

Editor's Notebook



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Editor & Publisher

A Time For Thanksgiving

With this issue FARM SHOW wraps up 39 years of reporting on inventions and ideas born in farm shops. As we head into our 4th decade, I just wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who is reading these words for either supporting us as a subscriber, sending in a story idea, or just telling a friend or neighbor about what we do here. We're totally dependent on all of you for our survival because we don't have big advertisers footing the bills. We know we have to deliver value to you or you won't support us. The 10 of us who produce FARM SHOW try never to forget that fact.

If you have a suggestion for how we could do a better job, we will take it very seriously. If you have an invention or idea you think other readers should know about, we will always give it a good look. And if you want to tell us about a "worst buy" you made or a bad experience you had with a manufacturer, bring it on! We don't have to worry about offending big companies because they don't pay our bills. You do!

Contact us through our website (www.farmshow.com), through the mail (P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044), on the phone (800-834-9665), or direct to my email (mark@farmshow.com). Thanks again!



Photo shows Luvern Swensen, right, with his two brothers the day he brought home his new 1946 Deere B.

A Reader Writes . . .

I'm searching for a lost family tractor, a John Deere model B that my dad, Luvern Swensen of Mission Hill, S. Dak., bought new in the spring of 1946. It was the only new tractor Dad ever bought and the first one I ever drove. It came with steel wheels, but dad replaced them with rubber tires the year after he bought it.

The photo shows dad (standing in front) and his 2 brothers the day he bought the tractor and hauled it home. A neighbor, Johnny Petersen of Violin, S. Dak., later bought it and owned it for about 20 years. He then traded it to a local dealer, Baggs & Tamisea in Yankton, for a Deere 3020. We lost track of the tractor after that.

It was manufactured during the war so it didn't have electric start. Petersen added hydraulics so he could raise wagons when hauling silage and also installed a silver hydraulic reservoir behind the seat. The add-on hydraulics, along with the hand crank start, would be distinguishing characteristics on this tractor unless someone has removed or changed them. The serial number on it is between 173179 and 183673, so if you have a Deere B please look at the serial number. If you own this tractor, we don't want to buy or steal it from you - we'd just like to find it. (*Gary Swensen, Yankton, S. Dak., ph 605 660-3489*)

Great Christmas Gift Idea!

Many readers who gave FARM SHOW for Christmas last year wrote to tell us they've never given a gift which generated so much response from appreciative recipients. You can give bargain rate gift subscriptions to friends, relatives, and business associates. Each recipient will receive a year of FARM SHOW plus a copy of our new 128-page book "Bring Old Farm Equipment Back To Life". What's more, all gift recipients - as well as all active subscribers - receive free access to all 39 years of FARM SHOW at our website. Check out the order form enclosed with this issue or call us at 800-834-9665.

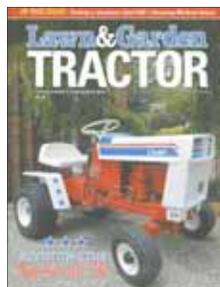


If your friends and relatives are already subscribers, you might want to consider giving them a set of our popular "Encyclopedia of Made It Myself Ideas". These three 482-page books are collections of the best "made it myself" ideas from past 15 years of FARM SHOW. These are the most popular books we've ever published and I've never had anyone tell me they didn't think they were worth the money.

For a limited time, you can buy all 3 volumes for just \$39.95 plus \$4.95 S&H (\$49.95 Can. plus \$9.95 S&H). See enclosed order form or go to www.farmshow.com. You can also call us at 800-834-9665. Thanks!

One Of Our Favorite Reads

One problem with collecting and restoring antique tractors is the growing cost of desirable models and the space it takes to store them. Those are two of the reasons garden tractor collecting has been picking up steam over the past few years. The best source of information for this fast-growing hobby is Lawn & Garden Tractor magazine, which has become one of my reads. The amazing diversity of garden tractor makes and models over the past hundred years or so makes for a very entertaining and informative read. Editor Brandon Pfeiffer and managing editor Kate Goelzhauser have kindly shared some of their more unusual "finds" with FARM SHOW, including the Speedex tractor story on page 24 of this issue and the half-scale combine lawn mower in our last issue.



A subscription to Lawn & Garden Tractor Magazine is \$29.95 per year at LAGT, P.O. Box 3015, Langhorne, Penn. 19047 (ph 877-531-1767; www.lagtmag.com).

Liberty Quotes

"The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin." *Mark Twain*

"What this country needs is more unemployed politicians." *Edward Langley*

"The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools." *Herbert Spencer*

"Just because you don't take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you!" *Pericles*

"Foreign aid can be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries." *Douglas Case*

"If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external or internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place, oblige it to control itself." *James Madison*

"Every prudent and cautious judge will remember that his duty and his business is not to make the law but to interpret and apply it." *James Wilson*

"There is no substitute under the heavens for productive labor. It is the process by which dreams become realities. It is the process by which idle visions become dynamic achievements." *Gordon B. Hinckley*

"If the American Revolution had produced nothing but

the Declaration of Independence, it would have been worthwhile. The beauty and cogency of the preamble, reaching back to remotest antiquity and forward to an infinite future, having lifted the hearts of millions of men and will continue to do so. These words are more revolutionary than anything written by Robespierre, Marx or Lenin, more explosive than the atom. A continual challenge to ourselves as well as an inspiration to the oppressed of all the world." *Samuel Eliot Morison*



Remember Doing This?

One of our most faithful contributors over the years has been veteran journalist Rex Gogarty, Hubbard, Iowa. This picture was in a batch of ideas he sent us recently. Normally, I wouldn't use it because there's no invention or idea that could benefit readers. But something about the photo made me keep it on my desk. I love looking at it because it brings back the feeling of being a kid. These two fence walkers are not worried about crop prices or interest rates or crooked politicians. Their main concern is finding the fun in a farmyard. We can't turn the clock back or ignore our cares and concerns, but once in a while it's kind of fun to think back to the days when mastering the art of walking along the top of a corral fence was the biggest challenge of the day. Thanks for sending this photo, Rex.

Points To Ponder

"Let us not forget that the cultivation of the earth is the most important labor of man. When tillage begins, other arts will follow. The farmers, therefore, are the founders of civilization." *Daniel Webster*

"Our lives improve only when we take chances - and the first and most difficult risk we can take is to be honest with ourselves." *Walter Truett Anderson*

"Persons with weight of character carry, like planets, their atmospheres along with them in their orbits." *Thomas Hardy*

"Dignity does not float down from heaven. It cannot be purchased nor manufactured. It is a reward reserved for those who labor with diligence." *Bill Hybels*

"The real measure of our wealth is how much we would be worth if we lost all our money." *J.H. Jowett*

"Happiness is as a butterfly which, when pursued, is always beyond our grasp, but which if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you." *Nathaniel Hawthorne*

Ole and Sven had been best friends for years, and they both lived into their 90's before Ole suddenly fell deathly ill.

Sven came to visit him on his deathbed and they're reminiscing about their long friendship when Sven asks, "Listen, Ole, ven yew die, dew me a favor. I vant tew know if dare's baseball in heaven."

Ole says, "Weef been friends for years, Sven. I'll do dis for yew." And then Ole dies.

A couple days later, Sven is sleeping when he hears Ole's voice. The voice says, "I'f got some good news and some bad news. Da good news is dat dare is baseball in heaven."

"Vhat's da bad news, Ole?" Sven asks.

"Yew're pitching on Tuesday."

Lena had been reading books of romantic poetry and decided to try some out on Ole. She sent him a text on her phone. "If you are sleeping, send me your dreams. If you are laughing, send me your smile. If you are eating, send me a bite. If you are drinking, send me a sip. If you are crying, send me your tears. I love you!"

Ole, not really being the romantic type, wrote back, "I am on da toilet. Plees advise."

Ole had already been drinking when he walked into a bar. After staring for some time at the only woman in there, he walked over to her and kissed her.

She jumped up and slapped him silly. He immediately apologized and explained, "I'm sorry. I tought yew vere my wife. Yew look exactly like her."

"Why you worthless, insufferable, wretched, no good fool!" she screamed.

"Dat's amazing!" exclaimed Ole. "Yew even sound yust like her!"