

E.D.G.E.&T.A.

# NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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October-November-December 2017

Editor, Carrie Jo Parmley

## From George Christmas, President and SE Regional Director

I hope everyone had a great summer. The weather is just beginning to cool down. It seems a couple of evenings a week maybe we will get a hint of that fall type weather. There are times you can smell the fall in the air. It is festival time and harvest in is full operation. The tobacco crops are sold; the corn and peanuts are being combined and headed to the grain bins. There is much activity in the fields that seem to be idle as the crops grew.

The county fairs are popping up everywhere. The kids seem excited about that. I sat talking with my dad the other day of how each town had a fair even the very small towns. We talked about how large the fairs seemed to be in the past and the parts of the fair you no longer see. Times change and people's interest change. I remember as a kid all the side shows you would see at the fair. Most of those are gone; there are more food vendors and about the same amount of games on the midway. I just remember how amazing all of that seemed to me as a child. I am sure for children that feeling will always be there no matter the changes that take place.

During the show season, the officers of EDGE&TA take time to speak with members at local shows, regional shows and the national show. The comments, questions and suggestions help the officers understand possible issues and also direction of interest that the membership sees. We realized this summer that many of the branches are not issuing the yellow membership cards to their members. **Each member of EDGE&TA must have a yellow membership card with the member's name and branch number. The card must also have a current year sticker on it. The sticker for this year is 2018 because the insurance policy ends with the fiscal year April 15, 2018. This card is the member's proof of membership in EDGE&TA and also of liability coverage.** Please make sure all members have a card and current sticker; each branch receives these cards at the time the branch is admitted to EDGE&TA. The stickers

The stickers are mailed to the branch contact on file each year beginning in February. It is important we have a valid contact person responsible for receiving these items each year. That person's valid address is also needed so these items are not lost. Lost items or items just thrown away are an unnecessary expense to the association and its members.

We are constantly working to improve the website to make it easier to navigate and communicate both for the directors and for the members. **Please use the electronic forms on the website to send information into the national office.** Some of the forms we receive have not been used in over 10 years, they are hand written and the penmanship is very poor. This leads to longer turnaround times on responses because the information may be incomplete or illegible. Beyond that, if you are using the forms on the website and do not get a response in a reasonable amount of time, please call your regional director to follow up. If you are having trouble with the website, please feel free to contact me and I will have the issue addressed.

**This is a reminder and it needs to be very clear.** Each branch is responsible for keeping copies of all membership lists sent to the national secretary. When the branch sends in a membership list, there are several things that need to happen. First, the member list must be complete with member's name, address and phone number. **The list will not be accepted if they are not complete.** There should also be a check with the correct amount of dues to coincide with the number of members on the list. An example is if you send a list of 25 members along with that completed list there is to be a check for \$300. That is \$12 per member. The secretary will not accept lists without complete information or checks without a list of members. **If any of the information is incorrect it will be returned to the branch to be corrected.** This may interfere with insurance coverage, so make sure you have everything correct before you send it. **Remember, if we don't have a name, complete address and correct amount of dues the individual is not**

**covered.** Also, member list and dues for the year are to be received by the secretary/treasurer on or before March 15. This gives time to record and process everything by the start of the fiscal year. Please contact any of the directors if you have questions.

**Please share this information with all members.** The board of directors are members of the association. We are elected by a vote of the membership. Each director serves a term of 3 years. The directors come from the region they live in, apart from the director-at-large, who may live in any of the regions. This is a membership run association. Please look for the information in the newsletters to see when the director position in your respective regions will be up for re-election. I encourage all those interested to get involved. It takes all of us to keep our association strong.

I always end with a thought on safety. It is extremely important we do all we can to make this hobby safe for the spectators, but also for ourselves. We need to make sure we are following the guidelines set forth and posted on the web site for everyone to view at any time. We must practice safe handling of equipment so we don't injure ourselves. I recently was loading a tractor for a show and realized if the weather conditions changed loading that tractor would not be safe. I had to change the way I loaded it plus decide on another tractor to take with it since the load would be stacked differently. This is only one example of thinking ahead to what may happen "if." We must constantly do that. That type thinking will keep us ahead of the game and safer. Please remember safety is everyone's business. If you witness another member in an unsafe practice, behavior or display, you need to bring that to the branch safety officer's attention so it can be corrected. I recently went to a show which was not an EDGE&TA show. Some of the things I saw really scared me. I wondered how anyone could think some of the stuff going on there would have been safe. There were multiple people riding on the same tractor. There were moving displays not roped off. There was a large crowd and a lot of unnecessary movement on the show grounds. It only takes one incident to change to course of a show. Please make sure you are following the guidelines to make your show or display where ever you are, safe for you and the spectators.

I hope everyone has a safe fall. Enjoy the holiday season. May God Bless you all.

**George W Christmas, President and Southeast Regional Director**

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**Insurance Update, September 2017, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

The summer is about over as well as the show season for those of us in the northern part of the US. It has been a good show season in that there have been no accidents or insurance claims. That is the good news. Everybody went home safe and happy at the end of the EDGETA activity days. Thanks to all EDGETA members for taking the time to be sure all displays, tractor drives, tractor pulls, etc. were done safely.

Recently we have had a problem with the insurance certificate submittal form on the website. After completing the form, there is an anti-robot screen that is supposed to pop up and the person filling out the form is required to identify certain objects on the screen. It is there to prevent some robot or hacker from filling out the forms with erroneous data and overwhelming the system. In some cases, this was not working. At the end of the form, when you tried to submit it, it would delete all your data. That is very frustrating for anyone filling out the form, who then must start over, and then still cannot submit the form. Josh, our computer person has fixed the form so that it now works correctly. However, if you should have problems give me a call. I will help you get your data submitted to our insurance agent and get your certificate of insurance. For those of you that had this problem, we apologize for the problem. In the future, when you need to request a certificate of insurance, fill out the form, submit it, and it should work as designed.

Once again, thank you everyone for making safety your first priority. Keep up the good work.

**Insurance Update, March 2017, By Dick Tombrink, NW Regional Director**

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**From Don Young—Vice President and SW Regional Director, Safety Chair, Youth Driver Cert**

Fall is here, time to prepare our equipment for the coming cold temperatures. It's been a busy year. I had the pleasure of attending the SW Regional Show in Artesia, NM hosted by Branch 222. There were 71 tractors, 8 engines, an ice cream maker, and a nice display by two Branch 8 members and a display by a Branch 30 member. There were many LPG tractors and rare tractors displayed that you don't see very often. It was a great group of people and many stories and laughs.

On our return trip, we stopped in Roswell, NM at the International UFO Museum and Research Center to visit some aliens. It was very interesting. Leaving New Mexico and entering Arizona, we experienced our first-ever experience monsoon. There were many vehicles parked on either side of the freeway, as you could barely see the front of your vehicle. It lasted at least 20 minutes. We returned safely to the dry, hot desert.

As most of you know there are many disasters around the world. Locally a 2700-acre wild fire is only a few miles away. I have ash in the yard and even under the hood of my truck. I spent two days indoors because of the smoke. The fire departments aggressively attacked the fire with 11 helicopters, 7 fixed-wing aircraft, 272 engines and over 1600 fire fighters. It is now 85% contained.

Safety is our number one priority; no accidents have been reported this year. Visit the EDGETA website Safety Section and become familiar with the Safety rules that apply to you.

**Don Young—Vice President and SW Regional Director, Safety Chair, Youth Driver Cert.**

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**From Buster Brown, Director-at-Large**

The weather here in Yuma, AZ is starting to cool. Up until three days ago, when you parked in a parking lot for an hour and went in the store, you needed welding gloves to keep from burning your hands on the steering wheel. The weather is now cooling and getting nice. Now people will be getting ready for shows to start. The shows will be on the desert for the winter months. Coming shows in the Southwest will be in Southern New Mexico, Southern Arizona and all of southern California.

If you are traveling or spending winters in the South, check the EDGETA.org website for Branch locations and shows coming up. Also, call some of the officers in these branches and get a list of shows that may be in the area and have not joined EDGETA at this time. It might be a chance to spread the word on benefits of belonging to EDGETA.

I have been inside since April recovering from heart problems, and it was too hot to work in the shop. I have been in the shop the last three days. It feels good.

While I was laid up, I spent a lot of time on the phone trying to get officers to update their branch information on the EDGETA web site. I was also trying to get a couple of clubs to start Branches of EDGETA. Seems like no one can get in a hurry.

If I can be of any help to any of you, feel free to call or email any time as I am retired and have time to visit.

**Buster Brown, Director-at-Large**

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**From Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director**

Because of having technical difficulties with his computer and no internet service at the present time, Wayne asked me to put a note in this newsletter wishing you all a "Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year." Hopefully, all of this will be repaired and working by the time the next Newsletter is sent so that he can communicate with all of you.

**(Carrie Jo Parmley on behalf of Wayne Timchuk, NE Regional Director)**

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**From Bob Craig, NC Regional Director**

Fall is upon us. The good part is it's cooling down; the bad part is show season is winding down. In August, we went up to Almelund, Minnesota for the North Central Regional Meeting. It was such a great place, with at least a mile of flea markets for the bargain hunters, hundreds of tractors, nice gas engines and plenty of eats. We had a great time with the Nelson family and others. I got to meet two of the original members of Branch 1.

We had our meeting Saturday evening with a great meal, and got to visit with several of the members. The weather was great.

The weekend after Labor Day, we went to the Branch 37 show in Gentry, Arkansas. We have been going there for years and always enjoy visiting with good friends we have met through time. Ten days after Labor Day, it was time for Branch 16's show at the Steam O' Rama in Republic, Missouri. The weather was wonderful, which means a lot of visitors thru the gate. I haven't received any count on engines and other displays. At the gate there was a record attendance on Saturday. Friday night at our tractor pull, we had 182 hooks, which translates to a good bit of money for our club, and a long night for old people. Garnett and I got back to the camper about 2 AM.

Our flea market ran over and we had to find other places for the late comers who had not reserved spaces. Our show season is winding down, but hope to go to at least one more in Oklahoma.

I guess no news is good news' apparently we have had a safe show season so far. Thanks Bob.

**Bob Craig, NC Regional Director**

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**From Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

I would like to express my appreciation to all EDGETA Branch Officers in the SC Region. I know that sometimes it is a personal sacrifice to fulfill all your duties and to fit those activities in with the various important things in life such as family, church, community, civic duties and a multitude of other responsibilities, some of which are high priority, and should take priority. With four children, twelve grandchildren, and a great grandchild, I find myself as busy as I have ever been. I have one son

building a new home and one son building a new church plant, and dad is always in demand.

That being said, our position as EDGETA officers makes it very important to stay abreast of insurance rules, among other things. None of us would want to have an accident, and none of us would want to find out too late that we did not have insurance coverage. This makes it imperative that each of us go to the EDGETA web site and read the insurance rules and regulations found in Insurance Frequently Asked Questions and Answers. I have become aware that some have not been abiding by the rules simply because they did not know the rules; for example, the answer to FAQs No. 10 states that EDGETA can no longer cover barrel trains or tractor pull sleds at local community parades, festivals, fairs, etc. Therefore, those organizing the event need to supply your branch with a certificate of insurance coverage to cover you in case of an accident. I encourage each of you to read these frequently asked questions and answers. Just tap on the question and the answer will be displayed.

Again, I do appreciate all your hard work and want you to be safe and be covered by insurance along with all your branch members. Non-EDGETA members are not covered if participating in EDGETA sponsored tractor pulls.

Thank you and God bless you and bless our great country.

**Clyde Brummett, SC Regional Director**

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**2017 DUES/INSURANCE  
ARE STILL \$12  
PER MEMBER**

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**Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Ed.**

As the year winds down, most of you have sent the majority of members you will have for our membership year which ends April 15, 2018. We are definitely on the down side of the calendar year, with many fall activities that include our antique tractor and engine participation. Where I live, the months of September and October are teeming with fall festivals, displays, parades, and shows—all requesting our participation.

Thank you for doing a good job submitting your membership and dues for the year. Most of you are aware that the insurance auditor came to my house in the summer of 2016 and examined the individual Branch# files to verify how members were submitted with payment and how the proof of payment was kept. He was also interested in the process I use to record membership and how I determine the total maximum number of members during our year running from April 15 one year to April 15 of the following year. He pulled random files to check the records and indicated this would probably not be the last time. This may help explain the reason for records being accurate, which George addressed in his article at the beginning of this letter. All of the guidelines are included in our By-Laws which are posted on the EDGETA website.

**Also, by the end of the year, it will be time to update your officers and directors on the website. Again, this is information that we must keep current.**

If you should have questions, I'll be glad to try to answer them or refer you to the appropriate director for the information.

Dues will continue to be \$12, so please double-check your count of membership sent with the amount of the check. I will have to return those that do not match.

Remember, our website, EDGETA.org, is an excellent source of information for instant answers.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.

**From Carrie Jo Parmley, Secretary/Treas./Ed.**

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[EDGETA.org](http://EDGETA.org)

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**2018 National EDGETA  
Meeting  
Host, Branch 107  
Emporia, Kansas  
June 29-30, 2018**

**Will have more specifics later on  
exact location**

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