

# QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



## The Zagray Quarterly

MARCH 2011

### President's Notes

Not much happening at the farm these days other than plowing snow. I think we all have had enough of that. It's hard to believe that we have a show coming up in less than two months. I was thinking that we may have to substitute dog sled pulls instead of tractors for the May show. We lost most of our temporary canvas shelters due to wind and snow load. Those will have to be replaced. The drying shed roof also took a hit. It didn't collapse but a couple of support members broke. We were going to replace the roof anyway so this will move it up the priority list for this summer. A few other things I would like to see done this summer like getting the McCormick Deering 1020 and the Irish Fordson running. The 1020 did run in 2009 so I don't think it would take much. It doesn't have brakes which would be nice to have. The Fordson needs to be split as the clutch is frozen. Ed Bezanson says it's a piece of cake. Easy for him to say. Also on the do list is the Amidon portable saw mill that was donated last fall, it needs new wood throughout and the Moline engine that came off the Lane mill has to be fitted to the Amidon. The work on the wood and engine is being worked on. Also I would like to scrap a few things like the yellow dump truck, the suburban and some other stuff to make room for more donations that we seem to be accumulating. This is by no means all the work that needs to be done so if you see something you would like to take on be our guest.

On the legal matters we now have a court date of May 31<sup>st</sup>. It sure will be nice to get this mess settled so we can move on with a clearer picture of where we stand.

### FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

It's time once again for the annual call for dues. Membership in QVEA follows the calendar year and thus on January 1, dues are once again due. The \$20.00 per year membership fee basically covers the insurance on the farm and shows, our newsletter costs and perhaps a little left over for other needs. There is an envelope attached to this newsletter for that purpose. All it needs is your check inside, a stamp, and your return address. Those of you receiving the newsletter via email will need to provide their own envelope, for obvious reasons. We thank you for your continued support of the Club and all that we are attempting to accomplish. 2011 promises to be our best year ever!

Newsletters are now printed quarterly – March, June, September, and December. Please, **everyone** who can receive their newsletter via e-mail rather than by USPS, make that request to Diane Tewksbury at [dtewks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dtewks@sbcglobal.net). It will save our printing-sorting-folding-mailing crew some labor, and save your club a **lot** of money, as well as being environmentally 'green'.

For those of you who contribute to the United Way campaign, QVEA is now listed as a charitable organization allowing you to direct your donation to us for the support and expansion of the Zagray Farm Museum. Pfizer Foundation also has a volunteer program that provides QVEA with substantial donations each year, based on the volunteer work of members who work or are retired from Pfizer. We appreciate all donations in any form or size.

## Happening at the Farm

The heavy snow load this winter was too much for some of our temporary shelters. They have collapsed, I'm told. We also lost part of the roof on the drying shed when a beam broke, a building we intended to rebuild and have most of the roof rafters and siding cut for. I guess it just got put to the top of the list! The first thing we need to do is to remove the equipment and antiques stored in it and put them into the temporary shelters. But the temporary shelters got filled with other items needing protection from the weather, and now they need repair or replacement. Needless to say, our need for space has reached a critical level. As soon as the mud season abates, we'll get the drying shed underway, one way or another.

Our Farmall F12 project is back underway, and sits now waiting for the warmer painting weather that's around the corner. We have new front and rear tires now and the transmission is buttoned up. The next step is to paint the rims, so we can mount the tires and use them to roll the chassis out for paint. I think the only thing we need for it yet, besides paint, is the exhaust pipe.

The starter is back for the electric start F20, so that project can get pushed along. One of the hydraulic pumps for the Clark forklift is in need of a very hard to find part, so we may need to reassemble it as is.

The club owned Fairbanks Morse 6HP, disassembled several years ago and stalled out for various reasons, is now back together and running. Bob Chester took on the task, searched for the parts at the farm, bought some parts, and made some others to complete it. We will run it, no doubt, at the May show.

The club's 1953 GMC dump truck sits just outside my shop door, with the rebuilt head ready to reinstall. It's just waiting for more pleasant working temps and will return to the farm this summer.

## [www.ZagrayFarmMuseum.org](http://www.ZagrayFarmMuseum.org)

If you haven't visited our website in awhile, you should check it out. The original site was created several years ago with then available and free software from various places and had a couple of issues we were working around. As most of you know, it is hosted on my server here at C&M Telephone, along with several other business related sites. The need to update them prompted us to acquire more sophisticated software tools for the task. The results are awesome!

The thanks goes entirely to my partner, Mark Mokoski, for the design and implementation of the site. Along with the newsletter, now in .pdf format, we can post member articles on restorations as well as videos linked out to 'youtube'. Meeting and show dates are posted, and you can subscribe to an RSS feed that will let you know when new items are added. A Zagray store is in the framework, complete with PayPal payment capabilities, although we have not activated it yet.

Check it all out at [www.ZagrayFarmMuseum.org](http://www.ZagrayFarmMuseum.org) or [WWW.QVEA.org](http://WWW.QVEA.org)

## Zagray Saw Mill

The winter ice and snow took the gutters off the rear of the mill, so we'll need to repair those and complete the downspouts before the May show. We intend to remove the injectors from the Cat diesel for repair, thinking that is the source of the lazy cylinders. Like everyone else, we are simply waiting for the snow to melt and the mud to subside to get at it.

The saw mill continues to be a major attraction at our shows, and a pleasure to watch and operate. We will resume cutting in the spring as soon as weather permits.

Remember that the material cut at the mill may be specific to a particular job or member.

So if you need something, check with Dave @860-982-5158 or Ned @860-537-2252 so you don't inadvertently use lumber slated for another project.

If you have trees taken down, please keep the sawmill in mind and cut the logs into lengths preferably 8'6", 10'6", 12'6", 14'6" or 16'6", depending on what will yield the best timber. We can arrange to pick

them up if necessary. Most all species can be used, but hardwoods in particular are in the shortest supply.

We have slab wood, sawdust, and planer shavings (makes great fire starter!) as byproducts of this demonstration area available.

## **Fordson Accessory Guide, Volume 1**

It's not often that anyone you know becomes a published author, but our Vice President, Ed Bezanson has completed the first volume of his Fordson Accessory Guide. Now, I'm not a Fordson buff, but the sales literature collection in this volume makes for very interesting reading, regardless of the 'color' of your favorite tractor! A must have for the coffee table. They will be available at our shows, of course. \$30 a copy, see Ed.

## **ITEMS NEEDED!!!!**

There are always a few new items on our 'needed' list. Call Art at 982-5158, or Ned at 537-2252. The help in this area we've received in the past has been terrific! Thanks to all of you!

A replacement for our Yellow Ford 600 dump

A grain wagon for harvesting the corn

Two track pads for our 1929 Universal Shovel

A pair of 6788 IH front wheel weights (fits A,B,C,H,M,W4,W6)

Steel 11 inch belt pulley for a Farmall H

a leaf blower for the saw mill area

**Vacuum pump, clutch and brake pedal assy, and seat for a 1988 F250 diesel**

## **PROJECTS**

**Some additional removable show posts around the pond and in the parking areas need to be added for additional vendor spaces and to guide the spectators in where to park.**

**A complete refurbishment of the drying shed – see Andy Milardo to volunteer!**

**All the help we can get will be needed here once this project gets underway, and any donations welcomed. Last winters snows will not let us put off this any longer!**

**Carriage shed (near the machine shop) rebuilding.**

Repair and assembly of a bleacher set for the saw mill.

Lighting in the machine shop 'working' area

Another bleacher set or two for the Tractor Pulling Pit

Fairbanks Morse engine pad

If you see something that needs doing, speak to one of us about it and your ideas to correct it. This is your club, we need your input and assistance!

## **FOR SALE !**

Model 146 John Deere loader from our 2150 tractor (QVEA owned) \$750.00

1986 Chevrolet Suburban 4WD good driveline - parts only \$300

call Dave @860-982-5163

# Winter on the Farm

It has been very quite on the farm over this past winter. I think I saw a chart on one of the weather shows saying Colchester got around 60 inches of snow over a 3 week period in January. As I write this it looks like we are heading into warmer spring type weather which will help melting the 5 feet of snow piled everywhere. Our temporary shelters took a beating during the heavy snows with several going down under the weight. Luckily our big shelter over the Fairbanks-Morse engines held up fine so at least they stayed safe for another year.

Members worked on several projects over this past winter and I took on a job I have been thinking about for nearly 10 years. The first time my sons and I visited the Zagrays in the early 80's we were fascinated by the Lane Saw Mill out in the back of the farm. I noted it was powered by a Twin City Minneapolis-Moline 6 Cylinder power unit. At the time, I mentioned to Willy that I started in the old tractor hobby collecting MM tractors. He then pointed out that the intake-exhaust manifold on the unit was completely rotted away and had been looking for a replacement with no luck. I told him I would check with friends in the MM club I belonged to and see what I could find. I made several phone calls to MM collectors in the Mid-West and learned this was a fairly unusual engine and found nothing was available. The engine dating from about 1938 was never used in a tractor. It seems a 4 cylinder version was fairly common because it was used in several tractors but the 6 cylinder version was limited to power units only. I do not know where the Zagrays got this power unit but it is quite rare today.

Little did I know back then, that one day I would have an intimate connection to the Lane Mill. When the QVEA was given its 99 year lease to the farm in 1999 I saw the mill as a very important project to work on in the future. The first years on the farm were dedicated to getting the place cleaned up. Our dedicated group of volunteers spent thousands of hours clearing brush, improving roads and pulling hundreds of pieces of old machinery out of their resting places.

The mill just sat there waiting for the day we could get time to work on it. One of my sons, Marc, who was with me when we visited the Zagrays in the 80's ended up taking on the mill project along with his friend Andy. Over a period of 3 years the pair along with help of many other members completely rebuilt the mill building and the surrounding area. Because of the manifold problem with the MM engine it was decided to repower the mill with a Caterpillar D8 engine donated by the Hewitt Brothers. That engine had been the power for their fathers sawmill down in Montville for many years. It took a year to fabricate the drive system that was required to connect the Cat to the Lane mill. Today the Saw Mill is a major attraction at our shows each year.

This past winter we got back to the MM Twin City engine project. One of the reasons for the renewed interest in this power unit is the donation of a Amadon portable saw mill to the farm last fall. This mill had been owned and used by a local Colchester sawyer and worked in the area for many years. The mill was complete but in rough shape since most of the wood was in very poor condition. Several of our members volunteered to do a complete rebuild of the wooden parts over the winter which is still going on. We also received a 371 General Motors Diesel that had been the original power for the Amadon. Our mechanical crew spent many hours on the GM but finally determined it was burned out and would require a very expensive rebuild if it was to be used. We then turned our attention to the Twin City MM unit that was sitting 20 feet

away. We decided that it would be the perfect power source for the Amadon mill since it was the correct vintage and had the right look about it.

Once the decision was made I knew I would have to actually do a reconstruction that I had been thinking about for years. The problem is thinking and doing are two different things. I worked out a plan and on a weekend in early January I went to the farm and removed what was left of the two manifolds and brought them home to my shop. I had a friend who had access to a water jet cutting unit and he made the three match plates that would become the basis for the new exhaust manifold. Over a period of about 40 hours I built a complete new exhaust manifold which contains about 25 individual pieces of 3/8, 1/4, and 3/16 thick mild steel plate. The intake manifold heat box rebuild required another dozen pieces to complete the project.



You will be able to see the complete manifold mounted on the engine during this summer's shows. If you are computer savvy, I recommend a great web site for old iron collectors. The site can be found at [www.smokstak.com](http://www.smokstak.com) and has dozens of individual domains dealing with all things old iron.

I have posted a thread outlining the complete construction of this manifold including pictures and step by step assembly. It can be found at the individual site "Tractor Talk" which is 3/4 down on the site index listing. You do not have to belong to this site [\$20.00 a Year] to look at the content. It just restricts your use of any of the feedback options. If you have any questions give me a call at 1-860-442-5182 in the evenings.  
Ed Bezanson

# Yankee Show List "2011"

## Save a Road - Drive a Tractor

SUMMER  
SUN



**April 16 [Haul of Fame at Handcraft Swap Meet]**  
Rt. 12 1 1/2 miles so. Exit 87 I - 395 Great Old Swap  
Call Larry Debuk 1-860-376-2306

**April 24 [Belltown Spring Show and Swap]**  
I have been going to this show for over 20 Years  
Rt. 16 Firemans Field East Hampton, CT  
Call Larry Emmons 1-860-267-8584

**April 30-May 1 [Francis Farm Museum]**  
New Eng. Antique Tractor & Truck Assoc. Spring  
Show & Swap Meet Rehoboth, MA  
Signs off Rts. 44 & 118 Call T.J. Mello 1-508-272-5474

**May 7-8 [QVEA / Zagray Farm Museum Spring  
Gas Up and Swap Meet]** Swap Meet will be held  
At the QVEA Grounds at Zagray Farm in Colchester, CT  
RT 85 2 Miles North of Town Green  
Call Ned 1-860-537-2252 or Ed 1-860-442-5182

**May 14 [Hudson Valley Old Time Assoc.]**  
Annual Spring Machinery Auction [WOW]  
Bring lots of CASH and a BIG Trailer Don't Miss this one  
Fingar Rd. Hudson, NY Call Guy Pflieg 1-518-828-6425

**May 14-15 [Scantic Valley Antique Engine Assoc.]**  
Bring all your old iron to this Old Show.  
Four Town Fairgrounds, Somers, CT  
Call Joe Perko Jr. 1-860-684-6885

**May 21 [Cranberry Flywheelers Club] Summer Show**  
Plymouth Airport Plymouth Mass. Two day Swap Meet  
July 16-17 at Shurtleff Farm, Middleboro  
Fall Show Plymouth Sept. 24-25 at Plymouth Airport  
Call David Moore 1-508-697-5445

**May 28-29 [Bernardston Gas Engine & Tractor Show]**  
Memorial Day Weekend A Great Old Show Exit 28, I-91  
Rt. 10 East Bernardston, Mass.  
Call Vickie Ovitt 1-413-684-5215  
*This Show not confirmed at time of Printing ?*

**June 4-5 [Brooklyn Agricultural Days] Tractor, Engine  
Show & Swap Meet. Tractor Pull both Days** Rt. 169  
Brooklyn Fairgrounds Brooklyn, CT  
Call Ryan Vertefeuille 1-860-774-9396

**June 3-4-5 [Granite State Engine, Tractor  
And Steam Show]** Canon Mt. Franconia Notch  
Exit 34B off I-93 Call John Lightbody 1-603-446-3314

**June 12 [Old Iron Tractor Club Show & Swap]**  
Setup On June 11th Woodstock Fairgrounds  
Rt. 169 Woodstock, CT Call Carl 1-860-928-3815



**June 17-18-19 [32nd Truck Show and Flea Market]**  
Antique Truck Club of America, Macungie Park  
Macungie, PA Off Rt. 100 Call 1-610-367-2567 This is  
One of the best Truck Shows in USA Over 200 Trucks

**June 17-19 [Vermont Gas & Steam Eng. Assoc.]**  
Old Stone House Museum Brownington, VT  
Call Bob Williams 1-802-467-3611

**June 26 [ATHS Brooklyn Truck Show and Flea]**  
Brooklyn Fairgrounds Rt. 169 Brooklyn, CT  
Great Old Show That needs our support.  
Call John Raymond 1-860-608-5033 100's of trucks

**June 25-26 [The Original Orange 35th Annual Show]**  
Central Mass. Steam Gas & Mach. Assoc.  
Orange Airport Orange, Mass [Great Show Don't Miss]  
Call Dave Songer 1-978-544-5295

**July 8-10 [Historical Const. Equipment Assoc.]**  
National Show of Old Construction Equipment Will be  
Held at the "ILL" Show in Rantoul, Illinois. It will be well  
worth the long ride. Call HCEA Headquarters for Info  
Call Tom at 1-419-352-5616

**July 10 [Pepperell Engine & Tractor Show]**  
Great Old one Day Show Fun in the Grass  
Rt. 111 Town Field at Rotary Pepperell, Mass.  
Call Kim Spaulding 1-978-433-5540

**July 16-17 [18th Long Island Antique Power Show]**  
Hallockville Museum Feature Anything Ford,  
River Head, LI, NY Call Bruce Young 1-631-727-7943

**July 16-17 [Zagray Farm Museum 17th Annual Show]**  
Feature Caterpillar Tractors & Equipment Zagray Farm  
Rt. 85 2 Miles North of Town Green Colchester, CT  
Call Ned 1-860-537-2252 Or Ed 1-860-442-5182

**July 29-30-31 [Elliot Antique 16th Annual Show]**  
Raitt Homestead Farm Museum Rt. 103 Elliot, Maine  
Do not miss this Great New England Show.  
Call Lisa Raitt 1-207-748-3303

**Aug. 10-13 [51th New York Steam Engine Show]**  
Feature is MH, Massey Ferguson & Ferguson Tractors  
Off Rt. 5-20 Canandaigua, NY One of the biggest  
Shows in the East. Call Gary Love 1-585-394-8102

**Aug. 14 [8th Annual Durham Tractor Cruise]**  
Durham fairgrounds Rt. 17 Durham, CT  
Call Karen 1-860-349-9191

**Aug. 13-14 [Straw Hollow Engine Show]**  
31st Annual Show Pine Ridge Farm Boylston, Mass.  
Call Dan Moore 1-508-869-2722

**Aug. 21 [Barrington Old Truck Meet]** Don't miss  
this great Truck Show Behind Cale's Store Rt. 9 & 125  
Barrington, NH Call Don & Marilyn 1-603-664-9761

# “Get the Kids Involved Today”

## “The Future of our Hobby is at Stake”

Aug. 26-28 [ CT River Antique Collectors Klub]  
Great Show Up North. Old Ely Store Rt. 5 2 1/2 miles  
So. Of Fairlee, VT Call Ruth Driscoll 1-802-333-3243

Aug. 28 [ Little Rhody Truck Show]  
R.I. -Conn Historic Airfield Rt. 14 Coverly, RI  
On the State Line Call Roger 1-401-647-7226

Sept 2-4 [ Vermont Steam & Gas Show]  
Junct. Of Rt 100 & 107 Old Gaysville Site  
Stockbridge Call Bob Williams 1-802-467-3611

Sept. 10-11 [The Legendary Dublin Gas & Steam Show]  
Granite State Gas & Steam Assoc. Fall Show Rt. 101  
Dublin, NH Call John Lightbody 1-603-446-3314

Sept 10-11 [ King Hiram Lodge Expo 2011]  
Annual Const. Equipment , Tractor & Truck Show Rt. 8  
Shelton Dairy Shelton, CT Call Darrell 1-203-627-5643  
This show not confirmed at time of printing?

Sept. 17-18 [ Whately Engine Museum Show 2011]  
Steam, Gas, Hot Air, Diesel, Farm, Oil Field & Mill Engines.  
33 Christian Lane Whately, Mass.  
Call The Uphams 1-413-665-0337

**DON'T MISS THIS YEARS 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PICNIC**  
**Saturday March 12, 2011**

**LOOK !!!!!**

To Receive this list for next year  
Send SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE  
TO: ANNUAL SHOW LIST  
C/O CONN. YANKEE TRACTOR  
85 DAYTON RD.  
WATERFORD, CT 06385  
SEND #10 ENVELOPE



Sept 17-18 [ Tabacco Valley Flywheelers Fall Show]  
Rt. 154 Haddam, CT Haddam Meadows State Park  
Fun by the River Call Russ 1-860-347-5774

Sept 23-25 [ CT Antique Machinery Assoc. Fall Show]  
The Legendary Kent Show Has it All  
“DON'T EVER MISS THIS SHOW” Rt 7 North of Kent, CT  
Call John 1-860-354-0296 Now 3 Days of fun

October 1-2 [ Granite State Fall Engine, Steam  
& Tractor Show] This Show is Discontinued

October 1-2 [ Zagray Farm Museum Fall Show & Swap]  
Show includes Tractors, Engines, Construction Machines  
& old Iron of all kinds. Don't miss Consignment Auction  
on Sunday. Clean out your sheds and bring it to the Auction.  
Located on Rt. 85 2 Miles north of town green Colchester, CT  
Call Ned 1-860-537-2252 or Ed 1-860-442-5182

October 8 [ Central Mass. Steam, Gas, Machinery Assoc.]  
[ Fall Swap Meet] Orange Airport, Orange Mass.  
“Great Old Club” Call Dave 1-978-544-5299

October 15 [ Friends of Haul of Frame Museum Fall Swap]  
Exit 87 off I-395 1 1/2 miles So. Of Macdonald's on Rt. 12  
Call Larry Dudek 1-860- 378-2308

### NEXT YEARS PICNIC

**March 11, 2012 [ The Yankees Mudslinger Picnic]**  
17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of Old Iron Friends. Lots of Great Food  
And Talk. Come break out of the Winter Doldrums. Everyone  
is welcome so please come for a day of fun and talk.  
Call “The Yankee” Ed 1-860-442-5182 or 1-860-208-2422

Everyone is free to make copies of this list  
and give to any group or person. Clubs are also  
free to put this list in their newsletters. Help me  
spread the word about this great hobby. Ed B.

On a final note, upon reading this list  
and you spot a mistake call me immediately  
so I can correct future copies. 860-442-5182

If in doubt always, always call to confirm dates  
and times on this list. See You at the Shows  
“The Yankee” Ed Bezanson

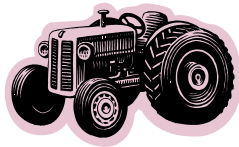
## “Always Remember Safety First”

This is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year that this list has been in print. I started it back in 1986 in the early years of this great hobby. I hope it helps you plan your show year. This list is shorter than usual because I was unable to reach several representatives. If you have a show it is important I get notification by February 1<sup>st</sup>. I try to cover the most important shows and the list changes from year to year. Ed B.

Dianne Tewksbury  
QVEA Editor  
90 Park Road  
Colchester, CT 06415

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, INC.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DUES ARE \$20.00/YR PER PERSON. PAYABLE WITH APPLICATION. INCLUDES QVEA DUES AND INSURANCE. **RETURN TO: QVEA, 180 SOUTH PLUMB RD, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457**