

# NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

## From George Christmas, President and SE Regional Director

I would like to thank Joe Mangham and the members of Branch 212 for hosting the Southeast Regional show this year. I can't say enough about the members I met at this show. I really appreciate all the hospitality extended during the show. The show was held September 18-20 in conjunction with Inman Farm Heritage Days show just out of Fayetteville, Ga. This was the 19<sup>th</sup> year for this show. The members of Branch 212 had their tractors set up in a designated area. The engines, of course, were setup with other exhibitors, but the branch members had their engines roped off. There was a short tractor drive the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup>. The drive began with a safety meeting. Every tractor was equipped with a fire extinguisher and a slow moving vehicle sign. Ed Bottoms is the safety director for the branch but everyone took an active role in monitoring safety and making sure everything and everyone was safe. Each day, the members met for a safety meeting before the show. It was a great show. There were many different demonstrations during the show. There was threshing, syrup making, blacksmiths, a grist mill and moonshine still. The still was not operating, only for observation. There were lots of exhibits to see. The church service on the grounds on Sunday was at the site where a church stood in 1849. There was an excellent number of spectators all three days. If you happen to be in the area next year during the third weekend of September, you would really enjoy this show.

It is very important when you report new 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** or you may use an excel spreadsheet to report your members. It is also required for the insurance coverage to be in effect for each member. You must report new members within 30 days. You need to keep a copy of any correspondence for your own records. This

would be especially for membership lists. Several branches have been requesting copies of their membership rosters. This takes time to send through the regular mail, so if you need it in a hurry, you may not get it in time. Again, it is very important you retain copies for your own records. It is also required that each branch complete the **BRANCH OFFICERS & DIRECTORS UPDATE FORMS**. These forms serve 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.

Remember, any correspondence with the national must include your branch number. When your club applied for membership, your club agreed that it would be known as a Branch of EDGE&TA. That number should be on any documents you send to the national secretary. Your club is Branch #\_\_ of Early Days Gas Engine and Tractor Association. This information should also be on any fliers or posters advertising your branches events. Please make sure you are making your club known as such.

Please review the safety section with your branches. The safety requirements are not optional. You can't use the ones you like or agree with and ignore the rest. The safety requirements were put together by members of the organization with experience in operating tractors, engines and the other equipment. These requirements are not difficult to follow. These were put into place to protect the membership. If you are not following them, you could be putting the other members of the organization at risk. A club or organization is a group of people with the same goal or vision. They look out for each other. Please keep that in mind as you are showing off your antique farm machinery.

One of the questions we get often is concerning membership numbers. Many of our branches have a small number of members. They can no longer sustain the minimum number of 20

members to continue as a branch. We have discussed lowering that minimum number to help with that issue. The change in the minimum number requires a bylaw change by vote of the membership body. If you have thoughts on this, please let us know. Contact your regional director or any of the directors. We would need to bring this item to vote for the 2016 National Meeting.

**I encourage all members to visit the website.** We are continuing to work to keep it up to date and very user friendly. This is the fastest and most economical way to relay information to as many members as possible. The newsletters are mailed to each Branch President and Safety Officer but the newsletters are posted and archived on the website for access anytime. As you visit the website and have suggestions, please let us know. We may be able to use your suggestions to improve the website for all members. All of the regional shows are posted on the website for next year. The National Show for 2016 will be hosted by Branch 52 in Wasilla, Alaska. I hope everyone is making plans to attend. It is beautiful country up there. It will be a super back drop for an antique farm machinery show.

It is the fall season so there are a lot of festivals, carnivals, fairs and shows going on for the next couple of months. Please take the time to make our hobby safe for everyone. Remember, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure;" it is easier to stop something from happening in the first place than to repair the damage after it has happened. I look forward to seeing more of you at the shows.

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



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**Insurance Update, October 2015, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

It has been pretty quiet on the insurance front this summer, which is good. We have had no incidents to report. Thank all of you for taking the time to be safe. At the end of the day everyone goes home safe and happy, which is our goal.

I have had numerous people call me with questions on insurance issues and that is good. Please call me if you have a question. It is better to get the answer up front than to wonder if something is covered, or find out that it is not after you have an incident.

With show season winding down, especially for those of us farther North, we are starting to think about our winter projects. I want to get some sandblasting done and some paint on numerous parts so I can put them together this winter when it is too cold to do anything outside. I have a John Deere steam plow that I am restoring, and also a Rumely 6 that I want to complete. I overhauled the engine last winter, now it needs to be put back together.

Next year our EDGETA National meeting will be in Alaska. It will be hosted by Branch 52 in Wasilla, Alaska, just north of Anchorage. It will be held June 10-12<sup>th</sup>. If you have never been to Alaska, here is a great excuse to make the trip. Or if you have been there it is a great excuse to go again. My wife and I are going to try to coordinate it with an Inland Passage cruise/tour of Alaska. We have been in discussions with members of the branch, and they are very enthusiastic and are planning a great show.

Hope everyone has a safe Fall and remember to think safety at all times. Thank you again for thinking safety in all your actions this past summer.

**Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

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

It has been a long, hot and dry summer in California. Thousands of acres burned in fires, and hundreds of homes were lost. In the area where I live, the closest fire was thirty miles away. As we get older, we need to encourage younger folks to get interested in our hobby. Safety is our major concern. There are very few insurance companies that will insure a large group. The safety rules were put in place to protect the public as well as the members.

The \$12 per month to belong to EDGETA and receive insurance that the insurance company provides thru your membership is inexpensive compared to the cost if you obtained it individually. Yet, there are members that do not abide by the rules. Can you imagine a member with a full sized tractor pulling two garden tractors with tow straps and two kids riding on the tractors? If there had been an accident, it affects all of us. I've seen this. It's good practice to have a safety meeting prior to an event as a reminder of the rules and to follow those rules throughout the show.

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

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**From Buster Brown, Director-at-Large**

Looks like show time is right around the corner. I think the weather is going to break. It has been 85 at night and around 106 to 118 during the day. We had a 200-year rain last week. Our average rain fall is less than 3 inches per year. Last week we had 3 inches of rain in 3 hours. Five miles south of us, there was 6 inches in 3 hours. Now the days are 105 or less and nights are getting down to 68. It's time to get ready for shows. I plan on going to Corrales NM for the SW Regional show. I do not like the 600-mile drive, but I will enjoy the show.

In my last newsletter article, I was concerned about why we lost 17 Branches??? One branch in northern California had 20 members and dropped out. We did not lose any members from that in that they went with other Branches. We just lost a branch number. That leaves 16 branches lost. Still that's too many. I called some of the presidents or vice presidents of branches that dropped out. Some

thought EDGE&TA was only an insurance company. Some said there were too many rules and regulations. Some said insurance rates were too high. Dues are \$12 per year, with \$4.00 going to management which covers operating expenses for office work, postage, national show buttons, costs for regional and national shows, yellow membership cards & stickers, and costs incurred for processing memberships and various services. You can drop in on other EDGETA shows and use your membership card to show that you are a member of the national organization. This is very handy--\$8.00 per year goes to the Insurance—that is 66 cents per month. **MARK THAT THE BARGAIN OF THE YEAR!** I do believe a lot of presidents do not read the national newsletter or mail from the National EDGETA Organization. If you are a president and get the National Newsletter, you should take it to the next meeting and read the total letter aloud to the members. Then ask for questions. It is very important that we get the branches hooked back up to the national organization. If your branch is talking about dropping out, go to the EDGTA.com web site, click on the gold tab on the left labeled "Administration" and send an email to every director and director-at-large with any problems you might have.

Please do not drop out. If you wait till end of year and do not sign up for another year, the damage is already done. We want to work with you to try to prevent this from happening. Every member and every Branch is very important. I want to thank the members who called after the last newsletter. I want to thank you for being concerned. You can email me or call any time, and I will be glad to visit with you. You can email me at [brown6511@roadrunner.com](mailto:brown6511@roadrunner.com) or call 928-210-6751. Thanks for listening and Keep Smiling!

**Buster Brown, Director-at-Large**

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**From Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director**

As you all know, we at the national level do not dictate what type or how many officers each branch must have. We require a branch contact person and a safety officer.

The contact person can be president, secretary or any other officer or non-officer you like. The

contact person is one who we keep informed of all national updates.

The safety officer can also be any officer or non-officer. He is also very important to our organization and to your branch as the safety officer must keep up with all safety requirements and relate them back to all branch members. The safety officer checks all branch events for safety. I suggest each branch create a binder with the safety requirements and youth drivers and FAQ information included. At your branch meetings, your safety officer can go over all or part of the safety requirements.

It is up to all up members to exhibit safely to help keep the insurance company we now have. We all need to strive for "no accidents in 2015-16 membership year."

**Dorene Yearian, NC Regional Director**

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**HALL OF FAME REMINDER**

There must be a person in your Branch that you think deserves to be honored on our web page. EDGE&TA's web site lists all those Hall of Famers that have been honored in the past – check it out. EDGETA's web site lists all the information you need to nominate a deserving person from your branch. Just fill out the application by answering each question completely. Each nominee is judged by three anonymous people that do not know the nominee. The nominee just needs two votes to be a Hall of Famer. The nominated person receives a plaque at the National Show or the Regional Show of their choice. Their name and picture is put on our web page with their write-up for everyone to see. Their name is also added to the main plaque that is taken to every National show for display.

Honor a deserving person in your branch! The deadline to turn in your application is 120 days prior to the National Show of that year. In 2016, the **deadline is February 12, 2016**

**Tom Yearian, Chairman**

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**From Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

Well, I don't know where the summer went!! In my area we've had some pretty good weather lately, and the crops are coming off at a fast rate.

After talking to some of my friends, that yield has been lower than expected. We had those heavy rains in the spring which hurt a lot a crops. The rains in the summer kind of made in mess of some of our bigger and better shows. The last show I attended was the LaGrange Engine Club Show near where I live. The weekend was great, but we had a little rain on Saturday, but not enough to dampen the spirits of the spectators and the exhibitors. It was probably one of the biggest shows we've ever had.

I still have two small shows in October, one of which is our branch show. It will be held at Quarry Orchard's near Berlin Heights, Ohio. It is kind of a unique show because spectators are there to pick apples and get their cider and pumpkins. So these people are really not tractor and implement people. It is real interesting how the people and their children ask questions about the tractor and equipment that most of them have never seen. We have a lot of activities going on such as the blacksmith shop, the corn broom maker, and the rug makers. We also have a pedal pull for the children. All the activities are great for the young and the old.

Well, as were winding down this summer I hope you had a great summer and a safe summer. As we go about getting the machinery back in the barns and garages, we need to be extra careful when loading and unloading and moving equipment and tractors around. Remember SAFTEY FIRST!!!

In closing, I wish everybody and their families a safe and Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

**Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

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**From Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

I am writing this letter from Thedford, Nebraska. We came to Nebraska for the funeral of a family member, the second one within a month.

The last three months have been a whirlwind with hip replacement in June, a broken foot a few weeks later, then surgery to remove a cancerous tumor; we will be leaving for home tomorrow to begin four weeks of cancer treatment Monday.

During this quarter, we made SC Regional show in Ruston, Louisiana where we watched over 100 tractor pulls and looked at almost every one of the tractors (approximately 70 of them) and also few antique cars.

Two weeks later, we attended the Tired Iron Show at our home Branch 37. We had beautiful weather, no rain, a really good show with a good number of tractors, engines, sawmill and blacksmith shop demonstrations. Attendance was good, and I considered it a great success.

To our EDGETA members in the S.C. Region, I would encourage you to go to the EDGETA homepage and familiarize yourself with the "Insurance Summary," "Frequently Asked Questions," and other information provided on the web. We all have a responsibility as members of EDGETA to follow the rules and help keep everyone safe as well as protecting each other's property. If everyone knows the rules and follows them, we will all benefit. We are our brother's keeper.

Show season is about over, and we are looking forward to the Holiday Season and, hopefully, sometime to work on projects this winter.

**Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

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**From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treasurer**

At this time of year, I know that many of you are attending shows and events almost every weekend as we are here. The fall of the year is our busiest season. We just had our own Branch 124 show September 11-12. The weather took a turn toward cooler temperatures and we had a wonderful time.

Since some of you will be sending dues before the next Newsletter arrives, I will remind you that dues will be a total of \$12 per person for the 2016 year. Also, there is an updated form on our website for sending new members. It allows 24 members with contact information per page. You may enter

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS ON OUR WEBSITE**

the information on the page and print it out to send us or you may print off a blank and write in the information. All of the required information should be entered for each member.

As I think about our mission as an organization, I often refer to our webpage which states that the purpose our organization is *“to stimulate interest in collecting, restoring, preserving, and exhibiting gasoline and oil engines, gas/diesel and steam tractors, power driven farm machinery and any other equipment of historical value.”*

What an opportunity to enjoy our hobby while promoting interest and meeting lots of nice people. I know that is the reason we belong to our local Branch 124 and, thus, EDGETA. I own a 1953 Super C Farmall which was purchased new by my family in 1953 with all the equipment. It never left the family farm until 2006 when my husband and I retrieved it from the barn and he completely restored it. I now drive it in parades and display it at various shows. Of course, it has lots of “company” in our barns!

As we end the year and begin electing new officers and paying dues, there are a few housekeeping reminders. Thanks to those of you who already following these procedures:

1. Any correspondence that you send, whether e-mail, checks, or written lists must include your Branch # on every document. Your Branch # is the only way we identify you as members of EDGETA.
2. ALL officers and directors must be updated on our website after January 1, 2016. If some stay exactly the same, you may enter the word “Same” in the first blank for that office. This is necessary for D&O Liability Insurance.
3. The membership lists that you send are the permanent records for your branch. Those lists are not “retyped.”

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

**Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treasurer/Editor**

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[WWW.EDGETA.COM](http://WWW.EDGETA.COM)

# SHOW SCHEDULE

**2016 – Annual National  
EDGETA Show & Meeting**  
**June 11-12, 2016 (Sat.&Sun.)**  
**Branch 52 -- Wasilla, Alaska**

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**2016 Regional Shows**  
**NW Regional Show-Missoula, MT**  
**Branch 74, July 3-4, 2016**

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**SW Regional Show-Santa Margarita, CA**  
**Branch 209, May 27-29, 2016**

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**NC Regional Show-Winfield, KS**  
**Branch 79, August 19-21, 2016**

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**SC Regional Show-Ruston, LA**  
**Branch 179, August 19-20, 2016**

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**NE Regional Show-New Manchester, WV**  
**Branch 162, Sept. 9-11, 2016**

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**SE Regional Show-Hartselle, AL**  
**Branch 226, October 22, 2016**

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**2017 Annual National EDGETA  
Show**

**June 8-10, 2017(Thurs.-Sat.)**  
**Branch 42 – Kent, Michigan**

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**Thank a Police Officer**

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