

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

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Volume No. 23, Issue No. 3

July-August-September 2021

Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley

From Jeff Fenske, President and Director-at-Large

A big hello to all members.

Things are finally looking up for the country. We can go out to eat, the movies and engine and tractor shows! We are struggling with the NW, NC, and NE areas for regional shows. Their rules have not relaxed enough as of this date to have large spectator groups. If you are in one of these regions and are able to have a show this year and would like to host a Regional Show, please contact your Director or me. A lot of shows so far this year were considered workdays, with just exhibitors getting together for a show. We can't wait to get back to normal with spectators enjoying our events.

Our SC Director, John Roderick, traveled to Branch 90 in Hartford, AR. for the SC Regional show. The SW Regional will be hosted by Branch 132 in Gardnerville, NV. Aug. 7th and 8th. Our National show in Eagleville, TN. is put on by our very own SE Director, Travis Brown, and Branch 202. It will be held on September 10th-11th. Travis promised to stop the rain this year for a week! It should be a great place for all of us to get together, visit and see some unique equipment. I need to ride on a Steam tractor, we are short on those in California.

We received a membership update from Carrie Jo. As of now we have 5,500 members. We are getting more in every week. We are glad to see this many members after the year and a half we have had with Covid, and everything shut down. Hopefully, things will continue to improve throughout the year. Remember to update your Branch officer information each year. Even if there is no change you still need to fill out the form and just put SAME. After you do this the webpage will show updated 2021. The person that fills out the form should check the webpage to make sure that all the information is correct. We have tried to contact many officers and found

outdated phone numbers and emails.

Insurance Update: We have General Liability insurance of \$1 million dollars with an Excess policy of \$2 million. This covers anyone that is hurt or any property damage that occurs due to our equipment at an event. For this coverage to be effective All EDGE&TA Rules Must Be Followed. Our Safety record has been great for the last few years. Hopefully, we will remain safe and accident free in the future. Now that we are starting to have events remember to follow the safety rules and be careful. We are ALL Safety Officers. If you see something unsafe at any of our shows, be sure to either say something to the person or contact an officer of the branch to make sure they take care of the problem.

Welcome Branch 259, Charleston, SC and Branch 260, McCloud, OK. We are glad to have you on board. Like all branches, if you have any questions or comments feel free to call, text or email either your Regional Director or me. There is lots of information on our website: www.edge&ta.com There are even photos of all the Directors.

Hope to see a lot of you at the National Show in Tennessee. This will be a great place to get to meet new friends and renew old friendships along with getting to see a lot of great, old equipment and watch some tractor pulls.

Until Next Time: Play Safe, Stay Safe

Jeff Fenske, President & Director-at-Large



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

Greetings from the North Central Region. I hope everyone is doing well. In mid-April, we attended the Branch 37 show in Gentry, Arkansas. Tractors were down, gas engines were way up. We were able to see some long-time friends that we hadn't seen in a couple of years.

Remember EDGETA's National Show in Eagleville, Tennessee in September. Please try to attend if at all possible.

I know some states still have restrictions that have to be worked around, but, if at all possible, try to support and attend as many shows as possible.

Any club that has members between the ages of 12-16 that have not been tested and who want to operate a tractor, let's get them tested so they will be covered by our own insurance.

Let's all remain alert, stay safe and keep an eye on your surroundings so we will all have a good, safe summer.

Thanks,

Bob Craig, Vice Pres., NC Regional Dir. & Youth Driver Cert.

From John Roderick, SC Regional Director

My advisor, Jon Bellman, and I attended the South Central Regional Show in Ozark Arkansas on June 4th and 5th. The show was hosted by Branch 90 – Arkansas Valley Antique Tractor Club Inc).

The show was well organized and well attended. The members of Branch 90 are to be commended for organizing and hosting the Regional Show. Jon and I really enjoyed visiting with everyone in attendance. They welcomed us openly and were very friendly during our stay.

One thing that impressed me the most was how they addressed safety at the show. During the show and all of the events, such as the tractor pull, safety was of upmost importance and was observed by everyone.

When I think of safety, two words stick in my mind. I have decided safety can be separated into these two categories: Carelessness and Foolishness. I would like to give an example of each.

The first example is a personal experience and I consider it to be careless. I was the guilty party I am ashamed to say.

A few years ago, a friend and I were asked to take our tractors to the preschool where my wife was teaching. They were the letter T that week and the director thought it would be fun for the students to see a real tractor. Understand, these children were between the ages of 12 months to four years old. We were more than happy to help so I loaded up my Farmall Cub with planters and set out for the school.

After we unloaded and made sure everything was secure and out of gear, I let the director know we were ready for the classes to come one at a time to see the tractor and even sit on it for pictures if they wanted.

I was putting the children on the tractor, and everything was going well, I thought. Evidently one of the children had accidentally kicked the tractor out of gear and I was not aware of it. First mistake – check, check, check, after each child is taken down.

One of the parents asked if I could demonstrate how the planters raised and lowered. I just assumed (big mistake) the Cub was still out of gear. The tractor was normally hard to crank when it was cold, but not this time. This time, she cranked right off with me standing beside the left rear tire. The tractor proceeded to climb up my leg and tear the shirt from by back. Instead of just hitting the kill switch, I was trying my best to get it out of gear. As you can see in the picture, the children were just sitting there enjoying the show. Finally, some of the parents came to my rescue by grabbing the rear tires and pulling the 12HP beast off my foot. I still don't know why I just didn't hit the kill switch.

Today this is a very funny story but if it had been a larger tractor, I probably would not have been so lucky. I only lost a shirt and some skin from my leg and back as well as a great deal of pride.

I know I was careless, and I also know most of us sometimes crank our tractors while standing on the ground – even when we know we shouldn't. Please remember this story and make sure it is out of gear.

My second story is one of those foolish mistakes. A friend of mine called me to say “You

won't believe what I am watching my neighbor across the road do". He continued to say the man had an older model tractor he was trying to start by pulling it with a large 60-80 HP machine. I could not understand why this was so unusual until he told me he was doing this by himself. The neighbor had the large tractor in low gear and was working on the tractor he was pulling. He was jumping back and forth across the tow chain to work on the tractor being towed. Now, I remind you, the large tractor had no driver. I guess he thought it was okay since he was doing this in the pasture. My friend and I had a good laugh but thinking about the possibilities here sends chills through me.

We all enjoy the old tractors we spend so much time working on, but we should never take anything for granted. Just because we have been doing it for so long doesn't mean that we are not capable of making one of these careless or foolish mistakes.

“Let's Always Be Safe”



John Roderick, SC Regional Director

From Morrie Robinson, NW Regional Director

Greetings from the Northwest:

Finally, the weather has changed to the good, shows are beginning to happen and “cancelled” will be a term of the past once Covid is history. Our State, Washington, is scheduled to open June 30th, but that may change with our wishy-washy Governor. It will no doubt be a happy, frantic time to make a choice of which show to attend, especially if several are opening about the same time.

There has continued to be many small “invite” or “play day” shows that have continued to keep the interest and camaraderie going. I recently attended one of these invitation shows that has the biggest operating front yard engine I have seen. It is a 30-ton steam monster Corliss with 18” bore and 36” stroke. It was incredible to see it operating under steam and not air.

I can appreciate the effort and work to drag it home, build a concrete base for it and a boiler, lift everything in place, including a 14 thousand pound 30 inchwide flywheel, then get it running smoothly. This proves if you have a vision, determination, and persistence, anything is possible.

Be Safe, stay healthy, do good deeds and keep in touch.

Morrie Robinson, NW Regional Director

From Travis Brown, SE Regional Director

It's getting hot, so be sure to stay hydrated out there folks! Any day now, we will be getting wheat for the Eagleville show to thresh. It's very hot and dusty work, but it's enjoyable. I like walking out in the fields with all the heads of grain as the breeze blows them to and fro. It reminds me that this operation has been done for thousands of years. We will soon be coming in with our 1920's era PTO driven binder and cutting and tying the wheat into hundreds of bundles. We will follow along and gather the bundles or sheaves and stack them on our wagons. A good crew and stackers can fill the wagon as fast as the binder can go through the field. Soon we will have our loads finished and load the binder back up to go back into storage for another year. We will take our loaded wagons slowly back to the show grounds at Eagleville and stick them under the sawmill shed side by side. Luckily, my youngest son is a master backer or I would still be there trying to back last year's wagon loads in. For the church going among us, it brings to mind the song "Bringing in the sheaves" and the verse "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few" Mathew 9:35.

Along with our steam engines, we also have a few gas tractors, and a few old cub cadet lawn

Mowers, one of which is a video star. Seems that a few years ago one of my neighbors in my small town was filming a music video. They wanted a bunch of lawn mowers parked at the local Methodist Church. It was an attempt to replicate some of the country music's iconic scenes where George Jones drove his mower to purchase alcohol after his wife took all the car keys. The implication was that a lot of people had driven their mowers to church and cleaned up their acts. I get off work and go back to get my Cub Cadet. It's worth a bunch more than the old throw away Murrays that I left it with that morning. My mower is missing when I get there! I get excited and wonder where it is. Turns out a friend of mine was there and started it up so they could use it for some action shots in the video and they were a block over filming. I go over and watch them filming. You can see this video now showing scenes from the video titled "Jesus and Jones" and the guy singing in this video. Big guy, very tall, very nice, lives a few miles from my house. You might have heard of him. His name is Trace Adkins. Pull up the video sometime and watch an actor drive by my vintage Cub 149 while Trace drives by. You all come down to Eagleville and you might just see him out at a local restaurant. Remember the National Show is there September 10-11. Come down and enjoy the hospitality of Branch 202 and the show which is put on in partnership with the Tennessee Valley Pioneer Power Association.

Travis Brown, SE Regional Director

From Ron Hanson, SW Regional Director

Hello Everyone,

Hoping you all are doing well. It's beginning to look more like showtime here in California. My local Branch#30 Antelope Valley, CA just had their Annual Swap meet and Fire up. It was Great to see members and friends.

I also have been hearing other branches in the region have begun having swap meets/shows and meetings. Let's get out there again and have some FUN again.

Speaking of shows, Branch #132 will be Hosting the SW Regional Show. It will be August 7-8, 2021. It is going to be held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Gardnerville, Nevada.

“THANK YOU” to Branch 132 for pulling this off this year!!

I'm looking forward to attending, it would be Great to see you there too.

If there is something that I can do to help out your branch, or if you have a comment or suggestion, please give me a call sometime. I would be happy to chat with you. 661-993-2746

Thanks.

See ya soon,

Ron Hanson, SW Regional Director



DUES ARE \$17.00 PER MEMBER

David Millsap, NE Regional Director – No article available.

From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./ Editor

Hopefully, all of you are doing well. It has been a very strange year for all of us. However, many shows and activities are opening up across the country. We have sponsored a tractor ride and participated in several local shows this year. Hope the same things are occurring for you as well.

In the last Newsletter, I listed the information regarding the Regional Director positions that would be open this year with deadline dates for submitting resumes, etc. Those Regions were the North Central, South Central, and the Director-at-Large. There was no interest shown by members other than from the people currently holding those positions. Therefore, those Regional Directors, Jeff Fenske, Director-at-Large, Robert Craig, North Central Director, and John Roderick, South Central Director, will fill those positions for the next 3-year term, which will end in 2024.

We are looking forward to our trip to attend the Red Power Roundup in Du Quoin, IL next week. It was held at this location several years ago, and we thoroughly enjoyed the show. It's a long trip for us, but it was well worth it. Hopefully, we will see some of you there. Our numbers are growing daily as more of you get back into participating.

Good Luck to all of you as you have your shows and visit with others. I look forward to working with you in the future in the effort to get collectors back into the mode of participating in activities. Let's make the hobby and EDGETA a big success!

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

2021 National Show, Sept.10-11

*Hosted by Branch 202,
Tennessee Historic Gas & Steam
Association
Eagleville, TN*

Scheduled Shows 2021

SW Regional – Branch 132 – Northern

Nevada Antique Power Club

Start Date: August 7, 2021

End Date: August 8, 2021

Location: 920 Pinenut Road, Gardnerville, NV 89410

Event Cost: \$10

NC Regional – Branch 50 – Southwest

Kansas Antique Engine & Thresher

Assoc.

Start Date: August 27, 2021

End Date: August 28, 2021

Location: 502 E. Elm, Haviland, Kansas 67059

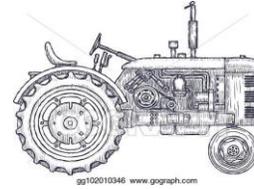
NE Regional: Branch 252 – Warren

County Antique Tractor & Engine Club

Start Date: October 9, 2021

End Date: October 9, 2021

Location: Woodburn City Park, Woodburn, KY



Practice "Safety First"

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