

# Power From The Past

Winter 2023 Newsletter EDGTA Branch 240  
Editor Rose Tidwell

Power From the Past  
PO Box 18438  
Tucson, AZ 85731  
pfaz@gmail.com

## 2024 Event Calendar

*ITALICS*= may need approval , **BOLD** = tentative dates  
Times subject to change

### January

- 8 Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM
- 19-20 Welton 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

### February

- 5 Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM
- 10 **AEDGE&TA show in Glendale, Az.**
- 10 Cruise BBQ & Car Show in Oro Valley, Az. (Display) 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM
- 24 Culver's on East Broadway (Broadway & Prudence) in Tucson, Az.  
(Display) 9:30 AM- 4:00 PM

### March

- 1-3 Club Social at Drew Harrison's Farm
- 2 Club Social at Drew Harrison's Farm Potluck 4:00 PM
- 2 Monthly Meeting at Drew Harrison's Farm time TBD
- 16 **Marana Founder's Day, Marana, Az. (Parade )**10:00AM
- 16 **Marana Founder's Day, Marana, Az. (Display)**10:00AM- 3:00PM

### April

- 1 Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM
- 6 Chevy Showdown at Desert Diamond Casino in Sahuarita, Az. 9 AM - 3 PM  
(Display)
- 13 Oracle Oaks Festival in Oracle, Az. 9AM - 4PM (Display)
- 20 **Rodders at PCC DT Campus**, Tucson, Az. (Display) . 9 AM - 2:30 PM

### May

- 4 Members Annual Meeting El Camino Baptist Church 11:00AM
- 11 Tractor Ride Empire Ranch

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## June

- 3 Monthly Meeting
- 9-10 **Wilcox Ranching Festival**

## July

- 1 Monthly Meeting
- 4 **4th of July Parade in Benson, Az.** (Parade)
- 20 Pioneer Days in St. David, Az. (Parade and display.)
- ? Mustang Mtn. Church

## August

- 5 Monthly meeting

## September

- 2 Monthly Meeting
- 9 ***Prickly Pear Jamboree*** in Vail, Az. (Display)
- ? ***Santa Cruz County Fair*** in Sonoita, Az. (Display and Ice Cream making)

## October

- 7 Monthly meeting
- 18-20 **Helldorado Days** in Tombstone, Az. (Parade and Display)

## November

- 4 Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM
- 2-3 Empire Ranch Cowboy Days
- ? ***Memorial Engine Show***

## December

- 7 Christmas Dinner/ Meeting
- 2 Benson Christmas Parade
- ? Huachuca City Christmas Parade

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| BIRTHDAYS   | ANIVERSARIES   |
|---|--|
| <b>January</b>  |  |
| Sandi Ball<br>Len Becwar<br>Dominique Blair<br>Beverly Clark<br>Darrell Day<br>Kent Hardy<br>Glenn Johnson<br>Mel Perkins<br>Paul Rousseau<br>Gregory Skaggs<br>Mary Sue Skaggs | Chuck & Jeannie Clegg  |
| <b>February</b>   |  |
| Sharon Bake<br>Rose B. Tidwell<br>Ray Fisher<br>Megan H. S.   | Fred & Pam Bennett<br>Frank & Terri Bessler<br>Mike & Dusan Culp |
| <b>March</b>  |  |
| Jim Blair<br>Joyce Bott<br>Donald Christie  | Donald & Thelma Christie   |
| <b>April</b>  |  |
| Jim Blair<br>Joyce Bott<br>Donald Christie<br>Mark Jensen<br>Evelyn Jensen<br>Larry Kastens<br>Jim Levengood<br>Jayne Levengood   | Darrell & Pat Dwyer  |

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## President Who?



Pres. Greg Skaggs (l) Jerry Hayes (r)

What's his name? Who the heck is he? Where did he come from? Does he know what he's doing? All fair questions.

I have had the pleasure of meeting some of you, but for those I haven't yet met, here you go...

My name is Gregory Skaggs. 63 years YOUNG, born in 1960. Grateful to be alive.

Retired Fleet Services Team Lead (Shop Foreman) from Tucson Electric Power (TEP). I spent 27 years in the same building doing one of the best jobs ever. Started as a Serviceman B (mechanic), worked up to Serviceman A to perform field repairs and troubleshooting, and finished the last 5 years as a Team Lead. ASE certified Master Truck and Equipment Tech. During my time at TEP, I served IBEW Local 1116 as an Executive Board representative for the Transportation Department. First as an appointed fill-in, then as an elected board member. So I have some experience as a sitting board member. I was also the Union Shop Steward for Fleet Services for a few years.

Before that; 8 years at the Dodge dealership as an ASE Master Automotive Tech, a couple of years working for a great man in his new

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Benson area auto shop, and completed my apprenticeship in the family auto shop (Skaggs Automotive Service) 1978.

After graduating from Canyon del Oro HS, in the Tucson area, I enlisted in the U.S. Army and became a Tracked Vehicle Mechanic. Yep, tank mechanic, with a driver's license for anything that weighed 60 TONS or less. Great times.

I started my love of “nuts and bolts” around age 8. It's been in my blood ever since.

My folks had to bring me to a drier climate for my health, St. Louis was not helping my asthma.

Before moving to Tucson in 1967, I was lucky enough to spend some summers with my maternal grandmother, who lived on many farms in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas.

Played saxophone in school bands, but wasn't good at reading music. Mostly played by ear.

I followed Power from the Past while it was at the Pima County Fair. My family would shop and ride the rides, while I strolled through the running engines, ate “churned” ice cream, and watched logs turn into lumber. I promised myself that when I retired, I would join the club. I wanted to be sure that I had time to give to a worthy group.

Since joining in 2019, my involvement caught some attention and I was asked to run for a board seat in Power from the Past. So, after being elected to the board, then appointed as Vice-president, then President shortly after, I was elected to serve a second term. Still learning and trying to do my best. I'll keep an open ear for your ideas. And, as my mama used to say, “Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder, and your hand over my mouth”.



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Our Fall events went well

Santa Cruz County Fair in Sonoita, Sept. 15-17, hosted by Mel Perkins for many years, and I'm sure with a bit of help from Ruth. But also, Mel tells us his last year to host so we will be looking for someone to fill his shoes.



Participating members; Jerry Alexander, Mel & Ruth Perkins, Greg Skaggs, Virgil and Easton Schmidt, Mark & Evelyn Jensen, Allen & Donna Goodman, Len Becwar, Darrell Day, Jerry & Jo Beth Hayes, Zane Parker, Kevin Lange, Bucky Stevens, Jim Blair, Matt Stewart, Lyle Rasmussen, Jim Fieber, Rose Tidwell, Charlie Bub, Larry Kastens, and Jim White. Ropes and ice cream. Donations over \$1000 for the three-day event.

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Helldorado Days in Tombstone Oct 20-22, hosted by Lance Amatulli and Jo Stupy. Thanks to them we ate well.

Participating members;  
Jerry Alexander, Lance Amatulli, Jo Stupy, Arne Anderson, Jeanie Salato, Ken Baker, Len Becwar, Jane Bright, James Bell, Fred Bennett, Frank & Teri Bessler, Mark & Joyce Bott, Charles Bub, Rose Tidwell, Chuck & Jeanie Clegg, John Davenport, Zach Davenport, Darrell & Pat Dwyer, Ray Fisher, Allen & Donna Goodman, Kent & Carol Hardy, Jerry & Jo Beth Hayes, Gareth Hughes, Larry Kastens, John & Joyce Levensgood, Zane Parker, Lyle & Cheri Rasmussen, Virgil and Easton Schmidt, Gregory Skaggs, Matt Stewart, Julia Davis, and Jim White.

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Ropes and dinner donations just over \$400. Plus, Joseph Mendez donated a steam whistle to Jim White on a visit to Jim’s traveling tool museum. Matt Stewart put it to use on his engine display trailer. And once again we received the Parade Marshall’s Award!

**Jerry Alexander**

Participating members; Jerry Alexander, Charles Bub, Rose Tidwell, Mike & Susan Culp, Darrell Dwyer, Jim Fieber, Ray Fisher, Jerry & Jo Beth Hayes, Gareth Hughes, Mark & Evelyn Jensen, Larry Kastens, John & Joyce Levengood, Zane Parker, Virgil & Easton Schmidt, Greg Skaggs, Jim White. Rope and ice cream.

Cowboy Festival at Empire Ranch, Sonoita, AZ on Nov 4-5, hosted by Charlie Bub. A new event for us and a new host.



Ice cream was hand churned because the engine was a bit temperamental.

We were well received and made new connections. Donations \$433

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Club Christmas dinner in Benson, AZ with 38 members and more attending followed by the Festival of Lights parade held in Benson, AZ hosted by Greg Skaggs.

Parade participants; on the people mover Greg Skaggs, Jerry & Jo Beth Hayes, Zane Parker, Allen & Donna Goodman, tractors Mark Jensen and Virgil & Easton Schmidt, with Jim White in his farm/ranch truck and pulling the club trailer.

Huachuca City Holiday Parade, hosted by Karen Reid.

Attendees on the people mover, Greg Skaggs, Allen Goodman and Donna Goodman, Jo Stupy and Lance Amatulli, Joyce Bott, Zane Parker, and Charlie Bub. On tractors Virgil and Easton Schmidt, Jim Levengood with John, Joyce and Cora Levengood on their trailer, Len Becwar with Jane Bright and Andre, Matt Stewart, Mark Bott, Darrell Dwyer and Pat Dwyer, Larry Kastens and Gareth Hughes. Jim White in his Chevy truck with Julia Davis riding along. Thanks to Donna Goodman (she walked the

entire route!) and Charlie Bub for passing out candy during the parade.

Tractor ride at Empire Ranch Dec 16, hosted by Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell. Charlie was the lead as 8 tractors completed nearly 30 miles within the ranch grounds.



We had Charlie, Lance Amatulli, and Zane Parker on Farmall, Larry Kastens, Darrel Dwyer and Matt Stewart on Ford and Mel Perkins and Seth Hoyte on Allis Chalmers. With Jo Stupy in the chase vehicle with supplies and radio back-up.



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Lunch was hosted by Greg Skaggs at the grill and Rose Tidwell with support from John and Joyce Levensgood. The weather was great.



Thankfully there were no serious mishaps in 2023, but there were a few close calls.

“By three methods we learn wisdom: First by reflection, which is noblest; Second by imitation, which is the easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest.” Confucius

“The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing.” Henry Ford

“Wise men learn from their mistakes. But wiser men learn from the mistakes of others.” Unknown.

The number of quotes about learning from mishaps are endless and come from all walks of life. And we might learn some lessons from a few minor mishaps that happened along the way.

The events we are a part of, as well as our desert home itself, come with a number of obstacles in our way. Familiarize yourself with the terrain and its tripping hazards may save you from some scrapes and bruises. And take time to tidy your work or event space as well.

Patience is a virtue. Take your time when loading and securing your cargo. Check your ramps are secure and properly seated when preparing to

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load up. Halfway up the ramps is a bad time to find out they are not.

And some of you quickly learned just how important those safety chains are when your trailer became disengaged from the hitch

You really can't have too many tie-downs. Charlie will often add just one more, he calls it the preventer. Basically, it keeps the load from rolling off the back should all the others fail. He's learned a few lessons along the way.

Fortunately for our members there have been good Samaritans along quickly to help out.

Some of these lessons have been encountered as we load up and head for home. A time when we are probably anxious to get going and tired at the end of a long day. Let's be mindful and keep an eye out for each other.

Probably there are more lessons you can all share with us as well. And this brings to mind the words of Ben

Franklin "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

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## GIVING THANKS

Greg took time this year to thank several recent past board members for their service to the club: Larry Kastens, Matt Stewart, Mel Perkins, Seth Hoyte, and Frank Bessler.

Sending some Love out. Like behind successful men there have been many women that have helped this club succeed. During my time two have stood out as role models for their kind and caring efforts; Jo Beth Hayes and Ruth Perkins were recognized for their efforts for the club during our Christmas festivities.

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## ACCOLADES

Greg Skaggs, President; brings the club trailer to events (still looking for a volunteer for this), maintenance of our engines, and always delivering the donuts along with lots of miscellaneous stuff he gets stuck with.

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Jerry Hayes Treasurer and JoBeth Hayes; chairing all the ice cream events, acting as our social chairs and hosting this year's annual meeting and luncheon.

Mel Perkins and Ruth Perkins, our Care Person; they have logged many a mile in providing twine for our rope making, and bringing the club trailer to many events, along with all their caring and kindness to all members.

Karen Reid for creating our event buttons.

Jim Blair for help in keeping our engines running.

Zane Parker, Vice President; for organizing our calendar of events.

Allen Goodman providing the people mover for our parades.

Matt Stewart documenting some of our events on his YouTube channel 'Matt the Scrap Whisperer.' Check it out and subscribe!

And thanks to all that hosted and participated in events this year.

And thanks to the community that has supported us.

*Merry Christmas*

From

*Rose and Charlie*