



Dear Members,

It's mid-winter already! If the ground hog sees his shadow it will be last time he sees anything in my yard! We had our first meeting of the year on January 18<sup>th</sup> with about fifty members in attendance.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of member Herb Silvia of Portsmouth, RI.

(Thanks to Bill Copeland from North Dighton for sending along that information.)



Some important topics of discussion at the meeting were; the consideration of term limits for club officers in the hope that others would step up (which would require a charter change), asking all members to pitch in at our events even if it is just by bringing a tractor or truck, establishing new pulling committees and membership dues.

After much discussion, the idea of term limits for club officers was tabled with the hope that other members will volunteer to fill in the two or three vacancies that will occur in April. One vacancy will be my position as Recording Secretary since this year I will not be able to attend every meeting to record the minutes. I will still be able to do the Club Newsletter and help out in most of my usual capacity. Club events are something I really enjoy and I hope to instill the importance of the history of farming to my two Grandsons who I will be caring for this year.



On a legal note, the club is required by Charter and by the State, since we are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit corporation, to keep minutes of our meetings. Someone must step up to fill this position. Also, Ken Foley has hinted that he would like someone else to take over the job of President. There may be a vacancy on the

Board of Directors as well.

Our current Membership Secretary is Debbie Gagnon who thankfully agreed to sort out the membership mess that we had in 2011. (All memberships expire on March 31, 2012.)

The club will now require that all members who take part in any event be current and up to date on their membership **BEFORE** they can take part in that event. This means that you must have your current EDGE & TA card in hand **BEFORE** the event. Debbie will be taking renewals at the next two meetings. The dues are the same as last year for both EDGE & TA and NEATTA. A 2012 new/renewal form is attached to this newsletter so that you can fill it out and bring it to the next meeting or mail it in to Debbie with your check.

This is important to note: **NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP ON THE DAY OF AN EVENT** (Pulls, shows, parades, or fairs).

You must get it in BEFORE to be eligible to take part. There is plenty of time between now and April 1<sup>st</sup> to get your dues in. Membership forms are also available on our website [www.neatta.org](http://www.neatta.org) under the 'membership' tab. Debbie, and only Debbie, will be handling the membership forms so all forms must go to her.

Another change will be the aforementioned newsletter. With postage and printing costs going up, the club simply doesn't collect enough money in dues to cover the cost of a monthly newsletter. The newsletter will now go out about four times a year. The best way to get the latest in announcements will be on our website. (And thanks to all of you who receive this newsletter on line. You are contributing to the club by helping to keep down expenses.)

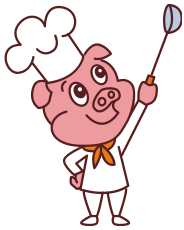
The membership voted that each pulling division must have a committee in place with a decided set of rules and schedule by March 1, 2012. That committee's chair will be responsible for all communications between pullers and the membership and for reporting to the Board of Directors. The chairman will also be responsible for enforcing the rules set by the pull committee, the club, the Town of Rehoboth, and EDGE & TA insurance.



The Ham & Bean supper is scheduled at Francis Farm on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Tickets will be on sale at the February & March meetings or by calling Bev or Jerry at 508-222-7109. We will also have a raffle after dinner (items wanted).

Ticket prices are the same as last year, 10.00 for adults, 5.00 for kids 6-12, and free for kids 5 and under.



Our Spring Show & Swap Meet will be a one day only show, Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Our next whole club event after that is the Dighton Memorial Day Parade, May 28<sup>th</sup>, held in Dighton this year.

The town of Dighton will be celebrating its 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary all year and the club has been invited to celebrate with them at the Dighton 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade to be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme of the parade is "March of Time". We will be talking about this event at our next meeting February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Richie Lemieux suggested that we add a feature to the newsletter, that is, a profile of the NEATTA unsung heroes. These are folks who don't hold any official position in the club but help out often at events, volunteering their time in a quiet way. They are there solely to lend a helping hand or offer support, with no thought of benefit to themselves.

The first of our unsung heroes are Jean and Pete Santos of Rehoboth. They have been with the club since the very beginning in 2006. Jean & Pete are lifelong Rehoboth residents and have been married for 48 years. They volunteer or take part in almost every event just to

support the club. Jean helps at every show and many of our other events. Pete usually brings a tractor or two. Their daughter Karen and her husband Don, who are also members, sometimes bring their bulldog Hadley along. Hadley has become the unofficial club mascot and a club favorite as a living icon for Mac trucks. To the Santos Family we offer our humble thanks and our sincere appreciation. They and the other unsung heroes are the kind of folks who have made the club the success that it is today.



Pete Santos and his 1940 Allis Chalmers B at the Rehoboth/Dighton Memorial Day Parade 2012

The upcoming events that are scheduled so far:

**February 15<sup>th</sup>** – Regular members meeting 7 pm Francis Farm- renew your membership, discuss upcoming events for the year.

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** – Regular members meeting 7 pm Francis Farm- all members must have their renewals in by this meeting at the LATEST!!! Nomination of Officers for 2012.

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** - NEATTA Ham & Bean Supper & Raffle, 6 pm Francis Farm, open to the public, tickets will be available at the meetings or by calling Bev 508-222-7109

**April 7<sup>th</sup>** – Saturday night Farm Pull, first pull of the year! You must be a member in good standing BEFORE the pull in order to take part so renew or join by March 21<sup>st</sup>. Pull starts at 5 pm, registration begins at 4.

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** - Regular members meeting; Election of Officers, discussion of Spring Show on 4/29

**April 29<sup>th</sup>** - Sunday, NEATTA Spring Show, Fun Garden Tractor Pull & Swap Meet.

### Farm Pullers Report

Dan Roy, President – contact 508-326-2218

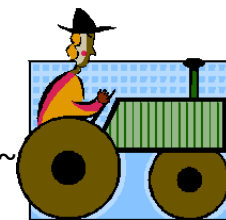
Dave Simcock, Jr., Vice-President – contact 508-965-1783

Secretary – Becky Anderson

Committee members; Adam Simcock, Ray Morgado

Tech Committee members; Wayne Costa, Ray Morgado, Jim Durfee, Lou Perry, Mike Souza

Alternate members; Dave Simcock, Tony Costa



Classes for the Farm Tractor Night Pulls at Francis Farm will be (listed in order) 9,000 lbs., 7,000 lbs., 5500 lbs., and 4500 lbs. Night pulls start at 5 pm, registration begins at 4 pm.

Dates for the Saturday night pulls are tentatively set for April 7<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup>, August 4<sup>th</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Classes for the Farm Tractor Day Pulls will be (in order) 3500 lbs., 4500 lbs., 5500 lbs., 7000 lbs., 8000 lbs., and 9000 lbs. Enhanced classes (NO TURBOS) will be 5000 lbs., 6000 lbs., and 7000 lbs.

Day pulls begin at 9 am with registration starting at 8.

Tentative dates for the Farm Day Pulls at Francis Farm; April 22<sup>nd</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup>, June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, August 19<sup>th</sup>, and September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Hook fees for all Farm Tractor Pulls will be \$10.00



### **Garden Tractor Pullers Report**

Frank Kowzic – chairperson,  
Debbie Gagnon - Secretary

New rules for the Garden Tractor pulls will be published on line at the NEATTA website. One rule of note is the elimination of the Bone Stock Class which will be replaced by A-Stock Jr. class as the beginner class.

Tentative dates for Garden Tractor Pullers: April 29<sup>th</sup> Fun Pull at Francis Farm, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Francis Farm, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Dighton Cow Chip Festival, June 24<sup>th</sup> at Francis Farm, July 21 at Westport Fair, July 29<sup>th</sup> at Francis Farm, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Rochester Fair, August 26<sup>th</sup> at Marshfield Fair, September 16<sup>th</sup> Dighton Lions Pull in Dighton and September 30<sup>th</sup> at Francis Farm.

Please note: ALL DATES ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION. Please save this newsletter for reference as the next newsletter won't go out until April. Also note: some dates listed on the Club Calendar have changed.



Some of you may be wondering about the Cruisin' New England Show. The episode (#4) that featured the club and Manny Veader's tractor collection aired on January 29<sup>th</sup> and we do have a video tape of it. We will be showing it after the February meeting in the Museum.

An update on the Farmall Cub: SOLD! The cub has a buyer! It will be delivered to them as soon as the starting problem is fixed. Thanks to everyone who helped on that project.

Helpful websites [www.neatta.org](http://www.neatta.org) [www.edgeta.com](http://www.edgeta.com) [www.francisfarm.net](http://www.francisfarm.net)  
Or e-mail Bev (me) [bgbake@comcast.net](mailto:bgbake@comcast.net) or check us out on Facebook.