



Custom-made "hayclaw" table incorporates the grapple from an antique barn trolley designed to run on a track along the top of a barn.

## "Hayclaw Table" Made From Barnwood

Salvage Werks of West Jefferson, Ohio, is in the business of finding new homes for old barn wood in and around central Ohio, making and selling it as furniture, flooring, wall coverings and more. The company showed this unique, custom-made "hayclaw" table, along with many other barnwood items, this fall at the Ohio Farm Science Review show.

"It gets a lot of looks from showgoers. People love it," says owner Jeff Thornton.

The 18 by 54-in. table top incorporates the grapple from an antique barn trolley designed to run on a track along the top of a barn. The trolley's rope-operated hay release mechanism extends through holes that Thornton cut into the table, and is secured by flanges bolted on underneath. The grapples extend down from both ends of the table to form the legs, with their points embedded in a barnwood base.

To make the table Thornton used a jointer

to square up the edges of several barn boards, then glued and clamped them together. The grapple tips rest in holes drilled at an angle into the base. He belt sanded the boards to preserve their original saw marks, and also gave the table a clearcoat finish.

Thornton says the table sells for \$850. Readers interested in having a table or other item made by Salvage Werks should send them an idea of what they want and the size.

"Most of our items come from local auctions, schools, farm buildings and houses. We also take down old barns as well as old homes to salvage the lumber," says Thornton. "We're constantly on the lookout for the next new item, idea or project to add to our shop."

You can see what new things the company offers by going to their website.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Salvage Werks, 127 Jackson St., West Jefferson, Ohio 43162 (ph 614 800-4727; salvagewerks@yahoo.com; www.salvagewerks.com).

## Horse-Drawn Miniature Wagons

Tom Johnson's miniature wagons, stagecoaches and shepherders' wagons connect him with his younger years when he worked with horses on a ranch in Nebraska's Sandhills. Guided by his memory, a very old Sears Roebuck catalog, and a few photos, he makes his oak horse-drawn pieces as close to the originals as he can.

"Wells Fargo stagecoaches were set on leather. That's why they rocked," he says, noting that his foot-long replicas also include leather, as well as padded seats, a cloth ceiling and doors that open. It takes him about a month to build a stagecoach.

His shepherd's wagon also includes intricate details when the cover is removed to reveal a table and chair, shepherd cookstove, Bible and coffeepot inside.

Johnson starts with rough oak boards like those found on some pallets. Among his most used tools are power sanders and rotary grinders. He assembles metal parts with solder and wooden pieces with glue and copper.

"For wagon floors I drill each little board and put in copper wire and hammer it to make it like a rivet," he says. "Wheels are the most challenging part, because they are easy to break." It's a delicate process adding spokes to wheels that are only 1/8-in. thick.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Johnson, 3653 CR19, Harrisburg, Neb. 69345 (ph 308 641-3166).



Tom Johnson's collection of homemade, wooden horse-drawn miniature wagons includes this Wells Fargo stagecoach.

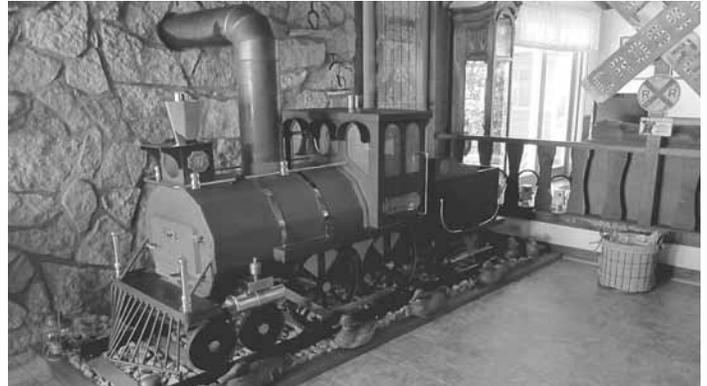


This wagon is a replica of a U.S. mail wagon.



"I make my oak horse-drawn pieces as close to the originals as I can," he says.

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The first thing you see when you walk in the front door of Dallas Denison's house is this homemade "steam locomotive" stove. A smoke stack on top of the tank feeds into the chimney.

## "Steam Locomotive" Wood Burning Stove

About 25 years ago Dallas Denison went to the library and got a photo of an old steam locomotive equipped with a cow catcher. He used the photo to build a wood burning stove that still sits in his house in front of the chimney.

The steam locomotive measures 8 ft. long and sets on 10 ft. of fake railroad tracks. A big railroad crossing sign stands nearby. The entire locomotive is painted black with chrome and brass plating accents.

The stove's door is located on front of the steam engine's tank, and a smoke stack on top of the tank feeds into the chimney.

"It's the first thing you see when you walk in the front door. We used it to heat our

house for many years. Everything on it is handmade," says Denison, of Dundas, Minn.

The locomotive's headlight is located on front and has a big silver bell mounted on top of it. The stove's door is off a commercial wood burning furnace. The locomotive rides on wheels made from 1/2-in. thick sheet metal.

"I found the miniature railroad tracks at a junkyard, and a series of 2 by 4's under the tracks serve as fake railroad ties," notes Denison.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dallas Denison, 12138 Faribault Blvd., Dundas, Minn. 55019 (ph 507 645-9873; mddenison@gmail.com).

## Bedbugs Like Chickens, Too

People aren't the only ones harassed by bed bugs. So are chickens. The first bedbug infestation found in a Saskatoon, Canada, layer facility was recently reported when workers cleaned a barn. The bugs were discovered when workers moved metal racks after the chickens had been removed from the barn. Bed bugs latched on the workers who reported it and walked off the job.

While it's a new problem in Canada, U.S. poultry producers have been fighting bed bugs for a while. Just one bedbug coming in a barn on someone's clothing or with feed or equipment can create havoc. Due to the large numbers of eggs a female can produce, bed bug populations can explode quickly.

They need blood every 3 to 7 days to survive and will feed for 5 to 10 minutes, usually at night. While they don't transmit disease, heavy infestation can lead to feather loss, cloacal irritation, lesions and anemia, which can affect egg production and fertility.

Because of limits on insecticides (DDT was once used) that can be used when birds are present, it has become more difficult to eradicate the bed bugs. Stronger and more effective pesticides can be used when the buildings are empty, and nooks and crannies can be completely disinfected. Heat (130 degrees for a few hours) also kills bed bugs and their eggs.

However, total eradication is difficult, and one or two missed bed bugs can start the whole problem again, so vigilance is necessary.

Until about 20 years ago, bed bugs were thought to have been pretty eradicated in developed countries. There have been many reports of the blood-sucking insects in hotels, dorms and homes. With a growing number of reports of bedbugs in poultry barns, it appears they like chicken as much as they like human blood.