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**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

1/17

Conducted at Douglas and Jeannine Wagner's Home in Medicine Hat, Alberta

**DW = Douglas Wagner: Interviewee**

**JW = Jeannine Wagner: Interviewee**

**AB = Ann Behrman: Interviewer**

**JP = Joan Parsonage: Camera**

**February 20, 2016**

**DW:** Well, my full name is Douglas Dwayne Wagner. I was born on the farm south of Senate, (I don't remember the land numbers) on September 21, 1936. And that's where my life started.

**JW:** I was born in my grandmother's upstairs bedroom in Sintaluta, Saskatchewan. My full name is Jeannine Alene Railton. When my mother asked my brother, who was five, what they should name the new baby, he had such delightful labels as pillowcase and tobacco can. My mother said, "I don't think those would be good names for a little girl", so she named me Jeannine Alene Railton. Jeannine was the book she had been reading, *I Dream of Jeannie in Lilac Time*. And so the book prompted the name Jeannine. And as her name was Alene Jean it was sort of named after Mom. Okay.

**AB:** Okay. There were no doctors, just midwives?

**JW:** Um, my Aunt Nelly oversaw my birthing, and Doug's I don't know.

**DW:** Mrs. Messmer.

**JW:** Mrs. Messmer, okay.

**DW:** I know the next day Dad was supposed to go to town, and I was going to be called Donald Dwayne Wagner, but the woman at the store told Dad, "I don't like the name Donald. We're gonna call him Doug." So Dad went home and told Mom, "His name ain't Donald; it's Doug!" [*Laughter*]

**JW:** Douglas!

**DW:** Douglas. So, the way things change down through the years.

**AB:** What about brothers and sisters?

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

2/17

**JW:** Okay, you go first.

**DW:** Well, there were five of us in the family. Junior or Martin was the next one to me, then Norma, and Mary, and Dale. When I was talking to Jack Wagner the other night, who is a cousin, he said, “You know, Doug, we’ve got to face it now, whether we like it or not.” He said, “On both sides of the family, Frank’s and yours, all there is, is an engine and a caboose.” [Laughter] There is Dale and myself which was the oldest and the youngest, and in their family it was Jack and Keith. Jack was the oldest and Keith was the youngest. So he said all that’s left is the engine and the caboose that’s on the move.

**JW:** Okay. There were five in my family. My older sister who was six years older than me and my brother was five years older than me. Then my younger sister was three years younger, and John who came quite late was twelve or fifteen years younger. Twelve years younger. We all lived in this little house on the rim of the Qu’Apelle Valley, very small house, well-built and warm.

We went to school at Rose Valley which was a 4 1/2 mile jaunt on horseback. When I started school my Aunt Marie took me to Fleming and she was a teacher there and so she was my teacher. I loved my Aunt Marie. She was my favourite of all Mom’s sisters because she thought I was special. Anyway, Uncle Morris didn’t have the same feelings. He was the high school principal and he expected punctual obedience. I wasn’t used to punctual obedience so I went my own merry little way, and I got into lots of trouble. In November they decided (I think they both decided) that I should go home because I could read. I could do my math. I could do anything, but I wasn’t the best little girl, and Uncle Morris couldn’t stand not being obeyed. I haven’t changed! [Laughter]

**AB:** I didn’t say that!

**JW:** But you know it! [Laughter]

**AB:** Where did you go to school, Doug?

**DW:** I went to the Zentner school. It was 2 1/2 miles north of where we lived, for the first 4 years. Kaye Weisgerber was my Grade 1 and 2 teacher. Then Terry Ademac come in and took over. Any way you looked at it, I was only in Grade 1, 2, 3 and 4 in them years, and what we give them teachers! You know, why they didn’t kill us all, I don’t know. I remember one day, Kaye was so fed up, she said, “Please, please, get down to work.”

So then she’d turn back to her desk, so we all went out and laid on the floor and said, “We’re down as low as we can get now.” [Laughter]

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

3/17

Why she never threw us out! She give us the strap quite regular, but—  
[*Laughter*]

**AB:** Who else went to school with you?

**DW:** Oh golly, you know there was some of the Messmers, Anne and Joseph Messmer and Geigers. We had Josephine and Philimine and Martha Geiger. And you know I can't even remember all the names of a lot of the people up in that north area. There was, I think, about 20 of us in school.

**AB:** And your main town was Senate?

**DW:** Senate, yes.

**AB:** What was Senate like?

**DW:** Well, it was quite a thriving place. It had two stores, gas stations, a hall for Saturday night dances, and Chinese shop where you could go and get a sandwich if you were real brave! [*Laughter*]. No, it was a good little [town]. There was the Kalmring store and the Finkles. The Finkles had it to start with and then they sold out to Kalmrings. And the Kalmrings ran it then, of course, until the town closed down. And then so I went to school til [Grade] 4. I started school in Senate in [Grade] 5, but the teacher we had was just a dud. The folks pulled me out and I took correspondence courses for Grades 5 and 6 with Mary. Then I went back to Senate, going to school because Muriel Schafer took over teaching for Grade 7, and then Joyce Johnson from Robsart took over in grade 8. She was one of my favourite teachers. She's the one that told me when I was writing my Grade 8 exams, "You know, Doug, if you promise to quit, I'll pass you."  
[*Laughter*]

I said, "I promise, when I walk out that door, if I don't have to come back, I won't."

I walked out and I had my Grade 8 and I never went back. [*Laughter*] She was just a young teacher. But the one night she was going to keep Arthur Schafer and I.

I said, "Well, you can't keep me in because I'm not staying". I said, "Because Junior's coming in with the truck and we're going to the park for a dance."

"Oh no you're not!"

I said, "If you don't like it, then go home and get ready, and you can go to the dance with us."

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

4/17

She wouldn't do that either. [*Laughter*] So that was short school years for me.

**AB:** So after Grade 8 you were done!

**DW:** I was done! That was it.

**AB:** Where did you go to work then?

**DW:** I stayed on the farm until Jeannine come down in the country. I built up the farm. I worked for a lot of different people. I worked for Popicks, and I worked in Maple Creek for Dawson Dixon out on the ranch and that kind of stuff. Then she come down in the country, and we got married, and we farmed it for a year, and then Dad figured we should go—

**JW:** —and make our fortune.

**DW:** And get some money put away so we could buy the farm. I moved to Swift Current and went to work driving truck for Soo Freight. Then I just jumped all over—Soo Freight, Swift Current Cartage.

**JW:** Val Marie.

**DW:** Val Marie. Working for a rancher in Val Marie until I come back to Senate in '60. No. In '60 [*nods affirmatively*].

**JW:** Yes.

**DW:** We came back to Senate and I bought the Steve Schafer place.

**AB:** When did you come to Consul, Jeannine?

**JW:** 1956? '55, yes.

**AB:** How did you hear about Consul?

**JW:** There was an ad in the paper for a teacher, for Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4. That's just my style and so I wrote a letter to the four corners of the province because I was not going to marry that old bachelor! [*Laughter*]

**AB:** Tell us the story of the old bachelor.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

Oral History Collection – Section 3

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

5/17

**JW:** Well, I was teaching in Allendale. He was a nice man; I'm not saying [otherwise]. And every opportunity that came up, and sometimes I was invited to go to Regina, and the bachelor was always along. Then they began telling me he was my young man. Holy cripes, come on. He's an old man. He was more than twice my age. So I moved, went to teach in Red Fox which was a school just south of Sintaluta. I taught there for one year and he started coming there. So I went home, told Mom I was leaving the damn country! And I was going as far away as I could get. I said, "There's the four corners of the darn province and I've applied to all four of them. The first one that answers, I'm going!" All right, Consul answered. How was I going to get there? Where is the place! Well, we had to get the atlas out. [*she laughs*] It's way in the southwest corner of the province and I said, "That's good enough for me!"

**AB:** And how did you get there?

**JW:** Well, I took the train. I went to Moose Jaw on the train, then I took the southline train. It took all day to go from Shaunavon to Consul. All day! It had to stop at every little town and unload all this groceries and stuff because everything was delivered on the train, even the mail. Anyway, the fellow in the Shaunavon Hotel thought I was a runaway and he began questioning me. I thought, Just getting a room for the night, do I have to answer all these questions? He never gave me what he was thinking, but he thought I was a runaway. After the conversation and I was going to Consul to teach and [he exclaimed], "You're a teacher?"

I said, "Yes, I've been teaching for 3 years."

"How old are you, girl?" I was 22, so yes, then he gave me a room so I could stay the night. [*Laughter*]

But in the meantime there were surveyors in the Consul area, and this young man—. I got up real early. I was dressed and ready and had my breakfast and went to the station. This young man approached me and he said, "The man at the hotel told me you were going to Consul, and I'm driving to Consul, and I wondered if you'd like to ride with me." I don't even remember his name now. But he answered a lot of questions before I would agree to go with him. [*Laughter*] You know, here out in strange country and so— But he was very nice and he explained people and the towns and all that as we drove. When we got to Consul I had no idea where I was supposed to go. So we went to the garage, Heinz Seifert's garage. No.

**DW:** No, you went to Leif Helmersen's lumber yard.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

6/17

**JW:** To the lumber yard, yes. Anyway, he was chairman of the school board and he told me I was going to stay at Mrs. Frame's and how to get there. So the young man dropped me off at Grandma Frame's. She was busy housecleaning my room, so I rolled up my sleeves and pitched in. We had a very good conversation. She looked at me and she kept wondering, and I said, "I am 22!"

She said, "Oh ok," as much as to say, 'You knew what I was thinking?', and yes, I did lots of times, know what she was thinking. She was a very nice lady to stay with. She knew everybody and she knew everyone.

**AB:** And then what year did you get married and where did you get married?

**JW:** We got married in Havre at the Presbyterian Church.

**DW:** In 1956.

**JW:** '56.

**JP:** How did Doug find you?

**JW:** Well, when they came to pick me up that night, when they were going to give the new teacher a whirl, Doug was driving the car. And then we went for the beer and he was going to drink the extra one. I think he did! [*she laughs*] Anyway, the car wouldn't start. Okay, and the other men got out to push the car and get it started because this was a habit of cars. Anyway—

**DW:** Vern Hansen, Ken Wagner.

**JW:** Ken and Iva Jean.

**DW:** We had Vern and Kay; that's who was with us that night. Vern and Kay Hansen, Ken and Iva Jean Wagner, and Harry and I. And of course Harry and I, we'd just come back from Havre. We really didn't care about nobody. As a matter of fact he had a date with one of the girls down there. "Ah", he said, "she won't mind if I don't show up. Let's flip and see who's going to take the teacher out." [*Laughter*]

**JW:** Isn't that a great introduction? [*Laughter*] Anyway, we get to the dance; I'm dancing with Harry. These three great big galoots (as I call them) came, grabbed Harry, and wrestled him down onto the dance floor, and I just stood there, petrified. [I thought], 'What the hell do I do here?' And [they] took his yellow boots and we had to finish the dance in his sock feet. I was so afraid I was going to

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

7/17

step on him or what. Anyway, I went back and I said, "Who were those galoots?" Whoever I was sitting by did inform me. Billy Parsonage.

**DW:** Owen Godlonton.

**JW:** Owen Godlonton.

**DW:** And one of the guys from Robsart, I think.

**JW:** Yes. And I said, "I will avoid those characters from here on through."  
[*Laughter*] They did not make a good impression on me, I can tell you.

**AB:** How many kids did you have?

**JW:** We had two boys, Clint born in 1959 and Clay in 1962.

**AB:** And where are they now?

**JW:** Clint has a little farm out at Irvine.

**DW:** He works in Consul [as a grader operator for the RM of Reno].

**JW:** He spends the winter months with us. He shovels walks and he does chores for us or things that we can't get done.

**DW:** And Clay is working at the hospital in Maple Creek. I don't know what you call him. I call him lots of things.

**JW:** A maintenance man. He looks after the hospital, the furnaces and water and all that.

**AB:** What about grandkids?

**JW:** We have two. One is adopted, Kya. She's getting married. She has two little boys and they seem quite happy together. And the other one is Piper and she is just a teenager.

**JP:** And her Mom and Dad are?

**DW:** Her Mom and Dad are Clay and Christie in Maple Creek.

**JW:** Yes. Clay married Christie Hunter.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

8/17

**AB:** When did you start farming? When did you take over the farm?

**DW:** Well, which one?

**AB:** Well, when you started farming, where were you?

**DW:** When we came back I bought that place of Steve Schafer's in 1960.

**JW:** Senate.

**DW:** Clay was a baby.

**JW:** Clint was a baby.

**DW:** Yes, Clint was a baby. In 1960 I bought that place. Then we farmed in straight through until we retired in '98.

**JW:** No, I retired in '89 and we left in '99.

**DW:** Yes, but that's pretty much when I quit. But I'd bought Dominic Messmer's, the Messmer Place in the meantime. A half section from the Huff outfit and built it up from practically nothing. When I started out I was running 20 cows. That's what I started out with. When I quit I was running 150.

**AB:** What kind of cattle did you run?

**DW:** Well, just ordinary cattle most of the years and then when the boys got older we went into purebred Simmentals. We started showing. The only one I really remember that I always thought of as being funny was a heifer I sold. Clint and I and Clay, they were in it with me. When we sold her, she went to Quebec and I said she couldn't speak a word of French! [*Laughter*]

**JW:** Yes, Clint won a lot of trophies with his 4-H calves. Both boys did, but Clint was more avid than Clay. Clay did it because that was expected. But Clint put all his heart and soul into it. As I said, that one picture in the book is with his grand champion and it won the show.

**AB:** Clint was in 4-H a lot of years.

**JW:** Yes.

**DW:** Yes, after I quit [as a 4-H leader] he took it over.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

9/17

**AB:** What other things were you involved with, with the kids in the community?

**DW:** Oh, we curled together a lot and we travelled. We travelled a lot in the summertime when the kids were small. Like, we went to Yellowstone Park. We went to the Black Hills and up north of Edmonton. That's where Dale was at the time and just did a lot of travelling. Every summer we'd try [to go somewhere]. But the first year we went out (that was just after we bought the place) I borrowed Norma and Stan Popick's tent (12 x 12 tent). I'd never set one up. She [*referring to Jeannine*] talks about it. They thought that was the funniest thing in the world, me trying to set up a 12 x 12 tent and didn't have a clue. But uh—

**JW:** Let me tell it. Let me tell. [*Laughter*] He staked out the floor because that was Norma's direction. Pegged it down, all the four corners. Then he said, "I don't know how to get the ridge pole in." He said, "So I think I'm going to climb in this wad of canvas and do it from inside." Anyway, he did. Well, this is most hilarious; this wad of canvas would rear up and holler a direction and we couldn't understand what he was saying. Then it would flop down and he'd come to the door [and say], "Didn't you hear me?"

Finally this gentleman from across the way came over and he said, "Do you think he would mind if I helped him set up his tent?" [*Laughter*]

I said, "Please do! We haven't a clue!" [*Laughing*]

So, he said, "Sir, if you come out here, I'll help you set up your tent."

Yes, we had the tent up in 10 minutes. [*Laughter*]

**DW:** But, back, I remember a different time and that. The zoo, that was our first trip. We went to Calgary Zoo and then down to Lethbridge to the Chinese gardens [Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens] and that, and we pulled into home and I said to her, "I don't know how you are, but I think it's time we got home."

She said, "Why?"

I said, "Well, I got 37 cents left in my pocket! What do you got?"

She said, "Not a damn thing." [*Laughter*]

And the car was just about out of gas. But I don't suppose we spent much over \$10 on the whole damn trip, you know.

**JW:** Camping was a dollar, two dollars, something like that. Oh yes.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

10/17

**AB:** What changes did you see in the farming from when you started until you retired? The biggest change?

**DW:** It was back then, it was the same thing as it is now. It just kept getting bigger. We started out with a six-foot one way, and you know, by the time I left I was using an eighteen-foot, you know, and that's the way everything kept going. And that was really the only real changes.

**JW:** You got more land, you bought bigger machinery.

**AB:** What do you think some of the changes will be to farming in the future?

**JW:** We have no idea and I wouldn't speculate.

**DW:** Well, all I can answer to that is I'm glad I'm out of it because I think it would drive me right up a wall, you know.

**JW:** Well, we built our house in 1966 in Senate. That was a big deal. We had socked away money from my, you know, so that we could build it and we had the dimensions and we hired—. He built Mary and Dom's house. Anyway, he was a builder.

**DW:** Bill McKenzie.

**JW:** Bill McKenzie.

**DW:** But I did an awful lot.

**JW:** He put in the sewer.

**DW:** I put in the sewer. I put in the water. I put in the heating. I did so much of the work myself.

**JW:** Jim Ebner helped him with a lot of advice because Jim was used to doing this. He did it and everything worked. And to start out with we had a stock trough in the basement that he put a cover over, and that was where our water was. He'd haul water, put it in the stock trough, and there, we had flush toilet; we had all the modern conveniences.

**JP:** So the water supply wasn't that great in your area?

**DW:** There was no water supply. We hauled all our water.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

11/17

**JW:** Yes. And then we dug a well over the hill, in the flat over the hill. We got a good well and it was piped to the house and from then on it was, hey, like magic.

**AB:** What about the PF [government grazing pasture]? Did you run cattle in the PF?

**DW:** Oh yes, yes.

**AB:** And what do you think's going to happen?

**DW:** That's another one of those things I've no idea. If you find somebody that can read the governments in this day and age they got—. I can't see how they can improve on it from what we had when we were there. No, I served on the PFRA [Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration] lease committee for, oh, I suppose 30 years. No, I started out by running ten head down there and when I left I was running 80 head in the PFRA.

**AB:** When did you move to Medicine Hat?

**JW:** 1999.

**AB:** And how do you like living in the city?

**DW:** You answer that one. [*Laughter*]

**JW:** Well, the farming was getting too much for him. The farm was too much and taking care of the trees and the yard and all that was too much for him. He was having heart problems, so I insisted that we move to Medicine Hat where we were close to medical attention. We came up looking for a house and they showed us ten different houses. This was the last one that just came on the docket that morning, and she took us here. It was the Wittke house. He was the head of the Iron Works here in Medicine Hat. It was well built. It was super. We have done absolutely no changing in this. It's exactly as when we moved in. I wouldn't change one thing in this house.

**DW:** You got that right! I told her that when she wanted to move to the Hat. I said, "Okay, let's get something' straight here. When we move to the Hat, we get a house that's finished. It's got [to have] a two car garage because I'm not a carpenter and I'm not going to turn into one". [*Laughter*] And I haven't!

**AB:** How many years did you teach, Jeannine?

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

12/17

**JW:** I taught four years outside of Consul and the other 30 were right in Consul.

**DW:** She put in 34 years.

**JW:** And I enjoyed it. I enjoyed the kids. I can't say I had challenges with some of the kids but they all learned that Mrs. Wagner was not going to eat them or beat on them. She was going to find a way to make them understand.

**JP:** Jeannine, you said when you started out at Consul you had how many students?

**JW:** Well, there was eight and eight and four and four. That's 24, isn't it?

**JP:** Eight and eight what?

**JW:** Eight in Grade 1, eight in Grade 3, four in Grade 4, and four in Grade 2.

**JP:** So were you the only teacher then?

**JW:** No, Jeannette Sigstad [Kalmring] had the next group of kids, [Grades] 4, 5 and 6. And Mr. Devlin, the principal, had [Grades] 9, 10 and 11.

**DW:** And [Grade] 12.

**JW:** And [Grade]12, yes. So there were three teachers. No, there were three teachers and two buildings. Jeannette and I were in the one building, and Joe was in the separate little building.

**AB:** That is now the town office and the library.

**JW:** Is that right? Okay. The two-roomed school is gone. It was good.

**JP:** What year was it that it increased, that you said Robsart School closed?

**JW:** I don't think we noticed a definite increase because all the bus children were beginning to come in, and they were distributed around in every classroom.

**JP:** But then how many students do you think you would have wound up with?

**JW:** Well, 27 was the most I ever had. And what was it? Nine, ten, was the least I ever had.

**AB:** When I started work in '71 there was 213.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

Oral History Collection – Section 3

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

13/17

**JP:** So do you think that was the largest amount?

**AB:** Yes.

**JW:** I didn't really keep track of that. It's in that book where I've been keeping—. It didn't matter how many children came into your classroom. You found another desk or you took a desk out, depending on what the enrolment was. And it didn't matter what grades I taught. Most of the time I taught 2 and 3. When they couldn't get a teacher for Grade 1, I decided I would take the Grade 1 because I had been teaching remedial Grade 1 to a lot of the students. I enjoyed it.

**JP:** Was that Kindergarten room in your same school where you were?

**JW:** No, the Kindergarten room would have been in what used to be the high school because then they had the cinderblock school for the rest of the grades. I stayed in the two-roomed school for a lot of years, and when they moved Grade 1 and 4 into the big school they left me there all alone, which was perfect. I had a playroom for the kids and I had a teaching room for the kids. It worked wonderfully. I would have gladly stayed there for the rest of it, but they decided I should come over and be sociable.

I have many, many mixed feelings on the way education is going. I think every child should have the right to learn to read, write, spell, and do arithmetic the old way so they understand it. You can't just say, "Hey, this is what you do," and then leave them. You have to make them understand what they're doing.

**DW:** I think if they took all these here little machines and threw them in the garbage the kids would be a lot better off and a lot happier.

**JW:** Yes, yes. They can take a calculator and do all their math questions and have them all right, but they can't use this [*pointing to her head*] and get them all right, you know. This is what I wouldn't allow, calculators in my classroom. We were in Grade 2; we were learning to do math.

**DW:** I've always said down in that Consul area [that] one of the smartest men that we got down there is Cliff Smith and he had a Grade 3 education. You know so I never, I never—. I only went to Grade 8. I'm not saying that was the best thing in the world, but I can truthfully say I have never been sorry that I quit.

**JW:** He put in the sewer, he put in the waterworks in our house, the furnace. He did all that with a Grade 8 education. He had help from some of the gentlemen.

CONSUL MUSEUM INCORPORATED

**Oral History Collection – Section 3**

Collected by Consul Museum Incorporated – Oral History Project

**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

Catalogue No. 3.14

14/17

He'd ask questions. He wasn't afraid to ask questions. And everything worked, everything worked.

**DW:** We had trouble with Clay when I was doing it because we were putting in the bathroom and she was home for the weekend. Of course, the walls and stuff weren't even up yet, but the bathtub was in place and we'd put in the bath-sewer and that and everything. And anyhow, Billy Reynolds and I were out laying the pipe for out to the sewer and that, and she decided to put Clay to bed in the bathtub because she had no place else for him. So she put Clay in the bathtub.

**JW:** With a big quilt.

**DW:** A big quilt and that and laid him down. Here, we could hear him down the pipes just singing his heart out, and Billy he finally hollered in, "Shut up and go to sleep." [*Laughs*] Well, everything quieted down. He went in.

**JW:** Clay come out, his eyes as big as, his eyes as big as saucers, "Mom the tub talked to me." [*Laughter*]

"What did it say?"

"Shut up and go to sleep!"

I said, "Well, maybe you better get back in there and do just what it told you!"

He did and in two minutes he was sound asleep. When they came in for coffee I gave them proper crap! [*Laughter*]

**DW:** Just some of the anecdotes through life.

**AB:** Oh yes!

**JP:** Well, you drove the school bus for quite a number of years, too.

**DW:** 15 years.

**JW:** Clint did, too.

**DW:** He didn't drive steady, though.

**JW:** No. More a spare.

**DW:** He was more a spare.

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**Douglas and Jeannine Wagner Interview** February 20, 2016

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15/17

**JP:** And you came up our way for a lot of years [northwest of Consul].

**DW:** Yes. I drove your kids to school a lot of times, and then, you know, when I got moved up here we were only here, I don't know—.

**JW:** A week or so.

**DW:** Two months, I guess, because we moved up in July and when school started the phone rang. [The school staff asked,] "Will you come drive school bus?" And I said, "No god damn way. I'm out of this! I'm not—."

**JW:** No, there comes a time when you say enough is enough.

**AB:** Yes. Yes.

**JW:** But, though, I wouldn't change my life for anything. I wouldn't.

**DW:** I think, uh.

**JP:** You did some barbequing for —.

**JW:** Oh yes.

**DW:** Oh yes.

**JW:** Master Chef.

**DW:** Barbequed for Gwen—no,

**JP:** Marie's wedding [Marie Parsonage Hanson].

**DW:** Marie's—wedding. Then I wasn't around that night because we were gone fighting fire all night. Yes, I barbequed a lot of meat down at the—

**JW:** Family reunions.

**DW:** Family reunions and that, uh—

**AB:** Bull sale.

**DW:** Bull sale down there. Yes.

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**JW:** No.

**DW:** Taught her how to cut meat because she didn't know. I couldn't do it all by myself.

**JW:** I'd never done it. I mean, my father always cut the meat. That was tradition.

**JP:** You mean when you were butchering?

**JW:** No, after it was cooked.

**DW:** No, after it was cooked and we were cutting for to be used. She wouldn't cut it with the, against the grain, rather than she'd cut it with the grain, and then it was tough. It was Clint that said, "You know, Mom, you're going to have to smarten up if you want to cut meat around here." [*Laughter*]

**JW:** I didn't know how to do it! You got to give me credit for even trying!

**DW:** Yes.

**AB:** What are some of the activities that you've done for entertainment since you've moved up here?

**JW:** We bowled.

**DW:** Not that much really. We bowled for quite a few years, and golfed, and still the same thing. We still travel every summer and that, but her shoulder started bothering her bowling and golfing, so we quit that. Now we pretty well—. Of course, we don't do too much of anything anymore. [*Laughter*]

**JW:** It isn't because we don't want to; it's because we can't.

**DW:** I worked at the bowling. The one year I was in the playdowns here in Alberta, the Alberta playdowns. We were three points from going to Nova Scotia for the Canadian finals. Three guys; two other guys and myself. And I'd like to have done that, but yes, somebody's got to win; somebody's got to lose.

**AB:** Yes, I know. If you could go back and start over again what would you do? What would you change?

**JW:** Not a damn thing!

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**DW:** I don't think a damn thing! Ah well, I might. I broke a few horses back in those days and I kind of wished now I wouldn't have when I try and get out of bed in the morning. [*Laughter*] And I think almost everybody that works on a ranch feels about the same way about it.