

Familie Journal

No. 4

February 2017

Vadstrup and Rasmussen Families in the United States

Danish Immigrants in the early 1900s



Descendants and Ancestors of
Jørgen Michael Vadstrup
Meta Kirstine Vadstrup and Hans Søren Rasmussen
Rasmus Jørgen Vadstrup
Anna Margrethe Vadstrup

Elaine DalPian and Jørgen Mortensen
February 27, 2017

Cover photos from left to right:

- Jørgen Michael Vadstrup (known as Michael) and his wife Marie, born Larsen, with their children, Frederick, Anna Margaret and Henry.
- Meta Kirstine Rasmussen, born Vadstrup and her husband Hans Søren Rasmussen (known as Soren) with their children, Gerda, William and Emmy.
- Rasmus Jørgen Vadstrup (known as Robert) and his daughter Frances.
- Anna Margrethe Jacobsen (known as Margaret), born Vadstrup and her husband Marius Jacobsen (known as Morris) with 6 of their 7 sons, William, Raymond, Howard, Paul, Robert and Henry (Edwin absent).

In the US the Vadstrup siblings changed their last name to start with a “W”. The commonly used first names (see above) are used interchangeably with the full first names in the following.

Relatives is the term used for persons who are blood-related to the immigrants.

The term, *Family members* comprises relatives *and* their spouses/partners, and in a few cases adoptees.

Dates are shown in the format, *mm.dd.yyyy*.

Authors of the booklet:

Elaine DalPian is the granddaughter of Meta Vadstrup and Hans Søren Rasmussen. They settled with their three children in Connecticut where Elaine now lives with her husband Kenneth.

Jørgen Mortensen is the grandson of Trine Vadstrup and Jakob Rasmussen, siblings of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen immigrants. After retirement from jobs in Denmark, Jørgen and his wife Birgit settled in Arizona.

Earlier genealogy publications by the authors:

Ancestry of the Vadstrup Family 1803-1979, poster by Elaine DalPian, 1979

Our Danish Heritage – Rasmussen and Vadstrup Families, 2009, Elaine DalPian 2009

Celebrating the Vadstrup & Rasmussen Families, Elaine DalPian 2013

Familie Journal No. 1, June 2013, Ancestry of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen Families, Jørgen Mortensen 2013

Familie Journal No. 2, Juli 2013, Ane Kathrine og Jakob Rasmussen – Efterkommere og Aner, Jørgen Mortensen 2013

Familie Journal No. 3, Februar 2014, Caroline og Peter Mortensen – Efterkommere og Aner, Jørgen Mortensen 2013

In February 2017, this digitized, PDF-formatted report was made available via email to members of the four immigrant families with known email addresses.

INTRODUCTION

For generations, members of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families have lived on Samsø, a 44 sq. miles island in the middle of Denmark. As the population grew in the 1800s, people started leaving the island to find livelihood in other parts of Denmark or in other parts of the world. The United States with its expanding economic activity and more favorable employment opportunities attracted many. Among them were five out of eleven young people from two groups of siblings in the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families. In the beginning of the 1900s, they left Denmark and established their own families in the U.S., now the native country of a large number of people sharing ancestors and Samsø roots with their relatives in Europe.

Communication was maintained between some relatives on each side of the North Atlantic Ocean. However, with the passage of time, limited possibilities of traveling between the two continents and new generations growing up it was difficult to keep the contact and a broad knowledge of names and activities of relatives across the sea. *Elaine DalPian* in Connecticut did not accept that family ties sink into oblivion. Her sense of deep roots in Denmark and her wish to maintain knowledge of and contact with descendants of the Vadstrup's and Rasmussen's incited her to gather information about the family groups in both the US and Europe and, no less important, to document her findings and share them with others.

Time has come to make a new update and to broaden the knowledge of the immigrant families. Besides basic facts – names, living dates, spouses and children – brief biographies have been collected for as many persons as possible, which could not have been done without information provided by contacted members of the families. The information has been combined with existing data and put together by Elaine DalPian and Jørgen Mortensen in this issue of *Familie Journal*.

The database www.samsoeroots.dk, which is accessible for free, is a main source of information about the early generations of Vadstrup and Rasmussen ancestors. It has genealogical data for over 120,000 persons with family roots on Samsø. *Inge Lise Vohnsen*, a Vadstrup relative herself, and *Karl Erik Kornmaaler Mikkelsen* are responsible for the database and its continued up-dating.

Due to lack of updated information from significant groups in three of the four immigrant families the plan to make a printed booklet was abandoned. Instead, the received contributions have been digitized and included in this PDF-formatted report, which is shared with family members via email. If missing data and more biographical information become available a more complete narrative can be made at a later stage.

All readers are invited to call attention to mistakes and trivial typing errors and to provide supplementary information, for example by encouraging other family members to come forward and fill in some of the gaps. Please use the e-mail addresses stated below.

February 2017

Elaine DalPian
elainedalpian@gmail.com

Jørgen Mortensen
jorgenbirgit5@gmail.com

TABLE OF CONTENT

	<i>Page</i>
INTRODUCTION	3
SECTION 1	VADSTRUP AND RASMUSSEN SIBLINGS SETTLING IN THE U.S. 5
1.1	The immigrants' family background 5
1.2	Time line of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen immigration 7
1.3	Contacts over the years between American and Danish family members 8
1.4	About Samsø – the native soil of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families 9
SECTION 2	MEMBERS OF THE FOUR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES 10
2.1	Lineage of the immigrants 10
2.2	Individual family members, incl. spouses/partners – basic data and brief bios 14
2.2.1	Jørgen Michael Vadstrup's family – overview table 15
2.2.2	Jørgen Michael Vadstrup's family – individual family members 16
2.2.3	Meta Vadstrup's and Hans Søren Rasmussen's family – overview table 20
2.2.4	Meta Vadstrup's and Hans Søren Rasmussen's family – individual members 21
2.2.5	Rasmus Jørgen Vadstrup's family – overview table 27
2.2.6	Rasmus Jørgen Vadstrup's family – individual family members 28
2.2.7	Anna Margrethe Vadstrup's family – overview table 33
2.2.8	Anna Margrethe Vadstrup's family – individual family members 34
SECTION 3	MEMOIRS 38
3.1	Elaine DalPian: Growing up Danish in America 38
3.2	Donald Coppen: Summer visit 2013 to Denmark and family reunion on Samsø 44
3.3	Anna Mortensen: Childhood in Brundby – translated excerpt of memoirs 45
3.4	Signe Christensen: Brundby 100 years ago – translated excerpt of memoirs 48
3.5	Letters from Anna Mortensen to Elaine DalPian 52
SECTION 4	ANCESTORS OF THE IMMIGRANTS 54
4.1	Ancestry of the Vadstrup siblings (Table 6) 56
4.2	Ancestry of Hans Søren Rasmussen (Table 7) 60
APPENDIX A	MEMBERS OF THE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES (alphabetic name index) 62

SECTION 1

VADSTRUP AND RASMUSSEN SIBLINGS SETTLING IN THE U.S.

In the early 1900s, four siblings, *Jørgen Michael*, *Meta Kirstine*, *Rasmus Jørgen*, and *Anna Margrethe Jørgensen Vadstrup*¹ – children of Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and Maren Vadstrup, born Michelsdatter – left Denmark to settle in the U.S. They were joined by *Hans Søren Rasmussen*², son of Rasmus Peder Jeppesen Klejs and Jakobsine Klejs, born Jakobsdatter. Søren and Meta married. So did the other three Vadstrup siblings and four families were founded in the new country. Three other Vadstrup siblings and three other Rasmussen siblings stayed in Denmark and started their own families. Broadly speaking the families separated in two halves living on each side of the North Atlantic Ocean.

The five immigrants were part of a wave starting slowly in the early 1800s, increasing significantly after the late 1860s and continuing well into the 1900s. The United States was a preferred destination among people in many countries because of its economic expansion and prospects of gainful occupation and improved living conditions. Desire of adventure may also have played a role for many. For the Vadstrup siblings the early death of their parents probably influenced their decision. It is estimated³ that more than 450,000 Danes have relocated to the U.S. since 1820, the major part in the period from 1880s to about 1920. A peak was reached in the 1880s when 85,000-90,000 Danes were admitted into the U.S. At that time, the total Danish population was about 2 million. Even if emigration was not a very unusual event it is not difficult to imagine the profound impression of the break-up, both on the emigrants themselves and on the family members who stayed in Denmark. In those days, long distance vacation traveling was not feasible and the separated family members faced slim chances of meeting again.

A hundred years and several generations later, communication and travel opportunities have improved, and contacts among family members in the U.S. and Europe are easier to establish and maintain. However, as time passes and new generations grow up, it becomes increasingly difficult to keep track of all the names and kinships and to maintain broad contacts among family members.

This booklet is about the five emigrants and the members of the four families they founded in the U.S. Seen from a U.S. point of view *immigrants* is the more adequate term, which will be used in the following. Earlier recordings of names and living dates have been updated, first of all by including family events during the last 2-3 decades. To make the overview of the family more telling information has been collected and added about education, professional career, special interests, place of residence and more for as many individual family members as possible. The report also looks into the Danish roots and the ancestries of the immigrants.

1.1. The immigrants' family background

The *parents* of the four *Vadstrup* children who settled in the U.S. were *Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup* and *Maren Vadstrup (Michelsdatter)*, both born on Samsø where their ancestors had lived for generations. Apart from basic living dates only little written information exists about the earlier generations. An exception is an epitaph reflecting the minister's speech at the burial in 1878 of *Jørgen Sørensen Vadstrup*, father of Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and grandfather of the four immigrants to the U.S. The epitaph speaks for itself about large families of the period and high mortality among children and wives:

In this coffin are the mortal perishable remains of farmer Jørgen Sørensen Vadstrup. He was born in Haarmark on the 5th of April 1803. Aged 26 he married Ellen Sørensdatter and God blessed this marriage with six children of whom one son and one daughter are alive and present. This spouse and the four children have passed long ago. In the year 1844, Jørgen Vadstrup married Mette Kirstine Jensdatter, this marriage was also blessed with six children, of whom four are dead, one son and one daughter are alive, standing here together with their mother at the bier of the loyal spouse and father. Jørgen Vadstrup was a diligent and hard-working man who struggled his way to an independent position, and God granted him, during almost all his days, strength and health. He lived for five years past the age of dust, which is seven times ten, and then the rest of his days were distress and trouble, pain and torment. He was ill for almost a year, and for about six months, he lay at the sickbed until the Lord called him away from here and released him from pain on the 15th of May 1878. On one of his last days of struggle, he said: "I am tired and have had enough of this life". The Lord alone knows the profundity of such words. May God grant him his eternal rest, peace and grace for the sake of Jesus the Christ. May God who is love grant him lot and share of a joyous resurrection on the Jesu Christi day of revelation. Amen!

¹ Known in the U.S. as *Michael*, *Meta*, *Robert* and *Margaret*, respectively and with the last name spelled *Wadstrup*.

² Known in the U.S. as *Soren*, dropping the confusing Danish vowel "ø".

³ See for example www.visitdenmark.com/heritage/danish-immigration-united-states.

Ellen Sørensdaughter died only 38 years old, the year after Søren was born, and only 4 of 12 children survived their father. It was customary to have epitaphs framed and hung in the homes. This one was guarded for many years by Martha, wife of Jørgen Vadstrup's great-grandson, Jørgen Rasmussen, and by his great-granddaughter, Ragnhild Holm, who provided a copy almost 40 years ago.



*Maren and Søren Vadstrup with their 6 children
– the youngest, Anna Margrethe, not yet born*

After their marriage in 1869, Søren and Maren Vadstrup lived in a farmhouse in Brundby on Samsø until about 1875 when they moved to Århus⁴ with their baby child, Ellen. Two other children had died 2-3 years old. In the period 1876-1892, six children were born in Århus. The photo was taken before the youngest child, Margrethe, was born. Søren supported his family working as a shoe and clog maker and Maren did laundry for soldiers, especially those from Samsø. Søren died before his 52nd birthday; the youngest child, Anna Margrethe was only 2 years old and the oldest, Ellen only 20. The family incurred additional sorrow and hardship when their mother died in 1901 at the age of 54. Not many details are known about how the orphaned children coped but a heavy load rested on the shoulders of the older children to keep the family together. For many years, Marie and Meta were the fixed point in the lives of their younger siblings, Rasmus and Anna Margrethe.

Table 1. The Vadstrup and Rasmussen siblings and their parents

Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup 03.31.1842-02.05.1894; marr. 09.10.1869 Maren Michelsdatter 01.13.1847-07.24.1901	Rasmus Jeppesen Klejs 09.11.1838-05.13.1920; married 11.17.1864 Jakobsine Jakobsdatter 03.24.1843-04.16.1907
Ellen Gunilde Jørgensen Vadstrup 1869-1873	Ane Margrethe Rasmussen 1868-1945
Ane Cathrine Jørgensen Vadstrup 1871-1873	Jeppé Peder Rasmussen 1870-1873
Ellen Gunnilde Cathrine J. Vadstrup 1874-1941	Jeppé Peder Rasmussen 1873-1965
Ane Kathrine Jørgensen Vadstrup 1876-1956	Jakob Rasmussen 1876-1956
Jørgen Michael Jørgensen Vadstrup* 1879-1963	Hans Søren Rasmussen* 1882-1969
Meta Kristine Jørgensen Vadstrup* 1881-1979	
Jørgine Marie Jørgensen Vadstrup 1884-1979	
Rasmus Jørgen Jørgensen Vadstrup* 1887-1921	
Anna Margrethe Jørgensen Vadstrup* 1892-1985	

*The lives and families of the immigrants (marked * in the table) are detailed in the following sections. A few words are added below about the siblings who stayed in Denmark.*

In 1897, Søren and Maren Vadstrup's third child, *Ellen*, married Hans Hansen (1868-1944) and they and their three children, Henri, Helga and Ebba, lived in Copenhagen. As a child Ellen had been given the possibility of staying with her father's half-sister, Anne Jørgensdatter Vadstrup (1847-1901) who in 1874 had married Jørgen Pedersen Sønder (1844-1907). They farmed Damstrupgaard in Brundby, Samsø. The couple had no children of their own. Ellen tried to stay with them, but did not settle down.

⁴ Århus is the second largest city in Denmark, located near Samsø on the east coast of Jylland, the peninsular mainland of Denmark.

When she was 7-8 years old, the fourth child, *Ane Kathrine*, known to all as *Trine*, visited her aunt and uncle, liked farm life very much and Damstrupgaard became her home for the rest of her life. In 1898, she married Jakob Rasmussen from a neighbor farm, Eskegaard in Brundby. They raised six children, Signe, Maja, Søren, Anna, Ragnhild and Jørgen. In 1900, Trine and Jakob became owners of Damstrupgaard, farmed it for many years until it was first leased and later taken over by their youngest son, Jørgen. Trine and Jakob both died at Damstrupgaard in 1956.

Marie Vadstrup was married in 1909 to Arvor Spang-Larsen (1882-1945). They and their two sons, Erik and Jørgen, resided in Copenhagen.



Rasmus Peder Jeppesen Klejs

The parents of *Hans Søren Rasmussen* were *Rasmus Peder Jeppesen Klejs* and *Jakobsine Klejs*, born Jakobsdatter. For generations their ancestors had lived on Samsø. Rasmus and Jakobsine owned and farmed Eskegaard in Brundby where Søren grew up together with his three siblings, Ane Margrethe, Jeppe and Jakob. A fifth child had died only two and a half years old.

In 1897, Søren's sister, *Ane Margrethe* married Jørgen Hansen Mahler (1862-1954) and they and their two children, Hans and Barbara, lived on Samsø.

Søren's brother, *Jeppe Peder* was married in 1904 to Johanne Marie Pedersen Kornmaaler (1882-1954). They took over the family farm, Eskegaard where they raised their three children Signe, Rikardt and Jens. The close connection between the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families, established by the 1898 marriage between Trine and Jakob, was further strengthened by Søren's and Meta's marriage in 1911.

Table 1 illustrates an interesting development in the *naming of children*. Before the middle of the 1800s, the last name of male children would generally be based on the father's first name with the addition of "sen" for son. In the case of the sons of Rasmus Jeppesen Klejs their last name, Rasmussen, therefore signifies that they are the sons of Rasmus. Earlier, daughters would receive their father's first name with the addition "datter" meaning daughter. However, in the 1800s, this part of the patronymic naming system gradually changed so that the ending "datter" rather illogically was replaced by "sen". Attempts were made to do away with the patronymic naming and a law was passed in 1856, which "froze" all family surnames. Obviously Rasmus and Jakobsine did not act in accordance with the law. The change was extensively resisted for decades, not least in the rural districts. People in the cities were generally more inclined to follow the enacted system, whereby the father's last name was passed on unchanged to the children. In our context this is demonstrated by the Vadstrup family living in the city of Århus.

1.2. Time line of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen immigration

In 1902, the year after the death of his mother, Jørgen Michael set out for the U.S. His travel took him to Connecticut where he found work. He may already then have planned to settle there for good. After three years, he went back to Denmark where his family learned about his experience and the possibilities in the country so far away.

In 1906, Michael returned to the U.S. this time together with Søren Rasmussen who would become his brother-in-law. Earlier, Michael's sister Trine had married Søren's brother Jakob so they already knew each other well. They settled in Hartford. In 1906, Michael married Marie Larsen from Køge, Denmark.

In 1908, Meta and her brother Rasmus were next to leave Denmark with destination Michael Vadstrup in Hartford, CT. In 1914, Rasmus married Susan Hunt.

In 1909, Anna Margrethe, the youngest of the Vadstrup children then only 17 years old, crossed the Atlantic Ocean and met her family in Hartford. She married Marius Jacobsen in 1912.

In 1911, Meta and Søren returned to Denmark, were married on Samsø and resided there for a couple of years before moving to Sjælland, where they farmed in two different places, Tornved and Favrbø east of Kalundborg. They came back to the U.S. in 1922 and settled in Connecticut with their three children, Gerda, William and

Emmy, all born during the stay in Denmark. For details about the family's life in Connecticut see Elaine's narrative in Section 3.1 about growing up Danish in America.

The United States continued to attract Danish family members. In 1954, Anna Mortensen's son, Viggo married Gay Atkinson from upstate NY. Their three sons, Viggo, Charles and Walter were born in the U.S. where Viggo completed his college education. He worked for many years for International Basic Business Corporation, which Nelson A. Rockefeller had founded to stimulate economic development in Latin America. After retirement, Viggo settled at a farm in Cape Vincent, NY and raised deer for a long period.

In 1957-58, Jørgen Mortensen worked for almost a year and a half at a dairy in central NY and at an upstate NY cattle ranch.

Jørgen's daughter Marianne married Michael Blake in 1993. They settled near Tucson in Arizona where they raised their three children, Quanah, Monahsetah and Lozen.

In 1996, Jørgen's oldest daughter, Anne-Dorte also settled in Tucson where she works for a health insurance company.

After retirement from jobs in Denmark in 1998, Jørgen and his wife Birgit relocated to Arizona, where Jørgen until 2010 was engaged in economic research at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

1.3. Contacts over the years between American and Danish family members

First to visit the immigrants in the U.S. was Anna Rasmussen (1903-1996), later married to Charles Mortensen from Thorup, Samsø. She was the daughter of Trine and Jakob Rasmussen, siblings of the immigrants. Niels Bukh, Director of the Ollerup Gymnastics School, encouraged her to join a team of his students, 15 girls and 15 guys, on an exhibition tour to the U.S. In her own words translated from her written memories:

In those days, a trip to America was rather unusual. We couldn't wait but finally, in September 1923, we left on board the America Liner "Frederik VIII". The voyage lasted 11 days. For eight days a gale submitted most of us to the anguish of seasickness. On solid ground again, we stayed eight days in New York City to train and regain fitness after the Ocean trip. Then we toured, visiting 39 different cities from Hartford in the north, south to North Carolina, and Iowa, Chicago and Detroit to the west. In all places Danes would gather to see us and speak with us. Many were overwhelmed to see so many young people from the old country. Many had immigrated at a quite young age and even if they were doing well they had not been able to pay for a home visit. Not least the Dannebrog (the Danish flag) and the Danish songs caused much joy. When possible we lodged with local Danes. In Hartford for instance I stayed with my mother's sister Meta, married to my dad's brother Søren. I knew them already. They immigrated quite young but returned to Denmark to get married and farm for some years. Leaving again, they settled in Hartford, Søren again to become a carpenter. I also visited my mother's brother, Michael and her youngest sister, Anna Margrethe. The year before, their brother, Rasmus, the fourth Vadstrup sibling to immigrate had died. Reaching adulthood, they all immigrated; their parents had died before the younger ones were grown up. Today, 1977, Meta (94) and Anna Margrethe (87) are still with us. They visited Denmark 5 years ago, for Anna Margrethe the first time she saw her native country since she was 17.

In the late 1950s, Anna Mortensen's son Viggo and his wife Gay, then living in New York, visited Meta and Søren Rasmussen and also met with Emmy and Max Meyer, their daughter Elaine and maybe other members of the family.

On a school trip from Connecticut to Denmark in the late 1960s, Kathy Ellen Jacobsen, granddaughter of Anna Margrethe Jacobsen (born Vadstrup), met with the family of Henry Laurits Hansen, son of Anna Margrethes's oldest sister, Ellen. Henry's son, Kjeld Marquard Hansen, later visited Kathy's family in Connecticut.

Viggo Mortensen, Jr., grandson of Anna Mortensen lived and worked in Denmark for a period in the late 1960s and since then, he has often visited the family in Denmark. During the latest decades, many of his Danish cousins and their families have spent vacation time and met with family members in the US.

In 1970, Elaine and Ken DalPian accompanied Meta on a trip to Denmark where they visited many Danish family members in various parts of the country. See Section 3.1.

Meta enjoyed the trip so much that two years later in 1972 she traveled back together with her younger sister Anna Margrethe and her husband Marius Jacobsen. They met with many Danish family members.

After staying with Ebba Hansen, daughter of Meta's sister Ellen, during the 1970 visit to Denmark, Elaine maintained close contact with Ebba, who a couple of years later came to the U.S. and spent time with the family in Connecticut.

During their 1970 visit in Denmark, Meta and Elaine also established a close relationship with Trine's daughter, Ragnhild Holm, and her daughter and granddaughter, Tinne Finnemann Bruun and Birgitte Finnemann Bruun. They visited the U.S. in 1976 and stayed with Meta and the DalPian's in Connecticut.

In 1980, a family get-together was arranged on Samsø for members of the Rasmussen and Vadstrup families. Trine's and Jakob's grandsons, Jørgen Rasmussen and Hans Rasmussen, did a tremendous job to make the family reunion a success. An American family member, Viggo Mortensen, Jr., participated in the celebration.

During a U.S.A. visit in 1991, Anna Mortensen's son Jørgen and his wife Birgit spent a wonderful afternoon together with Gerda Coppen in her house in West Hartford, CT.

In June 2013, Jørgen and Birgit arranged an American-European family get-together in upstate NY. The participants visited Viggo Mortensen at his farm in Cape Vincent on the St. Lawrence River. Don and Barbara Coppen and Elaine and Ken DalPian from Connecticut took part in the reunion and Hans Rasmussen and his daughter Ann Lisbeth Rasmussen-Gumm came all the way from Denmark and Germany, respectively. Ann Lisbeth also met many American family members in Connecticut where Elaine and Ken DalPian hosted a family dinner. The group exchanged family information, socialized and toured the Thousand Islands area of St. Lawrence River.

A new Rasmussen/Vadstrup family reunion was held on Samsø in July 2013. Again, Hans and Jørgen Rasmussen were among the hard-working organizers. The event attracted more than 150 family members, among them from the US Don and Barbara Coppen; (see Don's report in Section 3.2) and Viggo Mortensen, Jr. Jørgen Mortensen had prepared Familie Journal No 2 for participating family members dealing with Trine and Jakob Rasmussen, all of their descendant and several generations of ancestors reaching back to the 1500s.

In September 2015, Michael Vadstrup's grandson, David Wadstrup and his wife Donna from Connecticut travelled to Denmark visiting with Tinne Finnemann Bruun and other family members.

1.4. About Samsø – the native soil of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families



For generations and centuries, the Vadstrup ancestors have lived on the island of Samsø. The Vadstrup siblings' parents, Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and Maren Michelsdatter, were also born on Samsø in the town of Brundby. In 1875, they and their oldest daughter Ellen moved to nearby mainland city, Århus, where six more children were born. The family kept a close contact with the relatives on Samsø. The parents of the Rasmussen siblings at Eskegaard, Rasmus and Jakobsine Jakobsdatter were also natives of Samsø and so were many generations of their ancestors.

Samsø – the 44 sq. miles island in the middle of Denmark – is one of about 400 Danish islands (excluding the Farøe Islands and Greenland) of which some 75 are inhabited. About 3,700 people live on Samsø (2015), more or less the same as at the time of the first official Danish population census in 1769, when Samsø had 0.4% of the total Danish population of 800,000. Until the first part of the 1800s, the population growth rate on Samsø paralleled that of the country as a whole. Since

then, the Samsø population continued to grow, but at a slower rate until it peaked at about 7,500 people around 1910. This number remained relatively stable until 1950 but has since then declined by about 50%. Since 1769, there has been a seven fold increase of the total Danish population and Samsø's share is now 0.07%. The pattern has been the same for many other small islands and for rural agricultural areas in general. Still, agriculture remains an important and dynamic sector in the Danish economy. Improvement of personal welfare in the past has caused an increasing share of consumer demand to be directed towards non-agricultural goods and services. As a result the percentage of all people engaged in farming has gone down, a trend accentuated by above-average increase in agriculture's labor productivity. In spite of the declining population share farmers on Samsø and in the whole country continue to provide food for the Danish population and, at the same time, to maintain the role as major exporters of farm products to the rest of the world.

SECTION 2

MEMBERS OF THE FOUR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

Section 2.1. deals with the *blood related relatives* descended from the immigrants. Section 2.2. shows all *family members*, including spouses and partners of the relatives. It has been attempted to provide basic data (living dates, marriage, children, location, etc.) and brief biographical narratives for as many persons as possible. The information covers all members of the family group founded by Meta and Hans Søren Rasmussen. However, for several branches of the three other immigrant families the information obtained is *incomplete* so that names and data for a probably significant number of persons are missing. This *must be born in mind when reviewing the numbers* in tables 2 and 4 and other information in Section 2.

2.1. Lineage of the immigrants

Available information about the number of persons directly related to the immigrants is summarized in table 2, broken down by family group and generation. Children dead at or shortly after birth and in early childhood are included in the table. The number of relatives for whom information was available at the beginning of 2017 adds up to 143. This is an underestimation of the true total caused mainly by missing information for generation 4 in the three family groups with the * marking.

Table 2. Number of blood related descendants by family and generation, beginning of 2017

Generation	Family founders				All
	Jørgen Michael*	Meta and Søren	Rasmus Jørgen*	Anna Margrethe*	
Founder	1	2	1	1	5
1	7	3	2	8	20
2	6	4	10	12	32
3	13	8	15	12	48
4	7	18	8	4	37
5	1	0	0	0	1
Total*	35	35	36	37	143
of which:					
male	20	15	15	23	73
female	15	20	21	14	70

*Available information is incomplete for several branches of the family group, especially for the younger generation.

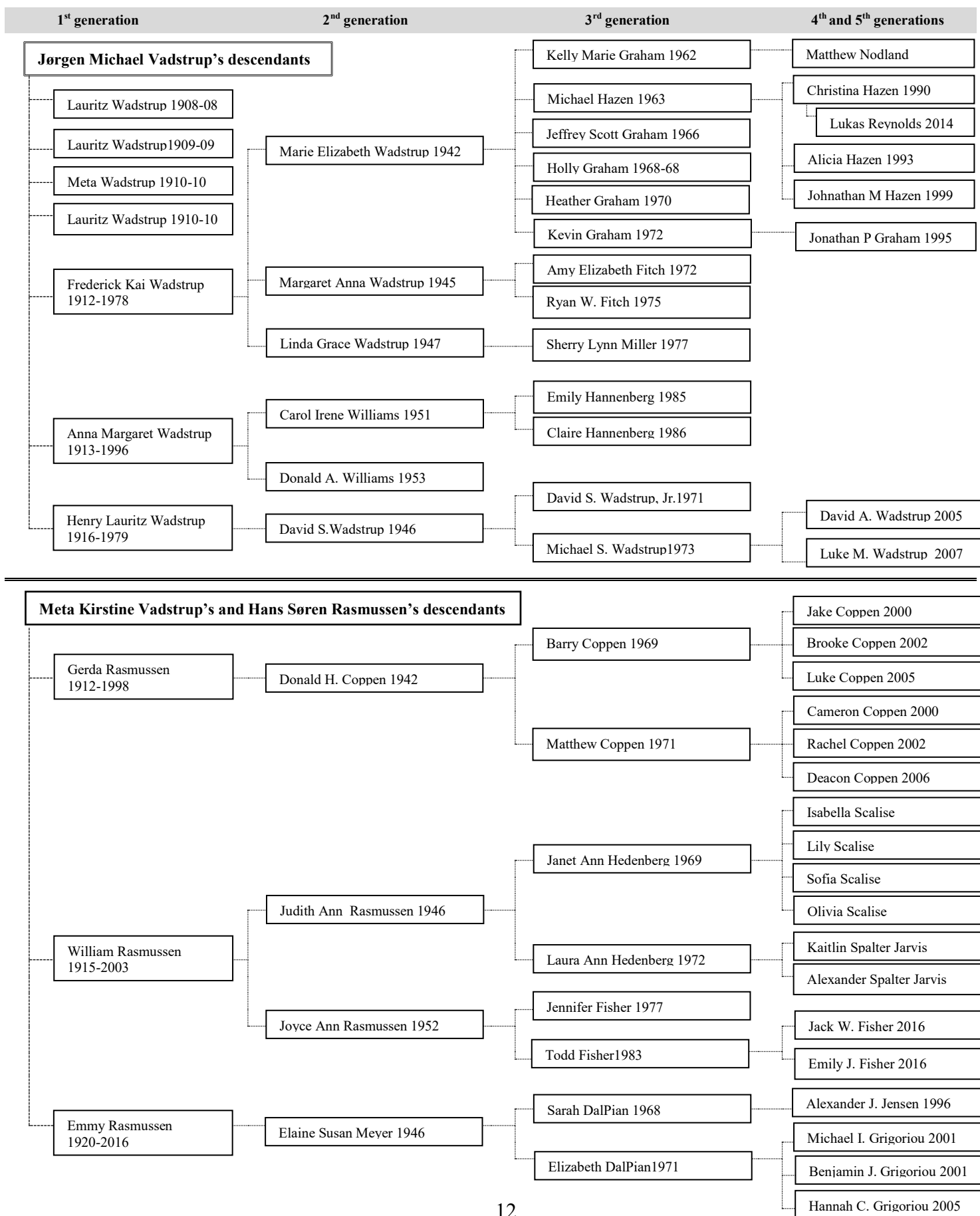
The male/female ratio, which is close to fifty-fifty for all four groups taken together, varies a good deal among family groups. The Anna Margrethe family group has the most marked deviation from the average. Her eight children were all boys; seven of them survived childhood.

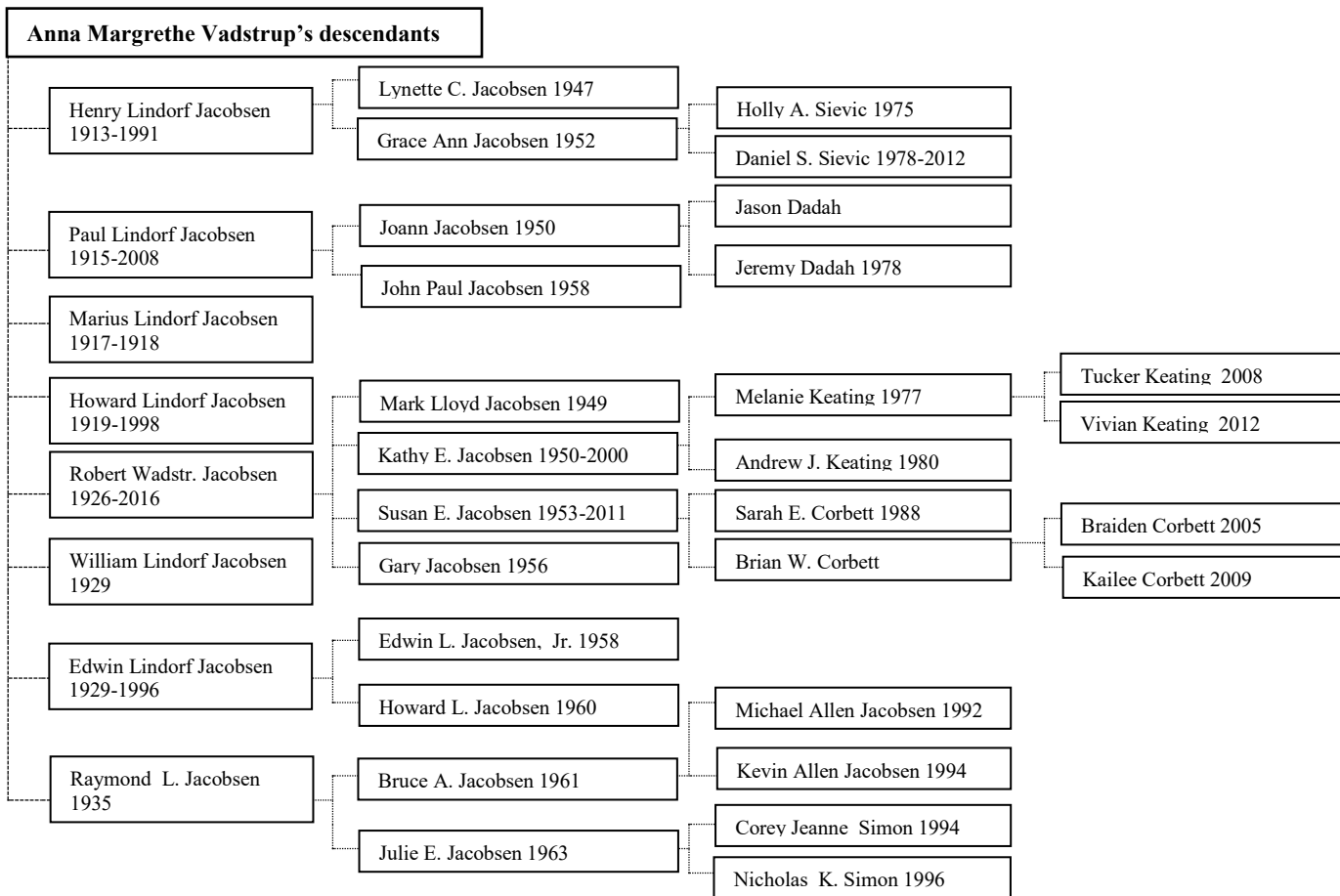
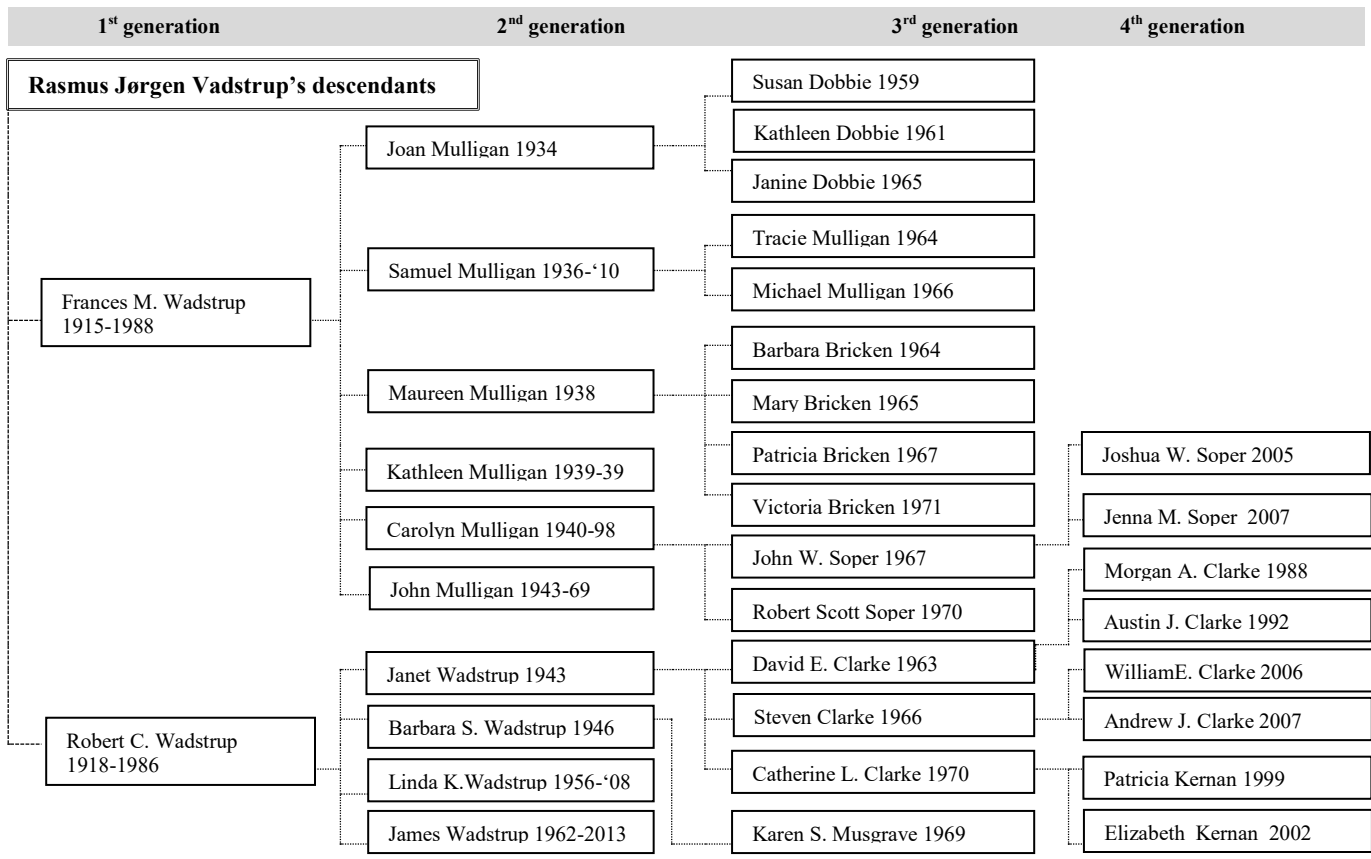
About three-fourth of all relatives counted in table 2 are alive at the beginning of 2017.

The family trees shown in table 3 on the following two pages give an overview of kinship relations among the direct descendants in each of the four immigrant groups. Names and living dates are shown, but additional data about the individual persons could not be squeezed into the limited space.

More details about the individual are stated in section 2.2., which includes spouses/partners of the blood relatives in table 3.

Table 3. Overview – Blood related descendants of the immigrants





2.2. Individual family members, incl. spouses and partners – basic data and brief biographies

At the beginning of 2017, information was available for 228 family members, incl. spouses/partners, of the four family groups; see table 4. With inclusion of spouses the male/female ratio becomes more even among the family groups than for blood relatives alone; see table 2.

Table 4. Family members, incl. spouses/partners, by family group and generation, end of 2017

Generation	Family group				
	Michael and Marie*	Meta and Søren	Rasmus and Susan*	Margrethe and Marius*	All*
Founder	2	2	2	2	8
1	10	6	4	16	36
2	12	10	20	24	66
3	20	19	26	14	79
4	8	18	8	4	38
5	1	0	0	0	1
Total*	53	55	60	60	228
of which:					
male	27	28	29	31	115
female	26	27	31	29	113

*Available information is incomplete for several branches of the family group, especially for the youngest generations.

Details about the individual family members are stated in the following sub-sections – one for each of the four immigrant families. An introductory graph displays the names of the family members and their relationships. Next follow numbered paragraphs with basic data and brief bios, one for each blood related relative. The paragraphs also state spouses/partners where relevant and list the children. Children still living at home and children who died at or shortly after birth are shown with underlining and birth and death dates.

The individual paragraphs are arranged as follows:

1. For each of the four *immigrant groups* the descendants are subdivided in *families*, one family for each of the immigrant's children (generation 1), the oldest first, followed by the next oldest, etc.
2. Within each of these families a first-born system is maintained, starting with the oldest child (generation 2), followed by his/her descendants until reaching the family member in the latest generation, then on to next oldest child, and so on.

The *paragraph numbering* identifies the immigrant group and the family, to which the individual belongs. A serial number is added to reflect the sequence of paragraphs as described above. For example, paragraph number **MM.A2** has been assigned to Carol Irene Hannenberg (b.Williams), daughter of Anna Margaret Williams (b.Wadstrup) who was the child of Michael and Marie Wadstrup. In the US, the Wadstrup immigrants changed their last name to start with a "W".

The initials before the punctuation marks in the paragraph numbers refer to the immigrant groups:

MM – Michael Wadstrup and his wife Marie, b.Larsen

MS – Meta Wadstrup and her husband Søren Rasmussen

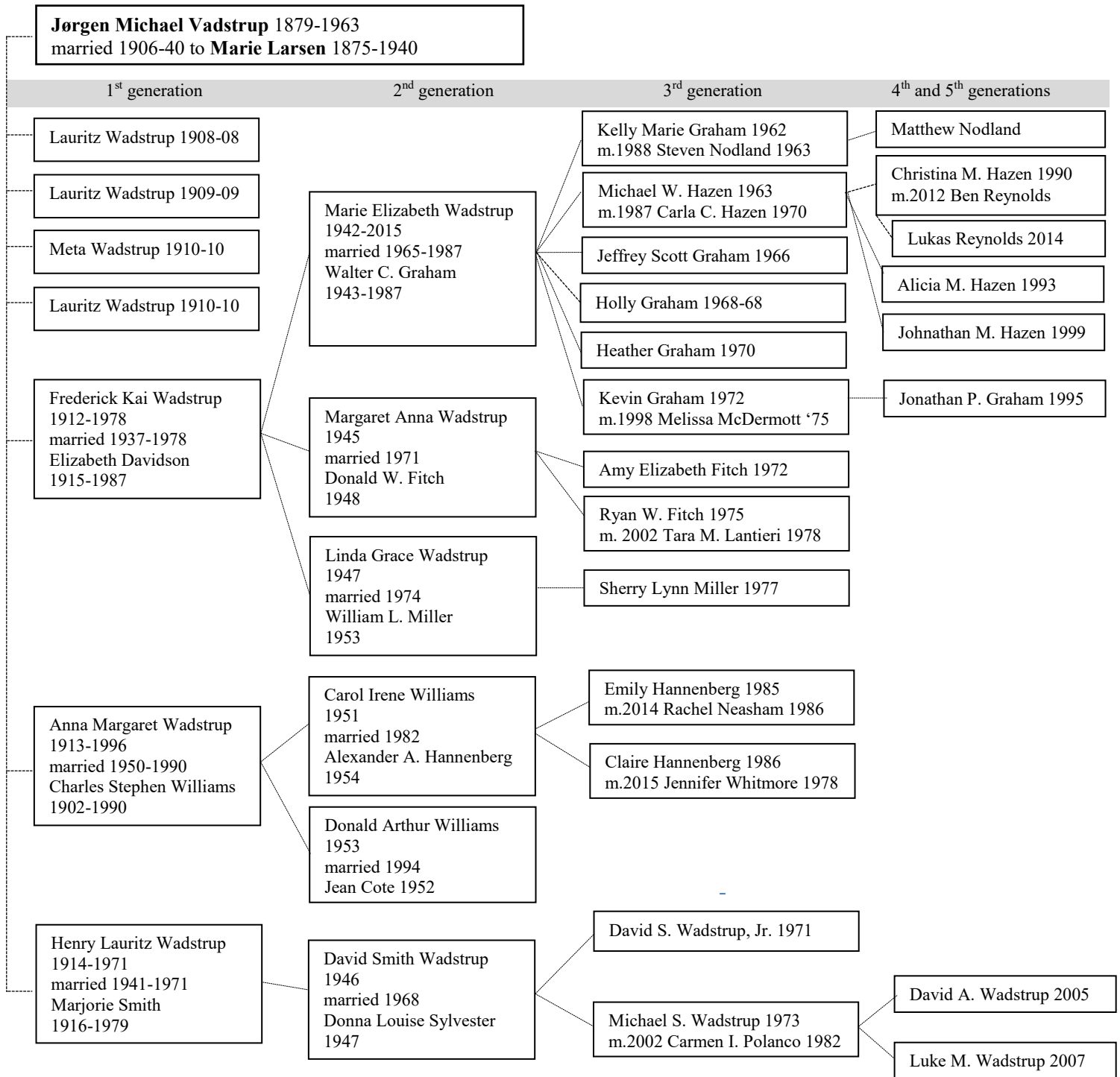
RS – Rasmus (Robert) Wadstrup and his wife Susan, b.Hunt

AM – Anna Margrethe (Margaret) Wadstrup and her husband Marius Jacobsen

The letter after the punctuation is the first name initial referring to the children (1st generation) of the immigrants. The numeral in the code is a serial number determined by the sequence of paragraphs.

There are other ways of organizing the texts about descendant populations. The method chosen here aims at keeping the members of individual families together. To support re-finding an index of all family members, ordered by initial of first name and with a reference to the pertinent page in the report is stated in *Appendix A*.

2.2.1. Jørgen Michael Vadstrup's family – overview table



2.2.2. Jørgen Michael Vadstrup's family – individual family members

Founder of the family:

Paragraph MM.1

Jørgen Michael Jørgensen Vadstrup; b.01.30.1879 in Århus, Denmark; d.11.14.1963 in Cromwell, buried in Zion Hill Cemetery, Hartford, CT.

Parents: Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and Maren Michelsdatter.

Married 1906(-1940) in Hartford, CT to **Marie Wadstrup;** b.**Larsen** 05.12.1875 in Køge Denmark; d.1940 in Hartford, CT.

Children: Lauritz Wadstrup, born and died 02.14.1908, Lauritz Wadstrup, born and died 01.02.1909, Meta Wadstrup, born and died 01.04.1910, Lauritz Wadstrup, born and died 01.04.1910, Frederick Kai Wadstrup, Anna Margaret Wadstrup and Henry Lauritz Wadstrup.

In 1902, the year after the death of his mother, Michael then 23 years old traveled to the US. He lived in Hartford, CT until 1905 when he returned to Denmark. The following year, he went back to the US, this time in company with his future brother-in-law, Hans Søren Rasmussen from Samsø. They arrived aboard the ship "United States" on March 7, 1906 and settled in Hartford. Michael was a tinsmith by trade. After their wedding, Michael and Marie settled on Laurel Street in Hartford, CT where they lived from 1908 to 1910 with their three children. Later, they resided on Four Mile Road in West Hartford.

Michael's oldest child, Frederick, and his family: (Paragraphs MW.F1 – MW.F13)

Paragraph MM.F1 – Generation 1

Frederick Kai Wadstrup; b. 06.14.1912 in Hartford, CT; d.11.29.1978 in East Hartford, CT.

Parents: Michael and Marie Wadstrup.

Married 1937(-1978) to **Elizabeth Wadstrup;** b.**Davidson** 09.22.1915 in Hartford, CT; d.12.01.1987.

Children: Marie Elizabeth Wadstrup, Margaret Anna Wadstrup and Linda Grace Wadstrup.

Frederick was employed in many positions over the years, including machinist, postal clerk, protection serviceman, production planner, assistant production manager, boiler operator, assembler and holler operator. Elizabeth was employed by Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford as an executive secretary. Frederick and Elizabeth lived for many years on Bannister Street in Hartford, CT.

Paragraph MM.F2 – Generation 2

Marie Elizabeth Graham; b.**Wadstrup** 10.23.1942 in Hartford, CT; d.06.07.2015 in Shelton, WA.

Parents: Frederick Kai and Elizabeth Wadstrup.

Married 10.29.1965(-1987) in Newington, CT to **Walter C. Graham;** b.03.08.1943 in Hartford, CT; d.06.28.1987 in Windham, CT.

Children:Kelly Marie, Michael William, Jeffrey Scott, Holly Graham (born and died in 1968), Heather, and Kevin.

Paragraph MM.F3 – Generation 3

Kelly Marie Nodland; b.**Graham**.10.09.1962.

Parents: Marie Elizabeth and Walter Graham.

Married 02.14.1988 in Manchester, CT to **Steven R. Nodland;** b.1963.

Child: Matthew Nodland

Paragraph MM.F4 – Generation 3

Michael William Hazen; b.Wadstrup 09.25.1963 in Hartford, CT.

Parent: Marie Elizabeth (Graham) Wadstrup.

Married 08.04.1987 in Redwing Park, Virginia Beach, VA to **Carla Christine Hazen;** b.02.20.1970 in Portsmouth, VA.

Children: Christina Michelle Hazen, Alicia Marie Hazen 01.26.1993 and Johnathan Michael Hazen 10.05.1999.

In 1967, Michael moved to his adoptive family in South Hero, VT where he grew up together with another boy, Bruce Fairbanks Hazen. In 1975, they moved to Ruskin, FL where Donald Hazen (Michael's adoptive father) died in 1976 and the family went back north to Orange, CT. In 1981, Michael joined the United States Navy as an Operational Specialist, retiring in 2003 with 22 years of Honorable Naval Service. During that period he met his wife, Carla Christine, in Virginia Beach, VA and they married in 1987. Since 2003, Michael has worked as a Program manager for an Information Technology government contractor. Evelyn Hazen (Michael's adoptive

mother) passed away in 1996. It was in the late 1990s that Michael contacted his biological mother, Marie Wadstrup Graham, and other family members.

Paragraph MM.F5 – Generation 4

Christina Michelle Reynolds; b.Hazen 02.14.1990.

Parents: Michael and Carla Christine Hazen.

Married 10.06.2012 to **Benjamin Reynolds**.

Child: Lukas Michael Reynolds 08.07.2014 (generation 5).

Paragraph MM.F6 – Generation 3

Jeffrey Scott Graham; b.06.20.1966.

Parents: Marie Elizabeth and Walter Graham.

Paragraph MM.F7 – Generation 3

Heather Carliell Graham; b.10.09.1970 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Marie Elizabeth and Walter Graham.

Paragraph MM.F8 – Generation 3

Kevin Thomas Graham; b.01.19.1972.

Parents: Marie Elizabeth and Walter Graham.

Married 1998 in South Windsor, CT to **Melissa McDermott; b.04.16.1975.**

Child: Jonathan Platt Graham 1995

Paragraph MM.F9 – Generation 2

Margaret Anna Fitch; b.Wadstrup 01.29.1945.

Parents: Frederick Kai and Elizabeth Wadstrup.

Married 11.06.1971 in Hartford, CT to **Donald W. Fitch; b.07.20.1948** in Hartford, CT.

Children: Amy Elizabeth Fitch and Ryan W. Fitch

Paragraph MM.F10 – Generation 3

Amy Elizabeth Fitch; b.09.12.1972.

Parents: Margaret Anna and Donald Fitch.

Paragraph MM.F11 – Generation 3

Ryan W. Fitch; b.04.22.1975 In Hartford, CT.

Parents: Margaret Anna and Donald Fitch.

Married 06.01.2002 in Hartford, CT to **Tara M. Lantieri; b.1978.**

Paragraph MM.F12 – Generation 2

Linda Grace Miller; b.Wadstrup 1947.

Parents: Frederick Kai and Elizabeth Wadstrup.

Married 09.06.1974 in East Hartford, CT to **William L. Miller, b.1953.**

Child: Sherry Lynn Miller

Paragraph MM.F13 – Generation 3

Sherry Lynn Miller b.1977.

Parents: Linda Grace and William L. Miller.

Michael's second oldest child, Anna Margaret, and her family: (Paragraphs MM.A1 – MM.A5)

Paragraph MM.A1 – Generation 1

Anna Margaret Williams; b.Wadstrup 07.10 1913 in Hartford CT; d.08.01 1996 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Michael and Marie Wadstrup.

Married 02.11 1950(-1990) in W. Hartford, CT to **Charles Stephen Williams; b.05. 25.1902** in Manchester, CT; d.07.04.1990 in Hartford, buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Children: Carol Irene Williams and Donald Arthur Williams.

After high school graduation, Anna Margaret worked from 1932 to 1950 as a librarian at the Hall High School in West Hartford, CT. She and Charles moved to Wethersfield, CT where their children grew up. Charles worked for a Hartford bank for 49 years. Their son Donald now owns the house in Wethersfield. Charles' first wife, Abigail Wilson, died in 1947.

Paragraph MM.A2 – Generation 2

Carol Irene Hannenberg; b. Williams 03.13.1951 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Anna Margaret and Charles Stephen Williams.

Married 05.08.1982 in Cambridge, MA to **Alexander Austin Hannenberg;** b.07.08.1954 in Brooklyn, New York.

Children: Emily Hannenberg and Claire Hannenberg.

Both Carol and Alexander are physicians. Since 1986, they have lived in Wellesley, MA where their two daughters grew up.

Paragraph MM.A3 – Generation 3

Emily Catherine Hannenberg; b.04.12.1985 in Boston, MA.

Parents: Carol and Alexander Hannenberg.

Married 08.31. 2014 in St. Helena, CA to **Rachel Neasham;** b.07.03.1986 in Sacramento, CA.

Emily graduated from the US Military Academy in West Point, NY and is an officer in the US Army. She has been stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Hawaii, Missouri, Virginia and North Carolina. At present, she is teaching in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program at MIT in Cambridge, MA. Her wife is also a West Point graduate.

Paragraph MM.A4 – Generation 3

Claire Marjorie Hannenberg; b.07.29.1986 in Boston, MA.

Parents: Carol and Alexander Hannenberg.

Married 05.09.2015 to **Jennifer Megan Whitmore;** b.07.27.1978 in Pittsburg, PA.

Claire Marjorie is named after her aunt Marjorie Wadstrup, b. Smith. She played basketball at Villanova University. Since graduating from Villanova, both Claire and Jennifer work for The Vanguard Group, Inc., currently the largest mutual fund company in the United States. Claire is pursuing her MBA at Temple University's Fox School of Business. Jennifer is a Black Belt in Kenpo Karate and enjoys baking. They live in Exton, PA.

Paragraph MM.A5 – Generation 2

Donald Arthur Williams, Jr.; b.03.10.1953 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Anna Margaret and Charles Stephen Williams.

Married in 1994 to **Jean Williams;** b.Cote 04.26.1952.

Jean grew up in Wethersfield and works in IT at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA. She is an accomplished quilter.

Michael's third oldest child, Henry, and his family: (Paragraphs MM.H1 – MM.H4)

Paragraph MM.H1 – Generation 1

Henry Lauritz Wadstrup; b.12.16.1914 in Hartford, CT; d.07.12.1971 in West Hartford, buried in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford, CT.

Parents: Michael and Marie Wadstrup.

Married 1941(-1971) in Hartford to **Marjorie Smith;** b.10.03.1916 in Hartford; d.04.12.1979.

Child: David Smith Wadstrup.

Henry grew up in West Hartford, and attended Seymour Ave. Elementary School, Alfred E. Plant Jr. High School and William H. Hall High School. Due to the effects of the Great Depression he had to leave school at age 16 and started working for Underwood Typewriter Co. in Hartford, CT where his father and brother also worked. His weekly earnings of \$11 helped to pay for the household expenses. Later, he got a job with Pratt and Whitney Aircraft at the Packard Building in Hartford, moving on to their East Hartford facility and then to their Southington plant. He served as a Leadman and a Tool Technician until the time of his death. Marjorie grew up in Wethersfield, graduated in 1935 from Wethersfield High School, and went to work for The Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford. Later, she and her family moved to West Hartford where she met Henry. They married in 1941 and settled on Oakwood Avenue in West Hartford. When David was born in 1946, Marjorie became a stay at home mom. As David grew older, Marjorie worked part time at The US Cleaners and the Van DeWater Schmidt Company in West Hartford. Later, she went to work for Tracy, Robinson and Williams and for Hunter Press. The family relocated to South Quaker Lane in West Hartford to be near and care for Marjorie's parents. Henry enjoyed wood and metal working in his spare time and was an avid New York Yankee baseball fan. He lived just long enough to see his grandson David Jr. born in 1971. Marjorie's main hobbies were vacationing and knitting. She

enjoyed her family, including becoming a grandmother. In 1963 the family had moved to the Elmwood section of West Hartford where Marjorie remained until her death in 1979.

Paragraph MM.H2 – Generation 2

David Smith Wadstrup; b.02.23.1946 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Henry and Marjorie Wadstrup.

Married 1968 in Rocky Hill, CT to **Donna Louise Sylvester;** b.05.06.1947 in Hartford, CT.

Children: David Smith Wadstrup, Jr. and Michael Sylvester Wadstrup.

David resided on Oakwood Ave., South Quaker Lane and Elmfield St. in West Hartford until the time of his marriage in 1968. He attended Florence E. Smith School and Alfred E. Plant Jr. High School. He graduated in 1964 from William H. Hall High School having worked part time at Quaker Shell across the street from his home. After school, he worked for a year at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in Southington CT to purchase a car before he enrolled in night school. During that period the Vietnam War had escalated and due to the wartime atmosphere a new Nike Missile Base in Cromwell, CT was enlisting part time National Guard members. After successful testing, David's application was accepted. He completed a six month Basic Training Course at Ft. Dix, New Jersey, attended weekly evening instruction at the Nike Base and two weeks training each year. After 33 years in the part time CT Army National Guard, David retired in 2006. He was employed by the Substation Electrical Engineering and Design Department at Northeast Utilities where he met Donna. They married in September 1968. Donna Louise resided in Wethersfield, CT until age five, when her family including two younger sisters, Ellen Jean and Lori Ann, moved to Rocky Hill. Donna attended elementary grades at Center School, Dr. Oran Moser School and graduated from Rocky Hill Jr./Sr. High School. She then attended Bay Path Junior College, where she was a Dean's List student. Donna worked for G. Fox & Co., Northeast Utilities, Rocky Hill Board of Education, and Project Opening Doors. Since 1969, David and Donna have resided in Rocky Hill where their two boys grew up. David has been in several organizations over the years and was Worshipful Master of Hospitality Lodge No. 128 A.F. & A.M. in Wethersfield, CT during 1984 and a member of the Scottish Rite and Sphinx Temple in Newington, CT. He enjoys travelling, fishing, photography, genealogy and being a fan of the New York Yankees. He is now involved with The Old Guard at the West Hartford YMCA and volunteers at Foodshare in West Hartford. Donna has volunteered at Hartford Hospital, Griswold Middle School and Rocky Hill High School as a mentor, and continues to volunteer at the Universalist Church of West Hartford for Have A Heart, and the Wadsworth Atheneum.

Paragraph MM.H3 – Generation 3

David Smith Wadstrup Jr.; b.03.01.1971 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: David and Donna Louise Sylvester.

David grew up in Rocky Hill, CT and attended West Hill Elementary School, Griswold Middle School and Rocky Hill High School. After graduation, he took courses at The Boston Architectural Center and Boston University and, after moving to CA, at the City College of San Francisco until he was accepted to the University of California at Berkeley from where he graduated Summa Cum Laude majoring in Women's Studies and Ethnic Studies in 1997. He later held job positions in Seattle, WA and Portland, OR and finally settled in Brooklyn, NY where he worked as a manager for an independent book seller in the SoHo section of Manhattan. David's hobbies are reading, biking, skiing, travelling and furniture making. David is currently engaged to be married.

Paragraph MM.H4 – Generation 3

Michael Sylvester Wadstrup; b.01.10.1973 in Hartford, CT.

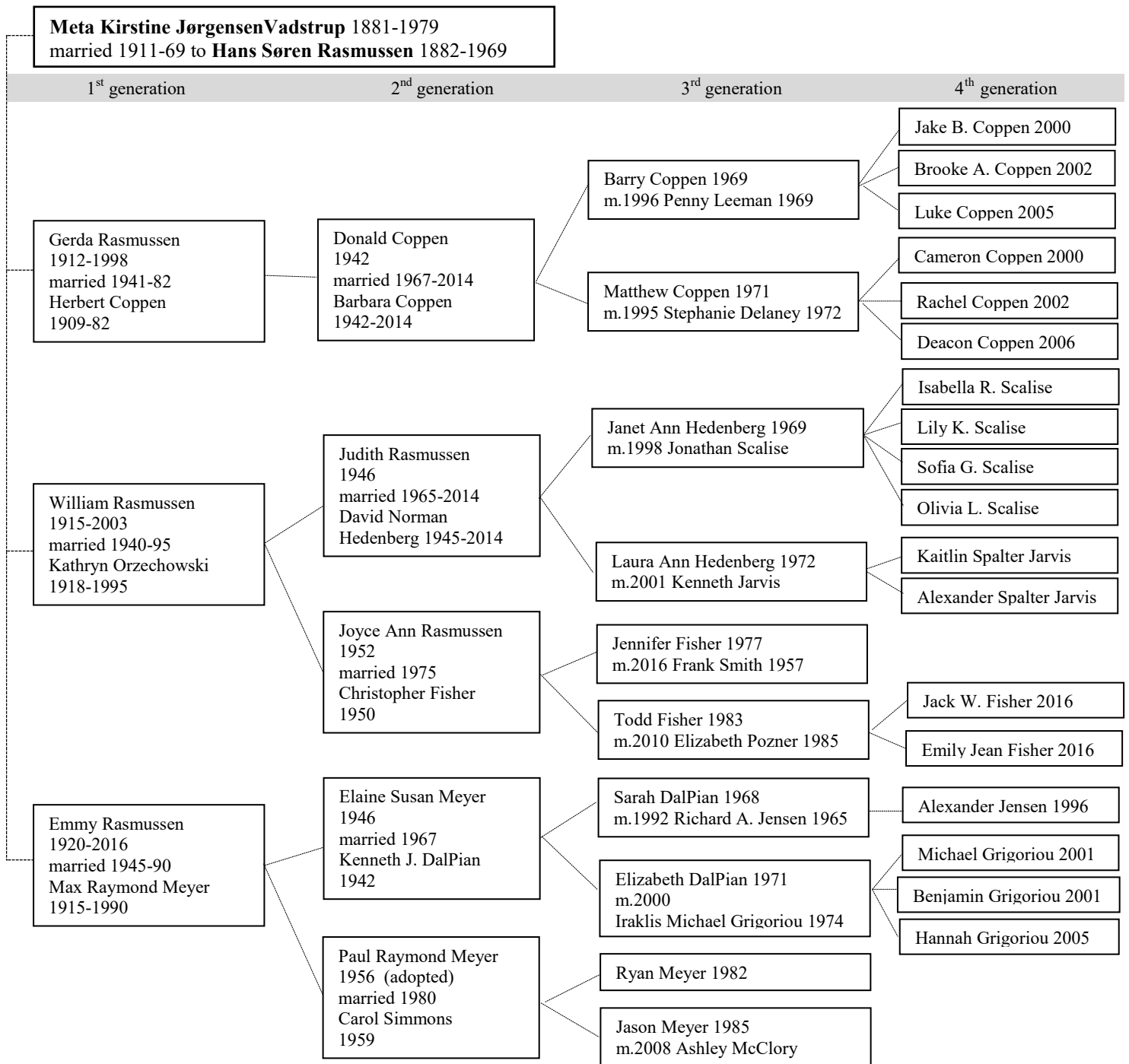
Parents: David and Donna Louise Sylvester.

Married 2002 in Meriden, CT to **Carmen Iraida Polanco,** b.10.31.1982 in Aguada, Puerto Rico, USA.

Children: David Alonzo Wadstrup b. 04.20.2005 and Luke Maximus Wadstrup b.01.29.2007, both born in Meriden, CT.

Michael grew up in Rocky Hill, CT and attended West Hill Elementary School, Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill High School and later the University of Connecticut in West Hartford and Storrs. During these years he was employed part time at West Side Market, West Hill Pizza, and Bob's Stores. He is currently the Manager of Supply Chain Payroll & Expense for Vestis Retail Group. At the age of 10 Carmen (known to everyone as Cary) relocated from Aguada, Puerto Rico to Meriden in CT where she attended Lincoln Middle School and Maloney High School. In his spare time, Michael coaches Boys' Basketball and Boy's Baseball. He roots for the New York Yankees, the Chicago Bears and Georgetown basketball. Cary enjoys cooking, home decorating, entertaining and fashion. She and Michael are very active in their church. The family lives in Berlin, CT.

2.2.3. Meta Kirstine Vadstrup's and Hans Søren Rasmussen's family – overview table



2.2.4. Meta Vadstrup's and Hans Søren Rasmussen's family – individual family members

Founders of the family:

Paragraph MS.1

Meta Kirstine Jørgensen Rasmussen, b.Vadstrup 09.23.1881 in Århus, Denmark; d.08.04.1979 in New Britain, CT, and **Hans Søren Rasmussen**, b.12.17.1882 in Brundby, Samsø; d. 12.24.1969 in New Britain, CT.

Meta's parents: Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and Maren Michelsdatter.

Søren's parents: Rasmus Jeppesen Klejs and Jakobsine Jacobsdatter.

Meta and Søren married 12.08.1911(-1969) in Tranebjerg, Samsø.

Meta's and Søren's children: Gerda Rasmussen, William Rasmussen and Emmy Rasmussen.

Meta was an accomplished seamstress and baker. In early adulthood, she was a companion to a wealthy Danish woman and they traveled together to Siberia. Søren was a farm worker until he traveled to Connecticut in 1906 together with Meta's brother and his future brother-in-law, Jørgen Michael Jørgensen Vadstrup. Meta followed in 1908 together with her brother, Rasmus Jørgensen Vadstrup. In 1911 after their first stay in Connecticut, Meta and Søren returned to Denmark where they married and became farmers. Søren served in the Danish armed security forces in 1916 during World War I. Their three children were born in Denmark. In 1922, the family left Denmark and settled in West Hartford, CT where they were close to other members of the family. Søren became a carpenter by trade. In his spare time, he enjoyed gardening and reading and he was a member of the Danish Brotherhood Association. Meta was a member of the Danish Sisterhood Association and active in Our Savior's Lutheran Church Ladies Aid Association. They became naturalized U.S. citizens – Søren in 1928 and Meta in 1940. Søren died at age 87 and Meta lived independently in her home until age 95.

Meta's and Søren's oldest child, Gerda, and her family: (Paragraphs MS.G1 – MS.G4)

Paragraph MS.G1 – Generation 1

Gerda Coppen; b.Rasmussen 12.28.1912 in Tranebjerg, Samsø; d.11.16.1998 in West Hartford, CT.

Parents: Meta and Hans Søren Rasmussen.

Married 09.13.1941(-1982) to **Herbert William Coppen**; b.01.20.1909 in Chigwell, England; d.12.01.1982 in Hartford.

Child: Donald Herbert Coppen.

Gerda worked at Underwood Typewriter Corp. where she met Herbert. She was a stay home mom until their son, Donald, reached his teens. For a number of years, she then worked in the cafeteria of a local school. Herbert was the Payroll Supervisor at Underwood Typewriter until it closed. He then worked some years at Hartford National Bank before retiring.

Paragraph MS.G2 – Generation 2

Donald Coppen; b.10.01.1942 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Gerda and Herbert Coppen.

Married 07.01.1967(-2014) in Waterbury, CT to **Barbara Duffy**; b.10.10.1942 in Waterbury, CT; d.07.24.2014.

Children: Barry Coppen and Matthew Coppen.

Don got his teacher's degree from Southern Connecticut State College (SCSC). He taught Physical Education and coached soccer and basketball for one year at the Garden School in Jackson Heights after he and Barbara married and moved to NY. They lived two years in San Diego, CA when Don was in the Navy. After returning to CT, Don was a sales representative for an automotive parts wholesaler until he retired in 2001. Barbara also graduated from SCSC, taught Special Education in Bristol, CT before marrying Don. For two years she was at the Board of Cooperative Educational Services School on Long Island before moving to San Diego. Back in CT Barbara stayed at home until their two sons were in their teens. Then she went to work for Hartford Financial Service (The Hartford Insurance Co.) from where she retired as an Assistant Vice President. One of Don's great interests has always been sports, especially golf. Barbara's hobbies were all kinds of arts and crafts including reverse painting on glass, knitting and rug hooking and, not least, the six grandchildren. They both loved traveling and have been all over the U.S. They have visited Canada, Australia, China, Norway and Denmark. In 2013, they attended a Vadstrup/Rasmussen family reunion at Samsø together with more than 150 Danish family members.

Paragraph MS.G3 – Generation 3

Barry Coppen; b.07.01.1969 in San Diego, CA.

Parents: Donald and Barbara Coppen.

Married 08.31.1996 to **Penny Leeman**; b.02.26.1969 in Middletown, CT.

Children: Jake Barry Coppen b.11.12.2000, Brooke Alexa Coppen b.08.20.2002 and Luke Coppen b.09.07.2005; all born in Hartford, CT.

Barry is the Director of Physical Plant at Klingberg Family Centers in New Britain, CT. He coaches Little League baseball, basketball and has held a position on the Avon Little League Board of Directors. Penny works for Cigna Insurance as a Learning Manager in Bloomfield, CT. Fishing, golf and spending time on the beach are some of the hobbies in the family. They live in Avon, CT.

Paragraph MS.G4 – Generation 3

Matthew Coppen; b.07.14.1971 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Donald and Barbara Coppen.

Married 10.20.1995 to **Stephanie Delaney**; b.12.13.1972 in Waterbury, CT.

Children: Cameron Coppen b.11.16.2000, Rachel Coppen b.05.2.2002 and Deacon Coppen b.12.02.2006; all born in Hartford, CT.

Matthew got his B.A. degree from Keene State College, NH and is Director of Underwriting in The Hartford Insurance Company. Among his hobbies are tennis, golf, fishing, basketball and music. Stephanie works as Family Programs Coordinator in the National Stuttering Association. She is a former Board of Directors Member of the association. Dogs and the welfare of dogs is one of her keen interests and she volunteers for the Labrador Friends of the South, a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue and adoption of homeless Labrador Retrievers in the Southeast region. Other interests are music, baseball and music. Until 2009, the family lived in Farmington, CT. Then after two years in Louisville, KY they moved to their present home in Atlanta, GA.

Meta's and Søren's second oldest child, William and his family: (Paragraphs MS.W1 – MS.W7)

Paragraph MS.W1– Generation 1

William Rasmussen; b.03.12.1915 in Tornved, Denmark; d.11.03.2003 in New Britain, CT.

Parents: Meta and Hans Søren Rasmussen.

Married 12.28.1940(-1995) to **Kathryn Ann Orzechowski**; b.08.19.1918 in New Britain, CT; d.02.06.1995 in New Britain.

Children: Judith Ann Rasmussen and Joyce Ann Rasmussen.

William emigrated from Denmark to Connecticut at age 7 together with his parents and two sisters. He attended Hall High School in West Hartford, CT. William was very proud of his US citizenship and enlisted in the US Army for service. In December 1940 he married his best friend. Together he and Kathryn enjoyed following the big bands of their time, playing cards and lots of time spent at the beach. He worked as a tool and die maker at Caval Tool Co. until his retirement. William enjoyed playing golf, reading and – not least – spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was a loyal New York Yankees fan. Kathryn was born in New Britain to Polish parents, the youngest of five children. She met William at a local social and soon was his best friend. She was a stay at home mom and enjoyed being part of her children's activities as she volunteered in many areas. She started her day reading the entire newspaper and she also was a loyal New York Yankees fan and enjoyed playing bingo. Kathryn had lots of zest for life and her grandchildren brought lots of joy.

Paragraph MS.W2 – Generation 2

Judith Ann Hedenberg; b.Rasmussen 01.09.1946 in in New Britain, CT.

Parents: William and Kathryn Ann Rasmussen.

Married 10.30.1965(-2014) in New Britain, CT to **David Norman Hedenberg**; b.06.10.1945 in New Britain, CT; d.02.05.2014 in Wallingford, CT.

Children: Janet Ann Hedenberg and Laura Ann Hedenberg.

Judith grew up in New Britain, CT and graduated from Pulaski High School, Class of 1964. Judith and David were high school sweethearts and were married in 1965. Judith was a stay at home mom until her daughters

were in school and then worked in banking for several years prior to being employed at the University of Connecticut, School of Dental Medicine. She retired as an Administrative Program Coordinator after 24 years of service. Throughout the years she volunteered in many areas of school organizations and the New Britain Junior Women's Club including leadership positions. Currently Judith enjoys spending time with her six grandchildren as well as attending all of their many activities; volunteering through the Southington Connecticut Elks Lodge and the American Red Cross; creating greeting cards, invitations, etc. with rubber stamping; traveling and spending time at the beach. David was born in New Britain, CT and was of Swedish, English and German ancestry. He graduated from New Britain High School and attended Porter School of Engineering Design. During most of his career he was employed in the electrical contracting business retiring from McPhee Electric after 25 years of service. Over the years he enjoyed fishing, reading, traveling and cooking, always providing delicious meals for every family get together. Being with his grandchildren brought him great joy.

Paragraph MS.W3 – Generation 3

Janet Ann Scalise; b Hedenberg 04.06.1969 in New Britain, CT.

Parents: Judith and David Hedenberg.

Married 08.15.1998 in New Britain to **Jonathan Scalise**.

Children: Isabella Rose Scalise, Lily Kathryn Scalise, Sofia Grace Scalise and Olivia Lauren Scalise.

Paragraph MS.W4 – Generation 3

Laura Ann Jarvis; b Hedenberg 10.04.1972 in New Britain, CT.

Parents: Judith and David Hedenberg.

Married 09.15.2001 in New Britain to **Kenneth Spalter Jarvis**.

Children: Kaitlin Spalter Jarvis, Alexander Chester Spalter Jarvis.

Paragraph MS.W5 – Generation 2

Joyce Ann Fisher; b.Rasmussen 11.11.1952 in New Britain, CT.

Parents: William and Kathryn Rasmussen.

Married 04.12.1975 in New Britain, CT to **Christopher Fisher**; b.10.17.1950 in New Britain, CT.

Children: Jennifer Fisher and Todd Fisher.

Joyce grew up in New Britain, CT. She attended local elementary schools, and she graduated from ST. Thomas Aquinas High School in 1970. She went on to attend Central Connecticut State University where she majored in elementary education. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in 1974. Joyce was a homebound teacher for 18 years. During this time, she worked with IBM employees from South America, teaching them English and Civics as well as participating as a teacher in various preschool programs in the area. A devoted Mother, she successfully balanced her career and her family duties well, raising her two children who went on to college and successful careers of their own. Christopher grew up in Simsbury, CT. He attended local elementary schools and graduated from Simsbury High School in 1968. He then attended Suffield Academy in Suffield, CT. as a post graduate. He graduated from the Academy in 1969. Christopher then went on to attend the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business in Philadelphia, PA. He earned varsity letters in football and lacrosse while at Penn. He is now employed by H.O. Penn Machinery, the Caterpillar Construction Equipment dealer in New York City. Chris has worked for Penn for 34 years, and he will retire at the end of 2017. Joyce and Chris have been blessed with two Grandchildren by their son Todd and his wife Beth. The twins, Emily Jean and Jack William Fisher, keep Grandma and Papa very busy.

Paragraph MS.W6 – Generation 3

Jennifer Fisher; b.01.22.1977 in New Britain, CT.

Parents: Joyce and Christopher Fisher.

Married 04.23.2016 in Brookfield, CT to **Frank Smith**, b.03.18.1957.

Jennifer and Frank are Physical Education teachers at Dover Plains High School in Dover, NY.

Paragraph MS.W7 – Generation 3

Todd Fisher; b.06.06.1983 in New Britain. CT.

Parents: Joyce and Christopher Fisher.

Married 09.18.2010 in South Yarmouth Cape Cod, MA to **Elizabeth Pozner**; b.04.11.1985.

Children: Jack William Fisher and Emily Jean Fisher, twins b.01.23.2016.

Todd and Beth are both graduates of Manhattan College in Riverdale, NY. Todd is currently employed in the financial industry in Norwalk, CT., and Beth is employed at the WWE in Stamford, CT.

Meta's and Søren's third oldest child, Emmy, and her family: (Paragraphs MS.E1 – MS.E8)

Paragraph MS.E1 – Generation 1

Emmy Meyer; b.Rasmussen 03.26.1920 in Faurbo Mark, Denmark; d.06.27.2016 in New Britain, CT.

Parents: Meta and Hans Søren Rasmussen.

Married 09.08.1945(-1990) in W. Hartford to **Max Raymond Jacobsen Meyer**; b.10.24.1915 in Hartford, CT; d.02.27.1990 in Brooksville, FL.

Children: Elaine Susan Meyer and Paul Raymond Meyer (adopted).

Emmy emigrated from Denmark to the US at age 2½ together with her parents and two older siblings. She graduated from Hall High School, West Hartford CT, Class of 1938. In September 1945, she married her childhood sweetheart. The wedding was originally planned to take place in January, 1942 but was postponed because Max was called up for active duty with the US Army. Emmy was a stay at home mom to her two children. Among other things she was a brownie leader; room mother; president of woman's group at church; taught vacation bible school; taught Sunday school; enjoyed sewing and knitting. She inherited her love of reading at an early age from her father, she read the daily newspaper and followed the Red Sox. She enjoyed all types of music and loved animals especially dogs. She was fortunate that her father provided her with horseback riding lessons as a teenager. She died at aage 96 having lived a full life.

Max was born in Hartford, CT to Danish parents; the youngest of four boys. He met Emmy at the Danish Brotherhood Association of Hartford when she was 14 and he was 19. The rest is history. Max served in the US Army during WWII from December 1941-August 1945 in New Guinea. From 1945 until retirement he worked as a milkman for A.C. Petersen and Sons dairy in West Hartford. In his free time, he was an usher at church as well as a member of the men's club. Max was a sports fanatic - Red Sox; Celtics; Boston Bruins; Hartford Whalers; New York Giants. He somehow was able to watch a game on TV while listening to another one on the radio. He also enjoyed vegetable gardening. Emmy and Max retired to Florida where they loved the weather and socializing with residents in their community. After Max' death in 1990, Emmy moved back to CT where she passed away in 2106.

Paragraph MS.E2 – Generation 2

Elaine Susan DalPian; b.Meyer 10.24.1946 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Emmy and Max Meyer.

Married 05.06.1967 at St. Edward's Church in Stafford Springs, CT to **Kenneth Joseph DalPian**; b.10.05.1942 in Springfield, MA.

Children: Sarah DalPian and Elizabeth DalPian.

Elaine, who shared a birthday with her father, grew up in West Hartford, where she was fortunate to be able to live next door to her grandparents Meta and Søren Rasmussen. She graduated from Conard High School, West Hartford, Class of 1964 and from Hartford Secretarial School, 1965. Elaine met Kenny just before her 19th birthday in 1965 and they were married a year and a half later. They resided in West Hartford, CT until 2003 when they moved to Bloomfield, CT. She was thrilled to be able to travel to Denmark in 1971 with her grandmother Meta Wadstrup Rasmussen and hopes to return with her children and grandchildren. Elaine was a stay at home mom until her daughters were in school. Then she was employed at the University of Connecticut Health Center for 17 years. After retiring from there as Admissions Coordinator for the School of Dental Medicine, she was employed as a Medical Receptionist for an internal medicine practice in Farmington, CT for almost 20 years and retired in 2013. She has served as the first secretary of her condominium association and volunteered for many years at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center gift shop and currently volunteers as a reading mentor for at risk children in grades K-2. Elaine enjoys genealogy and has produced posters and books about the American and Danish branches of the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families and their roots at Samsø, Denmark. Other hobbies are scrapbooking, reading and attending events of her grandchildren (sports; dance; drama; singing; robotics and more). She loves being Mimi to Alexander, Michael, Benjamin and Hannah who have enriched her life beyond measure. Elaine is very proud of her Danish heritage and is thankful to have connected with Jørgen Mortensen in Arizona and Ann Lisbeth Rasmussen-Gumm in Germany who share a love

of genealogy. Kenny was born in Springfield, MA and grew up in Enfield and Stafford Springs, CT. He is of Italian and Slavic ancestry; but happy to be a Dane by choice. He graduated from Windham Regional Technical High School in 1960 majoring in carpentry and design. He attended the University of Hartford. During his entire career, he was employed in the engineering field most of which was environmental engineering. In his younger days, Kenny enjoyed downhill skiing. In mid-life, he took up cross country skiing with his daughters. He was an accomplished photographer having been a winner in many camera club competitions and he was an award winner in the National Wildlife Magazine annual photo contest with his work being published there and in Ranger Rick Magazine. He enjoys gardening and doing words searches and jigsaw puzzles. Favorite places to vacation for the DalPians are Hatteras Island on Outer Banks, NC; Cape Cod, MA and Lake Winnepesaukee, Wolfeboro, NH.

Paragraph MS.E3 – Generation 3

Sarah Jensen; b.DalPian 04.16.1968 at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Elaine and Kenneth DalPian.

Married 12.05.1992 at the First Church of Christ in West Hartford to **Richard Anthony Jensen; b.06.15.1965** in Hartford, CT.

Child: Alexander James Jensen.

Sarah (DalPian) Jensen was born on April 16, 1968, at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, CT. After living with her parents for about 6 months in Glastonbury, CT, the family of three moved to West Hartford. Sarah remained living in the same home in West Hartford (on Shadow Lane) until she was married in 1992. Sarah attended West Hartford Public Schools (Wolcott Elementary, Sedgwick Middle and Conard High School) until she graduated in 1986. When at Conard, she loved being a member of the swim team. Go Chieftains! Sarah attended Bryant College (now Bryant University) in Smithfield, RI and studied Computer Information Systems. She received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1990. Upon graduation, she took a job with the Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford CT as a computer programmer where she stayed until she earned her Master of Education degree from the University of Hartford in 1996. She currently works for an engineering firm in Rocky Hill CT as a project controls specialist. Richard (Rick) was raised full time by his mother from the time he was two years old when his parents divorced. He attended West Hartford schools – Smith Elementary; Plant Middle and Hall High School He completed a 2 year technical program. When he was 19, he and Sarah met at the First National Grocery Store, once located in West Hartford Center. They married in 1992 at the First Church of Christ in West Hartford, with a reception following at the Whitman House restaurant in Farmington. After the wedding, Sarah and Rick remained in West Hartford and purchased a single family house on Burr Street. In 1996, Sarah and Rick welcomed their only child, Alexander James Jensen. Alexander was born with red hair (just like his father) and blue eyes (like his mother). Just before Alexander started kindergarten, the Jensen family moved to their current home on Ranger Lane in West Hartford. For the past 25 years, Rick has owned his own business, Custom Technologies, Inc., which specializes in custom residential and commercial audio-visual systems. In her spare time Sarah enjoys reading, playing games, crafting, watching movies, cheering for her son as he plays baseball, traveling and spending time with her family. She has been part of a book club for the past 15 years and counts the members in it as some of her closest friends. Rick enjoys home renovation projects, movies, baseball, cooking and music. His paternal family is originally from the Danish town Herning which Rick visited in April 2016, when he was invited by Bang & Olufsen to tour their facilities in nearby Struer.

Paragraph MS.E4 – Generation 4

Alexander James Jensen; b.07.11.1996 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Sarah and Richard Jensen.

Alexander is the first grandchild of Elaine and Kenneth DalPian. His middle name, James, was given in honor of his great grandfather, James Nuss. Alexander, like both of his parents, grew up in West Hartford, CT, living on Burr Street until he was five years old, when the family moved across town to Ranger Lane. He attended West Hartford schools - Bugbee Elementary, King Philip Middle and he graduated in 2014 from Hall High School (the same high school his great grandmother, Emmy Rasmussen Meyer graduated from in 1938). The 2004 World Series turned Alexander into a huge Boston Red Sox fan. He has been to many Major League Baseball stadiums, including Giant's stadium in San Francisco, Camden Yards in Baltimore, and of course Fenway Park in Boston. Alexander played baseball from the age of 7 through the end of high school where he played for Hall High. Besides playing baseball, in his free time, Alexander also enjoys playing basketball, attending music

festivals, photography, watching movies and sports. Alexander is currently attending Endicott College just north of Boston in Beverly MA, where he is majoring in Graphic Design and anticipates graduating in 2018.

Paragraph MS.E5 – Generation 3

Elizabeth Grigoriou; b.DalPian 09.01.1971 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Elaine and Kenneth DalPian.

Married 06.03.2000 in W. Hartford to **Iraklis Michael Grigoriou**; b.07.19.1974 in NY.

Children: **Michael Iraklis Grigoriou** b.06.20.2001, **Benjamin Joseph Grigoriou** b.06.20.2001 and **Hannah Chrysanthe Grigoriou**, b.01.07.2005; all born in Hartford, CT.

Elizabeth grew up in West Hartford, CT and graduated from Conard High School in 1989. After taking several college courses, she worked as a bank teller. Later, she became the Assistant Vice President in the life insurance trust department of a high-profile investment company. After having the twins, she took many years off from work to be with the children. She currently works at their church as an administrative assistant. She also volunteers in the church religious education program. She loves to read, garden and spend time with her family. Elizabeth's husband Mike was born in New York State. When he was 3, he and his family moved to Greece where they lived for 3 years before settling in Connecticut. Mike graduated from Glastonbury High School in 1992 and later from University of Connecticut with a major in Accounting. He has worked for the same company since 1999 and is now the Director of Finance. He enjoys watching hockey and he coached the boys for several years. When not working or traveling for work, he enjoys being home with the family in CT, visiting his family in South Carolina, and playing golf in the warm weather alongside his sons, Michael and Benjamin. They are presently (2016) freshmen in high school, both involved in the high school Robotics team and mentors for the middle school Lego robotics team. Benjamin has been active in school plays and Michael in back stage activities for the productions doing lights and sound. Benjamin is in two select choirs – chamber choir and concert choir – and also sings with the Around the Town Singers. Michael is very interested in architecture, planning to make it his college major. Both boys are eager golf players. Hannah will start in middle school in September 2016. She has been dancing since she was two years old, currently taking ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop and two tap classes. She was invited to dance in Disney World, Florida in April 2106. When she is not dancing – which is rare – she loves to read and spend time with her friends. The Grigoriou family lives in Suffield, CT.

Paragraph MS.E6 – Generation 2

Paul Raymond Meyer; b.11.26.1956 in Hartford, CT

Parents: Adopted by Emmy and Max Meyer.

Married 06.20.1980 in Hartford to **Carol Lynn Simmons**; b.11.20.1959 in Hartford, CT.

Children: Ryan Meyer and Jason Meyer. All reside in Raymond New Hampshire.

Paragraph MS.E7 – Generation 3

Ryan Meyer; b.05.19.1982 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Paul Raymond and Carol Lynn Meyer.

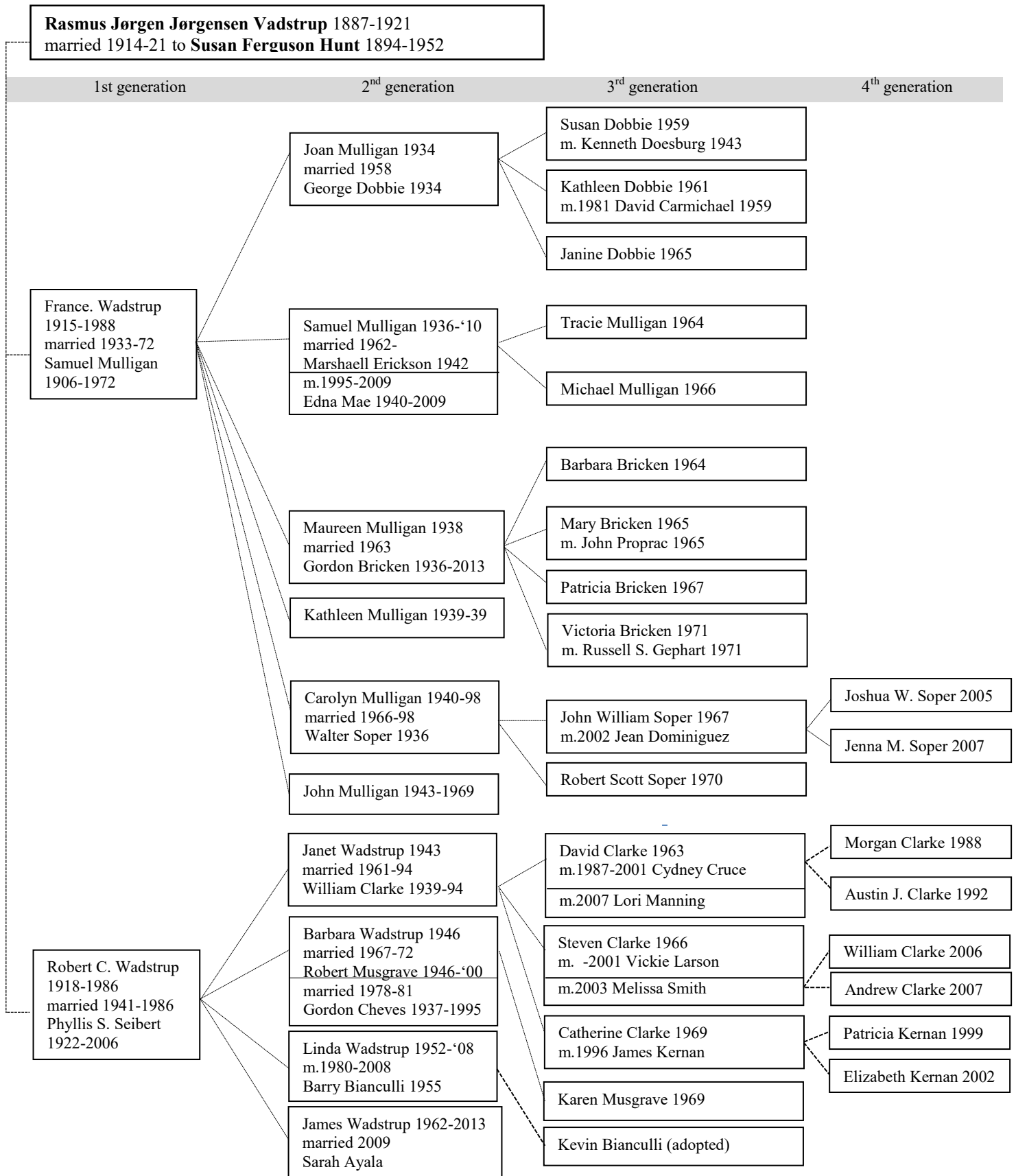
Paragraph MS.E8 – Generation 3

Jason Meyer; b.03.06.1984 in Hartford, CT.

Parents: Paul Raymond and Carol Lynn Meyer.

Married 11.16.2008 to **Ashley McClory**.

2.2.5. Rasmus Jørgen Vadstrup's family group – overview table



2.2.6. Rasmus Jørgen Jørgensen Vadstrup's family – individual family members

Founder of the family:

Paragraph RS.1

Rasmus Jørgen Jørgensen Vadstrup, (called **Robert**), b.07.09.1887 in Århus, Denmark; d.11.17.1921 in Newington, south of West Hartford, CT.

Parents: Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and Maren Michelsdatter.

Married in Hartford, CT 07.21.1914(-1921) to **Susan Ferguson Hunt**, b.02.21.1894 in New Haven, CT; d.09.22.1952 in Los Angeles, CA.

Children: Frances Wadstrup and Robert C. Wadstrup.

Rasmus left Denmark in 1908 together with his sister Meta and they were united with their brother Michael in CT. Rasmus died in 1921 from tuberculosis only 34 years old. Susan was 27 and the children 6 and 3 years old. Rasmus worked for a typewriter company and Susan was a bookkeeper in a hardware factory in CT. After Rasmus' early death, Susan, Frances and Robert settled in California. Susan's second husband was Frank Swett. They had 4 children, Madeleine, John, Eleanor and Florence.

Rasmus' and Susan's oldest child, Frances, and her family (paragraphs RS.F1– RS.F17)

Paragraph RS.F1 – Generation 1

Frances Mary Mulligan; b.Wadstrup 01.30.1915 in Hartford, CT; d.02.09.1988 in San Diego, CA.

Parents: Rasmus and Susan Wadstrup.

Married 11.05.1933(-1972) in Los Angeles, CA to **Samuel Mulligan**; b.06.26.1906 in El Paso, TX; d.03.17.1972 in Garden Grove, CA.

Children: Joan Mulligan, Samuel Mulligan, Maureen Mulligan, Kathleen Mulligan, b.1939, d. 1939, Carolyn Mulligan and John Mulligan.

Paragraph RS.F2 – Generation 2

Joan Dobbie; b.Mulligan 09.18.1934 in CA.

Parents: Frances and Samuel Mulligan.

Married 1958 to **George Dobbie**; b.06.17.1934.

Children: Susan Dobbie, Kathleen Dobbie and Janine Dobbie.

Paragraph RS.F3 – Generation 3

Susan Doesburg b.Dobbie; b.06.03.1959 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Joan and George Dobbie.

Married **Kenneth G. Doesburg**; b.10.02.1943.

Paragraph RS.F4 – Generation 3

Kathleen Carmichael; b.Dobbie 05.28.1961 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Joan and George Dobbie.

Married 08.01.1981 in Orange County, CA to **David A. Carmichael**; b.01.13.1959

Paragraph RS.F5 – Generation 3

Janine Dobbie; b.04.18.1965 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Joan and George Dobbie.

Paragraph RS.F6 – Generation 2

Samuel Robert Mulligan; b.04.04.1936 in El Paso, TX; d.11.06.2010 in Banning, CA.

Parents: Frances and Samuel Mulligan.

Married 12.15.1962 in Los Angeles, CA to **Marshaell Renae Erickson**; b.05.03.1942 in Los Angeles, CA.

Children: Tracie Mulligan and Michael Mulligan.

Married 02.06.1995(-2009) to **Edna Mae**; b.06.16.1940; d.05.02.2009 in Redlands, CA.

Paragraph RS.F7 – Generation 3

Tracie Renae Mulligan; b.03.29.1964 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Samuel and Marshaell Mulligan.

Paragraph RS.F8 – Generation 3

Michael Mulligan; b.05.19.1966 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Samuel and Marshaell Mulligan.

Paragraph RS.F9 – Generation 2

Maureen Bricken; b.**Mulligan** 1938.

Parents: Frances and Samuel Mulligan.

Married 05.11.1963 in Santa Ana, CA to **Gordon Bricken**; b.11.01.1936 in Louisville, KY; d.06.17.2013 in Santa Ana, CA.

Children: Barbara Bricken, Mary Bricken, Patricia Bricken and Victoria Bricken.

Maureen and Gordon married and settled in Santa Ana where they raised their four children. Gordon graduated from the Santa Monica High School, earned his B.S. from Loyola University in L.A. and a M.S. in electrical engineering from UCLA. He served on the Santa Ana Planning Commission from 1964 to 1974, was member of the City Council from 1974 to 1984, mayor from 1980 to 1982, hanging out with Ronald Reagan and others during his time as elected official by the Republican Party. He was very interested in the history of Santa Ana and deeply involved in its modern development. He and Maureen owned and operated an acoustical engineering firm for over 35 years. Gordon was twice the president of the Santa Ana North Rotary Club and an active member and president of the Orange chapter of the Studebaker Club. He will also be remembered for his extensive research and writing about the Civil War. He wrote and published “Pioneers in Blue and Gray”, which lists over 800 veterans buried in Orange County with biographies for about 300 of them.

Paragraph RS.F10 – Generation 3

Barbara Bricken; b.04.11.1964 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Maureen and Gordon Bricken.

Paragraph RS.F11 – Generation 3

Mary F. Bricken; b.06.26.1965 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Maureen and Gordon Bricken.

Married to **John Propac**; b.04.17.1965.

Paragraph RS.F12 – Generation 3

Patricia Bricken; b.09.04.1967 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Maureen and Gordon Bricken.

Paragraph RS.F13 – Generation 3

Victoria Lynne Gephart; b.**Bricken** 09.26.1971 in Orange County, CA.

Parents: Maureen and Gordon Bricken.

Married to **Russell Samuel Gephart**; b.02.14.1971 in Alameda, CA.

Paragraph RS.F14 – Generation 2

Carolyn Susan Soper; b.**Mulligan** 11.19.1940 in El Paso, TX; d.06.10.1998 in Fallbrook, CA.

Parents: Frances and Samuel Mulligan.

Married 07.24.1966(-1998) in Garden Grove, CA to **Walter Soper**; b.03.22.1936 in Hawthorne, CA.

Children: John William Soper and Robert Scott Soper.

Carolyn was a stay-at-home wife and Walter worked until retirement as telephone technician. Walter lives in Fallbrook, CA.

Paragraph RS.F15 – Generation 3

John William Soper; b.08.09.1967 in Garden Grove, CA.

Parents: Carolyn and Walter Soper.

Married 04.20.2002 in Santa Clara, CA to **Jean Marie Dominguez**.

Children: Joshua William Soper b.03.30.2005 and Jenna Marie Soper b.03.17.2007.

John William has a Master’s Degree in electrical engineering.

Paragraph RS.F16 – Generation 3

Robert Scott Soper; b.02.09.1970 in Orange, CA.

Parents: Carolyn and Walter Soper.

After graduating from Fallbrook Union High School in 1988, Scott attended the University of California at Irvine, graduating in 1993 (B.S. Biological Sciences, B.S. Physics). Since 1997, he has worked in sales operations for Toshiba's intensive Retail PC division, processing production orders for several overseas factories and two US

warehouses. Scott was an avid mountain biker for many years before turning to skiing, kayaking, and other low impact sports. Scott resides in Irvine, CA.

Paragraph RS.F17 – Generation 2

John Mulligan; b.06.09.1943 in Hermosa Beach, Los Angeles, CA; d.09.17.1969 in Indianapolis, IN.

Parents: Frances and Samuel Mulligan.

Since childhood, John Mulligan was fascinated by race cars. After graduating from Westminster High, he became a drag car driver and won numerous state and national races and awards. He died in hospital from severe burns and internal injuries caused by a roll-over at the track in Indianapolis on September 1, 1969. He resided with his parents in Garden Grove, CA.

Rasmus' and Susan's second oldest child, Robert, and his family (paragraphs RS.R1-RS.R11)

Paragraph RS.R1 – Generation 1

Robert Charles Wadstrup; b.06.02.1918 in CT; d.10.14.1986 in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Parents: Rasmus and Susan Wadstrup.

Married in Los Angeles 10.12.1941(-1986) to **Phyllis Susan Seibert**; b.03.13.1922 in Los Angeles; d.08.28.2006 in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Children: Janet Wadstrup, Barbara Wadstrup, Linda Wadstrup and James Wadstrup.

Robert served as a career officer in the US Army, fighting in WWII in North Africa and Italy, later stationed in various locations in the US, Germany, Japan, and Korea. Retired from the army, he worked for a year at the US Post Office in San Luis Obispo and then at the Employment Services Office for another 20 years, retiring as its manager. Phyllis was a housewife and raised four children, a lot of the time on her own while Robert was traveling. Their home was in San Luis Obispo.

Paragraph RS.R2 – Generation 2

Janet LaRue Clarke; b. Wadstrup 06.22.1943 in Los Angeles, CA.

Parents: Robert and Phyllis Wadstrup.

Married 08.20.1961(-1994) in San Luis Obispo, CA to **William Joseph Clarke**; b.10.19.1939; d.01.17.1994 in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Children: David Clarke, Steven Clarke and Catherine Clarke.

While her father, Robert Wadstrup, was away fighting in WWII, Janet lived in the LA area with her mother Phyllis and maternal grandmother Eunice until the war was over. Later, the family stayed in various places where Robert was stationed as an Army officer. Janet attended several schools in El Paso, Japan, San Francisco, Monterey, Riverside and San Luis Obispo. She graduated from San Luis Obispo High School in 1960 and attended Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo where she met her future husband, William Clarke. They married and moved to Oakland in 1961. She spent many years as a stay-at-home mom, bringing up their three children and working as a school volunteer. After 18 years in the Bay Area, the family moved to Paso Robles, CA where they became very involved in the community and in St. James Episcopal church. They opened Paso Robles Carbide there along with William's brother-in-law. Janet worked as the bookkeeper. William died in 1994 after a year's struggle with brain cancer. Janet retired from the company in 1998. In 2005 she moved back to San Luis Obispo where she does a lot of volunteer work with The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and with the Food Bank delivery and Meals on Wheels. She loves to travel and tries to take a few trips every year.

Paragraph RS.R3 – Generation 3

David E. Clarke; b.03.13.1963 in Palo Alto, CA

Parents: Janet and William Clarke.

Married 06.18.1987(-2001) in San Luis Obispo, CA to **Cydney Cruce**; b. in Fort Worth TX.

Children: Morgan Alan Clarke and Austin James Clarke.

Married in 2007 to **Lori Manning**.

David spent five years in USAF stationed in Fort Worth. Later he worked in the family business, Paso Robles Carbide, until the mid-1990s and currently works with his father-in-law at A-1 Mobility in Atascadero where the family resides.

Paragraph RS.R4 – Generation 4

Morgen Alan Clarke; b.06.18.1988 in Ft. Worth, TX.

Parents: David Clarke and Cydney Cruce.

Morgan grew up in Paso Robles and currently resides in Santa Margarita, CA where he is known as a computer whiz and a philosopher.

Paragraph RS.R5 – Generation 4

Austin James Clarke; b.05.22.1992 in Paso Robles, CA.

Parents: David Clarke and Cydney Cruce.

Austin lived in Paso Robles until he at the age of ten moved with his mother back to Fort Worth, TX. He is currently a Naval corpsman stationed in 29 Palms, CA.

Paragraph RS.R6 – Generation 3

Steven Clarke; b.01.17.1966 in Hayward, CA.

Parents: Janet and William Clarke.

Married (until 2001) to **Vickie Larson**.

Married 2003 to **Melissa Smith**.

Children: William Edward Clarke, b.2006 and Andrew Jacob Clarke, b.2007; both born in Des Moines, IA.

Steven lived in the Bay Area until the family in 1979 moved to Paso Robles, CA. He graduated from Paso Robles High School in 1994 and then attended California Lutheran University for five years receiving his degree in History as well as his teaching credential. He taught history at Coalinga, CA for six years. In 1996, he moved to Iowa City, IA and entered Law School at the University of Iowa. He became Public Defender and later went into private practice. He is currently an Administrative Judge with the Parole Board. His wife, Melissa is also an Administrative Judge. They are both very busy in their community of Norwalk, IA. Steve and Melissa and their two sons live in Des Moines, IA.

Paragraph RS.R7 – Generation 3

Catherine Lynn Clarke; b.12.11.1969 in Castro Valley, CA.

Parents: Janet and William Clarke.

Married 1996 to **James Kerman**.

Children: Patricia Kernan, b.1999 and Elizabeth Kernan, b.2002.

In 1979, Catherine moved with her family to Paso Robles, CA where she graduated from Paso Robles High School in 1987. After undergraduate degree at Occidental College, she attended St. Mary's in Los Angeles for her Physical Therapy degree. She continues her career as a Physical Therapist, working at a clinic in Burbank. The family resides in La Crescenta, CA where they are active in their church. Both girls are involved in Club Volleyball as well as playing on their high school team.

Paragraph RS.R8 – Generation 2

Barbara Sue Cheves; b. **Wadstrup** 08.30.1946 in El Paso, TX.

Parents: Robert and Phyllis Wadstrup.

Married 08.29.1967(-1972) in San Luis Obispo to **Robert C. Musgrave**; b.05.26.1946 in Kings Co., CA; d.08.25.2000 in Milford, KS.

Child: Karen Sue Musgrave.

After college, Robert worked in various fields before joining the army.

Married 1978(-1981) to **Gordon Cheves**; b.01.05.1937; d.07.15.1995 in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Gordon worked in the linen business and as a mechanic.

Barbara attended various elementary schools while moving regularly when her father was re-assigned. She attended both junior high and senior high school in San Luis Obispo, California, graduated in June 1964 and started working as a secretary throughout San Luis Obispo and then as an administrative assistant for the local university, Cal Poly from where she retired after 27 years. Barbara enjoys gardening, reading and working various types of puzzles. Together with her sister, Janet she delivers Meals on Wheels. She shares a condominium in San Luis Obispo with her daughter, Karen. They have two cats adopted from the rescue shelter.

Paragraph RS.R9 – Generation 3

Karen Musgrave; b.02.02.1969 in Columbia, SC at Fort Jackson where her father was stationed.

Parents: Barbara and Robert Musgrave.

Karen has worked in the food services before getting employed by Target in San Luis Obispo where she lives.

Paragraph RS.R10 – Generation 2

Linda Karen Bianculli; b. Wadstrup 04.27.1952 in San Fransisco, CA; d.02.11.2008 in Los Banos, Merced, CA.

Parents: Robert and Phyllis Wadstrup.

Married 06.21.1980(-2008) in San Luis Obispo to **Barry Craig Bianculli**; b.03.06.1955 in The Central Valley, CA. Around 1990, they adopted their son Kevin.

Linda attended school in San Luis Obispo and graduated June 1970. She worked as an executive secretary in the Bay Area where Barry also found a job utilizing his degree in Industrial Engineering. They later moved to the Central Valley where Barry grew up.

Paragraph RS.R11 – Generation 2

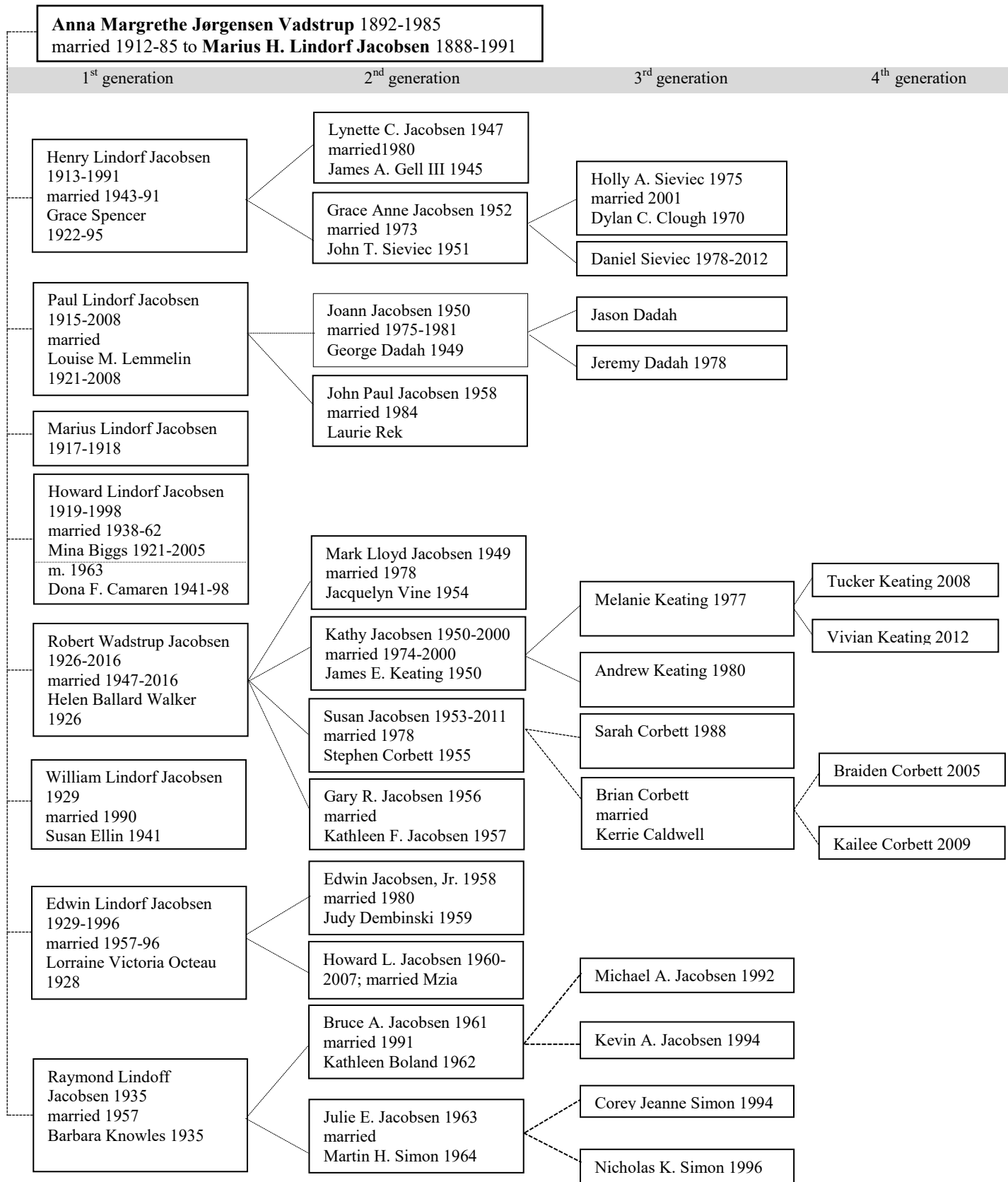
James Wadstrup; b.12.04.1962 at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in Santa Barbara County, CA; d.06.19.2013 in San Jose, CA.

Parents: Robert and Phyllis Wadstrup.

Married 05.02.2009(-2013) in San Jose, CA to **Sarah Ann Ayala**; b.in San Jose, CA.

James attended school in San Luis Obispo and graduated in 1980 from San Luis Obispo High School. He worked in the car repair and car part field and was a respected mechanic for many years in San Luis Obispo until he decided to follow a life-long dream of becoming a conductor and engineer for Am-Trak in the Bay Area. There he met Sarah in 2008. They married in 2009, but James died shortly after.

2.2.7. Anna Margrethe Vadstrup's family – overview table



2.2.8. Anna Margrethe Vadstrup's family – individual family members

Founder of the family:

Paragraph AM.1

Anna Margrethe Jørgensen Jacobsen; b.Vadstrup 03.02.1892 in Århus, Denmark; d.06.04.1985 in New Haven, CT, (known as Margaret).

Parents: Søren Jørgensen Vadstrup and Maren Michelsdatter.

Married 10.31.1912(-1985) in CT to **Marius** (aka Morris) **Hendrik Lindorf Jacobsen;** b.04.12.1888 in Denmark; d. 03.08.1991 in Wallingford, New Haven, CT.

Children: Henry Lindorf Jacobsen, Paul Lindorf Jacobsen, Marius Lindorf Jacobsen; b.11.19.1917; d.02.19.1918, buried in Ansonia, CT, Howard Lindorf Jacobsen, Robert Wadstrup Jacobsen, William Lindorf Jacobsen, Edwin Lindorf Jacobsen and Raymond Lindoff Jacobsen.

Anna Margrethe was the youngest of 7 siblings. She was only 2 years old when her father died and 9 when her mother died in 1901. After their parents' death, Meta was like a second mother to Anna Margrethe and they maintained a very close relationship during their whole life. At age 17, she emigrated to Connecticut to join 3 older siblings already there, Michael, Meta and Rasmus. In 1912, she married Marius who had earlier come from Denmark. They had a busy life raising their 7 sons. In 1972, she and Marius visited Denmark together with Meta. Marius worked for the local phone company as did his son Robert and daughter-in-law Helen. Later he became a town official. He devoted much time to the Congregational Church.

Anna Margrethe's and Marius' oldest child, Henry, and his family: (Paragraphs AM.He1-AM.He5)

Paragraph AM.He1 – Generation 1

Henry Lindorf Jacobsen; b.07.29.1913 in Derby, CT; d.08.03.1991 in Guilford, New Haven, CT.

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married 03.16.1943(-1991) to **Grace Spencer;** b.08.18.1922; d.01.21.1995 in Middletown, CT.

Children: Lynette C. Jacobsen and Grace Anne Jacobsen.

Henry worked as a sales agent and enlisted in the army 05.12.1942 in Hartford, CT.

Paragraph AM.He2 – Generation 2

Lynette C. Gell; b.Jacobsen 10.30.1947 in CT.

Parents: Henry and Grace Jacobsen.

Married 06.14.1980 in New Haven, CT to **James A. Gell, III;** b.1945.

Paragraph AM.He3 – Generation 2

Grace Anne Sieviec; b.Jacobsen 04.16.1952.

Parents: Henry and Grace Jacobsen.

Married 09.08.1973 in Guilford, New Haven, CT to **John Theodore Sieviec;** b.01.18.1951.

Children: Holly Sieviec and Daniel Sieviec.

Paragraph AM.He4 – Generation 3

Holly A. Clough; b.Sieviec 01.15.1975 in Branford, CT.

Parents: Grace and John Sieviec.

Married 08.04.2001 in Grafton, VT to **Dylan Courtney Clough;** b.01.07.1970 in RI, USA.

Paragraph AM.He5 – Generation 3

Daniel Spencer Sieviec; b.11.21.1978 in New Haven, CT; d.08.22.2012 in Bridgeport, CT.

Parents: Grace and John Sieviec.

Daniel graduated in 1998 from Guilford High School, was enrolled at Gateway Community College and died only 33 years old.

Anna Margrethe's and Marius' second oldest child, Paul, and his family: (Paragraphs AM.P1-AM.P5)

Paragraph AM.P1 – Generation 1

Paul Lindorf Jacobsen; b.08.29.1915 in Orange, CT; d.03.08.2008 in Brewster, MA.

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married until 2008 to **Louise Martineau Lemmelin**; b.04.15.1921 in Southbridge, MA; d.05.03.2008 in Brewster, MA, buried in Bourne, MA.

Children: Joann Jacobsen and John Paul Jacobsen.

Paragraph AM.P2 – Generation 2

Joann Dadah; b.**Jacobsen** 1950.

Parents: Paul and Louise Jacobsen.

Married 04.12.1975(-1981). in Bethany, CT to **George Dadah**; b.1949.

Children: Jason Dadah and Jeremy Dadah.

Joann lives in Kingwood, TX.

Paragraph AM.P3 – Generation 3

Jason Dadah.

Parents: Joann and George Dadah.

Paragraph AM.P4– Generation 3

Jeremy Dadah; b.11.24.1978.

Parents: Joann and George Dadah.

Paragraph AM.P5 – Generation 2

John Paul Jacobsen; b. 10.22.1958.

Parents: Paul and Louise Jacobsen.

Married 03.10.1984 in Prospect, CT to **Laurie Rek**.

Anna Margrethe’s and Marius’ third oldest child, Howard, and his family:

Paragraph AM.Ho1 – Generation 1

Howard Lindorf Jacobsen; b.10.08.1919 in Derby, CT; d. 01.23.1998 in Middletown, CT, buried in Alder Brook Cemetery, Boston, MA

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married 1938(-1962) to **Mina Biggs**; b.11.11.1921; d.5.12.2005.

Howard served in WWII as a sergeant in the U.S. Army.

Married 07.03.1963 in Los Angeles, CA to **Dona F. Camaren**; b.1941; d.1998.

Anna Margrethe’s and Marius’ fourth oldest child, Robert, and his family: (Paragraphs AM.Ro1-AM.Ro9)

Paragraph AM.Ro1 – Generation 1

Robert Wadstrup Jacobsen; b.11.19.1926 in Meriden, CT; d.07.02.2016 at Middlesex Hospital, CT.

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married 04.05.1947(-2016) to **Helen Ballard Walker**; b.12.11.1926 in Meriden, CT.

Children: Mark Lloyd Jacobsen, Kathy Ellen Jacobsen, Susan Elizabeth Jacobsen and Gary Robert Jacobsen.

Robert was class president during his junior and senior high school years at Guilford H.S., student council vice president in his junior year and president in his senior year. He was an accomplished athlete, member of 1944 varsity basketball team, soccer team, baseball team and football team and very popular among peers and teachers; cf. the following quote from the yearbook: “Our president and basketball star; without him we could not have gone that far. He was voted best athlete; most likely to succeed; best physique, boy who has done the most for the class; most dependable boy; nicest eyes; and tallest in the class”. Robert enlisted in the Air Corps on April 6, 1945 at Ft. Devens, MA. Helen graduated from Guilford High School, class of 1944. Among other things, she was on the yearbook staff; she was a cheerleader; class vice president during her senior year; student council secretary; and senior in her senior year she was voted cutest girl in the class and most popular girl. She and Robert were voted class lovers. Robert and Helen resided in Guilford, CT where Helen still lives.

Paragraph AM.Ro2 – Generation 2

Mark Lloyd Jacobsen; b. 04.08.1949 in Guilford, CT.

Parents: Robert and Helen Jacobsen.

Married 06.30.1978 in West Haven, CT to **Jacquelyn Vine**; b.06.08.1954. Mark lives in Bellow Falls, VT.

Paragraph AM.Ro3 – Generation 2

Kathy Ellen Keating; b.Jacobsen; b. 10.03.1950 in CT; d.11.10.2000 in CT.

Parents: Robert and Helen Jacobsen.

Married 05.29.1974(-2000) in New Haven, CT to **James E. Keating;** b.07.12.1950.

Children: Melanie Keating and Andrew James Keating.

Paragraph AM.Ro4 – Generation 3

Melanie Keating; b.10.01.1977.

Parents: Kathy and James Keating.

Children: Tucker Davis Keating b.2008 and Vivian Keating, b.2012.

Paragraph AM.Ro5 – Generation 3

Andrew James Keating; b.09.08.1980.

Parents: Kathy and James Keating.

Paragraph AM.Ro6 – Generation 2

Susan Elizabeth Corbett; b.Jacobsen 10.11.1953 in CT; d.09.05.2011 in South Kingston, RI; buried in Alderbrook Cemetery, Guilford, CT.

Parents: Robert and Helen Jacobsen.

Married 07.21.1978 in Guilford, CT to **Stephen Corbett;** b.10.18.1955.

Children: Sarah E. Corbett and Brian W. Corbett.

Susan worked in area banks in CT and in assisted living communities in RI.

Paragraph AM.Ro7 –Generation 3

Sarah E. Corbett; b.04.25.1988 in Waterbury, New Haven, CT.

Parents: Susan and Stephen Corbett.

Sarah lives in Warwick, RI.

Paragraph AM.Ro8 – Generation 3

Brian W. Corbett.

Parents: Susan and Stephen Corbett.

Married to **Kerrie Caldwell.**

Children: Braiden Corbett; b.2005 and Kailee Corbett b.2009.

Paragraph AM.Ro9—Generation 2

Gary Robert Jacobsen; b. 02.08.1956 in CT.

Parents: Robert and Helen Jacobsen.

Married to **Kathleen F. Jacobsen;** b.01.08.1957.

Gary and Kathleen live in Salisbury, MA.

Anna Margrethe’s and Marius’ fifth oldest child, William, and his family:

Paragraph AM.W1 – Generation 1

William Lindorf Jacobsen; b.09.25.1929

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married 01.01.1990 in Glover, VT to **Susan Ellin,** b.01.29.1941.

William played basketball for Guilford High School. He was strongly involved in construction during a long career. He and Susan and Susan’s daughter, Tae Ellin, enjoy living in Brooklyn, NY

Anna Margrethe’s and Marius’ sixth oldest child, Edwin, and his family: (Paragraphs AM.E1-AM.E3)

Paragraph AM.E1 – Generation 1

Edwin Lindorf Jacobsen; b.09.25.1929 in CT; d.03.28.1996 in Milford, New Haven, CT.

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married 06.15.1957(-1996) in Los Angeles, CA to **Lorraine Victoria Oceau;** b.01.07.1928.

Children: Edwin Lindorf Jacobsen, Jr. and Howard Lindorf Jakobsen.

Edwin played basketball for Guilford High School. He enlisted in the US military 03.15.1944 at Fort Devens, MA. The family later moved to San Bernadino, CA.

Paragraph AM.E2 – Generation 2

Edwin Lindorf Jacobsen, Jr.; b. 06.14.1958 in San Bernadino, CA.

Parents: Edwin and Lorraine Jacobsen.

Married 06.14.1980 in Milford, CT to **Judith A. Dembinski;** b.1959 in CT.

Paragraph AM.E3 – Generation 2

Howard Lindorf Jacobsen; b. 04.18.1960 in San Bernadino, CA; d.01.12.2007 in New Haven, CT.

Parents: Edwin and Lorraine Jacobsen.

Married to **Mzia.**

Anna Margrethe's and Marius' seventh oldest child, Raymond, and family: (Paragraphs AM.Ra1-AM.Ra3)

Paragraph AM.Ra1 – Generation 1

Raymond Lindoff Jacobsen; b.10.27.1935.

Parents: Anna Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen.

Married 06.15.1957 in Guilford, CT to **Barbara Knowles;** b.04.02.1935.

Children: Bruce Allen Jacobsen and Julie Elisabeth Jacobsen.

Paragraph AM.Ra2 – Generation 2

Bruce Allen Jacobsen; b. 08.30.1961.

Parents: Raymond and Barbara Jacobsen.

Married 04.20.1991 in New Haven, CT to **Kathleen M. Boland;** b.07.17.1962 in CT.

Children: Michael Allen Jacobsen and Kevin Allen Jacobsen.

Paragraph AM.Ra3 – Generation 3

Michael Allen Jacobsen; b.07.18.1992.

Parents: Bruce and Kathleen Jacobsen.

Michael works for an industrial supply company.

Paragraph AM.Ra4 – Generation 3

Kevin Allen Jacobsen; b.01.13.1994.

Parents: Bruce and Kathleen Jacobsen.

Kevin is completing his last year in college where he played varsity soccer. He has been on several geological digs including one to Hawaii.

Paragraph AM.Ra5 – Generation 2

Julie Elisabeth Simon; b. **Jacobsen** 10.30.1963.

Parents: Raymond and Barbara Jacobsen.

Married **Martin Hurley Simon,** b.05.21.1964.

Children: Corey Jeanne Simon and Nicholas Knowles Simon.

Paragraph AM.Ra6 – Generation 3

Corey Jeanne Simon; b.03.20.1994.

Parents: Bruce and Kathleen Jacobsen.

Corey is a student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus. She is a qualified scuba dive. One trip took her to Cozumel Island, off of Mexico. She will be spending one semester in Guatemala.

Paragraph AM.Ra7 – Generation 3

Nicholas Knowles Simon; b.03.21.1996.

Parents: Bruce and Kathleen Jacobsen.

Nick attends the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus. He enjoys music and is a member of a band.

SECTION 3

MEMOIRS

3.1. **Growing up Danish in America**

Elaine Meyer DalPian, January 2017

Granddaughter of Meta Kirstine Jørgensen Vadstrup and Hans Søren Rasmussen

I was born into a family with Danish roots on both my mother's and father's side of the family. My mother and my four grandparents and their ancestors were born in Denmark; however my dad was born in the U.S.

My grandfather (Hans Søren Rasmussen) visited the U.S. in 1906 with his future brother-in-law Michael Jørgensen Vadstrup. Grandma (Meta Vadstrup Rasmussen) came in 1908 with her youngest brother Rasmus (Robert) Jørgen Jørgensen Vadstrup. Grandma and grandpa both returned to Denmark in 1911 where they were married in Tranbjerg Kirke. They raised their three children, Gerda, William and Emmy, on Samsø and on Zealand until they immigrated to the United States. They set sail aboard the S.S. Hellig Olav from Copenhagen on September 21, 1922 and arrived in New York on October 3, 1922.

My grandmother had three siblings who had settled in Connecticut – her older brother Michael, her younger brother Rasmus (Robert) and the youngest of the Vadstrup children, Anna Margrethe (Margaret). My grandfather had no immediate family here but his life-long friend and distant cousin from Samsø, Jens Tønnesen, lived in the Hartford area. The Rasmussen family stayed with Jens Tønnesen upon their arrival in 1922 until they were able to get settled and start their new life.

Regarding grandma's siblings who lived here, I never knew Rasmus who died at a young age in 1921. We would occasionally see her brother "Uncle Mike" but more often his daughter "cousin Margaret". We frequently saw grandma's sister "Tante Margaret" and her large family of seven boys who lived in Guilford CT. Tante and grandma had a close relationship. They were not only sisters; they were best friends as well. I looked forward to Tante's visits because she would always bring a delicious cake with her; my favorite being a yellow cake with boiled vanilla icing and topped with coconut. Tante's son Billy would bring her to West Hartford to spend a week with grandma. They always enjoyed their time together. On grandma's visits to Tante in Guilford, Helen (Tante's daughter-in-law) recalls that the "old girls" had a great time together. At night after getting in bed, they would party it up by splitting a can of beer! At least they had the sense to get in bed before any "situations" developed.

When my grandparents moved here with their three young children, it was a goal of my grandfather's that they all learn to speak, read and write English. He and my grandmother enrolled in night school to learn the language. Gerda and William, the two oldest children, went to public school in West Hartford for their education and Emmy followed. English was primarily spoken at home. After renting homes for the first few years, it wasn't long before my grandparents were able to purchase a two family house on Cambridge Street in the Elmwood section of West Hartford. My parents and I lived on the first floor; grandma and grandpa, Uncle Billy, Aunt Kathryn and cousin Judy lived on the second floor. In 1950, post World War II, when I was 4, we moved to a new development of tract houses and grandma and grandpa bought the house next door. All the houses looked identical except for the color. Our house was white with dark green trim; my grandparents' was gray with white trim. There were about a dozen houses on the street and all the parents were the age of my parents and all of the kids were around my age. All except my grandparents who were in their seventies at the time. They were affectionately called "Grandma and Grandpa" by everyone on Dermont Lane.

I always felt a close relationship with my grandparents particularly with my grandmother. Growing up next door to them had many benefits. If I didn't like what my mother was preparing for dinner at our house, I'd run next door and see what was cooking there. I would visit in the kitchen with grandma while she peeled the potatoes and, if what was going to be served for dinner was something that I liked, I'd ask if it would be okay if I stayed and ate with them. She always said yes. I would go home and ask my mom if I could eat there and she would ask "Did grandma invite you or did you invite yourself?" I said grandma invited me. Grandma was a good cook and baker. I particularly liked her boiled (kartofler) potatoes (it was probably all the butter); apple pie that was to die for and her rich Danish Christmas cookies. Other Danish foods I enjoyed were Danske frikadeller (Danish meatballs); æbleskiver (a pancake type mixture made in a cast iron æbleskiver pan so they looked like donut

holes) that were served with either honey, syrup or jelly and sprinkled with powdered sugar; bøf med løg (a ground beef patty topped with sauteed onions and delicious homemade gravy) and risengrød (white rice cooked in milk and served in a bowl topped with butter and cinnamon and sugar). After a meal I wasn't allowed to leave the table until I said "tak for mad" (thank you for the meal) and my mother or grandmother would reply "velbekomme" (you're welcome).

Grandma was a fine seamstress as evidenced by the christening gowns she hand crafted for various family members. She would sew look-alike dresses for Judy and me that we were happy to wear. She would take us to Hartford for shopping trips. We would walk to get the Webster Hill bus and when we arrived in Hartford we'd shop in G. Fox, Sage-Allen and Brown Thompson department stores. Lunch would be at G. Fox and I usually ordered the mashed potatoes.

For a time grandma had long hair that she braided and wore in a bun. I liked it when she would let me take it out of the bun and brush it. I would make a new hairdo for her. I'm sure as soon as I left the new hairdo would be changed back to the old one.

Grandma and grandpa were very different from each other. My mother has often said she doesn't know how they ended up together. I assume that because both the Vadstrup and Rasmussen families resided on Samsø played a big part in that. Being that grandpa's brother Jakob Rasmussen married grandma's sister Ane Kathrine must also have been a factor in starting their relationship. The Vadstrup family moved from Samsø to Århus in the mid-1870's before grandma was born in 1881. Grandma was a "city girl" being born and raised in the second largest city in Denmark. Grandpa, the son of a farmer, was born and raised at Eskegaard, the Rasmussen family homestead in Brundby, Tranebjerg.

Grandma was an early riser and had a daily routine. She would wear a house dress and old black shoes with white socks to do the morning chores. Monday was laundry day. She would wash the clothes in the basement on a scrub board in the sink and hang the laundry out to dry on the clothesline. It wasn't until she was in her 90's that she let my mother do the laundry in the washing machine. Grandma still hung the clothes out to dry. Tuesday was ironing day and so on. After I was married and grandma was in her late 80's, she would ask if she could do my ironing. At first I would give her Kenny's dress shirts that he wore to work but that lasted only so long until they started coming home scorched. Then we would give her our "around the house" clothes to iron. She was happy to help out. After she was done with her chores and had lunch, she would get washed up, put on a "good" dress, stockings and good shoes and sit in the living room or, in good weather, on the back porch and crochet. When grandma was in her 90's, I asked her if she would make a pair of pillowcases with a crocheted edge for my two girls. She said of course. She made them each a set, white with white trim. She hand wrote a note to each of the girls and wrapped the pillowcases in tissue paper. I gave Sarah and Elizabeth the pillowcases on their wedding day as a remembrance of their great grandmother. Maybe they will pass the pillowcases on to a future generation.

Grandma liked "fancy" things like entertaining which included setting the table with her crisply pressed linens and her beautiful Royal Copenhagen china. For special occasions she would wear her pearls and clip on earrings. She had a pink gemstone ring (maybe rose quartz) that was set in what I would call a Tiffany setting. It was worn only on rare occasions. I loved that ring! She would let me try it on and I'd walk around admiring how lovely it looked on my hand. One day when I was "borrowing" it, I decided to run home for something and the ring fell off of my hand and landed somewhere in the grass between our houses. I was down on my hands and knees and, after what seemed like an eternity, I miraculously found the ring! I never asked to borrow it again.

I remember when grandpa would come home from work (he was a carpenter), the first thing he would do was sit and enjoy a beer - Balentine ale. When he was almost finished drinking it, I would ask him if I could have a taste and he would give me the last sip or two. Who lets a 6 year old drink beer?? I'd go with my dad to the package store to return grandpa's empties and get a new case of beer and Ruby, the owner of the store, would let me pick out a bottle of soda. Grandpa enjoyed a good cigar as well as a pipe. He smoked White Owl cigars and he would give me the cigar bands which I would wear as rings. His old cigar boxes held all my treasures. I can still remember the smell of his pipe tobacco – Prince Albert.

After grandpa retired, he would sleep in, maybe until 9:00 or 10:00 in the morning. Grandma would have the kitchen table set, ready for his breakfast which consisted of milk mixed with a raw egg that she heated on the stove and then poured over a rusk. After breakfast he would tend to his flower gardens. In the winter, he would

go out and move snow around.

He wore the same type of clothes day after day, summer or winter. His wardrobe consisted of a flannel shirt, underneath was a union suit and pants held up with suspenders and a sweater. The summer version was a short sleeved union suit with the sleeves of the flannel shirt rolled up. On a 90 degree day he might take the sweater off.

Lunch was usually smørrebrød (open face sandwich) made with very smelly blue cheese, dark bread and some herring or sardines and possibly some agurkesalad (cucumber salad). I never invited myself for lunch. When that cheese came out, I went home.

After lunch, grandpa, like grandma, would wash up and put on a better version of his morning clothes. For the afternoon, while grandma was crocheting, he would sit in his chair in the corner of the living room and read. He was very interested in current events and politics and he enjoyed reading U.S. News and World Report, the Hartford Times (an afternoon newspaper) which he read cover to cover and also Reader's Digest. He passed on his love of reading to my mother at an early age. My mom still read the daily newspaper, starting with the sports section to see how the Red Sox are doing, until the last days of her life.

Most of grandma and grandpa's friends were Danish. Mr. Hatting and his wife, Elna; Hans Hansen and his wife, Dorthea; the Tønnesen's (Uncle Jens and Tante Agnes). They would have a grand old time when they socialized. Card games were always involved, usually setback; a lot of talking (in Danish); drinking (some potent beverages) and delicious food. They gathered in the dining room which was on the same side of the house as my bedroom. In the good weather, with the windows open, the smell of the cigar smoke from the four men drifted into my room and the loudness of eight people talking in Danish all at once was a bit much. Or so it seemed when I was 10.

As a child the Christmas season was my favorite time of the year. For me it began on Thanksgiving Day which was celebrated at our house. We had a houseful of guests that included, among others, grandma and grandpa, Uncle Billy, Aunt Kathryn, cousins Judy and Joyce; a couple of my dad's brothers. It was a wonderful prelude to the whole season. After dinner Uncle Billy would sit on the sofa and peruse the Sears Christmas catalog and we kids would be making mental notes of things we saw as he turned the pages that eventually would end up on our Christmas lists.

Shortly after Thanksgiving Advent began. It was a special time for us as there were a lot of activities at our church (Elmwood Community Church on Newington Road in Elmwood). One Sunday evening each year during Advent there would be a Christmas workshop held in the basement of the church. Each family would bring a box supper; beverages and desserts would be provided by the ladies of the church. Craft tables were set up around the large room and we would move from station to station making various items – wrapping paper made from brown craft paper imprinted with a "stamp" that was made from a potato cut in the shape of a star or tree and then dipped in paint; advent candle wreaths and ornaments for the tree. Sometimes we made items that were to be given as gifts. For many years I made potholders and sometimes matching trivets made from ceramic tiles and I gave those as gifts. I sang in the Children's Choir and liked the part where I got to wear a white choir robe with a burgundy bow. I loved being part of the Christmas Pageant but I thought then, as I still do, that nothing sounds sweeter than a Christmas carol sung in church although I think many of them are so sad. I always cried during the singing of Away in the Manger.

Each year we would attend the Danish Brotherhood's Annual Christmas party on White Street in Hartford. Since neither of my grandparents drove, they always rode with us. I sat in the back seat between them snuggling up to my grandmother who wore a black fur coat (very fancy) and I petted it as if it were a puppy. I loved that coat! I can still remember what the inside of the Danish Brotherhood building looked like. There was a huge Christmas tree in the middle of the room adorned with real candles. The tree was probably 25 feet tall or maybe it just seemed that way to me. We would all make a circle holding hands as we danced and sang our way around the tree. Julemanden (Santa Claus) would come and deliver a mesh stocking filled with candy and a present for each of us. Delicious Danish Christmas cookies and other treats were served.

Christmas Eve was by far the best day of the entire year. We spent the month of December preparing for it -- shopping, baking, decorating the house with paper chains and all sorts of handmade items, putting lights in the windows, writing and receiving tons of Christmas cards and finally putting up the tree.

Grandma did so much baking that everyone in our neighborhood was the recipient of a coffee can filled with her delicious Christmas cookies.

Christmas Eve was celebrated at grandma and grandpa's house. Arrival time for the guests was between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. It was just our immediate family. My grandparents; my mother, father, brother Paul and me; Uncle Billy, Aunt Kathryn, Judy and Joyce; Aunt Gerda, Uncle Herb and Donald. My mother (or grandma) made sure that I always had a special dress to wear that evening as well as new black patent leather shoes. Around 2:00 p.m. I would start to ask my mother "when can I go over to grandma's?" "When you see a car pull into the driveway" she would reply. I sat glued by our living room window waiting for someone to arrive. It was usually Uncle Billy and his family. I'd yell to my mother, "They're here!! They're here!! Can I go now?" I'd grab my coat and off I'd run carrying a shopping bag full of gifts.

Even though grandma and grandpa's house was small, there was room for all of us. Traditions prevailed each year and that was terribly important to me. The dining room table was set with "the good dishes" and our dinner menu was the same every year. It included roast duck with an apple and prune stuffing, potatoes, red cabbage and some authentic Danish foods that I made sure never ended up on my plate like leverpostej (liver pate), korv (a sausage) and again stinky cheese. After dinner was finished and the kitchen had been cleaned up, we would retreat to the living room to exchange gifts but only after mandatory singing of Christmas carols. The singing was taken so seriously that we had real Christmas carol books that grandma handed out year after year. We got to choose which songs would be sung. The older we became, the more we tried to bargain how many songs we had to sing. We thought 2 or 3 would be sufficient but the grownups didn't think that was enough. They held steadfast. So the singing began and went on and on and on. Finally it was gift time. Grandma and grandpa gave us money. Usually a new \$5 bill in a money envelope from the bank. We were happy with that. I think it eventually increased to \$10. I remember the year I was 10, they gave me a hard cover book of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales which I still have inscribed by grandma. It seemed like every year I gave Donald golf balls – one of us was in a rut! I can recall one particular year Judy gave me a box of personalized note cards. They were pale pink with "A Note from Elaine" scripted in silver ink on them. It was difficult for me to use them because I like to save my "good stuff". To this day I'm still trying to use the "good stuff" as my girls question, "Mom what are you saving it for?" It's a work in progress. In a short period of time, as we each got older, our boyfriends and girlfriends who became our husbands and wives joined in the festivities. Six great grandchildren arrived in quick succession in the four year period of 1968-1972 – Sarah, Janet, Barry, Matthew, Elizabeth and Laura.

After gifts it was time for dessert. Of course there were plenty of grandma's delicious Christmas cookies to go around. The "æblekage" was the main dessert. It was a soft apple cake mixed with buttery bread crumbs and topped with whipped heavy cream and dollops of red jam on the top. As children we weren't all that fond of it except that a prize (usually a box of candy) was awarded to the person who found an almond hidden in their piece of cake. We would take our forks and smush the cake around just to look for the almond. I seem to recall a disproportionate number of years that Donald won the prize which I find a little suspicious. Let's just leave it at that!

I get melancholy thinking about those days. Even traditions that Kenny and I started years ago with our girls are no longer. The girls have their own families now and their own traditions. That will change in time for them as well when their children have girlfriends who become wives and boyfriends who become husbands just as it did in our family. But in the end it's all good. The more the merrier!

Christmas 1969 was a sad time for us. Grandpa died on Christmas Eve at the age of 87. Shortly after the holidays, Kenny brought up the idea of taking grandma on a trip to Denmark. Because I don't like to travel, I was conflicted. On one hand I knew it would be a trip of a lifetime for her since she hadn't been back to Denmark in almost 50 years. On the other hand I was thinking that we had just purchased our house (could we afford the trip?); Sarah was just 2 years old (should we leave her?); and all sorts of ridiculous reasons to justify not going. In the end there really was only one choice. Grandma was almost 90 years old but still in good health. The time was now or never. She would be reunited with her sister Marie and with all of her nieces and nephews whom she had corresponded with throughout the years. We proposed the idea to grandma and she was thrilled about the prospect of spending two weeks in her homeland. Grandma contacted her nieces and nephews all of whom were delighted she was coming and they began planning for her arrival.

In July 1970, we boarded an SAS airliner at JFK Airport in New York and headed to Denmark with grandma in tow. This was back in the day when airline travel was actually pleasant. Several hours into the flight, we were given a printed dinner menu which was adorned with paintings by Scandinavian artist Øyvind Hansen. The paintings reflected traditional clothing worn centuries ago in Scandinavia. Our dinner consisted of hors d'oeuvres, breast of capon in a dill sauce, risotto, and early June peas. This was followed by a pineapple and strawberry coupe. How times have changed. Today when traveling you have to eat before you board the plane or bring your own food.

After the overnight flight, we arrived at Kastrup Airport in the morning and were greeted by family members. Grandma left with them to start her visiting while Kenny and I proceeded on to Brussels and Amsterdam. After 5 days, we returned to Copenhagen, a truly beautiful city. Our hotel on Hans Christian Andersen Boulevard was within walking distance of many of the sights in Copenhagen. We enjoyed walking the Strøget (a pedestrian way with many delightful shops, bakeries and restaurants); having dinner at Tivoli Gardens and watching the Changing of the Guard at Amalienborg Palace, the winter home of the royal family. We also explored Rosenborg Slot which was built in the early 1600's and houses the crown jewels. On the property of Fredriksborg Palace (located north of Copenhagen in Hillerød) are the stunning, well-manicured palace gardens. The Vadstrup and Rasmussen families were extraordinarily hospitable to us as we visited and literally ate our way across Denmark. While in Copenhagen, we stayed for a night or two with Ebba Hansen, daughter of my grandmother's oldest sister Ellen. She lived on the third floor of Flemsborggade 30, a five story brick walk up that was her childhood home. She took us to a smørrebrød shop where we were treated to open faced sandwiches that were really too beautiful to eat. A true art form. We were Ebba's guests one evening for dinner in Copenhagen's city square at one of the fanciest restaurants we have ever dined in. So fancy, in fact, there was a violinist serenading the patrons.

Grandma's sister Ellen's only son, Henri Hansen and his wife, Dora who lived outside of Copenhagen, invited us to dinner at their home. Their daughter Lise Marquard Hansen and her family and their son, Kjeld Marquard Hansen were there as well. Grandma and her sister, Marie enjoyed catching up with their nephew, Henri and visiting with his children.

I remained in contact with Ebba for many years through letters she would write in Danish to my mother who would translate them for me. Mom would send my reply in Danish. Ebba could speak English but writing was a different matter. A couple of years after our trip, Ebba came to the US for a visit.

Grandma's sister Marie's oldest son, Erik Spang-Larsen, a barrister in Copenhagen, and his wife, Asta welcomed us to their lovely home for dinner. We had never before been to someone's house who had wait staff. It was enjoyable meeting his two sons Søren Spang-Larsen and Poul Spang-Larsen.

We toured with grandma in Århus, the city where she was born and grew up at Jægersgaardsgade 50. Our favorite part of the trip, however, happened next when we headed to Samsø – a breathtakingly beautiful island free from the hustle and bustle of the rest of the world. A place where our Vadstrup and Rasmussen families had their beginning; a place some in our family are still fortunate to call home. Grandma's and Grandpa's nephew Søren picked us up at the ferry and gave us a tour around the island showing us some of the lovely sights.

I can't recall each and every person that we met - there were so many and it was long ago. They are our "double" relatives – two Vadstrup girls (Ane Kathrine and Meta) married two Rasmussen brothers (Jakob and Søren). Grandma was thrilled to see, and we were happy to meet, all six of Ane Kathrine and Jakob's children – Signe, Maja, Søren, Anna, Ragnhild and Jørgen. Each and every one of them and their children couldn't have been nicer to us. Every day while on the island, we were invited to multiple homes. Signe served us a delicious pot roast dinner with the world famous Samsø potatoes. We thought it was so sweet of her to also serve potato chips with the meal so we would feel at home. I guess the Danes think we eat a lot of chips (and we do.)

We stayed at Ragnhild's home and I immediately took a liking to her. I remember the bed we slept in had a down, feather mattress. While staying with Ragnhild, we met her daughters Grethe and Tinne and their families. We had such a good visit with them that in 1976 Ragnhild, Tinne and Tina's daughter Birgitte came to the U.S. for a visit. Grandma was very happy that Ragnhild would be staying with her. Tinne and Birgitte (who was about the age of Sarah and Elizabeth) stayed with us and we had a fine time.

Being that it was July, the nights were very short. The sun probably set around 10:00 p.m. and began to rise

early around 4:00 a.m. That was good for the farmers who could work in the fields before the sun got too hot. We went to one of the nieces or nephews homes for a hearty breakfast. The farmers were ready for a break after putting in several hours of work. We were served an assortment of meats, cheeses, tomatoes, fruit, delicious pastries and a table full of other goodies.

Anna, grandma's niece, was a kind, sweet soul. We struck up a friendship and corresponded (in English) with one another over the years. We kept each other updated on happenings in the family. We met grandma's other niece Maja and her nephew Jørgen and his lovely wife Martha.

We returned home happy that we were able to give grandma the opportunity to create new memories of her beloved family and for us the chance to get to know people who were family from the instant we met. Grandma enjoyed herself so much that two years later she traveled back to Denmark with her youngest sister, Margrethe and her husband Marius Jacobsen, for an extended period.

My much beloved grandmother died on August 4, 1979, (the same day and year her sister Marie died in Copenhagen) at the age of 98 after having lived a full life. Her passing left a terrible void in my life that could never be filled. I never remember her raising her voice; she never scolded me (although I'm sure there were plenty of opportunities); she was always kind and loving. I only have wonderful memories of her. She was truly my second mother.

The trip to Denmark is what sparked my interest in genealogy; wanting to know who I was; where I came from and more about these wonderful people we had just met. Through our mutual interest in genealogy, I have been fortunate to become friends with Anna's youngest son, Jørgen Mortensen and with Jørgen Rasmussen's granddaughter, Ann Lisbeth Rasmussen-Gumm.

We had the opportunity to meet and spend time with both of them in June 2013. Lisbeth flew to New York and then came by bus to Hartford where she stayed with us. We hosted a family dinner where she was able to meet our daughters Sarah and Elizabeth and their families; my cousin Don and his wife Barbara; my cousin Judy and her husband Dave; Raymond Jacobsen and his wife Barbara and Robert Jacobsen and his wife Helen (sons of Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen). Lisbeth returned to New York City where her father Hans Rasmussen (son of Jørgen and Martha Rasmussen) joined her for a few days of sightseeing. At the end of the week, we traveled with Don and Barbara to the home of Jørgen's brother, Viggo Mortensen in Cape Vincent NY. Lisbeth and Hans joined us as well as Jørgen and his wife Birgit who traveled from Arizona. It was a wonderful weekend. I have vague memories of Viggo coming to visit grandma and grandpa in the 1950's and early 1960's. Since he lived in Argentina and traveled the world for business, they thought it was special that he would take time from his busy life to visit with them.

One of the highlights of the weekend, was the very special meal that Viggo prepared for us. The table was set with beautiful china with different hunting scenes depicted on the dinner plates as well as an antique candellabrum decorated with small danish flags. Viggo outdid himself preparing this wonderful meal. We started with smørrebrød – very dark bread topped with thinly sliced smoked salmon and garnished with cucumber and dill. The next course was braised venison (Viggo's own) which was marinated in wine and served with elderberry and blueberry sauces; Brussels sprouts and whole small potatoes which reminded us of Samsø potatoes. Dessert was a delicious lemon cheesecake, made by Jørgen, served with fresh raspberries and blueberries. After dinner we toasted with cognac served in glasses presented to Viggo by the King of Denmark. Barbara and I felt almost royal toasting with those glasses. Viggo's son Walter joined us for the meal and we all enjoyed visiting with him. The time we spent together came to an end all too quickly.

I hope some day we'll be able to return to Denmark with our daughters and their families so they can see for themselves what a special place Denmark is - surely the "happiest place on earth".

My appreciation for my heritage has only grown over time and I'm proud to be part of such an amazing group of people. Tak for minderne!

Family – where life begins and love never ends.

3.2. Summer visit in 2013 to Denmark and the Vadstrup-Rasmussen family reunion on Samsø

Donald Coppen

Grandson of Meta Vadstrup and Søren Rasmussen

In the summer of 2013, my wife Barbara and I set out for 3 weeks to visit Denmark for the first time to not only see as much of the country as possible, but also to attend the Vadstrup-Rasmussen Family Reunion on the island of Samsø.

We spent four days in Copenhagen first. Our favorite sights were the Rosenborg Slot, the Changing of the Guard at Amalienborg Palace, the beautiful Christiansborg Palace, the National Museum, and the Netto-Badine Canal Boat Tour. Also Tivoli Gardens was especially beautiful at night. After leaving Copenhagen we rented a car for the rest of our trip. Some of our favorite places were Kronborg Castle in Helsingør, Frederiksborg Slot in Hillerød and the beautiful Roskilde Domkirke in Roskilde.

We then met up with Lisbeth Rasmussen-Gumm, great granddaughter of Trine Vadstrup who was the sister of the four Vadstrup siblings who emigrated to the US in the early 1900s. Together we went to the two places in Tornved and Faurbo near Kalundborg that in the period 1913-1922 had been owned and farmed by my grandparents Søren Rasmussen and Meta Vadstrup. The people living there now greeted us with open arms, not only showing us the house but also pictures of what it looked like when Søren owned it. Such friendly people. That night we were guests at Lisbeth's parents' house for dinner. What a lovely house and gardens Hans and Elna have.

The next morning we drove to Kalundborg for the 2 hour ferry trip to Samsø. Lisbeth, her parents, and her brother and his family were also on board. On Samsø we stayed at the Vadstrup 1771, an inn at the site of Vadstrupgaard once owned by Rasmus Rasmussen around 1760. It is now owned by Rie Toft, a woman who is a rather well known European artist and sculptor. She is a wonderful hostess. We also got to meet another great grandchild of Trine Vadstrup, Viggo Mortensen for the first time because he and his son were in the room next to us. The Reunion was held in a huge tent at a campground overlooking the ocean. It was attended by almost 200 people, out of whom we knew 3, Lisbeth and her parents, but after that day was over we felt that we knew a lot more. Everyone was so friendly and interesting. We spent all day there and tried to talk to as many people as we could. The lunch and dinner with the traditional Danish songs were great. Viggo was kind enough to come over and translate for us. We spent quite a bit of time with Morten Holm and his wife Hanne Lise, and Lisbeth's brother Lars Rasmussen and his wife Line, their daughters Laura and Karoline, and son Johan. Wonderful kids. Just a great day!!!

The next day Barbara and I spent driving around the whole island. It is such a beautiful place. No hustle and bustle, just such a calming atmosphere. On our last day on the island we met Lisbeth and Tinne Finneman Bruun (Trine's grandchild) in Brundby and they took us to a farm house built in 1911 and lived in by Søren and Meta until 1913. The owners welcomed us in and showed us the whole property and pictures of it in the 1920s. That afternoon we had lunch with Morten Holm and Hanne Lise on the patio of their lovely house in Brundby. That night we had dinner with Lisbeth and her brother's family at their rental cottage. A terrific last night, but also sad that we had to leave in the morning.

We left the next morning on the ferry to Århus. We visited the Cathedral where my grandmother and her siblings born in Århus were christened. From there we went to Ebeltoft and Skagen at the tip of the peninsula. From there we drove to Silkeborg to the museum to see Tollund Man (well preserved from 350BC in a peat bog). Next it was on to Ribe to see the Domkirke and to spend the night at the Dagmar Hotel, the oldest hotel in Denmark. After that we went to Odense and then to Fåborg where we stayed in the Hvedholm Slot, a castle existing from the 1200s. Our last few days were spent on the isles of Ærø and Møn in the south.

It was a wonderful trip, which I will never forget because of the beauty of the country, the friendliness of the people, the fantastic experience at the Reunion on Samsø, but mostly because it was our last long trip together due to the passing of my sweet and wonderful wife Barbara in July of 2014. I really hope to go back again sometime soon.

3.3.

Childhood in Brundby on Samsø

by *Anna Mortensen*⁵

Translated excerpts of memories penned by *Anna Mortensen* in the period 1977-91

My childhood at Damstrupgaard in Brundby on Samsø was good and safe as is probably generally the case in small island communities where all know each other, sharing joy and sorrow. Damstrupgaard was built of materials acquired on the small island Kyholm, where sailors were quarantined during the Plague period. When no longer needed, the station was dismantled and materials from the buildings were sold. I remember asking why the upstairs windows were one pane taller than downstairs. The answer was that the windows downstairs had been shortened because windows that tall were not for a normal house. After purchase of land on the other side of the dirt road, called the Captain's Field, ending at "Loonhøj", and with Møgelmosen farther away the total area was about 55 acres.

Usually, we had a farmhand and a maid and I recall the kitchen where we would sit in the evening on the bench and around the table. The best times were when Mother, knitting needles rattling, read aloud from Uncle Tom's Cabin or Robin Hood or the Almanac. During the day, we children would, of course, take part in the different farm activities, each according to age and capability. There were 6 siblings and one would make certain that another did not shirk his/her duties. During harvest, the older children would help stacking the sheaves; hoeing beets and potatoes was being paid for – 2 Øre or 5 per row. I remember one Day of Constitution when it was sounded "If you want to go to the Constitution Meeting at Møllebakken in Tranebjerg, this or that number of beet rows must first be hoed."

It was great for us children but a busy time for our mother when her sisters, Aunt Ellen or Aunt Marie and family members from København visited. At times, the children would visit alone; Ellen's children were Henry and the twins, Helga and Ebba. Ebba was so tiny and skinny that I recall my father once saying "I hope she does not die." However, she has now survived the other two. Marie's Erik was the same age as Ragnhild and they were a bit wild. Once, when one would catch the other they ran upstairs and jumped, one after the other, out the window, landing on the lawn without breaking arms or legs.

We were 6 siblings: Signe born 09/26/1898, Maja 03/03/1900, Søren 01/14/1902, Anna 12/21/1903, Ragnhild 08/11/1908, and Jørgen 06/14/1910.

Schooling started in the old school but before I was through infant school, a modern and beautiful school had been built about 1 kilometer east of town on a high hill overlooking the sea in the direction of Sjælland. There were 2 male and 2 female teachers. One teacher, Ms. Jørgensen lived in town. I can still picture her to myself. She always arrived in the greatest of hurry the last minute before the bell rang, dust from the dirt road whirling around her black skirt, entering the class room and immediately intoning "I Østen stiger Solen op". We sang it every morning, yet it has remained my most favored morning song. Later, the young, able teacher, Mr. Christoffersen, whom we highly respected, took over which resulted in our learning quite a bit, especially geography and math. At 11, I was in 6th grade. To avoid having me sitting there until I turned 14, I was sent to Junior High in Tranebjerg, Mr. Blegvad still being the principal. After him, Mr. Grell became the principal. A good school with quite a few students from all over the island and many boarder students from all over the country. Among the students was also Charles, later to become the partner of my life. He was one class ahead of me. He was unusually bright, having a flypaper brain, never forgetting what he had heard just once. Mostly I remember him from that time as a teaser, snatching the girls' bows.

He passed his High School exam with straight A's in all subjects and the official statement that he was the school's best student ever. I finished Junior High same year, however one point behind. My final exam grades the following year were slightly below, maybe partly caused by the use of a new grading scale and some bad luck in the draw of exam question. Anyway, I was not as clever as he and I had to struggle to cope.

From my earliest childhood, I vaguely remember harvest the old fashioned way. Many helpers were there: My mother's uncle, a tailor, two other uncles and their wives. They were there to help getting the harvest done. I remember being with my mother bringing them food and a beer keg. The men scythed the rye and the women

⁵ Anna (1903-1996) was the daughter of Trine and Jakob Rasmussen, Brundby on Samsø.

gathered and sheaved the cut material. After a few years, first the mower and then binder became common. Harvest over, there would be the harvest feast and an after-harvest trip to the forest or the beach.

In the fall, after slaughtering a pig and a sheep we brought meat products to various people. How payment was arranged for I do not know. After next slaughter before Christmas, our mother sent us to a couple of needy families with many children. A Christmas basket was a good help. They would thank us but we never sensed social differences or barriers. A woman named Mariane whose husband was a sailor helped my mother doing the laundry, each time lasting 2 days. First, the clothes were boiled, left in the lye over- night, then scrubbed on washboard and boiled again. Lots of clothes – all white.

On Christmas Eve, Uncle Niels and Mette visited, maybe because they had no children of their own. We had Christmas tree and each got one present – a doll, a belt, a new apron, a night gown, etc. We had candy in paper cones, figs, apples, and oranges so sour they set your teeth on edge. My dad and some of us went to church, mother joined us next day; no-one was forced to go to church.

Easter Day was an important day, not so much for religious reasons as for our Easter Eggs tradition. Saturday, we picked leaves of hemlock⁶, collected leaves of onions, coffee dregs and a scrap of red tissue paper. A little of each was placed on a page of newspaper and everything was wrapped around the egg. Each of us had 5-6 eggs. They were boiled hard in a large pot. When cooled off, they were unwrapped and we were very excited to see the beautiful prints of leaves and colors. – I remember our excitement Easter Sunday to see the sun shining in the morning; if it rained the day would lie in ruins. The eggs were placed in my little chip basket - a scarf could be used instead – together with a few slices of buttered bread. Then our friends from town would arrive and off we would all go in the direction of “Loonhøj” Down the hill we would roll our eggs until the shell went to pieces; having worked up a good appetite, we then sat down and enjoyed our hearty egg and bread meal. After other games, we returned home for the noon-time dinner.

I do not recall Shrovetide parties. Many dressed-up and masked children went from door to door rattling their collection tins. Shrove Monday was a day off from school. We would get some small change to buy Shrove buns and licorice, the latter hard as steel. Using a knife as a chisel, hammering it with a stone, would make pieces of licorice fly all over.

I also remember an old woman, Klemme-Boel, walking around with a basket over the arm. A scarf covered the content of the basket, rusks and buns for sale. She came once a week. As we grew up, we cared less for her buns but mother continued buying from her. We observed her very short fingers but did not say anything because it would have made our mother very angry; the woman was trying to earn a living and at that time, there were no public benefits one could apply for.

On a beautiful summer day, the school organized a picnic for everybody. People without means of transportation rode with others. Picnic baskets and coffee pots were brought along to an open area in the forest where the picnic took place. Students lined up and sang the rehearsed songs. Madsen, a teacher read stories. At coffee time, Schröder, the baker from Ørby, sold boiling water from a large, steaming pot and Danish pastry. The children bought red, fizzy sodas, those closed with a cork held in place by wire. Sometimes, opening a bottle led to the big disaster. Exploding, red soda would spray all over a new, white dress or a sailor blouse. Of course, it was soon forgotten.

Next, we would walk down to the beach and play there for a while. Then the plaids were spread on the ground and the contents of the picnic baskets were relished; something to wash the food down kept the spirits high.

People put 1 and 2 Kroner coins in the hat passed around by the teacher, money to pay Schröder for his work. Also, the musicians had to be paid; there would be danced for some hours at the open-air dance floor. At that time, came the young people who had stayed home to take care of the livestock.

As it was getting dark we were homeward bound, and at good speed because the horses were impatient to get back home. They had been standing tied to long bars, eating brought-along hay. Homewards we rode in a long line of wagons, waving and cheering after a long and wonderful day.

Gradually came the time of confirmation for the oldest siblings. Signe was first. She stayed at home until Maja's confirmation and then started talking about leaving home. Our parents never talked to us about leaving.

⁶ More likely chervil, which wouldn't have killed Sokrates! [Transcriber's note].

When one was gone, another would stay home, normally taking turns. Once, I heard my father saying: "I do not know whether they would rather be gone but I do not think that they are totally depressed staying home. Their eyes are normally wet when they leave".

We had a High School teacher who was very interested in singing and gymnastics. It was the time of publishing the book "Syng Dig Glad" with all the songs of Aakj er. We learned them by heart, and since other young people in Singing and Lecture Associations also wanted to learn them he and some students visited nightly singing meets. Also in this period, the Niels Bukh Primitive Gymnastics was appearing. Rosenkj er, a school teacher and a couple of students visited the local gymnastics clubs to give demonstrations and promote the system. He attended several brief courses at Ollerup to learn it right. We became interested and many of us later attended 3 or 5 months courses at Ollerup to become instructors. Later, back home again we would start teaching our friends.

In 1920 after High School graduation, all in our class biked south through Jylland to witness the King's travel through the reunited S nderjylland, an unforgettable experience. On our way back home we toured Fyn and visited new-built Ollerup.

After that I worked at home for a year. The following winter, I worked in the home of the local Justice of Peace in Mullerup. Then, after 3 months at the Gymnastics High School, I was invited to join a team of girls. Together with a young men's team, we went on an exhibition tour to Austria. An Austrian professor would introduce the gymnastics at home. It was the first time Niels Bukh went abroad with a team of girls.

Before leaving, we gave exhibitions in Denmark, to earn enough money for travel expenses. Then the tour started by train, first stop Berlin. It was shortly after the War, 1922; the poverty and all the invalid persons in the streets made lasting impression on us.

On we went towards Austria going through landscapes the like of which we had never seen. We were received with festivity in Vienna and saw much of this beautiful city. One visit in the neighborhood of where we stayed I'll never forget: A huge hall in an orthopedic hospital. We walked around in this hospital for children born during the war, terribly deformed because of their mothers' undernourishment.

One day, we visited the Danish Club meeting many of the more fortunate children who had been sent to Denmark where they regained their good health before going back home a couple of years later. The tour included other cities, among them Gratz and Linz. Returning home we rode along the Rhine and visited Cologne and Heidelberg.

During the following winter, when I worked at home for some months, I got a letter from Niels Bukh who encouraged me to join a tour to the U.S.A. in the summer of 1923. Earlier students at Ollerup would plan the tour, which would be free of costs to the participants, 15 young girls and 15 guys. I got the permission. We stayed at the school in Ollerup from May until departure in August, preparing our exhibition program, sewing our costumes and more. The program included Primitive Gymnastics, girls first then men, followed by Exhibition Gymnastics, Singing Games, Plural-Parts Singing, and Folk Dance.⁷

After the wonderful tour to the US I worked in different places as a maid while I instructed gymnastics in the evenings. In 1926, I met Charles again. We married in 1928 and we settled at a farm on the island of Sj lland where our six children grew up.

⁷ A translated summary of Anna's memories from the tour to the US is stated in section 1.3.

3.4.

Brundby a hundred years ago

by *Signe Christensen*⁸

Translated excerpts of memories penned in the period 1981-1985

I was born on Samsø on September 26, 1898. Although I have spent most of my life on Sjælland, I always say “home on Samsø”. My home was Damstrupgaard, a farm with about 55 acres, just outside Brundby. My mother’s parents and their oldest daughter Ellen had moved from Samsø to Aarhus; my Grandpa was a shoe and clog maker there and Grandma made a little money doing laundry for soldiers, especially those from Samsø. They had seven children, and my aunt and uncle who then owned Damstrupgaard on Samsø had none. When my mother, Trine, was about 7 she moved to her aunt and uncle at Damstrupgaard and she stayed there the rest of her life. My mother often told us that she had to play with herself, for example when she played cards. The lamp at the table then served as her dummy co-player and it worked out all right.

In those days, communication between Samsø and Aarhus was infrequent but once, when I was 4, Grandma from Aarhus visited and I distinctly remember her face, which I saw only that once. Grandma died shortly thereafter. How strange things can be. The looks of my paternal Grandma I cannot recall even if I saw her almost every day. She died when I was 7 or 8 years old. I do remember many of the things we did together, for example that Grandma taught me how to butter bread, not too thick, nor too thin a layer of butter. One day when I saw my grandpa giving his slice of bread a really thick layer of butter I mentioned the wrong-doing to grandma. It is quite a different matter my girl, was her reply. In the summer, when Grandma made jam I was sent to get the neighbor’s wife and the two of us ate white bread with scum from the boiling jam — a delicious morsel to me.

Grandma became ill and was taken to Aarhus for surgery and we were happy when she was sent home. I rode with my uncle to the ferry port. He worked at the farm. For some reason the horses bolted. I remember my uncle throwing me off the wagon to prevent further harm. When I tried to get up I could not stand on my legs. Dad and Mom have told me that I had sprained both of my ankles. I do not remember much about that but I do remember that grandma brought me a red, flat hat, which I was very fond of.

Unfortunately, Grandma died not so long after. We children knew that Dad and Mom visited them every evening. One morning when they returned home, we asked how Grandma was doing; they told us that Grandma was now doing well in the heaven with God. I believe it was the first time I wondered where the dead people go when they are no longer here on Earth. The day of Grandma’s burial, which started in the Grand Room of the home, I and my cousin Barbara were there. Her father told us to say goodbye to Grandma and to place our hands on her forehead. Never before or after, have I felt anything that cold, perhaps because my own little hand was so warm. I remember nothing from the burial itself, only that a pail with tar with warm stones in it was placed in the room to give out a scent other than the one from the dead body.

My life changed when I lost Grandma but I found a couple of good play mates, Morten Klejs and Thomas, both my age and neighbors of my grandpa; we enjoyed playing together.

Then came the time to start going to school, and believe me, I who remember so much do not remember anything from the first day in school. It may be because I started in what was called the Girls’ School run by an unmarried lady who lived together with my teacher to be. Their house and the school were across from each other on the main street of Brundby. Things blended together because we already knew the school and many of the students. The parents had started the Girls’ School for us to acquire some knowledge before the real school. Ms. Hegervald in the Girls’ School was a short, round and buxom lady, kind to all of us. How much we learned I do not remember, but I recall that Ms. Hegervald had a cat. Her and our great amusement was when she placed a paper bag over the head of the cat, which would dart around until it managed to claw the bag off the head; a hearty laugh would then erupt. Alongside teaching Ms. Hegervald operated a small business selling some clothes, hair bands, glazed pictures, writing slates, slate pencils and more for use in the real school. At Christmas time, equipped with a 25 Øre, each of us would buy a little something; it was our Christmas shopping spree.

⁸ Signe (1898-1990) was the daughter of Trine and Jakob Rasmussen, Brundby on Samsø.

We were not pampered, nor did we ask for much. I do not remember getting other gifts for Christmas than the bags hanging at the tree, filled with sweets, mainly gingerbread nuts. The Christmas tree itself was a great adventure. We were not allowed to see it until Christmas Eve but we did try to get a glimpse of the splendor from the outside by breathing at the iced-over window panes. When a little older, we made Christmas decorations at the kitchen table on an evening when our parents were not in.

We had a good home. We knew how to make useful farm work. Home from school our first question to Mom was about which chores Dad wanted us to do — carrying chaff from the barn to the horse stable, pump water into the cows mangers, sweep the court yard, and in the summer to help hoeing the beets, lift them when it was the time to do that; also the potatoes had to be dug up.

And have I known many different people during the years! I still remember the various types who in my childhood lived in the houses, which we passed every day when walking the street on our way to and from school. First, there was the blacksmith. Every morning we would meet his wife, Dorthe Margrethe carrying a bowl of milk, which she had picked up at the place of Mette Dorthe and her old father, Jørgen Skipper. He was over 90 years old. Our teacher, Madsen had promised that we school children would go and sing for him the morning he turned 100. But alas! He died before then, making us unhappy; it would have been a very special experience.

It was always exciting to walk by the smithy; either the sparks were flying inside, or the smith was shoeing a horse, or the most exciting when an iron ring was to be placed around a wheel for a work wagon. It was done on the other side of the smithy in a ditch full of water. When the red-hot iron ring was forced around the wooden wheel, there was a sputter and fizzle and seething all over the place; you were lucky when you got the chance to be looking on.

The smith and his family were Baptists. What that meant was no great concern of ours, but it upset us when their children told us that it was considered sinful to eat blood pudding when the pig was slaughtered. We deemed their slaughtering totally without purpose. Blood pudding was the very best.

One thing in my relation with the smith I never really learned how to handle. Passing him on the way to for example the grocery store one would neatly say Good Afternoon. Then a few moments later on the way home, I wondered if I should say hello again, but the smith often came to my rescue by saying for example, Oh, already here again, or something like that. Problem solved!

The next person one would meet was our grandfather who from the half-door of the barn shouted to us (during the winter time often bareheaded) to put something over the head: The cold air strikes you right in your head! No, grandpa, we would shout back and hurry on. Sometimes we were asked to pick up a roll of sailors' chewing tobacco for him. Then he would give us a 2 Øre coin and we could buy 2 licorice tapes, or a paper cone of hard candy, or a piece of hard licorice, which the shop keeper would knock off from a bigger lump using an iron weight from his scale. It was always exciting to see if one would be in luck and get a large piece.

During the first years, I went to school from 12 to 4 in the afternoon, the last years from 8-12 a.m., p.m. On our way to school we came by all the houses and people in the main street of Brundby. Living across from Grandpa's place were Jørgen Skipper and his unmarried daughter Mette Dorthe. Jørgen Skipper was a businessman. He had transported cattle by boat from Samsø to Kalundborg and from there by foot on the road to Copenhagen, spending the nights along the route at various inns with barns to house the cattle. Now, he was old, sitting on the bench in front of the window, the beer bottle placed in the corner. We did not like to watch his red, watering eyes. The floor in their kitchen was cobblestoned; there was a bench that could open into a bed; it had 2 heart-shaped holes on the side and it was the hatching place for the goose. Once bitten in the calf, one did not sit there again. When we had giblet soup at home, I was sent to the Skippers with a bowl of soup, which my mother knew they savored; also they once were my dad's neighbors. Another thing I remember is that their house had no window curtains, which one would find in most other houses.

Next to them lived the clog maker, a short hunch-backed man, not married. We loved to visit his workshop and watch his canaries. The doors were decorated with pictures from cigarette packs and there was special smell of tobacco smoke, dry and wet leather and leather polish. He died rather young; we stood in the street the day of his burial listening to the adults in the house singing the Berggren psalm "*Think, when once the fog has disappeared*".

Next to the clog maker was a farm owned by Bertel Skrødder; his wife I do not remember but his daughter Marie was married to a man, Chr. Jensen from Jylland who with him brought 2 black-and-white cows to Samsø. He sat on the left side of the cows when he was milking them in the field. That we found strange because we always sat on the right side. They had many children. Later, they moved to Jylland and we did not stay in touch with them.

Across from their house was Ebbe Tønnesen's farm, Grandpa's neighbor. He and his wife, Line had 7-8 children. At that time, there were many children in almost all homes. We were 6 children at home. The farm houses were old, thatched with straw and so close together that the eaves of the buildings belonging to Grandpa and Ebbe touched each other. We loved playing there.

Farther up the street was a house with windows totally covered by large geraniums and cobwebs. An unmarried woman lived there. We knew she had been in a mental hospital without knowing the meaning of that, but we were cautious when at rare intervals we saw her outside the house. I am sure she was very peaceful, which we learned many years later.

Then came "Tin" Hansen, a plumber, always with a friendly word to us children. Next to them lived "Thatch" Ras and Berthe; he was a roof thatcher I suppose; they had a small piece of land outside of town. The different farmers operated the land for him. When I was sent to them with a message that for example tomorrow, somebody would come and plow, Berthe would ask me to wait while she made me a white bread sausage sandwich, which was really tasty. At home we were never asked what kind of sandwich we would like. Mother would make it and hand it to us. It never crossed our mind to say that we preferred something different.

The next house belonged to Søren Svensker. I do not know, whether he had lived in Sweden and there acquired his name.

Well, we must not forget the other side of the street. Next to Bertel Skrødder lived coach builder and wheel maker Sejling. We sometimes went to play with their children.

The next house belonged to the upholsterer; I do not remember much about him but I do remember his wife Kirsten. They had just one son, important for them corporal in the army. As it happens he and I had birthday at the same day. On that day, Kirsten would always come out to the fence to congratulate me, explaining that she remembered because Rolén, as she called her son, and I had birthday on the same day. I believe I should be proud of this, but I am not sure that I was. I had never met Rolén and did not know anything about him, but he was no doubt his mother's great pride.

Next was the house of Marie, a tiny house and a tiny, very neat woman. Every day, she worked for our unmarried grocery store owner, cleaning and cooking. I remember her in her white-collared dress and new-ironed apron. We did not talk very much with her, more with the grocer who was very fond of children and always had a kind word for each of us. We often went to his shop, in which we felt at home. The first time I went to the bakery for a loaf of rye bread, I kept repeating on the way: To the bakery, to the bakery. Without knowing why and how I nevertheless ended up in the grocery store. It was embarrassing; I did not feel I could just turn around and leave but waited in line. When I was next and the grocer asked how he could help me, I replied that actually I was on my way to the bakery. Then why don't you just go over there, you know where it is a bit farther up the street? That solved my problem. Of course, I did not talk about this to anybody at home.

Across the street from the grocery was Lindegaard Hotel, actually a regular farm bought by a man from Fyn, Lindegaard who built a wooden pavilion with a skittle alley in the garden, which was named Klondyke. It was not for us children. He also operated the farm, which had a dunghill next to the street. Often, a flock of turkeys was there. When they gobbled aloud, we were a little scared to go by them, but nothing happened.

The kind, old herdsman, Steffensen was also there. Often when he was on his way, up or down the street, with his long string of cows he let us hold the tether made of iron chain. Some years later than the period I have now written about, on Ascension Day, most of the houses burned down on the side of the street with the hotel. We hurried to the site when we saw the fire and smoke. All houses were thatched with straw and the fire spread very fast. I do not think there was much of a fire engine in town. Nobody knew how and when the fire had started until Steffensen came down the street with his string of cows and confessed that he had done it before he went to the field to get the cows. He explained that he felt he could no longer manage to do all the work. At first, we did not believe that the nice old man would do a thing like that, but it later became clear that he spoke the truth. He

was sent to jail, which made us really sad. He was released after some time but we never saw much of him again. His arson probably was caused by a moment of insanity.

Of other people I knew; there was Grøndsten Dorte, a cake seller who did not know her exact date of birth, only that it was when Jens Nielsen reaped the rye; so it changed a little from year to year. Then there was the chimney sweeper living in the house next to the hill where we rode our sledges in the winter time. If we were too noisy or if the boys came into a fight he would appear in the door; that restored peace and quiet.

Yes, there was the other cake lady, Klemen Boel who bought her rusks and 2-Øre rolls at the baker's and then wandered with her basket over all the fields selling her goods to people at the outlying farms. We were happy when she arrived; we always got a little of the purchased goods and Boel often got eggs or a piece of pork besides the money. I also have memories of meeting Boel in the porch of the church. There she would change from her clogs to light black shoes, which she did not want to wear out walking in them on the road. Also, she had her hymn book in a blue-checked handkerchief (oh yes, how changed).

How was our school? I believe it was a good school. Madsen, the teacher was a Samsø native, and the other teacher, Ms. Maria Jørgensen came from Aarhus. She had also been my parents' teacher. We liked them both; there was no very strict discipline but serious disturbance did not occur. We always started our day in school standing saying the Lord's Prayer and singing a morning hymn. We sang a lot from the hymn book and the Folk High School Books of Songs; I liked that and I know a lot of songs and hymns by heart. Sometimes, Bertel Madsen took us on a botany field trip over the fields and along hedges. Ms Jørgensen was especially occupied with Danish writers and their works, which she explained to us. She also promoted the emancipation of women. She was a friend of Selma Lagerlöf who once visited Ms. Jørgensen.

Our school building went back to the days of King Cristian IV; it had 2 classrooms and a small entrance in the middle and a teacher's apartment. The classroom had whitewashed walls, large windows and a tall oven. Often when we arrived, Ms. Jørgensen's maid was about to light the fire; I do not remember whether we were cold or not; that was just the way it was. In 1911-12, the building ceased to serve as school when a new and larger school was built outside the town, two new teacher positions were added; Bertel Madsen and Ms. Jørgensen stayed. New were a young teacher Christoffersen and an also young infant school teacher Kirsten Johansen. She became my good friend for life, the most loveable person I have known. She came from Jøgerspris Children's Home as the first girl ever given permission to study to become a teacher. Domestic chores were normally the only available topics of education.

I prepared for my confirmation with our old, kind priest in Tranebjerg, Carl Chjøvring. Especially the Christmas Eve sermons are indeletably imprinted in my recollection. It was like he floated on his way up to the pulpit from where, arms spread out, he preached the gospel: "Fear not, for behold I bring you a great joy which shall be for all People", and his joy spread to all listeners.

Yes, a phase of my life had come to an end; I cried when I had to stop going to school, I had been there for 7 years, happy all the time, and now I started my career as maid in our home. And it was no small undertaking. We were 6 children, Mom Dad, a farm hand, a farm boy and a day laborer, old Morten Jørgen Sørensen, always very kind to us children; helped us peel our boiled potatoes when we ate (which everybody had to do); he did many other things for us.

I later worked for various families in other parts of Denmark and attended a Folk High School before I met my husband and settled as a farmer's wife on the island of Sjælland.

3.5.

Letters from Anna Mortensen to Elaine DalPian

Transcripts of some letters sent over the years by Anna Mortensen to Elaine DalPian

October 17, 1979

Dear Elaine.

Thank you for the letter. I have tried to fill out the paper and I don't remember if I have told you about the children in the next generation but here they are! I think it is very good of you to do all the work. Here my son and I have done some work but it takes a lot of time and Jørgen is busy at his job, but I hope we can finish it someday.

This summer, there have been so many sick people in my family. I have been traveling from one to another, but I am glad I can help. There is nobody waiting for me here at home. I miss Ragnhild very much, but I am very happy to say that Signe is all right – of course she gets very tired so she cannot have her husband at home. He cannot stand on his feet so he lives in a home for old people. Last week, he was home 1 day on his 90th birthday, October 6, and we had a very good day together there.

Excuse my English. I know it is not correct, but I hope you understand the meaning. If there is anything else you want to know you are very welcome to ask again.

I send my best to you and the whole family
from Anna.

July 2, 1980

Dear Elaine!

Thank you very much for the letter and for the copies of the Family Tree, which arrived yesterday. I will with pleasure give them to the members of the family. It has been a great work for you to do. I can tell you that Jørgen, the son of Signe's Rigmor, had a daughter, Charlotte, on March 13, 1980, and Michael, the son of Maja's Ellen, had a son named Andreas, also in March 1980.

I think you would like to be with us on July 27, 1980 and I know you will be welcome here if it is possible. I will tell you why:

Søren's Jørgen and Jørgen's Hans have arranged for the whole family to come together on Samsø that day, all members of the family from Damstrupgaard. Many from the next generation and their children have never seen each other, so they thought it was a good idea, and last time I talked to Hans, he said that 97 persons will come. It is only for one day so I think there will be talked a lot that day. We will go to Samsø for dinner at 12:00 on a hotel and get to know who the others are. Then I think we can visit Damstrupgaard and other places on the island, and we will go back home from Samsø at 9 in the evening after a little goodbye meal.

Signe and I were over there in June to visit Jørgen on his 70 years birthday.

Hans sent a copy of the enclosed tree and some pictures to all of us. I thought you would like to see it.

The whole family here is all right and I hope the same is the case by you. Will you give my best to all in your family?

Most to you from
Anna

August 20, 1980

Dear Elaine!

Now the summertime is over here and my guests have gone home. I have seen them all this summer, and it is very nice for me to have them here for some days.

The schools have started again and it is harvest time, but this week it has been raining every day, so it is bad for the farmers. They only harvested about half the corn so we hope it will stop raining soon.

When my children were here, we had the trip to Samsø, which I told you about. It was on the 27th of July. We were 97 members of our family, and they all asked me to send many greetings to you and thank you so much for the “stamtræ” [family tree]. They were all very thankful for it and have had it framed to hang on the wall. We had a very nice day. We arrived on Samsø at 11 in the morning and all met at 12 in a hotel. There we had dinner and were introduced to each other. Many of the young generation had not met before, so it was very interesting for them. So you see there was a lot of questions and talking during dinner, and during the coffee break we got around to meet everybody from the 4 generations – 97 participants out of 112 possible. Then we had a couple of hours to take a little trip around on the island and to visit my father’s and mother’s graves, and all of us visited Damstrupgaard, which is now owned by Jørgen’ son Knud. At 7 in the evening, we went back to the hotel for a cup of tea before leaving for home. It was a very good day for all of us and I promised them to thank you so much.

We talked about all of you in the U.S.A. and wondered how you can still be so interested in Denmark. We are amazed that aunt Margrethe and cousin Gerda can still write to us in Danish. It is so nice of them and we are very grateful for it. Perhaps you will tell Gerda a little about us? I will send her a letter another day.

Signe and I went to visit Søren and Edith on a nice sunny day. Anders is still staying in bed. He can only sit in a chair for 1 hour. He is very tired. All in my family are in good health. Excuse my English. I hope you can find a meaning in it; I know it is not correct.

Many greetings to you and the whole family
from your Anna.

SECTION 4

ANCESTORS OF THE VADSTRUP AND RASMUSSEN IMMIGRANTS

The ancestors we have information about – some of them dating back to the 1500s – were all born on Samsø where they stayed, most of them engaged in farming. For ancestors earlier than the immigrants’ grandparents, the database www.samsøeroots.dk has been the main source of information. Additional names have been found in family trees overlapping the Vadstrup and Rasmussen trees. Use of the research facilities offered by the genealogy organizations, MyHeritage and Ancestry, has added to the list. The parents of the Vadstrup siblings were also native islanders. In mid-life, they left Samsø with their oldest child, Ellen, settling in nearby Aarhus on the mainland where Ellen’s siblings were born. This happened at a time, when geographical mobility was becoming more common, so clearly demonstrated by the four Vadstrup siblings and Søren Rasmussen who relocated, not just to another town in the local area, but to a far-away and totally different part of the World.

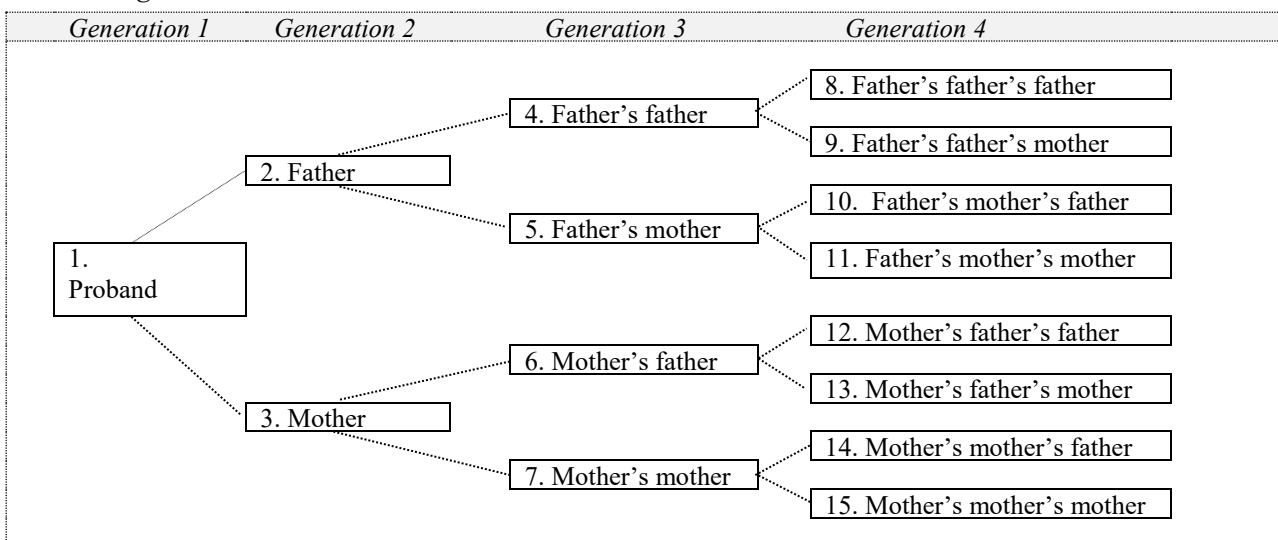
Table 5 illustrates that the ancestor number doubles from one generation to another: Every person has a father and a mother, who each have a father and mother, and so on. The coverage is good in the first few generations, but declines sharply when moving beyond the great-grandparent generation. This is because written documentation was rare in earlier days – or, if it exists, it cannot be located and made available.

Table 5. Ancestry information for Søren Rasmussen and the Vadstrup siblings

Ancestry generation	Maximum # of positions	Actual # of ancestry records		Records % of max. # of positions	
		Vadstrup	Rasmussen	Vadstrup	Rasmussen
1	1	1	1	100.0	100.0
2	2	2	2	100.0	100.0
3	4	4	4	100.0	100.0
4	8	8	7	100.0	87.5
5	16	15	10	93.8	62.5
6	32	23	12	71.9	37.5
7	64	29	18	45.3	28.1
8	128	37	28	28.9	21.9
9	256	33	15	12.9	5.9
10	512	6	5	1.2	1.0
11	1024	3	1	0.3	0.1
	2047	161	103	7.9	5.0

Only 264 positions of 4,094 possible have been filled; see details in table 6 and table 7. Even so, it is difficult to make a well-arranged graph with all names within the boundaries of a page or two.

Numbering the ancestors



An alternative to a graph of the family tree is the numbering system developed by the genealogist Stephan von Stradonitz. The person whose ancestry is being examined (the *proband*) is placed in the first generation with ancestor number 1. The father is in generation 2, ancestor number 2 and the mother number 3. The paternal grandfather has number 4, and so forth; see the graph. This system has some useful features:

- Female ancestors always have odd numbers and even numbers are assigned to males.
- The father of a person anywhere in the table has a number twice the person's number and the mother's number is twice the person's number plus 1.
- If the number of an ancestor is known it is easy to determine, which ancestor generation the person belongs to; see the first two columns of table 5.
- With a bit of mental arithmetic, it is also possible to determine the exact lineage for an ancestor with a given number. If, for example, the number of an ancestor is 479 one knows a) that it concerns a female, b) that the person is in the 9th ancestor generation, and c) that the proband's lineage to ancestor #479 runs via his/her mom's mom's dad's great-great-great grandmother – try it out!

It follows that if, for example, the proband's father's mother's father is unknown, no name can be filled into box #10. However, the position must remain with its number in the system, which would otherwise break down.

Things become a little more complicated if first cousins or more remotely related persons in an ancestor generation marry and have children causing ancestry lines to collapse. The same happens when relatives from different generations marry. The number of individual persons in the ancestry goes down or, put differently, an individual ancestor appears in more than one position with different ancestor numbers. This could, for example, result in a person having only six individual great grandparents as opposed to eight when there are no marriages between related persons.

The known Vadstrup and Rasmussen ancestors and the assigned ancestor numbers are shown in table 6 and table 7, respectively.

About the Vadstrup family name

Inge Lise Vohnsen, who maintains and updates the database, www.samsoroots.dk and who is a Vadstrup descendant herself has established that Rasmus Rasmussen Vadstrup (1729-1791), the great-great grandfather (ancestor #32, table 6) of the immigrated Vadstrup siblings, farmed and lived at *Lille Vadstrupgaard*, the farm in the left side of the picture below. He inherited the farm from his father who was also called Rasmus Rasmussen Vadstrup, born in 1691 (ancestor #64). It is not clear, whether his father of the same name (1654-1723), ancestor #128, also had his home at Lille Vadstrupgaard. The buildings of Lille Vadstrupgaard to the left no longer exist. A hotel occupies the buildings of the farm shown to the right in the photo.



Photo of a lithograph based on an oil painting made by *Anthon Winther* in 1846.

Ancestry tables

Table 6 and 7 display known names in the Vadstrup and Rasmussen ancestries.

Italics are used when a person already appears in the ancestry with a different ancestor number.

An “a” in front of a stated year indicates that dating is uncertain and that the event took place at a *later* point in time. A “b” signifies that the event must have happened *earlier* than the stated year.

Table 6. Ancestors of the immigrated Vadstrup siblings

Anc. #	Gen. #	First name	Last name	Year of			Place of		
				Birth	Death	Marr.	Birth	Death	
1	1	Vadstrup immigrants (= probands)						Aarhus	USA
2	2	Søren	Jørgensen Vadstrup	1842	1894	1869	Brundby	Aarhus	
3	2	Maren	Michelsdatter	1847	1901	1869	Brundby	Aarhus	
4	3	Jørgen	Sørensen Vadstrup	1803	1878	1829	Kolby	Brundby	
5	3	Ellen	Sørensdaughter	1805	1843	1829	Onsbjerg	Brundby	
6	3	Michel	Rasmuss. Krogh Nim	1817	1893	1837	Brundby	Brundby	
7	3	Anne Cathrine	Gudmandsdatter	1811	1882	1837	Ørby	Brundby	
8	4	Søren	Rasmussen Vadstrup	1764	1829		Onsbjerg	Onsbjerg	
9	4	Anne Cathrine	Tønnesdatter	1768	1812		Onsbjerg	Haarmark	
10	4	Søren	Hansen Væver Hohle	1774	b1814		Nordby	Onsbjerg	
11	4	Johanne M.	Pedersdatter	1771	1839		Permelille	Onsbjerg	
12	4	Rasmus	Nielsen Krogh	1781	1824	1810	Brundby	Brundby	
13	4	Karen	Michelsdatter Frier	1785	1856	1785	Pillemark	Brundby	
14	4	Gudmand	Sørensen	1778	1857	1804	Kolby	Besser	
15	4	Anne Cathrine	Olesdatter	1783	1828	1804		Ørby	
16	5	Rasmus	Rasmussen Vadstrup	1729	1791	1758	Onsbjerg	Onsbjerg	
17	5	Mette	Sørensdaughter Svensk	1737		1758	Onsbjerg	Onsbjerg	
18	5	Tønnes	Jørgensen	1732					
19	5	Maren	Jørgensdaughter Snedker	1737			Haarmark		
20	5	Hans	Sørensen Hohle	1734	1808		Nordby	Onsbjerg	
M	5	Birthe	Jensdaughter	1741	a1801				
22	5	Peder	Jørgensen Mand	1744	1804	1763	Pillemark	Kolby	
23	5	Dorthe	Pedersdaughter	1745	1815	1763	Kolby	Kolby	
24	5	Niels	Hansen Krogh	1750	1816	1776	Brundby	Brundby	
25	5	Anne Cathrine	Rasmusdaughter	1747	1824	1776	Pillemark	Brundby	
26	5	Michel	Jørgensen Frier	1754	1791		Brundby	Pillemark	
27	5	Anne Cathrine	Mortensdaughter	1762	1798		Pillemark	Pillemark	
28	5	Søren	Pedersen Stiesen	1743	1823	1771	Endelave	Kolby	
29	5	Mette	Jensdaughter Kæmpe	1743	1789	1771	Kolby	Kolby	
30	5	Ole	Jørgensen						
32	6	Rasmus	Rasmussen Vadstrup	1691			Onsbjerg	Onsbjerg	
33	6	Anne Cathrine	Sørensdaughter Svensk	1700			Nordby	Onsbjerg	
34	6	Søren	Sørensen Svensk	1703	1744		Nordby	Onsbjerg	
35	6	Anne	Rasmusdt. Vadstrup	1710	1744		Onsbjerg	Onsbjerg	
38	6	Jørgen	Pedersen Snedker	1706	1768		Permelille	Haarmark	
39	6	Kirsten	Jørgensdaughter	1712	1786			Haarmark	
40	6	Søren	Rasmussen Hohle	1701	1742		Nordby	Nordby	
41	6	Zidsel	Sørensdaughter	1675	1737			Nordby	
44	6	Jørgen	Pedersen Mann			1743			
45	6	Margrethe	Pedersdaughter			1743			

(ctd. next page)

Table 6 Vadstrup ancestors, continued

Anc. #	Gen. #	First name	Last name	Year of			Place of	
				Birth	Death	Marr	Birth	Death
46	6	Peder	Christensen Smed	1697	1777			Kolby
47	6	Anne Marie	Hansdatter	1702	1771			Kolby
48	6	Hans	Andersen Krogh	1715	1786	1744		Brundby
49	6	Anne	Pedersdatter	1713	1792	1744	Brundby	Brundby
50	6	Rasmus	Christ. Skomager	1724	1749		Brundby	Pillemark
51	6	Maren	Hansdatter	1718	1752		Tranebjerg	Pillemark
52	6	Jørgen	Olufsen	1728	1788	1752	Brundby	Brundby
53	6	Dorthe	Michelsdatter	1722	1788	1752	Brundby	Brundby
54	6	Morten	Hansen	1721	1782	1747	Pillemark	Pillemark
55	6	Karen	Mortensdatter	1728	1770	1747	Pillemark	Pillemark
56	6	Peder	Stiesen					
58	6	Jens	Sørensen Kæmpe	1694	1757	1742	Kolby	Kolby
59	6	Dorthe	Olesdatter	1719	1791	1742	Tranebjerg	Kolby
64	7	Rasmus	Rasmussen Vadstrup	1654	1723		Besser	Onsbjerg
65	7	Anne	Tønnesdatter	1669	1694		Tranebjerg	Onsbjerg
66	7	Søren	Pedersen Svensk		1718		Nordby	Onsbjerg
67	7	Mette	Madsdatter		1728		Nordby	Onsbjerg
68	7	Søren	<i>Ped. Svensk (=66)</i>		1718		Nordby	Onsbjerg
69	7	Mette	<i>Madsdatter (=67)</i>		1728		Nordby	Onsbjerg
70	7	Rasmus	<i>Ras. Vadstrup (=64)</i>	1654	1723		Besser	Onsbjerg
71	7	Maren	Olesdatter				Thorup	Onsbjerg
76	7	Peder	Christensen		1729			Permelille
77	7	Bodil	Jensdatter	1673	1751		Permelille	Permelille
80	7	Rasmus	Sørensen Hohle	1636	1727			Nordby
81	7	Dorthe	Sørens datter	1651	1740		Nordby	Nordby
98	7	Peder	Sørensen Krogh		1730	1708		Brundby
99	7	Bodil	Pedersdatter	1677	1749	1708		Brundby
100	7	Christen	Jørgensen Skomager	1686	1749	1718	Besser	Brundby
101	7	Anne	Rasmusdatter	1689	1742	1718		Brundby
102	7	Hans	Møller					
104	7	Oluf	Jørgensen	1674	1728	1726	Brundby	Ørby
105	7	Anne	Rasmusdatter			1726	Kolby	
106	7	Mikkell	Mortensen	1671	1742	1719	Brundby	Brundby
107	7	Karen	Christensdatter	1690	1757	1719	Ørby	Brundby
108	7	Hans	Mortensen	1691	1749		Pillemark	Pillemark
109	7	Maren	Villadsdatter	1686	1747		Haarmark	Pillemark
110	7	Morten	Mortensen	1687	1747	1720		Pillemark
111	7	Maren	Henriksdatter	1693	1747	1720	Haarmark	Pillemark
116	7	Søren	Jensen Kæmpe	1650	1730		Onsbjerg	Pillemark
117	7	Margrethe	Mortensdatter	1661	1733		Haarmark	Kolby
118	7	Ole	Nielsen	1679	1732	1716		Tranebjerg
119	7	Kirsten	Jensdatter	1684	1768	1716	Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
128	8	Rasmus	Jepsen	1613	1703			Langemark
129	8	Bodil	Sørens datter	1638	1705			Thorup
130	8	Tønnes	Clemmensen	1635	1679		Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
131	8	Anne	Jensdatter	1635	1679		Haarmark	Tranebjerg
132	8	Peder	Sørensen Svensk					Nordby
133	8	Kirsten	Michelsdatter	1631	1702			Nordby
134	8	Mads	Michelsen	1646	1704		Nordby	Nordby
135	8	Mette	Jensdatter Holm	1640	1725		Nordby	Nordby

(ctd. next page)

Table 6 Vadstrup ancestors, continued

Anc. #	Gen. #	First name	Last name	Year of			Place of	
				Birth	Death	Marr	Birth	Death
136	8	<i>Peder</i>	<i>Sør. Svensk (=132)</i>					Nordby
137	8	<i>Kirsten</i>	<i>Michelsdatter (=133)</i>	1631	1702			Nordby
138	8	<i>Mads</i>	<i>Michelsen (=134)</i>	1646	1704		Nordby	Nordby
139	8	<i>Mette</i>	<i>Jensd. Holm (=135)</i>	1640	1725		Nordby	Nordby
140	8	<i>Rasmus</i>	<i>Jepsen (128)</i>	1613	1703			Langemark
141	8	<i>Bodil</i>	<i>Sørens datter (=129)</i>	1638	1705			Thorup
142	8	<i>Ole</i>	<i>Christensen</i>		1695			Thorup
143	8	<i>Johanne</i>	<i>Jensdatter</i>		1695			Thorup
152	8	<i>Christen</i>						
154	8	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Hansen Snedker</i>		1693			Permelille
200	8	<i>Jørgen</i>	<i>Sørensen Skomager</i>		1720			Besser
201	8	<i>Bodil</i>	<i>Christensdatter</i>	1652	1726			Besser
208	8	<i>Jørgen</i>	<i>Mortensen</i>		1688			Brundby
209	8	<i>Kirsten</i>	<i>Olesdatter</i>				Pillemark	Brundby
214	8	<i>Christen</i>	<i>Christensen</i>	1641	1701			Ørby
215	8	<i>Dorthe</i>	<i>Jensdatter</i>	1664	1701		Langemark	Ørby
216	8	<i>Morten</i>	<i>Rasmussen Qvist</i>		1693			Pillemark
217	8	<i>Bodil</i>	<i>Hansdatter</i>	1649	1720			Pillemark
218	8	<i>Villads</i>	<i>Sørensen</i>	1639	1722			Haarmark
219	8	<i>Else</i>	<i>Pedersdatter</i>	1655	1730		Haarmark	Haarmark
222	8	<i>Henrik</i>	<i>Sørensen Bødker</i>	1664	1732		Haarmark	Haarmark
223	8	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Olesdatter</i>		1743		Haarmark	Haarmark
232	8	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Sørensen Kæmpe</i>		1695			Onsbjerg
233	8	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Jørgensdatter</i>					Onsbjerg
234	8	<i>Morten</i>	<i>Sørensen</i>		1676			Haarmark
235	8	<i>Mette</i>	<i>Jørgensdatter</i>				Haarmark	
236	8	<i>Niels</i>	<i>Olesen</i>	1650	1730			Toftebjerg
238	8	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Mortensen</i>	1694	1722			Tranebjerg
239	8	<i>Maren</i>	<i>Christensdatter</i>	1666	1732			Tranebjerg
258	9	<i>Søren</i>						
260	9	<i>Clemens</i>	<i>Rasmussen</i>	1600	1668		Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
261	9	<i>Gertrud</i>	<i>Bendtsdatter</i>		1667			Tranebjerg
262	9	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Olesen</i>					Haarmark
263	9	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Troelsdatter</i>		1675			Haarmark
268	9	<i>Michel</i>	<i>Madsen</i>					Nordby
270	9	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Sørensen Holm</i>	1620	1682		Nordby	Nordby
271	9	<i>Margrethe</i>	<i>Mortensdatter</i>	1620	1695			Nordby
276	9	<i>Michel</i>	<i>Madsen (=268)</i>					Nordby
278	9	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Søren. Holm (=270)</i>	1620	1682		Nordby	Nordby
279	9	<i>Margrethe</i>	<i>Mortensdatter (=279)</i>	1620	1695			Nordby
284	9	<i>Christen</i>	<i>Olufsen</i>		1698			Thorup
285	9	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Mortensdatter</i>					Thorup
416	9	<i>Morten</i>						
418	9	<i>Ole</i>						Pillemark
419	9	<i>Karen</i>	<i>Sørens datter</i>		1675			Pillemark
430	9	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Jensen</i>		1681			Langemark
431	9	<i>Barbara</i>	<i>Rasmusdatter</i>		1681			Langemark
432	9	<i>Rasmus</i>	<i>Sørensen</i>		1693			Onsbjerg
433	9	<i>Schulst</i>	<i>Olufsdatter</i>					Onsbjerg
434	9	<i>Hans</i>						

(ctd. next page)

Table 6 Vadstrup ancestors, continued

Anc. #	Gen. #	First name	Last name	Year of			Place of	
				Birth	Death	Marr	Birth	Death
436	9	Søren						
438	9	Peder	Andersen					Haarmark
439	9	Bodil	Sørensdatte		1676			Haarmark
444	9	Søren	Henriksen Bødker	1630	1698		Kolby	Haarmark
445	9	Maren	Nielsdatte	1641	1726			Haarmark
446	9	Oluf	Jensen	1621	1706			Haarmark
447	9	Kirsten	Jørgensdatte		1700			Haarmark
464	9	Søren	Kæmpe					
466	9	Jørgen						
476	9	Morten	Christensen					
477	9	Else	Jensdatte					
478	9	Christen						
520	10	Rasmus	Jørgensen	1560	1620			Tranebjerg
522	10	Bendt	Pedersen					
540	10	Søren	Jensen Holm	1585	a1645		Nordby	
541	10	Anne	Michelsdatte		a 645			
556	10	<i>Søren</i>	<i>Jensen Holm (=540)</i>	1585	a1645		Nordby	
557	10	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Michelsdatte (=541)</i>		a1645			
1040	11	Jørgen	Pedersen	b1530				
1080	11	Jens	Holm	1560	1613		Nordby	Nordby
1112	11	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Holm (=1080)</i>	1560	1613		Nordby	Nordby

Table 7. Ancestors of Hans Søren Rasmussen

Anc. #	Gen. #	First name	Last name	Year of			Place of	
				Birth	Death	Marr	Birth	Death
1	1	Hans Søren	Rasmussen	1882	1969	1911	Brundby	CT, USA
2	2	Rasmus Peder	Jeppesen Klejs	1838	1920	1864	Brundby	Brundby
3	2	Jakobsine	Jacobsdatter	1843	1907	1864	Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
4	3	Jeppe	Pedersen	1804	b1880	1837	Kolby	Brundby
5	3	Kirsten	Mikkelsdatter	1805	1891	1837	Brundby	Brundby
6	3	Jacob	Mortensen	1787	1843	1834	Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
7	3	Ane Margrethe	Sørensdaughter	1814	1849	1834	Ørby	Tranebjerg
8	4	Peder	Rasmussen Klejs	1763	1812	1790		Kolby
9	4	Johanne	Jeppesdatter	1771	1837	1990	Kolby	Kolby
10	4	Michel	Hansen	1768			Besser	
12	4	Morten	Jørgensen Snedker	1754	1830		Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
13	4	Margrethe	Jørgensdatter	1760	1827		Brundby	
14	4	Søren	Jensen Hjulmand	1768	1838	1812	Onsbjerg	Ørby
15	4	Bodil	Villumsdatter	1791	1851	1812	Ørby	Ørby
18	5	Jep	Hansen	1711	1778	1768	Kolby	Kolby
19	5	Bodil	Jensdatter	1739	1791	1678		Kolby
24	5	Jørgen	Sørensen Snedker	1708	1788	1751	Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
25	5	Anne	Mortensdatter	1725	1802	1751	Brundby	Tranebjerg
26	5	Jørgen	Jørgensen Holm	1716	1792			Brundby
27	5	Anne	Sørensdaughter		1763			
28	5	Jens	Sørensen Hjulmand	1737	1802		Onsbjerg	Onsbjerg
29	5	Maren	Tønnesdatter		1777			Onsbjerg
30	5	Villum	Jensen Vadstrup	1747	1823	1781	Ørby	Ørby
31	5	Anne	Margr. Mortensdaughter	1761	1846	1781	Kolby	Ørby
36	6	Hans	Sørensen	1669	1728	1708		Kolby
37	6	Margrethe	Jepsdatter	1683	1747	1708	Kolby	Kolby
48	6	Søren	Jørgensen Snedker	1675	1738	1707	Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
49	6	Anne	Jacobsdatter	1677	1753	1707	Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
50	6	Morten	Jacobsen	1688	1729	1718	Brundby	Brundby
51	6	Kirsten	Mortensdaughter	1696	1756	1718	Brundby	Brundby
56	6	Søren	Jensen Hjulmand	1696			Besser	Onsbjerg
57	6	Mette	Pedersdaughter					
60	6	Jens	Olesen Vadstrup	1716	1772	1745		Ørby
61	6	Mette	Villumsdatter	1714	1780	1745	Brundby	Ørby
62	6	Morten Ladef.	Mortensen	1725	1770	1760		Kolby
63	6	Anne	Hansdaughter	1727	1765	1760	Kolby	Kolby
74	7	Jep	Jørgensen	1641	1707			Kolby
75	7	Kirsten	Andersdaughter	1661	1726			Kolby
96	7	Jørgen	Clemmensen	1630	1692		Tranebjerg	
97	7	Anne	Jensdaughter	1636	1705		Brundby	Tranebjerg
98	7	Jacob	Clemmensen	1635	1709		Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
99	7	Anne	Jensdaughter	1649	1717		Stauns	Tranebjerg
100	7	Jacob	Jensen	1643	1709		Brundby	Brundby
101	7	Anne	Jørgensdaughter	1648	1717		Brundby	Brundby
102	7	Morten	Mortensen Øster	1654	1706		Brundby	Brundby
103	7	Barbara	Sørensdaughter	1659	1716			Brundby
120	7	Ole	Jensen	1670	1729		Brundby	Ørby
121	7	Anne	Sørensdaughter		1754			Ørby
122	7	Villum	Rasmussen	1670				Brundby
123	7	Dorthe	Poulsdaughter	1672	1740		Brundby	Brundby
124	7	Morten	Pedersen	1677	1729		Ørby	Ørby

(ctd. next page)

Table 7 Rasmussen ancestors, continued

Anc. #	Gen. #	First name	Last name	Year of			Place of	
				Birth	Death	Marr	Birth	Death
125	7	Kirsten	Jørgensdatter	1688	1757			
126	7	Hans	Olufsen	1695	1730		Kolby	Kolby
127	7	Birthe	Nielsdatter	1692	1756			Kolby
148	8	Jørgen	Alfastsen					
192	8	Clemmen	Rasmussen	1600	1668		Tranebjerg	Tranebjerg
193	8	Gertrud	Bendtsdatter		1667			Tranebjerg
194	8	Jens	Jacobsen	b1605				Brundby
195	8	Anne	Poulsdatter	b1610	1680			Brundby
196	8	<i>Clemmen</i>	<i>Rasmussen (=192)</i>	<i>1600</i>	<i>1668</i>		<i>Tranebjerg</i>	<i>Tranebjerg</i>
197	8	<i>Gertrud</i>	<i>Bendtsdatter (=193)</i>		<i>1667</i>			<i>Tranebjerg</i>
198	8	Jens						Stauns
199	8	Karen	Michelsdatter	1628	1687			Stauns
200	8	<i>Jens</i>	<i>Jacobsen (=194)</i>	<i>b1605</i>	<i>0</i>			<i>Brundby</i>
201	8	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Poulsdatter (=195)</i>	<i>b1610</i>	<i>1680</i>			<i>Brundby</i>
202	8	Jørgen	Sørensen		1674			Brundby
203	8	Kirsten	Bendtsdatter					Brundby
204	8	Morten						
206	8	Søren	Jørgensen		1683			
207	8	Margrethe	Hansdatter	1625	1706			
240	8	Jens	Clemmensen	1633	1702		Tranebjerg	Brundby
241	8	Maren	Olesdatter	b1650	1687		Thorup	Brundby
242	8	Søren						
244	8	Rasmus						
246	8	Poul	Pedersen		1693			Brundby
247	8	Maren	Rasmusdatter		1693			Brundby
248	8	Peder	Jørgensen	1649	1684			
249	8	Anne	Jensdatter	1650	1694			
250	8	Jørgen	Bendtsen	1648	1715			
251	8	Anne	Sørensdaughter	1645	1728			
252	8	Oluf	Hansen	1656	1730			Kolby
253	8	Bodil	Jørgensdatter	1660	1730			Kolby
384	9	Rasmus	Jørgensen	1560	1620			Tranebjerg
386	9	Bendt	Pedersen					
387	9	Babara	Sørensdaughter					
392	9	<i>Rasmus</i>	<i>Jørgensen (=384)</i>	<i>1560</i>	<i>1620</i>			<i>Tranebjerg</i>
394	9	<i>Bendt</i>	<i>Pedersen (=386)</i>					
395	9	<i>Babara</i>	<i>Sørensdaughter (=387)</i>					
404	9	Søren						
480	9	<i>Clemmen</i>	<i>Rasmussen (=192)</i>	<i>1600</i>	<i>1668</i>		<i>Tranebjerg</i>	<i>Tranebjerg</i>
481	9	<i>Gertrud</i>	<i>Bendtsdatter (=193)</i>		<i>1667</i>			<i>Tranebjerg</i>
482	9	Ole	Jensen		1676			Thorup
483	9	Karen	Jørgensdaughter					Thorup
492	9	Peder						
501	9	Kirsten	Pedersdaughter		1692			
502	9	Søren		1624	1694			
503	9	Karen	Sørensdaughter	1625	1694			
768	10	Jørgen	Pedersen	1530	1560			
784	10	<i>Jørgen</i>	<i>Pedersen (=768)</i>		<i>1560</i>			
960	10	<i>Rasmus</i>	<i>Jørgensen (=384)</i>		<i>1620</i>			<i>Tranebjerg</i>
962	10	<i>Bendt</i>	<i>Pedersen (=386)</i>					
963	10	<i>Babara</i>	<i>Sørensdaughter (=387)</i>					
1920	11	<i>Jørgen</i>	<i>Pedersen (=768)</i>		<i>1560</i>			

APPENDIX A

Individual members of the four families founded by the Vadstrup and Rasmussen immigrants.

Sorted alphabetically by first name initial; page numbers refer to text in section 2.2, Individual family members.

Immigrant groups: **MM** = Michael and Marie WadstrupLarsen; **MS** = Meta and Søren Rasmussen; **RS** = Rasmus and Susan Wadstrup;

AM = Anne Margrethe and Marius Jacobsen

<i>Name</i>	<i>Pg.</i>	<i>Para.</i>
Alexander Austin Hannenberg	18	MM.A2
Alexander Chester Spalter Jarvis	23	MS.W4
Alexander James Jensen	25	MS.E4
Alicia Marie Hazen	16	MM.F4
Amy Elizabeth Fitch	17	MM.F10
Andrew Jacob Clarke	31	RS.R6
Andrew Keating	36	AM.Ro5
Anna Margaret Williams (Wadstrup)	17	MM.A1
Anna Margrethe Jacobsen (Vadstrup)	34	AM.1
Ashley Meyer (McClory)	26	MS.E8
Austin James Clarke	31	RS.R5
Barbara Bricken	29	RS.F10
Barbara Coppen (Duffy)	21	MS.G2
Barbara Jacobsen (Knowles)	37	AM.Ra1
Barbara Sue Cheves (Wadstrup)	31	RS.R8
Barry Coppen	22	MS.G3
Barry Craig Bianculli	32	RS.R10
Benjamin Reynolds	17	MM.F5
Benjamin Joseph Grigoriou	26	MS.E5
Braiden Corbett	36	AM.Ro8
Brian W Corbett	36	AM.Ro8
Brooke Coppen	22	MS.G3
Bruce Allen Jacobsen	37	AM.Ra2
Cameron Coppen	22	MS.G4
Carla Christine Hazen	16	MM.F4
Carmen Iraidia Wadstrup (Polanco)	19	MM.H4
Carol Irene Hannenberg (Williams)	18	MM.A2
Carol Lynn Meyer (Simmons)	26	MS.E6
Carolyn Susan Soper (Mulligan)	29	RS.F14
Catherine Lynn Kerman (Clarke)	31	RS.R7
Charles Stephen Williams	17	MM.A1
Christina Michelle Reynolds (Hazen)	17	MM.F5
Christopher Fisher	23	MS.W5
Claire Marjorie Hannenberg	18	MM.A4
Corey Jeanne Simon	37	AM.Ra6
Cydney Clarke (Cruce)	30	RS.R3
Daniel Sievic	34	AM.He5
David A. Carmichael	28	RS.F4
David Alonzo Wadstrup	19	MM.H4
David Clarke	30	RS.R3
David Norman Hedenberg	22	MS.W2
David Smith Wadstrup	19	MM.H2
David Smith Wadstrup, Jr.	19	MM.H3
Deacon Coppen	22	MS.G4
Dona F. Camaren	35	AM.Ho1
Donald Arthur Williams	18	MM.A5
Donald Coppen	21	MS.G2
Donald W. Fitch	17	MM.F9
Donna Louise Smith (Sylvester)	19	MM.H2
Dylan Courtney Clough	34	AM.He4
Edna Mae Mulligan	28	RS.F6
Edwin Lindorf Jacobsen	36	AM.E1
Edwin Lindorf Jacobsen, Jr.	37	AM.E2
Elaine Susan DalPian (Meyer)	24	MS.E2

<i>Name</i>	<i>Pg.</i>	<i>Para.</i>
Elisabeth Fisher (Pozner)	23	MS.W7
Elizabeth Grigoriou (DalPian)	26	MS.E5
Elizabeth Kernan	31	RS.R7
Elizabeth Wadstrup (Davidson)	16	MM.F1
Emily Catherine Hannenberg	18	MM.A3
Emily Fisher	23	MS.W7
Emmy Meyer (Rasmussen)	24	MS.E1
Frances Mulligan (Wadstrup)	28	RS.F1
Frank Smith	23	MS.W6
Frederick Kai Wadstrup	16	MM.F1
Gary Robert Jacobsen	36	AM.Ro9
George Dadah	35	AM.P2
George Dobbie	28	RS.F2
Gerda Coppen (Rasmussen)	21	MS.G1
Gordon Bricken	29	RS.F9
Gordon L. Cheves	31	RS.R8
Grace Anne Sievic (Jacobsen)	34	AM.He3
Grace Jacobsen (Spencer)	34	AM.He1
Hannah Chrysanthe Grigoriou	26	MS.E5
Hans Søren Rasmussen	21	MS.1
Heather Carliell Graham	17	MM.F7
Helen Ballard Jacobsen (Walker)	35	AM.Ro1
Henry Lauritz Wadstrup	18	MM.H1
Henry Lindorf Jacobsen	34	AM.He1
Herbert William Coppen	21	MS.G1
Holly Clough (Sievic)	34	AM.He4
Holly Graham	16	MM.F2
Howard Lindorf Jacobsen	35	AM.Ho1
Howard Lindorf Jacobsen	37	AM.E3
Iraklis Michael Grigoriou	26	MS.E5
Isabella Rose Scalise	23	MS.W3
Jack Fisher	23	MS.W7
Jacquelyn Jacobsen (Vine)	35	AM.Ro2
Jake Coppen	22	MS.G3
James A. Gell III	34	AM.He2
James E. Keating	36	AM.Ro3
James Kernan	31	RS.R7
James Wadstrup	32	RS.R11
Janet Ann Scalise (Hedenberg)	23	MS.W3
Janet LaRue Clarke (Wadstrup)	30	RS.R2
Janine Dobbie	28	RS.F5
Jason Dadah	35	AM.P3
Jason Meyer	26	MS.E8
Jean Marie Soper (Dominguez)	29	RS.F15
Jean Williams (Cote)	18	MM.A5
Jeffrey Scott Graham	17	MM.F6
Jenna Marie Soper	29	RS.F15
Jennifer Fisher	23	MS.W6
Jennifer Whitmore	18	MM.A4
Jeremy Dadah	35	AM.P4
Joan Dobbie (Mulligan)	28	RS.F2
Joann Dadah (Jacobsen)	35	AM.P2
John Joseph Proprac	29	RS.F11

(Name index continued)

(Name index continued)

Name	Pg.	Para.
John Mulligan	30	RS.F17
John Paul Jacobsen	35	AM.P5
John Theodore Sievic	34	AM.He3
John William Soper	29	RS.F15
Johnathan Michael Hazen	16	MM.F4
Jonathan Platt Graham	17	MM.F8
Jonathan Scalise	23	MS.W3
Jørgen Michael Vadstrup	16	MM.1
Joshua William Soper	29	RS.F15
Joyce Ann Fisher (Rasmussen)	23	MS.W5
Judith Jacobsen (Dembinski)	37	AM.E2
Judith Ann Hedenberg (Rasmussen)	22	MS.W2
Julie Elisabeth Simon (Jacobsen)	37	AM.Ra5
Kailee Corbett	36	AM.Ro8
Kaitlin Spalter Jarvis	23	MS.W4
Karen Musgrave	31	RS.R9
Kathleen Carmichael (Dobbie)	28	RS.F4
Kathleen F. Jacobsen	36	AM.Ro9
Kathleen M. Jacobsen (Boland)	37	AM.Ra2
Kathleen Mulligan	28	RS.F1
Kathryn Ann Rasmussen (Orzechowski)	22	MS.W1
Kathy Ellen Keating (Jacobsen)	36	AM.Ro3
Kelly Marie Nodland (Graham)	16	MM.F3
Kenneth G. Doesburg	28	RS.F3
Kenneth Joseph DalPian	24	MS.E2
Kenneth Spalter Jarvis	23	MS.W4
Kerrie Caldwell	36	AM.Ro8
Kevin Allen Jacobsen	37	AM.Ra4
Kevin Bianculli (adopted)	32	RS.R10
Kevin Thomas Graham	17	MM.F8
Laura Ann Jarvis (Hedenberg)	23	MS.W4
Laurie Jacobsen (Rek)	35	AM.P5
Lauritz Wadstrup	16	MM.1
Lauritz Wadstrup	16	MM.1
Lauritz Wadstrup	16	MM.1
Lily Kathryn Scalise	23	MS.W3
Linda Grace Miller (Wadstrup)	17	MM.F12
Linda Karen Bianculli (Wadstrup)	32	RS.R10
Lori Clarke (Manning)	30	RS.R3
Lorraine Victoria Jacobsen (Oteau)	36	AM.E1
Louise Martineau Jacobsen (Lemmelin)	35	AM.P1
Lukas Michael Reynold	17	MM.F5
Luke Coppen	22	MS.G3
Luke Maximus Wadstrup	19	MM.H4
Lynette C. Gell (Jacobsen)	34	AM.He2
Margaret Anna Fitch (Wadstrup)	17	MM.F9
Marie Elizabeth Graham (Wadstrup)	16	MM.F2
Marie Wadstrup (Larsen)	16	MM.1
Marius H. Lindorf Jacobsen	34	AM.1
Marius Lindorf Jacobsen	34	AM.1
Marjorie Wadstrup (Smith)	18	MM.H1
Mark Lloyd Jacobsen	35	AM.Ro2
Marshaell R. Mulligan (Erickson)	28	RS.F6
Martin Hurley Simon	37	AM.Ra5
Mary Proprac (Bricken)	29	RS.F11
Matthew Coppen	22	MS.G4
Matthew Nodland	16	MM.F3
Maureen Bricken (Mulligan)	29	RS.F9
Max R. Jacobsen Meyer	24	MS.E1
Melanie Keating	36	AM.Ro4

Name	Pg.	Para.
Melissa Clarke (Smith)	31	RS.R6
Melissa Graham (McDermott)	17	MM.F8
Meta Kirstine Rasmussen (Vadstrup)	21	MS.1
Meta Wadstrup	16	MM.1
Michael Allen Jacobsen	37	AM.Ra3
Michael Iraklis Grigoriou	26	MS.E5
Michael Mulligan	29	RS.F8
Michael Sylvester Wadstrup	19	MM.H4
Michael William Hazen	16	MM.F4
Mina Jacobsen (Biggs)	35	AM.Ho1
Morgan Alan Clarke	31	RS.R4
Mzia Jacobsen	37	AM.E3
Nicholas Knowles Simon	37	AM.Ra7
Olivia Lauren Scalise	23	MS.W3
Patricia Bricken	29	RS.F12
Patricia Kernan	31	RS.R7
Paul Lindorf Jacobsen	34	AM.P1
Paul Raymond Meyer	26	MS.E6
Penny Coppen (Leeman)	22	MS.G3
Phyllis S. Wadstrup (Seibert)	30	RS.R1
Rachel Coppen	22	MS.G4
Rachel Neasham	18	MM.A3
Rasmus Jørgen Vadstrup	28	RS.1
Raymond Lindoff Jacobsen	37	AM.Ra1
Richard Anthony Jensen	25	MS.E3
Robert C. Musgrave	31	RS.R8
Robert Charles Wadstrup	30	RS.R1
Robert Scott Soper	29	RS.F16
Robert Wadstrup Jacobsen	35	AM.Ro1
Russell Samuel Gephart	29	RS.F13
Ryan Meyer	26	MS.E7
Ryan W. Fitch	17	MM.F11
Samuel Mulligan	28	RS.F1
Samuel R. Mulligan	28	RS.F6
Sarah Ann Wadstrup (Ayala)	32	RS.R11
Sarah Corbett	36	AM.Ro7
Sarah Jensen (DalPian)	25	MS.E3
Sherry Lynn Miller	17	MM.F13
Sofia Grace Scalise	23	MS.W3
Stephanie Coppen (Delaney)	22	MS.G4
Stephen Corbett	36	AM.Ro6
Steven Clarke	31	RS.R6
Steven R. Nodland	16	MM.F3
Susan Doesburg (Dobbie)	28	RS.F3
Susan Elizabeth Corbett (Jacobsen)	36	AM.Ro6
Susan Jacobsen (Ellin)	36	AM.W1
Susan Wadstrup (Hunt)	28	RS.1
Tara M. Fitch (Lantieri)	17	MM.F11
Todd Fisher	23	MS.W7
Tracie Mulligan	28	RS.F7
Tucker Keating	36	AM.Ro4
Vickie Clarke (Larson)	31	RS.R6
Victoria Gephart (Bricken)	29	RS.F13
Vivian Keating	36	AM.Ro4
Walter Soper	29	RS.F14
Walter C. Graham	16	MM.F2
William Edward Clarke	31	RS.R6
William Joseph Clarke	30	RS.R2
William L. Miller	17	MM.F12
William L. Rasmussen	22	MS.W1
William Lindorf Jacobsen	36	AM.W1

