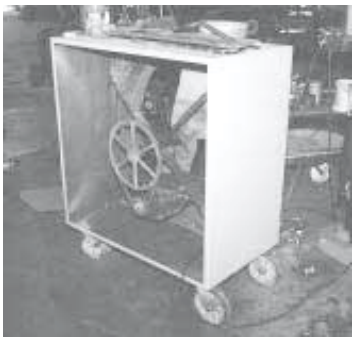
a local state hospital and got a wall-mounted, 3-phase electric fan free. I mounted the 48-in. dia. fan, which has only two blades, inside a 52-in. sq. metal box which I mounted



on wheels. The fan turns very slow so it's quiet. However, it pushes a tremendous amount of air. It'll push air a distance of 100 ft. and helps keep our shop cool on hot, still days."

A. Sanders, Bangor, Sask.: "I had a number of broken bolt studs that broke deep in a casting. I couldn't get a drill bit or even a center punch to stay put in the center of the stud. I solved the problem by drilling a hole slightly smaller than the stud all the way through the center of another bolt and tap threads into the casting to screw in the bolt. Then I slip a drill bit in through the bolt and drill out the stud. The bolt stays firmly in place and keeps the drill centered exactly so that it doesn't 'wander' and damage the threads in the casting. This idea won't work if the stud breaks flush because you couldn't thread the bolt into the casting. I made a set of different size bolts with different size holes ranging from 1/4 to 3/4 inches in diameter."

David C. Prause, China Spring, Tex.: "When the wind is blowing, the gathering wheels on my Vermeer baler don't work. I solved the problem by taking car seat cover material and completely covering the tongue of the baler, one piece on each side with wire back to the baler. This lets me bale in a strong wind, especially with light coastal hay. I tie it up off the ground a few inches so the windrow slides underneath."

Kurt Sheldon, Kenton, Ohio: "I've found a good use for old socks. I use them to hold hydraulic connectors when they're in my tractor toolbox. It keeps them dirt-free. The idea would work for other parts, too."

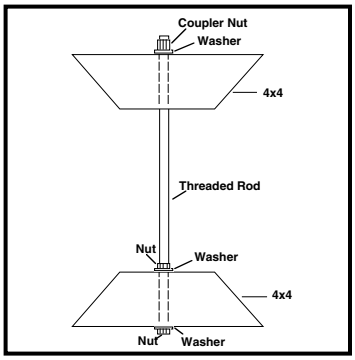
Al Stober, Ledminster, Mass.: "Rubber canning jar seals work excellent to stop arterial bleeding when dehorning cattle. Just leave a short horn stump and stretch the rubber seal around the two stumps. It acts like a very strong elastic band. It's best done when flies are not a problem and best to also use a powder to help control bleeding and infection."

Donald Enterline, Jamestown, Penn.: "One idea that works well for me is a method I use to lock nuts in place. After you put a nut on, just hammer the end of the bolt a couple times with hammer, hard enough to flatten it slightly. That'll hold the nut in place so it can't come off."

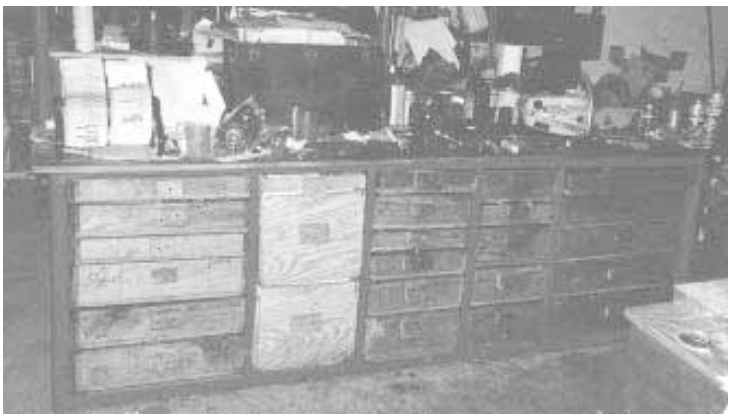
Woody Stewart, Rockglen, Sask.: "To seal windows on older vehicles with lots of air leaks, grease the edges of the window and then fill the track with silicone and run the window up. The silicone will seal tightly around the window but will not stick. Once the silicone sets, you can wipe off the grease and you'll have a tight seal."

William E. Erickson, Ellensburg, Wash.: "I use a pair of 4 by 4's connected by a threaded rod to make easy-to-use wheel chocks for tandem axle trailers. The boards put pressure between the two tires to keep them from moving. First, I determined where I wanted the blocks and then cut their ends to fit the curvature of the tires. Then I drilled a hole through the middle of each 4 by 4 and measured to see how long the rod would need to be, allowing room for a nut and washer at the bottom and a coupler nut and a washer on top. I use an open-end wrench to tighten the blocks.

"I use the same wheel chock idea on my 22-ft. fifth wheel RV trailer. These chocks can't slip out of place like an ordinary chock



that's placed under the tire. And they're inexpensive to make."



John Aaron Rissler, New Enterprise, Pa.: "Needing both a tool chest and a work bench, I decided to combine both by building what I call a Tool Bench. I needed all sizes of drawers – wide and narrow, deep and shallow. I used sq. steel tubing to make the frame and angle iron to make the drawer slides. I didn't really count the drawers but just figured the different sizes I wanted.

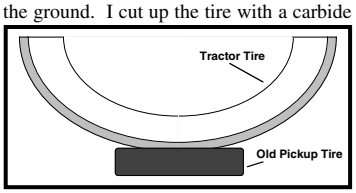
"I sized the bench so that a 4 by 8-ft. sheet of 3/4-in. plywood would fit as a top. I ended up with 53 drawers and an upper deck work area designed for work on smaller tools and projects. There are 2-ft. long drawers on both sides. I also fitted in space for four large drawers for hanging file folders. At this time, some of the drawers are still empty, but that's the way I wanted it - better to have too many drawers than not enough. With plenty of drawers my special tools now have their own places.

"The work bench stands 31 in. high. It's

big enough that we can get a whole engine up on it, or even two, with room to sort out parts and work on them.

"My total cost for lumber and steel was about $200. A commercial toolbox with only half that many drawers costs three times as much and doesn't offer the work bench area."

Norman Epp, Hillsboro, Kan.: "I made a leak-checking water tank for car and pickup tires by cutting down a tractor tire and setting it on top of a pickup tire that's laying flat on the ground. I cut up the tire with a carbide



blade in a circular saw to cut the tire, and a metal cutting blade to get through the bead.

Walt Austin, T90, Wash.: "I used to use a pressure washer to clean out dirt between planks on bridges. It was a messy job. Then I got the idea of using a crosscut power saw. I just run it between the plans and it gets the job done quick and easy. Works great."

Cliff Brandenburger, BeecherCity, Ill.: Cliff put a flourescent light on a track above the work area in his shop so he can position the light exactly where he needs it. He first suspended a 2 by 6 vertically. Then he made a "track" by nailing 1-in. boards to either side of the bottom of the 2 by 6. He made U-shaped hangars for the light out of strap iron. He put roller bearings on the upper ends of the strap iron to roll along the track.

Air-Operated Lift Table Handles Up To 1,000 Lbs.

"I thought your readers might like to know about this great lift table," says Kevin Johansen, Mound, Minn., who recently e-mailed FARM SHOW to tell us how much he likes his new air-operated lift table.

"It may be a little expensive but it's by far the best lift table I've ever seen. I'm a mechanical engineer and I'm impressed with its sturdiness. The fit and finish are also excellent. It lets me work on garden tractors, ATV's, motorcycles, and snowmobiles without having to stoop or bend down."

Built by Handy Industries of Marshalltown, Iowa, the Handy Air Lift has a 24 by 80-in. steel table and a scissors lift that's powered by a pneumatic cylinder. The cylinder operates off any air compressor that can deliver 90 to 100 psi. A foot-operated valve is used to raise or lower the table. The entire unit weighs just 350 lbs. but has a lifting capacity of 1,000 lbs. It raises to a work-

ing height of 30 1/4 in. When lowered, it's only 7 in. high allowing for easy on-off loading.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Handy Industries, L.L.C., 702 S. 3rd Ave., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158 (ph 800 247-7594; fax 641 752-1205; Website: www.handyindustries.com).