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3-Wheel "Trike" Has One Wheel On Back

"My dad and I recently built this one-of-a-kind 3-wheeler. It's a handy vehicle to drive around at swap meets and threshing bees," says 14-year-old Tom Monsen of Chaska, Minn.

He calls the rig their "Ekirt" ("trike" spelled backwards). It rides on a single 16 by 14 Goodyear Super terra-Grip tire on back and two 16 by 6.5 tires on front. The frame is made from sq. tubing.

"Our thinking was that with just the one tire on back we wouldn't need a differential," says Tom.

Power is provided by an Enduro 5 hp engine, which shaft-drives a torque converter. It chain-drives a jackshaft that chain-drives the rear tire. The rig's handlebars, brake and throttle are off an old Motoski snowmobile.

The seat came from a Husky snowmobile. It has room for up to four people. There's even a hitch on back for pulling a wagon.

"It handles great and is stable and maneuverable," says Tom. "Dad and I spent half a summer building it in our spare time. It'll go



Power is provided by an Enduro 5 hp engine, which shaft-drives a torque converter. It chain-drives a jackshaft that chain-drives rig's single rear tire.

as fast as 16 mph or as slow as 2 mph. It also has good pulling power. The largest load we ever pulled was 400 lbs. in a wagon with four people on the seat. We were able to go uphill in the mud, despite having a flat tire."

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Dave Dam and his self-propelled bar stool. It pulls a 2-wheeled trailer with a barbecue grill and an old 1919 root beer barrel turned into a cooler.

Self-Propelled Bar Stool

We found Dave Dam tooling around on a self-propelled bar stool at a recent antique tractor show. It was pulling a 2-wheeled trailer with a barbecue grill and an old 1919 root beer barrel turned into a cooler. Laid horizontally, the keg has a hinged lid cut into one side. A keg beer tap mounts on back of the cooler.

"It's a real conversation piece at shows and works great for cooking brats and supplying refreshments at picnics," says Dam.

The bar stool is powered by a 5 1/2 hp Honda engine and rides on pneumatic wheels designed for a riding mower. The engine chain-drives a centrifugal clutch. The driver sits on a real bar stool equipped with a foam-

covered seat. The controls include a clutch, disc brakes, and throttle. There's a kill switch under the seat, as well as a bicycle horn and bottle holder.

"I built it myself but bought most of the components from someone who used to sell a kit for self-propelled bar stools," says Dam. "Most of the components are the same ones used on go-carts. The rear axle has two sprockets, one for high gear and one for low. I've never run it at full throttle in high gear, but it would probably go 30 to 35 mph."

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Matt and Ken Schindeldecker "self-propelled" a Radio Flyer toy wagon with a Honda 4 hp gas engine. Matt's 4-year-old son Brady rides in a smaller wagon.

Gas-Powered Radio Flyer Turns Heads

"It's a lot of fun to drive and gets a lot of attention wherever I take it," says Matt Schindeldecker of Farmington, Minn., who, along with his dad Ken, "self-propelled" a Radio Flyer toy wagon with a Honda 4 hp gas engine.

FARM SHOW found Schindeldecker driving the rig at the recent Little Log House and Antique Power Show near Hastings, Minn. He was using the machine to pull his 4-year-old son Brady, who was sitting on a smaller wagon mounted on a 2-wheeled trailer.

They cut the rear axle and wheels off a Montgomery Ward garden tractor to serve as the back end and bought new wheels on front. The rear wheels are equipped with chrome hub caps off a Peterbilt semi truck, while the chrome hub caps on front are air horn covers. The trailer wheels have chrome hubcaps to match.

They used stainless steel to build the frame that supports the wagon as well as the front axle. The steering column is from a Ford model T car. The seat is custom made and consists of a piece of plywood covered with foam and vinyl.

The Honda engine chain-drives a centrifugal clutch, and from there a jackshaft chain-drives the rear end. The rig still has the garden tractor's original transmission.

The ride is cushioned by a pair of big rear-mounted springs off a Cushman truckster, with a pair of smaller springs on front. The rig has the garden tractor's original exhaust, with a stainless steel header welded onto it. The exhaust was flipped upside down in order to clear the wagon. The tractor's original foot-operated gas pedal is connected by cable to the carburetor. The disc brakes are also original.

"It turned out quite well," says Ken. "Dad did all the fabrication and I did all the painting. We bought the 2-wheeled trailer but used 1-in. sq. tubing to make a new frame and tongue for it. We used aluminum ladder bars to make the frame. We got the gas tank from a neighbor."

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Dink Taylor built this "Wheelie Tractor". It's an early 1960's riding mower painted Massey Harris yellow and Farnall red, equipped with a pair of 3-in. dia. aluminum mufflers on front. A pair of 4-in. wheels on back are used for steering.



"The Wheelie Tractor"

"People always look twice when they see me coming," says Dink Taylor of Wingate, N.C., about his home-built "Wheelie Tractor".

The "Wheelie Tractor" is an early 1960's riding mower painted Massey Harris yellow and Farnall red, equipped with a pair of 3-in. dia. aluminum mufflers on front. But what makes the tractor really unique are a pair of 4-in. wheels on back, which are used for steering. Taylor extended the steering wheel and seat back 2 ft. to provide the proper balance so when he lets out the clutch, the tractor stands on its rear wheels with the front wheels up in the air.

"It gets a second look when people hear and see me coming. The loud pipes and face on front of the tractor add to the fun and excitement of it," says Taylor. "It's pretty unique. I even wear a yellow cap that says 'Taylor made' on it.

"It took some trial and error to get the seat and steering wheel balanced so the tractor stands on its rear wheels."

Driving the one-of-a-kind tractor takes some getting used to, says Taylor, because the rear wheels steer opposite of the way you'd think they would. "For example, when I turn the steering wheel to the right the rear wheels go in the opposite direction as the front wheels. The only time the front wheels are used to steer is when I go in reverse, which causes the rear wheels to come up and the front wheels to go down."

The rear "wheelie" wheels mount inside a heavy steel tube frame.

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