



# HIT & MISS

Newsletter of the Western Antique Power Associates

## This Old Iron—Ken Evans by Dave Ruhland

How does a 100% city guy get antique farm equipment as a hobby? Here is Ken's story.

In the early 1980's his long time friend, Bob DeVoe, returned from a trip to see his brother in Northern California with a piece of equipment Ken did not recognize. Bob brought it to Ken's house, unloaded it and said it was a gasoline engine and for him to figure it out and left. Ken had experience with automobile engines so that was a start. But it only had one cylinder and large external flywheels. On further inspection, it had no spark plug. The only clue as to manufacturer was BULLDOG cast into the side of what looked like a water tank on top of the cylinder. Keep in mind this was before the Internet, social media, knowledge of Gas Engine Magazine and WAPA.

Ken figured out that the spark must be from a mechanical switch mounted on front of the engine but there was no way to operate it. There was an arm that moved up and down as the flywheels were turned. So he looked carefully at what was going to be needed and made a wooden prototype he thought would work. He was employed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and started talking to friends about what he had. One friend brought in an article about a man in Arcadia, LaMar Dixon, who had an Oldsmobile auto engine he showed at various shows. He was a member of a club called Western Antique Power Associates (WAPA). Fortunately there was contact information and Ken found out about the club and that they met in Pasadena, where Ken lived. He went to a meeting and asked if anyone knew about Bulldog engines. Directly across the table was a member that had one and he lived in Highland Park. Ken visited the member and discovered that his prototype spark lever was very close to factory style. So, he made one out of metal and installed it on the engine and it did flip the lever on the switch, and he soon learned it was called an ignitor. He also learned about Gas Engine Magazine and subscribed to it.

He joined WAPA and became active in the club by going to shows and being Secretary for one year and then Membership Chairman and Newsletter Editor for many years. His collection of engines began to grow and to this day, June 2024, the Bulldog has not been finished since it was not really his and belonged to Bob.

His favorite engine is a 1909 Aermotor 8 cycle that he has hooked up to a wooden water pump with a plastic front so visitors can see how water flows. Another favorite auxiliary piece is a Duro water pump with special plumbing that fills a bucket but never overflows. When asked how it works, he answers with a straight face "Very well".

## President's Message by Bob Smith

It is 3 months until the Pumpkin Festival so start thinking about how you can help this year at the event.

Go to the doctor and get that 20-point inspection because I will be working you hard. I don't need any breakdowns. Remember the generous donation Cal Poly made to WAPA last year? So, let's support them at this event. We will have a large engine display area out in the field again this year. It will feature WAPA engines for members to work on and operate. There is also the cow train that requires drivers. Cal Poly students usually help with this venue. And then there are the hay rides which need drivers all day. If we get plenty of people signing up then one person is not stuck in the tractor seat all day long. Sign-ups for all day is greatly appreciated but if you can only work ½ day or a few hours we can still use you. There will be a sign-up sheet at each membership meeting and it will be posted at our building for the next 3 months. As in the past, if you volunteer to drive tractors or man the engine display all day you will be rewarded with a lunch voucher. Only tractor drivers will receive a free t-shirt. Hope to see as many of you as possible helping out.



Ken Evans with his Ruston and Hornsby engine.

**Next WAPA  
Board Meeting  
July 6, 2024  
9:00 am at Cal Poly**

**The Friends of Steve McQueen Show Car Show**  
**by Rob Skinner**  
**photos by Paul Montgomery**

The Friends of Steve McQueen Car Show roared to life this year, but alongside the sleek race cars and rugged military vehicles, there was a surprising display of agricultural muscle. The Western Antique Power Associates (WAPA) brought a unique collection of antique engines and tractors, offering a glimpse into the past and revving up support for a worthy cause.

WAPA's contribution wasn't just about showcasing these powerful machines. The association's participation directly benefitted the Boys Republic, a local organization providing education and support for at-risk youth. Proceeds from the event, including those from WAPA's displays and demonstrations, went towards helping the Boys Republic continue its vital work. So, car enthusiasts and history buffs alike could enjoy the event knowing that their presence was contributing to a brighter future for young people.

The WAPA display proved that horsepower comes in many forms. By showcasing the machines that once powered farms and communities, the association not only honored Steve McQueen's love for all things automotive, but also highlighted the often-forgotten contributions of agricultural machinery to our heritage. It was a winning combination for car lovers, history buffs, and supporters of the Boys Republic.



Craig Millett came by the WAPA display at the Steve McQueen show and noticed his dad's (Tom Millett) old engine which is currently owned by Paul Montgomery.

WESTERN ANTIQUE POWER ASSOCIATES, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
June 1, 2024

**MEETING LOCATION:** WAPA Museum at Cal Poly Pomona

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Smith, Dave Foley, Kelley Garcia, Ron Haskell, Mitchell Reichwein, Lorelei Rimpau, Jim Treadwell, Eric Waltzer.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dick Bouma, Phil Cardozo, Jose Carrillo, Tom Denson, Mike Eubanks, Randy Fewins, Carol Haskell, Jack Hassler, Bob Holman, Larry Madole, Steve Mandell, Steve Mello, Paul Montgomery, Merle Morse, Steve Mote, Leroy Overstreet, Carl Pfetzing, Danny Ponce, John Rimpau, Dave Ruhland, Joe Siddons, Kathleen Treadwell, Clay Wilson, Lance Wilson, Jerry Wyatt, Albert Young, Brent Zousel.

**VISITORS:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Bob Smith at 9:01 am.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Led by Carl Pfetzing.

**WELCOME:** President Bob Smith welcomed members and reminded them that they may speak on any subject brought before the board.

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REMARKS/REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT:** Bob Smith thanked everyone for attending today's board meeting and invited them to look over items that are for sale following the meeting.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Dave Foley described the contribution members provide at the Tuesday work parties. Since a cooked lunch is provided, Dave suggested purchasing a new barbecue grill. The membership voted to allow Lance to go ahead and purchase a new grill.

**SECRETARY:** Eric Waltzer made a motion to approve the Minutes from the May 11 Board of Directors meeting. Motion seconded by Dave Foley.

**TREASURER:** Kelley Garcia presented the May 2024 financial report. As of May 31, 2024: checking account balance – \$6,313.68; savings account balance – \$29,210.89; WAPA museum account balance – \$161,096.18.

The bylaws have been sent to Michael Tucker for posting onto the website. Kelley will confirm that he has received them and that they have been uploaded onto the website.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Lorelei Rimpau: Total membership – 114. Active dues paying members – 77; Life members – 32; Honorary members – 4; Complimentary members – 1.

**PURCHASING:** Open Position

**SAFETY:** Jim Treadwell suggested that prior to transporting items on a trailer, everyone routinely check the condition and inflation pressure of all tires including the spare, replace tires older than 5 years, lubricate wheel bearings, and inspect hitch and safety chains for wear or damage.

**SHOWS:** Bob provided a summary of the LA Live Steamers show. Many people were in attendance including WAPA members Danny Ponce and Joe Siddons who displayed his engine.

**Mitchell Reichwein:** Upcoming shows include: Steve McQueen Car and Motorcycle Show – June 2 (sanctioned); Irwindale Speedway Cal-Rods Car Show – September 22; Cal Poly Pumpkin Festival – September; and Flabob Veterans Day Celebration – November 9 (sanctioned). Bob Holman discussed the possibility of displaying at the Big Bear Historical museum – June 15.

**MUSEUM:** Ron Haskell: All items from Larry Madole's yard have been removed except for remaining Western 160 HP components. Dick Bouma has been organizing the library and Steve Mello and Mitchell have been upgrading tractors to a 12-volt system. Kitchen work is nearing completion with installation of the upper cabinets. Ongoing weed abatement is being tackled through the use of string trimmers and scraping the ground with a tractor. The Blue Giant lift is now operational and parts are being purchased to rebuild the outside shade cover that was damaged by a wind storm. Disappointing results were obtained when the WAPA rock crusher was belted up to a tractor. The rock crusher operated at too-high rate of speed (rocks were just dancing in between the jaws) and the belt kept slipping off. Ron is working on the Kubota clutch. Long term plans are to build solid covers in front of the building to shade the work area and another to protect the tractors.

**EDITORS:** Carol Haskell, Ellen Morse: Please contact Dave Ruhland (714-745-7572 or davidstuff@sbcglobal.net) about submitting an article telling us about yourself or another member. Deadline for articles is the 20th of each month.

**CAL POLY:** Bob Smith: The museum entrance was flooded due to a sheared off fire hydrant. Work has been started on a second hay wagon with Cal Poly paying for material. This wagon will have handicapped access and is planned to be completed in time for the Pumpkin Festival. A future third wagon is also being planned. Craig has requested canopies for the hay ride wagons and covers for tractor storage. Electricity and water have been installed to the portable restroom.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:** Western Foundation and Placement – Ron Haskell: No activity has been started. Upcoming work will be cleaning and degreasing the engine and removing parts that need to be repaired.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS:** None

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 9:51 am.

**NEXT MEETING:** July 6, 2024

Eric Waltzer, Secretary

Upcoming Events  
by Mitchell Reichwein

Sept. 28 to Oct. 27 Cal Poly Pumpkin Festival Starts. All hands on deck!  
Saturday, Nov. 9 Flabob Airport Veterans Day Show



Eric Waltzer made this beautiful table for the WAPA Library. Thank you Eric.



WAPA's new barbecue. With chef Lance Wilson serving John DeLazzaro.

### July Birthdays

- Jennifer Brinkman
- LT Burks
- John Feicht
- Barbara Hale
- Robert Holman
- Dave Pasillias
- Gary Provansal
- Frank Sealy
- Donald Young



Bob Smith	President
Dave Foley	Vice President
Eric Waltzer	Secretary
Kelley Garcia	Treasurer
Mitchell Reichwein	Show Director
Lorelei Rimpau	Membership
Ron Haskell	Museum Director
Jim Treadwell	Safety
Open	Purchasing
Carol Haskell &	Editors
Ellen Morse	

**2024 WAPA Officers**



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