

POWER FROM THE PAST

Nov.—Dec. 2017

Upcoming Events

Comment:

We have experienced great change but the core of our delight is still present, even if we as individuals cannot easily do all the things we used to do. Adjust to do less but try to make the same impact. All efforts are tremendously valuable.

Antique engines and tractors
POWER
from the
PAST
"No Style Like Old Style"

Newsletter, Nov. 2017
Editor, Larry Kastens
Layout Artist, Jim Fieber



Upcoming Events (All area codes are 520, unless noted.)

November

- 6 Board Meeting, 6 p.m. Peace in the Valley Lutheran Church, 551 S. J Six Ranch Road**
- 11 Sahuarita Pecan Festival, Tractor Pull & Engine Show, 9 a.m., 1625 Sahuarita Road, Jerry Hayes, 400-3547**
- 24 Pearce Engine & Tractor Show, 8:30 a.m., Ghost Town Road, Kent Hardy, 507-2565**

December

- 2 Christmas Dinner, Board Meeting, and Christmas Parade: Senior Center, 705 W. Union Street. *RSVP to Virgil Schmidt by November 15 (586-9507 or Schmidtvirg@yahoo.com) as the dinner will be catered.***
- 16 Tucson Parade of Lights, 6 p.m. Armory Park, Staging on the north and south sides of 14th, 15th, and 16th streets, Jeff Eppley, 235-1487**



Sahuarita Pecan Festival, 11/11/17

Enter the complex from Sahuarita Road by turning north on the road which is on the west side of the large water tank. If you have a semi-trailer, contact Jerry Hayes and he will direct you to the north entrance. Your PFTP badge will gain free entrance to the grounds. Be set up by 9 a.m. Drive north past the buildings and unload your tractors. Engines will be unloaded at the engine site and your trailer and pickup will be parked on the north end of the complex. Dry camping is free and 24-hour security is provided by the Arizona Rangers.

Volunteers are needed for ice cream and rope-making. It's work but fun with you.

Wear your badge and obtain a discount at the pecan store.

Pearce Show, 11/24/17

Our running engines and the static display of antique tractors will be on the south side of the Mercantile building. Be set up by 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Dinner, Board Meeting, and Christmas Light Parade in Benson, 12/2/17. We will set up at 12 and eat at 1. You may bring a food item for the food bank. The Board Meeting will follow the dinner. The parade will begin at 6:30 but staging will be at 5:30 behind the High School Football Field with entry off Union Street. The parade starts at Union & Patagonia. The parade theme is, "I am dreaming of a white Christmas."

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

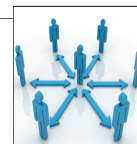
DONALD: H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about Donald?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O. (the kid WAS listening)



Leadership



President: Jim White, 220-7615

Vice President: Lyle Rasmussen, 780-2487

Treasurer, Membership, &EDGE&TA Insurance: Ruth Senkbeil, 240-1130

Secretary and Button Artist & Maker: Karen Reid, 255-7670

Safety: Mel Perkins, 400-1948

Tractor Chair: Seth Hoyte 971-2944

Key Person: Virgil Schmidt, 586-9507

Social: Candi Eppley, 419-3856

Engine Chair: Lance Amatulli, 264-6813

Facebook: Jon Howard, 402-852-4002

Historian, Webmaster, Layout, and Photographer: Jim Fieber, 444-0098

Editor: Larry Kastens, 378-2226

Apple Annie's Engine & Tractor Show, Sept. 9

Five tractors participated in the pulling aspect and five were static displays. We thank Leroy Welch for preparing the tractor sled and being the "pull back" tractor. We thank Jim Fieber for bringing the signs and placing them in the public's eye. Thanks, also, to Karen Reid for designing and printing the buttons. A 1949 Chevrolet pickup was also on display. We had three running engines and five that were for show. Clair could not get his hot air engine to go as it had a blockage in one of the orifices, but he tried different methods to unblock the problem.

Member participation was outstanding with the following who participated:



Lance Amatulli, Fred Bennett, Frank & Terry Bessler, Jade & Jonn Davenport, Larry & Maria Denicke, Adrian Dixon, Jim Fieber, Jim & Marilyn Hawley, Kent & Carol Hardy, Larry Kastens, Tim Kundrat, Scott & Tony Lawhead, Mel & Ruth Perkins, David Quinland, Virgil Schmidt, Clair &

Joan St. Clair, Matt Stewart, Leroy and Paulette Welch, and Jim White. Jim White brought the drinks and we had good conversation. Seventy-nine ropes were made, thanks to two of the younger members, Tim Kundrat and David Quinland.



We appreciate the many volunteers that contribute toward the success of our events.



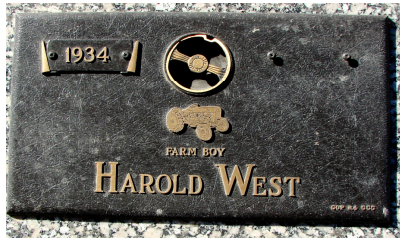
Cochise County Fair Show, Sept. 21-24

We had 15 PFTP members who exhibited, volunteered, or were spectators for our four day show in Douglas. Exhibitors were Jim Fieber, Larry Kastens, Tony & Scott Lawhead, Clair St. Clair, Matt Stewart, and Jim White. Rope making volunteers were Jim Fieber, Seth Hoyte, Clair St. Clair, Matt Stewart, and Jim White. Spectators were Fred & Pam Bennett, Frank & Terry Bessler, Mike Culp, Virgil Schmidt, and Bruce Tingle.



Harold Lee West

Funeral services were held for member, Harold Lee West, on September 16, 2017 at Sahuaro Baptist Church. He passed on August 28, one day before his 83rd birthday. Power from the Past members who attended were Jim Fieber, Barry Kanner, Larry Kastens, Ray & Kay Robinson, David Sliffe, Wayne Stevens, Leroy & Paulette Welch, and Jim White. After the service, a procession of three tractors followed the hearse to the



note "Farm Boy" and Jubilee on grave marker)

All Faiths Cemetery where he was laid to rest, after a brief service. Leroy Welch led with Harold's Ford Jubilee, followed by Jim Fieber with his Minneapolis-Moline Z, and Wayne Stevens with his Minneapolis-Moline G. Most of the funeral attendees came back to the church for a lunch provided by the family.



Over the years, Harold's hobbies were car racing, horses, and antique tractors. He worked on the Vector Ranch with a partner, raising lettuce and onions. While a member of PFTP, he was often available to do grading for tractor pulls. He was a kind person, always speaking well of everyone.

Event Participation

We could use more members to exhibit. Perhaps, we could have other activities such as workshops, featured engines and tractors, and tractor rides. All welcome.

We are considering the possibility of having a show at the Rodeo Grounds in Tucson, a suggestion which Marvin Meeks made many years ago. It would have to be before January or after March as the grounds are committed from January through March. Keep in mind that one of our target audiences are our 'snow bird' visitors.



**New proposed activity
at all events in the fu-
ture.
Single or couples color-
ing contest.**

**Who says that tractor
guys don't activate good
ideas.**





Classified

1935 Allis Chalmers WC. Runs well, good tires. This tractor was in the tractor pulls at Pima County Fair. Needs someone to use it and enjoy it. \$1700.00.

**Call Ruth Senkbeil at
520-240-1130.**

Western Engine Project

The 1916 fifty horsepower engine was given to Power from the Past by the family of John Fornes. Originally, it was purchased by Walter Hegi of Buckeye and used on the first irrigation well drilled in the Buckeye Valley. It was transported from California, by train, to the Phoenix Railway Station. It took two days for a team of horses to transport it to Hegi's farm. Later, it was sold to John Fornes.

This year, a used 17,500 pound GVW trailer was purchased and Joe Mooney moved the engine onto it. Fred Bennett collected the parts and attached the engine to the



trailer. Larry Kastens gifted PFTP a 1929 Ford Model A engine with a Smith air compressor conversion. Jim White disassembled and cleaned the engine, determining that the engine is in good condition. Larry Denicke supplied a Model A carburetor and Jim purchased a starter, alternator, and some miscellaneous parts. Thanks to Jim for re-assembling the engine and getting it to run, again. This engine conversion will be the air supply to start the Western engine.

Tasks

If you cannot fulfill your task at an event, please work to find a replacement.

Email Addresses

Please establish a stable address. It takes a lot of time to be changing addresses.

Savings Accounts

Jamie Davenport has volunteered to check financial institutions which would give us more interest, yet being able to withdraw funds, without penalties.

Financial Standing

Ruth Senkbeil is our treasurer who pays the bills and keeps track on where the money goes. As of September 30, our checking balance was \$1,059.94 with a savings of \$16,244.01. Our Land Fund has \$36,108.11 and the ice cream profits which we have accumulated (\$6,652.25, currently) will be added when the current CD expires.

Butterfield Day, Benson

Member participation as exhibitors, pullers, or parade entrants was outstanding. We had 4 running engines and 4 static engines. Jim White displayed his tool trailer. Several members ran the rope machine. There were nine tractors and one truck in the parade. A dozen members pulled and in this event, Matt Stewart, a new member, did the announcing. Special thanks are extended to Bucky Stevens for transporting the sled. Former member,

Mickey Pitts of St. David, became a member again. Families who participated were Amatulli, Ball 2, Bott, Clark, Davenport, Day, Dixon, Dwyer, Fieber, Hawley, Hayes, Hoyte, Johnson, Kastens, Lawhead, Mattson, Parker, Perkins, Pitts, Schmidt, Stevens 2, Stewart, and White. We were awarded an appreciation award for our parade and show efforts from Benson for their Butterfield Day event.



Helldorado Days, Tombstone

Contributors (exhibitors and volunteers) were the families of Amatulli, Bennett, Bessler, Bishop, Bluemel, Bott, Christie 2, Culp, Davenport, Day, Dixon, Dwyer, Eppley, Fieber, Johnson, Kastens, Kundrat, McNeely, Perkins, Schmidt, Senkbeil, Saint Clair, Stevens, Stewart, and White. We had 23 tractors, 11 engines, and



three vehicles. Seventy-eight ropes were made. Ruth Senkbeil and Candi Eppley were the organizers of the food preparation while others assisted. Erika Way, Park Manager, and Meghan Shanahan, helper, were gracious hosts of the Tombstone Courthouse Park.



In Nashville, Tennessee, during the first week of January, 1996, more than 4,000 baseball coaches descended upon the Opryland Hotel for the 52nd annual ABCA's convention.

I heard other more veteran coaches rumbling about the lineup of speakers scheduled to present during the weekend. One name, in particular, kept resurfacing, always with the same sentiment — "John Scolinos is here? Oh, man, worth every penny of my airfare."

Who is John Scolinos, I wondered. No matter, I was just happy to be there.

In 1996, Coach Scolinos was 78 years old and five years retired from a college coaching career that began in 1948. He shuffled to the stage to an impressive standing ovation, wearing dark polyester pants, a light blue shirt, and a string around his neck from which home plate hung — a full-sized, stark-white home plate. Seriously, I wondered, who is this guy?

After speaking for twenty-five minutes, not once mentioning the prop hanging around his neck, Coach Scolinos appeared to notice the snickering among some of the coaches. Even those who knew Coach Scolinos had to wonder exactly where he was going with this, or if he had simply forgotten about home plate since he'd gotten on stage. Then, finally ... "You're probably all wondering why I'm wearing home plate around my neck.," he said, his voice growing irascible. I laughed along with the others, acknowledging the possibility. "I may be old, but I'm not crazy. The reason I stand before you today is to share with you baseball people what I've learned in my life, what I've learned about home plate in my 78 years." Several hands went up when Scolinos asked how many Little League coaches were in the room. "Do you know how wide home plate is in Little League?"

After a pause, someone offered, "Seventeen inches?," more of a question than answer.

"That's right," he said. "How about in Babe Ruth's day? Any Babe Ruth coaches in the house?" Another long pause.

"Seventeen inches?" a guess from another reluctant coach. "That's right," said Scolinos.

"Now, how many high school coaches do we have in the room?" Hundreds of hands shot up, as the pattern began to appear. "How wide is home plate in high school baseball?" "Seventeen inches," they said, sounding more confident. "You're right!" Scolinos barked.

"And you college coaches, how wide is home plate in college?" "Seventeen inches!" we said, in unison.

"Any Minor League coaches here? How wide is home plate in pro ball?" "Seventeen inches!"

"RIGHT! And in the Major Leagues, how wide home plate is in the Major Leagues?" "Seventeen inches!"

"SEV-EN-TEEN INCHES!" he confirmed, his voice bellowing off the walls. "And what do they do with a Big League pitcher who can't throw the ball over seventeen inches?" Pause. "They send him to Pocatello!" he hollered, drawing raucous laughter. "What they don't do is this: they don't say, 'Ah, that's okay, Jimmy. You can't hit a seventeen-inch target? We'll make it eighteen inches, or nineteen inches. We'll make it twenty inches so you have a better chance of hitting it. If you can't hit that, let us know so we can make it wider still, say twenty-five inches.'" Pause. "Coaches ..." Pause. "... what do we do when our best player shows up late to practice? When our team rules forbid facial hair and a guy shows up unshaven? What if he gets caught drinking? Do we hold him accountable? Or do we change the rules to fit him. Do we widen home plate? The chuckles gradually faded as four thousand coaches grew quiet, the fog lifting as the old coach's message began to unfold. He turned the plate toward himself and, using a Sharpie, began to draw something. When he turned it toward the crowd, point up, a house was revealed, complete with a freshly drawn door and two windows. "This is the problem in our homes today. With our marriages, with the way we parent our kids. With our discipline. We don't teach accountability to our kids, and there is no consequence for failing to meet standards. We widen the plate!"

Pause. Then, to the point at the top of the house he added a small American flag. "This is the problem in our schools today. The quality of our education is going downhill fast and teachers have been stripped of the tools they need to be successful, and to educate and discipline our young people. We are allowing others to widen home plate! Where is that getting us?"

"And the same is true with our government. Our so called representatives make rules for us that don't apply to themselves. They take bribes from lobbyists and foreign countries. They no longer serve us. And we allow them to widen home plate and we see our country falling into a dark abyss while we watch."

I was amazed. At a baseball convention where I expected to learn something about curveballs and bunting and how to run better practices, I had learned something far more valuable. From an old man with home plate strung around his neck, I had learned something about life, about myself, about my own weaknesses and about my responsibilities as a leader. I had to hold myself and others accountable to that which I knew to be right, lest our families, our faith, and our society continue down an undesirable path.

"If I am lucky," Coach Scolinos concluded, "you will remember one thing from this old coach today. It is this: if we fail to hold ourselves to a higher standard, a standard of what we know to be right; if we fail to hold our spouses and our children to the same standards, if we are unwilling or unable to provide a consequence when they do not meet the standard; and if our schools & churches & our gov't. fail to hold themselves accountable to those they serve, there is but one thing to look forward to ..." With that, he held home plate in front of his chest, turned it around, and revealed its dark black backside. "... dark days ahead."

He was so much more than a baseball coach. His message was clear: "Coaches, keep your players—no matter how good they are—your own children, your churches, your government, and most of all, keep yourself at seventeen inches. "Don't widen the plate"



"No Style Like Old Style"

Our website is www.powerfromthepast.org

Power from the Past
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