

City of Jugville to be moved

Portions of Sig Jagielski's museum being relocated to
Heritage Village in Grafton

BY TODD MORGAN
EDITOR

AUBURN—History is on the move in Walsh County.

A number of volunteers have begun moving Sig Jagielski's historic Jugville collection from its rural Auburn home, south to Grafton's Heritage Village.

An article entitled "Unique museum located just north of Auburn" in The Walsh County Record in 1963, detailed the beginnings of Jagielski's collections and memorabilia which would eventually become Jugville. Sig had been farming in the area since 1921 the article stated.

According to the 1963 article, in just five short years Jagielski had amassed hundreds of articles which range from the unusual antique French telephone and miner's lamp, to the standard antique spinning jenny and coffee grinder. Other antique and unique items included an 1898 Edison cylinder phonograph, a 1918 Montgomery Ward catalog, a hand powered washing machine, old newspapers including an 1884 Minneapolis-St. Paul Tribune and an 1837 Washington, D.C., "Globe" magazine.

Uncle Sig, as he was affectionately known, died at the age of 93, on Jan. 5, 2004. From 1957 until his death in 2004, Jagielski's museum Jugville grew by leaps and bounds. Currently there are more than 16 buildings erected on the farm including a telegraph/telephone building, general store, school, church, saloon, jail and pole sheds, to name a few.

Harold Blanchard, current president of the Heritage Village board, has made a call for volunteers to help move Jagielski's antiques and other items in his collection to Heritage Village in Grafton.

"Sig's initial request was that Jugville be maintained and cared for at his farm north of Auburn," Blanchard said. "He realized it might not be feasible and had a stipulation in his will that it could be moved to Heritage Village."

According to Blanchard, not all the buildings will be moved on the advice of the moving company Mattson Moving.

"Other buildings won't be moved because there is no need to

double up on buildings at Heritage Village," he said. "The idea with the buildings is to expand on the main street scene at the Heritage Village.

Another positive aspect with the move, according to Blanchard, is that Jagielski's collections will get many times the exposure than in the rural setting north of Auburn.

Blanchard said he expects it will take three to four years for all of Jagielski's buildings and collectibles to be moved to Heritage Village.

Blanchard and his group of volunteers set as their goal to get a

pair of pole sheds moved before the end of September. Both pole sheds are 79 ½ by 26 ½ feet. He added they would have to wait for the paving on Highway 81 north to be completed before the pole sheds can be moved.

"We already have the cement slab poured where one of the pole sheds will go," Blanchard said. "It is

— Harold Blanchard
President, Heritage Village board

our hope we can have some of Sig's items on display for Heritage Village's By-Gone Days scheduled for Sept. 24."

Currently, Blanchard and the volunteers have been moving Jagielski's antiques and collectibles from the pole sheds to garages the City of Grafton donated to the village from the buy-out of 1997.

"So when the pole sheds do get moved, we will put the items removed from the pole sheds back into them," Blanchard said.

In all, Jagielski has more than 9,000 square feet of buildings. Most of those buildings, according to Blanchard were built by Jagielski himself or with the help of his neighbor Don Anderson.

Besides thousands of collectibles and antiques, Jagielski also built a stagecoach and has two circa 1920 automobiles.

In addition to his craftsmanship and work on his city of Jugville, Jagielski's endeared himself to many radio listeners when he began playing old-time music in 1959 on Grafton's radio station. For more than 40 years, he was the master of ceremonies for "Sig's Old Time Radio Show."

Blanchard is looking for anyone interested in volunteering to help move Jagielski's antiques and collectibles.

(Reprinted from The Walsh County Record)

Walsh County Historical Museum ~ 2005

The Walsh County Historical Museum saw the completion of the roof project in April 2005. Then it was time for the school tours in May. The board members, with the help of two girl scout troops from Minto, scheduled a spring clean-up day in June. We were able to do a complete cleaning throughout the entire museum, which was greatly needed because of all the construction and traffic from tours.

Museum Alive was held on July 3, 2005 in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. We ran a concession stand on the new cement slab that was poured on the north side of the museum. Many activities were planned for the day including the largest parade in museum history with over 70 units participating. Ground activities included kid's games, Pierre and his trading post, Polish dancers, lefsa making, petting zoo, and reptile viewing. The museum was busy inside with activities such as purchasing candy in the General Store, ice cream cones in the ice cream parlor, and near beer in the saloon. There was something for all ages, and we were happy to see so many families spend the day with us enjoying all the activities. Thank you to all who attended, and to all those who volunteered their time to help make the day a success.

The latest edition to the museum is the return of the 1930's fully restored city of Adams fire truck. It was removed from the museum to be restored and driven in the Adams Centennial parade, which was in July. The fire truck is now back in the museum and we are proud to display it again.

We also purchased two signs advertising the Walsh County Historical Museum. The signs have the museum's logo. We were able to attend many of the area centennial parades this past summer and advertise our upcoming museum events.

The officers and board members for 2006 are as follows:

Curators – Henry Czapiewski and Kathy Langowski

Chairman – Les Jallo

Vice Chairman – Kurt Kelley

Secretary – June Selseth

Treasurer – Ron Ophaug

Board Members:

Chris Misialek

Wally Ebertowski

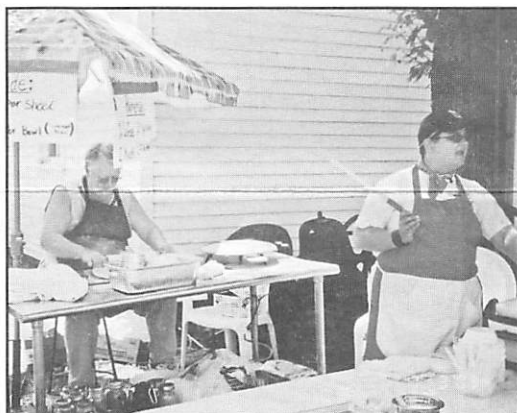
Theafil Kilichowski

Karen Ebertowski

Cindy Johnson

John Gudajtes

Tim Nelson



Pictured left to right: Evonne Wydell and Susie Wydell.



Bob and Steff Vaudrin's tee pee.



Pictured left to right: June Selseth and Cathy Langowski.

MUSEUM ALIVE

JULY 3, 2005



Pictured left to right: Gary Slominski and Art Selseth.



Les Jallo's 1952 grain truck.



Bob Vadrina's grandson won first place in Costume contest.

Heritage Village~ 2005

Ongoing repair and maintenance continue to be the highlight of having fundraisers at Heritage Village. There were several again this past year including pancake and sausage breakfasts. A bake sale was held in conjunction with one of them. The board plans to continue these successful fundraisers and appreciates the support.

On March 12 an auction with Arlen Askim as the auctioneer who donated his time. All the items auctioned were donated by Lorraine Paulson. It was a great success!

Also in March the resignation of C.W. Jacobson, Village manager, was accepted with regret. He has done an excellent job of keeping Heritage Village going during his career as manager. Dr. Harold Blanchard has stepped in to continue this venture.

Next came SummerFest, held June 25, with the Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce in charge of the event this year. A demolition derby was held. Heritage Village was in charge of the saloon, merry-go-round rides and concession stand.

The next event was the 11th annual By-Gone Days held September 24 co-sponsored by the Village and the Grafton Chamber with several area businesses providing financial support. To begin the event a pancake and sausage breakfast was

held. Northern Pullers Tractor Pull was also an attraction of the day. The Village ran the merry-go-round and the saloon.

Members of the board and employees were saddened by the death of Donald Anderson in October. He was the representative of Uncle Sig's Estate. Before his death a decision was made to donate all the antiques and the homestead farm land to the Village. Two of the large pole barns have been moved to the Village and placed on concrete slabs. The board, along with help from local residents hauled in several loads of the antiques. This continues to be a project for 2006 along with moving additional buildings.

Heritage Village Board of Directors is as follows:

Harold Blanchard	President
Ken Hoffman	Vice President
Jean Bodmer	Secretary
Verna Sherek	Treasurer

Directors:

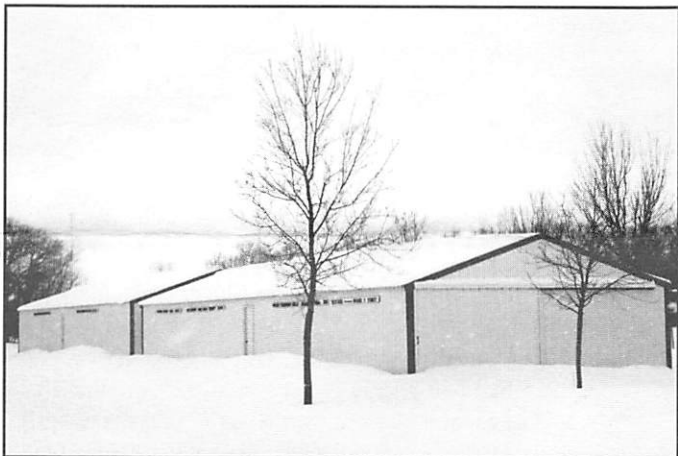
Vance Anderson	Jan Demester-Ledbury
Barbara Bracken	Vernon Russum
Gordon Bracken	Carol Spale
Curt Bratlie	Dorothy Wilson

Jim Gaustad

Please remember our main source of revenue is our bingo program. During the winter months, please join us Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. Beginning April 1 Monday evenings will be added to the schedule. Your support is needed.

Remember, we continue to rent our theater building for \$75.00 per event and space continues to be available for storage although this could change as items from Jugville are brought to the Village. Please contact the Village at 701-352-3280 or Verna Sherek at 701-520-1207 for more information.

Heritage Village wants to thank everyone who participated in this year's activities and gave donations. Continued support from the community and individuals is needed to continue the perseverance of the Village.



Centennials observed at four communities

Four Walsh County communities observed their centennials this past summer (2005). Included are Adams, Lankin, Fordville and Fairdale. Also celebrating a 100th year event was Sacred Heart Catholic in Minto.

It seems the smaller communities are masters at drawing people back to their home ground. Those in charge plan for months and sometimes years to make the celebrations an event to remember.

The towns' celebrations took place during the top of the season in June and July with ingenuity on the part of the planning committees playing the largest part in the events. And, each town held a parade that gathered people even if the weather wasn't up to par at all times. And, class reunions added to the excitement. The events drew the attention of the returnees as well as from those in the surrounding communities and the towns themselves. Every one returned to their homes with fresh memories.

Adams, it is interesting to note, was at first named Sarles but changed to Adams when it was discovered there was a town by the name of Sarles. Census of the town at the time of incorporation in 1905 was 343. E.T. Grove established the first mail

point on June 23, 1880, located on his farm three and one-half miles northwest of what now is Adams village. He was the first postmaster. In 1905 the post office was moved into Adams that was named after Grove's wife, Christi, who came to North Dakota from Adams County in Wisconsin.

Adams at one time had three newspapers and many retail stores. The first hotel built in Adams, the Hotel Adams, built in 1905 by O.F. Bookwalter, was the first building erected in Adams. It was relocated after a fire gutted the original building.

According to the Walsh Heritage book, there were nothing but fields, coulees, little hills and a country store in the area of what was to become Fairdale known as "Little Norway." A store was opened by Jim Gordon about 1901 or 1902. And, then the railroad came through and changed the position of the town. When the final decision was made by the Soo Line railroad in 1905 all the stores built had to be moved closer to the railroad. Many good-sized stores and other businesses, including five elevators, sprang up, and the town grew.

The first postmaster was Ole J. Norlie – the post office was established in 1905.

Centennials: See back page

Elmwood ~ 2005



Elmwood, taken from the river bank in the spring of 2005.

Not all "victorian ladies" look as well as Elmwood does at 110 years of age. Tucked in a bend of the Park River and featuring many of the architectural features common to victorian homes built a century ago, the house now plays host to people of this generation and enjoys every moment of it. If the walls could talk would they tell us if the people a century ago loved the house as much as we do? To the group of 10 who plan events, plant flowers, mow lawns, polish silver, vacuum and clean, arrange furniture and pictures, and open and close for the many public and private gatherings, it is a labor of love. To the many volunteers who help whenever called upon, their hearts must skip a beat too.

On November 8 a record number of people attended "Spencer's Spaghetti Supper." An annual event, this year it was the official 110 birthday party, and the nine small cleverly decorated "birthday cakes" offered for sale were very popular.

Decorated for Christmas in the victorian manner the house glowed with trees in every room. Five large trees brought a Christmas feeling to the first floor. Winter, spring, summer, fall and the new year were depicted upstairs. The porch decorated with swags of real greens, large colored balls and red ribbon reminded us of Christmas a century ago. Elmwood is ready for Christmas by Thanksgiving and this year a family enjoyed their turkey dinner at the historic house. Another family celebrated Christmas Day at Elmwood. The Grafton Lutheran Church and Elmwood sponsored a tour of homes on December 10. Three country homes included a new country home, a log home connected to a horse barn, and the clever adaptation of a large barn for family use. In the city a victorian home of the same era as Elmwood has been beauti-

fully restored in a contemporary manner.

Elmwood is a beautiful setting for weddings. On February 11, Amber Vollrath and Jason Meyer were married. October 8 was the wedding of Michael Estad and Emberly Knutson. When Cory Suda and Tim Dvorak were married on November 25 Elmwood was fully decorated for Christmas.

Mr. McGregor was present for the garden party on April 23. Rhubarb was made into wonderful desserts served on June 23, and pancakes, sausage and our own chokecherry syrup were featured on September 11.

Mary Nancy Williamson, the last lady to live at Elmwood, was the guest of honor on her 90th birthday at an open house hosted by her family. To commemorate the occasion a tree was planted on the property.

Elmwood is an excellent place to have weddings, bridal showers, graduations, meetings and parties. Caterers are available and the house is well equipped to handle sit down groups of 40 and larger numbers for an open house. Outside there is a fire pit and eight picnic tables and a well groomed area for outdoor family activities. Contact a board member for more information.

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Eleanor Iverson
Beth Rose
Mary Jo Olson
Michael Walski
Celeste Flanagan
Bonnie Mohagen

Airport renamed Hutson Field

A longtime pilot and city resident was honored the summer of 2005 when the city of Grafton renamed its airport "Hutson Field."

Ernest (Hod) Hutson grew up during the Depression on a farm in Wisconsin. At the age of 11 he worked on a Works Project Administration project, one of the many New Deal programs of President Franklin Roosevelt's administration. Perhaps the lessons of hard work provided the background that led to accomplishments later in his life.

It was while serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II that Hutson decided that aviation would be a way of his adult life. He was 20 years old when he joined the military in 1942. By the time he was 22 he had earned the rank of captain.

After he completed his flight training, he was assigned to the 447 Bomb Squadron, 321st Bomber Group, 12th Air Force. As a plane commander in Europe during 1944, Hutson flew 58 missions into the Balkans, Italy and southern France.

He received two presidential citations with his unit, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters. He finished his military career as a multi-engine flight instructor.

Following his service he started a career in civil aviation that spanned nearly 50 years. He came to North Dakota and with headquarters in Devils Lake he began as a flight instructor and commercial pilot. He was one of the pioneers in aerial spraying in the state.

In 1951 Hod purchased Grafton Aero Service, Inc., and he and his wife Delphine (Del) whom he had married in Devils



The Grafton Municipal Airport was dedicated Hutson Field in honor of Hod, Del and Don Hutson who have been associated with the airport since its infancy more than 55 years ago. Those in attendance for the dedication included from left to right, Len Wysocki, Kent Trontvet, Mike Leighton, Hod Hutson, Del Hutson, Don Hutson, George Loranger, Fred Stark and Paul Mohagen. (Photo by Larry Biri)

Lake lived at the airport for seven years before moving into Grafton with their family of seven children.

The result of Hod's influence on aviation is seen on the number of pilots who were instructed by him and became commercial pilots, flight instructors, fixed - base operators and aerial sprayers. He established one of the first GI Bill aviation schools in the area for Korean War and Vietnam War veterans.

He served as president of the North Dakota Aviation Operators Association for two terms during the development of aerial spraying. He also served as a director of the North Dakota Flying Farmers.

For his many efforts in the aviation field Hutson was inducted into the North Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame in 2000. And this past year he again was honored when Grafton renamed its airport to honor Hod after he had devoted time and energy to the aviation field.

MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE: Life members as well as those who have already paid receive a packet for renewal - as does everyone. Ignore it or better yet, give it to a friend to become a member. The membership cards are to be signed by the recipient and retained.

Life members: Mary Jane Gerzewski, Ellen and Gerry Misialek, Leatrice O'Keefe and Joel Aslakson.

There are 128 memberships, 4 life members and 9 business memberships.

CENTURIANS

Isabel Klava ~ 10 4
Theodora Dvorak ~ 101
Helmer Haug ~ 101

Walsh Heritage Books

Walsh heritage books are still available and you can purchase volumes 3 & 4 at the Heritage Village, Grafton or First United Bank, Park River. Volumes 1 & 2 are no longer available.

Centennials: Continued from page 5

The first doctor to serve the area was a Dr. Lindberg, a Swede, who was killed when he fell under a train in Adams. There were other doctors along with several dentists. There now are about 40 people living in Fairdale but the town swelled by about 125 percent during the centennial celebration this past summer.

As the railroads moved so did the people who established towns along the routes. The railroads brought prosperity and convenience to those who established homes and businesses along the way and in 1905 Fordville was established as another of those towns along the Soo Line. As mentioned earlier post offices often were established in the homes of the postmaster. And, again a town took on the name of another (Medford) and later changed it to Fordville. In 1906 the population of Fordville was 120 people.

Many of the services generally known to be provided by larger cities often were found in the rural communities of the small settlements dotted along the way in those earlier years. There were many energetic people who founded the towns, established businesses and farms – many names who helped with the formation of this town often are recognized many years later.

The Soo Line was surveyed through Lankin in 1904 and was ready for the first train through Lankin in 1905. And, again a town grew; it was incorporated in 1908 and prior to that time it was under the jurisdiction of the Norton Township Board. Thomas Machart was the first chairman and population at the time was 266.

One of the features of the town was a community band and one of its members, Jack MacDonald, who later played in the John Phillip Sousa band, became the best cornet player in North Dakota, so it was noted in the Heritage Book.

It is interesting to note that many of these towns had baseball and softball teams.

There were many energetic people with ambition who settled these communities, took great pride in what they established. Many of these names who helped with the formation continue to be recognized today.

Also celebrating 100 years since its formation is Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Minto. And, the entire community came together to help with the celebration.

Although Minto is known for its Polish ancestry, the first Catholic church, Saint Patrick's Catholic Church was organized by the Irish in 1884 under the direction of the Rev. John Considine and the Polish people traveled by horse and buggy to attend Mass at Saint Stanislaus Church in Warsaw. In 1903 those

of Polish descent changed the name of the former Baptist church in Minto and it became Church of the Sacred Heart. It was a mission church with a membership of 50 families and served by the priest from Warsaw.

In 1905 the parish was established with the Rev. Joseph Karpinski as its first permanent priest. A new church was built in 1912 in the Byzantine style of architecture, common in Poland. It was destroyed by fire in 1916, but a new church had been built in the same style the following year. The cost was \$16,000. Sacred Heart and St. Patrick churches consolidated in 1957. At the present there are 210 families enrolled in the church. The Rev. John Kleinschmidt is the resident priest.

During the church's celebration many other events were held in conjunction to mark the anniversary including the well-known Museum Alive at the Walsh County Historical Museum.

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TIME TO RENEW 2006 MEMBERSHIPS

We would appreciate it very much if you would take a few minutes of your time to mail your annual dues. We are enclosing your membership card for 2005.

ANNUAL REGULAR DUES PER PERSON \$5.00
ANNUAL BUSINESS..... \$10.00
LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$100.00

Your support helps sustain our Society.

Ora Marie Stewart
WCHS Membership Chairperson
Walsh County Historical Society
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