

**President**

Grant Schmieg  
605-291-9551

**Vice  
President**

Vacant  
xxx-xxx-xxxx

**Secretary**

Katelynne Deuth  
320-361-0274

**Treasurer**

Elizabeth Peterson  
507-828-0638



Minnesota Valley  
*Antique Farm Power & Machinery Association*



**5030 Twentieth Avenue Southwest**

**Post Office Box 226**

**Montevideo, MN 56265**

**October 2025**

**Directors**

Vacant  
xxx-xxx-xxxx

Elijah Fjerkenstad  
320-361-0261

Matthew Preusser  
320-249-6144

Marshal Lagred  
320-288-8034

Rebecca Miller  
320-297-0987

**Ex-Officio**

Duane Grube, Jr.  
320-815-5791

**PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:**

Dear Heritage Hill Members and Friends,

As the fall leaves begin to change and the mornings get cooler, it is clear that autumn has settled in across the countryside. Combines are rolling, grain carts are moving, and that familiar smell of harvest fills the air. It is always a special time of year to see everyone's hard work paying off in the fields. Harvest seems to be progressing nicely so far. Typically, soybeans are the first to come out, but this year a fair amount of corn has been coming off early too — just one more reminder that Mother Nature likes to keep us guessing!



I want to wish everyone out there a safe and bountiful harvest season. Long days and late nights are part of the routine this time of year, but take a few moments to rest when you can, keep those lights shining bright, and maybe even stop to enjoy the changing colors along the way.

Looking ahead, our Fall Plow Day is coming up on Saturday, October 25th. We will kick off the morning with a membership meeting and board elections at 10:00 a.m. in the Thresher's Kitchen. Once the business is wrapped up, we will head out to the county ground for some good old-fashioned plowing. It's always a great time — plenty of

conversation, a bit of friendly competition, and the satisfying sight of fresh furrows stretching across the field.

As the saying goes, "A farmer's favorite exercise is plow-lunges — one pass down, one pass back!" So bring a tractor and a plow and join in on the fun. Whether you're turning soil or just stopping by to visit, we'd love to see you there.

After the plowing wraps up, we'll head back to the showgrounds for our fall potluck and soup competition. Bring your best batch of soup or chili and a healthy appetite — there will be plenty to go around! Everyone is welcome to taste and vote for their favorite. Whether it's grandma's secret recipe or something you whipped up that morning, it's all in good fun and a great way to warm up after a cool fall day in the field.

Stay safe, enjoy the season, and thank you all for keeping the spirit of Heritage Hill alive and well.

Best regards, Grant Schmieg, President

## MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Mowing –  
 Board Meeting – October 5, 2025 at 7:00pm via Zoom  
 Membership Meeting – October 25, 2025 at 10:00am in the Thresher's Kitchen  
 Plow Day – October 25, 2025 following the Membership Meeting  
 Christmas Party – TBD  
 Heritage Days 2026 – June 19-20, 2025

## TREASURER'S REPORT: August 2025 Elizabeth Peterson, Treasurer

### HERITAGE HILL TREASURER'S REPORT September 2025

#### Financial Statement: September 1, 2025

##### Internal Accounts

\$106,853.96	General Fund
\$4,868.00	Chapel Fund
\$0.00	Farming Fund
\$0.00	Insurance Premium Fund
<b>\$111,721.96</b>	

##### Depository Accounts

\$1,811.02	MinnWest Bank - Checking
\$109,910.94	MinnWest Bank - Savings
<b>\$111,721.96</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

---

#### Operating Statement

\$111,721.96 Balance: September 1, 2025

##### RECEIPTS

\$23.10	eBay
	Miscellaneous
\$49.48	(FSA)
\$53.90	Interest Paid
<b>\$126.48</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

##### DISBURSEMENTS

(\$24.63)	Grounds Maintenance
(\$13.09)	Office & Postage
(\$74.13)	Miscellaneous
(\$127.80)	Electricity
<b>(\$239.65)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

\$111,608.79 Balance: September 30, 2025

---

#### Financial Statement: September 30, 2025

##### Internal Accounts

\$106,740.79	General Fund
--------------	--------------

##### Depository Accounts

\$1,643.95	MinnWest Bank - Checking
------------	--------------------------

\$4,868.00	Chapel Fund	\$109,964.84	MinnWest Bank - Savings
\$0.00	Farming Fund	<u>\$111,608.79</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>
\$0.00	Insurance Premium Fund		
<u>\$111,608.79</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>		

Elizabeth Peterson, Treasurer

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: Katelynne Deuth, Secretary**

**DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES: Elizabeth Peterson, Treasurer 10/5/2025**

Attending – Schmieg, Peterson, Miller, Preusser, Deuth, Grube

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Schmieg.

Secretary Report was given by President Schmieg. M/S/P Miller/Peterson

Treasurer Report was presented by Liz Peterson. M/S/P Preusser/Miller

Agenda:

**Grounds Event** - There was a private event held at our grounds last weekend. It sounds like the event went very well and they were very happy with the grounds and the facilities that we have to offer. Huge **thank you** to those who were able to step up, clean up, and prepare the grounds for this event!

**Event Committee** - We are looking into creating an event committee for future events that are looking at booking at Heritage Hill. If you are interested in helping organizing these events and preparing the grounds, please reach out to a board member.

**Marion Ehrenberg** - It is with deepest sympathy that we share the passing of lifetime member Marion Ehrenberg. Marion and her husband, Kermit, used to display handmade tractors through the years at Heritage Hill. We are thankful for their many years of dedication. Blessed be her memory.

**Plow Day Potluck** – There is going to be a soup cook off for lunch. Bring a pot of soup for a little friendly competition. Soups will be voted on, and winner gets a prize! Please contact Grant or Abby Schmieg if you have any questions.

Next Board Meeting – November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm via Zoom.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. M/S/P Peterson/Miller

## Milwaukee Road No. 261 Steam Locomotive – Grant Schmieg

Sometimes the best moments in life come with no planning at all. This morning around 7 a.m., my mom sent me a Facebook video that stopped me in my tracks. The legendary **Milwaukee Road 261 steam locomotive** was making a run through my area later that morning. Talk about short notice! I quickly checked the schedule and realized it would be passing nearby around 11 a.m. There was no time to waste! This was something I wasn't about to miss.

I've seen steam locomotives before, at shows or museums, but *never* out in the wild, doing what they were truly built to do. When I finally saw the 261 coming down the line, it was a sight to behold. The first part I saw was a huge cloud of smoke emerging from the trees. Then, massive black locomotive, pulling a few gleaming passenger cars, roared past with an energy that felt alive. The sound of the steam whistle echoing across familiar countryside was absolutely surreal. It's one thing to hear that whistle at a showgrounds surrounded by displays, but to hear it ring out across open fields and farmyards - it sent a shiver down my spine.

You could *feel* the behemoth go by. The ground rumbled beneath your feet, and the air filled with that unmistakable mix of steam, smoke, and power. For a brief moment, it felt like time had turned back 70 years — when iron giants like this thundered across the Midwest every day.

The whole experience lasted only a few minutes, but it was nothing short of spectacular. It reminded me just how impressive these machines truly are — not just relics of history, but living, breathing testaments to American engineering and the golden age of railroading.

Sometimes the best days start with a random video from your mom at 7 a.m. and end with the unforgettable sound of a steam whistle echoing through the countryside.

### Milwaukee 261



#### BASIC INFO

Height - 15' 6" Length - 109' 7 3/4"

Fuel- Soft Coal

Coal Capacity - 25 Tons

Water Capacity - 20,000 Gal

Boiler Pressure - 250 Lbs

Cylinders - 26" x 32"

Tractive Effort - 62,119 Lbs

Factor of Adhesion - 4.18

Tender Type - 12-wheeled;  
consisting of two 6 wheel trucks

#### WEIGHT IN WORKING ORDER

Leading Truck - 87,000 lbs

Driving - 259,300 lbs

Trailing Trucks - 113,700 lbs

Total Weight in working order -  
460,000 lbs

Weight of Tender with fuel -  
364,100 lbs

#### OTHER RANDOM STATS

Fire Box Area - 144 9/16th" x 96 1/4"

Grate Area - 92.6 Sq. Ft.

Tubes - 197 Tubes 2 1/4"

Flues - 58 Flues 5 1/2"

Tubes and Flues Length - 20.0

Ft

Total Evaporating Area - 4477.5  
Sq Ft.

Total Heating Surface - 1,438 Sq  
Ft.

