

QUINEBAUG VALLEY ENGINEERS



The Zagray Quarterly

March 2018

PRESIDENT'S NOTES George Lehr

I'm really looking forward to spring and to the end of cold stormy weather, but progress has been made at the farm. For example, the woodworking building not only has electricity now, it has lights, with switches inside either of the locked doors!

We received some nice donations. They included an orchard sprayer and a Hershburg Power Axe log splitter. Wood has been cut and is drying for use to completely restore the wood splitter so it can be run for demonstration at our shows (Ned is leading the project). We also received a large collection of items that had been used for decoration in an East Windsor restaurant; a vintage bench whetstone, tractor pictures and various items such as lanterns, signs, antique farm haying tools, saws, scythes, loppers, trimmers and other hand tools.

I hope that you're all as anxious as I am for spring and will see you at the Mudslinger picnic at the farm on Saturday, April 7th.

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER – Art Chester

It's that time of year again. 2018 dues are still \$20. If you are mailing it, make your check payable to QVEA, and mail it to 180 South Plumb Road, Middletown, CT 06457. There's no need to fill out a new membership form, but if you have changes to your address, phone number or email, please include the changes. A stamped, self-addressed envelope is also welcome. Any and all donations beyond the dues are tax deductible and very much needed and appreciated!

If you have an email address, please email Dianne Tewksbury at tewksbdk@outlook.com to change from snail mail! That will save our printing-sorting-folding-mailing crew some labor, and save your club a lot of money, as well as being environmentally 'green'.

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!

The BIG Building

For lack of an official name (yet)

The board of Directors has elected to move forward with this project this year. Available funds stand around \$200,000 without impacting our Zagray Reserve level or the pavilion project. We have a loan agreement in place for another \$100,000 when needed. We are still seeking donations to make up the shortfall and lessen the amount borrowed. To emphasize the point of not waiting any longer, we have been notified that steel prices will rise April 12th to King Construction, which would impact our project another \$8,000 if we are not under contract by then. The building is \$245,000 as it stands now, and an additional \$70,000 for concrete. Permits and electrical will add another \$10,000. We will begin the permit process immediately on receiving the plans.

We would like to see concrete in the ground over the summer, and fall construction. Our portion of the project is mainly excavation and electrical. Help will be needed preparing the trench for footings, and a small **SkidSteer to assist that project is needed!!!!**
If anyone knows who has one we can borrow for a week or two -- we need it!

We will send temporary power to the site via the existing pipes to both ends of the building for the contractor. Help is needed for all phases of our work here, from trucking away excess material, to grading, to electrical and piping work to make this project happen. We will be under a timeline to allow the contractor to have the site for construction. There are still things to discuss and finalize, most notably the size of a gravel area in the building for crawlers.

Imagine what the addition of a 17,600 square foot building will do for our shows, as well as protect our presently homeless equipment and provide some space for members personal restorations, etc. It will also provide twelve premium 16X14 covered display/vendor spaces with electricity during shows using the front shed roof.

I know that together we can make it happen!

Stationary Engine Building

I said in the last newsletter that we were complete, but another project has been suggested (go figure)! Now that we have concrete aprons around the building, we have

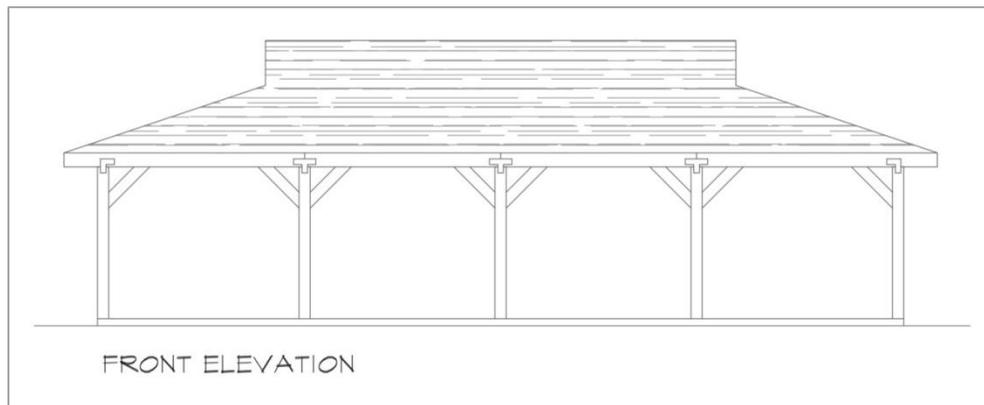
decided to put a roof over the rear portion of the west side of the building for the Budda engine to be displayed. It's only a matter of time before the same request is made for the other side, I'm sure!

Saw Mill

Still wanted – Logs for the saw mill. Even though we received a substantial number of logs, we are still on the lookout for more. 16'6" pine logs in particular that are 20-inch diameter or more on the small end will make good rafters. 12'6" logs of similar size will be used for 2X4's and siding. We have a good supply, but having extra material in stock would be nice. Power has been installed to the woodworking building and the piping extended to the saw mill. We'll have power there in the spring.

Pavilion Building

We encountered yet another delay after going to Wetlands. They wanted us to move the pavilion such that it was more than 25 feet from the pond. This required us to rethink the location as we did not have space to move it in it's present location. After some discussion, we have moved the pavilion to the other side of the kids play yard, facing south toward the field. That puts us about 40 feet from the pond, and ultimately places the pavilion in a more advantageous place for shows as well as future events on (weddings and such) on the property. Wetlands approved that location, so we can move on to Chatham Health District for the septic.



EQUIPMENT

Connor Bishop/Ethan Bailey

There may not be too much activity at the Farm yet, but pieces of farm projects have found their way home to be worked on. I've cleaned up two hit and miss engine cylinder heads and make gaskets for two donated engines that we will hopefully have running soon. The injector pump that I removed from our TD-14 has been loosened up and seems to be functioning the way it should, and in the coming months I'll re-install the pump on the dozer and see how it functions. Lastly, the Ruston diesel project is coming along slowly but surely. Some smaller parts such as the force feed lubricator and air start mechanism have been gone through and refurbished. Disassembly of other larger engine

parts is pending on the removal of some rusty, stuck fasteners and gib keys. If anyone is familiar with Ruston engines, particularly their disassembly, get in touch with me!

Our YouTube channel is growing – currently we have a total of 12,000 channel views and 74 subscribers. In my experience, growing a YouTube channel is an exponential process rather than linear, and we'll have quite a following before we know it! As always I am accepting Zagray Farm related photos and videos to put up on our channel or our website – get in touch with me if there's something you'd like to share! We are particularly interested in anything involving the Zagray family, so we can put stories and photos behind the name.

I also set up a [Patreon account \(www.patreon.com/zagrayfarmmuseum\)](http://www.patreon.com/zagrayfarmmuseum) in an attempt to gain more donations for the farm and our Big Building project. I will advertise the account on the Farm's YouTube videos, and it has also been advertised on our Facebook page. We need every dollar we can get for our big building, so spread the word that we are accepting donations and if you can, send in a donation yourself!

This is going to be a busy year! Along with all of the normal labor associated with running the farm and our shows, we are aiming to put up two buildings this year and get our Fairbanks Morse and Atlas diesels running. Now is a great time to get more involved in the volunteering for the farm. When I first joined, my biggest issue was not knowing what I could work on or how to go about it. However, with what we have ahead of us this year we can use plenty of hands, and we're all willing to teach. There are no pre-requisites here, all you have to do is show up and be willing to help!

See you at the Farm,
Connor

From the Secretary and Editor, Dianne Tewksbury

2018 MUDSLINGER PICNIC

Saturday, April 7

2018 SHOW DATES

May 5 & 6

(normally the first full weekend in May)

July 14 & 15

(normally the 3rd full weekend in July but this year it got moved up one week)

October 6 & 7

(normally the 1st full weekend in October)

Be sure to visit our website for contact information, archived editions of newsletters, pictures, videos, and more at: zagrayfarmmuseum.org

THE ZAGRAY HOUSE



The Zagray house came along with the transfer of the property so it's now a part of our museum. Paul Towne volunteered to be Chairman and we voted so at our last meeting. Paul and Linda have been working to clean and repair the place. He opened it during the October show last year and plans to have it open for guided tours during future shows.

The house has actually come in handy for a couple committee meetings in January and February. Ned got this wood stove going to warm the downstairs kitchen area for the meetings.



The house exterior is in need of a new coat of stain. If there's anyone out there who is comfortable climbing a ladder with a paint bucket and a paint brush in-hand, we sure could use you're your help!!! Please let us know.

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