

New England Antique Tractor and Truck Association – NEATTA

Sponsored by Francis Farm, Rehoboth, MA

Member of EDGE & TA Branch #176

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

Next Regular Meeting February 20, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at Francis Farm

The January meeting attendance reached about 90. Many "regulars" attend every meeting. Thank you! President Ken Foley introduced Jay Crandall, who represented the Rehoboth Lions Club.

Currently the Lions are fundraising to help with the expenses of the family of Alex Dalpe, who is 2 _ years old, and has a rare form of Epilepsy. Members of Neatta responded by purchasing many Lions Club raffle tickets. The Neatta Board of Directors also voted to donate the club's portion of our 50/50 raffle this night. The Francis Farm will have tickets available for purchase should you want to support this worthy cause. That raffle will take place April 11, 2008. Contact Jay Crandall 508 252-6878 for more information, to donate a raffle item, or to sell tickets..

Also, sadly noted was the death of a member, Denise Silvia, age 43, from Portsmouth, RI. Denise and her husband, Manny, participated in some of our parades. The club will send a donation to The Humane Society of the US, in her memory.

Richie Lemieux talked about preparing our "Events Calendar". If you suggest an event that the club might participate in, be prepared to name a member (or yourself) who is willing to mediate the event and oversee all aspects. Call him (508 252-3976) with details for the calendar.

As Safety Coordinator, he reminded everyone of the need to have a kill switch on their Tractors. Each month he plans to talk about a different aspect of safety. (Remember those wheel chocks!) A spill kit will be prepared to go to our events.

The Date has been officially set for this year's Swap Meet and Tractor Pull – April 26 and April 27. The Swap Meet will be held on Sat. April 26, and the Tractor Pull on Sun. April 27. It will be held at the Francis Farm, and by having a two day event, we will have more room available for each event along with more parking. You will also be able to "show" your antique tractors and trucks on either day if you wish.

In addition, Don Leffort's committee prepares for the garden tractor pulls on the same day as the farm tractor pulls. This is a big effort for everyone involved, as they plan to purchase a weight scale* in anticipation of the pulls. And they hope to have a sled prepared, too. Don's committee plans to have 4 weight classes for garden tractors (2 of these will be for kids, ages 7 – 12 years) and 4 classes for farm tractors. A practice and training is planned two weeks before the event for the kids. Also, they will need to pass the Safety Test prior to the event. The plan is also to hold pulling events about once a month, on a Sunday morning. Please contact Don for details – 508 889-7798. His committee: James and David Durfee, Greg Abrams, Frank Kowsic, George Carvalho, James Nunes, Steve and Jared Jones, Dick Shope, Tony Vacca and David Carpenter. They will be meeting Sunday, Jan. 27 at 9:00 a.m. at Francis Farm to discuss the rules.. (Come at 8:00 a.m. to buy breakfast and socialize before the meeting.)

The club is looking for a scale – under \$1500. The club will assemble it for our needs. Ken Foley plans to donate the steel necessary for the job. Club is also looking for a P.A. System

Keep this date open
March 1, 2008



The date has been set for a Ham and Bean Supper and Raffle on Saturday, March 1 at 6:00 P.M. Tickets will be available at the February meeting (See Poster Enclosed) . If you can donate an item for raffle, it would be appreciated. Only 200 tickets will be sold.

Plan for another Raffle like the J.D. Lawn Tractor with Mower – last year.

Manny Veader is to get estimates for lawn tractors and bring them to the next meeting. And we plan to raffle other items on the same ticket, such as a snow blower and chain saw and/or pedal tractor) Don Leffort to supply estimates. Tickets will be sold all year and items raffled off at the Big Fall Show.

~~~~~  
Preparing the slate of new officers for April 1 is in the works. Anyone who feels they can support the club by taking on a well respected job should step forward and notify the Board of Directors.

If you want to run or know someone else who would like to serve as Pres., Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary, or become a Director, please call Richie (508 252-3976) . Also needed will be Chairmen of 4 different divisions of the club, Museum Committee, Tractor Show Committee, Tractor Pulls Committee, and Truck Committee.

Sounds like the club needs a lot of help to go forward.

A sign up sheet was available after the meeting, and many people committed to work on various committees ..... Thanks to all.

Joe Rossi won the 50/50 raffle, and Terry Jarvis won the Band Saw which was donated by Paul Moroni, and Manny Veader won the chocolates, donated by Margaret Veader. (And Manny always says he never wins anything!!!!!!!)

~~~~~  
Thanks to those who completed the survey. Suggestions included 1. raising the dues 2. holding chicken barbecue, ham and bean supper, pig roast, meat raffle, seminars on painting, engine overhaul, transmission and electrical work, providing a scholarship or award to student of agriculture, raffling a child's pedal tractor, and selling children's t-shirts and sweatshirts.....

Wait to see how many suggestions are put into play.

Our Christmas Party was a success, and thanks go out to Santa (Greg Abrams) and Gayle Abrams and Beverly Baker for doing a great job with the kids presents. And to Jean and Pete Santos, Gil and Lorraine Larrabee, and Tom Mello and family (Rainbow Farms) for providing door prizes. And to Francis Farm and Ken Foley for providing the facilities for our event. And thanks to everyone who took the time to attend this fun event.

Two members of the U.S. National Guard, 26th Div. Arty. stationed in Rehoboth, attended the party and presented the club with a plaque honoring us for our donation of over 80 gifts which were distributed to children of activated National Guard members.

And Samantha Lee sang Country Western songs for our pleasure. She is a little girl with a mature voice; and she is amazing.

New membership enrollment forms will be available soon.