EXCITING SUMMER FOR DAVIDPORT HOUSE

What a summer it has been for us! The croquet tournament in August held on the lawn of Quarters One was a huge success and many people stopped by the Colonel Davenport House for a look and some other games. Thank all of you who came out to enjoy the perfect day of fun and food. The question we got most often was “You are going to do it again next year, aren’t you?” so it looks like it probably will become an annual event.

Ghost Tales in September was fun with a lot of people touring the house and again perfect weather, with even a full moon in the sky. A special thanks to the Waytenick family for all they do to support our activities and to Bill Hampes for taking care of hot dogs and snacks that night.

The construction of the east wing is pretty much completed but the funds we’ve raised so far are pretty much depleted. You will hear more of that later.

Our next event will be another trivia night, which will be held on Sunday, November 11th at 3:00 p.m. at the former Officer’s Club in Building 60 on Arsenal Island. We hope even more people will join us this year than last. Round up your friends; come exercise your brain; and take some chances on the raffles.

Next month, repairs will begin on the plaster in the bedroom. Anyone who has visited the house recently will have noticed that the 100-year-old plaster is calling it quits.

Sincerely,
Judy Tumbleson
CDHF Board President
TRIVIA NIGHT FOR A GREAT CAUSE

You’ll have a great time at the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation’s trivia night on Sunday, November 11th at the former Officer’s Club in Building 60, at the corner of Rodman and Gillespie, on Arsenal Island. Doors open at 3:00 p.m. and trivia starts at 3:30 p.m. (We’ll be done in time for the Bears game that night at 7 p.m.)

It will be $10 a person (or $80 a table). Individual reservations will be placed where they can. There will be raffles. Food will be available for purchase and cannot be brought in. Cash bar also available. The format will be the typical trivia night format of ten rounds of questions with ten questions in each round. Contact Judy Tumbleson to make reservations at 786-5980 or 738-8547 cell.

HOUSE OPEN FOR VETERANS DAY

The Colonel Davenport House is open for special hours on Sunday, November 11th for Veterans Day after the 1:00 p.m. Arsenal’s cemetery ceremony. The Colonel Davenport House will be open from 1:30-4:00 p.m. Admission is only $1.00. Make it a day on the Island!

Colonel Davenport was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving for ten years. He served during the War of 1812.

GHOST TALES RECEIVES ANOTHER WINNING STORY

The Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation held its annual “Ghost Tales” event on Saturday, September 29, 2012. The weather was beautiful! (Next year, we are going to work on having a small bonfire.)

Almost 100 people enjoyed spooky stories told by Judy Tumbleson and Heather Nobiling. Heather has been involved with the Genesius Guild for the past 14 years. She also plays the concertina, the bones and ukulele in a local Irish band, Fire in the Belly, with her dad Joe Nobiling. Her most recent adventure is trying her hand at stand-up comedy and performing as an improv comedian with The Blacklist Improv Comedy Troupe at the Circa ’21 Speakeasy.

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. The entire story was printed in the Sunday, September 23rd edition of The Dispatch/Rock Island Argus.
NEW CROQUET EVENT GOOD FUNDRAISER FOR 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 Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation, 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 fun 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.

Keep your croquet mallets handy for next year’s event!

P.S. There has been talk of starting a croquet club that meets to play in the Quad Cities. If anyone is interested, please contact Jessica Waytenick at jwaytenick@rtcnet.net or 309-737-4280.

VOLUNTEER WITH THE OLDEST HOUSE IN THE AREA

We are looking for several people to assist with getting our educational traveling trunks out to local schools either before field trips or for classes or groups like after school programs. If you’re interested, please contact Judy Tumbleson at Judy41@qconline.com or 309-786-5980.

FALL 2012
CHAIRS WERE MADE ON THE ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL?

In 1837, David Sears purchased 57 acres on Arsenal Island where he built a mill, warehouse, several residences, and developed water power on this property. (The only other person permitted to have property on the island was Colonel Davenport.) In 1856, Sears joined in partnership with three other men to manufacture lumber and furniture on the island. In 1857, Sears sold out and the government purchased the land back from Sears. Virginia Jensen donated two of the chairs made on Arsenal Island to the CDHF several years ago. The dainty chairs were made of a combination of oak, maple, and walnut, and the seat was woven out of rush.