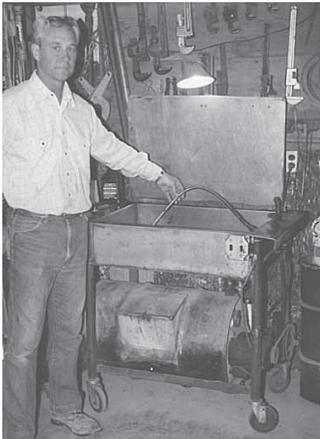




**Bob Bugger, Effingham, Ill.:** Bob reduced wire changing time on his mig welder by installing an extra spool dispenser that he designed himself.

In the past, he had to wind wire from larger wheels onto the smaller wheel that comes with the welder. To eliminate that step, he mounted a bracket in the unused space below the welder. The bracket is simply a piece of flat angle iron with a short shaft to allow the commercial spool to slip on. In the bottom of the upper compartment, he installed a small brass fitting to allow the wire to slip through smoothly without jamming.

Bob also made a parts washer that he says works as well as anything he could have



bought. He used a salvaged kitchen sink from a school cafeteria with a flip down cover made from a sheet of stainless steel. The hinged lid drops down quickly in case of a flash fire. Bugger had experience with such a fire when a magneto he was working on emitted a spark and set off a fire. Washing solvent is stored in a barrel below. To circulate it, he uses a car power steering pump. It's belt-driven by an electric motor. The washing nozzle is made from thin gauge copper tubing.

**Neil Marshall, Bethany, Ill.:** Neil likes to use his chop saw a lot but he doesn't like



the dust that settles all over his shop. So he mounted it on a pivoting bracket attached just



inside the garage door. When not in use, it pivots inside for storage. When he has to cut something, it swings easily to the outside.



**Gordon J. Brietzke, Spirit River, Alberta:** Straight-sided canning pots make good hose and cord holders. Just tack them up on the wall and loop cords around them.

**John Needham, Nipissing, Ont.:** "Anyone who uses a splitting axe for chopping firewood knows how easy it is to break the handle. By welding a 6-in. length of 1-in. angle iron to the axe head, with the apex facing down, the handle will be protected. Run a couple steel straps from the angle iron to the head for reinforcement. I have split several hundred cords of wood with the same handle so the idea really works."

"Here's another tip. If you need to tighten a wooden handle, soak it in antifreeze instead of water because water will rot the wood."

**Arco Rosenow, Chillicothe, Ill.:** "It seems battery-powered shop tools always go dead whenever I'm away from home. To solve the problem I carry spare batteries in my tool and tackle boxes using this idea. I cut a length of PVC tubing into 6-in. lengths and glue on one end cap. Then I push in a small wad of paper, stack several batteries, insert another wad of paper and push on another cap."

## "Nuts & Bolts" Sand Blaster

We got a phone call the other day from a fellow in Texas with the unusual name of Taylor Taylor. He's the president of Worthy Manufacturing, a direct-from-the-factory manufacturer of sand blasters.

"We've been making the Texas Blaster for 38 years so it's been proven over time," says Taylor. "Because we sell direct, we can sell it for just \$349. That might be a little more than some cheap knock-offs you can buy from China, but it's two to three times cheaper than comparable domestic-built machines."

The Texas Blaster holds 140 lbs. of blast media and runs on 7 cfm @ 80 psi. It'll clean 1 sq. ft. per minute and blast for an hour and a half on a tank of sand. It has a 14-gal. tank and an easy-pour funnel for fast loading.

"It's plumbed with heavy galvanized pipe and powder-coated to last a long time. It comes with 10 ft. of Dayton sandblast hose and two different blasting tips. It's fitted with 10-in. dia. hard rubber tires."

In most cases the blasters are shipped the day they're ordered. The company also



**Texas Blaster has a 14-gal. tank and an easy-pour funnel for fast loading. It'll blast for 1 1/2 hours on a tank of sand.**

makes the Worthy Strainer, which is used to strain paint when spray painting.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Taylor Taylor, Worthy Mfg. Co., P.O. Box 279, Martindale, Texas 78655 (ph 877 380-5829; www.texasblaster.com).

# FARM SHOW®

## 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 email us at: editor@farmshow.com.*

Mark Newhall, Editor



**C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill.:** "When the starter motor in my old 1948 IHC M went bad I went looking for a replacement. I discovered a company in my own back yard that works on starters, generators and alternators from all over the country."

"K&W Auto Electric (103 N. Automotive St., Teutopolis, Ill. 62467 ph 217 857-1717) provided me with a rebuilt starter for \$88. What I like about their service is that you can wait for your part to be rebuilt or you can pick up a rebuilt part and trade yours in."

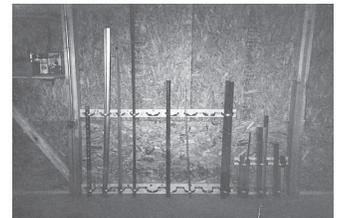
"Owners Karl Wendt and Rick Kreke started out in 1987 in an old chicken house rewiring starters and alternators. In 1991 they also started selling batteries. In 1994 they added a second store in Shelbyville, Ill., and started selling used golf carts."

"You can ship parts to them from anywhere by UPS."

offers several benefits. One is that it makes it easy to hold flat pieces of steel while sawing or grinding because you can slip them under the top level. A second advantage is that when working on a motor, all motor parts can be kept on the upper level while the tools are on the lower level.

The all-steel table mounts on casters and can be moved about the shop and taken to repair jobs. The table is fitted with a vise.

**Jeff Kumpf, Hopedale, Ill.:** "In building a new shop, I needed a place to store miscellaneous metal pieces. I had some 4-in. pipe



straps so I decided to mount them on a couple 8-ft. 2 by 4's. I mounted the straps end to end along the length of the board. Then I mounted the boards, one above the other, along the wall of the shop. I just slip the pieces of iron, rod or pipe, through the straps."

**Dwight Michener, Waynesville, Ohio:** "I use body putty to make small repairs and patches to all kinds of wood and metal parts. It's easy to mix up and lasts longer than other repair materials."

**Danny Bowes, 3467 Queens Line, RRI, Foresters Falls, Ontario K0J1V0 Canada ph 613 646-2672; www.importtractorparts.net:** "I run a small business and website called Import Tractor Parts, specializing in parts for Fiat-built and Universal

(UTB) or Long tractors. We carry a large stock of parts. Parts from the dealers are either not available or prohibitively expensive to keep these older tractors up and running. But ITP tries to alleviate that for its customers by providing quality, aftermarket parts for these models."

**Joe Hinchman, Rochester, N.Y.:** "I needed to replace the lower ball joint and control arm on one of my Honda Accords but I couldn't get the strut rod out of the bushing. I tried heat, penetrating oil, gear pullers, pickle forks, etc. I actually broke my



**Mike Miller, Athens, Ill.:** Mike's moveable workbench has a split-level top which