

Walsh County Celebrates Centennial And Dedicates Walsh Heritage Books

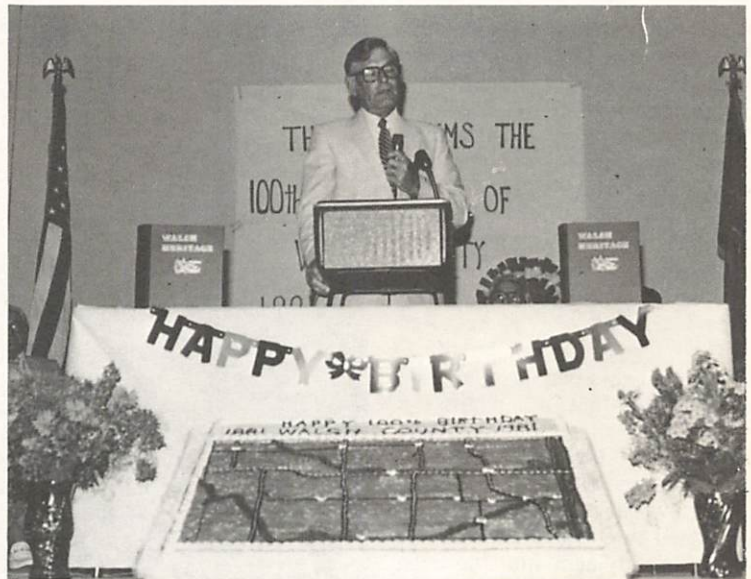
This year, 1981, a milestone in the history of Walsh County was reached. Walsh County celebrates its centennial, and volumes three and four of the Walsh Heritage books were dedicated. July 26 marked this special occasion at the Walsh Heritage Village in Grafton at 2 p.m.

The county commissioners issued a proclamation and the proclamation says in part that since Walsh County was created as a separate county in 1881, having been a part of Pembina County prior to that time, and since 1981 will mark the 100th anniversary of Walsh County and since the commissioners deem it proper to honor those persons who have contributed to the growth and development of Walsh County in business, transportation, education and religion for the past 100 years, the commissioners proclaim July 26 as the day to commemorate the anniversary. (The actual date Walsh County originated was August 31, 1881.)

As a highlight of the centennial celebration, the Walsh County Historical Society gave special recognition to the first generation descendants who still reside on the original homestead claimed

by their parents. And, volumes three and four of the Walsh Heritage books were dedicated.

Serving as master of ceremonies was Charles Stewart, Grafton. The program began with the advance of the colors by the Grafton American Legion Color Guard and was followed by the pledge to the flag. Henry Lundene, president of the Walsh County Historical Society introduced the master of ceremonies, and U.S. Senator Quentin Burdick who brought greetings, stating that he held a special fondness for Walsh County since his ancestors had lived in the county. Leonard Fagerholt, Hoople, chairman of the Board of Commissioners gave a welcome followed by a vocal solo by Jan Dusek who was accompanied by Amy Stewart, both of Grafton. Bob Burke, chairman of the centennial and book dedication, was introduced by the M. C. Judge James O'Keefe, Grafton, gave a dedication address followed by a response from Miles Haug, also of Grafton. The time-capsule which was sealed at the 50th anniversary of Walsh County in 1931 at Park River was opened by the present mayor of Park River, Percy Walstad. The Walsh



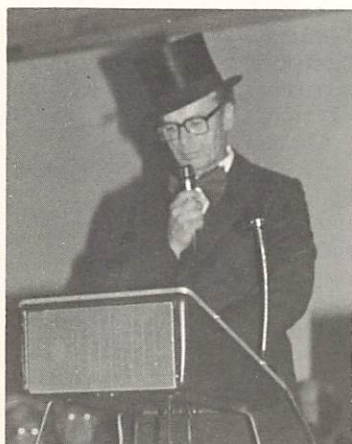
Leonard Fagerholt, Hoople, chairman of Board of County Commissioners, welcomes guests. In the foreground is a birthday cake decorated by Wally's Store, Grafton, to represent the map of our county. Several sheet cakes were baked and decorated by Wally's and was served with ice cream for the lunch.

Heritage books were dedicated by R. F. "Pete" Matejcek, Lankin, who served as chairman of the book committee, and he in turn introduced the book committee. This was followed by musical selections by a group from Forest River called "Give or Take Six" and they were accompanied by Mrs. Lewis Johnston.

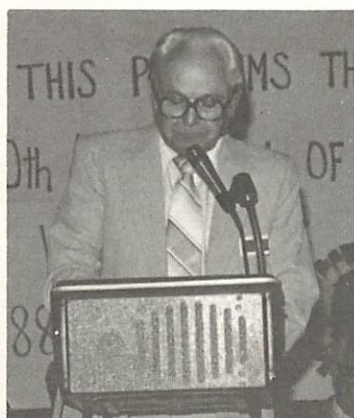
Mrs. Leonard Fagerholt,

Hoople, presented certificates, plaques, and pins to the first generation sons and daughters who still live on their parents homestead and these individuals and their spouses who were seated in a special section were introduced.

"God Bless America" was sung by the audience followed by the
SEE CENTENNIAL
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Master of Ceremonies, Charles Stewart, Grafton.



Pete Matejcek, Lankin, book chairman, dedicating Walsh Heritage books.

Benefit Auction Held

The Walsh County Historical Society held a benefit auction for the society at the theatre building at the Village on Saturday, October 31. The society earned approximately \$750. Many businesses donated new items as well as used or new items from area people. Thanks to all who donated sale items, lunch, or assisted at the sale. Francis Chromy volunteered his service as auctioneer and the Walsh

County Bank of Grafton volunteered to clerk the sale. Lois Kieley was in charge of lunch.

The following businesses donated new items: Grafton Oil Co., Wallys, Home of Economy, Schumacher and Sons, A & H Implement, Cox Chevrolet, Grafton Equipment Co., Grafton Appliance, Sears, Lykken Inc., Wilson Bros., Heritage Ford,
SEE AUCTION

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Heritage Books Volumes 3 and 4 Completed

July 26, 1981, was a day of joy and pride for Walsh County, the book committee, the numerous workers and the individual families who wrote their family histories for volumes three and four of the Walsh Heritage books.

In May, 1976, volumes one and two of the Walsh Heritage books were dedicated. From that date until the present families began to write histories for future volumes. The Walsh County Historical Society felt that the centennial year of Walsh County would be an excellent time to update the history of the county. Volumes one and two included early histories of the county and its residents. Since people knew what had been included in the first two volumes, personal contacts and instructions were not necessary for the new volumes which were to include histories up to the present time. Publicity for this project was by local newspaper, radio and person to person conversation. The result was two hard-covered volumes totaling 1,560 pages and thousands of pictures. The deadline for turning in histories was January 1, 1981.

Area workers or solicitors were assigned to collect histories and they turned them into the area chairmen or the editorial board. Associated Printer's of Grafton printed 5,000 sets of the book and Mickey Balke, Grafton, edited the material. The editorial board consisted of Pete and Ella Matejcek, Otella Johnson, Mary Hove, Alida Goodman, Steve and Irene Mozinski, Ed Gudajtes and Blanche Babinski.

Officers of the book committee were R. F. "Pete" Matejcek, chairman; Mrs. James (Otella) Johnson, vice chairman; Mrs. Leonard (Bertha) Jensen, secretary; and Leonard Jensen, treasurer.

The sales committee consists of Leonard Jensen, Edinburg;



Collectors of Histories: front row, left to right, R. F. Matejcek, chairman, Jean Bodmer, Irene Lee, Lillian Clemens, Mabel Haug, Ella Matejcek, Agnes Jelinek and Henry Lundene; second row, Florence Linstad, James Johnson, Otella Johnson, Lillian Bakke, Bertha Grove, Alice Lykken, Elaine Haroldson and John Jelinek; back row, John Morgan, Clifford Grove, George Chyle, Margaret Hove, Raymond Setness, Marian Sandvig, Barbara Bina and Doris Sukstorf.



Collectors of Histories: front row, left to right, Lorraine Paulson, Eileen Langerud, Bertha Jensen, Joe Holm, Harold Harris, Gladys Lewis and R. F. Matejcek, chairman; second row, Mary Hove, Irene Mozinski, Leonard Jensen, Gladys Huseby, Alida Goodman, Edith Harris, Eva Nottestad, and Marjorie Almen; back row, Willard Hove, Steve Mozinski, Effie Rolzinski, Blanche Babinski, Bennie Langerud, Annette Riski and Ambrose Wysocki.

Other workers not pictured are: Leona Walstad, Gabe Dusek, Ann Praska, Cora Shimek, Gertrude Hewitt, Stella Shereck, Ed Gudajtes, Alice Carlson, Glenna Tallackson, Loretta McLaughlin, Walter Yon, Gene Schanilec, Dorothy Gaarder, Jeannen McMillian, Kenneth Colter, Ruth Holt, Verna Gabbert, Cecelia Sass, Albert Gourde, Elizabeth Grzadzielewski, Eleanor Grzadzielewski and Joann Slominski. It is with regret if someones name has been omitted.

James Johnson, Adams; Pete Matejcek, Lankin; and Ed Gudajtes, Minto.

Volumes three and four published in 1981 sell for \$33 which includes postage. Volumes

one and two are also available and sell for \$23 which includes postage. They can also be picked up at area banks and savings and loan associations.

Icelandic Club Holds Meetings

The Icelandic Heritage Club holds monthly meetings at the Carnegie Bookmobile Library in Grafton.

This past June they held the first annual picnic in Lestikow Park in Grafton. Club members from surrounding towns were in attendance as well as guests from Grand Forks and Fargo. Our members also have attended picnics and socials hosted by the

Grand Forks club.

The main fund raising project for the coming year is the selling of T-shirts with Icelandic slogans.

The Icelandic Heritage Club was represented by a booth with Icelandic articles at the pancake breakfast October 18, 1981, at the Heritage Village.

Anyone of Icelandic decent is welcome to join the club and may

do so by contacting Jane Mohagen, membership chairman in Grafton.

Officers for 1981 were; Margaret Thomasson, president; Ann Bliven, vice president; Jane Mohagen, treasurer and membership; Jan Burns, recording secretary; and Joan Byzewski, corresponding secretary.

Auction

Cont. From Page One

Gambles, Goodmans, Kielely Electric, all of Grafton; Super Service, Jim's Insurance, Minto Farmers Elevator, Minto Centennial Committee, Minto Service Center, Farmers Union Oil Company, all of Minto; Roy's Market and the Adams Bank, both of Adams. Possibly other area businesses donated to the sale and since we do not have them listed we are unable to thank you by listing your business but we appreciated everything we received, new or used, for the sale. It is generosity such as yours that keep the organization growing.

Honored Guests At Centennial

This centennial year of Walsh County first generation sons and daughters who still live on their parents homestead were honored on July 26, 1981, in Grafton at the centennial of the county and book dedication. The search for these individuals was made through press releases and local radio stations. Those who notified the centennial committee prior to the county event were honored guests and each one was

introduced by Mrs. Leonard Fagerholt, Hoople, presented a centennial pin, certificate and engraved plaque.

Pictures and a brief history of each one of these fifteen honored guests are given in this write-up. (During the summer each of these honored guests were interviewed by Cyndi Wagner of The Grafton Record and these stories appeared in this county newspaper.)



Henry and Selma Lundene. Henry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Lundene, Adams. Gabriel homesteaded in 1882 on section 4 in Vesta Township.



Amelia Shirley, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole B. Shirley, Grafton. Ole homesteaded in 1881 on section 5 in Martin Township.



William H. Gorder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hans T. Gorder, Grafton. Hans homesteaded in 1880 on section 32 in Oakwood Township.



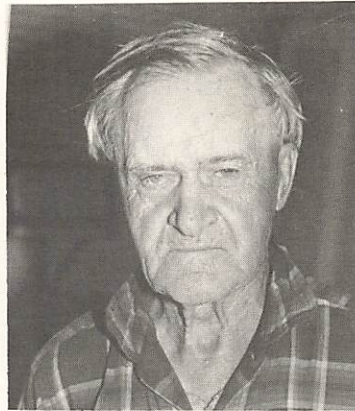
Thomas and Evelyn Altendorf. Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Altendorf, Grafton. Hubert homesteaded in 1891 on section 27 in Acton Township.



Oscar and Selma Heffta. Oscar is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Heffta, Adams. Ole homesteaded in 1899 on section 18 in Latona Township.



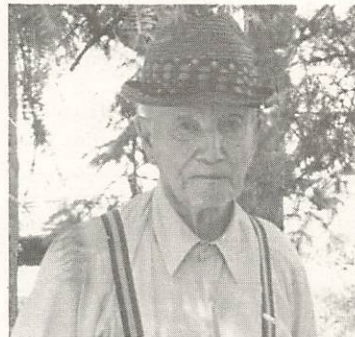
Carl and Cora Paulson. Carl is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Paulson, Hoople. John homesteaded in 1879 on section 28 in Glenwood Township.



Magnus Skytland, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Skytland, Adams. Martin homesteaded in 1884 on section 24 in Dewey Township.



Elmer and Gretta Nelson. Elmer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Erick Nelson, Adams. Erick homesteaded in 1891 on section 18 in Adams Township.



Carl Troftgruben, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Troftgruben, Edinburg. Hans homesteaded in 1882 on section 34 in Tiber Township.



Ralph and Myrtle Boe. Ralph is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Knute Boe, Adams. Knute homesteaded in 1898 on section 19 in Adams Township.



Arthur and Lydia Jackson. Art is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Jackson, Grafton. John squatted in 1877 on section 9 in Grafton Township.



John and Amelia Wysocki. John is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Wysocki, Warsaw. Ted homesteaded in 1880 on section 31 in Pulaski Township.



Harold and Geneva Maxwell. Harold is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wm. Maxwell, Fordville. William homesteaded in 1881 on section 13 in Eden Township.



Leonard and Julia Berg. Leonard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole C. Berg, Hoople. Ole homesteaded in 1880 on section 23 in Glenwood Township.



Joseph and Selma Lindell. Joseph is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lindell, Hoople. John homesteaded in 1880 on section 19 in Dundee Township.

Agassiz Garden Club Honors Service Men and Women and Pioneer in Various Ways

On Nov. 1, 1976, the Agassiz Garden Club met for a noon meal at the Bil Vi Dor in Grafton and at this meeting Winnie Flaten, Edinburg, chairperson of the Blue Star Memorial Marker for the State, brought up the subject of a Blue Star Marker for the Heritage Village in Grafton in memory of all the service men and women. Those present were: Lilly Akre, Selina Bjerneby, Jean Bodmer, Caroline Dahlen, Marguerite Fedje, Winne Flaten, Agnes Henderson, Helen Kruse, Dora Larson, Eleanor Lewis, Ann McIntyre, Marcie Melstad, Inga Montague, Rosemarie Myrdal, Marcia Rinde, Stella Skjerven, Agnes Sticha and Bob Oppenboen. President Marcie Melstad presided at the business meeting. Dora Larson moved and Rosemarie Myrdal seconded that the club start a fund for a Blue Star Marker to be erected at the Heritage Village in Grafton. Motion carried and it was agreed that each one present contribute one dollar toward this fund and it amounted to \$18. A former member contributed \$10. Proceeds were given to Jean Bodmer who serves on the Village board and hopefully an organization or organizations in Grafton would pay the additional cost. At the January, 1977, meeting Winnie Flaten reported that \$250 for the Blue Star Marker had been raised and that the marker had been ordered and the

dedication would be held in June, 1977. Organizations in Grafton donating toward the Blue Star Marker at the Heritage Village were: W. W. I Barracks and Auxiliary, American Legion and Auxiliary, and the VFW and Auxiliary.

The Agassiz Garden Club sponsored a Blue Star Memorial Marker at the Pioneer Memorial Gardens at Homme Dam, west of Park River, prior to the one at the Heritage Village in Grafton. Highway No. 17 is the only highway in the State of North Dakota that has two of the Blue Star Memorial Markers.

In July, 1981, when pioneers were honored and volumes three and four of the Walsh Heritage books were dedicated, the Agassiz Garden Club furnished nine bouquets of flowers for this special day. Those who donated flowers were: Marcia Rinde, three; Dora Larson, four; Agnes Sticha, one; and Caroline Dahlen, one. The flower garden at the Homme Recreation Area, west of Park River, is also in memory of all the pioneers in this area. And, the club house at the recreational area is named Pioneer Hall and the U.S. Flag that now flies in the Pioneer Memorial Garden is in memory of all the pioneers of Walsh County and was flown over the U.S. Capitol on September 19, 1980.

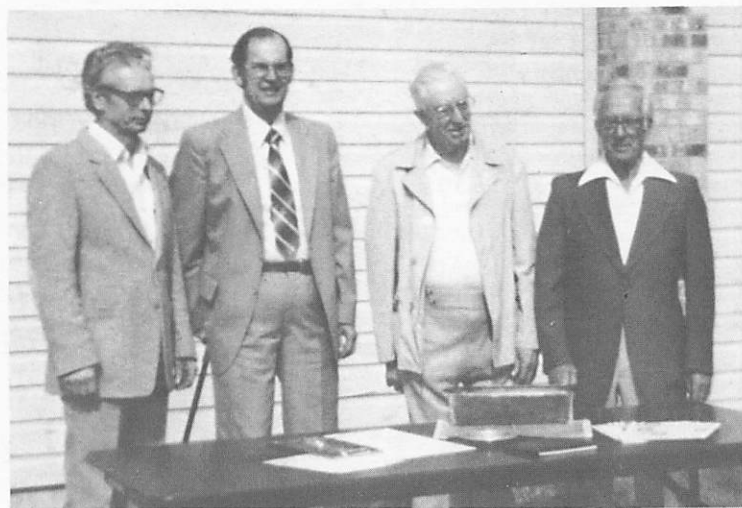
Dora Larson, Historian
Agassiz Garden Club



Seated in front of several bouquets of flowers donated by members of the Agassiz Garden Club for the centennial and dedication are left to right, Mrs. Carl (Dora) Larson, Park River, a member of the garden club, and Mrs. Carl (Cora) Paulson, Hoople. The garden club donated nine floral bouquets. Pembina County also gave a floral arrangement for the centennial and dedication.



Opening time capsule on July 26, are Percy Walstad, mayor of Park River, and his brother, Clayton Walstad, Park River. Observing are left to right, Leonard Fagerholt, Hoople; John Morgan, Grafton; and Victor Walstad, Drayton.



Pictured packing the time capsule on Sept. 20, 1981, in honor of the Centennial of Walsh County are (left to right): Charles Stewart, a member of the capsule committee and box craftsman; Ralph Adamsen, chairman of the Heritage Village Board; Henry Lundene, president of the Walsh County Historical Society; and Robert (Bob) Burke, chairman of the Walsh Centennial and Walsh Heritage dedication.

Events Held at Village

Activity started in May when Ed and Alice Couture returned as caretakers at the Village.

Events that have taken place in 1981 are: community theater presented Plaza Suite; 1940-41-42 Grafton class reunion; childrens dance classes held during June; Kieley family reunion; July 26, 1981, Walsh County Centennial and Heritage book volume three and four dedication; August 3, Norse Chorus; August 21 & 22, 3rd Antique Show, (there were eight dealers: Elaines' and Helms' from Fertile, Minn.; Lyles- from

Crookston, Minn.; Ken Gage, Minneapolis, Minn.; Poo's Corner, Drayton, N. Dak.; Frans', Grand Forks, N. Dak.; Norwegian Wood, Hatton, N. Dak.; and Walsh County Historical Society.); October 2, pancake breakfast and benefit auction.

Ed and Alice have guided many sightseers and groups through the buildings.

Various ethnic groups and the Grafton Community Chorus have also used the facility.

Summary Of Historical Society For 1981

Nineteen hundred eighty-one has been a busy year for the county historical society since volumes three and four were being printed, dedicated and sold, and Walsh County was celebrating its centennial.

In January the annual meeting and installation of officers was held in the county extension office in Park River. There was discussion for a membership drive. The February meeting was held at the Senior Citizen Center in Minto. The historical society membership drive was set for March 4 with volunteers selling membership at area banks and saving and loan associations. The Emerald Isle dinner and program was set for March 14.

A potluck five o'clock meal was served in the court house in Grafton in March prior to an executive board meeting and general business meeting. Plans were made for the book dedication and centennial. The Walsh County Historical Society renewed its annual membership in the Red River Valley Historical Society. It was announced that approximately 110 volunteers would be needed to assist when the county museum in Minto is open to the public

during the summer.

In April a large crowd was present when the historical society met at the Catholic Church in Minto for the general business meeting and orientation for those who will serve as volunteers at the museum during the summer months. The county centennial spoon has arrived and they were distributed for sale. Lunch consisted of a cookie potluck.

Grafton hosted the May meeting at the Heritage Village and following the business meeting Jim Tibert talked about his rock collection and had a rock display.

The June meeting was held in the fire hall at Lankin. Gary Phillips from the Red River Valley Historical Society spoke to the group about the work, scope and future plans for that organization. A report was given concerning the gravel which had recently been hauled to the Village grounds.

July marked the dedication of volumes three and four of the Walsh Heritage books and the centennial of Walsh County at the Walsh Heritage Village in Grafton.

In August the annual potluck



1981 officers and directors of the Walsh County Historical Society: left to right, seated, R. F. "Pete" Matejcek, Lankin; Jean Bodmer, Grafton; Henry Lundene, president, Adams; Leonard Jensen, treasurer, Edinburg; and Lorraine Paulson, corresponding secretary, Hoople. Standing, left to right, Stephanie Prepiora, membership chairperson, Minto; Denis Monson, Edinburg; James Johnson, Adams; Harold Harris, Park River; Frank Schiller, Forest River; Mary Rose Rodriguez, acting recording secretary, Grafton; and Gladys Lewis, Park River. Not present were Ed Gudajtes, vice president, Minto; Ralph Adamsen, chairman of Heritage Village; and directors, John Gudajtes and Kay Vang.

picnic was held in Adams at the Senior Citizen Center. Due to rain we were unable to have the picnic in the city park. The third antique show and sale was also held in August at the Heritage Village.

The September meeting of the society was held in the theatre building of the Village in Grafton and Hoople women serving the lunch. The time capsule was packed and hopefully will be intact and opened in 2031. During the first week in October, there was an executive board meeting and pancake committee planning meeting at the American Legion in Grafton. The October meeting was held following the second annual benefit pancake meal which was served from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for 270. A benefit auction for the society was also held in the theatre of the Village on October 31.

The November meeting was held at the county extension office in Park River. A potluck lunch was served following the business meeting.

Your support of the society this centennial year was appreciated. Thanks to those who assisted in so many ways such as hosting meetings, working on heritage books, volunteering at the county museum, selling memberships, assisting with fund raising projects and on and on. Begin 1982 by mailing your \$3 general membership dues to Stephanie Prepiora, county membership chairperson, Minto.

Enclosed in this newsletter is the special edition published by The Grafton Record following the Walsh Centennial and book dedication.

Lorraine Paulson,
Corresponding Secretary



Centennial Buttons On Sale

Henry Lundene, at right, president of the Walsh County Historical Society, listened to the description of the Walsh County Centennial Button by Charles Stewart, at left. Stewart then presented Lundene with the button marked with numeral 1. These 'collectors' item' buttons, are all marked with numbers. Only 1,000 buttons were made, and sell for one dollar.

Gravel Project Completed

The Walsh Heritage Village parking area around the ethnic theatre building and roadway was graveled in early June in preparation for the centennial of Walsh County and the dedication of volumes three and four of the Walsh Heritage books on July 26.

Gravel was hauled by the following who volunteered their time and trucks with the county furnishing the gravel: Earl Anderson, Ralph Kingsbury and Almer Bjerke, trucking all of

Grafton; Leonard Fagerholt, Nels Midgarden and Paul Fedje, all of Hoople. Cash donations were received from Leonard Jensen, Edinburg; Henry Lundene, Adams; John Paulson, Hoople; Grafton Bicentennial Fund, Chautauqua Fund, Grafton American Legion Post and Walsh County Historical Society and with these funds additional gravel was hired hauled to the Village. A total of one hundred eighty yards were hauled.

Walsh County Historical Museum News

Despite the fact that although we were approved for a CETA Grant for 1981 and then denied it by Reaganomics, the museum continued to grow. The continued growth can best be attributed to the volunteers, mostly farmers, who farm in the summer and volunteer their help during the winter months in the improvement of the museum.

In one of the rooms during the last two winters, 25 glass-fronted cases were built and plans are to build six more this winter. These cases are built along the walls and there will be two islands of cases through the center of the room when the second island is built this winter. The cases are

convenient and necessary in order to preserve the fine variety of articles, to categorize and display them in an orderly fashion. Presently, individual cases exhibit a variety of displays such as wedding dresses, babies clothes, hats, hand work of various types, ladies clothing, mens clothing, dolls, Indian artifacts, musical instruments, shoes, both foreign and domestic, mens and womens military uniforms, and also a coffin built when Dakota was a territory.

We are very fortunate that additional articles are continually being donated especially by those who visit the museum and wish to have their family memorabilia preserved. Recent donations, were Dr. Hardys examining table. Dr. Hardy practiced medicine in Minto for many years and was much loved by the people. Mr. A. J. Hultstrand donated six more antique cars dating from 1910 to 1930, these in addition to his very substantial donations over the years. Space does not allow to enumerate all donations, however, we greatly appreciate them all and thank you for your interest and generosity.

This year Minto celebrated its centennial year and combined that event with the first class reunion in its history. This event brought former graduates from many states and from far away places such as Saudi Arabia. All were happy to see that their former school was preserved by converting it into a museum. They were also happy with the

results. Other than this special event there were many individuals and groups who visited the museum. Many came by special appointment such as Homemaker groups, classes from Grand Forks, East Grand Forks, Manvel and other schools, and also from the University of

North Dakota.

The museum board would like to thank all who took part in any manner whether donors, volunteers or visitors for their interest and help in the continued growth of the museum. It is only with your help and interest that we can continue to grow.

Volunteers Assist At Museum

Nineteen hundred eighty-one was the first year a county-wide volunteer program was organized to assist when the county museum was open to the public on Sunday afternoons or holidays. Charles Stewart, Grafton, was chairman of the volunteer program. Over 100 people signed up to assist and an orientation program was held in April at Minto.

Stephanie Prepiora serves as volunteer curator at the museum and Frank Schiller is chairman of the board. Thanks to everyone who assisted this past year and hope to see you in 1982.



Mrs. Elizabeth (Leonard) Fagerholt presented Robert Burke with an engraved plaque (the same plaque that each of the guests of honor at the County Centennial Celebration received). Fagerholt was the vice-chairperson and Burke was the general chairperson for the County Centennial Celebration.

Walsh County Prepares For Centennial And Book Dedication

The first meeting to begin plans for the county centennial was held in the spring of 1981. Several planning meetings followed. Elected as officers for the event were: Robert (Bob) Burke, Grafton, chairman; Mrs. Leonard (Elizabeth) Fagerholt, Hoople, vice chairperson; Mary Rose Rodriguez, Grafton, secretary; Jean Bodmer and Wm. McIntyre, Grafton, finance. Some of the other committees assisting were: Centennial buttons, Charles Stewart and Mrs. Willard Hove, Grafton; centennial spoon, Lorraine Paulson, Hoople; program, Robert Burke, Ed. Gudajtes, Minto, Pete Matejcek, Lankin and Wm. McIntyre, Grafton; contacting dignitaries, Henry Lundene, Adams; publicity, Mary Rose Rodriguez, chairperson, John Morgan and Cyndi Wagner from The Grafton Record, Don Haney, KXPO

Radio, Grafton, and Kay Vang, Grafton.

Refreshments and honoring first generation sons and daughters still living on their parents homesteads, Elizabeth Fagerholt, Jean Bodmer, Lorraine Paulson and Alida Goodman; parking, Charles Matcha, Grafton; flowers, Mrs. Carl Paulson, Hoople; banners, Bette Hoople and Julie Flaten, Hoople.

The sound equipment was borrowed from Cenex in Park River and Francis Chromy, Forest River, and operated by Melvin Malafa, Grafton.

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Minto celebrated its centennial over the July Fourth weekend, 1981.

The grand opening of the Heritage Center in Bismarck was held May 30-31, 1981.



Walsh County Museum Board—1981: left to right, front row, Jim Schanilec, treasurer; Stephanie Prepiora, curator; Frank Schiller, chairman; and Carol Tibert, secretary. Second row, left to right, Mary Mach, Herman C. Schanilec and Don Rudnik. Third row, left to right, Bill Tibert and John Gudajtes.



Emerald Isle Dinner and Program, March 14, at Grafton American Legion: left to right, Brandon Brazil, Minto, Cindy Phelan, who were on the program; Margaret and Jerry Bruce, Co-Chairmen of British Isles Group, and Francis Phelan, M.C.



Family Affair- - -

A Grafton family dressed up to attend Walsh Centennial: left to right, Suzanne (Bolek) Schrum and her son, Lancer, and daughter, Cristy, Rosemary (Bolek) Fisher and her daughters, Kim (oldest) and Jamie, Marie (Gourde) Byzewski and Agnes (Gourde) Bolek.

Membership In Society

The Walsh County Historical Society generally leads the other county societies in North Dakota in the number of paid memberships. The largest yearly membership was in 1977 when there was 1,120 members. This year, 1981, we have approximately 500 regular memberships, 106 business memberships and 17 life memberships. Miss Stephanie Prepora, Minto, is membership chairperson.

General memberships are \$3 per year, business are \$10 and life memberships are \$100 for 1982.

Life members are: Dr. John Lipinski, Kalispell, Mont.; Louis Wisniewski, Minto; W. L. A. Grain, Minto; J. D. Miller, Minto; Alphonse Koehmstedt, Grafton; Mrs. Alphonse

Koehmstedt, Grafton; Borghild Wollan, Washington, D.C.; Mary Koehmstedt, Garhardt, Ore.; Mrs. Myrtle Schrank, Grafton; Roy Mohagen, Grafton; Elvin Kieley and Sons, Inc., Grafton; Mrs. Percy Walstad, Park River; Olaf R. Johnson, Park River; Mrs. Robert Ritzel, Arvada, Colo.; Lorraine Paulson, Hoople; Luke Lutovsky, Voss; and Robert Burke, Grafton.

Your dues help support the numerous projects of the county historical society. A membership drive was held on March 4, 1981, with tables set up in banks and savings and loan associations throughout the county. Alida Goodman, Grafton, served as chairperson.



The old Mandt Hall from west of Grafton was moved to the Village grounds on November 12. The building was owned by Harvey Tallackson, who donated it to the Village. A group of Mandt area people are paying the moving expenses and The Grafton Record will provide a cement slab for the hall and will refurbish the building. The Record plans to use part of the building for an old time print shop display and remainder of the building will be available for other displays.

1981 Projects Completed

In June the second very successful gravel bee was held. Caretaker has made serving tables, coat racks, chair carts, utility table, bulletin board, finished bathrooms, painted bathrooms and kitchen, completed jail building and maintained the premises. A pay telephone was installed in the theater building.

Taxidermy building has been completed. Many bird specimens from Grafton High School Biology Department have been arranged and labeled in the show cases in the building. This is a result of efforts by LeRoy Nelson and his wife, Thelma, who did the labeling of the specimens.

A Western Grebe specimen, the first bird mounted professionally by Henry Williams, owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Gudmundson, Edinburg, has been donated to the Taxidermy building and is now on display there. Further work will be done to restore the workshop area of the building.

Voss Post Office equipment has been donated to the Village and has been placed in the building that will be used as a post office.

Crucifixion statues from old St. John's Church, Grafton, has been donated to the Village.

City and County have assisted with mowing, road maintenance and spraying grounds for mosquito control.

Grafton Volunteer Fire Department have restored additional old fire fighting equipment and have added this to

their building. They have located an old fire hydrant and will erect this by the building next year.

On November 12 the old Mandt Hall was hauled to the Heritage Village grounds in Grafton.

DONATIONS

Grafton Legion Post No. 41 \$750.00

Refrigerator has been donated as memorial to Ray and Lillian Bodmer.

RENTALS

Foxy Four Square Dancers \$45.

Grafton Community Theater \$60.00
Dance Classes \$25.00
Class Reunion \$50.00
Norse Chorus \$24.00
Aloe Vera \$ 5.00

Projects for 1982 will include restoration of the Mandt Hall, Thompson Family Blacksmith Shop, drug store and further development of ethnic culture of the county.

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Pancake Benefit

Second annual pancake breakfast for the benefit of Walsh County Historical Society was held at the ethnic theatre building at the Walsh Heritage Village in Grafton from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 18. Serving as chairperson of the committee was Mary Rose Rodriguez, Grafton. Two hundred and seventy were served. At noon the Grafton Community Chorus presented several numbers under the direction of Mrs. Herb Bertsch.



James and Otella Johnson and Britt and Harlan Haslekass set-up a display table of Swedish articles depicting the Swedish culture at the pancake benefit at the Heritage Village in Grafton in October. Several individuals from the area brought items for the Scandinavian tables.



Sylvia Wick, Thelma Wick and Stella Skjerven set up a display table of Norwegian articles depicting the Norwegian culture at the pancake benefit at the Heritage Village in Grafton on October 31. They were also dressed in Norwegian costume.

Business Meetings Held By Scandinavian Group

The Scandinavian Heritage Group held two business meetings at the Cenex Center in Park River. A Mini Girls Choir from Eidsvoll, Norway, presented a concert at the Heritage Village in Grafton and lunch was served following the program.

The group ordered flags and paid for the materials for the five shields for the Scandinavian countries and are now placed on the theatre building at the Heritage Village. The group also had displays at the pancake benefit at the Village in October.

Officers of the Heritage group are: Henry Lundene, chairman; Marcia Melsted, vice chairman; Thelma Wick, secretary; and Otella Johnson, treasurer.

Membership dues are one dollar and Thelma Wick, Park River, is membership chairperson.

Centennial

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retirement of the colors with Kris and Margo Berntson, Adams, playing the trumpet and piano.

During the afternoon birthday cake, ice cream and coffee were served to the guests. There were approximately 600 in attendance during the day. Gudmund Gilbertson, Fairdale, sang a Norwegian selection during the lunch and Polish Dancers from the Warsaw-Minto area presented several numbers out on the bandstand.

Commemorative Spoons Mark Birthday Of Walsh County

Mrs. Andrew (Kati) Misialek of Grafton, celebrates her 104th birthday as Walsh County celebrates its centennial anniversary in 1981. Mrs. Misialek was presented the first Walsh County Centennial Commemorative Spoon by Lorraine Paulson of Hoople, chairman of the centennial spoon committee.

Mrs. Misialek was born in Jasto, Poland, Dec. 19, 1877. She resides at the home of her son-in-law and youngest daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Birk of Grafton.

Only a limited number of commemorative spoons will be sold by the Walsh County Historical Society as souvenirs for the county's centennial. They sell for \$4 each, \$4.50 if mailed.

Spoons may be purchased from the following persons or business places: First Federal Saving & Loan, Myrtle Schrank, Mary Rose Rodriguez, Jean Bodmer, all of Grafton; Ed Gudajtes, Minto; Bertha Jensen, Edinburg; Otella Johnson, Adams; Beryl White, Park River; and Lorraine Paulson, Hoople.

Since April, 1981, several



Mrs. Andrew Misialek holds Walsh Centennial spoon which she was presented in April, 1981.

others also sold spoons for the benefit of the society. The last spoon shipment has arrived and only a total of sixteen hundred will be sold so only a limited number remain. This spoon will be a nice keepsake of the county centennial.

Time To Renew 1982 Memberships

Renew your 1982 memberships. We would appreciate it very much if you would take a few minutes of your time to mail your yearly dues and in turn, you will receive your membership card.

- ANNUAL REGULAR DUES..... \$3.00 per person
- ANNUAL BUSINESS & INSTITUTIONAL..... \$10.00
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP..... \$100

Your support helps sustain our Society.

Stephanie Prepiora, Membership Chairman
Walsh County Historical Society
Minto, North Dakota 58261

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