

Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



Thursday, April 14, 2022

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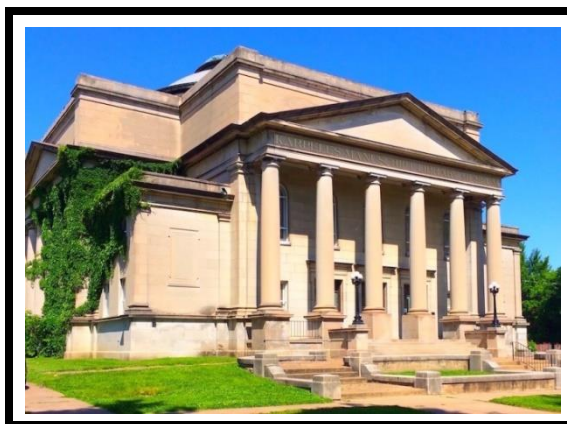
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Karpelles Manuscript Library Museum

700 22nd Street
Rock Island, Illinois
****** Meet at 6 pm ******

The Karpelles Manuscript Library Museums are a private collection of more than a million manuscripts and documents in the United States. It is the largest such collection in the world. It was founded in 1983 by real estate magnates David Karpelles and Marsha Karpelles. Their goal was to stimulate interest in learning. To make the collection more accessible, it is distributed among many Karpelles museums across the US, each located in a historic building.

The Rock Island Karpelles is in the former First Church of Christ, Scientist building. It was built in 1896 in the Broadway Historic District. The building was designed by architect William C. Jones of Chicago in the Palladian style. Its exterior walls are of brick covered by Bedford limestone. Its superimposed front portico is supported by six 2 story columns with egg-and-dart capitals. The dome actually consists of 2 domes: an outer dome and an inner dome which are separated by a space for lighting fixtures and maintenance. The inner dome consists of some 8,000 colored fish scale glass panes on a wooden support structure. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places on August 14, 1998.

Items in the Karpelles collection are rotated among museums quarterly, and each of the museums presents a daily general exhibit and one or more special scheduled exhibits throughout the year. The current exhibit's focus is on Abraham Lincoln. The Rock Island museum also has four documents that correlate with model ships a music piece by Puccini and a newer exhibit room with early communication devices.

We will look at the exhibit documents and tour the building which has undergone extensive renovation.

Announcements

Consider paying your dues for 2022/23. Send a check to Ferenc Beiwel:

**1820 Grant Street
PM Box 5017
Bettendorf, IA 52722**

Our membership year runs from July through June. Renewing early means there will be no disruption in your household getting the newsletter.

Newsletter via USPS - \$20/year; E-version - \$15/year

Niabi Zoo is hosting a five day Summer Zoo Camp. There are four different age groups from 4 – 13 years. Call the zoo for more information.

Do you have any ideas for tours? The board is working on the calendar.

Are you interested in reading about and discussing local history? Consider joining the Col. Davenport Historical Foundation Book Club. Bill Hampes organizes the group and shares the following information about the next book to be discussed:

Our next discussion will be about *Equal Before the Law: How Iowa Led Americans to Marriage Equality* by Tom Witosky and Marc Hansen. You can buy a very good used book from Amazon for as little as \$5.99 with free shipping. There are copies of the book you can borrow at the Bettendorf, Clinton, and Scott Community College libraries.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 17th at 7:00 p.m.** in the outside garden area of the **Butterworth Center, 1105 8th Street, Moline.** To access the garden area, park in the Butterworth Center lot on 11th Avenue and enter the outside grounds through the opening in the wall on 11th Avenue. As you walk through the grounds you will see a garden area surrounded by a wooden framed canopy. I will have a table set up there. Please bring a lawn chair to sit on. Masks are optional and refreshments (Panera chocolate chip cookies and gluten-free homemade almond macarons along with lemonade) will be served. If you have any questions, you can call me on my cell phone (1-309-278-7101) on May 17th or email me before that date. If we have inclement weather that day, I have reserved a room inside the Butterworth Center for us to meet. I can give you the details about that inside room, if necessary, when I send out the reminder email a few days before we meet.