

SAVAGE Pacer



Letter to the Editor, Posted: 9/8/06

Dan Patch Day a success at fair

To the editor:

I want to thank everyone who made Dan Patch Day at the Minnesota State Fair such a tremendous success.

George Augustinack and Tausha Chamberland spent hours developing the booth and attending meetings with me with the fair staff. Their collection plus part of my collection, Rob Fendler's collection and items from the Heritage Room at the library made for a great display.

Mark Roberts of Eagle Creek Gallery framed the governor's proclamation which was presented to Mayor Tom Brennan and me by state Rep. Duke Powell.

Descendants of the Savage family, Mayor Brennan and I participated in the flag raising ceremony.

Thanks to Greg Lind for taking photos and for arranging to have the descendants of the Savage family there who came from as far as North Carolina and other parts of the East Coast.

Karl Bohn had his Percheron team of horses and wagon in the parade with the descendants. Also driving their convertibles in the parade on our behalf were Tom Gavinski and Perry McGahan, with riders Amber and April Chamberland. Thanks to Will Williams who made radio and TV appearances on our behalf and to Tim Brady and Deborah Savage who were there signing their books. The newspaper gave us great coverage.

Special thanks to our members who worked long shifts at the booth: Nancy Allen, Rob Fendler, George Augustinack, Greg Lind, Tausha Chamberland, Jim Ross, Jed and Jenny Williams, Will and Janet Williams. We are grateful to the Dan Patch Days Inc. members who helped in the booth too: Tom and Cheryl Brennan, Rodney Seurer, Mark Roberts, Jim Coan.

Thousands came through to chat, ask questions and look. We had 5,000 commemorative buttons to pass out compliments of the fair and coloring sheets. The St. Paul Postal station at the fair had commemorative envelopes to cancel with the day and we sold postcards to be cancelled. The post office reported it was their biggest day ever.

So I guess we celebrated the 100th anniversary in grand style and I offer heartfelt thanks to all who helped make it happen.

JENS BOHN
Dan Patch Historical Society president
Savage