

He Fixes Old Wagons And Wheels

If you are a University of Oklahoma Sooner fan, you may have seen the October 2019 football game where the horse-drawn Sooner Schooner turned too fast, flipped on its side, tossed its occupants to the ground, and knocked off the wagon bed.

FARM SHOW would like to introduce you to the man who the Sooners called on to fix the schooner.

"I repaired the body, brake system, and bolster on the rear gear," says Terry Moore of Terrys Wagon Works in Duncan, Okla. It's probably the most well-known wagon he's worked on, but it's not his most impressive work. That honor goes to a Concord 12-passenger "hotel style" stagecoach like ones used by Wells Fargo.

"Stagecoaches are the hardest to build. It takes up to 2,500 hrs. to build one. They are 9-ft., 6-in. tall and have 60-in. wheels," Moore says. With fine details and mortise and tenon joints, he's built four stagecoaches in his career.

His passion for historical preservation began when he was 15 and sold a hay wagon for \$1,000 that he assembled from parts using just simple hand tools. At 39, he has more experience and better tools, including rare equipment like tire rollers and a tire shrinker to make wagon wheels.

"The axles, hubs and wheels are the most difficult and my favorite thing to do," Moore says.

Much of his work is repairing wheels, everything from the hub and spokes to hot-setting the steel on the fellos (wood rims). He likes to joke "if your wood wheels have a flat, I can fix them."

Moore has a miniature warehouse of parts that he's collected and hoarded for 20 years. They include cast iron parts that would be impossible to replicate and wooden and steel parts that date back to wagons made from the 1800's to about 1930.

"I have hundreds of hubs," he says.

People from all over the U.S. contact him to buy parts or have him fix wheels and all types of wagons from hay wagons to Army wagons to Chuck and Conestoga wagons to elegant stage coaches. Some are working wagons used by the Amish or on trail drives and reenactments. Other wagons are in museums.

When making parts, Moore uses quality hardwoods such as oak and hickory. He finishes them with boiled linseed oil to preserve the wood and keep the moisture out.

"If you store old wagons in a cool, dark barn, they will last 100 years," Moore says. He cringes when he sees historical pieces



Terry Moore fixes wheels and all kinds of wagons, from hay wagons to chuck wagons.

used for lawn art and exposed to the sun and elements that will ruin it.

"I collect high quality pieces and like stuff to last," he says, noting that historical preservation is what drives him to continue his business.

For others who share that passion and need parts, Moore invites them to contact him, and he'll likely be able to find it in his vast "bone

yard."
"If you need wheel repair, I am a working wheelwright and can get you 'on the road again,'" he says.

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Donnley Bultman built this tractor fender bench using the original fenders from a damaged Deere 4020 diesel.

Storm-Damaged Deere 4020 Fenders Get New Life As Bench

Donnley Bultman says he couldn't believe the damage to the large yardsite of Far-Gaze Farms after it was broadsided by a huge tornado in September, 2018. "There was metal from the bins, grain system, sheds and pieces of trees everywhere. One of the first things I saw walking up the driveway was the grain leg laying on top of their Deere 4020 diesel. I thought to myself right then I'd offer to restore it."

Bultman has a special bond with the Petersons who operate Far-Gaze Farms because he's worked part-time for them for more than 35 years. "They're wonderful people who run a fantastic operation, and repairing the tractor was a small way to contribute to their recovery."

Bultman says the weight of a 100-ft. tall grain leg crushed the tractor's front spindles, smashed the hood, the seat, sheared off the exhaust manifold, damaged the head and many other parts.

"I knew the 4020 had a lot of sentimental value to the family because their dad had bought it for their farm many years ago," Bultman says. The wrecked tractor was moved to Bultman's shop a few miles away where he and some of the family members stripped off the damaged parts during the winter of 2019. "We had to scramble to find some of the replacement parts, including a

trip to Wisconsin and getting the special hood from Texas, but everything came together after more than 200 hrs. or so," Bultman says.

During the restoration Bultman decided the refurbished tractor should have new fenders because he had other plans for the originals. "Those weren't damaged too badly, and since I had nice replacements, I wanted to use the old ones for something special."

Bultman had a friend build a metal frame out of tube steel to create a sturdy base for a bench seat and back. "I bolted those old fenders to the frame just like they were on the tractor, and they aren't going anywhere," says Bultman with a laugh. He replaced the original fender lights with new ones and hooked them up to a garden tractor battery with a switch on the operator's seat. "No reason for lights other than a novelty," Bultman says. "It makes the bench really unique."

Bultman's fender bench now rests in front of the office and shop on the re-built farm site.

Bruce's son Sam Peterson says, "The restored 4020 looks like it came off the show room floor and runs like new. We use it quite often, and the bench gets its share of visitors, too."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Far-Gaze Farms, 10180 90th St. East, Northfield, Minn. 55057.



The Mariposa Woolen Mill in Oakwood, Ontario, processes wool from their own sheep as well as from other small flock owners.

Woolen Mill Works With Small Flock Owners

The Mariposa Woolen Mill in Oakwood, Ontario, provides area producers with an opportunity to profit from small flocks of sheep.

"Our main focus is processing wool from our own sheep but we work with other producers as well," says Ellen Edney, who operates the business with her husband, Dave. The couple raises mostly Lincoln Longwool and Shropshire sheep.

Like her mother, who started a goat cheese plant in 1985 so she could be home on the farm while raising her children, Edney says the woolen mill is her way of working while raising her four children. The Edneys transformed the farm's former goat milking parlor and kid nursery into milling space and a museum that is open to self-guided tours by appointment. Visitors learn the steps for processing wool, just as Edney learned when she purchased their Belfast mini mill.

The Edneys also sell small flocks of heritage breeds to area producers to help them get started as part of their focus to preserve heritage flocks.

She prefers wool from sheep raised outdoors because sheep raised inside have dirtier wool, which often requires an acid wash. She uses light detergent which is more sustainable.

"We're pretty community minded. We're



Wool roving is used to make felted pictures, clothing items, and beginner knitting kits.

trying to source wool within the community and work with producers to make sure clips are clean to produce the best product," she says.

She also uses the wool roving for kits to make felted pictures, clothing items, and beginner knitting kits.

Most orders are done through the website, and an on-farm shop is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. The shop also carries goat and sheep cheeses.

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