

MARBOLD QUARTERLY

HISTORIC MARBOLD FARMSTEAD ASSOCIATION

∞∞ **BONUS PICTORIAL ISSUE** ∞∞

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2015

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“ONE GRAND OLD LADY” RETURNS TO READERS’ THEATER

HMFA is excited to repeat “One Grand Old Lady,” a Readers’ Theater performance written by Ken Bradbury. Ken uses Margaret Marbold Ennenga’s “A Letter to my Grandson Jonathan Small,” a bit of Greenview history, an immigrant’s experience, and music to create an entertaining glimpse of the past. The play will conclude the 2nd Sunday at the Farmstead summer series. The play will be held at the Greenview Park Pavilion at 4 p.m. Tickets will be available the day of the show. The farmstead will also be open from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. for tours and a history of the farm. Enjoy the Stier Trolley, with trolley tour expert Sue Elliott, who will give historical information about the influence of the Marbold family and other facts pertaining to the town. Two trolley tours will be available at the Marbold Bank in Greenview at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. There will be a small fee for the trolley tour.

Something new is being added: Vogel Musik—German Trio (accordion, trumpet, and drums) will begin entertaining at the Greenview Park Pavilion at 3 p.m. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the music one hour prior to the Readers’ Theater. The band will also play for another hour at the conclusion of the play.

To end the afternoon, the Greenview CIA and the HMFA are working together to provide a light meal. Pork chops, hot dogs, chips and dessert will be available in the community building at 5 p.m. You may eat in the community building or under the pavilion while enjoying the German music. Check the website (www.historic-marbold-farmstead.org) or your local and area newspapers for more details.

FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK...

It’s hard to believe that I am writing for the 3rd quarter Marbold Quarterly! Time flies quickly when an organization is busy, I guess! You will read about what’s been going on in the articles printed in this issue, but I want to touch on one thing—VOLUNTEERS! What would we do without volunteers?! Each event that occurs at the farmstead takes volunteers, but the Antique Show is the most laborious event to prepare for and then accomplish. Here is a list of tasks volunteers undertook: mowing, weeding, cleaning/cobwebbing the house, washing windows, planting flowers, setting up tents, hanging the sponsor banner, baking cookies, preparing for food service, loading and delivering tables, chairs and picnic tables, grilling and serving food, taking admissions, preparing for and executing parking duties, providing security for property, arranging for electricity, planning and preparing for an influx of antique dealers and period craftsmen, as well as many other things too numerous to mention. Our volunteers accomplished the biggest portion of these tasks either in the torrential rain that occurred on Friday (the day the antiques dealers arrived on the property) or very early on Saturday, the day of the show. Three inches of rain, resulting in muddy terrain, created a challenge bigger than we’ve ever encountered in the past! Quick thinking and some wonderful area farm-

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THE SUN SHINES ON 3RD ANNUAL ANTIQUE SHOW

The 3rd Annual Marbold Farmstead Antique Show turned out to be a day filled with sunshine—much different from ‘move-in’ day on Friday!! Approximately 300 people shopped for antiques, learned about skills from past days, heard about Marbold family history, and enjoyed good food. Pictures in this special issue show some of the lovely displays of antiques, dealers, our craftsmen, and other various moments during the day. Thank you to those who attended and helped support our largest fundraiser of 2015. The proceeds will be used to restore and repair the farmstead. If you missed this year, mark your calendars for *Saturday, June 25, 2016!*

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LIFE ON 1800’S FARM

Farm Day was held on Thursday, May 21, involving Greenview Elementary students from Mrs. Michelle McKinney’s second grade class and Mrs. Jennifer Schurman’s fifth grade class. Students were able to see and hear about life on the farm in the late 1800’s. There were four stations that offered unique learning opportunities. In the kitchen, the young people had the chance to not only hear and see how butter was made, but were able to take turns ‘churning’ with an old Dazey



butter churn. Also included at this station was a display of old kitchen items that would have been used in one’s home
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STUDENTS...

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at the time of the farmstead. Explanations of the items were given by Leigh Holliday and Shelley Monroe. Students learned details about life in an 1880's farm kitchen.

The parlor station was under the direction of Diane Masters where she explained about a variety of items that were common to homes during the time period. Items displayed for the students included foot warmers, a chamber pot, a stereoscope, a school bell, sock stretcher, a darning egg, rug beater, quilts, old toy sewing machines, and a slate, as well as other items. The young people listened intently and asked questions about these unfamiliar pieces of the past.

Station 3 was located in the west bedroom where students learned about grinding corn using a hand grinder. They took turns turning the grinder handle to make cracked corn and ground corn. Dean Campbell noted that this would have been a task for which children their age would have been responsible.

Squeals of laughter and delight resulted from gunny sack races and 'button on a string.' These two fun and physical activities from the past were enjoyed by all the elementary students.



"This Place Matters" was a lesson HMFA wanted each student to understand and "take home" with them. Young people are vital to the future of the project of creating a living history farm. It was rewarding to hear—"I want to donate." "I love this!" "I want to live here!" Hearing ooh's and aah's throughout the day was inspiring as we presented the past to the Greenview Elementary students. The Marbold Farmstead truly is "Where the past meets the present."

HMFA's mission to "educate" young people about farming and farm life came to fruition at Farm Day. It is hoped you will enjoy the pictures of Farm Day in this special issue.

NOTE: The following is the fifth in a series of articles about agriculture in the U.S. during the period of 1860-1920, the glory days of the Marbold Farmstead.

THE MARBOLDS SETTLE IN MENARD COUNTY

John H. Marbold, founder of the farmstead that was originally called "Elmwood," was born Johann H. Wernsing in 1800 in Hanover, Germany. At the age of 20, he was adopted by his Aunt Catherina Marbold and her husband, who had no children of their own. They had taken on the surname Marbold after acquiring the Marbold Estate at Badbergen in Hanover. Johann was chosen to become the beneficiary of the estate after their deaths, with the provision that he assume their surname. Thus, Johann Wernsing became John Marbold and heir to the substantial Marbold Estate, where he prospered.

In 1829, John married Marie Sherborn. They became the parents of six children, three of whom died at young ages. In 1843, Marie died, leaving John inconsolable with grief; he never remarried.

John's brother, John Wernsing, had come to the U.S. and lived in Petersburg, Illinois, where he had a successful dry goods store. On a trip to Germany, he persuaded his brother to come to America with his three children. John Marbold sold Marbold Estate to his youngest brother and set out for a new life.

The family arrived by ship in New Orleans in November 1847 and traveled to Petersburg, arriving in December. Here they stayed for three years, after which Mr. Marbold purchased several acres of land near the village of Greenview. So began his successful venture as a steward of the land.

In the next Marbold Quarterly: An Agricultural Legacy

"MARBOLD ORANGE DAY" TRADITION IMPLEMENTED AT 2015 FARM DAY

At the recent Farm Day for Greenview Elementary students, Dean Campbell explained about a new tradition the Marbold Farmstead wants to implement, called "Marbold Orange Day." The new tradition is based on this premise:

"Very few of us are Native Americans—the original residents of America. Our country was founded by people coming from many different places. These people traveled by ship across the Atlantic Ocean, often taking up to six weeks to reach America. Often times they developed scurvy, a disease caused by a lack of vitamin C, due to poor nutrition during their trip. People who had previously traveled to America knew of the problem of scurvy. It was common for the new Americans to row out to meet arriving relatives and countrymen and throw oranges up to them so that they would be able to get this important and essential vitamin, to cure this



health issue called scurvy. The Marbold Family and other German immigrants were among those who arrived in the 1800's. We want to remember our early families of Greenview and the town they established where we live today. When you see an orange—remember those who immigrated to a new land in order to make a new life for themselves and their families."

Dean offered the second and fifth grade students the privilege of being 'charter members' of Orange Day. The fifth graders were challenged to create a flag that depicts "Marbold Orange Day." These eager fifth graders will use their artistic abilities in the fall during the upcoming school year, and the HMFA board of directors will choose the winning design.

PRESIDENT..

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ers helped by providing their tractors and 'gators,' by purchasing mulch and then transferring mulch to muddy areas (a lot of muddy areas!) and by assisting where needed to prepare the ground for our visitors. What a privilege to live in a community where people pull together. I am grateful for each volunteer who went the extra mile. This place matters—and it was evidenced this month of June. "Thank you doesn't seem adequate, but it is heartfelt."

Charlotte Wohler, President



PLANS BEING MADE TO RESTORE NORTH ANNEX

Architect Wesley Corgan is shown working on drawings that specifically pertain to the buildings known as the "North Annex": the summer kitchen, carriage house, smoke house, wash house, and dairy room. HMFA made the decision to begin restoring this important piece of the farmstead. The summer kitchen and carriage house will have to be rebuilt, but we are fortunate to have pictures from Marbold family members that give our architect Corgan and project manager, Andrew Gain, insight and direction as to how they once looked. We look forward to beginning this process and know that this addition will add great interpretative value to the site. Work is hoped to get underway this summer.

SUMMER EVENTS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES

A 2015 Sponsor Campaign Banner hangs on the brick wall on the east side of the house. HMFA is fortunate to have the generous support of businesses not only in Greenview, but also in Petersburg, Athens, Mason City, and Springfield. The funds generated through this campaign help support our summer events: 2nd Sundays at the Farmstead, the Antique Show, and our Readers' Theater.

OUR APPRECIATION TO...

- HMFA recently received a contribution from AT&T Services through its employee-directed matching gift program. The cover letter stated, "AT&T offers eligible managers the opportunity to designate a non-profit charitable organization to receive a financial gift from the Company." We say "thank you" to the individual who designated our organization to benefit from this program.
- Woods Lawn Care and our volunteers have kept the grounds looking great this summer.
- Jeff Oney and the Mason City IGA provided a fund-raising opportunity on June 20. Jason & Suzanne Blackburn and others volunteered their time to sell hotdogs at the IGA, adding to our treasury!
- Petersburg Girl Scout Troop 6703 attended the May Marbold work day. These young ladies and their

Platinum Sponsors:

- Sloan Implement
- Rohlf's Implement
- Athens State Bank
- Prairieland FS
- Greenview AF & AM #653
- Greenview Civic Improvement Association
- Greenview Village Board
- Matt Broch, Wells Fargo Advisors
- Central Illinois Ag
- Menard County Historical Society
- Hernan's Plumbing & Heating
- Indian Creek Farmstead
- Killebrew Group

Gold Sponsors:

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- Middletown State Bank
- Farmers Grain & Coal, MC
- River Bank Lodge

Silver Sponsor:

- Brandt Consolidated

Bronze Sponsors:

- Gillmore-Allen Insurance
- Petersburg Veterinary Clinic
- Crop Production Service
- Crop Insurance Center
- Chilli Bear's Bar & Grill
- Wankel Farms Partnership/Pioneer Seed
- The Rose Cottage
- Blane Real Estate, Inc.

When you visit any of these businesses, please tell them "Thank you for supporting the Marbold Farmstead."



leaders, Jennifer Bell and Brandlyn Dennis, planted flowers near the nature trail and pulled weeds along the sound walkway.

COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS ADDED

Forty-two bricks were recently added to the well-established front walkway. The brick order was a combination of blank and engraved bricks, allowing for future engraved bricks to replace plain ones. Ken Sullivan is pictured as he re-established the walkway. When visiting the farmstead, make it a point to check out this expanded walkway. Many thanks to Ken for his hard work and expertise.



Our website has the details for placing a brick order or you may contact a board member.

**HISTORIC MARBOLD
FARMSTEAD ASSOCIATION**



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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

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 11 Work Day at the Farmstead
July 12 2nd Sunday at the Farmstead
July 14 Board Meeting
Greenview CIA, 7 p.m.
Aug 8 Work Day at the Farmstead
Aug 9 2nd Sunday at the Farmstead
"One Grand Old Lady"
Aug 11 Board Meeting
Greenview CIA, 7 p.m.
Sept 8 Board Meeting
Greenview CIA, 7 p.m.
Sept 12 Work Day at the Farmstead

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[HTTP://HISTORIC-MARBOLD-FARMSTEAD.ORG](http://historic-marbold-farmstead.org)

**"LIKE US" ON FACEBOOK (HISTORIC MARBOLD
FARMSTEAD ORGANIZATION)**

Email any newsletter corrections to porter71@sbcglobal.net

