



P.O. BOX 5017
BETTENDORF, IA 52722
SCHPS

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

It's Time for our Annual Holiday Party!

This year's party will be held at the home of Gene and Phyllis James, 20 River Drive, at 7 P.M. - Park on Glenwood or Grant St. Please bring finger food for our celebration.

The house has really evolved over the years. In the late 1800's a 2 story, 2 room log cabin was built on the site. In 1904 a four square house was attached to the cabin and later a detached garage was built for 2 cars and a shed added. The house was a triplex for 60 years. The James' bought the house twelve years ago and have done extensive work. The house is now a single family home with an apartment over the garage. Phyllis credits Gene for the work involved in restoring their home and also says that he decorates for Christmas!

You will be able to wander through the house and see "before and after" photos and a narrative of what has been done to the rooms. Socialize and learn about this historic home at the same time! We look forward to seeing!



The James home, which faces the Mississippi River, will be the location for this year's annual holiday party.

December 2004 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting
Dec. 9, 2004 • 7pm
20 River Drive, Bettendorf

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November Meeting Focused on Two Georgian/Federal Buildings on East Locust St

In 1967 Bob Sieren was driving along East Locust Street and saw a sign outside 810 saying the property was condemned. Bob had always admired the house and so he bought it. The property was in deplorable condition. The roof leaked, stately rooms had become apartments, the electrical system was overtaxed and the side porch was collapsing. Bob, a man with many skills, went to work, restored the damage and converted the building to 6 apartments.

We met in the stately entrance hall and were able to admire the floors, woodwork, staircases and wallpaper while listening to Bob's story. We can indeed be grateful that this property has been saved.

From 810 East Locust we went to 726, the home of new members Joe and Nora Riley who are starting the process of restoration from apartments to single family home. The Rileys have been in their home only 4 months but have accomplished a great deal. The downstairs has a large entry hall with a stately staircase, a room being used as a computer room/den, a living room with fireplace, modern kitchen and a dining room with built-in storage space and a large screened porch on the back. The upstairs has several bedrooms, a playroom, and bath. The home is so well built that the noise from busy Locust Street is minimal.

Joe and Nora have great enthusiasm for their project. We wish them well and hope to be able to help with restoration tips and appreciate their efforts in stabilizing the Oak Lane Historic District.

Holiday Events

VILLAGE OF EAST DAVENPORT

Dec. 3 - 4 and Dec. 10 - 11 from 6 to 10 P.M.

Come and see the "living windows" and the ice sculptures, talk with the live Santa, hear the music and enjoy the horse drawn carriage rides.

Dec. 10 - 11

Hear the Community Carolers and see the fireworks!

HOLIDAY BELL CONCERT

Saturday Dec. 4, 2004 from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Scott County Family YMCA

606 W. Fourth Street, Davenport

Join the members of the German-American Heritage Center Zither Ensemble and the Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ Bell Ringers for an afternoon of music. Long time

CITY OF LECLAIRE, IOWA

December 3, 4 and 5

Events will include Great Shopping, special Christmas cookies, a kraft show, fresh noodles, Santa and carriage rides. For further information call Joyce Kuehl, 289-4005.

Success for East Bluff Neighborhood Association

Photographs from 1912-1919 show the beauty of the planting beds in the dividers on Kirkwood Blvd. Quite a few of you have probably noticed the revival of that tradition this summer. Bruce Scheader, 1517 Arlington Street, organized the successful project.

Grants were obtained from United Neighbors and the Cornbelt Running Club. Volunteers, including our own Joe Kint and Polly Taylor, planted, watered and tended throughout the summer. Paul Eichhoff of the Davenport Park Board was the designer and advisor. Bruce says that additional plants were saved in case of vandalism or damage during the Bix 6 but were not needed! A program for picking up litter in the neighborhood has also been started.

Kirkwood Boulevard was a friendly place for Halloweeners this year. Homes were decorated and hayrides offered. A "flags on the boulevard" program has been started. From the last issue of the Iowa Historic Preservation Newsletter Dubuque was honored when Mrs. Laura Bush designated it among the nation's newest Preserve American Communities, the first such designation in Iowa.

"Preserve American communities demonstrate that they are committed to preserving America's heritage while ensuring a future filled with opportunities for learning and enjoyment," Mrs. Bush said. "This new community designation program, combined with the Preserve American Presidential Awards and federal support, provides strong incentives for continued preservation of our cultural and natural heritage resources. I commend you for your commitment to preserving an important part of our nation's historic past for visitors, neighbors, and, most importantly, for children."

The Preserve America initiative is a White House effort to encourage and support community efforts for the Preservation and enjoyment of America's priceless cultural and natural heritage. The goals of the initiative include: A greater shared knowledge about the nation's past; strengthened regional identities and local pride; increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and nature heritage assets; and support for the economic vitality of communities.

Communities designated through the program receive national recognition for their efforts. Benefits include use of the Preserve America logo, listing on a government web-based directory to showcase preservation and heritage tourism efforts, and eligibility for proposed Preserve America grants that will begin in Fiscal Year 2005 if enacted by Congress.

Davenport is applying to become part of Preserve America which would be most fitting considering the many preservation success stories in our community. For more information visit the following websites: www.dubuquechamber.com/visitors/index.html and www.PreserveAmerica.gov