

# THE WINNER



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

**Newsletter of the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead  
& Historical Center – November 2010**



921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL 60115  
[www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org)  
Vol. 4 No. 6 - \$2.00

## Puppets tell Barbed Wire Story at Holiday Open House, Toy Show

Through the magic of puppets, the story of Joseph Glidden's invention of "The Winner" barbed wire will be presented at DeKalb's Glidden Homestead and Historical Center Sunday, Nov. 21.

The talented Salem Puppet Praise Team will perform as part of the Homestead's annual Antique Toy and Doll Show, open from noon-4 p.m., at 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., between Copy Service and Burger King. The Puppet Praise Team will perform an original skit at 1:30 p.m.

Puppet Praise is a team of 15 youth and adults from Salem Lutheran Church of Sycamore who prepare skits and songs of faith for people of all ages. Rod-arm puppets are manipulated from behind a curtained stage to illustrate a message with varied puppet personalities. The puppeteers employ both lip-sync and live microphone techniques in their presentations and will share their original skit along with pre-recorded songs.

Salem Puppet Praise Team was established in 2000 under the direction of Associate in Ministry Carla Vanatta. It has been a successful intergenerational ministry due to the gifted puppeteers involved and the generous support of the congregation. The team regularly participates in Salem worship services throughout the school year and prepares outreach presentations for local care centers, churches, and organizations as time allows.

Pre-1950s toys and dolls of all types also will be featured at the annual Holiday Open House at the Glidden Homestead. You remember....marbles and jacks, trains and scooters, skates, toy soldiers, baby buggies and dolls of every description!

Local residents will exhibit toys and dolls from their collections throughout the Homestead, including items especially for boys.

The Holiday Open House also will feature tours of the festively decorated house, educational displays, music and refreshments.

The Homestead's Gift Shop will be open that day as well, featuring many unique barbed wire items unavailable anywhere else. Among items featured in the gift shop are "I love DeKalb" license plate holders, handmade items from the Homestead's blacksmith, Chris Hubbard, a Glidden Homestead patch, barbed wire cap, and historical books and DVDs.

The Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center is the site where Glidden invented "The Winner"



**Joseph Glidden's invention of "The Winner" barbed wire in DeKalb will be told through the magic of Salem Lutheran Church's Puppet Praise Team Sunday, Nov. 21, as part of the Annual Holiday Open House at the Glidden Homestead and Historical Center.**

barbed wire, for which he received a patent Nov. 24, 1874. It became the most widely-used type of barbed wire in the world.

The Homestead is an emerging museum dedicated to preserving the house and barn on the site. Over the winter months, the Homestead's garage will be repurposed as a Welcome/Education Center that will house office and meeting space, as well as the Gift Shop.

For more information about the Holiday Open House Nov. 21, or Glidden Homestead, visit [www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org) or call (815) 756-7904.

## **Membership appeal**

It's time to renew your membership to the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead & Historical Center. Membership is critical to our organization—not only for the financial support you provide, but for your interest in and attendance at our programs throughout the year.

Membership allows you free admission to the museum, copies of "The Winner" newsletter, and invitations to special events. Please use the form on the back page.

***Thank you for your support of this historic gem!***

# Blacksmith Shop dedicated Oct. 24



Formal dedication ceremonies were held Oct. 24, to celebrate the opening of the Glidden Homestead's Blacksmith Shop. A large crowd was on hand to participate in the event and watch blacksmiths at work. Project manager and Glidden Board member, Jim Morel (right) presented Wes and Sam Bennett with the Youth Award for their efforts in helping restore the former Mill House for use as a Blacksmith Shop. Their father, Phil (center) also was instrumental in the work.



Jim Morel and Chris Hubbard pose under the new sign: The Phineas Vaughan Blacksmith Shop at Glidden Homestead. Hubbard will teach blacksmithing classes and give regular demonstrations at the shop.

## Thanks for your support!

**Funding:** IL Dept. of Community & Economic Opportunity-Bureau of Tourism; DeKalb County Community Foundation; Kiwanis Club of DeKalb; Kiwanis Club of DeKalb-Kishwaukee; Wright Elementary School; Various Anonymous Sources

**Volunteers and Contributors:** Debbie Armstrong, DeKalb Co. Convention & Visitors Bureau; Phil Bennett – Wes Bennett – Sam Bennett; Bill & Jennie Cummings; Mike Dixon; Greg Dow; Gordon Hardware; Roger Keys; John Launer; Jack Goodrich; Brian Tobin; Andy Small; The Svetlana Henrikson Family; Chris Hubbard, Blacksmith; The NIU Circle K Club; Several unnamed members of DeKalb Kiwanis; Several unnamed members of Kishwaukee Kiwanis; Jeff Marshall/J.J. Marshall Landscape Creations; Steven Johnson; Marty Scheidecker; Kathy Siebrasse; Jim Morel – Paul Morel – Alex Morel – John Morel; The Chanette Oeser Family; Students of Wright Elementary School

**Professional Services:** Art Seyller Inc.; Theodore J. Carlson, Structural Engineer; Complete Electric / Dave Lyons Contractor; Michael A. Dixon, FAIA/Architect; Douglas Exteriors / Doug Arendt; Dow HVAC Inc. / Greg Dow Contractor; Home Buddies / Phil Bennett Contractor; Splash of Color Inc.

## Homestead Highlights...



### Garage work begins

A new Welcome & Education Center is being created in the Homestead's garage this winter. Roofing work was recently completed and plumbing for a handicapped-accessible restroom will be added. The repurposed garage will become the central entrance to the museum and house the Homestead Gift Shop and office, as well as meeting space.



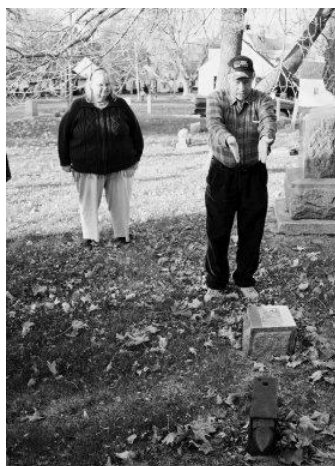
### Kids' Corner

Special exhibit and play space just for children has been added to the Homestead's ground floor, thanks to the efforts of NIU interns Nicole Weydert and Brigette Massoth. The area includes games and a "dress-up" rack, in addition to the colorful mural painted by the talented interns.



### Volunteers accomplish projects

Kishwaukee United Way volunteers helped with projects this fall at the Homestead. Left photo: John Acardo and Dan Templin; and right photo: Steve "Kepp Johnson and Toby Petrie.



### Barbed Wire Bus Tour

Local historian, Steve Bigolin, points out the anvil at blacksmith Phineas Vaughan's grave in Evergreen Cemetery as part of the Patent Day Barbed Wire Sites Bus Tour Nov. 7. The Homestead will conduct similar tours each year for those interested in historically-significant sites related to Joseph Glidden and/or the invention and manufacture of barbed wire.

# Divas Dish April 9

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

Approximately 40 "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.

The evening also includes a raffle and Silent Auction, as well as other special features.

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



Amy Polzin (right), chef at the 2010 Divas Dish.

## Schnucks card helps 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 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 cards are available.

## Homestead Calendar

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

**January-May: Closed for tours.**

**January 2011:** TBA, Annual Meeting (watch the website for date and location).

**April 9:** Divas Dish for Glidden Homestead, 5:30-8:30 p.m., NIU Barsema Alumni & Visitors' Center. Tickets, \$30. Call (815) 756-7904.

**May 22:** Open House/Open Barn, noon-4 p.m., with Music on the Porch.

**June 12 & 26:** Homestead open for tours, noon-4 p.m.

**July 10 & 24:** Homestead tours, noon-4 p.m.

**Aug. 14 and 28:** Homestead tours, noon-4 p.m.

**Sept. 11 & 25:** Homestead tours, noon-4 p.m..

**Oct. 9 & 23:** Homestead tours, noon-4 p.m.

**Nov. 6:** Patent Day Celebration, noon-4 p.m., with Barbed Wire Site Tour available at 2 p.m. (815) 756-7904 or visit [www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org).

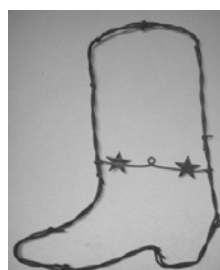
**Nov. 20:** Glidden Homestead's Annual Holiday Open House & Antique Toy & Doll Show, with entertainment, noon-4 p.m., 921 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb. (815) 756-7904 or visit [www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org).

## Unique, 1-of-a-kind gift ideas

Visit the Glidden Homestead Gift Shop Sunday, Nov. 21, OR view items online at [www.gliddenhomestead.org](http://www.gliddenhomestead.org) (items may be picked up by calling 815-756-7904)



"I Love DeKalb" license plate holder - \$15



Barbed wire boot \$4

[Other shapes too]



Barbed Wire Star - \$4

Larger items on stakes \$10



DeKalb Collectibles - \$20



Glidden cap - \$12



IL Lincoln Hwy Cookbook - \$18

**Joseph F. Glidden Homestead  
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921 W. Lincoln Hwy.  
DeKalb IL 60115

**Address Service Requested**

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***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 regular 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
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Family Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Heritage Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$175 Genealogy Member (includes 2-vol. hardbound Glidden Genealogy set)

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$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 historic site.***