

Brief History of the Linder Family

Claris Linder Olson

Linder Family history has been traced back to the early 1600's in the area of Hagsfeld, Baden, Germany, where several descendents reside to this day. Ancestors served as magistrates, inn keepers and farmers.

Christian Linder, born May 4, 1829, to Martin and Sabrina Wurm Linder, was the first of the family to immigrate to the United States. He had been a participant in the German Revolution of 1848, on the side of Democracy. With other revolutionaries, he sought freedom of the press and religion, better working conditions, and farmer's rights, while protesting exemptions for the wealthy from serving in the military.

The Revolution spread throughout Europe, and the Baden area was deeply involved. During the final days of the failing conflict, Christian was arrested and imprisoned in Bruschtal. After his release, he and his wife Magdalina along with other revolutionaries made arrangements to emigrate. Members of Magdalena's family who had previously immigrated to the United States in 1855 were their sponsors.

It was not until 1860, that the couple was able to settle their debts in Germany and receive official emigration papers from the Office of the Baden Grand Ducal. The signature of Christian's Father Martin, Mayor of Hagsfeld, appears on the document.

Christian and Magdalina settled first in the St. Louis area, later moved to Benton County, Iowa, and in 1875, moved to Dysart. They had nine children, two of whom died in infancy before the move to Iowa. The other children were born in Tama and Benton Counties.

Magdalina died on October 18, 1888, in Clark Township near Tama, Iowa. By that time, their sons, Martin and Henry, had settled near Hartley. They had moved at the suggestion of their cousin, Martin Albright, who was already established in the area. In 1889, Christian joined them. Until his death in

1909, Christian resided with his son, Martin. Relatives, Lewis Frederick Linder, Henry Linder, and Katharina Linder Albright lived nearby.

Christian and Magdalena's son, Henry, was my grandfather. He was born on May 20, 1860 in Tama County, Iowa. He married Caroline E. Lacher in Ladora, Iowa in 1886. They had seven children: William, Lewis, H. Benjamin, Minnie, Bertha, Arthur (my father) and Ervin.

William (W.J.) was born in Iowa County on October 32, 1887, and Lewis on February 22, 1889, in Dickinson County. Henry Linder purchased land on August 10, 1888, from Frank and Delia Patch as an eighty-acre tract. On September 10, 1888, he bought additional acres from Christine and Charlie Albright. The rest of Henry's children were born there, in the house on the original "Linder Home Place" one mile north of Hartley's Main Street.

H. Benjamin, born on May 30, 1891, served in World War I and died of pneumonia shortly after returning from the service. The family attributes the death to inhaling mustard gas during the war.

Minnie, born on December 19, 1893, married Warren Houston of Sac City in 1919, at Hartley. Bertha, born on July 15, 1896, married Hobart Putnam on August 4, 1925, in Spencer, Iowa.

My father, Arthur Joseph, born May 30, 1899, lived on the home place his entire life. Ervin, the youngest of Henry's children, was born on October 12, 1900. He married Elsie Messer of Dysart, Iowa, on October 25, 1920.

In 1906, when Arthur was six and Ervin was four, Henry's first wife, Caroline Lacher Linder died, leaving Henry with seven children. Henry later married Elizabeth Kesselring on January 16, 1908.

When they retired, Henry and Elizabeth moved into Hartley, and sons, Arthur and Irvin, took over the home place. After Arthur married Ina Pauline Boles on March 10, 1921, Ervin moved to a farm northwest of the home place.

Arthur and Ina were the parents of Paul, Claris, and Lois. After time in the service, finishing college, and being employed as an engineer by the AO Smith Harvestore Company, Paul returned to Hartley, and farmed with his father. The fall of 1985, was an extremely difficult time for the Linder

family. Arthur lost his fight with cancer in September of 1985, and Paul died two weeks later in a farm related accident. The Linder home place, now the home of Paul's wife Bonnie and daughter, Becky Linder Maloney, was designated as an Iowa Century Farm in 1988.

During the 1920s and into the 40s, there was a long list of Linder names in the Hartley telephone book. The area to the north of Hartley was known as "Linder Alley." W.J. and Lily were on the east side of the same section as Ervin. The Bertha Linder Putnam farm was in the section just to the north and east, but she and Hobart, a rural mail carrier, lived in Hartley.

Their cousin, John Linder, and wife Laura were on the west side in that same section. John's parents Martin and Rosa farmed in the next section to the northwest, and Cousin Fred and his wife Maggie lived yet another mile to the north and west of Martin and Rosa. The Minnie and Warren Houston farmstead was northeast of the original Henry Linder farm in the same section, just south of the Lewis and Bertha Linder farm.

Henry Linder's children remained in the Hartley area throughout their lifetimes. Henry, his wives, many of his children, grandchildren and other relatives are buried in Hartley's Pleasant View Cemetery.

In the thirties there were twelve of his lively grandchildren in the area to carry on the Linder name. Although Henry's family was dominated by male offspring, succeeding generations have trended to the female. Today there are only three of that line of Linder males to carry on the family name, none living in the area.

Presently, Henry's only living grandchildren are: Bertha and Hobart Putnam's daughter, Dorothy Putnam Bartelson of California; and Arthur's daughters, Claris Linder Olson and Lois Linder Kulakowski of Arizona.

Henry's great granddaughter, Carol Starr, has moved from California and now lives in the home of her grandparents, Lewis and Bertha Linder. Becky Linder Maloney and daughters as well as David Stopsack are the only other remaining residents in the Hartley area that carry the Henry Linder blood

line.

In the mid-nineties, Dale Linder and wife Norma traveled to Germany to attend the 150th anniversary of the German Revolution. Among those being recognized at the time was Henry's father, Christian Linder. There are a number of Linder relatives still living in the Baden region.

Enclosures:

Brothers Arthur (seated) and Irvin Linder, ages six and four, taken at the time of their Mother's funeral 1906.

Mark Linder, son of Paul and Bonnie, and wife Mary Goetsch Linder were traveling in England and Europe during the 2011 Christmas season. They decided to visit the Hagsburgh area in Baden, Germany, and were seeking out Linder gravesites when they encountered an elderly German couple walking in the same area. Mark began conversing with them and to his utter amazement, discovered that the elderly gentleman was ART LINDER. He and his wife were in the cemetery to attend a funeral, already in progress, so their time of visiting was limited, but they did manage to have their picture taken together. Mark Linder on the left and Art Linder on right seem to have identical tastes in their clothing styles.

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Linder Family Home Place: taken in the very early 1900's with Henry showing the newly purchased threshing equipment to neighbors. Caroline and children are to the left, in front of the house.