



Bentley Coben (left) with friend Kevin Ehrhardt after an antler hunting expedition.

He Turned Deer Antler Hobby Into A Business

Bentley Coben, 47 of Tessier Sask., has always enjoyed picking up deer antlers.

"When I was a little boy my dad would take me hunting and I would pick up deer antlers and bring them home. I have always been intrigued with them."

When Coben got older, he started going out hiking and looking for antlers with his kids. Sometimes he would take a photo of a deer and go hunting for his antlers each year until he died.

"You can tell a lot from a deer by his antlers," says Bentley. Antlers have the same coloring, the same texture, and the same general appearance from year to year.

Deer will lose one antler and it may be up to nine days later before they lose the other antler. To find the pair out in the brush is the challenge.

You can walk in an area and you can go for three miles without seeing an antler and then suddenly there they are all together in one spot. I call these core shedding areas.

Bentley is a consultant with the North American Shed Hunting Club. The club is made up of members who like Bentley, collect antlers and compare to see who has the biggest antlers. He teaches the members

how to measure their antlers and they talk about where to find them. Bentley spends about two hours on the phone each night talking to people interested in shed antler hunting from all across North America.

"Our area has lots of deer antlers because we don't have any squirrels. In the U.S. most of the deer antlers are eaten by squirrels. If you don't find the antler within days of it dropping there won't be anything left of it. So, it is a big treat for people to come here and find antlers that have not been chewed. The only thing that will eat antlers here is the odd porcupine," he said.

Bentley started offering antler-hunting tours and even made a video on the subject. Now, he has people coming from all over to go antler hunting with him.

"We charge \$250 per day U.S. That includes accommodations and meals," Diane said.

Coben's video, "Treasures In The Buck Brush", sells for \$34.95 (U.S.).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bentley Coben, Wildlife Productions Inc., Box 43, Tessier, Sask. Canada S0L 3G0 (ph 306 656-4903).

He Builds Replicas Of Round Barns

Round barns are rapidly disappearing from the rural landscape, especially in Indiana where they were more common than in most areas of North America.

Russell Teeters is doing his part to preserve the memory of the unusual structures by building perfect scale model replicas. He crafts the barns without any written plans. Each piece of wood is cut and placed by hand, including the hundreds of shingles which are shaved to exactly fit their spot.

One of his first round barns was based on an existing barn on Highway 135 just south of Bargersville, Ind. He recently completed a "prairie barn". It's 47 in. long, 28 in. wide, and has a 5-in. entrance. It consists of 1,085 deck boards, 203 siding boards, 87 rafters, 167 pieces of barn loft flooring, over 2,000 shake shingles, 62 hinges and 370 screws. Teeters started the barn in January, 2000, and finished it seven months later in July.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



"Prairie Barn" is 28 in. in dia. Entrance is 5 in. high.

Russell Teeters, 2908 W. Indian Creek Rd., Trafalgar, Ind. 46181 (ph 317 878-4463).

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Ellis occasionally displays his restored "Case" cars at old-time machinery shows. This one is a 1917 40 hp "T" 7-passenger model.

He Collects "Case" Cars

"I regard them as part of farm equipment history," says Robert Ellis, High Hill, Mo., about his collection of old Case automobiles.

Ellis has bought and restored three Case cars including a 1915 25 hp "R" 5-passenger model and two 40 hp "T" 7-passenger models, one made in 1916 and the other in 1917. He occasionally displays them at old-time machinery shows.

"It has been a world of fun restoring these cars and I'm really proud of them," says Ellis. "As far as I know only two people have a bigger Case car collection than I have. I bought them as pieces of junk and restored them from the ground up. We're only the third owner of our 1916 model. It's been documented from new and we still have the original bill of sale.

"Case is well known for its farm equipment, but many people don't know that the company also made cars over a 16-year period, from 1911 to 1927. They built more than 26,000 cars but only about 100 are still known to exist. I became interested in restoring Case cars because our family always used Case tractors.

"Case cars were handmade so they were very expensive. For example, the 1916 model T sold new for \$1,290 whereas at the same time the 1916 Ford Model T sold for only about \$325. Today that would be like the difference between buying a Rolls Royce and a new Ford. The company probably counted on the loyalty of its farm equipment customers to sell their cars. Although they were expensive, anyone who was a candidate for a 110 hp steam engine was probably also



Ellis's 1916 40 hp "T" 7-passenger model.



A 1915 25 hp model "R".

a candidate for a Case automobile.

"The company had three radically different designs of cars. The cars made up until 1917 were equipped with 4-cylinder engines. From 1918 on they used a 6-cylinder Continental engine."

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