

## **Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen Family**

(parents of members)

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

Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen both died in Denmark, but two of their sons were St. Paul's early members.

**Eriksen, Niels & Maren Kirstine Henriksen** (parents of members, died in Denmark)

**Erik Elias "Eli" Eriksen & Johanne Thode**

**Simon Peter "Peter" Erickson & Anina Christine Christensen**

**Niels Eriksen** (24 Sep 1849 – after 1925) was born in Ørum Sogn, Randers Amt, Denmark to **Erich Pedersen and Marie Elisabeth Nielsdatter**.

**Maren Kirstine Henriksen** (1854 – after 1925) was born in Lngyby Sogn, Randers Amt, Denmark to Johan Henrik Hansen and Metter Marie Rasmusdatter.

Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen married in Ørum Sogn on August 6, 1879.

The eight known children of Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen are listed below. The two oldest sons, Erik Elias "Eli" Eriksen and Simon Peter "Peter" Erickson, were both born in Ørum Sogn, immigrated to Pottawattamie County as single young adults and became early St. Paul's members. Note that these brothers used different spellings of their surnames.

- **Erik Elias "Eli" Erickson** (17 May 1880 – 15 Aug 1943) immigrated as a young man around 1900. In 1905 he is living with Thomas Johnson, probably in southwestern Norwalk Township.

Eli Erickson married **Johanne Thode** (8 Mar 1882 – 12 Nov 1976) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on February 7, 1906. Johanne Thode was born in Grenaa, Randers Amt, Jutland, Denmark and immigrated from Kastrup to Underwood in the fall of 1905.

Before 1910 Eli Erickson bought an 80-acre farm in Neola Township, Section 31, probably from Christian Bondo. This farm remained in the Erickson family until 2008.

Eli Erickson died at his farm home in the summer of 1943. In 1944 Johanne (Thode) Erickson moved to Council Bluffs, where she lived with her daughter, Lydia, until her death in the fall of 1976.

The four children of Eli and Johanne Erickson are listed below.

- **Lydia Johanna Christine Erickson** (17 Mar 1907 – 12 Jul 2007, conf. 1921) remained at home and moved with her widowed mother to Council Bluffs in 1944.

Lydia Ericksen married **Gustav N. "Gus" Axelsen** (1 Aug 1914 – 8 Nov 1975) on October 16, 1949. After Gus Axelsen's death, Lydia married **Lester R. Young** (19 Nov 1896 – 5 Nov 1983) on September 18, 1979.

Gus and Lydia Axelsen ran Axelsen's Bakery at 128 West Broadway in Council Bluffs. Lydia spent her last years at Bethany Heights in Council Bluffs.

Lydia (Ericksen) Axelsen Young lived to be 100 and had no children.

- **Nels Henry "Henry" Ericksen** (3 Jan 1909 – 9 Jan 2005, conf. 1923) married **Arlene Bernice Levine Jensen** (4 Nov 1916 – 26 May 2001) at St. Paul's on March 27, 1940. Arlene Jensen was the daughter of **St. Paul's early members Chris Jensen and Christina Hansen**.

Henry and Arlene Ericksen farmed in Washington Township about eight miles west of Oakland.

The three children of Henry and Arlene Ericksen are listed below.

▲ **living Ericksen** (-)

▲ **living Ericksen** (-)

▲ **living Ericksen** (-)

Henry and Arlene Ericksen are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery.

- **Esther Elizabeth Ericksen** (28 Dec 1913 – 29 Jun 2000, conf. 1929) married **Raymond Roosevelt Christiansen** (14 Nov 1910 – 17 Aug 1986) at St. Paul's on February 20, 1934. Raymond Christiansen was the son of **St. Paul's early members Nels Christiansen and Mary Rasmussen**.

Raymond and Esther Christiansen had four children. See the **Raymond Christiansen section of the Christian Christiansen sketch** for additional information. (Raymond Christiansen was the grandson of Christian Christiansen.)

- **Clarence Harvey Ericksen** (28 Sep 1920 – 20 Jul 1986, conf. 1923) married **Bernice Agnes Olsen** (3 Oct 1923 -) at St. Paul's on December 18, 1941. Bernice Olsen was the daughter of **John H. Olsen and Dagma Thomsen** of northern Boomer Township.

Clarence Ericksen farmed the Eli Eriksen home place in Neola Township, Section 31.

After Clarence Ericksen's death, his widow, Bernice, married **Lowell Hooge** from North Dakota. Lowell and Bernice continued to live on the Ericksen farm until 2008.

The one child of Clarence and Bernice Ericksen is listed below.

▲ **living Ericksen** (-)

Clarence and Bernice Ericksen are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery.

Erik Elias Eriksen and Johanne Thode head family #32 in the St. Paul's family log begun in 1900.

Eli and Johanne Ericksen and three of their children, Henry, Esther and Clarence, are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Lydia (Ericksen) Axelsen Young is interred in Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Marie Eriksen** is listed in the Danish Emigration Archives as having immigrated to Underwood in the fall of 1904 but I know nothing of her life in the United States. Marie Eriksen married **Niels Grann** and her brothers' obituaries have her living in Denmark.

- **Simon Peter "Peter" Erickson** (17 Dec 1887 – 21 Feb 1934) immigrated to Underwood from Ørum Sogn as a young man in the fall of 1904.

In 1905 Peter Erickson was a hired man working for Christian Bondo in northeastern Hazel Dell Township. In 1910 Peter Erickson was a hired man working for Tom Peterson, Christian Bondo's son-in-law, in southwestern Neola Township.

Peter Erickson married **Anina Christine Christensen** (11 Aug 1891 – 29 Oct 1972) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating around February 2, 1912. Anina Christensen was born in Hazel Dell Township to **Nels Hansen Christensen and Andrea H. Clausen**. See the **Nels Hansen Christensen sketch** for information about Anina Christensen's relatives.

After marrying, Peter Erickson farmed on rented land in the St. Paul's area. He was renting in Hazel Dell Township in 1915, in 1917, in 1919 (from Viggo Hansen and Christian Bondo), and in 1920. In 1925 he was renting in Norwalk Township and in 1930 in Neola Township. Peter Erickson was still living in Neola Township when he died in February 1934.

Not long after Peter Erickson's death, the Peter Erickson family moved to the old Jacob Hansen farm in Hazel Dell Township, Section 1. The previous owners, Leon and Emma (Bondo) Christensen, had lost this farm during the depression. The Erickson family remained on this farm until around 1943 when Anina Erickson moved to Council Bluffs. The Otto Longmeyer family then took over this farm.

Peter and Anina Erickson both died in hospital in Council Bluffs.

The five children of Peter and Anina Erickson are listed below. Two of their children, Violet and Glen Erickson, married siblings, Clarence and Helen Peterson, children of St. Paul's early members Peter S. Peterson and Lydia Bondo.

- **Violet Blanche Erickson** (2 Dec 1912 – 2 Nov 2001, conf. 1928) married **Clarence Peter Peterson** (31 Mar 1908 – 13 Jun 1983) at St. Paul's on March 25, 1931.

Clarence and Violet Peterson moved to a farm a mile north and two and a half miles west of Shelby, Iowa in 1938.

Clarence and Violet Peterson had four children. See the **Peter S. and Lydia (Bondo) Peterson section of the Christian Bondo script** for additional information.

- **Howard Immanuel Erickson** (10 Apr 1914 – 3 Apr 1987, conf. 1928) married **Ruth Alvera Ward** (12 Apr 1917 – 24 Jan 1999) on April 11, 1941. Ruth Ward was the daughter of **Willard Ward and Nellie Stevenson** who lived just west and north of St. Paul's.

Howard Erickson was a farmer and cattle feeder in Neola Township until 1969 and a car salesman in Council Bluffs until 1981. Howard Erickson lived in Council Bluffs at the time of his death.

The two children of Howard and Ruth Erickson are listed below.

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

Howard and Ruth Erickson are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery.

- **Glen Stewart Erickson** (3 Jun 1917 -, conf. 1931) married **Helen Frances Peterson** (8 Nov 1915 – 13 Oct 1970) on April 25, 1936.

The Glen Erickson family was living in the Oakland area in 1946 and later moved to Eagle Grove, Iowa where Helen (Peterson) Erickson died.

After Helen Erickson's death, Glen married **Alyce Houson** in 1973. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century Glen Erickson was living in Florida.

The five children of Glen and Helen Erickson are listed below.

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

▲ **living Erickson** (-)

- **Ethel Irene Erickson** (10 Sep 1919 – 31 Jan 2010, conf. 1935) married **Francis Lynn Jenson** (31 Aug 1918 – 8 Sep 1985) at St. Paul's on December 26, 1941. Francis Jenson was the son of **Harry Jenson and Winifred Nusum** who lived in northern Hazel Dell Township east and south of St. Paul's.

Francis and Ethel Jenson lived in southern Boomer Township, east and south of St. Paul's, on what had once been the Samuel Jensen farm.

Francis and Ethel Jenson had four children. **See the Francis Jenson section of the Jens Jensen script for additional information.** Francis Jenson was the son of Harry Jenson, grandson of Hans Jenson and the great-grandson of St. Paul's charter members Jens Jensen and Theresa Sorensen.

- **Clinton Junior Erickson** (6 Dec 1923 -, conf. 1938) married **Orlee Ione Nelson** (21 Jul 1923 -) at St. Paul's on October 22, 1943. Orlee Nelson was the daughter of **St. Paul's early members Hans Nelson and Hilma Sandberg** of east central Hazel Dell Township.

Clinton and Orlee Erickson lived in Neola. Clinton Erickson and his brother-in-law, Stanley Nelson, had an International Harvester farm equipment business.

Clinton and Orlee Erickson had three children, the youngest of whom died at birth.

The three children of Clinton and Orlee Erickson are listed below.

- ▲ **living Erickson** (-)
- ▲ **living Erickson** (-)
- ▲ **infant Erickson** (24 May 1954 – 24 May 1954)

Simon Peter Erikson and Kristine A. Christensen head family #47 in the St. Paul's family roster begun in 1900.

Peter and Anina Erickson are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery, as are their son, Howard, and daughter, Ethel (Erickson) Jensen. Violet (Erickson) Peterson is interred in the Shelby, Iowa cemetery.

- **Jacob Eriksen** (28 Jun 1891 -) married **Lorinda** around 1927 and married **Irene**.

Jacob Eriksen was living in Gillette, Campbell County in northeastern Wyoming in 1917, 1930 and 1934 and in Idaho in 1943.

Jacob and Lorinda Eriksen had two known children.

- **Emmanuel Eriksen** married **Marie** and remained in Denmark.
- **John Eriksen** married **Lisa** and then married **Olga** and remained in Denmark.
- **Lydia Eriksen** married **Peter Jensen** and remained in Denmark.
- **Susane Eriksen** married **Rasmus Madsen** and remained in Denmark.

### **Sources Specific to the Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen Family:**

- **References to other sketches in *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*:**
  - For the relatives of Arlene (Jensen) Ericksen, the wife of Henry Ericksen, see the **Chris Jensen section of the Jacob Jensen sketch**.
  - For the family of Raymond and Esther (Ericksen) Christiansen, see the **Raymond Christiansen section of the Christian Christiansen sketch**. (Raymond Christiansen was the son of Nels Christiansen and grandson of Christian Christiansen.)

- For the family of Clarence and Violet (Erickson) Peterson, see the **Clarence Peterson section of the Christian Bondo sketch**. (Clarence Peterson was the son of Peter S. and Lydia (Bondo) Peterson and the grandson of Christian Bondo.)
  - For the relatives of Helen (Peterson) Erickson, the wife of Glen Erickson, see the **Peter S. and Lydia (Bondo) Peterson section of the Christian Bondo sketch**.
  - For the family of Francis and Ethel (Erickson) Jenson, see the **Francis Jenson section of the Jens Jensen sketch**. (Francis Jenson was the son of Harry Jenson, grandson of Hans Jenson and the great-grandson of St. Paul's charter members Jens Jensen and Theresa Sorensen.)
  - For the relatives of Orlee (Nelson) Erickson, the wife of Clinton Erickson, see the **Hans Nelson section of the Peter Nielsen sketch**.
- For more information about the following families outlined in the above sketch, see the indicated chapter of the family history *Ancestors and Older Relatives of Robert Christiansen - Christiansen, Rasmussen, Larsen/Larson, Hansen*:
- For the Raymond and Esther (Ericksen) Christiansen family, see the Christiansen chapter.
- **Articles from Pottawattamie County, Iowa "Makers of Fire" history book, 1978:**
- Henry and Arlene Jensen Ericksen, p. 184.
- Council Bluffs, Iowa Nonpareil newspaper clippings provided by Elaine (Bondo) Hoyer.
- Danish Emigration Archives (ddd.dda.dk):
- Simon Peter Erikson registered 9/16/1904.
  - Johanne Thode registered 11/8/1905.

## End of the Niels Eriksen and Maren Kirstine Henriksen Family Sketch