

Antique Tractor Collection

war years. He described the event as "I saw her and she saw me." Of their long marriage, he said, "She's still in good shape."

When the war ended, Kistler was ready for bigger and better things. He told his wife they either needed to move or get into business. They stayed in the little community of Linport where he set up Kermit K. Kistler Inc. by selling farm equipment, which he has been doing ever since.

At first he sold Massey Harris tractors, but in 1955, he switched to John Deere models only. Later, he added lawn and garden equipment — now their primary business with nine employees.

The couple had five children and seven grandchildren.

Kistler is of the generation that used horses and remembers steam engines and oil burning engines. Perhaps it is the excitement of the memory of those first tractors that causes him to love old tractors and brings a repertorie of stories about them.

According to Kermit, "Deere didn't start producing tractors until 1918, prior to that they had a short product run called Dain. For two years, John Deere also produced tractors in four different colors as

an appeal to housewives, Kistler said.

Kistler learned the disassemble and put together engines and trained many mechanics to do the same.

"I outlived three or four of the mechanics I trained," the octogenarian said.

His expertise at blacksmithing comes in handy for parts that are no longer available.

It wasn't until 1986, that Kistler purchased his first antique tractor. Now between his son and him, he estimates they have about 100.

People from as far away as New Zealand come to admire their collection that includes not only John Deere but also Waterloo Boy, Massey Harris, American Tractor Company, Ford, Terratrak and others.

They don't buy tractors to resell but for their own pleasure.

A 1919 Waterloo Boy is Kermit's favorite. He has the first John Deere crawler made. The high crop tractors are more valuable than the standard, he said. They have the John Deere series from 430 to 830.

"We need a 330 John Deere to complete the group," Kermit said. "If you hear of anyone who has one, let us know."

They also have many original signs advertising tractor companies, and equipment such as gas engines, potato cutters, equipment for sawing wood, grinding feed, shelling corn, pumping water, churning butter, washing clothes, running lathes, cutting ice, and generating electricity.

The Kistlers built a large shed to accommodate most of their collection. They transport them to various antique tractor shows and will show them to visitors if they aren't too busy with regular business.

"People realize the value of antique farm equipment. It's rare to be able to buy and sell for a profit," Kermit said.

Even if they were offered a formidable price, he said, "Certain pieces we would not sell."

If they wanted, the father and son team said they could keep busy full-time showing their collections.

"But we got to make a living," the elder Kistler said.



Sometimes the Kistlers need to rebuilt, sandblast, paint, and re-letter the tractors. That's where Ronald's precise working skills result in "a better than new tractor."

Cook's Question

(Continued from Page B12)

Green Bean Supreme

- 18-ounces French-style green beans
- ¼ cup butter
- 2 tablespoons dried minced onion
- 1 tablespoon flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- ¼ cup fine dry bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted

Cook beans and drain. Melt ¼ cup butter in small saucepan. Stir in onions, flour, and salt. Gradually stir in milk. Cook over medium high heat, stirring constantly, until mixture starts to boil. Remove from heat and add cheese. Stir until cheese is melted.

Combine cooked beans and cheese sauce in 2-quart casserole. Combine bread crumbs and 2 tablespoons melted butter. Sprinkle over top of bean mixture. Bake, covered, in 350 degree oven, 20-30 minutes, removing lid for the final 5 minutes. Serve hot. Serves 6.

ANSWER — Evan Weidman, Westfield, wanted recipes for making fudge in large quantities such as 5 to 20 pounds at a time. Thanks to Glenna Shaner, Hughesville, for sending a recipe that makes about 5 pounds.

Chocolate Fudge

- 5 cups granulated sugar
- 1 can evaporated milk
- Pinch of salt
- 2 packages chocolate bits
- 1 pint marshmallow creme
- ½ pound butter
- Vanilla, if desired
- Nuts, if desired

Cook together ingredients for six minutes after it starts a rolling boil. Beat well after cooking.

You Ask ? ? ? ? ?
? ? ? ? ? You Answer

This column is for readers who have questions but don't know whom to ask for the answers.

"You Ask — You Answer" is for non-cooking questions. When a reader sends in a question, it will be printed in the paper. Readers who know the answer are asked to respond by mailing the answer, which will then be printed in the paper.

Questions and answers to this column should be addressed to You Ask — You Answer, Lou Ann Good, P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522.

QUESTION — Stanley Siedlecki, Jarrettsville, Md., writes that his woodburning stove emits a strong wood burning smell during humid days and nights. The flue has been cleaned. Is there something that can be done to prevent this odor or condition?

QUESTION — C. Van Horn, Mt. Pleasant Mills, would like to know what works and is safe to remove yellow and grease stains from old china dishes, especially ironstone. She would like something that makes the dishes white again.

QUESTION — E. Otis Dyer, Rehoboth, Mass., would like to know the name of the company in Pennsylvania, the address, and if the company is still in business — the one that makes a farm fence kit consisting of two channel irons and hinges. The farmer supplies the wooden cross piece measuring 2x8-inches and barbwire strands.

(Turn to Page B17)

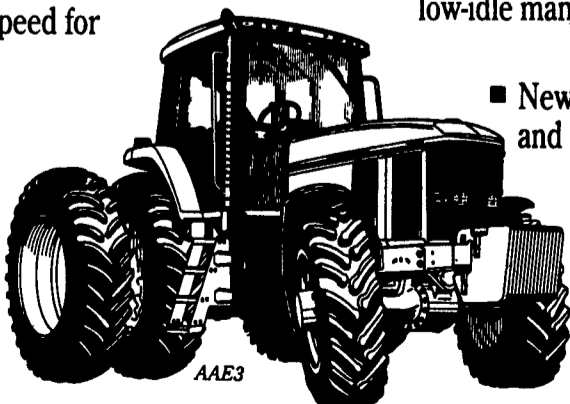


ANDIS BROS. INC. Lancaster, PA 717-291-1046	MILLER'S EQUIPMENT RD #1 Rt. 66 Fairmount Cty, PA	POLE TAVERN EQ. SALES CORP. 670 Rte. 40 Elmer, NJ 609-358-2889	SMITH'S IMPLEMENTS, INC Mercersburg, PA 717-328-2244	WINELAND EQUIPMENT, INC. Martinsburg, PA 814-793-2109
LEHIGH AG EQUIPMENT Allentown, PA 610-398-2553	MILLER-LAKE INC. Belleville, PA 717-935-2335	SCHEFFEL EQUIPMENT CO. Red Goose Rd. Somerset, PA 814-445-6500	S.P.E., INC. Rd. 1, Box 157 Towanda, PA 717-265-4440	M.S. YEARSLEY & SONS West Chester, PA 610-696-2990
LOST CREEK IMPLEMENT Oakland Mills, PA 717-463-2161	PIKEVILLE EQUIPMENT INC. Oley, PA 610-987-6277	GEORGE V. SEIPLE & SON Easton, PA 610-258-7146	TOBIAS EQUIPMENT CO., INC. Hallfax, PA 717-362-3132	WALTEMYER'S SALES & SERVICE Red Lion, PA 717-244-4168
LONE MAPLE SALES & SERVICE New Alexandria, PA 412-668-7172				

NEW 110- TO 145-HP JOHN DEERE 7000 SERIES TRACTORS

NOW... GET UP TO 38% TORQUE RISE!

- Outstanding lugging ability for high-performance power at all engine speeds.
- Continuous power response between 2,100 and 1,680 rpm.
- Excellent load-starting and low-idle maneuverability.
- New 110-hp 6.8 L, 125-hp 7.6 L, and 145-hp 7.6 L engines.
- 2,100 rpm engine speed for greater reliability.



AN ALL-NEW BREED OF POWER

Nothing Runs Like a Deere

