

# FROELICH FOUNDATION 2014 NEWSLETTER

## 2014 Tourism Season

We were open for tours May 10th through September 28th, and the first two weekends in October. Our Museum hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Frid, Sat: 9-5pm, Sundays: 11-5pm (Closed Wednesdays) We are open six days a week all day allowing tourists from throughout the United States to visit when it is convenient for them.

Our tour guides this year included: Tammy Reynolds Tuecke, Glenda Bodensteiner, Denise Schutte, and Carlyle Reeg. Carlyle, from Monona, volunteered as a tour guide this season. He's done a great job giving tours and said he has enjoyed it so much! Also Carolyn Scott assisted us with school tours. We are grateful for these dear volunteers!

Special tours this year began with the Elkader Central School 1st Graders field trip May 22nd.

July 7 the Lil Bulldogs Center kids toured here.

On October 11th: 44 people on a tour bus from Madison, WI toured here. These groups really enjoyed their visit & tour at Froelich!

## PROJECTS at FROELICH:

\*The north end of the 1920's Warehouse got a much needed new tin roof this spring. (The roof on the north end was falling in and looked bad. This improvement was needed to protect this storage area.) The Warehouse looks complete continual with the south portion.

\*This Summer the Board gathered one evening to clean out the back storage area of the Warehouse. We also worked on the garden around the Monument. New wood bark was brought in to fill in areas and a few new flowers were planted to improve the look there.

\*After the big straight-line wind and rain storm, Mike Tschirgi, Beth Henkes' son Brady, Lisa Donlon & Denise worked on one of the hottest, humid days ever to clean-up the fallen trees and branches at the Harnack house, the Breitsprecher house (our rental properties) and on the Museum grounds to cleanup ALL the mess. A huge thanks!

\*This Fall 3 MFL Mar Mac Govt students volunteered to help 4 hours each for class community service. Derek Radloff, Dillion Oelke, and Jason Sweeney painted both sides of the 1920's Warehouse a nice fresh white on the doors and around all the many little windowpanes. Thank you guys!

\*The Board found it necessary to insulate the Harnack house rental property. This improvement will aid with the energy efficiency. The renters will be able to keep up with their heating and rental expenses more easily long-term.

\*When special events were held in the Barn, fuses kept tripping off the circuit breakers. The Board voted to improve the electrical needs. Additional outlets were added connecting to their own circuit breakers, additional lighting and switches were added to the upper level hay loft used for wedding and barn dances. A floor was placed in the straw loft. We are hoping to display some things in this area.



## **FROELICH SPECIAL EVENTS:**

June 14, 2014 Tractor Pull

“FALL-DER-ALL”

September 27– 28, 2014

## **EVENTS HOSTED IN OUR VINTAGE BARN EVENT CENTER 2014:**

June 8: Marfilus Reunion

June 22: Klotzbach Reunion

July 19: Chadd & Tammy Tuecke's Wedding,  
Rehearsal, Reception, and Dance

July 26: Barn Dance

August 30: Class of 1979 MFL Reunion

September : Class of 1989 MFL Reunion

## **FROELICH FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Lisa Donlon: President & Treasurer

Lance Donlon: Vice-President

Tammy Reynolds Tuecke: Secretary

Chadd Tuecke, Mike Tschirgi, Torrie Moses,

Gene Lake, Brian Meyer, Ivan Meisner,

Beth Henkes, and Keary Keehner

Denise Schutte, Froelich Foundation Coordinator

## **Froelich Foundation Endowment Fund Donation:**

“In Memory of the Meyer Family”

donations were made by:

Bonnie Meyer

and Mr. & Mrs. Stan Meyer

2014

\*Improvements were needed for the water well system at the Barn. Our Board Member Torrie Moses brought his equipment and worked with Erickson Pump Service to remedy this situation. THANKS Torrie & Moses Excavating & Drainage!!!

\* The Board decided to move forward with the Heating & Cooling System in the General Store. The main area for tours. After 29 years this update is long overdue! In April thru Oct in Iowa you can understand the temperature fluctuations aren't comfortable for tourists.

### **Jim Cowell Friend of Froelich**

Jim Cowell has sadly passed away October 3, 2014. Jim was 84 years. Jim Cowell served as Board President of the Froelich Foundation. Jim also did so much to aid the Froelich Foundation over so many years of service to our Foundation & Museum here at Froelich. Among Jim's skilled work as a Blacksmith and Welder, Jim built a collection of Semi-tractors and trailers. His scale-model semis were used in numerous parades and shared during school field trips over the years. They are now permanently housed and displayed at the Froelich Foundation Museum Site in the "Cowell Semi Building". His collection includes a half-scale, quarter-scale, and eighth-scale semi tractors and trailers. It also includes a scaled Jeep also used in parades.

Many Froelich tourists find this to be one of their favorite places at the Froelich Museum site. The children especially enjoy this building. They love to get into one of Jim's many scaled semis to pretend they are driving them and have their family take their pictures to be remembered ever after. A few kids cry because they don't want to leave, some kids ask their parents to come back again (and they do), and many guys look over and admire Jim's fine works. The guys hope to go home and craft their own versions of Jim Cowell's fine scaled Semi Tractors & Trailers and Jeep collection. So Jim's led a wonderful life, that he shared with Froelich and has inspired many individuals to find their own niche, to create their own inventions, just as John Froelich did in 1892.

### **NOTES FROM DENISE SCHUTTE, YOUR FROELICH FOUNDATION & MUSEUM COORDINATOR**

The Froelich Foundation has had another wonderful and busy 2014 tourism season! Tourists continue to come from throughout the United States and other countries. We are so grateful for them! The tourist's tell our guides how pleased they are with such informative guided tours. They often shake our hands, or give us a hug, saying how much they enjoyed this and plan to bring other family and friends for a tour in the future! (They do come back with others for a tour here!!!)

**I know I am way behind sending each of you your annual "Froelich Foundation Newsletter"!!!! I have not forgotten you,** even though it may have seemed that way this year. This is my third year working for the Froelich Foundation. I thought by now, I'd be on auto-pilot and everything would flow as one would hope. I work five days a week, and Tammy works two days a week, and Carlyle comes when he can while we are also here. When I'm at work, I take care of the administrative work, email correspondence, input the business financial information on the Computer >PC Mars Accounting system, and I pay the bills. Lisa Donlon, our Board President and Treasurer, signs the checks before I can send them out. The Board of Directors have a three year term. It is important that I handle many of these duties, being knowledgeable with the details from over my past three years here. This will create a smooth transition for the new Board members. Lisa Donlon created a smooth transition for me as your Coordinator!!!

I take care of advertising, posters, and sponsors for events. The Board also seeks out sponsors. In the meantime, I give tours daily. There have been many days when I hoped to get some administrative work done, but did not. Too many tours I needed to guide that day, so I took the Laptop home in the evening to get things done. Our Tourists are most important first and foremost!

During the Winter months: Dec 2013 and Jan 2014, while I continue to work from home as Coordinator for Froelich, I wrote two grants. The Clayton County Foundation for the Future: I wrote a grant for the new 42" Flat Screen TV to show our "Froelich Iowa" Dvd during tours. We received that Grant. This large screen is a wonderful improvement from the small tv we had and looks like a whole new Dvd! The second grant I wrote, but didn't receive.

This summer while trying to plan the annual "FALL-DER-ALL", the Board asked me to write a Grant thru the Upper Mississippi Gaming Commission for the Fujitsu Heating & Cooling system. I spent so much time doing this while still being so busy giving tours in August. With all the attachments and requirements it was 25 pages long. I needed to turn in 11 copies for them and made 2 copies for our records a total of 325 pages. Sorry to say, we did not receive this grant, but was worth a try. So this is another reason you have not gotten your Annual Froelich Newsletter as soon as we would have liked.

**"FALL-DER-ALL" was a great success!** Many old time demonstrations and tractors on display as normal. Had a wonderful turn out both days. Sat: great food prepared & served by Board Director: Beth Henkes and volunteers. Sunday the Annual Pancakes & Sausage Breakfast was served. Everyone loved this scrumptious breakfast prepared and served by our Board of Directors and other kind volunteers! THANKS TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS & WONDERFUL BOARD OF DIRECTORS!!!

Many Memorials received from the families of: Virgil David>Ken David's father; Virginia Pate, Jim Cowell, and LuNida Miller. Donations received for our Museum site: Hay Seeder from Phyllis & Loren Dettmann delivered by Ivan Meisner, and many upholstery chairs from the Dubuque Hospital (they were replacing theirs) placed in the Museum and Barn, delivered by Mark & Robin Stoffel. (Hope I haven't missed any memorials or donations in our 2014 list.) I wish I had more room to write. Please check our website: [www.froelichtractor.com](http://www.froelichtractor.com) for lots of pictures and updates written there and Facebook: "Froelich Foundation". **Thank you to our dear Froelich Foundation Members & Volunteers! Denise Schutte, Coordinator**