The New

MANFRED NEWS

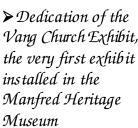
Volume 6, Issue 3

October 2006

July 2, 2006 A special day in Manfred's history

➤ 100th year of the Vang Lutheran Church building 1906 - 2006

> Celebrating a century of God's Word proclaimed here





→ Roger Rogelstad with his Model T Ford 'Filling Up' at the

original gas pumps, now reinstalled

at the Solheim Service Station.

➤ Dedication of two historic buildings into the Manfred Heritage Museum:

← Rogers Lumber Company-↓ Solheim Service Station and Johnson-Jacobson-Ostrom

Johnson-Jacobson-Ostrem → House

The Johnson-Jacobson-Ostrem House shown with its restored east ↑ and south ← porches. New porch of Anderson House, pictured above in background.

Greetings from Manfred, North Dakota

A warm welcome to everyone for this issue celebrating a gathering held July 2, as pictured above and in following pages. What a festive day of reunion and celebration this was, providing wonderful memories! The village of Manfred continues to improve greatly each season, in evidence this season especially, thanks to contributors and volunteers. Also, the history continues to be gathered thanks to everyone helping in this way. Within this issue, we are honored to feature the Tollef and Bertha Haugen Family history.

The New Manfred News

In Memory

Aloys 'Al' B. Walz

August 10, 1929 - May 20, 2006 Husband of Lena Detling Walz

Audrey Albrecht

August 29, 1929 - June 5, 2006

Peter Ross Sprague

October 18, 1964 - July 19, 2006 Son of Margaret (Peggy) Renden Sprague

> Ingrid 'Dolly' Renden Marty July 9,1920 - August 1, 2006

> > Bryce Streibel

November 19, 1922 – August 13, 2006
Bryce Streibel helped enable historical brown signs for the museum to be placed along Hwy 52 at Manfred.

Bert Miller

July 11, 1910 - August 14, 2006

Sandra Crandall Weinmann

July 1, 1948 - August, 2006

Daughter of Ray and Julia Crandall, custom combiners at Manfred for many years. Sandra's husband Roger grew up near Manfred, son of Herman (Buster) and Cora Weinmann.

Tom Nelson

July 11, 1921 – August 30, 2006 Son of Albert and Rose Nelson

Mary Sue Lund

*June 2, 1949 - September 20, 2006*Daughter of Eleanor Jenny Hovland

Curtis Lautt

November 1, 1979 – September 21, 2006 Brother to Amy (Sam) Ongstad

Karen Kopseng

May 18, 1945 – October 19, 2006 Daughter of Theodore and Louise Kopseng

Manfred – As A Destination

What an honor to have groups visit Manfred! Two organizations held their meetings in Manfred followed by lunch, and a tour! The Lonetree Retired Teachers Association came August 24th and the Fessenden Literary Club Sept. 5th. The days were much enjoyed by everyone!

On Sept 29, a few of the Bismarck Sons of Norway Folks Dancers and Singers stopped for a quick tour on their way to present a program at Rugby.

A bus-load of 29 people from Wisconsin made a prearranged visit to Heimdal and Manfred on October 10th on their way to the Høstfest.

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!

General Fund

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

Christine Anderson

Peter and Rose Anderson in memory of

Audrey Albrecht

Barbara Plunkett

Verna Bowers in memory of

Audrey Albrecht

Barbara Plunkett

Bryce Streibel

Muriel Boyum

Tim Cook

Dave and Jill Howie

Lowell Hustoft

Jean Narksonpong

Herbert Ongstad

Leora Ridley and Lynette

Caroline Rodne

Merlin and Laurie Schwartz

Jerry and Dorothy Stansberry

Ted and Margaret Thorson

Roger and Sue Wilson

Endowment Fund

An everlasting fund providing for the future Richard and Wanda Melchert in memory of

Dolly Marty

Bert Miller

Peter Sprague

Bryce Streibel

Reiner and Ruth Widiger in memory of

Audrey Albrecht

Bryce Streibel

Grants

Sheridan Wells Chapter Thrivent Financial for Lutherans grant of \$250 for the May 6, 2006 Join Hands Day work day in Manfred.

State Historical Society Matching Grant of \$1,719 through funding from the ND Legislature granted to MHP, Inc. Aug 31, 2006 for 'Collections and Museum Office,' to be completed by May 1, 2007.

Manfred Newsletter Subscriptions

Thank you for your newsletter subscriptions! 18 new or renewing subscriptions have been received since the last issue!

Needed

MHP, Inc. could use a couple more glass fixtures and mounts of the type that hang by three short chains from the ceiling, as well as a couple old-fashioned wall-mounted kitchen/bath fixtures.

Also needed are old-style storm windows.

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, wrmelchert@westriv.com
Historian: Audrey Solheim, administrator@manfrednd.org

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

'A Settler's 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 founded 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 through September: Wed-Sat 10-4, Sun 12-6 Summer 701-547-2564 Winter 701-547-3123, 701-324-2091, 701-324-4344

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

*DESIGNATED GIFT

*ENDOWMENT FUND for Manfred's future

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, Herbert Ongstad

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.

July 2, 2006 - A Day of Celebration at Manfred

What a great day! Thank you to the many volunteers and participants, and to everyone attending this memorable gathering! Your presence has greatly honored this wonderful little place!





July 2, 2006 was indeed a significant day in Manfred's history!

- Celebration of the 100th year of the Vang Church building
- Dedication of two historic buildings into the Manfred Heritage Museum: the Rogers Lumber Company/Solheim Service Station and the Johnson/Jacobson/Ostrem House
- Dedication of the Manfred Heritage Museum's first exhibit developed and installed in the Vang Church building in time for this celebration.







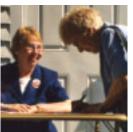


The noon meal catered by Carol Reimche and family of Harvey. Canopies provided by the Anderson family.

Helping behind the scenes

- Yard care by Wesley and Esther Boese and Herbert Ongstad.
- Helping in the kitchen were Rose Anderson, Verna Bowers, Jeanne Flick, Betty and Gene Melby, Marsha Melby, Pam Norstedt, Marlys Weisser. Also bringing cookies were Muriel Boyum and Ruth Widiger.
- The sound system and recording by Perry Anderson, with assistance from John Anderson.
- Canopies were set up by John Anderson, Perry Anderson, Pete Anderson, Tim Cook, Travis Dumke, Lowell Hustoft, Arnie Melby, Mike Melby, Merlin Schwartz.
- Registration: Audrey Solheim.
- Water stations: Verna Bowers.
- Garbage containers: Rose and Pete Anderson.
- Flowers: Pam Norstedt.
- Photography: Rose Anderson, Gwyn Herman, Roger Rogelstad, Laurie Schwartz.





Audrey Solheim greeting guests as they registered



A microphone is

prepared for Pastor

Perry Anderson recording with video camera

The Morning Worship Service

This day of celebration included a worship service in the morning, a catered noon meal, and an afternoon program followed by lunch provided by the Vang Ladies Aid and an open house of the Manfred Heritage Museum.

For the worship service, Pastor David Langseth, the son of Ernest Langseth and grandson of J.M. Langseth pastor of Vang Church 1908-1943, delivered a powerful sermon to an overflow crowd of 150 people. The service was filled with Pastoral Assistant wonderful singing by the congregation and the choir.

Presiding was Pastoral Assistant Fred Schmidt, current pastor of Vang Lutheran. Scriptures were read by former Pastor Les Foss, who served Vang 1970-1976 and is now retired and living in Longview, Washington. Dianne Aull served as organist and Joe Bolyard served as choir director. Also, in attendance were two pastors who have served in pastoral supply for Vang Church: Pastor Wilfred and Mary Jean Hanson and Pastor Reinhold and Mrs. Miller.



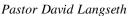
Fred Schmidt





Pastor Les Foss







Joe Bolyard Dianne Aull





The glorious sounds of the choir singing 'Beautiful Savior' was a moving experience for both participants and congregation alike. Director Joe Bolyard said he was thrilled to direct this wonderful sounding choir with all four parts represented. Among this musical group were four pastors: Pastor David Langseth, Pastor Richard Melchert, Pastoral Assistant Fred Schmidt, and Pastor Les Foss.

The Afternoon Program

The afternoon program began with a well-crafted powerpoint slide presentation on the history of Vang Lutheran Church created by Audrey Solheim, Dr. Gwyn Herman, and Laverne Johnson. This powerpoint is available for public viewing during museum hours May-September at the Melby/Rogness House, the headquarters of the Manfred Heritage Museum. The powerpoint presentation together with the Vang Church Exhibit (the church being the location of the museum's first exhibit), were made possible through a matching grant awarded in 2006 by the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Musical selections during the program

The program was treated with musical selections: representing the Johnson Family, Francis and David Johnson, Dianne Aull, Gwyn Herman, and Laverne Johnson accompanied on the piano by Marilyn Sjaastad; the daughters of Alvin Langseth, Dorothy Stansberry and Judy Abbey accompanied by Judy on the guitar; from the Anderson Family, Perry and Lauri Anderson with taped accompaniment; from the Melby Family, Gene and Betty Melby and Pastor Richard and Wanda Melchert in a cappella.



Johnson Family



Anderson Family



Daughters of Alvin Langseth



Melby Family

Dedicated into the Manfred Heritage Museum

During the program, two buildings were dedicated into the Manfred Heritage Museum, each of which sport name signs created by Keith Reinowski of Martin, ND. Also dedicated was the first exhibit for the Manfred Heritage Museum.

■ 1894 Rogers Lumber Company/Solheim Service Station

One of the buildings dedicated was a service station. "'Fill 'er up!' That's what folks say when they come to visit the recently restored Solheim Service Station," said owner Audrey Solheim. "Of course, it isn't a gas station now, but the exterior depicts the look of when it served as a Standard Oil gas station from 1945-1969 run by my dad, Helmer Solheim. With the help of lots of friends, the station has taken on a happy look one of welcome to all who come to visit Manfred. This building, originally built in 1894 as a lumberyard, was the first business place in Manfred."

Restoration work on the Solheim Station began the spring of 2004 when it was roofed by the Bolin Brothers, painted by volunteers in 2005, and this year its original gas pumps were reinstalled by volunteers. The two pumps were beautifully restored by Steve Hoomaert, former owner of Steve's Auto Body of Fessenden, and donated to the museum by Victor (Buddy) Wagner of Harvey and John John Blotske of Underwood. The Standard Oil sign installed on the front of the station was donated by Reiner Widiger, the Standard Oil bulk agent at Manfred 1957-1958 and for 32 years at Fessenden 1960-1992.

■ 1905 Johnson/Jacobson/Ostrem House

The other building dedicated was a residential home. This house, now known as the Johnson-Jacobson-Ostrem House, memorializes several of the former owners, including: Nennie Johnson and his wife Alpha (Skogmo), who built the house in 1905; the next owner, the grain manager, Rasmus Jacobson and his wife Margaret (Nordtorp); and, later, Lars Ostrem, who purchased the house from the Nelson family, as a residence for himself and for his parents, Even and Kjersti Ostrem.

One of their grandsons, Rod Anderson, is the owner and in 2003 the Johnson-Ostrem Preservation Fund, a non-profit organization, was established to help with the restoration of this building. That year, the house was shingled by Greg Seidel and crew, painted this year by volunteers in time for the dedication and Greg Seidel and crew reinstalled the two porches. The columns for the south porch were donated by Pete Anderson.

Rod Anderson relates, "Compared to its first century, the home's next century may herald a hundred years of comparative solitude, as the house has largely out grown its usefulness as a residence. Those who in the future enter under its new guise, as an addition to the Manfred Heritage Museum, will, however, marvel at the echoes within. It would have been easier, perhaps, to let it all go, to dismantle those venerable walls, along with the remains of the town, and let those warm, loving memories disperse into the prairie winds, but the gradual restoration of the tiny village of Manfred is having a profound impact on the surrounding world." Plans are to restore the interior in preparation to feature exhibits about life for the settlers in the USA.

■ Vang Church Exhibit

The Vang Church Exhibit, celebrating the religious life of a community, includes information panels and an exhibit cabinet. The cabinet, located in the cloak room and built by Howard Schimke of Harvey, contains artifacts, photos and information on the theme of worship. Another panel features the six churches of Manfred's traditional trade area: Bethania Lutheran Free, Bethel Lutheran, East Vang Lutheran, Evangelical Church of Manfred, Seventh Day Adventist Church of Manfred, and Vang – the latter two remaining active. These churches were recognized during the program. Another panel features the Vang Church members who served during WWII. Museum director, Wanda Melchert with assistance by Wesley Boese, Betty Melby, Pam Norstedt, Audrey Solheim and guidance from the ND Heritage Center, led the exhibit project.

Also recognized during the program were churches that have been joined with Vang as a parish. The earliest partners included First Lutheran of Harvey, also a church at Ontario (an early settlement then located northwest of Bowdon) and Stavanger Lutheran northeast of Cathay. Later, Vang and Stavanger joined with Bethania of Wellsburg and East Vang north of Fessenden as a 4-point parish for over 30 years. In 1945, Vang became a partner with Bowdon Lutheran. In 1951, Vang joined with First Lutheran of Fessenden and Hoff Lutheran of Heimdal. Then in 1964, Vang became part of a multi-point parish with Bethania of Wellsburg, Bethel north of Manfred, Hoff of Heimdal, Fairview of rural Maddock, St. Petri of rural Harvey, and Trinity-Bethany of Harvey. Today, Vang Lutheran is joined as a parish with Hoff Lutheran of Heimdal and Trinity-Bethany Lutheran of Harvey.



Worship Life

Vang Members Who Served in WWII

Vang Church Exhibit...

...and PowerPoint



Churches in Manfred's Traditional Trade Area



History of Vang Lutheran Church slide presentation

Judy Langseth Abbey Christy Ostrem Anderson John Anderson Paul Anderson Perry, Lauri, Sam Anderson Pete and Rose Anderson Rod Anderson

Dianne Aull Gerry and Karen Rodne Beutler ↑Richard and Wesley and Esther Boese John and Margaret Bollingberg

Joe Bolyard Verna Bowers Bill Boyum

Lowell and Muriel Melby Boyum

Thann Boyum

Richard and June Helgerud Braun

Mary Houtkooper Brown

Courtney Brye Ivy Brye Lorraine Brye

Tim Cook Donna Corneliusen

Nellie Deede Grace Deerken

Leo and Crystal Detling Manfred and Margie Deutsch

Marlys Weros Diedrich Travis, Jenny, Caleb, Ethan Dumke Dennis and Claudia Schepp Durigan Wayne and LoAnn Anderson Dybing

Clara Detling Elhard

Larry and Carol Fisher

Corey, JoAnn, Levi, Mitchel, Andrew Flick

Edgar and Jeanne Flick

Pastor Les and Connie Foss Cliff and Marilyn Gedrose

Kathrvn Gladheim

Russ Goodwin

Wesley Gross

Pastor Wilfred and Mary Jean Hanson

Vicki Ongstad Harper

Hadley and Eileen Haugen

Bruce and Judy Helgerud

Gwyn Herman

Myrna Flick Hoekstra

Charlie and Ellanora Melby Houtkooper

Lowell Hustoft

Dennis and Judi Johnson

Dick Johnson

David and Frances Johnson

Jim and Shirley Johnson

Larry Johnson

Laverne Johnson

Verna Johnson

Paul and Roberta Knudson Lester and Marian Kramer

Bill and Sandi Anderson Krebs David and Carol Langseth

Julie Langseth (Tom)

Attending the July 2, 2006 Celebration

Registered visitors plus a few snapshots



Rogelstad Family together with Roger & Bobbi Rogelstad, and Doris (Rogelstad) & Arlyn Rudel



June (Helgerud)

Brauns

← Dennis and Judi Johnson Ron and Elvira Widiger →





Robert Nelson, Pete Anderson, Ted & Margaret (Anderson) Thorson, Joelyn (Elrem) Scriba, Ardis Nelson



On sides - Amy and Sam Ongstad At center - Wayne and Suzanna (Ongstad) Witzel





Grandchildren of J. M. and Anna Langseth On sides – Dorothy Stansberry and Judy Abbey (Alvin) At center – Susan Luthy, David Langseth, Roberta Knudson (Ernest)

October 2006 Kermit and Bev Larson Pat Lenz Linda Flick Letnes and Chelsey, Taylor, Hannah Floyd Lindbo Susan Langseth Luthy Arnie, Norma, Alexis Melby Gene, Betty, Marsha Melby Kenneth and Jeanne Melby Mike and Tami Melby Richard and Wanda Melchert Pastor and Mrs. Reinhold Miller Bob, Ardy, Jessica, Jordon Nelson Curtis, Rita, Brittany Nelson George Nelson Vernon and Rita Nelson Warren Nelson Robert and Sharon Newman Pam and Lloyd Norstedt Henning and Lorraine Olson Astrid Ongstad Bill Ongstad Herbert Ongstad Sam and Amy Ongstad Harold and Phyllis Opdahl Pantsari Bill and Darlene Ouenette Mark Quenette Karen Ravnaas Olive Rodne Roger and Bobby Rogelstad Arlyn and Doris Rogelstad Rudel Cheryl Rudel Glenn and Arlene Rudel Lena Schepp

Fred Schmidt Melissa Schumacker and family Merlin and Laurie Schwartz

Joelyn Bymoen Scriba Marilyn Johnson Sjaastad Sandi and Monty Skroch

Audrey Solheim Ruth B. Sorenson

Margaret Renden Sprague

Dorothy Langseth Stansberry Dick and Pat Strauss

Don Strauss

Mark Swartz

Raenette Olson Tewes

Art and Olona Opdahl Thomas

Ted and Margaret Anderson Thorson

Arlene Hustoft Triebold Suzanne Wagner

Marlys Weisser

Harley and Muriel Weros

Reiner and Ruth Anderson Widiger

Ron and Elvera Widiger

Wayne and Suzanna Ongstad Witzel John and Deanna Young and family

Ardis Zerr

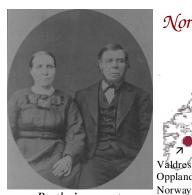
Tollef and Bertha Haugen Family History



The Haugen Farm in Rogne, Øystre Sildre, Norway where Tollef's father, Kn<u>ud, was born</u>

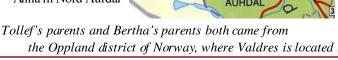
Tollef (T.K.) and Bertha (Berit) Haugen were both born in Manitowoc, WI, Tollef on February 19, 1855 and Bertha on November 25, 1854. Their parents were among some of the earlier people to emigrate from Norway, arriving in the USA in the mid 1800s. Bertha's parents were Ingeborg K.(Skov) and Arne Jome. Records suggest that their children, Bertha, Sophie, Carl, and Gust used the spelling of Jomen for their last name, and Arne's parents Knud and Berith Ivarsdatter used Jommen.

Tollef's parents were Knud T. Haugen, bom 1825 in Øystre Slidre, Valdres, Norway and Anna K. Thorsdatter Dovre, born 1824 in Nord Aurdal, Valdres, Norway. Knud (Knut, Knute) and Anna died at Valders, WI in Manitowoc County, Knud in 1903 and Anna in 1910. Five children are listed as having been born to Knud and Anna that of Andrew, Thorvald, Sophia who died at age 17, Ragnhild (Wigen) and Tollef.



Bertha's parents
Ingeborg (Skov) & Arne Jome





VESTRE

NORD-

SLIDRE

Haugen History Acknowledgements

Budstikken, May 1975, Page 18 Stefan Olsen Kubakke Helle and Page 20 Thorson and Dovre Brothers, September 23, 1938 issue of The Berne Witness Berne, Indiana, Growing with Pride Harvey area history, page 591, Beulah Beacon, March 11, 1982 issue, Burkum Photo Collection The Haugen-Neuenschwander-Melby Family Descendants of Knute Haugen and Anne Thoresdtr Dovre data prepared by Orville J. Dovre from information provided by W.A. Neuenschwander, Dec. 26, 1998. Myrtle Sailer, Loren Sailer, Charlie and Ellanora Houtkooper, Hadley and Eileen Haugen, Laurie O'Connor, Brenda Kiefet, and the Wells County Recorder's Office. Audrey Solheim, Historian

Audrey Solheim, Historian Wanda Melchert, Editor

Knut Dovre and Harald Thorson

Several siblings of Tollef's mother Anna came to the USA, among them her brothers Knut, Jul, and Harald. Their parents were Thore Dovre (of the Tvedt/Tveit family) and Sigrid Knutsdatter Gigstad. Knut and Jul took for their name the family farm name Dovre, and Harald took his father's name of Thore, thus Thoreson or Thorson.

Knut Thorson (Thoreson) Dovre and his wife Synnev Aabol arrived to the USA in 1847. At first, Knut worked as a sailer on Lake Michigan. Then, he and his brother Jul took part in the California Gold Rush 1848-1849 and struck gold. Quoting from the May 1975 *Budstikken*, page 20, 'One day Knut lay ill in his shack when he overheard two men planning to kill the Dovre brothers, take their gold and escape. Knut stealthily left the shack unseen, found his brother panning gold, claimed their store of gold and escaped – crawling on their hands and knees for some distance to avoid detection.' Knut came to Northfield, MN and opened a feed, coal and wood business, and also a general store. Later he owned a bank at Northfield.

Harald Thorson (Thoreson) at the age of 16, immigrated to near Manitowoc, WI where he worked and attended school three years before starting a country store. He soon sold the store and in 1865 settled in Northfield, MN where he became associated with his brother Knut in a business partnership. After one year, Harald became the sole proprietor. The business prospered and he soon became a wealthy man. He expanded and dealt in farmland and large tracts in unsettled areas, and sold and traded western horses and mules. Harald was president of the Bank of Elbow Lake in MN, helped organize Columbian Nat. Bank, Minneapolis and the Northwestern Nat. Bank, St. Paul. Whatever he engaged in seemed to make him money. Later he became a philanthropist and his beneficiaries were nu merous. At the top of the list was St. Olaf College of Northfield, for which he helped secure the land site and gave much money as well.

Tollef and Bertha Haugen

Tollef and Bertha were married at Manitowoc WI on November 18, 1880. In 1882, they moved to Baldwin, St. Croix County, WI where they became members of Peace Lutheran Church. When they first came to Manfred in 1904, they rented a farm from Tollef's uncle Harald Thorson which he later sold to Angus Fisher. Tollef and Bertha bought land southwest of Manfred and while their home was being built, they rented the Ole Hedahl farm north of Manfred, during the time Mr. Hedahl was serving as Wells County Auditor. They became members of Vang Lutheran Church of Manfred in 1906. Tollef served a term as Deacon beginning in 1908, two of their children were confirmed there-Alma in 1909 and Mabel in 1910, and Bertha was a member of the Ladies Aid serving as its vice president 1907-1909. They both died at Harvey - Bertha on November 21, 1940 and Tollef on October 26, 1942. Their house was eventually moved into Harvey on the north side.



Tollef and Bertha in front of their Wisconsin home with sons Alfred and Curtis



Left to right: Elsie Neuenschwander visiting Tollef, Mabel, and Bertha Haugen



Tollef and Bertha's home on their farm in the Manfred area (2 on map below)

In Wisconsin, Tollef and Bertha were born at Manitowoc, and after marrying they lived near Baldwin for 22 years



At right:
Tollef and Bertha's daughter, Mabel spent many of her summer vacations from teaching on her parent's farm near Manfred



Mabel Haugen

24	19	20	21 M	22 AN	V3 FRE	0
25	30	29	25	27	26	Z
2→	<u>¥</u> 1,	32		34		

The home locations of Tollef and Bertha included renting at 1 T 149, R71, S31 and then in 1925 purchasing their own land and building at 2 T 149, R72, S36-NEqtr.

The Children of Tollef and Bertha Haugen

- 1. **Lillian** 1881-1970, married Otto Neuenschwander. They made their home in Fessenden. (See this issue pages 9-10)
- 2. **Curtis** was born in 1884 at Baldwin, St. Croix County, WI. He homesteaded near Salvador, Saskatchewan, never married. He died in 1950 at Luseland, Saskatchewan, Canada about 9 miles southeast of Salvador.
- 3. Alfred 1886-1968, married Mary Roble. They farmed south of Manfred. (See October 2004, Pages 9 and 10)
- 4. **Helmer**, known as Elmer, was born April 9, 1889 at Baldwin, St. Croix County, WI. He homesteaded near Salvador, Saskatchewan and married Elizabeth Ann Hind who was born in England. Elmer and Elizabeth had two children: 1)Robert married Sylvia Appleby and they had three children Brenda, Bry an, Bev; and 2)Mabel married Jim Finley. Elmer died October 20, 1967 and Elizabeth in 1948 at Luseland, Saskatchewan, Canada.
- 5. Alma 1892-1982, married Martin Melby. They made their home in Manfred. (See this issue pages 11-13)
- 6. **Mabel** was born January 3, 1895 at Baldwin, St. Croix County, WI, and confirmed July 17, 1910 in Vang Lutheran Church, Manfred. She attended local schools and graduated from Fessenden High School. Upon graduation from Valley City Normal School, she began teaching in 1914. Her first position was at Egeland. Later, she moved to Dickinson where she taught in the elementary school and acted as fifth grade civics teacher for the Normal School. During this time, she graduated from Dickinson Normal. In 1927, she moved to Seattle, WA where she began 37 years of teaching in the same classroom at Van Asselt School. She spent dozens of summers in college courses. She retired in 1964 after a half century of teaching. Her nephew Hadley recalls visiting Mabel at the Vance Hotel, her residence throughout the many years she lived at Seattle. Mabel died April 28, 1971 at Portland, OR. A memorial service was held June 16, 1971 at Vang Lutheran Church, with internment at Vang Cemetery.

Otto and Lillian Neuenschwander

Memories by Laurie O'Connor, granddaughter of Otto and Lillian







Otto Neuenschwander

Lillian Haugen Neuenschwander

Lillian Cordelia Haugen, known as LC, was born in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on August 16, 1881, the eldest child of Tollef and Berit Haugen. In the early 1900s, she moved to Mayville, ND, where she had a hat shop. She later moved to Fessenden, where she was employed by the Beiseker family as a seamstress. On the strong "advice" of her father, Tollef, she reluctantly homesteaded in a very remote area near Glen Ullin, ND, enduring hardships and isolation, but successfully proving up on her claim. A few friends and family members managed to visit her during this adventure. Her younger sister, Alma, may have stayed with LC for an extended visit. Fortunately, she was surrounded by very good neighbors, and she frequently recalled their generosity and friendship. Later in her life, the sale of this homestead helped finance the family business, as well as pay for plumbing the family home in Fessenden when the city water system was installed around 1920.

LC married Otto Neuenschwander on February 13, 1907. Otto had a fuel and feed grinding business, and owned and operated the funeral home in Fessenden. They had seven children, Arthur, Roger, Duane, Bertha, Norman, Wilfred, and Lois, all of whom graduated from Fessenden High School. Raising seven children in the best of times is an amazing feat. Otto's diversification and LC's frugal, industrious nature carried the family through the very tough times of the Great Depression. Bertha and Icky both recall eating a *lot* of potatoes, and having meats, mostly chicken and pork, when Otto's clients traded such goods toward their bills.

Like all of their friends and neighbors, surviving took a lot of work and sacrifice by all members of the family. Most of the children worked odd jobs, often with part of their wages going toward basic family needs. In 1926, Duane worked on the construction of the fairground's grandstand, which helped fund his college education. Norman and Icky both worked at the Fairway store, and part of their earnings went toward paying the family grocery bill. Icky also recalls working during thrashing for his Uncle Martin Melby, earning about \$1/day. He was too short to harness the huge work horses, so he ended up helping the cooks with chores and delivering meals to the fields. Norman tended cows for his uncle, Calvin Neuenschwander. Always an avid reader, he would take a book and whenever possible he would read stretched out on the back of his horse. Bertha managed to save \$34, only to lose it when the banks failed in the Depression!

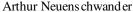
There are also fond memories of neighborhood friends and games, school and sports. What children lacked in material goods, they made up with creative play and school activities. Icky recalls large neighborhood games of "Hide & Seek", "Ante I Over", "Fox and Geese", and tunneling through the huge snowdrifts. LC had a piano and several of the children played musical instruments. The Neuenschwanders were all good athletes.

LC and her sister, Mabel, were members of the Christian Science Church, meeting with other local practitioners in the Billy Lyness house in Fessenden. Later in her life, LC served as Reader in the Devils Lake First Church of Christ Scientist. She was very active in the local temperance movement, serving for a time as President of the organization. As such, she never used substances such as vanilla, and even refused to serve fruit cocktail, because the name indicated an affiliation with spirits.

Otto was stricken with a series of strokes, beginning in 1940, and was bedridden over the last year of his life, completely dependent on the care of others. In spite of the certain struggles with the physical, emotional, and financial aspects of the situation, LC cared for him tenaciously. Just a few weeks after receiving news of son Arthur's death in the attack on Pearl Harbor, Otto passed away. With her children grown and most of her sons serving in WWII, her granddaughter, Nedra, lived with her for several years. After the war, LC spent time with several of her children, living at Fessenden, Devils Lake, and California. In the last years of her life, she was a resident of the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd, in New Rockford, until passing away in 1969.

The children of Lillian and Otto Neuenschwander







Lois Neuenschwander Niemeyer



From left: Four Generations - Roger holding Joe, Nedra in front of Lillian, and Bertha (Berit)



Norman Neuens chwander Family From left: Janet, Kent, Eric, Norman, Karen



Wilfred (Icky) Neuenschwander and Bertha (Neuenschwander) Johnson on her 90th birthday



Children of Icky and Claire Neuenschwander
From left: Wes, Laurie, John, Bill

- **1 Arthur,** Lillian and Otto's first child, was born in 1908. Tragically, Arthur died December 7, 1941 in the attack on Pearl Harbor, Oahu, HI. His mother, Lillian, received a purple heart in his honor.
- 2 Roger, born July 25, 1909, graduated from Fessenden High School and attended Fargo Business College. Roger married Rosalie Fagen, born in 1910. They had four children: 1 Nedra married Buck Eckroth. They live at Mandan and have five children: Thomas, Mary Kim, Karen Anne, Lora Jane, and Michael Dan. 2 Joe married Janice Stafford. They live at Bismarck and have three children: Kelli Jo, Connie, and Mark. 3 Roger Allen, a doctor in Boise, Idaho has five children: Gerald, Timothy, Mary Beth, John, Heidi, and Kasey. 4 Dan, died in the Vietnam War. Roger was Wells County Deputy Auditor under Otto Krueger, and later was elected Wells County Auditor. After his father's death in 1942, he together with his brother Wilfred, operated the Neuenschwander Funeral Home and Gamble Store. In 1969, he moved to Bismarck where he held the position of assistant Dairy Commissioner of the State Department of Agriculture until his retirement in July 1974. They moved to Mesa in 1975.
- 3 Duane, born April 6, 1912, graduated from UND as a Civil Engineer. He served in WWII as a Lieutenant in the Navy Seabees with duty at Guadalcanal. He married Francis McGlinch in California and they had four children: Todd, Scott, Nora (Brooke), and Neil. Duane worked for the Standard Oil Company in: California, South America, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Indiana and other places. Duane died September 19, 2001 in CA.
- 4 Bertha, born in 1913, attended college at UND and Minot State. She married Arthur C. Johnson who was a salesman for Swift Packing. They lived at Devils Lake where Bertha worked in the school system for 25 years. They had two children, Bruce and Ross. 1 Bruce lives in Connecticut, recently retiring from the insurance industry, and has three children: Kristi, Sarah, and Timothy. 2Ross and his wife Kathy reside in Fargo. They have four children: Matthew, Anne, Keith, and Adam. Ross recently retired as a manager of Scheels Hardware. Bertha resides in Mesa, Arizona, and remains very active with her church, community, and family.
- 5 Norman, born October 19, 1917, graduated from Fessenden High School, then went to UND. He was the first man drafted from Wells County in 1940, and served with the Army until his discharge in 1946. In 1947, he married Janet Lyngstad in Rugby, ND. They had three children: 1 Kent, with a doctorate in chemistry, works for a drug company in New Jersey. 2 Karen, a nurse, lived in Nevada for many years, and just recently moved to Michigan with her husband, Ed Eakin. 3 Eric lives at Lakeville, MN and he and his wife have two children, Janae and Sam. Norman was a salesman for Swift Packing for 25 years, and then worked in advertising for the Minot Daily News. Janet taught school in Fessenden and Minot. She had a TV program on homemaking and also helped organize Minot's Høstfest, an annual celebration of Scandinavian heritage. Norman passed away Jan. 4, 1999.
- 6 Wilfred, known as Icky, was born in 1920. He married Claire Matthaei, born Nov. 11, 1922 to Dr. Daniel William Matthaei and Hortense Day. Icky served in the Army in the transport of troops on a merchant marine ship. After his father's death in 1942, Icky together with his brother Roger took over operation of the Neuens chwander Funeral Home and also purchased the Gamble Store. They installed an elevator and moved the mortuary business to the second floor of this building. When Roger moved to Bismarck, Icky took over the businesses. When Icky retired, he sold the funeral business to Mark Nelson, and the Gamble Store was closed. Icky continues to reside in Fessenden, ND. He and Claire have four children: 1 Wesley (Wes) works for the Washington State Health Lab, and is married to Gail Larson of Heimdal. They live at Seattle, WA. 2 John of Fargo, ND, is a financial consultant with Merrill Lynch, and has two children: Justin and Paul. 3 Laurie married John O'Connor of New Rockford. They live on a ranch in SE Oregon, raising horses, mules, and cattle. They have four children: Jacob, Josh, Casey and Wesley.
- 7 Lois was born in 1922. After completing business training in Fargo, she moved to Washington DC, where she met and married Thomas Niemeyer. Lois and Thomas moved to California, where they raised four children: Tom, Craig, Linda and Jimmy. Lois passed away in 1983.

Martin K. and Alma Melby



Martin and Alma Melby on the occasion of their wedding August 30, 1911

From the September 8, 1911 issue of the Wells County Free Press

On August 30^h, the wedding bells were gently ringing over the union of Martin K. Melby and Alma R. Haugen, which took place at the commodious farm home of T. K. Haugen, Rev. J. M. Langseth reading the service. The parlor was most elaborately and tastefully decorated with flowers, festoons and bells, making a very beautiful setting for the young and handsome couple.

Mr. Melby is an exemplary young man of spotless habits and character who holds a responsible position in the C.C. Melby department store. Miss Haugen is a charming and refined young lady. The young couple has the best wishes and congratulations of a host of friends.

Alma Rosetta Haugen, the daughter of Tollef Haugen and Bertha (Berit) Jome, was born April 28, 1892 near Baldwin, St. Croix County, WI on her parent's farm. As a child, she moved with her family to a farmstead southwest of Manfred, where she was raised. Alma received her early education at the Manfred Public School. Her parents joined Vang Lutheran Church in 1906 and she was one of eleven confirmands in Pastor J.M. Langseth's first confirmation class in 1909 (Photo in June 2006 issue, Page 1). She attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, and after completing her education returned to Manfred. She married Martin Melby on August 30, 1911 at Vang Lutheran.

Martin, also known as M.K. Melby, was born in Griggs County on October 7, 1886 to Knud and Guri Melby (Story in December 2004 issue). In 1887, the family moved to Foster County North Dakota, where Martin began his schooling. In 1894, he moved with his family to the newly opened land of Manfred Township in Wells County where he completed his education. When his parents retired from farming in 1911, they moved into what had been the old Manfred School house renovated to serve as a home. It was in 1910, that this building had been moved off the school property and across the street to the east, and a new brick school built in its place. The upstairs of this home was where Martin and Alma began their married life. Their first two children were born there, Myrtle in 1914 and Kermit in 1916. Myrtle recalled how her grandmother would tap on the pipes, if she thought it was too noisy upstairs.

Martin had early training in business by working for his uncle, C.C. Melby, in his store (Photo in August 2005 issue, Page 5). Later, Martin and his young family moved to a home they had built in the LeGrand Division on the east side of Manfred, which still exists today. In 1918, he served as a mail carrier at Manfred, and in 1919 he went into the garage business in Manfred. Two more children were born to them, Ellanora in 1922 and Donald in 1924. That year, Martin, together with Oscar Ongstad, purchased the garage, naming it the Manfred Motor Company. They retained this until 1939, Martin worked up front selling Ford autos and Oscar did the mechanic work. Martin was also the owner-operator of a threshing rig which he ran for many years. He drove a school bus until 1945. That year, Martin and Alma moved to the O.K. Melby farm north of Manfred, where they farmed for 18 years. In 1963, they retired and returned to their home in Manfred.

Martin had played the bass drum in the Manfred Comet Band, served on the Manfred Township Board and as a notary public, member of the Manfred School Board and Cooperative Elevator. He was a member of the Harvey Masonic Lodge, and Alma and he were members of Fagerlund Sons of Norway and Vang Lutheran Church. Their granddaughter Laurie Lloyd recalls fond memories of Martin playing for them on his harmonica and tapping his foot all the while, and Alma playing games with the grandchildren such as 'Hide the Thimble' and 'Concentration.' Martin died August 9, 1977 in Manfred. Alma then lived with her daughters in Beulah and in Fargo. She died March 6, 1982 in Fargo. Alma and Martin are buried at Vang Cemetery.



Martin and Alma standing in back at the church entrance with those gathered in 1936 to help celebrate their 25th Anniversary

Martin and Alma enjoyed nearly 66 years of marriage, to the time when Martin passed away



Martin and Alma Melby







- 1 Martin and Alma's Home in Manfred
- 2 Martin standing in front of Schlenker's Café, where his business, Manfred Motor Company, was formerly located
- 3 From left, Even Ostrem and Martin Melby enjoying a visit together in Manfred
- 4 The O.K. Melby Farm where Martin and Alma lived for 17 years
- 5 Martin with the steam engine he operated in threshing for quite a few farmers





Alma and the Gypsies

As told by Alma's grandson Loren M. Sailer

When I was a child, my brothers and sisters would ask our mother, Myrtle Melby (Sailer) to tell us stories about what it was like when she was a child growing up in Manfred, North Dakota. This is one of my favorite stories, one I have heard her tell many times.

My mother was the oldest of four children. Her parents were Martin and Alma Melby. Grandpa ran a steam threshing crew, sold Ford cars; and later when I was a child I remember him farming north of Manfred. Grandma was a stay-at-home mom who did everything for her family including making beautiful quilts to decorate bedrooms and keep her family warm on cold winter nights.

Manfred in those days was, at times, visited by traveling gypsies. They would arrive in big fast touring cars, and would set up camp down by the James River. From there they would visit the homes selling notions, ribbons, bric-a-brac and other items for sewing. At that time, most communities did not have a Green River Ordinance prohibiting peddlers. The people in Manfred were leery of the gypsies and instructed their children not to go to their camps or to talk to them. Sound advice, then and now, when dealing with strangers!

One day, there was a knock at the Melby door and when answered there stood a gypsy woman with a basket of items to sell. Mom didn't recall if grandma had purchased anything, but she does remember the gypsy asking as she left if grandma would sell the homemade quilt airing on the clothes line in the back yard. Grandma, of course, said no that the quilt was being used by her family and not for sale.

After the door was closed and grandma went back to her work, she remembered the quilt and sent my mother out to the line to bring it in. Even though very few minutes had passed, the quilt was gone. Grandma told mom to run up to the Ford garage and tell grandpa. When grandpa was told about the missing quilt, he started up a Model T Ford and with an employee headed to the gypsy camp.

The camp was deserted, and although they chased down the road at top speed, they were unable to catch the gypsies who drove bigger and speedier cars. Today with two-way radios the quilt probably would have been recovered, but during the time of my mother's childhood that was not possible.

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Martin and Alma Melby Family Front: Donald, Martin, Alma, Kermit Back: Lewey holding Glenn, Myrtle, Ellanora, Charlie holding Jon



Myrtle Sailer at right, with her children from left: Ames, Loren, Deborah (Huber), Gretchen (Mason), and Glenn



The children of Kermit and Lillian Melby: Curtis, Virgil, Garlet (Schmaltz), Jeanne (Frey), Laurie (Lloyd)



Charlie & Ellanora Houtkooper Family Emir (Moritz), Mary (Brown), Jon, Ellanora, Jane (Barcelow), Charlie



Donald & Margaret Melby Family From left: Louise, Margaret, Mark, David, Constance, Donald, Rolf

In the Service:

- 1 Kermit with his sister Ellanora
- 2 Charlie Houtkooper in the Navy
- 3 Donald in the Philippians









The Children of Martin and Alma Melby

- 1 Myrtle, born March 14, 1914, attended Manfred School through grade 9, graduating from Fessenden High School in 1931. She attended Valley City State College two years receiving a Second Grade Professional Certificate (Standard) in 1933. She began teaching in the Manfred School District in 1933, at first a rural school and then in town teaching grades 1-4. In 1937-1938, she taught grades 3-4 in Hurdsfield, grades 1-4 in the Falls City School near Jerome, Idaho and in 1939 began teaching second grade in the Beulah School. She also taught a year in Plentywood, Montana. Myrtle married Ludwig (Lewey) Sailer on Oct 22, 1942 at Glendive, Montana They moved to the Zap and Beulah areas where they farmed and Myrtle worked as a librarian and played the organ at Zion Lutheran Church. They had five children: 1 Glenn and his wife Marie (Truax) have three children: Ross, Denise and Leah. 2 Gretchen and her husband Burt Mason have three children: Christopher, Eric and Jeffrey. 3 Deborah and her husband Timothy Huber have two children: Bryan and Rebecca. 4 Loren is a school counselor. 5 Ames and his wife Marilyn (Axtman) have three children: Ryan, Cory and Kyle. Lewey died June 18, 1968 at Bismarck, ND and Myrtle died November 15, 2005 at Beulah.
- 2 Kermit, born Feb 7, 1916, attended Manfred School and then high school at Benson County Agricultural School in Maddock. He farmed with his father and for his grandfather, Tollef Haugen, and also worked for his father at the Manfred Motor Co. On Dec 27, 1941, he entered the Army serving as a Corporal in five major battles. After his discharge in 1945, he returned to Manfred and was employed as a Wells County maintainer operator. In 1947, he began working as a substitute mail carrier for Manfred and in Dec 1947 married Lillian Elton. Kermit reenlisted in the Army serving in the Korean War from 1948 to 1952. For his years in the service, he received medals too numerous to mention. Upon returning to Manfred, he became a full-time rural letter carrier for a total of 31 years retiring in 1984, and is fondly remembered by those who knew him. Kermit passed away Sept 4, 1992 and is buried at the ND Veterans Cemetery south of Mandan. Lillian died in 1998. They had five children: 1 Curtis married Peggy Bettenhausen (dec) and had one child Adam. 2 Virgil married Sandy Brummond. 3 Garlet married Daniel Schmaltz and have two children: Rustin and Tamra. 4 Jeanne married Steven Frey and have one daughter Deanna 5 Laurie married Scott Lloyd and have two children: Kyle and Shaunna Lea who married Jeremy Bruer and have a daughter Tayley.
- 3 Ellanora, (El), born March 9, 1922, attend Manfred School and graduated from Fessenden High. She met Charlie Houtkooper in 1940 at a dance at the Sons of Norway Hall in Manfred. He was working in a Harvey bakery. Soon after this, he entered the Navy, serving on the USS Dent until 1943, then transferred to gunnery school in Wash, DC. In 1942, Ellanora moved to CA and worked for the California Pacific Telephone Co. In January of 1944, she traveled by train to Wash, DC, where Charlie and she were married. In March, he went to Miami for more schooling, then was sent to Orange, TX to commission the USS Key. Ellanora returned to Manfred when Charlie set sail for the Mediterranean. His ship returned just in time for him to be home for the birth of his son Jon on Nov 4, 1944. Serving as a Chief Gunners Mate, he continued in the South Pacific until Sept 1945. Charlie and Ellanora settled in Fargo where he worked at John's Bakery and later Quality Bakery which he and two partners purchased in 1969. Charlie retired in 1982. Their family includes: 1 Jon (dec) married June Yamamoto and had two children: Eric and Nina. 2 Mary married Charlie Brown and they had four children: Aaron, Adam (dec), Abby, Allison. 3 Emir married Jerry Moritz and they have two children: Daniel and Timothy. 4 Jane married Kris Barcelow and they have four children: Taylor, Maxwell, Niki, and Ali. Ellanora and Charlie have 12 grandchildren.
- 4 Donald, born February 20, 1924, grew up and attended grade school at Manfred and Fessenden High School. During WWII, he worked as a baker in the Philippians. He married Margaret Eidbo, a pastor's daughter, on March 26, 1949 at Jamestown, ND. Donald worked for a time with General Motors and then in banking. They had five children: Mark, Louise, Constance, Rolf, and David. Donald died in 2002 at Detroit Lakes, MN.