

Sponsored by Francis Farm, Rehoboth, MA

Member of EDGE & TA Branch #176

www.francisfarm.net www.neatta.org www.edgeta.org

Next Regular Meeting April 16, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at Francis Farm

Thanks to all who attended the March meeting, and renewed their membership in the club.

The EDGE & TA Northeast Regional Meeting and Neatta Show is a year and a half away (Oct. 2009), and Gayle Abrams has assumed the chairmanship of the event. If you can possibly volunteer to take on a specific job, she could use your expertise. Contact her at 508 252-4809. This will be combined with our regular fall show, with many extras. Advanced planning is definitely necessary. Also, if you know of a sponsor who would donate money, and have their business promoted at the event, let Gayle know. Gayle hopes to hold meetings right after the regular club meetings each month.

Since the profit from the Meat Raffles held by The Rehoboth Lions Club was so slim, a board decision was made to forfeit our share of the winnings. The Lions do support many needy causes with this money so the cash will be put to good use. Thanks to those who attended and supported the Raffle.

Tickets are now available for the annual drawing to be held Oct. 5, 2008 at the Big Fall Show: 1st prize – John Deere LA115 Lawn Tractor with 42" mower. 2nd prize - Kawasaki String Trimmer, and 3rd prize – John Deere Pedal Tractor. So now you have three chances to win instead of one!!!.

The Delicious Ham and Bean Supper was a great success. The club realized a profit of \$1,645.24. Thanks to everyone who attended. The Country Music was provided by Charlene since Samantha Lee was "under the weather". Ken Foley donated a "suite" at the Dunkin Donuts Center for "Stars On Ice" which was won by Frank Soares. (Incidentally, Frank and his wife Barbara, daughters and granddaughter attended the event and had a perfect evening.) A list of supper helpers and also the donors for the raffle table follows: Betty Dyer and Jimmy Rosa for cooking the entire meal, John Skurchak for donating the ice cream and chocolate sauce, Nick Main, Richie Lemieux, Bev and Jerry Baker, Gayle and Greg Abrams, Pete and Jean Santos, Bill and Kay Waite, Jeff Main, Gil and Lorraine Larrabee, Paul Moroni, Don Leffort, Paul Dean, Westville Garage, Allure Salon, Rainbow Turkey Farm, Rachel Smith, Dick and Dot Waite, Todd Davis, Manny and Margaret Veader and of course Ken and Linda Foley for providing the venue and donating the "suite" at the Dunk, and Ken's staff in the office (Jackie and Doreen) for their help, always. Sorry if we forgot to mention anyone.

Richie Lemieux, Safety Chairman, gave a brief talk on Gasoline Safety this month. Please take heed, and watch out for static when filling up containers and placing them back on your truck. Always use the correct container! And when the weather is damp, the gas fumes stay down low and travel along the ground – an even more dangerous situation. Don't be foolish! Read up on the dangers and use extreme care.

Don Leffort will hold a practice for youth on April 13(rain date April 20) at 10:00 AM so the young people can qualify for the Youth Training Certification. Keep in touch with Don at 508 252-4990. There is now a youth class in the Garden Tractor Division, and the word is spreading like wildfire. Enclosed is information regarding youth certification. Please keep for future reference.

The Antique Truck Committee hopes to make contact with the Ocean State Haulers to participate in some of our events. Please tell all antique truck enthusiasts about our club, to involve more trucks.

Manny Veader and Walt Munroe are planning a Plow Day to be held at the beginning of June. So far 19 members have signed up to participate. Expect to get your tractor DIRTY for a change, and enjoy the "working" event. Isn't that what tractors were meant to do? To be held on farm land in S Rehoboth.



*The 50/50 Raffle was won by Frank Kowsic, and the edible arrangement donated by Paula Simmons, from Edible Arrangements in Taunton, was won by Jean Santos
The toy was won by Terry Jarvis.*

The re-enrollments are going well. Try to enroll by April 16 meeting if possible, to help avoid the confusion at the Swap Meet and Tractor Pull. Please note that you should bring the plastic EDGE card you received last year when you paid the extra \$9.00. We will place a 2009 sticker on the card when this years dues is paid. Also you will receive an EDGE & TA Badge (Pin).

If you can help the club save money on postage, and are willing to receive your newsletter by e-mail – please check the appropriate box and write your e-mail address clearly on the enrollment form. You can mail your form with a check, per instructions – or you can pay at any meeting with cash or check. Forms are available on the website www.neatta.org or at any meeting. (102 forms processed so far)

Two bylaw amendments were voted on at the meeting.

Amendment to Article VIII: Leadership Section 2

There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of nine elected members in addition to the regular elected officers. The President and Vice President will also serve as board members, making a total of eleven board members. (This was presented in the last newsletter as seven members but was subsequently changed.)

Amendment to Article XI: Elections

Regular Elections shall be held in April for the purpose of electing officers for the next fiscal year.

Nominations for elective office shall be submitted at the March meeting and may also be made prior to elections at the April meeting. An absentee ballot may be requested from the Secretary and returned to the Secretary in time to be opened at the April meeting.

At the upcoming April Meeting members will vote to retain the existing board members, plus 4 additional directors. They are as follows: Don Leffort, Jerry Baker, Edward Lopes and Dan Roy. Plan to attend and lend your support to the candidates:

Get Well wishes were sent to Bob Pontes, who was in Charlton Hospital. Get well soon, Bob!

Our next big event – SWAP MEET ON APRIL 26 – TRACTOR PULL ON APRIL 27

A POSTER IS ENCLOSED – PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD.

Some important rules to remember.

1. Please sign up for Swap Meet Vendor Space (20' X 30') ahead of time and pay for spot. This saves time on the actual day. Club members will pay \$15.00. Anyone else will pay \$25.00, which includes club insurance for one year. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SWAP MEET IS FOR SATURDAY ONLY. EVERYTHING MUST BE REMOVED AT END OF DAY. Hours are 8– 4 (Issue is parking, and space is needed on Sunday for parking the trailers that bring in the pulling tractors.) Your check can be sent to Francis Farm, 27 Francis Farm Road, Rehoboth, MA 02769. Their phone number is 508 252-3212. or call TJ Mello 508 272-5474
2. YOUTH who participate in the Garden Tractor Pulls need to earn Youth Training Certificate ahead of time, April 13. Contact Don 508 252-4990 to confirm date or ask questions.
3. Pullers entry fee is \$10 per class. Greg Abrams 508 252-4809 should be contacted for questions on the Farm Tractor Pull. Go to www.neatta.org for rules.

Please volunteer at next meeting to help at Swap Meet/ Tractor Pull. Why not play 1 day and work 1 day. This will give everyone a chance to participate in some of the events. Thanks in advance!!!!!!!