

The New MANFRED NEWS

Annual Subscription of
\$10.00 for the
Manfred Newsletter

'The New Manfred News' is a quarterly newsletter published by Manfred History & Preservation, Inc. (MHP, Inc.), a non-profit organization founded July 25, 2000 for the purpose of gathering the history of the Manfred area and encouraging preservation of it historic buildings. Historical and financial contributions as well as volunteer help, enable the Manfred history and preservation projects. Thank you for your help! The Manfred Heritage Museum is located at Manfred, ND along Hwy 52 in Wells County. Call 701-547-2564 summer, 701-324-2091 winter.

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Volume 4, Issue 3

Page 1

October 2004

Warm greetings from Manfred, North Dakota!

Manfred quilts recorded as history

By Carrie Opdahl

Representatives of the North Dakota Quilt Council visited the Manfred Heritage Museum to document four unique quilts into the quilt registry October 22. Debra Forsberg and Agnes Faul arrived in Manfred around 10 a.m. They were greeted by two Manfred Heritage Museum board members, Wanda Melchert and Ruth Widiger.

Three of the four quilts examined were made by Gina Rogne Burkum sometime during 1910 to 1930. The fourth quilt was made by Emma Nelson (Mrs. John P.) in the late 1930s. The first quilt made by Burkum was a tied, nine-patch quilt, assembled in about 1910-1915. It appears to be a baby crib quilt. The second is a white and blue hand quilted quilt with tiny blocks made in the 1920s. The third is a hand quilted circle design in cream and multi colors crafted in the 1930s. *(These quilts were given by the Burkum Estate.)*

The quilt made by Emma Nelson is a tied crazy quilt, which she gave to Anne Wiese in the Late 1930s. This quilt has been treasured by the Wiese family through the years, and recently was given to the Manfred Heritage Museum by Lucille Wiese of Fessenden, daughter of Anne Wiese.

Each quilt took about a half hour to document, which included mounting it on a stand set up in the museum living room. "Two photos were taken, a full view and a close up for the detail. Then a written two-and-a-half page form was completed on the quilt," said Melchert.

Information is gathered on the piecing patterns, quilting patterns, fabric content and batting. Measurements of the entire quilt are recorded as well as the size of individual blocks. "The information we gather may be used for textile, art, genealogical or humanitarian research," said Forsberg.

According to Forsberg, the mission of the Quilt Documentation Committee of the North Dakota Quilt Council is not only to gather information and photos about these quilts for use by the state, but to also provide interesting information to the quilt owners about their quilts. "We found the experience of observing the documentation process to be very interesting and enjoyable," said Melchert.

The North Dakota Quilt Council would like to document as many historic quilts in the state as possible... either from museums or from home collections. This project is funded in part by a grant from the ND Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. If anyone has quilts they would like to register, contact Debra Forsberg at 701-258-0675 or Email: Deb_For@msn.com.

This article appeared in the October 30, 2004 issue of the Herald-Press



Pictured at left:
Ruth Widiger, Wanda
Melchert, Agnes Faul
and Debra Forsberg in
front of a hand quilted
quilt by Gina Burkum

Pictured at right from top:
1. Crazy quilt made by
Emma Nelson 2. Detail
of a blue and white
Burkum hand quilted
quilt using tiny blocks
3. Agnes and Debra
pictured documenting
Burkum baby crib quilt



The New Manfred News

Thanks to everyone!

Friends! Together we are making a positive difference for the benefit of Manfred and its history! Since it's founding in 2000, MHP, Inc. has been bustling with the urgent work of gathering the history of the Manfred area, and of encouraging preservation of its historic buildings to help tell its story. Thank you for your ongoing care and support!

A group met at Vang Church on October 9th in a pleasant visit about preservation projects in the area. Attending were: Marilyn DeVeer and Doris Fortney of Bowdon together with Marge Anderson, Rose Anderson, Esther Boese, Verna Bowers, Richard and Wanda Melchert, Herbert Ongstad, and Ruth Widiger.

Vang Church held a successful Harvest Fest, October 17th. The fest included 11 a.m. worship service, ham and scalloped potato dinner, musical program by Living Waters of Harvey at 2 p.m., craft and bake sale. Following was a tour conducted of the museum.

Thank you for your subscription to the Manfred Newsletter

The subscription notice for the 2005 Manfred Newsletter is included with this issue.

Christy Anderson
Evelina Boese
Inez Ravnaas Burgstahler
Alan Fehr
Frances Fehr
James Fehr
Jon Fehr
Fred and Peggy Hillen
Jean Narksompong
Alma and Audrey Nelson
Virgil Nelson
Edward Ravnaas
Maurice and Lori Ravnaas
Julia Ann Rodacker
Irene Skogmo

Historical Contributions

Thank you for adding to the richness of Manfred's history through your contributions of photos and historic information.

Marlys Weisser for the Olson pictures
Julie Ann Rodacker for the Fehr materials
Pam Norstedt for Nelson pictures

In Memory

Cora Ravnaas Nelson

April 1, 1916 – September 16, 2004

Larry Lindbo

March 22, 1952 – September 19, 2004
Son of Floyd Lindbo

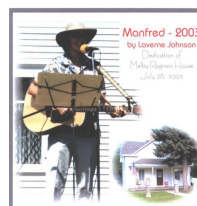
Laverne's Manfred Song - 2003

The professional recording, of the song composed and sung by Laverne Johnson for the dedication of the Manfred Heritage Museum July 26, 2003, is available on either cassette tape or CD. It's Free with a contribution of \$10.00! If ordering by mail, add \$2.00 for packaging and postage. All profits are donated to MHP, Inc.

Send mail orders to:

Laverne Johnson
2126 N. 7th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501

Jacket cover of CD →



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Feb. 17 – Oct. 8, 2004

\$10 Donation

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Marge Anderson
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Floyd Lindbo
Elsie Martinson
Betty Melby
Anne and Bill Ongstad
Jill Osborn
Patricia Patrie
Betty Pepple in memory of brother and
sister-in-law, Jerry and Betty Froeber
Arlene Rittmiller
Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
Maridel Sprenger
Karen and Rich Turner
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Dean Vorland
Judy Weigelt

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Kermit and Florence Alvashere
Arlene Triebold

\$60 Donation

Charlotte Hyatt

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 Contributions

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

Christy Anderson
Rod Anderson
Gene and Beatrice Anderson
Paul and Vanessa Anderson
Karen Beutler in memory of Berger Rodne
Joe and Ethel Bolyard
Inez Ravnaas Burgstahler in memory of
Cora Ravnaas Nelson
Eagles Wells Aerie #3080 of Harvey
Neil and Jacqueline Everett
Fehr Family in memory of Eilert Fehr
First International Bank & Trust
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Fred and Peggy Hillen
Myrna Hoekstra
Ralph and Judith Hofrenning
Larry Johnson
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Nelson Funeral Home
George Nelson
Donna J. Piercy
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Edward Ravnaas
Maurice and Lori Ravnaas
Arlene Ritmiller in memory of
Cora Ravnaas Nelson
Lena Roble
Olive Rodne
Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
Joelyn Scriba in memory of James Jacobson
Myron and Virginia Soiseth
James and Maridel Sprenger
Ronald P. Widiger

Designated Gifts

Gifts designated to special projects

Special gift for the Manfred Newsletter:
Fehr Family in memory of Eilert Fehr,
and from Muriel Weros
Historic exhibit planned for Vang Church:
Barbara Simmons in memory of Joel,
Ernest, and Alvin Langseth & their wives

Endowment Fund

An everlasting fund providing for the future
Laverne Johnson and Gwyn Herman
Russell J. Johnson
Alma and Audrey Nelson
Harold and Phyllis Pantsari
Karen Ravnaas in memory of
Cora Ravnaas Nelson
Irene Skogmo

Torstein and Guro Roble Family History

In Norway...

The story of Torstein (T. O.) and Guro Skogstad Roble begins in Norway, the land of their birth. Parallel to their future life in America, their parents were also farmers, community leaders, optimists, and shared a love of music.

Torstein's parents were Ole Johannesson Robøle and Guri Mikkelsdotter Rogne. Guro's father was Andrew Skogstad, a farmer and hotel keeper. Torstein's father was a teacher in Rogne and parish clerk (klokker) at Rogne church for 38 years from 1840 to 1878. Ole confessed himself to Hans Nilsen Hauge's movement, and in that way he was a religious leader in those times. He was an outstanding farmer, and served on the board of the Øystre Slidre Sparebank.

Torstein was born October 2, 1859, the second of eight children and reared on the Roble farm in the district of Valdres in Norway. At the age of sixteen, he entered high school and later graduated from the seminary at Hamar with a first-grade certificate. At the age of twenty he began teaching, continuing this for five years. He purchased a farm at Sør Øye, and in 1884 married Guro Skogstad, born February 7, 1853.

Immigrated to America - first to Minnesota...

Torstein and Guro immigrated to America in 1886 with a group of relatives. Landing at New York they moved on to Minnesota where Torstein taught at a Norwegian parish school at Kenyon in Goodhue County under the noted minister, Rev. B. J. Muus. He was also the musical director of the church and organized a singing society there. Their son Olaf was born in Kenyon, November 17, 1886, and the family continued to grow when a daughter, Mary was born in February of 1889.

To North Dakota in Eddy and Foster Counties...

The group was on the move again in 1890, moving to North Dakota. Torstein took a pre-emption and tree claim, one in Foster County and one in Eddy County, where they erected a claim shanty in Paradise Township. Now that they had secured land, horses were purchased and farming began in earnest. Life was exciting, but hard. The nearest railroad point to market their grain was 30 miles distant, making this a long haul by wagon. The Roble's third child, Gina, arrived in September of 1892 in Paradise Township.

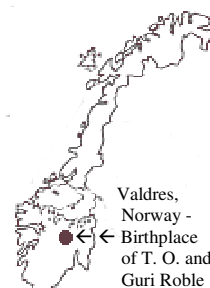
Then to Wells County...

The railroad expanded westward. The thought of better land led the group to make yet another move. Consequently in 1893, Torstein and his growing family came to what would be their permanent home, three miles west of Manfred, Wells County, ND on land that is today owned by the Opdahl family. This had been quite a move - as buildings, machinery, and personal effects were hauled and also animals moved to Wells County.

Torstein and Guro's granddaughter, Muriel Weros, wrote of their start at Manfred:

"My mother, Gina, recalled living in a two room shanty. One room housed the family and the other the livestock. With the new claim, once again land had to be cleared and cultivated. Everyone old enough had a job to do. More babies arrived, Andrew in June of 1897 and Melvin in May of 1898. As a six-year old, my mother was to watch the younger boys while my grandmother helped outdoors."

When Torstein and his family settled on their claim by the river, they found that survey stakes were set up to indicate where the Soo Line railroad track would be laid. This point in the river was called the James River crossing of the Mouse River Trail, and a water stop for the train had been planned at this site. However, it was found that the river in this location would not hold enough water for the water needs of the steam engines, so the town site was moved back about three miles to the present site of Manfred on land owned by Torstein's brother, Kristen (Christ) Roble. The village of Manfred was soon a bustling place, serving the needs of the farming community.



Valdres,
Norway -
Birthplace
of T. O. and
Guri Roble



T. O. Roble's father,
Ole Johannesen Robøle
about the mid-1800s

In Norway...

Progression of spelling variations for the name Roble

In Norway -	Råbølle
Using letters unique to the Norwegian language	Rabølle Robøle
In America -	Robole
The unique letters dropped as name continued to evolve	Robly Roble

In America...



Torstein (T. O.) and Guro Roble
Photo by Gausemel & Anderson
of Kenyon, MN c1886-87



T. O. and Guro Roble Family c1899
Mary, Andrew, T. O., Olaf, Guro, Melvin, Gina

Thank you to everyone who helped with this history by sharing memories and providing information and photos: Hadley and Eileen Haugen, Brenda Kiefat, Darlene Roble, Lena and Joan Roble, Myrtle Sailer, Muriel Weros. Writing and interviews with Orval Roble. Olav Onstad of Rogne, Norway sharing information from the Øystre Slidre Centennial Book published in 1949. Buggeslegten og et familie tre - Compiled by T.O. Roble in 1933, History of North Dakota, 1900 by George A. Ogle of Chicago, Harvey History Book Growing With Pride, Fessenden Diamond Jubilee Book 1893-1968, Herald-Press. Audrey Solheim - Historian, Wanda Melchert - Editor.

T.O. and Guro's Life at Manfred

The Roble farm

Torstein built up a successful farm, and in 1905 was elected president of the Manfred Farmers Elevator. George A. Ogle recorded the following on Torstein in his 'History of North Dakota, 1900:'

"Torstein Roble is one of the leading farmers of Wells County and is well-known as an agriculturist who is doing a good business. His farm is well improved and furnishes a home of more than usual comforts, all of which he has accumulated by his own efforts. He resides on section 19 in township 149, range 71, and follows grain raising with successful results. Grain has grown abundantly and is of good quality and success has attended him to his present location. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres of good land two hundred acres of which is under cultivation. His residence is a commodious and comfortable structure and with good barns, granary and other outbuildings."

Muriel Weros recalls of her grandparent's home that "a larger kitchen and bedrooms were for family living, with a dining room and parlor for company. In the fashion of the day, tin ceiling tiles, stained glass uppers for two south windows, wool rugs, oak furniture with leather upholstery, and an upright grand piano, came from Chicago for these company rooms."

Leader in the church

Following in his father's footsteps, religion and music were central in Torstein's life. The following can only hint of the work of this devoted man. On October 7, 1894, Torstein, together with four others, chartered Vang Lutheran Church of Manfred. Having settled at Manfred, his two brothers, Christ and Tollef, also registered as members that December. Torstein was one of the first trustees, in 1897 was the first Sunday School Superintendent, together with O.S. Hovey, and served as church secretary for 25 years. He was the adviser for the Vang Ladies Aid, and his wife was a charter member of the Aid. Longtime members, Herbert Ongstad and Adolph Shirley recall that Torstein served as the klokker for Vang by leading the opening and closing prayers, and the hymns. In the early years of circuit pastors, he also officiated at funerals as needed.

Family and community life

Memories shared by Muriel Weros of her grandfather, Torstein:

"Education was important to grandpa, who felt everyone should use the talents God had provided. He taught each Roble child to read music. Hymns were memorized, along with classical and popular tunes. Each youngster was expected to share what he or she learned with the community at Vang Church and at Sons of Norway. In time, all their children had the opportunity for a college education.

My grandfather believed in sharing not only talent but also good fortune. His avid interest in charity, politics, and government taught his family the importance of donating to schools, churches, and hospitals; what he called the backbone of society. Newspapers (both in English and Norwegian), farm magazines, and government pamphlets were debated at the dinner table. Even as an old man, he was vocal about what he believed: 'Keep your faith in God strong, be useful, learn all you can, do for others, and be independent.' His faith, love of family, and pride in his adopted homeland provided a verbal education I still treasure. Lessons I heard in his stories have made me aware of how much the legacy of those who came to America have influenced our lives. I am ever thankful for their vision and fortitude."



Torstein and Guro Roble Farmstead three miles west of Manfred



T.O. Roble family and friends 1907

Left back: Andrew Roble, Ole Postun, T.O. Roble, Mr. Rudi, Melvin Roble

Left front: Gina Roble, Ingeborg Skogstad, Guro Skogstad Roble,
Mrs. Rudi, Mary Roble

Public service and writing

In 1912, Torstein was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives and served two terms. On a return trip to Norway, he compiled a family genealogy. He also wrote 'Buggeslegten og et familie tre' (The Bugge Family) in 1933, the interesting story of his ancestry.

Torstein and Guro were blessed to have their daughter, Gina a nurse by profession, to care for them during ill health in their later years. Guro passed away in 1924. Then for a number of years after this, Torstein wintered in St. Petersburg, FL. In 1943, he died peacefully at the home of his daughter Gina in Harvey.



T.O. and Guro Roble Farmstead
in Manfred township
S 19, T 149, R 71



Torstein while serving in the
ND House of Representatives

Children of T.O. and Guri Roble



Olaf 1886-1933



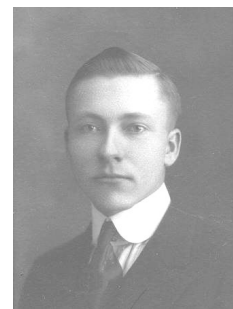
Mary 1889-1970



Gina 1893-1962



Andrew 1897-1951



Melvin 1898-1938

T.O. and Guri Roble had eight children, five of which lived to adulthood. The stories of Olaf, Mary, and Gina are on the following pages. For **Andrew** and **Melvin**: They were both born at the Roble farm, and attended Manfred and Harvey public schools. Andrew took his under graduate work at UND Grand Forks, ND. He obtained a MD degree from Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago, IL. Melvin received his under graduate degree from St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, and his medical degree from Northwestern University School of Dentistry, Chicago, IL. Melvin was a professional musician and played with bands in Illinois. The brothers located their practices side by side, sharing a common secretary.

Olaf and Nina Roble



Olaf and Nina Roble 1917



The Olaf and Nina Farmstead
located west of Manfred
in Forward Township
S 25, T 149, R 72

Olaf Roble was born November 17, 1886 at Kenyon, Goodhue County, Minnesota. He moved with his parents to homesteads near McHenry and Cooperstown, and finally to a homestead west of Manfred near the James River and the new Soo Line Railroad line. He attended school in Manfred, and in the winter skated to school on the frozen James River.

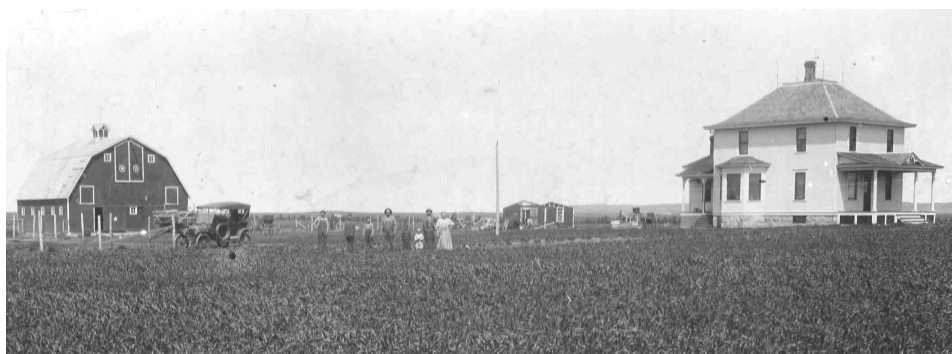
His successful business career began in Manfred as a coal dealer, selling coal out of a box car. He then went into business with Fremont Hanson as co-owner of the Roble-Hanson Department Store in Manfred, and also served as a barber. When the store burned down, he decided to attend college in Fargo (now NDSU), studying carpentry, steam engineering, as well as music. He mastered the valve trombone, cornet, violin, and saxophone.

Olaf, together with Lars Hanson, ventured off to Swift Current, Sask., Canada, stayed a year which enabled Olaf to acquire a quarter of land by the homestead laws of Canada. He returned to Manfred in 1916, denounced the Queen of England, and became an American citizen again.

On January 1, 1917, he married, Nina Swedlund of Velva. They met after Nina had come to Manfred to teach school, after having graduated from Minot Normal School. She was born May 30, 1892, in Wheaton, Minnesota. They purchased the Halvorson farm five miles west of Manfred. Olaf also operated a big steam threshing rig for nine successful seasons, complete with cook car.

During those years, he began working for Olaf Anderson's Ford dealership in Manfred, which led him eventually to become chief owner of a dealership in Harvey. In 1928-1929, Olaf and Nina built a lovely home in Harvey. He was also a partner with L.A. Rogensack, a house mover who brought about twenty houses to Harvey from the surrounding area. Olaf was a member of First Lutheran Church, and also a past master of the Masonic Lodge. He had just been elected mayor of Harvey having served only a couple months, when he suffered a stroke and then passed away June 1, 1933.

With Olaf's passing, Nina was left with five children ages 15 and below. In addition to raising her children, she courageously continued to run the 640 acre farm, acquired full ownership of the A.B. Motive Power Co., and also had about eight or ten rental houses. She died August 1962.



The Olaf and Nina Roble Farm.

Later, their youngest son Jerrold took over the farm. (See Page 8)



Olaf and Nina Roble Family 1933

From left standing: Olaf, Nina, LaVonne
Seated: Jerrold, Jean, Wayne, Orval

Music...



Manfred... Olaf, third from right in front, played in the Manfred Cornet Band from 1916-1922. Photo c1918

Harvey... Olaf Roble was one of the promoters of the Harvey City Band. They were successful in getting a mill levy, still used today to run the band. The instruments—bass drum, snare drum, sousaphone, baritone horns remain in use. Sons, Wayne and Orval, also played in the Harvey City Band.



Orval with his many instruments



4-piece band at Anamoose in 1962

...in the family

Music was important to Olaf. His son Orval recalled, "I grew up with music, enjoyed it, and went where it was. My dad thought music was more important than sports.

My 50 cents a week allowance came only after I had practiced one hour with the family on Sunday afternoon. When I knew all the church hymns, I got a wristwatch."

...in the community



The Olaf Roble Family making music c1933

From left: Jean and Wayne with string instruments, Nina at the piano, Jerrold with a trombone, and Olaf, LaVone, and Orval with woodwind instruments.

Orval and Wayne also played in the Harvey Clown Band and the NDSU Gold Star Band. Wayne played the trombone and the drums. Orval played clarinet and saxophone with such groups as the Roble-Gabbert-Pramhus Trio, The Swing Kings, North Dakota State American Legion Band, Minot Elks Band, Pete Goetz and Orchestra from Minot, Minot VFW Dance Band and the Dixie Cats. He plays a wide variety of music depending on the band and the occasion. He also played with Myron Floren's orchestra at the Minot Norsk Høstfest for 17 years. He also performed with Myron Floren's Norway tour in 1985.

Auto Business...



A.B. Motive Company operated from 1916 to 1944 until it became Roble Chevrolet Co. Seated in the 1932 Chevrolet is Rosella Schmidt Harr. Standing to the rear of the car is from left: Roy Svedland, Melker Mattson, Richard Jorstad, and Marv Theige



Roble Chevrolet Dealership and later also Pontiac-Olds 1944-1978

The interesting story of the Roble family in the automobile business began with Olaf, and then carried onto the next two generations. It all started when Olaf went to work for Olaf Anderson's Ford dealership in Manfred.

Olaf Anderson purchased Blanding Motors in Harvey, a Ford dealer, and named his merged dealerships A. B. Motive Power Co: "A" for Anderson and the "B" for the former owner, O.E. Blanding. Mr. Anderson continued managing his Manfred dealership, and sent Olaf Roble to manage the Harvey dealership. In addition to autos, they sold Case implements and Fordson tractors. Olaf joined as a partner in 1925, and by 1933 he owned 85 percent of the business.

There was only one Ford model to choose from then, the Model T. Ford discontinued the Model T in 1926, but didn't begin producing the Model A until 1928. Rather than wait two years for the Model A's to come out, the company became a dealer for Chevrolet and also Buick.

In 1933, Olaf suffered a stroke and died. Nina (Mrs. Olaf) Roble's brother, Roy E. Swedlund, then ran the business and kept it going through the great depression in the 30s. The building, an old lumber yard building, burned in 1935, and a 50' x 50' brick and tile building was constructed to take its place.

Olaf's son, Orval, came into the business in September of 1944. He just sold parts then – there were no cars available because of the war. In 1946, he was able to start obtaining Chevys. He also sold Allis Chalmers machinery. In 1948, his brother Wayne joined him in partnership as the bookkeeper.

In 1964 and 1965, they added Pontiac and Oldsmobile cars. Additions were made to the 50' x 50' building in 1946, 1949 and 1955 resulting in a 100' x 100' space. Deciding to move to Colorado, Wayne sold his share of the dealership in 1971. Orval's son, Tom, then became managing partner for Roble Chevrolet Pontiac Olds Co. until 1977. In January of 1978, Orval sold the dealership to John Webber Motors.

The Children of Olaf and Nina Roble

1. **LaVone** 1917-1984 married Heydon Johnson of Harvey. Owner of a dry cleaning and pressing business in Portland, OR. One child: Heydon. Three grandchildren. Second marriage to Joe Clark.
2. **Orval** 1919-2003 married Lena Fronk of Harvey. Owner of Roble Chev-Pont-Olds of Harvey for 33 years. Six children: Susan, Tom, Marcia, Joan, Gail, Paul. Eight grandchildren. One great grandchild.
3. **Wayne** 1921-2001 married Phyllis Nilson of Minot. Co-owner of Roble Chevrolet for 23 years, then in business in CO for ten years before retiring at Harvey. Three children: Karen, Dick, Terry. Two grandchildren.
4. **Jean** 1924-1963 married Merwood Swang of Harvey. Owner of shoe stores in Big Bend and Miller SD, and Moorhead MN. Two children: David and Nancy. Seven grandchildren.
5. **Jerrold** 1928-1997 married Darlene Mathison of Harvey. They farmed in Harvey area. Darlene was registered nurse at St. Aloisius Medical Center. Five children: Renae, Jay, Craig, Rachelle, Jon. Ten grandchildren.



LaVone Clark



Jerrold, Orval, and Wayne

1982



Jean and Merwood Swang

Orval and Lena Roble



Orval and Lena Roble on the occasion of their wedding October 1, 1944

The Roble family gathered on the occasion of Orval and Lena's 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1994

At left:

Seated: Susan Bertsch, Orval and Lena Roble, Joan Roble, Tami (Paul) Roble holding Leah.

Middle: Lisa Bertsch Perkins, Eric Bertsch, Gail Roble, Tom Roble, Ryan Roble, Donella (Tom) Roble, Paul Roble holding Aaron.

Stairway: Christina, Cara (Hammond), Marcia, and Kent Rindy

Not pictured:

Kelly and Mason Perkins, Chris Hammond, Joshua and Sarah Roble



Music always topped Orval's list of favorite things to do.

Orval Roble was born on the family farm near Manfred in Forward Township, moving to Harvey with his parents Olaf and Nina Roble when he was four years old. Orval attended Harvey Public School graduating in 1937, and three years at North Dakota Agricultural College at Fargo (now NDSU). He worked at the Wells County ASCS Office 1937 to 1944. On October 3, 1944, Orval married Lena Fronk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fronk, Sr. Also in 1944, purchased the A. B. Motive Power Co. garage in Harvey, and changed the name to Roble Chevrolet. He had this dealership for 35 years in partnership with his brother Wayne 1948-1971 and later with his son, Tom 1971-1977, meriting a number of awards, among them the North Dakota Auto Dealer of the Year in 1965. Orval also served as president of the ND Automobile Dealers Association that same year.

Of his interests, Orval loved music. He sang, and played clarinet and saxophone throughout his life. He was a devoted member of the Harvey City and Clown Bands for 70 years, and also played in several other bands throughout the years. Tom and Paul both enjoyed playing in the Clown Band, too. Orval and his family were active members of First Lutheran Church of Harvey. Orval was also a long time member of the Harvey Kiwanis Club. After retiring from the dealership in 1978, he worked for Dome Pipeline, drove the Wells County Senior Citizens bus, delivered hot meals to shut-ins, and continued spreading good cheer to all.

Orval and Lena had six children: Susan Bertsch works for Community First Bank of Fargo, two children, one grandchild. Tom attended NDSU, married Donella Good, and works for Anheuser-Busch of Fargo, two children. Marcia and Kent Rindy live in Lorena, TX, Kent is a retired Air Force colonel, two children. Joan was a fashion consultant for Dayton-Marshall Fields and now lives at Harvey. Gail worked for the CIA for thirteen years primarily in Washington DC and also in Rome, Italy and Bern, Switzerland and now for Herberger's Store at Fargo. Paul graduated from UND, married Tamara Doeden, vice president of technology of Stockman Bank of Miles City, MT, three children. Orval and Lena's daughters graduated from the University of North Dakota and all belonged to the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority.

Wayne and Phyllis Roble



Wayne and Phyllis 1945

Wayne grew up in Harvey, graduated from Harvey High School in 1939, and attended MSU of Minot & NDSU in Fargo. During WWII, he was a pipefitter in the Seattle shipyards.

Wayne married Phyllis Nilson in 1945. They lived in Minot for a brief time before moving to Harvey where he was a partner at Roble's Chevrolet 1948-1971.

In 1973, they moved to Denver where Wayne had his own business. They retired in 1983 and returned to Harvey.

Wayne was elected as Secretary at the Wells Eagles Aerie #3080, Harvey in 1986 and retired from this in 2001. Wayne and Phyllis were members at the First Lutheran Church. Wayne was a pilot and served on the Harvey Airport Authority. He played the trombone and base drum in the Harvey City Band for 60 years. He once conducted the Gold Star Band at NDSU. Wayne and Phyllis had three children: Karen and Gary Braaten of Moorhead, MN, two children, Richard and Diana Roble of Denver, CO, one child. Terry and Nancy Roble of Denver, CO, two children.



Wayne and Phyllis Roble and children
From left: Terry, Richard, Karen, Phyllis, and Wayne

Jerrold and Darlene Roble



Jerrold and Darlene Roble
February 1954

Jerrold was the youngest of five children of Olaf and Nina Roble. He attended school in Harvey graduating in 1946. He then joined the service and was stationed in Japan. After his discharge, he returned to Harvey and began farming the family farm located four miles west of Manfred in Forward Township.

In February of 1954, Jerry married Darlene Mathison at Harvey. Darlene is the daughter of Oscar and Hazel Mathison. She attended grade school at Pony Gulch, graduated from Harvey High School in 1950, and from Trinity School of Nursing at Minot in 1953 as a registered nurse. She worked in Harvey as a nurse at St. Aloisius Hospital and the Harvey Medical Center for Dr. Lowell Boyum. The Robles have, through the years, been active members of First Lutheran Church and community activities.

Jerry and Darlene have five children: Renae graduated from NDSU at Fargo, married to Landon Conyers, works at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, two children. Jay graduated from UND Grand Forks in accounting, lives in Minneapolis, MN where he is employed by General Mills. Craig attending UND at Grand Forks majoring in business adm, married to DeVona Klein, six children, works for Golden Heritage Foods at Hillsboro, KS. Rachelle attended Valley City State College and UND majoring in social work, married Greg Bronbach, two children, works as an employment counselor. Jon graduated for UND, majoring in electrical engineering, married Christine Erikson, two children, works for Mountain Diggers of Georgetown, CO.



The Roble farmstead as pictured when Jerrold and Darlene began farming in 1954
See page 5 for farmstead location



Jerrold and Darlene Roble Family in 1979
Standing from left: Jay, Renae, Jon, Craig, DeVona (Klein), Rachelle

Alfred and Mary Roble Haugen



Mary Roble Haugen standing by the Model T together with two of her children Hadley and Beatrice



Home of Alfred and Mary Haugen at their farm north of Manfred



Alfred and Mary Haugen's Farm was located six miles north of Manfred in Fram Township S 28, T150, R 71

Mary was born February 8, 1888 near Cooperstown, ND. She moved with her parents to Manfred in 1893 where she attended school. Later, she worked in a Burkum general store in Manfred. She married Alfred Haugen who was born February 26, 1886 at Baldwin WI. Mary and Alfred farmed north of Manfred and had three children: Maurice, Hadley, and Beatrice. Alfred died April 14, 1968 and Mary on July 31, 1970.

Maurice and Norma Haugen

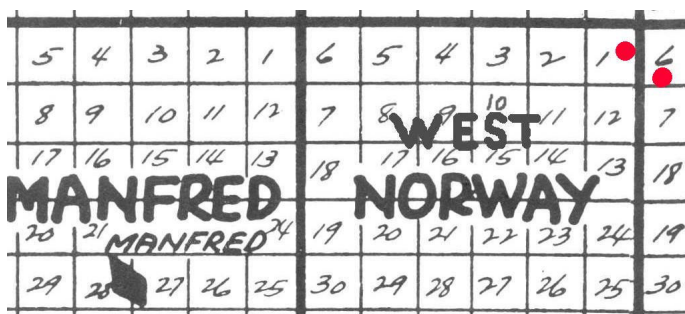


Maurice and Norma Haugen 1939

Maurice was born to Mary and Alfred Haugen in July 1912. He attended school near his home and in November of 1939 married Norma Theige, born 1921 whose parents were Carl Theige and Nora Loken Theige. They bought a farm in 1939 and began farming. Maurice died November 28, 2002.

Maurice and Norma had four children: Larry and wife Cheryl Haugen of Minneapolis, Larry is retired from IBM and Cheryl is a social worker, two children. Isla and husband Donovan Law of Fargo, Isla runs a pre-school and Donovan works for Sherwin Williams Paint, three children. Brenda and husband Dean Kiefat now farm the homestead, three children. Craig of West Fargo works for a wind generator company.

Haugen brothers settled on adjoining quarters -

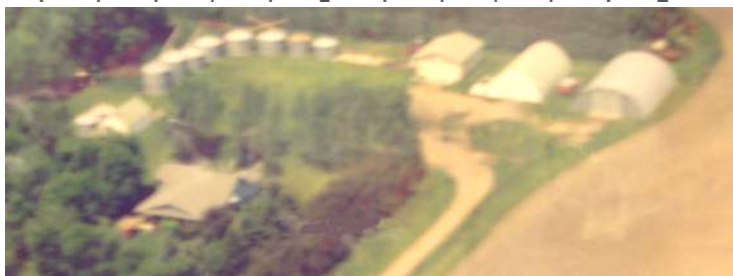


↙ **Hadley** and Eileen Haugen settled in West Norway Township S 1, T 149, R 70

↘ **Maurice** and Norma Haugen settled in Hamberg Township S 6, T 149, R 69



1989



The Maurice and Norma Haugen Farm
Their daughter and husband, Brenda and Dean Kiefat now farm here



Maurice and Norma's children c1978

Above:
Maurice and Norma Haugen on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

At left:
Maurice and Norma's children Isla, Larry, Brenda, and Craig

Hadley and Eileen Haugen



Hadley and Eileen Haugen
Married in 1943



Hadley and Eileen Haugen, 50th Wedding Anniversary
December 1993 together with their
daughters Joette at left and Shiela at right.
Celebration held at the Beiseker Mansion of Fessenden



Hadley and Eileen Haugen Farmstead



Hadley shown harvesting in
1960 with his John Deere
self-propelled combine.
Clarence Klindworth
standing on right.

Hadley was born on October 30, 1914 at Harvey to Alfred and Mary Roble Haugen. He graduated from Harvey High School in 1934 and attended business college in Tacoma, WA. In 1939, Hadley bought a farm 10½ miles NE of Fessenden known as the Proefrock farm.

On Dec. 27, 1943 Hadley married Eileen Liebelt, daughter of Rudolph and Mary Schimke Liebelt of rural Harvey. They built a home on the farm in 1956 and still reside there.

Hadley and Eileen have two children: Sheila and husband Douglas Sattler of Lake Park, MN, Sheila is a nurse at Pelican Rapids, Douglas is retired from US West, two children. Joette and her husband Terry Nichols of Idaho Falls, ID, Joette works in home care and Terry runs an appliance store, two children. Sheila and Joette both love working with older people.



Eileen's brother, LeRoy Liebelt, pictured in 1981
running their International 175 self-propelled swather

Calvin and Beatrice Bender



Calvin and Beatrice Bender

Beatrice was the daughter of Alfred and Mary Haugen from east of Harvey. She attended grades one through eight at a country school near her home, graduating from high school at Harvey. Beatrice married at Harvey to Calvin Bender of Martin in 1942.

After their marriage, Calvin and Beatrice lived in Martin one year, then moved to the T. K. Haugen farm south of Manfred. In 1959, they moved to Harvey, because of the illness of Calvin. In 1979, Calvin suffered from a serious stroke which placed him in the Harvey Nursing Home. He died March 17, 1981. Beatrice continued an active life in Harvey, until moving to Bismarck for dialyses treatments. She died December 29, 2003.

Beatrice and Calvin had three children: Bonnie Morris of Phoenix, AZ, works at the airport, four children. Duane had worked in business and died in 1997. Claudia and her husband Ron Isaak farm in the Anamoose, ND area, two children.



Calvin and Beatrice Bender Farmstead
located west of Manfred in Forward
Township, S 36, T 149, R 72
Homestead farm of Beatrice's grandparents
Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Haugen



Calvin and Beatrice Bender's wedding day, Mar. 3, 1942
Norma and Maurice Haugen were their attendants.



Calvin and Beatrice Bender with their
children from left: Claudia, Bonnie, Duane

Gina Roble Bergan

A life caring for others by Muriel Weros

My mother, Gina Roble, was the third child born to T. O. and Guro Roble. She was born Sept. 24, 1892, at a claim shack in Paradise Township, ND. She received her early education at Manfred School and was confirmed at Vang Lutheran Church also in Manfred. She attended high school and college at what is now Concordia College, Moorhead, MN. She then taught rural school for a year, after which she entered nurse's training at the Harvey hospital, finishing her training at Post Graduate and Training School for Nurses in Chicago, IL. She then returned to Harvey as a surgical nurse. Through Anna Torgerson, one of the nurse's aides, she met Anna's boyfriend Ingvald Bergan and his older brother Elmer who became the love of her life.

My parents were married March 22, 1922. A clipping from the Harvey paper says, in part:

"A pretty home wedding was solemnized at four o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents when Miss Gina Roble, daughter of former State Senator and Mrs. T.O. Roble, was united in the bonds of holy matrimony to Mr. C. Elmer Bergan, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Bergan who reside one mile north of Harvey. The bride was attended by Anna Torgerson of Harvey, and Ingvald Bergan, brother of the groom was best man. The room was decorated with roses and carnations. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Langseth of Manfred in the presence of a few near relatives after which a bounteous wedding feast was enjoyed. The newlyweds will make their home on the T.O. Roble farm near Manfred, and hearty congratulations are extended to the happy couple."

What the paper didn't relate was that a spring snow storm caused the wedding guests to be snowbound with the newlyweds at the farm!

So began a marriage that lasted eleven years, but whose love and caring lasted throughout their lives. Even though my mother eventually moved to Harvey, where she cared for my great aunt Ingeborg Skogstad and my grandfather T. O. Roble, while my dad cared for his parents on the Bergan farm near Harvey, they were always there for me. Both were avid readers in English and in Norwegian. I learned to read Norwegian from the comic 'Ola and Per' which came in the Dacora Posten. Music filled the house, and I learned to sing loudly in order to be heard over my mother's alto counter melody.

Visits with my cousins were memorable, especially one Thanksgiving afternoon when the Roble kids brought skis and a sled. Despite a lack of snow, everyone got a ride behind the car, down the gravel street in front of our house. Harvest time visits to the Haugens included long walks to pick up the mail and trips to the fields with lunch.

Muriel and Harley Weros

By Muriel - Harley and I were confirmed at First Lutheran in Harvey, ND. When we graduated from Harvey High School, he went off to the Army Air Corps, Lackland, TX, while I went to Minot, ND to attend what is now known as Minot State University (MSU).

We were married June 19, 1949 at First Lutheran in Harvey, ND and honeymooned our way to Selfridge Air Base, Detroit, MI. Our son David was born in Detroit's Holy Cross Hospital on March 30, 1950. After Harley's stint in the service was completed, in June 1950, we returned to ND. That fall, Harley entered MSU, and I taught at Burlington for three years and then in Minot. Our daughter Jennifer was born August 31, 1954 at Minot's Trinity Hospital.

We have had a full and exciting life and are thankful for all the blessings that have come our way. We are especially happy to share a fun-filled life with our children and grandchildren in whose lives I see the same character traits of love, patience, faith, resourcefulness, forgiveness and perseverance that made my parent's lives worthwhile.



Gina Roble

c1919

Elmer and Gina Bergan
March 22, 1922Gina during her nursing
career at the Harvey
hospital c1912Muriel and Harley Weros,
June 19, 1949. Flower girl
was Bonnie Bender,
daughter of Calvin and
Beatrice Haugen BenderDaughter Jennifer & husband
Burns Bailey with children
Kayla and Josh. Dec. 1988.Son David Weros at left with children Erik,
Kirk, and wife Colleen together with his
parents Muriel and Harley. Dec. 1988.Muriel and Harley Weros in
1999 on the occasion of their
50th wedding anniversary