

BULLETIN NATIONAL TRACTOR PARTS DEALER ASSOCIATION

"USED, REBUILT AND NEW AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL REPAIR PARTS"

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VOL. 29, NO. 1



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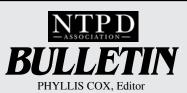
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NTPDA

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Articles, letters, advertisements and comments are encouraged and should be sent to:

The National Tractor Parts Dealer Association makes every reasonable effort to ensure accuracy of information contained in the *Bulletin* and to give credit to original authors where applicable. NTPDA and/or its agents are not responsible for errors or omissions.

Welcome to Spring!

Finally we can say that!! Its been a long long winter but now the snow is melting away and we see dirt starting to poke through. Winter in NW Iowa was cold and brutal this year and after an extremely wet fall we are keeping a very close eye on the rivers and lakes and are preparing to deal with more flooding. We are praying for no more rain or snow for awhile so spring field work can start on time.

Thank you to all that joined us in Mobile, Al for the Annual Conference and Trade Show! It is always nice to see familiar faces and talk with old friends, but this year it was nice to see we had a lot of new faces or faces we had not seen in a long time. If you have not been to an NTPDA event in awhile or ever, please reconsider, the benefits are far greater than you might think. Our next event is the Summer Mixer in July. This year we are meeting at the downtown Holiday Inn in Sioux Falls, SD on July 18-21. Phyllis and Kim are putting together another top tier event including site tours of All States Ag Parts in Salem, SD, Abilene Machine & Worthington Ag Parts in Sioux Falls, and my personal favorite, Rock Valley Tractor Parts and Iowa Cutter Supply in Rock Valley, IA. Each of these tours give you a chance to meet with some of the people that maybe you talk to on the phone with nearly every day and see their operations first-hand.

At the general session in Mobile this year we held a vote on whether to change the bylaws of the NTPDA to allow us to engage



Scott Schelling

in political lobbying without jeopardizing our tax-exempt status. When the votes were tallied, the result was to not change the bylaws. So where do we go from here? After speaking with many of you from both sides of the voting we have heard some ideas on what we can still do in the political arena, but I encourage you to talk to myself or a board member if you have suggestions or comments. Remember, this is YOUR organization, let your voice be heard!

See you all in Sioux Falls!!

Scott







Happy Spring! I know many of you are glad that Spring is here...especially our guys up North! I got several notifications from Rock Valley Tractor Parts, Worthington, TR Salvage telling me about their minus degree weather. And...at one point I was sitting in Texas in 70 degree weather! I love Texas!

It was great seeing many of you in Mobile, AL at our Conference & Trade Show! We had a great turnout and the speakers, the networking and the new friendships we made were once again amazing! Thank you to all of our sponsors and attendees for making it such a success.

As always, Kim and I hit the ground running to tie up loose ends. One of the most important things I do is notify everyone that donated to St. Jude and gather those checks and send in the money. It's a long process but well worth the effort. This year we surpassed last year and raised \$15,500. Thanks to everyone that donated and supported St. Jude Children's Hospital. We appreciate you so much! And thanks to Lon Sturgeon and Alvin Kaddatz for donating their expertise as our official NTPDA Auctioneers! Also...a big thank you to Mike and Deb Hansen for going above and beyond in making sure everything is taken care of during the trade show and set-up and tear-down! You're the best! And....a HUGE thank you to Kim! We're a pretty good team...and I definitely couldn't do it without her. She's the glue that keeps it all together! Thank you, Kim!!!

In this issue we will highlight the conference and trade show and we hope you enjoy reminiscing about the good times you had...or maybe you'll see what you missed and join us next year!

Have a wonderful Spring...and will see you in the next issue when we highlight our Scholarship Recipients!

Phyllis

NTPDA RAISED \$15,500!



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NTPDA's 35th Annual Conference and Trade Show Mobile, AL Companies Displayed & Attended

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Continental Breakfast – Friday Outside Crystal Ballroom – 1st Floor Sponsored by Fawcett Tractor Supply Ltd. Memo Corporation

> AM Break – Friday Training Sessions Sponsored by Plastics Unlimited

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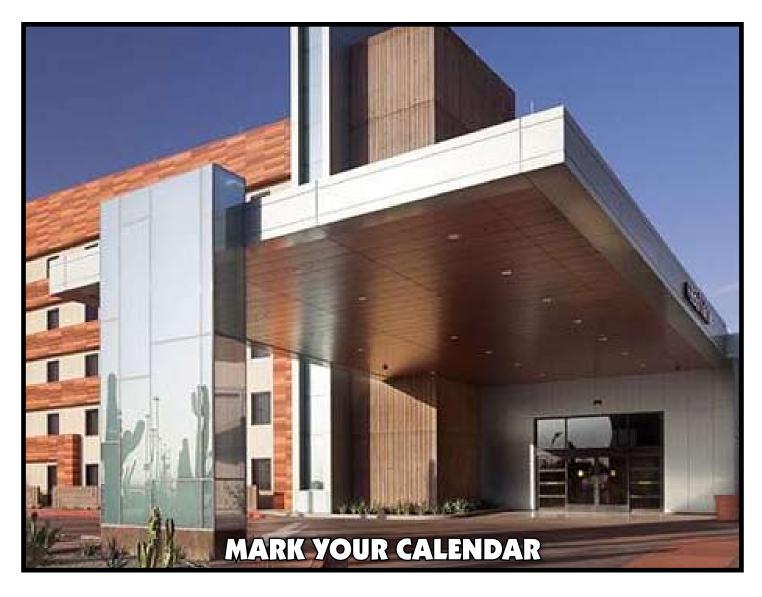
Cocktail Reception – Friday Sponsored by Allied Information Networks TractorHouse/AuctionTime.com Schaefer Enterprises

Breakfast – Saturday Trade Show Area – Moonlight Ballroom All States Ag Parts, Inc.

Cocktail Reception – Saturday Crystal Ballroom Foyer Sponsored by Cook Tractor Parts, Inc. Memo Corporation Schaefer Enterprises

Dinner – Saturday Crystal Ballroom Sponsored by Abilene Machine, LLC Allied Information Networks Reliance Corp. Entertainment Steiner Tractor Parts, Inc.



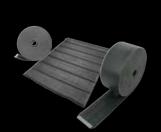




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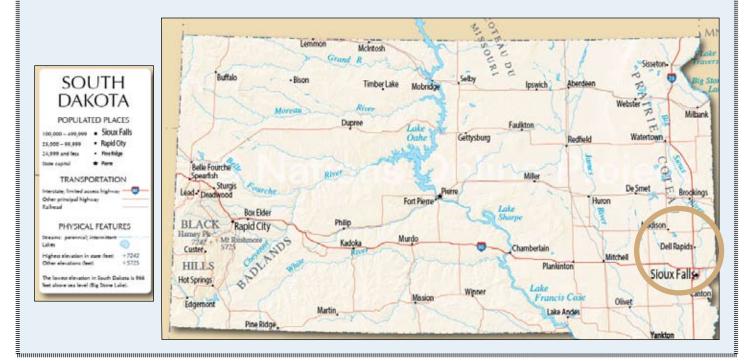
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Join us for our 2019 Summer Mixer/Board Meeting in Beautiful Sioux Falls, SD. July 14-18

Remember you don't need to be a Board Member to join us.

It's a great time to visit and network with your fellow NTPDA members.





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We would like to increase the information on our "Members Page." New grandchild, wedding, anniversary, etc. Send it to us...we love hearing from you!



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To our customers and friends,

It is with profound sadness that we inform you of the sudden passing of our dear friend and coworker Bill Kumle.

For over a decade Bill was a vital and intricate part of the Maxiforce team. Whether it be visiting customers, developing product or maintaining our quality, without Bill, Maxiforce would not be where it is today. We are eternally grateful for Bill's commitment to hard word, integrity, and his loyalty to the foundational principles of this Company.

Bill's love for his family, work and coworkers were an example to all, not soon to be forgotten.

Bill is survived by his wife Marci, 2 daughters Sarah and Ali, and grandchildren.

May he Rest in Peace.

Maxiforce

A new treasure in Phyllis's life, sweet Anna was born March 16, 2019. Anna is being held and loved by big sister Caroline.



Kids are so much fun!!!

After I picked up my 8-year-old greatgrandson, Aiden, from school, we spent some time at the park before his karate lesson.

He found two sticks and talked me into playing "swords." After several minutes of dueling, he said, "I wish you could do this like my dad does it." I asked him how his dad does it and he answered, "Well, you can't keep saying 'OW!' all the time." -- Sandy Niemann

Ъ

by Chuck Niemann

BACKYARD JUNGLE

Do you have any idea how dangerous your back yard becomes in the spring? The only way you are safe is if you have no backyard. Of course, the danger is different in other locations. But, here in rural North Texas it is a real jungle. You ask, how can my back yard be dangerous? I will elaborate.

Snakes, fire ants, mosquitoes, wasps, poison ivy, rotten tree limbs, coyotes, bobcats and more are lurking. Your yard may not be like mine. But, I live in an area just outside of town that joins a lot of relatively unused land. In spring my wife and I start to become paranoid. The first thing that comes up is the copperheads. Lots of them. The whole neighborhood is battling them. We have found them on the screened patio and even in the living

room. As if that is not scary enough, the next problem is



the red wasps. I am allergic to them and they know it. We go through wasp spray like it was water. Of course, my wife does all

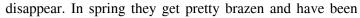
the spraying since I don't dare go outside while she is battling them.

Then there is our lovely poison ivy patch which somehow starts to spread to every grown-over area in the yard. I am allergic to that too. However, it seems that I

have gotten poison ivy so many times that I have started to develop an immunity. Next would be all of the rotten limbs. I cannot even park a car in some parts of the driveway since the limbs are too high for me to cut and I am too cheap to hire someone to do it. Besides, they are all over the place and every time I think I have gotten all of them I discover more hidden by the new green spring

foliage.

Are you convinced yet? Let's talk about the predators in the neighborhood that are constantly trying to eat my two little dogs. I do not know where all the coyotes and bobcats go during the winter. But, they seem to





known to actually come over a five foot chain link fence into a small area right next to the house. Then there are the hawks and owls. At least the hawks have the decency to hunt during the day. After dark my dogs get real nervous about going out into the fenced area. We actually lost a cat to an owl several years ago.

On to ground insects. Fire ants. Did you ever see fire ants try to get on the mower with you after you run over a mound. Talk about fun. The fire ants come back no matter what you do. I don't think you actually kill them. I think they just move to other spots. It is amazing how much a single bite hurts for days. Then there are the



mosquitoes and chiggers. You tend to forget about them during the winter so the first time they show up in spring you get a good dose before you are even aware they are back. At least you get a chance with mosquitoes. Once in a while you get revenge on one of the little suckers (pun intended). Chiggers are another matter. They are totally insidious. You don't know about them until it is too late and they do not respect clothing either.

How about Raccoons? We have abundant spring raccoons. They are mostly pests and the dogs hate them. They come right up to the house all the time and get into anything they can and they bring their kids. Every so often I am wakened at night by some god awful clatter of them knocking something over. The problem is that my wife has adopted one

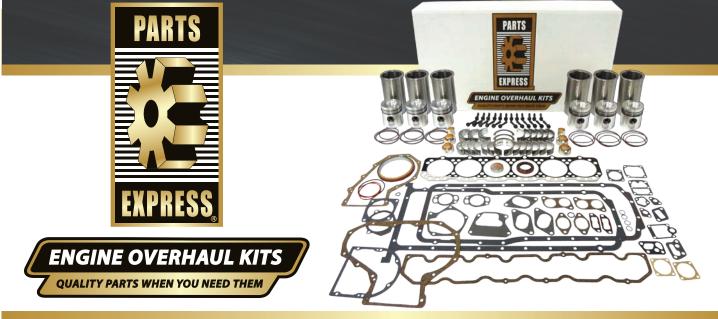


of them for a couple of years now and they all think they are welcome here. My wife named her raccoon Rachel, makes peanut butter sandwiches for her and feeds her by hand. No wonder they think this is a great place to hang out.

So, next time you start to go outside to enjoy the spring air remember you never know what might be lurking out there. Oh, and by the way, look out for those painful sticker vines that have sprung up around all your trees.



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As I sit here racking my brain about a good topic for the upcoming publication, I think about what has been happening since the winter convention in Mobile, Alabama.

On a world scale, Venezuela is in tremendous socioeconomic and political turmoil with both Haiti and Sudan close behind; scandal erupts in the Canadian government as ministers resign due to allegations of unethical behavior by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; the United States seems more divided than ever in recent history as the buzz words like 'fake news' circle the airwaves and Twitter feeds; New Zealand becomes the target of terrorism bred from the polarization of fundamental values and beliefs.

But did you know... the global suicide rate has dropped by 29% since 2000; the most notorious drug lord, El Chapo, has finally been arrested and found guilty in a New York court room; Zimbabwe established the Akashinga wildlife rangers, making Phundundu Wildlife Park the first one in the world to be protected by an all-women, armed and antipoaching, ranger unit; The Porch Band of Creek Indians



made a \$184,000 donation to cover funeral costs of the 23 Alabama tornado victims; the unemployment rate in the USA is the lowest it has been in over ten years – Canada's lowest numbers in fifty years; the list goes on.

Why did I bring this up? Great question... The events listed remind me of how we view the world compared to the reality of it and. Our human nature can tend to see the world based on that one negative comment or moment rather than remembering the multiple amazing moments that inspire and bring joy. Interestingly enough, our industry is based on the faith, hope, many years of knowledge, sweat, and tears of farmers and their forefathers who don't know what the year will bring. Will harvest be profitable? Will the livestock make it to market? Will the trade deals work out for dairy farming? Can I get just one more planting season out of my old tractor? While we do hear of those farmers, mechanics and hobbyists who fall on hard times, we can forget to remember all the years of success, perseverance, relationship and character building.

So, as I sit here trying to connect the dots of my thought process, my take-away since we last saw each other is to keep thinking about the positive things that are going on in the world and be sure to share the joy they bring; definitely mourn when necessary but also celebrate with vigor – spring is coming and with it a new season of opportunity, sunshine, and tractors to be fixed.





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PICKSMART

KNOW Customers Customers

It was really great to see so many of our friends during the Annual Meeting and Trade Show in Mobile! Thank you to those of you who graciously gave of your time to do some interviews for Insight on Business the News Hour and for the videos we produced each day. Thanks!

This week I sat down with the Editor in Chief of Entrepreneur Magazine, Jason Feifer and talked about the changing trends of business and, more importantly, our customers. It was some great insight into how successful entrepreneurs think. Two points:

Fight Change or Embrace Change – There is something in our DNA that tells us to fight change even if we know we must. And, it's nothing new. Get this, according to Jason, when bicycles were introduced into the United States the makers of hats went nuts. Bicycle riders stopped buying fancy hats and opted for less expensive caps. The hysteria was so bad hat makers begged Congress to pass a law saying that all men must by two high quality hats each year. (Congress didn't.) What should they have done? How about

by Michael P. Libbie

ramping up manufacturing of caps to meet the new consumer demand? What is that is changing in your business and how can you adapt to meet that change?

Become Obsessive with Customer Service – You may know who your prime customer is but do you really KNOW them? For example who is the prime customer of the NTPDA? The agricultural community? Hobby farmers? Nope, the prime customer of the NTPDA are the members both regular and associate. So to become successful and relevant this association must become obsessive when it comes to knowing and serving our customers. Because failing

to KNOW your customer can result in "NO customers". Make sense?

If you want to check out that conversation with Jason Feifer you can follow this link:

http://bit.ly/2tWXVtW or use your smartphone to scan this QR Code. Thanks for reading!



Michael P. Libbie is the owner of Insight Advertising, Marketing & Communications and does the only daily business news broadcast, Insight on Business the News Hour, in the Midwest. Michael@InsightCubed.com.









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Summertime Sunburns

S ummer is many people's favorite time of the year. From the beautiful beaches, to the warm weather, to the general feeling of friendliness and camaraderie that's shared during summer, this season never fails to conjure up happy memories to anyone who stops to dwell on it. However, along with the innate joy that the sunny season brings, comes a series of dangers, both obvious and incognito.

Sunburns are a major cause of dehydration. Every year come summertime the hospitals are flooded with glowing red patients who are as dry as raisins. This is because when your skin is burned by the sun, your body temperature is raised, lowering your body fluids to potentially dangerous levels and leaving you feeling dizzy and nauseous. While dehydration is an ailment that many times flies under the radar, in reality it can prove to be very harmful and even potentially deadly if left untreated, making sunburns all the more dangerous.

Another threat posed by sunburns is sun poisoning. A term generally reserved for severe cases, sun poisoning can prove to be extremely dangerous. It can cause an array of symptoms from dizziness, to blistering, to headaches, even to fainting. Because of its severity, sun poisoning is classified as the next tier above the comparatively less harmful effects



by Duke Jarvis

of a common sunburn and must be treated by a medical professional.

Finally, sunburns caused by UV exposure not only cause great immediate pain, but they also conceal a lingering threat in the form of skin cancer. Due to the fact that different melanin levels present different resistances to this issue for everyone, there is no set amount of exposure to these UV rays that will cause this malicious malady. This can result in a major margin of misconception wherein many people believe that they are impervious to skin cancer. This could not be further from the truth! In fact, skin cancers, both basal and squamous cell, are by far the most common types of cancer, thus proving that this is a problem which can affect everyone.

While summer remains a precious time for friends and family, parties and celebrations, happiness and memories, it must not be taken for granted. Too much of a good thing can always turn bad and that is easily exemplified by the duality of summer. So, in the coming months, don't forget to bring your sunscreen with an SPF 30 or higher, apply 30 minutes prior to sun exposure, reapply, and reapply again. Summer is many people's favorite time of the year and there is no reason that has to change.





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By Terri Stevens

Happy Springtinne,

Well, Daylight savings time is here! I love more daylight in the evening and I sure hope that spring and summer are on their way.

I had a funny day on Friday! I had 3 couples in my office to sell them a tractor or a mower.

The first couple was young and had only been married one year. They were probably in their young 20's. They were an easy sell and the guy said he doesn't have anything to do with the money; he just lets his wife pay the bills. The next couple was significantly well to do. I had been working with him for a while and he told me he was separated from his

wife. Well, she came with him to look at the tractor on Saturday. He was happy and she said, "Let's buy it." His countenance had totally changed. Then the

next couple came in. He had come in on Friday and said he wanted it. On Saturday he brought his wife with him and she was totally against the purchase of a tractor. I felt very awkward. I tried to give them space and let them discuss the details. When they left I told them unless they paid a deposit for the tractor I couldn't hold it for them. She said that was fine with her. He then gave me a deposit. It made me even more aware of relationships and how they are so different.

Dynamics with money is interesting in marriage. Some people totally do their money separate; some make decisions without their spouse even knowing. We delivered a tractor one time and the customer said deliver it on a certain day

asked him if that was a good idea and he said, "It sure is." Then you have the customer that can't buy anything without the approval of their wife. I had someone tell me in their marriage they had the \$500.00 rule ... as long as it was under \$500.00 they could purchase it without pre approval.

Anything in life that is worthwhile is

about sticking with it.

Relationships are complicated to say the least. Some days we love each other and some days ... not so much. I have learned it's more about commitment than it is about being in love. Some days you just have to push thru it. Anything in life that is worthwhile is about sticking with it. Diet, exercise, living on a budget and relationships.

and put it in the barn. He didn't want his wife to know. I

Think about it, how are you with money? Do you just buy what you want? Do you ask for approval? Do you ask for forgiveness instead of permission? Do you discuss it and pray about it? Money is something we all seem to want more

of but it has never made anyone happy.

My Dad is 82 years old and he told me the other day money is good for two things.

Working for it and spending it. I think he could be right. Work does a body good it and makes you feel better about everything. Nothing like a good day of hard physical work. Nothing more fun than having the money to buy something that you need. (Hopefully a tractor!)

This spring as you are wheeling and dealing you will have a lot of customers like my first two couples where their wives say let's buy it!!! Good luck!

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