

HISTORIC MARBOLD FARMSTEAD ASSOCIATION **2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

As we look back at 2013 the Historic Marbold Farmstead Association is pleased to say we are making progress toward our goal of creating a living history farm that will explain and educate the public about the historic, cultural and agricultural heritage this site has to offer. We are in the process of preserving, restoring and rebuilding the farm little by little, knowing it will be a long journey, yet worthwhile. Our accomplishments thus far are quite varied, yet important to the goals and mission of the Farmstead. We feel 2013 has been a successful year and we look to 2014 to be equally successful.

Accomplishments at the Farmstead:

- The kitchen floor was rebuilt
- The ice house roof repaired
- Masonry work in basement
- The soffits and gutters repaired and restored
- The north out buildings cleared up for safety reasons
- The nature trail cleared
- Educational programs on the second Sundays of June, July & August
- The 1st Annual Marbold Farmstead Antique Show
- The Landmark Dinner Fundraiser
- Fundraising through food sales
- Corporate fundraising efforts
- The *Marbold Quarterly* Newsletter
- In-Kind Donations
- Website
- Commemorative Brick Campaign

We are delighted to look back and see what has been achieved, however we recognize there is more to do. The Historic Marbold Farmstead Association will continue restoration and rebuilding the house, offer educational programs for the public and fundraising endeavors to support our mission and goals.

The Association gratefully recognizes the anonymous and generous donor who contributed \$10,000, which was applied to the mortgage. A few other large donations were also received and we are within \$8,000 of paying off our loan. This is quite an accomplishment since taking ownership of the Farmstead not quite two years ago. Going forth, financial support will continue to play a huge factor in our progress.

The Association continues to increase its membership, a valuable part of the Historic Marbold Farmstead Association. We appreciate our members' validation of our hard work with comments like, "The Farmstead looks great." "There have been so many improvements." "Keep up the good work." The Association is encouraged through these positive comments and commits to continue working hard to fulfill our plans and goals.

The Association's goals for 2014 continue to concentrate on paying our mortgage. Once the mortgage is finalized, the badly deteriorated roof will need to be replaced. Once the roof is finished, the outbuildings to the north of the house – the carriage house, smoke house, wash house and summer kitchen will need some much need attention. Accomplishing these goals will be a slow process, yet our aim is to restore this once magnificent farm to a physical and visual grand site.

The Historic Marbold Farmstead has much to offer to the citizens of central Illinois. There is no other place like the Farmstead, "Where the past meets the present." The potential to offer hands-on educational experiences depicting farming and farm life circa 1900 is the focus of the Association. We are pleased to have the opportunity and hope for continued progress in 2014. With the help of members, volunteers, supporters and board members, the mission and goals will become a reality.

Charlotte Wohler, President
Historic Marbold Farmstead Association