

Editor's Notebook



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Editor & Publisher

The People We Meet

In the course of writing FARM SHOW stories for 35 years I've dealt with thousands of the most interesting people you'll ever meet. Our focus is always on the ideas so we don't very often tell stories about the people. But one fellow we met recently has had such an unusual life I thought maybe I'd pass his story along briefly.

Jim Tessier makes detailed models of farm equipment from aluminum cans (see his story on page 6). It's not an accident that he turned a hobby into a sideline business because he spent many years in isolation, working for 17 years as a government contractor on Johnston Atol, an island 2 miles long and 3/4 mile wide, located 800 miles southwest of Hawaii. His top secret job on the atol was destroying outdated nuclear weapons from the U.S. and other Allied countries. He and a small crew of specialists worked on the island, toiling 12 hrs. a day, 7 days a week for 2 mos. and then getting 2 weeks off in Hawaii. He had the same routine for 17 years, and made 2 1/2 times normal wages, which he was able to sock away because the government supplied his housing and food. The only money he spent was in Hawaii 6 times a year. While on the island, he started making things from pop cans to pass the time. Once all the weapons they were dealing with had been eliminated, the U.S. destroyed all its equipment and tore down the plant. All that's left on the island is a runway to land tourist jets 3 times a week. And a pretty good story.

Everything John Deere

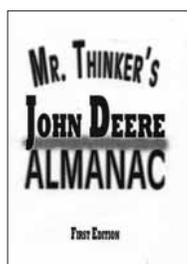
If you're a John Deere man or woman, there's a magazine you should be getting in the mail. *Green Magazine* has been covering "everything Deere" for decades and no one knows more about Deere tractors than editor and publisher, Richard Hain.



Richard recently sent us a copy of his latest new book, "Mr. Thinker's John Deere Almanac". Mr. Thinker

is a cranky, fictional mechanic who has a column in every issue of *Green Magazine*, answering questions about all things Deere, but particularly tractors built before 1972. The new Almanac covers all models of Deere built from 1918 to 1972, from Waterloo Boys to 6030's. Besides a brief history on each model, the book gives accurate production numbers, including those of rare variations like Hi-Crops and orchard tractors. Many tractors are broken down by fuel type. You'll also find information on what carburetors and magnetos that many early models had. There are also charts on fluid capacities, horsepower, cubic inches, torque specs, and much more. It's a valuable treasure trove of information that's never been pulled together in this way before.

The book is 92 pages and sells for \$14.95 postpaid, U.S. or Canada. *Green Magazine* is \$32 a year for 12 issues. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Green Magazine, P.O. Box 95, Bee, Neb. 68314 (ph 888 707-3939; www.greenmagazine.com).



We recently rescanned all the early issues of FARM SHOW to make it easy to access the thousands of "made it myself" ideas featured in previous years.

A Great New Resource For Ideas!

The first issue of FARM SHOW was published on January 1st, 1977. Even though that was nearly 35 years ago, there are many "made it myself" ideas in that very first issue that we would publish in FARM SHOW today if we came across them.

That's why we are continually working to upgrade access to our previously published issues. For the past 15 years or so we've put together a computer disk with all our back issues on it and a searchable index. However, one problem with the disk has always been that the first 19 years of issues were scanned in black and white, making some pages difficult to read.

We recently corrected that problem by rescanning all those early issues so they're crisp, clear and as easy to read as later issues. You can get all 35 years of FARM SHOW on our new "FARM SHOW on DVD-Rom", plus our searchable index that makes it easy to find any story we've ever published.



Every issue of FARM SHOW and a searchable index make our DVD-Rom a fantastic "idea" resource.



Have you visited FARM SHOW's website lately? It now features all our back issues plus the world's first database of "made it myself" ideas. You can also renew your subscription, give gift subscriptions, and place FREE classified ads (on our sister site) that will be seen by more than 100,000 regular users.

We also recently loaded all our back issues - and our searchable index - into our newly redesigned website at www.farmshow.com. Now you can instantly download any issue we've ever published. It's a fantastic idea resource for anyone looking for ways to get things done faster and cheaper, or if you just want to see if anyone's ever come up with a way to solve a particular problem.

Downloadable back issues (including this current issue) sell for \$4 apiece at the website. Our searchable index is free for anyone to use so if you already have a pile of back issues, you can use it to find any story. "FARM SHOW on DVD" sells for \$39.95 plus S&H. Go to www.farmshow.com or use the order envelope enclosed with this issue.

Men & Women

"If men run the world, why can't they stop wearing neckties? How intelligent is it to start the day by tying a noose around your neck." *Linda Ellerbee*

"I am a marvellous housekeeper. Every time I leave a man I keep his house." *Zsa Zsa Gabor*

"I am not offended by all the dumb blond jokes because I know that I'm not dumb . . . and I also know that I'm not blonde." *Dolly Parton*

"When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country." *Elayne Boosler*

"Give a man a fish and he eats for a day. Teach him how to fish and you get rid of him for the whole weekend." *Zenna Schaffer*

"Men who don't understand women fall into two groups: bachelors and husbands." *Jacques Languirand*

"When I finally met Mr Right, I had no idea that his first name was 'Always'." *Rita Rudner*

Great Christmas Gift Idea!

Many readers who gave FARM SHOW for Christmas last year wrote to tell us they've never given a gift which generated so much response from appreciative recipients. You can give bargain rate gift subscriptions to friends, relatives, and business associates. Each recipient will receive a year of FARM SHOW plus a copy of our new 168-page "Just For Kicks" book of amazing do-it-yourself fun projects, which includes our first-ever collection of Liberty Quotes, recipes and jokes!

Liberty Quotes

"No one can read our Constitution without concluding that the people who wrote it wanted their government severely limited. The words 'no' and 'not', employed in restraint of government power, occur 24 times in the first seven articles of the Constitution and 22 more times in the Bill of Rights." *Rev. Edmund A. Optiz*

"Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a dairing adventure, or nothing." *Helen Keller*

"In times of universal deceit, telling the truth will be a revolutionary act." *George Orwell*

"The ruling class has the schools and press under its thumb. This enables it to sway the emotions of the masses." *Albert Einstein*

"The short memories of the American voters is what keeps our politicians in office." *Will Rogers*

"At the end of a century that has seen the evils of communism, Nazism and other modern tyrannies, the impulse to centralize power remains amazingly persistent." *Joseph Sobran*

"Whenever you find you are on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect." *Mark Twain*

"When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life in such a manner that when you die the world cries and you rejoice." *Indian Saying*

"Let the Constitution be taught in schools, seminaries and in colleges; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, enforced in courts of justice. In short, let it become the political religion of the nation." *Abraham Lincoln*

Best Speeding Excuse Ever

An 87-year-old woman was stopped by a young patrol officer, who asked, "Do you know you were speeding?" The elderly woman gave the young officer an ear-to-ear smile and said: "Yes, Officer, I'm sorry. But I had to get there before I forgot where I was going." The patrol officer put his ticket book away and bid her a good day.

How To Prepare Venison

"May I take your order, sir?" the waiter asked a customer at a fancy restaurant.

"Yes," the man replied. "I'm just wondering, exactly how do you prepare your venison?"

"Nothing special, sir. We just tell them straight out that they're going to die," the waiter replied.

The English language has some wonderful names for groups of animals. For example, a pack of lions is called a Pride, and there's a Murder of crows, a School of fish, an Exaltation of larks and, presumably because they look so wise, a Parliament of owls.

Now consider the baboon. It's known as the loudest, most dangerous and viciously aggressive of all primates. So what do you call a group of baboons? A Congress.

Sometimes the jokes just write themselves.

God is sitting in Heaven when a scientist approaches Him to say, "Lord, we don't need you anymore. Science has finally figured out a way to create life out of nothing. In other words, we can now do what you did in the beginning."

"Oh, is that so? Tell me how you do it," replies God. "Well," says the scientist, "we can take dirt and form it into the likeness of You and breathe life into it, thus creating man." "That's very interesting," said God. "Can you show me?"

So the scientist bends down to the earth and starts to mold a clump of soil. "Oh no, no, no . . ." interrupts God. "You need to get your own dirt."

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her childhood was like: "We used to skate outside on a pond and I had a swing made from a tire that hung from a tree in our front yard. We had a pony to ride and we picked wild raspberries in the woods."

The girl was wide-eyed, taking this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"