

# NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

## From George Christmas, President and SE Regional Director

I hope everyone had a great summer. It just doesn't seem that long ago it was the beginning of summer. Now we are in the midst of fall. It is harvest time for sure. Here in the south everyone seems to have a tobacco festival. I remember harvest time as a kid. I did like the smell of the big tobacco warehouses where the tobacco was sold. The smell of the cured tobacco could be found everywhere. As I cut my grass this evening, I catch the scent of cured tobacco from an old abandoned tobacco barn on the farm next to my yard. It is amazing how those old barns still hold that scent. It is also time for the county fairs to come around. Those old fairs used to attract a lot of folks but it seems they no longer hold the attraction they did. I guess there are so many other things for folks to do these days.

We have been working to improve the website to make it more user friendly. As you navigate around the website and have questions or suggestions that may improve it, please let us know. We are always looking for ways to make the website better. Our webmaster, Josh Dilsaver, works hard to update the content of the website and make changes to it in a timely manner. Please visit the website and let us know how well it works for you. The website is our best tool for getting information out to all of the members. [www.edgeta.org](http://www.edgeta.org).

I hope everyone takes special care during the show season to be extra careful. Take a little more time when you are checking your equipment to make sure it is safe. Please be sure the brakes are working correctly. A kill switch for the ignition should be working properly. Every tractor needs a fire extinguisher. Never leave a tractor or engine running unattended. Safety is everyone's concern. Please give other vehicles adequate room when parking or moving in a parade. Please go to the website and review the safety section. All of these guidelines are for the benefit of each member. I have seen several show letters recently stating to

potential exhibitors guidelines for their shows; EDGETA has guidelines in place for our membership already. Safety is beginning to get more attention. This is very important if we wish to continue to have venues to show and display our antique farm machinery.

**This is a reminder and it needs to be very clear.** Each branch is responsible for keeping copies of all membership lists sent to the national secretary. When the branch sends in a membership list, there are several things that need to happen. First, the member list must be complete with member's name, address and phone number. **The list will not be accepted if they are not complete.** There should also be a check with the correct amount of dues to coincide with the number of members on the list. An example is if you send a list of 25 members along with that completed list there is to be a check for \$300. That is \$12 per member. The secretary will not accept lists without complete information or checks without a list of members. **If any of the information is incorrect it will be returned to the branch to be corrected.** This may interfere with insurance coverage, so make sure you have everything correct before you send it. Remember, if we don't have a name, complete address and correct amount of dues, the individual is not covered. Also, member lists and dues for the year are to be received by the secretary/treasurer on or before March 15. This gives time to record and process everything by the start of the fiscal year. Please contact any of the directors if you have questions.

Remember, this association is what it is because of our members. Please feel free to contact any of the national officers if you have questions or concerns. We are here to help and answer questions. Please continue to make every effort to keep our hobby safe for the spectators as well as the exhibitors. I hope everyone has a wonderful fall season. May God bless you all.

**George W Christmas, President and Southeast Regional Director**

**Insurance Update, March 2015, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

I am not sure where the summer has gone. We were busy this summer with our show and attending a great National Show and Meeting in Alaska hosted by branch 52. It has not slowed up yet. Next weekend our kids are having a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary for my first wife and I, (yes, I am still married to her, she has kept me around).

In the last newsletter I talked about three ways of documenting non EDGETA activities. Remember we have an insurance requirement that non EDGETA activities are to be approved and documented prior to the activity taking place for branch members to have coverage under our insurance.

The three ways to get approval for non EDGETA activities as listed in the last newsletter are as follows:

1. Discuss it in a branch meeting and document in the minutes that it is approved.
2. Fill out the form on our website, which will go to the President and Safety officer for their approval. They will send the form back to you with or without their approval. They will keep the form showing that it has been approved until after the activity.
3. You can call the president or safety officer of your branch and ask them verbally to approve it. If they do they need to document it, dating it and keep the documentation until after the activity. This means that the president and safety officer must be diligent in responding to your request promptly and documenting the date of the request.

Number 1 and 3 still apply. An update regarding number 2, we have been working with our webmaster to get a form on the website that you can fill in the blanks. To date it has not been completed. It appears that it will end up being an email template that you can follow; we are not able to develop a form that you could insert your branch number and have it automatically go to the president and safety officer. As it stands now, you will send an email to the president and safety officer, asking for approval of the non EDGETA event, and asking one of them to reply back to you. Hopefully we will have the template for you to use as a guide on the website soon.

Our quarterly EDGETA newsletters are sent out to the president and safety officer of each branch. The EDGETA bylaws require each branch to have a designated safety officer. Also each branch must update their branch officer and director list on the EDGETA website. The input forms are on the edgeta.com home page. Updating is easy to do; you do not have to type in all the names again as you did in the past. If the entry is the same as before, just type in 'same'. Please keep your branch's info up to date so we have the latest contact officers and directors for each branch.

We have had a very good show season in that we have had no safety incidents/accidents. Once again, I congratulate all of you for following our safety guide lines and thinking safety in all you do. Thank all of you for taking the time to be safe. Our goal, as you know, is at the end of the day, everyone goes home safe and happy. Hope everyone has a safe Fall and remember to think safety at all times. Thank you again for thinking safety in all your actions this past summer.

**Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

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**From Don Young—Vice President and SW Regional Director, Safety Chair, Youth Driver Cert.**

It has been a busy year for shows and parades. There have been displays at the National Night Out, schools, grand openings of Tractor Supply Companies, and parades in cities and towns. There are a few left this year, and in three months, we start all over again. Time passes quickly when you are having fun. I still notice displays without show cards. Some spectators may not know what they are looking at. With some basic information about your display, they may pause to read it, and then you have the opportunity to start a conversation. Safety is still

a major concern especially at schools.

Children love to see things move and can be under the ropes in a flash. I have seen running tractors and engines left unattended. If you must leave your display, shut them off or have someone watch them for you. Parked tractors, out of gear, brakes firmly set and or chock blocks. Prior to an event, present a Mandatory Safety Meeting for all exhibitors by the Safety Officer or the President. New members should receive a copy of the Safety rules that would pertain to them in their membership packet. Youth Driver information is available for the Safety Officers and Presidents. There is an online form for Youth Driver Applications. Please use it if possible. There are many times that I am not sure of some of the spelling on hand written applications and I must email or call to receive the information. Thanks for your cooperation. Think Safety, Practice Safety. Only you can prevent an accident.

**Don Young—Vice President and SW Regional Director, Safety Chair, Youth Driver Cert.**

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**From Buster Brown, Director-at-Large**

Greetings,

I do not have much to report as I have not been able to travel. I have been taking care of sickness in the family. When my wife was in the hospital, I visited her every day and got pneumonia. Then I was down for 30 days. I as in the hospital last week and had my lungs cleaned out, so I'm doing better now.

I plan on being at the Southwest Regional meet this year in Visalia, California. I can't wait to get out of house. I've been sitting here in air-conditioned house looking out the window watching lizards come off hot sand and stand on steam pipes to cool their feet. That is Yuma, AZ in the summer time. I have been on the phone with people from other branches, some needing information, and I am working with two clubs that I am trying to get to join EDGETA.

I have been in touch with The Main Event in Quartzite, AZ 90 miles north of Yuma. Their show will be the following weekend from Branch 206 show in Wellton, AZ 30 miles east of Yuma. I will get our info on [EDGE@TA](mailto:EDGE@TA) web site soon and for information on the Quartzite show north of Yuma, go to [QuartziteMainevent.com](http://QuartziteMainevent.com). If you have a current yellow card, you can park an RV and dry camp for a

week at Wellton show grounds For more info Email me or call [928-210-6751](tel:928-210-6751).

**Buster Brown, Director-at-Large**

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**From Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

Well, fall is here and the NE Regional Show was held in New Manchester, WV in September. I want to thank Gary McDonald and all the members of Branch 162 for hosting the show and doing a great job. It was good to see a good many young members at the show and the comradery of the members. It was obvious they have a good group of people. We discussed safety issues and things that keep the hobby safe and, at the same time, a lot of fun and good entertainment for spectators.

I did remind members that EDGETA is not an insurance company but it is a national organization does provide liability coverage as a benefit for members.

It's time to start winterizing all your equipment, so take care to keep your machinery and equipment in good shape for the spring. This is busy show season time, so Think Safety in all ways: at home, on the road and at shows

Everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday and a Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season as we start the New Year.

**Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

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**From Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

Well, summer is gone and fall is here. We are enjoying daytime highs in the 70's and nighttime temperatures in the 40's. What a relief after those 90's. Summer overlapped into the official start of fall and it is unlikely there will be beautiful foliage for the thousands of visitors that come to our area the

second week of October for the craft fair. Overall, it has been a good year with lots of moisture until just this last month.

I enjoyed the National and Regional shows. I met so many nice people this year, and that is good advertisement for our EDGETA Branches. I continue to hear concerns about the generation who grew up with and enjoy the old farm machinery passing away, thus causing our membership to decline. But, I believe there are many in the younger generation who are interested in mechanical things, both new and antique. I have a son who, all his life, has loved mechanical things. Engines have always fascinated him. The first mini bike I bought him was soon disassembled to see how it was made. Hopefully, some of my grandchildren who love fast cars will gain a love for slow tractors and stationary engines which were used to produce food for their grandparents. I have personally tried and hope to continue to try to get my children and grandchildren interested in the old machinery, but I can only continue to do so if our EDGETA Branch meetings provide a healthy atmosphere. Others may choose to curse in front of their grandchildren, but I choose to not have them curse in front of mine. I will only bring my grandchildren to meetings if the conversation is wholesome. Little ears hear everything, and if you make sexually suggestive comments in front of them, they will be asking parents or grandparents questions later. I know that such language is a reality in the world in which we live, but it doesn't have to be promoted by us who love and care about our grandchildren. You may not care if others use such language in front of your wife, but I take it as disrespect for my wife. Visitors to our branch meetings may choose to join us or not based on what they see and hear. One lady I know refers to us as "The old men's club." We may become only that if we don't consider these things. Such language is offensive for some people, and inappropriate in front of small children.

Just another suggestion for those who would like to see our membership grow. Home group meetings have become very effective in church growth. In my home branch there is a fairly large group of engine guys who meet once to twice a week at a member's shop to work on each other's project or a piece of equipment used on a member's farm; sometimes the just sit around and talk shop. Some younger men have become involved in this group. There are also tractor guys who meet at someone's shop and work on tractors. More frequently than

once a month, meetings can be a way to bring in new members. Whatever we can do to preserve the history of farming and the machinery used, I am for it.

I want to wish you a successful fall and winter season, whether it is searching for new treasures or finishing projects, go for it. Hopefully you will be able to enjoy a few more shows, but above all appreciate and enjoy life, and try to bring a little happiness to others. God Bless.

**Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

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**From Dorene Yearian, NC Director**

The NC Regional Show/Meeting was held in the middle of August at the Fair Grounds in Winfield KS. The weather was great, even with the rain at night; of course everyone watched the Walnut River to make sure it stayed in its banks. The hosting Branch was Branch 11 at the Branch 79 show.

There was a lot of tractors (all kinds) to see and some with equipment attached. In the field close to the road, there was a static display of all kinds of old equipment. There was a pony brake to belt up to, a steam engine and only some engines on display.

They had vendors in several areas. One area had a hot engine display and sold branch t-shirts and hats, toys, and commercial products. There were two other buildings for swap meet items – tractor/engine parts, arts ‘n crafts, and antiques.

At the beginning of the parade we presented two Hall of Fame plaques – Floyd Small and Linda



Keasling. The Regional Meeting was held in a room under the grand stands and we went over items from the National meeting in Alaska – the officers for 2016-17, and the appointed committee members. On Saturday Night Branch 79 has a free bean feed.

**Hall of Fame**

Just a reminder that the deadline for the 2017 Hall of Fame nominees is February, 9, 2017, (120 days prior to the 2017 National Meeting). All EDGETA members are eligible. Go online to edgeta.org and fill out the application. All Hall of Fame recipients receive an individual plaque and their names go on the large Hall of Fame Plaque and their picture with write-up are placed on our web page. Hurry, the deadline is just around the corner.

**From Dorene Yearian, NC Director & HOF Chair**

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**2017 DUES/INSURANCE  
ARE STILL \$12  
PER MEMBER**

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**From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./  
Editor**

By now you have sent most of your members for the current year. Our year is definitely on the down side with many fall activities that include our antique tractor and engine participation. Where I live, the months of September and October are teeming with fall festivals, displays, parades, and shows—all requesting our participation.

Thank you for doing a good job submitting your membership and dues for the year. I have told some of you that the insurance auditor came to my house this spring and examined the individual Branch # files to see how the members were submitted and how the dues were paid as well as the records that I keep regarding total membership, etc. He pulled random files, so not every branch was examined. He indicated this would probably not be the last time

the records would be examined; therefore, please be certain that you submit the full names and complete contact information for each member, as George Christmas addressed in his article on the first page. We are not requesting this as a preference, but as a requirement. The EDGETA By-Laws address this issue as well.

Also, by the end of the year, it will be time to update your officers and directors on the website. Again, this is information that we must keep current.

If you should have questions, I'll be glad to try to answer them or refer you to the appropriate director for the information.

Dues will continue to be \$12, so please double-check your count of membership sent with the amount on the check. I will have to return those that do not match.

Our website, EDGETA.org is an excellent source of information for instant answers.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.

**From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Ed.**

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***Remaining Regional Shows - 2016***

**Southwest Regional, Oct. 15-16, 2016**

**Host - Branch 209 – Visalia, CA**

**Southeast Regional, October 22, 2016**

**Host - Branch 226 -- Hartselle, AL**

***2017 National EDGETA Show  
& Meeting***

***June 8-10, 2017***

***Host – Branch 42 -- Fruitport,  
MI***

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# 2016-17 Officers and Directors

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