

Laarens Clausen and Ane Kirstine Jorgensen Family

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

Clausen, Laarens & Ane Kirstine Jorgensen/Christine M. _____

Harold Clausen & Karen Christine "Carrie" Petersen

Mr. Clausen was a man with many spellings of his given name ("Lorentz" in his birth record in Denmark and on his first immigration record, "Lauritz" in his second immigration record, "Laurence" in his obituary, "Laarens" on his gravestone, "Larents" in the 1978 Clausen family histories). I have chosen to use "Laarens" here as that is a more-typical Danish spelling and is the name a Clausen family member recommended.

Laarens Clausen (22 Sep 1857 – 16 Dec 1944) was born in Ejlskov, Haarslev Sogn, Odense Amt, Denmark to **Claus Jensen and Mette Kirstine Hansdatter**.

Laarens Clausen's father, Claus Jensen, was married twice. Laarens was one of five children born to Claus Jensen and his first wife, Mette Kirstine Hansdatter. Claus Jensen had eight children by his second wife, Kirsten Christensen.

Ane Kirstine Jorgensen (5 Mar 1859 – 28 Jan 1915) was born in Haarslev Sogn, Odense Amt to **Jorgen Andersen and Marie Cathrine Rasmussen**.

Laarens Clausen first immigrated to Council Bluffs in the spring of 1878. A few years later he returned to Denmark, and then returned to Avoca, Iowa in the fall of 1881. During his second voyage to the United States, Ane Kirstine Jorgensen accompanied him.

I don't know whether Laarens Clausen and Ane Kirstine Jorgensen married before or after they came to Avoca in the fall of 1881.

The Laarens Clausen family was living in Avoca in 1885. Around 1888 they moved to the area of Pender and Wisner in northeastern Nebraska. In 1900 they were living in Grant Township, Cuming County, Nebraska. Around 1907 they returned to Pottawattamie County, settling on the John Madison farm in Hazel Dell Township, Section 9.

Laarens Clausen's first wife, Ane Kirstine, died in 1915.

Laarens Clausen married **Christine M. Jorgensen** (about 1868 – after 1944) in Pottawattamie County on March 19, 1917 with the St. Paul's pastor officiating. Christine Jorgensen, who was from Philadelphia, had two grown children, Annette and Hartvig "Harvey" Jorgensen.

Laarens and Christine Clausen were living with his son, Harold, in Hazel Dell Township 1925. In 1930 Laarens and Christine were living by themselves at 3104 Avenue G in Council Bluffs.

Laarens Clausen died while visiting his daughter, Minnie, at Valier, Montana in 1944. He died on December 16, the day the Battle of the Bulge began.

The seven children of Laarens Clausen and Ane Kirstine Jorgensen, two of whom died as babies, are listed below. The first five children were born in Avoca and the last two in Nebraska.

- **George Clausen** (27 Feb 1882 – 26 Jul 1975) married **Ruth Nellie Prentice** (5 Nov 1895 – 28 Feb 1984) at Fremont, Nebraska on March 24, 1915.

Ruth Prentice was the daughter of **Robert Lincoln Prentice and Susan Mary Osborn of Hazel Dell Township**

George and Ruth Clausen farmed in southwestern Hazel Dell Township.

The two children of George and Ruth Clausen are listed below.

- **Wesley Prentice Clausen** (3 May 1916 – 27 Nov 2003) married **Helen Caroline Knudsen** (29 Apr 1918 – 15 Jan 1955) in Council Bluffs in June 1936.

Helen Knudsen was the daughter of **Louis Knudsen and Alma Petersen**, one-time members of the St. Paul's community.

After Helen (Knudsen) Clausen's early death, Wesley Clausen married **Rose Minnie Durick** (10 Nov 1927 – 3 Jul 2008) on September 1, 1955.

Rose Durick was the daughter of **John A. Durick and Lillian Ruth Thomas** of Pottawattamie County.

Wesley Clausen worked at Hanson Lumber in Council Bluffs, was a superintendent of the Council Bluffs city traffic department, and was a farmer and market gardener on his parents' home place in Hazel Dell Township.

Wesley and Helen Clausen had two children.

Wesley and Rose Clausen had two children.

- **Dale Marvin Clausen** (25 Feb 1923 -) married **Wanda Faye Miller** (11 Jan 1926 -) on November 4, 1945.

After divorcing, Dale Marvin Clausen married ____ **Sharp**.

Dale and Wanda Clausen had one child.

George and Ruth Clausen and their son, Wesley, along with Wesley's two wives, are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery.

- **Morris Clausen** (12 Jul 1883 – 21 Nov 1969) married **Emma Marie Hansen** (26 Dec 1889 – 17 Feb 1972) around 1910. Emma Hansen was from Omaha.

Morris and Emma Clausen farmed in central Hazel Dell Township.

The two children of Morris and Emma Clausen are listed below.

- **Edith May Clausen** (14 Aug 1912 – 28 May 2004) married **John L. Schroeder** (7 Mar 1915 – 2 Feb 2006) in 1932.

John Schroeder was born in Silver City, Iowa and owned Omaha Wholesale Florists until he retired in 1977.

John and Edith Schroeder had two known children.

- **Howard Laurence Clausen** (19 Jul 1915 – 12 Apr 1985) apparently lived with his parents until their death.

Morris and Emma Clausen are interred in the Hazel Dell Township. I don't know where Howard Clausen is interred. Edith (Clausen) Schroeder is interred in St. Joseph Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Minnie Christina Clausen** (20 Mar 1885 – 21 Dec 1975) married **Andrew Otto Nielsen** (24 Oct 1886 – 6 Feb 1962) in West Point, Nebraska on October 24, 1905.

Andrew and Minnie Clausen moved from Nebraska to Pondera County, Montana around 1917.

The twelve children of Andrew and Minnie Nielsen are listed below. Richland and Rolland Nielsen were twins.

- **Mildred Adelia Nielsen** (21 Apr 1906 – Nov 1993)
- **Myrtle Nielsen** (12 Mar 1908 – Feb 1985)
- **Irene Gertrude Nielsen** (15 Feb 1911 – 19 Jul 1930)
- **Elivia Christina Nielsen** (13 Jan 1913 – 21 May 1934)
- **Earl Harold Nielsen** (11 Dec 1914 – Jul 1986)
- **Harel Andrew Nielsen** (26 Aug 1916 – 18 May 1990)
- **Glenn Robert Nielsen** (21 Apr 1918 – 22 Aug 1944) was a pilot who died in a plane crash during World War II.
- **Laurence Otto Nielsen** (10 Nov 1918 – 5 Nov 2005)
- **Richland Harvey Nielsen** (18 Jul 1921 – 13 Aug 1993)
- **Rolland Charlie Nielsen** (18 Jul 1921 – 21 Aug 1993)
- **Emeris Roger Nielsen** (30 Jan 1924 – 9 Oct 1996)
- **Helen Minnie Nielsen** (19 Jul 1925 – 30 Apr 1974)

Andrew and Minnie Nielsen are interred in the Lakeview Cemetery in Valier, Montana.

- **Hans Carl Clausen** (18 Feb 1887 – about 1888) died as a baby in Avoca.

- **Carl Fredrick Clausen** (6 Sep 1888 – 8 Apr 1968) married **Christina Thompsen** (11 Apr 1892 – 14 Jun 1950) in Pottawattamie County on April 29, 1913.

After Christina's death, Carl Clausen married **Louise Bertha Minnie "Minnie" Kreft** (26 Mar 1890 – 29 May 1968) on September 22, 1954.

Carl and Christina Thompson farmed in Garner Township.

The two children of Carl and Christina Clausen are listed below.

- **Helen Lois Clausen** (15 Sep 1914 – 12 Jun 2003) married **Ernest William Kreft** (25 Jan 1897 – 30 Oct 1976) in Pottawattamie County on September 6, 1935.

Ernest and Helen Kreft had three known children.

- **Dorothy Jean Clausen** (9 Oct 1927 -) married **Ivan W. "Ike" Redinbaugh** (29 Jun 1925 – 22 Jan 2002).

Ike Redinbaugh was the son of **Verne Wilbur Redinbaugh and Theoline "Lena" Austed** of Union Township, Harrison County.

Ivan and Dorothy Redinbaugh had four known children.

Carl and Christina Clausen are interred in Memorial Park Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Helen (Clausen) Kreft is interred in Ridgewood Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Minnie (Kreft) Clausen is interred in the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Hans Christian Clausen** (12 May 1890 – 1890) died as a baby in Nebraska.

- **Harold Arthur Clausen** (14 Apr 1900 – 26 May 1989, conf. 1915) married **Karen Christine "Carrie" Petersen** (2 Jan 1903 – 30 Dec 1988) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on November 14, 1923.

Carrie Petersen was the daughter of **St. Paul's early members Rasmus Petersen and Mary Anine Nielsen** of Neola Township.

Harold and Carrie Clausen lived on the Clausen home place in Hazel Dell Township.

Harold and Carrie Clausen had eight children. Pending approval of a family member, I have listed below only the children born before 1930.

- **Olga Marian Clausen** (7 Apr 1925 -, conf. 1940) married **Donald Lewis Schroder** (17 Jul 1924 – 25 Jan 2004) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on June 6, 1945.

Donald Schroder was the son of **Charles Chester Schroder and Grace Margaret Christiansen** of southwestern Boomer Township.

Donald Schroder and Olga Clausen married while Donald was on leave from the army, having earlier been captured and held as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Donald and Olga Schroder lived in Honey Creek, where Donald was a supervisor for the Pottawattamie County road department.

Donald and Olga Schroder had three children, one of whom died as a baby.

- **Ralph Harold Clausen** (18 Jul 1926 – 2 Oct 2004, conf. 1940) married **Dorothy Alda Edwards** (7 Sep 1932 – 29 Apr 2003) on July 8, 1950. Dorothy Edwards was the daughter of **Harold Ulysses Edwards** and **Alda Franklin** of Mills County, Iowa.

Ralph Clausen served in the United States Army for 18 months during World War II.

Ralph and Dorothy Edwards lived on the old Smith farm in south central Boomer Township. Ralph farmed and worked for the Northwestern Railroad for 32 years.

Ralph and Dorothy Edwards had three children, one of whom died as a teenager. Their son-in-law, Verlyn R. Johnson Jr., was killed in Vietnam.

- **Irene Marie Clausen** (8 Sep 1928 -, conf. 1943) married **Marvin Carl Schroder** (29 Dec 1925 -) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on September 8, 1947.

Marvin Schroder was the son of **Carl William Schroder** and **Pearl Larsen** of Rockford Township.

Marvin and Irene Schroder had three children.

- **living Clausen** (-)
- **living Clausen** (-)
- **living Clausen** (-)
- **living Clausen** (-)
- **living Clausen** (-)

Harold and Carrie Clausen are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery, as is their son-in-law, Donald Schroder. Their son, Ralph, is interred in the Boomer Cemetery.

The two stepchildren of Laarens Clausen by his second marriage are listed below. It is thought that Laarens Clausen's second wife and his two stepchildren all eventually lived in the Philadelphia area.

- **Annette Jorgensen** (about 1895 -) may have been born in New York and married **Frederick Andersen** (about 1892 -), a native of Denmark around 1916.

Annette (Jorgensen) Andersen lived in the Philadelphia area and perhaps never came to Iowa.

- **Hartvig “Harry” Jorgensen** (5 Dec 1899 – Mar 1958) may have been born in Denmark and married **Edna R. Spittler** (3 Nov 1905 – 25 Sep 1985) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on October 25, 1922.

Edna Spittler was the daughter of **Philip N. Spittler and Maggie Porter Harris** of Hazel Dell Township.

Harry Jorgensen was living in Pottawattamie County in 1918 and 1923 but was living in Philadelphia in 1920 and 1930.

Harry and Edna Jorgensen had three known children.

Larenz Clausen and Christine Jorgensen head family #39 in the St. Paul's family register begun in 1900, having joined St. Paul's in July 1908.

Laarens and Ane Kirstine Clausen and their son, Harold, are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. George and Morris Clausen are interred in the Hazel Dell Cemetery. Minnie (Clausen) Nielsen is interred in the Lakeview Cemetery in Valier, Pondera County, Montana. Carl Fredrick Clausen is interred in Memorial Park Cemetery in Council Bluffs. I don't know where the two babies are interred.

Julius Clausen (11 Apr 1876 – 2 Jan 1938), a half-brother of Laarens Clausen, is interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Two other half-brothers of Laarens Clausen, **Jens Peter Clausen** and **Hans Clausen**, also lived in the Iowa-Nebraska area.

Sources Specific to the Laarens Clausen and Ane Kirstine Jorgensen Family:

- **References to other sketches in *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*:**
 - For the relatives of Carrie (Petersen) Clausen, Mrs. Harold Clausen, see the **Rasmus Petersen section of the Anton Nielsen sketch**.
- Printouts provided by Jens Jespersen from Denmark.
- **Articles from Pottawattamie County, Iowa “Makers of Fire” history book, 1978:**
 - Carl Fredrick Clausen, p. 154; Dale and Wanda Clausen, p. 154; George Clausen, p. 154; Harold A. Clausen, p. 155; Harold A. Clausen, p. 155; Larents Clausen, p. 155; Morris Clausen, p. 155; Ralph H. and Dorothy Clausen, p. 155.
- WorldConnect “family tree” database Aug 2001 (contact Linda Clausen, farmgal49er@aol.com). (The narrative at the beginning is taken from the 1978 Pottawattamie County history and contains some probable errors.)
- Interviews with Olga (Clausen) Schroder.
- Danish Emigration Archives (ddd.dda.dk):

- Lorentz Clausen registered 4/4/1878; Lauritz Clausen registered 10/6/1881; Ane Christine Jørgensen registered 10/6/1881.

End of the Laarens Clausen and Ane Kirstine Jorgensen Family Sketch