Farmstead Receives Generous Support from Benefactor

A big thank you to the anonymous benefactor who donated $10,000 to the Farmstead! After a tour of the property, this individual made the decision to support the Association in its efforts to create a living history farm. This benefactor confirms what the board recognizes—this is an iconic place worthy of being saved!

The 160-year-old house stands to this day for a reason: to tell the history of a time when John Marbold, a German immigrant, made the decision to leave his homeland and enter a new world where he could create a successful life for himself and his three children. Not only did his decision to travel to the United States benefit him, but other immigrants were encouraged to come to this land and take advantage of the opportunity to work and build their own farms. This is the story of so many central Illinois families.

The board made the decision to apply this generous donation to the mortgage, leaving a principal balance of less than $10,000. Once the mortgage is paid, the focus will continue to be on stabilizing, restoring, and rebuilding the site as needed. “Thank you” just doesn’t seem to be enough. We are deeply grateful for the gift and for believing in our mission!

2014 Annual Meeting to be held February 18

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the Historic Marbold Farmstead Association will be held at the First Baptist Church in Greenview on Tuesday, February 18, at 6:15 p.m. Poe’s Catering will serve fried chicken, cheesy potatoes, green beans, salad and rolls. Desserts and drinks are included in the $13 per plate meal. Reservations and/or cancellations are due by February 11 to Louise Browne (217-968-5620) or Sharon Davis (217-968-5437).

The program will be given by Frank Butterfield from Landmarks Illinois. Frank joined Landmarks Illinois’ staff in 2013 as Springfield Field

(continued on page 2)
Marbold ‘Mother’ Farm in Germany

The Marbold “Mother” farm in Lechterke, Germany, as pictured in the last issue of the Marbold Quarterly, shows a stately and grand estate. Farmhouses from this period were timber-framed and post-and-beam construction—built to last a lifetime. An entrance from the street leads one to an enclosed courtyard where the main house and other farm building surround the perimeter. It is quite common to find hand-carved inscriptions on the lintels, doors, and beams of these historic farmhouses. Sharon Schirding’s photos give us an image of one of the inscriptions over the front door of the main house. Read a sample of the writings below:

**Main house, front door:** “Johann Arend Wernsing, Catharina Adelheit Rantzen, married couple Marbold. Master Johan Hinrich Wellinghoff on 25 April 1812.

**Main house, front side, beam at the bottom:**

“Sir Jesus my friend and adornment of my heart,
My heart and my house are open for you,
Please come with your blessing into them,
So I will be rich and blessed.
Johann Hermann Hinderich Marbold.”

We hope you have enjoyed learning about the German Marbold Farm. Once again, we thank Sharon Schirding and Juergen Schweietert for their assistance in gathering this information for us.

Office Director. He was previously director/field officer for the National Trust for Historic Preservation Wisconsin Field Office for three years. Prior to the National Trust, he held positions with the Roger Brown Study Collection and DePaul University in Chicago. Frank has a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Boston College and a Master of Science degree in historic preservation from the School of the Art Institute in Chicago. Frank will share his knowledge of historic preservation which will be of interest to all attending.

A PowerPoint presentation of 2013 highlights will be shown and a short business meeting will be held at the end of the program. Make plans to attend this informative meeting. Questions? Call 968-5808 or 415-1239.

2014 membership dues may be paid at the meeting or mailed to HMFA, PO Box 438, Greenview, IL 62642.
the roof will be given much-needed attention. And—at the December board meeting, a decision was made to repair/restore the kitchen fireplace! Work will be underway soon. Anticipate a beautiful transformation.

The Board of Directors continue to work toward the mission of creating a living history farm at the Farmstead. Although our mission is great, we slowly and determinedly work to restore, repair, and refurbish this iconic landmark. The “grand old lady” has been standing since the early 1850s for a reason—help us see this reason realized.

Charlotte Wohler, President

Second Landmark Evening Fundraiser

The Landmark Evening Fundraiser held on November 9 at The Oaks Victorian Bed & Breakfast in Petersburg was a huge success! Those who attended this lovely evening enjoyed a delicious meal and entertainment by Seraphim (shown in the picture below), a women’s a capella ensemble.

The Association is very appreciative of and thankful for the work done by Melinda Shaw who organized this successful Landmark Evening.

2014 Second Sundays at the Farmstead

Plans are underway for the second season of Second Sundays at the Farmstead. The lineup will appeal to all ages!

- **June**: Bob McCue, from Mt. Pulaski, will portray Capt. A.H. Bogardus, a Civil War veteran and sharp shooter. Learn interesting details about Capt. Bogardus’ colorful life.
- **July**: Kathryn Harris, will portray Harriet Tubman, abolitionist and conductor on the Underground Railroad. Ms. Harris will captivate you with accounts surrounding this historic individual.
- **August**: Civil War Encampment. Company A Mounted Troops Commander, Capt. Gregory Kane, and his regiment will demonstrate the use of black-powder guns among other things. Soldiers, horses, and guns! Oh, my!!

Mark your calendars and save the dates for the 2nd Sundays. History will come alive at the Farmstead—“where the past meets the present.”

Marbold Farmstead Focus of GHS History Project

Shown below is GHS senior, Tristan Green, who chose to complete a history research assignment featuring the Marbold Farmstead. GHS history teacher, Meghan Kessler, asked students to focus on areas of history, whether local, state, or other area of interest. Congratulations, Tristan, on a job well done. Thank you for recognizing and exhibiting a piece of local history.
MISSION STATEMENT

The not-for-profit Historic Marbold Farmstead Association is dedicated to the creation of a living history farm at the Marbold Farmstead south of Greenview, Illinois by:

- Acquiring the property purchased by John H. Marbold in 1851
- Educating the public about the historical significance along with the cultural and agricultural heritage through hands-on learning opportunities for children through adults
- Preserving, restoring and rebuilding the farm, including the house and remaining outbuildings, & preserving the site in general as an interpretive agricultural & historical attraction circa 1890-1910

Visit our website
HTTP://HISTORIC-MARBOLD-FARMSTEAD.ORG
“Like us” on Facebook (Historic Marbold Farmstead Organization)

Where the past meets the present