

The New MANFRED NEWS

Volume 5, Issue 2

August 2005

*Warm Greetings from
Manfred, North Dakota!*

Celebrating The 5th Anniversary of MHP, Inc. ➤ The Vision Unfolding ◀



Our thanks and best wishes

From left: To the new officers elected at the annual meeting, July 24th
Laverne Johnson, Vice President Audrey Solheim, President
Ruth Anderson Widiger, Treasurer Esther Boese, Secretary

Also attending the Annual Meeting were:

Pete and Rose Anderson, Wesley Boese, Edgar and Jeanne Flick,
Gwyn Herman, Wanda Melchert, Curtis and Brittany Nelson,
Pam and Lloyd Norstedt, Herbert Ongstad, Joyce Ravnaas,
Lewis and Judy Weigelt, Reiner Widiger.

Announcing for your 2006 calendar

An opportunity to gather and share at Manfred on
July 2, 2006

The Manfred Heritage Museum will celebrate

- *100th Anniversary of 1906 Vang Church building
- *Dedication of 1894 Roger's Lumber-Solheim Station
- *Dedication of 1905 Johnson-Ostrem House

This gathering coincides with the City of Harvey Centennial planned for
June 30 thru July 2, 2006
Plan your lodging arrangements early.

Welcome to this issue of the Manfred News, celebrating five years since MHP, Inc. began on July 25, 2000. Its founding vision is steadily unfolding with the help of caring people like you!

What is the vision of MHP, Inc.?

The vision is that Manfred be given the opportunity to share its historical story to present and future generations.

What are the components of the vision?

The vital parts of the vision include:

- *The urgent work of compiling Manfred's history
- *Restoring the historic structures and cleaning up Manfred
- *Developing exhibits and educational experiences
- *The financial reserve to ensure that future generations will be able to hear and enjoy Manfred's story.

How is the vision coming along?

During the initial five years, the first two parts of the vision, the history and restoration work, have made remarkable progress and will continue advancing. The exciting news is that the second two parts of the vision are soon starting. The first exhibit of the Manfred Heritage Museum is planned to be installed in time for the gathering on July 2, 2006. And this fall, the MHP, Inc. Annual Letter will guide us in considering how we can help Manfred by way of an Endowment Fund. In anticipation of that important aspect, I ask that you give thought to how you would like to help.

MHP, Inc. is a remarkable organization, successfully guiding the Manfred projects. During this past year, bylaws were written and adopted. Also, MHP, Inc. was organized into four Divisions of Corporate, Museum, Buildings and Grounds, and Education, guided by an elected board of nine. To view the bylaws, minutes and much more, visit the Manfred Heritage Museum or the website manfrednd.org.

The settlers came with hope and determination, turning the first soil. They have given us much, and now we have the opportunity to honor and thank them in return.

Celebrating together with you our rural heritage!

By Wanda Melchert, newly appointed Museum Director for MHP, Inc.

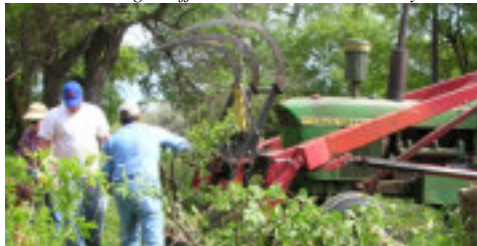


In the 1890s when C.C. Melby settled in Wells County, farming was his livelihood. This farming tradition has passed through the generations from his daughter Gena Melby Flick, to grandson Roger Flick, and now to his great grandsons Steve, Dave and Mike Flick. Photo taken August 5, 2005.

The New Manfred News

On June 25, twenty-five volunteers including five clients and two supervisors of Hav-it gathered together in Manfred for a work day funded through a grant of \$250 from Thrivent Financial. The activities for that day included mowing, potting flowers, clearing and hauling tree debris mainly from the Lena Anderson yard, and dinner and afternoon coffee for the volunteers. Equipment included two loader-bucket tractors, chain saws, several mowers, and yard tools, wagon and pickup. Attending: Mary Browning, June Lemer, Diane Zinke, Keith Ravnaas, Esther and Wesley Boese, Jacob Anderson, Rose and Pete Anderson, Larry Johnson, Nathan Pitchford, Joyce Ravnaas, Judy Weigelt, Cindy Ehni, Perry and Lauri Anderson, Sam Anderson, Brandon Musche, Laura Muscha, Wanda Melchert, Shirley Opdahl, Verna Bowers, Herbert Ongstad, Ruth and Reiner Widiger. The day was declared a great success and volunteers look forward to making further improvements in Manfred. A very nice article appeared in the July 9, 2005 issue of the Herald-Press written by Carrie Opdahl.

Making a difference on Join Hands Day



A gathering at JW's Pizzeria was held on May 27 in honor of the 94th birthdays of Elsie Martinson and Myrtle Rogness. Pleasant conversation was enjoyed over supper and then gifts and cards were opened followed by cake. A lovely time was had by all.

94th Birthdays of Myrtle Rogness and Elsie Martinson



Left back: Wanda Melchert, Darlene Flick, Delores Baltrusch, Helen Fritchie, Pearl Lockrem, Lorraine Graves, Darlene Roble.

Left Front: Marlys Henne, Myrtle Rogness, Elsie Martinson, Jessie Paulson, Audrey Solheim.

With the continuing help of supporters, Manfred is growing to ward 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!

Muriel Boyum
Helen Fritchie
Joe and Joan Lake
Shirley Opdahl
Fred Schmidt
Merlin and Laurie Schwartz
Irene Sommer
Jerry and Dorothy Stansberry

Designated Gifts

\$150 Harvey Eagles for Park Equipment

Endowment Fund

An everlasting fund providing for the future
Watch for more information on this fund in the 2005 Annual Letter of MHP, Inc.

Grant

\$250 grant from Thrivent Financial, for Join Hands workday, June 25th.

In Memory

Ward Alveshere

April 5, 1922- July 11, 2005

Kenneth T. Oxta

March 16, 1927- July 18, 2005

Congratulations to the Manfred Homemaker's Club who received the grand champion award for their booth entitled "Eat a Rainbow of Colors," designed by Kathy Alveshere. This booth was located in the Women's Building at the Wells County Fair held June 15-19, 2005, as was the Manfred Heritage Museum booth.

Manfred's fair booth panels were made by Wanda Melchert assisted by Herbert Ongstad and later installed in the Melby-Rogness House. Manfred also participated in the Fair Parade which included: John Anderson, Rose Anderson, Verna Bowers, Muriel Boyum, Helen Fritchie, Wanda Melchert, Audrey Solheim and Pam Norstedt. A Manfred entry was also in the Harvey 4th of July Parade.

Wanda Melchert was pleased to speak at the Bowdon Development Center, Inc. Annual Meeting, June 21.

MHP, Inc. was presented a check of \$150 by the Eagles Club of Harvey to be used for park equipment. Manfred is very much in need of a park and rest area. Grants applications will be looked into, and also consider where the park should be located. If you wish, you are welcome to give designated gifts for the future park.

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

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

'Celebrating Rural America'

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded July 25, 2000. Its mission is to compile and share the history of Manfred, North Dakota and its traditional trade area, and to encourage community pride and restoration of its historic structures.

Website: www.manfrednd.org

Manfred Heritage Museum

An educational entity of MHP, Inc. and of the Manfred community founded July 26, 2003. Its purpose is to provide present and future generations the opportunity to learn about important contributions that rural places such as Manfred have given to North Dakota and to America.

Museum Hours

May through September: Wed-Sat 10-4, Sun 12-6
Summer 701-547-2564

Winter 701-547-3123, 701-324-2091

The accomplishments of Manfred History and Preservation, Inc. are 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
- *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

Federal Tax ID#45-0458460
State of ND Solicitation #4111

3. Historical Contributions

At the core of the projects is the history of Manfred and its traditional trade area. Historical materials are welcome to help tell Manfred's story such as:

- *ARTIFACTS – Historical items
- *ARCHIVAL MATERIALS – Histories, Documents
- *GENEALOGIES – and other historic materials

Board of Directors

Audrey Solheim, President
Laverne Johnson, Vice President
Esther Boese, Secretary
Ruth Widiger, Treasurer
Wanda Melchert, Museum Director
Rose Anderson, Pete Anderson,
Verna Bowers, Herbert Ongstad

MHP, Inc. is a member of the Harvey Chamber of Commerce and Preservation North Dakota; partners with the Wells County Historical Society, North Dakota State Historical Society, Bowdon Museum and other historical groups; and devoted to education and the well being of rural America.

Christen C. and Anna Melby Family History



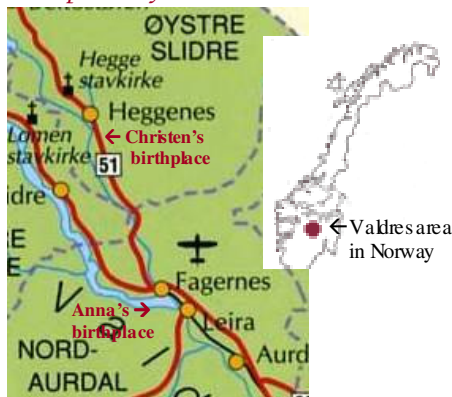
Christen C. and Anna Melby c1898
and their first two children Gena and Clarence

Mrs. C.C. (Anna) Melby's parents and siblings



Ole and Mali Ranum Stokkebryn Family
Back: Ingrid, Ole, Ingebjorg
Front: Knut, Ole, Mali, Anna

Birthplace's of C.C. and Anna



Destination of Christen's trunk is inscribed as:
"Christen C. Rogne"
"Lyon CO Minnesota Nordamerika"

Christen used his father's farm name, Rogne, until after 1901, and was known by the name *Christen C. Rogne*. Then, he and his family changed to his mother's farm name of Melby, and he was thereafter known as *C.C. Melby*.

Christen Christenson (C.C.) and Anna Christina Olsdotter were both born in Valdres, Norway. Christen was born September 12, 1861 to Christen Mikkelsen Rogne and Guro Gudbranddotter Melby in the rural area of Øystre Slidre. Christen and Guro had seven children: **1.** Guri (the elder) b.1844 immigrated in 1881 (See Dec 2004 issue, Page 3); **2.** Gudbrand b.1846 stayed in Norway; **3.** Christen b.1850 d.1851; **4.** Marit b.1852 immigration yr. unknown; **5.** Guri (the younger) b.1855 immigrated in 1879 to Lyon County MN; **6.** Torstein (T.K.) b.1859 immigrated in 1876 (See Mar 2002 Issue, Page 4); and **7.** Christen (C.C.) b.1861 immigrated in 1880. Christen's first land was a tree claim located east of present-day McHenry, ND.

Anna was born October 6, 1859 to Ole and Mali Stokkebryn in the rural area of Nord Aurdal just south of the town of Fagernes. Anna's father Ole Olson Ranum (Ranheim) farmed Stokkebryn, a good farm in Skrutvold. Ole and Mali had five children: **1.** Ole b.1846 the next farmer of Stokkebryn; **2.** Ingrid b.1848 married Ole Jorstad b.1853 then settled at Manfred and had three children: Ole, Christoffer, and Nils; **3.** Ingebjorg b.1855; **4.** Knut b.1857; and **5.** Anna b.1859.

In 1893, Christen filed on a homestead 3 ½ miles north of where the village of Manfred had been platted. Soon afterward, he made his first of several trips back to Norway with the special mission of bringing over his intended, Anna Stokkebryn. Anna filed on a quarter adjacent to that of Christen, and on December 18, 1894 were married at the home of Christen's friend Gullik Nordorp on land now owned by the Ehni family on the west edge of Manfred. Their wedding holds the distinction of having been the first one performed in the Manfred area, and was officiated by Pastor I. L. Oksendahl of Viking, ND. Witnesses were Gullik Nordorp and Christen's brother-in-law, Knud Melby.

Christen and Anna began farming their two quarters, and Christen also operated a Case Threshing Rig. Their first child Gena (Gina) was born September 10, 1895 and their second child Clarence was born December 29, 1896. On July 19, 1898, Clarence met with a tragic death. As a two year old, he watched everything and noticed his mother set a cup high in the cupboard. When she turned her back, he climbed up and drank it. It was lye that she was using to wash clothes with. There was no way to save him. On that same day, Anna lost the baby boy she was carrying and both children are buried together in one plot at Vang Cemetery. Two more children were born to them: Clara (Clare) on January 1, 1900 and Anna (Annie, Anne, Ann) on December 20, 1901.



Christen C. and Anna Melby Farm north of Manfred

c1906

Standing in foreground from left:

Anna (Mrs. C.C. Melby), Anna, Gena, C.C. Melby, Clara

From back left: House before remodeling, small animal house, grain bins and surrey buggy, barn for large animals

C.C. and Anna Melby History Acknowledgements

Notes of Bertha Melby, Harvey Growing With Pride History Book, Vang Lutheran Church 75th Anniversary and Centennial Books, Wells County Free Press, Susan Cook, Melba Cook, Joanne Adams, Mary Kaufman, Marion Nicholson, Noble Meisdalen, Darlene Flick, Edgar and Jeanne Flick, Wells County Museum, Wells County Clerk of Court's Office, Carrie Opdahl, NewsPilot-San Pedro, California.
Assisted by historian Audrey Solheim and editor Wanda Melchert.

Christen C. and Anna Melby

Family and Farming



Christen C. and Anna Melby Family

C.C. and Anna with their daughters (L to R) Clara, Gena, Anna

At right: Anna and C.C. at home with daughters Anna on the left and Clara on the right.

Below: The C.C. and Anna Melby Farm after a second story was added to the house by Gullik Nordtop in about 1907.



"C. C. Melby has erected one of the largest and most modern barns in the country. It is 56x56 and high enough to accommodate a lot of hay."

Wells County Free Press
June 19, 1905



C.C. Melby standing by his two teams of four horses each pulling a binder. The grain was being cut and bound into bundles. At back, C.C.'s barn is in view.



Above: Anna's rømmegrøt (cream porridge) container. Inscription: "Anna Olsdatter Ranum 1879"
Photo provided by her Great granddaughter Melba Cook.

At left: C.C. with a grandchild



"C.C. Melby unloaded his new separator on Monday."
Wells County Free Press, August 5, 1915

The Case Threshing Rig of C.C. Melby

At center, bundle pitchers can be seen pitching bundles into the separator which is sandwiched between their two wagons. To the right, another wagon can be seen pulled up ready to unload next, having filling his wagon with grain bundles from the field. In the foreground at right, the belt connected to the steam engine (not shown) is what operated the separator. At left, the straw from the separator is seen blown into a pile, which was often later burned with some perhaps saved to use as bedding for the livestock and some pitched into the fire box on the steam engine. At left, the grain was being funneled from the separator into the waiting grain wagon. The grain was then taken to the elevator in Manfred or stored in a grain bin on the farm.

C.C. Melby built up a fine farm and was the first to build a large hip roof barn in the area. He was an early builder and promoter of Manfred, and very active in promoting the well-being of the farmers. C.C. was also instrumental in the immigration of many of his countrymen paying their fare and employing them until they worked it off and were able to be set up in various occupations.

"C. C. Melby arrived from Norway Tuesday, where he has been spending the winter. He bought with him several people from Valdres who will make their home in our vicinity."

Wells County Free Press
March 16, 1906

The C.C. Melby Store



The stone foundation being laid in May 1908



The impressive structure under construction

↑
"C.C. Melby has started to excavate the basement for his new store building."

Wells County Free Press
 May 29, 1908

→
"C.C. Melby is adding new shelving and up-to-date drawers to his store."

Wells County Free Press
 January 22, 1909



Photo from the Wells County Museum collection with this inscription:

"Interior view of the C.C. Melby Store

Behind the counter from left:

C. C. Melby, Minnie Goedecke, and Martin K. Melby.

Photo, courtesy of Martin K. Melby"



C.C. and Anna Melby greeting customers on a wintry day at the south grocery dept. entrance



Gena Melby and Caroline Rogneteasing each other at grocery dept entrance



Clara, Anna, and Gena with their parents at the south grocery department entrance

"Cement side walks have invaded the business streets of Manfred. The start has been made in front of C.C. Melby's department store and it may be extended on both sides of the street. Let the good work go on. Good roads and dry streets are a thing of beauty and a thing of comfort and convenience."

Wells County Free Press
 June 4, 1909



The west side of Manfred's Main Street in the early years

From left: C.C. Melby Store, Drug Store, Post Office, Johnson's Place, and Bank.

During February and March of 1908, C.C. Melby purchased Lot 4 of Block 3 from Otto Sletten, and Lot 5 of Block 3 from John and Katherine Nelson. A Wells County Free Press article said, *"C.C. Melby is making quite a change on his corner. He is moving the old Sletten building to the north end of the lot making it front east, right opposite the hotel. He may make further changes later on his corner."* April 24, 1908

The foundation for the store was laid in May of 1908 and the building was completed by November, at which time C.C. moved his family into rooms above the store and also hosted a party as reported: *"C.C. Melby extended the glad hand to all his friends Saturday evening in the form of a social at his new hall. A large number were present and C.C. sustained his reputation of a royal entertainer and all had a grand time."* Free Press, November 29, 1908

The C.C. Melby Store was the largest store in Manfred, with groceries, dry goods, hardware and a furniture store on the ground floor. The top floor consisted of offices, apartments and the large hall for social events. One such office was that of Dr. P. A. Boyum who had his office in the NE corner 1909-1912 before moving to McKenzie County.

The Melby Hall had a stage and also a piano, the sounds of which were heard around the village when their daughter Gena practiced her lessons. The hall quickly became an important gathering place for community functions like organization meetings, Manfred Cornet Band concerts, dances, shows, and programs such as the Christmas program: *"The school children had their Christmas tree exercises in Melby's hall. They gave a fine and well selected program and the Manfred cornet band rendered several selections. There was a large crowd present."* Free Press, January 1, 1909

C.C. and Anna moved out west sometime after 1920 where they acquired an alfalfa ranch east of Lancaster, California. and a duplex in Riverside, California. Their daughter Ann then ran the store, but closed it and moved to California late in 1930 after her father died at San Pedro California January 19, 1930. Anna passed away at Lancaster California in March of 1951. The contents of the C.C. Melby Store were sold in 1936 and the building was taken down in 1939.

*C.C. and Anna Melby's daughter Gena**Gena and Ray Flick*

1924

Gena and Ray Flick



Anna, at right, having fun on a visit with Gena and Ray at their claims in Montana



Gena

Homesteading
in Montana

Gena Matilda was born September 10, 1895, the first child of C.C. and Anna Melby. She was born on the O.K. Melby farm less than a mile, as the crow flies, to the NW of C.C. and Anna's farm. Mrs. O.K. (Mary) Melby served as the mid-wife having made arrangements with C.C. that when the baby arrived she would put a lamp in a certain window so he could see this from his farm and know when his child had arrived.

Gena didn't attend school until she was seven years old and didn't speak a word of English. She attended the Nertrout School and Sennev Nertrout Whipple was her teacher at the school located in Section 11, Range 71, SE corner of SW quarter. Later, she attended Aakers Business College in Fargo, ND so she could handle the office, bookkeeping, buying and clerking for her father in his store.

In 1916 when she reached the age of 21, her father advised "You must find homesteading available and prove up land." He encouraged her and others saying, "You must all find land." So like many other young people from the Manfred area, she and three good friends, Gina Hedahl, Marie Hovey, and Emma Nordtorp, journeyed to Montana to homestead. Three out of the four of the group were able to file on adjoining quarters, and the fourth one filed on land a short distance away. The three built their claim shacks at the corner of their adjoining quarters, so they could live close together. There they endured many hardships. They worked at clearing the rocks, etc, to make the land tillable eventually for farming. In order to prove up their land, they had to spend a certain amount of time on the land. In with all the hard work, they took time to gather together every afternoon at 4:00 p.m. for coffee.

Early each spring in about April, the group would all go out to Montana and stay for the summer. Then, each fall they would return to Manfred to help with the harvest in ND. Gena did her share of shocking and binder work on her parent's farm.

During her homesteading years in Montana, she met a gentleman by the name of Ray Sylvester Flick. Ray was born March 28, 1888 north of Binford near Red Willow Lake, ND. He moved with his parents to a farm west of Cooperstown, and in 1911 he went to Gull Lake, Saskatchewan to homestead and became a Canadian citizen, like many others had done. While living in Canada, a French-Canadian taught Ray to play the violin. Not only did Ray play violin left-handed, but his teacher had him learn to play on right-handed violins because he said that then Ray would be able to pick up anyone's violin and be able to play. Also, he participated in the popular sport of boxing.

After six years in Canada, Ray sold out and moved to Montana, applied for his USA citizenship and immediately obtained it. He wanted to join the war effort and was the first one called up in Philips County, MT for WWI, but he failed the medical exam because of old injuries so was unable to go. He was one of the few people who did not come down with the flu of 1918, and as a result was very busy helping others during that epidemic. Gena and Ray were married at Malta on August 17, 1920.

C.C. and Anna
visiting their
daughter Gena →

Photo at right: A coffee party at one of the group's claim shacks in Montana -

From left: Marie Hovey, Gina Hedahl, Mrs. Marit (Nils) Hovey and Emma Nordtorp

Bottom photo at far right: Marie Hovey, Gina Hedahl, Emma Nordtorp, Marit Hovey knitting together

Ray and Gena Flick and Family



Gena and Ray Flick Family in Montana after one of Ray's baseball games. From left: Marian, Gena, Roger, Clayton, Edgar Allen, and Ray (shown in uniform). Ray was a left-handed pitcher.



Roger, Marian, Edgar Allen, Gena, Ray



Marian, Ray, Gena at Rochester

Five children were born to Gena and Ray: Clayton 1921, Margarette 1923, Marian 1926, Edgar 1928, and Roger 1930. Two of the children, Clayton and Margarette, died when they were young. Clayton passed away November 14, 1935 at the age of 14 from pneumonia. He rests in the Vang Cemetery Manfred, ND. Margarette born January 6, 1923, passed away October 18, 1923 of spinal meningitis. Because of this contagious disease, her remains could not be moved to the family plot at Manfred, ND so she rests at Malta.

Ray and Gena's farm was located 50 miles north of Malta, Montana and 6 miles south of the Canadian border. Despite living 50 miles from town during the depression, they were always well fed because of Ray's wonderful gardening and Gena's cooking abilities. They farmed their land, and also farmed Emma Nordtorp's quarter each year for her.

At night, the children slept on a rollaway bed that served as a couch during the day. Their daughter Marian recalls her mother sitting nearby in the rocking chair knitting or crocheting by kerosene light. Until they fell asleep each night, a favorite activity for Marian was asking her mother to teach them Norwegian. They would ask her things like "How do you say 'lamp' in Norwegian? How do you say..." and on, naming items in the room. Gena would also play tunes for them on the piano, such as "Springtime in the Rockies." During Ray's bi-yearly trips to Malta, he would buy sheet music to bring home. He also bought an accordion and taught himself how to play.

Gena's father had died in 1930, and her mother and two sisters were all living in California so no family was left in North Dakota. In the fall of 1935, Ray and Gena decided to sell their farm in Montana and move back to North Dakota to carry on her parent's homestead. It was during the time of this move, that Clayton suddenly took ill and died. That winter the family lived in the apartments above the C.C. Melby Store, and the next year moved to the family farm to begin farming.

Gena was a gentle soul, wonderful sewer, hard worker, pianist, and a good cook. Ray was a good violin player and was full of good nature. The children have fond memories of their parents, and their house filled with music. Ray played for community events and dances, and Gena also helped at times on the piano. Oscar Melby, Gena's cousin, enjoyed playing violin together with Ray. Their daughter Marian recalls enjoyable evenings either at their home or over at the Oscar Melby home hearing music such as the waltz, polka, and schottische. A favorite tune was "Life in the Finish Woods" fondly known as Oscar's Waltz. Following a short illness, Gena died August 19, 1950. Ray passed away on December 5, 1962. They are buried at Vang Cemetery.

Marian and Robert Nicholson

Ray and Gena's third child was Marian. She recalls that, at about age 12, she took a few piano lessons from Myrtle Melby (Sailer) at Manfred for 25¢ per lesson. Myrtle was also her 4th grade teacher. Marian graduated from Harvey High School. She married during World War II and to that union one daughter, Marilyn, was born. Marilyn has two daughters Jodelle who has one child Lauren, and Amy who has two children: Maxwell and Greta.

Several years later, Marian married Robert Nicholson who was a Pearl Harbor survivor. He had enlisted in the Navy on December 7, 1937 and his four-year enlistment was to be up December 7, 1941. However on that very day, his ship, the U.S.S. West Virginia, sunk in Pearl Harbor. He swam ashore through burning oil, and three days later was put on the destroyer U.S.S. Ralph Talbot. He served the duration of the war in the South Pacific. To that marriage two daughters were born: Tamara and Nicci.

Robert and Marian made their home in Stillwater, Minnesota and worked in the Twin Cities area. After retirement, they spent many winters in Florida. Robert died July 26, 2004.



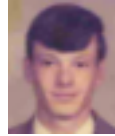
Robert and Marian Nicholson 1985
and daughters Tamara, Marilyn, Nicci



Robert and Marian Nicholson
Mother's Day 1980



Four Generations 1991
Back: Marilyn, Marian Front: Lauren, Jodelle

Edgar Allen and Jeanne Flick

Edgar and Jeanne Flick
On their wedding, January 21, 1955

Randy



The Edgar and Jeanne Flick Farm
Located on Section 10, T 149, R 71 of Manfred Township

2002

The children and their spouses



From left back: Tryg and Linda Letnes, Corey and JoAnn Flick, Vern Hockstra From left front: Ardis Zerr, Edgar and Jeanne Flick, Myrna Hockstra

The grandchildren



From left back: Levi Flick, Mitchel Flick, Allen Zerr, Chelsey Letnes, Justin Zerr, Taylor Letnes, Joshua Beilke
From left foreground: Andrew Flick, Carla Zerr, Hannah Letnes

Edgar Allen Flick, fourth child of Ray S. and Gena Melby Flick was born north of Malta, Montana. Edgar served in the Korean War and following this began farming in 1953. He married Jeanne McBain on January 21, 1955. Edgar and Jeanne live on the C.C. Melby homestead, and farmed until 1993.

They had five children: 1. Randy was fatally injured in a car accident in 1981 at the age of 26. 2. Ardis lives in Bismarck and works as a Driver's License Examiner. She has two sons Allen and Justin who farm near Harvey, and a daughter Carla who works in a bank in Brookings, SD. 3. Myrna married Dean Beilke and had one son Joshua Beilke who will be a Senior in high school. She married Vern Hockstra in 1998 and works at Multiband in Fargo. 4. Linda married Trygve Letnes in 1991. They have three daughters: Chelsey, Taylor, and Hannah. Linda works for a land developer in Moorhead and they live in Fargo. 5. Corey married JoAnn Volk in 1985. Corey works for Napa in Minot. JoAnn is an RN at Trinity Hospital. They have three sons: Levi, Mitchel, and Andrew and live NE of Burlington. All five children attended Manfred School until it closed in 1973, and then went on to graduate from Harvey High School.

Edgar was postmaster of the Manfred Post Office from January 1964 until October 2, 1992, his tenure being the longest in this position. He served on the Manfred Township Board, active in the Manfred Telephone Company, Fagerlund Sons of Norway Lodge, Harvey Masonic Lodge, and the National Association of Postmasters of the US serving several terms as president of the 4th Class Offices of the State of North Dakota. He greatly enjoys inventing things.

Jeanne served as Sunday School superintendent at Vang Church, as well as Sunday School teacher and Vacation Bible School teacher. She worked at the ASC Office in Fessenden for 25½ years, retiring in 1994. She is a member of the Vang Ladies Aid. Edgar and Jeanne are active participants of Manfred History and Preservation, Inc., helping with the Manfred Newsletter among other things. Since 1995, they've enjoyed spending their winters in Arizona.

Edgar has enjoyed making inventions

← Bicycle built for two...

Grandchildren Taylor and Andrew shown enjoying a bicycle consisting of the front end of a lawn mower welded to the back half of a bicycle, with a long seat added.

↵ Tractor...

Edgar shown riding on a tractor he made in 1960 to cultivate new trees. It consists of a John Deere upright 2-cylinder engine from a 6' combine, differential from a 1953 Ford Car cut down, 1928 Chevrolet Truck transmission, steering sector from a 1929 International Truck, front axle cut down from a Model T Ford, spindles and front wheels from a Crosley Car.

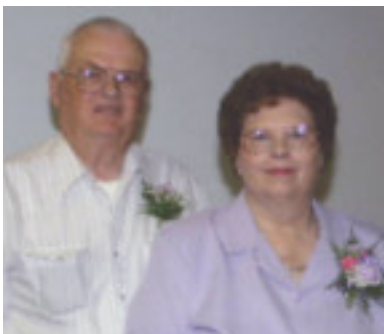
Items from the C.C. Melby Store



A cabinet for sewing items



Stovejack was used in 2004, to haul a cook stove to Manfred Museum



Edgar and Jeanne Flick
upon their 50th Wedding Anniversary
celebrated June 18, 2005



Roger and Darlene Flick



Roger and Darlene Flick
June 21, 1953

Roger Glen Flick was the youngest child of Ray and Gena Flick. He was named for the first initials of his parent's names, R (Ray) for Roger and G (Gena) for Glen. He attended Manfred School and later married Darlene Haluska, a schoolteacher. She taught two years at the Roller School and two years at the Kleinsasser School, both rural schools out of Harvey. Roger and his bride established their farm near Chaseley in 1954, raising grain and beef cattle. They had four children: 1. Steven. 2. David married Cheryl and they have two children, Ashley and Chelsey. Ashley attends NDSU in animal science. 3. Michael married Nona and they have two children, Samantha and Travis. 4. Lisa married Jeffrey Stremick and they have two children, Jackson and Colin.

Roger and Darlene were very active in the United Methodist Church, Roger serving as a board member and Darlene in teaching Sunday school. Roger served on the Delger Township board for over 25 years, and was a Hurdsville School Board member. Darlene was a member of the Ladies Aid, and West Ontario Homemaker's Club.

In 1980, Roger and Darlene received the Wells County Soil Conservation award. In 1994, they retired from farming, but Roger continued to help his three sons in their farming. He was a good influence on them. As one son said "He never interfered with us, but always was there when we needed good advice, and we leaned on him." Roger passed away suddenly on Christmas Day 2004 and is buried in Chaseley Cemetery.

The Flick Farms of Chaseley has evolved into a large farming and ranch operation run by Roger and Darlene's three sons. Daughter-in-laws, Cheryl and Nona, are active in the farming and the grandchildren also help. Included among the land they farm is Edgar and Jeanne Flick's farm - the C.C. and Anna Melby homestead land.



Roger and Darlene Flick
on their 50th Wedding Anniversary
celebrated June 14, 2003



The Roger and Darlene Flick Farm
They received the 1980 Soil Conservation Award
Their farm continues to be the center of activity for the Flick Farms operation of their sons



From left in groups: Roger and Darlene Flick Family 2003
Daughter Lisa and husband Jeff with sons Colin and Jackson in front.
Son Mike and his wife Nona with children Travis and Samantha in front.
Son David and Cheryl with daughters Ashley and Chelsey. Son Steven.

The Flick brothers



Steve, Dave, Mike 2003



Flick Farms, 2005 Wheat Harvest

C.C. Melby was progressive in his farming practices, but he and Anna would surely have marveled to see how their descendants harvest wheat today.



Trucks are waiting to be loaded with grain from the carts



Four combines and two grain carts harvesting as a team

C.C. and Anna Melby's daughter Clara (Known as Clare)

Clare and Preston Shearer

My mother, Clare Shearer, was born at Manfred, ND in 1900. After graduating from Valley City Teacher's College, she taught 5th grade at Toppenish, WA. She married my father, Preston Shearer in 1922. He had graduated from a military academy, attended the U of WA, and served in the infantry in France during WWI. Later they moved to San Pedro, CA and lived in one of my grandfather's duplexes. Dad sold cars. They then moved to Riverside, CA because of my dad's asthma. He continued to sell cars in Riverside.

They had 3 children. My brother Jack, born in 1923, served in the Air Force in WWII, graduated from the U of Southern Cal. and had 7 children. My brother Dick, born in 1928, graduated from Riverside College and then became manager of a title company. He married Beverly Ann Slaughter in 1950. Since then, they have lived in Madera, CA, and have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. I (Joanne) was born in 1931, graduated from the U of Cal. at Santa Barbara in 1953, and taught primary grades for 27 years. I married Henry Adams in 1954. We have 3 children and 5 grandchildren, and raised our family in Pacifica, CA. Henry served in the Naval Reserve and also was a high school teacher. When we retired, we moved to our ranch in British Columbia, and later moved to Kalispell, MT.

When my dad had a serious heart attack in 1943, mother returned to teaching to support the family. She also took courses toward her B.A. degree and graduated from the U of Redlands in California shortly before retiring from teaching. My mother was a wonderful wife, mother, teacher, and friend. She was a very positive influence on our lives in her example of loyalty, hard work, honesty, pride, patriotism, humor, and total love of family. I'm so proud to have been her daughter. Recorded by their daughter Joanne Adams



Clare and Preston during Honeymoon in 1922



Preston and Clare Shearer c1922



Preston and Clare Shearer 1945 In their front yard at Riverside, CA



Preston and Clare Shearer Family in backyard of their home - 1945
From left: Dick, Clare, Jack, Joanne, Preston

C.C. and Anna Melby's daughter Anna (Known as Ann)

Ann Melby Cook

Ann was born at her parent's homestead in 1901. She married Robert Cook and they had two sons: Clarence, born in 1922 (named after Ann's brother who died as a child) and Robert, Jr. (Bob) in 1924. They lived at Manfred where Ann helped out at her father's store. After Ann and Robert divorced, Ann moved to her parent's farm at Lancaster, CA to help her mother after her father died, and there her sons grew up. Living together with their Grandmother Anna, the boys quickly learned some Norwegian and were able to converse with her. Ann farmed the land by growing alfalfa, barley, rye, and sugar beets with the help of her sons. They were very hard working men and extremely fond of their mother, Ann. Both sons joined the Navy during WWII, serving in the Pacific campaign.

After the war, Bob worked at Edwards Air Force Base in developing the Z-1 for NASA. He married Dorothy Guitelius and named his daughter, Melba, which is based on the Melby family name. Melba is a Registered Nurse in Lancaster and has two sons, Sheldon has two children Mitch and Sydney, and Lukasz. After four years in the Navy, Clarence also worked at Edwards Air Force Base for NASA and invented strain gages and adhesives for the space shuttle tiles. He married Gloria, and they had one daughter, Susan, who received her doctorate in Pharmacy and works in southern California. She has three children: Steve, Kevin, and Kelsey.

Many remember Ann with much affection. She was a gracious host and a very hard worker. Susan cherishes a tile she has that once hung on her Granny Ann's kitchen wall, which says "*Morgon stund har guld imun.*" (She and Melba would tease Ann by mispronouncing the Norwegian as "*Morgan stud bar glud i mud.*") It means: "There is gold in the mouth of the morning."

Similar in meaning to "The early bird catches the worm."



Robert and Ann Cook



Ann with Robert and Clarence



Ann Melby Cook



Robert and Clarence



Ann with sons Clarence and Bob
Photo taken in the early 1970s

Photography Collection by Gena Melby

Enjoy a tour of Manfred with Gena Melby as your guide!

Gena, the daughter of C.C. and Anna Melby, was wonderfully prolific with her Eastman Kodak camera. Through photos taken of friends and also self-portraits, she has provided us and future generations, a remarkable glimpse of life and times at Manfred around 1910-1920.

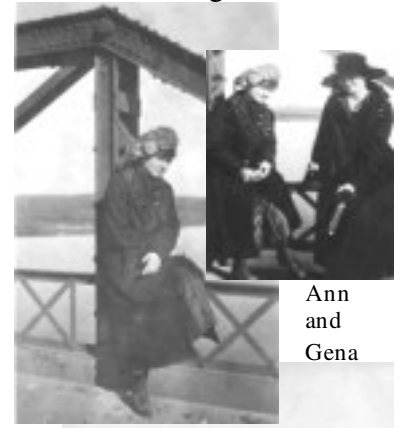


Railroad tracks and depot at Manfred

Axel Grand and Caroline Rogne ↑



Gena standing by Roadster, Gina Hedahl and Axel Grand at back



Ann and Gena



James River and bridge



Skating on the James

← Axel Grand
Gena Melby
Gordon Anderson



Water tank and windmill for the train

←
Axel LeGrand,
standing on the long
depot platform, was
an elevator manager
in Manfred for many
years



Playful and fun times with friends

←
Clare Melby
Gina Hedahl
Ann Melby
Axel Grand



About Town

← Decked out with hand muffs:
Gena Melby
Emma Nordtorp
Gina Hedahl
Ann Melby



South side of C.C. Melby Store

↑ Gena horsing around, with her dad in the doorway and Alex looking on

Gena and friend sitting on a early-style wheelbarrow ↓



← From left:
Clara Ranum, Clara
Melby, Gladys Ranum,
Lilly Rodne, Gena Melby



←
Gena poses in front of the
Renden Blacksmith Shop

View of the Anderson
Livery, Post Office when
located on east side of
Main Street, and Hotel

↓



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August 2005