



## Newsletter Dedicated to Ed Gudajtes

Ed Gudajtes is a friend to many, a leader, and president of our Walsh County Historical Society. He is a man whom we have learned to trust and rely upon in our county and especially within the Walsh County Historical Society. Ed is a charter member of the Historical Society, vice president in 1973, president in 1974, director in 1975 and 1976, vice president from 1977-1981, president from 1982-85 and was re-elected president for 1986. When Walsh Heritage books volumes three and four were published, Ed served on the editing staff as well as the sales committee.

It would be impossible to list his numerous contributions in time and talent to our area. Ed is truly an outstanding citizen of Walsh County. I have had the privilege of working with and knowing Ed for only about a dozen years, but I am well aware of his leadership qualities and concern for others.

In 1985 Ed wrote his memoirs entitled "Living A Full Life" and only a limited number of copies

were printed for his family. Many people think about writing their memoirs or an autobiography but very few have followed through on this idea. How fortunate his family is to have Ed's experiences and memories in print. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to read his book, twice in fact. One aim of the Historical Society is to preserve history and this Ed has done. The ninety-eight pages are filled with memories in Ed's life of seventy-four years and changes that have taken place over that period of time. The book has fourteen chapters starting with the Gudajtes Family, Living in Warsaw, North Dakota, School Days, Courting Days, Married Life, Early Farming, Partnership Farming, Individual Farming, Depression, Incidents I Won't Forget, Positions and Awards, Ailments, Travel, and Retirement. Ed's daughter, Marjorie, typed and edited the book prior to printing.

Ed was the seventh of nine children born to Polish Emigrants, Johanna and Anton Gudajtes. Anton helped establish Warsaw, N.D., built and operated a general merchandise store which also housed the post office and Anton served as postmaster for forty-one years. Anton also owned farmland so the Gudajtes family was always busy. The family lived up over the store and all nine children were born at home.

Ed related many changes in the merchandising business in the general store and post office. Merchandise was handled and sold quite differently from today's packaged goods and in those days five cents could make a substantial purchase, but we must remember that prices for produce sold were also extremely low. Nails sold for five cents a pound in bulk, small cans of sardines a nickel, and pop five cents a bottle. In the store they sold groceries, hardware, clothes, shoes and bolts of



Mamie and Ed Gudajtes

material. The store would purchase eggs in trade for merchandise. Ed remembers they paid six to ten cents a dozen for eggs as they were priced according to grade. In early days the operation of a store was mainly run by credit. Since the Gudajtes family owned a store, there was always plenty to eat

and a devoted mother to prepare it.

Postcards were penny cards and first class letters were two cents. When the postoffice was discontinued in 1934, Ed and his brother, Neman, operated a beer tavern at the store for several

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## Walsh Heritage Books Still Available

If you still haven't purchased all four volumes of the "Walsh Heritage" books, they are still available. Volumes one and two sell for twenty-three dollars, and volumes three and four sell for thirty-three dollars. (Both amounts include postage.)

These books can be purchased at the First American Bank in Grafton or they can be ordered by mailing a check for the above amounts to the following: Leonard Jensen, Edinburg, N.D. 58227; James Johnson, Adams, N.D. 58210; and Pete Matejcek, Lankin, N.D. 58250. The four books have a total of 2,774 pages of history and pictures of our county.

## First Essay Contest

The Walsh County Historical Society sponsored its first contest for junior high and high school students. Topics for the contest could be on people, places, things or events of Walsh County's past or present.

The deadline for entries was April, 1985. Just over one hundred students submitted essays which were judged by three judges from throughout the county.

First place in each division was one hundred dollars, second prize was fifty dollars in each division and honorable mention was ten dollars in each division.

Winner received certificates,

their cash awards and special recognition at the Folkarama in Grafton on June 30th. Co-chairpersons of the contest were Ora Stewart and Gloria Thompson both of Grafton.

10th - 12th grade winners, 1st prize — Pat Mach; 2nd prize — John Osowski; and honorable mention — Marlene Roy; 7th - 9th grades: 1st prize — Mary Lizakowski, co-second prize — Amy Slominski and Betty Auroyo; and honorable mention — Lori Lizakowski. It just so happened all winners were from Minto — for them it was a very profitable class assignment.

## Ed Gudajtes

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years.

In his youth, Ed participated in sports and still enjoys attending athletic events. He has played, managed and coached. As a young man, he helped serve mass until he graduated from high school. The parish church played an important part in a rural community with picnics, suppers, weddings, worship services and mass. Warsaw had an academy and all children should attend the school for one full year. Ed also described Polish customs carried out by his family and others in the community.

When Ed entered grade school, he could only speak Polish but by the time he graduated from high school he was the salutatorian of his class of twenty-one.

Ed helped out in the family store and farmed following graduation from high school. In 1939 Mamie Slominski became the bride of Ed. Mamie has been his companion, help-mate and best friend for forty-six years. They became the parents of four children, James, Mary Alice (Mrs. Larry Corah), Manhattan, Kansas; John; and Marjorie (Mrs. Paul Gourde), Harwood, N.D. They have fourteen grandchildren. Ed farmed in the Warsaw area where he raised mainly grain and beets. Ed still enjoys helping his sons with farm work. Mamie and Ed moved into Minto in April 1969 following the marriage of their oldest son, James. Ed operated an insurance business in Minto for nine years retiring in 1976. Ed was secretary and manager of County Mutual, sold Nodak Insurance and a complete line of other coverage through his own agency.

Ed said that he was always interested in all community activities. No wonder he has served his community well. His first elected job was treasurer of his junior class and vice president of the senior class and from then on he has held dozens of offices. Ed has served his township, city, parish, and county in more ways than I could possibly list. His volunteerism has extended from local boards to county boards. Many have been ag related, some educational, political and services for the senior citizens of our county. The Polish National Alliance has had a special place in Ed's heart and beginning in 1945 he served as the financial secretary for thirty-five

years and attended several national conventions.

Ed also served in the North Dakota State House of Representatives and is interested in politics on all levels.

In Walsh County Ed served on the draft board, president and director of the Walsh County Crop Improvement Association, president and director of Walsh County Farm Bureau, Walsh-Pembina Counties Farmers Home Administration, Walsh County Fair Director for fifteen years and manager in 1965, member of the Walsh County Sr. Citizen's Council since 1975 and ch. of Sr. Citizens Transportation Committee since 1976. In 1959 he has chosen Soil Conservationist of the year, in 1965 Outstanding Man in Agriculture in Walsh County, and NDSU Alumni Association honored Ed in 1975 with the Agriculturalist Award for service to agriculture.

Ed served his city equally on numerous boards and committees.

Illness didn't by-pass Ed. His first surgery was a tonsillectomy on the kitchen table of the local doctor. Since then, he has been hospitalized eleven times. The past years he has had a bout with cancer. Still Ed keeps up his service to others.

In Ed's boyhood there wasn't much traveling. Ed said, "When I reach adulthood, I never dreamed I would do as much traveling as Mamie and I have done." His first big trip was to Winnipeg in 1927. By 1929 Ed was ready for another trip and they drove to Greenbush with side trips to Roseau and Badger. Since that time, Ed and Mamie have been to every state except Hawaii and enjoyed vacations in Mexico, Canada, and a Caribbean Cruise.

Ed states that it is interesting to see, especially in foreign countries as to how people live under completely different conditions. In 1976 Ed, Mamie and two other couples left for Poland. In 1979 Ed and Mamie returned to Europe with daughter Mary Alice and her husband, Larry, where they toured the Netherlands, Switzerland, West Germany, Austria, and Poland. In 1981, Ed, Mamie, and Mary Alice went to Japan, Hong Kong, Red China and Taiwan.

Ed has certainly lived a full life. And even though Ed is retired he is extremely active as



Historical Society Board and Calendar Meeting left to right: Jean Bodmer, Ed Gudajtes, John Paulson, Jim Johnson, Wen Kennedy, Charles Stewart, Leonard Fagerholt, Mary Rose Rodriguez (standing), Lorraine Paulson, Ted Barta and Stephanie Prepiora.

## 1985 Historical Society Officers

Ed Gudajtes, Minto, president; Charles and Ora Stewart, Grafton, co-vice presidents; Mary Kennedy, Minto, treasurer; Jean Bodmer, Grafton, recording secretary; Lorraine Paulson, Hoople, corresponding secretary; Stephanie Prepiora, Minto,

membership chairperson.

Directors include Roy Mohagen and Mary Rose Rodriguez, Grafton; Harvey Lykken and James Johnson, Adams; Leonard Fagerholt and John Paulson, Hoople; Gladys Lewis, Park River; Ted Barta, Minto; Leonard Jensen, Edinburg.

For 1986 the same officers were re-elected. James Johnson and Roy Mohagen both re-elected to serve a term of three years. Ambrose Spoonland, Park River, will replace Gladys Lewis.

a volunteer in many organizations and serves on various committees and projects. He still finds time to help his sons on the farms.

Ed states, "As I look back at the changes that have taken place in what seems a short life, it is just beyond imagination."

Hopefully you will have the opportunity to read his memoirs. The book is entitled "Living A Full Life" and that he has done and is doing. Ed selected the following verse by Ravia for his introductory —

Life is a — miracle —  
And the right to live is a gift.  
It's wrapped in a ribbon,  
Woven with dreams  
And whether you are very  
young or very old,  
Life is filled with Wonder and  
Surprise.

Ed said that a person is often times asked, "If you had your life to live over again, how would you live it?" My answer would be, "Just the way I lived it before — most of the time doing the same kind of work." Whatever you do, do something you like to do. Never look at the monetary aspects, as money isn't everything. Happiness means a lot more.

Whenever you work with Ed, you know he enjoys what he is doing. Thanks for people like Ed and keep up the good work.

L.P.

## 1985 Heritage Village Board

The following officers and directors were elected to serve on the Heritage Village Board:

President Jim Tibert; Vice President John Morgan; Secretary Mary Rose Rodriguez; Treasurer June Capouch; Directors: Ethel Mohagen, Alida Goodman, Dorothy Lykken, Leroy Nelson, Homer Nelson, Norv Elbert, Tim Dvorak, and Jerry Countryman.

## French Group Activities

The French Ethnic Group of the Walsh County Historical Society met four times in 1985. Chairperson of the organization is Agnes Bolek and sec.-treas. is Cecilia Sass. The main activity was taking part in the Folkarama at the Village where they served pea soup and French bread. Drawings were held for two French clowns.

# Walsh County Centenarians

We are aware of three residents of Walsh County who are centenarians as of December 1985. The two oldest are women, Katie Misialek, Grafton, who is 108 years of age, Ida Rosvold, Adams, who is 104 years of age and the youngest is Carl Paulson, Hoople, who just celebrated his 100th birthday in September.



Mrs. Katie Misialek, Grafton, age 108. (Picture taken in 1985)

Mrs. Andrew (Katie) Misialek, Grafton, celebrated her 108th birthday on December 19th at the Lutheran Sunset Home in Grafton where she has been a resident for just over a year.

Katherine was born in Jasto, Poland, in 1877 and arrived in the U.S. in 1902 at the age of twenty-five. Her future husband, Andrew, whom she knew from Poland came to America about three years earlier. Katie and Andrew were married on February 7, 1903, at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Warsaw, N.D. During their married life, they lived on farms in the Warsaw, Auburn, Drayton and Grafton area. They were married forty-three years when Andrew died in 1946. They had eleven children, eight whom are still living, Burno, Josephine Sondeland, Martha Elshaug, Irene Elshaug, Leonard, and Eleanore Birk, all of Grafton, Christine Pykosz, Grand Forks and Richard, Virginia, Minnesota.

Katie was blessed with good health and was a very active lady. She always enjoyed gardening, raising poultry along with her housework and raising a large family. It was while walking outside in her daughter's yard that she fell and broke her hip. Now she depends upon her wheelchair to get around the

home. For twenty-three years Katie made her home with her daughter, Eleanore, in Grafton.

Katie is a very cheerful person and enjoys company. She loves to speak Polish with her children but to converse with the younger generation she speaks English. Katie looks forward to visits from her twenty-eight grandchildren, fifty-one great grandchildren and sixteen great, great grandchildren as of her 108th birthday. Katie is most fortunate and happy to have a loving and caring family. We wish her well.



Ida Rosvold, Adams, 104 years of age. (Picture taken in 1985)

Ida Rosvold, 104 years old October 14, 1985, was born October 14, 1881, in Iowa. Her mother was born at Copenhagen, Denmark, and her father was from Fyn. They met in Iowa and got married. They had eight daughters of which Ida was the fourth.

The family moved to a farm near Adams where she grew up. The buildings were made of logs — it was a small farm by today's standards, and the land had to be cleared each year. They had livestock and grain. Ida recalls that she did some plowing with oxen. Her family was poor but never hungry. They made do with what they had. She learned to play the organ from her sister who had taken lessons.

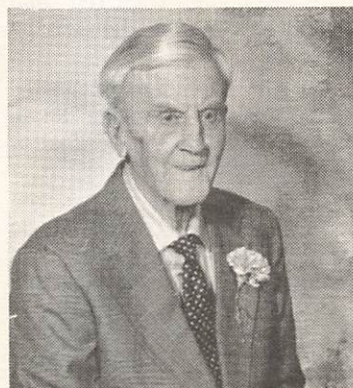
On November 8, 1903, Ida married John Rosvold, who came from Norway. They had two children, Henry and Thelma. Her husband died in 1968, and her son died shortly after Ida and Thelma moved into Adams in 1977.

Ida enjoyed playing the organ, crocheting, and cross-word puzzles. Now that her eye sight is poor, she cleans house and washes dishes.

Thelma, who is 76, also loves

music and learned to play the piano. She played for services at Hoff Church for 38 years, and still substitutes. Each evening, the two sit together as Thelma plays on the organ.

The secret of Ida's longevity? Ida said, "We're home folks and have led uneventful lives. Perhaps the care of a loving daughter has contributed much to a long life."



Carl J. Paulson, Hoople, age 100. (Picture taken in 1985)

Carl J. Paulson, Hoople, celebrated his centennial on September 5, 1985. Carl was born in a log cabin in 1885 on his parents homestead five miles south of Hoople. Carl's father, John H. Paulson, was born in Sweden and Carl's mother, Caroline Anderson, was born in Norway, and she came with her parents to homestead the farm adjoining John's farmstead.

Carl has remained on the homestead since his birth. Carl was third from the oldest of eleven children. Throughout their life all eleven children were members of the same country church. And, all the boys farmed in the Hoople area. Carl purchased and farmed his parents homestead. In 1981 when Walsh County celebrated its centennial Carl was honored as a first generation son or daughter still living on their parents homestead. The Paulson farm has also been designated as a North Dakota Centennial Farm.

Carl has been blessed with good health. The first time he was ever hospitalized was in 1979 at the age of 93. He must depend upon a wheelchair due to deterioration of the hip joints. He has good eyesight and hearing and is interested in what is going on around him. He says that he

enjoys life. Asked what his secret has been for a long life, he replied, "I really don't know but I really never worry or get excited, and I never smoked, chewed tobacco or used liquor."

At the age of almost forty-nine, Carl married a neighbor, Cora Johnson, rural Park River. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1984. They became the parents of three children, John, Norman and Lorraine who all farm in the Hoople area. They have one daughter-in-law, Marlene.

Technology has brought major changes or advances in Carl's life time on the farm. Carl has lived in three different homes on the homestead — first a log house, then a large two story wood frame home and the present home is a ranch style electric house. Three log buildings still remain on the farm.

Carl's Dad broke the soil with a one-bottom breaking plow, then Carl used both horses and smaller tractors, and now his son, John, can work the farm with a 200 Hp 4-wheel drive tractor. They also have the original breaking plow. Electricity has brought major changes to living on a farm, Carl stated, and he never thought they would have underground water, telephone or electricity like we do on the farm. He recalls the first radio and now they have a home satellite TV system. And, the road system is better than I ever dreamed it would be.

Carl is a life member of the Walsh County Historical Society.

## REA Formed Fifty Years Ago

REA (Rural Electrification Administration) was formed fifty years ago on May 11, 1935. REA completely changed the lifestyle of rural America. President F.D. Roosevelt created REA by executive order to loan money at 2 percent interest to farmer-owned cooperatives, enabling them to build the power supply network to rural America.

Evangeline Pierson's home near York, North Dakota, was the first in the state to receive rural electric power.

In 1985 a U.S. postage stamp was dedicated to the R.E.A.

## British Isle Group Have Active Year

The little "elves" of British Isles, Inc. were busy again this year. The annual Emerald Dinner was held on March 17 at St. John's Parish Center. Terry Henriksen was master of ceremonies. Fr. Lommel gave the Irish blessing before dinner, and a lovely Irish meal was served by St. John's Altar Society. Entertainment for the evening was Amy Stewart playing the "Tin Whistle" accompanied by Tate Burns on drums, with Terry and Brooke Burns doing an Irish Jig. Fr. Pat O'Connell of Oakwood, sang several Irish tunes, Art Schumacher, accompanied by Clinton Gjevre on piano, fiddled some lively Irish music. Jerry Bruce, as an honorary Irishman, gave an interesting and entertaining talk on the Blarney Stone. Several door prizes were given during the evening with Irish trivia. Marjery Jo Bruce, closed the evening by giving an Irish prayer.

Election of Officers was held at the Emerald Dinner with the

following slate of officers: Gordon and Barbara Bracken, co-presidents; Ernest and Irene Harlow, co-vice presidents; and Margaret Bruce, secretary-treasurer.

"Tea" was the main theme for the Folkarama display at the Heritage Village in June. Tea and British Isle "goodies" were served in the theater building, and a display of "High Tea" and a Children's Tea was shown in the log cabin.

Several members attended Folkarama in Winnipeg again this year, and reported that it was a wonderful experience.

Gordon and Barbara Bracken and Charles and Ora Marie Stewart participated in the National Heritage Festival held in Crookston November 2 and 3. They had tables to display several of our ethnic articles. They reported that it was a very interesting and rewarding experience.

Something new this year was a newsletter sent to all members to



British Isles Group Officers: seated, Margaret Bruce, sec.-treas.; Ernest and Irene Harlow, co-vice presidents. Back row: Gordon and Barbara Bracken, co-presidents with Ora and Charles Stewart, outgoing co-presidents.

help keep them aware of happenings between meetings.

It was decided that British Isle would alternate their two major dinners by having the Robert Burns dinner one year and the Emerald dinner the next. The

Robert Burns dinner will be held in January of 1986, and everyone is asked to watch the area newspapers for further announcements on that dinner. The Emerald Dinner will not be held in 1986.

## Area Farmer Served As Governor

Lynn J. Frazier, Hoople area farmer, served as Governor of North Dakota for several years. His address was Hoople but he lived just over the Walsh County line in Pembina County.

Lynn J. Frazier was born December 21, 1874, in Steele County, Minnesota. Later his parents came and settled in Elora Township, Pembina County. After graduating from high school in 1892, Lynn and his brothers operated the farm after their father's death. Lynn taught two winters in a country school before going to Mayville Normal Teacher's College where he completed a two year course in one in 1895. Lynn later graduated with honors from the University of North Dakota in 1901 where he was an outstanding football player. In 1902 Lynn married Lottie Stafford and they became the parents of five children: Unie and Versie who were twins, Vernon, Willis and Lucille. The twins names were derived from

his alma mater. The children attended school in Hoople until they moved to Bismarck.



Lynn J. Frazier

The Nonpartisan League brought Frazier to power. When the Nonpartisan League began in 1915, Lynn identified with it and became that parties candidate for governor on the Republican gubernatorial ticket and won in 1916, 1918, and 1920. However, he was recalled in 1921 but he came back in 1922 to win the United States senatorial election over Porter J. McCumber who was seeking his fourth term. Frazier was reelected senator in 1928 and again in 1934 so held the office of U.S. Senator until 1940.

The Nonpartisan League proposed various programs to aid the farmers. The league also opposed America's entry into the world war. The league stood for neutrality and nonintervention and agrarian socialism domestically.

Frazier strongly opposed American intervention in wars, collective security commitments and alliances and organizations such as the League of Nations.

Frazier did not approve building military strength or forces. His main goal was to do his part to prevent the U.S. from entering war. Frazer was identified as a progressive but in foreign policy he could have been called an isolationist.

Lynn Frazier served North Dakota for years until his defeat by another well-known NPL member, William Langer, in the 1940 primary election.

After the death of his first wife, Lynn married Mrs. Catherine Paulson from Concrete, North Dakota.

Lynn was active in community affairs while living near Hoople. Lynn served on the township board, school board and Hoople Farmer's Grain Company. The Frazier farm is now owned by Jody Folson Gumlia. Frazier died January 11, 1947 and was buried in the Hoople City Cemetery. Lynn J. Frazier was a well-known politician from Northeastern North Dakota.

# The Oldest House In Grafton

(Written by 14-year-old Angie Odegard, Minto, for the Walsh Historical Society 1985 essay contest.)

The oldest house in Grafton was built by the founder of Grafton, Thomas E. Cooper. Cooper was born on May 29, 1822

in England. Later, living in the United States, he meets Amanda Locke. She was born February 13, 1824 in Quebec, Canada. They were soon engaged and then married.

In the spring of 1878, Cooper visited the area where Grafton is now located. He returned to the

area in December with his family in hopes to settle there. He and his family then stayed in the home of S.S. Worthing.

That February of 1879, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, sons Edgar and Erastus and daughters Alice and Clara, moved into a log house of their own.

One month later Thomas Cooper collected signatures for a postal route along the Park River. When a Post Office was secured, he was named the first Postmaster. His wife was the one who opened the first mail sack that came to the Grafton Post Office.

The Post Office was named for Mrs. Cooper's parent home in Grafton County, New Hampshire.

Grafton progressed and in 1880 was named a voting precinct in Pembina County. Mr. Cooper is known to have walked the entire distance to Pembina with a ballot box over his shoulder.

In 1881 the first hotel was built called the Cooper House. This same year the frame home of the Cooper's was built at 167 East Second Street.

Since the house was built it's had many residents. The ones that stand out most to me are the Walter and Sophie Rodgers family. This included their sons, Bill, Bob, Steve, Wally, and John. Also daughters Mary, Anne, Alice, and Sherry. The reason why this is important to me is because my mother, Alice, lived in this house. She spent a lot of her childhood in that house so dear to her. She had a neighbor they called Old Pete. Old Pete was a nice elderly Polish man who couldn't speak English. My mother, Alice, then six and her sister, Anne, then seven, used to visit Old Pete. He used to make them coffee and let them play in his little shack. One Easter Alice and Anne brought their good friend Old Pete an Easter egg, a beautiful sky blue. Old Pete thanked them for the egg and placed it on a shelf. There it stayed for years.

During these carefree years hardship struck when their father died. Old Pete, knowing this, went to the house with a bottle of Scotch. Sophie was not a drinking woman, but understanding that Old Pete meant for this to console her, sat down and they each had a glass of Scotch. In his own way, without saying a word, Old Pete had paid his condolences.

My mother has told me other stories about her unique neighbors. Only she could capture the excitement in telling stories and the glow in her face shows true pride in her childhood and her family.

The house is now inhabited by Bill and Rosemary Rodgers and family. It has been extensively remodeled both inside and out. A new garage and sunroom have been added on.

The house has brought joy to many families in the past 100 years. Hopefully, it will continue for generations to come.

## Memorials Appreciated

Have you ever thought of giving a memorial to the Walsh County Historical Society in memory of a friend or loved one? It would be greatly appreciated. Memorials could be specified for the society, county museum or heritage village. During the past year, several memorials were received and were appreciated. Mary Kennedy, Minto, serves as treasurer of the historical society.

## Dates In North Dakota History. . .

March 11, 1903, Lawrence Welk, famed musician, accordion player and band leader was born in Strausberg, North Dakota.

March 22, 1908, Louis L'Amour, noted author of western novels was born in North Dakota.

April 4, 1951, Oil was first discovered in North Dakota with the Iverson wildcat well near Tioga which signaled the beginning of the oil boom in the Williston Basin of North Dakota.

May 22, 1922, WDAY radio, Fargo, became one of the first radio stations broadcasting in the nation. WDAY is still a well-known radio and TV station in the area.



The Cooper house as it looked about 1930. By this date the Cooper family no longer owned the house and the front bay window had been removed.



The Cooper house as it looks at the present time, with the extensive remodeling done by the current owners, Bill and Rosemary Rodgers.

# 1985 Historical Society Summary

We just ended another active year for the Walsh County Historical Society. I will briefly sum up the monthly meetings and some of the major events during the past year.

The annual meeting of the Walsh County Historical Society was held in January at the senior citizen center in Park River. Dr. Gordon Iseminger, UND History Professor, spoke and showed slides on German-Russians in the Dakotas focusing on their house construction. These emigrants were more likely than any other group to build their houses from sod, stone and clay with straw as a binder which they could obtain from the prairie and walls were up to two feet thick so they were warm in the winter and cool in the summer, and resistant to prairie fires, rains, frost and winds. The homes lasted for years and were inexpensive to construct.

The February meeting was held at the senior citizen center in Minto and Dr. Ed Waldron, UND Professor, spoke on the development of American humor. His talk included excerpts of American humorists. He said, "humor serves as a mirror in which to reflect the foibles of a society."

At the March meeting at the Walsh County Courthouse in Grafton Dr. James Tweton, UND History Professor, gave an interesting and educational slide presentation and narration on the First Decade of North Dakota. In March the annual Emerald Isle program and meal was held at St. John's Parish Center in Grafton. March is also membership drive month when tables are set up in banks and savings and loans throughout the county to collect annual memberships.

Gary Phillips, Moorhead, Executive Director of the Red River Valley Historical Society, spoke at the April meeting in the senior citizen center in Forest River. He reported on the progress of the Interpretative Center in Fargo-Moorhead and the Red River Valley Historical Society.

Fairdale hosted the May meeting at the senior citizen center. Winners were announced for the first junior high and high school students essay contest sponsored by the historical society.

June was a busy month with the

opening of the Walsh County Museum in Minto, the third folkarama at the Heritage Village in Grafton and the monthly business meeting in Adams at the senior citizen center.

The annual potluck picnic of the society was held in July at the Pioneer Memorial Gardens at the Homme Dam west of Park River. President Ed Gudajtes was honored on his birthday when his wife, Mamie, served anniversary cake.

No August meeting due to the Annual Northeast North Dakota Pioneer Machinery Association Threshing Show and Machinery Display near Park River. Minto hosted the sixth valley-wide day long conference workshop of the Red River Valley Heritage Society on August 21.

The September meeting was held in Pisek at the senior citizen center. The society began selling chances in September on the calendar fundraising project. The museum also closed for the season in September.

At the October meeting at the Walsh County Courthouse in Grafton, Dr. Jerome Tweton, UND Professor, spoke on the Period of World War II with emphasis on its affect on people in North Dakota. Tweton described political, economic and social changes as well as the state's efforts. Birthday cake was served in honor of Stephanie Prepiora's birthday. A group of Grafton women served lunch.

The November meeting was the annual memorial service which was held at the courthouse in Grafton. Tribute was given to ten members of the society who died this past year. Officers for 1986 were also elected.

Ed and Mamie Gudajtes were presented with a table centerpiece in honor of their 46th wedding anniversary. A decorated cake centered the table when a potluck lunch was served.

There is no meeting in December.

A special thanks to each one who helped support our society in any way. Thanks to those who hosted the meetings, those who attended meetings and other society functions which are numerous, and thanks for gifts of articles, memorials, dues and most of all — your time. Just remember — you are the

historical society. Help keep our heritage alive. It takes numerous hours of volunteer labor and time to keep such an organization

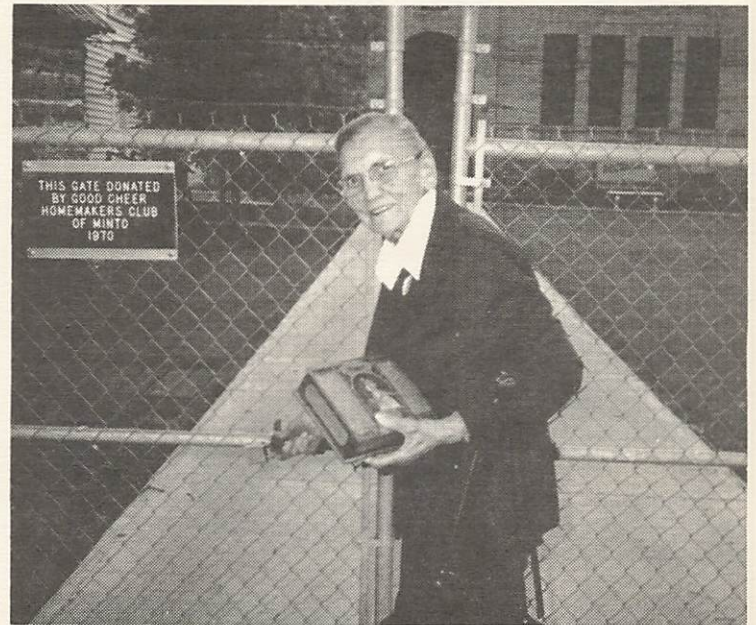
active and growing.

Lorraine Paulson  
Corresponding Sec.

## 1985 Museum Board

Stephanie Prepiora, curator  
Frank Schiller, chairman  
Wen Kennedy, vice chairman  
Joan Schanilec, secretary  
Jim Schanilec, treasurer  
Directors:  
Ted Barta

Ed Stoltman  
Linda Dunnigan  
Janet Lysengen  
Terry Nowling  
Don Rudnik  
John Gudajtes  
Theafil Kilichowski



Stephanie Prepiora, volunteer curator of the museum in Minto and historical society membership chairperson, locking the gate at the museum as she does time and time again. She has been a devoted and faithful volunteer of the Walsh County Historical Society for many years.



This buffalo is now on display in the wildlife room of the Walsh County Museum in Minto due to the generosity of people in the Minto area. The taxidermy work was done by Ted Holberg, Grand Forks. The buffalo was raised by James Earl, Grand Forks.

## Third Annual Folkarama

On Sunday, June 30, the 3rd Annual Folkarama was held at the Heritage Village in Grafton.

Norwegian Worship Service was held at 11 a.m. in the Landstad Church on the Village grounds. Roy Mohagen delivered the message in Norwegian.

Margaret Johnson served as pianist. Edna Ohnstad sang a solo and there was a trio composed of Velma Estad, Esther Almen and Ruby Olson. The worshippers joined in singing several Norwegian hymns.

At noon the British Isles, French, Scandinavian, Czechs, Mexicans, and Cambodians started serving ethnic food from tables which lined the theatre building.

Village board president, Jim Tibert, gave the welcome and introduced Terrance Henriksen who served as master of ceremonies during the afternoon program. Ed Gudajtes, president of the Walsh County Historical Society, welcomed the guests and

introduced Mary Rose Rodriguez who was chairperson of the Folkarama.

Boy Scout troops from Grafton presented the flags of various countries and the National Anthem was sung with Amy Stewart as accompanist.

Ora Stewart, co-ch. of the essay contest, introduced the winners. Throughout the afternoon entertainment was provided by the Pisek Czech Singers — Geo. Chyle, Geo Novak, Allen Swartz, and Frank Kostohris, accompanied by Ben Greicar on the accordion.

Amy Stewart, Tate, Terry and Brooke Burns provided entertainment from the British Isles. Synnove and Karl Scarthus sang several Norwegian selections accompanied by Edith Coulthart on the accordion followed by Coulthart on the accordion and Gloris Larson on the piano. Art Schumacher representing the Germans played several selections on the violin.



Stewart family at Folkarama: Ora Stewart and daughters, Terry Burns and Amy Stewart with grandchildren, Brook and Tate Burns all dressed in Scotch plaid for the festivities.



Marjery Jo Bruce, Grafton, serving tea to her little friends at the Folkarama.

## Museum Activities

Again it is the end of the year and time to appraise our membership of the events and activities which took place at the museum during the year. Many of you visited the museum or worked as volunteer guides Sunday afternoons so for you this will be only a review, however, for those members, who for some reason were unable to come, this will give you some idea of what transpired.

Always a happy event, which we look forward to, are the bus loads of school children from surrounding schools who pay a yearly visit to the museum and learn some history of the pioneer way of life. This year we were privileged to host nearly 300 students, their teachers and some parents from 2 schools in Grand Forks, one each in East Grand Forks, Manvel, Park River, Edinburg and Nash. The children, for the most part, are interested and well behaved asking many questions, the teachers and parents who accompany them are exceptional. In addition to the school children a large number of individuals and groups such as Sr. Citizens, study groups and various clubs are frequent visitors. One of the unusual groups was a bus load of tourists

returning to Fargo from the Folkarama in Winnipeg with Mary Kennedy as the tour guide, who arranged for them to visit the museum which they enjoyed very much. Good thinking, Mary.

Another unusual group were the over 50 members of RRVHS representing 12 organizations who held an "All Valley Heritage Workshop" in Minto. The workshop covered subjects on cataloging artifacts in museums, gift shop operations and an open discussion on general topics involving museums. At the conclusion of the meeting all went to visit the museum — the result: Rave Reviews, considered it an exceptional museum.

Some new displays were added among them a buffalo placed in the Wild Life room which was donated by a number of persons associated with the museum.

We again feel fortunate to have two workers assigned to us through the Green Thumb program which is sponsored by Farmers Union and funded by federal funds. The workers are responsible for general maintenance of the buildings and the lawn.

As a fund raiser, an auction sale was held on main street in Minto on a beautiful summer

evening, before the mosquito onslaught, so it was well attended. All sale articles were donated by friends of the museum. The monetary results of the sale were gratifying.

The big project during the winter months was a complete revamping of the Pioneer Home. The ceilings in the rooms were lowered to give the rooms a more authentic appearance of a home. New wallpaper was applied in all the rooms and the woodwork was painted. In the fall a door was opened from the passage way between the museum building and the quonset to a rather large room in a building adjacent to the passageway. To date the only entrance to the room was from the outside which often was not

accessible in the winter months. The room will probably be used as a display room.

This report only touches lightly on activities of the past year. We hope you will arrange to pay us a visit next summer. It is whispered "Museum Alive" will be held in 1986 probably in late June or early July — watch for the date and participate.

We sincerely thank all the wonderful volunteers who helped monitor the museum during the time it was open, we appreciate your suggestions, comments and words of praise which makes it all worth while.

Yes indeed, 1985 has been a very good year.

Stephanie Prepiora  
Volunteer Museum Curator

# Impressions of North Dakota

Elmer and Minnie Agan had been paying their Walsh County Historical Society membership dues for many years. Last winter when Stephanie Prepiora, membership chairperson, returned their membership card she was curious and asked them about their interest and connection to North Dakota. Several letters followed and in June the Agan family arrived in our area for the first time.

On June 28th, 1985, we, Elmer M. Agan III, Minnie, Etta and Celia, began what was to become a dream come true. We set foot on the tarmac at Grand Forks and began to fall in love with North Dakota and as we drove north to Minto, in Walsh County. Our first stop was with Stephanie Prepiora, and such an interesting representative Minto, Walsh County, and North Dakota has in her! After a lovely mid-day meal, Stephanie took us to the Walsh County Historical Society Museum and gave us a guided tour. . . fantastic! The love and heritage of this area is strong in the top quality displays of this museum. Of special interest to us out of staters were the Country Store, Nature Room and the old Farm Machinery as well as the four adjoining buildings, jail, home, school and meal car.

Our day continued to Grafton and a meeting with Tax Director, Jean Bodmer. Jean was to prove again that people of North Dakota are unique in friendliness and help to strangers.

Here may I say that all four of us met not a stranger in North Dakota but instant friends throughout our marvelous six day stay.

To end our day, we were directed to Warsaw and the St. Stanislaus Church. It's beauty to behold — so totally does the love, pride, and heritage of the congregation show in this church.

As Elmer's Grandfather was an Adam's area homesteader, his father, Elmer, Jr., was born there and there at rest lay twin Aunt and Uncle our top desire was to see this area. On Saturday and Sunday our dreams were realized in our seeing these areas with the making of more new friends, Leslie, Eldora and Phyllis Chally and Clifford Grove. This was such an emotional trip for Elmer and me as we'd heard much of this area

from Elmer Jr., until his passing in 1978 and from Elmer Jr's 1st cousin, Ethel M. Walter, who was born and spent her early years in Park River and who just turned 90.

Of parallel interest. . . Elmer III's and Leslie Chally's respective grandfathers had traded land in 1904. Elmer Sr. leaving North Dakota for Fredericksburg, Virginia and the Sam Chally's returning to their native homeland. Another quirk in the Agan Family history: Elmer Morrison Agan Sr. wed Blanche Minnie Thurston — Elmer Jr., wed Minnie Lee Poates and Elmer III continued the saga in marrying as I'm Minnie Sue!

With continued visits to the Adams area Sunday saw us in Grafton and in attendance at the Folkarama to hear music of various nationalities, to sample foods of the members ancestors and tour the exhibits on the grounds. . . and yes meeting and making more friends.

Monday we were guests of the Adams Senior Citizens to chat and partake of a delicious luncheon with these people who had heard of Elmer Sr. from their older family members. That evening we were taken out to Park River and Butch Porter showed us his reserve of Buffalo! Amazing and delightful are these animals. Parallel interest again . . . the President of the Buffalo



Agan Family at Folkarama: daughters, Celia and Etta, with their parents Minnie and Elmer Agan from Fredericksburg, VA.

Association is of Chantilly, Va. which is the location of the William A. Hazel Co. for whom Elmer works.

Impressions of the Agan's

1. As we flew into the Grand Forks Airport the landscape

patch work had many black squares — we were to discover it the native soil!

2. Friends.

3. The school houses — all alike

SEE IMPRESSIONS

Cont. on Page 9, Col. 3

## Hjemkomst Interpretive Center

By Gary Phillips  
President RRVHS

All systems are go on the new Red River Valley Heritage-Hjemkomst Interpretive Center under construction at Moorhead.

On October 2, the Viking Ship, Hjemkomst, was moved from the Western Minnesota Steam Thresher's Reunion grounds at Rollag, into its permanent home in the new Center.

Following the move, the innovative fabric roof structure will be raised over the Hjemkomst and the Center will be enclosed. This will allow the contractors to work inside through the winter, for a mid-summer, 1986, completion date.

The Center, once completed, will be a living testimony to the faith of the hundreds of people from all around the Valley who

have believed and worked for so many years to make the Red River Valley Center a reality.

Making use of high-tech exhibits with much audio-visual material, the Center will tell the story of the past, present and future of the Red River Valley. From the Center, people will be directed out to other areas of the Valley where they can get more specific information and see county and local historical museums and sites.

An exciting element of the facility is the educational spaces and the regional exhibit production spaces. The Center will include a carpentry shop, a graphic arts-photography shop, an audio-visual production area, and a full library.

Within these facilities, workshops and seminars will be

held as a part of the on-going "Network Project." Through these workshops, Valley historical societies will be offered special "hands-on" sessions where experts in museum topics from various Valley organizations will share their expertise with other valley organizations. Through a combined, cooperative effort, we can enhance the level of historical presentation and jointly promote greater attendance and participation at our many Valley events.

The 5.2 million dollar Heritage-Hjemkomst Interpretive Center has been funded and will be a great asset to the people of the Red River Valley, and will help insure the ongoing preservation and presentation of our fine Valley heritage.



# Heritage Village Happenings

There have been many activities at the Walsh Heritage Village on the west edge of Grafton in 1985. On January 12th a benefit auction for the Village was held in the theater building. Thanks to everyone who donated items for the sale. Other fund raisers were several pancake meals served during the spring and summer. In Sept. a spaghetti meal was served. Starting in November bingo is being played at the theater building on the first, second and third Saturday evenings of each month at 7 p.m. The last Saturday of the month is left open for various shows.

A Gun Show was held at the Village on February 9th and 10th. It was a good time to trade, sell or buy.

On March 16th the Thunderbird Flying Club held a model airplane show at the Village.

The Rock and Gem Show was held May 10-12. Every year this show continues to grow.

The third Folkarama was held at the Village on Sunday, June 30th.

In December a shopping bonanza was held at the Village and dealers could sell their products.

Throughout the year numerous groups, schools and organizations toured the Village grounds. The theater building is also available for your use for a set rental fee.

There have been improvements on the grounds. The road was re-shaped and the road and parking lot were graveled. The historical society donated one thousand dollars toward the purchase of gravel. Due to lack of funds no major improvements were made but many minor repairs were done on the blacksmith shop, cookcar and a track was placed in front of the depot for the caboose which will soon be on display.

A special thanks to the city of Grafton for mowing the grass and snow removal. Also thanks for those who gave memorials, donated articles, and volunteered your time assisting at the Village or attending events.

## First Adams Post Office Located On Grove Farm

Descendants of Erick and Kjerste Grove gathered this summer for the centennial celebration of the Grove homestead established in 1885.

One hundred years later the farmstead still stands, one and a half miles north of highway junction 17 and 35, and the land continues to be worked by Grove descendants. Erick Grove's great granddaughters, Patricia (Grove) Hove, and her family continue to reside at the homestead and farm the land.

Erick was born in 1855 at Spring Prairie, Wisconsin. The family then moved to Goodhue County, Minnesota, where in 1874, he married Kjerste Ellingson. They operated a grocery store until moving to Larimore, North Dakota, in 1881. In 1885 they moved to Walsh County, Adams Township, where they settled permanently.

Erick established the first Post Office in his home, June 23, 1890, and named it Adams from Adams County, Wisconsin, where his

wife came from. Across the road from their house was a settlement consisting of a hardware store, blacksmith shop, feed mill, and a general store. When the railroad came in 1905, these buildings were moved to a new site and the town was called Adams. Erick also moved his Post Office and he was postmaster for 25 years. His son, Elmer, took over the farming interests. He lived there until his son, Palmer, took over the operation. Palmer and his wife Beatrice moved into Adams. Palmer died in 1980. Palmer's daughter, Patricia, and her family continue to operate the farm.

At this July centennial celebration, a program was presented which concluded with a drive to the cemetery, and grandsons, Clifford and Ellsworth, placed a wreath on the graves of Erick and Kjerste Grove as a tribute to their forefathers. A picnic supper was served in the Adams City Park.



Jim Tibert, chairman of the board of Heritage Village in 1985, is shown accepting a contribution from Roy Mohagen, local correspondent of the Lutheran Brotherhood Branch 8162. The contribution is part of its program of aiding and assisting in worthwhile local projects. The Heritage Village is in need of additional funds for improving facilities on the village grounds.



A gift of money is presented to Jim Tibert, president of the Walsh County Heritage Village in Grafton by Dan Lessard, president of the First American Bank and Trust of Grafton. This gift is from the Grafton Endowment Fund and is in memory of Mr. W.J. Johnston, Mr. J.E. Bannerman and Mr. W.T. DePuy, who served the First American Bank and Trust of Grafton for many years. This gift was presented to Norv Elbert who received the Citizen of the Year Award by the Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce November 1984, and he designated the Heritage Village to receive this grant.

## Impressions Cont. From Page 8

yet each has a touch of personality its own.

4. Sparse population and traffic.

5. The darting and shuttling about of the little day animal, gopher and his arch enemy the badger.

6. In all the homes we entered the pride of heritage.

7. Length of daylight — 10:30-10:45 p.m. and still light as not to need a flashlight (home 9 is the limit — yet your dawn parallels ours).

8. Interest shown in us as to being interviewed by KXPO and the Grafton Record.

9. Architecture of the older homes — especially the Chally — Agan House at Leslie Chally's.

Thoughts as we left North Dakota were of our next trip to North Dakota and that dreams aren't bits of air but the beginnings of reality as we looked out the windows of our plane and saw an arched rainbow under us.

Submitted by Minnie S.D. Agan.

Teddy- - -

# A Dakota Rancher

By LEN CARROLL  
The Dickinson Press

"I have always said I never would have been president if it had not been for my experiences in North Dakota," were words written in 1918 by the 26th President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt.

He was a statesman, author, soldier, hunter, rancher and historian. He was also one of the most colorful figures in U.S. politics, who gained the esteem of the ordinary people in Dakota Territory and later the nation and the world. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1905 for helping to negotiate the peace between Japan and Russia.

Though sickly, weak and asthmatic as a boy, at the age of 17 he proved to be a strong lad. At 18 he entered Harvard, where he was a good boxer and excellent student.

He was a New York state assemblyman a year after his graduation from Harvard in 1880, became governor of New York, assistant secretary of the Navy, vice president of the United



The Roosevelt cabin

Theodore Roosevelt lived in this cabin briefly during his ranching career in the North Dakota Badlands. It stood on the Maltese Cross Ranch, located south of Medora. The Maltese Cross was Roosevelt's first ranching operation in Dakota Territory. Buildings from the Elkhorn Ranch, where Roosevelt spent most of his time in Dakota, were demolished soon after Roosevelt left the ranching business in 1886.

This cabin is typical of those built by early ranchers in the Little Missouri River Valley. It has a living area and a kitchen and a small sleeping loft. Some items used by Roosevelt are displayed in it.

The cabin is at the south entrance to Theodore Roosevelt National Park in Medora.

States and upon McKinley's assassination, President.

The fiery orator was elected the following term on the Republican ticket. He left the White House in 1909 to become a third Bull Moose party presidential candidate and ran against Woodrow Wilson, Democrat, and William Howard Taft, Republican. Roosevelt polled four million votes while losing to Wilson.

Roosevelt turned to private life and remained a popular figure as the unforgettable "Rough Rider" of the Spanish American War and as wielder of the "big stick" in fights against corruption and special interests.

His death in 1919 resulted from the complications of fever contracted while hunting in the jungles of Brazil.

Roosevelt made his debut in Dakota Territory on Sept. 7, 1883, when he stepped off a train at Little Missouri, later known as Medora. He came to the country to hunt buffalo. Through his persistent efforts and despite his many failings in marksmanship and skill as a hunter, he finally was able to shoot one of the few remaining bulls which lurked in the canyons of the Badlands.

Less than a month later, Roosevelt purchased the Maltese Cross brand and the ranch (also known as Chimney Butte) with headquarters seven miles south of Little Missouri. The deal also included a small band of stock which wintered on the place, while Roosevelt returned east.

"Old Four Eyes," as Roosevelt became known, because of the heavy eye glasses he wore, suffered a heavy blow the winter of 1883-84, when both his mother and wife died within hours of each other in New York.

A grief-stricken Roosevelt returned to Dakota in June of 1884 and took up a ranch about 35 miles north of Medora, which he called the "Elkhorn," after a pair of locked antlers found nearby.

That fall, while Roosevelt again returned to the east, ranch hands constructed a cabin and buildings. The cabin differed from others in the area in that it had more comforts.

Roosevelt never remained in North Dakota more than a few months at a time, although his visits in the state were busy ones.

He stocked his ranch until he had about 3,000 head of eastern



**BADLANDS COWBOY** — Theodore Roosevelt at 27 looked like this on a Badlands roundup. He was a dude with his tooled leather saddle, fringed buckskin clothing and pearl-handled revolver, but he won the respect of Dakotans.

cattle and became one of the largest independent cattle men to operate wholly in North Dakota.

In 1885 Roosevelt took part in his only roundup in the territory, helping Pierre Wibaux, a Frenchman for whom Wibaux, Mont., was later named.

Roosevelt spent much time writing while in Dakota Territory, where he compiled much of his book, "Life of Thomas Hart Benton" and later, "Winning of the West." He apparently drew extensively upon his experiences while at Elkhorn. Life on the new frontier gave the background for his accounts of westward expansion.

Spending much time hunting, he also found time to publish his book regarding game found in western Dakota. He gave full accounts on habits and hunting of whitetail and mule deer, mountain sheep, elk, buffalo, antelope, wolf, coyote and grizzly bear. He also compiled chapters on grouse, ducks and geese and song and other non-game birds.

Roosevelt never claimed a great ability in marksmanship or as a rider or roper, but his leadership qualities enabled him to organize a stockman's

association, which became known as the Little Missouri River Stock Association. He was the president and in this capacity represented local ranchers at meetings of the Montana Stockgrowers Association.

Ranchers in the area were experiencing heavy cattle losses due to rustling and the association was formed for mutual benefit. Associations of this type were virtually unheard of at the time, but are commonplace today.

In the hard winter of 1886-87, Roosevelt lost most of his cattle and made no effort to restock. Ranchers in Dakota were hard hit and many lost 90 percent of their herds, due to the shortage of grass, a long cold winter and a heavy snow covering on the prairies.

Cattle perished by the thousands. Estimates put Roosevelt's loss at from 75-90 percent. He was said to have lost \$50,000 in ranching operations.

Roosevelt became well acquainted with the Marquis de Mores, the fabulous Frenchman who founded the village of

SEE TEDDY ROOSEVELT

Cont. on Page 11, Col. 1

# Riverboat Returns to the Red River

After decades you can once again take a boat trip on the Red River in Grand Forks. On June 28, 1985, the Dakota Queen was edged into the Red River and rides were offered to the public beginning in early July. This eighty foot riverboat was built in Wisconsin and the developer and president is Paul Lester, Grand Forks. The Dakota Queen will transport you back in time to the nostalgic days when paddlewheelers cruised the Red River. The whistle of a riverboat can once again be heard along the banks of the Red. The early steamboats were the needed catalyst that sparked early settlement along the river and new towns and trading posts were spawned over night. Steamboating on the Red nearly ended in 1881 with the coming of the railroad to the area. Riverboats replaced the ox carts but then came the railroads. Riverboat travelers included immigrants, salesmen, land seekers, sightseers, hunters, soldiers and other people using it

as a means to get where they wanted to go. Freight was moved by riverboat and many of the boats would pull barges.

The Anson Northrup in 1859 became the first steamer to travel the Red River. The life of the Anson Northrup was comparatively brief due to poor construction and it sank at its winter moorings near Winnipeg in the winter of 1961-62.

The International was another well known boat on the Red and served as the second freighter on that river. The International made the fastest recorded round trip from Moorhead to Winnipeg in five days and eighteen hours in the summer of 1875. The Red River is a very winding river. Grand Forks and Winnipeg are approximately four hundred and fifty miles apart by the way of the Red River.

The Selkirk was launched in the spring of 1871 and was one hundred and ten feet long. The Selkirk sank in Grand Forks in the spring of 1884 when it broke loose from its moorings and



Dakota Queen

struck a railroad bridge and the boat wasn't repaired.

The Northwest steamer built in Moorhead was two hundred feet long and had the distinction of being the largest boat on the river and often pulled several barges — up to five at one time. Its final voyage to Winnipeg was in 1881 and then became a Canadian carrier. It had eighteen cabins and two staterooms besides room for those who remained on the decks. The roundtrip between Moorhead and Winnipeg normally took ten days.

In 1909 the last international trip of a steamboat was made by the Grand Forks on the Red River starting from the city of Grand Forks and continuing downstream to Winnipeg and returning to Grand Forks. This boat was launched in 1895 and remained afloat until 1912.

Other well-known riverboats were the Dakota, Alpha,

Manitoba, Pluck, Minnesota, Cheyenne, and Grandin. The Grandin hauled grain from the famous Grandin Bonanza farms.

The Fram launched in 1890 transported freight and passengers and was the last commercial steamboat on the Red. In 1912 the Fram broke loose from its moorings in Grand Forks and drifted downstream. A few years later it sank, six miles south of Oslo, MN. In 1982 parts of the boat were removed from that area.

An excursion boat the Columbia was the last boat on the Red in Grand Forks until the present Dakota Queen. The Columbia was badly damaged by the flood of 1950. Our family, the Paulson family, enjoyed a ride on the Dakota Queen this summer and if you didn't have the opportunity be sure and take a ride back in history next summer.

## Teddy Roosevelt Cont. From Page 10

Medora in southwestern North Dakota and who lost a fortune trying to operate a meat packing plant.

Roosevelt occasionally put a transient ruffian or a wild cowboy in his place.

Though the Little Missouri country was a lawless region to some degree and controversies were often settled with gunplay, Roosevelt succeeded in bringing in three thieves who stole his boat and putting them on trial. "Duties of Citizens in a Republic" was one of his most talked about subjects, in a land where people came and went and few questions were asked.

Today, Roosevelt's Elkhorn ranch site is part of the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, established in 1947. The park encompasses some 110 square miles of federal lands and is in three separate units; one near Medora where park headquarters is located; another near Watford City and the third along the Little Missouri River, midway between the other two.

The park is administered by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of Interior and each year is visited by thousands.

Roads in the park have been

hard surfaced, new administration and equipment buildings dominate the entrance and buffalo and mountain sheep once again roam the hills, as they did over three-quarters of a century ago. Coyotes, bobcats and many other animals make the park their private domain, for all wild creatures within are protected.

Roosevelt's cabin at the Elkhorn ranch for many years was located on the capitol grounds at Bismarck, after covering many miles by truck and rail, for showing at expositions.

The cabin, which has been repaired and renovated, looks much as it did in Roosevelt's time. The structure is now rightfully located just inside the park, a stone's throw from the village of Medora itself.

"Teddy" Roosevelt can still be seen on a summer night, just south of Medora, at a huge outdoor amphitheater, where the drama "Old Four-Eyes" is presented.

Here the deeds and life of this great American are relived annually for a few short months in the summer season.

## Calendar Fund Raiser

On January 1, 1986, the first lucky person will be drawn to receive five hundred dollars. Daily drawings will continue through '86. Starting in September members of the Walsh County Historical Society began selling chance tickets at twenty dollars each on the first calendar drawing sponsored by the society. A total of 1,100 tickets were sold by members of the society.

A total of \$11,700.00 will be awarded to ticket holders. The cash awards will be mailed to each winner. The Leonard and Lizz Fagerholt farm, Hoople, is registered as the site. Leonard also serves as chairman and

treasurer of the committee, assisted by Jean Bodmer, and Jim Tibert will compile all reports.

During 1986, there will be three hundred daily drawings of \$20.00 each; fifty-two weekly drawings of \$50.00; eleven monthly drawings of \$100.00; first drawing will be \$500.00; and final drawing will be \$1,500.00. Even if you win your name will be returned to the barrel so if you are lucky you can win more than once.

Profits will go toward the general expenses of the society and its projects and hopefully improvements can be made at our county museum and heritage village.

# Walsh Membership Leads Other Societies

Due to your support we lead all other county historical societies in North Dakota in the total number of paid membership. In 1985 we had 543 regular memberships at three dollars each, 82 business memberships at ten dollars, and five new life memberships at one hundred dollars. Presently we have thirty-two life members. All life memberships are kept in a separate interest bearing account.

New life members are: Rolf Wollan, Richardson, Texas; James Reid, Sacred Heart,

Minnesota; Wade Swenson, Moorhead, Minnesota; Woodrow Hultstrand, Fairdale, N.D.; and Walsh County Pioneer Daughters. The pioneer daughters recently disbanded and they donated \$216.95 for one life membership.

Any member who pays an additional two dollars also receives the Red River Heritage Press published in Moorhead.

We hope you will support our society in 1986 as you have in the past. Take a few minutes of your time and mail your dues to Stephanie Prepiora, Walsh

County Historical Society Membership Ch., Minto, North Dakota. A membership form and self-addressed envelope are

enclosed in this newsletter for your convenience. Please use it and include a membership for a friend as a gift.

Town	Total	Regular	Business	Life	Heritage Press
Adams	44	42	2		9
Edinburg	22	20	2		11
Fairdale	31	29	1	1	
Forest River	30	28	2		5
Grafton	231	180	51		68
Hoople	28	26	2		5
Minto	136	122	14		22
Park River	51	45	6		15
Ardoch	1		1		
Fordville	6	6			
Lankin	3	3			2
Pisek	8	8			2
Out of County	24	23	1		7
Out of State	11	11			5
Life from '84 Paid After Newsletter Went To Press	4			4	
Total 1985 . . . . .	630	543	82	5	151
Previous Life . . . . .	27				
Total . . . . .	657				

## Memorial Service Held

At the November meeting of the Walsh County Historical Society at the County Courthouse in Grafton tribute was given to ten former members who died this past year. Honored members were: Hazel Johnston, charter and life member; Charles Matcha, former member of Heritage Village Board; Myrtle Schrank, charter and life member; Clara Berg, all of Grafton; Dr. M.C. Flaten, charter member, Edinburg; Mrs. Morgan Aaland, charter member, Hoople; Mrs. Andrew Haug, Fairdale, who helped on volumes three and four of the Heritage Books; John J. Schanlic and Peter Kilichowski, both of Minto; and Herbert Traveller, Forest River.

by Pastor Harold Ovre, Grafton Lutheran Church, memorial resolution by President Ed Gudajtes, and tribute by Vice President Charles Stewart. A trio composed of Bette Nilson, Linda Johnston, and Ruth Clemenson, accompanied by Nina Nilson sang a selection and Nina sang a solo accompanied by Ruth. Jean Bodmer gave a special tribute entitled God's Garden while Lois Eisenrich placed a carnation for each deceased member into a vase forming a lovely arrangement. Roy Mohagen, society director, closed the service with a benediction.

In charge of arrangements were: Jean Bodmer, Lois Eisenrich, Lorraine Paulson and Stephanie Prepiora.

The opening prayer was given

## Minto Hosted Workshop

On August 21, 1985, Minto hosted the sixth in a continuing series of day-long workshops at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and was sponsored and organized by the Red River Valley Heritage Society. A delicious noon meal of ribs and sauerkraut was served by women from Minto. More than fifty participants representing organizations from North Dakota, Minnesota, and Manitoba listened to and took part in discussions concerning museum gift shop operations and management led by Tom Nickle from the Museum of Man and Nature in Winnipeg. Gary Westerson from F.R.S. Industries, Fargo, showed items suitable for gift shops and other fund raisers. Claire Zimmerman,

Winnipeg, spoke and illustrated techniques on cataloging objects in a museum.

Gary Phillips, Fargo-Moorhead, spoke and showed slides on the work and goals of the Red River Valley Heritage Society and the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead. Jay Hillier, Grand Forks, is Network Committee chairman. The goal of the Network Committee is to stimulate professional museum practices while creating a cooperative effort between local and county historical societies in their aim and goal to preserve and interpret this region's rich heritage. Hatton hosted the seventh meeting-workshop in October.

### Time To Renew 1986 Memberships

Renew your 1986 membership. 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 Chairperson**  
**Walsh County Historical Society**  
**Minto, North Dakota 58261**

**Editor — LORRAINE PAULSON**

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