

SCHPS
P.O. BOX 5017
BETTENDORF, IA 52722

Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



"Let your heritage not be lost, but bequeath it as a memory,
treasure, and blessing, and preserve it for your children."

— Christian Metz, 1846

The Grand Event Of The Year Is Here!

This Thursday, May 13, the SCHPS awards program will be presented at St. Mark's/St. Katharine's School. The school is located at 901 Tremont Avenue in Davenport. We invite you to tour the beautiful historic Renwick house at 6 p.m., then at 6:30 we welcome you to refreshments and social hour. The awards will be presented at 7 p.m.

This year's program promises to be a good one. A lot of wonderful work has occurred in our community. Come help us celebrate these accomplishments and let the awardees know their work is appreciated! The awards committee, after very careful consideration, has selected a diverse group of awardees ranging from homes, business/public buildings, people, cities, groups and funders. Come and find out who and why!

Call Beverly Buerkens, 355-2598, if you are able to give a food donation. She'll be delighted to hear from you. We have been asked to inform everyone to please only park in the lower lot, thank you.



Lithograph postcard of St. Katharine's provided by Karen Anderson.

April 2004 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting
April 8, 2004 • 7pm
The Bechtel House
9 Roberts Ave, Davenport

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Interested in Learning More About the History of Your House?

Rebecca Lawin McCarley, who completed the research on the Bechtel House, has her own business that specializes in research projects. She is available to do various levels of research on all types of historic structures. She also completes architectural surveys, National Register nominations, rehabilitation tax credit applications, and other historic preservation projects. If you would like her to work on a project for you, contact her directly at:

Rebecca Lawin McCarley, SPARK Consulting
1138 Oneida Ave, Davenport, IA 52803
563-324-9767 ~ sparkconsulting@juno.com

Karen's Been Busy, Busy, Busy. See Below!

March 15: Grand Excursion meeting

March 19: Attended meeting for Mid-Coast Arts (Bucktown Arts Center)

March 25: Met with historian Steven Keillor, Garrison's brother, who was in Davenport promoting his new Grand Excursion book

March 28: Gave program at LeClaire House for Antique Study Group.

April 20: Showed Lynn Spaight, Program Director of Iowa Humanities, around LeClaire House

April 22: Attended meeting of East Davenport Development Group. 50 per cent matching grant applications have been mailed to every household east of Main and south of 14th Street for residential rehab. \$250,000. available.

April 28: Met w/River Action. River Action and SCHPS have jointly applied for an Iowa Humanities grant for Grand Excursion which would include \$500. for permanent LeClaire House displays.

What An Unforgettable April Meeting.

SCHPS and Davenport Historic Preservation Commission member Gay Foster very generously shared her unique home with SCHPS members. Becky McCarley acted as tour guide and shared her expertise about style and history with us. Gay shared information about antiques, previous owners of the home and the challenges she has faced modernizing the home (or better yet, castle)!

Let's Support Our Friends With The Schuetzenpark Gilde.

The annual "Fruhstuck" breakfast in the park will be June 12 at 700 Waverly Road (the Good Samaritan Center). You will be treated to a fine breakfast casserole with a German flair, fresh fruit, breads, rolls, coffee, juice and wonderful breakfast sausage from Katy's Market in Moline. Held rain or shine under the big tent. \$5.00 per person. R.S.V.P. to (563)322-5489 or email SchuetzenPark@aol.com.

Excerpts From The Indian Springs Park Landmarking Request

To be presented to the Davenport Historic Preservation Commission at their May 11 Meeting, *Written by Karen Anderson*

The park is a historic 3 acre bowl valley located east of Hoover School and south of 11th Street extending all the way to River Drive. It was donated to the City of Davenport on October 29, 1921 by Mrs. D. N. Richardson. The deed stated that "this conveyance is made upon the express condition that the said premises are to be used by the City of Davenport only for park purposes."

Her intention was to create a safe park environment for young Village of East Davenport children. For 83 years her generous donation provided the only safe playground for children east of Mound Street and for thousands of children who attended adjoining Hoover School/Village Day Care.

Although Indian Springs was capped in 1929 (a 6 inch pipe now directs water into a storm drain), each spring during high water the park basin fills with spring water and shore birds return to nest. In 1986 the Village of East Davenport was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Indian Springs was such an important part of the Village's early frontier history that it was included within the original National Register boundaries.

When the City of Davenport landmarked the Village Historic District in recent years, the landmarking did not follow the National Register boundary. Indian Springs Park was left off, with no explanation. Even as other parks have been moved forward to be landmarked, Indian Springs has not been protected.

To maintain the integrity of this unique and most historic valley which has had such a major impact on the Village's history site as a whole, it is imperative that Indian Springs be placed within the City of Davenport's landmark protected boundaries.

Speaking Of Grand Excursion

On June 25 & June 26 10am-6pm and June 27 12-3pm the LeClaire House will be open. Trolleys will be running every 30 minutes bringing tourists to the home. Mississippi Rivertown postcard exhibit and Bosse River prints will become permanent LeClaire House exhibits. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO STAFF THE HOUSE DURING THESE HOURS. If you want, you can come in costume. For more information visit Janet Burgess, Amazon Vinegar & Pickling Works, 411 Brady Street.