Power from the Past

EDGE&TA Branch 240

Sept. 2026



Rasmussen's Windmill
At Pima fairgrounds

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Antique engines and tractors
Power from the Past
"No Style Like Old Style"

Southern Arizona

Upcoming Events



Sept. 18-20 Santa Cruz County Fair in Sonoita, AZ
(*no plans for ice cream this year but we will be tied up having fun making ropes for all ages of kids*.)



Sept 24-27 Cochise County Fair Douglas, AZ

Sept 30-Oct 4 Southern New Mexico State Fair Las Cruces, NM (sister club)

Oct. 10 Butterfield Days Benson, AZ

Oct 16-18 Helldorado Days Tombstone, AZ

November Possible tractor ride

Dec 5 Christmas dinner and meeting Benson, AZ

Dec. 5 Benson Christmas night parade

Dec. 12 Huachuca Christmas parade Huachuca City, AZ

********** ***Power from the Past*** **********



There has been a renewed interest in the purchase of land for the club and ***Matt Stewart*** is heading up the exploratory committee with plans for a presentation at the Christmas dinner. Come share your thoughts with us at the annual Christmas meal and meeting.

In July we formalized our *Board positions* with Zane Parker President, Lyle Rasmussen Vice President, Rose Tidwell Treasurer, Julia Davis Secretary, Larry Kastens, Safety Chair and engine chair. Thanks to them for serving.

And we also want to thank retiring Treasurer Jerry Hayes for his years of service along with Jo Beth. They have both been a true treasure in giving to the club. A gift of a memory box was presented to them at our June meeting.
Welcome returning members Stephen T. Ball and Gareth Hughes and new member Mitch McTee, all of Sierra Vista

What we've been up to (and our apologies if we have missed anything or anyone)
In May we held our annual meeting at a new location, the VFW near Sahuarita, AZ. Good food and good times were shared along with lots of familiar faces. Thanks to all that came out for the event which included voting for board members. Julia Davis was re-elected for another term and Larry Kastens is back on the board.
Benson 4th of July celebration had a very good crowd for the parade celebrating 250 years. We wrapped our tractors in red, white and blue bunting and flags waving. After the parade we gathered at the home of Bucky and Tara Stevens for an all American BBQ of hamburgers and hot dogs and all the trimmings. Members that came out that day; Bucky and Tara Stevens, Zane Parker, Jim, Darlene and Dominique Blair, Larry Kastens, Mark and Joyce Bott, Matt Stewart, John and Joyce Levengood, Darrell Dwyer, Kevin Lange, Sonny and Gail Clark, Stephen T. Ball, Ryan Mattson, Al Mattson, Julia Davis, Virgil Schmidt, Ray Fisher, Jerry Alexander, Fred Bennett, Al Goodman, Len Becwar and Jane Bright, Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell.
St. David Pioneer Days on July 25 we were on hand to support their annual fundraiser for their school system. We were well represented in their parade and display after. Lots of ropes were made as usual with $85.00 in donations. Members that participated include Julia Davis, Al Mattson, Seth Hoyte, Mel Perkins, Larry Kastens, Ray Fisher, Barry Kanner, Al and Donna Goodman, Mitch McTee, Mark Bott, Jerry Alexander, Zane Parker, Virgil Schmidt, Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell.

Americana

As I first started putting these words together I am riding shotgun on our long journey home from my hometown in Illinois. We were there both to see family and attend the 67th annual American Thresherman's Association summer show. We were met there by Julia Davis and Seth Hoyte. While there we stayed at the local antique filled Oxbow Bed and Breakfast in a mansion from 1929. The place fills up with the familiar faces of returning participants of the show that we have gotten to know over the years.

The route our navigator often chooses gives us a closer look at the Midwest the interstate passes by. This year both the show and most of the countryside was festooned with 'Old Glory' and red, white and blue bunting in celebration of 250 years.

From this vantage point I had many opportunities to spot the numerous antique tractors along our route. One of the more common sightings was for the vintage Ford/Ferguson tractor. Many of us first learned to drive on one of these. For me it was a Ferguson TO 20 which we often referred to as 'the little tractor.' It was usually treated as our version of a UTV with a small trailer made from the bed of a pickup truck. We used it in running water and feed to the animals or checking the mail and all the things in between.

Some areas this tractor was such a common sight that I think it could have been turned into a car road trip game similar to the old punch buggy game with Volkswagen sightings.

And there are many vintage Ford cars and trucks still in operation today. They are often well represented in most car shows across the country. Henry Ford seemed to know what he was doing. Approximately 15 million Model Ts were produced between 1908 and 1927 and the Ford Model A reached about 4.85 million units between 1927 and 1932. Ford first came out with the 9N tractor in 1939 selling just over 10,000 in the first year and produced a little over 800,000 units before ending production of the N series in 1952.

In our collection we have a 1931 Ford model A. This has been a reliable part of our fleet. We just have to remember to tighten the lug nuts every 50 miles or so.

For the Model Ts I have seen demonstrations of teams assembling these machines from their parts competing to set a record. Some of these have been documented and shared on YouTube.

These common cars make it easier to find parts when you need them and are easy to work on with much simpler systems built at a time long before there was any need to debate a 'right to repair.'

And thanks again to our tire pressure monitoring system we use on our trailer tires. It saved us again from a worse catastrophe.

Thanks for reading, Rose Tidwell.