

Tricky Seat Keeps Friends On Edge

When friends come over to Greg Hemming's for coffee, they're always offered the seat of honor. It's a stool that Greg call's his "Reflex Balance Tester".

It consists of a pair of disc blades welded to a coil spring from a car. The bigger disc blade goes on the floor and there's a smaller one for the seat. He usually puts a cushion on the top blade for sitting.

"It's not too hard to sit on with both feet planted on the floor but when you cross one leg with just one foot on the floor, it gets a bit more tricky and you start swaying around. It's a great conversation piece and I made it from things you can find around most any farm," says Greg.

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Tricky seat consists of a pair of disc blades welded to a coil spring from a car. Keeping your seat is a challenge.



Clarence Douma shortened his silo and then built a wood and fiberglass gazebo on top. He also cut a hole in the barn roof and built a walkway from barn to gazebo.

Farm Couple Loves Their Silo-Mounted Gazebo

Sixty nine-year-old Clarence Douma of Randolph, Wis., recently decided to scale down his farming operations. He sold the land but retained possession of the house and buildings that included a barn and silo.

After helping some nearby farmers with their planting and harvesting, and making some bowling and golfing excursions, he decided he still had some spare time on his hands.

So he went to work on the 30 by 60-ft. barn, which had a 45-ft. tall cement stave silo. With some help, he removed staves starting from the top and on down until the silo stood only 18 ft. above the ground. Then he built a wood and fiberglass gazebo, one piece at a time, on top of the silo. He also cut a hole in the

barn roof and built a walkway from the barn to the gazebo.

Clarence's brother Gerrit sent photos of the setup to FARM SHOW. "The buildings are located on a higher elevation than most of the surrounding countryside, allowing Clarence and his wife Shirley to enjoy the view on many summer evenings," says Gerrit.

"Building the gazebo was a lot of work, as Clarence had to carry everything up one piece at a time. He says that if he could do it over he'd build the gazebo on the ground, and then use a crane to lift it onto the silo."

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"Lonesome Jake", a wild turkey, likes to poke his head through Paul Marley's kitchen window and eat grapes out of his hand.

Lonesome Wild Turkey "Adopts" Illinois Family

"He pokes his head into our kitchen window and eats grapes out of our hands," says Paul Marley about "Lonesome Jake", a wild turkey that has adopted the rural Illinois family.

Three wild turkeys hatched out last spring near the Marley farm. "I had seen them off and on during the year. Then something happened to two of them so there was just the one left. We didn't think much about it until we turned on our outdoor Christmas lights last fall. That apparently caused the

remaining bird to come close to the house. We started feeding him and he liked it."

They dubbed him Lonesome Jake and soon he was coming right up to the open window. But Jake is fussy. He only likes purple grapes. He will not eat green ones. He just turns his head to the side in disgust until they come up with some purple ones.

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"It was fun to build and looks like the real thing," says Herbert Metz about his half-scale "Mini G". He used parts from Cub Cadet and Wheelhorse garden tractors.

Half-Scale Allis-Chalmers "Mini G" Tractor

"I used parts from an old Cub Cadet and Wheelhorse garden tractor to build a half-scale Allis-Chalmers G tractor. It was a lot of fun to build and looks like the real thing," says Herbert Metz, Cumming, Ga.

Metz used the Cub Cadet's transaxle, and hydrostatic transmission. The front axle assembly was fabricated from pipe and strap iron. The rack and pinion steering system is off the Wheel Horse. Power is provided by a 6 hp Kohler gas engine that mounts on back. The engine direct-drives a hydrostatic pump. A 6-in. dia., 12-in. long gas tank is located behind the seat and in front of the engine.

A pair of 1-in. dia. curved steel rods extend from the front axle back to the middle of the tractor, giving the tractor the distinctive look of a real Allis-Chalmers G.

"I enjoy taking it to shows. Most people immediately recognize it as a small Allis-Chalmers G tractor. Some even mention they were unaware that Allis-Chalmers ever made a tractor this small," says Metz. "My son Mark painted the tractor. It'll go up to 8 mph."



Front axle assembly was fabricated from pipe and strap iron.

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