

Midwest Open Air Museums Magazine



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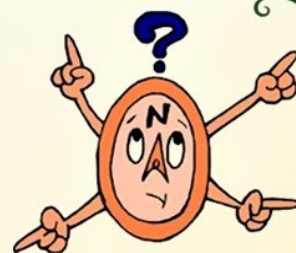
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Midwest Open Air Museums Coordinating Council
Midwest Region of ALHFAM



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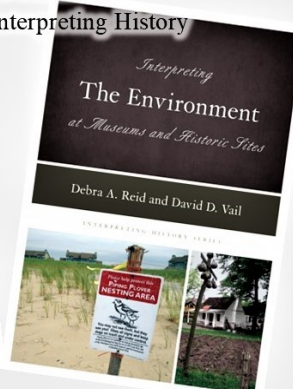
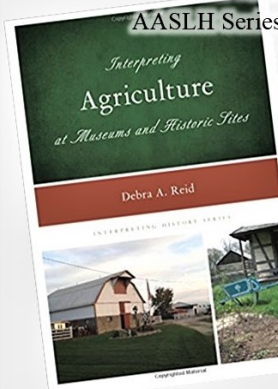
**INTERPRETING
AGRICULTURE
AT MUSEUMS AND
HISTORIC SITES**

**INTERPRETING
THE ENVIRONMENT
AT MUSEUMS AND
HISTORIC SITES**

By Debra A. Reid

Rowman & Littlefield

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MOMCC Magazine EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor: Tom Vance
Charleston, Illinois

Melinda Carriker
Des Moines, Iowa

Cheryl Hawker
Charleston, Illinois

Jim Patton
Springfield, Illinois

Debra A. Reid
The Henry Ford

Jenny Sherrill
Noblesville, Indiana

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MOMCC Magazine
P.O. Box 114
Charleston, IL 61920
(217) 549-1845
tsevance@mchsi.com

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Cover Photo - The west side of Sauder Village's 1920s Main Street, showing the Wiederkehr Dry Goods Clothing Store, the Hub Grocery Store, The Theater, Main Street Confections, and other shops. (Photo courtesy of Sauder Village)



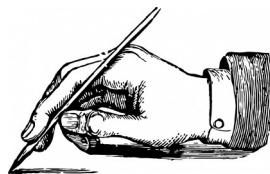
MOMCC is the Midwest Regional Affiliate of

ALHFAM
The Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

By Tom Vance



GROUNDHOG DAY, both the holiday and the movie, are my favorites. The holiday symbolizes the coming hope of spring, even if we do get a foot of snow a week later, and the movie is about transformation – the process of becoming a better person, often in spite of yourself. Personal development has been one of my interests for many years. One of my peak experiences was firewalking with Tony Robbins in Hawaii.

One of the lessons from the pandemic for a lot of us has been patience – learning to enjoy the long winter for what it has to offer while still looking forward to the warm days of spring. “Winter, slumbering in the open air, wears on his smiling face a dream of Spring,” is my favorite line from the movie.

While I’ve missed going out to eat, I have gained a greater appreciation for meals at home with my wife, a glass of wine, and a fire in the fireplace. While I miss meeting with people in person, it’s often nice not to have to go out, and learning Zoom and other types of technology is something I probably wouldn’t have done otherwise.

But I am looking forward to spring and traveling to see the grandkids, to the MOMCC meeting next fall, and to holding my annual Groundhog Day party again next February. ALHFAM was supposed to meet at Sauder Village this June, but that meeting will now be virtual. So, later this summer, my wife and I are planning a trip to see the new 1920s Main Street at Sauder Village. The Sauder Inn is a fun place to stay, and the site has so much to offer. We had a great MOMCC fall conference there back in 2017.



Groundhog Day originated with the Germanic observation of “Badger Day” on Candlemas and came to America with the Pennsylvania Dutch. The first documentation of Groundhog Day in America was in 1840. The annual celebration in Punxsutawney, Penn. began in 1887.

ALHFAM has rescheduled its meeting at Sauder to June of 2023. In June of 2022, they will meet in Tacoma, Wash., where the conference will be hosted by Fort Nisqually Living History Museum. MOMCC will meet in Kalamazoo, Mich., this fall, hosted by Tiller’s International. The spring 2022 conference will be in Springfield, Ill., hosted by the Elijah Iles House, and in the fall of 2022, we will once again be at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, Wisc.

One of the things our organizations are learning is how to conduct virtual conferences. MOMCC is considering the idea of doing one live and one virtual conference each year. Another possibility is to add a video option to the live conferences. This would give those of us who wish to meet in person the opportunity to do so, while still accommodating those who cannot travel to a conference for one reason or another. With shrinking budgets and staffs all over the museum world, virtual conference options are something that would become necessary to keep our organizations relevant even without the COVID pandemic.

This year’s MOMCC spring seminar will be held March 18-19 and will be all virtual. I will be repeating the session on “How to be a Published Author” that I presented at the paddleboat conference last spring. The premise of the talk is that all of us have stories just waiting to be written all around us. Interpretive programs, items in the collection, interesting research, site management issues, public relations, all have the potential for a story. What we often take for granted because we work with it every day could provide helpful ideas for those working at other sites.

Why be a published author? First of all, you can make a meaningful contribution to the magazine and your profession. In addition, it looks great on your resume, it gives you greater professional stature, it gives you more in-depth knowledge of your subject and can make you the “go-to” expert on that topic, it can enhance your research and writing skills, it’s fun to see your name and ideas in print, and, last but not least, you can impress your family, friends, and colleagues.

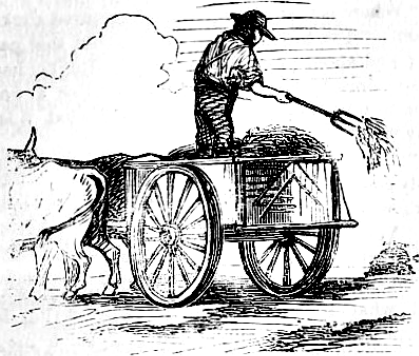
I hope you will plan to attend the spring conference and plan to come to Kalamazoo in the fall. Your participation in MOMCC and ALHFAM conferences will give you many benefits, including networking contacts, knowledge of new historical topics, a break in your routine, and a lot of fun and inspiration. □

AGRICULTURE VERSUS POLITICS

The "Politics" of the *Agriculturist* are pretty clearly set forth in these hasty sketches, prepared by our humorous artist, which will not be deemed out of place now when almost everybody's attention is called to such subjects. Our *creed*, expressed in due form, might be stated thus: We believe in heavy manuring, in seasonable and thorough cultivation, in large potatoes and plenty of them, with other crops to match. We believe that the industrious pursuit of an enlightened husbandry will conduce to the prosperity of the country, and that those who *manage their own business successfully, can be most safely entrusted with public concerns*. We don't believe it pays a man to neglect his private business to seek an office, and we wish, as the artist has indicated here, that such characters might be elected to stay at home, and that good men and true might be selected for places of trust. Not that a knowledge of public affairs should be neglected. It is the right and duty of every American citizen to watch the doings of his government, to study the principles on which it should be administered, and to vote understandingly in accordance with his convictions.

American Agriculturist
November 1860

AGRICULTURE VERSUS POLITICS.



Farmer A. enriches his farm.



Mr. B. discovers a "crisis" in the country.



Farmer A. is too busy to attend the political meeting



Mr. B., having secured the nomination for Assemblyman, harangues his fellow citizens.



Farmer A. on election day, having voted, gathers his noble crop of potatoes.



Mr. B. is very busy on election day.



Farmer A.'s townsmen, unsolicited by him, have elected him to the Legislature, and come to offer their congratulations.



Mr. B., having been elected to stay at home, finds his potato crop not worth digging.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Mike Follin

AS I sit here working on this, I am looking out the window at the snow, which is about a foot deep, and listening to the reports of the polar air that will soon envelop us. That leads me to think of SPRING! I am eagerly anticipating the spring, my favorite time of year -- even more so after what seems a very LONG winter. Of course, I am also eagerly anticipating the MOMCC Spring Virtual Conference, March 18 and 19. We all would have liked to meet in person, but in the interest of being responsible and with travel difficulties, the board decided to go virtual. The good news is that with the virtual conference format, we can have attendees from other regions of ALHFAM and provide the opportunity for members to attend who might not be able to in person. While it doesn't replace the up close and personal part of the conferences we all enjoy, it does provide the opportunity to learn, share, and socialize, albeit virtually.

The conference team has done a good job putting together interesting, educational, and relevant sessions. I might add they were guided in the choice of sessions by suggestions offered by the membership through past conferences and surveys. As the board works to meet the needs of membership, we appreciate the feedback, suggestions, and contributions, both fiscally and content-wise from all of you. Together we continue to move forward through this uncharted but becoming familiar territory. As we, the board and membership, continue to work to support each other, the organization grows stronger. Thanks for all the support you as members continue to give as MOMCC continues to function and serve.

Along that line of thinking, in a recent survey to the membership, many of you indicated that you would enjoy a once-a-month "MOMCC Happy Hour" sponsored by the

organization via Zoom. We are working to make that happen and will keep you informed. It is a small service that the organization can provide to help keep the membership in touch with one another. I look forward to the first MOMCC Happy Hour and getting to see familiar and NEW faces.

Additionally, we are looking at an idea of providing "Midwest Minutes" on Facebook. This is just in the idea stage, and I presented it to the board at our meeting in January. It would be a short three- to five-minute video on Facebook featuring a Midwest topic/item/site/ or historical person. The idea is to highlight and feature something special about the Midwest. The hope is that this would involve our membership with their talents, skills, and ideas. I welcome suggestions and thoughts from members. This feature would probably be once a month to start with and see how we go from there. We would like to have 12 topics selected, produced, and in the chute before we actually launch it. These short segments could be produced using just a cell phone. ALHFAM has guidelines for using a cell phone and "how to" videos available via their STP (skills training and preservation) program on the ALHFAM website. It would be great if we as the Midwest Region of ALHFAM could offer some good Midwest Resource information.

I hope to see you virtually in March and chat with you during the conference and the Happy Hour. We look forward to information, pictures, and announcements on the MOMCC webpage and Facebook. Thanks again for your continued support of the organization during this unique time. □



MOMCC FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

MOMCC Fall Conference 2021

Living History: Discovering Cultural Connections

Nov 11-13, 2021

Hosted by Tiller's International, Kalamazoo, Michigan

For each conference, MOMCC gives out a limited number of fellowships to help offset conference costs. Fellowships cover conference registration in addition to funds for lodging at the conference site.

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Please visit www.momcc.org for the full application
including necessary qualifications and selection criteria.



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MOMCC was established in 1978 with the goal of furthering the interchange of materials, information, and ideas within the history museum field.

Membership

We welcome membership and participation from administrators, volunteers, interpreters, curators, historians, educators, maintenance/facilities staff, gift shop workers, facilitators, docents, and anyone else with an interest in history and public education. Membership is \$30 per year for individuals, \$35 for families, and \$50 for institutions. Membership application can be found at www.momcc.org.

Our Purpose

The purpose of MOMCC is to further promote excellence and to provide a forum for the interchange of materials, information, ideas, and consideration of issues within the open air, interactive, and historical museum profession.

MIDWEST REGION: The Midwest is defined as the eight states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

OPEN-AIR MUSEUM: Interpreting life as material culture in the context of buildings, objects, and open space. A site or facility that interprets history through exhibits, living history interpretation, and/or educational programs.

Resource Committees

Interpretation, Music, Art, and Material Culture

Leadership and Supervision

Agriculture, Gardens, and Foodways

THE FILE MITE

FERROUS PROBOSCIS PHYLOMITUS

By Adjunct Professor Aubrey "Newt" Williams, Blacksmith

Submitted by Jim Patton



The File Mite with a quizzical look on its face. (Photo by the author)

THE file mite is a shy and reclusive creature, more known because of its effects than on its form. A consultation with the renowned taxonomist William Von Zwerner resulted in the following description.

Ferrous Proboscis Phylomitus is a hairless, wingless, toeless biped with a single supporting tail. The supportive nature of the tail lends credence to the theory that the file mite is a form of marsupial. Other than the supportive tail, the other notable characteristic of this creature is its long proboscis, it is not a bill or a beak, but a rigid nose-like structure which is important in the feeding process. The file mite feeds on iron and steel. The sharp rigid snout is used to gouge out quantities of iron which are then ingested. Some evidence indicates an ultraviolet visual capacity, which enables it to locate weak spots in iron work. A telltale scratch in newly filed iron work is an indication of an infestation of file mites, and many deep gouges would indicate a feeding frenzy. As the file mite digests the iron it has consumed, the result is a very acidic excrement which yields the other telltale sign of the file mite, streaks of rust on newly finished iron work.

The file mite is a sexual creature and reproduces by laying eggs. Nests have been found in quantities of old iron. One of the most common places is in old cans filled with rusty nails. The female of the species lays between one and three eggs per year and incubates them for three weeks. When the young hatch, they consume large quantities of iron. A file mite's nest is filled with rust soon after the young are hatched which forces the abandoning of the nest. Once out of the nest the young soon wander off on their own, they commonly follow woven wire fences, feeding on the lower strands.

The file mite is basically a sedentary creature, primarily due to the manner in which it moves. It moves by a form of hopping, not unlike a kangaroo. It is so seldom seen because of its capacity to blend in with its surroundings. It looks much like the iron that it eats and can remain stationary for extended periods of time. The file mite can't be domesticated and is difficult to keep as it eats its cage. Only if it is kept in a glass bell jar can one do that.

Mr. Von Zwerner's description has provided a much needed profile of this creature's habits, but even he is uncertain about the background of this creature. He says that some new research has been uncovered which may help in this area. There are some ancient Persian manuscripts which contain reference to even more ancient records of a variety of domesticated file mites. These records have yet to be investigated, but the search is on.

Note: Much of this material will appear soon in the magazine *Popular Buggery*. □

About the Author – Aubrey Williams is a blacksmith of long standing. His first project involved surreptitiously heating, then pounding, the furnace poker. He's never stopped. A former teacher known for throwing dummy grenades into classrooms, Aubrey has approached his craft with the same quirky humor. The File Mite was the result.

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The New 1920s Main Street At Sauder Village

By Kim Krieger, Sauder Village



Where families enjoy a roaring good time

FEW decades had the same impact on the American way of life as the 1920s. It was an era filled with exciting advancements in travel and communication, tremendous social change, and of course, roaring good times.

Late last summer the doors opened to nearly 20 historical shops and community buildings along a new 1920s Main Street at Sauder Village in Archbold, Ohio. As guests strolled down Main Street, they stopped by the theater to take a peek at what was playing on the big screen, explored a hardware and grocery store, checked out a Model T at the service station, and sipped cherry phosphates at the soda fountain. Guests saw the latest fashions at the clothing store, met horses at the livery, bought candies at the candy store, and had fun exploring the bank, fire station, and even a secret speakeasy. The Roaring Twenties came to life through personal stories, authentic reproduction buildings, historical artifacts, and immersive experiences. From advancements in transportation, communication, and technology to changes in the economy and social pastimes, many unique stories were shared about life in the 1920s in northwest Ohio.

Sauder Village was excited to welcome guests to this new addition. The 1920s Main Street was the capstone project for the Walk Through Time experience, part of the

Sauder Village Master Plan. Through the years, Sauder Village has continued to look for new ways to immerse guests in authentic experiences that make history relevant to their lives today. With the help of staff, volunteers, advisors, contractors, donors, and capital funding, guests of all ages can now experience more than 120 years of Ohio history at Sauder Village.

The Walk Through Time experience gives guests a look at Ohio's evolution since the state's founding. At Natives and Newcomers, families can experience what day-to-day life was like for Ohio's Native American tribes and the European traders who lived in Ohio in the early 1800s. The Pioneer Settlement Area shares about life in Ohio from the 1830s through 1908. The Grime Homestead and District 16 School offer a look into rural living in northwest Ohio during the 1920s and the new Main Street project shows how the rise of new technologies and innovations moved us into the modern age. (The fall issue of *Midwest Open Air Museums Magazine* features an article on all that Sauder Village has to offer.)

Authenticity is deeply woven into the 1920s Main Street experience. Architectural items from historical buildings in the region were combined with new construction to create a new landscape. Cast-iron columns, the tin front of a building, historical awning mechanisms, and an old-time fire escape add a sense of accuracy to the project. That same attention to detail is apparent inside the buildings, with many furnishings coming from stores that were in business during the 1920s in northwest Ohio. Sauder Village curators also worked diligently to acquire additional era-

Top photo — East side of the north end of Main Street showing the Okuley Barber Shop, Elmira Train Station, the caboose, community plaza, and the band stand. (All photos courtesy of Sauder Village)

specific artifacts or recreate them with permission, like the vintage labels of familiar brands in the grocery store. Curators also researched and reproduced the proper clothing for the era to ensure the historical interpreters would look like they fit in the 1920s.

In addition to being a fun destination for families to visit, there are also unique programming opportunities available at the 1920s Main Street. At the Broken Barrel Speakeasy, guests 21 and over can register for an immersive experience and taste of the underworld of Prohibition. As guests savor the different taste profiles of four Prohibition bourbons, they will learn about the history of Prohibition, the difference between whiskey and bourbon, and how bourbon was invented.

Other off-season programming is being developed for the upcoming season, including evening programs for guests staying at the Inn or Campground and after-hours events at the theater and speakeasy. Select areas of the 1920s Main Street are also available to rent for private parties or special events. The Main Street is already being recognized as a unique venue for weddings and other small gatherings.

Sauder Village's 45th Anniversary in 2021 is sure to be an exciting year for families to visit Ohio's largest living history destination. When the Historic Village opens for the season in early May, families will have an opportunity to explore the hardware store and bank, watch a movie in the theater, and enjoy a brown cow, or old-fashioned sundae at the Soda Fountain. Guests can also enjoy a free train ride, meet farm animals, watch craftsmen at work, and visit with historical interpreters in many historical homes and community shops. Sauder Village also includes the Barn Res-



Rich Auto Dealership – Visitors get a close-up look at a 1924 Model T Ford touring car.

taurant and Doughbox Bakery, offering home-style food and sweet treats. Overnight accommodations are available at the Heritage Inn and Campground.

For more information or to plan a visit call ahead at 800.590.9555 or visit www.saudervillage.org

1920s Main Street at Sauder Village – A Closer Look

WEST SIDE of Main Street

Livery – Up until the advent and affordability of the automobile, the livery was an essential transportation service with the use of horse and carriage for out-of-town travelers and locals. The 1920s brought about irrevocable change for the livery industry. Stop by to learn, meet our horses, and explore the livery complete with tack, blacksmith tools, and an office.

The Rich Gas Station and Auto Dealership -This reconstructed building highlights the sale of gasoline as well as the sale and repair of the automobile. The building to the left rear is the Farmers and Merchants Bank.





Main Street Confections – Visitors can choose from a wide selection of candies from the 1920s.

Fire Station #1 – Developments made to the fire truck in the 1920s were a major technological advancement from the horse-drawn fire engines used since the 1870s. Featuring a 1923 Ford Model T fire engine and an 1893 hand pumper, Fire Station #1 on Main Street offers an inside look at this transitional period of firefighting in the United States.

Wiederkehr Clothing – Moving away from an all-in-one shopping experience in the 1920s, the Dry Goods store focused on ready-made items and sewing necessities for making clothing at home. Browse off-the-rack clothing, fancy linens, 1927 Butterick patterns, and fashion magazines, buttons, stockings, shoes, and more.

Hub Grocery Store – Depicting a green-grocer, this shop offers a look at what household staples were commonly sought after to meet every-day needs beyond meat and fish. These goods included vegetables, cheeses, and prepackaged foods.

Main Street Confections – Indulge your sweet tooth in delectable 1920s-era candy brands including Baby Ruth, Charleston Chews, Chuckles, Dum Dums, Fruit Slices, Goobers, Sixlets, fudge and more.

Theater – Engaging local people of all ages, silent films were the epitome of modern entertainment in the 1920s. Stop by to see what's playing on the big screen. Beyond silent films, this space may be utilized by the public for special events and conferences.

The Broken Barrel Speakeasy – With Prohibition in full swing, secret illegal pop-up bars, known as speakeasies, provided an opportunity to enjoy drink and jazz. Located behind the Candy Store, our speakeasy is open for special events/experiences only.

Soda Fountain/Pharmacy – Liquid carbonic soda fountains became common throughout the United States in the early 1900s due to pharmacist Jacob Baur's new method of manufacturing carbon dioxide in tanks. Come and sip a chocolate malt along with ice cream and other snacks at the Soda Fountain.

EAST SIDE of Main Street

Dr. McGuffin's Office - Dr. McGuffin built this office in nearby Pettisville in 1911. It features many of the medical instruments used by country doctors.

Rich Auto Dealership and Gas Station - This reconstructed building highlights the sale of gasoline and the sale and repair of the automobile, one of the most iconic inventions of the 20th century. Visitors can see a 1924 Model T Ford touring car up close.

Ohio Farm Bureau Office – Founded in 1919, some of the organization's early goals included providing electric service to rural areas, crop insurance, and helping pass legislation to assist farmers. Stop by this historical office to learn more about the role of the farm bureau in the early 1920s.

Farmers & Merchants Bank – What is a bank bond? How did paper and coin money exchanges evolve over time? This beautiful replica of an original downtown Archbold bank offers insights into the flourishing economic history of our country before the devastating financial crash of 1929.



The Theater, exterior and interior – Silent films were the epitome of modern entertainment in the 1920s.



The Broken Barrel Speakeasy – Located in a secret back room of the candy store, the Speakeasy serves up history as well as some of the tastes of Prohibition.



The Soda Fountain/Pharmacy – Liquid carbonic soda fountains became common in the early 1900s due to a new method of manufacturing carbon dioxide in tanks.

Schuck Jewelry Store – More than necklaces, rings, and watches, the jewelry store of the 1920s offered a wide array of high-end items including china sets, porcelain, eyewear, tea services, flatware, cuff link sets, cameras, and electric lamps.

Stotzer Hardware Store – Evolved from the general mercantile store and harness shop, the 1920s hardware store offered tools and materials for almost any home or farmstead need. If it was not available, a customer could browse numerous catalogs and order right away.

Okuley Barbershop – In the early 1900s, the barbershop was one of the social centers of the community and provided a place to spruce up from your travels and get a shave or a haircut. Modern public restrooms are included in this building.

Elmira Train Depot – Trains first appeared in northwest Ohio in the 1850s. This depot showcases the important role of the rail system and serves as a physical stop for the Erie Express train ride.

Community Plaza and Bandstand – The community plaza and bandstand adjacent to the depot served as a sense of community pride. Original salvaged bricks from downtown Archbold were used to create the plaza at the depot. A traditional bandstand near the plaza will host special programming and events.

Caboose - Once a vital part of the railroad, the caboose was the last car on the freight train. It provided shelter for the crew and projections on the sides and top allowed the crew to keep an eye on the train.

Other Businesses Represented on Main Street: Andres and Central Insurance Agencies, Rupp's Furniture and Undertaking, Ohio Gas, Kolb, and The Ohio Art Company. □

About the Author – Kim Krieger is the Media Relations Manager at Sauder Village. She has enjoyed sharing the Sauder Village story for the past 27 years as a member of the marketing team at Sauder Village. She lives with her husband on a family farm in rural Fulton County.



Wiederkehr Clothing Store – The clothing store focused on ready-made items as well as sewing necessities for making clothing at home.



Stotzer Hardware Store – Evolved from the general mercantile store and harness shop, the 1920s hardware store offered tools and materials for almost any home or farmstead need.

THE SONGS OF PROHIBITION

AN EXCLUSIVE SNEAK PREVIEW FOR MOMCC

By Cecelia “Cece” Otto, An American Songline®

PROHIBITION. This word holds prominent historic weight in the minds of many Americans a century later. I attended a cooking class in 2019, and some people from Baltimore, Maryland were visiting for one session. They asked about my work, and I told them about the Prohibition program I would start touring with in the early 2020s, and their eyes lit up. One visitor said, “Given the changing attitudes around the legalization of cannabis in the US, this topic is more relevant now than ever.”

Truth be told, I hadn’t thought about that aspect of all of this at that point. And at the time I’m writing this, I live in Oregon, which is the first state to decriminalize the personal possession of all illegal drugs in small amounts. As historians, we know that actions taken long ago can ripple and still be felt decades, sometimes a century later. Prohibition is no exception. We look at our world and laws differently because of this period of time.

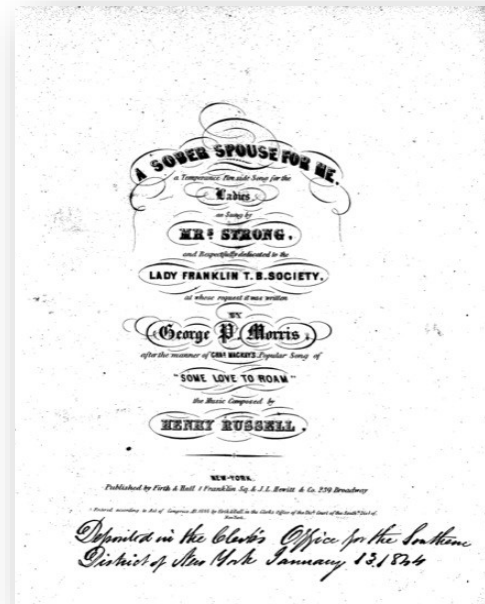
When most people talk to me about the program, they tend to think about songs from the 1920s that lean towards Speakeasy culture, and every now and again I get people who only think about the Temperance movement prior to the ratification of the Volstead Act. But I saw this program as a continuum – a mix of both “wet” and “dry” songs that speak to 90 years of American history. Some of the research has been elusive at times, but I’ve found some amazing gems that I can’t wait to share in this special preview!

A Sober Spouse for Me

One of earliest songs I found speaking to the Temperance movement was published in 1844, and it is titled, “A Sober Spouse for Me: A Temperance Fireside Song for the Ladies.” The music was written by Henry Russell, and the lyrics by George Pope Morris, both of whom have fascinating backgrounds. Russell was a baritone, pianist, and composer who was prolific in both America and Europe; Morris was a writer and poet, and the popularity of his songs was lauded by Edgar Allan Poe himself.

This early Victorian song feels more Regency-like in its musical style with its piano and vocal embellishments, and I think it is very fun to sing. The tempo is fast and lively; note that there are slight alterations to the lyrics when the “bridge” and “chorus” repeat each time. Here are the lyrics (note the alternate spelling of “woe” which is an earlier spelling of the word):

Chorus Some love to stroll
Where the wassail-bowl



And the wine-cups circle free;
None of all that band
'Ere shall win my hand:
No, a sober spouse for me.

Where the wine-cups circle free:
None of all that band
'Ere shall win my hand:
No, a sober spouse for me.

1. Like cheerful streams
When the morning beams
With him my life would flow.
Not down the crags
The drunkard drags
His wife for shame and wo(e).
Not down the crags
The drunkard drags
His wife for shame and wo(e).

No! no! no! no!
No! no! no! no!
No! no! no!

Chorus

2. The drunkard mark,
At midnight dark,
Oh what a sight, good lack!
From fumes of beer
And wine appear
Grim fiends who cross his track.

His children's name
He dooms to shame
His wife to want and wo(e):
She is betrayed
For wine is made
Her rival and her foe.

No! no! no! no!
No! no! no! no!

No! no! no!
 Still some will stroll,
 Where the wassail-bowl
 And the wine-cups circle free;
 None of all that band
 'Ere shall win my hand:
 No! a sober spouse for me.
 No, a sober spouse for me.

Father's A Drunkard and Mother is Dead

Moving next to 1866, the Temperance song "Father's a Drunkard, and Mother is Dead," the music by Mrs. A.E. Parkhurst, feels very maudlin to our 21st-century sensibilities, but this song appealed directly to the average Victorian person. The soldiers returning home from the Civil War were more likely to turn to drink as a way to escape the horrors of the war, so these over-the-top sentimental lyrics about starving children would make people sit up and listen. There's a spoken introduction that adds to the melodrama of the song, and I plan on reciting it while the introductory piano music plays. You'll see that there are some misspellings below, and while most of the words were truncated to fit with the music, I'm not entirely sure why "don't" was spelled "dont" in the introduction and believe it's a typo.

Introduction: One dismal, stormy night in winter; a little girl barefooted and miserably clad leaned shivering against a large tree near the President's House. "Sissie" said a passing stranger; "why dont you go home?"

She raised her pale face, and with tears dimming her sweet blue eyes, answered mournfully: "I have no home. Father's a Drunkard and Mother is dead."

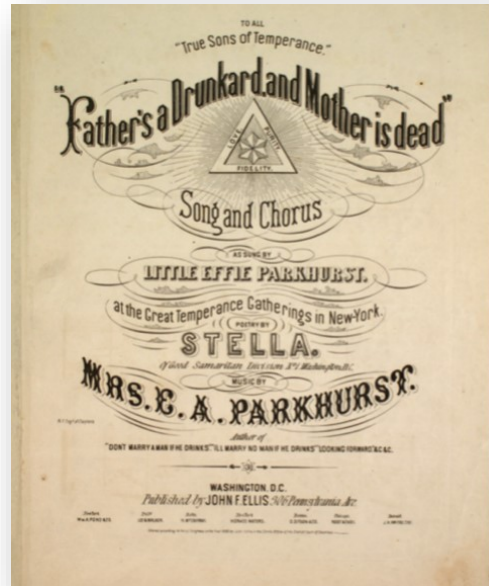
1. Out in the gloomy night, sadly I roam,
 I have no Mother dear, no pleasant home;
 Nobody cares for me no one would cry
 Even if poor little Bessie should die.
 Barefoot and tir'd, I've wanderd all day
 Asking for work but I'm too small they say;
 On the damp ground I must now lay my head,
 Father's a Drunkard, and Mother is dead!

Chorus (can be sung as a solo or in four parts)

Mother, why did you leave me all alone,
 With no one to love me, no friends and no home?
 Dark is the night, and the storm rages wild,
 God pity Bessie, the Drunkard's lone child!

2. We were so happy till Father drank rum,
 Then all our sorrow and trouble begun;
 Mother grew paler, and wept every day,
 Baby and I were too hungry to play.
 Slowly they faded, and one Summer's night
 Found their dear faces all silent and white;
 Then with big tears slowly dropping I said:
 "Father's a Drunkard, and Mother is dead!"

Chorus



3. Oh! if the "Temp'rance men" only could find
 Poor, wretched Father, and talk very kind
 If they could stop him from drinking why, then
 I should be so very happy again!
 Is it too late? "men of Temp'rance," please try,
 Or poor little Bessie may soon starve and die.
 All the day long I've been begging for bread,
 Father's a Drunkard, and Mother is dead!

Chorus

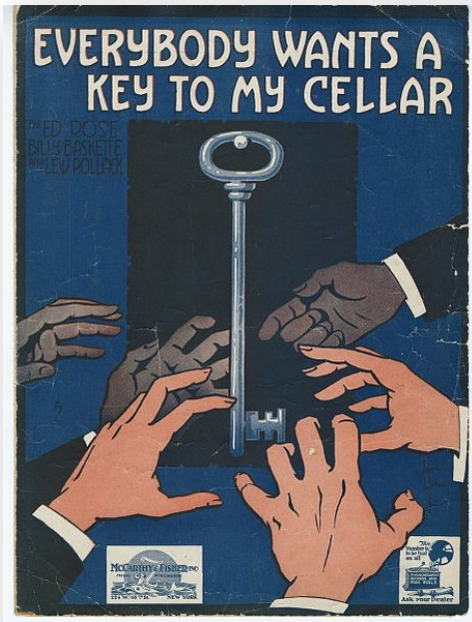
Everybody Wants a Key to My Cellar

There are of course beer garden songs and the like, including the waltz "Under the Anheuser Busch" that appear in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but when the Volstead Act is ratified in 1919, this is when we really see a spike in Tin Pan Alley music commenting on the news of the day. "Everybody Wants a Key to My Cellar" humorously speaks to the stockpiling of liquor, which was allowed before the law took effect in 1920, and I typically perform this song as an encore for my Women's Suffrage program, which has been well-received by both the in-person and virtual crowds.

1. Down in my cellar, down in my cellar,
 I've been changing ev'rything around,
 I've a secret hidden there,
 I'll guard it with my life,
 There's only one mistake I made
 I told it to my wife.

Chorus Now ev'rbody wants a key to my cellar,
 my cellar, my cellar,

People who before wouldn't give me a tumble,
 Even perfect strangers beginning to grumble,
 'Cause I won't let them have a key to my cellar,
 They'll never get in just let them try.
 They can have my money,
 They can have my car,



They can have my wife
If they want to go that far,
But they can't have the key that opens my cellar,

2. If the whole darn world goes dry.
Down in my cellar, down in my cellar,
I've been having parties ev'ry night,
People that I never knew come up and talk to me,
They're trying hard to find out where I hang
my cellar key.

Chorus

As a music historian, what fascinates me about the previous song is that we start to see the verses become shorter after World War I was over, and this song is no exception. Tin Pan Alley composers knew their craft well after cranking out more than 14,000 songs about The Great War, and they realized that the choruses are what hook people the most, so the verses become shorter. By the mid-late 1920s, we see song forms changing to a brief introduction and then a longer chorus.

Green River

One song that I would be amiss to not share in this Midwestern publication next would be about the famous soda still bottled today, "Green River". Originally created by Iowan Richard Jones, he sold the recipe to the Chicago-based Schoenhofen Edelweiss Brewing Company in 1919, which then ensured the company's survival during Prohibition. It became extremely popular in the Midwest immediately – only Coca-Cola beat it in sales. Vaudevillian entertainer Eddie Cantor wrote a song about the drink, and it became one of the earliest music jingles published. The chorus is catchy, of course, but its verses speak to a post-war world that are the surprising gem. Who knew a song could contain a popular jingle, mention the Treaty of Versailles, and be so catchy?

1. Since the country's turned Prohibition
I've been in a bad condition
Ev'ry soft drink that I try
Just makes me want to cry
Take it back from whence it came
All your drinks are much the same,
I tried one here today,
And believe me when I say;

Chorus For a drink that's fine without a "kick"
Oh! "Green River,"
It's the only drink that does the trick,
Just "Green River,"
Has others beat a mile,
Makes drinking worthwhile
And if you want to wear a little smile
Try "Green River,"
If your girl gives you the sack
Try "Green River"
You will surely win her back,
It's grand, now understand
That rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief,
Doctor, lawyer, Indian chief*,
Once they drink it,
They all think it's the best drink in the land.

2. When the cannons stopp'd their thund'ring
Ev'ry body started wond'ring
How the treaty would be signed
That was on our mind
Wilson soon forgot his "Wilson,"
Haig forgot his "Haig and Haig,"
Foch said, "No more Rhine-wine,"
Listen boys, before we sign.

Chorus

*Note: While these are the original lyrics to the song, I will be making a slight modification to the text to stay current. Instead of singing, "Indian chief", I will be singing "or a chief" in its place. The song still conveys its original message well, and I do not feel this diminishes the overall feel at all.

Masculine Women! Feminine Men!

Looking at 1920s songs during the Prohibition era, there are of course many jazz and popular standards that the general public knows, and I'll sing one or two of those songs, but what about songs regarding drinking and alcohol itself? There are songs in this group, and they fall into a few different categories. We've got the "I miss booze" songs, the "world is better without booze" songs, songs about a particular drink (i.e. Gershwin's "Vodka"), and, last but not least, songs about general culture and speakeasy culture as a whole. Irving Berlin's "I'll See You In C-U-B-A" speaks to the early days of Prohibition, when the only legal way to get liquor was while vacationing in Havana, and people often forget about our good relationship with the country.

But another facet of speakeasy and flapper culture was the gender-bending norms that existed during this decade. Same-sex relationships were tolerated and accepted behind closed doors, and speakeasy and underground clubs became safe havens for the LGBTQ+ community until after The Volstead Act was repealed. One song of the day addresses these changing roles in society, the 1925 song, “Masculine Women! Feminine Men! - Which is the Rooster? Which is the Hen?” There are several different sheet music covers of this song with different singers on each cover, which tells me it was an extremely popular song during its time if it had been performed by so many different people. When I first brought this piece to my voice coach, I wasn’t sure how she would respond to it. She is from an operatic discipline, after all. But we ran the piece, and she laughed after it was done and said, “This is great! These words don’t single any one group out, so I think modern audiences will respond to this well.” Here are the lyrics:

1. Hey! Hey! Women are going mad, today!
Hey! Hey! Fellers are just as bad, I'll say!
Go anywhere, just stand and stare,
You'll say they're bugs* when you look at the
clothes they wear.
(*bugs means “nuts” or “cuckoo” in this context)

Chorus Masculine Women, Feminine Men,
which is the rooster which is the hen?
It's hard to tell 'em apart today.
And say...
Sister is busy learning to shave,
Brother just loves his permanent wave,
It's hard to tell 'em apart today.
Hey! Hey!
Girls were girls and boys were boys when
I was a tot,
Now we don't know who is who or even
what's what.
Knickers and trousers, baggy and wide,
Nobody knows who's walking inside.
Those Masculine Women and Feminine Men!

2. Stop! Look! Listen and you'll agree, with me.
Things are not what they used to be. You'll see.
You say “Hello” to Uncle Joe,
Then look again and you find it's your Auntie Flo!

Chorus (Version 2)

Masculine Women, Feminine Men,
which is the rooster which is the hen?
It's hard to tell 'em apart today.
And say...
Auntie is smoking, rolling her own,
Uncle is always buying cologne.
It's hard to tell 'em apart today;
Hey! Hey!
You go in to give your girl a kiss in the hall,
But instead, you find you're kissing her brother Paul.



Ma's got a sweater up to her chin,
Pa has a girdle holding him in.
Those Masculine Women and Feminine Men!

While a few songs are still being confirmed for the program, I am happy to see how it’s all come together, and I look forward to debuting the concert in its entirety in front of a live audience again when it’s safe to do so.

Do you have a song that you consider a “must-have” for this program? If so, I’d love to hear from you, as I know there are so many hidden gems on this topic that can and need to be heard again. Please contact me either via my website at americansongline.com or via email at cece@americansongline.com. Thanks! □

About the author – Cecelia
“Cece” Otto is a classically trained singer, composer, international best-selling author, and historian who has performed in venues all over the world both as a soloist and in ensemble. In 2013, she completed her cross-country musical journey *On*



American Songline, performing 30 concerts of historical vintage music in venues along the Lincoln Highway. Cece then went on to create other historical programs such as songs of World War I and the women’s suffrage movement. She is currently developing a concert program about Prohibition. She lives in Portland, Oregon, and has written books and recorded albums based on her research. You can learn more about her programs, books, and CDs at www.americansongline.com.

THE FARMER'S COW

MILKING SHORTHORNS THROUGH THE YEARS"

By Martha Hoffman Kerestes

MILKING SHORTHORNS were the backbone of the diversified family farm for centuries across the world and here in America, providing milk, meat, and draft power. Their easy-keeping qualities, versatility, and longevity made them an ideal cow to fill many purposes on the homestead.

Unfortunately, with the industrialization and specialization of the mid-20th century, the traditional dual-purpose breed fell out of popularity, but homesteaders, historical farms, and grass-based dairies are all finding that Milking Shorthorns fill a vital niche in today's agriculture. Preserving this heritage breed is vital for understanding our history as well as for building sustainable farms for the future.

Traits of the Breed

Dual-purpose Milking Shorthorn cows are of moderate size and generally weigh 950-1500 lbs. They are called "shorthorns" to distinguish them from the old English Longhorns that have long, downward curving horns.¹ Shorthorns can also be polled or naturally hornless.

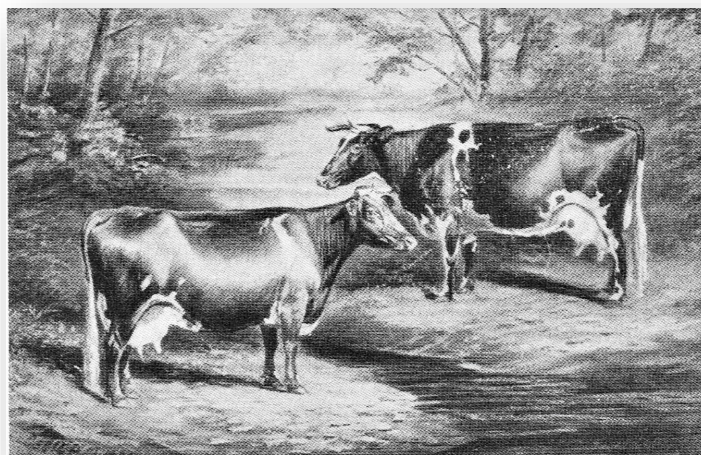
The cattle tend to have an easy-going, gentle disposition, and can milk well on high-forage diets, producing good butterfat and protein. In addition, they have excellent fleshing ability, making the steers and cull cows valuable.

They can be red, white, or roan (mixed red and white) in color. The distinct roan pattern is easily distinguishable from other breeds in historical photos where I have seen clearly roan cattle everywhere from Nova Scotia fishing towns to Oregon logging forests. But to get the full story, we must travel back to the Old World.

Beginnings in England

It all started in northeastern England in the counties of York and Durham as the great Shorthorn biographer Alvin H. Sanders explains in his books *Red White and Roan* and *Shorthorn Cattle*. The exact details are lost to the past, but it is surmised the breed was developed by breeding the local cattle with imported Dutch dairy stock in the 1700s. Farmers wanted an all-around cattle breed that would produce meat and dairy products, and they honed their cattle to fit their ideal type by years of careful breeding.

In 1822, the first written record of bloodlines was made in the Coates' Herd Book, which was named for the old man who rode his white horse across the region to record pedigrees. The breed was improved by cattle-breeding legends like Charles and Robert Colling, Thomas Booth, and Thomas Bates.



Milking Shorthorns – These two excellent cows from the turn of the 20th-century won national awards and with the careful breeding of L.D. May came to form the basis of the best milking genetics in the breed to this day. (Painting from *The Story of the Milking Shorthorn in the U.S.*)

In a dual-purpose breed, there is always tension between the milk and beef sides of the breed, and from the very beginning, there were some breeders who selected more for beef production and others who emphasized milk production. Thomas Bates was the key figure in the first half of the 18th century who strove for both – he carefully bred good milk cows who still fleshed out well. Many Milking Shorthorns today trace back to his cattle, and many a farm family over the centuries has benefited from the balanced milk and meat qualities.



The heartland of Shorthorn country in England, where the breed was born and developed. (Image from *Shorthorn Cattle*)



The author's father Kenneth Hoffman and his brother Howard in 1942 with a Milking Shorthorn calf.

No matter where the cattle fell on the milk-to-beef spectrum, they had a vital place on the diversified farmstead, as Sanders describes here the ideal use of the multi-purpose Shorthorn breed:

"The average farmer, as distinguished from the dairyman and professional feeder, maintaining cattle as an incidental, albeit necessary, feature of a well-ordered system of mixed husbandry, requires not only milk, cream, and butter in good supply for domestic consumption, but the cows that provide him with these products are also expected to raise a calf each year that can be profitably utilized in consuming the grass and 'roughness' of the farm; so that the males will command a fair price as yearlings and two-year-olds for feeding purposes, and the heifers possess the requisite size and quality fitting them for retention in the breeding herd. Hence the necessity for a combined beef-and-milk-producing breed for general farm purposes. It is claimed by those who support its contentions that the Short-horn blood produces 'the farmer's cow' *par excellence* of the world."²

With these qualities, the breed fit well for farmers who wanted to keep one breed of cow and get both milk and meat without pampering. With such general usefulness, the breed was brought to America to flourish as well.

Coming to America

The Revolutionary War ended in 1783, and as far as

historians can tell, that was also the year milk-type Shorthorns were imported to this continent. They were purchased for the state of Virginia by Mr. Miller and Mr. Gough.³ Moving west with the settlers, the cattle spread across the nation with especial popularity in the Corn Belt. More Shorthorns were imported as the breed continued to gain popularity across the United States. Sanders notes they were sometimes referred to as Durhams in historical documents, a reference to their place of origin.⁴

In popular literature, dual-purpose Milking Shorthorns appear in Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Farmer Boy*, which shows a diversified farmstead of the 1860s, and we see Garth Williams' beautiful renderings of the red oxen calves and the sweet old cow Almanzo milks.⁵ The cattle provide meat, dairy products, and draft power, complementing the diversity of crops and livestock on the northern New York farm and showing a good picture of how the breed was used historically.

The Milking Shorthorn breed has found a consistent home on the many diversified farms of the last few centuries,⁶ and my late father Kenneth Hoffman grew up on one of them in the 1940s and 50s.

When my grandparents married in 1936, they started a herd of eight Milking Shorthorns, and my father and his siblings helped with their cream delivery route to the neighbors. The extra skim milk was fed to the hogs. The cattle ate homegrown grains and forage and converted them into saleable milk and meat.


From an early age, Kenneth was interested in breeding cattle, and his father soon realized his skill and let him pick breeding stock. They grew and built the herd with cattle

1. Alvin H. Sanders, *Shorthorn Cattle* (Chicago: Sanders Publishing, 1918), 10.
2. Sanders, *Shorthorn Cattle*, 19.
3. Sanders, *Shorthorn Cattle*, 158.
4. Alvin H. Sanders, *Red White and Roan* (Chicago: Sanders publishing), 1936.
5. Laura Ingalls Wilder, *Farmer Boy* (New York: Harper Collins, 1961).
6. Otis L. Fisher, *The Story of the Milking Shorthorn in the U.S.* (Harrisonburg: Campbell Copy Center, 1993).


This 1942 Milking Shorthorn Journal image describes the uses of the traditional Milking Shorthorn.

MILKING SHORTHORNS-

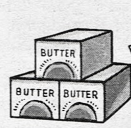
CONVERT HOME GROWN FEEDS INTO



MEAT

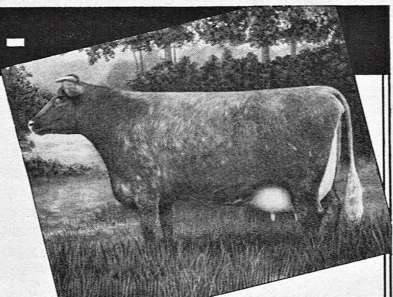


MILK



BUTTERFAT

AND DO IT AT THE LOWEST COST





The author's family's dual-purpose Milking Shorthorns on pasture like their ancestors. (Photo by the author)

from the foremost breeders of the day – W. Arthur Simpson from Vermont, Emmett Arnold from Wisconsin, Clarence Forgey of Indiana, and John C. Gage of Kansas, to name a few. These men and their cattle are long gone, but their work lives on in the descendants my father bred and kept, a last remaining link to many of these valuable bloodlines of old-style cattle.

A New Era

In the 1960s, with a national shift to single-purpose breeds for milk or meat production and not both, Milking Shorthorns fell out of popularity as the diversified farms they thrived on began to disappear. Most Milking Shorthorn breeding selection focused on milk only and used Red Holstein crossbreeding in an attempt to compete in this new world. However, in doing this they lost their unique traits of dual-purpose, grass-based production.

Modern beef Shorthorns are on the other end of the spectrum, having been crossbred with other beef breeds and selected for meat production without regard to milk, even though they descend from the same dual-purpose cattle as Milking Shorthorns.

There is a small gene pool of Native/Heritage Shorthorns that have no outside blood (Red Holstein, Australian Milking Shorthorn, etc.), but many breeders have selected against milk production.

Because of the rarity of balanced dual-purpose animals of the type our forefathers kept and their practicality on farms today, my family and a handful of breeders across the country have sought to preserve these animals and maintain both milk and fleshing qualities.

Milking Shorthorns are our link to the past, and their history is tied up with ours. They plowed sod with pioneer settlers, crossed the continent heading west, and grazed innumerable green pastures of our forefathers, quietly feeding families and paying off farms.

7. Sanders, *Red White and Roan*, 630.

There is hope for the breed in modern times, and many people are finding these old-style genetics vital to today's work. I've seen them thrive on homesteads as family cows, in small micro dairies, and in larger grass-based dairies. It feels so good as a conservationist to mentor new breeders and see the tradition continue as the breed is preserved and maintained for future generations.

Dual-purpose Milking Shorthorns are also being used on historical farms. They're historically accurate with their longstanding presence in the small farms of the past, and their traits make them a good fit for management and presentation. As hardy, low-maintenance cattle, they're easy keeping, and their gentle dispositions make them good for interacting with the public.

Looking back and ahead

There's so much fascinating history surrounding the beautiful red, white, and roan cattle.

The cattle that graze our pastures are the tangible link to the stories of the past – a living, breathing testimony of the dedicated farmer breeders who loved their cattle and made a livelihood alongside them. As links in a chain, we breeders of today have the privilege and responsibility to carry on where they left off.

The past is rich with the stories of people and cattle, but the future is ours to write and carry on. I will leave you with the hopeful promise as Sanders ended *Red White and Roan*.

"We take our leave of those who bore the heat and burden of the days lang syne and set our faces toward the future. May those now active in this fruitful field realize that theirs is the sacred duty of preserving for the farming world the great traditions that surround the reds and whites and roans."⁷ □

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About the Author – Martha Hoffman Kerestes is a life-long cattle breeder, freelance writer, and farmer in northern Illinois. Martha has a B.S. in journalism. Feel free to reach out at bestyetaisires@gmail.com with questions or comments.



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From Udder to Pail

A HISTORY OF MILK COWS AND MILKING

By Terry Sargent

Editor's Note: This article is adapted from a presentation at the 1994 ALHFAM conference and annual meeting and then published in the Proceedings of the 1994 Conference and Annual Meeting.

TODAY, when you think of the dairy industry, a picture of a cow is formed in your mind. The cow has not always been the principle dairy animal. Historically, goats, sheep, reindeer, buffalo, camels, and even horses ranked above cows as milk sources. But I am interested in cows as a source of milk and the role they have played in dairy farming throughout history. After outlining a brief history of dairy cattle and milking, I will concentrate on dairy farming in the 18th- and 19th-centuries.

Ancient History

The first record of cattle being milked dates back to the year 9,000 B.C. One of the earliest milking scenes, depicted on a four-foot stone panel in a temple near Babylon, is five to six thousand years old. The panel shows cows and calves with men milking into tall jars.

In 350 B.C., Aristotle made the first record of milking. He found cows northwest of Greece that were producing 32 quarts (64 pounds) of milk a day. In 300 B.C., it was noted that in Egypt, milking was performed at the side of the animal, but in Mesopotamia, cows were milked from behind. In some parts of the world, milking is still performed from behind the animal, and modern rotary milking parlors still require milking to be done from the rear of the cow.

New World

Among the earliest accounts of cattle in the New World is one of Vikings bringing cattle to Greenland and establishing large farms there in A.D. 1004. Archaeologists have discovered ruins that contained stalls for one hundred cows.

Some early dates for the arrival of cattle and their spread through the New World:

- 1493** – Columbus introduces cattle to the New World at Hispaniola
- 1611** – Cattle arrive at Jamestown.
- 1624-50** – Cattle arrive at the Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, and Delaware colonies
- 1707** – The French introduce cattle at fur trading posts in the Midwest
- 1787** – Americans introduce cattle into the Northwest Territory



An early Egyptian Hieroglyphic showing a cow being milked. (Scanned from 1000 Fragen an die Natur, via The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rogers Fund, 1948, public domain)

Breeds of Cattle

The first immigrants to the New World colonies brought cattle typical of their native homelands. Among other origins of cattle to America were cows that were kept on sailing ships to supply milk for the captain and crew. These cows were picked up at various ports and dropped off at the next port where a new cow would be picked up. This resulted in a mixing of cattle along the trade routes.

Less than 25 years after their introduction in America, the genetic mixing of cattle produced a variety known as common, native, ordinary, country blood, penny royal, and scrub cattle. A number of other local names were also used, such as Hill Country, Allegheny, Opelosas, and Attahapus. The common cow with her mixed ancestry, came in a variety of colors, including black, brown, red, brindle (gold or brown with a black tiger stripe), and pied (spotted). Some people referred a certain color of cattle for a particular use. A good example of this was the preference of red cattle for milk and black cattle for work.

The cattle that became the foundation of native or common stock arrived in America before the middle of the 17th-century. Breed definition of cattle did not occur until the English farmers began to improve their herds in the late 18th-century. The defined breeds that resulted were the Alderney or "French Breed," the Shorthorn or Durham, and the Devon. By 1750, English-inspired cattle began to have an affect on the American herds. However, native or common cattle would remain prevalent throughout America for a number of years to come. It was not until 1820-1840 that

major infusions of imported purebred cattle significantly began to improve the common cow.

Some communities kept a town-owned bull which helped to improve the herds around a village. A few progressive farmers in 1821 were looking for the service of imported bulls. The service of an imported bull could cost from three to five dollars for each breeding. Progressive 19th-century farmers also began to plan the breeding of their cows. By placing them with and removing the bull at planned times, they were able to influence the freshening date. With planned freshening, dairy products could be had throughout the year. But in the early 19th-century, planned breeding was practiced by only a minority of farmers.

Dairy Production

The number of cows that a family might own varied throughout the country. It was unthinkable for newlyweds to set up housekeeping without at least one cow. Three cows were thought to supply an adequate amount of milk for a family of ten, most which were children. By the mid-19th-century, however, many farmers were milking large numbers of cows. There is an account of a farmer near Cincinnati in the early 1820s milking 20 cows.

Dairy production is recorded in either the quantity of milk or butter produced during a given time period. In the 18th- and 19th-centuries, production varied greatly by herd location, type of cow, animal health, care of the cattle, feeding, and milking practices.

Factors that Affected Milk Production

A number of factors made the common cow the cow that it was. Most of these factors were adverse. The Revolutionary War had adverse effects not just on cattle, but on all livestock and poultry. First, soldiers from both sides took the finest stock for food. Only the sick and poor quality stock were left to reproduce and be milked. Second, with the men off to war, the women and children were left to tend the farm. Even though the milking and care of a family's cows was generally women's and children's work, the loss of male labor on a farm was traumatic. It could lead to the poorer feeding of stock, and to neglect with many animals running off and becoming wild.

Inefficiency also led to little milk in the pail, due both to pasturing practices and poor milking procedures. A major factor in pasturing practice was to decide whether calves would be allowed to roam with the cows or would be penned. Both methods had disadvantages.

Where calves were allowed to run with the

cows, a lower quantity of milk was available for family use and farmers had the task of separating the two at milking. Some cows were so wild that when taken from their calves, they had to be restrained during milking. A number of devices could help accomplish this. One method used a hole in the fence where the heads of cows could be secured. This worked like the stanchions found in some early barns and many dairy barns today.

In the South and the Midwest, cattle foraged for food in the woods. Cattle running loose sometimes could not be found, and even finding them did not necessarily help in driving or persuading them home. A couple of methods were used to lure cows home at milking time. One was to put salt out for the cattle near the homestead or milking area. Another method that had some success was to pen the calves, relying on the cow's mothering instincts to return to the farm in search of her calf.

The penning of calves to lure cows home had disadvantages for milking procedures. Since calves have to be fed, the choice was either allow the calf to nurse on one side while the cow as milked on the opposite, or to milk the cow partially out and then allow the calf to finish the job. Note that the higher butterfat comes toward the end of a milking – thus the calf got the best milk.

In the East, barns for milking were more common than in the South and Midwest where the majority of milking was done outdoors. Accounts tell of mosquitoes and flies swarming so severely that milking had to be done in a cloud of smoke from burning logs. All of these milking practices limited the quality and quantity of milk the family received.



A family of sisters milk the cows in 1928. (Photo from the J.C. Allen Photo collection, courtesy of Todd Price)

New Practices

The supply of dairy products for the family entailed a lot of physical work, not just in obtaining milk, but in processing. Running after and wrestling cows and calves, carrying (sometimes) heavy buckets of milk, and cleaning up were daily routines for a dairymaid. Only with dairy specialization in the mid-19th-century, did men take over this work. At the time, many people opposed this change in gender roles. A woman was thought to be more patient, gentler, and cleaner than a man. A man might milk too early and too late, wanting to complete other chores first. At the same time, milking was being encouraged as a good exercise for women. The changing roles had little effect on some farms where women continued to milk as always. This remains true today among the Amish, where the women do most of the milking.

More progress has been made in the dairy industry since 1850 than was made from the dawn of time until then. Cows have changed and methods of milking have likewise changed greatly. The average cow now produces about 23 quarts of milk per day for three hundred days of the year. This compares to early 19th-century averages of 32 quarts per day for a few months out of the year. Methods have improved with milking machines and bulk cooling, but in many places around the world, and still a few places in America, the bucket and the stool are still the only equipment used for milking. One thing has not changed – the cow still needs to be milked twice a day, seven days a week. □

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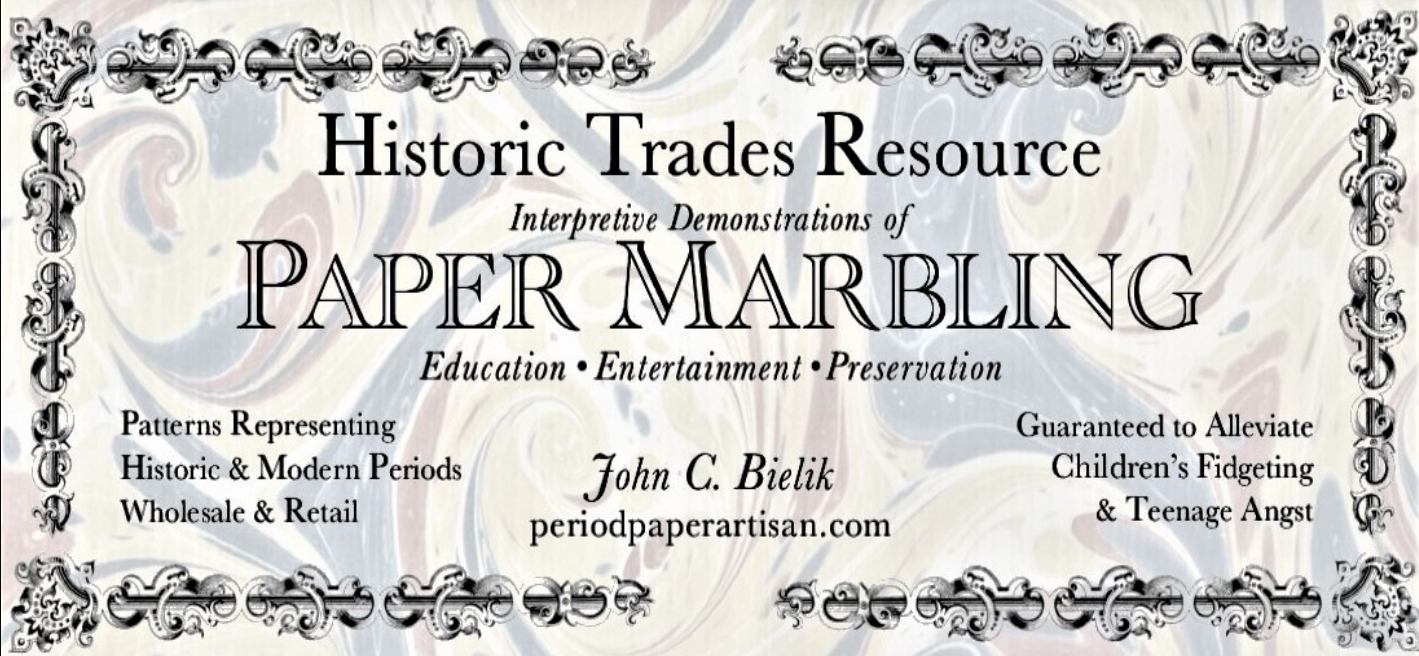
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About the Author - Terry Sargent has been a member of ALHFAM and MOMCC for 34 years, and has served as board member, vice president, president, and past president. He is retired from Eli Lilly and Elanco Animal Health and worked at Conner Prairie for 13 years. Terry has presented programs at a number of Historical sites throughout the Midwest and is currently a board member for the James Whitcomb Riley Old Home Society. He has raised and shown Jersey and Milking Shorthorn cattle, and is presently Vice President of Indiana Milking Shorthorn Association.





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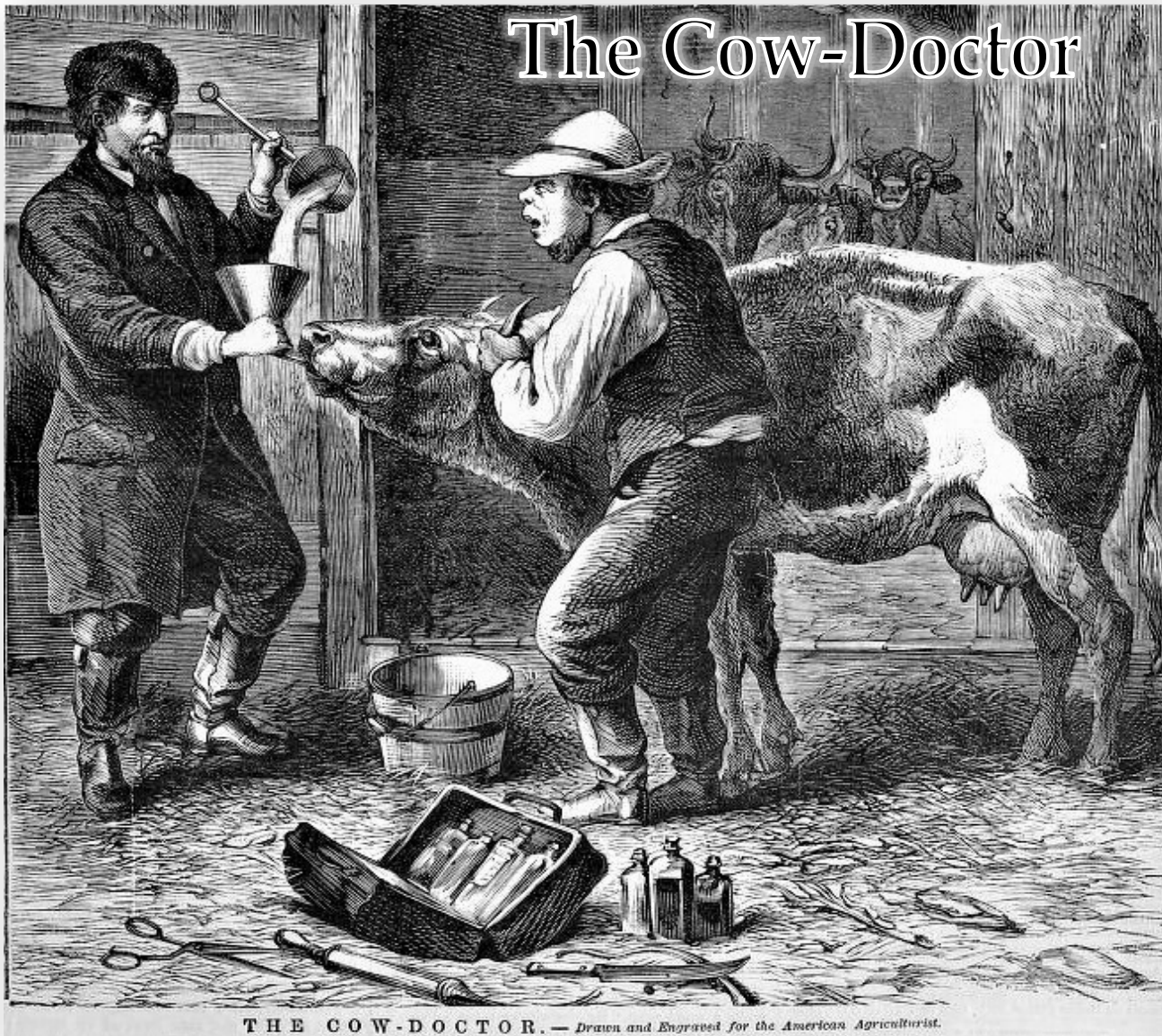
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The Cow-Doctor

The above picture tells its own story. A travelling cow-doctor has come across a credulous, ignorant farmer, who has a sick cow; the farmer is one of a kind which we are glad to say is becoming rarer, though such still exist; this style of farmer never reads the papers, and is ready to believe anything that a glib-tongued, loud-talking quack may tell him. Perhaps the poor animal has been fed on straw or corn-stalks, and has passed the winter in a cold, uncomfortable shed, and shows by her tight skin, her arched back, her rough coat, and miserable appearance that she has been neglected. Careful nursing is all she needs, but that is too simple a remedy, and the cow-doctor, who

knows nothing but what he has learned from an ancient "Farrier's Guide," makes the farmer believe that his cow has some dangerous disease. A pailful of filthy mixture is poured down the cow's throat, and she is ordered to be blanketed and bedded comfortably, and fed with a warm mash, or some boiled oats. Some of the best hay is procured for her, and by and by she recovers. Of course, the physic and the cow-doctor get the credit of the cure, while the better food and care which really deserve it get none. But if, as often occurs, the cow dies in consequence of the dose, the result is laid to the disease, and not to the quack. Farm animals are naturally free from disease, if properly fed and cared for. Sick

and accidents will rarely happen on a well-ordered farm. Good food, and plenty of it, clean warm stables, pure water given frequently, and not much at a time, at least a weekly, but better a daily carding of the skin, a daily modicum of salt, and not physic at all, will be effective to keeping stock to good health. If, in spite of care, an animal is ailing, a bran mash or drink of warm gruel, and a few days rest will generally make all right. If not, it is best to apply to a practiced and educated veterinary surgeon, or to the family doctor for advice, but never to the village cow-doctor, who is generally an ignorant person, and more likely to kill than to cure.

American Agriculturist, June, 1875

“HOW TO SCRUB THE SURGE”

CLEANING AND SANITIZING THE SURGE BUCKET MILKER

By Becky Crabb

WHILE at Buckley Homestead living history farm, one day I had a visitor in my office notice the “How to Scrub the Surge” (milking machine) poster on my wall. She immediately told me she needed the information to clean her milker after using it with her cows. She also said she knew another person who needed the information, because her gaskets are slimy even after she has cleaned her milker.

If you are considering milking your dairy cows with a milking machine, you’ll need to know how to clean the machine (Surge Unit in this advertisement). The poster is in the collections at Buckley Homestead County Park living history farm and is estimated to be from the late 1930s or 1940’s. Using a milking machine has its advantages and disadvantages, but it needs to be cleaned promptly and thoroughly after use. Modern cleaning agents are available now, but a thorough cleaning is still necessary. Below are the instructions from the poster:

Seconds Count!

Any milk utensil must be scrubbed clean and properly sterilized every time it is used. Every second that milk is allowed to dry makes more work for you...so...make it a habit to get all parts of your Surge Milker into clean, cold water as soon as the last cow is milked. Have plenty of cold water ready before you start to milk and use it the minute milking is over.

How to Scrub the Surge

Immediately after the last cow is milked: Snap the Surge Unit all apart and toss inflations, lids, and lid gaskets into clean, cold water. Thoroughly rinse Surge Pails with clean, cold water. Seconds count! Milk dries rapidly, and dried milk forms milkstone and causes you more work.

Just as soon as you can get to it, scrub all parts in hot water to which has been added a good alkali washing powder.* Never use soap. Use the brushes provided, and when they are worn, get new ones. Never use a dish cloth.

- ◆ Rinse all parts with clean, HOT water.
- ◆ Sterilize with Chlorine – 200 parts per million – or
- ◆ Lye – ½ of 1% (rubber parts only) – or
- ◆ Boiling water – parts must be immersed at least two minutes – or

- ◆ Live steam for at least 15 seconds.

Store in a clean, dry place and protect from dust and flies – or store pails and lids as above and place inflations and gaskets in a jar containing fresh lye or chlorine solution. As an added precaution, rinse all parts in chlorine solution immediately before the next milking.

Remember! The quicker you get all parts into cold water, the easier you make the job. No amount of sterilizing can take the place of proper washing. Wash properly, and thorough sterilization is easy.

Read your Surge Instruction Book carefully, and consult your local inspector because regulations vary in different states and communities.

If you ever have trouble in producing clean milk with a Surge, you can get help promptly by mailing a post card to the nearest Babson Branch.



1930 Surge Milker advertisement
(Photo credit: www.surgemilker.com)

*Washing Powder

We have tested the following alkali washing powders and believe you will find any of them satisfactory. Should you have trouble getting one of them, your milk plant or dairy can probably help you.

- ◆ B-K General Cleaner – Oakite – Solvay Super Cleaner
- ◆ Diversey Dumore – Calgocac – Swifts’ Dairyland Soda
- ◆ Wyandotte Cleaner & Cleanser

There are probably other good ones that we have not tested. **NEVER USE SOAP.**



The dairy barn at Buckley Homestead is the barn on the right. (Photo credit: Buckley Homestead)



1923 – Pine Tree Surge Milker showing the milker in operation. (Photo credit: www.surgemilker.com)

Vacuum Hose

Be sure that the long vacuum hose does not become clogged. It need not be sterilized because milk does not touch it unless an inflation is cracked, but many a service call shows not a thing wrong except a plugged vacuum hose.

Milkstone

If everything that milk touches is immediately rinsed and properly washed, you will have very little trouble with milkstone. If and when you do have trouble, we can recommend Diversey Discoloid, made by Diversey Corporation, or Oakite Milkstone Recover, or Tartaric Acid, which you can buy in any drugstore.

We congratulate you upon having a Surge Milker – a machine that really is easy to scrub clean and sterilize properly. We urge you to give it the care and attention it needs because it does take a clean machine to produce clean milk.

Babson Bros. Co. 2843 West Nineteenth Chicago

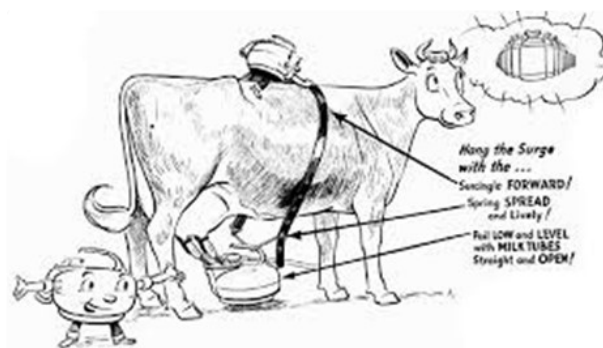
I wondered if these milker cleaning instructions were typical of most milkers, and when they were appropriate. Here's what I found on the Internet: The Babson Brothers Company began offering the Surge Bucket Milker for sale in 1923. By 1940, the milker had over 40% of the U.S. market and by 1955 more than 76%. However, also in 1955, the patent ran out, so many other companies tried to make a similar milking pail. For more information on the Surge Milker, see www.surgemilker.com.

I checked Wagner Farm, another living history farm, to see how they clean their milkers in a modern way. They use a combination of two chemicals to clean the milking machines. After rinsing with water, they mix a batch of water

and chlorinated detergent (sanitizer) and run it through the entire system. The sanitizer is bad for rubber, so they flush with a water and acid wash (also called milkstone remover) and run that through the system. The milkstone acid neutralizes the chlorinated detergent and also dissolves any calcium deposits on the metal parts, making them shiny, which is important to the milk inspector. The bleach and acid both have specific jobs and the combination gives a system what is needed to keep everything sanitary. □

Sources

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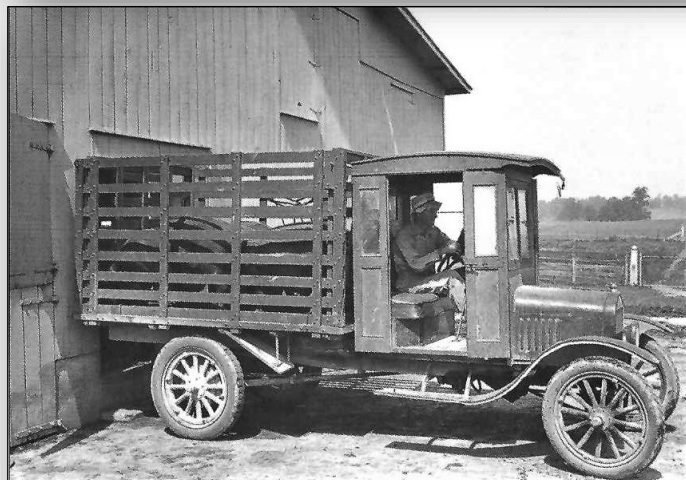
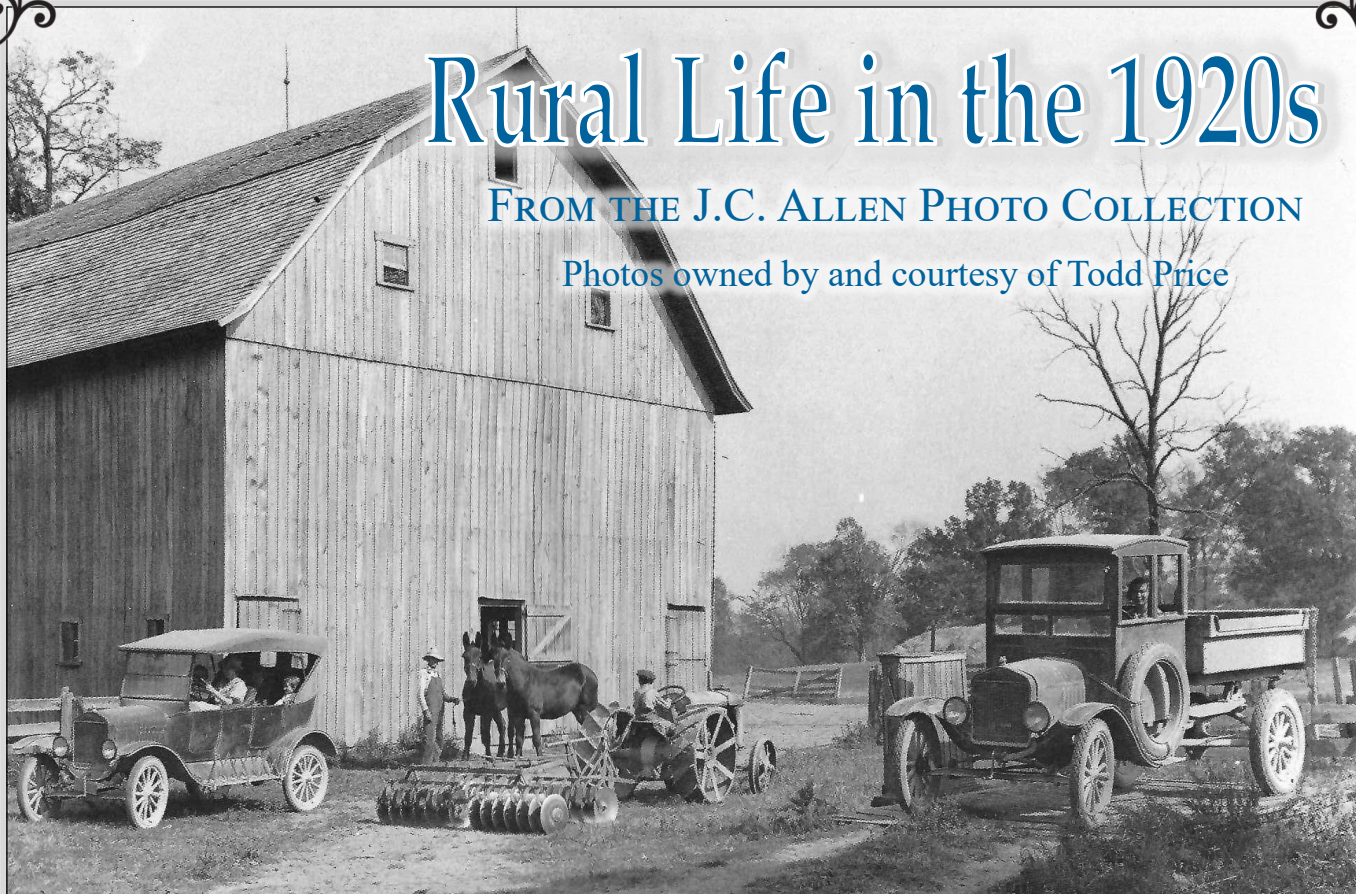
About the Author - Becky Crabb recently retired as Park Manager at Lake County Parks Buckley Homestead, Indiana, where she worked since 1980. She is past president of MOMCC. After being raised on an Indiana farm, Becky earned a degree in Wildlife Biology from Ball State University.



Rural Life in the 1920s

FROM THE J.C. ALLEN PHOTO COLLECTION

Photos owned by and courtesy of Todd Price

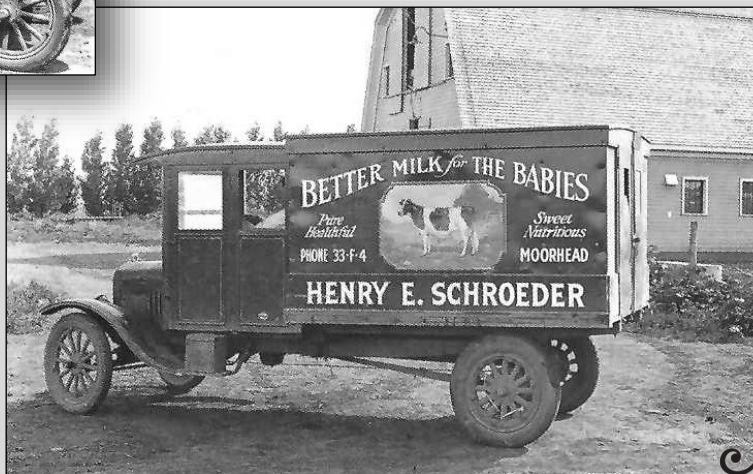


The J.C. Allen photo collection – Based in West Lafayette, Ind., John C. Allen, along with his son and grandson, photographed and recorded American agriculture for most of the 20th century. The 1920s, featured here, were an early part of the transformation from horse farming to mechanized agriculture. The photographs in this feature represent the culture that was found in every rural area in the Midwest and around the country. As you look at them, imagine yourself as part of each scene and meeting, talking to and getting to know the people as J.C. Allen did almost a century ago.

1924 – Top photo – This farm's power included a truck, auto, tractor, and mule team.

1926 – Above – A hog farmer used his Model T truck to haul a load of hogs to market.

1920s – Right – Minnesota farmer Henry Schroeder used his Model T truck to deliver milk directly to customers.





1923 – A father and son plant corn with a one-row planter.



1920s – An Allis-Chalmers 20/35 powers a threshing machine. Built from 1923 to 1930, the 20/35 was Allis-Chalmers' most famous tractor in the firm's early years.



1924 – A horse-powered feed grinder.



1921 – A team of horses pulls a Heider tractor from a muddy field.



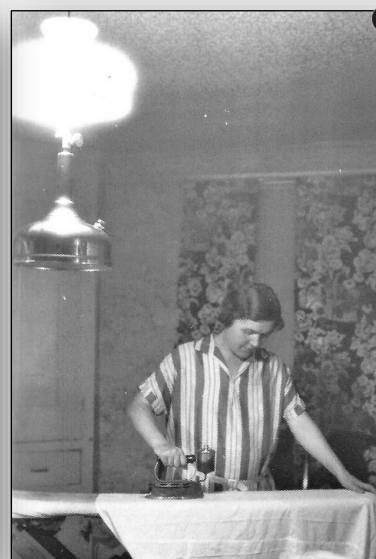
1920s – Hay is loaded into a barn with a fancy cupola ridge-ventilator. Lightning rods, placed at either end of the roof ridge were popular in the 1920s.



1923 – A Model T Ford provides belt power for shelling corn.



1932 – The farm garden was often a big project in itself.



1926 – A Coleman light and iron made domestic work easier.



1925 – The early radio became a gathering point for the family.



1925 – Making apple butter.



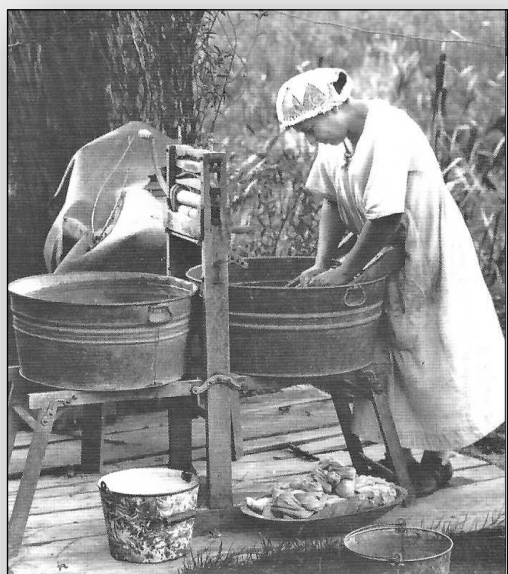
1923 – A girl milks her Guernsey cow.



1928 – An electric cream separator.

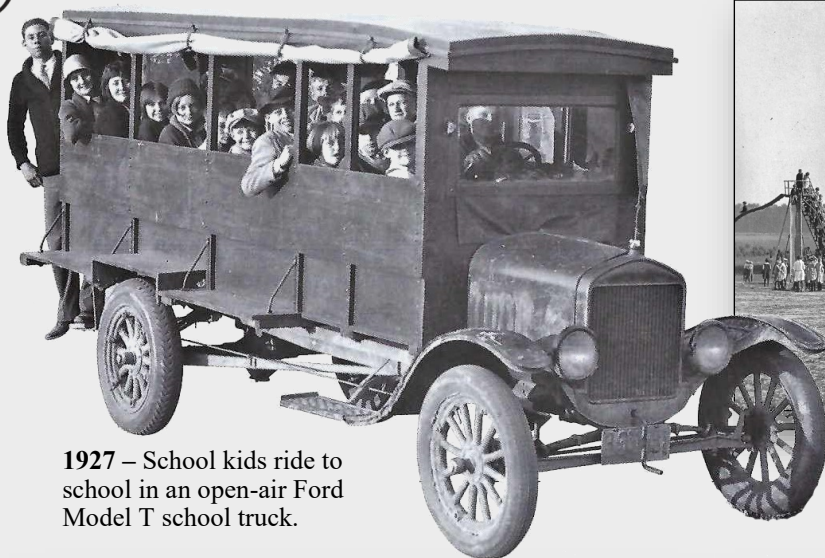


1927 – Heart of the farmstead. A state-of-the-art 1920s farm kitchen with a large fancy coal range, indoor plumbing, water pump and sink, and free-standing sideboard. High ceilings and tall windows helped cool the kitchen on hot days.



1929 – Left – Wash day the old-fashioned way on the farm was an entire day devoted to the exhausting tasks of setting up the wash bench, scrubbing clothes by hand on a washboard, rinsing the clothes in tubs, squeezing then through a hand-cranked wringer, and hanging up the wet clothes to dry outside or in the kitchen.

1926 – Right – A new wringer washer relieved some of the work involved.



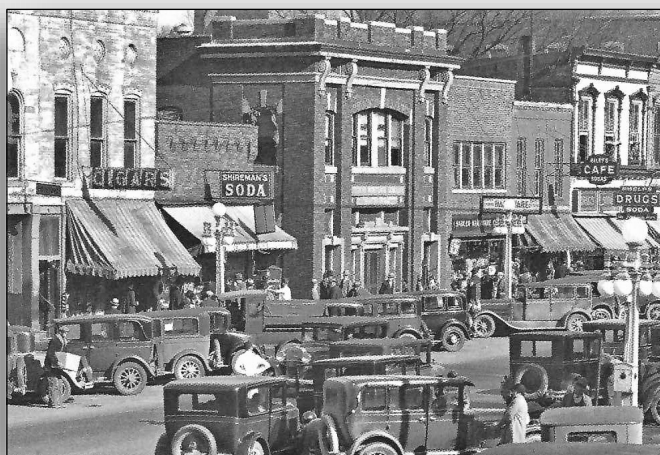
1927 – School kids ride to school in an open-air Ford Model T school truck.



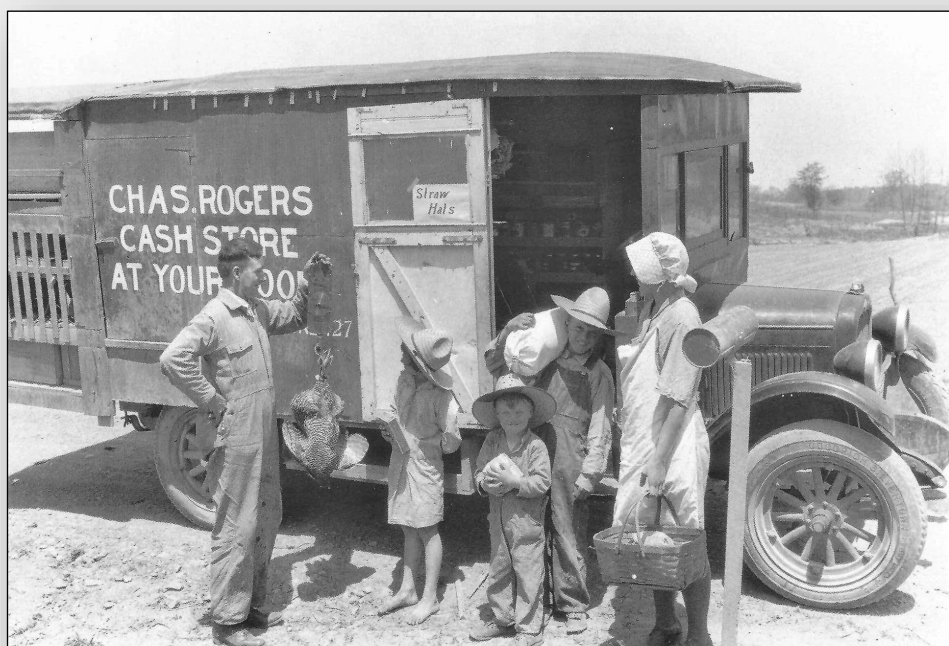
1924 – Consolidated schools gradually replaced the one-room school.



1920s – Horse, wagon, and Model T parking area.



1931 – Traffic on Saturday, the farmer's shopping day.



1928 – CHAS. ROGERS CASH STORE AT YOUR DOOR. The huckster made both sales and purchases with farm families. Here Chas. Rogers weighs a chicken he is probably taking in trade for the straw hats that the children are wearing.



1926 – The country general store was a popular place for shopping.

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*Fifth-Wheel Covered Wagon
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Aerial view looking north – Showing the 1920s Main Street under construction at Sauder Village in northwest Ohio.
(Photo courtesy of Sauder Village)