

# *Carl Reinhold Dahlin Family*



**Roger Dahlin February 2021**

## Summary

Carl Reinhold Dahlin was born in the little Swedish Village of Nöttja in 1887 and grew up in Ljungby. He immigrated to Jamestown NY in 1910, This document is about his parents, siblings and his marriage to Grace Spaeth in Syracuse NY. Details about his four children and his mother Anna [Anderson] Dahlin's family are also included. Photos, family trees and documents of provenance are provided.

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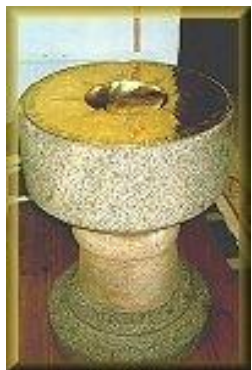
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The little church on the cover page is where Carl Dahlin and his siblings were baptized. Carl's parents shown on the cover page were also married in this church.

The church was built during the 12<sup>th</sup> Century with three-foot-thick stone walls to provide shelter for children and older people during the cruel wars when Christianity was introduced in Sweden. The bell tower was introduced at a later date,

The church was never rebuilt, as with most churches, because it was a poor parish in a remote location. The people of Nottja felt ashamed of their little church and it was restored in 1951. It is now recognized as an historical Swedish treasure.

Photos taken in 2002 show the 12<sup>th</sup> Century limestone baptismal font, crucifix from the middle ages and the 1754 altarpiece.



## INTRODUCTION

My father, Carl Dahlin, was a Swedish immigrant who never talked about the old country. My older brother, Richard, thought our brother Gordon might know more about him because, as a youth, he spent many hours fishing with him. Gordon could not add anything significant beyond some vague understanding that Carl's mother was his father's second wife. Growing up, I understood that he had two older brothers still living in Sweden and that he had a sister who emigrated to Jamestown NY. She later brought her widowed mother from Sweden to live with her. His sister died during the earlier thirties and Carl's mother moved into our house in Syracuse NY.

About twenty years ago I decided to make a concentrated effort to find out more about my father, his parents and his siblings. My intent was not to develop an extensive family tree but to uncover more information about Carl's parents and siblings. As most people are aware, you as a person, are linked to your parents following that old cliché "Nature versus Nurture". That is, genetics play a key role in your persona tied to how you were raised that is chained to your parent's upbringing. To reinforce this concept, compare how I was raised to my siblings. My three siblings were raised during the Great Depression with their lives shattered by World War II. My teenage brothers ended up with military service including overseas duty. My sister lamented, "The War took all the fun out of being a teenager because all the boys were gone". In contrast, I was raised somewhat like an only child because my brothers were gone and with my sister who could baby sit for me allowed my mother to work. Consequently, Mom for the first time had extra money available. Because of this conundrum, in addition to sections about my father's parents and siblings, I have added separate sections about my three siblings plus myself. Further, an Appendix is attached to support my commentary.

Undertaking this project, I was keenly aware that family folklore is often based upon "puffed up" stories without facts that can present fully different perspectives. Consequently, experienced genealogists depend upon what is known as "documents of provenance" that includes a wide range of records, plus things such as letters and photographs,

To illustrate this point I focus on my mother's paternal grandfather, John Spaeth. Oral history states that he graduated from the University of Berlin and had completed two years toward the priesthood. Further, he was an only child and his father, John senior, was the mayor of some municipality in what is now known as Germany. When he arrived in the USA, he was headed to a seminary in Buffalo to become a priest. He stopped off in Syracuse to visit German friends, met then married a local fraulein resulting in ten new Spaeth's.

In contrast, my supported documentation indicates that John was one of eleven children who arrived in Syracuse at age 17 or 18 with his widowed father in 1852. They came from the small village of Sheer Württemberg in what is now southern Germany. John and his father initially moved in with his older sister on Syracuse's north side. His sister's husband was a shoemaker. Syracuse City Directories of the mid 1850's show John Spaeth living at his sister's residence and working as a shoemaker. Later in his life he worked as a bookkeeper [now would be known as an accountant] for a large business on the Erie Canal. John ended up owning a nice home and was a prominent member of the Assumption Roman Catholic church.

Pursuing my journey uncovering Dahlin family history I discovered an important fact: **Dahlin is not a family name it is a military name!** From early times Sweden used the patronymic system for family or last names based upon the father's name. For example, if I was born in 1850, I would have been known as Roger Carlsson with a double 's' because I was Carl's son. My sister Vivian would have been known as Vivian Carlsdotter, daughter of Carl. To carry this theme further, Sweden had a large standing army at the time and when a man joined the army, he was given a temporary military name based upon his appearance such as sturdy [Stadig] or where he came from such as valley [Dahl]. This renaming was to avoid the confusion of so many men with the



same last names. My father's grandfather, Johan Erik Andersson, joined the Swedish army in 1840 and was given the military name of Johan Erik Dahl that he chose to keep. His son, Erik Gustaf Dahl [my father's father], was born in 1841. Erik changed his name to Dahlin in 1861.

Another windfall of my Dahlin family history search is the change of my preconceived ideas about Swedes based upon my mother's testimony. My mother moved to Jamestown NY in 1921 shortly after she married my father. She often stated how much she hated living there and identified this as being the worst time in her life. To reinforce this negative concept my brother Gordon mentioned that as a young boy he visited my father's sister's home and he was not allowed to walk to the home because his dirty shoes might contaminate the rugs. Instead, he was carried from the car to the house.

At this point it is important to set the stage for that time period. Jamestown was known as "Swedetown USA" because it had the largest per capita of Swedes in North America. These fair-skinned Lutherans who openly resented Catholics dominated the community. In fairness, Roman Catholics had a reciprocating ideology about Protestants at that time. To emphasize this conflict my father died in 1960 and was buried in a Catholic cemetery. A Protestant minister was not allowed at the gravesite so the undertaker lead prayers. My dark haired, darker skinned Catholic mother felt fully ostracized by the local community. The only friend she had was a Jewish lady who thought, because of her appearance, she was also Jewish

The most satisfying experience of my Dahlin history odyssey was meeting four of my father's parents' Swedish relatives and thereby overturning my mother's earlier gloomy assessment. All four were friendly, modest and approachable people who provided me with documents, photos, personal observations and Swedish translations. An Acknowledgement section on pages 49 and 50 provides some details; however, a brief description follows:

**Jim Huntley** – His grandmother and my father's mother were sisters. Jim who was born and raised in Seattle Washington died in 2020. He was an internationally known US State Department diplomat who is in "Who's Who of America". My wife Peg and I visited Jim and his wife Colleen in 2010 at their Sequim Wa. home. We stayed in their guest house and slept in Aaron Burr's bed. Our son Tim picked us up at their home and Tim now has an autographed copy of one of Jim's books "An Architect of Democracy".

**Inga Lisa Erikson** – Her grandmother and my father's mother, Anna, were sisters. Inga Lisa grew up in Ljungby and had vivid memories of Anna and the Dahlin family. Her husband Gustaf was a close personal friend of Carl's brother Werner. They emigrated to Tarrytown NY in 1950. I have visited their home three times. My nieces Terry [Dahlin] Weinstein and Linda [Dahlin] Valette also visited them. They died in 2011

**Ann-Mari Dahlin** – Her grandfather was Carl's brother Werner. Ann- Mari and her husband Lennart Arfwidsson are semiretired architects who own their own business. Lennart was the Rotary International Director for the 29 Nordic districts 1992-1994. They visited us in 2009 and our son Craig spent a day touring the Ithaca area with us. We also visited Linda [Dahlin] Valette's home in Old Forge. I still exchange emails with Ann-Mari and she sends me an English version of her family newsletter each Christmas.

**Bengt Blixt** – His grandfather Gunnar was Carl's older brother. Bengt has a Masters in Biochemistry and retired from a Stockholm based company in 2004 working in product development. His wife Anne- Christine was a producer of a Swedish TV game show. His younger brother, Larserik, is a retired medical doctor. Bengt and his wife visited us in 2009. We still maintain email contact and exchange Christmas cards.

*Note: This document was initially published in 2017. This current document includes a revised second page, a new Introduction section and some minor clerical changes.*

**Roger Dahlin 2021**

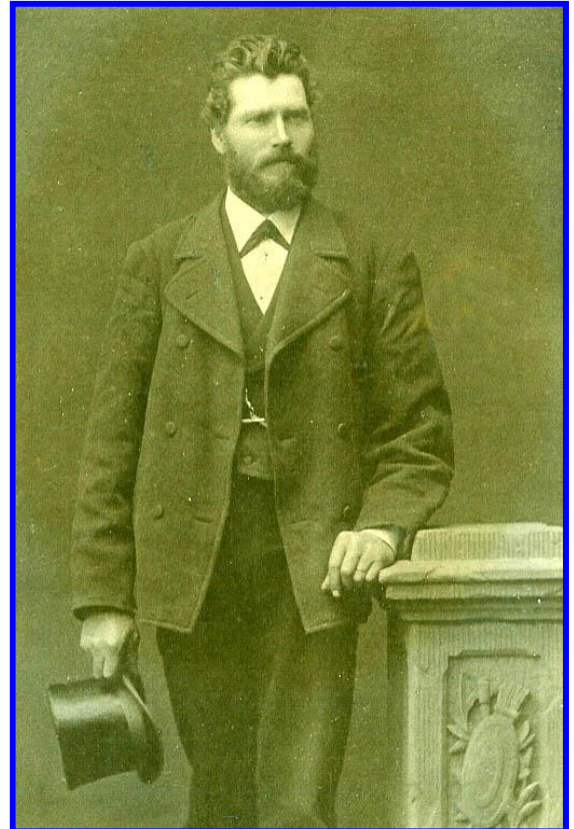


## Erik Gustaf Dahlin [1841-1923] Tanner and Family Patriarch

One cow, a spinning wheel, a loom, four chairs, two tables, one cupboard and some copper utensils; this was the 1869 estate inventory for Erik Dahlin's father Johan Eric [Andersson] Dahl after Erik's mother died. The family was very poor.

Considering such humble beginnings, Erik's rise to operating and owning a successful tannery and also owning a rather large and attractive home is a testimony to his skills, perseverance and innate intelligence.

Little is known about Erik as a person but speculation based upon input from family members suggests the following: First, he was likely a tall, and powerful man for his time. This speculation is based upon comparisons to his oldest son Werner. People who knew Werner said he looked like his father. Werner was over six foot and described to be strong like an oak tree. Further, strength and stature would have been clear advantage to someone that started as an apprentice tanner who was able to promote himself to the owner of a tannery. Second, evidence suggests that he was deeply religious; this is based upon the dominance of Lutheran Christianity during his time and a note from his wife Anna to Erik's son Carl shortly after Erik's death that stated ----"poor father, He died in the belief of the Lord Jesus." Finally, he likely had a firm and domineering presence. This presence would not have been unusual for a person who 'pulled himself up by his own bootstraps' and lost his first wife plus four children. To further support this concept, relatives that knew his wife Anna in Sweden suggested that Erik was very strict. In addition, Erik's granddaughter, Inga [Dahlin] Blixt who met Erik once as a little girl appeared to be awed by Erik. She remembered standing trembling in front of her big and tall grandfather and saying: "Good day my name is Ingrid, Karlina, Elisabet Dahlin." That was her only conversation. Ingrid also recalled that her mother, Edith, said she was very scared of her father-in-law.



**Erik's Grandfather – Cotter and Crofter** Anders Pehrsson [1784-1856] and Catharina Oldsdotter [1782-1861] were married Nov 2, 1807 in Södermanland County. Södermanland County is on the southwest coast of Sweden that borders Stockholm and the Baltic Sea. Anders as well as his parents Pehr Svensson and Maria [Maja] Ersdotter, were all born in this county. Anders and his wife Catharina had 10 children, at least eight survived. The family was extremely poor because the household examination rolls show Anders in the early days of his marriage as a cotter [statare] and in later life a crofter [torpare].

*It is important to understand the difference between a cotter and a crofter to fully realize the living conditions of Erik Dahlin's grandparents. Detailed information is provided in Appendix 1 and 2 for these two social groups, but in very general terms a cotter was a married peasant who didn't possess any land or livestock. A crofter was the Swedish version of a tenant farmer. A family tree chart has been developed in an attempt to show family relationships. However, in order to more fully understand the confusing system of patronymic [father based] surnames used since early times in Sweden, more information is also provided in Appendix 3.*

**Erik's Father –Military Man** Johan Erik Andersson Dahl [1814-1893] was the son of a crofter [Swedish style tenant farmers] Usually the farm was inherited by the eldest son and in Johan's case he had four older brothers. Consequently, Johan had to make his own way and had options that included hiring out as a farm hand, taking up a village trade or joining the army. Johan ended up in the military.

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century and earlier Sweden had a unique military organization. By an agreement between the crown and free landowners, the latter were guaranteed no conscriptions to the Army in peace or war. In return three or four landowners agreed to grant a piece of land and a cottage to support a soldier during his lifetime. Thus, Sweden received a standing army that could be quickly mobilized.

The soldier was required to attend military drills and in time of war was to report to duty, whenever that might be. Since the enlistee often had an- all to common- patronymic family name such as Andersson or Eriksson, to avoid confusion, the military scribe would assign him a new military name.

These military names could be based upon personal characteristics such as Stadig [sturdy], or a nature name like Alm[elm] or in Johan's case a name taken from a place where he lived, ie Dahl [valley]. The given soldier's name was kept while he was in service. When he left the service, many like Johan kept his military name. So Johan Erik Andersson became Johan Erik Dahl.



Johan Erik Dahl married Sophia Ersdotter [1814-1869] in Södermanland County Oct, 11 1840. Records note Johan as soldier No. 944 married in 1840 and that he settled in St. Datorp soldiers' cottage in Åker parish. The records also note that the soldiers' cottage should have 1/2 acre arable and pasture land and pasture for 1 or two cows.. The family had at least five children. Their son Eric Gustaf Dahl was born in 1841 and changed his name to Dahlin in 1861. *Photo is modern day reconstruction of typical soldier's cottage*

**Erik Dahlin- Apprentice /Journeyman Tanner** Like his father before him, Erik had an older brother so he had to find his own future outside the family home. Although he came from a poor family it can be assumed that he could read and write which would be an important asset for work. This assumption is based upon the fact that The Elementary School act of 1842 was in place which required that every parish have a school for children in that parish. Schooling was designed to allow children to read the Bible and Lutheran hymns.

In October 1857, when Erik was 16, the household examination records show him moving from his home in Åker parish to Mariefred-Kärnbo parish ; both are in Södermanland County. The records show he worked as an apprentice for the master tanner [garvare] Olof Setterholm.

When a person entered some type of trade he started working for a master craftsman as an apprentice. After demonstrating his skills in the trade and normally passing some kind of the test he became a journeyman. Journeymen were normally not married and lived in the master's household. However, in order to work as an independent craftsman and be able to train journeymen, one had to become a master craftsman. In order to get more experience, the journeyman often traveled to different locations, hence the name 'journey'-man. \*

Eric Gustaf Dahlin moved to an "undecided place" September 4, 1862. This "undecided place" likely entailed his moving to the southern Sweden province of Småland in the town of Ljungby [Kronoberg County]. Ljungby parish records for 1866-1870 show him as a tanner but there is no notation of him owning land. Eric married Emma Charlotta Wilhelmina Rydel September 2 1870 in Ljungby. They had two children Gusaf and Selma. Emma died of consumption June 28, 1874 in Ljungby.

A young, mid- nineteenth century widower with two small children commonly sought a new wife. Erik search lead to a schoolteacher from Nöttja, Anna Kristina Andersdotter . He married his second wife August 8, 1875. At the time of their marriage, Erik's son Gustaf would have been five and daughter Selma four. Records show the Dahlin family moved from Ljungby to Nöttja November 6, 1876

*\* Copy of Erik's Journeyman Tanner certificate issued January 2, 1862 is shown on pages 11 and 12*



### **Nöttja- Little Village, Little Church, Three little graves**

Nöttja is a lovely little Småland village on River Bolman about 20 Km southwest of Ljungby. This was also the little village where Anna was born and grew up and her family had lived for several generations.

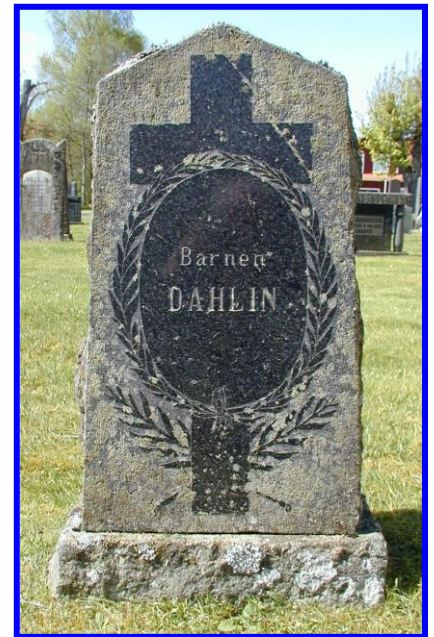
The pride of the village is a little church that dates from the late 12<sup>th</sup> or early 13<sup>th</sup> century. The church has been well preserved over the centuries. It never underwent the rebuilding, so frequently made of other churches during the 15<sup>th</sup> century, when so many older churches were destroyed forever. It was saved due to the simple fact that the parish at the time was very small and poor and situated in an area where constant wars between Sweden and Denmark drew on the small reserves of the people. The people of Nöttja long felt ashamed of their old, ill-preserved church. It was not until the renovation in 1951 that they became aware of what a treasure their church was and still is. *Church photo taken in 2007*



Erik and Anna were married in this beautiful and historic church. All their six children were baptized there. Within the church graveyard is a little gravestone marked Dahlin Barnen [children] Three of Erik's children were buried there in May 1884. All three died of Scarlet Fever. They included: Selma from the previous marriage, then age 12 and two young girls ages one and four.

Erik and Anna lived in a quaint little Nöttja bungalow until 1891 when they moved back to Ljungby.

During this period Erik either worked in, or owned and operated a small tannery. Erik's and Anna's four surviving children; Emma born 1877, Werner 1878, Gunnar 1885 and Karl, their last child, born 1887 moved with them.



**Ljungby- Powerbrokers** “ If people were making trouble or there was fighting at restaurants, bars, dancing places or in a Ljungby market, the police called in ‘ the Dahlin Boys’ [Werner and Gunnar] to help calm the people down.” These were the comments made by Ingrid {Dahlin} Blixt as told to her by her father Gunnar and other family members. Both Werner and Gunnar were large strong men who were not to be trifled with.

The Dahlin's moved back to Ljungby in 1891. During that time Ljungby was a market town for the surrounding villages. Ljungby's origin dates to the Fourteenth century when it was an inn. A royal decree in 1335 prescribed the establishment of inns at strategic points throughout Sweden. The decree was established to facilitate traveling throughout this vast country with a small population. Ljungby was at an ideal location for an inn because it was located on the main highway between the capital of Stockholm and the Danish border as well as an intersection where other roads met.

In 1828 Ljungby became a borough consisting of a church, the inn and five other farm buildings.

Ljungby's first industry, a tannery was introduced in 1840 where local farmers could bring their hides for leather processing. A small tannery could be run outdoors with a simple building but as demand increased a large permanent building was built in about 1852. Erik Dahlin bought this tannery in 1891.



Erik Middle age



Erik surely planned to have his oldest son Gustaf to be a major part of his newly purchased business but Gustaf died at age 20 from consumption in February of 1890 This had to be a most disheartening time for Erik because Gustaf must have had several years of training as a tanner. To add to his grief, the memory of losing three children six years earlier had to be a heavy burden. Instead, Erik had to transfer his plans to his next oldest son Werner, then age 12.

The Dahlin family had to be major players in the community during both Erik's and Werner's tenure. The tannery was a key business in the community that also employed local people and the Dahlin's had a fine home for the period. *Family photo about 1900*

**Erik's final years** Erik, during 1905 at age 64 turned over his business to his son Werner. At that date, his daughter Emma and son Gunnar were living with Anna's brother in Jamestown New York. His youngest son, Karl, then 18, could likely have been working for his brother Werner in the tannery. However, Karl was drafted into the Swedish Navy in 1908 and immigrated to Jamestown, NY in 1910



Dahlin Ljungby Home

Karl\* it appears never returned to his home and Emma remained in the USA for the rest of her life. Gunnar, however had a different path. He returned to Ljungby for some time and his oldest son Karl Gunnar was born there in May of 1911. In 1912 Gunnar's pregnant wife Edith and his son Karl Gunnar moved back to Jamestown; Gunnar followed at a later date. Gunnar and Edith had an infant daughter born January 14, 1913 in Jamestown but she only lived for a few hours. In 1916 Gunnar was back in Ljungby where his daughter Ingrid was born on February 17. Gunnar and his family sometime during the period of 1916-1917 moved to Stockholm where he settled for most of his life.

*Note: In the USA Karl changed his name from Karl to Carl*

With the movement of Gunnar to Stockholm, the only direct family members of Erik and Anna in the Ljungby area was their son Werner and Werner's adopted son Hilmer. The Ljungby household examination records for 1913-1927 show Werner and his wife Hulda living at *Tomt 14 D* ; which can be assumed to be the old Dahlin house next to the tannery. At the time of Erik's death, Anna and he were living at *Lungby Ekilsgård nr 2* that must have been a small apartment.

A note on the back of old faded photo of Erik and Anna written by Anna to her son Karl in the US indicates that she wanted Karl to know what his father looked like before he got sick and started to get swollen. She further mentions they visited Werner and his wife Hulda for a week and that Hilmer took the picture. Anna also mentions that Erik was sick for about two years before he died. A copy of this picture is shown that appears to show a large portrait of Anna on the wall of Werner's apartment.



Erik died of arteriosclerosis December 28<sup>th</sup> 1923 just past his 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday. He was buried in the Ljungby churchyard. It was not a joyful holiday season that year.

**Erik's Legacy** Travelers interested in Swedish history will be rewarded visiting the "Ljungby Old Market" [*Lungby Gamla Torg*] complex. In this complex one will see an old restored tannery [garveriet]. Within this building there are pictures of Erik, his son Werner and a display of Erik's other son Gunnar's clock restoration business.

When Werner died in 1954 his will stated that the old Dahlin family home as well as the tannery be given to the municipality of Ljungby. The home was destroyed but the old tannery was dismantled, stored and eventually moved across the road to the "Ljungby Old Market" complex [in Swedish Gamla Torg] where it was re-erected and restored. *Tannery Photo 2007*



The old Dahlin home site was later developed into a small "People's House" [*Folkets Hus*]\* Today it is the site of a large People's House complex called Garvaren where there is a cinema, restaurant, disco, store, hotel, high school and office space. *Photo is of the complex*

Many wealthy men build mausoleums to help secure their legacy. Some men earn it as major historical figures. Erik, who was born very poor, leaves, as his legacy, and old tannery and a "People's Place" for future generations to enjoy.

#### **\*Folkets Hus – Peoples Palace History**

Folkets Hus ( "*directly translated*") = People's House. The dictionary says Peoples Palace or People's Community Centre



When the trade union and political wings of the labour movement began to organise themselves towards the end of the 19th century, there soon arose a great demand for premises - preferably premises of their own. Opposition to these demands was strong and well organised and workers were not welcome to use existing premises. Landowners even forbade open-air meetings, as they were afraid of the revolutionary ideas that might be ventilated.

Workers in southern Sweden decided to buy up land to fence in and build houses on, and use for their meetings without interference. The idea spread all over the country. That the concept was realised so quickly was a significant step on the path towards equality and democracy. Construction was funded through co-operative ventures, bank loans, and various forms of contribution, guarantee associations and not least voluntary work.

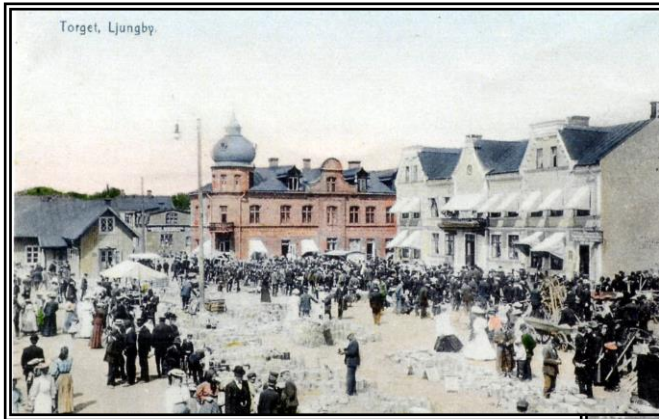
1899 there were more than twenty People's Palace Association ( Folkets Hus föreningar) in Sweden. To finance the running of the People's Palaces an amusement like dancing and theatre performances and later showing movies. Later even People's Parks were started, where open-air-meetings, different amusement arrangement like music concerts, theatre, etc could be held.

#### **Today**

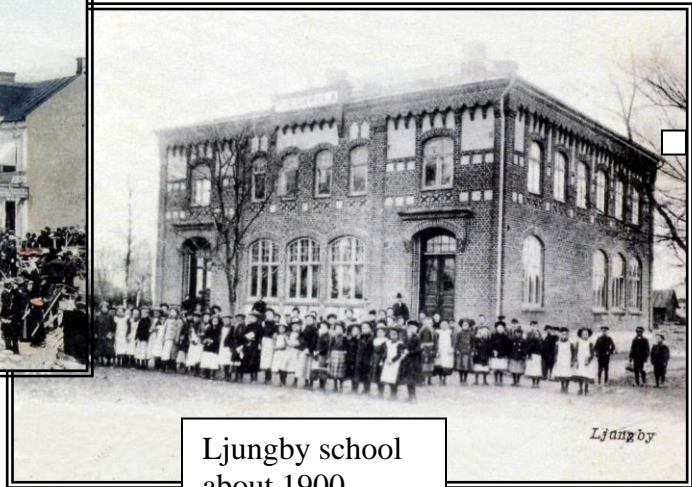
The People's Palace and People's Park Centers in Sweden are unique in the world. There are today 692 People's Palaces and 146 People's Parks with a total of 50 million visitors per year. People's Palace and People's Park in Sweden represent an important part of the social economic system.



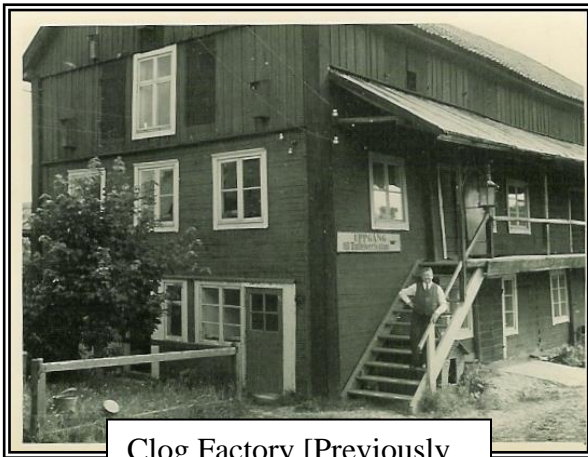
## *Ljungby - Swedish Town where Dahlin Siblings grew up*



Ljungby market from 1900 Post Card



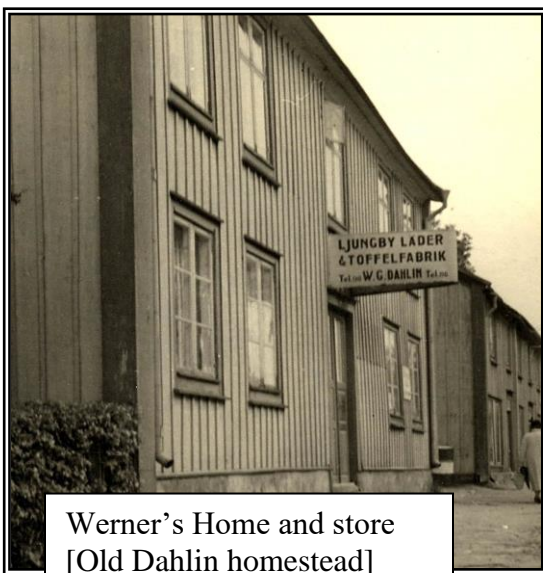
Ljungby school  
about 1900



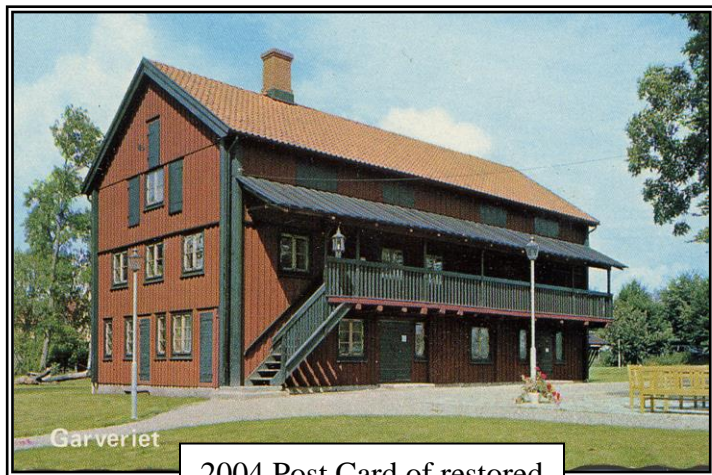
Clog Factory [Previously  
Tannery] 1939



Dahlin House [1] and Tannery [2] 1950's



Werner's Home and store  
[Old Dahlin homestead]



2004 Post Card of restored  
Tannery [Garveriet]



Erik's Journeyman Certificate  
Issued January 1862

**FABRIKS- och HANDTVERKS-  
FÖRENINGEN**

UTI

**STADEN MARIEFRED**

**GÖR HÄRMED VETERLIGT:**

Hos Föreningen har *Kardusmakare Lärlingen*  
*Erik Gust. Dahlin* anhållit att varda till Gesäll  
antagen; och alldenstund Föreningen utaf de  
af bemälde *E. G. Dahlin* företedde betyg in-  
hämtat att han uppnått 20 års ålder, ordent-  
ligen begått *Herrans Heliga Nattvard* och e-  
ger god *frejd*, samt vunnit nöjaktig färdighet  
och kunskap i ofvannämnde handtverk; För-  
denskull och i förmågo af 4:de Art. 33§. i Kongl.  
*Fabriks- och Handtverks-Ordningen* den 22  
Decemb. 1846, pröfvar Föreningen skäligen  
härigenom förklara *bemänte E. G. Dahlin*  
för Gesäll i merberörde Handtverk. Till be-  
vis hvarom detta *Gesällbref* meddelas.

*Mariefred den 2 Januari 1862.*

**PÅ FÖRENINGENS VÄGNAR**

*A. Pettersson*

Ordförande.

*C. A. Wahlgren*

v. Ordförande.

*O. S. Pettersson*

*J. G. Godelsholm*



*M. J. Pettersson*

Protocollsförare.

*Löjtn. Gesällbr. 1865. 1/2  
G. S. 25. 1/2  
S. 1865*





### Translation by Gunnar's grandson Bengt Blixt June 12, 2012

Translation: "Eric Gustaf Dahlin's Journeyman Certificate:

FACTORY- AND TRADE UNION

in

the TOWN MARIEFRED

announce:

The UNION have achieved a request from *the \* Karduanmakare Apprentice Eric Gustaf Dahlin* has applied o be appointed a journeyman; as the Union got, from *Eric Gustaf Dahlin*, presented certificates showing that he has attained 20 years of age, properly partaken Lord's Holy Communion and is a reliable person and gained adequate skill and knowledge in the above mentioned trade; For this reason and according to the 4:th art.33 §. in the Royal factory- and Trad -Regulation from the 22nd Decemb. 1846 legitimate the aforesaid *E. G. Dahlin* as Journeyman in the actual trade. This is the actual Journeyman Certificate.

Mariefred the 2 of January 1862.

ON BEHALF OF THE UNION

.....  
Chairman

.....  
v. Chairman

.....  
Secretary

### Attachment to the Certificate Translation

*Karduanmakare Journeyman Erik Gustaf Dahlin's Journeyman Certificate*

\* *Karduanmakare* = A tanner making "Karduan-skin". Karduan-skin is a finer leather/skin often made of goat hide. The name "Karduan" comes from the French "cardouan" that comes from the Spanish Córdoba in the south of Spain where they were very skilled in this type of tanning.

Karduan skin were used fore.g. sadels, furniture, elegant shoes.

*Attached to*

## Attachment to Erik Gustaf Dahlin's Biography

### **Attachment 1 : The Swedish Cotter [Statare] System\***

A cotter or statare such as Erik's grandfather in his earlier years, was a married, poor agriculture worker who didn't own any property, possessed no land nor animals or livestock.

The Swedish word "Statare" actually means someone receiving payment in kind (stat - statare). The "statare" was provided lodging and had the right to a barrel of potatoes per year. The other part of the payment was firewood, grain and milk.

The "statare" signed a contract for a year at a time and the labor year started in the last week of October. It was during this week the "statare" often moved to another farm manor with the hope of finding better employment. This week was called "slankveckan" in Swedish - slim week or hungry week in English.

The landlord of the manor also had the right to physically chastise and punish the "statare". This right was abolished in 1926.

*There was an unwritten law that, when the "statare" signed his contract, his wife and growing children would also be contracted to work on the manor or farm. The wife's duty was to milk the cows and she may have to milk up to 150 liters (40 US gallons) of milk a day or 16 cows! Afterwards, she would also have to clean all the milking utensils.*

The "statare" normally married young as the work under the "Statarsystem" involved the whole family. Without a capable wife, the man could get no employment.

When the wife of a "statare" gave birth, she would not be given much time off from her work and she was expected to carry on working until the labor pains began. Soon after giving birth, often on the following day, she would be back on her milking-stool or performing her outdoor duties."

The "statare" had the least status on the farm/manor. The manor's forest rangers, foremen, carpenters, horse drivers, and blacksmiths were on the high end. Contrariwise, the "statare" looking after the cattle and the milking were at the bottom of the scale and therefore received the worst lodgings.

The lodgings of the "statare" were part of the payment. However, the lodgings were miserable barracks. They were drafty, cold and dank and in most cases only one room which also served as a kitchen. Vermin like lice, cockroaches and rats were very common in the lodgings. Diseases like tuberculosis were very common among the "statare". The lodgings were often the biggest source of irritation and the major reason for movement between the manors. No place could be worse then the present one, they always hoped to get to a better place.

The Cotter System cradled in the middle and south of Sweden peaked in the middle of the 19th century. In 1900 there were around 100 000 cotters (with families approx. 500 000 people). Sweden in that year had 5.1 million inhabitants. The last vestige of the Cotter System was replaced by salary in money by 1945.

### **Attachment 2 : The Swedish Crofter [Torpare] System\***

The crofter [torpare] was a small-scale tenant farmer. He had his own dwelling [croft], cattle and belongings with arable and pasture land. The crofters/tenants owned the farmhouse but they paid rent for the land to the landowner in form of a certain number of days worked per year. Instead of paying cash for the tenancy, they paid with manpower.

The system of croft and crofter became a way for the larger estates to secure and maintain laborers. The crofts were built on the land of the estate. From the landowner's point of view it was a cheap way of paying the laborer. The crofters were reinforcement to the ordinary farm hands on the estates.

The crofters right of use and enjoyment of the croft and the plot of land belonging to it was inheritable. That is, the children of a crofter had the right to continue with the tenancy.

This land, usually the most unproductive, was quite often located on the outskirts of the village near the edge of the forest. This was of course encumbered land, and the settler who worked it was obligated to provide the owner with a certain





number of free workdays during the year. In return the *torpare* worked his plot of ground, seldom larger than a couple of acres, where he could plant potatoes, grow vegetables and a bit of hay for the lone cow. Often he would have a couple of pigs and a few chickens. Occasionally the land area was large enough also to support a horse. But there were problems, inasmuch as the farm owner wanted his *torpare* to work during the busiest seasons that included planting, harvesting, slaughtering, fence mending and the repairing of roads. The crofter had to adjust his own schedule to the demands of the owner, thereby finding himself scrambling at odd hours accomplishing his own tasks.

The social conditions under which the *torpare* worked varied greatly from farm to farm and from village to village. Under good conditions, the farm owner and his crofter worked together harmoniously where life was tolerable at least. In contrast, where the owner and his farm laborer could not agree, or where the farm owner made unreasonable demands, which the crofter could scarcely meet, life could be frustrating, humiliating and miserable.

The *torp* itself often left much to be desired. Consisting of one or two rooms, having most of the time nothing but a dirt floor, it was an unhealthy environment in which to raise a family. The crofter could, if asked by the farm owner, work extra days for a stipulated amount in cash, usually less than the going labor rates. But by doing so, he sacrificed his own time, which was necessary to keep his cottage in repair, to plant, to reap and to busy himself with countless other chores.

As the families grew, the farms, which had been in the same family, perhaps for centuries, suddenly were no longer able to feed the many additional mouths. Add to this the fact that the nation's laws precluded, that at the death of the farm owner, the farm could be carved up for the heirs. Usually, the eldest son therefore inherited the farm. The remaining children had to make their own way, either by hiring out as farm hands and maid servants to a neighboring farmer, joining the army, or taking up a village trade, such as that of a cobbler, a tailor or a carpenter. The Crofter System was abolished 1943 when day work was forbidden as payment for tenancy.

*\*Note: Information regarding cotters and crofters was taken from the Hans Hogan's Genealogy and History Internet site that is in both Swedish and English.*

### **Attachment 3: Patronymic names**

From early times Sweden has used patronymic surnames. In this system, the fathers' first name was used as a part of his children's surname. For an example, if a man called Anders Johansson had a son named Karl and a daughter named Karin, the children's full names would be: Karl Andersson and Karin Andersdotter. Son =son and dotter = daughter.

Since Karl was a son of Anders, that is, Anders's son; his name would have a double 's' or Andersson. On the other hand Karin, is Anders daughter [dotter] and her last name would be with one 's' or Andersdotter. Further, taking patronymic naming to the next generation, if Karl Andersson had a son called Peter, then his full name would be Peter Karlsson.

The most important identity of a person (in a system with a patronymic naming practice) was his first name; I am Karl (son of Anders). The surname does not indicate a relationship other than among brothers or sisters.

Patronymic surnames were in constant use in rural Sweden and among day laborers in urban centers until the 1860's. At that time, it became popular among these groups to adopt a family surname carried from one generation to the next. A lot of families then adopted a name connected to their home village or a name connected to nature. However, the majority just "froze" their patronymic surname as their family name. Since Anders was a popular first name there are a lot of Andersson families in Sweden as well as the United States. However in the US it was common to drop the double 's' and the name became Anderson.

Marriage and patronymic surnames: It did not become a custom for a woman to adopt her husband's surname until the end of the 1800's, when most families had adopted family names. In earlier times when a man and a woman got married the woman never adopted her husband's patronymic name – a name ending with "son". A woman could never be someone's son. *Note: Early records of Carl Dahlin's mother Anna, after she was married, show her as Anna Andersdotter. Later she was known as Anna Dahlin.*

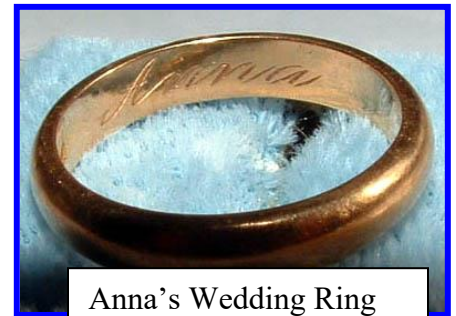


## Anna Christina (Andersson) Dahlin

Carl's mother Anna, described as a, sweet, gentle, dainty women with a lovely singing voice lived a long and difficult life.

Anna was born Aug. 8, 1845 in the small village of Nöttja that is in the southern Sweden province of Småland. Her father's occupation is unknown but the family must have been fairly well off for the time and area. This assessment is based upon an observation made by a cousin, Jim Huntley who was there in 1948. Jim indicated that Anna's father was sort of a country squire, because his house was definitely bigger and grander than the others in the area. Huntley also speculated that Anna's father probably had some peasants working for him and maybe was in some kind of business. A family tree of the Andersson family in the Nöttja area has been traced backed to the early 1700's. The old amateur Swedish genealogist who did the study stopped at this date because he found out that a lady at the Kings court had a liaison with a common soldier and fathered one of Anna's ancestors. The genealogist said: "I did not want to go any farther, if things like that were happening!"

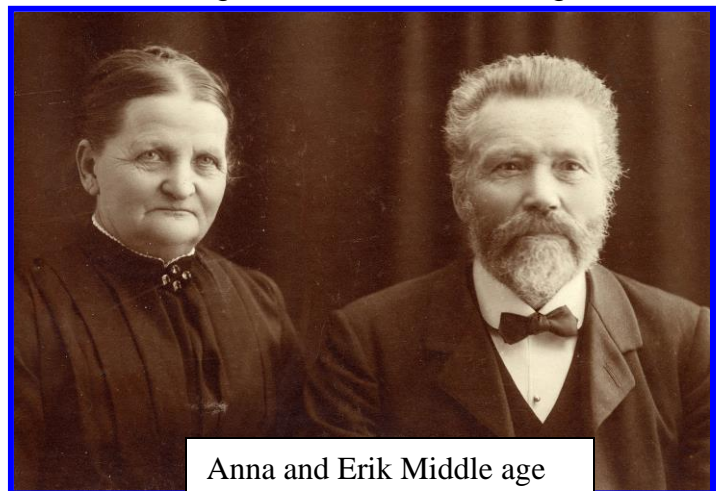
Anna was the oldest of nine children. Anna and her sister Gustava\* were both schoolteachers. Gustava and Anna taught in the village of Angelstad that was several miles from the Nöttja family home. The girls walked home each weekend and returned to the school with food their mother packed for them for the school week. With the exception of Gustava, who became a respected schoolteacher, Anna and all of her siblings ended up living in the United States.



Anna's Wedding Ring

Assuming the records are correct, Anna married the tanner Eric Dahlin on her thirtieth birthday. At that date in 1875 Eric would have been 33 and had two children, ages four and five, from a previous marriage. Erik and his first wife, Emma Charlotta Wilhelmina Rydell were married September 1870 and she died June 28, 1874 in Ljungby. Anna and Eric named their first child Emma who was born in January 1877.

March 1884 had to have been a devastating time for the Dahlin family because during that month three children died of scarlet fever. One can only image the heartache and grief Anna had during that hopeless March, desperately nursing these ailing children, watching three die and attending three burials all within a month. Anna age 3 years, 11 months died March 9 and was buried March 12; Gerda age 1 year and 26 days died March 17 and was buried March 21 and Selma, Anna's stepdaughter age 12 years, 3months died March 29 and was buried April 4, 1884. In addition to the agony of having three children die, Anna had the welfare of three young children to look after; this included, her stepson Gustaf age 13 and her own two children Emma seven and Werner six. It is not known if the three surviving children contacted the disease but, at best, it must have been a constant worry for Anna. Prayers of plea



Anna and Erik Middle age



for family intervention must have been common during those long Scandinavian nights since evidence exists that Anna and Erik were deeply religious.

*\*See Page 101-103 about Gustava*

*Note: Three Scarlet fever epidemics occurred in Sweden during the late nineteenth century, one was during this period. Recent studies suggest that food shortages and malnutrition as a leading contributor for these epidemics. However, no firm evidence is available to link the Dahlin family to this cause. What is known however, is that Småland because of its harsh and rocky soil has been identified as likely the poorest place in Sweden for agriculture. Two stories underscore this observation. One is an old Swedish myth that states when the Lord was busy making the beautiful places in Sweden the devil sneaked in and transformed the area into a desolate place crowded with stones and woods. By the time the Lord caught up it was too late to change. The second is that when someone born in Småland is put on barren land with only an axe he would manage to have a garden within a week.*

*It is also worth noting that during the nineteenth century, because of the poor conditions Småland was if not the major, a major source for Swedish immigrants to the U.S. Independent of the potential impact of food shortages, the Dahlin family did have an apparent advantage over much of the local population. Erik either operated or owned a small tannery and the house they lived in Nöttja, still in use, as apparent from a 2006 photo, is a lovely little bungalow.*

A son Gunnar was born the next year in July 1885; the arrival of a newborn might have helped stifle the grief of the previous year's deaths, but it could have simply added more burdens to the family. Another son, Carl was born in September of 1887 when Anna, then 42, would have been quite an old age for childbearing. *Photo is of Anna's uncle Johannes Svenson's home in Nöttja taken about 1892 having a formal coffee outing. Anna is sitting; Carl is little boy on right.*



Church records from the old Nöttja church indicated that the family came from the parish of Ljungby in November of 1876 and moved back to Ljungby in October 1891. All of Anna's six children were born in Nöttja including their last child Karl [Carl] born September 27, 1887. Eric's two children from his first wife were born in Ljungby.

The year 1890 must have been a mixed year for the Dahlin's because Eric bought the Ljungby tannery; but his oldest son Gustaf, then nineteen, died in February of that year from consumption. . Since Carl would have been two years old when his stepbrother Gustaf died it can be understood why he only acknowledged his three older siblings Emma, Werner and Gunnar.

A cousin Inga Lisa Eriksson grew up in Ljungby and knew the Dahlin family well. Her grandmother Gustava was Anna's sister; She described Anna as a very sweet and lovely lady with a beautiful singing voice. Inga Lisa recalled family and friends getting together on Christmas for singing that was accompanied by accordion and a flute. (Not sure if Anna played one of these instruments.)



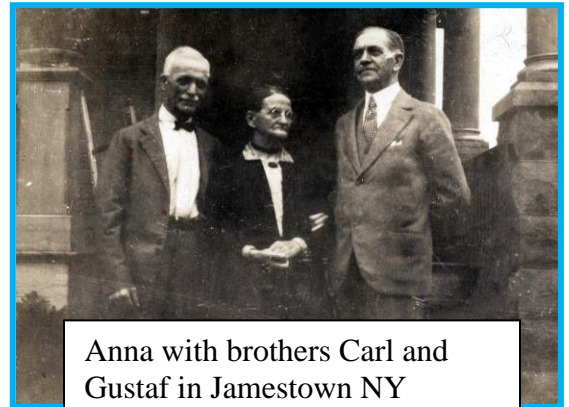
Anna's surviving children



In later years Anna and Erik lived in the old Dahlin house that now was Werner's home. Erik, then age 82, died December 28, 1923 from arteriosclerosis and Anna continued to live alone in the Ljungby apartment. Reportedly, she was very lonely and apparently, at a later date, agreed to move to Jamestown New York and live with her only surviving daughter Emma [Dahlin] Gunnerson. Her loneliness after Erik's death can easily be understood. Although her oldest son Werner lived in Ljungby, Gunnar was in Stockholm and both Anna and her youngest child Carl were in the United States. Carl may not have seen his mother since 1908 when he was drafted into the Swedish Navy followed by his 1910 immigration to the US. Carl was in France as an American soldier during 1918 and early 1919. Why he did not visit his parents during that period is an enigma.

Preparing for her trip to the United States Anna stayed with her son Gunnar for a month in Stockholm. Gunnar's daughter Ingrid, then about nine, described her grandmother as a small, dainty and kind lady. She also recalled her grandmother knitted her a pair of long woolen gray stockings that she wore in the winter. The stockings were very warm but itched terribly.

The local Stockholm newspaper reported that Anna celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday [She was born 8/8/1845] on the boat to the United States. So she must have arrived in Jamestown NY to live with her daughter Emma during August 1925. Anna moved with the Gunnerson's to North Dakota about 1928 and again with them to Richmond, Indiana about 1931. Emma died age 56 on Feb 12, 1933 in Richmond but was buried in Jamestown, NY. Her youngest brother, Carl Dahlin attended the funeral. *Gunnar's wife Edith told their daughter Ingrid that from correspondence with Anna Kristina, Anna seemed to have trouble in the US. It is not known from what dates these comments came.*



Anna with brothers Carl and Gustaf in Jamestown NY

Shortly after Emma's death, Emma's husband David Gunnarson shipped Anna, approaching 88, to her son Carl's house in Syracuse New York. This was a real hardship for the Culbert St. Dahlin's because this was at the peak of the Great Depression and Anna arrived with no money. However, she did bring some limited keepsakes; two that still exist. This included her gold wedding ring and a sterling silver coffee set that may have been a wedding gift. [See note below on *Swedish coffee*]

Inga Lisa Ericksson underscored Carl's brother Gunnar's repeated anger toward Emma's husband David Gunnarson. Gunnar felt he took all of Anna's money and left her destitute even though he was financially comfortable

During Anna's stay, Carl, like many American's during the Depression, lost his normal decent paying job. In his case he was as a skilled metalworker. Instead, he had to accept his only option, a few hours a week of federally subsidized pay during the construction of a local school. This consisted of hauling dirt and cement by wheelbarrow. His bosses were immigrant Italian bricklayers who barely spoke English. This had to be a humiliating experience for this proud Swede. To further underscore this pride, Gordon said Mom Dahlin would obtain welfare bread without Carl knowing and



conceal it using standard bread rappers. This is only one example Mom Dahlin used to help with limited finances because she knew Carl was too proud to accept welfare handouts.

Lack of money was not the only handicap with Anna's arrival. Anna could not speak English and nobody at their home but Carl could speak Swedish. All of Carl and Grace Dahlin's children recall Mom Dahlin indicating how difficult it was because only Carl could communicate with Anna. Further, Anna was very anxious to see Carl when he came home after work so she could talk with someone. More importantly, Mom Dahlin often chastised Carl for not teaching the Children Swedish. They all learned a few Swedish words on their own but Carl was adamant. He wanted the children to be fully American and not tainted by a foreign language. *It is curious to note that Carl did not become a naturalized American citizen until February 24, 1933 which would have been about the time Anna arrived on Culbert St. Why he waited until that date, particularly because he served in the American army during WWI is unclear.*

Anna spent about the last three years of her life at the Swedish Old Peoples Home in Frewsburg NY that is close to Jamestown NY. Grace Dahlin and her son Gordon both indicated that Anna was happy in the Swedish home because there were other Swedes there that she could talk to. However, Gordon did not remember any of the family members besides his father visiting Anna during that period. Jamestown would have been a full day's trip at the time and Dad Dahlin did not drive.

Anna, at age 92, died November 20, 1937. [ Carl's youngest son Roger, was born December 2, 1937]. Anna's obituary mentions Carl Dahlin as a bearer at her funeral. The obituary also identified that two brothers, Verner and Gunnar of Sweden, a brother Carl Anderson of Jamestown and a sister Augusta Berquist of Seattle, survived her.

She is buried in Frewsburg New York's Maple Grove Cemetery. Maple Grove is a small, well kept, cemetery about five miles from Jamestown. Her grave [Sect3 Lot 327] is among a bunch of Swedes from the Old Peoples Lutheran home [Cemetery records list it as Middle East Conference]. Like most of the graves in this particular area, Anna did not have a headstone. However, after more than seventy years a little marker was placed on her grave. Her maiden name was particularly inscribed with two "s", consistent with the old Swedish usage – Andersson. *See Page 121 for obituary and death record*

Culbert St. Backyard





## Grandchildren Memories

Comments from Vivian and Gordon about their grandmother Anna, when she moved with them on Culbert Street. Vivian was then age six and Gordon then age 9-10.

**Vivian**, “The house on Culbert St. had only two small bedrooms. The boys had a make- shift bedroom in the attic and had to pass through my bedroom to get into the attic. Anna and I shared a bed in this bedroom. Anna was a very loving person who often hugged me and referred to me as her “Svenska Flicka” that means Swedish girl. Mom had a Swedish translation book that she tried to help us learn some Swedish words but of course I could not talk to Anna. Thinking back all those years, I realize how heartbreaking it must have been for Anna, so close to me but not to be able to talk with her granddaughter.---- I still recall and am amazed that Anna’s hair was still naturally brown and lacked gray particularly for her advanced age.”

**Gordon**, “I remember letters arriving from Sweden and Anna writing, so I assumed she maintained contact with her family in Sweden. --- Some Swedish friends of Carl’s occasionally came in to visit her and took her to church different times. --- She spent most of her time reading the Bible and knitting. --- On some occasions Anna and Carl sang together in Swedish but I do not remember her playing the piano---I do not recall her doing any cooking but Mom learned to make Swedish meatballs and I would guess that came from her. ---My grandmother would often gently put her arms on me and try to talk to me but of course I could not understand her. Mom would often, on such occasions, remind Dad to teach us kids Swedish so we could understand her. However, with the exceptions of a few words he never did. --- At one point Anna had continuous watering or running of her eyes and I no longer saw her reading or knitting. From my observations and that of my parents I had the opinion that Anna was near total blindness. I understood that this was one of the reason’s my parents, with some outside help, arranged for her to go to a Swedish old people’s home near Jamestown New York. ---I thought she stayed with us for about two years.”

Gordon also recalled that shortly after Anna moved in, a piano arrived in a big shipping box. Gordon and his older brother Dick used that box for a long time as a play fort. He understood that the piano was sent to the family from the Gunnarson’s. Vivian learned to play that piano. Also, about that time an old Anderson model car somehow showed up and Gordon assumed this was from the Gunnarson’s. Gordon recalled that Carl and some of his Swedish friends painted the car and the paint did not dry. Carl did not drive but his buddies, probably under a little too much Dahlin home brew, took Carl and the car for a spin. They returned several hours later after overturning in a cow pasture with the car completely covered with grass.

### Sweden is a coffee-drinking country

***Gunnar’s grandson, Bengt Blixt provided the following commentary:*** In former times you roasted your own coffee beans and ground it, later you bought roasted coffee beans and only ground it. Then to a kettle of water, you added a coffee-spoon of ground coffee for each cup and “one for the kettle” and brought the kettle to boil for some minutes and the let it stand for some minutes to let the coffee grains settle.

*Then you served it taking care to avoid that the grounds (which you don’t want to have) ended up in the cup. Usually, you served the coffee directly from the kettle, but on special occasions when you had a party or prominent guest you served it from a ceramic or silver container. At this time you were a very poor hostess if you did not have seven different kinds of biscuits and cakes.*

*By the way the Swedish coffee is in general much stronger than what you get in the US.*

Anna’s Silver Coffee Set





## Nöttja - Swedish village where Anna and Son Carl Dahlin were born



1948 Post Card

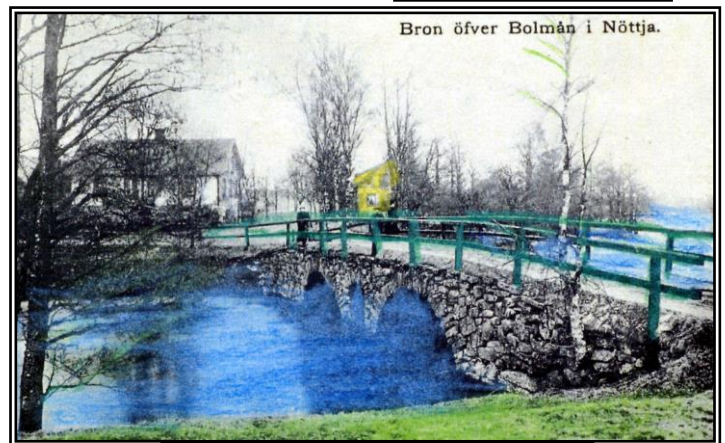
Old Nöttja church built in 12<sup>th</sup> century.  
Bell tower built at much later date.  
Carl's parents married here, Carl and  
siblings baptized here. Three Dahlin  
Children buried here in 1884



Pulpit  
Dates from  
1754



Present altarpiece dates from 1754



Nöttja Bridge 1900 Post Card



House where Carl was born in 1887.  
Dahlin family lived there 1875 to 1891  
Photo taken in 2006



Nöttja Bridge 2007



## Emma [ Dahlin] Gunnarson and Swedetown USA

Emma Jenny Dahlin was born in the little Småland village of Nöttja in 1877. Like her three younger brothers she was baptized in the old Nöttja church where her parents were married. Emma's mother's maiden name was Anderson that was a long-established family name in the village. Her family moved to Ljungby in 1891 and while a teenager she emigrated to "Swedetown" USA where she later met and married a young Swede, from Stockholm, David Gunnarson. Emma became a US citizen and returned to her homeland on at least one confirmed visit. *Photo is of Emma in her wedding dress.*



### Swedetown USA

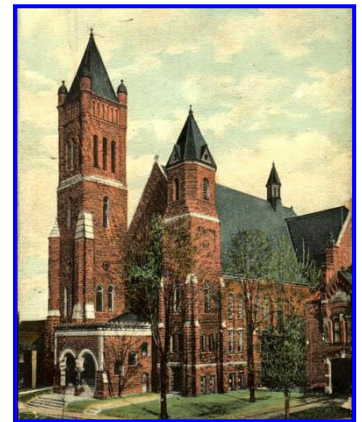
Emma arrived at New York's Ellis Island October 27, 1896. The ship [Berlin] manifest record indicated she was 19, listed as a domestic, and was assigned Room B main deck forward. The record also indicated that she had one piece of luggage and was headed to her Uncle Gustaf Anderson's home in Jamestown New York. Gustaf Anderson was the younger brother of her mother Anna [Anderson] Dahlin.\*

Jamestown is a city located in the southwest corner of New York State. Its earliest principal settlers were Swedes and by the 1920's Jamestown was regarded as the most Swedish city in the USA. This claim that earned the title "Swedetown" was based on the fact that nearly half the population had a Swedish background. Jamestown's mayor in 1927, Samuel Carlson\*\*, had a Swedish heritage as well as had seven of his predecessors. At one point there were no less than forty furniture factories headed by Swedish Americans<sup>1</sup>. The city was once called "The Furniture Capital of the World"<sup>2</sup>

Emma initially boarded with her Uncle Gustaf and his wife Marie who lived at 17 Center St. In 1903 she returned to Sweden and brought back her younger brother Gunnar. The 1903-1904 Jamestown City Directory shows Gunnar as a clerk working at 219 Main St. that was the location of Gustaf Anderson's men's clothing business. The Directory also states that Emma was working as a dressmaker and both she and Gunnar were living at Gustaf's Center St. address.



\*Gustaf Anderson was a prominent merchant in Jamestown NY. He served on the school board for many years and was elected as a city alderman. He also was a member of the Swedish Men's Society, Knights of Pythias, and the Jamestown Choral Society. Further, most interestingly from a Swedish heritage standpoint, he served as a trustee for First Lutheran Church for 27 years and was treasurer when the present edifice was built in 1901. Sermons in the church were conducted in Swedish until 1912, in both Swedish and English until the 30's and became all English in the 40's.



An article published in the September 2003 issue of the Swedish Press not only gives credit to Jamestown for being known as "Swedetown" but it also mentions that the First Lutheran Church is the only Swedish cathedral in North America. Further, the article notes that the church has a different trinity in three beautiful long stained-glass windows. These windows depict Jesus Christ, Martin Luther and Gustav II Adolphus. [1611-1632 Greatest Swedish King and considered one of the greatest statesmen in European history]

***\*\* Gustaf Anderson was asked to run for mayor but declined for health reasons; he recommended Samuel Carlson who became mayor. Also see pages 97 & 98 Images are of the present church located on the site of the original church built in 1866 and the stained-glass window of King Gustaf Adolphus.***

#### Courtship and Marriage

**In about 1902 two Gunnarson brothers, David Teofilus age 19 and Andrew Martin age 25 changed their residency from Stockholm Sweden to Jamestown, NY. Their new living quarters for a couple of years were at 60 Chaplin St. and the city directory showed David working as a carpenter and Martin working as a clerk.**

**During that time period Emma Dahlin was listed a dressmaker and living with her brother Gunnar at their Uncle Gustaf Anderson's home on 17 Center. Sometime during that period Emma must have met David Gunnarson because they were married November 25,1904 in Jamestown's First Lutheran Church. David and Emma had a daughter Elsa who was born July 22,1905. Elsa's birth certificate shows David working as a drug clerk. Elsa Christina was baptized September, 23,1906 at First Lutheran; Mr. & Mrs. Gustaf Anderson, Mrs. Emma Brandin and Martin Gunnarson were sponsors.**

**The 1910 census reveals Emma, David and Elsa, then four, living at 855 East Second St. and that David's brother Martin was living with them as a border. The census also shows David working as a merchant in a men's clothing business with Martin working as a merchant in a hardware business and Emma having no occupation. The 1911-1912 Jamestown City Directory displays David and Emma living at 57 Charles with Emma's youngest brother Carl Dahlin as a border. The Directory also shows David associated with a gentlemen's furnishing business called Gunnarson & Holm located at 112 North Main. Somehow by this period David made the transition from a carpenter to the proprietor of a men's clothing business. How he made that transition is unclear. Perhaps Emma's uncle Gustaf Anderson helped him get exposed to this business and maybe Emma's experience as a dressmaker added to the development of the business.**

#### . Jamestown Gentry

**By 1914 David had parleyed his footing in men's furnishing to team up with another merchant where they operated a Main Street business called the "Toggery Shop" or Gunnarson and Cederquist.**

**David was associated with the Toggery Shop until at least 1926 [The 1928 City Directory suggests he may have had a new partner and business name]**

**David and Emma changed residences during those years but by 1927 they were living in a very nice two-story home at 423 Crossman\*. That residence was still a very nice home and neighborhood in 2010.**

**Emma was active in the Zion Mission Church for many years and organized its Deborah Society, of which she was the first president. She was also identified with musical circles as a singer. Her mother Anna at age 80 immigrated from Sweden and moved in with the Gunnarsons in 1925.**



**. Elsa graduated from Jamestown High School in 1922 and later graduated from college. Elsa is shown in the 1930 Directory as a teacher at the Willard Street School. She later married Milton Bissell who graduated from Jamestown High School in 1924 and later became a respected Jamestown attorney. Milton served as Chairman of the Democratic City Committee for five years, was assistant corporate council and was a past president of the Jamestown Lions club. \* Photo shows David and Elsa with Emma holding their greyhound dog next to Anna.**





## Westward Ho!

Sometime in 1928 or 1929 David, Emma and Emma's mother Anna Dahlin moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. How and why they ended up in South Dakota is unclear but surprisingly David, rather than being in the men's furnishing business, the 1931 city directory identifies him as a Sales Manger at the Sioux Falls Gas Company living at 1004 W 10<sup>th</sup> St. Further, the 1930 census shows David age 47, wife Emma age 50 and mother-in-law Anna Dahlin age 83 all with Swedish backgrounds and that David was employed as a commercial manager at a gas factory.

During late 1931 the family moved to Richmond Indiana. This move was likely based upon David getting a better job opportunity because the city directory shows David as Manager at the Indiana Gas Utilities Company.

*Note: Gas processing plants from heated coal were common in European and USA cities dating back to the early nineteenth century. Initially, the gas was used for lighting and with the availability of electric lights cities began to use gas for heating. When natural gas pipes lines from the southwest were introduced in the late 1940's most American cities abandoned the more expensive gas processing plants.*

## Slow Trip Home

Richmond's Tuesday February 14, 1933 newspaper identified that Mrs. Emma D. Gunnarson, 53 years old, died on Sunday night at her home, 24 South Twenty-First Street. Mrs. Gunnarson, a native of Sweden, had resided in Richmond for about a year and a half. Her obituary indicated that the body would be shipped to Jamestown for services and burial. Her death record indicated cause of death as Encephalitis and other conditions.

Emma's obituary in the Jamestown Evening Journal indicated that she had been ill for about two months and that her daughter Mrs. Milton A. Bissell from Jamestown was with her at the time of her death.

The pastor of the Zion Mission Church officiated at the funeral service and members of the Deborah Society attended. David's older brother Martin Gunnarson was one of the bearers. The paper also mentioned that her husband David Gunnarson and her brother Carl Dahlin from Syracuse were present.

Emma is buried in Section 15 lot 16 of Jamestown's Lakeview Cemetery. Her Uncle Gustaf Anderson, son in law Milton Bissell and brother-in-law Martin Gunnarson are also buried in Lakeview



## Epilogue

- Elsa and her husband Milton Bissell moved from Jamestown to Phoenix Arizona in the late 1940's. The 1949 Jamestown Directory suggests that Milton Bissell owned the West Side Liquor Store but his residence was in Phoenix Arizona. Milton died June 4, 1963 in that city. His obituary said he practiced law in Phoenix since moving there 17 years ago.
- It is unclear how long David Gunnarson remained in Richmond Indiana but his memorial card indicates he died February 8, 1952 in Phoenix Arizona. He is buried in Phoenix's Greenwood Memorial Park.
- David's brother Martin remained in Jamestown and he died February 19, 1955. Both he and his wife Esther are buried in Jamestown's Lakeview Cemetery.

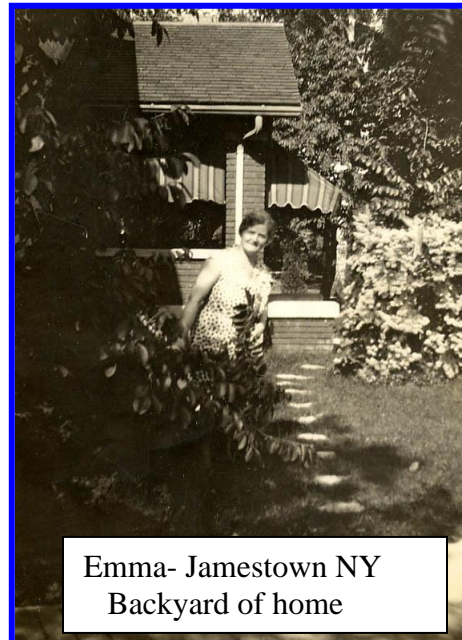
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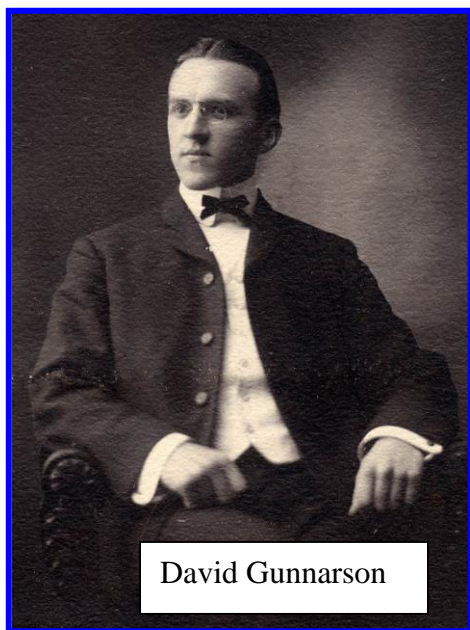
## Emma [Dahlin] Gunnarson Photo Profiles



Emma Dahlin  
Teenager in Sweden



Emma- Jamestown NY  
Backyard of home



David Gunnarson



Jamestown Home 2010



Emma's Uncle Gustaf  
Anderson and wife Marie



ELSIE GUNNERSON

Elsa is our chatter-box,  
Elsa of the golden locks;  
"Lessons are an awful bore,  
I'd really like to talk some more."



MILTON BISSELL

AR

Oh, tell the ladies Milton,  
How you make the girls fall;  
It's not fair you have so many  
And we have none at all.



# Werner Dahlin–Tanner and Ljungby Businessman

**“Your brother Werner is happy and well and is really a swell fellow. He sends you his love and wants you to come soon”** *Note on post card to Mr & Mrs. Carl Dahlin 146 Culbert St, Dated October, 28, 1948 . Card is from a cousin who was visiting Werner in Ljungby, Sweden at the time.*

Carl left Sweden in 1910 for Jamestown New York and never returned. When this card arrived, Carl had not seen his older brother in almost 40 years and he had provided little or no information about his Swedish family.

This little narrative about Werner is an attempt to provide some insight about Werner. It includes some personal accounts from several people who either met Werner or had some close association with him.

Information about these people including a family tree showing relationships of these folks follows

Some historical information, including photographs, about Werner and his family is also provided. Finally, a separate section about the old tannery that Werner inherited from his father and operated for fifty years is provided.

*Werner's father bought the tannery in 1891. Erik's oldest son Gustaf died in 1890 making Werner, the next oldest son, the natural heir to the business. Werner took over the tannery in 1905 and gradually changed the business into the manufacture and sale of Swedish "clogs" [ Wooden shoes with leather tops]Photo is of clogs that Werner gave to Gunnar's grandson Bengt Blix ,when Bengt was about age 8.*



Dahlin Clogs

## Recollections of Jim Huntley



In October 1948, my first wife Pat and I trundled into Ljungby on our bicycles from Gothenburg. It was a rainy night and a lousy graveled road but we made it to Werner's house (I had written ahead) and several relatives were waiting to greet us. The men all had on formal suits (wing collars, like tuxedos] and the ladies looked spiffy. Pat and I looked like two drowned rats, in our yellow sealskin raingear and bare legs. But everyone was jolly; we got warmed up, and had a big smargasbord. I think we stayed a night or two with Werner and then we went over to the home of Inga Lisa's mother and dad, the Blomqvists.

Werner's house at that time had a sizeable lawn with trees and flowers around. I'd say he had about an acre of living space. And I THINK, but am not sure, that the Tannery was only a few steps away, on the next lot.

Werner was a real old character, fat and pudgy and then about 75, I should judge. He still messed around with his tannery, I think, but mainly a few men were doing the work and he just checked in now and then. Your Uncle, the clockmaker Gunnar was also there, and a quiet but very nice old man.

One funny thing that struck me at Werner's house was that he had about 50 little statues of Juletomte, the Swedish Santa Claus dwarf, that were scattered around the living and dining rooms. As tactfully as I could, I asked Werner, "Why have you got all these little fellows here?" He replied, "Oh they make me laugh!"

When Werner asked about his brother Carl, I told him he lived in Syracuse. Werner responded with a big belly laugh. "Carl lives in a Circus!" The Swedish name for circus is "Sircuse".

*The Juletomte statue shown is one of Werner's that is currently owned by his granddaughter Ann-Mari Dahlin.*



Werner and Juletomte

## Recollections of Gustaf and Inga Lisa Erikson

During World War II the Crown Prince of Sweden [Future King] was hunting in the Ljungby area. The Prince's chauffeur stopped in Ljungby to get gas for the limousine. The Prince became enchanted with the tannery because of its antique appearance and its smell. He went into Werner's shop and began to visit. Werner not knowing that he was talking to the Crown Prince, good-naturedly opened a beer and offered his visitor a drink. The Prince and him finished the one beer from the same bottle together. No glass. After the Prince left, the townspeople ran over to Werner and were flabbergasted to find out that he did not know that he was visiting with the Crown Prince.

According to Gustaf the store where Werner sold his clogs had a pool table in it and Werner was a pretty decent pool player. Werner had a journeyman and a couple of apprentices who did all the work.

Inga Lisa and Gustaf indicated that Werner had bought, under speculation, a good amount of leather from outside the area before WWII. Because of the great demand for leather during the war he made a handsome profit. Gustaf indicated he was a good friend of Werner and often played checkers with him. He also said, during the war Werner bought a beautiful mahogany boat in Stockholm that he and Werner often fished in. It was the largest boat on Lake Bolmen at that time.

. Inga Lisa who knew Werner from her childhood, indicated he had a beautiful singing voice and at Christmas time when Christmas carols were sung, tears would come to his eyes. She also said he was a jolly individual that loved children.

The Eriksons also indicated that at one point Werner planned to expand his business, Werner went to Germany to learn how to make beer; however, this did not pay off

Gustaf indicated that Werner was probably over six foot and when he was young, very strong. He said he was built like an oak tree. He told the story that during the war he and Werner were out riding bicycles. They came to a steep hill and Werner was going very fast down a steep hill and crashed. Gustaf was sure he was killed but Werner merely shook himself off and acted like nothing had happened.

## Ragnar Bengtsson - Ljungby Historian Translated from a 2007 letter.

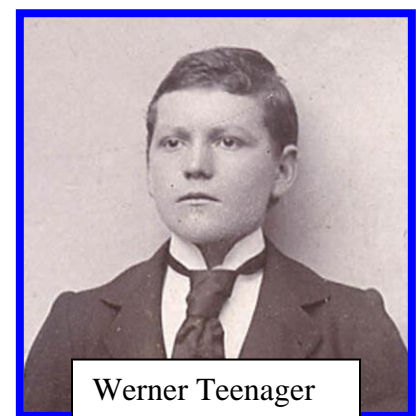
I remember very well Dahlin's tannery in Ljungby from my youth and it is still well preserved on Ljungby's Old Market Place as a museum. I am now 78 years old and have been an active spare time hunter and fisherman for my whole life. I still remember the first badger I shot as a very young hunter. I brought the hide for tanning to Dahlin's tannery in Ljungby and used it as a desk carpet for many years. It was really good quality and a testimony of the work that the Dahlins made.

## Werner's Youth

Werner Georg Dahlin was born 27<sup>th</sup> April 1878 in the Parish of Nöttja. Little is known about his youth. However, it can be easily assumed that he took an active role in the tannery after his stepbrother Gustaf died in 1890. It can also be assumed that he attended primary school in Ljungby and served sometime in the Swedish military that was mandated by all young males at the time

One story from Werner's youth that came from Werner's niece Ingrid Dahlin Blixt is worth repeating. Both Werner and his younger brother were strong men over six feet tall and were not to be trifled with. Gunnar's obituary mentioned that he was well known long distant runner when he was young. Gunnar told his daughter Ingrid the following story:

"If people were causing trouble or there was fighting at restaurants, bars, dancing places or in the a Ljungby market, the police called in the 'Dahlin Boys' [Werner and Gunnar] to help calm the people down."



Werner Teenager



## Werner's Family

Werner's married Hulda Sofia Lorentz born 2nd of February 1868 in the parish of Madesjö. According to the household examination records for the parish of Ljungby for the years 1913-1927 they were living at the address Tomt 14 D . This may have been the address of the old Dahlin home and tannery

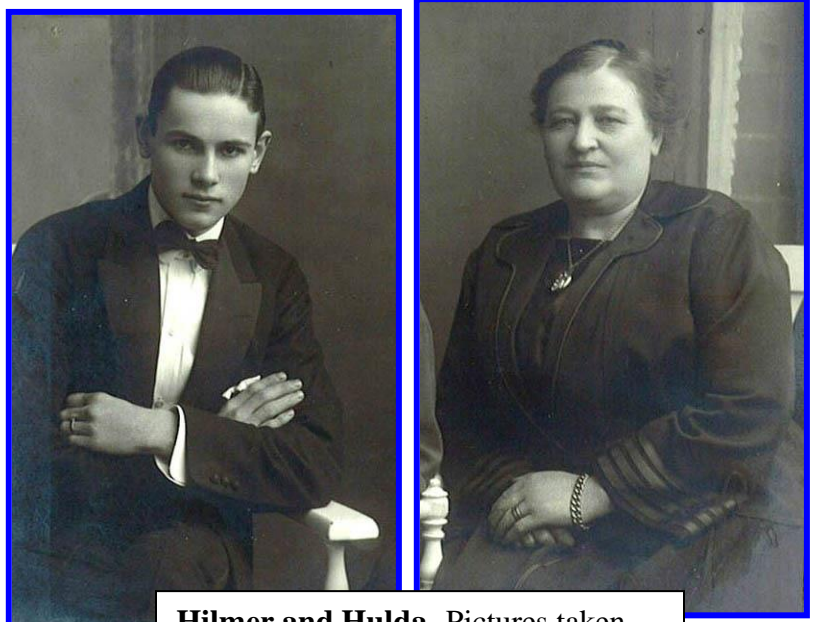
Before she was married, Hulda owned and operated a small merry-go-round that she took to various towns in the area. It was not operated by electricity; instead, movement was by man- power. It had a centered cylinder probably made of fabric and was supported by a steel frame. Ingrid Dahlin Blixt remembered that a nicely painted targest [Sign?] that was part of Hulda's amusement park was located in the tannery loft.

*Werner and Hulda had a favorite pet, a St. Bernard. When the dog died Werner tanned the dog's hide and kept it on the floor of his living area.*

Werner and Hulda had a reportedly adopted son Hilmer that was born December 26, 1905. According to Werner's granddaughter, Ann-Marie Dahlin, Hilmer came from a children's home in Stockholm when he was about a year old. Ann Marie felt that Hilmer knew who his mother was but not his father. In any event

Hilmer was very fond of Hulda and thought of her as his mother. It remains unclear if Hilmer was formally adopted but in any event, he maintained the Dahlin family name that was passed to his two children, Anders and Ann-Marie and his grandchildren.

Hilmer and his wife Ingrid are buried in Växjö\*\*



**Hilmer and Hulda** -Pictures taken together at an unknown date.

## Werner Final years

Hulda died in 1942.\*\* Werner married his housekeeper Agnes Margrethe Jørgensen on April 22, 1945. She was born December 3, 1900 in Höland Norway. At one point Werner and Hulda were living at block Långgraden 4, Olofsgatan 4.

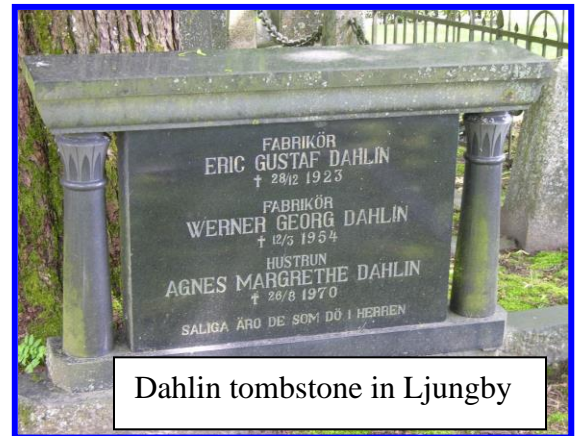
Jim Huntley when visiting Werner in 1948 described Agnes as follows: " The chubby little Norwegian (probably in her late 40s) was as cute as a button, kept a clean house, cooked very well, and seemed jolly."

Werner died in his bed December 3, 1954. Family members understood that in his Will Werner left the Dahlin home and tannery to Ljungby. The old house was destroyed but the tannery was moved and rebuilt and is now part of the Ljungby old Market Place museum complex.

Agnes died in died in 1970. She is buried in the Ljungby cemetery next to Werner and Werner's father Eric.

The four Carl Dahlin children received a small amount of money from Agnes Dahlin's estate and pooled it together for a one time "inheritance party" at a brother's home.

*Note: A November 21, 1961 article from the Swedish Newspaper [Sunnanbonytt] by a local Ljungby historian was entitled " What will the future look like for the old tannery of Ljungby?" In this article the historian, Valdemar Ståhlfors, indicated that the widow of Werner Dahlin currently owns the building and that she is considering giving it to the town of Ljungby. Ståhlfors lamented that it would be a sacrilege to destroy the old tannery but what will happen to it is written in the stars. About 1965 the tannery was carefully dismantled and stored; so one can assume that Agnes, then still alive, donated the tannery to Ljungby.*



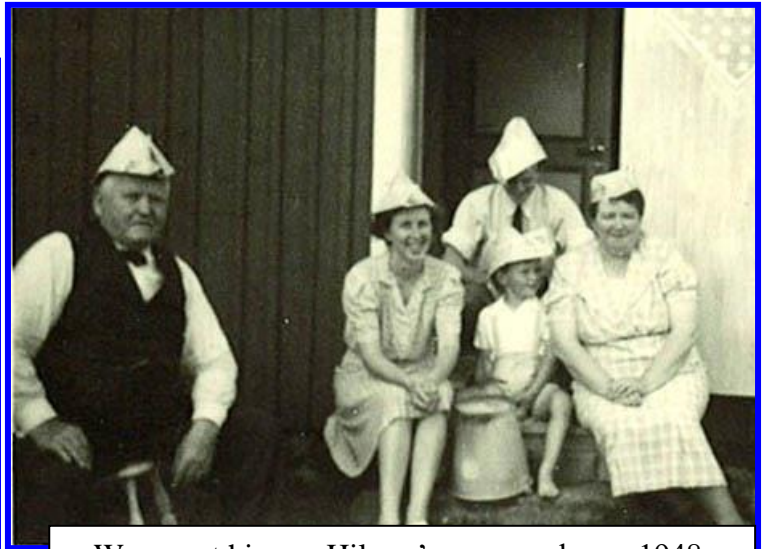
**Dahlin tombstone in Ljungby**



## Werner Georg Dahlin Photo Profiles



Werner & First Wife Hulda



Werner at his son Hilmer's summer home 1948  
LtoR : Werner, Ingrid, Hilmer, Anders & Agnes



Werner in his boat on Lake Bolmen

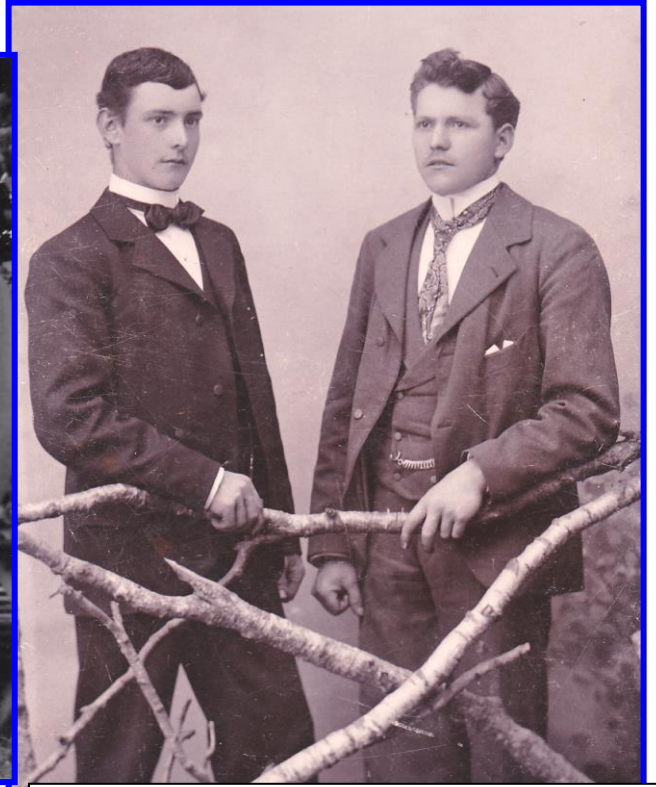




## Werner Georg Dahlin Photo Profiles II



Gunnar, Agnes [Werner's second wife] and Werner in front of old Dahlin Home



Gunnar & Werner Young Ljungby Gentlemen



Hulda, Werner , Anna and Erik in Werner's Ljungby home [Note Juletömte on top of what appears to be a piano] Probably about 1923





Werner's Store as shown at left was the old Dahlin home in Ljungby. Werner and his wife lived on the second floor [1948 Photo]. The old leather factory [tannery] was in the back where they made clogs with leather tops and wooded soles

The photo below was taken about 1900 in front of the Dahlin home. It includes Carl Dahlin ,his two brothers and his parents. Carl's sister Emma Dahlin is not shown because she would have been in Jamestown, NY at the time. The other people in the photos were relatives of Carl's mother Anna [Anderson] Dahlin



**Key:** 1 Carl Dahlin, 2 Anders Ebba's brother, 3 Gunner Dahlin? [Carl's brother], 4&5 Ebba and Ernst Blomkvist, 6 Gustava [Carl's Aunt -Anna's Sister], 7&8 Anna and Franz Vieden , 9 Margit Vieden, 10 Greta Anderson [ Anna and Gustava's mother], 11 Carl Anderson [ Anna's brother], 12 Anna Dahlin [Carl's mother], 13 Carl Anderson's wife, 14 Eric Dahlin [Carl's father] 15 Werner Dahlin [Carl's oldest brother] Note: Ebba Blomkvist [4], Anna Vieden[7] and Anders[2] are Gustava's children. Note: Identification per Inga Lisa [Blomkvist] Erikson whose grandmother, Gustava, was Anna's younger sister . Inga Lisa grew up in Ljungby and knew Carl's family.

11 is Gustaf Anderson 13 his wife Mary



## Gunnar Dahlin –Clock Restoration Magician



**Gunnar Dahlin** – The handsome young mustached man in the attached photo is Anders Gunnar Wilhelm Dahlin.

Gunnar began his life's journey on July 17, 1885 in the little Småland town of Nöttja. This journey from the woods and waterways of his youth, that he dearly loved, carried him to an urban city in the United States and later to Stockholm.

During his middle age he was fortunate enough to parley a hobby into an established business that allowed him to move back to Småland and rekindle his love of nature along with a daily opportunity to hunt or fish.

This business was the restoration of old clocks and in particular clock faces. Two extensive newspaper articles about Gunnar business were published in Småland newspapers in the 1950's and later in 1962. Within these articles it

indicated that Gunnar was a "clock restoration magician" and that he was recognized throughout Scandinavia for these special skills.

Evidence for these unique skills fortunately have been preserved. His special tools and some of his work are currently on display in the Ljungby Old Market museum complex. Of particular interest, his display is on the second floor of the old restored tannery that his father Erik Dahlin purchased in 1891 and his older brother Werner owned and operated for fifty years.

This little vignette is an attempt to provide some insight in the life of Gunnar Dahlin. It includes recollections from people who knew him, translations from Swedish newspaper articles including his obituary along with USA and Swedish archival records. Photos from his life including those of his children are also provided.

**Childhood Years** Information regarding Gunnar's early years is limited but review of church records, input from people who knew the Dahlin family and newspaper articles provide speculation.

Gunnar's mother born Anna Andersson was a Nöttja native whose family lived in the area for many generations. She married the tanner Eric Gustaf Dahlin in the Old Nöttja church in 1885. Eric, a widower from Ljungby, had four children from his previous marriage. Eric owned or worked in the Nöttja tannery.

Gunnar was born in 1885. The previous year the Dahlin's lost three children to Scarlet Fever. That left Gunnar as an infant, with a 15-year-old step brother Gustaf, a sister Emma age eight and a brother Werner age seven. A brother Carl was born two years later in 1877. So, one can assume since Gunnar and Carl were only two years apart, they played together as children.

In 1890 Gunnar's stepbrother Gustaf died and the following year the family moved to Ljungby.

One can also assume that Gunnar sang in the church choir. His mother Anna and brother Werner were identified as being good singers. His sister Emma who immigrated to Jamestown New York in 1896 was recognized in that community for her beautiful singing voice. As an adult Gunnar was known to have a rich baritone voice; his obituary stated that he was a devoted singer and that he participated in men's choirs in Uppsala, Stockholm and later in Ljungby.

Gunnar likely showed early artistic talents; which is supported by the special skills shown in his clock restoration business. In addition, his daughter, Inga, said that when he was in his sixties he built his own violin that he enjoyed playing.



Further, it is easy speculation that as a youth Gunnar spent many hours fishing and hunting. As an adult he was known as a lover of nature. Hunting was one of his big interests and he was recognized as one the founders of the Ljungby shooting association. One can easily see him as a youngster bringing home some small furry hunting trophy to his father's tannery for hide preservation

His obituary also indicated he completed secondary school that was beyond the compulsory elementary school provided to all Swedes at the time. Gunnar was reported to be an outstanding athlete and a good long-distance runner.

What he did after completing secondary school is unclear. Perhaps he worked at his father's tannery or at some local Ljungby business. In any event, at age seventeen with assumed new and better opportunities he decided to emigrate to the USA.

**USA Adventures** Gunnar, at age 17, traveled to the USA with his sister Emma who was then 26. Ellis Island passenger records and related ship manifest records provides insight on Gunnar and Emma's travel and destination. Gunnar and Emma left Liverpool England January 24,1903 aboard the British ship Saxonia. They arrived in New York's Ellis Island immigration center February 4,1903. The Saxonia, built in 1900 held 1960 passengers; it was owned by the same company [Cunard Line] that later launched the Titanic. The passenger record indicated that both Gunnar and Emma started their journey from Helsingborg Sweden.

Helsingborg is a port city on the western coast of southern Sweden that is not too far from Ljungby. Helsingborg claims the title as Sweden's "Gateway to the Continent". It is separated by the Baltic Sea at the closest point to Denmark. In 2005 Helsingborg ran 125 daily ferry crossings. It is likely the two Dahlin's continued onto Copenhagen picking up a seagoing vessel to Liverpool England. . *Note: Gunnar's younger brother Carl Dahlin's US citizenship papers show him as a resident of Ljungby Sweden and that he immigrating to the US from Copenhagen Denmark.*



*The Saxonia's manifest showed Gunnar as a laborer and Emma as a domestic with their destination as Jamestown New York. More specifically, they were going to join their Uncle Gustaf Anderson whose address was 17 Center St. in Jamestown. Gustaf was Anna Anderson Dahlin's youngest brother and a partner of a successful clothing store in Jamestown. The 1903 –1904 Jamestown City directory shows Gunnar as a clerk working at 219 Main St. that was the location of Gustaf Anderson's men's clothing business. The Directory also shows Emma working as a dressmaker and both she and Gunnar living at Gustaf's Center St. address.*

Gunnar returned to Sweden at an unknown date and later returned to Jamestown. According to Gunnar's grandson Bengt Blixt, Gunnar returned to Ljungby where he met and married a local girl Edith Salmonsson. Their first child, Karl Gunnar, was born May 9,1911. In 1912 Edith, then pregnant, moved with her young son Karl Gunnar, back to Jamestown. Gunnar followed at later date. Sadly, according to Jamestown's Lake View Cemetery record "An infant daughter of Gunnar and Edith Dahlin died January 14,1913. She is buried in Mound #2, Row 11, Grave #82" The cemetery records also indicate the child only lived 30 minutes and died because of complications during birth. The attending physician was W. Nelson and undertakers, Henderson & Lincoln who are no longer in business, made the funeral arrangements. Gunnar and Edith lived at 187 Barret at the time. The cemetery attendant reviewing the old record speculated the infant was buried the same day.

Gunnar's younger brother Carl immigrated to Jamestown in 1910 and remained there until 1921.

Consequently, if there was any funeral for Gunnar's infant daughter Carl and Uncle Gustaf Anderson would have been there. In any event, during the time Gunnar and Edith were in Jamestown they must have had some family gatherings with Carl and Uncle Gustaf. It can be assumed that because Gunnar was in Jamestown for more than a couple of years and worked in a retail business, he spoke English.

<b>Men's All Wool Suits, \$5 to \$20, Proudfit's</b>	
ANDERSON	ANDERSON
148	JAMESTOWN DIRECTORY.
Anderson, Gustaf, (Mary G.)—Anderson & Ohlquist, 219 Main—h. 17 Center.	
Gustaf Anderson.	John Ohlquist.
<b>ANDERSON &amp; OHLQUIST.</b>	
<b>Fashionable Tailors, High Grade Clothiers.</b>	
<b>MEN'S STYLISH FURNISHINGS.</b>	
<b>219 Main Street.</b>	



**Back to Homeland Roots** Gunnar, Edith and their young son Karl Gunnar moved back to Ljungby, Sweden probably about 1915. This date is a guess but is supported by the 1913-1914 Jamestown Directory that shows a Gunnar Dahlin living at 223 Broadhead. No other information is given in this entry; further his name does not show up in later Jamestown Directories. More convincing is that Gunnar and Edith had to be back in Ljungby in 1916 because their daughter Ingrid was born there on February 7, 1916. The reason for Gunnar's return to Sweden is unclear. Certainly, the loss of an infant daughter would have an impact. Perhaps the job opportunity was limited or perhaps he and Edith just wanted to return to their family roots. It can be assumed that after moving back Ljungby he worked there in some capacity.



Gunnar, wife Edith & son  
Karl-Gunnar - Ljungby 1911

**Stockholm** During 1916-1917 Gunnar, Edith and their two children moved to Stockholm. However, they still maintained family ties to Ljungby. Sometime between 1921 and 1923 the family returned to Ljungby to visit Gunnar's parents [Erik died Dec 28 1923]. Gunnar's daughter Ingrid then somewhere between 5 and 7 remembered standing trembling before the imposing figure of her tall grandfather and saying: "Good day, my name is Ingrid Karilina Elisabet Dahlin." This was her only conversation.

*Initially, Gunnar worked in a men's clothing store. However, at some point Gunnar and his wife Edith opened a retail shop in Stockholm where they sold porcelain and kitchen related items. According to Gunnar's grandson, Bengt Blixt, the business did not do very well and they eventually dropped this business. Bengt was left with the impression that Gunnar was not much of a businessman.*

On the other hand, while in Stockholm, as a favor to a friend who was a clockmaker, he repaired the damaged clock-face of his friend's clock. He succeeded better than expected and began renovating more clock faces for his clockmaker friend and started thinking seriously about pursuing this distinctive handicraft as a business that he could operate by himself. As his skills grew, he began going around to clockmaker shops in Stockholm getting orders for renovation of clock faces and eventually opened his own business.

During WW2 it became completely impossible to get the special marten-hair brushes that were used to paint figures and fine points. Gunnar started to search for a substitute to make his own brushes and the first victim was his wife's nice fox fur boa from which he carefully pinched some hair here and there.

Edith soon discovered the problem with her boa. Gunnar trying to defend himself responded with: "It is the moths that have been there". Her quick response was: "Then it is probably a moth with its own scissors". Unfortunately, the fox hair was not an adequate solution because it did not have the necessary elasticity. Consequently, Gunnar began his search for alternatives. After extensive searches he eventually found acceptable hair type in a cow ear and wild mink! Even then, the choice of brushes is so important that with the hundreds of brushes there are only a few that were acceptable.



Edith ,Ingrid, Gunnar & Karl  
Gunnar –Stockholm 1920

**Clock Restoration Magician.** Expensive and antique clocks are subject to wear from weather and use and restoration can significantly increase value and application. Taking advantage of the demand to restore them Gunnar not only developed brushes, but special tools, and materials. He became so skilled in this task that his reputation spread not only in Sweden but also to all the Nordic countries. Clock faces of all kinds were restored to their original brilliance through his handiwork. This included small watches with the size of a "10-öring" [an

old Swedish coin with a diameter of 15m [0.43 in] to bank, railroad station or church clocks with faces up to 110 cm [43 in.] Gunnar could classify old clocks and restore clock faces to their original composition because of his vast knowledge in the history of old clocks.

A newspaper article underscored his unique skill by indicating he could paint a clock face on the head of a pin. These clocks may have cracked mother-of-pearl or metal faces where he developed special materials to hide the repair. In addition to clock faces, Gunnar also repaired laboratory instruments. He also did some repair of clock mechanisms but this was not his specialty. The newspaper author also suggested that Gunnar was some kind of a magician with the materials he developed in his restoration efforts and quizzed him about these materials. Gunnar, in response to the question merely smiled. In other words he wasn't going to tell him.

**Målaskog** Newspaper articles and comments from family members clearly underscored Gunnar as a lover of nature. Consequently, after living in the crowded urban setting of Stockholm for many years Gunnar and Edith later moved to the small village of Målaskog. Målaskog, that is not far from Ljungby, is located in Kronoberg County that is part of the Småland Province. The village at the time was surrounded by evergreen forests and close to good fishing; so this was an ideal place for Gunnar to purchase a home that had room for his clock restoration business.



**Målaskog**

According to Gunnar's grandson's Bengt and Lars Erik Blixt [Gunnar's daughter Ingrid married Curt Blixt] Gunnar and Edith loved their grandchildren. Bengt stated that his brother Lars-Erik along with their cousins Hans and Åke stayed several months during summer holidays in their house in Målaskog when they were 8 – 15 years old.

"They really supported us and made our stay with them as the most positive memories from our childhood."

Bengt further wrote, "He {Gunnar} was really a "nature man" and when he and his wife moved back to Småland, Målaskog, (around 1948/49) he was lucky. He could now go out in the woods with his dog and gun, get a hare or a fish from the lake and enjoy the life in this nature setting.

In contrast, my grandmother, Edith, didn't like this move back into as what she called *the dark woods*. She missed her sister, brother and son (Karl-Gunnar) and daughter (Inga) and their families that still lived in the Stockholm area."

Bengt's younger brother Lars-Erik added the following "I have spent several happy summer holidays in Målaskog with my brother and cousins where my grandfather taught us to carve bows and make arrows with iron nails in the front. The bowstrings were made of tendons that he got from the butchers store. He also showed us how to make spears and once I threw that sharpened spear at my cousin and suddenly there was a small bloodshed from the hip. Boys!!!!"



**Målaskog about 1950**

Lto R Edith, Ernst & Ebba Blomqvist & Gunnar  
*Ebba's mother and Gunnar's mother were sisters*

**Ljungby- Last Stop** After Gunnar's wife died he moved back to Ljungby. A long article about Gunnar was published in the Småland newspaper 'Smålandsposten' in 1962 or 1963. The article had a large picture of Gunnar sitting at his workbench but the picture quality was too poor to copy. This article translated from Swedish included information previously shown. Consequently, this transcription has been trimmed to present new information



## **Headline: “78-åring skapar karaktär åt tidmätarens ansikten”**

**Translation : ”78-years man makes characteristics to the faces of time measurement devices”**

*Photo text:* Gunnar Dahlin in his basement studio

In a little basement room in Ljungby village (*should be town as Ljungby became a town in 1936*) 78 year- old Gunnar Dahlin sits among brushes, oils and paints working with a special art. He is the only specialist of this art in the country, namely to renovate antique clock faces of all kinds. With a safe hand he “brings out” the original face of old clock faces, some with an origin from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. He is well known for his skill and he gets orders from all parts of our country. Most of his work concerns clock faces from old clocks standing on the floor [ Probably what is referred to in the USA as Grandfather Clocks] – These types of clocks have through the years grown in popularity and have become very valuable.

In many cases these clocks are very old and exhibit clock faces that are severely deteriorated to a point where they are barely readable. In some cases the faces are covered with paint or they have been repainted by a poorly skilled person.

To get down to the original clock face is a very time-consuming process. It is very important to slowly scrape the surface down to the originally painted surface, which often has a signature or a name of the manufacturer.

Gunnar Dahlin was born “sunnerboit” (=person from Sunnerbo, a county outside Ljungby), He was the son of a tanner from Nöttja, His father also operated the old tannery that is still left as a cultural monument in Ljungby. In his old-age he moved back to his home district and settled down in Målaskog; then some years later he moved to Ljungby.

Nowadays his profession is primarily a hobby, but he is not without orders. A proof of his continued skill is the ability to, with the help of a marten- hair brush, draw a clock face on a pin head! This profession – a profession without a school – has taken a lot of time with experimenting to get the right paint and contrasts. It also requires working with acids and other chemicals and most important, a great amount of patience is demanded. Antique treatment of the clock faces is also one of his specialities. The terminology is known as “cracking” where you obtaining a cracked surface in the paint.

His profession also demands an extensive knowledge about clocks from different ages. Some years ago, Gunnar Dahlin obtained a clock face for renovation. The clock was made in the days of Karl XII (*King of Sweden, lived 1682 – 1718*). The clock had Arabian lettering and was signed by two brothers with the soldier name “Stålknap” (*Steelbutton*). Gunnar Dahlin considered, unlike the owner of the clock face, that the clock face because of its age should have Roman figures. Using precise and difficult scraping, Gunnar worked his way through several paint layers, where he began to see fragments of Roman figures that only could be discerned in certain lighting. This, however, was enough to get the clock face back to its originally character and give justice to its age.

“It is fun to work with old clock faces and see what a magnificent work was done on these clocks hundreds of years ago with limited means available” This comment came from Gunnar Dahlin sitting at his desk in his basement studio. While he was talking, bright daylight entered the window directly down on a clock face that he is just about to finish.

However, town life has never attracted this man with this unusual handicraft. His dream is still a little cottage in the countryside where as a nature lover he can be close to the woods and the wilderness. Now, as a urban citizen he seldom has the opportunity do this.



Gunnar-1955  
Sketch by Curt Blixt

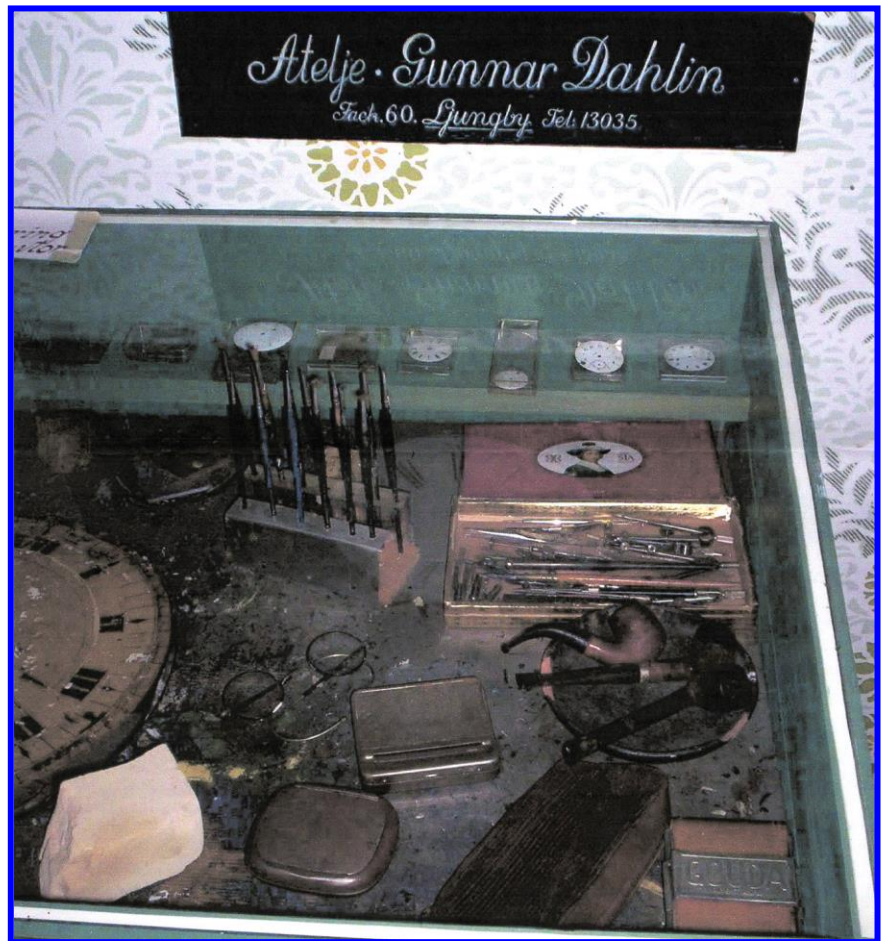
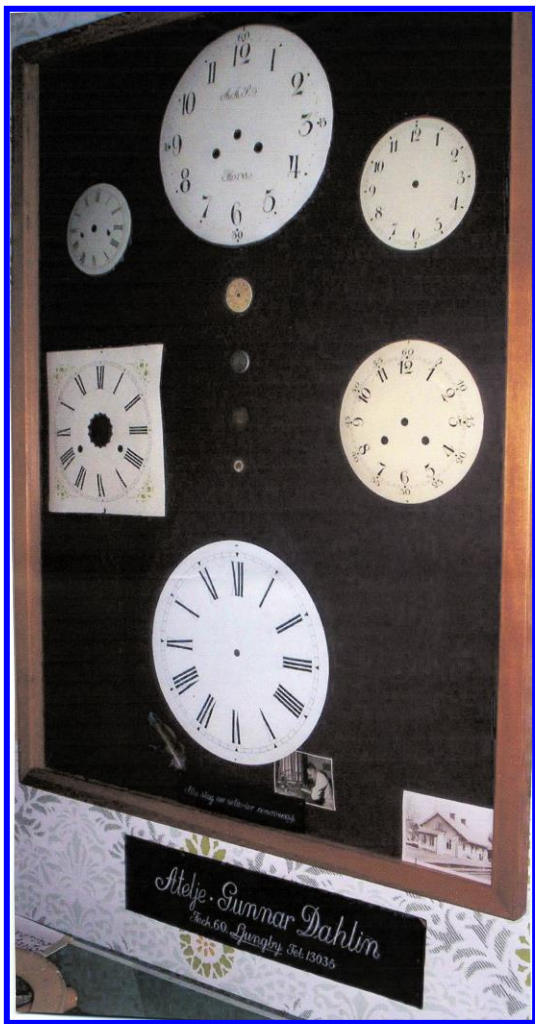
## **Gunnar’s Legacy**

Gunnar died June 21, 1972. He was about one month short of his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday.

An earlier newspaper article about Gunnar when he lived in Målaskog concludes by saying: “In the corner of his workshop there is excellent old hunting weapon; that is a good reason for putting away responsibilities of the day and head out into the pine forest peace.” One can easily remember Gunnar for his love of nature. However, his life transcends this image. Perhaps a more appropriate legacy is based on an old American homily.

A nephew of Gunnar is buried in a military cemetery outside Syracuse NY. At this nephew’s graveside ceremony, the priest in his homily indicated that when you die, you die three times. First when you exhale your final breath, second when you are lowered into the ground and finally when your name is spoken for the last time.

*Gunnar’s name will be spoken long past the people who knew him thanks to his clock restoration display in the Ljungby museum. Here below Gunnar Dahlin’s name you can see his smoke-pipe along with his special tools and clock faces he restored.*



**Gunnar’s legacy in the Ljungby Old Market complex**



## *Gunnar Dahlin Photo Profiles*



**Gunner, on left, in Army uniform Early 1900's-** Note Tricorn Hat -- *Military service in Sweden was mandatory 1901-2009 – His shoulder strap shows “11” that meant he belonged to “Kronoberg” regiment with headquarters about 30km from Ljunby*



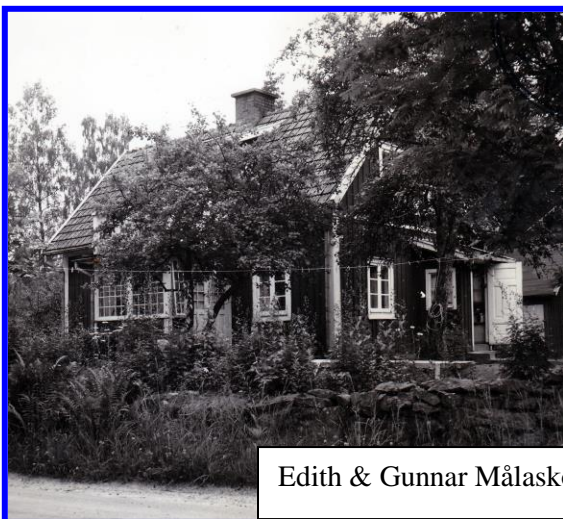
**Gunnar & Edith's retail store in Stockholm**



**Children Karl Gunnar & Ingrid about 1920**



**Gunnar, Karl Gunnar & Edith**



**Edith & Gunnar Målaskog home**



## Carl Reinhold Dahlin -Nöttja Youth, American Convert

*The hallway in our small two-bedroom bungalow displayed two simply framed 8X10 photos. From my earliest memories and for several years beyond the day when my father left our home in Syracuse New York for Valhalla\* these photos remained a mystery. My three siblings and I understood that one of the photos was my father's family home in Ljungby Sweden and the other was the church in this same village. Anyone familiar with Nöttja, a little village a few miles from Ljungby, would quickly realize that one of the photos was an old setting of their beloved church and historic landmark. Further, the other photo could likely be a late nineteenth century view of an Ljungby home.*

*\* Nordic "Land of the dead"*



*Knowing my father, one would not be surprised to understand why the exact descriptions of the two hallway photos were obscured; this is because he never talked about the old country. Further, my siblings who were ten to fifteen years older than I also had very limited information. On the other hand, there are few things that my two older brothers and sister collectively agreed on. Carl had several tattoos; one was the crown of a Swedish king that covered his chest. Further, my mother told us that he learned his trade a metal worker in the Swedish Navy. In addition, he had two older brothers that remained in Sweden and an older sister that emigrated to Jamestown New York. Finally, before I was born, Carl's mother Anna, who spoke no English, lived with our family during the early 1930's.*

*Folks who knew Carl remember him as a quiet gentle person. Those outside our immediate family, recall his Swedish accent that often substituted a "Y" for a "J". That is, "jump" was pronounced "yump".*

*I understood that Carl came to the United States before World War One and I assume he must have had some contact with his family in Sweden but I had not been able to fully confirm this. However, in 1988 I began searching for information. Since then, from a variety of sources, I have been able to piece together information about Carl's Swedish family. This writing, focusing on Carl, is a follow up to those previous narratives.*

### Homeland Years

*Carl was born September 27, 1887 and like his three older siblings he was christened in the old Nöttja church. Carl's parents were also married in this church.*

*An early photo of Carl and his mother Anna is shown at his mother's uncle Johannes Svensson Nöttja home. Anna is seated on the left; Carl is the little boy. The woman in the center has not been identified*

*The family moved to Ljungby in 1891 and Carl completed his schooling there. To satisfy mandatory military conscription at the time, Carl was assigned to the Swedish Navy at a Coast- artillery station. In 1909 he was in service for 258 days. He did not show up for his scheduled 1911 call-up refresher course.*

*The reason Carl did not show up for his scheduled 1911 Swedish Navy refresher course was because he was living in Jamestown, New York USA.*



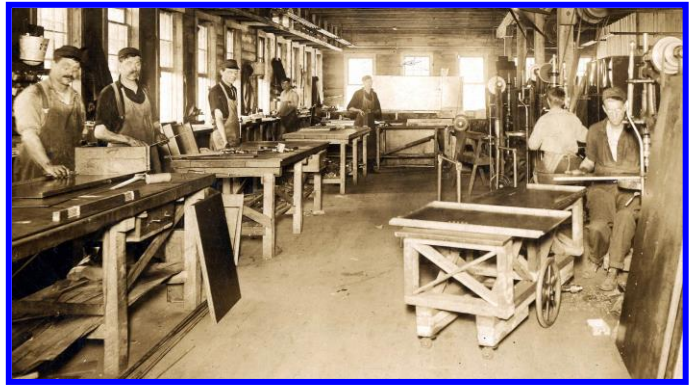
Carl as a young boy in Nöttja



### Jamestown Journey

*It is unlikely that Carl Dahlin's primary motive for heading to the USA was to avoid serving more time in the Swedish Navy. What is most likely is that there was opportunity in America not available in the country of his birth. In particular, his uncle was a prominent businessman in Jamestown New York and his sister was married and settled there. Further, it is likely that now at age 23, he had developed skills as a sheet metal worker and Jamestown offered work for that skill.*

*Carl initially bordered with his sister Emma and her husband David Gunnarson. By 1912 the Jamestown Directory shows him as a metal worker boarding at a different location. The attached photo from that time period shows Carl in the far rear working in a Jamestown metal fabrication shop.*



*My father, never a person to refuse a good drink, could be expected to find time beyond work hours to tip a few glasses with friends. The attached photo shows him in the upper left-hand corner enjoying an outdoor picnic with some local Swedes. One can assume that there is something in all those bottles other than root beer.*



Carl with Drinking Buddies



With Friends

*Dad was a bachelor until age thirty-three. He obviously had time beyond working and hanging out with his drinking buddies to spend time with the opposite sex. The attached photo from his Jamestown years confirms this speculation. My close observation of this photo indicates neither of the two young ladies are my mother*

*Further, Dad must have been on his best behavior for*

*this picnic because he appears to be holding a tin coffee cup rather than a wine glass and there is a milk bottle on the picnic cloth. Carl is on extreme right of photo*

*Carl's US Citizenship papers shows that he arrived in New York November 11, 1910 aboard the Lusitania. There are multiple ironies in his USA arrival because the Lusitania was the focal point for America's entry into WWI. She was torpedoed by a German submarine off the southern coast of Ireland and sank in less than 20 minutes with the loss of 1198 persons including 128 Americans. Popular feelings against the German's rose to fever pitch in the United States because of the Lusitania disaster and eventually lead to declaring war on Germany. Further, on the same date eight years later, November 11, 1918, Carl would be celebrating the WWI Armistice with other American soldiers in France instead of serving in the Swedish military,*

*The First World War brought a new perspective to Jamestown. Like most American cities at the time it was gripped with patriotic fervor. On February 27, 1918 Carl with 125 other Jamestown men were inducted in the US Army. The city paid tribute to these young heroes to be, with a farewell dinner in the Eagle Temple Auditorium. The evening activities supported by the local orchestra included several singers and finished with patriotic speeches by local dignitaries. The next day the men marched to the train station and were escorted by a large parade including several bands.*

## **American Warrior**

Carl with a bunch of Jamestown Swedes was assigned to New York's 77th Division and had their combat training at Camp Upton on Long Island. Carl was trained as a machine-gunner and assigned to Company B of the 306<sup>th</sup> Machinegun battalion before being shipped overseas.

He fought with the 77th Division in all the three major battles the American's participated in. The 77<sup>th</sup> was the first national army division responsible for a section of the European battlefield. No other American division advanced closer to the German frontier than the 77<sup>th</sup>. Carl was wounded on October 3, 1918 during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. It is important to understand the scope of Meuse-Argonne, more Americans are buried there than at Normandy. American historians identify it as the bloodiest battle in American history.

Carl's military records showed that he was discharged May 9, 1919. According to the Jamestown newspaper, when the men returned people were waving flags as the train came through town and all the factory whistles were blowing. After the men departed the train they all marched to the Armory where the band played "Home Sweet Home".

A local Jamestown Swede, C.E. "Hammy" Hammerstrom, served with my father in the 306<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion. I was fortunate to get a copy of "Hammy's" hand written diary from Jamestown's Fenton History Center. The archivist who sent me the copy best described its contents. She said, "It is not pretty, it is a wonder any of them survived. Tears formed many times as I read over these words, as I'm sure will happen to you as you visualize your father's reaction to these experiences."

During WWI any soldier wounded in action was issued a chevron to be worn on the right sleeve. If you look closely at the photo of Carl in his military uniform you can see the chevron on his right sleeve.

General George Washington issued an order on August 7, 1782 that any soldier showing unusual gallantry could wear a cloth purple heart over his left breast. His directive was lost for 150 years when in 1932 a new medal called the Purple Heart was to be given to any member of the armed forces wounded in war. Carl Dahlin's medal with lapel pin is shown. A large testimonial document recognizing Carl's WWI wounds hung in the Dahlin living room. See page 44 photo



## **Goodbye Bachelorhood**

After the War, my dad returned to the Jamestown work force in a metal fabrication shop. Later in 1919 he ended up doing some work at O.M Edwards Co. in Syracuse NY where he met a nineteen-year-old German American girl who worked there. Grace Crescentia Spaeth became my mother. Carl and Grace dated for about two years and were married April 4, 1921

Their wedding announcement in the Syracuse paper indicated they were married Monday evening at 8:30 PM in the rectory of Syracuse's Roman Catholic Assumption church. Because Carl was not Catholic the ceremony could not be held in the church. Further, he had to agree to bring up all his children as Roman Catholics. However, as evident in the attached photo the bridal party was formally dressed. The newspaper also indicated that they would honeymoon in Niagara Falls and that the couple would reside in Jamestown.





*The newlyweds almost immediately fell into difficulty. My mother in later years recalled how much she hated Jamestown and how lonely she was there. From her viewpoint the local Swedish Protestant community held her in contempt because of her Catholic status and olive complexion. She remarked that the only person friendly to her was a Jewish lady who because of her appearance thought she was a Jew.*

In fairness to the Jamestown Swedes, my mother was only 20 and this was the first time she was away from family and friends. More important, there was a deep division between Protestants and Catholics at the time. This division although ameliorated over the years was still prevalent in 1960 when my father died. Carl was buried in a Catholic cemetery and no Protestant minister was allowed to pray at the gravesite.

*My mother was a prolific letter writer; unfortunately, few of her letters survived. On the other hand, I had no knowledge of my father writing a letter. Fortunately, a two- page letter written by my father to my mother a few months after they were married was discovered. This letter provides significant insight on their Jamestown years. Dad's letter written with good penmanship and clear English was a big surprise. Carl was not a person to show outward affection and this letter was in direct contrast to my expectations. Apparently, my mother, because of her unhappiness in Jamestown was visiting her parents in Syracuse. Carl's letter includes affectionate prose mentioning how much he misses his "darling little bride." [See Letter Page 123](#)*

*At some later date Carl and Grace moved to Syracuse and initially stayed with her parents before they moved to an apartment on Syracuse's north side. While in this apartment, a son Carl Richard was born in 1922 and another son Erik Gordon was born in 1924. [ A daughter Grace Vivian was born 1927 and a son Roger in 1937]*

### **Culbert Street- Syracuse New York**

*My father Carl and my mother Grace bought our family home at 146 Culbert Street in 1925. Carl died in this home, In order to secure this newly built home my dad had to agree to complete much of the interior decoration himself. Later he built a garage in the back*

*The home was located in a working-class neighborhood on Syracuse's north side that at the time was principally occupied by second generation German and Irish Roman Catholics. Today, first generation Vietnamese immigrants own the home.*



### **Skilled Craftsmen and Related Employment**

*Carl Worked at O.M Edwards Company in Syracuse when he was first married. The company was a major manufacturer of metal office cabinets and furniture and had a plant in Chicago. Carl was offered a good promotion in Chicago but Grace's mother made such a fuss about the move that he turned the offer down.*

*One can only speculate how the Dahlin family would have evolved if he had made that move particularly since Carl never made much money during his working career.*

*Two testimonies to his skill as a metal worker still exist. One is a miniature working steam engine that he built. The other is a historic landmark in Syracuse. In the early 1930's the local electric power company [Niagara Mohawk] built a new office building with an art -deco façade that was popular at the time. This building is now registered as a national historic landmark O.M Edwards had the contract for the gleaming metal working exterior. Carl was the foreman for the project at the time; so, Dahlin*



*offspring can point with some pride that their grandfather was major player for this unusual exterior design.*



### Personal Characteristics

*One of Carl's loves he apparently shared with his Swedish brothers was fishing. Carl would spend endless hours in a boat or on shore with a fish pole in his hand. Central New York has many lakes, rivers and streams so fresh fish was a common meal in our household.*

*Carl enjoyed dancing. Grace and he belonged to a local German American club that provided a small orchestra on Saturday evenings and emphasized music by the Strauss family. He loved the Viennese waltzes. According to my sister and sister-in law during WWII when there were very few young men around, he would dance with them and my mother and rarely sit down. He also loved to sing particularly with the help of a little libation.*

*Carl was also very proud of his children. For example, my mother Grace, mentioned that they were at a company- sponsored picnic when my older siblings were doing particularly well in the children events. Carl said to Grace " Those Dahlin kids are the smartest, best looking and most talented kids I have ever seen." Grace proclaimed: "Carl every parent thinks the same thing!" To which Carl responded: "Gracie, Can't I see!"*

*My oldest brother Richard "Dick" provided insight into Carl's character in his 1987 writings. Excerpts follow:*

-- Dad was unswervingly honest. For him there was no deviation. I remember my first furlough home during World War II. Not being anxious to get back, I requested an extension indicating Ma was sick [She did have a cold]. I contacted the Red Cross who called back to verify. Dad answered saying " She's not sick" He did not know how to lie! Ma of course, said "Certainly I'm Sick!" I got the extension.

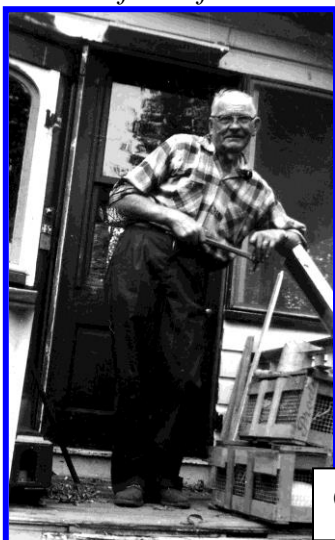
--At a patriotic parade his hat was off and his hand was over his heart. He was an American and you knew it. When the war started it was as natural as breathing that I had to go. I never considered not serving, Carl Dahlin was my father and it was deep within me.

-- Who can forget one of my Dad's favorite expressions " Educated fool" When I went to night school for years, I took non- credit courses. I guess I was afraid I might get labeled "educated".

-- Talk about responsibility-Wow! Once when we were small Gordon and I talked Mom and Dad into getting rabbits. Dad told us we would have to pick dandelions, etc., to feed them "Sure, Sure "we said. One late night he checked and found no food. He got both us out of bed, we dressed and went out and picked dandelions. We never forgot again. Note: During WWII Dick served as a paratrooper in the European campaign. Gordon served in the Philippines

### Final Years

*In 1954 Carl had a severe stroke that left him partially paralyzed and ended his ability to work. My mother always understood that he was born in 1890 and at age 64, not clearly eligible for Social Security benefits. However, Carl secretly told my sister-in- law that he was born in 1887. During WWI Carl did not want to be the old man in his military outfit so he simply showed he was born in 1890 and that held. My mother obtained a birth certificate from Sweden with the true 1887 date and he then became eligible for retirement benefits.*



Old Forge 1959

*Carl partially recovered from the stroke with some speech impediment and a more restricted physical activity. During that period, we had a small camp in the Adirondack Mountain village of Old Forge NY. The camp was close to a river where he fished. Further the camp allowed him to do small repair projects that he enjoyed.*

*Carl died July 20, 1960. He is buried in Syracuse, New York's Assumption Cemetery with a standard USA military headstone.*





## *Carl Reinhold Dahlin Photo Profiles*



Grace & Carl 25<sup>th</sup>  
Wedding Anniversary



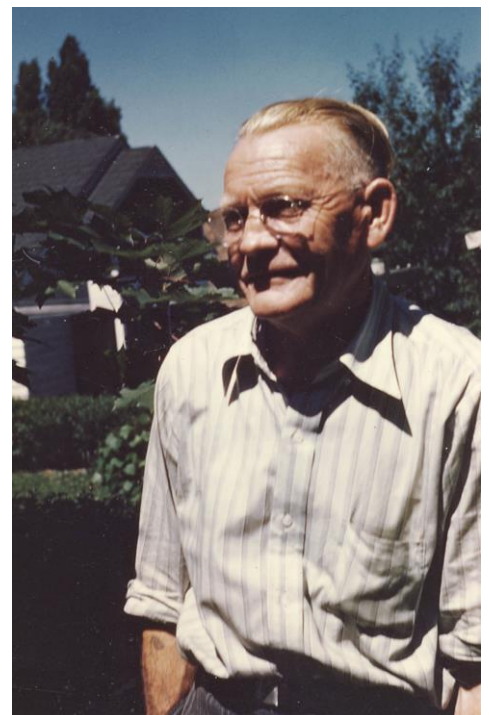
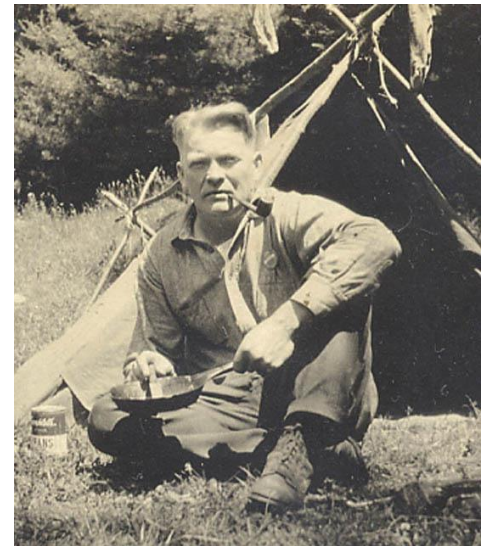
Son Dick & daughter Vivian  
1944 Culbert St. Home



Son Gordon 1944



Son Roger Boy Scout





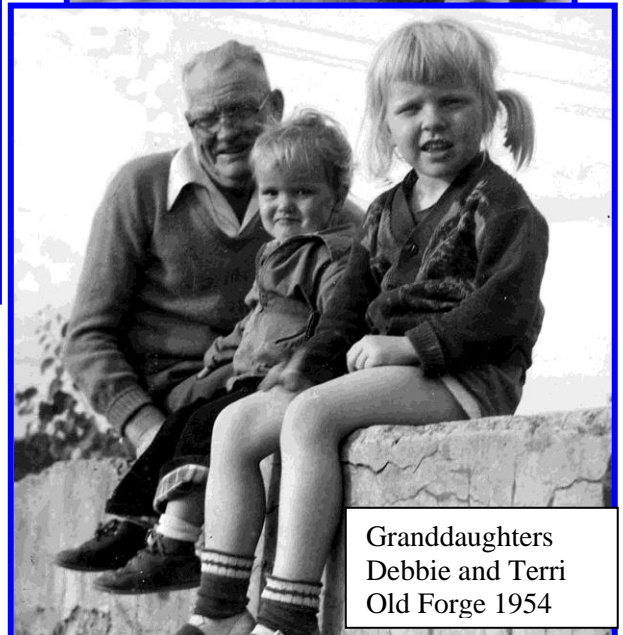
## Carl Dahlin Photos II



Wooing Grace  
Three Rivers 1920



Outing 1923 with Grace's brother George  
and Sister Bernice- Grace holding Dick



Granddaughters  
Debbie and Terri  
Old Forge 1954



World War One Testimonial  
that hung on Culbert St. wall



Granddaughter  
Beth 1/1/1960



## Grace [Spaeth] Dahlin Early Photos\*



Grace , age 3 ,with sister Anna Spaeth ,age 5 ,who died age 12



Anna First Communion



Grace First Communion



Grace

Grace at O.M. Edwards Co. where she met Carl Dahlin



Age 20



About age18  
event unknown

\* Detailed Information about Grace Spaeth and her Family can be found on document "A Dahlin/Spaeth Family Perspective" at Onondaga County Public Library Local History Center -Catalog Number R929.2D318 or Family Search Website under-Books

## The Dahlin Family Garveriet [ Tannery]

For anyone visiting Ljungby Sweden, the place where Carl Dahlin and his siblings grew up, the high point of any visit has to be the Ljungby Old Market .

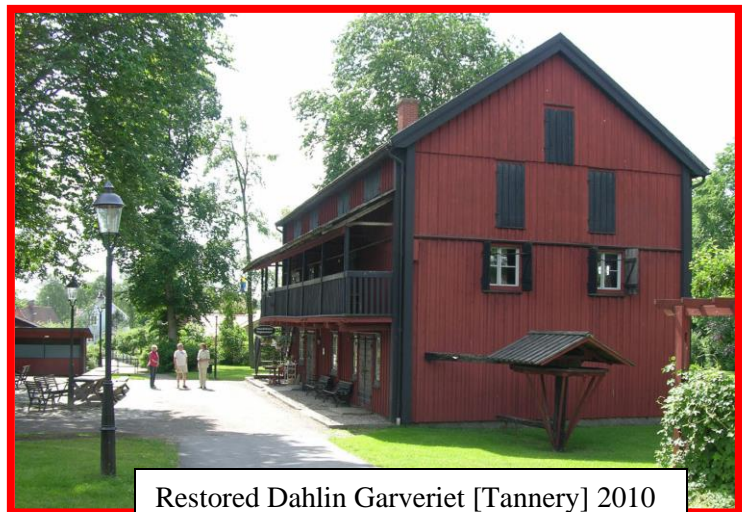
During the 17<sup>th</sup> century the Old Market Place was the center of Ljungby. The market would have bustled with life; it is where visiting strangers delivered news and citizens were kept in suspense as they followed court proceedings.

Today the Old Market Place has taken over a somewhat different setting. A modern restaurant has taken over the innkeeper's role but most important the new setting contains a collection of some of the town's oldest buildings. These buildings give an idea what Ljungby looked like in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The center point of this complex is the Garveriet [ tannery] that Carl Dahlin's father Erik bought in 1891. Erik turned the business over to his oldest son Werner who ran it for almost fifty years. When Werner died his will left the family home and old tannery to Ljungby. Unfortunately, the house was destroyed but that tannery was dismantled, moved and restored. The restored tannery includes exhibits of tools and handicrafts used during the 19<sup>th</sup> century such as carpentry and boot making. An additional bonus to a Dahlin relative is that one area on the second floor is devoted to Werner's younger brother Gunnar who was known throughout Scandinavia for his unique skills in restoring clocks and in particular clock faces.



Ljungby Old Market Place- 2010



Restored Dahlin Garveriet [Tannery] 2010

A wonderful two full-page newspaper article about the tannery was published in 2006 in the Ljungby newspaper NÄRINGSLIV LJUNGBY—SMÅLÄNNINGEN. The article has several pictures including portraits of both Eric and Werner Dahlin. In addition, several leather items from the Dahlin Garveriet are also shown along with Werner's boat.

A translation of this article by a Dahlin cousin Bengt Blixt [ Gunnar's grandson] follows. Some of the article has been edited for clarity and to focus on the Dahlin family. Headlines and manuscript follow:

### **The First Industry in Ljungby**

The First Industry in Ljungby was started during the early years of 1840's

*The early production of leather was replaced by another related manufacturing product in 1925 and all production stopped almost a half century ago. However, the building still stands although it is not in its original location.*



### **Introductory Text of Newspaper Article**

*In the teenage years of Ljungby a tanner JP Sjögren started his business. About the same time about 10 craftsmen started their businesses. It turns out that the tannery was counted as an industry and not a handicraft like the others because the local government authority at the time looked upon tanneries as an industry and entered it under that heading. During that time period, the borderline between handicraft and industry was linked to manufacturing process. The tannery was a special place where leather was made and where machines were needed. Further at least some people were employed for work.*

*When the tannery building was built and by whom is hard to tell. The man known as “The Father of Ljungby market town” Olaf Ljungcranz owned site No. 14 located at Olofsgaten. At this site he rented a house to the tanner Sjögren in 1841. The tanner bought the house and part of the site in 1843.*

*During that time a small tannery could be operated outdoors or within a simple building. However, for greater and more profitable production a fairly big installation was required. Such a building was not cheap to build and it is speculated that Olaf Ljungcranz, who wanted to affiliate businessmen to the new market town, at least lent money for the construction of an adequate building. In 1852 the next owner Victor Theodor Schultz bought the business. It appears that Schultz may have built the new building at that time.*

### **Cattle Walking**

*The tanner always had a lot to do. Quite a few farmers within a ten-kilometer radius brought hides in to be made into fur or leather. The material was used for many purposes at the time. The tanner also bought hides and often with the help of other craftsmen made leather goods. The machinery in the tannery was driven by cattle and referred to as “cattle walking”. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century two horses, that is, two horsepower drove the equipment. Note: the restored tannery has a “cattle walk” but it is not from the original Dahlin operation.*

### **Owner Succession and operation**

*Schultz sold the tannery in 1861. Several others bought the business. In 1891 Erik Gustaf Dahlin, a tanner from Nöttja bought the business and he ran the business for fourteen years. Then in 1905 he turned it over to his son Werner Georg Dahlin, born 1878 in Nöttja. Werner received his vocational education in Germany and France and worked with others in Stockholm and Växjö.*

*From about the year 1890 two men were employed along with the “cattle walk”. Two lime vats and 15 tannery vats were used. The hides that were going to be turned in to leather were put in the lime vats to loosen the hair for final removal. The other vats contained water and spruce or oak bark where the hides were laid. These vats were located both out of doors and in doors. The tanning process lasted for at least six months.*

*Note: tanning is a chemical process. Nineteenth century processing at that time often consisted of placing the hides between alternate layers of ground tree bark [ spruce, hemlock or oak] These materials are a source of tannic acid which is necessary to complete the chemical conversion process. The English word for tanning is derived from the Old High German tanna meaning oak or fir*

### **Profitable Company**

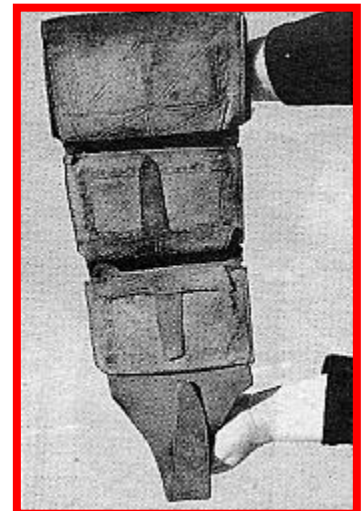
*The income from the tannery up to 1904 was between 2000 and 4000 Swedish Crowns [Sw.cr] per year*

*By 1906 through increased production it was 10,000 Sw.cr and in 1907 it reached 19,250 Sw.cr. per year.*

*In addition to standard production, income was obtained from the manufacture of glue and the sale of horns, hair and horsehair*

*The reason for the economical up turn after the turn of the century was probably the start of clog production [wooden shoes bottoms with leather tops\*] in the tannery. A further reason for this increased profit is that Dahlin clogs became famous for quality and comfort. Dahlin’s tannery received several awards for leather quality with the first one probably at the Ljungby exhibition in 1905.*

*. Around 1910 the old cattle walk was replaced by a steam engine of 4-7 hp. After WWI the steam engine was replaced with a 3 hp electric motor.*



Werner Georg became a very wealthy man. He made himself a wallet and even when it was empty it was of an enormous size.[ See unfolded wallet in inset] In 1920 he purchased a large wooden boat that was one of the first motor driven recreational boats on Lake Bomen.

\*The wooden clog bottom was probably made by Svenssons carpentry in Ljungby where records show they manufactured 30,000 clog bottoms in 1903.

### Only Clogs

The manufacture of the popular clogs soon became the most profitable source of the business. After the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the tannery business continued to decline in profitability and it was closed in 1925. Werner changed the name of the business to "Ljungby leather factory".

Werner died on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 1954. In his obituary it specifically mentions his cheerful and sunny temperament. His wife continued the clog fabrication afterwards.

The next year, 1955, the tannery almost burned down. A fire started in an adjacent building that manufactured hay elevators. According to the newspaper "Smålandningen" the flames were licking the tannery gables, but the firemen were able to save the building. Further, that the clog business ended up sharing space with the hay-lifting business.

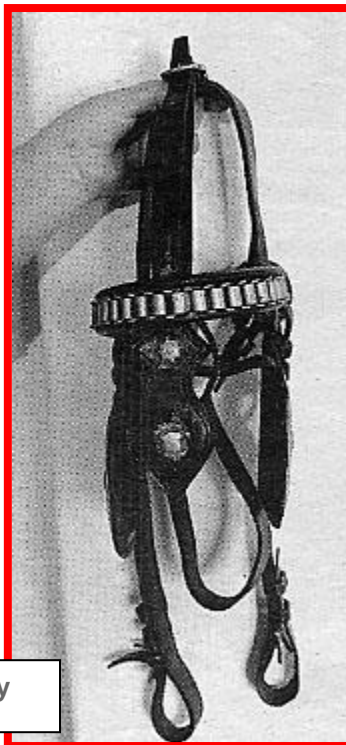
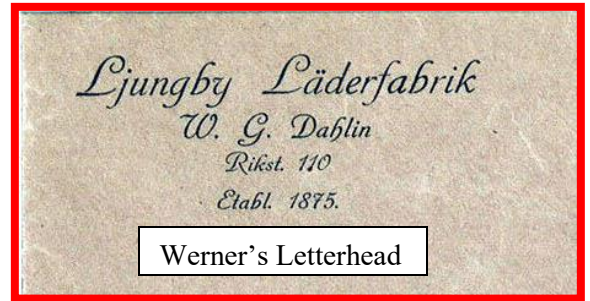
The newspaper article mentioned that shortly after the fire a new Ljungby town plan called for a new street and the building of a Peoples Palace in that location. During the 1960's the tannery building was dismantled and moved.

### Exclusive Building

The tannery was carefully taken down and stored in a dry location. It was rebuilt in the 1970's in its present location and it is now the most valuable building in the so-called cultural reserve. "Ljungby Old Market Place".

On the first-floor handicraft and shops are arranged. On the second-floor rooms are used for the homestead museum along with other old Ljungby craftsmen tools and manufactured objects. Of course, some of them are ones that Dahlin used.

This is perhaps not what the tanner Sjögren thought, 160 years ago, regarding the future of his tannery.



Halter manufactured at Dahlin Factory



Newspaper photo of Museum display

## Here is Sold !

Ljungby Leather Factory's Prize Awarded

### Clogs

Which have the highest praise for good quality and fit

### TRY THEM ON

And even you will give the opinion

When you buy them, see to it that they are marked

[ Ljungby Leather Factory Prize Awarded Clogs]

W.G. Dahlin: Tel.110



## Acknowledgements

*Through stories, photos and translations four Dahlin cousins provided invaluable input regarding this Dahlin family history. Without their support this effort would have been very limiting.*

*Brief backgrounds of these individuals follow:*

*Roger Dahlin December 2011*

**Jim Huntley** and his first wife Pat visited the Dahlin Culbert Street home in 1948. During that year they traveled through Europe by bicycle and visited both Werner and Gunner Dahlin in Ljungby and also the village of Nöttja. In 2010 Peg and I spent several days with Jim and his current wife Colleen at their home in Squim Washington. Cover photos of his 2006 autobiography “An Architect of Democracy” are shown. Jim’s grandmother Augusta Anderson was Anna Dahlin’s sister.

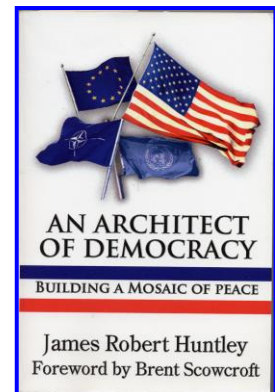
**Inga Lisa and Gustaf Erikson** moved to Tarrytown NY from Sweden in 1950. Inga Lisa grew up in Ljungby and had vivid memories of my grandmother Anna. Her grandmother Gustava Annerson and Anna were sisters. Gustaf knew Werner Dahlin well and often fished with him. The Erikson’s visited Terry [Dahlin] Weinstein’s home in Wassaic, NY and family members visited their Tarrytown home on several occasions. The Erikson’s died in 2011. 2002 Photo is with daughter Carina and Roger Dahlin

**Ann-Mari Dahlin** Her grandfather Werner was Carl Dahlin’s oldest brother. She remembers her grandfather when she was a little girl. Ann- Mari and her husband Lennart Arfwidsson, both architects, visited us in 2009. Photo is in Old Forge NY at Linda [Dahlin] Vallette’s home. Swedish flag in background is partly shown

**Bengt Blixt** His grandfather Gunner Dahlin was Carl Dahlin’s older brother, Information and photos of his family and his mother Inga [Dahlin] Blixt are on a succeeding page.



James Robert Huntley of Washington State spent a decade in the Foreign Service (mostly in USIA), spurred creation of the Atlantic Institute of Paris, served as a program executive at the Ford Foundation, a Fellow of the Batelle Research Institute, and the president and CEO of the Atlantic Council of the United States. He is a founder and current vice president of the Council for a Community of Democracies and has helped form and animate a dozen nongovernmental organizations dealing with peace and democracy. His previous writings include *Europe and America* (1970), *Uniting the Democracies* (1980), and *Pax Democratica* (1998, 2001).



Erikson’s Tarrytown, NY 2002 - LtoR  
Carina, Roger Dahlin, Inga Lisa & Gustave



Old Forge, NY Linda [Dahlin] Vallette’s Home  
L to R Lennart, Ann-Mari, Linda, Roger & Peg



## Inga [Dahlin] Blixt 1916-2010

Inga [ Dahlin] Blixt was the daughter of Carl Dahlin's older brother Gunnar [Carl's niece]. She married Curt Blixt who before he retired was an art director handling artistic design and "look" for a popular weekly Swedish magazine for ladies. Inga and Curt had two sons: Bengt, born 1942, retired in 2004 from a Stockholm-based company bought out by ITT. He has a MS in Biochemistry and worked for many years in product development and quality. Bengt provided several English translations of Dahlin related manuscripts as well as photos. He also has an interesting hobby. Bengt along with three other music friends organized a group in 1990 that performs Swedish folk music, throughout the country, popular in the early nineteenth century. A photo of Bengt in traditional Swedish garb, cropped from one of the group's [ Snabbaryck] CD covers is shown. Larserik, born 1944, is a medical doctor [medical practitioner] who served in a Stockholm Medical Center. He retired in 2009.



Curt Blixt, 96, and Inga [Dahlin] Blixt 92 –2008 Photo



Inga and Uncle Werner Ljungby tannery 1944



Bengt Blixt in traditional Swedish garb .He provided many Swedish to English translations



## Carl Richard Dahlin – Culbert Street Years

**Getting Started** Dick was born November 26, 1922 in Syracuse New York's St. Mary's Maternity Hospital, Part of the hospital still exists and is presently part of the "Enable" complex that supports people with disabilities. This north side facility located on Court Street was the starting block for Dick but also included: Gordon 1924 and, Vivian 1927. [Roger born at St Joseph's] . The hospital was still operating in 1960 because my daughter Colleen was born there

Dick was baptized Dec 17, 1922 at the Assumption Church. At that time baptismal certificates were in Latin. . Consequently, Dick was baptized as Carolus [Latin form of Charles] Ricardus Dahlin. George Spaeth and Margaret [Peggy] Bach were his godparents. George was Grace's younger brother. Peggy Bach, who lived next door to the Spaeth family on Pond Lane, was Grace's Maid of Honor at her April 4, 1921 wedding.

Although Dick was named after my father he always went by his middle name. My mother told me that my father, Carl, wanted the name Dick and referred to his first born as "My little Dicky Boy"

For some reason all of us four Dahlin siblings went by our middle names that caused us all much consternation as adults. That is why Dick always referred to himself as C. Richard. Gordon was named after my dad's father Eric. Vivian's legal name is Grace and I was named after my mother's father Frank. My speculation for this use of our middle name goes beyond family tribute and I think it has something to do with my mother's legal name. Roman Catholics in my mother's time as well mine required a saint's name for baptism. [My baptism document shows Francis Roger Dahlin] My mother was baptized Crescentia Grace Spaeth after St. Crescentia. She hated the name and always used Grace. Her younger sister Bunnie often, to get her goat, would call her Censie.

When Dick was born my parents lived in a small rented north-side apartment at 126 Mary St. At that time, Dad was working as a metal worker at the O.M. Edwards Company, \* which is where my mother met him. She also worked there before she met Dad. After their 1921 marriage, they lived with Grace's parents at 109 Pond Lane. My mother said my father hated it there and they made every effort to have their own place.

Mom breastfed all four of us, condemned the use of a pacifier and was strongly opposed to demand feeding. In her view feeding a baby when it cried would produce a spoiled child. In contrast she was a big advocate of the rocking chair and per my understanding spent many hours rocking Dick and the rest of us as infants. Further, she felt that leaving a child in a crib for long periods without holding or rocking a child was a poor example of motherhood.

Dick and my mother told me that she read "The little Red Hen" to him many times. Dick indicate that he memorized the book and my mother thought he was reading it. .

*\* Located at corner Plum & Solar, Manufactured metal office furniture, Presently Franklin Square offices.*

**Family Home** My Parents bought their home at 146 Culbert St in 1925. Dick would have been almost three and Gordon just a toddler. To help with living expenses, up until 1942, they generally had a border. For example, Ray Rathbun bordered there\*. Ray worked with Carl at OM Edwards as a welder. He later married Mom's younger sister Bunnie. \*Syracuse Directory shows Ray there during 1926, 27 & 28



There were only two small bedrooms. Dick and Gordon and the border slept in the attic where my father built a small bedroom. During the early 1930's Vivian shared her bed in the back bedroom with Dad's elderly mother who only spoke Swedish. Later she shared the bedroom with me. Before the early 1950's, when my folks added a back addition, in order to get upstairs you had to go through the back bedroom. My sister recalled in later years how embarrassed she often was because my brothers barged through her room to get upstairs.

Mom had a fully cooked meal every evening where Dad preferred his meat and potatoes. We always had a fresh or cooked vegetable and desert. During the warm months a huckster would come up Culbert St. setting in his open wagon pulled by a single horse. This was an opportunity for Mom to get fresh fruits and vegetables at a very reasonable price. Milk was still delivered by horse and buggy up until my nearly teenage years. Dick told me that he was always upset as a child that he and Gordon only got one glass of milk a day and that Vivian sometimes got two. Viv or Gordon did not remember these incidents but speculated that my parents felt that Vivian needed a little fattening up.

Gordon indicated that we were one of the last ones in the neighborhood to get a refrigerator that was quite a luxury at the time. Instead, he and Dick would take their bicycles to one of two icehouses on either Pond or Spring Street to purchase the ice. The ice box that had very limited storage capacity was located in the cellar. *Inset photo about 1926- Note the attic window that provided light for the upstairs bedroom. Mom is holding Gordon.*

**Holidays** *From my discussions with my siblings the holiday settings I remember were similar to what they experienced.*

On **Christmas Eve** Mom would put on a dinner that was highlighted with her German specialty of liver glaze soup. Both Dick and Gordy recalled going through the same ritual as I did preparing the liver glaze balls that were dropped like a dumpling into a beef stock. To prepare the liver dumplings our job was to grind the liver and other ingredients including onions and dried bread in a hand operated meat grinder. At the center of the dining room table Dad had his cold pickled herring that was one of the few carry-overs that he brought from Sweden. The table also included a variety of home- made Christmas cookies. These included cut- out cookies of Christmas trees and Santa that we us kids had previously decorated with colored frosting.

Mom's brother George and her sister Bunnie were there with their spouses. Before he died in 1943 Mom's father Frank who we called "Pa" also shared the evening festivities.

Early in the evening I was told like Gordy and Dick remember, that we had to hide because Santa would soon be here. Shortly you would hear a lot of noise coming from the attic to advise you that Santa was here. Immediately after, some adult would come out of the hallway carrying Mom's large wicker clothesbasket filled with wrapped presents.

We always got a stocking that was filled with candy, unshelled mixed nuts and an orange in the toe. Our wrapped packages included some clothing and generally one or two small toys. Dick's favorite gift was a pair of laced leather hiking boots that had a holster on the side and held a jackknife. He told me more than once how proud he was of those boots. He kept the knife for many years

*Viv told one story when she was very young when her Christmas gift was a pair of slippers with wooden heels. At a later date Dick was teasing her without mercy and she got so angry she popped Dick on the head with her wooden slipper. As she recalled, Dick was knocked out for quite a while and she thought she had killed him. From her recollection she didn't think he was faking.*

Later that evening, with the help of some always available libation there would be singing. A standard for the evening was O Tannenbaum [O Christmas tree] that included a mix of German and English lyrics.

Late that evening we would often attend midnight mass at Assumption church or if not midnight mass, High mass Christmas day. These church services were the only time my father went to church. It was not for the religious service but he enjoyed hearing the choir sing the Christmas anthems.

During the lead up to **Easter** on Holy Thursday it was customary to visit different churches. Dick indicated, that like me, he made an effort to visit as many churches as he could to give him bragging rights as well as presumed religious benefits. On Holy Saturday Mom boiled eggs that we dyed for Easter morning recovery. Early Easter morning we would hunt for our eggs and our basket with goodies. Dick said he liked to save some of his Easter candy for a later date but Gordy would eat all of his up the same day. Unfortunately, although Dick would hide his remaining candy, Gordon would generally find it and finish it off. Easter was also the day everyone would attend church with new clothes.

Approaching Easter in 1934, when Dick was eleven, a very unique setting for the Assumption Church parishioners occurred. Gordon said the family was walking to church on April 1, 1934 when a young friend came up to and told him the church was burning. Gordon thought it was an April Fool's joke. When they got to the church there was a huge crowd and many fire engines. The fire had destroyed the church main roof, but fortunately the beautiful fresco in the chapel dome was intact and it was restored with careful cleaning.

**Family Pets** Dick and Gordon had a dog when they were little tykes that is shown in this family home backyard photo. Dick and Gordon also had at least one cat that is shown in one early Culbert St. photo. Like Dick, I remember getting colored chicks or ducklings at Easter. Viv recalls that one year my Dad built a small pond for the ducks in our backyard. However, the next-door neighbor complained and they had to get rid of them. I assume they ended up to Hinckley or some other farm.

*Dick's favorite pets were his white rats. He told me he would carry one of the white rats in his pocket to school and he delighted in scaring some of the girls in his class with it. Vivian remembers waking up one night screaming after finding one of Dick's pets had gotten loose and ended up in her bed. Dick liked to tell the story how his favorite white rat, Millie, trying to get out of its cage dislodged a flat iron that held the cover down. The flat iron landed on*





Millie and according to Dick she was as flat as a pancake. Heartbroken, Dick picked up Millie who he was convinced was dead and tenderly began stroking the rat with his finger. To his amazement, Millie fully recovered and lived for many moons after.

Our most treasured family pet was old Sport. He was a small black and white Spitz and Spaniel mix that shows up in a lot of family pictures of the 1940's. Sport went with us on weekend vacations to Hinckley and Black Lake and had his favorite riding spot in the back window area of our family car.

**Booze** Like most Catholic German families at the time the Spaeth's were beer drinkers. Carl Dahlin and his Swedish friends weren't fussy; they drank beer, wine and the hard stuff. My mother Grace, born in 1900, said as a little girl one of her tasks was to "Rush the Growler", that is, head out with pail and have it filled at a local tavern with tapped beer.

The Eighteenth Amendment enacted in 1919 prohibited the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcohol. The amendment was not repealed until December 1933. So during this dry period and sometimes later before hooch was easily available, the Spaeth's and Carl Dahlin made their own. Gordon remembered as a small boy that one and sometimes two huge crocks were being brewed in the Spaeth family kitchen on Pond Lane. Gordon said the crocks were always covered with a towel to keep the ever-present flies from becoming part of the fermentation process. My cousin Lee Carey told me when he was a little tyke living on Pond Lane our Grandfather [Pa"] sent him to several stores to purchase yeast for beer making. "Pa" instructed Lee to tell the grocers that his grandmother Matilda, who everyone called Adder, made a lot of bread. "Pa" sometimes gave Lee a shiny nickel for these purchases.

Carl also made beer on Culbert Street and on at least two occasions wine. Gordon recalled that my father had a lot of Swedish friends that visited him at the time but these visitors died off when his home brew activity ended. Dad normally saved his drinking for the weekends but sometimes when I was growing up he would send me to the corner grocery store with a dollar to pick up three quarts of Schmidt's Ale. Schmidt's was known as the "poor man's whiskey because it had a six percent alcohol content. When Dad went ice fishing, he always carried a pint of whiskey to periodically warm his innards. I know it was his common practice to pass it along to his very young companions because Gordon and I both remembered as young boys getting a taste. Dick rarely went fishing and I do not know if he went with Dad to ice fish.

**Outdoor Activities** The Old St. Joseph's cemetery was directly beyond our house and was a natural playground for all the Dahlin kids and neighbors. The cemetery sat on a high hill and was a good spot for winter skiing and sleigh riding. The hill was removed along with all the gravestones and graves in the early 1960's. Presently it is the site of Wegman's Supermarket and a senior citizens housing complex.

When I was growing up the brush behind our house was quite thick and was a good source for hide and seek. In the spring we picked daffodils and lilacs that my mother really loved. There were also plum and cherry trees of very poor quality but we still ate the fruit. Neighborhood kids skied there during the winter and one year the cemetery flooded allowing Dick and Gordon to launch their canoe there.

My mother's grandparents were buried near the cemetery's highest point that displayed a large cross. This part of the cemetery was always approached with reverence and awe. Dick's photograph of this cross, highlighted by dead trees and gloomy clouds is a fitting testimony to the old cemetery. Mom's grandparents and some of her other relatives are now buried in a mass grave in the back of Assumption cemetery. The cross, I believe was refurbished and now stands at the center of an Assumption Cemetery burial site for nuns.



We lived at the top of Culbert St. hill that was an excellent place for winter sleigh riding. Even when I was growing up there was very little auto traffic. Gordon and Dick somehow obtained a bobsled that would hold several kids. I remember being on it when I was very small and that it had a steering wheel from an old car. Gordon recalled on a very icy day they were able to ride the bobsled from the top of Culbert St. hill all the way to Hiawatha Blvd near the present baseball stadium.

During the summer months Dick and Gordon played many of the games I played. Gordon mentioned “ring-o-livia” and “kick the can”. All of us made wooden guns that shot rubber straps cut from old inner tubes [We called them rubber guns]. Various games with marbles were also played.

Dick and Gordon also spent much time at McChesney Park that was just east of Grant Junior High School. In summer they played “scrub” baseball and in winter they helped prepare and maintain the ice rink where they ice-skated.

**Indoor Activities** During the thirties, The Dahlin’s had a large Philco radio with spindle legs that had limited reception. Gordon said, their favorite programs at the time were: Bobbie Benson and the B bar B Rangers, Grand Central Station, The Shadow and Chan doo the Magician. They also had a hand cranked Victrola that was still around when I was a teenager. Except by my time the old Victrola had made its way to the cellar and you could play one of 50 or more 78-RPM records that dated from the 1920’s and 1930’s. Dick told me his favorite record when he was very young was the El Capitan March. He and Gordon would march around the living room in cadence with this John Philips Sousa’s piece.

Vivian said the boys played Monopoly a lot but often fought about the outcome. Card games including Poker were also a standard. Regarding cards, Dick had a collection of bubble gum cards that focused on warfare. I clearly remember several hand drawn colored cards that showed some of the violent battle scenes during the Japanese-Chinese battles of the 1930’s. Dick said he loved collecting the cards but the bubble gum was terrible. According to Gordon, Dick spent a lot of time drawing in their upstairs bedroom and working in his basement photographic dark room. Dick also read a lot.

Everyone helped with Spring-cleaning that included window washing and cleaning the kitchen ceiling. Preparing fruit and vegetables for canning during appropriate seasons was also a common chore.

Dick like the rest of us had friends over to our house on 146 Culbert St. Two of his neighborhood friends were the Neuman brothers. One of the Neuman boys was Dick’s age, the other more than a year younger. If you look at the photo of Dick and the Neuman brothers in the Appendix you will appreciate Dick’s comment to me. Dick said: “I was always smaller than most of the kids my age and did not start really growing until I was past sixteen.”

With little question, Dick’s childhood treasure had to be his little toy tin-cast soldiers. At one time he had a considerable number where he was able to stand one army against another. Time and a major effort from the Carey Cousins, who used the soldiers for target practice and shot their heads off, have cut the number way down. I recall them being on display on Elwood Ave and have very clear memory of Dick’s keen pleasure showing them off at his Greenpoint Retirement Community apartment. Dick’s youngest son Michael still has five of the remaining keepsakes in his possession. Dick would be truly happy to know that his little childhood soldiers are in good hands.



### **Primary Education**

The Syracuse Schools had a screwy system when both Dick and I were growing up; based upon your age you either started Kindergarten in September or in January. In Dick’s case he must of started Kindergarten in the September because he graduated high school in June 1940. In contrast Vivian who was born in August graduated from the same high school in January 1945.

**Grammar School** All four us Dahlin kids started grammar school at the old Ulysses.S. Grant School that covered K through third grade The old school building located on the corner of Kirkpatrick and Second North Street still stands but it has been an apartment complex for more than fifty years. Both Dick, Gordy and I found that we could cut more than half the trip to school by sneaking through our street to the back of Follhoppers Grocery store. Follhopper was a jolly old German with a big potbelly who spoke broken English and had a large handle bar mustache. He always wore a white apron but had a very limited grocery inventory. What made this place unique is that it apparently had no electricity because lighting was from an old gas lamp.

Recollections: Kindergarten was in a very large room with a long shelf of wooden building blocks. We took naps on the wooden floor with little mats or towels that we brought from home. Snacks of milk and graham crackers were provided. Gordon recalled that the milk cost two cents and was ice cold. He particularly

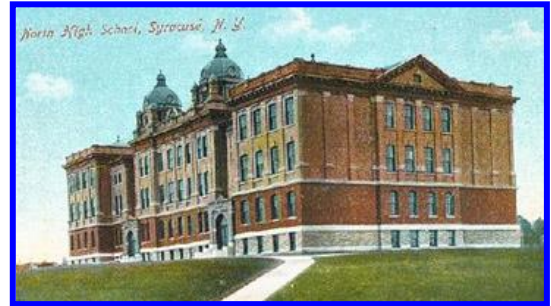


remembered how delicious it was because and remembered the small cartons being delivered in a crate that was covered with ice

*Dick, Gordon and Vivian all completed Elementary school at Salina school that was located across from St. John the Baptist church on Court Street. I attended Webster School*

**Grant Junior High** [Grades 7 through 9], All four of us also attended this school that was at the bottom of Culbert St. Dick must have been in one of the first classes there because my father worked there during the depression as a part time laborer when the school was being built. We all ate lunch in the school cafeteria even though we lived close. Dick remembered having the same Gym teacher that I had. He was still a tough old bird when he taught me.

**North High School** [Grades 10-12] was built in 1908 and was torn down in 1965. It is the present location of Bishop Harrison Apartments on Pond Street. Its name was based on being the high school north of the Erie Canal. Dick graduated there in 1940. One clear memory I have is Dick's sketch of Abraham Lincoln on the yearbook cover. A photograph of his drawing used for the cover is in the appendix.



**Religious Instruction** My Dad, a Lutheran, agreed before marriage that all his children would be raised to the requirements of my mother's Roman Catholic faith. My mother belonged to the German-American founded church of Assumption. Assumption then as now is probably the most beautiful church in the Diocese of Syracuse

Since Dick and the rest of us attended public school we were all required to attend Catholic religious instructions. This was the period before Vatican II where the nuns wore full habits, the mass was in Latin, and the priest faced the altar rather than the people.

Further, you would go straight to Hell if you ate meat on Friday's or stepped into a Protestant church. Our schooling was based on the Baltimore Catechism that contained nearly the exact lessons taught in the late nineteenth century. These lessons, entailed memorizing prayers and liturgy, were the same that my grandparents studied as children.

Recollections: Although the main church was well lit and inspiring the basement grotto where daily mass was given was a different story. It was something like you would expect from the "Da Vinci Code" movie; a truly medieval setting –low ceilings and lighting with dark woodwork. Just before mass would start about thirty nuns dressed in their black habits would march in, genuflect and take their seats. All without a sound!--Dick recalled, like me, going with Mom to, silent movies in the school building where we had religious ed. This included silent film pioneer D. W. Griffith 's "King of Kings" and "Birth of a Nation"



**Transportation** All of us kids had the old roller skates that strapped to the bottom of your shoes and were adjusted with a skate key that you hung around your neck. Skating on slate side- walks was a lot easier than on the concrete ones. Bicycles were also a preferred transportation after outgrowing the roller skates.

In 1937 Dad lost two fingers in a punch press. Because of this work-related accident, he received \$800 in compensation and bought his first car a 1937 slightly used Plymouth. Both boys ended up driving this car.

Carl during the work- week would go to bed at 7:00 PM and hoot it up on the weekend. This was a practice he maintained when I was growing up. Anyway, both boys knowing Dad would always go to bed early developed the practice of silently pushing the car out of the driveway and then starting it going down Culbert Street hill. These late night excursions included silently returning the car by coasting back into the driveway from the hilltop. Gordon on at least one occasion beat Dick to the car who missed a scheduled rendezvous with the opposite sex.

In the early 1940's Dad bought a used 1939 Chrysler. When it was only a week-old Dick took it out one winter evening to visit Betty. Approaching the Red Rock area on Hayes Road he slid on the icy road and really clobbered the side of the car. Apparently, he worked with his future motorcycle buddy, Bob McCabe who was an auto body repairman and got the car reasonably fixed.

Dick told me his favorite all time car, and first car, was a small coupe with a rumble seat. I do not remember the make or year model. Gordon thought it was a Plymouth.

**Employment – Gainful and Sometimes Not** Dick and Gordon both had paper routes and later magazine routes. When Dick and Gordon moved up into more lucrative endeavors Vivian took over the magazine route. Mom Dahlin mention several times how many times customers cheated the boys and at least one occasion she went to the customer to demand the money owed.

Dick parlayed his knowledge of photography into a little photographic processing business. He made at least one professional looking sign that had a sketch of a camera highlighted with “Dix Photo Processing” or something like that. He made arrangements with at least two local drugstores to place his sign in their store window and began taking orders. Because of his low overhead and decent prices, he began to make and deliver orders. With business growing he bought some tanks that would allow him to develop more than one roll at a time. Unfortunately, on one pretty big order he accidentally ran hot water into the tanks that removed all the emulsion leaving a totally clear negative. His future fortunes in the photographic business immediately ended.

While in High School Dick worked at Wolfson Signs in downtown Syracuse. He primarily ran errands for the business but also did some artwork. A photo inside the business, likely taken by Dick, is shown in the Appendix.

Later, and up until he went into service, he worked at Syracuse China. Dick hung around with Jack Schultz whose younger sister Jean married Gordon. Jack, who was one of Dick’s motorcycle buddies after he was married, was instrumental in Dick getting this job because Jack’s older sister worked there.

Syracuse China made some expensive delicate dinnerware that included a gold ring at the top of the cups. To obtain this decoration, a gold vitreous solution was applied by hand using a small brush. The person who applied the gold ring needed a very steady hand and was one of the best paid in pottery. Dick thought that with his talent using an art brush this would be a good opportunity for him. However, per my understanding, he tried it and was not successful.

**Betty Dean** According to Jean Dahlin one of Dick’s first female interests was a north-side girl named Millie Hanlon. Her father was a caretaker at Assumption Cemetery. Mom Dahlin really liked her because she was a good Catholic Church going girl. More impressive to Mom Dahlin, was that Millie belonged to the Catholic Daughters of America. I do not know anything more about Millie.

My understanding how Dick met Betty, and I would be happy to be proven wrong is as follows: Gordon and at least one of his buddies used to go to the old Cold Springs bridge near the end of Hayes Road. The boys used to jump and dive off this bridge that crossed the Seneca River. At some point Dick also became part of this daredevil diving group that sometimes dove from the top of the bridge structure. Gordon at one of these bridge excursions, met one of the Dean girls and dated her for a short time [Vilma?] The Dean’s had a place on the Seneca River, not to far from the bridge, that was then, and is still known as “Red Rock” Dick eventually met Betty through this exposure. Betty lived with her mother Edna who had two other sisters Vilma and Anita. Edna who at the time would have been known as a “grass widow” because she was married but her husband did not live with her was a fun-loving person. She was a great piano player and apparently made Dick and company feel very at home at their place.

**World War Two** Viv remembers being at by Aunt Bunnie’s place on that fateful Dec ember 7, 1941 Sunday and hearing on the radio that Pearl harbor was attacked. All the family was awestruck hearing that news report. Dick told me he tried to enlist in all the services but they turned him down because of his flat feet and colored blindness. Because of this rejection, Dick decided to hang back and wait until he was drafted. That came January 5, 1943 and Gordon followed shortly later that year. Our last border “Scotty” Fleming was drafted about the same time or earlier.



. My Dad was a fiercely patriotic man, which probably explains why I show up in military garb in many early pictures during that period. My mom did factory war work during this period that evidently provided the family with some extra income for the first time. Viv was still in school and was my major baby sitter; however, she did remark how difficult it was for the teenage girls at the time because there were no young men around. A common task I performed was to remove both ends of tin cans; them flatten them and put the cans out for weekly scrap drives. -- During the war sugar was rationed and chocolate was reserved





*for the troops. I can remember the crummy candy bars that tasted like they had a sawdust base. I remember standing in line with my mother for food ration stamps that allowed you to purchase rationed items – I have vivid memories when the war ended because all the church bells were ringing*

Note: Dick came home for one furlough During WWII in 1944. He is shown with Vivian on Culbert St.

**Depression Era Economics and Philosophy** Vivian indicated that when she was growing up money was extremely tight and that anyone who lived through that period always underscored thrift. Gordon advised me that Dad was without full time employment for over two years. My mother told me that they could not make house payments and that if it wasn't for the Soldier Bonus [ WWI Veterans were given bonus money that was originally scheduled for the mid 1940's] they would have lost their home.

*During the early 1940's Dick and Gordon were both working and gave Mom board money\*. For example, Gordon earned eleven dollars and gave Mom seven. With this board money, for the first time Mom had some extra money.*

*This welcomed income ended when the boys entered WWII service. The federal government to compensate for this loss provided family subsidies to for one service member. For example, Dick could get it but not Gordon. Gordon indicated that Mom received a \$30 a month subsidy for Dick and he understood that Mom saved it for Dick. After Dick was married Mom lost the subsidy.*

\* This practice continued when I was growing up. For example, my wife Peg when she was first working gave more than half of her earnings to her parents.

**Mom and Pop** Genes and upbringing are an underpinning factor for any person's life. As an adult I was fortunate to have some serious discussions with my big brother Richard where we exchanged ideas about our parents. Some of the observations follow.

Carl was not a person of outward affection who handed out gifts. To my knowledge my mother only received two gifts from my father. One was a large heart shaped Valentines box filled with chocolates that Dad apparently bought at a bargain price at a local tavern. The chocolates turned out to be very stale but my mother appreciated the thought. He also at one point gave her a small Dutch clock that I do not know the history of. However, it was something she must have been proud of because she had it in on display in our home. *See Inset*



One sad testimony about Dick's relationship with my father is that Carl carried an old country attitude that respected people that worked with their hands and had little appreciation for the arts or higher education. Dick often remarked that he was heavily influenced by Carl's attitude toward college graduates that he referred to as "educated fools". Dick more than once remarked how foolish he had been taking technical evening classes where he did not receive college credit. More unsettling, was Dick's perception reinforced by my sister Vivian that Dad valued Gordon's natural gifts being able to work with his hands but belittled Dick's interest in drawing and photography. Dick mentioned one incident as a teenager when he was deeply hurt. While sitting at a table drawing some cartoons Dad came by and said: "Why are you sitting inside on such a lovely day wasting your time with that foolish drawing!"

In fairness my father he was a quiet, kind gentle person who rarely talked harshly to us and never spanked any of us. Grace was an enigma. She ran the household managed the finances and clearly was the dominant figure in our household. One observation I have made when looking at old photographs is Mom is always up front looking at the camera where Dad is generally in the background and often looking down. Vivian indicated she never hugged any of us until she witnessed her husband Bud's mother hugging her. After that incident, according to Vivian, Mom routinely hugged us and carried on that routine with her grandchildren [My wife Peg made a similar observation when her mother hugged me]. Mom also carried the reputation of being an interfering and controlling mother-in-law.

In fairness also to my mother, I think that she was a person that deeply cared for her children and grandchildren. Most important, she went out of her way to welcome anyone to her home. Further, it is worth noting that my nieces Linda and Donna spent a lot of time with my mother and regards her with great affection. However, my longtime friend Joey Vollmer best describes her.

Joe, as an adult, often visited Mom at her Culbert St. home. Joe truly loved mom who he affectionately called "Gracie". He said her home was a sanctuary for him where he always felt at ease and welcome. In contrast to his own home, he could joke with Gracie and welcomed her hearty response. Joe also gave me some insight regarding Mom's relationship to Dad . He said: "I am not sure if Grace loved Carl because it never came up. However, I am fully convinced that she had a great respect for him." I guess one can take much comfort in a remark like that from someone outside the family.

Dick in his later years confided in me that he learned to accept his parent's shortcomings and came to appreciate their goodness. His one wish was that he hoped that his family would also overlook his shortcomings and instead recognize the impact of his own upbringing on his persona. **Roger Dahlin March, 2010**

# Little Dickie Boy



Dick, Gordon Vivian



Culbert St.-Carl.Dick.Gordon&Grace



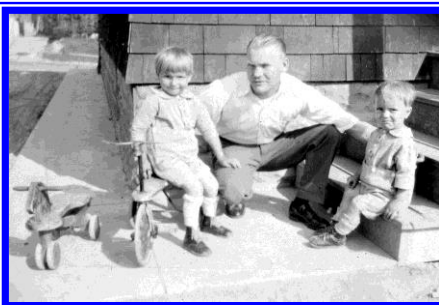
With Grandpa "Pa"  
Spaeth Pond St. Hill



Dick Five Months



With Grandma "Adder" Spaeth  
On Pond Lane opposite home



Dick 5, Gordon 3, Vivian 1 year





## Middle Years



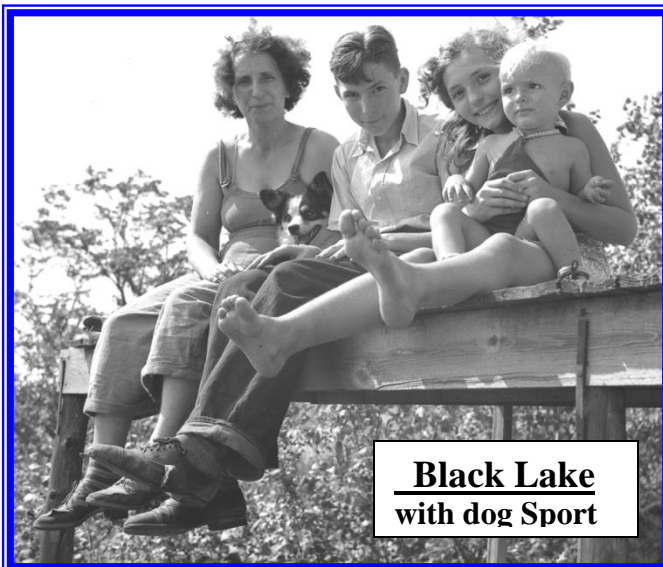
**Rathbun Backyard in Fairmount**



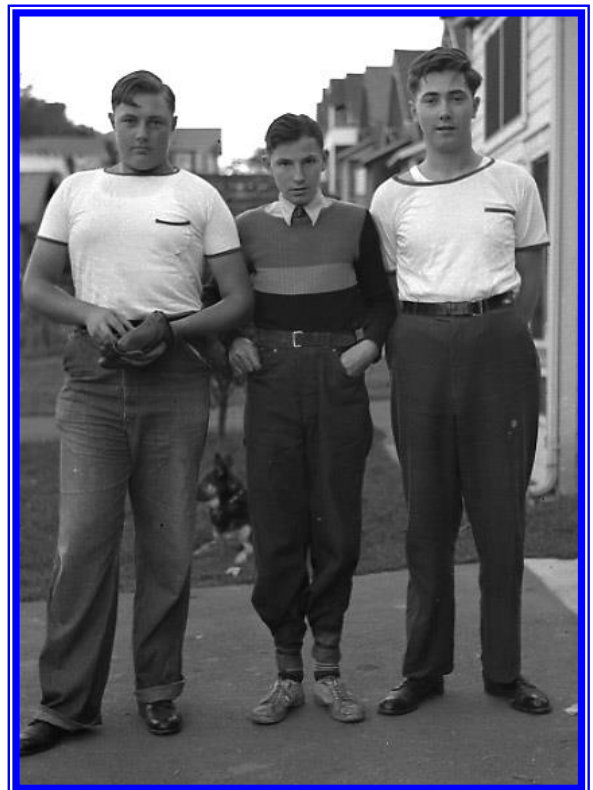
*Culbert St – Dick with white rat*



**Culbert St. with Swedish Grandmother**

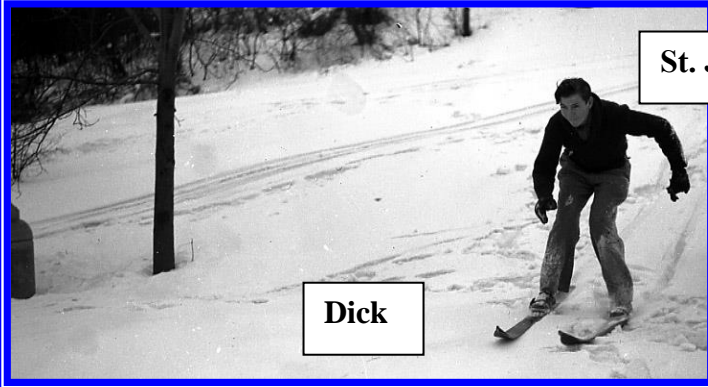


**Black Lake  
with dog Sport**



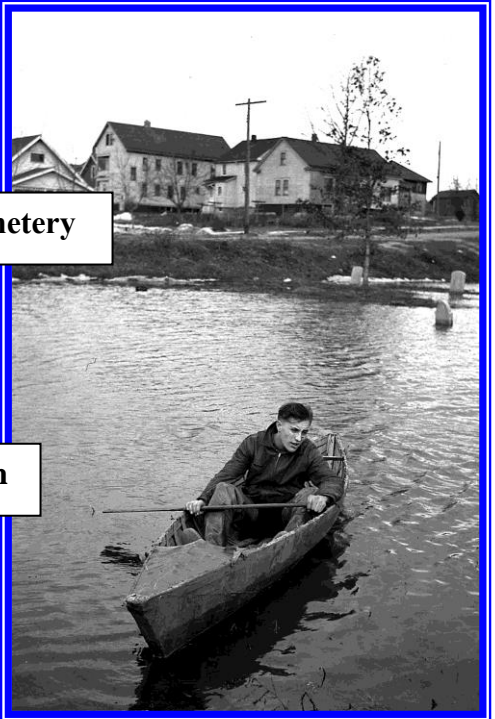
*With Neuman Brothers –  
Teenage friends and neighbors*

# Recreation



**Dick**

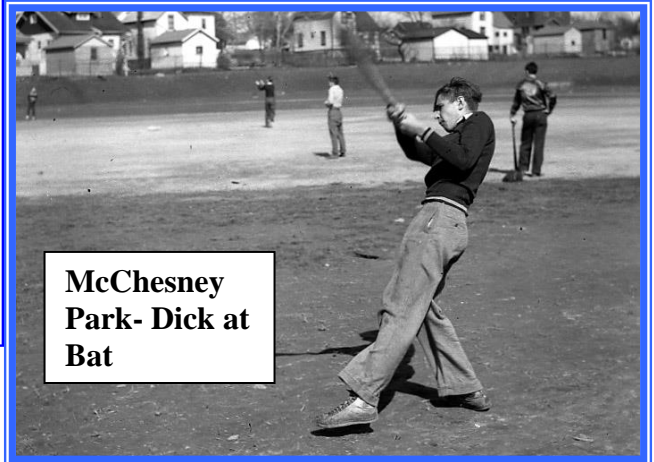
**St. Joseph's Cemetery**



**Gordon**



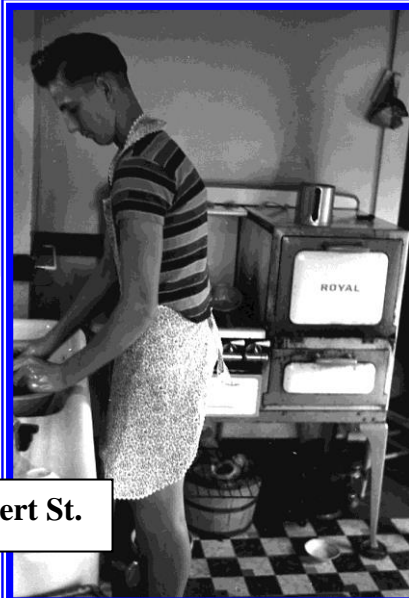
**Bedroom Battles**



**McChesney  
Park- Dick at  
Bat**



**Kitchen Aid 146 Culbert St.**

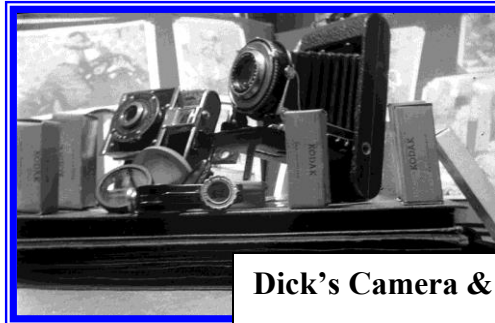
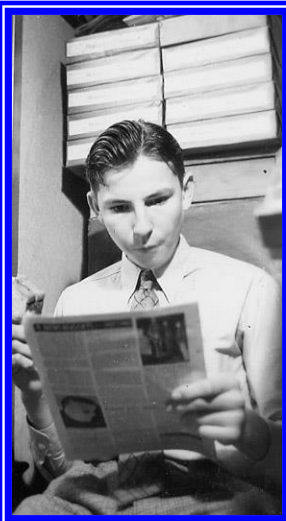


**New York State Fair Pageant Participant**

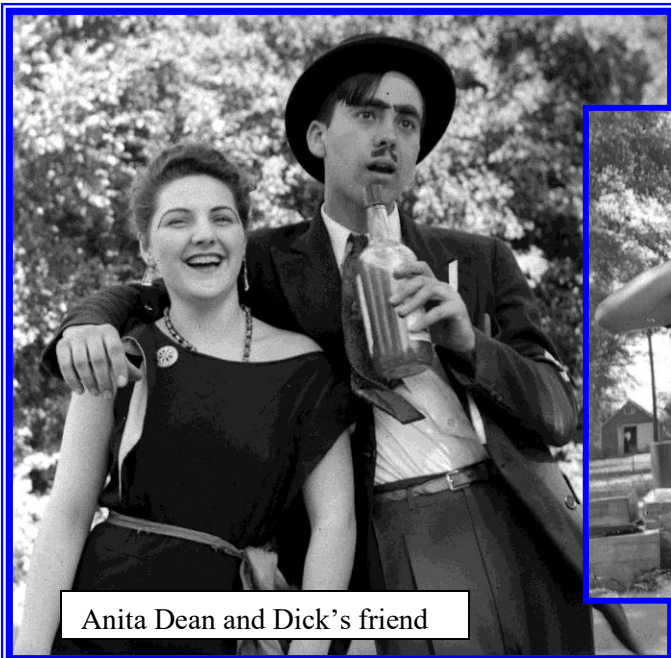




# *Photographer and Cinematographer*



Dick's Camera & equipment



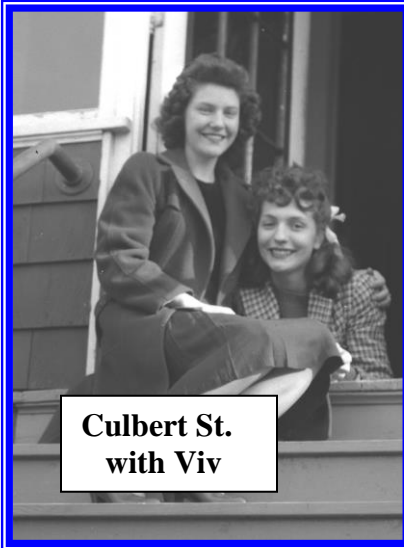
Anita Dean and Dick's friend

Movie Madness at Dean's Redrock Estate



Jerry McCabe, Friend, & 39Plymouth

# *Betty Dean on Board*



**Culbert St.  
with Viv**



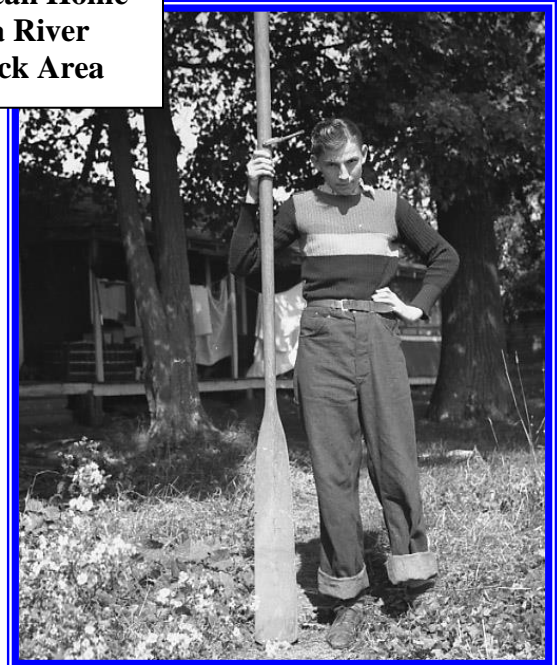
**Dick diving off  
Cold Springs Bridge**



**Dick – Dean Home  
Seneca River  
Red Rock Area**



**Winter- Red Rock area**





## Gordon Eric Dahlin – Culbert Street Years

**PROLOGUE** In the Spring of 2002 I tape- recorded several sessions of Gordon’s comments regarding his early childhood up until his discharge from military service.\*

In some of these tapes his wife Jeannie also included her comments. I also made two recordings with my sister Vivian to obtain some of her reflections while growing up on Culbert Street. The intent of these interviews was to provide some insight about my two brothers and sister.

This little narrative is about Gordon when he grew up on Culbert Street. It includes input from Gordon plus recollections from my sister Vivian, my brother Dick and myself.

*\* The tapes include Gordon’s experiences in the Philippines that are part of the Spaeth Family Album. His comments when he served with the 299<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineers and while he was in the Army Air Corps has not been transcribed. His comments after he left the Philippines have also not been transcribed. Roger Dahlin January 2011*

**Parents** Gordon’s dad Carl Dahlin immigrated to the USA from Sweden to Jamestown NY in 1910. He was a skilled metal fabrication worker. Somehow, he ended up working at O.M Edwards Company in Syracuse\* where my mother Grace Spaeth also worked. They were married in 1921. After they were married Carl and Grace moved to her parents’ home at 109 Pond Lane. According to Gordon and my mother, my father hated it there because not only was it very crowded but also Carl was treated like a second-class citizen. For example, Gordon thought that dad ate by himself after everyone else. As soon as they were able they rented a small north-side apartment at 126 Mary Street. Dick was born there.

*\* Located at corner Plum & Solar, Manufactured metal office furniture, Presently Franklin Square offices. Carl was offered a significant promotion at O.M. Edwards Chicago, Ill. Plant but Grace refused to go because of her mother’s opposition. As a small boy my mother took me to the old Onondaga Savings Bank and proudly showed me the work my father was responsible for. The elaborate metal decorations particularly in front of the teller’s cages were removed in the 1960’s when the bank was remodeled. Gordon also told me that O.M. Edwards had the contract for the exterior art-deco metal work at Niagara Mohawk’s Erie Blvd. Main office and that Carl was a foreman then.*

**Baby Henricus** Gordon was born August 4, 1924 in Syracuse New York’s St. Mary’s Maternity Hospital. \* Part of the hospital still exists and is presently part of the “Enable” complex that supports people with disabilities. This north side facility located on Court Street was not only the starting block for Gordon but included: Dick 1922, and Vivian 1927, but not Roger.

Gordon was baptized August 17, 1924 at the Assumption Church. At that time baptismal certificates were in Latin. . Consequently, Gordon was baptized as Henricus [Latin form of Eric] Gordon Dahlin. Norbert Wolff and Cecilia Nagel were his godparents. Norb Wolff was Grace’s cousin who also served as an usher at Carl and Grace’s April 4, 1921 wedding. I do not know who Cecilia Nagel was.



Eric was named after my father’s Swedish father who owned a tannery. However, he always went by his middle name, Gordon, because my parents apparently preferred that name. Gordon indicated to me he did not know what the basis for the name was. It is my understanding that during WWII Gordon simply filled out his military records as Gordon Eric Dahlin and that it never was challenged.

*For some reason all of us four Dahlin siblings went by our middle names that caused us all much consternation as adults. That is why Dick always referred to himself as C. Richard. Vivian’s legal name is Grace and I was named after my mother’s father Frank. My speculation for this use of our middle name goes beyond family tribute and I think it has something to do with my mother’s legal name. Roman Catholics in my mother’s time as well as mine required a saint’s name for baptism. [My baptism document shows Francis*

*Roger Dahlin] My mother was baptized Crescentia Grace Spaeth after St. Crescentia. She hated the name and always used Grace. Her younger sister Bunnie often, to get her goat, would call her Censie.*

Mom breastfed all four of us, condemned the use of a pacifier and was strongly opposed to demand feeding. In her view feeding a baby when it cried would produce a spoiled child. In contrast she was a big advocate of the rocking chair and per my understanding spent many hours rocking Gordon and the rest of us as infants. Further, she felt that leaving a child in a crib for long periods without holding or rocking a child was a poor example of motherhood.

*\* Note: Gordon was in St. Mary's hospital June 20, 1960 for a bleeding ulcer. That was the day my dad died. According to Jeannie, when my dad found out earlier that Gordon might die because of his severe condition, he exclaimed: "If Gordon dies I want to also."*

*The Doctor would not allow Gordon to attend the funeral. My wife Peg recalls seeing Gordon looking out the hospital window as the hearse passed on its way to Assumption cemetery. My recollection from Gordon is that, without the hospital's approval, at a later time, he walked to the cemetery and said a few private prayers over his father's grave.*

**Family Home** My Parents bought their home at 146 Culbert St in 1925. Gordon was just a toddler and Dick would have been almost three. To help with living expenses, up until 1942, they generally had a border. For example, Ray Rathbun bordered there\*. Ray worked with Carl at O.M. Edwards as a welder. He later married Mom's younger sister Bunnie.

*\*Syracuse Directory shows Ray there during 1926,27&28*

There were only two small bedrooms. Dick and Gordon and the border slept in the attic where my father built a small bedroom. During the early 1930's Vivian shared her bed in the back bedroom with Dad's elderly mother who only spoke Swedish. Later she shared the bedroom with me. Before the early 1950's, when Gordon added a back addition to the house, in order to get upstairs you had to go through the back bedroom. My sister recalled in later years how embarrassed she often was because my brothers barged through her room to get upstairs.

Mom had a fully cooked meal every evening where Dad preferred his meat and potatoes. We always had a fresh or cooked vegetable and desert. During the warm months a huckster would come up Culbert St. setting in his open wagon pulled by a single horse. This was an opportunity for mom to get fresh fruits and vegetables at a very reasonable price. Milk was still delivered by horse and buggy up until my nearly teenage years. Dick told me that he was always upset as a child that he and Gordon only got one glass of milk a day and Vivian sometimes got two. Viv or Gordon did not remember these incidents but speculated that my parents felt that Vivian needed some fattening up.

Gordon indicated that we were one of the last ones in the neighborhood to get a refrigerator; that was quite a luxury at the time. Instead, he and Dick would take their bicycles to one of two icehouses on either Pond or Spring Street to purchase the ice. Sometimes they had to go all the way to State Street where there was a major supplier with coin-operated machines for 25 and 50 pound blocks. The icebox, located in the cellar, had very limited storage capacity therefore frequent trips to a local grocery or butcher were required

**Early Explorations** Gordon indicated in one of his taped interviews that when he was about four years old he would walk by himself from Culbert St. to the Spaeth family home at 109 Pond Lane . One of his reasons for this adventure is that Uncle George could magically change a penny into a nickel that he sometimes ended up with. On one occasion he brought a couple of friends up to Pond Lane to have Uncle George show them his magic trick. However, on this occasion, probably to avoid handing out several nickels, George indicated he could not perform this magic all the time.



109 Pond Lane -2011

My favorite story from Gordon's childhood is about his new shoes. During the depression years when my dad was not working my mother went down to some welfare type location to get some free children shoes. [My Dad was too proud to go to such a place] Anyway, both the boys got a new pair of shiny black shoes with very strict instructions not to get them wet. Gordon, then about age nine headed down to one of his Italian buddies where he was invited for a meal. The meal was mustard sandwiches that he was not to excited about; however, he was offered some pretty good tasting homemade red wine, quickly getting tipsy, he went outside to play with his friends in their wet and muddy back yard. Shortly after playing he realized that his shiny new shoes were falling apart and the soles were coming off. Afraid to confront his parents and still feeling the effects of the wine he went home and hid under the back porch and quickly fell asleep. As the evening dragged on and approaching 10



PM his worried parents were about to call the police. Carl decided to go outside and look for Gordon one more time. Outside and bending down to light a cigarette Carl glanced under the porch and saw Gordon sleeping there. Carl, probably greatly relieved merely told Gordon to go to bed. Note: to my knowledge my father never spanked any us kids

*\*According to Gordon the shoes were made with some pretty shoddy paper-like material and the boys later got some neat leather boots.*

**Holidays** From my discussions with my siblings the holiday settings I remember were similar to what they experienced.

**Christmas Eve** --Mom would put on a dinner that was highlighted with her German specialty of liver glaze soup. Both Dick and Gordy recalled going through the same ritual as I did preparing the liver glaze balls that were dropped like a dumpling into a beef stock. To prepare the liver dumplings our job was to grind the liver and other ingredients including onions and dried bread in a hand operated meat grinder. At the center of the dining room table Dad had his cold pickled herring that was one of the few carry-overs that he brought from Sweden. The table also included a variety of home- made Christmas cookies. These included cut- out cookies of Christmas trees and Santa that we us kids had previously decorated with colored frosting.

Mom's brother George and her sister Bunnie were there with their spouses. Before he died in 1943 Mom's father Frank who we called "Pa" also shared the evening festivities.

Early in the evening I was told like Gordy and Dick remember, that we had to hide because Santa would soon be here. Shortly you would here a lot of noise coming from the attic to advise you that Santa was here. Immediately after, some adult would come out of the hallway carrying Mom's large wicker clothesbasket filled with wrapped presents.

We always got a stocking that was filled with candy, unshelled mixed nuts and an orange in the toe. Our wrapped packages included some clothing and generally one or two small toys. *Viv told one story when she was very young when her Christmas gift was a pair of slippers with wooden heels. At a later date Dick was teasing her without mercy and she got so angry she popped Dick on the head with her wooden slipper. As she recalled, Dick was knocked out for quite a while and she thought she had killed him. From her recollection she didn't think he was faking.*

Later that evening, with the help of some always-available libation there would be singing. A standard for the evening was O Tannenbaum [O Christmas tree] that included a mix of German and English lyrics. Vivian who played the living room piano would also add to the merriment.

Late that evening we would often attend midnight mass at Assumption church or if not midnight mass, High mass Christmas day. These church services were the only time my father went to church. It was not for the religious service but he enjoyed hearing the choir sing the Christmas anthems.

**Easter--** On Holy Saturday, the day before Easter, mom boiled eggs that we dyed for Sunday morning recovery. Early Easter morning we would hunt for our eggs and our basket with goodies. Dick said he liked to save some of his Easter candy for a later date but Gordy would eat all of his up the same day. Unfortunately, although Dick would hide his remaining candy, Gordon would generally find it and finish it off. Easter was also the day everyone would attend church with new clothes.

Approaching Easter in 1934, when Gordon was nine, a very unique setting for the Assumption Church parishioners occurred. Gordon said the family was walking to church on April 1, 1934 when a young friend came up to and told him the church was burning. Gordon thought it was an April Fool's joke. When they got to the church there was a huge crowd and many fire engines. The fire had destroyed the church main roof, but fortunately the beautiful fresco in the chapel dome was intact and it was restored with careful cleaning.



Christmas Eve setting

**Family Pets** Gordon said they had several dogs when they were growing up . Dick and Gordon also had at least one cat that is shown in one early Culbert St. photo. Like Gordon, I remember getting colored chicks or

ducklings at Easter. Gordon recalled that one year my Dad built a small pond for the ducks in our backyard. However, our next-door neighbor complained and they had to get rid of them. I assume they ended up to Hinckley or some other farm.

Dick's favorite pets were his white rats. Gordon told me he would carry one of the white rats in his pocket to school and he delighted in scaring some of the girls in his class with it. Vivian remembers waking up one night screaming after finding one of Dick's pets had gotten loose and ended up in her bed. Dick liked to tell the story how his favorite white rat, Millie, trying to get out of its cage dislodged a flat iron that held the cover down. The flat iron landed on Millie and according to Dick she was as flat as a pancake. Heartbroken, Dick picked up Millie who he was convinced was dead and tenderly began stroking the rat with his finger. To his amazement, Millie fully recovered and lived for many moons after.

Our most treasured family pet was old Sport. He was a small black and white Spitz and Spaniel mix that shows up in a lot of family pictures of the 1940's. Sport went with us on weekend vacations to Hinckley and Black Lake and had his favorite riding spot in the back window area of our family car.

The attached family photo taken on Culbert St. shows Dick holding his pet rat. Gordon said he grew faster than Dick and when he was his size they would fight like hell.



**Booze** Like most Catholic German families at the time the Spaeth's were beer drinkers. Carl Dahlin and his Swedish friends weren't fussy; they drank beer, wine and the hard stuff. My mother Grace, born in 1900, said as a little girl one of her tasks was to "Rush the Growler", that is, head out with pail and have it filled at a local tavern with tapped beer.

The Eighteenth Amendment enacted in 1919 prohibited the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcohol. The amendment was not repealed until December 1933. So during this dry period and sometimes later before hooch was easily available, the Spaeth's and Carl Dahlin made their own.

Gordon remembered as a small boy that one and sometimes two huge crocks were being brewed in the Spaeth family kitchen on Pond Lane. Gordon said the crocks were always covered with a towel to keep the ever-present flies from becoming part of the fermentation process. My cousin Lee Carey told me when he was a little tyke living on Pond Lane our Grandfather [Pa] sent him to several stores to purchase yeast for beer making. "Pa" instructed Lee to tell the grocers that his grandmother Matilda, who everyone called Adder, made a lot of bread. "Pa" sometimes gave Lee a shiny nickel for these purchases.

Carl also made beer on Culbert Street and on at least two occasions wine. Gordon recalled that my father had a lot of Swedish friends that visited him at the time but these visitors died off when his home brew activity ended. Dad normally saved his drinking for the weekends but sometimes when I was growing up he would send me to the corner grocery store with a dollar to pick up three quarts of Schmidt's Ale. Schmidt's was known as a the "poor man's whiskey because it had a six percent alcohol content. When Dad went ice fishing, he always carried a pint of whiskey to periodically warm his innards. I know it was his common practice to pass it along to his very young companions because Gordon and I both remembered as young boys getting a taste. Dick rarely went fishing and I do not know if he went with Dad to ice fish.

**My father, late in life, had a stroke that prohibited him from drinking alcohol. Gordon to pacify dad would bring him a bottle of Lincoln Head grape juice and tell him it was wine. Gordon gave dad strict instructions to only have a small glass of this "wine" once a day. Periodically, Carl would get mad at Gracie and sneak his bottle of "wine" with the sculptured top of Abraham Lincoln into the cellar and polish off the whole bottle.**





**Outdoor Activities** *The Old St. Joseph's cemetery was directly beyond our house and was a natural playground for all the Dahlin kids and neighbors. The cemetery sat on a high hill and was a good spot for winter skiing and sleigh riding. The hill was removed along with all the gravestones and graves in the early 1960's. Presently it is the site of Wegman's Supermarket and a senior citizens housing complex.*

*When I was growing up the brush behind our house was quite thick and was a good source for hide and seek. In the spring we picked daffodils and lilacs that my mother really loved. There were also plum and cherry trees of very poor quality but we still ate the fruit. During the winter neighborhood kids, including Gordon and Dick, skied and ran their snow sleds down the steep banks carefully avoiding gravestones. One year the lower part of the cemetery flooded and Gordon launched his kayak there.*

*My mother's grandparents were buried near the cemetery's highest point that displayed a large cross. This part of the cemetery was always approached with reverence and awe. Dick's photograph of this cross, highlighted by dead trees and gloomy clouds is a fitting testimony to the old cemetery. Mom's grandparents and some of her other relatives are now buried in a mass grave in the back of Assumption cemetery. The cross, I believe was refurbished and now stands at the center of an Assumption Cemetery burial site for nuns.*

*We lived at the top of Culbert St. hill that was an excellent place for summer games and winter sleigh riding. Even when I was growing up there was very little auto traffic. Gordon and Dick somehow obtained a bobsled that would hold several kids. I remember being on it when I was very small and that it had a steering wheel from an old car. Gordon recalled on a very icy day they were able to ride the bobsled from the top of Culbert St. hill all the way to Hiawatha Blvd near the present baseball stadium. He recalled the run was tremendous but hauling the bobsled back was a real effort.*

*During the summer months Dick and Gordon played many of the games I played. Gordon mentioned "ring-o-livia" and "kick the can". All of us made wooden guns that shot rubber straps cut from old inner tubes [We called them rubber guns]. Various games with marbles were also played.*

*Dick and Gordon also spent much time at McChesney Park that was just east of Grant Junior High School. In summer they played "scrub" baseball and in winter they helped prepare and maintain the ice rink where they ice-skated.*

*Gordon told me that when I was still a toddler mom would saddle him to baby sit. In this case he would pop me into my baby carriage and tote me off to some location such as playing ball with his friends. In this case his buddies would take turns looking after me.*

**Indoor Activities** *During the thirties, the Dahlin's had a large Philco radio with spindle legs that had limited reception. Gordon said, his favorite programs at the time were: Bobbie Benson and the B bar B Rangers, Grand Central Station, The Shadow and Chan doo the Magician. They also had a hand cranked Victrola that was still around when I was a teenager. Except by my time the old Victrola had made its way to the cellar and you could play one of 50 or more 78-RPM records that dated from the 1920's and 1930's. Dick told me his favorite record when he was very young was the El Capitan March. He and Gordon would march around the living room in cadence with this John Philips Sousa's piece.*

*Vivian said the boys played Monopoly a lot but often fought about the outcome. Card games including Poker were also a standard. Both Dick and Gordon collected bubble gum cards, Vivian said that Gordon collected baseball cards and movie star cards and she particularly remembered cowboy star Tom Mix. Dick had a collection of bubble gum cards that focused on warfare. I clearly remember several hand drawn colored cards that showed some of the violent battle scenes during the Japanese-Chinese battles of the 1930's. Dick said he loved collecting the cards but the bubble gum was terrible.*

*According to Gordon, Dick spent a lot of time drawing in their upstairs bedroom and working in his basement photographic dark room. Dick also read a lot. In contrast, Gordon said he played outside with his friends whenever he could.*

*Everyone helped with Spring-cleaning that included window washing and cleaning the kitchen ceiling. Preparing fruit and vegetables for canning during appropriate seasons was also a common chore.*



## **Primary Education**

**Elementary School** [Grades kindergarten through sixth] All four Dahlin kids started grammar school at the old Ulysses.S. Grant School that covered K through third grade the old school building located near the corner of Kirkpatrick and Second North Street still stands but it has been an apartment complex for more than fifty years. Both Dick, Gordy and I found that we could cut more than half the trip to school by sneaking through our street to the back of Follhoppers Grocery store. Follhopper was a jolly old German with a big potbelly who spoke broken English and had a large handle bar mustache. He always wore a white apron but had a very limited grocery inventory. What made this place unique is that it apparently had no electricity because lighting was from an old gas lamp.

Recollections: Kindergarten was in a very large room with a long shelf of wooden building blocks. We took naps on the wooden floor on little mats or towels that we brought from home. Snacks of milk and graham crackers were provided. Gordon recalled that the milk was ice cold. He particularly remembered how delicious it was because he remembered the small cartons being delivered in a crate that was covered with ice

Dick, Gordon and Vivian all completed Elementary school at Salina school that was located across from St. John the Baptist church on Court Street. I attended Webster School

**Junior High**[Grades 7 through 9], Gordon like the rest of us siblings attended Grant Junior High at bottom of Culbert Street . The school, currently known Grant Middle School, had an addition made on the east side of the building several years ago. This addition replaced a ball field and play area that Gordon use to take me as a little tyke.

Dick must have been in one of the first classes there because my father worked there during the depression as a part time laborer when the school was being built. Gordy indicated that he normally came home for lunch because unlike some welfare kids and some kids that were underweight who got free lunches, he did not. However, at one point he began to take a lunch to school where he bought the small cartons of milk for two cents. Gordon remembered having the same Gym teacher that I had. He was still a tough old bird when he taught me.

**High School –Continuation School** [Grades 10-12] Unlike Dick and Vivian and most of the other north side kids, Gordon did not attend North High School. Instead, he opted for Continuation School also known as Apprentice Training. The main office building still exists as part of the National Grid complex on Genesee St. [ If you look carefully on the side of the building facing Genesee St over a side door you can see a stone inscription “Continuation School”] Gordon indicated the shops that included his pattern making program were in back of the office building and were torn down many years ago. My understanding is that Gordon’s attraction to pattern making was because it required strong skills working with wood. [Wood patterns were the foundation for industrial metal castings]



Gordon had very good skills in woodworking. One great example is a Martha Washington sewing cabinet that my mother proudly displayed in our dining room. I think he built at when attending Grant Junior High School and I believe one of his children now has this cabinet.

**Religious Instruction** My Dad, a Lutheran, agreed before marriage that all his children would be raised to the requirements of my mother’s Roman Catholic faith. My mother belonged to the German-American founded church of Assumption. Assumption, then as now, is probably the most beautiful church in the Diocese of Syracuse



*Since Gordon and the rest of us attended public school we were all required to attend Catholic religious instructions. This was the period before Vatican II where the nuns wore full habits, the mass was in Latin, and the priest faced the altar rather than the people. Further, you would go straight to Hell if you ate meat on Friday's or stepped into a Protestant church. Our schooling was based on the Baltimore Catechism that contained nearly the exact lessons taught in the late nineteenth century. These lessons, entailed memorizing prayers and liturgy, were the same that my grandparents studied as children.*

*Recollections: Although the main church was well lit and inspiring the basement grotto where daily mass was given was a different story. It was something like you would expect from the "Da Vinci Code" movie; a truly medieval setting –low ceilings and lighting with dark woodwork. Just before mass would start about thirty nuns dressed in their black habits would march in, genuflect and take their seats. All without a sound!-- Gordon recalled, like me, going with Mom to, silent movies in the school building where we had religious ed. This included silent film pioneer D. W. Griffith 's "King of Kings" and "Birth of a Nation" Gordon also liked to tell about walking to church on a Sunday morning that happened to be April First. Neighbors told him that Assumption Church was on fire and he thought it was a April Fool's joke.*



**Transportation** *All of us kids had the old roller skates that strapped to the bottom of your shoes and were adjusted with a skate key that you hung around your neck. Skating on many of the slate side- walks was a lot easier than on the concrete ones that had cracks and voids. Bicycles were also a preferred transportation after outgrowing the roller skates.*

*In 1937 Dad lost two fingers in a punch press. Because of this work-related accident, he received \$800 in compensation and bought his first car, a 1937 slightly used Plymouth. Both boys ended up driving this car.*

*Gordon indicated that at age sixteen one of his driving assignments was as a chauffeur for his great aunt Francis Gammendinger. Francis' husband was a railroad engineer who made good money. When her husband died, she inherited his large touring car. Francis took eight driving tests before she finally got her license but was afraid to drive. Gordon's Sunday afternoon task was to drive her to someplace like Hides of Liverpool for a hotdog. Francis always sat in the back. An early picture of Francis in front of this car is shown. Francis is the large woman. Imagine sixteen-year-old Gordon sitting in the front driving with Aunt Francis in the rear.*



*Carl, during the work- week would go to bed at 7:00 PM and hoot it up on the weekend. This was a practice he maintained when I was growing up. Anyway, both boys knowing Dad would always go to bed early developed the practice of silently pushing the car out of the driveway and then starting it going down Culbert Street hill. These late-night excursions included silently returning the car by coasting back into the driveway from the hilltop. Gordon on at least one occasion beat Dick to the car who missed a scheduled rendezvous with the opposite sex.*

## **Employment**

**Local Entrepreneurship---** *Dick and Gordon both had paper routes and later magazine routes. When Dick and Gordon moved up into more lucrative endeavors such as setting pins, Vivian took over the magazine route. Mom Dahlin mentioned many times customers cheated the boys out of money and at least one occasion she went to the customer to demand the money owed.*

Gordon and some of his neighborhood buddies worked at Hafner farms on Buckley Road during years 1937 and 1938 when Gordon was age 13 and 14. A photo of his fellow farm-working buddies 'Chick' Madonna and Pat Spadafore, who like Gordon picked vegetables and fruit, is shown in the Appendix.

**Hinckley Staff Member---** The Rathbun farm near the village of Hinckley is where the Dahlin family spent much of their leisure time. Details about the farm, that everyone referred to as Hinckley, can be found in the Spaeth Family Album. Gordon worked on the farm one summer when he was a teenager. He indicated he lost ten to fifteen pounds that summer and although he worked very hard and I do not think he received any pay he seemed positive about this experience.

The Hinckley farm still was a very poor setting when I was growing up. There was no electricity, running water or indoor plumbing. The high point of accommodations was the two-seat outhouse where instead of toilet paper you had a choice of newspaper or a Sears' catalog. There were always a lot of chickens running around and when you opened the kitchen screen door you had to be very careful not to let the chickens come in. Cooking and heat came from an old cast iron stove in the kitchen. To fire the stove, you headed out with an axe and stripped off some wood siding from one of the fallen down buildings. Evening lighting was limited to a few old kerosene lanterns. Uncle George Spaeth [Grace's brother] underscored how poor the neighborhood was. He would advise you how poor the Hucklebone neighbors were. George stated the Hucklebones were so poor that they only had one pot. During the day they used it to cook and, in the evening, they used it as a "honey pot". I believed that story for many years. Gordon remembered the Hucklebone homestead very well. My recollection is of a sad looking single-story structure adjacent to the pine forest that Ray Rathbun planted after WWI.

The squire of the Hinckley estate was Ray Rathbun's older bachelor brother Frank. [Ray married Grace's sister Bunnie] Frank Rathbun was a thin gentle person with Asthma and generally very poor health. Frank's primary farm hand when Gordon worked there was Harold 'Flap' Rood. Gordon said that 'Flap' could pick up a bag of feed in each hand when he had an audience; but otherwise, he did not do much. I remember 'Flap' as a small child. My mother told me she had to be very careful when 'Flap' was at the dinner table because he would eat everything in the serving dishes. Consequently, she would always dish out a separate serving to him.

Gordon said on Saturday night Frank, 'Flap' and he would go to a movie theater in a local town where along with the movie he would get a bag of popcorn. Gordon learned to drive a team of horses that summer and he said "that other than candles they were the only source of power."

**Gambling Czar**—Gordon indicated when he was in his late teens his parents were often gone Saturday nights or on weekends. Taking advantage of this opening he, would advise the neighborhood boys that Culbert St. basement was open for poker gambling. Gordon would provide sandwiches and drinks and take ten percent of the pot. He indicated he made out pretty good on these occasions and could afford to buy some pretty flashy clothes.

**Patternmaker** I understood that Gordon worked part time in a pattern making shop when he was in high school.

After graduating high school and before joining the military he worked as an apprentice earning 35 cents per hour. Carl worked at O.M Edwards at the time and Gordon would drive the family car and drop dad off on his way to work

**Note: Patternmaking was a well-respected and highly paid trade at the time. When Gordon returned from WWII he went back into patternmaking. My understanding was that at that time Gordon was making more money than my brother Dick and my father put together. Unfortunately, the foundry business in the USA was killed by foreign competition and the development of computer-generated patterns has pretty much left pattern making as a lost art.**

Gordon told me that during the early 1940's Dick and Gordon were both working and gave mom board money. [Board money was common practice at the time and still in place when my wife Peg, I first started working]. Gordon earned eleven dollars and gave mom seven. With this board money, for the first-time mom had some extra money. This welcomed income ended when the boys entered WWII service. The federal government to compensate for this loss provided family subsidies to for one service member. For example, Dick could get it but not Gordon. Gordon indicated that Mom received a \$30 a month subsidy for Dick and he understood that Mom saved it for Dick. After Dick was married Mom lost the subsidy.



**Water Roots** Gordon like his Viking dad loved the water and to fish. Gordon spent many hours with his father holding a fish pole at local waterways as well as Black Lake. Black Lake is where the Dahlin family went before the war and where Gordon's continued to camp and fish up into the 1980's. A separate section about Black Lake is included in the Appendix.

Gordon built his own kayak that he reverently named the "Swede". Unfortunately, the "Swede" was based on Gordon's design rather than any fixed and established configuration. The craft had an excessively wide bow that made it too heavy for practical use. However, at some point he found an old kayak in the dump and refurbished it. Gordie indicated he and his buddy Bobby Kitchen hauled the little craft to Horseshoe Island and Cold Springs. The craft shows up in Dick's photo of Gordon paddling in St Joseph's cemetery as well as on Hinckley Lake.

One of Gordon's favorite water spots was the old Cold Springs bridge area. The original tall steel lattice bridge located over the Seneca was torn down years ago. The replacement bridge, in the exact location, is on Route 370 just past "Mud Lock Park" heading toward Baldwinsville. Gordon and "Kitchen" camped under the bridge many times bringing their own grub and clothing. Cooking was from an open campfire and generally included freshly caught fish. At one point, like Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, Gordon and 'Kitchen, built a raft. They were awakened one early morning with a lot of shouting and whistle blowing coming from a boat nearby. The raft had loosened from its mooring and sitting in the middle of the river was an easy target for the upcoming boat. The boys jumped into the river frantically swimming to recover raft from potential disaster.

A favorite pastime of the boys was to jump from the bridge. They later climbed the bridge's super structure and dove from the top up the bridge. [As a teenager, I jumped from the bridge's lowest level and that was scary enough for me].

My understanding is at some point these daredevils met the Dean Girls who lived on Hayes Road that tied into the bridge. My further understanding, is that Gordon dated one of the Dean Girls [Vilma?] for a short time. Brother Dick eventually joined the daredevil diving group and this is how he met his future wife Betty Dean.

**Finding Jeannie** Gordon's life on Culbert Street starting as little Henricus clearly transitioned when he met Genevieve Teresia Schults. My knowledge of their meeting is very limited but I know that brother Richard and Jeannie's older brother Jack were good friends and somehow Jack's sister and Dick's brother met. Perhaps Jeannie in reading this may add her own account as well as corrections and commentary to the information entered in the previous dialogue.

Gordon's connection to Culbert St. did not end when he entered military service in 1943. Although he never lived there again his contact with the family home continued for many years. Jeannie and her children hopefully have pleasant memories of Christmas, Easter and other gatherings at the old Dahlin home. **Roger Dahlin 2010**



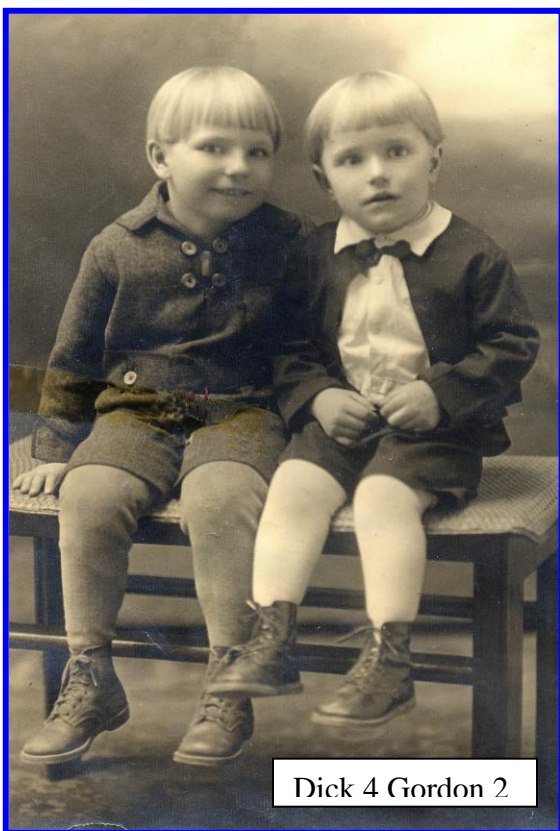
**Note :** This document was originally intended for internal family use only and revised for archiving.. Consequently, when reviewing the dialogue about Dick, Gordon and Roger Dahlin you will note some repetition in commentary. ---I am reminded daily what honorable men they were, as well as, close confidants to me . **Roger Dahlin November 2017**

**Photos were taken in 1978 at the wedding of, Spaeth Cousin, Lee Carey's daughter**





Gordon -- Baby 5 Months



Dick 4 Gordon 2



Six Year

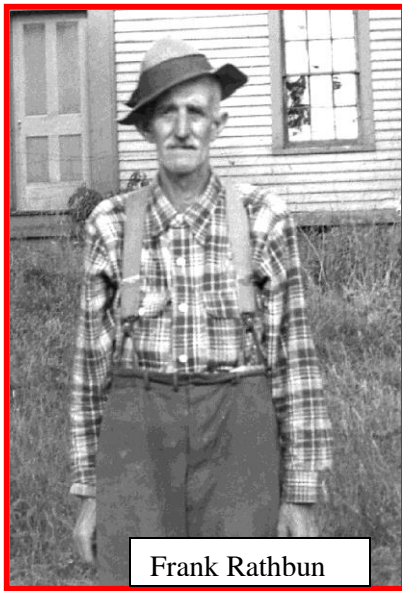


Grandma Spaeth-Gordon & Dick

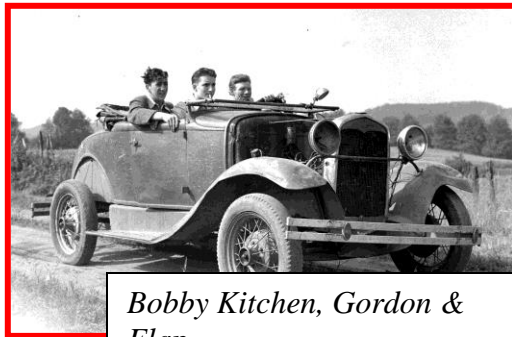
## Childhood







Frank Rathbun



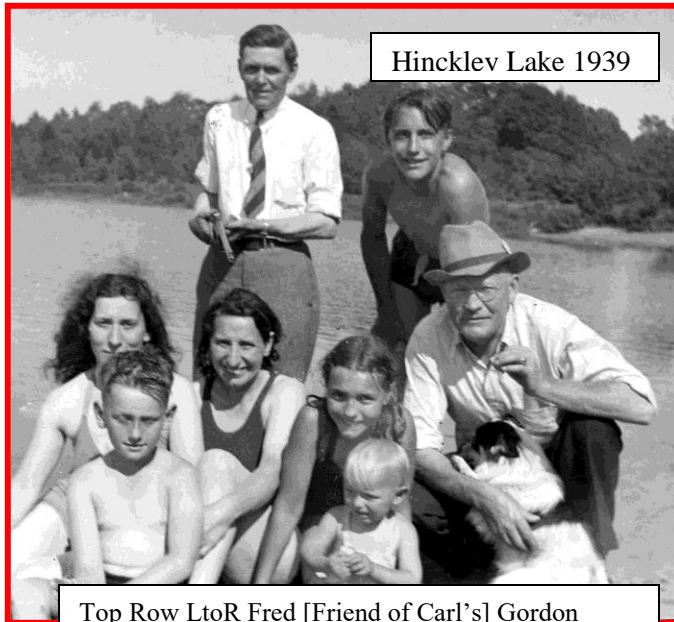
Bobby Kitchen, Gordon & Flap



Rogie's potty chair



Flap



Hinckley Lake 1939

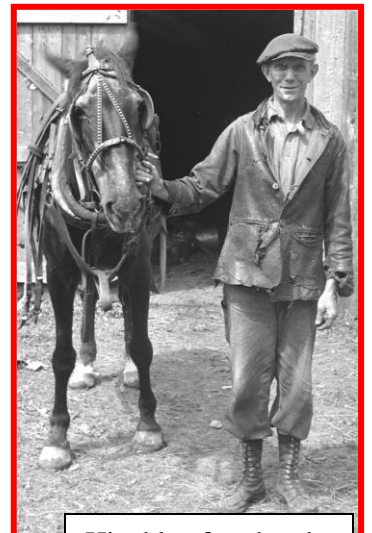
Top Row LtoR Fred [Friend of Carl's] Gordon  
Bot L-R Bunnie, Neil, Grace, Viv, Rogie, Carl & Sport



Big Game Hunter



Rogie, Gordon & Frank's dog Shep

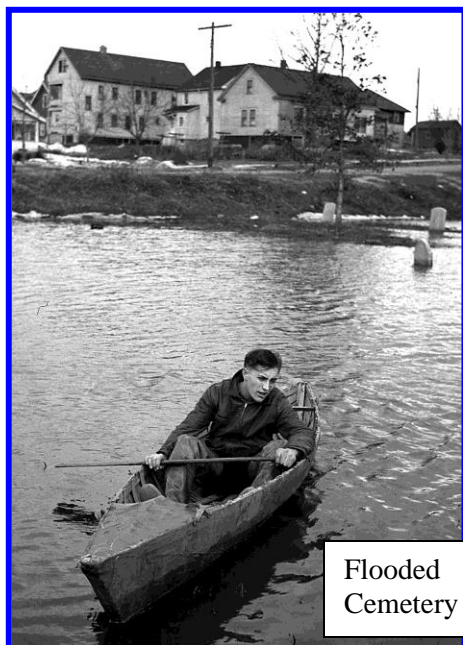


Hinckley farmhand  
in Sunday clothes

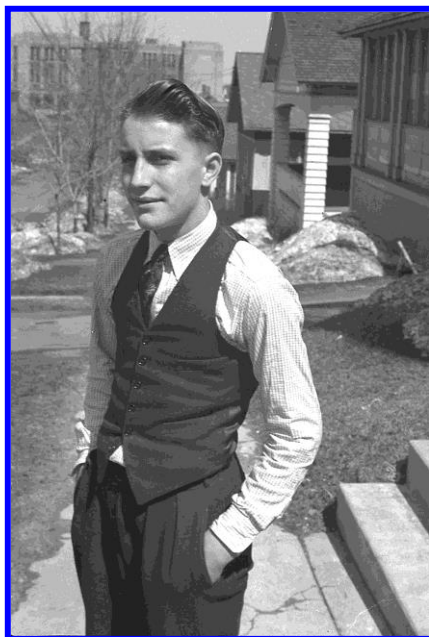
## Hinckley Resort



# Teenage Years



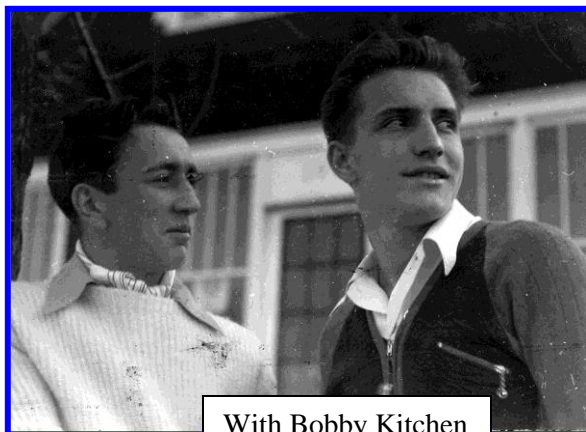
Flooded Cemetery



Homebuilt Kayak  
"The Swede"



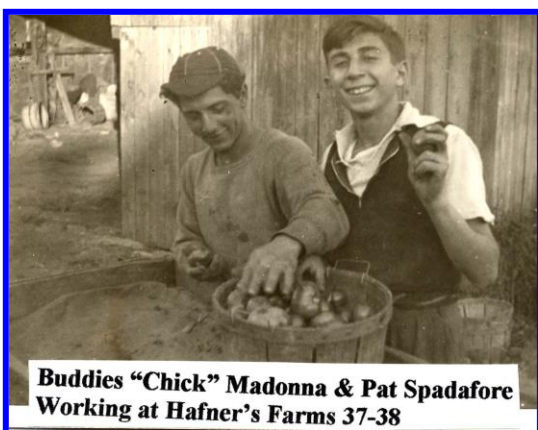
Baby Sitting



With Bobby Kitchen



Gordon holding cat with  
big brother Richard



Buddies "Chick" Madonna & Pat Spadafore  
Working at Hafner's Farms 37-38



With Dad Fishing- Location  
Unknown



## Gordon's Favorite Girl



Father Michael Schultz



Hellen [Grobowski] Schultz



1957



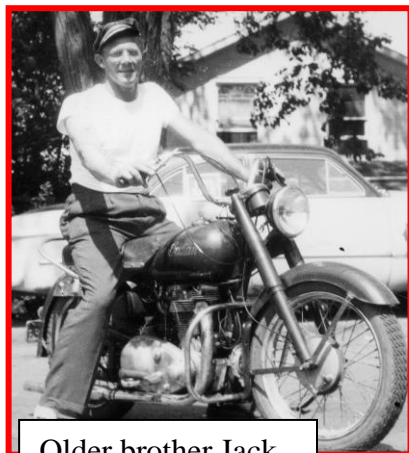
Rockin-Rollin "Jeanie" with daughter Linda 2005



First Communion



Helen Schultz – "Golden Years" at Gordon & Jean's Family Home



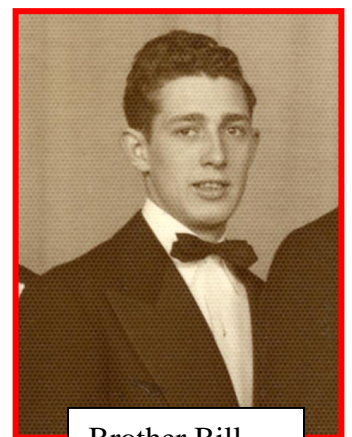
Older brother Jack



Sister Rosemary



Sister Bernadette



Brother Bill

## Vivian [Dahlin] Luhr

At Family gatherings Vivian could claim the distinction of being the only girl in the family since all her siblings and cousins were male. In fairness, that claim was lost with the uncovering of the Dahlin family background because Carl Dahlin's sister Emma and his brother Gunnar both had daughters.

"Viv" was born August 26, 1927 at St Mary's Maternity Hospital in Syracuse NY. Her birth certificate shows her as Grace Vivian Dahlin and like her siblings she has always been identified by her middle name. Grace was her mother's name.

A DVD was made for Viv's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday and another one at a later date providing photos and background of her earlier years; consequently, unlike previous narratives about her siblings this overview does not provide detailed information. Instead, this narrative includes a selection of photos used in those earlier DVD's and summaries of her personal recollections tape-recorded in August 2002.

A selection of some of her recorded responses follows:



**High School Photo**

### Earliest Memories :

*On Sunday mornings when Mom was in church Dad took me to visit a Swedish buddy of his [Gus Almquist] who lived on West Genesee St. that was more than three miles from our house. Since I was only 3-4 years old that was quite a walk for me. I can remember my father walking very slow with me and I am not sure he carried me at some point. In later life I realized that Carl had another motive than just taking his little daughter for a walk. This was during Prohibition and Gus had something to share other than fruit juice. Dad always stopped on the way home and bought me a Baby Ruth candy bar that was a big deal for me. Note: Mom Dahlin often mentioned this story because Carl made sure Vivian was dressed in her best clothes so he could show her off; further she often questioned Carl for having Vivian walk so far*

*When I was very young my father took me swimming. He was very gentle with me and took me out into deep water; I never had any fear of the water.*

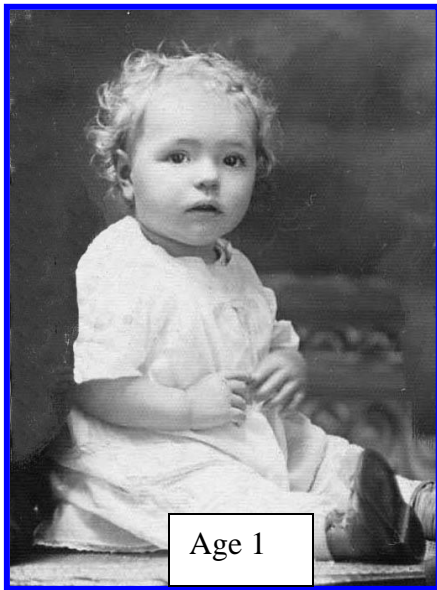
*Dad or Mom were not folks that showed outward affection to us kids such as hugging and kissing. However, I do remember one incident when I was perhaps two years old when I was very frightened by a storm and crawled in bed with my father. Dad snuggled me and tried to console me with a story about being in a storm at sea.*

**Swedish Relatives:** *My father never talked about Sweden or his family there. The only exception was that Dad's mother, Anna, who lived with us during the early thirties and she shared a bed with me. I still have vivid memories how my Swedish grandmother would hug me and try to talk with me and I remain saddened that I could not communicate with her. I still regret that Dad never taught any of us kids Swedish. However, his very clear stand was that we were Americans and he wanted us to be brought up with this ground rule.*

**World War II:** *I was thirteen when the War started. My two brothers were quickly in military service and Mom did factory work; so after school I baby-sat Roger. Because I had to baby sit I did not participate in afterschool activities. The War took away the whole fun of being a teenager because all the boys were gone. For example, prior to my senior prom my cousin Lee was supposed to line up three guys from the USO to take us to the prom. They never showed up. I remember walking with my two girlfriends heading to the prom with all three of us wearing corsages but none of us with dates.*



## Vivian Earliest Years



Age 1



Age 2



Age 3



Age 4



First  
Communion



Culbert St. Friend



Age 8



## Vivian Middle Years

### Culbert St, April 4, 1939

Grandpa "Pa" Spaeth's 69<sup>th</sup> Birthday,  
Also Grace & Carl's 18<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary

Top R-L: Ray, Viv, George, Bess, Agnes  
and "Tiny "

Bottom L-R: Carl, Bunnie, Rogie, "Pa".

Aunt Francis, Neil, Lee and Grace

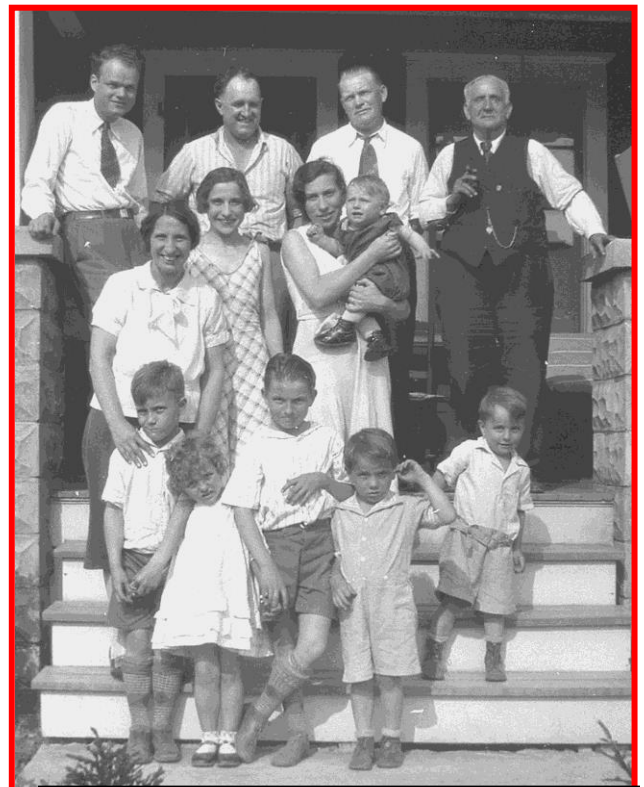
*Candles are likely hand- dipped from  
Essex Candle Co. and Daffodils freshly  
picked from the cemetery  
behind the house*



1938 Holding Baby Rogie with  
Grace & Dick



*Viv, Neil Rathbun &  
Rogie at Black Lake*



### Rathbun Fairmount Home 1931

Top L-R Francis Carey, Ray Rathbun, Carl & "Pa"

Middle: Grace, Agnes, Bunnie, and Neil

Bottom: Gordon, Viv, Dick, Lee and "Tiny" Carey

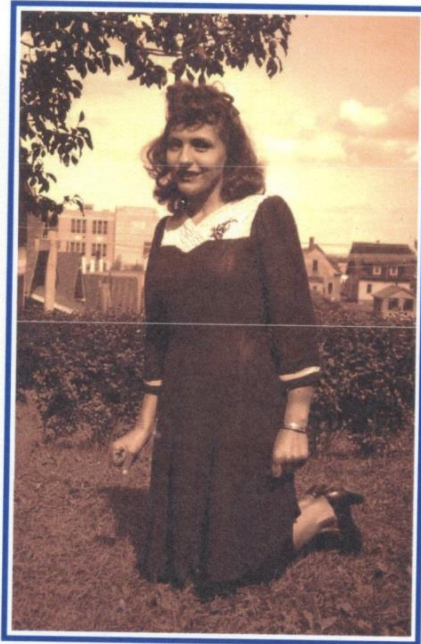
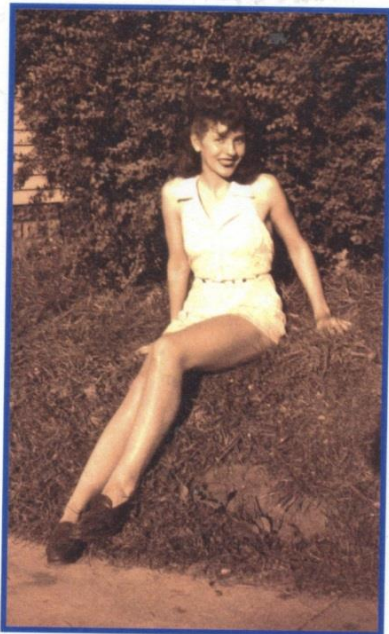


Viv and Cow at  
Hinckley Farm





## Teenage Years



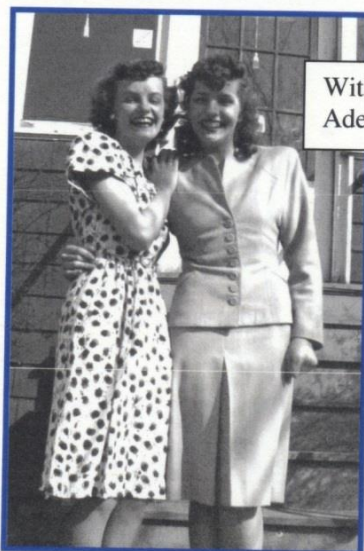
With Grace, Carl and Rogie



With future  
sister-in-law  
Betty Dean



Jean, Gordon, Mom,  
Viv and Roger

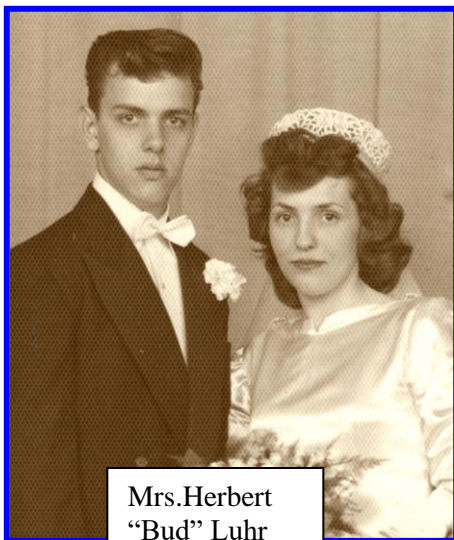


With Friend  
Adelle

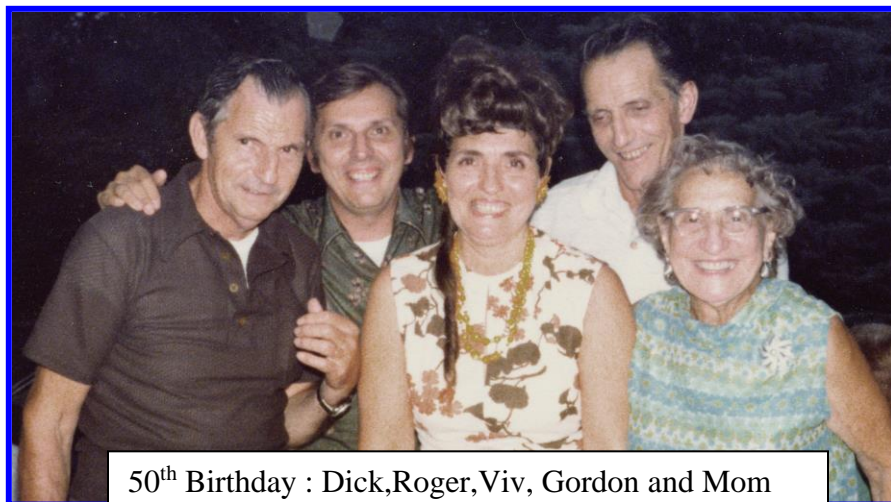


Top: Carl, Agnes, Chris Halton and Bunnie  
Bottom: Grace, Adelle, John Halton and Viv





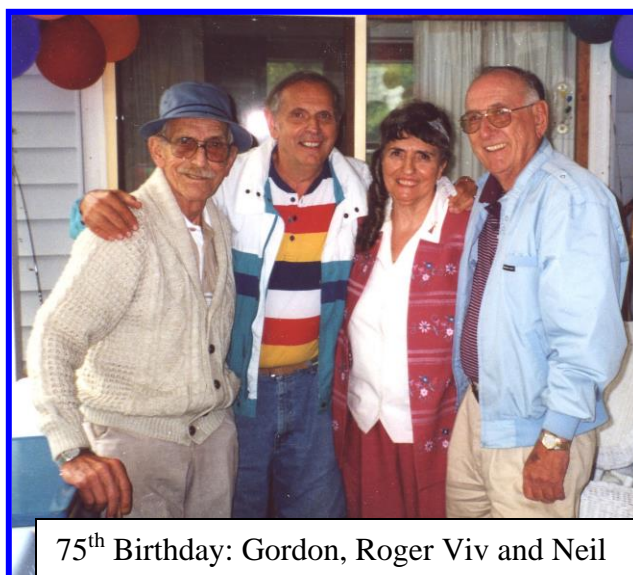
Mrs. Herbert  
"Bud" Luhr



50<sup>th</sup> Birthday : Dick, Roger, Viv, Gordon and Mom



Old Forge with Donna & Debbie  
Grandma Dahlin holding Beth



75<sup>th</sup> Birthday: Gordon, Roger Viv and Neil



Flo's Diner 2004  
Jean, Peg, Viv Gordon and Neil Rathbun



Florida with Bud 2003



## **F.Roger Dahlin – Baby Through Bachelorhood**

**Getting Started** St. Mary's Maternity Hospital on Court Street was the starting block for four little Dahlin's. The four included: Dick 1922, Gordon 1924, Vivian 1927, and my daughter Colleen in 1960. I always thought I was born at St Mary's, but my birth certificate shows me as Frank Roger Dahlin born December 2, 1937 at St Joseph's Hospital. I did not realize that my legal name was Frank until I applied for my Social Security card at age 16. My parents apparently named me after my mother's father Frank. To compound the confusion my baptismal certificate shows Francis Roger Dahlin because at the time I needed a saint's name. Consequently, my marriage certificate to Margaret Elizabeth Dean shows Francis Roger Dahlin. This confusion in my name has caused me a lifetime of heartburn. However, my family generally referred to me as "little Rogie", and people know me as Roger or F. Roger Dahlin.

**Family Home** My Parents bought their home at 146 Culbert St in 1925. To help with living expenses, up until 1942 they generally had a border. Since there were only two bedrooms it is not very clear where I slept in my younger years. My brothers and the border slept in the attic where my father built a small bedroom. Later as I became older, and my siblings left, I inherited the upstairs bedroom. However, up until the early 1950's when my folks added an addition, in order to get upstairs you had to go through the back bedroom. My sister recalled in later years, since she used that bedroom, how embarrassed she often was because my brothers barged through her room to get upstairs. *Inset photo about 1926- Note attic window.*



**Preschool Memories** My recollection of my early years is pretty much limited to hearsay. **1.** My brother Gordon recalled his babysitting assignments where he plopped me in my carriage and towed me to his places of play. **2.** Vivian decided that etiquette was important and she drilled me in such things as use of please and thank you. **3.** I have vague recollections of family poker games at our house and relatives along with trips to Hinckley and Black Lake. **4.** Music was another family activity that creeps back into my thoughts. Family gatherings followed by sufficient libation generally led to singing accompanied by my sister's piano playing, **5.** My mother told me that my dad went to bed most work nights at 7:00 PM and she often took me to the local movie theater. However, my dad loved to dance and my parents went out most Saturday nights to the local German –American club where they had a live band. **6.** One rare early memory was when I had my tonsils removed and woke up in my hospital crib, extremely upset, because only a nurse was in view.

**Nature and Nurture** Genes and upbringing are a underpinning factor for any person's life; consequently, my original intent was to provide some insight about my parents and their parenting. However, as I started out with this effort it became quickly clear that this could not be done in a few paragraphs. Therefore, it is my intent to possibly revisit this effort in the future. To strengthen my position, I decided to include a single example about my father to demonstrate how easy it would be to misrepresent him.

Carl was not a person of outward affection nor gave any gifts. To my knowledge my mother only received two gifts from my father. One was a large heart shaped Valentines box filled with stale chocolates and a small Dutch clock. [See inset] Both items were purchased with good intentions but evidentially at some bargain price. My Dad was not a, cold, non-caring, stingy person as might be interpreted by the limited facts provided. One example from my early childhood floats back that may not fully identify him but in my view helps soften his image. Even today past the age of seventy on cold winter nights alone in my bed I am warmed and comforted by my earliest memory of my father's voice: "It is going to be a cold night on the ocean". I do not remember the precise circumstances for his words but do believe on cold winter nights I passed the same words to some of my offspring.



Not to forget my mother, but in no attempt to fully identify her I also include an adult memory of her. While working at Niagara Mohawk I was asked to drop something off at a co-worker's home. This task was out of my way but no biggy. This person, who had a master's degree in Materials Engineering, partly opened the door, took the package, said thank you and immediately closed the door. I stood there thinking about my mother with only a sixth-grade education that would never have done such a thing. She always made anyone welcome in her home.

**Early experience with women** The Vollmer's lived two doors up from us. Joe's older sister Philomena, a few months younger than I, was an early playmate. As recorded by my brother Richard with his Argus C3 camera, I was apparently attempting some early amour but Philomena did not share my interests. An altercation followed that eventually led me to receive a blow to the fore head with a little toy hoe [not recorded].

*This event restricted my approach to women for many years. My next timid step was when I was almost eighteen.*

**World War Two** *My Dad was a fiercely patriotic man which probably explains why I show up in military garb in many early pictures during that period.-- Both my brother's left for the service in early 1943 and our last border "Scotty" Fleming was drafted about the same time or earlier. He sent me the Indian headdress that floated around the house for 40 plus years. -- My mom did factory war work during this period that evidently provided the family with some extra income for the first time. Viv was still in school and was likely my major baby sitter; however, she did remark how difficult it was for the teenage girls at the time because there were no young men around.-- I remember standing in line with my mother for food ration stamps, and recall my task to cut the ends from both ends of cans, then flatten them and put the cans out for weekly scrap drives.-- During the war sugar was rationed and chocolate was reserved for the troops. I can remember the crummy candy bars that tasted like they had a sawdust base. – I have vivid memories when the war ended because church bells were ringing all over.*



**Aunt Bessie and Uncle George** *lived their entire married life in the old Spaeth homestead on Pond Lane. Bessie told Peg that when I was about a year old my mother had a miscarriage and she was sick for a long period. They moved me to Pond Lane and placed my crib at the bottom of their bed. George and Bess would wake in the morning with me peaking over my crib. Bessie, who had no children of her own, confided to Peg that she always wished I could have stayed there. Bessie's comments are reinforced by the recent discovery of a necklace owned by her. This necklace has a small glass ball with a gold band including two pictures. One side is George with Bess the other is Little Rogie wearing his WWII army hat.*



*In the collected series of photos, one shows me next to Bessie dressed in her gardening gear. It reminded me that she introduced me to gardening. My parents never gardened, but I spent time working with her in her Pond lane garden and she helped me establish a little garden on the hill in back of my Culbert St. home. [In my "Golden years" I enjoy raising native wildflowers.]*

*I often had meals alone with Bess and George. George's standing offer of a small glass of ginger ale before dinner stands out because we rarely had soft drink at home. His standing offer of plain ginger ale was backed with his personal taste to have a little whiskey mixed with his.*

**Culbert St. Outdoor Activities** *My mother recalled that during the winter months I played outside for long periods even in very cold weather. Generally, I played alone but sometimes with a little girl about my age whose mother also carefully dressed her like me so we wouldn't get cold. These included little gimmicks such as sewing on extensions to my mittens so my hands would stay warm and dry. In later years, other neighborhood kids joined me in sledding and other winter activities. Culbert St. was a great place for sledding because we lived on top of a pretty good hill and there was rarely any traffic. For more excitement we could start at the top of Vollmer's backyard hill, two doors up from me and on a good day slide to the end of our street.*

*In warm weather, I was outside almost every evening until dark with neighborhood kids where we played games such as "Kick the Can", "Hide and Seek", baseball, marbles, hopscotch and a wide variety of games popular at the time. On rainy days or hot afternoons, we would gather on Vollmer's open porch and play Monopoly. Quiet times sitting on a neighbor's front steps were also eventful where we discussed a children's view of the universe. In contrast to my childhood, I am saddened that today's children are generally tied to video games. TV, cell phones and sports activities that are primarily controlled by adults.*

**Culbert St. Indoor Activities** *Syracuse did not get its first television station until 1948 when I was almost 11 years old; our family did not get a TV until the mid 1950's. Radio, comics and hardbound books were standard entertainment. Like most folks we had one radio that was located in the living room and I listened to programs that my parents wanted. However, whereas my mom and dad sat in the stuffed chairs I sat on the floor and either drew pictures or worked with my WWII era wooden erector set.*



My Uncle George gave me a few commemorative and Duck stamps that stirred my interest in stamp collecting. Shortly after, a neighbor gave me a small collection from her son who had died that parlayed my interest. Further, many of the neighborhood kids also collected stamps, so trading stamps became another source of fun.

As a preteen, I don't recall having friends over to my house or going to another home to play. The closest I came to in this option was in Vollmer's or my basement during the canning season where I helped snip beans, pit cherries or prepare other fruits and vegetables for canning. Joey Vollmer sometimes went with me to overnights to Hinckley.

**Family Pets** My brother Dick had pet white rats as a kid, Gordon and Dick must have had a cat because it shows up in pictures, All four of us had colored chicks or ducklings at Easter and one year my Dad built a small pond for the ducks but the next door neighbor complained and they ended up like the others to Hinckley or some other farmer. At different times I had a turtle, a rabbit and hamsters. My Mom had a bird when I was a teenager. However, the one family pet that stands out was old Sport.

When I was just a baby, the family next door moved and left Sport on their doorstep. The family adopted Sport and Sport adopted me. My Mom said you always knew where Rogie was because if you could find Sporty Rogie was nearby.

Sport was a Spitz and Spaniel mix and traveled with us on vacations, He was normally a very gentle animal but on at least two occasions his male hormones overtook his gentle nature. Once, at Hinckley, a local farm dog was in heat and my parents locked Sport in the farm living room. Sport dove through the window in pursuit of the female. I recall the nasty cut my father got repairing the window but I was not aware of Sport's success. When I was sixteen, making Sport at least sixteen, he was gone one night. He came home the next morning barely able to walk and all chewed up. My parents assumed he got in a fight over a female and was beyond help. That was the last time I saw him.

### **Primary Education**

**U S Grant Grades K through 3** My third grade report card reveals several things:. My teacher, Ms. Miller, had lovely handwriting, I had good marks, I was in grade 3-2 and would-be starting 4<sup>th</sup> grade at a new school in January 1947. See insets

The Syracuse Schools had a screwy system when I was growing up; based upon your age you either started Kindergarten in September or in January. Working backward this meant I started Kindergarten in January 1943 a month beyond my fifth birthday. This split starting was not a problem until I reached high school where sessions only started in the fall. Beginning high school, I could drop back a half year and start ninth grade or go to summer school and start in grade ten. I chose the latter and ended up graduating high school six months before my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

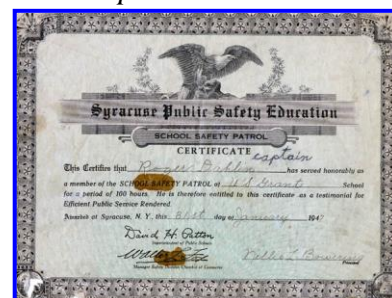
The school building located a couple of blocks from my old house still stands but it has been an apartment complex for more than fifty years. At an early age I found that I could cut more than half the trip to school by sneaking through our street to the back of Follhoppers Grocery store. Follhopper was a jolly old German with a big potbelly who spoke broken English and had a large handle bar mustache. He always wore a white apron and this is where I bought the crummy WWII candy bars, I referred to earlier. What made this place unique is that it apparently had no electricity because lighting was from an old gas lamp.

Recollections: Kindergarten was in a very large room with a long shelf of wooden building blocks. We took naps on the wooden floor with little mats or towels that we brought from home. Snacks of milk and graham crackers were provided. Not sure if full or half day.--High point was when I was appointed to the safety patrol to help younger kids cross the street where I was given a white shoulder/waste belt. Later got Captain badge. Added "Captain" to my safety certificate --see inset.

Syracuse Public Schools  
Syracuse, N. Y.

Pupil Roger Dahlin  
School U.S. Grant Grade 3<sup>2</sup>  
Teacher R. M. Miller  
Term Fall Year 1946

Pupil	1	2	3
Reading	a	a	a
Pennmanship	a	a	a
Spelling	a	a	a
English	a	a	a
Arithmetic	a	a	a
Social Studies			
History			
Geography	a	a	a



Webster School [Grades 4 - 6 Jan 47 to Jan 50 ] was a very long walk. It is unclear why I did not attend Salina school like my older siblings because it was a little closer. My speculation is that my mother chose Webster because it was a newer school in a more upscale neighborhood. One limitation was that Webster did not have a cafeteria and students went home for lunch; therefore, my mother made arrangements with a friend who lived close to the school and I ate my lunches there.

Recollections: In sixth grade we often played baseball during lunch hour I was not a real strong player but I provided a very valuable service. I maintained a ledger of all our games showing scores and player statistics. -- I painted all my 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers' flowerpots. I did this in the school basement. This was not for punishment, but because I was a neat painter, and my teacher must have thought my grades was good enough to allow me to lose some class time.-- In 1948 Harry Truman ran for President. My mom wanted to take me to his whistle stop in Syracuse. The school principal would not let me go.



Grant Junior High [Grades 7 through 9-1, Jan 50 to June 52] was at the bottom of Culbert St but they had a cafeteria and I ate there. . I was a pretty decent student but did particularly well in the school's electricity class. This was not because I was a whiz in electricity but because how the class was structured. The class consisted of a series of hands-on tasks where you ran small battery wires to small lights and bells. Your marks were based upon how neatly you ran and fastened down the wires and I was extremely good at this. Consequently, my marks were high 90's. I mention this because this factor had a major impact on the high school I went to. My dad had a very low regard for higher education. He always referred to some of the engineers he worked with as "educated fools". Contrariwise, he had great respect for anyone in the trades. So since I did so good in electricity, family members including my brothers and Uncle George pushed for me to go to a trade school rather than North High where Dick and Vivian went, [Gordon went to a trade high school].



Recollections: Our Science teacher was a real tough hombre; any one who challenged him would get more than verbal response. He ran an after-school science club that I joined. The club was fun but he had an initiation program, prior to joining, that by today's standard would make front-page news. Our eight grade English teacher made us keep a bound booklet where she introduced us to sentence structuring, punctuation and other rules of grammar. She told us that we would need this in the future particularly if we went to college. Many times, I wished I had that little booklet. -- Must have had another big job in 8<sup>th</sup> grade "Fire Captain" because have certificate to prove it!

H.W. Smith Technical and Industrial High School [Grade 10-12 Sept 52 to June 55] was really two schools in one. The industrial side prepared you for a trade such as a welder or carpenter but not an electrician; further, it entailed very little math or science. The technical side was an entirely different story; it was geared for someone who was likely planning to go to college. They had a pretty stringent examine to qualify for the program that was heavy in science and math both of which I was pretty good at. I was offered the opportunity to join one of the two programs offered: Technical Mechanical or Technical Electrical. Not really knowing the difference but primed for electricity I started 10th grade-Electrical.

Recollections: I loved the Mechanical drawing program; my dad built me a drafting table that allowed me to do homework at home. Looking back, I wish I had taken the mechanical rather than the electrical program. The down side of the school was because of the mix with trade and technical students there was little enthusiasm for academic achievement. It seemed like that anyone who pushed for good grades was labeled an outsider. I graduated third in my class, two tenths of one percent behind the valedictorian. This sounds great but my average, I think, was 83.3.

As a reflection of the economic times, our physics teacher bragged that his father's annual income was five figures.



Religious Instruction My dad, a Lutheran, agreed before marriage that all his children would be raised to the requirements of my mother's Roman Catholic faith. My mother belonged to the German-American founded church of Assumption. Assumption then as now is probably the most beautiful church in the Diocese of Syracuse

Since my siblings and I attended public school we were all required to attend religious instructions. Both my siblings and I attended these religious instructions and attended mass before Vatican II. That is, nuns wore full habits, the mass was in Latin, the priest faced the altar rather than the people and the catechism book contained the exact lessons taught in the late nineteenth century. These lessons, which entailed memorizing prayers and liturgy, were the same that my grandparents studied as children. I do not remember studying the stories from the old and new testaments; maybe we did. I do remember the comic books that did provide all those biblical characters in stirring color.



As I recall most of my classes were after school where I walked to Assumption Church. Many times, I stopped on my way home to drop by Aunt Bessie and Uncle George's Pond Lane home for my little glass of ginger ale and supper.

**Recollections:** Although the main church was well lit and inspiring the basement grotto where daily mass was given was a different story. It was something like you would expect from the "Da Vinci Code" movie; a truly medieval setting—low ceilings and lighting with dark woodwork. Just before mass would start about thirty nuns dressed in their black habits would march in, genuflect and take their seats. All without a sound!---My mother took me to old, I assumed free, silent movies in the school building where I had religious ed. This included silent film pioneer D. W. Griffith's "King of Kings" and "Birth of a Nation"

Boy Scout Program My scouting years were the highpoint in growing up. It provided me the opportunity, to learn new things, make new friends, gain recognition and provide me a level of independence because I could generally walk to activities.

**Cub pack 121** with pack meetings held at Webster school welcomed me fall 1947 at age 10. This was the last year the Cub Scout Program was for 9–12-year-olds. By the time I completed my initial Bobcat award I was almost eleven and therefore eligible to work only on the final "Lion" badge. However, you had the option to work on electives [arrow point badges] and I took great comfort that I had so many arrow point badges. After becoming a Boy Scout, I returned to the Cub program as a den chief.



Recollections: I really lucked out because in 1948 Den one, without question, was the best den in the pack. Mrs. Thoma, our den mother, had one of the first television sets in the city of Syracuse. After our den meetings she allowed us to stay and watch Captain Video, Howdy Doody or other exciting programs.

**Boy Scout troop 81** meetings were held in the Webster School gym. I joined fall 1948 at the time the age limit to join was lowered from **twelve- to eleven-year-olds**. Because of this almost forty new scouts joined that fall. This included several scouts who would remain my friends for many years: John Kendrick, Carl Dudli, who also ended up in my Smith Tech, class plus Dave Miner and Jerry Schmidt who were in my Webster school class.

Troop Meetings were Thursdays 7 to 9 PM where the school provided the troop with a secure room where flags and other scout paraphernalia were kept. The program followed a fixed format: 1. Opening ceremony with uniformed scouts facing the American and troop flag 2. Patrol corner where attendance was noted and dues collected 3. Spirited games on the gym floor like "Steal the bacon" and "boom coming over" 4. Skills demonstration 5. Inter-patrol competition 6. Instruction broken down into rank areas. 7. Most memorable to me --the closing ceremony.

At about 8:45, we sat around an artificial campfire located in the center of the gym. The lights were then turned off. Standing was Scoutmaster, Jack Richards, illuminated by a small electric bulb filtered by red craft

*paper. Jack would begin by announcing some upcoming scouting events followed by leading us in a rousing chorus of scout songs. A few minutes before 9:00 he would then give the signal for quiet. I can still recall him in complete silence where he would begin the Scoutmaster's Benediction: "May the Great Master of all Scouts be with us until we meet again". We would immediately yell as loud as we could the Scout motto "Be Prepared". Jack would respond with "Goodnight scouts" and the lights were turned back on.*

*Jack Richards, with the exception of my parents, was the person who most influenced my life. His manner, integrity, knowledge and leadership skills outshine all others. In my retirement years John Kendrick and I along with a couple old scouts would have lunch each year with Jack. He went to meet the "Great Master of all Scouts" in 2008.*

*Troop discipline was controlled by two effective methods. The lower level was called "assume the angle". In this process offenders were told to bend over and touch their toes. This was followed by an older leader who slap the scout's backside with an open hand. For greater offences the process of "running the gauntlet" was imposed. In this case, all the scouts were ordered to form a single line and spread their legs. The offender, was required to crawl as fast as he could through these legs where he received slaps on his tail end from all scouts. In today's society this would be considered child abuse. In those days as it was simply fun.*

*Another example, though not for discipline, easily challenged today, was troop initiation. In this process each new scout was lead blindfolded through several intended scary stops. At the last stop you were given two large brass rings one for each hand. An inspiring dialogue was introduced to convince you that these were the "rings of wisdom" Next you would receive a strong high voltage shock generated by an old hand -cranked telephone set. Note: in old movies you see someone crank the telephone to contact the operator. A harmless high voltage was produced to permit this contact.*

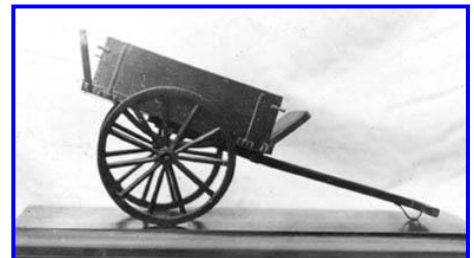
*Leaders Meetings When you reached the status of at least patrol leader you were invited, after troop meetings, to Jack's house. Here next weeks troop meeting was planned along with hikes and other scouting activities. A great perk of this group is that you were eligible for excursions limited to these older scouts. This included wilderness camping and overnights to Schmidt's camp as well as mine at Old Forge. Inset is my "Flaming Arrow" patrol patch*



*Patrol Meetings I was elected patrol leader for the Flaming Arrow Patrol at a tender age. My parents were supportive enough to allow me to use a section of our attic for a patrol den. I took much care in the finished setting where weekly meetings were held. Themes for these meetings were supported by articles from Boys Life magazine and also focused on preparation for troop meeting inter-patrol competition. However, the greatest interest was to prepare and execute day and overnight hikes. These excursions were normally low budget activities where we took our backpacks on city buses to the closest point of interest, then walked. One of our common low budget meals was "cripples". A scout member knew someone that worked at the local Hoffman hotdog plant and some product came out with small, distorted shapes, known as "cripples". These could not be sold, so, he either got them free or for pennies.*

*Fund raising was another key patrol activity. We bought full boxes of candy from a local candy retailer then went door-to-door selling the bars at a nice profit. Our biggest windfall, though, was used newspaper. Troop 81 had a unique contact at Syracuse China that used clean shredded newspaper to pack dishes. The kicker was that they only accepted white paper, with folds in one direction tied in twenty-five-pound bundles. The extra work involved was easily justified because their rate was four times what you received for normal scrap paper.*

*I do not remember if other patrols took advantage at the time for this option, but I do remember my father's muted frustration with having his garage filled with newspapers for several weeks. Collecting, sorting, weighing and bundling these papers were pretty routine. Delivery was another story. Since no truck was available, we elected to use Troop 81's old, high steel wheel trek cart for the two-mile trip to Syracuse China. Problem was my house sat on a hill and we soon realized that the cart loaded to the brim was a bigger problem than anticipated. Starting at the top of the hill it was immediately evident that a few young scouts could not hold the cart back. We jumped out of the way and the cart went crashing down the hill. It is a miracle no one was hurt. Do not remember how we finally delivered the papers. Inset is a model of a Boy Scout trek cart similar to one we used.*





**Advancement** Back in the old days of my scouting years, the literal requirements of any badge was strictly enforced. For example, one step for the Second-Class rank was fire building. Here you needed to start a wood fire without paper using only two matches and boil water. You were handed two matches and a small pot of water and were closely watched to see if you could complete the task. If you did not, you had to wait until the next outing to try again. Another example was the Athletics merit badge necessary for Eagle that had firm physical fitness requirements. For me it was badge I really struggled to meet.



Today, when I start a wood fire, use a compass, sharpen a knife or tie a knot I am thankful for those strictly enforced scout learning skills. Another skill that I am tickled to brag about was what I learned more than fifty years ago in Swimming merit badge. I attended summer scout camp a few years ago with my son Chad. Here, in order to participate in water front activities I needed to pass a swimming test. Picture me with four guys at least thirty years younger than me looking out at a marker you had to swim around and back. It seemed to me that the Wall of China was shorter and at best I would look pretty foolish coming in last or perhaps not even make it. These untrained young bucks started out flaying their arms in all directions. I started out with an overhand stroke that is fast but quickly winded. I switched to the slow but very restful elementary backstroke. Ultimate joy is when you hit the dock ahead a bunch of pooped out youngsters.



**Reflections of a crabby old Scout** . Son Chad joined a local Scout troop in 2003; he stayed there about a year. The troop to its credit had monthly overnights, high advancement and their own cabin. However, from my rusty viewpoint they were more like a Cub pack rather than a Boy Scout Troop. This is not because women were part of the leadership team but because, to me, the adults rather than the kids ran the program. Troop meetings without evidence of a planned program were held for an hour in the local American Legion hall. There really wasn't enough room to play games and adults sat in the back of the room waiting to take their kids home. Scouts sat in what appeared to be individual patrols but beyond that I could not understand their function. The most unsettling thing for me was advancement justification. Chad attended summer camp for a week and came home with both 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Class badges along with three merit badges. He also went out one evening for a boat ride and came back with Motorboating and Water Sports merit badges. Most disturbing was when a father approached me to sign his son's merit badge. Imagine my response!

**Health Hazards** During the building of the Nine Mile Point nuclear plant I was walking with a young engineer through a remote location. I smelled something that reminded me of my youth and asked the young engineer if he knew what that smell was. He essentially said: "You dummy, don't you recognize marijuana?" What floored me was that the smell took me back to Hinckley at age ten or eleven. Old Frank Rathbun, like me, suffered from asthma and he thoughtfully offered me an Asthmadore cigarette. Consider this, an adult giving a child a cigarette and what possible benefit would smoke be for someone with a breathing problem. Remember that this was in the days before the Food and Drug Administration was in place and that marijuana may alter the respiratory system.

My old report cards confirm that I missed quite a bit of school growing up. In my defense I suffered from Asthma, lost a couple of weeks for measles and chicken pox and lost more time when my face swelled up like a balloon after playing around with a wild "puffball" mushroom. I also had feet problems where my mother ended up buying me expensive "Health Spa" shoes. One trick I used however in an attempt to stay home sick from school did not work well. I learned that if you want to fake a high temperature, do not apply a lit match on a glass thermometer because it immediately breaks into many pieces.

**Sounds of Music** I mentioned earlier that at family gatherings folks loved to sing. This was often supported by the beautiful alto voices of my sister Vivian and sister-in-law Jean who provided blended harmony. Family singing was a corner stone of the German – American community that my mother grew up in. I later learned



**my father's family in Sweden was praised for their singing. In my case, my musical interest was supplemented by an old hand cranked Victrola located in our basement along with a bunch of old 78 RPM records. This interest was further supported by drum lessons that I started in fourth grade. I started my lessons on a simple wooden platform my father built. Later my mother bought me a street carrying snare drum and she cajoled me to play a few drum routines before friends and relatives. I was never particularly good at it but I did play in school bands.**

My father was apparently a very good dancer because stories about his skills often surfaced. In my case, since I very shy, there were no young females in my early teenage years and I went to an all-male high school, male companions provided my lessons. These lessons turned out to be a huge asset when I began dating because during the 1950's there were high school dances all over Syracuse. One thing I quickly learned if you could dance and had a car you were in big demand by the ladies.

**Sad End to a Joy ride** This was a headline in the Syracuse Herald Journal when I was 17. The article also included a photo of two of my buddies when they borrowed my used Cushman two- seat motor scooter. With my friend Dave Miner driving and Mickey Palidino behind they lost control and crashed into the gas pump in an old, long gone, Lyncourt gas station. The police came, no tickets were issued and Mickey had a nice ambulance trip. He was released shortly later by the hospital with a minor leg injury. This was the last trip for my expensive \$125 rig.

This not the first vehicle I owned because old photos show me with a tricycle. I later inherited my sister's WWII "Victory" single speed bicycle. This bike had narrow tires to minimize rubber use and required special skills driving on streets with old trolley tracks because if you got the wheel caught in the trolley track it could pitch the bike into traffic. I not miss the fact that there are no pictures because it would remind me I had to ride a girl's bike. However, one picture I wish I had was of my first motorized vehicle. This was a very small motor scooter with a centrifugal clutch that I bought for \$15 and with the two dollars for plates I had it on the road. [Insurance was not mandatory in those days.] There was no seat so you sat on the gas tank. No key either, and sometimes at Smith Tech I would find someone riding it around the parking lot.

Two others of my proud vehicles are shown in photos. My 1948 Pontiac wagon had some limitations. The taillights were out for a while, and for night driving my temporary substitute was a kerosene lantern: further, the rotten wood frame holding the rear fender fell off and blew a tire. Wood was another problem with my 1948 International "woody" station wagon. The wood roof leaked and I repaired it with fiberglass. Close inspection of the photo of this gem reveals my fiberglass work was not to smooth. One of these rigs wasn't very good in rainy weather because you needed one hand to operate the hand-cranked windshield wiper.

**Work Ethic** My mother firmly rejected my desire to have a newspaper route. Her rejection was based upon bad experiences my older brothers had with paper routes. On the other hand, she did not object hand setting bowling pins. The process is really designed for a tough, strong person who in those days I was not. Up until I was sixteen, I was about the smallest boy in my school classes. However, I persevered. The problem was you were paid not by the hour but on the number of games you set. Therefore, you got paid twice as much if you set two alleys at a time [jump alleys]. I remember one night I got so tired that I mistakenly jumped into the alley just as the bowling ball hit the pins. Miraculously, the ball went between my legs and the only injury I received was a bruise where one of the flying pins hit my legs. Two firm memories filter back regarding my experience setting pins. First, I learned the value of money. It took me a long time not to equate the cost of an item versus the amount of work it required. In other words, was a candy bar worth me picking up a given number of bowling pins? The other is a reflection of my neighborhood and I am sure many others at the time. Bowling ended after 11 PM; I had to walk several blocks from the bowling alley at Assumption Church to my home on Culbert St. The streets were dimly lit, but I recall no fear for that walk. Today with much improved lighting I would not want to make that walk alone or even with someone.

My next high paying job at a big seventy- five cents an hour was working with my brother Gordon on construction. Gordon at the time was working for a contractor building houses. My tasks on Saturday or vacation days were to do the things none of the other carpenters wanted to do such as: sweeping and cleaning up trash, tarring foundations and preparing lawns for seeding.



Probably the best job of my working life that came immediately out of high school was when I worked at Syracuse University's Metallurgical Research Laboratory. The job was both challenging and rewarding and most satisfying were the people I worked with. I recall with awe lunch hours sitting around a large table where I sat spellbound listening to fellow employees discuss issues of the day or other items.

After I had been there for a year or more the person running the metallographic/photographic lab quit to join the more lucrative NY State Troopers. For some reason the staff there gave me a chance to see if I could run the lab. This turned out to be an ideal setting for me. Being a university setting there was plenty of reading material where I could learn required things to operate the lab. Further, I had nearly complete control of purchases so I could try new materials. I became pretty skilled in photography and very skilled in preparing metal samples for observation under a microscope. I even developed a new technique for preserving edges of metal samples that was particularly important in evaluating metal plated surfaces. This technique was published in a small article of the American Society of Metals magazine. My experiences at the metallurgical lab were a key to later life promotions at General Electric and Niagara Mohawk Power



**Advice on Bachelorhood** My father did not get married until he was thirty-three. My mother's goal was to have her sons enjoy the benefits of bachelorhood like my father did. However, her oldest son made it to 21, her middle son to twenty and her youngest son to just past 21.

It has been more than sixty years since I could be labeled a bachelor and it has been a fast sixty years. However, during those sixty years I have learned a few things that should be of value to a young male.

- Avoid dance lessons
- Do not hang around with male friends where girls are attracted like bees to nectar because some of the pollen can fall on you.
- Heed the words of a successful bachelor who indicated any time he became interested in women he went out and bought a new car.
- If you are forced into a position to bring a young lady home to meet your families make sure she does not end up helping in the kitchen. Mother's are most impressed with girls who do kitchen work
- Most important and critical to your future is never, **and I mean never**, offer a pair of dry socks to any little Irish girl



**FRD February 2021**



**With "Little Irish Girl" December 27, 1958**  
--- Dean Home on West Newell St .Syracuse NY,  
Includes Carl & Grace Dahlin with Minnie & Henry Dean

## Earliest Years 1938-1939



Five Months



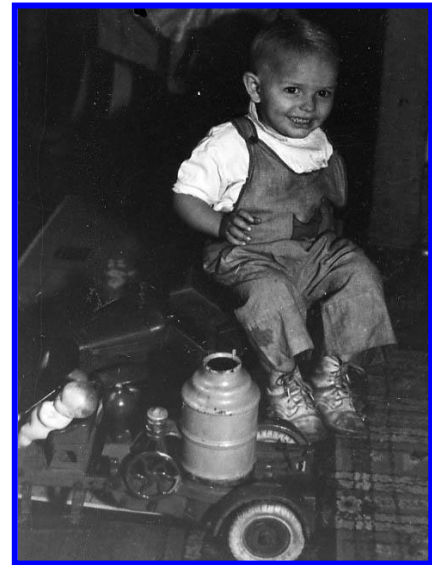
Grandpa Spaeth, Gord, Dick, Rog, Mom, Dad & Viv 1939-



Xmas 39



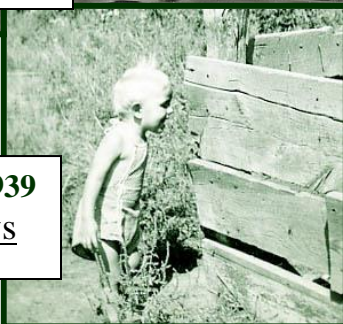
Easter 1939



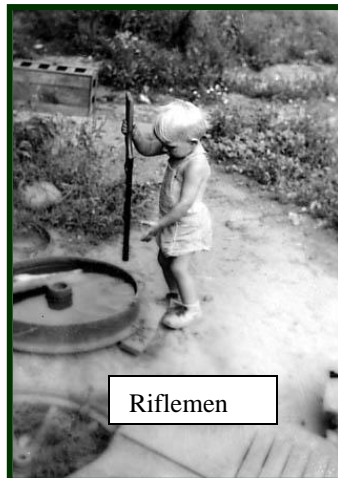
Tov Trucks 1939



Gordon's Kayak



**Hinckley 1939**  
Four Views



Riflemen



With Gordon &  
Farm Dog Shep



## Preschool Continued -- Early 1940's



3 Years, 5 Mo.



Ice Cream Cone



Pulling Gordon's hair



Dick, Rogie & Gordon  
Culbert St, Backyard



Gardening with Aunt Bessie  
On Pond Lane



*Culbert St with future  
Baby Sitters Aggie &  
Mary Vollmer*



First Kiss



Confrontation



Result- Note scar on forehead



Nap Time



# War Years and U.S. Grant Elementary School 1943-45



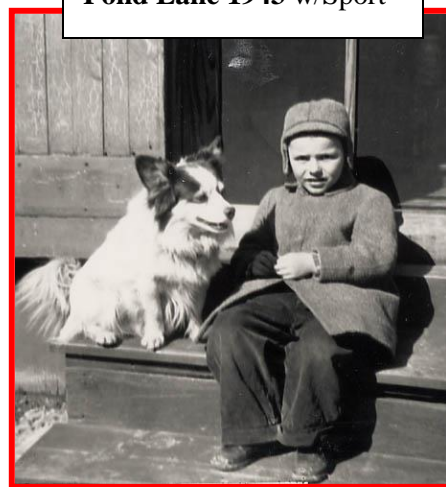
With sister Vivian



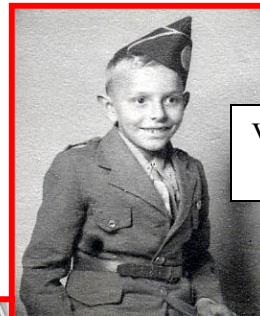
Pond Lane 1943 w/Sport



Culbert St. winter 1943 **Top of hill, and view** from Dahlin's yard to Vollmer's hill-- we slid to street



**Black Lake 1944** Dick on leave –Photo includes : Dick , Betty, Vivian , Mom, Mom's brother Uncle George , Sport & me



Vending machine photo



Lt. Gordon Dahlin with Jean, Mom., Vivian and Rogie

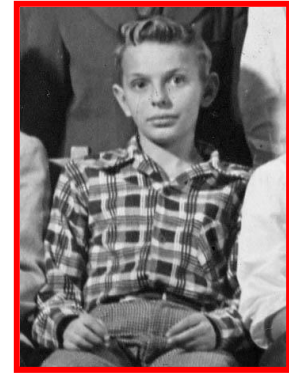


Pond Lane 1944 with/ Sport





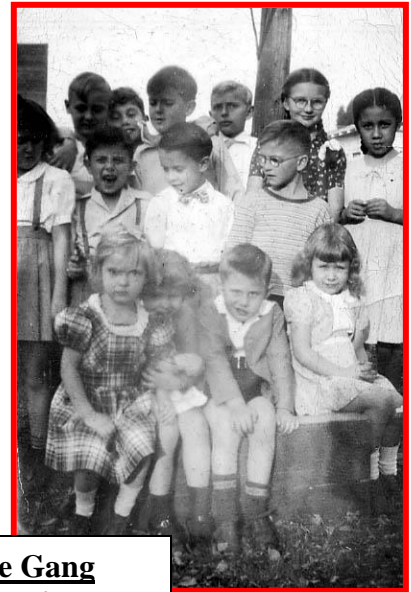
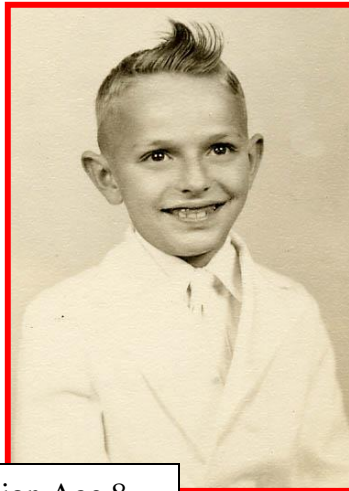
## Webster School Grades 4-6 1946-1948



Webster School 1948  
Sixth Grade Age 11  
*No Sport coat or tie*



First Communion Age 8



**Culbert St. Juvenile Gang**  
*Roger top center, Joe &  
Philomena Vollmer upper right*



Dad & Roger Culbert St.



April 1946 Parents  
25<sup>th</sup> Wed Anniversary



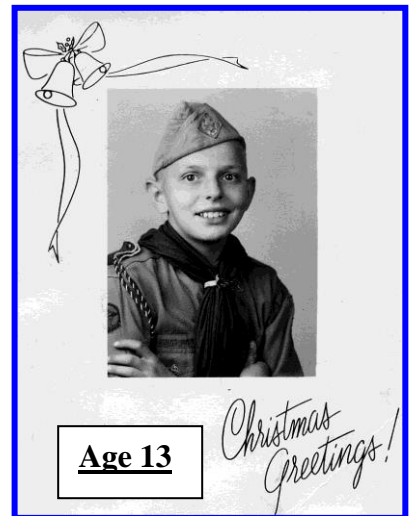
## Cub Scouts and Early Boy Scout Years



**Cub Pack 121- Webster School Spring 1948**  
Joined Cubs Fall 1947 Age 10, Scouts Fall 1948



**Den Chief for Cub Scout Den**



**Age 13**

*Christmas Greetings!*



**Rams Gulch Winter Camping**



Me



**Sometimes events can leave you all tied up!**

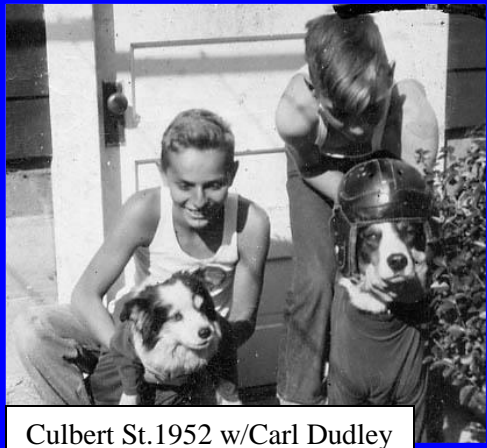


**Dahlin, Dudli, Schmidt, Kendrick & Thoma**





## Teenage Years



Culbert St. 1952 w/Carl Dudley



Old Forge Camp 1953



Bolt Castle w/ Mom  
And Chris Halton



*Hinckley Trout- Gordon, Bill  
Baldwin, Roger and Dad*



Old Forge Hunters 1953-  
Tommy Luhr Back ,Front  
?,Roger,Uncle George ,Gordon



1948 Pontiac van repair



Outhouse Protector  
John Kendrick



Challenged by Danny  
Schmidt

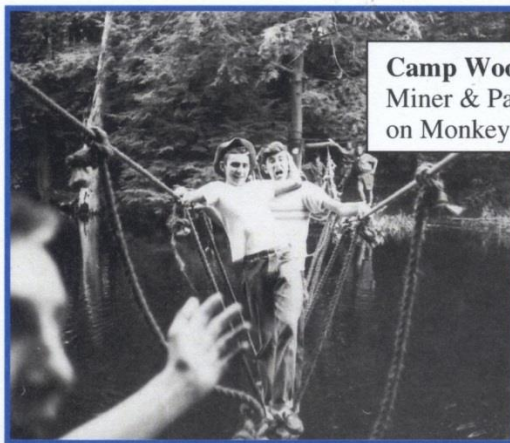
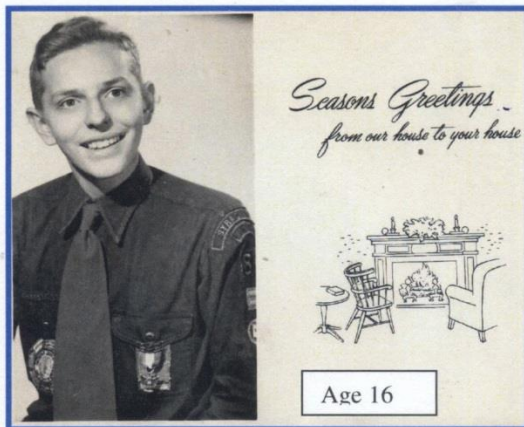


Smith Tech Grad 1955  
Age 17 from yearbook

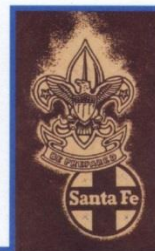




**Camp Woodland August 1953 Troops 81 - 181** Inset with Jerry Schmidt "Best Camper 1953"  
*Long Time Friends: 1 Kendrick, 2 Miner, 3 Palidino, 4 Dan Schmidt, 5 Dudli, 6 Me, 7 Jerry Schmidt, 8 Vollmer*

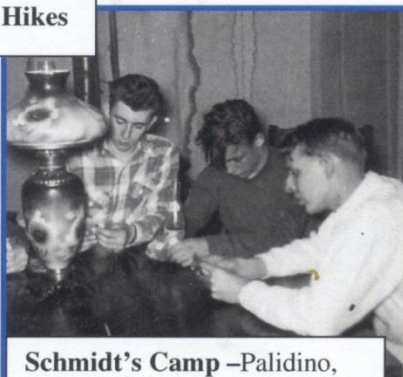


**Camp Woodland**  
 Miner & Palidino  
 on Monkey Bridge



**Leader's Hikes**

**Old Forge-** Scoutmaster Jack Richards, Dudli, & Dahlin

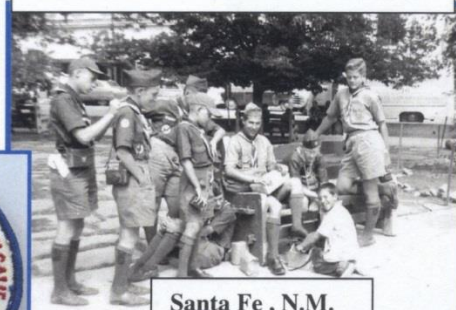


**Schmidt's Camp** -Palidino, Dan Schmidt & Dahlin



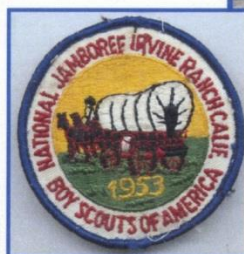
**Grand Canyon**

**1953 Scout Jamboree** via Santa Fe Rail Road- Syracuse to California



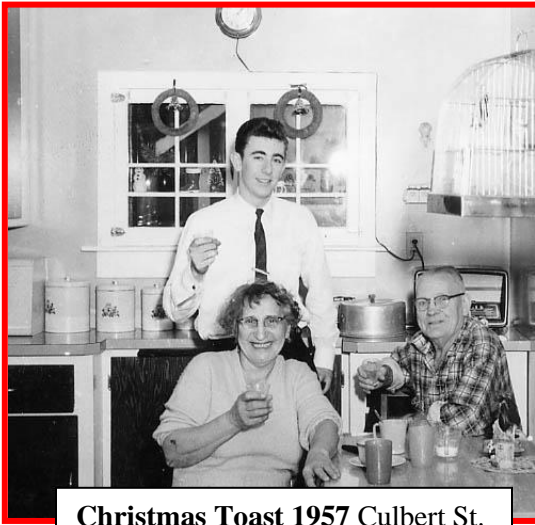
**Santa Fe , N.M.**  
 Me 2<sup>nd</sup> from Left

# BOY SCOUTS LATER YEARS





## Beyond Highschool



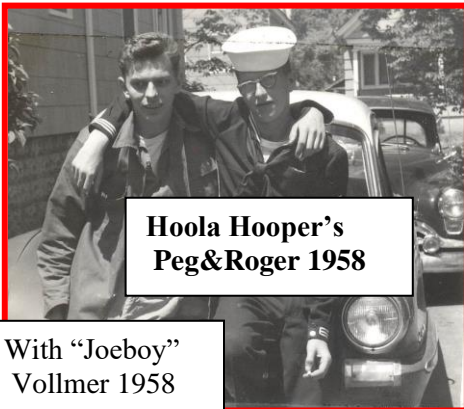
**Christmas Toast 1957 Culbert St.  
Mom, Mickey Paladino & Dad**



**Me & My 1948  
International  
"Woody" van**



**Atlantic City vacation**



**Hoola Hooper's  
Peg & Roger 1958**

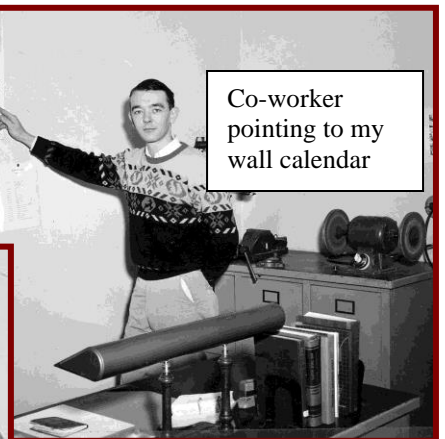
**With "Joeboy"  
Vollmer 1958**



**John Kendrick  
Future Scoutmaster**



**Syracuse University  
Metallurgical Research  
Institute –  
Boy Metallographer and  
Co-workers**

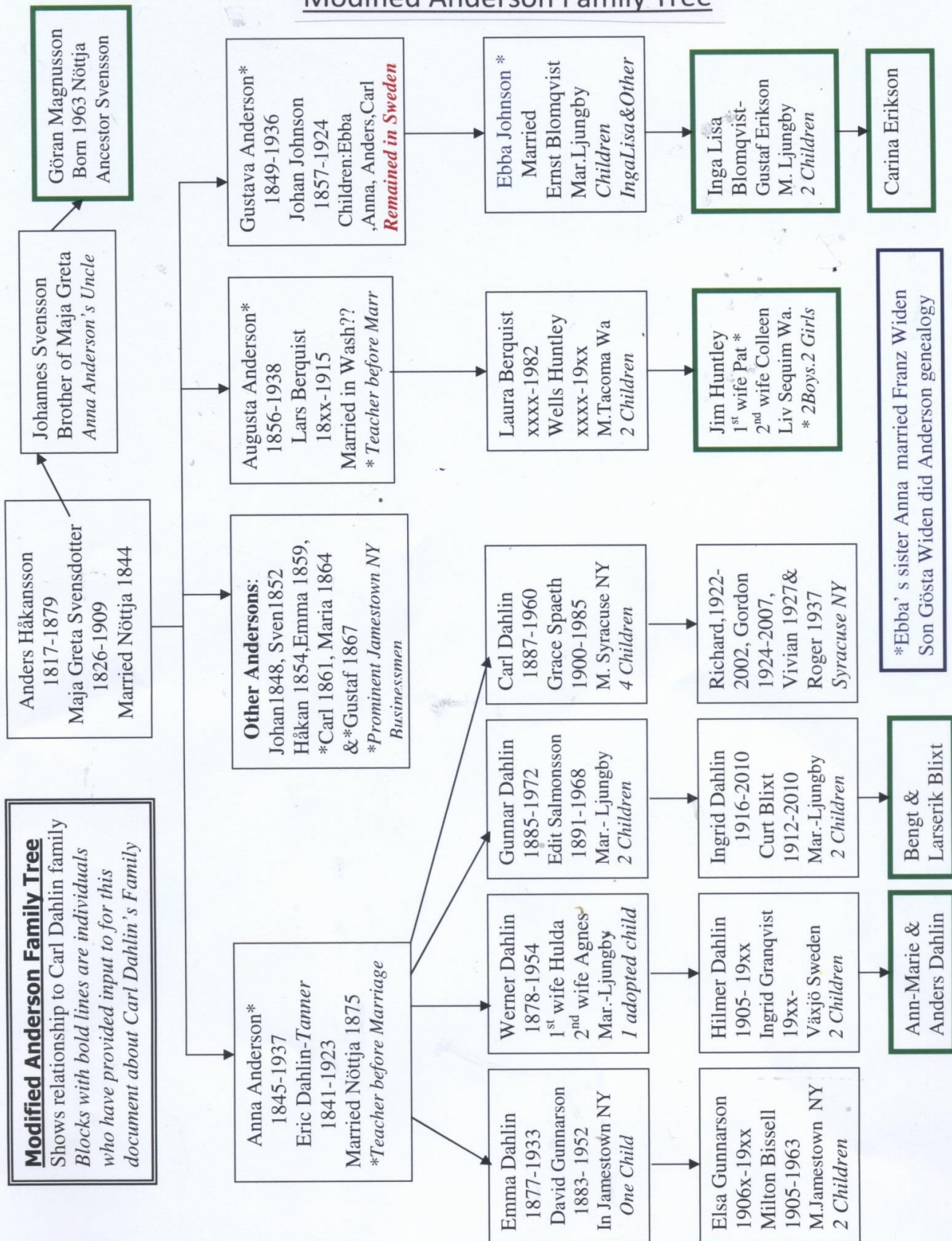


**Co-worker  
pointing to my  
wall calendar**



## Modified Anderson Family Tree

Shows relationship to Carl Dahlin family  
Blocks with bold lines are individuals  
who have provided input to for this  
document about Carl Dahlin's Family

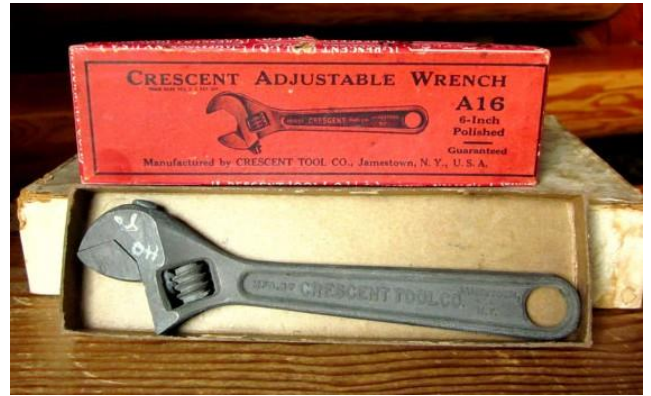




## Gustaf Anderson Profile-- also see pages 21 and 32



L to R : Gustav, Wife Mary[Danielson]Anderson ,adopted son Carl A. Anderson and unknown . Gustaf,in one of his many trips to Sweden, brought back to Jamestown his older sister Gustava's youngest son Carl, who he later adopted . *Jim Huntley met Carl Anderson in the 1950's. Carl was living in New Jersey at the time and took Jim and his wife to a first-class restaurant in New York City. Jim described Carl as a very nice person and quite wealthy and he thought he was in the shipping business. Jim also understood that Carl had an education beyond high school.*



### Gustaf Anderson and the Crescent Wrench

The J.P Danielson &Company of Jamestown NY began a partnership with Karl Peterson in 1903 as manufactures of tools that included a patented adjustable wrench. Peterson later left the partnership and formed the Crescent Tool Company . Danielson was the brother of Gustaf's wife Mary. In 1920 the new J.P. Danielson Company was incorporated with \$300,000 of capital stock as producers of tools and machine parts. Along with many patents the company was the major producer of Craftsman Tool s for Sears and Roebuck. *Photo from Jamestown's Crescent Wrench Museum*



hålls där ständigt... "Denna plats bakom Konsum var förr en del av marknadsplatsen.

**glömde aldrig  
kära hembygd!**



Annesa-Gustaf, Gustaf Anderson själv.  
mestown omkring 1910.

Gustaf wrote a column from Jamestown NY for many years in in a local Jungby newspaper about life in America. He used the pseudonym "Annesa -Gustaf".The entry shown is part of a full page article about his work published in the Smälänningen 10/16/74 The headline States : "He never forgot his loving home district" Caption below his photo translates as " Annesa - Gustaf,Gustaf Anderson himself .Photo taken in Jamestown 1910. Article includes an overview of his life and his poem.A translation follows but does not include poem.



## **Text about Gustaf Anderson From Newspaper Article**

He was christened Gustaf Andersson, but he called himself Annesa Gustaf. he was a exceptionally patriotic Swede scattered abroad. Born in the hamlet Rönninge in Nöttja 1867 - Grown up on the farmyard "Rönebacke"?, in the same parish, he emigrated to USA 20\_years old after a short time working as a book-keeper in Stockholm.

Almost nobody living in Nöttja today remember Annesa Gustaf. And only a few information about him, we have got from far-off relatives among others his sisters grandchildren, Nils Johnson in Gislaved and his uncle Anders Johnson, Lysekil. Former member of the Swedish Parliament, Fritiof Karlsson in Nöttja, has also memories from the childhood - not of Annesa Gustaf but of his parents.

Annesa Gustaf was the son of farmer Håkansson, living on several Nöttja-farms among others at Rönebacke and his wife Maja-Greta. His sister was the well-known Gustava Johnsson- more known under the name "Skole-Stava" in Bolmen and Angelstad.

Unlike many "Swede-Americans" he made a toilsome work to search for all that was "Swedish-American". He was also an invaluable support to many Swedish immigrants. His travels in the USA were many and extensive. But he never forgot his home district. Until he passed away 1931 he had made 13 journeys to Sweden Which was difficult in these days. He married an English (or Irish) girl Mary. They got no children. A nephew was adopted. Annesa Gustaf built up the largest gentlemen's out-fitting shop in Jamestown, state of N.Y. He was a frequent collaborator in newspapers written in Swedish among others Svenska Amerika-tribunen.

In the 20th he also collaborated in the recent-started news-paper "Smälänningen". He wrote "America-letters" to the news office - and above all - he wrote poems.

From the Pacific shore, from Tacoma, in the state of Washington, came in January 1923 a letter to the news-paper "Smälänningen" including a poem "To Nöttja and those who live there".

The poem, which was published in "Smälänningen" on the 15th of January 1923, is a little bit awkward written. The meter is perhaps little so-so. But Gustaf looks at his home district - from his place, far away in the west - with homesickness and some sentimentality. He had the ability, which few emigrants had, to put words on his feelings.

Apart from this poem, Annesa Gustaf sent many letters with viewpoints on Sweden regarding changes "at home". he was obviously a somewhat conservative - as most Swedes, settled abroad. He gave views on many things from prohibition to the male friends of the Swedish Prime Minister Branting's wife - In a letters published on the 3rd of October 1922.

Annesa Gustaf was a Swede who was fortunate in the new country! It's long time since Annesa Gustaf passed away. Some lime ago we got the current poem - a clipping yellowed with age - from a reader.

We tried to get to know a little about them man behind the poem. Much more can be added. But the poem speaks for itself. But Annesa Gustaf was obviously an extraordinary man. Nobody knows why he called him-self Annesa Gustaf. Perhaps he twisted his name Gustaf Andersson, or perhaps his father's first name was Anders.



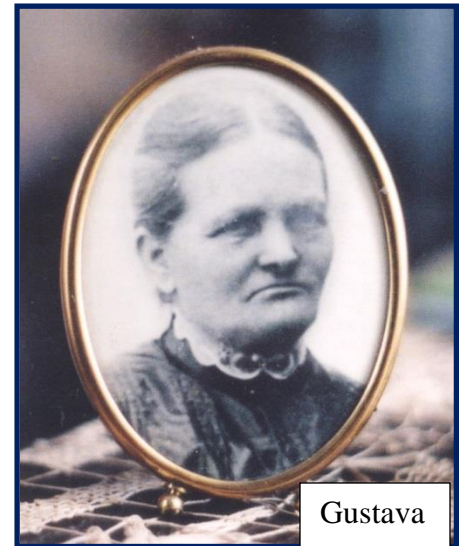
• Gustaf&Mary are buried in Jamestown's Lakeview Cemetery close to TV legend Lucille Ball. Gustaf and Brother in Law John P.Danielson bought a lot in the Valley Ridge Section of the Cemetery when it first opened. Records show an infant child of Gustaf and Mary was interned 2/2/1893



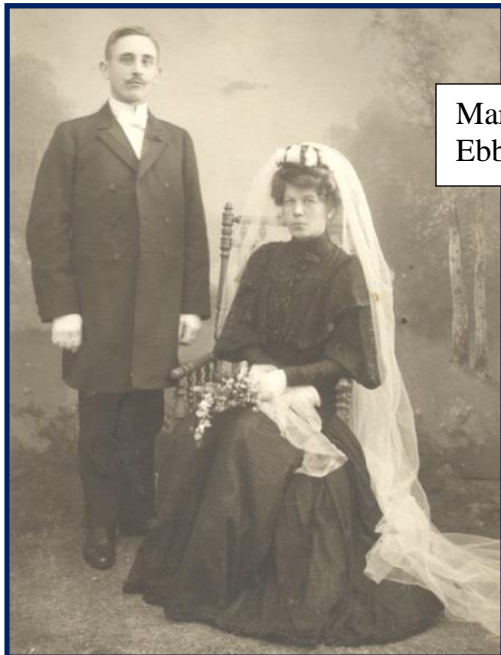
## Gustava [ Anderson] Johnsson Family



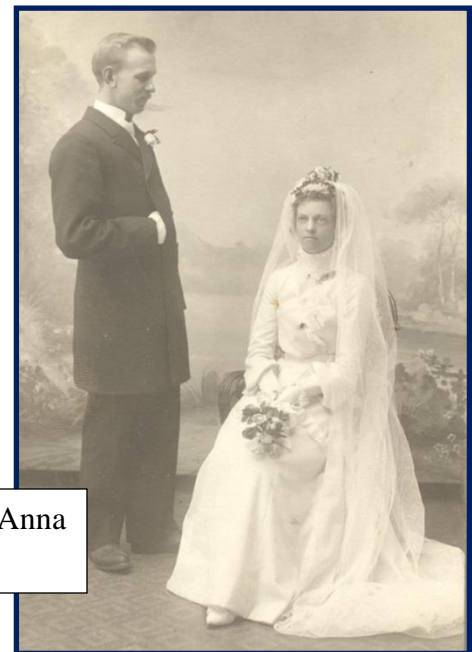
Gustava's Family at Dahlin Home in Ljungby about 1900  
KEY: Gustava [3], Daughter Ebba [1] and Husband Ernst Blomqvist [2], Daughter Anna[4] & Husband Franz Widen [5], granddaughter Margit[6] Mother Greta Anderson [7], Son Anders [8], Son Carl ? [9]



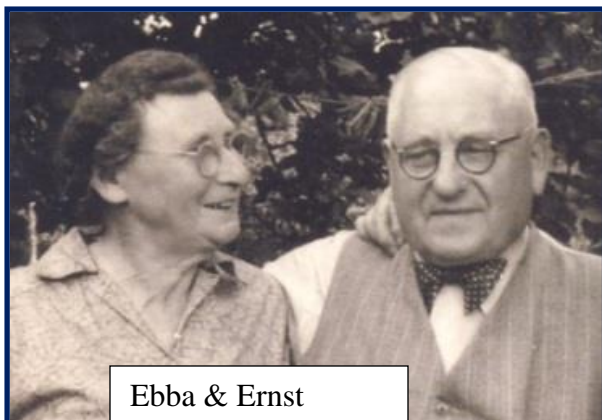
Gustava



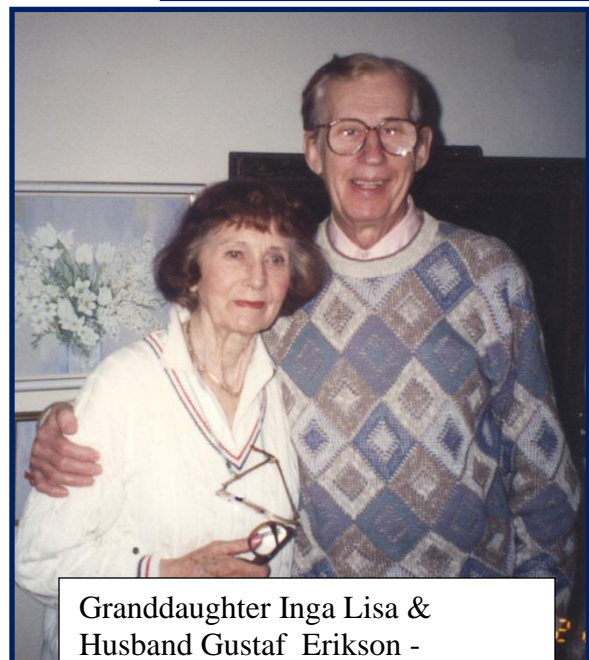
Marriage Photo,  
Ebba & Ernst



Marriage Photo, Anna  
& Franz Widen



Ebba & Ernst



Granddaughter Inga Lisa &  
Husband Gustaf Erikson -



Dear Roger Dahlin!

Translated testimony from Ljungby Historian about  
Gustava [Andersson] Johnsson - January 2007

At first I will apologize for the delay of the information you wanted. I do not write the English language, but I hope that somebody in your neighbourhood can translate my Swedish to your mother tongue.

I am interested in my native place history and have in many years both made research and published books and articles about it. For this reason I have also got in contact with the first school in Angelstad and there the woman teacher Gustava Johnsson comes in to it. As far as I know she belongs to the pioneers within the educational system in Anglestad and was handed down to posterity with the honourable name "Skolestavan" (*allusion to the last part of her name Gustava and "school=skole" at the beginning*). She made a pioneer work in the Angelstad's educational system during its first years. As far as I know her work was made in the education area in the parish to which the village around a railway station called Bolmen belonged to. From a tentative beginning, the Swedish elementary school through a parliamentary resolution in year 1842, got its first firm anchorage in Sweden. This means that special premises should be acquired and all children should pass the school teaching. Till then had a rather insufficient school teaching been made in a "travelling" way. Anglestad parish however decided not until year 1862 to set up special school-premises. One of these was at that time in the Bolmen school where "Skolestavan" worked. From when and to when she worked I have no information about, but perhaps you know that yourself.

One of the reasons for the delay of my answer to you, is that I have worked with and designed a new folder about Anglestad's Mediaeval Church in which graveyard Gustava Johnsson is buried. I thought perhaps that you have interest in taking part of the milieu where she rests. And as I hope appears, from what you see in the photos and the folder which I attach, Gustava Johnsson rests in a worthy and peaceful way in the Anglestads church-earth. She really deserves it. Her grave is situated close to the north eastern ring-wall in the oldest part of Anglestad's graveyard, around 22 yards from the head entrance of the church. In the folder I have put a "x" where the grave is situated.

I remember very well Dahlin's tannery in Ljungby from my youth and it is still well preserved on Ljungbys Old Market Place as a museum. Ja am now 78 years old and has been an interested spare time hunter and fisherman in my whole lifa, but I still remember the first badger I shot as a very young hunter. I gave that hide for tanning at Dahlin's tannery in Ljungby and had it as a desk carpet for many years. so it was really a good quality of the work that Dahlin made. Nowadays I have stopped haunting, but through the years I shot 40 moose here in Anglestad and also caught a pike of 37 pounds her in lake "Kösen". Both parts are still Anglestad's record!

Best regards

Ragnar Bengtsson, Sundhem, Anglestad 341 94 Ljungby, Swéden

Carl's mother Anna  
[Andersson] Dahlin  
taught with Gustava in  
Anglestad See Page 11



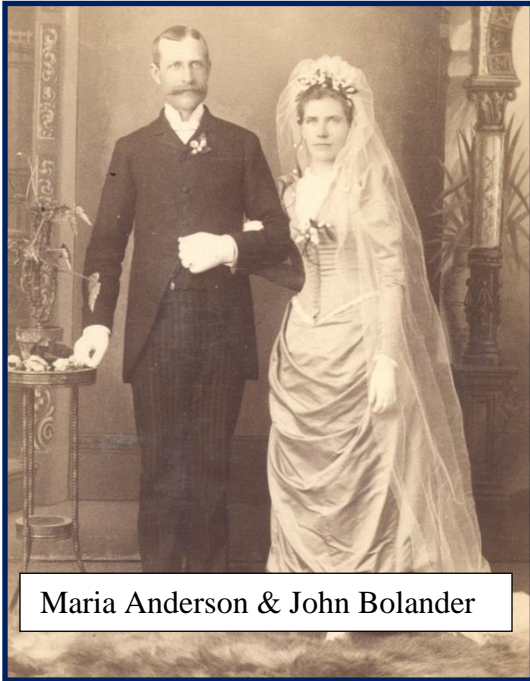
Anglestad



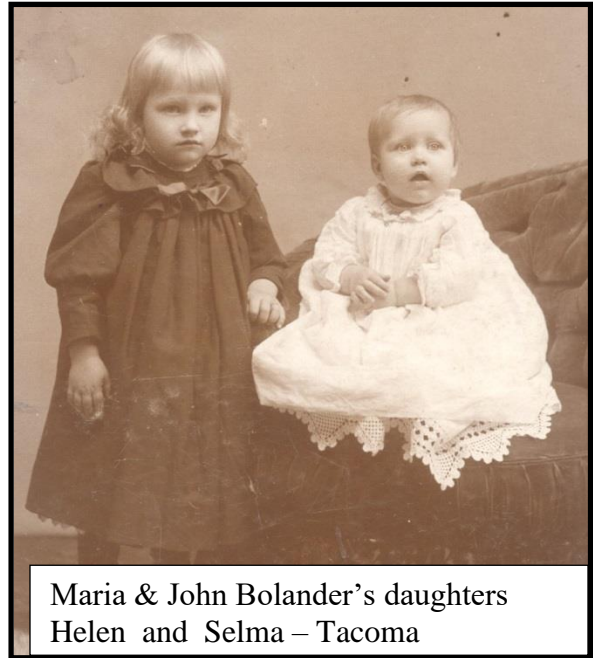
Gustava's



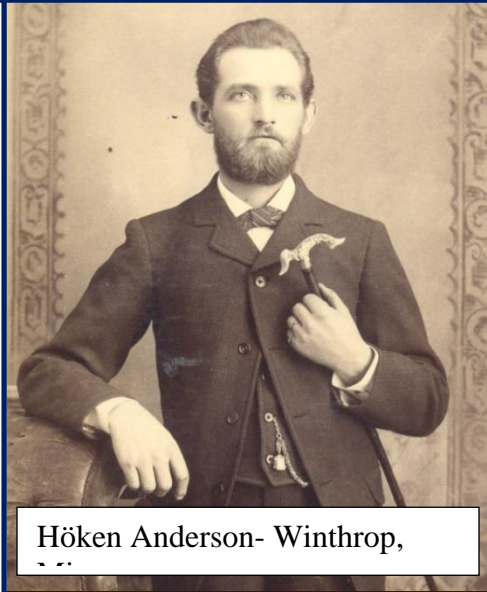
## Additional Anderson Family Members



Maria Anderson & John Bolander



Maria & John Bolander's daughters  
Helen and Selma – Tacoma



Höken Anderson- Winthrop,



Swedish Cowboy - Winthrop Minnesota -  
Identity unknown but photo was in a box  
belonging to Anna [Anderson] Dahlin along



Photos at left are Göran Magnusson, and daughter Linda. Göran born in 1963 grew up in Nöttja . He provided important information about the Dahlin family in Nöttja as well as the photo of the home where Carl Dahlin was born[ See Page 20 ] His family lineage ties back to Johannes Svensson , brother of Maja Greta Svendsdottir , Maja Greta was Anna [Anderson] Dahlin's mother. *See Page 98 that shows a Modified Anderson Family Tree*



## Family Tree of Sven Johan Anderson to the 1700's- Page 1

Jim Huntley indicated that his mother obtained this document from a relative in Jungby Sweden .His understanding was that the amateur genealogist stopped with 1700 because he found out that a lady in the King's court had a liaison with a common soldiers and fathered one of our ancestors. The old amateur genealogist said " I didn't want to go any further ,if things like that were happening"

*Sven Anderson was the brother of Anna Dahlin, Augusta Berquist and Gustava Johnson. These three sisters were the maternal grandmothers of Roger Dahlin, Jim Huntley and Inga Lisa Erikson*

**Great grand parents**

8. Anders Hokanson  
 B. 19 Mar, 1817  
 W. Balmaryd, Melangard  
 M. 24 Dec, 1844  
 D. 15 Aug, 1879  
 W. \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand parents**

14. Sven Johan Anderson  
 B. 8 Feb, 1852  
 W. Nottja Smaland, Sweden  
 M. 30 Dec, 1879  
 D. 9 Apr, 1935  
 W. New Uim, Brown, Minn.

*This man was your grandmother Anna's brother.*

9. SVENSSON, Maja Grace  
 B. 23 Aug., 1826  
 W. Nottja Mellang, Nottja Kronby,  
 D. 17 June 1909  
 W. \_\_\_\_\_

**2nd great grand parents**

16. ANDERSSON, Hakan  
 B. 17 Dec, 1783  
 W. Billekulla, Nottja, Kronby  
 M. 20 Nov, 1808  
 D. 4 Jan, 1854  
 W. Nottja, Kronby, Swed.

17. JORANSSON, Svanborg  
 B. 22 APR, 1790  
 W. Balmaryd, Sarg, Nottja, Kronby  
 D. 30 Aug, 1873  
 W. Nottja, Kronby, Swed.

18. JACOBSSON, Sven  
 B. 23 Oct, 1795  
 W. Maltesholm, Hinneryd, Kronby  
 M. 26 Dec, 1818  
 D. 31 Dec, 1850  
 W. Nottja, Kronby, Swed.

19. MAGNISSON, Karin  
 B. 23 Dec, 1795  
 W. Ryd Vestergard, Hampeda, Kronby  
 D. 26 Nov, 1871  
 W. Nottja, Kronby, Swed.

20. AKesson, Johan  
 B. 4 Sept, 1788  
 W. Rya, Torpe, Kronby, Swed  
 M. 11 Oct, 1812  
 D. 23 Mar, 1848  
 W. Torpe, Kronby, Swed.

3rd g

32. W. B.  
 M. 18  
 D. 2

33. B. 7  
 W. B.  
 D. 6

34. B.  
 W. W.  
 M. M.

35. B. 3  
 W. B.  
 D. 2

36. B. 1  
 W. A.  
 M. M.  
 D. 2


37. B.  
 W. W.  
 D. 1

38. B.  
 W. W.  
 D. 1

39. B.  
 W. W.  
 D. 7

40. B.  
 W. W.  
 M. M.  
 D. 1

41. B.  
 W. W.  
 D. 1



Jim & Colleen Huntley- Sequim Wash. 2010  
 Standing : Colleen, Roger Dahin and Jim –  
 Sitting Peg Dahlin



## Sven Anderson Family Tree Page 2

Photo below from Windsor  
Minn, reported to be Sven and  
his wife Selma Julia Karlsdotter



3rd great grand parents			4th great grand parents		
32. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AREWIDSSON, Anders	B. 19 Oct 1742	W. Billekulla Notija Kronbr	64. <input type="checkbox"/> Jönsson, Arvid	B. 1705 M.	D. 19. 1774
M. 19 May 1769	D. 20 June 1816		65. <input type="checkbox"/> Andersson, Ingeborg	B. 1710	D. 24 May 1765
33. <input type="checkbox"/> HAKANSSON, Elin	B. 7 July 1747	W. Billekulla Notija Kronbr	66. <input type="checkbox"/> Larsson, Hakan	B. 1710 M.	D. 25 Sep. 1781
D. 6 Mar 1818			67. <input type="checkbox"/> Karin	B. 1717	D. 27 Aug. 1785
34. <input type="checkbox"/> SVENSSON, Johan	B. 6 Oct 1755	W. Bilmara Notija Kronbr	68. <input type="checkbox"/> Jacobsson, Sven	B. 1731 M.	D. 1773
M. 16 Oct 1785	D. 19 Apr. 1833		69. <input type="checkbox"/> Johansson, Karin	B. 24. 1740	D. 13 Apr. 1793
35. <input type="checkbox"/> JONSSON, Kiersten	B. 3 Apr 1751	W. Bilmara Notija Kronbr	70. <input type="checkbox"/> Jönsson, Job	B. 1740 M.	D. 3 May 1785
D. 26 Feb 1833			71. <input type="checkbox"/> Bengtsson, Ingrid	B. 1740 M.	D. 11 Mar 1795
36. <input type="checkbox"/> SVENSSON, Jacob	B. 1761	W. Mattja, Kronbr, Sued	72. <input type="checkbox"/>	B. M.	D.
D. 24 Mar 1829 (acc 68) W.			73. <input type="checkbox"/>	B. D.	
37. <input type="checkbox"/> PERSSON, Maria	B. W.	D. 9 Mar 1806 (acc 31) Notija	74. <input type="checkbox"/>	B. M.	D.
38. <input type="checkbox"/> JONSSON, Maria	B. 2 Nov. 1759	W. Notija Backe, Notija, Kronbr, Sued	75. <input type="checkbox"/>	B. D.	
M. 30 Nov. 1783	D. 11 May 1832		76. <input type="checkbox"/> Eriksson, Jon	B. 26 Apr 1720 M.	D. 16 June 1863
39. <input type="checkbox"/> SVENSSON, Botel	B. 1 Mar. 1760	W. Gunnarsson, Hamneda, Kronbr, Sued	77. <input type="checkbox"/> Mattsson, Bengt	B. 1739-40	D. 9 July 1817
D. 10 Nov. 1830 (Notija)			78. <input type="checkbox"/> Mattsson, Sven	B. 2 Aug. 1721 M.	D. 19 Dec 1773
40. <input type="checkbox"/> ANDERSSON, Ake	B. 1750-51	W. Hallaryd, Kronbr, Sued	79. <input type="checkbox"/> Larsson, Kiersten	B. 5 Feb. 1740	D. 17 Feb. 1798
M. 4 May 1783	D. 28 Apr. 1838		80. <input type="checkbox"/>	B. M.	D.
41. <input type="checkbox"/> LAGERQVIST, Johanna	B. 30 Aug. 1760	W. Baggaryd Torpa Sued	81. <input type="checkbox"/>	B. D.	
D. 24 June 1817			82. <input type="checkbox"/> LAGERQVIST, Sven	B. 26 Jan 1770 M.	D. 7 Mar. 1790
			83. <input type="checkbox"/> SELLEGREN, Rindicta	B. 1713-14	D. 4 Dec 1786



1959 Christmas card from Laura  
[Berquist] Huntley, mother of Jim  
Huntley, to Carl & Grace Dahlin in  
Syracuse NY. Card is from  
Brussels where Jim, as a US State  
Department diplomat, was assigned.

Laura Huntley



Anders Håkansson

*Anna's father*

(Probandens \_\_\_\_\_)

Född 19/3 1817

i Nöttja

Vigd 26/12 1844

i Nöttja av pastor  
Lundeberg

Död 15/8 1879

i Nöttja

Son t. Håkan Andersson

och Svenborg Göransdotter

Tab. \_\_\_\_\_

Faddrar: \_\_\_\_\_

*Anna's mother*

Hustru

Maja Greta Svensdotter

(Probandens \_\_\_\_\_)

Född 22/6 1829 i Nöttja

i Nöttja mellangård

Dir t. Sven Jacobsson

och Laren Magnusdotter

Tab. \_\_\_\_\_

Faddrar: \_\_\_\_\_

Död 17/6 1909 i Bolmen

i Angelsåds förs

*Anna was  
the mother of Carl Dahlén*

*Ingelisa's grandmother*

Barn. Children

1. Anna Kristina f. 8/3 1845 i Nöttja söderg.

2. Gustava f. 7/8 1849 " "

3. Sven Johan f. 2/2 1852 i Bolmångd

4. Håkan f. 27/4 1854 " "

5. Britta Augusta f. 1/10 1856 " d. 1938

6. Emma f. 29/3 1859 " "

7. Carl f. 20/5 1861 " "

8. Maria f. 13/3 1864 " "

9. Gustaf f. 22/1 1867 i Rönninge d. 11/4 1901

*morfar Gustav*

*Tim Hestky's  
Grandma*



Anders Håkansson

Anders P2

Född 19 mars 1817

Vigd 26/4 1844

(Probandens)

i Nötta förs. Rönöby

i Nötta

Död

län son of

Son t. Håkan Andersson

och Svenborg Göransdotter

Tab.

Faddrar:

Hustru

Maja Greta Svensdotter

(Probandens)

Född 22 aug. 1826 i Nötta förs

Död 17/6 1909 i Bolmen

i Nötta mellangård

i Angelstads församling

Dtr t. Sven Jakobsson f. 23/10 1795 i Hinneryd

Påminnelse av

och Karin Magnusdotter f. 1795 i Hamneda

konjunktur

Tab.

Faddrar:

Barn

1. Anna Kristina f. 8/6 1845

Erik Gustav Dahlin Ljungby

2. Gustava f. 7/8 1849 d. 2/9 1935

Johan August Johnson f. 2/1 1857 d. 27/6 1928

3. Sven Johan f. 2/2 1852 (USA)

Hicka från Torpa

4. Håkan f. 27/4 1854 (USA 1888)

varit gift i Stockholm. Ått skapligt

5. Brita Augusta f. 1/10 1856 (USA)

L. P. Bergquist

6. Emma f. 29/3 1859 (USA)

Brandin

7. Carl f. 20/5 1861 (USA)

Fennis

8. Maria f. 13/2 1864 (USA)

Johan Bolander

9. Gustaf f. 22/1 1867 (USA)

Mary

Barn 1-2 f i Nötta södergård i Nötta förs

3-8 f i Bolmeryd (Rönöbacke) i " -

9 f i Rönninge i " -

se Tab.



# Anders Håkansson Family P3

Tab. I	N.	1894 92	född den	dag	mån.	år	gård	församling	län	död			ter
										dag	mån.	år	
II		Bonden Anders Håkansson	[Farmer]	19 mars döpt 23 mars	1817	mars	[Farm / House] Bolmaryd Mell- långård	Nöttja	Kronobergs	15 Aug	1879	in	Not
III		Hustru: Maja Greta Svensdotter	[Wife]	23 aug. döpt 27 aug.	1826	aug.	Nöttja Mellang.	Nöttja	"	17 June	1909	in	hat
		Vigde:	[Married]	26 dec.	1844	dec.	Nöttja	Nöttja	"				
		Barn:		8 aug. döpt 10 aug.	1845	aug.	Nöttja Söreg.	Nöttja	"				
		s Johan Magnus Andersson	"	22 mars döpt 25 mars	1848	mars	"	"	"				
		d Gustava Andersdotter	"	7 juli döpt 8 juli	1849	juli	"	"	"				
		s Sven Johan Andersson	"	8 febr. döpt 15 febr.	1852	febr.	Bolmaryd Skatteg.	"	"				
		s Håkan Andersson	"	27 apr. döpt 30 apr.	1854	apr.	"	"	"				
		d Brita Augusta Andersdotter	"	1 okt. döpt 5 okt.	1856	okt.	"	"	"				
		d Emma Andersdotter	"	29 mars döpt 20 maj	1859	mars	"	"	"				
		s Carl Andersson	"	13 mars	1861	mars	"	"	"				
		d Maria Andersdotter	"		1864								

long Emma 1909

Tacoma  
Seattle  
Tacoma

Tacoma  
Tacoma  
Tacoma



## Anders Håkansson Family

Translation Bengt Blixt

*Note: Original Document was in Swedish - From Gösta Widen, in 1993 ,Age 86 .... See Modified Anderson Family Tree. He shows only 7 siblings; does not include*

My mother Gustava Johnsson had 7 siblings, who emigrated to America. Here follows some information about them and theirs families, to the extent that is available.

- o - o - o -

### A. Sven John

b. 2.2. 1852. In the Nöttja church-books it says about him during the years 1873, 74 and 1875 "Certificate for trading in the northern provinces area of the Kingdom". Perhaps this means that he carried on with peddling..

He marries 30.12.1879 Selma Julia Karlsdotter, b. 4.10.1861 from Mjåfa in the parish Torpa. She was country shop-keeper Carl Johansson's daughter.

By the time of the emigration to America 18.4.1889 the family included the following children:

Anders Ferdinand	b. 10.11. 1880
Hildur Maria	b. 14.12. 1882
Sanda Elisabet	b. 6. 10. 1884
Jon Valter	b. 24. 7. 1886

The family settled in Winthrop, Minnesota.

A cousin to my mother (Anna Widén), Laura Huntley, tells in a letter May 1975, that a daughter, now a widow, lives in Tacoma (Wash). Her name is Helga Lindqvist.

### B. Håkan

b. 27.4.1854. From the Nöttja church-books are extracted, that he 19.8.1874 got a "A certificate to work with trading".

23.11.1875 he got a certificate to move to Klara parish in Stockholm. He married Beda Cecilia Alexandra Olsson b. 20.1.10 1883. Information about children missing.

Håkan emigrate to America 1.10.1888. He is at that time registered as tradesman in Stockholm.

The marriage broke up and the former wife married manufacturer Johan Erik Nyqvist 17.4.1897.

The cause for Håkan's emigration to America according to oral tradition depend on his wife's unfaithfulness.

Laura Huntley gives the following information about Håkan in May 1875. Håkan came first to Jamestown, after that to Tacoma in the State of Washington, There he at the beginning he lived at his sister Augusta (Laura's mother), later at a younger sister Maria (married Bolander). He dies probably 1929.

Laura has told he seems to have been a very lonely person. He was very beloved by his nieces due to his gift for telling stories.

### C. Britta Augusta

b. 1.10.1865. Emigrated to America. When is un-known. Marries there to Lars Peter Bergkvist, who according to oral information comes from Sunnerbo.

Consequently both of them have emigrated from Sunnerbo to the State of Washington in USA and met there and sooner married.

## Anders Håkansson Family P5

Cont... Anderson 2  
Translation Bengt Blixt

Augusta is mother to Laura Huntley, who has made visits to Sweden several times.  
In the marriage the following children were born:

Sena Margareta (married Summers), d. 1939. No more info about her.

Gerda Anna Maria, married Munro.

Greta and I have met the the following of Gerdas children.

Jack married to Mikey and lives in Seattle. They have 3 boys in their marriage, of whom we have met Don, teacher and farmer in Vernon(north of Seattle) and Dick, certified gymnastics instructor settled in Seattle. Married. 1 daughter.

Jean, who was widow after a Scotsman, Mac Gee. She lived as widow in Tacoma. She was among other things 1:st violinist Tacoma symphony orchestra. No children.

Laura Augusta, married Huntley. Marriage dissolved.

Laura is the only child of Augusta, who still is alive. her age is not Known, but at a guess around 85 years old (1977). Laura has 2 sons.

Jim, who in the marriage with Pat has 4 children (Mark, David, Virginia and Jean). Remarried. In his 2:nd marriage no children. Jim has several times visited Sweden.

Ted (Edward), pilot at Western Air Lines. In first marriage a son Ben, who we have met. In the 2:nd marriage a son Chris b. 30.4.1977.

### D. Emma

b. 29.3.1859. Emigrates to America 17.3.1885. Married to a man Brandin. Lived for a while in Jamestown. In the marriage the following children were born

Viola dead

Bertha dead

Lilly dead. Married Brugge.

Rudolph alive and lives in Pasadena Cal.

Laura writes in May 1975. Emmas man and the daughters Viola and Bertha died before Emma.

One daughter to Lilly Brugge lived 1975 in Lakewood N'

### E. Carl

b. 20.5.1861. Emigrated to America. Point of time un-known. Married in USA. Wife's name Jennie. Lived in Jamestown.

In May 1975 Laura writes that Carl and Jennie had a son, who married a girl, Phyllis. The son is dead. Laura writes that Phyllis was very kind to her mother in law Jennie, after the death of the son and her husband Carl passed away.

### F. Maria

b. 13.3.1864. Leaves Sweden 24.9.1887. Married in USA to John Bolander.

Laura writes in May 1975, that they have 4 daughters in their marriage. Only one of the was alive 1975. Her name was Julia, married Gustafsson. Live in Tacoma. Julia had in her marriage a son, who lives in Seattle.



## Anders Håkansson Family P6

Dear Roger,

here comes the translation.

The text is written in a, I should say "message" form and I have kept it so, but it may not be "good" English, if you see what I mean.

BR

Bengt B

Translation of writing about Emmas uncle Gustaf Anderson.

---

G. Gustaf b. 22.1.1867, dead 1931. Came 14 years old to Stockholm, where he worked in a clothing store. Emigrate to Jamestown in USA 1887. Here he runs a profitable gentlemen's outfitting company. Married with Mary Danielson, who came to USA with her parents 1869.

Move 1917 to Tacoma, as his health was not so good and they thought that the climate in Tacoma should be better. Run also here a gentlemen's outfitting shop.

During the years in Jamestown Gustaf was an active member of the society and in the ecclesiastical work. He was a good singer. Member of choirs.

Here he was wished to be appointed to lord mayor in Jamestown. However he declined to this mission and proposed instead another person, Samuel Carlson, who was elected.

Marriage childless.

To him came grandmother Gustava's youngest son Carl. He went with Gustaf and his wife to USA 1903. They had been home in Sweden on a visit. Carl was at that time only 13 years old.

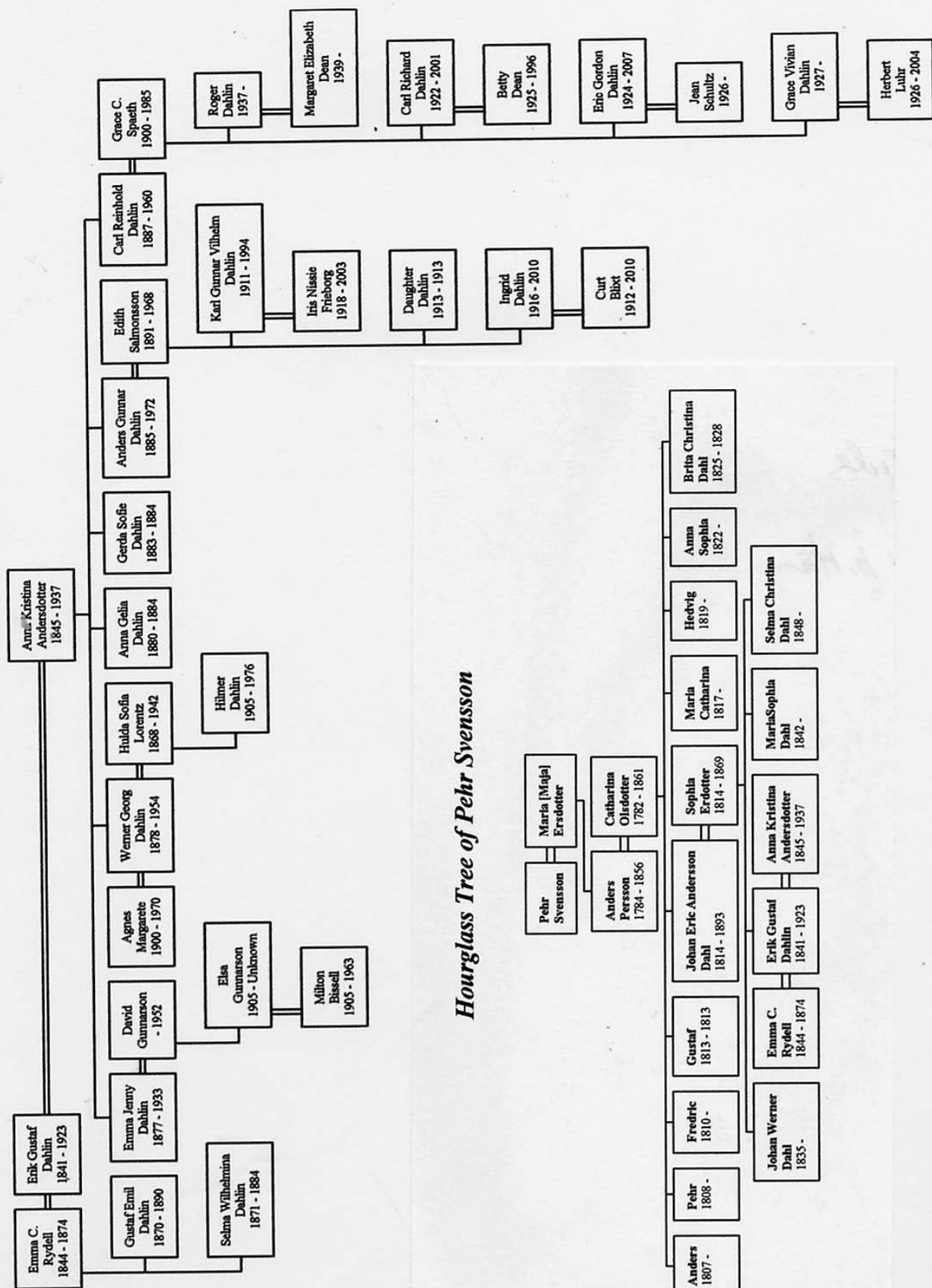
Gustaf wrote during several years "America Letters" to "Ljungbytidningen" (1) with the pseudonym "Annersa-Gustaf" (2). The news-paper had an interesting article about Gustaf dated 16.10.1974. In the same newspaper a poem of Gustaf was re-printed "Till Nöttja och dem som bor där" (3). The poem was published for the first time 1923.

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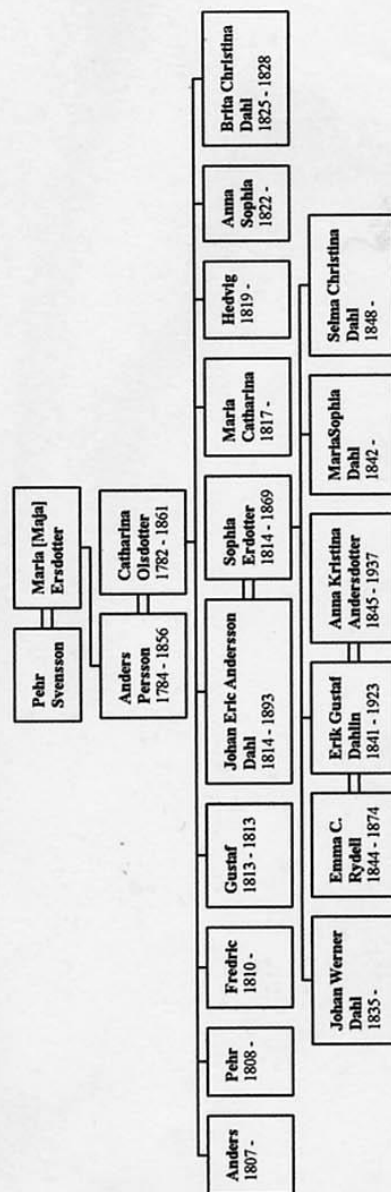
My comments:

1. A newspaper in the municipally Ljungby area
2. Annersa = local dialect for the Christian name "Anders"
3. "To Nöttja and those who lives there"

## Descendants of Erik Gustaf Dahlin



## Hourglass Tree of Pehr Svensson







LANDSARKIVET  
I  
VADSTENA

RESEARCH

2003-02-11

Dnr VALA 421-2003/1051

Your date  
2003-02-07

Roger Dahlin  
49 Shagbark Lane  
Pennellville  
NY 13132  
U.S.A.

### Concerning genealogical research

*Karl Reinhold* was born 1887-09-27 and baptized 1887-10-02 in the parish of Nöttja as a son of the tanner E. G. Dahlin and his wife Anna Kristina Andersdotter living in Nöttja Backegård.

The information below is taken from the household examination roll of Nöttja (A I:14, 51) for the years 1876 - 1892:

Erik Gustaf Dahlin was born 1841-12-12 in the parish of Åker, county of Nyköping. 1875-08-08 he married Anna Kristina Andersdotter, born 1845-08-08 in Nöttja. Registered children were

Gustaf Emil, born 1870-07-30 in Ljungby, dead 1890-02-05,  
Selma Wilhelmina, born 1871-12-03 in Ljungby, dead 1884-03-29,  
Emma Jenny, born 1877-01-08 in Nöttja,  
Verner Georg, born 1878-04-27 in Nöttja,  
Anna Gelia, born 1880-04-03 in Nöttja, dead 1884-03-09,  
Gerda Sofie, born 1883-02-20 in Nöttja, dead 1884-03-17,  
Anders Gunnar Wilhelm, born 1885-07-17 in Nöttja and  
Karl Reinhold, born 1887-09-27 in Nöttja.

The family came from the parish of Ljungby 1876-11-06 and moved back to Ljungby 1891-10-15.

The old church-records of the parish of Åker, county of Nyköping are kept by the Provincial Archives of Uppsala. Address: Landsarkivet i Uppsala, Box 135, 751 04 UPPSALA, Sweden. You can write there for information about the ancestors of Erik Gustaf Dahlin.



LANDSARKIVET  
I  
VADSTENA

2006-02-21 Dnr VALA 421-2006/2384

Your date  
2006-02-11

GENEALOGY  
RESEARCH

Roger Dahlin  
49 Shagbark Lane  
Pennellville  
NY 13132  
U.S.A.

### Concerning genealogical research

Anna, daughter of the tanner E. G. Dahlin and his wife Anna Andersdotter living in Nöttja Backegård, parish of Nöttja, died 1884-03-09 of scarlet fever at the age of 3 years, 11 months and 6 days and was buried 1884-03-12.

Gerda Sofia, daughter of the tanner E. G. Dahlin and his wife Anna Andersdotter living in Nöttja Backegård, parish of Nöttja, died 1884-03-17 of scarlet fever at the age of 1 year and 26 days and was buried 1884-03-21.

Selma Vilhelmina, daughter of the tanner E. G. Dahlin and his wife Anna Andersdotter living in Nöttja Backegård, parish of Nöttja, died 1884-03-29 of scarlet fever at the age of 12 years, 3 months and 26 days and was buried 1884-04-06.

./. Further research can be carried out by the Provincial Archives according to the enclosed advice.

Sincerely,

Karin Ek  
arkivarie

Postadress	Besöksadress	Telefon	Telefax	E-Post	Plusgiro	Org.nr.
Box 126						
592 23 VADSTENA	Slottet	0143-753 00 vx	0143-753 37	landsarkivet@landsarkivet-vadstena.ra.se	95 06 23-9	202100-1074
FOLKBOKFÖRINGSSEKTIONEN:		0143-753 50	0143-753 59	folkbokforingen@landsarkivet-vadstena.ra.se		



**F Roger Dahlin**

---

**From:** "Inger Levisson" <inger.levisson@landsarkivet-uppsala.ra.se>  
**To:** <roger@dahlin.com>  
**Sent:** Vry 15, 2006 9:49 AM  
**Subject:** Genealogical research regarding Erik Gustaf Dahlin born 1841

GENEALOG #3  
RESEARCH

2006-02-15

Dear Mr Dahlin,

Answer to your letter 2006-02-08 to The Regional Archives in Uppsala regarding genealogical research.

I had a look in the birth records for Åker parish 1841, Södermanland county, and found noted:

Eric Gustaf as born Feb (not Dec) 12, 1841 at St. Datorp (Sjöborg Bergqvarn).

Parents: the soldier No 944 Johan Eric Dahl and his wife Sophia Ersdotter (Åker birth record C:5).

According to the household examination rolls for Åker parish 1841-1845 (A I:13, p 329) the family was:

The soldier Johan Eric Dahl born 1814-08-17 in Dunker parish  
his wife Sophia Ersdotter " 1814-01-14 in Hårad parish  
(married in 1840)

and the children

Johan Werner born 1835-08-05 in Länna parish

Eric Gustaf " 1841-02-12 in Åker parish

Maria Sophia " 1842-11-01 "-

"Dahl" is a taken soldiername and Eric Gustaf probably changed that to "Dahlin".

I can help you with further research (out of duty) regarding Eric Gustaf and his parents backward - cost: 45 dollars/hour. You can pay with an international money order or bank check when you have received the research. Please ~~write again and tell me if you are interested~~ and how many hours you are willing to spend on this.

Regards,

Inger Levisson

**F Roger Dahlin**

**From:** "Inger Levisson" <inger.levisson@landsarkivet-uppsala.ra.se>  
**To:** <roger@dahlin.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2006 9:15 AM  
**Subject:** Genealogical research regarding Johan Eric Dahlin born 1841 -your letter 2006-02-16

GEN RECORDS  
#4A

2006-02-23

Eric Gustaf Dahlin was born Feb (not Dec) 12, 1841 at St. Datorp (Sjöborg Bergqvärn), Åker parish, Södermanland county. Parents: the soldier No 944 Johan Eric Dahl and his wife Sophia Ersdotter (Åker birth record C:5).

Johan Eric Dahl and Sophia Ersdotter married Oct 11, 1840 in Åker parish and settled at St. Datorp in Åker parish. They had the following children:

Johan Werner born 1835-08-05 in Länna parish, moved to Strängnäs 1852  
 Eric Gustaf " 1841-02-12 in Åker parish  
 Maria Sophia " 1842-11-01 "- moved to Länna parish 1859  
 Selma Christina " 1848-03-18 "-

Their son Eric Gustaf Dahl (from 1861 Dahlin) moved October 1857 to No 60 (3:e roten) in Mariefred-Kärnbo parish, Södermanland county. He worked as a apprentice with the tanner (= garvare) Olof Setterholm. Eric Gustaf Dahlin moved to "undecided place" Sept 4, 1862.

Rest of the family moved Oct 31, 1863 to Sörby in Åker parish. The daughter Selma Christina Dahlin moved 1864 to Bråtorp in Åker parish and April 28, 1870 to Strängnäs parish.

Sophia Ersdotter died Nov 3, 1869 at Sörby, Åker parish; 55 years old; cause of death is not noted in the death records (Åker F:3).

The widower and the ex-soldier Johan Eric Dahl died Feb 18, 1893 at Sörby, Åker parish; 78 years old; cause of death is not noted in the death records (Åker F:4).

The soldier Johan (Jan) Eric Andersson Dahl was born Aug 13 (not 17), 1814 at Hagen, Dunker parish, Södermanland county. Parents: the crofter Anders Persson and his wife Catharina Olsdotter (32 years old) according to the birth records (Dunker C:3).

Anders Persson and Catharina Olsdotter married Nov 2, 1807 in Gryt parish, Södermanland county, and settled at Malsnarstorp, Gryt parish. They moved 1809 to Hagen in Dunker parish and had the children

2/23/2006



Anders born 1807-02-09 in Gryt parish  
Pehr " 1808-09-03 "-  
Fredric " 1810-10-02 in Dunker parish  
Gustaf " 1813-01-31 "-  
died 1813-06-04 "-  
Jan Eric born 1814-08-13 "-  
Maria Catharina " 1817-02-20 "-  
Hedvig Charlotta " 1819-09-18 in Åker parish  
Anna Sophia " 1822-05-28 "-  
Brita Christina " 1825-03-29 "-  
died 1828-04-10 "-

GLENN PERSSON - 4 B

The family moved 1818 to Riby in Åker parish and 1820 to Berga in the same parish there Anders Persson is noted as a cotter (= statare). 1830 they moved to Sörby in Åker parish.

Anders Persson and his wife moved 1842 to Löfsvedet in Åker parish and 1850 to Walla in the same parish.

The ex-crofter Anders Persson died March 2, 1856 at Walla, Åker parish; 71 years old; cause of death is not noted in the death records (Åker F:2).

The widow Catharina (Carin) Olsdotter died July 16, 1861 at Walla, Åker parish; 79 years old; cause of death is not noted in the death records (Åker F:3).

The crofter Anders Persson was born Sept 25, 1784 at Sågtorp, Flen parish, Södermanland county. Parents: Pehr Svensson and his wife Maria (Maja) Ersdotter (Flen C:2).

Catharina Olsdotter was born June 3, 1782 at Stensätter, Björnlunda parish, Södermanland county. Parents: Olof Olofsson and his wife Maria Bengtsdotter (25 years old) - Flen C:1.

Sincerely,

Inger Levisson

Address:  
Stenrösvägen 3  
752 66 Uppsala  
SWEDEN

## **F Roger Dahlin**

**From:** "Inger Levisson" <Inger.Levisson@landsarkivet-uppsala.ra.se>  
**To:** <roger@dahlin.com>  
**Sent:** 2006-04-13 11:03 AM  
**Subject:** Sv: Dahlin Family Research

GEN RESEARCH

2006-04-13

Dear Roger,

Regarding the military career of the soldier Johan Eric Dahl I haven't found so much in our military records. The military records here for Länsstyrelsen (The County Administrative Board) for Södermanland county are not complete and the inspections rolls for Åker and The Gripsholm Company which Dahl belonged to are kept at The Military Records Office in Stockholm, e-mail: krigsarkivet@riksarkivet.ra.se.

Johan Eric (Andersson) Dahl (born 1814) is first noted as a soldier 1840 when he got married and settled at St. Datorp soldier cottage in Åker parish. He is noted as soldier No 944 in Gripsholm Company up to 1863 when the family moved to Sörby in Åker parish. He is thereafter noted as the ex-soldier J E Dahl to his death 1893.

Every county should at that time hold one infantry regiment of 1200 men, divided in 8 companies and 150 soldiers in each of them. 2 soldier cottages formed 1 file (= rote). The soldier cottage should have ½ acre arable and pasture land and pasture for 1 or 2 cows.

I had a look in the records for The District Court of Åker and found the estate inventory after Johan Dahl's wife who died 1869 at Sörby and there is noted:

"1869 Nov 11 estate inventory was held after the ex-soldier Johan Dahl's wife Sophia Andersdotter (not Ersdotter) who died at Sörby in Åker parish Nov 3 and left the widower J Dahl and her son Johan Werner Lindgren born 1835, their children Eric Gustaf born 1841, Maria Sophia (married) and Selma Christina born 1848; to guardian for her was desired the crofter Fredrick Berglind".

Property left: Household utensils, copper utensils, one loom, one spinning wheel, one sofa, four chairs, two tables, one cupboard. Animal: one cow.

(Åker District Court F II:16, No 23).

As you see from the inventory they were very poor. I also looked for an estate inventory after Johan Dahl from 1893 but there was no one in the records.

I'm sorry I couldn't get more from our records here in Uppsala.

4/13/2006





LANDSARKIVET

I  
VÄSTENA

2006-04-05 Dnr VALA 421-2006/2756

Roger Dahlin  
49 Shagbark Lane  
Pennellville  
NY 13132  
U.S.A

GEN RESEARCH GA

### Concerning genealogical research

We received your letter on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March but due to the large amount of letters that we receive I have not been able to answer you earlier.

Concerning your question about your father Karl Reinhold Dahlin, born on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 1887, and his time in the Swedish Navy I suggest that you contact the Swedish Military Archives at the following address: Krigsarkivet, Banérgatan 64, 115 88 Stockholm, e-mail: [krigsarkivet@krigsarkivet.ra.se](mailto:krigsarkivet@krigsarkivet.ra.se). You can find a brochure in English on their website: <http://www.ra.se/kra/broschyr.pdf>.

Your second question was about the family of Anna Kristina Andersdotter who was born on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1845 in Nöttja Söregård in the parish of Nöttja. The household examination records for the parish of Nöttja for the years 1845-1949 are in bad shape and there are a lot of pages partly destroyed or missing. The pages for the place Nöttja Söregård are missing and therefore I can't give you any information about if her parents were landowners. It might be possible to find some information about them in the tax records for those years. If you want us to look for more information in those records you have to contact us again if you are willing to pay for further research.

Erik Gustaf Dahlin, born on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 1841 in the parish of Åker, got married with Emma Charlotta Wilhelmina Rydell on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1870 in the parish of Ljungby (Kronobergs län). According to the household examination records for Ljungby for the years 1871-1875 (A I: 13 page 49) Emma Charlotta Wilhelmina Rydell was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 1844 in the parish of Järstorp. She died on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 1874 in the parish of Ljungby. The cause of death was consumption. Erik Gustaf Dahlin got married to his second wife, Anna Kristina Andersdotter, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1875. In the records for the years 1866-1870 (A I:12 page 51, A I:13 page 51) he was mentioned as a tanner (apprentice) and tenant. There is no notation about him owning land.

Verner Georg Dahlin, born on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1878 in the parish of Nöttja, got married to Hulda Sofia Lorentz, born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 1868 in the parish of Madesjö. According to the household examination records for the parish of Ljungby for the years 1913-1927 they were living at the address *Tomt 14 D* (A II a:6 page 100, A II a:8 page 105). If you want to have further information about Verner Georg Dahlin after the year 1927 you will have to contact another branch of the provincial

GEN RESEARCH # 6B

archives here in Vadstena that is handling the modern church records (*Folkbokföringen*). You find their e-mail address at the bottom of the first page of this letter. The post address is the same as ours.


Gustaf Emil Dahlin, born on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 1870 in the parish of Ljungby, died on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 1890. The cause of death was consumption.

Erik Gustaf Dahlin died on the 28<sup>th</sup> of December 1923. The cause of death was arteriosclerosis. At that time Erik Gustaf Dahlin and his wife Anna Kristina Andersdotter were living in a place called *Ljungby Eskilsgård nr 2* (according to the household examination records for Ljungby for the years 1922-1927, A II a:9 page 363). Anna Kristina Andersdotter moved to another place with the address *Nr 15 A* in 1924 (page 111).

Concerning your question about obituaries for Erik Gustaf Dahlin there was no further information about his life in the death records or the household examination records which is something one sometimes can find. It is possible that one could find obituaries in the local newspapers but unfortunately we don't have any copies of those newspapers. You can try to contact the local libraries for help but I can't guarantee that they will be able to help you.

You will find an invoice enclosed.

Sincerely,

  
Astrid Laurin  
Archivist

Postadress	Besöksadress	Telefon	Telefax	E-Post	Plusgiro	Org.nr.
Box 126 592 23 VADSTENA	Slottet	0143-753 00 vx	0143-753 37	landsarkivet@landsarkivet-vadstena.ra.se	95 06 23-9	202100-1074
FOLKBOKFÖRINGSSEKTIONEN:		0143-753 50	0143-753 59	folkbokforingen@landsarkivet-vadstena.ra.se		





Försvarets arkiv i  
Riksarkivet

Datum  
2006-06-08

Ert datum

Beteckning  
422-2006/892

Er beteckning

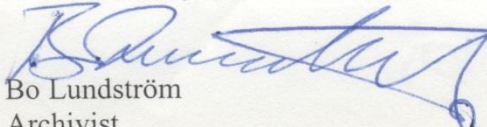
GEN RESEARCH #7

Roger Dahlin  
49 Shagbark Lane  
Pennellville, NY  
13132 USA

Information concerning Karl Reinhold Dahlin

We have found your father, Karl Reinhold Dahlin, with soldiernumber F 80-14-1908 in the nominal rolls of regional conscription board of Kronoberg (Kronobergs inskrivningsområde, Ljungby rullförlingsområde, stamrullor, flottan, d 2 b:vol. 2, 1808-10). In the roll it is said that Dahlin was assign to the Coast-artillery, which was a part of the Swedish Navy. In 1909 he was in service for 258 days (2 AK, art. Bat E II). Further more there is also said that he did not turn up in 1911 when he was call-up for refresher course. And the reason must have been, that he in 1910 immigrated to the USA.

Yours sincerely

  
Bo Lundström  
Archivist

Postadress	Gatuadress	Telefon	Telefax	E-post och hemsida
Krigsarkivet 115 88 STOCKHOLM	Banérgratan 64	08-782 41 00	08-782 69 76	krigsarkivet@krigsarkivet.ra.se <a href="http://www.ra.se/kra">http://www.ra.se/kra</a>

# Carl Dahlin's Swedish Birth Certificate

## Utdrag av Födelse- och Dopbok.

- 1 År 1887 (Åkiosju) den 27 september  
 2 föddes i Nötja församling i Kramobergs län,  
 3 gossebarnet flickebarnet Karl Reinhold Dahlin  
 4 Faderns namn och yrke: E. S. Dahlin, garware  
 5 ; född den — år —  
 6 Moderns namn och yrke: h. h. Anna Kristina Andersdotter  
 7 ; född den — år —  
 8 Föräldrarnas Moderna kyrkobokföringsort:  
 Nötja församling i Kramobergs län,  
 9 Föräldrarnas Moderna bostad i sistnämnda församling Nötja Backegård  
 Föräldrarna vigda den —

- 10 Barnet döpt den 2 okt. 1887 av komminister K. M. Bredberg  
 11 Faddrar: —  
 12 —  
 13 Modern i kyrkotagen den —  
 14 betygar Nötja församling i Kramobergs län  
 15 den 12 april år 1954



Einarr Pettersson  
 Kyrkoherde v. Pastor Komminister Kyrkoadjunkt Pastoratsadjunkt

C 246816

Dahlin, Carl



# Letter from Carl Dahlin to Wife Grace- Early days of Marriage

June 28. / 92.  
A. U.

My Dear wife

Received your most welcome letter yesterday and I am glad to hear that you have a good time and enjoy your stay but my little dear I want you to be careful with your swimming so you dont catch cold. Friday night the had a cloudy fine work at before but I did not go I am so lonesome for my little wife I cant stay home I put in another full week thank the Lord for that but I dont know how about this week but I hope it will be a full week to

you know what time I get up this morning I oclock some sleep head your hubby I hope your mother can come with you and your aunt Grace I had a letter from home and it was written to you and how the wish that we will get at the happiness and love in the world and I am glad because we know its other pretty good to be happy dont we darling I was out with the boys last night and we had a few drink you know and then we had a card game and I made what I send you for list day have to close for this time with love to you and mine my dear wife your Hubby. Carl



ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
PETITION FOR CITIZENSHIP

No. 10721

To the Honorable the SUPREME Court of ONONDAGA at SYRACUSE, N. Y.

The petition of Carl Dahlin, hereby filed, respectfully shows:

(1) My place of residence is 146 Culbert St., Syracuse (2) My occupation is Foreman

(3) I was born in Ljungby, Sweden on Sept. 27, 1890 My race is XXXXXX

(4) ~~I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on XX~~ At

~~XXXX~~ Grace

(5) I am married. The name of my wife or husband is Syracuse, N. Y.

we were married on April 4, 1921 at Aug. 26, 1900; he was

born at Syracuse, N. Y. on entered the United States

at for permanent residence therein, and now

resides at Syracuse, N. Y. I have 3 children, and the name, date,

and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children are as follows: Richard 11.28/22; Gordon 8/22/25;

Vivian 4/4/27; all born and resident Syracuse, N. Y.

(8) My last foreign residence was Ljungby, Sweden I emigrated to the United States of America from Copenhagen, Denmark My lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N. Y., under the name of Carl Dahlin on Nov. 11, 1910, on the vessel Luistania

(7) I am not a disbeliever in or opposed to organized government or a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching disbelief in or opposed to organized government. I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy. I am attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States. It is my intention to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to \_\_\_\_\_

Gustavus V, King of Sweden

of whom (which) at this time I am a subject (or citizen), and it is my intention to reside permanently in the United States. (8) I am able to speak the English language.  
(9) I have resided continuously in the United States of America for the term of 25 years at least immediately preceding the date of this petition, to wit, since  
Nov. 11, 1910 and in the County of Onondaga

NOV. 11, 1919

April 25, 1919

this State, continuously next preceding the date of this petition, since  
six months next preceding the date of this petition.

being a residence within said county of at least

Sec 1, Act May 23, 1902.

Petition filed under

Affidavit on Form 169 is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(10) I have not heretofore made petition for citizenship: Number \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_ and such petition was denied by that Court for the following reasons and causes, to wit:

and the cause of such denial has since been cured or removed.

Attached hereto and made a part of this, my petition for citizenship, is my declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States of America, and the affidavits of the two verifying witnesses required by law.

Wherefore, I, your petitioner, pray that I may be admitted a citizen of the United States of America, and that my name be changed to \_\_\_\_\_

I, your aforesaid petitioner being duly sworn, depose and say that I have { read } this petition and know the contents thereof; that the same is true of my own knowledge except as to matters herein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters I believe it to be true; and that this petition is signed by me with my full, true name.

(Complete and true signature of petitioner)

## AFFIDAVITS OF WITNESSES

John A Dittmann, occupation Real Estate  
residing at 835 Le Moyne Ave., Syracuse, N. Y., and  
Hubert Kraus, occupation Tailor  
residing at 120 Culbert St., Syracuse, N. Y.  
each being severally, duly, and respectively sworn, deposes and says that he is a citizen of the United States of America; that he has personally known and has been  
acquainted in the United States with  
Carl Dahlin, the petitioner above mentioned, since 2/20/31

and that to his personal knowledge the petitioner has resided in the United States continuously preceding the date of filing this petition, of which this affidavit is a part, to wit, since the date last mentioned, and at Syracuse, in the County of Onondaga this State, in which the above-entitled petition is made, continuously since 2/20/31, and that he has personal knowledge that the petitioner is and during all such periods has been a person of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States, and that in his opinion the petitioner is in every way qualified to be admitted a citizen of the United States

posed to the good order and happiness of the United States, and that in his opinion the petitioner is in every way qualified to receive a full and complete pardon.

Johna Dietmann (Signature of witness) Hubert Kraus (Signature of witness)

Syracuse, N.Y.

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the above-named petitioner and witnesses in the office of the Clerk of said Court of \_\_\_\_\_  
this 25th day of February, Anno Domini 1933 ~~Placed in the hands of the Clerk of said Court of \_\_\_\_\_~~  
\_\_\_\_\_ Above-named, together with declaration of intention No. \_\_\_\_\_

~~Xerox the Department of Defense, showing the various aircraft personnel stationed at each point.~~

Form 2204—L-A  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

GRANT H. GOODELLE

*Clerk.*

CEAL



# Death Record and obituaries for Carl Dahlin's Mother Anna Christina [Anderson] Dahlin

Verified Transcript of Death 131 WILLIAMSON LAW BOOK CO., ROCHESTER, N. Y. 14609

## A Verified Transcript from the Register of Death

Name of Deceased Mrs. Anna C. Dahlin

Date of Death November 20, 1937 Register No. 24  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Place of Death Town of Carroll, Frewsburg, N.Y.

Usual Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Stay in Town, City or Village 3 years

Sex Female

Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed X Divorced \_\_\_\_\_

Age: Years 92 Months 3 Days 12

Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

War Veteran (if yes, what war) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation Housework

Birthplace Sweden

Citizen of What Country 5. How long in U.S. if of foreign birth == 10 years

Father's Name Mr. Anderson

Mother's Maiden Name Can't be obtained

Cause of Death	Interval Between Onset and Death
A. <u>Artero-sclerosis</u>	<u>6 years</u>
B. <u>Myocarditis</u>	<u>1 year</u>
C. _____	_____

Medical Attendance or other Attendant R. M. Weidler, Frewsburg, N. Y.

Undertaker Guy E. Stanley, Frewsburg, N. Y.

Place of Burial Maple Grove Cemetery, Frewsburg, N. Y.

I hereby solemnly attest that this is a true transcript from the Register of Deaths kept in the Town of Carroll

County of Chautauqua State of New York

Dated at Frewsburg, N.Y. the 25th day of May, 19 88

(Signed) Anna C. Seekins  
(Official) REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

*4274-3mo 12da*  
**MRS. ANNA C. DAHLIN**  
**FREWSBURG** — Mrs. Anna Christina Dahlin, 92, died early this morning at the Old Peoples' home at Frewsburg. She came to America from Sweden ten years ago and for the past three years has been living at the home. Surviving are three sons, Carl Dahlin of Syracuse; Verner and Gurjar in Sweden; one brother, Carl Anderson of Jamestown; one sister, Mrs. Augusta Bergquist of Seattle, Wash., several grand daughters including Mrs. Eliza Bissel, Jamestown. The remains are at the Stanley Undertaking home. The funeral will be held Monday at 1:30 p. m. at the Old Peoples' home.  
*Jamestown Press Nov 1937*

**FUNERAL OF MRS. DAHLIN**  
Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Mrs. Anna Christina Dahlin at the Old People's home, Frewsburg. Rev. Gerhard W. Palmgren of the Zion Mission church officiated, assisted by Rev. Carl C. Charn of the First Mission church and the home superintendent, Rev. C. W. Peterson. The bearers were Carl Dahlin, Eric Brugge, Milton Bissell and G. Rudolph Brandin. Interment was in Maple Grove cemetery, Frewsburg. Present from away were Carl Dahlin of Syracuse and Mr. and Mrs. G. Rudolph Brandin of Kane, Pa.



## A CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPT FROM THE REGISTER OF MARRIAGES

In the CITY of JAMESTOWN  
COUNTY OF CHAUTAUQUA, STATE OF NEW YORK  
Date of Marriage November 25, 1904  
Full Name of Husband David F. Gunnarson  
His Residence Jamestown, New York Date of Birth age 21  
Occupation Salesman  
Husband's Birthplace Sweden  
His Father's Name Auden Gunnarson  
His Mother's Maiden Name Claudia L. Magnuson  
Number of Husband's Marriages 1  
Full Name of Wife (Maiden) Emma J. Dahlin  
Full Name of Wife (Married) Emma J. Gunnarson  
Her Residence at Marriage Jamestown, New York Date of Birth age 27  
Occupation unknown by this record  
Wife's Birthplace Sweden  
Her Father's Name E.G. Dahlin  
Her Mother's Maiden Name Anna C. Anderson  
Number of Brides Marriages 1  
Name and Official Position of  
Person Soleminizing the Marriage Rev. Julius Lincoln  
Place of Marriage City of Jamestown, New York  
When Registered January 5, 1905 Register No. 9402  
I hereby certify that this is a true transcript from  
the Public Register of Marriages as kept in the City Clerk's Office, 200 E. Third St., Jamestown  
County of Chautauqua and in the State Bureau of Vital Statistics of New York  
Dated at Jamestown the 3rd day of March 2011.

FOR GENEALOGICAL  
PURPOSES ONLY

## GUSTAF ANDERSON DIES

Former Member of the Council and  
Board of Education.

The funeral of Gustaf Anderson, who died Tuesday night, will be held tomorrow (Friday) afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Henderson & Lincoln funeral home. Mr. Anderson, who lived at 425 Hazzard Street, was a well known clothing merchant in the city for twenty years and at one time served a term as member of the old Common Council from the Fifth Ward.

Mr. Anderson was 64 years old. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Danielson Anderson; a son, Carl A. Anderson of Jersey City; three brothers, A. C. Anderson of Winthrop, Minn., Hakan Anderson of Puyallup, Wash., and Carl Anderson of Jamestown; three sisters, Mrs. Anna Dahlin of Sioux Falls, S. D., Mrs. Augusta Bergquist of Seattle, Wash., and a sister in Sweden.

Mr. Anderson was a prominent member of the First Lutheran Church and had served as a trustee of the church for 27 years. He was treasurer of the church at the time of the erection of the present edifice, and secretary for several years. He was also a member of the Swedish Men's Society; Jamestown Lodge, Knights of Pythias and the Jamestown Choral Society.

About ten years ago Mr. Anderson left Jamestown for Seattle, Wash., after having conducted a clothing store here for a period of twenty years under the firm name of Anderson & Ohlquist. He returned to Jamestown after a few years spent in the Western city.

In addition to his service on the old Council Mr. Anderson served for six years as a member of the Board of Education. In 1907 he was a member of the Charter Revision Committee to which he was appointed by Mayor James L. Weeks.

Death of Christ Walz.

March 25, 1911

## MRS. GUSTAF ANDERSON

Widow of Former Clothing Dealer Dies at W. C. A. Hospital at Age of 77 Years.

Mrs. Marie Gustafva Anderson, widow of Gustaf Anderson, resident of the Lutheran Home for the Aged, died this morning at 4:45 o'clock at the W. C. A. hospital, aged 77 years. Her husband was a former clothier here, and served for several years on the board of education. The family long resided on Center street.

Mrs. Anderson had been a resident of the home since July, 1931. She was born in Sweden Nov. 26, 1861 and was a member of the First Lutheran church. Surviving are an adopted son, Carl Anderson of Cranford, N. J., and a brother, J. P. Danielson of Jamestown.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 2 p. m. at the Henderson & Lincoln chapel.

5-22-39

## New York State Department of Health

## Certified Transcript of Birth

Name: ELSA GUNNERSON  
Sex: FEMALE  
Born on: July 22, 1905 At: unknown ☐ a.m. ☐ p.m.  
Place of Birth: 244 Front Av., Jamestown, New York  
Maiden Name of Mother: Emma Dahlin, 27 years old, born in Sweden  
Name of Father: David Gunnarson, 22 years old, born in Sweden, Drug Clerk  
Date filed: August 20, 1905  
Local Registration No. 7053  
This is to certify that the information concerning the birth of the above named person is a true and accurate transcription of the information recorded on the original local certificate of birth on file with the local registrar of  
City of Jamestown, New York 602  
Name of Locality District No.

James N. Olson  
Local Registrar

March 3, 2011

Date Issued

FOR GENEALOGICAL  
PURPOSES ONLY



**Certificate of Death Registration  
WAYNE COUNTY INDIANA**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, THAT OUR RECORDS SHOW:

Decedent's Name: (First) EMMA (Middle) D (Last) GUNNARSON (Suffix)

Date of Death: February 12, 1933

Place of Death: 24 S 21ST ST City: RICHMOND

Age: 53 YEARS Marital Status: MARRIED Gender: FEMALE

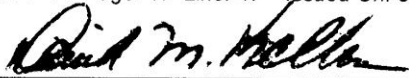
Cause(s) of death: (a) ENCEPHALITIS  
(b)  
(c)  
(d) Other Conditions:

Certified By: W TAYLOR MD

Cemetery: JAMESTOWN NJ Disposition Date: 02/13/1933

Funeral Home: STEGALL-BERHEIDE-ORR FUNERAL SERVICE RICHMOND IN 47

File Date: 02/13/2011 Book: CITY -11 Page: 17 Line: 47 Issued On: 03/10/2011

  
(Health Officer)

Not all information is available for all years.

Birth Date: 01/08/1880 January 8, 1880 Birth City: N/A Birth State: SWEDEN

Occupation: AT HOME Industry: N/A SSN: N/A Race: WHITE

Address: N/A City: N/A State: N/A

Spouse: DAVID

Father's Name(First, Middle, Last, Suffix): E DAHLIN Father's BirthPlace: SWEDEN

Mother's Name(First, Middle, Last, Suffix): N/A Mother's BirthPlace: SWEDEN

Info: N/A Relationship: N/A

In Memory Of  
David Gunnarson

Born  
July 1st, 1883  
Stockholm, Sweden

Services At  
Memory Chapel  
A. L. Moore and Sons  
February 8th, 1952

Rev. Fredrick Barnhill, Officiating  
First Congregational Church

Concluding Services  
Greenwood Memorial Park

**Bissell Dies In Phoenix**

**Death Takes Former  
Local Lawyer At 58**

Milton Adelbert Bissell, 58, of Phoenix, Ariz., a former Jamestown attorney, died Tuesday (June 4, 1933) in a Phoenix hospital. He had practiced law in Phoenix since moving there 17 years ago and was a member of the Arizona Bar Association.

Mr. Bissell was born in Jamestown April 22, 1905, the son of Berne B. and Carrie Andrews Bissell.

He was a graduate of Jamestown High School in 1924 and Albany Law School in 1927. When residing here he was a member of First Congregational Church, Elks Lodge, Moon Brook Country Club and Jamestown Bar Association. He served as chairman of the Democratic City Committee for five years, was assistant corporation counsel and was a past president of the Jamestown Lions Club.

Mr. Bissell also was a member of Amun Ra Fraternity of Jamestown High School and Phi Sigma Kappa, national college fraternity. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Elsa Gunnarson Bissell; one son, John D. Bissell, Phoenix; one daughter, Mrs. Peter James DeMatheu, Son Sonate, El Salvador; two sisters, Mrs. C. Oliver Sandquist, Phoenix; and Mrs. James G. Ellis II, Washington, D.C.; and



MILTON A. BISSELL

his stepmother, Mrs. Berne Bissell, Jamestown.

Funeral services will be Thursday at the A. L. Moore and Sons Funeral Home, Phoenix.

Services in Jamestown will be held at 1:30 p.m. next Monday at Henderson-Lincoln Funeral Home. The Rev. Ellis F. Eaton, First Congregational Church pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

**JAMESTOWN E**

*James Bissell Journal*  
*Mon May 13 Page 6 1933*  
**Obituary**

**MRS. DAVID GUNNARSON**

Former resident of Jamestown For 30 Years Dies At Her Home In Richmond, Ind., at the Age of 56.

Mrs. Emma Dahlin Gunnarson, wife of David Gunnarson, residents of Jamestown for about 30 years, died Sunday evening at her home in Richmond, Ind., aged 56 years. She had been ill for about two months. Her daughter, Mrs. Milton A. Bissell of this city, was with her at the time of her death. Besides her husband and daughter, Mrs. Gunnarson is survived by her mother, Mrs. Anna Dahlin of this city; a brother, Carl Dahlin of Syracuse, N. Y., and two brothers in Sweden.

Mrs. Gunnarson was active for many years in the Zion Mission church and organized its Deborah society, of which she was the first president. She was also identified with musical circles as a singer.

Mrs. Gunnarson was born in Sweden in January, 1877, and resided in Jamestown about 30 years before going west about five years ago to reside in South Dakota and Indiana, their home having been for the past two years at Richmond.

The remains will be brought to Jamestown Tuesday for funeral services and interment.



## Carl Dahlin Family Obituaries

### C. Richard Dahlin

C. Richard "Dick" Dahlin, 78, formerly of **Syracuse** and **Rainbow Shores**, died Friday in Syracuse.



Dahlin

Born in Syracuse, he graduated from North High School and attended Syracuse University. He retired in 1983 after 25 years as an engineer at Carrier Corp. He was a member of Pulaski Veterans of Foreign Wars and the former Elmwood Fish and Game Club. He was a lay minister at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pulaski, and a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader. He was active with Valley Little League. He was an Army veteran of World War II.

His wife, the former Betty Dean, died in 1996.

**Survivors:** Two daughters, Vicki Dahlin of Syracuse and Terri Weinstein of Wassaic; three sons, Gene and Michael, both of Liverpool, and Mark of Atlanta; a sister, Vivian Luhr of Florida; two brothers, Gordon of Minoa and F. Roger of Pennellville; 15 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**Services:** 8:15 a.m. Monday at Keegan-Osbelt-Knight Funeral Home and 9 a.m. in Assumption Church. Burial, Onondaga County Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Calling hours, 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home, 900 N. Salina St.

**Contributions:** Sisters of St. Francis Retirement Fund, 2500 Grant Blvd., Syracuse 13208.

### In Loving Memory of

#### C. Richard Dahlin

November 26, 1922  
to

April 20, 2001

#### Funeral Service

April 23, 2001 at 9:00 AM at  
Church of the Assumption, Syracuse, NY  
Interment

Onondaga County Veterans Cemetery

### Gordon E. Dahlin

February 13, 2007

Gordon E. Dahlin, 83, of **East Syracuse**, died at Birchwood Health Center. Born in Syracuse, he graduated from Grant



Jr. High School. He worked for Hueber-Breuer Construction Co. and Key Bank. He was a member of the Fr. Finley

Knights of Columbus Council #516, VFW Post 9596, DAV, and formerly was a Democratic Committeeman in the Town of Cicero. In many ways he touched people's lives and always made friends. He was a 1st Lieutenant in the Army during WWII, serving with the 299th Corps of Engineers in the Pacific Theater and was a recipient of the Bronze Star.

**Survivors:** Left to cherish his memory and at his side during his illness are his wife of 62 years, Genevieve Schultz Dahlin; 11 children, Eric (Debra), Linda Valette, Valore (Bill) Heppler, Jo Ann Henson, Pamela Probst, Patrick Britt (Patty), Judith (Mark) Bonnett, Marguerite (Jack) Tuttle, Marcia (Bill) Bowhall, Mary Beth (Gary) McMillan, and Michael; a brother, Roger; a sister, Vivian Luhr; 32 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a brother, Richard.

**Funeral Services:** 9:45 a.m. Monday at Eaton-Tubbs-Schepp Funeral Home and 10:30 a.m. at Assumption Church. Burial, Onondaga County Veterans Cemetery. Calling hours will be 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home, 7191 E. Genesee St., Fayetteville.

For directions, local florists, or a guestbook, please visit [www.SCHEPPFAMILY.com](http://www.SCHEPPFAMILY.com)

**Contributions:** Hospice of CNY, 990 Seventh North St., Liverpool, NY 13088; or Birchwood Health Center, 4800 Bear Rd., Liverpool, NY 13088.

**EATON-TUBBS-SCHEPP**  
Fayetteville 637-3214

**Franciscan Church of the Assumption**  
Syracuse, New York

Music Program

February 9, 2017

**Mass of Christian Burial**



Genevieve Schultz Dahlin

### Vivian (Dahlin) Luhr

December 8, 2020

Vivian (Dahlin) Luhr, 93, succumbed to COVID 19 at a Utica nursing home Dec. 8, 2020. She was a 1946 graduate of North High school and communicant of Assumption Church. A 2019 photo is shown.



She is survived by her brother Roger Dahlin of Baldwinsville and her daughters Donna Locicero of Depew NY and Debra Church of Holland Patent, three grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. She was predeceased by infant son Dana Luhr and brothers Richard and Gordon Dahlin

She will be buried with her husband Herbert Luhr in Florida. No services are planned. Arrangements are with the Friedel, Williams & Edmunds Funeral Home, New Hartford.

Donations in her name can be made to the Assumption Church food pantry.