

## TAPE INDEX

March 18, 1981

Collectors: Jim Leary  
 Matthew Gallman  
 Informants: Tom and Ann Johaniak  
 Elmer Johaniak  
 Joe and Helen Johaniak  
 George and Rose Galik  
 Stanley and Kate Augustine  
 Moquah, Wisconsin

ETHNIC HERITAGE  
 SOUND ARCHIVE & RESOURCE CENTER  
 NORTHLAND COLLEGE, ASHLAND, WI

1. Tom plays "Ja Sam Sirota" on his dad's one row button accordion.
2. Collector's announcement.
3. About Tom's Dad, Phil Johaniak. Learned to play in the old country. Also while working for a thrashing machine manufacturing company in Hopkins, Minnesota.
4. Started playing for house parties in the 1920's after coming to Moquah in 1919. Earlier there was an accordionist there named Snobl.
5. Home brew and moonshine at house parties.
6. Plenty of dancing and staying up all night.  
 (the Augustines arrive)
7. About shared labor in the community.
8. About Sundays: Church, visiting, picnics.
9. About weddings: parents of bride would make an outdoor platform for people to dance on. Joe Johaniak mentions some of the older musicians, including Mr. Gazdik, a fiddler.
10. Phil Johaniak (accordion), Emil Zurian (guitar), John Zurian (fiddle), and Mr. Opatik (drums); they formed a little band. Played for barn dances.
11. George Letko played one row button accordion. Loved to be awakened to play by youthful partiers. Played "Red Wing" over and over.
12. Phil Johaniak occasionally played with a Mrs. Brown who had a Hawaiian guitar.
13. With WWII there were more parties at the Hillsdale school. Among musicians present were Frank Pagac, Tom Marincel, Sussienko, Johnny Dymesich, Frank Hobena, and others.
14. Plenty of singing whenever people got "a bellyful" of drink: at weddings, at the Bohemian Hall, at parties. A tale is told about the destruction of Letko's accordion at a particularly rowdy party.
15. More about people singing: would often sing all night; repertoire predominantly of songs brought by parents from the old country.

16. About some of the good local singers, the "leaders" who knew all the words. Many had two or three songs they were noted for.

(CASSETTE ONE ENDS)

17. Dances: waltz, polka, cardas, shepherd dance, handkerchief dance, Annie in the Cabbage Patch.

18. About the original Moquah dance group, established in 1934. Later group 1949-1953. Tom and the others talk about how this second group got started, about their travels, etc.

19. Tom Johanik first played the harmonica, then the ocarina, the jew's harp, mandolin, accordion. First played mandolin with accordionist ~~TonyxWnik~~ Tony Wolf. Formed a "Moquah Trio" in the 1940's. Tom on accordion, Bob Carlson (guitar), Frank Farkas (drums).

20. Tom laid off playing in college. Played in Taylor, Wi. (Jackson County) with a Norwegian guitarist and piano player, Giles Berg.

21. Moved back to the farm in the late 1950's. Started to play with Tom Marincel and Mike Farkas.

22. Played country and western with the Grage Boys for awhile. Began playing with Skip Radosevich and son Gary (drums) about eight years ago. Skip played guitar; Phil Lupa eventually replaced Gary on drums.

23. Tom's repertoire pretty much "old Time," with some country. Sometimes plays some of his dad's old tunes when in Moquah.

(END OF REEL ONE)

24. About local weddings. Celebrated the day before, the day, the day after. Women would sing around the bride, take her veil off and put an apron on. Food prepared ahead; always chicken soup and homemade noodles, and home butchering. Had a "starosta" who would oversee the festivities.

25. Elmer recalls part of a song the women would sing to the bride: "Our young bride came from the country to the city/she ate a lot of sauerkraut so she'd have a big hind end." Joe Johanik remembered another verse of the same song: "she'd eat only apples so she would be thin." Songs were also sung when the bride was leaving the house.

26. More about the wedding. Married in the morning, big meal at noon. Platform constructed for evening dances. Joe tells about paying to dance with the bride and breaking plates with silver dollars.

(CASSETTE TWO ENDS)

27. On giving a drink or a cigar or a piece of wedding cake to a man when he danced with the bride.

28. Occasional attempts at stealing the bride. No shivareeing.

29. Plenty of partying before Lent, but people had to stop precisely at midnight.
30. Joe Johanik ~~tellax~~ about youthful drinking bouts. One friend ~~s~~ passes ~~out~~ amidst a stack of tomatoes.
31. About barn dances in the 30's where the owner would charge a little; held at Cervinsky's in the Moquah area; then came taverns and dance halls.
32. I question those gathered about whether or not any of them played. Elmer played a little on harmonica; Joe Johanik played ~~som~~ ~~some~~ accordion, but only at home.
33. On basket socials at the Moquah school.
34. Easter Monday. Boys dumping water on the girls, trying to get eggs from them. Next day the reverse.
35. On Susienko the fiddler. Hit sour notes, played and drank til he fell off his chair. People would kid him that he played well, but he sounded terrible. Kids would put lard on the bow. Susienko seranaded brides in front of the church in Moquah; said to specialize in the "Mosquito Waltz."

(CASSETTE THREE AND REEL TWO END)

36. Tom plays on his dad's two row button accordion, with the rest joining in to sing. "Zezen, Žežen" (Thirst, Thirst).
37. "Bodi Bi Vas."
38. "Ja Sam Sirota."
39. "Richtarova Čera" (Mayor's Daughter).
40. "Vezni Majanko Ža Ženu."
41. All reckon that the Saturday night before Pioneer Day is the big time for singing.
42. "Zulida."
43. "Boleras."
44. "Hore Vahom Dolu" (Up the River, Down the River).
45. "Cerveny Sataček" (Red Handkerchief).

(CASSETTE FOUR ENDS)

46. "Ked Sa Šetki Ozenili" along with the "Old Gray Mare."

(REEL THREE ENDS, THE REST ON CASSETTE ONLY)

47. "As Rano, As Rano."

Tom Johanik et al (continued)

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48. "Muzikanty."

49. The "Old Gray Mare" in Slovak (repeated).

50. "Baruška."

(THE SESSION ENDS)