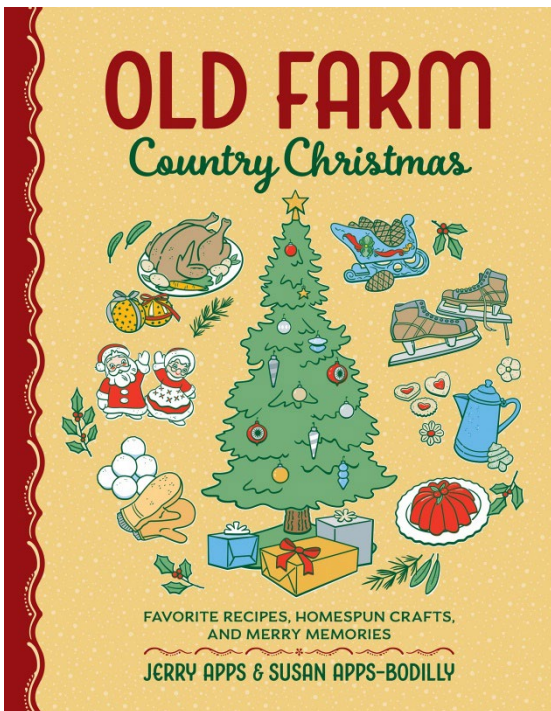


A festive and nostalgic celebration of family Christmas recipes and traditions



Old Farm Country Christmas: Favorite Recipes, Homespun Crafts, and Merry Memories

By Jerry Apps and Susan Apps-Bodilly

Paperback: \$30.00 | 192 pages

50 color and b&w photos and illustrations

ISBN: 9781976600838

Publication Date: October 6, 2026

Published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press

From the beloved father–daughter team behind the bestseller *Old Farm Country Cookbook* comes a heartwarming celebration of Christmases past—when the first snowfall signaled the start of the season, neighbors gathered close, and simple joys lit up the long Midwestern winter.

In *Old Farm Country Christmas*, Jerry Apps and Susan Apps-Bodilly invite readers inside the farmhouse kitchens, one-room schoolhouses, rural churches, and snow-packed fields of Wisconsin, sharing Christmas stories from the Great Depression and World War II through the 1960s. Drawing on vivid family memories, interviews, and historical research, the authors recreate a time when holiday magic was handmade, heartfelt, and shared generously.

Readers will savor more than 80 cherished Apps family recipes, from First Snow Peppermint Butter Cookies and Lucia Buns to Spiced Cider, Krumkake, Seven Layer Bars, Cheesy Potatoes and Ham, and other festive favorites for every gathering. Paired with these culinary classics are twelve simple, old-fashioned craft projects—think paper chains, evergreen garlands, applesauce ornaments, and cozy sock snow people—along with seven timeless activities perfect for wintry afternoons with friends and family.

With 50 vintage photographs and illustrations, this heartfelt collection captures the laughter of school Christmas programs, the excitement of long-hoped-for gifts, the aroma of butter and spices drifting from the oven, and the deep meaning of the traditions that knit rural communities together.

MORE>>

About the authors:

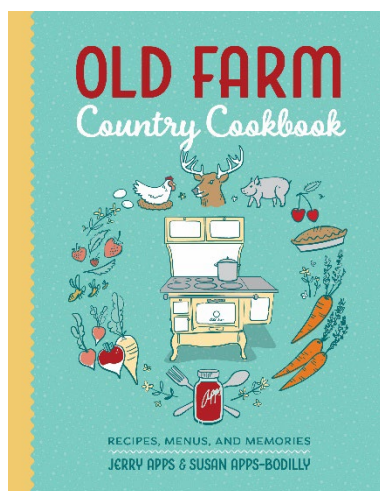


Susan Apps-Bodilly is a retired elementary and middle-school educator. She is the author of *One Room Schools: Stories from the Days of 1 Room, 1 Teacher, 8 Grades* and *Seeds in Soil: Planting a Garden and Finding Your Roots*, as well as coauthor with Jerry Apps of *Timber!* and *Old Farm Country Cookbook*, all published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Celebrated Wisconsin storyteller and rural historian **Jerry Apps** (1934-2025) was born and raised on a central Wisconsin farm. He was a former county extension agent and professor at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Jerry authored more than fifty fiction, nonfiction, and children's books, including *Every Farm Tells a Story: A Tale of Farm Family Values*, *The Quiet Season: Remembering Country Winters*, *More Than Words: A Memoir of a Writing Life*, and *Barns of Wisconsin*, all published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press.



Of related interest:



Old Farm Country Cookbook: Recipes, Menus, and Memories

By Jerry Apps and Susan Apps-Bodilly

Paperback: \$28.95 | 320 pages | 320 color and b&w photos

ISBN: 9780870208300

Publication date: August 2017

Published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press

Seasoned with personal stories, recipes, and photos, this cookbook-memoir takes readers on a nostalgic journey to simpler days on the farm through food and cooking traditions.



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