

John Jensen

Instructor thrives on variety

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The Print

Don't let the genuine
endliness and smile fool you.
Born in Iowa and raised
on the farm, John Jensen has
managed to preserve all of the
positive traits that are typically
associated with that lifestyle.
Down-to-earth, gregarious,
hard working, determined, a
love of the land, and an appreciation
of nature are all synonymous
with his personal-

However, the representation
would be incomplete without
considering more sophisticated
talents and interests: Keen
observer, economics/industrial
engineering graduate, astute
business person, former auto
racer, Corvette collector and
restorer,

And around 1960, he left his
job to go into real estate full
time and moved to Oregon.

The purchase of farmland
in Wilsonville about that time
offered the temptation of the
very thing Jensen had tried to
escape in Iowa. He now con-
siders himself a "city farmer,"
and laughingly reiterates the
saying: "You can take the boy
from the farm, but you can't
take the farm out of the boy."

As the years went on,
Jensen became very successful
in the real estate field. "I have
as much experience as a mort-
gage broker as I do as a real
estate broker; and I am also a
real estate broker in five
states."

In addition to acting as a
consultant in the field, Jensen
delights in passing on his ex-

**There is no bad time to get into real
estate—just some times are better than
others."**

teacher, consultant, real estate
investor and broker.

A chain of events started
in Jensen's life that helped him
escape the Midwest farm and
greenhouse syndrome. After
graduating from North West
Missouri University, he headed
west to California and started
working as an engineer for
Bohr Aircraft. In a year, he had
worked his way into manage-

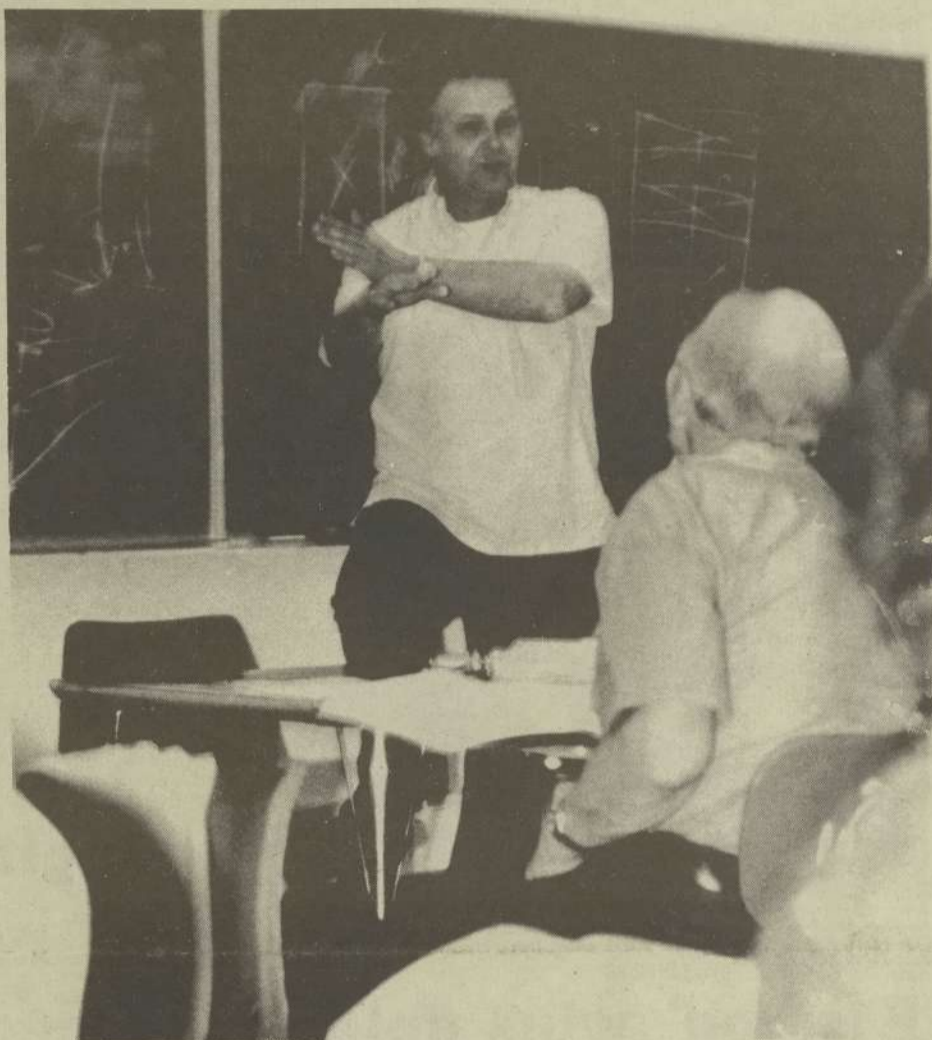
ment. However, while he was
working at Rohr, Jensen was
also investing in real estate on
the side. It didn't take long for
him to visualize the opportu-
nities available in that area.

pertise to CCC evening
students in his Real Estate I and
II Investment classes. The con-
cept of pyramiding theory
(buying one house and then
pyramiding to others), which
he teaches in the classes, at-
tracts students from all walks of
life.

Jensen emphasized, "I not
only teach them how to make
it—but also how to save it."

In response to the many
comments about the depressed
real estate market, Jensen said,
"The market is down today.

We all know that. There is no
bad time to get into real estate—



**JENSEN PROPOSES INNOVATIVE planning for coastal property to Real Estate In-
vestment II students.**

just some times are better than
others. And there are even ex-
cellent opportunities today in
real estate."

Jensen did offer a word of
advice, though, to prospective
investors. "Don't invest in real
estate or any investment until
you fully understand what you
are getting into."

With the advent of his real
estate investment career,
Jensen also became addicted
to the enjoyment, restoration,
and collection of Corvettes
after his first purchase in 1958.
"I have been kind of a Corvette
fanatic off-and-on since," he
commented without remorse.

Jensen now has several
Corvettes but justifies his pur-
chases. "Early Corvettes and
other select automobiles are as
good a hedge against inflation
as real estate is," he observed.

A person's labor and
knowledge, he said, are the

obviously agree as they eagerly
apply elbow grease during the
twelve-hour class, which meets
every other Saturday. Jensen's
skills as a teacher and auto
restorer were evident in the first
class. Students who came to
class without knowledge were
mastering techniques just hours
afterwards. They displayed
their efforts with pride.

Unfortunately, the Auto
Body Fiberglass class, which is
at the end of its third year at
CCC, will be terminated due to
lack of funds at the end of this
term. Jensen defended his
class: "The courses I am
teaching are not so much cur-
riculum courses; they are a
chance for the taxpayers to use
their facilities." (The Auto
Body Fiberglass class is held in

**"I have been kind of a Corvette fanatic off
and on since my first purchase in 1958."**

key in buying a run-down car,
restoring it, and making a good
return on the investment.
Jensen grinned, "With a car
you can have the fun of driving
it and showing it, while wat-
ching it grow as an investment,
and other things you cannot do
that with."

The students in his Auto
Body Fiberglass class (the only
class of its kind in the nation)

a Barlow Hall classroom which
would normally be vacant dur-
ing the weekend.)

Both Jensen's classes are
popular and not lacking in
students. The key word to ex-
plain the success of the classes
is "relevance." Also, Jensen's
personal experiences and
background serve as prime ex-
amples to students that "it can
be done."

