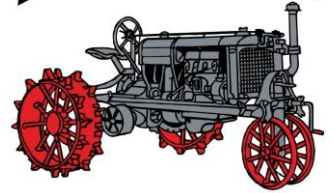


QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS

Zagray Farm



Museum

The Zagray Quarterly

14 June 2020

PRESIDENT'S NOTES -- George Lehr

The pandemic has caused a huge disruption of our normal lives and routines. We had no March or April meeting, or Mudslinger picnic, and area events in Connecticut were canceled way ahead of time. The Woodstock Fair, for example, was cancelled weeks ago and it's a Labor Day weekend event!

However, at the May meeting I discussed my feelings about staging our July show. The reopening of Connecticut is underway, and the schedule for phase two of the reopening has already been moved up, so I'm feeling good about our show happening on schedule. We'll know better by the June meeting.

I hope that "Reopen Connecticut" continues to go well and that we get to experience our July show as we did in the good old days; except with face masks.

In other news, long time member Dave McClary has resigned as QVEA Director, thus opening a position on the board to be filled by election at the October meeting. Candidates may apply prior to the August meeting.

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

There are a couple of spots in the new Tractor Barn available. A \$2500 donation will reserve an 8' by 22' space in the building. The building committee reviews and approves all spaces to ensure we have good quality, appropriate displays. Act now, as they will be gone soon!

Dues for 2020 are due and payable, and still \$20.00 per year.
Lifetime memberships are \$500 and help the museum grow!

I will be sending out reminders to all who have spaces in the building for the yearly maintenance portion of their spaces. The building committee settled on \$75 for the first space, and \$50 each for additional spaces. The funds are to help offset costs for electricity, insurance, and a soon to come IP camera system.

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. The 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 are set-up with Amazon Smile as well. This program donates ½ of 1 percent of eligible purchases to a charity of your choice. The pricing is the same on Amazon Smile as on Amazon. Paste or type this link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-1426891> into your browser to connect to QVEA's page and get started!

Saw Mill

We had been considering a couple of changes in the area of the Saw mill. The road comes close to the mill on the take-off side, creating a high traffic area during shows and making the approaches to remove finished product steep and difficult to maneuver the forklifts. A re-routing of the road to the left of 4 trees allowed for the approach grades to be substantially eased, gave us much more spectator space, and allowed us to more easily divert water away from the mill. It's about 90 percent complete, with some finish grading by a dozer left to do.

Our emphasis remains on producing the necessary materials for the second engine building. We can now store lumber under the rear shed roof of the new tractor building, giving us more room under the mill.

SAW LOGS NEEDED BADLY!

Logs for the saw mill. In particular, 16'6" pine logs that are 20 inch diameter or more on the small end for rafters (10 logs needed), and four 24'6" logs of similar size if at all possible. Call Art at 860-982-5158 to haul.

Pavilion Building

Electrical, communication and water piping has been installed to the building, as well as a sewer pipe. We poured the floor a couple of weeks ago and contracted for the well to be installed. We cut the posts, knee braces, pads for the beams, etc. Stained everything out back of the tractor building and manufactured the steel bases and beam ties. Thanks to Marc Bezanson for the fabrication work. All the parts are at the Galvanizer at this moment and should be done shortly. The truss package has been delivered as well. Erection at the end of June. Help will be needed! Contact Art at 860-982-5158

George and Allen George helped Ned plane the boards that Art would use to form the sides of the Pavilion's cement floor.



This is our cement guy, Franky's father operating a walk-behind trowel to smoothen the cement. The boards framing the cement were cut at the farm and planed as shown above.

Kid's play area

The current (now former) play area interfered with the installation of the septic system and crowded the rear of the pavilion. A solution was needed that solved these issues, provided more food vendor

space, and provided more shade for the kids. After kicking around a couple of ideas we elected to move the area 20 feet toward the pond and 20 feet further away from the pavilion. This necessitated moving the toy shed as well. That was accomplished this past weekend along with setting the posts. Dianne and Ned have been painting and repairing the toy shed. It looks great! Railings will be installed the weekend of the 13th.

The post removing crew (Art & Allen)



**The post hole digging crew
(Karl, Dave B., Craig, & Charlie)**



Tractor Building

We are moving things into the building to be set up on the mezzanine in the spring and thinking about how to display other items. We have also set up a consignment area at the west door where we can sell unneeded items and take in items from members to sell. It works like this: Bring the item to the area, fill out a numbered tag and enter your info in the blue binder, along with minimum sale price. You need not be there to sell an item. 10% of the sale price goes to the Farm. See Art for more info

Needed!

Decent engine hoist for the repair building. We have a monster and one of questionable quality.

*I couldn't resist
sharing this photo
of the BIG
Komatsu stuck
and needing a
tow from the little
D6!*



ENGINES – Connor Bishop & Ethan Bailey

Despite a slow start to the year, we're making progress on farm projects. I am happy to say that the Clark forklift is finally finished, re-assembled, with functional brakes! It will be a great help to have a second forklift around the farm so the Case doesn't have to be shared as much. Another project that we would like to finish this year is putting a better muffler on the Euclid dump truck, however our muffler pile hasn't yielded anything large enough. If anyone has a suitable stack muffler with about a 6" inlet/outlet, please consider donating it! Our ears would appreciate it.

A new member of ours, Logan, has dove into the project of fixing the steering on our Payhauler dump truck with lots of enthusiasm. The original steering components have been removed and replaced with a full hydraulic steering valve and cylinder that he has found in his personal machinery boneyard and donated to the farm for this project. Once I make some hydraulic hoses for it, we'll be able to take it for a test run!

Ethan has been collecting line-shafting for the line-shaft project in the engine building. The Atlas Imperial will power an overhead line-shaft in the building to run various machinery, such as the button machine from the button factory that the Atlas came from. The shaft will also run through the wall outside, so we can power another belt driven display outside on the concrete apron.

I recently did a major clean up in the engine building and gained a whole bay of space across from the Fairbanks Morse where I will install my Bessemer FC engine. I've spent the last few weeks cleaning, degreasing, and wire-wheeling loose paint off the engine in preparation for new paint. Once that is done, we will move it into the building and plumb gas, water, and air to it for a permanent display.

There's never a shortage of projects at the Farm, so if you have an interest in something particular or just want to help out, stop by on a weekend and see what's going on. See you at the Farm!

FROM THE SECRETARY & EDITOR – Dianne Tewksbury

Anyone getting bored at home? Come to the farm! We could use your help!!

I've taken on painting the children's playground storage building. All of the out buildings need painting. The engine building painting never got completed. The 2nd story of the house still needs painting. Pick a building, any building, and make it your project. There's always trimming, mowing and cleaning up of fallen branches, etc. Art's going to need help real soon building the Pavilion. Contact Art at 860-982-5158. There's always something to work on. If you want to help, contact myself or Ned at 860-537-2252 or George at 860-639-1213 or just come to the farm on weekends.



Sean pulled out the old orchard tree stumps and Jerry Goodale is planting some new fruit trees that he grew from seeds from the original Zagray fruit trees.

NEW REPAIR SHOP -- Dave Chester, Allen Alonzo, George (there might have been others) installed insulation and drywall on the walls of the old tractor shed to make it into a new repair shop that can be heated during the winter. The guys are really looking forward to having a place to get some repairs done during the winter. It's pretty much completed and most everything has been moved from the old repair shop. Dave spray painted the whole inside including the ceiling, Allen installed wiring for the lights and WIFI, cabinets and lights are in, the floors have been cleaned up, I washed the windows. Dave's finding benches, even a couple that used to be elevator doors. It's looking really nice! What a difference from when it was the tractor shed!



FARM IMPLEMENTS -- Ned has been busy cleaning up some farm implements, some of which have been finding new homes up on the mezzanine.



This 1865 hand-cranked food chopper was made by the famous Laroy Starrett, maker of precision measuring tools. It looks great after Ned meticulously cleaned up all the hardware, except for the bucket which is too fragile to work on. He made a new bottom for it and it's now on display.



This is an 1860's hand-powered thrashing machine he's going to clean up & paint for display.



This is a 1902 hand-cranked bone grinder purchased and donated by Stan Barnes.



Art and Allen helped Ned move an antique, early 1900's potato sorter to the Wood Working Building where Ned plans to replace some damaged wooden parts.



Dianne Tewksbury
QVEA Secretary & Editor
90 Park Road
Colchester, CT 06415

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (QVEA)



NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____

STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Dues are \$20.00 per person for one year, payable with application.
Dues include liability insurance at the farm.

RETURN TO: QVEA, 180 SOUTH PLUMB RD, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457