

The New MANFRED NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 4

May 2008

A Warm Welcome to Manfred!

For this issue, it is an honor to feature the History of Medical Care for Manfred including the histories of its two resident physicians, Drs. P. A. Boyum and R. W. Owen. Also, enjoy reminiscing about the Wells County Free Fair with a poem written by Orv Alvesshere.

In Memory Greg Brombach

September 12, 1960 – May 27, 2007
Husband of Rachelle Roble Brombach,
who is the daughter of Wayne and Darlene Roble

Oscar Gedrose

December 21, 1921 – January 19, 2008
Husband of Lillian Schimke Gedrose,
who is the daughter of Lydia Koenig Schimke
and granddaughter of Jacob and Fredricka Koenig

Lester B. Quie

December 1916 – February 5, 2008
Husband of Lorraine Roland Jenny, who taught the
upper grades in the Manfred School for many years

Mildred Miller Reiswig

June 17, 1928 – February 9, 2008
Longtime resident of rural Manfred
and daughter of Ben and Emma Miller

Ellanora Melby Houtkooper

March 9, 1922 – February 14, 2008
Daughter of Martin and Alma Melby
and granddaughter of Knud and Guri Melby

Earl Sisson

April 21, 1951 – March 1, 2008
Rural Manfred resident

Lorene Koenig

July 5, 1918 – March 13, 2008
Longtime resident of rural Manfred and
wife of Ed Koenig, who was the son of
Jacob and Fredricka Koenig

Herbert Ongstad

April 5, 1911 – March 30, 2008
Life-long resident of rural Manfred and
son of settlers, Sofus and Rema Ongstad

Betty Olschlager

August 31, 1929 – April 30, 2008
Wife of Harold Olschlager

Ellen Rogness

1922 – May 2, 2008
Wife of Elvin Rogness, who was the son
of Nikolai and Everina Rogness

Ivan Hovey

July 31, 1951 – May 5, 2008
The son of Ruth Melby Hovey who was the
daughter of Oscar and Bertha Melby

James Larson

October 29, 1936 – May 10, 2008
Husband of Audrey Strauss Larson

Correction to January 2008 issue
Harry Weisenberger died in 2008, not 2007

Change of Mailing Address

Should your mailing address change, please notify:
MHP, Inc., P.O. Box 321, Harvey, ND, 58341,
Help MHP, Inc. save on return postage charges. Thank you kindly!

manfrednd.org

Enjoy visiting Manfred's web site: manfrednd.org
Tabs of special interest: Biography, Business, Newsletter

MHP, Inc. Board and Division Members Spring Meeting April 27, 2008



Back: Laveme Johnson, Pete Anderson, Louis Weigelt, Ruth Widiger, Verna Bowers, Wesley Boese
Front: Gwyn Herman, Audrey Solheim, Wanda Melchert, Judy Weigelt, Esther Boese, Pam Norstedt
The T-shirts, inscribed with 'Manfred Heritage Museum', are available through MHP, Inc. for a donation of \$10

EXCITING NEWS! THE MANFRED SCHOOL PROJECTS ARE FINALLY READY TO BEGIN !!

Manfred School History and Restoration Projects

History

The history of Manfred School is in the process of being compiled. Please send Manfred School photos and memories to Audrey Solheim, 1026 S. 3rd #3, Bismarck, ND 58504. asolheim@bis.midco.net.

Restoration

Rural Vestige Alliance (RVA) non-profit organization, owner of the school, is ready to begin gathering funds for the restoration of the Manfred School. Information on this exciting project will soon be coming.



The Harvey High School Tech Class, with teacher Ted Sitz at center, visited Manfred on May 14 to present to the museum the Burkum Slide Collection of 1000+ historic slides in digital format they had worked on in class this past year

↑
Enjoying
the Nannie
Johnson rocker
restored by
Pete and Perry
Anderson

L-R Front:
Rose and Pete
Anderson,
Ruth Widiger

Back:
Louis Weigelt,
Wesley and
Esther Boese

The New Manfred News

With the continuing help of supporters, Manfred is growing toward its exciting mission to help tell the story of rural North Dakota. In grateful thanks!

MHP, Inc. General Fund

Contributions to the General Fund are vital for the current work of MHP, Inc. The projects are advancing with this help!

Christy Anderson
 Peter and Rose Anderson in memory of
 Ivan Hovey
 Lorene Koenig
 Ellen Rogness
 Ruth Bell
 Verna Bowers
 in memory of Josie Georgeson
 Lowell and Muriel Boyum
 Wayne and LoAnn Dybing
 Cynthia Ehni
 Fessenden Thrift Shop
 In memory of Walter Fehr
 Peter and Rose Anderson
 Verna Bowers
 Craig and Vicki Harper
 Dorothy A. Harris
 In memory of Ellanora Houtkooper
 Peter and Rose Anderson
 Paul and Joyce Eidbo
 Bill and Darlene Quenette
 Diane Nickley
 Glen and Marie Sailer
 Jessica Johnson
 Elsie Martinson in honor of my many friends
 who have helped in so many ways since
 my stay in the hospital
 In memory of Martha Mathison
 Peter and Rose Anderson
 Verna Bowers
 Reiner and Ruth Widiger
 In memory of Herbert Ongstad
 Donald A. Anderson
 Peter and Rose Anderson
 Richard and Marcia Asleson
 Karen Beutler
 Norman and Diane Boese
 Wesley and Esther Boese
 John and Margaret Bollingberg
 Verna Bowers
 Cash donations in memory of Herbert
 Wayne and LoAnn Dybing
 Judith Duerre
 Paul and Harriet Gunderson
 Laverne Johnson and Gwyn Herman
 Gerald Hagemeister and Pat Kirkeide
 Charles Houtkooper
 Beverly and Kermit Larson
 George and Ruth Litke
 Doris Nyhus
 Margaret Sprague
 The Riverside Farm-Johnson family:
 Larry, Laverne, Jim, David,
 Dianne, Marilyn
 Margaret and Robert Walz
 Weckerly Ins. Agency
 Robert Weigelt
 Reiner and Ruth Widiger

MHP, Inc. General Fund (Cont.)

Arnt and Phyllis Ostrem
 Harold and Phyllis Pantsari in memory of
 Alice Dove
 In memory of Mildred Reiswig
 Peter and Rose Anderson
 Verna Bowers
 Reiner and Ruth Widiger
 Mark Quenette
 Olive Rodne
 Schulz Engine and Marine
 Maurice and Lori Ravnaas
 Steve and Joleen Schultz
 Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
 Joseph J. Strauss

MHP, Inc. Endowment Fund

An everlasting fund providing for the future
 Richard and Wanda Melchert in memory of
 Walter Fehr, Ivan Hovey,
 Ellanora Houtkooper, Lorene Koenig,
 Martha Mathison, Herbert Ongstad,
 Mildred Reiswig, Harry Weisenberger
 Audrey Solheim
 Ellanora Houtkooper
 Martha Mathison
 Herbert Ongstad

Designated Funds

Harvey Eagles Club for park fund
 Pam Norstedt for Farming Exhibit

Manfred Newsletter

Thank you for your newsletter subscriptions!
 26 new or renewing subscriptions have been
 received since the previous issue!

*Contributions to other Manfred non-profits
 will be recognized in an upcoming issue*

In Tribute of Herbert Ongstad

A giant of a person but humble in every way, Herbert's walk through life provided to all an enduring example, inwardly in personal contentment and abiding faith in God, and outwardly with genuine kindness to everyone and concern for their wellbeing - all through the eyes of his positive ways and great delight in people and all of God's creation.

Herbert had a great love of family. He was devoted in his career of farming. He was a leader in many organizations, with his quiet and positive influence. Many were blessed with his warm hospitality.

The Manfred projects could not have advanced through their infancy without the enormous measure of encouragement, leadership and hands on participation that Herbert gave. His interest ran deep having been born in Manfred, with life-long involvement in church and community.

The brilliant glow of Herbert's life remains in the hearts of all who were blessed through him.

The New Manfred News

A quarterly newsletter published by
 Manfred History and Preservation, Inc. (MHP, Inc.)
 P.O. Box 321, Harvey, ND 58341.

Subscription rate is \$10 per year.
 News and history items are most welcome!
 Editor: Wanda Melchert, wmelchert@westriv.com
 Historian: Audrey Solheim, administrator@manfrednd.org

Manfred History and Preservation, Inc. (MHP, Inc.)

'A Settlers' Village Celebrating Rural America'
 A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded July 25, 2000. Its mission is to compile and share the history of Manfred, North Dakota and its traditional trade area, and to encourage community pride and restoration of its historic structures.

Website: www.manfrednd.org

Manfred Heritage Museum

An educational entity of MHP, Inc. and of the Manfred community dedicated July 26, 2003. Its purpose is to provide present and future generations the opportunity to learn about important contributions that rural places such as Manfred have given to North Dakota and to America.

Museum Hours

May 1 through September 30: Tues-Sat 10-4
 Summer 701-547-2564
 Winter 701-547-3123, 701-324-2091, 701-324-2027

The success of Manfred History and Preservation, Inc. is made possible through:

1. Volunteers

Four Divisions have been established where people are invited to volunteer in their areas of interest:
 *CORPORATE - Compiling the history, Grant writing
 *MUSEUM - Cataloging the collections
 *BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS - Care of Manfred
 *EDUCATION - Developing exhibits and programs

2. Financial Contributions

Financial contributions are vital to the work of MHP, Inc. Ideas for giving include -
 *GENERAL FUND for current expenses
 *DESIGNATED GIFT
 *ENDOWMENT FUND for Manfred's future
 Consider including MHP, Inc. in your Estate Plans.
 Federal Tax ID# on record
 State of ND Solicitation #4111

3. Historical Contributions

At the core of the projects is the history of Manfred and its traditional trade area. Historical materials are welcome to help tell Manfred's story such as:
 *ARTIFACTS - Historical items
 *ARCHIVAL MATERIALS - Histories, Documents
 *GENEALOGIES - and other historic materials

Board of Directors

Audrey Solheim, President
 Laverne Johnson, Vice President
 Esther Boese, Secretary
 Ruth Widiger, Treasurer
 Wanda Melchert, Museum Director
 Rose Anderson, Pete Anderson,
 Verna Bowers, Pam Norstedt

MHP, Inc., dedicated to education and the well being of rural America, is a member of the Harvey Chamber of Commerce and Preservation North Dakota, and also partners with the Wells County Historical Society, State Historical Society of North Dakota and other historical groups.

➤ The History of Medical Care for the Manfred Community ➤

Medical care is a very important service to any community. In its earliest years, the village of Manfred enjoyed the medical practices of two doctors: Dr. P. A. Boyum during 1909-1913 and Dr. Roy Owen 1913-1920, as well as other help such as midwives for childbirth and even the barbers for pulling teeth.

In addition, the Manfred Community received medical help through visiting doctors primarily from Harvey, Fessenden, Drake, Maddock and New Rockford. Manfred even had a drugstore for a time. The Harvey Hospital was frequently used; and as needed, patients were also taken by the doctor or family member to places such as Jamestown and Fargo, ND or Minneapolis and Rochester, MN. Some of the medical needs incurred by the community included work-related injuries such as those sustained by the blacksmith, railroad workers and farmers, diseases, childbirth and aging related ailments. Today the communities in central North Dakota are blest with continued excellent medical care. The nearest location is Harvey having several medical professionals, two clinics, and St. Aloisius Medical Center.

The 1890s

In the very first years of settlement in the region, the nearest medical help came from the east where communities that had been settled earlier, such as New Rockford. The earliest doctors were not resident doctors, but merely made visits once a week. In 1893, Dr. A. B. Cook and Dr. John G. Johns are known to have made weekly visits to Fessenden. Dr. J. W. Proctor was the first resident doctor to begin practice in Fessenden in 1894. Many must have been the harrowing stories of medical emergencies in those early years. Here is a story that took place in Manfred about that time.

Medical Emergency In Manfred

Written in 1966 by Sennev Whipple, an early Manfred historian

North Dakota blizzards can call for courage even now, but more so in the prairie years of the early nineties (1890s). Self-sacrifice, heroism and personal bravery, symbolic of pioneers, were exemplified by Gullik Nordtorp of Manfred, when he risked his life to save that of another. It concerns a young mother-to-be, who with her husband, lived in the Nordtorp home. She was awaiting the arrival of their first child. During the ordeal, grave complications set in and medical aid became a dire necessity. It happened during a snow storm, when roads were blocked, making horse and sleigh travel impossible.

Mr. Nordtorp decided to reach a doctor by walking on the railroad tracks to Fessenden, six miles distant. Dressed in warm clothing, with a grain sack over his fur cap and face, he began the arduous journey. By forethought, should necessity demand, he deemed it wise to arm himself with a long staff resembling a cane by which he could feel his way along the rails enabling him to follow the tracks. After he had traveled half way, the strong wind whipped up a blinding blizzard, which proved to be a grueling challenge. Through faith, courage, determination, and the guidance of his staff, he finally reached his destination of Fessenden. A west-bound freight train arrived just in time and carried the doctor and Mr. Nordtorp back to Manfred. The mother's life was saved, but due to the long delay, the child was still-born.

Memory of this medical emergency as written by Gullik Nordtorp's daughter, Bertha Melby

This incident made a deep childhood impression on Gullik Nordtorp's daughter, Bertha, who wrote of that time: "Mr. and Mrs. Gullik Dahle were staying at our house. Mrs. Dahle was expecting a baby, but the baby was unable to be born the natural way. The mother would have died if it had not been for my Dad who walked in a bad snowstorm to Fessenden for a doctor. He walked on the railroad track and he said he didn't understand how he got to the track from the house as he couldn't see a thing. But after he found the track, he could feel his way with the cane that he carried. He figured that if he could make it to Fessenden before the train, called the Flyer, came, the doctor could come with him back to Manfred on this train. He and the doctor were able to catch the train back to Manfred, and the weather soon got a little better, too. Dad had to assist the doctor in giving the chloroform while the doctor brought the baby into this world. After that, Dad never liked being around when babies were born. Mrs. Dahle's life was saved, but the baby died. This was her first and only child. I want to cry when I think of how she suffered, with her husband and my mother standing by helplessly. But the Lord was with them, and Mrs. Dahle lived."

At the time of this crisis, Gullik and Margit Dahle were staying with his cousin Gullik Nordtorp and family for a while.

Later, the Dahle's established their farm north of Manfred. (See www.manfrednd.org – Biographies - Dahle)

Assisting with Medical Care at Manfred

Midwives



Kari Rogne
(Mrs. Bendik)

During the early pioneer and settlement years, midwives were often summoned to assist women in childbirth. The midwife would come to the couple's home when the time was nearing for the baby to be born, gave assistance during the birth, and then stayed for a time afterward to keep a watch on the mother and baby.

Among women serving as midwives in the Manfred area was Kari Rogne who lived on a farmstead 1½ miles north of Manfred with her husband, Bendik, and two children. Adolph Shirley and Herbert Ongstad were among those whom she attended to in birth. Her nurses training in Oslo, Norway served not only in her family but for the community as well.



Barbers

The barbers of Europe practiced surgery, a custom begun following a papal decree in 1163 that forbade the clergy to shed blood, which resulted in the duties of blood letting and minor surgery passing to barbers. The familiar barber pole expresses those long ago duties: the red stripe represented the blood spilt, the white the bandage. The Manfred Heritage Museum is blest with a barber pole originating from Manfred given to the museum by Jason Gessele of Harvey.

Though barbers in more recent times have not practiced minor surgical procedures, in Manfred word has passed down that barbers were known to have pulled teeth if needed. Barbers from Manfred's history included Nennie Johnson, Joe Anderson, J. B. Dingman, D. T. Basset, A. Stuberg and Ralph Hager.

Drug Stores

Sometime before 1905, August Swanson opened a business as agent for Dr. Ward's remedies. His 'drug' store office was located on Canal Street in Manfred. His medicinals included what were known as blood purifiers, stock food and condition powder. George Gilbertson operated the office during the summer whenever August was working his claim in McLean County near Mercer, ND. August was well liked and fondly referred to as 'Dr. Swanson' by the locals. In October 1907, he resigned as local agent of the Dr. Ward's remedies to devote his time to his farm.

Manfred had the benefit of a drug store from 1909 to 1914. As noted by the Wells County Free Press Manfred correspondent Sven Grane in the May 14, 1909 issue, "Oscar Anderson, a druggist from Austin, Minn. has rented C. C. Melby's hardware store and will soon open a first class drug store. A news entry in the May 21, 1909 issue relates, "Carpenters and painters are busy putting in the steel ceiling in the old hardware store, where the drug store will soon be opening."

In addition to drugs to fill the prescriptions, Oscar, given name Otto, also sold Edison Phonographs. The Anderson Drug Company was in operation through January 1914, when Otto moved to Baker, ND, located historically about 6-7 miles west of present day Harlow, ND, to open up a drug store there.

Four children were born to Otto and his wife Lucille: Ralph born in 1902, Everett in 1904, George in 1906, Leona in 1912 at Manfred, and Dorothy in 1915 after they had moved to Baker.



Otto Anderson



Anderson Drug Company

Otto Anderson, druggist in Manfred 1909 to 1914

Notice the boardwalk and also the wooden posts for tying the horse's reins.

Doctors Assisting Manfred Area Residents

Listing of Area Doctors

The following doctors served in the region, in addition to those mentioned on page 3 of this issue of Drs. A. B. Cook, John G. Johns and J. W. Proctor.

Dr. John Crawford located in Fessenden in 1896, and Dr. C. E. Sargent came soon after. Dr. Gustav Baar, Dr. Malcolm MacGregor, Dr. Charles Macullum, Dr. Hugo Neukamp, and Dr. Valency were other early physicians and surgeons around the year 1903. Dr. Per Oyen came in 1906 and practiced medicine in Fessenden until his death in 1924. Dr. Douglas also practiced here from 1906 to 1913.

During the flu epidemic in 1918, Dr. D. W. Matthaei came from Carrington to assist Dr. Oyen, and returned that same year to become a resident doctor. He practiced medicine in Fessenden and surrounding area from then until shortly before his death in July 1965. During a few years of his earlier practice his sister, Dr. Pearl Matthaei, practiced with him. Dr. R. J. Critchfield was also a medical doctor in the city from the middle twenties until 1932. (From the Fessenden Centennial book)

Many doctors have served the community of Harvey over the years. In 1919, Doctors Floew, P. A. Boyum and Gaebe practiced medicine there. Dr. A. F. Hammargren came to Harvey in 1924 and practiced medicine here until his death in 1970. Dr. LaPoint arrived about the same time. During this time Dr. Matthaei practiced medicine in Fessenden and was associated with the Harvey Hospital. Dr. Beck arrived in about 1946. He left to serve in the Army and then returned to Harvey and practiced here until about 1953. Dr. B. Z. Hordinsky arrived in Drake in 1950, sending his patients to St. Aloisius. Dr. M. J. Towarnicky came to Fessenden from Winnipeg in 1955 and was affiliated with the Harvey Hospital. (From the Harvey Growing With Pride book)

Additional doctors who helped with medical needs for Manfred as noted in the Manfred News entries of the Wells County Free Press: Drs. Douglas, Druen, and Wood of Fessenden, Drs. Clark, Eiede and Seibel of Harvey, Dr. Voss briefly at Manfred in 1906, Dr. Thams of Maddock, Drs. Boyum and Owen at Manfred, and Dr. Crawford of New Rockford.

Some of the health conditions treated by doctors included quinsy, tuberculosis, la grippe, small pox, whooping cough, appendicitis, accidents, nephritis (kidney ailment), diphtheria, and scarlet fever.

Some Newspaper Entries Of Doctors Assisting Manfred Area Residents

September 15, 1905 A most deplorable mishap befell Christ Rogne, separator man for Manfred Threshing Co, early last Monday. While in the act of closing the slide for the elevator fan he caught his left hand in the whistling fan, badly lacerating the two middle fingers. He hurried to Fessenden where Dr. Neukamp dressed the torn members.

December 14, 1906 Dr. T. Thams of Maddock, ND will be in Manfred every second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Office at Hotel Johnson.

January 4, 1907 Early last Monday morning occurred the death of Gertrude Anderson, daughter of P. B. Anderson, a highly respected farmer of this community. The cause of the death was an acute case of the dread disease, diphtheria. Gertrude was a very bright little girl and her sudden taking away was a sad blow to this family. The child was only about eleven years of age and had been ill only a few days and Dr. MacGregor of Fessenden had been in attendance.

March 15, 1907 Miss Huldah LeGrand has been affected with a bad case of quinsy (inflammation of the throat). The doctor was called in attendance and lanced the throat so she is quite well again at present.

January 17, 1908 In view of the smallpox cases at Fessenden, the board of health took the precaution of recommending an application of vaccine to the school children of Manfred and Dr. Oyen was up here one day last week for the purpose of treating several of them. We have heard of no cases around here as yet.

March 17, 1911 Ed Soderback has had a severe attack of appendicitis, being attended by Dr. Douglas of Fessenden.

January 13, 1916 Mrs. O. K. Frovig is quite sick with la grippe (influenza). Dr. Floew was called and she is getting along fine.

January 27, 1916 Little Bertha Alveshire is suffering with a severe attack of tonsillitis. Dr. Floew was called and at this writing she is improving, but slowly.

March 9, 1916 Haldor and Ole J. Rodne are now in Harvey for their health, taking treatment from Dr. Wood. We hope these gentlemen will soon get strong and healthy.

April 13, 1916 Dr. A. T. Floew of Harvey was called out to John Lithuns on Wednesday and vaccinated the children for smallpox.

March 1, 1917 Matt Biever had the misfortune to get kicked by a horse. Although the accident could have been worse, he received a pretty badly bruised hip.

January 27, 1927 Dr. D. W. Matthaei has been here and given the children of the Manfred School a physical examination. The parents will be given data on the examination in the near future.

January 7, 1932 Rueben Braaten was taken ill this week and the doctors think that he has scarlet fever. Chris Hanson is taking his place as janitor at the schoolhouse.

January 28, 1932 Dr. Matthaei was up from Fessenden to release the scarlet fever quarantine on the Braaten home. Mr. Braaten is back on the job again as janitor at the public school

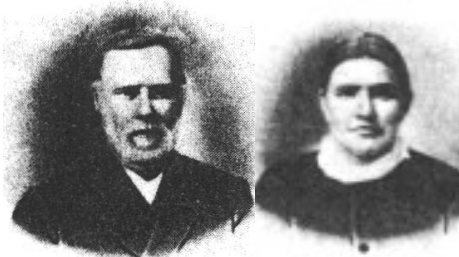
April 14, 1932 Mrs. John Smith and Josephine Janisch drove to New Rockford Sunday. Miss Janisch consulted Dr. Crawford as she is in poor health.

April 28, 1932 Dr. Pearl Matthaei of Fessenden was called to the John Smith home Monday evening as Josephine Janisch was seriously ill with heart trouble.

June 8, 1933 Richard Biever had his tonsils removed by Dr. Hammargren at the Harvey Hospital on Monday.

Peter A. and Manda Boyum Family History

Peter's Parents

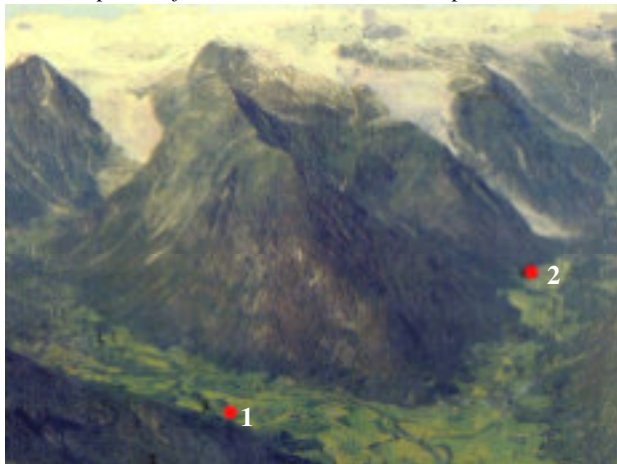


Rev. Ame and Anna Boyum

Balestrand, Fjærland, Norway ↓

1. Birth place of Peter's father, Arne Boyum

2. Birth place of Peter's mother, Anna Supheellen



Dr. Peter A. and Manda Boyum

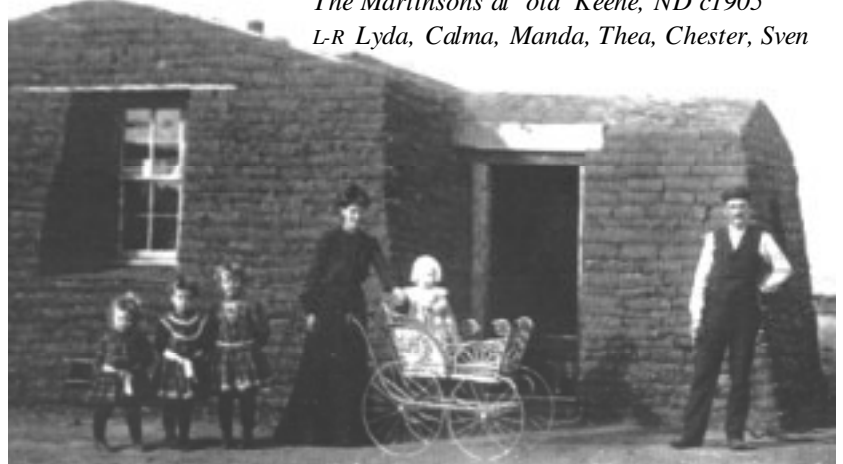
Manda's Parents



Sven and Thea Martinson

The Martinsons at 'old' Keene, ND c1905

L-R Lyda, Calma, Manda, Thea, Chester, Sven



Arne and Anna Boyum

Ame Ellendson 'A. E.' Boyum was born April 7, 1833 in Balestrand, Fjærland, Norway, to Ellend Erickson Boyum b.1797 and Anne Sevetsdotter Odejaard b.1803 who had six children: Brita b.1828, Gjertrude b.1830, Ame b.1833, Mari b.1837, Sevat b.1840 and Eric b.1842. In 1853, Ame emigrated from Norway by way of England. He taught school southwest of Chicago, and also was fortunate to survive a train wreck in WI. He made a trip back to Norway and returned to the USA with his parents and two brothers, settling in the southeast corner of MN in 1856. Ame's parents died in Fillmore County, his father in 1885 and his mother in 1887.

Ame married on July 25, 1859 in Dane County, WI to Anna Iverson Supheellen. He became a Hauge Lutheran Church lay minister, and also served as president of the synod for eleven years. He founded the Arendahl Lutheran Church in rural Peterson, MN in Fillmore County serving as it's pastor and also farmed. Anna died December 31, 1899 and Ame July 29, 1913 in Arendahl Township, Fillmore County, MN.

Born to Arne and Anna Boyum were twelve children:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Erick 1860-1868 | 5 Ole 1866-1898 | 9 Arne 1872-1877 |
| 2 Ivar 1861-1929 | 6 John 1867-1891 | 10 Martin 1875-1940 |
| 3 Elling 1862-1927 | 7 Erik 1869-1940 | 11 Georgiena 1877-1951 |
| 4 Bertha 1864-1891 | 8 Andrew 1871-1958 | 12 Peter 1880-1962 |

Sven and Thea Martinson

Sven Martinson was born about 1874 in Norway, and arrived to the USA in 1894. On August 06, 1898 at Clay County, Minnesota, Sven married Thea Brenna, born June 11, 1879 in Clay County, MN the daughter of Christian Brenna. Her heritage stemmed from Hallingdal and South Trondelag, Norway. Also in 1898, Sven and Thea homesteaded at Keene, ND. Sven's grandson, Lowell Boyum, relates that his Grandpa Martinson didn't care much for farming, so in 1927, Sven and Thea moved to the New Town area where Sven had a service station. Sven died on April 15, 1929. Thea died at New Town, ND in about 1968.

Eight children were born to Sven and Thea Martinson. 1 Manda (Peter Boyum) was born in 1899 at Ulen, MN, and later had three children: Ame, Lowell, and Francis 'Tim'. Born at 'old' Keene west of the Missouri River were: 2 Lyda (Jim Lyall) was born in 1901, and later had two children: Jeanette and Lois Anne; 3 Calma (Ruland) was born in 1903, and later had five children: Eleanor, Alice, Corrine, Chester, and Dale; 4 Chester (Magdaline) was born in 1904 and had a general store at Cavalier, ND-no children. Sven, Thea and family then moved east of the river to 'new' Keene where 5 Milo (Elizabeth) was born in 1905, and later had two children: Dennis and Barry; 6 Lloyd was born in 1907, and later worked in various elevators in the northeast corner of MT and had two children: Larry and Donald; 7 Ernest (Elsie Mortenson) was born in 1910, and later had a dry cleaning business in Harvey-no children; and 8 Alvin (Myrel) was born in 1912 and later had a clothing store in Sanish and had one child, Jerry.

P. A. Boyum, First Resident Doctor at Manfred

Peter Arndt 'P. A.' Boyum was the 12th child of Arne E. and Anna Boyum. He was born March 4, 1880 at Fillmore County in southeastern Minnesota and attended public school there. Peter then entered Red Wing Seminary (college) at Red Wing, MN. After this, he taught school in Fillmore County, MN before entering the University of Minnesota Medical School. He received his medical degree in 1907, with his internship following this at Swedish Hospital in Minneapolis.

Dr. P. A. Boyum began his medical practice in May 1909 at Manfred, ND. He was a bachelor then, age 28. His office and living quarters were on the second story of the C.C. Melby Store in the southwest corner. The first baby he attended to the birth was Josephine Breyer. Here is a story about Dr. P. A. Boyum, fondly known as 'Doc Boyum', as told to Peter Anderson by Severt Dovre: "Severt, a carpenter and farmer, smashed his finger and finally went to see Doc Boyum when the finger became infected. As they were visiting, Doc was poking around on the nail of Severt's finger with a tweezers. Doc then asked Severt, 'Did you have a good crop this year?' Just as Severt was about to answer, Doc Boyum suddenly pulled the nail off the infected finger before Severt knew what had happened. Severt suffered almost no pain as a result of the removal of the nail. The finger healed and the nail grew back.



The west side of Main Street in Manfred, ND as it appeared in the years when P. A. Boyum served as Manfred's resident doctor, 1909-1913. In the foreground is the C. C. Melby Store, where Dr. Boyum had his office and home upstairs in the southwest corner. Notice the posts on the south side of the building where people could tether their horses while in town.

← Dr. Boyum's office location in Manfred



↑ Dr. Boyum's medical bag

↓ Instruments and medicines inside Dr. Boyum's medical bag. This bag can be viewed at the Wells County Museum in Fessenden. Photos of the bag taken by Pam Norstedt.



Wells County Free Press news entries regarding Dr. P. A. Boyum, during the time of his medical practice at Manfred

May 14, 1909 Manfred appears to have obtained one of its long-felt wants by having Dr. P. A. Boyum locate in Manfred. Dr. Boyum is a son of Rev. A. E. Boyum of Rushford, Minnesota, a graduate of Red Wing Seminary and the medical department of the University of Minnesota. He appears to be a gentleman, well qualified to work in the profession he has chosen.

June 25, 1909 Mrs. Anna LeGrand had a light attack of paralysis but is improving under the care of Dr. Boyum.

November 26, 1909 Dr. P. A. Boyum took Lydia Hildebrand to a Valley City hospital and assisted in performing an operation for appendicitis. She is reported to be improving.

December 2, 1910 Dr. P. A. Boyum went to Valley City in company with a daughter of Nick Rogness, who is suffering with appendicitis.

January 20, 1911 Dr. P. A. Boyum returned from an extended trip to Duluth, Rushford, Minneapolis and other places. The doctor is a little undecided as to his next move so he may decide to stay, a thing all Manfred wishes him to do.

March 17, 1911 A. O. Sandstrom met with an accident Monday. While butchering, he accidentally cut a cord in his foot. Dr. Boyum was called and took him to Valley City.

January 12, 1912 Perry Anderson has suffered from a sore throat but is now on the road to recovery under the care of Dr. Boyum.

February 2, 1912 The leap year ball given by the young ladies of Manfred was well attended and the girls showed themselves equal to the occasion. They inoculated Dr. Boyum with the dancing bug and the good doctor has taken footbaths ever since. Whether he can effect a cure remains to be seen.

February 9, 1912 Robert Bruns, one of the men working on a pile driver, fell down from a ladder and broke his leg. Dr. Boyum set the leg and cared for his wound.

April 5, 1912 Annie Nystruen has been on the sick list, but is now on the mend thanks to Dr. Boyum.

April 4, 1913 Dr. P. A. Boyum returned from Minneapolis Friday morning where he had been taking post-graduate courses for some time past.

October 3, 1913 Dr. P. A. Boyum is back to Manfred and then maybe Minneapolis and other points.

October 24, 1913 Dr. P. A. Boyum is now located at Minnewaukan leaving Manfred Monday after several years of practice here.

Dr. P. A. and Manda Boyum

Dr. P. A. Boyum remained at Manfred until the spring of 1913, and then went to Devils Lake where he had a friend, Mr. Timbo, who was chief of police there. In 1915, he moved to Keene, McKenzie County, ND. There he met Manda Martinson. She was born April 7, 1899 at Ulen, MN, the eldest of eight children born to Sven Martinson and Thea Brenna.

In July of 1917, P. A. and Manda married in Minneapolis. Their first child Arne was born in 1918, and soon after this they moved to Harvey where P. A. continued in his medical practice. Their son Lowell was born in 1921 and son Francis 'Tim' in 1923.

At Harvey, P. A. served as Wells County coroner, and chief of medical staff of St. Aloisius Hospital. His practice extended to the region around Harvey, so in this way the people at Manfred were able to have Dr. P. A. Boyum as their doctor once again.

In his long tenure, P. A. served as doctor for more than one generation such as in the Leslie Johnson family. Dr. Boyum attended to the births of Leslie and Olga Johnson as well as their three eldest children: Larry, Laverne and Orville 'James.' The doctor in attendance at the births of the younger three Johnson children, David, Dianne and Marilyn, was Dr. P. A. Boyum's son, Dr. Lowell Boyum. Doctors making house calls was common in the early years.

P. A. was active in civic and fraternal groups in the Harvey area. P. A. and Manda were members of First Lutheran Church of Harvey. Manda was a lifetime member of the Order of Eastern Star.

In March of 1962, many friends and family gathered in honor of P. A. on his 82nd birthday and also of his retirement from active practice. He had practiced medicine for 53 years, 44 of which were at Harvey. Present to help him celebrate were the first and last babies in which he attended their delivery: the first being Josephine Breyer in Manfred and the last being Paul Bowlinger born in Harvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bowlinger. P. A. died two months later on May 19, 1962 in Harvey ND and is buried in Arendahl Cemetery, Peterson, MN. Shortly thereafter, Manda moved to CA to live with her son Tim, and then moved back to Harvey in about 1976. She died in Harvey, ND on June 7, 1986 and is interred in Sunnyside Cemetery, Harvey, ND.

The children of P. A. and Manda Boyum



Arne, Francis 'Tim', Lowell

53-Year Medical Career of Dr. P. A. Boyum

4 years - Manfred
1909-1913

2 years - Devils Lake/
Minnewaukan
1913-1915

3 years - Keene
1915-1918

44 years - Harvey
1918-1962



Dr. P. A. Boyum



Dr. P. A. Boyum with
Josephine Breyer, the first baby
he attended to the birth



Dr. P. A. Boyum with
Paul Bowlinger, the last baby
he attended to the birth

⬆ Photos taken in 1962 upon P. A.'s retirement and 82nd birthday ⬆



P. A. and Manda Boyum and Family
L-R
Back: Arne, Lowell, Pete, Arne, Tom
Middle: Becky, Manda, P. A., Cecilie
Front: Ruth Ann 'Thann', Kelley, Katharine

Not pictured:
Tim and Bill

P. A. and Manda had three sons: Arne born on September 18, 1918, Lowell on February 28, 1921, and Francis 'Tim' on May 25, 1923. They grew up at Harvey, graduating from Harvey High School, and then each graduated from the University of North Dakota (UND) at Grand Forks, ND.

Tim P. Boyum

Tim entered military service in 1943 at Fort Snelling, MN with the Army. He served in Europe during WWII, participating in the Battle of the Bulge as a heavy machine gunner. Tim was employed by Shearson-Hammill brokerage firm in Los Angeles for many years, returning to Harvey in 1976. He was a member of First Lutheran Church of Harvey, the VFW, American Legion and Fagerlund Sons of Norway. Tim died June 12, 1985 and is buried at Sunnyside Cemetery, Harvey, ND.

The Children of P. A. and Manda Boyum



Arne 'Arne'

Lowell 'Skeeter'

Francis 'Tim'

Arne S. Boyum

After graduating from UND in 1940, Arne taught school and coached in Devils Lake from 1940-1942. On June 5, 1942 in Jamestown, Arne married Cecilie 'Cec' J. Henry, daughter of Alfred and Claudine Henry. Both Arne and Cecilie attained the highest ranks in scouting, Eagle and Eaglet respectively. Cecilie graduated from Jamestown High School and then from UND in 1940. She enjoyed writing poetry, and had sung on a Jamestown radio station. Arne served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942-1946 at Champagne, IL, and then taught in Harlem, Montana from 1946-1947.

Arne and Cecilie moved to Harvey before settling in Carrington where he served on the school board, library board and the park board. He served three terms in the ND House of Representatives from District 13 (Eddy, Foster and part of Benson Counties). He was employed by Congress, Inc. for many years. He later worked for ND Lutheran Social Services establishing senior citizen centers. Arne played a key role in upgrading the Carrington Golf Club from sand to grass greens. For several years during the 1960s and 1970s, Cec did the Foster County News on KDAK Radio in Carrington. Arne and Cec were members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Carrington. Then at Bismarck, Arne served as executive director of the North Dakota League of Cities from 1972 until his retirement in 1986. During this same time, Cec also worked for this organization. They were members of Good Shepard Lutheran in Bismarck. Arne died March 23, 1998 in Mesa, AZ and Cecilie on November 27, 2000 in a Fargo hospital. They are interred in the Carrington Cemetery.

Arne and Cecilie had three children: **1** Arne, Jr., a lawyer at Rolla, ND married Janie Theel and they have two children **1** Bradley and **2** Jeffrey. **2** Kelley, an executive with US Bank in Fargo, ND married Pat Roney and they have two children **1** Rachel married Jerod Strand and they have a son Henry, and **2** Amanda married Tony Nelson and they have two children Taylor and Madeline. **3** Katharine married Kurt Kuester and they have four children **1** Aaron, **2** Jacob, **3** Samuel and **4** Benjamin. Arne, and later his sons Kelley and Arne Jr., and then later Arne Jr.'s two sons Bradley and Jeffrey all were members of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity at UND, as well as, Arne Sr.'s two brothers Tim and Lowell, and Lowell's sons Peter and Tom.



→
Arne Boyum served as a Representative for the 13th Legislative District (Eddy, Foster and part of Benson Counties) for three terms



←
Family gathering for the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Arne and Cecelie Boyum

Back: Bradley Boyum, Arne Boyum, Jr., Katharine Kuester, Kelley Boyum

Middle: Jeffrey Boyum, Janie Boyum,

Aaron Kuester, Pat Boyum, Rachel Boyum

Front: Kurt Kuester, Jacob Kuester, Samuel Kuester, Arne Boyum, Sr., Cecilie Boyum, Amanda Boyum

Not pictured: Tony, Taylor and Madeline Nelson, Jerod and Henry Strand, Benjamin Kuester

Dr. Lowell E. Boyum

After graduating from UND, Lowell received his doctorate in medicine from Baylor University of Medicine of Houston TX, and took his internship in Minneapolis. Lowell began his medical career in the Army stationed in New Mexico. After an honorable discharge, Lowell began his medical practice in Harvey in partnership with his father, Dr. P. A. Boyum.

In 1952, Dr. Lowell Boyum, along with Drs. C. J. Beck and A. F. Hammargren, established the Harvey Medical Center. Dr. Boyum served as chief of staff of St. Aloisius Hospital. He was the 'baby doctor,' attending the delivery of around 4,600 babies during his career. For house calls, Esther Boese recalls that Dr. Boyum was still making house calls in 1953 when he came to their farm to see her husband Wesley's, mother Ella (Louis) Boese, who lived with them and was at that time confined to a wheel chair the victim of mini strokes.

In 1978, Lowell transferred his medical practice to the Mid-State Clinic Building. Later, he returned to Lincoln Avenue, this time as an eye doctor. He retired in 1986 after 37 years in medical practice. As expressed by June Prom in the Harvey Centennial paper, Dr. Lowell Boyum, "is considered one of Harvey's most 'beloved sons.'"

During his career, Dr. L. E. Boyum served as president of State Family Physicians Academy of ND, president of the State Obstetrics and Gynecology Society, and board member of the ND Cancer Society. He served on the Harvey Park Board and the Harvey School Board, and was a member of Fagerlund Sons of Norway of Manfred. He is a member of First Lutheran Church of Harvey, and the American Legion. A Distinguished Service Award was presented to him by the Harvey Jaycees and Jayceettes for his contributions and service to the Harvey community. In reflecting on the long medical careers of him and his father, Lowell said they couldn't have done it without the fine help of the nurses. The region has benefited greatly from the dedicated service of Drs. P. A. and Lowell Boyum.

Lowell married Rebecca Pond and they had four children:

1 G. Peter 'Pete' Boyum attended UND and received his M.D. degree from the University of Texas Medical School at Dallas, then interned at Ramsey County Hospital, St. Paul, MN followed by two years in the Medical Corps of the United States Air Force. He served as an orthopedic surgeon at Stillwater, MN. Peter married Nancy Tomlinson and they have two children **1** Andrew and **2** Holly.

2 Thomas 'Tom' Boyum graduated from UND, then married Robin Jaehning in 1968. He tragically died in 1969 as a passenger on a motorcycle while a senior in the University of Minnesota Dental School. **3** Ruth Ann 'Thann' Boyum attended NDSU for two years and then graduated from Kansas State University with a B.S. degree in animal science and industry. Thann earned her doctorate from the Veterinary Medicine School at Kansas State University. She has served as a veterinarian in Oklahoma and North Carolina in equine practice. **4** William 'Bill' Boyum attended UND for two years and then graduated from the University of North Carolina. He earned his law degree from the Law School at the U of North Carolina. He has served as a U.S. prosecuting attorney, and is currently serving as a judge.



Examining table given by the family in memory of Dr. P.A. Boyum. Being treated is Mary Huber of Willmar, MN. From left are Sister Corrine, Mrs. Harold Hombacher, Mrs. Jim Stafford and Dr. L.E. Boyum



Medical staff at St. Aloisius in 1972: Dr. M. J. Towarnicky of Fessenden, Dr. B. Z. Hordinsky of Drake, and chief of staff Dr. L. E. Boyum of Harvey



Not only was Dr. L. E. Boyum the attending doctor for Christopher Schuh, but had also been the attending physician when both of Christopher's parents were born, Sandy and Kim (Ruhl) Schuh.



L-R
Lowell's son Dr. Peter Boyum holding son Andrew with his wife Nancy. Dr. Lowell Boyum is holding his granddaughter Holly-Peter and Nancy's daughter



Lowell's daughter Dr. Thann Boyum



Lowell's son Judge Bill Boyum

Dr. Lowell E. Boyum



Standing: Lois (Lyll) and Doug Lithun, Cecilie and Arne Boyum, Sr., Kelley Boyum, Katharine Boyum, Tom and Robin Boyum, Bill Boyum, Peter Boyum, Thann Boyum, Lowell Boyum, Arne Boyum, Jr., Tim Boyum

Seated: Magda Martinson, Elsie Martinson, Lyda Lyll, Manda Boyum, Calma Ruland, Becky Boyum, Janie Boyum

Significant activities during Lowell's youth included scouting, sports, and part-time jobs. He enjoyed the Boy Scouts where he attained the highest honor of Eagle Scout, and attended scout camp at Lake Metigoshe. Through the years, he has continued to enjoy reciting the scout pledge from memory: "Trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent." For jobs, he enjoyed working as a paper boy, for J. C. Penneys, on threshing crews in ND and Northfield, MN, and also did some supply preaching in churches.

Through the years, Lowell greatly enjoyed clowning and participating in many parades by riding his clown bike. He also recalls proudly having served on several pastoral call committees for First Lutheran Church of Harvey, ND.

Soon after retiring from his medical practice, Lowell was married on December 30, 1986 at First Lutheran Church of Mandan, ND to Muriel Melby Schwartz, daughter of Oscar and Bertha Melby. For many years, they alternated between spending time at his home in Harvey and then her home in Mandan, active in both communities. Later Lowell sold his home, but they return to Harvey from time to time. In 2006 during the Harvey Centennial, former patients of Dr. Lowell Boyum had opportunity to greet him once again.

Lowell and Muriel enjoy attending First Lutheran Church of Mandan and the Sverdrup Sons of Norway Lodge of Bismarck in which they have had a tree dedicated in their honor. Together they have enjoyed traveling, cross-country skiing, square dancing, folk dancing, and attending the Norsk Høstfest where they participate in the Bunad Show. Lowell's interests are wide in scope and their home at Mandan attests to this by hundreds of books in his collection, in addition to the hundreds he has given to libraries. Lowell also has enjoyed woodcarving, and Muriel PEO and a knitting group.

Muriel has two children **1** Wanda married Richard Melchert. **2** Merlin married Laurie Marchant and they have two children **1** Jenny married Travis Dumke and they have two children Caleb and Ethan, and **2** Andy.



Lowell was active in the local clowning group at Harvey, and more recently has performed with his wife Muriel in the Sverdrup Folk Dance group of Bismarck, ND.



From left:

Mandan, ND, Summer 2005

Muriel and Lowell Boyum, Wanda Melchert, Laurie Schwartz, Travis and Jenny Dumke, Merlin Schwartz.

Pictured in front, Caleb and Ethan Dumke

Not pictured: Andy Schwartz and Richard Melchert

Acknowledgments for this Newsletter

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Dr. W. Roy Owen, Manfred's Second Resident Doctor

Medical Career of Dr. W. Roy Owen

1903-1914 Osage, IA
1914-1920 Manfred, ND
1920-1923 Oakes, ND
1923-to retirement Osage, IA

Starting Out

William Roy 'W. Roy' Owen was born in 1877 at St. Ansgar, Iowa, son of William E. and Frances (Whitaker) Owen. Roy had one sister Florence (Husting). The Owen family moved to Osage, IA where he graduated from high school. He received his doctorate degree from the State University of Iowa School of Medicine in 1903, and then began his medical practice at Osage. In 1914, Dr. Owen moved to Manfred, ND.

Dr. Owen comes to Manfred

March 3, 1914 Manfred now has a doctor, Dr. Owen arriving yesterday. He will have his office where the drugstore used to be. He comes here highly recommended.

September 11, 1914 Andrew Deede had the misfortune to dislocate his collar bone caused by falling off a wagon on Monday afternoon. Dr. Owen was called and placed the member into its proper place again.

September 11, 1914 Dr. Owen has remodeled the west annex of his office and now thinks he can make as cozy a home as can be desired.

Roy Owen and Johanna Skogmo

On February 1, 1915, Roy married Johanna Skogmo, daughter of Anton and Johanna Skogmo. (See Johnson-Skogmo history, Manfred News, January 2008 issue) Sadly, Johanna took ill and died on March 17, 1915.



Roy and Johanna, at left, enjoying an outing with Oline Ingvaldson, right back, and Cora Nertröst, right front

Ad in December 9, 1915 Free Press

W. R. OWEN, M. D.
Physician and Surgeon
Obstetrics a Specialty
Manfred - N. Dak.

In about 1916, Roy was married to Sarah 'Sadie' Leet, also from Osage, IA.

The Owen House

April 26, 1917 Contractor H. A. Tessen and crew are busy with the foundation of Dr. W. R. Owen's new house. Work on same will be rushed to completion.

May 3, 1917 We learned that a daughter (Mary) was presented to Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Owen Monday morning.

May 10, 1917 The Owen residence is beginning to make its appearance above ground, the concrete forms having been taken off and the carpenter work begun.

June 14, 1917 The painters have already trimmed up the new residence of Dr. W. R. Owen and it makes a fine appearance at the end of Manfred's principal thoroughfare.

July 26, 1917 Dr. W. R. Owen moved into his new house Monday. (Dr. Owen's office was in his home, as well.)



A son, William Eugene, was born to Roy and Sadie on October 8, 1918. In 1920, Dr. Owen and family left Manfred. Their home then became the dwelling of P. B. and Anna Anderson in their retirement. Later it was purchased by the coop elevator as a home for the elevator manager, and is now, once again, enjoyed as a private residence.

After leaving Manfred, Dr. Owen and his family moved to Oakes, ND. Here are excerpts from a harrowing experience of Dr. Owen.

The Blizzard of February 13 and 14, 1923

Article is from an Osage, IA newspaper

Genial Dr. Roy W. Owen nearly lost his life in the terrific blizzard that raged this section of the states the latter part of last week. Dr. Owen, his wife, son and daughter, live at Oakes, ND where he enjoys a flourishing practice. He received a night call and started out with a driver and team. Soon after they hit open country, the blizzard came up. They floundered around for several hours until the horses could go no farther. They abandoned the team and started to walk. As luck would have it, they soon ran into a haystack and immediately burrowed into the center of it. Here protected from the wind at least, they remained until the middle of the next day. They struck out again and later came upon a shack in the woods, occupied by a family. Their faces were frozen. For three days they were forced to stay there until the storm broke. In the meantime, Mrs. Owen had taken her Oakes orchestra to a nearby town to play for a Masonic banquet, and they were snowed in there for several days.

Dr. Owen returns to Osage, IA

In 1923, Dr. Owen and family returned to Osage, IA where he continued in his medical practice until his retirement. On January 18, 1960 at Osage, IA, Dr. Owen died at age 82.

Grandson Bill Owen said of his grandmother Sadie, "My grandmother was a music teacher most of her life. Each year, she directed musicals with the elementary grade students. We grandchildren enjoyed going to the third floor of their home where many costumes used in the musical productions were stored. We would put them on and pretend."

Roy and Sadie had two children
1 Mary 'Midge' (O'Leary) born in 1917 who had one child Susan, and
2 William Eugene born in 1918 who married Norma Alison and they had three children: **1** Patricia had a son Ryan; **2** William Roy married Cynthia and they have two children: Sara and Amy; Richard married Lois and they have two children: Ann and Susan.

Of special note is that, not only did Dr. Owen's son follow in his footsteps as a physician, but also Dr. Owen's two grandsons are physicians.



Dr. Owen in about 1947 holding one of his grandchildren



Sadie with her grandson William R. at left, and son William E. at right



Dr. Owen and Sadie's home in Osage
His office was located in his home

Wells County Free Fair Keepsake

By Orv Alveshere

© February 2007

Poet Orv Alveshere, born in Wells County,
takes us back to the wonder
of the Wells County Free Fair
through the eyes of youth.

Mention the Wells County Free Fair and we will hearken back to our youth.
We would hint, beg to go and then grovel, and that's the unvarnished truth.
No seatbelts in '40's cars, we'd stand on the back seat floor... peering ahead
Awaiting the glimpse of white buildings, grandstands and the 4-H sheds.
The obligatory rehash of rules... "Don't stray or get lost in the crowd."
Repeats seemed needed as years went by. We're told what we were allowed.
We viewed machin'ry on display, so many stalls of livestock to see.
Taking mental notes for descriptive purpose, to relate with accuracy.

The '2008 Wells County Fair' is June 26-29

MIDWAY AT MIDWAY THROUGH 100 YEARS

LIVESTOCK BUILDINGS

The cackles and quacks, moo-aahs and baaahs greet us as we pass the barn door.
Cows would rather be in the comfort of their stall, as crowds they'd deplore
Being objects of parades of prying eyes while being clipped and fretting.
Lambs with mini tails climb on divider boards, waiting for some petting.
Tame rabbits... emphasis on tame... we saw their faces and ears in detail...
Close up, unlike the wild hares that hop out of sight, showing a cotton tail.
Committing to mem'ry livestock facts and comparisons... naturally...
We'd plan to relate breeds, hues, and qualities, striving for accuracy.

Reading of cattle, ag displays should not surprise you, I'm a guy
Taking a break from breaking colts and making hay while the sun's in the sky
Twirling tractor steering wheels, wrench spinning, raking hay with a horse-tail view.
Ladies perform the same tasks, but seldom discuss it the way men do.
In the craft buildings, we view displays so awesome, they bend my mind
Admiring the finished products, wondering how they created that design.
Not knowing whip-stitch from cross-stitch... we could not replicate.
We admire such homespun sewing finery and perfection and accuracy.

4-H HALLS AND CRAFT HALLS

CRAFTY CROCHETING QUALITY QUILTING KNEAT KNITTING

We honor their masterful needlework performed by fingers so nimble.
Marveling at such handiwork, whereas I couldn't carry their thimble
I lack dexterity to darn holey socks, by my own admission.
Intricate hardanger, knitted clothes from a 'design to finish' vision.
Neighbors made clothes from fabric bolts for the social event of the year.
A commotion that day... coming next... a shocking mem'ry... so lend an ear. (Next paragraph)
Years later, Uncle Clarence displays handcrafted models for all to see
Best of Show, crafted to scale wood replicas of precision and accuracy.

Advanced advertisement: Exhibition of 'World's Most Accurate Shot.'
Was it a ho-hum demo with bale targets? We grab a seat... on second thought.
Officials checked his .44 and cartridge, measured an 8 x 8 wood block
Drew an X to mark 'dead' center. He did a forty-pace walk.
The shooter's son held the block to his chest. The crowd did a bussing talk.
The hush... the aim... the echoing CRACK... then an unexpected shock!!
All waited with bated breath. It was obviously an emergency!!
What in the world had gone wrong with his accuracy?

PROMINENT MEMORY FROM WELLS COUNTY FAIR

His son crumpled to the ground. "HE'S HIT! HE'S DEAD!" They helped him stand.
Knocked the wind out of him. That day at the County Seat we saw him wave his hand.
Collective gasps... what a relief!! "The round hit the wood block," said the emcee.
The bullet entered the X on the block... proving 'World Famous Accuracy!'

SHOCKING AND EMOTIONAL RECOLLECTION

Orv Alveshere is the grandson of homesteaders Ole and Ida Frovig of Forward Township and Thomas and Mallen Alveshere of Fram Township.
In this piece, Orv mentions his uncle Clarence Alveshere: See www.manfred.org - Newsletters Sept 2002, Page 11 and Sept 2003, Pages 9-11.