

ANTIQUÉ ENGINE & TRACTOR ASSOCIATION, INC.

February 2016 NEWSLETTER

From the President - - -

It's February already and as I look at the calendar it's only 7 weeks until we all spring forward to daylight savings time and hopefully warmer weather. Your club hasn't let the wintry blues affect its activities as many came out and worked at the booth at the QC Expo Center Farm Show. Thanks to everyone who participated. There was a lot of interest expressed in our show from the folks who stopped to visit with us.

We were all saddened by the recent passing of Paul Kouski. Paul was a long time member, board member and served as treasurer of our association. Other members who have passed away in recent weeks are Frank Claeys, Dick Gabriel, Fred Stickler and Roger Radue. All will be missed but fondly remembered for their individual contributions to AETA.

Your board had a special meeting on January 18th to act on the director vacancy. Curt Jacobs, retiring past president stepped forward and volunteered to complete Paul's unexpired term. Additionally, he offered to be the treasurer for the 2016 term. The board accepted Curt's offer and appointed him to the board and, in subsequent action, appointed him treasurer. Additionally, he will maintain our web site. Thank you to Curt and his dedication to the organization.

The 9th Gathering of the Green will be held March 16-19 at the River Center, Davenport. Their theme "Forge to Farm" is geared to fans of antique John Deere two-cylinder and New Generation tractors and Implements. AETA will be participating in the 4 day event with a booth. Please help represent the association at this biennial event. Several people will be needed to work. A signup sheet will be on the web site and at the breakfast meetings in February and March. For more information go to gatheringofthegreen.com.

James Zahara will be the speaker at the February 13 breakfast meeting. Zahara prepared for his career by completing his Bachelor of Science in meteorology at the University of Kansas (May, 1988), spending time as an associate professor at Blackhawk College, and by becoming the first Quad Cities meteorologist to earn the prestigious Certified Broadcasting Meteorology Seal from the American Meteorological Society. Only a few broadcast meteorologists in the states of Iowa and Illinois have earned this honor. Please plan to attend.

CALL TO ACTION: There are two proposed changes to the By Laws that will be presented at the February meeting that require a membership vote.

Section II. DUTIES AND TERMS OF OFFICE part F now reads with the proposed change in red: The Treasurer shall sign all checks, vouchers and orders for payment as authorized. He shall have charge of all funds of the Corporation, and shall deposit them in a bank or shall dispense them as authorized by the other Officers. The President **and Secretary** shall also be authorized to sign checks when needed.

Section II. DUTIES AND TERMS OF OFFICE: Add part G to read:

G. The board shall have the authority to hire an outside accounting firm as needed.

Several of the members have come forward with comments and suggestions and all are appreciated. Please never hesitate to talk to any of the board members. We are here for you.

Until next month.
Phil Jordan

AETA WINTER BREAKFAST MEETINGS

February 13 March 12 April 16

Breakfast starts at 8 a.m.—\$9 each, children under 12 are free
Geneseo Moose Lodge, 1025 S. State Street, Geneseo, IL 61254

FEBRUARY SPEAKER—James Zahara, WQAD weather man

The Early Massey-Harris Company

By Larry Gay

Daniel Massey bought a small machine shop near Newcastle, Ontario, and started manufacturing farm implements in 1847. His son, Hart, soon joined the business and he obtained the Canadian manufacturing rights to a popular line of U.S. mowers and reapers. More factory buildings were built after a hay rake was added to the line. In 1880, the company built a larger factory in Toronto and moved its operations there.

Alanson Harris followed a similar path with the purchase of a small factory in 1857. His son, John, obtained the Canadian manufacturing rights to another brand of U.S. mowers and reapers. In 1871, the company built a new factory in Brantford, Ontario. As reapers evolved into binders, the Massey and Harris companies became the two leaders of the binder business in Canada. In 1891, the two companies decided to stop battling each other and joined forces as the Massey-Harris Company. In response to this merger, the Patterson and Wisner companies decided to merge and before the year was out agreed to be purchased by Massey-Harris. Next, Massey-Harris bought 40 percent of the Verity Plow Company and moved the Verity operations to the former Wisner factory in Brantford. Massey-Harris entered the U.S. by purchasing the Johnson Harvester Company of Batavia, New York, in 1910.

Massey-Harris entered the tractor business in late 1916 when it became the Canadian distributor for the Big Bull tractor. This three-wheel tractor with one drive wheel and a 2-cylinder opposed horizontal engine was rated at 12 drawbar horsepower and 24 belt horsepower. The drive wheel and the steerable front wheel were in-line on the right side of the tractor and ran in the furrow when plowing. The left rear wheel was on an adjustable axle which permitted the tractor to be leveled when plowing. However, the Big Bull tractor was plagued by reliability problems and Massey-Harris stopped selling it at the end of 1917.

Massey-Harris reentered the tractor business in 1919 by building a new factory near Toronto and assembling the Massey-Harris No. 1 tractor. Based on the Parrett tractor built in Chicago, it was rated at 12-22 horsepower with a 4-cylinder Buda engine. The configuration of No. 1 included two rear drive wheels, two large diameter front wheels, and a radiator mounted lengthwise of the tractor. Massey-Harris No. 2 was an improved version of No. 1 with shields over the bull gears. Massey-Harris No.3, with an increased power rating of 15-28 and the radiator mounted crosswise, was built in 1922 and 1923.

In 1927, Massey-Harris made its third attempt at the tractor market by distributing the Wallis tractor built by the J. I. Case Plow Works of Racine, Wisconsin. This was a success and Massey-Harris purchased the company in 1928. Massey sold its rights to the J. I. Case name to the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company which eliminated the confusion of having two J. I. Case companies in Racine. Now Massey-Harris had its own design of a tractor, a tractor factory in Racine, and additional U.S. dealers. The standard-tread Wallis 20-30 tractor was built until 1932 with a 4-cylinder vertical engine and a 2-speed transmission. In 1929, the Wallis 12-20 standard-tread tractor was added to the line. Both Wallis models were painted gray with red wheels and featured the combination boilerplate frame and crankcase.

Massey's first row-crop tractor was the General Purpose Four-Wheel Drive model introduced in 1930. This tractor, with front-wheel steering, could straddle two rows of corn with 30 inches of clearance with its drop-box axles and four 38-inch diameter wheels. The wheel tread was not adjustable, but there were four width options of 48, 60, 66, and 76 inches. It was powered by a Hercules 4-cylinder engine, had a 3-speed transmission, and was painted gray with red wheels. An improved version with an overhead valve engine was introduced in 1936 and was painted dark green with red wheels.

Calendar of Events

February 13—AETA Winter Breakfast with James Zahara, speaker, Geneseo Moose Lodge

March 12—AETA Winter Breakfast, Geneseo Moose Lodge

March, 16—19, 2016—Gathering of the Green, River Center, Davenport, IA (Watch for details but rumor is that tours are filling quickly so don't wait too long to check the website!)

April 1 & 2—Mecum Auction, Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport, IA, 10 am each day.
Call Curt if you can help either day or sign up on the AETA website.

April 16—AETA Winter Breakfast, Geneseo Moose Lodge

April 30—May 1—Mt. Pleasant Steam School Class, For more information please contact Midwest Old Threshers at 319-385-8937, \$75 fee, only steam class this year.

August 5—7—Western Illinois Threshers, Hamilton, IL

August 11-14—Northern Illinois Steam Power Show, Sycamore, IL

September 1—5th—Mt. Pleasant Old Threshers Reunion, Mt. Pleasant, IA

September 16—18—AETA Working Fall Farm Show, AETA Showgrounds

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE OTHER EVENTS THAT SHOULD BE SHARED!

ALLIS CONNECTION BANQUET—APRIL 2, 2016— OX YOKE INN IN AMANA, IOWA

Mark your calendars for Saturday, the 2nd of April, 2016 and enjoy a relaxing, fun night and delicious Amana food at the Ox Yoke Inn in the Historic Amana Colonies. The fun will start at 6 p.m. with the family style meal of smoked pork chops, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, and vegetable preceded by their famous cottage cheese, broccoli salad and cole slaw with their Amana baked breads. Be sure to save room for some ice cream, though.

The cost is \$20 for adults, age 11 and older; \$12 for children age 5 thru 10 and free for children 4 and younger. Reservations must be made by March 23rd to Theresa Sexton by phone at 319-631-3353, leave a message if no answer, or by email ashmac@iowatelecom.net.

This will be the kickoff for the Allis Connection's 25th anniversary celebration this year. Come on out and enjoy a great time

BULLETIN BOARD

For Sale: Deere 246 3 point planter, **complete**. Seed, fertilizer, insecticide cans. \$300; John Deere #99 2 row horse planter, **complete** including cast seed cans, fertilizer and pea attachment cans. Can still see quite a bit of paint and stencil detail. Excellent restoration potential, \$350. Jacobsen #626 self-propelled snow blower. Electric start, works well. Just got a bigger one. \$275. Contact Larry Goodwin, 309-945-8664

**PLEASE SEND ANY ITEMS WANTED OR FOR SALE TO THE EDITORS.
(kcc41@geneseo.net) ITEMS WILL BE LISTED FOR 2 MONTHS AT NO
CHARGE.**

GET TO KNOW YOUR BOARD MEMBERS AETA BOARD OF DIRECTOR INFO SHEET

Name: Leon Rathjen

Address: 2806– 120th Street
Wilton, IA 52778

Phone Number: 563-732-3704

Cell Phone: 309-791-5306

Name of Spouse, children (ages) and/or grandchildren:

Wife Inez, 3 married children: Ronald & wife Susan and they have two daughters (Allison & Emily); Tamera & husband Layne and they have a son (Darrian) and a daughter (Jaida); Debra & husband Tony and they have two sons (Hunter & Tyler).

Tell us about your collection:

I collect Case and AC tractors. The Cases are the tractors I drove as a kid when I was in school and worked at a dairy farm for a neighbor. The AC's are from my dad. He farmed with them. We have his D17 that he purchased new in 1965. We also have the WD45 that my uncle purchased new in 1954. I also have other AC's and Cases.

Why are you willing to serve the club or why did you volunteer to be a director?

I enjoy working with others and working on the projects at the show grounds.

What is your favorite club activity?

The fellowship and the knowledge gained

Any other thoughts you would like to share with the club (goals, ideas, dreams for the show ground, etc.,)

I would really like to help the young people learn more about the way it was for their grandparents. I want them to know about the labor intensive life style that was involved.

**THANKS, LEON, FOR LETTING US KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU.
WELCOME TO THE AETA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



It's a call to place the "Gathering of the Green" 2016 on your calendar – March 16-19, 2016 at the River-Center, Davenport, Iowa.

AETA will be represented at the event with a display table and volunteers are needed to help cover the shifts during the show. Please sign up on the website or let Curt Jacobs know of your availability to help.

For information on the event, go to their website or send an email to: info@gatheringofthegreen.com

**GET TO KNOW YOUR BOARD MEMBERS
AETA BOARD OF DIRECTOR INFO SHEET**

Name: James L. Gradert

Address: 10979 Timber Ridge Rd
Cambridge, IL 61238

Phone Number: 309-937-5809

Cell Phone: 309-944-7809

Name of Spouse, children (ages) and/or grandchildren:

Wife Joy D. Gradert; children son Keith R. Gradert and daughter Annette C. Wells with grandson Gregory J. Wells, step-grandson Tanner Wells and step-granddaughter Danielle Adams

Tell us about your collection:

My collection is:

1971 John Deere 4320 & F145 4 bottom plow

1957 Farmall 450 & IH 3 bottom genius plow

1972 Ford 5000 diesel

(Farmall & Ford purchased new by my dad)

1943 Oliver 70 (which was purchased by Joy's grandfather)

Why are you willing to serve the club or why did you volunteer to be a director?

I want to make sure that the AETA continues to demonstrate how farming advanced through the 1900's.

What is your favorite club activity?

Field demonstrations at the Working Fall Farm Show and helping with the train

Any other thoughts you would like to share with the club (goals, ideas, dreams for the show ground, etc.,)

As each generation becomes farther removed from the farm, it becomes more important to show consumers where their food comes from and the hard work and effort it took to produce it during the early years!



**THANKS, JIM, FOR LETTING US KNOW
MORE ABOUT YOU.**

WELCOME TO THE AETA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

AETA BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2016

Term ends 2016

Kyle Jahn (Secretary)

Home:
Cell: 309-945-7947
Email: kjahn600@gmail.com

Curt Jacobs (Treasurer)

Home: 309-658-2128
Cell: 309-314-3603
Email: curtjacobs@nbson.net

Ed Klundt

Home: 309-654-2425
Cell:
Email: aced2844@gmail.com

Term ends 2017

Vince Heller (membership)

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Phil Jordan (President)

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Rollo Searl

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Term ends 2018

Chad Jacobs (Vice Pres.)

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