

Johanne (Jorgensen) Johnson Family History in America

Johanne Jorgensen was born on January 1, 1867 at Harbogaard pr Lojt Kirkeby near Aabenraa, Denmark. She followed her sister, Christine, by immigrating to the Fredsville community in America about 1887. She married James Ole Johnson on January 11, 1889 and lived on a farm one and a half miles north of Fredsville.

Just like her sister, Christine, raised a large family and they had a warm fellowship together as they shared their joys and sorrows. Both families had two sons that served in World War I.

Johanne's ninth child, Dagmar Johnson Petersen, wrote the following about their family life in America in March 1984. This was derived from a Danish text obtained from Eduard Jensen in 2012. It was digitized with OCR software and then translated with Google translator software. There were some errors in these conversions but hopefully they are corrected to their original meaning.

Johnson Farm History

This document will follow the story of a Danish family who came to America in the hope of meeting a dream. It will show that their dream came true through hard work and dedication. It is the story of Ole Johnson family, who moved to our family farm more than 100 years ago.

In 1857, Ole Jensen decided to move his family to the United States in hopes of finding suitable farmland. He arrived by ship to the State of Wisconsin and from there he went further west on his horse. Ole's first attempt to farm was in Pine River, Wisconsin, but the soil there was not as good as expected. Therefore, he packed up again and continued west.

In 1867, Ole came to Iowa, a place where the soil was virgin prairie, rich and fertile, ideal for agriculture. In 1868 he acquired 48 acres of land in Grundy County. This area is where many Danish immigrants had already settled.

Ole Jensen was born on 01 Jan. 1831, son of Hans Jensen, a respected farmer in Denmark. Ole married Cara Mary Christensen in Denmark in 1853. Cara Mary and Ole had 7 children, but only 4 survived the exhausting trip to Iowa. Their names were Jacob, Andrew, Ellen and James Ole.

Ole remained a farmer until he retired in 1892. He then leased the land to his son James Ole for a year and then sold the entire farm to him. Ole Johnson died in 1893 (the name was

changed from Jensen to Johnson) at the age of 62 years. His wife Cara Mary was 73 years. Both died on the farm.

James Ole Johnson was born in 1863 and known throughout the colony as J. O. He married Johanne Jørgensen, in Jan.1889 at Fredsville Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church. Johanne was also of Danish origin. They together had 12 children, of whom one died. The couple lived on the farm until 1927 and then moved to Cedar Falls, where they lived until their death. Johanna died in 1942 and J. O. lived until 1954. Their son, Clarence, took over the farm. Clarence Johnson married Helena Andersen in 1927 in Fredsville Church. They had three children, Lorraine, Raymond and Vernon.

In 1954, Clarence built a small house north of the farmhouse for Raymond and his family. In 1962 Clarence and Helena moved into the little house and gave the farmhouse to Raymond's family. Clarence died in 1966, but farmed until his death. Helena lived in the little house until 1996, when she moved into a nursing home in Cedar Falls. She died in 2003.

Raymond Johnson was born 1931 and married Alma Grumstrup in Luck, Wisconsin. They had 3 children. Raymond farmed until 1996, when he sold the farm to his niece, Tricia Johnson Welter, the fifth generation of the Johnson family.

The Johnson family practiced many Danish traditions, from holidays to Sunday meal. But Christmas has always been the largest. The Christmas tree may not be seen until after the meal on Christmas Eve. Then the doors to the room opened and the kids could see the decorated tree. There was then singing and dancing around the Christmas tree, but gifts were opened on Christmas morning. Today Christmas is still celebrated in the same manner.

On weekends there were also many traditions. On Saturdays we always baked and cooked for the Sunday meal, so there was time on Sunday to go visit and play games. Monday was laundry day. The water was heated on the stove.

The Johnson farm located at 13725 X Avenue in Cedar Falls, Iowa has been in the family for 100 years. It all began when Ole Jensen bought 48 acres of farmland in 1868. He left the farm to his son James Ole, which in turn handed it over to his son, Clarence, who passed it on to his son Raymond, who sold it to his niece Tricia. She is now the fifth generation on the farm in Grundy County, Iowa.

The track has followed a family who came from Denmark to the United States for more than 100 years ago, hoping to get a happy existence. The family gained through hard work in building the farm, which still stands to this day. Fifth and sixth generation of Ole Jensen thrives still on the ground he bought in 1868.

Johanne Johnson

born Jørgensen

My mother, Johanne (twin sister to Jørgen Jørgensen), was born in 1867. She traveled here from her home country, Denmark, and came to her sister, Christine (Jørgensen) Thuesen, who had arrived a few years earlier. She first worked as a maid and then married my father, James Ole Johnson on 11 January 1889. They had 12 children, of whom one died in childhood.

My mother was very fond of her home and family and was always interested in the activities on the farm. I remember clearly, her care for men especially during corn harvest, then when everything was still continuing by hand kraft. How she lapped their gloves and always had a hot meal ready.

Mom and Dad valued their membership in Fredsville Lutheran Church and mother welcomed the womens help organization. Dad took an active part in the business, singing in the choir and when we children got older, we entered the choir with him.

Mom was bedridden for the last two years of her life because of a broken hip that would not heal. I cared for in her home the first year with Lillian (daughter), then the family got a good wife to care for her. Our dad helped too, fondly and read to her.

Mother died in July 1942 and father died in March 1954 after two weeks of illness. He was 90 years old.

Posted March 1984 by Dagmar Johnson Petersen, 9th child of 12



Ægtemand: James Ole Johnson

Født: 13 aug 1863 i: Saxville, Waushara, Wisconsin, USA
Viet: 11 jan 1889 i: Fredsville Kirke
Død: 24 mar 1954 i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA
Fader: Ole Jensen
Moder: Karen Mary Christensen














Hustru: Johanne Cathrine Jørgensen

Født: 30 jan 1867 i: Bodum, Løjt, Rise, Aabenraa
Død: 18 jul 1942 i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA
Fader: JES BOYSEN JØRGENSEN
Moder: JOHANNE BECK



BØRN

| | | | |
|--------|---|--|---|
| 1 M | Navn: Ole James Johnson Født: 20 aug 1889 Død: 09 nov 1978 Viet: 25 feb 1920 Ægtefælle: Dagny Kaae | i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Janesville, Bremer, Iowa, USA i: Fredsville, Grundy, Iowa, USA |  |
| 2 K | Navn: Karen Marie Johnson Født: 25 sep 1890 Død: 28 mar 1984 Viet: Ægtefælle: Christensen | i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA |  |
| 3 K | Navn: Ida Johanna Johnson Født: 30 okt 1892 Død: 01 jun 1983 Viet: 1917 Ægtefælle: Peter George Thuesen | i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Plentywood, Sheridan, Montana, USA |  |

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|---------|--|---|---|
| 4 M | <p>Navn: Robert Johnson Født: 04 maj 1894 Død: 17 mar 1939 Viet: 31 mar 1920 Ægtefælle: Agnes V. Syndergaard</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA</p> |  |
| 5 M | <p>Navn: George William Johnson Født: 28 feb 1896 Død: 19 apr 1990</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Ringsted, Emmet, Iowa, USA</p> |  |
| 6 M | <p>Navn: Clarence Johnson Født: 17 mar 1898 Død: 05 aug 1966 Viet: 30 aug 1927 Ægtefælle: Helene F. Andersen</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA i: Fairfield, Grundy, Iowa, USA</p> |  |
| 7 M | <p>Navn: Harry Johnson Født: 22 dec 1899 Død: 28 nov 1992 Viet: 17 mar 1934 Ægtefælle: Alma S. Christiansen</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA i: Nashua, Chickasaw, Iowa, USA</p> |  |
| 8 K | <p>Navn: Alma Sophie Johnson Født: 19 okt 1902 Død: 21 okt 2001 Viet: Ægtefælle: Thorvald Ingemann Pedersen</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota, USA</p> |  |
| 9 K | <p>Navn: Dagmar M Johnson Født: 31 aug 1904 Død: 06 maj 1992 Viet: Ægtefælle: Pete Petersen</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA</p> |  |
| 10 K | <p>Navn: Johanna Johnson Født: 1906 Død: 1906</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Grundy, Iowa, USA</p> | |
| 11 M | <p>Navn: Arthur William Johnson Født: 15 sep 1907 Død: 20 okt 1994 Viet: 29 nov 1957 Ægtefælle: Esther K. Jepson</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA i: Fairfield, Grundy, Iowa, USA</p> |  |
| 12 K | <p>Navn: Lillian Johnson Født: 07 dec 1909 Død: 2007 Viet: Ægtefælle: Moody</p> | <p>i: Grundy, Iowa, USA i: Cedar Falls, Black Hawk, Iowa, USA</p> |  |

Reunion of descendants of James Ole and Johanne Johnson at Fredsville Lutheran Church, Iowa USA, 19 July 1998 on visit of Edvard & Kirsten Jensen and Anneline Gotsaed from Denmark (descendants of Jorgen Jorgensen)



Left to right:

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Kenny & _____ | Steve Doeden | Larry & | Raymond Johnson | Harold & | Mary Kay Madsen |
| Julie Bloker | Ralph & Jessica Wessels | Ann Doeden | Janet Wessels | Lenora Madsen | Edvard Jensen |
| Cheryle Arjis | _____ holding Sarah Welter | Tricia Welter | Alma Johnson | Anneline Gotsaed | Kirsten Jensen |
| Harriet O'Mara | Harry Johnson | Don & Lisa Doeden | _____ | Joanne Andersen | _____ |
| _____ | Irene Moody | Lorraine Braun | Helena Johnson | Lillian Moody | Marjorie Andersen |

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|--|---|---|
| Cheryle Arjis & Kenny are children of Ralph & Dorothy Bloker | Ann Doeden, Janet Wessels & Tricia Welter are daughters of Lorraine Braun | Mary Kay is daughter of Harold & Lenora Madsen Joanne is daughter of Marjorie Andersen |
| Harry Johnson, Irene Moody & Dorothy Bloker are children of Ole | Lorraine Braun & Raymond are children of Helena and Clarence | Lenora Madsen is a daughter of Robert Majorie Andersen is a daughter of Ida and Pete Thuesen |
| Ole, Clarence, Robert and Ida were children of James Ole & Johanne | Pete Thuesen was a nephew of Erik Thuesen | |

My Descendant Chart

