

Osten Larssen and Martha Olesdatter Fladebo, Charter Members of East Norway Lake Church

Osten Larssen was born 24 June 1825 in Nes, Hallingdal, Norway. He was the second of five children born to Lars Ostenson Lauvvikeie born 1797 and Anne Henriksdatter Rauk born 1792. He emigrated to America in 1850 along with his brother Henrik Larssen. His sister Kari Larsdatter emigrated in 1868 with husband Tolleiv [Tollef] Thorson and four children.

Osten married Martha Olesdatter Fladebo around 1874 or 1875. Martha was born 25 May 1837 in Kvam, Hordaland, Norway. Her parents were Ole Olsen and Britha Olesdatter. Martha and her younger sister Anna left Stavanger, Norway on the *Brodene*. They arrived in Quebec City, Quebec 8 July 1873. They may have come to Kandiyohi County because of relatives in the area. Anna married Ole Olsen Holum on 25 Nov 1875 at Solomon Lake.

The first record I could find places Osten in Wheeling Township, Rice County in 1865. His brother Henrik and his family reside there also. He moved to Lake Andrew Township and purchased 33.4 acres in Lot numbered 4 Section 11 on the shores of Lake Andrew in September of 1865. In April of 1866 he purchased 40 acres [NE ¼ of NE ¼] in Section 15. He also homesteaded 172.63 acres comprised of Lot numbered 5 and the SE ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 10 and Lot numbered 5 and the SW ¼ of SW ¼ of section 11. Osten had to pay for excess acreage over the 160 he could homestead. His homesteaded land adjoined his previous purchases.

Osten (Austin) and Martha never had any children. He died 25 Mar 1903 from asthma complications. He was 76. Martha remained on the family farm. She died 2 Feb 1920 at 82 years of kidney and heart disease. They are both buried at First Norway Lake.

Sources:

- Kandiyohi County Historical Association
- Canadian Passenger Lists
- My Heritage
- Family Search
- US General Land Office Records
- State and Federal censuses

Written by Carole Heimdahl and Todd Heimdahl, descendant of Osten, Henrik and Kari