

Fietkau  
Family History

Carl "Charles" August Fietkau  
(12 July 1827 – 30 July 1897)

And

Rhoda Ann Jenkins  
(3 November 1834 – 16 March 1894)

## Foreword

LaRae Fietkau Crandall and her husband Robert, were called to serve in the LDS Family History Mission in Salt Lake City, Utah, from April 2000 until the end of March in 2001. They were assigned to the Public Affairs Zone in the Genealogical Library. All missionaries received intensive training in many aspects of family history and genealogy. One of the principles taught over and over...and over again, was to document, document, and document, all of the dates and information that we possibly can.

With but very little information about the Fietkau line, LaRae chose to pursue her great-grandfather's (Carl "Charles" August Fietkau) family genealogy. She has tried to document all her findings...but needs help in some areas.

We greatly appreciate the help of Ben and Mary Ann Fietkau in verifying and documenting burial information in Salem, Oregon and German genealogy. Our thanks also go to Camille Fietkau Gifford and her husband, Rob, for their hospitality during our stay with them in McMinnville, Oregon, while we did research in Salem.

This material is presented to help interested family members and others to become better acquainted with her great-grandfather. There are areas in his history that remain to be researched. Anyone desiring to share more information with LaRae will be greatly appreciated. She can be contacted at 165 North 1230 East, Springville, UT 84663, or reached by phone at (801) 489-6881.

July 27,2003

## Carl "Charles" August Fietkau **A Brief Overview**

Though he was christened as Carl August Fietkau, our grandfather preferred and used the name of "Charles", or "C.A." Fietkau. We have found various spellings for his family name: Fietkau, Fietkan, Fitkaw, Feitku, etc. In the 1800's a person's name as it appeared on emigration documents, ship manifests, and Census reports were according to the spelling used by the clerk who made record of the event. Many names were spelled phonetically and offered a challenge during our verification.

Charles Fietkau was born in Elbing, West Prussia, or Germany. He spent most of his early life in and around Elbing, but later took up an apprenticeship as a carpenter or "zimmerman". We know that he filed for a passport to allow him to go to Denmark to practice his trade. It was also used as a police report to identify himself when he returned to Germany, so he could be properly identified. The passport gives us one of the most complete descriptions of Charles... at age 27.

We found that Charles left Germany on June 24, 1854, from Hamburg. He booked passage on "Lady Seale" to Hull, England. Tracing his steps from Hull to Wisconsin has been an enormous challenge. We cannot find record of his travels from Hull to the United States of America. There is a good possibility that he may have traveled to Liverpool or another English port to catch a ship in 1854 or shortly thereafter. There is also a chance that he may have arranged to work his way across the ocean utilizing his carpenter skills. We have searched a great number of ship manifests during that Period of time, but have yet to identify him on any lists.

There are three periods of Charles' life that we are concerned with:

- 1- His birth and early years in Germany.
- 2- His exodus from Germany to the United States and relocation in Wisconsin and marriage to Rhoda Ann Jenkins on December 28, 1858. Six children were born of this marriage: three in Grand Rapids and three in Armenia, Wisconsin.
- 3- His relocation to Salem, Oregon where he owned a fruit farm and where he and his wife died and are buried.

Charles August Fietkau  
Time Line & Research Log

Date	Event	Age	Location	World History	Comments
12 Jun 1827	Birth		Elbing, Danzig, West Prussia		
8 Jul 1827	Baptized under "Carl August"	26 days	Elbing, Danzig, West Prussia		By pastor of the town
1847 & 1848	Military Registration	20,21	Elbing, Danzig, West Prussia		Military Registration-Too weak to serve
1849	Military Registration	22	Elbing, Danzig, West Prussia		Place in infantry reserve
1845-1849	Apprentice Carpenter Journeyman Carpenter	18-21	Elbing, Danzig, West Prussia		Work for Master Krause Name used "Karl August Fietkau" translated at FHL, B-1 ( <i>Translation not complete.</i> )
25 May 1849		21			
1854	Applied for passport for Copenhagen, Denmark	27	Traveled to Hamburg via Berlin and on to Copenhagen		Original passport valid for one year. <i>Needs to be translated.</i>
24 Jun 1854	Emigrated to America	27	Hamburg, Germany to Hull, England Travel from Hull to the U.S. has yet to be documented		Hamburg Index-Indirect Name spelled "Fieskau, August". ( <i>Need to find passenger list.</i> )

Charles August Fietkau  
Time Line & Research Log

28 Dec 1858	Married Rhoda Ann Jenkins	31	Grand Rapids, Wood, Wisconsin		<i>(Need to find marriage certificate.) Applied for but not received.</i>
23 Jun 1860	Residing at	32	Grand Rapids, Wood, Wisconsin		1860 U.S. Census FHL 805437 Name spelling: "Charles Fickaw", Rhoda, Hannah Anna
1870	Residing at	43	Armenia, Juneau, Wisconsin		1870 U.S. Census FHL 553219 (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) Name spelling: "Charles Fickaw" Roda, Albert, Elmer, Frederick (Hannah missing)
1 Feb 1873	Homestead Entry 80 Acres	46	Per Land Office at Stevens Point, Portage, Wisconsin	Ulysses S. Grant U.S. President	Land records in ARC at FHL. Name spelling: "Charles A. Fietkau"
1875	Residing	48	Armenia, Juneau, Wisconsin		1875 Wisconsin Census
1 Apr 1890	Land Grant recorded	62	Salem, Marion, Oregon		Marion County Records
16 Mar 1894	Death of Wife, Rhoda Ann Jenkins (Age 57)	66	Salem, Marion, Oregon		Obituary in Oregon Daily Statesman on Tuesday, 30 Mar 1894

In view of the correction of the family roll, on the basis of the Baptism Registry and Parochial (Church) Register, it is dutifully certified, that one *Anna* by marriage *Fietkau*

born *Grunwald* in (outside of) marriage with one *Gottfried Fietkau*

of *Elbing* in the *Elbing District* on *twelfth*

(12<sup>th</sup>) *June* this *eighteen hundred twenty seventh*

year A. D. gave birth to a boy, who was baptised on 8<sup>th</sup>

July 1827 receiving the name *Carl August*.

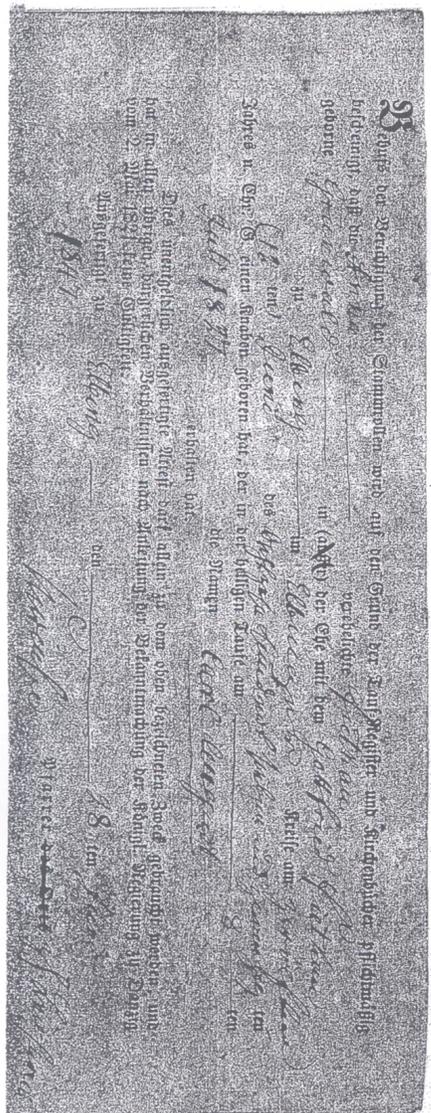
This cost-free completed Certificate may only be used for the above outlined purpose, and

has no validity in all other civil circumstances according to instruction of the public notice of the Royal Administration at Danzig of 2 May 1821.

Completed at *Elbing* the 28<sup>th</sup> June

1847

Xxxx Pastor of the town. Xxxxx



Behufs der Berichtigung der Stammrollen wird auf den Grund der Tauf-Register und Kirchenbücher pflichtmäßig bescheinigt, daß die *Anna verehelichte Fietkau*

geborne *Grunwald* in (aufbet) der Ehe mit dem *Gotfried Fietkau*

zu *Elbing* im *Elbinger* Kreise am *zwoölfen*

(*12 ten*) *Juni* des *achtzehn hundert sieben und zwanzig ten*

**Carl August Fietkau**  
**Birth Certificate**  
**June 12, 1827**  
(German Transcription)

Jahres n. Chr. ein Knaben geboren hat, der in der heiligen Taufe am 8 ten

*Juli 1827* die Namen *Carl August*

erhalten hat.

Dies unentgeltlich ausfertigte Attest darf allein zu dem oben bezeichneten Zweck gebraucht werden, und hat in allen übrigen bürgerlichen Verhältnissen nach Anleitung der Bekanntmachung der Königl. Regierung zu Danzig vom 2. Mai 1821 keine Gültigkeit.

Ausgefertigt zu *Elbing* den *28 ten Juni*

*1847*

Kxxxxxx Pfarrer des Orts. Kxxxxxx

Paper of casting a lot:

Street Lange Weiderster #543  
County Danzig  
District Elbing  
Regiment Fifth land Regiment in the year 1847  
Born 12 June 1827 Danzig County Elbing City

Recorded in Elbing 1 Jul 1847

\*\* Letter of apprenticeship is unreadable so this translation was given;

We, the old and guild masters of the carpenter trade in the Royal Province of West Prussia of the near town Elbing, declare herewith that the person listed on this document, Carl August Fietkau, born in Elbing, for four years in a row, namely from Pentecost 1845 until the date in 1849, worked in the carpenter profession for Master Krause of this place. He learned his trade from him and has developed special skills in this profession and was honorable toward his teachers and actually to everyone. We therefore give him this letter with the seal of our union and we ask anyone who reads this Certificate of Apprenticeship to fully believe this and to help the Carpenter Apprentice, Carl August Fietkau, in his further endeavors.

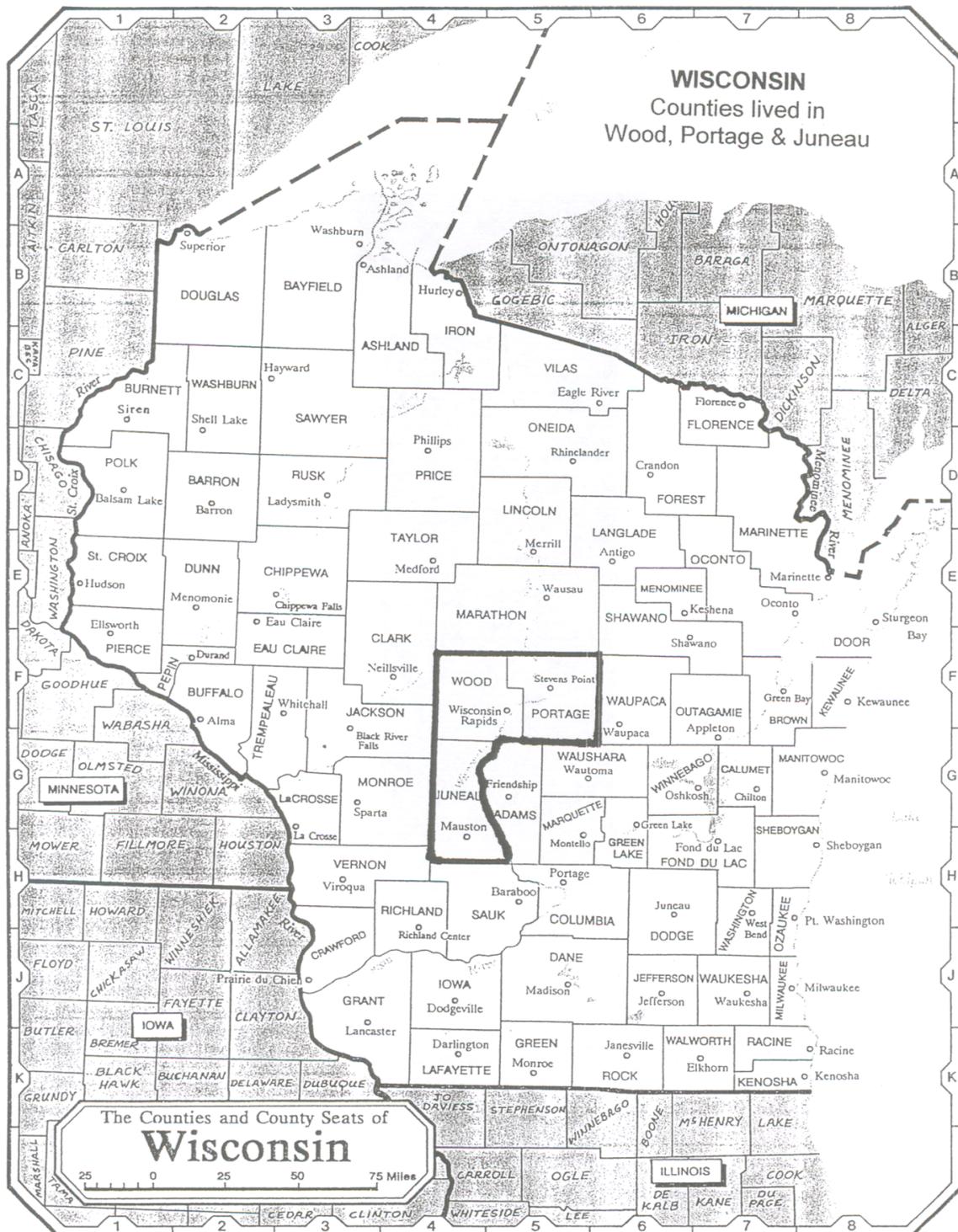
Took place in Elbing the 25 of May 1849

Information on passport;

Reason for passport He is going to travel to do special work from here to Berlin via Hamburg to Copenhagen. He carries a notary which states no criminal record in Danzig.

Religion	Luthern	Chin	growth
Age	27	Face	oval
Size	5 fuss 2 zoll	color of face	pale
Hair	dark blond	Stature	middle size
Forehead	high and rounded	no special marks	
Eye brows	blond		
Eyes	Blue		
Nose & Mouth	Wide		
Beard	blond		

# The Wisconsin Era



1870 census Armenia, Juneau, Wisconsin

Charles August Fietkau	43		Prussia
Rhoda Ann Jenkins	36		Ohio
Albert Allen	7	02 Sep 1862	Grand Rapids, WI
Carl Elmer	5	31 Mar 1865	Grand Rapids, WI
Frederick Allison	3	25 Mar 1867	Armenia, WI

Other children not listed in this census;

Hannah Anna	08 Sep 1859	died 1 Nov 1861
Minnie Elenora	25 Mar 1872	Armenia, WI
Olive Amelia	04 Mar 1877	Armenia, WI

Other information was included in the original document but it was not readable so was left out of this short presentation.