

WMSTR will feature Steiger

In 1940, the Nelson boys fired up the old Garr-Scott engine to thresh with steam. What started as a family tradition in their fields ultimately grew into the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion (WMSTR), attracting thousands each year.

In 1957, the Steiger boys converted a barn into shop and built their first tractor. What started as a Steiger tractor to make their farming operation more productive quickly grew into a name that would be recognized as a world leader in the high-power, large, four-wheel-drive-tractor market.

When these two families set out to do something, they go all in. They didn't limit themselves to a field or a barn. They sowed some seeds, and let them grow. One into an annual show with hundreds of engines and exhibits spread over 210 acres; the other, to the forefront of a revolution in the tractor industry, known as the Steiger Tractor Company.

Knowing a thing or two about hard work, WMSTR members invited Steiger to be featured on Steamer Hill during the 2026 show.

"The Steiger Company has local roots. The first Steiger tractor was built in a barn for personal use, and then the neighbor wanted one. The little business got too big for the barn, and they eventually moved the operation to Fargo. Steiger is known as the pioneer of the 4-wheel drive," WMSTR President Roger Meyer explained.

The 2026 show opens on Friday, September 4 and runs through Monday, September 7.

"The Yaggie family was some of Steiger's first customers. They farmed for years with Steiger tractors. After their son passed in a plane accident, they decided to build a memorial for him at Rollag. The barn is a replica of the original barn the Steigers built their tractors in," Roger commented. "It is tied to the main entrance and holds many Steiger related displays, memorabilia, and literature."

Down yonder from the Steiger Heritage Hall is Expo Hill, where the show will feature various Steiger tractors. The goal is to have every tractor represented.

"I'm surprised by how many Steiger tractor collectors there are for as big as the tractor is. I know the Barn Series, which they built in their barn in Red Lake Falls are all outdated. No one is farming with them, meaning they've become collector's items," Roger mentioned.

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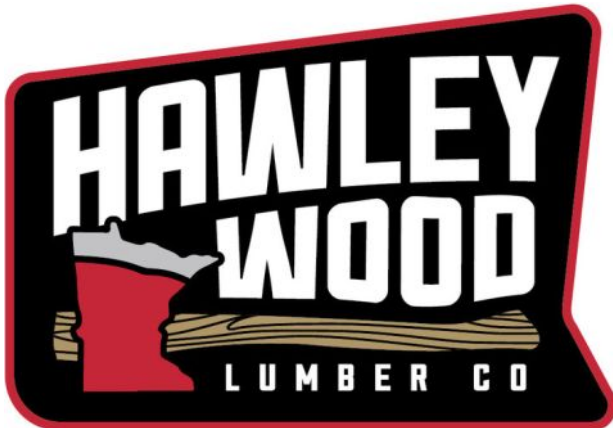
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