

Johnson mounted his 1936 Deere B and 1936 Farmall F12 on poles above his farmyard.

OLD DEERE AND FARMALL TOWER ABOVE FARMYARD

Farmer Turned Antique Tractors Into Monuments

Loyal Johnson loves his old tractors so much he decided to turn them into eye-catching monuments.

In the last two years, the Beloit, Wis., farmer has placed two antique tractors on steel poles high above his farmyard. The first was a 1936 Deere B that his grandfather, Conrad, originally farmed with. The second was a 1936 Farmall F12.

"I'd been thinking of doing this for 10 or 15 years, but never had the time or resources," Johnson explains. "I did everything myself, from cleaning them up to repainting them, except actually lifting them onto the poles. I had a friend with a crane do that.

"Our place is kind of down in a valley so the tractors are visible for at least a half mile from the road above."

Johnson got the two 12-ft., 6-in. steel

poles for nothing and set them in 6 ft. deep footings filled with concrete. He bolted the poles into the concrete with 1 in. dia. bolts.

To find their perfect balance points for mounting on the poles, Johnson raised them up on a hydraulic jack in his shop. He then made plates that bolt to the belly of each tractor.

The tractors were then lifted into place with the crane. Each bolts in place with four bolts.

The Deere is solid-mounted on a stationary pedestal. There's a wagon axle bearing at the top of the pole the Farmall mounts on so it turns in the breeze like a big weathervane.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Loyal Johnson, 10243 S. Cty. K, Beloit, Wis. 53511 (ph 608 879-2560).

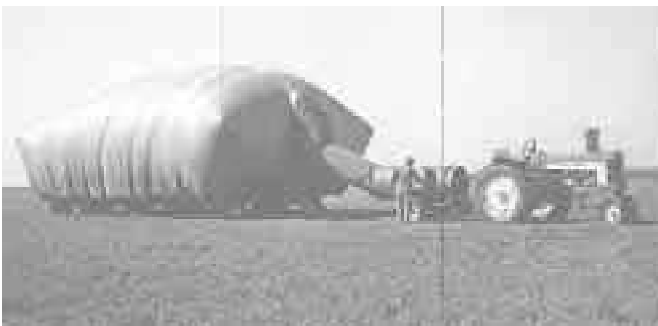


Photo shows Deere dryer drying baled hay near Marshalltown, Iowa, Sept., 1959.

GENERATED 4 MILLION BTU'S/HR ON-THE-GO

Giant Portable Crop Dryer

We spotted photos of this striking-looking machine in a recent issue of Two Cylinder Magazine (P.O. Box 219, Grundy Center, Iowa 50638) and decided to find out more about it. Two Cylinder shared the photos and some archival Deere information.

The space-age looking machine was a first-of-its-kind pto-driven portable crop dryer that burned LP gas to dry corn, hay, grain, or peanuts, according to a 1959 Deere & Co. brochure.

"The Model 88 Crop Dryer has a capacity of from 200,000 to more than 4 million BTU's per hour," the brochure stated.

A big 34-in. dia. fan provided up to 37,800

cfm and had adjustable pitch blades to meet varying crop drying requirements. The dryer had two thermostats - one for high-limit safety shutdown, the other to keep drying air temperature constant.

Three 18-in. deep wagonloads of shelled corn could be dried from 30% moisture to market grade in about 2 1/2 hours. Oats could be dried from 20% moisture to safe storage level in about 1 hour. Wheat, sorghum, and barley, 1 1/2 hours. Four wagonloads of baled hay at 40% moisture took 12 to 14 hours.

The dryer required at least a Deere 430 tractor to power it.



Photo Bill Reese
One-of-a-kind gas-powered tricycle is a real show stopper, says owner.

"My Great Grandkids Love It And So Do I"

"My great grandkids love it and so do grownups. It's a real show stopper," says Perry "Sarge" Jarrett about his one-of-a-kind gas-powered tricycle.

The trike was built three or four years ago by a fellow antique engine enthusiast.

It's driven by an antique 3 hp Briggs and Stratton cast iron gas engine and differential off an old lawnmower. The engine belt-drives a pulley that drives the rear wheels, which are off an old wheelbarrow. The front wheel, which has bearings fitted into it, is off an old hay rake.

The tricycle, which has a home-built frame made out of 1 1/2-in. dia. pipe, is

about 5 ft. high at its highest point. The driver sits on an old implement seat mounted on a motorcycle seat shock absorber. Front foot rests swivel 180° to accommodate both big and small riders.

"It's very comfortable to ride," says Jarrett.

A single hand lever throttles and brakes the 250-lb. tricycle. It will travel from a slow walking speed up to a trot, he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Perry "Sarge" Jarrett, R.R. 2, Box 168, Conover, N.C. 28613 (ph 704 464-5295).

Tree Stump Monster

"Reaction has been unbelievable," says Joseph Harding of rural Lake Crystal, Minn., who created a new "tourist attraction" for the area when he cut down an old willow tree that leaned across his driveway.

The tree trunk split while it was being cut. Harding and his son Matt thought it looked like the head of a monster with its mouth open.

So they made 13 10-in. long teeth, two big eyes, and two nostrils out of willow wood and nailed them onto the monster.

The project took only about an hour, but it was an immediate attention-grabber. Before long, it appeared in the local paper. Hundreds of people have driven by to take a look.

For the holidays, the Hardings decided to make their monster more festive. So they built a frame approximately 20 yds. long incorporating a nearby clothes line to form a "back" and "tail" for their monster. The



When Harding's tree split, he and his son decided to turn it into a monster.

Hardings then strung Christmas lights from its mouth to its tail so it could be seen better at night.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joseph Harding, Rt. 1, Box 47, Lake Crystal, Minn. 56055 (ph 507 947-3878).

Fence Post People

This pair of country folks may be "as dumb as posts" but their friendly smiles make all visitors feel welcome at the Remi and Margaret Girard farm near Pickardville, Alberta.

Dreamed up by their daughter Rita Huot, the "fence post people" consists of hand-painted wood posts mounted on large flat boards. Hats, arms and feet are made out of plywood.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Remi Girard, Rt. 2, Pickardville, Alberta, Canada T0G 1W0.



Fence post people made of post, flat boards, plywood.