

# FAGERNESS FAMILY TREE



Lars Fagerness



Mrs. Lars Fagerness

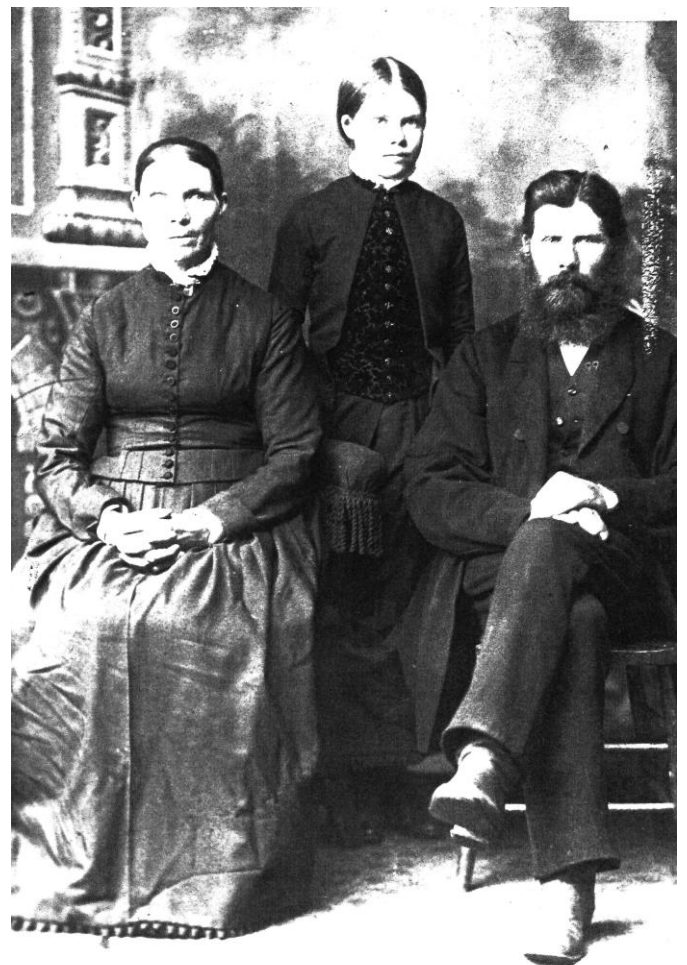
## LARS FAGERNESS

Lars was born and raised on the Fagerness family farm on Lake Mojsa in Eidsvold, Norway. His firstborn was a son, Hans, who was Bennett's father. Hans was born on the farm on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1841. Lars lost the farm and then moved to Sandvigen where the other four of Lars's children were born.

## HANS FAGERNESS

Lars's son, Hans Larson Fagerness, moved to Torgensrud where he managed a farm for a wealthy landowner. He was married at Torgensrud to Ingerborg Hanson. Ingerborg Hanson was born August 22, 1828. Their first three children were born at Torgensrud. They were Bennett in 1860, Stephan 1866, and Christian 1868. They then moved to Feiring where the last two were born, Martin 1872, and Agnes 1874. Hans moved his family to America in 1881. They arrived in Adrian, Minnesota on May 5, 1881. Hans worked as a section hand and later a section boss for the railroad. The family moved to Rushmore in 1883.

Hans's wife, Ingerborg, died at age 82 on January 25, 1910. Hans died January 20, 1927 at the age of 86.



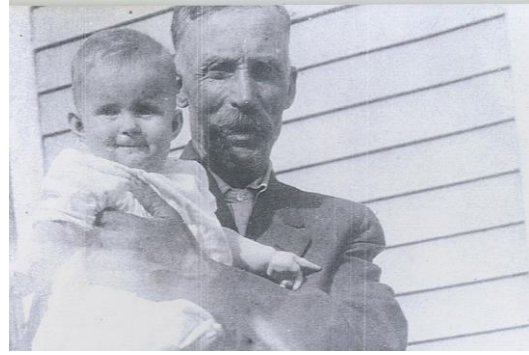
Ingerborg Hanson Fagerness Agnes

Hans Fagerness

## BENNETT FAGERNESS



Bennett O. Fagerness Maria Langseth Fagerness



Hans's son Bennett was born on December 4, 1860. Bennett came to America with his father Hans in 1881. Bennett got a job on the railroad after the family moved to Rushmore. He married Maria Langseth in 1894. Bennett then built a house in Rushmore on the corner of Third Avenue and Seney. They had four children, Melvin, Elsie, William and Alma. The family moved to the 20 acre farm south of Rushmore shortly after Alma, their last child was born in 1902. They also bought and farmed 160 acres nearby. In 1907 Bennett's wife Maria died from complications during childbirth. In 1909 Bennett moved the house and barn from the 20 acre farm to the 160 acre farm. They then lived on the 160 acre farm until 1932.

### BENNETT AND MARIA FAGERNESS

#### Bennett and Maria's children:

Melvin Fagerness was born on June 23, 1896. He married Ruby Rohwer on June 9, 1926. They had 3 children, Floyd, Melva and James. Melvin took over his father's farm in 1932. He lived there until his retirement. Ruby died in 1939. Melvin remarried Elsie Bradt in 1940. Elsie died in 1970. Melvin remarried Luverne Seidel in 1972. Melvin died on March 4, 1981.

Elsie Fagerness was born July 10, 1898. She married Blanchard Gardner on Feb. 16, 1921. They had two children, Dorothy and Jean. Elsie and Blanchard farmed near Winona. Elsie died October 13, 1997.

William Fagerness was born June 28, 1900. He married Lillie Fischer on August 30, 1930. They had 3 children, David, Lois and Diane. William retired from the Post Office in Rushmore where he worked as a Rural Carrier. William died on March 11, 1996.

Alma Fagerness was born on February 12, 1902. She married Dwight Tangeman in 1927. They had one child, Dale. Alma and Dwight ran a store in Iowa. Alma died on October 12, 1945 from breast cancer. Their son Dale retired from a career at Boeing in Seattle. Dale has 3 children, Patti, Dale Jr. and Nanci.

SEE PHOTOS OF BENNETT AND MARIA'S CHILDREN ON PAGE 7

## BENNETT'S SECOND WIFE, ANNA JEPSON



Jens Jepson      Laura Smith Jepson

Jens Jepson and Laura Smith Jepson are the parents of Anna, who married Bennett in 1914. Anna was born in Denmark on August 10, 1885. Her parents moved to Truesdale, Wisconsin. When Anna was two her father died and her mother took her and her two step brothers, Louis and Willie, back to Denmark. All three were raised by Laura's mother, Anna's grandmother. Laura remarried her first husband Mr. Smith who was the father of Louis and Willie. He died in 1913 and Laura and Willie moved back to America. Laura married a third time to Mr. Larson in Newell, Iowa where Larson hung himself in a neighbor's barn.

Left photo is of Jens Jepson and Laura who are the parents of Anna. Right photo below is of Anna with her grandmother who raised her in Denmark. This photo was taken when Anna was 26 just before she left for America with her half-brother, Louis Smith. Anna and Louis Smith arrived in Rushmore in 1911. Anna worked at Wemple's Restaurant and Louis ran a garage for a year. He then moved to California. Louis and Anna kept in constant contact by mail.



Louis Smith      Annie Jepsen

Left: Louis Smith and Anna Jepsen Fagerness.  
Right: Anna with her Grandmother.

Bennett married Anna Jepsen in 1914. They had four children Margaret, Laura, Lee and Don. Bennett's family stayed on the 160 acre farm until 1932 when his son Melvin took over the 160 acre farm. Bennett then moved back to

the 20 acre farm where he lived until his death in 1939 at age 79. Bennett died from pneumonia on August 28, 1939. Anna died on May 25, 1974.

Bennett and Anna's children:

Margaret was born on June 15, 1915. She married Albert Benson on February 19, 1938. They had 4 children, Linda, Karen, Bruce and Larry. They farmed near Walnut Grove, Minnesota. Margaret died on December 26, 1987.

Laura was born on October 5, 1916. She married Clifford Olson on July 3, 1935. They had 4 children, Howard, Colette, Warren and Charlene. Cliff had various jobs in Rushmore, Adrian and Willmar, Minnesota.

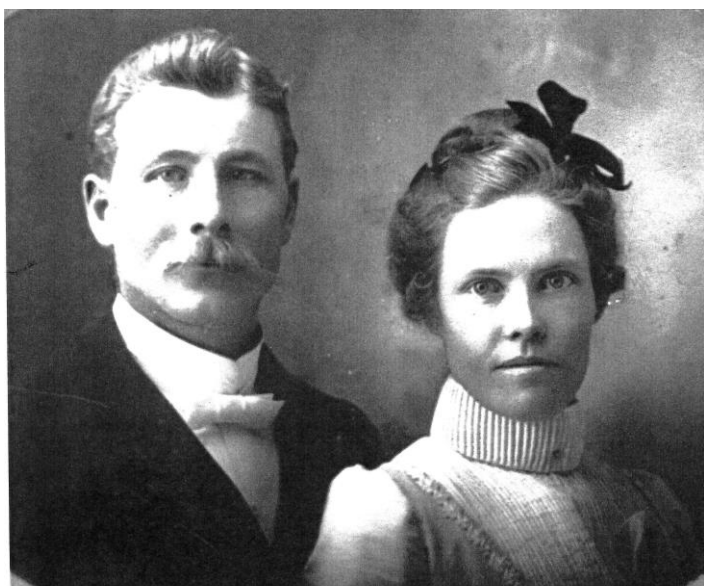
Lee was born on March 10, 1920. He married Armella Mormann on June 6, 1944. They had 12 children, Mary, Craig, Loren, Gerald, Therese, Rosemary, Janet, Tom, Joan, Richard, Sharon and Celeste. Lee retired from a career at the Post Office in Rushmore where he was Postmaster. Lee died from Multiple Myeloma cancer on March 19, 1993.

Don was born on September 14, 1922. He married June Rauchmann on June 25, 1944. They had 3 children, Douglas, Cheryl and Marla. Don retired from a career at the Boise Cascade Paper mill in Vancouver, Washington. Don died in 2012.



# OTHER CHILDREN OF HANS FAGERNESS

## AGNES FAGERNESS DAHLBERG



John Dahlberg

Agnes Fagerness Dahlberg



Agnes, daughter of Hans, was born in Norway in 1874. She married John Dahlberg on May 22, 1901. They lived next to the Lee Fagerness family in Rushmore, Minnesota. John served in the Spanish American war. He worked in the General Store in Rushmore. John was born in 1868 and died in 1948. Agnes was born in 1874 and died in 1971. They did not have any children.

## STEVE FAGERNESS



Steve Fagerness

Nina Langseth Fagerness

Steve Fagerness was born on July 26, 1866 in Torgensrud, Norway. He came to this country when his father, Hans, brought the family to America in 1881. He first lived with his parents at the Hans Hanson farm south of Adrian until 1883 when the family moved to Rushmore. He first worked for the railroad. He married Nina Langseth in June 30, 1909. She was born on April 25, 1881. Steve bought a farm west of Rushmore. He built the family home on the farm in 1909. He then devoted all of his time to farming for the rest of his life. Steve and Nina had two children, Harold and Orville. Steve died of stomach cancer on June 4, 1938. Nina died on January 25, 1968.

Harold Fagerness was born in Rushmore on July 26, 1911. He married Mildred Studt on December 31, 1945. They had one child, Stephen. Harold died on January 7, 1966

Orville Fagerness was born on February 9, 1916. He married Kathryn

Wagner on November 18, 1941. Kate was born on September 14, 1915. They had one child, Stanley born on July 18, 1948. Orville farmed the home place west of Rushmore. Orville died on February 25, 1981 from colon cancer.

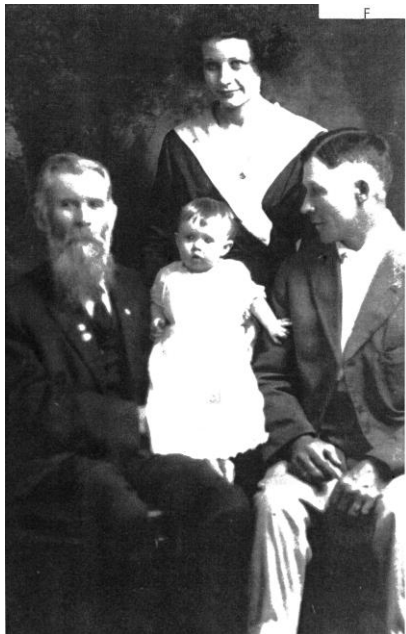
# CHRISTIAN LARS FAGERNESS



Nellie Thompson Fagerness      Christian Lars Fagerness

**Christian was born in Torgensrud, Norway on September 14, 1868. He came to America in 1881 with his parents. He worked on various farms around Rushmore and later worked for the railroad first as a fireman and then as an engineer. He married Nellie Thompson on January 11, 1893. She was born on December 8, 1872. They had two children, Reynold and Violette. Christian was working in the twin cities for CGW railroad when he was killed on June 17, 1944. He was killed when a train engine overturned on a weak track and the boiler exploded. He inhaled live steam. Nellie died on December 10, 1952.**

**Reynold Fagerness was born April 19, 1895. He married Rachael. Reynold died March 16, 1967. They had two children, Baret and Barbara.**



**Violette was married to Fred Coburn on November 9, 1917. They had one child, Betty.**

**Four generation photo is of Hans, Violette, Christian and Betty.**

Hans Fagerness      Violette Fagerness      Christian Fagerness  
Betty

## MARTIN FAGERNESS



Martin Fagerness

**Martin was born on January 6, 1872. He married Etta (Bessum) Marlin on September 29. Martin worked for the railroad for 42 years. He lived and retired in Rushmore. They had three children, Lois, Eugene and Harry. They all were her children by a previous marriage. Martin died on June 1, 1949.**

**THE DESCENDANTS OF BENNETT AND MARIA FAGERNES**



Melva Elsie Bradt Fagerness Melvin Fagerness James



Erik W. Brom Leo J.T. Brom July 1978  
Dorothy Gardner Brom Elsie Fagerness Gardner Jean Gardner



Mehdi and Lois Moheban, Stephen Child, David, Joan, Vicki, Mark, Keith, Richard, Gary, William, Diane and Craig Child, Lillie, Julie



Alma Fagerness Tangeman Dale Dwight Dwight Tangeman

# THE DESCENDANTS OF BENNETT AND ANNA FAGERNESS



**The Lee Fagerness family from the back row: Joan, Gerald, Janet, Richard, Tom, Therese, Loren, Mary, Craig, Rosemary. In the front row: Sharon, Armella, Lee and Celeste.**



**Laura Olson Family with Cliff and children Collette and Howard. Photo taken before son Warren was born.**



**Don Fagerness on the right with Gerry his wife and son Doug with his wife Sherrie.**



**Margaret Benson family from the left: Linda, Larry, Margaret, Bruce, Karen and Albert.**