

**Editor's
Notebook**



Mark Newhall
Editor & Publisher



Brett Herbst has designed 102 corn mazes all over North America.

**If You Need A Maze,
Here's The Guy To Call**

Brett Herbst makes his living from corn. But he's not a corn grower or marketer.

The Salmon, Idaho, native designs corn mazes for a living. His business is called The MAIZE, LLC. You've probably seen or heard about some of the 102 mazes he's designed across North America.



One of Herbst's most intricate designs was this maze depicting the California state flag. It was carved out of a cornfield last year near Woodland, Calif.

He got into the corn maze business more by happenstance than by plan. "Five years ago, I had just graduated and was working for a large farming and farm management company. I read about a corn maze in Pennsylvania and I thought it looked like fun. Just out of college, I could imagine that young people would pay to go through something like that, so I made the first corn maze west of the Mississippi River," he says.

Not only was his maze successful financially, but he was contacted by others who wanted to do the same thing.

Herbst gets a consulting fee for the initial plan plus a percentage of the admission fees paid. He encourages clients to sign a long-term contract with him. "That guarantees the client that I won't take on another client in their area who might compete with them," he says.

Clients get more than just a design for their money. "We provide them with a custom-designed maze, web-site coverage, help them with budgeting, give them firsthand advice and recommendations, and help with marketing and media in order to publicize their maze. And every client receives a detailed Training Guide, which tells how to have a successful corn maze," he says.

Herbst says the corn mazes he's designed take up from 4 acres to about 13 acres. "Some designs are simple. But if we have room to work, we can make them very intricate, with escape routes along the way. In smaller mazes, we may throw in some tricks to make them harder," he says.

He says the most intricate design he's come up with was

one near Lindon, Utah in 1999 called Lost in Space. "We had all the planets in our solar system in it," he says. "We got into the Guinness Book of World Records with that one."

Another one he's proud of was called Udderly Corny and it was in the shape of a big dairy cow.

In addition to designing and consulting, Herbst and his employees will also cut the maze for the owners - for a fee of course.

Herbst is working on plans for 80 mazes right now, some of which will be near major metropolitan areas in New York and Florida. He figures he could do more, but says he needs to be contacted at least 30 days, and preferably 60 days, before the field where the intended maze is planted.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brett Herbst, THE MAIZE LLC, PO Box 970086, Orem, Utah 84097-0086 (ph 801 489-1118; E-mail: ktmaize@aol.com; Web site: www.cornfieldmaze.com).

Worst Cars Of All Time

What's your nomination for worst car of all time?

We recently came across the results of an interesting survey naming the top 10 worst cars of all time. The list was compiled by visitors to Car Talk, an online web site (www.cartalk.cars.com).

Here's how the list came out, with selected comments from disgruntled owners:

1. Yugo - "The Yugo's first stop after the showroom was usually the service department."

2. Chevy Vega - "My Vega actually broke in half going over railroad tracks."

3. Ford Pinto - "This car would do 75 mph in 2nd gear. In 4th gear, the top speed was 70 mph. What's wrong with this picture?"

4. AMC Gremlin - "This car had all the quality of a cheap garden tractor."

5. Chevy Chevette - "It had a plywood floor and printed circuit 'wiring'. No

redeeming qualities."

6. Renault LeCar - "Our LeCar couldn't climb a hill fully loaded, so the passengers had to get out and walk up."

7. Dodge Aspen/Plymouth Volare - "I noticed rust on my Aspen the day I got it home from the showroom."

8. Cadillac Cimarron - "Yugos were junk but at least they were cheap. This heap had a Caddy pricetag."

9. Renault Dauphine - "A side impact with a bicycle totaled my Dauphine after only one year."

10. VW Bus - "It had no heat, blew around in the wind, and the driver's legs were the first line of defense in an accident."

If a man stands in the middle of a forest speaking and there's no woman around to hear him . . . Is he still wrong?

More On Metal Working

Last issue's metal-working story (Make Your Own Replacement Parts) sparked a lot of interest among do-it-yourselfers. There's a lot of interest in new mini-lathes and mills but making precision parts out of metal is not an easy task. It takes good equipment, a willingness to experiment, and a lot of good information.

Sherline Products was one of the companies featured in the report. Sherline is owned by Joe Martin, who is a skilled metal worker himself besides being a manufacturer, so he understands the needs of both home shop machinists and of



Yugo



Vega



Aspen

commercial production facilities. Martin and Sherline provide detailed information needed by beginners and experts alike, in addition to selling a complete line of home shop metal-working tools.

The company has an information-filled 47-page, 4-color catalog which describes in detail the company's machines and gives specific examples of how they're being used. Martin has also written a book called Tabletop Machining which is a practical guide to "real world" machining.

Sherline sells a number of other books, videos, and magazines for home machinists. Visit Sherline on the web at www.sherline.com or contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sherline Products, 3235 Executive Ridge, Vista, Calif. 92083 (ph 800 541-0735).

**Where To Buy A
Corn-Burning Stove**

We've had a number of calls from readers looking for manufacturers of corn-burning stoves. Here's a list of corn stove manufacturers. All have been featured in past issues of FARM SHOW.

Ja-Ran Enterprises
3541 Babcock Road
Lexington, Mich. 48450
ph 810 359-7985

Pinnacle Stove Sales
4252 Dog Prairie Road
Quesnel, B.C.
Canada V2J 6K9
ph 250 747-1714
E-mail: info@pinnaclepellet.com
Website: www.pinnaclepellet.com

American Energy Systems Inc.
50 Academy Lane
Hutchinson, Minn. 55350
ph 320 587-6565

Big M Mfg. Co.
(A-Maize-Ing Heat)
928 East 1090 N. Road
Taylorville, Ill. 62568
ph 217 824-9372



Snow Flame

Grain Stoves Inc.
RR 3
Blythe, Ontario
Canada N0M 1H0
ph 519 523-9897

SnowFlame, Inc.
Box 745
Arden, N.Carolina 28704
ph 828 684-4444; fax 5429
E-mail: info@snowflame.com
Website: www.snowflame.com

This Is Our 25th Year!

When Harold Johnson left his job in 1977 (as editor of *Farm Industry News*) to start a new magazine with no advertising, some of his colleagues in the publishing business thought he was crazy. Now, 25 years later, some "experts" still can't figure out how FARM SHOW survives.

As we begin our 25th year, we'd like to take a moment to thank all of our readers for your support. We think we have the brightest, most innovative readership of any farm magazine and we couldn't do what we do without all the stories and ideas our readers are willing to share. Thank you for all your help in the past and we look forward to even better and more exciting issues in the months and years ahead.

Here's something Thomas Jefferson wrote long ago: "The way to have good safe government is not to trust it all to one; but to divide it among the many, distributing to everyone exactly the functions he is competent to handle. Let the national government be entrusted with the defense of the nation and its foreign and federal relations; the state government with the civil rights, laws, police and administration of what concerns the state generally; the counties with the local concerns of the counties; and each ward directing itself. It is by dividing and subdividing these governing bodies - from the great national one, down through all its subdivisions, until it ends in the administration of every man's farm, his business, and affairs by himself - that all will be done for the best."

A young boy asked his father on a Sunday morning, "Dad, did you go to Sunday School when you were a little boy?" "I sure did. Never missed a Sunday," replied the father smugly. "See Mom? It won't do me any good either."

A little girl liked to say, "I'm Mr. Anderson's daughter," whenever anyone asked her name. Her mother told her this was wrong, and that she should say, "I'm Jane Johnson." The pastor at her church spoke to her one Sunday and said, "Aren't you Mr. Johnson's daughter?" She replied, "I thought I was, but mother says I'm not."