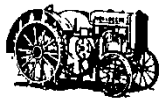


**President**Grant Schmieg  
605-291-9551**Vice****President**Robert Schultz  
320-444-4861**Secretary**Open  
xxx-xxx-xxxx**Treasurer**Leslie Bergquist  
320-226-7878

Minnesota Valley

Antique Farm Power &amp; Machinery Association



5030 Twentieth Avenue Southwest

Post Office Box 226

Montevideo, MN 56265

**Directors**Kyle Ashling  
320-361-0599Beth Finn  
320-226-7878Chantel Hamann  
701-361-6028Dustin Johnson  
320-226-1947Scott Thissen  
320-444-3861**Ex-Officio**Duane Grube, Jr.  
320-815-5791**JANUARY 2021****PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:**

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I have always particularly enjoyed the holidays. They are so full of cheer and happiness, but most importantly we get to visit with family, friends and other loved ones. It is a time of giving and humbleness that usually doesn't go unnoticed in our wonderful communities. As I noticed at my family events, and I'm sure many of you did as well, they were a bit different this year. With the pandemic changing many aspects of life, it really put a damper on some of the holiday spirit. Visiting with many different members over the last few weeks, I learned that just about everyone's gatherings were impacted in some way. Even with the times we are presented with, there still seemed to be some holiday cheer in the air, which is always nice to see and feel.

For those of you who haven't met me yet, my name is Grant Schmieg. I currently reside in Madison, SD. I work at a seed company called Mustang Seeds as their Precision Agriculture Specialist. Waconia, MN is originally where I grew up. During my childhood you could find helping out on my uncle's farm every weekend, which is to blame for my love of agriculture. I knew I wanted to pursue a career in ag because of him, and that's how I got to South Dakota. I attended SDSU, graduated in 2017 and have been in Madison ever since. "South Dakota you say? How did you get to Montevideo?" – That's probably what you're thinking right now. I made it out to Heritage Hill for the first time in early spring of 2019. Now, I know that is much shorter than many of you have been around Heritage Hill for, and frankly that makes me jealous! Many of you that have met me already, know that I truly enjoy working on and playing with old gas engines – predominantly hit and miss style ones. That brings me to what brought me out here. I will give full responsibility to Chip Grube and Kyle Ashling for inviting me and a few other members out to show engines after I met them at Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion in Rollag, MN. After the first day of the very first show at the hill that I attended, I became a lifetime member. I knew that I would love it here. Over the last 3 years at Heritage Hill, I have met many of you and I am extremely thrilled to be part of this club. I had the privilege of being the secretary during the past year, and found it rewarding to be part of the board. That is why I decided to run for President. I knew that I would be able to help out in ways that were needed.



As my first Presidential State of the Hill Address, I would like to formally thank each and every one of you for allowing me to hold this honorable position. I will make it my duty to lead this club in the most positive direction that I can and do so with an open mind. It is you members that really make this club a joy to work with, and I couldn't be happier working with such a great group of people. You guys have made Heritage Hill an amazing place for the past to be displayed, and memories to be made. I am very excited to see what this next year has in store and cannot wait to meet with many of you throughout the next 12 months. Hopefully it treats us better than 2020 did!

Thank you, Grant Schmieg, President

## MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Membership Meeting	Monday, January 18, 2021. <b>CANCELLED DUE TO PHYSICAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS.</b>
Board Meeting	Sunday, February 7, 2021 6:00 pm @ TBD
Heritage Days 2021	June 18 - 19, 2021
Christmas Party	December 4, 2021.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: November 17, 2020 – Grant Schmeig, Secretary

COVID-19 Cancellation

## DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES: January 3, 2021 – Dustin Johnson, Secretary

The Board of Directors met Sunday January 3, 2021 at the Heritage Hill Thresher's Kitchen.

Present were Grant Schmeig, Bob Schulz, Les Bergquist, Chip Grube, Dustin Johnson, Scott Thissen, and Kyle Ashling in person and Chantel Hamann on the phone.

President Grant Schmeig called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Former Secretary Grant Schmeig read the minutes of the November 1, 2020 Board of Directors meeting. M/S/P Bergquist/Grube to approve the minutes.

Treasurer Les Bergquist presented the November, December, and Annual 2020 Treasurer's reports. M/S/P Grube/Schultz to approve the report.

- **Pulling skid:** It was stated that we are still looking to line up a pulling skid for the June show.
- **Threshing Show:** There was discussion about whether or not a Threshing Show is expected to be held in 2021 due to the unknown future of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was agreed that some type of show needs to be held that falls within whatever guidelines are in place at the time. The directors agreed to begin planning for a show and continue advertising. Advertising will be general until we know better what activities to expect. The Fagen Air Show at Granite Falls is scheduled for the same weekend as the Threshing Show. The board will continue to monitor developments.
- **Friday night band:** If a show is held, a band will need to be reserved for Friday night entertainment. The band who had planned to play at last year's show is currently not scheduling events.
- **Events at Heritage Hill:** Reservations of the Heritage Hill facilities will not be allowed until further notice due to the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic. A volunteer is needed to handle the facility reservations when they are allowed again.
- **Secretary:** The Secretary position still needs to be filled.
- **Wooden Threshing Machine:** Scott Vouk has expressed interest in fixing up the wooden threshing machine that was donated to Heritage Hill by the Monson family. This will be revisited at a future meeting.
- **John Deere Loader Tractor:** The possibility was brought up of selling the John Deere loader tractor and purchasing a skid loader. It is expected that the tractor is worth something, but the clutch may need to be replaced soon. A used skid steer might be available for a reasonable price and would be handier for loader tasks at Heritage Hill. Directors will try to get a better estimate of what the tractor is worth and look into the market for used skid loaders.
- **Farm Site Replica:** M/S/P Ashling/Schultz to locate the farm site replica donated by Lowell Haff in the Toy Building if it fits. The display is 8 ft. x 12 ft.
- **Video recording / virtual show:** Schmeig suggested recording video to promote Heritage Hill. Discussion was had to take drone footage and interview members and exhibitors about their displays. Schmieg offered to do video editing. Some videos will be recorded before the show for online advertising and some will be recorded during the show. An informal goal was set of making ten short videos this year.
- **Raffle:** Raffle ticket sales will not begin until there is more certainty about the 2021 Threshing Show. A Dewalt cordless toolset was purchased last year as one of the prizes, and there is concern the batteries may be getting old.
- **Bleacher Project:** Parker Thissen's Eagle Scout project to replace the bleacher boards at Heritage Hill is still in the works. It is going through another round of approval in the Boy Scouts and Parker is working to get bids for materials from lumber yards.
- **Veteran Discount for Admission:** Schmeig asked about the feasibility of a discount to the price of admission for veterans attending the Threshing Show. It was agreed that, although this is an honorable idea, it would add too much complication for the gate workers.
- **Zoom:** Due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic and the distance some directors travel, upcoming board meetings may be held virtually. The Zoom program only allows 45 minute meetings for free, but a subscription of \$12 per month will allow unlimited meetings. M/S/P Bergquist/Schmeig to pay the \$12/mo. subscription.

- **Snow removal:** Thank you to Alex Lamkin for moving snow to make the Threshers' Kitchen accessible for tonight's meeting.
- **Membership Meetings:** No membership meetings will be held until further notice due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Adjournment:** M/S/P Bergquist/Ashling to adjourn

## TREASURER'S REPORT: November 2020

### Financial Statement: November 1, 2020

#### Internal Accounts

\$34,291.94	General Fund
\$4,513.00	Chapel Fund
\$18,863.00	Farming Fund
\$10,000.00	Insurance Fund
<b>\$67,667.94</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Depository Accounts

\$3,048.57	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$64,619.37	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<b>\$67,667.94</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

### Operating Statement

**\$67,667.94**      **Balance: November 1, 2020**

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	
\$35.00	Donations	(\$172.96)	Electricity
\$7.52	Interest	(\$300.00)	Advertising
<b>\$42.52</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$472.96)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

**\$67,237.50**      **Balance: November 30, 2020**

### Financial Statement: November 30, 2020

#### Internal Accounts

\$33,851.50	General Fund
\$4,523.00	Chapel Fund
\$18,863.00	Farming Fund
\$10,000.00	Insurance Fund
<b>\$67,237.50</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Depository Accounts

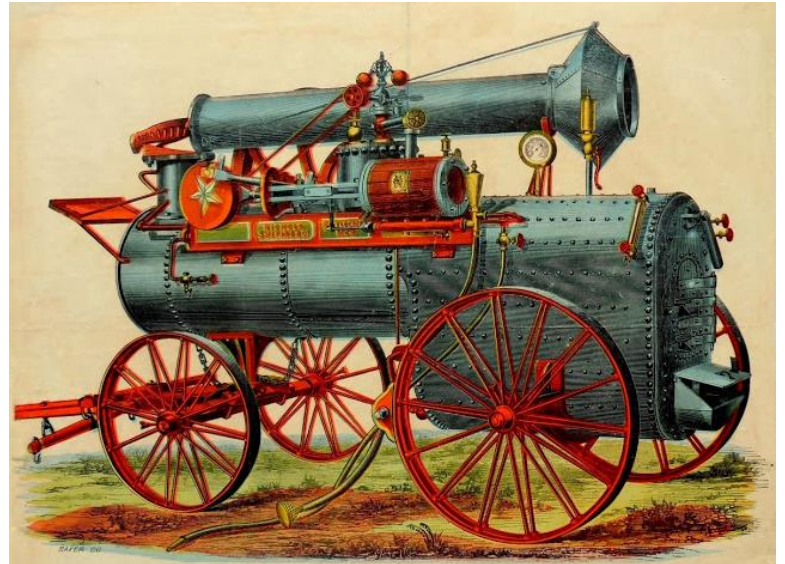
\$2,610.61	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$64,626.89	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<b>\$67,237.50</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer

## EXTRA: Nichols and Shepard Co.

**Nichols and Shepard Co.** was an American partnership company which manufactured farm machinery, steam engines and mill machinery. In 1848, John Nichols, a practical moulder by trade, opened a Michigan based blacksmith shop in Battle Creek. In the blacksmith shop, Nichols began making various farm tools for local farmers. He built his first combination thresher-separator in 1852. The business was successful from the start, so successful that sometime in the 1850's he partnered with an associate by the name of David Shepard, who as a machinist. Together they formed a partnership known as Nichols, Shepard and Company which manufactured farm machinery, steam engines and mill equipment. The first thresher-separator of small grains, then used mostly for wheat and oats, was developed circa 1831 by Hiram and John Pitts, who were brothers from Buffalo, New York. However, this early thresher, called the "ground hog," was quite unlike the conventional thresher-separators that developed since that time. For example, the ground hog separating unit was largely a slatted apron which pulled the grain across a screen, causing the various sized grains to plug the sieves, resulting in much grain waste. John Nichols and David Shepard realized that the apron style separator was not a technology that was going to succeed. Subsequently, the Nichols and Shepard Company, in 1857, developed the first "vibrator" separating unit for the small grain thresher. Due to its innovative success, this vibrator-style of separator soon became universally adopted by all other thresher-separator manufacturers. The Nichols and Shepard Company received a patent from the United States government for their "Vibrator" grain separator on January 7, 1862. The company also obtained a number of other patents for other advances in the thresher/separator technology, for original improvements in steam engine traction technology. During the 1920's, the Nichols and Shepard Company became well known for its for developing a successfully

functioning corn picker. This corn picker became the direct ancestor of the famous Oliver corn picker. The business had grown from its insignificant beginning into an institution that had then manufactured about one-tenth of the threshing machinery used in the United States. The total floor space of the factory approximated forty acres. The company employed about 500 workmen with a pay roll amounting to nearly \$250,000, annually. The principal sales of the company were in the grain growing states, although a large portion of its product was sold in the Canadian Northwest, with considerable export business to Mexico and South American countries. One peculiar feature of this institution is that nearly every foreman and industrious, loyal employee was a stockholder in the company. The success of the institution was largely the result of the effort directed by its then president and general manager, Edwin C. Nichols, who has been with the institution from boyhood. Throughout the life of the company, it had been known to manufacture steam traction engines, the Red River Special thresher, rice threshers, alfalfa and small seed threshers, mounted water tanks, low down tank pumps, and all-steel frame horse powers.



**Nichols, Shepard & Co.** became **Nichols & Shepard Co.** circa, 1895-1898. In 1929, it became part of the **Oliver Farm Equipment Company**. At one point the Oliver Corporation became part of the **White Motor Company** of Cleveland, Ohio. It appears that the White Motor Company became defunct in 1980. The assets were bought by **Allied Products**, which sold the White tractor business to **AGCO**.

## TREASURER'S REPORT: December 2020

### Financial Statement: December 1, 2020

#### Internal Accounts

\$33,851.50	General Fund
\$4,523.00	Chapel Fund
\$18,863.00	Farming Fund
\$10,000.00	Insurance Fund
<b>\$67,237.50</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Depository Accounts

\$2,610.61	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$64,626.89	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<b>\$67,237.50</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

### Operating Statement

**\$67,237.50**      **Balance: December 1, 2020**

#### RECEIPTS

\$874.20	USDA
\$5.49	Interest
<b>\$879.69</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

(\$183.90)	Electricity
(\$46.00)	Office/ Printing
<b>(\$229.90)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

**\$67,887.29**      **Balance: December 31, 2020**

### Financial Statement: December 31, 2020

#### Internal Accounts

\$33,627.09	General Fund
\$4,523.00	Chapel Fund
\$19,737.20	Farming Fund
\$10,000.00	Insurance Fund
<b>\$67,887.29</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### Depository Accounts

\$3,254.91	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$64,632.38	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<b>\$67,887.29</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

**Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer**