

Joseph F. Glidden

# Homestead & Historical Center

Membership Newsletter – March 2006



921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb IL 60115

## Glidden programs planned

A wide variety of events and exhibits are planned during 2006 at the J.F. Glidden Homestead & Historical Center.

In addition to the History Fair April 1 (described in story at right), the Spring “Open House, Open Barn” will be Sunday, May 21, 1-4 p.m. This will be the public’s one chance during the year to see the inside of the barn where Joseph Glidden first manufactured his patented barbed wire “The Winner.”

Other features that day may include a blacksmith, woodcarver and other exhibits. Also, Dr. Eric Mogren, associate professor of history at NIU, is tentatively scheduled to present a talk entitled “The DeKalb County Farm Bureau.” [Note: if unavailable that day, Dr. Mogren’s talk will be Monday, May 15, 7 p.m., at the Homestead.]

On July 17, 7 p.m., Tom Oestreicher, DeKalb County resident and author, is scheduled to talk about his book *Present and Accounted For: DeKalb and the American Civil War*.

In August, the Glidden Homestead will unveil a permanent exhibit that includes photographs from the National Archives and Library of Congress, entitled “Barbed Wire: A Cultural History.”



An exhibit about barbed wire (left photo) was shown at the 2005 Student History Fair at the J.F. Glidden Homestead & Historical Center. Pictured at right are the students who participated. This year’s History Fair is Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

## History Fair Saturday, April 1

The annual Student History Fair at the Glidden Homestead & Historical Center offers some of the most creative and interesting exhibits of the year.

Members and the public are urged to view the exhibits, displaying the work of sixth-12<sup>th</sup> graders, at the History Fair Saturday, April 1, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Homestead, 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb. The exhibits will be judged, with an awards presentation at 12:30 p.m.

All of the student work is part of the Northern Illinois Regional History Fair, held at NIU. Many of the student exhibits will advance to state competition.

In addition to local schools, past Homestead History Fairs have included students from LaSalle, Rockford, Elgin and Joliet. Public, private and home-schooled students participate in the History Fair.

The History Fair is the first event of the year at the Glidden Homestead. Board president, Jim Morel, said tours of the Homestead also will be offered that day.

The Glidden Homestead & Historical Center, with funding from the public and state sources, is working to restore the barn and house as a living history museum to educate children and adults about the significant contributions of northern Illinois to the history of the West and the entire nation.

The Glidden Homestead & Historical Center has a local membership base, whose contributions help fund ongoing expenses and upkeep.

The Joseph F. Glidden Homestead & Historical Center is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the restoration and development of the site.

## Officers elected at Annual Meeting

Richard and Janet Glidden shared slides from a trip to Clarendon, NY, and Unity, NH, as part of the Glidden Homestead’s Annual Meeting in January. The original Glidden family lived in those villages prior to establishing themselves in DeKalb in the 1800s.

The Annual Meeting also included the election of officers and board members. Officers include: Jim Morel, president; Kathy Siebrasse, vice president; Gayle Wuori, assistant vice president; Sarah Glidden DeMink, secretary; Natalie Churyk, treasurer; and Linda Schwarz, past president.

Visit the organization’s website for interesting facts and information:

[www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org)

# PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If your mailing label DOES NOT have an asterisk, your membership has expired.  
Now more than ever, your membership is critical to the work at the Homestead!

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Family Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Heritage Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Student Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5 Youth Membership (high school & below)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Special Donation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL ENCLOSED**

*Thank you! Your membership allows the Homestead to continue work at this important historical site!*

## Tour guides and other volunteers needed at Homestead

Tours of the Homestead are given the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month, noon-4 p.m., May-November. We are looking for volunteers to help staff the Homestead and conduct tours on those days. A 4-hour time commitment (or more) is sought. Openings also exist on Glidden Homestead committees, including: Membership, Special Events, Programming, Publicity and History. If interested in getting involved, please call president, Jim Morel, (815) 758-1970.

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