

## HISTORY OF DOW RUMMEL VILLAGE

There are some who dare to dream dreams and make a difference. Among them were Jacob Rummel and Emilie Dow, both of whom individually dared to envision the creation within the city of Sioux Falls of a new type of community, one that would serve the needs of those of advancing years. Both embodied their visions in their wills.

So it was that in 1958, after the death of Jacob Rummel, the Rummel Memorial Home was incorporated by five trustees named by Jacob Rummel (Frank Burke, Orville Bonacker, Frank Boyce, Roy Hobson and M.T. Woods) and the original 9 ½ acre site located in the airport addition was purchased from the City of Sioux Falls. In 1959 another bequest, this from the estate of Mathilda Rummel, made possible the initial building of 29 self-care units and 12 infirmary rooms.

On January 3, 1960 the Trustees selected Wayne Sutherland to design and supervise the construction and operation of the retirement home. The building was completed in 1962 and opened for occupancy in the spring of 1963. As the retirement community concept was new, the first years were lean. In 1964 the United Church of Christ agreed to partner with Rummel Memorial Home. The conference loaned money to Rummel Memorial Home, which was later repaid, and at the same time some UCC members joined the board of trustees to provide their support and guidance along with the original trustees.

In 1966 the Baron and Emilie Dow Home was incorporated for the purpose of acquiring and maintaining a home for the aged using funds received as a bequest from Emilie Dow. This corporation was to have on its board representatives from Calvary Cathedral Episcopal, Good Shepherd Episcopal, and Northwestern National Bank. After numerous meetings the Dow Board and the Rummel Board came to an agreement that would allow the Dow Foundation to construct an additional wing onto the present facility. It was also agreed that the Dow Board would have permanent representation on the Rummel Board of Trustees and thus we became Dow Rummel Village.

Among its residents, allegiance to the village has always been strong. In 1986 funds and a farm were received from the estate of long-time resident Eva Allen. The donation, including income from the farm, made it possible to build a 40-bed health care center adjoining the existing building. On April 16, 1988 a dedicatory service was held in honor of Eva Allen. At this service a time capsule was placed outside the Allen Wing. The capsule contained the following: a list of residents and staff and names of Dow Rummel Board of Trustees, a history of Dow Rummel Village, a list of Dow Rummel Auxiliary members, the Board of Trustees forecast for 2013, and a Dow Rummel brochure. In 1994 a 10-bed addition was constructed to increase the size of the Allen Wing.

Over a 20-year period, 6 cottages were built adjacent to the main building. These cottages contain 17 garden-type apartments, both one- and two-bedroom. One cottage was sold and removed to make room for the addition of the health care center, and later another cottage was sold to allow for a new dining room for the health care center.

In 1992 the Board of Trustees set up an Endowment Fund. The interest from this fund is to be used to help those residents who find themselves in need of financial assistance. Gifts or memorials received are added to this fund and are tax deductible to the donors.

In 1992 the construction of a three-story apartment building was completed that contains 24 apartments: one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and deluxe two-bedroom. Also provided is an underground heated garage, dining room, and a guest room. In 1994 the construction of a second three-story apartment building was completed. This contains 30 apartments with underground garage. Bob Bennis established a park area between the apartment buildings and the cottages in memory of his mother, Blanche Bennis Rice. In 1996 Eva and Bob Bennis bequeathed 20 acres of farmland near Brandon to be used for additional retirement housing or sold and the proceeds used as Dow Rummel Village wished.

An enclosed garden area between the Rummel Wing and the main lounge was developed by Mabel Skoug, a resident, honoring Winnie Marker and Bertha Eagle. In 2006 Bryan Woodard, a local Boy Scout, received his Eagle Award for the work he did to update the garden. It remains an outdoor protected leisure sitting spot.

Sisters Jewel Halladay and Laura Peterson chose to gift money during their lifetimes so they could see the construction of the award-winning chapel whose first service was on Easter 1997. A gift from Frank and Lois Boyce made possible a Nordlie pipe organ. A dedication service for the chapel and organ was held on September 28, 1997. The Halladay-Peterson chapel is used on a daily basis for many events including Sunday church services, special musical events, and community programs.

In 1999 the property adjacent to the village to the west was purchased and we began developing a master plan to expand our campus and services. In the fall of 2003 we opened the new Village West Apartments adding 59 new independent apartments to the campus. In February of 2004 the Village Center was completed, bringing Dow Rummel Village to a new level of premier retirement community with the addition of a Wellness Center including aquatic and therapy pools, clinic, Covell's dining room, deli, and travel center. In the spring of 2005 our Main Street shops including the Main Street Beauty Salon and Barber Shop, Community/Game Room, First National Branch Bank, Main Street Shoppe, and Library were opened.

The Raymond Roti Assisted Living Center was completed in January of 2005 adding 35 assisted living apartments, and in September of 2005 our 14-bed Ruth Rossow Memory Care Center was opened. We also opened our remodeled Rummel Wing in September of 2005 which includes 16 one-bedroom apartments on the second and third floors. In 2007 and 2008 the second and third floor of our Dow Wing were remodeled and 32 apartments offering assisted living and/or independent living in the same apartment, were opened.

To further enhance the many services we provide, Dow Rummel Village became a Medicare and Medicaid certified nursing home in March of 2010. This completes our campus as a Continuing Care Retirement Community with 113 independent apartments, 9 garden-style twin homes, 32 independent living/assisted living apartments, 35 assisted living apartments (including 2 furnished respite apartments), 14 memory care beds, and a 50 bed skilled nursing home. Over the 48 years we have been in business we have grown from 41 apartments to 253 apartments.