

# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



Thursday, April  
10, 2014  
6:30 p.m.  
Northwest corner  
of Gaines and 6<sup>th</sup>  
Streets, Davenport



Henning (Henry) J. Witt, born June 12, 1846 in Dithmarschen, Germany came to America at age 18.

After various business ventures, he formed a partnership with John Hill in 1870. Later he bought out the Miller Bottling works on West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and named it H.J.Witt. He continued in this business until 1906 when he retired.

In 1875 he married Catharine Hinrichs in Davenport, and they had 5 children: Bertha, Johnny, Otto, Zella and Hertha. Mr. Witt held membership in the Elks, the Turner Society, Knights of Pythias, and the Schuetzen Society.

Two construction dates are listed for this house, 1890 and 1894. Dominating the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Gaines, this irregularly massed combination of tower, gables, and dormers is a very good example of Queen Anne style of architecture. Of special interest is the exterior with bands of shingles giving it textural diversity.

Mr. Witt died on April 6, 1910 and his widow lived in the house until 1919.

Maurice and Lois Woods purchased the house and completely restored this home. The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs in September, 2013 awarded the Woods a certificate for historic preservation.

## April 2014 Newsletter

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*Researcher*  
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*SCHPS Address*  
1820 Grant Street  
PM Box 5017  
Bettendorf, IA  
52722

## Reminders

Meetings are second Thursday of each month.

Remember if you have some place you want us to go or someone to listen to, please contact a board member. We want to bring interesting topics and places to our membership.

## More announcements

### Etude April 14, 2014

Please invite friends and family to attend: Asbury Methodist Church, 1809 Mississippi Blvd, Bettendorf, directly behind K&K Hardware on 18 St. at 1 p.m.

We will have readings by Mark Schwiebert (former mayor of Rock Island) from his book of poetry "Pilgrim Foot Steps" published by the Midwest Writing Center of Davenport

We will also have a piano performance by Bruce Blomme, accomplished pianist of George Winston's works, who has many CDs produced by St Ambrose University. He is the brother to our newest member Donna Blomme DeManna.

Our harpist will be an angel called Caitlin Thom. She is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School.

Welcome our new members who joined us during February and March: Susan Kruse, Ed and Diana Jamieson, and Lorie Charles.

SCHPS members and friends filled two tables of ten at the Henry Farnam Dinner. Among the benefits of this great event was the \$50.00 boost to the SCHPS Treasury.

A big thank you to Dr. Maryan Wherry for her talk on short notice at our program she gave at the Bettendorf Public Library. We hope you did not miss her informative and fun presentation.

Remember if you want to see something or go somewhere tell a board member.

\*Please also remember that we are looking for a news gatherer for the newsletter for next 6 months.

Advertisement: Licensed and insured Historical Mason Randy Williams (563-585-1856.) **R W Restoration**, free estimates.

## Exhibits at GAHC:

**Ends April 20** Kautz Farm (a working Century Farm in buffalo, IA)

**Opens April 20** the World of Berta Hummel

**Starts April 25** 100 Years 100 Stories: The 100th Anniversary of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra.

## SCHPS Upcoming Events

**May 8** we will meet at 6:30 pm in the Beehive café basement of St Ambrose Hall. Bush Construction will take us on a tour of the exterior restoration and discuss the problems they ran into on matching mortar, bricks and the windows. Then we can have an inside tour of the "proposed" restoration for the future. Thank you to Mike Huestedde.

**June 12** Coky Powers is working on a tour of the upscale condo/rental units in the Davenport Bank Bldg (now Wells Fargo.) More information will be available next month.

## Other announcements

German American Heritage Center: 322-8844

**April 12** Vendor/Crafts Fair

**April 17** CCC: Building Black Hawk St Park  
Seniors Program: Iowa 441-4100

**April 22** History of "The Outing Club"

## Currently at GAHC

**April 13** Easter Traditions in Germany

**April 21** Making Tracks: Trails through the QC

## Senior Day: Songs of the Civil War

Thursday, April 17, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Bettendorf Room

Marking the 150th anniversary of Civil War events, Bob Welch performs songs of the Civil War period, singing and accompanying himself on guitar and banjo. Combining storytelling and history with the music, Bob's Civil War songs literally bring history to musical life. Refreshments will be provided after the program. Senior Day is supported by the Friends of the Bettendorf Public Library.