



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

## It's Time for our Annual Holiday Party!

Last year SCHPS was scheduled to have our Christmas party at the home of Gene and Phyllis James, but bad weather intervened and the party was called off! So this year we're trying again! Park on Greenwood or Grant St and enter through the back door. 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 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 thirteen 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 you!



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

## Dec 2006 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting  
**Dec. 14, 2006 • 7pm**  
20 River Dr, Bettendorf

### *President*

Judy Belfer, 324-7779

### *Vice President*

Janet Corcoran, 386-3428

### *Secretary*

Rex Grove, 355-8727

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Karen Anderson, 324-0257

### *Newsletter Editors*

Ella Hartmann, 441-0698  
Sarah Graham, 970-389-8550

### *Board Members*

Phyllis James, 355-5244  
Suzi Rynn, 359-3704  
Fred Vogt, 570-0886



# !! WELCOME !! NEW MEMBERS

Deb Wilson  
1914 Walling Court  
Davenport, Iowa 52803, 326-2254

Jack & Dakota Cline  
103 N. Elmwood St.  
Davenport, Iowa 52802, 322-1374

## Christmas Tour Could be Last for RIA Quarters One

Excerpt taken from **QC Cities Online**, Dec. 6  
Written By; John Marx, [jmarx@qconline.com](mailto:jmarx@qconline.com)

Quarters One, the Rock Island Arsenal's 134-year-old, 20,000 square-foot Italiante-style mansion, is elegantly dressed for the holidays. Home to Major General Jerome Johnson and his wife, Doris, Quarters One is the nation's second-biggest federally owned single-family residence, trailing only the White House.

It opened in 1871 and features 51 rooms, 10 fireplaces and a four-story observation tower complete with rooftop deck. The home was the brainchild of General Thomas Jefferson Rodman, though Rodman died just months before the mansion officially began serving the Rock Island Arsenal.

On Saturday, 12/9 from noon to 6 p.m., the Rock Island Arsenal Women's Club will host a holiday home tour of Quarters One, taking the private residence to the community for what could be the last time. The \$20 entrance fee proceeds will go to the group's general scholarship fund.

Mrs. Johnson says she knows nothing about her home's fate, but agreed it could be the final holiday tour—as a private residence—for Quarters One. The Army's Installation Management Agency decided the limestone mansion, which has served 37 military commanders and their families, would be best used as a possible revenue-generating facility.

The hope of RIAGC, according to a news release, is "To convert and transform Quarters One into a historically compliant adaptive re-use in order to optimize return."

**To read the full story go to [www.qconline.com](http://www.qconline.com)**

## NEEDED!!!

**An Archivist**—someone to collect information for SCHPS, particularly for the LeClaire House. Files will be kept at the LeClaire House.

**Historian**—to develop SCHPS history.

**ExNet Provider**—call Judy Belfer, 324-7770, [belferj@worldnet.att.net](mailto:belferj@worldnet.att.net) to help her upgrade her computer.

## November's Meeting

Our November 9th meeting was held inside the Capitol Theater. Richard Horst, development director for the Scott County Community College, talked about the college's history with the Kahl Building. The heirs of Henry Kahl gave the building to SCCC along with funding for future development. The building now houses classrooms for the college and plans are being developed for the theater.

## Gateway Development Group Benefit

There will be an open house January 28, 2007, 1-4 pm. Duane Timm and Jeff Gomez have been busy restoring the house at 624 W. 5th Street, Davenport. Restoration of the house will feature the patterns of Bassett & Vollum wallpapers that were printed by Duane.

## A Glimpse Across the Ocean of Holiday Traditions.

The German-American Heritage Center will display antique German ornaments, feather trees and creches continuing through to January. The centerpiece of the display is a 12 foot Christmas tree decorated with handblown ornaments, lights and lead tinsel from the 1940's. Many photographs show traditional European Christmasses and villages all decked out. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for over 60 or older, and \$1 for students.

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

SCHPS

**No January Meeting**

R.I.A. HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

**Thursday, December 7**

Judy Beland—History of East Moline. Call Judy Belfer 324-7779 for details

**No January Meeting**

**Thursday, February 1**

Gordon Frick—Deere Pool

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE OF EAST DAVENPORT

**Friday, December 8—6 to 9pm**

**Saturday, December 9—6 to 9pm**

Live store windows, live music, horse-drawn traileed ride, appearance of Santa Claus & a living Nativity, plus raffles!

## December 8<sup>th</sup> Show Opening

At the Putnam Museum, *Quad-Cities Yesterday and Today*, explores our community's changing face over the last 100 years through photographs and artifacts.

**SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO  
[sarah@graham-graphics.com](mailto:sarah@graham-graphics.com) if you would  
like to get your SCHPS newsletter early!**