

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

# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



Put a big red circle on your fall "old house" tour calendar for **Sept. 10, 7 P.M.** Scott County Historic Preservation Society members have been invited to



take a sunset tour of Davenport's finest example of Italian Revival Villa architecture---the **Renwick Mansion, 901 Tremont Avenue.** The Renwick is a *tour de force* among mansions with its castle-like exterior of rock faced limestone, with a massive iron crested tower jutting skyward above the tree tops. The mansion's interior is equally as jaw dropping, with 12-14 ft. high interior doors, three story walnut staircase, marble foyer, eight

incredible marble fireplaces, original wooden window shutters, period furnishings and a panoramic view from the tower which extends miles up, and down, the river valley.

The mansion was built on its four acre bluff top prominence in 1877 by lumber baron James Renwick, owner of the legendary Renwick Saw Mill. In 1907, the mansion became part of the St. Katharine's School complex. The Renwick Mansion was extensively renovated in 1997 by local historic property developer Chris Ales. Today, the renovation continues in the capable hands of local preservationist Dr. Joe Seng, who rents the mansion for weddings and public gatherings. A visit to the Renwick will not soon be forgotten. Hope to see you there!!!



## SCHPS RAID VILLAGE SALOON- July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting



Greta Nettleton of Palisades NY & Karen Anderson

## September 2009 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting  
*September 10th, 2009*  
7:00pm

**Renwick Mansion Tour**  
901 Tremont Avenue  
(Parking along entry drive  
inside gates or 10<sup>th</sup> Street)  
Do not park in tenant lots

*President*

Judy Belfer, 324-7779

*Vice President*

Janet Corcoran, 386-3428

*Secretary*

Rex Grove, 335-8727

*Treasurer*

Frenc Beiwel, 386-1969

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Karen Anderson, 324-0257

*Newsletter Editor*

David Pai, 579-1996

*Board Members*

Mary Costello

Duane Timm, 323-4077

Fred Vogt, 570-0886

**Special Thanks to** Todd & Mandy Wiebenga for allowing SCHPS to take a sunset walk through Aunt Rhodie's Gardens during our July 9<sup>th</sup> "Village Historic District Walking Tour." A good time was had by all---judging by the number of members still soaking up local "history" in Grumpy's Saloon long after the tour ended.

**Welcome new members**

Jill Fluker, Doug Arnold, David & Rachael Pai

**Wow!!!** Polly Taylor & Joe Kint's new iron garden fence at 628 Kirkwood Blvd. **A Must See...**

**Ella Hartmann Memorial Bench-**

As we speak, Ella Hartmann's memorial iron park bench is being installed on the edge of the bluff in front of the Antoine LeClaire Mansion. It is beautiful! Take a brown bag lunch and enjoy the river view one day soon. Ella would love it.

**September 12<sup>th</sup> 1-5pm-** Living Epitaphs  
The Oakdale Memorial Gardens will host "Forget-me-not Victorian Day", a fundraiser for the cemetery. It will feature refreshments and guided walking tours of the grounds, where actors will portray historical figures buried there. The program also includes Mid-Victorian fashion demonstrations, and guided tours on cemetery symbolism.

**September 16th 12 noon-** Lunch & Learn  
Featured Presenter- Dr. Ann Boaden  
RIA Golf Club, Members \$15 Non-members \$16  
RSVP by 9-11 Don O'Shea at (309) 762-8156

**September 17<sup>th</sup> 7pm**

The Atkinson-Peak House Museum  
822 – 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Moline  
The Moline Preservation Society invites all Scott County Preservation Society members to join them in a tour of the Atkinson-Peak house-museum owned and managed by the Rock Island County Historical Society. The house is located across the street from the two Deere houses, Butterworth Center and Deere-Wiman house. Ample parking is available adjacent to the house. Those attending will gather in RICHS's extensive research library attached to the rear of the home before touring the house. Tour guides will assist those attending explaining the history of the house, its connection to the Deere family and pointing out unique items found throughout the house.

**September 12<sup>th</sup> 1pm-** Bauhaus Architecture  
Christofer Wegscheid will give a presentation at the Bettendorf Public Library (BPL) at 1 pm, on 9/12. The Bauhaus (German for "house for building") was a school of design founded in the tumult of post-WW I Germany. After its closure by the Nazis, and the wartime exodus of teachers and students, the Bauhaus ethos spread around the world.

**September 12<sup>th</sup> 1pm-** DeWitt Hausbarn.  
Steve Lindner will give a talk about the Hausbarn that was brought from Germany, piece by piece, and reassembled in DeWitt. Bettendorf Public Library, 1:30 pm. (Only the thatch roof is new.)

**September 17-18<sup>th</sup>-** State Historic Preservation Workshops, Muscatine.  
Contact: kathy.gourley@iowa.gov

**September 19-20<sup>th</sup>-** Riverssance Art Fair, Lindsay Park, Village of East Davenport.

**September 26th 7pm- Ghost Tales...**  
Colonel Davenport House RIA  
Children \$2 Adults \$3 Family \$10

**October 3-4<sup>th</sup>-10am-4pm Grand Opening!!!**  
German American Heritage Center  
"The Immigrant Experience" Exhibit . The German American Heritage Center underwent a complete interior renovation and has increased the exhibit space. During grand opening festivities, the Center will unveil the new interactive permanent exhibit. Enjoy performances by the German Dancers, music demonstrations, children's activities, and more...

**October 3-4<sup>th</sup>-** Village of East Davenport Oktoberfest, music, scare crow contest, pumpkin painting, fire truck rides and fire truck displays.

**October 4<sup>th</sup> 11am-** German-American Day Festival  
The festival will be held at Schuetzen Park, beginning with German language church service and will continue with German-style food and music, traditional "bird shoot" and volksmarch.

**October 7<sup>th</sup> 12 Noon-** Lunch & Learn  
RIA Golf Club, Members \$15 Non-members \$16  
Dr Roald Tweet "Steamboats vs. Railroads."

**November 8<sup>th</sup> 2pm-** German American Heritage Center  
Davenport Shooting Club and the Old and New Schuetzen park.

**Suzi Rynn Memorial-**  
Suzi Rynn's memorial girandole mantel set, to be displayed at the LeClaire House, is getting closer and closer to becoming a reality with the recent donation of an additional \$300.00 to the fund by Suzi's twin brother and nephew. Won't you join the effort to honor Suzi, one of SCHPS most dedicated volunteers?

**BEST \$15.00 YOU'LL EVER SPEND—  
YOUR SCHPS DUES!**

SCHPS dues (which haven't increased in 15 years) buy an entire year's worth of private home tours, historic district walking tours, history lectures, hands-on renovation information, plus a chance to add your voice to efforts to save local landmarks. Dues are due JUNE 1st. Memberships make a wonderful "Thank You" gift to friends who love historic buildings, parks and neighborhoods. Don't miss all of the fun!

**Renew your dues today—Send \$15.00 (email copy) \$20.00 (U.S. mail) to Scott County Historic Preservation Soc., Inc., P.O. Box 5017, Bett, Ia. 52722**