



Jill Mullendore sits next to the wind generator that soon will power a small part of her household. (Staff photo by Randy Horst)

Building wind generator is neighborhood happening

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conveniences," he admitted. But some of those conveniences aren't improvements but complications according to Mullendore.

He cites processed food such as powdered potatoes and appliances such as microwave ovens as contributing to a lifestyle that isn't necessarily better than what came before.

"You're eating sort of plastic," is the way Mullendore describes the instant food.

His disenchantment with certain aspects of modern life began about seven years ago when he started to consider that perhaps the fastest way isn't the best.

It's not the "way that creates the most happiness," he said.

He and his wife, Jill and their two sons began to avoid what Mullendore calls the consumer treadmill of wanting more things and working harder to buy more things and then wanting more things again.

Mrs. Mullendore began to make the family's bread. They plant a garden which supplies the family with vegetables throughout the winter.

Their values stem from their farm backgrounds, according to Mullendore.

And it's from his rural childhood that Mullendore traces his fascination with wind generators. It's an interest that was revived when he came upon a story describing them in the "Mother Earth News."

HE AND HIS BROTHER Michael, who lives in Chicago, began collecting old generators they discovered in their travels across the country's farming districts. They have about 20 complete generators to date. Some are in better shape than others.

One of the hazards of his hobby is that the new collector often isn't sure if

the owner's asking price is valid. On occasion, the Mullendore brothers have bought a generator they thought was complete only to discover once they were home that some of the parts were missing.

Some farmers hang onto the old generators in the belief that if the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) fails them, they can switch on the wind generator that hasn't worked in a generation.

They don't consider that time has probably taken its toll on the units.

Deadline set for masonry entries

Entries for the Fifth Annual Honor Awards Program for Excellence in Masonry Design are now being accepted.

The program, sponsored by the Masonry Institute of Michigan in cooperation with the Michigan Society of Architects, is open to all member firms of the Michigan Society of Architects. Those entering may use buildings or projects completed after May 1, 1976. The buildings or projects must exhibit the use of masonry as the primary

exterior material or the architect must show that masonry was important in the solution of the building design problem.

Masonry refers primarily to brick and concrete block, but also includes other hand-laid materials, such as stone, marble and structural tile. In four previous years of the program, 18 building projects in Michigan have received awards. Entries will be judged by a panel of architects from another state.

For additional information, architects may contact the Masonry Institute at 553-2800.

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