

Rethinking of Old Orleans

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C.W. Lattin, County Historian

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Old Home Day 9-21-01

On Sunday, Sept. 30, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., the Medina Historical Museum will feature an Old Home Day.

This event will take place at the Medina Historical Museum and Ridgeway Town Hall at 406 West Ave. in Medina. It will be an event recognizing the past with demonstrations, displays, fashions, entertainment and tours of the museum.

Being called Old Home Day, it reflects past community endeavors known as Old Home Week.

One of the most gala events ever to take place in Medina was the Old Home Week of 1906. A similar Old Home Week occurred in August 1956 upon the 50th anniversary of the one in 1906.

Our picture post cards from 1906 show extravagant decorations. Business blocks were heavily draped with bunting and flags. People lined the streets, 10 and 12 deep, to watch the spectacular parade down Main Street.

The White's Hotel tower looms in the far distance. The other post card shows the four corners at night looking east down East Center Street.

Let us remember the light bulb was a relatively new invention at the time. Note the strings of lights on both sides of West Center

Street. Medina, a proud village was indeed showing off electric power generation and its manifold advantages as an industrial center. Both of these post cards were specially made for the Wright and Ross Drug Co., which was located in Bents Block.

As part of this year's Old Home Day, several area residents have agreed to present an Antique Collectables Show. Here is a partial list:

Ron Stork will show and tell about monitor clocks, which were once manufactured in Medina. Frank Messore will show his collection of mortars and pestles once used by druggists and Lee Roberts will describe uses of his collection of antique wrenches.

Alice Zacher will show off her antique sewing equipment while Pat Farnum will provide vintage linens.

Nancy Berger will display her extensive collection of butter pats, and Cindy Welsh will show vintage lamps.

At 2 p.m., Gretchen Sepik will do her impersonation of "Surlly Sai," a make-believe character who works as a cook on a canal boat.

Games for children will be provided and the Lions Club will serve hot dogs.

