

The New

MANFRED NEWS

Volume 15, Issue 1

September 2023

A Warm Welcome to Manfred!

The New Manfred News is a history periodical published by
Manfred History and Preservation, Inc. (MHP, Inc.)

130 S Lake Ave, Manfred ND 58341

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In Celebration of the

20th Year of Manfred Heritage Museum

Dedicated July 26, 2003

The good wishes to Manfred 20 years ago 'for a wonderful new future' have met with great success, with the third annual field day having taken place on September 13th!

Dedication of the Solheim House

Dedicated July 23, 2023

As of 2023, eight buildings have been dedicated into the museum complex with the eighth being the 1899 Solheim House. While other more visible buildings of Manfred were being attended to, this building waited for its future in its secluded corner of Manfred northwest of Manfred School.

The time has come to celebrate this historic building and bring attention to it. Built in 1899 by Manfred's first postmaster, T. K. Rogne, other owners included hardware store owners Ben Sorenson and Erik Soderback. Helmer and Annie Solheim purchased it in 1948, where Audrey Solheim enjoyed the years of her youth.

Contractor Charles Bolin shingled the house in 2006. The 'Solheim House Exterior Restoration Grant Project' through a State Historical Society of North Dakota-Cultural Heritage Grant allocated with funds from the North Dakota Legislature was completed this June with contractor Charles Bolin, Clyde Moldenhauer (Carol Alveshere) restored the decorative trim for the peaks, and Jamie Schindler and Wanda Melchert did the painting. Long-term plans are to refurbish the interior. A possible future use could be as a guest house. We are delighted and honored to celebrate the dedication of the Solheim House!



The Solheim House sporting its newly restored exterior



Audrey Solheim is so pleased with the exterior restoration of the home where she grew up

Military History of Manfred

World War I

The Military History of Manfred will be in two issues. This issue features World War I, and the next issue will feature World War II and subsequent conflicts. We would be grateful for your help in gathering stories and information for those who served in the military from WWII until today. Send to wrmelchert@gmail.com.

The New Manfred News

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September 2023

GENERAL FUND & NEWSLETTER

Kermit and Florence Alveshere
Mark Anderson
Lila Anderson in memory of
Leonard Widiger
Pete and Jacque Anderson
Rose Anderson
Claudia Berg and Robert Matz
Ronald M. Biever in memory of
Marvin Biever
Carol Bishop
Norman and Diane Boese
Betty B. Braem in memory of
Agnetta Bergsgaard Buckman
Steven and Shari Burgess
Marjorie A. Deutsch in memory
Rev Johan and Anna Langseth
Orville and Rita Dovre
Judy Duerre
Wayne and LoAnn Dybing
Eagles Club
Myrna Flick
Lillian Gedrose in memory of
Gordon Schimke
Linda Georgeson
Carolyn Golberg
Craig and Vicki Harper
Lorna Heilman
Mark and Susie Hovey
Bonnie R. Hubbell
Floyd and Linda Hughes
Russell L. and July L. Johnson
in memory of Russell J. Johnson
Linda Knudson
Kathleen Lawter
Ran and Beth Leischner
Pat Lenz
Jim and Debbie Lochow
Ron McBain
Richard and Carol McKinven
Steven and Jisele Mitchell
George and Vernon Nelson and Pam
Norstedt in memory of Curtis Nelson
Dale and Shirley Opdahl
Dennis Opdahl in memory of
Gary Opdahl
Donald and Jill Osborn in memory of
Nennie and Alpha Johnson
Katherine Oxtra
Merl and Kathy Paaverud
Phyllis C. Pantsari in memory of
Harold and Shawn Pantsari
Patti Patrie in memory of Paul Gunderson
Marvin and Julie Rodacker
Carolyn Rodne
Kurt and Jeanne Rudel
Betty Schimke in memory of
Gordon Schimke
Kurt and Charyl Schlenker

GENERAL FUND (cont.)

Rolene Schliesman
Mark Schmitz
John and Carol Schroeder in memory of
Cora Ravnaas
Steven and Joleen Schultz
Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
Tim and Teri Seibel
Senior Citizens Club of Harvey
Richard and Denelle Smith
Alice Lithun Sommer
Jerry and Dorothy Stansberry
Joseph J. Strauss in memory of
Strauss family-Don, Jim, Elaine, Lucy,
Arlene, Audrey, Joe, Dick, Judy, John
Robert and Bonnie Swanson
Marvel and Mae Thompson
Margaret Thorson in memory of
Peter O Anderson
Richard and Karen Turner
Duane and Cecilia Weinmann
Marlys Weisser

DESIGNATED DONATIONS

Anderson House

Bill and Sandy Krebs in memory of
Even Ostrem/Olaf Anderson Families

Bank/Post Office

Corey and Joann Flick in memory of
Edgar and Jeanne Flick
Linda B. Letness in memory of
Edgar and Jeanne Flick
Dean and Alicia Vorland

Comfort Station

Gordon and Becky Dovre
Bill and Sandy Krebs in memory of
Even Ostrem/Olaf Anderson Families
Gerald and Jeanne Schlenker in memory
of Janice Schlenker Muscha
Floyd and Barbara Simmons in memory
of Rev John Langseth Family

Hotel Johnson and/or Johnson's Place

Wayne Everett
Joseph and Andrea Holtman in memory
of Nennie and Alpha Johnson

Ostrem House

Joseph and Andrea Holtman in memory
of Nennie and Alpha Johnson
Larry Fisher in memory of the Ostrem,
Anderson, Fisher heritage
Bill and Sandy Krebs in memory of
Even Ostrem/Olaf Anderson Families

DESIGNATED DONATIONS

Everlasting Fund

Loren and Kathy Alveshere
Orren and Karen Anderson
William Detling
Wayne Everett
Gwyn Herman and Laverne Johnson
Carrol and Sonya Mortenson
Audrey Nelson

Field Day

Gerry and Karen Beutler
Central Dakota Clinic
Eagles Club
Farmers Union Oil Company
Fessenden Co-op Association
Fessenden Thrift Shop
First International Bank
First State Bank of Harvey
Gooseneck Business Center
Hertz Funeral Home
Hinrichs SuperValu
Kiwanis Club
Opdahl Concrete
Precision Tax Service
Billie Jo Reutter 'For Goodness Sake'
Loren Sailer in memory of
Myrtle Melby Sailer
Terry's Market
The Arthur Companies
Thrivent Financial Services
Tracey's Market
Bryan and Jane Uggerud in memory of
Walter and Leona Fehr
Vorland Land Company
Warehouse Grocery

Manfred School

William Detling in memory of
Matt and Mary Detling and children
David and Carol Langseth in memory of
Rev John and Mrs. Anna Langseth
Dale A. McBain in memory of the
McBain Family
Karen Ravnaas in memory of
Ingvald and Olida Ravnaas
Dean and Alicia Vorland

Solheim House

Carol Jensen in memory/honor of the
Solheim Family

*Thank you for your patience while
Manfred's website is temporarily
out of service.*

In Memory

Jeff Bermann

January 14, 1954 – February 19, 2021
Husband of Mary Strauss,
daughter of Don and Shirley Strauss,
granddaughter of Joe and Ida Strauss

Irene Skogmo

October 20, 1925 – May 20, 2021
Wife of Arthur Skogmo, Jr.,
son of Arthur and Anne Skogmo,
grandson of Tomas Anton and Johanna Skogmo

Janice Schlenker Muscha

September 13, 1946 – December 31, 2022
Daughter of Jake and Evelyn (Pepple) Schlenker
who operated Schlenker's Bar and Café in Manfred

Doris Lippegoos

April 16, 1924 – February 26, 2023
Daughter of Clara and Ole Gladheim,
granddaughter of Ole and Guri (Melby) Ranum,
great granddaughter of Juel and Guri Ranum
and Knud and Guri Melby

Glenn Gorder

July 18, 1934 – April 2, 2023
Owned the Farmer's Elevator in Manfred

Henry L. Kucera

July 15, 1930 – April 18, 2023
A friend of Manfred and former NDSU ag
instructor for many people from central ND

Barbara Holwegner

June 23, 1955 – May 8, 2023
Daughter of Al and Norma (Olsen) Holwegner,
granddaughter of Halvor and Martha Olsen

Betty L. Schimke

November 23, 1940 – September 10, 2023
Wife of Gordon Schimke, the son of William and
Lydia (Koenig) Schimke, grandson of Jacob and
Fredericka Koenig. Gordon attended Manfred
School for much of his elementary education

Please let us know of loved ones who have passed

Cody Brintall, Intern



Cody Brintall, intern sponsored
by Vang Lutheran Church

Cody Brintall served as an intern at Manfred May 22 through August 2, 2023, residing in the Melby-Rogness House. Cody conducted a survey of the markers at Vang Cemetery, north of Manfred; Manfred Township Cemetery, 1 mile west, 1 mile south of Manfred; and the Ralph Hager, Jr marker, 1 mile west, 3 miles north, ½ mile west. Cody then compiled photos of the markers and historical information and photos of each individual provided by Audrey Solheim into a website. This site can be viewed through Manfred's Facebook page.

Schon Canelis, Assistant



L/R: Schon Canelis, Collections assistant
with Pam Norstedt, Collections Director

Schon Canelis assisted Pam Norstedt in Collections at Manfred two days a week June 15 through August 18, 2023. Together they accessioned several Collections that have been given to Manfred: Edgar and Jeanne Flick Collection, Darlene Quenette Collection, Walter and Astrid Ongstad/Vicki Harper Collection, Derald Hoover School Book Collection. Pam also accessioned military uniforms of her brothers Vernon and Curtis. In addition, Schon helped with Lena's Garden and the cleaning of some of the museum buildings.

Yard Care for Manfred

Yard care takes quite a toll on the equipment. Donations of yard equipment would be welcome:

- Riding mowers
- Trailer to haul mowers
- Trimmers

Volunteers to help or contracted to mow would also be most welcome!

More Manfred Happenings

- Booth exhibit at the Wells County Fair, June 22-25
- 'Solheim House Exterior Restoration Project' grant through a SHSND Cultural Heritage Grant with funds appropriated by the North Dakota Legislature was completed in June
- A two-year project for the Ostrem House and Bank/Post Office interiors is underway – currently with restoration work which will make possible installation of exhibits by 2025.
- The 2023 Manfred Field Day held Wednesday, September 13th was a great success. 140-4th Grade students from six schools and 21 homeschool children enjoyed a day taking them back over 100 years to the time when the settlers first arrived. Photos of this event will be featured with the next Manfred News issue.

The World War of 1917-1918-1919 – from Manfred Township, ND

(-1- Serving as Soldiers, pages 4-12, and -2- The Home-Front Support, pages 13-14)

Orientation for this history: Acknowledgements and Notes

- Pre WWI-Note: Early Manfred settlers known to have served in the Civil War: Charlie Bartsch and John P. Nelson.
- *In the World War 1917-1918-1919 Wells County N. Dakota* published by Wells County Free Press, Fessenden, N.D. and dedicated to the 24 men from Wells County who lost their lives in this war. Page references listed with the narratives are noted as WWbk for World War book. Images were also mainly derived from this book.
- *Roll of Honor! Apr 6, 17 – Nov 11. 18 Our Boys* plaque is hanging in Manfred School on the same wall where it hung following the great World War of 1917-1918-1919. Later, this plaque was donated to the Wells County Historical Museum, which voted in recent years to return this plaque to Manfred. Names listed on this plaque are noted as WWpq for World War plaque.
- *Wells County Free Press-Fessenden* Some narratives contain dated entries from issues of this former newspaper.
- Manfred History Collection is information gathered from such sources as obituaries and interviews.
- The original name for this war was World War (WW) until the next World War began, then the two world wars became known as World War I (WWI) and World War II (WWII).
- Special Alert: Included in this issue are men who followed the harvest season from states to the south and worked their way north, or people who just happened to be staying in the area at the time they enlisted and were registered with the Manfred address where they were living at the time of entering the service – 44 soldiers in all.
- Spelling variations exist in the various sources, which have been indicated.

Audrey Solheim, historian – Wanda Melchert, editor

-1- SERVING AS SOLDIERS – having Manfred ND Addresses

Willie P. Beck

Willie P. Beck 'Billy', enlisted in Company H guard of Harvey July 6, 1917.

July 12, 1917 Free Press entry:

Seven boys from Manfred enlisted in Company H of Harvey. They are Ed Mennegar, Ben Mennegar, Oscar Brady, Billy Beck, Oscar Ongstad, Henry Gritch and Schimmel.

Source: WWbk page 85 in listing of Privates

Eilert Berve

Private Eilert Berve, son of Ole and Anna Berve, one of nine children, entered the service September 3, 1918, and went to Camp Grant for his preliminary training. He left for overseas on November 13, 1918, and served with the infantry until after the close of the war.

Mustered out at Camp Dodge, May 1, 1919. Eilert died in 1971.

Source: WWbk page 70



Eilert Berve

Albert N. Bieber

Private 1st Class Albert N. Bieber, son of Mathias 'Matt' and Elizabeth Bieber, one of seven children, entered the service April 1, 1918, and was sent to Camp Lewis for his preliminary training. On April 21, he was transferred to Camp Kearney. He was mustered out of service on April 1, 1919 at Camp Lewis. Married Lucy Specht in 1921 and they had five children: Eileen, Leroy, Richard, Peggy, and Dorothy. Albert was a rural mail carrier out of Manfred and Harvey for 36 years. Albert died in 1954 and Lucy died in 1990.

March 28, 1918 Free Press entry:

Albert Bieber received a call to report for duty, leaving here on 105 [train number] on Tuesday for Sidney, Mont., where he will join other drafted men for his district. A farewell party was given for him in Melby's hall on Monday evening when a large crowd gathered to bid him 'God speed.' He was presented with a wristwatch as a token of esteem by his many friends in Manfred.

Sources: WWbk page 50, WWpq, Manfred History



Albert N. Bieber

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

Frank J. Biever

Corporal Frank J. Biever, son of Mathias 'Matt' and Elizabeth Biever, one of seven children, entered the service July 22, 1918, and was sent to Camp Custer where he was put into training, and then assigned to the Machine Gunners. He was transferred to Camp Dodge and mustered out there February 7, 1919. Frank returned to Manfred and married Bessie Sommer. They had three children: Phyllis, Marvin, and Marjorie 'Margie'. Frank worked in farming, served as a sub for the rural mail route, assisted at Manfred Motor Co, ran the Manfred dray line for a time, and worked on the road crew building Highway 52 in 1939. In November of 1942, Frank, Bessie, and Marjorie moved to Portland and then Gresham, Oregon where Frank worked in the shipyards. Frank sold his home to Carl Smith when he was back for a visit in 1945. Frank died in 1979 and Bessie in 1989.

Sources: WWbk page 50, WWpq, early Manfred News, Manfred History



Frank J. Biever

Oscar Brede (Spelling variations: Brade WWpq, Brede WWbk, Brode news entry)

Private 1st Class Oscar Brede entered the service (Company H Guard of Harvey) on July 6, 1917. Went to Camp Greene where he received his preliminary training and was assigned to Co. C, 147th Machine Gun Battalion. Left for overseas on December 28. Served in France until the close of the war. Mustered out July 24, 1919, at Camp Mills.

Sources: WWbk page 71, WWpq



Oscar Brede

James Cusack* (Spelling Variations: James S. Cusack WWbk, James Cusick WWpq)

Private James Cusack originally from Sykeston was the first man to be killed in action from Company H of Harvey. Sources: WWbk page 83 in fourth paragraph, WWpq

August Fischer (Spelling variations: Fischer WWbk, Fisher WWpq)

No information available. Sources: WWbk page 82, WWpq

Clement Francese (Spelled variations: Clement WWbk, Clemment WWpq)

Private Clement Francese, entered the service July 22, 1918, and was sent to Camp Custer to receive his preliminary training. He was assigned to the infantry and remained on duty with his unit throughout the remainder of the war. Then he was transferred to Camp Dodge and mustered out on February 17, 1919.

Sources: WWbk page 51, WWpq



Clement
Francese

John Froeber

Private John Froeber, son of Amond and Theresa Froeber, one of eight children, entered the service March 28, 1918, going to Camp Dodge, where he received his preliminary training. He was sent overseas May 3, and into action September 26. He saw service in the Argonne Forest and in St. Mihiel. He was mustered out at Camp Dodge, May 6, 1919. He began working as a farm laborer as he had done before the war. In 1921, he married Veronica M. Schmitt. They had three children: Donald, Gerald, and Betty. John took a job with the Soo Line Railway as a section laborer at Anamoose and worked in a number of North Dakota towns before the family moved to Manfred in 1940 where he was promoted to section foreman until his retirement in 1956. Veronica worked at Manfred School as a cook on the hot lunch program from 1956 to 1965 when she retired. They moved to Fessenden in 1970. John died in 1982 and Veronica died in 1994. Their daughter, Betty (Pepple), donated her satin wedding dress to Manfred Museum, having been made by her mother Veronica.

Source: Manfred's history, WWbk page 69



John Froeber

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

Sigurd Froiland (Spelled variations: Froland WWbk, Froiland WWpq)

No information available.

Sources: Listed in WWbk page 82 and on WWpq

Harry N. Gilbert

No information available.

Sources: Listed in WWbk page 82, and on WWpq

W. H. Goedecke (William Heinrich Goedecke, Jr.)

Private W. H. Goedecke, son of William Goedecke, entered the service November 11, 1918, but the signing of the armistice brought a halt to the training of all recruits, and he was mustered out of the service. He then married Doris Sorenson and they had two children. W. H. Goedecke died in 1944.

Source: WWbk page 79, Manfred History Collection



W. H. Goedecke

Henry M. J. Greitsch (Spelling variations: Greitsch WWbk, Gretsches WWpq, Gritsch news entries)

Private Henry M. J. Greitsch joined Company H guard of Harvey July 6, 1917.

July 19, 1917 Free Press entry:

This little village has sure shown its patriotism when the Harvey guard company secured nearly ten from here. Olaf Anderson lost two men, Henry ~~Gritsch~~ Greitsch and Ed. Meninger, from the barn and on the dray who joined.

Sources: WWbk listed in Privates page 85, WWpq

V. F. Hanson (Victor Freemont Haanson)

Fremont joined the last draft in April 1918 and left for Camp Dodge. Before the war, Fremont was in business with Olaf Roble in Manfred. After the war, Fremont again engaged in business in Manfred. In the early 1920s he married Mabel Lokensgard and they had a daughter Katherine. They moved to Minot in 1926. Fremont died in 1965 and Mabel died in 1989.

April 4, 1918 Free Press entry:

V. F. Hanson, who for the past years engaged in business in our little village and a member of the firm of Roble & Hanson, left Thursday for Fessenden where he joined the boys of the last draft, leaving for Camp Dodge Friday on 106. A large number of his friends gathered at Melby's hall Wednesday evening to bid him God Speed. A number of the local talent were prepared with short speeches which were good and right to the point. Music was furnished by the Manfred orchestra. Mr. Hanson was presented with a wristwatch by his many friends as a token of esteem. Lunch was served after which games were played, everyone enjoying a very pleasant evening. Miss Esther Anderson surprised everyone present when she offered a cake for sale for the benefit of the Red Cross. The cake was one made by herself and beautifully decorated with small Red Cross emblems. The cake was sold several times and proved to be the highest priced cake ever looked upon here, netting \$114.50, which was turned over to the Red Cross.

Sources: WWpq, Manfred History Collection

John Haug

No information available.

February 13, 1919 Free Press entry:

John Haug and Fred Lindbo, two Manfred boys, returned from Camp Custer Sunday.

Source: Wells Country Free Press

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

Oscar Hedahl

Sailor Oscar Hedahl, son of Ole S. and Ingrid Hedahl, one of eight children, enlisted in the navy May 28, 1917 going to Norfolk for his training. He was assigned to duty on board a United States transport and later served on the U.S.S. Nebraska. Mustered out February 3, 1919. After the war, he settled in California in the building construction business. He specialized in construction in the mountains of California, and prior to his retirement in 1960, had built most of the buildings in Yosemite National Park. Oscar married Muriel S. Doggett. Muriel died in 1942 and Oscar died in 1980

May 31, 1917 Free Press entry:

Word was received here recently that Oscar Hedahl, brother of Swen and Conrad, had joined the navy and would soon leave Lewistown, where he resigned a position as abstractor with Henry Minette, for a Pacific coast training station.

Sources: WWbk Page 78, WWpq, Manfred History Collection, Free Press



Oscar Hedahl

Swen O. Hedahl

Private Swen O. Hedahl, son of Ole S. and Ingrid Hedahl, one of eight children, entered the service in June 1918 and reported to Camp Grant for duty. He was assigned to this camp until the close of the war and was then transferred to Camp Dodge where he was mustered out December 19, 1918. After the war, he settled in California and was in the life insurance business. Swen married Ellen Collins in 1923 and Averil Doggett in 1934. Swen died in 1963 and Averil died in 1987.

December 27, 1917 Free Press entry:

Oscar Hedahl, one of Uncle Sam's navy men, arrived home Christmas day for a visit. His brother Swen from Montana is also home for the holidays.

Sources: WWbk Page 43, WW pq, Manfred History Collection, Free Press



Swen O. Hedahl

Carl Hovey

Carl Hovey, son of Nils and Marit Hovey, was one of six children. After the war, Carl lived at St. Paul where he was employed as a streetcar conductor in Minneapolis. He and his wife Helen had one son Carl A. Hovey. Carl died in 1982 and Helen died in 1962.

Source: WWpq, Manfred History Collections



Carl Hovey

Arthur L. Larson

Private Arthur L. Larson, son of Peter and Hansine Larson, one of two children, entered the service November 5, 1918 and was assigned to the S.A.T.C. Co. A, ND Agricultural College Unit. He was on duty at Fargo but when the war came to an end, he was mustered out of service December 9, 1918. Art married Edna Ongstad and they had five children: Leland, Ardis, Kermit, Waldo, and Janice. Art farmed his father's land. Art died in 1973 and Edna died in 1974.

Source: WWbk Page 54, Manfred history Collections



Arthur L. Larson

Emil F. Larson

Private Emil F. Larson, son of Peter and Hansine Larson, one of two children, entered the service June 26, 1918 going to Camp Dodge where he began his training. He went overseas August 17, 1918 and was on duty in France throughout the remainder of the war. He was mustered out of service May 15, 1919 at Camp Dodge. Emil married Edna Petzke and they had three children: Leslie, Duane, and Linda. Emil had a business in Heimdahl.

Source: WWbk Page 54, Manfred History Collections



Emil F. Larson

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

H. N. Le Grand (Harry Nathaniel Le Grand)

Private H. N. Le Grand, son of Joseph and Anna Le Grand, one of nine children, entered the service May 9, 1918 going to Camp Fremont where he received his preliminary training and was assigned to the Ammunition Train. On November 2nd his unit moved to Camp Mills. After the cessation of hostilities, he was sent to Camp Dodge where he was mustered out February 12, 1919. For many years he was self-employed in an auto repair business in Los Angeles, California. Harry died in 1982.

Sources: WWbk Page 65, WWpq



H. N. Le Grand

Fred Lindbo

Gotfred 'Fred' Lindbo, son of Gullik and Ragnhild Lindbo, was one of eight children. No military history available. After the war, Fred married Anna Ongstad in 1920 and they had two sons: Floyd and Gordon. They farmed in the region and later moved to Everett, Washington. Fred died in 1977 and Anna died in 1980.

February 13, 1919 Free Press entry:

John Haug and Fred Lindbo, two Manfred boys, returned from Camp Custer Sunday and Monday Frank Biever and Frenchy returned from Camp Custer.

Source: WWpq



Fred Lindbo

Gilbert Lindbo

Private 1st Class Gilbert Lindbo, son of Gullik and Ragnhild Lindbo, one of eight children, entered the service July 22, 1918, and went to Camp Custer where he received his preliminary training, and was then assigned to the Machine Gunners. He remained in the service at this camp until the end of the war, then he was transferred to Camp Dodge, where he was mustered out January 28, 1919. He married Celia Olson and they had three children: Ruth, Gladys, and Lorrain. Gilbert died in 1958 and Celia died in 1964.

Sources: WWbk page 56, WWpq



Gilbert Lindbo

John W. Lucas*

John W. Lucas, the son of Mrs. and Mrs. Jake Lucas who had lived in Manfred although had moved to Oklahoma some years previous to the war. But, John remained in Wells County, making his home with his sister, Mrs. Fred Hirschhorn. John Lucas entered the service July 22, 1918, and was sent to Camp Custer where he began his career as a soldier, received his preliminary training and was assigned to the infantry for duty. The letters he wrote to his sister from camp indicated a desire to get 'across', and his wish for the great adventure probably should have been realized had it not been for the 'Flu.' When the epidemic of Spanish Influenza swept the country it caught John Lucas, and he died in Camp Custer on October 4, 1918. The red asterisk denotes that John died while in the service.

Sources: WWpq

Howard Maust

Private 1st Class Howard Maust lived in Manfred, ND at the time the United States entered the war. He was called into the service September 18, 1917 and went to Camp Dodge for his preliminary training. He arrived overseas September 29, 1918 with a machine gun unit. He was mustered out of service at Camp Dodge, May 2, 1919.

Source: WWbk page 50



Howard Maust

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

Benjamin Mennegar

Corporal Ben Mennegar, son of Richard M. Mennegar and Amelia Schiman, entered the service July 6, 1917. Went to Camp Greene, where he received his preliminary training and was assigned to Company C. 147th Machine Gun Battalion. Left for overseas December 28th. Served in France until the close of the war. Mustered out July 24, 1919 at Camp Mills. He engaged in farming. He died in 1974 at Everett, Washington.

July 12, 1917 Free Press entry:

Seven boys from Manfred enlisted in company H of Harvey. They are Ed Mennegar, Ben Mennegar, Oscar Brady, Billy Beck, Oscar Ongstad, Henry Gretsche Gritsch and Schimmel.

Source: WW pq



Benjamin Mennegar

Edward Mennegar

Private 1st Class Edward Mennegar, son of Richard M. Mennegar and Amelia Schiman, entered the service July 6, 1917 going to Camp Greene where he received his preliminary training. He left for overseas December 28th and served with the Machine Gun Battalion until the close of the war. Mustered out July 19, 1919 at Camp Dodge.

July 19, 1917 Free Press entry:

This little village has sure shown its patriotism when the Harvey guard company secured nearly ten from here. Olaf Anderson lost two men, Henry Gritsch and Ed. Menenger, who at the barn and on the dray joined, and the Anderson-Melby Motor Co., is short Oscar Ongstad having answered the country's call. Others were Oscar Brade, Bill Meninger and a Mr. Schimmel.

Source: WWbk page 71, WWpq



Edward Mennegar

Andrew Muhlbeier

Private Andrew Muhlbeier, entered the service June 25, 1918 and reported at Camp Dodge for duty. He was assigned to the machine gun unit and arrived overseas August of 1918. In action in center sector Haute-Alsace. Mustered out of service at Camp Dodge on June 7, 1919.

Source: WWbk page 44



Andrew Muhlbeier

Albert Nelson

Albert Nelson's older brothers had come to the Manfred area from Wisconsin for some years to help with threshing. When Albert was old enough, he tagged along. He liked the people and the country. He entered the Army in 1918 and served until February of 1919. He married Rose Arndt in August 1919, and they had four children: Marie, Thomas, Arlene, and Robert. They settled at Heimdal until 1920 when Albert became the mail carrier for the Manfred area, doing this for 32 years, retiring in 1952 due to ill health. They moved to Grantsburg, WI and lived there until Albert's death in 1965. Rose moved to St. Paul and died in 1973.

Source: Manfred History Collection



Albert Nelson

Johnny Nelson (Spelling variations: Johnny Nelson WWbk, Johnnie Nelson WWpq)

Wagoner Johnny Nelson, step-son of Emil E. and son of Olea (Haug) Nelson entered the service July 22, 1918, going to Camp Custer for his initial training. He was appointed a wagoner in the Field Artillery and was in the service at this camp until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Camp Dodge February 7, 1919. He worked as a mechanic for the A. B. Motor Co. in the early 1920's and for the Happy Harris and Earl Price Garage, and later for Bennett's Genuine Parts Co. as parts man and salesman in Harvey. In 1929, Johnny married Mabel Swang and they had one son. Mabel worked at Julius Sgutt Department Store in Harvey and later at the S & L Store. Johnny and Mabel retired in 1959 when they moved to Ontario CA near their son. Johnny died in 1960 and Mabel died in 1995.

Source: WWbk page 42, WWpq, Manfred History



Johnny Nelson

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

Klim Olesko

Klim Olesko, entered the service July 24, 1918, went to Camp Custer to receive his preliminary training. He was assigned to this camp for permanent duty throughout the remainder of the war when he was transferred to Camp Dodge and mustered out there February 7, 1919.

Sources: WWbk page 65, WWpq



Klim Olesko

Halvor Olsen

Private Halvor Olsen, entered the service September 18, 1917, going to Camp Lewis. He was sent overseas July 31, 1918 and into action September 12th. As a member of Co. E. 165th Infantry, he served in the St. Mihiel and Argonne offensives. He was wounded severely October 23rd in the Argonne Forest and later received the Purple Heart. He was mustered out August 11, 1919. On June 18, 1921 he married Martha Rogness at Manfred and they had two children: Norma and Oscar. They farmed until 1939, retiring to Manfred. Halvor died in 1956. Martha moved to Bismarck in 1980 where she died in 1988.

Sources: WWbk page 43, Manfred History Collection



Halvor Olsen

Henry Olson

Henry Olson, son of Carl and Bertha (Hauge) Olson, one of eight children and brother of Talmer Olson, served in France from September 1918 to January 1919. Henry married Cora Bloom and they had two children: Leonard and Madeline. Henry died in 1969 and Cora died in 1993 in the state of Washington.

January 2, 1919 Free Press entry:

A letter received at Carl Olson's on the 25th states that Henry expects to be home soon. He has been in France since September this year.

Source: Wells County Free Press, Manfred History Collection

Ed Olstad

Ed Olstad was raised on a farm in the Heimdal area the son of John and Alena Olstad. He worked as a farm laborer until 1918, when he enlisted and served in the U. S. Cavalry. Upon discharge, he returned to the Manfred area and continued as a farm laborer until he started working as a heavy equipment operator in the early 1930s. In 1939, Ed married Celia Natland of rural Manfred. In 1946, they purchased the Nennie Johnson home. In 1966, Celia entered a care facility where she died in 1971. Ed continued living in Manfred until 1979, when he moved to Hurdsfield and then Harvey where he died in 1982.

Source: Manfred history Collection



Ed Olstad

Olaf Ongstad

Olaf Ongstad, son of Hans and Nicoline Ongstad, was one of thirteen children. Olaf entered the service July 1918 at Camp Custer, MI. He was ready to go to France when the Armistice was signed. After this, he moved to Manfred and rented a farm four miles west of Manfred together with his friend Melvin (Haug) Nelson. Olaf died there November of 1922 of asphyxiation by coal gas poisoning from the heater. Melvin survived having slept nearest the door.

Source: WWpq, Manfred History Collection



Olaf Ongstad

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

Oscar Ongstad

Oscar Ongstad, son of Hans and Nicoline Ongstad, was one of thirteen children. Oscar enlisted in the U.S. Army July 6, 1917. Because of his mechanical ability, he drove ammunition trucks for the artillery unit attached to his division. He served in France and Germany. After the Armistice, he remained in Germany serving in the occupation troops November 1918 through August 1919. He was discharged from the U.S. Army September 2, 1919. His WWI Army uniform and gas mask are in the Manfred Museum Collections. On July 13, 1920, he was united in marriage to Christine Thune. Four children were born to them: Orvin, Duane, Walter, and Nora. Oscar worked as an owner/mechanic for Anderson-Melby Motor Co, served as Manfred postmaster and as custodian for Manfred School. Christine served as assistant postmaster for a number of years. Oscar died in 1964. Christine then moved to Fessenden until 1983 when she moved to Harvey. Christine died in 1984.

Letter written by Oscar Ongstad to Guy Fischer and printed in the Free Press:

Dear Friend Fischer,

We are still at Camp Mills having winter here - we get into our tents and have a good hot fire. We were out drilling today, the whole 41st division. It sure was some bunch. We had our packs on our backs for the first time, and we were tired when we got home. We have to carry two blankets, a mess kit, cup, water jug, a suit of underwear, two pairs of socks, and our comfort kit, so you see it is just about a load. It isn't so bad after we get used to it.

I talked with Carl Hovey and John Crossen yesterday. They are not so far from here. John didn't like it very much at first. Oscar Brode and Ben Oser have been quarantined for measles, but they are better now. Ben and I were up to New York, and we sure had some time there. I wish that Andrew Erickson and you could have been with us. Greet all the bunch of old-timers from me.

Oscar Ongstad C Company, 147th Machine Gun Battalion, Camp Mills, N. Y.

Source: WWpq, WWbk page 81, Manfred History, Wells County Free Press



Oscar
Ongstad

Rudolph Peterson

Rudolph Peterson after attending Hansen Mechanical Trade School in Fargo he came to stay with his uncle and aunt Nils and Marit Hovey. He worked as a mechanic in the area and then served in the World War. After returning to Manfred, he continued working as a mechanic. In 1925 married Nora Rogness and they had one son Lowell. Rudolph operated the service station in Manfred for several years, and he and Nora ran the Peterson Store for a number of years. Rudolph died in 1970. Afterward, Nora moved to Colorado to be near her son Lowell and family. Nora died in 1994.

Source: WWpq, Manfred History Collection



Rudolph
Peterson

John Reule

Private John Reule, son of William Reule entered the service June 11, 1917, going to Fort Riley where he received his first training. Here he was assigned to Battery A, 79th Artillery and remained on duty with this unit until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Camp Grant, January 4, 1919. He then returned to Manfred. He married Mary. He died in 1954 in Stutsman County.

Source: WWbk page 46, Manfred History Collection



John Reule

Schimmel

No information available.

July 12, 1917 Free Press entry:

Seven boys from Manfred enlisted in company H of Harvey. They are Ed Mennegar, Ben Mennegar, Oscar Brady, Billy Beck, Oscar Ongstad, Henry Gritch and Schimmel.

Serving as Soldiers from Manfred ND

John Seltvedt

John Seltvedt, son of J. J. Seltvedt, entered the service on September 18, 1917, reporting at Fort Dodge. He was transferred to Fort Pike on December 1st and arrived overseas June 18, 1918. John went into action the following month and served on three different fronts. He was mustered out of service at Camp Dodge, June 10, 1919. John married Margot Kjelsberg in 1927. John died in 1980 and Margot died in 1975.

Source: WWbk page 44, Manfred History Collection



John Seltvedt

Harold E. Skogmo

Lieutenant Harold E. Skogmo, son of Anton and Johanna Skogmo, one of eleven children, entered the service in June 1917 and left for Camp Dodge where he began his preliminary training. He left for overseas in November 1917 and after serving with the infantry in France was sent to an officers' training school where he was commissioned. After completing his service, he married Helen Jewel Sparre in 1924. Harold died in 1947 and Helen died in 1990.

Source: WWbk page 76, WWpq, Manfred History Collection



Harold E.
Skogmo

Bernhard Svendsen

Private 1st Class Bernhard Svendsen, entered the service March 28, 1918 going to Camp Dodge for his preliminary training. He left for overseas April 26th with the infantry. He went into action July 19th and served in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. Mustered out May 7, 1919 at Camp Dodge.

Source: WWbk page 76



Bernhard
Svendson

Sigvart Svendson

Sergeant Sigvart Svendson entered the service July 22, 1918 and went to Camp Custer where he received his preliminary training and was assigned to the infantry. He remained at this camp until after the close of the war. He was mustered out at Camp Dodge, July 25, 1919.

Source: WWbk page 70



Sigvart
Svendson

Hans L. Tveten

Pvt. Hans L. Tveten made his home with K. E. Nelson, his uncle of Manfred, and considered Wells County his home. Hans came to the US in 1911, when his uncle K.E. Nelson made a return visit to Europe and Hans came back with him. Hans entered the service October 7, 1917, going to Camp Lewis, where he entered training and was assigned to Co. K. 362nd Infantry, 91st Division. He left for overseas July 5, 1918 and went into action in St. Mihiel September 11th. The latter part of the month his unit moved into the Argonne, where they had been only a few days when Private Tveten did acts for which he was awarded the distinguished service cross of acts of extraordinary heroism as follows:

"Pvt. Hans L. Tveten Company K, 362d Infantry. For extraordinary heroism in action at Gesnes, France September 29, 1918. When his company was under fire from two German machine guns, Pvt. Tveten crept forward alone and put the guns out of action with rifle grenades, captured single handed four Germans and both machine guns."

On October 10th, Private Tveten was wounded in the Argonne, but soon recovered and returned to active duty. He was mustered out of service on May 2, 1919, at Camp Dodge, and returned to Manfred five days later. In 1934, Hans married Selma Olson. He died in 1996 in Montana.

Source: WWbk pages 28 and 37



Hans L.
Tveten

Brief Review of World War I

Causes and Duration of WWI

Though dissention had been brewing for some years among European countries and beyond, the tipping point for the start of the First World War (WWI) in 1914 was when Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, holding them responsible for the assassination of the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne. Drawn into the war that year were Russia, Germany, France, Britain, and the Ottoman Empire. Germany took the lead in the war. Others joining the conflict between 1915 and 1917 were Bulgaria, Romania, Greece, Italy, and the United States.

By the end of 1918, Bulgaria, the Ottoman Empire and Austria-Hungary agreed to an armistices with the Allies, leaving Germany isolated. Facing revolution at home and with his army on the verge of mutiny, Kaiser Willhelm II abdicated on November 9, 1918. Three days later an armistice brought the fighting to a close. The Paris Peace Conference imposed various settlements on the defeated powers, the best-known being the Treaty of Versailles.

World War I was one of the deadliest wars in history; an estimated 9 million soldiers were killed in combat, plus another 23 million wounded, while 5 million civilians died as a result of military action, hunger, and disease. Millions more died as a result of genocide, and the devastation of the war heavily contributed to the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic that followed. Manfred Township had one known death as a result of this pandemic, others had recovered who had taken ill.

Company H-Second Infantry Regiment, North Dakota National Guard

On April 4, 1917, President Wilson delivered the message to Congress of the declaration of war against Germany. The governors of each state were charged to mobilize soldiers. The organization of Company H was started at Harvey, ND on July 3, 1917. The company was recruited principally from Harvey, Kensal, Sykeston, Manfred, Maddock, Martin, Goodrich and Heimdal. On July 15, 1917, the company was called into service and on September 30, 1917, 3 officers and 137 soldiers traveled by train to Camp Greene, NC.

The Second North Dakota Infantry Band "The Million Dollar Band"

The nucleus of this band was formed from the Harvey Band of which Harold Bachman was the leader. Their service in France dates from December 11, 1917 until February 3, 1919. The band consisted of 65 men of which 50 belonged to the band and the remaining 15 were other entertainers performing with the band.

The World War of 1917-1918-1919 – from Manfred Township, ND

-2- THE HOME FRONT SUPPORT

Since wars must be financed as well as fought, each governor was tasked to gather money for the war chest.

Liberty Bonds

Five major campaigns were organized to sell Liberty Bonds 1917 to 1919. April 24, 1917: Emergency Loan Act, October 1, 1917: Second Liberty Loan, April 5, 1918: Third Liberty Loan, September 28, 1918: Fourth Liberty Loan, and April 21, 1919: known as the Victory Liberty Bond. Wells County did well to meet their allotments.

Regarding the Second Liberty Loan as noted in the October 18, 1917 issue of the Wells County Free Press:

In the face of two consecutive partial crop failures, with farmers receiving not even their seed back, Wells County is responding liberally to the call of the government for the purchase of bonds. The county subscribed its allotment of \$65,000.00 of the first Liberty Loan issue and it is believed that the second loan allotment of \$106,500.00 will be fully subscribed. The largest individual subscription yet reported is that of John P. Nelson, a Civil War veteran who recently retired from his farm near Manfred. He took \$5,000 this week through the First State Bank [of Manfred].

Thrift Stamps

During World War I, 25-cent Thrift Stamps were offered to allow individuals to accumulate enough over time to purchase the standard 5-dollar War Savings Certificate Stamp. Children were also recruited to the war saving efforts primarily through their schools. Children received school kits, which included penny and nickel savings booklets so that children could save up for a 25-cent Thrift Stamp a few cents at a time.

The World War of 1917-1918-1919 – from Manfred Township, ND

-2- THE HOME FRONT SUPPORT

Organizations to Meet War Needs

- *United War Work* to help aid the soldiers.
- *Four Minute Men* was created to keep the public informed about important war-related matters through speakers and motion pictures, neither to last more than four minutes.
- *United States Food Administration* was created to guard the nation's food supplies, teach economy, and urge greater food production.
- *Fuel Administration* was created to guard the nation's fuel supply.
- *The Council of Defense* was created as a clearing house for all war activities, state and federal.
- *National Council Child Welfare* to correct body defects when children are young. It was found that many men could not enter the service because of defects that could have been corrected when they were young.

The Red Cross

In addition to helping build the war chest and the above needs, the public also helped in a big way with the work of the Red Cross. Chapters were organized throughout the country. There were no chapters in Wells County when the USA entered the war. The first chapter was organized at Fessenden, ND on May 25, 1917. During the summer of 1917, chapters were formed in all of the townships in Wells County. Wells County always met its allotment. This executive committee undertook to raise funds for supplies. For the Manfred branch, the executive committee included Andrew Erickson-chairman, Mrs. Joe Biever-treasurer, and Olaf Roble-secretary.

The Manfred Red Cross branch officers: Andrew Erickson was Chairman of this too, Mrs. Lars Hanson-Secretary, and Axel L. Le Grand-Treasurer. The committee chairs were Mrs. Andrew Erickson-chairperson of the work committee, Mrs. Axel L. Le Grand-chairperson of the sewing committee, and Mrs. O. K. Melby-chairperson of the knitting committee. During the time period of the war, the Manfred branch made 622 knitted articles, 1,364 sewn articles, and the work committee made many items like handkerchiefs, surgical dressings and other needed items. The township branches turned their items over to the county Red Cross office for distribution.

The school children were given the opportunity to participate in the home front war effort through the Wells County Junior Red Cross. In Wells County, over 2,000 school children became members, and the majority of schools became school auxiliaries, including schools 1, 2, and 3 in the Manfred School District. The students helped in producing supplies and raising funds. At the close of the war, a Children's Peace Fund was established to continue post-war relief work abroad for the children in war-torn Europe.

Manfred School #1 Red Cross Certificates

The Red Cross Certificate at right reads:

American National Red Cross

This certifies that School #1 Manfred District, No Dak has been enrolled as a School Auxiliary of the Wells County Chapter of the American National Red Cross for the year 1918

This is one of two certificates in the Manfred Museum Collections for the years 1918 and 1919. These certificates were donated by Earl Sisson who owned the former Fred Koenig farm. Earl found these two certificates in the attic behind a picture of a windmill. It may be that Fred Koenig purchased this picture at the Manfred School auction in 1974, after Manfred School District dissolved in 1973. We are thankful to Earl Sisson for enriching the history of Manfred with this donation.

