



The Winner

Fall 2014



Joseph Glidden's "The Winner" barbed wire, patented Nov. 24, 1874 — #157,124

DeKalb County Barn Tour

Saturday, August 9, 2014

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tickets: \$20/carload, includes Guide Book and Map. Members receive \$5 discount. Tickets can be purchased at any tour site.

Tour: Guided tour of barns, petting zoo, photo exhibit, collections.

Tour Sites:

- DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Assn. (DAAHA), photo exhibit, artist signing, souvenir sales, 111 S. Second, DeKalb, Suite 204
- Glidden Homestead barn, gift shop, 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb
- Jeff Marshall barn & antique farm equipment, 12034 Gurler Rd., DeKalb
- Bob Faivre 2 barns & petting zoo, 16380 S. Somonauk Rd., DeKalb (Camelot Christmas Tree Farm)
- Joe Marshall centennial farm barn, 14701 Gurler Rd., DeKalb
- Norm Larson barn on cattle feeding farm, 17520 Keslinger Rd., Maple Park
- Josie Hopkins barn, 15454 State Rt. 38, Maple Park (Josie's Antiques)



Co-sponsored by Glidden Homestead and DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Assn., and partially funded by a grant from the Roberts Family Foundation.

Arts at the Barn

August 10, 2014
Noon-4 p.m.
Art Show and Sale



Artisans working in a variety of media will display their work on the lawn of the Homestead on Sunday, August 10. This show is an opportunity for fine artists to reach a wide audience and a great place for shoppers to find unique home decor and gifts.

Artists from northern Illinois, including DeKalb, Sycamore, Batavia, Bensonville, Big Rock, Chicago, Oswego, Rockford, and Sandwich will display glass sculpture, wood carving, fiber art, fine paintings, jewelry, pottery, and repurposed home décor.

A travel guide, *Roadside History of Illinois*, will be available from the author, as well as books on local history, including the recently released *Acres of Change: A History of DeKalb County Illinois 1963-2012*, offered by the DeKalb County Historical-Genealogical Society.

The show is free. Homestead tours and blacksmith demonstrations will be available at regular museum admission.

Come out and enjoy the afternoon!

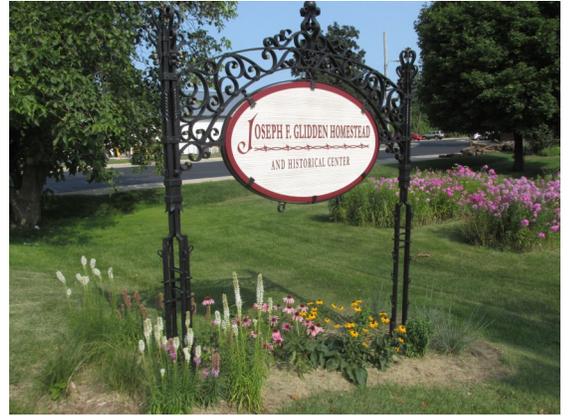
Native Plantings

The final phase of the Homestead signage project, undertaken last year, is completed ... and blooming.

In early June plants were added around the main sign in the front yard. All the plant hybrids used are derived from Illinois native plant species. They include two species of ornamental prairie grasses: Little Bluestem *Blue Heaven*[™] (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus*). The prairie flower species, or forbs,

include Prairie Blazing Star (*Liatris*), New England Aster “purple dome,” Black-eyed Susan “Goldstrum” and Coneflower (*Echinacea*) “magnus.” With the nice summer rains the purple coneflowers and yellow black-eyed susans have already begun to flower.

Funding for the landscaping was provided by a grant from the Roberts Family Foundation.



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## Abstract Collection Being Cataloged

For the past several months, volunteer Linda Eichhorst has been cataloging our collection of about 1,200 DeKalb Township abstracts. The Homestead became custodians of these historical documents a dozen years ago when Chicago Title and Trust disposed of paper copies.

Land abstracts contain a goldmine of information for genealogists and historians regarding a particular property. Generally included are references to deeds, mortgages, wills, probate records, divorces, court litigations, and tax sales.

Although we are still months away from completion of the project, the goal is to ultimately make the collection available to the public for research purposes.

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Upcoming Programs

Sunday, September 14, 1:00 p.m.

Archives Workshop: Managing Photographs in a Family Collection

This 90-minute workshop is for anyone wanting to learn more about preserving photo images electronically. It will include an introduction to digital images; types of scanning equipment; how to scan photos, along with a demonstration; organization; and options in storing and preserving digital photos. The program is included in museum admission.

Sunday, September 28, 1:00 p.m.

Patents and Copyrights

Joseph Glidden held patents on a number of farm related tools and equipment besides barbed wire. Yolanda King, Assistant Professor at the NIU College of Law, will discuss patents and copyrights and answer practical questions about the application process. The program is included in museum admission.

Sunday, October 12, 1:00 p.m.

The Hayloft Gang: The Story of the National Barn Dance

Celebrating the 90th anniversary of the National Barn Dance TV show, Illinois Humanities Council Road Scholar Stephen Parry will offer an entertaining and music-filled documentary of the popular folk-tradition show. Sponsored by the Illinois Humanities Council, the program is free; however, admission will apply for tours of the Homestead.

Sunday, October 26, noon-4 p.m.

Blacksmithing with Wizard of Earthsea

Although you might not expect a blacksmith character in a fantasy novel, this year's Community Big Read at DeKalb Public Library contains one! This is Big Read Day at the Homestead, and admission is FREE to all, thanks to partnership with the DeKalb library. Blacksmithing demonstrations will be given, children can try their hand at a kid-friendly blacksmithing activity, and tours of the Homestead will be given, all free of charge.

Sunday, November 2, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Barbed Wire Sites Bus Tour: Jacob Haish Sites

These annual, popular bus tours celebrate the November 24, 1874, patent of Joseph Glidden's "Winner" barbed wire. This year's tour will focus on the sites of DeKalb barbed wire baron Jacob Haish. Pre-registration is required; discount for members. Sponsored by the Mary E. Stevens Concert and Lecture Fund.



Glidden Homestead—Blue Star Museum

This season Glidden Homestead became a Blue Star Museum, offering free admission to active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and participating museums across America. This summer marks its fifth year.

The National Endowment for the Arts is an independent federal agency that funds and promotes artistic excellence, creativity, and

innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities.

Last summer the program surpassed their goal of 2,000 participating museums, and more than 700,000 military personnel and their families were treated to an outstanding museum experience.

Service and support for the military community through the Blue Star Museum program was recently recognized by the highest ranking military officer in the US Armed Forces, General Martin E. Dempsey, who wrote a letter of thanks to participating organizations, saying: “Thanks to you, military families will spend the sum-

mer learning and exploring the diverse culture of the United States of America. Your participation in the Blue Star Museums provides our families with more than just admission—you are helping them create memories that last a lifetime.”

For a list of Blue Star Museums by state, or to learn more about the program, visit:

<http://arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>.



QR Code Project

What is a QR code?

QR codes are those odd-looking, black-and-white, machine-readable labels that contain information about the item to which it is attached. For example, using an imaging device, such as a smartphone, you can scan this code to go to our website Home Page.



Last year the Homestead was approached by the Northern Illinois University Digital Initiatives office to take part in a joint barbed wire history project with Ellwood House Museum. With enthusiastic responses from both historic sites, NIU applied for funding that would result in QR codes to use with smartphones, allowing visitors to obtain additional information about how the Glidden invention and partnership with Ellwood literally changed the world.

With content input from Glidden Homestead and Ellwood House, scripts were developed by Dr. Jeff Smith of Lindenwood University, St. Charles, Missouri, who wrote the scripts for Lincoln sites in Springfield. Video taping was produced by a professional news team who had also worked on the Springfield project. Grant writing and project direction was handled by Drew VanderCreek, director of Digital Initiatives at NIU.

The result will soon be available. When guests visit either DeKalb historic site with a smartphone, they will be able to access video clips on various topics, including how barbed wire changed how we eat, farming, and warfare, as well as topics specific to each Glidden and Ellwood barbed wire baron. A complementary website is also under development.

At the Homestead, QR codes will be installed on the front of the Welcome Center, helping to expand “tour” opportunities at times we are closed.





921 W. Lincoln Hwy.
DeKalb, IL 60115

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your membership or donation!*

Donation & Membership Form

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Please send my newsletters via *postal mail* *email*

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Mail to : Glidden Homestead, 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

_____ \$175 Genealogy (includes 2-vol.
Hardbound Glidden Genealogy set

_____ \$100 Heritage

_____ \$ 40 Family

_____ \$ 25 Individual

_____ \$ 15 Student (age 18-22)

_____ \$ 5 Youth (high school & under)

SUPPORT

_____ General donation

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