

wires solved all the electrical problems.

"If you have any unexplained electrical problems on Chevy pickups, trace down the relay ground wire for the affected system."

Jerry Seidel, Belle Rive, Ill.: Jerry likes his **Gartech** lock-on grease gun coupler (www.gartech.co.za). The coupler replaces the tip on your existing grease gun and will work on any grease gun with a 1/8-in. NPT thread. You just press a thumb lever to release the coupler from the zerk.

"I've tried using various grease gun gadgets, but this is the only one that really works well," says Jerry.

Jim Murphy, Belton, S.C.: "I use my 2016 **Kubota** L6060 HSTC 4-WD, 62 hp. diesel tractor with cab to pull a Bush Hog 90-in. grooming mower, which I use to mow my yard as well as rental properties. This tractor is quiet, comfortable, and fuel efficient and it has power to spare. The cab stays cool even on 100 degree days. The ride is a little choppy but that can be expected with a short wheelbase, compact tractor. I'm well satisfied with it."

Gailey Henderson, Williamstown, Va.: "Ten years ago I received a **Black & Decker** cordless drill as a gift. Six months later the drill fell from a 30-ft. high beam and landed on a concrete floor. I used 4 ft. of wire and 1 1/2 tubes of J-B Weld to patch up the drill, and it still works like new. It has a 'distinctive' orange and black color scheme so when I'm done using it I can leave it wherever I want, because no one would steal anything that looks so bad."

Doug White, Unity, Sask.: "The 1977 **Deutz** 100 06 tractor I bought used in 1979 is my best buy. However, parts for Deutz tractors, including filters, are often no longer available from dealers or anyone else. So after operating Deutz tractors for 52 years, I think it's time to switch to American-made brands.

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"Last fall I bought my first ever Allis Chalmers tractor - a 7060 model with 190 engine hp. I like many things about it. For one thing, it's more fuel efficient than my Deutz Dx 160."

Jim Love, Farmland, Ind.: "My **Deere** 855D Gator is handy for hauling wood and doing chores around the farm. It's powered by a Yanmar diesel engine that starts easy, even in cold weather.

"I also like the 1978 **Deere** 2440 tractor equipped with a Deere 145 front-end loader that I bought used two years ago. I wouldn't part with either tractor."

Mike Maye, Woodville, Ontario: "My 2015 **Pacific Energy** Super 27 wood stove literally inhales wood but still gives off very little heat. Yet the firebox is so hot that I need thick gloves just to load wood into it. I don't need a gym membership any more, because I get all the exercise I need running back and forth to our wood pile. I plan to replace it with a Sedore wood stove."

Scott Marbach, Decatur, Ind.: "The 1967 **Bobcat** 500 skid loader my dad bought used in 1969 for \$1,200 still runs great. The original engine was replaced with a short block engine 20 years ago.

"I like my **Milwaukee** M12 cordless tools which include an impact driver and wrench, a drill, and an LED flashlight that I bought 7 years ago. These tools still have the original

batteries, but I bought extra large batteries for them that are ready to swap out when the original ones go dead."

Coy Griffin, Marshall, N.C.: "It's the best small tractor I've ever owned," says Coy about his 2005 **Deere** 940 4-WD, 32 hp. tractor equipped with a Deere 440 front-end loader. "I use the loader and a 3-pt. mounted spear to load 4 by 5-ft. round bales in the field and then stack them in our shed. I also use the tractor to feed our cattle all winter long in a muddy feedlot."

Anthony Siciliano, Redding, Ct.: "This saw has plenty of power to cruise through 24-in. hardwood logs, cutting them into firewood that we use to heat our 3,000 sq. ft. house," says Anthony about his 2015 **Stihl** MS362. "The last chainsaw I bought before this one was back in 1983 - a **Stihl** 024 model that still works like new."

He's disappointed with his **Harbor Freight** Pro Force cement mixer. "By the time we finished mixing forty 60-lb. bags of concrete mix it was falling apart. We had to tie it together with bungee cords just to complete the job."

James L. Fetzer, Maiden Rock, Wis.: James is pleased with his 2016 **Chevrolet** Colorado pickup equipped with a 4-cyl. diesel engine. "I bought this pickup because I liked the orange color and not because it's a diesel. I previously owned the same model equipped with a V-6 gas engine, but the diesel has more torque and is 4 to 5 gpm more fuel efficient. However, it'll take a long time for the fuel savings to pay for the extra \$4,000 I paid for the new pickup."

Floyd Humphrey, Hoosick Falls, N.Y.: "I couldn't be happier with my **Green Works** 40-volt, 12-in. cordless chainsaw and my **Green Works** 13-in. cordless string trimmer. Both tools are dependable and work perfect. I like not having to mix any gas or oil."

Tony Murphy, Kansas City, Mo.: Tony's impressed with the **SafeTCap** frame-saving repair kit he installed on his 2000 Toyota Tacoma 4-WD pickup (www.autorust.com; ph 401 944-4444). "I bought the pickup used with a rusted frame and then bought this kit to solve the problem. Instead of me spending hours fabricating a metal frame cap, the company did it for me and all I had to do was weld it in. It resulted in a super solid fit that should last for years."

Danny Giles, Riverdale, Ga.: "At first I was well pleased with my 2006 **Deere** 2305 tractor. It runs good, works hard, and is easy on fuel. But at 295 hrs., the pto clutch went out and it cost more than \$3,000 to fix it. After 6 more hours of use, the hydrostatic transmission case cracked in two places, dumping all the oil out. This time the dealer said the repair would cost \$7,300."

Mike Zeigle, Sun Prairie, Wis.: "I inadvertently damaged the rotor when installing a **Pertronix** electronic points and condenser eliminator kit on my 1953 **Deere** 40C tractor (www.pertronix.com; ph 909 599-5955). After calling the company's technical support personnel and explaining the problem, they sent a new rotor at no charge. Now the tractor has never started better. I wish I had bought this kit 10 years ago.

"We've put more than 261,000 miles on our 2006 **Chrysler** Town and Country van, and the only major repair we've had was to replace the alternator at about 230,000 miles."

John N. Lee, Media, Ill.: "My **Timberland** Pro Endurance PR work boots are very comfortable and come with a 30-day comfort guarantee (www.timberland.com; ph 888 802-9947)."

Bill Hofer, Shepherd, Mont.: "A few



For setting up portable fence, Ian Gerrish prefers PowerFlex poly-braid wire and O'Briens reels and step-in posts.

Best Wire For Portable Fencing

By Heather Smith Thomas

Ian Gerrish in Hillsboro, Texas has been setting up portable fences since he was a kid helping his father move fences. Today, he runs his own cattle operation.

"There are several kinds of portable fences, but I recommend using only braided poly wire. It's much more durable than anything else on the market and is easy to handle," says Gerrish. "You can put this wire onto a geared reel for rolling and unrolling. Powerflex, Kencove, and O'Briens all make good reels."

When moving a fence to a new location,

he generally takes the posts out first, unhooks the wire, and then reels up the wire like a fishing line. "I've been using poly wire this way for 5 years and it's still not showing much wear.

"I've had the best luck with **PowerFlex** poly-braid wire (www.powerflexfence.com; ph 417 741-1230), **O'Briens** reels, and **O'Briens** step-in posts (www.obriensplastics.com; ph 724 459-8991). These products will keep you going for many years."

years ago **FARM SHOW** reported on how much I liked my 2008 **Honda** Ridgeline pickup. As it turns out, my new Ridgeline is even better and more refined. It's as quiet and smooth as a large luxury car, has a small pickup bed with a large trunk, respectable towing capacity, and a lot of power at 280 hp. It gets 25 mpg and has all the nice features that can be found in a luxury car. Fantastic vehicle."

Tim and Beth Boucher, Crookston, Minn.: "Over the last 30 years we've owned 3 different models of **Kubota** lawn tractors which have all been reliable and mostly trouble-free. They always start, even in the coldest weather, and run smooth. However, it can take a long time to get parts because sometimes they have to be shipped from Japan."

Delbert Hayes, Norwalk, Iowa: "My **Harbor Freight** 20-ton air hydraulic bottle jack works great for jacking up trucks and combines. I also own a 1 1/2-ton aluminum rapid pump jack that works good. It weighs just 34 lbs."

Ron Malchow, Amboy, Minn.: "I've used **Jonserud** chainsaws for about 30 years, but I won't any more. The company now focuses on nothing but sales numbers from big box stores. Almost all the dealers in my area have quit so parts and customer service are no longer available."

Mike Maye, Woodville, Ontario: "My 1967 **IH** 624 and 1976 **IH** Hydro are great tractors and have never let me down. No new tractor could be more reliable."

Dave Neil, New London, Iowa: "I own a 2015 **Kobalt** 40-volt, 12-in. cordless chainsaw and **Kobalt** cordless leaf blower (www.kobalttools.com; ph 888 356-2258). I paid \$175 for the chainsaw and \$140 for the blower. Both tools came with an extra battery, so now I have four batteries that are interchangeable. The chainsaw is a perfect trimming saw to complement my other bigger saws. My wife has no problem operating it. She also loves the leaf blower.

"The wheel bearings on my 2014 **Chevrolet** Impala started making a growling noise at about 30,000 miles, so I took the car in only to discover the warranty doesn't cover wheel bearings. One bearing cost \$379 to replace. Then cold weather last December caused the magnetic ring contained in a bearing housing

to snap so I had to spend another \$400. The problem was an engineering oversight and I think there should have been a recall."

Denise Ventura, Palermo, Maine: "Our 2016 **Deere** 2025R tractor is a wonderful workhorse on our 10-acre hobby farm, which had been neglected for a long time. I use the tractor to bush hog an old orchard, clear new pasture, put in a garden, mow grass, blow snow and maintain a 300-ft. driveway. This tractor is versatile, dependable, and easy to service."

On the negative side, "My 2016 **Stihl** MS211C chainsaw has caused nothing but trouble. It was in the shop three times for carburetor problems, and an online search showed that others were having similar issues. I finally traded it in for a newer model **Stihl**."

Chris Davis, Prospect, Ct.: "After just 1 1/2 months the **Samsung** dishwasher we bought at **Lowe's** quit working. An authorized repair company came to our house 7 different times, and we spent a lot of time making customer service calls. Finally after 9 months the company declared the dishwasher a lemon and shipped a replacement model to **Lowe's**. However, while the dishwasher was in the warehouse it got accidentally smashed by a lift truck. **Lowe's** finally returned my money."

Gale Hill, Muskogee, Okla.: "Three years ago my daughter and I each bought an **Exmark** Quest zero-turn riding mower. Our church had bought a slightly bigger model 10 years earlier. All 3 mowers have been maintenance-free except for a belt replacement. They cut good even when you drive as fast as you can hang on.

"**Champion** spark plugs don't work well when used on small engines. They burn up fast and make a cold engine hard to start."

Joseph Crofford, Alum Bridge, W. Va.: "The **Oregon** bar and chain combination I bought for my **Stihl** Farm Boss 290 chainsaw is well made and cuts good (www.oregonproducts.com; ph 800 223-5168)."

"I tried using **Fluid Film** spray to clean up a rusty shaft but it didn't help and was expensive."

Phil Koski, Zimmerman, Minn.: "My **Whirlpool** Cabrio top load washing machine does a poor job of cleaning heavily soiled clothes. It barely puts enough water in the tub to wet the clothes."