

Anton Nielsen and Kirsten Marie Christensen 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 Jul 2014.)

Nielsen, Anton & Kirsten Marie Christensen (parents of members)

Rasmus Petersen & **Mary Anine Nielsen**

Harold Clausen & **Karen Christine "Carrie" Petersen**

Charles Hansen & Emma Petersen

Christian John Petersen & Bertha Jorgensen

Niels Christian Nielsen & Maren Margrethe "Margaret" Christensen

Hans Henry Feller & **Sena Nielsen**

Anton Nielsen (22 Aug 1852 – 27 Oct 1917) was born in Tannerup, Haverslev Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to **Niels Mortensen and Maren Pedersdatter**.

Kirsten Marie Christensen (2 Oct 1852 – 4 Nov 1928) was born in Lørslev, Øster Svenstrup Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Christen Pedersen Kanstrup and Maren Kirstine Gregersdatter.

Anton Nielsen and Kirsten Marie Christensen married in Haverslev Sogn on October 11, 1874.

In 1880, the Anton Nielsen and Kirsten Marie Christensen family was living in Haverslev By.

The Anton Nielsen family immigrated around 1889.

In 1895 and 1900 the Anton Nielsen family was living in Hazel Dell Township. In 1905 they were living in Norwalk Township and by 1910 were living in Neola Township. In the 1913 Neola Township plat, Anton Nielsen owns a farm in Neola Township Sections 31 and 32.

The seven children of Anton and Kirsten Marie Nielsen are listed below. The first two died in Denmark as young children, the next three were born in Denmark and immigrated with their parents, and the final two were born in Pottawattamie County.

■ **Niels Christian Jensen Nielsen** (1 Mar 1875 – about 1881)

■ **Marie Nielsen** (18 Nov 1878 – about 1879)

■ **Mary Anine Nielsen** (5 Feb 1881 – 9 Mar 1954) married **Rasmus Petersen** (26 Nov 1870 – 1 Jul 1925) in Pottawattamie County on March 19, 1902.

Rasmus Petersen was born either in Radsted Sogn or in Graenge, Toreby Sogn, Maribo Amt, Denmark to **Jorgen Pedersen and Karen Jorgensdatter**. (The parishes of Radsted and Toreby adjoin each other and Graenge lies between the villages of Radsted and Toreby.)

Rasmus Petersen immigrated to Council Bluffs from Toreby Sogn, Maribo Amt in April 1894 on the steamship Norge. Later Rasmus Petersen revisited Denmark and returned to Council Bluffs in the early spring of 1900.

The Rasmus Petersen family was living in Hazel Dell Township in 1905. By 1910 they had moved to Neola Township, where Rasmus Petersen bought the Samuel Christensen farm west of Neola in Section 28.

After Rasmus Petersen died in 1925, his widow, Mary, and son, Elmer, remained on the farm until Mary's death. The farm was sold to Otto Christoffersen in 1960.

The five children of Rasmus and Mary Petersen are listed below.

- **Karen Christine "Carrie" Petersen** (2 Jan 1903 – 30 Dec 1988, conf. 1919) married **Harold Arthur Clausen** (14 Apr 1900 – 26 May 1989) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on November 14, 1923. Harold Clausen was the son of **St. Paul's early members Laarens Clausen and Ane Kirstine Jorgensen**.

Harold and Carrie Clausen lived on the Clausen home place in Hazel Dell Township, Section 9.

Harold and Carrie Clausen had eight children. **See the Harold Clausen section of the Laarens Clausen sketch for additional information.**

- **Emma Maria Petersen** (4 Sep 1904 – 29 Dec 1994, conf. 1919) married **Charles Harry Hansen** (28 Nov 1895 – 3 Jul 1944) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on February 22, 1928. Charles Hansen was the son of John Hansen and Annie M. Johnson and the grandson of **St. Paul's charter members Jorgen Sorensen and Inger Marie Jensdatter**.

Charles and Emma Hansen took over his parents' farm in Hazel Dell Township, Section 16. Charles Hansen was killed in a tractor accident on his farm.

Charles and Emma Hansen had no children.

Charles and Emma Hansen are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery.

- **Christian John Petersen** (6 Jul 1906 – 21 Feb 1981, conf. 1921) married **Bertha Elizabeth Jorgensen** (1 Sep 1907 – 25 Apr 1997) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on March 7, 1928. Bertha Jorgensen was the daughter of **St. Paul's early members Jens Jorgensen and Sophie Madsen**.

Chris John Petersen was farming in the Underwood area in 1930. Later the family moved to Underwood where Chris John ran a harness shop and was in the oil business. The family moved to Council Bluffs in 1956 where Chris John worked as a custodian at the Court House. Chris John and Bertha Petersen moved to Royal, Iowa in 1974.

The four children of Chris John and Bertha Petersen are listed below.

- ▲ Richard Wayne Petersen (4 Feb 1929 – 2 Feb 1999)
- ▲ living Petersen

▲ living Petersen

▲ living Petersen

Chris John and Bertha Petersen are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Richard Wayne Petersen is interred in the Ridgewood Mausoleum in Council Bluffs.

- **Andrew Anton Petersen** (19 Feb 1909 – 13 Jul 1983, conf. 1923) married **Ruth B. Schamp** (1913 – 1993) on December 6, 1951.

Andrew Petersen was a World War II veteran.

Andrew Petersen is interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery.

- **Elmer Rasmus Petersen** (22 Jun 1917 – 12 Jan 1996, conf. 1931) remained on the farm in Neola Township until after his mother's death.

In 1960 the Petersen farm was sold and Elmer moved to Neola, where he worked as a city employee until 1971 and then joined the State Department of Transportation.

Elmer Petersen married **Della (Grosse) Welbourn** (20 Mar 1920 – 21 Sep 210) in Council Bluffs on September 29, 1980. Della (Grosse) Welbourn was the daughter of **Roy Grosse and Elizabeth Asman** of Tabor, Iowa and the widow of Paul Welbourn of Neola.

Neither Della nor Elmer had children. Elmer and Della are interred in Memorial Park Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Rasmus and Mary Petersen and four of their children, Carrie, Emma, Christian John, and Anton, are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Elmer Petersen is interred in the Memorial Park Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Niels Christian Nielsen** (6 Jan 1883 – 14 Oct 1935) married **Maren Margrethe "Margaret" Christensen** (11 Dec 1893 – 1 Jan 1967) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul's pastor officiating on February 20, 1929. Margaret Christensen was the daughter of **St. Paul's early members Niels Jorgen Christensen and Maren Katrine Andersen**.

The four children of Niels Christian and Margaret Nielsen are listed below.

- **Ruth Marie Nielsen** (16 Jan 1930 – about 30 Sep 1973) was developmentally disabled and never married.
- **Jean Margaret Nielsen** (12 Aug 1932 -, conf. 1947) married **Delmas Rudolph Thomas** (10 Nov 1931 -) at St. Paul's on November 25, 1951. Delmas Thomas was the son of **Hugh and Ethel Thomas** of Boomer Township.
Delmas and Jean Thomas had three children.
- **Elna Mae Nielsen** (3 May 1934 – 13 Feb 2004, conf. 1948) married **Peter Emanuel Mathiasen** (about 1932 -) at St. Paul's on June 5, 1954.

Peter Mathiasen was a Lutheran pastor. Peter and Elna Mae Mathiasen were missionaries in Brazil from 1958 to 1975 and later Peter served churches in Canada.

Peter and Elna Mae Mathiasen had four children.

- **James Christian “Jim” Nielsen** (5 Feb 1936 – 24 Jul 2007, conf. 1950) married **Darlene Ann Lake** (25 Apr 1935 -) in Council Bluffs in 1955. Darlene Lake was the daughter of **Jack Lake and Annie Price** of Council Bluffs.

Jim Nielsen farmed the Anton Nielsen home place in southwestern Neola Township and worked for the Union Pacific Railroad. Jim and Darlene Nielsen retired to Arkansas several years before he died.

Jim and Darlene Nielsen had three children. As of 2014 one of the sons lives on the Anton Nielsen home place.

Niels Christian and Margaret Nielsen and two of their children, Ruth and James Christian, are interred in the St. Paul’s Cemetery.

- **Jensine Marie “Sena” Nielsen** (28 Apr 1886 – 3 Nov 1978) married **Hans Henry Feller** (2 May 1878 – 21 Jan 1963) in Pottawattamie County on February 7, 1906. Hans Feller was the son of Boomer Township residents **Hans Feller Sr. and Catherine Schroder**.

The three children of Hans and Sena Feller are listed below.

- **Agnes C. Feller** (2 Nov 1906 – 26 Feb 1997, conf. 1925) married **Caleb John Jensen** (16 Mar 1900 – 5 Mar 1954) in Pottawattamie County on January 8, 1930. Caleb Jensen was the son of **Jens Christian Jensen and Christine Hansen** of Hazel Dell Township.

Caleb Jensen farmed in south central Hazel Dell Township.

Caleb and Agnes Jensen had three children all of whom are deceased. **See the Jens Christian Jensen section of the Mads Jensen sketch for additional information.**

- **Esther Marie Feller** (4 Apr 1912 – 14 Aug 2002, conf. 1928) married **Raymond Stanley Hansen** (26 May 1911 – Sep 1985) in Pottawattamie County with the St. Paul’s pastor officiating on June 16, 1932. **Raymond Hansen was the son of early St. Paul’s members P. W. I. Hansen and Anna Sofie Hansen.**

The Raymond Hansen family farmed in southeastern Boomer Township before moving to Boulder, Colorado sometime after 1956.

Raymond and Esther Hansen had four children. **See the P. W. I. Hansen section of the Isaac Hansen sketch for additional information.**

- **Chester H. Feller** (12 Mar 1915 – 13 Mar 1975, conf. 1929) married **Goldie Lorene Jensen** (8 Sep 1910 – Mar 1985) in Council Bluffs on March 19, 1938. Goldie Jensen was the daughter of Hans Jensen and Olive Scott of northern Hazel Dell

Township and the granddaughter of **St. Paul's charter members Jens Jensen and Theresa Sorensen**.

In 1967 Chester and Goldie Feller were living on the Jens Jensen home place in Hazel Dell Township, Section 2.

Chester and Goldie Feller had one child.

Hans and Sena Feller and their daughter, Agnes, are interred in Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs. I don't know where Esther (Feller) Hansen is interred. Chester Feller is interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Christena Nielsen** (17 Apr 1891 – 1 Dec 1943) married **William Verpoorten** (11 Apr 1887 – 20 Jun 1963) in Pottawattamie County on October 26, 1910. William Verpoorten was the son of **Joseph and Katharine Verpoorten** who had moved to Norwalk Township from New York State and then Wyoming after William was born.

The three children of William and Christena Verpoorten are listed below.

- **Donald Oran Verpoorten** (20 Oct 1911 – 2 Mar 2004) married **Joann M. Kirlin** (-) on November 15, 1947.
- **Reynold Orlo Verpoorten** (18 Feb 1913 – 3 Jan 1978) married **Evelyn Kay** (25 Apr 1912 – 25 May 1993) on March 6, 1946.
- **Ferne Mildred Verpoorten** (26 Mar 1923 -) married Leroy Mattheisen.

William and Christena Verpoorten are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Donald Verpoorten is interred in the Neola Township Cemetery. Reynold Verpoorten is interred in the Minden Cemetery.

- **Julia Nielsen** (18 Feb 1893 – 4 May 1978) married **Franklin Pierce "Frank" Gittins** (21 Feb 1890 – 9 Feb 1963) in Pottawattamie County on February 24, 1915. Frank Gittins was the son of **Henry William Gittins and Lucy Wilson** of Neola Township.

Frank and Julia Gittins farmed in Neola and Norwalk townships before moving to Council Bluffs around 1945.

The one child of Frank and Julia Gittins is listed below.

- **Frances Julia Gittins** (17 Dec 1919 – 1 Mar 1993) married **John Minton** (14 May 1911 – 2 Dec 1995.)

Anton and Kirstine Marie Nielsen are interred in the St. Paul's Cemetery, as are three of their children, Mary, Niels Christian and Christena. Sena (Nielsen) Feller is interred in Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Julia (Nielsen) Gittins is interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Sources Specific to the Anton Nielsen and Kirsten Marie Christensen Family:

■ References to other sketches in *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*:

- For the family of Carrie (Petersen) Clausen, the wife of Harold Clausen, **see the Harold Clausen section of the Laarens Clausen sketch.** (Carrie Petersen was the daughter of Rasmus Petersen and granddaughter of Anton Nielsen.)
- For the family of Emma (Petersen) Hansen, the wife of Charles Hansen, **see the Annie M. Johnson section of the Jorgen Sorensen sketch.** (Emma Petersen was the daughter of Rasmus Petersen and granddaughter of Anton Nielsen. Charles Hansen was the son of John Hansen and Annie M. Johnson and the granddaughter of Jorgen Sorensen.)
- For the relatives of Bertha (Jorgensen) Petersen, the wife of Christian John Petersen, **see the Jens Jorgensen sketch.** (Christian John Petersen was the son of Rasmus Petersen and grandson of Anton Nielsen. Bertha Jorgensen was the daughter of Jens Jorgensen.)
- For the relatives of Margaret (Christensen) Nielsen, wife of Niels Christian Nielsen, **see the Niels Jorgen Christensen sketch.** (Margaret (Christensen) Nielsen was the daughter of Niels Jorgen Christensen.)
- For the family of Agnes (Feller) Jensen, wife of Caleb Jensen, **see the Jens Madsen section of the Mads Jensen sketch.** (Agnes Feller was the daughter of Hans Feller and Sena Nielsen and granddaughter of Anton Nielsen. Caleb Jensen was the son of Chris Jensen, grandson of Jens Madsen, and great grandson of Mads Jensen.)
- For the family of Esther (Feller) Hansen, wife of Raymond Hansen, **see the Peter William Isaac "P. W. I." Hansen section of the Isaac Hansen sketch.** (Esther Feller was the daughter of Hans Feller and Sena Nielsen and granddaughter of Anton Nielsen. Raymond Hansen was the son of P. W. I. Hansen.)
- For the relatives of Goldie (Jenson) Feller, wife of Chester Feller, **see the Hans Christian Jenson section of the Jens Jensen sketch.** (Chester Feller was the son of Hans Feller and Sena Nielsen and grandson of Anton Nielsen. Goldie Jenson was the daughter of Hans Christian Jenson and granddaughter of Jens Jensen.)

■ Articles from Pottawattamie County, Iowa "Makers of Fire" history book, 1978:

- Elmer Rasmus Petersen, p. 354.

■ Danish Emigration Archives (ddd.dda.dk):

- Rasmus Petersen registered 3/27/1894; Rasmus Petersen registered 3/16/1900. (Anton Nielsen's son-in-law.)

End of the Anton Nielsen and Kirsten Marie Christensen Family Sketch