



**Grenville Schrader (age 11),
image taken in 1941
(original Boss homestead)**

I was 11 years old and this horse was more important to me than a new sleigh or tobaggan. I just used a rope halter shank on the driving bridle and no saddle for riding! I drove her on the cutter too.

My father was a Railway man and worked on a 7 mile section of track about a mile from our residence. It was during the war-the roads were not plowed and we lived over three miles from the nearest Post Office and store. Across the road was my father's cousin Clayton Geeza and family living on the old John Geeza homestead.

We were living on my Dad's maternal Grandparents homestead - "Boss homestead" This was where Robert Marshall Lewis and family lived before going west in 1918. It was a big house built of large white pine logs and covered with pine shiplap dressed lumber. My father Archie Schrader and Clayton Geeza grew up with the Lewis children. Hank Geeza, Clayton Geeza's father and a brother of Minnie (Geeza) Scharfenberg lived across the road and Robert Lewis closest neighbour!

My father had bought a horse and driving outfit in the 1920's. Later sold the horse but stored the cutter, a beautiful set of driving harness with glass rosettes on the bridle- chime bells, buffalo robe etc. In 1941, my Dad bought this horse for my mother to drive to town to shop etc. (Small and quiet) He bought a 19 year old 'burned out race horse' off his cousin Clayton Geeza across the road. This horse in her day was a classy driver - She was a standard bred race horse - trotter.

We had her sharp shod and she was the fastest horse in the Township on a good sleigh road. Unfortunately, she was a rough horse to ride. She could trot faster than she could run. We kept her as a pet until about 1947. She was good with us kids.

Grenville Schrader, December, 2005