

The Woodsman: Gottlieb Klaiber



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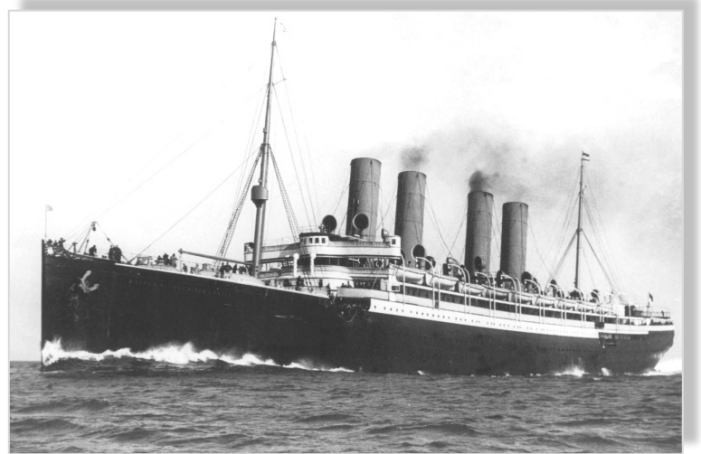
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The Woodsman: Gottlieb Klaiber

(John "Jack" William Claybert)

Gottlieb Klaiber, son of Andreas Klaiber and Wilhelmina Hönke was born on 16 July 1899 at Josephsburg, Alberta District, Northwest Territories, Dominion of Canada.¹

His parents were German-Russian immigrants leaving Bremen on 26 April 1898 and arriving 4 May at New York Port on the S.S. *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* <<Kaiser William the Great>>. The Klaiber family travelled with the Wilhem Zeitz [William Seitz] family, party of six from Malojaroslawetz², a German colony in Bessarabia, Russia.³ Andreas' occupation was a "wright maker", possibly referred to as a *wheelwright maker* in



Canada—a person who builds or repairs wheels. Their destination: "Medicine Hat" in the North-West Territories of Canada where Andreas joined his friend Johann Weiss. Andreas and wife Wilhelmina were both 28, bringing their three children: Andreas (age 4), Katarina (age 2) and Michael (9 months).⁴

¹ Alberta, Registrations of Births, Marriages and Deaths 1870 to 1905, "Births 1898-1904," #02-0117-0050B, entry for Gottlieb "Kleiber", born 16 July 1899; citing Provincial Archives of Alberta, Edmonton.

² "New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957," database and digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>) : accessed 12 May 2014, image 437 of 602, leaving Bremen, 26 April 1898, on the S.S. *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, arriving in New York on 4 May 1898; entry for Wilhelm Zeitz (age 41) and family; citing National Archives and Records Administration, series T-715, roll 20, page 88, lines 4-9, Washington, D.C.

³ Wilhelm Kludt, *Die Deutschen Kolonisten in Bessarabien* (Odessa : —, 1900) (<http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/>) : 8 June 2014), page 34. The German Colony once spelt Malojaroslawetz can be found today spelt Maloyaroslavets.

⁴ "New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957," database and digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>) :

William], both of Medicine Hat, Alberta

- Ten step-children; 27 step-great-grandchildren
- Ballbearers: Clayton, Dennis, Gordon and Kirby Claybert; Dave Cunningham and Rick Goodheart.⁷³



Lakeview Cemetery, Town of Cold Lake, Bonnyville Municipal District, Alberta⁷⁴

Highlights of this report (in point form):

- Gottlieb Klaiber altered his name to—John “Jack” William Claybert
- Lived in Major/Fusiler, Kindersley, Saskatchewan after leaving his parental home
- Married Elsie Grace David in 1926, Kindersley, SK
- The couple applied for their first homestead on 5 August 1929
- “Jack” and Elsie had a son named Bruce Robert Claybert, born abt 1932, most likely in Alberta
- Jack homesteaded, farmed, cooked, fish, trapped, leased grazing and timber land in the Cold Lake District
- Jack divorced Elsie before 1958
- Jack eventually placed himself in a seniors home called “Cold Lake Lodge” between 1974 and 1981
- There he met and married his soul mate Florence St. Pierre between 1978 and 1981
- Jack died on 12 January 1987 at Cold Lake Lodge Seniors nursing home
- Jack has six grandchildren

⁷² Alberta Genealogical Society, compiler, “Hillside Cemetery (Medicine Hat, Alberta), Cemetery #76, Legal NW-26-12-06-W4, date read unknown,” database, *Master Cemetery and Local History Database*, Edmonton: AB, 2009; entry for Conrad Edler (11 July 1899–17 January 1987), plot 223G.07S.

⁷³ “Obituaries—Claybert,” *Bonnyville Nouvelle* (Bonnyville, Alberta), Tuesday, 27 January 1987, page B-7, col. 1.

⁷⁴ “Gravestones for Jack Klaiber (Claybert) and 2nd wife Florence St. Pierre Claybert, Lakeland Cemetery, Town of Cold Lake, Bonnyville Municipal District, digital images, *Roots Web, Grave Marker Cemetery Album* (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cangmg/alberta/bonnyvil/coldlake/lakeview/page0001.htm>: accessed 12 May 2014), photographs by Murray Pletsch, taken 2012.