

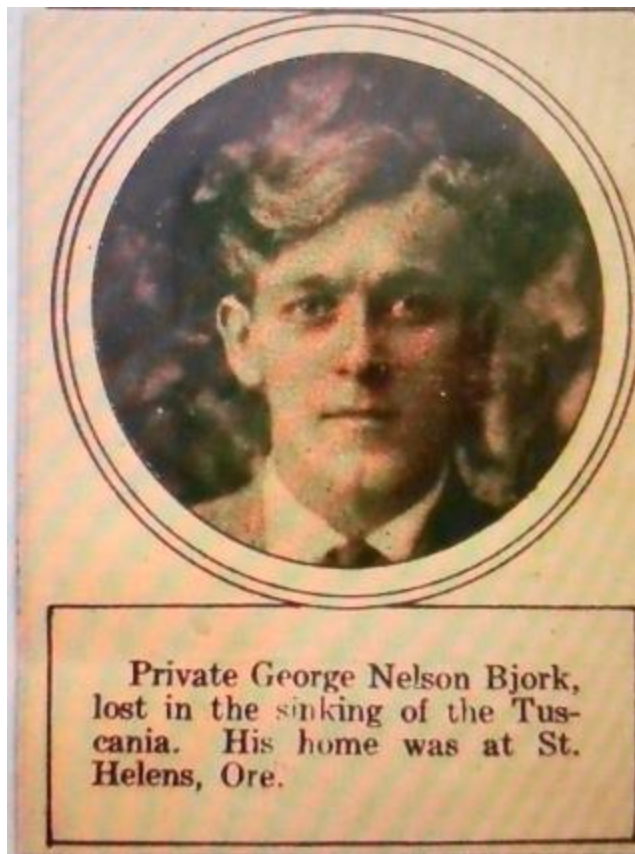
# TUSCANIA

**Tuscania casualty**  
**Bjork, George Nelson**  
**1892 Sweden – 5 February 1918 Tuscania**



*George Nelson Bjork (at left) with Victor Nelson (his brother, who used the Nelson name)*

[https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/117160350/person/320164963747/media/130ea61c-17cf-4e4c-9aaa-aa428a1c0c06?\\_phsrc=yGl652&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/117160350/person/320164963747/media/130ea61c-17cf-4e4c-9aaa-aa428a1c0c06?_phsrc=yGl652&_phstart=successSource)



*Find A Grave 57041471*

**VICTIM OF A  
GERMAN "SUB"**



**GEORGE NELSON BJORK**

George Nelson Bjork, brother of John Bjork, of 2419 Rockefeller avenue, and cousin of Elmer Nelson, of 2102 Oakes avenue, perished when the United States transport Tuscania was torpedoed by a German submarine. His mother lives in Montana. The young man, who was 26 years old, was a member of the Twentieth regiment, Engineers. The foregoing picture was taken several years ago.

George Nelson Bjork – "Everett (WA) Daily Herald" Friday 15 Feb 1918 p 1 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1030113045/>

Form 1 **779** **REGISTRATION CARD** No. **221**

1	Name in full <b>George Nelson Bjork</b>	Age in yrs <b>24</b>
2	Home address <b>Polson Mont</b>	
3	Date of birth <b>June 13 1892</b>	
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <b>Alien</b>	
5	Where were you born? <b>Beckefors Sweden</b>	
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? <b>Sweden</b>	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <b>Farmer-laborer</b>	
8	By what employed? <b>Brother</b>	
9	Where employed? <b>President #13 Flathead Co.</b>	
10	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a sister or brother under 18, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? <b>No.</b>	
11	Married or single (which)? <b>Single</b> Race (specify which)? <b>Caucasian</b>	
12	What military service have you had? <b>No.</b>	
13	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? <b>Believe in Voluntary Service</b>	

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

**1759** **Geo. Nelson Bjork**  
(Signature or mark)

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K8QD-22X>

<b>BJORK GEORGE NELSON</b>		<b>C 7 007</b>
<b>Pvt Co H 20 Engrs</b>		<b>K</b>
<b>St Helens Ore</b>		<b>A</b>
<b>Sn</b>		<b>T 373 377</b>
<b>Born 6/13/92</b>	<b>Died 2/6/18</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>Enl</b>	<b>Dis</b>	<b>I 7 707</b>
		<b>Ct</b>

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1Q-23QN-L?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQP8H-1BPH&action=view>

## George Nelson Bjork

Military • United States, World War I American Expeditionary Forces Deaths, 1917-1919

Page 5 OREGON				
WHITE; INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL ARMY OR ASSIGNED THERETO UPON ENLISTMENT.				
<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF DEATH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
Bjork, George Nelson		Pvt	20 Ingr 6 En Co F	Feb 5/18

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MW-K9KN-M?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPH4-RMJR&action=view>

Name	George Nelson Bjork
Race	White
Birth Date	13 Jun 1892
Birth Place	Dalsland Sweden
Death Date	5 Feb 1918
Death Place	Irish Coast
Unit	6th Battalion
Company	F.
Regiment	20th Engineers
Branch of Service	Regular Army
Father	August Bjork
Mother	Sophia

Rainier P.O.  
OCT 21 1918  
**Oregon War Records—Personal Military Service**  
Cornelia Marvin, State Historian, State Library, Salem

County Columbia School District No. 4-2 City St Helens Oregon

I. PERSONAL HISTORY—Name in full George Nelson Bjork

☐ Born in U. S. ☒ Foreign born. ☒ White ☐ Negro ☐ Indian ☐ Japanese ☐ Chinese ☐ Other

Home (postoffice) address St Helens Ore

Present address, No. \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Place of birth (give state, county and city) Dalsland Sweden Date of birth June 13 1892

Married? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's maiden name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name August Bjork Born when 1851 Where Sweden

Mother's maiden name Sophia Born when 1851 Where Sweden

Date came to U. S. 1910 Date naturalized 1917 Date came to Oregon 1910

Former residences St Helens Max Sepedon

Schools attended (give places and dates)—Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ High school \_\_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation before war Salesman 2 525 50 Dear Factory Emp 1917

II. MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE—Date entered for this war \_\_\_\_\_

☒ U. S. ☐ No enlistment or ☐ Draft ☐ Other (Service with allies)

Branch of service entered: ☒ Regular army ☐ National guard ☐ National army ☐ Army reserve corps ☐ Other

Organization entered, name and number of company, regiment or unit 20th Engineers 6th Bn Co F

Transfers \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of army: ☐ Infantry ☐ Artillery ☐ Field ☐ Coast ☐ Anti-aircraft ☒ Engineer corps ☐ Medical department (specify corps)

☐ Cavalry ☐ Quartermaster corps ☐ Ordnance department ☐ Signal corps ☐ Logistics ☐ Service production ☐ Motor transport

☐ U. S. guard ☐ Other (specify)

Branch of navy: ☐ Navy ☐ Naval aviator ☐ Marine corps ☐ Naval militia ☐ Coast guard ☐ Other

Name of ship or assignment \_\_\_\_\_

Students' army training corps. Name of school \_\_\_\_\_

C. 13. In front of word to answer "yes" for each question.



Personnel Military Service Records, WWI 1914-1919

Mark cross (X) in

III. RANK AND PROMOTIONS—Give promotions and dates.....  
 Give rank and organization at close of war.....  
 Distinguished service. Medals and citations.....  
 4 X  
 In what periodicals or newspapers have letters, photographs or notices been published? (Give exact date of each. If several, list on back of sheet.).....

IV. LOCATIONS—Officers' training camp.....  
 Cantonments or other stations.....  
 Length of foreign service (give dates)..... Where?.....  
 Battles and engagements.....  
 5 APR 17  
 Captured by the enemy.....  
 German prisons.....  
 Date discharged or mustered out of service..... Where?..... Landed U. S.....  
 Casualties. Wounds.....  
 Death. Date Feb 5 1918 Cause Drowning of Tusequia  
 Place Irish Coast Where buried Irish Coast  
 6 Died in line of Duty, A.P.F.  
 This report will be preserved by the State of Oregon. Write with ink. Send to the State Historian, care of the State Library, Salem, Oregon, photographs and clippings about the soldier or sailor. These also will be put in the State file. Do not hold blank to fill later. Give all the information you have about any man in any military or naval service, and put question mark (?) after answers if not sure they are correct. Write other items of interest on back of sheet, numbered by section.

Nearest relative, name Sophia Bjork Address Scio, Mont Relationship Mother  
 Report made by E. A. Wharton Address St Helens Date Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> 1919

OR, WWI, County Military Service Records: resident St. Helens, Columbia OR, b. 13 Jun 1892 Daisland, Sweden, father: August Bjork, b. Sweden 1851, mother Sophia Petersen, b. Sweden.

Found at: <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/33637:62477?tid=&pid=&queryId=f439f1e2-c23d-41cb-9252-75e9a7521f4c&phsrc=cPx10031&phstart=successSource>

## George Nelson Bjork

in the Oregon, U.S., County Court Naturalization Records, 1840-1982

Name	George Nelson Bjork
Record Type	Naturalization
Birth Date	13 Jun 1892
Birth Place	Beckefors, Sweden
Immigration Place	Liverpool, England
Arrival Date	4 May 1907
Naturalization Date	5 Dec 1917
Naturalization Place	Columbia, Oregon, USA
Ship	Caronia
Description	Naturalization Records, Box 3, 1913 Jan 13-1918 Jul 8
Box Number	Box 3

234

Department of Commerce and Labor  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

No. 434

ORIGINAL

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## DECLARATION OF INTENTION

(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

I, George Nelson York, aged 25 years,  
occupation Lumberman, do declare on oath that my personal  
description is: Color White, complexion Light, height 6 feet 2 inches,  
weight 170 pounds, color of hair Light, color of eyes Blue,  
other visible distinctive marks Scar on thumb of left hand.  
I am not married.  
I was born in Beckfors, Sweden  
on the 13th day of June, anno Domini 1892; I now reside  
at Rainier, Columbia County, Oregon.  
(Give number, street, city or town, and State.)  
I emigrated to the United States of America from Liverpool, England  
on the vessel Carmania; my last  
foreign residence was Christiania, Norway  
It is my bona fide intention to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign  
prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to Haakon VII  
King of Norway, of whom I am now a subject;  
I arrived at the port of New York, in the  
State of New York, on or about the 4th day  
of May, anno Domini 1907; I am not an anarchist; I am not a



polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to permanently reside therein:  
 SO HELP ME GOD.

*George Nelson Bjork*  
(Original signature of declarant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup>  
 day of December, anno Domini 1917

*A. F. Barnett*  
 Clerk of the County Court

By W. R. Hall, Deputy Clerk

[SEAL.]

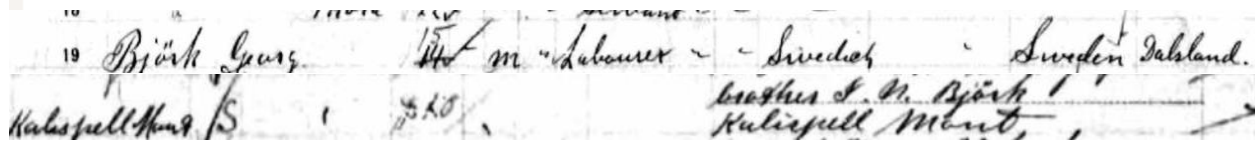
11-2726

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/100268:62275?tid=&pid=&queryId=3a633309-6612-4b5a-ac02-2bc6bf56859b&phsrc=cPx10035&phstart=successSource>

## Georg Björk

in the New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957

Name	Georg Björk
Gender	Male
Ethnicity/ Nationality	Scandinavian
Marital Status	Single
Age	15
Birth Date	abt 1892
Birth Place	Sweden
Other Birth Place	Dalsland
Last Known Residence	Dalsland, Sweden
Departure Port	Liverpool, England
Arrival Date	1 May 1907
Arrival Port	New York, New York, USA
Residence Place	Sweden
Final Destination	Kalispell, Montana
Height	5 Feet, 0 Inches
Hair Color	Fair
Eye Color	Blue
Complexion	Good
Money in Possession	\$40
Person in US	I N Bjork
Person in US Relationship	Brother
Sibling	<a href="#">I N Bjork</a>
Ship Name	Caronia



[https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/4010915456:7488?tid=&pid=&queryId=2edd1e3c-0fc0-488e-88a2-0f55ffb70e5f&\\_phsrc=cPx10037&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/4010915456:7488?tid=&pid=&queryId=2edd1e3c-0fc0-488e-88a2-0f55ffb70e5f&_phsrc=cPx10037&_phstart=successSource)

Oregon, U.S., State Military Records, 1847-1977 for George Nelson Bjork  
WWI Died in Service Index Cards > 1917-1919

*Columbia*

Name. Bjork, George Nelson  
Born. In Sweden -  
Residence. St. Helens, Columbia County, Ore.  
Enlisted - Co. E, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 20<sup>th</sup> Eng.

Died - Victim of Tuscania disaster, Feb. 5, 1918.

Nearest Relatives - Mother, Mrs. S. Bjork, Somev, Mont.  
Brother - Victor Nelson, St. Helens, Ore.

[https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/159356:62477?tid=&pid=&queryId=76391462-ef3b-4b87-a826-30eca8415d28&\\_phsrc=cPx10039&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/159356:62477?tid=&pid=&queryId=76391462-ef3b-4b87-a826-30eca8415d28&_phsrc=cPx10039&_phstart=successSource)

## Oregon, U.S., State Military Records, 1847-1977 for George Nelson Bjork

WWI Army Died in Service Cards &gt; 1917-1919

6

Bjork, George Nelson \* White \* Colored.

(Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number)

Residence: None Rainier Columbia OREGON

(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

\* ~~Enlisted~~ \* R. A. \* N. G. \* E. R. C. \* Inducted at Vancouver Bks. Wash. Dec 12 1917

Place of birth: Beckefors, Sweden Age or date of birth: 25 6/12 yrs.

Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and transfers: Co. F 6 Bn 20 Engrs  
Dec 12/17 to Feb 5/18

Grades, with date of appointment: Pvt.

Engagements: \_\_\_\_\_

Served overseas from Feb 5/18 to Feb 5/18, from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Killed in action February 5, 1918 in sinking of Tuscania

Other wounds or injuries received in action: \_\_\_\_\_

Person notified of death: Victor Nelson (If none, so state) Brother

(Name) St. Helena (Degree of relationship) Ore.

(No. and street or rural route) (City, town, or post office) (State or country)

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/168725:62477?tid=&pid=&queryId=67e921c2-3937-49ea-82ca-c2e7f917611e&phsrc=cPx10042&phstart=successSource>

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Q. M. C. Form No. 14  
Revised Oct. 6, 1928

REPLACEMENT

Interment in the ARLINGTON VA National Cemetery

To—The Quartermaster General, Washington, D. C.

NAME	RANK	COMPANY	REGIMENT OR VESSEL			DIVISION, IF WORLD WAR SOLDIER
			Number	State	Arm	
<u>BJORK, GEORGE N.</u>	<u>PVT</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>20th</u>		<u>ENGRS.</u>	<u>WW</u>
<u>ORE</u>						

DATE OF DEATH			DATE OF INTERMENT			GRAVE MARK		REMARKS Date of discharge and number of Pension Certificate, Disinterments, etc.
Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year	Section	Grave No.	
<u>Feb.</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1918</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>917</u>	<u>Grave #53, Row 3, #154 Kilnaughton, Port Ellen Islay Argyll, Scotland. Enl. Dec. 12, 1917. State Res-Ore Born in Sweden C.R. Oct. 1920</u>
<u>in Scotland</u>						<u>Europe</u>		

TATE GEORGIA MAY 29, 1934  
815401



Shipping point for headstones \_\_\_\_\_

(See Instructions on Reverse Side)

0 2 6 2 0 9 0 0 0 1 9

Superintendent.

3-2590

sem

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2198253:2590?tid=&pid=&queryId=36e009a0-0973-4438-953c-78eb8c26409f&phsrc=cPx10044&phstart=successSource>

Life:

# NEW NUMBERS FOR REGISTERED MEN

## List of "Red Ink" Numbers From Which the Drawing Will Be Made for the Selective Draft

Following is the list of those who registered for the selective draft in precincts 13, 31, 32 and 33. This is the tabulated list from the sheriff's office and gives the "Red ink number" of every man. These are the numbers that will be used in making the drawing. It is thought that the drawing will be made in the next few days.

Serial No. Name

777 Harold Leslie Fox  
778 Alonzo Franklin Baker  
779 George Nelson Bjork  
780 Daniel Melvin Buchanan

1861 Harry Lee King  
1862 Edward James Kelly  
1863 John Robert Kortbein  
1864 Andrew Kauffman  
1865 Peter John Lavelle  
1866 Robert Burnerd Lavelle  
1867 Frederick Lundgren  
1868 John William Lambert  
1869 Rudolph Theodore Leffler  
1870 Vinton Miller Lyons  
1871 H. Howard Lowenstein  
1872 Ray Marshall  
1873 Dell Claude Martin  
1874 Martin A. Myhre

Excerpt – "Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Friday 3 Jul 1917 p A1



WASHINGTON (AP) — Eighteen hundred and thirty-two names of American soldiers rescued from the torpedoed liner Tuscania had been reported Sunday night to the war department, leaving 345 of the soldiers on board unaccounted for. No official report has reached the department to change the estimate that all except 113 of the men were saved, but the names have been coming in very slowly over the cables and there is no assurance as to when the list will be complete.

From the names so far received and the passenger list of the lost steamer The Associated Press has compiled the record of those still not reported. Probably more than 200 of the men whose names appear on this record are safe in Ireland and will be so reported soon.

The preparation of the list, even in its incomplete form, represents an aggregate of 140 hours of labor. The war department has only issued an official roll of those on the ship.

The committee on public information has made no effort to compile a list of the missing, merely issuing lists of survivors.

In order to compile a list of missing and unreported it was necessary to search for each name in both lists, a laborious process in dealing with more than 2000 names.

Following is the list of those on board the Tuscania who so far have not been reported among the survivors:

Excerpt:

George Moutray, Grandview, Ore.;  
George Nelson Bjork, St. Helena, Ore.;  
Hans M. Erickson, Beverton, Ore.;  
Thomas H. Davenport, Bellingham,  
Wash.; Guss Johnson, Reedsport,  
Ore.; Charles L. Hall, Vancouver,  
Wash.; Edward J. Burgeis, Notl, Ore.;  
Arthur M. Root, Seattle, Wash.; Guy  
W. Jameson, Portland, Ore.; Anton  
B. Olson, Millan, Wash.

"Idaho Statesman" (Boise ID) Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 1 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/722540959/>

## BROTHER OF EVERETT MAN ON THE TUSCANIA

His Name Has Not Yet Been  
Given in the Incomplete  
List of Survivors

George Nelson Bjork, one of the men aboard the transport Tuscania, not yet reported among the survivors, is a brother of John Bjork, of 2419 Rockefeller avenue, and a cousin of Elmer Nelson of 2102 Oakes. They are anxiously hoping that his name will be found in the list of survivors that Washington will yet receive.

George Bjork, who is 25 years old, enlisted at St. Helens, Oregon, in the engineers' regiment, foresters, and was assigned to Company F, Sixth Battalion, Twentieth regiment, and was at once sent to Washington, D. C. Just before sailing he wrote a letter to his mother in Montana, saying he thought his company would leave at any time, telling her not to worry, that he was ready for anything and believed he would be back in a year's time. He told her he had insured his life for \$10,000.

"Everett (WA) Daily Herald" Tuesday 12 Feb 1918 p 9

# 267 American Lives Lost With Tuscania; 164 Buried In Scotland

## *Twelve Californians In List Of Buried*

**W**ASHINGTON, February 13.—The home address of the American soldiers buried on the Scottish coast, taken from The Associated Press list of those unaccounted for, as checked up with the Tuscania's passenger list, follows. (In some instances the spelling from the Scotch seaport does not agree with the official passenger list).

Excerpt:

name Stephens), Bend, Ore.  
WILLIAM W. WRIGHT, Blismarck,  
Okla.  
MARCUS B. COOK, Como, Mont.  
GEORGE NELSON BJORK, Helena,  
Oregon.  
C. JOHNSON, Big Falls, Minn.  
THOMAS E. ST. CLAIR, Junction,  
Texas.  
ARTHUR W. COLLINS, Appleby,  
Texas.

“Sacramento (CA) Bee” Wednesday 13 Feb 1918 p 1

## COLUMBIA COUNTY BOY TUSCANIA VICTIM

GEORGE NELSON BJORK

First of Community to Lose Life  
in Warfare.

George Nelson Bjork, whose address is given as St. Helens, is the first Columbia county boy to lose his life in actual warfare, if the Hun submarine assassination might be called warfare. Several other boys have died from natural causes since joining the army, but Bjork is the first of our soldiers to be killed by the German war machines. Not very much is known of Bjork in St. Helens, as he formerly lived at Rainier, where he was an employe of one of

the mills. On December 2 he appeared at the office of the county clerk and took out his first citizenship papers, giving his age as 25; occupation, lumberman, and the place of his birth as Sweden. His application for citizenship papers stated that he had lived in America since May 4, 1907. Former County Clerk Barnett and Dr. J. H. Flynn knew Bjork quite well and spoke of him in high terms. It is understood that he worked in either the mill or shipyard for a short while before enlisting in the engineers company. He went by the name of George Nelson, and it is probable this is the reason that so few knew of him as Bjork.

Several other Columbia county boys were on the torpedoed vessel but were saved. Oregon boys who are known to have lost their lives are:



Terry Tuttle, Elgin.  
 William P. Morin, Portland.  
 Theodore E. Lewton, Forest Grove.  
 Percy A. Stevens, Bend.  
 Curtis A. Wilson, Salem.  
 James B. Gurney, Glide.  
 James L. Pierce, Creswell.  
 Peter A. Agren, Jewell.  
 John A. Laako, Astoria.  
 Elmer A. Houston, Held.  
 Riley A. Murray, Eugene.  
 Henry G. Bates, Baker.

"St. Helens (OR) Mist" Friday 15 Feb 1918 p 1

By United Press Leased Wire  
**WASHINGTON, Feb. 16**—On the honor roll of America's hero dead the war department today wrote the names of 82 American soldiers who perished in the sinking of the transport Tuscania. The list, the first installment of the official revised records here from London, follows:  
 Fred K. Allen, Ada, Minn.  
 Anthony Abboni, Detroit, Mich.  
 Homer Llewellyn Anderson, Cumberland, Wis.  
 Stanley R. Augsperger, Dayton, Wis.  
 Clea Bargerstock, Marienville, P.  
 Ben Barker, Forestburg, Texas.  
 Henry G. Bates, Baker, Ore.  
 Russel F. Bennett, Plainfield, Wis.  
 William E. Bennett, Rogers, Ark.  
 John B. Bishop, Foster, Okla.  
 George Nelson Bjork, St. Helena, Ore.  
 Claude Bradley, Swaty, Ark.  
 John J. Byrn, Butte, Mont.  
 James J. Buckley, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 Rocco Calabrese, Mount Solo, Wash.

List continues – "Pomona (CA) Progress" Saturday 16 Feb 1918 p 1

## ANOTHER TUSCANNIA VICTIM HAD RELATIVES HERE

Among the names of the men lost when the Tuscannia was sunk was that of George Nelson Bjork of St. Helens, Oregon. Mr. Bjork has a mother one brother and a sister all living in Spring Valley and visited here last fall just previous to his enlistment. He was twenty-five years of age and was a mechanic by trade and enlisted in the 20th engineers about the middle of October. His relatives here all have lived in the valley for a number of years and have homesteads. His mother received a letter from him just before he sailed in which he wrote in a very hopeful frame of mind also said that he realized that he might never return so had taken out a ten thousand dollar insurance policy in her favor. Besides his mother and brother Anton and sister Mrs. Reksten of this place he leaves another sister Mrs. Vic Nelson of St. Helens, Oregon.

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 28 Feb 1918 p A1

## IN MEMORIAM.

WHEREAS. Our fellow member, George Nelson Bjork, nobly gave his life in the service of his country and humanity at the time of the sinking of the Tuscania and

WHEREAS, We can appreciate how feeble are our efforts to console the grief-stricken; however be it

RESOLVED, That the members of the Spring Valley Home Guards extend to the family of our late brother our heartfelt sympathy, in this their great bereavement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That as we mourn the loss of our beloved brother, we find solace in the knowledge that the will of the Almighty is always being done; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, a copy given to the newspaper for publication, and a copy spread on the minutes of this organization.

Lon Baker

R. C. Lyons

C. R. Smith

Committee.

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 9 May 1918 p A10

# Polson Boys in U. S. Service

- \* Ole Beck
- \* Perry Dodd
- \* George Nelson Bjork
- \* Patrick H. Buckley

C. W. Bartlett	Albert K. Sides
N. A. Bratton	Arthur Hansen
Alvin Buchanan	Peter J. Anderson
Daniel Buchanan	Joe Wilhelm
Thomas C. Browne	Delbert Noel

List continues – "Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 5 Sep 1918 p A1

Norwegian services were held at  
Nels Johnson's Sunday, March 28th.

Those who were present were Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and family, Mrs. Reksten, Rev. and Mrs. J. Olson, Mrs. Bjork, Mr. and Mrs. Halverson and family, Nels Thorsund and Mr. Ekum, Mrs. Johnson served an excellent lunch which was greatly enjoyed by all. Next meeting will be Easter Sunday at Mr. and Mrs. Vic Nelsons.

Family news from Seines MT – "Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 1 Apr 1920 p A12

# MONTANA BOY TO REST IN ARLINGTON

Special Dispatch to the Standard.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—The remains of Private George N. Bjork, Company F Twentieth Engineers, son of Mrs. Sophie Bjork of Zines, Montana, will be buried with military honors at Arlington National cemetery, near Washington, Friday.

"Anaconda (MT) Standard" Friday 29 Oct 1920 p 2

## Body of Montana Boy is Brought Over Seas

Special to The Daily Tribune.

Washington, Oct. 28.—The body of George N. Bjork, private, Company F, 20th engineers, has been brought overseas and will be buried in Arlington cemetery, Friday. His mother, Mrs. Sophie Bjork, resides at Seines, Mont.

"Great Falls (MT) Tribune" Friday 29 Oct 1920 p 4

In the matter of the estate of George N. Bjork, deceased. Petition for letters testamentary heard and granted.

"Lake County Vista" (Polson MT) Thursday 21 Oct 1937 p 1



### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Estate of George N. Bjork, Deceased.  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the undersigned, the Administratrix of the estate of George N. Bjork deceased, to the creditors of and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, within four months after the first publication of this notice to the said Administratrix at the law office of Lloyd I. Wallace, Polson, in the County of Lake, State of Montana, the same being the place for the transaction of the business of said estate.

Hilda Bjork Reksten, Administratrix of the Estate of said Deceased.

Dated at Polson, Mont., this 22nd day of October, 1937.

Lloyd I. Wallace, Attorney for  
 Petitioner, Polson, Montana.

(Pub. Oct. 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 1937)

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Tuesday 26 Oct 1937 p A5

The final amount was heard in the matter of the estate of George N. Bjork, deceased, and distribution was ordered.

In district court – "Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 21 Apr 1938 p A1

## February, 1918 —Part I ... continued from Previous Page

"Where do we go from here, boys;  
where do we go from here?"

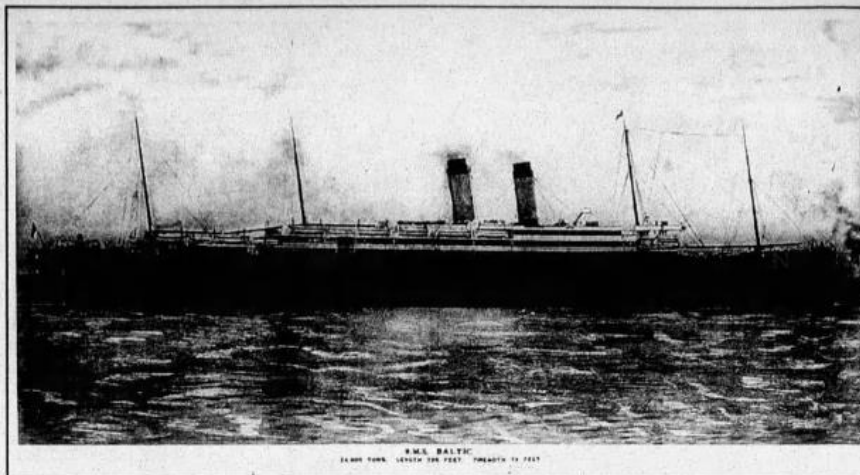
### FIRST MONTANA CASUALTIES

The *Tuscania* was the first ship carrying American troops en route to France to be sunk, and Americans across the country were stunned. The exact toll from the loss of *Tuscania* is unknown, with 210 soldiers and crew "Killed in Action" being commonly accepted. Many of those who had made it to lifeboats later died when their light craft were smashed against the rocky shorelines. At least 39 of the 384 crewmen aboard perished in the boiler rooms. The heroic action of Royal Navy escort ships, coupled with the leadership and discipline among the soldiers, saved a remarkable 2,187 men.

Ten Montanans lost their lives on *Tuscania*. Among them was Marcus Barrett Cook of Como, Ravalli County, the first casualty from the University of Montana. Cook had graduated from Hamilton High School and completed two months of his sophomore year in forestry at the university when he enlisted with two other university friends, Ralph S. Graves and Leo Stewart, in the 20th Engineers, and all were assigned to Company D. Both Graves and Stewart were among 85 known Montanan survivors.

Another victim of the *Tuscania* was Elmer Luther Cowan, a graduate and star athlete of Victor High School in the Bitterroot Valley. Cowan's mother had been dead for many years, and with the October 1917 death of his father, young Cowan joined two of his brothers in enlisting in the Army. Cobb was assigned to Company D of the 20th. Chauncey J. Davidson, a native of Anaconda, enlisted in the Army, married Martha Harrison, and three days later departed for duty with the 20th. Eighteen months later his widow, Mrs. Martha Davidson, christened the USS Deer Lodge at Portland, Oregon.

Leonard H. Dethmann, a resident of McCabe, Roosevelt County, served with the 20th Engineers and died on the *Tuscania*. His veteran's tombstone in Arlington National Cemetery reads: "PETER [SIC] DETHMANN NORTH DAKOTA PVT 20 ENGRS FEB 5 1918." In his honor the Wolf Point, Montana American Legion adopted the name "Leonard Dethman Post No. 22."



The Baltic, accompanying the *Tuscania* on the convoy voyage.

Source: Wikipedia

three years after moving from Rothschild, Wisconsin. At Wagner, Swanson managed the Rogers-Templeton Lumber company's yard, before enlisting in the 20th Engineers. Private Swanson rests today in Pine Grove Cemetery in Wisconsin.

Eugene W. Snyder was born in Montana in 1898. He moved to Rimrock, Washington and worked as a logger for the Reclamation Service before enlisting in Company F, 20th Engineers. He rests today in Mountain View Memorial Park in Lakewood, Washington.

### RED CROSS "ON THE SPOT"

A Montana veteran of Philippines service during the Spanish American War and a survivor of the *Tuscania*, 2nd Lieutenant David G. Hudtloff of the Field Artillery, wrote a letter to his home chapter of the Red Cross:

To the Red Cross Chapter, Butte, Mont. - May I take this opportunity, a quiet evening in an English hut, of sending to the Butte chapter of the Red Cross a note of appreciation and praise for the great organization of which you are a working unit.

Undoubtedly I am not the first man in uniform from the home district who has been helped, comforted and cheered by the Red Cross workers. My recent experience was unique at least and the aid of the American Red Cross more than ordinarily spectacular.

The first aid rendered my groups

the American soldiers who would follow his own division to France, so he added a second verse.

#### The French Version.

Two things are certain: Either you are mobilized or you are not mobilized.

If you are not mobilized, there is no need to worry; if you are mobilized,

Two things are certain: Either you are at the front or you are not at the front.

If you are not at the front, there is no need to worry; if you are at the front,

Two things are certain: Either you are in immediate danger or you are not in immediate danger.

If you are not in immediate danger there is no need to worry; if you are in immediate danger,

Two things are certain: Either you are wounded or you are not wounded

If you are not wounded, there is no need to worry; if you are wounded,

Two things are certain: Either you are seriously wounded or you are not seriously wounded.

If you are not seriously wounded, there is no need to worry; if you are seriously wounded,

Two things are certain: Either you get well or you die.

If you get well there is no need to worry; if you die, you can't worry.

#### The American Version.

Two things are certain: Either you are ordered to France or you are not ordered to France.

If you are not ordered to France,

Although written many months before the death of the *Tuscania* and 210 of its men, it is hard to imagine that the many survivors of the torpedoed ship could appreciate the intended humor of these words. The torpedoing and sinking of the *Tuscania* brought the threat of submarine warfare home to Americans like an iron fist in the face.

This article continues a series during this centennial of World War I that will examine the impact of the Great War on Montana, Chouteau County, Fort Benton, the soldiers and sailors and those on the home-front.

Stories and photos of local World War I soldiers, nurses, or from the home-front are welcomed. Leave copies at the Montana Ag Center or send to the Overholser Historical Research Center, Box 262, Fort Benton, MT 59442.

Sources: Fort Benton River Press Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1918; "The Loss of the Troopship *Tuscania*" <http://www.islayinfo.com/loss-troopship-tuscania-islay.html>, [Accessed Jan. 20, 2018]; Anaconda Standard March 24, 1918; July 13, 1919; Montana Standard Feb. 7, 1919; Cobb, Irvin S. "When the Sea-Asp Sting," Saturday Evening Post March 9, 1918, p. 16-41; Stonehouse, Frederick. "Combat Engineer: The History of the 107th Engineering Battalion 1881-1981-2001," 107th Engineer Association P. 44-45 <http://www.107thengineers.org/MISC/HistoryOfThe107th.PDF>, [Accessed Jan. 20, 2018].

Another casualty of Tuscania was John Edwards of Butte. Born in Cornwall, England, Private Edwards lived in Butte and was engaged to Jennie Barnes. They were to be married in January 1918, but he was called to service sooner than he expected, so the day was put off until the "home-coming," which they hoped would be in a few months.

Jennie heard from the war department that he had been on Tuscania, but had not been located. A telegram followed that he was among the missing, and then came the heartbreaking one which told of his death and burial on a slope on the Scottish coast. Private Edwards' veteran's headstone in Arlington

of Tuscania survivors was by local societies, for we were in the far north of Ireland, far from Belfast and Dublin representatives, and still farther from the London headquarters; yet the first man in American uniform to reach us was a Red Cross officer from London, who brought money to supply the needs of the moment and the authority to command any comforts for the injured.

And this first impression of Red Cross efficiency and ability to be "on the spot" has only been enhanced by our subsequent experiences. At every turn we have enjoyed comforts and been afforded conveniences that meant much to both officers and enlisted men - all of us share the

there is no need to worry; if you are ordered to France.

Two things are certain: Either you are submarined or you are not submarined.

If you are not submarined, there is no need to worry; if you are submarined,

Two things are certain: Either you are picked up or you are not picked up.

If you are picked up, there is no need to worry; if you are not picked up,

Two things are certain: Either you drown or you don't drown.

If you don't drown, there is no need to worry. If you do drown, you can't worry.

Veteran's headstone in Arlington National Cemetery reads: "JOHN ENWARDS [sic] MONTANA PVT 20 ENGRS FEB 6 1918."

First Lt. William Binnie of Fallon, Prairie County, was first reported missing, and only later was his death confirmed and his wife notified. The nephew of Major J. F. Binnie, commanding Base Hospital Unit No. 28 in France, Lt. Binnie had moved from Kansas City to Montana and was traveling to France to received advanced training at the front.

He is buried at Brookwood American Military Cemetery in Woking Borough, Surrey, England. The tribute on his parents' gravestone in Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland reads: "Lieut. William Binnie United States Army Who Was Lost with the U.S. Transport Tuscania on 5th February 1918."

George Nelson Bjork, born at Backefors, Sweden in June 1892, worked as a farm laborer when he registered for the draft in Polson, Flathead County, in June 1917. He entered the Army from St. Helens, Oregon and was assigned to Company F, 20th Engineers. Jack J. Byrnes from Butte served in Company E, 20th.

Upon his death, his mother, Mrs. James Byrne of Butte, applied to the district board for the exemption of her son, James, explaining that

now sleeping in the bottom of the Atlantic, having been aboard the Tuscania." She was successful and her son John did not serve.

Charles Emil Swanson of Wagner, Phillips County, had been a resident of Montana for

great obligation.

Your money is wisely used, so it seems to us, and is always available in any amounts for emergencies. You are free of the red tape of the war department. Your knitted comforts and clothing are now being worn by 2,000 men of the torpedoed transport, who still await the distribution of new equipment by the local quartermaster department. Imagine the predicament of these men if there were not the great independent organization of the Red Cross!

I sincerely hope that the local chapter is working with unabated enthusiasm and growing prosperity, and wish you the best of luck, and thanking you all for your part in this work, I am very sincerely,

LIEUT. DAVID G. HUDTLOFF,  
F.A.N.A., American expeditionary Forces, France.

#### NAMESAKE SCHOOLS

The impact of World War I on the people back home was shown in many other ways. One of the most remarkable is the tribute to the leaders, battles, and the loss of the Tuscania, through the naming of five country schools in Chouteau County in the years just after the end of the war: District #65 Argonne, #86 Pershing, #87 Verdun, #88 Vimy Ridge, #89 Cantigny and #96 Tuscania.

#### DON'T WORRY

Major General William L. Sibert, commanding the 1st Infantry Division in France, read some humorous lines one day that had been circulating among the French Army. He decided to bring cheer to

"Fort Benton (MT) River Press" Wednesday 7 Feb 2018 p 5 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/952877993/>

Mother:



Sophia/Sofia Pettersdotter Bjork - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/117160350/person/320164964111/media/c0b4cfc4-44be-46ec-b013-7c1057d24df2>

Montana, County Naturalization Records, 1867-1970



[View image](#)

[View record](#)

Name	Sofie Bjork
Declaration Age	61
Birth Date	abt 1851
Record Type	Naturalization
Departure Place	Christiania, Norway
Arrival Place	Sault Ste Marie, Michigan
Declaration Date	17 Aug 1912
Declaration Place	Flathead, Montana, USA
Ship	Dominion
Court District	Us District Court
Name of Court	District
Declaration Number	789
Description	Declaration of Intention Vol 2, 1909-1912



No. 100

ORIGINAL

489

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Department of Commerce and Labor  
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
DIVISION OF NATURALIZATION

## DECLARATION OF INTENTION

(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

State of Montana }  
County of Flathead } ss: In the District Court  
of Flathead Co., Mont.

I, Sofie Bjork, aged 61 years,  
occupation House Keeper, do declare on oath that my personal  
description is: Color White; complexion fair, height 5 feet 2 inches,  
weight 147 pounds, color of hair gray, color of eyes blue  
other visible distinctive marks mole on chin,  
; I was born in Dalsland Sweden  
on the 30th day of April, anno  
Domini 1851; I now reside at Polson, Montana  
I emigrated to the United States of America from Christiania Norway, via  
Liverpool England and Quebec Canada.  
on the vessel Dominion; my last  
foreign residence was Christiania Norway  
It is my bona fide intention to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign  
prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to Gustavus V,  
King of Sweden, of which I am now a citizen subject; I  
arrived at the port of Sault Ste Marie, in the  
State of Michigan on or about the 22nd day  
of November, anno Domini 1909; I am not an anarchist; I am not a  
and it is my intention in good faith

polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to permanently reside therein:  
SO HELP ME GOD. *Declarant states that she is a single woman*

*Sofie Björk*  
(Original signature of declarant.)

Subscribed and <sup>sworn to</sup>~~affirmed~~ before me this 17<sup>th</sup>  
day of August, anno Domini 1912

[SEAL.]

*Sam I Mc Neely*  
Clerk of the District Court.

D..

Clerk.

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/117160350/person/320164964111/facts>

**Mrs. Sophie Bjork**

Mrs. Sophie Bjork, an old time resident of the Radio section, passed away last Saturday at the local hospital at the age of 86 years.

Mrs. Bjork was born at Dalsland, Sweden, April 30, 1851 and at the age of 21, was married to August Nelson Bjork, an officer in the Swedish army. In 1897 they moved to Oslo, Norway where they resided until the death of Mr. Bjork in 1908.

The following year Mrs. Bjork and her daughter, Mrs. G. Reksten came to the United States and in 1911 Mrs. Bjork took a homestead claim at Radio where she resided with her son, Anton Bjork until her death.

She was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary and was the only gold star mother of the local auxiliary. Her youngest son was killed in action during the World War.

Left to mourn her death are John Bjork of Everett, Wash.; Mrs. Gus Martinsen of Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Christian Lovell of Oslo, Norway, Anton Bjork of Radio and Mrs. G. Reksten of Polson, as well as a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon from the Lutheran church, with Rev. E. S. Ede officiating and burial was made here.

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 6 May 1937 pA1

**Card of Appreciation**  
 We wish to thank all those who in any way assisted during the illness and death of Mrs. Sophie Bjork; also for the floral offerings and music.—Anton Bjork, Mr. and Mrs. J. Reksten, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Martinson and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bjork. 7\*

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 20 May 1937 p A8

A group surprised Mrs. Sophie Bjork on her 76 birthday Saturday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hval, Thone Hillestad, Mr. and Mrs. V. Nelson and family, Mrs. G. Reksten and Hildur. A delicious lunch was served in the afternoon.

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 12 May 1927 p A2

Mrs. Gus Martinson of Portland, Oregon returned to her home Sunday after a short visit with her brothers, V. Nelson and Anton Bjork and mother, Mrs. Sophie Bjork. Mr. and Mrs. V. Nelson and August and Mrs. Bjork accompanied her as far as Plains.

"Lake County Vista" (Polson MT) Thursday 19 Jun 1930 p 3

Mrs. Bjork's 80th birthday was celebrated by relatives and friends at the Nelson home. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Festvog, Olaf Karlsgodt and Dade, Mr. and Mrs. Ole

Karlsgodt and Harold, Joe Ahlberg, Albert Swanson, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Reksten and family, Polson; Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hval, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Smith and boys, Mrs. J. C. Olson, Mrs. Halverson and Harold, Mrs. Nelson and family, Anton Bjork and the honor guest, Mrs. Sophie Bjork.

"Lake County Vista" (Polson MT) Thursday 19 Jun 1930 p 3

A birthday party was held at the home Saturday afternoon in

honor of Mrs. Sophie Bjork's 81st birthday. Present were Mesdames Tony Johnson, J. W. Reep, C. Anderson and G. Reksten and Hildur, all of Polson, and Mrs. Ole Hval, and the guest of honor.

"Lake County Vista" (Polson MT) Thursday 5 May 1932 p 6

Mrs. Sophie Bjork spent Wednesday last in Polson visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Reksten.

"Lake County Vista" (Polson MT) Thursday 23 Jun 1932 p 4

Siblings:



**JOHN NELSON BJORK**



John N. Bjork, 84, 1808 26th St., died in a local hospital early Friday morning following an extended illness. Mr. Bjork was born in Sweden Sept. 7, 1873, and had lived in Everett for 46 years. He was a millworker until his retirement a number of years ago. Mr. Bjork was a member of Bethany Temple Church. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Mollie Bjork of 1808 26th St.; three daughters, Mrs. A. H. Arnevik of 4436 Seahurst, Mrs. James Whitehouse of Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. H. P. Grotberg of Albuquerque, N.M.; two sons, George Bjork of Rt. 5 Everett, and Axel Bjork in the U.S. Army, stationed in Okinawa; three step-sons, Virgil Bohnstedt of Hollywood, Calif., Walter Bohnstedt of North Bend, Ore., and LeRoy Bohnstedt of San

G. Raksten of Polson, Mont., and Mrs. Gust Martinson of Portland, Ore.; a brother, Anton Bjork of Polson, Mont.; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the funeral home of Purdy and Walters. Burial will be in a local cemetery.

Obituary of **brother John Nelson Bjork (1873-1958)** – “Everett (WA) Daily Herald” Friday 28 Feb 1958 p 19



Captioned “Emma Bjork and family” – **sister Emily Bjork Anderson (1880-1973)** - <https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/117160350/person/320164963746/media/e8c97933-0707-43d0-b742-d25abad88bc6>

 Sweden, Indexed Birth Records, 1859-1947  
Birth, baptism & christening  
 View

Name	Emma
Birth	5 juli 1880 (5 Jul 1880) Bäcke, Älvsborg (Västra Götaland), Sverige (Sweden)

[https://www.ancestry.com/search/?name=Emma\\_+Augustdotter,+Bj%C3%B6rk+Nilsson+Bj%C3%B6rk+Andersen&birth=1880\\_Bj%C3%B6rtveten+B%C3%A4cke-%C3%84lvsborg-Sweden&death=1973&father=August\\_Nilsson+Bj%C3%B6rk&gender=f&marriage=1901\\_oslo-oslo-norway\\_1059323&mother=Sofia\\_Petersdotter&residence=\\_Wassanda&residence2=\\_sweden\\_5216&residence3=\\_norway\\_5173&searchType=t&sibling=John+Nelson\\_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling2=Axel\\_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling3=Wilhelmina\\_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling4=Victor\\_Bj%C3%B6rk+Nelson&sibling5=Anton\\_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling6=Nn\\_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling7=Alfhilda\\_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling8=George+Nelson\\_Bjork&spouse=Kristian+Alfred\\_Andersen&treePerson=117160350\\_320164963746](https://www.ancestry.com/search/?name=Emma_+Augustdotter,+Bj%C3%B6rk+Nilsson+Bj%C3%B6rk+Andersen&birth=1880_Bj%C3%B6rtveten+B%C3%A4cke-%C3%84lvsborg-Sweden&death=1973&father=August_Nilsson+Bj%C3%B6rk&gender=f&marriage=1901_oslo-oslo-norway_1059323&mother=Sofia_Petersdotter&residence=_Wassanda&residence2=_sweden_5216&residence3=_norway_5173&searchType=t&sibling=John+Nelson_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling2=Axel_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling3=Wilhelmina_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling4=Victor_Bj%C3%B6rk+Nelson&sibling5=Anton_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling6=Nn_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling7=Alfhilda_Bj%C3%B6rk&sibling8=George+Nelson_Bjork&spouse=Kristian+Alfred_Andersen&treePerson=117160350_320164963746)

## VICTOR NELSON DIES AT RADIO

Victor Bjork Nelson, a resident of the Radio country since 1911, died at his home at an early hour Tuesday morning of bronchial pneumonia. At the time of his death he was 48 years of age, and he leaves a wife and four children, together with two grandchildren, to mourn his death. The children are Mrs. Floyd Smith of this city, and August, Evelyn and Lillie Nelson of Radio.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sweden and came to the United States in 1905. In 1911 he came to the Flathead reservation and settled at Radio and, with the exception of one year, has resided here continuously. The remains were brought to the city Tuesday morning and are at the Retz undertaking parlors. The funeral services will be conducted Sunday from the Lutheran church, by Rev. Nelson, and burial will be made in Lakeview cemetery.

Obituary of **brother Victor Bjork Nelson (1883-1931)** – “Flathead Courier” (Polson MT)  
Thursday 22 Jan 1931 pA1

## Anton Bjork Is Accorded Final Rites

Funeral services for Anton Bjork, 80, were conducted by Mr. Joseph Richard of the Jehovah's Witnesses congregation at the Mosley Chapel Wednesday. Burial was at Lakeview cemetery. Pallbearers were Edwin Richard, Roy Lovell, Ed Stanfill, Frank Lucara, Don Repnak and Tony Nohejl.

Mr. Bjork died Saturday at the Hot Springs hospital. He was born Nov. 29, 1885, in Sweden. He was a retired mail carrier and lived in Polson until moving to Hot Springs about five months ago.

Surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Hilda Reksten of Polson and Mrs. Wilhelmina Martinson of Portland, and several nieces and nephews.

Obituary of **brother Anton Bjork (1885-1966)** – "Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 7 Apr 1966 p A9

VSSA  
 STATE OF MONTANA  
 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
 LOCAL REGISTRAR NO.

DUPLICATE FOR CLERK AND RECORDER  
 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
 STATE FILE NO. 2628

1. PLACE OF DEATH  
 a. COUNTY Sanders  
 b. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Hot Springs  
 c. LENGTH OF STAY IN b. 5 Mo.

2. USUAL RESIDENCE (If Army demand (read) If institution: Residence before admission)  
 a. STATE Montana  
 b. COUNTY Lake  
 c. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Polson  
 d. STREET ADDRESS

3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type in print)  
 First Middle Last  
 Anton Bjork

4. DATE OF DEATH  
 Month Day Year  
 April 2, 1966

5. SEX Male  
 6. COLOR OR RACE White  
 7. MARRIED ☐ NEVER MARRIED ☒ WIDOWED ☐ DIVORCED ☐
 8. DATE OF BIRTH 11/29/1885

9. AGE (In years last birthday) 80  
 10. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Mail Carrier (ret.)  
 11. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) Sweden  
 12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? USA

13. FATHER'S NAME Agost N. Bjork  
 14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Sofia Peterson

15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) No  
 16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. 516-24-6358  
 17. INFORMANT Mrs. Hilda Reksten, Polson, Montana

18. CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).)  
 PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY:  
 IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) Pneumonia  
 Conditions, if any, which gave rise to above cause (b), stating the underlying cause last.  
 DUE TO (b)  
 DUE TO (c)  
 PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I (d)

19. INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH Unknown  
 20. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES ☐ NO ☒

21. INJURY OCCURRED  
 WHILE AT WORK ☐ NOT WHILE AT WORK ☐  
 22. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.)  
 23. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE

24. I attended the deceased from March 31, 1966, to April 2, 1966, and last saw her alive on April 1, 1966.  
 Death occurred at 6:55 A.M. on the date stated above; and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.

25. SIGNATURE (Deceased or title) J. Campbell  
 26. ADDRESS M. D. Hot Springs, Montana  
 27. DATE SIGNED April 6, 66

28. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (Specify) Burial  
 29. DATE 4/6/66  
 30. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Lakewood Cemetery  
 31. LOCATION (City, town, or county) Polson, Montana

32. FUNERAL DIRECTOR Mosley Funeral Home  
 ADDRESS Polson, Mont. 161  
 33. DATE REC'D BY LOCAL REG. 4/8/66  
 34. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE Vance Shreder

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61255/images/44970\\_b319837-01162?pld=750121467](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61255/images/44970_b319837-01162?pld=750121467)



Sister Alfhilda (Hilda) Bjork Reksten (1889-1981) & husband Gjert Reksten -

<https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/117160350/person/320164964113/media/a9ede803-77e4-4276-a901-71ebace200f5>



No. 266

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

16

ORIGINAL

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

To the Honorable the District Court of Flathead County, Montana

The petition of Gjert Riksten hereby filed, respectfully sheweth:

First. My place of residence is Polson, Montana.  
(Give town, street, city or town, and State.)

Second. My occupation is farmer.

Third. I was born on the 14th day of August 1881 at Flora, Norway.  
(If the date with respect to the birth of the petitioner is uncertain, the character of evidence or means of investigation should be given.)

Fourth. I emigrated to the United States from Guilford, England, on or about the 22nd day of May 1907, and arrived in the United States, at the port of Bault, Ore, on the 2nd day of June 1907 on the vessel Carman and by Rail.  
(If the date with respect to the arrival of the petitioner in the United States is uncertain, the character of evidence or means of investigation should be given.)

Fifth. I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on the 10th day of April 1908 at Madison, Dane Co, Wis., in the Circuit Court of Dane Co, Wis.

Sixth. I am married. My wife's name is Aida Bjork. She was born in Saltsand, Sweden, and now resides at Polson, Montana.  
(Give name, date, day or town.)

I have two children, and the name, date and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children is as follows:  
Maabel, Born March 9th 1911, at Houghton, Wis.  
Lily, Born Jan 12-1914 at Polson, Mont.  
Both of said children reside at Polson, Mont.

Seventh. I am not a disbeliever in or opposed to organized government or a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching disbelief in or opposed to organized government. I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy. I am attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and it is my intention to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to Haakon VII, King of Norway of whom at this time I am a subject, and it is my intention to reside permanently in the United States.

Eighth. I am able to speak the English language.

Ninth. I have resided continuously in the United States of America for the term of five years, or less immediately preceding the date of this petition, to wit, since the 2nd day of June 1907 and in the State of Montana, continuously next preceding the date of this petition, since the 20th day of May 1911, being a residence within this State of at least one year next preceding the date of this petition.

Tenth. I have not heretofore made petition for citizenship to any court. ~~to the~~ day of anno Domini 1911

~~This petition is denied by the said Court for the following reasons with reasons, to wit:~~ and the cause of such denial has been stated or stated:

Attached hereto and made a part of this petition are my declaration of intention, to become a citizen of the United States ~~and the certificate from the Department of Labor, together with my affidavits and the affidavits of the two verifying witnesses thereto, required by law.~~ Wherefore your petitioner prays that he may be admitted a citizen of the United States of America.

Gjert Riksten  
(Signature of petitioner)

Gjert Riksten  
(Signature and true signature of petitioner)

Declaration of Intention ~~and Certificate of Intent~~ from Department of Labor filed this 19th day of August, 1911.  
Here to (taken by Clerk). If petitioner arrived in the United States on or before June 20, 1906, strike out the words reading "and Certificate of Intent" from Department of Labor.



NOTE TO CLERK: If petitioner arrived in the United States on or before the date of filing this petition, the petitioner must state the date of arrival.

### AFFIDAVITS OF PETITIONER AND WITNESSES.

State of Montana }  
County of Flathead }

The undersigned petitioner being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the petitioner in the above-entitled proceedings; that he has read the foregoing petition and knows the contents thereof; that the said petition is signed with his full, true name; that the same is true of his own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters he believes it to be true.

J. J. Curtis, occupation Farmer, residing at Kalispell Mont  
Edgar Staples, occupation Lumberman, residing at Bozeman Mont  
Gjert Reksten, occupation Farmer, residing at Kalispell Mont

each being severally, duly, and respectively sworn, deposes and says that he is a citizen of the United States of America; that he has personally known the petitioner above mentioned, to have resided in the United States continuously immediately preceding the date of filing his petition, since the 20th day of May, anno Domini 1911, and in the State in which the above-entitled petition is made continuously since the 20th day of May, anno Domini 1911; and that he has personal knowledge that the said petitioner is a person of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and that the petitioner is in every way qualified, in his opinion, to be admitted a citizen of the United States.

Balance of Proof by Deposition J. J. Curtis  
Edgar Staples  
Gjert Reksten

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the above-named petitioner and witnesses this 19th day of August, anno Domini 1914.

Samuel McNeely, Clerk.  
By, Deputy Clerk.

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61420/images/47461\\_b323463-00034?pld=10001677](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61420/images/47461_b323463-00034?pld=10001677)

## Hilda Reksten

**POLSON** — Hilda Reksten, 101, of Polson, died of natural causes Wednesday, June 19, at St. Joseph Convalescent Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gjert, in 1966, a daughter, Lilly, and a grandson.

Survivors include two daughters, Mable Elp, Puyallup, Wash.; and Hildur Henderson, Polson; two sons, Don, Kalispell, and George, Portland, Ore.; and several other relatives.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Mosley-Shrider Funeral Home in Polson, with the Rev. Ken Bartle officiating. Burial will be at Lakeview Cemetery.

Obituary of Hilda Bjork Reksten – “The Missoulian” (Missoula MT) Thursday 20 Jun 1991 p

FORM V.S. 3 (1988 revision) **MONTANA**  
**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH** **91 003076**

Local File Number \_\_\_\_\_ State File Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. <b>DECEDENT'S NAME (First)</b> Hilda		(Middle) (NMI)		(Last) Reksten		2. <b>SEX</b> female	3. <b>DATE OF DEATH (Month, Day, Year)</b> June 19, 1991
4. <b>RACE—American Indian, Black White, etc. (Specify)</b> White		5a. <b>AGE—Last Birthday (Years)</b> 101	5b. <b>Months</b>	5c. <b>Days</b>	5d. <b>Hours</b>	5e. <b>Minutes</b>	6. <b>DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)</b> June 23, 1889
7b. <b>PLACE OF DEATH (Check only one)</b> HOSPITAL: <input type="checkbox"/> Inpatient <input type="checkbox"/> ER/Outpatient <input type="checkbox"/> DOA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nursing Home <input type="checkbox"/> Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) FACILITY NAME (If not institution, give street and number) 7c. <b>St. Joseph Convalescent Home</b>		7d. <b>CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION OF DEATH</b> Polson, Montana					
8. <b>Kasa, Sweden</b>		9. <input type="checkbox"/> Never Married <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced		10. <b>None</b>		11. <b>538-20-9017</b>	
12a. <b>Homemaker/Sales Clerk</b>		12b. <b>Own-Home/Furniture</b>		13. <b>No</b>		14. <b>Yes</b>	
15. <b>Swedish</b>		16. <b>DECEDENT'S EDUCATION (Specify only highest grade completed)</b> Elementary/Secondary (0-12) <b>12</b> College (14 or 5+) <b>2</b>		17. <b>August Daniel Bjork</b>		18. <b>Sophia Jensen</b>	
19. <b>Hildur Henderson</b>		20. <b>Lakeview Cemetery</b>		21. <b>475</b>		22. <b>101 6th Ave. E., Polson, Mt.</b>	
23. <b>PART I. Enter the diseases, injuries, or complications that caused the death. Do not enter the mode of dying, such as cardiac or respiratory arrest, shock, or heart failure. List only one cause on each line. (See Instructions on other side)</b>		24. <b>WERE AUTOPSY FINDINGS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF CAUSE OF DEATH? (Yes or no)</b>		25. <b>WAS CASE REFERRED TO CORONER? (Yes or no)</b>		26. <b>MANNER OF DEATH</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Pending Investigation <input type="checkbox"/> Accident <input type="checkbox"/> Could not be Determined <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide <input type="checkbox"/> Homicide	
27a. <b>DATE OF INJURY (Month, Day, Year)</b> 6/19/91		27b. <b>TIME OF INJURY</b> 12:05 a.m.		27c. <b>INJURY AT WORK? (Yes or no)</b>		27d. <b>DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED</b>	
27e. <b>PLACE OF INJURY—At home, farm, street, factory, office building, etc. (Specify)</b>		27f. <b>LOCATION (Street and Number or Rural Route Number, City or Town, State)</b>		28a. <b>TO BE COMPLETED BY CERTIFYING PHYSICIAN ONLY. To the best of my knowledge, death occurred at the time, date and place and due to the cause(s) stated.</b>		28b. <b>DATE SIGNED (Month, Day, Year)</b> 6/19/91	
28c. <b>HOUR OF DEATH</b> 12:05 a.m.		28d. <b>NAME OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN IF OTHER THAN CERTIFIER (Type or Print)</b> Dr. Earl Coriell, Polson Family Medical Clinic, Polson, MT 59860		28e. <b>DATE PRONOUNCED DEAD (Month, Day, Year)</b> June 20, 1991		28f. <b>PRONOUNCED DEAD (Hour)</b> M	
28g. <b>NAME AND ADDRESS OF CERTIFIER (PHYSICIAN OR CORONER) (Type or Print)</b>		28h. <b>LOCAL REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE</b> Audrey Olsen		28i. <b>DATE FILED (Month, Day, Year)</b> June 20, 1991		28j. <b>PRONOUNCED DEAD (Hour)</b> M	



NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION	
<p>Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Kalispell, Montana February, 14 1916. Notice is hereby given that Gjert Reksten, of Polson, Montana who on July 6, 1911 made Homestead Entry Serial 03413 and on Aug. 15 1912, No. 03887 for Lot 1 Sec. 6 Tp. 22 N., R. 21 W. and N½ SE¼ of Section 31, Township 23 N. Range 21 W. Montana Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Three Year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Frank C. Bailey a United States Commissioner at Polson, Montana on the 20th day of March, 1916.</p> <p>Claimant names as witnesses:            Andrew H. Lunder, Andrew L. Olson,            Anton Bjork and Victor Nelson, all            of Polson, Montana.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Frank O. Williams            Register.</p> <p>Non Coal Land. <span style="float: right;">2-16</span></p>	

"Flathead Courier" (Polson MT) Thursday 2 Mar 1916 p A2

#### Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave ([www.findagrave.org](http://www.findagrave.org))

NOK = next-of-kin

#### **Name: George Nelson Bjork**

Name variations: George Nelson – Björk with an umlaut

#### Military:

On Tuscania: 20th Eng. 18th/Co. F - private

Serial number: not assigned when died – serial numbers were issued only after Tuscania sinking

Entered service from: St. Helens, Columbia OR [residence of next-of-kin; he resided in Polson MT]

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: George N. Bjork

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": brother Victor Nelson, St. Helens OR [handwritten note: "brother don't use last name"]

Burial on isle of Islay, Scotland: 1st buried at Kilnaughton, Islay, Scotland - grave 53, as G.N. Bjork

Body returned from war on: "Antigone" arriving Hoboken NJ 29 Sep 1920

Body listed on return ship as: G.N. Bjork

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: NOK not listed on this roster - pvt, Co. F, 20th Engrs

World War I draft registration (1917): b. 13 Jun 1892 Beckefors, Sweden; res: Polson MT.

Alien. Farmer laborer for brother in Precinct 13, Flathead Co. MT. Single. Claims exemption from draft: "Believes in Volunteer Service"

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlistment date not given

Discharged date not given [date of death 6 Feb 1918]

Address: St. Helens, Columbia OR

Rank/unit: private, Co. H, 20<sup>th</sup> Engineers

#### Birth & death:

Born: 13 Jun 1892 Björtveten, Bäcke Parish, Sweden or Beckefors, Sweden

Died: 5 Feb 1918 Tuscania

Find A Grave record: 57041471 - presence on Tuscania noted in text & flower

Burial location: Arlington, Arlington Co. VA

Cemetery: Arlington National

Tombstone: veteran tombstone - Oregon Pvt 20 Engrs

Father: August Nelson Bjork, b. 20 Sep 1851, Raggård [the first "A" should have a circle over it], Sweden Sweden – d. 1908, Oslo, Norway. Son of Nils Nilsson & Kasja Nilsdotter. He was a corporal in the Swedish Army. He is also listed as an officer in the Swedish Army. His name is given as August Daniel Bjork on Hilda Bjork Reksten's death record.

Find A Grave:

Mother: Sophia/Sofia Pettersdotter [in Sweden] or Peterson [in US] Bjork, 30 Apr 1851 (MT death records) or 30 Jan 1851 (several Swedish censuses) Stommen, Ödskölt parish, Sweden– 1 May 1937 Polson, Lake MT. Her name is listed as Sophie Jensen on Hilda Bjork Reksten's death record.

Since she was the daughter of Peter Carlson/Karlsson, she would have been a

Carlson/Karlsson had she been born in the US. Her mother was Gertrude Johnson.

MT deaths: died 1 May 1937 Hotel Dieu Hospital, Polson MT, age 86 years, 0 months, 1 day,

father: Peter Carlson, mother: Gertrude Johnson, husband August Bjork. Resident of Radio

MT. Widow. Of bronchitis. Born 30 Apr 1857 Daisland, Sweden. Informant Mrs. Hilda

Reksten of Polson MT. A Sofia Petersdotter was christened 1 May 1851 in Ödskölt,

Älvsborg, Sweden, born 30 Apr 1851, to Peter Karlsson & Maria Arfvidsdotter (she age 32).

Her obituary in a MT newspaper dated 6 May 1937 [newspaper name not included]: Mrs.

Sophie Bjork, old-time resident of the Radio MT area, died Sat. at a local hospital at age 86.



Born in Dalsland, Sweden, 30 Apr 1851. At age 21, married August Nelson Bjork, an officer in the Swedish Army. In 1897 the family moved to Norway where August died in 1908. In 1909, Sophie & daughter Hilda Reksten came to the US, and in 1911 she homesteaded a claim at Radio, where she lived with her son Anton until her death. Active in the VFW Auxiliary. The only Gold Star Mother in the auxiliary; her youngest son [George] was killed in action in WWI. She is survived by her son John Bjork (Everett WA), daughters Mrs. Gus Martinsen (Portland OR) & Mrs. Christian Lovelie (Oslo, Norway) & son Anton B. Bjork of Radio MT.

Buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Polson, Lake MT.

Find A Grave: 93421910

Parents' marriage: August Nelson Bjork married Sofia Pettersdotter in 1872, when he was age 21.

Family tree at: <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/117160350/person/320164964111/facts>

Spouse:

Spouse Find A Grave:

Children:

Siblings: [https://www.myheritage.com/names/august\\_bjork](https://www.myheritage.com/names/august_bjork)

- John Nelson Bjork, 7 Sep 1873 Bäcke, Sweden or Björtveten, Älvsborg, Sweden - 28 Feb 1958 Everett, Snohomish WA. Also found as Johan Nilsson Bjork. – Married Indiana Olsdaatter (1869 Norway -1931 WA, F: 134702832) on 14 Maqre 1897 in Vestre Aker, Oslo, Akershus, Noway. - Emigrated 12 Feb 1897 to Norway from Sweden. – Widowed, he married Mary Jane (Mollie/Molly) Thomas Bohnstedt, whose 1<sup>st</sup> husband was Verner Bohnstedt (1889-1928, F: 107043579). Mollie married Verner on 6 Aug 1909 in Aurora, Lawrence MO. – She was then married to Delbert Melvern Harris (1894-1963). - WA deaths: died age 84, resident 1808 – 26<sup>th</sup> St. Everett WA. An Everett resident for 46 years. Son of August Nelson Bjork & Sofie Peterson. Buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Everett, Snohomish WA. F: 134702602
- Axel Bjork, 14 May 1875 Ödskolt, Älvsborg, Sweden – 30 Mar 1892 Björtveten, Bäcke parish, Sweden.
- Wilhelmina/Vilhelmina Bjork Martinsen, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke, Sweden or Västra, Götalands län, Sweden (1896 on her OR death index) – 14 Sep 1973 Multnomah Co. OR. Named as Mrs. Gus Martinsen of Portland OR in her mother's 1937 obituary. Wife of Gustav Helfred Martinsen (1880 Norway – 1958 OR, F: 158275742) whom she married 28 Apr 1901 in Oslo (Christiania), Norway. In 1910 Gust & Wilhelmina "Martinson" lived in Stoughton, Dane WI, with 5 children, ages 12 months to 8 years. Gust was a laborer in a wagon works. He had emigrated in 1904, Wilhelmina & the 2 oldest children had emigrated from Norway (where children Iner & Austria had been born) in 1905. Living with them was Wilhelmina's mother, "Sophie Bjerki" – age 59, born Sweden, a widow, mother of 7 children, 7 of whom were living. – Wilhelmina's Ancestry.com family tree lists her 14 children. Buried in Lincoln Memorial Park, Portland, Multnomah OR. F: 158275742
- Emma Bjork Andersen, 5 Jul 1880 Björtveten, Bäcke parish, Sweden – 14 Sep 1973. She is likely the Mrs. Christian Lovelie of Oslo, Norway, noted in her mother's 1937 obituary. – Married 26 Dec 1901 in Christiania (Oslo), Norway to Kristian Alfred Andersen (b. ca. 1878).

On 26 Dec 1901, she sailed from Oslo, Norway, arriving in NYC on 18 Jul 1902, but it appears she returned to Norway.

- Victor Bjork Nelson, 10 Mar 1883 Falun, Falu kommun, Dalarnes län, Sweden – 21 Jan 1931 Lake Co. MT. Born Viktor (Wiktor) Nelson Bjork. Around 1918, he switched his middle & last names & became Victor Bjork Nelson. He also changed the spelling of Viktor to Victor. According to a family story online, he changed his name to Nelson when he immigrated because he disliked the mispronunciation of Bjork. The family has since determined that the original name in Sweden was Nelson. Found at: <https://www.genealogy.com/ftm/d/e/n/Linda-Dent-snohomish/index.html>. Obituary: “The Missoulain” (Missoula MT) 23 Jan 1931 p 9 – Victor Bjork Nelson, 48, Flathead Valley pioneer, died at his country home near Radio MT 21 Jan 1931 of pneumonia. Born in Sweden, emigrated 1905. Homesteaded 1911 in Flathead Valley at his present home, 20 miles west of Polson. Survived by widow & 4 children. Interred in Lakeview Cemetery. “Daily Inter Lake” (Kalispell MT) 24 Jan 1931 p 8 – story from “Flathead Courier” – similar except adds came to the Flathead reservation in 1911. Lived here with exception of one year. Lutheran services. Married Ingeborg Kristiansen (1882 Norway-1951 WA) in 1900. Buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Polson, Lake MT. F: 91326231
- Anton Bjork, 29 Nov 1885 Bäcke, Sweden – 2 Apr 1966 Hot Springs, Sanders MT. MT death record: son of Agust [sic] Nelson & Sofie F. Peterson, resident Polson MT, US Postal Service mail carrier (retired). Buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Polson. Immigrated together with brother George. Buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Polson, Lake MT. F: 93421890
- Boy Bjork, b. & d. 24 May 1885 Björtneten, Bäcke parish, Sweden
- Alhilda/Alfhilda (Hilda) Bjork Reksten, 23 Jun 1889 Kasa, Ornskoldsviks kommun, Västernorrlands län, Sweden – 19 Jan 1981 Polson, Lake MT. Wife of Gjert Gjerkson Reksten (1884 Norway-1956 MT, F: 92812170) whom she married in 1910 in Stoughton, Dane WI. Buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Polson, Lake MT. F: 92811979

Notes: George emigrated to the US with his brother Anton in 1907. They sailed on the “Caronia” from Liverpool, England, on 23 Apr 1907 & arrived in New York City on 3 May 1907. Georg Björk is listed on p. 61 of the manifest. Age 15, male, labourer, last permanent residence: Dalsland, Sweden. Born Sweden. 5 ft. 0 inches tall, good complexion, fair hair, blue eyes. Anton Bjork is listed on p. 62 (which precedes p. 61 on Family Search), age 22, male, labourer, last permanent residence: Wermland, Sweden. Height 5’ 6”, fair complexion, blond hair, blue eyes. Both list as their final destination their brother F.N. Björk, in Kalispell MT, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JXNH-QJS>.

According to family information shared with Tuscania researcher Steven Schwartz, the family name of Nilsson was changed to Bjork when August joined the Swedish Army as there were too many Nilssons. Victor was the only one who kept the Nelson name. After father August died, Sophia & 4 of her children came to the US, living in Wisconsin for a while & then homesteaded in MT. Sophia, Victor, Anton & Hilda took homesteads in Flathead Co. MT. Victor came to the US originally in 1905 but seems to have gone back a few times, as 2 of his children were born in Norway. Victor Nelson moved from St. Helens OR to Polson MT in 1920.

Naturalized 5 Dec 1917 in Columbia Co. OR. The form stated he had arrived in the US on 4 May 1907 from Liverpool, England, aboard "Caledonia."

Wartime:

"St. Helens (OR) Mist" 15 Feb 1918 p 1 - George Nelson Bjork 1st in Columbia Co. community to die in warfare, "if the Hun submarine assassination might be called warfare" - not much known about him, former resident Rainier OR where he worked in 1 of the mills, on 2 Dec 1917 filed 1st citizenship papers with county clerk, described himself as age 25, lumberman, b. Sweden, lived in US since 4 May 1907, known by ex-county clerk Barnett & Dr. J.H. Flynn who spoke of him in high terms, worked in either the mill or shipyard before enlisting in Engineers, used the name "George Nelson" so maybe only a few knew him as "Bjork"

Post-war:

Obituary:

Censuses:

Sweden, Household Examination Books, 1876-1880 -Björtveten, Bäcke Parish, Sweden  
 August Björk, b. 20 Sep 1851, Raggård, Sweden  
 Sofia Pettersdotter, b. 30 Jan 1851, Ödsköld, Sweden  
 Johan Bjork, b. 7 Sep 1873, Bäcke  
 Axel, 14 May 1875, Bäcke  
 Wilhelmina, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke  
 Emma, 5 Jul 1880 Bäcke

Sweden, Household Examination Books, 1881-1885-Björtveten, Bäcke Parish, Sweden  
 August Bjork, b. 20 Sep 1851, Raggård, Sweden  
 Sofia Pettersdotter, b. 30 Jan 1851, Ödsköld, Sweden  
 Johan Bjork, b. 7 Sep 1873, Bäcke  
 Axel, 14 May 1875, Bäcke  
 Wilhelmina, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke  
 Emma, 5 Jul 1880 Bäcke  
 Wiktor, 10 Mar 1883 Bäcke  
 Anton, 29 Nov 1885 Bäcke

Sweden, Household Examination Books, 1891-1895 -Björtveten, Bäcke Parish, Sweden  
 August Björk, b. 20 Sep 1851, Raggård, Sweden – "korporal, soldat"  
 Sofia Pettersdotter, b. 30 Jan 1851, Ödsköld, Sweden  
 Johan Bjork, b. 7 Sep 1873, Bäcke  
 Axel, 14 May 1875, Bäcke  
 Wilhelmina, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke

Emma, 5 Jul 1880 Bäcke

Viktor, 10 Mar 1883 Bäcke

Anton, 29 Nov 1885 Bäcke

Alhilda, 23 Jun 1889 Bäcke

A note "Ett Dödfölt gossebarn" 24 May 1888 – apparently notes the death of a male child  
24 Aug 1888

Sweden, Household Examination Books, 1891-1895 -Björtveten, Bäcke Parish, Sweden

August Bjork, b. 20 Sep 1851, Raggård, Sweden

Sofia Pettersdotter, b. 30 Jan 1851, Ödsköld, Sweden

Johan Bjork, b. 7 Sep 1873, Bäcke

Axel, 14 May 1875, Bäcke –struck through, apparently died -

Wilhelmina, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke – struck through, apparently died [but see below in the list]

Emma, 5 Jul 1880 Bäcke

Wiktor, 10 Mar 1883 Bäcke

Anton, 29 Nov 1885 Bäcke

Alhilda, 23 Jun 1889 Bäcke

Georg, 13 Jun 1892 Bäcke

Vilhelmina, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke [ see Wilhelmina above]

Sweden, Household Examination Books, 1895-1899 -Björtveten, Bäcke Parish, Sweden

August Bjork, b. 20 Sep 1851, Raggård, Sweden, "soldatskommen, Korporal"

Sofia Pettersdotter, b. 30 Jan 1851, Ödsköld, Sweden

Johan Bjork, b. 7 Sep 1873, Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

Emma, 5 Jul 1880 Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

Viktor, 10 Mar 1883 Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

Anton, 29 Nov 1885 Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

Alhilda, 23 Jun 1889 Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

Georg, 13 Jun 1892 Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

Vilhelmina, 8 Nov 1877 Bäcke, Älvsborg, Sweden

[has notes about "Norge" – Norway – and August dies in Oslo, Norway, in 1908]

1920 US census – Polson, Flathead MT

Antone Bjork, 34 Sweden, single, emigrated 1907, naturalized 1914, farmer, home farm

Sofea Bjork, 69 Sweden, widowed, emigrated 1909, naturalized 1917