

Reader Letters



My brother-in-law needed an enclosed trailer but couldn't justify the cost of a new one. He did, however, have a 1987 Dodge Caravan that had quit running. So I suggested we make a trailer out of it.

I cut the van off right behind the driver's seat, bent the light frame on both sides into a hitch, and added a 2 by 2-in. steel beam down the middle for a hitch. I had to reinforce the frame, and added a steel plate to the floor of the van to get strength to fasten the 2-in. sq. beam to.

The trailer was heavy enough on the hitch to trailer very well. I bought a ball hitch to go on the beam, and a jack to support the front. I found a piece of sheet metal that I formed to cover the front. I screwed this to 2 by 6's that I had fastened to the floor and roof of the trailer with steel floor hangers. I sealed the edges of the cover with silicone caulking and painted it.

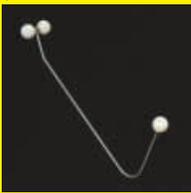
Both the sliding side door and the rear lift gate make this a handy chore trailer. My brother-in-law is very pleased with the results. **(Ralph E. Mercer, W6350 Summit Ave., Bay City, Wis. 54723)**

I was very disappointed to see the article in your last issue about dowsing. A more correct title for the article would have been, "After Two Dry Holes, Landowner Tries Different Well Driller". Before you drag your fine publication down into the world of tabloids again, I suggest you visit the James Randi Educational Foundation at www.randi.org. He has researched and tested dowsing for decades and he has a standing \$1 million challenge to anyone who can demonstrate that dowsing – or any other paranormal skill – works. Hundreds of dowsers have attempted to win the money but none have been able to demonstrate any skill under controlled conditions.

Please, no more articles on this foolishness. **(Lee A. Cornelius, Chicora, Penn.)**

I am a current subscriber to FARM SHOW and I have enjoyed it for many years. In fact, back in the 1980's I had a cultivator folding mechanism that was featured in your publication.

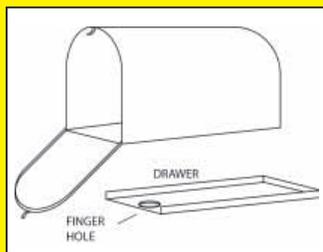
I recently invented a device for men with painful prostate problems. The "Prostate Massage Mate" is truly an invention born of necessity. It's a quality device manufactured to medical standards. My own struggles with the prostate gland led me to look for other, more cost-effective treatments than medicines and doctor visits. Anyone looking for more details can visit our website at www.prostatemassage.com or call us at 903 509-1166. **(C.B. Reinert Co., 4828 S. Broadway #166, Tyler, Texas 75703 fax 903 509-1167; email info@prostatemassage.com)**



I thought you'd like to see my "heart in the hay." I was baling and came back around the field to find this heart on the side of a bale I had just made. Later, the different colored grass faded and the heart disappeared. **(August J. Doid, Howard, S. Dak.)**



Here's a cultivator I made for tilling in between rows of vegetables. I made some tines out of stainless steel and mounted them between the handles off an old mower. The tines are powered by a 1/2 in. cordless drill that chain-drives the tines. Instead of wheels, I put two skids on it. **(Ken Voigt, Wausau, Wis.)**



Instead of reaching in to pull my mail out of the mailbox, I made a sliding insert that brings the mail out to me. I used plastic from an old chair mat and used heavy duty tape to tape the edges together. I also cut a finger hole in front to make pulling it out a lot easier. My mail carrier and I both enjoy this "slide out." **(John K. Stary, Bay City, Texas)**



I cut off the top part of my rubber boots to walk in early morning wet grass. You



You ran this photo in the last issue. It shows a barn near Shelbyville, Ill., that I said I'd been watching for many years, waiting for it to fall down. Little did I know that the very next storm would knock it down.

It was an emotional experience for Georgia Lou Pearson, daughter of the



original barn owner. When I drove by soon after the storm, she had brought in a large backhoe (above right) to sort through the fallen timbers to see if any would be salvageable for possible reuse by local artists or builders. **(C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill.)**

can step in and out of them without any problems. Besides, most of the time you don't need full-length boots anyhow. **(C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill.)**

I made a second one for my brother's family. **(Kelly Precht, 193 Precht Road, Bell City, Louis. 70630 ph 337 598-2960)**



I built this mini ferris wheel to make some extra cash but I need to sell it because of health problems.

It's 13 ft. high and electric. It plays old time carnival music as it turns. This could be a business on wheels if you mounted it on a trailer. I'm asking \$3,500, OBO. **(Ray Rodriguez, Waxahachie, Texas ph 972 937-2271)**

I thought your readers might be interested in this simple device I put on my mailbox to tell me when the mail has arrived.



Here's a hidden ramp that I constructed across the front of our house that makes



the front door handicap accessible. The ramp drops down behind a hand railing which adds to the attractiveness of the house. **(Mike Cornelius, 311 So. Center St., Zeoring, Iowa ph 641 487-7257)**

It pivots on a 1/4-in. bolt in the lower corner of the square side piece. I added a roller bearing to the end of the "trip" lever in order to prevent scuffing the paint off the door of the box. The photo explains it better than I can.

The flag is great when the weather is bad because it lets you know when the mail is here. **(Bob Hudspeth, P.O. Box 51, Era, Texas 76238 ph 940 665-5942)**



I wanted to add wheel skirts on back of my 1991 Chevy S-10 pickup but couldn't find any, so I made my own out of aluminum sheeting. The sheeting was left over after someone added aluminum trim around the windows of my house. I cut it to shape and used self-threading screws to attach it to the chrome trim around the pickup's rear wheels. The aluminum is painted purple and green, the same color as the pickup. **(Doug Brown, Columbia, Tenn.)**



I took an old 65-gal. propane tank, filled it with water, and then carefully cut the end caps off. The base is a 20-in. smooth disk blade with an 8-in. piece of 2 5/16-in. dia. pipe. The handles are sickle guards off a 750 MF Combine 16 ft. header.

By joining some old wood pallets together with 2 by 4's and wood screws, I was able to quickly build this low-cost, sturdy shelter which I use to store my garden tractor

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