

GAMTRA OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

WooHoo, how 'bout this cool down? We've had a really nice two week stretch of cooler and dryer weather. Not quite Fall like yet but a definite improvement over the misery of summer. This has been a miserable hot summer to me! Sure glad to see a break in the heat. Get out & enjoy and be safe!

Upcoming events in the area.

- September 28-October 8: Cleveland County Agricultural Fair in Shelby, NC
- October 13-23: NC State Fair in Raleigh, NC
- October 7: V Dubs (Volkswagens) On The Square in Dallas from 10am till 5pm.
31st annual Custom Car Cruise In at Tindol Ford in Gastonia from 10am till 2pm.
Maiden Fall Festival and Cruise In in Downtown Maiden, NC.
- October 6&7: Valley Hills Antique Power Clubs Fall Show in Morganton, NC.
Annual Harvest Show in Butner, NC.
- October 13&14: Annual Fall Harvest Days Antique Engine and Tractor Show in Asheville, NC.
- October 21: Lincoln County Apple Festival.
- October 20&21: Foothills Antique Power Association Swap meet and Tractor Pull in Hickory, NC
Gordon County Antique Engine & Tractor Show in Calhoun, Ga.
- November 3-5: Ederville 100+ Years of Progress Show in Carthage, NC.

And *of course* our show, Cotton Ginning Days, October 13-15 at the park in Dallas, NC. If you registered last year you should have received a packet of government hokum in the mail sometime in September. If you didn't, I'll hit the high spots here. Show grounds will open Wednesday, October 11 at 10am. No items may be placed before that time without prior approval of Gaston County P&R. All exhibitors and vendors must check in and register with a Parks & Recreation attendant stationed at the entrance upon entering the park. (We'll see how that works out) Because of on going park construction, sites are going to be limited for the show again this year. No roping off of spaces permitted until occupied by the exhibitor or vendor. The engine exhibit sites are for engines and related equipment only. Exhibitors wishing to sell will only be allowed to sell show related items. There will no longer be a general merchandise area for flea market type items. If you have any questions call P&R at 704-922-2164.

As in years past, the main entrance to the park will be closed at 9am Saturday because of pedestrian traffic. Show grounds can still be accessed on the side entrance to the left of the Citizens Resource Center. Come early Saturday to avoid the traffic and confusion. We're aware there were some problems last year at the side entrance due to some over zealous Gaston County employees and we

apologize for it. If you have any issues gaining entrance to the park through the side gate call Jeff at 704-913-4672 or Jacob at 704-674-7036. A parking pass, available at the meeting or when you register, allows easy entrance at the side gate. We ask that no one under 16 be allowed to operate motorized equipment during the show and please try to keep motorized traffic to a minimum on the narrow paved walkway by the gin building during the most crowded times. A tractor parade is scheduled through town on Friday at 9:00, also through the park at 1:30 on Saturday. Please register at the gin building for GAMTRA membership. Please write legibly on the registration form so I can update our mailing list. Anyone selling items will be charged a \$25 fee payable upon arrival at the Parks & Rec tent. (As a reminder, Gaston County ordinance prohibits the possession and sales of weapons, explosives, alcohol and drugs in the park. Weapons include, but are not limited to guns, knives, BB guns, bows and arrows, nuclear weapons or any components, cyanide or mustard gas, hand grenades, mortars, rocket launchers, any type of rabid animal and bean shooters) We also plan to do the \$50 & \$100 drawing from exhibitor registrations on Sunday afternoon at 3:00. You MUST be present to win!

Our next meeting will be at the Citizens Resource Center in Dallas on Thursday, October 5 @ 6:00. This is another bring your own supper meeting. We've got a lot of things to go over & get decided.

There will be a workday at the park on Saturday, October 7 @ 8:00 to get things ready for the show. All help is appreciated!

I finally made it to the Pickers Festival in Denton and I highly recommend it. This is held twice a year, spring and fall. Admission was \$7, which I think was worth it. Antiques and other junkie galore and the whole 'tractor row' was mostly auto and truck parts. It was like a combination of Metrolina Flea Market and Charlotte AutoFair.

Thought for the day from Rev Stone. The trick is to not let people know how really weird you are till it's too late for them to back out.

Reggie