MECHANICS CORNER

EETC schedules conference speakers

MENOMONEE FALLS, Wis.—The second annual meeting of the Equipment and Engine Training Council will be held Monday, May 4, at 1 p.m. at the Briggs & Stratton Distribution Center here. The annual OPE Technician Certification Test Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, at the same location.

Speakers include John Rainone, vice president of service for MTD, and Curt Larson, vice president of distribution, sales and service for Briggs & Stratton. They will share their views on the state of technician competency and service in the industry, as well as vocational school programs. Other prominent industry and vocational education leaders are expected to be announced.

The task force committee created at last year’s EETC meeting in Dallas, has completed its work on a plan for OPE program certification for vocational schools. Composed of vocational school administrators and instructors, as well as dealers, distributors, and manufacturers from the industry, the committee will present its final vocational school certification document to the EETC members at this meeting for approval.

For those arriving early, tours are planned to include highlights of Milwaukee and Kohler on Sunday, May 3. Monday morning, May 4, tours of the Miller Brewing and Harley Davidson plants are scheduled.

All interested OPE dealers and distributors, as well as OEM equipment and engine manufacturers, and vocational school administrators and instructors are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

More information is available from the EETC at 1946 South IH-35, Suite 100-A, Austin, Texas 78704-3693.

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EETC’s “Become a Professional Outdoor/Industrial Powered Equipment Technician” brochure was completed last November and is available in reasonable quantities.

Career days at most high schools are sponsored in February, March and April.

“We need industry assistance to get these to students who might consider a career as a technician in the outdoor power equipment industry,” said Executive Director Virgil Russell.

The major project has been the preparation of documents to accredit Vocational Schools to train technicians for the industry.
becoming a victim of air pollution.

Ahh, television news in the 90s. Tabloid journalism has sneaked its way onto the airwaves. And the pursuit of facts seems to have been replaced by the pursuit of ratings. So the specialty pesticide industry needs a media watchdog that not only watches. But that also takes action. Fortunately, we have one. RISE. Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment.

RISE is a coalition of manufacturers, formulators and distributors from all areas of the specialty pesticide business. In addition to promoting environmental stewardship, RISE makes sure the media doesn’t report misinformation as fact. We also hold editorial meetings with media decision-makers. And respond to negative articles or broadcasts that are incorrect. We’ve been very successful so far. Not surprising considering what our most powerful weapon is.

The truth. Of course, there’s still a lot more work to do. But rest assured, RISE is up to the task. Because we know if we eliminate air pollution, the pesticide industry can breathe a lot easier.