

the transaxle and used a needle point on my grease gun to pump grease into it. I plugged the hole with a metal screw. Shifts like new!"



**Sharon Quale, Eagle Bend, Minn.:** "My best buy is my **WorxWG322** 10-in. battery-powered chainsaw. I'm 81 years old and needed a saw that would start easily and be lightweight. This really fit the bill.

"My home is surrounded by woods and I frequently have fires in my outdoor fire pit. I ordered the saw online and assembled it with no problem when it arrived, which involved attaching the blade arm and chain, and then adding chain oil. Then I took it to the woods



and in less than 20 min. I had two large tree limbs cut and stacked.

"When a large tree fell down in my yard, a friend helped me cut it up and stack it. In less than 4 hrs. we two octogenarians had the job done.

"The saw is compact and weighs just a tad over 6 lbs. It features a tool-free chain tension system. It's very quiet, just making a pleasant buzzing sound while operating. Branches of 6 in. dia. can be cut with ease."

**Roy Smith, Gouverneur, N.Y.:** "Another fellow and I were repairing a large water pump using a half-inch **Milwaukee Fuel** impact wrench. The tool came loose and fell into the water. We couldn't retrieve it for a while, as we were busy with the pump. Once we did pull it out of the water, I figured it was done. To my amazement, I pulled the trigger and it still worked perfectly. Now, after 3 more years of hard use, it still works perfectly. Amazing torque."



**Raylene Conner, Annville, Penn.:** "I was having trouble getting downstairs to the

basement for doing laundry. My husband bought a **Harmar Inclinator** and installed it himself ([www.harmar.com](http://www.harmar.com); ph 941 308-7300). He said the company was helpful and that the instructions were well done. It has been great for me."

**Merrill Smith, Deer Park, Wash.:** "My 1991 **MTD** lawn tractor still runs flawlessly. Mows great, always starts, and runs all day on a tank of gas."

**Amos Ray Zimmerman, Spencer, Tenn.:** Amos says he bought one of the first 1,500 **Stihl MS500i** fuel-injected chainsaws. "All I can say is wow! Amazing performance, amazing chainsaw."

**Ross Male, Long Grove Ill.:** "My 63 **Chevy** had not had its cooling system serviced in many years. I flushed it at least 3 times with water but it kept coming back orange. I treated it with **Thermocure** ([www.evapo-rust.com](http://www.evapo-rust.com)), and no more rust. **Evaporust** for parts is also a best buy."

**Ann Reid, Rustburg, Va.:** Ann likes her **EGO** ([www.egopowerplus.com](http://www.egopowerplus.com)) 56-volt cordless trimmer. "This product is easy to use, has no starting issues, and is durable. It easily cuts through grass, weeds, and small bushes. Its head is easy to refill and 1 lb being able to choose the battery size I need depending on the job I am doing. It's a great user-friendly piece of equipment."

**Lareth May, Timberville, Va.:** "I've been using **Nite Guard Solar Predator Lights** ([www.niteguard.com](http://www.niteguard.com)) for about 5 years, after reading about them in **FARM SHOW**. Some of my original lights are still working. I have purchased nearly 50 and use them to protect sheep from coyotes. I get the best results when I deploy them around the perimeter of the field gates. They are not 100% effective, but have helped to cut our predator losses significantly. They don't seem to deter deer.

"On the negative side, I have tried **Flex Seal** ([www.flexsealproducts.com](http://www.flexsealproducts.com)) liquid and spray as well as **Flex Tape** and found they don't live up to the hype. The spray and liquid would run and not stay in place. The tape would not stick unless you could wrap it around several times. I tried to patch a cut on my boots, but it peeled off after just two days."

**Dylan Berger-Hermes, Wasilla, Ala.:** "I always looked at battery-operated tools as somewhat cheesy, especially for big jobs. As a fulltime hay farmer I work on a lot of equipment. I tried the **Makita XWT08 1/2-in.** impact wrench. The power is amazing. It will break loose 1 1/8-in. lugs on our goose-neck trailer with ease. I feel like I am not losing anything by using it over a pneumatic wrench."

**Ray Miller, Goshen, Ind.:** "My 1992 **Jonsered 535** chainsaw is still going strong. I have cut firewood for myself and others for years with this saw but had it in the shop only once. It's still going strong. I feel having the fuel mixture rich is a plus."

**Steve and Brenda Mills, Princeton, Mo.:** "Our **Ryobi** cordless tools are our best buys. My wife does crafts, making concrete ornaments, so we needed tools that were light yet strong. She uses the devil out of them. Some of the **Ryobi** batteries have not performed as well as the tools."

**Keith Porterfield, Gap Mills Wyo.:** Keith is happy with his 2014 **Kubota M7060** tractor and his 2018 **New Holland ProCart 1022** rake. "The **Kubota** is a good all-around tractor for our cattle operation. It has over 1,800 hrs. with no problems. The rake does an excellent job."

**Harlan Rodberg, Forest City, Iowa:** "I put a **NAPA Legend 25**, 12-volt battery in my 1992 **GMC** pickup 11 years and 5 months ago. It finally started getting weak this year

## "Best Buy" Polaris Ranger

When **Curtis Koehn**, Bellville, Texas went looking for a utility vehicle, he chose a 2018 4-WD **Polaris Ranger 500**. It's his "best buy", and a few alterations he made make it work even better.

"I looked for a long time and did a lot of research before buying this model," says Koehn. "It has adequate power for my needs, but what I like most is the 3-mode power train. The **Ranger 500** has a true differential, so when using it in 2-WD I can make tight turns. I also can use it with the differential lock in 2-WD, or fully locked-in with 4-WD. A switch on the dash is used to change modes.

"One time I had the machine loaded down to build fence, with 2 men and a bunch of chainsaws riding in the bed. It had rained a lot and I had to drive through a low muddy spot where I wasn't sure I could make it, but the **Ranger** pulled right through. Its compact size makes it highly maneuverable."

He built a handy wooden bench for the bed that converts to a headache rack. "I didn't want a fancy bench permanently attached to the bed, so I made it removable to open up bed space," says Koehn. "I added 1-in. pvc hand rails on both sides of the bed, and a 5-ft. long pvc hand rail that doubles as a headache rack on front of the bed. The hand rail is reinforced internally for strength."

He used three 2 by 2's to build the bench's frame and glued and nailed on a 1/4-in. plywood top. A 3-piece pvc "rail set" at each end of the bench fits through holes drilled into the bench and into corresponding bed holes.

"To convert the seat to a headache rack, I remove the rail sets and flip the seat forward onto its edge," says Koehn. "Two pieces of 1 1/4-in. schedule 40 pvc clamped to the underside of the bench hold the seat in the headache rack position. Capped pieces of 1-in. pvc slide through the 1 1/4-in. pvc and into the bed holes."

He built a low-cost painted wooden roof on top of the cab, using 2 by 2's and 1 by 2's for the frame and adding a painted, 1/4-in. thick plywood roof. Aluminum tabs at the corners are screwed into the roof's wood frame to clamp it to the cab frame.

"If I want, I can use the bench as a step and climb onto the roof. It's strong enough to stand on so I can reach high places," says Koehn. "It's handy for jobs such as replacing yard lights and picking pears."

He stores a plastic toolbox under the **Ranger's** seat. The toolbox sits in a home-built wooden tray and is held down by the seat.

He added an aftermarket, fold-down windshield, and he also bought a factory wrap-around grille, using a \$250 gift certificate that he got online after test driving the **Ranger**. "I could have used the certificate for any accessory, but my daughter talked me into the grille and I'm glad she did. She said the protection would come in handy if we

so I thought it was time for a replacement. The guys at **NAPA** could not believe it lasted so long. I have their batteries in my tractors, combines, and cars. They're excellent."

**"The only other thing I have that's 90 years old and still works is me."**

**Buz Steinbach, Wolf Creek, Mont.:** "In 1945 I bought a **Black and Decker 1/2-in.** drill. They never sold me another one because it still works fine after 75 years. We



**Curtis Koehn** bought a factory wrap-around grille to protect his 2018 4-WD **Polaris Ranger 500**.



Home-built wooden bench in **Ranger** bed converts to a headache rack (above). Painted wooden roof on top of cab is strong enough to stand on and reach high places.



have to round up stray cows or calves on our farm," notes Koehn.

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replaced the cord once. I also have a **General Electric 12-in.** fan that still works after 70 years. The only other thing I have that's 90 years old and still works is me."

**Tommy Greer, Zephyr, Texas:** Tommy is happy with his 2020 **Country Clipper** riding mower. "I've had no problems. Instead of two handles it has a joystick which allows one-hand operation. It's the best riding mower I've had."

**Rob Huker, Warsaw, N.Y.:** Rob is impressed with his 2020 **Ferris ISX 800** mower. "The ride with independent suspension feels like riding on a cloud. Lots of power from the 61-in. deck."

(Continued on next page)