



NEWSLETTER

Term: Summer 2022|



THE MUSEUM HITS 10 YEARS!



10 years ago on June 1, 2012 the Illinois Rural Heritage Museum officially opened their doors! The museum started off as just a dream of Charlie Greer's long before that day. That dream was finally brought to life one day when Charlie met with a strategic planning committee for the community. Charlie, his wife Mary and many others started working to make connections with agriculture companies to help donate towards the museum and applying for grants. In 2009, the first IRHM Tractor Drive was held and in 2010 there was a dance in the museum building to raise money as well.

Once there was funding, a site, and a 501c3, the next step was forming the exhibits. Thankfully many people from all over were willing to help out the museum and send them items to display. In 2012, the museum started out just with exhibits in the red barn and tractors in the 2nd building, however, as more people were donating items to be displayed, the museum continued to grow. The tractors slowly but surely made their way farther back until they made it to the 4th section of the museum where they are today.

In 2019, the 3rd section of the Museum was insulated to help better preserve the items on display through donations and grants received. The Illinois Rural Heritage Museum may have started as just a dream of Charlie's, but between the hard work of Charlie, his wife Mary, their family, and many, many others who love the way of life of rural America, it has successfully been open and growing for 10 years now, sharing history and passing on the rural Illinois way of life to the next generations!

FEATURE EXHIBIT

The McCormick Farmall H was the highest produced tractor model by International Harvester from 1939-1953. It was a 2 plow row-crop tractor whose main competition was the John Deere A. However, the Farmall H sold better than the John Deere A. When production of the H stopped in 1953, it was replaced by the Farmall Super H.

The museum features a 1947 Farmall H that has been restored with a buddy seat added and is used every year in our annual tractor drive.



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 18-21, 2022: Artist Spotlight

Take a stroll through the works of Brian Wilkes. The gallery is a celebration of the American rural lifestyle. The artist will be on hand to discuss his works.

August 27, 2022: Hemming Class - Learn to hem pants three different ways. This class is free to attend.

October 15, 2022: Pumpkin Painting for Kids - Join us for a Kids Pumpkin Painting event. 12 pm to 2 pm. Check out our Facebook for more information.

October 15, 2022: Paint & Sip - Join us to make fall and Christmas decor. Sign ups will begin in September, check out our Facebook for more information.

MISSION

The Mission of the Illinois Rural Heritage Museum is to educate the public about the rural heritage of Illinois in a manner that tells the life lessons of success. The Museum explains the ever changing story of rural life from different perspectives: agriculture, business, conservation, education, medicine, natural resources, technology and transportation. A critical element of the Museum's Mission is to preserve and restore important items that would otherwise be lost with the passage of time.

Museum Hours:

Thursday to Saturday

9 am to 5 pm

Sunday

1 pm to 5 pm

Private tours available upon request

Illinois Rural Heritage Museum

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2022 MUSEUM WEEK



The Illinois Rural Heritage Museum celebrated Museum Week from June 5th-11th. We kicked off the week on Sunday with our 13th Annual Tractor Drive. The rest of the week at the Museum included Family Day, hand sewing felt monsters, story time with the Pinckneyville Public Library, Senior's Day, Art Night, and Scouts Day. During story time the kids got to learn all about phones before getting to make their own candle stick phones and the scouts that visited even got to make ropes to take home with them! We had a great turn out all week and were able to show many new people all the exhibits the Museum has to offer!



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