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Wesley Thompson
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Vice-President

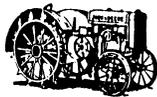
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James Roe
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OCTOBER 2015

Website: www.heritagehill.us

PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:

Greetings from Heritage Hill. The threshing show season has come to a close in Minnesota with the Stearns County Pioneer Club Threshing Show in September. It was a great show as were many others. Activities at Heritage Hill are winding down for the season with a few exceptions. The 2015 corn raised on the county land will be harvested in October. The corn crib will need to be filled with approximately 1,200 bushels of ear corn. The corn should yield very well. More information will be forthcoming.

Farming has evolved over time and has left a trail of interesting stories and information. In the mid-1870's the Red River Valley of western Minnesota and eastern North Dakota, was the birthplace of Bonanza farming. Bonanza farms were very large farms in the United States performing large-scale operations, mostly growing and harvesting wheat. Bonanza farms were made possible by a number of factors, including the efficient new farming machinery of the 1870s, the cheap abundant land available during that period, the growth of eastern markets in the U.S., and the completion of most major railroads. Most bonanza farms were owned by companies and run like factories, with professional managers. They were located close to the Northern Pacific Railroad, which transported their wheat to market. Investors also organized bonanza farms farther west. Bonanza farmers pioneered the development of farm technology and economics. Steam engines were used for motive power in plowing as much as 41 years before the modern farm tractor made its first appearance. Plows and combine harvesters drawn by steam tractors prowled the landscape in the 1880s and 1890s, well before mechanization of the smaller Midwestern farms. The division of labor was applied in bonanza farms generations before family farms adapted to these modern ways. Farm boys from the Midwest, working on bonanza farms in the early 20th century, transplanted these ideas to Corn Belt homesteads and built larger farms as the century progressed. They were also used to grow one type of crop for profit on a large estate. Migrant labor was a necessary part of bonanza farming. At planting and harvesting times foremen often supervised some 500 to 1,000 extra workers on a bonanza farm. When weather and market conditions were good, bonanza farms made large profits; buying seed, and equipment in bulk meant lower production costs. Unfortunately, in times of drought or low wheat prices, their profits fell. As the Red River Valley developed, the necessity to use Mexican migrant labor or bracero labor distinguished the former area of the Bonanza farms from their local competitors, family farmers. Family farmers, with fewer workers to pay and less money invested in equipment, could better handle boom-and-bust cycles. Thus by the 1890s most bonanza farms had broken up into smaller farms.



Over the next six decades family farming in the Red River Valley experienced many ups and downs. The economics of farming in the 1920's and 1930's, coupled with the worst drought since the valley was settled, were examples of the lows. Post World War II era was met with good economic conditions and much prosperity. Farm sizes grew and the need for larger more powerful equipment was on the rise. As ancient Greek philosopher Plato once stated, "Necessity is the mother of all invention". So was the case with the development of farm tractors and equipment. One of the best modern day examples is the origin of Steiger tractors. John Steiger and his sons, Douglas and Maurice, were successful farmers near Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. They needed a larger tractor in their farming operation that was not available commercially. They built the first STEIGER tractor in their barn on the Steiger farm during the winter of 1957. The first tractor weighed 15,000 pounds, was made mostly from salvaged parts, and was powered by a Detroit 6-71 Diesel Engine. It ran well enough to accumulate 10,000 hours of field time in just 10 years. This tractor is currently displayed in a West Fargo, North Dakota, museum. The second tractor was much smaller and was powered by a 3-71N Detroit Diesel Engine. Of the first tractor commercially sold by Steiger, only six units were produced at a location in Thief River Falls. One of these units is on display at the West Fargo museum. In 1963, the Steigers became serious about building tractors and designed a series of units for sale. Douglas Steiger served as the chief designer while Maurice Steiger headed production. A marketing agent, Earl Christensen, was assigned in Elbow Lake, Minnesota. Earl later became one of the first STEIGER dealers. The tractor manufacturing was moved to Fargo, North Dakota, in 1969. It was acquired by Case IH in 1986, which currently is part of Italy's FIAT Group.



The 2015 Heritage Hill lawn mowing was completed Tuesday, September 29, and the Hill has never looked better. Thanks to all who helped with mowing throughout the year. Enjoy the autumn season and I hope to see you at the October 20 membership meeting.

Thank you, Wesley Thompson, President

MEETING NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Membership Meeting – Heritage Hill
Directors meeting
Annual Christmas party

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 7 PM
Thursday November 4, 2015 7 PM
Saturday December 12, 2015

Servers for October Meeting, Bert & Sandy Faehn, Glen Hilden, Jim Wick

DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES: October 1, 2015

Marlys Heath, Secretary

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Heritage Hill, Montevideo.

Quorum: *Present* – Thompson, Bergquist, Heath, Molde, Grube, Sellman, Kleene, Roe. Absent: Hegna, Kanten

Guests: 2

President Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Heath read the minutes of the Sept. 3, 2015 meeting. M/S/P Bergquist/Kleene to approve the minutes

The Treasurer Report was unavailable due to the early date.

- **Raffle:** Molde submitted the 3 estimates he had received for the shot gun to be given away during the 2016 raffle. M/S/P Roe/Bergquist to recommend to the membership that a Browning A5 shot gun be purchased from Running's Farm Supply in Montevideo for the price of \$1350.00.
- **Signs:** The dates have been changed on the signs displayed on the Threshing Machines located near Hwy 7.
- **Floor Polishing:** Todd Yackley and his crew will be starting the work on the Thresher's Kitchen floor on Saturday, October 3rd. The furniture moving and floor polishing will be paid for by the insurance company to complete the claim for the water damage.
- **Mowing:** Thank you to all the volunteers who mowed the grounds at Heritage Hill on September 29th. The grounds are looking very well groomed and ready for winter.
- **Christmas get togethers:** The December 3, 2015 Directors meeting will be held at Budger's Dinner House in Maynard at 6:00 PM for a time of holiday fellowship for the directors and their guests. Everyone orders from the menu and pays for their own meals. The annual membership Christmas Party will be held December 12, 2015 at the Montevideo Community Center at 6:00 PM.
- **Corn Picking:** Corn Picking will be started on Friday Oct. 2, 2015 at 9:30 AM. Volunteers will be notified to help with the hauling and filling the corn crib
- **Plaque:** M/S/P Bergquist/Grube to display a plaque in the Thresher's Kitchen to commemorate the donation given by Elsie Holtan in memory of Don Holton.
- **Nominating Committee:** The motion that all the officers and directors stay the same, which was made during the September 2015 membership meeting was not in compliance with the Association's By-Laws. M/S/P Grube/Sellman to rescind the action of the motion made on September 22, 2015. Sally Phillips Helling was present at the board meeting and, along with the directors, the membership list was reviewed. Several members will be called and asked to be on the ballot for the election to be held during the October 20, 2015 membership meeting.
- **Pump Organ:** The pump organ in the chapel needs repairing. One of the foot pedals does not work.
- **Pedal Tractor Raffle:** Grube has contacted Lund Implement Co in Madison, MN to donate a pedal tractor for 2016 Massey Ferguson/Massey Harris Show at Heritage Hill
- **Prairie's Edge Casino:** Prairie's Edge Casino wants to be a sponsor again in 2016.
- **Maaps Meeting:** Gerald Kleene will be attending the MAAPS meeting I the Lake Itasca area. An insurance agent will be present to answer the questions concerning Insurance coverage.
- **Feature Tractor:** A Massey Ferguson/Massey Harris Tractor is needed for the feature tractor for the 2016 Threshing Show.
- **Lawn Mower Pull:** A discussion was held about who to contract for the 2016 lawn mower pull. M/S/P Bergquist/Roe to have Gerald Kleene research the availability of the pullers and secure the entertainment for the 2016 Threshing Show.
- **Adjourn:** M/S/P Bergquist/Molde to adjourn the meeting.

MEMEBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: September 15, 2015 Marlys Heath, Secretary

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Heritage Hill, Montevideo

Quorum 35 Present: President Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Heath read the minutes of the August 18, 2015 Membership meeting. M/S/P Doug Norman/Floyd Kanten to approve the minutes

Treasurer Bergquist gave the August 2015 financial report M/S/P Floyd Hilbrands/Gerald Kleene to approve the report

- **Montevideo Arts Projects:** Dan Sandborn, representing the Montevideo Arts Projects, addressed the membership. The group consists of local artists who have formed an organization to further beautify the Montevideo community. Their first project was a mural which is displayed at Artigas Plaza in downtown Montevideo. Their future goals consist of painting a railroad car to be displayed in the Milwaukee Railroad Heritage Park near the depot in Montevideo. They are also planning to paint antique tractors to be displayed at various points in the community. The Arts project organization is looking for antique tractors that are in non-runable and unrestored condition. Following a time of discussion and questions a M/S/P Floyd Kanten/Gerald Kleene to donate the McCormick 10-20 tractor, which is currently located on the fence line at Heritage Hill, to the Montevideo Art Projects Organization to be painted and decorated and displayed in Montevideo. This will be the first tractor which the organization will design and it will be located between the railroad tracks and Van Gorp's Landscaping Office on the south end of 1st Street in Montevideo.
- **Thank You:** President Thompson read a thank you received from the Minnesota Go-Pher Cockshutt Collectors. They were very appreciative and well pleased with Heritage Hill featuring them in the August 2015 Threshing Show.
- **Club Jackets:** President Thompson displayed the fall and winter club jackets which are available to be ordered. The fall weight jacket comes only in black and has a fleece lining. The cost is \$50.00 with an additional cost of \$8.00 to have the personal name embroidered. The winter weight jacket has an attached hood and quilted winter lining and could be purchased in Navy, Hunter green or black. The cost of the winter jacket is \$60.00 with additional cost for the personal name. The emblem could also be printed on the back of the jackets

for a cost of \$18.00 to \$25.00, depending on the jacket size. The jacket orders will be submitted following the October Membership Meeting and all orders should be submitted to Monica Engen or Sandy Faehn before the October meeting. The cost could be less if more jackets are ordered.

- **Kitchen Repairs:** The bills have all been submitted, totaling about \$28,000.00, for the Thresher's Kitchen water damage which occurred in June 2015. The insurance company paid all of the expenses except the mold in one wall, the water heater, toilet and additional water shut off switches, which left a total of about \$2960.00. The sealing and polishing of the floor will be completed sometime in the very near future. All the cost of the floor work and moving furniture will be paid for by the insurance company.
- **Donation:** Elsie Holtan donated \$3000.00 in memory of her husband Donald Holtan to cover the repairs completed in the Thresher's Kitchen.
- **Gaming Permits:** Treasurer Bergquist reported that the application for the gaming permit for the 2016 raffle has been submitted.
- **Advertising signs:** The signs on the threshing machines next to Hwy 7 have been taken to the painters to change the dates for the 2016 Threshing show.
- **Key Board Cover:** Butch Johnson has donated a cover for the piano keyboard which was purchased from him.
- **Refrigerator:** The stainless steel refrigerator in the Thresher's Kitchen has been leaking for several years and is now giving off some electrical shocks. Due to the refrigerator being about 20 years old the board of directors is requesting that it be replaced. President Thompson has secured estimates for the same size stainless steel refrigerator from several local and out of town locations. The Restaurant Supply Company in Alexandria, MN. have quoted a price of \$3050.00 with an additional \$100.00 for delivery and disposal of the old refrigerator. All the other quotes were over \$4000.00.
M/S/P Les Bergquist/Curt Burg to authorize President Thompson to purchase the refrigerator from the Restaurant Supply Company in Alexandria, MN.
- **Nominating Committee:** President Thompson called for members to volunteer to be on the nominating committee for the coming election to take place at the October 2015 membership meeting. There were no volunteers who came forward before or during the meeting. M/S/P Grace Zeller/Waunita Kanten that all the officers and directors stay the same. Vice President Hegna and director Chip Grube were not present at the meeting. Mick Sellman and Floyd Kanten agreed to continue on the board of directors for another term. Treasurer Bergquist and Secretary Heath agreed to continue for one more year. President Thompson refused the nomination and has stated that he cannot continue in his position and it is time the association has new leadership. The officers and directors are very discouraged that the membership will not step forward to form a nominating committee or to volunteer to fill the positions available for the officers and directors. The final nominations and elections will be held during the October membership meeting.
- **Mowing:** Lawn mowing was scheduled for Tuesday September 29, 2015 at 9:00AM for the final mowing of the season
- **Corn Picking:** The farm crew will take care of the corn picking in the near future. Volunteers will be notified at the time to help haul the corn and also fill the corn crib. Doug Norman will take care of the chisel plowing to be completed following the harvest.
- **Suggestions for coming Shows:** Jeff Lund gave suggestions to help with the work and increase the attendance at the shows. He suggested having service organizations such as girl scouts and boy scouts etc. to help. He suggested having a barn dance and or bon fire after the exhibits close. He suggested giving a stipend such as free meals to the non members who come to help out.
- **Chili Feed-Garage Sales:** The plans for the chili feed and garage sales have been cancelled for 2015. There was a lack of communication and not enough time to plan the event.
- **Purchase of Plow:** Kyle Ashling has requested to purchase the 4 bottom plow which is located on the fence line at Heritage Hill. Kyle would like to restore the plow and bring it to the Threshing Shows each year to be used for demonstration. M/S/P Les Bergquist/Doug Norman to sell the plow to Kyle Ashling for restoration for the sum of \$200.00
- **Adjourn:** M/S/P Jim Roe/Wilbert Macziewski to adjourn the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: September 2015

Financial Statement: September 1, 2015

<u>Internal Accounts</u>		<u>Investment Accounts</u>	
\$23,186.64	General Fund	\$2,590.57	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$411.90	Building Fund	\$36,920.91	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$3,417.39	Chapel Fund	\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
<u>\$12,495.55</u>	Farming Fund	\$39,511.48	TOTAL
\$39,511.48	TOTAL	\$0.00	Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Operating Statement

\$39,511.48 **Balance: September 1, 2015**

Donations
\$3,000.00 Elsie Holtan

		<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>
	\$3,000.00	Donations	(\$611.01)	Advertising
	\$155.00	Dues/membership	(\$329.33)	Electricity
	\$4.74	Interest	(\$1,010.00)	Farming
	\$38.00	Meeting Lunch Donation	(\$557.42)	Food
	\$122.00	Threshing Show: Food	(\$268.00)	Postage/Office Expense
	<u>\$3,319.74</u>	TOTAL	(\$100.00)	Raffle Expense
			(\$200.00)	Threshing Machine Usage
			(\$793.73)	Threshers' Kitchen
\$38,961.73	Balance: September 30, 2015		<u>(\$3,869.49)</u>	TOTAL

Financial Statement: September 30, 2015

Internal Accounts

\$23,646.89	General Fund
\$411.90	Building Fund
\$3,417.39	Chapel Fund
\$11,485.55	Farming Fund
<u>\$38,961.73</u>	TOTAL

Investment Accounts

\$4,036.38	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$34,925.35	CAB - Preferred Money Market
<u>\$0.00</u>	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$38,961.73	TOTAL

\$0.00 Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance Bank

Heritage Hill Annual Election of Officers & Board Members

A volunteer campaign to contact potential officer and board member candidates was launched at the Board of Director's meeting on Thursday, October 1st. Since then, many of you have had calls and requests to consider service on the governance team of the organization. We wish to say THANK YOU to all of you. The positive response has been so gratifying and has resulted in an impressive slate of candidates. To those who run and are not elected, there will be additional openings in 2016. A dynamic leadership team is the key to keeping Heritage Hill relevant and growing. Please make the October 20th meeting a priority. Your VOTE counts! Thank you. Sally Phillips Heiling



Have you noticed the new finish on the stage. This would have been mentioned earlier but for lack of space we held it till now. The floor of the stage was refinished by its builder & family. I am not sure of all who helped but I know Erwin Winter was in charge and I believe his son and cannot believe his grandson was not also involved. Although it might seem like a small job anytime members step up to maintain and beautify our showgrounds they are to be commended. . Our show site is recognized and one of the best maintained around. This doesn't come without effort and personnel pride.



On Friday and Saturday October 2nd & 3rd members opened the field and picked ear corn filling the crib. Some of the members helping were Erwin Winter, Mick Selman, Gene Zeller, Ron Molde, Wes Thompson, Doug Norman and an unnamed person opening the field with the clubs 45 JD combine.

Remember Election of Officers at October Membership Meeting