

## Simple Idea Improved His Old Sawmill

"The dogs on my old Breezewood sawmill worked well on straight logs but didn't hold logs that were slightly curved, so I fixed the problem with a Rube Goldberg modification that's worked very well for the past 20 years," says New York woodworker Jack Weeks.

"First, I had a friend weld a 1-in. threaded nut to the top of the 3-ft. tall 1 1/2-in. square dogs." Weeks says. "He cut the heads off three 6-in. long bolts, drilled a hole for a 3-in. long pin to turn the bolts, and then we threaded the bolts into the nuts. With a curved log on the rails, I'm able to turn the bolts into the log and hold it securely while I run the carriage with the band saw down the rails."

Weeks says the simple addition to his 30-something-year-old 26-hp. sawmill works extremely well. "I'm sure newer band sawmills have a much more efficient system, but this modification to a mill made by a company now out of business only took a few spare parts and a little welding to fix the problem."

Weeks is retired from his practice as a family doctor and now spends a lot of time on woodworking projects. "Over several



**A large nut and threaded bolt added to the dogs on Jack Week's old sawmill hold straight or slightly curved logs secure so he can cut straight boards from the logs.**

years, I've built a barn, a few sheds, and other projects using beams and boards that I've cut with this old mill. I'm even able to cut live edge flitches, which are very popular now because the dogs hold the logs secure. The old mill is still productive as long as I occasionally lavish it with love, care, and a few repairs."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jack Weeks, St. Remy, New York.

## Satellite Dish Used To Build Gazebo

Joseph Wood of Auburndale, Fla., built a 10-ft. dia. gazebo using a satellite dish for the roof. "I was vacationing in Indiana, and my friend had a large satellite dish he wasn't using anymore," says Wood. "I had it shipped to Florida."

Satellite dishes make for excellent outdoor structures because they're designed to withstand the elements. Wood's dish had signs of hail damage but was otherwise in good condition. "I hadn't seen anything like this before, but I had a hunch it would work out," says Wood. He purchased 7-ft. poles, railings, and vinyl panels at Lowes to build the gazebo.

"I estimate I spent about \$1,200 on gazebo supplies and then another \$1,200 for the 12-ft. by 12-ft. deck I built it on," he says.

After construction, the gazebo required minimal maintenance for the three years he owned it. "I was so proud of this gazebo that I used my label maker and placed signs all over it that said 'Handmade by Joe Wood.'"

While Wood has since moved away from



**Wood used a 10-ft. dia. satellite dish and 7-ft. poles with vinyl panels to make his gazebo.**

the home where he built his gazebo, he knows it attracted plenty of interest in the neighborhood. "When we were selling the house, the new owners told me I had to leave the gazebo behind," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joe Wood (ph 765-336-4670).

## Three Ideas You Can Use

Russ Anderson of Leicester, Mass., recently shared three ideas he thought might be helpful to other readers.



### Loader-Mounted 3-Pt. Hitch

"I mounted a quick release for a 3-pt. hitch to the front quick-release bucket bracket. This allows me to move 3-pt. equipment if the rear 3 pt. is in use."



### Tag-Along Implement Conversion

"I converted a tag-along implement to lift with a 3-pt. hitch by attaching a rear receiver rack to the implement and using chains to lift. It can still be used as a tow-behind by connecting a ball hitch coupler."



### Horizontal Log Splitter Hack

"My log splitter is horizontal only. It doesn't flip up to vertical, which means I have to lift large logs onto it for splitting. So, I parked it in a depression and skid logs onto the high side where they can easily be rolled onto the splitter."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Russ Anderson, Leicester, Mass. 01524 (ph 508-414-5380).



**Seltzer fabricated a sturdy handle for getting on and off his mower.**

## Quick And Easy Zero-Turn Handle

Long-time FARM SHOW contributor Leonard Seltzer, Manhattan, Ill., wanted a handle for getting on and off his Deere zero-turn mower, so he fabricated one from his shop.

"I used 1/2-in. conduit with a couple of bolts for the vertical, and the top is 3/4-in. conduit with couplers I picked up at the hardware store.

"I flattened the conduit at the bottom and

drilled holes to match the existing holes on the frame of the mower. It only took me a couple of hours and cost less than \$20.

"It works great, and I wouldn't change a thing. Makes getting on and off the mower much more stable and doesn't interfere with my view during mowing."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Leonard Seltzer, 16040 Manhattan Road, Manhattan, Ill. 60442 (ph. 779-279-5116).

## Pump Sprayer Converted To Battery Power

Bill Halstead was tired of having to pump his hand sprayer all the time while using weed killer. So, he converted a small hand pump sprayer to battery-operated.

Halstead drilled a small hole at the top of the sprayer and inserted a valve stem. He then used Velcro to attach a small hand-held air compressor, set the pressure to 15 lbs., and away he went.

The conversion cut his overall spraying time and made the job a lot easier.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Halstead, Dowling, Mich. 49050 (ph 269-758-3232).



**Wildflower harvester on display at a show in England.**

Photo courtesy of Oliver Mark, Farmers Weekly

## He Harvests Wildflowers With Stripper Header

Oliver Mark with Farmers Weekly, a leading British farm publication, shared this photo of a wildflower harvester. Mark described it as a stripper header adapted to mount on a telehandler by British farmer Harry Wiseman.

Wiseman displayed the unit at a farm show. "It was designed to harvest grain from environmental margins and collect the potentially valuable wildflower seed in a box at the back," reports Mark.