



Members' contributions continue to benefit historical society

During their lifetimes they worked to preserve the past and in their deaths they contributed financially so that Heritage Village would grow and continue to be a keeper of history. The Willard and Marie Hove Estate left \$68,472 to Heritage Village in Grafton for the purpose of bringing the contents of Jugville to the historic village.

Sig Jagielski was the builder and mayor of Jugville north of Auburn. It became a place to stop to review the past. It was

Memorial

(Taken from Walsh County Record, August 9, 2006 – Todd Morgan)

As the saying goes, "There is a time to reap what is ripe, to bring in what is grown, and to pluck what is fulfilled, it is time to harvest."

There is also a passing from generation to generation and, from era to era. While the local funeral homes haven't had an overly busy summer by my stretch of the imagination, 2006 has really seen the death of some prominent, powerful and well loved individuals. One that comes to mind is Budd Tibert, one of the last great potato barons. Another is Harley Kingsbury and Harley Sackett. Rudolph "Pete" Matejcek, 97, a leader in Walsh County Historical Society and formerly of Lankin. The list could go on from Frank Rose to Gabe Seigny to the names in the obits today like Ted Barta, 57, of Forest River, to Sharon A. Fuglestad, 60, of Minto, to Felix I. Grzadzilewski of Warsaw, to Eleanor M. Oslund of Park River.

With each death, whether young or old, the circle of life begins again. Saturday morning, life passed for my grandmother and the cycle of life began anew when Lee and Heidi Gudajtes of Minto gave birth to a baby boy, Edward Benjamin Gudajtes, a fine name. God does have a plan.

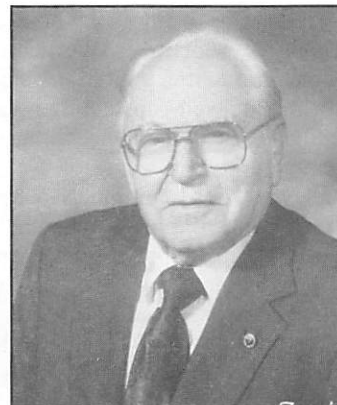
The great majority of the deaths are coming from the WWII generation, a group of people who changed the world by passing life on to the much applauded baby boomer generation. Born in the 1920s and with memories of the Dirty '30s this generation definitely gave more than they received. May Grandma Dorothy's memory burn bright for all that knew her. Almost as important as her memory, may her example of grace and dignity be something we will aspire to.

We will miss you very much.

(The above article was written by Todd Morgan upon the death of his grandmother, Dorothy Morgan of Grafton, ND this past summer. Both Dorothy and her husband Jack were very active members of the Historical Society. John was president-elect of the Walsh County Historical Society at the time of his death.)



Willard and Marie Hove



Pete Matejcek

"Uncle Sig's" wish that after his death Jugville would continue to bring pleasure to those interested in history.

Two slab concrete pads and a pole shed have been built. Another shed is in the planning stages. The buildings will house antique items that have been brought from Jugville. It has been a long and laborious task and the City Fathers of Heritage Village aren't finished yet. They expect to continue the task of bringing Jugville to Grafton.

According to Harold Blanchard, manager of Heritage Village, there have been other sources that helped with the effort. They are as follows: North Dakota State Historical Society, \$5,000; Resource Conservation and Development Program, \$900; Midcontinent Cable TV, \$2,000; Grafton Community Endowment Fund, \$3,200; Boone Foundation, \$5,000; and the Lorriane Paulson Estate, \$4,000.

It was at the urging of Pete Matejcek, a past president and life member of the Historical Society, who spurred his sister and brother-in-law, Marie and Willard Hove, to become active members and later lifetime members of the Society. They in particular were active researchers for the Walsh County Heritage books.

The Hoves were lifelong residents of Walsh County. Marie was born on the farm in Norton Township that her parents Jan and Josephine Matejcek farmed. After graduating from Lankin High School in 1926 she moved to Grafton where she was employed. She lived in Grafton until her death in 2004. Willard farmed the land in Farmington Township that his grandfather, Andrew J. Hove, homesteaded. He died this past year.

Sig and Josephine Jagielski and the Hoves were close friends. Pete Matejcek died this past August.

Thus ends the longtime service of five members to the Walsh County Historical Society. However, their contributions will be remembered by the many that will come to visit the growing village in Grafton.

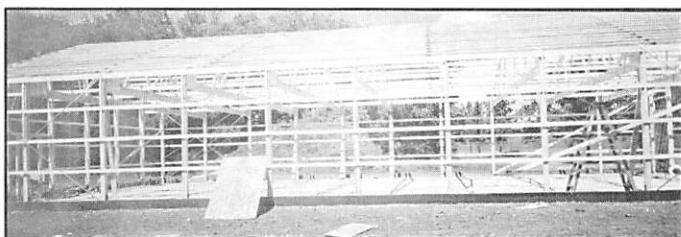
Heritage Village Activities

Ongoing repair and maintenance continue to be the highlight of having fundraisers at Heritage Village. Many of our buildings are in need of scraping and painting. Also shingles need to be repaired on our barn, replacement shingles of some sort need to be done to our taxidermy building. These are all projects for the upcoming year. Several pancake and sausage breakfasts were held this year. We also participated in "Rally in the Valley" with a bake sale. Our carousel was open for most of the summer on Sundays with children coming out for rides. We were in hopes that this would have been used more this past summer.

We also participated in SummerFest along with the chamber, serving a dinner in June and the 12th annual "By Gone Days" in September. We hosted the State Pedal Tractor Pull which brought in a lot of people from all over the state. The day went quite well considering it rained most of the day. We served a dinner and had a concession stand set up outside in one of our garages.

The board continues to haul in several loads of antiques from "Uncle Sig's" with the help from local residents and their generosity in supplying the tractors, trailers, etc. to make moving of the items possible. This will continue to be a project for 2007 along with moving additional buildings.

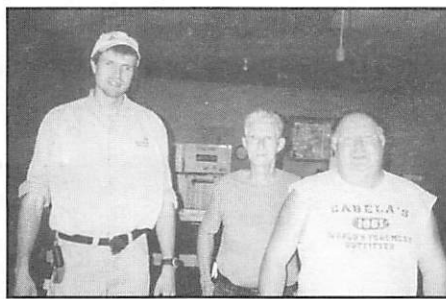
In June, we added a new Morton building to our site which will house "Uncle Sig's" antiques. The existing building housing the museum at Jugville was not movable and too small. Therefore, this past summer we erected a new and larger building to house these collections. It is a Morton building, 75 feet by 42 feet with a 10 foot clearance. All the museum contents have been transferred to the new building and waiting for sorting, cleaning and displaying. Approximate cost of this project was \$46,000. Board members and their spouses have been working endlessly on this project. After the Morton building was up and on site, electricity was put into that building with a lot of volunteer help from the board members and Terry Peoples, electrician; Nathan Erovick, Park River, helped as did Ken Hoffman, Harold Blanchard and John Samdahl. In addition to the board members who helped, some of the other volunteers were Charles Thompson, Bob Eisenrich, Earl Olson, Paul Benjaminson,



New building being constructed at Heritage Village for Uncle Sig's collection.



Helping move in Uncle Sig's collections are left to right, Gordon Bracken, Harold Blanchard, Gene and Annette Skaro.



Pictured, left to right: Terry Peoples, electrician; Harold Blanchard and Ken Hoffman.

Jim Dusek, Diane Bratlie, Nancy Blanchard, Linda McCann, Robert Zidon, Pam Johnson, Jim Gaustad, Marilyn Zimny, Tom McCann, Tom Kennelly, Dale Martinson, Terry Peoples, Nathan Erovick, John Samdahl, Jack Desautel, Judy and Morris Evans, and Eleanor Iverson.

The last project in October was to bring in the cook car from Sig's "Jugville." In addition to those pictured, Les Aasand, Tom Kennelly, Ken Hoffman, and Harold Blanchard we also had help from Tom McCann, Dale Martinson, and Vernon Russum. Thanks to everyone who helped with these projects.

A surprise came to us in October when Ron and Catherine Pich presented Harold Blanchard, our board president, with a check which was donated to us from the Willard Hove Estate. This helped a great deal towards the cost of our Morton building.

Heritage Village Officers and Board of Directors are 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	Annette Escobar-Skaro
Yogi Skaro	

Please remember our main source of revenue is our bingo program. We are in need of more players, so get the word out that we are open Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights beginning at 6:45 p.m. Your support is very much needed. Also, we continue to rent our theatre building for \$75.00 per event and space continues to be available for storage, although this could change as items from Jugville are added to the village. Please contact the village at 701-520-1273 for more information.

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



Ron and Catherine Pich presenting a check to Harold Blanchard which was donated to us from the Willard Hove Estate.



Pictured, left to right are Les Aasand, Tom Kennelly, Ken Hoffman and Harold Blanchard by a cook car brought in from Sigs.

Elmwood Activities

Each year Elmwood is continuing to be a popular site for weddings, showers, graduations, meetings and parties. December is a very busy month and April and May are graduation and bridal shower months. The house is equipped to seat 40 people at tables for lunch or dinner. Open houses can accommodate many more. The several caterers who are available in Grafton are all acquainted with the house, the equipment and facilities available. The rental fee is dependent on the number planned for.

Five events are planned each year to raise funds for the ongoing repair, maintenance, supplies and furnishings to operate the house. All board members are required to be proficient in the art of housekeeping and many volunteers come willingly with the same skills. This historic site is valuable to this community.

In April the spring luncheon was about "shoes." An absolutely necessary item of clothing, what they look like depends on how they are going to be used. The event was an unusual assembly of special shoes worn for special times and decorative shoes in glass and pottery that quickly became "collections."

SummerFest in Grafton is in late June and Elmwood always hosts a "rhubarb festival." Late afternoon desserts,

mostly of rhubarb are served and have become very popular with those who return for class and family reunions.

For the first time a "Harvest Chili Fest" was held in October. Several varieties of the hot spicy food were served and a good supper was enjoyed by those who came to support Elmwood in this project.

This was the 14th year for "Spencer's Spaghetti Supper." It is always held on Election Day in November and has become the most popular and successful of the five events sponsored by Elmwood. Mr. Spencer was elected to a state office in 1890. Spaghetti was not popular then.

Christmas is special at Elmwood. Through the years a fine collection of decorations have been acquired, some purchased, some donated and the house takes on a wonderful "Victorian look." This year a musical and open house was held. The theme centered on the color purple and the upstairs showed collections of old toys, teddy bears, Barbie dolls, Mickey Mouse and an outstanding collection of Victorian dolls.

By July 1st Elmwood will no longer be affiliated with North Dakota Parks and Recreation and will be considered a non-profit corporation. Community interest and support will continue to be very necessary and important.

Historical Carousel

(Taken from Walsh County Record
6-26-2006 – Todd Morgan)

Wednesday, June 21, the Heritage Village in Grafton held a special day for the individuals at the Developmental Center (DC), its staff and families.

By all accounts, a fun day was had by everyone. The Heritage Village board decided to honor the people at the DC for the gift of the old-time merry-go-round carousel, which is now up and running on the grounds of the village.

The carousel, in itself, has a unique story and history behind it. It starts with Dr. Charles C. Rand, who was a doctor at the DC, then known as the State School.

According to a letter written by Rand and notarized by Liane Deutz, who at the time was the notary public of the State of North Dakota, the idea of having a merry-go-round carousel came to Rand when visiting Montana's institution in 1955.

At the next meeting of the Board of Administration, Rand asked the board if such a carousel could be purchased for the North Dakota's school. Board member Herman Joos knew a carnival operator down in the Twin Cities and would contact him about buying one. He did this and the contact person said he had an old one that the carnival wanted to replace. Joos made a deal and the old one could be purchased for \$3,000.

There was a problem, however, as the state money could not be used to purchase the carousel. The Grafton State School had an answer to that conundrum. On its campus there was a canteen that sold pop, candy and ice cream. Over the years the canteen had amassed a bunch of money. Since no state money was used

to purchase the candy and other items and since the canteen was funded by the proceeds of the sales, Judge Sherman, Chairman of the State Board of Administration, ruled the profits could be used to purchase the merry-go-round carousel to be placed on the grounds of the State School.

Joos then sent his farm trucks down to the carnival spot in the Twin Cities and they brought the carousel back to Grafton to be assembled.

Oliver Ordahl, maintenance superintendent at the school at the time, and his crew in their off time assembled the merry-go-round carousel and apparently they had to rebuild some of the parts and make or repair other parts.

Joos obtained some paper rolls of music that the calliope needed to make it operate and in 1956 it was running. The children enjoyed rides and music for years afterward.

The same merry-go-round carousel has since been donated to the Heritage Village where it is up and running. Every Sunday from 1-4 p.m. carousel rides are given for \$1. Whether or not people like to ride merry-go-rounds, seeing this old-time carnival ride in action is something to see.

What a piece of history to have operating and on display at Heritage Village! I have to thank Harold Blanchard for bringing this piece of history to my attention. Without his thoughtfulness, I would have never known about this story and would have never been able to pass it along.

(Our thanks to Harold Blanchard and Todd Morgan for bringing this history of the carousel to our attention. The carousel is one of Heritage Villages' most prized possessions and a great attraction for the village, enjoyed by young and old.)

WC Historical Society Membership

Our current membership drive has just started, and we are looking forward to another great year. Our 2006 membership consisted of 140 regular members and 125 lifetime memberships. We hope to exceed that number in 2007.

Each year we add new names to our list of "life members," but each year death takes its toll and we lose some of our very good and active members. Many of the members we lost in 2006 were very active members and we will surely miss them.

Walsh County Historical Society Life Memberships

1976	Dr. John Lipinski	Kalispell, MT
1976	Louis Wisniewski (deceased)	Minto, ND
1976	WLH Grain Co.	Minto, ND
1976	J.D. Miller	Minto, ND
1977	Alphonse Koehmstedt (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1977	Lucille Koehmstedt (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1977	Borghild Wollan	Washington, DC
1977	Mary E. Koehmstedt	Gerhardt, OR
1978	Mrs. Myrtle Schrank (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1979	Roy E. Mohagen	Grafton, ND
1979	Elvin L. Kieley & Sons, Inc.	Grafton, ND
1980	Olaf R. Johnson (deceased)	Park River, ND
1980	Judith Ritzel	Arvada, CO
1980	Mrs. Percy Walstad	Park River, ND
1981	Voss Grain Co.	Voss, ND
1981	Lorraine Paulson (deceased)	Hoople, ND
1981	Robert L. Burke (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1983	Runa Monson (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1983	Henry Lundene (deceased)	Adams, ND
1983	Mrs. Henry Lundene (deceased)	Adams, ND
1983	Carl J. Paulson (deceased)	Hoople, ND
1983	Lutheran Sunset Home	Grafton, ND
1984	John D. Paulson (deceased)	Hoople, ND
1984	Mary Nancy Williamson	Mission, TX
1984	Mrs. Carl J. Paulson (deceased)	Hoople, ND
1984	Mrs. Milton E. Johnston (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1984	Grafton Post #9367 VFW Club	Grafton, ND
1985	Rolf Wollan	Richardson, TX
1985	James Reid	Sacred Heart, MN
1985	Wade Swenson	Moorhead, MN
1985	Woodrow Hulstrand	Fairdale, ND
1985	Walsh Pioneer Daughters	
1985	Minto Farmers Elevator	Minto, ND
1985	Francis Phelan (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1986	Mrs. Roy Mohagen	Grafton, ND
1986	Victor Stoltman (deceased)	Minto, ND
1986	Lois Kieley	Grafton, ND
1987	Leonard S. Jensen (deceased)	Edinburg, ND
1987	Mrs. L.S. (Bertha) Jensen (deceased)	Edinburg, ND
1987	Edith Monson (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1987	Gary Babinski	Minto, ND
1987	Dean Flanders Mobil Oil	Minto, ND
1987	R.F. "Pete" Matejcek (deceased)	Lankin, ND
1987	Ella K. Matejcek	Lankin, ND
1988	Olive Tweeten (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1988	Charles H. Stewart	Grafton, ND
1988	Theofil Kilichowski	Minto, ND
1989	Willard O. Hove (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1989	Mrs. Willard (Marie) Hove (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1990	Dr. H.R. Piltingsrud	Park River, ND
1990	Ora Marie Stewart	Grafton, ND
1990	Dr. S.W. Lipinski	Lakeland, FL
1991	Denny's Jack & Jill	Grafton, ND
1991	Joyce Danielski	Hershey, PA
1992	Lennart Almen	Park River, ND
1992	Mrs. Donna Robinson	Burnsville, MN
1992	Jean Bodmer	Grafton, ND
1992	James O'Keefe (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1992	June M. Kraft	Bismarck, ND
1992	Stephanie Prepiora (deceased)	Minto, ND
1992	Anastasiz B. Curran (deceased)	Plentywood, MT
1992	W.W. Reyleck Co.	Grafton, ND

1993	Leonard Fagerholt (deceased)	Hoople, ND
1993	Elizabeth J. Fagerholt	Grafton, ND
1993	Alma Collette (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1993	James Gudajtes	Minto, ND
1993	Hoople Farmers Grain Co.	Hoople, ND
1994	Leo Lizakowski (deceased)	Minto, ND
1994	Rae Ann Larson (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1994	DKB Farms	Minto, ND
1995	Chris Misialek	Minto, ND
1995	Paul Campbell	Grafton, ND
1995	Aurel DeSautel	Grafton, ND
1995	Phelan Farms	Grafton, ND
1995	First American Bank	Grafton, ND
1995	Hoople Potato Products	Hoople, ND
1995	Donald Gerszewski	Salt Lake City, UT
1995	Agnes Davis	Grafton, ND
1996	Paul Koehmstadt (deceased)	Minto, ND
1996	Henrikson-Kamrowski Funeral Home	Grafton, ND
1996	John Curran	Grafton, ND
1997	Marion O. Wyle	Edinburg, ND
1997	Alice Shelquist	Minto, ND
1998	Ann Lunde	Grafton, ND
1998	Ottertail Power Co.	
1998	Laverne Vogsland (deceased)	Grafton, ND
1998	Dennis Vogsland	Grafton, ND
1998	Ella Mae Vogsland	Grafton, ND
1998	Michael Alm	
1999	Terry Burns	St. Thomas, ND
1999	Sarah Ebertowski (deceased)	Minto, ND
1999	John Gudajtes	Minto, ND
1999	Heritage Ford	Grafton, ND
1999	Donna Jean Berg	Grafton, ND
1999	Frances Seeba	Grafton, ND
1999	Sue Piltingsrud (deceased)	Park River, ND
1999	Delores Evenson	Grafton, ND
1999	Earl Marifjerer	Park River, ND
1999	Arlen Jackson	Hoople, ND
1999	Frank A. Wylie	Edinburg, ND
2000	Ted Wylot (deceased)	Minto, ND
2000	Gene Hagen	Grafton, ND
2001	Jeon Aasand (deceased)	Grafton, ND
2001	Mae Curran Alm (deceased)	
2001	Brandon Brazil	Minto, ND
2001	Douglas Munski	
2002	Wally Ruud (deceased)	Grafton, ND
2002	Edith Harris	Park River, ND
2003	Les Jallo	Minto, ND
2003	Ella Mae Vogsland	Grafton, ND
2003	Doug Weberg	Grafton, ND
2003	A.K. (Andrew) Moe	Grafton, ND
2003	Tim Nelson	Grafton, ND
2003	Kathleen Cayley Cutter	CA
2004	J. Budd Tibert (deceased)	Minto, ND
2004	Harvey Tallackson	Grafton, ND
2004	Wallace Ebertowski	Minto, ND
2004	Susan Gudajtes	Minto, ND
2005	Ellen and Jerry Misialek	Minto, ND
2005	Leatrice O'Keefe	Grafton, ND
2005	Joel Aslakson	Fargo, ND
2005	Mary Jane Gerszewski	Racine, WI
2006	Adele Hankey	Park River, ND
2006	Olaf Aasand	Grafton, ND
2006	Steve Aune	Fairdale, ND

Attached to this newsletter, please find a 2007 membership application form, together with an addressed return envelope for your convenience in forwarding your current dues to the membership chairman. Our annual dues are minimal and the life membership dues are one payment due of \$100.

We thank all of our members for their continued support, as it is only with your help that we are able to continue the aims and goals of the Walsh County Historical Society. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Edinburg Readies For 125th Anniversary

*Sod house is an attraction, General Store a destination place,
and lights shine on ox-cart.*

By Bernice Flanagan

Little did the builders know that the sod house dwelling they constructed last October would be turning out to be a place for overnight guests. Volunteers numbering more than 50 turned out on Saturday last fall to cut sod, pile it high and realize a furnished dwelling such as the early homesteaders did of long ago. The house measures 12 feet by 16 feet on the outside and 8 feet by 12 feet on the inside. Sod was donated by David and Loretta Monson who raised it on their farm. A sod cutter was designed and built by Joe Holm, and helpers came from towns near and far in North Dakota, Minnesota and even Colorado and Washington. Local carpenters, Dave Olson and Jim Otto, lent their expertise, especially for the building of the roof, which was made of tamarack poles brought by Orlin Osby of Gatzke, MN and hoisted up by Harold Flom using his Bobcat loader. All volunteers were well fed throughout the day with "good cookin'" by local women volunteers. Furnishings inside the sod house including a rope bed, table and chairs made by local craftsman, Elroy Bradvold. Other donated items include pictures on the wall, homemade quilts, and a wood-burning stove donated by Kenny Johnson of Nash, ND, which ironically has raised lettering on it "patented 1882," the same year Edinburg was settled. Other useful items even include a "pot" under the bed. A guest book on the table has been signed by over 65 people. To date, mid-February, overnight guests registered has been eight. Reservations have been made for a date in early May by a couple wanting to spend the night to celebrate their wedding anniversary.

Edinburg Hall, a works progress administration project was completed in 1938. Many unique features of the store have made it a "destination place." Some of those features include A Salute to America Little Boy mannequins dressed in uniforms of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines, "saluting to Uncle Sam in front of an American flag; two separate tracks for G scale trains, namely "The Burlington Northern Memorail," The Edinbird Express" and presently in progress, a recreation of the Northern Dakota Railway Company, a train that went from Edinburg to Concrete during the early 1900s; pieces of antique furniture among the rows of merchandise; the stage remodeled to depict a Victorian porch which showcases the personalized pottery – the General Store's niche market; and a collection of miniature

General Stores numbering over 50 is displayed in the northwest corner of the store. Tour groups are welcomed with coffee and "goodies" and may choose to hear about Edinburg history, a history of the store, and the story of the trains.

A "Store Within a Store" is the bird room, located on the lower level. The Rendezvous Region Bird Club, under the leadership of Janne Myrdal, was organized in early 2001, and in August of 2004 Edinburg was declared "Bird Capital of North Dakota." Edinburg General Store has a complete line of plumbing, hardware, housewares, gifts and Hallmark cards. Edinburg General Store is "the biggest little general store in North Dakota."

At the west end of main street rests an ox cart built a couple of years ago by Finn Abrahamson of Cavalier, ND. It has been kept in storage until this past summer when a concrete pad was ready for permanent placement and now is highlighted by a spotlight and soon to be installed interpretive signage. For some 50 years in the mid 19th century, these two-wheeled wooden carts drawn by slow-moving oxen provided overland trade from Canadian settlements to St. Paul. They could carry as much as 1,000 lbs. each. One of these trails was the Ridge Trail which passed on the west edge of Edinburg. The ruts made by these slow-moving carts can still be seen in places north of our town. It was the land that was teeming with wildlife that provided the rich fur trade industry.

The Homestead Act of 1862, offered settlers 160 acres of free land if they lived on the claim for six months of each year for five years. Edinburg was established 20 years later by settlers coming to homestead.

A "Light Up the Night" celebration was held late last summer as a culmination of the new main street light project. Charles and Rita Mielke spearheaded a letter-writing campaign that brought in memorials and gifts to completely finance the very successful project and make it become a reality.

Plans for Edinburg's 125th anniversary to be held July 6th, 7th and 8th are progressing nicely. Eunice Evenson and Ruth Hall are writing a musical pageant, "Precious Memories" which highlight Friday. A pancake breakfast, parade, games, fireworks and a street dance are the highlights of Saturday, and Sunday will be church day. Everyone welcome.

Walsh County Historical Museum

The Walsh County Historical Museum once again had an eventful year. The summer began with several school tours during the month of May.

Two projects were completed at the museum. One was to paint and put a new roof on the Przepiora cook car and the other was to remove three elm trees that died from Dutch elm disease.

The new banners advertising the museum were put to use in the SummerFest parade in Grafton and the July 4th parade in Park River. Some of the board members dressed the part as well, and walked the parade advertising for the 2007 Museum Alive.

We were happy to host the quarterly Walsh County Historical Society meeting on April 30. We also hosted the Eastern Walsh County Tour the end of July. Stops on the tour included the Warsaw Church, St. Joseph Chapel, and the American Crystal Coal Transfer Station at Ardoch. The tour finished up at the

museum with a late lunch and fellowship. Even though the day was hot and humid, we hope all had fun.

We are sorry to say that a longtime member died this past summer. Ted Barta was killed in an ATV accident. Ted was a dedicated member for many years. He was a director, treasurer, and was always willing to provide animals for our petting zoo for Museum Alive. Since his passing, the Barta family has donated an assortment of his stuffed birds and animals to the museum.

Our annual Chili Cook-Off fundraiser, which was held in November, was a success once again. Thank you to Chris Misialek for hosting the event, the chili participants, and all the people who attended the cook-off to make it an enjoyable evening.

Don't forget that Museum Alive will be held on June 24, 2007! We hope to see all of you there!

Grafton, North Dakota Will Celebrate 125 Years In 2007

Incorporated as a town in 1882, Grafton was named by founder Thomas Cooper. Cooper chose to name Grafton after his wife's county where she was born and raised, Grafton County, New Hampshire. When the railroad came in the winter of 1881 the population of Grafton was about 400 and a year later it had risen to 1,500. Today Grafton's population is currently estimated at 4,516.

Grafton is located 40 miles south of the Canadian border and 12 miles west of the Red River of the North with land that is so rich it is often compared with the fertility of the Nile Valley in Egypt. Our school administrators have expanded our educational facilities to keep pace with our growth. We have beautiful parks and playgrounds, swimming pools (indoor and outdoor), golf course, a winter sports building and tennis courts. Among the many attractions Grafton is also the home of Historic Elmwood and Heritage Village which are available for tours. In honor of Grafton's 125th I would like to invite you to our beautiful city and join us in a weekend full of activities June 21-23, 2007. We have a full list of events being planned from National Country Band Emerson Drive Concert, Demolition Derby, Johnny Holm Concert, craft show in Leistikow Park, a variety of games and activities for the family in the park and Grand Parade, just to name a few.

For more information visit our website at www.graftonevents.com, activities will be added as they are finalized. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Chamber at 701-352-0781 or email: events@polarcomm.com. Visit Grafton and "Make an Event of It!"

2006-2007 Historical Society Officers

President Jean Bodmer
Vice President Chris Misialek
Secretary Ken Hoffman
Treasurer Marian Hajicek
Membership Ora Marie Stewart
Newsletter Jean Bodmer, Lois Eisenrich

Historical Society Directors

Leo Feltman	Gloria Koltes
Les Jallo	Dennis Markusen
Jim Morrison	De Laine Peoples
Dorothy Wilson	Kurt Kelley
Charles Stewart	Harold Blanchard

CENTURIANS

Isabel Klava ~ 105 Years of Age
Theodora Dvorak ~ 103 Years of Age
Helmer Haug ~ 102 Years of Age
Hazel Phannsmith ~ 102 Years of Age
Mary and Lily Clifford (Twins) ~ 102 Years of Age
Johanna Green ~ 101 Years of Age
Mable Johnson ~ 101 Years of Age
Muriel Gjein ~ 100 Years of Age

Float Prepared For Parades

The Walsh County Historical Society prepared a float and participated in several city parades the summer of 2006. The float was first entered in the Grafton SummerFest parade the end of June. They also appeared in the Park River 4th of July parade and the Minto Museum Alive Parade.



Left to right: Seated Rae Desautel, standing – Marion Hajicek, Michael Walski, Leo Feltman, Gordon Bracken, Chris Misialek, and seated – Jean Bodmer.

2006-2007 WC Historical Museum Officers

Curators Kathy Langowski,
Henry Czapiewski
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