

Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.  
1923 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52803

# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



## February Meeting~~~

### Valentine Fun in February - History of Local Breweries~

On February 14, 2008, 6:00 P.M. at the Front Street Brewery, (lower level which is unfortunately not handicapped accessible), 2008 E. River Drive, Davenport, SCHPS will host a joint meeting with all the historical societies in the Quad Cities and the public is invited as well. The topic will be History of Local Breweries. Front Street brew master, Steve Zuidema, will give a short talk about modern brewing techniques and will even give us a taste of his brews after our historical meeting! For those of you who can come early, Front Street offers a full dinner menu plus appetizers. Come early and enjoy dinner, conversation, and sample the brews with other SCHPS members!

Our featured guest speaker will be Mike Wenthe, of Taylor Ridge, IL, a local brewery historian with 30+ years experience. He will talk to us about local brewing. Additional artifacts will be provided by Merle Vastine who has had a brewing display at the German American Heritage Center. Anyone with information on more local breweries should contact Judy Belfer, President of SCHPS. Also if you have any items from any of the local Quad City breweries, please bring them to the February meeting. Parking is tight adjacent to the Front Street Brewery, but there is the City lot across River Drive. Remember all historical groups as well as all citizenry are invited, (spread the word). Hope to see you on February 14 (Valentine's Day!).

In 1894, Scott County sported over 240 saloons - 150 in Davenport alone! Our German forefather's passion for imbibing in the spirits led to the establishment of 15 different breweries. Harrison Street was regularly referred to by vexed local teetotalers as "the Trench", in reference to the raw, fly infested, sour mash, which oozed downhill all the way to the Mississippi River.

When President Garfield died in 1881, a federal mandate required that all saloons in the nation be locked for 2 hours during his funeral. The order set off an abject panic among local saloon keepers-- who had no keys. No one could remember a saloon ever closing in Davenport.



**Farnam Dinner is February 22, 2008, watch newspapers**

## February 2008 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting~  
February 14, 2008  
6:00 P.M.  
(Come early for dinner)

Front Street Brewery  
208 E. River Drive,  
Davenport

### *President*

Judy Belfer, 324-7779

### *Vice President*

Janet Corcoran, 386-3428

### *Secretary*

Rex Grove, 355-8727

### *Treasurer*

Frenc Beiwel, 386-1969

### *Executive Director*

Karen Anderson, 324-0257

### *Newsletter Editors*

Polly Taylor, 326-2953

### *Board Members*

Phyllis James, 355-5244

Mary Costello, 326-2158

Suzi Ryan, 359-3704

Fred Vogt, 570-0886

### **Ella Hartmann~**

Our past president and long term board member passed away on January 12, 2008. Her passion for historic restoration will be missed. We extend our sympathy to the family. She will truly be missed by us.

### **Next Meeting~**

The March meeting of SCHPS will be Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. The topic will be "Mississippi River Dreams-Irish Coming of Age in the 1850's". The meeting is open to the public and all historic groups are invited and encouraged to attend. Local author and current SCHPS Board Member, Mary Costello, will be the featured speaker. Don't miss this chance to hear excerpts from her book and to learn more about the early Irish history of the Quad Cities!

### **Dues~**

Annual dues for SCHPS are collected each June. If you received an envelope enclosed with this newsletter, it means your June 2007 - June 2008 SCHPS dues are overdue. The envelope is enclosed for your convenience, or you may pay your dues to Ferné Beiwel, SCHPS Treasurer, at the Front Street Brewery on February 14. Thanks for your continued support of SCHPS!

### **Make that Item History~**

Members only may submit an 18-word ad in the SCHPS newsletter (including member's name and phone number), for spaces to rent of things to sell. Listings are limited to historic items only. The cost is \$5 for one month, \$10 for three months. Contact Judy Belfer at 324-7779.

### **SCHPS Note Cards~**

SCHPS has local historic landmark note cards for sale. They are packaged 10 to a box (8 different buildings) and will be for sale at the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please consider using these to show your pride in Quad City History and buy extra boxes for special gifts.

### **"Year Round" gifts~**

- Call Karen Anderson (324-0257)
- 3 1/2 inch commemorative crystal "City Hall" paper weights -- \$3.00
- Ward Olson: "J.S. Steamboat" tote bags -- \$10.00
- "Delta Queen"/"Mississippi Queen"/"LeClaire House" watercolor prints -- \$20.00
- LeClaire's Town children's coloring/history book -- \$6.00

### **Guide to Historic Districts~**

'Discovering Davenport' - The City of Davenport has a new map to guide you to Davenport Historic Districts. These maps are available through the City of Davenport. For copies contact their web site at [www.cityofdavenportiowa.com](http://www.cityofdavenportiowa.com).

### **Welcome New Members~**

SCHPS would like to welcome our new members: Linda Morgan-Brooke of Davenport, David Cordes, and Bryan Pattschull of Rock Island. Thank you for joining SCHPS, and we look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

### **Enrichment at Local Colleges~**

SCC and BHCC have historical education mini-courses advertised in the Plus 60 section of the QC Times, but registration is open to the general public.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> Scott County Community College will hold a one-day seminar at the Outing Club, which has a history that spans more than 100 years. Tour the buildings and grounds and have a famous traditional 1910 "Outing Club Meal". Fee is \$19.00/Class #46475. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, Black Hawk College is offering a seminar entitled "All Aboard Amtrak to the Quad Cities and Beyond", at the Holiday Inn, Rock Island. Fee is \$17.50/Class #11787.

### **Target Area of Central City-Rehab Assistance Available**

#### **~100 Homes Program~**

See the article in the January 9-15, 2008 edition of the River City Reader for more details about the **100 Homes Program** targeting a portion of the East Bluff District of Davenport (**between 14<sup>th</sup> and Locust, Perry to Carey**). Additional information can also be gotten by contacting the City at 563-326-7748 or by going online at [CityofDavenportIowa.com/HomeBuyer](http://CityofDavenportIowa.com/HomeBuyer).

Unlike most rehab programs that offer assistance to low-income families, this program challenges higher income people to reinvest in this neighborhood. Even though there is no income ceiling for 100 Homes, to have a loan fully forgiven, the city requires participants to use the home as their primary residence for a period of five years, and must demonstrate that their improvement projects have a positive impact on the neighborhood.

**Rock Island Arsenal Historic Society** meets the first Thursday of each month. Contact Judy Belfer 324-7779 for information.

### **Summary of December Meeting~**

SCHPS members celebrated the holidays in style on December 13 in the beautifully renovated home of Phyllis and Gene James at 20 East River Drive in Bettendorf. The property started as a two-room cabin in 1904. Later a four-square home was attached. Over the years the house has been a triplex, but Phyllis and Gene have carefully renovated it to a single family home. Members enjoyed touring their home, viewing before pictures, and comparing to the finished product. Guests shared holiday treats and great conversation around the dining room table. As a preview SCHPS members also toured the Shields-Burdick Mansion, currently owned by Melinda Elsworth, located at the corner of East River Drive and College Avenue in Davenport (currently for sale). This home, built in 1880 in the Second Empire style, has a mansard roof. We were very happy to have members of both the Gold Coast Historic District (Davenport) and Broadway Historic District (Rock Island) join us in our Christmas celebration! Thank your for attending! We hope to see you again in February.