

*Dedicated to educating the public and preserving the rural heritage of Illinois.*

## Commitment to Rural Heritage

After the initial opening of the signature Horse Barn, followed by the completion of Phase 2 in 2012, Museum organizers are stepping back, digging in their heels and planning for the future.

The Illinois Rural Heritage Museum has formed its exhibits, has hosted special shows and is bringing in new visitors but coordinators are now stepping back and asking "Now what?". Many businesses, both new and established, are challenged with this question. In order to continue to thrive, President Charlie Greer, the Chairman and Museum Board are more determined than ever to make the Museum an educational destination.

The museum will begin by taking an in-depth look at its exhibits. "We need to re-evaluate and refresh our existing exhibits. We want to engage our

*Continued on reverse.*

## Plan to Give

The Museum is also beginning a new fund raising year. In these economic times coordinators are well aware that financial giving is a tough sell to individuals as well as companies. But, when you look at the big picture, the history lesson in this museum is truly priceless!

In addition to cash gifts, the Museum continues its fund raising efforts for paver stones at the front entry of the main building. Recently the Museum was approached by a family celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. In

*Continued on reverse.*



*Pictured above are some of the pavers that have been put in place at the Museum entrance.*

## Museum Plans 2013 Events

Join the Illinois Rural Heritage Museum on **June 1, 2013** for the **fifth annual Tractor Drive** and banquet. Coordinators are also planning a **Fall Harvest banquet for November** of this year. We hope all current sponsors will be able to attend each event!

## Museum to Receive Union Pacific Grant

In a letter to the Museum on February first, the Union Pacific Foundation Board has committed \$2500 to the continued support of the Museum. A special THANK YOU goes out to Union Pacific for this donation!

**"To me, history ought to be a source of pleasure. It isn't just part of our civic responsibility. To me, it's an enlargement of the experience of being alive, just the way literature or art or music is."**

**— David McCullough**



*In early February the Museum hosted a local Cub Scout group. The boys had a great time learning about equipment and displays on exhibit in the Museum.*

## Commitment *Continued*

viewers so that the Museum may live up to the educational standards that we expect," says President Charlie Greer.

In order to get repeat visitors the museum plans to rotate exhibits and bring in traveling exhibits. Another goal of the Museum is to make it a full educational resource for groups and school classes. With plans ranging from additional interactive displays to teacher/group lesson plans and an online resource incorporated into the web site, the Museum has set a high standard to meet it's goal.

## Plan to Give *Continued*

lieu of gifts the family is asking those attending the celebration to make a donation toward pavers in the couples name. What a great idea! For your own paver, check out the details below:

The engraved stones range in price from \$100-\$250. Price levels are based on a proximity to front entrance of the Illinois Rural Heritage Museum. All paver stones measure 8 1/4" wide x 5 1/2" tall. Ask a Museum helper how you can even select your brick's special location! Call 357-8908 or 571-1854, visit the Museum, or download your order form from [illinoisruralheritagemuseum.org](http://illinoisruralheritagemuseum.org).

The Illinois Rural Heritage Museum is a 501c (3) organization.



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WHITE WALNUT FARMS

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