



# Prairie Mill News

## 2013



### Inside this issue:

Annual Meeting	1
Upcoming Events	1
Follies	1
Editor's Note	2
W O W	2
Membership Info	2
Welcome New Cooks	2
Change in Directors	2
Volunteer Opportunities	2
Emminga Bank	3
Did You Know	3
Are You Aware	3

### Upcoming Events 2013

- **Follies** March 9,15,16,22,23
- **Opening Day 2013** May 4th
- **Sweet Corn Dinner** July 21st
- **Mystery Dinner** Aug 24th
- **Oktoberfest** October 26th
- **Christmas at the Mill** Dec 7th

### 2013 FOLLIES PRESENTATION

This year we are pleased to present "The Golden Gals" based on the hit series "The Golden Girls" created by Susan Harris. From what has been observed from the shadows, we will be laughing our sox off and enjoying a comedic evening. Plan to attend one of the 5 performances, March 9, 15, 16, 22 and 23. If you are not familiar with "The Golden Girls", it's a comedy centering around four women's lives and interactions. They are all aged 50+, widowed and/or divorced.

Our doors open at 5:45 pm with dinner being served at 6:30 pm prior to the play. Dessert will be served at intermission. During scenery and costume changes one of our actors will be asking trivia questions pertaining to "The Golden Gals". A number of prizes will be awarded at each performance. So brush up on this fabulous sitcom, make your reservations (which are required) and plan to join the frivolity of the evening. Reservations: (217) 696-4678. \$22.00 per person.

ANNUAL MEETING  
APRIL 9, 2013  
7 o'clock p.m.

Golden Windmill Facilities Banquet Hall

Doors open 6:15 p.m.

Speaker: Quincy Chamber of Commerce Member

Refreshments prior and after meeting

4 Directors will be elected during the meeting

A Directors' Meeting follows the conclusion of the Annual Meeting

**Editor's Note**

To continue this publication we need your help.

**WE NEED STORIES!! You may not think it amounts to much but every tidbit of history is a great story. And yours needs to be told. Don't delay...send yours to the Editor's email: dflesner@adams.net.**

**Be a voice of history. Share your story and become a part of "living history".**



**Gift Shop On Line**

Discussion efforts continue on having gift shop items available on line.



**PRAIRIE MILLS NEWS IS A PUBLICATION OF GOLDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**EDITOR: R. FLESNER**  
dflesner@adams.net

**WOW 2013**

*Where have the last 12 months gone? Where have the last 26 YEARS gone?* The Society has come a long way since it was founded in 1986. We strive in our efforts of preserving, protecting and presenting our history to family, friends and those researching their family history both near and far. We continue our maintenance of the buildings and grounds of the Prairie Mill. As you know we rely on our volunteers in every aspect of the Mill operation and fund raising. We could not and cannot do this without their untiring efforts. The quest continues as we begin 2013 with new opportunities to open our facility to the public from May thru October. With your continued support of volunteer hours and membership we will be able to accomplish our mission.

Where there is no vision, the people perish.  
Proverbs 29:18 KJV

**If you can dream it, you can do it.**  
—Walt Disney

**Welcome!**

David Gronewold  
and  
Curt Fessler  
  
have joined our  
cooking staff.



**Time for Membership Dues**

It's that time of year again.

Renew your membership using the enclosed form.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Individual \$25.00

Family \$40.00

**Membership Rewards:**

Discount on Gift Shop purchases

Select Windmill Dinners

Discount on Hall Rental

**Changes In The Number of Directors for Golden Historical Society Board**

After 25 years the Board has voted to reduce active board members from 15 to 12. This is due to a "sign of times". People in general are not committing to social clubs, guilds, councils, boards, churches, etc. This is in part due to an overwhelming amount of outside influences. Although we are reducing the number on the Board of Directors, we will continue to maintain our heritage and resources entrusted to the Golden Historical Society.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

A hearty "thank you" to our 2012 volunteers. We hosted approximately 300 visitors who visited our museum and gift shop and toured the windmill tower from May to October 2012. Can we count on you again this year?  
Call Emily at (217) 696-2595 to volunteer for Gift Shop cashier, give tours of the Mill or Museum.

**You can't build your reputation on what you're going to do.**  
—Henry Ford

**EMMINGA BANK/NEW ERA BUILDING IN GREAT DISREPAIR**

This building is part of the Golden Historical Society. Since Joe Louderback had his train museum and memorabilia in this building, the building has set vacant and used for storage. We worked diligently and very hard to restore the Emminga Bank/New Era Building and to get it listed on the National Register of Historical Places. The building is falling into disrepair with windows broken and covered over with unsightly plywood. The interior plaster is falling off.

Permission has finally been obtained to run water and sewer lines to the building, electrical power will have to be reinstalled as well as some sort of heating source. **THIS CAN BE DONE!** We did it once, we can do it again. There are many ideas being talked about such as a tea shop/gift shop or museum annex. OR, we abandon it and put it up for sale.

Please direct your comments and suggestions to [dflesner@adams.net](mailto:dflesner@adams.net). These will be brought before the board at our next meeting.

***Did You Know.....***

Minimum Yearly Operational Cost Prairie Mill Windmill & Buildings      \$25,000.00\*

2013 Estimated Income:

Memberships	\$ 2,200
Follies	\$10,000
Sweet Corn Dinner	\$ 3,500
Special Events/Entertainment	\$ 5,500
Hall Rental	\$ 3,000
Gift Shop	\$ 2,000
Tours	\$ 1,500
Memorials & Misc	\$ 1,000
In-House Catering	<u>\$ 7,000</u>
	\$35,700

***Renew your membership today. Help us continue to maintain our heritage!*** A Membership form is enclosed for your convenience.

\*This figure covers only Insurance/Taxes/Utilities/Basis Maintenance. Emergency repairs are not included.

***ARE YOU AWARE?***

The Golden Historical Society has been active for **26 years**.

This year marks the **21<sup>st</sup> Follies** Presentation, our main source of income.

Approx. **240 hours** go into the preparation of food for the Follies.

**100+ volunteers** are required to wait tables in the dining hall and clean up.

A Great Grand Niece of Harm Emminga's, wife (Marie Gembler Emminga) visited our facilities in 2012

Clayton Work Camp supplies workers for general janitorial help, setting up tables/chairs for activities, decorating the complex with Christmas lights, grounds maintenance and other areas as needed. Their labor adds up to 450 + hours a year. We pay them by preparing a home-cooked meal and desserts.

**When it comes to spotting the faults of others, too many people seem to have twenty-twenty vision.**

**—Unknown**



902 Prairie Mills Road  
Golden IL 62339

Phone: 217-696-2722

Open Saturdays & Sundays  
May thru October 1-4 pm  
Or by appointment

[www.goldenwindmill.org](http://www.goldenwindmill.org)

---

Formed in 1986, the Golden Historical Society is a group of volunteers dedicated to restoring and preserving the Prairie Mills Windmill. Our mission is “to secure the necessary funding and build the necessary community support which will enable Golden to achieve its goal of restoring and maintaining the Windmill to functioning capacity. We will create a viable tourism environment which will sustain the Windmill and related businesses in the surrounding area.