

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

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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April-May-June 2013

Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley

From George Christmas, President and SE Director

I hope everyone had a good winter. It is officially spring now, and I have the hay fever to prove it. I am certainly glad time has changed for those of us observing daylight savings time. It sure makes for a longer day when you can see daylight for a couple of hours after work.

The Southeast Regional show will be held in Spencer, NC this year on April 13th. I am looking forward to visiting with the folks of Branch 110. The show location will be at the North Carolina Transportation Museum. I have heard good things about the museum and I am eager to see it for myself.

Just to reiterate a couple of points that seem to escape some of our members and prospective members, Early Days Gas Engine and Tractor Association is not an insurance company. I will explain this a little more. EDGE&TA purchases insurance for its members just like you purchase insurance for your home, auto, life or health. If you purchase insurance for yourself, you are not an insurance company. EDGE&TA is not an insurance company either. EDGE&TA purchases a policy for its members the same way you purchase coverage. The insurance coverage is available for members of EDGE&TA. Just like the coverage you have for yourself, the members of EDGE&TA are responsible for guarding the integrity of the policy. If you abuse your car policy by speeding or excessive accidents, the cost of the policy will increase. This is the same thing that happens to the policy purchased by EDGE&TA for all of the organizations members. If we are careless and have repeated avoidable accidents, we will price ourselves out of coverage. The organization can only afford coverage the membership is willing to pay for.

It is our responsibility as members to protect our club from careless and thoughtless accidents. If we observe another member not following the rules, we are obligated to point that out to that member. Do you not give your children safety instructions when they are driving your car? It is our responsibility to do everything we can to make sure everyone practices safety.

It would be nice to know that a member of EDGE&TA is here because of the desire to restore and display antique farm equipment. Let's face it. Everyone is not here for that; some are here solely for the insurance coverage because it is reasonable. Do you think they would be here if the premium cost was extremely high? I don't think so. The life of our club depends on us. It depends on how well we promote it and keep it safe. If we can no longer afford liability coverage, many of our shows and parades will cease to exist.

If there is an accident, there is a procedure that needs to be followed. It is located on the website under the safety tab. I will post it here as well.

Accident Review Requirements

1. The accident investigation committee shall consist of the branch safety officer (chairman) assisted by the branch president and vice president.
2. Should any of the 3 accident investigation committee members be involved in the accident under investigation, they will be replaced by the senior director(s) in the branch.
3. If an accident occurs, first call 911.
4. The accident must be reported to the Insurance agent & EDGE&TA within 24 hours or if on a weekend, then the next business day.
5. The accident investigation committee shall investigate the accident and their written report of this investigation shall be forwarded to the Insurance agent within 72 hours of the investigation. Notification of an accident must also be reported to the National Safety Committee.
6. The accident investigation should include the following:
 - a. Were EDGE&TA safety guidelines followed? If yes, which ones? If no, which ones?
 - b. Photographs of the accident from several angles
 - c. Statements of those involved in the accident as well as eyewitnesses to the accident
 - d. Day, date, time and location of accident
 - e. Copies of any other supporting information such as police reports.

A police report is a must, if possible, on any claim. If a bodily injury, it is mandatory. The local police, Sheriff or State Police, could make this report.

f. A Fire department report, if one was filled out.

g. A Rescue Squad report or ambulance report, if one was filled out.

7. The National Safety committee will review all reports. This committee will be made up of the National Safety Officer and two EDGE&TA board members. The National Safety Committee must review and make recommendations within 30 days of the event. The National Safety Committee will work with the Insurance Agent in the evaluation of this event and in making their recommendations.

Important:

a. You should print off copies of the [Notice of Insurance Occurrence/Claim Form](#).

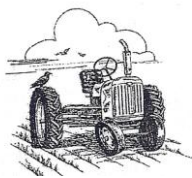
b. **Branch Officers should have copies of this form available at a Branch sponsored show.**

It is important that the information is collected and reported on time! The accident review committee can't do its job without as much information as possible. Do you call your insurance agent and tell him or her you have had an accident and you would like a check to repair the damages? No, there is a process for reporting an accident and an investigation. We, as members, are responsible for timely reporting of the accident. The accident review committee is responsible for the investigation based on a complete and honest report. Otherwise, it is impossible to determine how the accident occurred other than by negligence. You should print the form off and keep a copy with you at all times. This will help you report the incident correctly.

I hope this information was helpful to everyone.

Please remember the national show hosted by Branch 85 in Morrow, Arkansas, May 18 & 19. The Annual National Meeting for EDGE&TA will be at 5:00 p.m. May 18. We have a vacant seat on the board for the South Central Region. If anyone is interested or knows of someone who would be a good fit, please contact me or one of the other board members. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the shows this year.

George W Christmas, Southeast Region Director & President



Insurance Update, March 2013, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director

Now that April is here, I hope everyone got the winter projects completed and are ready for the show season to start. I restored an International 2 point mower and a one man Belsaw planer this winter. I am currently working on a 6 hp Galloway engine. I thought it would be an easy restoration, but of course there are no easy ones. We still have some time yet in Montana; our shows will not start until June. But those shows in the Southern states are already getting started.

It is time for each branch to send in their EDGETA dues. Unfortunately your EDGETA dues have gone up to \$12 per year per member, due to some large claims that we had in recent years. Last year we had no large claims, and we want to keep it that way. We can make that happen with everyone thinking safety. Be sure to make safety number one in our mind. We want everyone to go home safe and happy at the end of the day.

Send your dues to secretary/treasurer, Carrie Jo Parmley in Tyler, Texas. As stated in the EDGETA bylaws, branches are encouraged to submit as many members' dues as possible by March 15th. It helps if we can get as many members to renew before that time so we can pay the EDGETA National Insurance premium. However, we realize there will always be members that will not renew their membership until later. Please remember to send those dues to Carrie Jo within 30 days of receiving them.

You may have noticed that the Insurance Summary was removed from the website. It needed to be reviewed and brought up to date. We have reviewed it with our insurance agent and made corrections. It should be back up on the website soon.

For those of you that are negotiating arrangements for your show on the property of a local landowner please be sure you give them a copy of the Addendum to Lease Agreements found on our website for them to sign. This agreement says that your branch only assumes liability for the portion of the grounds that you are using. It says that your branch does not assume liability for other groups or organizations that are on the show grounds while you are there. If you have any questions about the contract that you are asked to sign, please get in touch with us.

This year the EDGETA NW Regional Show and business meeting will be hosted by my Branch #29 at the Huntley Project Threshing Bee, at the Huntley Project Museum, just east of Billings, Montana. The dates are August 17-18. We feel we had a very

successful show last year for the National, and we hope to make it happen again for the NW Regional. Our branch has been working hard to make it a great show for all. If you need any information or have any questions, please contact myself or Ken Amann, Branch 29 President.

For those of you that remember the Mehmke Steam Museum located just SE of Great Falls, MT, it will be reopening this summer. It was started by Walter Mehmke on his farm in about the 40's and 50's. After Walter passed away, his son Carl took it over and continued to restore steam engines and other big prairie tractors, as well as improving the facilities. Carl passed away in March of 2009, and the Museum was closed. We are all very happy that it will be reopening. If you have not been there, it is a sight you do not want to miss. Add it to your itinerary when you come to Montana for the NW Regional show at Huntley. For more information, check out their website www.mehmke.org.

Have a safe show season. Hope to see you at the NW Regional Show in August!

Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director

***Hope to see you at the Annual
National EDGETA
Show & Meeting -- May 18-19
Branch 85
Morrow, Arkansas***

From Don Young, VP EDGETA & SW Regional Director/Safety Chairman/Youth Driver Coord.

Shows are well underway here in the south. This is the time to check your equipment for any needed repairs. One problem that occurs here in the hot desert, tire valve stems break off because of exposure to the sun. If tie-down straps are used, check the condition. Often times if they aren't protected where they cross over sharp edges, they can become worn.

On your trailer check safety chains, coupling devices for proper match, lights, brakes, tires etc. In most states, the slow moving emblem must be removed or covered if it faces the rear when trailering. When operating your engines, avoid loose clothing and wear proper shoes and eye protection if necessary. Clean up oil and water spills and keep a clutter free area. In tractor parades or drives, keep a safe distance between tractors to avoid running into each other. Youth drivers must be tested and certified on each make and each model of tractor they

wish to operate. Your yellow membership card with the proper year sticker must be in your possession at all times that you are operating or displaying equipment. Safety Officers, if you don't already, discuss safety topics at your meetings. I have a safety meeting with participants before each parade and or show. New members should receive a copy of the safety rules that pertain to them in their membership packet. I still receive complaints from members that mail in their dues who are unable to attend meetings for various reasons and they do not receive their sticker by return mail.

Don Young VP, SW Director, National Safety Director, Youth Driver Coordinator

From Dorene Yearian, NC Director

TO PAINT OR NOT

When you acquire a new (to you) old tractor, you probably can't wait to check it out to see what it will take to make it run to your satisfaction (of course you probably did that before you bought it). Maybe make sure all parts are original to that tractor – start checking where you can get replacement parts. Start networking. Some tractors you have to completely take apart to get it running like you want. Some run like a top and no mechanical work is needed. Great sound when that happens.

One of our biggest problem is after the tractor is running like we like and it has really good work clothes on – to paint or not paint. I personally like a tractor with good work clothes to stay that way. We then rub it down with straight tung oil, which then makes it gleam, and you can still play with it. When we paint a tractor and it looks great, sometimes we then don't want to play with it – only show it. That kind of takes some of the fun out of that tractor.

When you go to a show and go down the row of tractors, which ones do you stop at--the ones with a great paint job or the ones in their work clothes. We like them both ways. When we see an old tractor in its work clothes, we usually think, "Isn't that a great old tractor." BUT when we see one that is painted really well, we get just as excited and really admire the paint job and the tractor.

Same thing with engines – you go to a show and see an old engine running and belted to a piece of old equipment. The engine is probably in its work clothes with grease everywhere, but the sound is just great or maybe the engine has a great paint job. We like them both ways. We have a long time member who has engines that are not painted but they are running. He

even has an electric motor (he hides the cord) rigged up to blow bubbles. There is always a crowd of little kids there. Not sure who has to most fun – him or the kids.

Maybe before a show, you just have time to get your equipment running like you want and no time to paint. Bring it to the show anyway. Put a piece of equipment with it either belted or hitched. Put a display sign in front – let people know what you have. Be proud of it! Either way, it still makes it a great display.

Our club showed at the fair, and most of the tractors had great paint jobs; but at the entrance, one of our club members parked a Massey Harris GP not restored – still in its work clothes (lots of rust). There was a crowd around that tractor all day.

It doesn't matter if your equipment is not painted or has a great paint job – it makes a great show either way.

Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director

From Charles Parmley, SC Regional Director

Greetings, Everyone:

As I indicated in the last newsletter, this will be my last of two articles to write. I continue to serve as an appointed board member for the SC Region. This service will terminate at the National EDGE&TA meeting in May this year.

Although the deadline for applying for this position has expired, anyone interested in serving as a possible appointed director should contact the national EDGETA secretary. Regarding the national meeting and show, it is scheduled for May 18-19 in Morrow, Arkansas. Branch 85 will be the host branch.

I would like to call attention to a publication of which some of you may not be aware. The Farm Collector Show Directory is published annually and is a complete guide to antique farm and equipment shows in the U.S. and Canada. I would suggest that you obtain a copy and check out events that may coincide with your travels this year. A couple of years ago, some visitors at our annual show were traveling through the eastern portion of Texas, noticed that our show was listed in the directory, and decided to attend.

In addition, your branch can have your show included in the directory at no expense. They will also provide you with a complimentary copy of the directory if you post an event. I highly recommend this publication. Their contact is [www.FarmCollectorShow Directory.com](http://www.FarmCollectorShowDirectory.com). I hope to see some of you at the national meeting in May.

Charles Parmley, SC Regional Director



From Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director

Well, as spring has arrived I guess Mother Nature didn't look at the calendar. We've had a pretty mild winter this year. But March so far has been colder than normal--way cooler. Easter is just down the road a bit, so I hope everybody had a Happy Easter! With April just around the corner, our tractor shows will be starting soon. With our mild winter, I got a few odds and ends done but nothing major. Spent more time cutting wood and feeding the furnace

We've had another minor incident down in Florida, and I'm really concerned about common sense and safety! Everybody needs to read and follow the rules for reporting an accident. What happens if we don't follow the rules is that we have problems that cause delays and more delays. On some of the accidents that have happened, I've seen nothing where the safety person for the branch was involved. That makes for a big problem as we get calls from more than one person, and even more when the one person changes his story from call to call. We are to be notified within 24 hours of the accident. There are forms on the web site to be filled out.

If there is an injury, that must be taken care of first. There should be a police report and, if the dollar amount is large, most states require reporting to them about the accident. States have different dollar amounts that have to be reported, but that should be done. When you fill out the accident form, it needs to be done on a computer or a typewriter so that it is legible. When it is done in longhand, scribbling is pretty hard to understand and that's got to stop.

We need good pictures in color close up of the damage, and then pictures showing the area and a larger view. When we don't get, it automatically raises a red flag wondering if there is something being hidden. All we want is the truth of what really happened so that if we need to make changes in the rules that can be done. We want witnesses' reports and anything else pertaining to the incident. And, as I said before, the safety person in your branch should be involved with the

being sure we are getting pictures and a good description of what happened. It seems that most of our incidents revolve around two things: tractor pulls and parades. With parades, be sure the person driving the tractor is experienced on that tractor and has driven one before and knows what he's doing. Don't just call somebody you know and say, "Hey, I need you to drive a tractor in a parade." Be sure they know what they're doing and are familiar with that particular unit. Also be sure your tractor is safe to be in the parade with good brakes, a kill switch, and anything else to be safe. That also goes for pulling tractors. In areas where the tractors are pulling, keep all vehicles and spectators out of the area and behind some type of barriers. Remember, when you do something wrong or stupid that causes an accident, it not only affects you, but it can affect the whole EDGE&TA Association. At all times remember to think SAFETY FIRST!!!!

Remember, when we start out in the spring with the first load, we need to check everything on the truck and trailer--brakes, lights, tires for cracks, air pressure, chains, binders, loading planks and anything else that needs to be checked. It is a lot easier to repair or replace something at home in the garage than out along the highway.

Hope you had a Happy Easter and have a safe and enjoyable summer shows season.

Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director

From Larry Voris, Director-at-Large

You may think this is off subject and it may be, but it is something you all should think very seriously about. In this cold snow weather, go get some of the boxes of old pictures you have and see if they have names on the back. This is what my wife has had me doing for the last 3 months. Some we have are from the late 1800's and don't have names on them. If you don't recognize them, you might as well through them away. But the ones that I am talking about now are the ones that you have taken of your immediate family.

I have taken pictures for 60 years and know most of the people. But when you are gone will your family know who they are? I'm sure you have taken pictures of your tractors and equipment and these are good, but turn them over, write on the back with a pencil or very lightly with a pen so as not to mar the front side of the prints.

I have been digitizing the old photos and storing them on flash drives and other methods of storage. I am using a pdf program called Nitro. It is inexpensive, and I can save the picture in pdf format and then go back and put a

number on each person in a group picture and put the names under the picture.

I have taken photos of most of my equipment and paste the picture into the "MSWord" program. At the bottom, I can give a history of the piece of equipment. Try to get serial numbers and other identification to help you identify your equipment if you needed to at a later date. Write stories about the equipment. This makes a nice book to show friends and other collectors. If you don't have a computer, it still doesn't change anything. You put your picture on a piece of paper and write the information below the picture.

Anyway, let's all have a safe show year. Watch where you are going when driving a tractor and keep your eyes for other tractor drivers. Keep your distance at all times. Be a defensive driver.

Larry Voris, Director-at-Large



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 those who are currently

serving and remember those who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country and freedoms.

Don't Let The Memory Of Them Drift Away



EDGETA.com

Utilize our website for information in all areas.

From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Editor

In the last newsletter, I included information regarding election for the positions of directors for the Northeast, South Central, and Southeast Regions. I received no applications or resumes for any of the areas except from the current directors in the Northeast and Southeast Regions. Therefore, the directors for those positions will be uncontested. The position for South Central Director will be open, since the person appointed to complete the term of Johnny Burger is not interested in running for the position and no resumes were received. Anyone interested in an appointment should contact me with information.

On another note, memberships have been coming in very well since early March. However, many branches have still not submitted any membership list or dues. Please get those to me as quickly as possible, as the new memberships start April 15.

To those of you who routinely and accurately (and timely) send your new membership lists along with the check, or e-mail your new member list and mail checks, thanks so much. It takes time and effort to do those things well. You are to be commended.

Also, to those of you who submit memberships, please be sure that you send a list of ONLY the members you are paying for with the check included in the package. The names must be clearly defined if they are to be paid for with the check you enclose. Please do not send a lengthy list of names and think I'll be able to sort them out by paid, not paid, new members, renewing members, complete listing of potential membership—all in one long spread sheet list. With almost 12,000 members, I'm not able to take a long list of names and go through and try to figure out who is being paid for. We want your information to be accurate so that EDGETA can assist you quickly at any moment you may need our assistance.

Please welcome these new branches: Branch 237-AR, Branch 238-NE, Branch 239-MO, and Branch 240-AZ.

Reminder:

1. If you need membership cards, please let me know exactly how many you need. We do not keep a large extra inventory of cards, but are happy to send the supplies that you need for current memberships.
2. This newsletter is posted on our EDGETA.com website for access by anyone. Please feel free to go to the website and seek any information that you might need. There is a lot of useful information posted on the site.

3. You must go to the EDGETA.com website and update your officers and directors at the beginning of each year, even if they do not change from the prior year. Click on the blue tab near the bottom of the home page "Update Officers." If the officer is the same, you may enter "same as last year" instead of having to enter the entire information again.
4. Always include your Branch # on all correspondence including e-mail. That is the way we identify your organization—not by name.

Carrie Jo Parmley, Secy/Treasurer

⇒IMPORTANT INFORMATION⇐

2013

***Annual National EDGETA
Show & Meeting -- May 18-19
Branch 85
Morrow, Arkansas
Annual Meeting 5:00 p.m. May 18***

Regional Shows & Meetings

***North West Regional Show—Aug. 17 & 18
Host Branch 29, Huntley, Montana***

***South West Regional Show—October 2-6
Hosted by Branch 160, Las Cruces, NM***

***North Central Regional Show—Aug. 23 & 24
Host--Branch 50, Haviland, KS***

***South Central Regional Show—Nov. 2
Host--Branch 149—Angleton, TX***

***North East Regional Show—June 28-30
Host--Branch 196—Presque Isle, ME***

***South East Regional Show—April 13
Host--Branch 110, Spencer, NC***

See EDGETA.com for details for shows