

# QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



## The Zagray Quarterly

JUNE 2023

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT, CONNOR BISHOP

What a great start to our show season! The weather cooperated and helped us put on the busiest show I think I've ever seen. Many thanks to all the volunteers that helped make it happen.

The Chester Engine Building is coming along well, and most of the engines from the DeZara collection are moved in place. A new oak skid is in process for the Clark, so once that job is complete the Clark and Bessemer can be moved as well. Plumbing for gas, air and water will come next and complete our display. With the huge increase in running engines, anyone interested in stationary engines should consider volunteering during the show!

We still have an open Committee Chair for the construction equipment committee. If anyone is interested in taking on this position, let me know.

The Summer show is just around the corner. See you all at the Farm!

### FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

**Dues for 2023 are due, and still \$20.00 per year.**

Lifetime memberships are \$500 and help the museum grow!

**Donations for the Ray DeZara engine collection for the fourth and final payment of \$35,125 are welcome. I need to make that payment in late April 2024. Please note on your donation that it is for this purpose.**

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. The 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.

## Saw Mill

The sawmill was busy during the Spring show providing some additional material for our construction needs. As of now, we pretty much ran out of almost everything in stock. Time to regroup for the next set of projects. Really short on 1" siding. I have a list to give to the sawyer for future projects!

Needed! Pine logs 8'6" to 16'6" as always. Our supply of shorter material is rather thin.

## Bob Chester Engine Building

We have been busy on the building over the last couple of months. The soffits are complete and the dividing half walls are being installed on the front overhang. The engines (all but 3) have been moved into the building. Cabinets, countertops and a sliding door have been installed in the work room in the rear. A donation from Natures Art via Marc B. provided the cabinets and countertops. Conner has the Clark skid nearly complete (not a small task!) so we'll have a move day for that engine and the Bessimer.





A painting project is beginning and will need help to mask off doors, windows, etc! Then it's on to the Clark exhaust piping, a pad for the propane tanks, and an entrance apron on the west side door (that was waiting on the Clark exhaust installation).

## Other Projects

A wainscoted railing is being installed on the pavilion to replace the temporary ropes. Thinking a little further down the road, a vinyl curtain system will make the area more usable during poor weather, and transform it into a usable 3-season space. A little pricey, but I'm exploring options. Looking to do the new engine building the same way as well to protect the engines that are displayed there.

Engine building one has suffered from the lack of a 'work' room on the rear for tools and parts storage. This is what led to the new engine building getting such a space. So, now I'm in the process of enclosing part of the rear overhang for that purpose. See Art C. to help.

The second bleacher set for the pulling pit needs to be shortened to match the first one completed last fall. The trailer used by the pullers is being refurbished as well and will easily be complete for the July show. See Art C. for info.

The upper part of the farmhouse has been painted and at least part of the front garage will see some paint soon.

Our old repair shop up front is getting a much-needed sorting and cleaning with the intent to continue to make it a working machine shop. See Chris Allen to help.

**...AND THERE ARE PLENTY MORE!!!!!!**

**So come out and lend a hand when you can!**

## FROM THE SECRETARY/EDITOR, DIANNE TEWKSBURY

A suggestion for the newsletter was to acknowledge all the people who volunteer their time to take care of what you might think are mundane tasks, but those tasks always need attention and are what keep the place running!

In between the shows and beyond what has become 'normal activity', a few members show up to mow all of the fields, around the house, orchard, machine shop, and barn, paint and/or fix buildings and sheds, saw wood, cook, clean and maintain the kitchen, restore donated items for display, set up displays with signage, help finish buildings inside and out, restore donated items, etc., etc. The list could go on and on.

*THANK YOU!!!*  
*(You know who you are.)*

Allen and Bobby Lee working on the tractor pull shed.



Screened soffits to keep birds out of the buildings.



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### **FUTURE SHOW DATES: July 15 – 16 and Oct. 7 – 8**

Location: 544 Amston Rd. (Rt. 85), Colchester, CT

Admission: \$10 per person / Children 15 and under are FREE!

Hours: 7am – 4pm Rain or Shine

Camping with your display (no hookups)

Show Info: Connor Bishop @ 203-313-5362

Vendor Space: \$30 Weekend – 30' x 18'

Vendor Space Info: Karl Hansen 860-887-0144

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## **FOR SALE**

If you have any items fit to be offered for sale, we will be selling items during the shows in the area around the center door of the Tractor Barn.

No furniture, dishes or kitchen-related items unless they are antique.

Proceeds will go to the Zagray Farm Museum.

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## **FLAG?**

During the March 2023 meeting, someone brought up the idea of having a Zagray flag. If you have any interest in creating a design for a Zagray Farm Museum flag, please let Connor know at 203-313-5362.

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## **WINTER STORAGE AVAILABLE**

First come, first served space is available in our Tractor Barn over the winter months for a fee of \$17 per foot for your RV, trailer, vintage vehicle, etc. The measurement needs to include from the tongue to the tail lights and includes anything attached (any space that would not allow another vehicle to use). Vehicles can begin to enter the building after Nov. 15 and need to be removed by April 15 of the following year. Please contact Ned Tewksbury at 860-537-2252

***PLEASE NOTE:** Due to numerous robocalls, we do not answer the phone if it does not display a recognizable name. If you are looking to reserve a space, please leave a message and we will call you back.*

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## **ZAGRAY ENGINE MAINTENANCE RECORDS**

Go to [Docs.google.com](https://docs.google.com) or [Sheets.google.com](https://sheets.google.com) and log in using this email address: [zagraymaintenance@gmail.com](mailto:zagraymaintenance@gmail.com). Password: Secureless

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**Our Website: ZAGRAYFARMMUSEUM.ORG**

**Follow us on FaceBook @zagrayfarmmuseum**

**Zagray Forum: Zagrayforum.com**

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Dianne Tewksbury  
QVEA Secretary & Editor  
90 Park Road  
Colchester, CT 06415

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (QVEA)**



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$20.00 per person for one year, payable with application.  
Dues include liability insurance at the farm.

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