



“Gator Guard” appears to be swimming along the surface. It keeps geese and ducks away.

Fake Alligator Guards Rural Pond

If you're ever a guest at Roger Gray's farm and you wander down to the pond you may be in for a scare. But don't worry. What appears to be an alligator swimming along the surface is really just a “watch dog” that keeps ducks and geese from becoming permanent residents.

The Gator Guard started out as a prank. Gray floated an alligator hat on the pond as a joke when some kids were coming over and then left it there for a while. He soon noticed he no longer had flocks of geese on the pond.

Gray removed the Gator from the pond to see what would happen. Within a short period, ducks and geese began coming back.

That's when Gray decided to make a business out of the “Gator Guard”. “It works like a plastic snake or an owl, only the Gator has the advantage of moving around. As a goose comes close to the gator the eyes begin to flash in the light,” says Gray.

The eyes are also fastened so that any movement is highly reflective. Gray says, “Like real alligators you get almost 180 degrees of reflection.”

The Gator Guard sells for \$69.95 including S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roger Gray, 46 MeadowBrook Lane, New Windsor, N.Y. 12553 (ph 914 534-7143).

Silhouette Farm Signs Created By Master Metal Worker

Wayne Hagen of Hagen Manufacturing is well-known for his innovative, low-cost metal working machines which have been featured in FARM SHOW over the years (see Vol. 20, No. 3).

But he's starting to gain notoriety for another activity which started as a hobby: Creating detailed metal silhouettes for use as farm signs, ornaments, coat racks, rain gauges, etc.

What makes Hagen's silhouettes unique is that he can incorporate images from your own farm. All you have to do is send him photographs, drawings or other illustrations of people, scenes, or things you'd like to feature and he'll do it.

“I first design the sign on the computer. Lets say you want a sign for the entrance to your farm. I would first design the lettering the way you want it and then I would add in pictures or other illustrations. Then I print that onto a transparency and use an overhead projector to transfer the image onto the metal. Then I use a plasma cutter to hand cut the design out,” explains Hagen. “You can send me photos of your farmstead, your family and employees, or even your favorite piece of machinery.”

Along the way, Hagen incorporates old trees, wagon wheels, and other symbols to give the silhouette a rural flavor.

“I've found that this idea makes a great gift that's really unique. I can work with people long distance because they can send photos by mail, fax or even e-mail,” says Hagen who is happy to send out examples of his work, or you can check it out at his web site on the internet.

The cost of signs runs approximately \$25 a square foot (Canadian) plus frame, shipping, and handling. They're made from 10-ga. sheet steel.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wayne Hagen, Hagen Manufacturing, Ltd., Box 215,



Detailed metal silhouettes are used as farm signs, ornaments, coat racks, rain gauges, etc.



Hagen can incorporate images from your own farm. All you do is send him photos, drawings or other illustrations of people, scenes, or whatever you'd like to feature.

Lake Alma, Sask. S0C 1M0 Canada (ph 306 447-4721; web site: www3.sk.sympatico.ca/hagewa/; e-mail: whagen@sk.sympatico.ca.)



Carriage is powered by the motor, transmission and differential from an old 6 hp riding mower. It seats two people and has a stick tiller for steering.

Replica Of “Horseless Carriage”

By Janis Schole

“If you have half the fun I've had building it, it's worth it,” says Jimmy Woods of Coker, Alabama, regarding the “horseless carriage” car he built.

Woods designed the unit as a retirement project after seeing a similar one at an antique tractor and engine show.

“Seeing it just set me on fire,” Woods says. “I built mine for children to ride in, but have also taken it to parades and shows myself. Children like it, but older people who remember cars like these are just thrilled to death with it.”

Woods spent about 300 hours over an 18-month period to build the vehicle and invested \$800 in materials.

While Woods' carriage uses the motor, transmission and differential from a 6 hp 1967 JC Penney riding lawn mower, he says 5 to 8 hp engines would also work. In fact, he believes that a 3.5 hp engine would also carry the unit “just fine on level ground.”

“I've carried a total passenger weight of just over 400 pounds on smooth asphalt,” he says.

The carriage itself weighs 312 lbs. and measures 52 in. wide and 82 in. long. It has a 36-in. wide seat for two people, three wagon seat springs, and a stick tiller for steering. It has four 26-in. heavy, industrial wheels with bicycle tires.

The unit has a 1-in. sq. steel tube frame, centrifugal clutch and can travel at speeds of up to eight to 10 mph. The woodwork is stained and coated with clear polyurethane and a cushion on the seat tops off the stylish look.

“A lot of people have asked me if I would build a unit they could buy, but I don't have time. I've found that there's just too much to do now that I'm retired,” he says. “I hope to build another one but it will have two seats like the old touring cars, so I can carry three children. I'll also use an 8 hp engine with electric start and it'll have a hydrostatic drive, too. Another thing I really want to do someday is to build a 1912 International truck replica.”

The horseless carriage replica is good for parades, antique tractor and auto shows, or just entertaining the grandchildren, Woods says.

He's had so many requests for plans he had a 24-page set of design plans put together along with parts information and photos. The plans sell for \$20. He has already sold almost 300 sets of plans, filling requests from all over North America.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jimmy Woods, Box 216, Coker, Ala., 35452 (ph 205-339-8138).

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