

## Time-Line of J. K. Penner

Frontispiece – from private notebook owned by J. K. Penner. “Notes from my and my loved ones’ lives.”

### **God is eternal, we perish; Our time stands in His hands.**

- 1780 On 24 December Nikolas Kroker, father of my mother was born. Approximately 2-3 years later, Peter Penner, father of my father was born.
- 1784 My mother’s mother, Agathe, born Hamm, was born.
- 1794 On May 10 Grandmother Penner, born Wolke, was born.
- 1797 On 6 November, Abraham Jantzen was born in West Prussia. He is the Grandfather of my wife.
- 1812 John Kroker, the only right brother of my mother was born.
- 1814 On 26 August my mother, Catherine Kroker, was born in Lupushorst in West Prussia.
- 1815 On 8 February my father Peter Penner was born in the Roten = Bude (red-house?) Near Elbing, West Prussia.
- 1816 My Grandmother Kroker died.
- 1844 My Grandfather Kroker died.
- 1845 In April (18?) My parents marry.
- 1846 My brother Peter was born. He dies after only 5 days.
- 1847 (?) Grandfather Penner died.
- 1848 My parents moved into the town of Elbing, West Prussia just before the Revolution of 1848.
- 1849 My sister Agathe is born 4 January.
- 1850 On 27 November I am born into this world at 12:30 a.m. at Elbing, West Prussia.
- 1850 On 24 December my sister Agathe dies.
- 1852 On 16 March, my sister Helen is born.
- 1853 On 7 October, my sister Helen dies.
- 1854 On 12 November, my brother William is born.
- 1855 On 1 September my father dies of the Kholara.
- 1856 I am sent to school to Miss Grubart.
- 1857 I attended kindergarten (pre 1<sup>st</sup> class) of the higher burgerschool.

- 1864 On 4 October my mother took me to teacher Johannes Claassen to the school in Broskerfelde where on 5 October I entered instruction.
- 1866 In spring my mother and William moved to Broskerfelde.
- 1867 I completed the instruction at Broskerfelde. On 20 May, I was baptized by the elder Johann Toevs in Ladekopp.
- 1868 We moved to Marienburg where I entered the Teacher Seminar(y).
- 1870 We moved to Russia to the Mennonite settlement near Saratov.
- 1870 In November I began to teach in the German school in Friesenheim near Saratov.
- 1871 In January the German-Russian area school was ceremoniously introduced.
- 1872 In the fall the area school was moved from Friesenheim to Koppental into a 2-story building.
- 1872 In this summer I traveled to Samara. Uncle John Wiebe dies.
- 1873 In summer my mother and I make a trip to the old home.
- 1874 In 23 of May I am engaged to the young frau Helen Jantzen, daughter of Henry Jantzen from Hahnsau. She was born on 3 August 1856.
- On 16 June we celebrated the engagement.
- On 4 August (one day after she was 18 years old) we celebrated our wedding in Hahnsau.
- On 17 August we moved to Koppental.
- 1875 On 14 February I was installed as preacher in the congregation at Koppental.
- On 21 May I preached my entry sermon.
- 1875 On 6 June our daughter Catherine <sup>1</sup> is born.
- 1876 On 15 September our son Henry <sup>2</sup> is born.
- 1878 On 21 January our daughter Barbara is born.
- 1878 On 16 May we moved from Koppental to Lindenau where I taught the village school.
- 1879 On 12 March, our daughter Helen <sup>3</sup> was born.
- 1879 On 4 May our daughter Barbara dies.

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<sup>1</sup> Catherine #387864 died 12 January, 1935 in Beatrice, NE.

<sup>2</sup> Henry (identified in Grandmaonline.org as Heinrich K. "H.K." #387872) died 29 November, 1940 in Beatrice, NE.

<sup>3</sup> Helen (identified in Grandmaonline.org as Helena #19163) died 26 July, 1963 in Beatrice, NE.

- 1880 On 3 June our son Peter was born.
- 1880 On 25 August we moved from Am Trakt in the second group to Turkestan.  
On 6 September we arrived at Kaplanbek.
- 1881 On 7 July we left Kaplanbek and moved to Buchara.
- 1881 On 26 November our son Peter dies in Buchara.
- 1881 On 10 December we had to leave Buchara and were accepted in the Russian border town Sra-bulack.
- 1882 On 24 June the latest (last) Trakter brothers; 29 families came to us at Sra-bulack.
- 1881 Near end of August the Auszugsgemeinde (the departing congregation) moves to Chiva.
- 1882 On 6 October while on the trip to Chiva, on the raft on the River Amu-Darja our daughter Marie <sup>4</sup> is born.  
21 October we arrived at Chiva.
- 1883 On 25 October my mother, after a short intense heart illness, enters her rest with the Lord.  
[at Lausan, Khiva]
- 1884 On 29 April we leave Lausan in Chiva and begin our journey to Amerika. Two-thirds of the congregation moves to Ah-Metschet near the main city.
- 1884 On 12 September we arrived at Beatrice, Nebraska, U.S.A. after our long voyage. At first we stayed with uncle and aunt Rempel and then with John Andreas.
- 1884 On 10 November we moved into the newly built schoolhouse.
- 1884 On 11 November on the burial day of old aunt Rempel our daughter Margarete Wilhelmine <sup>5</sup> was born.

**This is the end of J. K. Penner's Time-Line.**

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### **Additions to the Time-Line by James T. Bartsch**

These additions are derived from [Grandmaonline.org](http://Grandmaonline.org), as well as from my personal experience. All footnotes in this document are the work of James T. Bartsch.

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<sup>4</sup> Marie (identified in Grandmaonline.org as Maria, #387902) died 4 June, 1900 in Beatrice, NE.

<sup>5</sup> Margarete Wilhelmine (identified in Grandmaonline.org as Margarethe Wilhelmine, #131690) died 14 June, 1967. She was buried in Beatrice, NE.

- 1886 On 17 March our daughter Elizabeth <sup>6</sup> was born in Beatrice, NE.
- 1887 On 20 November our son John J. <sup>7</sup> (“J.J.”) was born in Beatrice, NE.
- 1889 On 15 October our daughter Anna <sup>8</sup> was born in Beatrice, NE.
- 1891 On 13 May our daughter Gertrude <sup>9</sup> was born in Beatrice, NE.
- 1893 On 25 June our son Wilhelm James was born in Beatrice, NE.
- 1896 On 7 February our daughter Martha was born in Beatrice, NE.
- 1898 On 22 November our son Cornelius D. was born in Beatrice, NE.

**This Time-Line last updated on October 4, 2022**

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<sup>6</sup> Elisabeth (identified in Grandmaonline.org as #387918) married Peter D. Claassen on 13 June, 1916. Uncle Pete and Aunt Elisabeth, as we called them, were my father’s Uncle and Aunt since she was sister to my father’s mother, Gertrude. They were actually my Great Uncle and Great Aunt. They lived in Newton, Kansas, the town in which I grew up, so we visited them occasionally in their home. Aunt Elisabeth died 5 April, 1969 in Newton, KS.

<sup>7</sup> John J. (identified in Grandmaonline.org also as “J.J.” #387839) died 17 January, 1859 in Beatrice, NE.

<sup>8</sup> Anna (identified in Grandmaonline.org as #387927) married Gustav R. Toevs 29 November, 1934. Anna was his second wife, his first wife, Maria L. Schroeder having died. Anna and Gustav were married but a short time, for he died in 1940. I was born in 1947, and we lived in (Great) Aunt Anna’s home on 613 SE 2<sup>nd</sup> St. In Newton Kansas. (My father was her nephew, as Aunt Anna was sister to my father’s mother, Gertrude Penner Bartsch.) Aunt Anna lived in the upstairs apartment, and my parents, John and Florence Bartsch, along with their family, me and my siblings, lived on the main floor. Aunt Anna moved to Bethel Home for Aged around 1950. She died upright in her chair in her room at Bethel. My parents took me and my younger sister Carol to see her, an experience that left an impression on me that lasts to this day.

<sup>9</sup> [Gertrude](#) (identified in Grandmaonline.org as #31541) was my father’s mother. She married [Paul W. Bartsch, Sr.](#) April 14, 1920. Ten years later, she developed an infection on her face that never healed up. (There were no antibiotics in those days.) She died October 30, 1930 in Newton, Kansas. My father’s sister, [Anna Marie](#), was only 8 when her mother passed away; my father, [John](#), was only seven; and their baby brother, [Paul, Jr.](#) was only three months old. I never met Gertrude, for I was born in 1947. Two years after Gertrude died, Paul, Sr. married Esther Bernice Toevs Bartsch on September 30, 1932. She was the only paternal grandmother I ever knew.