

# *Wayside Fire Department*

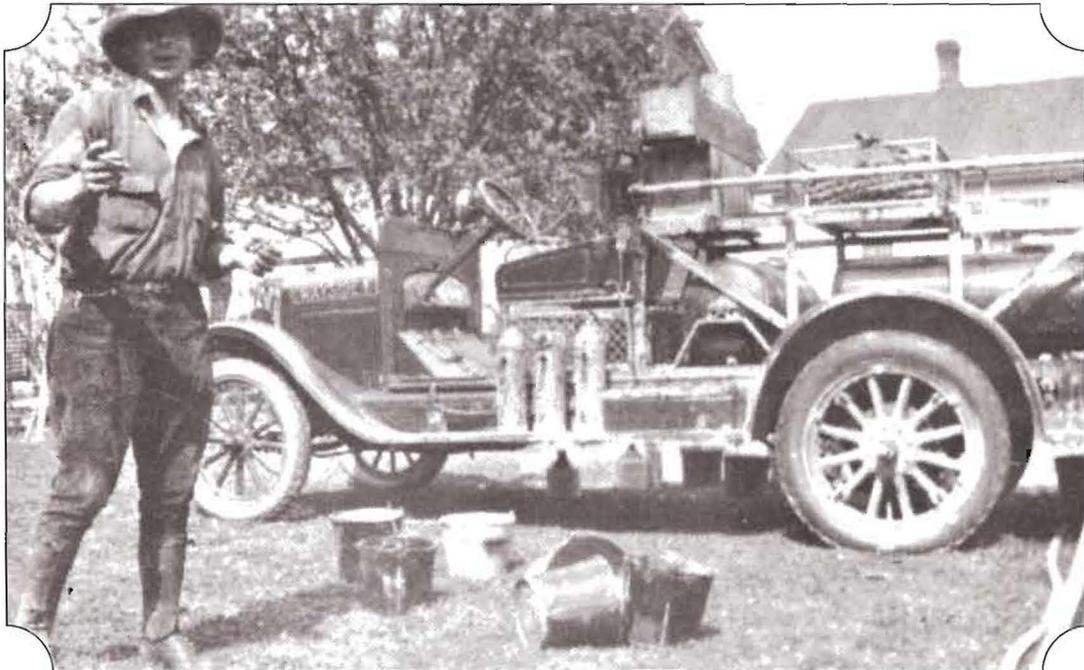
## **Fireman's Picnics**

Some of the early firemen picnics were held at Natzke's woods, just north of Hwy W (former Hwy 32) between the present Natzke farm and Vic Laab's farm. During the depression years of 1932 to 1934 the Wayside Fire Department purchased land, with the help of the WPA labor built a beautiful park, east of town on Hwy G. The fire department and churches have used this park for their annual picnics since 1934 and on summer weekends it is in demand for family reunions, outings and weddings. In 1978 6 additional acres were acquired for parking ground and other functions (i.e. the Rough Rider's Horse Show).

## **Fire Chiefs & Officers**

Fire chiefs who have served the department in the past are Tom Monahan, F.W. Pingel, Geroge Frosch, Hugo Hill, Tom De Wane, Otto Neuman, Wm Adder, Anton Nesper, Art Wendland, Len Shimek, A.A. Blauert, Wm. Brockman, Wm. Herold, Riney Kocian, Ray Siebert and Ron Kocian.

2005 Officers are: John Stradel, Fire Chief; Brian Kocian, Assistant Fire Chief; Joel Nies, President; Jeff Kocian, Vice President; Kevin Burke, Treasurer; Dan Vercauteren, Secretary.



*George Neumann with Wayside Fire Department Truck.*