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# LINDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## WHEN CARS HIBERNATED FOR THE WINTER THE SLEIGHS CAME OUT

It was common in the era of 1930 and before that when winter came the family car was stored until spring and the horse and sleigh or cutter came out. The 1930 Model A Ford Tudor sedan pictured here was purchased by myself in 1968 and included an extra engine for the price of \$400. I drove it home from Platteville, had fun with it for several years and sold it to someone who did a complete restoration on it. It is shown here in my dad's barn where I parked it for the winter, across from it was an old cutter formerly used by past generations in my family.

This 1930 Model A did not have a heater, or seat belts or turn signals. Hand signals were required

with, of course, the window rolled down. Cars in the 1930's could have after market gas fired heaters as the decade rolled on, still a far cry from the comforts we are used to today.



Riding from Linden to Mineral Point, Dodgeville or other area towns in an open air cutter pulled by one horse seems adventurous and chilling to me. Numerous reports in both the Linden newspapers and other local papers document that the cold winter weather did not keep people at home in the days before road crews plowed area highways.

*1930 Model A Ford hibernated for the winter in a Linden township barn*

## WINTER SLEIGHS, CONTINUED

Robes, blankets, thick woolen hats and layers of clothes were essential travel attire. You also had to contend with the unpredictable manner of the horse pulling the sleigh

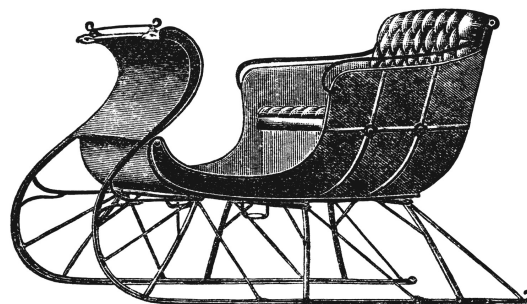
J. W. Taylor, editor of the Linden *Southwest Wisconsin*, reported in January, 1906: "Mr Wesley Holmes took two young ladies out for an informal sleigh ride one evening last week. The novelty of riding with two handsome ladies at once must have had great effect on Wesley. He spilled the girls out, fell out himself, and the horse had the satisfaction of 'doing up' the cutter. But nobody was hurt."

Nine years earlier, Taylor recorded what happened in February, 1897. "Last Monday afternoon, with his usual gallantry, Mr. Thomas Hicks undertook to give two of his lady friends a short sleigh ride. In driving down Main street the cutter runner struck upon a small piece of wood, the result being a grating sound that so startled the animal that he was driving that for a brief while she became unmanageable. The cutter was upset and Mr. Hicks and Miss Ida Smith were thrown out, free and clear. Miss Lena Rolling was also thrown out but in some way was so entangled in the robes that she was dragged several yards. Fortunately nobody was seriously hurt although Miss Lena was quite severely bruised. The cutter was completely wrecked."

R. W. Sampson, wrote a weekly Linden news column in the *Dodgeville Chronicle*. He wrote of a successful sleigh ride to the Lost Grove neighborhood in the January 18, 1884 issue. "Quite a number of our young folks went to a

necktie party at the residence of Mr. Arthur of Lost Grove. Each young lady made a tie the color of her dress, and the ties being placed in a box were drawn out by the young men blindfolded, and the young man would hunt a young lady who wore a dress the color of the tie he had drawn, who would be his partner for the evening. The party took along a good supply of fresh oysters and other delicacies and danced till the wee small hours of morn, arriving home about six a. m. Mr. Arthur has the thanks of the entire party for the very hospitable manner in which they were treated. We weren't there ourself, but saw some the next morning who were, and whose looks were as sweet as honey."

In my 2014 Chevy Impala I push a button to start the car, it has a heated steering wheel,



heated seats a strong heater/fan with a quick warm up. The Model A Ford in contrast requires a few more steps just to start it. You have to turn on the fuel petcock below the dash, push the lever located on the left of the steering wheel all the way up to retard the spark, push the lever on the right side of the steering wheel half way down (the hand throttle), pull the choke and then push down on the floor starter with your foot. Started right up every time.

## LOST AND SOMETIMES FOUND

Most if not all of us have lost something at some point in our lives such as car keys, credit card, bill fold or an important paper. Before Craigs List and social media people in the Linden area posted a notice in the local newspaper. Here are a few unedited notices which includes several from the Linden *Southwestern* and the Linden Department of the *Dodgeville Chronicle* ranging from

### LOST

Somewhere between Linden and Cobb Thomas Batten lost his little dog, Carlo. In color he is grey, and of the shaggy variety. He has to find that dog or leave home. Have you seen it ?



*Southwestern*, October 17, 1899

### LOST

LITTLE CARL GILMAN was lost for two or three hours today. The little fellow, out with an uncle, took the wrong direction. Finally he found himself over at John Treloar's into whose house the little fellow and dog walked, and then asked where his pa lived.



Soon he was at home, having given two or three relatives a busy hour or two  
*Southwestern*,  
July 25, 1899.

### STRAYED?

Strayed or stolen from the undersigned, a common house dog, color black and white, smooth hair. Anyone returning the dog, or giving information which will lead to its recovery, will be suitably rewarded. W. H. Rule  
*Chronicle* July 15, 1892

### LOST

AT EDMUND, or on the road between Edmund and Linden, a white roll of cloth containing one hundred dollars in bills and tied with a piece of twine. The finder will be suitably rewarded on leaving the same at Mrs. T. M. Goldsworthy's store. (Ad ran a month, apparently not found or turned in)  
*Chronicle* June 12 onward, 1891.

### FOUND

Over 20 years ago, Mrs. Leonard Berg, of the town of Linden lost her gold wedding ring, and all efforts to find it were unsuccessful. Last Friday Mr. Berg accidentally discovered it in the door yard of their home. It was as bright and in as good condition as if it had lain in the jewelry box for all those years. There was much joy in the household that the 'lost was found'.



*Chronicle*, November 6, 1896

### LOST

Last Sunday evening Mr. Bert Hawke lost a gold watch somewhere between the P. M. church and the home of his parents. A suitable reward will be paid for its return to him by the finder.

*Southwestern* October 11, 1905

## LOST & FOUND, CONTINUED

### LOST

Some where between the Linden cemetery and R. Tredinick's house, a gold ring. Anybody finding the same will please leave it at M. R. Goldsworthy's store and receive reward.

*Chronicle* September 26, 1890.

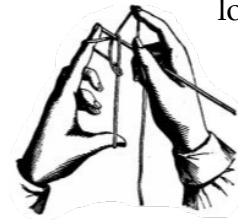
### FOUND

MISS LIZZIE CAYGILL lost a purse containing some money on one of the streets of the village a day or two ago. Mr. G. J. Smith found same and delivered to the owner.

*Southwestern* May 23, 1899

### LOST

Last Thursday evening Mrs. William Thomas of this village, in coming home from Mrs. Thomas Kelly's by way of the Wm. Jewell place on the Mineral Point road,



lost a small black hand satchel that contained her knitting work and needles. She

would be pleased to hear from the finder thereof, or it can be left at George Kelly's. She will pay a suitable reward.

*Southwestern*, November 27, 1901.

### MISPLACED

About the third of last October (1891), Chris Peterson Holman, a farmer near Edmund, lost his pocket-book containing \$110 in money, and though long and diligent search was made it could not be traced or found. He was in Edmund that day and had the money with him, but could not find it after he left town.

About two weeks ago while removing oats from a large bin on his farm he found the pocket-book in the oats with all its contents intact. Then he remembered that on the evening of the day it was

lost, when he returned home he took oats from this bin to feed his horses, and the book must have slipped from the inner pocket of his vest, and the oats slid down and covered it, and ever since then as he removed oats the bulk above continued to hide it deeper. Mr. Peterson, of course, was much pleased to find his lost treasure, and by this experience is also pleased to learn that a large bin of oats is a pretty safe institution to do a banking business with.

*Chronicle*, April 22, 1892

### RANSOMED

The Highland Press relates that the mail carrier between Montfort and Highland lost the pouch from his stage and did not miss it until he arrived in



Highland. He drove back and found it in the possession of a man who had picked it up, but who refused to deliver it to the driver until he was paid a dollar, which the driver had to pay in order to get possession of it.

## LINDEN'S CO-OP STORE VICTIM OF FIRE CENTURY AGO

In the late summer of 1910 Roy Lovelace operated a general merchandise store on the South side of the Hicks Hotel building. The business was struggling and Roy, along with others in Linden felt that starting a co-operative store would prove more successful.

On September 3, 1910 a meeting was held to organize and sell stock in the Linden Co-operative Company. The new firm was incorporated in the amount of \$15,000.00 with 150 shares at \$100.00 a share. That first evening \$8,300.00 was raised through stock sales and directors elected.

The charter directors were: Henry Brewer, President; Roy Lovelace, Vice-President; Ney St. John, secretary; James Tregear, treasurer.

The new company, owned and operated by Linden area residents, took over the inventory of Lovelace who continued to run the business.

One year later at the 1911 annual meeting a change in directors and officers were elected: President, Roy Lovelace; Vice-President, Thomas Caygill; Secretary, Mrs. B. Blanchard with Charles Edwards and Grant Batten as directors.

The business plan worked well until the disastrous fire of January, 1916 which destroyed the entire hotel building. The Linden Co-operative Company did not rebuild and the co-op experience in Linden ended.



*Photo of Lovelace store located on South side of Hicks hotel facing towards the Methodist Church. The Linden Co-operative took over the inventory of general merchandise, clothing and added flooring, rugs, groceries and more.*

**CO-OP STORE**  
**Wishes**  
**You All**  
**A Happy and**  
**Prosperous**  
**New Year**

**The Linden Co-Operative**  
**. . Company . .**

**Special**  
**Spring and Summer**  
**Announcement**



**Best Values at the Lowest Price**

That's just what you are sure of getting when you select your new floor coverings and curtains from our handsome and complete stock. Best values because all the goods are the famous

**Richardson's Superlative Qualities**

This dependable brand has given excellent satisfaction wherever used and has justly earned the name of being the Best made in all grades. Art and Durability combined in our

**Reliable Rugs, Trustworthy Carpets and**  
**Linoleums, Stylish Curtains.**



**LINDEN CO-OPERATIVE**  
**COMPANY**

*A 1911 Happy New Year ad in the Linden Reporter newspaper.*

## **CORNISH DIALECT QUIZ**

In January, 1906 the Linden *Southwestern* carried a one paragraph summary of local resident Ed Brewer and his business trip to Mineral Point. "According to him the Pointers are all 'gone mazed' over mining. They have seen some jack in Mineral Point—hailed down their streets from Linden and Mifflin. As we understand it they have a 'bone' diggings there below the old cemetery."

The dialect word "Mazed" means crazy or greatly bewildered. "Jack" as used here is a

local mining term meaning the zinc ore blackjack, also know as zinc blende, sulfide of zinc (sphalerite). This ore tended to be dark, hence the Cornish miners called it black jack or simply jack. "Bone" diggings meant a carbonate of zinc ore (Smithsonite) it could appear bleached in color locally almost looking like bones and earned the nickname of dry bone or simply bone. Nothing to do with who was buried in the old cemetery !

## **LADIES ONLY TOUR TO ENGLAND**

"As it is my intention to return to England about the first of April, I have been wondering if any ladies in Linden or vicinity have thoughts of visiting the old country. If they are thinking of doing so and have any wish for company during the voyage, I should be glad to hear from them." May Bradley, 917 Armstrong Ave., Kansas City, Kansas. From the Linden Reporter, Feb. 17, 1910.

## **NEW YEAR'S WISH FROM 1896**

The year 1895 is almost closed. To some it has been lucky, while others have failed. Misfortunes have befallen some, and others have departed this world of care; but let us all look at the bright side of things during the incoming year and make a year of happiness to all, as the times are looking better. 1896 is a leap year, and the New Woman will be at liberty to assert her privileges, by marrying any gentleman—who will consent. William C. Rowe, manager of the Linden Department in the *Dodgeville Chronicle*, December 27, 1895

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## **LOOKING BACK ON 2017 AND AHEAD TO 2018**

Personally 2017 was a bad year for your President with the lowest point reached on November 13th when my wife Sarah passed away at home. It has been a difficult adjustment since then, hard to concentrate and get things done including this issue of the newsletter.

For the Linden Historical Society, 2018 looks promising with older projects nearing completion and the possible addition of new plans. The LHS board will be meeting in February and more information on our annual meeting/program this spring will be featured along with a few more historical articles. Please remember that YOUR stories and photos are always welcomed in our pages.

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## **DONATIONS RECEIVED**

William & Lois Ralph      \$1,500

Sarah Jewell Memorials      \$825

**\*\*\*\*PHOTO AND DOCUMENT DONATIONS ALWAYS APPRECIATED\*\*\*\***

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If you have any photos or documents on Linden area history we would love to make a copy for our archives. Photos and documents can be scanned and returned to you if desired. Contact either the President or Vice-President listed below. Membership in the Linden Historical Society is \$10 per year, lifetime membership \$100. Make check payable to Linden Historical Society and send to Treasurer Robin Lindner.

### **HOW TO CONTACT US**

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President & Newsletter editor:

Jim Jewell, 2073 Sunny Slope Road, Mineral Point, WI 53565. Phone: (608) 623-2772

Email: [minerjim7@gmail.com](mailto:minerjim7@gmail.com)

Vice-President:

Randy Baker, 2212 Sunny Slope Road, Mineral Point, WI 53565, Phone: (608) 574-4067

Treasurer:

Robin Lindner, 3465 Sinbad Road, Dodgeville, WI 53533

Secretary:

Florence Wasley, 415 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Board member:

Lisa Springer, 2776 Wearne Rd., Mineral Point, WI 53565, Phone: (608) 341-8686

### **LINDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

2073 Sunny Slope Road  
Mineral Point, WI 53565

