



December/January Newsletter
Greetings Everyone...

I'm sending out the newsletter a bit early this month and including both December and January news and reminders.

December Meeting Highlights:

Report from the Pulling Committee Meeting: After much discussion on the wording of Rule #9, reading "No parts may be removed from a tractor other than weights to get into a weight class" it was voted (7-2) to remove this paragraph from Rule#9.

The following Officers were voted into Office for 2016:

President: Keith Boulier VP: Tom Berube
Secretary: Cheryl Boulier Treasurer: Sandra Bartley
(5r. term) Board of Directors: Bob Bartlett

We thank you all for your confidence in us and we will always strive to do our best for the club overall.

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2016 Restoration Project:

The restoration crew will start working on the 2016 Raffle Tractor which will be a Allis Chalmers C. They will be meeting at Phil Kilcollins workshop on Saturdays.

The 50/50 was won by Chandra Campbell in the amount of \$56. Happy Shopping Chandra!

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Maine Antique Tractor Club Annual Banquet

A group from our club, Keith & I, Arthur & Lynn York, Sonny & Diane Folsom, Peter & Julie Folsom attended there banquet on Sunday, December 13th and had a great time. It was held at Jeff's Catering in Brewer and the meal was delicious and there auction was done by Bert Winslow our auctioneer at our banquet. As always Bert did an awesome job and provided great entertainment as well with his well-

known humor. They had several really nice items for their auction. It was great to be able to visit with so many friends we have all made in the club there.

Budget Meeting

Reminder: The Board meeting that was scheduled for December 20th is cancelled and will be held before our January 3rd regular meeting at 11am. Weather permitting we hope that all Officers and Board members can attend as we will be drafting our budget for 2016 and need all your input. A copy of the actual figures from 2015 will be mailed to each of you for your review and then if there are any questions they can be discussed at the January Budget meeting.

Some thoughts from our President: Keith Boulier

Looking ahead to 2016 as your President some of my goals for the coming year are:

1. To prioritize the things that support our clubs true mission:

Promoting Agriculture

2. Plan and organize more social events throughout the year.
 3. Secure volunteers for Committee's that are willing to commit
 4. Provide a clear and concise idea of what is expected as a committee member
 5. Work "together" to help make Pulling "Fun" not a race to the finish always
 6. Provide some educational time for things like Flagging, operating the drag, checking RPM's & most of all Safety.
 7. Work to improve our displays overall
 8. Have a more solid plan of how to best sell raffle tickets
 9. Work on promoting our annual Trek more
 10. Most of all, I would appreciate knowing what is happening in the club overall as far as any disagreements on things, ideas anyone has that would benefit the club, or any other concerns. I can't be a "good" leader of this club without everyone's support. We won't always agree on everything but we can learn to compromise when needed for the overall good of the club. Good communication is a great thing when it happens, but when it doesn't.....it always makes for more work and misunderstandings. Let's try to always work together!
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From the Secretary's Desk

As your Secretary I strive to always try to keep all you members informed about what is happening in the club overall. But in order to do this I really need your help in making the communication factor work better for me. For example, I find email by quickest method of communication most of the time as I don't always have the time to call everyone so please understand when you may get a lengthy email from me that it's my method of relaying a message from your President who does not do email or letting you know of any changes going on with events or things pertaining to the planning stages of an event and in order to make my job easier, **please reply to my email when possible in a timely manner.** For those who do not have email then I plan to establish a calling committee this year to help me better communicate with

these members. Our club has grown to over 300 members now and it is a challenge at times for me to keep up with making sure everyone is in the loop all the time. The Newsletter has helped bridge the communication gap a lot and I encourage any member who would like to have anything published in the Newsletter to please send it to me before the 20th of every month. **Thank You!**

2016 Membership Form

I have enclosed on the reverse side of this page, your membership form to fill out for your 2016 Membership Dues and Insurance if needed.

You may also pay your dues at our regular meeting as well. If you choose to mail your form to me please use the address shown on the form.

Those of you wanting to receive the monthly Newsletter please remember to check off which method you want to receive it.

According to our bylaws stated in: **Article V: DUES**

Section 1: Dues shall be paid annually and shall be effective for one calendar year beginning January 1st.

So please remember that your dues expire on January 1, 2016 and your insurance expires on April 15th 2016.

After April 1st 2016 those who have not paid their dues will not receive a newsletter.

Website Updates

I have started to work on some updates for our website for the coming year. I should have the tentative event dates published by February 1st. Pictures and info on the 2016 Raffle Tractor will also be posted soon. Tickets will be available at the February meeting or by contacting the Secretary.

Please be thinking about anyone interested in applying for the annual scholarship for 2016 to be sure to fill out an application by the deadline which is April 30th 2016.

The application can be downloaded from the club site or may be requested from the new Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, Chandra Campbell @ 448-7058 or Email at: chndrcampbell@yahoo.com

Club Facebook Site

Please remember to check out the club's Facebook page as there is ongoing information and photo's posted often.

January Board of Directors Meeting

The Officers and Board of Directors will be meeting on January 3rd.2016 to draft the 2016 budget and review the actual figures for the 2015 budget as well as discuss plans for the upcoming year in the club. As members you have the right to submit any concerns, ideas or suggestions to the board at that time. You can request to address the board personally at the meeting or if you wish submit your questions or

concerns on paper and send them to the Secretary to be opened and discussed at the meeting. Please remember you have a very open and sincere Board of Directors who are very willing to listen and consider any of your concerns or comments.
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Next meeting will be on Sunday, January 3rd 2016 at 2pm at the Washburn Snowmobile Club house located off Main Street in Washburn. Board of Directors meeting at 11am.