

Living On The Road? Save Money By “Moving” To South Dakota

If you spend most of your time on the road - or you've ever thought about heading out in an RV and not coming back - you'll be interested to know you can become a resident of Chamberlain, South Dakota thanks to a business called South Dakota Mail Forwarding.

All you have to do is fill out two forms and come to South Dakota once to register your vehicle and apply for a driver's license.

Suzanne Tarabetz's company handles your mail and oversees the residency paperwork. The legal paperwork is handled on the first floor of the Brule County Courthouse.

There are many advantages to “living” in South Dakota. “Since the state lives on property tax and sales tax rather than income tax, if you don't buy things here or own property here, you get by pretty cheap,” she says, adding that South Dakota also doesn't have vehicle inspections. Insurance and license plate fees are low, too. “You can save thousands of dollars a year in license plate fees alone over other states,” she says. Excise (sales) tax on vehicles is only three percent and if you trade in your RV for a newer model, you just pay tax on the difference. If you've already paid more tax on the vehicle in another state, you don't have to pay the fee again in South Dakota.

“For example, if you buy a \$200,000 RV where the sales tax is 8 percent, you would

pay \$16,000,” says Tarabetz. “If you have a South Dakota residency and state driver's license before purchasing that RV, you wouldn't pay any sales tax to the state where you bought it, and just the 3 percent tax in South Dakota, which would be \$6,000. That's a savings of \$10,000. If you had a trade in, you only pay 3 percent on the trade difference.”

For a service fee, the company handles mail and forwards it according to your wishes. After filling out the forms, your address looks like this:

Name
200 Paul Gust Rd., Ste 104
Chamberlain, S. Dak. 57325

Tarabetz says most people have mail forwarded to a relative or a specific post office in a small town they'll be going through. Post offices hold packages for 30 days. She puts a label on the package with her phone number in case there are any questions.

“As RVers move around the country, they only have to change their address with me and not change their address on their bank statements, credit cards, magazine subscriptions, etc. Those always stay the same,” says Tarabetz.

For those interested in making a little extra cash, she has an associates program for those willing to promote her business to oth-



Suzanne Tarabetz's company handles mail and oversees the S. Dak. residency paperwork. All you have to do is fill out two forms and come to the state once to register your vehicle and apply for a driver's license. “Since the state lives on property tax and sales tax rather than income tax, if you don't buy things here or own property here, you get by cheap,” she says.

ers while RVing around the country.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, South Dakota Mail Forwarding, LLC, 200 Paul

Gust Road, Suite #104, Chamberlain, S. Dak. 57325 (ph 877 333-1418; rv@midstatesd.net; www.SDRVmail.com).

Young Toy Builder's Models Are “Out Of This World”

When most people think of genius, they're not likely to think of a toy builder. But if you take a close look at the scale model beet equipment made by 18-year-old Jon Frikke, you'll probably agree that the Prinsburg, Minn. native has talent from out of this world.

The toys are made entirely of brass that's soldered together and painted the same colors as the real machines.

The high school senior builds the toys from scratch in his spare time, working out of the basement in his family's home. “They draw lots of attention at toy shows,” says Frikke. “As far as I know, no one else builds 1/64-scale toys of beet equipment. I build them with as much detail as possible. My only tools are a dremel cutting tool and a small torch to do the soldering work.”

The toys include two different styles of beet lifters. One resembles a Wick 8-row beet harvester, while the other resembles an Amity 12-row beet harvester. Both models have diggers in front that lift beets up out of the ground and put them on a series of conveyors, which dump the beets into a truck. He also made a 12-row defoliator that tops the leaves off the plant. It has knife-like scalpels on the back side that cut off an inch or so off the top of the beet where the leaf grows out. There are

three sets of flails under the topper.

He has also built an open-topped semi trailer designed to haul the beets. And he has built miniature farm scenes.

Frikke says he became interested in farm toys as a young boy. “Dad always collected toys so I became interested in them, too. It takes about 15 hours to make each toy. When I start building a toy I'm never sure exactly how it's going to turn out - I have to test and revise quite a bit. I'm looking into getting a mold for my toys so that some parts could be made out of a mold, which would speed up the process quite a bit.”

Frikke even modifies the tractors that are used to “pull” the toys. The tractor wheels come factory equipped with wheels set for 30-in. rows. However, beets are usually grown in 22-in. rows, so he spaces the wheels out accordingly. He also adds toolboxes, lights, hand rails, antennae, and pushers on front of the tractor that pulls the lifter (in case the truck that the lifter unloads into gets stuck, the tractor can push it out).

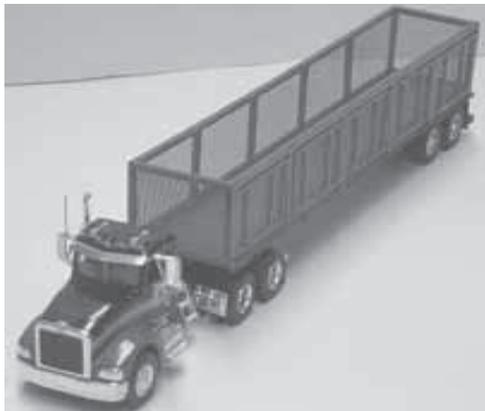
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jon Frikke, 505 Park Ave., Prinsburg, Minn. 56281 (ph 320 978-4915; jkf32@hotmail.com).



Only 18 years old, Jon Frikke made these amazingly detailed toy beet lifters from scratch in his family's basement. One resembles a Wick 8-row beet harvester (above) and another resembles an Amity 12-row beet harvester (below). “As far as I know, no one else builds 1/64-scale toys of beet equipment,” he says.



It took Frikke about 15 hours to make this 12-row toy defoliator that tops leaves off plant.



Frikke used a dremel and small torch to make this open-topped toy semi trailer that hauls beets.