

2018 SPCOA Annual Meeting

By: Jim Servatius



The SPCOA meeting was held at 10:00 AM on April 28th 2018 on the grounds of the LeSueur County Pioneer Power Swap Meet near LeSueur, MN. We Minnesotans are many times accused of always talking about the weather and that's because we are almost always talking about the weather, too hot, too cold, too humid, how much snow did you get at your place, so not to disappoint anyone I will start by saying the weather was perfect for our meeting. But a little more than a week before the swap meet we had an unseasonable winter blizzard here that dumped 15 to 20 inches of snow, depending on your location. I was worried the event might be cancelled but then an unseasonably warm week ensued and by the time the event came around the snow was gone and the grounds were in good shape. I guess our show was meant to happen and once again we had a great turnout with 18 enthusiastic members attending.

The order of the day was buying selling and trading spark plugs between the SPCOA members and the public as well. Both Mike Healey and Joel Blasius had their usual spots for selling and or displaying their interesting collections of plugs. Mike Healey presided over the meeting which started promptly at 10:00 AM. After the usual

introductions Mike Healey conducted a Show and Tell with his collection of Ball Bottomed and other rare electrode styles of plugs. Mike suggested we expand on our Show and Tell session next year by bringing intensified plugs and intensified add-ons. I suggested including any and all items related to antique spark plugs and I'm already looking forward to participating.

I was lucky to score some real nice plugs for my collection too. A NOS National Giant was my favorite and I also got a For 4 One, Ball Multi, Eyquem Paris, A to Z, and a Red Head Big Boy.

We are excited to welcome Charli Eddy who joined the SPCOA at this year's meeting. Charli is the daughter of Susan, #398 and James Eddy. Charli's interest in spark plugs should come as no surprise, as both of her parents and her grandmother, as well, are avid collectors of spark plugs. It's great to have a young person joining our club, as I don't see many young people who are interested in plugs, or for that matter, tractors, gas engines, cars, trucks or anything else mechanical. Just a short anecdote: A few years ago I was displaying my plug collection at a little tractor and engine show down in central WI. Two teenage guys were looking at the plugs and one kid says to the other, what are those things? Other kid proudly says, they're for car engines, they're pistons. Of course, I didn't correct him but I got a good chuckle out of it. As I said, we are pleased to have Charli Eddy as a member of SPCOA. Charli is currently working and living in Columbia, MO.

Mike Healey also mentioned that Cindy Walker is working on upgrading the website. The goal is to be more interactive for members, along the lines of Smokestack where it's easier to include pictures etc.

The LeSueur meeting was added to the Bob Hubbs, #1221 Bucket List. Bob is a retired auto mechanic from Lancaster, PA who is on a quest for attending all 5 SPCOA National Meetings. He has already attended the meetings at the Florida Flywheelers and also the 2018 Joe Cook Memorial Plug Fix which was held at Mike Ezzi's Auto Repair in Boonton, New Jersey. LeSueur was his third meeting so he still has Hershey and Portland to go. Good luck to Bob Hubbs!

We missed seeing Cliff Tribbey from Duluth, MN this year, as he has been battling cancer for quite some time. We passed around a card to sign for Cliff and his wife Donna and we are all wishing them well and are hoping that Cliff gets to feeling better real soon.

We are sorry to report that Keith Braun's, #1135 father passed away this last winter. We lost members, Larry Webb, Andrew Troyer, Mark Beard and Earl Brennaman, as well. Sending prayers and good thoughts to the families of these fine gentleman.

The 2018 LeSueur SPCOA meeting was by all accounts, a great success and a good time was had by all. Sincere thanks to Mike and Janet Healey for all the effort they put into making the SPCOA meeting happen. A special thank you to Janet Healey for the great photos that are attached to this story. Hope to see you all next year. ☺