

Reader Letters



I use light leather work gloves and the right one always wears out first. So I use a needle nose pliers on the left one, reaching inside each finger and pulling them inside out. That makes it into a right hand glove. When the right glove of my next pair wears out, I replace it with the one I made. **(Duane C. Helgeland, Wautoma, Wis.)**



Here's an idea that has paid off for our tree maintenance business. I bought an older model 30-ft. Versalift cherry picker and mounted it on a heavy-duty dual wheel military trailer. It's powered by a salvaged 2-cyl. Wisconsin engine and hydraulic pump. I added fenders, a stainless steel gas tank, and a galvanized steel rear platform. I tow it with an SUV. The low ground pressure is great for backyard lawn work. I also have two 80-ft. lift trucks and two 50-ft. trucks but this is my go-to unit for residential work. I spent just \$3,500 to put it together and have earned that back 10 times and counting. **(John's Tree Service, 14388 Altocedro Drive, Delray Beach, Fla. 33484)**



A double bed-size spring puts an excellent finish on newly spread crushed rock along our driveway. If needed, you can put concrete blocks on top for added weight on initial trips.



I use a scissors to makes scoops out of half gallon and gallon plastic milk jugs. Very handy for bird feeders, pet food, and feeding calves. **(Rex Gogerty, Hubbard, Iowa)**



In the past few years, my mailbox was destroyed 3 times by snowplows. I decided to build a swing-away mailbox by using the cast wheel and axle from a Farmall A. I slipped a long piece of pipe over the axle and then inserted a

smaller dia. piece of pipe down into the larger piece so it would swing freely. I used a couple pieces of angle iron and sheet metal to make a mounting bracket for the mailbox.

This winter when the snowplow went by, the mailbox just swung harmlessly away. **(Carl H. Keeler, Perkiomenville, Penn. ph 215 588-5915; chkeeler@verizon.net)**

Are yellowjackets and bees invading your buildings? They can be hard to reach. My solution is to add a length of lightweight pvc pipe to the end of the wand on a shop vac and just suck them in. You can reach out 15 ft. or more to bring them in, and then spray some bee killer into the pipe as it's running to make sure they're dead. This works better than climbing a ladder and spraying them with poison and you're much less likely to get stung.

Do your leather work gloves wear out too quickly? Just wrap each finger with duct tape. It'll double or triple the life of the gloves and, as you use them, the tape becomes pliable and easy to work with. **(William Erickson, Ellensburg, Wash.)**



Here's a photo of one of your youngest readers, our grandson Anthony as he goes through the pages of his Grandpa's FARM SHOW. He loves looking at the pictures. **(Bob Humphrey, Ontario, Canada)**



In Vol. 40, No. 2 you published an article about a new Swivel Wheel trailer, but this isn't a new idea. Swivel wheel trailers have been around since the 1950's when they were called one-wheel trailers or single wheel trailers. Most retailers, including Montgomery Ward and Sears, sold them.

The first swivel wheel trailer I ever saw was one my dad owned in the late 1950's. By the time he passed our family had collected 3 of these trailers, and I was fortunate enough to get his first model. It was in tough shape, but working from memory and a single black and white photo I was able to restore it back to its original condition. I added a custom canvas as well. **(Jerry Knowlton, 2343 110th Ave. S.E., Eyota, Minn. 55934 jknowlton@embarqmail.com)**



Here's a photo of a skid loader-mounted road grader that I built out of scrap materials.

I started with an old Deere 3-pt. mounted, 8-ft. wide grader blade, which I turned around to face backward. I used 5-in. dia. drill stem for the frame, and the front caster wheels are off an old side delivery rake. I used part of a local shop's junked wheel alignment machine to build a front axle that supports the wheels. The wheels are free to pivot up or down so

the blade always stays level, even when the road is "crowned" in the middle. A hydraulic cylinder is used to adjust the blade angle. An adaptor plate attaches the blade to the skid loader.

I use the blade to grade a 1,000-ft. long gravel road on my property that's lined with live oaks on either side. It keeps my "oak alley" road in great shape. **(H.D. Weaver, 12375 FM 880 S., Baird, Texas 79504 ph 325 280-6647)**



I'm a Deere kind of guy and also a chocolate junky, so my wife Eva came up with the idea to wrap up about 10 lbs. of chocolate in a fitting way - and yes, there is such a thing as a chocolate hangerover. **(Al Finnbogason, Mission, B.C. norseman3@yahoo.com)**



I made this bucket extender for my front-end loader from a scrap car hood and some old chains. The hood slips into the loader bucket and a chain runs from the top of the bucket to the outer corner of each side of the hood. It's great for carrying wood and other bulky loads. **(Frank Heraghty, Claremore, Okla. (ph 918 342-5809)**



I built a grain cart to pull behind a John Deere garden tractor that has a 540 pto to operate the grain auger. The grain gate on the auger opens and closes by hydraulics and the auger also folds up and down with a hydraulic cylinder. It also has a hand-rolling tarp. I also put dual wheels on the garden tractor.

I've gotten many nice compliments on this setup. **(Bruce Nickel, 1477 Goodpasture Rd., Concord, Ill. 62631; pdn74@hotmail.com)**

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