

MR. AND MRS. OLE ELVIK



Mr. and Mrs. Ole Elvik

Ole Elvik, born near Bergen, Norway, Feb. 11, 1864, came to America at the age of 19 locating at Sioux Falls. He married Karen Louise Elsted on March 22, 1890.

In 1913 they came to North Dakota, living first at Halliday and later on a farm near Kurtz, northwest of Almont, where they lived for several years. In 1918 the family moved to a farm south of Almont where they did farming and raised livestock.

Mr. Elvik passed away in 1938 and Mrs. Elvik in 1942. Four of the sons have passed away, Carl in 1911, Edwin in 1920 and Olie in 1954. Their son, Henry, lost his life in an airplane flight over Africa with a buddy.

The following children of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Elvik are living: Mrs. T. Wagamon (Marie), Townsend, MT; Mrs. Cecil Nogle (Anna), Post Falls, ID; Mrs. G.F. Schiller (Randene), Spokane, WA; Mrs. J.D. Hermans (Malena), Paradise, CA; Lewis Elvik, Oram, UT. Martin and Knute Elvik are also deceased.

JOHN ERHART FAMILY



John Erhart Family - 1937

John and Emelia Erhart and family lived on a farm north of Almont for 19 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Erhart and their eight children left Almont in April 1937 for Portland, OR. John worked in Portland Woolen Mills until his death in September 1950. Their daughter, Theresa, married Gerald Sherrett; Mathilda had Multiple Sclerosis and passed away in April 1950 at the age of 30. All the children live in the Portland area with the exception of Eddy who lives in Denver, CO, and Laura in San Francisco, CA.



Mathilda and Theresa Erhart

Mr. Erhart passed away in September 1950 and Mrs. Erhart died in 1970.

RALPH ERHARDT FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Erhardt were married Jan. 13, 1942, and lived on a farm 10 miles southwest of Almont, now farmed by their son, Pat. They lived in a



Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Erhardt

three-room house with seven children until 1952 when they built a new house ... it was started in June and they moved in on Oct. 25. What a happy day that was as the old house was small and cold and when it rained the roof leaked. Even the potatoes froze behind the stove! Everyone had their job milking cows and feeding the pigs and calves. They sold the farm to Patrick, began building a new home in Almont June 17, 1980, and moved in Sept. 15, 1980. Their

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son, Ernest, was the carpenter and the lovely new home went up very fast.

Their seven children include: Martin, married to Doris Hoffman from Mandan living in Livingston, MT, three children: Jason, Curtis and Sandy.

Bernice, married Paul Asplund and live eight miles northeast of Wilton.

Ernest married Margret Helfenstein April 28, 1978, and has a daughter, Courtney. He spent four years in the U.S. Navy with 1 year in Viet Nam.

Arnold, born Sept. 15, 1946, married Carolyn Daniels from St. Louis, MO, and they live in Helena, MT. He's a gunsmith at a sporting goods store.

Larry, born June 25, 1948, served in the U.S. Army and spent 1 year in Viet Nam. He married Sally Pittsley from Carson. They have two girls, Connie and Jessie.

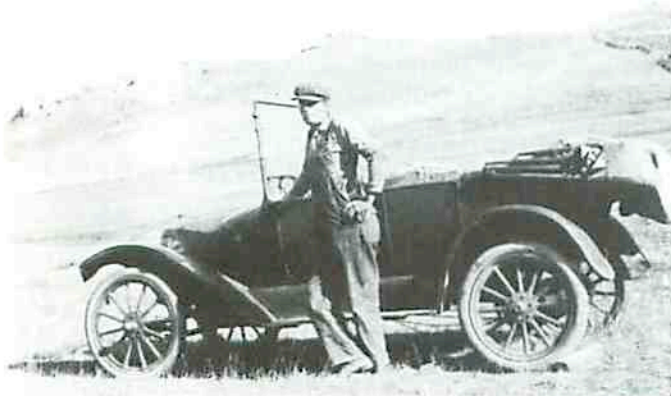
Charlene was born Nov. 28, 1950, and married Jeffrey Todd. They have a daughter, Stephanie, and reside in Bismarck.

Dennis was born March 8, 1952. He married Vickie Walfrom from Canyon Creek, MT, and has a daughter, Tessa. He is also a gunsmith working with his brother, Arnold.

Patrick, born June 3, 1954, married Charlene Zarr and they have a boy, Vincent.

Mrs. Erhardt's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Doll Sr., also live in Almont. Ralph's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Erhardt, are both dead. All of the Erhardt children attended the Almont High School.

CARL AND TILLIE FALLGREN



Carl Fallgren

THE DRESSER DRAWER

by Allen Fallgren

I got out of bed at 8:30 the morning of Nov. 22, 1980, put on the coffee, let the cat and our cross-breed border collie out, and checked the weather. Looks like a sunny day here in Pendleton, with a few high, thin, hazy clouds against a pale blue sky. Chilly, about at the freezing mark, but it will probably warm up some for the High School State Semi-final football game we are going to at 1:00 o'clock.

Pour a cup of coffee, light up a cigarette, and sit down to read the New Salem Journal that came last week. I like to save it for Saturday morning. Everybody sleeps in, and it's kind of nice to be by yourself ... a little while.

I skim the Almont news. So many new names. I've been reading about the anniversary, and here's a

note that family histories and photos are needed. At least I know the names listed there. Joel Johnson. He was quite an athlete. I remember I was about 10 years old. Out in the schoolyard during lunch hour. Joel jumped over the hood of a car. Played basketball like you wouldn't believe. Who was on that team? Let's see. Roger Becklund, one of Melvin Olsen's boys, Bill Joerz's son ... ahh, it's too long ago to remember them all. But, they were one of the best teams we ever had.

So, I wonder, should I write something? I wanted to wash the car, and maybe cut the lawn one more time before it snows. I like to be outside when it's nice, always have. What could I write about, anyway? Still, my family does go back right to the beginning of Almont. My ancestors poured a lot of sweat, tears, and some joy into the soil of North Dakota. They deserve to be remembered. So, why not?

Do you have one of those dresser drawers that seem to attract papers and what have you that you don't really need right now, but maybe someday you will, so into the drawer it goes. Kids report cards, birthday cards, car repair slips, pictures, matches. I think I'll go through that drawer. I think there are a few "historical mementos" in there.

My father's mother was named SOLSET. Her family was from Fernabuh, Norway, near Oslo. My dad's father was named FALLGREN, from Stockholm. Supposed to mean "green branch" or something like that. I had scribbled this down on an old envelope in my drawer one day when I asked my older brother, Curt, where the grandfolks were from. What the heck, I thought. Maybe I'll get over there some day, and see if I can find any of those branches.

Now, I'm just a youngster of 43, and Almont is coming up on 75, so if I get my facts wrong, you'll have to forgive me. I wasn't always there, you see. But, as I understand it, John Fallgren and his bride were from the old country and they came west from New York on a train, not a covered wagon. John Fallgren homesteaded about a mile west of Almont on property which, I believe, Marshall Feland owns now. There may still be two or three of the old buildings still standing there. I was given to understand that John Fallgren donated all or part of the land that Almont stands on.

You may have heard this before. Life wasn't too easy back in 1905. My brother tells me about Grandpa Fallgren getting up before daylight, milking cows and doing chores, walking to Sims, working in a coal mine all day, walking home in the dark, and doing chores again. He literally didn't see the light of day.

The John Fallgrens had four children. First was Art, then another boy named Carl. Carl was just a year or two old when he was kicked by a horse and died. On the day of his death, my grandmother gave birth to a third son. He was also named Carl, and he was my father. I would say that Grandma might have been under a little strain about that time.

The fourth child was a girl named Karen. Karen died of an illness, maybe the flu, while still very young. It's sort of eerie. We named our second child Karen, and only in the last few years did I learn of the first Karen Fallgren.

Well, a few words about my Uncle Arthur before I

get back to the main branch. Art was tall, slender and I remember he had quite a deep voice. He married what you might call a "mail order bride" from Minnesota, Minnie. They had no children. They did raise a lot of sheep, and sometimes the lambs were kept in the kitchen. Minnie was sort of a recluse, and not the greatest housekeeper. Art and Minnie would sometimes visit my folks at our house in Almont, which was located near the intersection of the New Salem highway and the railroad track at the west end of town. I remember looking at glass slides projected on the wall by a kerosene lamp. I still have most of that contraption somewhere. Maybe I'm rich and don't know it. And sometimes I would walk over and visit Minnie. She was always good to me. I remember her bread was more sour than what Mom made. She really liked the radio adventure series, and sent for all the code rings and what have you that you'd get in the mail for a boxtop and a quarter. Do you remember standing in the postoffice waiting for the mail to be sorted, because maybe, just maybe today that small cardboard box from Battle Creek, Michigan, would be slipped into your box?

You could set your clock by Arthur's daily trip across the field to town to get the mail, a few groceries, and some liquid refreshment to help pass the evening hours. I had left Almont before Art and Minnie passed away. I last saw Art at a nursing home in Mandan. He still had the deep voice, but was failing, and didn't live very long after my visit. I think that was when my Mom and Dad made their last trip out to Oregon. I think Dad knew he would never be seeing Almont again, and it was not a good time for him.

I never knew my grandparents on Dad's side. I have here a gold-plated pocket watch with the hour hand missing. Curt says he remembers Grandpa winding it at night, and holding it to Curt's ear to let him hear it tick. I'm told that in the last years of his life he suffered from "dropsy", a condition which, among other things, made it impossible for him to sleep laying down. Not a very pleasant condition to contemplate, for days, weeks, and years.

My Dad was a pretty goodlooking young man from the pictures I've seen and what I've been told. He used to play the fiddle at barn dances, and probably cut a pretty sharp figure headed for the dance driving the sulkey. (I hope that's what it was called. I know there is a sulkey plow, too, and I know he didn't ride a plow to the dance, although the furrow might help you find your way home.) Dad had married once before he met my mother, which was quite a shock to my young mind when I first learned of it. That bride apparently had TB, and Dad put all he had into medical expenses, but to no avail. She died soon after their marriage, and is buried at Sims. A small picture of this attractive young woman is still attached to the tombstone. I seem to recall she was related to the Ringham family.

Dad was in WWI, of course, and two of his army buddies were Joe Hoovestol and Joe Olsen. Dad was always good with horses, and even drove a team hauling ammunition in Belgium. He never talked much about the war, but I remember one story of a tent-mate being killed by a shell fragment next to him. I still have Dad's helmet and canteen. He re-

mained an active member of the Almont Legion through the years, and was always proud to be in the Veteran's Day parade.

I guess the way John Fallgren worked it was that he gave Arthur the Almont farm, and Carl got the farm four miles east of Almont, due north of Alvin Peterson's place. I don't know if Dad homesteaded that property for sure, but anyway, that was his place.



Carl and Tillie Fallgren with Kathleen and Curtis

Dad married a lady named Tilly Jacobson about 60 years ago. As I sit here today, I can't recall many details of my grandparents on Mom's side. I know Grandpa Jacobson died while still quite young. His family spent time both in Texas and Canada. It was a fairly big family; Joe and Sally, now deceased, and Juliet, Alma, Nick, and my mother. Sally was married to Ole Peterson, who was once a blacksmith in Almont, a brother to Alvin and George Peterson. Alma was married to Bill Behrend, a section foreman from Glen Ullin. Juliette and Joe have spent most of their lives in Washington. Nick and his new wife now live in Mesa, AZ. You may remember Nick as the fellow who kept bringing pickup loads of fruit from Washington every year. I do, of course, remember Grandma Jacobson. I was married and had my first little girl before she passed away. Grandma spent most of the years that I remember living with her son, Joe, on a small farm near Kennewick, WA, where Joe raised grapes. I was born there, incidentally. Now it's covered by apartment houses.

Mom is still quite well, and living on a small farm that Burton, my brother, owns near Portland. She can still look out her kitchen window and see cows with their new calves and gather a few eggs from the chicken house. Her flower bed still thrives, while my wife and I have quite a struggle to get a few flowers to grow around our house. Dad has been gone since Nov. 10, 1978. He was 85. He rests among his mates from WWI in the veteran's cemetery in Portland.

I wasn't the only child that Carl and Tilly had. In fact, I was sort of an afterthought. They had four before me, and waited nine years to try the fifth time. Curtis is the oldest, having celebrated his 59th birth-

day just a few days ago. Then Kathleen, Rose, Burton, and myself. I never got to know them well until I was well into my teens, what with the difference in ages. We've all gravitated out here to the west coast now, and visit fairly frequently.

I don't think I'd choose any other childhood over the one I had. It was lonely at times, because we didn't seem to drive much back in the early 40's, except when absolutely necessary. Foot power and pedal power were still my primary means of transportation in those days.

There was always plenty of work. I remember looking out at a field of bundles and wondering how I'd ever get through it. I was of the last generation to see a threshing crew as a practical means of harvesting grain. Corn was still picked by hand, and the stalks chopped down with a machete. Hay was pitched into a horsedrawn wagon, except for the part that fell down the neck of your shirt. Cream still produced the grocery money, and the milking guaranteed that you didn't worry about taking a vacation. As I turned up the thermostat this morning, I thought about the chunks of coal us kids would pound into pieces small enough to fit into the stoves at night. You might turn the damper down when you went to bed and fill the stove full, but usually by morning the water bucket would have ice on it. One night I finally got enough covers on me to keep warm, and darned if I didn't start getting cold through the mattress.

But, with all the work, there was time to play as well. We chose up sides and played many a game of softball on the south side of the gym. LeRoy wasn't much fun to field against. He'd just pop it up on the gym roof. Leonard once said I had good control, as I pitched him a few, but New York never signed me up. Donald always caught bigger fish than I did. Of course, he only had to walk a couple of blocks to drop in a line. Bucko and Marshall and I tramped many a mile through the snow, trying to reduce the rabbit population. At 25 cents a rabbit, we almost paid for our shells.

I enjoyed school. I have here a card with a very old quarter taped to it. "Merry Christmas - Miss Johnson." An envelope dated 1954, from "G. Holle, Almont, N. Dak." Inside are two letter 'A's, green and gold. Remember the rides to the basketball games, with Everett peering through a thawed out semi-circle about 4 inches across?

Well, I did get the car washed. Pendleton won their game, 39 to 0. Two more victories could make them State Champs. Oddly enough, their colors are green and gold too. My son has announced he's going out for football next year. He'll be a freshman. Almost outweighs me now. What is his name, you ask? Why, JOHN FALLGREN, of course. Guess that's where we started, isn't it?



MR. AND MRS. OLAF FALLGREN



Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Fallgren

Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Fallgren moved to the Sims and Almont locality in March of 1900. In 1907 they took a homestead on SE 1/4 section 22-138-86 near Almont. In 1912 they moved to Lyons, west of Mandan, where Olaf was section foreman for 14 years.

Fallgrens had eight children: Helen (Mrs. Grant Brooks); Clara (Mrs. C.E. Bredberg); Elsie (Mrs. R.T. Montag); Violet (Mrs. H.E. Smith); Waldemor; Laura (Mrs. Fred Kist); Dorothy (Mrs. Harold Tangelot); and Florence (Mrs. Harley Yarber). Waldemor, Helen and Clara are now deceased.

Mr. Fallgren passed away in 1950 at 83 years of age and Mrs. Fallgren died in 1964 at 87 years.

ART FELAND FAMILY



Standing: Joan Hoovestol, Tim Feland, Carol Hoovestol, Calvin Feland. Seated: Mr. and Mrs. Art Feland.

Art Feland was born Jan. 17, 1915, at Bismarck to Otto and Mathilda Feland of Almont. He attended the Almont school and Dickinson State Teachers College. He taught school for several years and started ranching in 1939. In 1944 he bought the home place one mile southeast of Almont where he still resides.

In 1949 he married Marie Cronin of Flasher, ND. They have four children: Carol, Joan, Tim and Calvin. Carol married Warren Hoovestol in 1968. They had three children: Kay, Kim and Scott. Warren was killed January 31, 1980, in a pickup accident. Carol and the children live in Almont. Joan married Roger Hoovestol in 1973, has three boys: Russell, Randy and Ryan and they live in Bismarck, ND. Tim is currently working at Belfield, ND, and Calvin is at home.

MR. AND MRS. CARL FELAND

Carl Feland was born on the Feland farm near Almont. He grew up there and attended the Almont school. He worked at home and took extra jobs whenever one was available.

Carl Feland and Inga Classen were married June 25, 1936, in the parsonage in Mandan, ND, by Rev. Fylling. They made their home on a farm eight miles southeast of Almont. They farmed and ranched there until 1959 when they built a new home on the southern edge of Almont.



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Feland

Carl Feland, a very hard-working man, has always been interested in the raising and caring of cattle. Several years ago he had purebred Hereford cattle and won Grand Champion on a pen of steers at the Winter Show in Valley City.

Inga Feland was born in the Haymarsh community, from there her parents moved to a farm west of New Salem and, in 1915, they bought the John Nelson farm in Curlew. Mrs. Feland attended the Benson school. She attended high school in Almont, Mandan and graduated from Dickinson. She took her teacher's training in Dickinson and graduated from the Dickinson State College in 1931.

Mrs. Feland taught several years in rural schools, four years in Almont, and did substitute teaching. She belonged to the PTA and was an officer, the Live and Learn Homemakers, and held several offices and was vice president of the Morton County Homemakers Council.

The Felands are members of the Almont Lutheran Church. Mrs. Feland was an active member of the ALCW, in which she held several offices. She was a Sunday School teacher and also church treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. Feland are parents of two children: Marshall and Janet. Marshall's history is in a separate column.

Janet Feland was born April 5, 1940, at New Salem, ND. She married Robert Hanson in the Almont Lutheran Church on June 25, 1965. Mr. Han-

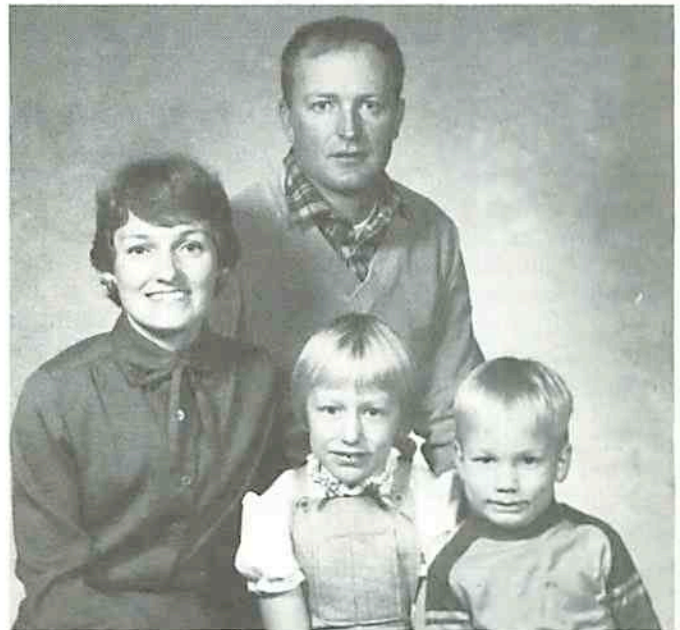


Janet (Feland and Robert Hanson

Back: Sheila and Mark; Seated: Paul and Kimberly Hanson

son's home was in Virginia, MN, and he is a lawyer. Janet graduated with a B.C. degree from Dickinson State College and took graduate work at the University in Grand Forks. She taught school four years in Fort Yates and one year in Colorado Spring, CO. The Hansons moved from Colorado Springs to Washington, D.C., then to St. Paul and now they reside at their permanent home in Grand Forks, ND. They had five children: Heidi Marie, deceased; the living are Sheila, Mark, Paul and Kimberly.

MR. AND MRS. LESTER FELAND



Lester Feland family

Lester Clarence Feland, son of Olaf and Thelma (Mortenson) Feland, was born Feb. 15, 1947. He was confirmed at the Almont Lutheran Church, graduated from Almont High School in 1967, and completed one year of school at Wahpeton State School of Science.

On June 21, 1968, he married Jane Patricia Anderson, daughter of Wallace and Marion (Bond) Anderson. She was born March 17, 1949, and has a twin sister, Jean Penelope (Anderson) Pulver. Pat was confirmed at the Almont Lutheran Church and grad-

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uated from Almont High School in 1967. She worked for the Almont Headstart Program that summer. After completing one year at Bismarck Junior College, she was secretary for the Almont Public School for four years.

Lester bought his dad's farm, located 6½ miles south of Almont, where he farms and ranches.

The couple have two children: Susan Lynn, born in Bismarck on June 4, 1974, and Mark Lesile, born April 22, 1977, in Bismarck.

MR. AND MRS. MARSHALL FELAND



Marshall Feland family

Back: Curtis, Cindy, Clinton. Front: Marshall, LaVyrl, Cathleen

Marshall Feland, son of Carl and Inga Feland, was born Dec. 9, 1937, in Bismarck, ND. He attended school in Almont, graduated from Almont High School in 1955, also attended college at North Dakota State University in Fargo and Dickinson State College.

Marshall married LaVyrl Wolff Nov. 16, 1963, at the First United Methodist Church in Bismarck. They made their home on a farm eight miles southwest of Almont, where Marshall was engaged in ranching and farming with his father. In 1966 he formed Feland Equipment & Supply Company and began selling Owatonna farm equipment. Because of his success in this business, he purchased the Willman Lumber Company from Andrew Willman in 1970 and started the Almont Lumber and Equipment Company, expanding his business to include lumber and building materials. In 1979 he purchased Goetz Lumber Company from Ruben Goetz of Carson, ND, and established the Marshall Lumber Company, Carson, ND.

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LaVyrl Wolff Feland was born in Bismarck on Sept. 16, 1939. She attended school in Bismarck and graduated from Bismarck High School in 1957. LaVyrl attended Bismarck Junior College for one year and worked for the State Tax Department and Lahr and Lahr, Inc., before her marriage.

The Felands have four children: Cynthia, Marshall Curtis, Clinton and Cathleen.

MR. AND MRS. OLAF FELAND



Back: Ernest, Ralph, Lester. Front: Ole, Thelma, Corma

Olaf (Ole) Feland was born to Otto and Tilda (Dahl) Feland on Jan. 22, 1905, at Almont. He was the third child born to their family of seven children.

Ole attended grade school at Almont and was employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad during the years 1926-27. The following year, 1928, he started farming and ranching, establishing a home site seven miles southwest of Almont.

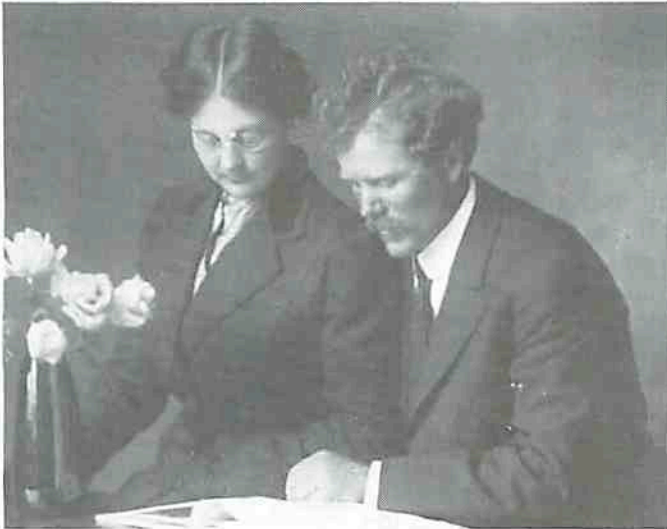
On March 21, 1936, Ole was united in marriage to Thelma Mortenson. They were active members of the Almont Lutheran Church and community life. Ole served on the school board for 20 years and was a member of the first telephone association which brought the first telephone communication to the rural areas.

Thelma Feland died in March of 1967 and Ole retired, leaving the farm in 1968. He is now a resident of New Salem, but remains active and interested in the Almont community.

Four children were born to Thelma and Ole: Ralph, married Naida Fenster, they had three children: Tami, Terrie and Todd, and reside in Mandan, ND; Corma married Lyle Reinke, have three children: Colleen, Douglas and Brian, and reside in Bismarck, ND; Ernest married Donna Joersz, they have three children: Donette, Lisa and Laurie, and live in West Fargo, ND; Lester married Pat Anderson, has two children: Susan and Mark, and lives at the original homesite near Almont.



MR. AND MRS. OSCAR G. FELAND



Mr. and Mrs. Feland

Oscar G. Feland was born at Feland Spangereid, Norway, Nov. 25, 1876. He came to Sims, ND, in 1886 together with his mother, sisters, Dena, Olivia and Jacobine, and his brother, Otto. His father, older brothers, Theodore and Rudolph, and sister, Berthine, had immigrated to Sims in 1882.

While living in Sims, Oscar worked for 15 months in the Sims coal mines and at various jobs in the summer. In 1905, Oscar homesteaded south of Almont on Section 28-137-86. While on his homestead he farmed and also raised some livestock.

Oscar was one of the first to be confirmed in the Sims Lutheran Church, the classes were held up-

stairs in the parsonage. His home was across the road from the church. It was the house that was moved to Almont by Ben Bird.

In 1910 Mrs. Nellie Lauzon, a widow with two children: Ermine and Clifton, came from Webster, SD, and secured a homestead in Grant County south of Almont on section 8-136-86. She managed millinery shops in Carson, Almont, Lark and Flasher. In Carson her shop was on the site where the Jack Merrick home is now. She would travel by train from town to town to attend to her millinery shops and would walk to the shop in Almont.

On Sept. 18, 1912, Oscar Feland and Nellie Lauzon were united in marriage at Mandan, ND. To this union four children were born: Rudolph, Richard, Charlotte and Robert. Ermine (deceased) married Edwin Bond, four children: Richard, Marion, Roger (deceased), and Virginia; Clifton Lauzon (deceased) married Louise Osburn, Minneapolis, MN, one son: Robert (deceased); Rudolph Feland married Ida Olson and lives on the Nels Jacobsen farm; Richard Feland married Luella Thompson and lives at Lewiston, ID, two boys: Craig and Shannon; Charlotte married Clarence Johnson and live on what is known as the B.L. Schmitz farm, six sons: Duane, Dale, Derald, Darwin, Dennis, and Allan; Robert Feland married Lorraine Grimm and they live in Almont, 2 children: Deane of Fargo, ND, and Patty (Mrs. Duane Hoovestol) of Almont.

Oscar and Nellie moved to Almont in 1946 and their son, Robert, took over the farm. Mr. Feland served on the Feland school board for 20 years.

Mrs. Feland passed away April 6, 1960, and Mr. Feland passed away Dec. 29, 1969.

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MR. AND MRS. OTTO FELAND



Back: Anna, Ragnhild, Tilda, Olaf. Front: Trygve, Otto and Carl

Otto August Feland born at Feland per Spange-reid, Norway, on Aug. 30, 1874, came to Sims, ND, in 1886 together with his mother, sisters, Dena, Olivia, Jacobine, and youngest brother, Oscar. His father, Ole Feland, and older brothers, Theodore and Rudolph, and sister, Berthine, had immigrated to Sims in 1882.

During his teens he and several of his brothers worked in the harvest fields in the eastern part of the state. One summer he worked with a group of men who plowed a fire guard with horses and breaking plows along the Northern Pacific Railroad from the Missouri River at Mandan to Glendive, MT.

When he was 19 years old, he decided to secure a homestead. At that time one could have squatter's rights on land until he reached the age of 21 and could file on a homestead. He bought a 3-room house in Sims and with horses and wagons pulled it to his chosen farmstead on Section 2-137-86. When he was 21 years old, he filed and proved up on his claim.

In the fall of 1898 he returned to Norway and in October was married to Tilda Elizabeth Dahl of Angfest Lyngdal, Norway. Directly after their marriage they came to the farm home a mile southeast of Almont, which at that time was only a railroad siding.

In the early days of the homestead, Mr. Feland did ranching, raising cattle and horses, which he sold to other homesteaders. During the winter he also worked in the Sims coal mine. Later he turned to raising more cattle and finally did more grain farming. He

also served as road overseer for several years and on the school board in Feland School District for 13 years. Since there were no roads to the school, he plowed a furrow for his 5-year-old daughter, Anna, to follow so she would not lose her way.

Mr. and Mrs. Feland were the parents of nine children, two of whom died in infancy and Anna who died in 1926. Their remaining children are: Art, who lives on the home place; Trygve, Carl and Ragnhild, Almont; Olaf, New Salem, and Mabel (Mrs. George Ferguson) Portland, OR. Mable enrolled in Almont school in 1918 and graduated in 1929. She received a Standard Certificate from Dickinson Normal in 1932 and later a B.A. degree. She also attended summer session at University of Idaho. She taught in Almont grades 1932-34 and high school (1937-42).



George and Mabel Ferguson

Mr. Feland made his home on the farm until his death July 10, 1944. In 1948 his wife and daughter, Ragnhild, moved to Almont where Mrs. Feland made her home until her passing Nov. 5, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Feland were active members of the Almont Lutheran Church.

ROBERT FELAND FAMILY



Lorraine and Bob Feland and grandson, Alan Hoovestol

Robert Oscar Feland was born Jan. 2, 1921, to Oscar G. Feland and Nellie Oslund Feland (one of four children). He attended area schools and spent 3½ years in the army during World War II. He met Lorraine Nolan Grimm after returning home from the war. Lorraine was born Sept. 27, 1924, to Thomas Nolan and Mae Adams. She attended schools in the Judson area and also Dickinson State College. She taught school at Feland School II for two years.

They were married Nov. 10, 1945, in Billings, MT, and returned home to farm for 25 years. Deane Robert was born Sept. 27, 1946, and a girl, Patricia, was born July 19, 1949.

Bob worked 17 years as a brand inspector in Mandan-Bismarck sales rings, one year at Fargo, ND, and one year at Dickinson Stockyard before they returned to Almont in 1973 where they still reside. Bob was a professional horseshoer for nine years in the Almont to Bismarck to Fargo and Minnesota area.

Their son, Deane, lives in Fargo with his wife, Nancy, and son, Kai. Their daughter, Patty, is living in the Almont area with her husband, Duane Hoovestol, and their sons, Alan and Travis, and daughter, Marlo.

MR. AND MRS. RUDOLPH FELAND



Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Feland

Ida Feland, daughter of Severt Olson and Rudolph Feland, son of Oscar G. Feland, were married Aug. 1, 1942. Shortly after this event Rudolph entered the army in December of 1942. He was discharged in November of 1945. When he retired, he worked for Bill Joersz in the grocery store.

In 1947 they moved to the Nels Jacobson farm, one mile south of where he was raised, and has been there ever since. Mrs. Feland taught school for 42 years in Morton and Grant counties.

MR. AND MRS. RUDOLPH FELAND

Rudolph Feland, in 1882, when about 14 years of age, came from Feland, Spangereid, Norway, with his father, sister and brother to Sims, ND. When he was about 20 years old, together with his younger brother, Otto, he built up a ranch place west of Almont, which they later sold to Frank Owens and Mr. Feland moved back to Sims. For several years he worked at various jobs in the western states. He came back to Sims to make his home and in 1898 was married to Emelia Gunnarson. They later moved out on a homestead on the small creek several miles west of Almont where he did ranching. Later he bought another farm where the family lived for several years, which he sold to Nels Seim.

In 1911 Mr. and Mrs. Feland and family moved to a farm near Antler in Bottineau Co., ND, where they resided until their deaths. Their children now living are Noah, O. Arthur and Theodore, living in Montana; Stanley, George and Ralph, living in North Dakota; and Ruth, living in Portland, OR.

MR. AND MRS. THEODORE O. FELAND



Mr. and Mrs. Theodore O. Feland

Theodore O. Feland, born in Spangereid, Norway, Aug. 14, 1863, passed away at his home at Sims, June 24, 1925, where he had been a resident for more than 40 years.

At the age of 14, shortly after confirmation, he went to sea, visited most of the European countries and America. In 1882, with his father, brother and sister, he left Norway and came to the United States, settling at Sims, then known as Bly's Mine.

He held many offices of trust and was one of the organizers of the Sims Lutheran Church and was an officer of the church until the time of his death. He worked for the N.P.R.R. for some time but soon saw the possibilities of the Sims coal field and formed a partnership with Burton and operated several coal mines there. Later he went into the livestock business. He could never be convinced that small grain farming was a paying proposition and pinned his faith on livestock. Mr. Feland operated a brickyard at Sims that helped supply the brick for the old capitol building at Bismarck.

In 1906 he was appointed County Commissioner to fill the vacancy of Adolph Jacobson. In 1910 he was elected to that office and was chairman of the

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board and held this position until the time of his death. His term would have expired in 1927.

In 1891 he married Theodine Marie Johnson, born in Flesaland, Norway, Jan. 6, 1873. At the age of eight she came to the United States with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Aanon Johnson, who settled in Sims. She was a lifelong member of the Sims Lutheran Church and Ladies Aid. Mrs. Feland passed away June 24, 1938, 13 years to the day after her husband had died.

Their children are: Mrs. Charles (Alice) Dunahey, deceased; Mrs. Colburn (Olga), Auburn, WA; Mrs. J.S. (Anna) Johnson, deceased; Mrs. Victoria Schollert, Billings, MT; Mrs. Dave (DeLoris) Morrel, Mobile, AL; Oscar Feland, deceased; Palmer T. Feland, Sonoma, CA; Fritz Feland, deceased (1952), and two children who died in infancy.

MR. AND MRS. TRYGVE FELAND



Mabel and Trygve Feland

Trygve Feland was born Feb. 23, 1907, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Feland. Trygve farmed with his brother, Olaf, south of Almont for several years. He worked for the Northern Pacific railroad and later moved to Almont and worked as a carpenter until he retired in 1970.

Mr. Feland married the former Mabel Mortenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Mortenson. She was born July 26, 1906, and raised on the family farm on the Heart River south of Almont.

Mabel passed away in February 1973. They have one daughter, Doris Ann, who married Marian Becker in September of 1968. Doris and Marian have two sons, Brendan and Russell, and live north of Bismarck, ND.

NOTE: Trygve passed away April 21, 1981.

JOHN FREY (1882-1969)

One of the early-day founders of Almont was John Frey. His name appears in the Almont Golden Jubilee Book as a storekeeper and as assistant Sunday School superintendent of the first Sunday School in 1907.

A little incident that Mr. Frey used to relate concerned his store in Almont. It seems that the varied merchandise sold in the store included reading

glasses. One of the leading citizens of the community decided that a pair of glasses was what she needed to improve her reading and, perhaps, to add a little prestige.

Mr. Frey selected numerous pairs, putting them on her very carefully (no plastic frames in those days) and gave her a printed card to read. None of them was improving her vision until, in desperation, Frey put on the last pair he had in the box. "Ah, yes. These are good. I can see the best with these. I will take them." As she removed the spectacles she discovered there was no glass in them. Mr. Frey paid for his fun by having the lady beat her purse around his ears.

Soon after leaving Almont, Mr. Frey was employed by Klein and Johnson of Washburn, ND, as a land agent. He sold a number of farms to the landowners in McLean County. About this time, in 1916, he married Miss Bertha Koenig of Parkston, SD.

He became interested in selling good seed to his farm friends and developed a seed corn business in Turtle Lake, ND, during the 1920's. Mr. Frey served on the Triple A (Agriculture Adjustment Administration) committee from the time it was organized in the "30's" until November, 1943.

Mr. and Mrs. Frey attended Almont's Golden Jubilee in 1956. He appears in a group picture of Old Settlers who were 70 years of age or older at that time. He died in 1969 at the age of 87, leaving three children and six grandchildren.

Written by Mrs. Harold Nordwall, Turtle Lake, ND

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ROBERT GRAY



Father-Thomas L. Gray

Mother-Amanda Gray



Andrew, Robert and Thomas Gray

Robert Gray, the oldest son of Thomas L. Gray and Amanda M. Earickson, was born in St. Paul, MN. His father was born in Scotland and his mother in Sweden. The father later moved to Canada and then on to St. Paul, MN, where he and Amanda met and were married.

Robert was born in St. Paul on May 30, 1896. The family moved to Glendive, MT, in 1897 where four more children were born: Elsie, Nellie, Andrew and Thomas. The fall of 1907 they moved to Sims, ND, and settled on a farm there. The farm consisted of the "Gray" house and the land west of it. Tom Gray operated the Northern Pacific Water Pumping Station at Sims for many years. Mrs. Gray boarded the school teachers and railroad operators. The "Gray" house is one of the most photographed houses in this area. It was originally built for Dr. Nutting and was a show place due to its unique architecture. Robert and his brothers and sisters attended school in Sims. After completing his eighth grade education he worked on his father's farm until 1917 when he came to Mandan, ND. He began work as a brakeman for the Northern Pacific Railroad. He was called into service during World War I and served his country for 18 months, then returned to Mandan, again being employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad. He served four years as Morton County Sheriff and two terms in the North Dakota Legislature. He retired from the railroad as a conductor in 1961 after 49 years of employment.

Robert married Blanche Hudson on April 7, 1924, and they had one daughter, Donna (Landgrebe), who resides in Carson, ND. They (Blanche and Robert) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in May 1974 and in November 1974 Blanche died. He married Elda Loper in October 1976 and they reside in the home in Mandan that was purchased in 1923.

His mother, father, and two sisters are deceased. Andrew married Carrie Christenson. He is now retired from the railroad and lives in Beach, ND. They have six children. Thomas is married, has one child and lives in Fordville, ND.

RONALD AND KAREN GRONINGER

In 1975 a new face was added to the Almont social scene and a new business to the commercial scene. Ronald Groninger, owner of G.O. Construction, began in that year to construct a new dwelling for Ida Olson on the west side of the city. It seems he must have liked something about Almont as he stayed around and the next year began construction of a 4-unit 2-bedroom apartment building located across from the Almont school.

On Jan. 15, 1978, he was joined in marriage to the former Karen Olson of Almont whom he had met a few years ago in Sunday School of the Wesleyan Church. Karen says that usually things like that only happen in books!

The Groningers have been active in community church activities, working as a Bible study leader in the Wesleyan Church and filling some lay-pastoral duties. Karen has been pianist at the church for years and Ron has been Sunday School superintendent, teacher and youth group advisor.

Another activity the Groningers have been involved in is a kid's club called CYC, which is short for Christian Youth Crusaders. This group is similar to scouting but has more of a Christian emphasis. It has been run strictly on an interdenominational basis and has been subject of great interest for the children of Almont. Ron was also the coordinator for the tennis court project.

G.O. Construction is now a very diversified small business. Ron has done a lot of excavation and concrete work in our area, as well as building a number of pole buildings. G.O. Construction also does drywall, remodeling, and some types of masonry construction. Ron enjoys working with people.

The Groningers at this time are living in Delano, MN, and Ron is attending St. Paul Bible College where he is taking many classes as well as learning Greek which has long been a desire of his. They have two children: Andrew, who is 19 months, and Nathan, who is one month at this writing. They are looking forward to returning to Almont.



Karen and Ronald Groninger

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The Lester Feland Family - Almont, North Dakota



ELMER GUSTAFSON FAMILY

Laura & Elmer
Gustafson - 1978

Elmer Gustafson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gustafson, Marshall, ND, and wife, Laura Gustafson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fuchs, Richardton, ND, moved to Almont in 1958 from Marshall, ND.

Laura and Elmer have nine children: Jackie (Mrs. James Keniston); Patty (Mrs. Milton Olson); Sharon (Mrs. DuWayne Anner); Roger Gustafson; Bonnie (Mrs. Raymond Zempel); Nancy (Mrs. Dave Dvorak); Ginger (Mrs. Gene Peterson); Candy (Mrs. Stuart Olson), and Judy (Mrs. Idar Handegard).

Laura was active in the Lutheran Church, choir, ALCW, Sunday School teacher and Almont Homemakers Club.

They moved from Almont to Dickinson, ND, where they presently reside.

MR. AND MRS. CHRIS HALVORSON

Chris Halvorson was born to Matilda (Hermanson) and Ole Halvorson in Oslo, Norway, Feb. 1, 1901; a sister, Johanna, was born in 1904. The family came to North Dakota and settled on a farm southwest of Almont in November 1906. Chris graduated from rural school in Curlew. He helped on the farm and worked on the Northern Pacific Railroad section crew from 1917 to 1921.

In April 1922 he graduated from business college in Bismarck, ND, and began work for C.E. Kelsven. He was assistant postmaster, bookkeeper and clerk.

On Aug. 20, 1924, he married Agnes M. Aymond of Neche, ND. She had taught in Almont High School for two years. In 1926 they bought the Kruger General Merchandise store. Agnes continued teaching.

In February 1931 their first child, Richard Dale, was born. In September 1933 a daughter, Mary Joan, was born.

They purchased the C.E. Kelsven store in 1941 and moved to the home above it. This was sold to Bill Joersz in 1945 and they then bought the Super Valu Store in Hettinger, ND, and moved there.

Richard graduated from Hettinger High School and St. Thomas College and when Chris had a heart attack in 1954 he came home to manage the store.

Mary Joan graduated from Hettinger High School

in 1951 and St. Catherine's College in 1955. She taught one year and married Floyd Chalcraft of Hettinger.

In 1956 Chris built a new store in Hettinger and moved there in March 1957. This store was enlarged in 1966 and again in 1978. In 1961 Floyd, Mary Joan and family moved to Hettinger and Floyd worked in the store.

In 1962 they bought the Co-op store in Mott and Richard moved there to manage that. The next year they built a new store and also formed a corporation of Hettinger and Mott stores.

Dec. 23, 1966, Richard married Shirley Smith, a teacher from Redfield, SD. In 1976 Chris retired from active work; the corporation is now owned by Richard, Shirley, Floyd and Mary Joan.

Chris bought a home in Apache Wells Mobile Park and resides there six or more months a year; the remaining time is spent in Hettinger. He is active in golf, in a barbershop quartet and a male chorus. Agnes does crafts and belongs to several clubs. Chris was presented with the Grocer of the Year Award at the 11th annual N.D. Association of Food Retailers State Convention.

OLE HALVORSON FAMILY



Halvorson Family - 1946

Ole Halvorson was born in Eidsvold, Norway, July of 1865. He worked as a railroad brakeman. In 1899 he married Mathilda Hermanson, a seamstress. She was born in Austad, Norway, in 1871. They lived in Christiania, now Oslo. Two children, Chris and Johanna, were born there.

In April 1905 Mr. Halvorson came to Lyons, ND, where he began work with the railroad. His wife and children arrived in October 1905. In November 1906 they moved on a homestead six miles southwest of Sims or four miles west of Almont. He worked the farm and also worked as a railroad section laborer at Kurtz & Curlew. In 1909 they moved to Curlew where Mr. Halvorson continued work on the railroad and she operated a boarding house.

In 1911 they moved back to the homestead. Three children were born there: Oscar, Harold and Aalga.

In 1938 they sold the farm and bought a home in Almont. In 1946 Mrs. Halvorson had several strokes and was not able to walk again. In 1947 they went to Hettinger to live with Chris and family. She died at the Dickinson Hospital in May 1949. Except for part of a year spent with his daughter, Johanna, at Oakes, Ole remained at Hettinger. He died there in December of 1956.

Their youngest child, Aalga, became a teacher.



Halvorson Family Reunion - 1948

She married Tony Hegel and moved to Stockton, CA, where one son, Terry, was born. She died there in January of 1948.

Johanna also taught school. She married Konrad Ehrlin of Oakes, ND. They farmed there, later moved into Oakes where she died in 1955.

Oscar went to New Jersey to visit an aunt and remained there. He married Rose Franchina. She died in 1950 and he in 1967. Two children, Roger and Linda, survive.

Harold married Marjorie Wright and they live in Bismarck, ND. He formerly managed the Lumber Mart but was forced to retire because of ill health. He was bookkeeper for Olin Manufacturing Co. He died in March 1977 and Marjorie still lives in Bismarck. They have three children: Marold of Minot, ND; D'Arten and Sharon, both married and living in Bismarck, ND.

Chris married Agnes Aymond, a high school teacher from Neche, ND. They have two children: Richard and Mary Joan. They had a store in Almont, sold it in 1945 and moved to Hettinger, ND.

AXEL HANSEN FAMILY



Mr. and Mrs. Axel Hansen

Mr. and Mrs. Axel Hansen were born in Oslo, Norway. Axel was born August 23, 1876, and his wife, Olava (Nilsen) Hansen, was born Sept. 18, 1877. They were married at Oslo, Norway, where their two oldest sons, Norman and Waldemar, were born.

After fulfilling his training in the army, Axel was a cabinet maker by trade. In 1903 Alex and Olava came to the United States, settling in Minneapolis, MN, where Axel worked at his trade. In the spring of 1907, the Axel Hansen and C.G. Thor families came to Almont, ND, with their household goods and tools. The

Axel Hansens homesteaded 4½ miles southwest of Almont on Section 3-137-86. They stayed at the John Hansen family home until they had built their house. Axel continued farming and doing carpenter work. He helped build many of the buildings in and around Almont. He suddenly became ill with typhoid fever and passed away in October 1925 at the age of 49.

There were then many hardships encountered by Olava and her young family after losing their husband and father. Olava and the children later moved into Almont and her son, Norman, and his family took over the farming. Mrs. Axel Hansen passed away in June 1942. The Hansens were parents of nine children, three of whom are deceased. They are: Norman, Waldemar, Lena (deceased), Chris (deceased), Helga, Eugene (died in World War II, July 6, 1944 in France), Gladys, Evelyn and Lillian.

WALDEMAR AND HELEN HANSEN

Waldemar was born in Norway in 1903 and came to the United States when he was 6 months old. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Hansen, moved to Amont in 1907. Helen was born near the Heart River in 1905. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Sharff, moved to Almont in 1911.

Waldemar attended the country school near the family homestead while Helen attended grade and high school at Almont. They were married in 1922 and lived in Almont until 1927 when they moved to New Salem and later to Sims, finally leaving Almont in 1943 for Kansas, then Portland, OR, and moving to Seattle in late 1945 where they still live.

Their two children, Fontabelle Clapp and Wyman, also live in Seattle. They have four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

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HELGA (HANSEN) PURFEERST

Helga, born in 1907 to Mr. and Mrs. Axel Hansen, was their fourth child, but the first born to them after moving to North Dakota. She attended the country school near their home and entered high school at Almont. In 1926 she married George Purfeerst from New Salem and lived there until they returned to a farm near Almont in 1931. They moved into Almont in 1934. In 1942 George was called to Colorado to work on defense projects and after working in Colorado and Kansas they moved to Washington in 1943. George passed away in 1959 but Helga still lives in Seattle near her four children: LaVerne Robbins of Seattle, Robert of Lynnwood, Harmon of Woodinville and LaJean Jackson of Everett. There are 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

GLADYS (HANSEN) GUENTHER

Gladys was born and raised in Almont. She married Art Guenther Oct. 16, 1941, and have lived on the Guenther farm near Judson ever since. There are three children: Dennis, Ardys and Roger. Dennis married Margaret Fadness and they have three children: Marc, Michael and Kristen, and live at Hettinger, ND. Ardys married Gerald Olson and has two children: Michelle and Scott. They live at Mandan, ND. Roger married Marion Kraft and they have two children: Chanda and Ronald. They live at New Salem.



Gladys and Art Guenther

EVELYN (HANSEN) BALTRUSCHAT



Henry Baltruschat family

Evelyn Valborg Hansen was born Feb. 16, 1918, the eighth child of Axel and Olava Hansen. She attended school at Almont and worked for several years in the Almont and Mandan areas. In 1938 she married Henry Baltruschat of Sweetbriar. The couple lived on the Baltruschat farm at Sweetbriar until 1974 when they retired and moved to Valley City, ND.

Henry and Evelyn have three daughters: Cheryl, Seattle, WA, is employed as a legal secretary; Judy married Gary Burchill, Hope, ND. They have a son, Justin; Marlys is married to Howard Richtsmeier of Hunter, ND. They have two boys, Jeremy and Bryce.

LILLIAN (HANSEN) HALLAN

Lillian Hansen, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Axel Hansen, received her elementary education in the rural school southwest of Almont and is an alumni of Almont High School, class of 1939. She attended Valley City State Teacher's College and taught school three years in the Almont and Judson communities. In 1947 she married Peter Hallan from Turtle Lake. She is employed in the office for Sears Roebuck & Co. in Los Angeles, CA, where they have lived for the past 28 years. They have one son, Jim, who with his wife, Abby, and one son, Brian, live in Fullerton, CA.



Lillian and Peter Hallan

NORMAN HANSEN



Norman and Nettie Hansen

Norman H. Hansen, son of Axel and Olava (Nilson) Hansen was born Sept. 9, 1901, at Vestfossen, Norway, on a farm named Sparen. At the age of two he came with his parents and younger brother, Waldemar, to the United States and settled in Minneapolis, MN. In April 1907 the Hansen and C.G. Thor families moved (with one railroad carload of household goods, one carload of machinery and a few cattle) to Almont, ND, and took up homesteads four miles southwest of Almont. Axel had a brother, John, who had come to Almont one year earlier. Hansens and Thors moved in with John Hansens to live until they got houses build. The house the John Hansens lived in was one room, not very big, with an addition added on. It was rather crowded with six adults and eight children. Norman has one brother and four sisters.

Norman went to work in the Red River Valley when he was 16 years, working in the harvest fields and also helping harvest potatoes. In 1925 Norman and his brother, Waldemar, operated a well-boring machine. They dug many wells around the community; some are still being used. Later Norman was engaged in farming. He was baptized in Norway, confirmed in Almont and attended a rural school.

Nettie Olson, daughter of Tobias and Olevine (Christinsen) Olson, was born Feb. 7, 1906, at Curlew, the farm owned by Leslie Jacobson. Nettie's parents came from Norway to the United States in 1888, settling in Sims, ND, later moving to Curlew, ND. Nettie attended rural school at Curlew and high school at Almont. At a double wedding, Norman and Nettie were united in marriage along with Alfred and Gertie Telford on May 28, 1927, in the Sims Evangelical Lutheran Church by Rev. J. Thornell. Gertie is Nettie's sister. Nettie was baptized and confirmed in the same church. She has eight sisters and two brothers. Nettie and Norman moved to New Salem, ND, in 1927 where Norman worked five winters in the deep coal mine and two years with MDU where he helped build the power line into Almont. In 1932 they purchased his father's home and some years later, the C.G. Thor farm. In addition to farming and ranching, he has done carpentry work, and worked for ASC for 20 years. He served on the Feland school board for nine years.

Two daughters were born to this union: Nathalie Olevine on June 4, 1930, and Gloria Noreen on Sept. 25, 1932. Both girls graduated from the 8th grade in the same rural school their father attended and from Almont High School. Nathalie attended Bismarck Junior College and married Harvey J. Thorson at Bismarck, ND, on Feb. 22, 1948. They had two children: Douglas Jerome (deceased) Nov. 6, 1966. He was a junior at Almont High School. They also had a daughter, Mary Jane, who is attending the School of Nursing at Jamestown, ND. The Thorson family live on a farm four miles west of Almont and are engaged in farming and ranching. Nathalie enjoyed public speaking and was noted for her wit as Mistress of Ceremonies. She died Oct. 14, 1974.

Gloria attended teacher's college at Dickinson, ND, and taught rural school. She married Martin Doll Jr. at Almont, ND, June 6, 1954. They have four children: Gray Martin, with the Air Force for 6 years, stationed at Grand Forks, ND, now living in Livingston, MT; Melanie Ann married Jerry Helmer, has one daughter, Allison, 4 years old, and they live in Livingston, MT; Gail Maureen married Gale Arnold, have one son, Justin Gale, 2 months old, and live at Emigrant, MT, on a ranch; Marilyn Fay married George (Butch) Stebbins and they live in Billings, MT. Martin and Gloria live in Livingston, MT, where Martin work on construction and cabinet building. Gray works with his father on construction.

In 1969 Norman and Nettie became semi-retired and moved to Almont. Their home, which they remodeled, originally had been built with the help of Norman's father in 1917 and lived in by them. Later Nettie's folks lived there. It is also known as the Severt Olson house, owned by them when it was first built. Norman still goes to the farm and keeps up the fences, but leases out the farm. They are both active members of the Almont United Lutheran Church and many other organizations. In June of 1972 they enjoyed a 3-week trip to Norway and visited Norman's birthplace and grandparent's home. They also visited Nettie's birthplace, parent's and grand-parents' homes. They saw many places that Nettie remembered when she visited with her family in 1910 and 1914. They also met and visited many relatives.

Norman and Nettie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 28, 1977. A reception was held for them at the Almont United Lutheran Church with the ALCW in charge of the reception. Many friends and relatives attended and all enjoyed a good time.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN HANSON

John Hanson and Thea Holm were both born in Olso, Norway; Mr. Hanson July 10, 1874 and Mrs. Hanson March 30, 1874.

Upon landing in America they were married in New York City on June 20, 1896. Mr. Hanson was a painter by trade and made many moves, including New Jersey, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minneapolis. Work was scarce so they decided to come to North Dakota to get a homestead which they took 2½ miles southwest of the town that was to be Almont, arriving in 1906. They remained on the farm until 1936 when they moved to Seattle. They made their home there with their sons, Harold and David.



Mr. and Mrs. John Hanson

There were eight children in the family, one boy, Herman, passed away at 8 years of age. The others include: Mrs. John L. Drummond (Mary), Lancaster, CA; Mrs. C.G. Martin (Lillian), Bismarck, ND, and Chris Hanson, Huntington Park, CA. Harold, Paul, Hans and David are all deceased.

In 1946 they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a reception in their home. All seven children were in attendance. Mr. Hanson passed away Dec. 27, 1955, and later Mrs. Hanson died in Seattle, WA.

JOHN HEGEL FAMILY

John Hegel was born in Russia on Sept. 2, 1898. He came to the United States with his parents in 1910. John married Clementine Schutz on Nov. 24, 1924, at Crown Butte. They moved to the Almont community in 1924 and farmed south of Almont for 36 years. They were members of St. Joseph's church, south of Glen Ullin. John died May 6, 1960, and Clementine moved to Richardton, ND, in 1961, where she still resides.

John and Clementine had 11 children. Joseph was born Aug. 30, 1925. He married Magdalene Steckler Nov. 13, 1946. They live at Glendive, MT, and have eight children: Patrick, Mary Ann, Phyllis, Linda, Cyril, Richard, Larry and Laurie.

Rose was born Nov. 19, 1926, and married Leo Reinbold June 14, 1958. They live in Bismarck and have three children: Brian, Russell and Mary Jean.

Elizabeth (Betty) was born June 23, 1928, and married Michael Steckler Oct. 26, 1948. They live south of Glen Ullin and have eight children: Del Ray, David, Denise, Donna, Dennis, Danny, Diane and Daryl.

Raymond, born Jan. 25, 1930, married Perpetua Doll on June 22, 1954. They live in Montesano, WA, and have three children: Debra, Kevin and Patricia.

Matthew (Matt), born May 18, 1931, married Bertha Wiedner on Dec. 1, 1951. They have four children: Roger, Janice, Renee and Mark. Matt and Zora were married in 1977 and live at Fairfield, MT.

Edward was born May 26, 1934, and married Martha Schulz on June 4, 1957. They live at Missoula, MT, and have five children: Joan, Gerard, Carla, John and Paul.

Peter was born Jan. 24, 1933 and died July 4, 1933.

Jerome (Jerry), born Feb. 26, 1936, married Iona Hoovestol on Nov. 21, 1956. They live at Bismarck, ND, and have three children: Dwight, DuWayne and Darren.

Leonard was born Feb. 3, 1939; he married Barbara Messer June 24, 1961, and lives in Yakima, WA. They have six children: Anthony, Marie, Susan, Joseph, William and Jeremy.

Thomas, born Oct. 12, 1941, married Mary Jo Kosta April 21, 1963. They live near Everly, IA, and have two children: Roxanne and Ronald.

Delbert, born May 20, 1946, married Janice Mischell June 27, 1970. They live at Williston, ND, and have two children: Nicole and Tiffany.

JERRY HEGEL FAMILY

Jerome (Jerry) Hegel was born south of Almont on Feb. 26, 1936. He attended country grade school and graduated from Almont High School in 1954. He then attended Dickinson State College.

Jerry married Iona Hoovestol on Nov. 21, 1956. She graduated from Almont High School in 1955 and also attended Dickinson State College. Jerry taught and coached in Deering and Gackle, ND, and in 1961 moved to Bismarck where he worked as a sales manager for Field Enterprises. In 1963 he began working for Meyer Broadcasting Co. and is now general sales manager for the Meyer Television Network.

Jerry and Iona have three boys: Dwight, born Oct. 7, 1957, married Kimberly Duechsherer July 23, 1979, owns Superior Silk Screen in Bismarck, one son: Chad; DuWayne, born April 10, 1959, married Pamela Askew May 5, 1979, works for Superior Silk Screen, one daughter: Melissa; Darren, born July 4, 1967, and is a student at Hughes Junior High.

CHARLEY HOEGER

Charley Hoeger, son of Fred and Marie Hoeger, was born in Chicago on March 12, 1881. His parents and brother, William, had recently come from Germany. They arrived in New Salem at midnight April 16, 1883, in a boxcar and lived in the boxcar until a shelter could be built.

One time when his father was working away from his home, his mother needed a sack of flour. Since they had no wagon or oxen, she led the milk cow back home. A few years later his folks bought a wagon and a team of oxen and a nice tame pony was purchased from the Indians for riding.

Another time when his father was working away from home, their neighbor, Jacob Held, told his mother to rush to New Salem as they were expecting difficulties with some Indians who had left the reservation. His mother and older brother loaded what belongings they could on the wagon and went with the

oxen to New Salem. Charley was permitted to ride the pony. Arriving in New Salem at 2:00 a.m., they found the danger was over and returned home.

When he was nine years old, his folks bought a farm about 4½ miles southeast of Almont. Charley stayed there alone and herded the cattle until they could move. He had a younger brother, Fritz, and two sisters, Agnes and Martha. Martha died as a child.

Charley began farming on his own 5½ miles southeast of Almont with eight bulls and two steers that he broke as oxen, sharing his father's machinery. On Nov. 10, 1908, he married Hedwig Itrich. Their two daughters are Mrs. Clara Schwinkendorf and Mrs. Olga Bopp of New Salem. Their mother died in March of 1911, leaving him with the two little girls. Clara stayed with his parents and Olga stayed with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Mernitz, who lived about 23 miles northwest of New Salem.



Charley and Elizabeth Hoeger

On Nov. 30, 1911, he married Anna Schacht and brought his girls home again. Their children are Mrs. Louise Bopp of New Salem; Carl; Johnny; Mrs. Ruth Huston, Spokane, WA; Raymond, Escondido, CA, and Harold, Belcourt, ND. Their mother died Jan. 1, 1928, leaving him alone to raise the children. Times began to get really hard, but with God's help he made it somehow.

Mr. Hoeger and Mrs. Elizabeth Base were married March 25, 1946. They enjoyed playing their violins and singing in the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Almont. He retired from farming in 1954, selling his farm to his grandson, Gordon Bopp. Later they moved to Almont. Elizabeth died June 24, 1973, and he moved to New Salem to live with his son-in-law and daughter, Olga, the George Bopps. Charley died June 4, 1978. Besides eight children, he now has 32 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

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MR. AND MRS. FRITZ HOEGER, SR.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Hoeger came to Chicago from Germany. In 1883 they came to New Salem with a group of new settlers. They all lived in boxcars while the men looked for their homesteads. Their son, Charles, was the first baby to come to New Salem.

The Hoeger homestead was their home until 1890 when they bought a farm three miles southeast of Almont, which was their home as long as they lived. Mr. Hoeger died in 1911 and Mrs. Hoeger in 1932.

Their children were: William Hoeger, deceased; Charles Hoeger, deceased; Agnes Hoeger Whistler of Custer, MT; Fritz Hoeger, deceased.



Mrs. Fritz Hoeger, Sr.

FRITZ HOEGER

Fritz Hoeger's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Hoeger, Sr., came from Metz, Germany, in 1881. They resided in Chicago until coming to New Salem by immigrant train in 1883. Their first home was a sod house. Fritz was born June 9, 1892.

In 1900 the family moved from their farm north of New Salem to a farm on the Muddy Creek. This is about three miles southeast of what is now Almont.

Fritz rode horseback seven miles to school where Carl Fallgren, Eddie Knutson and Selma (Seim) Olson also attended; Andrew Holritz was the teacher. Once a snowstorm came up so they tied a long rope to the horse and everyone held onto the rope and went through the storm to the Rick Olson home.

Fritz served in the infantry in World War I. He fought in the battle of the Meuse-Argonne Drive. After the armistice, he homesteaded in Saco, MT.

In 1921 Fritz Hoeger and Caroline Kaelberer were married. He farmed on the home place at Almont until 1960, when he moved into Almont and maintained a residence there until his death in March, 1977.

There were six children: Mrs. Evert (Helen) Mainquist, Buffalo, MN; Fred, Terry, MT; Henry, Sylmar, CA; Ernest, Yakima, WA (deceased July 1980); Mary Ann, Springfield, IL, and Alice, San Francisco, CA.

Fritz was a lifelong member of the American Legion. At Almont's 50th anniversary, Fritz, Carl Fallgren, Pete Thorson and Joe Hoovestol were the four remaining World War I veterans.

GILBERT AND LAVERNE HOLLE

Gil and LaVerne Moltzen Holle lived in Almont from 1951 to 1956 where he was superintendent of Almont school and she taught in the intermediate grades. LaVerne also taught in the system for several years previous to that time. They taught 10 years in Kulm and 15 in Napoleon where they still live.

They have two children: Cheryl, married Wayne Aberle of Napoleon and they live in Williston where he is a highway patrolman. They have a son, Darcy. Jim lives in Alexandria, MN, and is a federal bank examiner.



LaVerne and Gil Holle
Wayne, Cheryl, son Darcy, and Jim

MR. AND MRS. ANDREW HOLRITZ

Andrew Holritz and Laura Ims were married in the Sims church, July 11, 1908. They were children of pioneer parents and lived their first years of married life in Sims where Mr. Holritz was depot agent for a number of years. When their only son, Fredrick, was ready for high school they moved to Almont, where Mr. Holritz continued as NP depot agent.

While in Almont they were members of the Lutheran organizations and put forth every effort to advance the Kingdom of Heaven among their fellowmen; winning hearts by their faithful testimony and work.

In 1928 the family moved to Belfield, ND, where they lived up to the time of Mr. Holritz's death in 1940.

Their son, Fredrick, his wife and three daughters make their home in Minneapolis, while Mrs. Holritz has her home in Mandan, ND.

MR. AND MRS. FRED HOLRITZ, SR.

Fred Holritz was born in Norway and came to the states as a young man, spending some time in the south. He and Miss Anderson, sister of Hans Anderson, Almont pioneer, were married in Minnesota and came to Dakota Territory in 1888, locating at Sims which was, at the time, one of the most promising towns in the territory. He established a general store there. In 1890 and 1894 he was elected a representative and while serving in the legislature had a most creditable record.

The Holritz's were faithful members of the Sims Lutheran Church and willingly assumed their duties as such. At one time they made a large donation of dishes to the Ladies Aid, a gift which is still remembered by many.

Mr. Holritz and sons built a store in Almont which was later sold to C.E. Kelsven. After the passing of Mrs. Holritz he confined his merchandising to Sims, where he was also postmaster for a time.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Holritz: Edward, Sophie, Andrew, Inga, Inger and Fred Jr., all of whom have passed on. Mr. Holritz passed away in April of 1924.

MR. AND MRS. AXEL G. HOOVESTOL



Mr. and Mrs. Axel G. Hoovestol

Axel George Hoovestol was born August 12, 1901, to Peter Johan and Petrine (Olson) Hoovestol. He grew to manhood mainly in the Sims community and received his education there. He worked on the railroad and helped his dad on the fall threshing run. He hauled water for the steam threshing machine.

Hazel Estella Monson was born on her parent's homestead about 9 miles east of Glen Ullin on Sept. 29, 1907, the daughter of George J. and Nettie (Wilson) Monson. She grew up on the farm and received her education in a country school in the school district her parents had organized.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoovestol were married in Mandan,

ND, on Nov. 20, 1926, by the Rev. C.J. Fylling. They lived on a farm near Almont after their marriage for some years. In 1929 they moved to Almont and operated a store and cream station. In 1931 they bought out the store at Marshall, ND, and operated the store, cream station and postoffice there until 1934 when they returned to the Almont area and lived on a farm again.

In 1947 they moved to Mandan, ND, where they lived for 3½ years. Axel worked as a mechanic at the State Highway Department and also at the Russell Miller Milling Company while they lived in Mandan. In 1951 they returned to Almont and have lived on the farm since then. Axel passed away March 27, 1963. Hazel lived on the farm until 1978 when she bought a place in Almont and moved to town.

Eight children were born to this union, namely: Richard Arthur, April 18, 1928; Howard George, Aug. 29, 1932; Warren James, April 16, 1936, deceased Jan. 31, 1980; Darrell Rodney, Jan. 5, 1938; Duane Wendell, Aug. 9, 1940; Dorothy Mae, Aug. 9, 1940; Roger Gail, June 14, 1942, and Larry Randall, Sept. 6, 1948.

Richard is a civil engineer and lives at Duluth, GA. He and his wife, Rachel (Rundle), have four sons: Brent Allen, David Earl, Jon Axel and Steven Richard. Richard worked for Lockheed Aircraft Co. on the C5A Galaxy transport plane, the largest airplane ever built. He also worked at the Martin Co. in Littleton, CO, on the Gemini missile used in the flight to the moon. Their eldest son, Brent, is married and they have two children: a son, James Allen, and a daughter, Hope Diane.

Howard married Karen (Fallon) and lives in Bismarck where Howard works for the Bureau of Reclamation. They have three sons: Mark Howard, Keith Russell and Brian Alvah. Howard is a civil engineer also.

Warren married Carol (Feland) and they lived on a ranch at Almont for awhile, then moved into Almont where he continued his ranching and trucking operations until the time of his death on Jan. 31, 1980. They had two daughters, Kay Marie and Kimberly Sue, and one son, Scott James. His family still lives in Almont.

Darrell is married to Patricia (Oberhaltzer) and they have two sons: Charles Darrell and Curtis Glen. He is a civil engineer and works for the Bureau of Reclamation in Bismarck, where they reside.

Duane is married to Patricia (Feland) and they live on a ranch near Almont. They have two sons, Robert Alan and Travis Jay, and one daughter, Marlo Pat. Duane was an industrial arts teacher for several years before returning to ranching. He now is a distributor for Amway products also.

Dorothy is married to Robert Tyler, Jr. and they have two adopted children: Christopher Robin and Erica Hazel. They spent about 10 years teaching in Alaska, mostly in the Eskimo villages but are now living in Gillette, WY. They both continue to teach.

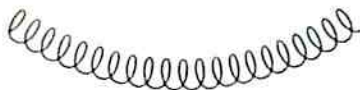
Roger married Joan (Feland) and they lived in Forest Lake, MN, where Roger worked for the Federal Transportation Administration as a civil engineer. They now live in Bismarck, ND, where he continues to work with the FTA. They have three sons: Russell James, Randy Lee and Ryan Arthur.


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Larry is married to Jane (Udy) and they live in Aurora, CO, where Larry works as a civil engineer for the Bureau of Land Management. They have one son: Joshua Lowell.

All the children grew up near Almont and received their basic education in the Almont school. Five of the boys are civil engineers, the twins, Dorothy and Duane, graduated as teachers. Several of the boys are interested in rodeos and take part in many rodeos during the year. Five of the boys served in the armed forces: Howard in Korea, Warren in Germany, Darrel and Roger in the United States, and Larry in Japan.

BURTON AND ETHELEEN (KILEN) HOOVESTOL

Burton and Etheleen were both reared in the Almont community and were married at the Almont Lutheran Church on Oct. 6, 1949. Burton is the son of Joseph and Myrtle Hoovestol; Etheleen is the daughter of Carl and Francis Kilen.

Burton farmed with his parents three miles east of Almont and later went into the trucking business until moving to Mandan in 1955. There he hauled mail from Mandan to Linton, ND. In 1956 they purchased a farm northeast of New Salem and are still located in that area. They have since expanded in the transportation business.

Their five children were all baptized in the Almont Lutheran Church where they continued their membership until 1970. Nancy is married to Clare Lillis, has one son, Jared Backsen Lillis, and lives in Minneapolis, MN. Calvin is attending the University of Minnesota and he and his wife, Mary (Nagel), have one son, Carson Joseph. Wayne is married to Monica Messer and they also live in Minneapolis where he manages Hoovestol, Inc. Susan and Lynnae are both still at home and attend high school in New Salem.

CLYDE AND CORALYN HOOVESTOL

Clyde, son of Joseph N. and Myrtle (Harper) Hoovestol, was born in Almont, ND, on Dec. 25, 1929. Coralyn, daughter of Edmund C. and Lucille (Ramsland) Reef, was born in Glen Ullin, ND, Sept. 14, 1932. Both graduated from Almont High School and were united in marriage at Sims, ND, Oct. 7, 1949, with Rev. C.J. Fylling officiating.

We immediately took residence at Woodworth, ND, where Clyde was employed as a mechanic by Woodworth Implement Co. In the spring of 1950 we formed a partnership with Clyde's brother, Glenn, and bought out Ed Reef's trucking business (Coralyn's parents), which we operated until the spring of 1955. Then we were awarded a contract to transport mail between Bismarck and Minot, ND. (chip off the old block from both sides). In the spring of 1957 we purchased earthmoving equipment and started "Hoovestol Excavating Company". We later developed some commercial and residential property, which we are still active in. In 1972 we sold Hoovestol Excavating. In 1980, after 25 years, we gave up the mail contract.



Clyde Hoovestol Family

Of our 31 years of married life, our proudest accomplishments are our five daughters: Cathy (Mrs. John VanMiddlesworth); Caryn (Mrs. Darryl Schatz, Jr.); Cindy (Mrs. Todd Haux); Connie and Cheri presently home with us. We have one grandson, Jason VanMiddlesworth.

We are proud to have been raised in a community like Almont with so many caring people. We wish we could see more of the wonderful friends we acquired there.

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Clyde and Coralyn

DUANE HOOVESTOL FAMILY

Duane Wendell Hoovestol was born Aug. 9, 1940, to Axel G. and Hazel (Monson) Hoovestol. He has a twin sister, Dorothy, and six brothers, one which is deceased. Duane attended area schools, was active in sports, attended Boys State and graduated in May 1959. He received his Bachelor of Science degree at Dickinson State College. He taught two years in Grenora, ND, as an industrial arts teacher before coming back to Almont to teach.



Patty and Duane Hoovestol

He married Patricia L. Feland, daughter of Robert and Lorraine Feland. Patty was born July 19, 1949, and was raised in the Almont area on a farm south of town. She attended area schools where she was active as a cheerleader, 4-H member and Luther League. She graduated in May of 1967 and got a job at the State Capitol building in Bismarck as a key punch operator.

Duane and Patty were married Nov. 3, 1967, and moved to a farm a mile south of town. Duane taught industrial art and sciences in the Almont school system for five years. A son, Alan Robert, was born Oct. 3, 1968. In Sept. 1970 they moved to Richardton, ND, where Duane taught and Patty attended Assumption Abbey College. In 1971 they moved to the Dick Feland farm south of Almont to engage in ranching and farming. Patty worked as compliance clerk at Grant Co. ASCS office. In the spring of 1972 they moved to the old O.G. Feland farm where they still reside. A daughter, Marlo Pat, was born June 24, 1973, and a son, Travis, was born May 18, 1978.

Duane and Patty are semi-retired from farming now after 10 years and spend most of their time vacationing and at seminars promoting the "American Way" and free enterprise.

JOSEPH N. AND MYRTLE F. HOOVESTOL FAMILY



Joseph Hoovestol family - Christmas 1965

Joe and Myrtle Hoovestol and baby son, Burton, came to Almont from Bismarck late in the summer of 1925. He had been employed by Corwin Churchill for two years, but decided to make a change. Joe ran his threshing rig in the community that fall. Then, for a

time, he ran a garage which he rented from Walter Timpe. In the spring of 1926 they bought the John Dinehart place and moved into it. There he operated a small garage business in a building which was on the property. About 1931 or 1932 he built the brick and cement block garage on the main street in Almont.

The year 1926 he also bid on the mail route (Star Route) and got it — started carrying mail there in July and continued for 46 years, retiring in July of 1972. In those early days on the mail route, Joe had to drive horses when the roads were not passable by car (there were no improved roads). There was always hot coffee and eats at the Amund Johnson's, also a rest for the horses. If the horses were too tired to make it on home, there was an overnight stop at Weibke's and sometimes it was a rest stop.

One day in early spring in the 1930's, Joe was driving up the Muddy Valley on his daily mail route. The students at the school had built a snowman in the middle of the road. The day the snowman was built was a nice day but it froze overnight and not knowing the snowman was frozen, Joe ran into it and knocked the head off. The head rolled up the hood and through the windshield and into the back seat. After having a laugh with the kids, Joe proceeded on his route and the task of fixing his car.

Joe conceived the idea of building a snowplane for mid-winter travel on the mail route. The snowplane had a propellor on the back (for pushing) and an OX5 army airplane motor from World War I. The chassis was made of oak, shaped in a triangle. The skis were also made of oak with one ski in front and two on the back. The frame was metal pipes covered with canvas that he had weatherproofed. The snowplane led him to building another vehicle that had wheels, skis, and a chain track. He called it a snow machine. Later he bought a jeep.

Active in organizing the North Dakota branch of Star Carrier's Association, he continued to be an active member, holding state offices of president, secretary, treasurer, and was many times on national committees and a delegate to the national convention. Myrtle was also active in starting the carrier's auxiliary and held offices on the state level and at one time was national president, elected at a meeting held in Washington, D.C.

Joe and Myrtle were active in getting the American Legion and the auxiliary organized in Almont. They were former members of the New Salem unit and when a large number of World War II men were returning, there were enough to start a Post in Almont.

Myrtle taught school for three years before her marriage ... rural school ... "Those were the 'good old days' " ... kindling your own fire ... carrying in the wood and coal, unless you were fortunate to have a chivalrous young man in the group who would gladly do it ... also carry out ashes, clinkers, etc. ... sweep and dust. Lunches came to school in lunch buckets; also, most carried their own drinking water. But we have fun at fun time.

During the time that they were rearing a family of four, Myrtle had no thoughts or desire of teaching outside of the home. She had her own little class to administer to. But she did take active interest in

community work, as well as driving the mail route in the summertime. Myrtle was a 4-H club leader for 21 years; a charter member of the Almont Homemakers and is still a member; sang in the choir and was a member of the Ladies Aid of Almont Lutheran Church.

Joe and Myrtle raised a family of three sons and one daughter in the 48 years they lived in Almont.

Burton is married to Etheleen Kilen, has five children and they live east of New Salem; Glenn is married to Darleen Iverson, has four children, and they live in New Salem; Clyde is married to Coralyn Reef, has five children and they live in Bismarck; Iona is married to Jerome Hegel, has three children and they live in Bismarck.

Joe passed away in November of 1973 and Myrtle now resides in Bismarck.

MR. AND MRS. P.H. HOOVESTOL



Mr. and Mrs. P.H. Hoovestol

Peter Johan Halvorson Hoovestol was born the son of Gunvor (Barstad) and Johan Halvor at Spangereid, Norway, on Aug. 16, 1864. His early life was picturesque in that he was a born seaman. He became an expert at handling boats and at the age of 15 was a cook on one of the vessels that plied between foreign ports. He sailed for seven years visiting America, England, Russia, Ireland, France, Germany, China, and other ports.

Petrine Theodine Olson was born at Spangereid, Norway, the daughter of Reinart and Toneta (Treland) Olson, on June 11, 1864, and grew to womanhood in that community. Mr. and Mrs. Hoovestol were both baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith at the same church where they were also married on Feb. 27, 1884, by the Rev. Morton Kcherulf Jr.

Mr. Hoovestol continued as a seaman for four years after their marriage. In 1888 they sailed for America with their two sons, Harold and Thomas. They came to Chicago and later to Sims, ND, where they lived for many years. Shortly after coming to Sims, Mr. Hoovestol became an American citizen and homesteaded three miles south of Sims in 1892. They operated a store in Sims for a few years and he also worked in the coal mines, farmed and raised cattle.

In July 1912 the family went to Houston, TX, later locating at Honea, TX, where they built and operated a store for two years, returning to North Dakota in 1914 and settling at Sims where he operated a coal mine and threshing outfit for years.

In 1923 Mr. Hoovestol built his home in Almont where he operated a store for a short time and resided there until the time of his death on Feb. 28, 1943. Mrs. Hoovestol passed away Nov. 26, 1941. They were both buried in the Sims cemetery from the Sims church where they had been active members since their arrival in 1888.

Among his bequests Mr. Hoovestol left a sum of money to purchase a church flag and an American flag for the Sims Lutheran Church, which were presented by his sons, Axel and Joseph, at a special dedication.

There were 11 children born to this union: Harold, Thomas, Mrs. Jake (Johanna) Amdahl, Mrs. Bernard (Traisy Knight) Kunkel, Joseph, Tediman, Mrs. Martin (Velen) Olson, Axel, Randeem, Sophia, and Adolph. They are all deceased at the time of this writing.



WARREN AND CAROL HOOVESTOL



Warren Hoovestol family

Warren J. Hoovestol, the son of Axel and Hazel Hoovestol, was born at Almont on April 16, 1936. He grew up in the Almont area and graduated from Almont High School in 1955. After graduation he worked for a time with the Bureau of Reclamation and served two years in the U.S. Army. Part of this time was served in Germany. After his discharge he took over his father's farming operation, and also started a trucking business which he operated until the time of his death on Jan. 31, 1980.

Carol Linda Feland was born at Bismarck on Dec. 20, 1949, the daughter of Art and Marie Feland. She grew up and attended Almont school, graduating from high school in 1967 and from Bernel Hairstyling College, Bismarck, in 1968. She married Warren on May 11, 1968, in Bismarck.

They have three children: Kay born in 1969, Kim in 1973 and Scott born in 1977.

MR. AND MRS. LEONARD HUNTER



LaVonne, Leonard and Laurie Hunter

Leonard Hunter, born Oct. 5, 1915, in Lime Springs, IA, one of eight children of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hunter. Leonard lost his father (Harry) to emphysema, a brother (James) in the "Battle of the Bulge" during World War II, another brother (Clarence) (retired from the army) to emphysema, a sister (Nellie) to cancer and another sister (Anna) in a fire.

Leonard came to North Dakota in 1957 where he found ranch work with Levi Dawson.

June 7, 1961, he married LaVonne Ritz, daughter of Claude and Minnie Ritz. LaVonne was born May 25, 1936, in Bismarck, ND. She attended Dickinson State Teacher's College and Mary College, where she graduated with a degree in elementary education. LaVonne has taught school for 24 years with 19 of those years in the Almont public school.

On Aug. 15, 1964, they were blessed with a daughter, Laurie Jean, born in Bismarck, ND. She is now 16 years old and is employed by the Marion Manor Nursing home in Glen Ullin, ND.

Leonard, LaVonne and Laurie are all members of the Almont Lutheran Church.

MR. AND MRS. E.W. HYDE



E.W. Hyde

Mrs. E.W. Hyde

Eber W. Hyde was born June 15, 1871, on a farm near Randolph, WI, the son of pioneer parents, Frederick C. and Rosa McGann Hyde. July 9, 1892, he went to Watertown, SD, and took up a homestead. His yoke of oxen and the winter of 1896 were vivid memories.

He proved up his claim after five years of residence and went into the grain business at Grover, SD, meeting his wife when he boarded with her parents as a grain buyer. She was Ida A. Lebert, a schoolteacher, born Nov. 1, 1881, at Grover. After their marriage on Aug. 12, 1903, they made their home at Rauville, SD, where Thelma and Wallace were born.

Pioneering again, Mr. Hyde brought his family to Sims, ND, in May 1906 and helped survey the new town of Almont on July 4, 1906. The first building was for the C.H. Chase lumber and grain business, of which he was manager. The Hyde home was the first residence built in Almont. Almont was always his home after that, with the welfare of the town absorbing much of his interests. He was chairman of the town board from its organization until 1953.

Converted in her home at the age of 26, Mrs. Hyde poured much of her energy into the religious life of the community. Superintendent of the interdenominational Sunday School organized April 21, 1907, she continued to be Sunday School superintendent until her death on Dec. 20, 1949.

After the Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized in 1924, she carried much of the responsibility. The Hyde home was open to Christian workers of various faiths.

Four more children came into their home while living in Almont: Laurin (the third baby of the new town), Howard, Phyllis and Duane.

The Hyde family all enjoyed traveling. The high point to Mr. and Mrs. Hyde was their three-month tour in 1930 of Europe, the Mediterranean countries and especially the Holy Land.

Thelma (Mrs. Don Klingensmith) is a retired United Methodist pastor's wife, now living in Mandan, but also vitally interested in Almont. Wallace W. Hyde (deceased) was in charge of the foreign trading of Cargill Grain Co., with headquarters in New York. Laurin E. Hyde is manager of Laurin Hyde Associates, a consulting firm in the management of health and social services, located in New York. Howard K. Hyde (deceased) was resident management advisor of the Bank of Reconstruction and Development in New Delhi, India. Phyllis (Mrs. Sylvan Grove) is a music teacher and homemaker at Richmond, VA. Duane F. Hyde is a medical doctor in King City, CA.

The Almont community surprised Mr. Hyde with a party on his 84th birthday. His interest in the activities and people of Almont continued until the day of his death on Jan. 15, 1971 - just five months short of his 100th birthday.

