

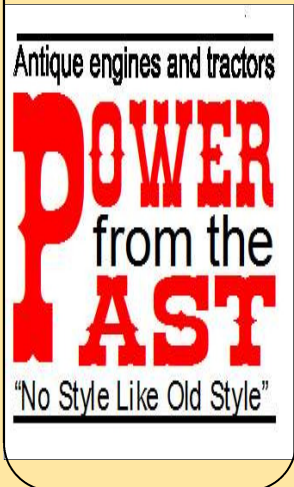
POWER FROM THE PAST

EDGE&TA Branch 240

November 2025



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Upcoming Events

- Nov. 8 Cruisin' for United Way car show at the Caterpillar Proving Grounds
- Dec. 6 Christmas dinner and meeting Benson Community Center, please RSVP
- Jan. 16-17 Wellton Engine/Tractor Rodeo & tractor pull, looking for volunteers to help with this event.

We formalized our board positions in June with **Zane Parker** as President, **Lyle Rasmussen** as both Vice President and Engine Chair, **Jerry Hayes** as Treasurer, **Rose Tidwell** as Secretary and **Julia Davis** as both Safety Officer and Tractor Chair. Our thanks to them for serving!

———WELCOME———

Let's welcome our newest members;
Sam Walker of Yuma, AZ and the announcer for tractor pulls at the Wellton show,
Orion Lasater
Paul and Lili Brick of Pomerene,
Jane Blair (sister of Jim Blair) of Tucson,
Jim and Melinda Gruenhagen, Patrick Pax,
Matt Fulk and John Krenzel all of Tombstone
and long time member
John Howard moved up to a Lifetime member level.

What we've been up to

On the 4th of July we dressed our tractors in patriotic colors and rode the streets of **Benson, AZ** for their 4th of July parade. Afterwards we met at Bucky and Tara **Stevens' place** for a **BBQ**. Members that came out that day; Darrell Dwyer, Jerry Alexander, Greg Skaggs,



Zane Parker, Al and Ryan Mattson, Mark Jensen, John Krenzel, Jim White, Jerry and Jo Beth Hayes, John and Joyce Levensgood, Seth Hoyte, Larry Kastens, Lyle and Jonathon Rasmussen, Bucky and Tara Stevens and family, Jim Blair and family, Virgil Schmidt, Matt Stewart, Jim & Sharon Fieber, Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell.*

Also in July we met up in **St. David, AZ** for their **Pioneer Days event with a parade**. As usual the rope maker was busy. Participants that day; Zane Parker, Julia Davis, Jim White, Larry Kastens, Seth Hoyte, Darrell Dwyer, Greg Skaggs, Barry Kanner, John and Jim Levensgood, Mark Bott, Matt Stewart, Virgil Schmidt and Easton, and Lyle Rasmussen.*



In September we returned to **Sonoita, AZ** for the **Santa Cruz County Fair**. We made lots of ropes and ice cream. Members that came out for the three day event; Jim White, Mark Bott, Lance Amatulli & Jo Stupy, Len Becwar and Jane Bright, John, Joyce, Jim and Jayne Levensgood, Mark and Evelyn Jensen, Barry Kanner & Marigold Love, Jerry Alexander and Orion Lasater, Jerry and Jo Beth Hayes, Zane Parker, John, Jamie and Jade Davenport, Jim and Sharon Fieber, Matt Stewart, Larry Kastens, Kevin Lange, Lyle and Cheri Rasmussen, Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell.*



And later in September we went to **Douglas, AZ** for another county fair, **Cochise County**.



There was rain and there were kids. And lucky for us we were set-up next to the turkey races. Members coming out for the event; Jim Fieber, Matt Stewart, Larry and Deanna Kastens, Ray Fisher, Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell along with Mark Jensen's tractor.*



In October, we returned to Tombstone, the town that will never die for **Helldorado Days** with Lance and Jo cooking hamburgers and hot dogs to share at a potluck meal we all enjoyed. Members; Lance Amatulli and Jo Stupy, Mel and Ruth Perkins, Frank and Teri Bessler, John and Jaime Davenport, John, Joyce and Jim Levengood, Mark, Joyce and Travis Bott, Jerry Alexander, Matt Stewart, Jim White, Darrell and Pat Dwyer, Larry Kastens, Seth Hoyte, Al Mattson, Julia Davis, Bill Lanier, Jerry and Jo Beth Hayes, Zane Parker, Lyle and Cheri Rasmussen, John Howard, Ray Fisher, Len Becwar and Jane Bright, Arne Anderson and Jeanie Salato, Allen and Donna Goodman, Barry Kanner, Charlie Bub and Rose Tidwell. *....*Matt Stewart has coverage on YouTube @ Matt The Scrap Whisperer....*

***** *Power from the Past* *****

From Ash Canyon in the Huachucas

At one point, as Larry Kastens remembers, he had about 68 engines, seven tractors and a Ford Model T. And as I am starting to realize when you have a sizeable collection, often times it equates to a rich junk pile. When Lance Amatulli was offered the riches of Larry's junk pile he found the base for what he now refers to as his 'crafter.' He started with an American Standard walk behind needing an engine and added a Fairbanks-Morse engine, both from Larry. From another friend's Ford 8N parts tractor, he used the front wheel assembly. Other parts were machined and several welds later he had the crafter/tractor he used to run the double canister ice cream churn this year at the Santa Cruz County Fair. This ice cream churn was used back in our days at the Pima County Fair, and has been upgraded, by Lance, with stainless steel tubing and new canisters.

In 2011 the Monument Fire burned Ash Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains. Larry and Deanna lost everything except the vehicle they escaped in and the clothes they were wearing. Some club members provided generous assistance in clearing the debris. Eventually their home was rebuilt on the same site and Larry started a new collection.

Most of the original collection had been reduced to scrap iron. There were perhaps six engines that could be rebuilt. Jim White refurbished two of these, both Fuller Johnson engines and Ray Fisher recently acquired another from the fire, a Hercules 7 hp that originally came from the Ronstadt hardware store of Tucson.

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This year Larry got another engine from the fire running, a **1915 Fairbanks up-right Model T** engine that he got from the Thomas Ranch east of Sierra Vista. The



engine was locked up when he originally got it and he set about trying to free it. It took six months with a chain he attached a weighted cheater bar until the fly wheel was finally freely moving.

Babbitting was lost to the fire along with gaskets. The engine sat there until recently. The gaskets were a fairly easy replacement, but the babbit bearings were not. So with Charlie Bub's help they were able to machine a replacement bearing. Using a valve seat grinder from Jim Fieber, Larry

was able to bring that engine back to life. Because the compression has increased it is not easy to spin the fly-wheel and a starter engine is now needed.



We would like to hear more from our members and thanks for reading, Rose Tidwell

Member's news

From Seth Hoyte we hear he has gotten the Huber tractor from Lloyd Baker's estate running with help from Mel Perkins, and carburetor magic from Jim Blair and Al Mattson. Seth was so excited I'm surprised he wasn't handing out cigars and it made it's debut at Helldorado days. Also, you can find Al and Jim volunteering most Thur/Fri/Sat at the machine shop in the *Rolling Through Time Car Museum* in Tucson.

And have you ever seen the Allis Chalmers WD that held up old glory along route 82 east of Sonoita? It now belongs to Greg Skaggs and has been moved to J Six. Stay tuned...*

This summer Charlie and I made our pilgrimage to Threshermans in my hometown where we were met by Darrell and Pat Dwyer, Julia Davis and Seth Hoyte. Darrell and Pat made it to a total of 5 shows over four weekends but Darrell only found one engine he wanted to add to his collection.