

Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.
PO Box 5017
Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

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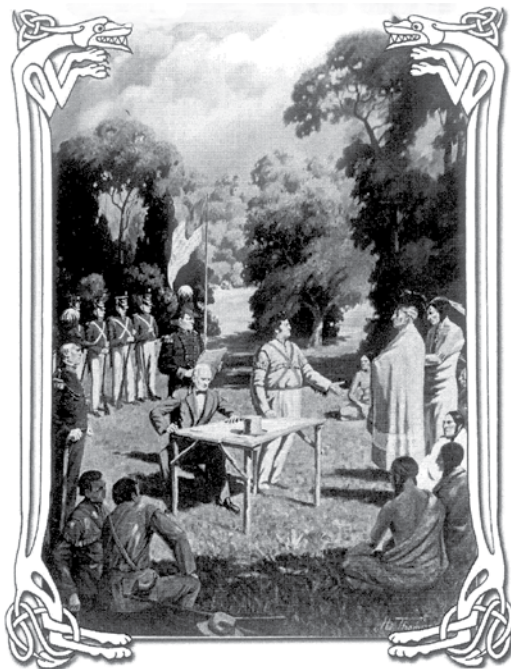
Follow the Celtic Heritage Trail~

Long before the 1848 Revolution sent tens of thousands of German immigrants fleeing to the Midwest in search of political freedom, wagon trains of disenfranchised Irish immigrants had already broken the trail across half a continent and into the Black Hawk Purchase by 1833. By the time the city of Davenport was founded, in 1836, over twenty-five percent of the city's settlers were of Irish Catholic extraction.

Irish labor built the first railroads west of the Mississippi River, provided the muscle-in-the-arm to man the first log rafting mills, formed a tenacious fighting force during the Civil War, and became the backbone of the burgeoning "Farm Implement Capital of the World".

The compelling story of the contributions of laborers, merchants and publishers has become the focus of a fascinating new booklet, "*The Early Celtic Heritage of Davenport*", published by The Celtic Heritage Trail group, with the help of a \$23,000 RDA grant. The booklet features a tour map, photos and background information on the 10 new historic iron marker plaques, mounted on posts, which are being/have been erected throughout frontier Davenport. It is a booklet you will want to add to your history library collection!

Join SCHPS on Thursday, Sept. 11th, 6:00 P.M., in the parking lot behind Sacred Heart Cathedral for a fascinating guided car-caravan tour of Davenport's earliest Irish frontier history sites. Two Celtic Trail organizers, Bill Fisher, President of Celtic Heritage Trail, and Ryan Dye VP of CHT/Professor at St. Ambrose, will lead the tour. After the tour, our entourage will retire to Mac's Tavern, a proper Irish pub, on the north side of 3rd Street between Ripley and Harrison, for refreshments--and to raise a toast to celebrate Davenport's new Celtic Heritage Trail. (If you have a large vehicle that can carry several people and are willing to be a driver on the tour, please bring your large vehicle and offer other members the opportunity to ride with you on the tour). Cork Hill, the Irish neighborhood of old, is very steep and the area would be very difficult to traverse as a walking tour.) See you at 6:00, Sept. 11 for a Celtic Heritage Tour!



Black Hawk Purchase Treaty depicting Antoine LeClaire, Governor John Reynolds, and General Winfield Scott at table. (Original painting in downtown Davenport's Wells Fargo Bank lobby)

September 2008 Newsletter

Upcoming SCHPS meeting
September 11, 2008, 6:00 P.M.

Celtic Heritage Trail
Sacred Heart Cathedral

Next SCHP Meeting
October 9, 2008
Possibly on Annie
Wittenmeyer grounds

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Judy Belfer, 324-7779

Vice President
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Newsletter setup courtesy of  DPC

Davenport Printing Company

(563) 322-4634 or visit their website at www.davenportprinting.com

Fabulous Tour of Quarters One~

SCHPS would like to sincerely thank Mike Weizel for the fantastic tour of Quarters One on July 10th. Members were awestruck by the magnificence of General Thomas J. Rodman’s Greek Revival Italianate stone mansion located on Arsenal Island right on the bank of the Mississippi! The tour included seeing most of the mansion’s 51-rooms, which was built from 1870-1872. One highlight was seeing the bed that Charles Lindbergh slept in when he visited Quarters One in 1937.

Thank You!

SCHPS would like to thank all donors to Ella’s memorial bench and announce that we are almost there – within about \$200 of the money needed to complete paying for the marker and iron bench! “Won’t you help make Ella’s memorial bench on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River at the LeClaire House become a reality before the snow flies this winter? Thanks for your support!

Gold Coast – Hamburg Historic Tour of Homes Saturday Sept 6 11:00- 4:00 pm and Sunday, Sept. 7, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Price is \$10.00 per person tickets can be purchased at any of the following tour locations.

Homes are:

- 624-West 5th Street (Wulff Hahn Home 1872)
 - 822-Gaines (Bredow Home 1876)
 - 618-West 8th Street (Andrew Finch Home 1901)
 - 628 Ripley (Wm Ruser Home 1896)
 - 412 West 6th Street (Overview—August Steffen Home 1901)
 - And the James Hotel
 - 712 West 2nd Street (German American Heritage Center 1862)
- Please sponsor our fellow historical society – they have done so much to beautify and retain the history of Davenport.

Annual Country School Conference~

October 10-11 in Ames Iowa: This year’s conference, “Perceptions of the Country School”, will feature Dr. Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, ISU Director of Graduate Education, Program in Agricultural History and Rural Studies. Learn the pros and cons of restoring a country school to a specific time period, how to create a website for your country school museum, and how to beautify your country school’s grounds appropriately. Get the latest on resources available for restoration of country schools. On Saturday learn about the Lincoln Highway as you tour Nevada’s historic village, Colo’s Reed-Niland restored gas station and motel, and country schools in State Center and Marshalltown. Conference Registration is \$30 for educational session on Fri. and \$ 30 for bus tour on Sat. (includes lunch both days). For more information go to www/iowapreservation.org or contact Bill Sherman at 1-800-434-2039.

Upcoming Events~

Sunday Sept. 21, 2:00 p.m. at the GAHC- (\$5:00) Gary Wagle, President of Friends of the Hennepin Canal, and President of the 101st Anniversary program on the Hennepin Canal will present on the 104.5 mile long State Park spanning 5 Illinois Counties and provides a wide variety of recreational activities including fishing, boating, picnicking, canoeing, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling and snowmobiling. The Hennepin Canal is listed on the Register of National Historic Places.

Seminars Offered~

by both Scott Community College and Blackhawk College that may be of interest: September 12: Scott Community seminar, “Historic Davenport,” with bus transportation and lunch at the Outing Club: \$19. Class number 55162.

September 17: Black Hawk lunch and learn seminar: 6.00 -”Delta Queen”/”Mississippi Queen”/”LeClaire House” watercolor prints--\$20 LeClaire “Quartered Along the Mississippi,” a history of Quarters One on Arsenal Island, at the Arsenal Club.

October 15: Black Hawk College lunch and learn seminar, Ronald Tweet presents “Volunteers and their Impact Throughout Quad-City History” at The Lodge in Bettendorf. (Signup after August 4th).

Scott Community College number is 563-441-4100. Blackhawk College number is 309-796-4800, Ext. 8223

SCHPS Note Cards (\$10 per box)~ To order, call Karen Anderson (324-0257)

SCHPS has local historic landmark note cards for sale. They are packaged 10 to a box (8 different buildings) and are for sale from SCHPS. 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
- LeClaire’s Town children’s coloring/history book--\$6.00

Welcome New Members ~

- P.J. Slobojan
- Vicki and Don Pruter
- Charles and Margaret VanFossen
- Mark Wiste

JOIN US!

Membership fee: \$15 per household per year (July 1-June 30)

Members receive:

- ~ 10 newsletters per year
- ~ Opportunities to participate in meetings, special events, and guided tours
- ~ A chance to meet and share with other people interested in historic preservation

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

We want everyone to be informed of our meetings and activities.

Please check how you wish to receive your newsletter~

Email copy is sufficient: _____

Hard Copy through US Mail is sufficient: _____

Both Email and Hard Copy: _____

Please pay annual dues when you come to our monthly meeting or Mail to:

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P. O. Box 5017
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Areas of Interest (please check all that apply):

- Serving on Board
- Editing Newsletter
- Presenting a program of Historical Interest
- Tour Guide for LeClaire House
- Researching a Project
- Fundraising
- Being a host at meetings
- Having SCHPS tour your house/business
- Hands-on Labor
- Staffing a merchandise table
- Advocate at City Council meetings
- Ideas for Programs
- Other: _____