

# Ida's Notebook

by  
Ida Risser



It seems that as folks get older, they make a greater effort to get-together. Maybe they realize that there are just so many years left.

My husband has three brothers who live in three different counties and they are planning a meal together. I have four sisters, who live in three different counties, and we gather regularly. In the summer we have a picnic, in the

fall we meet at a sister's campground, and at Christmas they come to our home.

Recently a retirement party for a cousin, brought family together. This lady retired from a nursing career to care for her grandchildren while her daughter is teaching school. It was an act of love.

Even communities bind to-

gether for the betterment of the citizens. An example would be the picnic held by the Oregon community at the local church grounds. After the food was eaten and the children's games were all played, the group settled down for a discussion of the area's problems. Even a small community can have traffic problems, crime, and pollution.

It was interesting to hear some historical facts about the area such as the number of covered bridges and the type of industry in the early 1900s. Especially fascinating to me was the present number of industries in the immediate area. The group listed 16 businesses.

Long ago the village had a butcher shop, cigar box manufacturer, blacksmith, and a grain mill. Today the mill houses two businesses, a barn has an antique shop and the 1776 hotel and store are now an upscale restaurant.

## Extension Offers Food Safety Course

**LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)** — Does your church group, fire company or public service organization serve meals to a crowd? Penn State Extension is offering a program for cooks, servers, and organizers on the basics of safe food handling practices. This refresher could make the difference between a great fundraiser and a food poisoning outbreak that

could damage your group's reputation and finances. A workshop is scheduled on September 25 from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Farm and Home Center. The cost is \$5. Pre-registration is requested. Call Lancaster County Cooperative Extension at (717) 394-6851 for information. Additional workshops may be scheduled for your group by contacting the Extension office.

## Effective Discipline

**LEESPORT (Berks Co.)** — Learn effective discipline for children ages 4-7. Miriam Gavigan, a nationally certified counselor, will teach the class to be held at the Berks County Ag Center on Thursday, Oct. 9, from 7-9 p.m. Cost is \$5.

Make check payable to Berks County Extension Special Account, and mail your name, address, and phone number to Homemaker's Newsletter, Berks County Cooperative Extension, Berks Co. Ag Center, P.O. Box 520, Leesport, PA 19533.

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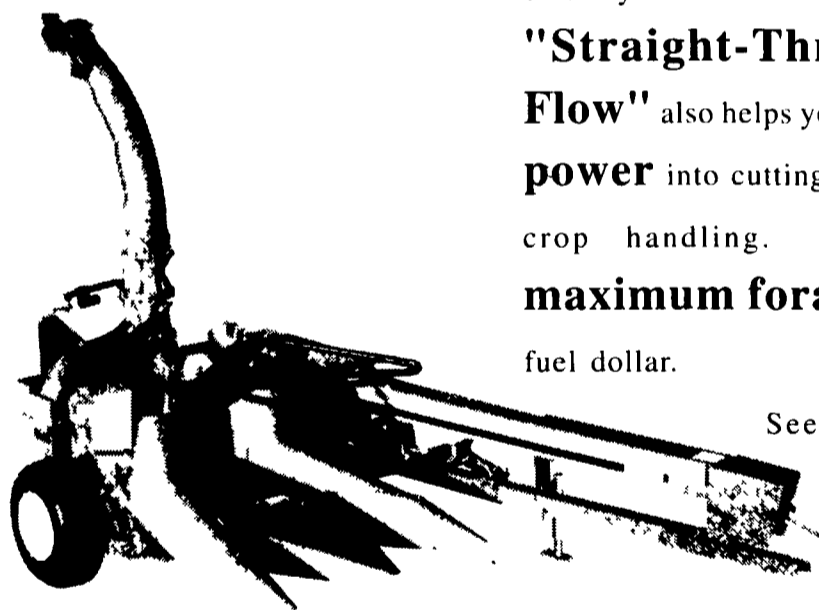
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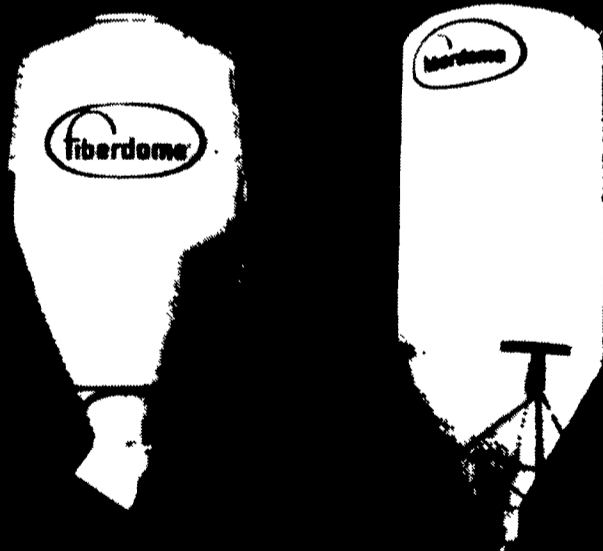
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