

Adjustable Bread Knife Yields Uniform Slices

Former fiddle-maker Carl Haggard of East Glacier Park, Montana, has used his artistic abilities to create a unique line of gourmet kitchen utensils with a "musical flavor."

Haggard's company, Mountain Woods Inc., produces a variety of kitchen products, many of which have a musical theme. His new "Adjustable Fiddle Bow Knife," eliminates an age-old problem – cutting even slices from homemade loaves of bread.

It cuts even-sized slices in a variety of widths. The knife is made with domestic hardwood (either oak or cherry), brass and stainless steel and uses an easily adjustable thumbscrew to allow users to pre-select the width of the slice, up to one full inch. It has a serrated, stainless steel, double-ground blade that never needs sharpening.

"It also works really well on tomatoes or any other vegetable or fruit," says Kathy Fekete, marketing rep. for Mountain Woods. "You can gauge a nice, thin slice."

The Adjustable Fiddle Bow Knife sells for \$33.95 and the Original Fiddle Bow Knife (not adjustable) is priced at \$19.95 plus S&H.



"Adjustable Fiddle Bow Knife" cuts even-sized slices in a variety of widths.

Other special knives are available.

Dealer inquiries are welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kathy Fekete, Mountain Woods, Inc., 20631, Hwy. 2, Box 65, East Glacier Park, Mont. 59434 (ph 800 835-0479 or 406 226-9309; fax 406 226-9288; E-mail: info@mountainwoods.com; Website: www.mountainwoods.com)

Ladder "Straddler" Takes Weight Off Gutters, Eaves

You can work on your roof, clean your gutters, or paint your eaves without doing damage to gutters or the roof edge using new Straddler ladder brackets.

The brackets slide onto the ladder side rails and tighten down with hand knobs. They arch over the edge of the roof to put the weight of the ladder directly on top of the roof. Rubber-bottomed pads adapt to any pitched roof and you can slide the brackets up and down the ladder as needed.

Inventor and manufacturer Robert Eric Jones says they're particularly good for installing or cleaning out gutters.

Straddler brackets are designed to fit most ladders. They sell for \$84 a pair plus \$5 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rob-



Brackets slide onto the ladder side rails and arch over edge of roof to put weight of ladder directly on top of roof.

ert Eric Jones, Straddler, Inc., Rt. 2, Box 71A, Tioga, Penn. 16946 (ph 877 341-7782; E-mail: Straddlerinc@yahoo.com; Website: www.straddler.com).

"Breakaway Brackets" Protect Mailbox Posts

"It's the best way to avoid having to replace your mailbox post every winter when it gets damaged by passing trucks or snow plows," says Dave Grieder, Carlock, Ill., about his new "breakaway brackets" for mailbox posts.

The steel brackets are designed to bolt onto a 4 by 4 wood post and consist of four front and rear pieces as well as four side pieces. The idea is to cut the post off 3 in. above the ground and put matching brackets on the stub in the ground and on the cut-off post. Then you put the post back together with breakaway pieces that go through the front and back of the brackets.

If anything hits the mailbox, the release pins break and the post simply falls over. "They work. I know because I've had them on my own mailbox for 10 years," says Grieder. "It takes only about 10 minutes to replace broken release pins. It'll pay for itself the first time it releases."

The kit comes complete with brackets, bolts, extra release pins, assembly and installation instructions, and a 30-day money-back guarantee.

Sells for \$44 plus \$12 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Grieder, Rt. 1, Box 11, Carlock, Ill. 61725 (ph 309 376-3791).



Steel brackets bolt onto a 4 by 4 wood post and consist of four front and rear pieces as well as four side pieces.



The idea is to cut the post off 3 in. above the ground and put matching brackets on the stub in the ground and on the cut-off post. Then you put the post back together with breakaway pieces that go through front and back of brackets. Photo on right shows all parts included in kit.

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Batter is measured and dropped automatically onto a large round griddle which is rotated slowly by a 120-volt AC motor. An umbrella provides shade for the operator.

Machine Makes Perfect Pancakes Automatically

By Janis Schole

Making a large number of pancakes in a short amount of time has never been easier.

Michael Rademacher of Lacombe, Alberta has invented a machine capable of making 380 pancakes per hour – and all the operator has to do is mix the batter and re-fill the machine as needed.

Rademacher, a machinist, designed and perfected the rig in his spare time over a two year period.

Batter is measured and dropped automatically onto a large round griddle which is rotated slowly by a 120-volt AC motor. After one complete revolution, an automatic flipper turns them over. After another revolution, a flipper slides them off onto a pan. One pancake is finished every nine seconds.

Electricity powers an onboard compressor which runs the air-operated flippers and batter dispenser. An old propane tank serves as an air reservoir.

The grill is heated by propane. Two 20-lb. tanks mount under the frame. The batter dispenser is removable and holds enough to make about 75 pancakes when full. This provides ample time to mix up a new batch of batter using an electric drill and a 5-gal. paint.

An umbrella provides shade for the opera-

tor, as well as protection from wind that would otherwise affect the griddle temperature.

The automatic pancake maker is mounted on wheels so it can be moved around.

Rademacher says entrepreneurs are interested in the machines for fairs, rodeos and carnivals. He estimates it costs about 15 cents for the ingredients in a pancake, so if they sell for \$2 for four, there'd be a nice profit.

"The machine itself quickly draws crowds, as people gather around to watch it produce perfect pancakes all by itself," he says.

Rademacher, who owns an industrial machine shop, says the machines are priced at \$10,000 (Canadian).

"We originally developed this machine as an attention-getter for our business. We wanted to make it known that we can do more than just farm repairs," Rademacher explains.

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