## **Reader Letters**

(Continued from previous page) I recently came up with a bolt-on, 1-ft. long clamp that really comes in handy for keeping tools in place. The tool's handle is held in place by a spring-loaded metal strap. You simply clamp the strap



over the handle. The clamp can hold objects from 1 to 2 1/4 inches in diameter. Works great to carry a pitchfork or shovel on your front-end loader when cleaning manure or snow, etc. It can even hold a grease gun. I use it to store brooms inside my livestock trailer - eliminates the need to use bunge straps.

Sells for \$19.95 plus S&H. (Wayne Tjeerdsma, Slectro Co., Box 226, 309 Spruce St., Avon, S. Dak. 57315 ph 800 355-3221 or 605 286-3221)

Thanks for the article on the waste oil stove that I built to heat my shop and trailer house, and for the article on my all terrain tracked vehicle (both articles were in Vol. 25, No. 1) There was consider-



able interest in both ideas. I just finished making a 1 hour 45-minute long video that covers all aspects of how to build the stove. Sells for \$49.95 including S&H (Nebraskans add 5% sales tax).

I also made a 1 hour 45-minute video that shows the all terrain tracked vehicle in action. It sells for \$24.95. I hope to have a video available by this fall on how to build this vehicle. It will have a wealth of information about what works and what doesn't. It'll cover everything from making the tracks to the type of engine, rear end, frame, and suspension system to use. (Alec Yeager, Box 504, Hendley, Neb. 68946 ph 308 265-7466; Website: www.kisoffroad.com)

Like most people, I always used to struggle when cleaning window blinds. But that changed after I designed this portable, telescopic stand that will hold any size of blinds so they can easily be washed. It's now being sold as the Blind Mate and it's for either indoor or outdoor use, so I'm no longer limited to using just the bathtub or hand-held shower head.

This stand is designed to hold either venetians, PVC verticals or pleated blinds, and if you're working out in your back yard, you can just hose the blinds down. The four-piece stand is telescopic to adjust to different heights. You simply attach the blinds with two clamps.

My son Tom is a licensed welder and builds the stands on our farm. He has



already made several hundred units. We have a Canadian patent on it and it's patent-pending in the U.S. It's really a



simple and effective idea, but there's nothing else like it on the market.

It weighs only 4.5 kg and is made from light weight steel tubing. The unit comes in five colors of powder coat paint (neon green, blue, yellow, orange and ribbon purple).

Blind Mate changes a two hour job into 10 minutes. I'm selling the units for \$44.95 (Canadian), plus shipping and handling. (Donna Williams, Box 3073, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada T8L 2T1; ph/fax 780 998-1572; cell phone 780 719-8954)



I converted a Parker 200-bu. gravity wagon to hold feed for my sows. To keep out rain and snow, I put a roof on the wagon. It was less expensive than buying a commercial tarp and it will last longer.

The roof at the peak is 6 ft. wide, 10 ft. long, and 4 ft. high. There's a 1-ft. overhang on all sides, and an opening on top for augering in feed from a grinder-mixer. I fill 5-gal. buckets using the wagon's slide gate.

I built a small platform below the gate opening where I place the buckets. The gate is wide enough to fill three buckets at a time. To build the roof I laid 2 by 4's across the wagon and bolted them onto a lip at the top of the wagon. I used 2 by 4's to make the trusses and nailed plywood sheets onto them, then added roof felt and shingles. I also used plywood to close in the front and back sides of the roof. (Rex Thompson, 1975 190th St., Boone, Iowa 50036 ph 515 432-4424)



The "grain pile" auger is equipped with a 13-in. dia. auger that has a 5 1/2-ft. wide sweep hopper at its bottom end. Hopper is designed to float and follow ground contour.

## "Grain Pile" Auger Picks Up **Grain Piled On The Ground**

If you pile grain on the ground for temporary storage, you'll be interested in this "grain pile auger" (GPA) that's specially designed to pick up piles on the ground to load into trucks or wagons.

"It lets you take multiple slices along the edge of the grain pile from the comfort of your tractor cab. It's a big improvement over shoveling grain into an auger hopper or holding onto a vacuum hose," says inventor Greg Haukaas.

The GPA is equipped with a 13-in. dia. auger that has a 5 1/2-ft. long "sweep hopper" at its bottom end. The hopper is designed to float over uneven ground and pick up as much as 150 bu. per minute. The auger hydraulically lifts and rotates into transport position. It requires a tractor with at least 50

"It picks up grain without picking up a lot of dirt and rocks," says Haukaas. "On average it'll load a 1,000-bu. semi trailer in only about 7 to 10 minutes. Because the unit slices

> ATVmounted backhoe stabilizer.



Auger hydraulically lifts and rotates into transport position.

along the edge of the pile when picking up grain, the main part of the pile isn't disturbed. It works so well you can dump grain from your combine onto the ground at one or more locations in the field at harvest and then quickly pick the grain up at a later time."

Sells for about \$9,000 (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Haukaas Mfg. Ltd., Box 8, Mortlach, Sask., Canada S0H 3E0 (ph 306 355-2718; fax 306 355-2352; E-mail: info@haukaas.com; Website: www.haukaas.com).

comes with a 10-in. wide bucket and a 46-in. wide blade that serves as a



## **Backhoe Mounts On Any ATV**

You can turn your ATV into a low-cost, compact digging machine with this new backhoe designed to mount on any ATV.

"It works great for landscaping and yard work," says Luc Belzile of L.B. Mfg., New Brunswick Canada

It comes with universal mounting bracket that attaches to the front bumper. It comes with a 10-in. wide bucket and 46-in. wide blade that serves as a stabilizer and is used to back fill. The bucket has a 5-ft. digging depth when the bucket is straight across and 7 ft. when it's tilted. The bucket swivels up to 60degrees to either side.

Power is supplied by a Honda 4 hp gas engine that operates a hydraulic power pack. To attach the backhoe, you drive over the backhoe's main frame and use two bolts to pin it onto the bumper, then pin the enginesupporting platform onto the frame. Controls for the blade and bucket mount on the ATV's front rack.

"It's handy to use and is easy to put on and take off," says Belzile. "It's equipped with a front suspension assist system that keeps the ATV level at all times. The ATV's low ground pressure tires don't disturb soft ground. A hydraulic-operated post hole auger that replaces the bucket is available. We also offer a model that mounts on back of pickups."

Sells for under \$6,200 (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, L.B. Manufacturing, Inc., 671 Babin St., Dieppe Industrial Park, New Brunswick, Canada E1A 5M7 (ph 506 388-3335; fax 506 388-3325; Website: www.beaverpro.com).