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Minnesota Valley  
*Antique Farm Power & Machinery Association*



5030 Twentieth Avenue Southwest  
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**MAY 2011**

Website: [www.heritagehill.us](http://www.heritagehill.us)

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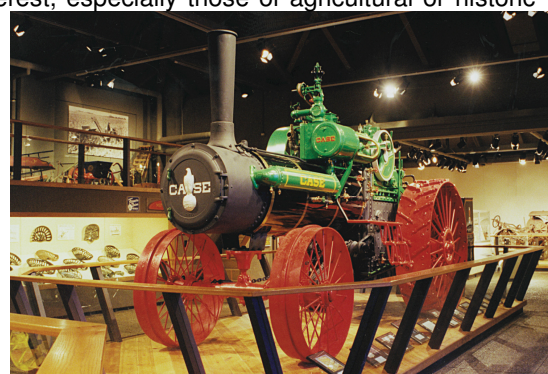
**PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:**

Greetings from Heritage Hill. According to the calendar, spring is here....somewhere. As I write this address on May 1<sup>st</sup>, there is 0% corn, 0% soybeans, 0% sugar beets and 0% small grains planted in the area, except at Heritage Hill. Congratulations to the Heritage Hill farming committee for getting the wheat seeded on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The combination of a few precipitation-free days and the well drained soil at Heritage Hill, aided in getting the seeding completed. The construction of the new pole building at Heritage Hill has been initiated. Heritage Hill members met at the Hill on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> to plot the site; subsequently the site was excavated and prepared for construction. Don's Building Center in Kerkhoven was awarded the bid to construct the building. The April weather conditions were not too conducive to building industry, either. The construction of the building will begin in the near future. The new space will be very much appreciated during future Swap Meets and Threshing Shows, for both vendor space and exhibitor displays. The building will also be utilized for the never-ending need for storage at Heritage Hill. Jim Roe and other volunteers are gearing up for additional restoration of the Hagen House. The projects planned for 2011 will be completed for viewing prior to the forthcoming Threshing Show. Once again Heritage Hill will be hosting the National Ford/Fordson Collectors Association at the 2011 Threshing Show. Preparations for the event continue with hopes of making this show enjoyable for all who attend.

Well, the 2011 Heritage Hill Swap Meet is now history...and a swap meet that is hopefully never to be repeated. April weather is very unpredictable. April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> was not a pretty weekend weather-wise – Mother Nature failed to cooperate. Friday was a rather cold day. Friday night brought mixed snow and rain as the cold front arrived. Saturday morning Heritage Hill was greeted with strong northwesterly winds and a layer of snow on the grounds. Some vendors arrived and left early and a few vendors decided to just stay home. The same was true with many buyers. On the bright side, a few vendors reported good sales, despite the conditions. The Threshers' Kitchen was well patronized by both members and non-members alike. The adverse conditions provided a means of gatherings for some overdue visits with many visitors and members throughout the weekend. Another unavoidable issue that may have been detrimental to the 2011 Swap Meet was the late Easter holiday. Traditionally, the Heritage Hill Swap Meet is scheduled for the weekend prior to the LeSueur swap meet. With Easter scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Heritage Hill Swap Meet was moved two weeks ahead of LeSueur. In past years many vendors, traveling from afar, attended the Heritage Hill Swap Meet and then migrated to LeSueur to prepare for the following weekend. Thanks are extended to all Heritage Hill members who helped make the Swap Meet happen, including those who helped clear the Ost Building, those who coordinated the food service, and all those who are working behind the scenes striving to make the Swap Meet a success. Plans are already underway for the 2012 Heritage Hill Swap Meet which is scheduled for April 20 and 21, 2012.



When traveling out and about, it is always fun to stumble upon a new point of interest, especially those of agricultural or historic significance. Prior to 1862 colleges in the United States were mostly located in the far eastern states, private in nature and attended by only the most affluent of citizens. Congress determined that post secondary education opportunities should be made available to all citizens. At the same time there was a political movement calling for the creation of agricultural colleges. Soon Justin Smith Morrill of Vermont introduced the Morrill Act of 1862, later signed into law by Abraham Lincoln, which allowed the creation of Land Grant Colleges. Each state was granted large tracts of land and other forms of financial aid land grant colleges in each state. Brookings became the location of the South Dakota land grant, which later became known as South Dakota State University. SDSU has maintained a huge focus on agriculture throughout its existence. While traveling on United States Highway 14 through Brookings, there is subtle a green information sign that denotes "SDSU and Museums". That was enough to catch ones interest. The campus is located a short distance north off the highway and found on campus is the State Agricultural Heritage Museum. The museum is housed in the former college livestock pavilion. The museum is very well organized and artifacts are displayed and preserved in a museum like setting. The artifacts include agricultural equipment, photographs and memorabilia depicting early farm life on the prairie of South Dakota. There is no fee for viewing the museum, but like most efforts to preserve agricultural history, the facility does not operate for "free" – donations are graciously accepted. More information can be found online at [www.agmuseum.com](http://www.agmuseum.com). The museum is full of educational information. I would highly recommend you take a leisurely drive and visit this fine museum of agricultural history.



On April 27<sup>th</sup> I once again suffered some heart artery blockage problems. After an ambulance ride to the Saint Cloud Hospital and some additional surgery to remove the blockage, I was able to return home on April 29<sup>th</sup>. I am resting, recovering and feeling better. Time will tell if further surgery may or may not be needed. It is my desire to help and lead at Heritage Hill when and where I can. I want to thank all for your thoughts, cards, phone calls, and prayers throughout my latest recovery. Take care and God Bless.

**Thank you, Wesley Thompson, President**

## WANTED: OLD "STUFF"

Spring is here. Have you been cleaning out, and clearing out, the shed, house basement, garage, shed and barn? Are you getting tired of moving around all the stuff that is cluttering up your much needed space? Well here is the deal. About 3 years ago, the interior walls of the new gas engine building were lined with rough-cut lumber, utilizing lumber generated at the Heritage Hill sawmill. It is now the goal to "decorate" the walls of the gas engine building with random "old stuff". The hope is to hang items on the wall similar to things that become abandoned, accumulate and hang on the walls of any typical farm shed. **If you are interested, please consider donating any such items to Heritage Hill.** Already, items such as rakes, pitchforks, old license plates, circular saw blades, hand tools, eveners, hand corn planters, old paint brushes and more have been donated toward the project. The items donated do not need to be "restored". Actually, the more rustic looking the better. If you are interested in donating items, please contact James Roe, at 320-269-7507, or 262-751-5240 cell. Heritage Hill reserves the right to reject items that are not conforming, but please do not hesitate to contact Jim and see if your items are fitting for the project. All donations to Heritage Hill, whether for this project or another, are tax deductible. Also, all donations are absolute and final; such donations are accepted unconditionally and will become property of Heritage Hill. The future use and/or disposition of any donated item will be determined by Heritage Hill and its owners.

**2011 Raffle Ticket Sales:** As of May 1<sup>st</sup> approximately 750 out of the 1,250 Heritage Hill raffle tickets have been sold. Thanks are extended to all members who have taken an active role in selling raffle tickets. Please be sure to have the tickets in your possession sold, and ticket stubs and proceeds returned by August 1, 2011. The annual raffle generates approximately \$4,000 in net revenue for the organization – a great fundraiser for Heritage Hill. 2011 raffle prizes include: **First** – Mossberg International Silver Reserve 26-inch 12-gauge side-by-side shotgun with the Heritage Hill logo; **Second** – Old Log Theater/Country Inn and Suites hotel stay tickets-for-two package; **Third** - \$100 cash; **Fourth** - \$100 cash. Please see President Wesley Thompson for tickets and other details.  
**Thank you, The Directors**

**Congratulations to the 2011 High School Senior Heritage Hill members who will be graduating. You are cordially invited to attend the following open house graduation receptions:**

**Rebecca Grube:** Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 3 to 7 pm, 8025 190<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Appleton. Rebecca, a Lac qui Parle High School graduate, is the daughter of Chip and Reba Grube. Future Plans: Ridgewater College – Elementary Education or Justice Administration.

**Kayla Hegna:** Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1 to 4 pm, 10559 830<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Granite Falls. Kayla, a Yellow Medicine East High School graduate, is the daughter of Orlynn and Carol Hegna. Future Plans: University of Minnesota Morris – Psychology.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: April 12, 2011 – Marlys Heath, Secretary

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at Heritage Hill. A quorum of 48 members was present.

Vice President Kleene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Heath read the minutes of the March 21, 2011 Membership Meeting. M/S/P Bob Kellen/Mark Bigaouette to approve the minutes.

Vice President Kleene reported the March financials. M/S/P LuVerne Bangsund/Gene Zeller to approve the report.

- **Raffle Tickets:** President Thompson extended a thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to sell tickets at the past events. He also thanked the Bigaouettes for coordinating and working at the food sale. The total sales of raffle tickets and the food sale was \$1700.00. Raffle Tickets will be sold in the kitchen area during the Swap Meet.
- **Swap Meet:** The Ost Building has been made ready for the vendors. Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> will be a work day to finish the set up. Jim Roe will be in charge of the Heritage Hill trailer.
- **Pioneer Power Inc. of Hanley Falls:** Orlynn Hegna reported that Brad Stensrud has requested to bring a corn sheller from PPI to Heritage Hill Threshing Show and shell corn out of the corn crib. The Cook Corn Sheller is mounted on a Mercedes Benz truck. President Thompson extended a welcome to PPI.
- **Pole Building:** The board of directors approved the transfer of \$20,000.00 from the Wayne Ost Memorial Fund to be used for partial financing of the new pole building. Work will be started the week of April 18<sup>th</sup> to stake out the positioning of the building. The building must be completed by June 15, 2011. Don's Building Center in Kerkhoven will be doing the construction. The concrete will be installed by J&J Concrete after the building is complete. Ron Molde Electric, Inc. will complete the electrical work. The building will be 40feet X 72feet with 12 foot side walls. There will be sliding doors on the back side and an overhead door with electric door opener on the front with one walk-in door. There will be two windows on each side.
- **Hanson Building:** Gerald Kleene advised that a preliminary plan has been developed to upgrade the Hanson Building. An anonymous funding source has expressed interest in constructing a 32 foot x 40 foot addition. The addition would include a six foot covered deck overlooking the show site. Funding is not conclusive but highly probable. Kleene will continue to correspond with the potential donor and will continue to develop final plans. The Directors had previously approved transferring \$4,010 from the Wayne Ost Fund to upgrade the building. After further consideration of the Wayne Ost Will, a rescission of the motion is needed at the next Board of Directors meeting, as the Will directed funds to be used for new building construction and/or purchase of additional land. Whereas the proposed building upgrade is a combination of new and existing buildings, Wayne Ost Funds cannot be used for this project.
- **Ost Building:** An estimate was received by Don's Building Center to install 4 windows into the Ost Building for ventilation purposes to cut down on the extreme heat inside the building during the Threshing Show. The cost would be \$1,189.00. M/S/P Denny Kurtzbein/Glen Coon to approve the installation of the windows.
- **Hagen House:** Jim Roe reported that additional work is needed on the house, volunteers are needed, and completion is anticipated by the August Threshing Show. Roe sold both of the rug looms for \$200.00 and the looms will be displayed in a museum in Webster, SD.
- **Coming Events:** Gathering of the Orange will be in Hutchinson. Marshall Car Club Show with Tractors welcome in June. Sugar Beet Days in Renville.
- **Chamber of Commerce:** President Thompson will contact the Chamber of Commerce to ask for volunteers to help during the Threshing Show.
- **Trailer Sign:** The sign displaying the threshing show dates will be changed in the near future

## DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES: May 5, 2011 – Marlys Heath, Secretary

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Heritage Hill, Montevideo.

Quorum: *Present* – Thompson, Kleene, Heath, Molde, Zeller, Bangsund, Winter, Stegeman. Absent: Bergquist, Emch.

Vice-President Kleene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Heath read the March 28, 2011 Directors' Meeting minutes M/S/P Zeller/Bangsund to approve the minutes. Vice President Kleene presented the April financial report. M/S/P Winters/Stegeman to approve the report.

- **Swap Meet:** Due to the weather the Swap Meet activities were less productive than past years but the Threshers' Kitchen sales were good. The vendor attendance was decreased. Hopefully enough revenue was generated to meet expenses.
- **Hanson Building:** The motion made at the March 28, 2011 Directors' Meeting to have \$4,010.51 transferred from the Wayne Ost Fund to the Hanson Building Fund was rescinded by Kleene/Thompson by proxy for Bergquist, due to a conflict with the Wayne Ost Will. Kleene was unable to report regarding the Hanson Building donation as the donor is unavailable at this time. More information will be available at the May 17, 2011 Membership Meeting.
- **Pole Building:** The site has been marked and prepared for the building construction. Don's Building Center has not yet started the construction. Thompson will contact the contractor to determine the starting date.
- **Parade: Fairmont Soybean Festival, May 21, 2011, 11:30 am set up, 12:00 noon parade start.**
- **Hagen House:** Mick Sellman agreed to coordinate the landscaping.
- **Hazard Insurance:** Insurance limits on each buildings and personal property, including tractors and machinery, owned by Heritage Hill were reviewed. Thompson and Leon Benson, Benson and Helgeson, will finalize the insurance renewal.
- **Building Repairs:** The Barnaal Building and Chapel need roof repairs due to wind damage.
- **Pulling Track:** The soil fill that was delivered and placed on the track is unacceptable. Kleene will contact the responsible party and arrange for a solution to the problem.
- **Air Tank:** Kleene located an acceptable air tank for the Benson Fairbanks-Morse Engine costing \$2,600. He will check with the Mn Dept of Labor & Industries to see if the tank will meet their standards.

## MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>
<i>Heritage Hill Membership Meeting – Heritage Hill</i> <i>(May Servers: Art/Linda Benjamin; Floyd Hilbrands; Gerald/Karen Kleene; Patty/Denny Kurtzbein)</i>	<i>Tuesday, May 17, 2011 – 7 pm</i>
<i>Directors' Meeting – Heritage Hill</i>	<i>Thursday, June 2, 2011 – 7 PM</i>
<i>2011 THRESHING SHOW – Featuring Ford/Fordson Tractors</i>	<i>August 19, 20 &amp; 21, 2011</i>
<i>2012 Swap Meet</i>	<i>April 20 &amp; 21, 2012</i>

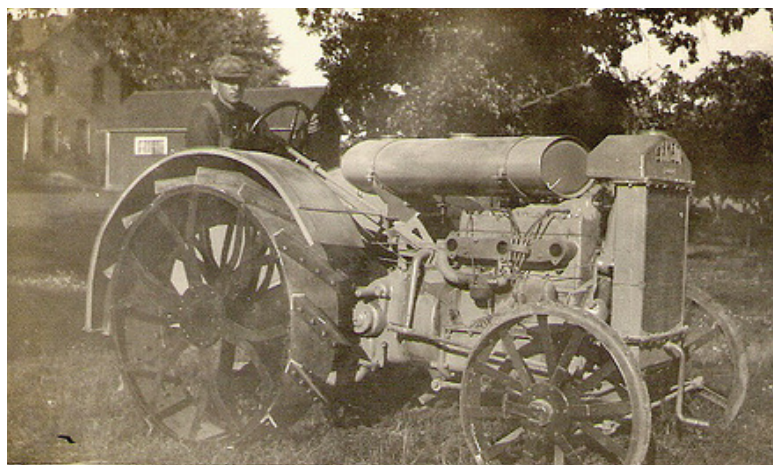
## Extras: For the trivial mind.....

• If you are right handed, you will tend to chew your food on the right side of your mouth. If you are left-handed, you will tend to chew your food on the left side of your mouth • To make half a kilogram of honey, bees must collect nectar from over 2 million individual flowers • Heroin is the brand name of morphine once marketed by 'Bayer' • Tourists visiting Iceland should know that tipping at a restaurant is considered an insult! • Albert Einstein was offered the presidency of Israel in 1952, but he declined • Astronauts can't belch - there is no gravity to separate liquid from gas in their stomachs • Ancient Roman, Chinese and German societies often used urine as mouthwash • The Mona Lisa has no eyebrows. In the Renaissance era, it was fashion to shave them off • Because of the speed at which Earth moves around the Sun, it is impossible for a solar eclipse to last more than 7 minutes and 58 seconds • The night of January 20 is "Saint Agnes's Eve", which is regarded as a time when a young woman dreams of her future husband • Google is actually the common name for a number with a million zeros • It takes glass one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times • Gold is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years • Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end • If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off • Each year 2,000,000 smokers either quit smoking or die of tobacco-related diseases • Zero is the only number that cannot be represented by Roman numerals • Kites were used in the American Civil War to deliver letters and newspapers • The song, Auld Lang Syne, is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year • Drinking water after eating reduces the acid in your mouth by 61 percent • Peanut oil is used for cooking in submarines because it doesn't smoke unless it's heated above 450°F • The roar that we hear when we place a seashell next to our ear is not the ocean, but rather the sound of blood surging through the veins in the ear • Nine out of every 10 living things live in the ocean •



## Samson Tractor Was GM's Response to Fordson

William C. Durant is generally given credit for creating, in September 1908, the car and truck building giant we know as General Motors Corporation. Not everyone knows that Durant, and General Motors, took a brief and disastrous fling at building farm tractors during the late teens and early 1920s. During 1915, rumors flew in agricultural circles that Henry Ford would soon introduce a small farm tractor for \$250 or less. The Ford Motor Company hotly denied those rumors, but in 1917 the mass-produced Fordson was introduced. The first 7,000 machines were sold to Great Britain to aid in the war effort, but the Fordson became available to American farmers in 1918 and was an immediate success. The little Fordson soon outsold the previous leader, the International Harvester Company's Titan 10-20, because the Titan cost about \$1,000, while the Fordson came in at \$885, fully equipped. Henry had widely missed his target price of \$250, but the Fordson was still about the cheapest tractor on the market. Durant, at that time chairman and chief stockholder of GM, saw the popular Fordson tractor as a challenge. Ford had already grabbed a major share of the car market, and the same thing seemed about to happen to farm tractors. Durant determined to go head-to-head with Ford, and bought out the Samson Tractor Works, Stockton, California. Samson began building tractors about 1913, and its Samson Sieve-Grip tractor, introduced in 1914, was the most successful model. Offered in 6-12 and 10-25 versions, the machine was named for its open-faced wheels, which worked fine in the soft peat land around Stockton, and in light soils, but were less than satisfactory in sticky clay. The clay collected inside the wheel and accumulated until each wheel became a solid ball of mud and would hardly turn. In spite of that, the one-cylinder 6-12 became very popular because of its light weight and low center of gravity. In 1918, GM bought a factory in



Janesville, Wis., and incorporated the Janesville Machine Company to build the GMC Samson tractor. GMC put a four-cylinder 4-3/4-by-6-inch engine in the Sieve-Grip, rated it a 12-25 horsepower, and put it on the market at \$1,750. Obviously, the \$1,750 Sieve-Grip was no competition to the \$885 Fordson, so GM announced, in late 1918, that a new Samson Model M, with a price tag of \$650, would be its answer to Ford. The Model M boasted a GMC four-cylinder engine of 4-1/2-inch bore and 5-inch stroke that turned out 9.32 drawbar horsepower when tested at Nebraska. The \$650 price included platform, fenders, governor, belt pulley and power take off, all of which were extra-cost items on the Fordson. Pictures show the Model M resembled the Fordson, although the M looks higher and has a slightly longer wheelbase. The Samson Model M sold well, and produced small profits for GM, although they couldn't begin to offset the losses incurred on their other tractor, the Samson Model D Iron Horse. In the late teens, motor cultivators were very popular, and Durant decided to jump into that market. GM bought the rights to the Jim Dandy motor cultivator, one of many being built at that time. The Samson Model D Iron Horse was announced in January 1919, and GM built them by the thousands. This little (1,900 pounds) machine cost \$450, and was powered by a Chevrolet 3-11/16-by-4 engine that transmitted power to all four wheels through belts and pulleys. There was an independent clutch control for each side, and the machine was steered by levers to which reins could be attached, allowing the tractor to be driven from a pulled implement, just like a team of horses. The design was faulty in that the machine would upset easily, and there were many mechanical failures. Those problems, combined with the severe recession of 1921 and the fact that motor cultivators fell into disfavor, left GM with thousands of unsold Iron Horses. In 1922 the General left farm equipment business to Ford and the others, and converted the Janesville facility to a Chevrolet assembly plant. An interesting footnote to the General Motors tractor story is a photo seen of what is supposed to be a prototype 1946 Chevrolet tractor. At the end of World War II, GM supposedly asked a Mr. Nutter, who was one of their engineers, to build a farm tractor. Nutter was given a 2-ton Chevrolet truck chassis and engine as the basis for his machine. The tractor had a 216-cubic-inch, six-cylinder engine, a four-speed transmission, and a two-speed rear end. The picture shows a typical tricycle-type tractor of the late 1940s that looks a little like a Gibson. Nothing more is known of this machine, so GM must have decided not to take the plunge a second time, leaving only speculation as to what may have been the results.

## TREASURER'S REPORT: April 2011

### Financial Statement: April 1, 2011

#### Internal Accounts

\$15,626.84	General Fund
\$1,503.39	Chapel Fund
\$1,063.00	Decibel Reduction Fund
\$17,539.14	Farming Fund
\$4,010.51	Hanson Building Fund
\$3,500.00	Holt Caterpillar Fund
\$4,134.26	Hagen House
\$14,000.00	Pole Barn Fund
\$1,299.10	Threshing Fund
\$323.30	Tractor Pull Track Fund
<b>\$62,999.54</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Investment Accounts

\$2,003.82	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$60,995.72	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<b>\$62,999.54</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens State Bank

### Operating Statement

**\$62,999.54**      **Balance: April 1, 2011**

#### RECEIPTS

\$852.00	Bake Sale
\$200.00	Donation
\$15.00	Dues/Membership
\$595.00	Equipment Sales
\$23.00	Interest
\$43.00	Meeting Lunch Donation
\$25.00	Merchandise Sales
\$1,345.00	Raffle Ticket Sales
\$1,516.00	Swap Meet: Food Sales
\$460.00	Swap Meet: Vendors
<b>\$5,074.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Donations:

**\$200.00**      **Lannie & Brenda Ashling**

#### DISBURSEMENTS

(\$199.12)	Electricity
(\$15.90)	Equipment Repair
(\$2,200.00)	McCormick -Deering Building Repair
(\$108.72)	Swap Meet: Advertising
(\$559.02)	Swap Meet: Food
<b>(\$3,082.76)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

**\$64,990.78**      **Balance: April 30, 2011**

### Financial Statement: April 30, 2011

#### Internal Accounts

\$17,575.08	General Fund
\$1,503.39	Chapel Fund
\$1,106.00	Decibel Reduction Fund
\$17,539.14	Farming Fund
\$4,010.51	Hanson Building Fund
\$3,500.00	Holt Caterpillar Fund
\$4,134.26	Hagen House
\$14,000.00	Pole Barn Fund
\$1,299.10	Threshing Fund
\$323.30	Tractor Pull Track Fund
<b>\$64,990.78</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Investment Accounts

\$3,972.58	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$61,018.20	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<b>\$64,990.78</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens State Bank

**Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer**