

ON THE TRACTOR SEAT



Volume 20, Issue 11

November 2009

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

This is a very short Tractor Seat this Month due to no meeting in October.

This is a message from the Vice President, Luci Fountain (no president's message this month).

THE NOVEMBER MEETING IS VERY IMPORTANT! November 14th, at 2:00 PM out at Dan Morgan's Place. 20th West and Ave N, Palmdale.

Nominations are now open for the 2010 new officers. Please step up and run for an office. Vice President, Secretary and Purchasing Director are now open.

Don't forget the Christmas Meeting and Party, December 12th at the Rosamond Library.

See you all at the next meeting.

Luci Fountain, Vice President.

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

By time you receive the Tractor Seat, Veterans Day November 11th will have past. However, I'm writing the following article for all our Veterans.

We have many friends now serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. I believe the story below is one of the main reasons they are there. Let's never forget. They paid the price!

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies school teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks out of her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks.

Looking around, confused, they asked, Ms. Cothren, where are our desks? She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me what you have done to earn the right to sit at a desk.' They thought, well, maybe it's our grades. 'No, she said. Maybe it's our behavior. She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.' And so they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom.

By early afternoon television news crews had started gathering in Ms. Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk less classroom. Martha Cothren said, "Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) US Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall.

By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education.

Don't ever forget it.'

God Bless America – and Our Veterans!!

What is a Veteran? A "Veteran." Whether active duty, discharged, retired, or a reserve is 'someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America," for an amount of 'up to and including his life," That is "honor," and there are way, too many people in this country today, who no longer understand that fact.

The Editor.

RUSTY RELICS BUSINESS MEETING

There was no business meeting in October.

MEMBER
OF
THE
MONTH



This month our member is a bit of a mystery man. Some of you might have heard his name. Some of you might have met him once or twice. Some of you know him very well and some of you won't know him at all. He is our very own Owen Strang, member #79.

Owen is a life time honorary member for doing all the paper and foot work getting Branch #30 incorporated.

Owen is 74 years young and use to be very active in our club. He has two "Green" tractors and if I'm not mistaken they are stored out at Scott Wachlin's home. They might even still be for sale?

Owen is married to Arlene, she use to be an active member too. They live in Simi Valley and they do the retired thing now. They have all their daily shows lined up and go out to eat a lot.

Owen served on the Burbank City Police Force for 33 years. Owen told me he only had to fire his gun one time on a burglary suspect, but missed him.

He was running and all Owen remembers is he was wearing a white tee shirt. You might still see the bad guy running, in Lancaster.

Owen left the Force as a detective and I heard from the grape vine he might still be “packing”. Watch out for Owen! Owen is glad he never had to shoot anyone, and had a pretty nice career on the force.

While he was on the Force, Owen met Clint Eastwood and Jay Leno. He said they both are very nice people. But, don’t mess with Dirty Harry. Owen went to Verdgo High in Tujunga, Ca. then went off to the Army, he said one of the happiest days of his life was when he got out of the Army. One of Owens favorite things to do is going out to eat. Image that. He also likes to watch tractor shows. He and Arlene still go to some of the Police Force Ball’s. He thinks they are very elegant and it’s nice to get all dresses up sometimes.

Owen has one son and three grandchildren. Together he and Arlene have 12 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. The older grandchildren like to come over and tell the younger grandchildren “no you can’t touch Grandma & Grandpa’s nice stuff. I wonder who they heard that from. I asked Owen what is the one thing you would like everyone to know about you, his answer, Honesty – To a Fault. People have told me I’m too honest for my own good, even when it’s not in my best interest. Owen, you wouldn’t want to be any other way.

Thank you for your time today and for all you did for Branch #30 in the past. We hope to see you and Arlene at the Christmas Party, this year.
Written by Luci Fountain.

LEESA’S BIRTHDAY REPORT: For the Month of November

Norris Engle	November 9 th
Patricia Duckworth	November 9 th
Dale Fry	November 10 th
Bea Fairchild	November 15 th
“Luci Fountain”	November 18 th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to one and all !!!!!!!!!!

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS & SHOWS FOR 2009

November 14th

Club Meeting

The December Meeting is our Annual Christmas Dinner, held at the Rosamond Library. Saturday Night December 12th

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

NEXT CLUB MEETING IS NOVEMBER 14TH At 2:00 PM

WHERE: Dan Morgan's Club House & Dirt Field.

ADDRESS: 2007 West Avenue N at 20th Street West.

CLUB MEETING: 2:00 PM.

From the 14 freeway go west on Avenue N passed 20th Street, to the first Dirt Field on the right. Look for Tractor's.

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

GUNTHER'S YARD SHOW

SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2009. 10AM to 4:00PM

Betty Gunther and family would like to invite you all to their yard in Long Beach. There will be hot dogs, salad and soft drinks for a small charge. Come ride on a rail car, sit in the S.P. caboose, kick the tires on an old truck or two, lean on some old tractors and see all kinds of neat rusty stuff.

American Truck Historical Society, Military Vehicle Collectors Club, L.B. Model "T" Club, A.M.C., W.A.P.A., ALL MEMBERS & FRIENDS INVITED.

DIRECTIONS: Take the 91 Riverside fwy toward Long Beach, Exit on Cherry Ave (south bound), Proceed south ½ mile to Curry St (1 block beyond Harding), Turn left on Curry St and continue to end of the street. Gunther Yard is the last lot on the right. 2380 Curry St.

See You There.



Some more great pictures from the Antelope Valley Fair.

Branch #30 Model "A" truck.

Jack MacGibbons aka "Junior", -- nice train display.



Nice Caterpillar Crawler!

Owners are Tom & MaryIn Ross

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EXTRA PAGE.

**DON'T FORGET TO LOOK ON OUR CLUB WEB SITE AT
WWW.RUSTYRELICS.ORG**