

Editor's Notebook



Mark Newhall
Editor

Shows, Shows & More Shows!

In the past few weeks Scott Geyer, publisher, and Bill Gergen, senior editor, have been on the road looking for new products and ideas at winter farm shows, including the Iowa Power Farming Show in Des Moines, the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, the World Ag Expo in California, and the International Agriculture Show in Paris, France. Here are a few of the ideas they brought home. We'll have reports on more new products in the next issue. Stay tuned!

Sort'n Buddy – New wifi-enabled gate attachment was invented by a rancher. It attaches to any free-swinging gate and is controlled by a rugged hand-held remote so you can open and close the gate as you sort livestock. When you're not sorting, it can be easily moved to a pasture or corral gate so you can open or close remotely. (www.sortnbuddy.com; ph 785 307-4719)



Bale Cracker – Nifty new bale handler has a built-in slicer that cuts off twine, net wrap or plastic wrap, all without you having to leave the tractor seat. The patented slicing mechanism consists of common sicklebar mower blades built into one arm that cut the wrapping and then lift it away as the bale drops, eliminating the chance for any of the material being ingested by livestock. (www.maxilator.com; ph 866 429-2253)

New Electric Tractor Model – Steve Heckerth of Solectrac says tractors make ideal electric vehicles because batteries are heavy and tractors generally need weight for traction. The company showed its new 4-WD Compact Electric Tractor at the World Ag Expo. It looks similar to a 1950's Ford 3000 because many of the components for the tractor were made at a former Ford factory in India. Instead of hydraulics, the tractor uses a geared transmission and linear actuators, which use less power. (www.solectrac.com; ph 707 937-0338)



Tractor-Mounted Field Light – Developed for use in California vineyards, this 3-pt. mounted light illuminates fields for nighttime harvest work or is used around a farmyard for any kind of night chores. Can be raised or lowered as needed and is fitted with the brightest LED work lights available. Runs off tractor's stock electrical system. (www.lazerstarlights.com; ph 805 226-8200)

Quick Wheel Width Adjuster – Australian-built Multittrakpro bolts to the hub or axle of any tractor or implement and wheel rims are fitted to one or more Multittrakpro sections.

Once installed, wheelbase width can be adjusted by jacking up the rear and moving the wheels in or out with no need to remove the wheels, making it easier, less time consuming, and safer. (www.multittrakpro.com.au; ph 011 61 429 125 273)



Cow Hide Umbrella – This portable cattle shade cranks up or down like a patio umbrella, making it easy to put up and quick to take down in case of high winds or when it's no longer needed. It shades a 34-ft. sq. area and stands in a do-it-yourself concrete base. (*Cody Mohr; ph 712 269-6501; cody_mohr@hotmail.com*)

Net Wrap Assist For Deere Balers – Eliminate the back-breaking job of loading net wrap into your Deere baler with Lankota's add-on lift attachment. Uses 12-volt power from the tractor to winch rolls of net wrap up into position. (Vermeer also showed a net wrap lift system on its balers at Louisville.) (www.lankota.com; ph 866 526-5682)



End-Of-Boom Crop Protector – Weeds at the end of big spray booms often receive only a half-rate of herbicide to avoid overspray. The new Greenshield protector pops out of the end of the boom and drops down to form a shield that prevents contamination onto bordering fields, roadways, ditches, or your neighbors' fields. Controlled remotely from the cab. (www.greenshieldbarrier.com; ph 507 647-4423)

Home-Grown Cow Butchered By Farmer For His Own Wedding

A young New York farmer recently got married on his farm and served up one of his own cows for dinner at the reception. Jason Detzel says he wanted to celebrate his love of farming with family and friends.



To feed guests at his on-farm wedding, Jason Detzel butchered one of his own cows.

The grass-fed heifer was slaughtered on the farm during the week before the wedding, yielding 550 lbs. of beef that Detzel says cost \$3.50/lb. to produce. Many of the guests at the wedding told him it was the best beef they'd ever had and asked if they could buy some from him. Since the beef was not processed in a USDA-approved facility, he couldn't sell it but there was no problem serving it to the guests at the wedding.

Detzel thought about filming the slaughter and butchering process of the cow to exhibit at the wedding, but decided it might make some folks uncomfortable. But he did take the time to point out to guests that the animal was killed humanely without having to go through the trauma of being trucked to a remote facility.

Liberty Quotes

"Every nation gets the government it deserves."

Joseph de Maistre

"Freedom, in any case, is only possible by constantly struggling for it."

Albert Einstein

"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it."

Thomas Paine

"Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves; and, under a just God, can not long retain it."

Abraham Lincoln

"If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear."

George Orwell

"The struggle is always between the individual and his sacred right to express himself, and the power structure that seeks conformity, suppression and obedience."

Justice William O. Douglas

"When the same man, or set of men, holds the sword and the purse, there is an end of liberty."

George Mason

"And remember, where you have a concentration of power in a few hands, all too frequently men with the mentality of gangsters get control. History has proven that. All power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Lord Acton

"If ever a time should come when vain and aspiring men shall possess the highest seats in government, our country will stand in need of its experienced patriots to prevent its ruin."

Samuel Adams

Revolutionary New Power Tools

You never know what's going to show up in the mail at FARM SHOW's world headquarters here in beautiful downtown Lakeville, Minn. The other day we got our first look at a revolutionary new breed of power tools with internal combustion drive mechanisms.



Designed and built by Gene Talbott and his 9-year-old grandson, Brayden, the amazing tools include an "internal combustion" hacksaw and two types of electric-driven hammers with hinged heads.

New tools include an "internal combustion" powered hacksaw with no cord and no batteries. And an electric-driven hammer with a hinged, spring-loaded head.

The "single cylinder" tools have externally-mounted spark plugs that make maintenance a breeze. They're also self-lubricating and easy on the ears, running at an incredible zero decibels.

"We've been told by our patent attorneys that the market potential for these tools is astronomical," says Talbott, adding that if readers send him and his grandson each \$10,000, they can get one "free" power tool and a share of stock in the new company, which might be formed someday.

Just send your money to: Power Tool Boondoggle, Gene & Brayden Talbott, Potomac, Ill.

Points To Ponder

- "I have seen the future and it's like the present, only longer." *Dan Quisenberry*
- "Watch your actions, they become your habits. Watch your habits, they become your character." *Vince Lombardi*
- "No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man." *Heraclitus*
- "Speak only if you can improve the silence." *Spanish Proverb*
- "A ship is safe in harbor, but that's not what ships are built for." *John Shedd*
- "Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if only one remembers to turn on the light." *Albus Dumbledore*
- "A man cannot build a reputation on what he is going to do." *Henry Ford*
- "I've never met a man so ignorant that I couldn't learn something from him." *Galileo*
- "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." *A.A. Milne*
- "The reason we struggle with insecurity is because we compare our behind-the-scenes with everyone else's highlight reel." *Steven Furtick*
- "Understand that forgiveness does not exonerate the perpetrator, forgiveness liberates the victim. It's a gift you give yourself." *T.D. Jakes*

To the amazement of his friends, Ole started a new career as an artist and soon had a big show at a local gallery. He stopped by one day to ask the gallery owner if there had been any interest in his paintings.

"I have good news and bad news," the owner replied. "The good news is that a gentleman inquired about your work and asked if I thought your paintings would go up in value after your death. When I told him they would, he bought all 15 paintings."

"Dat's vunderful!" said Ole. "What's da bad news?" "He said he was your doctor," said the gallery owner.

Little Ole went to his first wedding and whispered to his mother, "Why is da bride dressed in white?"

"Because white is da color of happiness and today is da happiest day of her life," said his mom.

Ole was silent for a minute, and then said, "Den why is da groom wearing black?"

Lena was having a bad day and was grumbling to Ole, "Nobody loves me. Da whole world hates me."

Ole, trying to make her feel better, said, "Dat's not true, Lena. Some people don't even know yew."

Ole got a job on a large farm. The first day he was driving a load of grain to the elevator. Unfortunately, he was speeding and got pulled over by a deputy sheriff who asked to see his license. Ole said, indignantly, "I wish yew people would get yur act together. Yust yesterday another policeman took my license away and now today yew expect me to show it to yew!"