

Editor's Notebook



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As far as we know, no one has ever pulled together a collection of garden tractor ideas like this one. For a limited time, it's available free with a new or renewal subscription.

Look What They're Doing With Garden Tractors

We Think You'll Like This Book

Even though I've been writing FARM SHOW stories for 34 years, I'm always amazed when we go back into our story archives and see how many stories we've had on a particular topic. In the case of our latest new book, "Look What They're Doing With Garden Tractors", we found hundreds of stories on repowers, rebuilds, and modifications that are just as relevant today as the day they were written.

I think you'll be amazed at some of the ingenious ways the hundreds of innovators featured in this 168-page book reconfigured all kinds of mini tractors. Some of my favorites include tractors made into mobile generators, pumping stations, mini dump trucks, high-speed racers, and more. We also included some of the best maintenance ideas for servicing small tractors, and many home-built accessories to take care of jobs around the farm.

For a limited time, you can get a free copy of this first-of-its-kind book with a new or renewal subscription. Or you can buy a copy for \$9.95 plus \$4.95 S&H (just one charge no matter how many books or other products you purchase).

Order 24/7 at our website www.farmshow.com (Paypal, Amazon and credit cards) or send in the order coupon on page 44 in this issue.

Any questions? Email me: mark@farmshow.com.



Twine strings stretched across top of poultry pen keep flying predators from attacking birds.

How To Stop Hawks, Owls

Here's an idea we spotted at the online blog Hillbilly Mom (www.hillbillymom08.blogspot.com) for keeping flying predators like hawks, owls, and eagles away from pastured poultry. Some people use bird netting but it's expensive and can be easily torn by winter snows or falling branches. That's why we liked the way Hillbilly Mom simply used twine. She wrapped 18-ga. rings of wire around a tree that stands at the center of her chicken pen. Then she ran lengths of twine from the perimeter fence to the wire loops. She spaced the twine about 10 in. apart on the fence. She's experienced no losses to predators and the price was right.



Kendra Kramer helped weld a grain box onto the back of a Ford LTL 9000. She drives the truck so often she decided to pose in front of it for her high school graduation photos.

Grad Poses With "Her" Truck

It's not unusual for a farm girl to pose in front of farm equipment for graduation photos, but not too many girls actually helped build the equipment. That's the case with Kendra Kramer, 19, of Herman, Minn. Everyone considers this 1995 Ford semi tractor fitted with a big cargo box to be "Kendra's truck".

According to her uncle, Bob, who watched her passion for farming develop at an early age, the Ford LTL 9000 had an 18-ft. frame behind the cab, ideal for mounting the box. So they removed the 5th wheel plate and welded a hinge for a new hoist on back. Kendra did about half the welding and helped hook up the pto, hydraulics and dump controls. With a pup trailer behind, it hauls as much as a semi and is easier to drive and makes tighter turns. Kendra drives it all the time, hauling 15-ton loads of dry fertilizer in the spring and up to 80,000-lb. loads of corn and beans in the fall.

Kendra plans to earn a 2-year agricultural management degree and then come home to work on the farm.



With help from family and friends, 14-year-old cancer survivor Austin Rhoda restored this 1950 Deere B so he could raffle it off to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.

Teen Raffles Off Restored Tractor

When Austin Rhoda, Chenoa, Ill., was 8 years old, he was diagnosed with leukemia. He survived 6 years of treatment directed by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. He and his family know they owe his life to the hospital so Austin, now 14, wants to give back. He and his father, Todd, and family friend, Paul Graves, restored a 1950 John Deere B and are auctioning it off with \$10 raffle tickets. The winner will be selected on August 12. To enter, contact the family by email at: tractorjd@hotmail.com.

Liberty Quotes

"The business of America is not business. Neither is it war. The business of America is justice and securing the blessings of liberty." *George Will*

"Humanity's most valuable assets have been the non-conformists. Were it not for the non-conformists, who refuse to be satisfied to go along with the continuance of things as they are and insist upon attempting to find new ways of bettering things, the world would have known little progress indeed." *Josiah William Gitt*

"The urge to save humanity is almost always a false-face for the urge to rule it." *H.L. Mencken*

"It is a mindless philosophy that assumes that one's private beliefs have nothing to do with public office. Does it make sense to entrust those who are immoral in private with the power to determine the nation's moral issues and, indeed, its destiny?" *Dr. Ravi Zacharias*

"Freedom does not always win. This is one of the bitterest lessons of history." *A.J.P. Taylor*

"Love your country but fear its government." *Daniel Webster*

"Never blame a legislative body for not doing something. When they do nothing, that don't hurt anybody. When they do something is when they become dangerous." *Will Rogers*

"If a jury does not have the right to judge between the government and those who disobey its laws, the government is absolute, and the people, legally speaking, are slaves." *Lysander Spooner*



Starting at about 3 weeks, pack-raised pups are taken out on pasture to learn from mature livestock guard dogs.

Pack-Raised Guard Dogs Fight Harder

When contributing editor Jim Ruen was working on his story about spiked collars for livestock guard dogs (see page 4), he was intrigued to hear about a method used by Brenda Negri to raise guard dogs to make them capable of fighting off the increasing threats of wolves, mountain lions and packs of coyotes. The idea is to raise guard dogs in packs so they bond as a family. In the event of an attack, she has found that dogs raised this way will fight together to defend the livestock they're protecting.



Negri recommends putting different breeds together to take advantage of each dog's particular skill set.

At about 3 weeks of age, Negri takes pups out to the pastures where the mothers work with other guard dogs on a daily basis. There the pups quickly learn the importance of working as a team with other dogs and they bond with each other and with livestock. She says the best groups of guard dogs include dogs of different breeds, some of which are perimeter animals that circle the flock while others work at a distance, scouting for problem predators.

Negri is an expert on many large breeds of guard dogs, which mostly originate in Europe. You can contact her at her ranch in Winnemucca, Nev., at 775 623-6292 or by email at Igdnevada@gmail.com. Her website is: www.Igdnevada.com.

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One Way To Get A Raise

Employee: Excuse me sir. May I talk to you?

Boss: What can I do for you?

Employee: Well, as you know, I have been a loyal employee of this firm for over 10 years. So I won't beat around the bush. I would like a raise.

Boss: I would love to give you a raise, but this is just not the right time.

Employee: I understand your position but I should tell you that I have four companies after me. To be fair, I decided I should tell you about their interest in me.

Boss: Well, I don't want to start losing good people. I'm willing to offer you a 6 percent raise and an extra 5 days vacation time. How does that sound?

Employee: Great! It's a deal. Thank you sir!

Boss: Before you go, just out of curiosity, what companies are after you?

Employee: Oh, the electric company, gas company, water company and the mortgage company.

Taxiing down a runway, the jetliner abruptly stopped, turned around, and returned to the gate. After an hour-long wait it finally took off.

A concerned passenger asked a flight attendant, "What was the problem?"

"The pilot was bothered by a noise he heard in the engine," the flight attendant explained, "and it took us a while to find another pilot."

Lena walked in the front door and told Ole, "Dere's trouble vit da car. It hass vater in da carburetor."

Ole questioned, "Vater in da carburetor? Dat's ridiculous." Lena insisted, "Ole, I tell yew da car has vater in da carburetor."

Ole scoffed, "Yew don't efen know vhat a carburetor is. I'll check it out. Vhere's da car?"

Lena answered, "In da lake."