Plains Underway for 4th Annual Antique Show

On Saturday, June 25, the Farmstead will be prepared and ready to greet guests when the Association will host exceptional antique dealers selling unique country primitives. Thus far, 15 dealers have agreed to display and sell their wares in the house and in tents located on the south lawn. More dealers are expected as the date of the show nears. Period craftsmen will also be on site to demonstrate and educate guests about their unique skills. As always, tours of the Farmstead will be available where one can learn the history of the farm and the Marbold family. Sandwiches, drinks, and sweets will be available throughout the day.

During the past three years, the Antique Show has grown and developed into an outstanding show. This is HMFA’s largest fundraiser of the year. The profits will be used to restore and rebuild the Farmstead. Please bring a carload of friends and shop, eat, and enjoy history in the country at the Marbold Farmstead.

(Please visit the website to see the list of dealers: www.historic-marbold-farmstead.org.)

From the President’s Desk...

Welcome to spring at the Farmstead! New life is just beginning to appear—buds developing on trees, grass carefully peeking through the ground, flowers commencing to show their colors, and birds searching for nesting spots. This is nature coming to life. Well, the Association is coming to life as well, where the following is underway:

- Grounds being cleared and improved
- Restoration and rebuilding of the North Annex
- Event planning (read articles in this issue)
- Educational programs in development

This spring we hope you will consider getting involved in the many tasks and planning efforts that are vital to maintaining our mission of creating a living history farm. We would appreciate and welcome your talents and support. The Farmstead has the opportunity to educate all ages about farming and farm life during the late 1800s. It has existed for 166 years for a reason: “This place matters.” We look to the spring season where our goal is to prepare this place for our visitors. Please feel free to call me and let me know where you would like to serve and assist: 217-968-5808 or 217-341-8293.

See you at the Farmstead!

Charlotte Wohler, President

On March 27, 2016, the Association observed four years of ownership of the Farmstead. Many thought it was impossible, but with the help of our Founders’ monetary support as well as a bank loan, the journey was begun in March 2012 to create a living history farm. The Farmstead is now owned free and clear. And, look where we are today! So much has been accomplished: educational programs, restoration and repairs, grounds improvements, fundraising efforts, membership support, community support and much more.

Founders—we thank you for your help, for without you, this would not have come to fruition. As we mark this fourth anniversary, stay tuned, watch the changes, get involved in the process and help history come alive at the Marbold Farmstead.

FOUR YEARS!
UIS Students use Farmstead as Class Assignment

On Saturday, March 26, seven University of Illinois Springfield graduate students visited the Farmstead. Charlotte Wohler provided a general history of the Farmstead to Dr. Devin Hunter’s Historic Preservation class, as well as taking them on a walking tour of the grounds. The students will incorporate what they heard and observed into their class assignment, which evaluates a historic site that is in its early stage of development and how it can be presented to the National Register of Historic Places for recognition. After leaving the Farmstead, the group headed to Edwards Place, a site that has been developed and restored, making a comparison between the two unique sites.

Dr. Hunter has agreed to apply to the National Register on our behalf. The application is quite detailed and time consuming, requiring a great commitment on Dr. Hunter’s part. We are happy and grateful that he is willing to assist the organization in this way.

Butterfly Garden Established at the Farmstead

Did you know the butterfly’s main purpose is to pollinate plants? Did you know pollinators help produce more than one-third of the food we eat? According to an article written by Barbara Sherwood for an issue of “Illinois Country Living,” butterfly numbers are dwindling due to the decreasing natural habitat. Ms. Sherwood challenges us to make a butterfly garden in our own yards. HMFA has done just that! Last spring a garden was created with specific flowers that encourage butterflies to establish their habitat. By summer, butterflies had made their way to our historic site. The garden offers another educational aspect of the Farmstead for our visitors to enjoy. We look forward to watching the flowers re-establish themselves and bring the butterflies back to the Farmstead. There will be opportunities for photos, so plan to stop and visit the grassy area south of the house and watch the butterflies do what they do best.

Farm Day at the Farmstead is Back!

Greenview elementary students will have the opportunity to experience something unique and different from their daily lives on Friday, May 6. Second, fourth, and fifth graders will step back in time—through hands-on learning opportunities—to understand what farming and farm life was like. The young people will get to hear about the history of the Farmstead, witness and assist in the process of making butter, hear about immigration, see household items that were once a part of a home during the late 1800s, and visit the barn site and grounds. Fun and games will also be included in their visit.

On Wednesday and Thursday, May 4-5, Mrs. Schurman’s fifth grade class will be presented a surveying curriculum explaining and demonstrating surveying as it was during Abraham Lincoln’s years as a surveyor. The lessons will be presented by Robert Church and assisted by Susan Wilson. A definition of land surveying, Lincoln, the surveyor, and explanations about the historical surveying equipment will give the students some knowledge regarding the role of surveying in their lives. Culminating on Friday, students will use their newly acquired skills at the Farmstead where they will plot a piece of land using historical equipment.

The Association is pleased that the Greenview school district recognizes the educational value of the Farmstead and allows students to participate in Farm Day.
Planning is underway for Summer Fest @ The Farmstead. This new fundraising event will be held on Sunday, July 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Here’s what is planned so far:

- Music—Stan Edwards and friends (members of the River City Country Opry)
- Civil War Encampment—10th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry Regiment
- Food (including pie and ice cream)
- Traditional Craftsmen
- Trolley Tour
- Tour & history of the Farmstead
- Children’s Activities
- Quilts on display
- Marbold Memorabilia
- Vintage Ag Display
- Much more

Check the website (www.historic-marbold-farmstead.org) as details and plans are ongoing. Come and enjoy this new event. A small admission will be charged.

Annual Meeting Well Attended

Eight-eight members and supporters attended the January 14 Annual Meeting at the Greenview First Baptist Church. Following a delicious fried chicken dinner, catered by Poe’s on the Hill, attendees had the pleasure of hearing Mark McDonald of “Illinois Stories” recall some of his memorable stories and experiences. He explained the process of filming on location and preparations for SWEC to air each one. The Marbold Farmstead was filmed early in his WSEC career. A copy of this episode is available; let a board member know and a copy can be loaned to you.

Following Mark’s program, the business meeting was held. The annual president’s report and financial report were given and approved. Treasurer Linda McCaffrey gave the following interesting information showing the comparison of FY14 with FY15: total revenue was increased by 6%, sponsorships increased by 53%, antique dealers showed an 8% increase, total expenses increased by 2%, and the treasury was increased by 32% in that one year time frame. Randy Tomlin presented the nomination of directors and the membership approved the following: Louise Browne, Dean Campbell, Ruth Dowell, Karl Downing, Judy Lyons, Diane Masters, Linda McCaffrey, Susan Wilson, and Charlotte Wohler. Officers for 2016: President, Charlotte Wohler; Vice President, Susan Wilson; Secretary, Diane Masters; and Treasurer, Linda McCaffrey.

Several new members were added to the membership that evening. The Historic Marbold Farmstead Association has a lot to be proud of and it is hoped that 2016 will continue to have similar results. Concluding the 2015 Annual Meeting, door prizes were awarded to several lucky people. If you have never attended an annual meeting, it is hoped that you will be able to attend the next meeting in early 2017.
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

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Linda McCaffrey, Treasurer
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Visit our website

HTTP://HISTORIC-MARBOLD-FARMSTEAD.ORG

“Like us” on Facebook (Historic Marbold Farmstead Organization)

Email any newsletter corrections to porter71@sbcglobal.net