

GOTHENBURG HISTORICAL MUSEUM

"A Window into the Past"

AUG 2019 3rd QTR.

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GOTHENBURG HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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WHEN LOCAL MILK DELIVERY CAME TO AN END

In 2003 Gene Schriver delivered his last gallon of milk, saying good-bye to the business he'd run for 43 years.

He said he was planning on working a couple more years. Schriver said "I kept fixing and keeping that old truck going. I figured I'd quit when one of us gave out. Guess I gave out first." After spending eight days in the hospital with blood clots in his lungs "I decided it was time".



The business initially began in the late 1930's when Kenneth Schriver, Gene's dad, and his wife, Betty, decided to move to town. They had a few cows so he decided to sell the milk and cream for extra income. Milk sold for 6 or 7 cents a quart and 25 cents a gallon. All the family helped out with the business. Gene's sisters, Betty Ann, Arita and Janet each had a little red wagon they used to deliver milk each night after school. The Schriver's would eventually buy milk from other farmers for resale and in 1948 he hooked up with Roberts Dairy and started selling their milk in cartons along with his bottled milk.

Gene bought the business, which included a small grocery store, from his dad, Kenneth, in 1960. Schriver delivered both wholesale and retail to homes in Gothenburg and Cozad for

several years. He especially liked the home delivery. He'd take milk into the houses and have to find a place in the refrigerator for it.

When the small grocery store was open he would often delivery more than milk. Occasionally the delivery would include a loaf of bread or a pound of coffee. Sometimes he even did more than deliver milk. Many times the older ladies would need a hand now and then to change a light bulb for them or something like that or just spend 10 to 15 minutes just talking to them.

He never missed a scheduled delivery day in the 43 years of business even when a blizzard would shut down the postal service. He followed the long ago postal motto that nothing would stop the milk delivery, "Neither rain, snow or dark of night...."

As kids, Schriver's Market, was the place to go before and after school to get a snack or to meet up with friends. It is a place where many memories will come to mind for the baby boomer generation.

Another person who made milk deliveries around the Gothenburg area was Ed Kuhlman. He milked, processed and delivered milk during the depression in the 1930's to supplement his farm income. After a farming accident, Ed's wife Mabel and son Don Kuhlman took over the milking and processing while Ed helped with the deliveries. Kuhlman sold his route to Schriver in 1942.



Photo provided by Ed Kuhlman's daughter, Rhonda Jobman.

REPAIRMAN—AIMEE GUERIN

“JACK OF ALL TRADES, MASTER OF MANY”

This story was written by Lellus Boden and printed in the North Platte Telegraph Compass, April 20, 1988.

The story has been condensed to fit in this newsletter.

For the complete story, visit the Gothenburg Historical Museum.

Unpredictable would define the day's agenda when Aimee Guerin opened his repair shop doors on any Monday morning. The shop was open eight hours a day; six days a week and there was no brief job description for his work.

Familiar phrases from his clientele included: "The manufacturer said this can't be repaired." "I'm told this is obsolete." "Can you make the missing part for this antique?"

A vast number of jobs brought into the shop were simply said to be irreparable. How does anyone repair something termed irreparable? Guerin gave a simple explanation. "I just picture the piece in my mind." When asked how he did it, Guerin replied, "I guess it is a gift."

In 1909 when Guerin was three years old, his family moved from Farhnam, Quebec Canada, to a sod home at Trenton, NE where his father was employed in the construction of railroad coaches. When he was 13, his father purchased a farm at Farnam, NE. At 18, using a forge, he crafted an anvil which he used the rest of his life making his repairs.

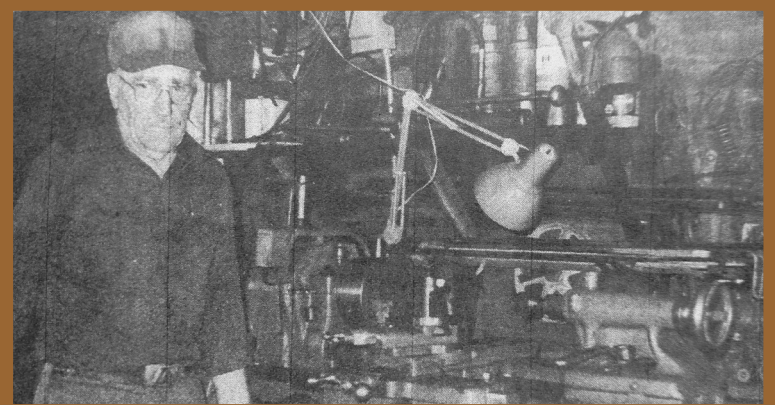
After his father's retirement, Aimee, his wife, Lilyan and their children, Rex and LeAnn lived on the farm.

Guerin used his mechanical gift throughout his life in several careers: which included farming, inventing, trucking and maintenance repair.

Guerin's inventive mind, looking for a more efficient method of plowing, thought of building a four-bottom mounted plow. The

plow was attached under a B John Deere tractor. Most area farmers were using a pull-type plow. Guerin fashioned his plow from two horse-drawn plows which were raised and lowered with a power lift by pressing a button.

Aimee and his brother Syrias purchased a 1932 Chevrolet truck tractor. They proceeded to build



their own stock trailer, as very few semis were on the road in 1932. Another trucker, seeing their project advised them to quit, saying it could only make a few trips to Omaha. Guerin was not a quitter! The semi trucked cattle and various cargo for a total of 103,000 miles. He trucked from 1932 to 1972, logging one million miles without bending a fender. Cargo ranged from draft horses and cattle to monkeys and ostriches. During the early days, the brothers would leave at 8 a.m. and arrive in Omaha at 2 a.m. with only 40 miles of pavement on the long drive, that being between Fremont and Omaha which was partially brick.

Guerin opened his Gothenburg maintenance shop as a hobby when he retired from his trucking

career. He was still working full-time at 81 in a modest building behind his home. He never advertised, but that didn't limit his clientele. He repaired a jack for a Canadian; made lawn mower wheels for a man in New York; and manufactured a pallet lift for a Californian. Lilyan often supplied a third and fourth hand required to make repairs. She also

provided hot coffee and fresh snacks right from the oven.

His repairs might be as small as a 1-1/4 inch shaft made for gas meters; or as large as the old steam engine damaged when a tornado blew a barn across it. Another repair included a firing mechanism for a cannon retrieved from the bottom of the Hudson River.

There was always a sparkle in Guerin's eyes when another puzzling piece came through the door with the usual "Do you think you might be able to help me out?"

Guerin passed away in 1996 at the age of 90.

PATTERSON'S - MASTER CRAFTSMEN

Warren (Worn) Patterson was 31 when he and his wife Stella moved from Farnam to Gothenburg. Worn opened his blacksmith shop in Farnam in 1902 but realized Gothenburg was a booming town and had a larger territory for business.

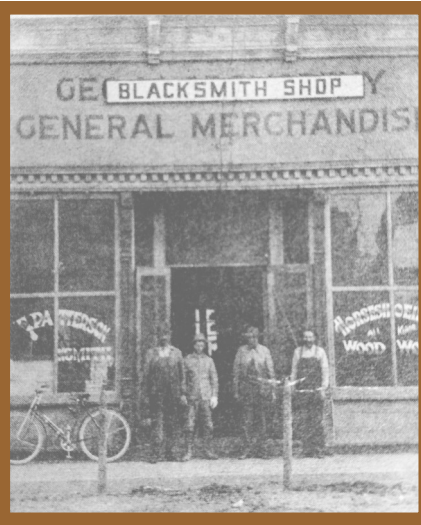
Worn was a master craftsman with skills as an inventor, a machinist and repairman. After working with other blacksmiths in Gothenburg, he

opened his own shop in 1912. In 1922 he built his own shop between Avenue G and F on 9th Street. (The building now is owned by Ron Alexander.)

As an inventor, Worn invented an irrigation pump that took water out of a ditch and put it in the fields. He also built a merry-go-round in the backyard of his home with a one-cylinder gas engine that had to be cranked to start. His son Albert was too small to get it started so it became a big attraction for the older boys in town.

Between Worn and his father, William B. Patterson, they did some interesting things. Many farmers would bring their horses in to have them shod, as Worn was

a master horseshoer. They had built a stanchion to hold the horses and the two men could handle the mean and high-spirited animals.



First Patterson Machine shop on Avenue F about 1912

When lit, the resulting explosions awakened everyone in town, starting the day off with a big bang.

Worn passed away in 1954 and his sons Albert and Delevon Patterson took over the business and raised their families in Gothenburg. During

Patterson also invented a Lister Corn Harrow and a special hay sweep attachment for a Fordson tractor. He even held classes at the Sun Theater for several hundred farmers and manufacturers on his products.

When WW I was over, the July 4th celebration was a big deal. It always started with "shooting the Anvil" at daylight by the blacksmiths. The square hold in an anvil was filled with black powder, fused and another anvil place upside down on top.

their 30 years of service to the Gothenburg area the Patterson's continued to update and modify the "Patterson Irrigation Pumps" as well as building and mounting hay sweeps on automotive chassis. They built truck hoists, water tanks and repaired or rebuilt anything from kitchen utensils to alfalfa mills.

The brothers continued to operate Patterson's Machine Shop in partnership until Del died in 1984. Albert continued the business until he sold out to Kevin Wagner in December 1985.

Worn and Stella had six children, two boys (Albert and Delevon) and four girls (Gladys, Mary Ella, Hazelle and DeLorice.) He was an avid supporter of all athletic and band activities and was always carting players to and from events. He always had a auto in excellent condition.

Gothenburg is still home to children of the Patterson family: Jane Franzen is the daughter of Del and Ella Patterson and Colleen Geiken is the daughter of Albert and Elva Patterson.



Circa 1922: New Patterson Machine Shop.

Pictured l-r: Harm Junker, Elmer Axthelm, Gladys Patterson, Worn Patterson

from the Gothenburg History Book available for research at the Gothenburg Historical Museum.

This story was taken in part

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE GOTHENBURG HISTORICAL MUSEUM IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

A special thank you to the Gothenburg Chamber Tourism Committee for their financial support for the recent basement and exterior renovations. They continue to support our efforts to maintain the building and provide quality displays for our visitors. Everyone is invited to visit the museum to see the changes we've made this past year.

Upcoming improvements include new fascia, soffit and gutters on the exterior and new lighting and ceiling in the basement.

2019 MEMBERSHIP & BUILDING FUND REPORT

Thank you to the following who joined or renewed their membership and contributed to the museum building fund.

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The Jamestown Colony of Virginia - Originated 1607

By Ron Klein, Life Member of Gothenburg Historical Society

This may seem like a rather unusual subject for the Gothenburg Historical Society. But, in reality it does relate not just to the beginning of our nation as the first permanent British Colony in North America, but research shows there are families in Gothenburg, Dawson County, and other places in Nebraska and elsewhere who actually descend from early permanent residents of Jamestown beginning over 400 years ago. And, the contributions of those early residents and their descendants over the last 400 years have had a major impact on this great place we call America.

Beginning about 20 years ago, I began to follow the work that my mother, Elvera Klein, had done. The path was long and varied. And, I was truly shocked to learn that I had ancestors in Jamestown beginning in the 1610s and later. And, what I realized was that this connection came to me through the Kirkpatrick family and my maternal Grandmother who was born in Dawson County to the Irenious Kirkpatrick family of Cozad. And, I learned about some truly important things those of us who are members of the local Kirkpatrick family can be proud of going back to the days of Jamestown 400 years ago.

So, I would like to share some of what I have learned, in hopes that others may find it of interest as I have. In fact, this helped me become almost addicted to the amazing stories of my ancestors as they carved out lives in early America, went to war against the British, and moved west to open up this great country and served in the several conflicts to serve and protect America from those who would have harmed us.

There are five early Jamestown residents who are Ancestors for us Kirkpatrick descendants. First is a couple named Richard Pace and his wife, Isabella Smyth. They had one son named George who was born in England in about 1609. It is not clear when they moved to Jamestown. Some information says it may have been as early as 1612. Richard was a boat carpenter in England and it is believed his skills were needed in Jamestown. By 1619 the couple had obtained a grant for a plantation across the James River from Jamestown. It was then, and still is today known as "Pace's Paines". Both Richard and Isabella owned adjoining parcels of land. Today it is owned by a wealthy real estate investor/banker and is not accessible to other people. It is visible from across the river at Jamestown.

The years from 1607 to 1619 were difficult. There were a large number of deaths due to disease and conflicts with the native Indian tribes. On one occasion it was decided to prepare to return to England as supplies were not arriving as expected. Three ships were loaded and began a trip back to England, shutting down the Jamestown Colony. As they were going east, the supply ships from England were observed and the Jamestown ships returned to Jamestown and the supplies from England allowed them to survive and the Colony eventually succeeded.

By 1619 the Governor was able to remove Martial Law. And, he decided to appoint a 28 man Democratic Assembly with the purpose of developing a basic government. 22 of the men were elected by the residents of 11 geographical areas. The other 6 were appointed by the Governor. One of those appointed was Reverend Samuel Maycock who was a young and well-regarded minister at the church. He is one of the ancestors of the Kirkpatrick family. In fact, he is a grandfather of mine, with Richard Pace, both 13 generations back. The basic government they formed created the basis for Virginia and later the United States Government. There are recognition ceremonies planned in Jamestown this July and August to recognize that Assembly and other important events that occurred 400 years ago in 1619.

In March of 1622, the native Indian Chief directed his underlings to "attack and kill as many settlers as possible". The Pace family had an Indian boy named Chacon living with them. He loved the Pace family as they had helped educate him and he had become a Christian. A brother of his appeared and told him the Chief had issued orders that he was to kill the Pace family the next day. When the brother left, Chacon immediately told the Paces about it. They proceeded to secure their plantation and rowed across the James River in the middle of the night to find the Governor and advise him of what they were told. The Governor secured Jamestown and there were no losses there. Thus, Richard Pace became known as "the man who saved the Colony from the massacre of 1622". However, 347 residents in surrounding areas were lost. That included Rev. Maycock who died on his plantation, along with two other men, about 30

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE:

miles upriver from Jamestown. Coincidentally, he had an infant daughter named Sarah Maycock, who was being cared for in Jamestown by a family friend. It appears the mother had died, possibly in childbirth. When Sarah reached adulthood, she married George Pace. So, she provides the ancestral link to Rev. Samuel Maycock. The story of large land ownership that she was given because of her father's connection is quite interesting. It was at least 5,000 acres held by the government for her. Jody and I were once able to visit the property which is now part of a Virginia Forest Area. I found a most helpful ranger who, when he heard my story of the Maycock connection, went out of his way one day to take us into the Maycock home site, which is now secured against public access. It was a most interesting visit. It is located directly across the James River from some of the oldest plantation homes in Virginia, which are visible from the Maycock site.

The history of families from Jamestown to Gothenburg is long, complicated, and very interesting as so many of the individuals were explorers with great courage who truly were involved in the formation of the America we know today. I will leave the lineage details for another day in order to contain space. The Kirkpatrick's became part of the lineage when two brothers, sons of James Kirkpatrick the Patriot of South Carolina married twin daughters of Jesse Lane and Winifred Aycock who was a Pace descendant. These were the two oldest sons, named Thomas Newton – who we descend from – and brother John.

Let me try to briefly summarize this lineage. The Pace family descended as Paces until about 1735 when Rebecca Pace married her 2nd husband William Aycock in North Carolina. Winifred Aycock, married Jesse Lane who was a descendent of a family that originated in the greater Jamestown area in the late 1600s. They had 14 children which included a number of leaders as America was getting started with Governors, Presidential Candidates, and Military hero's included. Jesse was a Patriot and served at Valley Forge and various other places including the battle at Kings Mountain which began the turn to Patriot success against the British. After the Revolution, the Jesse Lane family was in Georgia where I have found land documents for his ownership of land there. The youngest two daughters of the Lanes were twins. They married Kirkpatrick brothers, Thomas Newton and John who were the oldest sons of James Kirkpatrick, the patriot of South Carolina. The Kirkpatrick's of Gothenburg and vicinity descend from Thomas Newton who at one point was the founder of Edwardsville, IL. He was a distinguished fellow who while there served on the body that drafted the first Constitution for the State of Illinois. At some time he became friends with the individual who served as the first Governor for Illinois. I have found his works in libraries in several states as we have traveled around to research the family. He was a rather interesting individual. He also was present with his family in SC when a group of Tories barged into the family home on January 1, 1781 and proceeded to murder his very patriotic Father, James (the Patriot) Kirkpatrick. That is still a well known story in the Bullock Creek area of South Carolina where the Kirkpatrick family lived and many descendants still do. I have been fortunate to have met a number of those relatives in recent years as we have visited there a number of times. About a year after that murder, three men – disguised as British Soldiers, appeared at the home of the murderous Tory and one who was a Kirkpatrick relative took care of the Tory with one shot between the eyes to settle the score of the Kirkpatrick family for his murderous actions against James.

This is about all there is room for to very briefly describe the Jamestown connection to the Kirkpatrick family of the Gothenburg area. The research on the family by a 2nd cousin, John Kirkpatrick, of Missouri, whose grandfather was a brother of my grandmother in the Cozad area, is quite extensive and interesting. He has been the source of much of my information on this family, and we have become best of friends in the process. He has researched the family back to Scotland in the 1100s. Some of those stories are fascinating, including how the Kirkpatrick family helped Roger the Bruce become King of Scotland in the early 1300s. It is another most interesting story of the way the Kirkpatrick family has behaved when they decided something was important. And, the preserved castle at Closeburn, Scotland, seems to be a fine piece of family history. I believe the actions of our Jamestown ancestors is something to be proud of. And, the Jamestown Society is a good organization that is actively involved in preserving the heritage of the Jamestown Colony along with those who are vigorously exploring it's history and continuing to find amazing things.