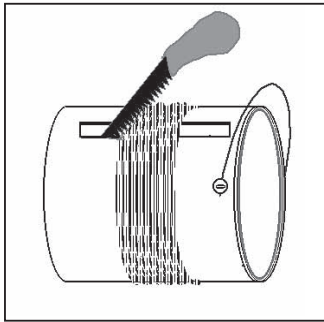


Robert Mork, Sevierville, Tenn.: "A fellow in your last issue wrote in complaining that his Dixon ZTR mower left bad streaks of unmowed grass. The problem might be a sprung deck shell. If that's it, you have to clamp the deck to a work bench and clamp a 2 by 4 to the other end and tweak it back into shape. If the deck is not the problem, jack the mower up to see if the blades are all on the same plane. If one is higher than another, shim it down to the lowest blade height. Also, with the mower sitting on a level surface, measure all four corners to see if the rollers/bogie wheels are set at the right depth. One of the deck hangars might also be binding."

Frank Dyck, La Crete, Alberta: "I bought an old IH 241 round baler that gave me a lot of trouble. It had trouble starting a bale because the smooth steel rollers wouldn't grip the hay or belts properly. I solved the problem by wrapping old belting around the feed and drive rollers, pop riveting it into place. It works fine now."

"I hung an 18-in. long piece of plastic pipe with a length of rope through it to make a sling above my vise to support baler belting while I relacing a torn belt. Very handy."

Ron Stadler, Monroe, Mich.: "I have a lot of feed bags to tie and I didn't want to



have to cut string off a ball of twine all the time. So I came up with an idea that lets me quickly make up a batch of strings about 1 ft. long.

"I just took a 1 gal. paint can and cut a slot in the side. Then I wrap binder twine around the pail 150 times and run a knife through the slot, cutting all the twine. Gives me 150 pieces of twine all the same length."

Antique Cast Iron Wheels, Axles For Sale

"Anyone who has an antique one-lunger gas engine and would like to show it off will be interested in my antique cast iron wheels and axles. They can be used to make an antique engine-hauling cart that really looks great," says Ben Barwick, Sumter, S.C.

Barwick gets his wheels from a manufacturing plant that went out of business. They range in size from 10 to 16 in. in diameter and have a 2-in. wide tread. They're available in several different hub designs. Some have roller bearings, and some don't.

The wheels came off old 5-ft. long, 30-in. wide steel carts that were used to haul lumber around furniture manufacturing plants. "I bought the wheels from a local man who helped tear down the furniture making plant," says Barwick. "As far as I know you can't buy wheels like these anywhere else. You can find cast iron wheels for sale in gas engine magazines, but those wheels just have straight spokes with no circles or designs."

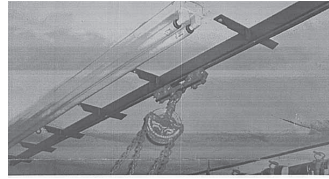
Collectors of antique gas engines often build carts with two wheels in the middle and a swivel wheel at each end.

Barwick has more than 200 pairs of wheels on hand. "So far I've sold about 100 pair of

Alton Ridings, Hazel, Ky.: "I have discovered that Sta-Bil fuel stabilizer liquid works great to 'unstuck' motors. It's better than penetrating oil, in my opinion."

John W. Apple, Middletown, Ohio: "If you need to solder a copper pipe but can't get water to stop dripping where you want to solder, here's an idea. Push bread into the pipe until the water stops dripping. The bread will eventually dissolve and flush out."

Rob Sharp, Watford, Ontario: "I came up with a handy overhead hoist and wheels in my shop using a section of barn door track that I bolted to the ceiling. The track is welded

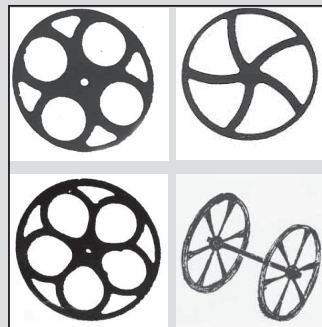


to 18-in. lengths of angle iron that are spaced 2 ft. apart and bolted to the ceiling joists. Two sets of wheels are mounted on a 14-in. spreader bar to distribute the weight over a larger area of track. I paid \$25 for the track, which I bought new, plus about \$20 for the wheels. A big benefit is that it doesn't take up a lot of headroom in my shop, which has a low 9-ft. ceiling. The track hangs no lower than the ceiling's fluorescent lights. The hoist can lift loads up to 500 lbs. or more.

"The track is set in line with my overhead shop door, so if I want I can drive my pickup into the shop and use the hoist to lift a load directly onto it. Works great for lifting engines and other loads. The same idea could be modified to work just about anywhere. For example, it would work great for picking up objects off the floor and placing them on a work bench."

Doug Clark, Goderich, Ontario: "I mix automatic transmission fluid, either new or used, with kerosene 50 - 50 for use as a penetrating oil, air tool oil (new transmission fluid only), and cutting oil for our drill press and lathe. It also works great for breaking the bead on stubborn tires."

Neon A. Stewart, Gordon, Texas: "The General Motors Frigidaire A6 compressor that operates the air conditioner on my Deere 4040 tractor kept failing. The problem was that the clutch continually locked up. I had



Barwick makes a wide variety of cast iron wheels, and also sets of wheels on axles.

wheels, but I'd like to sell them all. Customers will have to come to my place to pick them up," he notes.

An axle and two wheels with bearings sells for \$50; \$45 without bearings. Swivel wheels sell for \$10 apiece.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, B.T. Barwick, 40 Sandle Wood Lane, Sumter, S.C. 29154 (ph 803 481-2194).

FARM SHOW

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.

These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: editor@farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor

to replace the compressor three times in one year. Even a rebuilt compressor costs about \$225 so it got expensive.

"To solve the problem, I removed the compressor and replaced it with a modified Denso compressor that came out of my 1987 Ford pickup. The Denso compressor is the same one that's used on Deere's 50 Series tractors and is much more reliable than the Frigidaire model. Deere offers a conversion kit that makes the Frigidaire compressor work like a Denso, but it sells for about \$900.

"I made several modifications to the Frigidaire compressor. I installed a new dryer and also pulled a vacuum to remove any moisture inside the compressor. I bought a new fan belt, and I also had to buy a new hose that goes from the compressor to the condenser and spliced it into the low pressure hose that leads to the evaporator. I also made new mounting brackets for the compressor.

"I made this conversion three years ago and it has worked out great. The Denso clutch is built much heavier than the Frigidaire model - I've never had a clutch fail. Now it's the coldest air conditioner on my place."

Carter M. Ramsey, Saint Simons Island, Ga.: "My Yanmar 22 hp 4-WD tractor tended to run hot whenever I worked it hard; for example, when plowing or disking to build wildlife food plots for our hunting club. To solve the problem, I went to our local NAPA store and bought a 12-in. automotive electric fan designed for a Buick LeSabre. I bolted the fan to a metal bracket that bolts onto the tractor's radiator frame.

"I removed the original thermostat switch and wired the fan to a replacement thermostat switch that I installed on the engine block. The fan automatically comes on whenever the engine temperature goes above 180 degrees. It lowers the engine temperature by up to 20 degrees. The fan turns off as soon as the engine cools back down.

"For extra protection, I also installed a screen in front of the tractor's radiator in order to keep debris off the fan. I paid about \$60 for the fan. I've used this idea for three years now. No more overheating problems."

Steven A. Foster, Menomonie, Wis.: "I sloped my shop floor to a drain, making it easier to clean equipment and to wash down the floor. I also installed radiant in-floor heat so the floor dries quicker after being wet dur-

ing the heating season. In-floor heat is also really nice for working under vehicles."

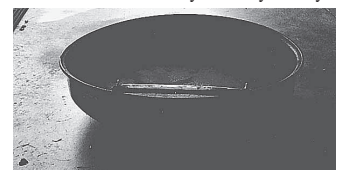
David A. Miller, Smicksburg, Penn.: "I was in the middle of a spray job with my Wagener Spray Tech sprayer when it quit working. I discovered it had a dry rotted seal, and I didn't have any replacement seals. So I put a "Little Green Cheerio" castrating band in place on the inlet valve. It worked great."

Jason Jay, Fort Ripley, Minn.: "I use canning wax to loosen rusted bolts, pipes, and nuts. I just heat up the part and then push wax onto the threads. It lubes the threads and makes everything easier to take apart. It's an old trick, but a lot of people have never heard of it."

Victor Daniels, Sterline, Mich.: "I find that Turtle Wax bug and tar remover 'wipes' work great for cleaning fluorescent light bulbs. The wipes will take off the glue from the price stickers and labels on new bulbs."



Buddy Hoopes, Beloit, Ohio: "Many companies sell battery-powered drills, but I have yet to see one that's equipped with a hang-up hook. So I use nylon ties to make my own hang-up hooks, and they work great. It lets me hang the drill on an S-hook on my belt. Also, I keep hooks on my work table and table saw where they're always handy."



"I converted an ordinary grain bin lid into a handy, rolling 'tote pan'. It works great for