Eric Kulaas, Reel Setup & Work Table / table01

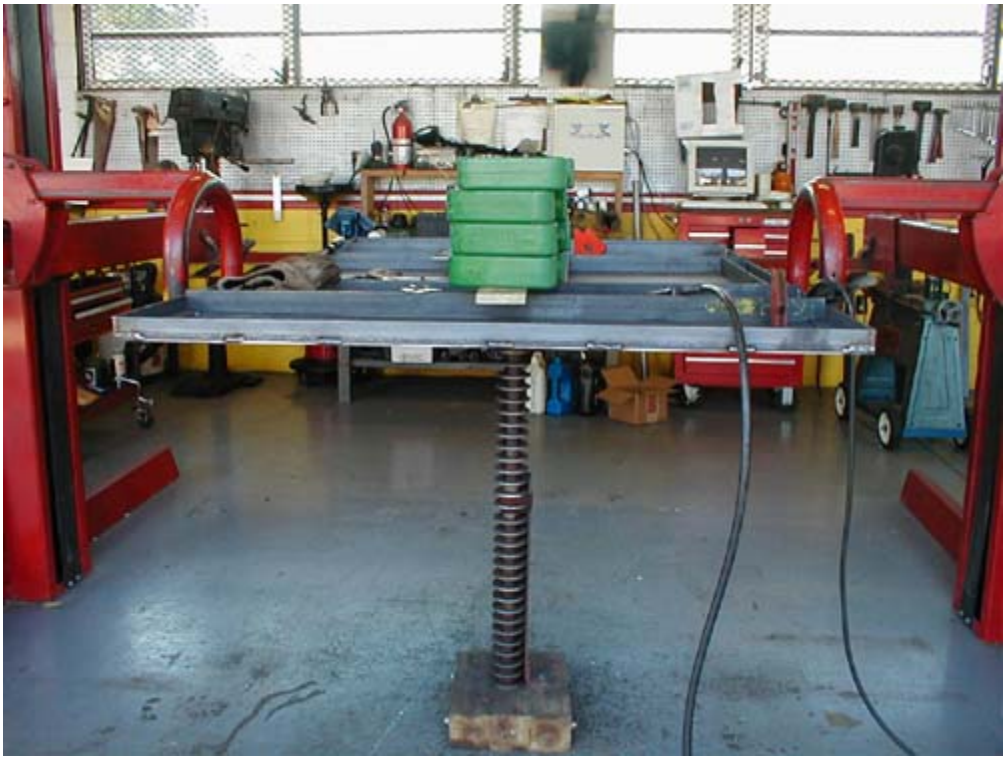
8/6/2002

This is how we began. It's 1/4" sheet cut to the same dimensions as the original table. Here it's setup on the lift arms of our lift, not the ideal setup but better than bending over on the floor.

Here I've started welding 1-1/2 X 3/16 angle iron as a frame.

Usually I'm trying to get things done fast so corners have not been as nice as I'd like. Here we've just notched the angle on the bandsaw. Very quick and a nice fit.

Here most of the outer frame is done and I'm putting in cross pieces.
You can see the amount of "bow" in the top at this time.
I think the majority of my problems with this is working where you can,
rather than having the facilities to fabricate. But, this is a maintenance shop
and a large welding table isn't in the cards, so you learn to do with what you have available.

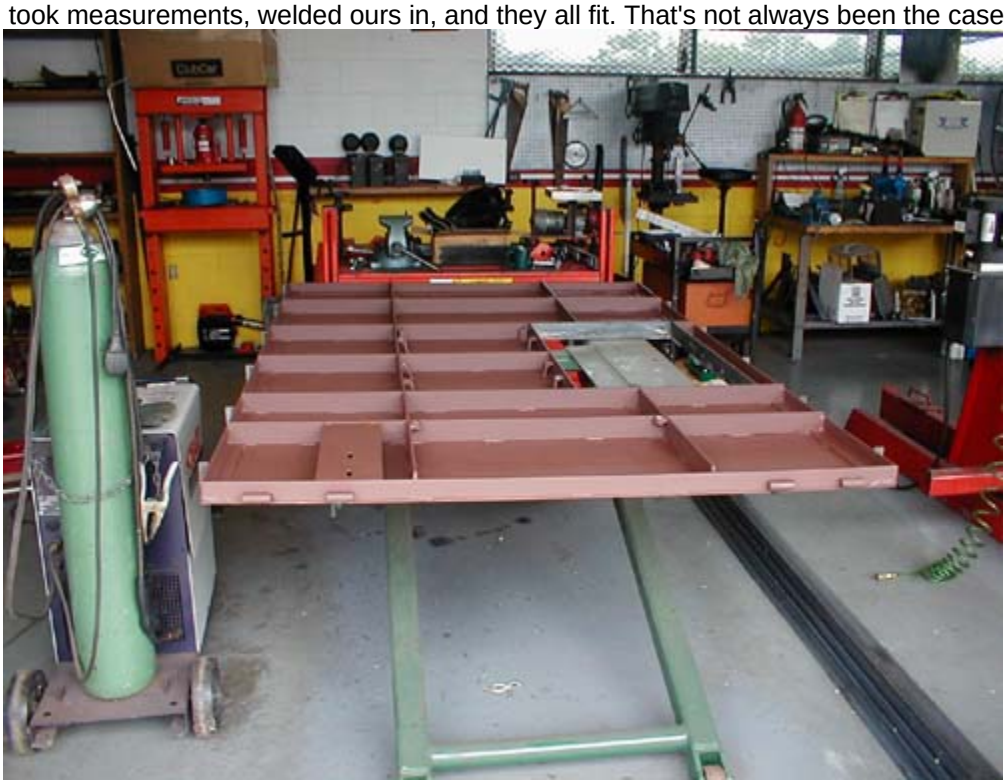


This is how we "make do" when there's warpage. The table is lowered on a roller and tractor weighs are put on top. Then it's tacked.

The cross bracing is 2 X 1/4" flat stock, the layout is fairly close to the original table. I really want to be able to abuse this table and don't want to have any problems later on due to a "strength" issue so I probably went overboard a bit on this.

Using the "frame" for the surface plate as a guide I just cut on the edge and then ground the cut smooth.

The original table had four nuts welded to it to attach it to the lift frame.
I took measurements, welded ours in, and they all fit. That's not always been the case.



I got the crew to help me get it over to the lift where I put
in the plate to attach our "ramp kicker", this kicks out

the ramp when the lift is lowered (Golf-Lift design) and
the hinges. We primed the underside.

This is the top with the surface plate installed and I'm working on the guardrail. The surface plat is about 16 X 24 and 1" thick. It's machined to .002 on both sides (one's a spare). I drilled and tapped it so I could put some handles in it. My thinking there was we could take it to the machine for a quick setup if needed. It also makes it easy to move.

To check the level of reels we use a variety of flat bars. Most are machined, 1/4 for greens, 1/2 for tees and fairways, and 1.25 square stock for rough units.

Here it is with the surface plate and our vice installed. We use the vice for most of our roller work. We did buy one of those thick rubber floor mats to stand on. It works great, we spend a lot of time on it..

When it was done I sent some pictures to Derek Weaver of Golf-Lift just to show him what we had come up with. I did bring it up that if they had made one, I'd have rather bought it than to have gone through all this. Our orignal table had the aluminum top. So for them, it would be easy, just make it thicker and in steel. And add the surface plate.