

Custom-Built Shepherd Wagons

Doyle Wilson doesn't skimp when it comes to his shepherd wagons. Each of the 400 wagons he and his family have built over the past 30 years is customized to suit the buyer. From propane stoves and double beds to solar panels and inverters, his wagons are more like RV trailers.

"They'll go down the road at 75 mph, or you can drop the tongue and slip in a pole for pulling with a team," he says. "All it takes is to pull one bolt and pop it back in with the longer pole."

The old-style wagon has a 7-ft. wide living area, cantilevered over a 42-in. wide, 20-in. high base. Lengths run 12, 14 or 16 ft. The design leaves lots of room for storage, stoves and other extras on the sides, yet plenty of headroom to stand up.

The U-shaped metal roofline meets hard rustic maple front and back with a Dutch door in the front and room for a solar panel at the rear. Padded interior sides are covered with a soft vinyl and insulated to R-11. Cabinets and floors are also hard maple with optional pan-

eled or raised panel doors.

"Some people want a sink, some don't. Some want it prepped for a wood stove, and about 90 percent want it equipped with a propane package for cooking," says Wilson. "We back up the 50-watt solar panel with two deep cycle RV batteries for storage. It'll run a TV and lights or charge cell phones and laptop computers."

Wilson can install an inverter so the DC power can be used with standard AC devices. The standard refrigerator, like the cooking units, runs on propane.

The raised full double bed at the rear of the trailer can house a pullout second bed or more storage.

While the design is based on the original shepherd wagons, Wilson likes the comforts that have been added. Depending on size and features, he prices his wagons at \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wilson Ag Company, 2000 N. River Rd., Midway, Utah 84049 (ph 435 654-1449; cell 435 671-3008; sheepwagonranch@gmail.com).



Doyle Wilson has built about 400 wagons over the past 30 years. Wagons can be customized with propane stoves, double beds, solar panels, inverters, and so forth.

3-Legged Pony An Inspiration To All

"There's something about Molly that people love," says Kaye Harris, who is "owned" by a 19-year-old Shetland pony with a prosthetic leg and a winning personality. Molly spends her days inspiring children and adults at hospitals and nursing homes.

The Louisiana Shetland pony survived a tree crashing through her stall during Hurricane Katrina and a severe pit bull attack three months later. Harris rescued Molly both times.

In the chaos after Katrina, Harris and her husband helped bring food to people for the first two weeks, then helped rescue animals the next three months. Early on, Molly was discovered trapped in her stall. The Harrises took Molly home to live with them.

They also rescued a pit bull and for some reason he turned on Molly and they found her with all four legs hamstrung and other deep gashes.

A veterinarian sewed Molly up, and the resilient pony healed quickly - except for the bottom portion of her right front leg. It never infected; circulation was cut off and the flesh just died. Molly adapted and got around on three legs.

One day, when Harris changed the bandage, the hoof detached, held only by a

couple strands. Molly leaped back in pain, but was careful not to hurt Harris.

"I got this picture that she wanted to survive," Harris says. "She was a smart girl. She knew how to walk on three legs."

Harris started an Internet search and found a Florida company that makes prosthetics for horses. In 2006, surgeons removed Molly's lower leg and put on a cast with an acrylic hoof at the bottom. When Molly woke in her stall, she stood up and walked immediately.

Soon after, Molly made a visit to the Children's Hospital in New Orleans and Harris realized she had a calling. Molly has perfect manners as children and adults crowd around her.

Molly inspires kids and adults alike. Molly loves her "job," Harris says, and she receives requests from all over the country to take Molly to various venues - including soldiers returning from the war.

Harris doesn't have the means to travel very far from home with Molly. She hopes to change that, and has set up a foundation - Kids and Ponies - and is seeking sponsorship for a truck and trailer, custom designed to accommodate Molly. Though Molly is 19, she is in good health - she even gallops when she wants to - and



Molly is a 19-year-old Shetland pony with a prosthetic leg and a winning personality.

Shetland ponies can live well into their 30's. "Molly is special," Harris says. "Not every horse is a candidate for this kind of work."

Find out more about Molly on her website and by checking out the video on (www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkeLgXocwa).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kaye Harris, Kids and Ponies - Molly's Foundation, 156 Bertucci Lane, St. Rose, Louisiana 70087 (ph 504 610-1943; kidsandponies-molly@hotmail.com; www.mollythepony.com).

Giant Bird Feeder

When it's 40 degrees below zero in north-west Alberta, bird feeders get busy. The problem is that you have to fill them every day. That's why Sydney Stubbs built a feeder so big he only has to fill it once a month.

"That feeder is a gold mine for attracting birds," says Stubbs. "In the summer, a fill will last for several months."

The feeder holds three 5-gal. pails of birdseed at a time. It consists of a steel cage with a metal top mounted to a 4 1/2-ft. tall steel pipe with a modified garbage can to hold the seed. The can sits in a hole in the top of the cage. Holes in the base of the can empty out to a feeding tray. Stubbs made the tray by attaching a lid from a 5-gal. pail to the bottom of the garbage can. The cage keeps deer and other critters away from the seed, while the height makes it easy to work under.

A funnel with the drain plugged stands upside down inside the garbage can. It ensures

the seed is constantly moving to the outside rim as birds feed. An upside down cone mounted around the post and below the cage acts as a squirrel baffle.

The strength of the cage allows Stubbs to hang accessories. When the weather is above freezing, a bird waterer sits inside the cage. In the summer he adds a couple hummingbird feeders. A salt block for deer mounts at the base of the pole.

"The whole thing cost about \$200," says Stubbs. "The protective grid was a bulk fluid container cage used to hold de-icer fluid at the airport. Setting it at the height I did lets me mow beneath it, and the deer can get under it to eat any fallen seed or sunflower hulls."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sidney Stubbs, RR #1, Site 6, Box 21, Beaverlodge, Alberta, Canada T0H 0C0 (ph 780 354-3112).



Giant bird feeder consists of a steel cage top mounted to a 4 1/2-ft. tall steel pipe. A modified garbage can holds up to three 5-gal. pails of seed at a time.