

J.F. Lisson, Granite City, Ill.: "About 10 years ago I used to custom-cut wheat stubble for local farmers. My rotary mower's blades needed sharpening quite often. I got the idea of making blades out of used road grader blades because they're made out of super hardened steel. That was 10 years ago and I haven't sharpened the blades since. They're still in good shape. It's one of the best ideas I ever had."

John Boote, Hull, Iowa: "This is a simple idea but people might not have thought of it. Spraying WD-40 into door locks makes them work smooth and easy. It's a cheap way to avoid an every day nuisance."

Albert Stier, Petersburg, Ill.: This cabinet-style truck bed came off an appliance truck. Albert made a trailer out of it that he



says is handy around the farm. He can carry tools and supplies in the side cabinets and open the gate on back to carry loads in the center cargo area."

Harold Walden, Hettick, Ill.: Walden is a rural township highway commissioner and one of the problems he frequently encounters is collapsed culverts due to cars and



trucks cutting corners too short. To correct the problem, he modified a handyman jack with jaws to reshape the ends.



"Wrenchmate" Adds Leverage To Open End Wrench

When you just can't get enough "oomph" on an open-end wrench to loosen a stubborn nut or bolt, you might find the new "Wrenchmate" useful.

Invented and manufactured by Ed Frazzini, Corning, N.Y., it's an extension that simply slips over the end of the wrench and will work in hard-to-reach areas. It's got a U-shaped opening at one end and a pair of

He had a local welder add 8-in. extensions to both the base and the lift pad on the jack. He just slips the extensions into the end of the culvert and cranks the jack with the normal jack handle. "It's kind of crude but it works," says Walden, who fixes about 60 culverts a year with the modified jack.

Roger Strang, Virginia, Ill.: Roger says he gets a lot more work out of his hydraulic shop press since he mounted it on caster



wheels. Now he can roll it right next to any job, eliminating the need to continually carry parts all the way across his shop."

Stan Bahrns, Effingham, Ill.: If you've ever bought - or considered buying - a used forklift fitted with solid rubber tires, you'll



be interested in a service provided by Stan Bahrns.

The problem with the solid rubber tires is that they're extremely difficult to remove. Bahrns has built two powerful presses which



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 e-mail us at: Editor@farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor

will change the tires in minutes.

Solid rubber tires come in nearly all sizes. Factory forklifts are often equipped with low profile tires because they only run on flat surfaces. When used on a farm, the forklifts should be fitted with bigger tires for handling uneven terrain.

Bahrns built a stationary press for use back at his shop, and a portable press mounted on a trailer that he can take on the road. The portable press develops 137 tons of pressure. His shop press is even bigger, with a maximum pressure of 165 tons. A 5 hp. Honda engine and a 2-stage hydraulic pump power the portable press.

To install a new solid rubber tire, the tire is placed over the old one. The old tire and rim rests on a die that is a little bit smaller than the rim. When the press comes down, the new tire is pressed on and the old one comes off at the same time.

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Bill Reeks, Cromwell, Ky.: "Here's a photo that shows how I solved the problem of carrying tools and miscellaneous supplies



on my Cub Cadet riding mower. I bolted a surplus ammunition box on the deck of the mower. I carry tools, tie wire, tow chains and even a 16-oz. plastic pop bottle filled with gasoline so I don't have to walk back to the shop if I run out of gas. It makes it easy to make small repairs away from the shop. You can get ammo boxes from a variety of surplus outlets and catalogs."

Herb Klassen, Kendall, Kan.: "I make 3-legged sawhorses out of steel pipe. The great thing about them is that they adjust to the contour of the ground. They're made out



of round steel pipe with angled braces at either end. Very handy.

"I also made a used tire rack out of steel pipe. Lets us organize tires so we can easily



find the one we need. Cheap and easy to build.

"This rolling dolly makes it easy to remove and install dual truck wheels. It's a small



steel rod frame mounted on small wheels. The wheels fit snugly inside the frame."

Alan Maclean, Kingston, Ontario: "I modified my shop hydraulic press, which is equipped with a 5,000 lb. hand pump. Cylinder movement was slow. I installed a 'T' at the cylinder inlet and supplied oil to the