

# **NATIONAL NEWSLETTER**

**Volume No. 17, Issue No. 1**

**January–February–March 2015**

**Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley**

## **From George Christmas, President and SE Regional Director**

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas. It seems strange to say that because I am writing this a couple of weeks before Christmas. This year has rapidly come to an end. The weather hasn't been too extreme here. I did see something this year I had not seen before. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, I was driving through Columbia, SC at approximately 09:00. It had been raining on the drive towards the upstate. It was a cold morning. I began to notice snowflakes. By the time we passed north of Columbia, there had been enough snowfall to cover the ground. That only made the trip to pick up my newly acquired 1938 John Deere model A even better! It was one of those father and son trips my dad and I have had the opportunity to go on. That is really what this hobby is all about, spending time with family and friends, making memories and reliving others.

Please remember to include your branch number when corresponding to the national secretary or any of the directors. If you are completing any forms for EDGE&TA you must include you branch number on those as well. The branch number issued when your club joined EDGE&TA is how your branch agreed to be identified during the application process. This speeds up any process concerning your branch.

**It is very important that everyone take safety seriously! If you see a member acting in an unsafe manner it is your duty to point it out to that member. You should also bring it to the attention of the branch safety officer and the other members. When members are allowed to act in an unsafe manner, there is much at stake! First innocent people may get hurt, this is senseless. That person may be putting their own health in jeopardy. They risk the loss of liability coverage for the entire membership of our association. This activity can no longer be tolerated. It is up to each one of us as members of the association to police the safety of all of our activities. The safety guidelines are posted on the website for everyone**

to reference. There is not an excuse for any branch to not have access to the guidelines and review them with the members. The website also has a section for frequently asked questions. We continue to update that section as we can add information to help. Please visit the website [www.edgeta.com](http://www.edgeta.com) and familiarize yourself with all the information contained there.

Remember it is time to start sending in dues. All dues must be received by March. The new rate will be in effect. There was an increase in 2013 in the dues because the insurance premium was increased. That was explained in detail in the last newsletter. The total cost per member is \$12. That is \$4 for the dues to EDGE&TA and \$8 per member for the insurance premium. If dues are not received by the secretary by April 15<sup>th</sup>, a letter of **TERMINATION** will be sent to any branch whose dues have not been received. Please contact your regional director if you have any questions.

Please make sure you are updating your officer's information form on the website. It is important for the directors to have up to date contact information for each branch. It is also important from an insurance stand point. If the officer's information is not up to date, the officers are not covered by the D&O insurance provided to the officers for each branch.

Please look for the ballots that have been sent to each branch president with this newsletter. The ballots are for changes in the by-laws. Please read them carefully. You will find instructions on how to complete the ballots. The branch president must sign the ballot and also write the branch number on the ballot. Please return the signed ballots as soon as possible.

I hope everyone has a Happy and Prosperous New Year! I am looking forward to seeing old friends and making new friends this year! Please take every precaution to make our hobby safe for everyone.

**George W Christmas, President and Southeast Regional Director**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Insurance Update, December 2014, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

As I write this newsletter, it is getting close to Christmas. This year sure flew by and now it is almost gone. We are getting into the Christmas spirit; Sue is decorating the house for the Christmas party tomorrow night for the personnel of the local Huntley Project Museum. Another of those volunteer jobs that I got myself into. I also have another tractor project to work on, I recently found a Rumely 6 that needs to be restored. We have been fortunate to have a mild winter so far. Not like last winter when we had a record amount of snow.

Now down to insurance issues. Last Spring's newsletter covered the changes made to using people movers, barrel rides and tractor pull sleds at non EDGETA events. Our insurance will no longer cover those situations. If your branch does take one of these to a non EDGETA event, you need to ask them for a certificate of their insurance naming your branch as additional insured. If you as an individual take your tractor and trailer to a non EDGETA event to be used as a people mover, you need to ask them to give you a certificate of insurance naming you as additional insured under their policy. You do not have EDGETA insurance coverage for this situation.

The question follows then, where to do we have coverage. Obviously you have coverage at all EDGETA events as long as you follow the EDGETA safety requirements. But we all display our tractors and engines at non EDGETA events like State Fairs, car and truck shows, the local Tractor Supply Store, community and church festivals, local parades, etc. You have EDGETA insurance coverage for those activities. It all boils down to the amount of exposure that our insurance carrier is willing to take. There is a lot less exposure when you are exhibiting your tractors or engines at a static display or at a parade where you have total control over your exhibit. When you are operating a people mover at a non EDGETA event, for example, you have little control over the people that are riding, and therefore the exposure is much greater.

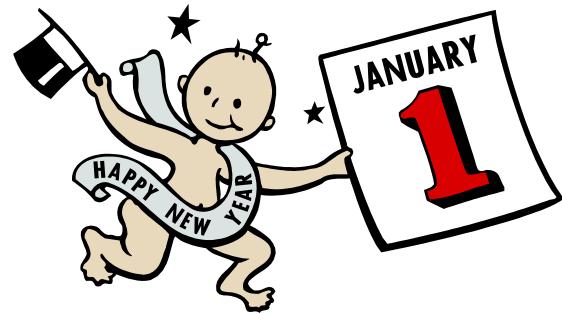
I would like to remind you how signing up new EDGETA members works. When you sign up a new member, and take his dues money and give him a membership card, he is an official EDGETA member. The card is proof that he can show that he is a member. He does not have EDGETA insurance coverage until he has that membership card. It is

then the responsibility of the branch to report the membership and send the National dues to our EDGETA National secretary within 30 days. It has come to our attention that one branch has not been issuing the yellow membership cards to their members. Also it has come to our attention that a branch has been collecting the membership dues and not reporting and sending the National dues to EDGETA unless they needed the insurance. This is not acceptable. It is not fair to the rest of the EDGETA branches to not report and send the National dues. We rely on the honesty of the branches to send the National dues to our EDGETA National Secretary. If you are not honest with us, we do not need you as a branch.

National dues will be the same as last year for 2015-2016, \$12 per member. (This is \$8 for the Insurance and \$4 for National dues). My hope is that after a period of time without serious claims, we can reduce this number. We just need to prove to the insurance carrier that we are a safety conscious organization, and can conduct our activities in a safe and accident free manner. It will just take time.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, and have a Safe and Happy New Year.

## **Insurance Update, December 2014, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**



\*\*\*\*\*

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

Safety is our #1 priority. The Safety Officer is not just a position, it is a job. If the Safety Officer is unable to attend a display or a parade, assign a member to be in charge. All members must think and practice safety. I have a safety meeting prior to

an event and give each participant a copy of the EDGETA safety rules. One serious accident could affect the whole organization. There have been numerous shows and parades this past year. I have attended many of the local ones with my General tractor.

The first show in the area will be in Wellton, AZ January 16-18, 2015 hosted by Branch 206. Branch 22 arrives several days in advance to help mark the spaces and install several hundred feet of rope. Tulare, CA is another major event April 17-19, 2015 with many area branches displaying. This past year a number of members have passed on taking a lot of history and knowledge with them. We all need to make an effort to attract younger members to carry on our hobby. Check with FFA, 4H, and schools for programs that would interest our youth. Hoping all y'all had a Merry Christmas and a wish you a prosperous and safe New Year.

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

# BE SAFE

\*\*\*\*\*

**From Larry Voris, Director-at-Large**

Time for another newsletter. The last of November, we hooked the 5<sup>th</sup> wheel on to the ole Dodge and headed to Tucson for a week in the warm weather. Sure going to hate to have to go back to the winter's cold weather. My saying is. "If it's below 70, its cold". I like spring and summer. Spring is where things are new, fresh and the new growth of plants and trees. To me this is the most beautiful time of the year. My wife just got a new laptop with Windows 8.1. We are still trying to make it work. When I get back home I can use my XP and I still have my flip phone. My kids and grandkids all have these new-fangled smart phones and "text." I think that is the proper word.

On the trip out, we only had 3 things happen. First a flat on the trailer. No big deal, 20 minutes and

we were back on the road. Big sign on the interstate said, "RV and service." We found the little shop, which was clean and only an employee was there at that time. The owner would be back shortly. He did have the tire I needed for the trailer. The owner came back and was one of the most obnoxious persons I had seen in a while. I would have left, but he had the tire I needed. The employee was extra nice and helpful. Only lost about an hour. A couple of days later, we were traveling along and the engine started missing. A diesel isn't supposed to miss. I slowed down and limped into the next town and found an O'Reilly parts store right off and told the counter man my problem. He picked up the phone and called a mechanic friend. He was there in about 10 minutes. The nut on the line from the pump to the injector had loosened and was squirting fuel and not going to the injector. He tightened the nut and told me to start the engine. It missed and hic-upped a couple of times, and then it sounded great. Upon arrival, I unhooked the trailer in the parking lot of the place we were staying. The next day I checked the trailer and the frig wasn't cooling. The battery was dead. Back to another O'Reilly store.

Back to EDGETA. We have lost a couple of branches and some members this year because our insurance didn't cover some things they wanted to do that was beyond what the scope of what the EDGETA National Board has set up for the organization. As you all know, "Insurance" is a big issue. It seems that some want to stretch our coverage to do things that isn't in the scope of EDGETA. After we were cancelled a few years ago for a couple of big claims, it is getting harder to keep insurance for the organization. Yes, the premiums doubled. It went from \$4.00 per member to \$8.00. That is still cheap for the amount of coverage we get. It is very important on the branch level that all members have the yellow membership card and the sticker is up to date. It is important that the Branch membership person keeps the National Secretary informed of all current and new members. Yes, we need the name and full address of each member. If a member should have a claim and their name and information isn't on file with the National Secretary they don't have coverage. A person that joins at a show or event has coverage as soon as we receive their money and they get the yellow membership card. If the branch membership person doesn't send the information to the National Secretary in the 30 day time period, the new members don't have coverage. We know that all these are volunteer

positions, but send the information to the National Secretary.

The 2015 National Show is in April which is early. If you have a project for the show, better get started. That's all for now.

## **Larry Voris, Director-at-Large**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **From Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

I have had very little time to work on my projects this winter due to my wife's accident and helping our youngest son build a house.

Doris had another Vertebroplasty procedure this morning; I am writing while sitting with her. She is awake but still feeling the effects of the anesthetic.

At the time of the accident, the emergency room physician said she had nothing broken other than her tail bone. Three days later, a family physician x-rayed and said L-2 vertebrae had a compression fracture but nothing could be done about it. A week later, our family physician said he would refer her to a doctor who does Vertebroplasty. One month after the accident, she had Vertebroplasty on L-2. Pain continued and after more x-rays and MRI's on the upper spine, they discovered two more vertebrae with compression fractures. They had not checked the upper part of the spine (thoracic) until last Friday so today, 9 weeks after the accident, she had Vertebroplasty again.

Now my Dad's 8N tractor refuses to start, my Cushman Truckster is getting gasoline into the crankcase, my International "M" engine won't start, and I haven't started on my 4-horse Cushman binder. I have been meeting with the engine group of my home Branch #37 once a week and hopefully will get some help. At any rate, I have plenty to do this winter and am hoping my son's house will be finished by the end of January.

I hope that things are going better for all our EDGETA members in the South Central Region than they have been for me this year. The latest challenge I faced was the battery exploded on my 4630 Ford New Holland. Glad it was under the hood. It blew out one side and both ends, setting the tractor on fire. It took a week to replace fuel lines before I got it running again. I am still in need of a fan shroud which can't be purchased from New Holland. Now I know why they say to

not lean over a battery while working on it. And I also know the importance of keeping a fire extinguisher on your tractors. I would not have believed such a powerful explosion could come from a battery.

Please be cautious, and be safe!

Hoping your Holidays were wonderful!

### **Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

\*\*\*\*\*



## **2015 DUES ARE \$12 PER MEMBER**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **From Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

Where did the year ago? It just seems like a couple weeks ago, we were at our Fourth of July parade. As I sit here looking out the window at the rain, it sure doesn't seem like December. I guess we had our December weather in November. It was cold, snowy and real winter like. I know we didn't have the bad weather that the folks had up in the Northeast and in the east of me had. I guess we'll have to take what Mother Nature gives us. In my area, the farmers harvested their crops with very low problems. Some of them got a real surprise when they got in the fields. Others had some pretty good crops. Prices hurt some of the corn growers on the bottom line.

The second weekend of October, we held our Regional Meeting at Quarry Hill Orchard's. We had very good weather considering it was the middle of October. I was a little disappointed in members from our other two branches. Attendance was pretty slim, but there was a lot going on that weekend. The president of Branch 182, Fred Holzman, was there, and we had a nice conversation. I really feel bad when they had their shows, I was tied up with things

that I could not get out of, so I missed their shows, too. We had a nice showing of tractors about 35, a lot of garden tractors and a couple loads of implements. I am kind of partial to implements as that is what I normally show. With implements you don't have to have only one of each so that there's not a lot of duplicates. We also had a lot of other activities going on. We had the blacksmith shop working both days, and that's always a big hit and was busy. Then we had a young lady weaving rugs; it's amazing what she can do with strips of rags. Then there was the gentleman making brooms that was very interesting and then there was the kiddie tractor pull that had a fair turn out too. All in all, I think we had a nice show and informative show and meeting. Being a small organization, we had our dinner and meeting at Ron's Smith's home. We discussed insurance problems and safety problems that seem to be our two main things. I think all but one or two of our members were there; we usually have a pretty good turnout. I want to thank Ron for putting up with us.

So when you receive this newsletter, Christmas and New Year's will be long gone. And with the new year brings new projects. As always, remember Safety First. By now everybody should have all their tractors and engines all ready for the cold winter. Remember, when you're in an enclosed building, be careful about fumes from exhaust or paint. They can be deadly. I hope as you are putting things away, you made notes of things that needed to be fixed and by spring you can have that all done. I know with me, if I don't write it down sometimes I forget.

Well, in closing I hope everybody had a good show season and will be looking forward to our 2015 show season. Hope to see a lot of you in Texas for National Meeting in April.

Remember Safety Starts at Home! So Have a Safe and Enjoyable Winter and I hope to see some of you on the show circuit in 2015.

**Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

\*\*\*\*\*

**From Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director**

#### **“What EDGETA Expects of You”**

EDGETA does not govern how you run your branch with the exception that you are required to have 20 members, maintain an up-to-date list of their

names, addresses, and phone numbers, have a contact person, pay your dues (which includes your insurance premium), and have a safety officer.

EDGETA does not require that you have a president, vice-president, treasurer, a secretary, etc., just an administrative core of personnel to run your branch and to be able to communicate with our secretary/treasurer and directors. Of course, among that core of administrative personnel, you have to have a contact person and a safety officer.

The branch contact person is the person EDGETA communicates with, and that person is responsible for informing all the branch members of any news from EDGETA.

A safety officer should be very familiar and totally understand EDGETA's safety requirements and frequently asked questions, as that officer is responsible for the safety of the branch. The safety officer should make sure all of your members understand and comply with EDGETA safety requirements, whether at your own EDGETA sponsored show or a non EDGETA sponsored show. The officer should be encouraging all members to think safety. The safety officer should encourage all members to read and comply with the safety requirements and frequently asked questions. The safety officer and any branch member should be thinking safety and shut down any display or action they think is not safe.

The safety officer has a big responsibility. He is there to see that no one gets hurt and we do not incur any accidents and loose our insurance.

***Remember Safety Officer is not just a title!***

**Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director**

\*\*\*\*\*

**From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./**

Hope all of you have a Happy and Prosperous New Year. This time, I'll address 2 major items of business. First, there is a vote for changes to the EDGETA By-Laws and second is the election of 3 directors.

1. Enclosed with each of the Branch President's Newsletters is a ballot on which the Branch must vote and return to either George Christmas or me. The complete instructions are at the bottom of the ballot. The ballot has 11

proposed changes, all of which are housekeeping items, many of which have already been incorporated into the business process of EDGETA. Presidents, please mark the ballots and return to EDGETA as per the instructions at the bottom of the ballot.

2. We have the following 3 Director's positions open this year: **North Central, South Central, and Director-at-Large.**

If there are any nominations, I must receive the resumes 90 days prior to the National Meeting to be held on April 18, 2015. Carrie Jo Parmley, 15246 Seven League Rd., Tyler, TX 75703. The date due to me is Jan. 18, 2015. Since that is Sunday, I will receive them through Jan. 19, 2015. A banner scrolling across the website since December 1, 2014 also has announced the director positions up for election.

By-Laws pertaining to the election are printed below and also are on our website.

#### ARTICLE IV - DIRECTORS/OFFICERS/ADVISORS

##### Section 1. Directors:

- a. The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) directors which includes the President, Vice President, and Safety Officer.
- b. There shall be one Director from each of the six (6) EDGE&TA Regions with the seventh being a Director at Large.
- c. Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting by a majority of the branches voting, either in person or by proxy. Every branch may vote to fill all Director Positions, both Regional and Director at Large.
- d. Any member in good standing may have their name placed in nomination for the Director position in the Region in which they reside.
- e. Any member in good standing, from any region, may have their name placed in nomination for the Director at Large position.
- f. Nominees must send to the Secretary/Treasurer a resume providing a straight forward profile of themselves and a recent photo. As a minimum, the resume should contain the following:
  - (1) EDGE&TA membership history
  - (2) EDGE&TA offices held
  - (3) Ideas and goals for EDGE&TA
  - (4) Knowledge of current EDGE&TA issues
- g. The Secretary/Treasurer must receive the resumes and photos no later than ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- h. If there are no valid regional nominations presented, the Board of Directors shall appoint a member in good standing from the region to serve until the next Annual Meeting at which time the position shall become vacant.

- i. If there are no valid nominations presented to fill the Director at Large position, the Board of Directors shall appoint a member in good standing to serve until the next Annual Meeting at which time the position shall become vacant.
- j. For continuity, Directors shall be elected on a rotating basis under the following cycle: Two (2) Directors shall be elected/re-elected in each of the first year, and the second year. In the third year, three (3) Directors shall be elected/re-elected.
- k. The Board of Directors shall fill a vacated Director position by appointment of an EDGE&TA member in good standing. Directors so appointed shall serve until the next Annual Meeting at which time the position shall become vacant.
- l. Directors shall serve a term of three (3) years, and/or until their successors are elected, with the exception that a Director elected to fill a vacated appointed position shall serve the remainder of that three (3) year term.
- m. The number of terms a Director may serve is unlimited.

This has been mentioned by a couple of the directors, but remember to get the dues to me before April 15. Please read the President's message at the beginning of this Newsletter for information regarding renewals.

Also, buttons and stickers will be mailed out the first week of February. The number sent is based on the membership for that branch for the 2014 year.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**April 17-18, 2015**  
**Branch 89 – Henderson**

\*\*\*\*\*

**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**