

THE HOMESTEAD FAMILY



GAZETTE

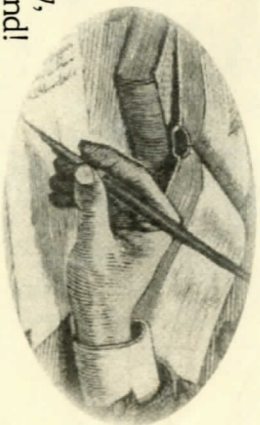


Volume XXXXI, No. 1

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

February 2016

A Note from your President . . .



At last our four month long remodel of the main floor hallway, stairway and library has come to an end! Once again, Thomas Melvin has transformed these areas into works of art. It is truly breathtaking! A sincere thank you to the Ballance Foundation for their generous donation which made this possible. Our monthly tours begin again in April. It is a perfect opportunity to view this masterpiece. If you can't wait, contact me at 217.433.2795. I'm always happy to show off the Homestead every chance I get.

Our storm windows have been completed and are on their way back to Decatur. As soon as the weather permits, we will begin installation. This renovation was made possible by the generosity of you, our members, friends and the Decatur community. We love you and James and Anna Millikin surely love you too. They have to be smiling down with pride.

Along with the return of our last Sunday of the month tours, we are ready for the Mr. and Mrs. Millikin Days for our area third graders. It is scheduled for the last week of April and will be followed by the Children's Tea in June.

With this crazy Illinois weather, I'm getting Spring Fever. Hope you are too.

Thank you all,
Terry Grant, President

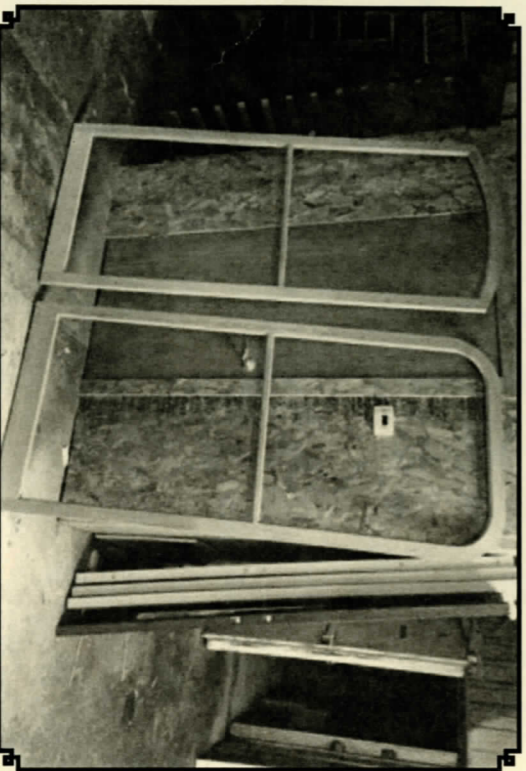
Storm Window Project

The Homestead's Storm Window Project is well underway and looking to be completed mid-Spring.

Last fall Rob Oleson Construction, Decatur, removed and transported 51 storm windows to D & D Custom Woodworking, Decatur, who re-created new, exacting sash from Red Grandis wood. Christy-Foltz, Decatur, re-bedded the missing glazing compound as winter weather settled on the Homestead. All 51 custom-milled sash were transported to QUANTA Technologies, Lancaster, PA, to receive new low-E/UV-shielding glass, glazing and black satin finish.

The finished windows are scheduled to return to Decatur during the first week of March whereupon Rob Oleson will attach historically matching hardware. As Spring weather returns, so will painters from Christy-Foltz to refinish exterior window and frame surfaces. Upon painting completion, these new storm windows will go up to give the Homestead a window treatment that appears historically identical yet embraces the 21st-century demands of energy conservation and interior protection.

David Bowman, Board Member,
Storm Window Project Manager



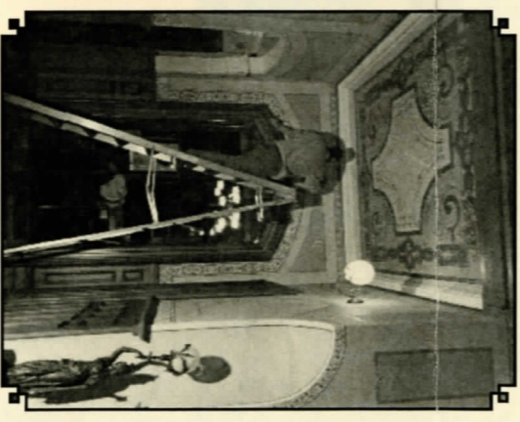
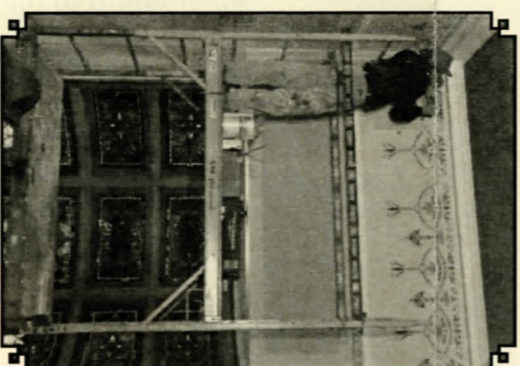
Main Hallway and Staircase Have Come to Life !!

The stenciling on the hallway walls and staircase is finished! The result is very eye catching and most pleasing. It seems as though the area has come to life. The colors and designs echo existing patterns throughout the house and seem to unify the visual impact. The woodwork "glows" all of a sudden with its rich hues of golden browns. The Oriel window has become part of the whole effect instead of a vocal point by itself. We feel Anna and James would approve of this rejuvenation "face lift". As you read this article, the decorative embellishments in the library will also be finished. A narrow frieze near the ceiling will beg you to look up and take notice. Additionally, the ceiling medallion has been freshly picked out in gold. Speaking of medallions, the dining room medallion is also newly accentuated in gold. Don't forget to notice the pale blue robin's eggs in the bird nests featured on the dining room ceiling.

All this new splendor, in its entirety, was made possible by a very generous gift from the Ballance Foundation. We owe them our gratitude and most sincere thanks! Now, emboldened, excited and motivated by this restoration project, we would like very much to continue to the upstairs hallway with a similar make-over. We will keep you updated.

Regular monthly tours start again in April but, remember, we give private tours all year long. Please come and see why we are so enthusiastic about the Homestead.

Brigitta Kapp, Restoration



Sweet Thank You

The Sweet Treats Bakery "tasted the sweetness of success" once again at the annual Christmas Open House at the Homestead.

On December 13 the Open House saw a continuous stream of visitors in spite of the inclement weather. Everyone enjoyed the festive atmosphere, traditional hot cider, and large cookie assortment.

The Board extends their sincere thank you to our many members and friends of the Homestead who made, baked and purchased all the delicious homemade goodies that stocked the shelves of the Bakery. Thanks to your generous support, the Sweet Treats Bakery sold \$676 of goodies during the three hour open house event.

Your involvement was instrumental in the success of this fundraiser which supports one of Decatur's treasures.

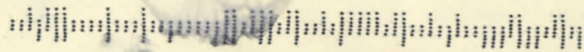
Dawn Buck, Board Member, General Chairman
Ann-Marie Hillier, Board Member, Bakery Chairman

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

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Permit 226
 Decatur, IL

Exp. Aug-16
 Marcia Comerford
 75 Ridgedale Drive
 Deatur, IL 62521

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Save the Date and Plan to Attend

Please join us for our Annual Meeting on April 27, 2016 at 6:00 PM at the Homestead. We will have a very short business meeting followed by drinks and refreshments. It will also provide an opportunity to tour the Homestead and enjoy the astonishing renovations to the main hallway, stairway and library. We are eager to share our latest success in this quest to continue renovations in this historical icon.

We hope to see you there!

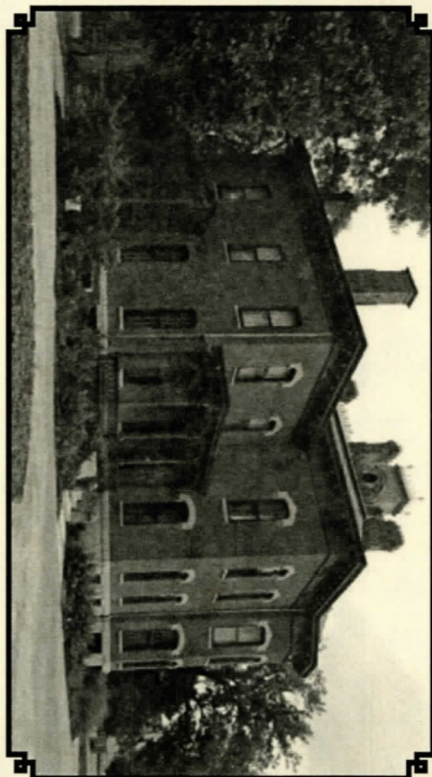
In Memoriam

The James Millikin Homestead extends deepest sympathy to the families of Betty Ploeger, Graham Bradley and Leo Pondelick.

- * Betty Ploeger
 was a board member from 1991 to 1998
- * Graham Bradley's wife, Jeanette Bradley
 served on the board from 1994 to 1999
- * Leo Pondelick's wife, Anne Pondelick,
 served on the board from 1998 to 2004

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 the Homestead at 217.767.2214 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!

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.



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 _____

Check Out Website for Upcoming Events: www.performance.millikin.edu/millikinhomestead

Millikin Homestead 2015-2016

- David Bowman
- Cheryl Bradley
- Dawn Buck
- Julie Carter
- Marcia Comerford
- Marilyn Davis
- Lilly Eckert
- Terry Grant
- Mary Ann Groves
- Ann-Marie Hillyer
- Cary Hise
- Pam Marty
- Marcia Millar
- Mary Lou Nolan
- Linda Ostrander

Officers

- President - Terry Grant
- Vice-President - Cary Hise
- Secretary - Ann-Marie Hillyer
- Treasurer - Marcia Comerford

Historian

David Bowman

Restoration

Lucien & Brigitta Kapp