Norman Rockwell was painting American life and to a large degree rural American life in the first half of the last century. Last April, a fellow asked me if Norman Rockwell’s paintings were reflecting reality or pursuing a dream or wish that we all have about life in rural America. If you will help, I will write a blog comparing rural Oregon then and now to determine how much truth there was in Rockwell’s paintings and how that image may have changed. Please let me know in a sentence or two what Rockwell’s paintings told you about rural Oregon then and now. Post your thoughts on this blog or email me at bruce.sorte@oregonstate.edu. I will research your interpretation to sort the myth from reality of rural America over the last 80 years and summarize what I find in the blog.

Thanks,

Bruce Sorte

Posted at http://www.ripplenw.org/authors/26/posts/205