

## Plastic Pilgrims

*"Hey, Mister! Are you a janitor or a mechanic?"*

*---young boy on bike behind school shop*

A funny byproduct of wearing coveralls at school all the time is getting asked for a mop by kids in the hall. I laughed to myself at the little kid on the bike, wondering which answer he hoped for. One thing is for sure, those coveralls save a lot of clothes from ruin.

One thing I have in common with my students is the belief that practice is unfortunately a necessary hurdle to get to where you really want to go ... the practical application of your skills. Last year we took on two major jobs that were needed, useful and challenged the skill level of many students.

**Washed Ashore-** as shown on the front cover, this collaborative project included a film crew, a local draftsman and of course, the artist Angella. The students fabricated a walk through entry 10 feet tall, a set of walk through whale ribs, three giant jellyfish and the 12 foot fish shown under construction on the cover. A 9 foot tall bird is in progress. An excellent environmental cause and valuable skills gained by scaling irregular curves.

**Football stadium hand rails-** Math skills and coping pipe was the name of the game here as we build and installed 22 hand rails for the football stadium steps. Five elderly people will now come back to the football games as a result of our work as well as drastically reducing district liability.

That kid on the bike? Thinking I hadn't heard him, he yelled again. By that time I decided what answer to give him. "Yes," I called.



Until next issue,

*Tom Hull*

Tom Hull

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*Not happy. August 2010. Just got blown off Mt. El Dorado by lightning storm and hail 500 feet below summit. Retreated to base camp for try the next day. See summit photos on my Facebook account (go to Tom A Hull).*

# SUccess Story

## Adam Wimberly



Just when you think these kids don't pay attention to anything, Adam Wimberly (South Umpqua class of 1995), writes, "I noticed you stopped putting the capital U in success in your QID's". Ha. He noticed one little lower case letter. OK Adam, I have three South Umoqua SUccess stories lined up.

Adam and his wife Amanda have been together 13 years and have "three beautiful children, a daughter Lexi 12, 2 boys Tyson and Lane, age 8 and 5." At least the daughter isn't putting the rabbit ears on the old man in the picture. A quick stop at his Facebook page shows a family man in action ... pictures of the first cucumbers in the garden his boys like so much and an excited notice that his daughter just made "C" team at her dance studio.

At work Adam is going just that, often 7 days work weeks at Roseburg Forrest Products as an apprentice electrician. That means night classes at Umoqua Community College. He told me that in one and a half more school years he will "card out as a MFG Plant Journeyman Electrician." His career is well in hand.

I remember Adam buzzing around in class rebuilding a set of small block Chevy cylinder heads (extra credit if you can still define 194 and 202 fuelers). He was a fun kid full of energy. Good traits to possess for a man who works long hours and comes home to three active kids, and then makes dinner and a cake for his wife's birthday (with Betty Crocker's help he admits). Nice job of growing up Adam, and good job on catching the lower case symbolism.

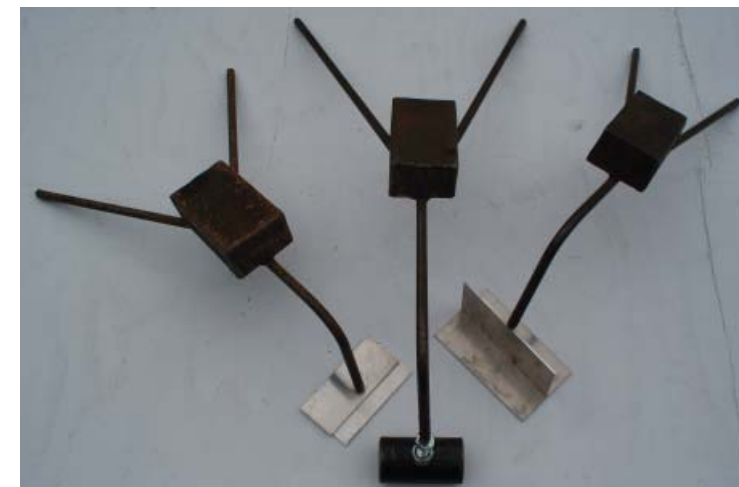
## Here's How: Tips from the Field

*Idea this issue from Lincoln Electric Welding School*

### The Third Hand: Praying Metalis

For 40 years I have dreamed about going to the Lincoln Electric Welding School. Thanks to my wife's encouragement, last summer I flew to Cleveland, Ohio and did it. The first demonstrations our instructor Karl Hoes gave during the one-week TIG class were lap and T-welds. He used the device below to hold the pieces in place prior to tacking. At first I thought it was uncanny that the T-weld always stayed up (must practise that a lot), but then I tried it and it worked perfect everytime as well, even with thin sheet metal.

Back home my students quickly made about half a dozen. They are in constant use for a variety of holding jobs. The middle one below is holding a bolt on a piece of pipe. Use scrap. For weights we used 1.5" plate 2.5" by 4". Weld two 3/8" HRS back legs, bend the hold-down leg 90 degrees and grind a point on it, leaving about 1/8" flat. It's amazing how well they work.



*I wanted to go to the Lincoln Electric Welding School ever since first reading their publication, The Stabilizer in 1969, and now have 30 years worth in three ring notebooks. It came out four times a year and two popular features were "Proud of my Rig" where guys wrote in about setting up their welding trucks and "How I Did It." The later had pictures and explanations of reader fabricated items from portable ovens to concrete mixers and custom mailboxes. It's still free but now called iWeld, and only available electronically.*

*If you ever get to attend their school, be sure and take in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. It's only a 15-minute taxi ride from the school.*