2017 CDHF BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2017

ASSETS

As of December 51, 20

Current Assets

5,477.57
30,465.93
18,182.29
3,620.44
<u>31,351.94</u>
89,108.17
132.53
100.00
3,159.88
3,392.41
5,572.41
90,500.58
2,572.78
-276,201.16
62,916.90
<u>377,798.52</u>
440,715.42
<u>92,561.43</u>
72,361.45
269,648.47
352,149.05
17,150.33
28,714.96
332,259.02
-25,809.54
-365.72
352,149.05
352,149.05

Balance sheet includes CFGRB endowment fund balances as of Sept. 30, 2017.

COLONEL DAVENPORT HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

2017 Annual Report



PO Box 4603 • Rock Island, IL 61204-4603 309-786-7336 • davenporthouse.org Located on Arsenal Island The house is open for guided tours from May to October Wed. to Sat. from 12-4 p.m.



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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.

2017 Board of Directors

Jolene Keeney, President Rotating, Secretary Ginny Bauersfeld Chet Doyle Buster Miller Richard Rowe Deanna Tumbleson Judy Vukelich Maryan Wherry

2018 Board of Directors Same Slate Presented as 2017 Jessica Waytenick, Vice-Pres. Harvey Hoskins, Treasurer Judith Belfer Bill Hampes John Norton Carla Rutin Judy Tumbleson Jim Westphal

2018 Events June 9-10 Pioneer Days

June 9-17 QC Museum Week

July 17 History Book Club

July 29 Quarters One Tours

> September 29 Ghost Tales

November II Veterans Day

December 9 Christmas Tea

ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

The CDHF has 130 members. New members are ALWAYS welcome! The CDHF has added a host of new benefits if you are a member. In addition to free regular admission and a 10% sutlery discount, you now receive with your member card:

- I 5% discount at Dickey's BBQ in Moline.
- 20% discount at Tim's Corner Comics in Rock Island.
- 20% discount at GV's Stuff in Rock Island.
- 20% discount at Fred & Ethel's 50's Antiques in Rock Island.
- 20% discount at Dar-Jac Antiques and Jewelry in Rock Island.
- 20% discount at More Than Antiques in Rock Island.
- 20% discount at Vintage Rose Antiques & Jewelry in Rock Island.
- 20% discount at Jackson's Antiques in Rock Island.

ABOUT MAINTENANCE

The Colonel Davenport House is a historic house built over 180 years ago. It takes a lot to maintain an old house. Here is the to-do list in no particular order:

- Replace rotting wooden siding.
- Repair or rebuild west wing windows.
- Repair front porch steps.
- Repair threshold and deck of front porch.
- Replace roof.
- Complete porch roof to extend to east wing.
- Replace gutters and downspouts.
- Varnish all floors and stairway in main house.
- Revarnish gouges in west wing floor.
- Repair stair bannister in main house.

ABOUT THE HOUSE

Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation

ABOUT EVENTS & MARKETING

Two issues of the **Cornucopia** newsletter were published with information for the members, and postcards for frequent supporters.

We are now using Google Analytics to track the statistics from our website. There were over 8,677 pageviews last year, a 38% increase from 2016. The biggest visitation



came from the Quad Cities area and Chicagoland. People found the website mainly through visitquadcities.com and Facebook. The Facebook page has 258 likes.

Pioneer Days returned to the Colonel Davenport House on June 17 and 56 people came. It was also part of the Quad Cities Museum Week. The Buckskinner group had a typical camp set up the fur trade period and hatchet-throwing. They saw pioneer activities such as quilting, basket weaving, ice cream making (a favorite!), washboard washing, and wood carving.

The Quarters One tours added a new July event with 247 attendees.

Ghost Tales took place on a gorgeous night on the last Saturday in September with 165 attending! The Rock Island Paranormal Group helped draw attendees. James Cross, of East Moline, was the winner of the 2017 Ghost Tales contest sponsored by The Dispatch/Argus, and the CDHF. Hy-Vee also contributed to the event.

96 people enjoyed an afternoon **Christmas Tea** on Sunday, December 10 with scones, and savory and sweet delights. It was held at the historic Quarters One mansion on Arsenal Island beautifully decorated for the holidays, and guests received a guided tour.

In 1816 a detachment of the 8th Infantry Regiment began construction. For the next several decades Fort Armstrong was a symbol of American presence on the frontier.

The Colonel Davenport House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in



1833-1834. George Davenport came to Rock Island in 1816 as a civilian who had a contract to supply rations to the soldiers at Fort Armstrong.

The U.S. Bicentennial in 1976 prompted the Questers, a non-profit organization dedicated to study, conservation, and preservation of historical objects, to reach out to its chapters across the country and urge them to become involved in a local preservation project, event, and/or community celebration.

The Quad Cities chapters met with several community leaders. Joe Cartright, former director of the Putnam Museum, was aware that the Quad-City Homebuilders were unable to continue with their lessee responsibilities of the Colonel Davenport House. The group had made many improvements to the property and saved it from demolition.

The Quad Cities Questers stepped in and formed a non-profit group, with the pro-bono assistance of two local attorneys. The term of the lease ran for 5 years and was renewed twice for that term; the last renewal was for 25 years.

Started in 1978, the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation continues its mission of conservation and preservation of one of the Quad-Cities premier historic sites. Over the years the roof, windows, siding, portico, west wing, interior plaster, and east wing have been historically restored.

- Notes about the founding thanks to Connie Runge, one of the founding members and president.

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2017 ANNUAL REPORT

2017 began with the sounds on construction on the Rock Island Arsenal. The construction of the Army Family Housing project east and south of the Davenport House added over 30 single-family homes, and soon-to-finish playground and basketball court. The way to get to the house has changed to come in from Davenport Drive. The construction brought a positive change that the Davenport House was connected into the Arsenal water system rather than continuing to use the well.

The CDHF Board decided to change the hours that the House is open to Wednesday to Saturday 12-4 p.m. from May to October. It

more closely matches the hours of the Arsenal Museum, and Sunday was the lowest attended tour day for the Davenport House. It's important to the Colonel Davenport House to keep up the number of public attractions on the island and work together.

The CDHF organized a new Local History Book Club that started meeting every other month after its first meeting in April 2017 at the Deere-Wiman House. Everyone is welcome to attend whether they've read the book or not. The nonfiction or fiction books relate to local/regional history. The group meets at various local historic sites each time and receives a tour.

On Sunday, July 30, the CDHF organized public tours of Quarters One. At first it was only going to be three tours, but they sold out so quickly we added three more tours. Those sold out as well! The day of the tours was such a beautiful, non-humid, sunny day that it allowed the ticket takers to sit outside under a tree on the front lawn to greet the almost 250 people that toured Quarters One that day. Tours were well organized and ran on time with the two tour guides. After the tour, guests exited through the back door onto the veranda where they relaxed, talked to other attendees, and enjoyed lemonade.

Work on the house included a new storage shed, a new shed for the Garden Club equipment, interior plaster work, and continued work on the east wing exhibits. The cataloging of items continues to be entered into the PastPerfect computer system. They have now started cataloging photographs and archival documents.



ABOUT THE SUTLERY

The Sutlery is the gift shop at the Colonel Davenport House and is located in the reconstructed west wing addition. In addition to selling books, souvenirs and other merchandise, it is the place where admissions are paid and tours begin.

Guests are asked to sign the Visitor's Log from which information is compiled about where they are from and how they heard about the Davenport House. In 2017, the states most represented after Iowa and Illinois were Wisconsin, Minnesota, California, Missouri, and Texas. Texas made the list due to a family reunion group of 70. In all, 744 people from 28 states signed the guest book. 1,006 visited the house.

Not everyone indicates how they learned about the house, but the most popular responses were websites, travel apps, Facebook, and other searches. Word of mouth from friends/family always ranks high also.

Our Sutlers are the backbone of the gift shop. "Sutler" is the name given to the volunteers who work there. Most sign up to work one or two afternoons a month. They make sure the merchandise is neat and displayed properly, collect daily receipts, and keep a record of the information. Having enough volunteers to fill the four-afternoon-perweek schedule is often a little difficult so new volunteers are always welcome.

The Sutlery usually has around \$1500 worth of sales each season; in 2017 the total was over \$1700. Sales at the Quarters One Tour and Christmas Tea helped the increase. Most items are priced under \$20 and include books, T-shirts, household items, historical toys, and items



made by local craftspeople. Currently there are items by a carpenter, a weaver, and an artist. Suggestions from visitors are always welcome, whether about ways to improve the tours or about possible new merchandise to carry. Give some thought to volunteering your time.