

bale turner like the Grandonis. I remember rolling those bales several rows at a time with a pitch fork.



In 1997, we helped celebrate our community's 125th anniversary by putting our old baler on display. We used it in the field and it worked well. (**John Peach, Box 115, Balmoral, Man. ROC 0H0 ph 204 467-9070**)

Moving my gooseneck hitch trailer around in congested areas is much



easier since I mounted a ball on my hi-lift bucket. I simply attached a metal drawbar to the front lip of the bucket and mounted a ball on that. It's easy to move trailers around. (**Charles W. Ballein, 1302 East national Pike, Scenery Hill, Penn. 15360 ph 724 945-5289**)

My husband enjoys reading your magazine when it arrives and especially enjoys inventions submitted by your read-



ers. So when I saw the opportunity to submit something from my husband, Chris, I couldn't pass up the opportunity. He raises beef cattle and is often out haying by himself. The photo shows how he uses a rubber ratchet strap to hold wagon tongues up at the right height to back up the tractor to hook up quickly. (**Sharon Talbott, Rt 2, Box 282B, Lost Creek, WV 26385 ph 304 745-3066**)

The article in your last issue about turning manure into oil made me think. Manure should not be thought of as a waste material because it is part of the life cycle necessary for sustainable agriculture.

If manure is turned into oil instead of returning it to the land, the cycle will be broken and nutritional elements will have to be added to the soil from some other source.

Manure should be returned to the land that crops were grown on to continue the life cycle. I don't think these issues are even considered when large feed lots,

large dairies, and large poultry operations are planned.

The bottom line: Manure is not "waste". (**James F. Jackson, Carlisle, Ind.**)

I love junk yards. I used to shop in town but now I get a lot of what I need at local salvage yards. Here's an example of



something I built recently, entirely out of junk parts. It's a wheelbarrow with bike wheels. I found the shell of a wheelbarrow without handles or wheels, and fitted it with the big wheels and a framework off an old exercise machine. It's much easier to roll around than a regular wheelbarrow. (**Roger Kuntz, 5251 County Road X, Grainfield, Kan. 67737**)

I grew up in Indiana but now live in Texas. Every time I travel home to visit, my Dad, Glenn Canfield, he has something new



to show me. On my last visit he showed me a sturdy new fence he had just built out of old chicken waterers. The V-shaped waterers are made of galvanized metal. He says the fence should last 20 to 30 years, which is kind of amazing because they are already 30 years old and had been abandoned for years inside an old chicken house on the farm. The fence is even more special to us since my Dad is somewhat disabled and he had to finish the fence sitting on the ground in pain.

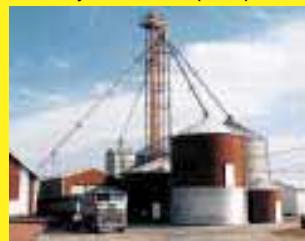
He also made an attractive display for the farm yard by planting flowers in an



old wooden horse-drawn carriage that he bought at a sale. (**Mary Paddock, 6813 Pasatiempo, El Paso, Tex. 79912**)

Here's an interesting grain setup that I spotted on the Mark Bohnenstiehl farm near Edwardsville, Ill. Bohnenstiehl and his sons, Jason and Chad, needed a high-capacity grain handling system. That meant setting up a grain leg. The problem was that their grain center allowed no room for guy wires.

Their solution was to go to a self-supporting tower. They consulted with Larry Unverferth in Centralia, Ill., a farm supplier who has a reputation for designing efficient grain handling systems. Together, they decided to put up a 95-ft.



leg to be supported by a 90-ft. tower that surrounds it.

To give the tower a solid base, they built a 9-ft. deep pit lined with 12-in. thick concrete floor and walls. The tower bolts to the inside of the pit. The pit also serves as an auger feed for the leg. (**C.F. Marley, P.O. Box 93, Nokomis, Ill. 62075**)

If anyone has ever tried putting poultry out on pasture in portable shelters, they know it's quite a chore to move them around. This shelter mover consists of



two wheels spaced widely apart. You slip the front edge under the edge of the pen and pull back to lift up. Then you just tow it to wherever you want. Works best if wheels are mounted on the opposite side of the shelter. (**Larry Their, 13938 Hickory Valley Rd., Farley, Iowa 52046 ph 319 875-7664**)

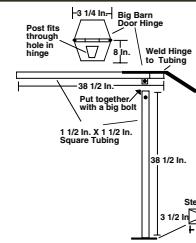
Here's a hitch I made for my tractor's 3-pt. for pulling trailers with ball hitches.



What makes it different from other ones you've shown is that I've got a mast on it that's fitted with a hook. You can hook a chain on there to lift the tongue of trailers that are on the ground and are too heavy to lift by hand. You lift it up with the chain and then put a block under. The hitch is fitted with two different ball hitches. (**Clifton E.R. Lawson, P.E., 14760 Eagle Ridge Rd., Ferryville, Wis. 54628 ph 608 734-3457**)

I made a handy T-post puller using a couple pieces of 1 1/2-in. sq. tubing and a big barn door hinge. I used two pieces of square tubing 38 1/2 in. long. One is fitted with brackets that attach to the top of the other with a large bolt, so it pivots up and down to jack posts out. There's a 3 1/2 by 10-in. "foot" welded to the bottom of the other post to keep it from sink-

ing into the ground. A large barn door hinge welds to the top piece, with one



loose end hanging out over the end. I cut a hole in the hinge that fits down over the top of posts. As you "jack" up on the



post, the hinge keeps dropping down the post. (**Sent in by reader named Amos. No last name or address given.**)

My homemade, portable grain bin monitor is easy to see, day or night, and can be easily moved from bin to bin. It comes with a telescoping handle that supports a metal arm on top. A sensor suspended



by a length of cable hangs from the arm inside the opening in the bin roof. The sensor has a built-in mercury switch. When grain contacts the sensor it automatically turns on a flashing light at the bottom of the handle. The distance the sensor hangs down into the bin can be adjusted by loosening a set screw and pulling the cable down or up. It's a simple, low-cost sensor that you can use on all bins. It also can be used to monitor the level in air seeder tanks and fertilizer tanks, etc. The flashing light is easy to see during the day.

My friend Bev Pavo demonstrated the monitor at the recent Western Farm Progress Show in Regina, Sask. I'm looking for a manufacturer. (**Ken Mann, Box 158, Dinsmore, Sask., Canada ph 306 856-4409**)

My son Aaron and I have cattle on farms about four miles apart and often use our pickups to pull a 20-ft. bale feeder wagon between them. We didn't like how the wagon's dual front wheels were throwing mud and manure onto the back of the pickup. To solve the problem we bought some 8-in. wide poly belting and

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