

The New MANFRED NEWS

Volume 9, Issue 4

July 2012

A Warm Welcome to Manfred!

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

In this Issue

Manfred School History September 1945-May 1950

The Manfred School History continues with the years September 1945-May 1950! Neat memories, old news entries, photos and listings of students combine to guide us through memory lane. Thank you to everyone who has shared special memories of their schooldays.

A Summer Tour Around Manfred



The New Manfred News

In Memory

Robert Walz

March 7, 1925 – February 16, 2012

Husband of Margaret Hagemeister Walz, the daughter of Ernest and Sarah Hagemeister

LeVerne Sauter Iverson Johnson

July 2, 1935 – March 30, 2012

Attended Manfred School, the daughter of William and Kunda Sauter

Russell James Johnson

November 24, 1912 – April 19, 2012

Raised on a farm near Manfred and attended Manfred School, the son of settlers John and Malena Johnson

Maggie Schlenker Brodehl

March 10, 1913 – April 21, 2012

Sister of Jake Schlenker, who lived in Manfred and ran the bar/café for years

Leona Fehr

October 12, 1930 – May 17, 2012

Leona and her husband Walter were longtime residents on a farm near Manfred

Beverly Shirley Fragodt

April 24, 1924 – June 11, 2012

Daughter of Gilman and Mabel (Larson) Shirley, granddaughter of settlers Emil and Anna Shirley

Ellery Ehni

November 29, 1928 – June 16, 2012

Former resident of Manfred

Darlene Roble

October 22, 1932 – June 20, 2012

Wife of Jerry Roble, son of Olaf and Nina Roble, grandson of settlers Torstein O. and Guro Roble

Please let us know of loved ones who have passed

With the continuing help of supporters, Manfred is growing toward its exciting mission to help tell its story from rural North Dakota. In grateful thanks! MHP, Inc has the Melby-Rogness House and First State Bank-Manfred Post Office in its care, and oversees the Manfred projects in general.

MHP, Inc. General Fund

P. O. Box 321, Harvey, ND 58341

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

Peter and Rose Anderson
in memory of Leona Fehr
Leo Detling
F.O.E. No.3080 Eagles (for park)
In memory of Ellery Ehni

Peter and Rose Anderson

Verna Bowers

Arlene Ehni

Darlene Flick

Edgar and Jeanne Flick

Ron Harris in memory of

Rita (Wolf) Harris

In memory of Russell Johnson

Peter and Rose Anderson

Verna Bowers

Michael Harris

Jim and Shirley Johnson

Larry Johnson

Laverne Johnson and Gwyn Herman

Josh and Jamie Maier

Marilyn Sjaastad

Reiner and Ruth Widiger

Dale and Wendy McBain

Paul Miller

Jean Narksompong

Mark Quenette in memory of
all the Ostrems and Andersons

Mark Schmitz

John and Carol Schroeder

in memory of Cora Ravnaas Nelson

Myron Soiseth

Jerry and Dorothy Stansberry

Ted and Margaret Thorson

Verendrye Electric Coop Inc.

Louis and Judy Weigelt

in memory of Kenneth Melby

MHP, Inc. Endowment Fund

PO Box 321, Harvey ND 58341

An everlasting fund providing for the future

Orren and Karen Anderson
In memory of Russell Johnson
David Howie
Richard and Wanda Melchert
Audrey Solheim
Irene Skogmo

Since the last issue, below are contributions to other Manfred non-profit organizations, affiliates of Preservation North Dakota, helping with the restoration of historic buildings in Manfred

Johnson-Ostrem Preservation Fund

1000 Jill Ave #23, Harvey, ND 58341

Johnson/Jacobson/Ostrem House, Garage and Privy

Bill and Sandra Krebs

Melby Heritage Society

1000 Jill Ave #23, Harvey, ND 58341

Olaf and Lena Anderson House,
Hotel Johnson and Privy, Johnson's Place/Cash Store

Bill and Sandy Krebs

Rural Vestige Alliance

1026 S 3rd #3, Bismarck, ND 58504

Manfred School and
Rogne/Soderback/Solheim House

Peter and Rose Anderson
in memory of Frances Johnson
Cynthia Ehni
Audrey Larson in memory of
James D. Larson, Elaine (Strauss)
Weigelt, and James F. Strauss
Floyd and Barbara (Langseth) Simmons
in memory of the Rev John Langseth
Family
Bonnie and Bob Swanson
Ted and Margaret Thorson
Arlene and Eugene Triebold

Grant Work in 2012

**Your contributions are hard at work!
Thank you so much!**

Contributions from supporters like you make it possible for the non-profit organizations of Manfred to apply for matching grants.

Completed in January for the Ostrem House

A grant through Preservation North Dakota awarded to the Johnson-Ostrem Preservation Fund was completed in January by contractor Greg Seidel regarding some interior carpentry repair work for the Ostrem House.

New Grant for Manfred School

A recent grant awarded through Preservation North Dakota together with your donations to Rural Vestige Alliance (RVA) will be used to reinstall the original portico to the front entrance of Manfred School.

Manfred Newsletter

Thank you for your newsletter subscriptions! 22 new or renewing subscriptions have been received since the previous issue!

The New Manfred News

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

Suggested Subscription rate is \$10 per year.

News and history items are most welcome!

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Historian: Audrey Solheim, administrator@manfrednd.org

Dedicated to History and Education

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.

Board of Directors

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

Manfred Heritage Museum
open May through September

www.manfrednd.org

Part 6 - Manfred School History

September 1945 - May 1950

1945-1946 School Year

Lower - Grades 1-4

Teacher: Myrtle Mortenson

Marlys Boese	Daniel Fix	Isabelle Holzer	Myron Soiseth
Joann Breyer	Hildegard Fix	Marlys Olson	Dorothy Sommer
Betty Detling	Wallace Helland	Dale Opdahl	Lyle Sommer
Grace Detling	Beverly Hirschhorn	Roger Rogelstad	Audrey Strauss
Manuel Detling	Duane Holzer	Claudia Schepp	Joseph Strauss
Joe Detling			

Upper - Grades 5-8

Teacher: Margaret Anderson

Ruth Anderson	Roger Flick	Verneil Opdahl	Elaine Strauss
Wesley Boese	Carol Gladheim	Edward Ravnaas	James Strauss
Burga Detling	Joseph Holzer	Allan Rogness	Lucille Strauss
Lena Detling	Marlys Jenny	Arlene Strauss	Richard Ulrich
Kenneth Elton	Marvin Nelson		

Wells County Free Press News Entries

June 7, 1945

The meetings at the school house the past week by the Nazarenes were well attended.

June 14, 1945

The Red Cross met at the school house Thursday afternoon.

July 5, 1945

The Sisters of Service have Catechism classes for the Catholic children at the school now.

September 20, 1945

School started Monday, the 17th. Miss Mortenson is in charge of the lower grades and Miss Margaret Anderson the upper grades. Opening day saw an enrollment of 18 in the upper grades and 22 in the lower grades.

November 15, 1945

The carnival given by the Manfred School Tuesday evening was well attended.

December 20, 1945

The Christmas program that was planned for the school will not be given on account of sickness.

April 4, 1946

The Manfred township election was held in the school house Tuesday. The following officials were re-elected: Supervisor, Alvin Rogness; treasurer, Martin Melby; clerk, Sam Rogness; assessor, Ed Hedahl. New officers elected were constable, Harley Boese; soil conservation supervisor, Perry Anderson; special gravel board, Nels Nertrout, Herman Weinmann and Clarence Nelson.

May 2, 1946

The school children were very busy Friday raking and cleaning the school grounds.

May 16, 1945

Miss Margaret Anderson and Miss Myrtle Mortenson accompanied their pupils to Fessenden Friday to take part in the County Grade School Music Festival.

School Memories

**Margaret Anderson Thorson,
Upper Grade Teacher**

I had just completed two years of general course work at college, but needed to earn money in order to continue my schooling. At that time, teachers were urgently needed and since I had completed two years of college, I qualified to obtain an emergency teachers certificate. Since I had no previous teaching experience, I taught the way I was taught. My excellent grade school teachers, Mildred Ongstad and Harriet Johnson, had left quite an impression on me. I taught Grades 5-8, and at the same time also tutored other people preparing to retake one or more of their state exams. After my year of teaching in Manfred, I returned to college to continue my studies. Later after raising my children, I went back for a Master's Degree in special education.

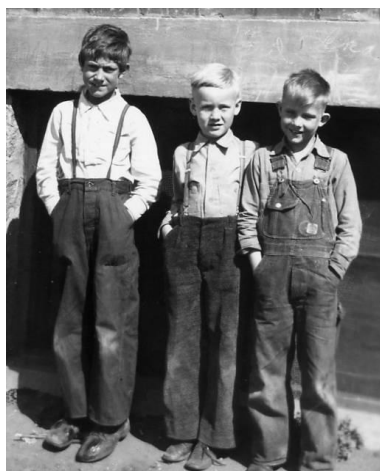
1945-1946 School Year

Lower Grades – Myrtle Mortenson, Teacher



Grade 1

L/R: Beverly Hirsch Korn, Joann Breyer, Marlys Olson, Dorothy Sommer, Grace Detling, Joe Detling



Grade 2

L/R: Manuel Detling, Wallace Helland, Joe Strauss



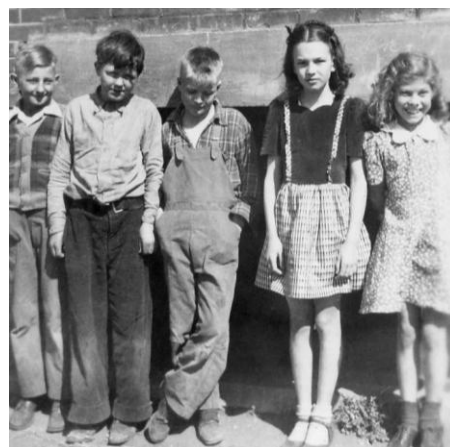
**Myrtle Mortenson,
Lower Grades Teacher**

Grade 3: L/R: →
Audrey Strauss
Marlys Boese
Dale Sommer



Grade 3

Grade 4: L/R: →
Dale Opdahl
Myron Soiseth
Roger Rogelstad
Claudia Schepp
Betty Detling



Grade 4

Upper Grades – Margaret Anderson, Teacher



Grades 5-8

← *Grades 5-8 L/R:*

Back: Carol Gladheim, Elaine Strauss,
James Strauss, Wesley Boese,
Lena Detling

Middle: Verneil Opdahl, Lucille Strauss,
Marlys Jenny, Ruth Anderson,
Allan Rogness

Front: Arlene Strauss, Ed Ravnaas,
Richard Ulrich



**Margaret Anderson,
Upper Grades Teacher**

1946-1947 School Year

Lower - Grades 1-4

LoAnn Anderson
Donna Boese
Marlys Boese
Joann Breyer
Grace Detling
Joe Detling

Manuel Detling
Donald Helland
Wallace Helland
Raymond Hieb
Beverly Hirschhorn

Larry Johnson
Marlys Olson
Phyllis Opdahl
Ione Rodne
Dorothy Sommer

Teacher: Myrtle Mortenson

Lyle Sommer
Audrey Strauss
Joseph Strauss
Beatrice Thomas
Virginia Ulrich

Upper - Grades 5-8

Ruth Anderson
Wesley Boese
Betty Detling
Burga Detling
Carol Gladheim

Marlys Jenny
Dale Opdahl
Verneil Opdahl
Edward Ravnaas

Orville Rodne
Roger Rogelstad
Allan Rogness
Claudia Schepp

Teacher: Lorraine Roland

Myron Soiseth
Arlene Strauss
Lucille Strauss
Richard Ulrich

Wells County Free Press News Entries

June 20, 1946

O.B. Gladheim was re-elected as director and Mrs. Marie Renden re-elected as treasurer at the recent school election.

September 12, 1946

Manfred School opened Monday with everything in readiness for the term. Miss Lorraine Roland of Appam and Miss Myrtle Mortenson of Harvey were on hand to take charge of all the pupils who came to enroll in the first 8 grades.

October 30, 1946

A large crowd attended the Manfred school carnival last Friday evening. The teachers wish to express their thanks to the public and to those who so generously helped to make it a success.

December 13, 1946

County Superintendent. of Schools Mattie Bakken visited the Manfred School Monday afternoon.

June 5, 1947

The local school children, their parents and teachers, enjoyed a picnic at the Sons of Norway Hall on Thursday. A good time was had by all. Much credit is due the local teachers, Misses Mortinson and Roland, for their time and effort in completing a successful term of school.

June 5, 1947

Miss Lorraine Roland left Monday morning for her home at Appam to spend a few days before enrolling at the Minot State Teachers College for the summer. She will teach here again next term. Miss Myrtle Mortenson left Thursday evening for her home near Harvey. She, too, plans to return next fall for another term of teaching in the local school.

School Memories

Verneil Opdahl Eisenbraun

A special memory was when I transferred from a country school to the Manfred School. I was wondering how it would go, but upon arriving I found everyone to be accepting of me and friendly and nice. When the winter was hard, I stayed in town with my uncle and aunt, Halvor and Martha Olsen.

Marlys Jenny Goebel

Skating on the James River was great fun. There was a warming house with a light. If the water was high when it froze, we could skate all the way to the Johnson's farm. One way would usually be into the wind. My teachers were Clara Kluck, Mrs. Hans Peterson, and Lorraine Roland who would one day become my sister-in-law. I remember penny candy, the swings, the slide, and the trapeze which had rings we put our legs through. We were farm kids and were all poor, but didn't know it. There wasn't much money, but we were content and happy.

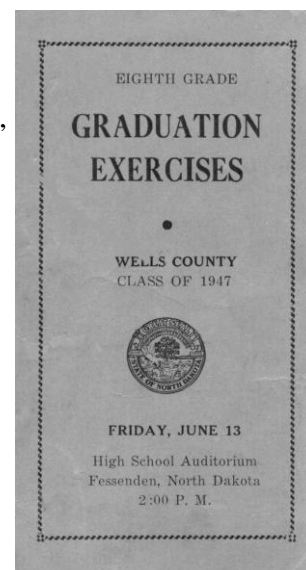
County-wide 8th Grade Graduation Exercises

For many years, the small schools in Wells County each held their own 8th Grade graduation exercises. In time, all 8th grade graduates from the small schools participated in graduation exercises held at the Fessenden High School auditorium. At right, is a program cover from the county-wide graduation held June 13, 1947.

The 1947 8th Grade graduates from Manfred were:

Wesley Boese
Carol Gladheim
Verneil Opdahl

Image of the graduation cover provided
by Wesley and Esther Boese



1946-1947 School Year

Lower and Upper Grades



L/R

Row 4: Lower Grades Teacher-Myrtle Mortenson, Myron Soiseth, Eddy Ravnaas, Marlys Jenny, Allen Rogness, Wesley Boese, Elaine Strauss, Carol Gladheim, Verneil Opdahl, Ruth Anderson, Burga Detling, Upper Grades Teacher-Lorraine Roland

Row 3: Larry Johnson, Roger Rogelstad, Orville Rodne, Dale Opdahl, Lyle Sommer, Claudia Schepp, Arlene Strauss, Betty Detling

Row 2: Beverly Hirsch Korn, Joann Breyer, Raymond Hieb, Audrey Strauss, Manuel Detling, Marlys Boese, Joe Strauss, Wallace Helland

Row 1: Donna Boese, Phyllis Opdahl, Marlys Olson, Joe Detling, Ione Rodne, Dorothy Sommer, LoAnn Anderson, Grace Detling, Donald Helland

School Memories

Lorraine Roland Jenny Quie

I taught in Manfred from September 1946-May 1950 and enjoyed every minute of it. The students and parents were wonderful to work with. It was a busy time. My first year was supervised by my college instructor from Minot for which I was given credit for it as part of my college studies. I recall that for an hour every Friday, the upper grades learned how to conduct meetings. Mattie Backen the county superintendent was impressed with our group in Manfred, and we were invited to do a demonstration program for the Young Citizens League meeting. We were all disappointed when the wintry weather prevented the class from putting on this program. I was proud of my students. They were good writers and good in penmanship. Also on Friday noon, we used the kerosene stove located in the hallway to make something hot for the students. We might have baked potatoes with potatoes brought by the students or hot chocolate from combining milk brought by students. I remember at least once that the potatoes became charred or the milk scorched because we were so caught up in classes. I was in the teaching profession for 41 years, with 24 years of these serving as a principal.

1947-1948 School Year

Lower - Grades 1-4

Teacher: Myrtle Mortenson

LoAnn Anderson	Joe Detling	Beverly Hirschhorn	Ione Rodne
Donna Boese	Leo Detling	Larry Johnson	Lorraine Sauter
Joann Breyer	Manuel Detling	Laverne Johnson	Dorothy Sommer
Mickey Busch	Donald Helland	Marlys Olson	Joseph Strauss
Judy Cook	Wallace Helland	Phyllis Opdahl	Richard Strauss
Grace Detling	Raymond Hieb	Evelyn Pedersen	Beatrice Thomas

Upper – Grades 5-8

Teacher: Mrs. Gene Jenny, Nee Lorraine Roland

Ruth Anderson	Marlys Jenny	Roger Rogelstad	Myron Soiseth
Marlys Boese	Dale Opdahl	Allan Rogness	Lyle Sommer
Betty Detling	Edward Ravnaas	Laverne Sauter	Arlene Strauss
Burga Detling	Orville Rodne	Claudia Schepp	Audrey Strauss

Wells County Free Press News Entries

September 18, 1948

The old familiar school bell was heard again last Monday morning, calling the youngsters back to school. The school district has again employed Mrs. Gene Jenny as upper grade teacher and Miss Myrtle Mortenson as lower grade teacher. Mr. Even Ostrem is the school's engineer and Mr. Talmer Olson the bus driver, with Mrs. Olson assisting during the busy season.

November 6, 1947

The lower grades of the local school enjoyed a Halloween party at the schoolhouse Friday afternoon. The upper grades had much fun and frolic at the schoolhouse during the evening of the same day.

November 20, 1947

The Manfred Homemakers club met Wednesday afternoon at the schoolhouse. Mrs. C. Neuenschwander and Mrs. John Froeber, clothing project leaders, had charge of the meeting. An interesting lesson on smocking was given. At the close of the meeting, Mrs. Perry Anderson and Mrs. A. J. Nelson served a delicious lunch.

February 19, 1948

A Valentine party was held in both rooms of the local school on Friday. Games were played and Valentines distributed. Miss Mortenson and Mrs. Gene Jenny treated the children and served them a lunch.

April 15, 1948

The Young Citizens League of the Manfred School is presenting a Spring Festival at the Sons of Norway Hall Thursday evening, April 22nd at 8 o'clock. There will be a program, novelty stand, shadow social and lunch. Ladies are asked to bring a basket for the shadow social. A radio will be given away at the conclusion of the program. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy the evening with the Manfred School.

May 27, 1948

Mrs. Ervin Boese taught school for Miss Myrtle Mortenson Friday while Miss Mortenson attended funeral services for a friend.

June 3, 1948

On Sunday, the local school children enjoyed a picnic dinner at the school grounds. After dinner they drove to Harvey to attend the show, "I Remember Mama" as guests of the local school teachers.

School Memories

Arlene Strauss Ehni

A special teacher I have never forgotten was Lorraine Roland, my teacher for the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. She made the students feel good about themselves, was very understanding, and cared about each of us. Lorraine left a big impression on my life. I still have my autograph book from school days. In this book Lorraine wrote:

"Manfred, North Dakota, January 6, 1947. 'God has not promised skies always blue nor flower-strewn pathway all our life through. God has not promised sun without rain, joy without sorrow, peace without pain. But, God has promised strength for the day, rest for the labor, light for the way, grace for the trials, help from above, unfailing sympathy, and undying love.'
Arlene, I will always remember this school term in Manfred and you as my only 6th grade girl. I wish you all the success, health and happiness this world can give you, and may you grow up to be a fine young lady. God bless you."
Lovingly, Lorraine Roland."

Edward Ravnaas

We lived on the Reistad place north of Manfred. Rudolph Peterson was the bus driver and I remember riding to school in the back of his pickup.

1948-1949 School Year

Lower Grades

Lower - Grades 1-4

Teacher: Mrs. Sam Rogness, nee Myrtle Mortenson

LoAnn Anderson
Orren Anderson
Donna Boese
Joann Breyer
Mickey Busch
Grace Detling
Joe Detling

Junior Detling
Leo Detling
Donald Helland
Sharol Helm
Beverly Hirschorn
Laverne Johnson
Larry Johnson

Janet Olson
Marlys Olson
Dennis Opdahl
Phyllis Opdahl
Evelyn Pedersen
Lorraine Sauter

Jerry Schepp
Kenneth Schindler
Dorothy Sommer
Dick Strauss
Beatrice Thomas
Dean Vorland



Lower Grades 1 - 4

Grades 1-4

←L/R

At Back: Grace Detling, Marlys Olson, Donald Helland, Lorraine Sauter, LoAnn Anderson, Teacher – Myrtle Rogness, Donna Boese, Joann Breyer, Phyllis Opdahl, Dorothy Sommer, Leo Detling, Beverly Hirschorn

In Middle: Evelyn Petersen, Laverne Johnson, Larry Johnson, Beatrice Thomas, Joe Detling, Dick Strauss

In Front: Janet Olson, Sharol Helm, Kenneth Schindler, Dennis Opdahl, Orren Anderson, Jerry Schepp, Matt Detling, Jr.



Grade 1

Sharol Helm, Janet Olson, Orren Anderson, Kenneth Schindler, Jerry Schepp, Dennis Opdahl, Matt Detling, Jr.



Grade 2

Beatrice Thomas, Evelyn Pederson, Laverne Johnson, Leo Detling, Dick Strauss



Grade 3

Larry Johnson, Joe Detling, Beatrice Thomas, LoAnn Anderson, Phyllis Opdahl, Donna Boese, Donald Helland



Grade 4

Marlys Olson, Joann Breyer, Dorothy Sommer, Grace Detling, Beverly Hirschorn

1948-1949 School Year

Upper Grades

Upper – Grades 5-8

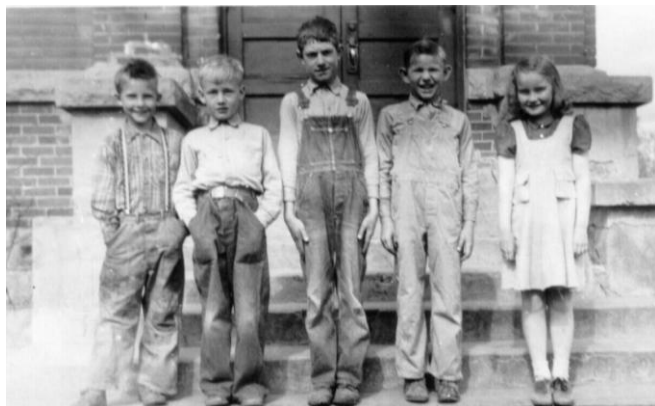
Teacher: Mrs. Gene Jenny, nee Lorraine Roland

Marlys Boese
Betty Detling
Manuel Detling
Wallace Helland

Raymond Hieb
Dale Opdahl
Edward Ravnaas
Ione Rodne

Roger Rogelstad
LaVerne Sauter
Claudia Schepp
Myron Soiseth

Lyle Sommer
Joseph Strauss
Arlene Strauss
Audrey Strauss



Grade 5

Joe Strauss, Wallace Helland, Manuel Detling,
Raymond Hieb, Ione Rodne



Grade 6

Lyle Sommer, Marlys Boese, Audrey Strauss

Wells County Free Press News Entries

June 10, 1948

Walter Larson was re-elected school director and Mrs. Marie Renden for treasurer at the recent school election.

September 9, 1948

The old familiar school bell sounded again Tuesday morning calling all the youngsters to their places in the various grades. The teaching staff consists of Mrs. S. A. Rogness grades 1 through 4 and Mrs. Gene Jenny, grades 5 through 8. R. A. Peterson is in charge of the school bus, and Even Ostrem is school engineer.

November 11, 1948F

A large crowd attended the school carnival Monday evening. Miss Donna Boese received the most votes and was crowned carnival queen. She received a lovely gold locket. Winners in the contests were Halvor Olsen, Mrs. Calvin Bender, Mrs. Joe Strauss and Leonard Rogelstad.

December 9, 1948

Mrs. V. J. Munt met with a group of girls after school Monday in the interest of organizing a 4-H club.

February 24, 1949

Lars Ostrem has accepted the school bus position and began his duties last Monday.

April 28, 1949

Marlys Boese, Audrey Strauss, Roger Rogelstad, Claudia Schepp, Myron Soiseth, Edward Ravnaas and Arlene Strauss had perfect attendance for the six weeks.

May 12, 1949

On Friday, a merry-go-round purchased from the carnival money was put up at the school grounds and Harley Boese also treated the school children to soft drinks and ice cream.

June 2, 1949

The Manfred School picnic was held Friday. Moving pictures were taken of the group before leaving for the fairgrounds in Fessenden. The boys and girls enjoyed a cool truck ride by Gene Jenny. The afternoon was spent on playing games and a delicious picnic dinner was served.

June 9, 1949

Eight grade students receiving their diplomas were Edward Ravnaas, LaVerne Sauter and Arlene Strauss, at graduation exercises, celebrated for all county 8th grade graduates. It was held at Fessenden on Wednesday afternoon with M. F. Peterson of Bismarck as speaker.

1949-1950 School Year

Lower - Grades 1-4

Teacher: Myrtle Rogness

LoAnn Anderson	Matt Detling, Jr.	Marcella Lithun	Jane Ellen Sommer
Orren Anderson	Leo Detling	Rosella Lithun	Judy Strauss
Bonnie Bender	Donald Helland	Janet Olson	Richard Strauss
Donna Boese	John Johnson	Dennis Opdahl	Beatrice Thomas
Merlyn Boese	Larry Johnson	Phyllis Opdahl	Dean Vorland
Robert Breyer	Laverne Johnson	Jerry Schepp	John Weinmann
Joe Detling	Bonnie Kittelson		

Upper – Grades 5-8

Teacher: Lorraine Jenny

Marlys Boese	Wallace Helland	Ione Rodne	Dorothy Sommer
Joann Breyer	Beverly Hirschhorn	Roger Rogelstad	Lyle Sommer
Grace Detling	Marlys Olson	Lorraine Sauter	Audrey Strauss
Betty Detling	Dale Opdahl	Claudia Schepp	Joseph Strauss
Manuel Detling	Gary Rodne	Myron Soiseth	

Wells County Free Press News

July 21, 1949

The annual meeting of the Manfred school board was held Tuesday evening. Perry Anderson was hired as clerk and Joe Straus took over as director replacing Ole Gladheim.

September 1, 1949

School bells will be ringing here on Sept 6th. The first day school will be held only until noon.

September 29, 1949

The children of the Manfred School enjoyed a vacation Thursday. Mrs. Gene Jenny and Mrs. Sam Rogness attended the teachers meeting in Fessenden.

October 27, 1949

Visitors at the Manfred School Monday were Mrs. Olaf Evenson of Alamo and Mrs. Mattie Backen, County Superintendent of Schools, Fessenden.

November 10, 1949

The Manfred School pupils enjoyed a Halloween party and treats given by the teachers Monday. The lower grade pupils were dressed in costumes and prizes were given to the three best dressed students.

December 15, 1949

The Christmas Seal sale is making good progress in our school district with many having returned their envelopes. Please return your contribution as soon as possible to the chairman so she may complete her records.

December 15, 1949

The Manfred Public School will hold the annual Christmas program Thursday, December 22 at 8 o'clock in the Sons of Norway Hall. Santa will make a visit and lunch will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

January 12, 1950

Chairman Myrtle Rogness of the Manfred School would like to thank everyone who participated in the Christmas Seal sale and helped to make it a great success.

April 27, 1950

The upper grade pupils had a birthday party for their teacher last Wednesday.

June 1, 1950

The Manfred school pupils and teachers enjoyed their picnic on Friday. It was an ideal day. A delicious lunch was served at noon after which games and contests were held and moving pictures were shown by S. A. Rogness that were taken of the group last year. Mrs. Jenny was presented with a gift as a remembrance from the pupils, janitor and Mrs. Rogness. Ice cream was then served. Those receiving the perfect attendance awards were Jerry Schepp, Marlys Boese and Beatrice Thomas.

1949-1950 School Year



Manfred School in 1949-1950

Description with photo

"Manfred School photo 1949-1950

Ford car belonged to the Opdahl family. Dale drove it to school."

A rare glimpse of the school barn can be seen to the left. During the day, the school barn sheltered horses used in bringing students to school. The barn was also a great place to play the game Anti-I-Over.

From the Rogelstad Collection

School Memories

Roger Rogelstad

Growing up at Manfred was very memorable and I feel blest with my upbringing. Most everyone was in the same boat, being farm children. It seemed in the small community, we were naive in our own little world and didn't have a clue about the outside world. I lived on a farm two miles north of Manfred. I remember bundling up and walking to school in the winter. At least once when I arrived, the school was locked. With there being no school because of the bad weather, the only option was to walk the two miles back home again. I have wonderful memories of all my classmates, and I enjoyed Lorraine Roland as my teacher for all my years in the Upper Grades 5-8. She was a young teacher and had lots of fresh ideas. Not a lot excited me, and I tended to be a day dreamer. When the Jim River froze, the winter fun began. Sam Rogness and Gene Jenny were instrumental in preparing an area on the frozen river for ice skating somewhere between the Solheim House and the bridge. They added flood lights for skating at night and afterward we would enjoy a treat of ice cream or cake.

Joseph Strauss

Myrtle Mortenson was the best teacher I ever had. She was awesome. I fondly recall that every day after the lunch break, she would read a chapter from the "Bobbsey Twins" series of books.

Lyle Sommer

There were some pretty bad winters when I was going to school at Manfred. We were sometimes snowed in at our farm for a couple months at a time, and so we children weren't able to make it to school. Even so, we were able to continue with our studies right at home with the help of our teacher Myrtle Mortenson. She sent our text books out with the mail carrier, Albert Nelson, and then she would call us by telephone to give us our assignments. We would do our homework and put our finished assignments in an envelope. Once a week, Albert Nelson would take the envelope back to Manfred to give to Myrtle. Albert had special equipment on his vehicle enabling him to make it through to do his route.