



The Mark Hirschtet, all students at DeKalb High School, entertain with smooth jazz sounds during "Music on the Porch."



Visitors enjoy music from the Homestead's huge front lawn.

Open House, Open Barn

More than 100 people visited the Glidden Homestead & Historical Center on May 20, for the annual Open House, Open Barn event.

[Photos by Kathy Vance Siebrasse]



Dennis Rehn of Kirkland (left photo) displays some pieces from his extensive collection of antique tools and equipment. At right, Richard Glidden gives a tour inside the house built for Joseph Glidden in 1861.



Roger Keys, historic preservationist, gives a tour of the historic Glidden barn where Joseph F. Glidden first manufactured his patented "Winner" barbed wire. At right, Janet Glidden describes the horse stalls as part of the barn tour.



Jacob Haish manufactured this 9 hp "Chanticleer" engine in DeKalb nearly 100 years ago. It traveled through the Sierra Nevada Mountains, near Lake Tahoe, CA, and other mountainous terrain on its return trip from California.



The Chanticleer logo.

[Photos by Jeff J. Marshall]

SPOTLIGHT on the Glidden Gift Shop



Glidden Homestead



Glidden Barn

Photo Note Cards
6 cards / \$5 includes tax

Handmade and featuring photographs taken by Glidden board members, these note cards feature the Homestead during all seasons.

For more details about this and other Glidden Gift Shop items, see www.gliddenhomestead.org or visit the Gift Shop at the Homestead!



Homestead Calendar

July 1: Sunday house tours, noon-4 p.m.

July 15: Sunday tours, with "Music on the Porch" – bring your lunch!

Aug. 5: Sunday house tours, noon-4 p.m.

Aug. 19: Sunday tours, with "Music on the Porch" – bring your lunch!

Sept. 2: Sunday house tours, noon-4 p.m.

Sept. 16: Sunday tours, with "Music on the Porch" – bring your lunch!

Oct. 7 & 21: Sunday tours, noon-4 p.m.

Nov. 4 & 18: Sunday tours, noon-4 p.m.

Nov. 8: Patent Day Dinner

Dec. 2: Holiday Open House with Antique Toy & Doll Show, noon-4 p.m.

****NEEDED: Musicians interested in playing free for Sunday events. Please call Gayle, 815-899-3237.**

Marshall returns Haish engine to DeKalb

Nearly 100 years and 4,800 miles later, the Chanticleer is home.

The 9 hp antique gas engine — part of Jacob Haish's Chanticleer line manufactured about 1910 — recently made the long journey from California back to DeKalb.

Haish, famous past DeKalb resident known for his philanthropy and development of barbed wire, also was a prominent developer, inventor and manufacturer of other farm-related equipment.

Although Haish died 81 years ago in 1926, his presence is still felt in places like the Jacob Haish Public Library and through trust money used to help build the emergency department at the new Kishwaukee Hospital—fulfilling a wish he financially entrusted before his death.

Additionally, while not still used in active farming, equipment Haish manufactured in some cases 100 years ago, is still operational.

Jeff Marshall, DeKalb resident and avid collector of historic Haish items, located the Chanticleer engine in northern California last summer. As Haish's 3rd great-nephew, Marshall has been compiling an extensive collection of advertisements, fencing equipment, barbed wire variations and gas engines from the "Chanticleer" line.

Another of Marshall's Haish Chanticleer engines, a 4 hp, was featured on a float in last year's DeKalb Sesquicentennial parade, sponsored by the Glidden Homestead & Historical Center and DeKalb Public Library. Marshall is a member of the Glidden Homestead board of directors.

Marshall is always diligently on the search for other Haish equipment to add to his collection. Upon locating the available 9 hp Haish engine in northern California, he made arrangements to bring it back home to DeKalb. He found the engine in a magazine published for collectors of historic farm equipment.

This engine produces nine horsepower at 325 rpm and weighs about 2,800 pounds. In comparison, an average 9 hp modern Briggs & Stratton engine idles at over 1,500 rpm and weighs less than 100 pounds.

The engine's previous owner told Marshall he had heard stories that it once was used to power a stationary hay press, the forerunner to the modern hay baler.

Although records for Haish's business were mostly lost, it seems likely that in 1910, the engine would have been transported to California on two different rail lines, due to its tremendous weight and the mountain ranges it had to cross. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad would have transported it to Omaha, NE, where it would have been loaded on a Union Pacific rail car bound for California.

For the engine's return trip in January 2007, it traveled the 2,400 miles to DeKalb on a trailer being pulled by Marshall's truck, probably its first time home since being rolled off Haish's factory floor almost 100 years ago.

Winter conditions made for a somewhat adventurous trip. Although Interstate 80 provides a relatively straight shot out to California from northern Illinois, Marshall said the winter months necessitated being conscious of the weather and scheduling travel accordingly. While crossing Wyoming, for example, temperatures registered at 25-degrees below-zero or colder in some places.

Marshall also experienced slight delays during his 10-day trip due to quickly developing snowstorms that caused temporary closure of Interstate highways. Such road closures are a common occurrence in many Western regions.

Turn to page 4

The Glidden Women

[This is the third in an ongoing series about the Glidden women based on an exhibit created by Sally DeFauw, Homestead volunteer.]

Glidden women played a key role in the making of barbed wire and DeKalb history, from hairpins to community leadership and the establishment of park land. An exhibit on display at the Glidden Homestead & Historical Center highlights the lives of six women, all who were related by blood or marriage to Joseph F. Glidden. Four of them spent part of their life in the 1861 home, which was built by Joseph and Lucinda Glidden.

Annie Glidden

Annie Glidden was born July 25, 1865, to Josiah Willard Glidden (brother of Joseph) and Mary McConnell. She and her five siblings lived on the family farm, until the year after their father's untimely death in 1876, when they moved into town with their mother.

Uncle Joseph Glidden provided his brother's children with the opportunity to attend college, and Annie attended Illinois Normal in Bloomington. She later studied agriculture at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Always a promoter of culture and social causes, Annie joined the DeKalb Women's Club, which formed in 1896. In 1898, seeing the need to supply the recently formed DeKalb Public Library with good books, Annie formed the Library Whist Club.

On Monday afternoons, this group of women came together to play the card game, whist. Their gatherings not only served a social need, but monies from their membership dues were used for library book purchases. The library has received over 10,000 volumes from their activities. Annie was also active in the DeKalb Garden Club.

After the death of her Aunt Lucinda Glidden in 1896, Annie stepped into the role as hostess of the Glidden House Hotel. She continued to do this until the death of her Uncle Joseph in 1906. Annie assumed the role of mother for her infant nephew,

Glidden Switzer, after her sister Cora's death in 1903. Annie's brother, John, sold her his home when he and his family moved to the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead in 1910. The house became known as the "Annie Glidden House," for it was Annie's home for 19 years. The home and 5 acres of the land were acquired by Northern Illinois University in 1977. The road fronting the property was named Annie Glidden Road in Annie's honor. On her sizeable farm Annie grew fancy asparagus, corn, alfalfa and raspberries.

Her agricultural prowess earned her an award from the State of Illinois for her high corn crop yields.

Joseph Glidden named the northeast corner of his property, Annie's Woods, in honor of his niece, who loved this natural area adjoining the Kishwaukee River. For many years, Annie and 11 of her close friends would gather there annually, enjoying a fire and outdoor dinner in autumn. It was Annie and the DeKalb Women's Club who donated the park to the City.

In 1929, Annie retired from farming and moved to Pasadena, CA, to live with her niece, Gail Hinman. She would continue to visit DeKalb, catching up with family and longtime friends. Annie died in 1962 at the age of 97, after a lengthy illness, and is buried in DeKalb. Her friends remembered her years of service to the community as the "keynote of her life." She was devoted to family and friends, and showed them many kindnesses. She was a non-conformist with a fierce determination to complete any task once started. That determination is evident in the 1999 mural at the northeast corner of Lincoln Highway and First Street. There, the towering figure of Annie, hoe in hand, has been memorialized.

[Next issue: Bertha Glidden Bradt]



Annie Glidden