

# Reader Letters



(Continued from previous page)

Thanks for putting my business – Import Tractor Parts - in the last issue of FARM SHOW. Unfortunately, my phone number was deleted and only my fax number was listed. So people who called got a machine instead of a person. Our phone number is 613 646-7732. (Danny Bowes, Import Tractor parts, www.importtractors.com)



I made this simple gate holder that sticks in the ground to hold a gate open. It U-bolts to the gate when it's closed. I took a length of 1/2-in. square tubing and welded a 3/2-in. length of 1/2-in. rod to the top of it that I bent into a curve. I also welded a 5-in. piece of rod with a 90-degree curve at the bottom. It's a great time saver. (Walter E Bueker, 35570 Bueker Rd., California, Mo. 65018; ph 573 796-2558; wbueker@yahoo.com)

I put a cab on an International tractor to make it more comfortable to operate when blowing snow. But with the cab,



there's not much room for the crank on the blower shoot. So I removed its crank handle and machined an adapter for a cordless 12-volt drill. I mounted it below the cable winder and added a small pulley on the drill and a 6 in. pulley above where the crank used to be with a V belt. I enclosed the pulleys and belt with a cut-down plastic toolbox to keep snow off the belt. I hard-wired the motor to an on/off toggle switch. It works like a dream and cost me about \$20. (Mark Frechette, 18913 Perch Lake Rd., Newberry, Mich. 49868)



If you can't find a chain, clevis, hitch pin, implement clip, boomer or hand tools

while on the tractor, you might need one of the metal utility tool buckets I make. You just attach it anywhere on the tractor with one bolt (included). It can be primed or painted to match tractor color on request. Price is \$45 plus S&H. (Howard Dickey, 5646 NE Estep Rd., Turney, Mo. 64493 ph 816 632-2789; landh@northmo.net)



People like my Caterpillar mailbox. The track is made from pieces of conveyor belt and rides over plastic wheels, with wooden strips screwed onto it at regular intervals. The mailbox is riveted to a metal frame to keep anyone from stealing it. There's even a small wooden seat and platform on back of the "tractor". (Frank Krakow, 4205 Saint Joseph Rd., New Albany, Ind. 47150 ph 812 944-0917)

I made these "turkey ornaments" out of my scrap pile. The head is an old mower guard; the body was made from 3/4-in.



dia. bent pipe; the wings were made from a disc coupler cut in half; the legs from 3/8-in. steel rod; and the toes from 1/4-in. dia. rod. A disk blade serves as the base. The tail feathers were made by welding six lengths of 1/4-in. dia. rod to a short piece of angle iron, and then welding the angle iron to the body. The eyes were made by welding a bolt onto a mower guard. (Bob Haddon, 3544 Rowe Gap Rd., Belvidere, Tenn. 37306 ph 931 967-1688)

Your readers may be interested in this new game idea for Christmas. It'll keep your children happily occupied for a long time.

We're a family of six lively boys, and they came up with the idea one day after receiving a new game at school. The boys came home and said "Mom, lets put together a game ourselves". So we had a fun time last winter playing and redoing the game, which we decided to call "Chores on the Farm".

The game consists of all the boys' chores - like feeding the heifers, weeding the garden, fixing the fence, bringing in the mail, and picking a bunch of wildflowers for Mom. Just don't be caught poking around on the same space as your brother or you'll have to lose a turn!

After the boys played this game one day with their cousins, everyone insisted that we put the game on the market, so we're giving it a try. It sells for \$22.95 plus \$7 S&H. (Amos Stoltzfus, 6561 Morgan Creek Rd., Williamsburg, Ind. 47393 ph 765 874-9033)



I crack walnuts for our own use, and to give to friends. I built the machine out of material I had on hand such as angle iron, square tubing and wheels from an old lawn mower. The unit is controlled by a foot pedal on wheels that can be repositioned to adjust the leverage.

One of the advantages of using the device is that you can control how much or how little you crush the shells. In fact, it has so much leverage that my 4-year-old grandson is able to crack walnuts.

While nursing a sore knee I was faced with the job of moving some horses with our gooseneck trailer. I didn't look forward to climbing over the side of the pickup, or crawling in over the tailgate to hook up to the trailer. To solve the problem I came up with the EZE-Latch. It makes hitching up to trailers a much easier job, because you can latch the hitch while standing on the ground.

The EZE-Latch installs in about 10 min-



utes. You just drill two 1/4-in. dia. holes in the trailer gusset and adjust the length of a cable. Sells for \$39.95 plus S&H. It can be ordered at www.eze-latch.com or you can call toll-free 866 231-8589. (Arden Vernon, POB 356, Turon, Kansas 67583 ph 620 497-6475; www.eze-latch.com)

I enjoyed reading the article on horse-shoe crosses in your last issue, in which Roger Robison welds iron horseshoes into crosses for marking gravesites or to use as wall hangings.

Here's a photo of a horse-shoe cross that I made for my daughter's horse out of new horseshoes. The cross is welded to a 6-ft. high steel fence post. All the letters are cut from 18-g. steel and welded on back of the shoes.

I chose not to paint the horseshoes. Instead, I applied four or five coats of clear sealant to keep the shoes from rusting. I'm willing to build these horseshoe crosses on a custom basis. (Bob Murray, 18453 County Road 12, Pengilly, Minn. 55775 ph 218 247-7170)

My post hole auger storage unit provides a simple way to keep a 3-pt. mounted post hole auger in place for easy hookup.

It handles different sized walnuts without adjusting, and thanks to the foot pedal the operator has both hands free to feed the machine. After being cracked, the nuts fall down a chute and into a bucket, which is then dumped onto a table where you can pick out the meat.

I can crack one gallon of walnuts in only about 6 minutes with this machine. (David Neises, 20987 Mud Lake Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001 ph 563 552-2716; dfneises@earthlink.net)

The unit has an H-shaped base made from angle iron. A 6-ft. high length of angle iron is welded upright at the center of the base and is bent slightly backward. A length of angle iron is welded at a right angle to the top of the upright and supports a chain and hook.

To release the auger from the tractor, I just back up the post hole auger and attach the chain to a swivel-type metal loop



welded on top of the auger's mounting arm. Then I detach the auger from the tractor's 3-pt. hitch and lower the auger until it dangles above the ground. (Joseph L. Bellor, 2578 Reed Rd., Lapeer, Mich. 48446 ph 810 667-2854)

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