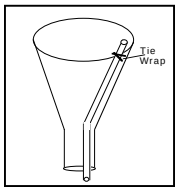
Tom Trenary, Corinth, Kent.: "Here's a way to speed up any funnel. Just attach a small piece of plastic tubing along one side of it that extends down below the bottom of the funnel and above the top edge. It increases the flow of liquid by letting the air escape much faster."



Gerhard Treviranus, Georgetown, Ont.: "To tighten the belt on my table saw, I use an

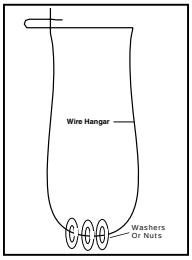
old pulley which is bigger than the pulley on the motor. It has no support, and is simply slipped between the two sides of the belt. Under load, the pulley moves toward the drive-pulley. When it's not under load, it moves back to the middle. Now the pulley is always tight."

Scott Pfeiffer, Albany, Ohio: "It's hard to find air leaks on air bags on New Holland 855 balers. The dealer just wants to sell you a new pair of air bags at about $300 per pair. My solution was to remove all the air lines and spend $4 on some air fittings at the hardware store. I just screwed the fittings on to each air bag and inflate to 100 psi. When you come back in the morning you can see at a glance which bag has the leak."

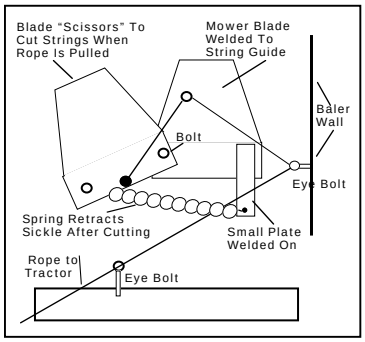
Tom Kutruff, Altoona, Penn.: "The hard rubber coating on my Deere 620 tractor was cracked and worn. I repaired it by removing the old hard rubber. Then I split a washing machine hose lengthwise and slipped it over the wheel and covered that with a mesh-type automative steering wheel cover. Worked well and was a lot cheaper than going to one of the companies that recover steering wheels."

Jimmy Holloway, Des Arc, Ark.: "We lost several fuel tank caps to our combine by forgetting to replace them after fueling. We solved the problem by removing the round magnet from an old radio speaker and sticking it to the combine next to the fuel spout. When we take the cap off, we just stick it to the magnet. We still might forget to replace the fuel cap but we don't lose it."

James Collins, Richfield Springs, N.Y.: "One of the handiest ideas I've had in my shop are my nut and washer holders made from wire coat hangers. What I do is reshape a hanger so it looks like a big safety pin, with a hook at one end. Each hangar holds a different size nut or washer. I just slip them on a hook and hang it on a rod. You can put a lot of hangars in a small space and yet they're very visible. And when you've got a repair, you can quickly grab several different sizes as needed."



Donald Albright, Perkins, Okla.: "Recently, one of your readers wrote in about problems he was having with the string cutter on his older New Holland round baler. I had the same problem and wanted to pass along the way I solved the problem.



"I made a new twine cutter using two sickle blade sections. One welds to the existing string guide. The other bolts to the lower corner of the welded blade and swings freely back and forth. A small piece of metal plate welds to the bottom of the welded blade. A spring runs from this plate to the hinging blade. A rope runs from the tractor through a series of eye-bolts to the hinging blade. To cut the twine, I just pull on the rope and the sections scissor together to cut. The spring pulls the hinged blade back into cutting position. Would likely work on any baler.

"Like the other FARM SHOW reader, I have also started running two strings together in this baler. It really helps hold the bale better. I've tied over 100 bales this way and it has worked out well."

Free Welding Guide

If you do your own welding, you might want to call Lincoln Electric to get a copy of their free guide, *"Stick Electrode Welding Guide: Procedures and Techniques"*. Even if you're experienced, you might learn something new from this detailed booklet.

The guide walks you through the specifics of creating high quality welds on all types of materials. Drawings and photos walk you through specific welding situations and there's also information about various factors that affect welding speed and cost, such as selection of electrode, joint position, buildup, overwelding, and other miscellaneous factors. Other, more advanced welding procedures are discussed complete with illustrations of procedures and there are charts listing plate size, electrode name and size, amperage and feet of weld and weight of electrode used per hour.

For a free copy, call or write for a copy

of book number "C2.410". Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lincoln Electric, 22801 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44117 (ph 800-408-1188 or 216-481-8100, ext. WELD); web site: www.lincolnelectric.com.

FARM SHOW®

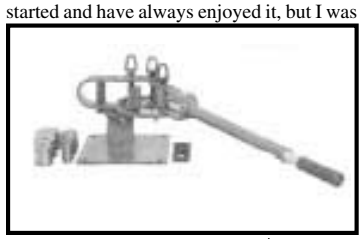
Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money saving repair methods for fixing farm equpment? 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 farm 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 go to our web site at www.farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor

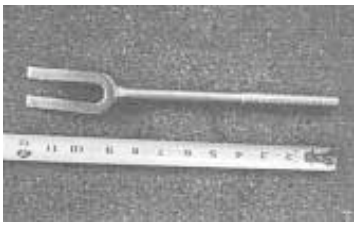
Robert J. Paugh, Bozeman, Mt.: "I've subscribed to FARM SHOW ever since you started and have always enjoyed it, but I was



This table top bender sells for $99.

disappointed in the article on your last issue (Vol. 23, No. 1) about the Compact Bender that sells for $398. I'm enclosing a page from a recent Northern Hydraulics catalog showing what looks like the identical product for $150. I bought a bench model for even less - $100. The headquarters for Northern Hydraulics is not more than 10 miles from your office. Maybe you should get to know your neighbors and see what they have to offer. The one you featured looks like a rip-off. (Northern Hydraulics, Burnsville, MN 1-800-533-5545)."

Matt Graham, Rt. 1, Box 25, Patterson, Mo. 63956 (ph 573-856-4240): "This gauge wheel adjustment tool saves me several minutes every time I have to change the depth



setting on my 15-ft. Deere 750 no-till drill, which has 24 press units on it. It can also be used on air drills with the drill-type press units.

"The tool is a 2.5-in. long forked wedge with a 9 1/2-in. handle. There's a 5/8-in. gap between the two prongs on the U-shaped fork. It tapers from the point to 1-in. thick and fits around the adjustment pin between the head of the pin and the main frame of the press wheel unit. You just slip the wedge in and move the handle back and forth to pry the pin out more easily to adjust the wheel.

"I cast the tool by pouring molten metal into a mold. Then I turned it in a lathe and sanded it to remove the rough edges."

Dennis Whitsitt, Huntingburg, Ind.: "My shop floor anchors are used to straighten equipment too large to fit into our shop press. When we built our shop, I installed eight of

them in the floor. We put four on the pad outside the shop at 2, 3 and 6-ft. intervals. We put four more inside with three of them in a row and a fourth at a right angle to them. The inside ones are next to our in-floor hoist so we can use the hoist as a jack to straighten large implement frames. These anchors are the least expensive feature in our new shop but my employees say they're the best feature in it.

"One thing we use the anchors on is straightening our big bale carrier. We chain both ends down and use a bottle jack to bend the crooked area back into place. We have also used the anchors to adjust the camber on large truck steering axles by bending the axle beam. It's a job that's almost impossible any other way. We just drive the truck over the anchors, chain the axle ends to the anchors, and used two bottle jacks and a floor jack to jack the middle up to the correct position.

"Each anchor is made from 6-in. dia. heavy-gauge pipe cut 18-in. long. One inch from the top of the pipe we drilled two 1-in. dia. holes across from each other. A 9-in. long rod inserts through the holes and is welded in place. A 10-in. sq. flat steel plate is welded to the bottom of the pipe with a hole in the center for drainage. We bury the pipe in the ground so the top of the pipe is