

The annual joint Mid-West Tool Collectors Association Area Q meeting will be held at Ed Hobbs' Farm in Raleigh on Saturday July 26, 2008. As in the past, all members of all tool collecting organizations are invited to attend. Over 250 people attended this event from all over the east coast in 2007. (If you have any questions about just how good this meeting is, just ask Rick)

For those of you who may not be aware, M-WTCA is a national club of about 3500 members that enjoy collecting, studying and learning about antique and traditional tools. To provide a local focus, M-WTCA has divided the US into Areas. Virginia is a part of Area P, which holds meetings in both Virginia and Pennsylvania. All members can attend any Area or National meeting.

Membership in M-WTCA also gets you a subscription to our quarterly publication, The Gristmill, (about 40 pages with some in color) which has articles about tools, notices of tool related sales and auctions and information on tool meetings that "keeps you in the know" about antique tools. (If you would like a sample copy, you can let me know or pick one up at the meeting.) In addition, yearly a reprint of some old catalog or book of interest is sent to all members. For additional information on M-WTCA, go to the website at www.mwtca.org or contact Ed at the address below. Guarantee you will get more than your money's worth by joining!!

This year's Raleigh meeting will begin officially, rain or shine, at 8 AM (some early birds will get here at daybreak) with tool buying/selling/trading. We will have about 45 dealer tables set up under a tent as well as another 40 or so people tailgating under the shade trees. You will be able to find a wide variety of antique and traditional tools for sale at reasonable prices. Coffee, donuts, water and soft drinks will be served.

A short business meeting will begin at 10 AM followed by a program of interest. After our traditional good old lunch consisting of pork BBQ, fried chicken and all the fixings, we will hold an auction of tools brought in that day by members.

Raleigh is only about a 2 ½ hour drive from Richmond (a couple of cups of coffee and a pit stop.) We are conveniently located off I-40 just south of Raleigh so it makes an easy trip.

Members of M-WTCA & EAIA pay \$20 and guests pay \$15, which includes a pig picken, coffee, soft drinks, donuts and great fellowship with others that share our interests.

To ensure we have adequate food, beverages and facilities, we are again requiring pre-registration. All M-WTCA & EAIA members in NC, SC & VA will get a notice and registration form by late June. If you are not a member and would like a notice/registration form or have questions, please contact Ed Hobbs at 4417 Inwood Rd, Raleigh, NC 27603-3315 Tele (919) 828-2754 E-mail hobbsed@portbridge.com. Hope you can make it!