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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.

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
_____ \$40 Family Membership
_____ \$100 Heritage Membership

_____ \$15 Student Membership
_____ \$5 Youth Membership (high school & below)
_____ Other Special Donation

\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Will this be your last newsletter? 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 NEXT 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 – June 2008



921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115
www.gliddenhomestead.org
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Students pay enthusiastic visit to Homestead

Second graders from Wright Elementary School visited the Glidden Homestead Tuesday, May 20, as part of a local history field trip.

Teachers and parents accompanied the 46 students as they toured the house and grounds, led by Sarah Glidden DeMink, Jim Morel and Kathy Vance Siebrasse. Teacher, Danielle Bell, arranged the tour. Wright Elementary is located in Malta, and is part of the DeKalb School District. It is a partnership school with Northern Illinois University.

Students in the group acted as newspaper reporters as they listened to stories about life in the mid-1800s. They learned how Joseph Glidden invented The Winner barbed wire with the aid of his blacksmith friend, Phineas Vaughan, by adapting a coffee mill into a barb-making machine.

The students were especially interested in the creative process and problem solving involved in Joseph's invention. They said they thought the barbed wire fence was a pretty "neat" way of keeping Brindle the cow out of the Glidden's flower garden.

The students were impressed with the size of the historic Glidden barn and were excited to learn the Mill



Sarah Glidden DeMink greets students from Wright Elementary.



Students enjoy the displays in the Homestead's exhibition hall.

House on the property is being restored as a working blacksmith shop. "We'll be back," they said.

Throughout the year, the Glidden Homestead is host to many groups interested in the history of this important site.

Volunteers give the tours, and more tour guides are always needed. Please call (815) 756-7904 if you are interested in attending a training session to become a tour guide.



Students experiment with solving the problem of keeping Brindle the cow from invading the flower garden. An example of a coffee mill sits nearby. (Photos by Kathy Vance Siebrasse)



Jim Morel reviews the tour.



Anthony Alfano

Pianist entertains on Father's Day at Glidden Homestead

Anthony Alfano will be the featured performer on Father's Day Sunday, June 15, as part of the Homestead's "Music on the Porch" series. Bring your fathers and grandfathers to enjoy a relaxing day at one of DeKalb's most historically significant sites.

An accomplished pianist, he will perform classical, jazz, blues and ragtime music. Area residents may be familiar with Alfano, as he currently plays at the Newman Catholic Center in DeKalb, and also accompanies at NIU Music Department recitals. He is completing his graduate studies in biology at NIU, with plans to attend medical school.

Alfano will perform from about 1:30-2:15 p.m., although the Homestead is open for tours that day from noon-4 p.m. Bring your lunch and a blanket to enjoy the performance (it will be inside if inclement weather). Suggested admission is \$2 for adults, and \$1 for children.