

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

A Steamy Riverboat Story.

What a treat, or should we say Tweet, we have in store for our members and guests! We invite you to stop by the Bettendorf Library and hear Roald Tweet talk about the era when steamboats plied the river. Roald can be heard Monday thru Friday on Augustana College FM radio station WVIK with "Rock Island Lines." His program is mainly about local history.

Our executive director, Karen Anderson, has an extensive collection of steamboat postcards which will be on display. Expect history and humor from this pair! We invited other local groups to attend—the Moline Historic Preservation Society and the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society have accepted! Please bring your friends, all are welcome!



Above is Ward Olson's painting of Julia Belle Swain.

March 2006 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting
March 9, 2006 • 7pm
Bettendorf Public Library

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Figge Art Gallery Returns LeClaire House Desk!

The LeClaire House was the seat of the Davenport diocese for many years. A desk used by the bishops and possibly used by the LeClaire family was deeded back to the LeClaire house by the diocese. The desk, now at the house, has a walnut cylinder, carved handles that look like bark covered branches and terminals with oak leaves and acorns. Can you imagine the raptures such a fine piece of antique furniture would bring on Antiques Roadshow? We'll get to see it first hand!

You're All Invited...

To the Bucktown Art Center at 6pm March 31 to a wine and cheese party celebrating the opening of the Center. SCHPS is one of the sponsoring organizations.

!! WELCOME !! NEW MEMBERS

Gavin Schermer & Erika Schmidt

Gavin and Erika were our tour guides at our April meeting when we toured Riverview Park and Marycrest College.

This Old House... With Vinyl Siding

Wall Street Journal, January 21, 2006

"Out with the old...in with the vinyl siding. In a shift that has preservationists squirming, some historic-home commissions are caving in and giving the nod to restorations with synthetic materials."

"The modern makeovers are mostly being fueled by homeowners who want the cachet of a period house without the burden of maintaining it. Local officials say they're simply responding to pressure from homeowners and contractors who want to use more durable materials. In St. Paul, Minn., the Heritage Preservation Commission, which regulates everything from the size of windows to the shape of porches in the city's historic district, recently approved requests for synthetic columns and a faux slate roof."

"But some purists are holding their ground. In historic Charleston, S.C., preservation officer Eddie Bello says that despite requests from homeowners and frequent calls and pitches from companies that make the faux materials, the commission won't consider their approval." Others agree; However, say change is inevitable. Waukesha, Wis., alderman Joseph Hoelkinger says. "If the house looks like it did 100 years ago, what's the problem?"

Education Committee Update

On December 16 Karen Anderson presented a program for the Historic Methods Class at St. Ambrose University at the LeClaire House.

Karen has been working with the Board of Directors of the Buffalo Bill Museum in LeClaire to present a postcard display entitled "Up the Mississippi" Feb. 23 - Mar. 22 which will feature steamboat postcards.

Does SCHPS = Bad Weather?

First, our Christmas party scheduled for December 8 was cancelled because of hazardous conditions. Second, the weather was challenging for our Valentine's Day party Feb. 9. And board was postponed a week because of conditions Feb. 16! Despite the weather, the Valentine's Day party at the Bettendorf Library was enjoyed by all in attendance! Kory Darnall, told us about his adventures with the SchuetzenPark Gilde, Judy Belfer described her trials and triumphs at #1 Prospect Lane and Chris Ericksen told us about his signal success saving the Fred Sharon House at 728 Farman Street. Phyllis James and Judy Belfer brought the punch and cookies. Thank you, one and all!

QC Times Features Ward Olson.

Ward Olson was on the cover of the QCTimes Feb. issue of *On the River* about artists and paintings of steamboats!

What a joy for all of his SCHPS friends to see this feature! Ward has helped SCHPS many times over the years and his work has benefited LeClaire House fundraising. We sell copies of his LeClaire House print and a steamboat print for \$20. As well as packets of 12 notecards of historic properties for \$6. which make wonderful gifts. Both cards and prints are for sale at the LeClaire House and the cards are for sale at River Music Experience, the Welcome Center in LeClaire and the Old Stone House in the Village of East Davenport.

