

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

From George Christmas, President and SE Regional Director

Well, it is officially spring now. I am looking forward to longer days. My yard looks like someone has abandoned my house. I keep thinking the neighbors are going to band together to confront me. I am hoping I can get a few things done around the house before that happens. Man, working Monday thru Friday surely isn't all it seems to be. The show season is cranking up, so Saturdays will be torn between working around the house and going to a show. Oh, the sacrifices adults have to make. It is spring break around here. I wish adults got a spring break.

Everyone should have their memberships and dues paid by now. It is very important when you report your members that you include their name, address and phone number. These are important pieces of information. Please note the information needed on the **BRANCH MEMBERS FORM**. It is also required for the insurance coverage to be in effect for each member. It is also required that each branch complete the **BRANCH DIRECTORS UPDATE FORM**. This form serves to help us identify who can be contacted at the branch. It verifies the officers for the D & O insurance. The form is set currently that if there is not a change for a specific position you can fill it in with the word "same" submit it and the form will let the secretary know the correct contacts for your branch.

It would be a good idea for each branch to have someone to visit the web site on a regular basis. The web site is the easiest and fastest way we have to reach all the members. There are web pages set up for each branch. These pages can be used to post pictures, show schedules your branch will attend during the year and general information about your branch. You can include things like history of the club and specific items the club collects. If your club does a good bit of charity work you can tell all about that too. You may even inspire other clubs to do the same thing or give them an idea of their own. The web pages are a great way for the clubs to learn

about each other too. As small as the world seems to be at times, some folks don't get to travel around the United States, and having the ability to see clubs from other states or even in their own states through the use of a branches web page can be a treat. You know they say a picture is worth a thousand words. There are many members who would be glad to share the knowledge they have with others. The web pages may also help contact with someone with a rare part needed to complete a project. It may also be a way to get more exposure for your branch to get young folks interested in the hobby.

We are getting ready to visit Branch 89 in Henderson, TX for the 55th National show. The board of directors will be there for the annual membership meeting. This is a good time to meet face to face with the director of your region and other regions and ask those questions you may have concerning association business. I am looking forward to meeting new folks and seeing old friends again. All of the regional shows are yet to come. There is a calendar and listing on the web site of all the upcoming regional shows.

I always end with a thought on safety. It is extremely important we do all we can to make this hobby safe for the spectators but also for ourselves. We need to make sure we are following the guidelines set forth and posted on the web site for everyone to view at any time. We must practice safe handling of equipment so we don't injure ourselves. I recently was loading a tractor for a show and realized if the weather conditions changed, loading that tractor would not be safe. I had to change the way I loaded it plus decide on another tractor to take with it since the load would be stacked differently. This is only one example of thinking ahead to what may happen if. We must constantly do that. That type thinking will keep us ahead of the game and safer. Please remember safety is everyone's business. If you witness another member in an unsafe practice, behavior or display, you need to bring that to the branch safety officer's attention so it can be corrected. I recently went to a show which

was not an EDGE&TA show. Some of the things I saw really scared me. I wondered how anyone could think some of the stuff going on there would have been safe. There were multiple people riding on the same tractor. There were moving displays not roped off. There was a large crowd and a lot of unnecessary movement on the show grounds. It only takes one incident to change the course of a show. Please make sure you are following the guidelines to make your show or display where ever you are, safe for you and the spectators.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the national and regional shows this year.

George W Christmas, President and Southeast Regional Director

Insurance Update, March 2015, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director

Spring has arrived here, our weather has been warmer than normal, and unfortunately dryer. We had pretty good snows in December and January, but then the snow/rain stopped. We had a weather front move through the area last Saturday with a strong wind of up to 60 to 70 mph that lasted most of the day. Some people were burning ditches and weeds several days before that and some on those fires were not completely put out. The hard wind fanned the fires and consequently, now have several burning that have burned over a thousand acres. Two homes have been lost to the fires. Prior to that wind, our neighbor was burning his irrigation ditches and a wind came up. It drove the fire to his hay stack and he lost about 50 round bales of hay. It was not a good day for him.

Don't forget to send your dues to Carrie Jo if you have not already done so. EDGETA dues are still \$12/yr. per member.

Things on the insurance front have been pretty quiet. I have had several calls about the Tulare show in California, branch members asking if our EDGETA insurance covers them selling at the Tulare show. Unfortunately, it does not. Remember it covers you while you exhibit your tractor/engine at the show, but does not cover you when you are selling. The people at the Tulare show will sell you vendors insurance, but I understand it is in the league of about \$70.

Our insurance policy will be renewed on April 15th, as it is every year. Those of you that have

events around that time need to be reminded that our insurance agent cannot send a certificate of insurance until the new policy is officially in place. If you request a certificate of insurance for an event right after April 15, it will be close to the time of your event before your certificate gets there. Our insurance agent's staff are good about getting them out soon as they can.

I have also gotten several calls about the use of barrel trains, people movers, and tractor pull sleds at non EDGETA events. Remember that if you are asked to take either of these to a non EDGETA event, to get a certificate of insurance from the requester naming your branch as additional insured under their policy. If they won't do that, I strongly recommend you leave your barrel train, people mover, or pulling sled home. Our insurance policy will not cover it.

Thanks to all you EDGETA members, we have not had any claims in the past year. That means that all of us are thinking about safety in all we do in this hobby. Let's not get complacent and let our guard down. Always think about what you are about to do and be sure it is safe to do it.

I hope everyone has a great and safe show season.

Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director

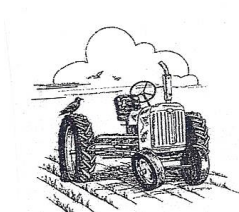


From Don Young—Vice President and SW Regional Director, Safety Chair, Youth Driver Cert.

The first show of the year in the south west area was located near Yuma, Arizona. It was hosted by Branch 206. There were exhibitors from many branches located throughout the south. Spectators from Canada, Alaska, and all over the USA attend this great show. Busloads of school kids attend this

event to learn how tasks were done in the past as well as in the present time. There have been a number of shows already and many more scheduled for the upcoming months. Safety is our number one priority. Everyone look out for each other to prevent an accident.

Don Young—Vice President and SW Regional Director, Safety Chair, Youth Driver Cert.



Practice “Safety First”

From Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director

Well, spring is here, but I don't think Mother Nature realizes it yet. It's sure been a good old-fashioned winter here in Ohio. We've had a rough January and February here in Ohio but you folks up in the New England states sure caught the brunt of the bad storms. I got absolutely nothing done in January and February except putting wood in the furnace and trying to stay warm it was a lost two months

With a national meeting coming up in April, I hope it warms up a couple of days so that I can go over the truck and the trailer to get ready for the trip. Hopefully, the trip to Texas this year will be more enjoyable than the meeting we had there a couple of years ago when the temperature was 107° and I think that was that night

Just remember, with the weather warming up and everybody in a hurry to get their equipment and trucks and trailers ready for the spring shows, be super careful. We had one show in March in Indiana that I normally go to, but I didn't make it this year. Our normal show season starts about the middle of May, and then it's every weekend through the summer. With gas prices down, there probably will be more participation than there was in the last year.

I know I'm going to have to pick and choose shows to go to this year because I just don't have the time

I'll be looking forward to meeting some of my old friends and making some new ones at our regional show up in New York. Let's hope for a good turnout of people and machinery and very nice weather for a regional show.

Let's have a great and safe show season for 2015. Let's hope the weather straightens out and we have some nice dry weekends for our shows.

“Remember Safety starts at home.”

Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director

From Larry Voris, Director-at-Large

It's time for another show season. It has already started in the Southwest. I say started, I don't think it ever stops out there. I'm going to talk about tractor pulling.

Tractor pulling started when a JD person told IHC person the JD could out-pull his tractor. Then the AC or Case or MM person came along and said his tractor could out-pull both of their tractors. It started with farm tractors out of the field. I heard one tractor puller tell another puller they had a new rule. The rule was that they had to plow for an hour before they pulled. The second puller said he didn't come to plow, he came to pull. Now you know some of the stories of how tractor pulling may be out of hand. They didn't plow at 7, 10 or 15 MPH. Some more things we need to consider when pulling.

- Keep spectators at least 30 feet from edge of track. (Maybe this distance should be increased by each MPH over 3.5) Spectators may be closer if solid barrier or fence separates spectators from track.
- Wheelie bars should be used on all pulling tractors. (No exceptions.) All wheelie bars must be checked so not to allow the front of tractor to exceed 16 inches off the ground and must be tested to weight of the tractor.
- Tractors not to exceed 100 HP and this must be enforced.
- RPM's must be enforced.
- All pulling tractors must be 30 years or older.

I have heard rumbling about the age of pulling tractors. The NATPA Association uses 1959. For a long time, "antique" was 1938 and older. Classic was anything older than 1959. That meant that the 1938 and older could also pull in the classic classes. Now, we are bringing in Farm Stock classes, and also 38 inch tires on the Allis Chalmers WC tractors with all kind of wheels being used. Then, there's a class for 38 inch tires on the AC tractors. There are all types of tire cuts and NATPA addresses this by making a class for these things.

A few years ago, we mentioned that a tractor must be 30 years old or older. That means that you are going to have to make a class for the newer tractors. We still need to hold to the 100 HP. The more HP allowed means that the sled, hooks, chains, drawbars must be stronger. We calculated the strength of the chains and recommended the size and type of chain that should be used. Then the phone started ringing, and they were complaining about the cost of the chain and the hooks.

Yes, I knew the cost of each item when this was done. We have never mentioned that the welds made on tractor drawbars and sleds probably should be done by a certified welder.

Now, here is the kicker. All people on the pulling track, pit crew and anyone in the track area must be EDGETA members. If you kill each other, it is not an EDGETA problem. Another issue--BUT, how many of the tractor pullers have personal liability insurance to cover themselves if they should hurt a fellow puller or anyone in the pit area. We have tried to get member-to-member coverage in the past, and I asked the agent every year about this. Member-to-member isn't just for tractor pulls; it is anything we exhibit. Do any of your gas engine exhibitors have personal liability coverage in case your piece of equipment or you injured another member?

Every member needs to check with their Insurance Agent and see if they have any personal Liability coverage. I have talked about this several times in the past, and I will continue reminding you. We could put all the tractors in a glass house and say no holds barred. But if anything breaks and hits a spectator, then EDGETA has a problem.

In talking with a local NATPA puller, I believe he said his dues are \$65.00 a year for liability including member-to-member coverage and this

only covers him at an NATPA sanctioned pull. He pulls in Divisions 1 and 2 which are the 3 mph classes with un-cut tires. EDGETA doesn't have a limit on how many shows you can attend.

It doesn't matter what HP or speed we set, somebody will always want more. You will spend thousands of dollars to make your tractor go faster, but you won't spend a couple hundred to protect yourself from liability.

Let's All Have a Safe and Fun Year.

Larry Voris, Director-at-Large

From Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director

I am fully convinced now that growing old is not for sissies. No, I am not complaining about the usual forgetfulness, where are my keys, please ring my cell phone so I can find it. I lost my glasses, etc. I have already earned my master's degree in that field. I have 12 surgeries to my credit, several of them were major. When I see a new Physician, there is never enough room to list the surgeries or the prescription meds. I had declared that I would never have another surgery, but guess what? Soon after I return from the national show, I will have my second hip replacement, and soon after recovery from that have a procedure for Spinal Stenosis. I have been physically unable to help with spring cleanup at my home Branch 37, Tired Iron of the Ozarks, for the first time in several years.

I hope to see many of you from the South Central Region at the National show in Henderson, Texas, April 17 & 18. It is a privilege to have it close to home this time. I look forward to visiting with you and meeting a number of branch presidents at Henderson.

I encourage you to attend as many shows as you can this summer. It affords opportunity to see old friends and make new ones, both human and mechanical. It is also an opportunity to help build EDGETA bigger, better and stronger. I hope that you share the same appreciation for EDGETA as I do. I also pray that you have the health, strength and resources to pursue this wonderful hobby with diligence this summer.

Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director



2015 DUES ARE \$12 PER MEMBER

From Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director

Update Your EDGETA Information

All branches belonging to EDGE&TA must keep their branch information up to date. It is very easy to update your information on our web page – just go on line to our home page and click on the branch officer/director update. If the person is the same from last year – just input “same.”

There are several reasons your updated information on the web site is necessary:

1. All branches belonging to EDGE&TA receive D & O insurance. The D & O insurance covers each branch director and officer. You pay for your individual Liability and D & O Insurance when you pay your dues. It is part of the total package. D & O insurance is coverage that protects the Directors and Officers for wrongful acts. The policy will pay on behalf of the named insured or the organization’s directors and officers of such for a loss for which any of the mentioned is liable as a result of a wrongful act. Wrongful act – any alleged breach of duty, error, misstatement, misleading statement, or omission by the corporation or by the insured(s) acting solely in their capacity as a Director and Officer of the Organization.
2. With the help from all the national directors and the secretary, we at EDGE&TA try to keep all branches up to date on all that

happens in our organization – i.e.

Newsletters; new branches (which might be in your area); national and regional shows, dates and locations; policy and procedure changes; or new information that might affect your branch.

3. Formal notices i.e. – ballot voting on by-law changes or director election or change in insurance criteria or companies.
4. Other branches needing help with or advertising their show, or soliciting information for a project they may have.

We in EDGE&TA can only do the above if your branch information is up to date. We (National and other branches) need to know how to contact your branch.

“YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN EDGE&TA”

You are not alone when you join an EDGE&TA branch. You can singly get information from libraries, books/literature, vendors, the Internet and various other paces. When you join an EDGE&TA branch, of course you get the liability and D & O Insurance, but you also get companionship, fellowship, family and a sense of belonging with people that you share a common interest. You look forward to branch meetings mainly because of the socializing and sharing information with good friends. There are many times some member will tell another where they can get information or a part needed to finish a project. They will give you information of auctions, shows, or swap meets and you are always welcome to join them. There is a lot of kidding and teasing between members mostly because of brands/models.

You can be at a show and your engine is not running smoothly and another member will help troubleshoot and show how to adjust it or get a spring you need out of their toolbox or help you magnetize your magneto. You’ve run out of gas in your tractor or it isn’t running correctly (not JD) – someone has fuel or a spark plug and you’re back in business. If you have a problem loading or unloading before or after a show, members are always willing to lend a helping hand. You even have fun working together at the grounds getting ready for a show.

When your branch needed larger numbers (displays) to attend the local or State Fair, a few calls to other branches and you have a great display, which proves that friendship is not only in the individual branches but spreads to other branches.

I've seen when a member is sick and the others find out, everyone helps load and asks if there is anything else they could do, and or they do visits to the homes to see if there is anything to be done.

When my husband I first joined our branch and went to the state fair for the first time (& really didn't know anyone), we were amazed as everyone helped each other unload until everyone was set up and when leaving did in reverse.

The only thing that is more important than our hobbies and our branch friends is our family and sometimes it runs neck and neck or friends become family.

There is a lot to be said for joining, as our hobby is unique. We help and care for each other.

Remember Safety Officer is not just a title!

Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director

From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./

Hope all of you had a Happy New Year--by now, the new year is well under way. I've received membership dues from many of the branches. However, there are still those who need to send their dues. The new membership year begins April 15, 2015; unless memberships are renewed prior to them, members will not have membership coverage until those dues are paid.

One housekeeping chore that we need to take care of is the updating of new officers and directors. **This must be done at the beginning of each year, even if you maintain the same officers.** Go to the EDGETA.com website, scroll down to the blue tab "Update Officers" and enter those. Do the same for Directors. If the information is the same as last year, just enter "same" in the blank for the name of the person in that office. If their address, phone or e-mail changes, please make that change. **Any and all changes must be entered.** This year, I have had a number of branches that did not get their buttons, stickers, etc. when I mailed them the first week of February because officers had not been update for some

years, and the supplies were mailed to the person I had on record. If you do change officers or update records after that date, you may need to contact the previous office holder for supplies. Some were lost because they were delivered to the address we had on file, and no one was there to claim them. Please be sure that someone in your branch takes care of updating officers each year.

Dick has already stated that the new year for EDGETA begins April 15, so please get your membership information turned in so that you will have continuous covering the membership offers.

Spring is here and the National Annual Meeting is April 17-18 in Henderson, TX, so I'm excited to be able to have something so near my part of the world this year. The members of Branch 89 have been working hard to have a good show and to make all those who are traveling to Texas feel welcome and make the experience memorable. Looking forward to it. We hope to see many of you there.

Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treasurer/Editor

**2015 – Annual National
EDGETA Show & Meeting**

April 17-18, 2015

Branch 89 – Henderson, TX

Northwest Regional, June 13-14, 2015

Host – Branch 72 -Shoshoni, WY

North Central - September 10-13, 2015

Host - Branch 195 - Boonville, MO

Northeast Regional - June 20-21, 2015

Host – Branch 101, Sharon Springs, NY

Southwest Regional - October 2-4, 2015

Host - Branch 184, New Mexico

South Central – August 21-22, 2015

Host - Branch 178 & Branch 179

Ruston, LA

Southeast Regional - September 18-20, 2015

Host - Branch 212, Fayetteville, GA

**2016 – Annual National
EDGETA Show & Meeting**

June 11-12, 2016 (Sat.&Sun.)

Branch 52 -- Wasilla, AK