

Reader Letters



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Thanks for the story on our horse logging operation (Vol. 28, No. 1). Unfortunately both the address and phone number were wrong. Here is our correct address: **(Dave and Dona Goodin, Rt. 1, Box 271-1, Shobonier, Ill. 62885 ph 618 846-3072)**



This 8-in. length of rectangular tubing has a bolt-on ball hitch at one end. By pinning the tubing onto my tractor drawbar I can quickly switch to a ball hitch without any tools. **(Eric Webster, 697 Warburton Rd., Lansdowne, Ontario, Canada K0E 1L0 ph 613 659-2450)**

Your last issue had a story on a homemade solar shelter for cats. I wanted to tell you about my Solar Pet Home. The passive solar design includes a twin wall,



clear poly door on front for easy access. The floor is filled with 4 in. of play sand (not included), with a carpeted cement board placed on top of it.

The shelter has a slanted, adjustable roof that can be moved several inches forward or backward. Moving the roof forward during the summer forms an overhang that shades the window and keeps the floor cool during warm weather.

The walls are formed from 2 in. of insulation sandwiched between particle board, while the roof has 2 in. of insulation sandwiched between sheets of aluminum.

The pet enters and exits through a poly swing door on one side of the shelter. You can roll the door up into an overhead compartment whenever the door isn't needed to retain heat. A 5 by 7-in. adjustable air vent on the opposite side of the pet door allows cross ventilation.

The walls are available with either a stucco or wood grain textured finish and with a choice of white, adobe or eggshell color. The roof comes in a white Dura-Text finish."

Five different sizes are available. The smallest unit measures 20 in. wide, 27 in. deep, and 20 in. high and sells for \$529 plus S&H. The largest model measures 40 in. wide, 52 in. deep, and 38 in. high and sells for \$1,189 plus S&H. **(Solar Pet Homes, 4207 1st St. N.W., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107 ph 505 345-0661 or 505 328-0204; email: info@solarpethomes.com; website: www.SolarPetHomes.com)**

Here's a simple "nut gatherer" I made

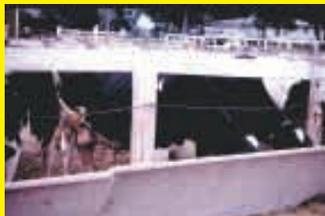
by cutting off the bottom of an empty plastic laundry softener bottle. I screw the bottle to the end of a 34-in. long stick and



use it to collect walnuts and hickory nuts. I have arthritis and a bad back so this device really comes in handy. I just dump the nuts into a 5-gal. bucket.

To protect all my padlocks from the weather I cover them with homemade "flaps". The one shown in the photo is a 5 by 8-in. piece of plastic fiber woven material. I inserted a 4-in. length of no. 9 galvanized wire near the bottom edge of the flap. Whenever I want to unlock the padlock I lift the flap up and attach the wire inside it to a small magnet that I mounted above the padlock. I've used inner tubes to make other protective flaps. I haven't had any locks get wet and freeze ever since I started using this idea.

(Bill Reeks, D.I.Y. Sawmills, U.S. Hwy. 231 South, Box 7104B, Cromwell, Ky. 42333 ph 270 274-3361)



A steel cable mounted horizontally above a feed bunk will discourage cows from lifting their heads and wasting hay. **(Wayne King, 2515 Agronomy, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011 ph 515 294-0359)**



We noticed the story in your last issue (Vol. 28, No. 1) on new products from Germany, including pedal-driven toys. You showed a bike system that can be hooked together to make a six-person, side-by-side bicycle. These bike are called Dino-Cars, and we are the U.S. distributor for them. Apart from the over-size pedal carts, we also offer several other types of Dino-Cars including trailers, scooters and vehicles for children.

All these vehicles are pedal-driven and are equipped with different types of free-wheels, which means the pedals stand still whenever they're not in use. Some of the vehicles are equipped with 3 or 5-speed gearboxes, allowing you to change speeds like you do with a 3-speed bi-

I thought your readers might enjoy these photos of my "backyard toilet bowl fountain" built out of discarded toilet bowls. The bottom row of five bowls sit on a concrete slab. The top toilets hang from a concrete block column.

All bowls are partially filled with concrete and gravel so they will fill and overflow into the bowls below. A 12-in. spacing between tiers causes the top rows to trickle and splash as they overflow, causing a pleasant sound. Water is supplied to the top bowl.

Birds and squirrels really like the fresh water. At first my friends and neighbors rolled their eyes and made a lot of jokes, but soon they were telling their friends and bringing them to see it. **(Dan Pettitt, Ormond Beach, Florida; email: dpat40off@msn.com)**



cycle. With some models you change between going forward and backward by switching a lever; on others you don't have to switch anything. Some models are designed just for kids. All models run extremely smooth and are a lot of fun to drive. **(North Country Marketing, Inc., 1740 West Main Ave., West Fargo, N. Dak. 58078 ph 701 277-1022; fax 701 277-0945; email: info@dinocars.ca; website: www.dinocars.ca)**

Thank you for the story in your last issue on my 3-pt. quick hitch. It lets you easily and safely attach or remove any 3-pt. implement in just a few seconds. It works



faster and is also much safer to use than conventional 3-pt. hookup systems.

I've had so many inquiries from your readers that I had a friend create a detailed website for it: www.compumart.ab.ca/jcarson. The website provides step by step instructions and photos on how to modify your tractor and equipment to 3-pt. quick attach. To help offset the cost of developing and maintaining this webpage, a voluntary contribution would be much appreciated. **(John Carson, 52277 RR 225, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada T8C 1C7; email: jcarson@interbaun.com)**



My homemade post puller is easy to use and didn't cost much to make. It consists of a 6-ft. length of 1 by 2 rectangular tubing that serves as a handle. The handle moves up and down via a hinge mounted on an A-shaped metal stand. To make the hinge, I drilled a 3/8-in. dia. hole through the handle about 13 in. from the end. I also drilled corresponding holes on top of the stand's legs. The hinge is formed by a bolt that goes through the legs and handle. A pair of 2-in. dia. washers welded onto the end of the handle serve as a guide for a length of 1/4-in. chain that's fitted with a slip hook.

The stand's legs are made from 3/4-in. dia. steel pipe. I heated the top end of

each pipe and flattened it to fit against the rectangular tubing. The bottom end of each pipe is welded to a horizontal length of angle iron that serves as a base.

All I do is slip the hook around the post and push down on the back end of the tubing. I've used it successfully on steel posts that were buried 20 in. deep in the ground. It works best if the ground is dry because as you raise the post the ground around it shatters, making the post easier to pull out. **(Leonard Seltzer, 16040 W. Elmwood, Manhattan, Ill. 60442 ph 815 478-3578)**

Thank you for your article in the last issue on our new front auger Rotor Conversion Kit that fits all existing Case-IH specialty rotors and is easily installed with no welding or cutting.

I wanted to let you know that we have registered a trademark name for the kit. It's now called the "Axceller Kit Model 88".

We have had numerous inquiries about whether we plan to develop the kit for the 60 Series combines. At present we hope to have kits for those machines available for next fall. **(Dell Croissant, Stewart Steel, Inc., Box 1087, Weyburn, Sask. Canada S4H 2L3 ph 306 842-4411; website: www.stewartsteel.com)**

Your article in the last issue of FARM SHOW on my collection of Deere tractors contained a few errors we would like



to correct. I did not want the errors to give people the idea I don't know Deere equipment.

My newest tractor—a 1974 Deere 7520—is powered by a 6-cyl. diesel. It was NOT repowered.

In addition to the tractors, I have a collection of Deere combines from the 50's and 60's. I have three 106 models with belt pickups, three 105's—one with a 6-row cornhead, one with a straight head, and one with a belt pickup—all of which I still use on crops.

Finally, the Deere tractor I bought in the mid-1950's for \$35 was a "D" not a "B". **(Donald Dufner, RR1, Box 124, Buxton, N.Dak., 58218 ph 701 942-3102)**

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