

Dr. DiSalvo's

The largest and fanciest house in town was just west of the Ranger Station, across the road and tracks and on the north side of the Wagon Bridge. It had about an acre of property circled with a wrought iron fence, gateposts with a large wrought iron gate and a long circular driveway to the house. The message we heard was "stay out". H. P. Bird of Bird and Wells built the house in the 1890's or early 1900's. The outside was white and the inside had beautiful mahogany paneling. When the saw mill was sold and the company moved on to ravage more forests in northern Wisconsin, Bird sold the house to J.C. Morgan, the village lawyer, whose office was by the depot and who also owned Morgan's Lake.

When JC died, the house was vacant for a time and was then purchased by Dr. DiSalvo for a home and office. Several people were unhappy because he had the beautiful mahogany paneling painted white. His fees were \$2.00 per office visit; house calls were \$3.00. Complaints were registered by the townspeople, however, when the fee for office visits was raised to \$3.00.

Dr. DiSalvo was in his early 50's and had earned his way through medical school as a professional boxer. Doc, as we called him, always had a story to tell about going 25 rounds or how he fought until only one person was left. He was short, pudgy and had a big paunch, but everything else was solid muscle; he would have us feel his leg or biceps to prove the point. He was also a jokester. He had me quite concerned one day when he told me I had the "Chinese Crud". When I asked what that was he said, "That's when everything you eat turns to s--."

Dr. DiSalvo and his wife, Evelyn, raised her children, Billie and Donna, from her former marriage to Donald Mundt.

The DiSalvo home was formerly located on the property that currently has the Wausaukee - Romanesko Dental Clinic.