

QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



The Zagray Quarterly

December 13, 2011

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

With another year coming to a close I'm looking forward to the next one. With the heavy snows of last January breaking the drying shed roof, enough rain for two years, many trees down from a tropical storm and a freak snow storm in October I would rather not repeat this one. We also had to deal with rain at all three shows and a court decision that was less than ideal, enough already.

On the brighter side the restoration project on the Amidon portable saw mill is moving right along. With all the wooden parts needing to be replaced it's a sizable project. Some research has revealed that this mill has come full circle. This mill was part of the farm some years back. It has gone through two owners then donated back to the farm. Looking forward to seeing it run this coming summer.

There are other projects that I would like to see worked also like the McCormick 1020 that needs breaks installed, the Farmall F20 and the R2 crawler both need mag work and the Irish Fordson needs to be split to rework the clutch that is frozen. The drying shed needs to be completely rebuilt. I would also like to see the clay from the former pulling pit dug up to be used in a new pit when we decide where we want to put it.

With some luck it would be nice to see our new building going up this year.

There is no change of officers and directors as of the October election with the exception of Dianne Tewksbury who has volunteered to accept the secretary position and was duly nominated and voted in during the October meeting.

There will not be a December 27th meeting due to the proximity to Christmas, so looking forward to seeing you next year and wish everyone a good holiday

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

Building plans remain our top priority and Ned has been working with CHS representative Deb Hayne on that and a number of other items. Financing remains an issue, but we have the winter to explore options as building will not begin until next spring. If anyone has any ideas as to who or what group we might approach for assistance, contact one of us.

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, unless you receive your newsletter via email, of course. 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. 2012 promises to be our best year ever!

Please, **everyone** who can receive their newsletter via e-mail rather than by USPS, make that request to Dianne Tewksbury at dtewks@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

Everything is pretty well buttoned down for the winter at the farm. We needed to make some repairs to a beam in the drying shed to coax that building through another winter, pick up all the signage around the farm, winterize that equipment with water in it, turn off the well and water in the house, and mount the snow plow. All has been accomplished.

Substantial work is going on our portable saw mill, and some further cleanup from Hurricane Irene. The grounds look excellent considering the very wet year we've had.

After 3 months waiting, I received the correct push rods for the 1953 GMC Dump truck at my shop. Finishing that up won't take much, as the head is already on. The last part needed for the Clark fork lift is sitting there as well, so that project is very close to completion. We'll get motivated on it over the winter.

Zagray Saw Mill

Our softwood log pile is quite robust, but we are very short on hardwoods, so keep an eye out for them. We have enough pine and spruce to provide siding and 2X stock for the drying shed, and then some. Most has been cut at this point, stacked and covered.

Remember that the material cut at the mill may be specific to a particular job or member. So if you need something, check with Dave @860-982-5158 or Ned @860-537-2252 so you don't inadvertently use lumber slated for another project.

If you have trees taken down, please keep the sawmill in mind and cut the logs into lengths preferably 8'6", 10'6", 12'6", 14'6" or 16'6", depending on what will yield the best timber. We can arrange to pick them up if necessary. Most all species can be used, but hardwoods in particular are in the shortest supply.

If you need something specific cut - see one of us to discuss it.

We have slab wood, sawdust, and planer shavings (makes great fire starter!) as byproducts of this demonstration area available.

Fordson Accessory Guide, Volume 1

It's not often that anyone you know becomes a published author, but our Vice President, Ed Bezanson has completed the first volume of his Fordson Accessory Guide. Now, I'm not a Fordson buff, but the sales literature collection in this volume makes for very interesting reading, regardless of the 'color' of your favorite tractor! A must have for winter reading!

While I'm talking about books, there is a new one out about the Coolspring Power Museum in PA. If you have not been to the museum, you need to go. Don't think about it, go! I have not yet seen a copy of the book, but it ought to be another 'must have' for all of us who have enjoyed a show at Coolspring, Pa. copies can be ordered from Farm Collector Magazine

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 replacement for our Yellow Ford 600 dump

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

DONATIONS

We picked up three nice hickory logs from Robert Blake, and are in the process of moving several machine shop items including a Hendey Universal horizontal miller and Universal Grinder along with several other items from Tom Smith. Tom is also checking on what has become our #1 wanted item, a vertical shingle mill that might be available for donation or loan. I'm told it was a Navy unit - 400 cycle diesel generator powered.

We appreciate all donations from museum quality to tag sale items to scrap iron, they all help us immensely develop and expand the Zagray Farm Museum.

FOUND

A Chrome Tachometer was found at this year's July show.
If it's your's, call Tim O'Connor at 413-364-7402.

FOR SALE

A club member requested that we include this ad.

1981 250 P.L. 4 cylinder diesel International, 67 hp, hydraulic drive with foot pedals, category 2, 3ph setup, PTO mechanical and hydraulic, chains. Has cab. Have manuals. Asking \$6,800.00. 860-428-4859. Ask for Lenny.

11/22/11

1975 ALLIS CHALMERS
BACKHOE "GOOD SHAPE"
715 DIESEL (HAVE MANUALS)

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MARIE

ASKING 6,500.00

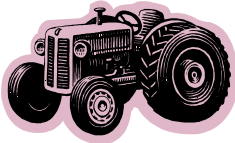


HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Dianne Tewksbury
QVEA Editor
90 Park Road
Colchester, CT 06415

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, INC.



NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____

STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

DUES ARE \$20.00/YR PER PERSON. PAYABLE WITH APPLICATION.
INCLUDES QVEA DUES AND INSURANCE.

RETURN TO: QVEA, 180 SOUTH PLUMB RD, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457