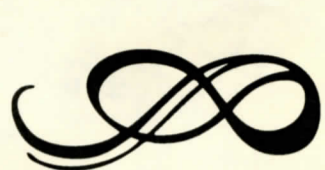
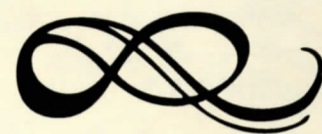


# THE HOMESTEAD FAMILY



## GAZETTE



Volume XXXXI, No. 2

JAMES MILLIKIN HOMESTEAD, INC. 125 N. PINE, DECATUR, ILLINOIS

June 2016

### A Note from your President . . .

Summer weather is finally here. Celebrate by taking advantage of our monthly tours held the last Sunday of the month, April through October, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Please take note of how beautiful the Master Gardeners have our grounds looking.

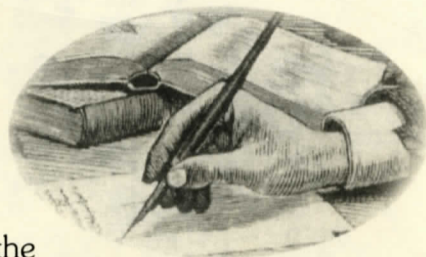
Our windows have all been readied for the installation of our new storm windows this month. In our next newsletter, I hope to tell you they are all installed!

Recently, I took Carol Cohen on a walk down memory lane. It was memorable for her and enlightening for me. She and her family were the first people to live in the Homestead after Mrs. Millikin's death in 1913. Her father, Reginald Neal, was the director of the Decatur Art Center when it moved into the Millikin Homestead in 1944. Carol lived there until she was six years old and attended kindergarten at French School. Watching her excitement as she explored the home was heart warming. She had many stories to share and has promised to send some pictures of her childhood days in the Homestead.

The Homestead Board welcomes Kristen Hise, Mary Alice Johns and Deb Kirchner as our newest Board members. We are looking forward to working with them and to utilizing the talents they bring.

Enjoy your summer by treating friends and family to a Millikin Homestead tour.

Terry Grant, President



### Save the Date for the Children's Tea



Saturday, July 9th, 2016

Morning Tea 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Afternoon Tea 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Children's Tea is for boys and girls of all ages. Children are welcome to bring their favorite stuffed animal, doll or action figure to share their refreshments.

Activities include a tour of the Homestead, a "Seek and Find" activity, and the opportunity to decorate a picture frame for their picture we take that day.

Cost for the Children's Tea is \$8.00 for children and \$12.00 for adults. Checks may be made payable to: James Millikin Homestead and mailed to

PO Box 1501

Decatur, Illinois 62525

Please call Marcia Comerford 217-454-7220 for reservations



### Mr. & Mrs. Millikin Days

James and Anna Millikin welcomed approximately 630 third graders, their teachers and chaperones to their home during the annual Mr. and Mrs. Millikin Days Program. This event, co-chaired by board members, Mary Ann Groves and Ann-Marie Hillyer, was held the last week of April. Eleven District 61, county and parochial schools participated. During their hour-long visit, the students toured both the inside of the Homestead and the grounds. In addition to meeting Mr. and Mrs. Millikin, they met Betsy, a frazzled dining room maid, and Sophie, the kitchen maid, who had prepared Mr. Millikin's favorite sugar cookies for the visitors. Students were entertained by a friend of Mrs. Millikin who played the pump organ and also led the visitors in a sing-a-long. Thanks to the efforts and talents of 38 volunteers, third graders were able to take a step back in time and discover what life was like in the late 1800's at 125 Pine Street.



### Meet Our New Board Members!

**Mary Alice Johns** was born and raised in Decatur. She and husband, Chris, have three grown children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild. They are 40-year owners of Pride Cleaners (4 locations). Mary Alice is past president of Junior Welfare and 18-Hole Golf, and PTA President of three schools. She and Chris have been members of the Country Club of Decatur for 42 years. In her spare time, she enjoys golf, bridge, Mahjong and knitting.

**Deb Kirchner** has worked at Millikin University since 1994 and has extensive experience in marketing, media relations, communications, and customer service. She has oversight for numerous electronic and printed communications and publications including the Millikin Quarterly magazine and the Alumni and Friends website. She loves how the interesting alumni stories told by her team reflect how alumni thrive after their Millikin experiences. A Central Illinois native, she and her husband, Ken, have one daughter, a 2012 Millikin graduate.

**Kristen Hise** was born and raised in Decatur, graduated from St. Teresa High School and the University of Illinois, Champaign. She worked at the U of I for ten years before accepting a position with ADM 16 years ago as a Business Analyst. She and husband, Cary, have two daughters, Lauren and Kathryn. Lauren lives in Evanston and Kathryn starts college this fall at the University of Memphis. In her spare time, she and Cary enjoy working around their own Circa 1880 home, golfing and playing with their dog, Sadie.

## Storm Window Project Now Complete!

Storm window sash arrived back in Decatur in March with new low-E/U-V glass, glazing and black satin finish. Historically matching hardware was attached by Rob Oleson and patching and painting exterior window and frame surfaces was completed by Christy-Foltz. Thank you to all the generous donations which allowed the success of this project.



## Third Grade Thank You Notes

Thank you for letting us come. I learned that Mr. Millikin was from Pennsylvania and Mrs. Millikin was from Mt. Zion. *Tyler*

Thank you for letting us tour your house. I learned that Mr. Millikin was a farm boy and that the pump organ is harder to play than the piano. *Wesley*

Thank you for inviting us into your house. I learned that you guys didn't have all the stuff we do today. *Jaelynne*

I enjoyed seeing Sophie and all the maids and you guys. I had the best time ever. I hope my younger sister gets to do that too. *Anna*

## Rental Policy at the Homestead

Looking for a unique, historic setting for your party? The Homestead is available for your private parties and special events such as small weddings, baptisms, receptions, anniversaries, birthdays and even business meetings. Current members receive a 10% discount off the rental fee. For information and scheduling, please contact Dawn at 217-429-6943 and leave a message.



## We're on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is James Millikin Homestead. Please "like" or "follow" to see current photos and activities.



## Please Check Mailing Label on Newsletter

The mailing label on the newsletter includes the date your membership expires. We look forward to your continued interest and support and ask you to drop a check in the mail if your membership has expired. Thank you!

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JAMES MILLIKIN HOMESTEAD, INC.  
P.O. Box 1501  
Decatur, Illinois 62525

### Mission Statement

The Mission of the James Millikin Homestead, Inc. is to restore and preserve the interior of this irreplaceable Decatur landmark, thereby raising community awareness of our historical heritage, and promoting preservation for future generations.



LEAVE A LEGACY™  
Decatur, Illinois

Please consider the Millikin Homestead in your estate planning.

## James Millikin Homestead, Inc.

Regular Member - \$30.00

Friend - \$50.00

Patron - \$100.00

Life - \$1,000.00

(May be paid in four annual installments)

Please make checks payable to James Millikin Homestead, Inc. and mail to:

James Millikin Homestead, Inc.

P.O. Box 1501

Decatur, Illinois 62525

(Membership is tax deductible)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Millikin Homestead  
2016-2017

David Bowman

Cheryl Bradley

Dawn Buck

Julie Carter

Marcia Comerford

Manilyn Davis

Terry Grant

Ann-Marie Hillier

Cary Hise

Kristen Hise

Mary Alice Johns

Deb Kirchner

Pam Marty

Mary Lou Nolan

Linda Ostrander

Officers

President - Terry Grant

Vice-President - Cary Hise

Secretary - Linda Ostrander

Treasurer - Marcia Comerford

Historian

David Bowman

Restoration

Lucien & Brigitta Kapp

Check Our Website for Upcoming Events: [www.performance.millikin.edu/millikinhomestead](http://www.performance.millikin.edu/millikinhomestead)