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Minnesota Valley Antique Farm Power & Machinery Association



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OCTOBER 2014

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PRESIDENTIAL STATE OF THE HILL ADDRESS:

Greetings from Heritage Hill. It appears fall harvest has finally begun. The recent frosts have no doubt accelerated the crop drying and harvest initiation. The Heritage Hill soybean crop has now sustained its first major freeze, and the field will be ready to harvest in the near future. The yield is anticipated to be below normal due to weather related adversities experienced in 2014. I do not want to sound overly pessimistic, but this is probably one growing season that most crop producers are eager to forget. The winter of 2013-2014 did not want to end, causing a much extended cold spring. That, along with ample moisture delayed, or even prevented, planting is some areas. Then the abnormal June monsoon that dropped near record precipitation was cause for more field flooding then I ever remember. Fortunately, July and August were met with timely rains to keep the crop growing, but the needed heat units were not over-abundant. In mid September, there were two early morning frosts that was cause for a mixed bag of damage to the corn and beans. As expected the harvest seasons has been delayed. Average yields, low test weights and huge drying bills, combined with low commodity prices, will create a huge challenge for the area producers this fall, and going into the 2015 crop production season. In any event, I wish the agricultural community a safe harvest. No doubt next year will be better.

Heritage Hill will be featuring Cockshutt tractors and equipment in 2015. It will be an honor to host the Minnesotas Go-Pher Cockshutt Club, 7th Regional Show, which will be held at the August 2015 Heritage Hill show. The group will be holding a banquet on Saturday night during the Heritage Hill event. The Cockshutt feature posed a couple of challenges for this organization. First, Cockshutt tractors seem to be sparse. Even though the 2015 Heritage Hill Threshing show is 10 month away, the feature display tractor needs to be



determined early, mostly for advertising and promotional purposes. After some brain-storming at the last Directors' Meeting, LuVerne Bangsund was aware of a Cockshutt tractor owned by Tom Johnson of Clontarf. The feature display tractor issue has now been resolved. Please see the insert in this newsletter for the complete story. The other challenge involves a pedal tractor. For the past several years Heritage Hill has been raffling a pedal tractor at the annual Threshing Shows. Although some of the former pedal tractors were difficult to locate, at the end of the day we were successful in purchasing the pedal tractor needed for the respective feature. The search continues for a Cockshutt pedal tractor. To date we do not know if such a unit even exists. Most of my toy tractor sources have been exhausted to no avail. I am planning to attend the 2015 National Farm Toy Show in Dyersville, lowa, November 7. If a Cockshutt pedal tractor cannot be located at this grand-daddy of all toy shows, the pedal tractor may not exist.

At the end of the 2014 Heritage Hill Threshing Show, it was quite apparent that the Threshers' Kitchen floor was in dire need of refinishing. It had been a few years - the floor now looks great. After the last membership meeting, the members rallied to help empty the kitchen of tables, chairs and equipment. That project went well. I would like to thank all who volunteered to help with that project. Also thanks are extended to those who returned to reload the Threshers' Kitchen after the project completion.

The next membership meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2014 at Heritage Hill. I hope to see you there.

Thank you, Wesley Thompson, President

Upcoming events

Membership Meeting October 23,2014 Tuesday Servers Dale Norman's, Curt Berg's & Richard Oleson's **Directors Meeting** Thursday November 6, 2014 Christmas Party Saturday December 13, 2014

2015 Threshing Show

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES: September 16, 2014

Fri, Sat, Sun

Marlys Heath, Secretary

August 21,22,23 2015

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Heritage Hill, Montevideo Quorum 45 Present: Pres. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Heath read the minutes of the August 12, 2014 Membership meeting. M/S/P Peter Anderson/Mark Bigaouette to approve the minutes

Treasurer Bergquist gave the August financial report. Treas. Bergquist reported that the soybeans and corn have been sold but no checks had been received at the time of the report. The sale was about \$5000.00 M/S/P Mick Sellman/Erwin Winters to approve the report.

Threshing show review: Pres Thompson thanked everyone for their help in making the 2014 Threshing show a success. The Pedal Tractor raffle, with the cost of the tractor being \$390.00 and 350 tickets sold at \$2.00 each, had a profit of about \$310.00. The Gun raffle sold out all 750 tickets at \$10.00 each and made a profit of about \$5000.00.

- 2015 Raffle: A Benelli Shot Gun has been purchased. The original cost was \$1799.00 and the seller gave a discount of \$400.00. The other prizes will be the same as last year \$750.00 and 250.00. A Cockshutt pedal Tractor needs to be located.
- **Kitchen Floor**: Todd Yackley has been contracted to refinish the Threshers Kitchen floor for a cost of \$700.00 if all the equipment has been removed. Volunteers helped to clear the kitchen after the membership meeting.
- Feature Tractor: A Cockshutt tractor is needed for the 2015 Threshing Show.
- **Thank You**: A thank you was read from the winner of the pedal tractor and also a letter was read from Carol and Gary Richards from Eden Prairie acknowledging their enjoyment of the show and they also gave a donation of \$50.00. Thank You to Chet Beavers for painting the front porch of the Threshers Kitchen.
- **Apron Sample**: Bob Christensen showed a sample of a reconstructed HH Apron, which was converted to have 5 pockets. The aprons could be used by the ticket sellers at the entrance gate. M/S/P Mick Sellman/Wayne Spiess to have 6 of the red aprons reconstructed to be used for ticket sales.
- **Barnall Building**: Richard Emch reported that he put out a guest book to be signed in the Barnall building and several people had signed from several states.
- **Nominating Committee**: The nominating committee is still looking for candidates. The election will take place at the October Membership Meeting.
- Lettering on Stage: M/S/P Mick Sellman/ Les Bergquist to purchase new lettering to be installed on the front of the stage.

Adjourn: M/S/P Peter Anderson/Richard Oleson to adjourn the meeting

HERITAGE HILL TREASURER'S REPORT September 2014

Financial Statement: September 1, 2014

Internal Accounts	<u>s</u>	Investment Accounts	
\$23,771.18	General Fund	(\$886.26)	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$2,279.07	Building Fund	\$43,882.45	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$3,382.39	Chapel Fund	\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$13,563.55	Farming Fund	\$42,996.19	TOTAL
\$42,996.19	TOTAL		
			Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance
		\$0.00	Bank

Operating Statement

\$42,996.19	Balance: Septem	ber 1, 2014
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Donations		
		Chip and Reba
\$3	30.00	Grube
\$5	50.00	Carol Richards

	<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>
\$4,079.68	Corn & Wheat Sales	(\$753.84)	Advertising
\$80.00	Donations	(\$600.00)	Parking
\$5.05	Interest	(\$333.22)	Electricity
\$41.00	Meeting Lunch Donation	(\$38.16)	Food
\$4,205.73		(\$251.30)	Office/Postage/Newsletter
		(\$1,429.00)	Raffle Expense
		(\$700.00)	Threshers' Kitchen Floor
		(\$507.31)	Repairs
\$42,589.09	Balance: September 30, 2014	(\$4,612.83)	TOTAL

Financial Statement: September 30, 2014

Internal Accounts		Investment Accounts	
\$19,347.63	General Fund	\$4,701.82	Citizens Alliance Bank - Checking
\$2,279.07	Building Fund	\$37,887.27	CAB - Preferred Money Market
\$3,462.39	Chapel Fund	\$0.00	CAB - Certificate of Deposit
\$17,500.00	Farming Fund	\$42,589.09	TOTAL
\$42,589.09	TOTAL		

Loan Balance - Citizens Alliance \$0.00 Bank

Leslie K. Bergquist, Treasurer

DIRECTOR MEETING MINUTES: October 2, 2014 Marlys Heath, Secretary

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

Quorum: *Present* – Thompson, Hegna, Bergquist, Heath, Kleene, Molde, Bangsund, Hegna, Kanten, Roe *Guests:* 6

Vice-President Hegna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Heath read the minutes of the August 28, 2014 meeting M/S/P Bergquist/Grube to approve the minutes

The Treasurer's Report was unavailable.

- **Highway Signs:** The Threshing Show signs for Highway 7 are at the painters to be updated.
- Threshing Show Review: Sally Phillips reviewed the 2014 Threshing Show and offered some new suggestions for 2015.
 - M/S/P Grube/Hegna to change the Church Service Time on Sunday Morning to 8:30AM instead of 8:00AM. The sing-a-long in the Chapel at 11:00 went well and M/S/P Hegna/Bergquist to contact Gerald Loe to coordinate the sing-a-long for 2015 at 11:00AM on Sunday and perhaps have a second sing-a-long late Saturday afternoon. Sally Phillips will contact Gerald Loe to lead the Sing-a-long.
- **Show Guide**: Sally Phillips agreed to coordinate the show guide publishing again for 2015. It was agreed to have 4500 show guides printed. Sally will be the contact person to give suggestions for stories and submit pictures to be published. The information deadline will be the end of May 2015.
- **Meander:** We do not have an artist available for 2014. HH will be available as a host site for future meander artists. .
- Pedal Tractor: Still looking for a Cockshutt pedal tractor for the 2015 raffle
- Feature Tractor: LuVerne Bangsund will contact Tom Johnson, who owns a cockshutt tractor, to request the use of his tractor as the feature tractor for 2015. M/S/P Hegna/Grube to feature Cockshutt and All Lesser Known Makes for 2015 instead of just Cockshutt.
- **Power House**: Lanny and Kyle Ashling will be working with Elsie Holtan to update and to increase the exhibits in the power house for 2015.
- Lawn Mower Pulls: M/S/P Bangsund, Kanten to pursue the availability of the MN. Mini Rods to host a pull on Sat. Night Aug. 22, 2015.
- Lawn Mowing: No date was set for lawn mowing. Notices will be sent if mowing is needed.
- Christmas Party: The membership Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 13, 2014, 6:00 PM at the Montevideo Community Center. The entertainment will be by Kathy Weckwerth, founder and executive director of Best Life Ministries.
- **Directors Christmas Party**: The annual Directors Christmas get together will be Thursday December 4, 2014 at Budger's Dinner House in Maynard.
- **Election**: The election of officers and 3 directors positions will be held at the membership meeting on Oct. 21, 2014. Ron Molde, Gerald Kleene and Floyd Kanten are the three directors whose terms are up for election.
- Kid's Pedal Pull and Friday Tractor Pull: Both the events will be covered by Scrap Iron Express in 2015
- **Kid's Activities**: More activities are needed for the kids who attend the Threshing Show. Suggestions were made to have blow up slides, etc and to ask for sponsors to cover some of the expense. Other suggestions are also welcome. It was also suggested to change the time of the kid's tractor pull.
- **Pulling Track**: More fill is needed for the track M/S/P Molde/Hegna to bring the estimates for the cost of the fill to the membership for approval.
- M/S/P Bergquist/Hegna to adjourn.

Highlights from the Hill

Once again the floor in the kitchen looks great. After the last membership meeting a group of



members removed the tables and chairs and whatever was loose from the kitchen so that the floors could be professionally washed and waxed. A few days later after the job was finished, the kitchen was put back in order with clean fixtures and freshly washed table coverings, etc. Good job to be done!

The Sunday morning hymn sing at the Threshing Show was a new venture and quite successful considering the heavy rains of that morning. There has been discussion about making this an annual event. **October is election month at the Hill**. If you are asked to serve by the nominating committee, please give it your consideration. We cannot continue to have a club without leadership and the same people should not always be the ones to do things. There a lot of capable people in our club – they just have not stepped forward.

Make plans to attend the Heritage Hill Christmas Party at the Montevideo Community Center on December 13, 2014, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The program will be special music with comments by Kathy Weckwerth of Best Life Ministries. Bangsunds have enjoyed her talents previously and speak very highly of her. We certainly are looking forward to the fine meal and the program. We will be having gift exchange as in the past if you wish - \$5.00 and indicate man or woman.

How it Happened

Out of the hundreds of antique farm tractors owned by HH members not one came forth with a candidate for the Cockshutt feature tractor. So the hunt was on. LaVerne Bangsund knew of someone north of Benson with a collection, and he found a prize. After visiting with the owner it indeed was a rare tractor he owned. On Saturday Gerald Kleene and Wes Thompson drove to Clontarf to meet Tom Johnson and view his tractor. Tom had it carefully stored in a heated shed. We knew at once this was a find. It was a rare Cockshutt Golden Arrow, one of only 135 produced, and only 6 knownf today. Tom agreed to make his tractor available for parades and our 2015 show,



See a part of Tom's story below.

1957 Cockshutt Golden Arrow

The story as told by owner Tom Johnson in the Iron Memories Magazine is that during the summer of 1957 Cockshutt's marketing department devised a plan to premier their newly engineered depth and draft control innovation to US farmers. The new "Automatic Traction Transfer System" would maintain 3-point hitch implements at a preset level of depth. The weight of the implement and the draft was automatically transferred to the rear wheels. The system coupled with a new deep tillage transmission, would be introduced on the model

540 and 550 tractor scheduled to come out in 1958. To attract the attention of the US farmers at the fall farm shows, county and state fairs, a very limited number of tractors, known as the Golden Arrow were produced. These tractors were assigned only a name and no model number.

From the transmission back they utilized the yet unreleased model 550 transmission, rear end and the innovative new draft hydraulics The tube frame, GO198 gas engine, and sheet metal were the same as the Model 35 Deluxe, and were only in production for about 1 month. There were subtle differences such as seat bracket locations, battery and shift lever, which also distinguished the Golden Arrow from the model 35.

Wearing the deluxe colors of yellow/cream with a red frame and detailing, it was destined to be the last round nosed model in those paint colors and second and last to carry a model name.

The Arrow correlates to the famous Cockshutt logo. The actual total number built is not known for sure. To date serial numbers up to 135 have been observed. One must believe that many were produced.

It was the companies intention those promotional models be returned to the plant once the 550 production was underway to have the nose replaced with the square nose, sheet metal and tube frame. No follow-up to ensure this occurred was seemingly in place. Many were not returned and today remain the serious collectors dream.

If scheduling permits maybe we can have Tom at one of our meetings to tell the rest of the story.

MAAPS This past Saturday we traveled to the England Prairie show grounds near Wadena for the fall MAAPS meeting. Discussion items were how to interest the young people in becoming members, tractor pulls, steam power, gate admission etc. All clubs reported a decrease in attendance in 2014 some as much as 50%. Connie Reinert from the Show Guide was present to explain how to use the Show Guide to promote your show. She created a lot of interest and discussion. Being an advertising professional and a member of the Albert City Threshermen's Club she gave some ideas of how to increase attendance and membership. Next springs meeting will be held at Spring Valley.