

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

**The days are getting cooler, the leaves are falling, the apples are ripe, and it is time to make apple butter. The Museum exhibit relives those days!**



One of the traditional ways of preserving apples is to make apple butter. Historians say it was probably brought over to the United States by the Pennsylvania Dutch. Whole communities came together to prepare the apple butter for the winter to come. It was slowly cooked in large copper kettles over an open fire, and stirred constantly with a large ladle. Today the crock pot or slow cooker has replaced the copper

kettle, and making apple butter is much less labor intensive.

If an individual has ever made apple butter in the kettle, when they open a jar whether it is store bought or some they made in the crock pot, they probably have happy memories of those bygone days and can even smell the smoke from the burning wood.

The Museum wants our visitors to have memories from their younger days, and also show their children how life was. Apple butter making was a time when the family got together and the children played physical games, not games on their cellphone.

## Events

- \*Oct 14-Perry County Home Extension visited the Museum
- \*Oct 16-Cub Scout Group visited Museum
- \*Oct 17-19-American Thresherman Assoc. Fall Show at Pinckneyville Fairgrounds
- \*Oct 19-Pinckneyville Girl Scouts visiting Museum
- \*Oct 24-Foundation for Pinckneyville host the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Masquerade Party here at Museum
- \*Oct 25-Pinckneyville Mardi Gras Celebration
- \*Oct 29-Fourteen FFA Students and 2 advisers from South Central Kansas are visiting the Museum on their way to Louisville for Convention

**Join us during the month of December for an old fashion Christmas**



Take a stroll through the countryside amongst the vintage machinery that is lit up with Christmas lights and decorations. Santa will be visiting on Sunday, December 7. Bring your children and grandchildren and have your picture taken with Santa.



A devoted friend of the Museum, Virgil Hoffman, 92 of Sparta, IL, passed away Sept 23, 2014 surrounded by family.



Virgil touched the hearts of all those he came in contact with in his lifetime and served as a role model for the love of life. He loved to tell funny stories and became good friends to all of us at the Museum. Virgil drove in the 2013 and 2014 tractor drives. He bought a number of friends over from his home near the Sparta and Marissa area to see the Museum and encouraged others to go see the

Even when the Dr. told Virgil that his pneumonia had come back the third time and things did not look good, Virgil asked the Dr. if he had ever been to Pinckneyville to see the Museum? That was another example of Virgil's way of life, always thinking of others.

We will miss you Virgil.



The Museum was a recipient of a \$25,000 Community Facility Grant in 2012. "In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, the Illinois Rural Heritage Museum is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, and familial status (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410. Or call 800-795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TDD)



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