



Coach is fitted with solid rubber outer wheel rims for silent operation.

**AVAILABLE ANYWHERE IN U.S. OR CANADA**

## You Can Rent This 1894 Funeral Coach

"My grandfather bought it new in the summer of 1894," says Augie Schleicher of Schleicher Funeral Homes, Plainview, Minn., who's doing a booming business renting out a beautifully restored antique funeral coach for use in funerals anywhere in North America.

Schleicher's grandfather used the deluxe coach for about 30 years before it was put into storage by Schleicher's father, who was also a funeral director. After that, the coach was only brought out of storage twice - in 1939 and 1970 - for parades. In 1989, Schleicher took the carriage to an Amish carriage company in Utica, Minn., to do a complete restoration on the coach.

The coach is always on display at Schleicher's funeral home in Plainview, Minn. For funerals around the country, the

horse-drawn coach, along with two large black Percheron draft horses, is transported to the funeral location in a semi-truck under the supervision of three handlers.

Available year around, regardless of weather, the coach is fitted with solid rubber outer wheel rims for silent operation. "Having the carriage lead the funeral procession makes for a wonderful tribute to a loved one. The horses are magnificent and the only sound you hear is the klip klop of their hooves," says Schleicher.

Basic price is \$1,900, including full liability and property damage insurance, plus a mileage charge for travel.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Augie Schleicher, Schleicher Funeral Homes, P.O. Box 608, Plainview, Minn. 55964 (ph 507 534-2353).



Cole's 4-year-old son loves riding on carousel which is powered by an old gas engine.

**ROCKS BACK AND FORTH ON PUMP JACK**

## One-Horse "Carousel"

"I always wanted something to ride when I was a kid. That's why I built this one-horse 'carousel' for my 4-year-old son, Cole. The horse rocks back and forth on a pump jack powered by an old gas engine," says Lance Talbott of Potomac, Ill.

Talbott bought the horse for \$15 at an antique tractor show and mounted it on a Montgomery Ward pump jack that's bolted to the frame and wheels of an old horse-drawn grain drill. The pump jack is belt-driven by an antique Deere 1 1/2 hp gas engine mounted on a wheeled cart that's staked to the ground to keep the belt tight. Both the carousel and engine are painted Deere green and yellow.

"It's just like riding on the carousel at the

county fair. My son loves it," says Talbott, who collects old gas engines and antique tractors and has displayed the carousel at several antique tractor shows. "The horse rocks back and forth about 3 ft. riding on a pair of uprights welded onto each side of the pump jack. As the pump jack arms go down, the horse tilts forward. An electric motor could be used instead of a gas engine."

Talbott sandblasted the drill frame which was old and rusty, then painted it Deere green (he farms with Deere equipment). His mother did the decorative painting on the horse.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lance Talbott, Rt. 2, Box 35, Potomac, Ill. 61865 (ph 217 987-6187).



Marley solved mystery of the sausage stuffer (foreground) and hay carrier (in back).

**IF YOU CAN SPOT A PATENT NUMBER,  
YOU CAN FIND OUT ALL ABOUT IT**

## Easy Way To Identify "Mystery" Antiques

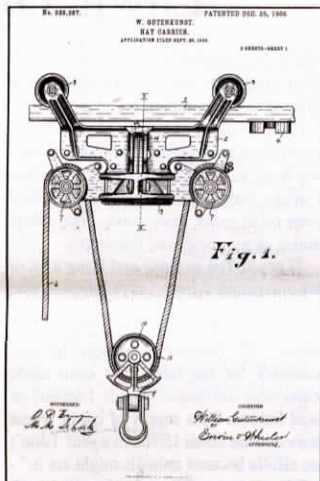
If you've got any "mystery" tools or equipment lying around your home or barn that you just can't identify, you'll be interested in this simple and easy way to find out everything you needed to know about virtually any piece of antique or even recent model equipment.

C.F. Marley of Nokomis, Ill., who often writes about farm equipment for FARM SHOW and is also an accomplished inventor in his own right, came up with the idea after buying a piece of equipment at a church auction that no one could identify. "Even the auctioneer, who was in his 80's and had conducted thousands of auctions in his career, said he'd never seen anything like it before. After looking at it, I guessed it was a sausage stuffer and decided to make a bid on the cast iron rig, which was in beautiful condition. Embossed in metal was the name 'John Wagner, Pittsburg, Penn., March 21, 1859'," says Marley, who set out to find out more about Mr. Wagner's invention after he got his "prize" home.

Marley started at a nearby U.S. Patent Office depository library in Springfield, Ill. Patent depositories are usually located within libraries in bigger cities and they contain information about every invention ever patented in the U.S., back to patent number one issued in the late 1700's (the total number of patents issued is now over 5 million). There's no cost to use the depositories - all you do is talk to the librarians on duty and they'll help dig out whatever you need. Marley says if you don't live near a depository library, you can get the same information by writing the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C., although it generally takes a few weeks for them to reply.

In Marley's case, he went to the patent depository and looked up the name John Wagner in the 1859 directory. That provided him with a patent number for Wagner's invention and then it was a simple matter to look through a roll of microfilm for that year to pull up a copy of the patent for what turned out to be Wagner's sausage stuffer. The patent contains a drawing, description and claims made by Wagner 133 years ago. We got a print-out copy containing all the information just by pushing a button.

Marley says it's more common to find just a patent number on a piece of equipment. In that case, you can skip the first step



This is a copy of original 1906 patent on hay carrier.

and just look it up. "Old patents are filled with a lot of fascinating information that give you an idea of the state of technology during a given time period. For example, since I had the entire year of 1989 up on microfilm, I decided to look through and see what other sausage stuffer patents might have been invented that year. It turned out there were four different stuffer patents granted that year, which told me there was a lot of interest in making sausage at that time.

Another time, Marley found a hay carrier used in many old barns to put up loose hay in lofts. Information embossed on the carrier said it was patented Dec. 25, 1906 and the trade name was Boomer. "At the patent library, I simply found the 1906 patent directory, looked up under "hay carrier" and the date and found my carrier, which had been invented by a W. Gutenkunst of Milwaukee, Wis.

Anyone interested in searching out patents can write for booklet, General Information Concerning Patents, U.S. Patent Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. The booklet lists all Patent Deposit Libraries so you can find the one nearest you and also tells how to order patents direct by mail.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C.F. Marley, P.O. Box 93, Nokomis, Ill. 62075 (ph 217 563-2588).