

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS FOR MEMBERS

By Brian Szafranski - Elma, NY

Christmas is approaching, and we may not know what to give those hard-to-buy-for family members. Here's a list of books and magazines that just might make gift buying easier. Book prices are suggested list and don't include tax or shipping/handling. New books and quality used books are available from many internet sites, including: B&N.com, Amazon.com, BookFinder.com, AbeBooks.com, etc. Of course, a local Bookstore can order just about any new or used book you want (they'll need the info on it).

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

The Tractor In The Haystack by Scott Garvey, 2008, **\$22.00**, 256 pgs. hardcover, ISBN 0760332959; a well-written book with easy-to-read typeface & line spacing; tells many tales about those proverbial "barn finds" everyone wishes for; there aren't a lot of photos but there is plenty about each tractor's history and restoration; includes various tractors: steam, red, green, orange, silver, etc. Gift advice: a little pricey but very interesting.

The Motorcycle Industry In New York State by Geoffrey N. Stein, 2001, **\$29.95**, 174 pgs. softcover; ISBN 1555571700, covers 1890-2000; subtitled as: "A Concise Encyclopedia Of Inventors, Builders and Manufacturers;" there aren't a lot of photos, ads or specifications, but there is a lot of history; this reviewer is not a "motorcycle guy" but couldn't put the book down. Bonus: many pages on famous local makers Emblem (Angola), Pierce, Thomas. Gift advice: also interesting to local-history buffs and non-bikers.

The Steam Tractor Encyclopedia by John F. Spalding and Dr. Robert T. Rhode, 2008, **\$40.00**, 256 pgs. large hardcover, ISBN 0760334730; the authors have acquired many photos of steam traction engines (period photos – not restored-tractor photos) and compiled them in this huge book; there are few specifications and not much information as the photos tell the story here. Bonus: six pages on local favorite Buffalo Pitts. Gift advice: a bit pricey but priceless to anyone who loves steam tractors (and who doesn't?!).

Classic American Steamrollers by Judge Raymond L. Drake and Dr. Robert T. Rhode, 2001, **\$29.95**, 128 pgs. softcover, ISBN 1583880380; subtitled as: "1871-1935 Photo Archive" this book is very similar to the above book (that is, lots of period photos) but covers steamrollers; the photos tell the story here not the specs. Bonus: many pages on local favorites Buffalo Pitts, Iroquois and Waterous (Ontario Ca.). Gift advice: a perfect book for someone who likes steam traction engines, not necessarily agricultural ones.

MAGAZINE & MEMBERSHIP RECOMMENDATIONS

N-News \$22/year for 4-issues; N-News.com; Rob Rinaldi, P.O. Box 275, East Corinth, VT 05040-0275; Tel: 802-685-1299; subtitled as "The Magazine For The Ford Tractor Enthusiast" for 9N, 2N, 8N, NAA/Jubilee models but often cover later models and Fordson. Gift advice: buy a subscription for someone you know who owns a Ford tractor (or who plans to buy one) especially if it's an N-Series.

Farm Show \$21.95/year for 6 issues; FarmShow.com; Farm Show Magazine, Johnson Bldg., P.O.Box 1029, Lakeville, MN 55044; Tel 1-800-834-9665. Gift advice: a great subscription for a unique newspaper-like magazine with "Made It In My Farm Shop" ideas.

Engineers & Engines \$20/year for 6 issues of their high-quality magazine; EngineersAndEngines.com; Engineers & Engines, P.O. Box 10, Bethlehem, MD 21609-0010; Tel: 410-673-2414. Gift advice: an excellent magazine with a slant toward steam.

Gas Engine \$30/year for 6 issues; GasEngine.FarmCollector.com. Gift advice: for fans of gasoline (or diesel) powered equipment. **

Farm Collector \$24.95/year for 12 issues; FarmCollector.com. Gift advice: for fans of the farm tractor and anything related to it. **

** Gas Engine & Farm Collector are from: Ogden Publications, 1503 SW 42nd St., Topeka, KA 66609; Tel: 1-800-888-9098.

Antique Power \$29.95/year for 6 big issues; AntiquePower.com. Gift advice: appeals to tractor enthusiasts (no steam tractors). ‡

Vintage Truck \$29.95/year 6 issues; VintageTruckMagazine.com. Gift advice: anyone who does not love old trucks is a commie! ‡

‡ Antique Power & Vintage Truck from: Ertel Pubs, Circ. Dept., P.O. Box 334, Stafford, TX 77494; Tel: 1-888-760-8108.

Historical Construction Equipment Association HCEA.net; 16623 Liberty Hi Road, Bowling Green, OH 43402; Tel: 419-352-5616; **membership dues are \$30 per year** and include their excellent quarterly magazine **Equipment Echoes** which leans toward construction equipment; unique scale models are offered (some quite large or expensive); they have a museum with a research library (which gladly accepts document donations); their yearly convention is held Friday-Sunday after Labor Day. Gift advice: you should buy a membership for anyone who wears T-shirts that proclaim "*Barns Are For Backhoes and Bulldozers!*"

CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING IDEAS FOR 2011

At your reviewer's website **BuffaloPitts.com** they hope to offer "**Buffalo Pitts Tractor Club**" T-shirts & other logo items in 2011.