

# GIBBS & JOHNSON FAMILIES

## Who are the people in our family?

### Johnson Family Names

Johnson/Jensen

Curley

Lawless

DeCourcy/DeCoursey

Christiansen

Lichty

Gibbs

Renzi

The purpose of this presentation is to show the interrelationships of the Gibbs and Johnson family ancestors and descendants. The movies and photos preserved by Victor Johnson are mainly from his visits with his siblings and other Johnson relatives. Victor also knew aunts, uncles, and cousins on both the Johnson and Lawless sides. Most of the videos are of the Johnson families. Several of the videos include the Ray Gibbs parents & sibling families.

The movies will make more sense when you know something about who the people are. The Web page has more about the families.

Family and individual stories for the Gibbs and Johnson families are available in e-book form and can be downloaded from the Web site.

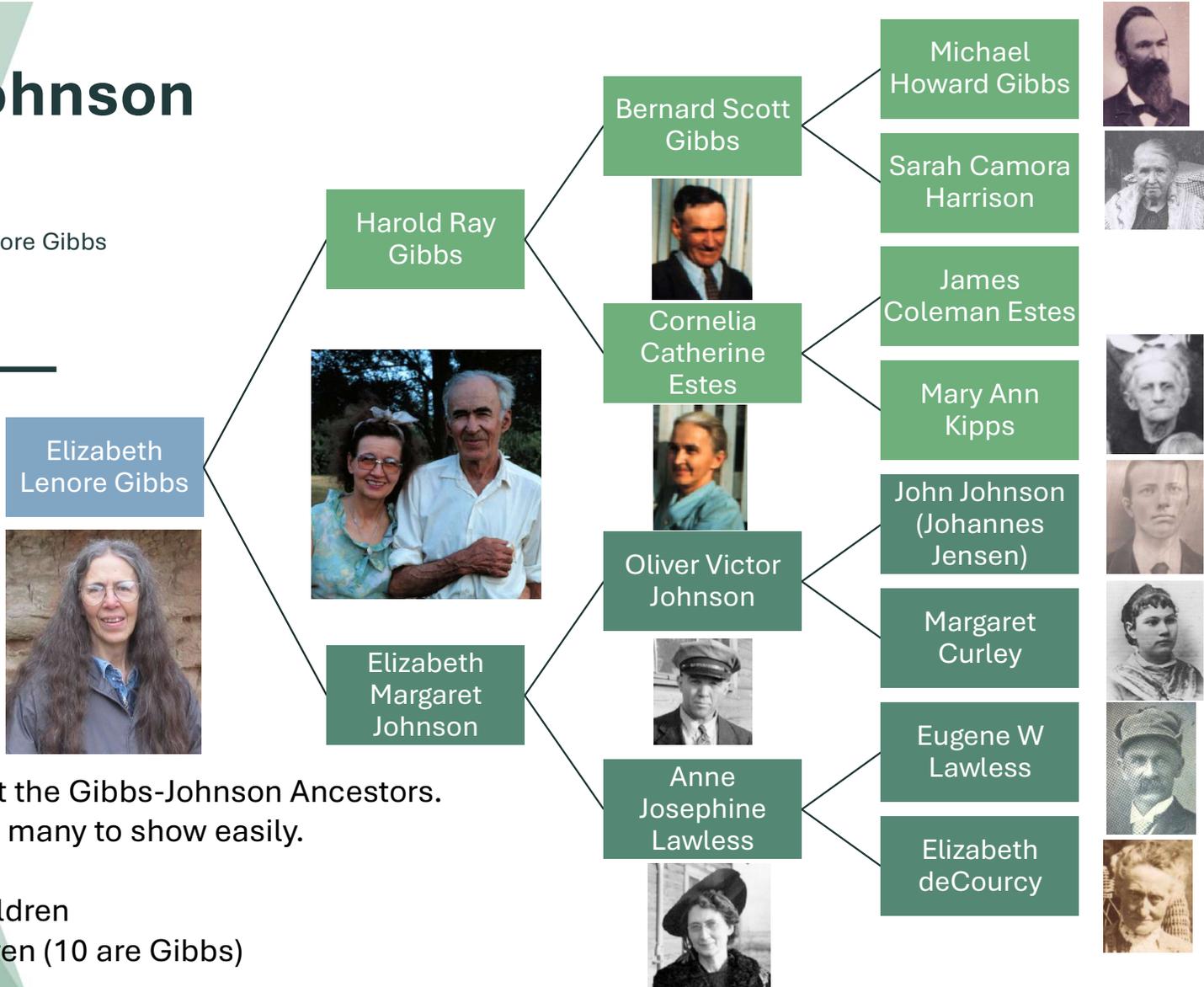
Videos can be found on YouTube. Visit the Web page for easy access to the 70 videos.

[GibbsJohnsonFamilyHistory.com](http://GibbsJohnsonFamilyHistory.com)

Prepared by: Betty Gibbs.

# Gibbs – Johnson Families

Ancestors of Elizabeth Lenore Gibbs (Betty)



This is a quick look at the Gibbs-Johnson Ancestors. Descendants are too many to show easily.

Listed on last slides:

36 Johnson grandchildren

21 Gibbs grandchildren (10 are Gibbs)

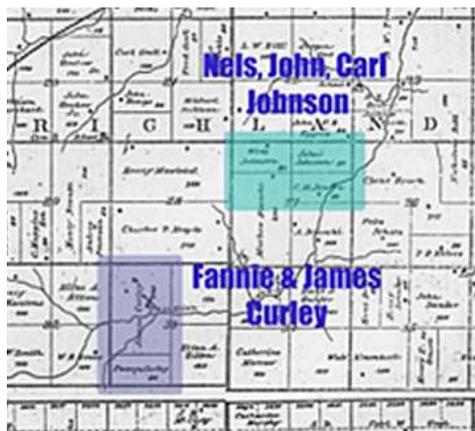
## Johnson Family Origins

Johannes Jensen/John Johnson came from Denmark with his family in 1869. The family established a farm in eastern Nebraska in Sarpy County (near Omaha).

John Johnson bought the North ½ of the NE ¼ from the Union Pacific Railroad in 1889.

The Curley family lived less than 2 miles from the Johnsons.

The John Johnson family moved to near Lyons NE in 1894.



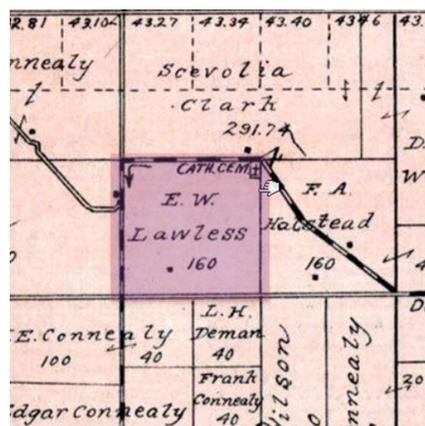
From 1889 plat produced by Anderson Publishing



## Lawless Family Origins

Eugene Lawless came from Ireland in 1880 and brought his new wife Elizabeth (Bessie) DeCourcy to a farm a few miles west of Decatur Nebraska in 1884. Eugene lived on the property until he died in 1927. Note the Catholic cemetery in the NE corner. Bessie and Eugene are buried there as well as their daughter Eugenia Lawless.

(1922)



Oliver eventually took over the John Johnson property west of Lyons NE after his mother died in 1909.

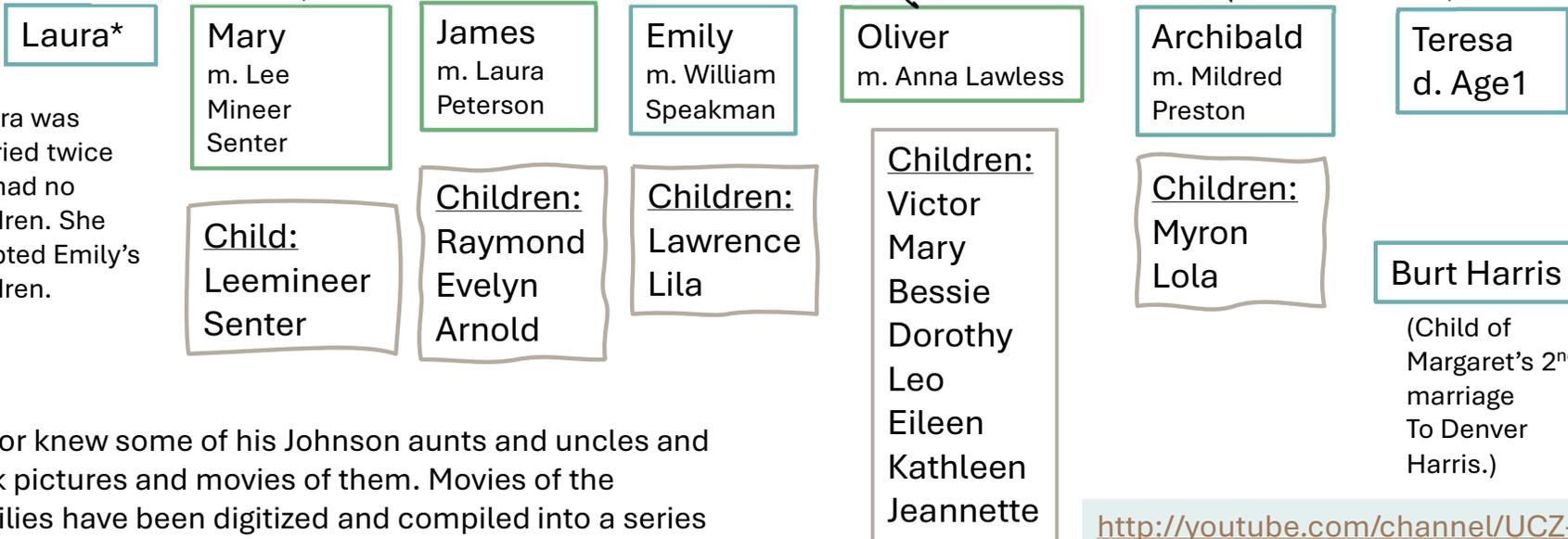
Eugene called his property GarryOwen which was a section of Limerick.

# JOHNSON FAMILY CHART ANCESTORS, DESCENDANTS

John Johnson's Parents  
Jens Jensen and Anna Nelson  
Immigrated from Denmark

John Johnson (1856-1897)  
m. Margaret Curley – 1882  
(1865-1909)

Margaret Curley's Parents  
James and Fanny Curley  
Immigrated from Ireland



\*Laura was married twice but had no children. She adopted Emily's children.

Victor knew some of his Johnson aunts and uncles and took pictures and movies of them. Movies of the families have been digitized and compiled into a series of videos for YouTube.

<http://youtube.com/channel/UCZ-l21zlnGpyFBSmEjete8g>

# JOHNSON FAMILY GROUPS

John Johnson  
Margaret Curley



Frank Curley  
Margaret Curley's Uncle



John Johnson Family, 1909



Frank with daughters  
Alberta and Bernice

Lawless Family  
Eugene William Lawless  
Bessie DeCourcy



Eugenia, Sam Walheter, Anna, John,  
Nell Connealy (friend)



NOTE: Victor Johnson did not take movies or photos of all the John Johnson children. The lists of descendants in this presentation focus on the relatives that he took movies of. The full list of descendants is in the Johnson Family History book.

# FAMILY GROUPS

## JOHN JOHNSON CHILDREN

**Laura** (1883-1956)  
m. Abner Sharp  
(no children)



**James** (1887-1973)  
m. Laura Peterson

Children:  
Raymond  
Evelyn  
Arnold



Evelyn & Bob  
Wahlin

**Mary** (1885-1925)  
m. Lee Minier Senter



Child:  
Leemineer Senter  
m. Minnie Bell Pillow



Raymond Johnson Family



Victor Johnson and  
Raymond



Evelyn, Arnold, Raymond



Arnold & Theora  
Johnson

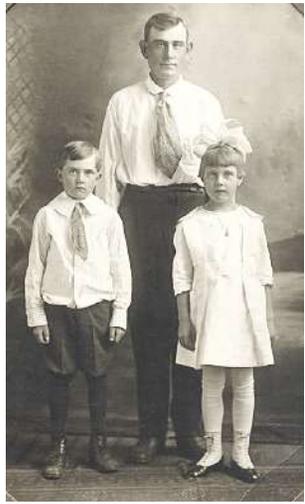


# FAMILY GROUPS

## JOHN JOHNSON CHILDREN

**Emily\*** (1889-1959)  
m. William Speakman

Children:  
Lawrence  
Lila



**Archibald (Archie)**  
(1893-1963)  
m. Mildred Preston

Children:  
Myron  
Lola



Archie, Mildred, Lola, Myron



Archie, Oliver, Jim Johnson



Myron and Lucille Johnson

\*Pictures. No movies



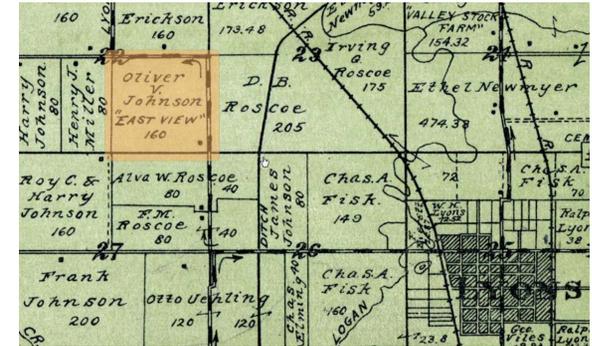
# FAMILY GROUPS

## OLIVER JOHNSON CHILDREN

**Oliver**  
(1891-1963)  
m. Anna Lawless  
(1893-1975)

**Victor** (1916-2000)  
m. Lois Sprentall  
Lois had two  
teenage boys.

**Mary** (1917-1978)  
m. John Christiansen  
6 children



Children:  
Victor  
Mary  
Bessie  
Dorothy  
Leo  
Eileen  
Kathleen  
Jeannette

**Bessie** (1918-2013)  
m. Ray Gibbs  
10 children

**Leo** (1920-2004)  
m. Nora Jane Boland  
7 children

**Dorothy** (1922-2017)  
m. Edward Lichty  
4 children

Eileen, Jeannette, Dorothy  
Mary, Kathleen, Bessie

**Eileen** (1924-2008)  
m. Rocco Renzi (Rocky)  
9 children

**Kathleen** (1927-2010)  
Became a nun.

**Jeannette** (1933-1942)  
Died Age 9

Leo and Victor  
(Taken 1941)



Car: 1935 Dodge Coupe  
Name: "Dodging Dick"

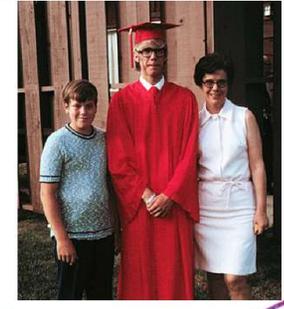


36 grandchildren, 2  
step-grandchildren

# FAMILY GROUPS OLIVER JOHNSON GRANDCHILDREN

## Victor

m. Lois Sprentall  
Lois had two  
teenage boys.



Jerry, Bob, Lois

## Bessie

m. Ray Gibbs  
10 children



Christine, Joan, Robin, Steven, Victor, Scott, Betty, Julia. Front: Justin, Bessie, Ray, Hunter.



## Mary

m. John Christiansen  
6 children



Ruth, Jim, Joel, Tom, Mary, Dale, Marie, John, Ivan Trowbridge



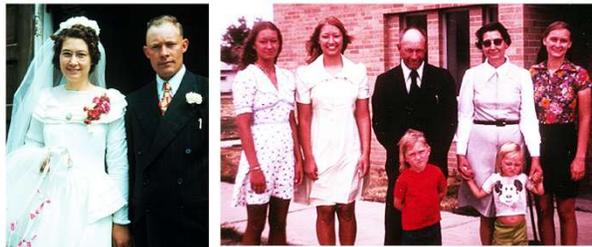
# FAMILY GROUPS OLIVER JOHNSON GRANDCHILDREN

**Leo**  
m. Nora Jane Boland  
7 children



Herb, Bob, David, Jeanne, Nora, Therese, Sam, Barbara, Leo

**Dorothy**  
m. Edward Lichty  
4 children



Pam, Pauline, Ed, Dorothy, Anne



Theresa (Tessie)

**Eileen**  
m. Rocco Renzi (Rocky)  
9 children



Patrick, John, Jeannette, Peter, Lucille Mary, Margaret, Rocky, Eileen, Ann, Eileen E.

**Sr. Kathleen**



Kathleen and Jeannette  
c1941



Sr. Alphonus  
1950s



Sr. Kathleen Johnson  
1993

# FAMILY GROUPS LAWLESS

Eugene William Lawless (1860-1927)  
m. Elizabeth (Bessie) DeCourcy  
February 1884 in Ireland.  
(1852-1911)

Children Born near Decatur Nebraska:  
Marie Louise (Minnie) (1885-1972)  
Eugenia (1888-1982)  
John DeCoursey (1892-1956)  
Anna (Anne) Josephine (1893-1975)



Eugenia, Sam Walheter, Anna, John, Nell Connealy (friend)



Eugene and  
Bessie Lawless



Minnie Lawless



# FAMILY GROUPS

## LAWLESS

Minnie Lawless  
(1886-1972)  
m. Phil Thompson (1883-1924)  
m. Thomas Byram (1886-1930)

Children:  
Bernice (1916-1968)  
Donald (1919-1975)



??, Donald, Bernice, Arthur, Kathy,  
Minnie. (No record of Donald's wife.)

John DeCourcy Lawless  
(1891-1956)  
m. Blanche Tannehill 1930  
(1910-2003)

Children:  
Anna Marie, d. before 2003  
Mary Eileen (1932-1997)  
Jack (1940-2003)



Anna Marie, Jack, Blanche, Mary Eileen, John

Eugenia Lawless  
(1888-1982)



Anna Lawless (1893-1975)  
m. Oliver Johnson 1915  
8 children



### Gibbs Origins

The earliest Gibbs were settlers in Jamestowne, British Colonial Virginia.

The ancestors of Bernard Gibbs and Cornelia Estes lived in the Madison Virginia area beginning in the 1700s.

The picture was taken c1942 at Gibbs home near Rochelle, Virginia. This was the farm of Bernard Gibbs' parents Michael and Sarah Gibbs.

*Tallest in back, Jimmy Clore, Katherine next to him. On Katherine's right: Bernard Gibbs, Annie Carpenter, Bessie and Ray Gibbs, Margaret and Jim Gibbs.*

*Left front: Rye and Anna Jones, Bunny, Marilyn, Hazel.*

*Cornelia Gibbs on Hazel's right.*

*Young girls: Alma Katherine Clore, Patricia Gibbs.*

*Littlest girls: Nancy Clore, Sharon Gibbs.*

## FAMILY GROUPS GIBBS



Bernard and Cornelia were called Daddy Bun and Mama Nelie.

# THOSE IN MOVIES

## Oliver and Anne Johnson Grandchildren

**John, Mary  
Christiansen**  
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Tom  
Jim  
Joel  
Marie  
Dale  
Ruth

**Ray, Bessie  
Gibbs**  
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Betty  
Joan  
Scott  
Steven  
Julia  
Victor  
Christine  
Robin  
Justin  
Hunter

**Leo, Nora  
Johnson**  
-----

Jeanne  
David  
Bob  
Herb  
Sam  
Barbara  
Terese

### **Others not relatives** -----

Mrs. Smithers – family friend  
Shorty Johnson – not family

**Edward, Dorothy  
Lichty**  
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Theresa  
Anne  
Pauline  
Pam

**Rocky, Eileen  
Renzi**  
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Jeannette  
Lucille  
Peter  
John  
Patrick  
Eileen  
Anne  
Mary  
Margaret

# GIBBS FAMILY IN MOVIES

## Bernard and Cornelia Gibbs Grandchildren

**Ray, Bessie  
Gibbs**  
-----

Betty

Joan

Scott

Steven

Julia

Victor

Christine

Robin

Justin

Hunter

**Katherine, Jimmy  
Clore**  
-----

Alma Katherine

Nancy

**Bunny and Hazel  
Gibbs**  
-----

Dianne

Bruce

**Jim and Margaret  
Gibbs**  
-----

Patricia

Sharon

**Marilyn and Homer  
Jr. Seale**  
-----

Kevin

Cheryl

Ronnie

Michael

**Anna and Rye Jones**  
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Cornelia Ann

**NOTE:** Other members of the families are in the movies. They are identified in the movie text.