

Editor's Notebook



Mark Newhall
Editor & Publisher

Readers To Editor: "You Need To Get Out More!"

I heard from 50 or so faithful readers about last issue's story on the "world's first" underwater bridge in Scandinavia. Turns out there's a very similar bridge in the U.S. – and it's been in operation since 1964!



Photo shows one point where the Chesapeake Bay Bridge heads underwater to allow ships to pass.

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel runs between Virginia Beach, Va., and Virginia's Eastern Shore. Selected as one of the "Seven Engineering Wonders of the Modern World" in the 1960's, it measures 17.6 miles from shore-to-shore and has two 1-mile long "underwater bridges" and four man-made islands. Along the way are observation piers where tourists can stop to watch ships and Navy submarines travel through the openings created by the underwater passageways.

Thanks to everyone for setting me straight. I definitely need to get out more!

Lazy Man's Garden

Frequent FARM SHOW contributor Dan Krenzel recently wrote to tell us about his "lazy man's" way to garden. He originally got the idea from a woman named Ruth Stout who wrote a book called "Ruth Stout's No Work Gardening".

The idea is simple, and you might have seen a similar idea with carpet or newspaper. But Krenzel says cardboard is somewhere in the middle in terms of ease of use and durability.

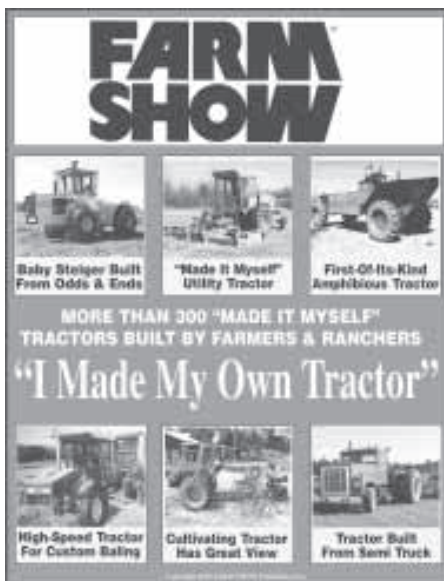
In the fall, you simply lay down large pieces of cardboard right over untilled ground. It doesn't matter how grassy or weedy the ground is. Secure the edges with rocks or stakes.

Come spring, the cardboard will still be there and will have molded itself to the contour of the ground. Beneath it, all vegetation will be dead and the earthworms will be churning away, tilling up the ground for you. When it's time to plant, just cut holes in the cardboard and plant away. As you dig holes for tomato and cucumber plants, you'll notice that, there are a lot more worms under the cardboard as compared to the untouched ground right next to your cardboard garden.

You can cut rows out of the cardboard for vegetables planted in rows.

As the season progresses, Krenzel the ground stays moist in the cardboarded area as compared to the soil around it. "We've had fantastic luck with this method. It's a lot less work and, with no competition from weeds, vegetables grow like I've never seen," Krenzel says.

"There is a saying in Africa: Every morning, a gazelle gets up and knows it must outrun the fastest lion or it will get eaten. And every morning, a lion gets up and knows that it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve. So, whether you are a gazelle or lion, every morning, when you get up, you'd better start running." *Harvey Mackay*



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How To Restore A Farmall

We don't often do book reviews but a book showed up on my desk the other day that seems worth mentioning. It's part of a series of books on how to restore tractors. This one's called "How To Restore Classic Farmall Tractors". I liked it a lot, and I don't even own a Farmall!

Written by Tharran E. Gaines, the book has 224 pages and hundreds of detailed photos that walk the reader step-by-step through a complete restoration. It includes everything from overhauling the engine to redoing the electrical system. What I like about it is how clearly it is written and how much detail is included for each step of a restoration project.

Gaines has written other such books, including "How To Restore Classic John Deere Tractors", so he's got experience with the subject matter. Before getting into the book-writing business, he spent years writing owner and service manuals for all kinds of farm equipment.

The book sells for \$29.95. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Voyageur Press, 123 North Second Street, Stillwater, Minn. 55082 (ph 651 430-2210; website: www.voyageurpress.com).



Liberty Quotes

"A free society cherishes nonconformity. It knows from the non-conformist, from the eccentric, have come many of the great ideas." *Henry Steele Commager*

"The Constitution was made to guard the people against the dangers of good intentions." *Daniel Webster*

"For a list of all the ways technology has failed to improve our quality of life, please press 3." *Alice Kahn*

"You will find that the State is the kind of organization which, though it does big things badly, does small things badly, too." *John Kenneth Galbraith*

"If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in 5 years there'd be a shortage of sand." *Milton Friedman*

"The avoidance of taxes is the only intellectual pursuit that carries any reward." *John Maynard Keynes*

"The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin." *Mark Twain*

"I express many absurd opinions. But I am not the first man to do it; American freedom consists largely in talking nonsense." *Edgar Watson Howe*

"The man who views the world at 50 the same way he did at 20 has wasted 30 years of his life." *Mohammed Ali*

Looking For A Show?

If you're looking for a farm show to visit this fall or winter, just go to our web site (www.farmshow.com) for a comprehensive listing of shows around North America. (If you're not on the internet, you can usually log on at your local library.)

Go to the "links" section of our website and click on "Farm Shows". There you'll find a list of all the major farm equipment shows throughout the year along with dates, location, number of exhibitors, and information on who to contact.

And if you're planning an overseas trip, we've got a list of foreign shows, too.

Advice For Aging Hipsters

Take a trip to a local mall you'll see many people over 50 who are confused. To help them out, here's a list of things that DO NOT go together:

1. A nose ring and bifocals
2. Spiked hair and bald spots
3. A pierced tongue and dentures
4. Miniskirts and support hose
5. Ankle bracelets and corn pads
6. Speedos and cellulite
7. A belly button ring and a gall bladder surgery scar
8. Unbuttoned disco shirts and a heart monitor
9. Midriff shirts and a midriff bulge
10. Bikinis and liver spots
11. Short shorts and varicose veins
12. Inline skates and a walker
13. Thongs and Depends

Explaining High Fuel Prices

A lot of folks can't understand how we came to have an oil shortage here in America. There's a very simple answer. Nobody bothered to check the oil. We just didn't know we were getting low.

The reason for that is purely geographical. Our oil is located in places like Alaska, California, Oklahoma, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas.....

But all our "dipsticks" are located in Washington, D.C.!!!

A friend of mine was at a college football game last fall when he heard a student challenge a senior citizen sitting next to him, saying it was impossible for the older generation to understand the younger generation. "You grew up in a different world," the student said loud enough for the whole crowd to hear. "Today we have television, jet planes, space travel, man has walked on the Moon, our spaceships have visited Mars, we even have nuclear energy, electric and hydrogen cars, computers with light-speed processing....and, uh..."

Taking advantage of the pause in the student's litany, the elderly gentleman said, "You're right. We didn't have those things when we were young. So we invented them, you little twit! What the heck are you doing for the next generation?"