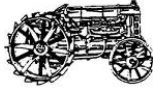
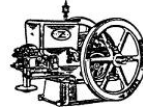


THE  
QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



↑  
**UPDATE**



<September 2010

**President's Notes**

With the arrival of September that signals a couple of things. One is that another season is winding down and the other is we have another show approaching. If this upcoming show is as good as the May and July shows, it should be pretty good. Pray for no rain. That seems to be the show stopper. The October show is also our annual consignment auction event. It is a great opportunity to get rid of some old iron kicking around and make a buck or two. It may even make the spouse happy.

The usual stuff is going on around the farm. The saw mill continues to need attention to bring it up to as nearly perfect as possible. We have changed the saw blade from a 48 inch to 52 inch. This was done to increase the tip speed of the saw with the same rpm of the engine which was at its maximum. The new blade wobbles a bit so I am taking it up to Vermont to get it hammered for the correct speed of 650 rpm and increase the tension to decrease the wobble. There is a lot to this sawing thing that I nor most people would ever imagined. I had never heard of beating a saw with a hammer to improve things. Every time I take hammer to something the results are generally not improved, just some form of satisfaction is gained. Ed Bezanson and others have redesigned the idler pulley so the flat drive belt will run more to the center so as not to chafe the side of the pulley and ruin the belt. That too needs a little tweaking. This will all be together for the October show.

Hope to see you all at the next show October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you can help out some that would also be appreciated. We can always use more help with such things as driving the tractors for the hay wagons. Bring your tractors and join us in the tractor parade the more the better. They don't have to be fully restored either. Some of the more interesting ones are like Ed Bezanson's old rusty We continue to receive many donations. Too many to list so there is another reason to come visit and see what's new Hope to see you around the farm.

**News from the Machine Shop**  
By Dave McClary

A hand cranked Champion blower used with a blacksmith's forge was donated to the Club this past winter. Patent dates ranged from 1901 to 1902. It was brought home for inspection and clean up as it appeared to be stuck. Further examination showed that the fan could be turned but the hand crank could not, using moderate force. Disassembly of the cast body parts was relatively simple giving access to remove the fan which was found in good condition, though dirty. There are two cross shafts with bearing cover caps, one of which was missing. The fan shaft runs at a right angle to the cross shafts. It could be seen that there is a bull gear on the crank shaft, spur gear and a narrow bronze spiral gear, both on an intermediate shaft, and the fan shaft having a spiral cut gear. There was ample grease lubricant and the only apparent problem was that the bronze gear and the fan shaft were not aligned properly. Subsequent examination showed that the 45 degree cut of the spiral gears is such that they should be fully engaged with the gear centered over the fan shaft. If offset, these teeth could bind. There did not appear to be any excessive wear, but it was obvious that a prior disassembly had occurred based on two types of grease present. This dictated the necessity for complete disassembly, cleaning of parts and proper reassembly as well as some clean up and painting of the cast housing parts.

Counting gear teeth showed that there is about a 49 to 1 ratio between the hand crank and fan speeds. There is provision for adjustment of the bearings with very fine threads on the shafts and locking nuts. The hand crank shaft had two caged ball bearing, the type without rearing races and the spur gear shaft ran in bushings. The fan shaft had modern shielded ball bearings which were stuck due to hardened grease. After cleaning of parts and examination of these bearings, it was obvious that the fan shaft bearings were not correct for the application, being oversize on the shaft and only one was tight on the outside diameter. The crank shaft bearings were badly worn and one was missing its cage. Also noted was the fact that the crank shaft was bent somewhat. This was straightened sufficiently for such a slow turning shaft. The threads were non standard with 20 tpi.

The shields were removed from the two fan shaft bearings and they were freed up and found suitable for reuse. Two collared sleeves were made to fit the shaft and the bearing inside diameters. One bearing required the use of some shim stock wrapped around

the outside to make it fit in the housing. Cones and lock nuts were re-used to hold the bearings in against the housing and the sleeves hard against the inner races. For the crankshaft, it was determined that the best solution was to use loose bearing balls captured in the existing housing recess and a new collared sleeve fit on the shaft. Cone nuts and lock nuts were re-used as there are no existing nuts of this unique size made today. Some spacer washers were used to ensure proper alignment of the two spiral gears when reassembled. The exterior surfaces were cleaned of dirt, grease and loose paint. Some primer and royal blue paint restored the appearance. The unit was mounted on a board so its operation can be demonstrated until it can be mated to a forge.

At a recent auction two arbor presses were grouped together and only wanting one, two were obtained. The one that was wanted was a small No. 1 Greenerd made in Nashua, NH. The second one was a Famco No. 0 made in Kenosha, WI. The Greenerd was in very good condition, needing only cleaning and a coat of paint with no rusting evident. It has a round spindle with a rack machined on one side. With approximately a 20:1 ratio, it is rated for ½ ton. Typically, these come with a round plate with various size slots, but that is missing. The Famco is the same size and has a property tag of a Automatic Manufacturing Corp. in East Newark, NJ. No information could be found about that company but Famco was started in 1927 and continued using that name for its products after being sold to Belco in 1975. A previous owner apparently added a heavy plate and what appears to be a die as well as a cylindrical extension on the spindle. This might have been for setting a rivet or some similar task. The spindle is square with a rack on one side. The otherwise sliding handle was fixed in position about mid length with a frozen in place set screw. This may have been to limit the force applied. The set screw was removed with an end mill and the soldered on end knobs were cut off as the handle was too long. This unit was somewhat rusty but most parts were cleaned up fairly easily. While the Greenerd is quite a simple machine, the Famco has an adjustable friction plate against the front of the spindle which would hold the spindle in place against the weight of the sliding handle. There are also two brass screws on the side to remove any side looseness. It appears that the heavy plate and die were added by the company that purchased it, but surprisingly, it is held in place by two 5/16" screws through ½" holes. And the holes tapped in the base are not equally spaced off center. Two unused holes may have been for pins locating a standard base plate, but the current company web site does not show any plate on this model. This press is a candidate for the fall auction.

#### WHAT IS QVEA

QVEA is an incorporated association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and is a tax exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Its affairs are governed by a Board of Directors and a new member is elected by the general membership when a vacancy occurs. The officers are elected by the general membership each year.

QVEA is noncommercial and no one who could gain financially from the shaping of its affairs is eligible for membership on its board.

A bona fide interest in old iron and things mechanical is the only essential qualification of membership.

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

The legal fees necessary to preserve our lease rights along with all the regular expenses of running the Farm have placed some downward pressure on our balance sheet. The New London Superior court has denied an injunction which would have prevented QVEA from mowing the pasture. We have a trial date of December 9, 2010 that will finally establish each party's legal rights to the property. I'm confident we can fund everything we need to without a problem. Our October show promises to exceed all others and should help replenish our treasury....as long as the weather co-operates! 2011 will bring new challenges, but all of us will be pleased to put our legal issues to rest and have definite parameters going forward. 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](mailto: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

We received a very nice donation of a small Huber road roller powered by a Cat D4 engine, an unusual combination in what we think is a pre WWII piece. Its complete, the pony is loose, we think the engine is loose, but it ends there. Everything else is stuck – linkage, control rods, shifters, etc. A cool project for someone or a team to bring back to life.

Our Yellow dump truck has developed vacuum boost brake issues to go with a laundry list of other problems. If we found a suitable replacement, I think we need to consider scrapping it.

Our 1951 GMC dump has had its head removed and reworked. It should run again shortly. The Clark forklift is waiting for one pump repair or replacement. We received a very nice 12" American Machinery Joiner and tested it out using a Farmall Cub to power it. It worked very well. A 30" American Machinery planer, circa 1902, will be picked up shortly.

A huge effort was put in to extract a 1928 Fordson ¾ swing shovel (Universal Crane) from a farm in Bristol. A tree had been growing into the track for 30 odd years. The owner indicated that he wanted to save the tree, but we quickly determined it was not possible. It was a hot sweaty job that involved handling chain saws near steel, oftentimes resulting in damaged chains, transporting our HD5 winch crawler to the site, and wrestling with the stump of the tree some more. Eventually we won and the unit is at the farm. I think it is an excellent static display with several parts that are in better condition than the ones on our McCormick Universal Crane. Some swapping may be in order. We'll end up with one running and operating, and one for display.

There are 'behind the scenes' recovery efforts and projects of all sizes that don't happen at the farm but all over the state. Those projects account for a lot of what you see appear at the farm or is repaired. My own workshop is better equipped (and I know where almost everything is!) for engine repairs, welding, and fabricating of all sorts of items needed at the museum. Many other members are involved in the same manner. It is these projects (now that the vast majority of the cleanup effort at the farm is complete) that will provide the working exhibits for the museum. Other members are involved with legal matters, promoting our shows, producing newsletters, paying the bills, maintenance and security of the property. Thanks to all who contribute!

We continue to collect and recycle scrap iron from around the farm although it has slowed down substantially. Any members with scrap iron can leave it off in the area within the cement blocks behind the storage container. Place small items in the barrels so it's easier for us to load it later. Clean scrap only, of course. No tires, refrigerators, air conditioners, etc. please!! We sent out 11 tons this spring so the area is clean and empty.

### The Zagray Saw Mill

We are still 'fine tuning' several items around the mill. The main drive belt had an idler / tension pulley system that was supported on one side only. That resulted in an alignment problem with the driven pulley, belt fraying and flopping. Several of us have collaborated on a solution that's functioning much better. A couple of additional revisions and it will be good to go.

In the barn were a couple of sawmill blades, one of them a 52", 40 tooth in a shipping container. It was 'hammered' for 500 rpm's. We tested it out on the mill and decided that it needs to be reworked for 650 rpm's. That will increase the tip speed of the blade, reduce the engine rpm's needed to drive it from what we were turning with the 48", and allow us to cut larger logs.

There has been an issue with the shutdown mechanism on the Cat engine that appears to be solved with a rework of the control rods. Now we need to get the governor adjusted as it is a bit lazy cutting in and tends to hunt.

Andy and Mark B. have completed designing, making, and installing period cedar gutters on the mill building from cedar sawn onsite. We can now complete installing the chain type downspouts into stone drywells that pipe out to daylight.

The saw mill continues to be a major attraction at our shows, and a pleasure to watch and operate. We are cutting now for the siding needed for the drying shed project, as well as individual members requests.

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.

### 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

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,W6)

Steel 11 inch belt pulley for a Farmall H

A leaf blower for the saw mill area

**Vacuum pump, clutch and brake pedal assy, and seat for a 1988 F250 diesel**

### PROJECTS

**Some additional removable show posts around the pond and in the parking areas need to be added for additional vendor spaces and to guide the spectators in where to park.**

**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 saw mill.**

**Lighting in the machine shop 'working' area  
Another bleacher set or two for the Garden Tractor Pulling Pit  
Fairbanks Morse engine pad**

If you see something that needs doing, speak to one of us about it and your ideas to correct it. **This is your club, we need your input and assistance!**

### FOR SALE !

Model 146 John Deere loader from our 2150 tractor (QVEA owned) \$750.00

1986 Chevrolet Suburban 4WD good driveline - parts only \$400

call Dave @860-982-5163

### WANTED

Land to hunt deer and turkey on, within 25 miles of Montville. Please call Mark Sloan at 860-859-1466.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As mentioned previously, at the August meeting of the Board of Directors nominations were accepted for the four officers and any vacancies on the Board of Directors. A vote is held at the general membership meeting in October. An absentee ballot will follow below in case you can not make the general membership meeting in October. Also acceptable is a ballot by email. Telephone calls are not acceptable. Absentee ballots should be mailed to the President, Ned Tewksbury , 90 Park Road, Colchester, CT 06415 with a postmark before October 15<sup>th</sup>. Email ballots should be sent to [ntewks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ntewks@sbcglobal.net), dated, again, before October 15<sup>th</sup>.

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### ABSENTEE BALLOT

PRESIDENT	NED TEWKSBURY
V. PRESIDENT	ED BEZANSON
SECRETARY	LINDA TOWNE (TEMPORARY)
TREASURER	ART CHESTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS- ONE VACANCY

AL BEZANSON      YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

LINDA TOWNE      YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

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Now you might notice a slight confusion in the ballot. Linda Towne is not really running for two offices, although there is nothing in the by-laws that says you can't hold 2 offices at once. She is running for the Board of Directors. There was no one else nominated before the Board meeting for Secretary. After the meeting, Barb Goodwin said she would become Secretary, but due to the by-laws and her not being nominated before the meeting, Linda will be elected as temporary secretary at the election, and then she will resign after the election and Barb will be named to fill the rest of the year. This has occurred before and is well within the by-laws. Is that clear? If not, email me at [enwot61@sbcglobal.net](mailto:enwot61@sbcglobal.net) and we'll talk it over.

### MY CAMPAIGN SPEECH BY LINDA TOWNE

I am running for the Board of Directors of QVEA. I have been a member of QVEA since 1994 when I became the Secretary for the next 16 years.

I was part of the group that scoured the state for available land for the club to lease. I was present when the lease was signed that gave QVEA the rights to the Zagray farm – in fact I supplied the champagne.

I was the food committee for several years when we met at the Handcraft facility. Then I worked in the food trailer after it was renovated and we moved to the farm. Then I started working in the Show Trailer, answering questions, taking dues and selling whatever we had available, soda, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc., as I still do to this day.

I have been the newsletter editor for 16 years. Up until the last year, we had a newsletter 12 times a year. Financial considerations required that we change to printing it quarterly.

I hope that you will vote for me for the Board of Directors and take advantage of my long-term knowledge of QVEA.