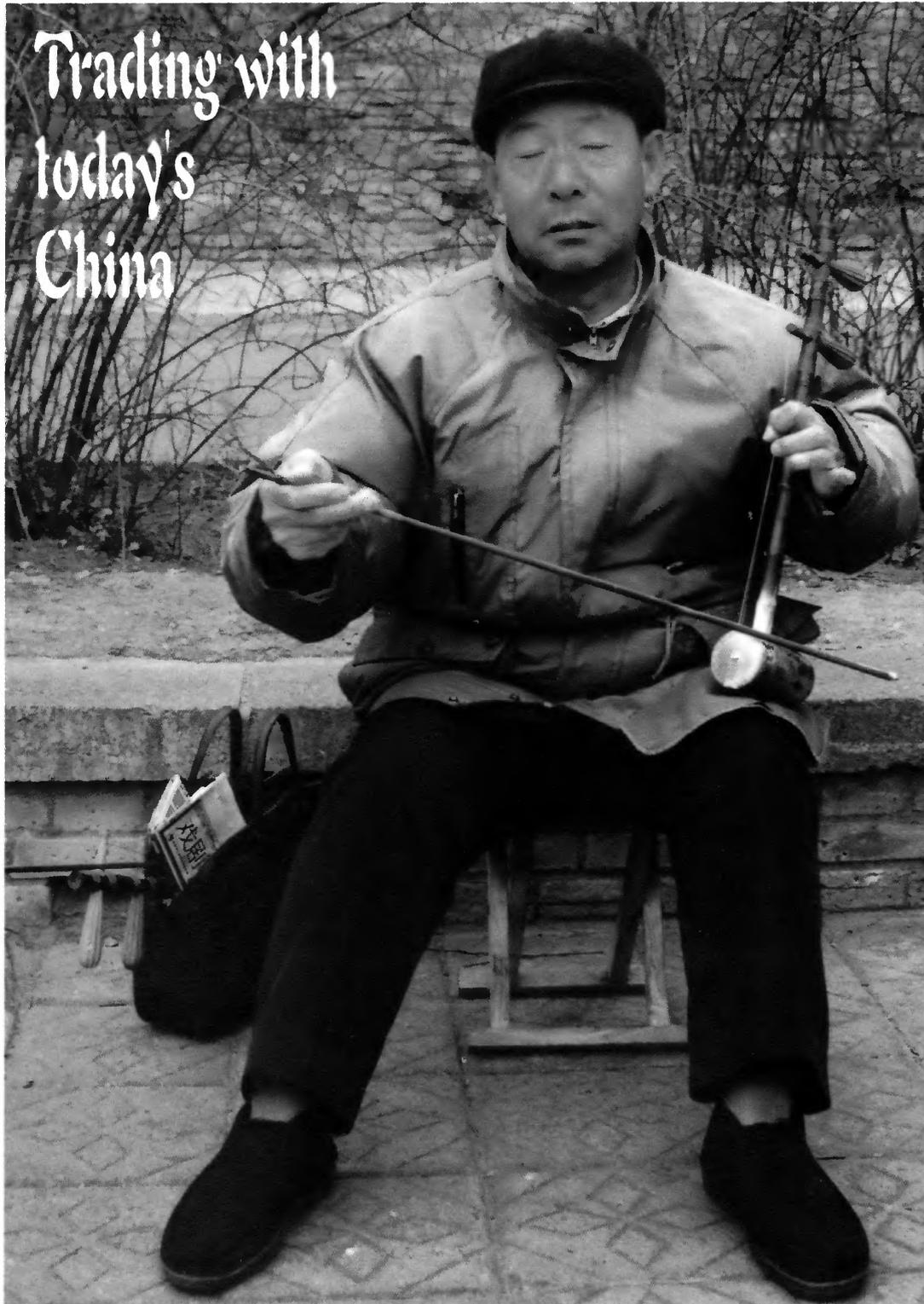


ILLINOISTM

COUNTRY LIVING

July 1996



Trading with
today's
China

- **First winners of scholarships**
see page 5
- **Roofing decisions**
see page 14
- **Illinois cooking**
see page 18

Get rid of snakes in your house

Deskunk your dog (or anything else)

Learn why voluntary simplicity is popular now

Why rabbits shouldn't be fed cabbage. *What* it means when your corn turns purple. *Where* to get free seeds. *When* to plant head lettuce. *How* to make good whole wheat bread. Tips on managing your woodlot. Homestead in the city. Home school. Start a food storage program. Build low-cost gates. How to make and use compost. Make a quilt frame for under \$20.

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PRESERVE your garden bounty
USE the wool from your sheep
RAISE a pig
MILK a cow or goat
MAKE 10 kinds of vinegar
PICKLE herring and other fish
START peach trees from seed
SMOKE poultry
HELP your hens cope with the heat
START RIGHT with goats or rabbits
BUILD a nifty feeder for small cattle
DETERMINE the value of land
HEAT your home with wood and keep it clean
PATCH clothes quickly and easily
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CONTROL weeds by knowing their habits
FEED the worms your garbage
LEARN how to do everything right—the first time
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... the simple life!

PLEASE NOTE: Articles listed here have already appeared in print, and not all back issues are available—another good reason not to miss any more!
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I'm hooked! Your magazine is a true gem! My only question is, where have you been all my life? The other magazines with "country" in the name have lots of pretty pictures, but no depth or purpose other than shallow entertainment. I'm completely mesmerized by each issue of COUNTRYSIDE I get, and cannot put it down! It's the most-read magazine I've ever had. I even read all the ads! Cover to cover, you're the best.—Cheryl, Pa

Okay—you got me! And I'm glad! I sent for a sample issue, mailed back the invoice with "No thanks" written across it, and then read the magazine... cover to cover, every word, including the advertising, and decided I need this magazine. I had no idea there were so many people who felt the way I do.—Carol S., Ohio



Build a "sensible chicken house" in your backyard. Start by making a model like this.



Read letters from "country neighbors" who live next door—and in the wilds of Alaska!

Really enjoy your magazine. It's like having a houseful of friendly neighbors in for the afternoon.

Being 73 years old, of course I lived through the big Depression. My folks had always practiced frugal ways, having been brought up that way, so it wasn't as hard for them as for some. I find many of the same money-saving hints we used then (and I still do) but also quite a number of new ones. We never get too old to learn.—Ruth S., Idaho

I continue to enjoy this magazine. Fascinating people, ideas, opinions, observations and hopes, as well as information and practical advice abound.—Harland C., Maryland

Thank you for 17 years of COUNTRYSIDE. We love it and the reasons for it!—Mrs. G.H., NY

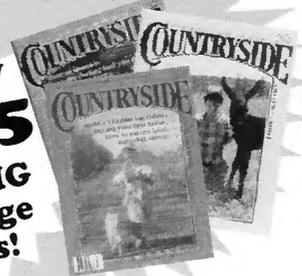
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ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING



About the cover:

Just outside Beijing's Forbidden City, a musician offers a free concert. His string instrument recalls old Chinese traditions, but that nation is taking big steps into the modern world's marketplace. Recently, a group from Illinois' electric cooperatives toured Hong Kong, Shanghai, Suzhou, Xi'an and Beijing, learning about this land and suggesting improvements in its rural electrification efforts.

Page 6

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Illinois COMMENTARY

By Sheldon C. Petersen, Governor and CEO
National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation

Did you know that you are part of the largest utility network in America? Did you also know that you own and operate a \$15 billion financial corporation that represents your interests every day to the Wall Street capital markets? Did you know that through that finance cooperative, you have links to more than 55 national and international banks, and a credit

line of more than \$4 billion?

The rural electric cooperative network, of which you are an integral part, opens doors for you that reach to every corner of today's business environment—whether it be on Capitol Hill, on Wall Street, or through banks in London, Tokyo,



Sheldon C. Petersen

New York and San Francisco.

Rural utilities are big business. And their cooperative nature puts you, the consumer, in the driver's seat. The National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, known simply as CFC, takes your interests seriously. We provide financing to your local rural electric cooperative. Everything we do is done for your ultimate benefit.

The Illinois network of electric cooperatives is a strong one. Illinois systems maintain strong financial ratios and invest heavily in their finance cooperative. As of Feb. 1, 1996, they had more than \$24 million invested in CFC in the form of equity certificates. These equity investments—along with the collateral your system

pledges to CFC when obtaining a long-term loan—give us the solid base we need in order to go to Wall Street and raise additional funds at reasonable rates.

CFC then repays your commitment by providing loans and financial services to your electric systems and their subsidiaries for their day-to-day operations and their long-term growth opportunities. As of Feb. 1, 1996, CFC had more than \$458 million outstanding in loans to Illinois electric cooperatives. Additionally, we've extended more than \$15 million in credit to rural telephone systems in Illinois. We've also made our presence felt in the economic development arena, as well, with more than \$1 million invested in Illinois business and community development projects.

As a cooperative, CFC retires earnings on the basis of patronage. Last year we refunded nearly \$1 million in capital credits to Illinois systems, with an additional \$6 million allocated for retirement at a future date.

From its inception in 1969, CFC has demonstrated its strong commitment to rural America. And I can assure that commitment has never been stronger. With a board of directors composed of rural business leaders from throughout the nation—including Illinois' own Harold Dycus, president for Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association in Steeleville—CFC offers rural utility systems secure solutions to their financing needs.

CFC initially provided loans that supplemented the federal funding program through the Rural Electrification Administration (now the Rural Utilities Service). But as budgetary constraints squeeze the federal government's ability to provide credit to rural utilities, CFC is shouldering a greater portion of the funding burden. That's why your representatives created CFC when they did—to serve as a steady source of capital, regardless of the shifting political landscape.

We take our commitments seriously, and I assure you that we at CFC are working every day to ensure that rural America is not left behind. I urge you to recognize the power you command as a member of the largest utility network in the country, and as an owner of a significant financial institution. Both CFC and your cooperative exist to serve your needs.

Sheldon C. Petersen is governor and CEO of National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation based in Herndon, VA. He was raised in western Iowa and served at several electric cooperatives before becoming CFC's leader in March 1995.

First winners of IEC Memorial Scholarship named



Two seniors have been selected as the first winners of the Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship, set up to assist students in the electric cooperative "family."

Jason Dotterer, son of Marvin and Nancy Dotterer of rural Fairbury, received one of the \$1,000 scholarships. They are members of Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative, Paxton. Jason is a graduate of Prairie Central High School.

Garrick Liefer, son of Richard



Jason Dotterer of Fairbury receives his scholarship award from Jeannie Kingston, Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative's manager of information services, during the Prairie Central High School Awards Ceremony.

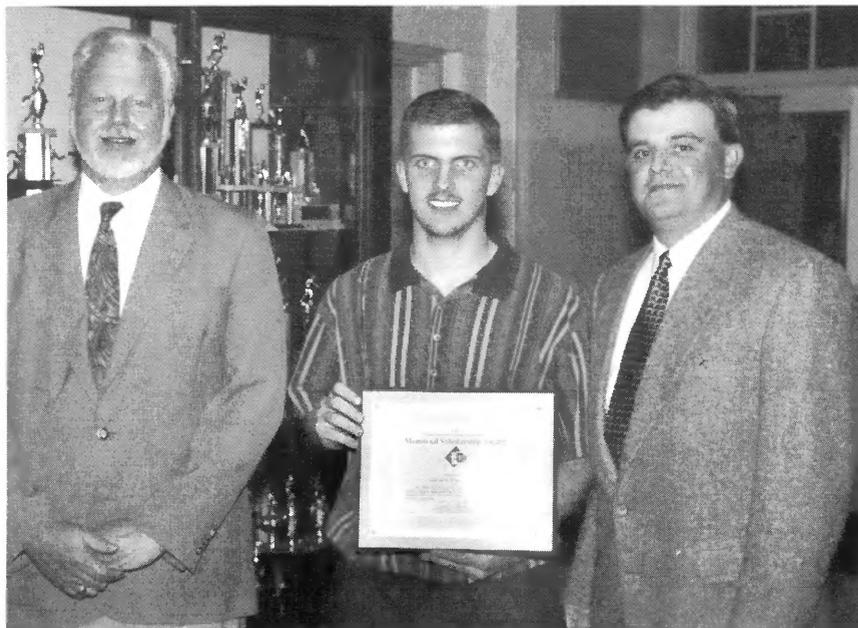
and Lou Ann Liefer of Red Bud, was the recipient of the other \$1,000 award. They are members of Monroe County Electric Co-

Operative, Waterloo. Garrick is a graduate of Red Bud High School.

The scholarship fund was established in 1994 by the board of directors of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Its purpose is to financially assist students selected among electric cooperative members, while honoring deceased rural electric leaders through memorial gifts.

Two \$1,000 scholarships are to be awarded each year. The recipients are selected according to grade point average, college entrance test scores, work and volunteer experience, school and civic activities, and knowledge of electric cooperatives as demonstrated by a short essay.

Information on the IEC Memorial Scholarships is to be provided to high schools throughout the service territories of Illinois' electric cooperatives. Eighty students applied for the 1996 awards.



Garrick Liefer of Red Bud, center, receives his award at Red Bud High School's awards night. At left is Joseph J. Fellin, general manager of Monroe County Electric Co-Operative; at right is Terry J. Grommet, president of the co-op's board of directors.

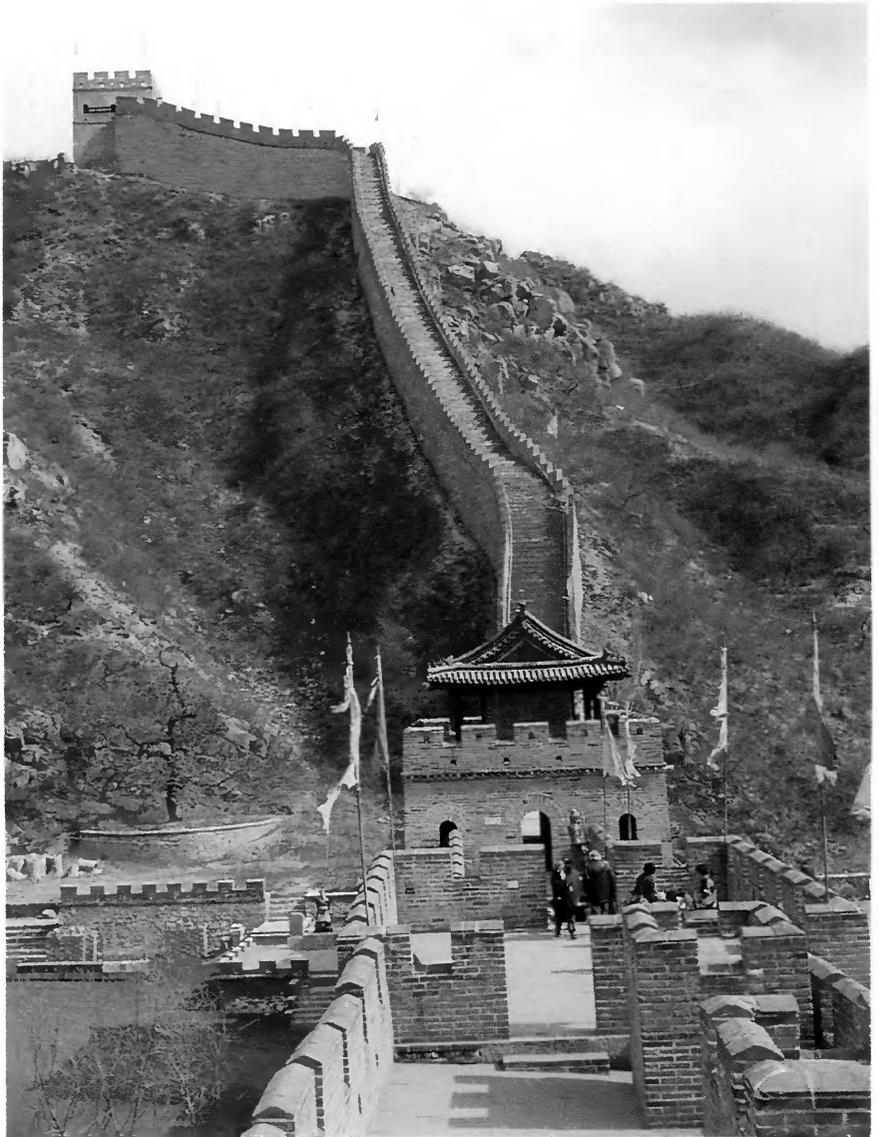
Trading with today's China

The Great Wall, the ancient palaces, eels for meals...lingering images a visitor brings back from China. A group of Illinois electric cooperative leaders has returned from a two-week tour of that nation. Along with the sightseeing, the Illinoisans met with counterparts in Chinese rural electrification, examining their electric systems and suggesting improvements.

To many of us, China seems as distant as the Moon's other side. So why did this Illinois co-op group accept China's invitation of an expenses-paid trip to this far-off, somewhat mysterious land? For one thing, it was made at no cost to co-op members. But, there's a more far-sighted reason. It turns out that as we help improve the Chinese economy, we are nurturing a relationship that can boost American agriculture and many other facets of the U.S. economy. Someday, its benefits may be felt directly in rural and small-town Illinois.

"China's a big importer of U.S. commodities," says Jim Coleman, general manager of Shelby Electric Cooperative, Shelbyville, and one of the 21 co-op people who made the trip.

"As their quality of life improves, they purchase more



A memorable stop for the Illinois group was The Great Wall, built to repel foreign invaders but now one of China's top tourist attractions.

from us. They'll also remember who has helped them. They return favors."

This tour had its origins in a program encouraging joint international training and business development. During the past six years, the America-

China Executive Development Office at the University of Illinois-Chicago (UI-C) has arranged an exchange oftours between the two countries. In 1994 and 1995, several Illinois electric cooperatives were visited by Chinese rural power engineers. This in

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turn led to the Chinese government's invitation to an Illinois co-op group, only the second such approach it has made through the university's development program.

Judy Curry, associate chancellor at the UI-C, says many Chinese students who attended the university have since gained prominence in China's educational and business fields. They recall their U.S. experiences and look to UI-C for further training of themselves and their colleagues.

"China values relationship," Curry says. "The way they develop a long-term commitment is by starting relationships. The co-op people have been genuinely warm, introducing the Chinese visitors to

their families, taking them to church with them. It's something the Chinese don't usually see.

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I think the impact has been substantial in building a relationship." The Illinois co-op group's journey changed many preconceived images about a country that has often drawn a heavy veil around itself. It is no longer a country dressed in the plain gray outfit of Chairman Mao, the masses waving his little red book. Younger generations wear the colorful clothes of the western culture. Red Coca-Cola signs are joining the government's red banners in public places.

T.L. "Kris" Christensen,



Shelby Electric's Manager Jim Coleman, center, pauses in a Hong Kong marketplace.

president/CEO of Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative, Princeton, compared today's China with the



Gathered aboard Jumbo, the world's largest floating restaurant, in Hong Kong are the Illinois delegation: from left, back row, James Shireman, Connie Shireman (Jo-Carroll Electric president), David Schiver (Edgar Electric director), Bernadine Schiver, Joe Welsh (Edgar Electric director), and Briscoe Menke (Western Illinois Electrical Coop.); middle row, William Raber (Eastern Illini Electric director), Morris Bell (Menard Electric director), Donald Foltz, Doris Bell, William Griswold (Illinois Rural Electric Co. director), Barbara Griswold, Bud Walls (Edgar Electric assistant manager) and Dick Dunsworth (McDonough Power Cooperative manager); front row, Joyce Raber, Jacqueline Shireman, Janet Christensen, T.L. Christensen (Illinois Valley Electric Cooperative president), John Freitag (tour director, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives), Joan Freitag, Lin Gu (interpreter), and Jim Coleman (Shelby Electric Cooperative manager).



Not quite the traditional Illinois style: The look of a modern Chinese farmhouse is more office building than homestead.

Soviet Union he visited just before its breakup.

"The Soviet Union was hard-core Communist. I felt no influence from the Communist government while we were in China," Christensen says.

"In Russia there were hungry people, lines at the stores. In China there was food everywhere, consumer goods. The average person's salary has probably doubled in the last five to 10 years."

He says the Chinese that the Illinois group met are upbeat about their future. "Five years ago their dream was to have a TV set in the home. Now, everyone has a TV. They think their lifestyle is improving, which is what they want for the future, for their children—a car and their own home."

Christensen says that since everyone is supposed to have a job, some of the occupations appear to be make-work. An example can be found in the electric system. "At our own substations we have no one there all the time. In China there were 30 employees at a substation, including a cook for them, and

guards. I'd have 5,000 employees if I had substations like they have."

Similarly, Shelby Electric's Coleman reports that rather than bringing in heavy equipment to build a substation, a hundred workers might

be employed to build the structure by hand.

Coleman says that China's rural electrification efforts are at the stage America's were in the 1940s. Homes don't have many

electric appliances, so few, in fact, that one power

约

district they visited has an accurate listing of every appliance served by its substation. "Years ago, co-ops used to have an inventory of what electric appliances were in a home. That's

where China's at."

During meetings with power officials, Illinois' co-op people suggested ways to build or operate electric systems more efficiently. For example, equipment standards vary from system to system, making it difficult for one district to help another should an earthquake or other disaster cause damage.

Standardized materials and construction is needed, along with

much needed routine maintenance like the cooperatives conduct.

As for other aspects of their visit, Coleman offers:

Food: "Unless you've been to China, you haven't eaten Chinese food. It's not prepared the same as here, it's not spiced the same. You don't see soy sauce at the tables, or sesame seed oil, salt or pepper. The food is rather bland, and in some cases, it's rather disgusting to me. They serve you a big plate of eel, or jellyfish, or seaweed or cow stomach. I lived off rice and chicken broth. You see a lot of McDonald's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Seven-Elevens.

Beer is the Number 2 drink. A good imported beer to them is Pabst Blue Ribbon. Water is not safe to drink. It has to be bottled. Water, tea and beer are the drinks."

Traffic: "It's just ridiculous, between the bicycles, the pedestrians and the cars all going, coming, they don't pay attention to each other. Surprisingly, they tell us there aren't many accidents. Of course, the traffic doesn't go very fast because of the quantity of vehicles."



A craftsman fashions an art piece at a Shanghai jade factory.



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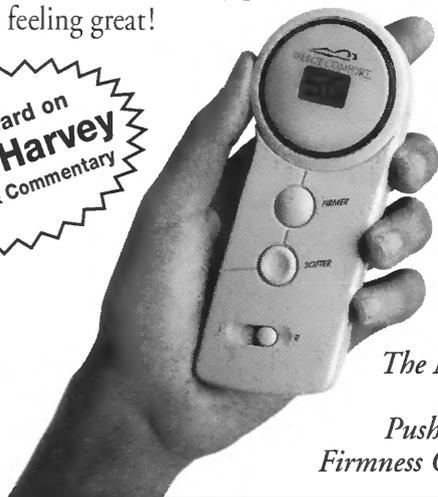
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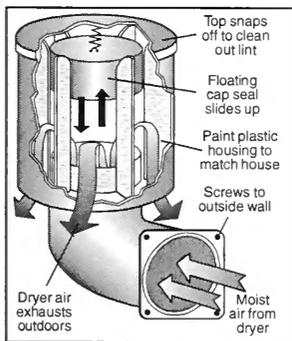



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TECHNOLOGY AND YOU

The leaky sticky flapper



Tight-sealing dryer vent blocks drafts, allergens and bugs.

Q: The clothes dryer outdoor vent flapper sticks open sometimes. In the winter, it's chilly near the dryer and in the summer, mosquitoes get in through it. What is the best sealing, most efficient vent cover?—T. S.

A: Many homes have similar problems, but the homeowners never realize that the source of drafts, bugs, pollen, molds, etc. is from a leaky dryer vent. In my own home, a mouse crawled indoors through a leaky flapper.

A leaky dryer vent cover wastes energy dollars year-round. In the summer, a leaky vent may not be as apparent as in the winter. You probably can not feel a draft, but humidity and warm air leaks indoors. This pushes up your air-conditioning costs and exacerbates allergies to mold, mildew and dust mites.

In the winter, a draft often forces you to set your furnace thermostat a little higher to compensate for the chilly feeling from the draft. This results in a double energy loss.

It is sometimes difficult to determine if your vent flapper is always closing properly. Check it while it is still warm immediately after the dryer has stopped. It will often hang open until it cools off and the materials contract a little.

Particularly in the winter, just a fine layer of lint near the hinge area can keep it from closing properly. This layer of lint absorbs moisture. When the dryer shuts off, the damp lint can freeze solid and hold it open. At least once a week, go outdoors and wipe off any lint while the dryer is still running or immediately after it has stopped.



James Dulley is a mechanical engineer who writes on a wide variety of energy and utility topics. His column appears in a large number of daily newspapers.

Copyright 1996 James Dulley

I installed a slightly more expensive vent cover design (about \$13 at hardware stores) that uses a "floating cap" seal. A round cap, inside the vent, slides up and opens when the dryer is on and flows against it.

When the dryer shuts off, the cap slides back down and seals tightly over the end of the vent outlet. It is made of smooth plastic to eliminate lint buildup and the exterior shell is paintable to match your house.

Another simple option is to buy an easy-to-install indoor draft blocker. It mounts in the duct between the dryer and the wall. There are built-in one-way only louvers that only let the air flow out.

If you ever need to run a humidifier in your home in the winter, try venting your electric dryer indoors occasionally. This really cuts your utility bills. Don't forget to vent it outdoors again in the spring.

One do-it-yourself indoor vent kit ducts the dryer air into a small water reservoir and through a filter to remove lint. Another design is indoor/outdoor switchable. By moving a lever, the warm moist dryer air can be directed indoors through a replaceable filter or outdoors.

If you need a new clothes dryer, consider one of the European-style no-vent electric condensing dryers. Since it does not need to be vented outdoors, it can be located anywhere in your house. These dryers are more expensive than standard vented dryers, but they are very quiet and last a lifetime.

Write for Utility Bills Update No. 961 listing manufacturers of tight-sealing dryer flapper and "floating cap" vents, indoor dryer vent kits, no-vent and combination washer/dryers, and laundry efficiency tips. Please include \$2.00 and a business-size SASE., and send to Jim Dulley, Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708.

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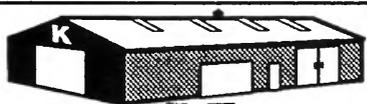
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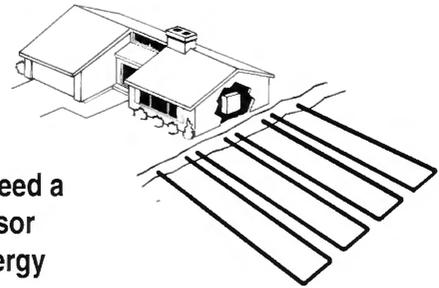
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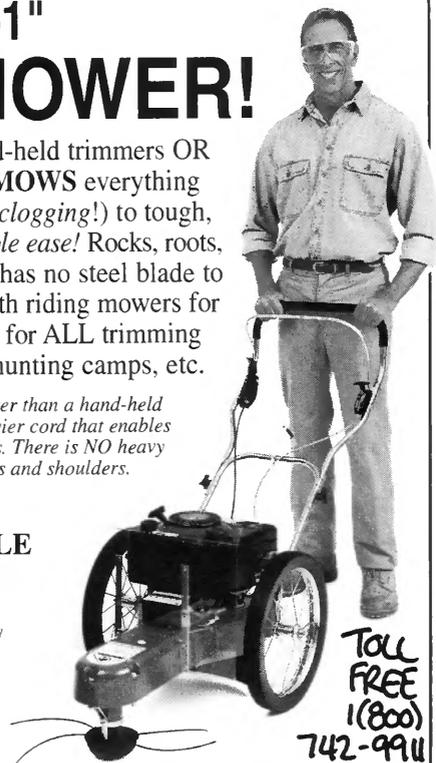
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AROUND YOUR HOME

To roof
or
not to roof



Bill Campbell

Each year, at this time, I take a look at the roof on my house. I always wonder, "Will it last another hard, snowy winter? Am I going to have to form a bucket brigade to bail water following one of our common five-inch spring rains?" This reminds me of the old song by the Serendipity Singers that includes the lyrics, "...don't let the rain come down, my roof's got a hole in it and I might drown."

I like to consider roof soundness during July and August, because if something needs to be done, this time of year typically affords the least chance of a week of storms once I remove my old roof. These months are also most likely to have hot, sunny days which will help seal asphalt shingles before a wind storm can tear the tabs from your new roof.

Notice I said "remove my old roof." There are two schools of thought for roof replacement. One says the extra layer of shingles will give you a "double roof" and the other says a house only needs one roof at a time. I am from the latter school, but let's discuss the merits of both.

Placing new shingles over old does have some advantages. You do end up with two layers of protection if this is done right. If you lay the new shingles on the old incorrectly, you will significantly shorten the life of the new roof. Correct placement of the new shingles requires that the new shingle be the same vertical length as the old. Place the butt edge of the new against

the tab edge of the old. This will provide a flat surface for each course of new shingles. Half of the surface will be the previous course of new shingles and the other half will be the tabs of a course of old shingles. This pattern prevents open pockets between the two layers. These pockets can cause the new layer to buckle and crack as it is heated by the sun.

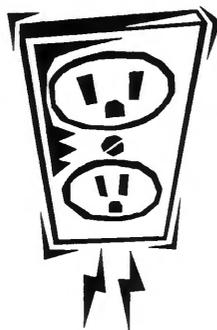
The other advantage of placing a new layer over an existing layer is that you will not have to dispose of the old shingles (this time). It will mean that whoever replaces your roof in the future will have twice as much to haul away.

The option of laying new shingles over old should **NOT** be carried to extremes. If old shingles are curling, or if there are already two layers, you should remove all shingles before installing the new roof. Some types of shingles are not suitable for additional layering. The "fake shake" or simulated wood shingles are perfect examples of roofing that should never have additional layers installed.

As I said, I am from the school that believes you should never layer shingles. Additional layers add weight to the roof. This takes away from the amount of load your roof could carry in the event of an extremely bad winter storm. It can also be difficult to match new and old shingle length and thickness to eliminate the "pockets" during installation. Peeling the old shingle layer also gives you an opportunity to inspect the roof sheathing for damage. Repairs to fascia boards and soffits are also easier if shingles are removed.

As always, think safety as you consider your roofing jobs. If you don't have good ladders and other equipment

(continued on page 19)



Bill Campbell is an Extension Educator, Farm Systems, at the Springfield Extension Center, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois. You can write to Campbell in care of Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708. Telephone: 217-782-6515.

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- Richard A. Gustafson, Manchester, N.H.

Your YARD AND GARDEN

The how's and why's of watering



Dave Robson

July and August are usually scorchers. Those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer tend to promote some laziness on most gardeners' part. It gets so hot that everyone soon wishes for the coolness of winter. Isn't it interesting that during winter we wish for summer's warmth? Most of us are hard to please, I guess.

The landscaping takes a beating during the hot summer months. More plants die during the summer than any other time of the year. Heat and lack of water are the two main culprits.

Heat is a double-edged sword for plants. High temperatures cause the leaves to lose a tremendous amount of water in order to stay cool and carry out the growing functions of the plant. A tree with an 80-foot spread may lose more than 80 gallons of water per DAY when the temperatures are in the 90s. That's the amount of water that can go through two to four cycles of a washing machine. Again, that's per day.

Fortunately, the soil holds lots of water and roots are adept at extracting it. We seldom see large trees wilt since roots are deeper and able to get to water. Remember, though, that roughly 80 to 95 percent of tree roots are within the top 15 inches of the soil surface.

The top inch or so of soil dries the fastest. Warm, dry spells early in the season encourage deep root growth in search of moisture. Cool, wet weather like many of us have experienced this year and to some extent last year, tends to keep the roots near the surface.

David Robson is an Extension Educator, Horticulture, at the Springfield Extension Center, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois. You can write to Robson in care of Illinois Country Living, P.O. Box 3787, Springfield, IL 62708. Telephone: 217-782-6515.

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When the temperatures increase, roots don't have the time to search out water (go deeper) and plants wilt quickly.

Heat is also detrimental to root growth. Cool temperatures in the 40s, 50s, or 60s are ideal for most plants. Soil temperatures in the 80s and 90s essentially stop root growth. This is one of the main things to consider when transplanting trees and shrubs during the hot part of summer. You may want to avoid transplanting then.

Watering isn't always practical or economic in the landscape. Many rural landscapes may have to depend on well-water, which could be a valuable commodity. Hauling water may not be efficient. Plants are left on their own to survive or perish.

Many homeowners will ration water to specific areas. Annual flowers and vegetable gardens tend to be the main recipients, though at times, this may seem wrong. Shouldn't you give your limited resources to something that is perennial, whether it's trees, shrubs or some perennial flowers? Trees and shrubs are more expensive and difficult to replace than a tomato plant or some petunias next year.

There are some things to do to minimize the stress on your plants, as well as limit your water use.

Mulch. Mulches keep moisture from evaporating into the air. They also keep the weeds down so less water is lost to another plant. Cooler soils are also a benefit.

Trees and shrubs should be mulched with 3 to 5 inches of organic material, such as wood chips or hardwood bark. Shallow mulches could be beneficial but usually will not control weeds as effectively; some water loss will occur.

Deeper mulches tend to restrict air

(Continued on page 19)





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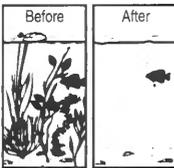
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FINEST COOKING



Our cookbooks this month are from the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Flatville and the Evangelical Covenant Church in Princeton. The 336-page Immanuel offering costs \$8 plus \$3 for shipping. It's available from the Church at R.R. 1, Box 146A, Thomasboro, IL 61878. The phone number there is (217)-694-4156.

The Evangelical book, "Out of Swedish Kitchens" has 232 pages of recipes plus various charts and tables, and comes in a binder. It costs \$10 plus \$2 for shipping, and is available from the Church at 24 N. Main Street, Princeton, IL 61356.

As usual, we've left the style differences in the recipes, so you can get an idea how easy or difficult the ingredient lists and instructions are.

Immanuel Lutheran Church-Flatville

BARBECUED CHICKEN WINGS

Camille Caldwell

1-10 oz. jar apricot preserves
1 bottle Wishbone® Russian dressing,
red oil type

1 env. Lipton onion soup mix
2 to 3 lbs. chicken wing parts

Mix together above first three ingredients in a 9x13" baking pan. Spread evenly. Place wing parts on top of ingredients. Bake 1 hour at 350°. Turn wings over in sauce. Bake additional half hour. Serve warm or cold.

HOLIDAY FRUIT SALAD

Anna Bartell

1-15 oz. can pineapple chunks,
reserve juice
1/2 C. sugar
2 T. all-purpose flour
1 egg, beaten

3 bananas, sliced
1 C. pecans, chopped
2-11 oz. cans mandarin oranges, drained
3 med. unpeeled apples, chopped
1/2 lb. red seedless grapes, halved

Drain pineapples, place juice in small saucepan. Add sugar, flour and egg to juice. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until smooth and thickened. Cool, combine pecans and fruit; add dressing, stirring well. Chill before serving. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

LAYERED STRAWBERRY PIE DESSERT

Elaine Busboom

FIRST LAYER:

1 C. flour
1 stick margarine, melted
1/2 C. nuts, 1 prefer pecans

SECOND LAYER:

1-8 oz. pkg. cream cheese
1 C. Cool Whip®
1 C. powdered sugar

THIRD LAYER:

1 C. sugar
2 1/2 T. cornstarch
1 C. water
3 T. strawberry jello
Red food coloring
1 1/2 qt. strawberries, halved or quartered
Cool Whip®

FIRST LAYER: Combine 1 cup flour, 1 stick melted margarine, and 1/2 cup nuts. Put into a 9x13" baking dish. Bake at 350° for 15 minutes or lightly browned. Cool completely.

SECOND LAYER: Mix 1 package of cream cheese, 1 cup Cool Whip, and 1 cup powdered sugar and spread carefully over crust. Chill.

THIRD LAYER: Mix 1 cup sugar and 2 1/2 tablespoons cornstarch; add 1 cup water and cook until thick. Remove from stove and add 3 tablespoons strawberry jello and several drops of food coloring and stir. Cool. Add 1 1/2 quarts strawberries. Pour strawberry layer over second layer and chill. Top with Cool Whip, if desired and sprinkle with chopped pecans. Optional: May use graham cracker crust instead.

Evangelical Covenant Church, Princeton

RYE BREAD (Rågbröd)

Ruth Mead

1 pkg. dry yeast
1/4 C. warm water
1 C. milk
1/4 C. plus 1 T. sugar
1 T. salt
1/4 C. molasses

2 T. margarine
3/4 C. cold water
1 1/2 C. medium rye flour
(Robin Hood® brand recommended)
4 1/2 C. white flour

Dissolve yeast in warm water; set aside. Scald milk. Place sugar, salt, molasses and margarine in a large bowl. Pour scalded milk over mixture, add cold water, then dissolved yeast. Add rye flour and 2 C. white flour and beat until smooth. Add remainder of white flour. Knead on floured board 7-10 minutes. Place in greased bowl and cover with damp towel. Let rise 1 1/2-2 hours in a warm place. Punch down and let rise 30 minutes. Divide dough in half and let rest, covered on board for 15 minutes. Make into loaves and place in greased loaf pans. Let rise for about 1 hour. Bake at 325° for 40-50 minutes. Makes 2 loaves.

SWEDISH MEATBALLS (Svenska Köttbullar)

Mary Johnson

2 lbs. ground beef
1 lb. ground pork
1/2 medium onion, minced
1/2 C. bread crumbs
2 eggs

1/2 C. water
1/2 tsp. ground allspice
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper

Mix all ingredients well. Form into meatballs. Fry in hot fat. Place in a covered dish and steam or simmer for 1-2 hours in a 325° oven. (Instead of frying, meatballs can be baked uncovered in a 375° oven for 20 minutes, then covered and baked at 325° oven for 20 minutes, then covered and baked at 325° for 1-2 hours.)

DEEP DARK SECRET

1 lb. dates
1 C. sugar
1 C. walnuts
4 eggs, separated
1/2 C. flour
1/4 tsp. salt

3 or 4 bananas, sliced
2 oranges, cut up
1 can crushed pineapple or
juice of can of maraschino cherries
1/2 pt. whipping cream, whipped
Nut meats for decorating

1 tsp. baking powder
2 tsp. vanilla

Mix the first 8 ingredients together and spread in 9x13 pan. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes. An hour before serving, break half the cake in pieces and orange on platter. Top with bananas and oranges. Break other half of cake and pile on top of fruit, mound and shape. Over this mound pour crushed pineapple or maraschino cherry juice. Then frost with whipped cream and decorate with cherries and nuts. Serves 16.



Yard and Garden

(Continued from page 16)

movement and make it more difficult for rain to penetrate into the soil. The mulch itself will absorb some of the water before the roots do.

KEEP THE MULCH AWAY FROM THE TREE'S TRUNK.

Leave an inch or two gap around the base of the trunk. Crown rots and animal injury may result if mulch is piled around the trunk of the tree.

Mulches should be something dry and partially decomposed. Wood chips, hardwood bark, leaf mold and compost are good. Grass clipping, once they're dried, are also O.K. If using sawdust, you may need to scatter some fertilizer on it

to help prevent nitrogen loss in the soil.

Water in the early morning. Between 6 and 9 a.m. is ideal. You may lose more than 1/3 of the water to evaporation by turning the sprinkler on during the afternoon. Evening waterings may get the plant's foliage wet and increase the chances of diseases.

Water slowly. Allow water to soak in and not run off.

Soaker hoses are a good investment. It may take longer for the soil to get wet, but less water is lost to evaporation. You can also position the hoses around the plants and not worry about watering rows or aisles. Water where the plants are, but remember that roots often extend out.

Water at the dripline of trees and shrubs where the feeder roots are. Watering at the trunk of the tree serves little or no purpose.

"Gray water" can be used, with some discretion. Gray water is the water from washing machines, dishwashers, bathtubs, etc. As long as no harsh detergents or soaps were used in the water, it should be safe to use for plants. Some soaps specifically state that they are bio-degradable and can be used on plants. Toilet water should never be used.

Catch water from gutters into the rain barrel — an old-fashioned concept that's still worth something today. Use that water to supplement nature's.

Safety Around Your Home

(Continued from page 14)

so you can handle steep roof slopes safely, check into equipment rental businesses or consider hiring a contractor. The final safety precaution is to look up. Determine where all power

lines are located and avoid them to prevent electrocution.

Don't try to beat an approaching thunderstorm as you shingle. Get off the roof at the first sight of lightning.

Roofing jobs can be done by the do-it-yourselfer. A little instruction and the proper tools

will make installing your own roof a safe and rewarding task. Look over your own roof the next couple months. Does it need some work? Will it last for another year? If not you might want to replace it, because as Glen Yarborough stated in his song, "Baby, the rain must fall."

Illinois

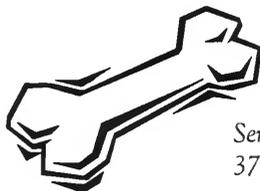
FUNNYBONE

• There were three mice and they died and went to Heaven. After they were there about three weeks, God called them together and asked how they liked it there. They said, "Oh, it's beautiful and so nice." But they said if they had some wheels they could get around a lot better. So God gave them a skate board to get around and they liked that. In a few weeks, there were three pretty cats and they went to Heaven. After they had been there three weeks, God called them together and asked them how they liked Heaven. They, too, thought it so nice and beautiful and they said, "We

sure liked the meals on wheels."
**Brian Becker
Watson**

• Several years ago our family moved to Jacksonville from a city of a million plus people in Ohio. Shortly after we settled in, my husband, our eight year old son, and I started a trip out west. We

stopped at a rural restaurant with a strong western decor. As soon as we were seated, our son headed for the restroom, but returned almost immediately and whispered to my husband, "Dad, am I a bull or a heifer?"
**Sandy Northcutt
Jacksonville**



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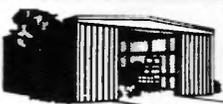
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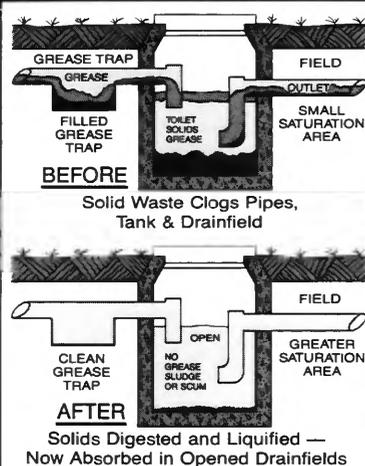
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