Squirrels were eating our bird seed faster than we could load the feeder. After trying red pepper, garlic, a BB gun, etc., I finally decided to hook up a fence charger to the feeder. The feeder is on a metal pole so I wrapped the staff with a piece of pipe insulation foam. I then wrapped the charger’s hot and ground wires around it, spacing the wires about 1/2 in. apart and taping them in place.

My wife and I then poured a cup of coffee and plugged in the charger to see if it worked. Warning — don’t try to drink coffee when a squirrel hits the wires because he’ll do some fantastic gymnastics moves that will make you laugh. We’ve had squirrels actually leave the area for several days, and most of them never again even dared to get anywhere close to the feeder. (Arco Rosenow, Chillicothe, Ill.)

Castrating ruptured pigs used to be difficult and risky. If the gut had extended into the scrotal sack, it could come out when you cut the skin to get at the testicle and remove it. The skin un-der the scrotum is very thin and if it worked. Warning — don’t try to drink coffee when a squirrel hits the wires because he’ll do some fantastic gymnastics moves that will make you laugh. We’ve had squirrels actually leave the area for several days, and most of them never again even dared to get anywhere close to the feeder. (Arco Rosenow, Chillicothe, Ill.)

A reader in your last issue reported in the Best & Worst Buy section that he was disappointed in a product called Sun Brite All-Purpose Cleaner. My concern is that this report could easily be confused with products from my company, (www.sunbritesupply.com). We sell cleaners and tools all over the country and I know that many of your readers are also my customers. I do not have any relation to that product and do not know that manufacturer. Thank you for clarifying. (Pete Marentay, President, Sun Brite Supply, www. sunbritesupply.com; ph 877 578-7759)

Concerning a couple articles in your last issue, tell your readers not to spend much on putters that go into their tires because it will not do much good. They run nitrogen in tires on high-speed race cars because pressure is important in how the car performs on turns. Pressure buildup in farm tires is not a problem.

Also, I recommend your readers have an electrician who is familiar with the National Electrical Code check the wiring in their barns in order to fight “stray voltage”. The report in the issue on the “Entire fields like woodoo electricity to me. (James F. Jackson, Carlisle, Ind.)

I use cultivator gauge wheels to support gate ends. The shanks fit into the bottom of the pipes on the end of the gates. Rolls easy. (Kendall Upchurch, US Hwy 65, Zearing, Iowa 50272 ph 515 487-4746)

I am writing to warn your readers that subsoilers should be used with extreme caution if your fields are tilled. I grew up in the field tilling business back when we still laid clay tile in the Midwest. We once had to charge a farmer $20,000 to repair the damage he did to his field tile system with a subsoiler. You should be especially careful on newly acquired ground when you do not know the history. In my experience, most farmers would be very surprised to know just how shallow tile is on sidehills after one or two decades of topsoil loss. (jroelofs@highstream.net; ph 515-202-9090)

I found a way to use my garden tractor’s trailer as a greenhouse so I can grow small plants for transplanting into a garden after the danger of frost is over. I simply put the small plants in it and covered the entire trailer with storm windows. I heated it with a 60-watt bulb attached to a bulb socket attached to an extension cord strung from the house. When weather reports say frost is coming, I cover the glass with a Masonite sheet or plastic tarp.

Although I haven’t tried it, you could also insulate the inside of the trailer with Styrofoam. (Jim E. Dale, 721 Hillside Dr., La Cygne, Kansas 66040; ph 913 757-2084)

To neatly bundle up kindling, I cut an old 55-gal. barrel in half, cut the bottom off and cut it again in half lengthwise. I just lay two bale twine strings about 6 ft. long in the open half barrel and pile wood in it until level. Then, I use a piece of wood to twist the two strings tight. This gives me a neat bunch of kindling that’s easy to handle.

I also had problems with raccoons and bears eating the birdsseed in my feeder. I solved that problem by putting an electric fence around the bird feeder and connecting it to the electric fence that surrounds my property. I don’t have the time I don’t even need to keep it hooked up because once the raccoons have broken through the fence, they don’t come back. It works very well. (Harry Wright, HC 50, Box 5565, Red Lodge, Mont. 59068; ph: 406 425-2832)

I just read an article in FARM SHOW’s Vol. 29, No. 6, issue about a “virtually indestructible mailbox”. It sounds like a wonderful idea except for the fact that in Minnesota and many other states, it’s illegal to have a heavy post or “damage-proof” mailbox because if accidentally hit by a vehicle, the box could become a projectile, going through a windshield and killing or injuring someone. It’s better to replace a few mailboxes than to cause a serious mishap. (Don from Minnesota)

Editor’s Note: The story in our last issue on Albert Collins’s chore tractor contained an incorrect headline. The story told about Collins’s “Little Red Horse”, 3-wheeled, 2-WD tractor and showed a photo of that machine. Unfortunately, the headline was incorrect.

I use a golf cart to pull this homemade 4 by 6-ft., 2-wheeled trailer. Works great for hauling buckets of feed to cattle and for hauling wood and fixing fence, etc. It saves a lot of wear and tear on our tractor. The trailer rides on a pair of 16-in. motorcycle wheels, with a long threaded shaft. The bed is made from 2 by 4’s mounted on an angle iron frame, the floor from expanded metal, and the tongue from lightweight sq. tubing. We use an outdoor wood burning stove to heat our house and haul and stack the wood in wooded boxes that we set

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