

Family History of the Hagemans – First Generations Known

By Sister Anne Hageman F.S.P.A.

August Hageman was born in Oldenburg Germany, March 25, 1832. He with two of his brothers, John and Fred, sailed by boat to America. Date and year unknown. Some of their brothers came at a later time, but due to poor transportation and mail service, never located each other.

We do not know they first settled or landed in America. But we know they lived in New Vienna, Iowa for some time. August married Maria Greving, date and place unknown. They became the parents of several children. At least two or three died as infants and are buried in New Vienna, Iowa. Dates and names unknown.

They moved to Festina, Iowa, date unknown, and bought a farm. August bought a farm two miles north of Festina, where they lived all their lives. Five more children were born to them: Theodore, Anna, August, Mary, Henry.

The Mother Maria died with child-birth when Henry was born on March 8, 1873. August died March 22, 1890, of a stroke or heart attack, he died shortly after. They are both buried in Festina cemetery. August is buried in the far east side of the cemetery. Maria is buried on the East side of the middle walk of the cemetery.

August had built a house in Festina, near the church and was going to retire the week he died, but instead retired to the cemetery.

Some time after Maria died, August remarried a maiden lady from Germany, Johanna Fedder born September 7, 1834. She died December 4, 1912, and is buried in De Sales cemetery Ossian, Iowa.

It is said that August was born in Lingen Westphalia and boarded the ship to America in Btemhafen, Germany.

The stepmother, Johanna, remarried after August's death to Fred Zweiboehmer Sr. the father of Fred Zweiboehmer which Anna Hageman had married.

Religious Vocations from the Hageman Family

Mary Hageman - Sister Thaddea: Daughter of August and Martha Greving Hageman, Festina Iowa. Born May 12, 1866 in Festina. Mary entered St. Rose Convent May 17, 1881 from Festina. She was received into the Order of Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration August 2, 1881, and received the name Sister Thaddea in Religion. Profession Pronounced her first Vows August 2, 1883. Entered eternal life, December 8, 1886 in Odanah, WI. Buried Ashland WI in Catholic Cemetery

Johanna Mary Hageman – Sister Bonfilia: Daughter of August and Anna Kuennen Hageman, Festina, Iowa, Nov. 3, 1892. Entered St. Rose Convent, October 7, 1910. Received in the Order of Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration July 2, 1912, and received the name in religion Sister Bonfilia. Pronounced first vows, July 16, 1914 and pronounced her final vows August 20, 1920. Entered eternal life June 19, 1980, at Villa St. Joseph, La Crosse, Wisconsin

Anne Marie Hageman – Sister Thaddelia Daughter of August and Anna Kuennen Hageman, Festina, Iowa, June 18, 1903. Entered St. Rose Convent, September 8, 1926. Received in the Order of Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration June 27, 1928, and received the name in religion Sister Thaddelia. In 1968, permission was given to the sisters to return to their Baptismal name if they so desired. So, sister chose to return to her baptismal name. In 1930 Sister made or pronounced her first Vows, August 12, 1930. Final and perpetual vows July 20, 1936

Niece: Boniface Catherine Kriener - Sister Mary Boniface Kriener Daughter of John and Mary Hageman Kriener, was born December 18, 1929, in Waucoma, Iowa. Bonfilia, entered the convent August 27, 1948. She was received in the Order of Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration at St. Rose Convent in LaCrosse Wisconsin on August 12, 1949, and received the religious name Sister Mary Boniface. Made her first vows August 12, 1951 and her Perpetual Vows, August 12, 1957. Sister was an X-Ray Technician as a profession.

Personal History of Sister Thaddea Hageman F.S.P.A.

1866-1886

Mary Hageman, third youngest child of August and Maria Greving Hageman, was born May 12, 1866 in Festina, Iowa. She entered St. Rose Convent, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, May 17, 1881. She was received in the Order of Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, August 2, 1881, less than three months after she entered. She made her first profession of vows August 2, 1883. In March of 1882, while still a novice, she went to Casenovia, Wisconsin, to help in teaching little children. The next year, 1882 to July 1883, she worked in a classroom in Sherrill Mount, and the next month August 1883 made her first vows under Sister Ludovica. In September of that year she went to Muscatine, Iowa, and was there until the following summer she went to the Indian Mission Odanah. She felt God had called and give her a special call for that work among the Indians and blessed her for that work for two and half years.

Her health was not good, but she never complained. In the fall of 1886, her strength failed noticeably, and her superior Sr. Kunigunda Urbany lightened her work load. She developed a fever, and congestion of the lungs. Sister Kunigunda went to Ashland to get medicine for her from the doctor. A sister from the hospital came to see Sister Thaddea. The doctor himself came out. A Franciscan Father gave her the last sacraments. At four o'clock in the morning on the feast of the Immaculate Conception she began her death struggle, and at six o'clock peacefully passed away.

During her illness she edified all her by her cheerful resignation to God's will. A solemn Requiem mass was offered for her, and then taken to Ashland for burial. All the Indians who could offered to go to Ashland, and went to there to pay tribute to the remains of Sister Thaddea, whom they loved while she was with them. Sister Thaddea was not quite 21 years old.

Sister Thaddea was a sister to August, Theodore and Henry Hageman and one sister Anna, Mrs. Fred Zweiboehmer. She is aunt to Sister Bonfilia and Sister Anna Hageman. And, great aunt to Sister Mary Boniface Kriener.

Johanna Mary Hageman – Sister Mary Bonfilia

Johanna Mary, born November 3, 1892, entered into the convent October 7, 1910. She was received into the order F.S.P.A. on July 2, 1912, received the name in religion Sister Mary Bonfilia. Made her first vows July 16, 1914. Perpetual vows August 22, 1920. She received her First Holy Communion on June 17, 1906. She was a Registered Nurse by profession and Laboratory and X-Ray Technician. She is buried in LaCrosse Catholic cemetery. Sister Bonfilia died on June 19, 1980, after suffering a stroke on January 4, 1980.

Personal History of Sister Mary Bonfilia Hageman FSPA

Johanna Mary Hageman, daughter of August and Anna Kuennen Hagemen was born on November 3, 1892. She was baptized by Rev. August Sauter, pastor of Our Lady of Seven Dolors Church. Her child and maidenhood were spent with her parents on a farm two miles north of Festina, Iowa. She attended the parochial school at Festina and received First Holy Communion on June 17, 1906. The Rev. A. J. Rubly was pastor at the time. On May 31, 1907 she received the Sacrament of Confirmation, administered by the Right Reverend John Joseph Keane, Archbishop of Dubuque, Iowa.

Miss Johanna Mary Hageman entered the Franciscan Sisters Order of Perpetual Adoration on Oct. 7, 1910 at LaCrosse Wisconsin. Mother Ludovica Keller was Mother General at the time. As aspirant and postulant she attended St. Rose School and was formally invested with the religious garb on July 2, 1912 and received the name Sister Mary Bonfilia. After completion of the novitiate she was admitted to the religious profession (vows) on July 16, 1914.

Mission activities during the first few years were spent teaching in elementary schools in Iowa and Wisconsin. On August 17, 1916 she entered St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in LaCrosse.

On January 20, 1920 she was certified as Registered Nurse, R.N. by the State Board of Health, Madison, Wisconsin. In 1921 Sister Bonfilia pursued a course in Medical Technology at Loyola Medical School, Chicago, Illinois. Subsequently she took up the study of X-ray Technology and was certified by the National Registry of Radiological Technicians on July 1, 1928.

Several years were spent in joint duties as Laboratory Technician, X-ray Technician and part time instructor and St. Mary's Hospital and School of Nursing at Sparta, Wisconsin. Shorter assignments were at St. Anthony in Carroll, Iowa; Sacred Heart Hospital, Idaho, Id; and St. Joseph Memorial Hospital in Hillsboro, Wisconsin.

Sister Bonfilia professionally retired from X-ray in 1965. Now she had more time in various occupation especially her favorite afghan making. In 1975 she retired to St. Rose Convent, her greatest joy now was to take part in Adoration hours not only during the day but also during the night. She also assisted others in various occupation.

In March 1977 she was asked to retire to the Villa St. Joseph a home for the retired sisters. Here she continued her life of prayer, and afghan making, but sister suffered from cataracts and her condition worsened and her strength failed considerably.

On January 4th, while the sisters were having Adoration hour with the Blessed Sacrament exposed, which sister attended while pray the rosary, sister suffered a severe stroke, from which she never recovered. It left her entire right side paralyzed. She was in a coma for some days, and afterwards often confused. She was never able to walk again. Her right side was paralyzed. She was never able to walk or stand on her feet again. Only with great difficulty was she able to move. She was confined to her bed, she never was able to feed herself, she had to be fed... Only for half hour in the morning or afternoon could she sit in a wheel chair, which tired her very much. But she NEVER complained. I asked her one day do you get lonely? She said no, I pray. Sister was often able to receive holy communion, she seemed to improve a little.

Then on June 13, she suffered a severe stroke during the night, from which she never recovered. In early morning Father Carroll Walljasper, Villa Chaplain, anointed her. On June 19, 1980 at 1:45 p.m. Sister Bonfilia quiet and peacefully, returned to her Creator and Spous and Divine Bridegroom, to whom she dedicated her life and suffering.

On June 22, 1980, at 1:00 p.m. her body was brought to St. Rose Convent, St. Mary of the Angel Chapel for visitation, where the sisters prayed the rosary for the repose of her soul. In the evening at 7:00 o'clock there were Scripture readings and prayer service. All the sisters from the convent and city area, and all of sister's family were present, which filled the chapel.

June 23 Holy Mass was celebrated at 10:30. Celebrant was Father Wisnewski the convent chaplain, Father Geary from Festina, Iowa, Sister Bonifilia's home parish, concelebrated. All of sisters living family members were present. Also many nephews and nieces filled the chapel. During communion time the Magnificat was sung by all present, it was beautiful. Immediately after mass her body was taken for burial. At the recessional Oh Lord My God was sung. Sister lies buried in La Crosse Catholic cemetery in the lot reserved for Franciscan Sisters. Graveside services were conducted by Father Wisnewski, Father Blong, Sister's cousin and friend, Father Geary was present. Sisters nephews were pallbearers, all family was present.



Sister Bonfilia and Sister Thaddelia



Sister Bonifilia and Sister Thaddelia in 1936

Personal History of Sister Anne Marie Hageman – 1990 (Sister Thaddelia) returned to baptismal name

Anna Maria Hageman, second youngest of seven children of August and Anna Kuennen Hageman, was born June 18, 1903 on a farm two miles north of Festina, Iowa. She was baptized June 19, 1903 in Our Lady of Seven Dolors Church, Festina, Iowa, by the Rev. Father Gustave Ehl, assistant priest of the parish. Her baptismal sponsors were her Uncle Henry Hageman and Aunt Maria Boeding Kuennen. She attended St. Mary's Catholic School, Festina, Iowa which was taught by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration from La Crosse, Wisconsin. She attended school from the year of 1910 until 1917. The school and parish was directed by Father Andrew J. Rubly. Anna received her first Holy Communion September 23, 1911, and her solemn communion June 18, 1916. It was customary at that time that children received their solemn communion at age 13 and then also renewed their baptismal vows. Then the girls joined the Holy Rosary Society. On

October 15, 1919 Anna received the sacrament of Confirmation by Rev. Archbishop James J. Keane of Dubuque, Iowa. She chose Rita as her patron saint.

Anna's parents were American born of German decent and devout Catholics. To support the church and attend church services and prayer was always a predominant career. It was customary in Anna's home to recite the rosary and Blessed Virgin litany daily as a family evening prayer.

Anna spent her youthful years assisting her parents until September 8, 1926, when she bid goodbye to her beloved parents and family to enter St. Rose Convent to join the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in La Crosse, Wisconsin. She chose St. Rose because of the Perpetual Adoration, of which she wanted to be a member. There she spent two years preparing for religious life which was customary at that time.

On June 17, 1928 she was received into the order, receiving the name Sister Mary Thaddelia and entered the novitiate. After two years novitiate she pronounced her first vows, August 12, 1930. On July 20, 1936 she made her perpetual vows.

Sister worked in various missions in Iowa, Wisconsin and Washington as seamstress, homemaker and often as sacristan. She especially enjoyed baking altar breads and taking care of the church linens. In 1968 the Sisters were permitted to return to their baptismal name if they desired. So sister returned to her baptismal name Anna Maria, or just Anne Marie for short. At the same time the community also began a change in religious garb. In 1971, Sister Anna semi-retired to St. Rose Convent to work as a seamstress and perform various duties around the convent. It was a great privilege to take part in daily as well as night adoration hours. To spend an hour in the stillness of the night was like a foretaste of heaven.

In 1980, the year of Sister's Golden Jubilee, she was asked to minister Holy Communion to the sick and dying at St. Francis Medical Center to which Sister gladly responded and feeling it was a great privilege on those chosen days. She enjoyed this duty over ten years. She served as acolyte at St. Rose Convent, as well as lector. She also holds these duties as her 60th jubilee is being celebrated in 1990.



Sister Bolofilia and Sister Thaddelia (Anne)

1977