

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

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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October-November-December 2022

Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley

From Jeff Fenske, President and Director-at-Large

Hello Members,

We have just spent four days at the Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association National Show in Republic, Missouri, Branch 16. There were 36 acres packed with tractors, stationary engines, steam tractors and various farm equipment. They had a full lineup of events that included tractor parades, saw mill, hay bailing, wheat threshing, shingle mill, making sorghum molasses, blacksmithing, tractor pulls and Kidde barrel rides. On Friday evening, the Board of Directors held their annual meeting. On Saturday evening we had a delicious meal and a short National Meeting. The 2023 National Show will be held in Merlin, Oregon at the Pottsville History Museum on Father's Day weekend, June 17th and 18th.

The National Officers attending the show are pictured at the top of the right column of this article. Top left, John Roderick, South Central Director and his wife Barbara from Texas, Morrie Robinson, Northwest Director from Washington, Dean Voris President of Branch 16, Missouri. Second Row, Jeff Fenske, Director at Large/President and his wife, Glynnna, from California, Ron Hanson, Southwest Director from California. Bottom row, Dean Voris, Past President, Missouri, Carrie Jo Parmley, National Secretary/Treasurer, and her husband, Charles, Texas.

At the Board of Directors meeting on Friday night of the show, there was a discussion about losing branches and membership. They voted to change the number of Regions back to four. The lines were redrawn to better divide the number of branches between the four Directors. The branches and members are heavily located in the west, while there are fewer in the middle and east. Now, there will be a Northwest Region with approximately 35 branches, a Southwest Region with approximately 36 branches, a Central Region with approximately 32 branches, and an East



Region with approximately 28 branches. Branches are added and drop out occasionally. The NW Director is Morrie Robinson, the SW Director is Ron Hanson, the Central Director is John Roderick and the East Director is Travis Brown. There will be a new map drawn on the EDGE&TA website so you can go there to find out which region you are in and who your director is.

As most of you know, our insurance agent makes out a complimentary Certificate of Additionally Insured, emailed to the landowners and branch, if requested. The form is on our website and is to be filled out and submitted by someone in your branch a minimum of 20 business days before the Certificate is needed. Lately there has been an unusually high number of forms that have been sent in with inaccurate information. This results in your member having to find out the correct information and

resubmitting the form and our agent retyping it. If you are the member who is submitting the form, please make sure that you have ALL the information correctly to begin with. Double check with the person who will be receiving the Certificate BEFORE you send it in. Resubmitting could result in you not receiving your Certificate in time for your event. The first request is complimentary, but subsequent requests could result in a charge to your branch.

We are on a road trip and on our way to the National Show. We stopped at Whitehouse, Texas for Branch 124's annual show. They had tractor pulls, tractor parades and a few stationary engines. I displayed two small hot air engines and received the plaque for being the FARTHEST TRAVELED EXHIBITOR. Guess that is what happens when you live 1,650 miles away in California. They fed us a couple of great meals and were very hospitable.

Until we talk again be sure and review the EDGE&TA website for all the Safety Requirements and Rules. We want everyone to have a great time and Be Safe.

Jeff Fenske, President and Director-at- Large

From Morrie Robinson, Vice President & NW Regional Director

Hello from the dry NW. I know Washington is known for its rain; however, we haven't seen any sign of rain since before July 4th, even after we had a wet and soggy spring. Most of the local creeks are at record lows, which doesn't seem normal even after having an excellent snow pack. Shows are winding down for the year.

Shows I attended had some great displays-- specifically, the NW regional hosted by Branch 248 at Madras, Oregon Fairgrounds, August 19-21. There was a group of engines all running some flat belt equipment (90percent). If you wanted to cool down, you could stand in front of a super-size blower (8 feet square) run by a 10 hp Fairbanks or be entertained with a contraption that blows soapy bubbles. There was a big rock crusher that kids loved throwing big rocks into and see small ones coming out. There were homemade tractors, all different, a group of rare garden tractors, threshing,

and a steam tractor operating a hay press. It's impossible to comment on all the diversity that was present. Branch 248 is to be congratulated as one of the best regionals I have attended in years.

On a different note, I planned to take our 1893 Crossley Otto to the NW Regional. Thursday evening, with everything loaded, I was ready to leave at 1 AM Friday to miss Seattle traffic. Everything checked out except that Charlene noticed the license tab had expired in 2020. No problem, I can renew online. Wrong again, since the tab was over 1 year, I can't renew online. So, it's disconnect the trailer and leave the engine at home. Lesson learned: check your trailer tabs a few days before you plan to leave in case they need to be renewed. Maybe I can blame it on the pandemic or trailer tucked into a new building and never looking at the rear door.

One of the shows where I have volunteered for 20 years is Rollag, about 20 miles from Fargo-Moorehead, Minnesota. It was the 65th Western Minnesota Steam Thresher Reunion. Although it's not EDGETA affiliated, it's worthy to note this year the featured was Rumely tractors and related engines and there was an all-time record number shown. The show is always 4 days over Labor Day weekend. Crowds are normally up to 80,000 visitors over the 4 days. This year several northwestern folks made the trip. I received a plaque at the Rumely dinner for having taken Rumely equipment the farthest.

The EDGETA National was hosted by Branch 16 at Republic, Missouri September 15-18th, their 60th show. A pleasant surprise was to meet old friends Larry Voris and Dorene Yearian (unfortunately Tom Yearian has passed on) who were EDGETA Board members when I became a Board Member in 2010. The show was held on beautiful old grounds with lots of majestic trees offering natural shade and pleasant breeze. It was well attended by exhibitors and the public. The swap meet was huge. If you couldn't find something, you probably didn't look long enough. Tractor pulls lasted well into the early Saturday AM. I'm not sure the number of tractors present, but it had to be somewhere close to 100-125. There were some very nice engines as well. A California 20hp Western with an ignitor was one of my favorite engines. Initially, safety was a major concern. However, it didn't take too long for

the engine area to comply with double ropes, shut down if the operator wasn't there and have some fire extinguishers available. President Jeff got right on it and educated the members to follow EDGETA rules. Saturday evening was a special tasty home cooked dinner. I even got a special made shingle with an EDGETA logo in center and a tractor and engine on each side of the log. What a nice show memory. "Thank you." This was the last year for the Republic Show. Apparently, the Steam Club owns the 36-acre grounds. After 60 years, the property was sold for \$3+million. They bought 140 acres approximately 40 miles west. Now comes the big push to move buildings to the new site and plant trees on the treeless acreage. Like everything these days, it's become a polarized issue. Time will tell. Regarding the Hall of Fame, this year we had two new Inductees: Kathie Rosenquist, Branch 15, and Ed Weidinger, Branch 29. Each has devoted countless hours of involvement with EDGETA on behalf of their associated Branch each for over 25 years.

That's about it from here. Keep in touch and do good deeds.

Morrie Robinson, Vice President, NW Director



From John Roderick, SC Regional Director, Youth Driver Certification Coordinator

As I travel around the country to tractor shows, it always excites me to see our young people in attendance. It is especially encouraging to see them driving a tractor with a huge smile on their faces. As coordinator for the EDGETA Youth Driver Certification Program, I sometimes wonder how many of them have been through the certification process and are qualified to drive

according to our EDGETA guidelines.

It is not my intention to be the enforcer and to start checking to see if they have a valid EDGETA youth certification, but it is my responsibility to pass on the information to the ones who are responsible to ensure our youth have been properly tested. That responsibility falls on the parent and the Branch Safety Director/President.

The requirements of the Youth Driver Certification are listed in the cover letter for the application. I would like to take this opportunity to summarize these requirements. This will help to make sure more of our youth have been involved in the training program and meet all the requirements to hold a license,

1. They must be between **12 and 16** years of age or until they reach an age where they obtain an operator's license in their respective state.
2. The EDGETA insurance carrier has agreed to allow these young EDGETA members, who have been trained, to qualify for coverage without an additional insurance premium.
3. The training includes several aspects on each vehicle they are to drive.
4. The training should be administered by the parent or sponsor (Branch Safety Director).
5. When the training has been completed the applicant test form should be completed and submitted to the branch officer who will schedule a time for testing.
6. After the testing is complete, the application form should be signed by the Branch President or Safety officer and forwarded to me online or by mail.
John Roderick
506 Cooper Ct
Nevada, TX 75173
Jroderick1949@gmail.com
7. Upon submission of the application online, a **temporary** 30-day certification card will be issued.
8. I will complete the Youth Driver Training Card and mail it to the driver.

This is just an outline. Please refer to the cover page of the application found on the EDGETA website:
(edgeta.com Mandatory Safety Requirements to all EDGTA events)

It is my goal, as the Youth Driver Certification Coordinator, to see all youth drivers trained and certified according to the EDGETA guidelines. We never want any of our youth to be unfortunate enough to be involved in an accident but if it should happen, let's make sure they have been trained and are certified under our liability policy

I sincerely hope this has served as a reminder for all of us to protect our young drivers for everyone's safety.

John Roderick, SC Regional Director, Youth Driver Certification Coordinator

From Travis Brown, SE Regional Director

I hope this finds you all well.

Here we are nearly to the end of another show season. I haven't been able to get out to many shows this year. We did have our 35th annual show at Eagleville for the Tennessee Valley Pioneer Power Association that is co-hosted by Branch 202.

We worked hard and got the wheat bound in June. Then we hauled in the steam engines in July after the Adams, TN show. All through August, we worked on getting the show grounds ready. Friday of the Eagleville show was perfect, and we worked hard getting the threshing exhibit and sawmill set up.

Then the rains came. It rained and rained all Saturday until at least 1-2 o'clock. The majority of the grounds were a wet mess. Luckily the grounds are hilly and rocky and drain fast.

We pulled the thresher out in a light mist and threshed our remaining wheat. It was maybe a little wetter than optimal to start, but the precipitation soon ended and we were able to finish in good time with only one belt coming off to slow progress.

Later a veteran thresherman told us that was the wettest he had ever seen a successful threshing done; he was sure we were going to plug the machine. Better lucky than good.

Visitors to the show will notice a new addition to the grounds. We have constructed a new building to store the steam tractors at the show grounds. This will greatly aid the show in that we will no longer have to transport many of these

engines several times a year to and from different locations. One of the other things was that some of these engines were stored at the Days Gone By Museum at Portland. By the time this newsletter gets published, it will be a distant memory as everything is set to hit the auction block in late November.

Speaking of the Days Gone By show grounds, we have made two trips down from the show with most of the parts for two matching Skinner Uniflow steam generators. These steam engines used to provide all the electric power to the US Tobacco plant in Nashville, TN for nearly 100 years. They were donated and have been relocated to our show in what now is the third stop for these machines, after ending their working life. We had to engage the services of a crane operator to load some of these pieces as the bases weighed 22,000 pounds each, and the crankshafts weighed 11,000 each. All told, we have probably moved 100,000 pounds of cast iron down the road. This is a big project, and we are planning on reassembling them over the next year or two. Who knows?? We might get in the business of generating electricity with our old equipment.

Down the road from us, Branch 226 in Hartselle Alabama is hosting our Regional Show Oct 22. I am unable to attend as my wife is undergoing back surgery right before this and my travels away from the house have been limited. I also hated to miss the National Show this year, but it was too far to be away right at this time.

Hopefully, we will get her up and well and be traveling out to new shows and meeting new people very soon!

Travis Brown, SE Regional Director

From Ron Hanson, SW Regional Director

Hello All,

It has been an active and busy show season this year. It's nice to see our friends out at the shows/events again. At the time of this writing, most of us here in the SW Region are involved with the local Fairs. It's a great time for us as collectors to show off our collection and talk with those that like this type of stuff and explain what it

did long ago.

I just returned from the National Show held in Republic, Missouri. This show was held in conjunction with the Steam-O-Rama Show and was held on their beautiful show grounds. They put on a very well-attended show for all to enjoy. The Sweet Tea and the old-fashioned ice cream made with a John Deere stationery engine by the Amish/Mennonites was great to enjoy. It was nice to see about 10 Steam Traction Engines roaming the show grounds throughout the event. There were also many club members, tractors, and stationary engines to see. There were also 2 nights of tractor pulling going on for all to enjoy. The Step-On tractor sled was fun to watch.

Something that has been noticed at shows has been the lacking of available Fire Extinguishers in the Stationary Engine display areas. Please review the Safety Requirements that the National has established.

Safety is Everyone's responsibility!

Thank you All for a Safe and Fun show season.

Remember to winterize your Tractors and Engines if needed in your area.

Wishing you all a Blessed Holiday Season coming soon.

Ron Hanson, SW Regional Director



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

Hopefully, all of you are doing well. Many shows and activities have opened up across the country this year. Our branch sponsored our regular show on September 10 this year with very good attendance while also participating in a number of other events. We attended the Red Power Roundup in Springfield, IL in June, the National EDGETA Show in Republic, MO in September plus several other tractor/engine events in Texas and surrounding states.

On another note, "Thank you" for doing a good job of submitting your membership and dues for the year. Most of you are aware that the insurance auditor randomly comes to my house to examine the individual Branch# records to verify those members submitted with payment and the method we use to show the proof of payment. He is also interested in the process I use to record membership and the number for which we've paid as of that date. This may help you to understand why I insist that your record of membership exactly matches the check included. For examination purposes, a copy of that check is stapled to the list sent by the branch. That's why we request a "clean list" from you. All of our guidelines are included in the By-Laws which are posted on the EDGETA website.

Also, as a reminder, it is important that you keep your officers and directors current on the EDGETA website, which is the documentation of your officers. Remember to update those at the beginning of the new year as well.

If you should have questions, I'll be glad to try to answer them or refer you to the appropriate director for the information.

Remember that our website, EDGETA.org, is an excellent source of information for instant answers. Utilize it when you have questions. We work hard to keep the information current and readily available to our members.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Safe and Happy New Year.

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

**Southeast Regional Show
October 22, 2022
Hosted by Branch 226
Flywheeler Farm, 1715 Hwy 36 E.
Hartselle, AL 35640**

