

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

## Our Annual Meeting w/ Colonel Davenport!

Can you imagine what life was like in the Quad-Cities during the days of Fort Armstrong and early settlement? Probably not. But you can come close by visiting the reconstructed Colonel Davenport House, see the carefully assembled exhibits and listen to members of the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation.

We'll meet at the house on Arsenal Island at 6:30 p.m, instead of the usual 7 p.m. There will be a guided tour and you can learn all about the new projects going on at the house. \*We are trying to get Ronald Tweet to present his current program on Colonel Davenport. We wish to thank the following Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation officers for making this all available to us: **Marcia Wetzel, Gift Shop • Sue Wolters, Guides • Alice West, Events Chairman**

Please remember that you will need a photo ID (drivers license) for admission to the Rock Island Arsenal. Also, bring something to sit on, as the annual meeting will be held outside.



An 'under renovation' view of the Colonel Davenport House from across the Mississippi River.

## June 2005 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting  
June 9, 2005 • 6:30pm  
Col. Davenport's Home, RIA

### *President*

Ella Hartmann, 441-0698

### *Vice President*

Janet Corcoran, 386-3428

### *Secretary*

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### *Executive Director*

Karen Anderson, 324-0257

### *Newsletter Editor*

Sarah Graham, 326-3411

### *Board Members*

Beverly Buerkens, 355-2598

Judy Belfer, 324-7779

Suzi Rynn, 359-3704

Fred Vogt, 326-4180



## May's Meeting with a View.

We met at the small park on Clay Street (named after the type of soil that dominated the area) with its scenic overlook of the Mississippi River and the Centennial Bridge. There, we saw the exteriors of several distinctive homes. A fine turnout of about thirty-five members braved the chilly temperatures and cold wind to follow tour guide Gavin Schermer as he shared information about the significant houses there. Schermer works in the Community Development Department of the City of Davenport. Five Marycrest graduates in our group also helped fill in some information about how various buildings were used when they were on campus.

Early in the tour we admired the pristine exterior of the Schricker House. Behind the house is an impressive entrance and driveway leading to the recently-poured floor and foundation of a three car garage (carriage house perhaps?) Vonnie Flynn and Elaine Van Fossen found the rocking chairs on the porch very inviting. The tour ended at Clifton Manor on the west edge of the former campus. It appears that extensive interior renovation is in progress on this attractive home.

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## In Memory of Linda Weeks.

Linda (1939-2005), a long time SCHPS member, served on the Davenport Housing Commission board for 11 years. She also served on the board of Neighborhood Housing Service, a partnership between the City of Davenport and the banking community to prevent the east side neighborhood from declining. She was honored by the Housing Service as the second recipient of the Larry Reed award.

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## Up-Coming Events!

On June 25 the Rock Island Preservation Commission will celebrate Rock Island's 150th anniversary with walking epitaphs by actors in Chippianock Cemetery from 1-3 P.M. The public voted on 100 characters significant in Rock Island's history, ten of which will be portrayed. Loren Horton, an expert on Victorian history, will speak at noon in the chapel at the cemetery.

On June 26 the following events are scheduled: Art In the Park - An Arts and Crafts show at Velie Park (along 11th Avenue, Moline) to compliment the "Blossoms at Butterworth" event. Items by local artists will be on sale.

Blossoms at Butterworth will feature tours of the Deere-Wiman House (817 11th Ave., Moline) and the Butterworth Center (1105 8th St., Moline) from 12 noon to 5 P.M. The Rock Island Historical Society will have an Open House from 12 to 5 P.M. at 822-11th Ave., Moline at 2 P.M. You are invited to view the history and antiques of Rock Island County.

## Education Committee Update

On April 30 Karen Anderson, our Executive Director, was a leader of the Iowa Archaeological Society's annual meeting at the Putnam Museum. From 3 to 6 P.M. she led a crosstown bus tour of about 50 people. Highlights included the Antoine LeClaire House, the Claim House (Karla Anderson, 1320 College), the Lange Mansion (Dan & Lisa Burlingame, 1805 E. 12th St.) the Village of East Davenport, and the Camp Kearney Indian prison site.

On May 19 Karen met with Alderman Ahrens, Alderman Lynn, Parks Director Dan Sherman and Park Planner Paul Icoff to discuss possible donations of the aldermen's discretionary money to replace Indian Springs Park sign (E. 11th Street and Spring St.) A discussion also took place regarding rebuilding of the original 30 foot spring.

On May 26 Karen attended a meeting in Muscatine on the Iowa Great Places initiative. A lively discussion followed about what makes a place great and how to promote these places. The Iowa Great Places initiative was launched in January by Gov. Tom Vilsack and is designed to create partnerships between state offices and Iowa communities. Cities that apply to be a great place will receive a team with representatives from various state agencies to help create a Great Places application.

## Nora DeJohn moves to P.A.

Nora has been active in preservation and Davenport politics for many years. One of her most notable efforts was the campaign to save Central High School. In 1973 Nora and Wayne purchased their house at 1205 Spring Street which had been a 4 plex. They even restored the iron balcony on the upper porch roof.

Wayne salvaged bricks and big stone slabs from the Peterson Building on 2nd St. and River Drive to make a patio. The landscaping of the home is beautiful and includes many fruit trees. Nora, wearing her period costume with hoop skirt, could always be counted on to help with major SCHPS projects. We'll miss you, Nora.

## !! Be Sure to Attend the Annual Meeting !!

We'll elect board members and approve the budget for 2005-2006 as well as review this past year's activities. Your participation is vital, the 2005-2006 budget will be approved. Dues of \$15 are due and payable to our treasurer, Frank Beiwel, at the meeting or mailed to SCHPS, P.O. Box 5017, 1820 Grant St., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722.

We need people to help with merchandising our notecards and prints as well as someone to take over our scrapbook. If you are interesting please contact Ella, 441-0698. Thank you!