

ON THE TRACTOR SEAT



Volume 21, Issue 02

February 2010

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HI RELIC'S,

COME OUT AND BE PART OF IT!

Part of an action packed year at "Morgan's Field" club meetings, work parties, swap meet, yard sales, fire-ups, plow days, planting; barley, hay, milo, corn, ect.....

Something to thrash and silage to chop up, at the Antelope Valley Fair this year.

If this sounds like something you and your family/friends would like to do, come out and be a part of it.

Come with your ideas, strong backs, boots and gloves, ready to have some fun.

Be there or be square!

Sincerely,

Vice President Dan Morgan, aka David Pickus

See you all at the February 13, 2010 club meeting out at Dan's meeting place.

Remember Meetings are held every Second Saturday of the Month at 2PM

RUSTY RELICS BUSINESS MEETING

HELD JANUARY 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President David Pickus at 2:04 PM. Flag salute led by George Trahan. The minutes were approved by George and a second by Leesa.

OFFICERS REPORT

PRESIDENT: David Pickus thanked Scott for such a good job on the Website.

VICE PRESIDENT: Dan Morgan welcomed everyone to his dirt field. Dan had lots of new and refreshing ideas and goals for the club this year.

SECRETARY: Cheryle Stacy had no report.

TREASURER: Linda Baker reports beginning Bal. \$xxxx.xx and ending balance \$xxxx.xx. If you have any questions, ask Linda or Cheryl for a breakdown. Report was approved by Phil Shiver and a second by Jess Baker.

SHOW DIRECTOR: Jess Baker suggests we leave the Fairbanks at home, due to upkeep and not take it to Tulare. Jess says we need to bring all tractors, engines, etc. To Tulare.

SAFETY DIRECTOR: Red dog has no report other than the new owner of the engine raffle, was very excited about his win!!!!

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: Ron Hanson reports, last year's count was 87 paid members. All dues need to be paid up, in order to go to Tulare.

PURCHASING DIRECTOR: Art Thomas had no report.

LIBRARIAN: Scott Wachlin had no report.

Please visit our web site at www.RUSTYRELICS.ORG all the pictures that are in our Tractor Seat, are in color on our web page.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Bob Hanson said the news letter went out well, with no problems.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

Continued on next page.

NEW BUSINESS: Red dog feels the Fairbanks is a very important part of Tulare. Lots of discussion on cost of the Fairbanks. David has appointed a committee to go to Reds and estimate the actual cost to get it road worthy. Dan made a motion and Dave Calvert second the motion. We discussed if we should buy another raffle engine. Dan Morgan made a motion to buy another engine but wait till Tulare and Jess second the motion.

We had 23 members in attendance.
Plus one guest from the website named Ted Luiten. Thank you Ted for attending our meeting.

Thank you Dan, for the BBQ hotdogs, Luci provided the baked beans. Leesa brought a surprise cake for David and Luci.
Once again congratulations!!!
We all had a great time!!!!

Next meeting – second Saturday at Dan Morgan’s dirt field. 20th West and Avenue N.

Minutes prepared by Cheryle Stacey, Secretary.

IMPORTANT FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN, 2010 dues are due this month. They remain the same.
\$26. Full membership, \$19. Auxiliary or Junior member (no voting rights), \$10. Age 70 – 80. Free for our very very senior members over 80.
Deadline for membership renewal is February 28, 2010.

LEEAS’S BIRTHDAY REPORT: FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Diane Engle	Feb. 18 th
MaryIn Ross	Feb. 22 nd
Tom Ross	Feb. 25 th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ONE AND ALL !!!!!!!

And

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY – FERUARY 14TH

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS & SHOWS FOR 2010

February 13 th	Club Meeting
March 13 th	Club Meeting
April 16-17-18	Tulare Antique Farm Show
May 8 th	Club Meeting

Please note – all dates are subject to change. Check your news letter for any new dates and times.

NEXT CLUB MEETING IS FEBRUARY 13TH AT 2:00 PM

WHERE: Dan Morgan's Club House & Dirt Field
ADDRESS: 2007 West Avenue N, (Lot "B") at 20th Street
West, in Palmdale, Ca. 93550

From the 14 freeway, go west on Avenue N passed 20th Street, to first dirt field (lot B) on the right. "Look for Tractor's".

California Antique Farm Equipment Show- April 16-18
International Agri-Center, Tulare, Ca.
www.farmshow.org 800-999-9186

The Early Days Gas Engine & Tractor Assn. Inc in conjunction with the Historic Santa Margarita Ranch will host the 2010

"Best of the West" 50th Anniversary National Show
Hosted by Branches 3, 8, and 27

June 24 through 27, 2010

Plan now to come participate in the Best of the West Show at the
Santa Margarita Ranch, 9000 Yerba Buena Avenue,
Santa Margarita, Ca. Phone 805-748-0593



A nice baked cake from Leesa, decorated with a Bride & Groom, was presented to Mr. & Mrs. Pickus, at our last club meeting.

Congratulations from all your friends, at Branch #30

LOOKING BACK

1995 – In the National News, Jack Versteeg notes that there are more than 9000 members in the National. He also mentions Sec/Trea Menno Kliever was in the hospital having a knee replaced.

Bob Fetters of Mojave won the Raffle Engine in Dec., but took the cash instead. The 1994 raffle netted the club \$1300. The engine will be up for raffle again for 1995.

Carl Bergman along with Ray McCormick and Dale Fry will meet with Jim Bort for the possibility of acquiring land for the club.

Jack Barton and Jerry Burak have set the first swap meet for November.

2000 – In sad news, Jack Versteeg passed away on Jan. 5th.

With the exception of one year, he was elected President of the National from 1976 until 1998. Under his guidance, the number of branches rose to 98 with nearly 10,000 members.

A letter was read by Annette McCormick, which was an agreement with Bea Fairchild, for the donation of Otis's 1934 Ford truck. It was moved by Ray McCormick and a second by Leesa Mansperger to purchase historical plates, for the truck.

2005- In the Vice Presidents message, Luci Fountain states that her biggest task for the year is to sell raffle tickets (where have we heard that before?). Secretary Annette McCormick will send a card to the Mac Martin's (Jerry Mac Martin was the webmaster for the Nation's website).

Also read a thank you note from June Currie for the flowers sent by branch #30.

Under new business, Annette McCormick moved and Jerry Burak seconded to have Craig Mathews make arrangements to update the clubs website.

And that's the way it was.....



January 2010
Rusty Relics Meeting

Reddog, trying to start the Ford tractor before the Jan. club meeting.

And, why won't this da.. thing start?????



January 2010 Rusty Relics Meeting



Jan 2010

The meeting was called to order. Vice President Dan, has the floor.

It sure is warmer inside.

This is an article written by John Moorhead,
From EDGE&TA Branch #152. Cletrac Clatter, Dec 2009.

SPARK PLUGS – According to the laws of physics, electron flow is from a negatively charge surface to a positively charged surface, and per the theory of thermionic, electrons flow more easily when leaving a hot surface rather than from a cold surface.

From the perspective of a spark plug, electrons flow more easily from the center electrode to the outside arm, since the arm is more efficient at dissipating heat than the well-insulated center electrode. Reversed polarity as applied to the spark plug will require 20 to 40 percent more voltage for a given spark intensity, since the electricity would be then flowing from the colder arm the hot center electrode.

Spark plugs “spark” is in reality an “ionization trail”. Ionization is necessary to permit passage of the spark through the high resistance of the gases forming the gap between the center electrode and the outer arm within a combustion chamber during the combustion cycle. With a negative charge applied to a spark plugs hotter center electrode, the gap will be ionized at a lower voltage than if a positive charge is applied to the center electrode.

(Negatively charged electrons are attracted to positively charged protons).

Since protons have a higher mass, they cause more wear and tear on the electrode they collide with. The greatest erosion occurs at the source electrode where the spark originates.

If the spark is going the wrong way (from the spark plug arm to the center electrode due to reverse polarity of the high voltage circuit) then the spark plug arm will experience excessive erosion.

This is because manufacturers design the center electrode to resist erosion, not the arm. Over time, spark plugs erode and become less efficient as the gap increases, resulting in increased fuel consumption and pollution, and decreased engine performance.

Electrons emit from the sharp edges of a flat center electrode much more efficiently than one that is rounded, so it must be kept filed flat with sharp edges around the perimeter.

As these edges erode, the spark becomes weaker and less reliable. However, once the electrodes are filed flat, some of the anti-corrosion outside plating such as platinum or iridium is removed, causing them to be slightly less efficient.

Always re-gap according to manufacturers specifications. Use new plugs gaskets if possible, and clean the plug recesses in the engine head before and after removal.

Lubricate the plug threads with a good anti-seize compound, especially if they are installed in an aluminum head, and torque the plugs in their thread seats to the manufacturer's specifications to insure proper heat transfer.

Combustion temperature ranges from 2000 degrees centigrade to 2500 degrees Centigrade (3600 degrees Fahrenheit to 4500 degrees Fahrenheit). However, heat transfer in the spark plug and other factors combine to maintain a spark firing-end temperature range from a low of about 400 to 500 degrees Centigrade to high of about 850 to 1000 degrees Centigrade (750 to 930 degrees Fahrenheit to 1560 to 1830 degrees Fahrenheit). Thus, it is imperative to have the plug gapped correctly, with clean sharp edges on the center electrode.

After several hundred service hours, spark plug gaps widen as the electrodes wear. They become rounded due to the combination of intense heat, pressure and corrosive gases within the combustion chamber, plus spark erosion due to colliding electrons and protons. Proper plug gaps are essential for smooth engine operation. Clean and re-gap used but serviceable spark plugs, or better yet, install a new set.

If preventative maintenance is neglected, up to 30% more voltage is required to fire them.

A nice article, the editor.

Don't forget Valentine's Day February 14th.

If you have some extra Junk food like cookies, candy or chips, please bring them to our next club meeting on the 13th.