

Ole A. Steig and Mari Jacobsdatter, Charter members East Norway Lake Church

Although the name on the charter member list is Ole E. Steig, we believe that the E is an error'

Ole Anderson was born 21 May 1833 to Anders Olsen and Berthe Olsdatter Steigs in Fron Parish, Oppland Norway. He signed out of the Sor-Fron local parish, Fron parish 23 Mar 1866 for America as Ole Anderson Steigs. According to Festskrift he spent a couple of years in Goodhue County prior to his move to the Norway lake area in 1868.

According to family members trees on Ancestry he married Mari Jacobsdatter in 1869.

Mari was born 30 Sept 1843 in Fron Parish, Oppland, Norway to Jacob Olsen Steigs [1812-1887] and Marit Pedersdatter[1817-1875]. The 1865 census lists her as a servant[Tjenestepige] in the home of Paul Paulsen and Mari Torgersdatter. She left Sor-Fron local parish, Fron parish, Oppland, Norway 3 June 1867 as Mari Jakobsdatter Steigeie. She sailed on the bark Chapman which left Christiania [Oslo] July 6 and arrived in Quebec August 25 under the name Marie Jokobsdatter Kneipen. Knipen was the name of the farm her parents lived on in the 1865 census. She traveled with her older sister Anne's mother and father in law and their children.

Ole and Mari had settled in Arctander Township by the 1870 census. They homesteaded 80 acres in sec 32[E1/2 of SE ¼] and purchased an adjoining 80 acres in Sec 33 [W ½ ofSW ¼]. He was issued his certificate of title for his homesteaded land 30 Mar 1880.

Ole and Mari had 7 children all baptized at the Norway Lake church.

1. Anna: born 3 Mar 1870, died 3 Feb 1888
2. Beata: born 15 Sept 1871, died 23 Mar 1932, married Peder S. Buraas, 15 children
3. Mathilda: born 01 Dec 1873, died 23 Mar 1940, married Christian Gunderson, 3 children
4. Jennie: born 01 Dec 1873, died 3 Mar 1900, married Albert Hough, 1 child
5. Alma: born 13 July 1877, died 01 Mar 1932, married Iver Running , 1 child
6. Albert: born 14 April 1881, died 24 Jan 1951, married Olga Otella Winden 3 children
7. Ole: born 24 April 1885, died 27 Nov 1924, married Inga Haraldson

Ole adopted the farm name of Steig from his birthplace in Norway. He is using it by the 1873 birth of his twins, although his homestead records are in the name Anderson.

Ole dies 17 Oct 1884 at the age of 51. He is buried in the East Norway Lake cemetery. His youngest child Ole is born after his death. Mari is a widow with 7 children aged 14 and under.

Mari marries Amund Anderson. Ancestry trees say 11 June 1886. They have one child, a daughter Emma, born 24 April 1887. Emma marries Selmer Steberg. His parents John and Marit were also charter members of East Norway lake Church and have their own biography. Emma has 6 children and passes away in 1949.

Mari passes away 28 May 1894 at the age of 50. She is buried in West Lake Lutheran cemetery.

Written by Carole Heimdahl, January 2020

Sources:

- Digital arkviet, birth and emigration records
- Evangelical Lutheran Church records
- 1865 Norway Census
- Norway Heritage, emigration records for Mari
- US land ownership records
- 1886 Plat Map
- Ancestry Public member Trees and Ancestry. Com

Footnotes:

- Anna's birth in the Norway Lake church records is 3 Mar 1870 but her parents are listed as Ole Hansen and Mari Jakobsdatter. Her death is mistakenly recorded in the East Norway Lake records under the name of her sister Beata.
- I have used the birth and death dates recorded in church records. Family records list Beata's birth date as 15 August 1871.