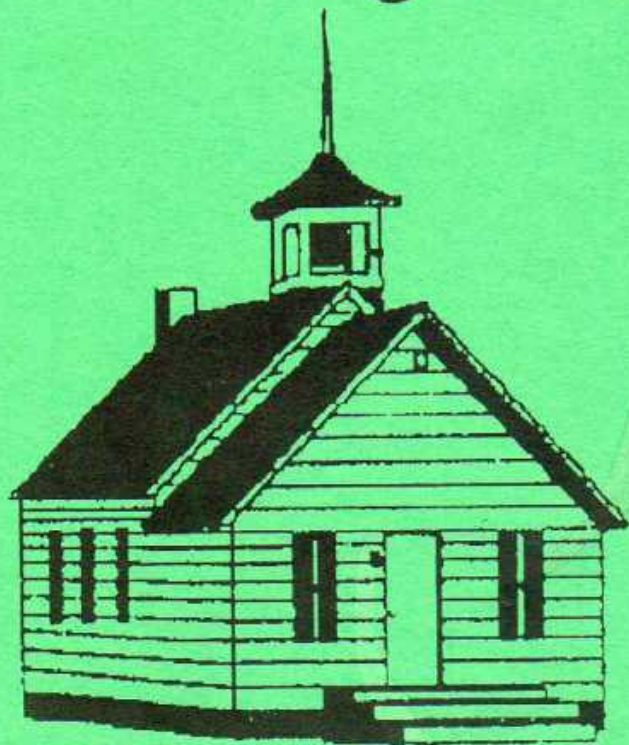


# **New Maine Township**

*celebrating  
100 years*



**1900 - 2000**

*In Recognition of*

*100 Years*

*Of Local Government*

*New Maine Township*

*Marshall County, Minnesota*

*1900—2000*

*Emory Flaten, Supervisor*

*Donald Larson, Supervisor*

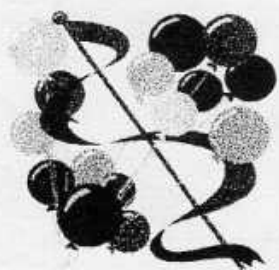
*Barry Nelson, Supervisor*

*Diane Lee, Treasurer*

*Judith Lokstad, Clerk*



# NEW MAINE TOWNSHIP



## CELEBRATING



**SOFTBALL GAME**



**HORSE & BUGGY  
RIDES**

**LIVE MUSIC**

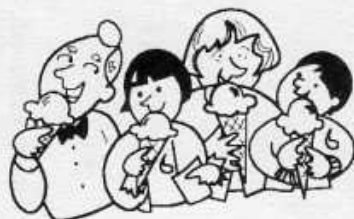


**TUG OF WAR**

**HORSE SHOES**



### 100 YEARS



**KIDDIE GAMES**

**TURKEY & PIG ROAST**

**HOMEMADE ICE CREAM**

**FUN FOR ALL AGES COME & JOIN US.**

# JULY 9, 2000

# NEW MAINE TOWNSHIP 1902





## First New Maine Town Meeting July 31, 1900

Minutes of the proceedings of the first Town Meeting held in the Town of New Maine in the County of Marshall and State of Minnesota at Martin Tinglum on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 1900. The meeting was called to order by D.B. Bakka. Marlin Tinglum was their chosen to preside as moderator of the meeting.

The moderator at the opening of the meeting stated the business to be transacted and the order of same as follows. That the business to be transacted would be to elect three supervisor, one of whom should be designated on the ballots as Chariman. One Town Clerk, one Treasurer, two Justice of the Peace, two Constables.

On motion it was resolved that the meeting adjourn for one hour from 12:00 to 1:00 o'clock.

Meeting was called to order at one o'clock on motion it was resolved that a poundyard be enacted at SW1/4 Section 20. Halvor Nelson was appointed Pound Master of said town.

The following three places were determined and designated by the voices present as the most public places in said town for the posting up of legal notices on places to wit.

One at Mr. Webster Blewett – SE1/4 Section 25. One at Marlin Tinglum SW 1/4 Section 35. One at Opdahl P.O., Section 19.

The next Annual Town Meeting was ordered to be held at Kittel Lillegaard. The SE1/4 Section 9 Township 157, Range 44 and the same place was designated for holding the next general election in the town.

At five o'clock the polls were closed proclamation these of being made by the Moderator.

The following is a Statement of the Result of the Canvas of Votes by Ballot for the Election of Officers at the Town Election in the Town of New Maine, County of Marshall and State of Minnesota – July 31, 1900 as canvassed by the Judges of said meeting.

Received votes being the majority of votes

Martin Tinglum	18 votes	Chairman
Ole A. Berg	15 votes	Supervisor
C. F. Williams	15 votes	Supervisor
John S. Rayson	17 votes	Town Clerk
Kittle Lillegaard	12 votes	Treasurer
Royal Read (2 yrs)	17 votes	Justice of the Peace
Stener Oleson	13 votes	Justice of Peace
W. A. Blewett (2 yrs)	17 votes	Constable
Lars Larson	7 votes	Constable

D. B. Bakka, Acting Officer; Martin Tinglum, Ole C. A. Berg, C. F. Williams, Judges

This is a list of most of the people living in New Maine Township on January 1, 1901. Most of these men had families.

Axel Anderson	*Thor Bjornson	Stener O. Blinsmon
John Anderson	W. E. Blewett	*Andrew P. Bring
Ole Anderson	Knute Haugen	Halvor Nelson
Peter Anderson	Lars Haugen	Ivar Nelson
Oscar Backer	Knut Hovland	Gust Nordin
Peter Bengson	*John Johnson (1891)	Stener Oleson
A. H. Berg	Andrew Johnson	Conrad Olson
Ole C. A. Berg	Charley Johnson	Martin Olson
J. A. Blewett	John L. Johnson	A. G. Peterson
Halvor Blinsmon	Nels Johnson	Henning Peterson
Anton Borgen	Ole Johnson	John S. Rayson
Gunder Daley	*Pehr Julin (1891)	Royal Read
*John Dufke (1891)	Peter Johnson	Ed Rubeirt
William. S. Dufke	Peter Kaldahl	Eric Rust
Edwin Ekdahl	Kittle Knudtson	Ole Sebjornson
Erick Ekdahl	Knute O. Knudtson	Jacob Sjogren
*W. N. Elefson (1890)	Ole Knudtson	Ole Skadsem
Hans Hagen	Knute K. Knuteson	Nels Stangberg
Fred Hanson	Hans I. Korgen	Peter Stromberg
Gust Hanson	Carl J. Larson	Helge Svenson
Edward Haglund	Lars Larson, Jr.	Sam Svenson
Albin Hagglund	Lars Larson, Sr. (1899)	Halvor Svenson
Olaf B. Hanson	John Lee	Charley Taylor
Hans Hendrickson	Kitil Lillegard	Martin Tinglum
Ole Haug	*Lars S. Loveid (1890)	Ira Thompson
Jacob Hoffos	Lars Mattson	C. F. Williams
Nels Gibson	Joseph McKinzie	E. A. Wold
Robert Gibson	Gustaf Molstad	William J. Wilson
Ole Guldbranson	Fred Gibson	J. S. Taylor
*Hans Grim	Halvor Guldbrandson	

\* These homesteaders had proved their claims and received their patents before the turn of the century.

## **Town Board Members**

### **Early Members**

Knute Knudtson  
Godfrey Gibson  
O. B. Hanson  
Jacob Sjogren  
Sam Knutson  
Ole A. Berg  
Edward Knudtson  
John L. Johnson  
Charles Taylor  
Andrew Johnson  
Steiner Blinsmon  
John Lee  
Andrew Korgen

F. O. Becker  
Kittel Knudtson  
G. O. Nordrum  
Hartvig Hanson  
Ben Fisher  
Helge Lindquist  
Torkel Forland  
Adolph Nelson  
Charles Nilson  
Gunnar Lindquist  
Ole Skadsem  
Ole Johnson  
Hans Borsvold  
Knut Haugen

### **Later Year Members**

Carvel Gillund  
Torkel Forland  
David Lokstad  
DeVere Chapman

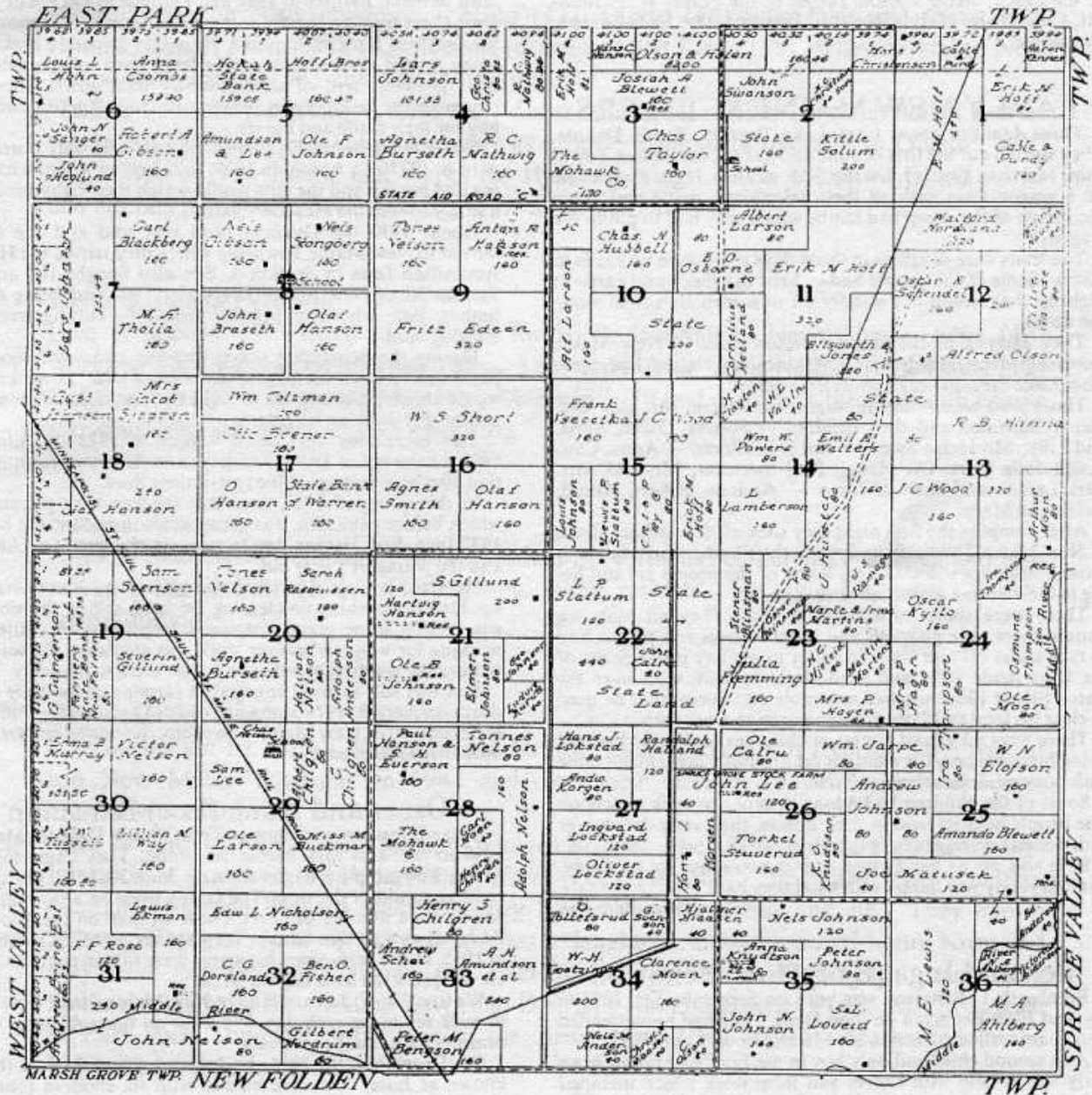
Arnold Larson  
Ray Chapman  
Clifford Nelson



1928



Township 157 North, Range 44 West of the 5th P. M.



# NEW MAINE TOWNSHIP

New Maine Township was settled in the nineties and by the turn of the century (January 1, 1901) all of the homestead land in this township had claims filed on them.

The township was organized in 1900. It was named after the historic Battleship Maine that was destroyed in Havana Harbor on the night of February 15th, 1898.

The first Town Meeting of the Town of New Maine was held at the home of Martin Tinglum (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 35) on the 31st day of July 1900.

The following citizens of the township were elected as the first officials of this town.

Martin Tinglum, Supervisor, Chairman; Ole C. A. Berg, Supervisor; Clem F. Williams, Supervisor; John S. Rayson, Town Clerk; Kittle Lillegard, Treasurer; Royal Read, Justice of the Peace; Stener Oleson, Justice of the Peace; W. E. Blewett, Constable; Halvor Nelson, Pondmaster; Lars Larson, Constable.

## EARLY NEW MAINE SETTLERS

Three families came from Lake Preston, South Dakota. They started out the first of June and got to New Maine Township, Marshall County, on the 30th of June 1899. They came on a wagon train with all their belongings, cattle and sheep too. Some of the sheep had lambs which they had to put in the wagons.

The trails were rough as in those days there were no roads to follow. Some of the people had to herd the sheep and cattle at night so they would not wander off in somebody's field along the way.

They camped at the Halvor Nelson place in New Maine Township overnight. Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Nelson had come from Lake Preston only a short time before.

Those who were with the wagon train were: Mr. and Mrs. Stener Blinsmon and their children — Sophia, Oscar, Alma, and Lilly; Mr. Helge Swenson and his children — Anna, Carl, Louis, Julia (Mrs. Ole Haug), Paul Swenson; Mr. and Mrs. Lars Larson and their children — Andrew, Albert, Alfred, Helen and Mary.

After camping the first night they took off for various places in New Maine Township and made their homesteads. Some of those houses are still standing. Some of the people are still living in New Maine and some have died.

There were some hard times at first. They all built log houses, there were no roads and water all over so a person had to take shoes off and wade in water to get any place. Some of the boys made stilts and used them to walk with over the water. Stener Blinsmon had one mule and horses that he used to clear his land and later got some oxen to work with.

There were no school houses or churches so they had school in log houses where the children sat around a homemade table with homemade benches to sit on.

Some of the children had a long distance to walk to school. The people held services in their homes, the pastor drove over with horses and buggy to the services.

So it was not as handy then as it is nowadays for anybody, but everybody was happy with what they had.

— Oscar Blinsmon

## Ben and Inga (Bjorgaard) Bengtson

Bernharth T. Bengtson was born on September 29, 1894 to Joe and Elsie Bengtson on their farm. They had homesteaded four years earlier in Section 10, Marsh Grove Township.

As a second child and only boy in the family he began at an early age to help with chores and farm work which included driving a team of oxen to pull the plow and pull logs out of the woods.

He attended school at Sunnyside School in Marsh Grove and was confirmed into the Lutheran Faith at Westaker Parish of rural Newfolden.

Inga (Bjorgaard) was born January 11, 1896 to John S. and

Annie Bjorgaard at their farm home in Section 15, Alma Township. She started school in District 13, and later attended the Schey School in Section 29, Alma township, where she graduated from the eighth grade.

Ben and Inga met several years later when Inga came to the community to work for her uncle. They were married at Warren, Minnesota on October 9, 1918. After their marriage they lived for a short time on the second floor of the large house that Ben's father had built in 1912.

They then purchased 160 acres of land in Section 16, Marsh Grove Township, where they farmed for about ten years. Having no buildings on this land, they rented other farms nearby on which to live. The first place they rented was the Micheal Kitzman farm in Section 15, while their two daughters were born to them, Bernice in 1922 and Darlene in 1923. They lived for a short time on the John Bengtson farm before moving to the Dykman farm in Section 9. Here they hoped to make their home, it had a nice house and a large barn to accommodate their growing herd of cattle, mostly milk cows. They sold cream to the creamery in Newfolden, raised grain, corn and hay for their cattle and horses.

While living on the Dykman farm two sons were born, Leonard in 1927 and Arnold in 1929. Inga helped with the harvesting and haying and the girls would watch their baby brother in a shady spot in the meadow nearby.

About 1930 the Dykman farm was sold and the family moved to New Maine Township where they rented the Halbert Amundson farm in Section 5. Ben also bought 160 acres in Section 30, of New Maine Township. This land being mostly timber, Ben, whenever possible would be cutting trees and clearing land.

During the depression years, Ben cut and sold wood and hired out to other farmers to earn extra cash. Sometimes he would shock his own grain at night by moonlight, after spending the day working for others.

Two more sons were born; Vernon in 1932 and Lloyd in 1936. In the fall of 1936, they moved to their own farm in Section 30 where they spent the rest of their lives.

In the spring of 1937, Inga was stricken with pneumonia, which before penicillin, was a very serious disease. On May 9, 1937 Inga died, leaving Ben to raise six children, the oldest 15 and the youngest 1 year old.

Heartsick and grief-stricken though he was, Ben never gave up. He kept working on clearing the land, selling the wood he cut, raising some grain, keeping a large herd of cattle, and working for wages whenever work was available. He was able to keep the children together and raise them to maturity.

Ben was still actively engaged in farming at the time of his death on April 8, 1974 at the age of 79. Then owning 240 acres in Section 30 of New Maine Township. Submitted by Mrs. Norman Ueland (Bernice)

## Oscar and Anna (Lee) Blinsmon

Oscar Blinsmon was born in Trent, South Dakota, May 21, 1890 to Mr. and Mrs. Stener Blinsmon. They came to New Maine Township by wagon train on June 30, 1898. Oscar was eight years old at the time. The family lived on a farm in New Maine for a number of years. Oscar worked on the Soo Line Railroad as a section laborer for 43 years, until his retirement in 1955. In the early years his wages were fifteen cents an hour. He worked a ten hour day for \$1.50.

We lived on 40 acres of land in New Maine where Oscar had to walk ten miles each day. We lived on those 40 acres every summer for a number of years.

On December 19, 1914, he married Anna L. Lee (better known as Julia). We were blessed with six children (one boy died in infancy). The names of our children are: Mrs. Nestor Austin (Alice), has two children, Newell of Seattle and Gary living at home in Puyallup, Washington; Mrs. Dale Magner (Jeanette) has three children, Robert at home, Darrell lives in Denver, Colorado; Mrs. Daryl Johnson (Julia) lives in East Grand Forks, Minnesota and has an adopted girl and boy of



their own; Orville Blinsmon is deceased, he had one boy and four girls; Ronald Blinsmon lives in Lacy Washington, he has one girl; Mrs. Dave Goucher (Joy Ann) lives in Renton and has two boys; Mrs. Lee Medicus (Bonnie) lives in Puyallup, Washington and has two girls; Mrs. Jody Fairman (Debbie) lives in Federal Way, Washington, Laurie lives with her mother; Clayton Blinsmon lives in Newfolden and has three children; Freddie Blinsmon lives in Greenbush, Minnesota; Mrs. Larry Ekman (Sharon) lives in Thief River Falls, Minnesota and has one girl, Leslie, at home; Mrs. Melvin Edlund (Evelyn) lives in Puyallup, Washington and has twins, Joel and Joelle, and Danny Lee.

We have 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Submitted by Mrs. Oscar Blinsmon

## Stener and Anna (Tallum) Blinsmon

Stener Blinsmon was born on February 23, 1866 in Iowa. He is the son of Ole Blinsmon and Sonive Blinsmon. He came to Marshall County in 1899 to New Maine Township, Section 17. He worked as a railroad section foreman.

He married Anna Tollum in 1887. She was born March 13, 1864 in Norway, she is the daughter of Halvor and Anna Tollum. She came to Marshall County in 1900.

Stener and Anna had five children, namely: Sophie (Mrs. Nelson), Oscar, Alma (Mrs. Lee), Lilly (Mrs. Lee), and Agnes (Mrs. Kyjawa) all of Newfolden, Minnesota.

Stener was a member of the board of supervisors for New Maine Township from 1901 and for several years thereafter.

Oscar Blinsmon states: "It took one month for us and two other families to get here from Kingsbury County of South Dakota, to Marshall County and New Maine Township. There were three covered wagons, forty head of cattle, thirty head of sheep, and a few horses."

Stener Blinsmon died on December 6, 1942 and Anna Blinsmon died on February 28, 1906. Both of them are buried in New Maine Township. Submitted by Mrs. Oscar Blinsmon

## Andrew and Gertrude (Bakke) Bring

Andrew Bring was born in Sweden and came to New Maine Township in 1881, where he homesteaded. He married Gertrude Bakke, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Iver Bakke from Norway. She was born in Faarvang, Norway on October 4, 1860 and passed away December 11, 1935 at the age of 75 years. She is buried in the Augustana Cemetery east of Newfolden. Andrew died in June of 1900 and is buried in Section 31 in New Maine Township.

They had seven children born to them: Matilda was born April 30, 1884. She was married to Pete Dorn of southern Minnesota. She passed away at the age of 66 on November 20, 1950. Inga was born May 2, 1890 and married George Sholy of Fairdale, North Dakota. She is 85 years old and living in Nekoma, North Dakota. Martha was born June 9, 1893 and died January 8, 1908. August was born May 18, 1895, he married Alma Tunheim of Newfolden. He was killed by a freight train at the age of 48, on October 27, 1943. Gust was born on November 3, 1896 and married Louise Haarstad of Marsh Grove Township. He is now 78 years old and living in West Valley Township. John was born July 1, 1898 and died in August 1925. Ellen was born March 12, 1900. She married Paul Vinjie of West Valley, he died and she married Morris Olson of New Solum Township, he died and she married Joel Wilson of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ellen died at the age of 65 years, April 30, 1965. The deceased children are buried in the Augustana Cemetery east of Newfolden. Submitted by the Bring Family

## Johan and Botilda Dufke

Johan Dufke was born in 1813. He married Botilda Nielson at Helsingborg or Skand Sweden. They immigrated to the United States around 1870 or 1871, first settling in Cottage Grove, Minnesota then later coming to Newfolden.

Johan and Botilda had three children: John Lofstrom born in 1864 in Valby Kristanstad Sweden; Sophie Parson or Pear-

son; and William S. Dufke born in 1874 or 1879.

Botilda made her own dyes and wove colorful rugs. She was reputed to have been a midwife in the Royal family in Sweden before coming here. It's an old time story though not verified.

Sophie moved to Montana, married a Gunderson and started the town of Forsyth.

John Lofstrom went to Utah and was a tailor and was killed at Cripple Creek.

William Dufke married Augusta Marie Erickson and they moved to Montana for a while where he had a plumbing shop, later they came back to the homestead. They had three children: Florence, Emily and Leona.

Johan Dufke died on August 2, 1920. William Dufke died during the flu epidemic of 1918. Submitted by Mrs. Leonard Lunde

## Ole T. and Julia (Swenson) Haug

Ole T. Haug, the father of Mrs. Herbert Stengrim, Route 1, Warren, Minnesota, was born in Numedahl, Norway, June 5, 1872, the son of Tov and Joran Saghaug. In 1893 he came to Oslo, Minnesota, where some of his brothers had come before him. He worked there for a while then went to New Maine Township where he filed on a homestead in Section 21; he cleared away trees and brush and built a house. The nearest town was Argyle and when he went for supplies it took a full day. He used to stop to feed and rest the horses and eat some lunch, which was soda crackers and polse (summer sausage), by the river bend north of where Inar Stranquist now lives.

In 1901 he married Julia Swenson, who was born in Numedahl, Norway, May 4, 1877, the daughter of Helge and Gro Swenson. The Swensons came to Mitchell, South Dakota about 1881. Then in June 1899, they and two other families left by covered wagons with all their belongings, cats, dogs, sheep and cattle (which they had to take turns chasing and herding along the way). The trip took over a month as there were no roads to follow and the few trails there were rugged and rough. June 30th they arrived at the Halvor Nelson home in New Maine Township. There were trees and brush and it rained a lot and, of course, the mosquitoes, what a change compared to the dry South Dakota prairies. Each family took off for various places in New Maine Township and made their homesteads.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole T. Haug lived on their homestead until 1910 when they decided to go to Bergland Ontario, Canada to cut logs in the woods as the wages there were better. In 1912 they returned to the farm in New Maine but, it was hard to make a living with just a few acres of grain and a few cows. When he came from Norway, he brought his violin along but sold it to a bachelor, Gilbert Nelson, because he needed the money. In a few years he came back with it in small pieces all in a shoe box. It had been handled a little rough and had come unglued and broken. He whittled the missing pieces with his pocket knife and got it all glued back together so that it looked just like new. A son, Paul, has the violin now.

In 1916 Ole Haug took off for Hoople, North Dakota with one horse and a buggy and bought a farm from his brother-in-law and sister. When he returned, they had an auction sale and with the family belongings in a wagon pulled by a team of horses, he, along with the oldest son, Helmer, about 14 years old, made the trip to the farm in North Dakota. The rest of the family went by train. In 1928 they moved to a better farm at Auburn, a village by Grafton, North Dakota, which they farmed until they retired and spent the rest of their lives.

Sam Swenson, a brother of Mrs. Haug, along with a friend stayed and worked until fall when the two young men came to Minnesota from South Dakota on their bicycles. Later, Sam, with the help of his sister, started the Opdahl post office that they took care of until the town of Newfolden was founded.

Ten children were born to the Haugs, two of which passed away when they were infants and are buried at the Opdahl cemetery. There was no church so when a minister was in the community they gathered at the homes and baptized several children at a time. They also had Sunday services in the homes and later in school houses when some were built.

Mr. Haug was 79 years old when he died and she was 84 years old at the time of her death. The children who survive



are: Gina, a daughter who lives in Grafton; Helmer and Lewis, who are retired but live on their farms by Grafton; Otto and Paul, who farm near Grafton; Edwin, who also lives on a farm near Grafton; Oscar, in a nursing home at Devils Lake, North Dakota, and Mrs. Herbert (Annie) Stengrim who has lived on the county seat Johnson farm in Foldahl Township since 1941. The Stengrims were married in 1940.

The Stengrims have six children, two of which live in Marshall County. Roy lives near Newfolden; Arlyn in Warren; Marvin in Grafton, North Dakota; Orris, Thief River Falls; Glen, Pembina, North Dakota; and Mrs. Ralph (Jean) Edgar, whose husband is presently stationed in Florida but will be moving back to Thief River Falls in the fall; and nine grandchildren. *Submitted by Mrs. Herbert Stengrim*

## Knute K. and Anne C. Haugen

*Grandparents of Lloyd C. Larson*

Knute K. Haugen was born in Nore, Numedal, Norway on April 25, 1862, to Knute and Joran Haugen. He came to America in 1893 settling at Hetland, South Dakota.

Anne Carlson was born April 20, 1864 in Numedal, Norway and came to Lake Preston, South Dakota in 1892.

Knute and Anne had been engaged to be married in Norway and were married in Kingsbury County, South Dakota on November 24, 1894. They farmed near Hetland for six years and their two children were born there, Gena on September 6, 1895 and Knute Jr. on April 4, 1897.

In 1900 they migrated by covered wagon to New Maine Township, homesteading here in Section 10, five miles north of Newfolden. Their first house was built of logs and in just a few years they had prospered enough to build a frame house and barn.

Their children attended school in District 100 in New Maine. Knute Jr. was an avid hunter and trapper and an amateur photographer. He also raised skunks for their pelts. He died while serving in the army during World War I, December 1918.

Gena married Alfred Larson, they had three children, Melvin, Lloyd, and Della. Alfred and Gena moved onto the Haugen homestead when Haugens bought a farm one mile north of Newfolden and moved there in 1923.

Haugens were a very thrifty but generous couple. During the depression many local people banked with Knute and borrowed money from him. He generously supported the Mission Church. He enjoyed church sermons especially when they spoke Norwegian. Anne could speak English before she came to America and is remembered for her cheerfulness and always smiling face.

They moved into Newfolden in 1943, having sold their farm to Kenneth Moens. Knute was active and about until shortly before his death on May 17, 1953 at the age of 91. Anne spent her remaining years with her daughter Gena in Minneapolis. She died at the age of 95 on April 6, 1960. Knute, Anne and Knute Jr. are all buried in the Opdahl Cemetery. *Submitted by Dennis Larson*

## Ole and Sigri (Ulberg) Knudtson

Ole Knudtson, who was born at Skurdalen, Norway, on March 19, 1846, was the son of Knudt and Gurro Nostedoken. He married Sigri Pedersdatter Ulberg in 1870 at the Opdahl Church, Numedal, Norway. They came to New Maine Township in 1901 from South Dakota. Their homestead was in Section 35, New Maine Township. They were members of the Lutheran Church and very active in church work. Nine children were born: Knudt Knudtson, died at Newfolden in 1941, Guro (Mrs. Halvor Blinsmon) died in 1905, Sigri (Mrs. John Swenning), Ole and Peder died as children in Norway, Peder died in South Dakota in 1901, Anna (lived in Newfolden), Ole Jr. died at sea coming to America, Olaf, a veteran of World War I died at Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1925.

Ole Knudtson died December 23, 1928 and his wife Sigri on April 1, 1910. They are both buried at the Augustana Cemetery, east of Newfolden. *Submitted by the Knudtson Family (1957) Updated by Joan Roppe*

## Kittel and Helvig Knutson

Kittel Knutson was born February 15, 1850 near Opdahl, Numedal, Norway. His wife Helvig was born May 10, 1851 in Norway. They came to America and settled near Hetland, South Dakota. Five children were born; Knudt, Edvard, Julia, Samuel and Tillie. After Julia got married and moved to New Maine Township, her dad came up to visit her and liked the country so well, he decided to move here, too. He settled on the east one half of southeast one fourth of Section 20, in New Maine Township. The house he built here was very much the same style as the house he had built in South Dakota. His grandson, Chester, still lives in this house, however, it has been moved further south from the original building site. The Kittel Knutsons had the Opdahl Post Office in their home. Many of the school teachers boarded in their home.

Kittel Knudson died August 15, 1916. His wife Helvig died in August of 1936. Both are buried in the Opdahl cemetery in New Maine Township.

Kittel had a brother, Ole who also lived here. Ole was a preacher and would go to the homes and hold sermons.

Helvig's sister, Mrs. Lars Larson, also lived in New Maine Township. Edvard Knutson lived with his folks on the old homestead until about 1928 when Julia, Mrs. Halvor Nelson, and her family came to live with Helvig. Edvard and Knute moved to Leonard, Minnesota. Samuel to Willmar, Minnesota and Tillie to Washington, D.C.



Helvig and Kittel Knutson in front of their home with two sons and a friend, Julia Haug.

In 1899 Kittel and Helvig Knutson came to New Maine Township from Hetland, South Dakota where their five children had been born: Knudt, Edvard, Julia, Samuel and Tilla.

Julia (Mrs. Halvor Nelson) had settled in New Maine several years before. Julia had eight children: Helen, Nels, Chester, Leander, Edward, Harlen, Bernice and Burnelle. After Kittel had died and her brother Ed had moved to Leonard, Minnesota, Julia and her family lived with her mother Helvig on the old Knutson home place. Julia was born December 4, 1880 and died November 15, 1944.

Knudt was born in South Dakota on May 2, 1873 and died at Clearbrook, Minnesota July 31, 1949. He and his wife, Carrie had two children: Clara (Mrs. Gust Johnson) and Lyle. They settled on Section 19, New Maine Township and later moved to Clearbrook, Minnesota where they lived until they died.

Edvard was born March 24, 1875 and died July 31, 1949. He and his wife, Minnie (who was a school teacher) had two children: Edna (Mrs. Lamoine Forbragd) who lives at Leonard, Minnesota and a son, Arthur who died at the age of one year. Edvard lived in New Maine until 1928 when he moved to Leonard. Ed and his brothers used to do a lot of well drilling.

Samuel was born January 14, 1884 and died January 16, 1962. He married Inez Sjogren in 1918. She died on March 24, 1919. Later Sam moved to Willmar, Minnesota. He remarried. He and his wife, Amelia had 6 children, Hilmer, Laurel, Mavis, Dolores, Harold and Joyce.

Tilla (Tillie or Evelyn) Knutson was born August 21, 1886.



She worked at the Marshall County Court House before her marriage to Carlos Martyn. After her husband's death in 1925 she lived in New York and Stanford, Connecticut where she worked in real estate. She spent summers in Florida and Georgia. She was a manager of hardware at the Lansburgh Department Store in Washington, D.C. She had no children but she helped raise two nieces. She knew Clare Boothe Luce personally and also Sutzen Borghum. She loved to paint scenery and used to do well when she exhibited at the art shows. She is now living at a rest home in Clearbrook, Minnesota. *Submitted by Joan Roppe*

## Hans I. and Anna (Lunde) Korgen

Hans Iverson Korgen and Anna Marie Lunde were married in Norway and migrated to America from Bardu, a settlement north of the Arctic Circle, in 1899 and came to live with the Johannes Lokstad family. Mr. Lokstad and Mr. Korgen were brothers. The route from Norway took them to England, then to Montreal and to Sault Saint Marie and finally to Holt, Minnesota. The Korgens lived with the Lokstads until the spring of 1901 when they moved to their homestead in New Maine Township. The last available homestead in the Township.

There were seven children in the Korgen family. Ben and Emily were born in Norway. Ben is now living in Duluth, Minnesota where he is retired after a long period of employment at the Steel Plant where he supervised the mechanical maintenance division. He is married to the former Louise Slattum of New Maine Township and they have three children. Howard, who was an industrial engineer at the Steel Plant for a period of 20 years, now has his own business in Joliet, Illinois. Benjamin, Jr. who recently earned a Doctor's Degree in oceanography, taught in this field at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is currently living in Massachusetts and is in the process of writing and compiling a series of books on the topic of oceanography. They have 3 children — Susan, Jeff, and Jim. Kathy (Mrs. Jack Bergan) is living in Biwabik, Minnesota and is now teaching at Cook, Minnesota. They have two children — Timothy and Patrick.

Emily and Andrew Korgen lived on the home farm most of their lives until Emily moved to Newfolden after Andrew died in 1963. Andrew was the County Commissioner from the 4th District of Marshall County for a number of years. Emily died in 1965.

Mollie Korgen taught in rural schools in Marshall County and for the last 20 years and more taught geography at the University of South Carolina. She died in 1973.

Reinhart Korgen earned a scholarship to Carleton College upon graduating from Newfolden High School. For many years he taught mathematics at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. He then served with the National Science Foundation for a number of years prior to his retirement. He is now residing at Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Another son, Magne, died in 1917 at the age of seven years. *Submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Korgen, Mr. and Mrs. Einar Rokke (June 30, 1975)*

## Albert and Clara (Lee) Larson

Albert Larson was born August 2, 1887 near Hetland, South Dakota. His parents were Lars and Gunhilde Larson. Albert came to New Maine Township with his parents, when he was 12 years old. They came with two other families, Swensons and Blinmons, in covered wagons.

Albert attended school in an old log house where Lavine Rokke lived. They could only speak Norwegian so they had to learn to speak English. He homesteaded in New Maine Township in Section 11 in about 1910.

For a living, Albert did a lot of hunting and trapping and also walked many miles and played at dances. There were no roads so he had to walk through swamps and water. They would play all night and walk back home in the morning. He was a good violin player.

In 1916 he married Clara Lee. They lived on his homestead until about 1935 and then lived on various places in New

Maine Township. They moved to Section 17 where they farmed and trapped wolves for a living. They had to go seven miles to do their trading. Their only transportation was a pair of mules. During the depression years they held bowery dances and cut cordwood to make their living.

They raised four children: Gladys (Mrs. Oscar Erickson), Warren, Minnesota, Laura (Mrs. Roy Roppe), Newfolden, Harriet (Mrs. Raymond Jorgenson), Warren, Minnesota and Lester Larson of Viking.

Albert and Clara moved to the Village of Newfolden in 1965 where they have since resided. *Submitted by Albert Larson Family*

## Alfred S. and Gena (Haugen) Larson

Alfred S. Larson was born to Lars and Gunhild Larson at Hetland, South Dakota on January 4, 1892. The youngest of nine children. When he was seven years old his family migrated by covered wagon to New Maine Township homesteading there on Section 9 in 1899.

He grew up there and went to the Lavina Rokke school first and later in School District 100. As a boy he learned to play the violin as had his older brothers Andrew and Albert. His whole family was interested in music. They formed a dance orchestra and would often walk many miles to play for dances. His cousins Sam, Ed and Knute Knutson were a part of this band.

Alfred was interested in photography as evidenced by the many pictures taken and developed by him. The glass plates used as negatives at that time are still clear and produce good prints.

He served with the Army Medical Corps in France during World War I.

Alfred married Gena Haugen, the daughter of Knute and Anne Haugen. They had three children, Melvin, Lloyd and Della. They lived for a few years on the Larson homestead and moved in 1923 to the Haugen farmstead, farming and raising their children there.

Farming was not very profitable during the thirties, Alfred trapped wolves and hunted wild game to feed his family. Gena worked hard helping with chores, washing clothes by hand, sewing clothes and cooking for her family. Melvin and Lloyd cut wood for cooking and heating and some for selling.

Alfred and Gena were divorced in 1945 and Gena went to live with their daughter, Della, in Minneapolis. Alfred sold his farm in 1950 and bought an 80 acre farm one-half mile to the east.

People from all over the county visited with him each year when they drove past his house to pick blueberries in the Hanson swamp. *Submitted by Donnis Larson*

## Andrew and Hannah (Sjogren) Larson

Andrew Larson was one year old when his parents, Lars and Gunhild emigrated from Norway to South Dakota. In 1899 the Larson's moved to New Maine Township by covered wagon.

Andrew worked out after coming here, mostly on the railroad. He was a good musician, self taught and could play various instruments, usually the violin. He preserved much history with his camera, it is said he was never without it.

He married Hannah Sjogren in 1915 and six children were born to them, Richard, Robert, Evelyn, Arnold, Stanley and Shirley. Robert died from diphtheria in 1919 at the age of two years, and Evelyn in an automobile accident in 1937.

Hannah was a good seamstress and sewed clothes and patched for her own family as well as for others who were less fortunate than they during the depression for at least Andrew had a job.

Andrew retired from the railroad in 1949 after over 45 years as section foreman in Karlstad, Strandquist, and Newfolden. After his retirement he and Hannah lived in Section 18, New Maine Township until his death in 1956.

Hannah then moved into Newfolden, she was well known in all the communities around here and her interest in people is evidenced by her scrapbooks. They contain many pictures and facts with newspaper clippings dating back as far as 1915. She

also loved picnics and would work for days preparing for one and the more people that came just made it more of a success.

She spent much of her last years doing fancywork, making quilts, pillows and many lovely things. She died in May of 1973 and both her and Andrew are buried in the Opdahl cemetery.

Their son Arnold married Vernice Aune, Stanley married Sandra Garfve, and Shirley married Ray Anderson. Richard is still single and lives in New Maine Township. *Submitted by Richard Larson*

### Arnold H. and Vernice (Aune) Larson

Arnold Larson, son of Andrew and Hannah Larson, and Vernice Aune, daughter of John and Clara Aune, were married on December 6, 1947. They live on a farm in Section 18, New Maine Township, the homestead of Arnold's grandfather, the late Jacob Sjogren.

Arnold served in the Army from 1942 to 1945. They have five children. James who married Shelve Davidson on June 16, 1973, they live in Minneapolis where Jim is a bricklayer and Shelve is a student at the University of Minnesota. Donald who married Gail Swanson on May 26, 1973, they live on a farm near Strandquist. Don is a brick-tender, and a landscaper, Gail is a Registered Nurse and works for Planned Parenthood. Sybil works at the Marshall County State Bank in Newfolden. Susan and Kari Ann are both in school. Susan is a junior at the Marshall County Central High School in Newfolden and Kari is in the 1st grade. *Submitted by Mrs. Arnold H. Larson*

### Lars and Gunhild (Tanberg) Larson

In 1882 Lars and Gunhild Larson and their four children, Lars Jr., Tilla, Sarah and Andrew left their home at Opdahl, Numedal, Norway for America.

They arrived at New York on the Fourth of July and thought it quite a noisy place with all the firecrackers banging and boat whistles blowing.

They settled near Hetland, South Dakota where five more children were born, Knute, Marie, Albert, Helen and Alfred. They lived in a sod house and had a few cows and some sheep. They added to their income by market hunting and working for neighbors.

A shortage of heating fuel made living there difficult, the kids would pick buffalo and cow chips to burn. One story has it that when the train went through, the kids would throw stones at the train crew to get them to throw coal at them in return. Also the lake where they watered their stock dried up.

Lars Jr. went to northwestern Minnesota and sent back reports of a country full of wood, water and grass. In 1899 three families, Larsons, Swensons and Blinsmons left for Minnesota together with their cattle, horses and sheep. After about a month's time and a run in or two with irate farmers, they arrived in New Maine Township on the 30th of June.

The Larsons settled on the southwest one fourth of Section 9 or so they thought until the section lines were surveyed and they found out the buildings were on the wrong side of the section line.

Both Lars and Gunhild were over 50 years old when they migrated here. She had insisted on bringing her sheep along from South Dakota against the wishes of some of the others and she sheared them herself so she would have wool for socks, mittens and other wool clothes for her family.

Their son Knute died in 1911 and one by one the rest of the children left to make their own homes. Lars Sr. died in 1914 and Gunhild died in 1929 at the age of 81. All are buried in the Opdahl Cemetery in New Maine Township. *Submitted by Donnis and Richard Larson*

### Lloyd C. and Donnis Y. (Bolstad) Larson

Lloyd C. Larson, the son of Alfred and Gena Larson was born December 22, 1921 in Section 9, New Maine Township in the log house his Grandfather Larson had built on his homestead in 1899. The second of three children.

He grew up on the homestead of his other grandparents in Section 10, the Knute K. Haugens.

He attended the Blackberg School, with Freda Blackberg as the teacher.

As a boy he thought this must be the most wonderful place in the world to live, with its changing seasons, there was always something interesting to look forward to. Spring meant gophers and woodchucks to hunt or trap. Best of all school would be out. Summers were spent herding cattle and haying. Along with many Sunday picnics and family get-togethers. Fall was a joy for soon hunting and trapping seasons would open. Winter was tolerable due to radio, Amos 'n Andy, Little Orphan Annie, Buck Rogers and The Green Hornet. Sundays found the neighbor kids going on skis to visit one another in spite of all the chores to be done first.

He earned his spending money by trapping mink, weasels and skunks. As a youth Lloyd was in the CCC camp at Bena, Minnesota, planting trees, earning \$30 dollars a month and board and room. He also worked for Alfred Tunheim, helping stucco houses.

Lloyd served three years in the Army as a Medic during World War II in India and Burma. When he was discharged he bought a farm next to his Dad's place, farming here until moving to Minneapolis in 1952.

Lloyd married Donnis Bolstad on October 2, 1954. They made their home in Minneapolis where Lloyd was employed as a welder until 1966 when they moved back to New Maine on their present farm home in Section 15.

Lloyd and Donnis have eight children, Nancy, Robert, Bryan, Ellen, David, Dawn, Lawrence and Darren.

Nancy graduated from Northland College in Thief River Falls in 1975, and was married to Robert Kolkman on April 21, 1975. They live at Montevideo. Robert graduated from high school in 1975. Bryan, Ellen, David and Dawn attend school in Newfolden. Larry and Darren are not yet school age. *Submitted by Donnis Larson*

### John and Hannah (Olson) Lee

My mother, Hannah Olson Lee and my father, John Lee, were born in Trondheim, Norway. Dad was born in 1873 and mom in 1879. Dad came to the United States when he was 19 years old. He worked on farms around Grand Forks, North Dakota. Then later he came to where Oslo now is located.

My mother came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Olson, when she was eight years old. They settled by Alvarado, Minnesota in Marshall County.

Mother and dad were married in Warren, Minnesota in 1896. They both worked on farms there for many years. In 1902 they decided to move to New Maine Township in Marshall County. They farmed there and in the fall dad went out and did harvest and threshing around Argyle, Minnesota and Alvarado.

They had nine children, three girls and six boys: Anna Lee Blinsmon, Clara Lee Larson, Hjalmer Lee, Alfred Lee — deceased (all of Newfolden, Minnesota), Ingval Lee — deceased, Johnnie Lee who lives in Quinze, Oregon, Henry Lee — deceased, Melvin Lee who lives in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, and Myrtle Lee Lund who lives in Eureka, Montana.

My folks lived on the farm from 1902 until they moved to the village of Newfolden, where they lived until dad died in August of 1958. Mom went to live with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lund. She is now 96 years old and stays at a home in Warren, Minnesota.

They moved from Oslo in 1902 to New Maine Township in Marshall County. They had two wagons with their household goods and they had two cows tied behind the wagons. No roads and then it became wet and we got stuck with the wagons close to where Gotfred Olson had his farm. Lots of water all over.

On the Fourth of July we all went to Newfolden to celebrate. We drove with oxen part of the way, then they put the oxen in an empty barn and we walked the rest of the way. We went to a ballgame close to where Willis Bjorgaard has his home.



Mother, Clara, and I did the milking and the cattle were on the loose, we had to hunt them down and get them home for milking. No fences as yet at that time.

So living was not as easy as it is nowadays. We had to work both in the house and help outside with chores and haying, raked hay with two oxen most of the time. We worked out for other people for 50 cents a week and we thought it was great.

John Lee was on the school board in New Maine Township and in Newfolden Village. He was on the town board too. We had no school house so they got together and built a school house in Section 23, New Maine Township. There were only five to seven pupils in school. We walked 1½ miles to school. Our first school teacher was Mary Hevle. Hans Korgen was one of our closest neighbors. Nels Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Calru, and Ole Knutson and family were also some of our neighbors. *Submitted by Mrs. Oscar Blinson (A. Julia Lee)*

## Helge and Olive (Lee) Lindquist

Helge Thorwald Lindquist, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Lindquist and Olive Katherine Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam O. Lee were married in Newfolden on August 4, 1932 by Rev. G. P. Ronholm. They lived in the Lindquist Cafe in Newfolden for a few months and in March, 1933 they moved to the northeast one quarter of Section 30, New Maine Township which they purchased from the State of Minnesota and were engaged in dairy and grain farming. Later they purchased the southeast one fourth-southeast one fourth Section 18, New Maine Township.

Helge built and wired all his own buildings, cleared land etc. He was clerk of the town board, township assessor for many years, and served on various township and village boards. He also served as clerk of the school board.

In 1950 Helge started working for the Marshall County Agricultural Department measuring beets, wheat, and ditches. Later being county grain storage supervisor. In 1958 they moved to the City of Warren where Helge continued as storage supervisor and his wife began working in the ASCS office where she worked for 15 years. Their farm was sold to Donald C. Peterson of Lancaster in 1964.

They have three children, Mrs. Robert (Helen) Hjelle of East Grand Forks, Minnesota, Mrs. Charles (Marjorie) Kvern of Minneapolis, Minnesota and David of Warren, and seven grandchildren.

Helge died on February 25, 1974. *Submitted by Mrs. Helge Lindquist*

## Nels and Hilda (Wallin) Lindquist

Nels and Hilda Lindquist immigrated to America from Malmo, Sweden in May of 1912, with their sons Gunnar Nels, age 11 and Helge Thorwald, age 7. When Nels got off the train in Newfolden, he stood on the wooden sidewalk and said, "Where is the town?" They had lived in a large, modern city where Nels had been a bricklayer and Hilda a tailor.

In 1914 they purchased the northeast one fourth of Section 30 in New Maine Township, four miles northwest of Newfolden. The land was not improved so it had to be cleared before buildings could be built, including a two story, square house, granary, log barn, shed etc.

The boys attended Goodwill Rural School, District #140 which was one-half mile away. The children took turns standing by a pot-bellied wood stove to keep warm. The sandwiches were often frozen when noon-time came.

In 1926 they purchased the Victor Nelson Confectionery in Newfolden which Helge and his mother managed for six years while Gunnar and his father farmed. By this time they also farmed the west half of Section 18, New Maine Township and the northeast one fourth Section 24, West Valley Township, seven miles northwest of Newfolden.

In April of 1929 Gunnar married Adella Johnson, they were the parents of two boys and two girls.

In August of 1932, Helge married Olive Lee and they were the parents of two girls and one boy.

Nels Lindquist died April 17, 1960 at the age of 88 years.

Hilda Lindquist died July 14, 1967 and was 88 years old. Gunnar died December 26, 1973 at 72 years of age and Helge died February 25, 1974 at 68 years of age. *Submitted by Mrs. Helge Lindquist*

## Halvor O. and Julia (Knutson) Nelson

Halvor O. Nelson was born September 8, 1868 at Numedahl, Norway; the son of Nels and Margret Nelson. He came to America in 1889, settling near Atkinson, South Dakota. His first wife died. On September 4, 1897 he was married to Julia Knutson. They came to Marshall County and filed for a homestead in the southwest one quarter of Section 20, New Maine Township. Two children were born in New Maine Township, Helen and Nels. In the summer of 1902, they moved to the town of Rainy, Canada, later to Pitt, Minnesota. The other six children who were born here were: Chester, Leander, Edward, Harlen, Bernice, and Burnelle. They moved to North Dakota and also lived near Leonard, Minnesota. They returned to New Maine Township, Section 20 and lived on the Kittel Knutson homestead (which was Julia's parents) until Halvor died on May 28, 1942. His wife Julia was born in South Dakota on December 4, 1880 and died on November 15, 1944. Both are buried at the Opdahl Cemetery. The Kittel Knutsons' had a post office in their home, which was called the Opdahl Post Office. Opdahl was the name of the place in Norway where they were from. Halvor had two brothers, Knute and Lars, and a sister, Gertrude, who came to America. Knute lived with Halvor in New Maine Township and died there in 1900 or 1901. Halvor has three sons living in Marshall County; Chester lives on the old homestead, Nels lives in Section 28 and Edward in the Village of Newfolden. The other children live in other counties in Minnesota and also in the State of Washington. *Submitted by Mrs. Joan Roppe*

## Nels C. and Bertina (Strand) Nelson

Nels Conrad Nelson was born May 20, 1900 in Section 20, New Maine Township. He is the son of Halvor and Julia Nelson. When he was two years old they moved to Rainy, Canada and then to Pitt, Minnesota. Where they lived until 1914. Later they moved to North Dakota and near Clearbrook and Leonard, Minnesota. They moved back to New Maine Township in 1927. He married Bertina Strand on November 25, 1927. They lived near Grafton, North Dakota until 1933 when they bought 80 acres in Section 28 of New Maine Township. They lived here until 1945 when they moved to the Halvor Nelson home. In 1947 they bought 160 acres in northwest one fourth of Section 28 and have lived there since that time. Their youngest son, Jerome, bought their farm, less a few acres, and lives in the same Section. They have eight children, namely: Marvin, Deloris (Mrs. Albin Holton), Joan (Mrs. Wallace Roppe), Marian (Mrs. Arnold Peterson), Janice (Mrs. William Olson), Vernon, Gary, and Jerome. The four sons all own farms in New Maine Township. *Submitted by Mrs. Joan Roppe*

## Charles and Amelia (Lindstad) Nilson

In the year 1901 a young man of just 15 years left his birthplace at Hov in Ysby, Halland Sweden. Charles said "Good-bye" to his mother, sister, and his brother Adolf. The day Charles left home he had a dream of someday owning a farm of his own, many Swedes had already done this and the "America" fever was felt in many homes, as young people left Sweden. On the 27th of April Charles arrived in Liverpool, England, the place so many immigrants have had as their starting place to fulfill their hopes of a better life in the United States of America. The ship that carried Charles on his long journey was named "Savia," and it was a long, hard trip that lasted almost two weeks. The day Charles set foot on American soil in New York he became 16 years, May 10, 1901.

From New York the journey continued by train to Chicago, Illinois, where an uncle met Charles, and there began the adjusting to the American way of life and learning to speak and read the language. Uncle Olaf sent Charles to vocational college and for a few years afterwards Charles worked at various and different jobs.

In the course of events Charles and his Uncle Olaf came to live in Grand Forks, North Dakota and somewhere around 1907 Charles met Amelia Linstad from Adams, North Dakota. They were married on December 25, 1908.

On March 28th, 1912 they had a daughter born to them and they named her Marie. The following year a son was born to them and they named him Edwin.

In 1915 they decided to homestead in Roseau, Minnesota. Another daughter was born to Charles and Amelia and they named her Minnie. A decision was made to leave Roseau and go to Newfolden and buy a farm in New Maine Township so the children would have it nearer to school. Four more children were born to the Nilsons, on March 14th, 1922 a daughter named Ivadell, on December 27th, 1924 a daughter named Lorraine and on November 11th, 1926 one more daughter was born and she was named Beulah. One more son was born to them, a boy named Robert on October 28th, 1929.

(See the Charles Edwin Nilson Reminiscences in the Special Interest Section)

The farm that was purchased in 1919 became the answer to the dream of that young man that left Sweden in 1901. At the edge of the farm was a school, Goodwill District #0140, and here the Nilson children could go to school and come home for a hot dinner at noon-time, though it was a treat to take a bucket lunch to school once in awhile. Mrs. Nilson was the school's janitor for many years. The school was finally surrounded by Mr. Nilson's farm land, as he developed and extended the acreage of his farm.

While the Nilsons were busy developing and improving the farm, they experienced many hardships, heartaches, and no end to hard work; such was the lot of all the early pioneer settlers. Four more children were born to the Nilsons, on March 14th, 1922 a daughter named Ivadell, on December 27th, 1924 a daughter named Lorraine, and on November 11th, 1926 one more daughter was born and she was named Beulah. After these three girls a son was born and he was named Robert, he was born on October 28th, 1929.

During the years of raising a family and enlarging the farm to over 400 acres, Mr. Nilson was also lending a hand to his neighbors helping with the care of sick animals. At the vocational school Charles had learned and studied about animals, as well as the phases of building. As time went on, and conditions became easier, Charles put up all new buildings on his farm and did practically all the work himself. He also planted many trees for windbreak and shade.

World War II came and Charles and Amelia's son Edwin enlisted. During the years of his service he contacted various illnesses that eventually led to a medical discharge. About two years afterwards Edwin died on December 21st, 1947 as a result of those illnesses. Another sadness came on September 18th, 1952 when Charles' dear wife died after having been ill for many years.

After Amelia's death Charles gave up farming and worked as a carpenter for many years. For awhile he leased out the land of his farm and then eventually sold it to his daughter Marie and her husband, Roy Dahl, and he continued to live there alone. Later that year Charles decided he would take a trip back to Sweden.

In December of 1962 Charles left for Alameda, California and on the 22nd he and his daughter Marie were on a jet plane. They left from Los Angeles on a Scandinavian Air Service flight and arrived in Copenhagen, Denmark just 11 hours later. From there they traveled by ferry over Helsingor to Halsingborg, Sweden and from there took an electric train to Laholm. This was the route Charles had taken when he left Hov in 1901 and he was anxious to see what changes had taken place over the years. It as 61 years and 8 months that had elapsed.

At Laholm Charles and Marie stayed with his sister and her husband. It was a beautiful time to visit as the Christmas decorations and other celebrations were so colorful. The early Christmas sunrise service at the church was most thrilling. The two huge Christmas trees in the front of the audience were lit with candles and as they burned out the service was over and no electric lights were turned on. The minister wore special robes that were colorful and beautifully jeweled, this was a high point of the visit. The next few days were used to travel around to see the old home place, the swimming hole, and visit

the church where Charles was confirmed and to visit his Mother's grave. On January 5th, 1963 the visit was over and before long "Welcome Home" was extended Charles as he came through customs at New York.

On June 14th, 1975 Charles celebrated a belated 90th birthday. Charles now lives at the Good Samaritan Center in East Grand Forks. He continues to enjoy reading and does quite well without wearing his glasses. *Submitted by Marie (Mrs. Roy W.) Dahl*

## A. G. Peterson

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Peterson came from Sweden in the fall of the year 1882. They came to Vega Township and stayed with a family there named Eric Hogberg, in a 12 x 16 building. There were eleven people including children that lived in that one room house until Petersons got a log house built. Mr. Peterson and family stayed in Vega then for 16 years. In 1898 they moved to New Maine Township, Section 31 onto their daughter's homestead. They had one building they called the Frank Johnson Shanty. This was their school which they attended only a few days a year. Of course there were no roads, just wagon trails with only oxen to use in the fields and also to pull their sleighs and wagons.

They did their trading with Korstad who had a store out where Oscar Rokke lives at present. Another trading place was D. B. Bakke who was south of Newfolden. There they would bring in butter and eggs and trade for other necessities.

Some of the others living around there at the time were Pete Julin, Andrew Bakke, Carl Larson, Andrew Bring, Emil Larson and Ole Berg. Of their twelve children Henning was probably the most well known as he was the blacksmith in Newfolden for many years. Henning Peterson married Lena Williamson and they had two daughters, Gladys, Mrs. Ted Eide of Arizona and Pearl, Mrs. Gordon Elseth of Newfolden. *Submitted by Mrs. Gordon Elseth*

## Jacob and Marie (Halvorson) Sjogren

Jacob Sjogren was born in Sweden and after coming to America he lived and worked in Denver, Colorado in the silver mines. There he married Marie Halvorson who had also emigrated from Sweden. Two daughters were born while they lived in Denver, Hannah and Inez. In 1895 they came to Fuldahl Township, Marshall County where another daughter, Selma, was born.

In 1898 Jacob filed on the northeast one fourth of Section 18 in New Maine Township and built a one room house and on June 1, 1899 he moved his family there where a fourth daughter, Ruth, was born in 1905. In 1915 Hannah was married to Andrew Larson; in 1918 Inez was married to Sam Knutson; Selma was married to George Lindberg in 1921; and Ruth was married to Clarence Pirtle in 1929. Jacob died in 1923 and Marie in 1942. They are buried in Opdahl Cemetery in New Maine Township.

Jacob's grandson, Arnold Larson, and his wife, Vernice, live on this farm presently. *Submitted by Richard Larson*

## Ole and Sarah (Larson) Skadsem

Ole Skadsem was born at Spring Grove, Minnesota on October 4, 1871. He married Sarah Larson, daughter of Lars and Gunhild Larson, in South Dakota in 1898. They had two daughters, Gladys, Mrs. Bert Johnson, and Olga, Mrs. Carl Swenson.

They came to New Maine Township in 1901. Sarah died in 1904.

He then married Sophie Blinsmon in 1906. She came to New Maine by wagon train in 1899.

They bought the homestead rights from a Hanson to the northeast one fourth of Section 20.

There were 11 children born to this couple, Oscar, Agnes, Esther, Arthur, Hilda, Ruben, Mervin, Pearl, Ilene, Eveleth and Violet.

They did their main shopping in Warren which was about 35 miles away. They had to drive with horses.



At first they drove oxen to do their farm work and to grub trees with to clear land.

Selling cordwood was a part of their income.

Ole Skadsem died November 17, 1942. Sophie died March 13, 1968.

They are buried in the Opdahl Cemetery, in New Maine Township. *Submitted by Ole Skadsem Family*

## Louis P. and Elsie (Steelman) Slattum

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Slattum moved to the Newfolden area from the Erskine-Mentor area. Mr. Slattum was born in Norway and had taken apprentice training as a carpenter before migrating to the Ottertail County area where he had relatives. He worked in Ottertail Co. before coming to Mentor and Erskine where he was for a time a partner in a hardware store business. He married Elsie Steelman who was from Mentor.

The Slattums later moved to Newfolden where Mr. Slattum was manager of the Bertram-Wright Lumber Company for 12 years. Prior to moving to a farm in New Maine Township he built two homes in Newfolden Village. He built up two farms in New Maine Township before retiring and later moving to the Good Samaritan Home in Warren. He died in 1960. Mrs. Slattum Smith died in 1973 in Couderay, Wisconsin.

Mr. and Mrs. Slattum had seven children. Lousie married Ben Korgen and they live in Duluth, Minnesota. They have three children — Howard, Benjamin, and Kathy. Vivian (Sarge) and his wife Rose live in San Clemente, California. "Sarge" retired from the United States Army after 20 years in the military service. He served as a First Sergeant of one of the companies of the 99th Battalion (Norwegian) during its service in Europe in World War II. During his service he saw duty in many different places and posts throughout the United States and elsewhere.

Hawkin (Larry) also made a career of the military and retired after almost thirty (30) years of military service. He was a Lt. Colonel in the Corps of Engineers and specialized in mapping and map making services. He saw military service at various posts throughout the world. After retiring from the service he continued to live in Bangkok, Thailand until his death in 1971. While in Thailand he also served as a Consultant to the Thai government and also was a partner in a Mapping service and Engineering firm. He was recognized as an authority on Southeast Asia and was decorated by the King of Siam (Thailand) for his services. His widow, Berenice, and three daughters, Laurita, Louise, and Muriel and their families live in the Seattle, Washington area where the Slattums maintained a home.

Another son, Edwin Raymond, died in infancy in January, 1911.

Charles lived on the home farm until he moved to Bemidji a few years ago. During World War II he served with the Canadian Army. At the time he was living on a tract of land which his father owned in British Columbia. Mr. Slattum had purchased a tract of land located on a lake high in the Canadian Rockies. Charles is employed by Bemidji State College.

Eva (Mrs. Philip Cacabelos) lives in Bellevue, Washington. They have two sons — Philip, Jr. who is a dentist and John who is attending college.

Violet (Mrs. Einar Rokke) grew up at the Halvor Amundson home in West Valley Township. The family now lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They have two sons, Brian and Jerome. Brian is attending the School of Law at the University of North Dakota and Jerome attends Augsburg College in Minneapolis. *Submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Korgen (nee Louise Slattum), and Mr. and Mrs. Einar Rokke (nee Violet Slattum Amundson) June 30, 1975*

## Helge Swenson

Helge Swenson and his children Julia, Annie, Lewis, Paul and Carl came to New Maine Township from Kingsbury County, South Dakota by wagon train. Another son Sam came the following summer and homesteaded on Section 19. He never married and spent most of his life on his homestead.

Julia married Ole Haug who had homesteaded before 1900 in this township in Section 21. They later moved to Hoople, North Dakota.

Annie married Gilbert Gilbertson, another original homesteader of New Maine living north of Newfolden on the northwest one fourth of Section 22. They later had the livery barn in Newfolden. They also moved to Hoople, North Dakota.

Lewis has spent most of his life at Park River, North Dakota.

Paul died at an early age and is buried in the Opdahl cemetery.

Carl married Olga Skadsem on February 14, 1922, and is perhaps the most well known of this family in this area. They had five children, Harvey, Sybil, Roy, Clyde and Morris. Harvey farms near Viking, Sybil, (Mrs. Lester Peterson) lives west of Newfolden. Clyde, his wife Beverly and their four children have a dairy farm near Newfolden. Roy and Morris live in California. Olga Swenson died on October 4, 1945 and is buried in the Opdahl Cemetery.

Carl Swenson has since remarried and presently lives in Thief River Falls. *Submitted by Sybil Peterson*



Helge Swenson, the father of Ole T. Haug.

## Norman and Bernice (Bengtson) Ueland

Norman Ueland and Bernice Bengtson were married at Warren, Minnesota on September 7, 1939.

They bought their present farm in Section 22, New Maine Township in July 1945 and moved there October 9, 1945.

Norman and Bernice have four children. Their oldest son Newell married a neighbor's daughter, Gail Sather. They live at Morris, Minnesota where he is manager of Lampert Lumber Company. They have two children, a son Chris and a daughter Melanie.

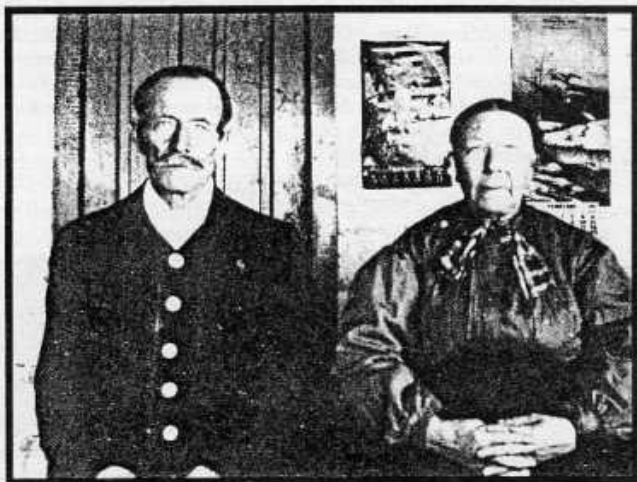
Their second son, Ronald, owns 80 acres in New Maine Township, where he lives. He is married to the former Patricia Lambert. He is a teacher at Marshall County Central School at



Newfolden. He and Pat have two children, a daughter Natalie and a son Jeffrey.

Marlene, their only daughter, is married to James Taggart. They live in New Maine Township also. They have three children, Troy, Melissa and Jennifer.

Their youngest son, Bruce, is attending the University of Minnesota, Morris Branch, at Morris, Minnesota. He is majoring in biology and plans to teach. *Submitted by Mrs. Norman Ueland*



*Top Left: Lars and Gunhild Larson about 1910.*

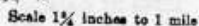
*Middle Left: Knute and Anne Haugen.*

*Bottom Left: Charles E. Nilson with Trixie the mascot of the East Grand Forks Fire Department in 1910.*

*Top Right: Albert Larson.*

*Bottom Right: Agnes, Art, Esther, and Oscar Skadsem.*





Township 157 North Range 44 West of the 5th P. M.





#### **Opdahl Post Office**

**Established May 18, 1900, Discontinued January 31, 1914**

**The first year or so Sam Swenson was the postmaster located in Section 19, New Maine Township. After that Helvig Knutson (Kittel Knutson Home was the postmistress located in their home in Section 20, New Maine Township. This home was moved closer to the road and Chester Nelson lived here. The house is still located there.**



**Helvig (Mrs. Kittel Knutson) left 1910 Postmistress of Opdahl Post Office  
With her sister, Gunhilde (Mrs. Lars Larson).**

## School History

The first school board meeting was held Feb.15, 1902. Sam Swenson was the moderator. Knud K. Knudson was elected Director. (Knud was an Uncle to Nels C. and Chester Nelson). Fred Gibson was elected Treasurer, Olaf B. Hanson was elected Clerk. The meeting was held at the Iver Nelson residence.

Motions were made and seconded to discuss building two school houses in District #100 by making a loan from the State of Minnesota. for such purposes. Next were the appointments made for the places of said school grounds. The North School location would be in the center of section 8-157-44. For the South School location it was agreed on the NW1/4 of SW corner of Section 29-157-44.

The next meeting was held Feb.27, 1902 at the Iver Nelson residence. Knud K. Knudson was the moderator. It was decided to rent a house to serve as a school house for the first term. They would have four months of school. School would commence March 17, 1902. Knud K. Knudson shall tend to the renting of a School room in the South Half of District 100 and O.B. Hanson shall tend to the rent of a school room in the North Half of the District. They would pay \$6.00 for the rent of a school room for the school term.

Knud Knudsons, parents, Kittel Knudsons rented a room to the teacher for many years. The teacher would be paid. \$126.00 for the term or \$30.00 per month. Parents must furnish seats for the School and also books for their children. The Board of Trustees should hire a teacher and her wages be paid by Order on the District.

A Special Meeting was held June 5, 1902 at the Opdal Post Office which was at the Kittel Knudson home. Motions were made to change the location of the South School. Three different locations were voted on. The center of Sec.29 one square acre on the NW corner of the SE quarter. of Section.29 got 6 votes, the SW corner of the SE 1/4 of Section 20 received 13 votes, and the NW corner of the SW quarter. of Section29 received 3 votes. 22 votes were cast. The meeting was adjourned.

Special Meetings were held again because the location voted on was too wet for the South School. It was finally agreed to have the School located on the SE corner of the NE quarter of the NW quarter of Section 29.

The third annual meeting was held August 1, 1903 at the O.B. Hanson residence. The teachers wages shall not exceed \$35.00 a month. Knut K. Knutson will rent a room for the school in the South half of the District and O. B. Hanson for the North Half of the District with rent of a room for \$2.50.

The fourth annual meeting was held July 16, 1904. There were 23 voters present. Dist.# 100 made an application to the State of Minnesota. for a loan of \$1,000.00 to erect two school houses in the District. Bonds would be issued and the first one would be due three years from the date and the interest be paid at 4% per year. The payments would be \$100.00 per year for 10 years. N.M. Bacher, Ole Haug and Ole A. Berg were to attend to the wood for fuel for the school for one year. Mr. Godfrey E. Gibson resigned as Treasurer in 1904. Olaf Hanson was the Clerk and Knute K. Knudson as Director.



March 27, 1905 the school meeting was held at the Knute K. Knudson residence. The Board of Trustees of District #100 issued Bonds to the permanent school fund of State of Minnesota for \$1000. Interest at 4% per year payable to the Treasurer of the State of Minnesota. The first Bond of \$100.00 issued March 27, 1905 would be payable July 1, 1910. \$100.00 would be due every year until the year 1919. The rent of a room was raised to \$13.50, improving grounds \$3.00, wood for fuel \$13.50 and teachers wages \$386.88 for the year.

June 17, 1905 the meeting was held at Jacob Sjogren residence on Section 18. Christ Olson and A. Sundbergs bids to build the two school houses for \$130.00 and Jorgen Windahls bid for \$60.00 to haul lumber and stones were accepted. Lumber was purchased from Kittel Knuteson.

Aug.22, 1905 the meeting was held at the O.B. Hanson residence. It was decided that the school house would be 24x18x10 ft. to the plate. There would be 6 pair of windows, one door, a double floor, double outside wall with felt. On the inside there would be back plastering and sealing. It must have a stone foundation one foot high and also a brick pipe. The school had one large room with the small addition. Part of this addition was for hanging the coats in and also the water cooler sat on a small stand where the students could wash their hands. The other part was a small library. The teachers desk was near the South entrance with the desks on the North end of the building. The large windows on both the East and West sides made the school well lighted. The blackboards were on the north and south sides of the room. There was also an organ in the southeast corner of the large room. A large pot bellied stove was near the northeast corner of the school, surrounded by a metal jacket for heat circulation. The fuel used was wood. There was a good-sized wood shed full of wood. The students would help carry in wood for the day. In the later years Mrs. Charles Nelson was the janitor of the District #140 school.

Early purchases were a dictionary for \$4.50, text and library books, erasers, one box expressions and one box crayons purchased Dec.1906. Bookcases, four chairs from the Hoberg and Erickson Store in Newfolden for \$3.60, window shades for \$1.20 from the Ole Kleppe store in Newfolden and a flag for 80 cents. A fountain was purchased in 1918 for \$7.50.

Scholars enrolled in 1906 were 28. Ages five to eight years of age were 3 pupils, Ages 8 to 16 years were 27 pupils, and 16 to 21 years were 2 students.

Aug. 17, 1907 Turi Haug was paid \$1.00 for one acres of land for a school house site.

In 1908 additions were built on to each of the schools in District 100. The size was 18 x 10 x 8.

New Maine Township had three Rural Schools at one time. There were two schools in District #100, a North School and a South School. In later years the South School was District # 140 and named the Goodwill School. There was also a District # 104 which was first located about a mile North of the John Lee home in 1909 in Section 23 and was close to where Stuart Sethres own land now. Later District #104 was located in Section two and was called the Taylor School. This was east of the Charles Taylor home where Leonard Benke lives now.

The District #140 school, also called the Charley Nelson school, because it was located in his pasture, was moved across the road to the North of the Nelson farm in Section 20 in 1941. This is where the New Maine Town Hall is located now. Before the children were all so afraid of the cattle and horses so they decided to move the school to a new location. At one of the Board Meetings a motion was made to put a fence around the school but there was no second so nothing was done. Lucille Hetland was the last teacher to teach at District #140 before it was moved. The location in the southwest quarter, of Section 20 was first homesteaded by Halvor Nelson in the late 1800s. His daughter, Helen was born there in 1898 and his son, Nels C. Nelson was born May 20, 1900 on this land. Halvor Nelsons and Anton Borgens moved away from New Maine in 1902 but Halvor returned in 1927 and lived there until his death. In 1902 he sold his 160 acres for \$1,100.00. Halvor was a great grandfather to Barry Nelson, present board member and also to Harold Lee. Mrs. Harold Lee (Diane) is also a Board member of New Maine. Halvor was Pondmaster when the township first organized. Donald Larson, another Board Member, was a great grandson to Jacob Sjogren who was Treasurer of the School Board in early years. Knute K. Knutson was a great, great Uncle to Barry Nelson and Harold Lee. Jacob Sjogren was also the librarian in 1908. The library was open once every two weeks so books could be taken out to read.

In early years the age range of students was from five to 20 years. The school term was five to seven months. In later years the term was nine months. In early years attendance was poor because many of the students had to stay at home and help.

Games played during recess were Farmer in the Dell, Fox and Geese, Last Couple Out, Drop the Handkerchief, London Bridges, anti-over, (the wood shed was used for this game), baseball and other games.

Plays and readings were given at our Christmas programs. We spent some time practicing for these programs which the parents always came to. Apples were given to every one who came.

For Valentines Day the students all helped make one large Valentine box and we had a Valentine party.

Students helped clean the erasers, they carried in water from the old pump outside, raised and lowered the flag from the flag pole every day, and carried in wood.

On the last day of school, a picnic was held. The parents would come to this too.

I remember my mother, Bertina Nelson, telling about the year she walked to the school on the last day of school. We lived in the SW quarter, of Section 28 so she had a long way to walk. My Dad was out working so he wasn't home. Mom brought a cake to the picnic. So she carried that in one hand, carried my sister, Marian, who was 10 months old, and Joan, who was only two and half years old, had to walk along too. The two older children, Marvin and Deloris were expecting them to be there for the picnic.

After the District 140, Goodwill School, was moved in 1941, they held school for only one term, 1941-1942. Judith Melin was the teacher. There was a shortage of teachers so the students were sent to the Newfolden School for three years, (1942-1943, 1943-1944, 1944-1945). In the fall of 1945 school was held again in New Maine. Miss Bonita Nyflot taught in 1945-1946. Mrs. Frances Cook taught for the next two years, (1946-1947) and (1947-1948). She lived in Newfolden. Her husband was the Postmaster. She drove to school every day. Mrs. Carl, (Gladys), Johnson taught in 1948 -1949. JoAnn Benitt taught school in 1949-1950, and also in 1950-1951. She married Donald



Larson during her last year of teaching there. 1950-1951 was the last year school was held in the rural school in New Maine. All the students went by bus to Newfolden the years after. Later this school was named the New Maine Town Hall.

In 1948 there were 13 boys and 9 girls in District #140 school. The teacher was paid \$180.00 a month in wages. In 1949 there were 9 boys and 10 girls. The teacher's wages were \$200.00 a month. In 1951 there were 7 boys and 6 girls. The teacher's wages were \$200.00 a month.

Bible School was held at this school every summer for a week or two. The teachers I remember were Iola Fisher, Bernice Anderson, Marjorie Solem and Muriel Nelson.

When the New Maine 4 H was organized, they held all their meetings in the school house at first.

In the early years, Fred Waterworth did some shingle work on the school. In 1998 the school was reshingled by Tom Blazjewski and Jeremy Nelson. Charles Nilson did carpentry work also. He made the cement steps.

The New Maine Schools carried insurance with the Marshall County Mutual Insurance Company ever since the schools were built. This company celebrated 100 years this year also. In 1902 the early settlers of New Maine who carried Insurance with this company were O.B.Hanson, John Johnson, Ole Skadsem, Mrs. Turi Haugen, Ole Haug, Knute and Kittel Knutsen, C.C. Peterson, John L. Johns, John Dufke, and Jacob Sjogren.

Many of the teachers stayed at the Helvig and Kittel Knutson Home. From 1923 to 1926, Selma Shefvelin (Mrs. Ben Fisher) boarded here. Some of the students in her class were Helge Lindquist, Oscar Johnson, Della Johnson (Mrs. Gunner Lindquist and others.

### **Early School Board Members**

Louis Hahn  
Carl Blackberg  
Fritz Edeen  
Hjalmer Blackberg  
Alfred Larson  
Albert Larson  
Robert Gibson



## **Families and Children in the New Maine Schools**

### **South School. District #140**

Ben Bengtson- Bernice, Darleen, Leonard, Arnold, Vernon, Lloyd  
Victor Ekman- Richard and Ardelle  
Ben Fisher- Charles, Burton, Iola, Esther  
Melvin Ginter- Darlene, Leroy, Donna  
Verl Magner- Phyllis, Betty Lou  
Hartvig Hanson- Clara, Alfred, Floyd, Bennie, Buelah, Earl, Ralph,  
Ernest, Clarence, Arne, John and Carl  
Melvin Lee- Loretta, Marlin, Donna  
Helge Lindquist- Helen and Marjorie  
Glen Magner – Cecil, Orlin, Gaylor, Beatrice, Donald, Gene , Opal  
Tollef Nelson- Marvin O. Nelson  
Nels C. Nelson- Marvin L., Deloris, Joan, Marian, Janice, Vernon, Gary, Jerome  
Charles Nelson- Robert, Beulah, Lorraine, Ivadell, Minnie, Marie, Edwin  
Chester Nelson- Evelyn, Doris, Ronald, Betty Lou  
Palmer Tveten- Evenele, Arlene, Laurel  
Paul Hoffman- Anna  
Mrs. Gladys Johnson (teacher)- Judith Ann  
Christ Hjelle- Carolyn and Elroy  
George Johnson- Wallace R., and Joyce  
Conrad Melo- Harlen, Virgil, Merle, Wendell  
Gunnar Lindquist- Lester and Milton  
Fred Waterworth- William, Edward, Paul, Earl, Elizabeth, Aaron  
Halvor Nelson- Harlan, Burnelle, Bernice  
Ben Gillund- Carvel  
Adolf Nelson- Alfred, George, Richard, Walter, Hugo  
Ole Skadsem- Violet, Ilene, Eveleth, Rueben, Agnes, Mervin, Pearl, Esther,  
Arthur, Hilda  
B. Johnson- Harold, Bernice, Evelyn, George  
Bert & Gladys Johnson- Buelah and LeRoy  
Borsvolds- Theodore, Leonard , Henry, Hattie, Ernest, Clarence, Edwin, George  
Ed Knutsons- Edna  
Knute Knutsons- Clara & LeRoy  
Mary Austin-Alene, Nester

### **North School – Districts 100 & 104**

Nelsons Randal, Harold, Viola, Merece  
Hahns- Stanley, Darlene, Deloris, Ralph, Harriet  
Cook- Lenore & Floyd  
Gibsons- Olga, Myrtle, Lillian, Edward  
Sjogren- Ruth, Selma, Inez  
Berg, - Bennie  
Bring- August, Gustav, John, Ellen  
Blinsmon, Lillie, Agnes, Alma



Haug- Gina  
Sundberg- Gunnar  
Nelsons- Kenneth, Arthur, Edwin, Donald, Delores  
Blackbergs- Morris, Delphine, Blanche  
Blackbergs- Audrey  
Blackbergs- Tilmer, Willie, Freda, Elmer  
Edeens- Gale, Archie, Delores, Beverly  
Thorson- Rose, Joy Ann  
Becklund- Raymond  
Johnson- Robert, Marvin, Bernice  
Skadsem- Doris Jean, Orville, Norris, Alfreda, Viola, Myrtle, Willis  
Skadsem- Dennis  
Dahlin- Dale  
Garfve- Rosemary, Maynard, Ruby, Helen  
Larson- Gladys, Laura, Harriet, Lester  
Larson- Melvin, Lloyd, Della  
Kujava- Frank  
Taylor- Elden, Loretta, Francis, William ,Lena, Jess  
Tunheim- Tollef, Samuel  
Eggie, Myron  
Larson- Evelyn, Arnold, Stanley, Shirley  
McNamara- Johnny, Josephine, Dorothy, Katherine

## **Teachers in District 100—North and South School**

1901 Ottina Rokke  
1902 Louise Loveid  
1903 Edith Mae Fuller  
1904 Olga Nelson  
1905 No record  
1906 Mary A. Toombs  
    (October to December)  
1907 Mary Hevle

1907 Mary Hevle  
1908 Laura Hanson  
1909 Olga Hevle  
1910 Louise Loveid  
1911 Adele Haugen  
1912 Bertha Buchholz

## **Teachers in District # 140**

1913 Tina Anderson  
1914 L. B. Loveid  
1915 Hannah Tellefson  
1916 Louise Loveid  
1917 Selma Shefveld  
1918 Selma Shefveld  
1919 Selma Shefveld  
1920 Ruth Solem  
1921 Ruth Solem  
1922 Louise Shefveld  
1923 Mollie Korgen  
1924 Myrtle Helgeland  
1925 Minnie Carlson  
1926 Charlotte Loen  
1927 Gladys Peterson  
1928 Thorvald W. Jenson  
1929 Elfie Myhrer  
1930 Elfie Myhrer  
1931 Inez L. Anderson

1932 Evaulotte Johnson  
1933 Mrs. Evaulotte Streeter  
1934 Mrs. Evaulotte Streeter  
1935 Gladys Eide  
1936 Gladys Eide  
1937 No Record  
1938 Gladys Eide  
1939 Lucille Hetland  
1940 Lucille Hetland  
1941 Judith Melin  
1942 School Closed  
1943 School Closed  
1944 School Closed  
1945 Bonita Nyflot  
1946 Mrs. Frances Cook  
1947 Mrs. Frances Cook  
1948 Mrs. Gladys Johnson  
1949 JoAnne Benitt  
1950 Mrs. JoAnn Benitt Larson  
    *This was the last year of school.*



## **Teachers in District # 100 North School**

*(No early records were found)*

1916 Minnie Parr	1923 Selma Knutson
1917 Myntner Bengtson	1924-1929 No Record
1918 Mable Evernham	1930-1937 Freda Blackberg
1919 No Record	1938 Edith Senyk
1920 Selma Sjoquist	1939 Madonna Parent
1921 Rose Burman	1940 Selma Knutson
1922 Linda Norman	1941 Mrs. Ethel Smeby <i>School Closed</i>

## **Teachers in School District #104**

1908 Olga Hevle	1926 Ruth Hoppe & Ruby Dean
1910 Olga Gustafson	1927 Charlotte Loen
1914 Olga Duvos	1928 Mr. Pederson
1925 Myrtle Helgeland	<i>School Closed—Student went to District # 100</i>

*Submitted by Joan Roppe*

## Blackberg School

My family, Ben and Inga Bengtson, Bernice, Darleen, Len and Arnie, moved to New Maine township in the fall of 1929. This is as near as my sister, Bernice Ueland, and I, Darlene Chapman, can figure out.

We lived on what was known as the Amundson and Lee farm. Our brothers Vernon and Lloyd were born while we lived at the Amundson and Lee place.

In more recent years, Wayne Ulferts, who was a teacher and coach in Newfolden some years ago, owned or rented the place.

There were no classes at the Blackberg School in 1929. The Blackberg school in school district 100 opened or re-opened in 1930, I believe.

Bernice stayed with our grandpa and grandma Bjorgaard near Argyle to go to school that first year. She completed first grade there.

When the Blackberg School opened in 1930, I began first grade that year and Bernice was in second grade. Brothers Len and Arnie started school there a few years later.

Freda Blackberg was my teacher first through seventh grade. She was a very good teacher. She taught us the three "R's" plus some history, geography, citizenship, art and phy-ed. Freda taught all eight grades in one classroom.

There was a big pot bellied wood stove for heat. We even had a hot lunch program. We brought food in containers that could be heated on the top of that stove!

Freda wrote meaningful little sayings on the blackboard in beautiful colored chalk. Things like: "Do to others as you would have them do to you" and "The only way to have a friend is to be one."

Freda always read a chapter of a book to us after noon recess. I believe that is one reason so many of her pupils love to read to this day. The teacher was also the librarian and had to keep track of all the books. We also had spelling bees.

We had programs for all the holidays, socials and a last day of school picnic. We had what was called a "Play Day" when all the schools in the area got together for competitive sports.

I have a picture of some of the pupils of the Blackberg School with our teacher Freda Blackberg.

The children from what was called the Taylor School were bussed to the Blackberg School. That must have been one of the first school buses at least in this part of the country. Ted Tunheim drove the bus.

In 1936 Mother and Dad bought the place where Lloyd and Leanna Bengtson live now. I went to school at what was known as the Charley Nelson School also. I began eighth grade there in the fall of 1936. The Charley Nelson School is now known as the New Maine Town Hall.

Len, Arnie and Vernon all went to school in the Charlie Nelson School. Gladys Eide was the teacher. Len finished eighth grade there. Vernon began first grade at the Charley Nelson School. Arnie and Vernon went to school there for a few years, then finished in Newfolden. Lloyd began first grade in Newfolden and finished his schooling there.





Pupils at the Blackberg School about 1935. Front row Rose Thorson, Evelyn Smith, Arnold Bengtson, Harry Tunheim (with grass in his mouth) Gordon Borsvold, and Len Bengtson. Second Row Rose Mary Garfve, Blanch Blackberg, Ilene Larson, Lester Larson, Clifford Smith, Gale Edeen, Archie Edeen and Morris Blackberg. Back row Della Larson, Darlene Bengtson, Wilfred Smith, Ruby and Helen Garfve, Harriet Larson, Bernice Bengtson, Jess Taylor and Lloyd Larson

The three Smith children, in the picture were related to the Wikstroms. Their mother was a sister of George Wikstrom (who started the Wikstrom Telephone Company). The Wikstrom family lived near Strandquist and the Smith children were living with them at the time that they went to the Blackberg school because their mother was sick and their grandparents were taking care of them. The Wikstroms brought them to school every day.

Gordon Borsvold's mother was also a Wikstrom. I'm not sure where the Borsvalds lived but Gordon used to ride to school with the Wikstroms.

Myron Eggie's mother was Freda Blackberg's sister. He stayed with the Blackberg family for one year and he went to the Blackberg school too during that time.

Except for these I mentioned I think the others lived in New Maine.

*Submitted by Bernice Ueland*

# Teacher's Contract.

This Agreement, Made this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1901  
between School District No. 100 in the County of Marshall and State of  
Minnesota, by the Board of Trustees, at a meeting called for that purpose\*

and \_\_\_\_\_ a legally qualified teacher.

WITNESSETH, That the said Louise S. Lowieid. shall teach the school in said  
district for the term of Five months, for the sum of Thirty Dollars  
per month, commencing on the First day of October 1901  
And the said Louise S. Lowieid. agrees faithfully to teach the said school according  
to the best of her ability, and to keep a register of the daily attendance of each pupil belonging to the  
school, and make such report of the school as is or may be required by law or by the County Superintend-  
ent, or by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and to observe and enforce all rules and regula-  
tions established by proper authority for the government and management of said school.

And it is further Agreed by and Between the Parties Hereto, That the said  
Louise S. Lowieid. shall use her best endeavors to preserve in  
good condition the school house and premises connected with it, also the apparatus and furniture thereto  
belonging, and also all books and records provided by the School Board for the use of said school, and to  
deliver the same to the clerk of said district at the close of the said term of school in as good condition as  
when received, natural wear and tear excepted. The said school district hereby agrees to keep the school  
house and premises clean, in good repair and properly warmed, to provide suitable and sufficient fuel pre-  
pared for the fire, and to supply the following articles as described, for the school room:

The district also agrees to pay the said Louise S. Lowieid. for the  
above described service the sum of One hundred and Fifty Dollars  
in monthly payments of Thirty Dollars  
each month. Further the same district agrees to pay  
the discount on the orders given the teacher in said dist.  
In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto subscribed our hands this 20<sup>th</sup>  
day of September 1901

Wm. R. Rautason Director.  
Godfrey E. Gibson Treasurer.  
O. B. Hanson Clerk.  
Louise S. Lowieid. Teacher.

\*NOTE--If the contract is with a teacher related by blood or marriage to a member of the School Board, add after the \* in  
the above form the words, "with the concurrence of all the members thereof by vote duly entered on the clerk's record of pro-  
ceedings."

[SIGNED IN DUPLICATE]

The duplicate should be a copy of the above made when the contract is signed. Such copy should be also signed by all the parties  
signing the above. It should be preserved by the teacher for proof and for reference. The County Superintendent will furnish dupli-  
cate blanks upon application.



# Teacher's Contract.

This Agreement, Made this 3rd day of Oct 1904  
between School District No. 100 in the County of Marshall and State of  
Minnesota, by the Board of Trustees, at a meeting called for that purpose\*

and Olga Nelson a legally qualified teacher.

WITNESSETH, That the said Olga Nelson shall teach the school in said  
district for the term of 6 months, for the sum of thirtythree Dollars  
per month, commencing on the 3rd day of Oct 1904

And the said Olga Nelson agrees faithfully to teach the said school according  
to the best of her ability, and to keep a register of the daily attendance of each pupil belonging to the  
school, and make such report of the school as is or may be required by law or by the County Superintendent,  
or by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and to observe and enforce all rules and regula-  
tions established by proper authority for the government and management of said school.

And it is further Agreed by and Between the Parties Hereto, That the said  
Olga Nelson shall use his best endeavors to preserve in  
good condition the school house and premises connected with it, also the apparatus and furniture thereto  
belonging, and also all books and records provided by the School Board for the use of said school, and to  
deliver the same to the clerk of said district at the close of the said term of school in as good condition as  
when received, natural wear and tear excepted. The said school district hereby agrees to keep the school  
house and premises clean, in good repair and properly warmed, to provide suitable and sufficient fuel pre-  
pared for the fire, and to supply the following articles as described, for the school room:

The district also agrees to pay the said Olga Nelson for the  
above described service the sum of One hundred and nintyeight Dollars  
in monthly payments of thirtythree Dollars  
each Month Plus discount on orders

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto subscribed our hands this 3rd  
day of Oct 1904

Knut Kuntzman Director.  
Godfrey E. Gibson Treasurer.  
O. B. Johnson Clerk.  
Olga Nelson Teacher.

\*NOTE—If the contract is with a teacher related by blood or marriage to a member of the School Board, add after the \* in  
the above form the words, "with the concurrence of all the members thereof by vote duly entered on the clerk's record of pro-  
ceedings."

[SIGNED IN DUPLICATE]

The duplicate should be a copy of the above made when the contract is signed. Such copy should be also signed by all the parties  
signing the above. It should be preserved by the teacher for proof and for reference. The County Superintendent will furnish dupli-  
cate blanks upon application.

# Teacher's Contract.

This Agreement, Made this 2 day of January 1906  
between School District No. 100 in the County of Marshall and State of  
Minnesota, by the Board of Trustees, at a meeting called for that purpose\*

and Mary A. Toombs a legally qualified teacher.

WITNESSETH, That the said Mary A. Toombs shall teach the school in said  
district for the term of Six months, for the sum of Forty Dollars  
per month, commencing on the 2 day of January 1906

And the said Mary A. Toombs agrees faithfully to teach the said school according  
to the best of her ability, and to keep a register of the daily attendance of each pupil belonging to the  
school, and make such report of the school as is or may be required by law or by the County Superintend-  
ent, or by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and to observe and enforce all rules and regula-  
tions established by proper authority for the government and management of said school.

And it is further Agreed by and Between the Parties Hereto, That the said  
Mary A. Toombs shall use her best endeavors to preserve in  
good condition the school house and premises connected with it, also the apparatus and furniture thereto  
belonging, and also all books and records provided by the School Board for the use of said school, and to  
deliver the same to the clerk of said district at the close of the said term of school in as good condition as  
when received, natural wear and tear excepted. The said school district hereby agrees to keep the school  
house and premises clean, in good repair and properly warmed, to provide suitable and sufficient fuel pre-  
pared for the fire, and to supply the following articles as described, for the school room:

The district also agrees to pay the said Mary A. Toombs for the  
above described service the sum of Two hundred and forty Dollars  
in monthly payments of Forty Dollars  
each month

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto subscribed our hands this 2  
day of January 1906

Knut H. Kvistson Director.  
Jakob Sjogren Treasurer.  
Alf H. H. H. Clerk.  
Mary A. Toombs Teacher.

\*NOTE--If the contract is with a teacher related by blood or marriage to a member of the School Board, add after the \* in  
the above form the words, "with the concurrence of all the members thereof by vote duly entered on the clerk's record of pro-  
ceedings."

[SIGNED IN DUPLICATE]

The duplicate should be a copy of the above made when the contract is signed. Such copy should be also signed by all the parties  
signing the above. It should be preserved by the teacher for proof and for reference. The County Superintendent will furnish dupli-  
cate blanks upon application.



## RECORDS OF TRANSACTIONS BY THE TRUSTEES.

Names of School Children and Parents Name & Address

Berg, Bennie } Ole A. Berg, Newfolden, Minn.

Bring, August, }  
Bring, Gustav, } Mrs. A. Bring, Newfolden, Minn.  
Bring, John, }  
Bring, Ellen, }

Blinsmon, Lillie, }  
Blinsmon, Agnes } Steiner Blinsmon, Opdahl, Minn.  
Blinsmon, Alma }

Haug, Gina, } Ole T. Haug, Newfolden.

Knuteson, Clara } Knute Knuteson, Opdahl, Minn.

Sjogren, Selma } Jacob Sjogren, Newfolden, Minn.  
Sjogren, Inez, }

## South School

District No. 100

New Maine Township,  
Marshall County, Minn.

→ 1909-10 ←

OLGA HEVLE, Teacher

*Pupils*

Bennie Berg  
Alma Blinsmon  
Lillie Blinsmon  
Agnes Blinsmon  
Mattie Bring  
August Bring  
Gustav Bring  
Ellen Bring  
Knute Haugen  
Clara Knuteson  
Selma Sjogren  
Olga Skadsem  
Jennie Wang  
William Windahl

John Bring  
Gina Haugen  
Gina Haug  
Inez Sjogren  
Gladeys Skadsem  
Gunnar Sundberg  
Clara Wang

School Board

Sam Knuteson, Clerk  
Knute Knuteson, Director  
Ole Berg, Treasurer

Commencing Sept 10 1923

and Ending April 4, 1924

Mollie Korgren Teacher

No		Age	Year
<u>First Grade</u>			
1	Ernest Hanson	5	
2	Reuben Skadsem	6	1
3	Edward Waterworth	5	1
4	Richard Nelson	6	1
5	Paul Waterworth	6	1
6	Elizabeth "	10	1
7	Lenore Cook	5	1
8	Hilda Skadsem	8	1
9	Theodore Borsvold	10	1
<u>Second Grade</u>			
10	Arthur Skadsem		2
11	Leonard Borsvold	9	2
12	Carl Hanson	8	2
13	John Hanson	7	2
14	Gloyd Cook	7	2
15	Walter Nelson	12	2
<u>Third Grade</u>			
16	Esther Skadsem	13	3
17	Henry Borsvold	12	3
<u>Fourth Grade</u>			
18	Harold Johnson	9	4
19	Bernice Johnson	11	4
20	Edwin Nelson	9	4
<u>Fifth &amp; Sixth</u>			
21	Marie Nelson	11	
22	Ernest Borsvold	13	
23	Agnes Skadsem	14	
<u>Seventh &amp; Eighth</u>			
24	Nathie Borsvold	15	7

Commencing Sept. 15 1924,

and Ending April 17 1925

Myrtle Helgeland Teacher

Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year
1	Tilmer Blickey	8	1st
2	Ernest Borsvold	6	1st
3	Marie Nelson	6	12
4	Agnes Skadsem	6	15
5	Edwin Nelson	5	10
6	Esther Skadsem	11	14
7	Bernice Johnson	11	12
8	Harold Johnson	4	10
9	Henry Borsvold	4	13
10	Stanley Hahn	4	100
11	Carl Hanson	3	9
12	John Hanson	3	8
13	Walter Nelson	3	14
14	Leonard Borsvold	3	10
15	Valone Hahn	22	8
16	Hilda Skadsem	2	9
17	Arthur Skadsem	2	11
18	Theodore Borsvold	2	11
19	Elizabeth Waterworth	11	
20	Minnie Nelson	1	5
21	Evelyn Johnson	1	6
22	Reuben Skadsem	1	7
23	Ernest Hanson	1	6
24	Edward Waterworth	1	5
25	Richard Nelson	1	7
26	Edna Knutson	1	6
27	Paul Waterworth	1	7



Commencing Sept 14 1925, Commencing October 1926, and  
 End - May 7, 1926 End - May 20, 1927

Myrtle Helgeland-Teacher

Teacher - Minnie D. Carlson

Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year	Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year
<u>First Grade</u>				<u>First Grade</u>			
1	Edward Waterworth	7	1	1	Mervin Skadsem	7	1
2	Mervin Skadsem	6	1	2	George Nelson	7	1
3	Ruben Skadsem	8	1	3	William Waterworth	6	1
4	George Nelson	6	1	<u>Second Grade</u>			
<u>Second Grade</u>				4	Ruben Skadsem	9	2
5	Ernest Hanson	7	2	5	Edward Waterworth	8	2
6	Evelyn Johnson	7	2	<u>Third Grade</u>			
7	Edna Knutsen	6	2	6	Edna Knutsen	7	3
8	Minnie Nelson	7	2	7	Minnie Nelson	8	3
9	Paul Waterworth	8	2	8	Evelyn Johnson	8	3
<u>Third Grade</u>				9	Ernest Hanson	9	3
10	Elizabeth Waterworth	12	3	10	Paul Waterworth	9	3
11	Richard Nelson	10	3	<u>Fourth Grade</u>			
12	Thodore Bonsvold	13	3	11	Arthur Skadsem	14	4
<u>Fourth Grade</u>				12	Richard Nelson	10	4
13	Leonard Bonsvold	12	4	13	Thodore Bonsvold	14	4
14	Carl Hanson	10	4	<u>Fifth Grade</u>			
15	John Hanson	9	4	14	Walter Nelson	15	5
16	Walter Nelson	15	4	15	Henry Bonsvold	15	5
17	Hilda Skadsem	11	4	16	John Hanson	10	5
18	Arthur Skadsem	13	4	17	Carl Hanson	11	5
<u>Fifth Grade</u>				18	Hilda Skadsem	12	5
19	Henry Bonsvold	14	5	19	Leonard Bonsvold	13	5
20	Bernice Johnson	13	5	<u>Sixth Grade</u>			
21	Harold Johnson	12	5	20	Bernice Johnson	14	6
22	Edwin Nelson	12	5	21	Harold Johnson	13	6
<u>Sixth Grade</u>				22	Edwin Nelson	13	6
23	Marie Nelson	14	7	<u>Eight Grade</u>			
<u>By Herself</u>				23	Marie Nelson	15	8
24	Esther Skadsem	15					

Commencing Oct. 7, 1929, and Ending May 2, 1930

End May 2, 1930

Teacher Thorvald W. Jensen Thorvald W. Jensen Teacher

Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year
1	Clarence Hanson	8	1
2	Mervin Skadsen	10	1
3	Pearl Skadsen	8	1
4	Harold Nelson	7	1
5	Burnelle Nelson	8	1
6	Alfred Nelson	8	1
7	Arnon Waterworth	7	1
8	Iraddell Nelson	8	2
9	Merce Nelson	8	3
10	Carvel Liffland	9	3
11	Reuben Skadsen	12	4
12	William Waterworth	9	4
13	George Nelson	10	4
14	Ernest Hanson	12	5
15	Randall Nelson	10	5
16	Edward Waterworth	11	5
17	Uola Nelson	11	6
18	Paul Waterworth	12	6
19	Minnie Nelson	11	6
20	Richard Nelson	13	7
21	Hilda Skadsen	15	7
22	Carl Hanson	15	8
23	John Hanson	13	8

1930-1931

Gradation, Classification and S

Teacher - E. F. M. Myhrer

Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year
1	Lorraine Nelson	6	1
2	Charles Fisher	5	1
3	Sola Fisher	6	1
4	Wallace Johnson	6	1
5	Evereth Skadsen	6	1
6	Arnon Waterworth	9	1
7	Clarence Hanson	9	1
8	Ralph Hanson	8	1
9	Alfred Nelson	9	2
10	Burnelle Nelson	9	2
11	Pearl Skadsen	9	2
12	Mervin Skadsen	11	2
13	Iraddell Nelson	9	3
14	Carvel Liffland	10	4
15	Reuben Skadsen	13	4
16	Edward Waterworth	12	4
17	George Nelson	11	5
18	Ernest Hanson	13	5
19	William Waterworth	10	5
20	Minnie Nelson	12	7
21	Paul Waterworth	13	7
22	Richard Nelson	14	7
23	Carl Hanson	16	8
24	John Hanson	14	8



Elfie M. Myhren - Teacher

# Gradation, Classification and Standing for the year

Teacher: Elfie M. Myhren <sup>(Sept. 8, 1931)</sup> April 29, 1932

Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year	Month
1	Earl Waterworth	7	1	
2	Wallace Johnson		1	
3	Ralph Hanson		1	
4	Arne Hanson		1	
5	Evereth Skadsen		1	
6	Clarence Hanson		2	
7	Arson Waterworth		2	
8	Mervin Skadsen		2	
9	Lorraine Nelson		2	
10	Charles Fisher		2	
11	Iola Fisher		2	
12	Burnell Nelson		3	
13	Alfred Nelson		3	
14	Earl Skadsen		3	
15	Wadell Nelson		4	
16	Ruben Skadsen		5	
17	Garvel Hillund		6	
18	George Nelson		6	
19	Ernest Hanson		6	
20	William Waterworth		6	
21	Edward Waterworth		8	
22	Paul Waterworth		8	
23	Minnie Nelson		8	
24	Richard Nelson		8	
25	John Hanson		8	

1933 To May 15, 1934					Music	Estimated
Number	NAME OF PUPIL	Age	Year			
1	Earl Hanson	6	1			
2	Boulah Nelson	6	1			
3	Ellen Ostby	6	1			
4	Evereth Skadsen	8	1			
5	Ellen Skadsen	6	1			
6	Arne Hanson	8	2			
7	Earl Waterworth	8	2			
8	Ralph Hanson	10	3			
9	Wallace Johnson	9	3			
10	Vergil Melo	9	3			
11	Mervin Skadsen	15	3			
12	Arson Waterworth	11	3			
13	Charles Fisher	8	4			
14	Iola Fisher	9	4			
15	Clarence Hanson	11	4			
16	Lorraine Nelson	8	4			
17	Alfred Nelson	12	5			
18	Burnell Nelson	11	5			
19	Pearl Skadsen	11	5			
20	Wadell Nelson	11	6			
21	Hartson Melo	13	7			
22	George Nelson	14	7			
23	Martin Nelson	14	8			
24	Paul Waterworth	16	8			
25	William Waterworth	12	8			
26	Doris Ethel	13	8			
27	Doris Lorraine	11	5			
28	Larson, Ellen	7	2			

Term began Sept 3 1934; closed May 10 1935 District No. 146

Mrs. E. Evans, the Street Teacher

[illegible]



No. 1947-1948 NAME

Sex Age Grade

Mrs. Frances Cook, Teacher

1	Hanson, Floyd	M	14	8
2	Nelson, Joan	F	13	8
3	Hanson, Alfred	M	12	7
4	Magner, Beatrice	F	13	7
5	Magner, Layford	M	15	7
6	Hanson, Clara	F	11	6
7	Nelson, Marian	F	11	6
8	Lindquist, Marjorie	F	10	5
9	Bengtson, Lloyd	M	11	4
10	Magner, Donald	M	10	4
11	Nelson, Janice	F	9	4
12	Nelson, Marvin	M	10	4
13	Nelson, Ronald	M	7	2
14	Nelson, Vernon	M	6	1
15	Bengtson, Vernon	M	16	8
16	Hoffman, Anna			
17	Ekman, Ardelle	F	11	6
18	Ginter, Darlene	F		2

1949- 1950

JoAnn Benitt Teacher Age Grade

Ardelle Ekman	13	8
Clara Hanson	13	8
Marian Nelson	13	8
Marjorie Lindquist	12	7
Lloyd Bengtson	13	6
Donald Magner	12	6
Janice Nelson	11	6
Marvin O. Nelson	12	6
Darlene Ginter	10	4
Ronald NELSON	9	4
Loretta Lee	9	3
Vernon Nelson	8	3
Leroy Ginter	7	2
Marlin Lee	7	2
Gene Magner	8	2
Laurel Tveten	11	6

No. 1948-49 NAME

Sex Age Grade

Mrs. Gladys Johnson, Teacher

1	Hanson, Alfred	M	13	8
2	Magner, Beatrice	F	14	8
3	Ekman, Ardelle	F	12	7
4	Hanson, Clara	F	12	7
5	Nelson, Marian	F	12	7
6	Lindquist, Marjorie	F	11	6
7	Bengtson, Lloyd	M	12	5
8	Magner, Donald	M	11	5
9	Nelson, Janice	F	10	5
10	Nelson, Marvin	M	11	5
11	Ginter, Darlene	F	9	2
12	Nelson, Ronald	M	8	2
13	Lee, Loretta	F	8	2
14	Nelson, Vernon	M	7	2
15	Ginter, Leroy	M	6	1
16	Johnson, Judith Ann	F	5	1
17	Lee, Marvin	M	6	1
18	Magner, Gene	M	7	1
19	Tveten, Laurel		10	5

No. Teacher: NAME Dist. 140 1950-1951

Mrs. JoAnn Benitt Larson

Sex Age Grade

1	Lindquist, Marjorie	F	13	8
2	Bengtson, Lloyd	M	14	7
3	Magner, Donald	M	13	7
4	Nelson, Janice	F	12	7
5	Nelson, Marvin	M	13	7
6	Tveten, Laurel	F	11	7
7	Lee, Leroy	M	11	6
8	Nelson, Ronald	M	10	5
9	Lee, Loretta	F	9	4
10	Nelson, Vernon	M	9	4
11	Lee, Carolyn	F	8	3
12	Lee, Marlin	M	8	3
13	Magner, Gene	M	9	20
14	Lee, Donna	F	6	1
15	Nelson, Betty	F	6	1

SCHOOL CLOSED AFTER THE 1950-1951 Term.

School Name and No. Goodwill #140 County Macomb  
 School house located in District No. 140 County Macomb  
 NOTE: Read carefully all directions on opposite page before filling in any of this report. After filling in report, count children by sex and age and fill in and sign certificate. The tabulations must be filled in.

NAME	SEX	Date of Birth				Age	M	F	P	V	NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN	POST OFFICE
		M	F	Month	Day	Year						
1 Bengtson, Arnel	M	Apr	1	29	20	21	X				Bengtson Ben	Macomb
2 " Vernon	M	Aug	13	31	18		X	✓			"	"
3 " Lloyd	M	Feb	29	36	13		P				"	"
4 Ekman, Richard	M	Apr	12	33	16	3	P	✓			Ekman Victor	"
5 " Ardelle	F	Jan	1	36	13		P				"	"
6 Fisher, Burton	M	Jan	14	29	20	24	P	✓			Fisher Ben	"
7 " Esther	F	Oct	6	30	18		P	✓			"	"
8 Farland Joyce	F	Nov	3	30	18	3	P	✓			Farland Rachel	"
9 " Sheldon	M	Jul	9	33	16		P	✓			"	"
10 Linther, Evelyn	F	Dec	31	39	9	1/2	P				Linther Melvin	"
11 " Leroy	M	Aug	18	42	7		P				"	"
12 " Donna	F	Oct	15	45	3		X				"	"
13 Hansen, Beulah	F	Apr	1	29	20	13	N	✓			Hansen Mrs. Lena	"
14 " Bernice	M	Jan	30	31	18		X	✓			"	"
15 " Lloyd	M	Feb	24	33	16		P	✓			"	"
16 " Alfred	M	Nov	25	34	14		P	✓			"	"
17 " Clara	F	Jul	31	36	13		P				"	"
18 Johnson Joyce	F	Jul	24	29	20	1/2	X	✓			Johnson Leroy	"
19 Lee, Louella	F	Nov	17	40	8	1/2	P				Lee Melvin	"
20 " Martin	M	Aug	11	42	7		P				"	"
21 " Donna	F	Oct	16	44	4		X				"	"
22 Lindquist Helen	F	Jan	7	33	16	1/2	P	✓			Lindquist Halge	"
23 " Marjorie	F	May	12	37	12		P				"	"
24 " David	M	Feb	8	48	1		X				"	"
25 Magner Cecil	M	Sep	23	28	20	2	X				Magner Helen	"
26 " Arlin	M	Aug	6	30	19		X				"	"
27 " Gaylord	M	Jul	6	32	17		X				"	"
28 " Beatrice	F	Jan	15	34	15		P	✓			"	"
29 " Donald	M	Dec	6	36	12		P				"	"
30 " Gene	M	Sep	5	41	7		P				"	"
31 " Opal	F	May	3	46	3		X				"	"
32 Nelson Marvin	M	Sep	10	37	11	3	P				Nelson Lollie	"
33 " Delores	F	Apr	4	30	19	1/2	X	✓			Nelson Dela C.	"
34 " Joan	F	Sep	4	34	14		P	✓			"	"
35 " Marian	F	Aug	15	36	13		P				"	"
36 " Janice	F	Jul	22	38	11		P				"	"
1 Nelson Vernon	M	Jan	8	41	8	1/2	P				Nelson Dela C.	Macomb
2 " Gary	M	Oct	5	45	3		X				"	"
3 " Jerome	M	Sep	24	47	1		X				"	"
4 " Roger	M	Dec	12	47	1		X				"	"
5 Nelson Robert	M	Oct	28	29	19	1/2	X	✓			Nelson Chas. E.	"
6 " Evelyn	F	May	4	29	20	1/2	X				Nelson Chester	"
7 " Donald	M	Jul	5	40	9		P				"	"
8 " Betty Lou	F	Apr	21	44	5		X				"	"
9 Zieton, Emma	F	Apr	25	30	19	3	X	✓			Zieton Nelson	"
10 " Arlene	F	Sep	14	34	15		P	✓			"	"
11 " Laurel	F	Mar	6	38	10		P				"	"



## Names of Members of School Board Elected or Appointed.

NAME	OFFICE	ELECTED OR APPOINTED				TERMS EXPIRE		
		Elected or Appointed	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
Ole Berg	Treasurer	Elected	July		15	July	31	1918
Ole S. Hadsorn	Chairman	Appointed	Sept	28	16	July	31	1917
L. S. Knutson	Clerk	Appointed	July	6	1917	"	31	1917
Ole Johnson	Chairman	Elected	July	21	1917	July	31	1920
L. S. Knutson	Clerk	Elected	July	21	1917	July	31	1919
Ole Berg	Treasurer	Elected	"	20	1918	"	31	1920
Hartvig Hanson	Clerk	Appointed	June	17	1919	"	"	1919
Hartvig Hanson	"	Elected	July	19	1919	"	"	1922
Hans Burenvold	Chairman	"	"	17	1920	"	"	1922
Ole G. Berg	Treasurer	"	"	16	1921	"	"	1922
Hartvig Hanson	Clerk	"	"	15	1922	"	"	1922

45

## Names of Members of School Board Elected or Appointed.

NAME	OFFICE	ELECTED OR APPOINTED				TERMS EXPIRE		
		Elected or Appointed	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
Ole G. Berg	Treasurer	Elected	July	15	1930	July		1933
Hartvig Hanson	Clerk	"	"	"	"	"		1931
"	"	"	"	21	1931	"		1934
Ben Fisher	Treasurer	Elected	July	18	1933	July		1936
Helge Lindquist	Clerk	Elected	July	17	1934	July		1937
Adolph Nelson	Chairman	Elected	July	19	1932	July	16	1935

## Our Weekly Report

Feb. 1, 1934

Editor - Laura Larson

Assistant Editor - Bernice Bengtson

Reporters - All

### News

This school sold \$3.10  
worth of Christmas seals.

Della and Lloyd and Gale  
were absent on Wednesday

On Thursday Feb. 1 every  
one was present at school

On Monday January  
29, 1934. All the children  
of school district No. 104  
were absent because the  
bus could not come.

Gale was absent on Monday

### Future Ambitions

Morris - Bachelor

Bernice - Teacher

Leonard - Father's Helper

Darlene - Teacher

Blanche - Teacher

Lester - Farmer

Laura - Teacher

Harriet - Teacher

Elders - Farmers

Della - Teacher

M/young - girls

Hub - Cowboy

John - Cowboy

Lloyd - taxidermist

Lilla - Farmer

(Continued on page 2)



page 2

## News

News

News

Bernice Bengtson had her birthday on Monday January 29th

Morris Blackberg fell and hurt himself on Monday.

On Tuesday Jan. 30, 1934 Jess Taylor came back to school after a long absence because of sickness.

On Monday morning Jan. 29, 1934 it was 46 degrees below zero.

(Continued on page 3)

## Grade News

Teacher read the story about George Washington to the first and second grade for language on Monday.

The first and second grade made each a valentine after their language class on Tuesday.

Morris knew his reading lesson very well on Wednesday.

In Arithmetic the second grade are working addition problems with carrying.

(Continued on page 3)

News

Harriet Larson stayed with Della Larson on Thursday night.

Made news

The second grade completed their booklets this week. They will now use them for reading out of in the afternoon reading period.

The eighth grade are now studying Snowbound by Whittier

The following had one hundred in spelling on Fri.

Leonard Bengtson	Darleen Bengtson
Morris Blackberg	Elden Taylor
Gale Edsen	Tolly Junheim
Lester Larson	Laura Larson
Blanche Blackberg	Bernice Bengtson
Jess Taylor	



page 4.

## Poems

The 4th to 8th grades  
wrote poems. The 3 following  
poems were considered the best.

### The Eskimo

#### I

In the north is a house of snow  
Lives the man called the Eskimo  
He lives by hunting Walrus and  
seal.  
To give his family every meal.

#### II

In this cold land there's not a tree  
O how awful that must be!  
And hardly a single plant  
will grow.  
And yet he's happy! the Eskimo

By Bernice Benington

## Little Citizens League

On Tuesday Jan. 30 our  
Little Citizens League met.  
The following helpers  
were elected:

Washing Boards - Della  
Passing Waste Basket - Leonard  
Hanging up wraps - Myron  
Dusting Erasers - Elden  
Emptying pitchers - Lloyd  
Carrying wood - Lollef.

(continued on page 5)

Boerme  
The Eskimo

I

I will tell about the Eskimo  
who lives in the land of ice  
and snow.

That land is very, very cold!  
I think the Eskimo is very bold

II

And the house of the Eskimo  
is made of ice and snow.  
And the dogs, I have heard said  
pull the Eskimo's sled.

By Darleen Bengtson  
Eskimos

I

From the land of ice and snow  
comes little frosty Eskimo.

II

In fact he is dressed so fine!  
He waits for summer time.

III

In water he uses his kayak.

When he gets out he puts it on his  
back

Eileen Taylor



## Opdahl Cemetery – New Maine

The only cemetery in New Maine is located in the NE1//4 of Section 17. Stener Blinsmon lived here and he gave a corner of his land for the cemetery. Stener was a great grandfather to Barry Nelson.

The cemetery was named after the place in Norway where many of the settlers came from – Opdaal, Numedal, Norway.

The first grave was the Anton Borgen baby girl, Clara Borgen, three weeks old. The Borgens left New Maine Township in 1902 along with the Halvor Nelson family. Anton Borgen was a grandfather to Ernest Nelson.

We were told that the first grave in the cemetery before it was bought from Steiner was Mrs. Kittle Lillegard. There were ten more buried there before it was officially bought from Stener.

The Opdahl Cemetery was pretty much a forgotten cemetery until 1968 when Hannah Larson got the idea to write letters to the people who had relatives buried there. With the help of Oscar and Nellie Skadsem and others. Then they had about three or four bake sales to raise money to put a fence around it. Then a group of neighbors and relatives mowed and keep the cemetery looking nice. Later on we hired some help. Orville Skadsem, Andy and Josh Larson do the mowing now.

The secretary and treasurer for the cemetery were:

68 – 70	Jeannette Magner	Treasurer
	Richard Larson	Secretary
71 – 81	Oscar Skadsem	Secretary
	Vernice Larson	Treasurer
82 – 84	Dale Magner	Secretary
	Vernice Larson	Treasurer
85 – 98	Sybil Peterson	Secretary
	Vernice Larson	Treasurer
99-present	Alfreda Bach	Secretary
	Vernice Larson	Treasurer

*Submitted by Vernice Larson*

## New Maine History - Bowery Dancers

Bowery dancers entertained many back in the depression years.

Albert Larson lived in the NW1/4 of Section 11 where Tim Nelson lives now. They had many bowery dances there. Lunch stands were set up to sell lunches. Mrs. Hjalmer Lee took care of the lunch and Mrs. Alfred Lee helped her.

Sometimes local musicians played and sometimes they hired bands from Grand Forks & etc. (Ollaf Roisun Band). A platform was made for the musician and sides were built up around the dance floor.

There were many local musicians. All of the Lars Larson boys played instruments - Andrew, Albert, Alfred and their cousins the Kittel Knutsons - Knute, K. Sam and another cousin Knute O. Knutson. They all played together in a band. They played clarinets, trumpets and violins. Mrs. Lars Larson and Mrs. Kittel Knutson were sisters. Note: Donald Larson and Barry Nelson and Mrs. Harold Lee (all New Maine Board members) had relatives in this band.

The Hartvig Hanson family were very musical. Alson Burnelle Nelson from the Halvor Nelson family. The older Hansons were Carl, John and Ernest.

The Tunheim family were also musical plus I'm sure many others I've forgotten.

*Submitted by Vernice Larson*





## New Maine 4-H

In the fall or winter of 1960, Harlem Sandberg (who was then Marshall county 4-H agent) came to the New Maine Town Hall and met with the New Maine Town Board to discuss starting a 4-H Club in New Maine Township. At that time, Arnold Larson, Ray Chapman and Norman Ueland were members of the town board. (I'm sorry I can't remember who the other town board members were.) Mr Sandberg also visited with Ted and Gladys Anderson (who had recently moved to New Maine). He wanted them to help with starting a 4-H Club here because they had been involved with a 4-H Club near Stephen before moving here. Most of the rest of us had never been in 4-H and knew little about how to get a club started.

Anyway, most of the people around here seemed interested, so a meeting was called to organize a 4-H Club. Mrs. Ted Anderson consented to be our first Key Leader; Arnold Larson, Ray Chapman and Bernice Ueland were chosen to help her as Assistant Leaders. Marlene Ueland was the first president of the club (but I can't remember who the other officers were).

Everybody "dug in" and helped and we had a great time getting the club going. We decided to call it the New Maine 4-H Club. The club still goes by that name even though they now meet at the Newfolden Community Center and the larger percent of the members no longer live in New Maine. I am proud that we had a part in getting this club started. Today it is one of the largest clubs in Marshall County. Many of the members earn trips to the state fair every and do well there also.

The following are notes from the club secretary's report. The second year would have been in 1962. *"We have now finished our second as a 4-H Club. We now have an enrollment of 24 which is five more this year. The one's joining this year are Sybill Larson, William Engen, Dean Anderson, Ricky Ellingson and DeVere Chapman. Our officers this year are President - Merlin Anderson, Vice President - DeVere Chapman, Treasurer - Donald Larson, Reporter - Shirley Lokstad, and Secretary - Cathy Moen. One member of our club participated in the Radio Speaking Contest. She was Helen Mattson. She placed third in the contest. For 4-H Week, our club put up a display in the Newfolden Fairway Store. In February we planned and decided to put on a play. In April we had a bake and rummage sale to raise money for our trip to Morden, Canada. Our sale was a success! We took in \$59.00. In March and April we were busy practicing for our play, "Pig of My Dreams." The members of the cast were: Eldor Engen, Jr., Jonie Gillund, Shirley Lokstad, Cathie Moen and Merlin Anderson. The directors of the play were: DeVere Chapman, Mrs. Ueland and Mrs. Ted Anderson. The student manger was Marlene Ueland, with the other 4-H members as helpers. We took second place at the sub-final contest. We had four acts in the Share the Fun Contest. The Gillund girls - a song, Leola Chapman and Beverly Mattson - a song, Shirley Lokstad - a trumpet solo and a musical skit by DeVere Chapman, Ricky Ellingson and Merlin Anderson. Two acts went on to county finals. Shirley's trumpet solo and the musical skit by DeVere, Ricky and Merlin. We are very proud of their "Darky Act" which came out second in the county. Our 4-H club did well in softball this year. We came in second losing to the winning team by only one point at the county 4-H picnic. Our club brought twenty entries to the fair this year with eleven members taking part.*

*Submitted by Bernice Ueland*

## Some Former New Maine Residents

### **Ted & Gladys Anderson**

Ted and Gladys Anderson moved with their four children from the Stephen/Salem area in 1955. Their oldest and only daughter was a senior that year. It did not take long before her talents would be enjoyed by the people of Newfolden. Vivian and Ted did a lot of singing together at events. Their three sons were Myron, Merlin and Mark. They all attended school in Newfolden. 4-H and church were activities for the Anderson family. They left the farm and moved to Warren following Merlin and Mark's graduation in 1964. Mark was killed in Viet Nam in 1967. Vivian lives in East Grand Forks, Myron in Thief River Falls and Merlin in Maui.

### **Fred & Esther Becklund**

Lived in Section 16. She was a daughter of Ole and Sophie Skadsem. They had one daughter Lucille.

### **Walter & Hilda Becklund**

Dad, Walter, cut wood for Oscar Amundson for fifty cents a day.

Hilda Skadsem, daughter of Ole Skadsem was born in New Maine on January 28, 1915 and married Walter Becklund in 1933. They had three children, Raymond, Donna Mae, and Eugene.

Raymond was born in a log house in New Maine township in March 17, 1933. He married Wilma Stone and had three children. Terry lives in Montanna, LeJean, Bobbi, and Lori live in Sheridan, Wyoming. Justin is married to Donna Wilkins and has two children, Patricia and Lenord, both live in Gillette, Wyoming. Raymond passed away in 1995. Raymond lived in New Maine Township until 1962.

Donna Mae was also born in the log house in New Maine. She married Richard Odberg in 1957 and had six children (See Richard & Donna Odberg).

Eugene married Fae Tagget. They have three children, Lisa, Ryan and Brittany. They all live in Redwood Falls, Minnesota.

Hilda lived in New Maine from birth until she passed away in 1985. Walter died in 1991.

My Dad bought my mother, Hilda, her first pair of new shoes from the National Bella Hanes catalog. They went to Newfolden for the fourth of July and it rained a lot and the soles fell right off.

My mother was at the Old Mill for the creamery picnic when she went into labor with me. They got her back home and Dr. Johnson delivered me and then filled out the birth certificate and put my last name as Hendrickson. Mother caught that just in time to get it changed to Becklund. My brother, Raymond and I walked through the woods to go to visit Albert and Clara Larson and then we would get coffee in a little cup with cookies. What a treat that was.

There was no television, no phone, no lights, so when we would go visiting we would play games and the parents would play cards or just sit around and talk.

When my brother Raymond was in the Navy we had to drive to town to Agnes Bakke's and wait for his call, she had the switch board there.

*Submitted by Donna Odberg*



**Tilmer Blackberg**

Tilmer Blackberg lived in Section 7. He was a world war II veteran. In later years Tilmer raised llamas on his farm.

**Troy & Lola Birch**

Lived in Section 26. Their children are Priscilla and Aquila.

**Alton & Agnes Carlson**

Alton and Agnes Carlson moved to the Newfolden area in 1953 from Holt where they owned the bank. In 1959 they moved the bank as well from Holt to Newfolden. In 1962, Alton and Agnes bought a farmstead and land from Clarence Jorgenson in Section 36, New Maine Township and lived there until they passed away. After the Marshall County State Bank and Agnes' insurance agency to Gene Beito, they spent the following years fishing at Lake of the Woods and doing some traveling. They were especially glad to do those activities with their kids and grandkids. Alton enjoyed woodworking and made very interesting cribbage boards and Agnes continued to play organ and piano.

Their children are Karen, John, Mark and Kristi. Karen is married to Sig Christiansen, and currently lives in Seguin, Texas where she is an RN and he has been Choral Director at Texas Lutheran. They are in the process of relocating to the Pacific Northwest. Their children are Sten, Fargo; Leah, Minneapolis, and Lis Anna, Minneapolis.

John lives and is in business in Dilworth Minnesota.

Mark is married to Betty Carlson and they live on Alton and Agnes' place. Mark is Head Start Director at Northwest Community Action and Betty is an RN who teaches at Northland Community and Technical College. Their children are Seth, Fargo; Sarah, Newfolden; and Christopher and Charles, UND students.

Kristi is married to Ken Carlson and they live in Spokane, Washington where they both teach elementary education. Their children are Kirsten and Eric, Missoula, Montana.

Agnes Beata passed away in May 1991. Alton Woodrow passed away in September 1992.

*Submitted by Mark Carlson*

**Ray Chapman**

1956 or 1957 Ray started working at the produce station I Newfolden. He worked there eleven years. He tested and bought cream and eggs from all the farmers in the area. We still have his cream testing license.

Shortly after the produce station closed Ray started working at Newfolden Coop Elevator. He worked there for eleven years also. He was forced to retire in 1978 because of congestive heart failure. Not being able to work was the worst possible thing for him. Ray passed away on October 10, 1979.

*Submitted by Darleen Chapman*

### **Art & Alice Ellingson**

"Art and Alice moved to New Maine in 1934 with children Phyliss, Duane, Marrilynn, Morgan Charles was the first born in New Maine and then came Arlene, DeLoy, Gordon, Sharon and Richard (who passed away in 1998) and one infant deceased. Art worked for the Great Northern for 25 years and with Collins Construction until his retirement. They continued to farm, have cattle and a huge garden all during this time. To this family were added 36 grandchildren (2 deceased) 50 great grandchildren, 6 great great grandchildren and 6 step great great grandchildren. Two sons-in-law have passed away. Art passed away in March 1980 and Alice in June 1997.

### **Eldor & Pearl Engen**

Eldor and Pearl Engen and family moved to New Maine Township from Spruce Valley Township in 1957, to forty acres they purchased from Emma Stavee.

Eldor worked road construction until 1960 and then operated the county road maintainer. He retired in 1985.

Pearl worked five years at Marshall County Central School. She was a member of the Bethlehem Ladies Aid, a leader for many years of the New Maine 4-H. She enjoyed making and selling crafts.

Eldor and Pearl raised ten children, Judy, Eldor Jr., Robert, Laurie, William, Mark, Carolyn, Bradley, Jolene, Danny.

Because of health reasons, Eldor and Pearl moved to East Grand Forks in 1992. Eldor passed away December 1994. Pearl passed away February 1996.

The farm is now owned by Grandson Wayne Engen.

### **Ben & Selma (Shefveland) Fisher**

Ben and Selma lived in Section 32. Their children are Iola Rokke who lives in Thief River Falls; Charles, lives in Annandale, Minnesota; Buirton, lives in Phoenix, Arizona; Esther Braafladt who lives in Seattle, Washington. The Fisher house was moved into Newfolden and is where Senora Elseth now lives. The white barn was moved to the Ekman Brothers farm. Ben worked at Marshall County Mutual Insurance as a Director and Treasurer from 1936 until 1957. Selma taught school in New Maine before she was married. Ben served on the school board. Their daughter, Iola Rokke taught Vacation Bible School in New Maine.

### **Maynard and Joan Garfve**

Maynard and Joan lived in Section 26. Maynard died July 5, 1977. Joan now lives in Dimock, South Dakota. Their children are Terry who died June 14, 1967, Diane Panek who lives in Alpina, South Dakota, Timothy who died on November 5, 1982 and Todd who lives in Thief River Falls.

### **Carvel & Ruby Gillund**

Lived in Section 35. Carvel is the son of Berhard Gillund and Palma Scramstad. Ruby was the daughter of Hjalmer Garfve and Bella Tunheim. They have three children Gerald, Janice and Jonette. Carvel and Ruby purchased their farm in 1948. Carvel was a member of the New Maine Town Board for many years. Carvel now lives in Newfolden.



**Ralph A. & Frances Hahn**

Lived in Section 6. Their children are Carol, Margaret, Mary, Steven, Emily, Joanne, Paul, Robert, Theresa, Gregory, Bernadette, Helen, Dean, Karen and Angela.

**Hartvig Hanson Family**

Hartvig and Tena Hanson had thirteen children. Their names are: Carl, John, Ernest, Adella, Clarence, Ralph, Arnie, Earl, Beulah, Bennie, Floyd, Alfred and Clara. Hartvig moved to New Maine in the early 1900s.

"Our mom, (formerly) Tena Anderson was a teacher in this school around 1914. My dad was on the school board and mom was staying with the Johnson family which was just one quarter of a mile away and Dad would pick her up and gave her a ride to school. And they ended up getting married. Mom was only 19 years old when she taught the first year and had students that were as old as her. She had been told before accepting the job that the kids were hard to handle. She was only 5'4" tall and some of the boys were 6', but she says the first report card she gave them all an "A" in deportment and it seems that the kids appreciated that so much that they all tried to live up to it so she didn't have any problems there after. We had to walk 1-3/4 miles to school and sometimes it seemed uphill both ways. We spoke Scandinavian at home so had to learn a new language.

We have many good memories of New Maine and the school and are thankful for the town board and everyone in planning it and for putting on this celebration.

*Submitted by Earl Hanson*

**George & Jenny Johnson**

Lived in section 21. They moved to New Maine in 1922 and lived there for 63 years. George died in 1965 and Jenny died in 1988. Their children are Wallace who lives in Greenbush, Joyce Steenerson of Henderson, Nevada. All of Joyce's children, David, Brad, Gerene, Jim and Maret, live in the State of Washington. Wallace has four children.

**Ole & Martha Johnson**

Ole and Martha had eleven children, Bert who died at nine months, Bert, Minnie Fuhs, Hilda Bach, George, Elmer, Oscar, Adella Lindquist, Bernice Hoberg, Harold and Evelyn Elseth. Martha was midwife. She owned a hotel in Newfolden after she moved from New Maine. Martha enjoyed listening to wrestling on the radio. The children attended school in New Maine. Evelyn Elseth who now lives in Thief River Falls remembers the school children running and sliding in their overshoes among the cattails. Their home was south of the Hartvig Hanson home.

**John & Hannah Lee**

John and Hannah Lee's children are Julie Blinsmon, died March 11, 1986, Clara Larson, died January 13, 1979, Hjalmer, died September 10, 1980, Alfred died October 14, 1973, Invald died December 30, 1963, Johnny died January 4, 1992, Henry died July 20, 1932, Melvin, died September 30, 1996, and Myrtle Lund died November 13, 1999.

### **Melvin & Hilma Lee**

They lived in Section 20. They have three children, daughters, Loretta Berggren, Donna Tunheim and son, Marlin. Melvin grew up in New Maine Township and married Hilma Strand in 1940. He worked on the railroad. They moved to town in 1966. Robbie Anderson now lives on that place.

### **Gunnar and Adella (Johnson) Lindquist**

Gunnar and Adella started married life on the then called "Big Farm" five miles north of Newfolden. This is where Richard Larson lives today. It was here their two sons Milton (deceased) and Lester were both born.

In the early 1930's they moved two miles south (across the road from Donald Peterson) to a small farm across the road from his brother Helge.

It was here that Milton was starting his fourth grade and Lester his second grade when they moved to Newfolden in September 1937.

### **Hans J. & Alice Lokstad**

Hans Johannes Lokstad was born February 8, 1893 in New Folden Township. He was the son of John and Elen Lokstad who had immigrated from Norway in 1888. Hans purchased the NW1/2 of the NW1/4 of section 27 on December 24, 1920. He later built the house which was ordered from Sears and Roebuck as was the garage he built. He paid for the house by selling beaver pelts.

On October 16, 1937 Hans purchased the SE1/4 of the SW1/4 of section 22 from the State of Minnesota. On August 31, 1945 he purchased the NE1/4 of the SW1/4 of section 22.

Hans married Alice Maki on April 20, 1943. She was the daughter of Herman and Helen Maki. They had three children, Lois "Jean" Benish who lives in Tobaccoville, NC. Lolly (as we call her) has one son, Bill Benish. Shirley (Gene) Schoenfeld lives in LaCrosse, WI. Sally (as we call her) has two children, Anthony Lofstrom and Karen Langaard.

Hans sold insurance for Marshall County Mutual Insurance. He passed away in April 1967. Alice was a housewife and homemaker until 1976 when she began working for Arctic Enterprises, Inc. in Thief River Falls. She was later employed by Green Thumb and worked at the Newfolden Elementary School until failing health forced her to retire. Alice loved to play the piano and sing and was always willing to share her music. Alice died on June 22, 1994.

*Submitted by Judy Lokstad*

" I remember walking to the barn in the evening, using a lantern. We did not have electricity until 1949, I believe. We had a large clear kerosene lamp in the kitchen, where the light was the brightest.

In the late 50s, we got an oil furnace. Dad stood over one of the blowers, and was as happy as I had ever seen him. He had spent all his life getting up at night to feed the wood stove, and chopping it for the next year. Now, as an older man, he could rest a bit and be so warm.

After the wood stoves were stoked up in the morning, Dad (& Mom) went out to milk the cows. They brought the milk into the kitchen in the milk pails. They poured the milk into the separator, and started turning the handle. The cream came



out the small spout, the milk came out the larger spout. The separator was washed thoroughly, and put back together.

Meanwhile, the woodstove in the kitchen was pretty warm, and we kids were up, huddling next to the stove to warm up. The reservoir for water was also quite warm. Oatmeal was cooking. The cream was brought into the creamery in town, located near the bridge on the west side of town.

One morning a car came screaming into our driveway. Taylor's barn was burning, and our house was the closest house with a telephone. Quickly the handle was turned one long for the operator, who then got the fire department. It was too late, but we tried.

Anytime we wanted to call our neighbors, we would have to call the number of rings that was theirs. It was a party line, so your business was personal, only if you did not hear anyone else on the party line pick up the line. Our number was two long.

Birthdays were special. John, Otelia, and Ingvard Lokstad would be there on THE date of the birthday. The weather wasn't much of an issue, after all, they were northern Minnesotans, whose parents came south (from north of the Arctic Circle) to live there. There was always a gift and a cake or ice cream brought along.

Ice cream was a treat. For birthdays John brought a half gallon. On rare occasions, Dad would buy a pint, and we would slice it into 5 slices, right away, as we did not always have a refrigerator. Other real treats were a can of pork and beans with a package of hot dogs (2 hotdogs each), or white bread with butter and summer sausage. We put the butter in the windowsill to keep it cool, and the watermelon would go in the basement, if some were left over. Frozen foods could be kept outside in the winter, of course.

Social occasions for the women would be 'visiting' in the afternoon over coffee. Just show up, and there would always be coffee, and cake and/or cookies. Dad would drive into town most morning, and have coffee."

*Submitted by Jean (Lois Lokstad) Benish*

"Two things I remember about 4-H is when Janice Olson and I sang "Lazy Bones" dressed up in hillbilly-like clothes - I think in the gym in Middle River. Then we also practiced softball at Ueland's mostly and Ronnie Ueland was our coach. He made it fun and we learned a lot from him. It gave me confidence to play again in a Dairyland Power ball team in Wadena in 1967 or 68 and I dared to pitch and play first base, probably because of what I learned from Ronnie.

I remember Vernice Larson - she was a good motivator and a lot of fun, as was Bernice Ueland and Gladys Anderson. We also played softball over at Andersons. Those are some of the best times in my life. It was fun for our family and the Sathers. I think part of this really made us kids good friends. My granddaughters are in 4-H in Westby, Wisconsin and have been in contests raising pigs and making pictures, etc."

*Submitted by Shirley(Lokstad) Schoenfeld*

### **Ingvard Lokstad**

Ingvard, a brother to Hans, owned land in Section 27. Although, especially in later years, he lived at his childhood home in New Folden Township, Ingvard had a one-room house on his land. He planted many fruit trees on Lokstad land.

## **Oliver Lokstad**

Oliver, also a brother to Hans, owned the land in Section 27 which was later purchased by Ted and Mabel Tunheim. Oliver spent many years in Idaho after he left New Maine.

## **Glen Magner Family**

This was written by Joyce Magner and read by Cindy Borg for Glen and Agnes' fiftieth wedding anniversary.

In the spring a young man's fancy turns to love, and that's just what happened on March 28, 1928 when Glen Magner asked Agnes Skadsem to be his bride. I am so glad it all turned out to be – or I wouldn't be here the oldest granddaughter on the family tree.

They traveled to Ray, Colorado – Oh! Agnes thought Glen was quite the fellow!

From there to Hoople, North Dakota they did go – to work on the Ginter's land – Agnes as cook and Glen as hired man.

It was there the first son was born – they named him Cecil LaVern. Now they both had lots of thing to learn --- and learn fast they had to do for two years later Orlin Harold joined the crew.

Before he was born to her folks in Minnesota Agnes did go – for to have the baby at home she'd do if she could – after all the doctor charged only two cords of wood.

Then back to Hoople and the Knute Aaland and Folsom farms – Agnes recalls moving 13 time in one year. Hoople was a very productive land in more ways than one, for two years later they had another son. Gaylord became his name.

That fall they decided to Minnesota they would move and settled in New Maine Township. The money was scarce and the house wasn't the best – and I'm sure with three active boys there wasn't much rest.

In 1934 again there came a knocking on the Magner door – finally a baby girl! They called her Beatrice Sylvia LaBelle – she was named after a flour, the kind you eat and not the kind you smell.

Glen worked on the railroad and for the WPA – helped to build the gym on the old school – where the little kids play.

Donald Lloyd was born in December of 1936 – a chubby little fellow who was always full of tricks.

He was joined in 1941 by another, Gene Roger. The total was now five boys, but only one daughter.

The kids only wore shoes during the very coldest weather, it's no wonder their feet became as tough as leather.

The children their own toys they did make. Remember the time they almost burned poor Donny at the stake. A teepee they had made in the woods and were having fun roasting ma's chickens - - Oh my they sure were full of the dickens!

Roping and riding the calves was another good sport and it seems like someone was always building a fort. They always found something interesting to play – especially when the Olson boys (Kenny & Keith) came to stay.

On Saturday night you'd often see them go to town to the picture show. It was always a big treat when the Melo boys set up their motion pictures on the street. Bud Abbott and Lou Costella were famous at the time as were the Hardy Boys and Andy Divine.



Last, but not least, Opal was born in 1946. She was so cute with cheeks like a rose and one or two freckles on her nose.

Agnes has always been good to cook and bake – especially her chocolate cake. Her potato dumplings are everyone's favorite dish, and if invited for dinner you sure hate to miss.

Glen loves to hunt the fox and deer and of the woods he has no fear. His dogs he keeps close to the road for everyone to see – they sure aren't much to look at if you ask me.

Agnes has made pancakes every morning for Glen – you'd think he'd like something different now and then. In doing a little calculating I find by eating an average of two pancakes a day for fifty years, that's a total of 36,500 pancakes. And that's a lot of dough.

*Submitted by Joyce Magner*

### **Tollef & Othelia Nelson**

Tollef and Othelia Nelson moved to New Maine in 1928. They lived on a small farm of 80 acres where Gary Borg's now live. They raised five children Orville (deceased) Palmer (deceased) Luther owned the farm that where Vernon Nelson live now. He married Marlene Host and now lives in McVile, North Dakota. Betty married Vernon Swan and lives in Newfolden. Marvin married Rose Skyberg and lives in Thief River Falls.

In 1932 they built a new barn that is standing today. Highlights on the farm was to pick wild strawberries, June berries, raspberries and fishing in the river.

### **Chester & Clara Nelson**

Chester and Clara Nelson lived in section 20 of New Maine Township. Chester was born September 20, 1902, and died February 25, 1981. Clara was born September 6, 1909 and died January 9, 1975. They had five children, Evelyn (Otto) Anderson, born May 4, 1929, deceased June 6, 1997. Doris (Avery) Lee was born on December 6, 1930, deceased May 1, 1996. Avery Lee died April 29, 1996. Clarence was born and died in 1938. Betty Lou (William) Helm was born April 29, 1944. They live by Newfolden.

Chester worked as a surveyor on road construction. Clara was a homemaker. Chester enjoyed playing card, fishing, hunting and the Minnesota Twins. Clara enjoyed playing bingo, gardening and visiting family.

### **Nels C. & Bertina Nelson**

Nels Conrad Nelson was born May 20, 1900 on the SW1/4 of Section 20, New Maine Township. He was the son of Halvor and Julia Nelson. Halvor had homesteaded this land where the New Maine Town Hall is located now. His older sister, Helen, was also born on this land in 1898. Halvor sold his land in New Maine Township for \$1,100.00 on June 13, 1902. they moved to Rainy, Canada, then to Pitt, MN until 1914. This is where he went to school. They also lived at Alamo and Meckinock, ND and Clearbrook, MN. They moved back to New Maine Township in 1927. He married Bertina Strand, daughter of Anton and Lena Strand of Grafton, ND on September 24, 1927 by Rev. G.P. Ronholm. He had met her when he worked on farms by Grafton. They lived by Grafton, ND until 1933 when they bought eighty acres in the SW1/4 of

section 28 of New Maine Township. Nels and Bertina built a log house here. In 1945 they moved to the Halvor Nelson home in section 20. In 1946 they bought 160 acres in the NW1/4 of section 28. Nels built a house there and they moved in May 1947. Nels was a grade checker and a foreman on road construction so he had to be away from home a lot. Bertina liked cattle so they had a few cattle that she and the kids took care of. Their youngest son, Jerome, bought the family farm and built his house on the west side of the land. They have eight children, Marvin (married Avis Lee), Deloris (married Albin Holten), Joan (married Wallace Roppe), Marian (married Arnold Peterson), Janice (married William Olson), Vernon (married Sheila Elseth), Gary (married Karen Haugen), Jerome (married Patty Wilcox). The four sons all own farms and one daughter, Joan, owns land in New Maine Township. They have 21 grandchildren, one grandchild passed away, 20 great grandchildren and 4 great, great grandchildren. Nels passed away on April 11, 1994. Bertina passed away on January 30, 2000.

### **Richard & Donna Odberg**

Richard Odberg and Donna Becklund were Married in 1957. They lived in New Maine from 1957 until 1993.

Richard and Donna have six children. Susan is married to Bob Peterson and have two boys, Aric and Andy. They live in Gillette, Wyoming. Pamela Lindemoen has one daughter, Jessica, and lives in Stillwater, Minnesota. Debra is married to Ron Gillund and has three children, Joshua, Jens, and Jennifer. They live in Fargo, North Dakota. James Odberg is married to Tammy Foote. They have one daughter named Jaime. They live in Seattle, Washington. Patricia married Kevin Davidson. They have three children, Chelsey, Kaylin and Cole. They live by Newfolden. Jason is married to Cindy Shire. They have two children, Brittney and Austin. They live in Thief River Falls.

Richard and Donna made their home in New Maine Township because it was an excellent place to raise a large family. We live in Thief River Falls now but our hearts and minds are also back in New Maine where I was born and raised.

*Submitted by Donna Odberg*

### **Bill and Gladys Sather.**

Lived in section 22. They moved to New Maine in 1950. Bill worked construction and Gladys was a homemaker. Bill died in 1978 and Gladys in 1998. Their children are Mary Alby who lives in Thief River Falls; William and Karen live in Lakeville, MN; Linda and David Kulp live in Hinkley, MN; Gail and Gary Butenhoff live in Eagen; Leanna and Lloyd live in New Maine Township; Kristi McMillan and David Anderson live in Daina, Florida; Jon lives in Bloomington, MN.

### **Lawrence & Joy Seidel**

Lived in Section 34. Their children are James, Joseph (deceased), Gwen, Michael, Genevieve, Patric, Diana, Kevin and Chris. Purchased farm in 1967.

### **Harry & Randyne Shern**

Lived in Section 26. Their children are Gene, Jerry and Ronald.



### **Arthur Skadsem Family**

In April of 1936, Harve and Bessie Magner moved from Northwest Kansas following the Dust Bowl. Glen Magner had started work in Minnesota a few years before and bragged about all the wood there was to burn to heat your homes. The Magners usually burned buffalo chips from the prairies. This move meant the end of formalized schooling for 15 year old Lucille.

Art Skadsem was born in 1912, the fourth child to Ole and Sophie Skadsem in New Maine township. Art and Lucille were married June 29, 1937 and purchased her parents farm in 1945. They raised six children on the farm before moving to Newfolden in 1978. Art always said if the crops had been as plentiful as kids he could have had many a bumper crop.

A Big, big memory was getting electricity sometime in the late 40's. Picking blueberries in the swamp was a great activity some summers. Usually just ate them, but sometimes sold a few. Mom could never come look for us as she would get poison ivy. Riding horse and having a raccoon for a pet filled many a summer day. As a family, we spent time visiting with our neighbors, usually John and Kate Taylor. In bad weather the kids would play hide the thimble and in nice weather we would play kick the can. Our parents would play cards.

Our eyes were made aware of the world outside of New Maine when a weather balloon fell in a swamp hayfield close to our farm. We used many yards of the plastic for many projects after that event. The only time I remember being afraid was when a bear killed some of our sheep. Many people helped hunt it down including an airplane. High tech stuff for the 50s. I left in 1962 and we still did not have a phone.

Newfolden gave brides to three of Lucille's brothers – all of the brides were related to her husband, Art. Brother Glen married Art's sister Agnes, brother Dale married Art's cousin Jeanette Blinsmon and brother Gaylord married his niece Lucile Lee Becklund.

*Submitted by Ila Skadsem/Anderson*

### **Oscar & Nellie Skadsem**

Oscar was the oldest son of Ole and Sophie Blinsmon Skadsem. They raised thirteen children. When Oscar was a young man he went to work in North Dakota. There he met and married Nellie Johnston on December 8, 1928, at Grafton, ND. He continued to work for farmers in that area until the fall of 1932. The Great Depression hit and there were no jobs or money. The farmer was unable to pay the wages owed so Oscar was given a truck load of potatoes, which he sold and they stayed the winter with Nellie's parents in Grafton, ND. In the spring of 1933 they moved to New Maine Township, MN. By then Doris, Orville and Norris had joined the family. Times were hard but they had three cows and the neighbors had a chicken shower for them. They received 14 hens and one rooster. So now they had milk, cream & eggs, along with a big garden, things didn't look so bad. Oscar worked for the WPA, on the highway 59 project. In 1937 they purchased 80 acres in New Maine Township from Sam Lee. It had been State land, unimproved and very dense forest. Trees were cleared and a one room log house was erected. By then Alfreda and Viola had joined the family. In 1938, one more room was added to the house in time to welcome another baby girl, Myrtle. Willis

was born in 1941. In 1947, Oscar started building the house that still stands on the farm, from mostly home sawed lumber.

The Blackberg country school was a little more than two miles northwest of the farm. Doris, Orville, Norris and Alfreda attended school there. The kids all grew up and went their separate ways. Oscar and Nellie continued to live on the farm, raising hay, small grain and sheep until 1980. Poor health made a move to town necessary.

Orville bought the farm, so it still remains in the family. Oscar died in December, 1983 at age 76. Nellie died in February, 1997 at age 87. They are survived by six children (Norris died January 1993). Twenty four grandchildren, fifty great grandchildren and eleven great-great grandchildren.

By today's standards it's hard to imagine growing up in this setting. But we were raised in a Christian home filled with love and music. We were and are a very close knit family and we treasure all of our memories.

*Submitted by Alfreda Skadsem Bach*

### **Taylor Family**

In the late 1800's Charles and Mable Taylor moved from Iowa to New Maine Township. They raised eleven children whom are all deceased. My father, John Taylor, was one of the eleven. He married Katherine Landerville from Argyle, Minnesota. They raised four children, Gordon, Wallace, Linda and Joann who died at birth.

### **A Story –**

Charles Wandersee was a good friend and neighbor. Charles went to Newfolden one day during a 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. He was a big man and took part in a tug of war. He also sampled the cold beer at Ernie's Place and Bill Lanois'. He somehow fell in the hole under the outhouse. It took several men and many feet of rope to get Charlie out.

*Submitted by Gordon Taylor*

### **Ted and Mabel Tunheim**

Lived in Section 27. They purchased their land from Oliver Lokstad. Ted died in 1957 after which Mabel moved to Warren and continues to live there.

### **Fred J. Waterworth Family**

Fred Waterworth was born in Deer Park Township, LaSalle County, Illinois. As a young man he came to West Valley to see his uncle and aunt, Mike and Mary Adlis who had recently moved up from Illinois.

While here he met a neighbor girl, Lisa Vinje, who lived across the road from Adlis. They were married in Chicago on October 30, 1911. Two daughters were born in Illinois, Elizabeth and Ann (deceased). Fred went back to his old job working in the coal mines at Spring Valley and Cherry. But love for the farm and the wholesome life in West Valley won out.

In the fall of 1916 they came back to Marshall County. The next spring they moved to a vacant farm in New Maine Township owned by an acquaintance in Illinois. Here four sons were born, Paul, Edward, William and Aaron.

In 1919 they bought land across the road in Section 25, West Valley on which they erected buildings and made other improvements. The fall of 1924 they moved to the

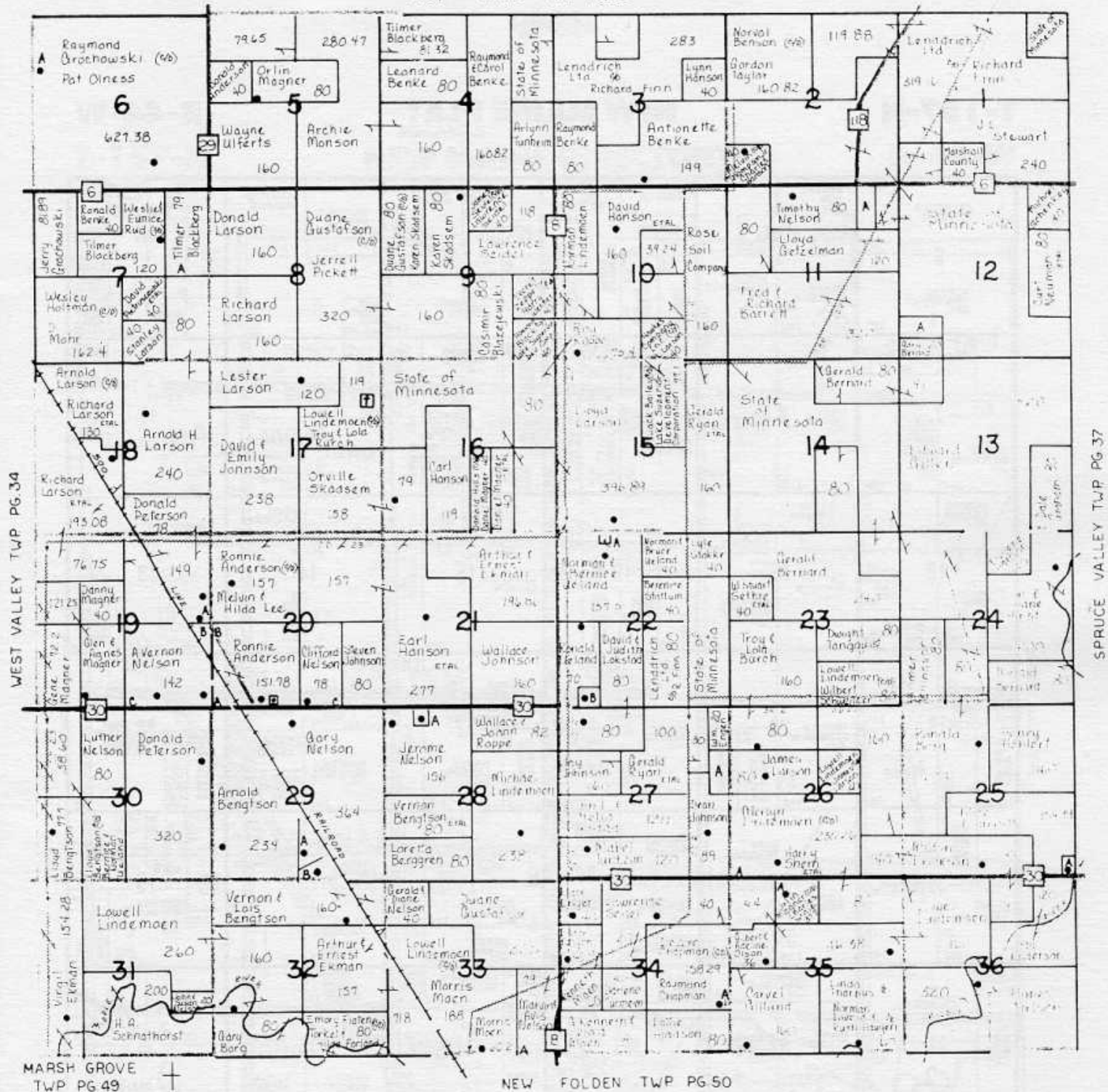


farm which became home to them and where they raised their family. Another son, Earl was born here in 1925. The children attended school district #140 (Good Will) in New Maine. Elizabeth went blind at age 13 and afterward attended the Minnesota School for the Blind at Fairbault. She later moved to Thief River Falls and married Henry Grythdahl. Paul married Dorothy Hanson of Marsh Grove Township. Edward passed away at an early age. William, Aaron and Earl each married and made their homes in West Valley. William and Betty took over the home place when Fred and Lisa retired to Newfolden in 1956 where they lived out their retirement years.

## NEW MAINE

T.157N. - R.44W.

EAST PARK TWP PG 22



SEC	TRACT	NAME	ACRES	SEC	TRACT	NAME	ACRES
6	A	HAHN, Ralph A & Frances J	13.64	22	A	TAGGERT, James I	2.5
7	A	PIETRUSZEWSKI, David F LTAI	1	22	B	SATHER, Gladys	10
11	A	MARSHALL CTY	15	25	A	MATOUSEK, Rudolph	5.01
12	A	SEAVERN, Bruce C/D; Latta J	20	26	A	SHERN, Harry O	4.74
19	A	PETERSON, Keith & Debra	1	27	A	LARSON, James C/D; Olson, N & A	20
19	B	LARSON, James A	15	28	A	NELSON, Neis C & Bertine	4
19	C	ELSETH, Deland & Joy	3	29	A	NELSON, Ernest & Nadine H	8.50
20	A	PETERSON, Leland Ray	1	29	B	NELSON, Donald N & Mildred A	12.5
20	B	HODNE, Gary J	5	33	A	NELSON, Barry N & Cheryl	1
20	C	LEE, Harold	2	34	A	CHAPMAN, Devere L	1.71
				35	A	MAGNER, Danny H	2.30

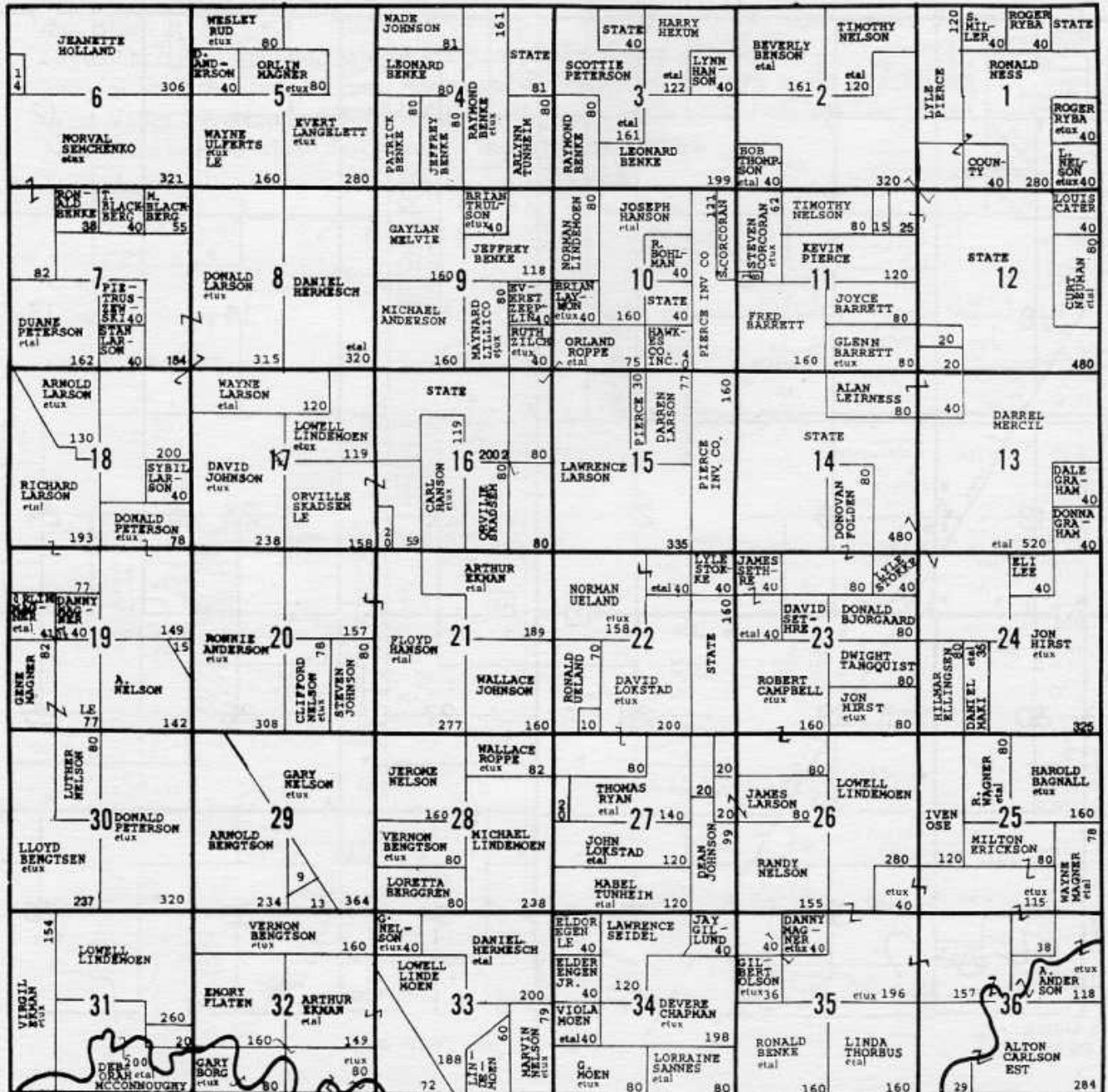


1999

T-157-N

NEW MAINE PLAT  
(Landowners)

R-44-W



1999

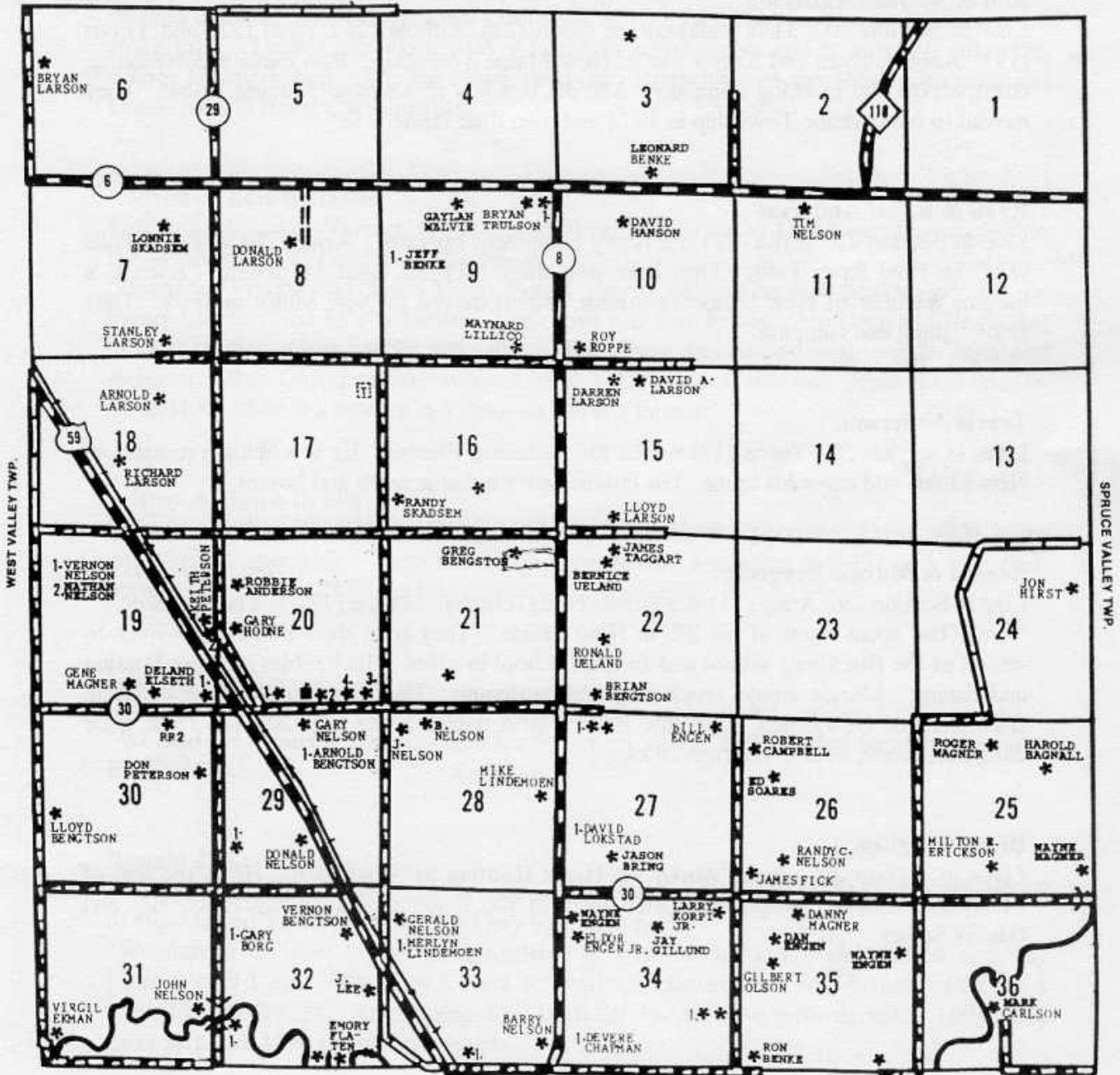
T-157-N

# NEW MAINE DIRECTORY

R-44-W

(Residents - Owners or Renters)

EAST PARK TWP.



MARSH GROVE TWP.

NEW FALDEN TWP.



## **New Maine Families – 2000**

### **Robbie & Angie Anderson**

Live in Section 20. Robbie (26) is a carpenter for Anderson Construction. Angie (28) works for Wikstrom Telephone Company in Karlstad. Their children are Katlyn Jo (3) and Zakary born May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2000. They moved to New Maine in 1994 and own their home. They enjoy softball, golf, fishing and camping.

### **Ron & Marsha Anderson**

Live in Section 20. Their children are Jason (28), Robbie (26), Ryan (22) and Travis (19). Robbie, Ryan and Travis live in New Maine Township. Ron owns a contracting, construction and trucking company. Marsha is a RN at Karlstad Nursing Home. They moved to New Maine Township in 1974 and own their home.

### **Ryan & Kristi Anderson**

Live in Section 20. Ryan (22) is a heavy equipment operator. Kristi (20) works at Falls DAC in Thief River Falls. They have one child, Morgan, aged 14 months. Ryan is a lifetime member of New Maine Township. Kristi moved to New Maine in 1998. They enjoy fishing and camping.

### **Travis Anderson**

Lives in section 20. Travis (19) works for Anderson Electric. He is a lifetime resident of New Maine and owns his home. His hobbies are mechanic work and horses.

### **Arnold & Margie Bengtson**

Live in Section 29. Arnie (71) is a farmer (semi retired). Margie (72) is a homemaker. "Arnie has spent most of his life in New Maine. They own their home. He went to school at the Blackberg school and finished school in town. His hobbies are deer hunting and fishing. Margie enjoys crocheting and gardening. They have raised three children, Barb Berg of Newfolden, their son, Randy, who passed away February 11, 1998, their daughter, Janell, lives in the twin cities.

### **Brian Bengtson**

Lives in section 22. Brian works for Hjelle Roofing in Newfolden. He is the son of Lloyd and Leanna Bengtson. Brian lives in the home of his grandparents, Bill and Gladys Sather.

**Greg & Cindy Bengtson**

Live in Section 21. Greg Bengtson (39) works in sales at UBC in Thief River Falls. Cindy (31) is a Pampered Chef Consultant and a homemaker. They have two children, Brianna (2) and Rebecca (4-1/2 months). Greg is a lifetime resident of New Maine and Cindy moved to New Maine in 1991. They enjoy horses and spending time with family.

**Lloyd & Leanna Bengtson**

Live in Section 30. Lloyd works in concrete construction and Leanna is a florist. "We have lived in New Maine all of our lives and grew up five miles apart. Lloyd has worked construction since he came out of the Army. He enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time. Leanna has worked as a florist in recent years and is currently attending school for marketing. We have two children. Brian lives in the Newfolden area and Denae lives in Bothel, Washington.

**Vernon & Lois Bengtson**

Live in Section 32. Vernon (68) is retired. Lois (64) works at Digi Key. They moved to the township in 1959 and own their home.

"Daughter Vrenda and Arlen Holm live at Pearly, MN. She is a bookkeeper for the Pearly Elevator and he is a farmer. They have one son, Ethan. Son Greg and Cindy live in New Main. Greg works for UBC. They have two little daughters, Brianna and Rebecca. Son Darrin passed away in 1991. Daughter Carla and Brent Boen live by Strandquist. She is a teacher in Viking and he is a farmer."

**Jeffrey & Dawn Benke**

Live in Section 9. Jeffrey (29) is a heavy equipment operator. Dawn (27) is an employment specialist. They moved to New Maine Township in 1997 and own their home. They have a daughter Jessica age 1-1/2 years old.

**Leonard Benke**

Lives in Section 3. Leonard (53) is a farmer. He owns his home.

"Worked for Witcher Construction for five or six years. Then started farming until now. Beef cattle also."

**Ronald & Barb Benke**

Live in Section 35. Ronald (58) is a farmer and Barb (55) is a housewife. Ronald moved to New Maine Township in 1953. They own their home.

"We moved to New Maine from Karlstad in 1953 to section 3 and farmed with my parents until I got older, then I went to work on construction and farmed. In 1995 I moved to section 35. After going with Barb for 18 years we got married in 1998. My three step kids keep me on my toes-Ha."



**Gary & Cindy Borg**

Live in Section 32. Gary (47) works for Great Lake Company (pipeline) and Cindy (45) is a paraprofessional at MCC High School. They moved to the township in 1978 and own their home. They have two sons, Shane (25) and Brandon (23) and two grandchildren, Taylor age five and Samantha age one month.

**Robert & Catherine Campbell**

Live in Section 26. Robert (53) is an insurance adjuster and beef farmer. Katherine (52) is a teacher at Challenger. They moved to the township in 1993 and own their home. Their children are Andrea and Jason.

"Our hobbies are reading. Our daughter Andrea is a student at Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul. Son Jason lives in Hunter, ND and is a mechanic at Valley Imports in Fargo."

**Mark & Betty Carlson**

Live in Section 36. Mark (54) is the Director of the Head Start Program. Betty (47) is a nursing instructor at Northland and works part time at Merit Care in Fargo. They moved to New Maine Township in 1992 and own their home. Their children are Seth, Chris, Sarah and Charlie.

"Seth is a pipe fitter in the Fargo area. Chris and Charlie both attend UND. Sarah is a busy mother and a teacher's aid for ECFE and Headstart in Newfolden. Mark and Betty have three grandchildren which they enjoy very much."

**DeVere & Jackie Chapman**

Live in Section 34. DeVere (56) is a laborer at Arctic. Jackie (56) works in food service at MCC. They moved to the township in 1975 and own their home.

"DeVere and Jackie's farm has been in the Chapman family since 1954. Their son, Shane and his wife Stacey live in Bemidji. They are expecting their first child in November. Shane graduated from Bemidji State and is a manager at Nortec."

**Jason & Jill (Nelson) Edin**

Live in Section 28. Jason (29) is a supervisor at D & D Commodities in Stephen, MN. Jill (22) is a bookkeeper. They moved to New Maine in 2000 and own their home.

"Jill is a daughter to Jerome and Patty Nelson. She is a lifetime resident of New Maine Township. Jason is from Stephen. They were married September 10, 1999. In May of 2000, Jill and Jason live in the home of her grandparents, Nels and Bertina Nelson.

**Elaine Ekman**

Lives in Section 31. Elaine and Virgil, who died in 1995, have four children. Glen lives in Newfolden Township, Larry and his wife, Sharon, also live in Newfolden Township, Mark lives in West Valley Township and Darrel lives in Drummond, Oklahoma. They have twelve grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Elaine worked in the potatoes for 36 years. She enjoys spending time with her family and working in her yard.

**Deland & Joy Elseth**

Live in Section 19. Deland (48) is a teacher at Greenbush. Joy (47) works at Digi Key. They moved to New Maine Township in 1978 and own their home. They have three sons Tal (25), Troy (20) and Jacob (19).

"We have three sons. Tal and Wendy live in Shenandoah, Iowa. Tal works as an engineer for Pella Windows and Wendy is a respiratory therapist at the hospital. Troy is 20 and a Junior at NDSU and is majoring in Computer Science. Jacob is 19 and a sophomore at NDSU and is going into Management Information Systems. Joy's hobby is reading while Deland enjoys carpentry and hunting."

**Danny & Nancy Engen**

Live in Section 35. Danny (38) is a carpenter. Nancy (34) works at Arctic Cat. They moved into the township in 1994 and own their home. They have two children, Shayla and Davis.

**Eldor & Renette Engen**

Live in Section 34. Eldor (54) is a carpenter and farmer. Renette (57) is a production laborer at Arctic Cat. Eldor moved to New Maine in 1979 and they own their home.

"Butch has three sons – Lowell and Jenny, Donald and Connie and Steve. Butch also has two grandchildren – Brody and Allison. Renette also has three sons – Cary, Shawn and Michael and one granddaughter Aron."

**Wayne Engen**

Lives in Section 34. Wayne (28) works at Polaris in Roseau. He is the son of Bob and Marlo Engen. Wayne lived on the former Gilbert Hiaasen place before purchasing the home of his grandparents, Eldor and Pearl Engen. Wayne enjoys four wheeling and snowmobiling.

**William & Tanna Engen**

Live in Section 27. William (47) is a laborer as is Tanna (47). They own their home.



**Milton & Beverly Erickson**

Live in Section 25. Milton (60) works in construction and farming. Beverly (56) has a craft business. They moved to New Maine Township in 1967 and own their home. They have three children Jeff, Jane and Jason.

"We moved to New Maine in 1967 along with Jeff and Jane to the Matousek farm which we had bought a couple years before. Jason was born later. Milton has worked on construction all of his adult life and most recently for Davidson's. We also farm and Bev has her craft business. Jeff and wife Arlene and three children, Amanda, Shayla and David, live in North Pole, Alaska. Jane and her husband Mark Shaumburg and son Matthew live by Thief River Falls. Jason lives in Spruce Valley by Middle River."

**James, Sr. & Kathryn Fick**

Live in Section 26. James (50) works with quality assurance at Arctic Cat. Kathryn (49) is a laborer at Universal Screen Print. They moved to New Maine in August 1988 and own their home. They have four children, James, Jr., Jason, Melinda and Melissa.

"James, Jr. and Lisa live in Lansing, Michigan. Jason and Janelle live in Holtt with their daughter Elizabeth. Melinda and Jeffrey Klemin live in Millwaukee, Wisconsin with their son Quentin John. Melissa lives in Phoenix, Arizona. We enjoy living in New Maine."

**Emory & Jennifer Flaten**

Live in Section 32. Emory (47) farms and works at the Newfolden Coop Elevator. Jennifer (46) is a day care provider. They have four children, Ingrid (19), Gretchen (18), Kendal (16) and Singne (14). They moved to the township in 1982 and own their home.

"Emory and Jennifer moved to New Maine Township in 1982 purchasing the farm from Torkel and Hilda Forland. At that time Emory taught school in Stephen. Jennifer had previously taught school in Middle River before the birth of their daughters. In 1983 Emory started the dairy and he and his family continued with that until the spring of 1999. At the present time, Emory works for the Newfolden Coop Elevator and Jennifer operates a day care out of their home. They continue to farm the land along the Middle River."

**Jay & Nancy Gillund**

Live in Section 34. Jay (35) works for Strata corporation. Nancy (34) works for Arctic Cat. They moved to New Maine in 1984 and own their home. They have two children Nick (16) and Natasha (11).

**Greg and Jodi (Chaplinski) Graham**

Live in Section 13. Greg (30) is a bricklayer, Jodi (27) works at Digi-Key. They have a son Payton who is one and one-half years old. They moved to New Maine in 1997 and own their own home.

"Greg's mother (Donna Moe) was born on the property where Greg is now living. Greg's family lived on the farm where Jon & Jane Hirst now live, from approximately 1970 to 1980."

**Joe Hanson**

Lives in Section 10, Joe (55) works at the turkey plant in Thief River Falls. He was born in New Maine Township and owns his home.

**Lynn Hanson**

Lives in Section 3. Lynn (54) has worked at the turkey plant in Thief River Falls for 14 seasons. He was born in New Maine Township and owns his home.

"Many long-time residents of the township remember Lynn and Joe's parents, Clarence and Marion Hanson. They moved to section 10 in the fall of 1939. They raised six children: Erma (Mrs. Rudy Berger) who passed away March 7, 2000, Phyllis (Mrs. Laverne Olson), David, deceased March 12, 2000 of New Maine, Sally (Mrs. Archie Tanner) who is a retired teacher and lives in Glyndon, MN and Lynn and Joe who still reside in New Maine.

**Jon & Jane Hirst**

Live in Section 24. Jon (49) is a truck driver and farmer. Jane (49) is a nurse and farmer. They moved to New Maine in 1979 and own their home. They have four children, Ivan (25), Natasha (23), Lacey (21) and Waylon (17).

"Son, Ivan born in '75 is a math teacher and assistant coach for track and basketball in Fisher/Climax. Natasha (23) and Tad Olsonowski live in Laramie, Wyoming. She is a school teacher and he is an engineer. Lacey (21) just graduated from Moorhead Tech as a dental hygienist."

**Gary & Harriet Hodne**

Live in Section 20. Gary (62) has been a telephone repairman for Wikstrom Telephone Company for 25 years. Harriet is a teachers aid at the Newfolden Elementary School and a state park worker. They moved to New Maine Township in 1975 and own their home.

"Oldest son Keith lives in Lakeville, MN and is a cabinet maker. Kerry is a computer technician and lives in Eden Prairie. Kevin manages Lee Ann Chi restaurant in St. Paul. Michelle owns her own cleaning business and leads a worship team in church in St. Louis Park. Chris lives in Crystal, MN and does CAD drafting. They have a total of nine grandchildren. Gary enjoys hunting and fishing and plays guitar with the Strings of Praise."



**Eric Jorgenson**

Lives in Section 30. Eric (21) is a student at Northland Community College. Nathan has lived in New Maine since 1998 and rents his home.

**Edwin & Carol Kukowski**

Live in Section 25. Edwin (62) and Carol (62) are retired. They moved to New Maine in 1999 and own their home. They have three children, Brian, Kevin and Susan.

"We both graduated from Greenbush High School in 1958 and moved to the twin cities area. Ed was a tool and die maker and carol worked in retail. Our three children, Brian, Kevin, and Susan are all married and live in and around the twin cities. We have eight grandchildren. Carol's hobbies include flower gardening and shopping. Ed enjoys hunting, fishing, snowmobiling or anything else outdoors. We love living here."

**Arnold & Vernice Larson**

Live in Section 18. Arnold's (80) occupation is farming and Vernice (73) is a housewife. Their children are James, Donald, Sybil, Susan and Kari. They moved to New Maine in April 1936 and own their home.

"We live on Arnold's grandparents farm that was homesteaded in 1898. Arnold stayed here in 1931 and 32 and went to school in the Blackberg school District 100."

**Bryan Larson**

Lives in Section 6. Bryan (42) is a welder. He moved to New Maine in 1988 and owns his home.

"Grew up in Section 15 of New Maine. Returned to New Maine in 1988 and bought the old "Ralph Hahn Place". Spend winters hunting, trapping and skiing. Spend summers working out and rebuilding and modifying cars."

**Donald & Gail Larson**

Live in Section 8. Donald (49) is engaged in farming and Gail (49) is a nurse. They have three children, Sarah, Andy and Josh. They moved to New Maine in 1978 and own their home.

"Gail and I moved here in 1978. We have three children, Sarah, a senior at Morrhead State University, Andy and Josh at home. I grew up in New Maine Township just a mile south of our home. I am a farmer and Gail is a nurse. We raise beef cattle, small grains and hay. Our land is the original home of the Blackberg Schoolhouse. I am a township supervisor."

**Larry Larson**

Lives in Section 15. Larry (30) is a farmer and welder at Arctic. He was born here.

**Lloyd Larson**

Lloyd lives in Section 15. Lloyd is a retired farmer.

"Lloyd was born and has lived most of his life in New Maine. Donnis passed away in 1995. Children are Nancy, Robert, Bryan, Ellen, David, Dawn, Larry and Darren."

**Richard Larson**

Lives in Section 18. Richard (84) is a farmer. He moved to New Maine in April 1936.

This is what a family history booklet says about Richard "Richard grew up to love music, playing several different instruments in city and dance bands. He served the Armed Forces during World War II and later worked in Minneapolis. After returning he farmed with his brothers in New Maine Township. He is now retired."

**Stanley Larson**

Lives in Section 7. Stanley's (78) occupations are working at Detroit Mobile Homes at Red Lake Falls and Farming. He moved to the township in April 1936. He owns his home. Stanley has two children, Steve and Scott. According to a family history booklet "He (Stanley) moved the old Sjogren house from section 18 to section 7. This home is said to be the first frame home built in New Maine Township."

**Ellen Latta**

Lives in Section 34. Ellen is a dental assistant. Ellen moved to New Maine Township in 1966. She owns her home.

"Ellen is the fourth child of Lloyd and Donnis Larson. She was raised in New Maine and moved to Colorado in 1984. She moved back to the area in 1998."

**Harold & Diane Lee**

Live in Section 20. Harold (51) and Diane (48) have two children, Jason and Jamie.

"Harold and Diane Lee moved to New Maine Township in 1972. They purchased the land from Chester Nelson (Harold's Grandpa). Harold graduated from Newfolden High School, worked construction and started his own business in 1989 known as Lee Concrete Construction. Diane graduated from Clearbrook High School and is employed by Marshall County State Bank where she is manager of Newfolden Insurance Agency. They have two sons, Jason who lives in New Maine and Jamie, wife Jenny, who lives in Holt."

**Jason Lee & Heather Anderson**

Lives in Section 32. Jason (29) is a welder. Heather is a beautician at Sheers in Thief River Falls. Jason moved to New Maine in 1993 and owns his home. He has two children, Shelby (9) and Brady (4).

"Jason lives in section 32, formerly known as the Fisher place. He started his own business in 1997 known as Lee Welding and Prop Repair. Heather and Jason plan to marry on December 2, 2000."



**Maynard & Deborah Lillico**

Live in Section 9. Maynard (47) works at Arctic Cat. Deborah (44) works at Custom Woods in Newfolden. They moved to New Maine in 1996 and own their home. They have six children, Jamey, Chris, Peggy, Jackie, Tracey and Tammy.

"We have two sons, Jamey lives in Thief River Falls and Chris lives in Grand Forks and four daughters – Peggy and Jackie live in Thief River Falls, Tracey lives in Grand Forks and Tammy lives in Minot. We also have nine grandchildren."

**Merlyn & Terri Lindemoen**

Live in Section 33. Merlyn (44) is a farmer. Terry (43) is a housewife. They moved to New Maine in 1990 and own their home. They have two children, Eric (20) and Ann (15).

"Merlyn has gone south to combine for twenty years and Eric has gone for ten. Eric also works for Plummer Excavating. This year Ann is with a combine crew in Kansas. Terri's hobby is sewing and we both like to play cards. Ann is into sports at MCC."

**Mike & Sue Lindemoen**

Live in Section 28. Mike (39) is a farmer. Mike and Sue (42) own Home Sweet Home. They have lived in New Maine since 1988 and own their home. They have two children, Tyler (13) and Nikkole (11).

**David & Judy Lokstad**

Live in Section 27. David (52) is engaged in farming, operates a custom mowing service and manufactures Lokstad rolling pins. Judy (51) is employed by Quin County Community Health Services in Newfolden. They have seven children. David is a life-long resident of New Maine. Judy moved to New Maine in 1970.

"Kari (29) is married to Ed Mooney and lives in Thief River Falls. They operate Computer Run/Radio Shack. John (27) just returned from serving in the Navy for eight and one half years. His last assignment was on the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. Sara (23) has finished her first year of medical school at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. She is in the Army Reserve and will be on active duty after medical school. Amie (22) is a senior, majoring in Child & Family Ministry, at Crown College in St. Bonifacius, MN. Adam (20) completed two years of college at North Dakota State College in Wahpeton. Adam enlisted in the Army and will be leaving for active duty the first week of August. Jana (16) is a Junior at Marshall County Central. Jane (15) is a Sophomore at MCC. David and Judy have one granddaughter, Emily Blue (7). David enjoys restoring old cars in his spare time. David's father purchased the eighty acres where we live in 1920. The original part of the house and a garage were ordered through the Sears Roebuck catalog. David and Judy purchased the farm in 1970."

**Danny & Shirley Magner**

Live in Section 35. Danny (44) is a production supervisor at Independent Machine Service. Shirley (44) is a Warranty Coordinator at Arctic Cat Inc. They moved to New Maine Township in 1983 and own their home. Danny and Shirley have two children, Jackie (22) and Garrett (20).

"In the fall of 1983 we moved to New Maine Township. Jackie was six years old and Garrett four years old. We had dairy cows for several years besides worked out. We sold out our small dairy herd and both Danny and Shirley now work in Thief River Falls. Jackie and Garrett spent their growing up years out in the country. Jackie has graduated from college (EGF Tech College) as an occupational therapy assistant and a Associate Degree at Northland, Thief River Falls, MN. Garrett is in his third year of college in the Elementary teaching program and coaching at Mayville, ND.

**Gaylord Magner**

Lives in Section 25. Gaylord (67) is retired. He moved to the township in February 1995 and owns his home. Gaylord has four children: Wayne, Kenneth, Sharon, and Eric..

"Went into the Navy July 52. After 25 years retired. Went to work for a construction company in Virginia Beach, VA. Worked there until December 1994. Retired on early S.S. and now I'm glad to be home. Son of Glen and Agnes Magner."

**Gene Magner**

Lives in Section 19. Gene (58) moved to New Maine Township on September 13, 1941. He is retired. He owns his home.

"Stayed home and helped my folks on the farm and took care of them till their death in January 1986. Son of Glen and Agnes Magner."

**Wayne Magner**

Lives in Section 25. Wayne (45) is a lead person at Arctic Cat. He moved to the township in October 1994 and owns his home. He has three children, Wayne Alton (21), Tiffany Marie (19), Cliffy Joe (18).

"I've had the opportunity to live in many areas of the country and always wanted to be here. I've got a wonderful home in a great community. Seemingly after being almost transient for many years it feels good to be home. Grandson of Glen and Agnes Magner.

**Dan Maki**

Lives in Section 35. Dan is a carpenter. He moved to New Maine in 1999 and rents his home.

**Gaylan & Tracy Melvie**

Live in Section 9. Gaylan (48) and Tracy (35) work at Arctic Cat. Their children are Jacob Larson (16) and Venessa Larson (13). Tracy, Jacob and Venessa have lived in the township since 1987. Gaylan has lived in New Maine since 1990.

**Josh Myhrer**

Lives in Section 20. Josh (19) works at ODC in Thief River Falls. He moved to New Maine in 1999 and rents his home.

**A. Vernon & Sheila Nelson**

Live in Section 19. Vernon (59) is a farmer, truck driver and mail driver. Shelia (51) teaches band and choir at Marshall County Central Schools in Newfolden. They bought the farm in 1967 from Matt Diedrich. Vernon is a lifetime resident of New Maine Township. They have four children Scott (30), Nicole, Jeremy and Matthew (20).

"Vernon Nelson is a son of Nels and Bertina Nelson. He is a lifetime resident of New Maine Township except for the two years he was in the Army & Germany (1963-65). He married Sheila Elseth on November 29, 1969. She is the daughter of Lester and Senora Elseth. Their son Scott farms and hauls mail. Daughter Nicole married Gary Homme on December 21, 1996 and they live in West Valley Township. They have a daughter Alexis who was born February 15, 1998. Nicole works for Bergan Travel. Jeremy has a farm in West Valley Township. He is also a carpenter. Matthew goes to college at UND in Grand Forks, ND. His major is Elementary/Middle School Teacher with a coaching degree. Vernon attended school is District # 140 New Maine Township for three years until the school closed. Then all the students went by bus to Newfolden."

**Barry & Cheryl Nelson**

Live in Section 33. Barry (46) works at the Newfolden Coop Elevator. Cheryl (45) works at Digi-Key in Thief River Falls. They moved to New Maine Township in 1975. They have two children Chad and Tara.

"Barry is a son of Marvin and Avis Nelson and he lived in Newfolden. Cheryl is a daughter of Lyle and Olga Gilbertson. Barry and Cheryl were married on July 31, 1973. Chad married Erica Lefrooth on August 21, 1999. They have a daughter Cailey born May 3, 1998. Tara Married Jeremy Nelson on February 7, 1998. They have a daughter Emma Rae, born June 27, 1998. Chad lives in Foldahl Township. Tara lives by Thief River Falls."



**Clifford & Lynette Nelson**

Live in Section 20. Clifford (51) is the Weatherization/Housing Systems Director at Northwest Community Action, Inc. in Badger, MN. Lynette (47) is a Child Support Office-Pennington County in Thief River Falls. They have two children, Tracy (28) and Michael (26). Clifford has lived in New Maine since 1948. Lynette has lived in New Maine since 1971. They own their home.

"Tracy is married to Richard Kilpatrick. They live in Thief River Falls. Tracy is employed by Digi Key (TRF) and also is a youth pastor. Richard is employed by Northwest Medical Center in the physical therapy department and is a youth pastor. Mike is married to Kim Davidson. They live by Holt, MN. Mike owns Nelson's Railroad Services and Kim is the office manager at Davidson Construction of Holt. In our spare time we all enjoy getting together at our lake homes and sometimes we even catch a fish."

**Darwin & Sue Nelson**

Live in Section 29. Darwin (40) is a custodian at MCC. Sue (38) is in sales at Digi Key. They moved to New Maine in 1997 and own their home. They have two children, Aaron (16) and Amanda (11).

**Gary & Karen Nelson**

Lives in Section 29. Gary (54) is a farmer and a truck driver. Karen (52) is treasurer for the Marshall County Mutual Insurance Company. They moved to their farm in 1970. They have three children, Gregg, Shane and Kim (27).

"Gary is a son of Nelson and Bertina Nelson. He is a lifetime resident of New Maine Township. He married Karen Haugen, daughter of Harvey and Esther Haugen, on January 13, 1968. They bought the Charles Nilson farm in September 1970 and have lived there since that time. They have two sons, Gregg married to Kimberly Heinle on June 2, 1995. Gregg and Kimberly have a son Nolan born October 23, 1998. They live in Excel Township. Shane married Christa Jones on July 31, 1999. They live in Excel Township.

**Gerald & Diane Nelson**

Live in Section 33. Gerald (50) is a custodian at MCC in Newfolden. Diane (48) is the former owner of the NuMoon Café in Newfolden. They moved to New Maine in 1976. They have two children, Nathan and Natalie.

"Gerald is a son of Marvin and Avis Nelson and lived in Newfolden and New Maine. Gerald married Diane Moen, daughter of Morris and Hannah Moen, on October 17, 1970. Nathan lives in New Maine Township. Natalie lives in Newfolden. Gerald and Diane have two grandsons, Tucker and Sawyer Nelson."

**Jerome & Patty Nelson**

Live in Section 28. Jerome (52) is a Newfolden City Employee. Patty (45) works at Sethre's Store in Newfolden. They have two children, Steven and Jill. They bought their farm in 1972 from Jerome's parents.

"Jerome is a son of Nels and Bertina Nelson. Jerome is a lifetime resident of New Maine Township except for the years he served in Viet Nam I the Army. He married Patty Wilcox on January 27, 1973. She is the daughter of Charles and Gertie Willcox. The country school had closed so Jerome attended school in Newfolden. Jerome, Patty and their two children all graduated from Marshall County Central High School in Newfolden. Steven works for Digi-Key in Thief River Falls, MN. Jill married Jason Edin on September 10, 1999. Jill owns the Nels C. Nelson home and is moving in there now. Jill is a bookkeeper."

**John & Susan Nelson**

Live in Section 31. John (48) is a lab tech for Bridgeman's. Susan (48) is a construction tech and accountant and Avon representative. They moved to New Maine in 1973 and own their home. They have three daughters, Angela, Wendy and Darlene.

"We raised three daughters on our farm. Wendy went to East Grand Forks Tech and lives in East Grand Forks. Darlene lives in Bemidji and goes to college to be a teacher and works as a UPS manager. Angela has a four year degree. She is married to Chris Mills. He is the Superintendent in Stephen and they have three sons - Davis, Peyton and Isaac."

**Nathan & Nicole Nelson**

Live in Section 19. Nathan (27) is self-employed installing flooring. Nicole (27) is a nursing student. They moved to New Maine in 1994 and own their home. They have two children Tucker four, and Sawyer two.

"Nathan is the son of Gerald and Diane Nelson. He was six years old when he moved to New Maine Township. He married Nicole Tharaldson on June 17, 1995. They have two sons, Tucker born January 12, 1996 and Sawyer born July 13, 1998."

**Randy Nelson**

Lives in Section 26. Randy (40) is a farmer and works for Land O' Lakes. He moved to New Maine in 1988 and owns his home. He has four children, Brandon (15), Bryant (10), Kristen (11) and Kristina (13).

**Tim Nelson**

Lives in Section 11. Tim (46) is a heavy equipment operator. He moved to New Maine in 1976 and owns his home. He has two sons, Arlynn (22) and Chad (25).

"Son Arlynn works at Polaris and lives in Badger. Son Chad works for Zavoral and lives in Thief River Falls. Also have a granddaughter, Rylie, two years old."

**Gilbert Olson**

Lives in Section 35. Gilbert is retired. His wife, Adeline, passed away in 1997. Gilbert moved to New Maine in 1956 and owns his home. He has two daughters Elsie (Andrew) Lindgren and Janice (David) Ramsey.

"Gilbert sheared sheep in 1937 and continued to do so for about fifty years. He started trapping gophers when he quit shearing sheep.

**Donald & Betty Peterson**

Live in Section 30. Donald (66) is a farmer. Betty (64) has worked at Digi Key for 10 years. They have six children: Leland (47), Duane (46) who lives and farms with Donnie, Robert (44), Keith (42), Dennis (deceased) and Linda (38). They moved to New Maine Township in 1963 and own their home.

"Leland lives in Marsh Grove, he is a welder at Arctic Cat. Duane farms at home, Robert works for Powder River Coal Company as a heavy equipment operator at Gillette, WY. Keith lives in New Maine and works for Hjelle Roofing. Linda is in East Grand Forks and attends Northwest Tech studying to be a occupational therapist.

**Keith & Debra Peterson**

Live in Section 19. Keith (42) works for Hjelle Roofing of Newfolden. Debra (42) works at Digi Key in Thief River Falls. They have three sons, Nathan (21), Louis (15) and Spencer (12). They moved to New Maine in 1979 and own their home. Keith enjoys snowmobiling and Debra enjoys gardening.

**Nathan Peterson**

Lives in Section 30. Nathan (21) is a student at Northland Community College and also works at Arctic Cat. He is a lifetime New Maine resident. He owns his home. Nathan enjoys golfing.

**Roy & Laura Roppe**

Live in Section 10. Roy (79) is a retired farmer. Laura (80) is also retired. They moved too New Maine Township in 1944 and own their home. They have two children, Geraldine and Orland.

"Roy is a son of Richard and Sarah (Thorson) Roppe. They lived in East Park Township. Laura is a daughter of Albert and Clara (Lee) Larson. They have two children. Geraldine married Richard Dalbey. They have two girls, Jenny and Jill. They live in Atlanta, Georgia. Jenny is married and has a daughter. Orland married Laura Kron and they have two children: Nicolas and Gretchen. They live in Moorhead. Laura is a lifetime resident of New Maine Township District #104 and District #100. Roy was born in East Park Township. He was in the Army from 1944 -1946. He served in the Phillipines and Japan as an MP."



**Randy & Susan Skadsem**

Live in Section 16. Randy (44) works at Land O'Lakes in Thief River Falls. Susan (43) works at Hardware Hank in Newfolden. Randy and Susan have four children, Mike, Sheri, Donna and Sandy (16). They moved to New Maine in 1989 and own their home.

"Mike and Kari live in Newfolden. Sheri and Brian Schoon live in Bemidji. Donna lives in Newfolden. Randy and Susan have three grandchildren. The house they live in was built by Randy's Grandparents, Oscar and Nellie Skadsem.

**Ed & Dorothy Soares**

Live in Section 26. Ed (72) is a retired construction worker. Dorothy (67) is a retired coordinator from Group Home Work. They moved to New Maine in 1995 and rent their place.

"Ed and Dorothy like to fish, restore tractors, travel, hunt, work with plants and crafts."

**James & Marlene Taggart**

Live in Section 22. James (53) is retired. Marlene (52) has worked for Arctic Cat for 16 years. They moved to New Maine in 1974 and own their home. They have three children, Troy, Melissa and Jenny.

"Marlene was born and raised in New Maine. The Taggarts moved back in 1974 as a family. Son Troy has been employed at Arctic Cat for ten years, the last five as a test driver and an independent racer and loves to hunt. He has his own farm by Holt and does some backhoe work. Melissa and David Vigen and son Brenden live in Thief River Falls. She works at Independent Machine. David is an engineer at Arctic Cat. Jenny has also worked at Arctic Cat for six years and just graduated from Northland Community College with an AAS degree in Sales and marketing. Jenny still enjoys horse and competed at the World Appaloosa Show in Fort Worth, Texas in '98."

**Bryan C. & Carmine Trulson**

Live in Section 9. Bryan (39) is retired military and hog farming. Carmine (36) works at Excel Dairy. They have two sons, Carl B.(18) and Robert W. (16). They moved to New Maine on June 1, 1995.

"We are originally from the Thief River Falls area. We retired from the military after spending four years in Germany and about eleven in Colorado. We have done a lot of traveling. After retiring in 1993, we spent about a year in Lake Park and then settled in New Maine. We really enjoy the peaceful life in New Maine.

**Bernice Ueland**

Lives in Section 22. Bernice (78) is a housewife. She moved to New Maine in 1945 and owns her home.

"Bernice first lived in New Maine as a child, but there wasn't a school so she and Darlene lived with their Grandmother in Alma Township for one year. She then went to the Blackberg school for six years. Kids were also brought over from the Taylor School. Bernice and Norman were married in 1939 in Warren and settled in New Maine in 1945. They have three sons and a daughter, 12 grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Norman passed away February 9, 1995 and Bernice continues to live on the farm close to two of her children."

**Ronald & Linda Ueland**

Live in Section 22. Ron (57) is a retired teacher. Linda (41) is a Home Ec teacher. Ron lived most of his life in New Maine. Linda has lived in the township since October 1990. They have a son Cain (6)

"Daughter Natalie is 30, lives in East Bethel and works for Krause Anderson in Circle Pines. Son Jeff is 29 and lives in St. Paul and works in Minneapolis as a corporate mapper. Son Greg is 20 and attends Bemidji State. He will be a Social Studies teacher and coach. Son Nick just graduated from Woodbury High School. He plans to attend UMD in the fall to study architecture..

**Roger & Patricia Wagner**

Live in Section 25. Roger (51) is a bus driver, farmer and works at Hardware Hank. Patricia (40) is Secretary at Nazareth and Silver Creek Churches and an all around sub at MCC. They moved to New Maine in September, 1991 and own their home. They have four children, Matthew (16), Casey (12), William (9) and Anthony (3).

**Wallace R. & Mavis Johnson**

Wallace is an auto salesman and Mavis works part time at the vet clinic in Greenbush. They purchased their land in section 21 in 1985. Their children are Russel, Burnsville, MN; Barbara, Thief River Falls; Forest, Roseau; Carol, Strathcona. Their family enjoys hunting in New Maine.

**Marvin & Avis Nelson**

Marvin and Avis Nelson own land in Section 33 of New Maine Township. They live in Newfolden. Marvin was a son to Nels and Bertina Nelson. He went to country school District #140 and grew up in New Maine Township. He married Avis lee, daughter of Hjalmer and Alma Lee on July 31, 1948. both of Avis' parents went to school in New Maine Township.

They have two sons, Gerald and Barry. Gerald married Dian Moen and have two children, Nathan and Natalie. Nathan married Nicole Tharldson and they have two sons, Tucker and Sawyer. Barry married Cheryl Gilbertson. They have two children, Chad and Tarra. Chad married Erica Lefrooth, they have a daughter, Cailey. Tara married Jeremy Nelson, they have a daughter, EmmaRae. Marvin and Avis are retired. Marvin worked as a heavy equipment operator on road construction for many years.

*Submitted by Joan Roppe*

**Wallace & Joan Roppe**

Joan Roppe was born in a log house in New Maine Township in section 28 to parents Nels and Bertina Nelson. Se went to country school, District #140, and graduated from Newfolden High School. Wallace and Joan were married April 17, 1951. Wallace was from East Park Township. They have one daughter, Barbara. She married Curtis Farbo on August 19, 1972. They have two children, Cari and Robby. They live in Thief River Falls.

Wallace and Joan Roppe own land in section 29, New Maine Township. They purchased the farm in 1985. They have a cabin and also a barn for the horses they had. They lived in New Maine Township for many years before they moved to Newfolden in 1964. Joan was a 4-H leader for many years. Barbara was in 4-H since it was first started in New Maine. She also was a junior leader. Wallace works on heavy equipment for a construction company. Joan is an Insurance Agent, Director and Assistant Secretary of Marshall County Mutual Insurance Company for 35 years in Newfolden.

*Submitted by Joan Roppe*

**Orlin (Ole) and Joyce Magner**

Landowners in section 19 of New Maine Township.

Orlin, the second oldest son of Glen and Agnes (Skadsem) Magner was born in a log house on August , 1930. the family had seven children, Cecil, Orlin, Gaylord, Beatrice, Donald, Gene and Opal. They are all living with exception of Cecil who was killed during the Korean Conflice in 1952. Glen and Agnes continued to live in New Maine Township until their deaths in 1986.



We always walked the one and one half miles to school. When we went to town in the winter we take a team of horses and a sleigh with a cab which contained a wood stove to keep us warm. We went through the woods to town. One time we were crossing the railroad tracks and Dad asked if any trains were coming. It was hard to see out of the frosted windows and usually there were none coming so we all said no. We were wrong and barely missed the train. We always took a cord of wood to town to sell to school in Newfolden or Amundson Lee store. We would get \$3.00 for the wood which was enough to buy our groceries.

Besides attending school at the now "New Maine Town Hall" we also went to Vacation Bible School there. I remember having races during play time and how Betty Nelson Swaan beat me running to the railroad tracks. I think Betty would still beat me today.

I joined the Army in 1952 serving for two years. I married Joyce Sorum on June 7, 1952 and for the past forty-one years have made our home in Newfolden. We have four children, Cindy married to Gary Borg, living in New Maine Township on the former Tollef Nelson farm; Danny married to Shirley Verbout, living in New Maine Township on a farm purchased from Wesley Staie; Scott married to Tammie Halvorson, living in New Folden Township on land previously owned by grandparents, Willie and Mabel Sorum; Brent married to Kelly Johnson, living in Marsh Grove Township on the old Nyflot farm. We also have been blessed with 13 grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

We purchased eighty acres of land in section five, New Maine Township from Jhalmer and Bertha Blackberg in May, 1977. We use the land mainly for hunting with the exception of Don Larson renting part for hay. The house lived in by the Blackbergs is no longer there, but there are a couple of buildings standing plus a large evergreen tree in the front yard. When Don does his haying, he will mow the yard to keep it trimmed. Someday we would like to build a small cabin there to get away from the city life.

*Submitted by Orlin "Ole" Magner*

### **Stuart & Joan Sethre - "Whispering Oaks"**

Sethre's hunting/refuge in section 23 of New Maine township has a State Auditors Certificate dated June 6, 1900 and prior to that, Northern Pacific Railroad owned it after it had been conveyed to the State of Minnesota, dated March 10, 1888.

The land was sold to private owners starting in 1905 to an H. C. Hjerleid and later to Martin Martens. Early ditch assessments are dated October 10, 1910 to Hans E. Myhre, a prominent businessman/banker in Newfolden. H.E. Myhre built several homes in Newfolden and perhaps needed the trees for lumber. Stener Blinsmon acquired the land in 1924 and Oscar Blinsman received title to it in 1942. Fernard Miller's were the next owners in 1960 and in 1970 sold it to Try and Aquila Burch. The W. S. Sethre family bought the land in 1984, built a cabin and a donut shaped pond for wildlife. The site where the cabin is built is just west of the Blinsmon home (some of the foundation is there). Signs of cabins about three blocks west and three blocks north and east of the site can still be seen. Lilac bushes still grow three blocks west and part of the foundation is still evident at the northeast site. Edward Nelsons lived up there as did Avon Nelsons for

a time. Nels X. Nelson used to tell of haying the swamp south and east of our cabin. The Donovan Folden family have their cabin on the northeast site.

The land flourishes with oaks, evergreens, tamaracks, popplers, willows, berry trees, hazelnuts, etc. We see geese, ducks and sand hill cranes on the pond. We also see moose, bear, bobcats and even a porcupine. We feed deer in the winter and have counted up to 80 deer in the yard at one time.

We have a very good map of our area that helped the DNR find a little two year girl who had wandered away from her grandparent's place. She was found about four hours after she was lost on one of our trails, not too far from a swamp.

Our land is located five miles from Newfolden on a tar road, then a county gravel road, a township gravel road to a trail with no ditches and deer trails interspersed.

*Submitted by Stu & Joan Sethre*

## **New Maine's Oldest Resident – 2000**

**Gilbert Olson, age 90, is New Maine township's oldest resident in the centennial year of 2000.**



**Gilbert and Adeline Olson moved to New Maine Township in 1956 to what was the Simon Norbo farm. As a point of interest, Simon had told Gilbert that he would give him a dollar for every rock that was found. It was not until 1980 that any rocks had worked their way to the surface; by then of course, Simon had been gone many years.**

**Dad sheared sheep for many years. He always said that shearing sheep was a job you could if you had a "strong back and a weak mind."**

**Now that Dad is retired and can take life a little easier, he can sit and look at T.V. and hit the "mutt" (mute) button anytime he wants. He's quick to tell you that this retired life is "like workin' out and gettin' money from home."**

*Submitted by Elsie Lindgren*

**Gilbert says that when he could no longer shear sheep he took up trapping gophers to get his exercise. He not only traps in New Maine but other township too. So if you need to get rid of a gopher, give him a call.**

***Congratulations, Gilbert on 90 years.***



# *Thank you*

Thank You to All Who Furnished  
Stories and Pictures For The  
New Maine Centennial History Book

Thanks to Everyone Who Donated  
and Helped Organize the Celebration  
Held on July 9, 2000

New Maine Town Board