

Nels Hansen Christensen and Andrea H. Clausen Family

(parents of members)

(Five-page sketch excerpted from *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families* by Robert A. Christiansen. Reviewed by _____. Revised by RAC Sep 2010.)

Christensen, Nels Hansen & Andrea H. Clausen (parents of members)

Jacob Peter "Pete" Christoffersen & **Laura C. Christensen**

Sherman Bondo & **Maren Margrethe Christensen** (see Christian Bondo sketch)

Alfred Hansen Christensen & Dagny Nielsen Schmidt

Peter Erickson & **Anina Christine Christensen** (see Niels Eriksen sketch)

Nels Hansen Christensen (22 Feb 1852 – 1 Jan 1938) was born on Langeland Island in Svendborg Amt, Denmark and immigrated to Grand Haven, Michigan from Tranekær Sogn, near Rudkjøbing, Svendborg Amt in September 1873.

Andrea H. Clausen (22 Oct 1855 – 30 Sep 1922) immigrated about 1874.

Nels Hansen Christensen and Andrea Clausen married, perhaps in Michigan, around 1877.

The Nels Hansen Christensen family moved from Michigan to northeastern Hazel Dell Township, Section 11 around 1887 to 1890, buying their farm from someone named Nels Hansen. This farm probably remained in the Nels Hansen Christensen family until the 1920s.

I don't know where the widower Nels Hansen Christensen was living in 1925. However, in 1930 he was living in Neola Township with his son-in-law and daughter, Peter and Anina Erickson.

The five children of Nels and Andrea Christensen are listed below. The three oldest children were born in Michigan and the two younger in Hazel Dell Township.

- **Maria Anna Christensen** (27 Aug 1879 – 26 Apr 1954) married **Carl Jessen** (1 Aug 1873 – 5 Mar 1935) in Council Bluffs on December 15, 1897.

Carl Jessen was born in Denmark to **Jess Jessen and Karen Gronbeck**, remained behind when his mother immigrated, and came to the United States around 1892. It appears that Carl Jessen used the surname of "Barsballe" when he first immigrated, but changed to "Jessen" after marrying. Carl Jessen was the cousin of Walter and Lydia Jacobsen, their mothers being sisters.

Carl Jessen farmed in Hazel Dell and Boomer townships before moving to St John Township in Harrison County around 1920.

The eight children of Carl and Maria Anna Jessen, one of whom died as a baby, are listed below. Two of the children, Chris and Edna Jessen, married siblings, Agnes and Magnus Lausen, the children of Mads C. Lausen and Marie T. Lage, who lived in Boomer Township and then in Lagrange Township, Harrison County.

- **Chris Jessen** (26 Dec 1898 – 20 Jan 1961) married **Agnes Lausen** (13 Feb 1897 – 18 Jun 1970) around 1924.

Chris Jessen was living in Missouri Valley in 1954.

- **Carrie Jessen** (23 Aug 1900 – 13 Feb 1998) married **James S. Lundergard** (30 Jan 1890 – 9 Feb 1940) around 1922.

Carrie Lundergard was living in Logan in 1954. James and Carrie Lundergard had three known children.

- **Edna Jessen** (18 Dec 1902 – 14 Jun 1996) probably never married.

Edna Jessen was living in Missouri Valley in 1954.

- **infant Jessen** (5 Jan 1905 – 15 Jan 1905) died at ten days.

- **William Jessen** (21 Nov 1906 – 20 Apr 1966) was living in Missouri Valley in 1954.

- **Viola Jessen** (27 Jun 1908 – 23 Jul 2005) married **Magnus P. Lausen** (16 Jul 1902 – Sep 1987) on August 30, 1930.

Magnus and Viola Lausen were living in Missouri Valley in 1954. Magnus and Viola Lausen had no children.

- **Andrea Jessen** (2 Jan 1915 – 8 Jul 2000) married **Mr. Johnson** and then married **Ed Waechter**.

Andrea Johnson was living in Plano, Illinois in 1954.

- **Carl Jessen Jr.** (20 Jan 1921 – 11 Aug 2007) probably never married.

Carl Jessen Jr. was living in Missouri Valley in 1954.

Carl and Mary A. Jessen and five of their children, Chris, infant, William, Viola and Carl are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Laura C. Christensen** (May 1881 – Apr 1958) married **Jacob Peter "Pete" Christoffersen** (15 Feb 1885 – 26 Mar 1962) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on February 16, 1905.

Pete Christoffersen was born in Pottawattamie County to **James Christoffersen** and **Mary Jacobsen** of the Council Bluffs area.

Pete Christoffersen worked for a grocer in Council Bluffs before moving to Weston around 1912. While in Weston, Pete Christoffersen was the mailman on Weston Rural Route #1. Around 1920 the Pete Christoffersen family moved back to Council Bluffs and Pete returned to the grocery business.

After Laura (Christensen) Christoffersen's death, Pete Christoffersen married a long-time family friend, **Carrie (Larsen) Jensen**, the widow of Carl P. Jensen. See the **Andrew Jorgen Larsen sketch** for information about the relatives of Carrie (Larsen)

Jensen. See the **Niels Christian Jensen sketch** for information about the family of Carl P. Jensen.

The five children of Pete and Laura Christoffersen are listed below.

- **Mabel Elizabeth Christoffersen** (19 May 1906 – 1942) married **Harry H. B. “Hal” Epperson**. (9 Apr 1895 – Dec 1970)

Hal and Mabel Epperson had no children.

- **Marie Anine Christoffersen** (26 May 1908 – 31 May 1979) is thought to have been married three times, and to have had two children. Her third husband was **Loren Bruce**. Marie (Christoffersen) Bruce died in San Bernardino County, California.

- **Anna Loretta Christoffersen** (6 Sep 1910 – Dec 1986) married **Magnus Franklin “Franklin” Mathisen** (27 Sep 1910 – 24 Oct 1999).

Franklin Mathisen was a World War II veteran who was an interior decorator in Council Bluffs.

- **Margaret Genevieve Christoffersen** (30 Nov 1913 – 10 Apr 1977) married **Harry Leroy Smith** (6 Sep 1912 – Jul 1977).

Harry and Margaret Smith lived in Council Bluffs where he was a pressman for the Council Bluffs Nonpareil.

Harry and Margaret Smith had seven children.

- **Alvin Peter Christoffersen** (11 Nov 1919 – 27 Jul 1985) was a career navy man and lived in California after his retirement. Alvin married **June C. Dohse** (about 1920 -).

Alvin Christoffersen had two stepchildren by June Dohse’s earlier marriage to Kenneth Wohlers and one child.

Jakob Peter Christoffersen and Laura Christensen head family #49 in the St. Paul’s family roster begun in 1900.

Jacob P. and Laura Christoffersen are interred in the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs, as is their daughter, Mabel (Christoffersen) Epperson.

- **Maren Margrethe “Maggie” Christensen** (19 Aug 1883 – 17 Jun 1913) married **Sherman Bondo** (5 Dec 1883 – 11 Mar 1942) at St. Paul’s on December 18, 1907.

Sherman Bondo was the son of **St. Paul’s charter members Christian Bondo and Carrie Jensen**.

Sherman and Maggie Bondo first farmed in northeastern Hazel Dell Township, and then moved to Blair, Nebraska when Sherman began to study for the ministry.

Maggie (Christensen) Bondo died from childbirth complications in Blair.

Sherman and Maggie Bondo had two daughters. See the **Sherman Bondo section of the Christian Bondo sketch** for additional information.

- **Alfred Hansen Christensen** (17 Mar 1890 – Jan 1964) married **Dagny Nielsen Schmidt** (1895 – 1990) in Audubon, Iowa in 1917.

Dagny Schmidt was the daughter of **Hans Nielsen Schmidt and Karen Mathiasen** of the Audubon area.

Alfred Hansen Christensen initially farmed his parents' home place in Hazel Dell Township, Section 11. Between 1925 and 1930 the Alfred Hansen Christensen family moved to Douglas Township in Audubon County.

The two children of Alfred and Dagny Christensen are listed below.

- **Lydia Andrea Christensen** (4 Dec 1918 -)
- **Kenneth Schmidt Christensen** (2 May 1921 -)

Alfred H. Christensen and Dagny Schmidt head family #58 in the St. Paul's family roster begun in 1900.

- **Anina Christina Christensen** (11 Aug 1891 – 29 Oct 1972) married **Simon Peter "Peter" Erickson** (17 Dec 1887 – 21 Feb 1934) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating around February 2, 1912.

Peter Erickson was born in Ørum Sogn, Randers Amt, Denmark to **Nels Eriksen and Kirstine Henriksen** and immigrated as a young man.

Peter and Anina Erickson had five children. See the **Peter Erickson section of the Nels Eriksen sketch** for additional information.

Nels and Andrea Christensen and two of their daughters, Maggie and Anina, are interred in the St. Paul's cemetery. Maria Anna (Christensen) Jessen is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Laura (Christensen) Christoffersen is interred in the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs. I don't know where Alfred Hansen Christensen is interred.

Sources Specific to the Nels Hansen Christensen and Andrea H. Clausen Family:

- **References to other sketches in *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*:**
 - For the family of Sherman and Maggie (Christensen) Bondo, see the **Sherman Bondo section of the Christian Bondo sketch**.
 - For the family of Peter and Anina (Christensen) Erickson, see the **Peter Erickson section of the Nels Eriksen sketch**.

- Norma (Smith) Leeper, granddaughter of Jacob Peter Christoffersen and Laura Christensen.
- Danish Emigration Archives (dda.ddk.dk):
 - Niels Christensen registered 9/2/1873.

End of the Nels Hansen Christensen and Andrea H. Clausen Family Sketch