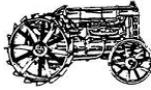
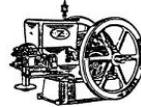


THE
QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



↑
UPDATE



DECEMBER 2009

President's Notes

As we get ready to play taps for another year passing, like the media, we tend to look back to assess the year as good, bad or indifferent. All in all I would say it was a good year at the farm. We put on three good shows despite the weather on a couple of them. The October show was a wash out on Saturday but Sunday turned out to be one of the best ever. Sundays tend to be just half day events. I think the word about our shows is out and along with more advertising, it is working. We are seeing more and more repeat vendors and display people. The added attractions like the saw mill running and the garden tractor and doodle bug pulls are having an effect.

Dave McClary's ongoing work in the machine shop is also attracting bigger numbers.

The club is receiving many fine donations, too numerous to mention them all. They are all appreciated and add to the vast number of things to see at the shows. Thanks to all who have donated items and to the people that have donated their time.

Not everything is all roses. Our legal matters are moving along at a snail's pace. It's hard to believe that it would take up to three years to get a resolution to what would seem to be a not too difficult a case.

Our building situation is hung up in the legal matters. It sure would be nice to get that resolved. The building is the next major project on our agenda. This is so important to us to become a full fledged museum. A place to work, store and display the multitude of items left to us by the Zagray's and the donations we are receiving. I sure hope next year when we look back at the progress made for the year it includes the resolution.

In the mean time I will keep the place plowed out and look forward to next year's projects.

Hope to see you around the farm.

PAUL'S TOOL TIPS

Since 1990 the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has implemented procedures that are designed to keep you and me from adjusting the fuel mixture of our leaf blowers, lawn mowers, chain saws, generators, etc. The EPA also directed all engine makers to set fuel/air mixtures to as lean as absolutely possible. Many of you may have noticed that your small engine equipment will run better if you set the choke on a little. There is another option.

Go to Randy Duncan's eBay auctions and purchase his new OEM carburetor adjusting screwdriver that is used to adjust the splined mixture screws and turn your screws counterclockwise a bit. This AYP tool is part number 530035560 and will work on Walbro, Zama, Echo, Homelite, John Deere, McCulloch, Ryobi, Stihl, Toro Poulan, Weed Eater, Craftsman and Husqvarna carbs. You can try to buy this tool locally but I couldn't find anyone who

would sell me one.

FROM THE MACHINE SHOP

By Dave McClary

The Club accepted the donation of a Garvin plain milling machine after it was offered at the July show and inspected during August. It is a model 13 1/2 with a serial No. of 1821 and a patent date of 1900. In size it is somewhat smaller than the Brown & Sharpe universal milling machine and it was placed in the space previously occupied by the Kent-Owens plain miller. On a plain miller, the table does not rotate as it does on a universal miller. Also, it is not furnished with a dividing head and tailstock used to cut gears or splines for example. The machine has a forty inch long table that can be moved up and down, in and out, and longitudinally. It was originally equipped with a power horizontal drive for the table but the drive mechanism is missing. It appears that the table was replaced as the feed screw is too short. An extension and end support was made for mounting the hand wheel furnished. At some point in the past, a motor mount was added but the motor support and control are also missing. It was apparently operated with some type of home made overhead drive as a motor was included with the donation. Some minor cleaning was done and the table was installed. A small swivel vise was selected from inventory, refurbished and mounted on the table. Another part of the donation includes a high speed drive that mounts on the overarm. It has a 1/4 hp motor and a tool holder that can be positioned to perform milling operations on a piece mounted on the table using small diameter cutters. This is necessary when the range of speeds available at the spindle is not sufficient.

The high speed drive was disassembled for inspection and freeing up. There is a split housing that mounts the unit on the overarm. The drive mechanism can be rotated about the overarm but is offset 4 7/16 inches. That provides considerable choice in locating the drive with respect to the table. The spindle is driven by a 1/4 hp Franklin (a GM division at the time) motor and a belt drive with four-step pulleys. A range of speeds from 700 to 4375 rpm is provided. There is an electrical switch for starting and stopping the drive but the motor was not connected to utilize it. The unit was manufactured by Eklind Manufacturing and Tool Co. of Chicago probably in the 1920's or 30's as an aftermarket device for milling machines. There are two inserts in the mount to accommodate different size overarms.

The previously stated objective of having the line shaft system operating for the fall show was met. Seventy feet of two inch belting was purchased and six belts were cut and laced to complete the system. The Shepard, Lathe & Co. lathe runs off a countershaft that has two clutch pulleys. A wooden "shipper" is used to engage or disengage a clutch to control the lathe. One of the clutches is driven by a twisted belt to reverse the direction of rotation. This would be used when cutting a thread to drive the carriage back without disengaging the drive and thus losing the tool setting. For the Hendey shaper, the counter shaft uses an idler and drive pulley to engage the drive by shifting the belt using a wooden "shipper". There are two belts running down to two pulleys with one belt twisted to provide the reversing function. The shaper is self reversing using two stops on the ram that move a lever back and forth. That lever in turn shifts an internal clutch to engage one or the other of the two pulleys. A block of

wood was clamped in the shaper vise and cutting a flat surface was demonstrated with the cutting tool stepping across automatically. The ram is running fairly slowly, about one fifth normal speed, so the operation can easily be observed. Although last minute adjustments were needed as late as Saturday morning to keep belts on the pulleys, overall the system demonstration was a big success. Note that the belt lacing was done with a borrowed Clipper Belt Lacer but one the same model has since been donated and is being kept in the shop display cabinet. This one was bought at an auction and refurbished by the writer.

BATTERY MYTH

The old myth about not storing batteries on concrete floors is just that – a myth. This story has been around for 100 years and originated back when battery cases were made of wood and asphalt.

BATTERY TRUTH

It is primarily plate thickness that makes a battery deep cycle.

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

It's time once again for the annual call for dues. Membership in QVEA follows the calendar year and thus on January 1, dues are once again due. The \$20.00 per year membership fee basically covers the insurance on the farm and shows, our newsletter costs and perhaps a little left over for other needs. There is an envelope attached to this newsletter for that purpose. All it needs is your check inside, a stamp, and your return address. We thank you for your continued support of the Club and all that we are attempting to accomplish.

Newsletters are now printed quarterly – March, June, September, and December.

Please, **everyone** who can receive their newsletter via e-mail rather than by USPS, make that request to Linda at enwot61@sbcglobal.net. It will save our printing-sorting-folding-mailing crew some labor, and save your club a **lot** of money, as well as being environmentally 'green'.

For those of you who contribute to the United Way campaign, QVEA is now listed as a charitable organization allowing you to direct your donation to us for the support and expansion of the Zagray Farm Museum. Pfizer Foundation also has a volunteer program that provides QVEA with substantial donations each year, based on the volunteer work of members who work or are retired from Pfizer. We appreciate all donations in any form or size.

Happening at the Farm

The last quarter of the year is typically spent preparing the farm for winter, and this year is no exception. Finishing up projects, general fall cleanup, winterizing, and show cleanup are the themes. Along with the 'chores' that come with the turf, each year we try to do things to make it easier and more organized for the next. We can't think of everything, so if you see something we should be doing tell us about it. Our lack of a storage building is without a doubt the single biggest problem we face at the moment so that all of the equipment can go under cover in one form or another. We are moving ever closer to a court date that will settle this issue and several others we have with the CHS and the CF&G. Until then, we cover and protect things as best as we can.

Cliff Bridgeford has finished the rebuild on the Clark forklift transmission and torque converter. This little forklift is sorely missed since the day it failed to go forward any longer. We are going to move all the parts from the farm up to my shop

for reinstallation and cleaning of the remainder of the hydraulic system. A huge thank you to Cliff for his expertise and labor in repairing the transmission. It's not a task any of us are capable of doing. It should be all set for spring.

As many of you saw at the October show, there was a 1935 F12 on the farm with a sign on it saying that we intended to restore it over the winter. It was, in my estimation, a poor candidate, but under the rust, decrepit tires and junk engine were some redeeming factors. First, we had an engine donated by Jeff Frankiewicz of Eastford, CT that essentially made the project possible. It was in pieces, but quite usable. The rear F&H rims were in good shape, and in the barn we located a hood, carburetor, and brake parts, which the F12 shares with the F20. We still need (or want) an optional foot brake setup, a belt pulley, and a tool box. The tractor is completely disassembled and moving through various stations – cleaning, electrolysis, sand blasting, and primer at the moment. The engine is out having some minor machine work done, truing up the head and block and exhaust inserts along with grinding the crankshaft. What condition the inside of the transmission is in is always a mystery when you start one of these projects, and dependant on several environmental and design factors. This one, unfortunately has some unusable gears, second/third slider and driven gears due to water infiltrating through the shifter and into the transmission case. We have a source for those parts used and hopefully reasonable, and to my surprise are being reproduced new, as a last resort.

THE ZAGRAY SAW MILL

Pine and hardwood logs are coming in steadily and filling our log storage areas. Greg Tew of Hebron has donated several trailer loads of really nice 16' (mostly) pine saw logs. I understand that there is more to come, as time and weather permits. We will be in fine shape in the spring with plenty of material to re-side the drying shed and saw for demonstration.

Ed B. has designed and built a very nice period looking sawdust lift mechanism built in the Zagray tradition of using what is available on the farm. Few would recognize the two IH hay loaders that gave their guts to the project. There are a few remaining things to do before it is functional, but we should see it operational for the May show.

Remember, we generate excess sawdust, along with shavings from the planer, slab and occasionally round firewood, and various sizes and species of excess boards. So if you need something cut, let us know, even if you don't have the material.

ITEMS NEEDED!!!!

There are always a few new items on our 'needed' list. Call Art at 982-5158, or Ned at 537-2252. The help in this area we've received in the past has been terrific! Thanks to all of you!

A 9 foot dump body for our yellow Ford dump truck

A load or two of cow manure for the corn patch

A grain wagon for harvesting the corn

Two track pads for our 1929 Universal Shovel

A pair of 6788 IH front wheel weights (fits A,B,C,H,M,W4, and W6)

Steel 11 inch belt pulley for a Farmall H

a leaf blower for the saw mill area

PROJECTS

A complete refurbishment of the drying shed – see Andy Milardo to volunteer!

Carriage shed (near the machine shop)

rebuilding.

Repair and assembly of a bleacher set for the sawmill.

Sawmill framework painting.

Lighting in the machine shop 'working' area

We have a couple F20's in need of refurbishment / repair.

Another bleacher set or two for the Garden Tractor Pulling Pit

Fairbanks Morse engine pad

And a dozen more projects, I'm sure

FOR SALE !

Model 146 John Deere loader from our 2150 tractor (QVEA owned)

\$750.00 call Dave @860-982-5163

1994 Isuzu Rodeo , V6, 5 speed, 4 wheel drive, AC, cruise, power windows, locks, all the goodies. 186K miles. Clean, runs good, drives well, everything appears to function. \$1,800 OBO

Call Art @ 860-982-5158

Safe, 2 door, 28 1/2" deep, 42 1/2" wide, 42" tall, 2000 lbs. \$400.

Call Tom @ 860-873-3731

MEETING DATES

Every year at this time, Ned applies to the town to reserve the room in the Colchester Town Hall that we use for the meetings. We usually use Room #1 but if the town needs that one we meander down the hall to Room #2. So for this coming year the meetings will be:

#2	JANUARY 26 – ROOM JULY 27 – ROOM #1
#1	FEBRUARY 23 –ROOM AUGUST 31 – ROOM #1
#1	MARCH 30 – ROOM SEPTEMBER 28 – ROOM #1
#1	APRIL 27 – ROOM OCTOBER 26 – ROOM #1
#1	MAY 25 – ROOM NOVEMBER 30 – ROOM #1
#1	JUNE 29 – ROOM DECEMBER 38 – ROOM #1

SAVE THIS INFORMATION!! I try to email this info out monthly but now that the newsletter goes out quarterly – I can't reach everybody.

The meeting for this month, December 2009, is on the 29th.
Hope to see you all there.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO
ALL !**