

President

Grant Schmieg
605-291-9551

Vice**President**

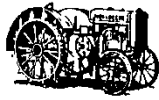
Glen Coon
320-841-1861

Secretary

Elizabeth Peterson
507-828-0638

Treasurer

Leslie Bergquist
320-226-7878



Minnesota Valley
Antique Farm Power & Machinery Association



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JULY 2023

Directors

Kyle Ashling
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Liz Ashling
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Chantel Hamann
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Marshal Lagred
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Director
Rebecca Miller
320-297-0987

Ex-Officio

Duane Grube, Jr.
320-815-5791

PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:

Today, I write before you with immense pride and joy to share the remarkable success of our recent show. It is with great pleasure that I express my heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to making this event an outstanding victory. The spirit of our club lies in the hard work, innovation, and dedication of its members. This year's Heritage Days served as a shining tribute to their remarkable efforts and the indispensable role they play in our club. From the first day of preparation, the show grounds were filled with excitement and anticipation. The whole grounds buzzed with energy as visitors from far and wide gathered to witness the displays and features that we worked so hard to exhibit. As I ventured through the different demonstrations, I watched as our attendees smile and enjoy all we had to display. From tractors to freshly sawn lumber, gas engines to steam power, the wonderful noises, and smells from everything going on paints a sort of bliss onto our day at the Hill. Despite the inconvenient weather on Saturday that caused the termination of the tractor pull, visitors were still piling into the parking lot one after another. It was refreshing to see all the action going on still during the torrential downpour. We powered through it and continued with the show. Everyone stayed in high spirits, and that was reflected throughout all the people there. I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to the members, exhibitors, and volunteers who dedicated countless hours to ensure the smooth execution of this grand event. Their commitment and hard work made Heritage Hill an unparalleled success.

On the evening of July 9, 2023, the board had a lengthy discussion. The main topic was based on the idea of dissolving. This has been a topic for around 6 months now. During the show, I got many compliments on how we run things and presented the show grounds. It was refreshing to receive so many positive remarks regarding the club. Since last winter when the Dissolution Letter was sent out, there has been a lot of reaction from you guys, the membership. As tough as it is to talk about these things, it is the reality. Without more involvement, there will be no future. This spring, and especially during the show, a lot more members have stepped up to take responsibility for different things that are needed to be accomplished before and during the show. Seeing the growing involvement and observing new faces is invigorating to me because that is what is needed to continue with Heritage Hill. It does not stop here though, there's still tons of projects and other things going on at the Hill. We will have a plow day in October, and paired with that will be a wood cutting day to prepare firewood for next year's steam engines. I hope to see many faces there, new and old. If you have interest in improving or making a new display, building, amenity, something that pertains to the show grounds or club, please contact myself or any board members.

In closing, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all those who attended Heritage Hill and supported our club. Your presence, effort, and enthusiasm have been instrumental in fostering a sense of pride and encouragement among our club. Let us carry the spirit of our show forward, continuing to celebrate and support our club for years to come. I hope that we can continue with ease.

Thank you, and may the future of our organization be as bright as the beaming smiles that radiated throughout this extraordinary show this year at Heritage Hill.

Best regards, Grant Schmieg

MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Board Meeting	Sunday, August 6, 2023 after membership meeting
Membership Meeting	Sunday, August 6, 2023 6:00pm at Thresher's Kitchen
Heritage Days 2023	June 14 - 15, 2024
Christmas Party	To be determined

TREASURER'S REPORT: June 2023 – Leslie Bergquist, Treasurer

Financial Statement: June 1, 2023

Internal Accounts

\$25,978.88	General Fund
\$4,868.00	Chapel Fund
\$18,243.70	Farming Fund
\$108,692.30	Insurance Claim Fund
\$12,228.98	Insurance Premium Fund
\$170,011.86	

Depository Accounts

\$1,905.58	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking	
\$168,106.28	CAB - Preferred Money Market	
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit	
\$170,011.86	TOTAL	
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank	

Operating Statement

\$170,011.86 **Balance: June 1, 2023**

RECEIPTS

\$282.00	Camping
\$3,090.00	Cash Raffle
\$2,603.27	Corn Sales
\$5.00	Donation
\$3,821.00	Gate Admission
\$78.20	Interest
\$615.00	Merchandise Sales
\$217.00	Pedal Tractor Raffle
\$169.00	Shingle Mill
\$10,880.47	TOTAL

DISBURSEMENTS

(\$2,250.00)	Audio
(\$819.01)	Cups
(\$100.00)	Dyno Service
(\$324.69)	Electricity
(\$9,976.94)	Farming Expense
(\$989.56)	Fuel
(\$100.00)	Gate Admission Service
(\$800.00)	Pedal Pull
(\$2,244.38)	Portable Toilets
(\$1,917.39)	Raffle Expense
(\$320.95)	Repairs
(\$600.00)	Steam Engine Service
(\$40,740.00)	Storm Damage Repair
(\$61,182.92)	TOTAL

\$119,709.41 **Balance: June 30, 2023**

Financial Statement: June 30, 2023

Internal Accounts

\$23,790.10	General Fund
\$4,868.00	Chapel Fund
\$10,870.03	Farming Fund
\$67,952.30	Insurance Claim Fund
\$12,228.98	Insurance Premium Fund
\$119,709.41	TOTAL

Depository Accounts

\$7,524.93	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking	
\$112,184.48	CAB - Preferred Money Market	
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit	
\$119,709.41	TOTAL	
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank	

Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: None

DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES: July 9, 2023 – Elizabeth Peterson, Secretary

President Grant Schmieg called the membership meeting to order July 9, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Present were Grant Schmieg, Becky Miller, Liz Peterson, Glen Coon, Chip Grube, Kyle Ashling, Marshal Lagred.

President Grant Schmieg presented the Secretary Report. M/S/P Chip Grube/Kyle Ashling to approve.

President Grant Schmieg presented the Treasurer Report. M/S/P Marshal Lagred/Glen Coon to approve.

- **2023 Show Recap:** Overall, the resounding feedback has been that the show went well with the given circumstances. Total of registered units was down but it seemed that attendance was up given the amount of people in buildings, cars in the parking lot, and the free will donation totals. There were a lot of compliments on the grounds, some displays and demonstrations, and the overall feel of this show compared to years past. Thank you to everyone who stepped up to help in preparation as well as putting on displays and demonstrations throughout the weekend!
- **Maintenance:** Shingles have been completed on a few of the buildings and the windows on the house have been replaced. There are a few other projects that are needing attention such as the screen door on the Hansen building and the walkway by the house. If you are able to help fix these or help with other grounds maintenance, please reach out to a board member.
- **Future of Heritage Hill:** We are looking forward to putting on a 2024 show! There is a lot of hope in the members that with some changes, there is potential growth to be had. The board recommends to the members that we continue to let Knutson's run food out of the kitchen and to secure the local 4-H to man the gate again. It was nice to see members stepping in to help prepare for the show and we hope that the willingness to help where needed will continue so we can continue to put on a great show. Options are being explored for adding more displays, demonstrations, entertainment, and events. If you have any ideas, we encourage you to present them to the board during one of the next meetings.
- **2024 Feature:** It was discussed to move away from specific features and go back to a broad focus. It was presented for Massey Harris tractors and engines to be featured. M/S/P Kyle Ashling/Chip Grube.
- **Entertainment:** Bingo was greatly missed this year! We are hoping to bring it back in 2024. We are looking for volunteers to run Bingo on Friday June 14th and Saturday June 15th. Times are 10-11am and 2-3pm and can be subject to minor flexibility. Please contact a board member if you are willing to take a timeslot.
- **Board Position:** We are looking for someone to fill the Treasurer position in 2024. Extensive training is available. Please contact a board member if you are interested in this position.
- **Demonstrations:** Do you or someone you know have something you would like to showcase at Heritage Hill? We are looking for demonstrations to add into the Hansen building again! We have room for six, however, if we have more interest, we may be able to find more room. Please contact a board member if you want to claim a spot.
- **Grounds Work:** There is an extensive list of things to do and things that need to be fixed before the 2024 show. Tasks range from simple cleaning and prep work to vehicle and building repair. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Grant.
- **Grounds Storage:** There is growing concern with storage utilization on the grounds. We are quickly running out of room. It was presented that a free will donation would be appreciated for storage use. It was also suggested that for all items currently stored, each until must be displayed 2 out of 3 years. All storage also needs to be brought to the board and approved before it is brought onto the show grounds. M/S/P Kyle Ashling/Grant Schmieg
- **Plow Day:** Tentative date is set for October 28, 2023. Please mark your calendars! More information will be sent out in an e-mail closer to the date.
- **Adjournment:** M/S/P Chip Grube/Kyle Ashling
- **Next Membership Meeting:** August 6th, 2023 at 6pm
- **Next Board Meeting:** August 6th, 2023 following the membership meeting.



Dissolution Letter Update – July 9, 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. As a result of the 2023 HH Threshing Show, and after considerable discussion at the July 9, 2023 Board of Directors meeting, the Board has decided to continue all Heritage Hill functions. Any discussions or consideration of organizational dissolution has been terminated. Thank you.

HERITAGE HILL – Meeting Date and Time Response from the Board

There was a discussion at the last board meeting in regards to a few requests from members to go back to monthly membership meetings and moving them back to Tuesday nights. There are a few reasons why meeting dates and times have been changed. Attendance at membership meetings has dwindled since the pandemic and has not come back. Many membership meetings had ten members or less. We tried different nights to see if that would change. It did not.

Several officers and board members live quite a ways away so it's not convenient to drive to Montevideo for meetings twice a month. Others have young children or children who are active in school making weeknights impossible to get to meetings. In the past, all officers and board members lived locally and did not have children living at home.

Also, with decreased membership involvement at Heritage Hill, there just is not enough things going on to have an agenda worth having a meeting over.

We will never find a time and meeting schedule that is ideal for everyone but we are doing the best we can to keep things happening at Heritage Hill. Please be reminded that we have an election every year so if you have ideas that you feel would help the club and want to see some changes enacted, consider putting your name on the ballot.

Along those same lines, we would like to encourage members to be respectful at the meetings. We have had an issue with a few members who do not agree with or understand why certain things are being done at Heritage Hill. Rather than asking questions or trying to understand the situation, they raise their voice and “talk down” to the board in a very disrespectful way. To make matters worse, this has happened when we have guests who are/were considering becoming members. Is conduct like that conducive to encouraging new members to join our club? Respectful conversations can be had and are encouraged. While all decisions are not ideal, there are legitimate reasons why they are made and we ask that you try to understand that.

Again, if you feel you can contribute to the betterment of the club, have your name placed on the ballot in the fall and make a difference. Thank you.

