

Reader Recipes

1939 Six-Layer Dinner

Potatoes sliced
1/3 cup rice
1 lb. cooked ground beef or cured ham
Onions, sliced
Carrots or green peppers, chopped
1 qt. canned tomatoes

Place a thick layer of raw potatoes in the bottom of a deep buttered casserole dish. Wash rice, and then sprinkle over potatoes. Sprinkle meat over rice, then layer onions and carrots or green peppers over top. Pour tomatoes over all and bake covered at 350° for 1 to 1 1/2 hrs.

Peanut Butter Pie

1 graham cracker crust
4 oz. French-style soft cheese
1/3 cup peanut butter
1/2 cup milk
8 oz. frozen whipped topping
1 cup powdered sugar

Beat the soft cheese and peanut butter until creamy. Mix in the powdered sugar and whipped topping. Pour into the graham cracker crust. Freeze until firm. Serve frozen with hot fudge sauce if desired.

Sugar Body Scrub

Plastic jar (so it won't break in the shower)
1/2 cup sugar
Regular baby oil
A few drops of essential oils for scent, if desired

Put sugar in jar and fill it with baby oil. Add essential oil. Sugar scrub is soothing to the skin and does a good job of exfoliating and moisturizing.

Indian Slapjacks

1 qt. milk
1 pint Indian meal (cornmeal)
4 eggs
3 tbsp flour
Pinch of salt

Combine all ingredients. Beat together then cook on griddle or bake in a pan that has been rubbed with lard or butter until done.

Vinegar Candy

2 cups sugar
1/2 cup cider vinegar
2 tsp butter

Combine ingredients in a saucepan and cook to 275°. Pour into well-buttered jellyroll pan, let cool, and break. Makes 24 pieces.

“Shovel Helper”

The Shovel Helper lets you lift a shovel with both hands and stand upright while shoveling snow, mulch, grain, sand, and other materials. It consists of a black handle and a pair of straps that attach to the front part of the shovel's blade. The straps come with metal clips with built-in thumb wheel adjuster knobs.

You can adjust the straps for your height and comfort by holding a black plastic strap adjuster and pulling either a short red strap to tighten or a long red strap to lengthen.

Works the same on both straight and bent handle shovels. Retail for \$10.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Shovel Helper, 16 Crosby St., Center Moriches, N.Y. 11934 (ph 631 991-2434; Sales@ShovelHelper.com; www.ShovelHelper.com).



Shovel Helper lets you stand upright while shoveling snow.

Electric 3-wheeler lets you go almost anywhere.



Electric “Off-Road” Wheeler

When General Electric employee Jack Palmer motorized a pedal trike for his mother in 1972, he had no idea it would lead to a business. Jack, 80, and his wife, Mildred, 78, still work full-time at Palmer Industries, which manufactures the U.S.-made power wheelchairs, electric scooters and vehicles for outdoor mobility. Their son, Jack Palmer Jr., manages the production end of the business.

The two-seater electric 3-wheeler is the most popular, Mildred Palmer says. The wide seat is comfortable and allows a couple – or two friends – to travel together.

“Most of our customers are elderly and disabled. But we also have kids with a disability who try to soup it up to make it go faster,” Palmer notes with a laugh.

The electric motor is charged by two deep cycle batteries that are good for up to 45 miles on level terrain, with speeds up to 13 mph. With Moped tires, it's powerful enough to climb the steepest hills or drive across rough pastures and fields and even a few inches of snow.

“One customer has 14,000 miles on his unit. It takes him everywhere,” Palmer says. Another said he was able to go biking with a 12-year-old grandchild because of the electric 3-wheeler. One wife complained that she never sees her husband because he's always gone on his three-wheeler.

The vehicles are DOT-approved with head, tail and brake lights, and customers have the option to get a VIN number for a license plate.

Invoiced as powered wheelchairs, they sell for \$5,500 including the batteries and a large basket. A wide variety of accessories are available including a 6-ft. flag, slow moving sign, seat belts, a locking storage box and ramps to haul it in a van or truck.

“It helps people get outside who otherwise wouldn't get out,” Palmer says. “The nicest thing is that even when you get older, you can still take your wife or a family member with you.”

Check out the business's website videos to see the vehicle in action. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Palmer Industries, P.O. Box 5707, Endicott, N.Y. 13763 (ph 800 847-1304; www.palmerind.com).

Round Bale Soybean Mulch

“Soybean straw makes great mulch for my garden,” says Tom Gogerty, Madrid, Iowa, who uses a chainsaw to cut sections of soybean straw from round bales.

He buys the bales from a neighbor for \$20.

“I cut up the top half of the bale first,” says Gogerty. “I stick the chainsaw in half way up the bale and cut horizontally all the way around the bale. Then I cut down vertically and section the top half of the bale off in quarters. Once the top half of the bale is gone I cut up the bottom half. There's a 6-in. dia. piece left in the middle of the bale that the chainsaw can't reach.

“I use up almost an entire bale every spring. I wait until my garden crops are tall enough that I can mulch the whole garden,” notes Gogerty.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Gogerty, 216 E. 21st St., Madrid, Iowa 50156 (ph 515 795-2685).



Tom Gogerty uses a chainsaw to cut sections of soybean straw from round bales.

FARM SHOW

New Products For The Farm, Ranch Home

“Water Jug” Chickadee Feeder

“It's big enough that I only had to refill it once all last winter, and the following spring there was less than a cup of wasted seed on the ground under it,” says John Dougoveto, Iron Mountain, Mich., about the “chickadee feeder” he made out of a 4-gal. Culligan water jug.

He laid the jug on its side and wrapped 2 wires around it, adding a connecting wire between them that serves as a hanger. Then he bent an old wire clothes hanger to make a perch and used a pair of hose clamps to fasten it onto the jug's opening.

“It works really good. I hang it under the eave of our porch,” says Dougoveto. “I don't go through nearly as many seeds as I would with a conventional bird feeder. Also, rain and snow can't get on the feed.

“When I first set the feeder out the birds were slightly hesitant, but soon one landed on the perch, went inside the bottle, grabbed a sunflower seed and flew away. That's why there's very little waste – there's no way for them to knock seeds to the ground. The birds often land on top of the jug or on the porch railing and wait their turn to get into the bottle.

“At first I used duct tape to fasten the perch onto the jug opening, but squirrels started to chew on the tape so I replaced it with hose clamps. Now the squirrels don't even try to get inside the bottle.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John P. Dougoveto, W8803 Lansford Dr., Iron Mountain, Mich. 49801 (ph 906 774-4526).



Chickadee feeder is made out of a 4-gal. Culligan water jug.

3-Wheeled Push Cart

“I'm 80 years old and have trouble walking due to sciatic nerve pain, so I used parts of several old bicycles to build this 3-wheeled push cart. It allows me to walk anywhere on our farm without pain,” says Bram Lohr, Canning, Nova Scotia.

The push cart rides on two 18-in. bicycle wheels on back and a single 24-in. bicycle wheel on front. Lengths of welded-together pipe form a frame above the bicycle forks that supports a metal basket. A pair of handlebars are covered by short lengths of garden hose for comfort.

“I'm a retired farmer and use my push cart to go for a walk every day, through fields and on roads. I wouldn't be without it,” says Lohr. “The pain in my back goes all the way to my toes, and if I tried to walk without any support I'd hardly be able to walk. The big 24-in. front wheel rolls over any kind of rough terrain and isn't likely to get stuck. Conventional walkers are equipped with much smaller wheels, which makes them awkward to use and unsuitable for rough terrain.”

Lohr is 6 ft. 2 in. tall and mounted the handles so they're right at 36 in. high, which is about half his body length.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bram Lohr, RR 1, Canning, N.S., Canada B0P 1H0 (ph 902 582-3964; bramlohr@me.com).



Bram Lohr used parts of several old bicycles to build this 3-wheeled push cart.