
ANTIQUÉ ENGINE & TRACTOR ASSOCIATION, INC.

JULY 2007 NEWSLETTER

“Roger’s Comments”

We have had some beautiful weather this summer and are getting enough rain in our area to keep the grass green and growing. Hope you are enjoying the long days.

The TRACTOR RIDE along the Hennepin Canal is a go for Saturday the 18th of August. Only rain that day or heavy rain the day before will stop us. We will start at 8:30 AM from our show grounds, travel north to the canal and go east about 4 miles along the canal to the restored lock and dam, have cookies and stretch and return to the show grounds along the canal. We should be finished in time for a late lunch in Atkinson. The ride will be on the south side of the canal on grass. We will be traveling about 4 or 5 mph and share the path with anyone riding horses or hiking on that side. The conservation department will remove the posts that prevent motor vehicles on the south side of the canal, and we have requested help crossing the Atkinson slab. No limit to the number who can participate but sorry, no steel wheels. At the speed we will travel, garden tractors are welcome.

Then it’s Show Time in Atkinson. Less than two months away, the 14, 15 & 16 September. Remember, we are hosting the Illinois Chapter of Massey Collectors this year. Get your Massey red tractors ready and let your friends know about our event.

The major change you will see at the show this year is the Club is not going to be serving food and the board is in the process of outsourcing all food stands. This means we do

not need your pies this year BUT we need you to help at the many stations of the Show.

Will you help? Please contact the following:

- Gate Admission/Parking Lenzy Stickler
309/523-2744
- People Movers George Hayes
309/659-2666
- Youth Activities Neil West
563/332-5501
- Demonstration Narration Larry Goodwin
309/944-2670
- Trash Pick up/Restrooms Dick Zobrist
309/949-2877
- Main Desk/Treasurer Russ Bos
309/944-0215

If you need Show Flyers for display or to give to friends, contact any board member as we should have plenty.

Are you planning ahead? The feature engine for 2008 will be Root & VanDervoort and the feature tractor will be J. I. Case. Not too soon to start planning.

Call me if you have any questions at 309/792-2416.

See you soon. Roger Mixer, President

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday the 29th of August at 6:30 PM at the club grounds. We will be discussing details of fall show. We welcome your input. After the business meeting there will be ice cream and cookies plus Dallas DeShane will provide a lighthearted presentation.

News from the Board

The board is considering setting up an endowment. The objective would be to allow people and organizations to donate money to the Club. The long range planning committee is looking into the details. If you have any thoughts about this, please contact Neil West at 563-332-5501.

AETA FARM REPORT – 2007

On July 7th, Tom Hitzhusen reported: The crops still look good at the club grounds. I believe everything is on schedule. Atkinson got their first significant rain last week and it was really needed. First cutting of hay has been taken (Randy Rahn) and the oats are getting ripe. Sometime later this month we will cut the oats. The plan is to load them on the racks and turn on the air unless someone has a better idea. Corn prices have really dropped and SB prices are rising. New corn contracts are now \$3.05 so our \$3.18 contract looks ok at this point. Glad we didn't contract any beans. They appear to have more upside potential since the government issued its forecast for fewer acres and fewer carryover bushels.

Geneseo Farm & Fleet and AETA is again sponsoring a show. It will be Sunday July 22 from 10-4. All colors of tractors, equipment, and garden tractors are welcome. There will be plenty of exhibitor prizes and door prizes. Contact Larry Goodwin 309-944-2670. Pre registration is encouraged.

Tractor Drive along the Hennepin Canal on Saturday the 18th of August

As noted in Roger's comments, we are planning a tractor drive along the canal near our show grounds. This will be an unique drive along a shady and pretty route. We often take some of the nearby resources for granted.

Here is an opportunity to enjoy a slow-paced, relaxing experience.

Country Tractor Ride August 25

Leave Hillsdale Flea Market at 10 am. Buffet Dinner at Cordova Farmer's Table. If interested, contact Lenzy Stickler 309-523-2744 or Dick Black 309-658-2273 by August 1.

AUCTION OF DONATED ITEMS

On Saturday the 15th of September, starting at 3:30 PM, we will have an AUCTION of items that have been donated to the AETA this year. Helping us are the following Auctioneers:

Don Buysee	Kewanee
Vern Mariman	Geneseo
Dave Swanson	Geneseo

Thanks to all our sponsors who have donated these items. You will find the sponsors listed in the Show Booklet and they would appreciate your business.

We will accept items from members (or friends) to include in this time of fun and fundraiser. Contact Roger Mixer if you have questions.

The New Massey-Harris-Ferguson Company **By Larry Gay**

On August 17, 1953, Massey-Harris and Harry Ferguson Limited announced the merger of the two companies, but the actual situation was Massey-Harris bought Harry Ferguson's company. Harry Ferguson received 1.8 million shares of Massey-Harris stock and was named to the honorary position of chairman of the new Massey-Harris-Ferguson Company. James Duncan remained as president.

The only policy the new company formulated was to build both the Massey-Harris and

Ferguson lines of products and to continue with two distribution systems. Although this plan greatly increased sales, it did nothing to reduce the engineering effort required to support two lines of products or increase the meager profits. These had been problems for both companies. Harry Ferguson soon forgot his position was an honorary one and started to manage the Ferguson group in Coventry, England. After difficult negotiations, Ferguson agreed to sell his stock to the Argus group of Canada in July 1954 and the problem of his interference was eliminated.

Conflict between the Massey-Harris and Ferguson dealers began to appear when the new company decided to drop nine of the 27 independent distributors of the Ferguson line and start using eight of the 16 Massey-Harris branches to distribute the Ferguson line. The problem was compounded when the company violated its policy of two separate lines by painting the Ferguson 40 tractor red and offering it as the Massey-Harris 50. Fifteen of the Ferguson distributors sent telegrams to the company demanding this tractor be removed from the Massey-Harris line, but their protests were ignored. The vice president of engineering argued the company did not have the time or resources to engineer two lines of equipment, but the other executives did not listen.

As profitability continued to decline due to duplication of effort and the lack of defined areas of responsibility, James Duncan was asked to resign in July 1956. Several of the vice presidents soon followed him. A. A. Thornbrough, one of the few former Ferguson executives with the combined company, was named president in December 1956. He soon began to reorganize the company and clarify responsibilities. During 1957, he terminated

the Ferguson distributors and closed the Batavia, New York, factory and one of the factories at Brantford, Ontario. The tractor factory for Massey-Harris tractors in Racine became a parts depot, the former Ferguson tractor factory in Detroit was enlarged, and the factory in Coventry, England, building Ferguson tractors for Europe, was purchased. To reduce the cost of the components formerly built by outside suppliers, a transmission and axle factory in Detroit was acquired from Borg-Warner and some parts were shipped in from the sister factory in Coventry, England. The Perkins diesel engine company was purchased in December 1958.

In 1958, the company name was shortened to Massey-Ferguson and all the dealers became Massey-Ferguson dealers selling the Massey-Ferguson line of products. The 1958 sales catalog introduced the 4-plow Massey-Ferguson 65 tractor with a 3-point hitch and a utility tractor configuration. Other models included the 2-plow Ferguson 35 and the 3-plow Massey-Ferguson 50, the former Massey-Harris 50.

The Massey-Ferguson tractor line expanded to six models for 1960. The Ferguson 35, the Massey-Ferguson 50, and the Massey-Ferguson 65 remained in the line. New models were the Massey-Ferguson 85 for row-crop work and the 88 with wide fenders for the Great Plains. Both models were rated as 5-plow tractors with a choice of gasoline, LP-gas, or diesel engines. The sixth model, built by Oliver, was the Massey-Ferguson 98 with a GM 3-cylinder, 2-cycle diesel engine.

Larry Gay, 14 May 2007

Editors note: Many thanks to Larry for researching and writing these articles about our featured tractor. Another article is planned for August.

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

FOR SALE: - IH 1206, Under 7,000 hours, new seat, tires, water pump, PTO plates & kit, starter and more. *Janice Law, Mt. Carol, IL 815-244-9442 or 815-238-6448 (Ju)*

Needed for club: a pump cylinder with 1 ¼" or 1 ½" threads from 10" to 12" in length for the club windmill. Contact *John Boyens 563-370-0966*

For sale; Slowing down!! 1936 Deere "A" ser.# 428888, older restoration, new hood, tires, round spoke rears, decent paint. \$2950; 1956 620 Ser# 6202917, NEW power steering, very straight tin, original paint, factory 3 pt. with center link, no breaks or welds, runs great. Over \$3000 just in the new power steering. Works perfect. Tires fair to good, lights work, \$5750; 1952 Deere "G" ser.# 53851, recent total restoration with all new engine, clutch, gov., tires, new paint, excellent sheet metal. runs great. \$6000. Call *Larry Goodwin 309-944-2670 or 309-945-1666 and leave a message*

FREE: Classified ads for club members. Your ad will run for two months. Send ad information to Neil West, 6205 Shadowbrook Dr, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722 Phone 563-332-5501 E-mail nlwest@mchsi.com

2007 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Roger Mixer.....(309)792-2416
VICE PRESIDENT: Ed Mayhew...(309)949-2867
SECRETARY: Larry Goodwin.....(309)944-2670
TREASURER: Russ Bos.....(309)944-0215

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

JULY EVENTS

Geneseo Farm & Fleet show - Sunday July 22 from 10-4 Contact Larry Goodwin 309-944-2670

AUGUST EVENTS

Board Meeting: Monday, August 6, 6:00PM Geneseo Chamber of Commerce

Canal Tractor Drive: Sat. August 18, 8:30 A.M. Start at show grounds

Country Tractor Drive: August 25 Leave Hillsdale Flea Market at 10 am. Buffet Dinner at Cordova Farmer's Table. If interested, contact Lenzy Stickler 309-523-2744 or Dick Black 309-658-2273 by August 1.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Wed. August 29: 6:30 P.M. at show grounds

River Valley Antique Association presents the 24th Old Fashioned Threshing Show on August 25 and 26 at their grounds, Mapleton, Illinois (309)389-5196

FALL SHOW – Sept. 14, 15, & 16
Atkinson Show Grounds

EDITOR: Neil West.....(563)332-5501

FEATURE: Roger Mixer.....(309)792-2416

DIRECTORS: George Hayes, Rich McNeill, Lenzy Stickler, Dick Zobrist

Web site: www.atkinson-engine-tractor-assoc.com

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