

Presentation Notes
Loretta Hoerman
August 2, 2014
2014 Zeisset Reunion

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Elisabeth Zeisset

Born March 12, 1870 at Kreuzfeld
 Went by Lisette

Baptized April 5, 1870 at home; sponsors were her uncles Johannes Zeisset of Wiegelshof and Daniel Zeisset of Menzingen

Sisters Louise almost 4 and Bertha almost 2

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George Jacob Zeisset

Born December 31, 1873 at 10:00 p.m. at the Zeisset home in Kreuzfeld
 Baptized January 8, 1874 at home
 Sponsors: Georg Seiffert of Kreuzfeld and Daniel Zeisset of Menzingen

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Lisette and George Jacob Zeisset

Bettie was born in 1875 and Henry in 1878

Mother died in childbirth 1881. Lizzie was 10 and Jacob was 7

Lisette and Jacob were taken in by their uncle Isaak and aunt Bertha Zeisset who lived at Eichenau before their father died in 1884

The oldest of the Zeisset children, Louise, emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1883. It is not clear where sister Bertha Zeisset was living from 1881- 1885. Bertha and Bettie were the first of the Zeisset children to arrive in Kansas in 1885, followed shortly by Louise who arrived from Pennsylvania.

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EICHENAU Kreuzfeld - Krailshausen

Isaak and Berth Zeisset lived here from February 1876 - February 1888

Rented from Prince Hugo of Hohenlohe

13 miles south of Kreuzfeld

Attended church at Lendsiedel




This slide shows the locations of the Jakob Friedrich Zeisset home at Kreuzfeld with the church at nearby Krailshausen. The Isaak Zeisset home was at Eichenau.

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Eichenau

House was 54.5 x 38 feet. The ground floor and the second floor were made from stone, while the top floor was half-timbered. The doors were made from oak.

225 acres
 163 apple trees
 194 plum trees
 86 pear trees
 20 cherry trees



This is a photo of the home believed to have been occupied by the Isaak Zeisset family and its description from estate records.

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Eichenau

Rental agreement for the property at Eichenau with Isaak Zeisset



Elisabeth and George Jacob Zeisset
Confirmed April 20, 1884 at Lendsiedel

Issak and Bertha Zeisset's children: Elisa b. 1865, Heinrich b. 1866, Friedrich Jakob b. 1868, Ludwig b. 1869, Daniel b. 1870, Karl Gustav b. 1880 and Karl Ludwig Wilhelm b. 1884

Jacob confirmed at Lendsiedel in April 1887

Elisabeth's confirmation verse was John 16:24: "Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." Her cousin Daniel Zeisset was in her confirmation class. Jacob's confirmation verse were: Jeremiah 29: 13, 14: "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 'I will be found by you,' declares the Lord, 'and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,' declares the Lord, 'and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.'"



The church at Eichenau and its baptismal font.



Brass band concert in Lendsiedel. Beer was served at the intermission!

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George Jacob Zeisset

1887 - Eichenau
1888 - Isaak Zeisset family moved to Darstadt in Feburary
1890 - George Jacob Zeisset left Germany to join family in Kansas
Arrived on 26 February 1890 at Castle Garden on the SS EMS. Listed as 16 year old clerk. Rough voyage the entire trip.

Jakob may not have gone to Darstadt with the Isaak Zeisset family. The ship list states that he was from Valwerk or Valwerth. No such place has been located in Germany. The Baden Immigration Index lists his home of origin as Menzingen where his father was born.

PERILS OF THE DEEP

An Atlantic Steamer's Vain Attempt to Rescue Men from a Helpless Ship.
New York, February 26th. — The steamship Ems, which arrived to-day, encountered fierce gales and heavy seas on Friday and Saturday last. On Saturday a wrecked sailing vessel was passed. All of her masts were broken off, and she floundered around as though she could not obey her rudder. Nine men were seen upon the wreck. Despite the terrible seas, Captain Jung had a boat lowered, and an officer and five men entered it to attempt a rescue. The boat immediately capsized, and one of the crew was lost. Captain Jung thought it madness to make another attempt, and proceeded on the voyage.

This is a description of one of the things that happened on the ship on which George Jacob Zeisset was a passenger. This small article appeared in many newspapers across the USA.

George Jacob Zeisset

March 13, 1890 - "Jakob Zeisset, a brother-in-law of John Swart arrived here last Thursday from Germany to make his home in glorious Kansas, under the grand old flag of freedom."
September 7, 1921 - Naturalized with Chris and Rudolph Baer as witnesses. May have stayed briefly with the Swart family.

The March 1890 notice was found in the Leonardville Monitor, Leonardville's newspaper.

Lisette Zeisset

- 1888 - Moved to Darstadt with the Isaak Zeisset family
- George Weller was working for Isaak Zeisset
- Darstadt is a tiny catholic village
- Zeissets lived at the Schlosshof
- Attended church at Winterhausen

Isaak Zeisset was a renter of the farms for the castle at Darstadt. Winterhausen is a village on the Main river not far away. The Zeissets attended church in Winterhausen.

A map of the region around Darstadt and Winterhausen. Two blue arrows point from the left towards the map. The top arrow is labeled 'Winterhausen' and the bottom arrow is labeled 'Darstadt'. The map shows a network of roads and rivers, with the Main river visible.

Map showing the location of Darstadt and Winterhausen.

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Looking into the village from the Darstadt castle



Darstadt castle. The Zeisset family probably lived across from this. Isaak Zeisset and his wife Bertha both died at Darstadt in 1897.



This is the church at Winterhausen where the Isaak Zeisset family attended services.



Interior of the church at Winterhausen.



Sommerhausen on the left and Winterhausen on the right.

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George Weller

- Born September 29, 1864 in Onolzheim, Germany to Catharina Margaretha Narigat

Father was Johann Georg Weller
Mother married Johann Jacob Michael Mack in 1877: 3 children
Father married Dorothea Froelich in 1872: 11 children

Confirmed at Onolzheim in April 1878

George Weller worked for Isaak Zeisset. The family story was told previously that he worked for the father of his future bride. Perhaps he briefly worked for Jakob Friedrich Zeisset. George Weller told his grandson Harold about the move from Eichenau to Darstadt in the winter. They moved livestock, machinery and the hired help.

Onolzheim Germany

A map of the Onolzheim region in Germany. Three locations are marked with blue arrows pointing to the right: Kreuzfeld at the top, Eichenau in the middle, and Onolzheim at the bottom. The map shows a network of roads and a river.

Lisette Zeisset

- Emigrated in 1891
- George Weller arrived in New York City July 10, 1891 on the SS Trave; left from Darstadt
- Married October 28, 1891 by Jacob Schmidli

The date of Lizzie's emigration is not known for sure, though it is quite certain that she came in 1891. The ship passenger lists show that Elis. Zeisset of Holzheim arrived April 30, 1891 on the SS Lahn. There is another entry of Lisette Zeissert on the SS Eider on May 12, 1891, but she is listed as being from Austria.

George J. Zeisset

- 1895 census: listed in the M. H. Russell home
- Myron H. Russell was from Ohio, lived in Kansas since the mid 1880s. Married to Mary Viola who died in 1898. They had 2 daughters, Blanche and Bessie.
- Henry Zeisset, who came to Kansas in 1893, also worked for the Russells.

A black and white photograph of a man, likely George J. Zeisset, standing outdoors. He is wearing a dark suit and a hat, and is looking towards the camera.

M. H. Russell lived 3 miles west of Leonardville where Raymond and Carol Benninga later lived.

Jacob Zeisset and Christina Bohnenblust

Married 27 February 1896 at the Bohnenblust home by Pastor Schmidli

A black and white photograph of a man and a woman, likely Jacob Zeisset and Christina Bohnenblust, standing together. The man is on the left, wearing a dark suit and a hat, and the woman is on the right, wearing a dark dress and a hat.

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Christina Bohnenblust

- Born 31 July 1876 west of Alida, Kansas in Dickinson County to Maria Rickli and John J. Bohnenblust
- John and Maria emigrated from Bannwil, Canton Bern, Switzerland to Kansas in 1869 and settled 12 miles west of Junction City with their 4 sons Fred, John J., Roman and Arnold.
- Eight more children were born in Kansas. Those surviving were Sophia, Emma, Maria, Christina, William, Walter and Bernhardt.
- Moved to Riley County in 1884, 2.5 m W of Riley

Jacob and Christina Zeisset

- 1898: Ad in newspaper says a cow strayed from their home 3 miles west of Riley.
- 1900, 1905, 1910 census: lived in the Monitor and Arbor school districts in Bala Twp.
- December 1900: Jake bought homestead near Alva, OK
- January 1901: auction 1 m. W, 2 m. N of Leonardville
- March 1901: Jake Zeisset moved to west of Alva, OK
- July 1901: R. Nanninga and Jake Zeisset came back from OK.

According to a note in the newspaper Jacob and Christina first lived 3 miles west of Riley. Christina’s parents lived 2.5 miles west of Riley at that time. The December 20, 1900 Leonardville Monitor reported that Jake “bought out a homestead right near Galva, Oklahoma and will move there in the spring.” A later article told of his auction on his farm a mile west and 2 miles north of Leonardville. The March 23, 1901 Monitor reported that Jacob Zeisset, who recently moved to Galva, OK came up Saturday to transact some business. He returned Tuesday. On July 18, 1901 “R. Nanninga and Jacob Zeisset who went to western Oklahoma last spring have concluded to return to Kansas. The climate did not suit them down there. They are expected here in a few days.

Jacob and Christina Zeisset

- August 1901: moved onto the Lee property
- September 1901: employed by William Uhlenhop
- November 1901: bought the Mrs. Lee property
- April 1902: moved onto the Thompson farm northeast of Riley.
- September 1902: rented the Victor Hadin property 1 ½ m. N and 1 ¼ m. W of Leonardville.
- 1905 Ag census: farmed 240 acres

According to the Monitor, Jacob Zeisset moved onto the Lee property and later bought it. No corresponding deed has been located to substantiate this claim. In September 1908 it was reported that Jacob Zeisset was having “a fine addition built to their house”.

Jacob and Christina Zeisset

- Purchased 80 acre farm from Walter Bohnenblust for \$3700 on September 9, 1911. Walter was Christina's brother.
- December 12, 1912: “Jake Zeisset has bought the Sam Goodin home in the east part of town and is moving it to his farm 5 miles southwest of town.”
- February 27, 1913: Jake Zeisset, 1 mile north of the Rock Island school is nicely settled in his new home.
- 1915 AgCensus: owned 240 acres
- 1925 Ag Census: owned 160 acres

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From a 1909 Plat Map: These are approximations of where Jacob and Christina Zeisset lived. Number one was where they were reported to be living in 1900 when their auction was held. Number 2 is when he worked for William Uhlenhop and lived on the Mrs. Lee property. The Monitor school is shown 2 miles north of Leonardville. Number 3 is where the Victor Hadin property is thought to have been when the Zeissets lived there in 1902. At one point the family lived on the William Meyer property designated by nubmer 4. Then they purchased part of the John Bohnenblust property in 1911, number 5. Lou Hoerman bought the Arnold Bohnenblust 160 acres across from number 5.

Jake and Christina Zeisset

Children:

Emma Marie	December 17, 1896
Bettie Margaret	January 5, 1898
George Jacob	October 2, 1899
Earl John	September 15, 1903
Nellie Christina	February 21, 1907
Roman Bohnenblust	February 18, 1910
Arnold	July 25, 1911
Sophia	February 20, 1913
Jacob William	December 30, 1915

Children born to Jacob and Christina Zeisset. A note in the newspaper in June 1908 reported that Jacob Zeisset's 2 year old daughter got her arm dislocated. In April 1909 there was mention that Emma, Bettie and George Zeisset spent Sunday afternoon at Lou Hoerman's. In March 1915, Bettie Zeisset worked for Amelia Hoerman (wife of Lou's brother Julius) for 6 weeks when her daughter Pauline was born.

School
1907 - 1911
Arbor School

The Arbor School located 2 miles west and 2 mile north of Leonardville. The school faced east.

Arbor School
District 35

1910:
Emma
Bettie
George
Earl

Arbor school register from the 1909-1910 school year.

Arbor School students 1911

Are there any Zeisset children in this photo? If so, it would be Emma, Bettie, George, Earl and Nellie.

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Union School District 39

- Older Zeisset children attended school here
- Photo in the *City of the Plains* by Phyllis Swanson has a photo with Emma and George Zeisset at the Union school; 1906 - 1907
- School reports have the Zeisset children at both Arbor and Union in 1909

In 1909 the Zeisset children are listed at both Arbor and Union schools the Union School, located 2 miles west and 1.5 miles south of Leonardville, burned in 1909 and a new school was built a half mile north and ¼ mile west of the original location. The Zeisset children may have attended part of the year at Union.

Rock Island School District 51

- Zeisset children attended school here from 1913 on
- Jake was on the school board most of the time from 1922 through 1937
- Some of the Zeisset grandchildren also attended school here

The Rock Island School was 1 mile south of the farm Jacob Zeisset purchased in 1911.

Jake and Christina Zeisset

Funerals:

John J. Bohnenblust	June 2, 1900
Mary Rickli Bohnenblust	May 24, 1910
Arnold 9 days old	August 3, 1911
Sophia 3 days old	February 23, 1913

Christina's father died in 1900 and her mother in 1910. A son, Arnold, died shortly after birth. From the newspaper account we know that his funeral was held in the home. His cousins were pallbearers: Lawrence Hoerman (born in 1901), Willie and Daniel Bohnenblust (b. in 1901 and 1899) and J. Baer (John, b. 1902, son of Peter Baer).