



Foothills Antique Tractor and Engine Club

NEWSLETTER

October, 2009

Vol. 17, No. 10

Inside:

- 2 From the President**
- 2 From the Chairman**
- 3 I Can't Reach It**
- 4 Coming Events**

Next Meeting is October 26

Please join us for our monthly meeting on October 28. Note that this is the last regular meeting of the year, because our normal meeting dates for November and December would coincide with the extremely busy Thanksgiving and Christmas weekends. So, we prefer that you join us for our Christmas Party in early December instead.

At the October meeting we will discuss our annual Plow Day scheduled for Nov 7, the Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12, and any other remaining business for this year.

In Our Prayers

Contact Clara Witenbarger or any of the officers or directors to let us know how we can help members and their families during times of need. Prayer needs we are aware of include:

- **Emory Anderson**
- **Annie Hatcher**
- **Bill Tuck**
- **Clara Witenbarger**

1947 Farmall M

by Cliff Caldwell

This tractor was bought by my dad and me in 1998 from Bobby Everett. When we first got the tractor we used it to farm with. We used it to disc and to spread fertilizer. We also used it to haul tobacco in with, even though it was just a little fast in low gear. After we quit raising tobacco the tractor mainly became a showing tractor. We would still use it to disk the garden with and to move wagons around and to pull other tractors off.

In 2002 when Heritage had their first tractor pull I took it up there and pulled it in the 6500 pound farm stock class. I got 4th place, which isn't bad for a first time; the only bad thing was there were only 5 tractors in the class. From 2002 till 2005 we used the tractor for tasks around the house and I drove it in a few Christmas parades. I also used the tractor to plow at our clubs first and second plow days with.

In 2006 when we started helping the Heritage FFA with their pull I decided to build me a belly bar to be able to pull more than one class. This was just the beginning. After pulling it in 5500 and 6500 pound farm stock classes, I decided to try a heavier class and continued to improve. In 2007 the tractor

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From the President

We had a good time at the Heritage FFA tractor pull, but it sure was cold. We had a good turnout and everyone seemed to enjoy it, but we don't know the financial results yet.

There were 6 tractors displayed at the Foothills Fall Festival, in Maryville on Sunday, Oct 18. This is a high visibility opportunity for us.

November 7 is our Plow Day at Roy Gamble's farm, and we have also been invited to display some tractors that day at the Fort Sanders Senior Center on Chapman Highway. They lady there said they hope to make this an annual fun day. A couple of folks have already said they are interested in exhibiting there, and in the event we cannot have Plow Day, then perhaps some more of us can go over to the Senior Center as well.

I'll see you at the meeting on Monday night, and I hope you are planning to come to the Christmas Party even if you don't get to the meetings!

Jimmy Pierce

From the Chairman

Plow Day is still planned for Nov 7 at Roy Gamble's farm. Of course, it will depend on the weather and if he can harvest the soybeans by then. We had a great time last year and are looking forward to an even better event this year. Tim Prather said he will bring the dynamometer for the morning so members can do tune-ups.

The Club voted last month to donate \$500 to the Good Samaritan Clinic and \$500 to the Blount County Fire Department Coats or our Community effort. In addition, we are collecting coats to for them, so bring any coats you can donate to the October club meeting, the Christmas Party on December 12, or drop them off at Jones Equipment.

Speaking of the Christmas Party, the date was wrong in the last Newsletter. The correct date is Saturday, December 12 at Caylor's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Townsend.

I hope to see you at the meeting Monday evening.

Jason Fin chum

Board of Directors:

Jason Fin chum, chairman	865-609-8732
Richard Hardin	865-573-4867
Alex Harmon	865-379-8440
Billy Long	865-805-1891
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becomes used more for just pulling. After changing tires and adding a few improvements, the tractor finally placed at a pull. It was at Indian Ridge in August of 2007 that I got my first plaque with the tractor, it was for second place. Throughout the rest of 2007 the tractor continued to get better and continued to place in the top three. In December of 2007 Jess Gamble and I went to a tractor pull in Tunica, Mississippi. There were hundreds of tractors there and my tractor did well.

I continued to be competitive throughout 2008 and continued to improve with my tractor. When we went to Chatsworth Georgia last year, with much drier weather, something happened that hadn't happened before - the tractor hooked three times and won 3 trophies, including its first 1st place trophy.

On our return trip to Mississippi last year we started noticing something the tractor would smoke every time it started, that's when we knew something's wrong. Come to find out the motor was starting to go out. After tearing it down and finding the problem, I decided to go ahead and paint the tractor. With a lot of help from Jess Gamble both in painting and in the mechanical work, we began prepping the tractor for paint. After 4 months of work we rolled the tractor out of the shop. It started and ran good.

I would not have been able to get the tractor finished without the help of a lot of people, including Jess Gamble, Michael Sparks, Gary Sparks, April Garner, Brian Garner, Jason and Christy Finchum, Alex

Harmon, Bob Gamble, and Jim Caldwell. If it wasn't for everyone's help it wouldn't have gone together so easily.

The tractor has been taken too many shows and pulls this year and many people have told me how good it looks, so "Thanks" Jess. This year the tractor has been very competitive at the pulls. It even has a second driver for the powder puff classes. April has driven it twice in the powder puff classes and has done very well with it.

The picture that was used in the Fastline in September was taken on Friday evening after the mid-afternoon monsoon we had at our Annual Show at Heritage High School. The picture is looking at the gap of the mountain from the tractor pulling track behind Heritage High School.



Cliff and his M in action at a recent pull

I Can't Reach It

by Tim Prather

How many times have you encountered bolts, nuts and screws that you can't reach with your sockets? There are a number of solutions you are familiar with, such as crowfoot wrenches, universal joints, wobble extensions, flex head wrenches or ratchets, and offset wrenches. I've also been known to bend a combination wrench so I can reach behind something. Pictured here are a couple of tools you may not have in your collection.

At the top right is a 1/4 drive flexible extension bar that can be used with your ratchet, screwdriver, even your power screwdriver. It can bend to 90 degrees as well. You can find them at many tool dealers. You can get them in 1/4, 3/8 and 1/2 drive versions and various lengths. A Craftsman 1/4 drive, 4" long is about \$8, and I bought a 1/4 drive 11" long at a discount tool dealer for \$3 at Sunbelt Expo.

At the bottom is something I've never used before, but it looks interesting. It is a Cal-Van Tools 3/8-In. Gearless 90 Degree Angle Drive, and I found it at Sears.com for about \$11.



October, 2009

Coming Events

Oct 26: Foothills Club Directors and Members

Meetings, at Midland Plaza Community Room. Directors meet at 6:30, membership meeting at 7:30. *Remember: This is the last regular meeting of the year since we combine the Nov-Dec meeting with the Christmas Party.*

Nov 7: Plow Day (*weather and harvest permitting*) at Roy Gamble's farm, Davis Ford Rd, Maryville. Plowing, tractor show, PTO dynamometer in the morning. Food available onsite. Bring a plow if you have one. See the map on our website for directions.

***CORRECTION:* Saturday Dec 12: Foothills Club Christmas Party**, at Caylor's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 486 Webb Rd, Townsend, TN. More info will be in the Oct and Nov Newsletters.

Area Events:

Christmas parades: Please let us know the dates and details for the area Christmas parades that invite us to participate. Be sure to include info on where to unload and park.

Foothills Antique Tractor and Engine Club
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