

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 - September 2010



921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115  
[www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org)  
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## Interns help expand, improve exhibits throughout Homestead

The Glidden Homestead is benefiting from the creativity and expertise of two interns from Northern Illinois University. The two began their internships this summer and will continue through the fall.

Nicole Weydert and Brigette Massoth have updated and professionalized signage and exhibits throughout the Homestead under the direction of Marcia Wilson, executive director. They are helping to create a special space on the lower level for a children's area complete with a hand-painted mural. They also have created the Glidden Family Tree pictured at right.

Weydert is a senior majoring in art history with a double minor in anthropology and French. She is from DeKalb, and said "working with the Glidden Homestead has been a great opportunity to help out my home town. I have really enjoyed working on existing and new exhibits; the Glidden history is rich and interesting."

Weydert added that she is "constantly learning new things, and everyone is such a pleasure to work with. The experiences from this internship will help me in museum work and in teaching, which I hope to pursue after graduation."

Massoth, from Geneva, will graduate in December. She is a design technology major with an emphasis in scenic design in the School of Theatre and Dance. She has spent the last four years studying painting, building, props, costumes, makeup, and lighting.

"I definitely enjoy working with the Glidden Homestead. I'm used to working on a team, but collaborating with Nicole and Marcia is a great



Interns Nicole Weydert and Brigette Massoth work on a hand-painted Glidden Family Tree. (Photo by Marcia Wilson)

experience. We have had some unique obstacles to overcome, working in a small space with limited materials, but we seem to have met those challenges pretty well!" said Massoth.

"I learned not only my capacity for prioritizing projects efficiently, but also that it's important to dive right into a project head on. After graduation, I plan to do something in the creative arts for a living. In the fall of 2008, I participated in the five-month Disney College Program at Walt Disney World in Florida. I hope to do a professional internship with Walt Disney World in painting, props, or scenery."

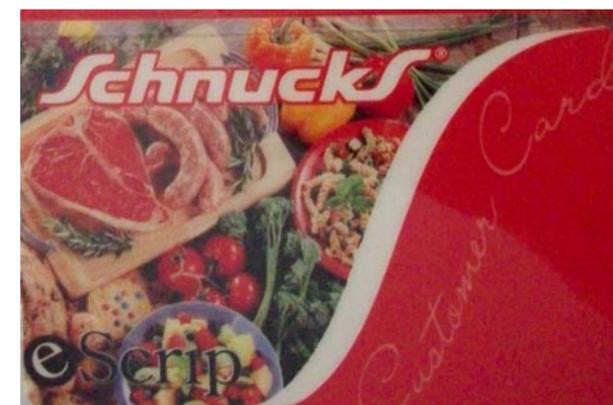
## Use card at Schnucks to benefit Glidden Homestead

Every time you shop at DeKalb's Schnucks Market, up to 3% of your purchases will benefit the Glidden Homestead once you sign up for Schnucks' "eScrip Customer Card."

"All you have to do is pick up a card at Schnucks' customer service desk, and then register it to benefit the Glidden Homestead by calling 800-931-6258. You can also visit [www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp](http://www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp) to activate your card," said Kathy Siebrasse, Glidden board president.

"Through the generosity of Schnucks and eScrip, the Glidden Homestead will benefit each time you shop and present the card. It's a fabulous program and we thank Schnucks for making it available."

Information about the program is available at [www.schnucks.com](http://www.schnucks.com); and at the Glidden Homestead, where there are a limited number of cards available.



### Please become a Glidden Homestead member.....

Thank you for your support of the Glidden Homestead. **If your address label has an ASTERISK (\*), you are a member in good standing** – thank you! Your membership is critical to the work at the Homestead. Your support helps 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) \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

_____ \$25 Individual Membership	_____ \$15 Student Membership
_____ \$40 Family Membership	_____ \$5 Youth Membership (high school & below)
_____ \$100 Heritage Membership	_____ Other Special Donation
_____ \$175 Genealogy Member (includes 2-vol. hardbound Glidden Genealogy set)	\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

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

## Dedication of Blacksmith Shop planned Sunday, Oct. 24



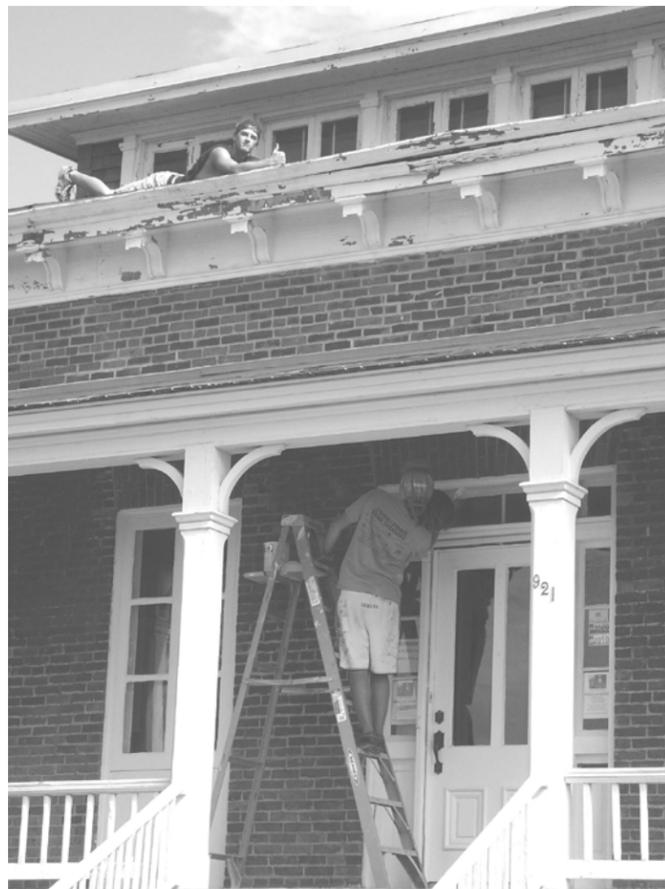
Blacksmith Chris Hubbard (left) demonstrated his talents in the Glidden Homestead Blacksmith Shop during an open house in June.

The shop will be formally dedicated Sunday, Oct. 24, noon-4 p.m. Area residents are invited to watch a blacksmith at work. Other activities are planned that day, including musical entertainment and tours.

Handmade blacksmith items are available in the

Homestead's Gift Shop, which will offer "End-of-the-Season" sales that day.

Past board president, Jim Morel, coordinated efforts to restore the Homestead's former Mill House as the Blacksmith Shop. He thanks the many volunteers who have worked hard the past three years on the project. Grants for the Blacksmith Shop were provided by the Illinois Department of Tourism and the DeKalb County Community Foundation.



Painting was just one of the exterior restoration projects accomplished over the summer at the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center. (Photo by Marcia Wilson)

## Visit the Homestead booth at annual DeKalb Kite Festival

When you visit DeKalb's annual Kite Festival Sunday, Sept. 12, be sure to stop by the Glidden Homestead's booth. Kite Fest runs from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Marcia Wilson, executive director of the Homestead, said a fun activity will be part of the booth's attraction for children and adults alike. "It's an excellent community event and a wonderful way to keep spreading the word about our historical gem at the Glidden Homestead," she said.

**The Glidden Gift Shop is putting together a unique basket of historic items as part of a special sale just for Kite Fest.**

Kite Fest is organized by the DeKalb County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Skies over DeKalb are filled with colorful and imaginative kites of all types and sizes. Kite Fest is held on NIU's "North 40," near Annie's Woods, off Lucinda Avenue at Kishwaukee Drive.

Features include kite-making, food vendors, and a candy drop for kids. Admission is free. VIP parking is \$3.

## Improvements at the Homestead

Exterior and interior paint, new storm windows and the restoration of picture rails are just some of the ongoing projects at the Glidden Homestead.

"Many restoration projects have been accomplished in the house since Spring with the help of mostly volunteer labor," said Kathy Siebrasse, board president.

Work includes new paint and flooring in a second floor room dedicated for the Homestead's archives. A volunteer committee has been working over the years to catalog and preserve photographs and important documents.

Currently, only one of the five second floor rooms is open for viewing, called "Jessie's Room." It is furnished and decorated to be representative of a woman's bedroom from the early 1900s. It is hoped that a second bedroom upstairs can be opened in the near future.

Volunteer Wes Wilson has helped the Homestead create a picture rail in the long hallway on the main floor. The picture rail will allow for use of the hall for exhibits and artwork without damaging the walls.

"If you haven't visited the Homestead recently, please plan to do so. Check the calendar on the facing page to find a date that fits your schedule. Remember, Homestead members receive free admission!" said Siebrasse.



## Boy Scouts beautify Glidden gardens

DeKalb Boy Scout Troop 33 members and leaders spent several hours on hot July days working in the front gardens at the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center, 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb. Board president, Kathy Siebrasse, thanked Troop 33 members for helping to weed and beautify the grounds. From left, are: John Grant, Max McArtor, Isaac Truckenbrod, Alex Rouse, Lila Grant, Alex Cohen, Jake McArtor and Cliff Golden. Joseph F. Glidden invented "The Winner" barbed wire at the historic DeKalb site in 1874. (Photo by Kathy Siebrasse)

## Tour DeKalb's Barbed Wire sites as part of Patent Day celebration

Join the Patent Day celebration at the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center Sunday, Nov. 7, noon-4 p.m. Special displays, Homestead tours and refreshments will be part of the day's events.

Patent Day celebrates Joseph Farwell Glidden's patent for "The Winner" barbed wire, which was granted Nov. 24, 1874. Today, 136 years later, The Winner is still the most popular type of barbed wire manufactured and in use.

A Barbed Wire Bus Tour, led by local historian, Steve Bigolin, is a special feature of the day. Cost for the tour of DeKalb's historically-significant barbed wire sites is \$8, with limited seating on a TransVAC bus. The bus leaves the Homestead at 2 p.m., and the tour lasts about one-and-one-half hours.

For reservations, call the Homestead message line by Nov. 3, at (815) 756-7904 or email [GliddenHomestead@juno.com](mailto:GliddenHomestead@juno.com). Be sure to include your name, the number of people in your party and a phone number. Payment by check or cash must be received prior to Nov. 3.

## Divas Dish anticipated!

Save the date of Saturday, April 9, 2011, for the third annual Divas Dish for Glidden Homestead.

"Celebrity" community women will serve tantalizing samples of long-held family recipes at this major fund-raiser and fun social event held at NIU's Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center, DeKalb.

If you'd like to be a chef or participate on the committee, please call (815) 756-7904.

Tickets at \$30, will be available soon. For details, visit [GliddenHomestead.org](http://GliddenHomestead.org).



**Susan Johnson (right) has helped coordinate the chefs and also has cooked in every Divas Dish.**

## SPOTLIGHT on the Glidden Gift Shop



End-of-Season Sale!

Be sure to visit the Gift Shop at the Glidden Homestead for one-of-a-kind items.

A special "End-of-Season" sale will be featured at the Oct. 24 Blacksmith Shop dedication.

For more details, click on the Gift Shop page at

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

or visit the Gift Shop at the Homestead!



*When the flags are flying out front, it's a sure sign the Homestead is open for an event or tours!*

## Homestead Calendar

**Sept. 12:** Glidden Homestead will participate with a booth at DeKalb's Kite Fest (see page 2). The Homestead may be closed for tours that day; please check the website.

**Sept. 26:** Open for tours, noon-4 p.m.

**Oct. 10:** Open for tours, noon-4 p.m.

**Oct. 16:** Glidden Homestead will have a table at NIU's Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., as part of NIU's Homecoming and BAVC's Fifth anniversary.

**Oct. 24:** Formal Dedication of the Glidden Blacksmith Shop, noon-4 p.m.

**Nov. 7:** Patent Day Celebration, noon-4 p.m., with "Barbed Wire Sites Tour" at 2 p.m. Reservations (\$8) due by Nov. 3. Call (815) 756-7904.

**Nov. 21:** Annual Holiday Open House and Antique Toy/Doll Show, noon-4 p.m.