

Reader Letters



My friend Jessie Allen and I like to attend a tractor show in Paducah, Ky. every year. After suffering a light stroke at 84 years old, he had difficulty walking for extended periods of time so I needed a way to get him around the show. My little home-built trailer did the trick. I built it from scrap steel and painted it red, which is the color of our favorite Farmall tractors. Jessie has restored a 1941 Farmall H and I'm restoring a 1947 Farmall B.

The trailer has a padded seat and is properly finished off with a Farmall license plate. The photo shows it being pulled by a 1971 Montgomery Ward Gilson tractor that belonged to my father. **(Wayne D. Lawrence, 265 Wilson Road, Water Valley, Ky. 42085 ph 270 355-9820)**

We have a lot of thorn trees in our area that cause plenty of flat tires. Filling tires with foam is one way to solve the problem, but it's expensive, adds weight to the tire, and is a lot of hassle.

Has anyone tried to pelletize super dry wood chips or other materials so they can be blown into a tire? By expanding upon contact with water, the material would keep the tire's shape up so that you could still drive with it. Maybe you could use a super absorbent material like they put in diapers, that would be flexible instead of getting super hard like foam. **(Henry White, Paris, Texas ph 903 249-5853)**



I needed to mow the grass around a big pond with steep banks. It used to take me 3 hrs. to cut the grass with a weedeater, but now it takes only about a half hour. That's because I came up with a system that lets me pull an 18-in. push mower alongside my riding mower.

An angle iron frame bolts on front of the push mower and to the riding mower's frame, and a 2-piece deck height adjustment handle off another mower is attached to the back of the riding mower. A chain runs from the riding mower to a U-shaped yoke on the push mower. I just pull on the height adjustment handle to raise the push mower up or down.

I no longer use this setup, but when I did a lot of passersby on the road in front of our house used to stop and watch me work. **(Norvil D. Arnold, 2594 N. 1050th St., Flat Rock, Ill. 62427)**

My dad, Don Wilson, spent several weeks replacing the plumbing pipes and renovating the bathrooms in our house, and during that time he provided an unusual temporary shower for us in



our laundry room. The shower was made using a horse trough, lengths of pvc pipe, and a garden hose with an adjustable spray pattern nozzle that hooked into the pipes leading to our washing machine.

Dad set the trough on a sheet of plywood with a 2 by 4 on one side to give it pitch. My 6-year-old brother, Sterl, had the daily job of using a small hand pump to empty the trough. **(Carmen Wilson (thereisjoyinservingjesus@gmail.com))**



My grandson Sean Gogerty added LED light bars on front of our Deere 4430 tractor, and also on top of the cab, to brighten after-hours work in the field and on the road. He ordered the lights through Amazon.com. The LED's provide a lot more light on older tractors like ours. They make an especially big difference this time of year during the short days of fall harvest. More light shining down from the cab makes it easier to hook up to implements and to see the unloading auger. He paid \$165 apiece for the light bars.



We bought this homemade, heavy duty boot scraper at an auction. It's made from 1/2-in. rod and is designed to bolt onto a wooden plank or concrete surface. It's big enough to really clean off a pair of boots. **(Rex Gogerty, 33475 K. Ave., Hubbard, Iowa 50122 ph 641 487-7617)**

I saw the story in your last issue on a "standup" walker that makes it easier to stand up from a sitting position. I thought



your readers would like to know about my new Arise Assist aid. It uses support platforms that grip the front legs of all standard walkers and pivot with your hands to help you stand. The egg-shaped nylon support discs mount on top of stop collars that attach to the leg with set screws. The discs are made in 2 halves, allowing them to automatically pivot with your wrists as you get up.

Placing your hands on the support platforms allows you to safely stand half way up, then reposition your hands one at a time to the upper grips of the walker. The disc angle automatically changes with your changing hand position.

I'm looking for investors or someone to license and manufacture the product. **(Robert Brady Design, 355 W. Waterside Dr., Suite 103, Post Falls, Idaho 83854 ph 208 704-9989; robert@inventorslighthouse.com; www.inventorslighthouse.com)**

Many readers have complained about the newer front-loading washing machines. I did, too, until I read the manual more closely and experimented a bit. Here are the settings and methods I came up with for using my Whirlpool.

I use the Deep Water Cycle for average mixed loads and the Bulky Items setting for sheets and towels. For dirty or heavily soiled jeans and stained items, I use the Heavy-Duty cycle, with the Pre-soak feature and heavy soil selection. For those items, I also use a scoop of BIZ and a full measure of HE detergent. When needed, I use a spot treatment on problem areas. It's made of equal parts water, dish soap and ammonia. In general, I've found it works best to use the maximum amount of detergent for any cycle.

To reduce vibration during the spin cycle, I try to load the machine evenly. However, I do sometimes have to move the machine away from the wall from time to time. And the machine still does twist clothes together, such as long legs and sleeves. **(Ken Ladd, Minneapolis, Minn.; kenladd@comcast.net)**

In your last issue, a reader explained how he used a control from an old dehumidifier to control a bathroom exhaust fan. I've used the same idea to control the power of a mini heater inside my home-built welding electrode cabinet. I set the "dehumidistat" at 40 percent so it keeps the electrodes dry. This setup is very energy efficient since the mini heater is only on enough to keep things dry. **(Ken Todd; kenttt@xplornet.ca)**

I'm apparently very attractive to biting insects like mosquitoes and ticks. I get a lot of bites. To stop the itching I've tried all kinds of creams and other methods. I heard about a battery-powered device

about the size of a tube of chapstick that generates heat when you hold it over a bite. However it costs nearly \$80 so it's a little expensive just to try.

So I came up with my own method. Just heat up a cup of water in a glass until bubbles start to rise in it. Drop a metal spoon briefly into the water, shake off the water, and then press the bowl of the spoon onto the bite. To do any good, it should be as hot as you can stand. Repeat 4 or 5 times and the itching will stop. This really works and is quick and simple. **(Dave Nicholas, Peebles, Ohio)**

In the article you ran in your last issue about my idea of producing bug-free fruit by covering each apple or cluster of grapes with a doggie bag, I meant the kind of bags that restaurants give you, not dog waste bags. The ones I use are made out of very thin waterproof material. They are about 3 by 5 in. and 12 in. long. I cut them down to 9 in. The Wilson Paper Company supplies them in bulk with 500 per carton (www.wilsonpaper.com). Or you can look for restaurant doggie bags at www.amazon.com. **(Alton Eliason, Northford, Conn.)**



My last copy of FARM SHOW was left carelessly out on a deck table and it got rained on before I finished reading it. I temporarily repurposed a deck chair as a paper dryer. Worked great. **(Stuart Baker, 1408 Hooker Ave., Madison, Wis. 53704)**

After reading the article in your last issue about the "quick brush" for removing silk from sweet corn, I felt compelled to share with you a way to cook corn in a microwave that someone recently showed me.

Place a whole ear, husk and all, in the microwave. Cook on high heat for 3 1/2 to 4 min. and then hold the ear with a towel and put it on a cutting board, or cut off the bottom half inch of the ear and squeeze with your hand on the silk end of the ear. You might have to give it a little snap of the wrist but the ear will slide right out of the husk with no silk on it, ready to eat. If you have 2 ears, cook for 5 min. or 3 ears, 6 min. **(Bob Moty, Crystal Lake, Ill.)**

In the "Best & Worst Buy" section of the last issue of FARM SHOW, there was a report from a reader about his two McCulloch Model 700 chainsaws. I wanted to point out that the chainsaw pictured is not a Model 700. It's actually a McCulloch Model 33-B Bowsaw with a 3.3 cu. in. engine made in 1954. The McCulloch 700 chainsaw was made in 1977 and had a 4.3 cu. in. engine. **(Michael Trimmer, Felton, Penn.)**

FREE Classified Ads!
Looking for FARM SHOW's classified ads?
We've got the best deal in the business!
FREE ads with photos at our "sister" company's website:
www.BestFarmBuys.com
More than 100,000 regular users will see your listing!