
ANTIQUA ENGINE & TRACTOR ASSOCIATION, INC.

DECEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

“Chuck’s Comments”

Your board of directors met on November 13 and organized itself for the year 2007. Roger Mixer will serve as president, Ed Mayhew as vice president, Larry Goodwin will continue as secretary and Russ Bos will take over as treasurer. In addition to the four officers listed we have board members George Hayes, Rich McNeill, Lenzy Stickler, Neil West and Dick Zobrist giving of their time to provide leadership for this club in 2007. Please give these men all the help you can as we strive to make 2007 a good year for the Antiqua Engine & Tractor Assoc.

In other news, your 2006 President just returned from a two-week trip out east. We started out Oct. 24 by delivering the Ford 8N restored by the FFA chapter from Cotton Center, TX to Indianapolis, IN for the FFA National Convention. The tractor was delivered safely after a couple of small glitches (tie-downs came loose in the first 10 miles and the battery fell out of its tray). Four other men and I then spent the next two days judging entries from 10 FFA chapters and 10 individual FFA members from across the nation. This is a program sponsored by Chevron to reward students for their work in tractor restoration. Cash prizes are awarded to the top three places for the chapters and individuals. This year’s chapter winning entry was a Caterpillar RD-4 restored by two young men from California and the individual winner was Shane Blaes from Kansas with a restored John Deere model B. Students make a presentation to the judges (most use PowerPoint) and then answer questions from the judges regarding the work done. Points are earned for quality of work, accuracy of the workbook and knowledge of the project. Safe working practices and a safe finished tractor are an important part of the restoration process as well. This is a very rewarding program for the judges, Chevron and the students.

After the close of the Tractor Restoration banquet on Friday, we spent a couple of days in Franklin, IN at my sister’s including a trip to a large antique mall. We then traveled to my sister in PA and spent a couple of days working on her house. After working on the house it was time for relaxation which included a trip to CT to pick up a Minneapolis Moline model RTI with loader purchased earlier this year. We then headed to Don and Kathy White near Williamsport, PA. While there, Don and I visited his neighbor who collects

and restores Ford and Edsel cars and trucks. He specializes in “Woodys” and had several in his collection. We also spent most of a day in Hershey at the AACA museum. This car collection includes models from the earliest days of automobiles up to the present time. They were setting up a special exhibit of “Top Brass” models including basic models such as the Ford Model T all the way to multi-million dollar models such as a Cadillac and a Thomas Flyer. I would recommend a stop there if you have any interest in cars or in the history of our country as the two go hand in hand. After a visit to the Grizzly Industrial Tool Store and the purchase of a gas engine from Don White, we returned home with our treasures.

This is my last “Comments” piece for the newsletter as my term on the board is up. I have enjoyed seeing the growth of this club the last six years and trust you members will continue to give your support to this club so that the agricultural machinery and practices of the past will be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

Chuck Bos, President, AE&TA, inc.



Many thanks to Chuck Bos for serving on the Board of Directors for 6 years and for his leadership as our president the last four years. He has given untold hours of time and has generously contributed resources to enable our club to achieve new levels of growth and service. A job well done! Thanks also to Diane for her patience, time and support. The Editor.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

A general membership meeting was held on October 15 at Tom Hitzhusen's farm shop for the purpose of electing new board members and reviewing the results from the Fall Show. Thirty-one members were present and introduced themselves by identifying the projects they plan to work on this winter. (One project may be weight control as Margaret reported 8 dozen cookies and bars disappeared after the meeting)

Discussion of the Fall Show indicated a good response overall to the changes that were initiated this year. Positive items that were mentioned included a separate gate for exhibitors, increased advertising and awareness, strong sponsor support, increased golf carts and Gators, sawmill demo was good, steam engines and horses were well received, strong financial results from increased gate receipts and food sales, ice cream stand was a good addition, children's activities went well, good demo by the blacksmith, 3D Sound did a good job, additional ground trains were appreciated, the steam train was a positive attraction, the FFA restored tractors were a good addition, field demos continue to draw a large crowd, and the printed programs were appreciated and in many cases were kept as souvenirs.

Comments that were made regarding change or improvement included: Parking is barely adequate even with the added space this year, exhibitor gate should stay open longer, we should charge for golf carts and request proof of insurance, people movers need designated stops, add an information booth on the grounds, the club store should be relocated, consider contracting food service, borrowed equipment should be cleaned up before returning, need a trash pickup team, add a heritage garden, make T-shirts available, and drop the Friday night dinner. The board agreed to look into these suggestions in more detail.



Outgoing board members Roger Mixer, Tom Hitzhusen, Carol Ann Wells, and Chuck Bos.

Outgoing board members, Chuck Bos, Roger Mixer, Tom Hitzhusen, and Carol Ann Wells were thanked for their service and new board members were elected. George Hayes, Lenzy Stickler, and Russ Bos will serve for 3 years and Roger Mixer was elected to fill out a 2-year position.

It was announced that the feature tractor for the 2007 Show will be Massey Harris. Also 2007 marks the 100 year anniversary of the Hennepin Canal so there may be an opportunity to include this in our 2007 activities.



Members elected to the board effective January 1 include: l-r Roger Mixer (2 year term), Russ Bos, George Hayes, and Lenzy Stickler for 3 year terms.

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

The Board, including outgoing and new members, met on November 13 to elect new officers and to begin planning for the 2007 program year. Results are as follows:

PresidentRoger Mixer
Vice-President... Ed Mayhew
Secretary Larry Goodwin
Treasurer.....Russ Bos

Other positions which were filled include:

Newsletter Editor...Neil West
Publicity/Sponsor....Skip Farnam
Food Service.....Ed Mayhew
Gate manager.....Lenzy Stickler
Show Ground Cleanup..Dick Zobrist
Farm Managers.....Scott Lewis
Tom Hitzhusen
Feature Coordinator..Roger Mixer

Several other positions remain to be filled. In addition a long range planning committee was established to deal with matters of broad scope which are important but get displaced by the urgent. They will address issues such as the land lease, a priority list of capital improvements, organizational changes, determining the direction the club should grow, how to balance the need to serve our members with the need to serve the public, and what our club should be doing over the next 5 years. This committee will make recommendations to the board, but the board will be the primary decision makers. Ed Mayhew, Neil West, and Larry Goodwin were appointed to organize this effort and to solicit help from the general membership.

Roger reported that all bills are paid and the treasury has a balance of \$16,530. It was decided to donate \$100 to the Henry County Fair for use of the bleachers. It was requested that the farm committee forward contract 1000 Bu of corn for September 2007 delivery at \$3.18/ Bu. Ed presented a report showing that the 3 food stands had net income of \$7,641 this year, and he recommended we continue to run the food service as a club rather than contract it to outside vendors.

The Swap Meet will be May 12, 2007. The plan is to have just one day this year and to include a planting demonstration along with other craft and farm demonstrations yet to be determined.

The membership report indicates a total of 203 members at this time, made up of 27 life members, 118 members paid up thru 2007, and 58 who have not yet renewed their memberships for 2007. (At this same time last year there were 120 who had not yet renewed) Those who have not renewed by February will be dropped from the list. It was reported that 81 members helped at the fall show, and an additional 20+ family members pitched in as well.

HILLSDALE TRACTOR DRIVE

On a beautiful 70 degree fall day on October 7, 52 tractors lined up at the Hillsdale Flea Market to embark on a 24 mile tractor cade. Organizers Lenzy Stickler and Dick Black gathered the group together for a drivers meeting before departure and explained the rules of the road – 10 mph, no passing, this is not a race, be courteous, allow space so cars can pass, follow traffic laws, and enjoy the journey. And that we did!! The long line of tractors of all colors snaked through the back roads witnessing the tranquil countryside from Hillsdale to Cordova. As one driver commented, “At 10 mph you see things that you don’t see at 70mph, every field, every flower, even every beer can!” Crossing guards were posted at every major intersection, and a rescue vehicle followed in case of need – and it was needed! The Cordova police met us at the edge of town and escorted

us on a parade through the village until we stopped at the Farmers Table for an excellent buffet lunch. Turns out drivers needed more fuel than the tractors. After lunch it took a pull or two to get all the tractors started again, and we returned to Hillsdale via a different route – just as interesting at the first route.

The trip was well organized, there were no accidents, and everyone had a good time. Thanks to Lenzy and Dick for all their work in making this such a successful and enjoyable day. With a little encouragement they may be willing to organize another event next year. If so you won’t want to miss it.

HELP NEEDED:

Skip Farnam has agreed to chair the Publicity/Sponsors committee for the new program year but he needs some help. This committee is responsible for working with local businesses who help sponsor our annual show, as well as to line up media to advertise the show. If you are willing to help with this important activity please contact Skip at 309-944-4982.

NEW EDITOR

Welcome Neil West as our new editor for future newsletters. I will be retiring from the Board after completing the term and serving as your newsletter editor for the past 3 years. Neil has had prior experience compiling newsletters so I’m sure he will be bringing some welcomed changes to our format. I encourage each of you to give Neil your full support by sharing information, pictures, and articles of interest to our club members.

Thanks to each of you who have helped with the newsletter over the past 3 years. A special thanks to Larry Gay who provided many articles on the history of tractors which we have featured at our annual show, to Sue Marsden who has provided invaluable help in maintaining the roster and mailing label files, and to my wife, Margaret, who has donated countless hours proofing, folding and stamping. Hopefully you have found the newsletters to be of interest. I look forward to continuing this hobby of collecting, restoring, and preserving our agricultural heritage, while working with you to make 2007 the best year ever for our club.
Tom Hitzhusen.

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Collector’s wife: “Your old Ford 8N won’t run because it has water in the carb”

Disbelieving collector: “How would you know? You can barely drive it let alone fix it. Leave the diagnostics to the expert. Where’d you leave the tractor?”

Wife: “At the bottom of the farm pond!”

******BULLETIN BOARD******

FOR SALE: Fiberglass lid and chrome rails for a '97 or newer shortbed Ford PU. \$200.00 *Contact Lenzy Stickler (309-314-1649)*

FOR SALE: Camper for 8' PU box. *Ron Jackson (309-658-2420)*

FOR SALE: Three point hitch mounted post driver. \$100.00 *Call Tom Hitzhusen (309-441-5720)*

FOUND: Crank for antique tractor on route 6 after Farm & Fleet show. *Call Emie Telkemeyer (309-441-5014)*

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,

******CLUB ACTIVITIES******

DECEMBER EVENTS

No club events planned – have a Merry Christmas and enjoy the Holiday!

JANUARY EVENTS

Board meeting: *Monday, Jan. 8., 6:00PM. Place to be announced.*

General Meeting: *General membership meeting on Saturday, January 20, at Smokey's in Colona. Breakfast buffet (\$6.99) starting at 8:30 followed by a program yet to be determined.*

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Check the address label on the bottom of this page. If it says 2006M then you need to renew your membership immediately. A 1 year renewal is \$20. Send check to:

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

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