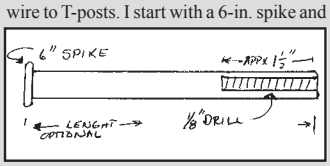
Butch Alcorn, Encampment, Wyo.: "I came up with this handy shirt pocket tool that lets me use wire clips to attach fence wire to T-posts. I start with a 6-in. spike and



grind the point off, then drill a 1/8-in. dia. hole about 1 1/2 in. deep into the end of it. A lathe works best for drilling the hole, but if you're careful you can use a drill press. This tool works great for any wire wrapping job where I'd otherwise have to use pliers. You just slip the end of the wire into it and twist. I painted the tool orange so it's easier to find if I ever drop it in grass or hay, etc."

Jon Warwick, Warwick Ideas, LLC, (ph 601 954-5776; www.stavepress.com): "Our portable StavePress is designed to gently but firmly hold irregularly shaped

wood pieces without damaging the wood grain. It grips the work piece between 2 horizontal rubber-cushioned plates, allowing me to bear down hard with tools without worrying that the wood will be dislodged or damaged.

"The upper pressure plate pivots around a ball joint, allowing it to conform to the shape of the work piece at multiple points which results in less pressure on each point. Works great on irregular-shaped pieces of wood such as rough staves and hand-carved furniture pieces.

"An optional metal base is available that lets you temporarily mount the Stave Press to any firm surface. You use 2 C-clamps to clamp the base down, then slide the Stave Press's frame onto it and tighten the set screws.

"Sells for $119 plus S&H. The base sells for $29."

Gary Rotruck, Burlington, W. Va.: "I was doing trim work for a local home

builder and needed to set kitchen cabinets in place without having to hire someone. So, I used built this 'cabinet jack' using pvc tubing and plywood. It mounts on 4 rollers. The legs are made from 4 lengths of 2-in. dia. pvc pipe that fit over 1 1/2-in. pipe. The 2-in. pipe slides up over the 1 1/2-in. pipe to pre-drilled holes for each cabinet height.

"I can make plans available for a fee if anyone is interested."

Robert Chesney, Woodstop, Kan.: "We had a 13 1/2 by 15-in. tire go flat on our New Holland swather. By rolling the flat tire up on a car ramp, we were able to get a jack under the swather's frame and remove the wheel so we could install a new tube."

Larry Taylor, Williamsburg, Ky.: "When the hot water stopped running in our house I was able to solve the problem without having to buy a new water heater by coming up with a way to replace the cold water intake line. Cold water runs through a plastic hose down to the bottom of the water heater and forces hot water to the top. Over time the chlorine eats up the hose and it deteriorates and breaks, and then drops down into the water heater and you can't get it back out. I couldn't find any company that replaces those plastic inserts. You can't put copper in there because it'll corrode.

"To solve the problem I took a length of 1-in. dia. copper and flared the copper tubing at the top. Then I reamed out the end of a piece of 1/2-in. dia. pvc tubing and slid the copper tubing down into it. The flared top keeps the copper tubing from dropping down into the pvc tubing. Then I connected the cold water back up and the water heater worked as good as new again."

Co-Leash Corp., Tampa, Fla. (ph 888 838-2169; www.krypta-glow.com): Kryptaglow is a glow-in-the-dark fluorescent paint that shines bright for 24 hours after being exposed to light for just 15 min. It can be used on walls, floors, metals, or on just about any properly prepared surface. During the day, the paint is relatively clear, but by applying multiple coats and a white base paint, it'll shine bright at night.

Ranchers can use the paint on fences so cattle don't bang into them at night when they're running. It also works great on slow moving vehicles, to light up bumpers and tailgates on pickups, or on tractor wheels as a theft preventative.

Comes only in 1-gal. cans. Sells for $350 plus S&H.

The company also makes a plastic dip for shop tools. It leaves a rubberized coating on the tool that glows in the dark so you don't lose the tools. Plastic dip sells for $350 per gal. plus S&H.

Tim Patterson, Gold Plug LLC, 224 New Ventures Dr., Site 9, Bozeman, Mont. 59718, (ph 406 600-3103; goldplug@gmail.com): He sells a new line of magnetic dipsticks to compliment the company's magnetic

drain plug. The dipsticks are precision CNC machined from billet aluminum. The no. 3003 dipstick is designed to replace and protect many Honda and Briggs & Stratton powered generators including the GX110, GX120, GX140, GX160, and GX200 models. Other lengths are available to cover almost all portable generators, and many other engines.

New Rebuilt Parts For Deere Balers

Years of experience dismantling and rebuilding Deere balers have proven to Nelson Horning that Tucker Fingers in the knotters are nearly always worn and have a lot of play. Horning builds replacement Tucker Shafts for use on Deere 8 series balers and for many other models, including the 24T.

Nelson Horning rebuilds knotters on Deere 8 series balers, and also rebuilds parts on many other models.

"Deere's current Tucker Shaft has ball joint ends that tend to wear and result in poor knots," says Horning. "Our updated shaft with ball joints sells for $150. The price includes a new spring and a new angle bracket, which is typically worn as well." Horning says his price is usually 40 to 50 percent less than replacement parts through a Deere dealer.

Horning also manufactures new Tucker Fingers made with stainless steel bushings that he sells for $44 each. "We've been working on Deere balers for almost 20 years and have customers in 40 states," Horning says. At last count he says nearly a thousand farmers have sent him baler parts for repair and refurbishing.

"I started this business back in the early 90's almost by accident," Horning says. "I needed new parts for an old Deere chopper and they wanted $600 for them at the dealership. I bought salvage parts for $200, made some improvements, and they worked just perfect. I did the same with baler parts the next year and things just mushroomed from there," says Horning.

Horning's experience with balers has also shown him that ejector pans have a lot of play and usually break where the pan is attached with a 7/16-in. pin. He drills new holes and secures the pan with 3/4-in. pins, which makes it a lot tighter. If parts are worn out, Horning has a large supply of replacements. Those he doesn't have can be made in his shop. His current inventory includes more than 100 different aftermarket parts and thousands of used parts. Most are for Deere balers, although he will work on New Holland machines and plans to expand into discbines soon.

Horning also has a knotter rebuilding service where turnaround is 1 to 2 days. He replaces pinion gears, the billhook, the wipershaft, bushing and knife. This service costs $275 to $300 and parts are shipped by Fed-Ex for next day delivery.

"On all our repair jobs we rebuild the parts, clean them and paint them so they're like new. We're proud of the service we provide and our customers tell us they're very satisfied," Horning says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Nelson Horning, 250 Lovejoy Rd., Penn Yan, N.Y. 14527 (ph 585 526-6705).

James Osnes used weldable industrial plastic instead of steel to build this big sandblasting cabinet. "The plastic has held up well with no chipping," he says.

Sandblaster Made Of "Weldable Plastic"

James Osnes needed a sandblasting cabinet and he had a bunch of "weldable" industrial plastic on hand after helping a neighbor build dog kennels. He decided to use the plastic instead of steel.

"This stuff is fun to work with," Osnes says about weldable industrial plastic. The sandblaster needed to be large enough to blast tire rims, so he made it 48 in. wide and 30 in. deep. Osnes first looked at commercial sandblasters to make patterns for the hopper.

Because the bottom holds most of the weight, Osnes used the thickest plastic scraps (1/4-in.) for the hopper. The plastic cuts easily with any type of saw, he says.

He used a Drader Injectiweld to assemble the pieces.

"It's just like other welding, but this is easier," Osnes says. The tool feeds a roll of 1/8-in. plastic to the hot tip, and melds it and the plastic pieces together."

He built in a double strength glass viewing window with filament on the inside that can be replaced. He also cut in holes for long rubber gloves to hold items and operate the sandblaster.

Osnes operates his unit with a squirrel cage blower off an old woodstove. He uses sand that he screens himself as well as coal slag.

The plastic has held up very well with no chipping at all, he says.

"It works good. I've used it quite a bit," Osnes says. Currently he's restoring a 1957 Chevy Bel Air and a 1929 Chevy pickup and using the sandblaster to clean up parts.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James Osnes, 28918 346th Ave., Burke, S. Dak. 57523 (ph 605 775-2548).