

Yarnell~Hoffer

Do-it center.

News

Yarnell-Hoffer Do-It Center News

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Can you believe it? Another newsletter so quick. Well, Craig has been getting on me to put another one out, so here it is. Not only do we have a huge sale going on (see the enclosed flyer) but we're having a big party Sunday October 29. See inside for all the details. Also, in this issue is a guide to lots of the rental equipment we have. We've also got some exciting other news...

Don't forget to come in to sign up for the mailing list if you want to keep getting our newsletter. If this newsletter was addressed to resident, you might drop off the list after this issue. Sit back, take your shoes off and sit a spell. Thanks for making us your favorite hardware store. Hope you enjoy.

MIKE AND CRAIG...BEFORE THERE WAS HARDWARE

I've told y'all lots of stories about Craig and me in the early days but this issue I thought it might be kind of nice to take another little trip down memory lane from the archives of Yarnell & Hoffer. These are excerpts from actual events that really took place. Don't you let Craig deny them because I only speak the truth. His versions may be a little different but he has a shorter memory to match his body. I must say however, that his short body did come in quite handy in years past when we had to get under really tight crawl spaces that I couldn't fit under very well.

The first story that comes to my mind happened almost 20 years ago. Let's go back to the summer of 1977 during the heat wave. That was a fine year for Craig and me because we had just graduated from Chapel Hill High in June. We were already experienced entrepreneurs (we thought) since we had been in business the

previous summer. The first job of the summer was a roofing job which we felt especially confident about since we had already done two roofs in our career. By now, we didn't even have to refer to the back of the shingle package for instructions. The most important thing here I'm sure Craig would want me to say, is how much of a wimp I was back then. I didn't think too much about carrying all the shingles on top of the roof because the packages looked pretty small. Boy, was I wrong! Each bundle weighed 97 pounds and seems even heavier when it is over 100 degrees outside. But, I was pretty strong (I thought) so I didn't see a problem. Craig carried his part of the load up the ladder first. Now it was my turn. I didn't see any problem with carrying my load since Craig seemed to go up the ladder with ease. The way to pick up shingles is to throw them on your shoulder to distribute the

weight as evenly as possible. I bent down for my first bundle and was sure there must have been at least two bundles stuck together because I couldn't begin to pick them up. To my surprise there was only one bundle. Well, if Craig could do it, I was sure I could. I repositioned myself and tried again. I struggled as hard as I could and finally got them on my shoulder.

That must be the hardest part, I thought to myself. I started up the ladder and it felt like I was carrying a ton of bricks. By the time I got about halfway up I couldn't take it anymore. I dropped those shingles like they were a hot potato. I gripped onto the ladder to catch my breath. As I was shaking I looked up at Craig. He looked back at me in amazement. He thought for sure that I got stung by a bee or something. Being sure my sins would find me out, I told him under my breath that I couldn't do it. That's when he said it. "Mike you're such a wimp. I can't believe you can't even make it up the ladder with the first bundle of shingles". I knew Craig was probably stronger than me but I never imagined I was that weak. I assured him I could redeem myself so I got down and tried again. This time I struggled to the top of the ladder but still lost my load. Craig just told me to get out of the way and let a real man do the work. At that point, I didn't have much to come back with. Craig carried up all the rest of the shingles on the roof and I had to be his slave boy for the rest of the day. That meant everything from getting him water whenever he got thirsty to adjusting the radio channel so he could hear it better.

After roofing from 6AM to noon every day, we were we pretty tired and the sun was getting to us. Back in those days, Roy Rogers restaurant was where the current location of the Chapel Hill Herald is (on Malette street across from Hardees downtown). We used to go there for about an hour and a half every day to eat a Double R Bar burger and all the Coke we could drink. They had a policy of free refills on soda which was unheard of back then so we were in heaven. I must admit we stretched the rules of refills because we kept about 10 empty Roy Rogers cups in the truck so we didn't have to buy a drink every time. My mom would have been

pretty mad at us for doing that, but like the previous story, I think the file is old enough to be declassified. After a while though, we realized that drinking Coke for two hours and going back on a roof that was over 120 degrees wasn't too smart. About the only part of us that actually felt okay was our rear ends. I had invented a cushion (a pillow for short) that we could duct tape onto our bottoms so when we were sitting on the roof we didn't get grit burns or sore bottoms. We did look pretty funny crawling back to the ridge of the roof with a pillow taped to our backside.

After a long hard day on the job, we did something else that we weren't supposed to do. Craig had become such a bad influence on me. I was just a fat little nerdy kid who didn't get into too much trouble until I met Yarnell the terrible. Anyway, we finished roofing at dark every night and we needed some place to cool off quickly. Since we had both grown up here, we knew the best place in town for that - Eastwood Lake. I'll tell you what. If you can come in and tell any one of us where Eastwood Lake is, we'll give you a card good for 10% off your next purchase of anything that is not already on sale. Let's see how good your Chapel Hill history is. We would go down to the lake, slip off our clothes and head for the water. Now, that was a sight in itself. Can you imagine Craig and me running naked covered in dirt? We hit that water full speed and that cold lake water opened up all our pores and almost took away all our pain for a minute. After swimming around for a while and watching to make sure no one was waiting for us, especially one of Chapel Hill's finest police officers, we got out, ran back to the 1967 Buick Special Craig had back then and dried off. It happened like that for day after day on that job with one exception. One night, Craig thought he saw someone coming so we were trying to hurry up the make shift dock to get back to the car. As we were about to get out, something from the depths of that dark murky lake nipped my rear end. I couldn't scream, but I nearly ran over Craig trying to get out of the water. We were both running naked through the dark laughing about the Loch Ness monster from Eastwood lake. Craig called me "sweet cheeks" for about a week

were right here at the hospital anyway. We were also both paramedics on the rescue squad so as long as one of us wasn't hurt, the other one could pick up the pieces. Just as we were set to mark the template, my ladder started slipping. I gripped the brick face of that wall trying to hold on. Now is the time I wish I had hands like Spiderman. I slid down about 6 inches before stopping on one of the last rows of bricks. Needless to say I was wondering what I was doing with my life at that point. I think Craig was staring in shock not being able to help since he was next to me on the other extension ladder. That was before he had any life insurance on me. I reached up about 6 feet and pulled my stomach down from the ledge above and we continued on.

We finally taped the template to the wall and started to drill the holes. After you drill all those holes, the job is only about 40% complete. Then you have to put the letters up and tap each one with a rubber mallet until they look straight from the ground. Needless

to say, the four-hour job turned into an eight hour one and would have been impossible without the rental extension ladder. That's one reason we like having a rental center now. We have just about any kind of equipment you need to do just about any job. But then, we're not in the rental business. We're in the leisure business. "We Sell Leisure Time" is what Yarnell-Hoffer is all about. You can get your job done so much faster and better with our rental equipment that you'll have most of the day to relax. Don't forget to give us a call for your next project. Even if you don't think we'll have the right piece of equipment you need. It's worth a phone call to find out.

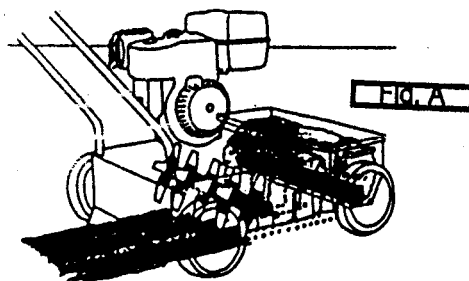
By the way, after finishing up the sign job it was about dark and we were worn out. We headed to our favorite cooling off spot for some serious skinny-dipping. Don't you just wish you could have been there to see Yarnell and Hoffer stark naked in the moonlight at Eastwood lake? But then again, maybe you don't.....

GROW GRASS GROW

This is a condensed version of our yearly grass growing tips since most of you have read them before. We will be glad to explain things in further detail on your next visit to Yarnell-Hoffer.

How many times have you said this under your breath when you were getting in your car to go to work in the morning? Well, worry no more! Below are the foolproof Yarnell-Hoffer grass growing tips that have proven to be a sure fire way to get a beautiful deep green lawn that will look like a landscaper did it for you.

1. The most important thing to remember when planting grass for the first time or totally reseeding is to have good seed to soil contact. If you don't accomplish this first step, it won't matter how much watering or fertilizing you do, you won't be happy. The best way to get the most seed to soil contact is by tilling up your yard; however, if you don't want to go to that trouble, the next best thing is to rent a verticut slicer from the Yarnell-Hoffer Rental Center



Seed drops from seed hopper in front of Delta Reel blades, which cut slits and incorporate seed into the soil. Neoprene flap at rear of machine gently covers seed with thin layer of soil.

(fig. A) . It will cut small trenches for the seed to fall into. It even has a built in seed hopper to put the

seed down as you go. This method works great if you have some grass and you don't want to till up the entire yard; however, if you choose this method you will need to mow your existing grass very short so the verti-slicer will work best. The last method is the stiff rake method. Take a stiff bow rake (fig. B) and scrape it across the yard so it cuts little trenches just like the verti-slicer. This method only works marginally since you have the least seed to soil contact. Some of you may be