



# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



## ***“Halloween Traveling Dinner House Tour”*** *October 8, 2009, at 6 P. M.—Paid Members Only* **(Parking on Kuehl St. at west end of Mound & 13<sup>th</sup> St. RR Bridge)**

*No tricks—just all treats here!* SCHPS October 8th *Halloween Traveling Dinner Tour* will begin at the 1857 Charles Stein House (1917 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street), which was once one of the *SCARRIEST* haunts in all the Village of East Davenport. So scary that the City turned down repeated offers from Gordon and Mary Ellen Jensen to buy it. Small wonder, after City inspectors walked through the garbage filled backyard, where a runaway commercial dump truck had once overturned...climbed over a cat filled sofa on the back porch to peer at the trashed interior, through broken windows...stood in the middle of the basement and looked three stories straight up at daylight streaming through the holes in the roof---then, promptly declared the house beyond anyone’s ability to save. Thanks to the Jensen’s dogged perseverance, the house was eventually saved from the wrecking ball—“and the rest is history.” In 1996, the Jensens moved and the Stein House’s remarkable renovation moved forward under the able stewardship and hard labors of Tim Huey (Head of Scott County Planning & Zoning) and wife Sandy Doran (Landscape Architect), with the help of their ever faithful family friend, contractor Bob Buck. The stunning transformation of this hulk of a condemned house into a magazine worthy centerfold spread is a textbook example of what happens when the sound economics of historic preservation, plus a love of history, combines to create one-of-a-kind housing opportunities in the middle of what once was considered a “throw away” central city neighborhood. And, who better to teach that preservation lesson than Tim Huey, the County official whose vision will lead Scott County Planning and Zoning on into the future.



Tim and Sandy have graciously invited SCHPS members in to view their latest round of major rehab projects, which include the renovation of the teetering exposed native fieldstone walls which line their finished walk-out basement rooms. (The walk-out basement office, exercise and hobby rooms lead out onto a patio overlooking their hillside stair-stepped backyard gardens, with two fountains.) The full length balcony porch offers inviting views out across the distant river valley. The adjacent kitchen features a vaulted ceiling and a central exposed brick chimney. Great care was taken to preserve and repaint the 152 year old pine plank floor boards throughout the house. The creative use of salvaged historic interior doors to create library cabinets and hidden wall computer centers is a “must see” for old house owners who are always looking for more storage space.

## **October 2009 Newsletter**

Next SCHPS meeting  
October 8th, 2009 6:00pm

***Dinner Tour***  
2017 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
(Park on Kuehl St. opposite  
tour house)

*President*  
Judy Belfer, 324-7779

*Vice President*  
Janet Corcoran, 386-3428

*Secretary*  
Rex Grove, 335-8727

*Treasurer*  
Frenc Beiwel, 386-1969

*Executive Director*  
Karen Anderson, 324-0257

*Newsletter Editors*  
David Pai, 579-1996

*Board Members*  
Mary Costello  
Duane Timm, 323-4077  
Fred Vogt, 570-0886



SCHPS members will be treated to a **GHOULISHLY** delicious *free* hot dinner of pasta with chicken, shrimp and Andouille sausage (cooked by Chef David Pai). For dessert, we will travel a few doors up the street to **HAUNT** the blood-and-thunder renovation-in-progress of David and Rachael Pai's "\$10.00" abandoned house!!! (**1911 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St.**) The abandoned house was once the grand gothic 1887 residence of Milton Parkhurst. The Parkhurst family was legendary for their pioneer diaries and newspaper stories which documented their overland wagon train journey to the Black Hawk Purchase, in Iowa, in the 1830s.



### **Pai Residence**

**2009 Awards for Excellence in Preservation.** Each year, the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance seeks to honor individuals, organizations, projects and programs whose work demonstrates a commitment to excellence in historic preservation. Preservation at its Best Awards were presented at an awards luncheon on May 13, 2009, in Ottumwa, IA. The Residential Award was won by the Frank Bredow Home (on Gaines Street) restored by the Gateway Redevelopment Group in Davenport, IA. Those present during the ceremony included Jack Haberman of SCHPS, and Judy Belfer, SCHPS President.

**Welcome new members:** Terry Gentz and Michael Tollenger joined SCHPS during the tour of the Renwick Mansion.

**Oct 10<sup>th</sup>** Moline Public Library "The House That Courage Built" about Colonel Davenport by Dick Balzer. Call 309.736.5737

**Oct 11<sup>th</sup>** QC Civil War Round Table: "The Blue And The Gray" at Butterworth Center Call Armin Weng for reservations 309.526.3669

**Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>** Frieze Lectures: "Mary Wollstonecraft" by Dr. Don Erickson at Rock Island Public Library. Call 309.732.7303

**Oct 24<sup>th</sup>** Oktoberfest Dance of German American Family Club. Elks Club 2117 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Rock Island. Dinner Reservations call Bill 309.788.0335 or Joe 309.269.0851

**Oct 24,** 7:30 am to 5:45 pm. Bus trip hosted by the German American Heritage Center to Potosi and Platteville, Wisconsin, to visit the National Brewery Museum and the Mining Museum. Cost for the trip is \$50 for members and \$60 for nonmembers, luncheon included. To register contact (563) 322-8844.

**Nov 6,** The Outing Club. The Scott Community College will sponsor a lunch and learn seminar on "Davenport History" at 10:30 am and again at 11:30 am.

**Nov 8,** 2 pm. German American Heritage Center program on the Davenport Shooting Club and the Old and New Schuetzenpark.

**Nov 10,** Arsenal Club, on Arsenal Island. The Black Hawk College will sponsor a luncheon seminar "The Quad-Cities in WWII". Lunch at 11:30am; program follows at 12:15pm.

**Nov 15,** The Citizens to Preserve Black Hawk Park Foundation and the Black Hawk State Historic Site will host a program commemorating the 140<sup>th</sup> birthday of local historian and preservationist John Hauberg. The program will be held at the Black Hawk state Historic Site lodge from 2:00 -4:00 pm.

### **Anxious To Curl Up With A Good Book This Winter-**

Goggle up *Cities of the Mississippi*, by John Rep.

Although, it is an out of print book, it can still be purchased "new" on line for as little as \$20.00. It is a beautifully illustrated book, filled with antique paintings and color lithographs of Mississippi River towns, from New Orleans to St. Paul. It includes 11 historic images of early Davenport, paired with histories of the frontier artists who created them and firsthand descriptions of the river towns by the early writers of the day. There are also beautiful paintings of Burlington, Muscatine, Dubuque and Galena. (Reps later published a second book which features bird's eye maps.) Even a diehard book lover would be sorely tempted to hang these fascinating glimpses into the past on their parlor wall!

Don't forget to check out the University of Iowa Press web site ([www.uiowapress.org](http://www.uiowapress.org)), which has just released a list of 37 Iowa history books in time to treat yourself for the holidays. They run the gamut of outdoor nature studies to photographic histories entitled, *Farm House, Still Standing* (Michael Harker's latest barn book), *Harker's One Room Schoolhouses*, *Dictionary of Iowa Place-Names*, *Frontier Forts of Iowa*, *Christmas on the Great Plains*, *The Lincoln Highway* and many others. Visit their web site soon for a real treat.

### **Ella Hartmann's Memorial Park Bench is in—and it is gorgeous!**

A big "THANK YOU" to SCHPS members for their generous donations.

### **JOIN SCHPS!!!**

Send \$20 (for printed copy)

Or

\$15 (for email copy)

To

SCHPS PO Box 5017  
Bettendorf IA 52722