

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT APPRECIATED!

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Glidden Homestead. If your address label has an **ASTERISK (*)**, you are a member in good standing – thank you! Now more than ever, your membership is critical to the work at the Homestead! For a very reasonable membership rate, you help preserve one of DeKalb's most important historical landmarks. Your membership also entitles you to free tours of the Homestead and the chance to participate in interesting, worthwhile activities there. Your membership also entitles you to at least four issues of this newsletter throughout the year and special offers in our Gift Shop! **Thank you!**

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS TO: Glidden Homestead (Mail to 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115)

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

E-mail (for event notices and newsletter) _____

_____ \$25 Individual Membership _____ \$15 Student Membership
 _____ \$40 Family Membership _____ \$5 Youth Membership (high school & below)
 _____ \$100 Heritage Membership _____ Other Special Donation

\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP / NEWSLETTER NOTICE: Due to the increasing costs of producing and mailing the Glidden Homestead newsletter "The Winner," only members in good standing will receive the newsletter effective with the July 2008, issue. If your mailing label does NOT contain an asterisk (*), your dues have not been paid for 2008. Your continued support is MUCH appreciated! Please visit our website for more details about the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center: www.gliddenhomestead.org.

Joseph F. Glidden Homestead
 & Historical Center
 921 W. Lincoln Hwy.
 DeKalb IL 60115

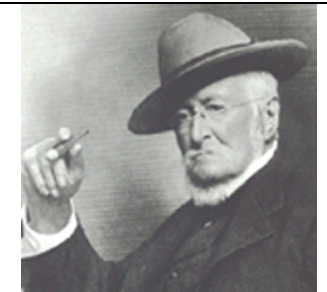
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THE WINNER



"The Winner" - Patented Nov. 24, 1874 - #157,124

Newsletter of the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead
 & Historical Center – March 2008



921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115
www.gliddenhomestead.org
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Annual open house event features barn tours May 18

The Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center's Spring Open House, Open Barn on Sunday, May 18, noon-4 p.m., gives visitors their one chance all year to see the inside of the historic barn where barbed wire was invented and first manufactured.

The large brick structure is located on the Homestead property, behind Burger King and next to Glidden Florist, on West Lincoln Highway, DeKalb.

The Open House/Open Barn event also will feature musical entertainment on the porch from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Denny Rehn will display antique tools and implements, tours of the house and grounds will be offered, with refreshments. The Gift Shop will be open that day.

Roger Keys is a historic preservationist who has done much work on the barn and home at the Homestead. He will be on hand during Open House, Open Barn to describe the barn and its historical significance.

The barn is perhaps the most historically significant barn in the country, according to Keys, because it is where Joseph Glidden invented and manufactured the first practical barbed wire. The house was completed around 1861, and the brick barn was built between 1861-1871. Glidden's first barbed wire manufacturing office was located in the southeast corner of the barn.

Architecturally, the Glidden barn also is very significant. It is one of the oldest barns left standing in DeKalb County. It reflects the German tradition and is built of local bricks with transverse frame, post and beam construction. The foundation is made of locally-quarried limestone. There were 14 eight-paned double-hung windows and 7 single-pane windows for luxurious livestock lodging. Originally, there were 2 large arched entrances, 7 stalls, a large haymow, gable, hayhood and a dirt or wooden plank floor.

Everyone is welcome to attend Open House/Open Barn Sunday, May 18!



Roger Keys points out the solid workmanship inside the Glidden barn. (Photos by Kathy Vance Siebrasse)



Denny Rehn will display his antique tools and implements at Open House/Open Barn.

Take advantage of this once-a-year opportunity to see the inside of the DeKalb barn where Joseph F. Glidden first manufactured "The Winner" barbed wire.

Music on the Porch will be featured again this year on the third Sunday May-September. If you know of musicians interested in playing, please call Gayle, (815) 899-3237.



Inside:

- ☞ Coffee mill
- ☞ Victorian Christmas
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