

applied the brake, the faster the vehicle went. I was lucky I had room to maneuver, and 65 years of driving experience.

"The dealer kept the vehicle for a few days and said the problem was fixed, but soon afterward the same thing happened again. Now they say it's fixed again. But I feel like I'm sitting on a time bomb every time I drive this vehicle. The car has fewer than 20,000 miles on it, but I'm afraid to let my grandkids or wife drive it."

Ronny Davis, Minden, La.: A 1950 **Oliver 77RC** tractor rates as Ronny's all-time "best buy". "I joined a local antique tractor club and have been competing in vintage tractor pulls. It's a strong pulling tractor. I pull in the 4,500-lb. stock class, as well as in 4,500 and 5,000-lb. competitive classes, and this tractor is almost always a trophy winner."

Chuck Angier, Sandy Level, Va.: "In 2008 my 19-ft. fiberglass runabout boat was showing severe deterioration after 20 years of exposure. I was looking at either a new gelcoat or a new boat, but first I went on the Internet to see if there might be any other options. I found a 'too good to be true' product called **Poli-Glow** (www.poliglow-int.com; ph 772 595-5755). Poli-Glow comes in a kit that includes a mitt applicator, scrub pad with handle, and a 32-oz. container which the company says is enough for a 32-ft. boat or RV. It sells for \$52 plus S&H, so I decided to take a chance.

"I followed the instructions exactly and about halfway through the effort, I realized that I had found something really special. After 7 years I still have some of the original product on hand even after the original full treatment and a 'refresher' application about 3 years ago, and another one this year. I continue to receive compliments about the outstanding condition of my old boat."

Poli-Glow is a clear coat product with UV inhibitor that makes faded fiberglass shine like new. It wipes on without the need for rubbing or buffing and lasts up to 12 mo.

Herman Vander Vos, Bozeman, Mont.: "About 6 years ago, I wrote to FARM SHOW praising my **Husqvarna** 48-in. riding mower equipped with a 24 hp Briggs & Stratton

"I've spent more than 70 years operating machinery and have never heard of push rods bending or breaking."

engine. However, last year the engine started running on just one cylinder so I brought it in for repairs. They said that one valve push rod was bent and the other one was broken in half and that part of it had fallen into the bottom of the crankcase. The engine had to be completely dismantled to remove the broken part, which cost \$500.

"Now this year the same problem has happened again, with one push rod bent and the other one completely missing - evidently lying at the bottom of the crankcase again. This time they just left it there and put in new push rods, which cost \$106. The mechanics weren't surprised this problem had happened, but I've spent more than 70 years operating machinery and have never heard of push rods bending or breaking. I do like the mower itself. Has anyone else had this problem?"

Lawrence Lund, Peshtigo, Wis.: Lawrence nominates his **Toro 32-in.** zero-turn riding mower equipped with a Kohler 597 cc engine as "best buy". "We have a large lawn with many trees and bushes to

mow around, so we save a lot of time with this machine. The engine has a lot of power and starts good. Also, the noise level is lower on this mower because the engine is located behind the operator so you face forward away from the noise."

Wayne Durham, Pacolet, S. Car.: "My 2000 **Chevrolet** Silverado pickup equipped with a 4.3-liter, V-6 engine has about 315,000 miles on it but still runs good. It gets about 18 mpg and all the instruments on it still work. The engine needed a new set of lifters at about 112,000 miles and the pickup has gone through 4 or 5 fuel pumps and had some electrical problems, but otherwise it has required only routine maintenance."

Harold Gordon, Big Clifty, Ky.: Harold's "worst buy" is his 2013 **Sears Craftsman** LT-1500 42-in. riding mower. "My local Sears service center has already had to replace the engine twice, and now the new engine is blowing black smoke whenever I start it. I have less than one acre of lawn, but I've already had to pay out almost \$500 to have different family members and friends mow the lawn for me. No more Craftsman mowers for me."

J.R. Gingerich, Wadena, Minn.: "From the first day I use them to the last, my **Rocky** boots provide all-day comfort (www.rockyboots.com; ph 866 442-4908). These boots last longer than any other brand I've owned. My last pair lasted 2 years and I recently bought another pair with the same great results. I work on concrete all day, but I don't have problems with the soles wearing out long before the uppers like I did with other brands.

"My **Fiskars** axe is the best axe I've ever owned (www.fiskars.com; ph 866 348-5661). It weighs just 4 lbs. but has the splitting force of an 8 or 10-lb. axe. As a result, I can split wood longer without getting tired."

Randall Karr, Emporia, Kan.: "My **Stafix** electric fence fault finder works great (www.stafix.com; ph 800 874-8494). It quickly locates faults along the fence line and is especially useful when you have several miles of electric fence, like I do.

"It's operated by a replaceable 9-volt battery and comes in a rugged, water resistant case with a convenient belt clip. A large back-lit display shows the current, voltage and current direction simultaneously, and there's also an audible current indicator. It lets me know the fence voltage and if there are any grounds, which way to go to find the problem, and how many volts are being lost. It guarantees that my fence is actually hot and keeps animals from escaping."

Dean Kelly, Colville, Wash.: "My 2015 **DR** field and brush mower has been a disaster. I own a 1999 DR model and love it because it's handy to use and can be easily maneuvered by this 77-year-old man. The new model could be a workout machine for a New England Patriots linebacker."

Ron Ristimaki, Coal Center, Penn.: "I bought a used 1953 **Massey Harris** 90 self-propelled combine in 1976. It cut a lot of beans for us. I sold it in 2004 when I retired, but it's still going strong today. All the chains, belts and tires on it have been replaced, as well as many bearings. However, the straw walker, fan, radiator and many other parts on it are original. It's a great combine."

Jamie Trescott, Marianna, Fla.: "I bought my **Kobalt** 40-volt cordless chainsaw at Lowes. Other companies make 18-volt

He Came Up With A Way To Stop Rust On Old Pickup

"My 1990 **Chevrolet** Silverado 1500 pickup was covered with rust at the bottom on both sides. I didn't want to trade it in so I came up with a way to use spray-on insulation to paint over the rust and seal out moisture so it can't reach the metal. This method lets me keep a vehicle going for many more years," says **Kenny Hinnenkamp**, Melrose, Minn.

He first experimented with the idea 8 years ago on one of the pickup's fenders, using a special plastic tool he made to apply the insulation. Then 2 years ago he replaced a much bigger area of rust on the body where the metal was completely gone. He first used Styrofoam insulation to fill in the rusted-out holes, and then covered the Styrofoam with the spray-on insulation. Both ideas have worked so well that he recently began providing "how to" plans.

"It lets anyone do their own rust prevention body work for \$300 to \$600, instead of spending up to \$8,000 at a body shop," says Hinnenkamp. "Your vehicle should be able to go another 10 years without rust forming. I painted a rusty fender on my pickup 8 years ago, and I



Kenny Hinnenkamp used spray-on insulation to stop rust on this 1990 Chevrolet.

haven't seen one bit of rust since then, so I know it lasts."

He says the spray-on insulation "seal coats" metal to keep out moisture, and is salt-resistant so once it's on there's no way for moisture or salt to cause corrosion. "Spray-on insulation isn't supposed to be painted over, but I found the substance is paintable so I can paint it a different color any time I want," says Hinnenkamp.

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chainsaws that feel and sound like toys, but my **Kobalt** cuts like the real thing. It's not made for cutting big trees but works great for trimming limbs and small branches. The battery lasts about as long as I do before we both need recharging. I liked the chainsaw so much that I also bought the company's 40-volt cordless pole saw. It has good weight, balance, reach and cutting speed. Being cordless, both tools are easy on the ears."

Marvin Byler, Middlefield, Ohio: "Splitting wood has never been easier since I bought my **Fiskars** X27 splitting axe. It works faster than using a hydraulic-operated log splitter for average and large size wood. It stays sharp longer and is light enough so I don't get too tired, yet it's heavy enough to do the job. I've used it to split hundreds of cords. An excellent investment."

John A. Luhrs, Bedford, Va.: "No problems with my 2000 **New Holland** TC33D 33 hp diesel tractor. It's a great little tractor.

"My 2012 **Dixie** Silver Eagle chopper mower cuts great and works fast. No problems (www.dixiechopper.com; ph 765 246-7737)."

Jim Kalmer, Trenton, Ill.: Jim's had trouble with his **Deere** 6300 tractor. "Four different Deere mechanics have worked on the air conditioner, replacing the compressor, condenser, lines and refrigerant each time, but nothing has helped. Now they say the problem is with the evaporator, and making the repair will cost \$2,000 for labor and \$1,000 for the evaporator itself."

Jonathan Dean, Baskin, La.: He's happy with his 2013 **Honda** Rubicon 4-WD 4-wheeler equipped with an automatic transmission. "I bought it new and have logged about 2,000 trouble-free hours on it. It has plenty of power and pulls well. Works great."

Fred M. Stowe, Birchwood, Wis.: "My 2007 **Kubota** L3940 4-WD tractor has almost 1,900 hrs. on it with the only problem being a cracked hydraulic hose. I filled the rear tires with a beet juice mixture, but the tractor still has more power than traction. I've used it a lot to remove snow and to do logging work."

Quentin Raddatz, Belle Plaine, Minn.: "Our 2003 **Ford** Ranger pickup works great.

We previously owned two Rangers, a 1993 model and a 1999. Both were used hard and 'kid' driven. Too bad the company quit building them."



Mike Meyer, Borden, Ind.: "I bought a 1/2-ton pickup crane at **Harbor Freight** and welded it onto one corner of my trailer. By using a set of tongs with it I can load firewood that's too big to pick up by hand onto the trailer, which saves on my back. It gets the job done." **Ronald C. Thoman, Hanover, Penn.:** "My 2014 **Polaris** 570 4-wheeler is easy to get on and off and handles nice. It walks right through snow and mud, and the snowplow that I bought for it is easy to attach. The dump bed on it works great. I love this machine."

Jack Borden, Elma, Wash.: "My 2009 **DeWalt** DCS815 impact driver works fine. I keep it in a tool bag in my pickup along with the charger and batteries so it's always handy and ready to go. I use it with a variety of sockets, nut drivers and screwdrivers."

Chuck Angier, Sandy Level, Va.: "As a small business owner, I've always wished to offer a small token of appreciation to my loyal clients during the holidays. Although everyone appreciates my wife's cooking, she can only cook so much and besides, the food is usually gone before I'm even out the door! I wanted something that could be enjoyed all year long. So several years ago I started giving **FARM SHOW** subscriptions, and since then it has become common to arrive on a farm and be greeted with something like, 'Hey, did you see that spaceship built from Edsel parts by that yahoo in North Dakota?' Thank you **FARM SHOW**."