

You Ask I'll 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.

Or, you may e-mail questions and answers to lgood.eph@lnpnews.com

Please clarify what question you are answering when responding.

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 — Lee Laverty, Dover, N.J., writes that when her children were small, she make a dough out flour, salt, and some other ingredients, which were cut into shapes and painted for Christmas tree decorations. She lost the recipe and asks if anyone could share it.

QUESTION — Mrs. Amos S. Kauffman wants to know if anyone has an abundance of Correlle dishes to sell. She would like to have four to eight cups and saucers plus some other pieces. Contact her at 1860 Cambridge Rd., Honey Brook, PA 19344.

QUESTION — Cathy Strine, Dover, wants information and history on a Cambridge 4-harness loom made by Reed Loom Co., Springfield, Ohio. When the loom was purchased, it was not fully assembled.

QUESTION — A reader wants an old-fashioned hoe with five prongs (7½-inches) shaped like a fork, but rounded at the top at handle and used like a hoe. Although a newer version is available in stores, she prefers the older model. Contact her at 1860 Cambridge Rd., Honey Brook, PA 19344

QUESTION — A reader would like to buy used 2-quart canning jars. Call (717) 859-2802.

QUESTION — Mrs. Amos S. Kauffman wants to sell an almost complete set of Pfalzgraff with tan and dark brown colors. She has the canister set and lots of other pieces in very good condition. She prefers not to split the set. If interested, call (610) 273-2075.

QUESTION — A reader is in need of several Fuller Brush items and wants to know if a dealer near Lancaster city would call at (717) 898-4683.

QUESTION — A reader wants to make kitty and doggie draft guards to keep air from

creeping beneath the doors and asks what is put inside to give the form weight?

QUESTION — Dennis Dempsey, Royersford, wants to know where to find a manual for an early 1950s Farmall H tractor or a copy of the same.

QUESTION — Art Burt wants a manual for a Mighty Mac tiller with a 7 horsepower engine.

QUESTION — Diane Morris wants to know if anyone has a quern or a hand-powered corn mill. Please call her at (610) 498-2271.

QUESTION — L. Gingrich, Mercersburg, would like a copy of the book "Up the Conestoga" by Issac Horst.

QUESTION — Bruce Middlekauff, Bel Aire, Md., is looking for a 1920s' or 1930s' cast iron bird bath approximately 3 or 5 feet in diameter. Bruce is willing to pay a good price. Call him collect at (410) 879-8039.

QUESTION — J. Good, 5624 Div. Hwy., Narvon, Pa., has an older type (Model 3c) Kitchenaid mixer in working condition. The bowl broke and he would like to replace the bowl or offer the mixer to someone who has a bowl at a reasonable price.

QUESTION — A Christiana reader would like to know where to purchase home canned black raspberry juice.

QUESTION — A reader from Myerstown would like information on a Lion Pittsburgh water heater, patented Oct. 1, 1907, type F14. It was found in a house she purchased. The heater has pipe coils on the inside and a burner on the bottom. How was it used?

QUESTION — A reader writes that she and many other seamstresses often have difficulty discerning the right and wrong sides of fabric. She wants to know if the holes along the edge of the fabric are punched from the right or wrong side or if that varies and is not a clear indicator.

QUESTION — A lady from Blain would like to know where she could buy a pulpit Bible cover 10x13x3-inch.

QUESTION — Mike Kramer, Quakertown, needs parts for a Van Wert model VA1500 coal stoker. The company was from Peckville, and he understands it went out of business in the late 1900s. Does anyone know a source for parts or if the company's parts stock was bought by another company?

QUESTION — Mrs. Robert Lowe, Shermans Dale, wants the music and words to the song: "Eleven more months and 10 more days, I'll be out of this calaboose." She writes that this is a very-old song that an older gentleman used to sing.

QUESTION — Jonas Beiler Jr., New Holland, would like information on raising nightcrawlers for fishing bait.

QUESTION — A reader wants to find a copy of Larry Benoit's book, "How To Bag The Biggest Buck of Your Life." He also would like to find wooden molding planes made by E.W. Carpenter, Lancaster.

QUESTION — Stan Szczepanek, Boyertown,

wants information about brooding chickens using a coal-fired brooder. He wants to know what time of the year to do this, how often the fire needs to be fed, etc. He's also looking for a pamphlet describing the use of a Eureka Colony Brooder.

QUESTION — A Shippensburg reader wants a pattern and instructions to sew a winter hooded parka in either men's small or ladies' medium.

QUESTION Michael Hopkins Jr. would like to know where he could purchase styrofoam egg cartons in jumbo and super jumbo sizes. He prefers a Pennsylvania source.

QUESTION — Dale Burkhardt is looking for a lard can lid with the printing: Henry Burkhardt Packing Co. Pure Lard 50 lb. Dayton, Ohio. Anyone have one they'd like to sell?

QUESTION — A Schuylkill County reader wants to know if anyone knows the value of an antique dress form from the early 1900s. It is a press-and-shape to the form you want to fit. Any idea of a fair price?

QUESTION — I. Wenger wants to purchase the following three books, but he sent no address. The books are "More All-Of-A-Kind Family" and "All-Of-A-Kind Family Uptown" by Sydney Taylor; and "The Four-Story Mistake" by Elizabeth Enright.

QUESTION — E. Sheetz, Fleetwood, wants to know how to repair a burn mark on a leather table top or the name of a professional service that can fix it.

QUESTION — M. High wants to know if there's anything that will remove black spots off an iron spatula, which accidentally burned in a trash fire. The spatula was her mother's wedding present.

QUESTION — Robin Baummer needs someone to repair a braided rug with a 10x10-inch section missing. She prefers someone from the York or Adams County area.

QUESTION — G. Sweitzer wants to know what chemicals to use for treating wood damaged/infested by Eastern Subterranean Termites. Also, what chemicals are used outside the house and where can they be purchased?

ANSWER — N. Kring wanted to know how to get rid of thistles. A reader writes that she had a few patches of thistles in her garden. She sprayed a little Roundup on the top few leaves and within a week to 10 days the thistles were dead enough to pull out. Roundup is available at any hardware store. Be careful not to spray it on plants you want to keep. Do not spray when windy.

ANSWER — A reader has an old McCormick-Derring mower, circa 1920, which they would like to paint and restore to its original color and requested a reference that includes information on restoring it and the original paint needed? Thanks to Jim Mazanic, Edmeston, N.Y., for recommending obtaining a copy of "American Farm Implements and Antiques," by C.H. Wendel. The centerfold of the book shows the original colors of all brands of machinery. This book may be available at your local public library.

Tapioca Has Rich, Sticky History

Tapioca comes from the root of the cassava plant, a tropical plant native to Brazil. You can buy quick-cooking tapioca that's usually used as a thickener in fruit pies and sometimes soups and stews.

Pearl tapioca, with larger granules, is often used to make tapioca pudding. Tapioca flour is also available. As its name implies, it's finely ground and, unlike the other forms of tapioca, dissolves completely when used as a thickener. Granules in quick-cooking and pearl tapioca

become clear and gel-like when cooked, but the granules don't dissolve completely.

Quick-cooking tapioca is tailor-made for thickening soups, stews or gravy in slow cookers, because it doesn't have to be stirred to prevent it from settling. Also, it can withstand long cooking times without breaking down. Similarly, dishes made with tapioca don't lose their quality when frozen and then reheated, because the tapioca retains its thickening capabilities throughout those processes.

Tapioca is just one use from the cassava plant, whose roots are well known in the developing world as a good,

reliable source of carbohydrates. In fact, because of its high drought-tolerance and ability to grow in low-fertility soils, cassava is the staple food of around 500 million people. Another advantage is that the roots can be harvested anywhere from six to eight months to three years after planting, making it a good emergency supply of carbohydrates in times of drought or famine.

Unfortunately, the raw roots and leaves of the cassava plant can be highly toxic, with bitter varieties containing

much more of the toxic substance than sweet varieties. The good news is that this toxin protects the plant from pests. Peeling the roots gets rid of most of the toxin, and the rest dissipates when the roots and leaves are cooked. Tapioca is already processed to the point where the toxin is totally removed.

Chow Line is a service of The Ohio State University. Send questions to Chow Line, c/o Martha Filipic, 2021 Coffey Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1044.

Pennsylvania German Classes Offered

BELLEVILLE (Mifflin Co.) — Classes in Pennsylvania German (Dutch), using a one-room country school concept, will begin in September, featuring language, art, music, culture and a Standard German tie-in.

The classes will meet at Maple Grove Mennonite Church, 115 Maple Grove Road, Belleville. Local Penn-

sylvanian German writer and scholar, Lee Thierwechter will serve as the instructor.

Ten two-hour sessions, from 7-9 p.m., will be held Fridays, September 8 through November 10. Dictionaries and text-workbooks are available.

Advance registration is required. Call (717) 935-2736.