

Now for the real-life history. What was life really like in the old days?

That depends on when. So let's start with us. Our ancestors have been on Earth for thousands of years as our present species of Homo Sapiens they were and are us. We are the same.

Humans before civilizations thousands of years ago looked much like us. Their bodies were used to living outside with much physical labor and no shaving of hair. Their brain was keener and they were better educated than us. Now wait a minute What? Better educated. Yes We are dumber and stupider now because we do not have to think much and have most everything done for us automatically. Think I am wrong well OK let's put you in your great great grandparents place a few thousand years ago and have a reality check. Let's teleport you back in time into their place.

You find yourself in a forest and it is a bit cold. You have no clothes, no phone, no car, no city, no knife, no fast food or stores just forest with wild animals. Let's say you are alone with your spouse.

Look around you have no house, no bed, no toilet paper and have never been to a school or taught to read and write.

There are no electric poles or man-made electricity or civilization with 911 no hospitals or doctors.

OK so you are thirsty and hungry And cold but have no money or stores or places to buy food.

OK modern educated person what are you going to do for food, water, shelter, a place to sleep and protection from the wild animals which include wolves. It is getting colder do you know how to make a fire without matches? If you were in the scouts you at least learned that.

Welcome to your ancestor's world a world of harsh survival. You better get to it because it will be getting dark soon and you are on your own with your modern education.

For hundreds of thousands of years mankind's highest technology tool was the stone.

It took our ancestors thousands of years to discover things such as how to start a fire and keep it going and to develop more and more advanced tools. Starting with sticks, bones rocks then to chipped rocks that had a sharp edge then arrow and spear heads. And they learned to gather food from plants and to hunt in groups. They discovered inventions such as the spear thrower, the bow and arrow. They found animal hides could provide protection from the cold and that grass and flax could be woven into clothing and other useful articles like carrying bags. Children had to be nursed until they were old enough to chew solid foods from the wilderness. Vines and plants could be woven and made into shelters and a fire would provide heat and protection from wolves. But fires needed constant feeding and to let it go out was a big mistake because making a new fire was difficult and time consuming. And a pack of wolves could eat you or your children before you got another fire made.

They lived outside all day and were dependent on the weather and the search for food and water.

A major breakthrough was the discovery of language but there were over ten thousands of languages because each group spoke its own language. (Today we are down to 1,700 languages world wide but need to work on creating one which is easy to learn and superior like International Vocabulary Esperanto because humans need to understand each other especially in emergencies.)

Humans lived in small groups and tribes because there was more support from others and division of labor allowed men to be hunters and women to take care of children and do cooking. Unfortunately women got the worst of this deal for thousands of years around the world.

A man would spend hours and hours hunting or in preparation of his hunting tools such as bows and arrows. Women and children would gather wood for the fire and tend the fire. Cooking was done outside as there were no fireplaces and unless they make shift shelter had a vent hole or chimney the fumes would be too strong. Some placed the fire at the entrance to the sleeping area which had the advantage of keeping animals away and being easy to watch and tend to.

Beds were just a piling of grass or soft plants.

They would gather food from plants and butcher and cook animals brought to the group by the hunters. They also had to tend to the children, scrape fat off of hides work the hides, and make clothing usually from hides or spun into yarn and then woven from plants such as flax.

Young children also learned by playing and watching parents and older siblings do things.

Camp fires were sometimes times of story telling and singing.

And terribly there was a lot of warfare between human tribes. They lived in real constant fear of attack from hostile humans or animals day and night. How sad and with reason. Because of the constant brutal warfare.

Humans are both the smartest animal and the stupidest because no other animal spends as much time killing its own kind. We don't see that in apes, monkeys, deer, lions, tigers elephants etc.

To explain the unknown, humans made up stories passed them on, then the younger people believed the stories usually without question which is how religions started and are continued because people don't ask questions to find the truth or they believe hearsay and uneducated opinions instead of seeking the truth themselves. The Aztecs absolutely believed that a human sacrifice was necessary to please the gods so the crops would be good. Moral codes were developed long before religions or Moses and ten commandments. Most groups used the principal of reciprocity (The so-called Golden Rule) Do unto others as you would want them to do unto you. Positive reciprocity occurred and still does today. They brought you food or did you a favor so later you will return the favor. Also there was negative reciprocity. He took something of yours so you can take something of his.

Science is learning from history and was refined into doing experiments and learning the truth from experiments. Then this knowledge was applied in engineering and by technology. People noticed that plants grew from seeds. This led to agriculture which allowed peoples to settle down in one place and grow food. This led tribes to get bigger and grew into civilizations with more specialization of labor. This allowed hunter gatherers to become farmers and with specialties such as hide tanner, hunter, blacksmith, cooper (wooden barrel maker) doctor and so on.

The discovery of writing allowed knowledge to be shared and passed on rather than lost. This is when civilization really advanced. Civilization advances most when groups cooperate for the common good. Being kind, doing good, the spirit of community and Knowledge are the life blood of civilization when all work for the benefit of all. All for one, one for all united we survive divided we fall.

Our ancestors came from tribes that inhabited Europe and Africa for thousands of years. The vast majority of our ancestors, which number in the millions, were gatherers, farmers and hunters. Only in the last 10,000 to 50,000 years did our ancestors learn that through cooperation the valuable knowledge that led to civilization. They learned to use tools of ever increasing complexity. They learned to use and to make fire. If you think they were not very smart you go out in the woods and make a fire with just your bare hands. You like my boy scouts learn that it takes quite a bit of know how. They learned how to domesticate animals. Theirs was a world of survival where the average life span was usually under 30. They had no modern conveniences or medicine; no food stamps or EMS. Yet at times their lives were as happy. And they paid no taxes, filled out no tax forms and never got stuck in traffic jams. Although the Romans started the modern naming system the barbarians swept across Europe wiped it out returning it back to a single name. Occasionally a place of birth or residence and later an occupation was sometimes added. Among the tribes that may have had our family names were Angles, Barbarians, **Celts**, Jutes, Saxons, Vandals, and Vikings. Some of our ancestors were blond barbarians possibly Nordic pagans. They were very savage in war but kind among one another. The Roman Empire fell about 400 and shortly thereafter various tribes resumed the invasions of England that had been going on for unknown eons. In 410 **Arnulf and his brother Alaric sacked and burned Rome.**

The history of mankind shows that early man had to learn how to survive by hunting and gathering and later

domesticating animals and planting crops. However because some sought power over others the tribes soon learned that just to farm and hunt was not sufficient for survival. You had to be prepared against other brutal men who would sneak up on you and kill you and steal everything you had and rape your women. They would make slaves of the children. So tribes had to become warrior tribes to survive. It is a sad notation of human history that mankind has spent most of his time on this planet preparing to and killing other men. Tribes repeatedly conquered Europe and England in bloody warfare where they murdered, maimed, sacked, and pillaged for hundreds of years. Finally mankind formed civilizations which have now finally given us many years of relative peace but still we have not put an end of wars. We have the capability to build robots who could be programmed as policemen may eventually put an end to wars and killing if they are given the power and tools to disarm all those who would kill others.

In 1066 the Normans under William the Conqueror invaded England. These were called Vikings or Northmen. Our English ancestors are descended mainly from Saxton and Norman lines. Most of our ancestors from our many other family names came from European stock. In fact everyone's ancestors came from tribes.

There were many tribes and tribe federations often named after their location or language. Some are: Celts, Huns, Franks, Vandals, Saxons, Visigoths (Goths), Scots (from Northern Ireland) and Picts (from Scotland), Jutes, Germani, Tungri, Cimbri and Teutones. Aduatuci, "Goths" "Vandals" Gepids Rugians, Sciri Burgundians, Alans, Northmen, Norsemen or Vikings. and more.

What these ancestors all had in common was they lived in tribes, sometimes they were nomads which were bands of families, who hunted and gathered their food rather than farmed; they roamed in search of resources and some learned to fight and plunder in order to survive. They lived this life from around 20,000 years before present time until they gradually became civilized and unified enough to farm and raise livestock. Then they were absorbed into civilized Europe about 500–1500 before present. Knowledge was transferred by example and word of mouth including stories told over campfires. It appears that they moved a lot so did not stay in cities. They were fierce fighters against others including the Romans.

So what was daily life like if you lived in that time. Well since there was no electricity or anything modern They slept in temporary shelters or homes made of natural materials and houses thatched with straw to weatherproof them against rain and wind.

All cooking was done over an open fire most of the time outside but sometimes in the center of the hut. Clay pots, hollowed out stones and various wraps were used before metal pots were finally created. Everything was made from scratch meaning whatever you could find out in the woods during the day. Much of the time it was feast or famine. Most of the day was used in hunting for food or preparing food, making tools or clothing. Everyone had jobs to do even children. Any slackers were soon ostracized and expelled. Everything depended on the weather. There were no bathrooms or showers, or tubs. The woods or a designated spot was the bathroom. There was no toilet paper or toilet seats. It was squat outside without privacy regardless of the weather. In the winter a clay pot could be pressed into service for inside use.

Fear from attack from hostile humans or wild animals was a given day and night. A sad fact of history is that millions of good innocent people were butchered to death or made to be slaves. This is a sad fact not an exaggeration.

Also fear of the unknown particularly at night is a real thing even today. There was no scientific knowledge only superstition. No one knew what beasts and monsters roamed the night darkness. They knew that wolves did. If you are doubtful of this statement about fear you can experience this tonight. Get yourself dropped off at night on a country road that runs thru a big forest. Arrange for them to pick you up a couple of hours later. Start thinking about the fact that there are still wolves around in forests along with cougars and bears. Remember that they have better night time vision than you and better sense of smell and sound. Soon you will experience real fear much worse than on that roller coaster ride which you know you will survive. But for our ancestors this was a nightly event because their meagre huts might not protect them from a wolf pack or beasts of the night.

There was very little good medical knowledge, no good medicine, no doctors, no 9-11 and no hospitals. There were no pain killers or antibiotics. If you broke your leg or had a bad cut or sore you died. There were no eye doctors, glasses.

There were no knowledgeable trained midwives. Many women died in childbirth. Many children died before age 5. Women and children were often made to do much of the work and women for the most part had few rights. Some tribes had a sick women hut where women went when they were menstruating. There no sanitary products for women such as tampons available to them so they could live normal daily lives. They did not even know why they bled just that they were sick. Women sadly also have been the target of much abuse. Women were often the target of abuse and in many cultures such as Islam for example women are second class citizens with less rights than men. Women over much of history have often had to bear not only children bur a heavy level of tedious work.

Ever had a painful tooth. Well there were no dentists or painkilling pills. You had to live with your painful tooth. If the painful tooth got loose sometimes you could get someone to pull it out. Many did it themselves. Tooth pain can be some of the worst pain that people feel and has led to drinking, depression, suicide and deaths. Of course there is the old saying: "Is the patient well enough to go home?" "0 But is he well enough to see his bill?"

The beds were straw mats. And because most people slept on the floor of the hut you shared the living quarters with mice, rats insects, tics, mosquitoes and lice. There was no insect repellent. In earlier times than these sleep was at slow times not necessarily all night. Slept at a campsite one night down south which had tics. Wow what a miserable night. They can be painful and irritating and ruin your sleep.

Despite all of this struggle and misery there were moments of happiness, singing, music and dancing. But would you want to trade with them?

The groups of tribes in Europe had many names but the biggest and longest lasting were the Celts. Contrary to popular legend they were not barbarians as the Roman victors named them.

They had a relatively civilized culture. They had been around for over 1,000 years and longer if you count the pre-Celtic groups. And they lasted in Ireland and Scotland up to the times of the British Empire. They influenced the culture all over Europe and especially in Scotland and Ireland. Their area included Scotland all the way to Asia minor. Although they sacked Rome in 390 they did conquer the Romans. It took the Romans many years to eventually beat them. They ended up influencing Roman culture.

They were civilized at a tribe federation level. Although the individual tribes had skirmishes they pretty much got along. This allowed them to have agriculture and raise livestock. They were some of the best metal workers in history through the Bronze and Iron ages. And they had many skilled craftsmen and traded goods around the world. This could not be accomplished if they were uncivilized barbarians. Yes the tribes practiced warfare and had to go off and defend themselves or sometimes attack others with their swords and this was as is all warfare barbaric. If you look at history one sad fact of mankind is the constant warfare.

These people lived in round houses made of stone or wood and clay filled walls with roofs thatched with straw. These houses were weather proof against the elements. They usually had a fire pit in the center but when possible cooking was done outside because of the smoke. Their clothing was finely made often with many colors. Clothing was shirts and trousers, tunics, cloaks, robes. They had outer robes and shoes. Warriors sometimes had armor and helmets others chose to go into battle naked. Women wore dresses tunics and wraps, robes with much variation sometimes sandals. Both sexes sometimes wore head pieces and jewelry particularly Torcs which were arm rings.

The tribes looked after the children so if a warier was killed or a mother died the children were taken care of. Marriage was by agreement and if they chose to do so they could have more than one husband or wife. But the senior wife or husband had more say. Everything was by agreement with the interests of the children paramount. They also had trial marriages which lasted a year and a day called handfasting. They had strict property rules so everyone was treated fairly. Divorce was also by agreement and there property rules for this

outcome.

The Celts were a hospitable people. Guests were well treated but expected to act with respect. By the firelight there were songs and music sometimes poems or telling of tales. Celtic law also required everyone who owned property to give hospitality to anyone who needed it. Subject to a reciprocal agreement. There were laws against crude gestures and satirizing someone or even speaking ill of the dead. Ways were even provided to undo harm caused by a damaging satire. There were laws for compensating victims. In several ways their laws were better than ours today. And all settled without having to pay a high priced attorney.

Celtic music is perhaps best preserved in the older music of Scotland and Ireland. Instruments used were animal horns, sheep ribs played like spoons, drums like the bodhran (pronounced bow-ran), a circular frame drum. Usually made from treated goatskin stretched over a round wooden frame and a cross brace in the back, the bodhran makes delicious-sounding tones. flutes, pipes (hollow tubes of wood or bone), whistles that resemble recorders and flutes and stringed harps, There were box like stringed instruments all home made. There were also hand crafted reed instruments with and without a bladder bag (known today as bag pipes) although they took many forms. Of course if one listens to Celtic music there are instruments that have been added in just the last few hundred years such as the fiddle, and concertina (an accordion like instrument usually with six sides and bellows). Go to You Tube and do a search for Celtic music and you will find many examples.

Most of our ancestors were emigrants from England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Netherlands, or Germany. They came to the New World for many reasons but mainly because they hoped it would bring them a better life. To come here they often faced life-threatening hardships. First was to give up all that their homes and all that they had known as home. Then they faced an extremely unpleasant voyage on rickety wooden ships lasting from 45 to 140 days. Many died on the way. The living arrangements were miserable and extremely crowded. The "food" consisted of hardtack (a cracker-bread-biscuit), salt meat, peas, and cheese with water. Disease and pirates took their terrible toll as did shipwrecks and storms.

When they got to America they were not welcomed with open arms. Instead they had to eek out a survival having nothing to begin with except determination. Getting started was extremely difficult with long hours of work and doing without. It was a survival existence to start with either in a small town or country setting. Eventually they were able to find paid work, secure or build a better shelter perhaps get land on which to build a farm and in time a build real home.

If they then settled on the American frontier they soon found out that it was a terrible place to be until the particular area they settled in became a state. States formed militias which secured the frontier to an extent. For example in Michigan no settler was safe. Hundreds were killed and scalped even children although some children were used as slaves. By 1710 nearly 6000 Indians from many tribes were visiting near the area of the Fort at Detroit trying to get the French to give them things. This meant that they were hunting in Warren. When the British took over Detroit in 1760 things went from bad to worse. The Indians were used to getting paid for furs but the British paid less and quit buying furs for awhile, but they were buying scalps. This was a terrible time in history. The Indians even dug up graves to get scalps for which they also got whisky. Alertness & Weapons were absolutely necessary for self defense as proven by history.

Most of our ancestors lived and worked on farms. Life on the farm was demanding and largely dependent on weather and seasons. Cooking was done outside until a fireplace could be constructed. The pioneers came with few tools and against terrific odds met with determination what modern people would term impossible problems. Imagine for a moment being left completely on your own in a forest wilderness with no: insect repellent, house or shelter no super markets, restaurants or fast food places, no showers no electricity, no appliances, no telephone, no power saws, no gas heat, no running waters no cars, tractors or trucks, no machines, no radios, TV no packaged foods, drinks, no paper products, no street, no police, no coffee, no credit cards, no job, no toilets no toilet paper. Pioneers felled the trees drained wet areas, constructed shelters, and tilled the land. All food had to be gathered from wild plants or hunted then butchered outside. Everything had to be made by hand. Almost everything had to be done outside in the heat, cold, rain or snow and mosquitoes. If a

he had livestock, pens had to be built, trees and brush cleared and crops planted between the stumps. Life for the first settlers was extremely difficult. Government of the Townships were formed. From that point on we had decent civil government, with justices of the peace. There were armed County Sheriffs and judges to enforce laws. But it was a wilderness with stump farms and dirt trails. Wolves were a problem. A pack of them could bring down a Buffalo. Imagine what they could do to people alone in the woods without weapons. And that sadly happened. Birds and insects ate crops. Wolves and cougars could grab a chicken if you did not have a henhouse.

Daily life on the farm. Get up at dawn. Do the chores and everyone except babies had assigned chores they had to do such as gather wood, milk the cows, feed the animals, clean their quarters. Mom usually cooked and had breakfast waiting when chores were done.

Then school aged children walked to school regardless of weather. Often this was over a mile but usually less than three miles. The children walked alone or with siblings. Pioneer parents, many of which could not read or write put a high value on getting their children an education that included reading, writing, arithmetic, knowledge of science, geography, civics (government) and other topics that would help them in life. They would get together and build or rebuild a schoolhouse within walking distance. There was no bussing and the families usually could did not own enough horses to allow the children to ride them to school. The animals were needed for farm work at home. Farm animals also needed a lot of care, and feeding and sometimes protection not necessarily available at the remote school location.

Any child who gave the teacher a bad time would feel the sting of the switch (a narrow wood branch) on their behind from their father if he found out about it. Children could be pulled out of school if there was work that needed to be done like harvesting. And if a boy was goofing off in school or causing trouble his father could always find hard work for him to do on the farm. Parents usually had to pay a school tax as we do now days, even if they had no children in school. So they expected their children to learn while in school. Unfortunately in todays society children in their teens often goof off in school and many are not diligent learners. A few excel in learning and I see them in the college classes I teach.

Education was actually for the most part better in old days even with overcrowded classrooms & lack of books because students had to learn and had to recite to the teacher or class so learned better than today. They did math in their heads. There were no calculators or computers. They learned history, geography, civics, the Bill of Rights, and learned about the Constitution.

My grandfather with only 8th grade education, helped me with square roots. He said he learned all subjects well because he had to recite them to the teacher and then help teach the younger kids in a one room school Most parents took education very seriously before 1940.

In agricultural societies kids had to work for the family to survive. School masters had to be able to make quill pens, and to defeat the largest boy in the class in a fist fight and maintain discipline. The birch rod or a switch were a much used as was very efficient. Hence the saying spare the rod and spoil the child. Things usually balanced out meaning that the kids did their work. Abusive teachers were usually few and far between but were usually soon removed. Often the teacher has boarded in the same families of the children they were teaching.

Women were also often used as teachers because they would work for less money but had to be courageous to teach (Willis Dunbar 284).

So If you failed in school as a teenager you were considered unsuitable for school and had to work all day on the farm. If a father found out a boy goofed off at school, that boy would probably not want to sit for a few days. The willow switch was considered a great motivator. No one was seriously hurt, and it taught reality, respect and consequences for wrong actions. Of course positive reinforcement is almost always better. And there were tests to verify learning in every grade. Something we need today.

CAN YOU PASS The 8TH GRADE FINAL EXAM of 1890? 8th Grade Essay Exam: Using correct spelling, grammar and good handwriting. No notes. All from your own memory. U.S. History: Name the parts of the Bill of Rights and explain which rights they protect. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion. Tell what you can of the history of Michigan. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe? Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, and 1865? Geography Name each of the states in the USA and Europe their capitals. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Michigan? Describe the mountains of N America. What is climate and what factors influence it? Describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Yukon, Manitoba, Hecla, St. Helena, Orinoco. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude? Give the inclination of the earth and describe its movements. Arithmetic: Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic. 2. A wagon box is 2 ft. deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold? 3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts. per bu, deducting 1050 lbs. for tare? 4. District No. 1 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals? 5. Find cost of 6720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton. 6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent. 7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$.20 per inch? 8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent. 9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance around which is 640 rods? Write a Bank Check, Promissory Note, and a Receipt. Grammar: Give nine rules for the use of Capital Letters. 2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no modifications. 3. Define Verse, Stanza and Paragraph. 4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb? Give Principal Parts of do, lie, lay and run. 5. Define Case, Illustrate each Case. 6. What is Punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of Punctuation. Orthography 1. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e'. Name two exceptions under each rule. 2. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each. 3. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: Bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, super. 4. Use the following correctly in sentences, Cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays. 5. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and syllabication. Civics: Describe the State and Federal Governments of the USA Give a detailed breakdown of the three branches of each. Explain what laws are for and how and why they are enforced. List current community, federal and world issues and your ideas on how they can be solved.

Most of the schools were one room schools with a teacher hired by the community. The teacher had to know most of the basic 8th grade knowledge. Sometimes girls who has graduated from a local school were hired. It gave them income and got the community a teacher. It was a big responsibility to run a school by yourself as a 15 year old farm girl sometimes with boys in your class bigger and stronger than you. So they had to be brave. But young teachers sometimes were given repressive rules to live by: "May not have company of men", "Must be home by 8 pm", "May not ride in a carriage with any man," "May not smoke or drink." "Must not loiter in ice cream stores." "May not leave town without permission, must not dress in bright colors." "Must wear at least two petticoats, and not use makeup," "Must not get married." And they must sweep and scrub classroom floor and build wood fire at 7:00 AM. And they must be able to survive on \$75.00 a month and by all of children school supplies out of that.

Today we have better school buildings but the education that students get varies widely. Many students are more interested in other things and not doing their best to learn so lessons get dumped down and teachers have to spend more time on discipline issues. Disruptive kids get more attention and the good students get less attention. Teachers are not allowed to discipline students now days and the students know they can get away with almost anything that in the 1950s would earn them a trip to the principal's office to feel the sting of the paddle on one's behind. Teachers just get work out. When you have a group of kids who do not want to learn after awhile they just give up because so many students are not caring and listening so why wear yourself out talking to deaf ears.

Only a small part of the school day is spent in actual learning. Students today are in general not held responsible for learning. Final exams need to be required. Some schools today graduate students were below

average even of those in third world countries in reading science and math. I've seen many high school graduates that can't make change without a calculator and don't know even basic knowledge taught in the 1800s such as basic math, basic history civics geography and important health and safety knowledge. Many are lacking in needed modern technical knowledge. Most often this is due to the student or parent not caring or the parent not simply asking the student every day "What did you learn in school today?" Parents telling their children that they expect them to learn every day is a great motivator especially if reinforced with a reward.

Education has been given a back seat in this country and other countries are passing us up. As a college professor I see kids daily who are unprepared for college and life. It's not the teachers' fault rather it is students and parents not taking responsibility and lack of funding, low standards and failure to put priority on education. We need to improve and provide education including occupational training for all. Educational texts should be on school and library web sites available by free Wi-Fi.

geographical note

Just a geographical note about almost any are in the United States. That area has been on several different continents, has been over the south pole and over the equator long before its present location. It has been red hot rock, dry crust, dry desert, tropical rainforest, under seas, under glaciers a mile thick, part of a frozen planet Earth, eroded by water, wind. The miniature horses, camels, giant sloth, saber tooth tiger and dinosaurs died off millions of years ago. The last glaciation ended 11,000 years ago. Around that time Paleo-Indian peoples had walked here hunting the caribou and later Eastern Elk now extinct. The climate gradually warmed Boreal grass then forests appeared pines, spruce, larch, then Aspen, Birch, Cottonwood grasses mosses appeared as the climate warmed. Then came the deciduous Great Lakes forests we see here. The early frontier at the beginning of European settlement abounded in many kinds of animals.. There were big herds of deer, buffalo, pigs, turkeys, bear, wolves. foxes, cougars, bob cats, lots of fish and hundreds of other species of animals. The sky would become dark with the flocks of birds. Pigeons were so numerous that they could be hunted with a stick. Colorful song birds charmed the wilderness with their calls. Swans and geese foraged in the shallows. Stated A M Cadillac in 1701 Indians hunted, fished Waters were so pure one could see the bottom of Lake St Clair and the Detroit River. A few were to be feared such as the wolf, bear, cougar who avoided humans but they would get your chickens. The worst animal of all was here in the billions and killed more people than wars ever did. The mosquito spread diseases and ague which is like malaria. This disease could disable a strong man in just a few days. Many a pioneer suffered greatly. Rats, mice and insects also spread disease and still do.

Part of this work are the Diaries of Daniel J Stewart a Michigan Farmer. These recorded the actual daily life, happenings, weather from 1872-1902 etc. Dan was a strong man who worked hard every day with hard manual labor on a farm without electricity and modern conveniences, but the ague sometimes made him nearly a vegetable. Before 1920 there were no good medicines, pain killers or doctors with real good medical knowledge. Now we have good medicines. But we are being ripped off by excessive drug and medical prices. Americans pay 2- 100 times more for the same items as people do in other countries. Capitalism has failed to regulate itself and as with 30 other countries all poorer than us who have better, affordable universal health care because the government put an end to rip offs and insisted on fair pricing. Primitive peoples often made forts to protect their village against attackers. Today we are not prepared against potential threats. Our army is overseas and our police can sometimes be overcome. In Israel almost every citizen is also trained for emergencies and all of the young people are trained to protect the country. They go to training in which they learn responsibility and what to do in emergencies. In America it sadly appears that our young have no emergency training and are not prepared or have acquired the necessary maturity and responsibility. That leaves us aging veterans to step up should there be a crisis but there is no planning or preparedness to allow us to even do that. Let's make our country prepared to handle emergencies. We can do that. It would be a win win for all

Log cabins took many trees to build and were cold in winter. Usually a lot of little uninvited guests could sneak in as they usually were at ground level with a dirt floor. At first either nothing or animal hides were used for windows. Window shutters were closed to protect during winter and during storms. Roofs were problematic

either leaking water or an occasional critter. Which is why there was a canopy over the bed. No privacy as usually they had only one room and a loft.

Daily Activities The Diary of an American Farmer in Michigan kept by my great uncle Daniel J Stewart shows how life was in the late 1800s. It shows: what was done each day, where they went, what the family did, the weather conditions in Michigan, daily happenings, births and deaths that in some cases were not recorded by the government. It is a treasure of daily information of that era. Farm life in was dictated by the season and the weather. There were no weather forecasts. Weather just happened when it did with little or no warning. Winter forced everyone inside a lot more. Much time was spent tending the fire. The chores still had to be done. That meant the animals had to be fed, watered and pens cleaned. Cows had to be milked twice a day. Wood had to be gathered cut in small sections and repairs worked on. A bed canopy caught critters that fell from the ceiling. Winter was a time to do spinning of wool or flax and to do weaving and husking. The family was almost continually busy with things that needed to be done like husking corn, breaking beans, making and repairing things. Trips to the outhouse were not fun in the winter or bad weather or safe at night due to wild animals like wolves and bears. That is why many had a chamber pot. Not used for cooking. Roofs and buildings had to be protected from ice and snow damage. Kids went to school regardless of the weather. (part of their job) Spring on the farm was welcome relief from the cold and from being indoors. Repairing the tools plowing and sowing were the big items. Hopefully you had enough seeds to do the job. The boys could get out of school if their dad needed them but often it was hard work. Preparing tools, ground preparation, cleaning, planting, weeding and fixing had to be done. Summer on the farm was in the heat, no school, but lots of mosquitoes, Summer work: weeding, often by hand in the sun and heat, cultivation and hopefully no one got sick. Late June strawberry season and sore backs from picking. July raspberry picking and preserving. Early August corn was ready to be harvested. Late summer was the most difficult time of the year with harvesting work. Often from sunrise to sunset. Fourth of July holiday community picnics, food games, fun, fiddle music singing dancing seeing that favorite girl or boy from other farms. Sometimes romance. Wild berries had to be picked, dried or preserved. Autumn harvest time for beans, potatoes, squash, cabbage, wheat, oats, rye, apples, and other crops. Farm Animals provided food, transportation, income, and clothing but had to be fed, housed and looked after daily.

Clothing

Pioneers often left most of what they had and could only bring with them what they could carry. They most often had only two sets which did not include shoes. One was to wear and the other to wear when the first was being boiled. (to kill varmints) Virtually everyone was a farmer with very little money. They could not get money until they had enough of a crop that was not needed to eat or for seed to sell Farmers used flax, and animal fibers to spin and then to weave or knit into clothing. Sometimes animal hides were scraped clean tanned worked to be broken into softer clothing then sewed together to make clothing. Drop spindles were used if they did not own a spinning wheel which was more efficient. After fibers were spun into yarn it could be woven or knitted. Furs and clothing and quilts stuffed with bird down or cattail or other fluffy fillings were warm. Quilts were often made from scraps. Leather was strong. Nothing was wasted.

Wool is a warm and strong material great for clothing. Wool could be grown on the farm. Wool was sheared from sheep, rabbits or from long hair from other animals such as some buffalo, or horses then spinning it, then using looms to make clothing. The drop spindle or spinning wheel were used to spin the wool into yarn. Hand looms were very labor intensive. In other words it took a long time to make cloth. The material was then soaked in water to shrink it, The strips of cloth were then sewed together to make clothing, bags and other articles. In Michigan, most hand made clothing was made of wool which had been woven or knitted. Cotton and wool were not available in Michigan until the late 1800s. Before that most people wore clothing made of deer skin. This was often too hot in the summer and not warm in the winter. It was also difficult to wash as all washing was done by streams by hand. Wool clothing did not come into wide use until the late 1700s. Clothing made from flax is called linen and was difficult and time consuming to make. Linen was strong and long lasting. Some clothing was made from grasses, reeds, nettle or barks of the linden tree during shortage of deer hide or when weather was hot. Indians often went naked in hot weather. Sometimes they wore a loin cloth. This was a strip of hide or cloth worn over one's privates and secured by a belt. Some other animal firs such as rabbit, raccoon and bison were also used. The process of making clothing from these was a long- and difficult-time consuming task.

Whenever possible items were traded for cloth and clothing manufactured by commercial means. Clothing of wool, cotton and linen were lighter, more comfortable and easier to wash. Even the Indians soon adopted white man's clothing which they acquired by trading. stealing or killing the owner who was trespassing on their land. Pioneer families at first lived on a survival basis bring with them the clothing they had purchased or made out east. As fabrics became available it was often cheaper in natural color which was almost white. As general stores opened, they offered inexpensive dyes and people dyed their fabrics themselves. Linen did not take well to dying but cotton and wool did. Later fabrics with many colors and patterns became less expensive. Later on when commercial products were sold in cloth bags, they were also offered in cloth bags of cotton fabric with nice colorful patterns. Farmers wives used these bags often to make clothing especially for the children. Many a girl's dress was made from a feed sack. These were available up thru the 1960s. Before the 1800 people often had only one set of clothing which was worn all of the time. During the 1800s machine made fabric and clothing became available and was offered at an affordable price in country stores which was less than the time and cost of hand made clothing. By the 1900s people had more than one change of clothing. This meant that the clothing got washed more often.

Baths

Just a note on cleanliness. Indians did not bathe unless one counts them swimming in creeks, ponds or lakes. Settlers complained of the fowl smell of many Indians because of their non bathing lifestyle. Prior to the mid 1800s showers and bathtubs were virtually nonexistent.

Washing was done sparingly by swimming or by sitting in a metal or canvas washtub or hand with a wash rag. There were few bath rooms and almost no showers in homes prior to the 1920s or depending on the area and the availability of piped in and heated water. Clothing was usually cotton or wool.

Artificial fibers such as nylon and polyester did not come into wide use until after the 1940s. Soon we will have micro and nano fiber clothing or clothing made from the strongest material on Earth Graphene. This clothing will shed dirt, resist stains and wrinkles, be super strong and protect us. It will be washable just by rinsing in water.

Life was dependent on the weather. Rain water was collected as it was pure. Later big cisterns were built into basements where rain water from roofs was collected. That gave free water. We could do that today and save money.

In late summer or when she had time

The housewife made preserves, jellies and preserved various foods for the winter. Various crops like potatoes, pumpkins, and apples were stored in the cellar. Corn had to be cut, shocked and husked often everyone had to help. Late fall the children returned to school. The sleighs and snowshoes were prepared for use when the snow hit. There were no snow blowers. Sometimes there were winter community events, ice skating, sledding, spelling bees and social gatherings. Sundays there were church services. Some evenings there were singsins, sugar socials, hops, dances.

The good of the Good Old Days:

In general life was slower paced, less hectic than now. Everyone worked even children had chores. There was in most families (not all) Love and Kindness and cooperation. It was thru cooperation that they survived. American settlers were for the most part "civilized." They had respect for each other and acted toward others as they would want to be treated themselves. We call that the Golden Rule. Children were taught to be responsible for their actions. Everyone had their job to do. Everyone pulled their own weight. Fathers were strict. Boys and sometimes girls who disobeyed were whipped with a willow switch, or spanked on behind but seldom abused. Ask old timers they mostly say the results were better than today. (permissiveness)

The Air and Water were Pure. People worked harder physically but were usually happier. There was singsins, barn dances, preachins, barn raising Bees, plowin and quilting Bees. If you read Daniel Stewart's Diary (See them on this DVD) there was even a farmers traveling band. If you visited a neighbor you would most likely be invited for dinner. Train trips on the old Steam trains; Less pressure and stress; Few if any bills to pay. No

telemarketers; Good Hunting with lots of wildlife. Local citizens were aware of what went on in the community and any threats to it. They could and did muster minutemen to defend the community on a few minutes notice. In winter with the dirt roads covered with ice and snow sometimes the only workable way to get around was walk, ride a horse or use a sleigh. A sleigh was the fastest and safest way. They were better than wagons in snow. Dan Stewart's family went out a couple times a week. to the country store and to the school house or church for activities like "singins." However his diary occasionally notes that "The roads are not fit for man nor beast." Remember there were only dirt roads maintained by the local farmer when he had time and there were no snow plows or salting trucks. So a layer of ice could cause your horse to break a leg. Then you had to shoot the horse as horses with broken legs usually did not survive in those days.

Old Time Recreation

Old Old time recreation For recreation in these old days there was first of all walking the crops, buggy rides, horse riding, picnics barbecues good wholesome food. Winter sleigh riding, and ice sliding, sledding and skating. Kids made snow forts and had snowball battles. Bond fire or smaller campfire stories, singing. There was visiting neighbors, barn raisings, house raisings, husking bees threshing parties, singins and social gatherings, often at or sponsored by the local churches, sometimes for young people called hops and sugar socials where young people could meet sometimes resulting in marriages. There were often fiddlers or other musicians, Local farmers daughters married local farmers sons. There were square dances, old time games, foot races, jumping, wrestling, pitching, tug of war, marching and singing games. Contests often included bobbing for apples, pie eating, greased pig, three legged race, potato sac race. There was a little drinking of hard cider often served by politicians at election parties. Sometimes the circus came to a nearby town. People were happy they felt that they were members of a community. They cared for each others welfare, (unlike now where most are alienated) There was a feeling of community a sense of pride and security most families had rifles used against intruders, to get food and for the occasional sheriff posse hunting down a criminal. By the way the girls and women knew had to use the rifle is needed to protect the family.

In some areas early railroads were put in because regular dirt roads would become a sea of mud when wet and become impassable. Plank roads were tried only to rot and become so bad as to break wagon wheels. A rail road was sometimes made of ties with wood rails and a rail car pulled by a horse. At first it had wooden rails, poles strapped to logs then later iron rails. The single railroad car was pulled by horses. Later iron straps were placed on top of the wood but these proved dangerous. After 1840s in many places on the frontier rough housing shelters were replaced with log cabins. Farmers cut down the forests, broke the tough topsoil with ploughs. Horses were not strong enough to break up thick grass prairies. Oxen could do that better. First there were plantings of corn and vegetables planted between girdled trees and tree stumps as the ground was not ready for wheat. These stump farms of the 1830s and 1840s gradually became improved farms with well tilled soil, fences, lives-tock pens, & orchards. Frame houses replaced log cabins. Farms were improved. The use of horses and other animals for transportation declined after invention of the automobile.

US Civil War 1861-1865 was a painful war in which 700,000 died. Many died painful deaths lasting for many hours. Over one half of the military age population served in the Union Army. These deaths could have actually been avoided had intelligent reasoning prevailed. They had not learned from history. The Detroit Free Press called for a negotiated settlement. In 1861 Virginia tried to organize a peace conference to avoid war by finding non violent solutions to the nation's problems. Foolishly these efforts were ignored dooming thousands.

See the drawing of two men driving a bayonet through each other. They never met and had nothing against each other. What did killing each other solve? Multiply that by battles like the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. Resulting in over 50,000 casualties of which were thousands of men who laid there in great pain for many hours dying with no one to help them in their suffering and no pain killer medicine. When you have two groups of men lined up against each other with guns and bayonets and swords the result is going to be carnage painful deaths but is only going to determine who is left standing. This really does not even solve the original problem which caused the conflict. Many wars could have been avoided and are unnecessary as there are much better ways to resolve disputes such as discussion, fact finding, mediation and seeking resolution that is a win win for

all. Thousands have been murdered needlessly in needless battles. We hope that humans will learn from history and solve problems without needless killing.

Doctors before 1900 had little medical knowledge and few medicines to work with and they were often ineffective. There were no pain pills. There were many families who did not have money to pay a doctor so they paid in chickens or other food. Many so called doctors in the 1800s simply bought a big medical book read parts of it then tore out the Certificate that stated they were a "Doctor" in the back and displayed on their wall. Many did strive to learn what they could and help people but their knowledge was inadequate and there were few good medicines.

In the Late 1800s Steam tractors and engines were used on the farm and everywhere. Of course they had been used on railroads across the USA since 1815 thru 1950s. Then there was the industrial revolution in which large machinery was brought into factories. The 1900s so much more industrial revolution with both bigger and smaller machines that did the heavy and tedious work. Electricity and telephones came in too many areas in the 1920s and onward. Some manufacturers began manufacturing things like toasters electric irons. In 1916 in refrigerator cost \$900 by 1920 10000 were sold. Most people still use an ice box. That was an insulated cabinet in which the iceman would place a big chunk of ice. There was a pan on the floor under the ice box which collected the melted cold water. If you forgot to empty the pan and walked up that night in your bare feet you had a very cold surprise on your feet. The ice box had many benefits. It never wore out. It did not have moving parts unless you want to count the doors. So there was nothing to wear out and it did not use any electricity. Still refrigerators replaced them.

The primary method of transportation was by foot and by horseback but the automobile changed that and by 1950 most of the horses were gone.

Henry Ford introduced the model T Ford in 1908. It was designed to be reliable, easy to fix and affordable. It had a reliable four cylinder 20 horse power engine that ran the car up to 45 miles per hour. The model T's lasted many years. 1,000,000 model T's were eventually sold.

World war one from 1914 to 1918 was supposed to be the war to end all wars. Eight million people were killed needlessly. 21,000,000 were wounded.

The Second World War was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945. It involved the vast majority of the world's countries involving more than 100 million personnel from more than 30 countries. World War II was by far the deadliest conflict in human history; it resulted in 70 to 85 million fatalities, a majority being civilians. Tens of millions of people died due to genocides (including the Holocaust), starvation, massacres, and disease. (Wikipedia)

Until the 1940s most people worked and lived on farms and agriculture was the main occupation. World War II led to rapid urbanization and industrialization which meant that much work shifted to working in cities and doing jobs in industry. Later the work shifted to more of our now common office work. Soon bots will take over these jobs without creating new jobs. A bot is an automated computer program that often has a bit of artificial intelligence added. These have already proved they can do many jobs faster, better and more reliably than most humans and they work without pay 24/7 no sleep or vacations needed. There will be thousands of humans put out of work. The covid pandemic in 2020 and shortage of workers have led employers to begin seeking out these computer programs. Employers feel that if a computer program can do a job for free and do it as reliably as a human why should they pay a human. Let the humans go find work elsewhere. The problem is that now automation is replacing humans with computers without creating new jobs. This has not quite played out yet but massive unemployment is coming as it is projected that automation will replace at least more than half of current human jobs without creating very many new jobs..

City Life

Most people now lived in a house or apartment with heating and with electricity and hot water on demand.

They also had many appliances to make life easier for them such as electric iron, toaster, mixer, gas or electric cooking stove, electric razors, hair curlers, radios (1920s) and Television (late 1940s).

Life was a lot easier. We did not have to worry about wild animals. Most people had jobs which provided income and were able to afford necessities. Those without income in the USA could get welfare which at least helped with food and shelter.

Daily life

Most people had: nice beds with box springs and comfortable mattresses. Rooms were heated or cooled on demand. They had fully equipped kitchens with stove, refrigerator and sometimes even a dishwasher. For cleaning of clothes most families had a washer and drier which now washed and dried their now loads of clothes automatically. One or more spouse worked at a job and the other usually took care of the home and children. The children went to public schools Monday thru Friday. Cooking of course was mostly done inside in the kitchen but occasionally outside in a for fun barbeque.

People now worked at hundreds of occupations not just as farmers. Machinery now did the heavy lifting and difficult physical jobs. And from the viewpoint of people in the 1800 the jobs and city life of the late 1900s would be a dream come true and pretty cushy. There were public schools to educate children thru the 12 grade and colleges for higher education. Police and fire departments offered protection. Cities also offered electricity and telephone service, piped in water and sewage service and many offered natural gas fuel.

A new trend in history wars were killing less people

Perhaps humans are learning that having thousands of men line up against each other and kill each other does not really solve the original problem and is a tremendous waste of lives and resources with a huge amount of pain and suffering on both sides.

It appears that we started having more limited wars.

The Korean war of the 1950s killed 54,246 Americans.

Between 1960 now there was increasing urbanization.

The conservative patriotic American Society began to fall apart. Although TV had been kept decent through the 1950s it began to have negative influence on children after that. TV had tremendous influence on our culture. Most Americans became TV addicts. The mass pop culture took over and was much influenced by mass media. It appeared to older conservative persons as dumbed down, foolishness and very consumeristic.

Pop music, Fads and fashions reigned. Phony values were increasingly drawn from TV causing many persons will be out of touch with reality and unconcerned with serious issues. Many people became uninformed, unconcerned, uncaring. This is exemplified by TV programs such as South Park and the Simpsons. Too many of our citizens are ignorant and uncaring about issues of importance. This is putting our way of life at risk.

The pop culture replaced the conservative American culture.

Families left more of the child raising to the TV and to schools. Peer groups had an increasing influence. Commercialism set in. There began a great quest to buy material things. This became an end in itself. The drug and pop cultures increased. Family members became alienated from each other and the community. Crime increased so did teen pregnancy and social alienation.

The Vietnam Civil War 1955-1975, **over 60,000 Americans died because of this unnecessary war.** 7,484 women served. . Many came back wounded or messed up. Paul G Hazen Drive and the nearby park was named after our Center Line Hero is an example of human service finally being recognized. For years very little

appreciation was given to veterans who served their country. There is a saying All gave some and some gave all. How true.

In these conflicts we should ask: Why are we going there? All too often all you need to do is follow the money. Corporations were making billions while our American boys die and the rich got richer. And it happened again in Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Corporations only care about profits. The religion of the wealthy is Greed and seeking more power while hogging the profits and not giving giving workers good living wages. If they shared more everyone would benefit and we could have abundance for all.

Important Question

Why are there now over 800 barbed wire enclosed, manned internment camps across the USA?

For students to check on an era just ask these questions.

Daily life consisted mainly of...

What was like miserable starvation level always looking for animals or plants for food which you had to kill, butcher and cook yourself without a stove.

How were most waking hours spent?

Where did they live?

Were there any stores or restaurants or fast food?

Did they have a house?

Did they have a furnace?

Did they have a stove?

Where was cooking done.

Did they have a nice mattress?

What did one sleep on?

Where did one get clothes?

Did they have electricity or appliances?

Did they have a car?

What did you do for transportation?

What about doctors or hospitals?

When they wanted to find out something how did they find out?

Was there any entertainment?

How did women fare?

Was there TV, Internet or cell fones?

Rights

The following is very important. We Americans formed a government of the people, for the people under our Constitution. This Government has three branches which counter check each other to stop any one group from gaining too much power. The Bill of Rights was approved to give us specific freedoms.[26] First Amendment guarantees the freedom of religion, of speech, of the press, of assembly, and of petition to the government for redress of grievances. Second Amendment gives us the right to bear arms openly; Third Amendment freedom from quartering soldiers in a house without owner's consent; Fourth Amendment protects people against unreasonable search and seizure. No searches without a warrant or probable cause. This is also about privacy that people are supposed to be entitled to have their homes and personal effects private and free from searches. Fifth Amendment no person shall be held for "a capital or otherwise infamous crime" without indictment, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb for the same offense, be compelled to testify against himself, or "be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law." It also prohibits government from taking private property without "just compensation," Sixth Amendment guarantees the right of speedy and public trial by an impartial jury in all criminal proceedings and the right to have legal counsel for the accused and guarantees that the accused may require witnesses to attend the trial and testify in the presence of the accused. It also guarantees the accused a right to know the charges against him. The seventh Amendment guarantees right of trial by jury in almost all civil cases. 8th Amendment: Excessive bail, fines "cruel and unusual" punishment is prohibited. We need to be alert for threats to our rights and be prepared to defend our freedoms. The Patriot Act

[27]and Military Commissions Act [28]took away some of these rights many feel unconstitutionally. The feds now record our phone calls and Internet usage, financial transactions daily and put our pictures, actions, locations, contacts and our private information into big databases. (CBS NEWS 29) There is also now surveillance of citizens from many cameras in and outside of buildings which can output into face recognition software and your comings and goings can now be tracked and stored in databases. Tiny RFID chips the size of this . ← are being placed in everything so that everything will be trackable. [30] Human Rights have become very important and because they are being ignored people are suffering and dying here and around the world. That is unnecessary, inhumane, and absolutely unacceptable at this time in history. Most countries have agreed to The Universal Declaration Of Human Rights [35] It states “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights” and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood” Here are some of the rights in the UDHR which has been accepted by most nations: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person, not to be held in slavery or servitude, or be subjected to torture, No arbitrary arrest, be presumed innocent until proved guilty in a public fair trial, privacy, freedom of movement. to leave any country, and to return, to seek and to enjoy asylum, to change nationality, Men and women equal right to marry and divorce, and during marriage by free and full consent of spouses, to own property. Not be deprived of his property. Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; freedom to change religion, right to freedom of opinion and expression; receive and impart information and ideas through any media, of peaceful assembly and association. Freely chose representatives to government, right to work, choice of employment, favorable conditions of work protection against unemployment, equal pay for equal work. Everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay and to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups. All have right to share in scientific advancement and its benefits. See Universal Declaration of Human Rights in files

Future

Just a note I have a good score on predicting the future as I wrote a book on world problems in the 1980s and reviewed it in 2019 and discovered I was pretty much right on.

So Why do this now. It is for you. Being a social scientist I think I may have good insight into things and may at least present a few ideas that may be helpful to you. Being in my 80th year and also been a social worker and been at the highest levels of government intelligence this experience and knowledge could be useful to you.

The future of course depends on what we do now and not doing now. In the USA we are not adequately preparing for our future which is going to be guided by neglect and probability rather than intelligent planning.

The only thing certain is change. The data and information explosion will continue to grow. One good thing is that medicine is going to improve for many people but not for all. There will be better prevention of disease and better medicines and treatments. Medicines are going to be custom made for each individual. If you are taking several pills now they may soon all be combined into one pill just for you. The Chinese are working on this because they are developing the technology and that is one reason why they are studying the DNA of every American they can find information on. This is so they can sell as custom medicines that work just for us. The Chinese will probably surpass us in many technologies because they are doing scientific research and training their bright students on it now. Whereas in the United States and Europe we are not putting funds into research as we should be doing. Remember the Chinese have more bright kids and we have kids and they are educating them and they're doing it under big brother. And I am not exaggerating big brother is well used in China now. If you dare say anything against Chinese leaders you may be taken away and tortured then killed. Yes check it out I speak the truth.

If you haven't read a review of George Orwell's 1984 you better make that part of your education now because big brother or better big brothers plural is an increasing phenomenon around the world. I worked for NSA and did spy work on the American people. Our leader used to brag that "we try to get everything on everybody and we do." Will it is a well known fact that governments including ours and big corporations are building big databases on us as individuals. I can tell you with assurance that our gov't records almost everything you do on the Internet and everything you say on the phone and all of your locations, where you go, sometimes what you do and they record all of your financial information. Both your and my pictures are in the FBI database which includes our drivers license pictures and anything we put up on Facebook. Soon the information from public cameras with face recognition and license plate scanners with the added locations will be added to their database file about you. These are facts check them out and ask somebody in know. I have nothing to gain at my old age from giving you false information.

I also warn you you should be careful of what you say and do because like in China big brothers are watching and listening. How much of your financial dealings are in cash money and how much goes to the banks and credit cards? With most people most of their money dealings go through credit cards and banks which are recorded by the fed. Think about it. Am I right?.

Your financial transactions are of importance. Paper money is no longer based on a gold or silver standard like it used to be and has only the value that the fed allows.

RFID chips and powder

RFID chips are tiny electronic circuits as big as this dot . But actually Hitachi has now made them as small as talcum powder. What do they do and why is this important to you? When a radio frequency wave in shined at them they send back a long unique code number. RFID powder can be placed on or in almost anything such as crops for example and then at a later date let's say someone discovers this crop has food poisoning. An e-mail can be sent to stores and food places to alert them and a scanner can scan the inventory and easily find any packages of that crop and thereby save lives. RFID powder can be used for efficient inventory and the tracking of just about anything and everything including people. In the future just about everything will be tracked. That is great for inventory in shipping and tracking of shipping. It works great for spotting thieves stealing things from stores. But combined with surveillance cameras at every intersection big brother could know where you are most of the time. Well is that good or bad. If you are tracking a thief perhaps that is good. Otherwise it may be an invasion of your privacy. But whether or not this will happen depends on what our government leaders do. Many people already get speeding tickets from remote cameras on freeways. You can't beat that ticket because the camera is "calibrated" It has a high resolution picture of your license plate showing your calibrated speed and also has a picture of the driver. And my city has just ordered surveillance cameras to look at for license plates of cars which have expired or which are wanted by police.

But actually the above is not the future it's already here but most people are not aware of it.

Automation has put thousands of humans out of jobs. Where are the elevator operators? Where are many bank cashiers? Many have been replaced by ATMS. How about cashiers in grocery stores? Good luck finding a live one. Self Serv checkouts have become the majority of check outs in many stores. Were are the Blockbusters, drive in movies and card catalogs in libraries?

Typing pools and secretaries have been replaced by a automatic word processors that you dictate to.

Where are the full Service Gas stations? Indeed many young people have grown up without ever being served by a gas station man who filled your tank, checked your oil and cleaned your windows all for 13¢ per gallon. And all those people found other jobs to replace the jobs are lost but now it's different. As mentioned earlier computer programs with artificial intelligence (called bots) are now able to do about a half of most human jobs and they can do it faster and better and more reliably and work 24/7 and all without a paycheck or asking for a vacation. The Covid pandemic created a shortage of workers and employers are discovering they can replace them with computer programs and save big money. They can also get rid of company cafeterias and restrooms and lounges and big parking lots and the employee benefits and employee pensions etc. Why pay a human

when a bot can do the job for a few cents a day ease worth of electricity. This is happening now and will be increasing.

Big robots in big factories have replaced many humans. But these humans found other jobs. There is a new kind of robot about to come into the workforce. Is a general purpose robot. Sets on a cart has two arms and artificial intelligence. You can push a button in its arm and move its fingers and arms through an action and it records the action or you can tell it what to do. After you do that it can figure out what to do on its own. There is a video on YouTube named "humans need not apply." Take a look at it. It will be worth your while. It shows you Baxter a general purpose robot taking over many blue collar jobs. When these general purpose robots come in the workplace they will replace thousands of humans from jobs without creating new jobs. That's what's different about this automation.

We could have thousands of people laid off work. How are they going to get income? There will be so many that welfare will not be practical. There is a good solution and that is what's called the basic income. One way to create a basic income is to create jobs by setting up solar panels all over particularly on public land. Then have the utility companies buy the free energy generated from this free solar power replacing Coal fired plants and gas fired plants and since this energy came to them free from the sun those profits could be put into a public fund and give every citizen an equal share of it thus giving everyone a basic income. Everyone would have basic income at no taxpayer cost and poverty and welfare could be eliminated. People would still be free to work and make more money. This would be a win win for all.

Another wonderful thing happening is that artificial intelligence is being added to computer programs that will serve us efficiently in the future. Here's a present example: you buy something from Amazon and almost immediately it gives you ideas and shows you other things you might like to buy and it's very good often it does work and Amazon sells even more things and customers are happy because it's things they want and can use. What has happened is the computer program with artificial intelligence which is really advanced computer programming with advanced algorithms have analyzed your data and made suggestions. I spent 20 years trying to find my grandmother's maiden name going to court house is working on microfilm looking at old books. I went on Ancestry and in one minute I had her maiden name. And it said on the bottom of the screen that they used artificial intelligence to find it for me. Wow. So you will see more and more that computer programs with artificial intelligence will be analyzing your data and giving your suggestions and it may be that they are accurate and very useful to you. This will certainly be used in the health fields and medical fields after all who is the best Dr. In the world? Actually it is Watson the supercomputer (who beat the smart humans in Jeopardy) who has been given artificial intelligence and reads all the medical studies and all the treatments and the results of treatments and analyzes them and studies all of the medicines and the results of the medicines and so is better able to advise doctors on what to do. And Watson has proven itself to be better than the world's best doctors because it is up to date and knows the best practices and best medicines to use because it knows the results whereas a human doctor just doesn't have time to learn all of that. As a result in the future instead of you seeing a doctor you may see a nurse practitioner with a cell phone with Watson listening and telling her what to do and you will get better treatment than with your old family doctor. And this will also enable poor people to get better medical treatment around the world. So it may be a better medical future for us.

Humans will be healthier and living longer because of medical research and with gene science they will be able to have healthier and perhaps smarter children.

And of course as technology improves if humans use it for the good of all we could have underground weather proof high speed pod travel between cities and continents. They would be better, faster and safer than airplanes. There would be no danger from weather, tornadoes, hurricanes, ice, or snow storms. The temperature underground is around 68 degrees year round. So no air conditioning cooling or heating is necessary. The tunnel sections could be built by huge machines much cheaper than with human labor and they can be sealed from floods. When underground subways are built and when people can just hop on and get within a block of anywhere we will not need to park or have traffic hassles or big roads or traffic jams. Toronto and other cities are also creating under ground weather free shopping and living areas. This allows seniors for example to get around easier. Climate change wild fires, excessive heat or cold, snow and ice stores would not affect

underground transportation shopping or living areas. It also frees up areas of cities for more parks and less cement making cities more human friendly. Indeed underground living has many advantages. Miss the scenery well wall sized screens can produce beautiful changing scenery better than one plain window. Cities could be filled with Parks instead of cement and planed with peoples comfort in mind.

We will be able to have cleaner air with removal of pollution. Autonomous cars have already proven themselves safer than human drivers and will relieve us of traffic hassles parking hassles and just be able to relax while we are traveling.

We can create a better world and better life for all if we choose to do so.