

DISCLAIMER

This biography is a rough draft and a work-in-progress.
The research has not been completed, so there may be errors and omissions.
Please return to Tuscania1918.org in the future to see if a revised and
finalized version is available.

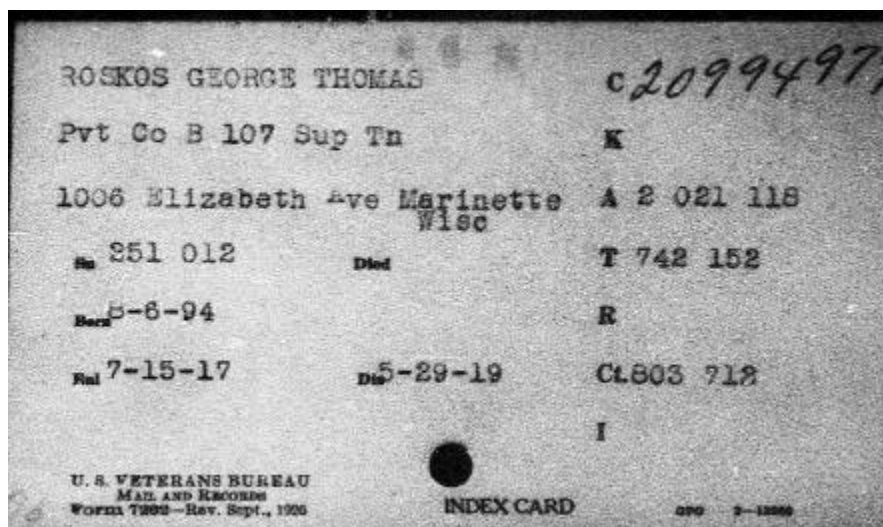
Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA**Roskos, George Thomas
1894 WI – 1978 WI**

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:WQLH-W53Z>

VALE COMMANDS TRUCK COMPANY

(Continued from page 1.)

phy, first assistant truckmaster; Sergt. Frank Pearson, second assistant truckmaster; Sergt. Ray Stephenson, third assistant truckmaster; Sergt. Charles Soukup, mess; Sergt. Frank Lane, mechanic.

Corporals—Earl Lovejoy, Ray Shore, William Boutotte, Hale Tolleth, Elmer Williams, Hans Anderson, Henry Kliet, Robert Riley, Ernest Bollon, George Roskos, Harry Davis, Leo Hopper, Henry Werner, Otto Mowery, George Prusynski, Fred Von Rembow, William Seltrecht, Arthur Junker, Floyd Hill, Albert L. Larsen.

Cooks—Frank Tanking and Victor Novak.

"Kenosha (WI) News" Wednesday 24 Oct 1917 p 5

WELCOME HOME THE TUSCANIANS

(Continued from page .1)

their army serial numbers follows:

Sergeant, First Class.

250997—Edward L. Wold

Sergeants, Quartermaster Corps.

Earl Lovejoy.

Fred Mitchell.

2251017—Floyd S. Hill.

251001—Charles W. Soukup.

251027—Otto Nelson.

Corporals, Drivers.

251026—Francis E. Anderson.

251011—Hans T. Anderson.

251035—Harold W. Bresnahan.

251051—Karl H. Hultenius.

251029—Michael J. McGinn.

251013—Otto Mowrey.

251031—Dominic Petracci.

251025—L. Edw. Regnier

251009—Robert F. Riley.

251024—Edward W. Schmidt.

251016—William H. C. Seltrecht.

251038—George J. Schunk.

251056—Serg. Peter Stoiber.

251000—George R. Stephenson

251005—Hals R. Holleth

251015—Henry W. Werner.

251018—Elmer W. Williams.

189682—Clarence White.

251040—John J. Yung.

Cooks.

251032—Frank H. Tanking.

Privates, First Class, Drivers.

251042—Paul Bussa.

Assistant Mechanics

251045—Lawrence Garglas.

251036—William L. Garner.

251028—Bruce S. Goulder.

251047—Rudolph A. Hultenius.

251006—Henry M. Kleist.

251002—Frank M. Lane.

251039—Norbert M. Tyson.

251059—August Zura.

Dominic Leonetti

Privates, Assist. Drivers.

251041—Joseph Bizunowicz.

251048—Peter Klepesky.

251054—Otto Romanik.

251012—George T. Roskos.

250999—Corp. Joseph Bartol.

Corp. Lynn Anderson.

Pvt. Vieton Novak.

"Kenosha (WI) News" Saturday 31 May 1919 p 8

SURVIVORS OF 'TUSCANIA' IN KENOSHA TODAY

Asbury Vale and William
Stovekin Attending
National Meet.

In Kenosha today the National Tuscania Survivor's association has gathered to talk over their providential escape from the American troop ship "Tuscania," which was torpedoed off the Irish coast 16 years ago today, by the German "U" boat 77. They hope to have as their guest of honor Capt. Wilhelm Meyer, commander of that submarine.

From Green Bay Asbury Vale, a Madison man, now located here as purchasing agent for the CWA, and William Stovekin are attending. Sturgeon Bay sends Charles Soukup, Marinette George Roskos, and Oshkosh James McGinn.

Sunday there were sundry celebrations of a pre-anniversary nature, but today the men commemorate the escape with Capt. Meyer.

This evening the association will honor John Newton Jones, New York, a former British navy officer, who himself rescued 200 of the passengers aboard the torpedoed "Tuscania." Jones will be given a medal in appreciation of his heroism by the association.

Only Troop Ship Sunk

The story is one of the most thrilling in the annals of the sea for the World war. The "Tuscania" was the only troop ship sunk by the Germans during the war. Here is the setting as it lay Feb. 5, 1918.

The sub 77 was cruising in North Atlantic waters. For days she had not seen an Allied ship. Capt. Meyer and his men were anxious for a little excitement. It was a dreary proposition, this coasting monotonously about quiet waters.

Capt. Meyer strolled to the periscope. Peering through the little glass, he saw a puff of smoke on the western horizon. Immediately the 77 dove under the water and waited. Rising again, Capt. Meyer noticed through the periscope a large troop ship.

Capt. Meyer gave the signal. Torpedo was set in place. He raised his hand, the huge bullet shot through the water, straight into the side of the "Tuscania." The 77 swerved aside abruptly and sped north.

As the triumphant 77 turned north, the "Tuscania," badly shattered, was gradually sinking into the Atlantic, with its passenger list of 2,179 officers and men struggling violently for their lives. Commander Asbury Vale of Company B, 107th Supply train, tells the story.

Came to Rescue

"The huge hulk of the 'Tuscania' was slowly settling," he says. "We knew we had not much time to live. Scores of the men had jumped frantically into the water and were climbing upon pieces of wood and debris floating in the water. The cries of wounded and dying men were horrible to hear. Looking around the horizon I could see no help. It seemed that every minute some poor devil was drowning."

"Suddenly we saw a line of smoke on the horizon. Parts of our ship were already blazing and a column of smoke which rolled upward apparently caught the attention of the other ship, for it steamed quickly toward us.

"We caught our breath. Was it another German ship? The destroyer neared rapidly, and as the big vessel plowed through the waves, we saw the British flag flying at the masthead. A shout of joy rose from the burning Tuscania. We had been on the blazing ship for almost two hours.

"The transfer to the destroyer was quickly made. Only a few minutes after we backed away from the sinking Tuscania, the torpedo-wracked vessel gave a tremendous convulsion, and plunged into the sea, following about 200 of our passenger list."

Where the destroyer came from and how it got there Vale and his men did not know, and they did not care. Never in his war experience had Vale ever had a more horrible experience than the two hours of torture and suspense on the sinking "Tuscania."

After all, Father Time has a humorous way about him. In 16 years he can make men forget the most terrible sensations. Today the "Tuscania" survivors are probably laughing heartily over some of the funny incidents—though they weren't funny then.

The new Marinette unit, Troop 57, also has 10 boys, including Robert J. Barrette, Vernon Boyer, Lawrence Brown, Arthur Chevalier, Clement Laurion, Robert Pietsch, Billy Rose, Duane A. Thill, Charles C. Vistor and Edward Walk. The scoutmaster is Edward J. Kehoe, Peter Doyle is assistant, Harold G. Thill is chairman of the troop committee and John B. Schuchart, Arthur Rose, Lathew J. Stang and George T. Roskos are members.

Boy Scout news – “Green Bay (WI) Press-Gazette” Thursday 13 May 1937 p 25

Otto Kirmse Head of Legion at Marinette

Special to Press-Gazette

MARINETTE, Wis. — Otto Kirmse, well known local business man, is the new commander of Teddy Budlong Post, American Legion, of Marinette. He succeeds Clyde Carter.

Others named were John Schuchart, George Roskos and Dave Roberts, vice-commanders; Henry C. Strom, adjutant; A. J. Bouffard, finance officer; Ray Murray, chaplain and historian; Carl Widen and Charles Van Calligan, sergeants-at-arms; Leo Eggener, G. J. Diaz and Robert Taylor, executive committee.

Also named were the post's delegates to the state convention at Fond du Lac, July 31, August 1, 2 and 3 including Otto Kirmse, Clyde Carter, Robert Taylor, A. L. Peters and Henry C. Strom. Alternates are A. F. Bouffard, Dave Roberts, Les Kopischke, George Roskos and G. J. Diaz.

“Green Bay (WI) Press-Gazette” Saturday 20 Jun 1942 p 7

Mark 30th Year For Company M

Thirty years ago this morning, Company M, Fourth Wisconsin Infantry, marched through Kenosha to the railway station and embarked on a trip from which many never returned.

Company M was the first infantry unit to be furnished by Kenosha during the war, although a cavalry troop, later converted to an artillery battery under Capt. John S. Coney, had left previously. The company was recruited personally by its company commander, Captain Ed Dayton, after other recruiters had given up the attempt as impossible.

The company trained at Camp Douglas, Wisconsin, Camp MacArthur, Texas, and Camp Merritt, New Jersey, before beginning its eighteen months of combat service at the front in France. In addition to Capt. Dayton, it was staffed by Lieutenants Asbury H. Vale and Francis A. Singer.

Roster of Veterans

The final muster of the men who made up the Kenosha unit prior to its departure was released today by Capt. Dayton and is reprinted here as a tribute to their service.

[list continues]

metten, Maurice Meyer.

Fred Mitchell, John Mitchell, Stanley J. Mitchell, Otto Nelson, Michael J. Neubauer, Victor Novak, Dominic Parise, Anton Pemenko, Anton Perrone, Dominic Petracci, Pieter Pietrocco, Alex Puhalski, Joe Pulokas, Antony Rabey, Otto Romanik, Robert F. Riley, Waillie Ronzia, George Roskos.

Edward W. Schmidt, George Schunk, Arthur Schultz, Leonard J. Sellar, John Simowitz, John Simpson, Leo J. Spychalla, Adolf Staudenraus, Frank J. Stec, Peter Stoiber, Joe Sulzyski, Carl C. Teeter, Ralph Teeter, Albert J. Tekip, Hale R. Tolleth, John C. Tenant.

Norbert M. Tyson, Edward L. Van Lone, Mike Vidkos, Philip W. Unti, William Weiss, Hosea E. Wells, Roy Wernitz, Clarence White, Elmer Williams, Arthur Woodward, John J. Young, John Zapustelski, August Zura.

"Kenosha (WI) News" Tuesday 12 Aug 1947 p 7

Son:

ROSKOS — The Service of Remembrance for Mr. Thomas George Roskos, 63, of Meadowcrest, Crystal River, will be 2:30 PM Tuesday at the Inverness Chapel of Hooper Funeral Homes, where friends may call from 1 PM Tuesday until the hour of Service. Interment will follow in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Inverness. He was born in Marinette, WI, and came here from Milwaukee, WI. Mr. Roskos was a retired Manager for A.O. Smith Manufacturing Company, of the Catholic faith, and a WWII Army Veteran. Surviving are his wife Mrs. Ann Marie Pickens Roskos, of Crystal River; two sons: Mr. John Thomas Roskos of Muskego, WI, Mr. Michael George Roskos of Green Bay, WI; two step-sons: Mr. James Michael Baity of Castlebury, FL, Mr. Brian Eliot Baity of Fort Bragg, NC; two daughters: Mrs. Susan Mary Kubichek of Menomonee Falls, WI, Miss Laura Helene Roskos of Milwaukee, WI; two step-daughters: Mrs. Anita Lynn Davis of Orlando, Mrs. Julie Carol Harris of Edinburg, TX; and three grandchildren.

INVERNESS CHAPEL
HOOPER FUNERAL HOMES

Obituary of son Thomas George Roskos – “Tampa Bay Times” (St. Petersburg FL) Monday
13 Feb 1989 p 43

Miss Pickens Is Bride Of F. A. Baity Jr.

Announcement has been made by Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Pickens, 1224 E. Crawford St., of the marriage of their daughter, Miss Anne Marie Pickens, to Fred A. Baity Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Baity, 3601 Tampa St.

The Rev. W. L. Joyner, St. Petersburg, read the nuptial rites at the home of the bride's parents at 7 P. M., Jan. 18.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a blue silk princess dress which featured a portrait neckline and brief sleeves. The bodice was embellished with silk braid and rhinestones. She wore navy blue accessories and carried a white prayer book topped with white camellias.

Miss Jane Miller served as her only attendant. She wore a navy blue taffeta afternoon dress, light blue accessories and a corsage of pink carnations.

Mac Williams attended Mr. Baity as best man.

Immediately following the ceremony a reception was held. Baskets of white gladioli and lighted white tapers decorated the reception rooms. The bride's table was covered with lace cloth and centered with a tiered cake.

Those who assisted with the hospitalities were Mrs. Wesley Daget, Mrs. J. H. Dutil and Mrs. Don Van Fleet.

The couple is residing at 300 E. Park Ave.

Out of town guests included Mr. and Mrs. T. J. McCall, Mrs. Edith Reynolds, Plant City; Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Pickens and Mr. and Mrs. James Brown, St. Petersburg.

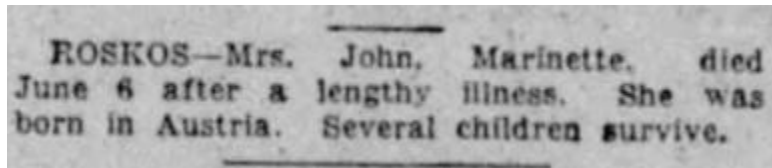
Marriage of Thomas's 2nd wife Anne Marie Pickens to her 1st husband, Fred A. Baity Jr. –
"Tampa (FL) Times" Tuesday 26 Jan 1954 p 8

Father:

ROSKOS—John, sixty-eight, resident of Marinette for thirty-eight years, was found dead in bed August 2. His widow and two children survive. Mr. Roskos was a woodman.

Obituary of father John Roskos – “Wausau (WI) Daily Herald” Tuesday 6 Aug 1929 p 17

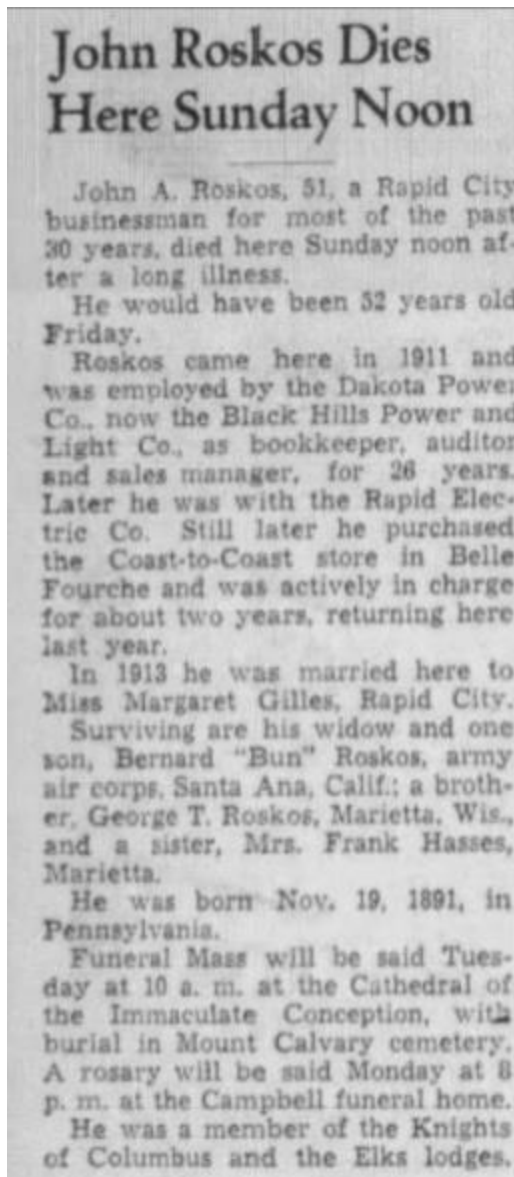
Mother:

A black and white photograph of a newspaper clipping. The text is an obituary for Mrs. John Roskos. It is enclosed in a rectangular border. The text reads: "ROSKOS—Mrs. John, Marinette, died June 6 after a lengthy illness. She was born in Austria. Several children survive." The word "survive" is misspelled as "survive" in the original image.

ROSKOS—Mrs. John, Marinette, died
June 6 after a lengthy illness. She was
born in Austria. Several children survive.

Obituary of mother Susan – “Wausau (WI) Daily Herald” Wednesday 10 Jun 1931 p 15

Siblings:



Obituary of brother John Andrew Roskos – "Rapid City (SD) Journal" Monday 15 Nov 1943 p

2

Name: George Thomas Roskos

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. B - corporal

Serial number: 251,012

Entered service from: Marinette, Marinette WI

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: George Thomas Roskos

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": father John Roskos, 214 Water St., Marinette WI

Returned from war on: "Virginian" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: George T. Roskos

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: father John Roskos, 213 Water St., Marinette WI (pvt, Co. B, 107 Supply Train)

World War I draft registration (1917): as George Thomas Roskos - b. 6 Aug 1894 Marinette WI; res: 471 Pearl, Kenosha WI. Single. Laborer, American Brass, Kenosh WI. Medium height, slender build.

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939): 1217 Elizabeth Ave., Marinette WI (1939 NTSA & 1955 WI Survivors)

World War II draft registration (1942): as George Thomas Roskos - b. 6 Aug 1894 Marinette WI; res: 1217 Elizabeth Ave., Marinette WI. NOK Mrs. Helene Roskos, same address.

Employed at US Post Office Department, Marinette WI. Height: 5'9" – 160 lbs.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 15 Jul 1917

Discharged: 29 May 1919

Address: 1006 Elizabeth Ave., Marinette WI

Rank/unit: private, Co. B, 107th Supply Train

Birth & death:

Born: 6 Aug 1894 Marinette, Marinette Co. WI

Died: 21 May 1978 Marinette, Marinette Co. WI

Find A Grave record: 122466584 – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Marinette, Marinette WI

Cemetery: Forest Home

Tombstone:

Father: John Roskos, 1861 Austria – 3 Aug 1929 Marinette, Marinette WI. Buried in Forest Home Cemetery, Marinette, Marinette WI.

Find A Grave: 122466586

Mother: Susan --- Roskos, 1871 Austria – 6 Jun 1931 Marinette, Marinette WI. Buried in Forest Home Cemetery, Marinette, Marinette WI.

Find A Grave: 122466587

Parents' marriage:

Spouse: Helen Hass Roskos, 8 Apr 1892 Marinette, Marinette WI [also found as 13 Apr 1891] – 14 Dec 1969 Marinette, Marinette WI. Daughter of Martin Hass & Amanda Lauch. WI birth record spells name Helene M. Hass. Buried in Forest Home Cemetery, Marinette, Marinette WI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 122466585

Marriage:

Child:

- Thomas George Roskos, 4 Aug 1925 Marinette, Marinette WI – 10 Feb 1989 Crystal River, Citrus FL. Married Irene Lucas (1928-1978) with whom he had 4 children. On 14 Apr 1985 in

Sarasota Co. FL to Anne Marie Pickens Baity (14 Jul 1932 – 18 Dec 2008, SSN 262-48-0085), his surviving widow. Marie was the daughter of H.H. Pickens & had married Fred A. Baity Jr. on 18 Jan 1954 in FL. Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Inverness, Citrus FL. F: 223677507

Siblings:

- John Andrew Roskos, 19 Nov 1891 Luzerne, Luzerne PA – 14 Nov 1943 Rapid City, Pennington SD. Moved in 1911 to Rapid CITY SD & worked for Dakota Power Co. for 26 years, then for Rapid Electric, then bought the Coast-to-Coast store in Belle Fourche SD. Married in 1913 in Rapid City, Pennington SD to Margaret A. Gilles (1894-1987, F: 37834075). Buried in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Rapid City, Pennington SD. F: 37834071
- Mary Susan Roskos Hass, 29 Apr 1900 Marinette, Marinette WI – 31 Dec 1983 Marinette, Marinette WI. Wife of Frank Peter Hass (1896-1974, F: 121421665), the son of Ignatius Hass & Rose Manshefsky. Buried in Forest Home Cemetery, Marinette, Marinette WI. F: 121421710

Notes:

Pre-war:

Wartime:

Post-war:

Obituary:

Social Security number: 396-44-4045

Censuses:

1900 Marinette, Marinette WI – 111 Water St.

John ROSSKOSH, 43 Austria, Feb 1857, parents b. Austria, emigrated 1884, in US for 16 years, papers filed, married 9 years, common laborer

Susie, 35 Austria, May 1865, parents b. Austria, emigrated 1891, in US for 9 years, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living

John, 8 PA, Nov 1892, student

George, 5 WI, Aug 1895 WI

Mary, 1 month WI, Apr 1900

1910 Marinette, Marinette WI – 207 Water St.

John Roskos, 48 Austria/Slovenia, parents b. Austria/Slovenia, in 1st marriage, married 19 years, laborer, planing mill

Susa, 38 Austria/Slovenia, parents b. Austria/Slovenia, in 1st marriage, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living

John, 18 PA, meter reader, electric light company

George, 15 WI

Mary, 9 WI

1920 Marinette, Marinette WI – Water St.

John Roskos, 58 Slovakland, parents b. Slovakland, emigrated 1882, naturalized 1906, laborer, lumber yard

Suzan, 48 Slovakland, emigrated 1890, naturalized 1906, parents b. Slovakland

George, 25 WI, laborer, lumber yard

Mary, 9 WI, cashier, department store

1930 Marinette, Marinette WI – 1217 Elizabeth Ave.

George T. Roskos, 37 WI, parents b. Austria, age 30 at 1st marriage, mail carrier, city – Marinette, veteran? – yes

Helen, 38 WI, parents b. Germany

Thomas George, 4 WI

1940 Marinette, Marinette WI – 1217 Elizabeth Ave.- the Roskos family in the same house in 1935, the maid in the same place in 1935

George P. Roskos, 45 WI, mail carrier, postal service

Helen, 47 WI

Thomas, 14 WI

& maid Agnes Bomber, 39 WI, single, servant in private home

1950 Marinette, Marinette WI – 1217 Elizabeth Ave.- this page's data was entered by George's son Thomas on 10 Apr 1950 in his job as census taker

George T. Roskos, 55 WI, parents b. Austria, letter carrier, US Post Office department

Helen E. 58 WI

Thomas G., 24 WI, single, census enumerator, US Census Bureau