

MERCER COUNTY ANTIQUE POWER ASSOCIATION

FALL NEWSLETTER

2018

The summer has gone by and it's now time to think about fall. Here are some things we will be doing and we want to extend an invitation to everyone to join in the fun.

On October 12 at 5:30 pm we will be having a short work night at the Stoneboro Fairgrounds to get the food pavilion ready for our picnic that Sunday. We will be moving and cleaning tables so we need some younger folks who have the strength to move those heavy tables, please.

October 14 is our annual tractor/hay ride. Meet at the Stoneboro Fairgrounds from 1:00-1:30 pm. If you are bringing a tractor to drive there is lots of parking for your trailers. There will be a wagon with bales of hay to ride on or one wagon will have no hay for us more mature people who prefer to bring our lawn chairs. There are also steps to get on the wagons and lots of helping hands. We leave the fairgrounds at 2 pm.

If you don't want to do the tractor ride or hay ride, please come to the picnic and enjoy some "tractor time" fellowship with everyone.

The fall club picnic will be held at the fairgrounds starting around 5 pm. The club provides grilled hot dogs, buns, condiments, hot and cold drinks, plates and silverware. Everyone please bring a dish to share. We will have a generator running if you want to bring a crock pot and plug it in while you are on the hay ride. We will also have large ice chests for the cold foods. This is the first time in a lot of years that we have combined the picnic and hay ride. In order to make sure we have enough food, please **RSVP** to John McGhee at 724-475-3900. Just leave a message with your name and the number of people coming with you. If you have questions about the weather on the day of the hay ride you may call John's cell at 724-699-4344.

Our Fall Banquet will be November 10, 2018. Please see the information on the enclosed sheet.

Also on the banquet sheet is a question from the By-Laws committee. As we update and revise the by-laws we are wondering about the night we should have our meetings. This will be decided by majority vote during the banquet.

At the banquet this year if you want to participate in the gift exchange please bring a wrapped Christmas gift. We will have a table set up where you will drop your presents off and then get a ticket for the exchange.

We will not be having a Directors' or General meeting in October. The Banquet is our November get-together and there are no meetings in December. Meetings start again next January.

At the September meeting the Officers for 2019 were voted in:

President - Reece Coulter
Vice President - Brian Woods
Secretary - Janette Wike
Treasurer - Janice McElhinny
Membership Secretary - Sheila Grossman

Directors for the 2019-2021 term are:

Dave Beatty Nathan Sawyer
Rick Conrad Rosemary Stalker
Duane King

We want to give a big Thank You to Walt Darraugh for the many years he has given to our Association as President. Enjoy your time off! A big Thank You to John McGhee as Vice President and Peggy Coulter as our Membership Secretary. Your years of hard work are very much appreciated.

Last newsletter we had a letter to the Editor and yet we were still very much hurting for help and this is with a total of over 450 members. In this newsletter, as the Editor, I have put down my thoughts. Thank you for listening.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

To all members of the Mercer County Antique Power Association:

The Club had a successful show in July and we also had a successful fair season. With a lot of hard work we were able to cover our expenses and realized a profit so we are able to continue another year as a tractor club.

Do you know that on Saturday night from 4:00 to 8:30 pm while all of you were at the Fair enjoying yourselves, there was an 82 year old, an 81 year old, four others from 70 to 79 years old and me (the "baby" of the group at 68 years old) working in the food trailer?

Ken and I **DID NOT** get to see some of our Grandson's pulls because we were in the kitchen cooking and waiting on customers. We did "run" out to see a couple of his pulls but we missed some because of customers waiting. Did you get to watch your loved ones and friends? Did you enjoy the pulls? Monies from the pulls and food sold in the trailer is what keeps the pulls going for you to enjoy.

Many of you are happy to come, bring your tractors and enjoy the show. Those of us who are working the kitchen are not getting any younger. All of you "younger people" (anyone younger than me), I thank you so much for the work you did. Next year we are going to need people to step up and help because some of us are not able to do as much as we have been doing. We have two members who no longer can do what they did before due to poor health and two members, who were a big part of the kitchen team, have passed away. Some of the rest of us are having health issues and/or we just do not have the stamina we used to have.

The same goes for other areas of the Show. Working a few hours at the gate so that the same people do not always have to be out there would be a great help. Help during the tractor pulls would be greatly appreciated. Those hours are hard work for a few volunteers who often get no breaks during the entire pull. If you have a love for the pulls, and our club, please come and volunteer a couple of hours.

Hopefully it won't get to the point of having to hire someone to prepare and sell our food. If that happens, we probably won't be able to make enough profit to sustain our funds and the MCAPA will soon have financial problems. Our association is non-profit and we are not needing to make tons of money, but we do need enough in our fund to provide for advertising, other show expenses and the scholarships we give away to your family members. Do you enjoy the love of tractors and want to encourage that love to our children and grandchildren? This is a great organization. Don't let it slip away. Give the organization a few hours of your time, **please**.

Mary Wike, Editor

The next newsletter will be sent in the Spring of 2019. Don't forget that your membership dues for 2019 must be paid by the end of February, 2019 in order for you to remain a current member.

I hope you all have a Happy and Blessed Holiday Season.

Mary Wike, 814-786-7348