

Reader Letters



The Farm Equipment Museum in Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada, is the largest in eastern Canada at over 14,000 square feet with more than 5,000 artifacts. As a non-profit we don't charge admission.

We do a tractor seat project as a fund raiser. We take old tractor seats and mount them on old office chair bases. It's a good fund raiser for us, makes some interesting stools and keeps old chairs out of the landfill. (Page Baird, Truro, Nova Scotia)



We wanted to share and celebrate our father, John Matthews, with you and your readers. He died suddenly in April. He was (and probably still is) an avid FARM SHOW reader, especially the "made it myself" inventions. He submitted many of his own projects and those of my brother and me over the years.

My dad talked about building his own casket for as long as I can remember. Since he never got around to doing it, we thought it would be a fitting tribute to build it ourselves out of pine and birch with cedar accents. Please don't print a picture of him because he was shy

Easy Way To Send Your Ideas

How often do you see an idea when you're out and about and say, "Hey, that should be in FARM SHOW"? Next time that happens, just take out your phone and send us a photo or two. Just text them to us at 952-465-5019. If you want to leave a voice mail explaining what you're sending, this phone is dedicated to FARM SHOW stories so it's on and available 24/7. No need to worry about disturbing anyone. Call or text day or night with your ideas, comments, or suggestions.



about promoting himself, but he would have been very proud to be remembered in FARM SHOW. (David Matthews, Chapin, S.C.)



I read with interest your recent story about a reader who mounted two snow blowers on the front of his Kubota tractor. I mounted two walk-behind snow blowers on my Deere high-lift loader using a quick hitch that I made myself. They work great and I can throw snow in either direction, controlling the chutes from the cab. (Ken Hahn, Somerset County, Penn.)



My grandpa, Jim Kerr of Tripoli, Iowa, is a lifelong farmer and tinkerer. At 98 years old he's still in the game designing and making novel creations. He modified his cane by attaching a gripper to the side of the cane with a couple of screws. He's been using it continuously for the last few years and really likes it because it maintains all the functions of both the cane and the gripper. There's a magnet at the end of the gripper for picking up small metal pieces and paper clips. (Kirk Monnier, Winterset, Iowa)



We use railroad ties as gate posts since they're strong enough to hold a long heavy gate and they're pressure-treated from top to bottom. We have a corral in a wet area that heaves and shifts after winter freezing. When we rebuilt the corral this year, we realized we needed

to set the gate posts deeper. However, a single railroad tie would not be long enough. So, my son, who is a custom fencer, bolted two ties together, offsetting them by a couple of feet to make one long post. He used a mini excavator to dig the deep holes for these posts and filled in with rock around the posts. I don't think they will ever be affected by frost heaves. As you get older, it's a blessing to have a perfectly swinging gate. (Heather Thomas, Salmon, Idaho)

I read in FARM SHOW about a gentleman trying to run an air compressor with an inverter.

I worked in air compressor service for 25 years and a rule of thumb is that the starting current for an air compressor is a minimum of three times the nameplate amps. So, if it says 10 amps on the compressor nameplate you need 30 amps of starting current. It would take a very larger inverter to do this.

We serviced everything from 1 1/2 hp. up to 500 hp. compressors and the starting rule remained the same. Hope this helps. (Mark Raisleger, Denmark, Wisc.)

I love your email newsletter and the regular issues of FARM SHOW. I would never buy commercially-raised Atlantic salmon as there's no real flavor and too many additives. Some retailers use food coloring to turn the meat an orange-pink color. If I can't buy live catch wild salmon, I would rather do without. I commercially fished salmon in the 1970's and then moved on to logging in California. (Jim Corcoran, Sagle, Idaho)

I have a cure for wooden fence posts rotting or being eaten by termites or ants. Instead of wrapping them in plastic, soaking them in oil or toxic fluids, or pouring concrete around them, I use a propane torch to char the part that goes into the ground and 6 in. above the ground as well as both ends.

My grandfather did this to all of his fence posts and buildings he put up where wood touched the ground, including outhouses. They all lasted well over 60 years. (Dave Mertell, Independence, Mo.)



My father-in-law has a stack of FARM SHOW Magazines that he gave to my 9-year-old son. Joe loves to read the articles and then they talk about the different things they've read. Joe loves all things farming. Keep up the good work! (Heather Schmenk)

I got tired of pulling garbage bags out of trash bins because of the vacuum created between the bag and the bin. I realized that by drilling 1/2-in. holes

about a foot above the bottom of the bin and spaced 3 to 4-in. apart, enough air would enter the bin so the bag would slide right out. I did not put holes too near the bottom in case a bag was to leak. Now our trash bags are easily removed. (Rod Sobieski, East Central Kan.)



I read the article about using metal stock tanks to float down a river (Vol. 46, No. 1) and I thought I would share my "speedboat design" stock tank. (Bryan McDonald, Natalia, Texas)

I am making use of my old Gleaner combine by using it as a bale hauler. I needed a way to take some round bales off a field. I removed the reel on my Gleaner and was able to pick up the bales by wrapping a rope around the bale to secure it to the combine. (Charles Izydorek, Decker Mich.)



Readers who don't have a garage or pole barn to store a tractor may be able to use this simple and inexpensive idea. Barbeque grill covers work great to cover the hood and controls. If you can find the right size cover, you can snag it down tight. (David Simpler, Elkton, Md.)



This hitch was quick and easy to weld up. It's very useful and my chains are always handy. I'm too cheap to pay for anything I can make. (Nate Haley, Winchendon, Ma.)

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