

# Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation

## 2012 Annual Report



**Colonel Davenport  
Historical Foundation  
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[www.davenporthouse.org](http://www.davenporthouse.org)**

# The Davenport House Story

Based on a Federal Style, the Colonel Davenport House was built using technology known by a local carpenter. His method was to build the skeleton of the house as if it were a log structure. The logs were squared using axes and adzes and then notched to fit tightly against each other. Furring strips were then secured to the exterior with pine clapboards attached to the strips.

Later more conventional building techniques of frame construction were used. East and west wings were put on the house. Davenport used the west wing as an office. A kitchen wing was added on the south. A small porch ran the length of the house that was the center of a number of buildings, as many as thirteen. These additional buildings acted as warehouses and storehouses for the trading network.



After the Civil War, the house deteriorated and eventually fell to the ravages of local souvenir hunters and vandals. In 1907, restoration began, and in 1988 the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation raised funds and restored the roof, siding, windows, front porch, and subsequently the west wing. The Federal Government and the U.S. Army have contributed no money to this restoration project.

The Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation was formed in 1978 and is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the Davenport House and grounds. It relies on private donations to support its activities and restoration efforts. The Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation counts on volunteers to maintain and operate the House. The board of directors meets monthly to discuss finances, future plans, upcoming events, and tours.

*The mission of the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation is to preserve the Colonel Davenport House and site, and foster knowledge of the history and development of the Quad Cities region through tours of the house, exhibits, and educational programming.*



# CDHF President's Report

If you are here to read the annual report, you are interested enough in the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation to know what an exciting year we have had.

The big event of the year was continuing work on the east wing to the house. As of now it is a large empty room, but hopefully 2013 will see it completed with amazing new exhibits.

We hosted a new event for the Quad Cities with our croquet tournament in August. We were so delighted with the large turnout that we are already planning next year's event.

Elsewhere in this report Chet Doyle will catch you up on the major archival project that he has undertaken for the CDHF.

I'm sure you noticed the sign-up sheets on the registration table for other events that we have in mind for 2013, as well as the list of the many jobs that need to be done to maintain an almost 200-year-old house. We hope some of you will be inspired to say, "That sounds like fun. I'd like to help" or at least participate in the events. Of course, if you have an idea for an event or a fundraiser, we would certainly appreciate hearing them.

Sadly, we are going to let Lunch and Learn programs take a hiatus. Our attendance has fallen steadily and there has been too much competition. It will be re-looked at in the future.

Submitted by Judy Tumbleson,  
CDHF Board President

## 2012 CDHF Board of Directors

Judy Tumbleson, President  
 Jessica Waytenick, Vice-President  
 Janice Peterson, Secretary  
 Kathy Peck, Treasurer  
 Ginny Bauersfeld  
 Judith Belfer  
 Chet Doyle  
 Suzanne Hoskins  
 Bob Karwath  
 Jolene Keeney  
 Buster Miller  
 John Norton  
 Judy Vukelich  
 Jim Westphal



Almost \$900 was raised during the new Colonel's Croquet Party on August 17th.



# Building & Grounds Report

Much of 2012 was concentrated on the east wing. Windows were installed. The window sashes were salvaged from our old ones, as well as some other parts. Carver Lumber was gracious enough to remake the windows as a goodwill gesture.

A sturdy door for the river side of the new wing was procured from the Habitat ReStore, and the siding was painted. Sterling Roofing donated the labor for the "Yankee Gutter" system that was installed in the spring.



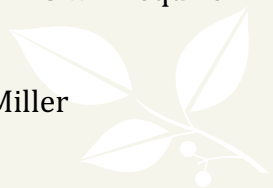
The porch was connected to the new wing. A drywall ceiling was installed, and the walls have

been drywalled. Now we are looking at different heating/cooling systems for the east wing because the current system does not have the capacity to regulate it. We are looking for a donation of a HVAC system and/or labor. In 2012 almost \$33,000 was spent on east wing construction. We are pursuing more grants. THANK YOU for everyone's help!

The walls and ceiling in the West bedroom have been repaired, reinforced, re-plastered, (skim coat) and repainted by Patrick's Painting from Chicago. There are other walls that will be needing repair soon.

The outside of sutlery has pine siding and it is rotting away. Also the wood around the south windows are rotting. This will require attention soon.

Submitted by Buster Miller



In the spring, the CDHF board began meeting with Silver Oaks and Midwest Exhibits to work on plans for new exhibits for the east wing. It was decided to move the fur trade exhibit in upstairs second bedroom downstairs to the new wing so it can be enjoyed more fully with some updates to its information.

## Other plans for the east wing include:

- Create a new board game showing the journey to trade furs where players have to make decisions about different obstacles traders faced in the 1800s.
- Transform existing video into a touchscreen interactive program so visitors can watch one up to all of the six shorter segments.
- Produce a new touchscreen interactive screen where visitors must figure out how to trade fairly with the Native Americans based on 1820s trading post prices, and how that would compare with today's market value.

## Plans for the upstairs bedroom include:

- Create and add a new large, authentic-looking Family Tree graphic for the wall, detailing Colonel Davenport's family line and highlighting important family contributions to the local landscape.
- Create and add a new wall graphic that details Colonel Davenport's life in general and a timeline of the house.
- Produce a brand-new touchscreen interactive program that is specific to the CDHF where tour guides can reveal layers of an aerial map/image to show Arsenal Island as it was before, during and after George Davenport lived there. The new interactive touch-screen will bring Arsenal Island's past to life.

These exhibits may use new technology, but they will unobtrusively fit into the historic character of the house. The majority of the house has period furniture and accessories that cannot be handled due to their fragility. By providing these new exhibits it will be a way for the CDHF to encourage participation and engage visitors of all ages with the Davenport family's story.

Two grants were recently secured to help with these exhibit costs. The Scott County Regional Authority gave \$10,000, and the Hubbell-Waterman Foundation gave \$10,000. The total exhibit project will be close to \$60,000. We are pursuing more grants.

# Public Relations Report

Three issues of the *Cornucopia* newsletter were published with information for the members, and postcards for frequent supporters. And the website continues to be an important way for people to get information about the Colonel Davenport House. The website continues to be updated to have the most current information. In 2012, the website had over 16,878 visits, an increase over 2011.

KWQC's Fran Riley did a story about the Colonel Davenport House in April, and WHBF's Steve Long did a story about the house in March when they started a news series about the Arsenal for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A group of journalists from the Midwest Travel Writers Association toured the house in October.

The Colonel Davenport House opened early for the 2012 season on April 28th for the Rock Island Arsenal Tour of Homes organized by the RIA Welcome Club. Over 250 people visited the house that day as part of the home tour.

On Saturday, July 7th, the Rock Island Arsenal opened their gates to the public for a free celebration. Despite the temperatures soaring over 100 degrees, 400 people toured the Colonel Davenport House that day! The house was one of the shuttle bus stops that regularly brought people to visit the house.



Over 90 people played croquet on the lawn of Quarters One on a beautiful, sunny Saturday afternoon in August. This was a new event for the CDHF, and we think even in the Quad Cities.

Many teams showed up to play in their croquet whites. TV sponsor, CBS4-WHBF, had a team

comprised of meteorologists Andy McCray and Travis Michels. We had antique cars; there was a wine tasting by Creekside Vineyards Winery in Coal Valley, Ill.; and the Arsenal Golf Club did a great job with the hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and set up.

Drew Chambers and Tom Schlosser from East Moline were the winners. We raised almost \$900 for the east wing project, and the majority of the people there had not toured the Colonel Davenport House before. There were horseshoes set up at the house by the Moline Horseshoe Club, along with bocce ball, checkers, and dominos.

This event was sponsored in part by K&K Hardware, American Bank & Trust, Arsenal Island Golf Club, CBS4-WHBF, Quad-City Times, Dahl Ford, Trophy World, Walmart, and Creekside Vineyards Winery.

The CDHF was a part of East West Riverfest in September with regular tours of the house.

Almost 100 people attended our annual "Ghost Tales" event on Saturday, September 29, 2012. The weather was beautiful! People enjoyed spooky stories told by Judy Tumbleson and Heather Nobiling. Heather has been involved with the Genesius Guild and The Blacklist. She also plays the concertina, the bones and ukulele in a local Irish band, Fire in the Belly, with her dad Joe Nobiling.

This year's winning story from The Dispatch/Rock Island Argus contest was written by Laurie Leon from Colona, Ill. Read at "Ghost Tales" by Nancy McConnell, Laurie's story was told by her mother, Frances Green. Frances served her city, state, and country in World War II. She flew 19 combat missions in the Philippines. The story was about an occasion in the Philippines when she switched missions with a friend.

Submitted by Jessica Waytenick



# Collections Report

1) Sara Hartsock and Augustana College intern, Jordan Kirkbride, went through the collection in the house and verified the current collection management records. Jordan is an art history major. This is in preparation for the implementation of the Past Perfect Museum System.

2) A complete floor plan of the rooms in the house was completed by Jordan. This plan is also in preparation for Past Perfect, and as a control and security measure for when we photograph each surface to verify that all the recorded items are in the proper place.

3) The walls and ceiling in the West bedroom have been repaired, reinforced, replastered, (skim coat) and repainted. This work should keep the surfaces intact for ten or so years. There are other walls that will be needing repair soon (the East wall in the dining room by the fireplace). Eventually, all the plaster in the house will begin to fail and will need to be replaced as it is over 100 years old (assuming it was all replaced in the 1910 rebuilding). This expense must be anticipated.

4) A computer and printer/copier/scanner for the use of the CDHF has been purchased, installed and implemented. Also, a high speed internet connection at the house has been established. The house now has Wi-Fi communications. At present, the equipment is housed and usable in the sutlery, in lieu of a future CDHF office. This equipment may also be used to support a future Credit Card reader for use in the gift shop.

5) The following software has been installed and is usable on the Foundation computer.

Windows 7  
MS Word/Excel/PowerPoint

Firewall/Backup/Optimization Facilities

PhotoShop

Past Perfect/Collection Management

Past Perfect/Multi Media

Yahoo Web Browser

ATT email (we have an active e-mail address)



6) The Past Perfect system will be used to store our collection management data, catalog and control our historical documents and store, any photographs, movies, or other graphical artifacts in our possession. At present, we are in the process of moving our collection data (including location data and photographs) to the Past Perfect system. We hope to be substantially complete with this project by the house opening this spring. Then we will look to collecting and cataloging our historical archives and other important documentation.

Submitted by Chet Doyle



# Sutlery Report

The Sutlery, the Col. Davenport House's gift shop, is located in the west wing of the Davenport House. 2012 saw the reconstruction of the east wing on the opposite side of the house. This reconstruction seemed to bring many visitors who were curious and interested in seeing the progress.

The admissions and Sutlery sales were both up over the previous year and these extra visitors may have been part of the reason. Figures show that 1,700 people visited the house and that sales in the gift shop topped \$1,550. The very reasonable admission fees make the Davenport House tours a real bargain.



400 people visited the house on Saturday, July 7th during the island-wide open house for Rock Island Arsenal's 150th Anniversary.

The Sutlery, which gets its name from the fact that George Davenport was a sutler for the U.S. Army, specializes in merchandise relating to both the 1800s and to the Mississippi River. Customers can also find jewelry, kitchen items, toys, books, T-shirts and many other items. Volunteers, called sutlers, staff the gift shop and all proceeds go directly to the CDHF.

A sutler's duties include greeting visitors, collecting admission fees, introducing the

visitors to the guides, and of course, selling merchandise.

Sutlers work in tandem with the volunteer guides that are trained to give tours to guests about the Davenport house and family, the history of the early settlers in the area, the local fur trading business, and other relevant information.

Visitors are asked to sign the Visitor's Log and this always provides valuable information about where the visitors are from, how they found out about the Colonel Davenport House, and what they thought of their tour.

In 2012 there were visitors from 32 states and 3 foreign countries who learned about the house from the internet, local publications, other museums, and history books; but the most popular source was word-of-mouth. It's always interesting to read the comments made in the log such as "well kept building," "informative tour", "we learned a lot", and "our parents were married here 30 years ago".

With the house open four afternoons a week from May through October, a dedicated group of volunteers is required. The Col. Davenport Historical Foundation is very grateful for the time these men and women devote to the Davenport House and is always looking for other volunteers who can share in this endeavor.

Submitted by Ginny Bauersfeld



# Membership Report

## 2012 Membership Report

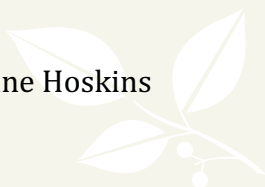
Month	Renewals
January	\$ 105.00
February	\$ 225.00
March	\$ 65.00
April	\$ 245.00
May	\$ 290.00
June	\$ 405.00
July	\$ 435.00
August	\$ 195.00
September	\$ 225.00
October	\$ 175.00
November	\$ 560.00
December	\$ 180.00
TOTAL	\$3,105.00

## New Members in 2012

Linda Lentz  
Dr. Heine Ruben  
Stephen Suiter  
Duane Timm  
Joanne Updegraff

Every member of the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation plays an important role in the organization. There are currently 139 members. Whether by serving on a committee, recruiting new members, helping at special events, being a board member or by paying membership dues, each person helps to further our mission.

Submitted by Suzanne Hoskins



# Guides & Sutlers

## Guides

Dee Anderson  
Dick and Doris Balzer  
Barbara Emerson  
Chris Fiedler  
Bill Hampes  
Joyce Johnston  
Connie Patridge  
Arnie Shileny  
Rick Paradis  
Nancy Cornish  
Pete Peterson  
Sharon Heinze  
Kathy Peck  
Janice Peterson  
Eunice Schlicting  
Maryan Wherry  
Chet Doyle  
Judy and Jack Tumbleson

## Sutlers

Barbara Acuff	Connie Patridge
Ginny Bauersfeld	Janice Peterson
Marge Barnes	Arlene Sax
Marty Biledo	Nancy Strohl
Jean Booth	Ruth Swab
Chris Fiedler	Judy Vukelich
Patty Gillette	Karen Wassmer
Marilyn Grable	Lois Wehner
Barbara Hanson	
Velma Held	
Suzanne Hoskins	
Joyce Johnston	
Marilyn Morley	
Rose Morrill	
Jan Nabra	

**Thank You!**



# CDHF Financial Report

Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation  
Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2012

## ASSETS

### Current Assets

#### Checking/Savings

ABTC-Checking	14,900.48
CDHF Endowment Fund-CFGRB	29,358.56
312 Endowment Fund-CFGRB	18,005.31
Savings Account-ABTC	5,524.26
Savings Capital Improvements-ABTC	1,001.37
Savings Collections-ABTC	2,376.82
Vanguard IT Bond Index Fund	3,255.64
Vanguard Money Market	<u>12,779.42</u>

Total Checking/Savings 87,201.86

Sutlery Inventory 2,892.00

Ghost Tales start-up cash - 75.00

Total Current Assets 90,018.86

### Fixed Assets

Accumulated Depreciation Building/House -219,667.74

Total Building/House 409,709.87

Furniture Fixtures 92,561.43

Total Fixed Assets 282,603.56

**TOTAL ASSETS 372,622.42**

## LIABILITIES & EQUITY

### Equity

Restricted Fund Balance 44,894.18

Unrestricted Fund Balance 330,090.13

Retained Earnings 1,685.77

Net Income -7,047.66

Total Equity 372,622.42

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 372,622.42**

Submitted by Treasurer Kathy Peck and Linda Cain, CPA

*This balance sheet does not include the endowment fund report and depreciation has not been booked.*

The CDHF participates in the Combined Federal Campaign which is the United Way for gov't employees. The CDHF received almost \$400 from 2012 CFC donors.

The Birdies for Charity program more successful than last year; the CDHF received \$738.43 this fall.





P.O. Box 4603  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation

## 2013 CDHF Calendar

February 2 – Annual Meeting at Arsenal Golf Club  
April 20 – Trivia Night at the Officer’s Club  
May 2 – Opening Day at the House  
May 13 – Guides/Sutlers Luncheon  
June 16 – Ride the River at the House  
June 22 – Pioneer Day at the House  
August 17 – Colonel’s Croquet Party at Quarters One  
September 6-22 – East West Riverfest at the House  
September 28 – Ghost Tales at the House  
October 27 – End of regular hours at the House  
November 11 – Veteran’s Day at the House

## Contact Person

Judy Tumbleson, 309-738-8547  
  
Ginny Bauersfeld, 309-235-9050  
  
Suzanne Hoskins, 309-558-6831  
Jessica Waytenick, 309-737-4280  
  
Judy Tumbleson, 309-738-8547

