

For Immediate Release

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Hopkins Historical Society to host Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company Presentation

The Hopkins Historical Society will host a presentation by members of The Great Minneapolis Line Exposition Committee from the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion on Saturday, September 26, 2 pm at the Hopkins Activity Center, 33 14th Avenue North in Hopkins, Minnesota.

After a short introduction by Kristin Kaspar of the Hopkins Historical Society, the group will provide a three part presentation. First part of the presentation will feature Gerald Parker, who has extensive knowledge of the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company. His presentation will include details of the company through 1929, and how this company affected Hopkins and the surrounding areas. Founded in the late 1800's – this farm machinery company, located in what is now the city of Hopkins, was once the largest employer in Hennepin County.

Following the historical presentation, Jeff Knutson will explain how to properly restore a Minneapolis steam traction engine. Knutson owns one of the largest collections of Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company steam traction engines, has restored two engines to date, with others in various stages of restoration.

Tom Dillon will be the final presenter. He has been involved with the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion since the 1960's and will speak about The Great Minneapolis Line

Exposition which will be held at the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion in Rollag, Minnesota, September 2nd – 5th 2016. The reunion will feature the largest collection of Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company steam traction engines ever assembled since leaving the factory in Hopkins.

Also at the meeting will be a display of historical photographs, logos, and other historical artifacts from both the presenters and the Permanent collection of the Hopkins Historical Society. A 1942 R Minneapolis Moline Tractor will also be on display.

The meeting is open to the general public. Following the meeting everyone is invited to join the group for further conversation at an area restaurant.

For more information contact the Hopkins Historical Society at 952-548-6480, or hopkinsmnhistoricalsociety.org.