

President

Duane Grube, Jr.
320-815-5791

Vice-

President

Orlynn Hegna
320-894-8698

Secretary

Galen Rud
320-226-3987

Treasurer

Leslie Bergquist
320-226-7878



Minnesota Valley
Antique Farm Power & Machinery Association



5030 Twentieth Avenue Southwest

Post Office Box 226

Montevideo, MN 56265

MAY 2019

<http://www.heritagehill.us>

<https://www.facebook.com/heritagehillshow>

Directors

Kyle Ashling
320-361-0599

Stephen Coon
320-841-2211

Beth Finn
320-226-6090

Dustin Johnson
320-226-1947

Scott Thissen
320-444-3861

Ex-Officio

Gerald Kleene
320-894-9149

PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:

Now that Easter is past, bring on spring! I doubt there were very many potatoes that got planted on Good Friday. That was quite a storm that rolled through on April 10 and 11.

Hopefully by the time you read this, planting will be progressing. I believe it was the spring of 2016, we started planting corn on April 11 and were able to go straight through all the fields instead of planting around all the low spots. Spring 2019, like spring 2018, will be delayed.



When I look back through my career, I am amazed exactly how much corn planters have changed. Centuries ago, corn planting was back breaking laborious work. Three or four kernels were planted in each hole created either by a hoe or a stick poked into the ground. Slowly, the mechanization of corn planting evolved. By the early 1900's, farmers were able to plant up to 2 acres per day! When the check wire was invented, planting became much "easier". We were no longer checking corn by the time I was old enough to pay attention, but I remember many stories about techniques used each time the wire was moved. I do remember the old shoe type furrow openers. Every current farming practice would find the former application of plowing under the corn and bean stocks to be unconventional. If any modern day producer had ever planted with a shoe type planter, they would soon understand the former need for moldboard plows. Old shoe type furrow openers could not accommodate any trash! When the disc type openers came to be, things progressed rapidly to where farmers were able to plant into fields with a considerable amount of trash with no issues. With the invention of first trash discs, and now trash whippers in front of the row unit, many fields get planted with no tillage at all. Seed singulation has steadily

progressed from when everyone used planter plates. Finger singulation units replaced planter plates by some manufacturers. Other planters used a bulk hopper linked to a seed drum which singulated and moved seed to the row unit by air pressure. Today, most all corn planters use vacuum, some still using air pressure, to singulate and drop seed with great accuracy. Even seed storage on the planter has come a long way from seed boxes on each row unit to bulk hoppers mounted in the center of the planter and using air pressure to blow the seed to mini hoppers on each row unit. Another thing that has become popular in the last decade or so is variable rate seeding where by using a global positioning system (GPS) signal, the seed population can be varied across the field depending on soil types and yield potential thereby bringing considerable dollar savings in seed costs. The last few years has brought technology where a farmer can theoretically plant at speeds up to 10 miles per hour! I don't think that would work real well in rocky soils. Witnessing the increase in crop planter sizes over the years has been amazing as well. Growing up in the 1960's I can still remember 2 and 4-row planters readily in use, then increasing to 6, 8, 12 rows, with 24-row planters now commonly in use. John Deere is now manufacturing a model DB120 48-row planter; with 30" row spacing, 135 feet is covered in one swath.



I hope to see you at the next membership meeting on May 21, 7PM at Heritage Hill.

Thank you, Chip Grube, President

MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Membership Meeting	Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 PM @ Heritage Hill
Servers for <i>May</i>	no one signed up
Parade: Syettende Mai - Milan	Saturday, May 18, 2PM
Board Meeting	Sunday, June 2, 7:00 PM @ Heritage Hill
Heritage Hill 2019 Threshing Show	August 16 - 18, 2019
Membership Christmas Party	Saturday, December 14, 6:00 PM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: April 16, 2019 – Galen Rud, Secretary

DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES: May 5, 2019 – Galen Rud, Secretary

President Grube called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Heritage Hill.

Quorum: Present – Ashling, Coon, Grube, Johnson, Kleene, Rud, Thissen. Absent – Bergquist, Finn, Hegna.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Secretary Rud presented the April 7, 2019 Directors' Meeting minutes. M/S/P Coon/Thissen to approve the minutes.

President Grube presented the April 2019 Treasurer's Report in the absence of Bergquist. M/S/P Kleene/Thissen to approve the report.

- **Equipment Sales:** M/SP Kleene/Coon to sell the Holt Caterpillar for \$1,500.
- **Barnaal Building:** Bid to repair the Barnaal Building were presented: \$9,979.83 – Sawmill Builders, Inc., Granite Falls; \$10,704.94 – Builders First, Montevideo. M/S/P Coon/Kleene to recommend to the membership to repair the building.
- **Show Guide:** Sally Phillips presented an update regarding the show guide and other promotional activities.
- **Threshers' Kitchen:** The Kitchen Committee presented an update regarding food to be served during the Threshing Show.
- **Lawn Mowing:** Johnson agreed to coordinate the 2019 lawn mowing.
- **Watson Celebration:** Heritage Hill and its members were invited to participate in the July 27, 2019, Watson, Minnesota, 140th city celebration.
- **Syettende Mai:** The annual Milan celebration is scheduled for May 18.
- **Church Building Donation:** M/S/P Ashling/Johnson to not accept the donation of the former Our Savior's/Opdal Lutheran Church building.
- **Adjournment:** M/S/P Thissen/Finn to adjourn.

EXTRAS: Propane Power Tractor History

Beginning in the early 1950s, propane became readily available at prices that made its disadvantages easy to overlook. In oil-producing areas where propane was particularly inexpensive, Texas, Oklahoma and the southern Midwest, farmers rushed to convert existing tractors to propane and purchase factory-built propane burners. Minneapolis-Moline advertised propane tractors as early as 1950. By the mid-1950s, most tractor manufacturers offered propane-powered tractors. Of the major manufacturers, Minneapolis-Moline probably produced the highest percentage of their tractors as propane burners. The first four-wheel drive tractor over 100 horsepower was the Minneapolis-Moline G706 and Massey Ferguson MF-97 FWA, available in both propane and diesel, but not gasoline.

By the mid- to late-1960s, propane prices had risen, diesel engine technology had improved, and turbo-charging introduced, to the point where propane provided little, if any, economic advantage to offset its disadvantages. Its usage waned as the new turbocharged diesels became the prominent choice for agricultural and industrial engine power. Today, propane fueled engines are most commonly used in forklifts, warehouse tractors or other machines, such as floor buffers, operating inside buildings. Properly tuned propane fueled engines produce minimal carbon monoxide emissions, and unlike diesel engines, no soot.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas, commonly abbreviated to LP or LPG, refers to butane or propane refined from well gas, or a mix of the two. Earlier, the term referred primarily to butane, but it later swung to propane. Today, butane is seldom mentioned in the market. Propane does have its disadvantages. The gas rapidly turns to vapor at normal temperatures and atmospheric pressures. That



means it must be shipped, stored and handled under pressure. As a result, leaks are dangerous in closed buildings and propane should only be handled by trained personnel. An inadvertent spray of LP, for instance, can cause immediate and severe frostbite. Propane tends to collect in low areas, raising the potential for fire and explosion. Each gallon of LP contains only 70 percent of the BTU's of gasoline. It takes almost 1-1/2 gallons propane to do the work of 1 gallon of gasoline, and fuel tanks must be 50 percent larger to get the same amount of work accomplished. Accordingly, propane is cheaper per gallon, even today. Because LP tanks must be cylindrical, getting enough tank capacity positioned under a tractor's hood was a challenge. Most LP tanks laid flat and bulged out through the hood, although some were placed behind the driver's seat, such as with a large Case tractor, or ahead of the radiator, as in John Deere "New Generation" tractors. Propane has higher equivalent octane content than gasoline, so for best efficiency it requires a higher compression ratio than gasoline, usually one point higher. For example, 8.5:1 verses 7.5:1 in Continental-built Massey Ferguson engines. Running LP in an engine with gasoline compression ratio does not damage the engine it just reduces the fuel economy and efficiency. Additionally, propane engines usually require hardened valves and valve seats to give valve life equal to that of gasoline engines.

From camping stoves to household heaters, it feels like propane has been around forever. In reality, propane as we know it was discovered just over a century ago, and it took even longer to make its way into our homes. Here's the scoop on propane's surprising past. Following is interesting history of propane:

1910: Chemist Walter Snelling discovers propane after observing how gasoline in a jug causes the cork to pop off. A few years later, Snelling sells the patent and others start developing new uses for the fuel.

1920s: Throughout this decade, research paves the way for new ways to use propane in appliances and gas equipment. Slowly, products are rolled out into homes.

1930s: During this decade, a rotten egg odor, ethyl mercaptan, is added to propane to allow consumers to detect leaks. In addition, railroad tank transit is developed along with local bottle-filling plants, making the fuel even more ubiquitous.

1947: By this time, 62 percent of American homes are equipped with either natural gas or propane.

1950: The first propane-powered buses are ordered by the Chicago Transit Authority. By 1958, total national propane sales reach over 7 billion gallons.

2004: By this time, propane grows to be a nearly \$10 billion industry, with roughly 15 billion gallons of propane used annually in the United States.

EXTRAS: Top 10 Collectable Items

Everybody has differing reasons to collect and store collectables, but there are two main reasons to hold onto collectible items: Either the items are valuable, or the items are cherished. If the time has come to purge some collectable items, be sure to make smart choices. Opting to keep hot collectibles in storage is usually a gamble that will pay off, especially if the collector is not ready to sell. The most popular collectibles can change as quickly as the seasons, but there are a handful of items that will always be worth storing with care. These things have merit and are timeless. In fact, top collectibles have maintained or increased in value and will continue to do so. Here are ten of the most popular collectibles that are hot and in demand. If any of the following collectibles are currently owned, take the time to learn the proper methods for collectible storage to keep those treasures in tip-top shape:

1. Antique Furniture
2. Vinyl Records
3. Comic Books
4. Coins and Currency
5. Classic Automobiles
6. Trading Cards
7. Dolls and Toys
8. Postage Stamps
9. Wine
10. Fine Art and Jewelry.



TREASURER'S REPORT: April 2019

Financial Statement: April 1, 2019

Internal Accounts

\$13,548.11	General Fund
\$411.90	Building Fund
\$4,043.00	Chapel Fund
\$12,452.84	Farming Fund
\$10,000.00	Insurance Fund
\$40,455.85	TOTAL

Depository Accounts

\$1,252.12	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$39,203.73	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$40,455.85	TOTAL
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Operating Statement

\$40,455.85 **Balance: April 1, 2019**

RECEIPTS

\$360.00	Dues/Memberships
\$13.29	Interest
\$188.49	REC Dividend
\$561.78	TOTAL

DISBURSEMENTS

(\$824.50)	Wheat Seed
(\$2,219.48)	Liability Insurance
(\$6,996.28)	Property Insurance
(\$382.00)	Real Estate Taxes
(\$257.39)	Electricity
(\$10,679.65)	TOTAL

\$30,337.98 **Balance: April 30, 2019**

Financial Statement: April 30, 2019

Internal Accounts

\$13,470.50	General Fund
\$411.90	Building Fund
\$4,043.00	Chapel Fund
\$11,628.34	Farming Fund
\$784.24	Insurance Fund
\$30,337.98	TOTAL

Depository Accounts

\$1,121.41	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$29,216.57	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$30,337.98	TOTAL
\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer