**2016 Friends of MN Barns Fall Tour**

**More Details and Directions!**

**Starting Point: Swensson Farm Museum**

**Near Granite Falls and Montevideo in Western Minnesota**

**10:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 25**

**General Direction**s: Six miles east of Montevideo, MN on Highway 7, five miles south on County Road 6 to County Road 15

**Directions from the Twin Cities** (approximately 130-138 miles from Minneapolis proper)

* Option #1: Take U.S. Hwy 12 West (through Litchfield, Willmar)
* Option #2: Take MN Hwy 7 West (through Hutchinson)
* Both options will bring the driver towards Clara City, where driver will continue west on Hwy 7
  + Continue west on MN Highway 7 to County Road 6
  + Turn left/south on Cty Rd 6 (also called 1st Avenue S.)
    - Continue about five miles towards the intersection of Cty Rd 15
    - Turn left/east on Cty Rd 15
    - The farmstead will be on the left/north side of Cty Rd 15

**Directions from St. Cloud** (approximately 100 miles)

* Take MN Hwy 23 west from St. Cloud to—and through—Willmar
* Continue on Hwy 23 to Clara City
* At Clara City, go west on MN Hwy 7
* Continue on Hwy 7 approximately 10 miles to County Road 6
  + Turn left/south on Cty Rd 6 (also called 1st Avenue S.)
    - Continue about five miles towards the intersection of Cty Rd 15
    - Turn left/east on Cty Rd 15
    - The farmstead will be on the left/north side of Cty Rd 15

**Tour Guide: June Lynne, Executive Director of the Chippewa County Historical Society**

**Farmstead Background**

The Swensson Farm Museum is a turn-of-the-century 17-acre farmstead with a 22-room brick farm house, a timber-framed barn built in the 1880’s, an old grist mill, and a private family cemetery.

The barn underwent an extensive restoration that began in 2003 and concluded in 2015, at a total investment of nearly $500,000. The old paint was removed by corn cob blasting!

Olof Swensson was a farmer, self-taught scholar, carpenter, bricklayer, and lay minister. His property was bequeathed to the Chippewa County Historical Society in 1967 and the farm was used in the lovely movie “Sweet Land.”

Please see the additional informational brochure for more details about the farmstead (copies will be provided to tour attendees).

**LUNCHTIME!**

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**Next Stop: the Andreas Broman Farmstead**

**10155-37th Avenue S.E., Atwater, MN**

We should plan to depart from the Swensson Farm after lunch, around 12:00 pm

(Trip is approx. 43 miles, so estimated arrival time would be about 1:00 pm)

Head back the way we came: north on County Rd 6 to Hwy 7 and turn right/east

* At Clara City, continue northeast on Hwy 23 towards Willmar
* As you approach Willmar, use the right lane to take the US-71 S./US-71 Business S ramp to Willmar
* Turn right/south onto US-71 S/1st Street S.
* In ½ mile, turn left/east onto 45th Ave S.E.
* In 5 miles, turn left/north onto 71st Street S.E./County Road 8 S.E.
* In ½ mile, turn right/east onto 37th Ave. SE.
* Travel about 2 miles to the farm

**The Broman Farmstead**

The Bromans were a Swedish immigrant family of skilled carpenters who settled this farmstead in 1870. The property includes a barn, a granary, and an Italianate-style farmhouse. The farmstead is listed on the National Register of Historical Properties.

Andreas Broman and his family emigrated from Sweden in 1866. In 1870, the family purchased 40 acres of land in Kandiyohi County from the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad. During the winter, the family lived in a dugout dwelling near Kasota Lake, and spent summers in a log cabin two miles north. In 1885, the Bromans built the farmhouse and continued to expand and enlarge their farm through the 1940’s.

Today, the farm is owned by Dr. William and Ute Reid.

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**Next Stop: the John Bosch Farmstead**

**8193 County Road 4 S.E., Atwater, MN**

Estimated arrival time around 2:00 pm

Directions from the Broman farm to the Bosch farm (about 6.5 miles):

* Head east on 37th Ave. S.E. toward 105th St. S.E.
* Continue on 105th St. S.E. about ½ mile
* Turn right onto 105th St. S.E./30th Ave. S.E.
* Continue to follow 30th Ave. S.E./Cty Rd 23 for three miles
* Turn right/south onto County Rd 4 S.E. for three miles to the farm

**The Bosch Farmstead**

The John Bosch farm was the home of the national leader of Farmers’ Holiday Association, a movement that sought government support for farmers during the Great Depression.

Today, the farm is owned by Roland and Shirley Bosch. Their son, Jay, built a new barn a number of years ago, which houses antique cars and tractors as well as an airplane!

The Boschs have proudly remodeled the 100+-year old farmhouse, too. This property is also listed on the National Register of Historic Properties.

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**Final Stop: the Hedtke Farm**

**52772-295th Street, Grove City, MN**

Estimated arrival time around 3:30 pm

Directions from the Bosch farm to the Hedtke farm (about 16.4 miles):

* Head north on County Rd 4 S.E. toward 60th Ave. S.E. for six miles
* Turn right/east onto US-Hwy 12 E. to Grove City
* At the liquor store, turn left/north onto County Rd 25/4th Street
* Follow County Rd 25 almost two miles to 295th Street
* Turn left/west onto 295th Street (gravel road)
* The farm is about .7 mile on the right

The Arlyn and Bernie Hedtke barn is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year! The barn was restored six years ago and is now used for barn dances, weddings, and reunions.

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**Thank you to our wonderful and gracious hosts of this year’s Barn Tour!**