

If you're looking for new ways to add to your bottom line, take a look at the money-making ideas featured here and on the next page.

If you've found or heard about a new income-boosting idea, we'd like to hear about it. Send details to: FARM SHOW Magazine, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 800-834-9665) or email us at: editor@farmshow.com.

Online Source For Rare A-C Parts

The Kammerer family has an eBay site with a large list of parts for A-C implements.

The family says A-C parts were built as if someone went to their shop, grabbed a metal bar off a shelf, and made the piece they needed. That happens to be exactly what the Kammerers do for a living.

The family has run its fabrication shop for several decades, so they know how to make parts. The business recently passed on to the third generation, which keeps pushing out parts and machinery every day.

The family has a lot of experience in the implement business that goes back to "Grandpa Kammerer." He was in the business when rubber tractor tires first hit the market, and the family has been involved with machinery ever since.

Their product categories include battery boxes, brackets, clips, drawbar parts, grill screens, rods, seats, steering tubes,



The eBay site contains pages full of products. The shipping cost for each part is listed under the price.

toolboxes, and many others.

The eBay site contains pages full of products that range in price. The shipping cost for each part is listed under the price.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kammerer Inc., Kendallville, Ind., 46755 (www.ebay.com/str/kammererinc).



"Nest" is 8 by 12-ft., one-third of which is reserved for chickens. It sleeps three people and 20 to 25 hens. It rents for \$46 per night.

Their Rental Cabins Come With Chickens

Jason and Lucie Amundsen operate a pick-your-own honeyberry farm and a free-range egg production business. But their most interesting venture is AirB-n-Bawk, two tiny rental houses on their farm that come complete with a flock of chickens.

"My wife read about people going to a B&B above a bookstore and thought people might like to stay at a chicken farm," recalls Jason Amundsen. "Many parents and grandparents bring kids to have the experience of being on a farm."

The two tiny houses are the Perch and the Nest. The Perch is a 12 by 20-ft. structure, 6 ft. off the ground. It has room for four guests with two beds (one in a loft), a half bath, and a kitchenette. It rents for \$157 per night.

The Nest is even smaller, just 8 by 12-ft., one-third of which is reserved for chickens. It sleeps three people and 20 to 25 hens. It rents for \$46 per night.

"Perch guests look out over the pasture, but Nest guests are sleeping with the birds, separated only by a glass wall," says Amundsen. "It's like a chicken aquarium."

Other amenities include an outhouse, a solar shower, firepits, and a \$6 day pass to a nearby wellness and fitness center. The farm

is also close to several state parks and a state bike trail.

A high point for many guests is helping with farm chores. The "Choose Your Own Adventure" stay can include feeding and watering the pasture-raised poultry, freeing the chickens from roosts and shelters at daybreak, moving fences, putting the chickens in at night, working the farm stand, and more. Guests can also gather, wash, and pack eggs.

While the idea of getting paying guests to do your work for you might be attractive, it has its downside. "In theory, it's free labor," says Amundsen. "In reality, it involves a lot of hand-holding and teaching. However, that's what people are paying for."

Amundsen notes that Nest guests tend to want the experiences, although Perch guests have the same opportunity. The Nest has proven to be the most popular with an 85 to 90 percent occupancy rate, while the Perch is around 60 percent.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Locally Laid Egg Company, P.O. Box 208, Wrenshall, Minn. 55797 (ph 612-245-0450; jason@locallylaid.com; lucie@locallylaid.com; www.locallylaid.com).

Mike Joas says the Ford Commander he restored looks like a space vehicle and is now in "better than new" condition.



Family Tractor Restoration Business Celebrates 50 Years

Joe Joas took a tractor restoration hobby and turned it into a full-time passion that's lasted 50 years and multiple generations.

It started in 1971 when Joas left his family farm and started an auto body repair shop. He started tinkering around, fixing tractors owned by friends and neighbors. More work kept coming in.

Joas' son, Mike, also caught the tractor restoration bug. In the mid-1990's, the father-son team decided they had enough business to refurbish tractors full-time and opened Joe's Auto Body Tractor in Kiel, Wis.

"By that time, we decided it's either sink or swim, so let's go full-time with tractors," Mike says. "We've never looked back." Since 1995, Mike estimates the business has restored more than 1,000 antique tractors. Some are quite unique, including a 1917 Minneapolis Moline done for Mecum Auctions. What Joas enjoys most is hearing the cherished family history behind each project.

"I did a Farmall A for a guy whose grandpa had done some welding on the drawbar. He told me exactly why he did that and how it happened, and he didn't

want it changed," Joas says. "Then he had a toolbox mounted on a true 2 by 8 rough-sawed board. Back then, most people would have taken it off and thrown it away, but he wanted that toolbox. He remembered that when he was 10 years old his grandpa had put it on that tractor. So, I had to do some heavy repair work on that box to make it look nice."

Fond family memories drive Joas' business. Many of his customers bring in old, rusty, broken-down tractors, hoping Joas can work his magic and save a relic of their youth. He recalls one customer bringing in a Deere 60 to refurbish. After several weeks, she returned, saw Joas' handiwork, and was moved to tears.

"She said, 'Oh my, I never thought this tractor would look this nice. I remember it looking like this when Dad bought the tractor when I was a little girl,'" Joas says. "There are a lot of heartwarming stories you hear over the years working on these tractors."

Depending on the extent of the work, restoration projects take about 6 to 8 weeks. And Joas rarely turns down work. In early August 2022, Joas started restoring a Ford Commander 6000, the first of that brand he'd ever done.

"I call it the 'spaceship tractor,'" he says.

"It's got out-of-the-box ideas and technology behind it, stuff you normally don't see on a tractor. The handles to get up inside it are like rock-climbing handles."

Joas says restoration project costs vary based on the scope of work. "It all depends on what the customer wants," he says. He advises customers to consider three points when considering a restoration: the tractor's condition, the parts it will need, and do they want a small tune-up or full-fledged restoration.



Joas has been working on restoring tractors full-time with his son since 1995.