

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

# NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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April-May June 2023

Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley

## From Jeff Fenske, President and Director-at-Large

Hello EDGE&TA Members,

We are all looking forward to our spring show season. Some of us have been busy in the shop getting our old equipment ready. Now is the time to check everything to see if it is working properly and check for all safety issues. Not only check your show equipment but also your trailers and tie down equipment to get to the show and back home again. Sadly, we lost a long-time member in Alaska whose tractor slid off the trailer and rolled over on him. Be extra careful loading and unloading.

We started out our year in mid-January with a show hosted by Branch 206 in Wellton, Arizona. The show had been up in the air since the new city officials needed some convincing to allow us to display on their property. Also, the sudden passing of the Branch President last year brought all planning to a halt. Thanks to the tireless effort of the former National President and President of Branch 22, Cliff Northcote, and of former Director at Large, Buster Brown the show was brought back to life. They spent many, many hours meeting with city officials before the show was approved. This is an important show as there are members displaying there from several northern states while they are there enjoying the sunny Arizona weather. By the end of the weekend they had a volunteer to take over as President. Thank you, Bill Lanier. They signed up enough members to keep their branch going. A big thanks goes out to everyone that volunteered their time and effort to keep this branch active. We have enjoyed starting our year out displaying at this show for many years.

I have been busy in the shop getting ready for our spring show season to start. Our first show is set for next Saturday. We will be busy with the next couple of months with shows and parades.

Then we will be off to the National Show in Pottsville, Oregon on Father's Day Weekend. There is more information about the show on the website. This webpage is set up for any branch to use to promote their show. All branches should be sending in show information. You can post fliers, maps and any information for your event. Great way to advertise. Send it to Carrie Jo and she will forward it to our web master, Josh, who will put it on. On the webpage, just click on the show box and more information will come up.

It's dues time. Our year starts on April 15<sup>th</sup> and goes until April 14<sup>th</sup> 2024. Carrie Jo has sent the yellow stickers out to the branch contact person so you can give them out when you get new members or old members rejoin. So far, we are able to keep the dues at \$17. Be sure and send your dues along with member's information to Carrie Jo by April 15<sup>th</sup>. We realize that members sign up all during the year and she continues to receive dues but the majority should be sent in by April 15<sup>th</sup> so we have the money to pay the insurance company.

### Reminder:

The National Secretary/Treasurer position needs to be filled by the end of the year. Carrie Jo is retiring after serving EDGE&TA for over 10 years. She is willing to help train the new person before the end of the year and says she will be available to answer questions after that. Please send resumes into her either by mail or email at :

**CarrieJo Parmley**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
15246 Seven League Road  
Tyler, TX 75703  
(903) 360-0396  
[cjparmlay2@gmail.com](mailto:cjparmlay2@gmail.com)

Look over the EDGE&TA website to see changes that have been made. There is a lot of

good information there. We are looking forward to a good year and hope to see you at one of the shows.

Thank you,

Jeff Fenske,  
**National President and Director at Large**

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## **2023 dues are \$17**

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**From Morrie Robinson, Vice President, NW Regional Director**

A Big HELLO from the North West.

By the time you get this news, Daylight Saving and the Spring Equinox will have officially begun. We have been lucky this year with snow, receiving just a foot. Just enough to drag out the old sled and hit our neighbors hill, what fun. You gotta feel for those in California receiving 10 feet of snow. Our next door neighbor was unable to get out for days to head for home. So much for weather talk.

This year I'm not sure where the time has gone. I had great plans to get a couple of engines running and finish building 2 radiators for the Happy Farmers. Seems as though more folks have heard about our Christmas Trees and Museum which takes time from working in the shop. But I have to say, it's a pleasure hearing stories when visitors are reminded of "we had one of those" and then proceed telling how it was of use.

Show season will soon be upon us. I received the 49th Farm Collector Show Directory this week. Wow, there's more shows listed than you can possibly attend. However, there are always some shows to add to the "bucket list."

This is a great hobby, taking that old rusty pile of grease and grime back to life. I hope to see many of my old friends as well as meet some new ones. Till then Keep in touch, be safe and do good deeds. Morrie

**Morrie Robinson, Vice President, NW Regional Director**

**From John Roderick, Central Regional Director**

## **Old Roads, Old Tractors and Old Ways**

I don't know about you all, but I am always reading stories about tractors, especially antique tractors. As I have mentioned in articles before, my father was a mechanic. The last few years of his career, he concentrated on tractors and often had one in the backyard under the shade tree as he worked.

I ran across a story the other day, and it reminded me of those days watching my father work and the love he had for the work as well as the friendships he developed with the tractor owner.

It's a pretty simple plot: Boy grows up with a tractor, grandfather sells the tractor, adult boy finds and buys back the tractor and grown boy restores the tractor.

The story begins 80 years ago when a shiny little bright red Farmall "A" came off the assembly line and ended up in Sangerfield, NY on my grandfather's farm. The purchase price of this tractor was just north of \$600.

The tractor worked in combination with horses as it was used to mow hay, run the ensilage cutter, pull the thresher, haul firewood, plow snow and whatever else was required around the farm. Little Red had its own stall in the barn where it got exceptional care and was a large part of the family fun. It helped create meaningful learning experiences and good memories for the grandsons. When my grandparents sold their farm to a young couple and moved away, the tractor moved with them. Now it was a leaf mover, wood hauler and parade-goer (Just like many of our tractors are.) One day Little Red disappeared and was replaced by a new Cub Cadet lawn mower and I was devastated. I disagreed with my grandfather, but what was done was done and Red moved to another family. I did tell the new family if they decided to sell the tractor to call me first. Every once in a while, I would catch a glimpse of it hauling wood or plowing snow. The only problem was it was left outside in the weather. This made me sad.

After my grandfather passed, I vowed to bring the tractor home where it belonged – with family.

It was a miracle one day when my parents were driving down a country road and saw Little Red sitting on the side of the road with a “For Sale” sign on it. My dad called and asked if I wanted to buy it and, of course, I said yes and price was no problem. The sale was quick at \$1,500-the same price my grandfather had sold it for 20 years ago.

The trip to my house was on a sunny day, and I was so excited. I could see the old dent by the hand crank, where my grandfather had hand painted over the original Farmall emblem, and how the hitch had been set up for a sickle bar. I could only think of one thing: Little Red was coming home again.

Over many years, this little A has been quietly, patiently waiting in the barn for rebirth. I believed this piece of antique iron needed to be back in service and part of our family story, but I knew my mechanical limits would require help to get Red back into tip-top shape.

Old tractors are comfortable in the hands of “older folks”, and I am fortunate to be friends with retired farmers. One of these crack-pot mechanics was willing to help me. I took the tractor to his place and the transformation was nothing short of a miracle.

With his ability and knowledge, he used his calloused hands and changed the wobbly front axle, changed all the fluids, tuned up the engine, welded here and there and added new decals so it looked just as it did in 1940.

To pay homage to my grandparents, I took Little Red back to its roots. Driving down the same roads where Little Red had worked for so long, I paused by the roadside and said a little prayer for the old homestead, and the land where this little tractor had shaped a community. Then it was on home to give the grandkids a ride. They were too young to realize the historic moment but, in time, they will have endless opportunities to keep the wheels turning.

Now for us “older ones,” it is important to share the love of the land and family farms so that new roads, young tractors, young folks and new ways still have a lot to offer in this world we live in.

Even though this is a story I read, it brings back memories for me. I was able to find a tractor, not the original but the same make and model, as the one my father started farming with. I restored it and now take the grandkids riding, just as my

father did my two kids. Here is to hoping we can keep these memories alive for our children and grandchildren for many years to come.

I want to give credit to Troy Bishopp for the original story.

**John Roderick, Central Regional Director**

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Website: [www.edgeta.com](http://www.edgeta.com)

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In honor of Dorene Yearian and in appreciate for her years of service to EDGETA as both a director and officer, we have printed her obituary below.

### **Dorene Yearian Obituary**

As many of you are aware, one of our long-time dedicated EDGETA Directors serving the North Central Region passed away on February 13, 2023. We are publishing below her obituary below for those of you who remember her service to EDGETA.

“Dorene Yearian: 1-8-1941-2-13-2023”

We regretfully inform the EDGE&TA members of Dorene Yearian’s passing. Dorene was a former National Director, National Vice President, and Hall of Fame Chairperson. She spent many years in EDGETA and along with her husband, Tom, displayed at shows and events across the country. She made many trips across the country from Missouri to Tulare, California to exhibit at the California Antique Farm Equipment Show. She drove and pulled a large trailer loaded

with tractors and old iron.

Dorene was born in Long Beach, California where she attended school and started her business career. When they retired, they left the big city and moved to Missouri. When Dorene’s mother and dad went to see where Tom & Dorene planned on retiring, her mother had misgivings about Dorene’s ability to adjust to farm life. Dorene with her manicured nails, high heel shoes, long dresses, fur coats, and all the things she had grown accustomed to in the big city life were gone. Dorene’s mother said never in my life did I think I would see her changing a carburetor on a greasy old tractor. Was I ever wrong? Dorene joined Branch 16 from Republic, MO in approximately 1995 where she served as secretary - treasurer for several years. Then they split the job and she was treasurer for several more years

Dorene received the Hall of Fame award In 2012.

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

I’m looking forward to working with you and the EDGETA team throughout the remainder of this year—my 12<sup>th</sup> year as Secretary/Treasurer & Editor. I have thoroughly enjoyed my years in this position. It has given me the opportunity to meet many of you in person and a chance to serve you in this capacity. These years have been very enjoyable and rewarding, as I have a very special interest in the hobby. I have met many of you and attended National Shows in various locations throughout the U. S, starting with the National EDGETA Show in Winfield, Kansas in 2011, where I interviewed with the Board of Directors for this position. Hopefully, some of you will be interested in applying for this position. It is a very rewarding and enjoyable experience.

My husband and I have been attending all kinds of tractor shows throughout the U.S. for well over 20 years. He has a number of IH/Farmall antique tractors—all restored. I have the 1953 Super C Farmall that was purchased new by my Great Grandmother in 1953 at the Farmall Dealership in Tyler. It never left the farm until we removed it and my husband completely restored it. Now, it’s only for show as I drive it in

parades, tractor rides, etc. and take it to tractor shows for display.

We’ve published the dates here in the newsletter and on the website for the various shows that we have information for. Check our website for the latest information we have.

On another note, please update your officer information on the website so that Josh, our webmaster, can post current information for each of your branches.

Just a reminder that dues are \$17 per person, and your Branch # must be on all pieces of correspondence: email, checks, and lists.

**The 2023 EDGETA National Annual Show/ Meeting is June 17-18, in Pottsville, OR, hosted by Branch 9.** Please see EDGETA.com for all Regional Show dates as well as other shows. If you have questions, or if you need additional information, please contact me at 903-360-0396 or [cjparmley2@gmail.com](mailto:cjparmley2@gmail.com).

**Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Editor  
Happy New Year!**

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## *Important Dates*

**2023 Annual National EDGETA  
Show & Meeting  
June 17 & 18, 2023  
Branch 9 – Pottsville, OR**

See EDGETA.org for all Regional Shows for 2023  
--will be posted as dates are received--

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***South Central Regional Show*  
June 16 & 17, 2023  
Branch 260**

24<sup>th</sup> Farming Heritage Festival, 40006 Hardesty Rd., Shawnee, OK 74801  
Contact: Shawn Singleton, (405)613-5774  
[shawneetractorclub@gmail.com](mailto:shawneetractorclub@gmail.com)

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