

THE HOMESTEAD FAMILY

∞ GAZETTE ∞

Vol. XXXII, No. 1

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

January, 2008

A Note from your President

Welcome 2008!

The JMH Board sincerely wants to thank its volunteers and members. Without your support and time, the Homestead's mission would not succeed.

Part of that mission, "raising community awareness,," continues this year with two events. Mr. and Mrs. Millikin Days, which educates Macon County third graders about our history, will be held in April. Now's the time to contact a board member and volunteer! Whether it's playing Anna herself or Sophie, the favorite kitchen maid, you'll enjoy meeting the third graders. They're fun, and they will believe you could be Mrs. Millikin. The English Jumble is also on the schedule for May or June...just in time for spring cleaning.

With the arrival of 2008, we introduce two new board members: Gwen Biedler and Irene Huff. Don't forget the annual JMH meeting in April where you can meet the board and keep in touch with what's happening at the Homestead. We encourage you to invite family and friends to join the Millikin Homestead organization. New members are always welcome, but more importantly thank you to our current, supportive members.

Sincerely,
Janet Beasley



Christmas Boutique

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the Millikin Homestead's Christmas Boutique. We had some very nice items this year such as handmade pillows, table runners, hats and scarves, baked goods, and ornaments. We made over \$800 from the Christmas Boutique.

Margie Kirk

Victorian Christmas Tea - December 9th, 2007

The weather outside was frightful...inside it was delightful!!!

Old man winter delivered frigid temperatures and ice for our Christmas Tea, but many brave souls came in spite of the challenging weather. We had wondered how it would turn out. We had spent many hours getting ready for our annual Christmas Open House; musicians were lined up, cookies had been baked, the smell of hot cider wafted



hours getting ready for our annual Christmas Open House; musicians were lined up, cookies had been baked, the smell of hot cider wafted through the house. The boutique had been set up featuring a wonderful assortment of goodies. All we needed were guests – and THEY CAME!!! We were thrilled with the turnout. A steady flow of appreciative visitors filled the house that afternoon.

A variety of musical groups added to the festive mood.

Our sincere thanks to the following musicians:

Hammer Dulcimer: Doug Sleade

4-H Homesteaders Emily and Ann Eaton

June and Chelso Frescura from the Unitarian Fellowship

Sarah Emily Lekberg, a classic vocalist student from Millikin University

Bells on Wheels from 1st Presbyterian Church, directed by Barbara Keagle

Community Church of God Praise Team, a gospel group

Our thanks to you who helped! I think I speak for workers and visitors alike when I say, "A good time was had by all!"

Brigitta Kapp, Christmas Tea chairwoman



Members of The Community Church of God Praise Team, which included Homestead Board Member Christine Doolen, welcomed the heavens into the homestead for their performance.



Left: Dulcimer player – Doug Sleade delighted all ears with the harmonious sound of hammer dulcimer. His instrument drew so much interest, that people called to see what time he would be playing at the tea.



Choir of mixed kids and adults – 4-H members, Board members and visitors at the Homestead sang traditional hymns for all to enjoy and sing-a-long.



Bell Choir – Bells of Wheels from First Presbyterian Church played a wonderful arrangement of Christmas tunes and was conducted by Homestead member Barbara Keagle.

Here's Our Faces...



Sunday, January 13th we gathered at the JMH for our Board of Directors Dinner. Our dinner was catered and served by Circa 1860. Wonderful meal...wonderful evening!! Not present: Linda May, Christine Doolen and Bill McGaughey.

JUMBLE SALE

Our Jumble Sale is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 3. So when you're cleaning out your attics, closets, basements, and garage please think of our Jumble Sale. We will accept household items, furniture, books, Christmas items, and denim. Please call the Homestead at 422-9003 or Ann Manuel at 864-4017 to make arrangements for your donations.

Mark Your Calenders!

JAMES MILLIKIN HOMESTEAD ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

*All Members Welcome! –
More Details TBA*



Please welcome new caretakers...

John & Gwen Biedler

It has been nearly two years since our last caretaker and after much time and consideration, we are pleased to welcome John and Gwen Biedler. John and Gwen began their residency at the James Millikin Homestead last August.

John is pastor to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church in Decatur. Gwen has graciously accepted nomination to fill a vacancy to the James Millikin Homestead Board of Directors.

It has been such a positive experience having them both reside at the Homestead. Already John and Gwen have spent the late summer and fall working in the gardens and assisting us with the many visitors and social functions.

A grateful

"Thank You"

to our board member, Christine Doolen
for the pictures featured in the past two newsletters.

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JAMES MILLIKIN HOMESTEAD, INC.
P.O. Box 1501

**Millikin Homestead
2007-2008
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Decatur, Illinois

***Please consider the Millikin Homestead
in your estate plannings.***

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.

James Millikin Homestead, Inc.

- Regular Member – \$25.00
- Friend – \$50.00
- Patron – \$100.00
- Life – \$1,000.00
(May be paid in four annual installments)

Name _____

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

**James Millikin Homestead, Inc.
P.O. Box 1501
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(Membership is tax deductible)

Check Our Website for Upcoming Events: <http://www.millikin.edu/millikinhomestead>