

# Reader Letters



I drive a school bus 80 to 100 miles per day in the hilly farm country of Augusta County, Virginia. I often encounter deer, bears, wolves, wild turkey, cattle, chickens and even hogs on the roads. I've hit two deer and a wolf.

I've learned that you can train the deer. Rather than wait to see what they are going to do, I immediately start tapping the horn as soon as I see them. It seems they can hear better than they can see. If you tap, rather than blow the horn, the intermittent sound pulses give them the ability to quickly determine your location, direction of travel, and speed.

They will move to get away from you, even if they are in a field or away from the road. I have found this does not work as well with other animals. **(Gary Meeks, Augusta County, Va.)**



Plastic take-home food containers can be recycled as handy lunch carriers to take to the field. **(Rex Gogerty, Hubbard, Iowa)**



If your 3-pt. hitch "sags", making connecting the pto difficult, you can wrap a chain around it to keep it at the right height. **(Fritz Groszkruger, Dumont, Iowa)**



I use a backpack leaf blower to clean leaves off the roof and out of gutters. Makes the job fast and easy. **(Tom Gogerty, Madrid, Iowa)**

The article in your last issue about growing peanuts in North Dakota stated that the peanuts are "mushy" when harvested and have to be dried. As anyone from the South could tell you, a better solution is to wash them, boil them in the shell in salt water for a couple hours, and then either eat them or freeze them in the water they were boiled in. If you advertise them as "Boiled Green Peanuts" at the Air Force base in Minot, N.Dak., all the Southerners stationed there will beat a path to your door. **(Charlie Matthews, Petersburg, Tenn.)**

If you've got trouble with squirrels getting into your bird feeder, here's a tip. Use bamboo for the birdhouse post. It's so slick it can't be climbed by squirrels, cats or snakes. **(Phillip Taylor, Haleyville, Ala.)**



My new trailer is a lot easier to hook up since I installed a second jack fitted with dual wheels. I just bolted it to the opposite side. The original jack stays in place. **(Gary Swensen, Yankton, S.Dak.)**

I have an outdoor furnace and like to keep straight pokers handy. But if you lean them against the furnace, they often fall over.

To solve this, I took a couple 18-in. sections of 1 1/2-in. pipe and flattened one end with an anvil. I then drove them into the ground on each side of the furnace door to act as sockets to store the pokers. **(Gary Meeks, Augusta County, Va.)**



The hardest part of feeding big round bales is lifting the heavy bale rings over the bales. I solved the problem with a



I needed a rear view mirror on my Mahindra 2415 4-WD tractor to use on roads. I couldn't justify spending a lot of money so I made a magnet-mounted bracket that attaches to the hood just ahead of the steering wheel.

I bought a convex rear view mirror at an auto parts store, and 2 big magnets with center holes in them. Then I drilled 2 matching holes through a length of thinwall conduit to attach them. I inserted a nylon 5/8-in. plug into each end of the conduit. The mirror is secured to a bracket at one end of the conduit.

Works great and I can see cars and trucks coming for a long ways. I can quickly remove it whenever I'm not on the road. **(Doug Virostko, 1409 S. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Coshocton, Ohio 43812 (ph 740 622-0332)**

bale ring mover that fits over the top of my 3-pt. bale stabber. Simply back up to the bale ring and lower the boom over the top, hooking onto the opposite side of the ring. Raise it up and set it down over the bale. I couldn't get along without this ring mover now. Made it out of parts off an old spring cultivator. **(Danny Gentry, 26490 Route A, Princeton, Mo. 64673)**



I used a boat trailer axle and wheels to make a handy box trailer to pull behind my ATV. I found everything else I needed around my farm so it didn't cost much to make, but is very handy to use with my 4-wheeler. **(Robert Waldow, Lake Preston, S.Dak.)**

We've received several calls from your readers about the auction for Bob Suhre's home-built model engines (Vol. 44, No. 1). I wanted to let you know that the January auction date you published was changed. The auction will be held April 25. **(Nelson Aumann, Aumann Auctions, Nokomis, Ill. ph 217 254-3003; www.aumannauctions.com)**



About once a week I spray silicone inside my rubber boots. It makes it much easier to put the boots on and take them off. **(Andy Lindsay, Freeport, Penn. 724 504-9389)**



I recently made this giant "UFO swing" for my grandson. It's made from two fiberglass satellite dishes that are sandwiched together. I welded a disk coupler onto one end of a steel pipe, then fed the pipe up through both dishes and through a receiving plate at the top. Then I hooked a chain and swivel on top of the pipe so I could suspend the swing from a tree in our yard. My grandson sits or stands on the dish while hanging onto the pipe.

The swing rotates on the chain and swivel and also can be tilted from side to side. It's pretty big so it takes a strong person to push it around. **(Paul Dudley, 22240 Hill Rd., Linneus, Mo. 64653 ph 660 895-5563)**



I came up with a slick way to add an extra step to my Deere 4230 tractor, attaching it to the tractor's original step with four threaded rods along with washers and nuts. I welded the washers on the top step to the top of the nuts so they lay flat on the step. By adjusting the threaded rods, I can easily adjust the distance between steps. **(Timm Johnson, 1866 Knox Road 500 E., Galesburg, Ill. 61401 ph 309 343-6817; buzman5000@yahoo.com)**

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