

RedNeck Institute of Technology (words, music, and score originally c. 2018 by Tom Thomas and Sukey Watson; aka Thomas Lloyd Thomas and Sue Ann Watson).

<p><u>Verse 1:</u> The smell of diesel in the early morning fog Hot bitter coffee in my cup</p> <p>Diamond Plate Under my boots Music to A workin' man's soul</p> <p>'Cause I Turn the wrenches and I dig your trenches String your wires and Put out the fires</p> <p>BRIDGE CHORUS</p> <p><u>Verse 2:</u> Don't look down your long nose at me As you hide behind Your big ass desk</p> <p>I won't push the paper Or suck up to the board Don't write no TPS reports Nor stock options hoard</p> <p>Your machines hum along Cause I run them strong Gotta' use my ingenuity And cognitive acuity</p> <p>BRIDGE CHORUS</p>	<p><u>Bridge:</u> I can find it, I can weld it I can grind it, I can form it Make it Run, make it Work in the field, or in the shop</p> <p>And the parts, in the manual They ain't in stock, so luse what I got Cause there ain't no time to stop</p> <p><u>Chorus:</u> I got my PhD, from the R-N-I-T It ain't no fancy pedigree It's the Red Neck Institute of Technology</p> <p>It's practical, and very tactical For work that really matters Not just climbing corporate ladders</p>
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Verse 3: (optional use for longer performance)

In crisis or calamity
Practical is tactical
I got what it takes
To keep us alive
Don't need no gas
Nor electricity
Can build just what I need
With the tools I have and made
And I'm not afraid dark of night
Won't cower 'fore elitist might
I draw my strength from honest means

Not from lying or financial schemes

Song Story:

This song started out as a joke. When we first became a couple, Tom was trying to teach me some basic skills in the operation of farming equipment. I was trying to learn to back up the tractor with a trailer attached and was having a rather difficult time with it because I just didn't realize how difficult this actually was. Tom said that I shouldn't feel too bad as "us rednecks don't usually learn how to back up trailers until we are 7 or 8." I think I wanted to say F - you. Well maybe I did say it but not too seriously.

He often joked that he had a real and practical education from the Red Neck Institute of Technology and not some useless parchment pedigree. I did finally learn how to put that trailer where it was needed and a whole bunch of other useful skills as we built a house, did remodeling etc. Sometime around 2017 I said we should write a song and call it the RNIT or RedNeck Institute of Technology. (Ok I spelled it as two words, but when he finally got around to telling me it was one word, I had already trademarked the phrase and the four letter acronym.)

I did not grow up working on a real farm etc. as Tom did. He had learned many skills including wood working and welding. It is not that I didn't appreciate this kind of work. I really and still do. When we first met, he helped me remodel a bathroom in a house I was going to sell. I expected to go get the wood from the lumberyard, but instead he brought rough sawn lumber that he had sawed on his mill, and got to work planing and dimensioning it into what was needed for the job. Ok, I was humbled and very impressed. A bought him a new miter saw and after that some nice hand planes.

I have to admit that in my younger years, I valued academic degrees etc. but as I grew older and met people who did more manual work, such as masons, electricians, carpenters, plumbers, tree services etc. I came to realize that these were smartest and upstanding people I had ever met. These folks work hard building businesses, learning and refining their skills and when problems arise come up with very creative solutions that work. Though many look down their long uselessly educated noses at these folks, we do not. This song is a tribute to all these freedom loving men and woman, upon whose backs our country was built.