

Editor's Notebook



Mark Newhall
Editor & Publisher



All of the pickups and tractors shown here are powered by wood.

Wood-Power Inventors Get Together

Wood gasifier inventors and fans got together earlier this spring in Argos, Indiana, to show off their wood-powered pickups, tractors and other equipment. There was a lot of shop talk about the best designs and methods for using wood to fuel internal combustion engines. Highlights of the event included a manifold cleaning demonstration with a blow torch (see the video at www.farmshow.com) and a wood-powered table saw. Plans are to meet again in 2015. Read more at www.driveonwood.com and check out the two stories on wood gas power in this issue (pages 23 & 26.).



"Mystery" video shows forage harvester blowing corn silage directly into trailing baler.

Baling Behind A Forage Harvester

The story in our last issue about the combine-pulled baler Deere plans to introduce at the Farm Progress Show this fall prompted a call from a reader who thinks he has a better idea.

Harry Wallace says mounting a baler on back of a forage harvester instead of a combine makes more sense because they generate so much more crop material at a much faster rate than a combine. And you could bale up high-quality chopped forage by wrapping as silage bales. His idea is to mount a baler directly to the back of a forage harvester and blow "earlage" or haylage directly into the bale chamber.

"So far as I can find, no one has done this before in North America but I found a video on YouTube.com of a Claas Jaguar 870 with a trailing Claas Quadrant big square baler kicking out wrapped silage bales. It was made somewhere in Europe but I haven't been able to track it down," says Wallace. You can contact him by email at: hwallace70@gmail.com or ph 309 259-9092. You can see the video of the Claas machine in action at www.farmshow.com.



Silage bales are wrapped in plastic by the Claas Quadrant big square baler.



Allie Newhall, shown in 2001 with her invention, the "Magic Mitt", and in 2014 on the "Tailgate Bench".

My Daughter's Eye For Invention

This summer I started my 38th year writing about farm inventions and ideas here at FARM SHOW. So it's probably not surprising that my daughter, Allie, inherited a touch of her dad's eye for invention. She actually appeared in the magazine back in 2001, at the age of 9, when she invented the "Magic Mitt" for an Inventor's Fair (Vol. 25, No. 2). It was a knit glove fitted with patches of Velcro to hold disposable electrostatic dust cloths for cleaning mini blinds. What made the story newsworthy - other than the fact that she was my daughter - was the fact that a representative from a big manufacturer took pics of her idea and later submitted it to the company's product development people. The Magic Mitt never made it to market (the company came out with a similar product soon after) but it was an exciting event for our family.

Fast forward to 2014. Allie and I were recently on vacation, taking a walk through a small northern Minnesota town. She said, "Hey Dad. Take a look at that." She had spotted a bench made from two tailgates off Chevy pickups. It was a pretty good spot for an aging editor to take a rest. And, I decided, a good excuse to tell you about my talented daughter once again. Just an f.y.i., like most inventive people we feature in FARM SHOW, she's pretty smart. Next year she will graduate with a masters degree in genetic counseling from Stanford University in California.

A good friend of mine went deaf in one ear last spring. Since he's the healthiest 50-year-old I know, it was quite a shock to me and his many friends. He had noticed the ear was stuffed full but just figured it was due to a cold or mild allergy. A couple weeks went by before he realized his hearing was almost totally gone in that ear.

He went to a doctor and learned that with cases of sudden deafness, it's critical to get treatment within about 72 hrs. of onset. Prompt treatment can lead to complete recovery in most cases if started within the first 3 days. If started after a week or two, treatment can still sometimes be successful. But after 30 days or so, there's almost no chance of recovery. It's probably too late for my friend but if your hearing ever goes fuzzy, get it checked out.

Liberty Quotes

"All men have equal rights to liberty, to their property, and to the protection of the laws." *Voltaire*

"In finance, everything that is agreeable is unsound." *Winston Churchill*

"The opinion of ten thousand men is of no value if none of them know anything about the subject." *Marcus Aurelius*

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality." *Bishop Desmond Tutu*

"Public apathy is more powerful than public opinion. There's more of it." *Dr. Jim Boren*

"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little." *Edmund Burke*

"The justification and purpose of freedom of speech is not to indulge those who want to speak their minds. It is to prevent error and discover truth. There may be other ways of detecting error and discovering truth than that of free discussion, but so far we have not found them." *Henry Steele Commager*

"If voting changed anything, they'd make it illegal." *Emma Goldman*

"Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly, while bad people will find a way around the laws." *Plato*

"There are not enough jails, not enough policemen, not enough courts to enforce a law not supported by the people." *Hubert H. Humphrey*

"If you have 10,000 regulations, you destroy all respect for the law." *Winston Churchill*



Robert Rottinghaus says using this "made it myself" rosary for daily prayers always reminds him of his days on the farm.

"Roller Chain" Rosary

Robert Rottinghaus just turned 91 years old and he lives in a nursing home in Cedar Falls, Iowa. But that hasn't stopped the veteran FARM SHOW inventor from continuing to innovate. He says his Roller Chain Rosary is a great idea for older farmers.

"It's designed like a regular rosary but uses chain links instead of beads," says Rottinghaus. "I like it because it's heavier and doesn't ball up together like other rosaries do. I got the idea one morning when I was praying. The idea just came to me so I bought enough chain to make two of them."

He used No. 25 stainless steel roller chain. It consists of five 10-link sections of chain held together by aluminum rivets. Rottinghaus and his son used a small punch to disassemble the roller chain into sections, then riveted them back together. A crucifix off another rosary is hooked onto a short length of chain, which is attached to a small rectangular aluminum center piece.

"I like that I can roll it up into a circle that lays flat on the table. Best of all it reminds me of all the farm equipment I worked on over the years," says Rottinghaus, who farmed and ran a manufacturing company called Clever-Tech, Inc.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Rottinghaus, Western Nursing Home, 5500 S. Main St., Apt. 24, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 (ph 319 404-5663).

How To "Get" More FARM SHOW

If you can't get enough of the kind of "made it myself" inventions and ideas featured in FARM SHOW, you should check out our website and other online destinations. Here are some "places" where you can go. Just search for "FARM SHOW Magazine" at each of these sites to find videos, stories and other related material. We're still learning how to take full advantage of these resources but they're becoming a good way to connect with other like-minded readers:

1. **YouTube.com** - new videos being posted every week
2. **Facebook.com** - weekly posts of FARM SHOW-related material
3. **Pinterest.com** - readers can "pin" FARM SHOW-type stories and ideas here
4. **Twitter.com** - posts from several of our social media sites are "tweeted" here
5. **GooglePlus.com** - new gathering spot for FARM SHOW readers
5. **FarmShow.com** - videos related to recent stories and archives of all 38 years of FARM SHOW
6. **BestFarmBuys.com & AntiqueFarmEquipment.com** - two free classified ad sites run by FARM SHOW

Little Ole's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. He asked his mom, "Where'd we get him again?" His mother Lena replied, "He came from heafen, Ole." Little Ole said, "Wow! I can see why dey trew him out!"

Lena came running into the store and said to her husband, "Hey Ole! Sombody yust stole our pickup truck from da parking lot!"

Ole replied, "Did yew see who it vas?" "No," said Lena. "I couldn't tell but I got his license plate number."

Lena was driving her car down the road, swerving back and forth erratically. Another driver with a cell phone called the police, who pulled the car over. Lena rolled down her window and said, "Officer, I'm so glad yew are here. I saw a tree in da road, den I saw another, and another! I don't know what's going on! I had tew swerve tew keep from hitting them!"

The officer looks at her, then says, "Ma'am, did those trees look anything like that air freshener hanging from your rear view mirror?"

Ole and Lars were sitting at a bar when Ole pointed across the room and said, "Look at dose two old guys over dere, Lars. Dat will be us in about 10 years."

Lars turned to Ole and said, "You dummy Ole! Dat's a mirror. Yur looking at us!"