

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

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Patriots of the Prairies~

Iowa may be far from the historic battlefields of the Civil War, but Iowa's liberty loving German freedom fighters managed to ignite the abolitionist powder keg that began that war from the far off banks of the Mississippi River. From the Supreme Court battle over Dred Scott's claim site---which was established within the Free Territory of Iowa under the piers of the Bettendorf Bridge, to a Scott County farmer's fight to be heard at the 1860 Chicago Republican Convention---which catapulted an unknown lawyer named Abraham Lincoln into the Presidency, Scott County, Iowa left an indelible mark on our nation's Civil War history.

Join SCHPS for our June 11th meeting as Karen Anderson recounts: John Brown's raid on the Federal Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, the Davenport store clerk, who made a harrowing cross-country escape after that raid to reach the sanctuary of German abolitionist sympathizers in Davenport; a Davenport newspaper editor's rise to such national fame that assassins tried to shoot him off his horse one dark night as he made his way home past Trinity Cathedral; the arrival of a dashing band of cavaliers, fresh from the Hungarian Revolution, who held court in the LeClaire House Hotel for one year, then later joined their German counterparts to form an elite corps of military officers who would fight their way across the south during the Civil War, with honors. (Counts and Countesses still lie buried in old City Cemetery, next to immigrant farmers and shopkeepers.)

The bravery of immigrant troops during the Civil War produced the highest volunteer, and death, rate per capita of any state in the union. Their public patriotism spawned more towns named "Liberty" than any state in the nation. Join us for our pre-Fourth of July celebration to honor the unsung Davenport immigrant heroes who distinguished themselves as true "Patriots of the Prairies".

Special Thank You to our hosts for our last meeting~

Special thanks to the GAHC for its kind hospitality and special thanks to Schar Blevins for her very interesting and informative presentation on discovering/researching the genealogy of your home. It was fascinating to learn about the research resources available and to see so many members excited about doing research on their properties.



Suzi Rynn Memorial~

Suzi Rynn was one of SCHPS's most dedicated Board members, officers, LeClaire House volunteers and City Hall preservation advocates for over twenty years. When Suzi passed away last October, SCHPS established the Suzi Rynn Memorial Fund. It is our intention to purchase a beautiful three piece Victorian prisms girandole mantel candelabra set for the LeClaire House parlor, in Suzi's honor. Won't you please join us in providing a permanent memorial for one of SCHPS most dedicated members? (Donations should be made out to "SCHPS", and then sent to Treasurer Ferenc Beiwel, 1220 Waverly Road, Davenport, Iowa 52804, with a foot note "For-the Rynn Memorial Fund".) Thank You!



above: Girandole Mantel Candelabra

June 2009 Newsletter

June 11, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.
"Patriots of the Prairies" by Karen Anderson; Election of Officers/Board (Dues are due for 09-10) At the Antoine LeClaire House- 630 E. 7th St., Davenport

July 9, 2009: 6:00 P.M. Tour of Renwick Mansion 901 Tremont Ave., Davenport (Tremont and 10th St.)

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Vice President
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July Meeting of SCHPS~ come see the splendor of **Renwick Mansion, Davenport's finest example of Italianate Villa Style architecture.** Built in 1877 by one of the cities most prominent lumber industrialists, William Renwick, it features a rock-faced limestone exterior and is elegantly appointed on the interior with magnificent woodwork and marble fireplaces. Dr. Joe Seng's purpose upon purchasing the home was to make this stately home available for the use and enjoyment of the public. (Don't miss this chance to see a premiere QC home with 4 acres of ground overlooking the Mississippi River!)

Shopping and Gift Giving for Someone Special Made Easy!!!! SCHPS Note Cards (\$10 per box)~
Call Karen Anderson (324-0257)

SCHPS has local historic landmark-building note cards for sale that are original artwork by noted local artist Ward Olson. These cards are suitable for framing). The note cards are packaged 10 to a box (8 different buildings). Please consider using these to show your pride in Quad City History and buy extra boxes for special gifts.

Upcoming Events~

Fort Armstrong Centennial Celebration~ Wed. June 10th, 12 noon at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club on Arsenal Island. For 20 years, from 1816 to 1836, Fort Armstrong served as a cornerstone for the communities developing on both sides of the river. The Fort's importance was recognized in 1916, when community members representing each of the Tri-Cities organized and built a replica blockhouse to mark the site of the former Fort. See photographs and documents from the event. Presented by Kris Leinicke. Luncheon cost ~ CDHF members \$13, Non-members \$16. Mail check, payable to CDHF c/o Donald O'Shea, 3113 2nd St., Moline, IL 61265 or pelagius@qconline.com. RSVP by June 5.

Quad City Heritage League~ Sat. June 6 at Oakdale Cemetery in Dav. at 2:00 P.M. Special Guest Speaker is Dee Deuth on the topic "Remember When".

Gold Coast and Historic Hamburg District Association sponsoring (on Sunday, June 14) "High Tea & High Flags with Ellis Kell", the 3rd Annual High Tea in Davenport, Iowa's Historic Gold Coast. Tea at 1:30 P.M. in 3 lovely restored historic homes: the Paul Karlowa Home - 723 Brown St., the Captain James May Home - 624 Western Ave., and the Henry Christian Struck Home - 703 Ripley Street. Concert at 3:00 P.M. (rain venue at German American Heritage Center): Ellis Kell's folk, blues, patriotic concert at Gold Coast Park at 7th and Ripley. Cost: \$33 (\$30 for +60, Red Hats). Contact: PJ Slobojan, 563-326-2894, pjs312@q.com

Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society~ June 4th at 7:00 P.M. The blockhouse today on Arsenal Island is a replica of the one at Fort Armstrong that existed from 1816 - 1836. Regena 'Gena' Schantz, featured speaker, will bring this period on Arsenal Island alive with an informative presentation entitled, "No Small Sacrifice: Military Life at Fort Armstrong." The meeting is open to the public at no charge. The Moline, Illinois and

Davenport, Iowa entrances to Arsenal Island are open 24 hours. Please have a valid picture ID, such as a driver's license, and tell the guard at the gate you are attending a function at the Arsenal Club. (Next meeting of RIAHS will be held in September)

Rock Island County Historical Society - Annual Picnic~ June 15 at 11:30 A.M. in Lincoln Park in RI (Large Pavilion on 42nd St. Hilltop) Terry Stimpson of Keystone Neighborhood Assn. will present a program entitled "Lincoln Park, Cultural Mecca of Q.C." For details call 309 764-8590.

Moline Preservation Society~ Sunday, June 19, Noon - 5:00 - Blossoms at Butterworth & Deere Wiman plus have the Historic 11th Ave. Experience. FREE to the PUBLIC! Impressive gardens at the historic Butterworth Center and Deere Wiman House plus several exciting activities including old-fashioned music and games of the 1800's, free guided trolley tours and festivities. For more details contact www.molinepreservation.org (Please support the MPS in its effort to prevent the demolition of the Davenport, Rock Island and Northwestern Railroad Depot (in Moline). It is proposed to be demolished with the construction of the new I-74 Bridge across the Mississippi. (This is an historical QC Landmark and we need to rally to save it!)

German American Heritage Center~ June 6th -program on the Hegeler Carus Mansion at the GAHC at 2:00 P.M. (\$5.00 for non-members, free to members) This program is to prepare for the trip to LaSalle on June 20th.

Sat., June 20 GAHC is sponsoring a bus trip to LaSalle, IL (depart at 8:30 a.m. and return about 5:30 p.m.) Tour will include an hour trip on the I & M canal aboard a replica 19th century canal boat pulled by mules as it was 150 years ago. After that, the group will enjoy a buffet lunch at the Lock 16 visitor center café and have time to view canal exhibits and browse in the gift shop. Finally, there will be a tour of the stately Hegeler Carus Mansion, a National Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Learn all about the Carus family, a German-American family whose international history is tightly woven with that of the Illinois Valley. (\$50 for GAHC Members, \$60 for Non-members) To register or for more information contact: 563 322-8844, Fax 563 322-2687, or email director@gahc.org Registration deadline is May 15, 2009

Annual Dues~

SCHPS's membership year runs from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Our dues will remain the same for the 2009-2010-membership year: \$15.00 per household. However this will only include the newsletter by email. To control spiraling costs, the SCHPS Board has voted to request that any household requesting a hand mailed monthly newsletter, will incur an additional \$5.00 cost per year. In short for membership and hard copy of monthly newsletter, annual dues will be \$20.00. We have not raised dues for over 17 years and with the increases in postage and printing costs, we must request this dues increase to cover our costs. We hope this will not create a problem for our long-term members and look forward to everyone renewing their membership soon.

A membership form is attached at the bottom of this newsletter. Please join us! Giving us your email address also helps us be able to notify you of special meetings, events, etc. quickly.

JOIN US!

Membership fee: \$15 per household per year (July 1-June 30) for email copy, \$20 per household for hard copy

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: _____

Please check how you wish to receive your newsletter~

Email copy (\$15): _____

Hard Copy - US Mail (\$20): _____

Both Email & Hard Copy (\$20): _____

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

Scott County Historic Preservation Society Inc.
P. O. Box 5017
Bettendorf, IA 52722

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: _____