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## My GK

Started by Philgk, Nov 12, 2017 07:51 PM

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tiretrx **OFFLINE**

Posted December 28, 2017 - 04:40 PM

Looks and sounds great, Phil. You've done a lot and it shows. Love the machine!

KennyP **ONLINE**

Posted December 28, 2017 - 05:28 PM

I'd nearly trade Alice for one of those! Looking good!

Bolens8oouk **OFFLINE**

Posted December 28, 2017 - 06:30 PM

Looks like a great machine and it looks very modern too. I love the circular rear lights; very cool.

jpswift1 **OFFLINE**

Posted December 28, 2017 - 07:48 PM

Thanks for sharing those with us, Phil! VERY nice work! It looks like you guys didn't get very much snow over there in Rochester, but just south of Buffalo has been getting A LOT.

fonz3482 **OFFLINE**

Posted December 29, 2017 - 05:02 AM

Man that thing is cool! I've never seen one in person so I don't know much about them. For some reason I thought the controls(shifter) would be a little easier to use with a cab as most of these I've seen have cabs on them, but it appears the GK is a huge version of the EK... Too bad Bolens didn't make the GK with a hydro trans because that would of been the icing on the cake for the GK IMO. Like jpswift mentioned, where is all your snow?!?! LOL. I actually live a few more minutes south from jpswift and we got hammered pretty good on Christmas and another storm(10-20") is forecasted for today and tomorrow!

Philgk **ONLINE**

Posted January 03, 2018 - 10:25 PM

Its a funny machine. The shifting isn't a huge deal but the reverse ratio in low range is really slow. I plan on doing a review of the machine and everything that i have/will/would change(d) on it. It definitely needed more refinement if they were going to keep producing it. I'm really at a crossroads because I really like the uniqueness of the machine but because I depend on it to clear several driveways I'm getting pretty tired of having to fix it every time I go to use it. It may be up for sale in the spring. Not sure yet.  
As for the snow... I cleared about a foot the other day from 5 driveways in about 1/2 hour. it moves snow pretty good but is a bit under-powered. Its a lot of machine for 18hp.  
Thanks for the comments.

framesteer **OFFLINE**

Posted January 07, 2018 - 05:55 PM

Great info on GKs

Bolens 1000 **OFFLINE**

Posted January 07, 2018 - 06:44 PM

Snow removal will always expose a tractors weakness or worn parts if there are any. Winter is hardest on machines no matter what brand.

If you really want to use vintage stuff efficiently in the winter it has to be completely overhauled.

When I started I was breaking down all the time too so decided to fully go through every system and fix worn parts and the motors, been trouble free ever since.

IMO those frame steers were way ahead of their time and probably could have been made alot better with today's hydraulics and motor technology.

Corvaireguy **OFFLINE**

Posted January 07, 2018 - 09:41 PM

Way cool! 🤖 Is the steering only accomplished by articulation or do the wheels turn too?

Philgk **ONLINE**

Posted January 10, 2018 - 11:14 PM

Bolens 1000: I hear you. I started going through it as soon as I bought it but ran out of time before winter. I will continue going through it this summer. I am debating updating it the way it might have been improved. Who knows you might be seeing a GK 1060-1 soon. 🇺🇸

Corvaireguy: The steering is just articulated. It turns really sharp. With the current setup (old components, lose gearbox, etc) the steering is very sloppy. I've debated trying to video it to show how sloppy but haven't gotten to it. I do plan on replacing the "standard" steering components with a modern Kubota steering valve. Should work fine.

Thanks for the comments.

Philgk **ONLINE**

Posted January 14, 2018 - 05:10 PM

Thought I'd let everyone know that GK snowcasters like to eat 70lb sand bags for breakfast. oops. didn't seem to bother it though.

KennyP **ONLINE**

Posted January 14, 2018 - 05:42 PM

That should have cleaned the chute well! Might be a good option before paint!

Philgk **ONLINE**

Posted January 20, 2018 - 07:06 PM

I've been hearing a hissing noise from the engine lately. The engine keeps running but I was fairly certain the noise was not a good thing. :) I finally took the cover off the THD and here is what I saw (attached pictures & video (quicktime)). I would say the head gasket is blown - correct? I presume this is a pretty easy fix as long as I can find the correct gasket (and bolt) kit. Does anyone have any preferred vendors for Wisconsin THD parts? Thanks, Phil

Attached Thumbnails

Edited by Philgk, January 20, 2018 - 07:08 PM.

Bolens 1000 **OFFLINE**

Posted January 20, 2018 - 07:58 PM

Looks like its been like that a while , the head gaskets I have instock but would have to order in the bolts, they are not cheap getting them through wisconsin though \$5.21 each!

if you want you can get grade #8 bolts at a hardware store heres the specs:

XD21 -3 required 5/16-18X1-1/2

XD19 15 required 5/16-18X1-1/4

Head gasket below:

<https://bolensparts.com/qd613e-qd613c/>(<https://bolenspartsandsupplies.com/wisconsin-engine-parts/qd613d-wisconsin-engine-vh4d-thd-vf4d-tjd-tfd-te-tf-head-gasket-qd613e-qd613c/>)



Philgk **ONLINE**

Posted January 20, 2018 - 08:30 PM

yes, i agree, it looks like its been there a long time but i only resently started hearing the hissing. Of course, being new to me, maybe it was already there (I didn't know any better) and it finally got worse so i noticed it.

I will go to your website and order the gasket. I appreciate it.

Not being the most experienced with the THD is there anything else i should be looking for when i open it up?

Thanks again.

Phil

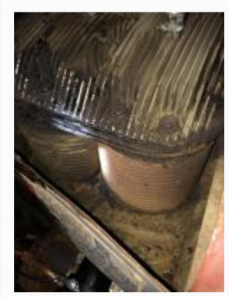
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