

# ANTIQUÉ ENGINE & TRACTOR ASSOCIATION, INC.

## December 2013 NEWSLETTER



**DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE—Please bring non-perishable food items to the December breakfast meeting to be given to the Geneseo Food Pantry in the name of AETA.**



Letter from the President - - - - -

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and that you are now getting ready for the Christmas Season. The big box stores wasted no time getting in our pockets this year with Black Friday starting on Thursday for some. I was lucky to be able to spend several quality days with my son on a deer hunting trip to western South Dakota. He got 2 mule deer and I bought another combine!

As we close out this year and start into 2014 please be thinking what you can contribute to the 2014 Fall Show with our special feature of Lesser Known Classics. I am hoping for a grand turn out of all kinds of the more uncommon names and I should add that is a wonderful opportunity for the engines this year too. We have a lot of things on the calendar before we get to that and some more improvements for the grounds in the planning phases. Our next event coming up will be the Quad City Farm Show in January. Please help out your club by signing up for a few hours of staffing our booth there. It is an easy task and a good way to brag about the club to potential new members and talk about some of the memories of past shows.

This is the last newsletter before years end so let me sign off by wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Remember the real reason for the celebrations while you are having fun with family and friends; we are so blessed in so many ways.

Mark.

### **Get to know your Board of Directors: Kyle Jahn**

Kyle lives in Coal Valley with his wife, Heather, and daughter Madison (10 months). Kyle's collection consists of J. I. Case equipment. It all started with his grandfather's case dealership in Atkinson and Geneseo—Jahn Implement. Kyle's dad continues to use Case equipment on his farm today. Kyle said he still has 95% of the equipment that belonged to his great-grandfather (B. C. Killing) who farmed in Coal Valley where Kyle now lives and farms.

When asked why Kyle is willing to serve the club as a director, he answered that he wanted to help bring a younger persons perspective to the table and hopefully get more young people involved in the club. He would like to make sure the club is here in another 50 years to carry on his great-grandfather's [Byford (B.C.) Killing] contributions to the club.

Kyle's favorite club activity is the fall show.

He also has the following insights that he would like to share with the club members: Do not judge the decisions made by the board or other contributing members and create gossip. Bring your ideas to a board member or meeting because the more contributions, ideas, and volunteering we have from our 400+ members base, the better this show will get and the more nationally known we will be. Our show will become a common name among the greats—Old Threshers (IA), Rollag (MN) and Rough and Tumble (PA) to name a few. We cannot be great in an instant, that would get boring, but the climb to greatness is what creates stories for a lifetime.

THANKS FOR THIS INSIGHT, KYLE. YOU ARE A GREAT DIRECTOR. IF YOU DON'T KNOW THIS YOUNG MAN, COME AND MEET HIM.

## STRAW FOR SALE

If you need some straw for the winter, there are still a few bales left at the show grounds. Please contact Curt Jacobs or Mark Johnston and they will make arrangements with you to pay for it and get it picked up.

**WANTED:** I am building a display of an early home light plant (commonly referred to as a Delco light unit). I have most of the board and wiring but need the big old glass batteries; I am looking for 6 – 8 of them. Please let me know if you have any or know where there are any. The plan is to have the unit complete and on display at the Gathering of the Green next year. It will be displayed in the area “Streets of Yesteryear”. Please call John Boyens, 563-370-0966

**FOR SALE:** John Deere ‘A’, 1937 model. Wico magneto, Behlen overdrive. Tractor is complete but disassembled. Put together the way you want. \$1500. George Johnson. Call between 5-8 pm. 309-945-8855.

**WANTED:** Wanted: 2-row 3-point rear mounted cultivator, with center disk guide. Steve Elmer, 309-944-7076 or [torflagr@geneseo.net](mailto:torflagr@geneseo.net)

### AETA BREAKFAST MEETING

December 7      January 11      February 8      March 8      April 12

Breakfast starts at 8 a.m.—\$8 each, children under 12 are free  
Geneseo Moose Lodge, 1025 S. State Street, Geneseo, IL 61254

### NEED SOME CHRISTMAS IDEAS??

#### (for you or your family)

1. There are still a few AETA History Books available from Larry Goodwin (309-945-8664 after 5)
2. Pay your AETA dues for next year (\$25)—see Paul Kouski (847-404-3148) [**NOTE: IF YOU ARE 75 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, YOU QUALIFY AS A LIFETIME MEMBER. PLEASE LET US KNOW THIS INFORMATION WHEN YOU CONFIRM YOUR ADDRESS FOR MEMBERSHIP.**]
3. Window decals for your vehicles - see Paul Kouski
4. AETA pens, coozies, show buttons, dash plaques, key chains, etc. (see a board member)
5. AETA show videos and wheat binding videos available from Dick Mowers (309-945-1477)
6. Consider giving a project to a grandchild or young family member and get them involved in the Young Collectors
7. Need any more ideas? Talk to a board member and see if the Club has other projects for which your family can contribute in your honor.

### HELP IS NEEDED

Help is needed to cover the shifts at the Farm Show at the QC Expo Center on January 19—21. John Boyens will be there with the club’s little Samson engine that he has been restoring and it is always good to meet friends and talk about the club and the fall show. If you can help, contact Curt Jacobs or Mark Johnston.

## Gas Engines

### Written by Paul Searl

Although steam had been used in agriculture as early as 1858 in America, it was not that refined. The technology used was an internal combustion engine. The idea of simply pouring fuel in a tank and going had a strong appeal, but its use beyond the belt was still limited at the turn of the century. Steam was also relatively labor intensive, and reliance on coal, wood and water- especially in regions where such resources were scarce caused many problems. The development of the Otto engine in 1876 was the first step towards a third alternative to horses and steam; but the patents for this revolutionary engine were so broad and restrictive, very little was done to develop the concept until the patents expired in 1890. Although none of the very first gas powered traction engines (or tractors as they would later be called by Charles Hart & Charles Parr) would be a major success, each helped set the stage of other companies who would have more success.

Easily the most famous and written about is the Froelich tractor, built by John Froelich of Froelich Iowa in 1892, so I will gloss over it slightly. The Froelich was a 9,000 lb, 30 hp indicated, 20 hp actual tractor built on a Robinson running Gear powered by an engine built by the Van Duzen Engine Company of Cincinnati OH. This early tractor was said to have threshed 62,000 bushels on a Case separator in 50 days when it was tested near Langford SD. Although the Froelich was not a true commercial success in that only a few prototypes were built, it paved the way for the creation of the Waterloo Gas Traction Company, who left the tractor business after a few years but would return with the famous Waterloo Boy tractor and would eventually be bought by John Deere.

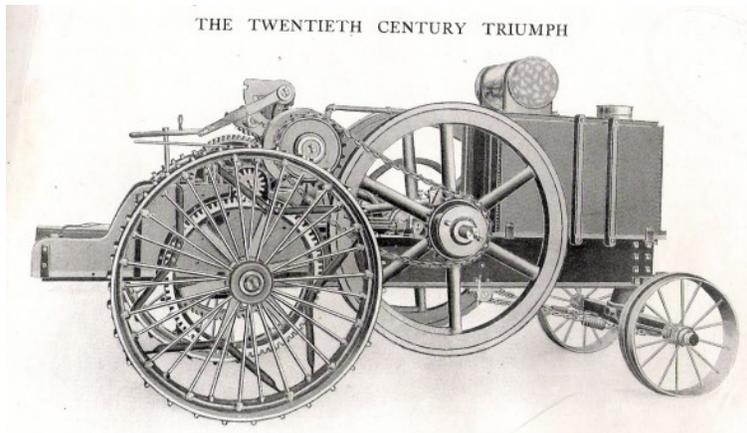
In 1889 or 1890, the Charter Engine Company of Sterling IL received a letter from a farmer named W.J. Jamieson of White Plains SD who had used a Charter engine on a home built chassis to build his own gas traction engine. The attempt was not a success as he had not figured out the gearing, but he felt the Charter Engine Company would be well served to build such a tractor, and he would place the first order himself. Sometime in 1890 or 1891, several prototypes were built and tested near Sterling IL and were then sent out to SD. L.F. Burger, son of the plant superintendent and who would also work for IH, was sent along with the tractors. Little is said about their success and failures, but at least some redesign work was required. George Hanson was charged with the task, and the new prototype worked so well it was decided to produce six for sale in 1895. Six sets of tractor wheels were ordered from the Rumely Company (who would later merge with Advance and built the legendary Oil Pull tractor) and included a steam engine stack and whistle so as to appear more steam like and when completed were immediately sent to South Dakota with Mr. Hansen. The trials proved a disaster as the Sterling traction engine could barely pull itself, let alone the separator with it over rough ground, and when it did thresh, Hansen, in an attempt to show off, overloaded the separator and bogged it down. All six tractors came back to Sterling. Charter would continue to work on the design for a few years, but never became a major player in the tractor business.

A third company to jump into the early tractor business was J.I. Case, who was already a leading steam and threshing machine company. In 1892, William Patterson of Fresno California came to the Case Threshing Machine Company with plans for a 2 cylinder, 4 cycle 8x10 inch engine built on a frame with steam engine wheels, making about 20 hp. Air was drawn into the fuel tank and mixed with the highly volatile gasoline to make an explosive mixture which was drawn into the cylinder without a carburetor. The igniter was mounted to the side of the engine with a cap and lever making a spark. Unfortunately, the timing was overly complex and they were unable to make the spark early enough in the cycle, resulting the spark firing after compression, resulting in little power and efficiency. In the end, the Case Patterson gas traction engine never made it into production and Case abandoned the idea of a gas tractor until 1910.

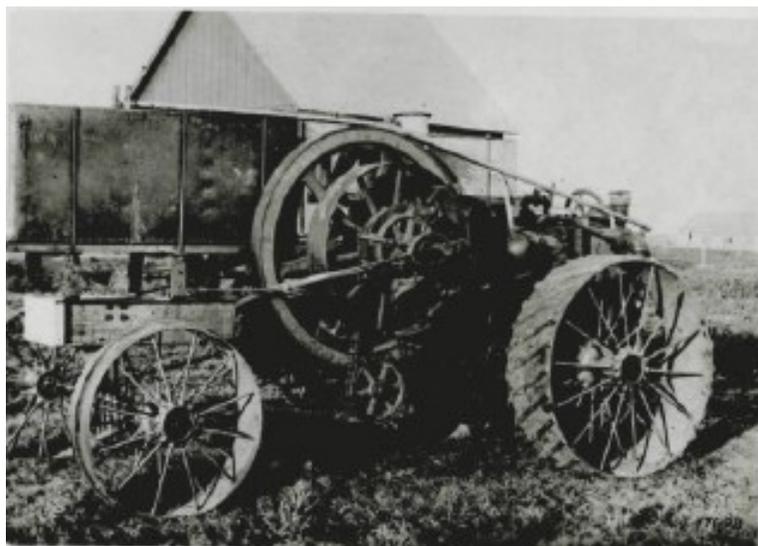
In 1893, A.J. Hockett, who would go on to be one of the early pioneers of gas tractors, produced another "Sterling" Gas Traction Engine, not to be confused with Charter's Sterling. This tractor was built in Sterling Kansas, and he had been experimenting with it as early as 1890 he claimed. This may have been the first gas tractor published in a national magazine in 1893. Out of funds and unsatisfied with the results, The company folded without selling a tractor in 1896, but Hockett would use what he had learned with other companies.

By 1894 other companies like Otto, Van Duzen and Best had joined in and by 1895 nearly a dozen companies were developing Gas Traction Engines. None of these companies met with true commercial success for their gas tractors though until 1897, when Kinnard & Haines was asked to refit one of the Otto tractors with their own engine by a dissatisfied customer. The new tractor worked so well that Kinnard & Haines built four more in 1898 and 22 in 1899 of their new "Flour City" gas tractors. Other companies like Huber, Economy Engine Company and Ohio Manufacturing would soon follow, and S.S. Morton would pioneer his traction chassis in 1899, to which any 10-30hp gas engine could be mounted, paving the way for companies like International Harvester to enter the tractor business and in 1901 Charles Hart & Charles Parr began experiments with their Hart Parr tractor. The era of the tractor had begun.

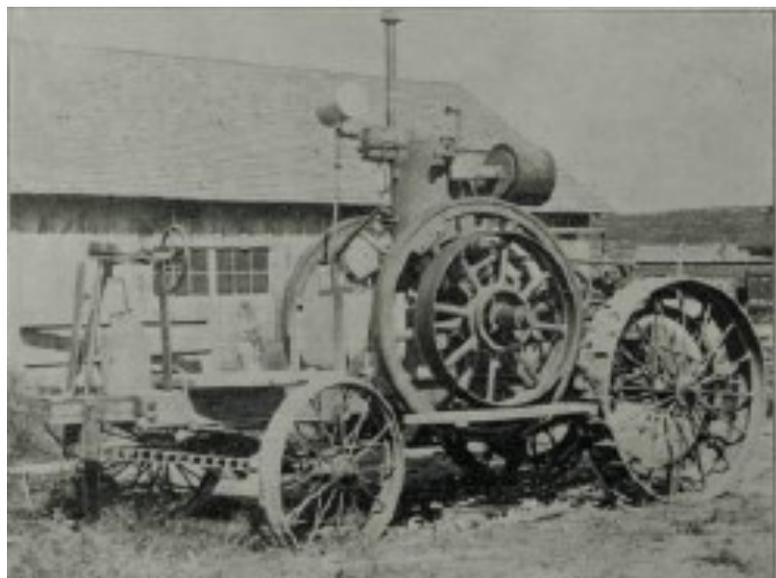
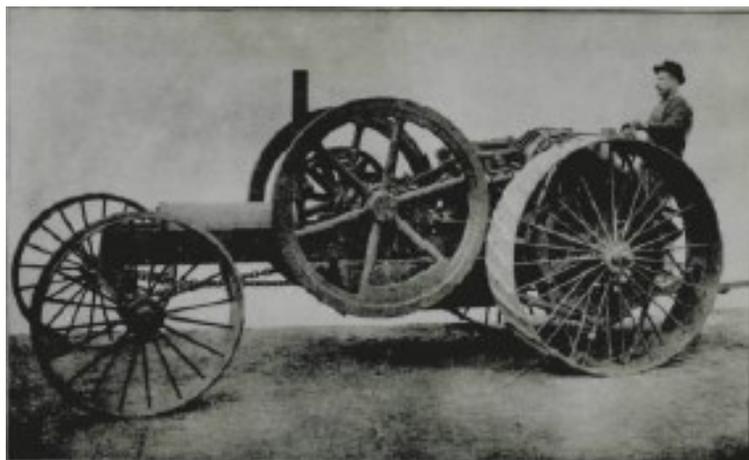
Flour City 1900(left) & Charter "Sterling" 1894 (right)



Case Patterson 1892 Gas tractor (left) And 1893 Hockett tractor (right)



Otto 1894 (left) and Froelich 1892 (right)



**Antique Engine & Tractor Association, Inc.**  
**2013 Fall Show Recap & Previous Years Comparison**

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2007
<b>Income:</b>						
<b>Gate Receipts:</b>						
Friday	\$3,408.00	\$3,025.00	\$2,826.00	\$2,615.00	\$2,022.00	\$1,396.00
Saturday	\$9,165.00	\$7,610.00	\$8,514.00	\$4,420.00	\$6,609.00	\$5,941.00
Sunday	\$1,220.00	\$4,320.00	\$1,162.00	\$2,480.00	\$2,420.00	\$2,253.00
<b>Total Gate Receipts</b>	<b>\$13,793.00</b>	<b>\$14,955.00</b>	<b>\$12,502.00</b>	<b>\$9,515.00</b>	<b>\$11,051.00</b>	<b>\$9,590.00</b>
Auction	\$808.50	\$634.00	\$827.00	\$959.50	\$994.50	\$960.00
Pie Auction	\$1,680.50	\$3,080.00	\$3,144.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$318.50
Vendors	\$730.00	\$800.00	\$870.00	\$415.00	\$425.00	\$315.00
Donations	\$200.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,974.00	\$161.00	\$203.00	\$140.00
Sale of Club Items	\$338.50	\$188.00	\$317.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.50
Thresherman's Dinner	\$3,265.00	\$3,690.00	\$3,060.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Camping	\$300.00	\$370.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Food Vendors:</b>						
Main Building	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,008.45	\$1,044.94
Steve's Meats	\$1,037.00	\$1,190.00	\$746.00	\$580.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hamburger Stand	\$774.35	\$1,044.25	\$782.65	\$689.00	\$775.00	\$602.12
Pork Chop Stand	\$670.75	\$694.00	\$665.00	\$510.00	\$856.00	\$465.00
Ice Cream Stand	\$230.00	\$630.00	\$468.75	\$335.00	\$515.00	\$570.00
Lemonade Stand	\$175.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$140.00	\$150.00
Breakfast	\$394.25	\$343.85	\$420.75	\$442.30	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kettle Corn	\$260.00	\$230.00	\$300.00	\$175.00	\$220.00	\$225.00
Onion Ring Stand	\$425.00					
<b>Total Food Vendors</b>	<b>\$3,966.35</b>	<b>\$4,382.10</b>	<b>\$3,633.15</b>	<b>\$2,831.30</b>	<b>\$3,514.45</b>	<b>\$3,057.06</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$25,081.85</b>	<b>\$29,299.10</b>	<b>\$27,727.15</b>	<b>\$13,881.80</b>	<b>\$16,187.95</b>	<b>\$14,631.06</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>						
Tent Rental	\$1,660.00	\$1,605.00	\$1,980.00	\$1,409.90	\$1,274.20	\$1,182.50
General Supplies	\$152.19	\$235.77	\$445.57	\$304.93	\$221.60	\$287.06
Sound System	\$200.00	\$629.28	\$400.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,200.00
Band	\$600.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$160.00
Student Brochures	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15.00	\$47.25	\$41.42
Propane	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41.72	\$36.62
Buttons & Plaques	\$1,012.40	\$1,067.71	\$1,426.71	\$1,168.78	\$1,992.41	\$1,849.63
Golf Carts	\$760.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$395.85	\$620.00	\$0.00
Rain Insurance	\$500.00	\$690.00	\$675.00	\$645.00	\$550.00	\$0.00
Portable Toilets	\$630.00	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$275.00	\$450.00	\$200.00
Plant Lady/Hignight	\$81.00	\$91.78	\$81.25	\$75.00	\$42.00	\$40.00
Coal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,248.48	\$180.00	\$177.00	\$0.00
Thresherman's Dinner	\$2,547.87	\$2,983.87	\$2,925.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Restroom Maintenance	\$700.00	\$650.00				
Radio Rental	\$252.00	\$159.38				
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,095.46</b>	<b>\$8,712.79</b>	<b>\$9,682.01</b>	<b>\$6,019.46</b>	<b>\$6,966.18</b>	<b>\$4,997.23</b>
<b>Income Less Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,986.39</b>	<b>\$20,586.31</b>	<b>\$18,045.14</b>	<b>\$7,862.34</b>	<b>\$9,221.77</b>	<b>\$9,633.83</b>
<b>Other:</b>						
Membership Renewals	\$1,975.00	\$2,225.00	\$1,875.00	\$2,125.00	\$2,040.00	\$1,940.00
New Members	\$475.00	\$875.00	\$1,225.00	\$700.00	\$1,120.00	\$340.00

**Antique Engine & Tractor Association, Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 112**  
**Geneseo, IL 61254-0112**

**REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR DUES! Send \$25 to treasurer: Paul Kouski,  
PO Box 112, Geneseo, IL 61254 .**

**AETA BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2013**

**Term ends 2013**

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**Term ends 2015**

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KNOW at [kcc41@mchsi.com](mailto:kcc41@mchsi.com) or contact Curt at [curtjacobs@nbson.net](mailto:curtjacobs@nbson.net).**