

## 53rd National Meeting of EDGE&TA, April 17, 2013

Branch 85, Morrow, Arkansas

President H. B. Hutchens of Branch 85 welcomed the group, thanked everyone for coming. He then introduced Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association President, George Christmas. George started the meeting with a prayer. Larry Voris then led the group in the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. George thanked Branch 85 for hosting the National Show for 2013. He complimented the branch on the show and the number of demonstrations throughout the day. He then introduced the national officers and directors.

Don Young, Vice President and Southwest Director  
Northeast Director, Wayne Timchuk  
Southeast Director, George Christmas  
North Central Director, Dorene Yearian  
South Central Director, Charles Parmley  
Northwest Director, Dick Tombrink  
Director-at-large, Larry Voris, President of the Board of Directors  
Secretary/Treasurer, Carrie Jo Parmley  
Hall of Fame Chair, Tom Yearian  
National Show Coordinator and Northeast Advisor, Morrie Robinson

He also announced that several Hall of Fame recipients were in the audience.

Roll Call of the branches taken by Don with 17 branches represented.

George announced that we now have 178 branches total with 11 new ones this year and 8,737 members currently. Last year we ended up with 11,683 members. The last branch is #240.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Each of the National Committee Chairs reported on the status of the committee he/she chair as follows:

Safety and Youth Driver: Don Young reported that all of the information is on our webpage at EDGETA.com with FAQ's included. He urged members to read the safety guidelines and be certain that their particular branch followed the guidelines. He also reminded members that the Youth Driver Certification was required for drivers under the legal age for driver's license and those who do not have valid driver's license. Those Youth Driver Certificates are good for the operator to drive only the tractor for which it was issued—no others.

Steam: George Christmas reported that there are no new developments in the guidelines and operations. Those were revised a few years ago and have remained the same.

Insurance: Dick Tombrink reported that we had an increase in the insurance premium, moving from \$4 of the \$8 membership fee in the past few years to currently paying insurance of \$8 per member of the \$12 membership fee collected. The increase in the premium is the result of 2 large claims the insurance company paid. They dropped us and we had to change to another company. He urged members to watch safety issues, asking members to take 2 seconds to think about that they are doing. Look at the safety guidelines on the website. Accidents are disastrous, not only to the person involved and to your branch, but to all other members of the organization.

Website: George reported that we are constantly making changes to update new information we receive as quickly as possible all. He reminded members that the website address is on their yellow membership card. He commented that the internet is the most economical way to communicate and asked that members let us know of problems with information.

National & Regional Shows: Morrie began by explaining how the branches are selected for the National Show. Currently the host branch is selected by location. Branches west of the Rocky Mountains host the meeting in even years and branches east of the Rockies host in odd years. He selects the national hosts first. He goes down the list numerically. If a branch declines, he goes to the next branch. The same process of following the branch number sequence in a region is utilized to arrange Regional Shows. He reported that the 2014 National Show will be hosted by Branch 51 in Lewistown, MT, the 2015 National Show will be hosted by Branch 89 in Henderson, TX, and the 2016 National Show will be hosted by Branch 52 in Wasilla, AK.

Magazine Article and Newsletter: Larry Voris explained that he writes an article for the E&E Magazine published every 2 months; he also writes articles for the EDGETA Newsletter. He encouraged everyone to read the magazine and the EDGETA Newsletters and share them with their branches. He commented that with many having computers, we might could post it on Facebook. It is currently posted on the EDGETA.com website so that everyone can access it. He asked for feedback regarding the EDGETA Newsletter.

Hall of Fame: Dorene Yearian and her husband, Tom, Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, announced that we have 9 inductees into the Hall of Fame this year. The process of getting the application online at our EDGETA website was explained as well as information that the committee must receive the application 120 days prior to the National Meeting.

Newsletter: Carrie Jo Parmley explained the process for trying to get the EDGETA Newsletter to more members of the branches since our meeting last year. Last year, the board voted to mail both the Branch Presidents and Safety Directors copies of the quarterly Newsletter. Then an e-mail is sent to those who have e-mail address available to the secretary. She thanked branches for sending accurate records for membership and expressed her appreciation for the cooperation of members.

Dorene Yearian and George Christmas presented the Hall of Fame Awards. Those present receiving awards were as follows:

Eugene Carr	Branch 131	Arkansas
James Clement	Branch 91	Arkansas
Jerry Vandivort	Branch 28	Missouri
Tony Friga	Branch 28	Missouri (accepted by David Melton-President of Branch 28)

John F. Spalding, Branch 202, Tennessee, was not in attendance so George Christmas, Director of the Southeast Region, accepted on his behalf and will present it to him at a later date.

George then announced that the Directorships for the Northeast and Southeast Regions had been open for elections this year. There were no applications other than the existing board members: Wayne Timchuk from the Northeast Region and George Christmas from the Southeast region. Those will remain on the EDGETA Board for another term of office. Also, Johnny Burger, the South Central Regional Director resigned from the board shortly after the National Meeting in August 2012. George appointed Charles Parmley to fill that position until the National Meeting in 2013. By the deadline for filing applications, no one had submitted application. Later, Clyde Brummett of Gentry, AR, expressed interest and sent a resume. He has been appointed to complete the remainder of the board term vacated by Johnny Burger. George introduced him and welcomed him to the board.

George announced the National Show in 2014 will be in Lewistown, MT, hosted by Branch 51 and the 2015 show will be in Henderson, TX, hosted by Branch 89.

The meeting adjourned.