

---

# ANTIQUUE ENGINE & TRACTOR ASSOCIATION, INC.

## APRIL, 2006 NEWSLETTER

---

### “Chuck’s Comments”

I suppose that I am not the only one with “spring fever”. When the temperature gets up to the mid 60’s and the sun is out, I tend to think about finding jobs to do outside rather than work on machinery in the shop. The down side is that I did not really get much done on tractors this winter, either.

Diane and I did get a taste of “spring fever” about a month ago when we went to Texas. We left home on Feb. 24 with a small (24’) trailer behind the truck and headed for Texas to attend the Houston Livestock Show and bring home one or two tractors. Our first stop was to pick up tractor parts in Arkansas for Diane’s cousin in Stratford, Texas. It was a real eye opener to see how poor much of the state is and how much rice is raised. Every area that was somewhat flat had been flooded and was used to produce rice. We did see some areas that produced cotton and even saw an old Fairbanks Morse engine sitting where a cotton gin had once stood. The person with the tractor parts gave us instructions to his place including “look for the house that looks like Sanford and Son”. Do you know how many places in Arkansas look like that?

We headed for Oklahoma from there and entered near Fort Smith, Arkansas. One of the first things we noticed was how dry it was. They even had signs warning of fire bans throughout the state. We arrived in Abernathy the next day and spent the night with friends. Fire bans were in place there as well. Wheat planted in the fall did not get enough moisture to start growing, so they were buying hay to feed their sheep.

On Monday, Feb. 27 we went to look at tractors in Abernathy. I say “we” but Diane sat in the truck and read a book. I don’t understand how you can be in the midst of dozens of tractors and not get out and look at them. I had bought a John Deere 720 propane and a Case L from Jimmie last fall and was looking at several model D’s he had for sale



*Abernathy, Texas FFA team with restored JD 4440.*

We got to Abernathy high school about 11:00 and found they were still touching up the paint, installing decals and cleaning the overspray from the two tractors they were taking to Houston.

Diane and I decided to head for Houston and meet up with the Abernathy group at the motel. On the way to Houston we went through an area several miles long that had burned in a wildfire. Tractors were setting with tires burned off; several houses and other building had burned as well. We found out later that the fire had gotten started along the highway and had spread because of high winds. It moved so fast that there was no time to move equipment out of danger or even protect property. About 100 houses were lost.

On Tuesday morning we left the motel with the Abernathy group and headed for a car wash to clean the tractors. After washing the tractors we went to a huge parking lot south of the Reliant Energy Center and waited for several hours for our turn to unload the tractors at the exposition hall. While waiting for our turn I was able to walk around and look at the other tractors and several of the ag. mechanics projects. One of the reasons for going on this trip was to see some of the tractors from the schools that have entered the FFA/Chevron National Tractor Restoration Contest. I have been a judge at this contest for the last 3 years but we do not see the tractors. We judge from books submitted by each entrant and a live presentation before the panel of five judges. Many of the entries at the National Contest are from Texas and I thought I would be able to check out the tractors without being recognized by any of the schools. We were recognized by one school as we pulled into the parking lot and someone knew me at nearly every tractor I looked at. So much for secretly looking at tractors.

Chuck (tractor poor) Bos *(Continue next month)*



*Some of the tractors, restored by students, on display in the Houston Exhibition Hall.*

## MEMBER SURVEY

## REVIEW OF MARCH MEETING

### 2005 –2006 Survey Results Summary

Based on Members responding:

- High ratings for Fall Show and Newsletter, both in quality and regular attendance and reading
- About one half attend the spring swap meet
  - Strong support (80%) for continuing with spring swap meet
- About one third attend technical meetings
- Only 10% read our web site.
- Strong support for the club mission and goals
  - Good support for more youth involvement
  - Moderate support for more technical meetings
- Club should concentrate on continuing a fall working show
  - Better people movers and working displays and demonstrations
  - Parade in front of bleachers
  - Garden tractor activities
  - Activities and involvement of FFA and 4-H
  - Demos with horses
- While interest in Steam and “Big Iron” rated high in the visitor surveys, members ranked these areas lower.
- High support (86%) for continuing with the Thresherman’s dinner
- Continuing with crafts at the fall show received good support (71%)
- Highest ranking “other activities” were:
  - Tours to see other collections
  - Off site shows
  - Tours to other club’s events
- Strong support (78%) for sharing membership list with all members
  - 100% (including those voting not to share) said it would be okay to include their name.
- 88% of our members have a farm background with 39% living on a farm
- Two thirds of our members have access to the internet and e-mail
- Percentage of members who have interests in and / or collect different items is shown in the table below :

	Interest	Collect
Engines	56%	31%
Steam	38%	4%
tractors	91%	87%
Horse equipment	29%	16%
Tractor equipment	89%	62%
Garden tractors	49%	51%

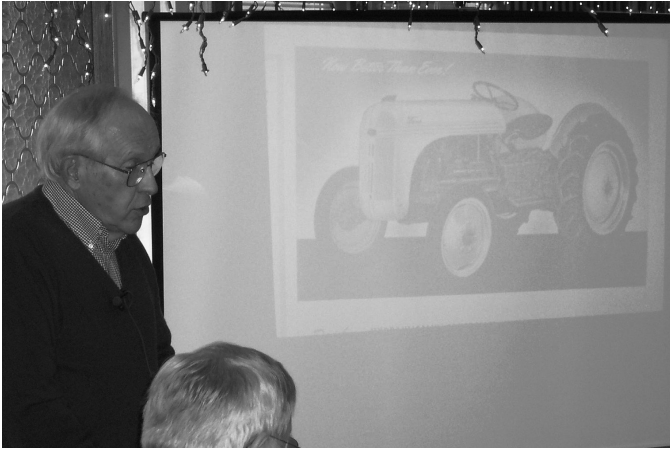
Neil West, Chairman of Survey Committee.

The March general membership meeting began with breakfast at Brother’s Restaurant in Rapids City. President Chuck Bos presented plaques to outgoing board members Don Buysse, Ron Miller, and Dave Carton. He also announced the board decision to trade our 2-year-old mower for a new one. Neil West reviewed the results of the member survey (see article in this newsletter). A request from the Henry County Fair to have a tractor show was discussed. They would like to have 4 tractors of different makes on display the week of June 19 and then a larger exhibit of tractors and implements on Sunday. We now have confirmation that the 2005 National FFA tractor winner from Cotton Center, Texas is coming to our fall show.



*Ron Miller and Dave Carton with plaques they received for serving on the Board. Don Buysse also received one.*

Larry Gay presented a very informative and interesting review of the history of the Ford Tractor. Henry Ford, born in 1863 in Dearborn, Michigan, observed the Nichols and Sheperd steam engine rigged with a chain drive for propulsion, and this was the start of his interest in tractors. June of 1903 was the start of the Ford Motor Co with Henry owning 25%. Mr. Gray was the first president. The first tractor was built in 1 week in 1907. October of 1915 was the founding of the Henry Ford and Son Tractor Company. In December of that year they produced the first prototype tractor using a 4-cyl. Hercules engine and a 2-speed transmission. In 1916 they added a 3-speed transmission and moved the operator seat to the center. 50 prototypes were built that year. 1917 brought major changes including larger wheels and an engine change. 6000 of these Ministry of Munitions (MOM) tractors were built.



*Larry Gay reviews the development history of the Ford tractor.*

Larry commented about a Feb 1916 document detailing the restriction on using the Ford name so in 1918 they adopted the Fordson name. They bought out all other stockholders for \$105 million. In 1920 they combined the cars and tractors and in 1921 Henry lowered the price of the Fordson tractor from \$795 to \$395 which had a dramatic impact on the industry. Howard Simpson designed many improvements for the tractors but Henry would not implement them. In 1928 the Fordson tractor production was all moved to England. Harold Brock was the head design engineer for the 9N model which was introduced in 1939. The first 750 9N's had a cast aluminum hood. A key feature of these tractors was the lift system. After producing about 99,000 tractors the 9N was replaced by the 2N in 1942. This model was built until 1947 with approximately 206,000 units produced.

In Nov 1946, Ford terminated the famous handshake agreement with Harry Ferguson, who had developed the 3-point hitch system. The 8N was introduced in 1948. That same year Harry Ferguson filed a \$251 million lawsuit which was finally settled for \$9.5 million several years later. In 1953 the Golden Jubilee was introduced. That same year Ferguson joined forces with Massey Harris to become Massey Ferguson.

Larry Goodwin, Secretary.

## **APRIL GENERAL MEETING**

The April event will be a tour of Bob Young's barn and antique collection. This is a very large and unique barn and Bob has an interesting story about the history of it. He also has quite a variety of antique tractors and implements. The meeting will be Saturday, April 22. We will meet at 7:30 for breakfast at Skello's in Cambridge (across

the street from the Chevy dealer) and meet at Bob's farm at 9:00 AM for the tour. To get to Bob's go south of Geneseo on Highway 82 for 4 miles to 1500N. (There will be a sign posted on this corner). Go R (west) on 1500N 1 mile, then left on 1300E ¼ mile.

## **SWAP MEET – MAY 12 & 13**

The Swap Meet will be at the club grounds on Friday and Saturday May 12 & 13. Officially the show is from 8:00am – 3:00pm, but the coffee will be on at 6:00. General admission is free, but registration fee for vendors is \$10. (Vendors will receive free coffee all day both days) The lunch stand will be open both days. On Saturday, Perry Bolhous will give a corn planting demonstration with check row wire on a JD 290 planter. This demo was very popular last year so hopefully the weather will allow it to happen again this year. Also, this year we will have a pulling sled and a dyno available if you want to check out your most recent rebuild job. Bring a couple tractors and come enjoy a spring day at the farm.

Monday, May 8 we will have a workday to get the grounds ready for the Swap Meet. Join us at the grounds at 5:00pm if you can help.

## **GENESEO TRACTOR SHOW**

*Larry Goodwin reports that the annual Fathers Day show and parade will be held in Geneseo on June 17 & 18. Set up will be on Friday June 16, and the parade will be on Sunday. Sorry, no steel wheels. All colors of tractors, garden tractors and implements welcome. For more info contact Larry at 309-944-2670.*

## **FARM AND FLEET SHOW**

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Farm and Fleet tractor show will be held at the Geneseo Farm and Fleet lot on Sunday, July 23, starting at 8:00am until 4:00pm. Our club hosts this show. It was a big success last year and we plan to have a good time again this year. Contact Dave Carton, 309-441-5915, John DeReu, 309-944-6118, or Russell Gray, 309-949-2491.*

***Our club has 2 banners promoting our fall show. If you are visiting other shows this year, take a banner along to make people aware of our show and to encourage them to exhibit. Contact Dave Carton at 309-441-5915.***

**\*\*\*BULLETIN BOARD\*\*\***

**FOR SALE:** '49 Oliver 77 NF, overhauled, new paint, good rubber. \$2800. Call C. D. Eyrich (815-537-2195)

**FOR SALE:** Original Cub Cadet s/n 32524, fenders, creeper gear, oil bath air cleaner, new short block. \$800 OBO. Contact Ray Brown (563-285-8308)

**FOR SALE:** Rare early '64 #70 Cub Cadet with original Square Two blade and factory mounted 38" deck. S/n 90522. Call Larry Klawes (262-723-4560 or 492-0333)

**FOR SALE:** JD Quick Tach 2- row front mounted cultivator complete with shields and lift arms. Good shape. Was on model 60. \$75 OBO. Larry Mack (309-798-5127)

**FOR SALE:** Farmall 350 with loader, runs good. TA and hydraulics work good. Needs tires. Make offer. Call Lenzy Stickler (309-314-1649)

**FREE:** Classified ads for club members. Your ad will run for three months. Send ad information to Tom Hitzhusen, 24762 Hazelwood West Rd, Geneseo, IL, 61254, 309-441-5720, [thomaseng@geneseo.net](mailto:thomaseng@geneseo.net),

**2006 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT:** Chuck Bos.....(309)944-2886  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Neil West.....(563)332-5501  
**SECRETARY:** Larry Goodwin.....(309)944-2670  
**TREASURER:** Roger Mixer.....(309)792-2416  
**EDITOR:** Tom Hitzhusen.....(309)441-5720  
**FEATURE:** Carol Ann Wells.....(309)935-6022  
**DIRECTORS:** Ed Mayhew, Dick Zobrist,  
Rich McNeill

Web site: [www.atkinson-engine-tractor-assoc.com](http://www.atkinson-engine-tractor-assoc.com)

**\*\*\*CLUB ACTIVITIES\*\*\***

**APRIL EVENTS**

**General Meeting:** Tour of Bob Young's barn and equipment on Saturday, April 22. Breakfast starting at 7:30 at Skello's in Cambridge. Meet at Bob's farm at 9:00 for the tour. See article in this newsletter for directions.

**MAY EVENTS**

**Board Meeting:** Monday, May 1, 7:00pm at Club Grounds.

**Work Day:** Monday, May 8 beginning at 5:00PM at club grounds to clean up and get ready for the Swap Meet.

**Swap Meet:** Friday and Saturday, May 12 & 13 at the club grounds. 8:00AM – 3:00PM. Coffee on at 6:00AM. Check row corn planting demo on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*NEWS FROM OTHER CLUBS\*\*\***

May 20, Main Avenue Antique Tractor and Equipment Show. Main Ave and Pershing Blvd, Clinton, Iowa. 10:00AM – 4:00PM. Contact: Wayne & Lucy Schoel, 563-243-3942.

June 3 & 4, Tractor Poker Run and Tractor Rodeo in Hillsdale, Illinois. Contact Dick Black 309-658-2273.

**Antique Engine & Tractor Association, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 267**  
**Atkinson, IL 61235**