

Our 2020 exceptional partners:

- Alp & Dell retail Cheese
- Alpine Slicing & Cheese Conversion
- Cheese Louise, Inc.
- Colony Brands, Inc.
- Darlington Dairy Supply
- Dave and Glenda Buholzer
- Ron and Sue Buholzer
- Steve and Thea Buholzer
- Decatur Cheese Co-op
- Darlington Dairy Supply
- DeVere Company, Inc.
- Diane Knautz
- Edelweiss Creamery
- Emmi Roth USA
- Foreign Type Cheesemakers Association
- Klondike Cheese Factory
- Maple Leaf Cheese Co-op
- Maple Leaf Cheesemakers, Inc.
- Mill Creek Cheese, LLC
- Bank of New Glarus/ Sugar River Branches
- Jane Paradowski
- Randy and Mary Pittman
- Precision Drive and Control
- B&L Steinmann Trucking
- Super 8 by Wyndam
- Regez Supply Co. Inc.
- Bill, Carolyn Robichaux
- Roelli Cheese Co. Store
- R. Mueller Serv.& Equip.
- Silver Lewis Cheese Co-op
- Steve & Glennette Stettler
- Vilutis and Company
- Wengers Springbrook Cheese, Inc.
- Wis. Swiss & Limburger Producers
- Wis. Cheesemakers Assn.
- Woodford State Bank
- Gail and Chuck Zeitler



"Cheese Is Our Culture" <sup>tm</sup>

# Culture, Curds, and Cheesey Chatter



October, 2020

A Publication of the National Historic Cheesemaking Center



**VISITORS FROM BRAZIL—** Luiz Gustago, with his wife and daughters, paid a visit to NHCC in September. Ken Klassey, board member and docent that day, made the two girls happy with coloring books, crayons and “cow” pencils. The girls were none too happy with posing for a photo, though.

## REMINDER DATES

The Center is open for season!

Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays

NHCC general meeting Oct. 14 at 5 p.m. at the Center.

Fall Clean-up Day

Oct. 19, Monday, 9 a.m.



Volume 13, Issue 10

*Thanks to Colony Brands Inc. for the printing of Culture*

## *Stirring the kettle.*

*With President Jim*



The days of Autumn are upon us, with a chance of frost forecast as I write this. From what I have seen on the social media, the fall colors are really exploding in the North woods.

Fall is my favorite time of the year, with air that is crisp, all kinds of goodies at the farm market, mums in bright hues.....ahhh beautiful fall.

In this column, you will see me with probably the ONLY cheese cloth facemask in the state! It is not my general covering, though, as I either use a regular mask or a face shield in public.

Back story: several weeks ago I received an email from Bill Tyre, executive director and curator of Glessner House in Chicago. Bill noted that

he would be coming to Wisconsin to tour the NHCC museum and cheese factory.

Bill, accompanied by Deneen Bryce, who made me the cheese cloth mask as a joke, thoroughly enjoyed their tour.

In Bill's words: "I will never take cheese for granted, again! I especially enjoyed the cheese factory (how amazing it survived all these years) and the butterfat testing machine. "



Glessner House was built in the late 1890's by John J. Glessner, a vice president of International Harvester, and a cousin. It's located on S. Prairie Ave., and is worth a visit!

*Until next issue,  
Jim*

***A HUGE thank you to our 2020 valued business members, listed here:***

### **2020 Business and Supporting Members**

Sherry Anderegg  
Harry & Diane Bowen  
Donna Douglas  
Mike and Audry Einbeck  
Jack & Rosemary Forcade  
Ron Goecke  
Terry & Mary Ann Hanna  
Mike & Deb Hutchinson (Rural Insurance)  
Benjamin Johnson  
Harvey W. Kubly, CPA  
Virgil & Carol Leopold  
Michael Moran  
Mueller Consulting, LLC  
Bill & Marilyn Ross  
William & Joan Schmid  
Mark Steinmann  
Bonnie Zumkehr Sauey  
Henry & Melva Tschanz  
Janet Zee & Ron Purintun

Badger State Propane  
David & Jean Busker  
Steve & JoAnn Esser  
Dennis, Janice Everson  
Gile Cheese LLC  
Terry Goetz  
Nate & Joanne Hare  
Ken Klassey  
Lake Country Dairy  
Jerry & Lynn Lokken  
Loren & Lois Meinert  
Myron & Geri Olson  
Jan & Gregory Schwartzlow  
Millie Stauffer  
Bill Stuart  
Bonnie Zumkehr Sauey and Craig Sauey  
Wisconsin Cheese Group  
Zwygart Family Partnership

Deborah & Bart Briggs  
James Curran Sr.  
Eau Galle Cheese  
Bob & Nancy Faith  
Jim Glessner  
Gary & Corie Grossen  
Jim & Anita Huffman  
Nathan & Sarah Imobersteg  
Greg & Julie Knoke  
Lanz Furnace & Fireplace  
Douglas Mayer Transport  
City of Monroe  
Pine River Pre-Pack, Inc.  
David & Holly Schmid  
Dan & Ann Stearns  
Shullsburg Creamery  
William & Christine Viney

***To be listed here, donate a business membership!***

## News from the industry



The Burnett Coop had the pleasure of working with four wonderful interns this summer! Burnett thank s them for spending the summer with them!

**Did you have a reason for choosing Burnett Dairy?** "I have worked at BDC for four years and have always enjoyed this company." - Kevin Volendorf, Production Facility Intern

**What was the highlight of your internship?** "One of the highlights was the wide range of exposure I was given in the area of research and development, and the effort my supervisor put forth to help me learn as much as I could." - Rebecca Tabler, Food Science Intern

**Did you have a reason for choosing Burnett Dairy?** "I loved the idea of all the different systems that I would be exposed to; this was a huge knowledge gain for me. I am passionate about the dairy industry and I am very glad it led me to BDC." - Ted Mark, Production Facility Intern

**Have your career goals changed since your internship?** "My career goal of being an agronomist has been reassured, and I'm much more confident that I am in the correct field for me." - Tyler Peterson, Agronomy Intern



A "MUST SEE" in Monroe...

# The National Historic Cheesemaking Center

& Imobersteg Farmstead Cheese Factory



### HOURS:

Thursday-Sunday 10am – 3pm; Self Guided Tours; Guided Tours at 11am and 1pm

Notice for Regular Hours: Check our website or e-mail for regular hours (after the Covid-19 Pandemic)



### GUIDED TOURS

- Cheesemaking Museum
- Imobersteg Farmstead Cheese Factory
- Restored Milwaukee Railroad Depot
- Authentic Ribsider Caboose

National Museum of Historic Cheesemaking

Milk House Gift Shop

Green County Welcome Center



Corner of Highway 69 South & 21st Street  
2108 6th Ave., Monroe, WI

[www.nationalhistoriccheesemakingcenter.org](http://www.nationalhistoriccheesemakingcenter.org)

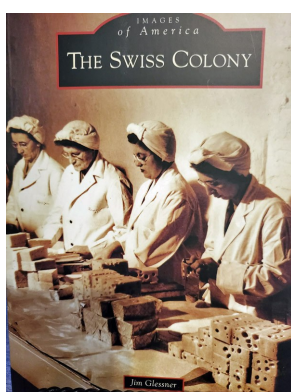
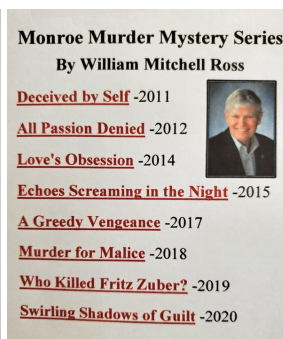
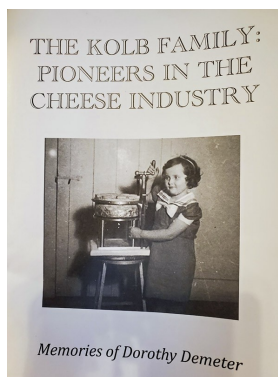
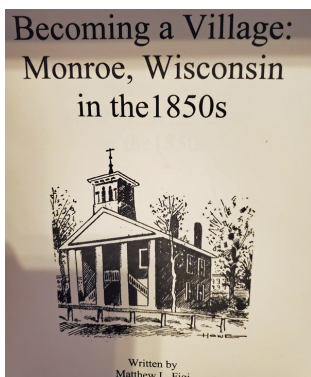
608.325.4636

*"Cheese is Our Culture™"*

# It's Christmas in October at Milk House Gift Shop!



What better way to do your holiday shopping than make a trip to the NHCC gift shop during October! Some items shown to left. Below are individual books related to the cheese industry that make great gifts!



Food grade cutting boards in state shapes make unique presents!

# More Christmas ideas

The Milk House Gift Shop is full of interesting items that make great gifts. We have a new selection of locally created cell phone holders and cheese related jewelry, even plushes.



**THAT'S MY DAD!**-- Sylvia Heiser, Madison, WI, proudly points to her cheesemaker father, Ed Rubin, in a photo displayed in the NHCC museum. Ed Rubin made cheese at the Evergreen Factory, Green County, WI, and later at the Good Hope Factory located at Rice Lake. Sylvia was accompanied by her two granddaughters, Debbie Schlict and Cindy Leonard.



# NHCC reaches its 25th Anniversary!

Additions to the Center proper since we started 25 years ago, are the Imobersteg Farmstead Factory, left, and a cheese wedge for photo taking memories!

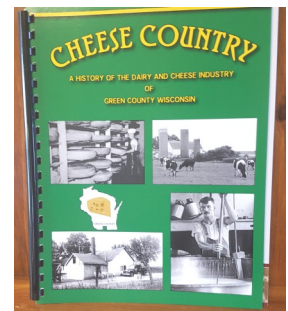


*CHEESE COUNTRY* book is now available through the mail. It features the 12 remaining active cheese factories in Green county as well as many interesting photographs and cheese related anecdotes.

The 114 page book is a must have for cheese history buffs of every age.

The price of \$20.00 includes shipping cost. Make your check payable to: NHCC

Mail to: NHCC  
Box 516  
Monroe, WI 53566



PLEASE CLIP FOR REFERENCE

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P O Box 516  
Monroe, Wisconsin 53566

Phone: 608-325-4636  
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Email address: [info@greencountywelcomecenter.org](mailto:info@greencountywelcomecenter.org)  
YouTube: Seek National Historic Cheesemaking Center Channel



Whitewashing and cow serenades

## More early days events recalled

### Whitewashing the Barn

Back in the 30's and early 40's the cobwebs were swept down and the cattle stables were sprayed with whitewash. If this wasn't done often enough the dairy inspector gave the farmer a bad time.

Christ Klarer was the "whitewash man." He had a truck with a compressor, barrels of water and sacks of lime. He would mix the lime and water and spray joists, beams, and stanchions with the mixture. When he got done the barn was white and clean and looked so fresh.

Our hired man enjoyed having Mr. Klarer come to spray the barn. The reason: Christ would get his machine started up and while he sprayed, he yodeled to the top of his ability. He truly enjoyed what he was doing—both spraying and yodeling.

### Off key music bothered the cows

We had musicians living on both sides of our place. One of John Bridge's sons played a saxophone.

My dad told the *old story*: How much money does it take to bury a saxophone player?

*Answer*: Ten dollars. And the other guy says: Here's \$100, bury ten of them!

Clarence Schroeder, our neighbor to the east, played trombone. He played well and was a member of a band. One day his nephew Rex was visiting. He took the big horn outside and did a lot of unmusical bellowing. Our cows were on the other side of the road in their pasture. The cows were disturbed by the noise and also started to bellow. They all came home to the barn at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Dad was disgusted and milking that nervous herd was no pleasure that evening.

**Editor's Note:** The late Nate Roth, was instrumental in saving and restoring the Old Milwaukee Road Railroad depot, now home to the National Historic Cheesemaking Center.

Once the group, Historic Monroe, had secured the structure and moved it, Nate became the project engineer. His efforts in restoring the structure to what NHCC has today, were unbelievably foresighted. During this, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our opening of the facility, we pay tribute to Nate Roth: woodworker, mountaineer, astronomer, intellectual, carpenter; with a monthly series of his own writings (just recently discovered).



It's Here—  
Decatur Dairy introduces a new cheese spread: Colby-Swiss, developed in conjunction with Pine-River folks!

WCMA's Kirsten Strohmer recently observed a September birthday. The Wisconsin Cheese Makers Assn. notes Kirsten leads events with positive energy and passion for excellence in cheesemaking and notes the group is fortunate to have her on the team. She is shown here with NHCC's at large director Steve Stettler at a judging event.



**RECORDING THE BRICKS--**  
 Our “energetic and determined” assistant director, Deb Briggs, is shown creating a grid for the Memory Brick Walkway. Deb spent several days chalking rows and numbers on the bricks. After many trips in and out to the brick walkway, taking pictures of each section of names, she then entered them in the computer.

This will be a good winter-time project to complete a locator map and alphabetical name index.

**PICKLES** by Brian Crane



The NHCC staff and Memory Brick Committee are looking forward to this much needed update and enhancement. Thank you, Deb!





## National Historic Cheesemaking Center "Cheese is Our Culture™"

### October 2020 - Director Donna's Report

I am happy to report that since opening June 18, 2020, with reduced days and hours, we have hosted (masked) visitors from 28 states and other areas of the world...Peru, Brazil, Russia, and Ethiopia. We are grateful for the volunteer staff that are willing to do the five-hour shift from 10 am to 3 pm. This requires less volunteers per day.

Many visitors comment "we are so glad you are open since many places are closed!" Families with children find that our tour includes several videos that are educational and entertaining. Our NHCC staff enjoys seeing the creative and unusual masks that the small children wear.

### *Cheese Days 2020 - September 18-20* CANCELLED!!!!!!

This year I was really excited about Cheese Days, since I was honored to be named the Parade Marshall and would be fulfilling my honored duty of leading the Cheese Days Parade on Sunday, September 20. Thanks to the "pandemic" Cheese Days 2020 was cancelled and is re-scheduled for 2021.

Well, being the "senior kid" that many of you know I am, I donned my "Wedgie" cheesey attire anyway, and headed for Monroe's Historic Downtown Square (Baumgartner's to be exact!) There I entertained out-of-town visitors, doing the "chicken dance!" Fun! Fun! Fun!

I then headed for NHCC, still in my "Wedgie" outfit, and greeted visitors to the museum, "*mourning*" the "covid-cancelled" Cheese Days 2020.

*I invite all of you to join us next year to Monroe's postponed "Cheese Days 2020" in September 2021!*



P.S. COVID-19 YOU ARE NOT INVITED!

***NATIONAL HISTORIC CHEESEMAKING CENTER***  
***MEETING MINUTES 9/16/2020***

**Members present:** Jim G., Fritz, Henry, Deb, Donna, Jim H., Dave, Fayth, Ken, Steve, Anita.

**Call to Order:** President Glessner called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report was approved with one correction. Motion: Henry, 2nd Dave, C.

**Treasurer's Report:** Deb reported that gift shop sales are up. Motion to approve: Dave, 2nd Fritz, C.

**Director's Report:** Donna reported that 27 states have been represented so far and that visitors are very glad to find something open. People are using the website. Application for a grant to cover the cost of re-designing the brochure has been submitted.

**Committee Reports:**

***Archival/Displays:*** Fritz reported they are meeting every two weeks.

***Building & Grounds:*** Fritz said the AC has been replaced and is working. He sent out bids for the ca-boose railing and steps but received only one response. Motion by Jim H., 2nd by Henry to accept that bid. C.

***Sunshine:*** Millie & Helen L.: Dave Busker is in hospice care.

***Video Interviews:*** Nothing is happening currently.

***Website:*** Deb wants to clarify billing with CKH as they are no longer hosting the site.

**Unfinished Business:**

***25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:*** It is agreed that due to Covid 19, no celebration can happen this year. There was discussion of possibly putting up a banner, signage on the door, certainly including the information on the website and possibly the new brochure.

**New Business:**

***Volunteer appreciation:*** Deb asked for input about volunteer recognition for this year. After discussion it was decided there is too much uncertainty to do an event at this time. Suggestions included doing something in the spring or doing some kind of gift recognition.

***Milk Wagon:*** The milk wagon needs repair and efforts are underway to accomplish that. Loren Meinert would do restoration research as well as preservation steps.

***Election of Officers:*** The floor was opened for nominations, with none forthcoming, Fritz made the motion for the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate presented at the September meeting, 2nd Jim H., C. Officers for 2021: President - Jim Glessner, Vice-President – Henry Tschanz, Secretary – Anita Huffman, Treasurer – Fayth Block, Directors – Ken Klassey, Jim Huffman, Fritz Kopp, Immediate Past President- Dave Buholzer, Delegate at Large – Steve Stettler

**Stirring the Kettle:** Jim G. said there is state grant money that can be applied for to cover losses non-profit groups incurred due to Covid 19.

**Member Concerns:** Sadness was expressed as this would have been Cheese Days weekend.

**Round Robin:** Ken again mentioned the appreciation of visitors that NHCC is open.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn, Fritz, 2nd Henry, C. Meeting adjourned at 6:06PM.



**National Historic  
Cheesemaking Center**  
608.325.4636

**NHCC Hours:**  
10-3  
Thursday – Sunday

**Oct 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <input type="text"/> Diane Knautz	2 Ken Klassey Margo Indergand	3 Fritz Kopp <input type="text"/>
4 <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	5	6	7	8 Jim Huffman Ernest Gebhardt	9 Aleatha Jordan <input type="text"/>	10 Jim Glessner Jud Kindschi
11 Fritz Kopp Barb Kopp	12	13	14	15 Deb Hutchinson Jeanne Schwartzlow	16 John Marean Irene Marean	17 Fritz Kopp <input type="text"/>
18 Jim Glessner Jud Kindschi	19	20	21	22 Bob Blankenhorn (10:30) <input type="text"/>	23 Mary Ann Hanna Jane Paradowski	24 Ken Klassey <input type="text"/>
25 Fritz Kopp Barb Kopp	26	27	28	29 Jim Huffman <input type="text"/>	30 <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	31 <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

# NOTES

**Need a Sub?**

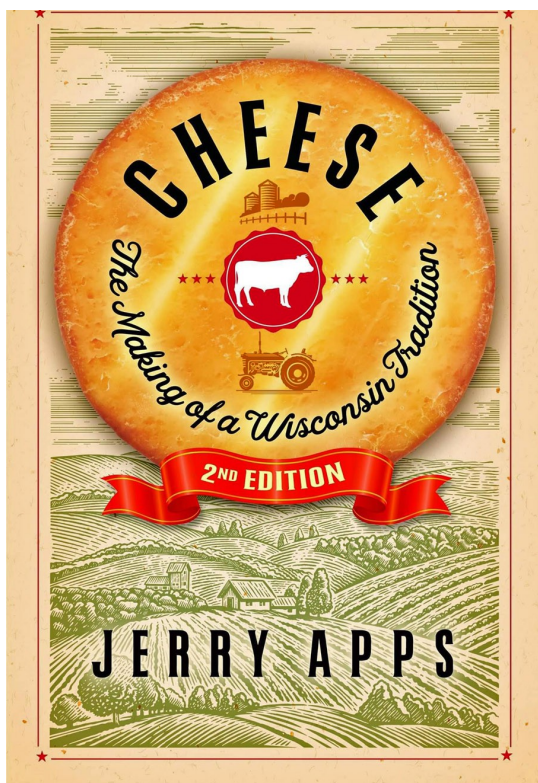
If you have a conflict with the date you are scheduled to work, please call the Center for suggestions and phone numbers of volunteers to call.

**Masks & sanitizing**

At this time, a mask or face shield is required to be worn by volunteers and guests. We can supply one for you, if needed. There are 3 hand sanitizer dispensers. Surfaces need sanitized after each group of visitors.

**Lunch break?**

You may bring your lunch, leave for lunch, or we will treat you to lunch. 😊  
A refrigerator and microwave are available.



**HOT OFF THE PRESS—Jerry Apps new (revised) story of cheese just hit the streets. We will have more about this wonderful book in next month's Culture!**

**Appreciation Dinner delayed**

It is with deep regret that our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will not take place this fall.

We do so wish we could thank each of our volunteers, board members, and supporters in person.

We must continue to respect and protect each other.

We pray that Spring 2021 will bring some relief from stringent precautions and we can plan an event.

**National Historic  
Cheesemaking Center  
P.O. Box 516  
Monroe WI 53566**

**Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Monroe WI  
Permit No. 236**

**Return Service Requested**

*The National Historic Cheesemaking Center is a tribute to those who have gone before...and is dedicated to the hard work and sacrifices of all those in the dairy industry who have made this area of southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois internationally famous.*

*The unique center recalls the rich heritage of the area and is illustrative of the lively cheese industry which still flourishes today.*

*.....Recalling an era that was,  
And will never be again!*



**IMOBERSTEG CHEESE FACTORY**

**National  
Historic Cheesemaking  
Center  
2108 6th Avenue  
Monroe WI 53566**