

PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:

Hello to Heritage Hill Members. I hope all is well in the membership. The weather has seemed to cooperate so far since the last time I wrote one of these. Sometimes just a little bit of sunshine can make a day much better than when it first started. I sure have enjoyed the mild highs and lows! February weather is usually relatively quiet; we will see how March goes. Who wants to place their bets on whether its "in like a lion, out like a lamb" or vice versa? I will wager the latter. With all the fog we had in January, I bet it is going to be a crazy end of March and beginning of April. You know the old wives' tale, "90 days from fog is rain (or snow)". We will find out!

Being optimistic is a good virtue, something I practice to the best of my ability. Unfortunately, at times adversities need to be addressed when they arise. It is with a heavy heart that I am discussing this issue – occasionally the truth can be painful. I hope that you all have received and read the Heritage Hill letter sent January 20, 2023 to the entire membership. Heritage Hill is currently in a difficult state of affairs. With dwindling interaction and participation from the membership, less spectator attendance each year, and in general a diminishing interest in like shows around the country, it is difficult to maintain the Heritage Hill organizational mission, while at the same time attempting to fuel the passion. Over the past several years, I have



been privileged to interact with members at many other like threshing shows – most, if not all, threshing organizations are facing the same decline and challenges. Despite the same, the 2023 Heritage Hill Threshing Show is still scheduled and planning for the event continues. That is why we are all here, right? I hope that this news does not deter any member or guest from attending the June Threshing show. I am also hoping the membership will continue volunteering to the best of their abilities, so the 2023 Threshing Show can be appreciated by many. I know I will be there as much as I can and will be helping wherever needed! Whatever the future embraces, Heritage Hill will always hold a special place in my heart.

Heritage Hill members, I ask of you this one thing. Please give it all you got this year in preparation for the show! Let us make this a great one! The date is arriving soon. If anybody needs help with their displays or concerns for any other operations at Heritage Hill, please contact me or another board member so the same can be address in a timely manner.

Best regards, Grant Schmieg

MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Membership Meetings Board Meeting Membership Meeting Heritage Days 2022 Christmas Party To be determined Sunday, March 5, 2023, 6:00 pm, via ZOOM Sunday, April 2, 2023, 6:30 pm. HH Threshers' Kitchen. June 15 - 17, 2023 To be determined

TREASURER'SREPORT: January 2023

Financial Statement: January 1, 2023

Internal Accounts		Depository Accounts	
\$43,121.27	General Fund	\$3,302.76	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$4,868.00	Chapel Fund	\$181,622.51	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$18,243.70	Farming Fund	\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$108,692.30	Insurance Claim Fund	\$184,925.27	TOTAL
\$10,000.00	Insurance Premium Fund		
\$184,925.27		\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Operating Statement

\$184,925.27	Balance: January 1, 2023			
	<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	
_	\$103.50	Interest	(\$302.61)	Electricity
	\$103.50	TOTAL	(\$324.00)	Engine Coins
			(\$385.65)	Office/Postage
	\$184,016.51	Balance: January 31, 2023	(\$1,012.26)	TOTAL

Financial Statement: January 31, 2023

Internal Accounts		Depository Accounts	
\$42,212.51	General Fund	\$2,290.50	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$4,868.00	Chapel Fund	\$181,726.01	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$18,243.70	Farming Fund	\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$108,692.30	Insurance Claim Fund	\$184,016.51	TOTAL
\$10,000.00	Insurance Premium Fund		
\$184,016.51	TOTAL	\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer

DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES: February 6, 2022 Grant Schmeig, Acting Secretary

The Board of Directors met Monday, March 6, 2023, 6:00PM, via Zoom.

Present were Schmeig, Bergquist, Hamann, Lagred, L. Ashling, K. Ashling, Hamann, Schultz

Secretary Schultz presented the January 8, 2023 Directors meeting minutes. M/S/P Bergquist/Schultz to approve the minutes as presented.

Treasurer Bergquist presented the January 2023 treasurer's report. M/S/P Schultz/ L.Ashling to approve the reports. Meeting actions and discussion:

- Feature Engine Coins: The 2023 collector coin promoting the Fairbanks Morse engine feature will cost \$324. MSP Bergquist/Lagred to approve the purchase.
- **Minnesota Draft Horse Association:** Looking for a location to hold its future annual shows. Possibly can accommodate the association for the 2024 season.
- Scheduled Events: There is a graduation reception scheduled May 27, 2023 at the HH show grounds. If you are present in preparation for the show, please respect the party.
- Raffle Tickets: Tickets will get printed in early March and distributed at the April Membership Meeting.
- Food Service: Decision is needed by February 15, 2023 whether the HH Threshers' Kitchen will be available. If not, a third-party food vendor will need to be procured due to high demand. MSP K. Ashling/Bergquist top require a Threshing Kitchen commitment by February 15.
- Camping: Need camping coordinator.
- **Graphic Design:** Lagred has a contact for doing our graphic design going forward.
- **Dissolution Letter:** If anybody has a comprehensive plan for resurrecting the HH organization, please present the same to a board member as soon as possible. Participation from all HH members is needed going forward
- Next Membership Meeting: April 2, 2023, 6:30pm HH show grounds
- Next Board Meeting: March 5, 6:00 pm via ZOOM.
- Adjournment: Bergquist/Lagred

Dissolution Letter Update – February 15, 2023:

A letter dated January 20, 2023 was sent to the entire Heritage Hill membership regarding organizational options under consideration by Heritage Hill Board of Directors. The letter outlined multiple factors which have led to the current state of affairs. Those letters were sent to 125 households, representing 193 current members. **So far, 4 responses have been received**, most inquires entailed some additional questions and clarity. Those same contacts shared in the disappointment, but understood that the organization is not sustainable with the currently interest level among members. So far, no member has come forth with a comprehensive plan to continue operations. As stated in the letter, the 2023 Heritage Hill Threshing Show is still scheduled. Unless there is a significant new development, the current plan is to seek legal advice in July 2023 regarding the future options available. Updates will be available via future newsletters and membership meetings. Feel free to contact President Grant Schmieg, 605-291-9551 or Treasurer Leslie Bergquist, 320-226-7878, with questions, concerns, or any comprehensive plan of action. Thank you.





Page 3 of 3