

QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



The Zagray Quarterly

15 September 2022

CONNOR BISHOP, Interim President

Following our excellent Summer show, we have been making great progress on the new engine building. It will be an impressive new sight to see for our Fall Show spectators! At the time of writing the lower walls are up along with the majority of the rafters, and the Wichmann and Ruston diesels have been put in place with the crane. For those interested in helping with this project, most every weekend with good weather will be dedicated to the building.

We have also been working on clearing all the junk equipment out from the treeline behind the two engine buildings. Our vision for this area is to be open for display of our equipment and other exhibitors that want to display their engines so we need a clear, visually appealing area for that. Much of the equipment located in this area will be put up for sale, and eventually we will be doing another big scrap run. There is some privately owned equipment in this area, if something is yours, please consider moving it for us.

There are also a few issues that need to be addressed that have come up repeatedly in our post-show discussions. To be clear to all, a Farm membership is not valid for admission. Also, if any of our vendors have helpers coming along with them, they need to request a vendor assistant pass from Karl when reserving a spot and must present that pass when entering. Anyone coming to the show without the pass will be charged the standard admission fee.

Lastly, October is election month for Officers. We have an opening for the Secretary position, so anyone interested in this spot should email me and I will put their name on the ballot. Our previous secretary has made a list of the secretarial tasks she is responsible for, and if anyone is interested in learning more about the position I can send that list to them. *Note from the current secretary: This position has evolved into being both secretary and editor. You may be interested in taking on one or two responsibilities rather than all of them. This position could easily be separated into two or three positions.*

We always have a plethora of projects to work on at the Farm, and if anyone is interested in helping out in any way, make sure to stop by! The weather is finally cooling down and it's time to get what we can done before the snow flies. See you at the Farm!

ENGINE MAINTENANCE, Aleks Pavlenko

Thanks to a lot of work of some of our members, the John Deere mower tractor recently received a new fuel system and a full service. The Belarus tractor and the eXmark zero turn mower were also fully serviced and a new starter was purchased for the cherry picker right before the start of the major barn work. A number of maintenance items were recently purchased for the service of the Case forklift, the Minneapolis-Moline tractor and the John Deere backhoe. Finally, there are some slow-moving plans to revive the McCormick-Deering T-20 crawler and the Clark forklift.

As an attempt to keep in one place all maintenance and other relevant information for the many pieces of equipment on the farm, we now have a Google account with spreadsheets for it. Information for accessing it was recently sent out to members in an email and you can read more about it on the Zagray Farm forum.

The Forestry Project, Paul Towne

Terminology and Tools Used in Forest Harvesting

Our professional forester is finishing up the tree marking and tally sheet preparation this month in preparation for the next stage which is conducting bidders review of the actual forest. We thought this would be a good time to provide you with a list of terms and tool descriptions because some of you will want to be involved in the coming stages.

Saw timber- trees of a species, size and quality that, when harvested, would be sawn into boards.

Pulpwood - trees of a species size and quality that, when harvested, would be processed into pulp. Pulpwood trees are typically too small in size, of an undesirable species or contain too many defects to be sawn into boards.

Board feet - units of solid wood volume equivalent to a 1ft x 1ft x 1in green and unsurfaced board. Board foot volume estimates for standing trees contain corrections for the volume of a tree that is lost by sawing a round stem into boards.

Cord - a measure of wood volume equivalent to a stack of wood measuring 4ft x 4ft x 8ft typically including air and bark. Used mostly for pulpwood.

DBH - Diameter at Breast Height, is the diameter of a standing tree measured 4.5ft above ground. (Not all breasts are 4.5ft so this is an average)

Merchantable Height- the height of logs in a standing tree that will be harvested. It is often limited by a minimum diameter for the small end of a log that a mill will accept for a given project. A hypsometer is used to measure the merchantable height.

D Tape - a specially graduated measuring tape used to measure the DBH of standing trees.

Biltmore Stick - a scale printed on a cruiser's stick that can be used to measure the DBH of standing trees. (Also called a d-tape).

Logs - a measure of merchantable height that is equivalent to the number of 16-foot-long logs that can be harvested from a tree. This is typically measured to the nearest ½ log, or 8-foot section.

Cruiser's Stick - a device that incorporates a Biltmore stick and a Merritt hypsometer in a single tool.

Merritt Hypsometer - a scale commonly printed on a cruiser's stick that can be used to determine the merchantable height of standing trees.

Basal Area - the cross-sectional area of a tree at breast height. Reported in square feet. Calculated using formula : $BA=0.005454 \times DBH^2$, where DBH is measured in inches.

Tally Sheet - a sheet produced by the forester which identifies a portion of the property, the species involved, the number of 16-foot logs from each DBH. Typically, DBH will range from 12 to 40 in two-inch increments. Typically, the number of 16-foot logs will vary from ½ to 5 in ½ log increments. Tally sheets are developed by the forester and reflect his/her best design features.

Nelson Paint, Bark Mark, Aervoe - Special tree and property boundary marking paints used by forestry people. Note that these paints have long life characteristics (5 years), that typical hardware store paints do not have.

Georeferenced Maps - a land map that has been annotated with accurate geographic coordinates which can be used by a GIS (Geographic Information System) to inform a person on foot where they are located as they traverse the property. Not all maps are georeferenced!

Avenza - Avenza Maps is a mobile application that allows you to download maps for offline use on your iOS, Android and Windows smartphone or tablet. Use your device's built in GPS to track your location on any georeferenced map. Plot and record information about locations such as tree species, water hazards etc. Hikers and woodland works should not venture forth without this software. Beware that heavy foliage can interfere with satellite signals and cause GPS issues!

The University of Tennessee, Department of Forestry provided some information for this QVEA newsletter article. Current QVEA forest harvest plans are in compliance with the 2017 Judgement signed by QVEA and the Connecticut Attorney General.



Lots of work building the second engine building the past few weekends. Help will be needed!



Ned's been busy restoring some of the donated farm implements that will be on display in the Tractor Barn.

This is a hay trolley.



FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY, Dianne Tewksbury

We are planning on selling surplus items during the Oct. 1-2 show near the center door of the Tractor Barn. If you have any small household items you would like to donate for this sale, please bring them to the front of the Tractor Barn near the center door.

Proceeds will go to the farm museum.

At this time we are not looking for any machinery-related items and nothing that would warrant a donation letter used for tax purposes.

Our next show is Oct. 1 – 2, 2022

2023 SHOW DATES: May 6 – 7, July 15 – 16, Oct. 7 - 8

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 taillights and include anything attached (any space that would not allow another vehicle).

Vehicles can begin to enter the building on Nov. 1 and need to be removed by the 3rd Monday in April (April 17, 2023).

Please contact Ned Tewksbury at 860-537-2252 to reserve a space.

Due to the persistent robocalls, if we do not see a recognizable name on our phone screen, we will not answer. If you are looking to reserve a space, please leave a message and we will you back.

Our club's website: Zagrayfarmmuseum.org

Zagray Farm Forum: Zagrayforum.com

Zagray Engine Maintenance Records: zagraymaintenance@gmail.com

Password: Secureless

PLEASE REMEMBER: CLUB MEMBERSHIP ALONE DOES NOT PROVIDE FREE ENTRY TO THE FARM DURING SHOWS.

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