

**On Being a
Farm Wife
(and other
hazards)**
Joyce Bupp



Our customers keep arriving at a steady pace.

But the clientele is changing over the last several days. And we're welcoming back some old friends.

When we first began feeding birds, it was a mostly-wintertime endeavor. Once late spring had arrived, after the trees leafed out, the grass demanded at least weekly mowing and garden and field-work activities took center stage,

putting seed out for the songbirds usually took a backseat to other pressing chores.

That changed in recent years, as birds continued to visit the feeder right on through the summer season, and raised a ruckus if they arrived on the back porch to find only an empty plate. Guilt hung especially heavy in early mornings and late evenings, when the irate chirps of the cardinals protested the absence of the expected

sunflower seeds. So, in the last few years, filling the birdfeeder continues as a daily ritual, regardless of whether the temperatures are minus 10 or 90 degree plus. The cardinals have won the battle and the birdseed storage cans (originally filled with gifts of popcorn) are kept stocked year round.

Nevertheless, a new season has begun.

A nuthatch announced that late last week, as it waddled down the side of a maple tree and then flitted to the feeder just outside the kitchen window to take inventory of the lunch menu. It was the first nuthatch to pay a visit since warm weather moved in months ago. Equally surprising was that the titmice had also come to dine just hours before, though they did make sporadic appearances over the last couple of months.

Special favorites of mine, the petite, friendly and irrefragable chickadees, likewise returned last

week. Also, the bossy and boisterous bluejays, of which we saw very few even last winter, have turned up to stuff their cheeks with black oil seeds.

Meanwhile, the cardinals, which raised a nest of babies somewhere nearby, are noticeably absent for the moment. For a couple of weeks in late summer, cardinals the color of a female, but lacking the bright orange beak of the mature ones, arrived at the feeder. They seemed a bit hesitant at first but eventually settled in to feed with the finches and sparrows that hang out there incessantly.

We assume they're temporarily rounding out their diets with natural tidbits and delicacies of the season and will be back as fall fodder diminishes.

A dove or two continue to feed regularly, though fewer than we had prior to the early dove hunting season. These beautiful, gentle-

looking birds... aren't. Gentle, that is. Somewhere along the way, they picked up a bit of the bossiness of bluejays, even to the point of running each other away from the feeder at times. It's so out of character that it's funny.

But the most striking bird behavior we've observed this year is that of a Canada goose.

The hatch of goslings that our returning pair of wild geese raised this year took wing in mid-August. Probably, they joined the groups that pass overhead most evenings at dusk, enroute to Lake Redman for the night.

One single goose, however, came to the pond several weeks ago and has remained. All by itself. It turned up just after the first day of early, local goose season, so I assumed it had been injured. We have seen no visible signs of a wound and have not

tried to catch it to check, lest we injure it. It flies from one end of the pond to the other and seems to be able to swim with no problem. I have never actually seen it walk.

Each time a flock flies overhead, this is one bird visitor I hope will depart, and lift off with a honk to join others of its own kind.

It would be nice to be able to write a happy ending to this puzzling goose tale.

Annette Goodling Receives Honors

COLLEGEVILLE (Montgomery Co.) — Annette Goodling, extension family and consumer scientist, Collegeville, recently received the Florence Hall Award during the annual meeting of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences at the Galaxy Summit in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Florence Hall Award is presented for an outstanding program conducted by NEAFCS members who have been alert in recognizing new concerns and interests of families and have involved people in planning and implementing programs that benefit families.

In 1952, Miss Florence Hall, regional field Agent-Eastern States, Federal Extension Service, initiated this award to recognize outstanding accomplishments of NAEHE members.

Annette Goodling was recognized for the project "Building Blocks"

Canning Jars & Lids
All shapes and sizes!
Factory direct pricing!
Distributor inquiries welcomed!
Fillmore Container Inc.
2316-B Norman Rd
Lancaster, PA 17601
Ph (717) 397-1131
Fax (717) 397-0941

THIS AUTUMN, PRICES ARE FALLING

A symbol of excellence since 1903



Basic Machine Storage Facility
48'x13'x75'

- 1-24"x14'6" wood double-end door
- 1-3'x6'8" insulated walkdoor
- 3-roof skylights
- White polyester-coated hi-rib steel roof and sidewall panels
- KYNAR 500*/HYLAR 5000* trim
- 50 year snowload warranty, no weight limit
- 50-year warranty on laminated columns and treated lumber
- 5-year wind warranty, no velocity limit
- 5-year warranty against roof leakage
- Morton heavy gauge aluminum gutters and downspouts
- Free Morton weather vane

~~\$20,495.00~~
Less \$500 site ready rebate.*
\$19,995.00
Price includes tax.

Deluxe Machine Storage Facility
Raised Chord With New 4/12 Pitch
54'x14'x90'

- 1-24"x15'6" AlumaSteel® double-end door
- 1-22'6"x14' AlumaSteel® double-side door
- 1-3'x6'8" insulated walkdoor with 9 lite glass
- 2-4'x3' insulated sliding glass 9-lite windows with shutters
- 2-3'6"x3'6" cupolas
- 8-roof skylights
- 2' wide endwall overhangs
- 1' wide vented sidewall overhangs with continuously vented ridge
- Hi-rib steel roof panels coated with FLUOROFLEX 2000*
- Hi-rib steel sidewall and wainscot panels coated with KYNAR 500*/HYLAR 5000*
- 50-year snowload warranty, no weight limit
- 50-year warranty on laminated columns and treated lumber
- 20-year paint warranty, including red rust
- 10-year wind warranty on doors, no velocity limit
- 5-year wind warranty on building, no velocity limit
- 5 year warranty against roof leakage
- Morton heavy gauge aluminum gutters and downspouts
- Free Morton weather vanes

~~\$37,495.00~~
Less \$500 site ready rebate.*
\$36,995.00
Price includes tax

800-447-7436
MORTON BUILDINGS
P. O. Box 199, Morton, IL 61550
www.mortonbuildings.com

Now On The World Wide Web!

*Order now! Prepare site or install concrete foundation before January 31, 1998 and receive a \$500 site ready rebate. All warranties include materials and labor and are not prorated. Special pricing includes taxes, materials, delivery, unloading, and labor to erect within 40 miles from a Morton Buildings, Inc. construction center. Customer must provide a site prepared to Morton Buildings, Inc. Site Specification Form 151a (i.e. a level site without underground obstructions) and participate in Morton's progressive payment plan. The above prices may vary because of local building codes. These prices do not include concrete due to local price variations. Offer expires December 31, 1997. For delivery after December 31, 1997, construction after December 31, 1997. Site must be prepared and approved by your local Morton Buildings sales consultant by January 31, 1998. Prices may vary for every 1,000 feet over 6,000 feet of elevation.

KYNAR 500* Trademark of Elf Atochem NA HYLAR 5000* Trademark of Ausimont U.S.A. FLUOROFLEX 2000* and AlumaSteel* Trademarks of Morton Buildings Inc.

VED