organizations as the Polio Fund, Cancer Fund, Wahoo hospital, 4H Camps and Flood Relief in 1952. The Club sponsored a Husking Bee for Mr. and Mrs. Victor Hines to help harvest their crops during the hospitalization and death of their son.

The Just neighbors met for over 40 years before being dissolved. Mrs. Ed Virka who joined the club in March 1952 served as the president for eleven years until her death April 6, 1983.

Douglas Extension Club
Rita Dunker, Joan Hruza, Pat Kavan, Clara Vopalensky, Edith Sousek (guest), Carole Musiel, Jeri Fleming. Alice Tawney and Matilda Soukup not pictured.

Douglas Extension Club

The Douglas Extension Club was organized over 60 years ago with a different name. At the time there was not a home extension office established in Wahoo. Later the name was changed to Douglas as many of their members lived in Douglas precinct.

Alice Tawney is the only charter member remaining in the club. Other members now are: Rita Dunker, Jeri Fleming, Joan Hruza, Pat Kavan, Carole Musiel, Matilda Soukup and Clara Vopalensky.

Bluffs Gals Extension Club

The Bluffs Gals Extension Club was founded 1-10-1979. There were 7 members: Teri Chromy (president), Kathy Bauer (secretary-treasurer), Diane Hines, Debbie Kavan, Jeanne Kavan, Cindy Pollard and Joan Stenger.

In 1987 there are 12 members: Barb Anderson, Teri Chromy, Kathy Bauer, Diane Hansen, Deb Kavan, Alice Lorenzen, Linda Minarick, Barb Soukup, Sandy Soukup, Joan Stenger, Sharon Vrana and Holly Zakovec.

Some of the activities of the club include taking a spring tour, having a summer family picnic, working at the county fair, taking the husbands out to eat for Valentine meeting, participating in cultural arts projects, having International dinners in May and wearing costumes to the Halloween meeting. The club nominated the Ed Zeleny and Adolph Nemec families for the Great Nebraska Family Award. Both were recipients of the award. The Centennial Style Show and Salad Luncheon was chaired by the club.

Bluffs Gals Extension Club, 1987
Back: Alice Lorenzen, Teri Chromy, Sandy Soukup, Linda Minarick, Joan Stenger, Barb Soukup Front: Pam Pabian, Holly Zakovec, Deb Kavan, Kathy Bauer, Sharon Vrana. Barb Anderson and Diane Hansen missing on photo.

The club meets the 2nd Monday of the month except during the summer. It is a young club. Every member has at least 1 child in school or younger. It is an active group which also enjoys the secret pal tradition.

4-H Clubs

Bluffs Bobcats 4-H Club

The Bluffs Bobcats 4-H Club under the leadership of Rick and Debbie Hurst was organized in 1984 with 6 members: Paul and Jim Racek, Jack Zeleny, Ricky and Ben Hurst, and Matt Stricklin. In 1987 the membership roll is minus Paul Racek and has added Daniel and Kyle Ruppert.

Their projects include indoor and outdoor cooking, wildlife, forestry, and woodworking. They have exhibited at the fairs and have competed in judging competitions. Some are planning to enter the speech contest.

Clover Cuties 4-H Club

The Clover Cuties 4-H Club was one of the oldest clubs in the area. The leader, Mrs. Edward (Olga) Virka organized the group in 1959 and continued with it for almost 25 years. The club was dissolved when she died April 6, 1983. At times the membership exceeded 30. Most of their projects were in cooking, sewing and home living. The club gave a memorial in her name to the Saunders County 4-H Dept.

The members took part in speech contests, judging, dress revues, demonstrations and exhibits at county,

Fremont 4-H, and state fairs. Several members during those many years were winners of scholarships. Some were awarded trips to the 4-H Congress in Chicago or the National 4-H camp in Washington, D.C.

Clover Kids 4-H Club

The Clover Kids 4-H Club was organized in 1985. Teri Chromy is the organizational leader and Joan Stenger, the assistant leader. Members are Susan Cody, Stephanie and Shannon Stenger, Annie, Katie and Billie Chromy, Amy Vrana, Claire Vech, and Kris, Deb, Danielle and Rebecca Bauer.

The Clover Kids is a home economic club but has expanded to include small animals and poultry projects. The members have participated in the speech contest, county fair demonstrations, and judging contest. Community projects have been Christmas caroling, picking up litter on the main street of Morse Bluff, working at the county fair and making valentines for the nursing home.

Needle and Nails 4-H Club

The Needle and Nails 4-H Club was organized in June 1970 with Mrs. Elaine Borer and Mrs. Gladys Nemec as leaders. There were 11 charter members: Debbie, Virginia, Connie, Joe, Cindy, Mark and Jim Nemec, Thelma and Betty Borer, Amy Sloup and Diane Beranek.

Their various projects included cooking, sewing, home living, agriculture, woodworking, electrical, natural resources and horses. Among the club activities besides the regular fair exhibits and activities were sponsoring a Japanese exchange student one summer, taking part in exchange trips with 4-H people from other states, Christmas caroling to elderly residents in the rural area, conducting trash pick-up drives, and donating to the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Camp at Gretna, NE.

Only 3, Kris Nemec, Chris and Mike Borer, make up the membership in 1987. Elaine Borer Vech and Gladys Nemec continue as leaders as they have the past 13 years.

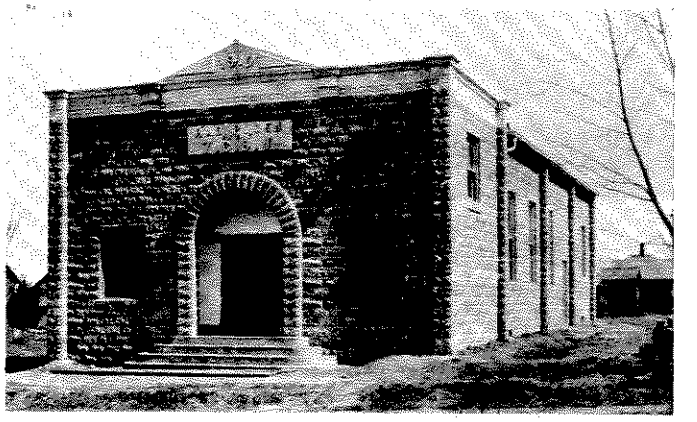
Ridge Riders 4-H Club

The Ridge Riders 4-H Club was organized about 20 years ago with Mrs. Durward Vosler as leader. Their horsemanship projects have netted them many awards at county and state fairs. Many top showmanship awards have also received. Last year one of the members entered in 11 classes and was awarded the top ribbon in 9.

Wahoo Democrat, June 1905
New houses were built by Frank Zakovec, Frank Urban, and Mrs. Fred Buchholtz.
In 1987 the Zakovec house is owned by Duane Pabian, The Buchholtz house by Wm. Vopalensky and the Urban house was located on 1st and Kate.

Western Fraternal Life Association

The Morse Bluff, "Nebraska" Western Fraternal Life Association Lodge Plzen #9, better known by its Czech ethnic name, Z.C.B.J. Lodge, was established in the community July 4, 1897. It succeeds an earlier Czech ethnic fraternal insurance society known as the C.S.P.S. The C.S.P.S. was chartered in Morse Bluff, before the village was incorporated, on June 6, 1880. It had been organized on the east coast and its settlements on claims were unfavorable to people in the Mid-west.



Z.C.B.J. Lodge Hall

On July 4, 1897 fifty lodges of the newly formed Z.C.B.J. were designed "Charter Lodges". The Lodge at Morse Bluff was assigned the prestigious #9. The society originated in Omaha, Nebraska and later moved its headquarters to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The W.F.L.A. has more than 5300 members nationwide. It is governed by an elected Board of Directors. Frank I. Vlasak, a former Morse Bluff resident and long time member of the Lodge, has been a National Director for the past sixteen years.

Lodge #9 at Morse Bluff ranks 14th in membership of the 42 Nebraska lodges. The local group has 232 members, many residing out of the state but retaining their membership in the Morse Bluff Lodge for family and sentimental reasons.

The Morse Bluff Lodge owns its own hall located on lots, 13, 14 and 15 of block 7. It is a unique cement block structure constructed in 1910. It attained national recognition in 1986 by being placed on the National Register of Historic Buildings in Washington, D.C. Much work has been done to preserve and restore the local landmark. The local members have given generously through contributions, memorials and donated labor for the building's preservation.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month with the exception of June, July and August. Recognition has also been won in the past two years for its increased membership and charitable involvements as donations to the Volunteer Fire Depart-

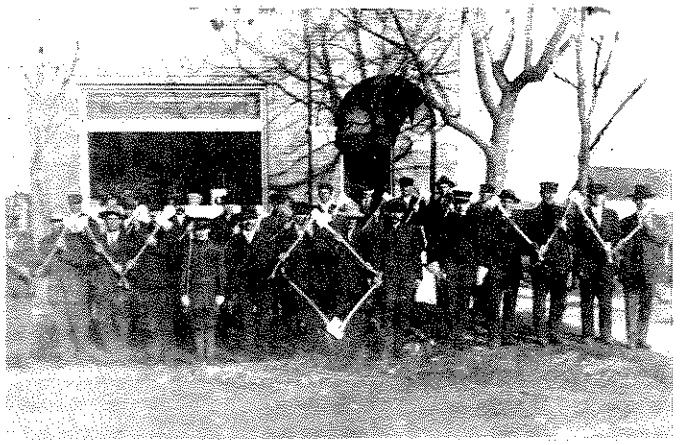
Z.C.B.J. Lodge honors 50 year members April 23, 1961.
50 year members are standing: Top row: Anna Racek, Emma Virka, Anna Urban, Tena Cippera, Mary Kaplan, Row 2: Anna Soukup, Fannie Beranek, Emma Kavan, Julia Vachal, Mary Racek, Josie Vopalensky, Row 3: Rudolph Kavan, Charles Beranek, Frank L. Vopalensky, Anton Soukup, Frank Urban, George Walla, Seated: Lad Tesar, Francis Chavatal, M.L. Hromadka, Roman Hruska, Frank Vlasak, Anton Piskac

ment, North Bend Rescue Squad, Food Pantry, Salvation Army and Statue of Liberty Fund. The Lodge has helped with the Village of Morse Bluff in sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt. It has conducted tours of the building to groups of school children.

It works closely with the American Legion Post #340 of Morse Bluff. The Lodge holds its meetings in the Legion Club room. In turn the Lodge allows the Legion the use of their grounds and building for their barbecues and steak fries.

Membership in the Lodge does not restrict its membership except in felons. English is the spoken language at meetings and in its publication, the Fraternal Herald. Its Czech heritage and ethnic beginning are revered. Its motto is "Truth, Love and Loyalty".

The Z.C.B.J.-W.F.L.A. is Morse Bluff's oldest organization. As the community celebrates its centennial the local lodge celebrates its 90th year in Morse Bluff. It has every reason to believe it will continue to serve the community for generations to come.



Woodman of the World, Morse Bluff Branch

Fleming Cemetery

Robert Fleming deeded a tract of land in section 10 to the Sand Creek Burying Ground Assocation in the early 1870's. Through the years it has been referred to as the Sand Creek Cemetery or more commonly, the Fleming Cemetery.

The cemetery may be the only one in this area that had a black family among its early settlers and they have children buried in this cemetery.

The cemetery is unusual in that no one has ever paid for a lot. In the past the care and mowing was by volunteer labor but in 1985 a group having families buried here set up a fund to provide for a caretaker. Most of the cemetery is still covered by native prairie grass, giving it an attractive appearance.

The Czech National Cemetery

Killian's or Killian's Hill

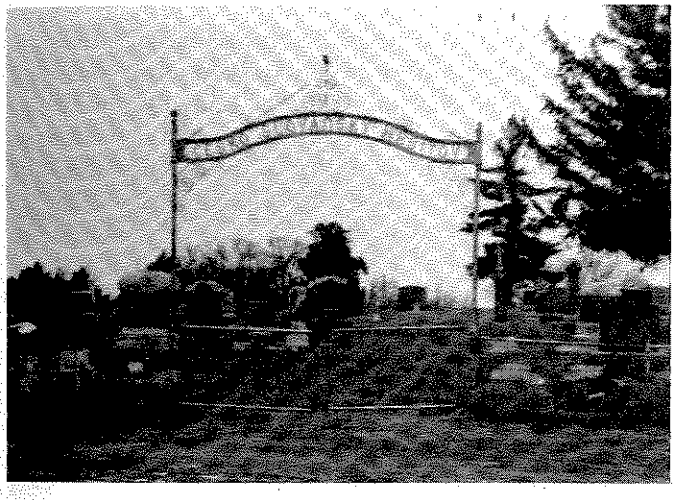
The Czech National Cemetery, better known locally as Killian's or Killian's Hill Cemetery, is located three miles west and one-half mile south of Morse Bluff, Nebraska. The legal description is 3.7 acres in the southeast corner of NW¼ of section 23, township 17, range 5 in Bohemia precinct. Its location high above the Platte River makes it one of the most scenic spots in the area.

This cemetery property is part of forty acres that make up the holdings of the cemetery association and was a part of a land grant from the Union Pacific railroad. The Killian family owned property on two sides of the cemetery hence the name Killian's hill and cemetery. In the 1907 Plat Map of Saunders County the cemetery is referred to as "Bohemian Cemetery" probably since most of the early settlers in Bohemia precinct were from the part of Europe known as Bohemia.

The acres set aside for the cemetery were officially recognized in 1875. Burials were made prior to that time but no records, if kept are available. There are approximately forty unmarked graves in the oldest part of the cemetery. Their markers may have been made of wood and have succumbed to the ravages of time.

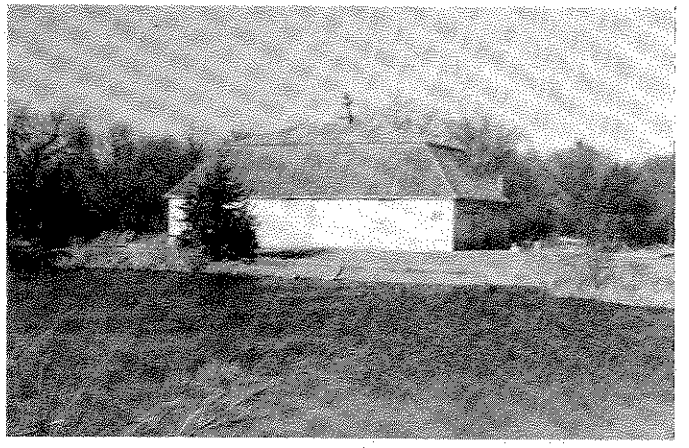
There are 216 lots, each lot 20′ by 20′ designed for eight bodies if no monument is used. January 1, 1987, showed that there were 524 known and marked graves in the cemetery. An unusual feature is that the burials generally face south instead of the traditional east. There are three lots that do have bodies facing east.

The majority of persons buried in the cemetery were born Czechs or are descendents of that ethnic group. The cemetery association, however, has no restrictions on who may be interred.



Czech National Cemetery, Killian's of Killian's Hill

In 1910 an association was formed and the name Czech National Cemetery was legally adopted. This name appears in the Czech language over the center gate. Some confusion exists that the cemetery is owned by the Z.C.B.J. Lodge of Morse Bluff. The two groups are two different organizations, completely different and independent of one another. Anyone having a family member buried in the cemetery is considered a member of the association. An annual meeting is held in March. It is publicized and open to all with an interest in the cemetery. A body of six trustees, two elected every year for a term of three years, govern the cemetery. A reorganization of the association occurred in 1965. The rules and regulations were translated into English and brought up to date in 1984. In 1982 the cemetery association was incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the statutes of the State of Nebraska. In 1985 its records were computerized. Every trustee maintains a complete record of all finances and interments.

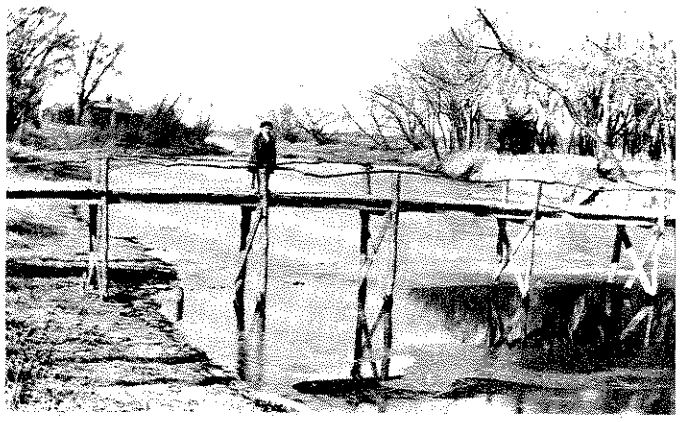


Scott's Lake, 1987

Scott's Lake

What memories this place recalls! There were Sunday School, Public School, Masonic Lodge and family picnics plus many other gatherings. Swimming, fishing, boating and baseball games were enjoyed in the summer. Ice skating with bonfires and wiener roasts were highlights in the winter. Remember the challenge of seeing how near the open spring water one could come without getting wet.

For over 50 years Scott's Lake was the site of Fourth of July celebrations. Where else could one go for a dime, the cost per person to cross the bridge to enter the grounds? A bottle of pop cost a nickel as did a hamburger or hot dog. A glass of beer was a dime. To climax the day fireworks of great beauty both in the sky and in the water's reflection entertained all. A dance would complete the celebration.



Walking bridge across Scott's Lake in the early 1900's

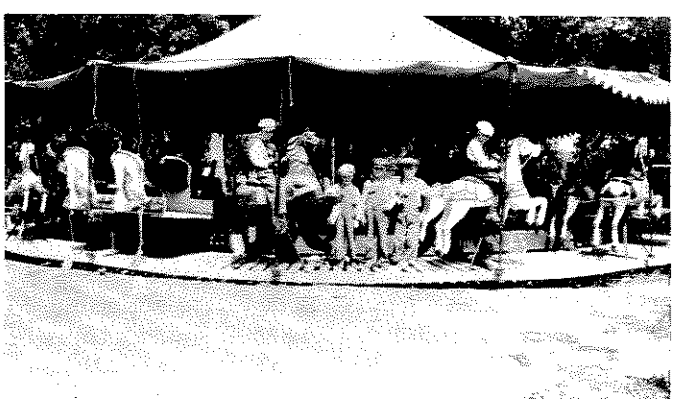
Dances of all types were part of the history of Scott's Lake, not to mention a fist fight from time to time. How many recall meeting their spouses there or dancing to Lawrence Welk with the south breezes blowing the Oriental lanterns? Many have memories of climbing trees, falling into the lake accidently or on

Scene at Scott's Lake about 1905

purpose, riding the merry-go-round and those outdoor "restrooms"?

Scott's Lake located one and one-half miles east of Morse Bluff was first owned by John Garrett who received the land in a patent from the Union Pacific. A short time later he sold it to Elias Beasley. In 1886 J.P. Scott bought the lake and surrounding acres. He and his family developed the lake and acres north of the lake as a recreational area — hence the name Scott's Lake. At one time they had both a steam driven boat and carousel. The boat was not too successful but the carousel continued for many years.

In June 1917 Joseph Bauer purchased Scott's Lake. He built the dance hall while he was the owner. Emil E. Wolf became the owner in 1920. He leased the dance hall and grounds to various individuals. Sometime in the twenties, additions were built on the east and west sides of the dance hall, providing a stage, ladies lounge, a storage room, a kitchen area and a bar. In February 1929 John Vopalensky purchased Scott's Lake. His family retained possession after his death in 1959. Regular dances were discontinued in the early fifties and dances were on a limited basis. A flood in 1960 washed out the bridge. The public no longer used the grounds for picnics.



Merry-go-round at Scott's Lake, 1904-1930

Changes have taken place since Stephen Flott purchased the Scott's Lake acres. Buildings have been torn down, a new road has been built to gain access to the grounds. The acres have been divided into parcels and what the future holds for Scott's Lake remains to be seen.

Ice Houses and Ice Making

In the early years before the electric coolers and refrigerators, making ice for use in the warm days was cold winter business for several. Ice houses were made for the purpose of storing ice. Some were built above ground to about two stories high with no windows. There were doors at various levels to get to the ice. There were two of this type on the south side of Scott's Lake where most of the ice was made and one in Morse Bluff on the north side of the railroad tracks near the present County Maintenance Building. The ice house in town was built a few feet into the ground with a floor built a few feet above the ground. Cakes of ice were placed around the bottom walls forming a cooling chamber where taverns could store and cool their beer. Zakovec and "Sticks" Ladenburger, both operating taverns, also had their own ice houses behind their taverns. These were dug into the ground, lined with tile, and had a roof over them. Several farmers in the area also had this type of ice house on their farms.

Ice making usually took place at Scott's Lake when the ice had frozen to a depth of twelve or more inches. Ice saws were used to cut the ice into blocks about the size of a bale of hay but weighing about two to three hundred pounds. These blocks were pulled out of the lake and loaded into wagons and taken to the place of delivery by horses. The ice was packed and covered with straw, saw dust and chipped ice to preserve it. This ice was used as needed in ice boxes and coolers. It would last through the summer months, the thicker the ice, the longer it would last. Weather played a very important role in the ice making season determining time and the length. Generally the month of January was considered ice making month.

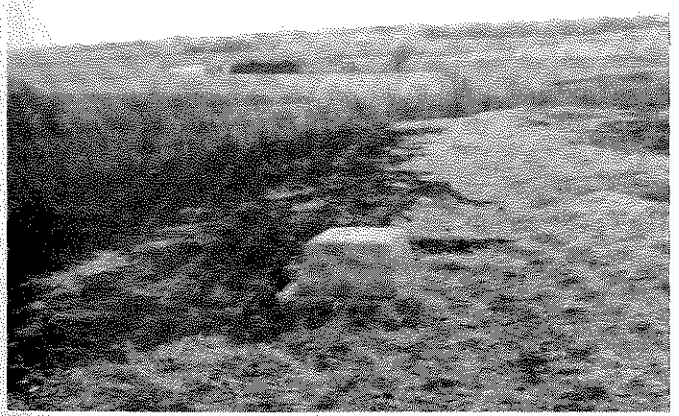
Ice from Scott's Lake at one time supplied consumers in North Bend and ice was even shipped by rail to Omaha.

Indian Peak

In Section 19 of Morse Bluff Precinct there is an area known as Indian Peak. How many generations of this Morse Bluff area have traveled either by car, bicycle, horse or foot to the bottom of the hills about one-half mile west of Morse Bluff? Then it would be necessary to follow a narrow path. Years ago one first had to slip and slide up a hill of sand, crawl under a fence before proceeding slowly the rest of the way, always upward. The view was one of beauty — spring, summer, autumn or winter. The river valley from bluff to bluff

On the way up to Indian Peak

was visible for miles at the spot called Indian Peak. On clear days the elevators of North Bend, Cedar Bluffs, Fremont, Rogers and Schuyler, Nebraska would be visible. The wiener roasts and nature hikes were enjoyed by school children even when some wandered off and for a short time seemed to be lost.



The marker at the top of Indian Peak looking south

Legends have Indian Peak as a pow-wow ground for Indian tribes. There are many other tales connected with Indian Peak. How many have been passed down in recent years is not known. There is at least one Indian supposed to be buried here with all his worldly possessions. The ravines in the area showed that Indians made camps. Arrowheads can still be found.

The acres which include Indian Peak were gotten by patent from the Union Pacific by Francis Colton. John McCluhan purchased the land in December 1876. In February 1920 the acres with Indian Peak were sold to Joseph Havelka, whose family had ownership until May 22, 1968 when Adolph Havelka sold the section to Keith Racek, etal. Raceks have cleared many trees from the north, and have cleared a passage from the west making it more accessible for hiking. One may also drive to Indian Peak from the south and east, but if one enjoys the outdoors try the hike up to the top.

Baseball Days

From the early 1900's to the mid-twenties baseball was a very popular sport in the Morse Bluff area. Morse Bluff fielded a well known team during those years. Games were played almost every Sunday afternoon.

Newspaper articles in 1908 gave interesting accounts of the undefeated Morse Bluff team. Fred W. "Bocky" Bockemuehl was the pitcher, only 16 years old. He was paid $20 a month. He roomed and boarded at Morse Bluff's Seligmann Hotel for $2 a week and as a side job worked as a grocery store clerk. Equipment for the team consisted of three baseballs and three bats. The baseball diamond was in the Ladenburger pasture north Morse Bluff. The seating consisted of planks on beer barrels for forty. The rest had to stand or sit on the grass. There wasn't a backstop so if the catcher whose only equipment was a face mask and mitt missed the ball he had to chase it. Their manager who for many years was associated with the local baseball teams could always be spotted with his derby hat and wooden leg.

In 1909 to raise money for equipment, new uniforms and a new ball diamond, dances were held at Zakovec's Hall from January to April. The new ball diamond was in the east part of town, north of the city park where the Russell Soukup home now stands. The ball diamond was so damaged by vandals later in the summer that the team had to finish their scheduled games at the Scott's Lake or Ladenburger ball

1908 Morse Bluff Baseball Team
Back: Harry "Jim" Krause, Ben Shavlik, Tom McGinn Middle: Emil "Red" Klappal, "Bony" Hoffman, manager O.O. "Sticks" Ladenburger, John Vopalensky, Frank Urban, Front: Mascot Victor Killian, Fred "Bocky" Bockemuehl, Charles Lehmer

diamonds.

Teams from North Bend, Schuyler, Snyder, Wahoo, Prague, Colon, Cedar Bluffs, Linwood and Brainard were a few that were on the schedule. They also entered the Saunders County tournament winning it several years.

There are several in the area that recall those baseball years. One player in the later days, Jim Vopalensky lives in Morse Bluff and recalls those games as if they happened yesterday.

Cedar Bluffs and Morse Bluff Baseball Teams about 1904
No identification of Cedar Bluffs team, Morse Bluff manager, O.O. Ladenburger, middle Jake Vopalensky, Leonard Ranselm, Emil Kappal, John Vopalensky, Charles Scott, Roy Widener and ?

Softball

Softball or pugball as it was called in 1936 replaced baseball as a popular past time. Morse Bluff fielded a team for several years being known as one of the outstanding teams in the area. Generally the games were played in the Ladenburger pasture or at the North Bend Ball Park. World War II brought these games to a halt. After the war with improved transportation, anyone from this area found it easier to play with teams in North Bend than to organize a team here where facilities were poor, young men interested in playing were few and money to support a team was not available.

"Bomb" Accident

On May 23, 1905, O.O. Ladenburger, Ray Killian and a few other young men decided to see if the gun powder left in a 15" x 3" lead pipe discarded in a blacksmith's scrap pile in 1902, would burn. The "bomb" was taken to the middle of Ann Street and lit. The explosion that followed literally tore off Ladenburger's right foot. He was taken to a Fremont hospital where his leg from the knee area was amputated. Ray Killeen was running away when a fragment of the pipe struck his hand and ripped off 2 fingers. Another fragment went through the nearby Killian residence and passed within 3 feet of an infant playing on the floor.

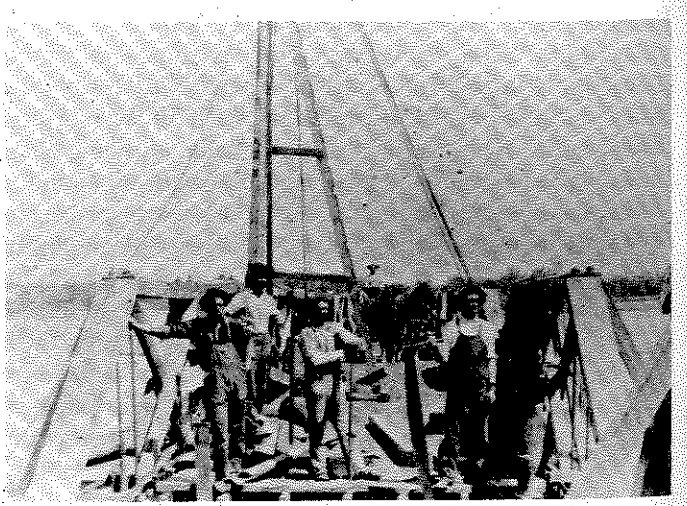
Morse Bluff Softball Team, 1946
Back: Butch Vopalensky, Bernard Blatny, Francis Chvatal, John Hines, Father George Livanec, Eldon Kracl, Bill Chrmy, Middle: Emil Kaplan, Chuck Richling, Tony Nesladek, Tony Cippera, Front: Bud Vopalensky, Joe Bauer

Bridges Across the Platte

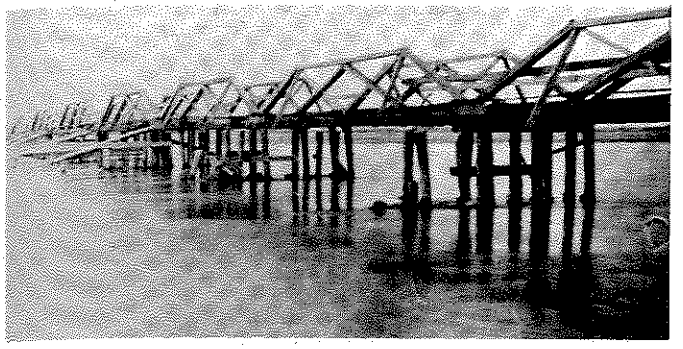
For years crossing the Platte River was often unreliable and treacherous. As the years rolled by improvements of the bridges made those crossings safe. These improvements were one of the main factors in the decline of business in Morse Bluff.

In 1870 a Fremont man was said to have started a ferry service across the Platte between Morse Bluff and North Bend, Nebraska but failed for lack of customers. Frank Beznoska had a ferry in 1872 which he continued until James Hough constructed a pontoon bridge in 1875. This pontoon bridge was destroyed in 1878.

1880 marked the building of the first permanent



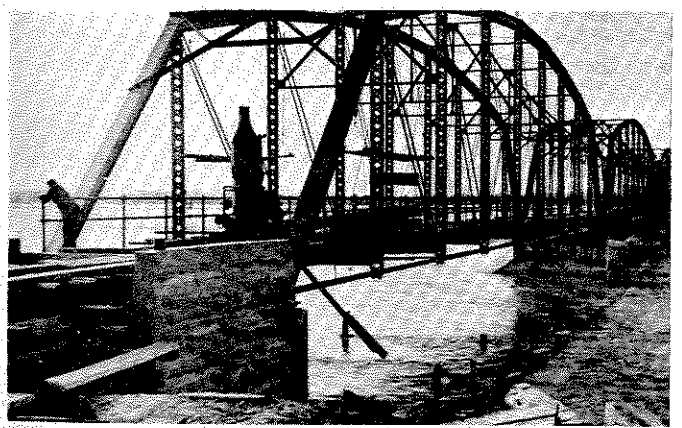
Working on the first permanent wagon bridge across the Platte



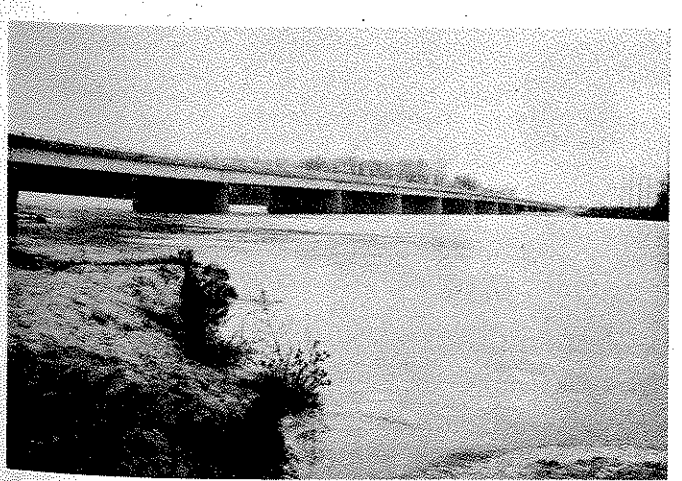
Bridge before the 1912 flood

wagon bridge at the cost of $16,000. This bridge was repeatedly hit by floods and ice gorges. The most disastrous flood of 1912 washed out 28 of the 52 spans. Foot bridges were constructed during the repatching of the wagon bridge during those years.

In 1914 a steel bridge costing $68,000 funded partly by the state, Dodge and Saunders Counties was constructed. It was a great improvement over the wooden wagon bridge. Two vehicles whether wagons, buggies, Model T or Model A could meet without difficulty.



Bridge across the Platte, 1912-1974



Bridge between Morse Bluff and North Bend built in 1974

But as time passed cars became wider and trucks became much larger finding the 1914 bridge no longer adequate. A new wider cement bridge was constructed and completed in 1974. One can cross over the Platte River today without realizing it as the surface is much like the oil-topped road on either side. What will the next bridge be like and how long will this one last?

Floods

Early pioneers of the Morse Bluff area living in the lowlands south of the Platte River experienced high waters and flooding conditions from either the river or run-off waters from the hills.

Newspaper items in 1897 mentioned getting a doctor from Cedar Bluffs since their North Bend doctor could not get across the river due to flood conditions. The items also stated that barns east of town had cattle standing in three feet of water, that one farmer lost several head of hogs and another took his cattle to higher ground.

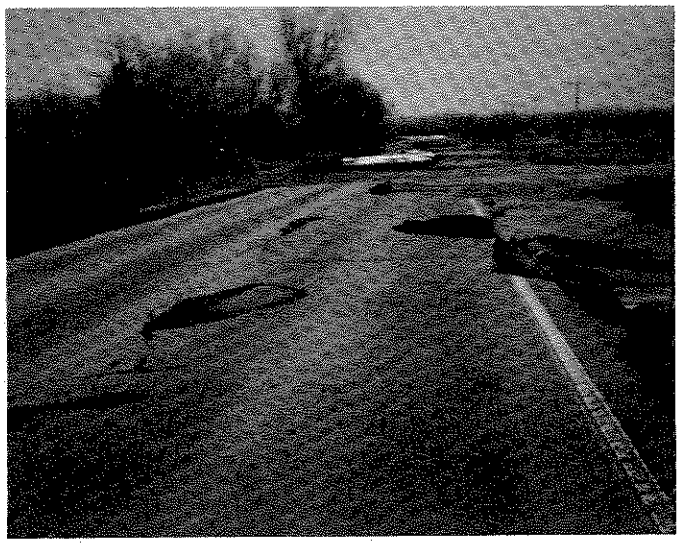
1912 was recalled by several old timers as being one of the most disastrous floods. Twenty-eight of the 52 spans of the bridge across the Platte were destroyed. The railroad east of town had several miles of rails washed out and inundated. Farmland was completely under water, fences destroyed, cattle and other livestock lost or drowned and several farm buildings damaged by high water. The flood waters did not

1912 flood damage to Platte River bridge

reach the town proper even though some did cover low areas along the northern edge.

A dike was constructed along the south bank of the river shortly after the 1912 flood. A Dike and Drainage District was formed including the land bordering the dike to secure funds for the maintenance of the dike. This district was dissolved in 1986.

Another group of land owners in an area west of Morse Bluff, having been plagued by run-off water



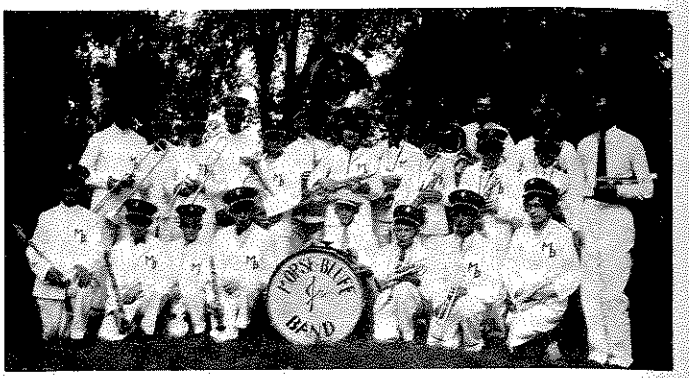
Flood damage north of Morse Bluff, 1978

from the hills, had a dam constructed in 1965 to check the flow of water into the valley. It is located 3½ mi. west on the Walla farm.

The Platte River floods of 1960 and 1978 caused much damage to lowland property as well as completely washing out sections of hard-top road between the river and town. Inconveniences resulted. High school students had to travel via Schuyler or Fremont to get to school in North Bend. The postal service used various ways to deliver the mail to Morse Bluff. Residents wishing to trade in North Bend walked over make-shift bridges across the gaps in the road to the river bridge. North Bend merchants provided a shuttle service to and from the bridge.

Residents watch the Platte River with wary eyes each spring, wondering if the dike will hold back the raging high waters or if ice jams may cause overflows.

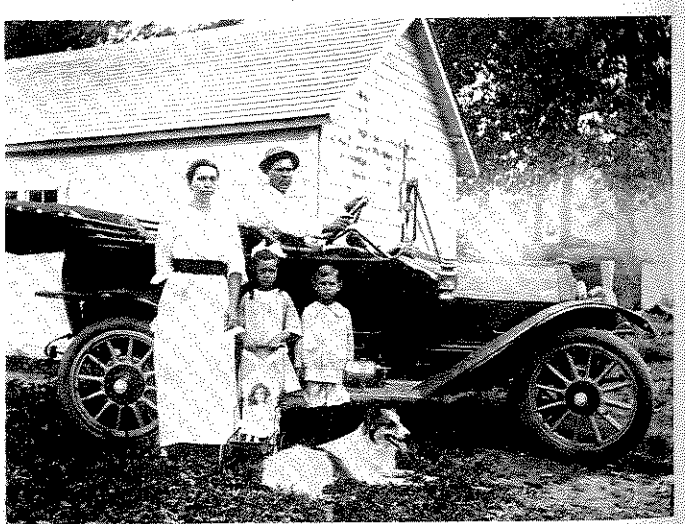
Repairing the dike, 1978



Band directed by Walt Olsen

Morse Bluff Town Bands

The Morse Bluff Bohemian Band, active during the early 1930's, performed weekly summer concerts in the center of the street. Bohemian marches, sousedskas, and waltzes were played by the members, mostly of Czech descent. Band members ranged in age from 13 to 43. A concert was held each Memorial Day at the Czech National Cemetery 4 mi. w. of Morse. The village trustees paid the director 50¢ per band member per month. Emil Wolf Sr., president of the Bank of Morse Bluff, provided support for the band. A later band in Morse Bluff, active in the late 1930's, was directed by William Vrana of Linwood for a few years. Members were Frank Vlasak, Lorin Racek, Curtis Fleming, Ray Hanson, Frank Brabec, Louis Stranik, Donald Hines, Edward J. Hines, Quentin Fleming, Joe and Jim Bauer, Edwin Racek, Lyle Blanchard, and Delbert Otte. The band played a few times in the local tavern and once in a while on the streets of Morse Bluff.



Frank and Mary Bartosh, Irene and Francis with their Overland

Wahoo Democrat, Jan. 16, 1908: Thompson-Burns wrestling match is to be held at Zakovec Hall, Sat. evening. Admission 50¢

In the Spotlight
Professionals from Morse

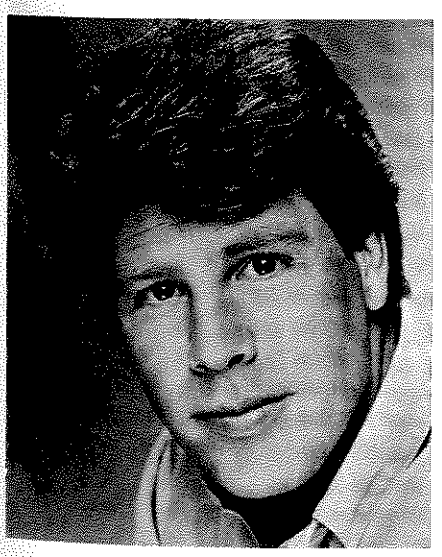
Bradley Dunker

Brad is currently in New York City where he starred in *Class of Newke 'em High;* he appeared in a lead role in the first off-Broadway professional performance of *Grease.* He starred in other theater productions and majored in Film and Theater at St. Edwards University, Austin, TX, and Northwestern University, Chicago, IL.

Brad Dunker at Northwestern University, Chicago

Raymond Dunker

Raymond, actively pursuing a career as actor as well as screen writer and producer, has been seen on T-V shows, *The Young and the Restless,* and *Days of Our Lives,* and is currently aired in 7 commercials across the U.S.

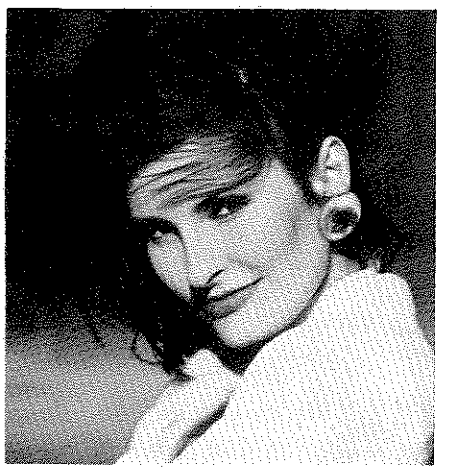


Ray Dunker

Janice Soukup Joyce

Janice's first triumph in her modeling career came in January 1975 when at 18 she was named "Model of the Year" in a national modeling contest in Tampa, FL, winning over 1,000 contestants. She has modeled at runway shows in France, Italy, Japan, Hong Kong, Switzerland, Germany, and larger U.S. cities such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington D.C. She has appeared in magazines such as *Bazaar, Chapter One, Ladies Home Journal, The New Yorker,* and the French, Italian, and American *Vogue.* She has also appeared in many European magazines.

Janice Soukup-Joyce



Jerrine Racek

Jerrine's professional work includes being featured vocalist with the Paul Moorhead Orchestra, 1973-1980, and Mal Dunn Orchestra (1980-1984) in Omaha and covering a 4 state area; featured vocalist for Dean Bushnell's Orchestra, Glen Shull's Orchestra, and the Phil Nelson Orchestra of Denver, CO. A highlight of her career was being featured vocalist for the Gerald Ford Ski Classic in 1984, 1985, and 1987 in Vail, CO. Her future plans include travelling internationally with the Glen Miller Orchestra as a featured vocalist.

Jerrine Racek

Wes Westphal

Wes was cast as "Sweet Pea" in *Popeye.* His grandfather, Robert Altman, was the producer of this movie made on the Mediterranean Island of Malta.

Wes "Sweet Pea" Hurt Westphal

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

JP-41180-34-9

Wesley Ivan Hurt makes his screen debut as Swee'pea, the baby who's discovered by Olive Oyl and Popeye tucked inside a wicker basket in Paramount Pictures' "Popeye," the movie based on the world-famous comic strip characters created by E. C. Segar.

PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT, PARAMOUNT PICTURES, 1 GULF + WESTERN PLAZA, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023

Adolph Nemec Band

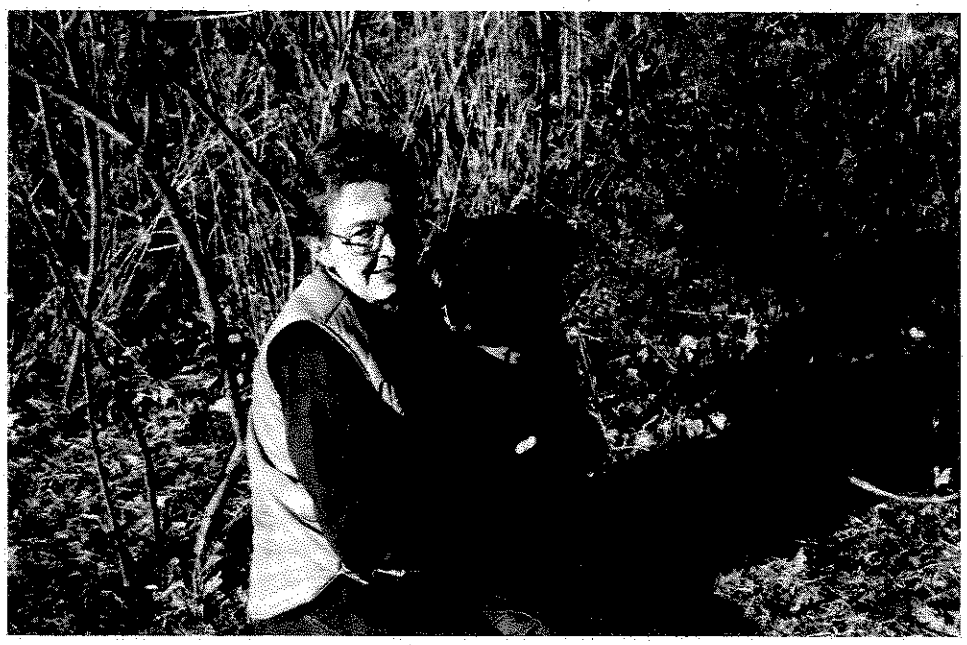
The Nemec Band, composed of Adolph, wife Gladys, and 7 children: Debby, Joe, Connie, Jim, Viriginia, Mark, and Kristina. Not all the children played at the same time, but each member plays more than one type of musical instrument. They play in ballrooms, club halls, and lounges in the midwest from Canada to Dallas, TX, and in Michigan, and Ohio. They have made 7 recordings; 2 received the 4 star award from *Billboard Magazine.*

Adolph Nemec Band
Standing: Connie and Jim Nemec Seated: Virginia, Gladys, Adolph, Deborah Nemec and Jeff Stickney

Mark Vyhlidal Band

Mark began his band career at the age of 8 when he played drums with Milton Odvody and Glenn Chvatal at the ZCBJ hall in Morse. He played with many groups since that time. His current band has been active 8 years with 6 members. Marks writes arrangements for the band and plays trumpet, accordian, drums, bass horn, organ, piano, bass guitar, and trombone. He sings with his wife Deana, who also plays more than one instrument. His band plays all styles of music except Hard Rock. The band is known throughout the area and has produced 2 albums.

Mark Vyhlidal Orchestra
Bill Andel (tenor-baritone sax, clarinet, vocals); Dennis Tomsicek (drums); Deana Vyhlidal (tenor-alto sax, clarinet, vocals); Louie Oborny (Bass); Don Pasonault (trumpet-alto-tenor sax); Mark Vyhlidal (accordian, trumpet, vocals)



Charlotte Edwards and her dog, Rip

Ed Wards

Charlotte Edwards, a nationally known wildlife artist, paints her works of art in her secluded home located two miles east of Morse Bluff. She reflects Nebraska in her paintings, as she has lived and hunted across the state making her very knowledgeable as to the background habitat and many species of wildlife.

She has loved to draw since early childhood but did not paint until the early 1970's when her children began to leave home. Her interest in wildlife probably started early in life. Her romance with her husband, Jack, grew in a duck blind and they have hunted many a mile together. Because of her attraction to him, she went hunting to learn to enjoy the same fun. He, in turn, shares her interest in art and is her best critic.

She started painting with oils but due to the long drying time, has converted to acrylics. She prefers to paint wild-game birds; the only mammals she paints are hunting dogs on occasion. She does not like to paint pictures with man-made objects in them, preferring the natural habitat for the background. One exception is that she does paint decoys.

In the 1970's she was turned down by a gallery in Colorado because she was female and they assumed she would lose interest and not continue her career. She is a very shy but determined person and has won many "Best of Show" awards and ribbons since that time. She uses the pseudonym of *Ed Wards* as her signature on her paintings.

She has been featured in many magazines and newspapers and was featured in the "Shotgunner" in both April of 1985 and 1986, as one of the top five female wildlife artists in the United States.

She exhibits her art at shows that attract the nation's leading artists of game animals and birds. According to one critic, she is not just another wildlife artist, she is outstanding. Her work has been shown throughout the United States and has earned many awards. She does one-man shows in several states and has shown extensively at invitational shows in the midwest and is a supporter of Ducks Unlimited, by donation of prints and originals.

She has accumulated a collection of outstanding awards since 1977 at Ducks Unlimited Wildlife Art Shows held in Kansas City and Oklahoma Wildlife Art Shows held at Tulsa. Her art work was also chosen for the 1984 New Hampshire Pheasant Stamp and the 1984 Nebraska Habitat Stamp, *Canada on Water*. In 1984 she was awarded Nebraska ANAC Award of Excellence and was named Sponsor Artist for 1985-86 for Nebraska Ducks Unlimited. She has just recently been commissioned to paint the Kansas Wildlife Trust Fund Habitat Stamp.

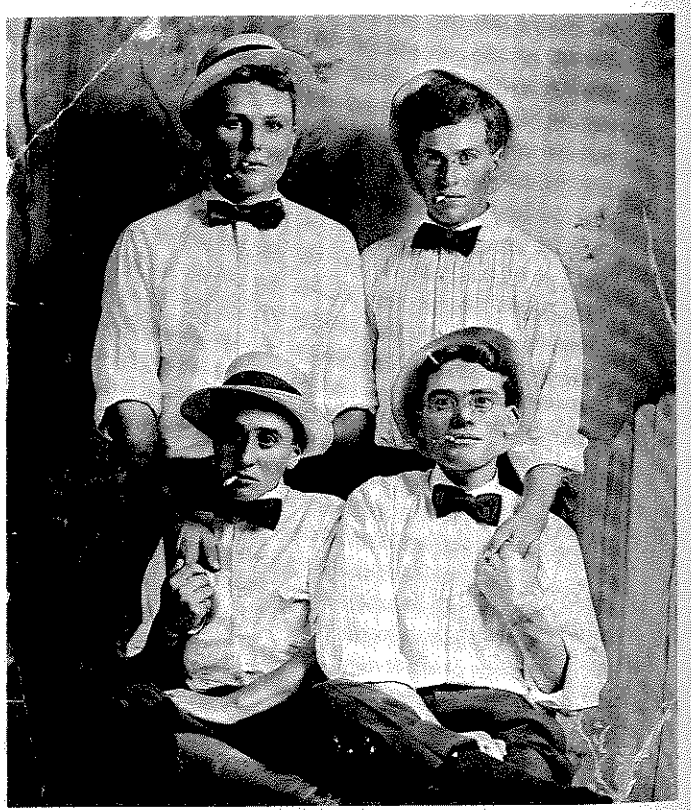
Charlotte donated two of her prints to be auctioned off at one of Morse Bluff's Centennial fund raising events, and one of her originals will be awarded to the lucky winner of a raffle drawing at the Centennial celebration.

Wahoo Wasp, November 1, 1900
Cold snap puts the wild duck and goose on the wing and we may see our local nimrods wending their way daily to the haunts of coot and heron.

Sticks Ladenburger, Frank A. Vlasak, Spider Pabian and an unidentified man enjoying the day in front of the saloon about 1935

Douglas Extension Club members a few years after organizing. Not all pictured could be identified.

Frank A. and Mary Vlasak with Frank's new 1920 Model T which he purchased new for $345.00.

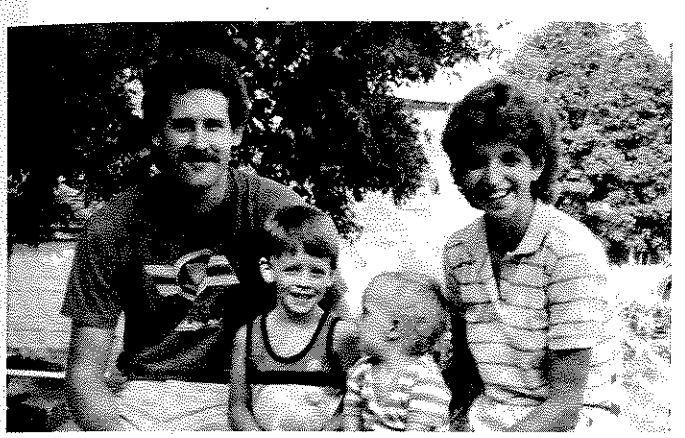


Men about Town about 1912, Pat McGinn, Alfred Kimball, standing Jack Kimball, Bill Shanahan, seated

Area Families

Mark and Linda Ahlquist

Mark, son of Olaf and Dagmar Ahlquist, was born 8-3-1956 in Chicago, IL, and Linda, born 2-14-1957 to Richard and Darlene Limbach, were married 5-27-1978 in North Bend. Linda graduated from Midland College in 1979 and has taught art at Cedar Bluffs 3 years, Leigh 2 years, and now teaches at Wahoo. Mark, a 1978 Midland College graduate, taught Social Studies at Howells 4 years before coming to Morse in 1985, buying and operating the Double A Saloon. They bought a home on Second Street, the former residence of Charles Chvatal. The Ahlquists have 2 children: Erik, 6, and Adam, 3.



Mr. and Mrs. Sam Allen

Sam was manager of the Dawson Grain Company elevator in the 1940's and 1950's. They lived in the house now owned by Adolph Havlovec. Their children, Delbert with his family lived in Washington, D.C. and Aileen with her daughter lived in Omaha.

Billie D. and Kathleen Allender

Billie and Kathleen Lambertus Allender, wed in 1970, have purchased and remodeled the former Frank Urban home. They moved to Morse from Millard in 1987.

James and DeeAnn Allender

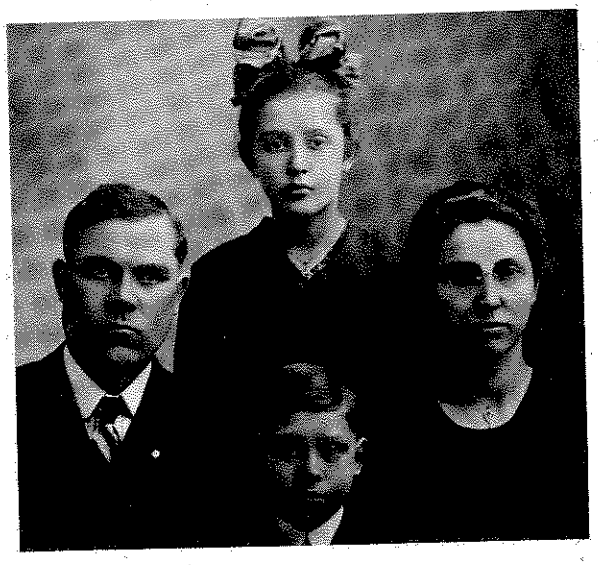
Jim, born 6-3-1934, and DeeAnn Buchholtz, born 7-1-1941 in Morse Bluff to Albert and Lilly Buchholtz, were married 11-4-61 in Salina, KS. Jim was raised and educated in Fremont, and served in the Marines from 1956-1958. DeeAnn grew up in Morse and graduated from North Bend High. After several moves, James and DeeAnn purchased DeeAnn's homeplace in 1968, in the southwest corner of Morse. Jim was an iron worker in Omaha until 1985. Since that time, he has been at home due to a job-related accident. DeeAnn works at Shanahan's Grocery in North Bend. Children: Talbert Dean (7-26-70); and Kristina (2-28-72.)

William J. and Violet Allender

William (2-26-1911), Ames and Violet Beerbohm (5-2-1912), Beemer were married 12-19-1932, living in Fremont and Cedar Bluffs before moving to Morse in 1971. William was employed in Omaha and retired in 1974. Children: Jimmie; Peggie Ziegenbein, Omaha; Jane Janovec, Texas; Billie; and Gene, Fremont. 11 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild.

Frank and Mary Bartosh

Frank Bartosh, born Jan. 1879, Morse Bluff, son of Frank and Josephine Bartosh, was married to Mary, daughter of Anton and Mary Chvatal, 1-15-1907. Children: Irene, born 1907, married Joe Wachal, Prague; Francis, born 1909, married Mildred Huff, North Bend. Frank was a bookkeeper in North Bend for a short while before farming the Bartosh homestead for nine years. On 4-12-1915 he became the manager of the newly established Farmer's Grain Company in Morse Bluff. He continued as manager when it became the Dawson Grain Company. He retired in 1943. After the death of Mrs. Bartosh's mother, they moved to Prague to live with her father. Frank died 8-26-1968. Mary is living at Arbor Manor, Fremont, NE. She was 101 years old in Nov. 1986. Her remaining family consists of a daughter-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all living out of the state. Her memories of her days in Morse Bluff are plentiful and enjoyable.



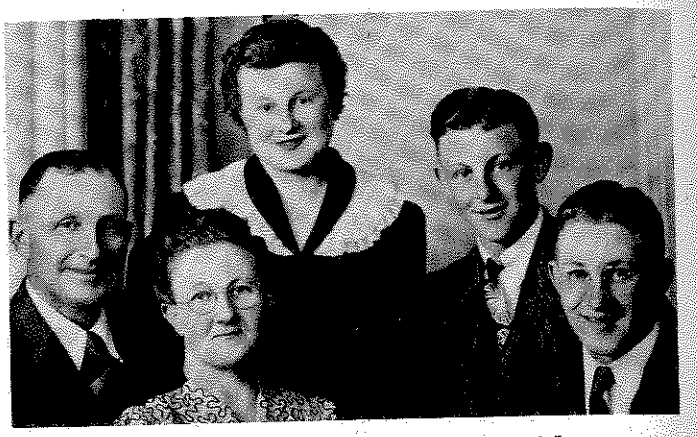
Dan and Kathleen Bauer

Dan, born 7-13-1947 to Joe and Lillian Bauer, and Kathleen, born 3-27-1947 to Steve and Dorothy Chromy, were married 4-12-1969 at St. George's Church in Morse. Both grew up in the Morse area. After marriage, they lived in North Bend 2 years, then moved 4 mi. s. of Morse to the homestead of Josef Hines, Dan's great-grandfather, a farm that has been in the Bauer family over 100 years. Dan works for Terra Chemicals in North Bend and farms. Children: Kristine, born 1970; Deborah, 1972; Danielle, 1976; Rebecca, 1978; Nicholas, 1981. They are members of St. George's Catholic Church. Both parents and children attended Dist. 14 school.

Dan and Kathy Bauer, Rebecca, Kris, Nick, Debbie, Danielle

James and Anna Bauer

James Albert Bauer (4-1-1890 - 1-11-1983) was born on the Bauer farm in Morse Bluff. He married Anna Josephine Janacek (3-28-1893 - 12-28-1984) of Prague, NE on 2-22-1916 in Prague, NE. They were the second generation to reside at the Bauer farm house built in 1903. They had four children: Marietta Bauer Humlicek, Leona Bauer (died at age 5), Joseph Donald Bauer, and James Ernest Bauer. Jim was a farmer and Anna a homemaker. Anna, daughter-in-law of Josef Bauer, died 62 years after Josef on the same month and date (12-28) and was buried on the same month and date (12-31). They had a close relationship as in-laws.



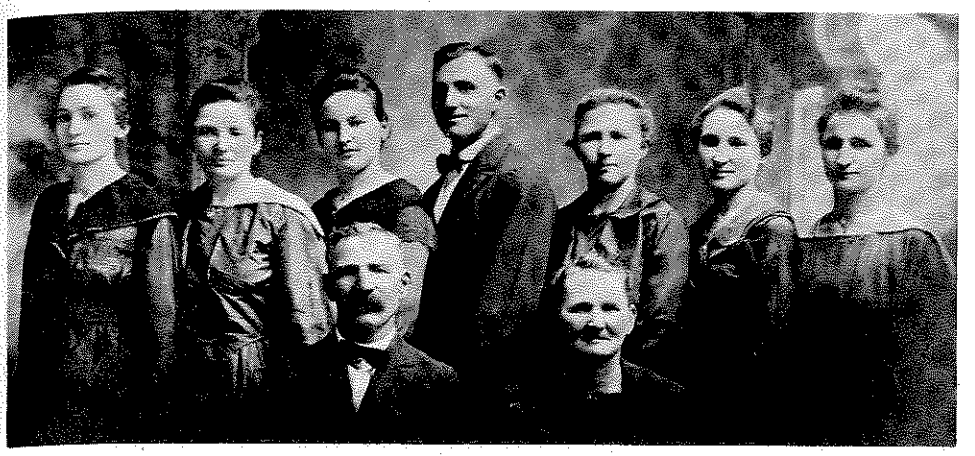
Jim and Anna Bauer, Marietta, Jimmie and Joe

Jan and Anna Bauer

Jan Bauer (1831-1917) was born in Spanov, Domazlice, Bohemia. His wife, Anna Mach (1830-1896), was born in Kycovev, Cechach. They came to the U.S. in 1871 to New York and went straight to Omaha to apply for a homestead. They bought an 80 acre homestead on 4-2-1877 for $700.00. This homestead was in the Bohemia Township, W½-SW¼-Sec. 35-17-5. Children: Josef, Jan, Lawrence, and Mrs. Bauer Storm. Jan was a vintner and planted many varieties of grapes on the side of the creek on the original homestead. Anna was a homemaker.

Jeff and Louise Bauer

Jeff, born 1-25-1953 to Joe and Lillian Bauer, and Louise Anne, born 9-22-1953 in Omaha to Francis and Maxine Powers, were married 6-12-1982 at St. Charles Catholic Church in North Bend, NE. They have 2 children: Joseph Michael, 3, and Anastazia Louise, 1. They live 1 mi. s., 3 mi. w., ½ mi. s. of Morse. Their children are the 6th generation to live in the farm house built in 1903. Jeff is a farmer, corn salesman, and substitute mail carrier. Louise is a special education teacher for the ESU #2 in Fremont. The Bauer family was honored as "Pioneer Farm Family of Nebraska" in 1986, an honor given to families owning the same farm for 100 years.



Josef and Annastasia Bauer, Libbie, Emma, Agnes, Jim, Mary, Lillie, Anna

Josef and Annastasia Bauer

Josef Bauer (2-14-1865 to 12-28-1922) was born in Panov, Domazlice, Plzen, Bulgaria. He immigrated with his parents, Jan and Anna, to the U.S. in 1871. He married Annastasia Prochaska (1-1-1863 to 5-16-1945) on 3-2-1886 at Cedar Hill. Josef and Annastasia built the present Bauer farmhouse in 1903. It is located 1 mi. s., 3 mi. w., ½ mi. s. of Morse Bluff hill. They had seven children: Mary Bauer Vojtech, Emma Bauer Dvorak, Agnes Bauer Dolezal, Lillie Bauer Vopalensky, James Albert Bauer, Libby Bauer Vopalensky, and Anna Bauer Dvorak. Josef was a farmer and was killed by a falling tree. Annastasia was a homemaker and often told the story of changing the Czech name of Sedlack to the German name Bauer, which both meant settler or worker, to get work in Germany.

Joseph and Lillian Bauer

Joseph Donald Bauer was born on 1-9-1923 on the Bauer farm. He married Lillian Alice Hines, who was born on 9-27-1925 in Morse, on 2-7-45 at Cedar Hill. Joe is a farmer and Lil is employed at Birchwood Manor in North Bend. Both the Bauer and Hines family farms have been honored by Ak-Sar-Ben as Pioneer Farm Families. Eight Bauer children: Ronald Joseph, 11-14-45, married Marsha Gaye Stauffer 3-15-80, lives in Platte, SD, 3 children; Daniel James of Morse; David John, 7-13-47, married Avis Arps 1-8-68, 1 son, divorced, lives in North Platte, NE; Randolph Steven, 8-17-51, married Lorrie Jean Johnson 6-14-75, lives in Chadron, 2 children; Jeffrey Ernest of Morse; JoAnne Marie, 7-31-54, married David Sercl 5-3-80, lives in Lincoln, NE, 2 children; Timothy Michael, 6-20-58 to 8-15-58; Rachelle Elizabeth, 4-22-60, married Jerry Neeman Jr. 8-10-85, lives in Torrance, CA. Was married in grandmother Marie Hines' wedding dress from 1916.

George and Marie Bauman

George, born in Czechoslovakia, came to the Morse Bluff area in 1880. He married Marie Roubal, who was born in the Cedar Hill area, in a ceremony in February, 1903 in Fremont. In March, 1903, they prepared for their move to Verdigre, NE, where they made their home. Having purchased household goods from the John J. Pabian General Store and the Hines and Vopalensky Hardware and Furniture Store, they shipped their precious possessions from Morse Bluff to Verdigre by way of the Chicago Northwestern Railroad. Marie was the sister of Vlasta Vopalensky, and V.G. Bauman's mother. George Bauman died in 1975.

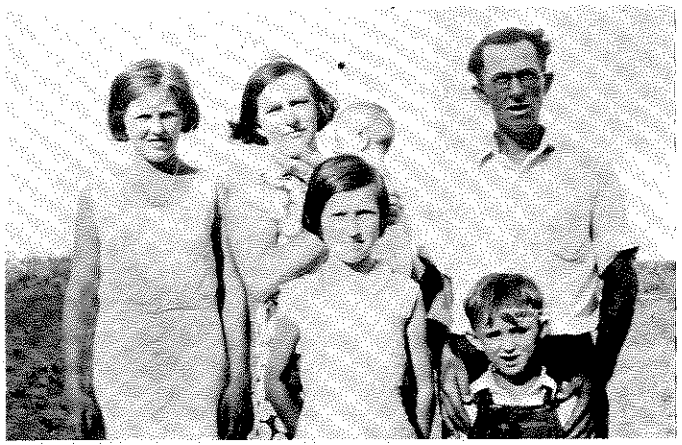
Vlastimil G. and Ruby Bauman

Vlastimil, born 4-19-1906 in Verdigre, NE, to George and Marie Bauman, and Ruby, born 3-5-1913 to William and Alma Jelinek, were married 11-16-1939 in Linwood. They farmed her parent's farm until 1977. The following year, they moved into town and built a home on the s.e. edge of Morse. Vlastimil is on the town board and is a 50 year member of Z.C.B.J. Ruby was a member of the Get-Together Extension Club. Their children are Marvin, born 1942, Seward, N.E; and Sharon Cody, born 1946, who lives w. of Morse. There are 4 grandchildren.

Joe Bauer Family, August 10, 1985
Rachelle (Shelley) is wearing the wedding dress that her grandmother, Marie Hines, wore in 1916.

Amiel and Agnes Beranek

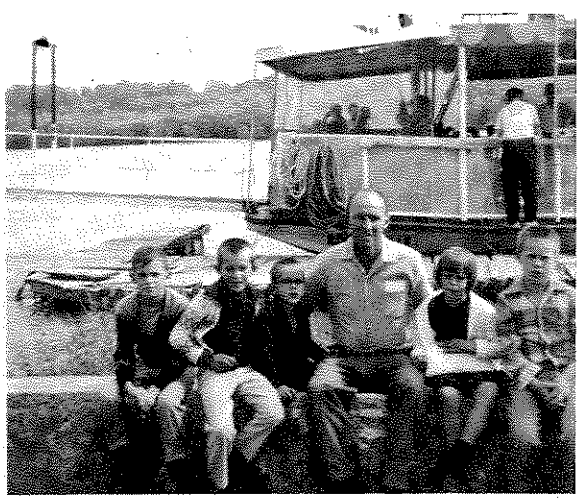
Amiel, born 11-2-1894, married Agnes Kubr of Prague 7-13-1917 in Wahoo, NE. Amiel, a lifetime resident of the Morse area, was a member of the Z.C.B.J. They farmed 2 mi. s. of Morse. Children: Amiel Lou of Morse; Dennis of Ashland; Geraldine, Mrs. Ernest Simanek of Malmo; and Adeline, Mrs. Raymond Odvody of Fremont. Agnes lived in Morse for a time after her husband's death 10-30-1970. Later she moved back to the farm and continued helping Amiel Lou raise his family. She now lives on the farm with grandson Roger.



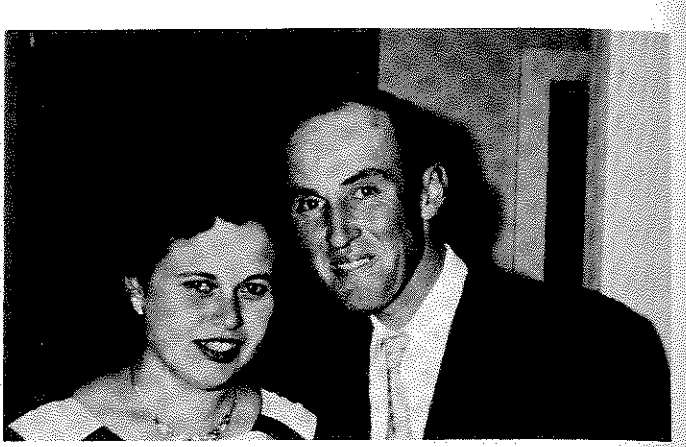
Amiel Beranek Family
Adeline, Agnes, Dennis, Amiel, Geraldine, Amiel Lou

Amiel Lou and Mary Ann Beranek

Amiel, born 12-6-1928 to Amiel and Agnes Beranek of Morse, and Mary Ann, born 8-22-35 to Mr. and Mrs. Anton Degmetich of Omaha, were married Jan. 1960 in Omaha. They farmed s. of Morse on the family farm. Mary Ann was killed in 1966 in a car accident leaving 5 small children. Amiel became both father and mother to his family with help from his mother. Children: Kenneth, 7-15-62, married Lori Hines, 1 son, farms near Cedar Bluffs; Roger 6-27-65, in Morse on family farm with grandmother Agnes; Rodney, 8-22-61, married Janet Kracl, 1 son, works at Farmland Industries, Fairbury, NE; Diane, 9-29-63, married Tom Malesa, registered nurse in Omaha; David, 10-3-60, married Carrie Lyles, works at Kinney Shoes in Omaha. Amiel Lou is now employed at Campbell Soup in Fremont.



Amiel Lou Beranek and children
David, Kenneth, Roger, Diane, and Rodney



Amiel Lou and Mary Ann Beranek

Charles and Frantiska Beranek

Charles, born 5-21-1885, Morse Bluff, son of Jan and Albina Beranek and Frantiska (Fannie), born 8-30-1892, Bohemia, daughter of Alois and Katherine Hoves Palas, were married in Wahoo 1-10-1910. Children: Ella (Mrs. Adolph) Travnicek, Cedar Bluffs, has 2 sons, and a foster daughter and is an authority on growing and experimenting with flowers, especially wild flowers; Charles L. and Matilda Soukup, both of Morse Bluff. They lived in the Jan Beranek log house. Ella and Charles L. were born there. A new house was built in 1917. In the 1940's they moved into Morse Bluff. Both were active in the Z.C.B.J. Lodge. Charles served as mayor for several terms and was on the cemetery and Farmer's Grain Company boards. Fannie resides at Birchwood Manor in North Bend. Charles died 7-12-1979.

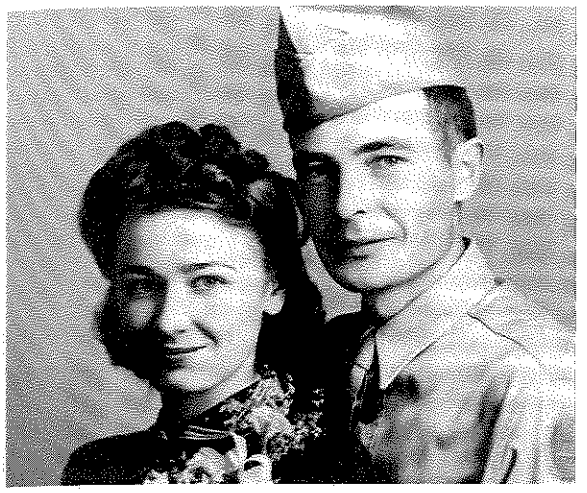
Charles and Fanny Beranek, 60th anniversary

Charles L. and Virginia Beranek

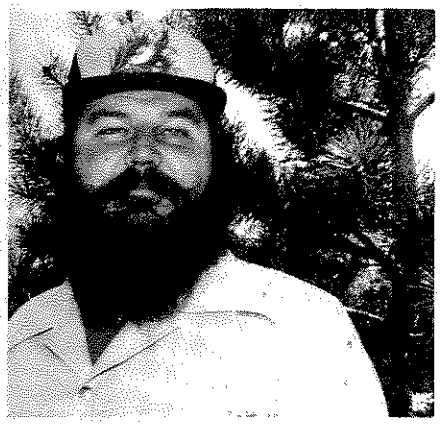
Charles L., born 11-29-1915, Morse Bluff, son of Charles and Fannie Beranek and Virginia, born 1-19-1923, Linwood, daughter of Frank and Anna Hajek Rousar, were married in Wahoo, NE 7-31-1943. They have one son, John. Both are active in the American Legion and Auxiliary, V.F.W. and Auxiliary, and the Z.C.B.J. Lodge. Charles is presently the president of the cemetery board. Reading and raising house plants are among their hobbies.

John Beranek

John, son of Charles L. and Virginia Beranek, was born 12-20-1946 at North Bend, NE. John is the 4th generation of Beraneks to farm the Jan Beranek homestead. He served with the Air Force seeing duty in Viet Nam. He belongs to the American Legion and V.F.W. Before farming John attended the University of Nebraska and studied auto mechanics at the Milford Technical School.



Charles L. and Virginia Beranek



John Beranek

Jan and Albina Beranek

Jan, born 4-16-1844, Bohemia and Albina, born 1-23-1851, Bohemia, were married in Wisconsin 4-16-1868. Children: Frank, James, John, Amelia, Anna, Henry, William, Charles, Mary, Louis and Julia. In 1870 they homesteaded southwest of Morse Bluff. Their first home was made of 12" square logs. In the summer the boys slept in the hay loft and in the granary. Jan and Albina were divorced in 1903. Jan remarried and built a new house ¼ mi. southwest of the original house. This house burned in 1929. Later he moved into Morse Bluff on Short Street. Albina moved to Ravenna, NE after the divorce. Jan died 12-16-1939. Albina died 8-11-1940.

Jan, Julia and Albina Beranek

Joseph and Katherine Beranek

Joseph and Katherine Ruzicka Beranek homesteaded south of Morse about 1865. Their children were Anna Nesladek, Mary Walla, Emma Wesely, Frank, Amiel, Jim and a son who died as an infant and was buried on the homeplace.

Fred Bignell Family

Fred Bignell was one of three brothers who came from England to Canada and later to Fremont, NE. About 1870 they settled southeast of Morse Bluff. Fred and his family lived in the Spring Creek area before moving into Morse Bluff on 2nd St. west of the bank building. Fred played a prominent part in the organization, building and maintaining the Methodist Church. He had 2 daughters, Mary Armstead and Selina Wescott.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bignell

Henry Bignell Family

Henry Bignell like his 2 brothers, Fred and James, settled southeast of Morse Bluff and like his brothers married an Allan sister. Henry and his family lived in this area only a few years before moving back to Canada.

James and Jane Bignell

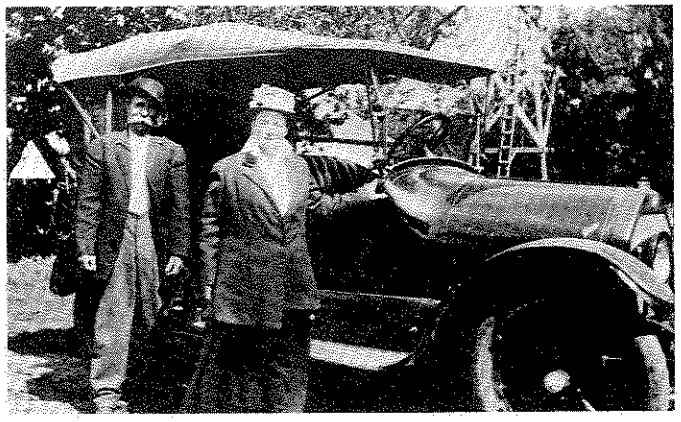
James Bignell and Jane Allan, both born in England, were married in 1862 in Canada. In 1870 they came to the Morse Bluff area and homesteaded one-half mile south of Morse Bluff. Later they built a house in town, the Adolph Vyhlidal house today. James was the chairman of the town board for several years. He also served on the school board. They had three children: William, Joseph and Christine.

Joe Bignell Family

Joe Bignell married Maude McCluhan and they had one son, Richard and three daughters; Eva, Elsa and Blanche. Blanche Lade survives. Joe Bignell farmed southeast of Morse Bluff for a number of years before moving to North Bend. While farming he purchased a threshing machine and steam engine, one of the first in the area.

William R. Bignell Family

William R. Bignell married Susan Grizzle of Morse Bluff in 1893. They first lived in Colorado but came back to settle 3½ miles southeast of Morse Bluff in 1898. Susan Bignell, very active in the Methodist Church, was Sunday School Superintendent many years. Children: Verna Spoonhour, mother of 3 sons and a Cedar Bluffs teacher, artist, and writer; Polley, a teacher in China, high schools and colleges in the U.S.; Dorothea Morse, a doctor of education teaching at the University of Mississippi; James, a teacher in Nebraska schools, in various universities in the U.S. and Brazil, now living in Florida, father of a son; and Susie Johnson, mother of 6, living in Aurora, NE.



William and Susan Bignell with their first car, an Overland

Brian and Kathi Blanchard

Brian, born in 1958 in Schuyler, NE to Lyle and Florence Blanchard, grew up in the Morse area on a farm e. of town. He married Kathi Carrol on 7-30-1977 at United Methodist Church in North Bend. They were both graduates of North Bend Central. They lived in a house on Maud Street in Morse, then moved n.w. of North Bend. Brian farms and works at Hormel in Fremont. Kathi sells Home Interior goods. Children: Nichole, Amber, and Broc.

Back: Broc, Brian, Kathi; Front: Amber, Santa Clause, Nichole

In March 1909, a box social raised money for the ball team.

Lyle and Florence Blanchard

Lyle, son of Robert and Mary Berka Blanchard, grew up on a farm 1 mi. e. of Morse Bluff. After graduating from North Bend High in 1945, he farmed with his father. He was drafted into the army during the Korean conflict and served 9 months on the front lines. Lyle married Florence Kracl from North Bend, June 1955. They lived in the house where Lyle grew up, a homestead that had an original log cabin within its walls. Lyle farmed until 1968 when they moved into Morse. In 1972 they moved to North Bend where they now live. Lyle farms and is employed at Farley Metals in Fremont. Florence taught at Dist. 14 and at a school near Morse for several years. Their children are Brian and Beth, both graduates of North Bend Central. Beth is a receptionist at Valley Hope in O'Neill, NE.

The Blanchards; Kathi, Brian, Florence, Lyle and Beth

Robert and Mary Blanchard

Robert, son of Robert A. and Emma Buchholtz Blanchard, married Mary Berka and then farmed e. of Morse Bluff. They had twin sons, Lyle and Lloyd, and a daughter, Marietta. Marietta married Elmer Mensik on March, 1938. They farmed w. of Morse 3 years, n.w. of North Bend until 1950, w. of Grand Island until 1956, and then moved into Grand Island where they now live. Their sons are Robert of Washington, Gerald of Grand Island, and Richard of Colorado. Lyle lives in North Bend, and Lloyd lived at Sunrise Country Manor in Milford. He died 2-8-1987. Robert died June, 1955. Mary moved into Morse, lived there until 1968, and lived at the Schuyler Nursing Home. She died 4-6-87.

Back: Lloyd, Marietta, Lyle Front: Mary and Robert

Robert A. and Emma Blanchard

Robert, born 10-3-1862 at Spring Bay, IL, came to Morse in 1880. He married Emma Buchholtz in 1887 and farmed e. of Morse Bluff. They had 5 children: Earl, Robert, Adam, Goldie, and Sylvia. Earl married Lillian Lockner of Linwood and lived in Fremont. Robert married and lived near Morse. Adam married Ida Schmidt in 1954 and lived at Valparaiso where he farmed a few years. They now live in Lincoln. He worked as a cop at dances at Scott's Lake in the 30's and 40's; part of this time he lived with brother, Robert. Goldie married Rudolph Urban and had a son, Bob, while living near Morse. Later she married Roy Dierberger and lived at Grand Island. After his death, she married George Gallup and now lives at Alda. Sylvia lived in Chicago after high school; she has lived in Grand Island since 1975. Emma died in 1922; Robert A. in 12-16-1937.

4 of the Robert A. Blanchard children: Goldie Gallup, Sylvia, Adam and Earl

Frank and Rose Blatny

Frank and Rose Blatny, born in Moravia, Czechoslovakia, were married in 1905 before coming to U.S. to the home of her sister, Mrs. Joe Shavlik in 1907. Frank found work as farm help and Rose as maid for Sedlicky's by Linwood. Frank also worked for John Kucera by Linwood. Later they moved to a farm near Bruno, and others, before moving to Morse Bluff to live on the Ranslem farm. After many years, they moved to town. Members of the St. George's Church, they were custodians when the church was above the garage. When the new church was built, Frank turned the first shovel of dirt and the last. Both served as custodians for this new church and Rose took care of the flowers. Children: Rose Nesladek, Josephine Belik, Joe, Frank, Ernest, Ted (deceased), and Bernard. Frank died 10-16-1972. Rose spent 6 years at the Birchwood Manor Nursing Home; she died 10-6-1980.

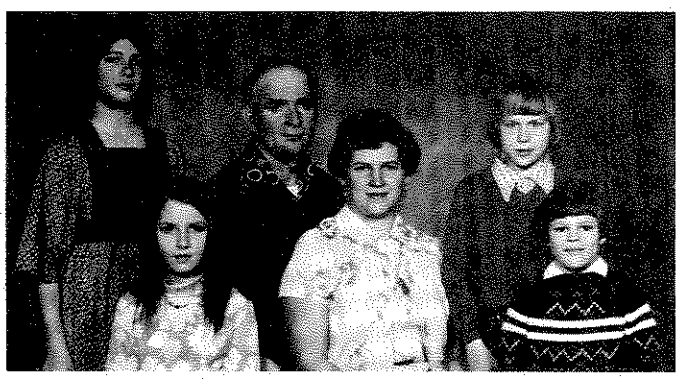
Frank and Rose Blatny, 50th wedding anniversary

A corn husking contest was held at the Blanchard farm east of Morse Bluff, October 31, 1935.

Frank and Rose with Joe, Ernest, Josephine, Rose, Ted and Bernard

John and Elaine Borer
Dennis and Elaine Vech

John Borer and Elaine Hanke were married 6-16-1962 at Holy Family Church, Lindsay, NE. John, born 11-7-1940 to Leander and Gertrude Hagaman Borer at Petersburg, NE, served in the U.S. Army 1958-1960. Elaine, born 8-8-1942 to Roy and Francis Austin Hanke at Lindsay, NE, attended Catholic school in Lindsay, graduating in 1960. John and Elaine lived in Fremont until 1970 when they purchased an acreage from Dave Hull's. Thelma, born 10-22-1963, graduated from Clarkson College of Nursing, received a B.S. in nursing, and works in Corpus Christi, TX. Elizabeth (Betty), born 10-29-1965, graduated from NBC, married Mark Rezac 4-20-1985. They live in Lincoln where Mark attends UNL and Betty attends Southeast Community College. Christopher, 11-3-68, senior at NBC, plans to attend Milford Technical College. Michael, 4-22-70, NBC student, was a member of the Nebraska Federation Wrestling Team on a Cultural Exchange trip to China. On 3-15-81, John Borer was killed in an accident on the homeplace. Elaine married Dennis Vech 9-28-1985. Dennis, born 9-27-43 to Ernest and Alice Hines Vech at North Bend, graduated from Prague High, was in the Army National Guard, and farms the Vech's homestead s.w. of Morse.



Back: Thelma, John, Chris; Front—Betty, Elaine, Mike

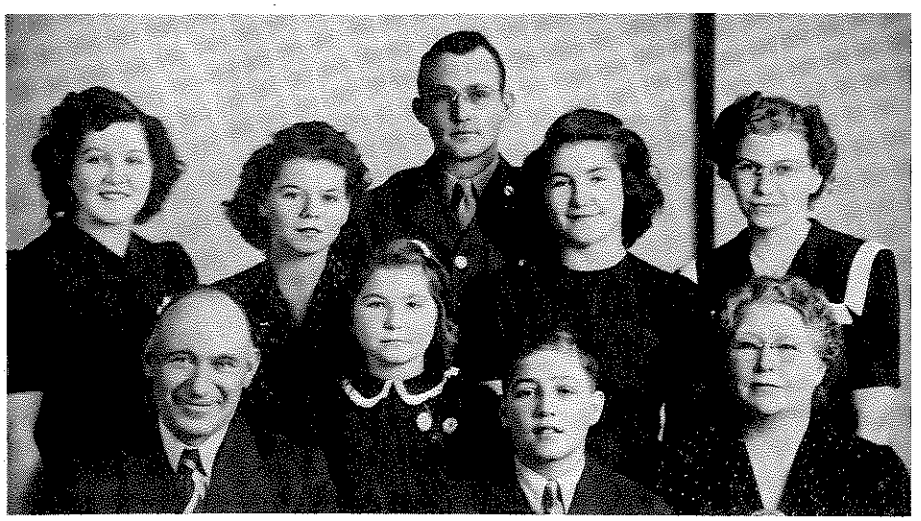
Back: Mark, Chris, Thelma; Front—Betty, Elaine, Dennis, Mike

Albert and Lilly Ann Buchholtz

Albert, son of William and Melinda (Leist) Buchholtz, born e. of Morse 5-11-1904, grew up in the area and married Lilly Ann Butcher at Council Bluffs, IA, on 6-9-1925. Lilly, daughter of George Warren and Bertie (Jones) Butcher, was born at Burwell, NE 5-12-1908. While Albert and Lilly lived in North Bend, they had Albert Dean (2-25-26), Betty (9-27-27) and Vonda (10-10-30). Several moves were made for work: Fullerton (worked for gravel company), Ronald was born w. of Winnebago 8-31-39. After a brief move to Fremont, they purchased a home in s.w. Morse in 1940. Albert worked for Wolf Sand and Gravel, and set up his own garage where he repaired cars, trucks, and tractors. Later he became a partner in Morse Bluff Sand and Gravel, serving as the company's president until his death. DeAnn was born 7-1-41; Albert Dean drowned n. of Morse that same year. Albert died 12-19-1964. Lilly and Ronald continued to help operate the gravel business after Albert's death, and finally sold the partnership. Lilly also worked at her daughter's cafe in North Bend. She died 5-22-70. Betty married Lumir Bures 8-1-45 in Council Bluff, 3 children: Janice Pospichal, David, Tamara Stonacek. Ronald married Julia Cochran 1-27-64, 1 son, John.

Charles and Alvenia Buchholtz

Charley, born 5-6-1894 on a farm e. of Morse to William and Malinda Leist Buchholtz, grew up in this area. He served in the army during World War I when he married Alvenia Stolley of Cedar Bluffs 7-11-1918 in Deming, N.M. They had 7 children: Bernice Petersen, North Bend; Melvin, Charles, Leona Simanek, Lou Ann Vitamvas, Fremont; and Deloris Hulke, Davenport, IA; Henrietta died November 1975. All children grew to adulthood in this community. Charley was a farmer and commercial trucker; during World War II Alvenia helped because one son and 3 sons-in-law were serving in the armed forces. Later he purchased a corn sheller and enjoyed the work and relationship with the farmers. Charley and Alvenia moved from Morse in 1955 and returned to this area in 1961. Charley was a member of the American Legion until his death 11-4-75. On January 1987 there were 23 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild.



Elmer and Antoinette Buchholtz

Elmer, son of William and Malinda Buchholtz, married Antoinette Navrkal in 1934. Their daughter, Linda, was born in 1939 in Morse Bluff. She married Emanual Kovar in 1959 and has 2 daughters, Annette and Diana. They live in Fremont. Elmer and Antoinette lived in Morse Bluff after their marriage except for 2½ years during World War II when they worked in the shipyards in Portland, OR. Elmer worked at a variety of jobs before retiring. He drove an oil truck, was in partnership with Henry May in a garage and was a tin smith. Antoinette was an employee of the postal department for 28 years before retiring as a postal clerk in the Morse Bluff post office. She was also clerk at the Chicago, Northwestern Railroad depot for a few years. Both were members of the Z.C.B.J. Lodge #9 for over 50 years.

Fredricek and Henrietta Buchholtz

Fred and Henrietta Buchholtz left Germany in 1868 with their family of 8 children, staying in Wisconsin for four years before coming to Saunders County in 1872. They settled on a farm east of Morse Bluff. Later they moved into Morse Bluff building the house occupied by William and Lillie Vopalensky.

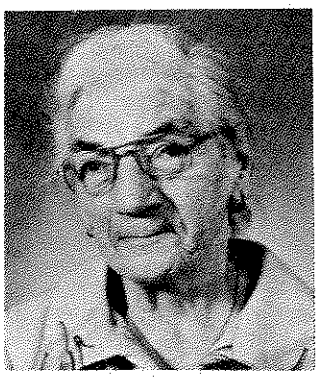
William Buchholtz Family

William, born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany in 1861, son of Fredricek and Henrietta Buchholtz, married Malinda Leist. They had 8 children, three dying in infancy. The others were: Fritz, Charles, Elmer, Albert, and Malinda Reed. Malinda Buchholtz, his wife, died 10-5-1900. In 1907 William married Anna Vasina Blue. They had 3 children; Viola Milligan, William Buchholtz, Jr. and Wilma Allison. The only surviving member of his children is Viola Milligan of Wakefield, NE.

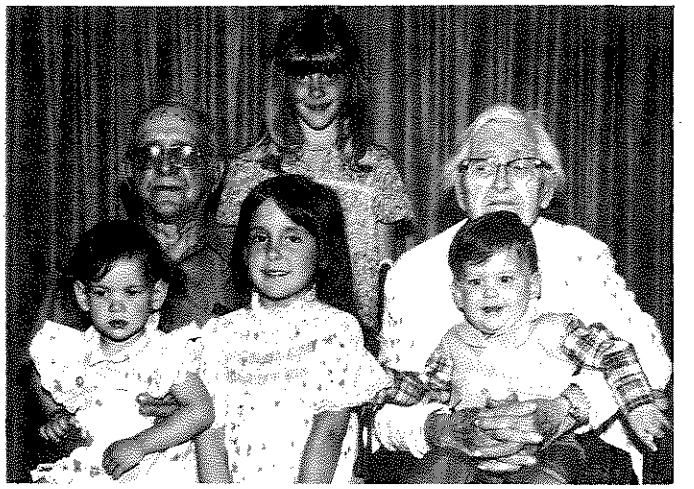
William and Malinda Buchholtz

Left: **Charles Buchholtz Family**
Back: Delores, Henrietta, Melvin, Leona, Bernice Front: Charles, Lou Ann, Charles Jr., Alvenia

Elmer (Timer) and Antoinette Buchholtz



Agnes Brtek came to America in 1911. She married Jim Brtek, 1-16-1916. They lived s.w. of Morse and were members of the Cedar Hill church. They had 2 girls and 4 boys.



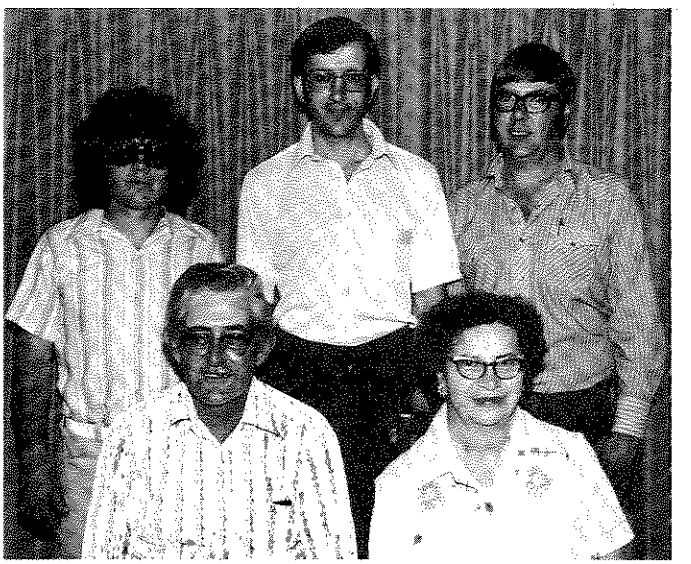
Adolph and Alice Cerny with great-grandchildren Adolph (12-3-1896) and Alice McDaniel (12-4-1893 to 7-31-1985), married 5-2-1922. They lived in Morse before moving to a farm south of town. In 1954 they moved to Fremont. Children: Katherine L'Heureux, Hastings; Jim, North Bend; Albert, Fremont.

Jerry and Lillian Brtek were married 8-4-1964. They live s.w. of Morse and are members of the Cedar Hill church.

Vaclav and Josephine Bunda

Vaclav Bunda of Moravia and Josephine Hynek were married in Europe and immigrated to the United States in 1871. They farmed 3 mi. west and 1 mi. north of Morse Bluff.

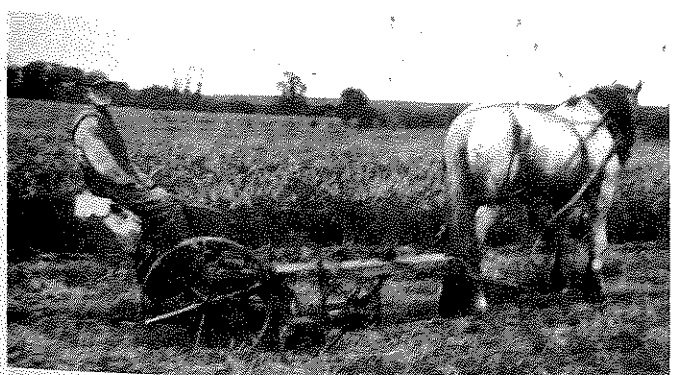
Children: James, Thomas, and Mary Jelinek. James was a carpenter and cabinet maker as was Rudolph (Rudy) Bunda, grandson of Vaclav. Thomas Bunda farmed the family farm until 1920 when he sold it and moved to the Seward, NE area.



James and Adeline Cerny, and sons, Randy, Ronald Steven James Cerny and Adeline Kavan were married 10-26-1948. They lived on the family farm south east of Morse from 1954 to 1974 when they moved to North Bend. Children: 3 sons and 4 grandchildren.

Franz and Julia Buchta

Franz and Julia immigrated to the U.S. and operated a saloon and dance hall in Morse called "Buchta Hall" for a few years. They had difficulty with the English language as they spoke Czech and German. Their children were Frances Pabian, Joe, William, and John Buchta Sr. When son John Buchta married Bessie Dobrusky from Brainard, they came to Morse Bluff by train, and a band was waiting for them at the depot. The wedding dance and celebration was held at Buchta Hall in Morse. The family later moved to North Bend.



Harry Krause mowing with his remaining horse about 1964.

Bill Quackenbush in 1960 coming to town

Anton and Katherine Chapek

Anton, born in Bohemia 9-7-1859, attended school and learned the furniture and cabinet trade before immigrating at age 21 to the United States. Settling in Cleveland, OH, he made furniture for 2 years. In 1882, he worked in the blast furnaces in Cleveland and 3-19-1884 moved to Saunders County, farming rented land for 3 years. Anton married Josie Vavra, daughter of Frank and Barbara Vavra in 1886. They had 2 children, Julia and Hobart. In 1887 he quit farming, again going into the furniture business. In 1891, he purchased a farm, discontinued the furniture business and farmed for 4 years. In 1895, he traded the farm for a general merchandise store in Morse Bluff which became the leading general merchandise store in the northwest section of the county. Anton was a member of the Lutheran church and belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America.

Vaclav (Jim) and Anna Cherny

Vaclav was born 6-21-1827 in Cernikov, Czechoslovakia, and Anna born in 1837. They were married and had a family before immigrating to the U.S. in 1871 when daughter Katherine was one year old. The family homesteaded on a farm e. of Linwood. Vaclav and Anna had 6 children: John, James, Albert, Katherine Hines, Anna Juranek, and Joe. Their son, John, was a member of the Cherny and Watson Lumber Co. located in several towns in Nebraska and Iowa. Joe was a lawyer in Dodge, later a county judge at Schuyler. The other children were farmers. Vaclav died in 1902; Anna in 1916. Both are buried at Killian's Cemetery.

Jim and Agnes Chromy blessed Rev. Jack Hebert on their 50th wedding anniversary. Sisters. *l.*-Alice Wesely, *r.*-Agnes Sloup

Kristina Chromy

Kristina (4-2-1886 to 10-5-1962) and husband Cyril (9-6-1876 to 8-16-1951) farmed s.w. of Morse. Parents of 14: Steven, Jim, Bill, Adeline, Alice, Agnes, Joe, Cyril, Rose, Mary, Jerry, Lydia, George and Frank. Kristina lived in Morse in the 1950's.

Robert and Sandra Chromy

Robert L., born 4-19-1950 in Wahoo to Steve and Dorothy Chromy, and Sandra, born in West Point, NE on 4-11-1951 to Sylvester and Gloria Parr of North Bend, were married 12-27-1969. They resided in the North Bend area until 1982 when they purchased the Francis Ladenburg home on Maud Street and moved to Morse. From 1982 to 1985, they owned the village's only bar, the Bluff's Pub. Bob is employed by the Union Pacific Railroad Co. in his 19th year. Sandra managed the bar and now works for Basco Heating and Air Conditioning in North Bend. The couple have 3 children: Robert C., born 6-4-1970; Tammy L., born 8-21-1974 (adopted); and April Lynn, born 10-20-1978. Their daughter Tonya died a few hours after birth 1-16-1974.

Steve and Dorothy Chromy

Steve, son of Cyril and Cristine Chromy, was born 12-24-1919 in Linwood, NE. In Omaha, NE on 1-18-1945 he married Dorothy, born 3-12-1923 in Omaha to Charles and Matilda Prchal. Steve served in World War II for 3½ years in the South Pacific 5 Air Force 49th Fighter Group. They moved to Morse from Malmo in 1952. Steve was road maintainer for State and County roads in the area. He enjoyed woodworking. Dorothy was active in Catholic Church work. They owned their own residence on Victoria Street. Children: Steven C., Kathleen Bauer, Robert, Tom (deceased), Edward, Jeanne Coufal, and Donald. Steve died 7-30-1986 and is buried at Cedar Hill. Dorothy still lives in Morse.

To the left: Tom Chromy
Below: **Dorothy and Steve Chromy** with children, Jeanne, Bob, Don, Steve, Ed and Kathy

William F. and Teresa Chromy

William, son of William L. and Julia Chromy, was born in North Bend. In Schuyler, NE, on 12-19-72, he married Teresa Ann Wachal, of Schuyler. Bill lived in the Morse area all his life, graduated from North Bend High, and served in the U.S. National Guard. A Linwood fireman, he has served as president of the Fire Board. He is president of the Dist. 14 school board and is Saunders County ASCS precinct committeeman. Teri graduated from Schuyler High and Wayne State College, and was affiliated with Chi Omega sorority. The Chromys are Catholics. Teri is a member of the Altar Society and has taught CCD classes. A leader for Clover Kids 4-H Club, of which her children are members, she is charter member of the Bluffs Gals Extension Club. She teaches Chapter I and P.E. at Dist. 14 where their children are students. Children: Anna (10); Kathryn (9); William (7); Julia (4); and Sarah (2).

Bill and Teri Chromy and children, Sarah, Billy, Katie, Annie and Julie

William and Julia Chromy

William, born 3-6-1922 to Cyril and Cristina Cerny Chromy, and Julia, born 2-22-1917 to Joseph and Mary Havlena Kadlec, were married 12-2-1944. Lifetime residents of the area, they farmed s.w. of Morse. Catholics. Children: William F., Mary Ann Otte, and Donna Brabec. 11 grandchildren. Bill died 3-25-1987. Julia died 2 days later.

Anton and Mary Chvatal

Anton Chvatal came from Czechosolvakia in the 1870's, when he was in his teens to this area. He worked on farms near Omaha. About once a year he would return for a few days either by walking or hopping on a freight train for a free ride. Anton married Mary Mahelek who had come to the U.S when she was 4 from Czechoslovakia. She and her parents lived southwest of Morse. Children: Charles, died at 99; Mary Bartosh, living at Arbor Manor, 101; Carrie Virka, died in her 60's; Antony (Tony) Jaros, deceased; Martin, died at 75; Anton, living in North Bend, 93; Joseph, living in Morse Bluff, 92; and Tom, living in Colon, NE, 89. All the children attended the Willow Creek School, District #51. Indians often came to the Chvatal farm wanting to trade trinkets for food. Traveling Jewish peddlers would stop to sell their wares. Anton lived to be over 90 and Mary was almost 80 when she died.

The Charles Chvatal Family

Charles, born in 1884, came from the Prague-Rescue area to Morse Bluff in 1907 to farm where his son, Francis, now lives. In 1910 he married Marie Odvody at Prague. They were the parents of Mayme, who married Ray Racek, and Francis of Morse. Marie died and in 1932 Charles married Anna Petrzelka Wirka. Three years later, he turned the farming over to his son. In 1944 Charles, Anna, and her son, Leonard, moved into Morse living e. of the Citizens Telephone Co. on Second Street. He then worked for the Dawson Grain Co., and served on the Village Board and Volunteer Fire Dept. Anna died in 1962. Charles lived alone till his death in 1983.

Charles and Mary Chvatal

Charles and Anna Chvatal

Don and Gladys Chvatal

Don, son of Anton and Irma Ondracek Chvatal of Morse Bluff, and Gladys, daughter of George and Mildred Slosser Prochaska of Prague, NE, were married 7-30-1958 at David City, NE. They live southwest of Morse where they farm and have a dairy. They have 4 daughters and 1 son. Karen, born 4-29-1959, attended Lincoln School of Commerce, is a secretary at the State Penitentiary, and married to Charles McElroy (3-3-1982) in Lincoln. Linda, born 6-21-1961, a secretary at Mullally's in North Bend, married Jerry Kruger Jr. 11-5-1983, and has a daughter, Ann Marie, born 11-8-1984. Donna, born 9-10-1964, was a 4 year college basketball team member while attending Creighton University in Omaha, married Jon Schuetz 5-31-1986, and now lives in Scottsbluff, NE. Roseann, born 11-21-1968, will attend Doane College in Crete, fall 1987. Terry, born 5-14-1971, graduates from North Bend Central in 1989.

Don, Gladys, Ann Marie, Linda, Donna, Karen, Terry, Roseann

Glenn and Eileen Chvatal

Glenn and Eileen live 6 mi. s. of Morse Bluff where they farm. Glenn, son of Francis and Agnes Chvatal, grew up in the Morse area, graduated from North Bend High and served in the National Guard. Eileen, daughter of Earl and Laura Fick, was born in Omaha, grew up on a farm near Memphis, NE, graduated from Mead High, and worked in Omaha until she married Glenn 9-23-1978 at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in Omaha. Glenn and Eileen are members of Edensburg Lutheran Church in Malmo where Glenn is a council member and Eileen teaches Sunday School. Glenn is a member of Saunders County Livestock Assoc., Chairman of Saunders County A.S.C.S., and member of the Legion, and the Volunteer Fire Dept. Their son Eric attends Dist. 14 primary, and son Bryon is 4 years old.

Francis and Agnes Chvatal

Francis, born 10-4-1916 in Morse Bluff to Charles and Marie Chvatal, and Agnes, born 8-27-1917 in Colome, SD, to Mr. and Mrs. John Stritecky, were married 3-22-1944 in Fremont, NE. They farmed from 1935-1980, 3 mi. s. and 1¼ w. on Highway 79; they struggled through the depression and drouth years, battling the Cinch bugs and grasshoppers. Now retired, Francis and Agnes enjoy dancing and traveling. Children: Glenn of Morse and Lori, Mrs. Jim Rosenbach of Fremont. Married 4-12-1980, the Rosenbachs have a daughter, Alexis, born 3-8-1986. Lori is a dental assistant and receptionist; Jim works for the Fremont Sanitation Dept. and is a Karate instructor.

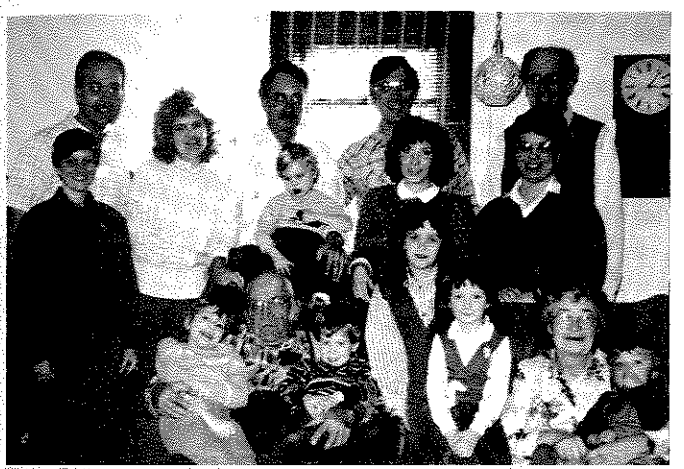
Agnes and Francis with children, Glenn and Lori

Joe and Anna Chvatal

Joe, born 4-26-1895, son of Anton and Mary Chvatal, and Anna Scholz, born 2-25-1900, were married at Plasi on 2-11-1919. Children: a daughter, Gladys, who married Anton Janecek. She is deceased. She had 3 daughters, Jean Hackel, Sharon Soucek, and Diane Sloup. Joe graduated from Fremont Normal College with a commercial degree. Joe and Anna lived on a farm and Joe also worked for the ASC Office for 12 years. They moved into Morse Bluff in the spring of 1950. Anna died a few years ago.

Albin and Cecilia Cihacek

Albin, born 9-23-1912, son of John and Eva Cihacek, grew up in the Morse area. Cecilia was born 4-1-1918, west of Malmo to Joseph and Josephine Mach Sousek. Albin and Cecilia were married 4-29-1947 at Cedar Hill. They farm the homeplace 1½ mi. southwest of Morse. Albin served on the Dist. 14 school board, the Watershed Board for Saunders Co., and Advisory Board for Nat'l Resources Dist. They were honored as Conservation Farm Family in 1968 by SCCS. They received a conservation award from the Lower Platte North Natural Resources Dist. and in 1982 received an honorary membership award from the University of NE Agronomy Club. Children: Larry (1948) graduated (B.S. and M.S.) from UNL and a PhD from Iowa State, married Karen Fossler of Beatrice 1973, 3 children, lives in Moorhead, MN, is systems specialist for the Dept. of Soil Science of N.D University and Captain in Bismark National Guard; Dennis (1952) UNL graduate, married Marian Krontz of Tecumseh in 1984, lives in Omaha, Asst. Regional Mgr. in research for Rhone-Poulenc, Inc.; Gene (1955) attended Milford Technical School, married Linda Ludwig of Wisner, 4 children, lives in Arlington, NE, works for O.P.P.D.; and Kenneth (1958) UNL graduate, married Renee Wright of Arlington in 1985, lives in Ames, IA, and works in sales for Cominco Fertilizer Co.



Albin Cihacek
Ken, Renee; Karen, Larry and David; Gene, Linda, Dennis, Marian; Albin with Laura and Aaron; Angela, Jennifer, Cecilia and Brian

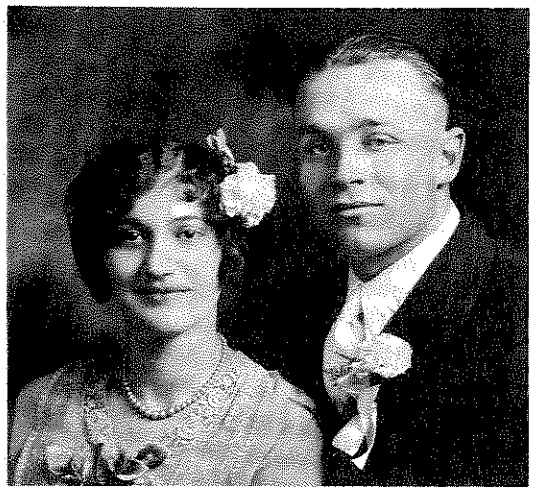
John and Eva Cihacek

John, born 7-17-1882 in Butler County, NE, and Eva Votova, born 12-24-1883 in Edholm, Butler County, NE, were married 4-16-1907 at St. Peter and Paul Church, Abie, NE. They came to the area about 1910 and purchased the farm of Joseph Janovec 1½ mi. s.w. of Morse Bluff. They lived and farmed there till 1948, then retired to North Bend, NE. Children: Albin of Morse, and Emil O., born 2-10-1908 at Linwood, NE, who moved to the North Bend area in 1934. John died 2-23-1971; Eva died 7-18-1964. Both are buried at Sacred Heart Cemetery at Cedar Hill.

John and Eva Cihacek, 50 wedding anniversary, 4-16-1956

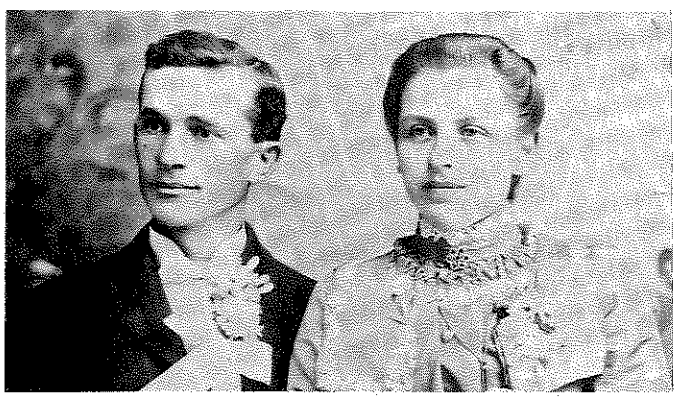
Anton and Mabel Cippera

Anton (Tony), born 4-13-1905, Morse Bluff, and Mabel, born 4-5-1911, daughter of Alexander and Jennie Mares Bartunek, were married in Fremont, 1-28-1930. Children: Dennis, who married Geraldine Havelka, has 2 sons, Mark and Michael and 2 grandchildren living in Omaha. Tony and Mabel farmed 3 mi. west and ½ mi. north of Morse Bluff. Mabel died 2-14-1981. Tony has retired from farming but still lives on the Cippera homestead which has been in the family for over 100 years.



Joseph and Kristena Cippera

Joseph, born 7-10-1876, Fremont, NE, son of Anton and Louise Dufek Cippera and Kristena, born 10-2-1881, Morse Bluff, daughter of Frank and Mary Vopalensky, were married 10-14-1901, Wahoo, NE. Children: Louis (1902-1948); Anton (1905); Joseph William (1908-1929). They lived on a farm 4 mi. west of Morse Bluff. After Joe's death, 7-24-1934, Kristena moved with her son, Louis, into town at Rose and First Streets. She was active in the Amer. Legion Aux., using her home for the Auxiliary meetings for several years. She is also remembered for the beautiful stitchery in the quilts she made. She died 10-31-1972.



The William Codr family farmed west of Morse in the 1950's *l to r* Delores, William, Lillian, Arnold, Adolph

Frank L. and Emma Dodge

Frank L. Dodge, born 8-24-1880, Morse Bluff and Emma, a twin daughter of August and Margaret Seligman, were married in the early 1920's. Children: Francis, Melvin and Frank Jr. living northeast of North Bend; and Harold, living in Michigan. All attended school in Morse Bluff. Frank had his own sawmill, cut and sold lumber. He had the first steam engine in the area, a Reeves. He was one of 7 farmers to form the Farmers Grain Company. He was a mechanic in the Dodge Bros. garage and sold new cars. In 1940 the family moved northeast of North Bend. Frank L. died in 1948 and Emma in 1966.

John Parker and Mary F. Dodge

John Parker Dodge was born in 1843 in eastern U.S. His wife, Mary, was born in Bohemia in 1853. Children: John P. Jr. (1875-1904), Henry (1877-1949), Frank L. (1880-1948), James T. (1883-1972), Charles B. (1885-1963), John M. (1888-?), and Lewis (1890-1946). John P. Dodge came to this area about 1860. He homesteaded 80 acres in Bohemia precinct, the Wilma Dvorak farm 1½ mi. west of town. He received the land patent for the 80 from the General Land Office on 3-10-1866. On 12-10-1866 he sold a tract of land about 100′ wide to the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad for $22.50 an acre. Besides farming, he ran a ferry across the Platte, later selling it to Frank Beznoska. John died 9-16-1901 and his wife, Mary, died 9-4-1906 at Morse Bluff.

Front: Charlie, Mary, Lewis, John P., John M. Back: Frank, James, Henry

Leonard Hazeltine Dodge Family

Leonard Hazeltine Dodge, born 1833 in Vermont, married Martha Preston in 1867. He died in 1896. Martha died in California in 1910. They had 12 children; Rollen, Addie, Lizza, Maria, Timothy, Joseph, Marky, Myrtle, Hugh, Allison, Ollie and Etta. They farmed ½ mi. west of Morse Bluff on land purchased from the railroad. On the farm homestead a wooden water tank held water from a natural spring. Several times the Dodge family had to take cover and were on the alert with guns pointed at Indians. The Indians had come to get water from the spring and to raid the garden.

The Timothy Brown Dodge Family

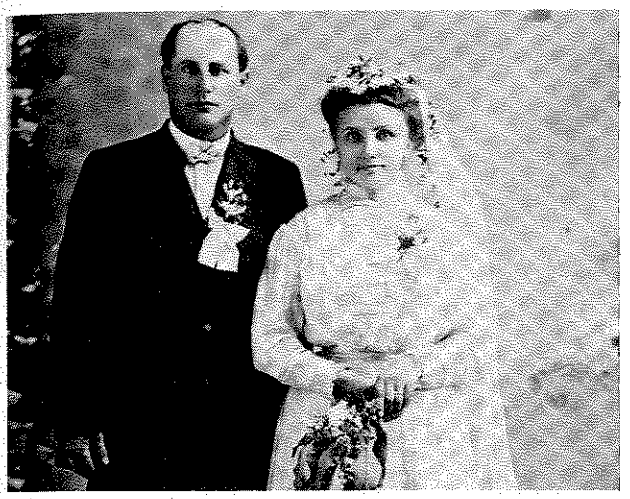
Tim Dodge, born 7-14-1889 near Morse Bluff, died 10-5-1941 at Veteran's Hospital, Lincoln, NE. He was married to Lillian Blue. Tim and brother Allison bought the livery barn and managed it for a few years. In the 1920's the family moved to North Bend but maintained an interest in the Morse Bluff community. Tim was a charter member of the American Legion Post #340 and Lillian was a charter member of the Auxiliary. Children: Laurine Martha married Lyle Mylander, living in North Bend; Leonard Timothy was living in North Bend at the time of his death; Rollen died in infancy; and Ralph Max lived in California at the time of his death. There are 2 grandsons and 4 great grandsons in the North Bend area to carry on the Dodge name.

Back: Maria, Ollie, Joe, Addie, Hugh; Front: Lizzie, Tim, Martha holding Myrtle, Etta, Allison

Spring Clothes

Lawrence and Vonda Dolezal

Lawrence was born 8-18-1920 to Frank and Marie Dolezal in their farm home in Morse Bluff. On 6-9-1947 in Wahoo, NE, he married Vonda, born 10-10-1930 in North Bend to Albert and Lillie Buchholtz. They live 3 mi. s. and 3½ mi. w. of Morse on a farm purchased from Vavrinec Baur by Peter Dolezal, Lawrence's grandfather in 1879. The land has remained in the family. Lawrence farmed and started trucking in 1947, working with his sons. Vonda operated a cafe in North Bend from 1967 through 1970. Later, she raised and showed registered pinto-paint horses with her daughter Carla. Son Kenneth raises hogs at the Dolezal farm with the help of his 4 sons. Children: Lawrence D., Kenneth, Lenice Lowther, Deborah Perry, and Carla Soukup.



Frank and Marie Dolezal
Frank, son of Peter Dolezal and father of Olga Virka and Lawrence

Left: Terese and Phil Galley
Below: Tim, Kenneth, Quinn, Tammy Hynek Dunker, Rita, Tammy, Brad, Mary and Bob Shanahan sitting.

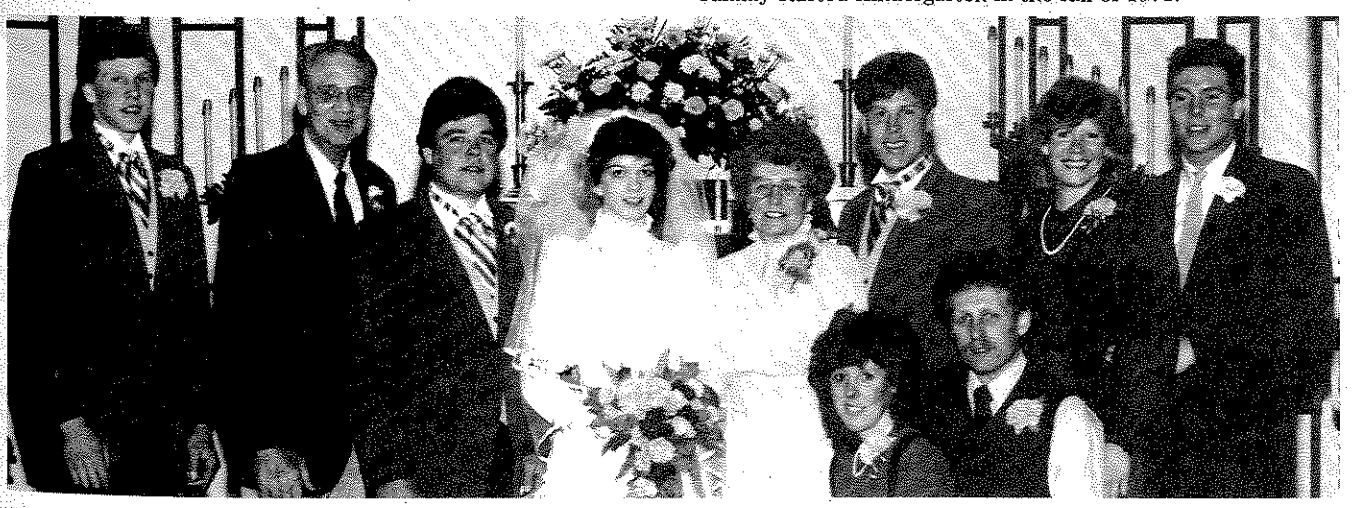
Kenny, Debbie, Lawrence, Carla, Vonda, Lenice, Larry

Kenneth and Rita Dunker

Kenneth, born near North Bend, and Rita, born near Dodge, were married 5-3-52 in Dodge. They came to Morse in 1958 from North Bend to the Bignell house on 2nd St. Children: Quinn, born 1953, Morse Bluff; Pat, born 1955, attended Blair Medical and Dental Ass't College, Omaha, married David Woltemade 5-18-74, has 2 children, divorced in 1981, moved to Colorado, married Randy Seip 8-4-85; Raymond, born 1956, purchased and remodeled residence on corner of 1st and Rose, attended UNL 2 years majoring in drama, writing and producing and pursues this career in California; Mary, born 1956, attended Midland College, married Bob Shanahan 9-9-77 in North Bend, 1 child, she and Bob run Bob's Custom Meats and North Bend Locker Plant; Therese, born 1963, joined Air Force 1981, married Phillip Gulley, both Sergeants stationed in Japan; Bradley, born 1961, attended St. Edward's University, Austin, TX, for 2 years, and Northwestern Un., Chicago, 1981-83, majoring in radio, TV, Film and Theater, starred in New York and Off-Broadway productions, currently organizing a trade corp. with China to import 35mm print; Tammy, born 1963, worked in Fremont 2 yrs, currently a senior at Denver Uni.; Timothy, born 1965, a student at Wayne State. In 1980, the Dunkers sold their home and purchased son Raymond's home on 1st and Rose. Rita is Food Service Director at North Bend Elementary School; Kenneth lives in Fremont.

Quinn and Tammy Dunker

Quinn, born 2-8-1953 in Fremont to Raymond and Rita Dunker, and Tammy, born 11-26-1965 in Wahoo, NE to George and Dorothy Hynek, were married 2-9-1985 in Cedar Bluffs. Quinn bought McCluhan Bluffs, located on the w. edge of Morse in Sept. 1979, where he built a home in 1984. Quinn has owned and operated Dunker Body and Paint of North Bend since 1972. He received a fixed wing pilot's license in 1976 and owns a Hughes helicopter. Quinn graduated from North Bend Central in the spring of 1971 while Tammy started Kindergarten in the fall of 1971.



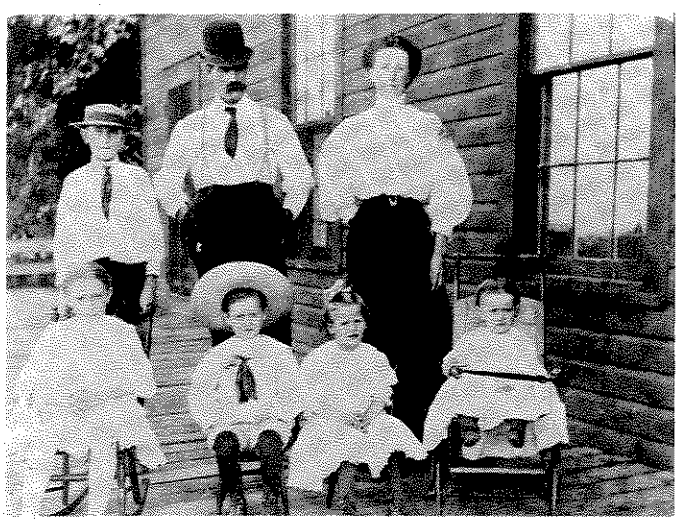
Alvin and Wilma Dvorak

Alvin, born at Appleton in Butler County to Joseph and Emma Urbanek Dorak, and Wilma, born near Morse Bluff to Frank and Libbie Vopalensky were married at Beatrice, NE 1-4-1932. Children: Dolores Darlene Dahlheim, Gretna, NE; Sharon Ann Keller, Fremont, NE. They made their home on a farm 1½ mi. west of Morse and belonged to the United Presbyterian Church in North Bend. Alvin died 5-4-1979. Wilma belongs to the Get-Together Extension Club and takes an active role in the church organizations.

Alvin, Dolores Dahlheim, Wilma, Sharon Keller, 40th wedding anniversary, January 1972

Andrew and Orcelia Jane Edmiston

Andrew, born 5-9-1886 in Ontario, Canada and Orcelia (Jennie), born 6-5-1881, Arborsville, NE, daughter of Ernest and Ida Elizabeth White Wilkins, were married 3-30-1902 at Charleston, NE. They and their three children, Anita, Norman and Walter, moved to Morse Bluff in 1905 where Andrew was the depot agent for the next 27 years. Both were involved with the establishment of the Morse Bluff Methodist Church and became charter members. They remained active in the church as long as they lived in Morse Bluff. Andrew was also active in other civic groups, as school and town boards. Seven children were born in Morse Bluff: Bessie (8-21-1906 to 7-8-1969); Ida (6-28-1908 to 4-24-1967); Arnold (5-8-1910 to 1-3-1974); Margaret (12-29-1915); Janet (3-21-1918); Donald (12-5-1920 to 8-18-1921); Francis (11-28-1922 to 5-25-1947); and Lois (10-31-1924). The family moved to Gresham, NE in 1933 where Andrew was the depot agent until he retired in 1937. Andrew died in Gresham 5-12-1939 and Jennie on 7-10-1965.



Norman, A.J. Edmiston, deport agent, and wife Jenny in front—Anita, Walter, Bessie, Ida, taken by the depot in Morse Bluff, 1909

Jack and Charlotte Edwards

Jack, son of Thomas and Mildred Edwards, born 9-13-1928 in Bridgeport, NE, and Charlotte, daughter of Carl and Grace Bauer, born 10-5-1928 in Bridgeport, were married 6-24-1949 at Sequine, TX. They came to the Morse area 10-1-1979 from Omaha. Jack manages Wolf Sand and Gravel Co. Charlotte is a professional wildlife painter. Their children, all married: Thomas, Independence, MO; Jacklyne Walker, Omaha; and Jerrold, Omaha. They have 4 grandchildren.

Jack, Charlotte Edwards and oldest grandson, Erik

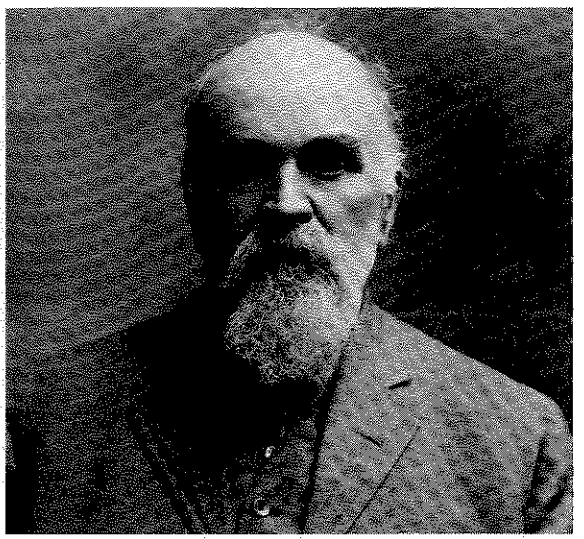
Charles and Lillian Fencl

Charles Fencl, born 11-3-1905, to Charles Sr. and Kristine Fencl of Prague, and Lillian, born 7-16-1908 to John and Emma Kavan were married on 6-22-1931 in Morse. They farmed near Morse until 1975 when they retired and moved to North Bend. Children: Maxine, Mrs. Eugene Wesely of Cedar Bluffs; and Marlene, Mrs. Clarence Thege of North Bend. There are 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Charles died 1-4-85; Lillian 12-25-82.

Joe and Leona Fencl

Joe, born 4-24-1915 near Bruno, NE, to Joseph F. and Terezia Rerucha Fencl and Leona, born 4-1-1918, to Louis and Emma Stranik were married 2-20-1939. Joe worked on various farms and came to the Morse Bluff area to work for John Svoboda. In 1938 he went to work for Tom Beck, the blacksmith, in Morse. When fire destroyed the shop in 1939, Joe built a shop in the same location, doing repair work and general blacksmithing. Leona did the bookkeeping and assisted in some of the work. As the years passed, Joe added mechanic work on tractors and cars. He also repaired chain saws and small engines. In 1943 they purchased the former James Bunda home on Kate Street, living there until their deaths. They enjoyed traveling and toured most of the United States by car and camper. Shortly after a fire damaged their shop in 1974, Joe's health rapidly deteriorated and he died 1-26-1983. Leona after a brief illness, died 6-20-1983.

Joe and Leona Fencl, 35th wedding anniversary



Walter Fleming
First Supt. of Saunders County Schools in 1871, President of Bank of Morse Bluff, Grandfather of Walter Tawney and Curtis Fleming

Below: **Curtis Fleming Family**
Bruce, Mike and Connie Emanuel, Lynne and Chris, Curtis, Jeri, Kim and Brad, Barbara and Toby Gay

Francis and Mary Fischer

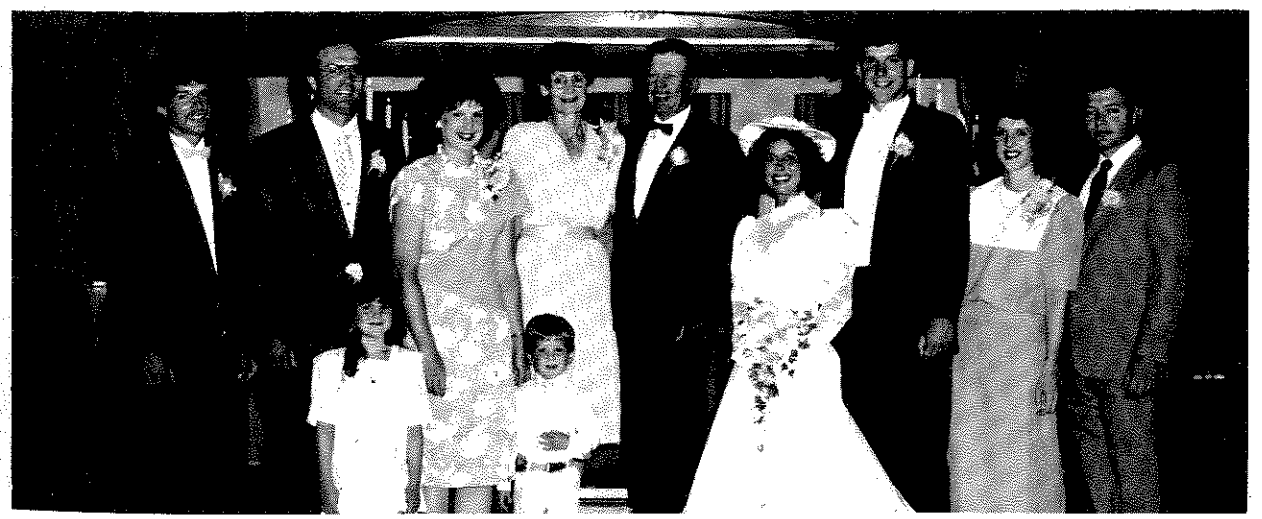
Francis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Fischer of Wisner, NE was born 12-6-1934. He married Mary Orendorff 5-19-1953 in North Bend. Mary was born 3-28-1935 to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Orendorff of North Bend. They have 5 children: Sandy, born 8-15-1954, husband Lee Eddins, sons Scott and Jim live in Winslow as does Daniel, born 12-12-1955, wife Linda Gulbrandson and sons Tracy, Tom, Tim. Gene, born 9-28-1958 of Morse; Steve, born 12-27-1959, of Nougales, AZ; and Francis Jr., born 1-23-1960, wife Kathy Hraban, son Waylon, daughter Amanda. Francis Sr. works at Schuyler Packing Plant; Francis Jr. and Mary work at D & L in Columbus. The Fischers moved to Morse in 1960; they are Catholics. They live in a new home they built on Victoria Street.

The Fleming Family

Robert and Christina Fleming arrived in New York from Scotland in 1829, worked in New York for a short time, then moved to London, Ontario, Canada where he owned a farm and raised a family of 6 boys and 3 girls. In 1867, his eldest son, Walter, worked in Iowa building railroad bridges and in 1868 homesteaded in northern Douglas precinct (Saunders Co.). The following year, Robert Fleming moved to the same area where he and his sons took homesteads, and his daughters married homesteaders. Robert Fleming was appointed Postmaster of Sand Creek Post Office in 1870. His son Thomas had a blacksmith shop, and Jesse Gidley had a general store in this early settlement. Walter Fleming was County Superintendent of Schools in 1871, was later President of the Bank of Morse Bluff, and was active in local government. He developed and enlarged his original homestead and raised a family of 4: Thomas, Ada (Tawney), Walter G. and Robert.

Curtis and Jeri Fleming

Curtis D. Fleming, born 1923, continues to live on and farm, with the help of his son Bruce, the family farm, part of which his grandfather homesteaded in 1868. This year is the 119th year that this land has been tilled by the Fleming family. Curtis attended rural Dist. 79 and Morse Bluff and North Bend High Schools. He married Geraldine "Jeri" Moravec (1930) of the Ithaca vicinity in 1952. Jeri, a graduate of Wahoo High School, did secretarial work at UNL. They have 4 children: Connie (1954), Mrs. Mike Emanuel of Omaha with 2 children, Lynne and Chris; Bruce (1957), at home; Barbara (1958), Mrs. Toby Gay of Columbus; and Brad (1961), who married Kim McLeod, of Omaha. All four continued their education at UNL. Connie has a B.S. in Home Ec, Bruce a B.S. in Agriculture, Barb a M.A. in Architecture, and Brad a B.S. in Engineering. Active members of the First Presbyterian Church of Cedar Bluffs, Curtis and Jeri are members of OES 138. Curtis was a member of Occidental Lodge 119 A.F. and A.M. of North Bend. Jeri is also a member of Douglas Extension Club. Curtis served on the Dist 14 School Board, and was part of the original Board which organized the consolidated Dist. 95 Jr.-Sr. High School of North Bend. He served for 10 years. They built a new brick home in 1972 and have replaced most of the farm buildings of previous generations.



Walter G. and Louise Fleming

Walter G. was the 2nd youngest of the family, born in 1887. He attended Fremont Normal (now Midland) College. He married Louise Seligman in 1912 and they continued to live on part of his father's homestead. Louise was a graduate of Peru State Normal College, and taught at Dist. 91 near Cedar Bluffs for 3 years. She also worked at Walla Bros. Store. The couple raised 4 children: Donald of Herman; Mrs. H.L. (Jean) Hoffman of Riverside, CA; Mrs. Alvin (Odette) Asay of Denver, CO; and Curtis of Morse Bluff. They had 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. Walter retired from farming in 1960 and they moved to a home s.e. of Morse Bluff. They celebrated their 72nd anniversary together. They were long time residents of the community as both were almost 98 when they passed away in 1985.

Jacob and Anna Franta

Jacob and Anna Kadlicek Franta immigrated to the U.S. from Czechoslovakia in 1868. They homesteaded on a farm southwest of Morse Bluff receiving a deed signed by Ulysses S. Grant. The original deed is still in the family's possession. This farm is one of the earliest homesteads in the vicinity. Jacob and Anna Franta had 3 sons and 4 daughters.

James A. and Elizabeth Franta

James A. Franta and Elizabeth Polivka were married 5-22-1900. James A. inherited the homestead and lived there all his life. Children: James Victor, Edward J., Mary Fujan, Emily Jambor, Rose Jambor, Anna Havlovic and Alice Ladenburger. James Victor was next in line to become the owner-operator of the homestead. He was the recipient of the 100th year pioneer farm award in 1970. The farm is now owned and operated by Edward J. Franta who has lived on the farm all his life with the exception of the time he spent in the armed forces during World War II. Edward is a 40 year charter member of the North Bend V.F.W. and a 35 year life member of the American Legion Post #340.

Helen Feala and son Amiel lived on a farm s.w. of Morse.

Paul and Darlene Freeman

Paul was born 1-11-1907 on a farm n.e. of Cedar Bluffs to Louis and Cynthia Barrett Freeman. He grew up in Plainview, NE, and on a homestead in Mitchell, NE, returning to Cedar Bluffs to farm land owned by the Barrett family. Darlene was born 7-31-1917 on a farm s.w. of Cedar Bluffs to John and Ruby Kimble Lohman. She grew up in Cedar and Elkhorn, NE. Paul and Darlene were married 10-21-39 in Omaha. Son, Richard, was born 2-10-42 in Wahoo (married Kathleen Snyder); Ronald, 4-5-45 in Wahoo (married Rita Wittmersehouse); and Terilee, 7-31-51 in Fremont (married Gary Roberts). Freemans are members of the Presbyterian Church. Paul served as Trustee and Elder; Darlene served in the women's organizations. Both sons graduated from Midland College and Terilee from Wayne State College. After retiring in 1975, they moved to an acreage purchased on the n.w. outskirts of Morse where they now live.

Richard, Darlene, Paul, Terilee, Ronald

Terry and Connie Friesz

Terry and Connie Friesz were married 2-29-1980. They came to Morse Bluff 11-1-1979 from Omaha to manage a tavern. Children: Brett, Terri Marie and Chico Friesz; Scott and Pam Johnson. Terry is a self-employed plumber working from their home west of the Post Office. Connie is the manager of the North Bend Estates, apartments for the elderly. Shortly after they moved to Morse, they discovered how friendly and trustworthy the area people were. Connie and Terry, operating the tavern without additional help from 8 A.M. to 1:30 A.M., decided one Sunday morning when no one was in the tavern, to close for a few hours. When they came back, they found the tavern open as they had not pulled the door completely shut to lock it. There was a full house of customers being served by one of the patrons. He had recorded all he had sold and the money collected. Only in a small town as Morse Bluff could this have happened!

Archie and Mildred Gaskill

Archie (Dean) and Mildred moved to the Otto Virka farm in 1966 with their 5 children: Valerie, Duane, Byron, John, and Deanna. Brett was born the following year. Archie is the son of the late Archie Dean Gaskill and Orfa Hollen Gaskill of Birchwood Manor in North Bend. Mildred is the daughter of the late Joseph C. and Albina Zelda Schmid of Abie, NE. Archie works for Arps Red-E-Mix of Fremont. Mildred is Social Director at Birchwood Manor. Family: Valerie, married George Owens of Dansville, NY, 3 children, lives in Omaha; Duane, married Cindy McMullen of Geneva, NE, lives in Omaha, 3 children; Byron, married Mary Tawney of North Bend, has 2 children; John married Valerie Posa of Omaha, has 1 son; Deanna married John Swanson from Geneva, NE, lives in Loveland, CO, she teaches school, John is mechanical engineer at a nuclear power plant; Brett joined the U.S. Air Force 2-27-1987, is stationed in Texas.

Back: Valerie and Charlie Owen, George and Rachal Owen, Mary and Byron, Valerie and John, Mildred and Dean, Nichole and Duane Front: Brett, Angela, Katrina Owen, Nathan, Nolan, Cindy, Deanna and John Swanson

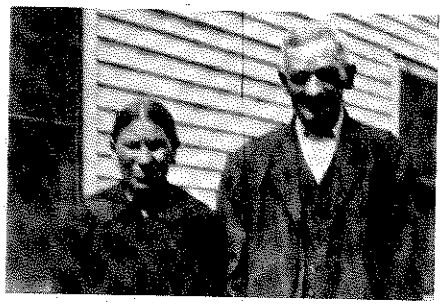
J. DeForest and Jean Groff

J. DeForest Groff, born in Texas to Mr. and Mrs. Solon Groff, lived in North Bend and Jean, born in rural Morse Bluff to Pat and Clara McGinn, were married 12-18-1959 in Columbus, NE. Children: Neal, Anita, and Carol Ann. The Groffs moved to the farm of Jean's ancestors, the John Wallas, in 1963. The original log cabin still stands in the yard. Groff heritage in the U.S. dates back to 1763 from Austria. The first Groff coming to the U.S. met a widow with 3 children on the ship and married her. They had 3 more children.

The old and the new—1872 log cabin that John Walla built when he homesteaded. Steel building built by the Groffs in 1981. Jean Groff is the great granddaughter of John Walla.

Jan and Antonia Haba

Jan, born 12-30-1844, Bohemia, son of Joseph and Anna Haba and Antonia, born 6-3-1847, Bohemia, were married in Bohemia 2-2-1871. Children: Barbara (1879-1976), Mary (1881-1969), and Joseph (1884-1967). They and their son came to Omaha in 1874, to Saunders County near Rescue in 1897 and to Morse Bluff in 1913. Their first home was a sod house and here their other children were born. The George Kaplan house was their home in Morse Bluff. Jan died 9-21-1930. Antonia died 4-13-1931.



Jerry and Cecilia Hall

Jerry Hall, born in Omaha and Cecilia Vojtech, daughter of Joe and Evangeline Vojtech, were married 9-5-1964 at Cedar Hill. Children: Mary, 21; Beth, 20; Greg, 18; Rebecca, 9; Rachel, 6; and Nathan, 4. Both Jerry and Cecilia are graduates (Bachelors and Masters Degress) from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Jerry is a contractor and Cecilia, a teacher. They returned in August 1979 to live on the Vojtech homestead 5½ mi. southwest of Morse Bluff.

Back: Rebecca, Rachel, Nathan Seated: Greg, Jerry, Cecilia, Mary Front: Beth

Charles and Leona Hampl

Leona, born 3-29-1912 in Prague, NE, moved to Morse with her parents, Joe and Lena Pabian in 1926. Charles, born in Prague, NE, 1-29-1913 to Joe and Anna Hampl, married Leona 4-28-1936 at St. Charles Church in North Bend, NE. Son Gary was born 1-15-43. Charles worked as a farm hand when first married, and was a substitute mail carrier for several years. In the infantry during WW II for 28 months, he served 17 months in the European Theater Operation. After training in Africa, he fought in Italy. Leona ran the switchboard for 25 years for the Citizens Telephone Company, worked for Blevins Popcorn in North Bend 20 years, and retired in 1977. Charles worked for the Chicago Northwestern Railroad from 1939-1971. The Hampls celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They live in the Citizens Telephone Company Office-residence, which they purchased in 1960 and remodeled.

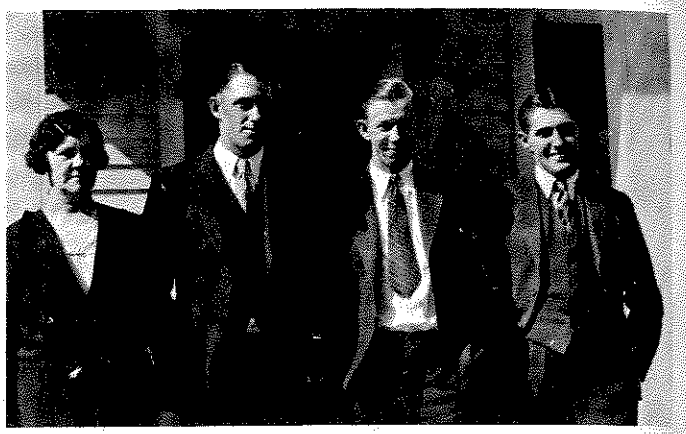
Gary and Marlene Hampl

Gary Charles Hampl, born 1-15-1943 to Leona and Charles Hampl and Marlene, born 1-3-46 to Joe and Anna Jisa of Brainard, were married at Brainard. Gary attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, worked as a truck dispatcher out of Central City, and later owned and operated his own truck. Gary and Marlene live on the corner of 1st and Ann in a home built for them when they married. In 1977, they purchased the corner lot and station from Tom Ladenburg. The Hampls have 5 children: Michael (5-11-70), Mitchell (10-3-72); Michelle (2-16-76); Miles (4-1-78); and Matthew (6-16-83).

Mike, Miles, Gary holding Matthew, Michelle, Marlene, Mitch

Joseph and Anna Hampl

Anna Hampl, born 9-28-1883 in Wisconsin to Frank and Anna Urban, married Joseph Hampl 6-17-1906 in Bohemia, Austria. Joseph died 4-23-1913. Children: Irene, 12-3-1905, married Tom Chapman, died in 1925, had a daughter, Rita; Joseph, 3-16-1907; Milo, 3-5-1909; Frank, 8-26-1911, all living in California; and Charles, 1-29-1913, Morse Bluff. Anna and children moved from Prague, NE to Morse in 1917 to become telephone operator for Citizens Telephone Company. She and her children manned the switchboard 24 hours a day until her death in 1935. They resided in living quarters attached to the telephone office.



Anna and her sons, Joe, Milo and Charles

Jim and Diane Hansen

James, born 12-16-1940 to Lloyd and Ethel Hansen of North Bend, and Diane, born 2-19-1946 in Omaha to Harold and Mary Rasmussen, were married 9-2-1978 at their present home 2 mi. e. and 3½ mi. s. of Morse. James and his father Lloyd (1907-1976), purchased and moved to his farm home in 1974, coming from North Bend. Diane and her family moved from Tekamah after their marriage. Eric, Jim's son, lives with them; Jim's daughters from his previous marriage live with their mother at North Bend. Jim's children: Jamie, 18; Eric, 16; and Sonja, 14; Diane's children: Teri, 23; Brenda, 22; Peggy, 21; Cindi, 18; and Greg, 16. Jim's mother, Ethel Ladenburger Hansen (1908-1967) taught at rural Morse schools much of her adult life. Lloyd owned and operated Hansen's Garage in North Bend. Jim and his dad were livestock feeders. Jim owns and operates a trucking firm.

Adolph Havelka

Adolph, born 10-13-1900 near Sand Creek s. of Morse Bluff, was the son of Joe and Emily Havelka. Adolph farmed until 1941 when he retired because his horses were too old and none were conveniently available. He then tended bar for George Pabian and later for Francis Sullivan from 1948 to 1972. In 1980 he retired and moved to town, living in a trailer home on the n.w. corner of First and Kate Street. Adolph played the tuba for dances for 17 years.

Joe and Emily Havelka

Joe married Emily Wesely, farmed near Sand Creek, and at the site of his son Adolph's current farm. They had five children: Alice Shinkle of Wyoming; Leona Micklewaite, Omaha, deceased; Libbie Warner, one son by this marriage, later married Eric Weyer, Fremont; Clara Buresh, Brainard, deceased; and Adolph Havelka of Morse. Joe died at the age of 49. Emily continued living with son Adolph. Emily and Joe both are buried at Killian's Cemetery.

Adolph Havlovec

Adolph, born 6-17-1923 to Andrew and Mary Havlovec in Prague, NE, grew up there, and attended high schools in Prague, Wahoo, and completed his schooling in North Bend. Adolph came to Morse Bluff 28 years ago and lives in a house just outside the village limits. Adolph worked for the Watson Lumber Co., the trailer plant at North Bend, and now works at L and L Lumber Co. in North Bend. After his mother died, his father lived in Morse with his son until his death.

Andrew Havlovec and Andrew Jr.

Albert and Elizabeth Hines

Albert, born 12-31-1898 to Frank A. and Katherine Hines near Morse Bluff, was a veteran of World War I. In Cedar Bluffs on 10-16-1923, Albert married Elizabeth Kriz of Linwood. They farmed 160 acres s. of Morse, raising grain and livestock. In the 1960's on 80 acres s. of the Platte River, he started the Morse Bluff Sand and Gravel Co. which he operated for several years. He was a 50 year member and past master of the Masonic Lodge, member and past worthy patron of the North Bend Order of Eastern Star, and member of the Z.C.B.J. lodge, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. An avid photographer, he belonged to the Fremont Camera Club. He was a director of the Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co. They were members of the United Presbyterian Church in North Bend. Elizabeth was a member of Eastern Star, Just Neighbors Extension Club, and various card clubs. They had one son, Donald. Albert died 5-20-1971 and is buried in Woodland Cemetery in North Bend. Elizabeth lives in North Bend.

Arnold and Donna Hines

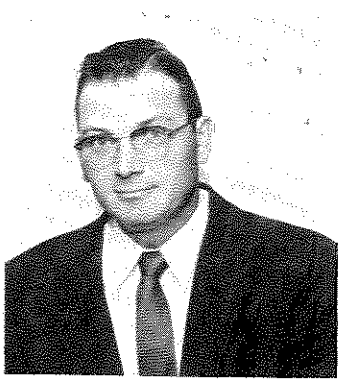
Arnold (born 3-28-1931 to Joe and Helen Hines, on a farm 4 mi. s. of Morse) graduated from Prague in 1948, then farmed until his duty in the Marines from 1951-1953. He was president of the Dist. 54 school board, a 4-H leader, and is a Legion member. Donna (born 11-21-1934 to Ignac and Ella Mares Curda on a farm n.w. of Plasi, NE) was valedictorian of Prague High in 1952, attended Midland College, and taught at Dist. 19, and 94. Arnold and Donna, married 5-26-1956 in the Prague Presbyterian Church, lived e. of Prague for 7 years, and in 1963, moved to their own farm where they raise grain and hogs. Children: twins Sharen and Karen, born 11-10-1958, graduated from NBC. Karen graduated from UNL, taught Home Ec in Prague High, and married Tim Cech in August 1981. Tim is production foreman at Hormel. They have two children and live in Fremont. Sharen married Steve Minarick of North Bend. Allen, born 3-29-61, UNL graduate is employed by Nebr. SPF Swine Agency as fieldman. He married Linda Dickey, employed by a brokerage firm. Greg, born 2-7-72, is a student at NBC. All 4 children were active in 4-H.

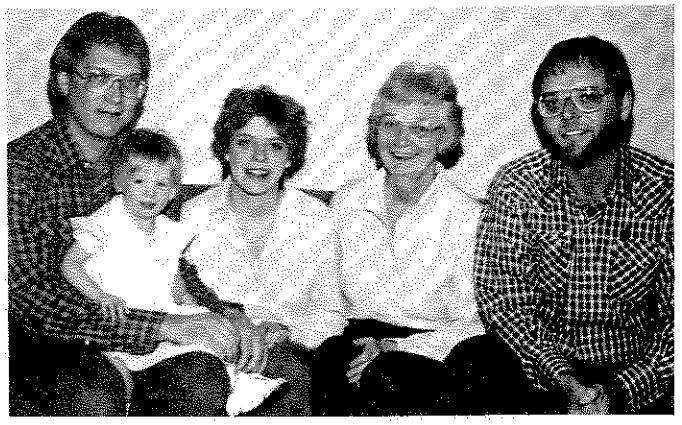
Back: Allen, Arnold, Front: Karen, Sharen, Donna, Greg

Donald and Arlene Hines

Don was born 10-31-1927 to Albert and Elizabeth Hines in Morse Bluff. Fond of sports and motorcycles, he graduated from North Bend High in 1944. He married Arlene Maly of Linwood 2-19-55. He farmed with his father s. of Morse and helped operate the Morse Bluff Sand and Gravel Co. Don died 9-5-77 at his home. Arlene works as a nurses aid in geriatrics. She continues to live in their home on 3rd and Maud Streets. Children: Robert and Thomas. Robert, born 4-3-56 in Fremont, was president of his graduating class in 1974, held offices in Delta Tau Delta Fraternity at UNL, graduated in 1978, works for Weldon Industries, Lincoln, member of Community Players, and coached girls softball in North Bend. Tom, born 3-18-61 in Fremont, graduated from NBC in 1979, attended UNL, pledged Delta Tau Delta fraternity. On 2-9-85, he married Erin Russell of Lincoln, daughter is Jennifer. Tom works for the Lincoln Public Schools.

Don Hines



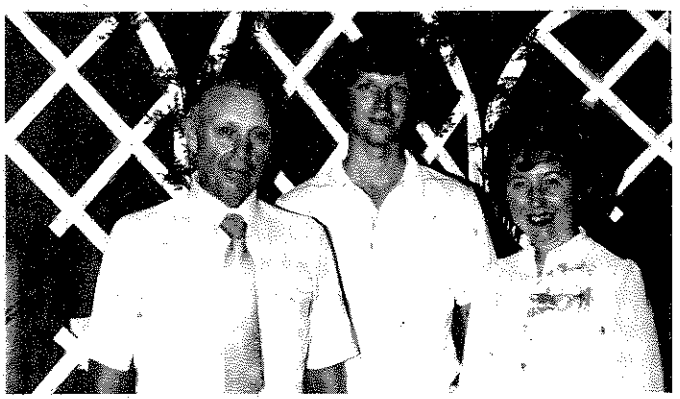


The Donald Hines Family - Tom, Jennifer, Erin, Arlene, Bob

Edward V. and Agnes Hines

Edward J. and Irene Hines

Ed, son of Edward V. and Agnes Hines, born 12-20-1922 in Morse, and Irene, born 3-27-1926 in Abie, NE to James and Stella Hanis Slosser, were married 2-23-1946 while Ed served in the army. They had 3 sons. Kenneth died as an infant. Ronald received his education in Business Administration and Accounting at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, and now resides in Arizona. Keith married Colleen Murphy, born 8-9-1960 to Nick and Norma Murphy of North Bend. Keith trained in Auto Paint and Body Work at Metro Tech, Omaha, and is employed by Woodhouse Ford, Blair, NE. Colleen works for Walmart Store in Fremont, NE. Their daughters are Sheena Renae, and Stephanie. Ed and Irene farm near Morse on land family owned for almost 80 years. They are members of St. George's Catholic Church; Irene is a member of the Altar Society.



Edward J., Keith, Irene

Edward V. and Agnes Hines

Edward, son of Frank A. and Katherine Hines, born 11-13-1895 at Morse Bluff, and Agnes, daughter of Joe C. and Lena Pabian, born 5-22-1894 at Prague, NE, were married 9-15-1921 in the Wahoo Catholic Church. Ed grew up in the Morse area and as a young man worked in the local elevator. He was Chairman of the County A.S.C.S. board for many years, enjoyed photography, belonging to a Camera Club. Agnes grew up on a farm near Prague, attended Fremont Normal College, taught school in Dist. 85, and worked at the Morse Bluff Bank before marriage. An avid painter and member of the Fremont Art Assoc., she has local historic scenes among her 200 plus paintings. Her oil of Dist. 51 school won Honorable Mention at the Governor's Art Show and was displayed at the State Capitol. She was member of Just Neighbor's Extension Club for 41 years. Ed and Agnes enjoyed farming more than 50 years. Like their parents, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Ed died suddenly at their home, 10-17-1971. Agnes continues to live in Morse. Catholics, they have a son Ed and daughter Joan.

Frank A. and Katherine Hines

Katherine, daughter of Vaclav and Anna Cherny, born 10-15-1871 at Cernekovic, Czechoslovakia, came to the U.S. and directly to Saunders County with her parents to a farm near Linwood. Frank was born to Frank Sr. and Mary Bures Hines on a farm near Linwood. On 4-11-1893, Frank and Katherine, along with Mr. and Mrs. F.R. Hines and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cerny of North Bend, drove to Cedar Bluffs and then to Wahoo in a spring wagon where they were all married. Frank farmed a few years, then moved to Morse where he managed a dry goods and grocery business. Later, he entered into the hardware business. He farmed again for 12 years before retiring in 1921. Frank was on the School Board when Dist. 14 school was built, was a member of the Fire Dept., a photographer and bee keeper. Children: Edward V., Albert, and Alice Hobza. Katherine died 1-8-1945; Frank A. died 6-17-1946. Both are buried at Killian's Cemetery.

50th Wedding Anniversary—1943 Alice Hobza, Frank, Albert, Katherine, Edward V.

Frank Hines Sr. and Mary

Frank Hines Sr. was born in Koryta, Slovakia 10-16-1850. In 1870 he married Mary Bures, born 7-22-1859 in Sedlice, Czechoslovakia. That same year they immigrated to Braidwood, IL, and in 1871 to the Morse Bluff area where they settled one mi. s. and one mi. w. of Morse, near the present Gene Simanek farm. Frank, along with others, would travel back to Braidwood for winter work while the women stayed back and took care of the home. Mary gave birth to a son one winter, only 2 weeks after Frank left for Braidwood. After the first son was born, Frank only went as far as Omaha (on foot) to search for winter work. Children: Frank A.; Anna, Mrs. Frank Ruzicka, North Bend; Mary, Mrs. Jim Cherny, North Bend; and J.B. Hines, Wahoo. Frank died 10-22-1926. Mary died 12-30-1935. Both are buried at Killian's Cemetery.

Frank and Anna with great-grandson Edward J.

Frank R. and Anna Hines

Frank R., born 8-8-1870 in Braidwood, IL, came with his parents to the Sand Creek area to homestead in 1872. Frank married Anna Nesladek, born 11-8-1871. They had 10 children: Frank, Anna, Christina, Mary, Albina, Emma, Joe, Victor, Otto, and Emanuel. Frank, Christina, and Emanuel died in infancy. Frank and Anna lived on a farm 2 mi. s. and ½ mi. w. of Morse. In 1935 they moved into town to a residence on Kate Street. Frank died 10-11-1951 in Columbus, NE. Anna died 1-28-1960.

Frank R. Hines Family Back: Alby, Frank R., Anna, Mother Anna, Mary Front: Joe, Emma, Victor

Jim and Diane Hines

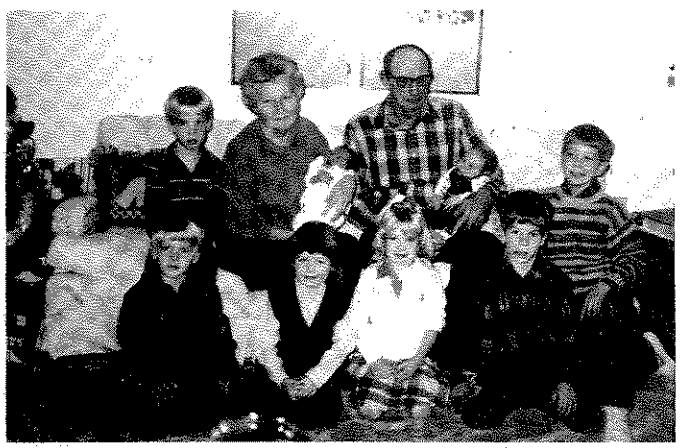
Jim, born 11-14-1949 in Fremont, NE, and Diane, born 5-1-1952 in Omaha, NE to Robert and Maxine Bladt, were married 9-15-1973 in Atlantic, IA, where Diane grew up. They moved to the Morse area in 1974 from Lincoln, NE, settling 5 mi. s. of town. Jim received a BS in Computer Science from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and works as a systems analyst for the University. Diane graduated from the Nebraska Methodist School of Nursing as a registered nurse and works at Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln. Both enjoy bridge, Nebraska football games, and snow skiing. Their children: Jill, born 4-22-1982, and Michael, born 2-7-1978.

Joe and Helen Hines

Joe, born 3-6-1903 to Frank R. and Anna Nesladek Hines on a farm 1½ mi. s.w. of Prague, NE, were married at Wahoo, 2-14-1928. Joe grew up in Morse; Helen in Prague. They farmed and milked cows for 55 years until retirement. The parents of Arnold, Morse Bluff, and Ruby Fencl, Elkhorn, NE; they had 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. They celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary 2-14-1983. Joe died at Birchwood Manor in North Bend 8-7-1983; Helen on 12-4-1986. Both are buried at Killian's Cemetery.

John and Adeline Hines

John, son of John O. and Marie Vavak Hines, was born 8-19-1927 in Morse. Adeline, daughter of Frank and Anna Mach Vanek was born 10-6-1926 in Prague, NE. Married 2-8-1949 at the Presbyterian Church in Prague, NE, they lived on a farm 4¼ mi. s. of Morse. They now live 2¼ mi. s. of Morse in a new home along Highway 79. John farms, and has served on Dist. 54 schoolboard. Adeline is a member of the Get-Together Extension Club and Prague Presbyterian Ladies Guild. Both are members of the Mariners Club and have served as elders of the Prague Presbyterian Church. Children: James, Mark, both of Morse; John D., married Nancy Allen, 3 children John, Lindsay, and Mitch.



John and Adeline Hines and grandchildren

John O. and Mary Hines

John Otto, born 7-15-1882 in Morse Bluff to Joseph and Anna Zakovec Hines, and Marie Vavak, born 8-25-1889 in Prague, NE, were married 8-15-1916. Children: Ervin Rudolph (1923-1973), Lillian Bauer (1925), and John (1927). After John Otto's death, his widow married his brother, James. James was born 9-13-1876 and died 3-29-1939 in a car-train accident in North Bend, NE. John Otto Hines died 2-20-1936 in rural Morse Bluff. Mary died 4-19-1980.

Family of Joseph Hines I

Joseph was born 3-12-1823 in Bohemia. In 1866 he came to Chicago, IL with his children: Joe II, Frank, John, and Mary. A year and one-half later they moved to Braidwood, IL where they worked in the coal mines. In 1871 he came to the Morse Bluff area. His descendants span 6 generations and 115 years in the Morse area. Joseph died 10-11-1906.

Joseph and Anna Hines

Joseph Hines II, born in 1845 in Bohemia, and Anna Zakovec, born in 1846 in Bohemia, were married 10-16-1868 in IL. They moved from Braidwood, IL to homestead 80 acres s. of Morse, land owned by Joe Bauer and John Hines today. Joseph walked back to Illinois during the slack season on the farm to work in the coal mines to pay for stock and implements. A leather pocketbook used on those trips is a family heirloom being passed down to the oldest son of his family. Joseph died 2-11-1931; Anna died 12-24-1934 in Morse Bluff, NE.

Joseph and Anna Hines Family Back: Jim, Frank, John, Joe Front: Emma, Josef, Mother Anna, Anna

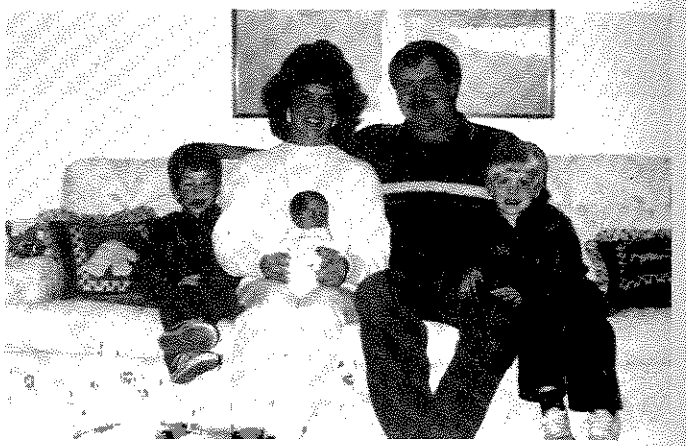
Joseph E. and Lizzie Hines

Joseph, born in 1872 in Morse Bluff to Josef and Anna Zakovec Hines, and Lizzie Racek, born 12-8-1882 in Morse Bluff, were married and lived s.w. of Morse where they farmed. Children: Mildred Buzek and Julia Kuska, both of Milligan, NE. Josef died 2-25-1918 when he was killed by a falling tree. Lizzie married again and moved to Milligan, NE.

Keith and Colleen Hines, Sheena, 5, and Stephanie, 3. The Hines family lived in the Blanchard house on Maud Street.

Mark and Patrice Hines

Mark, born 1-6-1955 in Fremont, NE to John and Adeline Hines, and Patrice, born 3-17-1957 in West Point, NE, to Francis and Pat Minarick, were married 9-16-1978 in Snyder, NE. They live on a family farm 4¼ mi. s. of Morse. Mark attended college in Hays, KS, and Midland College, Fremont, NE. He now farms and owns livestock. Patrice attended St. Mary's College in Omaha and is a registered nurse. Children: Adam, born February 1981; Neil, born June 1983; and Laura, born December 1986.



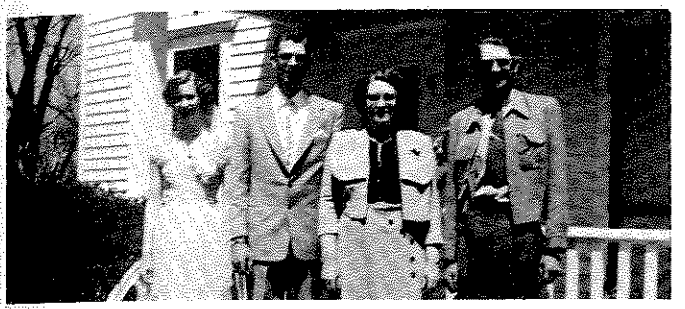
Marvin and Karen Hines

Marvin Otto, born 3-8-1937 to Otto and Rose Travnicek Hines, grew up near Morse and attended Tarkio College in Missouri. Karen, born 10-23-1938 in Seward, NE to Wes and Irene Wattles Rohren, grew up in Seward and Fremont. They were married 4-29-1961 in Fremont, and live on the home place s.w. of Morse. Marvin served on the Dist. 14 school board, the Dist. 95 school board at North Bend, and is a volunteer fireman. Karen is secretary at the North Bend grade school. Both are members of the United Presbyterian Church in North Bend. Children: Lori Lynn (2-26-1962) graduated from Southeast Community College in Lincoln, is a dental assistant, married Kenneth Beranek, has a son, and lives near Cedar Bluffs. Jeffrey Marvin (10-14-1963) was valedictorian of High School class, graduate of Southeast Community College in Beatrice with a degree in Ag Management, married Barbara Hynek, lives in Fremont, and farms 100 acres e. of Morse. Cheryl Kay (1-3-1965) is a registered nurse in Lincoln, NE.

The Marvin Hines Family: Todd, Kenneth and Lori Beranek, Cheryl, Barbara, Jeff, Karen, Marvin

Otto Hines Family

Otto, born 11-16-1906 in Morse to Frank R. and Anna Nesladek Hines, and Rose Travnicek, born 9-28-1914, were married 2-26-1935 in Fremont, NE. Son Marvin was born in 1937, and Elaine, born in 1940, is married to Wm. C. Jones. Elaine graduated from University of Nebraska, Omaha in 1983 and was a buyer for Brandeis. Bill is Vice President of Omaha Public Power. Their children are Mike and Linda. Otto and Rose lived on his father's farm when first married, moving in 1972 to a farm 2 mi. s. and ½ mi. e. of Morse. Rose died shortly after the move. Otto remarried 2-16-1974 to Iola Eklund Buresh in Gresham, NE. Iola was the widow of Edward Buresh and was a cousin of Rose, Otto's first wife. The Hines family are members of the United Presbyterian Church in North Bend, NE.



Elaine, Marvin, Rose and Otto Hines

Otto and Iola Hines

Hattie Joy Houtby

Hattie was the beloved teacher of elementary grades at Dist. 14 in Morse for 11 years. Born 9-25-1909 at North Loup, NE, she grew up there, attended Fletcher College at Oskaloosa, IA, and received a degree from Drake University at Des Moines, IA. She taught in Winterset, IA, Washington County, Fremont, and Winslow before coming to Morse in 1964. She retired May 1975 after 35 years of teaching. Hattie remained in the community being involved with community activities and the Methodist Church. In 1982 she moved to Fremont and died a few months later.

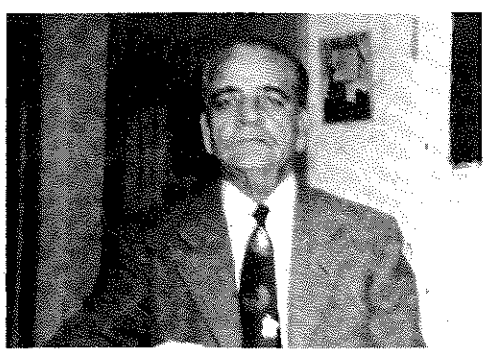
Thomas and Joan Hruza

Tom, born 12-17-1930 to Alois and Marie Hruza, and Joan, daughter of Ed V. and Agnes Hines, born 7-29-1931, were married 8-9-1956. Tom grew up in the Grand Island-St. Paul area, worked his way through college, and graduated from UNL. He served as an army lieutenant in Korea, worked for Robinson Seed Co, then Allied Chemical Corp., and began farming near Morse Bluff in 1968. He's served on the local school board, Morse Dike Board, and State Soybean Association Board. He is director of Northeast Nebr. Telephone Co., mayor of Morse Bluff, and member of the VFW and Legion. Joan graduated from UNL, taught 6 years, was local school board member, 4-H leader, and Extension Club member. Hruzas are Catholics. Children: Cynthia, 7-27-66, is a broadcasting and journalism student at UNL. David, 5-21-60, graduated from UNL with a B.S. in Economics. He was a loan officer for ITT in Council Bluffs until his unexplained death 2-2-86. Suzanne, 2-8-58, married Ted Granger, son of Ted and Eleanore Granger of North Bend on 7-11-81. Dr. Suzanne Granger graduated from UNL, and UN Medical School, and is now a Radiology Resident at St. Joseph's Hospital in Omaha. Ted attended UNL, graduated from Midland College, Fremont, and operates Granger Graphics of North Bend and Fremont. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born 10-6-86.

Suzanne, Cynthia, Tom, Joan, David Hruza

Dr. John C. Hubenbecker

Dr. J.C. Hubenbecker delivered almost all the babies born in this area between 1916 and 1960. At the Old Settler's Picnic at North Bend in 1958 over 500 of his babies signed a memory book. Dr. Hubenbecker was known as one of the best diagnostic men in his field. His "tall" stories were part of his remedy as he believed that a good dose of laughter was part of the remedy. Dr. Hubenbecker came to Morse Bluff in 1916 after graduating from Creighton University and interning at a hospital in Denver. He continued his practice, making house calls and seeing patients in his office until a few months before his death in 1962. In 1946 he moved his office to North Bend but lived in Morse until his health failed and it was necessary for him to be closer to medical assistance. Dr. Hubenbecker was born at McCool Junction, NE. He married Louise Callahan in Denver in 1916; they came to Morse Bluff as a newly-wed couple. There were 2 children: Johnny, who died of injuries received in an auto accident only 2 blocks from home in 1936 and Lennice who married Robert Heidrich and has 3 children.



Ernest and Marietta Humlicek

Marietta, daughter of James and Anna Bauer, born in Morse Bluff, married Ernest J. Humlicek of Linwood, 6-5-1940. Ernest came to the Cedar Hill area in 1926 from Brainard, NE. From 1934-1937 he taught Dist. 15; from 1938-1939 intermediate grades in Dist. 14. June 1939, he started as a shoe clerk at Penneys in Fremont, working there until 1948 when made manager of Penneys in Tekamah. After 2 years he moved to Omaha where he managed the South Omaha Penneys Store from 1950 to 1966. From 1966 to 1976, he managed the store in Hastings. In 1976 he retired after 37 years with the company and continued to live in Hastings. Children: Karen Sedlacek, Patricia Gehringer, and Robert, all of Omaha, and Kevin of Lincoln.

Marietta and Ernest with Karen, Patricia, Bob and Kevin

John and Mary Humlicek

John and Mary Svoboda Humlicek moved to the Morse area in 1928 living across from the Cedar Hill Church on the farm now owned by Frank Sloup. They stayed a few years, then moving to Tekamah and Colon, NE. John, born 11-8-1888, died 6-24-1956. Mary, born 9-16-1889, still lives in her house in North Bend. They had 3 children: Blanche Nesladek, Ernest, and Victor, born 10-10-1918. Victor married Virginia Loch, November 1948 at the U.S. Naval Station Chapel in San Diego, CA, while serving 10 years in the navy. They live in Hartford, CT, and have 3 daughters and 3 grandchildren.

Ed Hynek Family

Ed (2-22-1894 to 1-27-1982), son of Frank and Rose Hynek, and Anna (3-30-1908), daughter of Vaclav and Rosie Lodl, were married in a double wedding with brother Frank Lodl and Mary Lorenc on 9-25-1928. They farmed s.w. of Morse. Children: Richard (2-8-1930) married Doris Sisel and farms the homeplace; Norman (5-19-1932 to 9-28-1966) married Kathy Vyhlidal. Farmed near Morse Bluff. Children: Norma, Janet and Pamela: Ilene (1-6-1937) married Arnold Divis and has 5 children, Karen, Audrey, Paul, Douglas and Robert.

Norman, Anna, Ilene, Ed, Richard

Emil and Katie Hynek

Emil born 4-12-1886 s.w. of Morse Bluff to Frank and Rose Kasik Hynek of Czechoslovakia, and Katie, born 11-9-1889 in Prague, NE to John and Mary Rerucka Kaspar of Czechoslovakia, were married 1-26-1910 in Wahoo, NE. They lived 4 mi. s. of Morse, where Richard Hynek now lives, and farmed till retirement. In 1946 they built a new home on the western edge of Morse. Frank, the bachelor brother of Emil, lived across the road and they farmed together. Children: Henry, Phillip, George. Emil died 3-12-1967; Katie 1-24-1976.

Frank Hynek Family in 1885

l to r: Fred, Emma, Frank Jr., (Joe in front), Frank Sr. Frank (1-2-1853 to 7-25-1925) of Moravia and Rose (1-6-1855 to 2-5-1940) of Svata Pobrativea, came to the U.S. in the spring of 1874. They farmed s.w. of Morse. 9 children: Fred, Joe, Frank Jr., Emma, Emil, Willie, James, Ed and Mary.

George and Dorothy Hynek

George, born 2-23-1918 in Morse Bluff to Emil and Katie Hynek, and Dorothy, born 11-30-1919 in Colon, NE to John and Anna Hoffman, were married 4-20-1941 in Cedar Bluffs, NE. They farm 4 mi. s. of Morse. Children: Sharon, Mrs. Bill LeGrande of Cedar Bluffs; Katherine, Mrs. Bill Romine of St. Marys, GA; Imogene, Mrs. Jim Dow of Clarksville, AR; Marilyn, Mrs. Steve Groeteke of Fort Collins, CO; and Tammy, Mrs. Quinn Dunker of Morse.

Kathy, George, Tammy, Dorothy, Sharon; Imogene and Marilyn

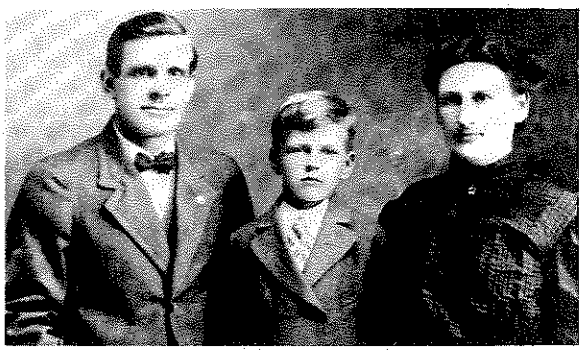
Ray and Dorothy Hynek

Ray, born 9-3-1922 on a farm near Prague, NE, to Joe and Dora Hynek, and Dorothy, born 12-14-1930 in Morse to Nick and Mary Wagner, were married 11-3-1956 at Macomb, IL. Ray was in the service and later was an electrician. The family lived with Dorothy's mother in her house at the top of the hill on Rose Street. Children: Daniel; Shirley, Mrs. Randy Cerny of North Bend; Judy, Mrs. Larry Wesely of Morse Bluff, son Travis; and Beverly Hynek of Fremont. Ray died 9-15-1979 in Omaha after a long illness.

Left: Ray Hynek

John Joseph and Emily Janovec

John, was born in Bohemia 10-12-1876 to Mr. and Mrs. John Janovec who immigrated to U.S. in 1892 homesteading in the Bohemia precinct. John attended Fremont Normal School in 1897-1898 and then worked in the Bank of Morse Bluff. In 1900 John bought and operated a general store in North Bend. In 1906 he sold that business and purchased the Hines and Vopalensky Hardware at Morse; in 1910 he added a furniture and undertaking business. On 6-12-1902, he married Emily, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Soukup. They had a son, Raymond. John was City Clerk and a member of the Dist. 14 school board, Z.C.B.J., and Ancient Order of United Workmen.



John J., Raymond, Emily Janovec

Frank and Maria Jelinek

Frank Jelinek, born in Moravia, immigrated to U.S. in 1872. Maria, daughter of Vaclav and Josephine Bunda was born in Moravia and immigrated to U.S. in 1869. They were married 5-23-1885 in Fremont, NE. They farmed west of Morse Bluff, later retired and moved to town on Kate Street. Frank was the custodian at District #14 School. He died in 1931. Maria died in 1946. Both are buried at Czech National Cemetery. Children: William F. Jelinek, Victor Jelinek, Augusta Walla, and Josephine Vopalensky.

Above: Frank and Mary, Vic, Will, Josie and Gustie

Left: **Ray Hynek Family**
Dorothy, Ray's brother, Art, Beverly, Dan, Larry and Judy Wesely, Dorothy's mother, Mary Wagner, Shirley Cerny

Jakub and Josephine Jelinek

Jakub Jelinek was born in 1829 in Srkovice, Moravia, Austria, where Josephine was also born. They immigrated to the U.S. in 1871, settling w. of Morse Bluff and farming. Jakub was killed in 1874 while fording the Platte River with a load of lumber. He has the oldest marked grave at the Czech National Cemetery (Killian's). Children: Joseph, John, Frank, Mary, Josephine, and Fred. Frank was the father of William whose 2 daughters, Ruby (Bauman) and Elaine (Vlasak) still live in the area.

William and Alma Jelinek

William is the son of Frank and Marie Bunda Jelinek, born 7-19-1887 5 mi. w. and 1 mi. n. of Morse Bluff. Alma, the daughter of John and Matejak Jelinek, born 2-17-1895 at Ansley, NE, and William were married 6-10-1912 at Mankato, MN. William was a rural school teacher and a farmer. They retired in 1948 and moved to Morse Bluff living on Kate Street. They had 2 daughters: Ruby, Mrs. V.G. Bauman; and Elaine, Mrs. Frank Vlasak. William died on 3-3-1958. Alma died 11-29-1979. Both are buried at the Czech National Cemetery.

The Jones Family

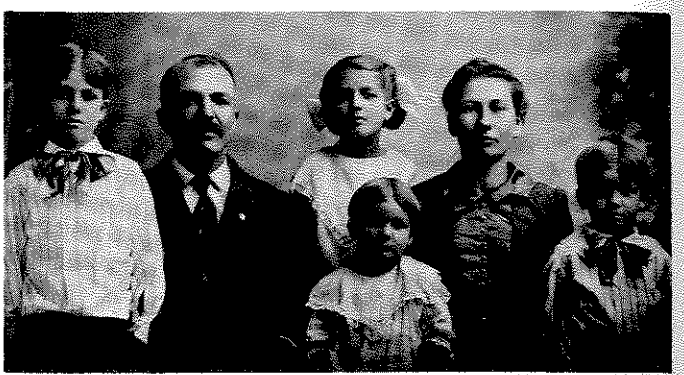
The Jones family, the only black pioneer family in northern Saunders County, were Civil War Veterans and both former slaves. They had wanted to homestead by Cedar Hill but due to the fact that he served as an orderly taking care of the General's Horse, he was not technically a Veteran and could not receive certain homestead benefits that they needed. Instead, they settled s.e. of Morse, directly n. and e. of the present Curtis Fleming farm. They had a large family; some of the children are buried in the Fleming cemetery. Mr. Jones exchanged help with Walter Fleming Sr. who helped him build his house. In return he cut weeds in the corn by hoe for Walter. Walter and Robert Fleming played with the Jones children; they were students at Dist. 54. As the children grew up, the family moved to Omaha.

Barta and Mary Kadlec

Barta and Mary Urban Vasina Kadlec lived on the northeast corner of Third and Kate Streets in a home built by J.P. Shavlik. They were married 4-20-1909. Mary's 3 children - Charles, Ethel, and Marie Vasina - lived with them. Mary was a professional seamstress. Many young ladies learned to sew using her instructions. Her work included new dresses as well as mending and remodeling. During the depression years this was a full time occupation. Barta Kadlec died in 1934. Mary continued making her home here with the exception of the summer months when she worked in the resort areas west of Minneapolis. She sold her home on 3rd and Kate in 1946 and moved to a mobile home on the lot west of the Post Office. Later she made her home with her daughters and at Birchwood Manor where she died 8-3-1970 at the age of 93.

Frank and Mary Kaplan

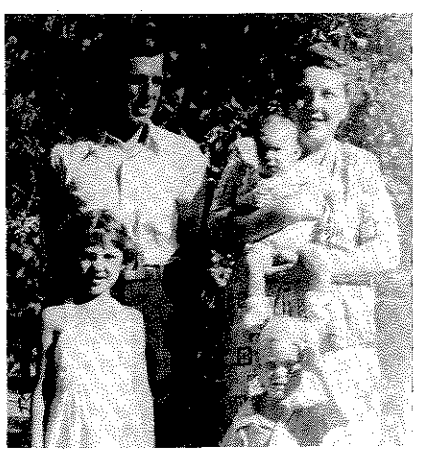
Frank, born 6-6-1867, Bohemia, son of Anton and Anna Kaplan, and Mary, born 6-13-1881, Rescue, NE to Jan and Antonia Haba, were married 6-26-1906 at Prague, NE. Children: Helen (6-20-1907), George (2-1-1909 to 7-11-1986), Emil (8-22-1911 to 3-27-1965), and Emma (8-28-1913 to 4-27-1923). Frank immigrated to the U.S. in 1891 and to Nebraska in 1896. He spent 9 years as a laborer before entering the harness business in 1900. Frank was active in civic affairs serving as Justice of Peace, 1904-1906 and served as a councilman for many years. During World War I he worked in behalf of the Z.C.B.J. Lodge, Plzen #9 of which he was a member in support of Liberty Loan Drives and other benefits for the Czechoslovakian Army and National Council. Frank and Mary lived on Kate Street. Frank died 9-11-1940 and Mary, 12-6-1969. Their daughter, Helen, active in the Methodist Church and Sunday School, taught at District #91 for 5 years and in Cedar Bluffs 41 years before retiring in 1971. On 6-1-1970 she married Cecil J. Dey and now lives in Gresham, NE.



George, Frank, Helen, Emma, Mary, Emil

George and Sylvia Kaplan

George, born 2-1-1909 in Morse Bluff to Frank and Mary Haba Kaplan, supported himself through the University of Nebraska earning a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Because of the depression, no employment could be found; therefore, he worked in his father's Harness and Shoe Shop, and as Village of M.B. Water and Street Commissioner. He married Sylvia Hanis of Plasi, daughter of Vaclav and Caroline Hanis on 10-24-1939 in Lincoln. Children: David; George and daughter Nicole, all of Omaha; and Carol, husband Doug Haase, and children: James and Barbara of Fremont. During World War II, George worked at the Nebraska Ordnance Plant in Mead. After that, he operated an electric, plumbing, and heating business from his home; with help from his sons, worked on almost every home in the area. He also worked as Water Commissioner until suffering a stroke in 1981. He died 7-11-1986 and is buried at Killian's Cemetery. Sylvia continues in her 20th year of work at Arbor Manor at North Bend.



George, Sylvia with David, Carol, and George Jr.

Frantisek and Antoine Karpisek

Frantisek, born 1-28-1833, and Antoine, born 6-13-1842, were both born in Czechoslovakia, immigrated to U.S. and farmed in the Morse Bluff area. Joseph Karpisek was their son. Frantisek died 5-18-1908 and Antoine 12-19-1901. They are buried at Killian's cemetery near Morse Bluff.

George and Carol Karpisek

George, born 8-10-1939 to George and Lydia Karpisek in Morse Bluff, and Carol, adopted daughter of Francis and Marjorie Brabetz, Curtis, NE, was born 12-10-1939 in New Port, OR. They were married 8-14-1958 at Gering, NE. They came to Morse when married and operated a grain and dairy farm. Children: Kim, born 4-17-1960, married Larry Spough, Lincoln; Cindy, 10-8-1961, Omaha; Robin, 11-17-1962, married Bob Timm, Linwood; Kelly, 1-20-1967, married Mike Fujan, Fremont; and Chris, 7-30-1968, student at Nebraska Wesleyan in Lincoln. George quit farming in 1979 and now works for Stormor in Fremont. Grandchildren: Robert Karpisek, Kevin and Jessica Timm, and Michelle Fujan.

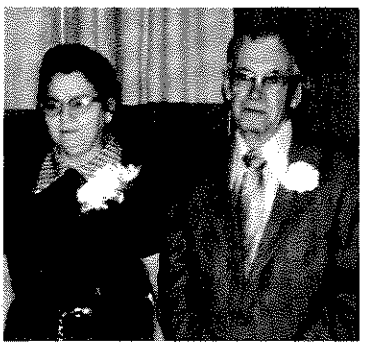
Bob and Robin Timm, George holding Bob Karpisek, Carol, Kim Spaugh, Kris, Kelly Fujan, Cindy Ault

George and Lydia Karpisek

George, the son of Joseph and Marie Karpisek, was born 10-28-1903 in the Morse Bluff area. Lydia, daughter of Frank and Emma Hlavac Kriz was born 6-4-1904 in Abie, NE, but grew up in Carter, SD. It was there she married George 8-4-1929. They farmed and had dairy cows 3 mi. w. of Morse where they raised their children: Dorothy, Mrs. Frank Lastovica, Omaha, 2 children; Marjorie, Mrs. Paul Larson, Omaha, 4 children; Leona, Mrs. Harold Soukup, Fremont, 6 children; and George of Morse Bluff. They retired and moved to a home across the road from their farm home. Lydia died in 1980; George in 1982.

Joseph and Marie Karpisek

Joseph (1869-1948), son of Frantisek and Antoine Karpisek, and Marie Hajek Karpisek (1870-1938) lived and farmed near Morse Bluff. Joseph was 4 when they immigrated to U.S. His family farmed near Linwood in Butler County. They bought their farm 3½ mi. w. of Morse in 1918. They had 7 children: Eva Auberton; Bill, wife Blanche; Kathleen; George, wife Lydia; all deceased: and Anna, Mrs. Ostrum of Salida, Co; Tony, wife Irene of Denver, CO; and Ivan, wife Helen of Omaha, NE. Joseph and Marie are buried at Killian's Cemetery.



William Karpisek (1898-1978), son of Joe and Marie Karpisek, and **Blanche** Warta Eaton, daughter of Ben and Emma Warta were married in 1948. Blanche had married W.A. Eaton in 1930, was widowed in 1946. Children: Leroy, Zane, Ben and Jack Eaton. Bill was a farmer and WW I vet, Blanche, a news correspondent for the North Bend and Wahoo papers for 23 years.

Albin and Mary Kavan

Albin, son of John and Anna Vopalensky Kavan, born in Morse, married Mary Clare Pacl of Abie, NE 1-23-1923 at Wahoo, NE. They farmed 3 mi. s. and 1 mi. w. of Morse and owned a fine herd of Brown Swiss dairy cows for many years. They built their home in 1923 and lived there 60 years. Mary belonged to the Just Neighbors Extension Club 40 years. Children: Albert, married Agnes Ludvik, 3 children, Cedar Bluffs, NE; Irene, married Ernest Blatny, 5 children, Macedonia, IA; Norman, married Norma Swanda, 4 children, Colon, NE; Delores, married Jack Nitz, 2 children, Cedar Bluffs, NE; and Don, Melvin, and Nancy Williams, all of Morse. There are 26 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild. Mary died in 1982. Albin is at Birchwood Manor Nursing Home, North Bend.

Don, Melvin, Nancy, Albert, Delores, Norman, Irene Seated: Albin and Mary

Donald Kavan

Don (1938), son of Albin and Mary Kavan has lived all his life in the Morse Bluff area, attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and farms s.w. of Morse. He is involved in many local activities. He married in 1962, is the father of 6 children.

Eugene and Debra Kavan

Eugene, born 3-14-1951 to Leonard and Pat Kavan of Morse Bluff, and Debby, born 3-9-1953 at Chanute, KS to Clifford and Patricia Schnedler were married 4-22-72 in Chanute, KS. Debby moved to North Bend in 1967 with her parents. Both Gene and Debby are NBC graduates. Gene worked at Magnus Metal 2 years, Weldon Industries 2 years, and has since been a carpenter. Debby cooks at NBC. Children: Robert, 8-31-72, NBC student; William 3-4-75; Dwayne 2-2-76; and Dale, 11-16-83, all students at Dist. 54.

Robert, Gene, Bob, Dale, Below: Bill, Dwayne

Frank and Anna Kavan

Frank E., born 2-11-1875 in Morse Bluff to John and Anna Vopalensky Kavan, and Anna, born 2-8-1883 in Prague, NE to Mike and Barbara Wesely, were married 11-2-1903 in Prague, NE. They settled 2½ mi. s. and ¼ mi. w. of Morse. They farmed, milked cows, and raised chickens. Children: Sylvia, married Ignac Odvody, 1 daughter, Malmo; Frank, married Clara Hava, 3 children, Morse; Agnes, married Art Sickmyer, Mountain View, MO; Emma, married George Simanek, 2 children, Malmo; Anna, married Bill Simanek, 2 sons, Schuyler; and Evelyn, married Bill Figge, 3 children, Havensville, KS. Anna died 12-10-1966; Frank died 11-28-1946.

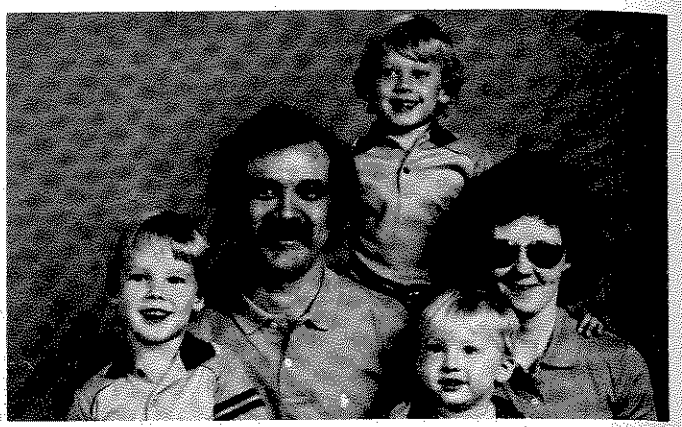
George and Ethel Kavan

George, born in Morse Bluff, and Ethel Ostry, born in Prague, NE, were married 1-7-1947 in Prague, NE. They came to the Morse Bluff area in 1960 to a farm s.w. of Morse from Mead, NE. George joined the navy in 1943 and was stationed in the Soloman Islands. After serving 3 years, he returned home to farm and married. The Kavans lived in Mead 16½ years and had 4 daughters: Joyce Ruzicka, Sue Mixon, Cindy Pollard, and Karen Kavan. They moved to Morse where George worked at the Blevins Popcorn Plant 9 years and farmed. George is semi-retired, now farms part-time, and raises a few goats and cattle. They live 2 mi. s. 2 mi. w. and ½ mi. s. of Morse.

Karen, Cindy, Sue, Joyce with George and Ethel

Gerald and Rosemarie Kavan

Gerald, born 12-12-1949 to Leonard and Patricia and Rosemarie, born 7-19-1954 to Norma and Charles Prchal of Cedar Bluffs, were married 7-26-75. Rosemarie was a graduate of Cedar Bluffs High and Gerald of North Bend High. Gerald served in the army before marriage. He works at the Schuyler Packing Plant, and Rosemarie at Touch'n Go Station in Cedar Bluffs. Children: Timothy (6-10-76); Derek (11-15-77); and Shane (12-26-80); all are students at Dist. 54.



Tim, Gerald, Derek at the top, Shane, Rosemarie

Jeanne Kavan

Jeanne, daughter of Emil and Genieve Pellan of Mead, was married in Colon, NE in 1962. She came to Morse in 1964. She works at Birchwood Manor in North Bend and SCOMR in Wahoo. Children: Jeffery, 23, senior at Wayne State College, married and has 1 child; Patrick, 21, junior at the University of Nebraska; Douglas, 19, sophomore at Kearney State College; Corey, senior and Dona, sophomore, both at North Bend Central; Zachary, 5.

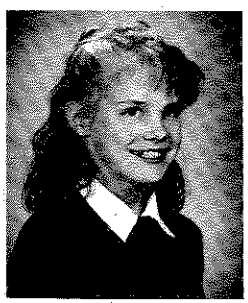
Above
Back—Pat, Jeff, Doug,
Front—Corey, Zachary, Dona

Left: Jeanne Kavan

Joie and Alice Kavan

Joie, born 11-4-1921 in Morse Bluff to Joe L. and Tillie Mach Kavan, and Alice, born 3-28-1926 in Prague, NE to Adolph and Lillie Vyhlidal Ostry, were married 8-26-1947 in Prague, NE. Joie joined the army in 1944, served with a tank destroyer unit in Texas and an engineer unit in France, was transferred to the Philippines, then discharged in 1946. After service, he married, rented and lived on a farm near Wahoo till 1966. He moved to the 1876 homestead of his grandfather John, land that provided home to generations of Kavans for over 100 years. Joie is a current member of the VFW in North Bend, American Legion, and was past member of the Fire Department. Joie and Alice have 3 children: Marvin, married Susan Livingston in Virginia, now lives in MS; Joe E., married Elizabeth Gale in New Jersey; and Connie, wife of Elmer Ruppert. Connie and Joe E. live in Morse.

Back: Connie and Elmer Ruppert, Joe and Elizabeth Kavan, Center: Kyle and Danny Ruppert, Alice and Joie Kavan, John Ruppert, Front: Sarah Ruppert, Amanda Kavan



Joe's daughter April

Marvin, Susan, Brad Kavan

John and Anna Kavan

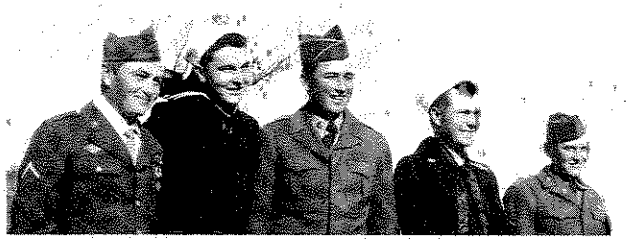
John Kavan, born 11-25-1849, accompanied his parents to the U.S. in May, 1869, settling in Iowa. He worked as a laborer in Omaha 2 years. In 1873 he homesteaded southwest of Morse Bluff and married Anna Vopalensky, born 7-26-1854. They were married on 5-5-1873 in Fremont, NE. Their 13 children were: James J. married Agnes Shavlik; Frank married Anna Placek; a baby dying at birth; Mary, died a victim of chicken pox as an infant; Mary married John Hoffman; Fred died at age 6; Edward married Mamie Thede; John R. married Emma Nemec; Agnes married Louis Prochaska; Anne married Charles Kubik; Milada married Rudolph Kouma; Joseph married Tillie Mach; and Albin married Mary Pacl. John died 7-7-1926 and Anna, 2-15-1937. They are buried at Killian's Cemetery.

John and Emma Kavan

John, born 2-4-1884 in the Morse area, and Emma Nemec, born 2-3-1886 5 mi. s.e. of Linwood, were married 1-21-1908 at Cedar Hill Catholic Church. They farmed their homestead until 1944 when they retired and Leonard farmed. John and Emma built the house that their grandson Eugene lives in today. Children: Matilda, born 3-5-1912, died 7-9-1912; Lillian, Margaret, Adeline, Mildred, Leonard, and Wilma. Mildred, born 3-21-1920, lives at Malmo, married Raymond Brabec, 3 children; Wilma, born 8-3-1928, married Wilfred Wesely in 1950, lived at Malmo, 2 sons; Wilfred died in 1960 and she married William Vlcek, have 1 daughter, live in Omaha. John and Emma's other children lived in the Morse area. John died 9-17-1966; Emma 11-6-1972.

Joseph and Tillie Kavan

Joseph Kavan, the 12th child born to John and Anna Kavan, resided on the Kavan homestead southwest of Morse with his wife, Tillie Mach, who he married 3-23-1920 in Wahoo. In 1922 they built a new house on the homestead. In 1966 they retired and moved to Schuyler. Joseph died 7-31-1970 and Tillie died 6-6-1982. Children: Joie married Alcie Ostry; George married Ethel Ostry; Helen married Donn Settles; Richard married Dorothy Wesely; Ruben married Ann Scholz; Maxine married Bernard Kratky; Lester married Marlene Freidman; Joan Kavan; and Marcella married Irvin Shestak.



Joie, Lester, Ruben, George, Richard

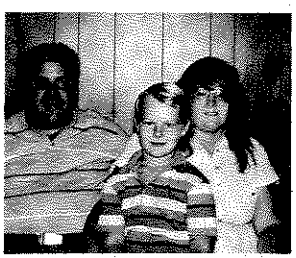
Back: Frank, Ed, John R., Joe, Albin. Front: Mary Hoffman, Agnes Prochaska, John, Anna, Anna Kubik, Milada (Mildred) Kouma

Joe and Tillie—50 years

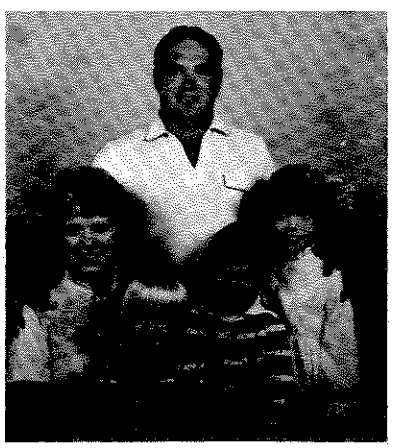
Leonard and Patricia Kavan

Leonard, born near Morse 8-22-1925 to John Kavans, and Pat, born 9-27-1927 in North Bend to Bernard Emanuels, were married 6-5-1946 at St. Charles Catholic Church in North Bend. They live 3 mi. s. of Morse. Leonard has farmed since his father retired in 1944, Leonard was in the construction business 20 years; he helped at the NBC school and Firehall interior. He was secretary of NFO for several years, was president along with his 3 sons. Kavans are Catholics. Pat has been church organist for 30 years, member of the Altar Society, and secretary of an Extensions Club. They received the Homestead Award in 1976 for having a family-owned farm for 100 years. The family attended Dist. 54, were active in 4-H winning champion and reserve-champion awards for their cattle. Children (all delivered by Dr. Hubenbecker): Larry, 8-31-1948 (U.S. Navy 4 years, married Eugenia Nattress 9-28-74, divorced 2-85, 1 son); Gerald (12-12-49) and Eugene (3-14-51), both of Morse Bluff; Beverly, 1-24-53 (married Alan Ratkovec 9-2-72, lives at O'Neill, NE, 3 children; and Marilyn, 7-7-54, married Clyde McDaniel 10-26-74, one son, in Wahoo.

To the right: Pat and Leonard



Clyde, Marilyn, Clinton



Alan, Beverly, Kolby, Jason, Paula

Larry and Nick

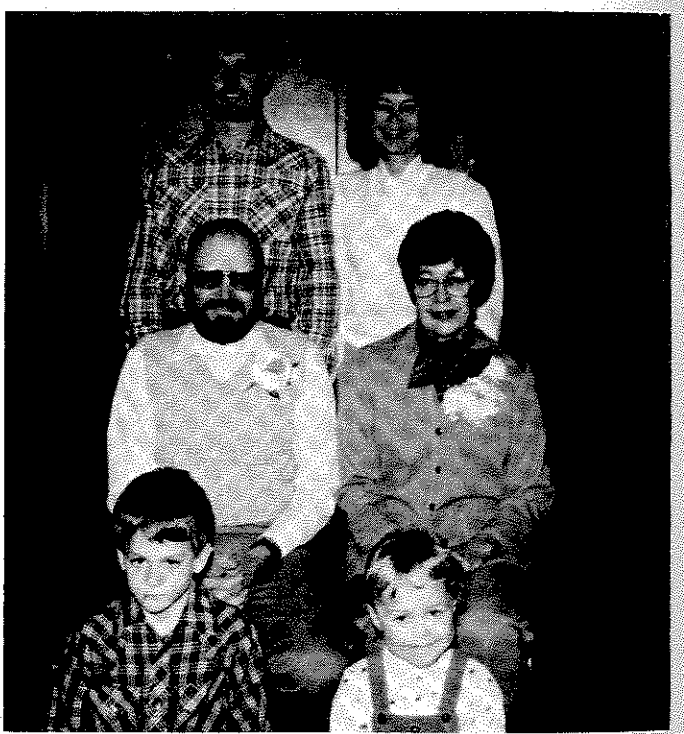
Melvin and Dorothy Kavan

Melvin, born 12-19-1928 in Prague, NE to Albin and Mary Kavan, and Dorothy, born 8-14-1928 to Rudolph and Agnes Ludvik in Weston, NE, were married 9-14-1948 in Wahoo, NE, where Dorothy grew up. They raise grain and livestock on the farm 3/4 mi s. and 1 mi. w. of Morse. Daughters showed Champion Brown Swiss dairy animals at county, district, state, Ak-Sar-Ben, and Waterloo, IA fairs. In 1965, the Kavans were the Farm Family of the Week on WOW-TV. Melvin and Dorothy are 26 year NFO members. Melvin is a 25 year member of the fire department. Mary Jane (Jayne) was Dist. 4-H Dairy Queen, 1968 Lincoln School of Commerce graduate, is employed at National Bank of Commerce, Lincoln. Loretta Jean (Laurie) was both Dist. 4-H and Ak-Sar-Ben Dairy Queen, 1971 graduate of Lincoln School of Commerce, works for Donnelly Marketing, married Steve Lindgren 5-8-76, vice-president of Lincoln Cornhusker Bank, 3 children.

Dorothy, Laurie, Melvin, Jayne

Richard and Dorothy Kavan

Richard, son of Joe and Tillie Kavan, and Dorothy, daughter of Ludvik and Alice Wesely, were married 1-10-1951 at Sacred Heart Church, Cedar Hill. Richard is a WW II veteran and a Legion member. Dorothy is an Altar Society member. They have one daughter, Diane, (Mrs. Dan Kortum) and 3 grandchildren, Lance, Brandi, and Heather



Ruben and Ann Kavan

Ruben, born 7-19-1929 in Morse to Joe and Tillie Kavan, and Ann, born 6-4-1933 in Brainard, NE, to John and Anna Scholz, were married 11-23-1957 in the Schuyler Court House. They farm 3½ mi. s. 1¼ mi. w. and 3/4 mi. s. of Morse, on land family owned for 110 years. Ruben is a member of the VFW, American Legion, Fire Dept., and the Saunders County Livestock Feeders Association. Ann is a member of the Legion and VFW Auxiliaries. They belong to the Z.C.B.J. Children: Ruby, Mrs. Ray Urban, works at First Federal of Lincoln at Wahoo; Roland, graduate of Southeast Community College of Beatrice, farms and works at Hormels; Ruth, graduate of Southeast Community College in Lincoln, works as Credit Manager at Georgia Pacific Lumber Co. in Lincoln; and twins, Dean and Deanna in college, where Dean majors in accounting and Deann is an education major.

Ruben and Ann with Deanna, Ruth, Roland, Ruby, Dean

Rudolph E. and Emma Kavan

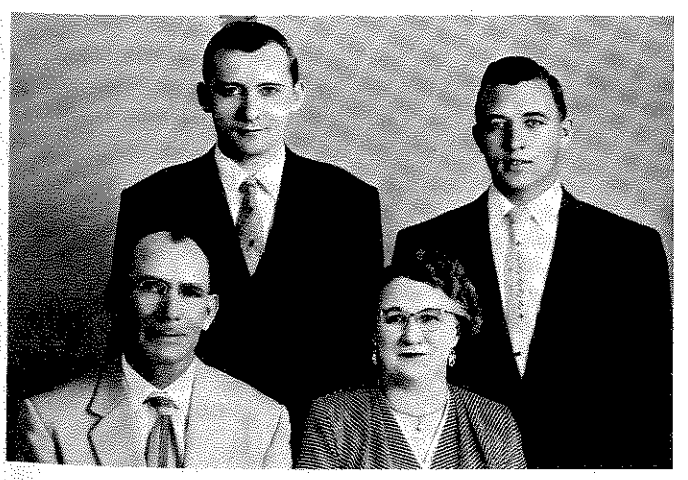
Rudolph, born 12-6-1884, and Emma, born 3-11-1891 in Morse Bluff to Joseph and Anna Zakovec Hines, were married 2-17-1914 in Wahoo, NE. Rudoph and Emma Kavan lived on a farm southwest of Morse until 1929. He served on the Dist. 78 school board for a few years. They moved north of North Bend and in 1954 retired and moved to Fremont, NE. Children: Wilma Mares, born 1915; Vlasta Kavan, 1917, Raymond, 1920; and Arnold, 1931. Wilma and Vlasta live in Fremont; Raymond and Arnold in North Bend. Rudolph died 1-6-1979; Emma died 3-10-1982.

Vaclav (Vencl) and Veronika Kavan

Vaclav (Vencl) Kavan, born 6-2-1825 in Plzen, Bohemia, married Veronika Sucky, born Sept. 1825. Vaclav died 6-4-1897 and Veronika died 2-6-1911. Both are buried at Killian's Cemetery. Children: Anna (1861-?)married Mike Racek, Morse Bluff; John (1849-1926) married Anna Vopalensky, Morse Bluff; James (1853-?), Howells, NE; Barbara (1866-?) married Frank Havlik, Wahoo, NE: Joseph, Omaha, NE; Veronika married a Bartle, St. Paul, NE; Mary married a Tichacek, Linwood, NE; and Frank, South Omaha, NE.

Amiel and Eva Keller

Amiel Keller and Eva LeGrand were married Febr. 1924 and moved to the Keller farm 3½ mi. southeast of Morse Bluff. Amiel and Eva were active in Saint George's Catholic Church. Amiel was Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Council #3736. In 1967 the Kellers moved to Fremont, NE. Amiel died in 1972. Children: Dale E. married Irene Kelly, has 5 children, lives in Omaha and is a business manager; Lloyd married Janet Haun, has 3 children lives in Omaha and is a registered professional engineer.



Amiel and Eva with Dale and Lloyd

Frederick and Augusta Keller

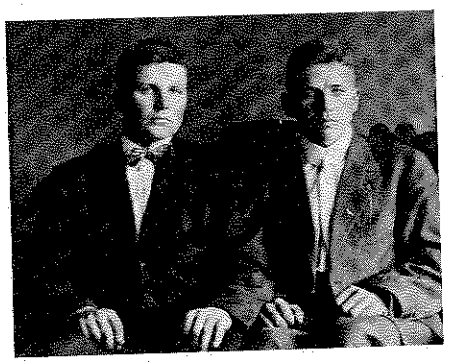
Frederick Keller (3-8-1832) and Augusta Boetger (4-24-1837) were born and married in Germany where Frederick was a shoemaker. Four children were born in Germany. Frederick came to America, leaving his family, about 1870. He worked in Fremont for the Union Pacific until he had enough money to send for his family. When they arrived, their youngest child became ill, died and was buried in Barnard Park. They homesteaded 4' mi. southeast of Morse Bluff. Their house was a one-room frame building with an attic ideal for storing acorns. Their furniture and clothing were home-made. Indians would peek in the windows and were usually hungry. Mrs. Keller gave them bread to eat. Their children were: Paul, Minnie, Otto, Ida and Rosa.

Paul and Veronica Keller

Paul Keller, born 1-3-1859, Germany and Veronica Cersovsky, born 12-10-1869, Austria, were married in Wahoo, 3-8-1886. They observed their 60th anniversary in 1945. Both died in 1950. Their first home was on the Frederick Keller homestead southeast of Morse Bluff. In 1888 they moved to a new home 1½ mi. west of their old home, enlarging this new house in 1905. They moved into Cedar Bluffs in 1913. Otto and Anna Brockman Keller lived on their farm from 1913-1918. Herman and Amiel Keller farmed the land together from 1918-1924. Herman and his wife, Burnley, lived on the farm until 1924 when they moved to Washington, D.C. From 1924 to 1967 Amiel and his wife, Eva, made it their home. The farm remains in the Keller family even though at the present time no Keller lives there. Paul and Veronica had 10 children, 4 dying in infancy and Rosa Beck, Otto, Paul Jr., Herman, Amiel and Luella Burnett.

Charles A. and Anna Killian

Charles A., born in Bohemia, son of Thomas and Katy Mares Killian, came to the U.S. as an infant. The family in 1868 came to Bohemia precinct and were among the early settlers of the community. On 7-26-1883 Charles was married to Anna, daughter of Michael and Anna Zelezna of Omaha. Charles started in the well and windmill business and extended his business to include farm implements. He served on the school board and was active in civic affairs. They had 9 children: Thomas J. (1884), Carrie (1885), Raymond (1888), Milada (1890), Anna (1891), Leonard (1893), Victor (1896), Karl (1898) and Roland (1900).



Pat McGinn
Leonard Killeen

Frank and Anna Klappal

Frank and Anna Klappal, both born in Moravia, were married in Moravia, 2-10-1877. In 1885 they decided to come to America. For a short time they lived at Cedar Hill before moving to 2nd and Rose Street (Mary Rezac home) in 1887. Here they resided until their deaths, Mrs. Klappal in 1937 and Mr. Klappal in 1941. Frank was a tailor by trade, working from his home. Both Frank and Anna were quiet, unassuming people, well liked by their neighbors and community. They were the parents of five sons and five daughters, two of whom died in infancy. The sons were: Frank Jr., Stanley E., Emil L., and Joe B., none of whom remained in the area. The daughters, Anna Urban and Rosa Thompson, continued to reside in this area. Mary Lysinger and Julia Brunner moved out of the state.

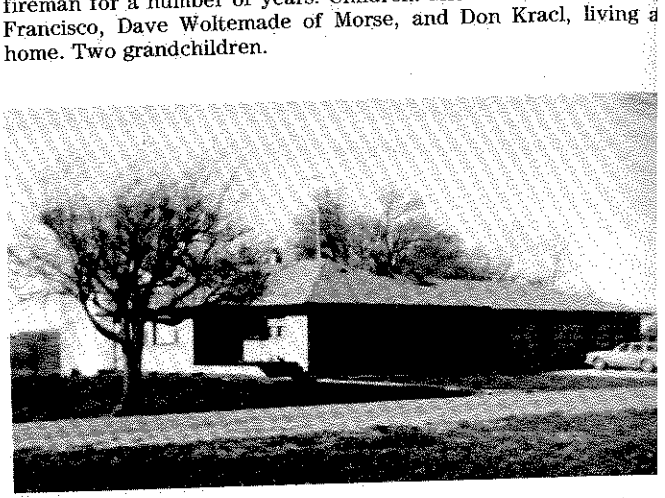
Eman T. and Anna Kovar

Eman T., born 3-7-1905, one of 6 children of John and Barbara Kolika Kovar, Schuyler, NE, and Anna, born 11-16-1902, Linwood, one of 11 children of Julius and Frances Macholan Ustohal, were married in 1926. They moved to Morse Bluff shortly before celebrating their 60th anniversary. Eman died 5-30-1986. Anna moved to Birchwood Manor in North Bend. Their children are: Ann (1-9-1927), Betty (3-17-1928), and Emanuel (4-22-1934).

Kovar's grandson, Emanuel Kovar and his wife, the former Linda Buchholtz

Bill and Shirley Kracl

Bill, born 3-3-1922 to Louis and Frances Slovik Kracl in Schuyler and Shirley Cleveland Woltemade, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ar Cleveland of Cuba, KS, were married 8-22-1959 in Morse Bluff After attending school in Schuyler, Bill moved with his parents t Morse in 1936 where they began farming 2 mi. s. and 2 mi. e. o Morse. Bill served in the Seabee's during 1945-46 and then returne home to farm. They built a new home in 1960. Shirley worked fo Penneys in Fremont for several years. Bill served on the Dist. 5 School Board, and now serves on the Precinct Board. He has been fireman for a number of years. Children: Mick Woltemade of Sa Francisco, Dave Woltemade of Morse, and Don Kracl, living a home. Two grandchildren.



Bill and Shirley Kracl's home, Bill and Elsie, children of Louis Kr

Louis and Frances Kracl

Louis and Frances Slavik Kracl moved to the Morse area fr Schuyler in 1936 settling 2 mi. s. and 2 mi. e. where they farm Children: Bill, 1922, Morse; Elsie, 1924, married Lumir Ratkovec O'Neill, NE; Helen, 1926, married Pete Halmes, Plattsmouth; a Alden, 1929, married Arlene Chesely, Bruno, NE. Francis died 1952. Louis continued to live on the farm until 1979 when he mo to Birchwood Manor Nursing Home in North Bend. He died Aug 1983.

Frank and Margaret Krause

Frank Krause, born 1-18-1833, Baden-Baden, Germany Margaret (Maggie) Hutchings, born in Wisconsin, were ma 5-5-1869. Frank Krause came to U.S. in 1854 with his parents. landed in New Orleans and settled in Wisconsin. There remained until moving to Saunders County. Frank took homestead and a soldier's claim southeast of Morse in sectio His family owned the land until the death of Harry and G Krause in 1973 when it was sold to James Williams. Frank K died 1-14-1916 and his wife, Maggie, died in 1930. Their chi were: Albert E. (1870-1951); Elizabeth (1872-?); Fran (1873-1959); Lucy A. (1876-1949); Alexander (1879-1951); C (1881-1947); Mabel (1884-1947); Harry (1886-1973); and G (1888-1973).

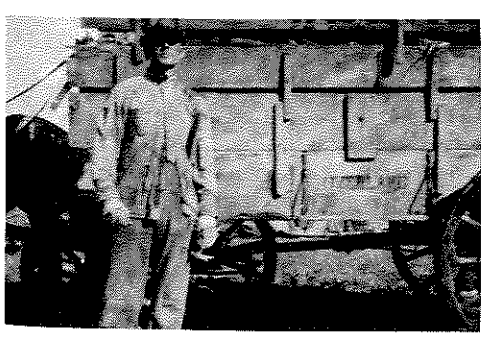
O.O. (Sticks) Ladenberger with the Krause brothers, George and Alexander (Moss)

Frank and Sarah Krause

Frank J. Krause, born 2 and ½ mi. e. of Morse Bluff to Frank and Margaret Krause, and Sarah McGinn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McGinn, Sr. born in Ireland, were married 2-21-1906 at the St. Augustine (Malloy) Church. Frank taught school at Dist. 51 and Dist 14 before accepting the rural mail carrier position. He served several terms on the Dist. 14 school board. They lived at the top of the hill on Victoria Street, the present location of the Francis Fischer residence. Frank and Sarah were parents of 6 children: Mamie Gaughen, Francis, Leona, Hazel Leonovicz, Eileen Peterson, and George. Mamie lives in North Bend. Eileen lives in Omaha. The other children and parents are deceased.

Harry and George Krause

The Krause brothers, Harry and George were better known as Jim and Boney. Jim was born 9-28-1886 and Boney, 8-24-1888. Neither married. They lived on the Krause homestead southeast of Morse. In their youth they were considered top baseball players with the champion Morse Bluff team. They were also known for their shunning of modern machines. They depended upon horses for all their farming. The school children in the 50's and 60's knew them for the annual watermelon feed they put on at school. Harry (Jim) died of a heart attack on 11-26-1973. George (Boney) died the next day, 11-27-1973. They were the last of the Frank and Margaret Krause family who first came to this location in 1869.



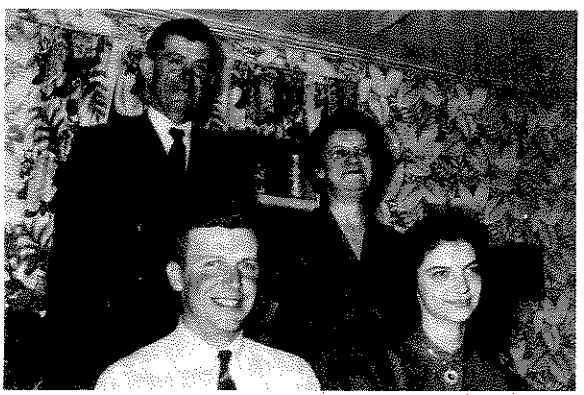
Harry Krause ready to husk corn

Randall Kremlacek

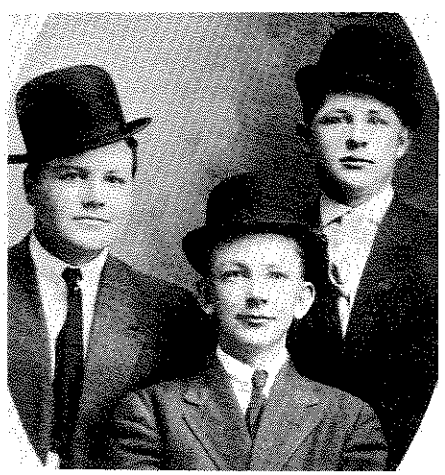
Randy, one of 7 children of Joe and Lorraine Kremlacek, born 5-23-1960, grew up on a farm s. of Prague, NE, graduating from Prague High in 1978. He now lives on the Joe Virka farm ½ mi. e. and 2 mi. s. of Morse. His many interests include skiing and traveling. He is a member of the Catholic Church. Randy is manager of the Morse Bluff elevator.

Andrew V. and Rose Kucera

Andrew, born 11-17-1900, son of John and Mary Nemec Kucera, and Rose, born 5-18-1901, daughter of Joseph and Fances Vojtech Vyhlidal, were married 10-12-1926 at Cedar Hill. After their marriage, they lived near Linwood and Abie. In 1929 they bought the John Buresh farm, southwest of Morse Bluff. They sold this farm in 1946 and moved near Schuyler for 2 years before moving a mile east of Linwood. Rose died 11-24-1970. A few years later Andrew and son, John, moved to Schuyler where they are presently living. Children: John G., born 9-4-1927; and Rosie, Mrs. Ray Stranik, born 9-15-1936.



Andrew and Rose with John and Rosie



Pat McGinn
Joe Shanahan
Joe Kucera

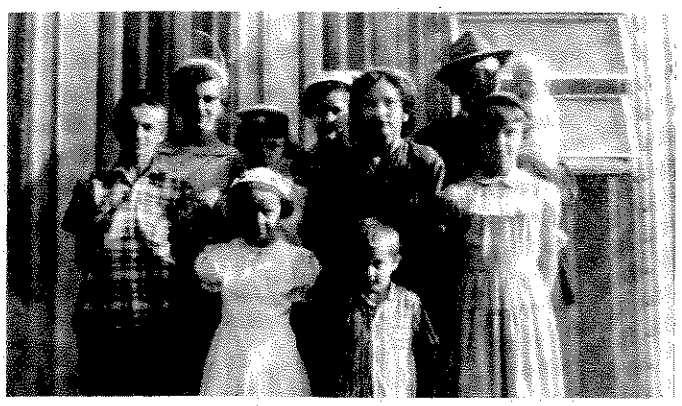
Arthur and Emma Ladenburger

Art, born 10-7-1873 on a farm near Morse to Moritz and Carolyn Ladenburger, married Emma Malloy, daughter of Joseph and Jane Malloy, on 5-12-1902. Although in 1908-1909 he owned a furniture store in Morse, Art was more widely known for his livestock and oil business. In 1953 the Omaha Stockyards honored him as one of the oldest consistent shippers to the Omaha market. Art and Emma were parents of 3 sons - Francis, Thomas, and Leo - and 2 daughters - Caroline Sidner, and Ethel Hansen. Emma died in 1937; Art in 1959.

Leo, Ethel Hansen, Tom Seated: Francis, Art

Ernest and Alice Ladenburger

Ernest, born near Morse in 1910 to Otto and Amalie Stuchlik Ladenburger, and Alice, born near Morse Bluff in 1915 to James and Elizabeth Polivka Franta, were married 1-31-1938 in St. John's Catholic Church in Prague, NE. They first lived near Morse and then moved to the farm where Ernest was born 3 mi. s., 1 mi. e. then 2 mi. s. of Morse Bluff where they raised their family. Children: Loretta, Mrs. Jack Kloke of Ames, NE; Joan, Mrs. Kenneth Loeffler; Dorthy, Mrs. Daniel Parr; Janice, Mrs. James Poulas; Betty, Mrs. Stephen Boothe; and Robert who married Cindy Riley; all of Fremont; and Gary who married Charlene Prochaska; and Daniel who married Jean Benes; both of North Bend. All 8 children graduated from North Bend High. The Ladenburgers have farmed all their lives and are members of St. George's Catholic Church. Ernest has served on the Dist. 79 school board, the township board, and was one of the parishioners that helped build the St. George's Catholic Church in 1955.

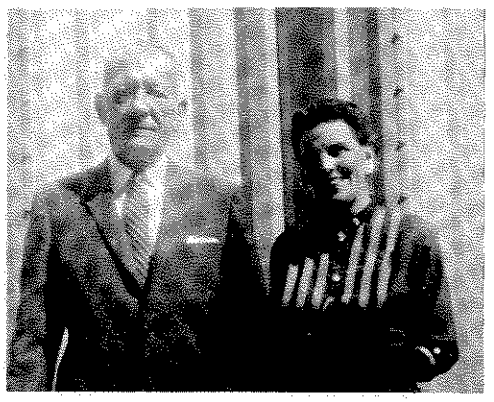


The Ernest Ladenburger Family

The Moritz Ladenburg Family
Standing: Mary, Arthur J., Joe, Otto Seated: Molly, Mother Anna with Baby Elizabeth, Emma with Moritz

Francis and Eldora Ladenburg

Francis, born 2-28-1906, son of Art and Emma Ladenburg of Morse Bluff and Eldora Benedict Mounts, born 7-17-1907 in Creighton, NE, to Guy and Ann Benedict, were married 6-27-1958 at St. Joe's Church in Colon. Eldora grew up in Creighton, graduating there. A secretary for 42 years, she and her 1st husband Richard Mounts operated Mounts Dental Laboratory in Omaha, later a sporting goods store in North Bend. Eldora was sec'y at Mead Ordnance Plant 5 years and at Gambles in Fremont 12 years. After Richard's death, Eldora married Francis. Francis grew up in Morse, received a Purple Heart while serving as a Sergeant in the Army in Europe in WWII, then living with his father until marriage. He farmed and raised cattle, and worked at Ladenburg Oil. Francis served on the Town Board, involved with the sale of the town park, and blacktopping the town streets. Francis and Eldora were strong supporters of the Catholic Church and donated generously to the purchase of some of the stained glass windows and all the new pews for the church. Eldora and Francis enjoyed several winters in Hawaii after retirement. Francis died 7-30-81. Eldora now lives in Omaha.



The Moritz Ladenburg Family

Moritz was born 9-14-1839 in Zobingen, Wurtemburg, Germany. He married Caroline Krause (6-12-1846 - 7-21-1891). He came to the U.S. in 1866, was in the saloon business in Chicago 3 years, moved to Fremont, NE, where he owned and operated the first brewery in that city for 5 years, and homesteaded 80 acres on Sand Creek in Saunders County in 1868. In the early 1900's he owned 70 acres n. of Morse Bluff. Caroline died in 1891; Moritz married Anna Uhl in 1893 and moved to Columbus, NE in 1903. Children: Joseph, Arthur, Otto, Valentine, Mrs. H.F. Malloy, Elizabeth of Dodge, Mrs. Ed Branigan of Columbus, Anna, Rosa, and Katherine of Columbus. Four daughters died as infants: Ida, Sophia, Ottilia, and Anna. They are buried at St. Mary's cemetery, Cedar Bluffs.

O. O. Ladenburger

O.O. "Sticks" Ladenburger, remembered for his derby hat and cane, was a familiar sight at Morse Bluff baseball games, either keeping score or managing the team. He was well known in Saunders County where he conducted cornhusking contests. He helped his father farm until he was 21, then worked for others and after 1910 conducted a poolroom and confectionery business in Morse Bluff. In later years he operated carnival concessions throughout the state at county fairs. O.O. Ladenburger was the son of Moritz and Caroline Ladenburger, born in 1880, living in Chester precinct, and later moving to the Morse area. In 1905 he lost a leg in an accident. He died in Morse Bluff in 1951.

Tom and Marie Ladenburg

Tom was born on his parents farm near Cedar Bluffs. Both Tom and Marie graduated from Fremont High, later married, and in 1945 moved to Morse Bluff where Tom worked for his father, A.J. Ladenburg in the oil business. Since Tom's stroke in 5-21-1986, he and Marie have moved to Fremont where they are enjoying old friends there. Tom belonged to the Eagles Lodge and Marie worked in Fremont 25 years, part of that time as manager of the Spence Shoppe. Tom and Marie belong to the St. Patrick's Church. Children: Arthur and Sharon attended grade school in Morse, and graduated from St. Patricks High in Fremont and the University of Nebraska. Arthur also graduated from the U.S. War College in Carlisle, PA. He, his wife Kay, and son and daughter lived in South America where he has been with the U.S. Dept. of State; they now live in Vienna, VA. Sharon and husband Monte West own and operate the award winning West Homes Inc. They have one son.

Above—Tom and Marie Ladenburg
Below—Arjay, Sharon, Monte West, Kay, Linda, Arthur

Fred and Lois Lambley

Fred, born in Omaha, and Lois McBride, born in Tecumseh, were married 7-19-1961 in Oakland, NE. They came to the Morse Bluff area from Albion, NE, in 1976 and built a home 2 mi. w. of town. Fred, teacher and coach at NBC High has been honored repeatedly for his efforts as basketball coach at North Bend. Lois, is editor of the North Bend Eagle, which has been a top award winner in the state for 10 consecutive years. Lois won the National Women of Achievement Award from the National Federation of Press Women in 1985, the first time a Nebraskan has won the award. Children: Bryce, teacher and coach at Fremont Junior High designed the Morse Bluff Centennial Logo; Kevin, wife Becky, manages a Colby Ridge Popcorn and Ice Cream store; Scott, student at Kearney State College; Jason, senior at NBC; and Megan, a kindergartener at Dist. 14.

Charles Linden Leach

Charles Linden Leach was born January 11, 1976 at Shelbyville, Illinois. His wife, Pluma Chambers Leach, was born March 12, 1890 at Craig, Nebraska. They were married December 11, 1907 at Omaha. To this union five children were born: Ravha, born September, 1910 at Hooper. She married Art Menke. He is deceased and she lives in Silver Springs, Maryland; Alta, born May, 1913 at Fremont. She married Victor Hartford and they live in Cedar Bluffs; Kathryn, born July, 1917 at Williston, North Dakota. She married Alvin Jensen. He is deceased and she lives in Fremont, Nebraska; Charles, Jr., born March, 1918 at Williston, North Dakota. He is deceased; Josephine, born April, 1931 at Morse Bluff, Nebraska. She married Dwayne "Pete" Hansen and they live in Fremont. Mr. Leach had worked for the railroad for many years, and had sustained a severe injury. Unable to work for the railroad, the family moved to Morse Bluff about 1925. Mrs. Leach became the manager of the Leach Boarding House on the corner of 2nd & Victoria Streets. They operated the boarding house for several years, cooking many meals for people, before moving to Cedar Bluffs about 1943.

Fred and Mary Lees

Fred, born 9-25-1908 to Frank and Fannie Lees, and Mary, born 8-24-1910 to Anton and Christine Brabec of Wahoo, were married in Wahoo. They came to Morse in 1941 where they lived on a farm s.w. of town. Fred was both a farmer and a carpenter. Sons Don and Fred helped with the field work. Fred built 20 houses in eastern Nebraska and remodeled many. The family was active in many organizations; Mary was member of the Just Neighbors Extension Club for years. Fred and Mary left Morse in the late 1960's and built a new home s. of Fremont. In 1980 they retired to Green Valley, AZ. Children: Don, born 1932, married Ruth Ernst, lives in Omaha; Merle, 1936, married Paul Slavik; Eileen, 1937, married Don Johnson; and Fred Jr., 1940, married Marilyn Nichols.

Mary and Fred Lees

To the left—The Lambleys: Bryce, Jason, Fred, Lois, Megan in front, Becky, Kevin, and Scott