



# Highland Historical Society

# Highlights

Highland, Illinois

July, 2010

## Harvest Days Event 2010

The Highland Historical Society presents the 23rd annual Harvest Days at the Latzer Homestead on Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30am-2pm, the 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30am-5:30pm and the 12<sup>th</sup> 7:30am-4pm. Friday is \$3, Saturday and Sunday each \$5. There is a three day pass available for \$8.



The Featured Tractor and the Featured Gas Engine this year are both--

### International Harvester.

The Parade of Power will be at 3 pm on Saturday and on Sunday. On Sunday at 8:30 am there will be an ecumenical service in the outdoors. Pedal tractor pull for children at 1:30 both Saturday and Sunday. Also a Pumpkin Growing Contest for prizes. Call John at (618) 654-2466.

## The Living History Area

with a variety of informational groups representing a variety of time periods.

Exhibits include:

- \*Lewis and Clark Canoe
- \*Conestoga wagon
- \*Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution
- \*Territorial Rangers
- \*Rope Maker
- \*French Army
- \*French Marines
- \*Civil War Encampment by Highland area re-enactors.



As in the past, there will be:

- \*Horses plowing the fields
- \*Tours of the Homestead
- \*Good Food/Home Cooking
- \*Music
- \*Craft and Flea Market
- \*Silent Auction
- \*Vintage Fire Engines

**For further information call (618) 654-6781 or E-mail: [rehberger2@yahoo.com](mailto:rehberger2@yahoo.com)**

## Volunteers Needed

Lynn Rehberger advises that we need workers for the event and asks all who can to please work at least one shift. Call her at 654-6781.

Also needed for all three days are pies, cookies and brownies. You can bring them to the Homestead any day or call Janet Kraus at 654-7957. "It seems we need more pies every year."

## Flea Market and Auction

During the Harvest Days the Society holds a Flea Market and a Silent Auction and donations are needed.

For the Silent Auction we need new craft items, collector items, baskets of "things" and saleable items. Call Elaine Iberg at 654-3173.

For the Flea Market we need garage sale type items but no clothes please. Items should be in working condition, new or gently used. Place items in the

north end of the red barn or call Kaye Plocher at 654-3399 for pick-up.

Funds raised from both the Silent Auction and Flea Market go to the Highland Historical Society.

We still need more craft artists and vendors. Contact our new chairperson Debbie Kesner, 654-7082 [jeephome2@yahoo.com](mailto:jeephome2@yahoo.com).

### **Homestead House Cleaning**

On Saturday, May 22nd a "crew" of the Historical Society's finest volunteers cleaned the inside of the Homestead top to bottom. Over 100 man hours of labor was donated.

Glassware, woodwork, furniture, floors, pictures, ceilings and walls, mirrors, bathrooms, 44 windows, 44 storm windows and 44 outside windows were all cleaned.

This "crew" consisted of Gloria Klaus, Marie Nagel, Mari Sackett, Gladys Frey, Paula Redman, Elaine Iberg, Janet Kraus and Sharon Nagel.

Sharon and Janet did the curtains (for 44 windows) doilies and scarves and bedding the two days before the big cleaning. Clem Koehnemann, Bill Kraus, Lynn Hargus and Marvin Sackett cleaned the attic, basement and outside windows. If you see these

"white tornados," please THANK THEM.  
---Lynn Rehberger

## **NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

### **Latzer Homestead WEDNESDAY**

**July 14, 2010 7:00 pm**

An ice cream social will take place. Volunteers are requested to bring cookies and/or beverages to the meeting. Please call Sharon at 651-8271 and let her know, if you can, so she can coordinate the refreshments.

### **The Windmill at Sebastopol, Illinois**



Early Highland was not just German Swiss. There were large numbers of French speaking Swiss and true French. Jean Baptiste de Fontaine came to this area from France in 1858. In need of a mill, he built a windmill of the type that is still common in Holland but was also known in France and Belgium in his day. The windmill stood thirty-six feet high and had a conical shape with twelve sides. The axle projected from one side of the roof almost at the crest. The four mill arms

were 24 feet long and five feet wide. The arms were huge timbers and the outside structure was covered in rough-hewn, hand-made shingles. There were no nails or screws used anywhere. The machinery, right down to the cogwheel, was made of wood. Although he also used it for a saw mill, it was primarily intended for a grist mill and he was known to grind wheat and corn for local farmers.

Jean Baptiste was also a watchmaker and made wooden shoes for his own use. He built his house with brick, which he made himself. He built the farm buildings with old-style French roofs, which made the area picturesque as the French countryside. He died in 1890 at the age of 87. The windmill fell into ruin after his death and was torn down in about 1910.

The name Sebastopol comes from a Russian Black Sea city on the Crimean Peninsula, now in the Ukraine, founded in 1783. The name spread throughout the world but today there are just two U.S. cities left with the name: one near the Natchez Trace in Mississippi (233 people) and one in the Napa Valley of California (7,743 people). The former one in Illinois is now marked only by a street name off of Baumann Road, SE of Highland.

#### **Newsletter Editor**

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