

Suzanne Kukowski; Victoria (Leonard Marinik); Annie (Walter Kukowski); Adeline (Henry Blazek); Rose (Willie Bizek); Severyn (Yarmilla Blazek); Bernice (Menvil Borgen); Andrew (Delores Mrozek); and Doris (Maynard Moen).

As of June 2004 only two children survive-- Severyn Duray and Bernice Borgen.

Submitted by Yarmilla Duray, Bernice Borgen, and Myrna Sovde.

Joseph and Mary Duray

Joseph Duray was born in Poland in 1847. He married Mary Wysocka in 1874. They came to America in 1889 and lived near Warsaw, North Dakota, for a short time before moving to a farm southeast of Greenbush. They came with six horses and three walkingplows.

In the SE 1/4 of Section 30 in Barnett Township, Joseph and Mary built a log house that was their home for many years. They had seven children, three of whom were born in Poland: Fransica, John (Stella), Martha (Carl Miske), Joe (Mary Lasniewski and Agnes Grittner), Louis, Max (Lucy Blawat), and Theodore.



Joseph and Mary Duray
(photo courtesy of Mary Ann Schires)

her final days with Max and Lucy Duray.

Submitted by Arlaine Duray.

Anders and Caroline (Grinager) Dvergsten

Anders (aka Andrew) K. Dvergsten was born in Hadeland, Norway on August 12, 1860. Caroline (Grinager) Dvergsten was also born in Hadeland, Norway on April 4, 1864. They came to America and settled in the Spring Grove, Minnesota area. They **were** married in August of 1886. In May of 1902, they moved to Greenbush, Minnesota and for about one year lived in Soler Township before moving to Barnett Township and homesteading there.

They were charter members of Zion Lutheran Church. Life at that time centered around the home, their small country school and church. There were burdens and hardships to overcome as they met the many challenges of life back then.

Anders and Caroline had five children: Olga, their oldest child, died at the age of one year of diphtheria.

Carl, the oldest son, continued to live on the farm with his mother



Elmer, Carl, Grandma Caroline, Clara and Melvin Dvergsten.
(photo courtesy of Arvid Dvergsten)

after his father passed away in 1917. He lived with her until she died in 1941. In 1946, he married Julia Goodrich who had one son and four daughters by two previous marriages.

Melvin, married Della Miller. Together they raised five sons: Manvil, Delbert, Donald, Arvid, and Gerald. All reside in the Greenbush area except Delbert who lives in Kansas City, Missouri.

Elmer, the third son, married Mathilda Williamson. They had four sons: Arnold, Clifford, Orville, and Harvey; and one daughter, Miranda. Elmer and Mathilda (Tillie) also raised a nephew, Clarence Williamson, Jr., after his mother passed away when he was only one year old.

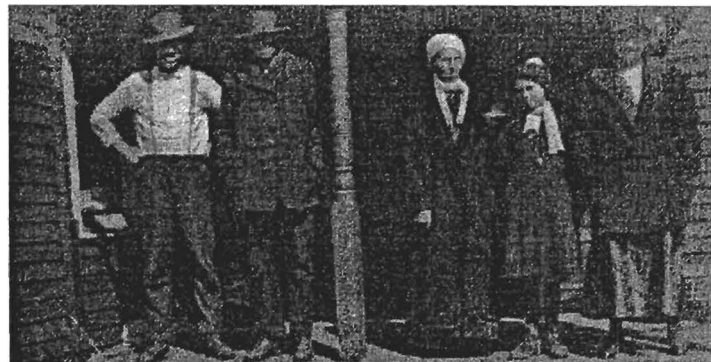
Clara, the youngest child, died of tuberculosis in August of 1934 at the age of thirty. Anders passed away on September 13, 1917. His wife, Caroline, died on March 31, 1941 of asthma. They are buried in Zion Lutheran Cemetery, rural Greenbush.

The homestead of Anders and Caroline Dvergsten in Section 33 of Barnett Township is now owned by a great-great grandson, Victor Elmer Kaml. It has been in the family for over 100 years.

Submitted by Beatrice Dvergsten.

Melvin and Della (Miller) Dvergsten

Melvin Nelius Dvergsten was born March 14, 1892, in Spring Grove, Minnesota, the son of Anders K. and Caroline (Grinager) Dvergsten who had come to America from Hadeland, Norway. When he was ten years old, he came with his parents to Roseau County where they settled on a farm in Soler Township. A year later, they moved to Barnett Township where he attended school and grew to manhood. He had two brothers, Carl and Elmer, and two sisters, Olga and Clara.



Melvin, Elmer, Grandma Caroline, Clara and Grandma Dvergsten's sister.
(photo courtesy of Arvid Dvergsten)

Della Louisa (Miller) Dvergsten was born on October 22, 1902, in Huss Township of Roseau County where she attended school and lived until her marriage. Della's parents were Frank and ^MMargaretha (Hatler) Miller who came to America from Hamburg, Germany. They had ten children, four sons and six daughters, of whom Della was the youngest.

Like many couples of that time, Melvin and Della met at church. They had grown up in the same area and both were baptized and confirmed into the Lutheran faith. They were married on December 16, 1922, and began their life together on a farm in Barnett Township. In October of 1929, fire destroyed their home, including all furniture, clothing, and personal possessions. Some years later, a fire destroyed the barn. Both were rebuilt with the help of neighbors. In 1946, they moved onto a farm in Hereim Township. In 1961, they retired and moved into the village of Greenbush where they spent their remaining years.

The following information was gleaned from a Tribune article commemorating their 50th anniversary. Melvin started farming with horses and loved them, "But the tractor was easier...we got more work done, faster...and we didn't have to fight the mosquitoes and have tails slap us in the face when we harnessed up."

During threshing season Della had to milk all 14 cows by hand and helped shock the grain. She recalled cooking for as many as 14 threshers in addition to the family. She always raised a big garden. In later years she enjoyed quilting and growing flowers.

"Electricity was the biggest change for us...it was like daylight in the bam when it came...instead of those old black lanterns," Melvin was quoted as saying.

In addition to farming and raising their five sons, the Dvergstens were active in their church and community. Melvin served on both Barnett and Hereim town boards and on the Barnett school board. He served for several years on the Greenbush Community Hospital board and on the Farmers' Coop Creamery board. He was one of the first members of Zion Lutheran Church, rural Greenbush. Della, besides being a busy mother and homemaker, was actively involved in her church, first at Zion Lutheran and later at Bethel Lutheran. She opened her home to the young teachers who came to teach in the rural school near their home where their sons attended elementary school. In the later years, Della enjoyed quilting and sewing. She was especially happy to be sewing dresses for her six granddaughters after having only sons.

These five sons, Della (Beatrice Williamson), Delbert (Ardith Kirkeide), Donald (Vivian Wilson), Arvid (Lois Anderson), and Gerald (Florence Schaller) all live in the Greenbush area with the exception of Delbert who lives in Kansas City, Missouri. Della and Melvin had fifteen grandchildren, many of whom still live in the surrounding area.

Melvin passed away March 26, 1975, and Della on February 15, 1986. They are buried in the Bethel Lutheran Cemetery, having been members of Bethel Lutheran Church, Greenbush, for forty years.

Submitted by Beatrice Dvergsten and Lois and Arvid Dvergsten.

Stephen "Stefan" and Helen (Czakla) Dziekonski

Stephen and Helen (Czakla) Dziekonski decided to try for a better life and came to the United States. They left Kuzie, Poland, and entered the United States at Mikey's Point, McKeysport, Pennsylvania, in approximately 1905.

After living in the United States for a time, they returned to Po-



Stephan and Helen Dziekonski
(Korczak Collection photo)

land for a visit. When they came back to the United States, they settled in Greenbush on a tract of land ten miles west of town in Dewey Township. The farm was small and the land was unfriendly, requiring a great deal of work. Clearing it and picking rocks was an on-going chore. They raised cattle, pigs, chickens, geese, and ducks for their survival. They also planted oats, barley, flax, and alfalfa. They used horses for power and had a small, hand-

held plow pulled by horses to plow and till.

In the fall, Stanley and Joe helped their father with swathing, cutting the grain with a horse-drawn binder that threw out bundles that had to be shocked, stacked tent-like to keep the grain heads off the ground. Threshing in this neighborhood, like in most, was a community affair, with the neighbors getting together at each farm in turn, pitching in to get the job done. In this way, one threshing rig and a lot of work could be shared by many.



Helen Dziekonski with her chickens and ducks. Sometimes dinner was still roaming the farmyard in the morning. (Korczak Collection photo)

Harvest time was hard work for the women-folk, too. The threshing crew needed to be fed and that was the job of the woman on whose farm the crew was working. Apparently Helen was a good cook, because some of the harvesters were happy to share the work at Dziekonskis-- and the dinner. Joe Chrzanowski particularly enjoyed Helen's homemade soups.

The meals had to be cooked on a wood-burning range, with no refrigerator, and the nearest source of water about the distance of a block from the house. Joan, a grandchild who spent summers with Grandma, recalls "the pail got empty quickly." Because they had no refrigeration, much of the meat eaten in the summer was canned or smoked. This was mostly pork, as the Dziekonskis seldom butchered cattle. When they were to have fresh meat for a fall meal, it was mostly poultry, and that dinner was usually still clucking in the

mornmg.

When company came for dinner, it was common practice for the men to eat first. The women got the leftovers if there were any. Sometimes it could be sparse! Then there would be cards, whist, and only the men played. They slammed the cards down and hit the table with each play. Good thing the tables were oak and could take the abuse. The women never played with them at that time. Instead, they got to do fun things like kids, dishes, and make small talk.

Joan remembers how a rain barrel caught water for washing clothes and hair. Sometimes they would put a bit of vinegar in the water when shampooing. After the clothes were washed and hung out to dry, everything had to be ironed. The fabrics were coarse and simple, not drip dry, wrinkle-free as today. The irons had to be heated on the wood-burning range and the clothes sprinkled before ironing. Dry cleaning was also done at home-- using kerosene.

Joan recalls Grandma making a grocery list and going to Charlie Anderson's store, where she would read off one item at a time. Charlie would go and get it and write it on a pad with the price, and then he'd add it all up with a crank cash register. He'd give Grandma the top copy, keeping the carbon for himself. Then Charlie wrapped the purchases in paper off the roll and tied the parcels with string.

She also remembers the "Saturday night bath." With no tubs or showers, everyone washed up in the sink, got dressed up in their good clothes, and went off to town to socialize after a hard week's work. If the uncles stayed late and felt tough the next day, they still had to get up, milk and do chores, and then attend the two-hour mass, several miles away at Leo.

Stephen and Helen's children included: Volga (Lottie), Joe, Stella, Stanley, Anne, and Frances, and another daughter who died shortly after birth.

Volga married Henry Brown from Florian, Minnesota, and lived in South St. Paul until their deaths. They had no children.

Joe and Stanley remained on the farm after their father's death, farming and living with Helen and Frances, their mother and little sister. Joe was drafted into the army in 1940, but was released on option in 1941 because of his age. However, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor he was recalled and served in the Pacific Theater where he was wounded. He came home in 1945, and continued to farm the home place with Stanley. He married Lucy Duray later in life and remained in Greenbush, farming until he died.

Stella married Frank Przybylski from Florian, Minnesota, in 1934. They farmed there until 1942 when they moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota. They had one child, Joan. Stella is the last of the Dziekonski family still living. She was employed by Metro Transit and retired after 36 years of service. She resides in Minneapolis, in her own home and will be 90 years old on October 21, 2004.

Stanley stayed on the farm for a while, then left for South St. Paul to work in the stockyards. He returned to Greenbush a few years later and remained on the farm until he died. He became a great cook and baker. His gardens, both vegetable and flower, were masterpieces. His dahlias were the size of dinner plates. He loved to play whist and would begin dealing the cards when he saw his friends coming on the high grade, so the game could begin without delay.

Anne worked in Karlstad and surrounding areas where she met George (Pete) Gonsioroski from Montana. They moved to South St. Paul, where they lived until their deaths. They raised seven children, Rose, Marianne, Judy, Edward, Richard, Kenneth, and Jim. They reside in the metro area.

Frances, the youngest, met and married Mike Korczak from North

Dakota. A few years later, they purchased Charlie Anderson's grocery store just a door from the last bar on Main Street, and they soon began operating under a Red Owl franchise. Later they built a new store, also operated as Red Owl. Mike died in 1975 and Frances in 1998. Mike and Frances had five children: Felix, Mike, Kenneth, Robert, and Mary (Secor). The store, now Squid's Market, continues to be operated by family.

Stephen Dziekonski died in 1941 and Helen died in 1950. Even death was different and could be difficult for the pioneers. Stephen's wake was held in the home. While his body lay in the bedroom, the rosary was recited in the living room. When Helen died the weather was cold, 50 degrees below zero. It took a week to dig the grave, as it had to be dug out in layers.

Now, both rest in peace in the Leo Cemetery adjacent to the St. Aloysius Church.

Submitted by Eunice Korczak Primarily based on information submitted by Joan Skogseth.

Tennes Eeg (1873-1919) and
Thea (Nesteby) Eeg <1892-1968)

Tennes Eeg was born May 8, 1873, in Norway and came to Minnesota as a young man. He liked the area of Dewey Township in western Roseau County, and homesteaded five miles west of Greenbush on the SW 114 Section 11 on April 8, 1903. The land was cleared with a horse and oxen and a breaking plow. The Eeg family farms this homestead as a part of their farming operation to this day, and has done so for over a century.



Tennes and Thea Eeg's wedding.

In 1910, Tennes married Thea Nesteby (1892-1968). To this union six children were born. (None of them are living today.) Ilah (Leslie Gauss) resided in New Jersey; Elena (Alfred Aamodt), Greenbush; Tenney (Ruth Westerberg), Greenbush; Thelma (Harley Anderson) resided in Greenbush, Thief River Falls, and then Hopkins, MN; Arvilda (Harley Trangsrud) resided in Greenbush and later Hopkins, MN; and Theodore, born in 1919, died in WWII action in

Belgium on February 19, 1945. Thea was married to Mr. Linder for a brief time. One son, Arthur Linder, was born to this union in 1927.

When Tennes Eeg died in 1919, his son Tenney was five years old. As the elder son, he helped farm to help support the family. He also worked for neighbors and helped build roads in the county with a dirt scraper and a team of horses. Much of his earnings went to help pay the taxes on the home farm.

Tenney married Ruth Westerberg on November 5, 1942. Ruth was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on March 10, 1919, coming to Minnesota when she was a year old. Tenney and Ruth



Eeg children; Back: Thelma, "Vel"; lives on the family farm and Seated: Alena holding Theodore, IIIah, farms in partnership with his uncle, Byron. **G**arner is the

fourth generation of Eegs to farm the land.

After Tenney's death, Ruth continued farming with the help of her children until she left the farm in 1973. She continues to live in Greenbush, enjoying her eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She is very proud to have been part of a Century Farm. Submitted by Ruth Eeg.

John and Kathryn (Trzebiatowski) Efta Sr.

John Efta, Sr. was born in Poland on December 29, 1844. His parents were Jacob Efta and Victori Mrozek. He had three brothers Ignac, Joseph, and Jacob.

Kathryn Trzebiatowski was born in Prussia in 1845. In 1863 she married John Efta, Sr. They came to the United States about 1885, and to Roseau County about 1898 or 1899. They homesteaded the NW 1/4 Section 20 in Barto Township which is the quarter where the St. Aloysius church is located.



John Sr. and Kathryn Trzebiatowski Efta. (photo courtesy of Alice (Floyd) **Blawat**)

They had to leave Poland because they were so poor they could hardly feed their family. Kathryn finally saved \$200 and they were able to leave.

They had eight children, but one died before Kathryn did. The children were: Aginl, Joe, John, Jr. born 1883, James, **Tony**, Annie, and Mary. Kathryn died in February of 1918. John died January 1, 1929, at 85 years old.

Frances Efta Stanislawski recalls that Grandpa went to church

every day, even when it was 40 below zero. His beard would be full of ice when he came home, walking of course. When he came home, he would only have warm water and bread for breakfast.

In 1929 when John died, only two children, Joe and John, lived in the Leo area. Aginl was in Chicago. James (Vincent) lived in Nashua, Montana, and his sister Mary (John Piesik) lived in St. Phillip, Montana. Tony was a teacher in rural Greenbush, then lived in Puliski, Wisconsin; and Annie Rasckke/Bulger lived in Superior, Wisconsin.

Joe, (Julia Hefta) a widower, lived in the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Barto Township. His children were Julia (Stanalouck), Balbina (Stanley Rutkowski), Emelia (Theodore Kowalski), Elizabeth (Pete Stegora/Julian Matelskie), Victoria (Hewitte), Peter, Frankie and Andrew (Danelouck). Andrew and Frankie lived with their father.

John Efta, Jr. and wife, Laura Landowski, lived with John Efta, Sr. on the farm by the Leo church. Their children were Frances Stanislawski, Mary Kalinowski, Anne Kukowski, Philip, Adam, Johnny, Lorryne Gajeski, Alfin, Delores Wesolowski and Donald.

John and Katherine's daughter Mary (1886-1965) married John Piesik on November 7, 1902, in Roseau, Minnesota. Their older children were born in Greenbush, but they moved to Montana about the time Mary's cousins, Joseph and Ann Efta's children did. Mary and John's children were: Francis (1903-1988) married Ragvald Knutson; Frankie (1905-1923); Bernice (1907-1989) married Berg; Anna (1910-1981) married John Zinda; Cecelia (1914-1994) married Phil Datta; Joe (1916-1964) married Anastasia Buol; Katherine (1919-1973) married Witkowski; Johnny (1921-1978) married Gertrude Rising; Vincent (1924-1998) married Elizabeth Schiffer; Richard (1926-six days); and Anthony (1928-10 days).

Those living in the Greenbush area who bear the Efta name are not from this branch, John Efta, Sr., but from John Senior's brothers (see first paragraph).

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Elizabeth Wojciechowski. Frances Stanislawski. Ralph Knutson. See Simon and Julia Landowski, Laura and John Efta, Jr., and Joseph and Ann Efta histories.

John Efta Jr. and Laura (Landowski) Efta

Laura Landowski, 1893-1980, the daughter of Simon and Julia Landowski, was born in Warsaw, North Dakota. Laura married John Efta, Jr., 1883-1949, son of John, Sr. and Kathryn (Trzebiatowski) Efta in 1914.

John, Laura and family lived with John's parents, John, Sr. and Kathryn Efta, on the homestead, the NW 1/4 Section 20 Barto Township where St. Aloysius church is located. When Alfin was born, Frances, the oldest child, could see the baby wouldn't live, so she baptized him. Granddaughter Alice Blawat remembers Laura as a wonderful grandmother. John was a carpenter and a farmer.

Their children were Frances Stanislawski, 1915; Mary Kalinowski, 1916-1984; Annie Kukowski, 1918-1991; Philip Efta, 1920-1997; Adam Efta, 1922-1998; Johnny Efta, 1924-1975 (married Alta Meath); Lorryne, 1928-1993; Alfin, 1930 (7 hours); Delores, 1932; and Donald, 1935.

Frances married Alex Stanislawski. Their children are Georgine, Alice, Louise, Gerald, Johnny, and Katherine. Mary married Andrew Kalinowski. Their children are Marie, Bernadette and Dorothy.

Anne married Frank Kukowski. Their children are Ronald, Gerald, Frank and Shirley. Lorryne married Florian Gajeski. Their children are Diane, Lynette, Gale, and Michael. Delores married Eugene Wesolowski and had three children Debra, Daryl, and Rodney. Donald married Shirley Ann Paulson. Their children are Colleen,

Johnnie, Laurie, Roxanne, Rachel, and Michelle.

Ironically with nine children and twenty-nine grandchildren, only one grandson, from John and Laura's youngest son carries the Efta name in this branch of the family. Appropriately his name was Johnnie.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Frances Stanislawski and Alice Blawat.

Joseph and Ann Efta

Joseph Efta was born in Poland. His parents were Jacob Efta and Victori Mrozek. He had three brothers Ignac, John, Sr., and Jacob.

This is the branch of the Efta family that carries on the Efta name in the Greenbush area. Joseph and Ann came to Roseau County from LeSueur County in 1903. They homesteaded on the NE 1/4 Section 9 Barto Township. Their children were Joseph B. 1893-1977 (Victoria Blawat), John (Lucy **Gonshorowski**), Stanley (Peplinski), Tony (Crisco), Frank (?), Pauline (John Marciniak of Barto Township), Vema (John Marciniak after her sister died), Ann (Miller), Mary (Ponke), Adam, Alphonsius and Elizabeth became a nun.

In 1907, all of the family except for Joseph B. went to Wiboua County, Montana, to homestead. Tony was 18 and not old enough to homestead unless he was married. So he married a Crisco who was related to the Marciniaks. Her father, Frank Crisco, was a dray man in Greenbush and hauled coal for the dredges.

Joseph, more commonly known in our area as J. B. Efta, remained on the family homestead. He married Victoria Blawat (1900-1994) the daughter of Frank and Elizabeth Blawat and had six children: Alex, James, Edward, Raymond, Irene and Teresa.

In 1929, J. B. and Victoria also moved to Montana, but they retained ownership of the homestead. In 1936, after many years of drought, the grasshoppers were the last straw, and J. B.'s family moved back to Greenbush. J. B. would never complain about too much rain. Part of the crop might drown, but there would always be some crop and there would be feed for the livestock.

Alex (Clara Hanka) had three children: Lou Allen, Cary, and Patrick. James (Bernice Bialke) had three children: James, Jr., Elaine, and Virginia. Edward and Leona (Kalka) had five children: Renee, Myles, Debbie, Mary and John. Raymond and June (Szymanski) had eight children: Robert, Charles, Patricia, Julie, Jacqueline, Elizabeth, Kathleen and Laurie. Irene (Jim Walter) had seven children: Larry, Joe, Ivy, Valerie, Nola, Carolyn, Ilene. Teresa (Ernie Vatthauer) had three children: Jimmy, Joan, and Kim.

J. B. Efta was on the schoolboard for District 15 for several years and his son James G. Efta was on the Greenbush schoolboard. James, Edward, and Raymond farmed and raised their families in Barto Township. Raymond lives on the place their grandfather homesteaded.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Source: Edward Efta. See John Efta, Sr. history.

James and Ingebor Eidem

James P. Eidem was born September 30, 1863, in Selbu, Norway. He came to the USA in 1883 and settled in Marietta, Minnesota. He married Ingebor (Ida) Pederson September 13, 1895, at Marietta. (Ingebor was born November 14, 1872 in Stavenger, Norway.)

They moved to Greenbush sometime after the marriage where they homesteaded Barto Township SW 1/4 Section 13. They are

shown on an old 1913 map of Barto Township.

They had nine children: Clara, Amanda (who married Rev. Einar Dreyer), Anna, Palmer, Emil, Julia (who married Erick Erickson), John (who married Gladys Olson), Inga, and Lloyd (who married Doris Borgen). James and Ingebor left the area in 1940 and moved to Moorhead, Minnesota. James died August 26, 1946, and Ida died October 17, 1950.

Submitted by Ernie Gieseke (James was my great uncle).

Frank and Vera (Compton) Emery Sr.

Frank Emery, Sr. was born in Michigan in 1887. He married Vera Compton, a lovely refined girl from Rockford, Illinois. Vera had studied in Chicago and was talented in china painting. To this union seven children were born: Genevieve (Frank Brazier), John (Mabel Solomson), Ellison Frank (Leona "Mickey" Johnson), Delford (Ileen Wahl), Warren (LilJian Gunderson), Pauline (Lowell Haug, Wayne Sanders), and Faye (Dale Swenson). Frank, Sr. was employed as a machinist during WWI in Rockford, Illinois, and Madison, Wisconsin.



Frank Emery, Sr. (submitted by Colleen Lorenson)



Vera Compton Emery - Mrs. Frank Emery (submitted by Colleen Lorenson)

From Wisconsin, the young couple moved to Greenbush, in 1919 to be part of the adventurous move to break new frontiers. They lived two miles west of the Haug Store. In addition to farming, Frank was a cattle buyer for a number of years.

In 1933, Frank's young wife, Vera, died unexpectedly leaving him to manage the children, the youngest about three years of age. Evidently unable to cope with the death of his wife and the added responsibilities, Frank abandoned the family and they were not to see him again for about 20 years. Without their mother or father, the two youngest children were adopted out. Pauline was taken in by the Matt Kotchevar family in Greenbush, and Faye was taken by the Strandvold family (the local **depot** agent). The older children remembered the little girls crying as they looked out the back car window as they were driven away from their siblings and their farm home.

Frank Emery, Jr. remembers "hopping" a boxcar to the West Coast, with a friend, at age 15 to find work. His older brothers also found work in nearby states. Genevieve, the oldest child, finished her high school education by working for her board and room in Greenbush and later became a teacher. Warren lived with Genevieve in Strandquist, where she taught, so he could finish his high school education.

Once the Emery children were adults, with families of their own, they were able to renew acquaintances with their two younger sis-

ters, who did very well with their adopted families. On rare occasion their father unexpectedly arrived for a brief visit at one of their homes. He might stay for a meal, but he always refused to spend the night and could not be reached between visits. The children were notified in 1963 that he was struck by an automobile and killed in Illinois. He is buried at Oiland Cemetery and Vera is buried near her family in Rockford, Illinois.

Submitted by Colleen (Brazier) Lorensen.

Amund and Andrine Erickson

Amund (Aasa) Erickson was born October 14, 1839, in Soler, Norway and died September 7, 1927. He married Andrine Haugom, who was born December 24, 1852, in Soler, Norway and died April 5, 1901.

They moved from Iowa in about 1877 to North Dakota, living south of Grand Forks in the Reynolds and Thompson area where they raised their family. In 1912, Amund bought a quarter of land in Minnesota, Section 20 of Soler Township, from Peder B. Scott and his wife, Annie.

His oldest son, Edward, had come to Minnesota and squatted on



Front row L to R: Anton, Amund, Helmer, Lawrence, Andrine, Nels. Back row L to R: **Erick**, Edward, Oliver, and Arne. (photo submitted by Rodney Erickson)

land in 1898. All of the family, except Andrine, eventually came and settled in northern Minnesota. Andrine never got to come to northern Minnesota, but her mother, Eli Haugom, did in the early 1900s. She lived with her son, Gustav Nelson, in a little house not far from the Canadian border, north of the Roseau River, in Pohlitz Township in Roseau County. Eli was born in Norway in 1826. She passed away July 12, 1918, and was buried at the Duxby Cemetery.

The oldest child, Edward Erickson, was born in Lyle, Iowa, on July 18, 1875. He moved with his parents to North Dakota. He moved to Minnesota and homesteaded in Soler Township, Section 12, in 1902. He married Tena Hegg in 1903. She was the daughter of Ole and Christine Hegg of Thompson, North Dakota. Their children were: Alida (Mrs. Jonas Vatnsdal), Odella (Mrs. Justin Gordon), Hiram, Ernest, Hazel (Mrs. John Vatnsdal), Lester, Glen, Bernie, Edna (Mrs. Victor Wahl/Mrs. Edward Melby), and Fauncie. Edward passed away December 14, 1958, and Tena passed away February 18, 1965.

The second child, another son, Oliver, was born on August 18, 1876. He moved to Minnesota and lived in Pohlitz Township, Sec-

tion 19, north of the Roseau River, and in various places in the area. He married Helga Mollerud on December 19, 1901. Helga was the daughter of Anders and Marit Mollerud. Their children were: Myrtle (Mrs. Albert DeRaad), Arvil, Pearl (Novotny/Carlson), Oren, Marvin, Florence (Mrs. Elmer Blad), Norris and Wilma (Mrs. Ed Marcoulier). Oliver passed away on August 20, 1938, and Helga passed away on July 31, 1964.

The third son, Arne, was born on April 11, 1878. He moved to Minnesota and lived in Soler Township, later in Moose Township, Section 18, and in Greenbush. He married Martha Mollerud, the daughter of Anders and Marit Mollerud. Their children included: Arnold, Lloyd, Gladys (Mrs. Hans Aanerud/Mrs. Wilhelm Sundstedt/Mrs. John Rogers), and Orpha (Mrs. Harold Larson). Arne passed away February 21, 1955.

The fourth son, Erick, was born on January 12, 1880, and lived in Soler Township. He married Hannah Samstad who was the daughter of Mali Samstad and Haldor Evjen (Haldor took his wife's maiden name, Samstad). Their children included: Herman, Harry, Ephriam, Adaline (Mrs. Ernest Erickson), Leonard, Wanda (Mrs. Campbell Jackson), and Alvina (died in infancy along with another baby girl). Erick passed away December 13, 1958.

The fifth son, Nels, was born March 7, 1882, in North Dakota. He moved to Minnesota and lived in various places in Moose and Soler Townships. He lived in Greenbush in his later years and never married.

The sixth son, Anton, was born on June 14, 1884, and moved to Minnesota in 1931 and lived on his dad's homestead in Section 20 of Soler Township. He married Dina Marie Peterson. She was born in Reynolds, North Dakota, to Mence and Anna Peterson on December 2, 1888. After Anton passed away in 1946, she moved to Greenbush. Their children include: Arling, Callum Vernon, Monica (Mrs. Bernhard Rustan), Violet lone (Mrs. Clifford Rohlf), Stella (Mrs. Frank Efta, Mrs. Tipp), Noral, and Duane ElRoy.

The seventh son, Lawrence, was born on January 7, 1888. In 1916 he moved to Minnesota and homesteaded 80 acres of land in Section 9 of Soler Township. He moved to Section 7 of Soler and then across the road to Section 8. He married Anna M. Haug. She was born October 1896, the daughter of Peder and Marit Haug. After Lawrence passed away, Anna moved to Greenbush. Their children were: Lyle, Dora (Mrs. Charles Moen), Phillip, and Harvey.

The eighth son, Helmer, was born on October 13, 1892, and lived in Greenbush after moving from North Dakota. He never married.

The ninth child, a baby girl, was deceased at time of birth in April 1901. Mother Andrine, died during childbirth.

Oliver, Arne, and Lawrence married sisters, Helga and Martha Mollerud, and half sister, Anna.

Fauncie Erickson said his dad, Edward, hauled grain to Stephen, Minnesota. He used two oxen and a grain wagon, which held approximately 50 bushels. It took two days to get to the destination. He also tells of his dad shipping a cow, and when he got the returns, he owed on the shipping rate.

Submitted by Anne Erickson.

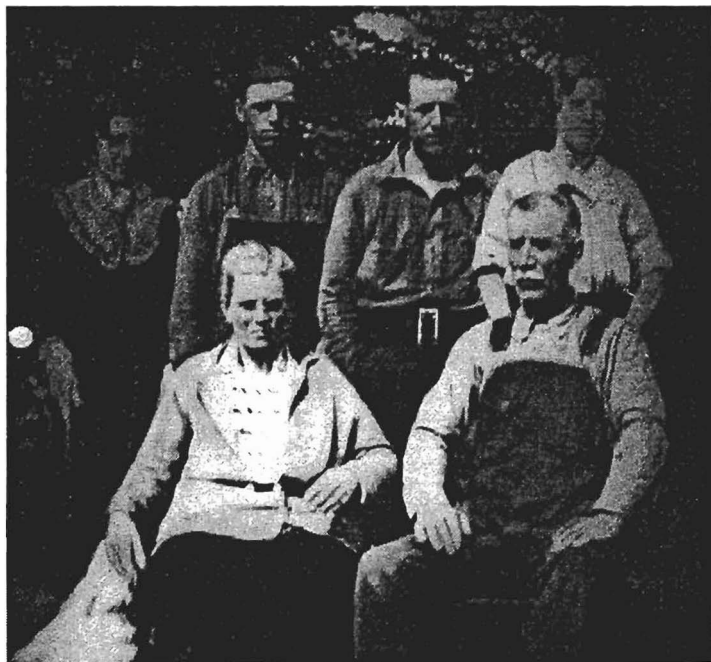
Arne and Martha (Mullerud) Erickson

My grandparents were Arne and Martha (Mullerud) Erickson. Arne was born April 11, 1878, in Lyle, Iowa, and died February 21, 1955, in Greenbush. He also lived near Reynolds, North Dakota, where his parents homesteaded in 1878. Arne was the third son of Amund and Andrine Erickson. His brothers were Edward, Oliver,

Erick, Nels, Anton, Lawrence, and Helmer. One unique thing about this family was that all eight of the children, all sons, came to northern Minnesota first and the father, Amund, followed.

Martha was born November 16, 1884, in Sigdahl, Norway, and died April 7, 1978, in Greenbush. Actually Martha was the homesteader. She was the first to homestead in Soler Township and the last of the original homesteaders in the township to die. (This information came from Emil Tomasek.) She homesteaded the NW 1/4 of Section 17 Soler Township.

Arne and Martha had five children: Arnold (Carol and Hilda Kolberg), Lloyd (Goldie Anderson), Gladys (Hans Aanerud, Bill Sundstedt, Johnny Rogers), Ella died in infancy, and Orpha (Harold Larson).



Front: Martha and Arne Erickson; Back: Orpha, Arnold, **Lloyd**, and Gladys.

My earliest recollection of my grandparents is when we visited them and when it was time to go home to do the chores, Grandpa used to tell us to hide. When my folks couldn't find us and left, we then stayed with our grandparents which we enjoyed a lot. In the morning, Grandma always packed our lunch boxes with waffles. We were the envy of the other kids in school as waffles were quite a treat for lunch. My folks let us take the old pickup to town for a show (movie) if we promised to leave it in Grandpa's yard. Grandpa said, "What Lloyd doesn't know, won't hurt him, but be careful." Of course we were well-behaved boys!

My parents were Lloyd and Goldie Erickson. Lloyd was born June 19, 1911 and died September 15, 1991. Goldie was born July 8, 1918, and died February 22, 1998. Goldie's father died before she was born and her mother died when she was a few years old. Her name was Anderson, but she was raised by her grandparents in Ross and went by their name, Olson, except for her confirmation. Lloyd and Goldie also engaged in farming in Soler Township. They had six children: Gary- died July 19, 1991, Rodney, Dean, Floyd, Sandra, and Shelly.

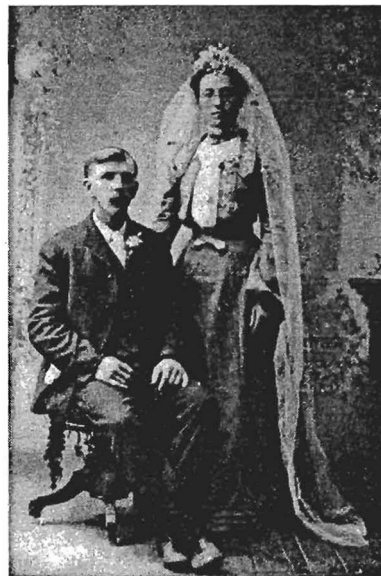
We worked with our parents on the farm as in those days it took a lot of hands to do farm work. In fact, it was my mother, Goldie, who taught me how to drive a tractor. It was an old AR John Deere on steel wheels. When my folks moved to Greenbush, Dad worked for Polaris and Mom worked at the hospital.

Submitted by Rodney Erickson.

Edward and Tena (Hegg) Erickson

Edward Erickson was born to Norwegian immigrants, Amund and Andrine (Haugom) Erickson, on July 15, 1875, in Lyle, Iowa. Edward only had two weeks of schooling and grew up in North Dakota.

He squatted on land in Soler Township, Minnesota, in 1898. On March 20, 1902, he homesteaded those 160 acres in Soler. Edward made many walking and bicycling trips back to North Dakota to court a certain young woman. On January 2, 1903, he married Tena Sophia Hegg. Tena had also been born to Norwegian immigrants, Ole and Christine (Anderson) Hegg on June 10, 1885, in Grand Forks, North Dakota. She had completed an eighth-grade education.



Edward and Tena (Hegg) Erickson wedding, January 2, 1903. (photo courtesy of Roy Erickson)

Not too long after they were married, Edward signed the final homestead papers. The homestead patent is dated June 1, 1903. Before moving his bride to the homestead, Edward built a "proper" home. By the time the log cabin was completed in 1907, Edward and Tena also had three children to make the move: Alida (Jonas Vatnsdal), Odella (Justin Gorden), and Hiram (Alida).

Life was rough and Minnesota winters were very cold and bitter for the growing Erickson family living in that log cabin. To ease the chill of those freezing months, Edward made quilts were hand-sewn.

Those blankets were so heavy that when they were put over the children, no one could move or budge. Irons had multiple uses; they weren't only for pressing clothes. The solid metal irons were heated on the stove and then rolled and wrapped in paper or heavy cloth to be placed at the foot of the bed under the covers. What wonderful foot warmers they made until they cooled down! The fires in the stoves would go out before morning which caused the drinking water to freeze solid in the buckets.



Edward and Tena (Hegg) Erickson family. Back: Lester, Glenn, Burnie, Ernest, Alida, Hazel, Odella. Front: Fauncie, Edward, Tena, Edna. Missing: Hiram. (photo courtesy of Roy Erickson)

Edward and Tena had a total of ten children. In addition to the three eldest, there were Ernest (Adeline), Hazel (John Vatnsdal), Lester (Nellie), Glenn (Irene), Burnie (Marie), Edna (Victor Wahl and Edward Melby), and Fauncie (Irene).

They were faithful members of the Oiland Lutheran Church. Tena was the church pianist for many years.

In 1951, they moved into Greenbush and both lived there until they passed away. Edward passed away on December 14, 1958, at the age of 83. Tena died on February 18, 1968, at the age of 82.

The homestead is still in the Erickson family and is currently farmed by a grandson.

Submitted by Billie and Roy Erickson.

Emil Oliver and Helga (Mollerud) Erickson

Emil Oliver Erickson was born at Mona, Iowa, on August 8, 1877. Later he moved with his parents to Reynolds, North Dakota. He first came to Roseau County in 1894, and in 1898, he homesteaded in Soler Township.

Helga Mollerud was born March 2, 1882, in Norway to Anders Mollerud and Maret Skalstad.

In 1902, Emil (called Oliver) married Helga Mollerud of Haug. They raised a family of eight children: Myrtle (DeRaad), Arvill, Pearl (Novotny), Oren, Marvin, Florence, Norris, and Wilma.

Oliver was cheerful and happy, always willing to lend a helping hand, and he worked hard to provide his family a good home.

In 1916, the family moved from the homestead to a farm near Badger. At the time of Oliver's death in August of 1938, they lived in Swift, Minnesota.

Helga died July 31, 1964, at the Roseau Hospital. She was living at Roseau at the time of her death. Helga is buried at Oiland Cemetery.

Submitted by Eunice Korczak with thanks to Lisa Hanson for research of dates.

Erick and Hulda Erickson

Erick Erickson moved his family from Alexandria, Minnesota, to Roseau County in 1902 to settle on the SW 1/4 Section 15 in Deer Township. Erick was born on July 27, 1857, and died October 30, 1940. His wife Hulda, was born February 1, 1863, and died April 7, 1936.

Erick and his wife Hulda had five children: John (Hildur Nelson), Amelia (Richard Lundquist), William (Esther Johnson), Hilda (Pete Jansen), and Robert (Esther Kimble).

In 1940 they sold the farm to their son Robert Erickson who in turn sold it to their daughter Mae Erickson who married Ingvald Borreson.

Submitted by Viola Erickson Olson.

Robert and Esther (Kimble) Erickson

Our farm in Deer Township has remained in the family for three generations. The homestead patent is dated June 25, 1907. In doing some research, I have been told that you can subtract five years from this date. That is how long the homesteaders had to remain on the land in the homestead process.

Erick and Hulda Erickson, Robert's parents, homesteaded the SW 1/4 Section 15 in Deer Township near Strathcona in 1902. On September 27, 1940, Robert Erickson and his wife Esther (Kimble)

purchased the farm from his father Erick. Robert and Esther also owned the SE 1/4 of Section 15 where they had their home. This is where Kenneth Erickson lived later. They raised corn, wheat, oats, and had dairy cattle.

Robert was born April 3, 1896, and died April 29, 1954. Esther was born May 13, 1907, and died April 7, 1991. They had six children: Victoria (Selmer Waage); Kenneth (Ruby Bratlandi Roma Olson); Mae (Ingvald Borreson); Lillian (James Bratlandi Robert Stauffenecker Harold Howdahl); Milton (Beverly Anderson) and Jeanette (Walter Kasprowicz).

Submitted by Kim Borreson.

William and Esther Erickson

William Erickson was born in Alexandria, Minnesota. He married Esther Johnson who immigrated from Sweden at age seven. Her parents, John and Marie Johnson came to Huss Township but moved to Canada in 1917.



Mr. and Mrs. William Erickson wedding 1917.

They had two children, Larry (deceased) married Marie Cook, and Mary Lou married Forrest Johnson.

Submitted by Viola Erickson Olson.

Theodore and Minnie (Sather) Flaten

Minnie Sather and Theodore Flaten were married in Gilrest, Pope County, Minnesota, in 1898. They homesteaded in Huss Township, Roseau County in 1900. Minnie stayed with relatives near Hatton, North Dakota, while their house was being built. Gunda Flaten and Haagen Sather helped Theodore build the other buildings out of logs.

The closest railroad was at Stephen, Minnesota. Their cows, oxen, and horses were shipped that far and traveled the ridge road through Pelan to their homestead.

They talked about when there was just a trail through the woods with no roads and drainage ditches. Sometimes they could not travel with horses because of the water on the ground. Their groceries had to be carried on foot from Pelan, a distance of about forty miles.

In 1917, a country school was built, District 99. It was close enough so the Flaten children could attend school there.

The following family of Minnie and Theodore Flaten were: Guy (1900-1997) married Tilda Haug who had sons Gerald, Carlton, and John; Mabel (1902-1989) never married, worked for 30 years in the Grand Forks Treasurer's Office; Florence (1904-1993) married Victor Westlund and had sons Wayne "Lewis "Ted", Harlan, and Armand; Thilda (1906-1923) died of tuberculosis when she was seventeen; Ralph (1908-1959) married Gertrude Reierson and had Marlene, Gary, and Paul; Henry (1911-1994) married Clara Hontvet and had sons Wynn and Michael; Mancor (1912-2000) married Nora Gjovik and had Maryl, Sheldon, David, and Karen; and Rueben (1915-) married Christine "Dolly" Gjovik and had Rhonda and Lonnie. They are now living in Fargo, North Dakota.

Theodore died in 1934, and Minnie died in 1958. They are buried in Poplar Grove Cemetery.

Submitted by Gertude Flaten and by Linda Gieseke with information from funeral records and Rueben Flaten.

Steve "Mike" and Agnes (Meier) Foldesi

Mike came to America, from Hungary, as a child. Mike and Agnes migrated to northern Minnesota during the homestead days. They homesteaded the site that is the current Mark Foldesi farm. They were all involved in farming and providing food for a growing family.

Laura (Foldesi Schafer), their daughter, remembers as a child herding cows most of the summer with her siblings- having to cross the creek on an old log. A large garden was preserved through canning, providing food for the next entire year or two. Berries of all kinds were gathered and preserved. Coffee, sugar, some fruit, including apples, were ordered from Chicago and arrived by train. Butchering time was always before Christmas and New Years. Meat was salted or canned and blood sausage made. Some meat was able to be frozen, if well-protected outdoors, but had to be used up before it would thaw in the spring.

Laura remembers peddlers making the rounds to area farms; they would pack everything but large appliances into their wagons. Another common sight in the summer were the Gypsies, gathering snake root to sell and begging from the farmers as they roamed for any food or milk that could be spared.

Laura chuckled as she recalled the summer the sheriff visited the farm looking for moonshine. Her older sister, Applone, jumped into bed, pretending she was sick so he wouldn't search the house too thoroughly. As did a lot of the menfolk of that era of prohibition, her dad made extra money by making moonshine out in the woods behind the farm and carrying water by the pail full to the still hidden there. (Actually, the moonshine was hidden under a tarp in the middle of the strawberry patch, with plants growing right on top of it!)

Submitted by Diane Schafer.

Edward and Helga (Berge) Forsness

Edward Forsness was born on the Island of Hitra, near Trondheim, Norway in 1874. At the age of eighteen, he came to the United States where two brothers had settled earlier. In order to learn the English language, he attended Concordia Academy in Moorhead, Minnesota. He lived in Hendrum, Minnesota, until 1898, when he moved to Hereim Township. He homesteaded there.

Helga Berge was born in the province of Telemark, Norway, in 1888. At the age of twelve, she came to America with her parents, siblings, and grandparents. They also homesteaded in Roseau County.



Edward and Helga Forsness in the early 1900s with Ragna and Agnes. (photo from Bethel Archives)

In 1904, Edward married Helga. They had six children: Ragna (Elvin Ramstad), Agnes (Willard Peterson), Ella (Perley Peterson), Harold (Anna Haugtvedt), Thilda (Eddie Peterson), Gladys (James Williams).

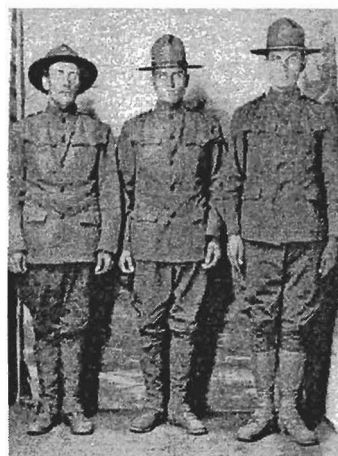
Edward Forsness served as clerk and assessor of Hereim Township. He helped organize Moland Church of Greenbush and sang in the church choir.

He was the first Standard Oil dealer at Greenbush, delivering fuel with an International truck with solid rubber tires. He also drove school bus, driving a Model T Ford in good weather and using a team of horses and a caboose on a sleigh when the roads were bad. Foot warmers of hot briquets in a tin box made the cold ride to school more comfortable for many area children on his route west of town, toward Pelan, and east of Greenbush. Of course, when the weather was good, the Forsness children walked to school following a trail through the Hereim woods. Helga was a homemaker and will be remembered for her Scandinavian heritage foods. She also had a hat shop on the north end of Main Street in Greenbush for a time.

Edward passed away in 1933. Helga married Torge Thompson and moved to Wisconsin for many years. Later she returned to Greenbush. She died in 1966.

Submitted by Linda Gieseke with information from Mangeline Forsness written for the Roseau County History Book.

Brothers Anton and Christian Foss



World War I recruits; Emil Haugtvedt, Anton Foss, Christian Foss. (Donavan Foss photo)

Anton, 1890-1962, was the oldest of the Otto and Anna Foss children, and Christian, 1893-1969, was the second oldest. They were born in Wilkin County Minnesota and came in 1898 with their parents to Deer Township.

Anton and Christian and their cousin Emil Haugtvedt were in the United States Army in World War I. However, they never went overseas. Both Anton and Christian caught the Spanish Influenza.

The Amund and Kari Peterson homestead was purchased by Anton, probably after his grand-

father Amund died in 1914. The ten acre building site is on Section 7 and the rest of the land, an eighty is across the road in Section 6. In 1922, Anton married Amanda Qualley. They lived on the farm until the early 1940s, when they sold to Hildor Anderson and moved to the Strandquist area. Anton and Amanda's children were Orville, Alvin, Raymond, Arlo, who died in infancy, Alton and Lila.

Christian owned three forties of the SW 1/4, Section 7 of Deer Township about a mile from his parents. Before going to the army, he had worked in North Dakota during harvest. He met Laura, with whom he became romantically involved. But when he went to the army, she married someone else.

Christian farmed his land, built a small house and a larger barn, and lived a quiet bachelor life. Throughout this time, Laura's son kept in contact with the Foss family, but for 42 years, Christian had no contact with her. About 1956, after Laura's husband died, the son told his mother that Christian had never married. It's not clear just how they connected, but it is thought that Laura wrote to Christian. Shortly after, in 1956, Christian married his long lost love, Laura Carlson, and they lived on his place in Deer Township until his death in 1969.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Clarice Martinson, Donovan Foss, and Dale Foss.

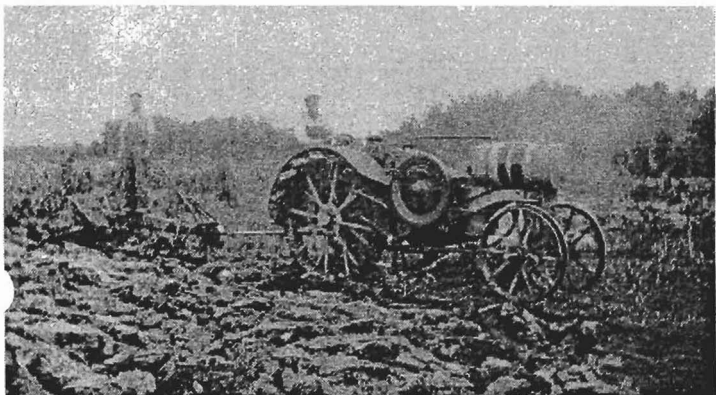
Otto Kjeldson and Anna (Peterson) Foss

Otto Kjeldson Foss was born in Evebak, Norway May 23, 1849. He died April 23, 1931, and was buried at the Haugtvedt Cemetery (East Bethlehem). Otto had been employed as a blacksmith and/or as a cobbler in Oslo, Norway. He immigrated first to Iowa, and later to Rothsay, Minnesota, where he became acquainted with the Amund Peterson family.

Anna Peterson was born March 2, 1875 at Gudbradsdalen, Norway. She was twelve years old when she came to America with her family. She married Otto Foss on November 15, 1890, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. They were married for 41 years when Otto died. Anna died September 15, 1948.

At first, Otto considered taking a homestead by Argyle, but the land was open with no natural resources, so he decided it would be better to go where there was an abundance of natural resources—wood for lumber and fuel, and wild game and berries for food, namely Roseau County.

The first summer, 1898, in what would become Deer Township, the family lived in a tent they pitched in the woods. Ever since the location was referred to as the "telteskogen" (tent woods). Anna was unable to sleep much that first month because she was kept busy at night keeping the mosquitoes off her three children. Wolves



Oscar Foss on the plow and Peter Foss on the Titan tractor.
(photo courtesy of Donovan Foss)

also howled as they prowled the nearby woods at night.

Grubbing and clearing was done with an ax and elbow grease, and later with the help of horses. Plowing was done with a walking plow pulled by oxen at first, but later with a sulky plow and horses. After an area was cleared for field, they discovered that this land was covered with rocks that had to be picked off.

Field ditches were dug by hand at first, later with horses and scrapers. The main ditches were built by the government with steam operated floating dredges and the dirt dug up formed the roads.

The Fosses homesteaded the NW 1/4 Section 8 in Deer Township. The Homestead Act allowed a qualified person 160 acres for "proving up." The stipulation for proving up required living on the property for 40 days each year, clearing 20 acres and putting it into production during a five year period. Then the land would be free. Before 1913 Otto and Anna owned the N 1/2 of Section 8, which included the Mickelson homestead.



Otto Foss family, Hilda, Anna holding Alma, Otto holding Alice, Anton, Christian, and Peter. Taken at the Amund Peterson home. *(photo courtesy of Donovan Foss)*

To have a half section, Otto and Anna bought the Mickelson quarter to the east. The original Foss house was one large room with an upstairs. Later a kitchen was built on the east and a bedroom on the north. Still later, the one room Mickelson house was attached to the west side. Joe Reese moved it with a steam engine one time when he was threshing at the farm.

The hens laid eggs only during the summer, so the eggs were saved and packed in boxes with salt or sawdust to preserve them for winter use.

Anna had a "cook shanty" built of slabs close to the house. It was used in the hot summertime for canning, baking, heating wash water, and washing clothes. This allowed the house to stay cool and comfortable.

"Light in the evenings was provided by kerosene lamps and lanterns. The Aladdin lamp with a brighter light, was popular later on, but had to be watched carefully. If they were turned up the least little bit too high, the mantle would flame up and scorch and had to be replaced. A daily chore before dark was to wash the glass lamp chimneys, wipe dry with newspaper, and to check the kerosene supply in the container." This bit about the lamp chimneys was a reason Anna helped get rural electrification in the neighborhood. (See Rural Life Section on electrification.)

Otto was one of the founders of the Poplar Grove Church in 1900.

However, in the early church minutes, no Otto Foss is to be found. But an Otto Kjeldson was. Later, the name Foss, was written behind the Otto Kjeldson. About 1903, Otto Kjeldson changed his name to Foss. The church had misspelled Kjeldson as Kjelson and unclear writing caused other earlier historians to think the name was spelled Kijlson. In 1905, Otto and his brother-in-law, Syver Hautgvedt, resigned their church positions.

The West Poplar Grove Church was founded in 1907 and existed until 1911. In all probability, Otto Foss was involved. In 1915 the Foss family and other relatives joined the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The family cemetery has been called West Poplar Grove, Hautgvedt, and the East Bethlehem Cemetery. Locals generally still refer to it as the Hautgvedt Cemetery.

The Gavick School, District 60, began in the fall of 1902. The first term was held in the Otto Foss home. Otto gave one acre of land in the far southeast corner of his homestead quarter for the school. Additionally, a second acre was purchased for the school which was built by the second term in the spring of 1903.

The oldest three children were born in Wilkin County, Minnesota. Peder was the first of eight born in Roseau County. The children were: Anton 1890-1962 married Amanda Qualley; Christian 1893-1969 Laura Carlson; Hilda 1896-1969 (Gulbrand "Gilbert" Bertilrud); Peter 1898-1973 (Mabel Aanes); Alma 1903-1991 (Alfred Green); Alice 1904-1993 (Hans Hanson); Oscar 1907-1972 never married; Olger 1912-2003 (Bessie Albin); Clifford 1914-1993 (Hilda Nelson); Thilmer 1917-1985 (Agnette Elton); Freeman 1919-1993 never married.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Clarice Martinson, Donavan Foss, Dale Foss, Poplar Grove and Bethlehem Church records.

John and Mary Gavick Family



Neighbors; Front: Peter Foss and Manvil Gavick (head down); Middle: Alice Foss, Mary Gavick, Alma Foss Green; Back: unknown, John Gustafson, Martin Anderson, Anton Foss, Helmer Johnson, and Mabel Gavick. (photo courtesy of Donavan Foss)

John and Mary were both born in Norway; John about 1849 and Mary on July 16, 1860. They came to Deer Township about 1899 or 1900 and settled on the SE 1/4 Section 8 in Deer Township near the Hautgvedt and Foss families. The Gavicks had formerly lived near Menomonie, Wisconsin, where their children, Helmer and Manvil, were born. John had worked in a logging camp. Mabel, the youngest child, was born June 4, 1901. One source said she was born in Menomonie, but that doesn't quite jibe, since she was baptized July 7, 1901, into the Poplar Grove congregation. Manvil's obituary referred to several brothers who must have remained in Wisconsin.

John was one of eight founders of the Poplar Grove Church, April 30, 1900. He resigned as secretary of Poplar Grove congregation

on March 11, 1903. That John was a meticulous person, was shown in the early minutes of that church. The early minutes listed which creeds and confessions were to be used and other guidelines were explicitly expressed.

Two years later, two other founders, Otto Foss and Syver Hautgvedt, also resigned their positions. In 1907, the West Poplar Grove congregation was founded. Syver's name was shown on records, but it is almost a certainty that John Gavick was also involved. John and Mary's names were also found in connection with a formerly unknown Bethania congregation that existed a few years between his resignation at Poplar Grove and the conception of West Poplar Grove.

Although John's name was not on the petition for the formation of District 60 School in 1902, he was an early treasurer. The school, located on Otto Foss' land less than a quarter mile from John and Mary's homestead building site, was commonly called the Gavick School.

"At first the Gavick home had only one room, but dozens of people slept there as the road went right past their house and the Gavicks were hospitable." (Martinson) Many Ladies Aid and young people's meetings were held at Gavicks, although they never had a very large house.

John Gavick, born about 1849, died March 3, 1913, after drinking horse liniment containing laudanum. He "imbibed freely" in Middle River, and "stopped at a neighbors, where he drank the fatal dose." Mrs. Mary Gavick and family joined the Bethlehem Church in 1915. Mary Christine Gavick lived a long life, 91 years, and died December 30, 1951.

Delores Hautgvedt remembers Mabel and Manvil as hard workers, and good neighbors who loved social affairs. Mabel worked alongside Manvil doing the farmwork. Both were active in the Bethlehem Church and Manvil was on the board. Neither ever married. Helmer Johnson, who taught in the Gavick School, was Mabel's long time boyfriend. Mabel gave Delores, of German descent, her first taste of "rommegrot," a Norwegian delicacy. Mabel died January 29, 1962.



Mabel Gavick and sister-in-law Lizzie Gavick. (photo courtesy of Eleanor Koshemina)

Manvil was on the Deer townboard for over 20 years and served on the school board. After Mabel died and Manvil was living alone, he was bitten on the neck by a woodtick and nearly died from it. Manvil was born June 13, 1892 and died February 10, 1972.

Helmer Gavick was born about 1884. In 1902 when the District 60 School was built, he was 17 and only attended a few days. However, he was, as daughter Jovenia said, "Intellectual and self taught." No doubt he had attended school in Wisconsin. Helmer walked the eight miles from the farm into Greenbush to work at Olaf Hildahl's Store and walked home again to do chores. He did this for about thirteen years. Helmer married Lisa Clarice Dahl, called Lizzie. They operated a general store where the south part of the Border State Bank is now. A few people remember Gavick's store;

some will remember it as Erickson's Store. In the 1950s the building was Clara's Variety (Sorteberg).

Helmer and Lizzie's adopted daughter, Jovenia Porter, recalled Grandma Mary milking cows by hand. As the only grandchild, things were very good for her. She often stayed with Grandma, Manvil, and Mabel at the farm. Jovenia said that Grandma Mary was not a very strict disciplinarian. Her punishments were old-fashioned versions of today's time-out. Jovenia would have to sit on a chair in a corner, just a little isolated, because of how small the house was, and crochet "idiot chains" to a specified length. Idiot chains were single crochet stitches. She also has good memories of working in the garden and picking blueberries with Grandma. (Probably Juneberries.)

One event Jovenia particularly remembered was "Julebokking" (Yulebaking or Christmas fooling) with Uncle Manvil and Aunt Mary. No one knew them because the neighbors couldn't figure out that there would be a third person. At Christmas, Helmer, Lizzie, and Jovenia would drive the car out from town to the snowblocked driveway and Manvil would come with the horse and sleigh. Jovenia uses those sleigh bells each Christmas.

Helmer was musical. He ordered a violin by mail from Sears Roebuck and taught himself to play. He played only classical music and played with the Thief River Falls Symphony. Every Saturday, the three of them listened to the Winnipeg Opera on the radio.

Helmer's wife Lizzie, was one of the organizers of the American Legion Auxiliary in 1922.

Jovenia, age 76, lives in Sebring, Florida, and works over 30 hours a week as a counselor's aide in a facility for treatment for dually addicted people. She has four sons.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Jovenia Porter. Clarice Martinson papers, Poplar Grove and Bethlehem records, Roseau Times Region.

Louis Generoux

Louis Generoux was a bachelor and had no known relatives. However, he is not forgotten. He has been a part of the oral heritage of the Harold Johnson family since 1902 and now will be a part of Greenbush history as long as this book exists.

Section 31 of Hereim Township was first settled by three brothers and a sister. The brothers claimed land around the outside of the section and put the sister's claim in the middle. They felt they could hold her claim by doing this. This is only oral history, but the layout of the four claims supports the story. Their names are lost to history. The courthouse has no record of who settled on a piece of land unless they actually received a deed. Evidently, they did not prove up on the land, so it was available for the taking by other homesteaders.

When Louie first came to Section 31 in Hereim Township, he tried to settle on four forties on the southwest, three on the east side and one along the south. However, before he got to the land office in Crookston, Harold J. Johnson had filed on it. He decided then to take the square quarter in the middle, but John I. Walsh had filed on that. Louie ended up filing on the four forties across the north end of the section, called the mile quarter, since it was a mile long. His land description was N 1/4 Section 31.

The log house built by Louie burned when Manley and Mary Theresa Millard, a daughter of John and Ellen Walsh, lived there. A large family, the McSheas lived there later. Eventually it was owned by Gilmer and Astrid Berger. Presently, Gary and Donna

Langaas own three forties including the building site, while Merlyn and Myrna Sovde own the west forty.

Although a bachelor, Louie signed petitions for forming a school district. The four southwest sections of Hereim were not included in a school district until joining District 60, the Gavick School, in 1913. Most schools were established in 1900-1903. The Bergers, Walshes, and Johnsons were the only families with children in this area. To join a school district, the law stated a majority of landowners had to sign. Therefore, it was necessary for landowners without children to sign the school petition. Louie was a good neighbor.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde.

Henry and Agnes Gloystein

Henry and Agnes Gloystein came to Lind Township about 1912. Mrs. Gloystein's father, John Vale, had traded some wonderful land in the Willamette Valley by Eugene, Oregon, (sight unseen) for that desolate farm of 360 acres in northern Minnesota. (Lind Township) Grandpa wanted Dad to go there and farm it. My dad had two years of college in Nebraska and my mother was an R.N. who had worked in hospitals in San Bernadino, California, and Eugene, Oregon.

"My parents must have been very disappointed when they saw the tiny shack they had to move into-- three small rooms, kitchen, the big room, we called it, but it was tiny, and a tiny bedroom. With a double bed against each wall there was only enough space for a dresser between them. There was just a board nailed up at the foot of the bed with a wire and nails below to hang a few clothes. I really don't know how they coped."

Henry Gloystein was on the first schoolboard for District 110, the Sogn School. Helen, in first grade in 1918, had a younger brother Gordon. The family left the area in about 1920. They lived near the John Hendrickses, probably in Section 17.

Submitted by Helen (Gloystein) Gunderson and Myrna Sovde. Sources: Roseau County school records.

Adam and Katie Gonshorowski Family



Gonshorowski family: Josie, Adam, Martha, Katie, Helen, half-sister Mary is standing. (photo courtesy of Shirley Pederson)

Adam Gonshorowski was born in Poland in 1861 and died in 1935. He served in the Polish army which was under Russian rule at the time. He married Annie in Poland and they, together with her parents, came to America and settled in Warsaw, North Dakota. One child, Stella, was born before coming to America. In 1900 Adam, Annie, and three daughters, Stella, Pauline

(born 1-4-1894) and Mary moved to Roseau County and homesteaded in Polonia Township. In 1904, Annie died, leaving him with three young daughters.

On February 13, 1906, he married Katie Myczkowski (11-9-1884 to 5-20-1956) of Florian, Minnesota. They made their home on Adam's farm in Polonia Township.

To this union the following children were born: Josephine (2-10-07 to 12-9-1992) married Joe Novacek; Martha (9-28-1908) married Frank Novacek; Helen (5-11-1911) married Hank Goroski; Peter (5-12-1914 to 2-8-2002) married Gladys Dann; Frances (11-20-1916 to 12-16-1994) married Barney Gonshorowski; Felix (5-30-1919) married Genevieve Chrzanowski; Fabian (3-8-1922 to 5-18-2000) married Rosalie Stein; Irene (1-28-1928 to 1-6-1997) married Fauncie Erickson; Baby Deloris (6-10-1925) died of pneumonia at two months of age.

Adam and Katie are buried in the St. Aloysius Cemetery.

Submitted by Shirley Gonshorowski Pederson.

Martin and Mary Gonshorowski Family

The family history about how the Gonshorowskis came to the United States was interesting and heart warming. Martin's parents were Paul and Mary Pilanz Gonshorowski who had eleven children, nine boys. The mother and two boys died in Poland. The oldest, Adam (Anna Szcepanski) was the first to come to America in 1883. By 1887, all of them were in America. The early history was written by August Goroski (Gonshorowski), Martin's youngest brother.

When the second brother, John, arrived he didn't care much for the factory work in Reading, Pennsylvania. His father sent the address of Schultzes from Poland who had settled in Minnesota and later at St. Thomas, North Dakota. John was too late for a homestead in that area so he worked for Schultzes for a year and had enough money for brother Mike to come to America.

The three brothers worked to save money for the rest of the family to come to America. Martin was now of draft age, but "he played cripple and got across France where he straightened out."

They went to Adam's place in Pennsylvania, but Martin didn't care for factory work either, so Paul, Martin, and William went to



Mary and Martin Gonshorowski, parents of Barney Gonshorowski, on their wedding day in 1892 in America. (Shirley Pederson photo)

North Dakota to join John. Jacob and August came about a year later to help with harvest. Two years later, Adam came, but Jacob went back to Pennsylvania.

In 1896, when the rest of Roseau County was opened up for homesteading, "everyone who was eligible went to file for one." (He probably meant those in his family.) In 1897, August filed a homestead claim in Roseau County and his father filed next to him, but only got an eighty.

This story is about family helping family get

started. At different times family members stayed with one another, but were expected to pull their own weight. The ticket price was repaid to the older brothers, by each of the family members. August's ticket was paid off by the time he was fourteen.

Martin Gonshorowski was born in New Prussia, Europe in 1865. In 1885, at the age of 20 he came to America. In 1892, he married Mary Grevers, who was born in 1875, also in New Prussia. She came to America at age seven. After living in North Dakota and Montana they settled in the Leo, Minnesota community in Section 14 of Polonia Township.

They had fourteen children: Melania (1899), Helen (1900), Henry (1901), Joe (1902), Frank (1903-1997 age 93), Johnny (1904-1904), Simon (1905-1915 age 9), Frances (1906), Richard (1907), Thomas (1908), Barney (1909 to 11-6-1989), Marie (1910), Ally (1911), and David (1912).

When two of the boys, Al and Tommy, went to Minneapolis to find work in the 1930s, they were refused work because of their Polish name, Gonshorowski. Employers refused to hire Poles. After many tries to get a job, they decided to change their name to Ganter. They had no problem getting a job after that.

Barney married Frances Gonshorowski. They lived in the area all their lives, farming in Polonia Township until moving into Greenbush. Frances worked in the Greenbush Hospital for many years. *Submitted by Shirley Gonshorowski Pederson and Myrna Sovde. Source: Gonshorowskifamilypapers.*

Charles B. and Julia Goodrich

Charles B. Goodrich, known as C. B. Goodrich, was a farmer, an entrepreneur, a community spirited man and also a newspaper editor for three months. Mr. Goodrich purchased the Greenbush Journal in October 1908 and renamed it the Greenbush Tribune. He had a farm auction on November 17, 1908, and sold the Greenbush Tribune to E. R. Umpleby in mid-January 1909. Mr. Umpleby wrote in the Tribune that Mrs. Goodrich (the first wife) was in failing health and had left for Iowa with the two youngest children. Mr. Goodrich left for Iowa with the older children after selling the paper; however, he returned after a short time, alone.

Mr. Goodrich was active in civic affairs and particularly active in farm cooperatives. He was a forward thinking farmer who was instrumental in organizing a livestock shipping association in 1917, of which he was shipping manager for a number of years and director even longer. He was secretary of the creamery board when the new creamery was built in 1925, and on the board for many years before and after that. He was also chairman of the school board in 1920.

In 1924, he was one of the first farmers to grow tame hay which was fed to his dairy cows, according to the larger than average cream



Adeline Stavnes, Nellie and Challotta on Charles Goodrich's lap, Lillah, and Basil Stavnes in 1933. (photo courtesy of Lillah Johnson)

checks reported in the newspaper. His farm was located in the NW 1/4 Section 7 Barnett Township, which is the home place for the Dale and Shellie Mekash family at the present time. After C. B.'s death in 1933, the farm was purchased by Helge Melby and later Ernest Mekash.

Mr. Goodrich's second wife didn't enter the picture until about 1928. Julia Nesland Stavnes, a widow with two young children, went to work for him, and later married him. Julia Nesland was born in Setesdal, Norway, on September 2, 1898. She came to the United States when she was two years old. The family settled in the Grygla area where she grew up and married. The two children from her first marriage were Adeline (1925) and Basil (1926) Stavnes. After she married Charles Goodrich, they had three daughters, Lillah 1929, Challotta 1931, and Nellie 1932. Nellie was a year old when Mr. Goodrich died at age 60, at the Miller Hospital in St. Paul on November 6, 1933, leaving Julia with five children, the oldest eight years old.

Julia had Charley Johnson, a local carpenter, build a small house on a fraction of 100 acres just west of the home quarter on Section 7. She kept two cows, some chickens and raised a garden. Even if it was the "Depression" years, the family had a good life. Julia knew how to make do-- keeping the children clothed and well-fed.

Lillah recalled winter evenings with all the family sitting around the cook stove and Adeline reading a few chapters each night from the wealth of books that their father had left them.

With the help of their uncles, Basil had a nice herd of Holsteins, but he was drafted into the army so all was sold, even the "little house on the fraction" that was later moved into Greenbush.



Carl and Julia Dvergsten, Basil and Adeline Stavnes, Lillah, Challotta, and Nellie Goodrich in 1946. (photo courtesy of Lillah Johnson)

Julia eventually married Carl Dvergsten, "a wonderful patient man who had to put up with three teenage girls. I never remember an unkind word from him," Lillah wrote.

The children all married and had families: Adeline Stavnes (Elmo Lusignan) had four children; Basil Stavnes (Eunice Haugtvedt) had five children; Lillah (Ray L. Johnson) had four children; Challotta (Kenneth Pederson) had six children; and Nellie (Robert Storhaug) had two children.

Submitted by Lillah Johnson and Myrna Sovde. Source: Greenbush Tribune.

Martha Gorvin

Martha and Andrew Gorvin homesteaded in Nereson Township near Badger before 1900. They had seven children: Nels and George who never married, Pearl (John Miller), Emma (Morris Hennurn), and Sena (Elling Gulbranson) and twin daughters who died in infancy.

Andrew Gorvin died one day after leaving for the North Dakota harvest fields. He wasn't feeling well when he left, but they needed the money. Neil McFarlane brought Andrew's body home to the young widow and her young family.

Martha Gorvin then homesteaded the E 1/2 NE 1/4 Section 26 in Hereim Township. She filed on the eighty on January 24, 1908. The notice for making the final five-year proof was published in the Greenbush Tribune August 1, 1913.

Martha was cared for by her daughter, Pearl Miller, for twenty-one years, following a broken hip the doctor didn't set because she was so old. Martha died in 1948.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Greenbush Tribune, Roseau County Heritage, Doris Wicklund.

Alexander Gosselaw and Ellen "Helen" (Batoche) Goslein

Alexander Gosselaw was a htmter and a trapper. Both of his parents were from Canada. This has been a difficult, but not impossible family to trace as there are three known ways that they spelled the name. Goslein as I know it, then Gosselaw, and finally Gosselin. Once I get everyone in their proper place the rest will be easy, as the Gosselin family goes back to the early 1400s.

I wished that I had questioned a lot of my ancestors when they were alive, but you know how it goes when you are young; it just isn't that important then. I have only one picture of Alexander and Ellen, found among the things of my late father, Norman Batoche. As you see, for dad, I used the correct spelling of the word.

The Batoche family, too, played with different spellings of the name. Batoche is really a nickname given to the ancestor of our family; his name was Francois Xavier Letendre. Letendre is the real name of the Batoche family. The nickname played an important role during the fur trade era of an important man of that time.

The town of Batoche, Saskatchewan, is a historical landmark. Francois Xavier Batoche Letendre started that town. The important Battle of Batoche took place there during the 1850s. I have found while doing this family's history, that the name changes were done because a lot of members in this family didn't want to be associated with being of Indian ancestry. Searching through records and stories, one can easily understand why. Being an American Indian was very difficult for them and their families. But, as I think about it today, it is just as hard in all nationalities. I am proud of my American Indian ancestors, grateful for all they endured and survived. The women of this time frame need to be shown our utmost respect for they were truly the backbone of all the families. Their stong faith and endurance kept the families together. To all my ancestors, I thank you.

Alexander Goslein was born January 1866 or 1863, in St. Vincent, Minnesota to Augustin and Angeline (Zast) Gooselaw (Goslein). Alex came to Roseau County in 1900.

He married Ellen Batoche Letendre, the daughter of Louis and Julie (Delorme) Letendre in Emerson, Manitoba, in November 1888. Ellen was born January 1869, in Pembina Territories, Minnesota. Ellen's brothers, Pat Botoshe and Roger Botoshe, lived in rural Greenbush.

Ellen and Alexander Goslein had ten children: Laura 1889, Frederick 1891, Elvina 1893, Eddie 1897, Marie 1899, Joe, Cecelia 1905, Ida, Rena, and Bennie 1910.

Alex was a sexton of the Blessed Sacrament Church for thirteen years. He died October 6, 1948. Ellen died January 25, 1960, in

Greenbush, Minnesota.

Submitted by Ruby Scales. Sources: 1900 census St. Vincent Township. Kittson County and Minnesota Historical Society records.

Julius and Emma (Hellickson) Graff

Julius Graff was the third son born to Hans Pederson Aker (Graft) and Bertha Olesdatter Graff (Meyer) June 22, 1867, on Gaarden Flisberg (farm) near Elverun, Norway. He immigrated in 1888, landing at Ellis Island, New York. He proceeded to Lac qui Parle County, Minnesota, to stay with his brother, Peter Meyer, and fulfill his indenture obligations. An indenture was a contract binding one person to another for a limited length of time. In return for passage to America, Julius had signed such a contract. This was not uncommon for the times.

In 1895, Julius homesteaded a land of "nothing but trees, water, and mosquitoes" in Soler Township, Minnesota. Here he built a log cabin and created a farm.

Emma Hellickson was born to Christopher and Julia Hellickson in Madison, Wisconsin, on December 17, 1879, and as a child moved with her parents to Madison, Minnesota. At the age of 15, she

assisted her brother in moving to his homestead in Barto Township with horse and wagon, herding a few head of cattle.

In Madison there had been few mosquitoes, but here on summer evenings, Emma's family found it necessary to build a green-wood fire and direct the smoke indoors to attain enough relief from the pesky biters to attain sleep. Nevertheless, Emma never returned to her parents' home. Instead, she claimed a homestead in Barto Township. Later



Julius and Emma Graff wedding photo (1902).
(photo courtesy of Bob and Ruth Graff)

she took a position as housekeeper-cook with a prominent family in Park River, married and bore her first child, Clarence.

In 1902, Emma and Julius married and made their home at his farm. After the Greenbush Bank failure when most of the area farmers lost their homesteads, Julius lost his farm. They then rented land in Moose Township that had belonged to Peder Meyer, Julius' brother. They had seven children: Jude (Bergan), Hector, Juel, Oscar, Eleanor (Hudson), Deborah (Sather), and Ruben.

As in most pioneer families, the children worked right along with the adults and had adult responsibilities from an early age. Deborah recalls helping her mother raise turkeys; the "turkey money" was used to buy school clothes. In those days, children didn't get a whole new wardrobe for school nor did they go on a shopping excursion. On shopping day, the Sears-Roebuck catalog would come out and perhaps one outfit per child would be ordered. Done. No foolishness, no unnecessary trip to town.

The children were not coddled when it was time to wear the new



Julius Graff family; Jude, Emma, Oscar, Juel, Julius; Hector (circa 1913).
(photo courtesy of Bob and Ruth Graff)

outfit to school, either. Clothing in those days did not provide much protection from the elements, but the children walked to school, often two or three miles. When Deborah was young, the family got a large dog that apparently became her pet. Her father made a sled with a box on it, and the dog pulled her on the sled to school. This was a big improvement over walking, but was useful only when there was enough snow.

As the children grew older and more interested in special grooming, Deborah recalls the girls cooked flaxseed to make wave set for styling hair. She says it thickened to a slimy consistency and, in the hair, hardened as it dried. It worked quite well to hold a style.

It was important to Julius to assimilate and become an American, and through self-instruction he became proficient in English, both speaking and reading the language. He read a lot, but was uncomfortable with writing English and usually wrote in Norwegian. He was not known to be a poet, but he wrote the following in Norwegian on a post card. Here it is, translated to English. (In Norwegian it rhymes.)

Here we sit by this evergreen
Can we really understand
Green in (early) spring
Green in summer when (winds blow)
Green in fall when leaves are falling
Green in winter when weather is cold

Julius died in 1939, An obituary from the Badger Herald-Rustler dated February 9, 1939, states that "he had not been in the best of health of late but never complained of any special trouble." It goes on to say he left behind his wife, six children, nine grandchildren, two sisters, a brother, "and a large circle of friends and relatives." One daughter, Jude, had preceded him in death. His funeral took place "on a severely cold day with a snowstorm," according to another obituary.

Although Emma had sustained an injury falling from a haystack as a child and limped because she had to walk on the toes of one foot, she was a hardworking woman and a good manager. She continued to farm after Julius' death and eventually repurchased his original homestead. She was a remarkable woman. A "saint," says her daughter.

One of her grandchildren, Pastor Al Sather, wrote of her: "(One thing) I remember at Grandma's house was her famous "lunch." By today's standards her "lunch" was a full-blown meal. It was no mere coffee, and cookie. Grandma's lunch usually consisted of homemade bread, homemade butter, homemade jellies and jams,

fresh whole milk, and coffee, and this was topped off with homemade cake and homemade cookies! If you went home hungry from Grandma's house, it was your own fault!" Quoting from the same story, "If you were to ask me what kind of smile Grandma had, I'd have to say she smiled with her heart."

Emma died November 2, 1951. Both Julius and Emma are buried at the Oiland Cemetery, near the Oiland Lutheran Church, which the couple helped establish and build.

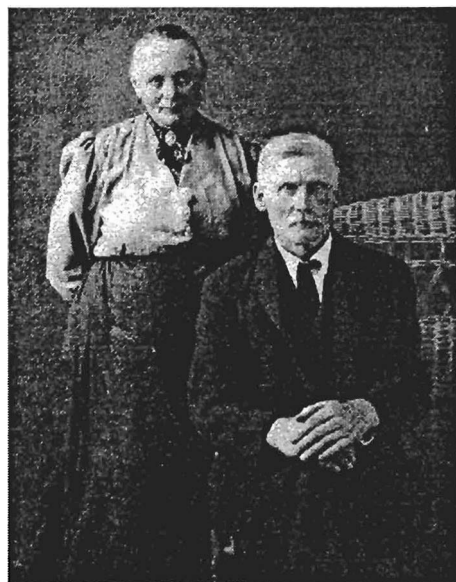
Many descendants of Julius and Emma continue to live in the Greenbush area.

Submitted by Eunice Korczak. Sources: Family legend and an article (also written by E. Korczak) printed in Roseau County Heritage (1992). Used with permission from the Roseau County Historical Society.

Gustav and Caroline (Olson) Green

Gustav E. and Caroline (Olson) Green immigrated to the United States from Oslo, Norway in 1893. They lived for a short time in Brown County near Hanska, Minnesota, before moving to Greenbush in 1896. The family homestead is located three miles west of Greenbush in Hereim Township and is now owned by great-grandson, Wendell Green.

They began their immigration journey with seven children and gave birth to Thoralf on the ship during their trip to America. Imagine a large, young family immigrating with no home awaiting them.



Caroline and Gustav Green 1915.
(photo courtesy of Albin and Muriel Green)

Gustav's children were: Clara, Fritof, Benhard, Olaf and Carl. Gustav and Caroline's children were: Ingval, Sofie (Olson), Gulborg (Gunda Boom), Helga (Cook), Thoralf, Gustav, Ole, Lawrence, Alfred, Victor, Oscar, Selmer, and they adopted Julia Thompson (McCelain) when she was three weeks old after her mother died. There were 19 children in this family with one child passing away in Norway.

In 1919 or 1920 a terrible fire burned the homestead down leaving only one granary standing. They were finishing the fall threshing. It was a hot day with a strong southerly wind and the blower box on the threshing machine became overheated and started the fire. The house, barn, summer kitchen, blacksmith shop and another granary burned. A house was moved in for the winter and the farmstead was rebuilt the following spring.

Gustav enjoyed baking as he had worked as a baker in Norway. His children remember his specialty being Jule Kake (Christmas Bread)!

Caroline, an excellent homemaker, enjoyed all aspects of home-making. She was a widow for twenty-six years. She enjoyed conversing with people and had neighbors stopping by frequently to visit.

Gustav was born on July 15, 1848, and passed away on January 31, 1916. Caroline was born September 13, 1860 and passed away January 23, 1943.

Submitted by Muriel (Melby) Green.

Frank and Caroline Grittner

Frank Grittner was born in 1862 in Berlin, Germany. He came to the United States in 1882 and settled near St. Cloud. In 1886 he married Caroline Pella. In 1916, he moved his family to Roseau County and settled on what is known to old timers as the Bolsum farm. For others, it's the farm owned by S & F Farms two miles south of Greenbush, on Highway 32. Later, in 1924, they purchased and moved to the farm on the north end of Greenbush. The house was located where Wilbert McFarlane has his house and the farm extended to the north.

They raised turkeys and cattle. Bernice (Duray) Borgen remembers herding turkeys for her grandparents to make sure the turkeys didn't go into town. A trail through the woods led to other pastures farther north. The pretty house had a deck or porch covered with vines. Bernice and her sister would pretend to be brides by making head wreaths and bridal trains from the vines. When they danced around on the porch, the vines made the porch floor green so they had to wash the green off.

Caroline Grittner died in 1939, and Frank Grittner in 1949. The Grittners had eight children. The five who were still living when Mr. Grittner died were: Joe Grittner, Mrs. Ann Ervin, Frank Grittner, John Grittner and Agnes (Mrs. Joe) Duray.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Information from Bernice Borgen and Greenbush Tribune obituary courtesy Roseau County Museum.

Anna Gustafson

Anna lived a mile south of the Herb Post Office which was about four miles west of Strathcona. Unless there were two Anna Gustafsons in Herb, Anna was 16 years old in the fall of 1901 and the spring of 1902, according to the teacher term reports of District 50 Herb. In the fall of 1902 she taught in District 57 Strathcona. Her name was also on the 1902 fall and 1903 spring terms for District 59, Mickelson School. The fall term in #59 was completed October 24, so it was probably finished early enough for her to teach the fall term in #57. In those days the terms were often two months of twenty days each. In 1903-04 she taught both the fall and spring terms in District 68, Winjum School. Throughout the years, she also taught in many other rural districts.

Anna was the daughter of John and Julia Gustafson whose homestead quarter in Deer Township consisted of the S 1/2 SW 1/4 Section 30 and N 1/2 NW 1/4 Section 31. The mother, Julia, was born in 1854 and died in 1905. John lived to a ripe old age in the town of Strathcona and is buried there. The people in charge probably didn't know that his wife and son, Charles, were buried in the Haugtvedt Cemetery Section 17 Deer Township, two miles north of where the Herb post office was.

According to the 1901 teacher term report, Charles was 13 in 1901, which would coincide with the tombstone in the Haugtvedt Cemetery for Charles Gustafson listing the dates as 1888-1912. Victor Westlund recalled that Mrs. Gustafson spent time off and on in Fergus Falls at the State Hospital and that she and a son died young. He wasn't aware of where they were buried.

Victor did tell a story his father, Lewis, told about the homestead

house that Mr. Gustafson built. Mr. Westlund, who lived a mile east of the Gustafsons at the time, commented about the pig house John was building. It wasn't the pig house, but the house they were going to live in. Mr. Westlund thought it wasn't fit for human habitation, which, considering the big spaces between the poplar logs, it probably was too cold for humans.

These Gustafsons were not related to the Carl J. Gustafsons in Lind Township who had a son, John. In fact, when Anna taught in District 59, the Mickelson School, the young John Gustafson was seven years old and was her student.

I had no knowledge of Anna before doing research on the rural schools other than the letter she wrote that was published in the Greenbush Tribune December 10, 1909. Having been a teacher, this letter struck a chord in my heart, so whenever I came across Anna's name in school papers and the newspaper, I paid special attention.

Although this letter was written nearly a hundred years ago, I think the message is timeless. Considering the limited formal schooling and little teacher training that Anna had, her insight into education seems to be very advanced thinking for that time. Her writing, in my opinion, is that of a well-educated person.

THE BACKWARD CHILD

A Teacher Has Something to Say in His Behalf

I think the teacher has the greatest responsibility in the matter of the backward child. If a child falls behind the average in his class, it is the duty of the teacher to try to find out the reason and report it to the parents. Instead of doing this, unhappily, we find some teachers, probably because of ignorance of the mechanism of the development of the human mind, thrust the poor little dullard farther down into the abysmal depths of despair into which he is tending. Any person looking back at his childhood and regarding his mental attitude thru the vista of time, recalls nothing more impressive than the mountains of difficulty which stood in the path, and which had to be removed in order to learn the simplest matter in relation to that awful mysterious affair of living in this world. Spelling, arithmetic and geography were wonders and grown folks were superior beings who were done forever with such tasks. Not only in those things which were taught for some unknown object in that dominating and overshadowing place -- school, but there were other matters that seemed to be miracles of achievement. The confiding disposition of the child, who no doubt knows of his utter lack of ability to live other than day by day, makes it possible for him to continue his existence with a faith certain that he will be able to do what is required of him and that what he cannot accomplish will be done for him by the one who has him in charge. In backward children, unless one handles them with extreme care, this balance which comes alone from this faith that it will be possible for him to meet that which is expected of him, to do his part, that which makes him live his life with hope and self respect, may be disturbed and the mountains of difficulty increased a hundred fold. Let him once get the idea that he has less mental ability than others and no implement will be sufficient to measure the hopeless gulf into which he is plunged.

The great duty then of teachers and parents then is to find out the cause or causes of the trouble, to see if it is a temporary lack of development in certain directions, or if it is due to slovenly habits of thought, slowness of mental, whether the mental awakening is of a late variety, or if a subsequent misunderstanding of a lesson,

has caused the whole superstructure to be unstable. I think the whole life of the child depends upon the solution, the problem of getting him started aright.

Nothing shows the advance in our knowledge of brain action more than the attitude held today in regard to backward children. The dunce cap and dunce stool have been banished with the birch and the rod, and the child who does not keep pace with children of his age is no longer called a dunce and made a subject of ridicule, a butt of sarcasm and scorn by teachers and schoolmates, but the enlightened instructors work to bring backward intelligence up to the standard. - Anna Gustafson, District 75, Herb, Minn.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Tribune. Roseau County school records. Haugtvedt Cemetery. Victor Westlund.

Carl J. and Mathilda Gustafson



Carl J. and Mathilda Gustafson with baby Gust about 1892. (photo courtesy of David Gustafson)

Carl J. Gustafson (1852-1933) and wife, Mathilda (1863-1934) emigrated from Sweden, (date unknown) to Hanley Falls, Minnesota, where they began their family of three children. Gust was born in 1891, Emma in 1893 and John in 1895.

When they moved from Hanley Falls in 1899, they packed up their belongings in a covered wagon to make the trip to the Greenbush area. Carl and Mathilda homesteaded on the SW 1/4 of Section 2 in Lind Township. Lind Township was quite a distance from Pelan, the nearest trading center, so travel was an issue. When the family needed supplies, they often had to walk and be forced to carry their supplies home, which sometimes included a 100-pound sack of flour.

The Gustafsons joined the Bethlehem Church in 1908. Their membership coincides with the year their daughter Emma was confirmed. Carl was a mason by trade and built the foundation for the Bethlehem Church about 1911. That winter the church had been moved from Pelan to the section kitty corner to the Gustafson homestead. When the foundation was removed in 1940 to make abasement under the church, Henry Langaas said the foundation was in perfect condition, which attested to "the skill of Carl Gustafson."

The children attended District 59 Mickelson School located one mile north, but in Dewey Township. Carl was a petitioner for organizing that school in 1902.

The oldest son, Gust, married Cecelia Botoshe, Emma married Eric Stahlberg, and John married Clara Johnson. The land that Carl Gustafson homesteaded is still in the Gustafson family. Gust owned it, then his son, Ray Orvis Gustafson. It is now owned by Ray's wife, Gloria Gustafson.

Submitted by David Gustafson and additions by Myrna Sovde.

Gust and Cecelia I Botoshel Gustafson

Gust Gustafson was born in 1891 in Hanley Falls, Minnesota, to Swedish immigrants Carl J. Gustafson (1852-1933) and wife, Mathilda (1863-1934). Gust had one sister, Emma, and one brother, John. His parents homesteaded on the SW 1/4 of Section 2 in Lind Township which is kitty corner across the section line from the

Bethlehem Church of which all the Gustafsons were members until it closed. Gust, Emma, and John first attended District 26 North (by Svegdahls) and later, in 1902, District 59 the Mickelson School.

Gust married Cecelia Botoshe from Greenbush. Cecelia was born in Greenbush on September II, 1910, to Louis (Willie) and Anna Botoshe. Cecelia's siblings were: Mary (Leo) Johnson, Hilda (John) Svegdahl, William, Caroline, Francis (Kenneth) Halvorson, Mae (William) Martell, and Norman.

Gust and Cecelia lived on and farmed the Carl Gustafson homestead which is still in the family. Their son, Orvis Ray (Sparky) Gustafson is deceased so it is now owned by his wife, Gloria. Cecelia died in 1980 and Gust in 1973.



Gust and Celia Gustafson
(photo from Mickey Emery)

The Gustafson children were: Willis 1928-96, married to Kathy; Ronald 1932-33; Arney 1933, married Virgene Froemke; Orvis Ray 1935-99, married Gloria Gorsuch; Gayferd 1939, married Florence Shimpa.

Gust was a particularly gifted violin player. Even when he was older, his talent had not diminished. At a contest in Crookston, Minnesota, around 1972,

with his nephew, David Gustafson, chording on the piano to accompany him, Gust was given a standing ovation. Although he was the oldest fiddler, he was one of the best.



Willis, Arney, Gayford, Ray "Sparky" and Celia Gustafson.
(photo from Mickey Emery)

Cecelia's niece, Ruby Scales, recalled deer hunting season was a big deal and the Gustafson farm was "the happening place. We would all get up north a day or two before hunting season and all would get ready for the big season. Being a young girl, Aunt Cecelia believed I should be in the kitchen, learning the basic chores that needed to be done to feed all the men folk that would be in the big hunting party. I remember once I went off and disobeyed. Her strict order, I did not follow, as she had warned me about going near the horses. Well, I did not listen and did anyway, and I fell into the horse trough. I almost drowned as I could not swim and the water in there was deep. She took me back to the house and lectured me

till I thought she would never quit. Even my mom could not save me. As a punishment, I had to do all the dishes in the kitchen. She mellowed out though, because when the dishes were done she gave me some just-fried donuts. She was an excellent baker. I will never forget the lessons I learned from her."

Submitted by Ruby Scales and compiled by Myrna Sovde Sources: school and church records, David Gustafson and Ruby Scales.

John and Clara Gustafson

John Gustafson (1895-1971) was the youngest of three children born to Carl J. and Mathilda Gustafson in Hanley Falls, Minnesota. He came to Lind Township in 1899 with his parents and brother Gust and sister Emma. They settled on the SW 1/4 Section 2 adjacent to the Bethlehem Church. Johan (or John) attended school in District 59, the Mickelson School a mile north of their farm for most of his school years. For seven or eight winters during the Depression, John worked in the copper mines at Butte, Montana. \$1 a ton was the wages. He returned every summer to farm.

Clara Johnson (1903-1985) was the only daughter of four children born to Kolbjorn and Martha (Hermanson) Johnson. Her parents and other relatives, Holens and Hermansons, were among the first homesteaders in Pelan where Clara was born. Her brothers were Helmer, George, and Einar. Clara taught in many of the rural schools in the area before her marriage. For some of the schools, such as the Sogn School District 110 and District 72, by the Mooneys, the pictures of Clara with her students are the only pictures that have been found for compiling this book.



John and Clara Gustafson and friend Edwin Anderson.
(photo courtesy of David Gustafson)

Kolbjorn Johnson was unhappy about Clara's marriage. Why he felt this way was unknown, as all the neighbors thought well of John Gustafson. Perhaps his dislike for Swedes couldn't stand the thought of a Swede marrying his only daughter. David, the youngest son of John and Clara, recalls his grandfather leaving the house when they arrived.

To this day, the family thinks it was strange that Kolbjorn and his two brothers from Willow City, North Dakota, would never tell about their past or professions in Norway. They were very secretive about this.

John and Clara lived in the northwest part of Section 12 about a mile from where John grew up. They owned and farmed a considerable amount of land near their home and farther west. They had four children: Marlo, 1934-1997, married Nancy Graff; Juel, 1936, married Frances Neigum; Clarice, 1940, married Wayne Smith; and

David, 1945, married Kay Ballard.

John enjoyed music and was musically inclined. He sang in the Bethlehem Church Choir, played a comet in the Pelan Band, and played the violin, as did his brother Gust. He didn't play the piano, but he bought one for their home, mainly for his daughter, but David could also chord to play with John and Gust when they fiddled.

Marlo and Nancy took over John and Clara's homeplace and Nancy continues to live there. David and Kay live on the Kolbjorn Johnson homestead and own portions of the Tron Hennanson and Arthur Holen homesteads. The homesteads can be dated back to 1895 and can be considered century farms, due to the fact that all three families are related to David.

Submitted by David Gustafson and Myrna Sovde.

Haaken and Jorgina Haagenson



H.P. Haagenson

(photo submitted by Shirley Langaas)

Haaken Peter, "H. P.", Haagenson was born March 12, 1862, in Namdalen, Norway. He came to the United States in 1882, and settled first near Sacred Heart, Minnesota, where he farmed for a number of years. He then moved to Viking, Minnesota, where he also farmed. Later he moved to the Greenbush area, and made his home with John Axning and helped with the farming. Had they met while both were in the Viking area, or did they have ties back to Namdalen, Norway?

Haaken married Jorgina Rolandson, John Axning's sister. Jorgina was born January 4, 1875, in Namdalen, Norway. She attended school and was confirmed at Viking, Minnesota, where she lived with foster parents who had brought her from Norway. H. P. and Jorgina continued to live on the farm with John until all three moved to Greenbush in 1937 or 1938 and lived in the house where Ernest and Alice Miller live now.

Jorgina and H. P. had two children; Inga was born in 1903, and Edwin in 1907. The children attended school in District 59 Mickelson School, which was about a mile east of where they lived. Daughter Inga became a teacher, married Henry Langaas, and had five children.

Grandson Rodney Langaas remembered Grandma Jorgina as soft spoken, quiet and very easy-going. She loved to have the grandchildren visit although she said little. She always had pie or cake for them.

Edwin was drafted into the army at age 36, during World War II. He was killed in action, on Leyte Island on December 7, 1944.

Haaken died September 19, 1943. Jorgina died at the Greenbush Hospital July 10, 1971, at age 96. Her four sisters and brother preceded her in death, as did her only son and her only granddaughter, Ivonne Langaas. Haaken and Jorgina are buried in the Bethel Cemetery.

Submitted by Shirley Langaas and Myrna Sovde. See John Axning and Henry and Inga Langaas histories.

Erick and Otelia Hagen

Erick Hagen, the father of Fred Hagen, came from Norway around 1890. Taking along some of his older boys, he travelled to America, leaving his wife and younger children behind to wait for him to establish a home in northern Minnesota. The government had granted him homestead rights on 160 acres in Roseau County. Erick homesteaded the NW 1/4 of Section 11 in Lind Township. This land was later owned by his son Fred Hagen and later by his grandson Leif Hagen.

Erick and his sons landed on Ellis Island out of New York. After the paperwork, they took a train to Minneapolis. From there they took a wagon trip to northern Minnesota, a trip of 300 miles or better. Erick and the boys cleared the land, built a log house, and planted crops. They had to barter their labor for seed or livestock. Money was scarce.

Sometime later, possibly 1892, Erick's wife and the rest of the children took the same arduous trip from Norway to Ellis Island and to northern Minnesota.

In stories, it was told that they were thrilled with so much space and a chance to feed their family with the labor of their hands and the sweat of their brows. Hagens came to this area because of ample water, grass, and wood. The homestead deed was recorded May 5, 1905.

Several of the children were in school in District 59 in 1902. At the time of Erick's death in 1923, thirteen children were listed as living; Hans, Mina Hensrude, Andrew, Millie Steams, Helen Boots, Trygve, Elvina Gesdahl, Emma Rees, Nellie Callender, Fred, Leif, Mrs. Martell, and Mrs. Hightower. On Mrs. Hagen's obituary, 1929, Anna Hill was also listed.

Both Erick and Otelia were born in Modum, Norway, where they were married in 1871. Erick was born February 6, 1840, and died May 16, 1923. Otelia Hagen was born December 15, 1852, and died in January 1929. Erick's funeral was held at the Bethlehem Church. Otelia's funeral was held at the Fred Hagen home.

Submitted by Helen Hagen Conway and Myrna Sovde.

Fred and Esther (Olson) Hagen

Fred (Godfred) Hagen the son of Erick Hagen was born March 10, 1888. He came from Modum, Norway, with his mother when he was four years old. Esther Olson, who was born in 1894, married Fred in 1918. She had been a school teacher before her marriage. After their marriage, they moved in with Erick and Mrs. Erick Hagen on their homestead, the NW 1/4 of Section 11 in Lind Township.

Fred and Esther had 12 children: Dee, 1918, deceased; Hugo, 1919, deceased; Helen, 1921, lives in the state of Washington; Doris, 1923, lives in North Carolina; Lorraine, 1924, deceased; Marian, 1926, lives in Minneapolis; Leif, 1928, lives near Greenbush; Dale, 1930, deceased; Gerald, 1932, Minnesota; Wallace, 1934, deceased; Randy, 1938, Delaware; and Karen, 1942, Minnesota.

Fred and Esther lived on Erick's homestead across from the Bethlehem Church, until they sold their land to their son Leif and wife, Nonna. They bought a house in Greenbush and moved into town. Fred died in 1967, and Esther in 1990. The children attended school at the Svegdahl School, which was a mile south of them on the same section.

Submitted by Helen Hagen Conway.

Hallick O. and Bertha (Helgeson) Halverson

Hallick Halverson was born November 4, 1858, in Neumedal, Norway to Ole Halverson and Gunhild Warne. He came to America with his parents at the age of three and lived in Wisconsin for two years. Then they moved to Renville County, Minnesota.

Bertha was born May 8, 1868, in **Hardanger**, Norway, to Helling Halvorson and Ella Ellingson. She came to the United States when she was three and settled with her parents near Mason City, Iowa. Later they moved to Bloomfield, Nebraska. She married Arne Thompson in 1885 and had a son, Arne Bennett Thompson. One year later her husband died.

Hallick and Bertha married and made their home in Bloomfield, Nebraska, for several years and had four sons. Later they moved to Redwood County. In 1900, they moved to Cosmopolis, Washington. After only a year, they decided to move to a farm near Belview, Minnesota, where their daughter was born. In 1917, they moved to Skagen Township, three and a half miles east from Greenbush on Highway 11.

The last 17 years of Hallick's life, they lived there. He died on May 25, 1935. Listed in his obituary as survivors were his wife and five children: Earl Oscar, of Billings, Montana; Melvin Elliot, of Badger, Minnesota; Alice Turena (Mrs. A. T.) Holmstrom, of Roseau, Minnesota; Roy Thomas, of Greenbush; and George Henry, living at home; Also listed was his stepson, Ernie Thompson of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Submitted by Linda Gieseke and Eunice Korczak with information from the Greenbush Tribune and the Roseau County Museum.

Ellert Hanson

Ellert Hanson emigrated from Norway to Hatton, North Dakota, and then to Roseau County. He was one of the first settlers in Dewey Township, coming before 1900. His homestead was along Highway 11, the E 1/2 of SW 1/4 Section 22.

Ellert was married to Marie and had three children. Marie, worked at the Half-Way House, the stage coach stopping place, which was about a quarter mile east of their house. The new hunting cabin, just west of what is known as David Burkel's grain bins, is located on the exact spot as the horse barn was. The hotel was a little closer to the highway. When Pelan was started, the business had to move to Pelan.

Ellert and Marie bought the old Pelan hospital, moved it to their property on the north side of the highway and made it into their home. The way the house was built, with five or six doors off the hallway, would confirm that it had been the hospital. When tuberculosis struck the family, Marie and two children died. Ellert blamed the house for the deaths, feeling the tuberculosis germs were in the house. The only survivors were Ellert and daughter Marie (Mary) who married Mensvil Snare. She and her family lived across the highway and a little west of his place. Ellert had a brother John, who changed his name to Jenson and moved to Minneapolis.

Ellert served on the Dewey townboard from its beginning until about 1946 when he quit farming. He was the school board clerk of District 74 in 1911 and earlier. He was probably on the first school board there. Footsteps in Education said he was on the first school board in District 25, located in Section 23 Dewey Township, but it was District 74 that was located in Section 23. Ellert also drove school bus when Mabel Myran Anderson was a student. (Mabel graduated from high school in Greenbush in 1923.)

Ellert was a farmer and had cattle. When he retired, Eddie Hanson bought his farm. Ellert was active in the Pauli Church and is buried there.

Submitted by Art Anderson and Myrna Sovde. Sources: Footsteps in Education. Waldo Anderson. Kenneth Snare. Eddie Hanson. See Mensvil and Marie Snare history.

Charlie and Evelyn (Kelly) Haugen

Evelyn Rose Kelly was born in 1896 and died in 1967. She was the daughter of Tom and Anna Kelly. In 1916, she married Charlie Haugen, the son of Knute and Ingeborg Haugen. He drove a one horse sleigh when he went courting Evelyn (Evie) at the Kelly farm. Later the horse became a beautiful black horsehide robe. They had one son, Curtis, now deceased. Curtis married Audrey Roggenbuck and they had three children, Rhett (Joan Everson), Dale (Karen Flaten), and Carol (Bill Simpkins).



When Evie and Charlie were married, they rented a Tawney farm in Section 12 of Dewey Township. Later, they bought his parents' farm, NW 1/4 Section 8 Hereim Township, where Rhett Haugen, the fourth generation, now lives.

Evie taught school for several years: District 25 west of Greenbush in 1918-19 and 1923-28, and Bialke School District 61 east of Greenbush in 1915-16 and others.

Education for teaching school in those days was much different than it is now. On October 25,

1895, Roseau County teachers organized a Roseau County Teachers' Association to promote learning. The subject that session

was slow learners. In September of 1901, Roseau County School Superintendent Mattson organized a summer session for teachers to be held July 8-August 2. Courses included English Grammar, American History, Arithmetic, Geography Methods, Civics, Reading, and Pedagogy. Certificates could be renewed by reviews of specific books on teaching methods.

In 1920, the Warroad Teachers' Training Department began when the high school was granted the right to qualify high school seniors who had twelve hours of credits for a teacher's certificate.

I sometimes stayed with Evie and Charley before I started school. When Evie had to give State Board Exams and could not take me with her to school, she left me at the Zabrockis where I spent a memorable day playing "kick the can" with the friendly Zabrocki kids and experiencing a new **drink** called "Postum."

In the later years, Evie drove the school bus. That is when I first met Amelia and Emelia Sikorski. They were in first grade.

I stayed with Evie and Charlie while I went to high school in Greenbush. There were no buses at that time and it was about twelve miles to Greenbush, so students either stayed with relatives or boarded in town. Eighth grade meant the end of education for many children.

I remember milking cows, helping cook for the threshers, shocking barley, oats, and corn, herding cows, grinding feed with a gas

engine, pumping water for the cattle and sheep, and helping with housework. I don't remember minding any of the chores especially since Evie rescued me from the quagmire known as Algebra!

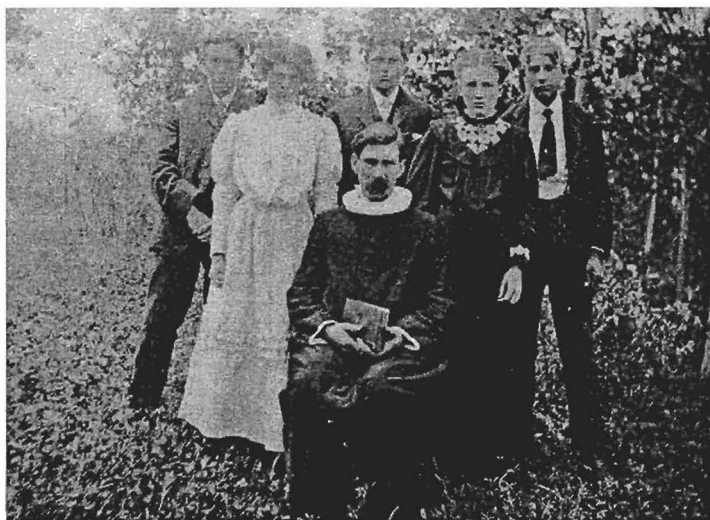
Evie was an excellent seamstress and helped me learn to sew. She tried to teach me to crochet but never succeeded. She did barbering and beauty work and was great at cooking and baking. She was someone who could "make something out of nothing" as the saying goes.

Charlie's parents were Ingeborg Thompson Nesteby Haugen and Knute Haugen. Charlie had one sister. His three half-sisters and four half-brothers were Nestebys.

Submitted by Lillian Kelly Nelson. See Haugen at end of Pioneer histories.

Emil and Hilda (Majer) Haugtvedt

Emil Haugtvedt, the oldest of fifteen children, was born to Syver and Gina Haugtvedt on December 26, 1890, at Barnesville, Minnesota. He came to Deer Township with his parents in 1898, when he was seven years old. His parents settled on Section 8 where Emil grew up. Later Emil raised his family on Section 17, less than a fourth mile away.



Confirmation about 1907, Pastor Njus; L to R: Emil Haugtvedt, unknown girl, Christ Foss, Clara Haugtvedt and unknown boy.

Emil, his brothers and sisters, and later his children, except for the two youngest, attended school in the Gavick School, which was a half mile from home.

Emil and his uncles, Christian and Anton Foss, were in the United States Army in WWI. Emil returned to Greenbush after his discharge in 1919.

On June 21, 1922, Emil married Hilda Majer, the daughter of Selmer (S. A.) and Benedict Majer, at the Poplar Grove Church. This was the same church that Emil's dad helped to start. The church was on property that had been homesteaded by Hilda's family, the NW 1/4 Section 13 in Deer Township about four miles straight east of the Haugtvedt homestead. Hilda was born July 31, 1903, on that homestead.

In addition to farming, Emil operated a road grader in Deer Township for many years. He was on the church council, a town board officer, and a member of the Greenbush American Legion and Bethlehem Church. In early years, he played on the Deer Township baseball team.

Hilda was very family oriented, a good mother and the "greatest"

cook. She was involved with the Bethlehem Ladies Aid, and put her cooking talents to use there, also. Gardening, canning, sewing, and embroidering occupied the remainder of her time.

Emil and Hilda had seven children: Elaine 1923 (Ernest Nesteby); Morris 1925 (Maria Hayes); Velma 1927 (Danferd Hamness); Eunice 1931 (Basil Stavnes); Harris 1935 (Grace Vikre); Curtis 1939 (Kay Hahn); Stanley 1941 (Julia Ellefson).

Hilda died September 18, 1961, and Emil on April 16, 1983. They are buried in the East Bethlehem (Haugtvedt) Cemetery across the road from where Emil grew up.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Harris Haugtvedt. Emil's obituary. See also Syver Haugtvedt and Amund Peterson histories.

Syver and Gina (Peterson) Haugtvedt

Syver and Gina Haugtvedt came to Roseau County in 1898, before Deer Township (where they settled) was even a township. Gina's parents, Amund and Kari Peterson, and two brothers John Byhre, Christian and Thorvald Peterson, and her sister Anna with her husband, Otto Foss, and family, came at the same time. (See Otto Foss, Amund Peterson, and John Byhre histories.) Gina, born in 1875, in Gudbradsdalen, Norway, came to the United States when she was 14. She married Syver in 1890. They lived in Clay County, Minnesota, and had five children before coming to Roseau County in a covered wagon drawn by oxen. Syver and Gina with the five older children, Emil, Clara, Anton, George, and Arthur, homesteaded the SW 1/4 Section 8 Deer Township.

Syver, Otto Foss, and Amund Peterson were among the eight founders of the Poplar Grove Church. In April of 1905, Otto and Syver resigned their church positions. In 1907, the West Poplar Grove Church was founded. No church building was known to exist, but the church was registered in Norwegian Lutheran Churches of America. Syver Haugtvedt was listed as the church secretary. The only paper from the church that has surfaced is the baptismal certificate of Syver and Gina's daughter, Olga, which proves she was baptized into the West Poplar Grove congregation. That congregation was dissolved in 1911. The Haugtvedt family joined the Bethlehem church in 1915.

Haugtvedt, Foss, and Peterson family members are buried in the cemetery across the road from the homestead, legally known as the East Bethlehem Cemetery, and commonly known as the Haugtvedt Cemetery.

Syver was clerk for the District 60, Gavick School, schoolboard from the beginning in 1902, about for about 40 years. He also took



Syver and Gina Haugtvedt family 1911. Front: Anna, Gladys, Olga, Mabel. Middle: Hilda, Clara, Selma, Alma. Back: Emil, Syver, Gina, and Anton. (photo courtesy of Lilly Bingaman)

school census for about that long, after which his son, Palmer did. He was a townboard officer and served as assessor, clerk and justice. Around 1915, he was also the Herb postmaster for a short time.

Gina was recalled as a sweet lady by her great niece, Clarice Martinson, and daughter-in-law Delores Haugtvedt. In earlier days she was active in church, had Ladies Aid at her home, raised a large garden, and did a lot of sewing.

Fifteen children were born to Syver and Gina including: Emil 1890 (Hilda Majer); Clara (Albert Gilbertson); Anton died age 21; George and Arthur died of diphtheria as children; Hilda 1899 (Art Olson); Selma (Bill Carlson); Alma 1904 (Elmer Everson); Anna 1906 (Harold Forsness); Olga and Mabel never married; Gladys 1911 (Graff/Gilman Myran); Palmer 1914 (Delores Schaefer); Minnie 1915 (Walter Thomas); and Selmer 1918 died in infancy.

Syver and Gina lived in a little house behind Gladys and Gilman Myran in their last years and Gladys and Gilman took care of them. *Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Delores Haugtvedt, Poplar Grove records, memories by Clarice Martinson, District 60 records.*

Fidelia Hedges

The stage from **Stephen** made regular stops at the post office where Fidelia Hedges, who was a cousin of the famous Lillian Russell, was the postmistress. Mr. and Mrs. Hedges were the proprietors of a stopping place for weary travelers in which the post office was located. A teacher who boarded there while teaching school wrote that this first post office was located "one mile east of Old Greenbush." Old Greenbush was located near the Pioneer Haven/Hvidso Cemetery, so this would place the Hedges farm approximately where the Dee Eeg farm is presently located. This is now referred to as Old Old Greenbush.

Fidelia kept a garden of beautiful flowers in her front yard. Alyssum, asters, petunias, phlox, nasturtiums, and other bright blossoms were a welcome sight to the travelers after viewing the seemingly endless view of spruce and tamarack along the way. An even more welcome sight, at least for the horses, was the well and trough of cool, clear water just outside the gate.

The teacher who stayed there also wrote items for the Badger paper. Years later she wrote the following:

"One Thanksgiving time I wrote a description of a turkey raffle that had been held at the Hedges home. However when the item appeared what was my surprise but to find that numerous dashes and blank spaces had completely ruined my article! Later on investigating I found that holding a raffle in a post office was a federal offense and had the editor not kindly deleted part of my description, I might unwittingly have caused my friends a great deal of trouble."

Apparently the Hedges stopping place was a friendly place. At the time of Mr. Hedges death, a newspaper article stated, "Most of the old settlers will remember Mr. and Mrs. Hedges and their hospitality which was kindly extended to all who made their home a 'stopping place.'" The editor did not mention that Fidelia Hedges' name will always be connected with the first Greenbush Post Office, and the first Greenbush, now known as **Old Old Greenbush**. Fidelia, like many other contemporaries, probably had no idea that she was making history and would become a prominent figure in the story of Greenbush.

Submitted by Eunice Korczak.

(Gunder) Carl C. and Carrie Heltne

Who was Gunder Heltne? No one knew a Gunder Heltne, but through generations everyone knew Carl Heltne. Besides being active in civic affairs for most of his life, he lived to be nearly 102 and celebrated his 101st birthday in the Greenbush Nursing Home in 1973. He was an essential part of the early Greenbush community.

Carl came from Dodge County, Minnesota to Hereim Township in 1899 to visit Ole O. Hereim. Carl homesteaded the NE 1/4 Section 15, just south of present day Greenbush. A few spruce trees still mark the location of the building site in the northeast corner of his claim, which is now just west of the railroad tracks, by Greenbush.

Gunder Carl C. Heltne was born March 24, 1872, in Hayfield, Minnesota. His parents, Christopher and Kjerstin Heltne, came from Tronfhiem, Norway. Mrs. Ole Hereim, Jr. was Carl's sister.



Friend Mrs. Larson, Carrie Heltne, Carl Joe Heltne, Mr. Larson, and Carl Heltne. (photo courtesy of Leroy Heltne)

Carl married Carrie Williamson on January 24, 1904. He was 31 and she 19. Carrie was born September 6, 1884, in Holvingdal, Norway. Her family, Williamson or Skall, had homesteaded on the quarter south of Carl. They had two sons, Clifford who was born November 3, 1904, and Gilman. Carrie died June 20, 1960.

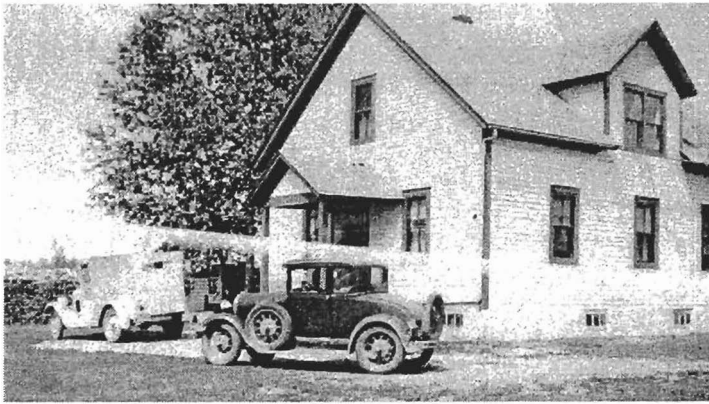
Where should one start with listing Carl's service to the community? In 1904, he and Ole Hereim were among the early organizers of the Greenbush Cooperative Creamery and in 1905 Carl was elected president of the first creamery board. He was the first tax assessor in Hereim Township and assessed for thirteen years. He served on the District 66 school board for fifteen years. A side story by the family is: to be eligible to be on the school board for the town school, Carl bought a house in town. That house was where Leroy and Carl Joe, the Heltne grandsons, grew up. The location is now the Bethel Church parking lot.

In 1909, the creamery gave Carl a contract for putting up ice at \$2 a cord and allowed \$5 extra for cleaning out the ice house.

Carl and Carrie began selling milk to Greenbush townspeople in 1910. They had a little sleigh and a horse that was trained to stop at their customers' houses. Clifford and Gilman delivered milk each morning. When they went on to school, they started the horse homeward. Their dog went along and stopped at each stop with the horse.

Later Carl bought a car and attached a trunk on the rear for delivering milk. In June 1938 he bought an ivory colored van to use for milk delivery. In 1940 Ernest Reese took over the milk delivery business.

Carrie was one of the earliest American Legion Auxiliary mem



Milkwagon and Model A at Carl and Carrie Heltne home about 1938.
(photo courtesy of Leroy Heltne)

bers and was active as an officer. In 1926 she was an agent for New Bone Corsets and went to Badger to take orders.

In the early 1930s the former Moland Lutheran Church was moved to the Heltne farm and remodeled into a home. A front porch and living room were added. Evidence of the remodeling was apparent in the attic as a lot of added lumber and bracing still showed. In the 1980s the foundation started to collapse. The house was demolished in the early 1990s by the fire department as part of a training exercise.

Clifford married Margaret Walz who was born about April 2, 1908. This isn't a case of children not knowing when their mother was born. Margaret was one of the orphans brought to Perham from a New York City foundling home on a Freedom Train when she was five or six years old. Joseph and Gloria Walz adopted her. Margaret had a suspicion that she was adopted, but didn't really know until she was grown. She had a good life with the Walz family. The lack of a birth record posed a problem when Margaret wished to collect teachers' retirement. She had taught in Greenbush for many years. Clifford and Margaret had two sons, Carl Joe 1937-1988 and Leroy 1938 (Ann Mlodzik, deceased).

Gilman Heltne was married twice, both named Vera. Children with his first wife were Glen, Jay, Jerry, Carol, and unknown.

Clifford was a construction worker, and worked for Herb Reese on the Alaska Highway.

In the thirties and forties he was the municipal judge, and later the viHage clerk. Clifford died in 1967 and Margaret in 1991. Leroy sold the property to Brady Hasson in the late 1990s.

Submitted by Myrna Sovde. Sources: Leroy Heltne, Greenbush Tribune, research by MaryAnn Johnson, and a Roseau County Museum paper attributed to Carrie Heltne.

John and Mathilda Henrickson

John Oscar Henrickson* was born in Vestergotland, Sweden, on March 13, 1866, to Henrick Olson and Kaisa Jonson. He was 21 and had trained in the Swedish army for a year before his family immigrated to America. In 1888, the trip from Sweden took eleven days.

In 1892, he married Mathilda Olson, a schoolmate and sweetheart from Sweden, at Alexandria, Minnesota. John worked on farms in Lowry, and Glenwood, Minnesota, before working on the Soo Line Railroad. In 1900, John and Mathilda learned of openings for homesteading in Roseau County so they moved to the SE 1/4 Section 17 in Lind Township where they "dug in." The land was all unimproved, but John felt led to try his luck at farming. He

built a 10'x12' house for them and their four oldest children who had been born in Lowry. The rest of the house was built in 1910.

Stephen was the nearest large town, but they could buy groceries and necessary items for living, seven miles away in Pelan.

The task of breaking land was made more difficult by flooding waters. The home place was not a productive one, and the soil was hurt by saturating flood waters which struck year after year. One time John drove in water up to the hubs of the buggy wheels from Stephen to the farm.

Mr. Henrickson served on the Lind Township board for 30 years and was treasurer of the school board about that long. He was the prime mover in developing the Free Church in his community. He later attended the Karlstad Baptist Church.

Their children were Victor 1893-1920; Carl 1895-1979 (Laura Peterson); Gustav 1896-1967 (Gladys Swift); Alma 1899-1935 (Arthur Grandquist); Inez 1911-1992 (Peter Kalinowski); and John 1914 (Anne Symchuck). Inez and John were born in Lind Township. Mathilda died in 1937, at age 71. John O. died in 1963, in the Greenbush Hospital. He was over 97 years old.

Victor and Carl were local rural teachers. Carl taught in District 26 (Paulson/Wahl School), District 75 (Wicklund School) and others. He was drafted in 1917, was in the medical corp, wounded, and in the hospital for a month. He attended St. Cloud Teachers' College. He wanted to be a doctor, but couldn't afford it. He taught school for about thirty years, most of the last years at White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Gus moved to Idaho. He had two children, Joan and Larry. Alma and her husband had a restaurant in Kennedy. When she died, their son Donald, lived with his dad's sister and brother, Emily and Fritz Grandquist.

Inez married Peter Kalinowski from Leo, north of Greenbush. Their address was Lake Bronson; they traded in Karlstad; and their daughter Marlys (Kowalski) went to school in Greenbush.



Inez, John, Carl, Grandpa John, and Gus Hendrickson in the 50s.

Son, John E. Hendrickson, married Anne Symchuck of Caribou, Minnesota. They have three daughters, Annette Snyder, Linda Raatikka and Gayle Colborn. They lived and farmed in Lind Township with his father John O. Henrickson on the original homestead and another quarter. They sold the farm in 1977 and moved to Sebeka, Minnesota, near Linda's home.

The 1910 school census was rather confusing. The father was listed as "Oskar Henrikson." So was John O. called Oskar instead of John in the early days? *Note: Henrickson/Hendrickson. Victor and father John O. were Henrickson. The others are Hendrickson. *Submitted by Linda Raatikka and Annette Snyder, compiled by Myrna Sovde. Source: Karlstad Advocate, family tree, school census. See Victor Henrickson history.*