

Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



April 2017

Thank You!

Hello, everyone! To start this month, I would like to extend a special thanks to Drew Boster of Rivermont Collegiate, who was kind enough to give us a great tour of the Joseph Bettendorf mansion. Also, a big thanks to everyone who attended. Without your support, we wouldn't be able to do all that we do.

April Tour: First National Bank (U.S. Bank)



On February 3, 1923, a devastating fire broke out in the First National Bank in downtown Davenport. Despite heroic efforts by local fireman, the building was gutted by the rampaging flames.

The damage had been done. In August 1923, the building was razed and construction was started on a new building. For the next 15 months, builders took their time with the process, making sure they did everything right.

In 1924, the new, and current, building was opened, with a white exterior made of Bedford stone shipped from Indiana.

The grand entryway, one of the most prominent features of the building exterior, showcases figures of bronze above the door, surrounded by an archway composed of carved Classical figures.

The interior of the building is even more spectacular. Three beautiful chandeliers made in Chicago greet the individual as they enter the main lobby, illuminating marble wainscoting, carved bronze detailing, and vaulted ceilings.

The ceiling itself is covered in gold and silver leaf, with green and blue background colors. A flower and basket weave design is featured throughout the lobby.

Dominating all of this are 20 foot arched windows. The arched shape is another theme repeated throughout the lobby, especially in the etched glass of the teller windows.

Board Members and Contacts

President
Judy Belfer
324-7779

Vice President
Christine Iossi
355-6298

Secretary
Rex Grove
355-8727

Corresponding Secretary
Jean Froehlich
324-7643

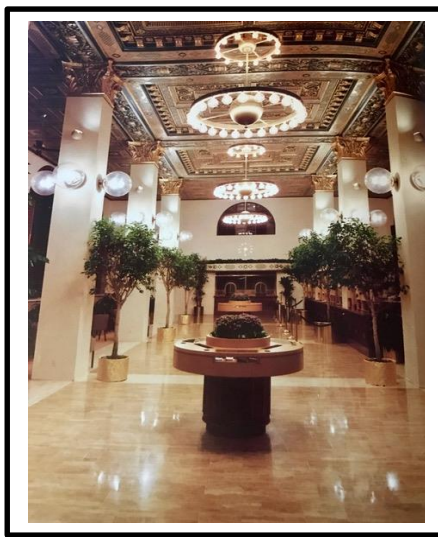
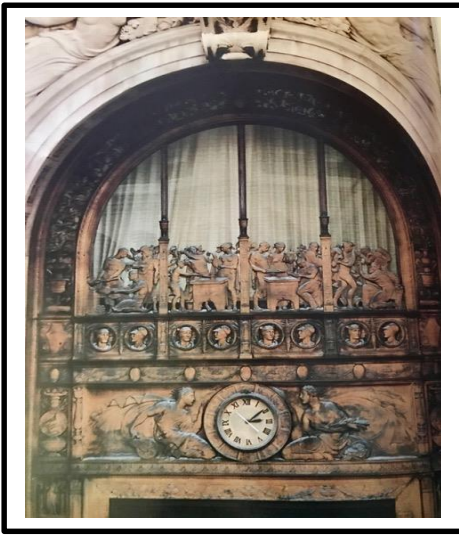
Treasurer
Ferenc Beiweil
386-1969

Historical Researcher
Coky Powers
355-8577

Board Members
Mary Costello
326-2158
Connie Carlson
359-8381

Newsletter Editor
John Brassard Jr.
271-2476

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



A Special Memorial Day Event

SCHPS is proud to announce a special Memorial Day event this year.

On May 27, 2017, the headstones of sixteen Civil War and one Spanish-American War veterans will be dedicated at City Cemetery in Davenport, Iowa. These headstones were recently provided by the Veteran's Administration. Fifteen of these individuals were German immigrants, and the other was a first-generation German-American.

After hours of painstaking research by different volunteers, including our official historical researcher, Coky Powers, it was discovered that these soldiers lay in unmarked graves since the time of their deaths.

Details of the event will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please contact our own Kory Darnall at 563-449-2358.

artsBASICS

Diane and Joel Franken, Co-Directors of artsBASICS, will address the SCHPS group and explain how this arts advocacy group works with six Davenport Community Schools. They will talk about what the organization does to address its mission of ensuring that all of the arts become a priority in schools for every student in artsBASICS schools.

artsBASICS conducts its work with no paid staff but only volunteers from the arts community, interested administrators, teachers, and parents. Their organization and the Davenport Community School District has just entered into a partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts. This partnership will assure that efforts to train artsBASICS teachers in arts integration will be a priority. Funding to make their work a reality comes from their annual "Evening with Area Artists" each October at the Figge Art Museum.

April Happenings

Local historian Karen Anderson will be giving three tours of the area detailing different areas of local history.

The Steeple Building Museum at Bishop Hill, Illinois will be hosting the 6th annual Toy Tractor Weekend on April 1st from 10 am to 5 pm, and 2nd from 11 pm - 4 pm. Many different brands of toy tractors and farming implements will be on display, including Case and John Deere. If you have questions, call 309-927-3899, or e-mail bhha@mymctc.net.

The Butterworth Center and Deere-Wiman House will be hosting Simply Three, an acclaimed string trio, on April 7, 2017, at 3 pm. They have been entertaining audiences worldwide with their energetic performances since 2010.

We will meet in the vestibule of the U.S. Bank Building in downtown Davenport on April 13, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.! The inner doors of the bank will be locked after the tour of the inside begins, so please don't be late. The address is 201 W. 2nd St., Ste 100, Davenport, IA, 52801. Drive safe, and we'll see you there!

