



Reclining two-person bicycle has padded seats side-by-side instead of one behind the other.

Side-By-Side Bike Fitted With "Gravel Wheels"

Bob Merry was on vacation in New Mexico when he saw a contraption that caught his eye. It was a reclining two-person bicycle that had seats side-by-side instead of one behind the other. "It looked like fun, but it cost too much at \$2,100," he says. So Merry built his own.

He started with the parts of two stripped-down bicycles and joined the frames using aluminum tubing. Rather than traditional bicycle seats, Merry used two padded seats taken out of a bass fishing boat. Not only are they more comfortable, but they're adjustable as well. Other standard equipment includes a wire basket, cup holders, safety flag and parking brake.

Merry now builds and sells two models: one with 20-in. wheels and another with 12-in. wheels. The tires are thick all-terrain tires and perfect for cruising down gravel roads. Each model sells for only \$750.

Optional features are available such as an electric motor assist, six-speed gear shifter or hand brakes. If you own an RV, you can even get a custom-made bike carrier so you don't have to miss out while on the road.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Merry, 3132 NW 52, Oklahoma City, Okla. (ph 450 550-3412; email: Bmerry@sbc.global.net).



"Leaves in Bag" system consists of a support sleeve that goes inside the bag, and "clamshell" leaf loaders that let you quickly pick up piles of leaves.

Fast Way To Bag Leaves

Here's a quick and easy way to bag leaves without getting your hands dirty.

The "Leaves in Bag" system consists of a support sleeve that goes inside the bag, and "clamshell" leaf loaders that let you quickly pick up piles of leaves.

The sleeve is made from high density poly and measures 6 ft. long and 2 ft. high. It's designed to work with 30, 33 or 39-gal. trash bags. When you roll the sleeve up and insert it inside the bag, the sleeve expands to hold the bag fully open. The clamshell leaf loader works by spreading the handles like a post hole digger.

"It works much faster than a rake and also saves a lot of wear and tear on your back," says Hierath. "Some people leave the sleeve inside the bag and use it in their shop or garage or yard as a trash container."

Sells for \$29.95 plus \$9 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hierath Products, LLC, Box 61203, Denver, Colo. 80206 (ph 877 355-0039 or 303 355-0039; email: Len@MasterCompost.com; website: www.LEAVESinBAGS.net).

"Easy-Up" Lightweight Kneeler

Helen Danenberger loves to garden but hates going down to the ground and getting back up again. "It is so hard on my back which really limits the amount of time I can spend berry picking," she says.

Her solution is a kneeler that has two long handles built onto the sides. Her husband, Don, made it by taking two old bicycle handlebars and welding them to a metal frame. Small pieces of metal are used as diagonal braces on the handles. The base is wood and is covered with a foam pad to cushion the knees.

Using the modified kneeler, she is able to slowly lower herself to the ground and push herself back up. "I like not having to bend over to pick it up when I want to move," she says. "This kneeler has allowed me to be in the garden as often as I want to be."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Helen E. Danenberger, 108 Alta St., Ashland, Ill. 62612 (ph 217 476-8878).



Battery-Operated Fans Make Coolness Portable

An Amish hardware store operator named Howard Plank in Arthur, Illinois knew there was a market for battery-operated fans. But he didn't realize the market wasn't limited to other Amish people. However, word got around and the store now does a brisk business manufacturing 16 and 20-in., 12-volt fans.

Plank says they use a fairly expensive ball bearing motor and speed control to make the fans more efficient. And the motor and fan blade design were chosen for their quietness.

Since most people use a standard marine deep-cycle battery (not included with the fans), they are rated to run from 15 to 150 hours on this battery, depending on speed of operation.

The 20-in. fan is a tabletop fan that tilts to any angle and comes fully assembled. The unit measures 24 in. sq.

The 16-in. oscillating pedestal fan has adjustable height, five casters for portability, and a removable battery compartment.

Both units come with nine feet of wiring with clamps for direct connection to battery terminals, as well as an adapter to plug into a cigarette lighter. This makes them ideal for use in RV's, semi-truck sleepers, horse trailers or remote work sites.

A smaller, 12-in. version is currently in the design stage, and will be available for the 2004 season, according to Miller.

The 20-in. tabletop fan is priced at \$169 plus \$12 S&H. The 16 in. oscillating pedestal fan costs \$279 plus \$20 shipping and handling. Tools Plus has more than 20 dealers who also offer the Freedom Fans.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lynn Miller, Fan Dept. Manager, Tools Plus, R.R.#1, Box 122C, Arthur, Illinois 61911 (ph 217 543-3294 or 217 543-2404).

Lifetime Clothesline System

A clothesline system made with stainless steel bearings and nylatron (hard plastic) parts will never rust and should last the life of its owner, says White Horse Machine in Gap, Pennsylvania.

A unique braking system automatically prevents a full line of laundry from drifting back to the lower pulley.

"You can set the brake to prevent movement in either direction, or you can release it altogether," says Steve Stoltzfus of White Horse Machine. "Our system also comes with two line spacers that keep the line from sagging too low by spreading the weight over both the top and bottom line. After your line is one-third full of clothes, you put a spacer on and then hang another section of laundry before installing the second spacer."

The complete set, which includes wheels, 250 ft. of vinyl-covered steel cable, a cable tightener, clamps, and two line spacers, costs \$121. The same set with 500 ft. of cable instead, costs \$153. A set of pulleys alone runs \$77. These prices include shipping within the U.S.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Stoltzfus, White Horse Machine, 5566 Old Philadelphia Pike, Gap, Penn. 17527 (ph 717 768-8313).



Tabletop fan (above) and oscillating pedestal fan (below).



Clothesline system is made with stainless steel bearings and nylatron (hard plastic).

Reader Recipes

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in milk and shortening. Stir in nuts if desired. Pour into 9 by 13 pan. Mix brown sugar and cocoa and sprinkle over batter. Pour hot water over batter. Bake for 45 min. at 350°. While hot, cut into squares. Invert on a dessert plate and spoon sauce in the bottom of the pan over each serving. Serve warm topped with whipped cream.

Baked Chili-Cheese Corn

4 cups corn kernels fresh or frozen (drained)
1 cup grated cheddar cheese
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese
1 (7 oz.) can diced green chilies (optional)
2 tsp chili powder
2 tsp cumin

Preheat oven to 350°.

.Butter 1 1/2 quart baking dish or cast iron skillet. Mix all ingredients in large bowl until well combined. Transfer to prepared dish. Bake till bubbling about 30 min.

Helen Druse
Lafayette, Colo.

Pumpkin Pie Ice Cream

1 1/2 cups light cream
6 egg yolks
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 tsp vanilla
3/4 tsp pumpkin pie spice
1 1/2 cups heavy cream
1 1/2 cups canned solid pack pumpkin

In a heavy saucepan, scald light cream. In a medium-sized bowl, whisk together egg yolks, sugar and vanilla. Gradually whisk in light cream. Add pumpkin pie spice. Return mixture to saucepan. Stir over medium-low heat until mixture thickens, about 10 min. Do not boil. Remove from heat. Whisk in heavy cream and pumpkin. Strain mixture into bowl. Refrigerate until well-chilled. Transfer mixture to ice cream machine.