brother, Angus....”
- 6/9/1899: Angus, for \$40,000, sells out to J.J. Kennedy Lumber Co., #14413. Transaction includes 5,000,000 feet of hemlock lumber, 7,000,000 feet of hemlock logs, 36 horses, logging camp equipment, e.g. sleighs, and accounts receivable in Angus’ name. (This document shows the complexity of the Kennedy brothers’ business dealings. Note, for example, this hemlock lumber was sawed at John J. Kennedy’s mill and was presumably piled in his mill yard; who could keep ownership straight?)
- 6/29/1899: With his brother, John J. Kennedy, signs articles incorporating the “J.J. Kennedy Lumber Co.,” #14414.
- 4/14/1900: *Star News* summarizes Angus’ testimony in Gail Blanchard murder case and reveals Angus as hard working “hands on” partner at the Kennedy mill; Angus lives just south of dry yard, gets up at 4:45 a.m., milks his cow and starts work at 6:00 a.m. His “shop” is at the mill.
- 12/19/1902: Angus gets “big contract” with Rib Lake Lumber Company to haul 4,000,000 feet of hemlock logs. Angus uses fifteen 4-horse teams; “The [men] loaders in the woods will live in portable camps.”
- 1/8/1903: Mssr. Angus and [his son] John [E.] Kennedy, will ship their household goods to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho...”
- 3/13/1903: Angus Kennedy has hauled 2.5 million feet of logs for the Rib Lake Lumber Company.
- Following info from *Rib Lake Herald*: 5/15/1903: Angus and son, John E. Kennedy, and families will within 2 days depart Rib Lake and move to Coeur D’Alene, Idaho.
- 5/22/1903: “Mr. & Mrs. Angus Kennedy left for the west on Monday. Many Rib Lake people accompanied them to Chelsea and bid them farewell.”
- 3/18/1904: Angus Kennedy and son have their tie saw plant up and running at Coeur D’Alene, Idaho.
- 9/27/1907: Rib Lake pioneer families hold a reunion in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy, who are visiting.
- 9/28/1907: Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy visit Rib Lake and everyone at Rib Lake is very glad to see them here.
- According to correspondence of Mrs. Willard Kennedy, nee Susan Lacy, #10992, in 1906 or 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy moved from Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, to a Montana ranch.

- 7/30/1907: A Coeur d'Alene newspaper shows an ad by Angus Kennedy & Son [John E. Kennedy] for Railroad Ties, Cedar Poles, Telephone Poles and Telegraph Poles. It lists their location as 105 Second Street, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.
- 6/24/1910: "Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy, formerly of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, are now living on a homestead at Chester, Montana. They enjoy it very much."
- 9/22/1911: "Angus Kennedy and his family are on a homestead in Montana."
- 12/8/1911: "Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy, who have been on a ranch in Montana all summer, have gone to Spokane [Washington State] for the winter. Mrs. Kennedy writes the Herald that Spokane is fine."
- 3/29/1912: "A letter from Mrs. Angus Kennedy from Spokane, Washington, informs us that they are going back on their ranch at Trommer, Hill County, Montana, this month."
- 4/3/1914: Mr. & Mrs. Angus Kennedy request to send the *Rib Lake Herald* to Chester, Montana, where they will move to their homestead next week.
- 12/10/1915: Angus Kennedy and family have moved to Port Hill, Idaho.
- 10/25/1918: Mrs. Angus Kennedy renews the *Rib Lake Herald* subscription from Briggs, Idaho, "we are about 25 miles from the southwest entrance to Yellowstone Park."
- 10/28/1921: "Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy are coming to Rib Lake from Keller, Washington, on a visit in the very near future."
- 11/18/1921: "Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy are visiting at River Falls [Wisconsin] at the home of her brother, John Allard."
- 11/25/1921: "Mr. and Mrs. Angus Kennedy arrived in Rib Lake Tuesday afternoon to visit relatives and old time friends. They are staying at the home of Mrs. Kennedy's brother, A.J. Allard."
- c. 1930, Angus Kennedy dies and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Spokane, WA, #10992.

CHILDREN OF ANGUS AND SARAH C. KENNEDY, NEE ALLARD:

A. John E. Kennedy. Born July 1878 in New York. Married Myra J. Gardiner, see photo #14092; daughter is Janet Elizabeth.

- Son of Angus. #10857k.
- Born July 1878 in New York.
- Married Myra J. Gardiner of Spencer, Wisconsin, see photo #14092.
- 1902 census indicates spouse is Myra J. and child is Janet Elizabeth.
- 1903 *Rib Lake Herald* says that John E. moves to Idaho.
- 10/30/1903: *Rib Lake Herald* reports: "Angus Kennedy and his sons, John E. and Dan Kennedy, are working on a sawmill at Coeur D'Alene, Idaho for J.J. and Donald Kennedy."
- 3/25/1904: baby girl born to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Kennedy at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.
- 2/14/1908: John E. Kennedy, formerly of Rib Lake, engaged in lumbering with his father, Angus, in Coeur d'Alene, came to the Village of Rib Lake for a visit; "everyone glad to shake his hand."
- 4/15/1910: "Mrs. John E. Kennedy of Spokane, Washington, visited her mother, Mrs. John Gardiner, of Spencer, Wisconsin."
- 9/22/1911: "John [E.] owns a number of teams and does contract work." [in Idaho].

B. Lillie Mae, born March 1891, a/k/a Lalah.

C. Willard, a/k/a Bill, born May 25, 1894, marries Susan Lacy, see letter #10992.

- According to Tony Bamonte, Willard died in 1977 and was buried in the Fairmont Cemetery of Spokane, Washington.

D. Dan [the 10/30/1903 edition of the Rib Lake Herald reported that John E. Kennedy and Dan Kennedy, “sons of Angus,” were building a sawmill on the shores of Lake Coeur d’Alene for J.J. and Donald A. Kennedy. From time to time the Herald referred to a D.B. Kennedy, Daniel B., Long Dan and Big Dan Kennedy. As of 5/26/13 it is unclear whether Angus’ son “Dan” was any or all of these. –R.P. Rusch & Cindy Sommer, 5/26/13]

III. HUGH J. KENNEDY, A/K/A H.J. KENNEDY, 1849-1915

- Brother of J.J.
- Born May 1849 in Canada.
- Marries Catherine A. Fisher of Martintown, Ontario, Canada.
- Immigrated to U.S. in 1864.
- Hugh does not appear in the 1885 census of Rib Lake.
- c. 1890 serves as a teamster in his brother’s, J.J. Kennedy’s, Rib Lake logging operations.
- Appears in 1895 census of Rib Lake.
- 1900 federal census describes occupation as farmer.
- 8/21/1903: “Street Commissioner Kennedy has made good improvements on McComb Ave. this week. He also repaired several sidewalks.”
- 1905 state census describes occupation as laborer.
- Wife is identified as Kate in 1900 census; she is identified as Caroline in the 1905 census; occupation listed as “housework”.
- 3/22/1906 edition of the *Rib Lake Herald* says Hugh Kennedy passed our burg this week on his way home. He has been logging for the past two years for the Rib Lake Lumber Company and has been staying with a crew at Arthur Andrew’s farm.” (emphasis added)
- Rib Lake Herald* makes the additional comments regarding Hugh J. Kennedy and family: 6/22/1906: H.J. Kennedy appointed street commissioner by the Rib Lake Village Board.
- 2/12/1909: Harold, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh J. Kennedy, broke his leg while playing at the Rib Lake mill yard.
- 4/15/1910: “H.J. Kennedy and his son, Stuart, bid farewell to family and friends and departed for Moose Jaw, Canada, where Kennedy will take up a homestead. They took two teams [of horses], bedding and provisions to supply them for a while. Earl Kennedy [son of William] of Abbotsford has bought land in that section and induced his uncle to try it there. Rib Lake people wish them good luck.”
- 4/22/1910: “The family of H.J. Kennedy received word from him that he is snowbound in North Dakota.”
- 12/2/1910: “H.J. Kennedy, who with his son went to Canada last spring to take up a homestead, came home Monday to stay until next March, when he will return to his homestead. He and his son took up 620 acres 14 miles north of the Montana state line. Soft coal is used for fuel and can be dug in the banks of the river and delivered for \$1.50 a load. Mr. Kennedy and

his son are now citizens of Canada, as they had to take the oath of citizenship before they could file on the land."

- 3/10/1911: "H.J. Kennedy and son started for Gull Lake, Canada, to live on his homestead which he took up last summer."
- 5/26/1911: "Mrs. H.J. Kennedy departed for Gull Lake, Canada, to join her husband and sons on the homestead."
- 11/7/1913: "H.J. Kennedy is having a nice porch built onto the south side of his house. H.J. Kennedy arrived from Gull Lake, Saskatchewan, last Saturday. Mr. Kennedy and his son, Stuart, own c. ½ section of land at Gull Lake and like the country. They have raised some fine crops."
- 7/11/1914: His daughter, Anna May Kennedy, writes to Hugh at "Amelia, Saskatchewan, Canada," #16239A.
- 11/12/1915: HUGH J. KENNEDY - DIED IN CANADA. "The family of Hugh J. Kennedy received a message from East End, Saskatchewan, stating that he is ill and that Mrs. Kennedy should come at once. Mrs. Kennedy left for Canada the next day and arrived there Saturday. Monday Harold Kennedy received a message stating that his father died Saturday. ¶ Mr. Kennedy and his oldest son Stuart have been living on a homestead in Saskatchewan. They were home last winter and went there again in the spring. Mr. Kennedy's health was poor the last two years, and his intention was to get his property in shape before another winter so he could dispose of it. Mrs. Kennedy and their youngest son, Harold, are living here and their daughter Anna is attending Marquette College in Milwaukee. ¶ Mr. Kennedy was one of the pioneers of Rib Lake and his sudden death came as a shock to all. The Herald will give a detailed account when Mrs. Kennedy returns from Canada."
- 9/7/1916: H.A. McDonald signed an identification Affidavit "He was personally well acquainted with Hugh J. Kennedy, formerly of Rib Lake, Wisconsin, whose name was sometimes written H.J. Kennedy, and with his wife, Catharine (sic) Kennedy." #15235
- Burial note. Hugh's spouse, Caroline, is buried at the Rib Lake Lakeview Cemetery; Caroline lived from 1865-1937.

CHILDREN OF HUGH J. AND CAROLINE, a/k/a CATHERINE A. KENNEDY:

- A. Anna Mae, 9/30/1888 – 6/18/1962. Buried in Rib Lake Lakeview Cemetery.
 - 1915-1916: The "Pharmacy Bulletin" of Marquette University lists Anna Mae Kennedy as a junior in the School of Pharmacy.
 - 12/1916: Anna Mae Kennedy issued Pharmacist Certificate by Wisconsin State Board of Pharmacy.
 - Anna Mae Kennedy graduated from Marquette University with a degree in pharmacy; she was a co-owner of the Upjohn-Kennedy Drug Store on McComb Avenue for many years; never married; dies and is buried in Rib Lake.
 - 5/6/1953: In postcard #14106, she identifies herself to her cousin by signing the postcard "Anna May." (RPR believes that her birth name and legal name was Anna Mae; see, for example, the correspondence of Attorney Gene Krug probating her estate, Doc. #14104. RPR surmises that Anna Mae spelling her name May in the postcard was acquiescence to a common misspelling of her name.)

- 6/21/1962: MISS KENNEDY, EARLY RESIDENT, FOUND DEAD "Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday in the Methodist Church for Miss Anna Mae Kennedy, 75, member of an early Rib Lake family, and niece of its founder, who was found dead in her home on Church Street last Monday. ¶ She was on a couch and had died during the night from natural causes. ¶ Miss Kennedy had been in failing health, although she had continued her work as a registered pharmacist at the Upjohn Drug Store, having worked on Sunday, the day before her death. She was one of the first women in the state to follow that profession, having been graduated at Marquette University in Milwaukee. ¶ She was the daughter of the late Hugh and Catherine Ferguson Kennedy, who came to Rib Lake shortly after his brother, John J. Kennedy, came here to establish the lumber mill in the early 1880's. ¶ After completing her pharmacy course, she returned here, and became a partner of the late James Upjohn in the Kennedy-Upjohn Store. Mr. Upjohn's son, Richard, bought out her shares of the business a short time later to his father's death in 1946, (on 1/1/1946) and she continued to work for him [Richard Upjohn] since that time. ¶ Her high school graduating class was one of the early ones here, and included Herbert Curran, and Mrs. Dio Walty, still living here, and the late Mrs. Fred Niggemann. ¶ She was a member of the Methodist Church, she lived with her mother until her death in 1937, and then lived alone. She had a deep interest in the history of the community, of which she was considered an authority, and had collected a large assortment of photographs of early Rib Lake. ¶ A brother, Stuart, died in 1917, and another brother, Harold, who for many years operated a wheat ranch near Frontier, Saskatchewan, Canada, which his father had homesteaded, died last October. ¶ Thus, the only survivor is Mrs. Bessie Kennedy, her sister-in-law, who is en route from Frontier to attend the funeral, and a cousin, Bert Kennedy, Portland, Oregon, son of J.J. Kennedy, who will be unable to attend because of advanced age and ill health. ¶ Burial will be in the family plot at Lakeview Cemetery."

B. Stuart, a/k/a Stewart, 3/6/1891 – 11/14/1918. Buried in Rib Lake Lakeview Cemetery.

- 11/14/1918: Dies at Amelia Sask, Canada, #13434-000165.
- 11/29/1918: "The body of Stuart Kennedy was brought here from East End, Saskatchewan, Canada, Monday afternoon by his sister, Anna Mae Kennedy, and interment was made in the village cemetery in the evening. Stuart died in Canada of influenza. His mother, who went to Canada with Anna Mae, will return later as she has to stay there to settle Stuart's estate. The untimely death of this young man is deplored by all of his Rib Lake acquaintances."

C. Harold A., 3/10/1897 – 10/16/1961. Buried in Rib Lake Lakeview Cemetery with his spouse, Bessie, 1899-1966.

- 12/19/1913: Harold Kennedy is working at the depot in Colby learning telegraphy.
- 10/16/1914: Anna May Kennedy writes to brother Harold at "Colby, Wisconsin," see #16242A.

- 193_ Harold Kennedy is reported by the *Rib Lake Herald* as continuing to live in the Village of Rib Lake.
- 3/14/1941: “Mr. & Mrs. Harold Kennedy arrived Saturday from Michigan City, Indiana, where he has been employed and will visit here for a short time.”
- 4/30/1943: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kennedy left Monday for Frontier, Saskatchewan, Canada, where they will spend the summer raising a wheat crop on their land there.
- 4/27/1945: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kennedy have been spending a few days at the home of the former's sister, Miss Anna Mae Kennedy. They left Wednesday for Canada, where they will spend the summer on their farm. *RLHe*.
- 10/19/1961: HAROLD KENNEDY, OF EARLY FAMILY, DIES AT HOSPITAL "Funeral services for Harold A. Kennedy, 64, member of an early Rib Lake family, who died at the Veterans Hospital at Madison Monday, were scheduled for Thursday (today) at 1:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church. ¶ The Rev. William B. Warner will officiate, and burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery. ¶ Mr. Kennedy had been in ill health for the past year, and entered the hospital Wednesday of last week. ¶ Born March 10, 1897, in Rib Lake, was a son of Hugh and Catherine Ferguson Kennedy. He was married to Bessie Pacourek in Oklahoma, June, 1930. The couple spent their summers since 1939 in Frontier, Canada, where he was a wheat farmer on the old Kennedy homestead property there. In the winter, they lived in Chicago, and for the past few years have spent these months in the west. ¶ Earlier he had worked in the lumber mill here, originally founded by his uncle, John J. Kennedy, in Chicago, and as a railroad man in the Twin Cities. He and Mrs. Kennedy had returned from Canada less than a month ago, coming to the village, as was their custom, before settling for the winter. ¶ He is survived by his wife and one sister, Miss Anna Mae Kennedy, Rib Lake. ¶ The American Legion Post will conduct military rites for him, as he was a veteran of WWI."

IV. WILLIAM J. KENNEDY

- Brother of J.J.
- Marries Christy Ann Ferguson of Glengary, Ontario, Canada. She is a sister to Mrs. Hugh J. Kennedy, #13433-095 [cf 13433-166: Hugh Kennedy marries Catherine A. Fischer].
- 2/3/1894 *Star News* describes “Wm. Kennedy as “board-boss.” It implies that William J. Kennedy is in charge of the large boarding house and hotel next to the Rib Lake’s Kennedy sawmill.
- William J. Kennedy’s only mention in a Taylor County-based census is in the 1895 census of the Town of Rib Lake conducted in June, 1895. There the enumerator lists the Kennedy brothers in the following order: Angus, John J., Hugh J. and William. The data shown there for William is that there are two adults in the household –William and his wife, both born in “Great Britain” (They were actually born in Canada; Canada was a part of the British Empire, hence the term “Great Britain”).
- 1895 census indicates William Kennedy’s household consists of 2 males and 6 females, 2 born in Great Britain (Canada) and the other 6 born in the U.S.; (names of children are not listed).

- 3/30/1895: *Star News*: William J. is managing J.J. Kennedy's Rib Lake hotel.
- 10/3/1896: *Star News*: Disposes of all Rib Lake assets – will move to Canada “Next week.”
- 10/24/1896: *Star News*: Wm. Kennedy & family returns – Canada “too chilly”
- 4/9/1887: Elected a constable for Town of Rib Lake.
- William had 6 children, all of whom were born in the United States.
- 2/6/1899: *Star News*: Opens a saloon in Medford.
- 6/10/1899: William Kennedy and family drove to Rib Lake and visit friends, stay overnight and return to Medford.
- 12/23/1899: *Star News*: Glendon Kennedy, 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kennedy, died after falling into boiling cleaning water.
- 1900 census – not listed.
- 3/20/1903: “Mr. William Kennedy has gone to Waverly, Iowa, to be employed in railroad work.” (this shortly after Angus announces his move to Idaho and brother, J.J., sells his Rib Lake Lumber Company stock.)
- 7/10/1903: “Mrs. Will Kennedy of Medford visited Rib Lake this week.” [That was the entire article in the *Rib Lake Herald*.]
- The *Rib Lake Herald* contains the following references to William J. Kennedy:
12/4/1903: With his brother, H.J., served as a pallbearer for John A. McDonald at Montreal, Canada. [The apparent reason why brother, Angus, did not serve as a pallbearer is the fact that Angus was then living in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.]
- 12/23/1904: William Kennedy and family will take possession of the Adams House [hotel] in Abbotsford, Wisconsin. Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. William Kennedy, it will be one of the best hotels on the Wisconsin Central Railway line.
- 12/2/1906: Mrs. William Kennedy and son, Earl, of Abbotsford visited Rib Lake relatives.
- 7/27/1906: “Mrs. William Kennedy, formerly of Abbotsford...was here a few days...and will now go back to Moneana to live on her and her son's homesteads.” Mr. and Mrs. William Kennedy of Abbotsford and Mrs. Hugh J. Kennedy of Rib Lake are sisters, both born Ferguson.
- 2/12/1911: Nephew, Stewart Kennedy, writes to Mrs. William Kennedy, “712 N. Bridge St., Chippewa Falls, Wis.” #16244A.
- 1911: Dies per obit of Christy Ann Kennedy.
- 8/20/1920: "Mr. and Mrs. William Kennedy and new daughter (sic) of Chippewa Falls, visited in the village Tuesday."
- 10/14/1921: “Mrs. William Kennedy and her granddaughter, Maxine Olson, of Chippewa Falls are visiting Mrs. H.J. Kennedy and son and daughter for a week. Mrs. Kennedy was one of the pioneer citizens of Rib Lake, later moving to Medford, then to Abbotsford, and she is now living in Chippewa Falls.”

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM J. AND CHRISTY ANN KENNEDY, NEE FERGUSON

1. Earl F.: 4/15/1910 buys homestead in Moose Jaw, Canada. A business card, “Earl F. Kennedy, 238 Third Avenue East, Calgary” [Saskatchewan, Canada], c. 1940 reads: “Breeder of Registered Boston Terriers and Mexican Chihuahuas,” #14145.
2. Anna C.: 4/9/1909 marries Ole Olson – “Abbotsford's popular Postmaster.”

3. Glendon, dies in 1899 as a result of falling into boiling water
4. As of 9/5/2010, the names of three additional children are unknown.

V. ALLEN, A/K/A ALLAN, J. KENNEDY (THE BLACKSMITH)

- 1895 census, #10857, indicates one male and one female in the household, both born in Great Britain (Canada).
- 8/31/1896: With Duncan McLennan and Hugh McDonald, incorporated the Rib Lake Mercantile Company: “The business of such corporation shall be buying, selling and dealing in goods, wares and merchandise and carrying on a mercantile business at the Village of Rib Lake...”
- 1900 census lists Allen as head, Mary K. as spouse, and children are John A. age 3, Mary K. age 2, and Leonard age 6 months.
- 1902 census indicates Allen Kennedy listed as head of household, spouse is Mary, children are John, Mamie and Leonard.
- 6/28/1902: elected as one of the initial trustees of the Village, incorporated 5-29-1902, see #14940.
- 11/11/1904: Allen Kennedy & Jacob Miller form a partnership and will erect a blacksmith shop...[in the Village]. Mr. Kennedy has no peer in the country as a blacksmith...and will do the blacksmith work. Mr. Miller, who has a good reputation as a woodworker, will tend to the other department. [e.g., wooden wheels, wood wagon parts, etc.].
- 1905 census indicates age 40, spouse Mary, age 31, children John 8, Mamie 7, Leonard 5, Marcella 3.
- 9/28/1906 *Rib Lake Herald* reports Kennedy and Miller are building an addition to their wagon and blacksmith shop. The shop stands on the south side of Railroad Street, 200 feet east of Second Street.
- 1910 census lists Allen as head, Mary as spouse, and children John 13, Mary 12, Leonard 10 and Marcella 8.
- 4/22/1910: "Mr. and Mrs. Allen Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Pilon and Mr. Alfred Bonneville entertained at a progressive whist last Thursday evening at the spacious and nicely furnished Kennedy residence. The number of guests were large enough to go around 14 tables. Eight games were played. The refreshments were delicious and consisted of chicken crockets, riced potatoes, fruit salad, lettuce sandwiches, cheese fixed in the form of carrot, pickled beets, marshmallows, assorted cakes, tea and coffee. Everyone had a lovely time."
- 4/21/1911: sells farm implements.
- 2/26/1925: Final decree in Taylor County Court probates estate of “Allan J. Kennedy,” #13426; survivors of Allen J. Kennedy:
 - Mary K. Kennedy – widow
 - Leonard A. Kennedy – son
 - John A. Kennedy – son [John A. Kennedy, Aug. 16, 1896-May 15, 1965, THE SON OF ALLEN J. KENNEDY” is not to be confused with John A. Kennedy, 1859-Dec. 13, 1884; see XIII.]
 - Mayme C. Kennedy – daughter
 - Marcella E. Kennedy – daughter
- 3/27/1958 is the obituary of Mary Katherine Kennedy, spouse of Allen Kennedy.

CHILDREN OF ALLEN J. AND MARY KATHERINE KENNEDY

1. John A. Kennedy 8/16/1896 (Rib Lake), died 6/3/1965 (Chicago)

- 6/11/1915: John A. Kennedy arrived home from Oberon, North Dakota, where he taught the past year.
- 6/3/1965: "JOHN A. KENNEDY, NATIVE OF VILLAGE, DIES AT CHICAGO "Word has been received here of the recent death of John A. Kennedy, a native of Rib Lake, and attorney in Kenosha for the past 42 years. ¶ He died in Memorial Hospital of Chicago on May 15, after two months' illness. ¶ He was born in Rib Lake on August 16, 1896, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allan J. Kennedy, the former being a member of the early Kennedy family which founded the community. He received his early education here and then attended Marquette University at Milwaukee, graduating from law school in 1923. ¶ He had enlisted in WWI, served as an ambulance driver in the Medical Corps in Germany, and was discharged in June, 1919. ¶ He went to Kenosha after his graduation at Marquette, and had practiced law there since that time. He had served as Assistant District Attorney. On Nov. 19, 1925, he married the then Ruth E. Burns, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. ¶ He was a member of the St. Mark Church, the Holy Name Society of that parish, and the Knights of Columbus. He was also a member of the State Bar Association, the county bar association, the American Legion, Paul Herrick Post 21, and the Kenosha Lodge 750, B.P.O. Elks. ¶ Surviving, besides his widow, are two sisters, Mrs. Leo (Mayme) Downing, and Mrs. Earl (Marcella) Bain, both of Kenosha, and one brother, Leonard A. Kennedy, also of Kenosha. He is also survived by four nieces and two nephews. ¶ He was preceded in death by his father and mother."

2. Mary Kennedy, c. 1897.

3. Lenord, c. 1900

4. Mayme C. Kennedy

5. Marcella E. Kennedy

VI. DANIEL B. KENNEDY, A/K/A "LONG DAN" [J.J. Kennedy's brother, Angus, had a son "Dan"; it is unclear whether this son is "Daniel B. Kennedy;" 5/26/13 – R.P. Rusch & Cindy Sommer.

- Apparently no known blood relation to J.J. Kennedy.
- 1885 census indicates one male and two females in household; two born in Great Britain (Canada).
- 1893: "Big Dan Kennedy" manages woods work for the Rib Lake Tannery. From Arthur J. Latton's *Reminiscences of Taylor County*.
- 10/1/1894: contract between Kate P. Bonneville & Fayette D. Shaw, lists D.B. Kennedy as the hemlock bark estimator to calculate the volume of hemlock involved in this transaction.
- 5/28/1896: With G. Liebig and Roman Catholic Bishop James Schwabach, signs Articles of Incorporation for St. John the Baptist's (sic) Catholic Congregation of Rib Lake.
- c. 1899 works for Fayette Shaw as woods superintendent "Walking Boss" for Rib Lake Tannery; quits and takes similar job for J.J. Kennedy, #13433-008.

- 1900 census indicates Dan is head, Mary is spouse, and children are Catherine, John A. and Mary J.
- 1/19/1901: *Star News*: D.B. Kennedy installed as officer in Catholic Foresters Organization at Rib Lake.
- 1902 census indicates Dan is head, Mary is spouse and child Catherine.
- 1902: Personal property tax roll for the Town of Rib Lake shows that D.B. Kennedy, “Long Dan”, had personal property valued at \$2,720 and paid a tax of \$85.88. It was the highest tax by far paid by any of the Kennedys in Rib Lake. #10850.
- 1/16/1903: "Messrs. D.B. Kennedy and Hugh A. McDonald went up the line last Monday."
- 4/17/1903: Mr. D. [RPR believes this reference is to Daniel B. Kennedy, a/k/a "Long Dan"] B. Kennedy has bills out advertising his house of goods for sale. As he is going out west soon, it is better for him to sell his furniture, etc, and avoid paying big freight bills at his destination."
- 5/1/1903: “Mr. D.B. Kennedy and family left for Washington [state] Thursday night, where Mr. Kennedy will be employed by a large lumbering concern. They were counted among the oldest and most respected citizens of Rib Lake and will be greatly missed...”
- 10/30/1903: *Rib Lake Herald*: “News for Coeur d’Alene, Idaho: John (E?), Angus and Dan [Kennedy] are working on the sawmill which is being built for John J. and Donald Kennedy. Angus has charge of the work and the frame of the building is completed.”
- 10/7/1907: Farewell party takes place in Rib Lake for John S. and Dan Kennedy.
- 10/11/1907: “D.B. Kennedy, former citizen of Rib Lake, visited, now in hotel business in Coeur d’Alene.”
- 11/11/1907: “D.B. Kennedy, former citizen of Rib Lake, visited Medford and Rib Lake friends...He is now in the hotel business in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.”
- 8/15/1913: Mrs. D.B. Kennedy of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, and daughter arrived for a short visit. Mrs. Kennedy’s husbands was walking boss for Fayette Shaw and later for J.J. Kennedy.” (emphasis added)
- 3/8/1940: “Long Dan” Kennedy was Woods Superintendent – per historical note in Rib Lake Herald.
- For a photograph of Long Dan, see photo #14089.

VII. HUGH A.B. KENNEDY, (Bookkeeper)

- Also known as Hugh A.E. Kennedy – so mentioned by Arthur Latton in *Reminiscences of Taylor County*.
- 1895 census indicates born in Great Britain (Canada). Household consists of two males and three females.
- 4/18/1896: *Star News*: Kennedy, H.A.B., a/k/a Hugh A. Kennedy, identifies H.A.B. Kennedy as resident of Rib Lake and bookkeeper at J.J. Kennedy’s sawmill.
- 11/7/1897: Hugh A.B. Kennedy, bookkeeper for J.J. Kennedy, marries Nellie Spencer of Medford at Medford. Identifies self on wedding registration as “H.A.B. Kennedy” and his father as “A.R Kennedy.” Lists occupation as bookkeeper, residence as Rib Lake, birthplace as Canada.
- 4/1898: Elected Clerk for Town of Rib Lake.
- 12/31/1898: Moving to Manchester, Iowa, has taken job at Hollister Lumber Co.
- 2/9/1901: Mr. & Mrs. H.A.B. Kennedy of Stockton, Illinois, visited Rib Lake. Mr. Kennedy holds important position at Hollister Lumber Co.

- 4/13/1901: Mr. & Mrs. H.A.B. Kennedy are residing in Kenton, Michigan. Mr. Kennedy is employed as bookkeeper in a large lumber company.
- 1902 – not in census.
- 1905 – not in census.
- 11/15/1912: “H.A.B. Kennedy and his brother Dan also are located at St. Mary's [Idaho].” [Is H.A.B. Kennedy the same as Hugh A. Kennedy and/or Hugh A.E. Kennedy?]
- Rib Lake History c. 1941 by John Doe: “Hugh A.B. Kennedy, a nephew [of J.J. Kennedy], was a bookkeeper.”

VII. JERRY KENNEDY

- No known blood relation to J.J.
- Listed as head of household in 1902 census. Spouse is Lizzie, children Regina and Francis, #10857L.

VIII. JOHN M. KENNEDY

- 1902 census shows spouse as Janet, #10857.
- 1902 personal property tax roll lists a John M. Kennedy.

IX. JOHN S. KENNEDY - 8/14/1868 – 4/29/1955, a/k/a JERRY

- Born 8/14/1868 in Applehill, Ontario, Canada.
- No known biological/blood connection to J.J. Kennedy.
- 1885 census lists him as unmarried.
- 6/6/1901: Marries Henrietta Mathias, a German immigrant born 12/25/1878 in Lerberg, Saxony, and living with her parents in Rib Lake.
- 1902 census identifies spouse as Kate and one daughter, Elizabeth.
- 9/26/1902: Is treated for typhoid fever at St. Joseph’s Hospital, Chippewa Falls, Wis.
- 10/3/1902: “Mr. Jerry Kennedy, the tannery, who tendered his resignation [as Rib Lake Tannery superintendent] to the U.S. Leather Co., left for Michigan where he will have charge of a tannery. He will return...for his family.”
- 5/1/1903: John S. Kennedy will be foreman for new U.S. Leather Co. bark camp near “Harper’s Lake.”
- 6/26/1903: “John S. Kennedy’s bark camp has broken up and the men are being paid off...”
- 8/28/1903: *Rib Lake Herald* reports he attends the Mathias wedding in Medford; his wife is a Mathias.
- 10/2/1903: Served as one of 11 incorporators signing the Articles of Incorporation for the “Rib Lake Livestock Association.” The corporate purpose was described as “to acquire by purchase, lease or other lawful means, lands in the State of Wisconsin, to hold, improve, cultivate, lease, mortgage, sell and convey lands so previously acquired, to maintain, conduct and operate a farm or farms within the State of Wisconsin for the raising of agricultural products and for the breeding and feeding of livestock...”
- 5/27/1904: bark camp foreman, Section 33, 34 North, 2 East.

- 12/23/1904: “The U.S. Leather Company is hauling bark to Westboro for [railroad] shipment to Medford. 1,500 cords was peeled by John S. Kennedy [at his bark camp]. Five or six teams will be busy this winter.
- 1905 census indicates John S. is head of household, 36 years of age, born in Canada, occupation “woodsman.”
- Other information, including #10857f, indicates that John S. Kennedy was the foreman of the Rib Lake Tannery.
- Other information indicates that he was a foreman of a bark camp.
- 1905 census further reports his children as Elizabeth, age 4, Lyle 1½, Alexander, 5 months.
- 5/18/1906: foreman of bark camp, Section 17, 34 North, Range 3 East.
- 11/2/1906: J.S. Kennedy and James McDonald, foremen, Camp 4 of RLLC
- 10/4/1907: JOHN S. KENNEDY, FOREMAN OF CAMP 2 RESIGNS AND WILL MOVE TO COEUR D’ALENE, IDAHO.
- 11/19/1909: “John S. Kennedy, who is employed at Wells, Michigan, was home [at Rib Lake] to visit his family.”
- 10/21/1910: "Mr. and Mrs. John S. Kennedy have packed up their household goods and shipped them to Gladstone, Michigan, which is only about 4 1/2 miles from Wells, Michigan, where Mr. Kennedy is working. They intended to leave last Saturday but on account of the illness of their son, were obligated to postpone their departure. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy have lived here many long years and are counted among the oldest settlers of this Village. They have a host of friends here, who regret their departure and hope the change of location will better their health, wealth and prosperity."
- 7/1/1938: The Rib Lake Herald reports: “Mr. and Mrs. John S. Kennedy and sons, Lyle and Donald, Gladstone, Michigan, were guests of the Henry Mathias family and relatives from Sunday to Thursday last week.”
- 10/12/1945: "Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mathias enjoyed a weekend trip to points in Michigan and Wisconsin. They called at the home of the former sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Kennedy, at Gladstone, Michigan, also visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marsch at Pembine, Wisconsin, and Ina McRae at Goodman, Wisconsin."
- 4/29/1955: Dies in Gladstone, Michigan
- 6/16/2003: Family historian, John Firkus, his photo #15144, compiles descendants chart, #15113, including progeny of John S. and Henrietta Kennedy.

..... 4 Henriette Anne (MATHIAS), (A) b: Jul 07, 1774 in Young Iron, South Vietnam
 2 Henrietta MATHIAS b: Dec 25, 1878 in Lerberg, Germany d: Nov 15, 1962 in Gladstone, MI
 +John S. KENNEDY b: Aug 14, 1868 in Applehill, Ontario, Canada d: Apr 29, 1955 in Gladstone, MI m: Jun 06, 1901 in Medford, WI
 3 Elizabeth Myrtle (Betty) KENNEDY b: Nov 23, 1901 in Rib Lake, WI d: Feb 27, 2001 in Los Angeles, CA
 3 Lyle Henry KENNEDY b: Dec 17, 1903 in Rib Lake, WI d: Apr 02, 1996 in Escanaba, MI
 +Alice Elizabeth (King) VANDE VEL b: Jul 30, 1909 d: Oct 05, 1990 in Gladstone, MI
 4 Elizabeth (Bette) June KENNEDY b: Jun 06, 1937 in Escanaba, MI
 +William O. SAVAGE b: Jul 30, 1935 m: in Gladstone, MI
 5 Kimberly SAVAGE b: Aug 07, 1962 in Grand Rapids, MI
 +Fred FIGUEROR
 4 James Allen KENNEDY b: Aug 22, 1942 in Escanaba, MI
 +Sandra Lee REUBENS d: Oct 1984 m: 1960 in Gladstone, MI
 5 Brenda Ann KENNEDY b: May 30, 1965 in Menasha, WI
 +Daniel A. BURCH b: Jan 19, 1955 m: Jul 13, 1984 in Gladstone, MI
 6 Sandra Ann BURCH b: Dec 09, 1984 in Escanaba, MI
 6 Desire F. BURCH b: Jun 20, 1986 in Escanaba, MI
 6 Daniel Bernard BURCH b: Jul 26, 1989 in Escanaba, MI

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..... 6 Matthew James BURCH b: Oct 05, 1992 in Escanaba, MI
..... 6 Megan Elizabeth BURCH b: May 20, 1994 in Escanaba, MI
..... 6 Haven Noele BURCH b: Dec 19, 1995 in Escanaba, MI
..... 5 Ronald James KENNEDY b: Feb 27, 1969 in Menasha, WI
..... 3 Alexander Charles KENNEDY b: Jul 1904 in Rib Lake, WI d: 1932 in Los Angeles, CA
..... 3 George Alvin KENNEDY b: Aug 22, 1910 in Gladstone, MI d: Oct 15, 1998 in Escanaba, MI
..... +Genevieve SCHRAUM b: Feb 22, 1911 in Gladstone, MI
..... 4 Katherine Ann KENNEDY b: Jun 24, 1942 in Escanaba, MI
..... +Richard Henry THOMPSON b: May 08, 1937 in Escanaba, MI m: Dec 30, 1961 in Gladstone, MI
..... 5 Joseph Richard THOMPSON b: Oct 05, 1962 in Escanaba, MI
..... +Hope Elizabeth KLEIMAN b: Sep 09, 1965 m: Jun 04, 1988 in Gladstone, MI
..... 6 Kyle Richard THOMPSON b: Nov 22, 1991
..... 6 Jillian Kathleen THOMPSON b: Aug 29, 1997
..... 5 Barry Andrew THOMPSON b: Mar 15, 1964 in Escanaba, MI
..... +Deanna Denise ROGERS m: Aug 30, 1988 in Gladstone, MI Marriage ending: May 1993
..... 6 Carmen Denise THOMPSON b: Mar 14, 1989
..... 5 Ronald George THOMPSON b: Apr 07, 1965 in Escanaba, MI
..... 5 Amy Sue THOMPSON b: Apr 12, 1967 in Escanaba, MI
..... +Roger Allan AHO b: May 25, 1966 m: Sep 05, 1991 in Wells, MI
..... 5 Cheri Kay THOMPSON b: Dec 06, 1969 in Escanaba, MI
..... 3 Theresa Ann KENNEDY b: Jan 13, 1917 in Gladstone, MI
..... +Harold Raymond FIRKUS b: Jun 15, 1906 in Ashland, WI d: Feb 18, 1968 in St.Nazianz, WI m: Jul 29, 1944 in Gladstone, MI
..... 4 Robert Joseph FIRKUS b: May 20, 1945 in Manitowoc, WI
..... +Kathleen Blanche SMOKER b: Sep 12, 1946 in Lattroc, PA m: Apr 1969 in Middlesex, England Marriage ending: 1974
..... 4 John Frank FIRKUS b: Jul 04, 1947 in Manitowoc, WI
..... 4 Barbara Mary FIRKUS b: Jul 21, 1948 in Manitowoc, WI
..... +Keith J. TESS b: Mar 03, 1947 in Manitowoc, WI m: Aug 29, 1970 in St.Nazianz, WI
..... 5 Joel Robert TESS b: Oct 20, 1977 in Pueblo, CO
..... 5 Gina Theresa TESS b: Dec 29, 1978 in Boulder, CO
..... +Christopher Robert FORESTA m: Jun 23, 2001 in Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Everett, MA
..... 4 Margaret Ann FIRKUS b: Jan 07, 1950 in Manitowoc, WI
..... +James Peter SCHMITT b: 1951 in Sheboygan, WI m: Jul 04, 1970 in Manitowoc, WI Marriage ending: Jul 1974
..... 5 Trevor James HANSEN b: Dec 19, 1970 in Sheboygan, WI
..... *2nd Husband of Margaret Ann FIRKUS:
..... +Reid David HANSEN b: Apr 04, 1943 in Oconto, WI m: Aug 16, 1986 in Green Bay, WI Marriage ending: Feb 2003
..... 4 Jerome James FIRKUS b: Dec 27, 1950 in Manitowoc, WI
..... +Patricia LUBEN b: Dec 31, 1957 in Appleton, WI m: Oct 06, 1979 in Appleton, WI
..... 5 Bradley James FIRKUS b: Aug 25, 1982 in Appleton, WI
..... 5 Michael Harold FIRKUS b: Jul 11, 1984 in Appleton, WI
..... 3 Donald James KENNEDY b: Aug 29, 1919 in Escanaba, MI d: 1994 in CA
..... +Marianne PROEHL b: Jun 11, 1925 in Calgary, Alberta d: Dec 25, 1983 in CA
..... 4 Michele KENNEDY b: Mar 11, 1957 in CA
..... +Robert GATES b: 1937 m: 1975 in Las Vegas, NV Marriage ending: Bef. 1985
..... 5 Sean GATES b: Dec 13, 1976 in CA
..... *2nd Husband of Michele KENNEDY:
..... +David SCHEIBLE b: in Racine, WI m: Af. 1988

X. LOUIS KENNEDY

- June 1880: Listed in the Federal Census at Spencer, Wisconsin, age 22, as born in Canada, no spouse listed, and a laborer; interestingly, Louis Kennedy's entry follows by two that of J.J. Kennedy, his spouse and three children, but Louis is not shown in the J.J. Kennedy household, but as his own "head of house." Between J.J. Kennedy and family and Louis' entry are two entries, one of which is Duncan McLennan; Duncan is the brother-in-law to J.J. The same census also lists Angus Kennedy and his wife, Sarah C., and son John [E.] Kennedy as living in Spencer. It appears that Louis was part of the group, all of whom who had immigrated from Canada.
- Listed in 1883 census as unmarried.
- "Louis" Kennedy in 1885 obtained patent for the SW – NE, Section 18, 33 North, 3 East.

- 1/16/1886: *Taylor Co. Star & News*: Louis Kennedy is among 16 at Rib Lake who got trichinosis from sausage.
- 1901: Lou Kennedy sells tan bark to U.S. Leather Co. at unknown location, see 15985.
- 1905, not listed in census.

XI. H.D. KENNEDY

- On 7/20/1903, H.D. Kennedy, with “John Inesnell, Charles W. Mockross and A.B. Bohensstedt, of Chippewa County, Wisconsin” bought “saw log” stumpage on 12 forties of land in T32N, Range 4 West (in 2011 this is within the Town of Pershing, Taylor County, Wisconsin). This contract is Doc. #14784.
- This is the only known reference to H.D. Kennedy. He is not believed to be a relative of J.J. Kennedy.

XII. A.B. KENNEDY, (Blacksmith & Wagon Maker).

- Son of R.R. Kennedy and Katherine McDonald, probably a cousin of J.J. Kennedy.
- In 1885, Identifying himself as “A.B. Kennedy” serves as enumerator for the town census and town clerk.
- 11/1/1885: *Taylor County Star & News* reports that “A.B. Kennedy marries Lizzie M. Barden at Rib Lake.” The wedding certificate, image 15821, shows his father as “R.R. Kennedy” and mother “Katherine McDonald” and identifies the bridegroom as “Angus Kennedy.”
- 11/1/1885: Declaring himself a resident of “Rib Lake,” married Lizzie M. Barden at Medford.
- 4/10/1886: *Star News*: A.B. elected clerk of Town of Rib Lake.
- 4/9/1887: *Star News*: Reports A.B. Kennedy elected clerk of Town of Rib Lake.
- 4/1888: Re-elected as clerk.
- 9/1/1888: *Star News*: Active in Republican Party, A.B. builds a special box for a wagon carrying Republican boosters to Medford: “The wagon box for this occasion was especially manufactured by A.B. Kennedy and is gorgeously painted and decorated”
- 4/6/1889: *Star News*: With Duncan McLennan, elected Justice of the Peace for Town of Rib Lake.
- 10/11/1890: *Star News*: Served on Taylor County Republican Credential Committee at Medford. The county committee nominated Republican candidates for county offices.
- 12/5/1891: *Star News*: A.B. Kennedy moves to Ironwood, Michigan, and works as blacksmith. “He has 8 journeymen working in his show and he says times are lively.”
- 5/1/1895: A.B. Kennedy acknowledges receipt of \$234 land contract payment to Anton Kauer for NE NE 25-33-3E (for John J. Kennedy), #14751

XIII. JOHN A. KENNEDY (1859-Dec. 13, 1884)

- Dies Dec. 13, 1884, in Rib Lake and body is transported and buried at St. Raphael’s Church in Glengarry, Canada; see death certificate #15830. HIS FATHER IS LISTED AS ALEX R. KENNEDY.

The article reporting his death in the Taylor County Star & News claims that he has two living brothers in Rib Lake that survive him; as of Feb. 25, 2012, RPR doubts the veracity of that statement and suspects that the editor of the Taylor County Star & News, Edgar T. Wheelock, thought that he was a brother of J.J. and Angus Kennedy – which he is not.

Note that this John A. Kennedy is not to be confused with a man of the same name who is the son of the blacksmith, Allen Kennedy.

XIV. HUGO KENNEDY

- 1/23/1892: *Taylor Co. Star & News*: on jury list for Town of Rib Lake.

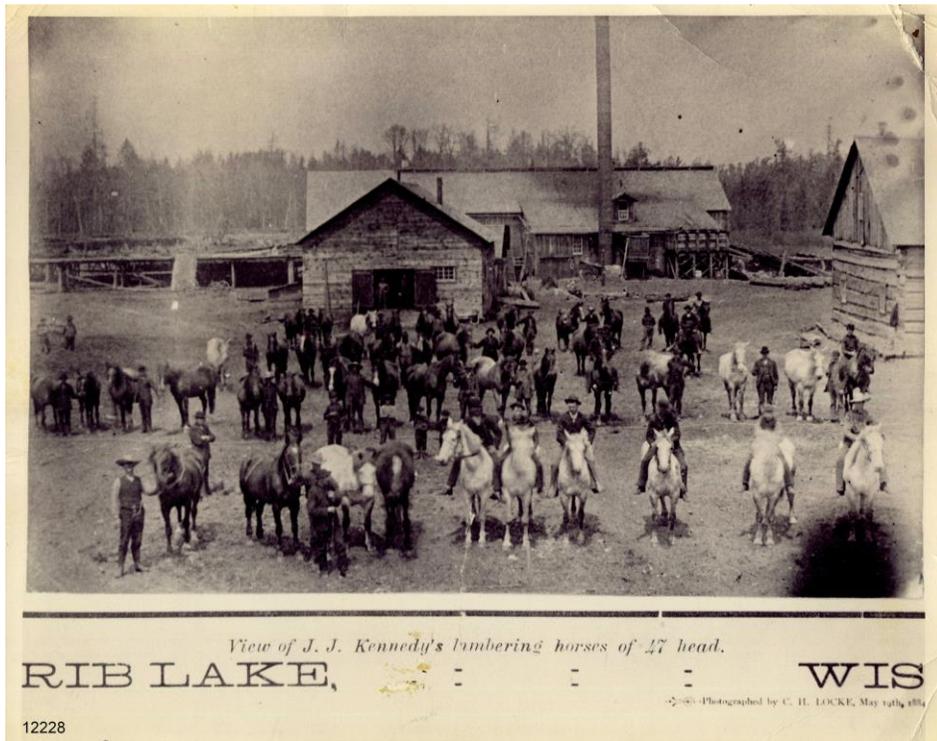
XV. ALICE U. [OR W.] KENNEDY, L/K/A Mrs. Arthur W. Pollatz

- Daughter of Stephen and Martha Kennedy, nee Lawman, born in Nebraska on 12/25/1901, marries Arthur W. Pollatz, son of Frank A. and Amalia Pollatz, nee Rusch, at Rib Lake in Methodist Episcopal Church. Arthur W. Pollatz was born in the City of Bromberg, Province of Pozen, Germany.

XVI. MRS. LENA KENNEDY

- 6/6/1941: “Mrs. Lena Kennedy, daughter Jane and son John of Chippewa Falls, called Mr. & Mrs. John McRae on Memorial Day.”

XIV. CONCLUSION - PHOTOS

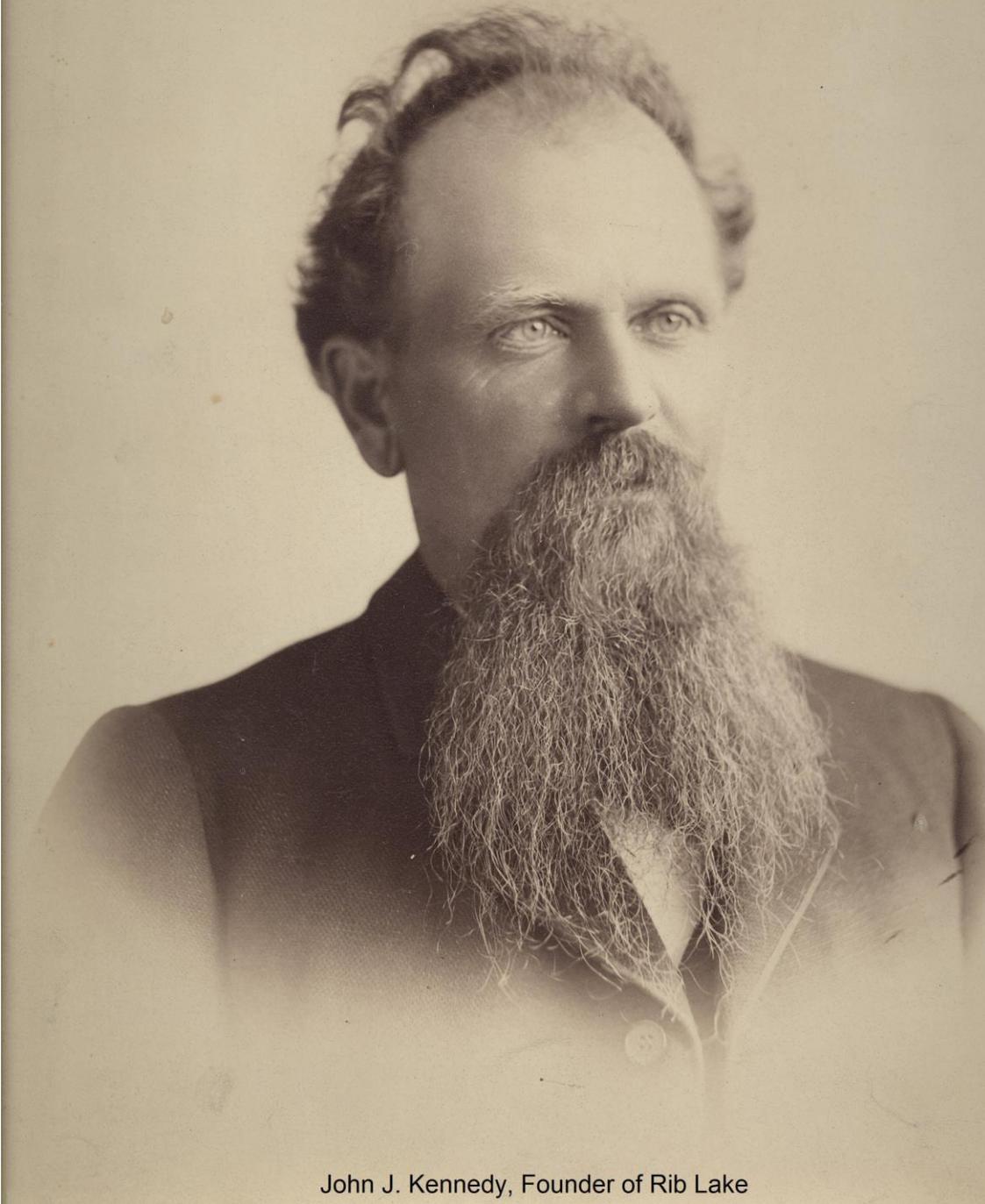


Respectfully submitted,
at Rib Lake, Wisconsin

/s/ Rib Lake Historical Society, LLC

www.riblakehistory.com

14046



John J. Kennedy, Founder of Rib Lake

KENNEDYS-MOVERS AND SHAKERS: CAST OF CHARACTERS
TO EARLY RIB LAKE HISTORY
~FINIS~