



Ed Valentine converted this old school bus into a "hog hauler".

## HOLDS 50 200-LB. PORKERS

# Retired School Bus Now Hauling Hogs

By Joan Lipiec

When Ed Valentine of Valentine Farm, Wadsworth, Ohio, was looking for a way to transport his hogs to market, he considered a number of different vehicles.

He settled on a school bus the local school system was trying to get rid of. "I know the superintendent of the Wadsworth schools pretty well, and he showed me a bus that the school had revamped to transport some items," said Valentine.

Picking up on the idea, Valentine decided that the 60-passenger bus fit his need perfectly and would offer a little fun to the chore of going to the market.

The bus has adequate room for about 50 200-pound plus hogs. The old bus cost less and provides a smoother ride for the porkers than a trailer could ever manage.

Valentine said the bus required a few modifications for its conversion from a child to a swine transporter.

Aside from painting and getting the bus into shape, the addition of slate to the windows were the only changes needed.

"I guess it took me about three days to make the conversion, and I have been using it for almost a year now for my weekly trips to the market," he said.

The Medina County Farm Bureau member operates a 600-acre farm with soybeans and corn, and raises about 1,500 hogs a year.

Valentine enjoys making the trip in the bus to the Producers Livestock market near Wooster. "The first few times we turned a few heads," he said. "One lady in Orrville tried to flag down the bus. But, now people are used to it and don't pay much attention."

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## HAULS 1,000-LB. LOAD

# New Utility Trailer Folds Up For Storage

If you could use a utility trailer but storage is a problem, you'll want to take a look at this new 4 by 6-ft. utility trailer from Trailer-R-Craft. It folds up in the middle to just 20 in. and rolls to storage on its own built-in castors just like a roll-away bed.

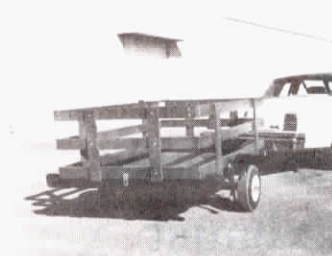
"Great for hauling snowmobiles, motorcycles, small tractors and parts — anytime you need extra carrying capacity," Carol Collins, marketing manager told FARM SHOW. With optional stake sides, the trailer can

other more bulky items.

The trailer is rated for highway speeds at 950 lbs. capacity. Standard equipment includes stop lights and turn signals, license plate bracket, ball hitch, safety chains and a safety locking mechanism that lets you "thief-proof" the trailer by locking it into the folded position.

Sells for \$459.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Trailer-R-Craft, Inc., 2700 S. Custer, Wichita,



Four views show the new utility trailer with stake sides, being folded, in storage position, and used as a standard flatbed.

## MINNESOTA SPECIALIST STRAIGHTENS WALLS, REPAIRS FOUNDATIONS

# Got A Barn That Needs Straightening?

Think twice about tearing down that crooked old barn and replacing it with a new building. You may be able to renovate it for a fraction of the cost of replacing it.

James Barritt, Fulda, Minn., has made a good business out of straightening barns over the past 7 years. His crews move in with modern hydraulic cranes and lift-bed trucks that can push or pull walls back into place, and move materials around without scaffolds and ladders.

"We straighten sidewalls and roofs, replace whole or partial cement foundations, and put on siding or metal roofing," says Barritt. "We work mainly on barns, but we'll also straighten hog houses, sheds, granaries, corn cribs, etc. We don't do silo work, however."

Barritt's crews go out in about a 150-mile radius of Fulda, which is in the southwestern part of Minnesota.

He and his crews have worked in Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota, but demand in other areas may make it necessary to put on crews for other states, Barritt told FARM SHOW.

"Cost of an average renovation job is hard to give, but renovation is often only 1/5 or 1/4 the cost of a new building. Costs increase when a crew has to travel a long distance to a job," Barritt points out.

All of Barritt's work is guaranteed for two years.

The need for building renovation comes from storm damage, roof collapse from heavy snow, and just plain old age. Many old barns are well constructed, Barritt says, and well worth fixing up.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Barritt Construction, Route 1, Box 4, Fulda, Minn. 56131 (ph 507 425-2679).



Former 60 passenger bus hauls about 50 200 lb. hogs to market when fully loaded.