



A Nebraska artist created this 3 by 4 by 65-ft. snake-like barn on a hillside.



A Chinese artist works on a recreation of the adobe house she was born in (above left) and a German artist sits on top of her "work in progress".



Nebraska Art Farm "Cultivates" Culture In The Country

Ed Dadey cultivates art the way other farmers plant and harvest crops. For the past 11 years, he has been hosting visiting artists at his Art Farm 80 miles west of Lincoln, Neb. "Each year we select artists to come live and work on the farm," says Dadey, an artist himself who grew up on the farm and returned to it after college. "We get applications from all over the world. This year, it looks like we will have a photographer from Japan and a conceptual artist from Boston,

among others."

Recent projects completed on the farm include a Nebraska artist's 3 by 4 by 65-ft. barn that snakes across the hillside. An artist from China replicated the small, mud brick house of her childhood. An artist from the Netherlands fabricated a sport coat-like piece of art out of clover seeds. Other projects have included painting, sculpture, video and ceramics.

Most artists stay for two to three months

while working on their projects. Invited artists are responsible for food, travel and any materials not found on site. They come to stay in one of five artist studios, attracted by the experience of working in the unique setting, explains Dadey.

"People see what has been done here, and that attracts others who want to do something similar," he says.

Until recently, Dadey supported Art Farm with off-site work as a computer programmer and with a few private donations. Today, it is run as a non-profit organization with a board of directors. "We are getting more individuals willing to sponsor an artist or a building," he says. "We can't draw the numbers of people to qualify for the big grant funders. We just slowly improve year to year."

Most of the 20 plus buildings on the 80-acre farm have been moved from neighboring farm sites as the farms have been bought and abandoned by larger farmers. Dadey has just finished moving his 6th barn into place for use as an art gallery and shop. He is slowly winterizing the farm's two houses and the studios so the Art Farm can be open year around.

Dadey encourages others with an interest in art to do what he has done. He suggests contacting local arts councils, arts clubs or schools, and offering the space.

"Basically, artists want an empty building, the rougher the better," he says. "Most city artists have no space to work in."

Dadey suggests hosting at least two artists at a time, as they will not be used to the country solitude at first. One artist told him at first the birds singing bothered him more than the gunshots outside his apartment in the city.

He says his local community has embraced the Art Farm and asks when the annual Art Harvest festival will be held. When the artist from China was building an adobe replica of the house she grew up in, people came from 150 miles around to help.

"I think there was a real connection between her house and the sod houses of the prairies, and it hooked people's attention," says Dadey.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ed Dadey, Art Farm, 1306 W. 21st Rd., Marquette, Neb. 68854 (ph 402 854-3120; email: artfarm@hamilton.net; website: www.artfarmnebraska.org).



"Twinned Farmall H's" can be driven by one or both engines and have a clutch and transmission on each side.

Side By Side Farmall "H"

"I've been getting FARM SHOW for many years and have read about other farmers who put together Farmall twin tractors. But they always used A or B models. I've never seen anyone put two H models together into a single rig that can be operated from either seat," says David Evans, York, Penn., who recently sent us photos of his "twin Farmall" project.

According to Evans, the project immediately got the attention of his two great grand daughters. "They like to imagine that they're traveling through the fields and having fun," he says.

The operator can power the rig by using one engine or both and sit in either seat. There's a clutch and transmission for each engine. "If I'm using one power train and I come to a hill and start to lose momentum, I

can simply engage the second power train and double the power," says Evans. "I wanted to keep the two tricycle front ends so I fastened the two together and linked the steering so that I can steer from either seat. The rear wheels are only 7 1/2 ft. apart from the outer edge. There's enough rear axle to add dually wheels, if I ever decide to.

"This project took quite a bit of engineering. I had to cut the rear axle housing on each tractor and then weld the axles back together. I also had to weld the spider gears together in such a way that they could be operated from either tractor," he notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Evans, 5227 East Prospect Rd., York, Pa. 17406 (ph 717 252-1784; email: evans5227@suscom.net).



Evans says he had to cut the rear axle housing on each tractor, then weld them back together so they could be operated from either side.



Photos by John Nowak/The Ottawa Herald.

T.J. Bivins shows off his Slowpoke, which is a glass case with two parallel rows of 8 shafts, each turning a sprocket. It's all powered by a 120-volt motor.

"Slowpoke" Gets Guinness World Record

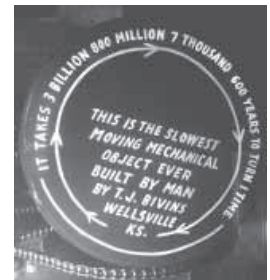
T.J. Bivins built what he calls the "Slowpoke." It has a 10-in. dia. steel disc that started rotating 6 years ago and will finish its first rotation in about 3.8 billion years.

"It's the only machine I know of that if it worked any better, it would do even less," jokes Bivins.

He says he has assembled the ultimate gear reduction machine. It consists of a glass case with two parallel rows of 8 shafts, each turning a sprocket and all powered by a 120-volt motor. The shaft on the motor turns at 815,000 revolutions per year. Each of 16 sprocket/shaft combinations reduces that speed by factors of 10. It is the final gear reduction that really slows it down by a factor of 300 to 1.

"If you reversed the gears, the final gear would travel the equivalent of going round the earth several times per second," says Bivins.

Engineers at Kansas State University have verified the speeds. With proof in hand,



Kansas State University engineers verified its unbelievably slow speed.

Bivins and his wife Pat were finally able to get into the Guinness Book of World Records. Bivins says since reports on the machine have gone out, he has received plenty of attention, with calls from coast to coast.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, T.J. Bivins, 500 E 6th St., Wellsville, Kan. 66092 (ph 785 883-2970).