

Editor's Notebook



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FARM SHOW's growing library of books each focus on a specific topic.

Is Your Library Complete?

You've probably noticed that over the past few years, we've built up a library of books focusing on specific topics from past issues of FARM SHOW. Most are the result of requests from readers. When we enter the holiday season this fall, you might want to keep them in mind when shopping for your favorite rural tinkerer. You can get more details from the order envelope enclosed with this issue, or at our website (www.farmshow.com). By far our most popular books are the two 482-page "Encyclopedias of Made It Myself Ideas". They sell for just \$14.95 apiece or \$26.95 for both (nearly 1,000 pages of great ideas!) plus S&H. Thanks for giving us a look!



FARM SHOW contributing editor Lorn Manthey made this tractor cab for his dad's new IH 706 tractor 45 years ago.

Tractor Cab Memories

The story in our last issue about a farmer who built a wooden tractor cab brought back memories for contributing editor Lorn Manthey, who grew up on a farm in Southern Minnesota. "I made a tractor cab out of plywood 45 years ago in high school for my senior farm mechanics class. My dad agreed to let me install it on his new Farmall 706 tractor. My instructor and fellow students were skeptical that I could get it done.

"I drew up 3D plans in drafting class. My dad and I bought all of the materials for less than \$50, including the steel, plexiglass windows, hinges, hardware and plywood. Dad's only stipulation as he dropped the stuff off at school was to 'make sure the darn thing's done in time for spring field work.'

"The base supports were made from 1-1/2 in. box tubing. I U-bolted each side to the tractor axles on top of a 1/2-in. thick piece of belting to reduce noise and vibration. I made the cab frame from 2-in. angle iron that I welded on the corners with lap joints for extra strength. I built the frame on the shop floor and tipped it onto the tractor because my dad had said 'be sure we can get the thing off without wrecking the tractor if I don't like it.' In all the years he owned it that never happened.

"With the frame completed, I cut 3/4-in. plywood for the roof/ceiling and 1/2-in. plywood for the walls, sides and door. I bolted the wood to the frame, then painted the exterior IH red and white to match the tractor. Inside I added foam panels to the sides and roof, then cut a large rubber mat for the floor and back that angled up and over the hydraulic lift arms. The windows were made of 1/4-in. plexiglass and mounted on aluminum tracks that I had cut from old combination storm windows. A sliding door and an AM/FM radio bolted to the ceiling rounded out the project, for which I received a nice red "A" for the semester. It might have been A+ had I not sounded the dual air horns a few too many times, disrupting a nearby study hall.

"That summer, after my dad had bragged to just about everyone he knew that 'the kid had finally built something really useful', a neighbor brought his new 806 diesel over and asked for the same cab. I built that one in about half the time and charged him a whopping \$1.20 an hour for 40 hours of labor. My dad and his friend used their cabs for 6 to 7 years and I was never called on for warranty work." *Lorn Manthey, Contributing Editor*



Stine Seed Company used this custom-built 60-row planter to test high-density corn hybrids, which were planted in 12-in. rows and spaced 12 in. apart in the row.

New At The Farm Progress Show

The show stopper at this year's Farm Progress Show was a 60-row planter and cornhead designed for 12-in. corn rows. Stine Seed Company had the equipment custom-built to test its high-density hybrids. Last spring they planted 51,000 plants per acre in the ultra-narrow rows. Each plant had about 12 in. of equidistant growing room. This fall they'll harvest the crop with a 20-row cornhead mounted on an STS Deere combine. The planter bar was manufactured by Bauer Built of Paton, Iowa and the cornhead by Calmer Corn Heads of Alpha, Ill.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Thompson, Stine Seed Company, 22555 Laredo Trail, Adel, Iowa 50003 (ph 515 677-2605; dpthompson@stineseed.com).



Calmer Corn Heads custom-built this 20-row, 12-in. cornhead to harvest the ultra-narrow rows.

Liberty Quotes

"Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die." *Dwight D. Eisenhower*

"Big Brother in the form of an increasingly powerful government and an increasingly powerful private sector will pile the records high with reasons why privacy should give way to national security, to law and order, to efficiency of operation, to scientific advancement and the like." *Justice William O. Douglas*

"The threat of people acting in their own enlightened and rational self-interest strikes bureaucrats, politicians and social workers as ominous and dangerous." *W.G. Hill*

"We must take human nature as we find it. Perfection falls not to the share of mortals." *George Washington*

"It's a rare person who wants to hear what he doesn't want to hear." *Dick Cavett*

"Politics must be the battle of the principles . . . the principle of liberty against the principle of force." *Auberon Herbert*

"Useless laws weaken necessary laws." *Baron de Montesquieu*

"The work of the individual still remains the spark that moves mankind forward." *Igor Sikorsky*

"By pursuing his own interest, every individual frequently promotes that of the society more effectually than when he really intends to promote it. I have never known much good done by those who affected to trade for the public good." *Adam Smith*



At age 99, Bernadine Schaefer has turned her 2-story farm home into an art gallery. Despite numerous offers, she won't sell any of her paintings.

No Time For Rocking Chairs

"Painting helps keep my mind and fingers agile," says 99-year-old Bernadine Schaefer, Zearing, Iowa, who took up painting in retirement and now tells other senior citizens that painting can be a good way to make ends meet. "It's a low-overhead sideline for people who are retired or simply have extra time on their hands. You don't need to spend much to get canvas, easel, paints, and brushes, and there are plenty of places to sell your work - art fairs, flea markets, or any local celebrations."

Bernadine specializes in landscapes such as her family farm, a nearby lake, crops, cattle, etc. "People often overlook beautiful scenes just outside their kitchen window. I usually photograph a particular scene I intend to paint. Then it may take me several weeks to complete the painting."

Rooms and hallways in Bernadine's home are filled with her art. She loves showing off her work and frequently turns down offers to purchase. Besides working with oils and canvas, Bernadine designs her own personalized greeting cards. *Rex Gogerty, Hubbard, Iowa*

Free Online Classifieds

Our "sister" website, BestFarmBuys.com, has been in operation for more than 12 years, selling millions of dollars of equipment and livestock. Up to 100,000 users a month browse through the easy-to-use site (no registration or cost involved). It takes only a couple minutes to place an ad with up to 4 pictures. Check it out!

If you've got old farm equipment laying around, why not turn it into cash? AntiqueFarmEquipment.com is a new website that focuses only on older equipment. Even if you're not in the buying mood, it's fun to check out the antique planters, tractors, household items, and more!

Ole was bragging about his knowledge of the state capitals of the United States. He announced, "Go ahead, ask me any of da capitals. I know all ov dem."

"Okay," Sven responded, "What is da capital of Arizona?" Ole replied proudly, "Oh, dat's easy. It's A."

Lena was trying hard to get ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her son, 4-year-old Ole, to answer it.

"Mommy can't come tew da phone tew talk tew yew right now. She's hitting da bottle," the little boy told the caller.

Ole and Lena invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their 5-year-old son, Ole, Jr., what they were having.

"Goat," Ole Jr. replied. "Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth. "Are you sure about that?"

"Yep," said Ole. "I heard my dad say to my mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have that old goat for dinner.'"

A priest was invited to Ole and Lena's house for a party. Naturally, he was properly dressed and wearing his priest's collar. Little Sven kept staring at him the entire evening. Finally the priest asked Sven what he was staring at. Little Sven pointed to the priest's neck.

When the priest finally realized what he was pointing at, he asked Sven, "Do you know why I'm wearing this?" Sven nodded his head yes, and replied, "It kills fleas and ticks for up tew tree months."

Ole took Lena out to dance over the weekend. There was a guy on the dance floor living it up - breakdancing, moon-walking, back flips, the works.

Lena turned to Ole and said, "See dat guy? Twenty-five years ago he proposed tew me and I turned him down." Ole replied, "Vell, it looks like he's still celebrating!"