

# Albion Academy showcases area's rich history

Submitted by Nancy Durgin of the Albion Academy Historical Society

The Albion Academy Museum is located just north of Edgerton in the center of the Village of Albion, 13 miles west of Fort Atkinson on Hwy. 106 and just off I-90's Exit 161.

The Academy educated high-school age men and women together in the same classrooms, which was unique in 1853-1918. The Academy was also licensed as a "Normal School," so many rural school teachers graduated from here. Other graduates became lawyers, nurses, educators as well as farmers, merchants and housewives.

Today a replica of Kumlien/South Hall houses the documents, photographs, journals, furniture and household items of these alumni and other Albion residents. The two-story brick building shows how people lived in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Next door is the Sheepskin School, a one-room school (1865-1959) moved from just west of Edgerton. Together they showcase the educational opportunities available to early Wisconsin families.

sin families.

The museum complex is open on Sundays from 1-4 pm in June, July and August. We are closed on July 16 for Edgerton's Tobacco Heritage Days. Admission to the museum is free, but donations are welcome.

Call Nancy at 608-774-4339 for information or to schedule a tour on a different day. There are volunteer opportunities for docents, grant writers, those who like gardening, painting, carpentry, computer work (website, social media) and housekeeping. We accept items that pertain to education from 1853-1965, especially if it is from Albion Township, the Sheepskin School or Albion Academy.

Our Pie and Ice Cream Social will be held Saturday, Aug. 12, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the cool museum basement during the Albion Stroll Through the Park Craft Fair. We will also be hosting a food stand in the park, the former campus for the Albion Academy.

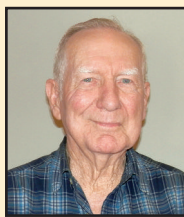
*Editor's note: See three sidebars from the Albion Academy archives detailing historical items of interest.*

From Albion's past

## Albion business: Severson Transport

Submitted by the Albion Academy Historical Society

Arthur Severson started his business in Albion in the 1930s, hauling cans of milk to the Albion Creamery from the local farmers. The milk was emptied into tanks for separation of the cream and the cans were washed and returned to the farmers or the person who delivered the cans.



**LAVERNE  
"BUBBER"  
SEVERSON**

Severson purchased some tanker trailers in 1940 to haul Grade A milk from the Creamery to Chicago. His son, "Bubber" (Laverne), rode along on these runs to help and to get familiar with the route. On a Sunday in 1943 Bubber turned 16. On Monday his Dad took him to Madison to get his driver's license, and that same day he took a loaded tanker to Chicago by himself!

From that time on Bubber was part of the Severson operation. On August 12, 1949, at the annual dinner Art Severson rewarded his young drivers with a special night out with a meal, trophies and an extra week of paid vacation for their great safety records! Bubber had driven 266,040 miles in 3 years without an accident valued over \$100. The other two men were Wesley Ciebell, 373,560 miles in 4 years and Marvin Amundson, 325,640 miles in 3 years and 11 months. Eventually, Bubber spent more of his time in the office and maintenance area of the business than driving. He



**Bubber and Art Severson with truck Bubber drove to Chicago at age 16. (Photo courtesy of Albion Academy Historical Society)**

said their best drivers were farm boys because of their early experience with machinery.

The Seversons expanded the business in 1948 to include hauling tobacco to West Virginia and bringing steel back to Wisconsin. They built the "steel shed" with its 10-ton bridge crane to unload the steel from the open-top trailers to flat bed delivery trailers. Bubber says they could transfer 4 trailer loads in one day! The company also hauled plastic pipe and stainless steel.

After hauling loads of Dario-Cool refrigerated tanks for farmers to have in their milk houses, Severson Transport quit hauling milk in 1956. Other companies

could haul it cheaper. The company used tankers, "vans" and "open-top" trailers.

In 1978 Bubber bought the business from his Dad. He and his wife, Bev, raised 2 sons, Scott (Christine) and Brad (Lynn). Bubber sold the Severson Transport property to Albion Township in 2002. Later he and his wife, Bev, moved into Edgerton. The township used the office area for their office until the town hall was remodeled, and today the buildings are just used for storage.

*From Albion Academy Historical Society archives*

*Albion Town Hall display for 2017*



**Art Severson presents safety awards to Bubber, Wes Ciebell and Marvin Amundson. (Photo courtesy of Albion Academy Historical Society)**

# FERMENTING CELLARS WINERY 2017 SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

You are invited to join us on the patio for music and food this summer.  
\$5 cover charge unless otherwise indicated. Please no tastings during patio parties.  
Fermenting Cellars Winery sells wine by the bottle or glass and beer.  
Wisconsin Law prohibits carry-ins. Thank you.

### Saturday, May 27

1-9 pm - Mini wine tasting, flight of 4 wines / Decatur Cheese and Chocolate plate - \$25

### Saturday, June 10

6-7:30 pm - Music by Mike Walmer.  
7:30-9 pm - Music by Steve Weber and Friends Anytime Catering Chili and Cheese Dog meal. Off Kilter Brewing (offkilterbrewing.com) will be here with samples of their beers: One Eyed Jack, Shwideman, and 0-do-ya. These beers will be available for purchase.

### Saturday, July 8

6-9 pm - Music by Swingfish / South Padre Island Seafood Truck

### Friday, July 14

6:30-8:30 pm - Music by Ken Curtis / Cheese Trays available for purchase - \$6

### Saturday, July 15

6-9 pm - Music by Rewound Image /

Anytime Catering Italian Bar

### Saturday, July 22

Doors open at 5 pm for the Jest Company Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. Preregistration is required. Please go to <https://squareup.com/store/fermentingcellarswinery> to register and view the event.

### Saturday, July 29

6-9 pm - Music by Justin Jay Trio / Anytime Catering Taco/Nacho Bar

### Sunday, August 6

2-4 pm - Allegheny Strings - old time mountain music, featuring the mandolin, mountain dulcimer and banjo. Tom and Nancy Garrett. Donations to go to Seeing Eye Guide Dog. Cheese trays and Moonshine Mimosas available for purchase

### Saturday, August 12

6-9 pm - Music by Rob Tomaro /

Anytime Catering BBQ sandwich meal

### Saturday, August 19

6-9 pm - Music by Banana Wind / South Padre Island Seafood Truck

### Saturday, August 26

6-9 pm - Music by Mary Harris Trio / Anytime Catering Fried Chicken meal

### Tuesday, September 12

5-8 pm - Girls Night Out

### Saturday, September 16

6-9 pm - Music by Dan Brusky / Steve Deli Dog House / the Hop Garden will be offering their beer samples. Beer from the Hop Garden will be available for purchase. Vendors Market- Pam Marx with Touchstone Crystal Jewelry, Pat Olmsted with embroidered hand towels, Todd and Deb Hefty with Stone Shed Adirondack chair order forms and "vintage plate" garden flower art, Brian and Annie - VannieGogh

Paint Togethers with decorative wine glasses; Cheryl Giesen with recycled wine bottle decorations, Jen Ketterer with PartyLite; Tana Marie of Tana's Skin care with Osmosis Waters and Makeup products and essential oils.

### Saturday, September 23

6-9 pm - Music by The Dirty Grove / South Padre Island Seafood Truck.

### New Summer Hours:

**Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays:** 1-9 pm with the exceptions below.

### Beginning June 2

we will be open for public tastings 1-9 pm on Fridays.

**Saturdays June 3 and 17 and Sundays June 4 and 25,** we will be open for public tastings from 6-9 pm.



Please like our Facebook page to watch for closings for private events throughout the summer.

2004 W. Manogue Rd. • Janesville, WI. 53545 • **608-295-8972**

Fermentingcellarswinery.com