

### “Oxygen Cylinder” Wind Chimes

“They produce a unique sound you won’t hear anywhere else. What’s more, we’ll customize them with your farm name, favorite equipment manufacturer, etc.,” says Brad Miller of Ridgeville Corners, Ohio, who recently called FARM SHOW to tell us about the wind chimes he makes from used welding oxygen cylinders.

The wind chimes measure anywhere from 2 in. dia, 12 in. long to 7 in. dia., 5 ft. long. The biggest ones can weigh up to 180 lbs. The chimes are equipped with an eye-bolt hook on top and a wooden paddle at the end of a chain that runs up inside the cylinder.

To make the chimes, Miller cuts off the bottom part of the cylinder. He then drills a hole on top the size of the eye-bolt and taps threads into it. The chain which attaches to the eye-bolt runs through a small wood ball. As wood catches the wood flapper at the bottom of the chain, the ball strikes the walls of the cylinder.

“It makes a nice conversation piece and produces a unique sound,” says Miller. “The sound it makes depends on the cylinder’s diameter. The biggest ones sound like a ship’s bells as it comes into harbor. All of the tones will be substantially lower than what you hear with commercial pipe

chimes. Most people like the lower tones.

“I started out making them for neighbors and family members. I’ve custom made chimes with Bobcat, Case-IH, and Deere logos on them. My brother-in-law is a hog producer so I made one for him that shows a pig eating snacks out of a bowl.

“The smallest cylinders that I use were designed for use in hospitals. I usually cut one or two inches off the bottom of the cylinder, but the length depends on what people want. Sometimes people want the bigger cylinders to be only about 12 in. long. The cost depends on the size and number of custom graphics. Generally the cost for a cylinder under 18 in. long will be less than \$100.”

Miller also makes desk chimes out of small cylinders that he mounts inside a large steel ring. They mount on a stand.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brad Miller, Box 222, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio 43555 (ph 419 267-3819; E-mail: [kjvman@quixnet.net](mailto:kjvman@quixnet.net)).

**Miller cuts the bottoms off air cylinders and inserts an eye-bolt in the top.**



### Reader Recipes

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Reduce heat and continue to cook until beans are tender but still firm. Drain, but do not rinse. Add onion, vinegar, juice, oil, and spices. May be served warm, but they are better cold.

Donna Biewicks

### Tonic

Pour 1 quart of rye whiskey over 2 lbs. juicy beef steak, cut in pieces. Let stand 24 hours. Strain and bottle, take one tablespoon or one wine glass, or as much as you feel you need, three times a day. Good for whatever ails you. From “Cocks, Pots and What-Not’s”

### Chili Pie

1 lb. ground beef  
1 onion  
1 tbsp oil  
1 cup cooked red beans  
1/2 tsp chili powder  
1/2 tsp salt  
1 tbsp Worcestershire Sauce  
8 oz. tomato sauce  
8 oz. package cornbread mix

Brown the ground beef and the chopped onion in the oil. Add the red beans, chili powder, salt, Worcestershire Sauce, a dash of tabasco, and the tomato sauce. Simmer for 15 min. and then pour into a 9-in. pie pan. Make up the cornbread mix as the label directs. Pour over top. Bake at 450 degrees F for 20 min. or until the cornbread is done. Invert on a platter. [www.recipezaar.com](http://www.recipezaar.com)

### Prop-Driven Generator Captures Water Power

Any stream of water at least a foot deep and running at more than 2 mph can provide reliable low-level power with an Aquair UW Submersible Generator.

Developed to keep batteries charged on towed barges in the North Sea oil field, the Aquair can produce up to 2.4 kwh per day. Running 24 hours per day at 6 amps per hour, that’s enough to power a small refrigerator or other similar appliance or run a number of lights, says Jack Scenge.



**Three-bladed prop can produce up to 2.4 kwh per day.**

Jack Rabbit Energy Systems, importer of the Aquair UW.

“If you have modest needs, such as a vacation cabin, it can back up pretty near the whole thing,” says Scenge. “We have one customer with six units in one stream.”

The sealed unit is oil filled. A shroud can be placed around the standard 1/2-in. dia., three-bladed prop if weeds or fishing lines are a problem. A propeller guard can also be added to protect the unit from floating debris. A smaller prop also is available for higher speed flows.

Scenge suggests anchoring the unit from shore or mounting it in a length of culvert pipe to create a Venturi effect. Placing timber, rocks or other material to divert water towards the unit will also create a more rapid flow. Each mph of stream flow produces about an amp, according to Scenge.

“The important thing is for the stream to be near the energy shed or the end use,” he says. “The farther away from the stream, the bigger the wire cable has to be. Most of our customers have been within a couple hundred feet, and 8-10 gauge wire is enough.”

Scenge hasn’t heard of any situations where special permits or approvals are needed to mount the submersible; however, it may be a good idea to check with your state Department of Natural Resources before investing in a unit. The \$995 cost for the generator and voltage regulator can buy quite a bit of electricity. Yet, if the only alternative is bringing in electrical service, it may make sense. And the unit is portable so you can move it between locations. Jack Rabbit Energy Systems sells a complete line of inverters, batteries and other energy accessories.

Contact: FARM SHOW Follow-up: Jack Scenge, Jack Rabbit Energy Systems, 425 Fairfield Ave., Stamford, Ct. 06902 (ph 203 961-8133; fax 203 961-0382; E-mail: [jackrabbitenergy@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jackrabbitenergy@worldnet.att.net); Website: [www.jackrabbitmarine.com](http://www.jackrabbitmarine.com)).

### Pot Has Built-In Strainer

“It’s the only pot with a strainer built right into the lid,” says Pensofal, manufacturer of a new line of non-stick cookware.

The just-patented aluminum pots feature a raised layer of non-stick coating that makes them



**Pot has strainer built right into lid.**

easy to clean. Each cover has two layers with a knob in the center. When cooking, you turn the knob closed to keep steam in. To strain pasta, potatoes, or vegetables, you turn the knob to open the strainer holes and tip the pot upside down. The cover locks in place.

The line of cookware will be available in stores everywhere. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pensofal USA Corp., 900 Commerce Dr., Sult 204, Oakbrook, Ill. 60523 (ph 630 368-5560; E-mail: [info@pensofal.com](mailto:info@pensofal.com); Website: [www.pensofal.com](http://www.pensofal.com)).

### Rolling “Bass Boat”

If you like to fish small lakes or ponds but don’t want to spend the money on an expensive boat, you’ll like this new portable, 8-ft. long “boat with wheels”. It’s designed to fit into any full-size pickup bed, eliminating the need for a trailer.



**Portable, 8-ft. long boat is designed to fit any full-size pickup bed.**

The “Bass Baby” is equipped with two swivel chairs and comes with a trolling motor that mounts on the front or back of the boat. The boat measures 54 in. wide, 96 in. long, and 18 in. high. It’s designed to fit between the pickup’s wheel wells with the tailgate closed. It has a one-piece poly hull so there are no seams to crack or split. A pair of large poly wheels on front and eight molded-in handles make it easy to pull the boat by hand when putting it in the water. The boat weighs just 140 lbs. so you can load or unload it by yourself.

The two swivel seat frames slide along the full length of the boat. Molded into the interior is a ruler to size fish, and compartments for holding tackle, gear and beverages. The boat can be stood on end to save storage space.

Sells for \$499 plus S&H. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Connect-A-Dock, Inc., 1000 Flag Road, Adair, Iowa 50002 (ph 877 742-3071 or 614 742-3071; fax 641 742-3624; E-mail: [steve@ssi-ia.com](mailto:steve@ssi-ia.com); Website: [www.bassbaby.com](http://www.bassbaby.com)).