

You Ask We Answer

This column is for readers who have questions but don't know who to ask for 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, Lancaster Farming, P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522. Attention: Lou Ann Good.

Do not send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a reply. If we receive the answer, we will publish it as soon as possible. Please include your phone number because we sometimes need to contact the person to clarify details. We will not publish your phone number unless you request it.

QUESTION — M. Hoover, New Holland, would like a mail order source to purchase music boxes to place inside teddy bears. The box will be placed in the body part and the switch in the arm.

QUESTION — Mary Leiber of Dalton asks a question often answered in this column: How can she get rid of scum or algae on a pond. At one time it was a cow pond. Now it's been dug out more and seeded around the edges. The Leibers have tried copper-sulfate, aqua shade, and 5-10-10 fertilizer without results. According to the off-time discussions in this column, barley straw seems to be one of the easiest and most effective solutions. However, as I recall, it must be used in early spring. What is most effective at this time of the year?

QUESTION — Jim from Perkasio wants to know where to have a spoked rim from a John Deere trailer plow fixed or where he can find a used one.

QUESTION — C.M. Street, Fredericksburg, Va., would like to know where to find the arrows and glass balls that are made to fit on twisted iron lightning rods.

QUESTION — E.J. Beaver, Ringtown, bought a drill press at a auction. The item looks like a two-person press. It is about 42½-inches long with a wheel on top that measures 15½-inches in diameter. It has a smaller wheel below it. On the side it has stamped Boynton & Plummer makers Worcester, Mass. Patented Feb. 4, 1873.

It is very heavy weighing about 100 pounds. Does anyone know anything about it or the company? Any source such as a person, book, or website that could offer information about the press?

QUESTION — Dixie Fix, 5847 Pleasant Ridge Rd., Harrisonville, PA 17228, recently acquired a Singer treadle sewing machine 128-3. It has a long bobbin and she would like to know if any readers would sell her long bobbins.

QUESTION — A reader writes that after seeing a sandstone water trough sold at a farm sale, she has some questions: Is sandstone still mined? Do people still buy and sell sandstones and are they used for anything in particular?

QUESTION — John Zehner farms in Somerset County. He previously purchased a Perma-Flex leg band, but can no longer find them in locally, or advertised in farm magazines and catalogs. Perma-Flex is similar to other bands but has a black band over the end to hold in place.

QUESTION — Elsie King would like to know where to buy a Leifheit Cherry Pitter, which automatically feeds and pits cherries with almost effortless plunger action, leaving fruits whole. It is made of durable plastic for years of service. Elsie said she had one that lasted 13 years and was used to pit thousands of cherries. She now needs to replace it but doesn't know where.

QUESTION — J. Melvin Koser, Narvon, would like to know where to find "The Lennon Sisters Paper Dolls," made in the 1960s.

QUESTION — Robert Peterson, Hubbardsville, N.Y., wants to know where to purchase a small quantity of new plastic bottle caps for half gallon glass milk bottles.

QUESTION — A reader at one time sent instructions to make an ant killer mixture using boric acid and sugar. Mary Bowles, Red Lion, cannot find boric acid. Where can she purchase it?

QUESTION — Stephanie Litmen, Little Falls, N.Y., wants to know where to buy nylon cord for a pull lamp to pull the lamp up and down.

QUESTION — Geneveile Reese, Newburg, wants to know how to rid infested antique furniture of post-hole beetles or worms.

QUESTION — J. Freed writes that he has a professional quality Singer treadle sewing machine complete in its cabinet and wrought iron stand. It belonged to his grandfather who earned his living as a professional tailor. J. Freed also learned to sew on it and used it until about six years ago. Although the cabinet is not as ornate as some home models that were manufactured, it is heavier and more a more durable machine made for commercial use. He would like to sell it to someone who will use it for sewing and not as a lawn ornament or a fish tank stand. Send an offer to J. Freed, P.O. Box 224, Wallingford, PA.

QUESTION — Violet Cassner, Newburg, would like information on how tomatoes are grown in water.

QUESTION — Daniel E. Stoltzfus, Lancaster, needs a six-foot wooden airplane propeller for a 1½-inch shaft to cool his cows and cure his tobacco. Write to him at 844 Georgetown Rd., Paradise, PA 17562.

QUESTION — B.J. Kramer, Bernville, is looking for a glass jar used to make butter. She has the wooden paddles with a number 73 on them. The jar broke about 30 years ago.

QUESTION — Karen Kinnane is trying to complete a set of annual Ball Blue Books (for canning) which are put out every year by the company that makes canning jars. She needs every book from 1968 back to the beginning except 1960, 1947, 1943, 1941, and 1934. She has extra 1947 and 1960 books to trade or will pay for books plus shipping. Books must be in good condition, although she doesn't mind a few spatters from a long ago canning session. Send list of what you have to Karen Kinnane, Box 212, Shartlesville, PA 19554 or call (610) 488-7792. If anyone knows of a used bookstore that has them, let her know.

QUESTION — Donna Morrison, Dalmatia, wants to purchase the book series written by Thornton Burgess and illustrated by Harrison Cady. The series includes "Bedtime Stories," "Smiling Pool Stories," "Green Forest Stories," and "Mother West Wind Stories."

QUESTION — J. Leppert, Everitt, wants to know how to get rid of bumble bees that build in the house eaves and dirty the siding. Is there a trap to catch them? If so, where can it be purchased? Is there a poison to feed them?

QUESTION — Joyce A. Souder, 753 Hunsicker Rd., Telford, is looking for milk bottles in quart and pint sizes manufactured by H.L. Alderfer.

QUESTION — Karen Weiler, Ephrata, would like information on the value of the following clear glass jars and how to locate a person interested in buying them: A bottle with an orange logo "Hires," made with Roots, barks, herbs. 1 Pt. 10 Fl. Oz. On the back, it reads Finer Flavor because of real Root Juices bottled under the authority of Charles E. Hires Co. Philadelphia, PA.

Another jar has a red and green logo Wyandotte Antibac-bactericide-Germicide-Disinfectant-ecorant. Wyandotte Chemicals Corp. Wyandotte Mich. Los Vietas. On the back, it reads made to clean dairy beverage-food processing equipment. dairy farm holding tanks, rails, strainers, milking equipment. It also has a lot more information on the jar.

QUESTION — Daniel Armbrustey, 112 W. 33rd. St., Reading, PA 19606, wants parts for a Diston D0101 chain saw, piston, fuel meter, fuel pump, fuel system, and also Stanley electric tool parts, router H13B-8B base plates, depth adjustment belt sanders .02-31 3x23¼-inch pinion gears, Janes Slugger, 100 Mag drill, gears, output shaft, skill parts, Model 13 sander polisher, armature shaft gear nut, output shaft end bells, and output gears of shaft.

QUESTION — Marie Miller, HC62, Box 660, Honesdale, PA 18431 is looking for Corelle dinner plates in the strawberry pattern.

QUESTION — Marian Belka, Old Forge, N.Y., is looking for the descendants of Rudolph and Anna Harris who once had a farm in West Nantmeal Township in Pa.

QUESTION — Esther Martin, Latham, wants one or two copies "The Backward Picnic," and "The Gingham Girls," which were printed by Golden Books in the mid to late 1970s. Books should be in good condition. Write to Esther at 39437 Excelsior Dr., Latham, MO 65050.

QUESTION — E.M. Snyder, Red Lion, is looking for a radiator for G. Allis Chamber.

QUESTION — Lois K. Martin, Bridgewater, VA, wants to purchase the following books written by Anne Colver: "Bread and Butter Indian," "Bread and Butter Journey." She would also like the book, "Lucinda," written by Vesta-Nadine Severs.

QUESTION — Suzy Almony wants a set of red and white "Currier and Ives" plates made in the U.S.A. by Homer Laughlin.

QUESTION — A Snyder County reader would like to know if anyone has Hassinger Dairy milk bottles from Middleburg. Wants, quarts, pints, half pints, and bottle caps. Write to R.2, Box 828, Port Trevorton, PA 17864.

QUESTION — Christine Brubaker, Womelsodorf, would like to know where to find American Plastic Building bricks. She had these as a child and now wishes to have some for her children.

QUESTION — Don Hannum, Wagontown, has two Chester County dog licenses from 1925 and 1929. Any collectors? Contact him at Box 81, Wagontown, PA 19376-0081.

QUESTION — Mrs. Abner Zook wants to purchase new or old pieces that match a partial set she has of a blueberry hearts mug set, teapot, butter dish insulated coffee pot. Write to her at 405 Cains Rd., Gap, PA 17527.

QUESTION — Robert Shaub, 350 W. Railroad Ave., Shrewsbury, PA 17361, is looking for old catalogs sent out nationwide from the 1930s through the 1950s by Keeney Brother's Fur Farm, New Freedom. They raised rabbit, chinchilla, mink, etc.

QUESTION — Joe Wiley, Sergeantsville, N.J., is looking for the metal bar that holds a one-pound weight on an older model Fairbanks—Morse platform scale, which had been used in a doctor's office. The part is 15¼-inch long. The scale has markings PGQ2/B.

QUESTION — E. Weaver, East Earl, would like to know if there is anything besides wire that can be put on tree trunks to keep goats from eat the bark off the trees.

QUESTION — Debrah Giambalvo would like to purchase a machine made by Colebrookdale Co., Boyertown. Her mother-in-law uses it as a cookie machine and has had the machine for more than 40 years. Dough is added to the machine and cranked through one of three cut-outs on its removable blade. It also has a tip that looks somewhat like those used to decorate cakes and one that has many small holes as if to make spaghetti. It looks somewhat like the old meat and nut grinders. The machine has a Pennsylvania keystone logo on it with a "50" in the center.

QUESTION — Ralph Glass, Roaring Spring, needs an operator's manual for a Miller transport disc, model #2HK-5201.

QUESTION — Norma McClure, Freeland, Md., purchased an old lamp at an auction. The top globe was glued and separated during transporting it. She needs to know how to contact someone who can repair glass because the globe is beautiful.

QUESTION — A reader from Anville wants paperback books from the White Indian Series by Donald Clayton Porter. There are 30 books in the set, the reader needs from 21-30 in the series.

QUESTION — Tom Hicswa Sr., Hammonton, N.J., is searching for information and a head gasket for an oil pan that fits Centaur Tractor Model KV Engine No. 125620 made in Greenwich, Ohio.

QUESTION — Don Melly, R.1, Box 144, Hershey, PA would like to find a Coleman vase table lamp in working order. Will pay a reasonable amount.

QUESTION — Karen Mull, Elizabethtown, would like to know where to purchase an agitator for an electric butter churn manufactured by Alabama Manufacturing Co. The agitator is plastic. The motor sets on top of a barrel shaped 3-gallon jar. The agitator fits on the lid inside the jar. The company must have gone out of business because letters addressed to the address on the motor are returned. Anyone know where to find an agitator?