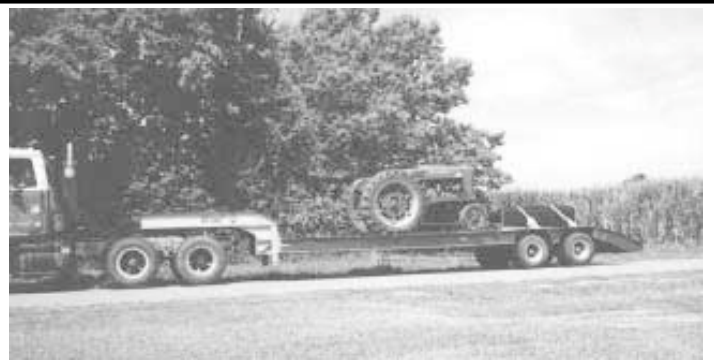




Friends and family gave Jimmy a fitting farewell by driving a procession of 28 tractors from the funeral home to the church. All the pall bearers were on tractors.



Jimmy's father led the procession, driving a semi pulling a flatbed trailer which carried his son's casket as well as his favorite antique tractor, a Farmall Super M.

Family And Friends Honor Tractor Buff With A Final Procession

Friends and family of Jimmy Haenning, who died last summer at age 24 in a non-farming accident, gave him a fitting farewell by carrying him to his final resting place on a flatbed trailer that also carried his favorite antique tractor.

Jimmy's father, Jim, led the procession of 28 tractors which made the trip from the church to the cemetery. Jim drove a semi pulling a flatbed trailer which carried his son's casket as well as his Farmall Super M. Jimmy's other two tractors, driven by

two of his three sisters, led a procession of 28 tractors behind the semi.

Jimmy grew up on a farm and also worked in the family's excavating business. He had planned to eventually take over the farm. He was well liked by the entire community and was a member of the Franklin County Antique Tractor Association. "He was always smiling and would do anything to help anybody. His death came as a big shock to us and to the entire community," says Jim.

The night before the funeral, a few friends

asked the family if they could load Jimmy's pulling tractor onto a semi trailer and park it outside the funeral home in the morning. By the next morning, 28 tractors were waiting to escort Jimmy's body from the funeral home to the church. All the pall bearers were on tractors. After the service at the cemetery was over, all the tractors made a circle and passed Jimmy again. Then they went on home.

"We never dreamed there would be so many tractors, and we also couldn't believe

the turnout. At least 800 people stood in line. Some people even videotaped the entire procession," says Jim.

Bumper stickers were made up that said "Pulling For Jimmy", and everyone put them on their tractors. The profits from the sale of the stickers, as well as from T-shirts, went to a scholarship fund started in Jimmy's name.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Haenning, 3161 George Road, Okeana, Ohio 45053 (ph 513 738-5659).



The grounds of the Fisherman's Inn in northern Illinois include 50 acres with 11 ponds, where rainbow trout are raised for the restaurant.

ROOM FOR 500 PEOPLE

Old Barn Converted To Popular Restaurant

What began as a dairy barn built in 1886 is now one of the finest eating establishments in northern Illinois.

Cliff Spence, general manager of the Fishermen's Inn near Elburn, Ill., says the barn was turned into a restaurant in the mid 1960's. It's now open only during the dinner hour from Tuesday through Sunday.

Used as a dairy barn up until the 1950's, the barn was surrounded by what was considered a swamp. The "swamp" turned out to be artesian springs that make it possible to raise fresh rainbow trout for the restaurant. The grounds of the Fisherman's Inn include 50 acres with eleven ponds. There's a replica mill house, fountains and well-lit walkways that make the Inn a perfect place for weddings and a variety of celebrations.

While the menu includes a variety of fish and steak offerings, it's the fresh Rainbow

trout that bring people coming back for more. Cliff Spence says, "The artesian wells provide fresh water for a concrete raceway that uses 1,500 gallons a minute for the trout. When they get big enough we bring them in."

Visitors from all over northern Illinois travel to eat at the Fisherman's Inn and enjoy the beauty of the scenery. Spence says the Inn can offer banquets for up to 500 people and that on Saturday nights, there's always a full house.

One unique feature is a round private dining room inside the original silo. Up to 12 guests can be seated in this room for no additional cost.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cliff Spence, Elburn, Ill. (ph 708 365-6265 or 9697).



Dennis Baker's bicycles range in size from a 2-ft. high tricycle to a maroon 3-wheeler with handlebars more than 6 ft. high.

HE CALLS IT "RECYCLED FARM ART"

He Makes Giant Bicycles From Old Farm Machinery

Dennis Baker of Carlisle, Pa., takes old farm machinery and turns it into a work of art. His self-taught hobby of building giant 2 and 3-wheeler bicycles makes use of everything from cast iron seats to barn hinges, disk spools, cow stanchions, etc.

The bicycles range in size from a 2-ft. high tricycle to a maroon 3-wheeler with handlebars more than 6 ft. high. About half the models are painted.

The 4-ft. high rubber wheel on front of the giant maroon bicycle is off an old Ontario grain drill while the 1 1/2-ft. high rear wheels are off a grain elevator. A silo blower was used to make the front wheel fender. The cast iron seat is mounted on an old barn hinge, and disk spools serve as the pedals.

One bike is painted Deere green and yellow and has a 4-ft. high steel front wheel off an old Oliver grain drill. The frame was built from an old barn stanchion and the seat is off an old potato harvester.

"I think of them not as lawn ornaments but as recycled farm art," says Baker, who

displays the bicycles in front of his house. "I don't live on a main road, but a lot of people still find their way here to look at them and take photos. They're a lot of fun to build and also bring back some history. A lot of old farm machinery is disappearing fast. My biggest bicycle has rubber wheels but all the others have steel wheels. I get more compliments on the rust-colored, unpainted models than on the painted ones."

"High bicycles, or high-wheelers, were popular in the 1800's. The bikes had a large front wheel, some with a diameter of more than 60 inches, and small back wheels to keep it steady when you got on and off. The large wheel made it possible to travel farther with each push of the pedal. It also helped make bumps less noticeable. I stick a steel pin through the spokes on the front wheel of my bikes so people won't try to ride them."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Baker, 35 Lime Kiln Road, Carlisle, Pa. 17013 (ph 717 258-4610).