

GAMTRA NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2024

What a week it's been. Remnants of hurricane Helene have devastated the NC mountains and wreaked havoc in the Piedmont areas of North and South Carolina. Just heard that Asheville is completely cut off from the outside world with all roads, including I-40, damaged or washed out. If you've got power be thankful, check on your elderly neighbors that may not be as lucky as you. Be safe out there!

Lots of late season happenings going on in the area. Here are a few.

Oct 5: Linbrook Heritage Estate Museum Steam Day in Trinity, NC.

Oct 6: Stanley Country Fest in Stanley, NC.

Oct 4-5: Valley Hills Antique Power Club Annual Fall Tractor Show in Morganton, NC and Lord Granville Agricultural Heritage Association Harvest Show in Butner, NC.

Oct 11-12: Apple Country Engine and Tractor Club Fall Harvest Days in Fletcher, NC

Oct 19: Lincoln County Apple Festival in Lincolnton NC and NC Livermush Festival in Shelby, NC.

Oct 17-27: NC State Fair in Raleigh, NC.

Oct 25-26: Antique Tractor Club of the Carolinas Historic Farm Days in LaGrange, NC and Foothills Antique Power Club Fall Show and Swap Meet in Newton, NC.

Oct 26: NC Yam Festival in Tabor City, NC.

I got to go to the Fall Pickers Festival at Denton. Don't believe there were quite as many vendors there as in the spring, which was probably because of the weather, but it was still a worthwhile trip and worth the \$7 admission price.

And of course our show, Cotton Ginning Days, October 11-13 at the park in Dallas, NC. If you registered last year you should have received a packet of government balderdash in the mail about the middle of September. If you didn't, I'll hit the high spots here. Show grounds will open Wednesday, October 9 at 10am. No items may be placed before that time without prior approval of Gaston County P&R. You may pre register by calling 704-922-2164. All exhibitors and vendors must check in and register with a Parks & Recreation attendant stationed at the entrance upon entering the park. No roping off of spaces permitted until occupied by the exhibitor or vendor. If you have any questions call P&R at 704-922-2164.

Anyone selling items will be charged a \$25 fee payable at the GAMTRA registration desk under the gin building. (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 animals and sling shots) Anything for

sale should be related to the show, there will no longer be a merchandise area for non show related items (clothes, toys, flea market items). If you have any questions call Spencer Hall @ 704-922-2164 or Jeff Hovis @ 704-913-4672.

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 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 during the most crowded times. A tractor parade is scheduled through Dallas on Friday at 8:45, also through the park at 1:30 on Saturday. There'll be a few changes this year. We'll have more food vendors. Music has been moved to the amphitheater in the park. We hope to have a small farmers market and a golf cart unloading area has been created.

Please register at the gin building for GAMTRA membership. Please write legibly on the registration form so I can update the mailing list! We also plan to do the \$50 & \$100 drawing from exhibitor registrations on Sunday afternoon at 3:00. You MUST be present to win.

There will be a workday at the park on Saturday, Oct 5.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, Oct 3 at the Citizens Resource Center in Dallas @ 6:00, another 'bring your own supper' meeting. Come on & join us! Lots of last minute details to work out & you can't beat the company!

Thought for the day from Rev Stone. Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.

Reggie