

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

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley

From Jeff Fenske, President and Director-at-Large

As I write this message in June 2020 it seems as if our whole world is falling apart. In January of this year we could never have imagined how everything would change for us this year. I hope that you are all staying healthy and safe and getting through this difficult and dangerous time. We started the year out right by attending and displaying at the South West Regional EDGE&TA Show in Wellton, Arizona in late January. Little did I know at that time that this would be our only show up to now. By this time of year, we have usually had several engine/tractor shows and parades. All the big shows, especially the ones held at County Fairgrounds or places that charge attendance, have been canceled. I have heard from several branches that are having their own shows or tractor parades, and we are all doing the best we can at this time. Even if we can't have shows with large attendance of the public, we can get together and have shows and drives and pulls.

There are several shows listed on our EDGE&TA website. Make sure before you go to any event you make a phone call and find out for sure if it is still on and what the rules are for that county. We have been hearing about some counties or states having mandates for sanitizing, face masks and social distancing. Seems like the rules are changing EVERY day! As of this date, June 24th, the National Show in Eagleville, TN that was scheduled for September 11th-12th has been postponed until September 10th-11th 2021.

Our membership is down this year due to the Coronavirus and sadly because some of our members are aging!! Many of the branches couldn't have their annual membership meetings and shows and decided to wait to see what happens before sending in their dues for this year. We are really looking forward to next year and hopefully a better year with lots of shows and get togethers. We ended last year with 8,005 members and so far, this year we only have 5,638.

I don't think I am getting any older, but my equipment has sure put on some weight since this Shelter in Place ordeal. It seems harder and harder to move those engines around in the shop. With staying home, we all should have had the extra time to work on our projects and get lots of things done. I have been exercising daily and my right arm has certainly bulked up due to lifting the fork from the table to my mouth.

Stay healthy out there and keep safe. Looking forward to seeing some of you real soon.

Jeff Fenske, President and Director-at-Large

Insurance Update, June 2020, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director

Lots of changes have happened since the last newsletter. I don't think any of us expected the Covid 19 pandemic to affect us as much as it has. A great majority of the tractor and engine shows have been cancelled or postponed to a later date. We had our Branch meeting last Thursday and voted to cancel our show for this year, hoping that we will be able to have it in August 2021. These are situations that we have not seen in the past, and we don't know how to deal with it.

The question was asked to our EDGETA insurance agent of what coverage we have in view of the pandemic. We have the basically the same coverage we had last year. But industry wide, there will probably be some situations that will have to be decided in lawsuits. Their recommendation was for us to adhere to all the safety regulations that government officials and health organizations are publishing to keep everyone safe and healthy.

For our branch, we looked at our local health requirements and State Regulations and applied them to our show. There was no way we could expect spectators and our members to adhere to

the 6-foot spacing requirements, sanitize the kids barrel train after the kids get out, sanitize the people mover, sanitize the porta potties, limit the number of people on the show grounds, etc. Not only would we be jeopardizing the health of the spectators but also the members of our branch. We do not have enough branch members to cover all the health requirements as well as put on the show.

I covered this item in my last newsletter but will include this reminder again. Be sure to update your branch directors and officers list on the EDGETA website if you have not already done so. Updating your D&O list is easy to do. The list is on line on the EDGETA website for each branch. Check your branch number on your EDGETA branch location website and be sure it shows that your branch list is updated for 2020. If not please update it at your earliest convenience.

Since we are not having shows this summer, it is a good time to get to that project that is waiting in your shop. I have several that I am working on, plus enough others to keep me busy. If not, my wife will come up with more.

Below is a story what happened to a sheepherder in Montana, entitled, "No Drink for this Stiff". Thought you might enjoy it.

In the old, open range days of Chester, Montana an unlucky sheepherder froze himself to death during the dead of the winter. Nearby ranchers noticed straying sheep three or four days later and eventually discovered the frozen dead body. Word was sent to town, and a team of horses with a wagon made the grueling 20-mile trip to collect the dead sheepherder. Icy cold and windy, the group of cowboys finally got back to Chester at about midnight. The men were worn out and half frozen, so it was a good time for a hot blackberry brandy.

Now, it seemed awfully rude to leave some poor, cold fella outside while they went inside to a warm bar to have warm drinks. So, the cowboys brought him along, dragging their dead companion into a saloon called the Blue Front Barn. Propping the sheepherder at one end of the bar, they pulled his cap will over his eyes, and the group sat at the other end of the bar. Hank the "gruff and western roughie" bartender served up the first drinks then wandered over to ask the sheepherder what he wanted. No answer. Hank checked on his other

customers and then returned to the sheepherder, who again, refused to order a drink. Hank was now brimming with anger; freeloaders were not welcome at the Blue Front Barn. So, after silence followed his third inquiry, Hank rolled up his sleeves and threw a massive punch at our sheepherder. The sheepherder took the deadly punch, crashing to the ground awkwardly. Hank could tell instantly that something was not right. Jumping over his bar, he fell on the rigid sheepherder, first shaking the man then trying to slap the man back to life. Quickly coming to grips with what had happened, and what he had done, Hank turned to the cowboys and said, "You guys were witnesses to this, he hit me first!"

Insurance Update, June 2020, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director



DUES ARE \$17.00 PER MEMBER

From Bob Craig—Vice President and NC Regional Director and Youth Driver Cert.

Greetings from the North Central Region.

What a time! I guess we can call this the year that wasn't. As far as shows, really nothing to report on. Maybe by the end of next quarter, I hope things will pick up.

Looks like the National Show in Eagleville, Tennessee has been delayed until 2021. Right now, we are planning for the North Central Regional Show at Branch 28 in Cabool, Missouri on October 10-11, 2020. Hopefully, this show and more will happen.

There have been several young people certified through our Youth Certification Program. If your branch has anyone between the ages of 12-16 who need to be certified, please take care of this.

I hope everyone is doing their best to remain healthy and we can get back to a more normal life soon.

Bob Craig—Vice President and NC Regional Director and Youth Driver Cert.

From John Roderick, South Central Regional Director

I hope all of you are doing well during these difficult times. All the events in our area have been canceled or rescheduled. Our South Central Regional Show was canceled also.

If you are like me, this pandemic has created a time for you to stay home and catch up on all those things that you have intended to do for some time. I am to a point where there is not much left for me to do! I am sure many of you are in the same situation. If this is the case, it may be time for a good book. I have found some books that should be on the required reading list for anyone who works on old tractors. They are written by Roger Welsch. He wrote *Old Tractors and the Men Who Love Them* and *Busted Tractors and Rusty Knuckles*. Mr. Welsch is like many of us and spends all his time on one type of tractor, the Allis Chalmers. Please don't let that discourage you from reading his books. Both books are full of humor and describe situations most of us have been in ourselves while working on old tractors.

There is a section in *Old Tractors and the Men Who Love The* titled "Roger's Rules for Collecting Old Iron (and Living with Your Spouse)." He says things got tense when he began collecting Allis Chalmers WC tractors. He had only one for twenty years before getting the second one. After two, why not two more for parts and then why not two more that would run. Then I got a good deal on one and After about two years, my lovely Linda finally sighed and said "I give up. I've lost track. I have no idea how many tractors you have." That was my moment of triumph! I know old iron and antique tractor lovers can relate. I am lucky that my spouse loves the old tractors as much as I do and even enjoys working on them with me. So, as this pandemic continues and you can't go to a tractor show, take time to sit down with one of Mr. Welsch's books. I can promise you won't regret it.

John Roderick, South Central Regional Director

Safety First

From Buster Brown, SW Regional Director

Greetings from South West Region.

There is not much to report on this end as the virus has all shows and gatherings on hold. It was a good thing that we had the Southwest Regional Show before all this happened.

I have visited with some of the presidents from the Southwest Region, and it is the same all over. All shows are shut down for now. This year the show season does not look very good. This fall, we all will be busy getting dead gas out of the show engines.

For now, keep smiling--it is good for your health. Think hard. There is something to Smile about!!!

Buster Brown, SW Regional Director

From David Millsap, NE Regional Director

Here goes nothing,

Me: Carrie Jo and Mr. Jeff requested we write something down so's folks would have something to read.

I sincerely hope everyone has weathered this Covid 19 Storm and everyone is well.

Here in the Heart of The Great Southwest (Virginia that is), it has been an extremely uneventful tractor show season. If we could have had shows, they would need to include watercraft because so far this year there has been 35, YES, 35 inches of rain here.

Shows both in the region and locally have been cancelled to the best of my feeble knowledge.

AND according to the Illustrious, almost famous, and all-around good feller Travis Brown, the National Show hosted by Branch in Tennessee is postponed until Sept. 10-11, 2021.

We should be ready for the abundance of coal smoke and the aroma of steam oil, fresh sawdust, along with a good amount of sweat (BO) wafting thru the wonderful air in and around the quaint town of Eagleville, Tennessee.

I've said about all the good things I can think of to try to boost MR. Brown up, so y'all say "Hi" to him and I ga-ron-tee you will make a dear friend. I know I did (at least I think so).

I'll leave you with this thought,..., What does a pig put on a scrape? Wy, oinkment, of course.

David Millsap, NE Regional Director



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From Travis Brown, SE Regional Director

Hello everyone.

It's been a crazy last few week, and many of us are scrambling to keep up. What looked like an ordinary show season has now been turned on its head, along with disruptions to every part of our lives.

Seems like we should be counting our blessings if we are among the healthy so far and not worrying about our collections of somewhat useful old equipment. But we still carry on and dream of the days when normalcy returns.

I, for one, can't wait until we are back sawing wood or threshing wheat and shoveling coal. I'm sure most of you are ready to get out of the house as well.

cancel due to health concerns. We are still hopeful the situation improves, but now we will be hosting the National Show for EDGETA in Eagleville on September 10-11, 2021 instead of this year. I pray all of you are able to keep healthy until then and your spouses have the patience to endure your pacing as we self-quarantine all across the nation.

Travis Brown, SE Regional Director

From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Editor

I agree with all of the comments regarding the situation with shows (no-shows) so far. We have sponsored one tractor ride and had very good participation. Of course, it was outdoors. We attended another downtown display in Kilgore, TX, where the richest acre is supposed to be as a result of oil discovery in the 1930's—a unique town. That probably is not true today! We had 40+ tractors at that event along with many antique autos and trucks and a lot of spectators. It was a great event, and I think everyone was just ready to get outside.

As with most of you, now is the time usually filled with shows that we regularly attend. For us, all have been canceled so far. We are certainly looking forward to an end to this tragic situation.

I've received membership dues from most of the branches; however, there are still those who need to send their dues. In view of the Covid issue, the directors voted to allow branches to "sit-out" this year and re-join in 2021 with the same Branch # they previously had if that is a need they have. Some of you may be taking advantage of that offer.

One housekeeping chore we all need to follow is updating officers of the branch. Even if they stay the same, please go to the EDGETA.com website, select the update officer form and enter "Same" in the first blank for each office and enter correct information for those that have changed. Be sure to click "Submit" at the bottom. Then the website will indicate that the branch is current with 2020 officers.

Check out the website for current information. We post a banner at the top of the homepage to get date and announcements regarding corrections and cancellations etc. to readers quickly.

Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Editor