

The New MANFRED NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 1

November 2009

A Warm Welcome to Manfred!

Mark your calendars for a Manfred Gathering Sunday afternoon, August 1, 2010

90th Anniversary of Fagerlund Sons of Norway Lodge

Dedication of the Manfred School and Hotel Johnson
into the Manfred Heritage Museum

10th Anniversary of MHP, Inc.

More details to come in future newsletters

From Wanda Melchert, Museum Director:

The Manfred Newsletter

How good to be on track once again with the Manfred Newsletter! I am sorry for the delay this past year, but look forward to an exciting lineup of future newsletters. In this issue, it is an honor to present the history of the Olaf and Caroline Anderson Family. Below is a photo introducing this family. Also find special news regarding the Manfred School and Solheim House restoration projects on page 13. More about the history and restoration projects will be presented in the next issue.

The Olaf and Caroline Anderson Family

c.1925

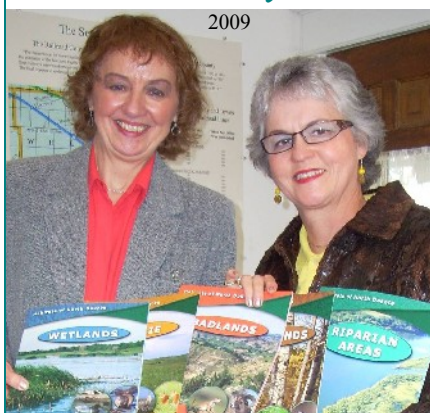


←
Posing by their
home in
Manfred

L/R:
Gordon
Clayton
Orvin
Alice
Carolyn
Olaf

Authors -

*Laverne Johnson
and Gwyn Herman*



Laverne and Gwyn presenting a copy of their publication to the Manfred Museum

We are very proud of MHP, Inc. members and authors, Laverne Johnson and Dr. Gwyn Herman, who have been awarded first place of the "2009 Notable Document Award" by the North Dakota Library Association for their *Habitats*

of North Dakota series of five books: Badlands, Prairie, Riparian Areas, Wetlands, and Woodlands. This series was published in 2008 through the ND Center for Distance Education. Previous publications authored by Laverne and Gwyn include: *Geology, Geography, & Climate; American Indians of North Dakota; Frontier Era of North Dakota; Early Settlement of North Dakota; and Citizenship*. All of their books are available at www.ndstudies.org.

In Memory

Raymond Martel

May 24, 1928 – March 30, 2008
Worked for a Manfred elevator

Norma Theige Haugen

September 5, 1921 – July 12, 2008
Wife of Maurice Haugen, who was son of Alfred and Mary (Roble) Haugen

Arlene Nelson Rogers

October 17, 1923 – July 15, 2008
Daughter of Albert and Rose Nelson
Albert was a rural letter carrier at Manfred

Julie Casey

October 31, 1956 – August 15, 2008
Daughter of Roger and Nora Ongstad Casey
Granddaughter of Oscar and Christine Ongstad

Louie Thomas

July 20, 1915 – August 17, 2008
Lived in Manfred and
worked for railroad on section crew

Duane Thomas

September 27, 1945 – November 18, 2008
Son of Louie and Rose Thomas

LaVaun McBain Rogness

October 13, 1914 – December 6, 2008
Wife of Anton Rogness, who was son of Andrew and Liva Rogness

Emil Gregory

May 12, 1941 – January 23, 2009
Former manager of a Manfred elevator

Patricia Kirkeide Hagemester

October 16, 1935 – February 2, 2009
Wife of Gerald Hagemester, who is a life-long
Manfred resident and farmer

Alice Anderson Smith

June 13, 1912 – May 16, 2009
Daughter of Olaf and Caroline Anderson
Granddaughter of Knud and Guri Melby
Olaf was an early Manfred businessman

Edith Bullis Bodewin

April 27, 1927 – August 9, 2009
Daughter of Harold and Clara (Hedahl) Bullis

Wayne Aadnes

January 22, 1947 – May 6, 2009
Son of Rolf and Rogene (Gullickson) Aadnes

Rogene Aadnes

February 27, 1923 – September 1, 2009
Daughter of Gerhard and Beatrice (Wolding) Gullickson
Granddaughter of Olaf and Nellie (Melby) Wolding
Great Granddaughter of Knud and Guri Melby

Violet Seidlinger

February 21, 1922 – September 28, 2009
Wife of George Seidlinger, who was manager of
Farmer Union Elevator in Manfred a number of years

Irene Sommer

July 1, 1921 – October 31, 2009
Longtime resident on a farm north of Manfred
Wife of Virgil Sommer

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!

The next issue will include contributions received after August 2009

Ron Aadnes
Kermit and Florence Alveshere
in memory of Kenneth Oxta
James and Cheryl Alveshere
Christy Anderson
John Anderson
Orren and Karen Anderson
Peter and Rose Anderson
Rod Anderson
Glen Bendickson
Susan Roble Bertsch
Mark and Sharla Boese
Merlyn and Darlene Boese
Eric and Nancy Bollingberg
Joe Bolyard
Lantz and Gail Bottleson
Verna Bowers
Muriel Boyum
Reuben Braaten
Lorraine Brye
Roger Casey in memory of Julie Casey
Timothy Cook
in memory of Jens and Marie Renden
Manfred and Marjorie Deutsch
Leo Detling
Orville and Rita Dovre
Judy Duerre and friends of Delores Renden
in memory of Delores
Wayne and LoAnn Dybing
Cynthia Ehni
Neil and Jackie Everett
Fessenden Thrift Shop
Les and Connie Foss
Richard and Carolyn Golberg
Ramona Gronos in memory Herbert Ongstad
Dene and Robbie Gullickson
Vern and Myrna Hoekstra
Al and Norma Holwegner
Darrel and Diane Johnson
John A. Johnson
Larry Johnson
Genevieve Keson
Bill and Sandy Krebs
Joe and Joan Lake
Dave and Kathy Lawter
Floyd Lindbo
Leonard and Alice Martin
Elsie Martinson
Eileen W. Mead and family
in memory of Edna Johnson Howie
Dale and Wendy McBain
Art and Florence Melby
Gene and Betty Melby
In honor of Gene and Betty Melby's
60th Wedding Anniversary
Christy Anderson
Bill and Sandy Krebs
Bill and Darlene Quenette
Orlien and Zeldia Melby

MHP, Inc. General Fund (Cont.)

National Bank of Harvey
Jean Narksompong
Marian Nicholson
Joyce Olschlager
Erling and Ruth Olson
Michael and LuAnn Olson
Dennis Opdahl
Katherine Oxta
Debbi Peterson
Mike and Sandy Ranum
Karen Ravnaas
in memory of Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas
Arlene Rittmiller
Olive Rodne
Willajeane Rogelstad
Glenn and Arlene Rudel
Gordon and Betty Schimke
Rolene Schliesman
Fred J. Schmidt
John and Carol Schroeder
Richard Schulz of Schulz Engine and Machine
Steve and Joleen Schultz
Merlin Schwartz-Citi Bank Matching Gift
Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
Myron and Virginia Soiset
Peggy Sprague
Willys and Violet Sprenger
Jerry and Dorothy Stansberry
In memory of June Streibel
Peter and Rose Anderson
Verna Bowers
Ted and Margaret Thorson
Arlene Triebold
Emmett Turner
Devella Vik
Dean and Alicia Vorland
Margaret Walz
Duane and Cecilia Weinmann
Ronald P. Widiger
Donations by visitors to the museum

MHP, Inc. Endowment Fund

An everlasting fund providing for the future

Orren and Karen Anderson
Loren and Kathleen Alveshere
Mark and Sharla Boese
Timothy Cook
in memory of Jens and Marie Renden
Laverne Johnson and Gwyn Herman
Audrey Nelson
Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
In memory of Alice Anderson Smith
Family of Alice Anderson Smith
Muriel Boyum
Richard and Wanda Melchert
Lucille Weise in memory of her family

Cultural Heritage Grant

In May, upon completion of the 2007-2009 Cultural Heritage Matching Grant through the State Historical Society of ND, the second half of the grant award totaling \$5,000.00 was distributed to MHP, Inc. The wonderful base of support provided through your contributions enables MHP, Inc. to apply for matching grants.

Manfred Newsletter

Thank you for your newsletter subscriptions!
135 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.

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.

*An Authentic 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
Rose Anderson, Pete Anderson,
Verna Bowers, Pam Norstedt, Lewis Weigelt
Wanda Melchert, Museum Director

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.

Olaf and Caroline Anderson Family History

Sennev Nertrøst Whipple, an early Manfred writer and historian, wrote the following of how it was that Olaf and Caroline met:

In 1900, romance came into Caroline Melby's life when she met Mr. Olaf Anderson at a social gathering at the home of her brother O. K. Melby. Three years later, on December 10, 1903, she was married to Mr. Anderson.

We begin the story of Olaf and Caroline by tracing their heritage and following the pathway that brought them to Manfred.



Olaf and Caroline (Melby) Anderson
on their wedding day, Dec 10, 1903

Olaf Anderson

Olaf Albert Anderson was born August 14, 1877 at Bø, Stygvil, Lordal, Norway to Andreas Nilsen Bøe 1840-1928 and Kristine Knutsdotter Røsholt 1845-1925.

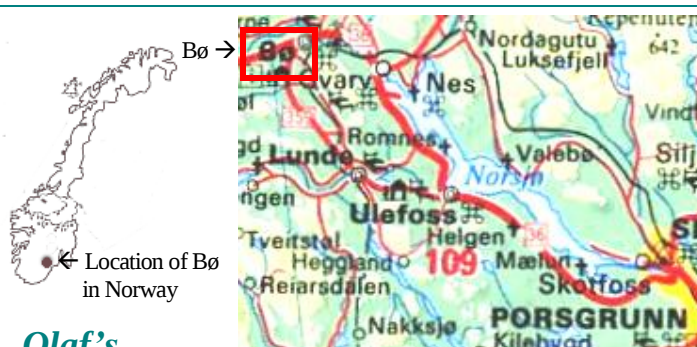
Born to Andreas and Kristine were ten children:

1. Nils 1867-1920, 2. Mathilde 1870-1934 (Barnes),
3. Olaf 1873-1875, 4. Inga 1875-1906, 5. Olaf 1877-1931,
6. Gustav 1879-1944, 7. Bertine 1882-1973 (Røsholt),
8. Anna 1884-1945 (Lindås), 9. Magna 1886-?,
10. Hans 1889-1959.

Olaf's family name in Norway was Bøe, but his brother Gustav and he took Anderson as their last name based on their father's first name of Andreas.

At the age of 18, Olaf left Norway and traveled to America arriving in Mayville, ND in 1895. In 1897, he came to Wells County and took up a homestead six miles west of Harvey in Hillsdale Township.

In 1900, Olaf moved to the booming town of Manfred in Manfred Township which had much railroad traffic. There, he established a livery and feed stable and a dray service to haul goods to and from the railroad. He also started up an ice business in the winter with a crew of several men, cutting ice from the James River and shipping it by train.



Olaf's
birthplace
in Norway

Detail map for Bø, Stygvil, Lordal, Norway,
located north from the southern coastline
Location outlined in red



Olaf pictured in back at right
making music together with his siblings in Norway

Caroline Melby

Caroline (also known as Lena) Knudsdotter Anderson was born September 3, 1884 in Blooming Prairie, Griggs Co., North Dakota to Knud Olson Rudi 1843-1927 and Guri Kristensdotter Melby 1844-1921. Born to Knud and Guri were ten children: **1.**Guri/Julia 1862-1938 (Ranum), **2.**Ole 1864-1940, **3.**Kristen 1868-1936, **4.**Knute 1870-1960, **5.**Ragnhild/Nellie 1873-1955 (Wolding), **6.**Gulbrand/Gilbert 1877-1963, **7.**Marit/Mary 1880-1957 (Satterberg), **8.**Caroline 1884-1971 (Anderson), **9.**Martin 1886-1977, and **10.**Oscar 1890-1954. Knud and Guri Melby's story is featured in the December 2004 Issue of the Manfred Newsletter located at www.manfrednd.org.

In 1881, Knud and Guri Melby, together with their seven children traveled from Rogne, Øystre Slidre, Valdres, Norway to America. For three years they worked for friends on farms in Goodhue County, Minnesota, while gaining their bearing in the new land. In 1884, the Melbys moved to Griggs County, North Dakota settling on their first homestead. On September 3rd of that year, their eighth child Caroline was born in a sod house.

In 1887, the family moved a little further west to Paradise Township, Foster County, North Dakota. In 1888, her father and older brother Ole helped establish the Melby School District where Caroline attended most of her grade school years. She could remember Indians coming to their house. Her mother would put loaves of fresh bread in her big apron and give them to the Indians as a friendly gesture.

After several years of crop failures, a number of families decided to go farther west. During the fall of 1893, Knud filed on a quarter of land in Manfred Township. In the spring of 1894 when Caroline was 9½ years old, a significant life-long memory for her was in riding on the buckboard of the wagon with her father during the move to the Manfred area. Of this move, historian Sennev Nertrost Whipple wrote:

In company with relatives and friends, the Melby family came by caravan to Wells County, North Dakota. They established their new home on a homestead, consisting of one-quarter section, which Mr. Melby acquired in 1893. Situated in a very fine farming community four miles northwest of Manfred, and with good crops generally, they prospered through the years and converted their pioneer holdings into a fine well-improved farmstead. After coming to Wells County, Caroline attended school in Manfred and in Harvey. In the course of a few years, she taught school in her community and was well liked by pupils and patrons.



Caroline, at left back, with her mother Guri, sister Mary, brothers Oscar and Martin, and father Knud



↑ Seated L/R: Knud, Nellie, Guri, Mary, Julia, Caroline
Standing L/R: Martin, Ole, Kris, Gilbert, Oscar
Not pictured: Knute

← Caroline, at right, with her sister Nellie while attending a Vang Church gathering

Olaf and Caroline Anderson 1900-1908

A tower of a man well-respected by many people in his thirty-one years at Manfred, Olaf was known as a liveryman, constable, auto and implement dealer, proprietor and entrepreneur, ice distributor, and community leader. Caroline was also community-minded, former teacher, hard worker, gardener, and great hostess.

We'll let the early Manfred News entries help us envision Olaf and Caroline's story, together with images, enabling us to go back in time and 'live' the history. Notice how, as Olaf's business expanded, the business **name** changed - reflecting new endeavors.

Olaf Anderson's Livery Barn in its Early Years



Ole Onstad bicycling past the **Livery Feed & Sales Stable**

MANFRED LIVERY
FEED & SALE STABLE
O DRAY LINE IN CONNECTION O
First Class Rigs. Careful Drivers.
Horses Bought and Sold at All Times.
Olaf Anderson, - Proprietor

Dictionary Meanings

livery – the feeding, stabling, and care of horses for pay and carriages for hire
dray – a strong low cart or wagon without sides used to haul goods

← Extension to livery

See June 30, 1905 news entry at right

Taken from a 1905 Manfred Livery ad:

Stage line between Manfred and Viking, via Klara, every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

← **Olaf Anderson Livery and Dray Line**

Taken Nov 21, 1908

Manfred News entries from the Wells County Free Press

June 4, 1905

Olaf Anderson has been very busy of late hauling material for the new buildings under construction in the area besides the usual livery and dray business.

June 30, 1905

Our enterprising liveryman, Olaf Anderson, is having an extension built to the rear of his barn. The new addition will be 28x32. He will also remodel the front part of the old barn, which will greatly facilitate the handling of the rigs.

August 11, 1905

With seven (train) cars of brick to unload and haying in full swing, Liveryman Anderson is kept very busy.

December 22, 1905

Liveryman Anderson had the misfortune to lose a valuable stallion sometime ago. The horse caught a bad cold during the late storm, which developed into inflammation of the lungs. The veterinary from Harvey was called but could not save him.

December 29, 1905

Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Anderson left Friday night for an extended visit with relatives at Minneota and other points in Minnesota. Martin Melby and August Paulson are tending the barn during their absence and Mrs. Haakan Hovey is keeping house for them.

May 11, 1906

Olaf Anderson's baby (Clayton) has been quite ill this week.

May 25, 1906

Olaf Anderson is a candidate for re-election for constable and is sure to be elected.

July 27, 1906

Olaf Anderson was in Fessenden Thursday for material for the (Vang) church building.

August 24, 1906

Mr. Anderson is making a marked improvement in his livery barn by putting in a track and carrier for the handling of hay. This will do away with a lot of heavy pitching, which is considerable as Mr. Anderson uses a lot of hay.

April 5, 1907

Constable Anderson, our hustling liveryman sold a team of horses to John Hansen the McClusky cattleman last Tuesday.

June 28, 1907

Olaf Anderson has a force of men filling in and leveling his lots just south of his livery barn.

October 11, 1907

Mr. Olaf Anderson was passing around the cigars with a happy smile last Wednesday over the arrival of a bouncing baby (Gordon) at his place.

January 17, 1908

Olaf Anderson has taken a contract to furnish L. A. Leu of Fessenden with a carload of ice to be cut on Manfred lake.

May 15, 1908

Olaf Anderson, liveryman and lover of fine horses, bought a team from George Lyness, Fessenden, recently. The team is a first class one and pleasant to behold.

Olaf and Caroline Anderson 1909-1912

Olaf and Caroline were a busy young couple with two small children, when the automobile caught Olaf's attention. The business pace soon quickened, when Olaf found himself supplying the "horseless carriage" to many folks throughout the Manfred area.



Front: Olaf in the driver's seat and unknown Back: O. S. Hovey and E. E. Hedahl

Original inscription on picture:
"The rig that is always ready"

Manfred news entries from the Wells County Free Press

March 5, 1909

Olaf Anderson made quite a horse deal when he sold his best horses to Mr. Peck of Harvey. The automobile will be Olaf's favorite hereafter.

August 20, 1909

Mrs. Olaf Anderson and children went to Mayville to visit relatives and friends. (Olaf lived at Mayville prior to coming to Wells County.)

January 13, 1911

The ice harvester had to take a day off Tuesday on account of the cold weather.

January 20, 1911

Olaf Anderson has finished the ice harvest and is ready for spring. Fourteen carloads of ice is the latest export, besides what is put up for private parties.

June 16, 1911

Olaf Anderson and Andrew Erickson took an automobile load of people to Carrington to view the flying machines. Those going were Fred Johnson, Geo. Jenson, C. C. Melby, Dr. Boyum, and N. Johnson.

January 12, 1912

Olaf Anderson has started the ice harvest. It is of good quality and improving every day.

March 8, 1912

Olaf Anderson, our busy liveryman made a trip to Bergen to look up the hay market.

A post card from the Anderson Collection written December 12, 1909 to Mr. Egert Berve at Zahl, ND

*How are you. We are all very well. Gordon is quite a big boy now and he wears pants. Well, how do you like being alone? It must be a lonely life. "Papa" is going to start with the ice harvest this week. Wishing you a happy holiday.
Your friend Caroline Anderson*



Enjoying a ride in their Model T Ford around 1909-1910

Back seat L/R: Nieces Beatrice and June Melby sitting with Caroline
Front seat L/R: Sons Gordon and Clayton sitting with their father Olaf



Records indicate that Olaf and Caroline Anderson lived in this house, located east of the Manfred School, for about five years 1909-1913. This photo with Mrs. Steiner Aasand, was taken some years later when the house was owned by the Aasands.

Olaf and Caroline Anderson 1913-1915

By 1913, business was going great and Olaf and Caroline had the opportunity to purchase the Chas. Fjerstad home conveniently located near Olaf's business. Then in 1914, Olaf enjoyed a memorable trip to Norway to visit his parents and relatives.



←
Beginning in 1913 this was the home of Olaf and Caroline Anderson family

The first owners of this property were Jessie E. and Julie A. Fincher, who sold it to Amy B. and Robert Roberts and D.C. and Hattie Jones. Rogers Lumber Co manager Charles Fjerstad and his wife purchased the property in 1905. They removed the small existing house and built the house that still remains today, the exterior of which is under restoration.



↑
Leaded-glass from bay window, the top section of the side panel

←
L/R
The Anderson Children: Gordon, Alice, Clayton in 1913

1915 Automobile Models as listed in Olaf Anderson's newspaper ads

Ford	Regal
Runabout, \$440	Light Four, \$650
Touring, \$490	Standard Four, \$1085
Town, \$650	Deluxe Eight, \$1250
Coupelet, \$750	
Sedan, \$950	

Manfred News entries from the Wells County Free Press

May 16, 1913

Manfred has had a real estate boom this week, as Olaf Anderson has bought the Chas Fjerstad property and J. G. Renden has bought the Andrew Erickson property.

June 27, 1913

Olaf Anderson unloaded five more Ford cars. Nothing slow about Manfred and vicinity.

February 11, 1914

Olaf Anderson departed Sunday for Minneapolis to attend the automobile show.

March 3, 1914

Olaf Anderson returned from his Norway trip Monday. He had visited many places in his native country and enjoyed the trip fine, although it had been very stormy on the ocean coming back. His parents are still living in Norway.

May 1, 1914

Olaf Anderson is doing a big automobile business. He recently unloaded another carload accounting to seven machines. He has sold to several people and there are indications that many more will buy when the roads get good.

September 11, 1914

Mrs. Olaf Anderson and daughter (Alice) and Mrs. O. K. Melby left Tuesday afternoon for the twin cities to attend the Minnesota State Fair.

January 7, 1915

Olaf Anderson's ice harvest is very heavy from the Jim River, loading cars occupying most of his time.

February 11, 1915

Olaf Anderson departed Sunday for Minneapolis to attend the automobile show.

April 29, 1915

Olaf Anderson received his shipment of Regal touring cars on Friday.

May 6, 1915

John Bolenbaugh (Bollingberg), Dr. Owen and Olaf Anderson were Fessenden callers on Saturday.

July 7, 1915

Mr. and Mrs. N. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Willborg and Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Anderson attended the Chautauqua at Devils Lake for a few days. All reported a good time.

October 21, 1915

Olaf Anderson met with a very painful accident on Saturday by falling through the trap door to the basement fracturing two ribs.

Auto sales during 1913-1915

as noted in the Wells County Free Press-Manfred News

It was exciting news when the first cars were purchased in the community. The following were those noted in the newspaper that purchased autos from Olaf Anderson.

Ford: Geo. L. Jenson, Andrew Diede, John Nelson, T. O. Roble, Nels Nertrost, J. M. Langseth, L. O. Burkum, Wellsburg Livery, Joe Specht, N. Johnson, C. C. Melby, B. Rogne, P. B. Anderson, W. R. Owen, Ed Soderback, Wm. Goedecke

Regal touring car: J. B. Williams **Reo touring car:** John Anhorn

Olaf and Caroline Anderson 1916-1929

Manfred News and ad entries from the Wells County Free Press

December 9, 1915

Olaf Anderson is very busy hauling a pile of gravel and sand on his lot next to the livery barn. We do not know what this is for, but it is a safe bet it is not for the kids to play in.

**Ad in the September 7, 1916
Wells County Free Press**

If Your Car is Not Working Right
Let An Expert Fix It
We Have One
Anderson-Melby Motor Co.
Manfred, North Dakota

April 20, 1916

Work has been started on John Nelson's residence, and also on Anderson and Melby's garage.

Anderson-Melby Motor Co.

O. K. Melby, Olaf Anderson's brother-in-law, became a business partner with Olaf in 1916 for the building and operation of what became known as the Anderson-Melby Motor Co. Not only did this business sell automobiles, but was also able to service them. Martin Melby, another brother-in-law, took on the job of the front office and Oscar Ongstad was hired as the mechanic. This building still exists today on Main Street in Manfred.



Manfred News from the Wells County Free Press

June 14, 1917

Anderson-Melby Motor Co. sold a carload of Fords between unloading them Tuesday and Friday morning.

February 13, 1919

O. K. Melby of the late Anderson and Melby Motor Co. has retired from business life, having sold out to his partner Olaf Anderson who is now handling it alone under the name of Anderson Motor Co.

February 11, 1926

Olaf Anderson received a carload of machinery. He will sell the John Deere line of farm implements.

March 18, 1926

Olaf Anderson received a car load of Overlands this week.

November 24, 1927

Mr. O. Anderson and Fred Lindbo went to Fargo and brought back two new Pontiac cars.

January 26, 1928

Olaf Anderson brought a new Whippet sedan home from Fargo.

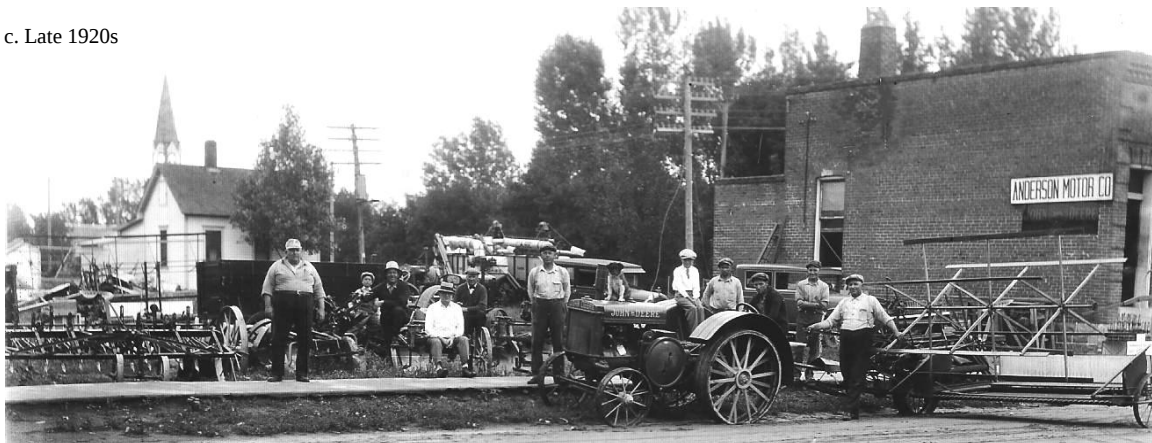
Anderson Motor Co.

In 1924, Olaf sold the garage business to Martin Melby and Oscar Ongstad who carried on with the Ford line. Olaf continued his business using the Anderson Motor Co. name, selling Overland cars and later also Pontiacs and Whippets from his barn using the former bank building as his office. He made use of the open area south of this office for farm implement and auto inventory.

A. B. Motive Company

For a time, Olaf was also part of a partnership with C. H. Blanding of Harvey, forming the A. B. Motive Company with "A" for Anderson and "B" for Blanding.

c. Late 1920s



←Olaf Anderson standing to the right of the tractor, in the white shirt, in his implement and auto lot on the west side of Main Street. The Anderson Motor Co. office is pictured at right, the former First State Bank building. Across the street to the east of the office was Olaf's sales barn, the original livery.

Olaf and Caroline Anderson 1930-1931

1930

In addition to autos and John Deere farm implements and tractors, the ads indicate that Olaf had also started selling Gold Medal Cream Separators and tire chains. Olaf was looking into the McCormick Deering line for which he, together with Caroline, had attended that convention in June of 1930. Tragically, a fire destroyed his building in November of 1930.

Manfred News entry from the Wells County Free Press

November 6, 1930

The Anderson Motor Co. garage (barn) burned to the ground Saturday morning. A loss estimated at \$15,000 was suffered when a fire of unknown origin swept their garage and warehouse. The loss was a heavy one, as much farm machinery and repairs were lost. Several drills, corn binders, harrows and other farm machinery, three cars, a big stock of repairs and accessories and a number of barrels of lubricating oil were lost. Good work by a volunteer bucket brigade saved the Anderson house and a private garage. Fortunately, there was no wind to speak of or the whole street might have burned. The Fessenden Fire Department came up to help fight the blaze. The loss was covered by insurance. (Olaf was planning to rebuild.)

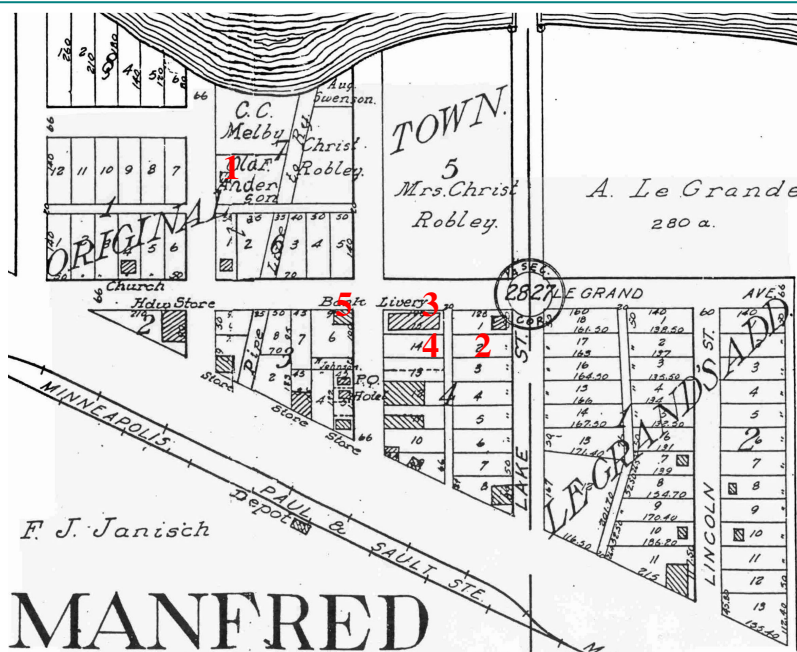
1931

There must have been a great deal of cleanup to do after the fire. The news reported Olaf had loaded a carload of scrap iron in April 1931. He was going on with his business despite the fire loss. The news said that he received a carload of machinery in April 1931 and sold a new Chevrolet coupe in June 1931. Sadly, only a year following the fire, Olaf died.

Manfred News entry from the Wells County Free Press

November 19, 1931

Olaf Anderson, 54, was laid to rest Monday afternoon. Manfred lost one of its leading citizens last week when Olaf Anderson, homesteader, and pioneer businessman, passed away November, 12th after a brief illness. Mr. Anderson was born August 14, 1877 at Bø, Stygvil, Lordal, Norway. At the age of 18, he left for America arriving in Mayville in 1895. He moved to Manfred in 1900 to establish a livery and feed stable and continued in business. He married Caroline Melby on April 22, 1903. Four children were born to this union, Clayton, Gordon, Alice and Orvin, who with his widow survive him. Funeral services were held November 16 from the Vang church.



Plat Map of Manfred

The business and home locations for Olaf and Caroline Anderson

1. Home during 1909-1912
2. Home beginning in 1913
3. Livery 1900-1930
4. Garage 1916-1924
5. Anderson Motor Co. office Mid 1920s-1931

Longtime resident Adolph Shirley was 26 years old and active in an implement business in Manfred when Olaf Anderson died. Adolph was well acquainted with Olaf Anderson and greatly admired him as a remarkable community leader. He recalled that it was not uncommon for Olaf to sell 50 cars in one year.

Acknowledgements for the Olaf Anderson Family History

Growing With Pride Harvey History (July 1981) p.584, Fessenden Diamond Jubilee (1983-1968, p.59, Obituary newspaper clippings, School Records, Broderbund Family Archive #110, Vol. 1, Ed. 5, Social Security Death Index: U.S., Date of Import: Nov 20, 1997, Internal Ref. #1.111.5.6668.10, Wells County Free Press-Manfred News entries 1905-1941, 1911 Wells County Atlas-Plat map of Manfred, Bilkart over Norge Norwegian map, Carolyn Golberg, Ginger Barrett, Rod Anderson, Darlene Quenette, Sandra Krebs, Christine Anderson, Alice Smith, Sennev Nertrøst Whipple, Audrey Solheim-Historian, Wanda Melchert-Editor.

Caroline Anderson

After Olaf died, Caroline, also known as Lena, continued to live in her home in Manfred. Through the years, Caroline took much interest in the activities of the Vang Church and Aid, holding the offices of president, secretary and treasurer at different times. She was active with the Manfred Homemakers' Club and the Young Peoples' Society. She had cooked in cook cars for threshing, and also opened her home to the Lower Grades class when the Manfred School was being renovated. Caroline died May 14, 1971, and both Olaf and Caroline are buried at Vang Cemetery near Manfred.



Caroline's yard was known for its beautiful flower gardens. In 2008, a flower garden was once again established in her yard and named 'Lena's Garden.'

Olaf and Caroline Anderson's Children



Clayton, Gordon, Alice, Orvin

1. Clayton 1904-1982
2. Gordon 1907-1992
3. Alice 1912-2009
4. Orvin 1917-1985



Gordon, Orvin, Clayton, Alice



Orvin, Caroline, Clayton, Alice, Gordon on the occasion of the wedding of Gordon's daughter, Darlene

1. Clayton Anderson

Clayton was born September 25, 1904 and attended school in Manfred and Harvey, graduating in 1925. He attended business college in Fargo one year. He then worked in his father's auto business, as an auxiliary mail carrier and on road crews. In 1940, he married Kathryn 'Kay' O'Keefe. They had no children. Clayton worked as a heavy equipment operator and as a foreman in MT, SD, WY, and NE. Clayton died January 26, 1982 and Kay died April 2, 1997. They are buried at Harvey.



2. Gordon Anderson

Gordon 'Gordy' was born October 3, 1907 and grew up at Manfred. He worked in his father's auto business, as a mail carrier sub and in road construction. In 1935, Gordon married Christine 'Christy' Ostrem. At first, they made their home in the second story of his mother's home at Manfred. In 1943, they moved to Harvey where he worked for the Soo Line Railroad. They had four children: Darlene, Rodney, Robert, and Sandra. Gordon died May 31, 1992 and is buried at Harvey. Christy lives in Harvey.



More at www.manfrednd.org March 2006 Manfred News, page 9

3. Alice Anderson Smith

Taken from writing by Carolyn Golberg

Alice Corrine Anderson, was born June 13, 1912, and attended Manfred and Harvey schools. She often spoke of the loving home in which she and her brothers were raised. Alice laughingly recalled her dad's displeasure finding dirty dishes she had put in the oven that she had been asked to wash. He was kind hearted, though, often granting her requests when he picked her up in Harvey at the end of the school week.

After graduation from high school in 1930, Alice attended Valley City Teachers College for one year. The next year she began Fairview Nursing School in Minneapolis, graduating as a registered nurse in 1935. Her first nursing job was at Deaconess Hospital for \$25.00 a month including room and board. She later went to work for the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children for \$40.00 a month and room and board. She felt so rich that she bought herself a fur coat to keep warm at bus stops.

Alice married William Baillie Smith, one of her former patients, on April 12, 1939 at her mother's home in Manfred. They made their home in Minneapolis except for about two years in Sausalito, CA when William worked nights in the shipyards during World War II. William worked most of his career for the Railway Express as a messenger. William died November 20, 1995, and Alice died May 16, 2009. They are buried at Dawn Valley Memorial Park, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Three children were born to William and Alice:

1. James (Jim) and wife, Panom, have two sons, Gerald and Patrick. Patrick and his wife Leya have one daughter, Morgan, twin sons, James and Michael, and Veronica, Patrick's stepdaughter.
2. Carolyn and husband Richard have one daughter, Melissa. She and her husband Kyle Molin have a son Gordon and a daughter Sonja.
3. Richard (Dick) is married to Denelle. He has three children, Mark, Bradley and Crystal and two stepdaughters, Tanya and Jenny. Mark has two children: Jeremy married to Erica, and Brenda. Bradley married to Angie has one daughter Katie and one stepdaughter, Megan. Crystal married to Daniel has one daughter, Alyssa.



Alice Anderson upon graduation from Fairview Nursing School in Minneapolis as a registered nurse – at right with her mother.



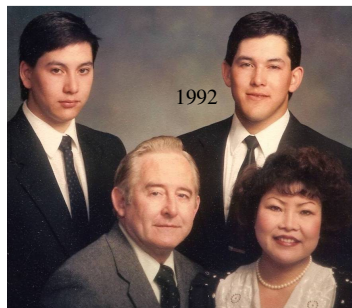
Alice and William Smith on their wedding day, together with their attendants: Alice's brother Gordon and his wife Christine



On the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Alice and Bill Smith
L/R: Together with their children: Jim, Alice, Carolyn, Dick, Bill



Denelle and Dick Smith Carolyn and Richard Golberg
In front of the Olaf and Caroline Anderson House in Manfred



Jim and his wife Panom with sons L/R: Patrick and Jerry



Carolyn and her husband Richard Golberg with her mother Alice and daughter Melissa and her husband Kyle Molin



←
Dick with his children from left: Mark, Bradley, and Crystal

4. Orvin Leroy Anderson

Taken from writing by Ginger Barrett

Orvin Anderson was born on October 27, 1917. It is thought by the family that he may have been named after his cousin, Orvin Melby 1899-1917 the son of Kristen 'C.K.' and Mary Melby. Orvin Melby and two horses were struck by lightning and killed the same year Orvin Anderson was born. When Orvin was a baby, his mother Caroline had major surgery for removal of a kidney. During that time, Orvin stayed with the Martin Melby family. He and his family were members of the Vang Lutheran Church.

When Orvin was about five years old, he traveled by way of touring car to California with his father and mother. They stayed the entire winter in California, and Orvin started the first grade in the Los Angeles area. After that, Orvin continued his schooling in Manfred. In October 1930, Orvin was given a horse named Diamond from his father for his 13th birthday. In November 1930, his father's business in Manfred, Anderson Motor Company, burned down and with it all of the business records. Then in November 1931, his father died.

Orvin attended Fessenden High School where he participated in basketball, football and school plays. He graduated in 1937. In 1938, he started working for the Soo Line on the section crew, and in 1940 joined the CCC working in Montana. In 1941, he joined the service in the Anti-Tank Company, 164th Infantry. Orvin trained at Camp Claiborne, LA until Pearl Harbor. His tour of duty included San Francisco, Washington, Fort Ord, CA, Australia, New Caladonia and Guadalcanal. After recuperating from malaria on the Fiji Island, he went to Hamilton Air Force Base, CA as a non-com officer. Having passed the Air Corp exam, he served there the remainder of his time of service.

When Orvin returned home, he worked again for the Soo Line. He met Lila Hirschhorn. Lila was born in 1928 at Martin, North Dakota. Her parents, Daniel Hirschhorn and Friederica Frueh were of German descent, having moved from S. Russia with their parents in the 1890's. Lila attended and graduated from Harvey High School in 1946. In 1947, Orvin and Lila were married at the First Lutheran Church in Harvey. Orvin joined the North Dakota Highway Patrol in Harvey and was then transferred to Hillsboro, North Dakota. In 1963, the Anderson family moved to California. Orvin worked as a security guard for the Sacramento High School and Lila worked in retail. They moved to Reedley, CA in 1984. Orvin died November 26, 1985 in Fresno, CA.

Born to Orvin and Lila Anderson were three children:

1. Nancy and husband William Conner have a daughter Kathleen. Kathleen and husband Tim Hisel have a daughter Elizabeth.
2. Becky is married to Rod Wilcox. Becky has one son Thomas. Thomas and his wife Mara have one daughter Emily.
3. Ginger is married to Vernon Barrett. Ginger has two children Stephanie and Michelle. Stephanie is married to John Heise. Stephanie has one son Justin, and Stephanie and John have one daughter Lauren. Michelle is married to Troy Pleak. Michelle has a daughter Ashley and a son Austin.



c.1925
Young Orvin with his parents,
Olaf and Caroline Anderson



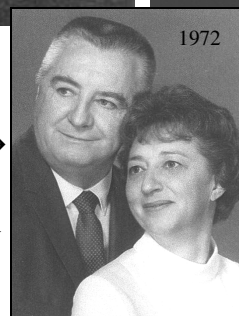
1930
Orvin with his horse
Diamond



1940s
↑ Orvin and
his mother
Caroline



Orvin and Lila →
Far right:
Wedding at First
Lutheran-Harvey
Near right:
25th Anniversary



←
Orvin with
the North
Dakota
Highway
Patrol



Orvin and Lila's
Children in c.2001
L/R Becky
Nancy
Ginger
↓



↑ Orvin and Lila's
grandchildren
L/R Kathleen, Stephanie,
Michelle, Thomas

► NEWS ALERT – RESTORATION SOON TO BEGIN ◀

Manfred School and Solheim House Restoration Project

Restoration of the Manfred School and Solheim House is set to begin this coming spring 2010 through the non-profit organization, Rural Vestige Alliance (RVA)

Many people have asked through the years, "What about the school?" Exciting News! Restoration of the Manfred School is set to begin in the spring! What "music" this news brings to the hearts of former students or descendants of former students of Manfred School! Matching grants have been awarded from PND and SHSND, a gift given from NDTG, and contributions continue to come in! Manfred's oldest house, the historic Solheim House north of the school will also be restored. You can help with these worthy projects through your generous donations. Many thanks to those who have donated to date as listed below: including donations given when these properties were purchased in 2006 or now being given toward the upcoming restoration projects.

Contributions to Rural Vestige Alliance

Donald Anderson
Peter and Rose Anderson
Jeff and Mary Bermann
Marvin Biever
Mark and Sharla Boese
Muriel Boyum
Reuben and Beverly Braaten
Maggie Brodehl
Inez Burgstahler
Tim Cook
Frances Fehr
Edgar and Jeanne Flick
Arden and Linda Georgeson
Alvin and Marlys Goebel
Joel and Lorretta Graumann
Gwyn Herman
Derald and Ruth Hoover
John and Mary Hovey
Laverne Johnson
Russ and Judy Johnson
Russell J. Johnson
Joe and Joan Lake
David and Carol Langseth
Floyd Lindbo
Paul McBain
Eileen Howie Mead
Gene and Betty Melby
Orin Melby
Richard and Wanda Melchert
Vernon Nelson
Pam Norstedt
Jean Narksompong
Audrey Nelson
Orvin and Pat Ongstad
Dennis Opdahl
Don and Jill Osborn
Judy Pohl
Mark Quenette
Roger and Bobbi Rogelstad
Rudy and Doris Rudel
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Floyd and Barbara Simmons
Irene Skogmo
DeeAnn Skolness
Audrey Solheim
Peggy Sprague
Maridel Sprenger
Jerry and Dorothy Stansberry
Don Strauss
Joe Strauss
Bonnie and Bob Swanson
Raenette Tewes
Arlene Triebold
Richard and Karen Turner

Manfred School



The Manfred School was built in 1910

*The Manfred School
and the Solheim House-
how they looked then
and how they look now*

← Then

↓ Now



Solheim House



↓ Now



The Rogne/
Soderback/
Solheim House
was built in 1899

Proposed Project Plans

1. Roofing and soffit repair for the school and the house will be first
The contractor and starting funds were in place by fall, but this project is scheduled to commence in the spring when weather conditions are conducive for the shingles to adhere properly
2. Windows, especially for the school
3. Painting the Solheim House exterior
4. Restoration of school front entrance and rebuild the portico
5. School interior restoration

Donations designated for either or both the Manfred School and Solheim House may be sent to:

Audrey Solheim, Treasurer
Rural Vestige Alliance
1026 3rd St #3
Bismarck, ND 58504-6398