

# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



*Next SCHPS Meeting*

*Thursday May, 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm*  
*1527 Brady Street, Davenport*  
*6:30 pm*

*St. Ambrose Alumni House*

## *St. Ambrose Alumni House~*



*St. Ambrose Alumni House*

After the Civil War ended in 1865, America began to rebuild itself on several levels, this was the era of Reconstruction. Gorgeous buildings and homes sprung up across the country with architects that took their inspiration from across the Atlantic. From 1840 through 1890 the Italianate style swept through the Midwest in a frenzy. These homes were modeled after the villas in the Italian countryside with an eye-catching asymmetry.

Built in 1871, nearly fourteen decades in existence, the St. Ambrose Alumni House (F.H. Miller House), was the collaboration of builder John Drew and Davenport's first architect, Willett L. Carroll. The three-story brick building cost about \$25,000 to build. Its shape is similar to many area houses built during this time period

and in this (Italianate) style, but, according to architectural historian Martha Bowers, it was distinguished through its "variety of window shapes, unusual gambrel-roofed dormers and entrance porch of simple columns and curved brackets".

## *Nora DeJohn Memorial Service~ Funeral, Christian Burial & Celebration of Life*

Dear Friends & Family,

We are gathering to say goodbye to Nora Kelly DeJohn and to celebrate her life. She did not want this to be a somber occasion; she wanted 'a party,' and hoped for lots of music. To honor her life, we return to the places she deemed special. We invite all who knew Nora to join us as we say goodbye to a wonderful mother, friend, teacher, and advocate.

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 2011**

10am Funeral Service: Christ the King Chapel, St. Ambrose University, Davenport

Music: Cantor & Bagpiper for end of mass escort to gravesite

11am Christian Burial: Mt. Calvary Cemetery, 804 E. 39th St., Davenport

12pm Celebration of Nora's Life:

German American Heritage Center, 712 W. 2nd St., Davenport; Banquet Room  
(Nora helped save this building from demolition by the Cross-Town Expressway)

Music: The Barley House Band (Celtic musicians)

Food/Drink: Light Lunch: Sandwiches, platters, salads, coffee, tea, wine & beer.

Memorial Donations can be made to:

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

Permanent DeJohn memorial at Antoine LeClaire House, which Nora helped save.

(1800s French Gilt Alter candelabras and mirror for parlor mantel)

**Oaks of Mamre Catholic Worker House**, P.O. Box 4618, Davenport, IA 52802.

**Hospice/ Visiting Nurses organizations, or Cancer support/ research groups**



*Nora DeJohn*





[www.preservationiowa.org](http://www.preservationiowa.org)

## Preservation Iowa is going green~

We are pleased to share the latest edition of The Iowa Preservationist -- the first to be delivered electronically to your inbox!

To access our Fall 2010 newsletter go to:

[www.preservationiowa.org/news/newsletters/20-04\\_2010-Fall.pdf](http://www.preservationiowa.org/news/newsletters/20-04_2010-Fall.pdf)

### From the Editor~

I was checking what I thought was the foundation of the southwest corner of my house. To my surprise, it was only a crawl space under a enclosed porch. Deep under the porch I saw what I thought was a burrow for some sort of animal,



again I was wrong. As I crawled into this space which was only about ten inches high, I came to realize this was the old sistren. I was somewhat surprised to find it hidden under the porch. Shaped like a two-liter pop bottle, I made my way down the initial throat which was about two feet across and four feet deep which then opened into the main chamber measuring about ten feet across and about six feet deep and filled with dirt. As soon as I was able to lower the light down I saw bottles, dishes, bones and other debris. I have been lucky to find a few of these bottles before, so-called tonic from the 1800's which promise long-life, rejuvenation of strength or in this case, ridding the bowels and stomach of worms! Most of these products contained opiates or cocaine and colored water.

David Pai



### Next SCHPS Meeting~

#### The Chef David Pai house???

Well, no one else Please come join us to view a work in progress. Get an inside look of balloon-framing, new electrical service and my all new "Pit Of Forgotten Children".



## RIVER ACTION

Fostering environmental, economic and cultural vitality of the Mississippi River and its riverfront in the Quad Cities

June-August: River Action offers 13 Channel Cat Talks and 14 Riverine Walks. Schedules and sign-up available at [www.riveraction.org](http://www.riveraction.org). Don't miss Campbell's Island, by Gena Schantz; Hennepin Canal – Historical Landmark & Recreational Gem, by Gary Wagle; Credit Island & War of 1812, by Karen Anderson; Pre-Civil War Village of East Davenport, by Karen Anderson; River Vision, by Steve Ahrens; View of the River – Max 15 Passengers, by Dr Reuben Heine; and Rock Island Hydropower Plant, by Timothy Ridder.

### Calendar Of Events~

#### May:

22<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 p.m. Presentation and Exhibit on Local Cigar Makers, at the German American Heritage Center (GAHC).

22<sup>nd</sup> Open house at RIA Museum, Quarters 1, Col Davenport House, Corps of Engineers Lock and Dam 15, Navy Operational Support Center and the JMTC (Joint Munitions Technical Center?) all starts with a parade at 12 and ends at 4 with Retreat

22-25<sup>th</sup> National Main Street Conference, Des Moines, IA.

28<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.- Founders Day, Walcott Cemetery, sponsored by six area German clubs and societies.

#### July:

13<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8 PM "River Action River Walk", Credit Island & War of 1812, led by Karen Anderson

Reservations-River Action, \$5.00

16<sup>th</sup> 9-10:20 AM "River Action River Walk", Credit Island & War of 1812, led by Karen Anderson

Reservations-River Action, \$5.00

21-24 Rock Island Train festival

27<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8 PM "River Action River Walks", Village of East Davenport & Prospect Terrace, led by Karen Anderson

Reservations-River Action, \$5.00

30<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30 AM "River Action River Walks", Village of East Davenport & Prospect Terrace, led by Karen Anderson

Reservations-River Action, \$5.00

### Join SCHPS Today~

10 monthly tours, informative programs, newsletters, City Hall updates and monthly calendar of events.

Only \$15.00 per year, for everyone in household, for e-mail/or \$20.00 for U.S. Mailed newsletter

Mail checks to: Scott County Historic Preservation Society, 1820 GRANT ST, PMB 5017 BETTENDORF, IA 52722

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