

FIVE FULL FLOORS OF LIVING AREA

Living Is Easy In A Silo House

Arthur Peterson, Titonka, Iowa, gave his wife Lois a silo on their 40th wedding anniversary 3 years ago and they've been living in it happily ever since.

Peterson put the silo up in the farmyard — not far from the house they were living in — specifically with the idea of turning it into a house. Thanks to help from Madison Silo company, five full floors of living area were installed, with two windows on every floor of the 20-ft. dia. structure.

"The ground floor is an office, the second is a family room, the third a bedroom, the fourth a kitchen and the top floor is a living area," explains Lois.

The top floor "penthouse", which is 25 ft. in dia., was constructed on the ground and hoisted into place by a crane. It has windows all the way around and provides a panoramic view of the surrounding Iowa countryside.

Lois says sq. ft. costs for the house were similar to that of a conventional house, including the cost of the silo. "We put that up special because we wanted it to be at least 20 ft. in dia. The silo is 35 ft. high and the top floor is 8 ft. tall. There are 60 steps from the bottom to the top," says Lois, noting that all floors are fully carpeted. Arthur and his son Allen did some of the work themselves on the silo house which contains 1,600



The 35-ft. tall silo house contains 1600 sq. ft. of living space.

sq. ft. of living space.

"It was really spectacular last year when we lighted it up with Christmas tree lights," says Lois. The Petersons have escorted hundreds of visitors through their unusual house at \$1 per

person.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Arthur Peterson, Rt. 1, Box 127, Titonka, Iowa 50480 (ph 515 928-2734).

FARMER CREATES GIANT-SIZE MESSAGE WITH TRACTOR AND CULTIVATOR

Field "Ad" Promotes Product To High Flyers

Sherwood Peterson believes farmers should promote the products they produce and he practices what he preaches by carving out giant messages in his fields each fall.

"Every farmer could do it," states the Baker, Minn., potato farmer who's lucky enough to live in the flight pattern of the nearby busy Fargo, N. Dak. airport — which provides constant "high" readership — but he says the idea can work anywhere.

"You can read this type of message from 30,000 ft. in the air, the same way you see irrigation circles when

you fly across the middle of the country. It only takes a few minutes to write something that'll catch the attention of people on planes," says Peterson.

Last fall he used a 24-ft. wide cultivator to write his message, "Eat More Spuds". The letters are "written" on a harvested field and the entire message is about 500 ft. wide and 800 ft. from top to bottom. He made each letter with one 24-ft. wide pass of the cultivator.

Peterson has written a message on his fields each of the past 5 seasons.



It took Peterson 30 minutes to "write" his 500 by 800-ft. message.

Two years ago he wrote simply "Eat Potatoes". Local papers often run photos of his messages and he gets comments from neighbors. "We farm primarily flat ground but we've tried to place messages along roads so motorists can also see it," he notes.

The message is legible in the fall but then disappears under snow during winter. In the spring, it again becomes visible.

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"FRED" AND "BARNEY" PULL FOR PORK

Pig Team Promotes Pork At Parades

Have you ever seen a team of hogs harnessed like horses and pulling a trailer? That's a question FARM SHOW readers frequently ask. Well, we finally tracked down a now-retired hog team.

Edwin Egli, New Salem, N. Dak., hog raiser trained "Fred" and "Barney", a pair of Hampshire-Yorkshire-Duroc crossbreeds, to pull in the local centennial parade. The team worked so well and were so popular that Edwin ended up taking them to many other parades, including the North Dakota State Fair near Minot. Besides being fun, the pork

pulling team was a good way to promote pork and Egli's "Bacon Hill Farm".

"It took about six weeks to train them. First, when they were about 180 lbs., we separated them from the rest of the group to tame them down. We made halters for them and, once they were used to the halters, connected a 1-ft. chain between the halters so they'd get used to walking together. Then, we started teaching them to lead and finally to pull a trailer. We used pony bits and reins and had the harnesses specially-built," notes Egli. "They could stop



Popular hog "team" pulled in the North Dakota State Fair parade.

and start on command and 'steered' using the reins."

As part of the parade procession, Egli built a trailer for the porkers to

pull. It carries four people, runs on bicycle tires and is painted with "Eat Pork" and "Egli's Bacon Hill Farm" lettering.