

For those of you who think ol' man winter just won't go away, take heart, I discovered a tulip bulb that had sprouted and was protruding through the ground about an inch!! Spring is just around the corner.

Our next meeting will be February 27<sup>th</sup> at John Dye's repair shop in Higginsville. Directions have been posted at the website. John will provide pork steaks so the rest of us need to bring side dishes and desserts. We have several issues from the January meeting to discuss and possibly bring to conclusion:

- \* Wheelie bars for Farm Classes
- \* Use of a fuel tester
- \* Division VI rule changes

Some changes have been made to the tentative pull schedule. It doesn't appear that the Madison pull is going to come together, they want to have it on Friday June 18<sup>th</sup>. This being a week night and having Madison located in the northeast corner of our pulling area makes for a poorly attended pull. We will pursue a contract at Otterville on Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> with an early afternoon start time.

I was approached by a promoter for a pull in July at Monroe City. The board and officers decided to pass on this event since we already have five pulls scheduled for July and again Monroe City is located in the northeast corner of our pulling area.

Our insurance renewal was recently received and the rates are the same as last year, \$225 per pull if we have 10-15 pulls. 14 tentative pulls means an annual premium of \$3,150. I'll have this on the agenda under "new business" at the next meeting. I've been working on a profit and loss statement for the club and hope to have it ready for presentation at the next meeting. We generate nearly \$50,000 / year in

revenue, we're no longer just a bunch of guys getting together to do a tractor pull. In the very near future we'll be incorporated as a nonprofit organization and file tax returns just like any legitimate business.

Rebecca just reminded me that everyone should bring their favorite recipes to Higginsville so the club recipe book can start taking shape. Well, that's about all I have for now. Everyone be safe while traveling to Higginsville & I'll see you on the 27<sup>th</sup>!!

Steve Van Drimmelen