

NEWSLETTER

Early Day Tractor & Iron, Inc., Hesperia, CA 92345 - www.EarlyDayTractorIron.org

February 2016 – Volume 03, Issue 02

President's Message

Paul Dunn

If you were asked, "what does Early Day Tractor and Iron do and what do we stand for," what would you say? You always could say that according to our By-Laws, "... the specific purpose of this corporation is to promote the collection, restoration, preservation and exhibition of gasoline and oil engines, gasoline and oil tractors" That sounds to me like a bunch of legal chatter that is required by law.

In this month's message, I want to look deeper than the By-Laws. We restore our old tractors, engines, and more because we get personal satisfaction by preparing our treasures for the enjoyment of others. After all, we have preserved a bit of rural history, and we can be proud of our restoration abilities. Now how do we exhibit our possessions?

Many cities within a reasonable driving distance annually have parades that are enjoyable. The first for us is the 4th of July in Lucerne Valley, and parades end with the Victorville Christmas Parade. Would you like to be in more parades? How far would you haul your treasure? Is Yucca Valley, Palmdale, or Upland too far? For me, I get considerable pleasure just seeing the young boys and girls along the parade route.

This last year we took tractors and treasures to a grade school in Ontario on a Friday evening. To drive 50 plus miles, load, unload, load and unload, and to deal with I-15 traffic in the past would not even be considered. The feedback I got from all that went was "let's do it again." OK, I challenge all of you who know of a school that would benefit from us visiting them, please contact them or pass along the principal's or organizer's name to me, and I will give them a call.

I haven't exhausted all of my ideas, but I want to hear from you, the members.

Paul Dunn, President

Communicate, Encourage, Recruit



Minutes – February 3, 2016

Etta Dunn, Secretary

Meeting opened @ 7:04 p.m. by President Paul Dunn with the flag salute. Present are 18 members and one guest. Members met at 6:00 p.m. at Los Domingo's Restaurant for dinner. Minutes from previous meeting were approved, motion by G. Provensal, second by J. Marlow.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer Mark Bergthold: Reported the treasury contained more than \$2,000.00, EDGE-TA insurance not deducted and sent in as yet. Member R. Pope mentioned that tax exempt organizations can apply for user fee free exemption from PayPal with documentation.

Safety Roger Kindle: No accidents in 2015, reported by EDGE-TA. Roger gave a report that followed up on last month's ball and hitch height to clarify safety tips. Further discussion included the adoption of a Back-Up Assistant rule and designated Stevie J. Mote to be the Back-Up Guy. This is to assure that during loading and unloading, all safety measures are engaged and an extra pair of eyes is watching to prevent potential hazards. Roger also reported on the matter of leaving a tractor running during staging. Always be sure the tractor is never left unattended while running; designate a member to remain with tractor if you have to leave area.

Membership: As of meeting date, 21 adult members and 1 youth membership had paid their dues, club total members at 27. Attending guest, Francis Lacko, was greeted and introduced to the club members.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Tractor Restoration on Ed Beal's John Deere Lawn and Garden Tractor as a club project was again discussed. The tractor is currently stored in Roger Kindel's garage. Work has begun with fiberglass repair by Brad West. Work party will commence on Thursday mornings after breakfast at the Corral. Initial evaluation, work detail, assessment of parts and inventory needs to be initiated to estimate approximate budget expense for reimbursement.

President Paul Dunn reported on club patches. The wooden name plate badge is \$6.00 and the hanger tag is an additional \$2.00. Special order embroidery club logo patches are currently being modified to include color, design, and appropriate type font for production. Initial estimate for current design is \$7.50 each, with minimum order of 100 to receive a price break with the club retaining the art work.

EVENTS:

There are three members that want to get involved with school yard displays. Purpose is to educate and introduce younger children to former days of mechanical farm tractors and implements. The club needs events to promote and if anyone knows school personnel for arrangements; let us know.

Member Kenny Woodward announced that the Christmas Party was a successful event and he and Jan enjoy opening their home for hospitality. Ken and Jan have suggested a Tractor Run and Pot Luck at their home. Need to pick a suitable date. TBA

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Talk-A-Bout.....Roger Meeker

Member Roger did a presentation of information on the Oliver family of tractor models along with organizations and history. The detail and information was well received by all of the members...

Thank you Roger.

Treasurer Report

Mark Bergthold, Treasurer

Bank balance as of February 10, 2016, is \$1,985.27.



Donations and membership fees may be placed on your credit card using PayPal. For more information go to www.EarlyDayTractorIron.org and click on the **Donate** or **Join Us** button, then click PayPal.

Next Meeting

March 2, 2016 @ 7:00 PM

Los Domingos

Main & 9th, Hesperia

Come early for dinner and stay for the meeting.

Editorial

Mark Bergthold

What is our purpose as a club? What goals do we have? Our mission statement, which is on our website, says, "Connecting people and enriching lives while preserving the mechanical past." It goes on to say, "Early Day Tractor & Iron, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization membered as Branch 242 of Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association...formed in 1957 and is a national organization whose purpose is to stimulate interest in collecting, restoring, preserving, and exhibiting gasoline and oil engines, gas/diesel and steam tractors, power driven farm machinery and any other equipment of historical value." Whew, that's a mouthful!

So what does that mean for each of us? We would say, "simple, just what it says!" Yes, restoring and maintaining our "antique iron," whether it's a tractor, an engine, or a piece of historical antique equipment is part of that, as is displaying our collections in parades or static display is a big part of that. That,

and meeting together to discuss when and how we're going to do these things, is what we do. But is that all we should be doing?

Wherever we go with our collections, kids are attracted to our tractors. They want to sit on them, touch them, and, as we saw at the Strawberry Festival, play with the lights and horns! While there are arguments for and against letting kids even sit on the tractors, I don't think there's any argument that those kids are our future, and the future of our club, if it is to survive beyond us. Face it, most of us are in our 60's or 70's, and God only knows how long we'll be able to remain an active member of Branch 242. I see the next generation, in the words of Lynn Heather of Fort Madison, Iowa, speaking to IH Scout owners, "as the future of ... this industry. As we get older and the vehicles of our passion age, we need to get young people involved in our industry and active in automotive pursuits, or we will surely see the slow decline and death of these classic vehicles. The question, of course, is how do we accomplish this?"

He went on to make several suggestions: 1) Father/son or father/daughter projects, 2) take your kids to a car (antique equipment) show, 3) promote your collection, and 4) make memories. #s 1 and 2 have their limitations, and we are already doing #3. I see #4 as making memories for not only me and my family, but others, including the next generation and the generation after that, and so forth. Lynn concluded his thoughts with "There are many ways that we can interest the younger generation in our ... hobby; we just have to make use of the opportunities that present themselves and include and introduce youngsters to our ... pursuits and passions. Without a future generation to leave our wisdom, memories, and legacy too, it will all surely eventually perish along with our generation and be gone."

As we continue with our history of restoring and displaying our collections, remember that if we truly believe that there is value in this, our vision must be caught by the younger folks.

Mark Bergthold

Bring a friend to a meeting, or an event.

Birthdays

March 12 – Etta Dunn

Please pass along your birth date.

Giving Less Than 100% - Does It Make A Difference 99%

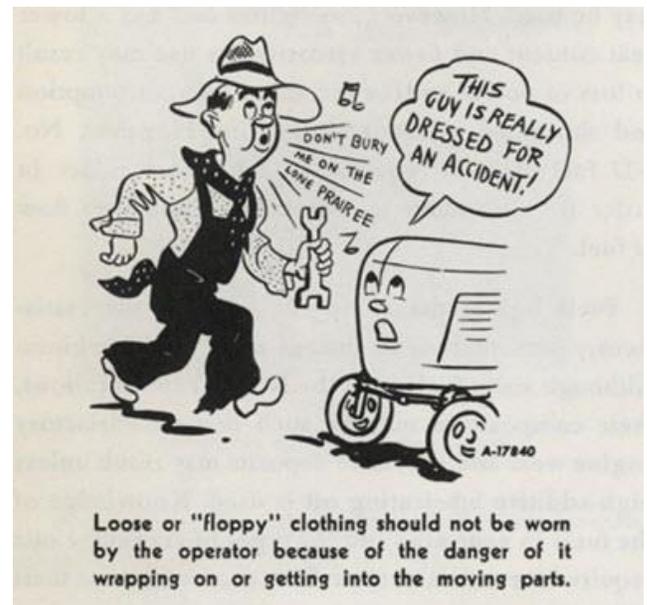
- Power would go off 15 minutes every day.
- An airline would lose luggage for two passengers on every flight.
- A magazine article would have nine misspelled words on every page.
- A major hospital would give new parents the wrong baby 28 times a year.

99.9%

- You would have one hour of unsafe drinking water every month.
- Two unsafe plane landings per day at Chicago's O'Hare Airport.
- The United States Postal Service would lose 16,000 pieces of mail every hour.
- 22,000 incorrect drug prescriptions would be issued every year.
- 500 incorrect surgical operations would be performed each week.

And none of us will ever forget the less than 100% quality of "O" rings on a space shuttle flight.

Does less than 100% percent really matter??



Safety cartoon published in a IH Operators Manual.

Calendar of Planned Events

May 7, 2016 – Cal Poly Pomona – Tractor & Car Show

Discussions are progressing for entry in many additional events. Please visit www.EarlyDayTractorIron.org for the latest news and schedules.

EDGETA – Branch 242 – Board of Directors

Early Day Tractor & Iron, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.

President – Paul Dunn, 760.956.6460, pdunn@EarlyDayTractorIron.org

Vice President – Gary Provansal, 909-855-6152, gprovansal@yahoo.com

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* All officers and directors are known as Directors and they form the Board of Directors.

SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

Editor – Paul Dunn, 760.956.6460, pdunn@EarlyDayTractorIron.org

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For the latest info visit our website at www.EarlyDayTractorIron.org