



**Art Krenzel, Battle Ground, Wash.:** "I use old socks to store ratchet tie-down straps in a toolbox in my pickup. The socks keep the tools from snagging on the straps and getting everything tangled up. I simply wrap the straps into a ball and slip them in the sock. It's a cheap, quick and easy way to keep things neat."

**Philip G. Lumley, Wilkesport, Ontario:** "I had a 4-ft. long wood burning stove made for my shop, using a 24-in. dia. by 30-in. long, 1-in. thick pipe with a custom built 30 by 36-in. water jacket surrounding it. The water jacket holds 70 gal. of water that's pumped water through pipes embedded in the shop's floor. The stove sets in one wall of the shop and is filled from outside."

"Once I start burning wood in the stove it takes a while to warm up the shop floor. If I want, I can use a furnace fan mounted on the shop wall just above the stove to provide instant heat. A heat catcher box located just above the water jacket traps heat as smoke exits the flue. The fan blows across the heat catcher box."

"A small 2-in. dia. fan at the bottom of the wood chamber can be used whenever the stove is almost out to quickly restart the fire."

"Water inside the water jacket expands as it gets hot. A 20-gal. water tank in one corner of the shop's ceiling is used to store the overflow water."

"This system is very efficient and didn't cost much to build."



**Russell Mayes, Raymond, Ill.:** Russell restores antique tractors and other farm equipment and needed a way to increase the lift-



ing height of his A-frame hoist. His solution was to build two rectangular frames and weld them onto each side of the A-frame, adding a pair of caster wheels on each side. The frames added an extra 3 ft. of height."

**Speed Latch Systems, 101 E. Needmore Hwy., Grand Ledge, Mich. 48837 (RDelong.SpeedLatch@comcast; www.speedlatch.net/product.htm):** Their new Speed Latch pickup toolbox mounting

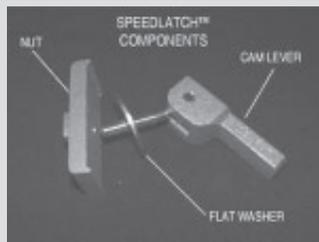
**FARM SHOW**

## Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

*Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.*

*These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: editor@farmshow.com.*

**Mark Newhall, Editor**



system lets you secure a toolbox in the pickup bed without having to drill any holes in the bed rail. Uses the truck's existing stake pockets. Requires no tools for installation, other than the drilling of two holes in the toolbox. It's designed for all full-sized domestic brand pickups as well as the Ford Ranger and Toyota Tundra.

Comes in a kit that contains two cam lever assemblies, two flat washers, and two specially designed "U" nuts, which is all the hardware needed to mount one toolbox. You drill two holes in the toolbox, insert the assembly and spin on the nut, then flip the camlock lever to secure. Once secured, the latches are inaccessible and invisible from the pickup bed.



would get caught in the disk's swivel-type drawbar whenever we made a turn, spraying oil all over everything.

"To solve the problem, we cut some 4-in. plastic drain tile into 12-in. lengths and ran the hoses through them in groups. The plastic tiles keep the hoses together so they don't flop all over."

**Weaver Majors, Little Rock, Ark.:** "Breaking down tractor tires has always been a very labor intensive job. I use a Bobcat mini excavator to push the tire bead loose from the rim. It always works and I've never damaged a tire or rim."

**Rick Lutt, Dallas, S. Dak.:** "To finish planting in wet conditions or to go through occasional wet areas, I remove one of the gauge wheels from my Deere 7000 planter. Placing a bag of water softener salt in an empty herbicide or insecticide box adds extra downpressure for no-till."

**Paul Martin, Nashville, Tenn.:** "I've learned to sharpen mower blades, shovels, pitchforks, and other miscellaneous tools using a relatively inexpensive handheld 4-in. angle grinder. To sharpen a blade, I secure the blade in a vise or clamp, then use the grinder to make equal swipes on each end to keep it balanced. You have to be careful not to grind too much on the bottom of the blade. Practice on an old set and after a while you'll get the hang of it. Sharpening other tools just makes them easier to use. Commercial grinders sell for \$50 to \$60, but you can buy cheap Chinese knockoffs for \$15."

**Peter Bucci, Hebron, Ct.:** "I use Amsoil/grease in all my equipment. I have mowers that I've used for 10 years without any engine or bearing problem. Good lubrication eliminates breakdowns. I swear by Amsoil grease and synthetic oils."

**James Rissler, Hopkinsville, Ky.:** "I'd like to warn your readers about the use of ethanol in gas engines. I have a small engine repair shop and see a lot of small engines



**As a young carpenter, Dennis Hagen built this table saw for making fine angle cuts. Nearly 50 years later, the saw retains an honored place in the craftsman's workshop.**

## Table Saw Tilts For Angle Cuts

When Dennis Hagen was a young carpenter, he needed a table saw for fine angle cuts. Since he couldn't afford to buy one, he built one. Nearly 50 years later, the saw retains an honored place in the craftsman's workshop. Hagen, now 80 years old, shared how he built the unique saw.

"My banker was getting a new desk, so when I told him about my table saw project he gave me his old oak desk. As a result, the table saw is made of fine oak."

The saw stands 35 1/2 in. tall with a table that's 38 in. sq. Instead of tilting the saw blade, Hagen came up with a tilting table design. The table tilts to the right of the operator, riding on curved arms fixed to the sides of the table. The arms, with arcs cut out of them, are supported on a long threaded rod that extends through the arcs and the legs on the right side of the table. The rod has a fixed plate at the far end and a wheel nut on the other end. When Hagen wishes to make an angle cut, he tilts the tabletop and then tight-



**Saw stands 35 1/2 in. tall with a table that's 38 in. square. Instead of tilting the saw blade, Hagen came up with the tilting table mechanism.**

ens the wheel down to secure the arms against the legs. For quick settings, Hagen has the arc supports notched at 30 degrees and 45 degrees.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Hagen, Glaslyn, Sask., Canada SOM 0Y0 (ph 306 342-4927).



**Emory T. Skelton, McCalla, Alabama:** He wanted a way to carry long objects behind his pickup, so he came up with a T-bar



shaped extender that fits into the pickup's receiver hitch. It's made from sq. tubing and is bent up at an angle to keep the load level with the pickup bed.

**Vernon Hoffman, Phoenix, Arizona:** "We were having trouble pinching the hydraulic hoses on our Case-IH disk. The hoses