

Editor's Notebook



Mark Newhall
Editor & Publisher

“No Mow” Grass

I was talking to a long-time friend of FARM SHOW recently who told me how happy he is with the “no mow” grass that we first featured several years ago (Vol. 26, No. 5).

“I wouldn’t use it right around the house where you want nice thick sod, but it’s perfect for outlying areas that you would rather not mow,” says Denny Zahrbock, Rice Lake, Wis. “What I really like about it is that it’s very drought tolerant. It stays lush and green all summer, growing to a maximum height of 5 to 6 in. tall. The grass is slender and falls over a bit as it gets to its top height. I actually mow it once or twice a summer just to keep it trimmed nicely. It’s perfect for planting out away from the house in areas that we look at but don’t use that much. I found that the grass gets much thicker the second year and does a tremendous job of suppressing weeds. Weeds just can’t compete with it so you use less herbicide.”



No Mow Grass tops out at 5 to 6 in. tall.

For more information about No Mow Grass, contact: www.nomowgrass.com or ph 866 666-6947; in Canada, call 519 836-1847.

C.F. Marley speaks at the dedication ceremony for an unusual new memorial that honors all local veterans.



Unusual War Memorial

FARM SHOW writer C.F. Marley, who just turned 86 years old, is more involved in his local community than most people half his age. A decorated veteran of World War II, he recently was one of the movers and shakers in the establishment of an unusual war memorial in his hometown of Nokomis, Ill.

“As far as we know, it’s the only one of its kind in the country. We have attempted to list all local veterans from all wars our citizens have fought in,” says Marley, who notes that most memorials commemorate just one war and list only those who were killed. “We already had memorials for WW I, WW II, Korea and Vietnam, which we combined together in one place. But I felt it was unfortunate that we had not included veterans of the Civil War. So we decided to start the research necessary to find the names of local Civil War vets and we found many more than we thought we would. Actually, we keep discovering new names from all the wars that need to be added to the stones. So we occasionally have the stone mason come out and etch them in.”



Marley and his crew restored this 1863 Civil War cannon and fired it off three times.

In honor of the new memorial, Marley and his fellow veterans also decided to restore an 1863 Civil War cannon. During their research they learned that when the Civil War vets held reunions in the late 1800’s, they used to fire the locally-owned cannon. They decided it would be a great idea to fire the cannon again after more than 100 years.

A new mounting was made, the barrel was cleaned out, and it was successfully fired three times. The cannon was then mounted permanently near the new gray stone monument engraved with the names of 315 local Civil War vets.

“It’s a very satisfying feeling to have completed this memorial in honor of the men and women who gave so much in defense of this great nation,” says Marley.



Wildlife scene was “drawn” into wet stucco with a gloved hand.

Stucco Art

I visited the home of one of my co-workers recently and noticed this deer “painted” into the stucco on the back of their house. Upon closer inspection I discovered the picture wasn’t painted onto the wall. The wildlife scene was actually part of the stucco itself. It turns out the contractor who built the house has an employee with a lot of artistic ability. For a fee, he’ll “draw” a design into the stucco. He simply applies the stucco and, while it’s wet, puts on a glove and “draws” into it with his hand. If the customer doesn’t like it, he can wipe it out and start over.

Drive-Over Tread Monitor

A friend in England who frequently scouts out new products for us recently sent information about a new tire tread depth monitor that tells how much tread is left in a tire as it drives over an electronic pad. It’s geared to the trucking industry. The monitor is wired to a data management program that issues a warning when tread gets too thin. All the company has to do is make sure its drivers run over the monitor at regular intervals.

Contact: www.truckfile.co.uk; ph 011 44 1527 595566.



Trucks simply drive over electronic monitor to get a measurement of tire tread depth.

Liberty Quotes

“All of us denounce war – all of us consider it man’s greatest stupidity. And yet wars happen and they involve the most passionate lovers of peace because there are still barbarians in the world who set the price for peace at death or enslavement, and the price is too high.” *Ronald Reagan*

“Vitality springs from diversity – which makes for real progress so long as there is mutual toleration, based on the recognition that worse may come from an attempt to suppress differences than from acceptance of them.” *B.H. Liddell Hart*

“Freedom is fragile and must be protected. To sacrifice, even as a temporary measure, is to betray it.” *Germaine Greer*

“The object and practice of liberty lies in the limitation of government power.” *Douglas MacArthur*

“The trade of governing has always been monopolized by the most ignorant and the most rascally individuals of mankind.” *Thomas Paine*

“Toward no crimes have men shown themselves so cold-bloodedly cruel as in punishing differences of opinion.” *James Russell Lowell*

“The objector and the rebel who raises his voice against what he believes to be the injustice of the present and the wrongs of the past is the one who moves the world along.” *Clarence S. Darrow*

“People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make

themselves heard and who vote – a very different thing.” *Walter H. Judd*

“All those who seek to destroy the liberties of a democratic nation ought to know that war is the surest and shortest means to accomplish it.” *Alexis de Tocqueville*

Punny Word Thoughts

- A criminal’s best asset is his lie ability.
- An optician fell into the lens grinding machine and made a spectacle of himself.
- A doctor blood-tested secretaries before hiring to eliminate type-O’s.
- Alcohol and calculus don’t mix so don’t drink and derive.
- An auctioneer often looks forbidding.
- You cannot take a second polygraph test because they can’t be re-ried upon.
- The frustrated cannibal threw up his hands.
- If you miss a class at beauty school you’ll need a makeup session.
- He bent over to pick up a sieve and strained himself.
- For plumbers, a flush beats a full house.
- A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
- A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was a nurse said “No change yet.”
- A scientist doing a large experiment with liquid chemicals was trying to solve a problem when he fell in and became part of the solution.
- In the winter my dog wears his coat, in the summer he wears his coat and pants.

One thing I’ve learned: Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.

And one more thing: Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn’t have said.

Some ways of dealing with the burdens of life:

- Accept that some days you’re the pigeon, and some days you’re the statue.
- Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
- Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
- Drive carefully. It’s not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.
- If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
- It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
- Never buy a car you can’t push.
- Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won’t have a leg to stand on.
- Nobody cares if you can’t dance well. Just get up and dance.
- Since it’s the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
- When everything’s coming your way, you’re probably in the wrong lane.
- Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
- Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.
- We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names, and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box.
- A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

An avid golfer and his buddies were playing a big round of golf for a \$200 jackpot. At the 18th green the golfer faced a 10-ft. putt to win the round, and the money.

As he was lining up his putt, a funeral procession started to pass by. The golfer set down his putter, took his hat off, placed it over his chest, and waited reverently for the funeral procession to pass.

After it passed, he picked up his putter and returned to lining up his putt.

One of his buddies said, “That was the most amazing thing I’ve ever seen. I can’t believe you stopped playing in the middle of that shot, and risked losing your concentration, just to pay your respects.”

As he continued to check out his putt the golfer said, “Well, why wouldn’t I? We were married for 25 years.”