

## Technical Notes

### Technical Tip on Threadlock

By Lynn Sondenaa  
Sandy, Oregon

To prevent nuts, bolts, and machine screws from loosening due to vibration the following items can be used. The most common is a lock washer (Fig.1A). It is an incomplete circle that has a twist that is flattened when tight. A spring washer is made from spring steel with a slight crown or twist (Fig.1B). When tightened the crown is flattened and this pressure holds the fastener tight. Star washers have little fingers that dig into the surface to hold tight. They are made in internal and external styles (Fig.1C). Self-locking nuts (Fig.1D) have a nylon insert to keep them tight. Their disadvantage is that they should only be used once. A liquid threadlock (Fig.1E) can be applied to threads. Loctite is a popular brand. Threadlock liquids are made in different strengths. I use Loctite blue 242 medium strength. The fasteners can be removed with normal tools after it has cured, but it will hold tight. The high strength type takes a lot of work to remove, as it is designed to be permanent. This information should prove valuable when working on the Model A.

