

Allied Milk Producer's Little Red Barn Almost As Good As The Cow Herself

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Somerset Co. Correspondent
SOMERSET COUNTY — Allied Milk Producer's Cooperative Inc. might pose a riddle: "What has a six-gallon bag and can dispense milk in two colors at three spigots?"

The answer is Allied's Little Red Barn that has been newly refurbished, thanks to several area businesses and a local VoAg department working toward a common goal.

She is ready for the highways, showing off a prominent "Real Seal," amid signage that reminds consumers to love and drink milk.

Summertime finds the little red barn with only a few days to spend at home — Bill Blough's place near Boswell. She's too busy fulfilling her invitations from county fair associations and other events, some ag-related, some not.

Once parked, the wooden awning or roof will be propped up and the countertop let down to reveal a serving window for ice cream, soft freeze, milkshakes, flavored and white milk.

Its ice cream machine has 220 voltage while 110 is sufficient operating power for two freezers and a six-foot cooler.

Usually, the barn is connected to an on-site electrical source, however, if none is available its own hidden generator is used.

"It was built to promote dairy," Bill Blough said. "We needed something the whole family could walk up to and get a drink."

As the whole idea for its design began taking shape, Robert J. Blough, Bill's uncle, donated the frame of a house trailer.

Then Don's Custom Barnes of Somerset put a little red barn on the frame.

Rich Nero of Boswell took charge of wiring its properly.

"Mr. Neri donated a lot of time because he understood farming," Bill Blough, recalled.

Then at the Friedens farm of Mike Stutzman the men paneled the unit.

There was the younger Blough, and Mike Stutzman, his dad Ralph Stutzman, Gary Lynch, Lowell Friedline of Boswell, Ed Thomas of Jerome and several other farmers helping out.

"Once we decided it was driven by other forces," said Lowell Friedline, the Somerset board president and secretary of Allied's central board.

The state Department of Health, provided regulations for health and food safety, and specifications for equipment that Allied would install. Having met these, the unit passed inspection and soon thirsty patrons were coming around for refreshments.

Lowell Friedline declares that ice cold milk will outdo any cola. He only wishes more kids and adults knew it.

The state Department of Transportation, likewise, pronounced the vehicle road-worthy and legal. Lights had been installed and Pennsylvania license plates were attached. Since then, it regularly has undergone a state inspection.

For the most part, she's a good performer, except for breaking an axle not too long ago. And of course, her caretakers are watchful of tread wear on the tires.

Lincoln Supply and Equipment and Somerset Welding and Steel saw to it that the barn's back porch was recently replaced.

Eight seniors in the Berlin-Brothersvalley VoAg department, together amassed 200 hours refurbishing the barn after it was delivered last April to their school.

Jason VanGilder, a student, said during the disassembling process, the team removed the old siding, the roof, window and signs.

"We took it down to the studs," he said.

Doyle Paul, their adviser, said his students basically worked on their own.

"They were in charge but I gave them encouragement," he said.



Senior vocational-agriculture students at Berlin-Brothersvalley School gather around the dairy promotion little red barn of Allied Milk Producers' Cooperative Inc. that the students refurbished. In the front, from the left, are Jack Koonetz, Justin Lorson, Justin VanGilder, Justin Hillegass and Jason VanGilder. In the back row, from the left, Rebecca Fisher sits by the silo, with Bryan Engle and Ryan Coleman.

The project involved painting, welding, oxyacetylene cutting, shingling the roofs, router signs, drilling, nailing, wood cutting, sanding, grinding, lettering, trimming, disassembling and reassembling.

As far as materials, they worked with shingles, barn paint, gloss paint, lacquer, thinner, galvanized nails, T1-11 board, paint thinner, edger, hinges, and latches, blue paint ridge vent, end plugs, furring strips, door latch, 2x4s treated, and 1-inch by 10-inch face boards, white aluminum drop edge, and two 55-gallon drums that form the silo, painted blue and attached near the hitch.

"I thought the class was very motivated," Paul said.

The other students were Justin VanGilder, Rebecca Fisher, Ryan Coleman, Bryan Engle, Justin Lorson, Justin Hillegass, and Jack Koontz.

Whether at Ag-Progress Days, county fairs, nursing homes, festivals or shopping malls, the little red barn causes a happy stir wherever it goes.

"One thing that has always been amusing to me are the people who see the barn in one location and tell me they saw another barn just like it in another location," remarked Dorothy Naugle, dairy marketing specialist for the Allied Milk Producer's Cooperative, Inc.

"They don't realize it is the same barn and that it travels so far."

On June 27 it is to appear at Somerset County Day at the Farm. Doug and Debra Hillegass are hosting the event, located along Route 31 near Roxbury, beyond Berlin.

A.J. Walker, reportedly has engaged it for an open house set for July 22 and 23 in Somerset. Bill Blough is already excited about the affair and claims it's the place to go for a great time.

Blough is a past president of both the county and central Allied boards. His friends credit Blough for the idea of a mobile dairy unit. On July 14, 1983 it became a reality.

He remembers how he booked it, billed it, delivered and cleaned it in the early days.

"It's made a name for itself. I think it has been a very worthwhile thing," added Blough.

To book the barn now, Call Dorothy Naugle at Allied's telephone number: 814-798-5322.

As far as charges, Blough notes that rental is by the day. A fee per mile to deliver the barn is also charged.

Dean Zolla from Friedens usually is the delivery man.

If the barn happens to be sitting in Blough's yard, he says, humorously, it doubles as a guidepost for the neighbors.

The Allied Milk Producer's Cooperative, Inc., was organized in 1950. In the promotion and advertising of products for the local dairymen in nine southwestern Pennsylvania counties, it is a modern pioneer.

More than an emphasis on good taste and nutrition is needed for consumers to be motivated to buy and use dairy products. Allied believes somehow, a demand must be created through strategic promotion activities.

Allied's central board members in addition to Friedline, include Janice Itle, Cambria County; Richard Kaufman, Jr., Somerset County; Dave Myers, Cambria County; Jim Scott, Indiana County; Fred Shankle, Bedford County; and Naugle.

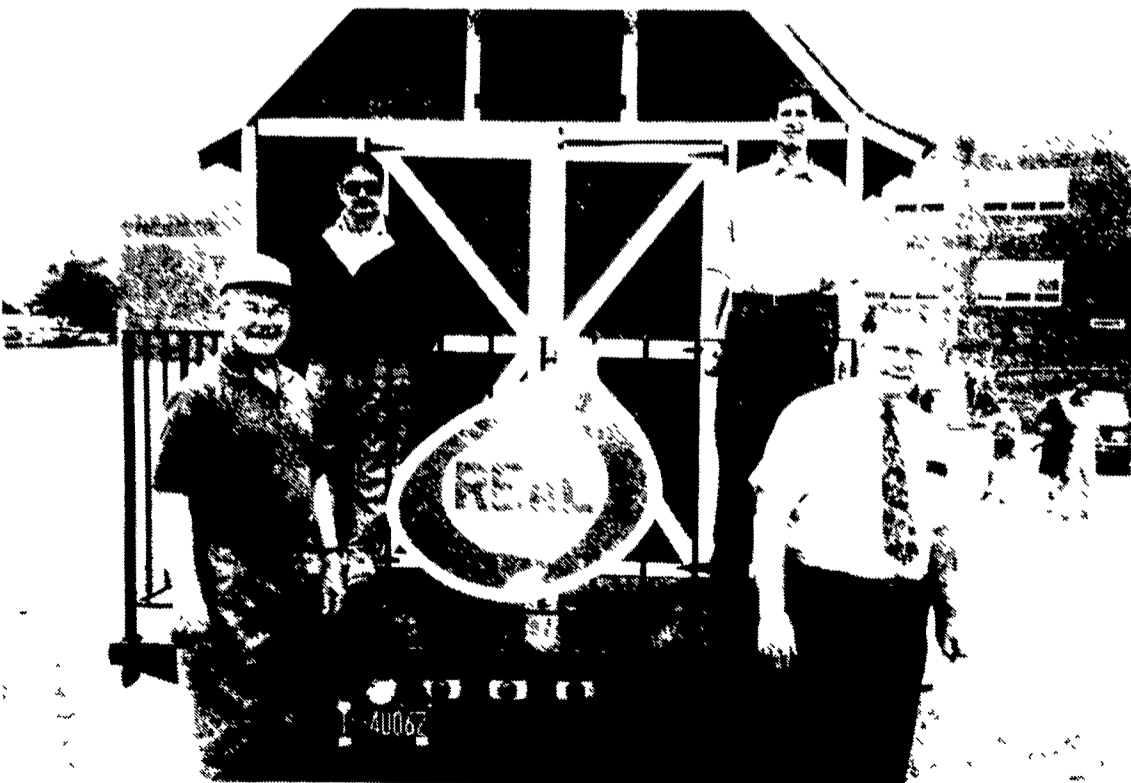
Kutztown Festival Celebrates Dutch Folklife

KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) — From June 26 through July 4 the Kutztown Fairgrounds comes alive with a 9-day celebration of Pennsylvania Dutch folklife at the Kutztown Pennsylvania-German Festival. This annual community event presents the most colorful aspects of the 18th and 19th Century Pennsylvania Dutch and their culture and traditions in rare and fascinating ways.

Fabulous folk art, gorgeous quilts, folklife and living history demonstrations, Pennsylvania Dutch food and five stages of

entertainment, and old-fashioned children's activities go on all day, every day of the Festival with something fun for every age group.

Festival hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. daily. Family friendly admission is \$8 - adults; \$7 seniors; children 12 and under "free" when accompanied by an adult. Family pass for 4 is \$24 per day. Parking on the fairgrounds is \$2 per car. For a free brochure, call toll-free at 888-674-6136, or see the festival web site at www.kutztownfestival.com



Directors of Allied Milk Producers' Cooperative Inc. receive their refurbished dairy promotion barn from vocational-agriculture students at Berlin-Brothersvalley High School. In front, from left are school representatives Lowell Friedline and Doyle Paul. In the back, from the left, are Allied Milk Producers' directors Ed Thomas and Kurt Walker.