

## Two-Story Tricycle Always Attracts A Big Crowd

A mammoth solar-powered tricycle made by Bob Schneeveis of Palo Alto, Calif., can carry up to 12 adults or 27 delighted children. It's always a big hit at parades and shows.

Thunder Thief, as Schneeveis calls it, travels about 10 mph and can cover 20 miles of pavement on one day's worth of sun. "The front wheel is 10 ft. in dia. and each back wheel is just over 5 ft. dia.," Schneeveis says. "My head is 14 1/2 ft. off the ground when I'm driving, so I can look over people's roofs when going down the street. The driver's seat is a saddle from a horse, and it has cable steering."

A ladder leads up through the floor of the front wheel, which is a plastic tub sitting in a steel frame. Inside the tub is a couch.

A large cargo container between the two back wheels gives weight for stability, carrying

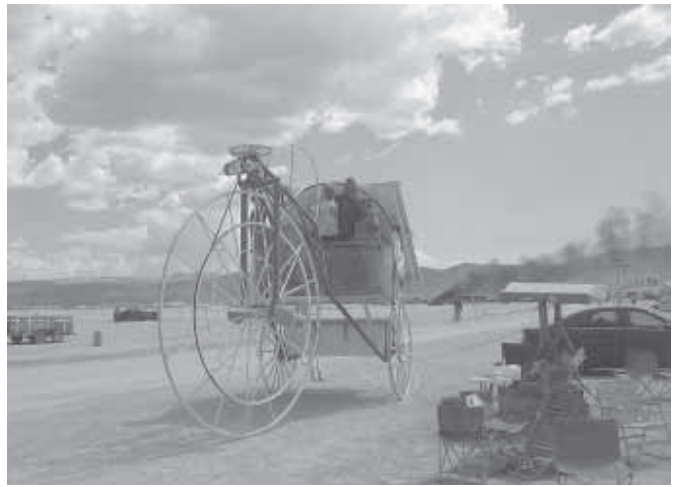
water and a large ni-cad battery pack which is charged by the 8 by 8-ft. solar panel mounted at the back of the tub.

This solar panel provides 600 watts of electrical energy. The 40-volt system has 140 amp-hrs.

"There's an electronic speed control connected to a motor that drives the front wheel by a V-belt," he explains.

Schneeveis says when people see him approaching they're amazed by the size and then as it passes, they're shocked that it's solar-powered.

The 2-story tricycle took Schneeveis a year to complete. Recently, he sold it for \$20,000, roughly the value of his materials, he says. Rob Cunningham of Vancouver, B.C., Canada is the new owner.



Two-story solar-powered tricycle called Thunder Thief goes about 10 mph. "My head is 14 1/2 ft. off the ground when I'm driving," Schneeveis says.



Instead of scalding and scraping a hog, the Hands skin it after laying it on a sawhorse.

## They Still Butcher Their Own Hogs And Cattle

Last March several Illinois neighbors got together and butchered six hogs in a continuation of an ancient tradition.

Going back more than half a century, as electricity and big freezers came to farms, most farmers readily surrendered the butchering of hogs and cattle to locker plants in town.

Not so with the Hand family of Fillmore. They never quit.

The butchering shown here was done on the Bernard Hand farm. Bernard, Dennis and Brad Hand, along with Tom Vandenberg, did the work. Unlike the farmers of yesteryear,

the Hands skin their hogs instead of scalding and scraping them. Hogs to be skinned are first laid up on sawhorses to get to the legs and belly. Once that job is accomplished they lift the carcasses with a tractor loader to finish the skinning, then use a power saw to cut the carcasses in half. The Hands use the services of a nearby locker plant to cure the hams and shoulders. They grind their own sausage and stuff it in casings.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bernard Hand, 12284 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Rd., Fillmore, Ill. 62032 (ph 217 538-2051).



They use a power saw to cut the carcass in half. They make lots of pork sausage and take the hams and shoulders to a locker plant for curing.



"Texas Terriers are like miniature Airedales on steroids," says Guthrie.

## Texas Terriers Still Going Strong

"It's not often that a man devotes his life to perfecting a new breed of dog," says Richard Guthrie, developer and still the only breeder of Texas Terriers which were first featured in FARM SHOW 4 years ago (Vol. 25, No. 3).

The black and tan wire-haired dogs stand only about 15 in. tall as adults and weigh no more than 30 lbs. During the more than 30 years of breeding, Guthrie crossed numerous terriers to create the "Texas Terrier." Although the dogs bond well with children and families, Guthrie says they're "miniature Airedales on steroids."

They've been trained to find rattlesnakes and other wild game. Wild hog hunters like the dogs because they're small and don't get hurt when hogs throw them 6 to 8 ft. in the air. Hogs also don't cut them like big dogs.

"These active, alert little dogs can be trained to do just about anything," Guthrie says.

He hasn't registered the Texas Terriers with any canine society. "Why should I pay \$90 to put a registration on them?" he asks. "It's a lot of money, especially for a hunting dog." Guthrie used to ship the dogs but doesn't



Adult wire-haired dogs stand about 15 in. tall and weigh up to 30 lbs.

any more because the laws changed, greatly increasing the cost.

He sells them at his kennel for \$300 per puppy and \$700 per older dog, depending on age and training.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard D. Guthrie, Poverty Valley Kennels, P.O. Box 3052, Brownwood, Texas 76803 (ph 325 646-4695; email: povertyvalleykennels@yahoo.com).

## Tiny Clothes Pin Rockers

Leonard Gilbreath, Meridian, Texas turns 17 clothes pins and a bit of carpenter's glue into tiny rocking chairs that kids love.

"I can make about 7 or 8 in a day, just piddling around," he says.

He makes them when he finds the right kind of clothes pins. "You can't use these cheap clothes pins you get at the dollar stores," Gilbreath says.

He sells the 4 by 5-in. chairs for \$5 apiece. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Leonard Gilbreath, 3218 Hwy. 144, Meridian, Texas 76665 (ph 254 797-5493).



"I can make about 7 or 8 in a day just piddling around," says Gilbreath about these tiny clothes pin rockers.