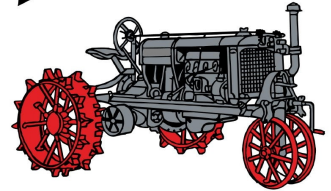


QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS

Zagray Farm



Museum

The Zagray Quarterly

21 June 2022

CONNOR BISHOP, Acting President

With good weather finally, upon us, projects at the Farm are now in full swing. Even though we had an unbelievably chilly May show, the turnout was good – let's hope for a big July show with the Gravely club! Our spectators will see our numerous improvements – grass in the field where we had a huge hole and a topsoil pile for years, the topsoil and screening plant near the sawmill is gone and replaced with graded dirt and grass seed, and the foundation for the second engine building taking shape!

In our current engine building, we are continuing to work on the installation of line shafting to be run off of the Atlas diesel for the purpose of running flat belt-driven equipment for display. The new engine building will be under construction soon once the floor is poured and will be a good opportunity for those looking to volunteer to get involved. I am also working on skids for a new Bessemer oilfield engine and rod line pumping power. This will finally allow me to make an engine/pumpjack set up like I have been wanting to, and will be a good display to show what these engines actually did years ago.

This year will be like many others - lots of projects and progress, and always something new for our spectators to see. It's exciting to see the Farm progress as it has been. Hope to see you there!

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

Dues for 2022 are due, and still \$20.00 per year.

Lifetime memberships are \$500 and help the museum grow!

Donations for the Ray DeZara engine collection for the third of four payments are needed. Please note on your donation that it is for this purpose.

The May show weather looked poor at best - cold, windy and rainy. Somewhat to our surprise, the rain held off and the turnout was terrific. Everyone was bundled up for the cold but still stayed late in the day to enjoy all that we have to offer. The kitchen was very busy and the new kid's barrel ride was constantly full along with all the other things that make up our show! Now on to July! Bigger and better every show!

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

The sawmill was busy during the spring show cutting oak timbers for use as skids under various engines. There are still a few to cut, but I believe we have the material available. Needed! Pine logs 16'6" or 12'6" as always.

2nd Engine Building

20 support piers, the hole for the Wichman, the Ruston, and the Clark exhaust were excavated with the little blue New Holland. A little tedious, but she got the job done!

Began pouring concrete! The first pour was the 20 piers for support posts and the base for the Wichman engine. Fortunately, we had a great concrete guy on the truck as it's a slower than normal process to pour 20 individual piers. The second pour completed the Wichman engine base, the walls for the Clark underground exhaust, and the base for the Ruston. Ready now for the third pour – Ruston completion, Clark completion, and the floor for the compressor shed behind the building. Then the floors can be done.

If all goes well, we should be ready for framing right after the July Show!

Grass, grass, and more grass!

Topsoil, grading and grass seed were completed around the Pavilion, septic field, the ends of the tractor barn, and the far end of the field. A huge push to complete this project as it has been underway for nearly 2 years! Watering it proved to be a big task and required water to be pumped from the pond. This added substantially to our usable show space and prepared us for the Gravelly show. Some new professional bleachers were acquired to add to the pulling pit, and another area near the engine building under construction was cleared out for additional stationary engine displays. A nice shed was built thanks to Michel Wolcott for the music people to store chairs and stuff, and a sunshade added to the kids play area. Seems like there is something new every week!

DIANNE TEWKSBURY, SECRETARY & EDITOR

Ned and I are thankful for all the members who have been helping out with all the mowing and trimming around the house, orchard, machine shop, show fields, and parking areas. "Thank you!!"

For the past month or so, Ned has been restoring antique items donated to the farm by Walt Brockett in North Haven. Ned, Gerry Goodale, Frank Shaw, Frank's brother, and myself went to North Haven to pack everything up – it was a small building stuffed full of farm implements and miscellaneous items from the rafters down. Ned seems to have inherited the project to sort through everything and decide what to keep, what to sell, and what to junk. It's probably because he was brought up on a farm and can identify many of the items. I've been trying to help identify other items and make signs for displays. I found a Google app that uses your pictures to search the internet to find identification. It has helped several times. Here are few but you should visit us during our shows to see the rest of the collection.





Antique Primitive Farm Handmade Carved Dairy 'Calf Poke'

This is a dairy farm primitive handmade wood calf poke or fencer from an estate in NW Wisconsin. It is from an old non-operating family dairy farm near Milltown thought to have ceased operations in the 1920s depression era. These were used only on the problem calves that pushed on fences or gates to reach grass on the other side. In this era fence posts were not three feet in the ground and were not treated. Reality is the post was in the ground about a foot or so and rotted very quickly making them easily pushed over by a strong animal. It was placed over the calf's neck with the long pole part between the calf's front legs.

Antique Bog, Mud, or Marsh Horse Shoes

This is most likely an antique--they were used on horses that worked in bogs or marshes to help them not get stuck in the mud. Long ago they were used in the cranberry bogs. The earliest known production date is from 1750 to 1760.



Antique Wooden Leather Harness Makers Hand Held Vise Primitive 1860s

26 inches in length

ZAGRAY FARM MUSEUM

Next two 2022 shows:

July 16 & 17

October 1 & 2

Hope you can join us!

**Talk to club members about
getting involved and help with
various projects.**

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