

# Theophil Marcus (TM) Koeder

## Pekin & Naperville, Illinois

- 1884 Koeder (photo 1) born on December 6<sup>th</sup> in Saline, MI
- 1894 Koeder now living in York, Michigan
- 1900 Koeder moves to Elkhart, Indiana with relatives and works for Buescher soldering buggy dash rails (SKB)
- 1902 Koeder goes to Chicago & makes valves for Holton (SKB)
- 1905 Koeder marries Lillian Hausen of Chicago; about this time he starts working for Taylor & Horn, #94 Dearborn St., making brass instruments
- 1906 son Edward Theophil Koeden is born in Chicago (census)
- 1910 Theodore Koeder, clerk, #3237 Lemoyne St, Chicago (directory); son Leonard is born (census)
- 1911 Koeder moves to Elkhart & works for Blessing (SKB)
- 1912 Koeder in the Elkhart City directory as instrument maker; later that year he moves back to Chicago to work as shop superintendent for Holton (SKB)
- 1915 still in the Chicago City directory
- 1917 Koeder moves to Minneapolis to be the superintendent for the Kenny Band Instrument Co. (SKB)
- 1918 The draft registration lists him at #311 North Church St. in Elkhorn, WI and working as an assistant supervisor for Frank Holton & Co.; he helped Holton move from Chicago to the new factory in Elkhorn (SKB)
- 1919 Koeder returns to Chicago and helps Charlie Horn (formerly Taylor & Horn) open a new business in Naperville, IL called Blorite Instrument House; the factory is on Washington St. in the old Hunt building opposite the YMCA (SKB); ad in August "*Boys Life*" for Blorite Instrument House, Naperville, IL; selling US Army & Navy bugles to the Boy Scouts
- 1920 ad in *Popular Mechanics* for "new Triple Tone trumpet" in C/Bb/A, Blorite Instrument House, Naperville, IL; selling cornets, trumpets, trombones, fifes, bugles, & drums (ad at right)
- 1920 ad in August *Musical Messenger* for Koeder repair shop in Naperville (photo 2; he probably started his own shop in addition to working at Blorite)



**Is Your** { **Cornet** in need of a new valve?  
**Saxophone** in need of new pads, instrument dented and generally in need of repairs?

IF SO, SEND SAME TO

**Koeder's Repair Shop**  
Naperville, Illinois

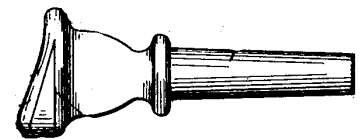
**SPECIALISTS IN REPAIR WORK**

Everything repaired here from a cornet to a helicon bass

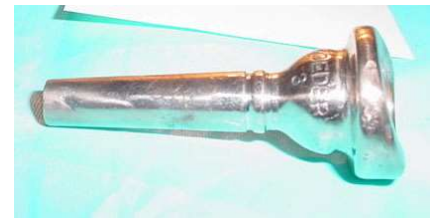


1921 The Blorite factory burns in March and Horn moves back to Chicago as a musician (dir); Koeder continues his own business in Naperville

1922 ad below for T.M. Koeder, instrument repair & Majestic model trumpets, cornets, and trombones; the mouthpiece shown in the ad below and in photos 3-6 follows 1910 patent #962,479 of Leon Taylor (Taylor & Horn) and apparently used later by Koeder



1923 Theophil M. Koeder, band instruments, #22 Water St.; T.M. (Lillian) Koeder, horns & musical instruments, #74 W. Jefferson Ave., Naperville (directory); Koeder builds a new two-story block shop at #721 E. School Ave and lives on the second floor (SKB, photo 2)



1924 Koeder registers the "Majestic" trademark (SKB)

1925 T.M. Koeder (LE), musical institute mechanic & Julian (phone book); Koeder granted patent #1,527,589 for a double tuning slide design for changing keys on a cornet which shows up on cornet #3080



1926-1927 T.M. Koeder, musical instruments, #721 School Ave., Naperville, IL (phone book)

1928-1938 no Koeder in Naperville phone book

1928 The Hurtt-Jones-Koeder Co. begins production on August 13<sup>th</sup> in Pekin at #110 Court St. making Majestic model cornets, trumpets, cornet horns, trombones, & bugles. Incorporated with \$25,000 capital. They also have the Hurtt Tuport line of trumpets, cornets, & French horns. Koeder was the designer and head of all manufacturing and was said to have had 25 years experience. (*Presto*) The Hurtt cornet follows Frank Hurtt's design patent #41,613 from 1911.



- 1930 Production of Jones-Koeder instruments has increased and now includes clarinets, alto horns, & mellophones with a baritone now in development (*Presto*, July); H.G. Jones is president of the company. Koeder at #710 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St. (dir)
- 1930 Leonard Koeder (1910-1983) wins a local trumpet competition and later competes with honor in a state event at Chicago. He plays a Majestic trumpet (photo 1); his plans are to finish college then return to work at the factory (*Music Trade Review*, October)
- 1932 Koeder is at #710 South 9<sup>th</sup> St. in Pekin & is sec.-treasurer of company
- 1934 The Pekin company goes bankrupt and Koeder starts working for Lyon & Healy in Chicago while also trying to rebuild his business in Naperville (SKB)
- 1939 T. M. Koeder, #721 E. School Ave., Naperville (phone book); he goes back to business full time for himself and lives above the shop (SKB)
- 1942 Draft registration for Koeder shows him still in Naperville; all brass production stops during the war (SKB)
- 1946 son Leonard (Bud) moves back to Naperville to help run the shop (SKB, photo 1 last page is TM & Bud in the shop)
- 1950 Leonard T. Koeder, #140 S. Loomis, Naperville, IL (cen.)
- 1952 Koeder builds a Cape Cod style home next to the shop
- 1956 or 1957 they have a fire in the shop (SKB)
- 1971 Koeder sells his shop to son Bud then later dies in Naperville on November 30<sup>th</sup>
- 1978 Bud retires and closes the shop (SKB)
- 1980 the shop is sold to Ron Collier, who had worked ten years for Schilke, to start Brasswinds, Inc. making baroque-style brass trumpets & trombones (SKB)
- 1983 Leonard dies; he was a professional trumpet player, a 50 year member of the Naperville Municipal band, and owner of Koeder Music from 1924-1979 with his father. (obit.)

