lubricant?' It comes in a tube with a needle injector that makes it easy to use in tight places, and it only takes a drop or two to get the job done. Does anyone know where to buy it, or have the recipe to replenish my supply?"

Rich Connor, Harrisonburg, Va.: "Here's an easy way to fix a string trimmer head. Drill 4 or 6 small holes around the circumference of the head, then cut a string for each hole about 6 in. long. Run a string through each hole and tie a knot firmly in one end."

Donnie Averkamp, Cuba City, Wis.: "If you have a wood miter saw that you don't use a lot, you can easily convert it to a metal chop saw. Just take off the dust bag and replace the original miter saw blade with a metal chop saw blade. Be sure to use the same size blade. I made this conversion years ago and it works good."

Jeff Sundermeyer, Apollo Marketing Group, 1000 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Suite 6353, Suwanee, Ga. 30024 ph 404 931-4620; www.apollobrand.com: "Our new SmartGlove has a lot of unique features that make it perfect for any tough job. An LED light is attached inside a pocket between the thumb and pointer finger. By pressing down on the pocket, you can shine the light directly on your working area. There's a powerful magnet at the top of the glove to hold small parts and can also be used to hold the gloves together when they're not being worn. Or to stick the gloves to a toolbox so they won't get lost.

"The back side of the glove is made from spandex and the front side from a patented no slip, bio-grip fabric. The glove is oil and water-resistant. Its pointer finger is equipped with a touch screen-friendly fingertip, so you can use a smartphone, cell phone or touch pad computer without having to remove the glove. All the fingertips have guards. The thumb area of the glove is fitted with a Terry Cloth Eyebrow sweat wipe, and the top has a Velcro strap that offers carpal protection.

"The glove is available in orange, blue and black. Sells for $29.99 plus S&H."

Parts Washer Uses Air To Clean

Instead of using an electric motor to pump solvent, this new portable parts washer uses your existing air compressor.

"It saves on the cost of replacing electric motors, which can easily plug up with grease that gets inside the bearings and impeller," says inventor Mark Cain, noting that the new washer easily rolls around the shop.

The parts washer is equipped with a 34 by 20-in. wash tank with a hinged metal lid that's kept open by a spring. The wash tank mounts above a 5-gal. pressure tank mounted on 4 caster wheels. A 10-gal. solvent tank mounts above the wash tank, which contains a metal screen used to separate dirt and grease from the part.

A regulator valve mounted underneath the wash tank hooks up to your air compressor and is used to control the solvent flow. After pouring solvent in the wash tank, simply hook up the compressor to the regulator valve, and then open a valve to put the solvent under pressure.

The solvent is forced through a hollow wash wand equipped with long bristles. "It results in better flow, and the long bristles let you get down inside the parts and do a better job of cleaning them," says Cain. "After the part has been washed you can use the unit's air gun to dry it off."

BadBoy parts washer uses your existing air compressor, saving the cost of replacing electric motors that plug up with grease.

Sells for $499 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Badboy Blasters, Inc., 1720 Wallace Ave. N.E., Canton, Ohio 44705 (ph 330 454-2699 or 330 413-5262; badboyblasters@sbcglobal.net; www.badboyblasters.com).

A 27-in. long threaded rod fits inside a 44-in. length of threaded pvc pipe. A nut and washer serves as a spacer and allows the threaded rod to be adjusted in and out.

Tie Rod "Adjuster Tool"

When the tie rod wore out on Darrell Cooper's Ford F-250 pickup, he replaced it. But instead of paying to have the front end aligned, he came up with a tool to adjust the toe-in himself.

"It lets me know how much I need to adjust the end of the tie rod so that it fits snug. I know how many turns I need to make so the tires will be in alignment and won't wear prematurely," says Cooper.

The tool consists of a 27-in. long, 5/8-in. dia. threaded rod that fits inside a 44-in. length of 1-in. O.D. threaded pvc pipe. A nut and washer serves as a spacer and allows the threaded rod to be adjusted in and out.

To use the tool, Cooper measures the distance between the 2 front tires before he removes the tie rod end, then threads the rod into the pipe. Then he places the pipe end of the tool against one tire and the threaded rod against the other.

"I used it for the first time last year and it worked perfectly. I think the same idea would also work on other pickup brands," says Cooper. "The distance between the front sides of both tires should be about 1/16 in. shorter than between the back sides so the vehicle will drive true. If you install an aftermarket tie rod brand the threads might not be exactly the same as on the original tie rod. In that case you'd want to measure everything before you remove the original tie rod ends, so that you can get pretty close to the original measurement."

(D.C. from Mo.)

U-shaped "blade bar puller" makes it easier to remove the blade bar from the gearbox on a bush hog mower.

Blade Bar Puller For Mower Repairs

"I recently came up with this homemade repair tool that makes it easier to remove the blade bar from the gearbox on a bush hog mower," says Chad Travis, Drasco, Ark.

"I do some repair work for neighbors, and when a man brought me a bush hog to be repaired I could see right away that in order to replace the bearings inside the gearbox, the gearbox would first have to be removed from the mower's cutter deck. A 2 1/2-in. wide by 1 1/2-in. deep blade bar attaches to the gearbox and has to be removed before you can remove the gearbox. The blade bar is attached to the driveshaft with a large key that goes into one side of a collar. However, the blade bar can easily become seized on the driveshaft, and it takes lots of power to remove it. An ordinary wheel bearing puller can't do the job."

To solve the problem, he turned the bush hog's deck upside down. Then he made a U-shaped "blade bar puller" out of 2 pieces of 3/4-in. thick plate steel. Each piece is 18 in. wide and about 16 in. high. The 2 plates set vertically on top of the deck and fit under the blade bar. A pair of rectangular holes near the top of each plate are used to hold a pair of bar stocks made from 1 1/4 by 2 1/4-in. bar stock. Then he places a 30-ton hydraulic bottle jack under each bar stock – one on each side of the blade bar. Since the deck is made from light gauge material, he sets the jack on a piece of 1/2-in. thick plate, which spreads the force out. Pumping the jack pushes the blade bar off the driveshaft.

"The jacks push both bar stocks straight up, which lift the plates up to pull the blade bar off the driveshaft. Once I got everything in place it was easy to do. It took less than 10 min. to get the blade bar off," says Travis. "Cutting out the material and getting everything set up took the most time."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chad Travis, 574 Greers Ferrard, Drasco, Ark. 72530 (ph 870 668-3400).

Anvil-Mounted "Torch Holder"

"I made a small attachment for my shop anvil that holds my cutting torch exactly where I want it. Works great when I'm forging small parts, because I always have access to heat while I'm working," says Robert Stone, Seymour, Mo.

The one-piece attachment slips over the horn of the anvil and rests on top of it. It consists of an L-shaped angle iron bracket with 2 small tabs that hold the torch in place. The tabs are made from 3/32-in. material and are 3/4 in. wide and about 1-in. long. One tab slips into the base area of the torch, between two hoses that supply oxygen and acetylene, while the other tab slips into a space in the torch head.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert L. Stone, 1504 Dillon Rd., Seymour, Mo. 65746 (ph 417 767-4395).

"With my anvil-mounted 'torch holder', I always have access to heat while forging small parts," says Robert Stone.