

55th National Meeting of EDGE&TA, April 18, 2015

Branch 89, Henderson, Texas

Vice President Wayne Lacy of Branch 89 welcomed the group and thanked everyone for coming. He then introduced Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association President, George Christmas, who opened the meeting with a prayer. Larry Voris then led the group in the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. George thanked Branch 89 for hosting the National Show for 2015. He said we had a good time, with only a little rain. He then introduced the national officers and directors.

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

Roll Call of the branches indicated there were 18 branches represented.

George announced that we now have 165 branches total with 4 new branches this year, and about 6,066 members currently. We ended last year with 9,987 members. The last branch is #244. We had 17 branches that dropped out last year

Old Business:

Carrie Jo handled proposed changes in the By-Laws, reporting that 54 ballots were received. There were 11 proposed changes. Items 1-5 were unanimous in favor of, Item number 6 received 53 for and 1 against, Items 7 and 8 were unanimous for, Item 9 received 53 votes for and 1 against, Items 10-11 received unanimous for, so all proposed By-Laws changes were approved.

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 thanked the group for being safe today. He reported a few items that could be addressed. He reminded the group that there should be a fire extinguisher on each tractor and

that there should be double ropes around static demonstrations. Also, he stated the exhaust should always be pointed away from spectators. He said he saw a lot of signs around about only 1 person per tractor but saw some with more than one person on them. He also recommended that the Branch Safety Director discuss with membership the items that should be addressed regarding safety prior to any show or demonstration. Don reported that all of the information is on our webpage at EDGETA.com with FAQ's included. 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. He said at this point, our safety situation looks good.

Steam

Dick Tombrink reported that there were no new rules on the operation of steam engines. There was an incident in Medina, Ohio some years ago and that prompted a lot of attention to being safe with steam, which has helped with that. He follows what the Minnesota Steam Association is doing as far as changes in rules. Things had been relatively quiet in the steam area recently.

Insurance

We haven't had any claims this year, which means members are practicing safety. There are a lot of members and events which means we have a lot of exposure. Dick reminded the members that when you sign up a new member, you must issue that person a yellow EDGETA Membership Card immediately with the current sticker on it and you must send in that person's name and contact information within 30 days of that date.

Regarding people movers, barrel trains and sleds, if you take your sled to another non Edgeta event to provide a service, you are not covered by EDGETA insurance. If you take it to another place, non EDGETA event, you ask that entity to provide a Certificate of Insurance for you. Dick then entertained questions from the members and will follow up with answers after speaking with the insurance representative if necessary.

Website

George reported that we have done a lot of work on the website to make it user-friendly. It is the quickest way to get information out to everyone. Look often at the website because things change frequently. We are trying to automate a lot of forms so that it is easier for the members. One change was setting up the safety guidelines in sections for easier printing for one particular section. If you have suggestions, please let us know. We want to improve and make the site useful to members. Carrie Jo thanked everyone for updating their officers and directors and reminded members that if the information is the same as the year before, just enter "same" in the title of that office. Just remember to update every year in order to maintain D&O Liability insurance coverage for your branch.

National & Regional Shows

Morrie Robinson gave a report on the Regional shows for 2015: NW will be hosted by Branch 72 in Shoshoni, WY on June 13-14; NC will be hosted by Branch 195 in Boonville, MO on September 10-13; NE is being hosted by Branch 101 in Sharon Springs, NY on June 20-21; SW will be hosted by Branch 184 in New Mexico on October 2-4; SC will be hosted by Branch 178 & 179 in Ruston, LA on August 21-22; and SE will be hosted by Branch 212 in Fayetteville, GA on September 18-20. He announced that the 2016 National Meeting will be hosted by Branch 52 in Wasilla & Palmer, AK on June 11-12, 2016.

Newsletter

Carrie Jo Parmley reported that the newsletter is mailed quarterly to the President and Safety Director in each branch. There is a lot of information in the newsletter relevant to current issues that are of importance, including an article by each of the EDGETA Directors. She urged everyone to read the newsletter and pass along the information to their members. In addition to the website, it is the way we communicate our information. The newsletter is also posted on the website each quarter for access by all members. If you have any item you would like addressed in the newsletter, just let us know

Magazine Article and Newsletter

Larry Voris explained that since 2003, he writes an article for the E&E Magazine. If you have information or want to write an article, get it to Larry. He will get it in the E&E Magazine published every 2 months.

Hall of Fame

Dorene Yearian represented the Hall of Fame Committee. Dorene reminded attendees of the guidelines for the recognition and urged members to nominate any deserving person for the award. She also reiterated that all of the information is on the website including the application, which must be received 120 days prior to the National Meeting. This year, we had 8 entries which are sent out to 3 judges. In order to be selected, the nominee must receive at least 2 votes. This year we have 4 recipients. Dorene stated that if the person you nominate does not get selected the first time, resubmit it. She announced that of the 4 awards, two will be presented at our National show now. The other two will be presented at the respective Regional Meetings.

President George Christmas presented the Hall of Fame Awards. He announced that Ted Weaver of Branch 54 will receive his award at the NW Regional Show in June. Spike & Sue Cordell (Sue is deceased) of Branch 19 will receive the award at the SW Regional Show, George presented the award for Jeff Ruth of Branch 16 to Larry Voris who will make the presentation to him at the NC Regional Show. George then presented the Hall of Fame Award to Buster Brown of Branch 206 in the SW Region, who was in attendance at the meeting.

George announced the final item of business, which was the election of directors for the North Central Region, South Central Region and Director-at-Large. Since there were no nominees other than incumbent, Dorene Yearian in the North Central Region and incumbent Clyde Brummett, Sr. in the South Central Region, those two positions were elected by acclamation to

serve 3-year terms. The Director-at-Large had two candidates: incumbent Larry Voris and Buster Brown from Branch 206. The ballots had been received by the secretary. A canvas of the votes indicated 31 votes for Buster Brown and 29 votes for Larry Voris. Buster Brown will serve the 3-year term for Director-at-Large.

Mike Pollock, President of Branch 52 in Alaska, gave a summary of what is planned for the National Show in Alaska next year and invited all to attend the show June 11-12, 2016.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.