

E.D.G.E.&T.A.

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Volume No. 9

Issue No. 4

Date October 2008

Editor, Ruth A. Warnock

Larry Voris, President-Director at Large **The Spectator**

This is the person that we all look for at the show. If the spectator doesn't show up then we don't have a show. What does the spectator want or expect when they go to a show. Sometimes it is hard to tell what they want. Most want a variety and want to see action. They also want to know what it is and how it was used. We as exhibitors need to put in print the make, model, year, owners name and city, and a short story or history where we got the tractor or engine and maybe what it took to make it run. Probably the most important thing is if you are there to visit with the spectator when they come by looking and always thank them for coming when they move on to the next exhibit.

They also expect a variety of good food at a reasonable price and don't like to wait in a long line. But, if the food is good there will be a line. We have to entertain the children and do something for them and also we need something special for the ladies. The show grounds need to be clean and that is from the outside fence to the center of the grounds, especially the rest rooms or port-a-pots.

The parade is always a big draw. Sometimes the parade may be a little long but we have their attention and the announcer needs to keep the introductions interesting.

The flea market needs variety. I know some people will walk the flea market several times looking for a part or something to make their next project work. And there are those that go to the flea market almost before they unload their own trailers.

Then last, we need to thank every spectator for coming and invite them back next year.

No were not done yet. Then we need to go around and thank every visiting exhibitor for exhibiting their equipment at our show. We have to make them feel welcome too.

A big thank you goes a long way.

TO: All EDGE&TA Members

Insurance Update, October 2008 By Dick Tombrink

This last year our insurance premium was \$5 per member. As you may remember, I have been keeping track of the amount received from the

branches for insurance premiums and the cost paid out by EDGETA for insurance. We have been building a surplus. As we have stated in the past, we will look at adjusting the individual member insurance premium to take advantage of the insurance premium surplus. We will take into consideration the possible premium increases or decreases to the best of our knowledge for foreseeable future. Based on the best data we have, I will be sending a proposal to the other directors for their vote to possibly adjust your premiums for next year. Please watch for the next newsletter or consult the website for the premium amount for next year.

From my perspective this year's show season was a good one. Now it is behind us and we are looking at the project for next year's show. I have not decided what project to tackle for next year. Fortunately I have most of the "Honey do" projects done for this Fall. Now I can go to at my projects!!

Thanks to everyone for thinking safety in all you do. It allows all of us to go happy at the end of the day.

North Central Director Dorene Yearian

A reminder – *If you do not follow the safety requirements, you have no insurance coverage. Safety is too important to learn by accident.* This was copied from Branch 13's newsletter.

It doesn't take a lot of time or effort to put up a double strand of rope around your working display and comply with the safety requirements on our web page. If you take the time to set up your display as required by our safety requirements and you have an incident, you are covered. The insurance company will cover you. It is worth it not to have to pay out of your own pocket for

an accident. The medical bills could be astronomical. The economy already puts a strain on our hobby – so be safe!

I have been to a lot of shows this year and I've seen a lot of problems like not roping a working display, the ropes not far enough from the display, riding double on a tractor, a driver not qualified to drive a tractor, and many more. Now that our show season is winding down, each branch safety officer should go over the safety requirements with the membership. Make sure every member knows what to do and how to set up safely at a show. You want to make sure your branch members are safe; have insurance coverage; and have fun with this hobby.

This is a great hobby. The people in it are knowledgeable, fun people to be around. I think we get together to see and visit with our friends and to meet new ones. Please be safe! I want to see you all at the next show.

National Secretary-Ruth Warnock

WELCOME 3 NEW BRANCHES

Branches are 192 Ohio, 193 Texas and 194 Georgia.

Total of 144 branches

Please visit our web pages www.edgeta.org often. The directors and webmaster try to keep you all up to date with any changes or additions. Spread the word to your membership. All EDGE&TA members should be familiar with our safety requirements. Contact the director/advisor in your area if you have questions.

Check out our Calendar for events. We have posted some information about the National and Regional shows for 2009. Sally keeps this up to date as she receives information from the branches hosting the shows..

Send her your events and she will post them on the calendar. **Best advertisement for your shows.**

South East Director George Christmas

Well I would like to start by saying welcome to the Southeast Regions newest branch, The West Georgia Two Cylinder Club Branch 194. We are glad to have you guys join EDGE&TA.

The weather is changing giving us a little relief from all the hot temperatures. There are plenty of opportunities to see our iron this time of the year. There are lots of parades, town festivals and just folks working the land with some old tractors. The leaves are turning in the mountains, so if you get the opportunity to see that it is a beautiful site. That means it is time to decide what your winter project will be. Whatever you choose to do, I hope you finish before the spring.

I had the opportunity last month to see a collection that I thought was amazing. This gentleman had a

collection of John Deere pedal tractors that included every pedal tractor made by John Deere since the 1940's. I believe he had every 1/16th scale toy made by Ertl and other makers of toys. His wife had the largest collection of old irons I think I had ever seen. I didn't realize there were so many. There was 1 of every snowmobile made by JD in mint or almost mint condition. I think he had one of every JD riding mowers from the first one produced thru the 400 series. He even had a JD AMT 600 that looked brand new. He had a large collection of JD tractors. The years ranged from the mid 20's thru to an 8430 that was completely restored. I realize there are a few collectors with collections like this and even bigger, but this was the first one I have had the privilege to see first hand. Just by driving by I would never have guessed that all of this stuff was there.

Maybe you know someone that has a large collection that just has it for his or her enjoyment. It would be great to convince them to show it to the public. It would be a shame for great collections like that to be so close, and no one knows until it was auctioned off. Even then only a few really get to see the entire collection. I guess there are so many things to see that I know we will probably never see all of it. It is great to go somewhere and see something and go wow I didn't know these were made.

I guess in a way that is what we do when we come together at shows and parades is show off different pieces of old farm equipment. I was afraid the fuel prices would cause a decrease in attendance, but it has not. I think it has increased the number of people in some areas. Remember to keep safety first, we have learned by our mistakes or the mistakes of others what to do and what not to do with this old iron. Please keep it safe for them and us. Thank you all for your continued efforts to keep our hobby safe and enjoyable for everyone. I wish everyone a Happy Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving!! Please pray for one another you never know who may need a little prayer. See you at the shows!

North East Director Wayne Timchuk

A short report on what is happening in the Northeast this summer. As most of our shows are winding down is time to think about storage of your tractors and implements for the winter. I don't know where the summer went! In a few weeks we will be celebrating Thanksgiving and Santa Claus will be right around the corner.

I want to thank Audrey and Jared Thomas for the great job that they did hosting our regional meeting. The show was well-organized and they did a super great job on safety. I want to thank the rest of the members of Branch 174 as I know it takes a lot of help to put on a show as well organized as that

show was. They were super great hosts and I sure appreciated all the work they done. The meeting went fine and the meal was delicious. That is beautiful country and I will be looking forward to going back in that area.

I want to thank the rest of the branches in my district for having a great safe season. Some of my branches reported to be down a little this year but other ones had good turnouts at their shows. With fuel prices hovering around 4.00 dollars a gallon it took its toll on a lot of activities this summer.

I kind of picked and chose the shows I went to. Some of my local shows were really down this year both in exhibits and spectators. Our national Oliver show was a real good one. It was held in Indiana and it was the largest show they had ever had and they had more spectators by 10:00 in the morning than any show they've had previously all day on anyone of the three days.

The Vintage Garden Tractor National Show and Massey Harris Indiana State Show had a good turnout too. They had plenty of exhibits and spectators Friday and Saturday until the rains came in bucketsful and I mean big bucketsful kind of dampen rest of the weekend.

The Ohio State farm science review turned out pretty good except visitors were down some. Sunday and Monday the set up days were pretty hectic as the winds from IKE blew all but two tents down. With a lot of hard work by Monday night new tents were up and ready for Tuesday's opening.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

The South Central Region's show season is about over for 2008 and the preparation for the 2009 show season is beginning to come together in the southern part of our area. Check the branch calendar on the EDGE&TA web page often. If your branch's 2009 show dates are not on the EDGE&TA branch calendar you should send them to the web master so she can post them. There are still a few shows in October and early November.

The 2008 season was great although the attendance was about two thirds as large as the previous year. I attended both the NC and SC Regional shows this year, and the number of exhibitors at both shows was less than in the previous years. I think we can reasonably say that the cost of fuel was a major factor in the decrease in both attendance and exhibitors at the shows.

Branch 124, hosted the SC Regional Show in Whitehouse, TX, September 6, 2008. Even though the show was somewhat smaller than I had expected, the branch did a great job of hosting the show. There were several unique tractors on display at the show. The engine exhibits were rather sparse.

The 2009 schedule for the National and Regional shows has been posted to the web page so you can start making your plans to attend those shows. The National will be June 12th, 13th, & 14th, 2009, in Fredericksburg, TX. The show will be held at the Gillespie County Fairgrounds, Hwy 16 South. Branch 66 will be hosting that show. For more information you can contact the branch at 830-997-3012 or e-mail

www.ristuiron.org. It is recommended that if you plan to attend and want motel accommodations, you make those reservations early in the coming year.

The requests for the Youth Driver Training Certificates continue to come in and a lot of branches are working with the younger generation to preserve our hobby. It is great that we have so many young people involved in our branch activities. If your branch does not have a Youth Program, 2009 would be a good time to develop such a program. Our children and grandchildren are the old gray haired and greasy-handed men and women of the future who will keep this old machinery running.

Think "Safety All the Time"! Don't be the cause of an accident. Howard D. Hodson, SC Regional Director

EDGE&TA HALL OF FAME UPDATE

Five nominations were received for 2008 and all five have been inducted into the EDGE&TA Hall of Fame. We are still missing some of the pictures and hope to have all of them soon. The biographies for all five have been posted to the EDGE&TA web page. If your branch had an inductee and that person's picture is not on the web page, please send their picture to: Ruth Warnock, EDGE&TA Sec/Treas; Sally Walker, our web master; or myself so we can post it to the web page.

It is time to start working on the 2009 nominations. We can induct six new Hall of Fame recipients each year. If your branch has a person you feel would make a good candidate, start now documenting their accomplishments. The deadline for submitting the 2009 Hall of Fame candidates is April 15, 2009. The April deadline will slip up on you before you know it!

I could also use a couple of people who would like to be judges for the Hall of Fame program. If you are interested in being a judge, please let me know so I can add you to the list of possible judges.

Howard D. Hodson EDGE&TA Hall of Fame Director

South West Director/Safety Chairman, Don Young

Another eventful season is coming to an end. It's hard to believe that winter is almost upon us. Time to think about putting all our toys away for a few months. With fuel prices at an all time high, there wasn't a shortage of shows to attend. In the local area we had two fairs, six parades, an air show, tractor ride, plow day and shows at two different elementary schools. At the schools we had tractors, engines, corn shellers, a hand operated grist mill, hand operated washing machines, typewriters, dial telephones, adding machines and many other antiques. The kids had many questions and it was hard to convince some of them what the items were. One youngster wondered what the holes were for on the dial telephone. The kids grew up using all this electronic equipment and had no idea what most of the items were. I need to find a six year old to program my cell phone and show me how to use this computer. At the fairs the teens and middle aged spectators have a different view. The ones that have never been near a farm know items they need come from a store, and have no idea what was involved to produce them. In the parades we try to have the tractor pulling an implement or an implement mounted on the tractor to show what it was used

for.

The number of branches and membership is growing with over 140 branches and 10,500 plus members.

We can all thank one another for following the safety rules and being safe.

ALASKA, DOING WELL

On August 13, 2008, twelve Branch 22 members met in Vancouver, British Columbia to start our journey and exploration of Alaska. After 7 wonderful days of cruising the Inside Passage, we arrived in Whittier, AK. We boarded a shuttle for a 2 hour tour on the way to Anchorage, stopping at a wildlife preserve. We all stayed at a beautiful Bed and Breakfast which included a gourmet breakfast and yummy dessert in the evening. One of the highlights of our stay was seeing a mother moose and her calf enjoying a morning stroll through the neighborhood. While in Anchorage, we visited different museums and points of interest, including the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum. We went to Wasilla to the Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry, and then on to the State Fair in Palmer. There, we met members of Branch 52. President, Dean Adams, and his crew had a very nice display of tractors adorned with big stuffed animals in the seats. It was a very fun and interesting day seeing all the old iron and getting to go to the fair. Later in the week, we boarded the train for Denali National Park and Preserve. We had our own cozy cabins that were close to the sparkling Nenana River. While walking along the river one morning, we came across more interesting iron. You never know where you'll find old iron. We spent 13 hours on a bus tour seeing many wild animals. Some were close up and some at a distance. This was on our way to the foot of Mt. McKinley (Denali - Great One). That evening we enjoyed a delightful and fun dinner and theater show. The next day we boarded the train again and headed for Fairbanks. While there, we visited more museums including the University of Alaska Museum of the North. We traveled by car to North Pole, AK. where we dropped off the ladies at Santa Claus House and the men continued on another 1/2 mile to meet with Carl Gaul, a member of Branch 118. Upon arriving, he asked if any of us played the piano, as he had recently acquired a new calliope that he and a friend had assembled to have in local parades. Carl had numerous engines and pieces of equipment that were very unique and interesting to us. His workshop was a log cabin full of various parts and pieces of equipment. We went back to Santa's House to pick up the girls and brought them over to Carl's place. My wife, Lou, had fun entertaining us with a few songs on the calliope. Carl's wife brought us out some delicious, warm cookies, which was a very pleasant treat. While we were there, Alan James, another branch member, arrived to pick up a trailer display of engines that he had bought from Carl. He invited us to his place to see his 20 hp Fairbanks engine. Later that week, we found Alan's home and were amazed by all the engines he had. Not only the running 20 hp Fairbanks, but three more waiting to be restored. Also, numerous smaller engines and a lot of other equipment. We later met up with Branch 118 president, Mark Sanders, at his electric repair shop. His property was full of tractors, unique vehicles and an assortment of very unusual pieces of equipment. We then moved on to Roy Wilber's sheet metal shop. Upon walking in to his shop, we were amazed at the neatness and organization of his business. Advancing to the back of the shop, we came to a separate room that was full of an assortment of items from musical instruments to antique engines. This room is the location where Branch 118 holds their meetings. It was a pleasure meeting and visiting with some of the members of the

Alaska branches and seeing their collections. Our entire group flew home from Fairbanks, with the exception of my wife and I. We meandered our way through AK and the Yukon and wound up in Haines, AK. From there we boarded a ferry and finally arrived back to our motor home in Bellingham, WA. We had a wonderful 7 weeks up north. If you ever have a chance to go to Alaska, make sure you take time to visit our branches there. They are wonderful, gracious people and a delight to visit. Cliff Northcote, President, Branch 22 San Diego, CA



Alan James, Branch 118 and Cliff Northcote, Branch 22



Branch 52 members at State Fair



Carl Gaul, Branch 118

Dirt Roads

What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved.

There's not a problem in America today, crime, drugs, education, divorce, delinquency that wouldn't be remedied, if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character.

People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride.

That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it's worth it, if at the end is home...a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog.

We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along.

There was less crime in our streets before they were paved.

Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or rape, if they knew they'd be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a double barrel shotgun.

And there were no drive by shootings.

Our values were better when our roads were worse!

People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous, they didn't tailgate by riding the bumper or the guy in front would choke you with dust & bust your windshield with rocks.

Dirt Roads taught patience.

Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly, you didn't hop in your car for a quart of milk you walked to the barn for your milk.

For your mail, you walked to the mail box.

What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part, then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped popcorn and pony rode on Daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap.

Most paved roads lead to trouble, Dirt Roads more likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole.

At the end of a Dirt Road, the only time we even locked our car was in August, because if we didn't some neighbor would fill it with too much zucchini.

At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income, from when city dudes would get stuck, you'd have to hitch up a team and pull them out.

Usually you got a dollar...always you got a new friend...at the end of a Dirt Road! ~by Paul Harvey~



Check out our website www.edgeta.org for Frequently Asked Questions. Maybe the answer to your question is there. If not, contact your director with your question.

Without the Armed Forces of the United States of America, we would not have the freedom we enjoy today... for freedom is never "free". Please continue to



pray for all of those who are currently serving and remember those that performed the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives for our country.

Don't Let The Memory Of

Them Drift Away

Hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving!



"The First Thanksgiving", painted by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris (1863–1930).

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