

470 UNITS PRODUCED AND STILL COUNTING

“Singing Fence Posts”

You might say Joe Jeffrey has a “thing” for old fence posts.

In fact, the Lexington, Neb., man is founder and president of the “Official Post Observers” (O.P.O.), a brotherhood dedicated to old fence posts. He’s made a name for himself as a sort of self-appointed historian of the “building blocks of the Old West” and is in demand as a humorous after dinner speaker.

Jeffrey’s main claim to fame is the “Singing Fence Post” he invented some 20 years ago. He’s sold 470 of the units so far as promotional gimmicks or novelty gift items and demand is growing.

“The idea was born when I used to substitute for area veterinarians and started noticing all the old fence posts as I drove the back roads,” explains Jeffrey who holds a veterinary science degree from Colorado State University. “As I did, the old song, ‘Don’t Fence Me In’, kept running through my mind.”

The rest is history, as they say.

Jeffrey located a music box that played the 1937 Cole Porter tune and started putting it inside mini posts made from cedar and Osage Orange fence posts that he “harvests” from fence posts on his ranch. He cuts the 3 1/2-in. dia. posts into 7-in. lengths and routers them out on bottom to accommodate the music box. The posts, which rotate as they play, are wrapped in barbed wire.

Each post comes with a hand written “history” of the post and the barbed wire wrapped around it.



Jeffrey’s 7-in. high, 3 1/2-in. dia. “singing fence post” rotates as it plays “Don’t Fence Me In.”

“Singing Fence Posts” sell for \$30 apiece plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dr. Joe Jeffrey, 43646 Road 749, Lexington, Neb. 68850-5556 (ph 308 324-3613).



Mailbox mounts on coil springs and a leaf spring so that it “recoils”.

Indestructible “Recoil” Mailbox

Snowplows and vandals can’t knock over this indestructible “recoil” mailbox invented by Anders McGriff, Braham, Minn.

It consists of a pair of coil springs and a leaf spring out of a Ford pickup. The coil springs are welded together end-to-end and sunk in concrete with the leaf spring welded on top. The mailbox rests on a piece of board

bolted to the top of the leaf spring. Height is regulation post office recommendation.

The pickup springs provide the mailbox with about 12 in. of recoil, so it’ll bounce right back from a blow.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Anders McGriff, 3102 413th Ave. NW, Braham, Minn. 55006 (ph 320 396-3957).

Texas-Size Cow-Shaped Barbecue Grill

You can cook for the entire neighborhood at one time and still have room left over in this big new cow-shaped barbecue grill introduced at the recent World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis.

Agpro’s all steel “Texas Grill” features a 700 cu. in. cooking surface that you can adjust up or down by stepping on the cow’s tail. It’ll handle chopped wood up to 16 in. long and has industrial quality temperature gauge, hinges, grill and bottom cleanout. As

a final touch, it features an adjustable draft damper “nose” and smokestack “horns”.

Comes in two colors: Holstein black & white and longhorn brindle.

Sells for \$1,148 plus \$150 S & H.

A Holstein smoker and a “yearling size” grill will both soon be available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agpro Inc., Rt. 7, Box 100, Paris, Texas 75462-9644 (ph 800 527-1030 or 903 785-5531; fax 784-7895).



The 5/8 scale semi tractor, modeled after a Peterbilt, looks and runs like the real thing.

LOOKS AND RUNS JUST LIKE THE REAL THING

5/8-Scale Semi Truck

Mike O’Donnell, Sauk City, Wis., spent 12 years worth of weekends and about \$50,000 to build a 5/8-scale semi tractor modeled after a Peterbilt semi truck. It looks and runs just like the real thing.

“Wherever I drive it, people take a second look. Theyre not sure what they’re looking at,” says O’ Donnell.

The truck is powered by a Detroit 453T 4-cyl. turbocharged diesel engine with 190 hp and has a Fuller 9-speed overdrive transmission. The rear axle has a 3:33 gear ratio. The front axle is from a 1-ton International pickup and the tandem rear axle from a 1-ton Ford pickup. The truck is fitted with 215 R16 Bridgestone tires and has stainless steel fenders over the rear wheels. The cab, which is from a 1950’s Willys pickup, seats two and has a sleeper on back. A pair of stainless steel fuel tanks and stainless steel exhaust mufflers mount on the sides of the rig while

a “turbowing” deflector mounts on top of the sleeper. The truck has an air ride suspension, air ride seats, air brakes, and air horns.

“The detail work makes it a real show stopper,” says O’ Donnell. “Everything on it is completely hand-built, including the chassis which I built from a little bit of everything. I drive it on the highway at speeds up to 70 mph. I have a great time with it on the road. Travelers go crazy when they see it, and truckers love to talk with me about it on their CB radios. People often comment on the quality of workmanship and want to know where they can buy one. My wife Jane and I have entered it in parades and have won trophies with it at several major truck shows.

“It’s modeled after the 359 Peterbilts of the 1980’s.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike O’ Donnell, 7333 Cedar Crest Drive, Sauk City, Wis. 53583 (ph 608 643-6535).



Mini-semi is powered by a Detroit 453T 4-cyl. turbocharged 190 hp diesel engine. It has a Fuller 9-speed transmission.



“Texas Grill” features 700 cu. in. cooking surface and handles wood up to 16 in. long.