

# MATPA

MID-AMERICA TRACTOR PULLERS ASSOCIATION

February 19<sup>th</sup>

2008

Hello everyone, and welcome to the first 2008 Newsletter of the year. I am your President - Steve Borts of Jamestown, MO. You may contact me at any time via e-mail ([steve@spielersinc.com](mailto:steve@spielersinc.com)) or my cell phone at 573-808-0010. I was elected at the January Awards Banquet along with the following list of officers and board members:

**President - Steve Borts**  
**Treasurer - Billy Montgomery**

**Vice President - Frank Young**  
**Board Member - Reed Nichols**

**Secretary - Mike Moore**  
**Board Member - John Dye**

The Board Members also join current board members **Rod Rackers**, and **Wade Monckton**. I would like to thank the membership for their vote of confidence in myself and all of those elected for the coming year. We will try to uphold the outstanding reputation the club has obtained, and to help move forward and provide the wisdom to help our club grow to its full potential.

## New Ideas for the MATPA

I would like to start off with updating the membership on a few items in which we have decided on in order to help the club move forward. We are going to try to get a newsletter out every month. Some of those may be short and sweet, and other ones may have some lengthy discussions. But the point is to try to help communicate with some of our members that are not so (how should I say it), internet friendly. The newsletter will be sent to a large mailing list for the first time to many past and present members. We hope that everyone will strive to get their memberships up to date as soon as possible, as any future newsletters are planned to only go out to paid memberships. If you have any items that you would like to address in the newsletter, feel free to contact me at any time. The reason I mention that is because we plan on using to newsletter in order to review items that were discussed at the last meeting, and to prepare members for items that will be discussed at the next meeting.

Another item that we are going to try - is to get a phone tree together in order to help notify pullers of a rain out or other important information - in which the internet may not be the quickest means of communication. I will post the completed phone tree in the next newsletter - and e-mail it to those who are on the list. Please make yourself aware of those who you are to contact - if your name appears on the list.

At the pulls this year - we are going to have a pull worksheet in order to help keep track of the number of hooks, amount of money to MATPA, and associated cost at each pull. This should help us by giving up important information we need in order to make good decisions on changes, or no changes to the way we handle our pulls. We should also be able to see where we are gaining in hooks each year, and where we are lacking in hooks.

I'm currently working to finalize the pull schedule for this year. We have verbal agreements with everyone, but no signed contracts as of yet. I'm working on getting that done. Below are the dates that we are looking at as of now. KEEP IN MIND, this is only a tentative schedule, and is subject to change. It should be a good guide for those of us who want to do some planning ahead for family activities and vacations for the coming summer.

Fun Pull	Saturday April 26 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
Boonville	Saturday May 17 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
Higginsville	Saturday June 2 <sup>nd</sup> @ 4:00pm
Hallsville	Saturday June 14 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
Cole Camp	Saturday June 28 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
Pilot Grove	Sunday July 13 <sup>th</sup> @ Noon
Columbia	Monday July 21 <sup>st</sup> @ 6:00pm
Macon	Saturday July 26 <sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm
Slater	Saturday August 2 <sup>nd</sup> @ 4:00pm
Sturgeon	Saturday August 9 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
St Anthony	Saturday August 16 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
Boonville	Saturday September 6 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
* RAIN DATE	Saturday September 13 <sup>th</sup> @ *
Eldon	Saturday September 20 <sup>th</sup> @ 2:00pm

## **New Website - PULLWITHMATPA.com**

You will notice a change when you log onto the "old website". The website we have used for several years has been MATPA.home.ATT.net. We have added a new site - pullwithmatpa.com. Both sites will be active until the end of the 2008 pulling season. As some of you already know - there is now a link posted on the old website to take you to the new website. The reason for this is that Ken Brownfield and Stacy Wessing have helped donate the space to host the new website, and this should save us about \$180 per year. The new website should also have more space for us to add new items, and more pictures to the website. Robin Montgomery has done a great job designing and maintaining our website for several years. She decided to hand the reigns over to Krista Nichols, and the membership voted at the February meeting in order to make it official. Thanks again to Robin for all her hard work and time that went into the website. Krista has already transferred everything to the new website and began working on some new features.

## **February Meeting held at Higginsville, MO**

The February meeting was held at Higginsville, MO at the shop of John Dye and Family. We had a great time - and oh my gosh, was the food ever good!!! Everyone was stuffed when the night was over. The board and officers met at 5:00pm and discussed a few items. And then at 6:00pm, Steve Vandrimmelin asked the blessing and it was nothing but elbows and napkins flying!! Man - those pork steaks were awesome! And there was plenty of food - if you went away hungry - it was your own fault. I meant to count - but I would say we had about 50-65 people there. It was a great turnout. The meeting started at 7:00pm. Mike Moore read the minutes from the January Meeting, and was followed by Billy Montgomery with a recap of the 2007 seasons expenses and income. We are in good financial standing. There were several items discussed that night - I'll try not to forget any of them. We discussed the pull schedule and a conflict with the Eldon and California Pulls. It was a unanimous decision to return to Eldon and forgo the pull at California. Many members voiced their opinion that the two towns should get together and work out the scheduling conflict in order to prevent this in the future. Sturgeon has decided to let Cole Camp have a pull in place of the earlier pull they normally have. That was approved by the membership as well. In light of the overlap between Eldon and California, it was decided to add a pull at St. Anthony this coming year.

I other business, it was voted unanimously to let Krista Nichols take over the website. It was also approved to keep both the new and old websites working until the 2008 pulling season is over - in order to get the new website advertised enough so we don't lose anybody. The old website will have a link posted in order to send the person to the new website.

It was brought to our attention that nobody seems to know where the bylaws of the club are at. There was a committee appointed in order to get a new set of by-laws written and adopted. Those on the committee were Darrell Kusgen, Rod Rackers, JP Dunn, and Steve Timm with Darrell Kusgen being Chair of that committee.

There was also much discussion about adding a new class of Div VII tractor (V8's). There were many ideas on how to distinguish between a Class A and a Class B DIV VII. We discussed this for quite a bit - and it seemed like the majority were ok with doing it at some time, but the concern was how to "police" the different classes without causing too much of a headache. It was decided to leave things the way they are for this year - and maybe we can discuss it amongst ourselves and come up with a plan by the 2009 Rules Meeting.

One of the last things we talked about was an internal audit of the books. I was motioned and approved to have two board members audit the books at the end of every year. It was also decided to have the March meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Centertown hosted by Rod Rackers and John Doyle.

After the meeting was adjourned - everyone set around until late in the evening for a good laugh and good times with friends. Thanks again to the Dye family and everyone that helped with the meal and set-up of the shop. We all had a great time!!

## **2007 SHOWDOWN PULL AT BOONVILLE**

For those of you that have been wondering - the pull video for the September SHOWDOWN pull at Boonville is still being put together. I apologize for the delay. I had an illness in the family during late October that took much of my time until early December. We spent a lot of time going thru the video in order to get everyone's name and their distance put on the screen along with their tractor make and model, and where they are from. There were 353 hooks that night - and it takes along time to do that. I was able to get the script to VIDTECH at the very end of December, and they are working on it. Herb had an illness, but is back to work and trying to get it done as quickly as possible. But above all - it should be worth the wait. I saw the raw footage - and it looks great.

## **March 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting in Centertown, MO**

The next meeting for MATPA will be held just off HWY 50 in Centertown, MO (between California and Jefferson City). The meeting will be hosted by Rod Rackers and John Doyle. Happy Hour will start at 5:00pm, with the meal at 6:00pm, and the meeting at 7:00pm. We will be having Chili, so bring a side dish accordingly. One of the items we will be discussing is our insurance. We discussed this some at the December meeting. Basically - we need to discuss about having everyone who pulls at the pull - be required to be an MATPA member. I've heard much discussion between members about this since then - so be thinking about this - and bring you opinion to the meeting. We will also go over any changes to the schedule. If you have an item you would like us to discuss - then let me know ahead of time - and I will get it on the agenda. We don't have a lot on the agenda as of now, and so we are planning on playing pitch after the meeting is over. So bring a deck of cards and plan on staying have enjoying some good old fashioned card playing and tall tale telling!! Below are the directions to the meeting in Centertown:

### **John Doyle/Rod Rackers**

Centertown

573-353-3431 - John

573-353-6317 - Rod

Directions: Take Hwy 50 to Centertown from the west. Go through Centertown, and just outside of Centertown, turn south(right) on Shangrila Road. Go straight down the road - over the hill.

There will be a big white shop on the left (1/2 mile from Hwy 50).

If you are coming from the east: take Hwy 50 out of Jefferson City to just before Centertown. Just past the State MODOT shed on the left, take a left on Shangrila Road. Go straight down the road - over the hill. There will be a big white shop on the left (1/2 mile from Hwy 50).

## **April Meeting at Jamestown**

The April meeting will be on April 5<sup>th</sup> at the home of Steve Borts in Jamestown, MO. Below you will find the directions. We will be grilling Hamburgers and Hotdogs. Happy Hour will start at 4:00pm. Look forward to seeing you there.

### **Steve Borts**

319 S Mill St

Jamestown, MO 65046

660.849.2638

Directions to Steve's: Take Hwy 87 to Jamestown. Turn into Jamestown at the junction of 87 and Hwy AA. Our House is the first on the right. Its next to the MODOT Building.

## **2008 Dues**

Please get your dues paid to Mike Moore as soon as possible. The dues per year are \$25.00 per family, and that comes with one free points class registration. If you are able to receive the newsletter by e-mail instead of mailing it - let Mike or Steve know. This will save the club on unnecessary postage and paper. Below is Mike Moore's information.

Mike Moore , Secretary

4581 East Todd Street

Columbia, MO 65201

573.442.8789

## **Thank You for your time.**

In closing - as always - check the website out for further pictures, information, and meeting info. It has been a good way for us to get the word out - and we want to keep it up. I'm getting ready to write a new post for "Steve's Table" as soon as I finish this newsletter, so tune in to check that out on the website too! Lets keep up the good work - and enjoy another safe and fun year of pulling in 2008!!!!!!