

CORNUCOPIA

"To preserve the Colonel Davenport House and site and to interpret the social history and material culture of the early 19th century contained therein for the benefit of the public."

Volume 107 Issue 1

April 2006

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President's Message

Here is your chance to meet the President. Bob Holliday was elected President of CDHF this year at the annual meeting. Miss the annual meeting, a recap is on page 4. Below is Bob's message to the membership. To contact Bob, call (563) 322-3602 or e-mail ynccpo@aol.com.

Our Mission Statement: "To preserve the Colonel Davenport House and Site and to interpret the social history and material culture of the early 19th century contained therein for the benefit of the public."

Simply speaking, the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation (CDHF) is dedicated to the preservation of the architectural and historical significance of the Davenport House. We are all volunteers who have an interest in not only preserving history but perpetuating it.

As a non-profit corporation, the foundation relies solely on grants and private donations. The upkeep of the house, and the continuance of the many programs and events scheduled throughout the year, depends heavily upon financial support.

Attractively priced memberships are available for: students, individuals, families, businesses and corporations.

Guided tours of the Davenport House are available May through October, noon to 4:30 p.m., Thursdays through Sunday.

Volunteer opportunities are numerous. Whatever time a volunteer would like to share with our organization, would be very much appreciated. Being a member of our Board of Directors offers yet another unique opportunity to serve.

The Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation (CDHF) invites you, as a member, as a potential member, as a volunteer, to become part of history by getting involved, and involving others.

-Bob Holliday, President

Cornucopia is a quarterly publication for CDHF members, volunteers and Board of Directors.

To submit information for future publication, contact Jamie Lange, Editor, 309-743-2166, jamielynn880@mchsi.com



Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation, P.O. Box 4603, Rock Island, IL 61201-4603

OPENING CELEBRATION KICKS OFF IN MAY

The Colonel Davenport House is waking up from its winter hibernation for an Opening Celebration on Saturday, May 6 from noon-4 pm.

This celebration acknowledges the return of the house to its regular touring hours. On May 6, there will be special pioneer activities for kids, face-painting, treasure trunk displays, and story telling on the fur traders. Refreshments will also be served.

Check out the new Pier Table and the fur trading exhibit. Attend the Opening Celebration and see all CDHF has to offer. Bring a friend who wants to learn more about local history or bring your family for a fun afternoon.

House Open: May 6 through October 29

Hours: Thursday through Sunday, Noon to 4 p.m.

Special tour times are available by calling Sue at (563) 388-9657.



Bring this coupon in on May 6 and receive an extra chance for the drawing.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Adults and Seniors: \$5

Students: \$3

Family (parents and children): \$10

School Group: \$1 per person

Adult Group: \$2 per person

KARWATH JOINS CDHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELPS ON DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Bob Karwath of Davenport, Iowa has joined the development committee. He lives with his wife and has two grown sons.

Bob has an interest in history and a special claim to the Davenport House. Bob's great grandfather served under Colonel Davenport.

To contact Bob, please e-mail lkarwath@aol.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Annual Membership in CDHF is \$20 for an individual, \$25 for a family, \$15 for senior citizens (60 and older) \$15 for students. Additional levels are available.

Joe Ortiz Moline, IL

Kathy Wine Davenport, IA

Jessica Waytenick Milan, IL

If you are interested in becoming a member, please download the form at www.davenporthouse.org or call (309) 786-7336 to request a form. Mail check and form to PO Box 4603, Rock Island, IL 61201-4603.

For additional membership information, visit www.davenporthouse.org.

HOME SCHOOL DAY BRINGS LOCAL HISTORY TO FAMILIES

Approximately 50 people enjoyed two half day sessions at Home School Day. Families of home schoolers came to Arsenal Island for a fun-filled half day full of history, activities and learning.

Activities include a storytelling by Dee Anderson, Rock Island; historical tour of the House; and a Fur trading experience (actually get to trade). Then the students visited the Arsenal Museum.

They learned about the Rock Island Barracks, which was the Confederate Prisoner of War Camp on the island during the Civil War. It was operational from December 1863 to July 1865. A lot is known about the camp because of the letters that soldiers wrote home. There was a letter-writing activity for older students, and a penmanship exercise for the younger students.

“This event brings kids to the house that ordinarily wouldn’t have the opportunity. Some of these students have never even been on Arsenal Island. There is so much local history wrapped up with Colonel Davenport and the Island,” says Nancy Cornish, Education Chair for CDHF.

Special thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success!



HISTORY BUFFS APPLY HERE TO HELP CDHF

Do you enjoy history or would like to know more about our community’s history? Do you enjoy meeting people from across the county? Then perhaps you should consider becoming a tour guide at the Col. Davenport House.

Col. Davenport House Guides tell the story of George Davenport, his family and house to visitors to the site. They escort visitors around the interior and exterior of the house, giving information about the Davenport family, and the significant role of the family on the founding and early history of Davenport and Rock Island. They also describe the house and its architecture, and tell of pioneer life in the 1830’s through the artifacts in the house.

Guides receive a prepared script and other historical information on the family, house and its contents. Training also includes attending an annual training session and shadowing experienced guides. Guides are asked to give two afternoons per month, Thursday through Sunday from May to October.

2005 ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE ONLINE

In an effort to conserve resources of both paper and postage, the 2005 Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation Annual Report will be available online at www.davenporthouse.org. If you would prefer a copy be mailed to you, please contact Kathy Peck at (309) 797-5539 or kpeck@qconline.com. Check out the events and progress with the House in the report.

LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES

Join CDHF at their second Lunch and Learn of the year at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club. Hear Iowa Roades Scholar Michael Wyant. Mr. Wyant will speak on Native Americans in Illinois, specifically focusing on Chief Black Hawk.

When: Tuesday, June 6th Noon

Where: Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club

Cost: \$12 CHDF members
\$15 Non-members

RSVP: For reservations, mail check payable to CDHF to Helen Macalister, 1351 Pineacre Drive, Bettendorf, IA 52722. If you have questions, please contact Helen Macalister at (563)-332-9232. **RSVP by June 1.**

Annual Meeting Minutes January 29, 2006

The Annual Meeting of the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation was held on Sunday, January 29th, 2006, at the Deere-Wiman House in Moline, Illinois. The meeting was called to order at 1:57 p.m. by President Eunice Schlichting.

Opening Remarks: President Eunice Schlichting thanked Vice President Kathy Peck for organizing the annual meeting. President Schlichting then provided a recap of the year to the membership.

Business Meeting

Minutes: The minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting stood approved as written.

2005 Highlights

- There was an increase in membership prices this year as well as an increase in attendance at the House
- The special events committee hosted very successful events this year including Ghost Tales and luncheon programs. The siding project started last year was completed. A special thank you was given to Scott County Regional Authority for providing funding for the project.

In the fall, shingles on the roof were maintained and sealed to prevent further weathering.

- The Public Relations committee worked to produce a full-color promotional brochure. This was made possible from a grant award from Riverboat Development Authority.
- CDHF participated in the spring Quad City Home Builders Tour of Homes fundraising event for the first time.
- Work continues with AVOLUX Media on the Colonel Davenport DVD called "The House That Courage Built." With the help of a hired grant writer, \$143,000 in grant requests was submitted to underwrite the production of the DVD. To date, more than \$40,000 in has been secured. Grants received include: \$15,000 from RDA, \$4,000 Waterman Foundation, \$10,00 from Bechtel Trust, and \$7,500 from the IL Arts Council
- The video will be promoted to schools for use in their curriculums. It will also be used to increase awareness of the house but its main purpose is educational use.
- President Schlichting recognized the volunteers who help make CDHF a success including 19 sutlers who work in the gift shop and the guides who give tours. President Schlichting also thanks the Board of Directors and those who serve on committees.
- Six board members have now completed their six-year terms including Scharlott Blevins, August Mueller, Marcia Wetzel, Alice West and Eunice Schlichting.
- Two board members passed away this year. They were Augie Mueller and Alice West. There was a moment of silence to remember those directors.

COLONEL DAVENPORT NEEDS YOU!

The CDHF is seeking a person to fill the newly-created Volunteer Coordinator position. The Volunteer Coordinator would be a committee chairperson and would attend monthly board meetings. Some of the duties include: coordinate volunteers for special events and guided tours; promote volunteer opportunities to the CDHF members and the general public; and actively seek new volunteers.

The position would be ideal for someone who likes to organize, meet people and has a love for history.

To receive more information about this position and the Colonel Davenport House, contact Board Chair Bob Holliday at rholliday@scottcountyiowa.com or 563-322-3602.

“This coordinator would help organize our efforts to a greater degree and to avoid duplication of effort,” said Bob Holliday, President of CDHF this year.

“Let’s get our general membership involved to a much greater degree!” he said. Members are encouraged to get involved. Listed below are other committee openings.

Grounds & Maintenance “Buster” Miller (563) 332-6919 bustermiller@juno.com
 Work to secure the grounds, building and site of the Colonel Davenport House. Work with contractors and historians to maintain the house and its cultural integrity.

Nominating Committee Bob Holliday (563) 322-3602 yncppo@aol.com
 Members of the nominating committee will help recruit new board members.

Public Relations Jamie Lange (309) 781-1090 jamielynn880@mchsi.com
 Assist the director in writing news releases, taking photographs at events, seeking out story ideas and producing the quarterly newsletter, *Cornucopia*.

CDHF has volunteer and board opportunities that exist **immediately** and we are **actively** seeking interested individuals. To receive more information about these and other volunteer roles with the Colonel Davenport House, contact Board Chair Bob Holliday at YncCpo@aol.com or 563-322-3602.

TREASURER REQUESTS TO TRACK VOLUNTEER HOURS

The Foundation Center reported that volunteer hours are up by 49 cents this year. The value of a volunteer hour now stands at \$18.04 per hour.

Thank you to each of you for donating all of your time. It’s hard to quantify what your donation of time does for our organization but it’s great to see the value in monetary terms.

Please submit your volunteer hours for CDHF to: Schar Blevins at 1810 Duggleby Street, Davenport, IA 52803 or call (563) 324-8519 or e-mail scharathome@revealed.net. Hours are used in grant requests, reports and other areas.

TIPS FOR VOLUNTEERS

- Find an organization or cause that fits your passion.
- Start with a committee or short-term project. See openings on page 8.
- Meet the board members.
- Network with other members.
- Try something new.
- Work in your expertise area.
- Ask others to volunteer with you. Your friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc can all be involved.
- Attend events.
- Work in your expertise area.

Source: The Foundation Center

A HISTORY MOMENT

This article is continued from the November issue of *Cornucopia*. It was submitted by member Joye Johnston and is an excerpt from the Rock Island Argus and Dispatch.

“We Could See a Big Job Ahead”

The Home Builders had no funds for the restoration. They decided to hold a dance to see if they could raise some money. They hired a band and the manager of the Col Ballroom in Davenport donated the establishment to them.

Working with their ladies auxiliary they managed to raise about \$400. Area lumber yards and roofing firms donated lumber and needed materials.

“It was hard for many of us to find the time to work on the house so we just did it whenever we could. Normally such a job could have been completed much sooner, but bit by bit we got it done,” Beaman explained.

Volunteers put on a new roof, rebuilt the porch and replaced much of the siding. In 1962, painting contractors repainted the outside with paint supplied free by area dealers.

Last year plasterers moved in to donate their services.

“We made no structural changes since we wanted to keep the home in as much the original condition as possible. It has big timbers between the siding and the inside plaster and the home is still basically quite solid even though it’s 132 years old,” Beaman said.

Recently members of the Willard Barron Memorial Apprentice School for Painters in Davenport have been spending four hours on Saturday mornings painting the interior of the old dwelling. They are given classroom credit for this work.

At least a dozen apprentices and their instructor painted the home’s four large rooms and hallway. Walls and ceilings were given two coats.

Same Colors As Used At Williamsburg

“We used the same colors used in the restoration at Williamsburg because we felt they would be typical of the time. We have a rose room, peach room, blue room and green room.

“The woodwork was done in the white enamel, the staircase was varnished, and the floors oiled, just as they used to do in the old days. The floors are pine and still in good shape,” Beaman disclosed.

The builders now hope that some interested group will take over the home and furnish it in pieces of the period.

“We would like advice and help from interested people who know something of the furnishings of that period and might have something to loan or donate. We’d like to give it to the community as an important part of our history,” Beaman said.

Though the home is not heated and has no lights, the builders feel it would be a big attraction for tourists and visitors.

“We think we may even enter it in the Parade of Homes as an added attraction,” Beaman disclosed.

The Col. Davenport home was one of the first buildings on the Arsenal. There the founding fathers conferred with the colonel to draft plans for developing towns in the area.

Prominent Indian chiefs often counseled with Col. Davenport there and once Abraham Lincoln, then a captain in the Black Hawk War of 1832, was a guest in the home.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

****All events take place at the House unless otherwise noted.**

APRIL

April 22 Spring Cleaning Day at the House Volunteers are need for spring cleaning. Help us dust away the cobwebs and open the shutters for the new season. Wear old work clothes and comfortable shoes. Bring a roll of paper towels and a friend! Volunteers will help with cleaning the north side exterior of the house and will prep the windows for opening day in May. Call Buster Miller at (563) 332-6919 with questions.

April 29 Guide Training Session 11:00 a.m. House, Arsenal Island

MAY

May 1 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m. American Red Cross –QCA, Moline

May 6 House Open for the Season Join CDHF as we kick off the new season. Free admission will be offered this day. Stop by for a tour, activities, story time and much more. Refreshments will be served and you can enter for a raffle prize.

JUNE

June 3 & 4 Parade of Homes Noon - 5:00 p.m., Various locations. Volunteers needed to “staff” houses. This is a spring fundraising event for CDHF.

June 5 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m. American Red Cross –QCA, Moline

June 6 Lunch and Learn Series Noon, Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club

June 7 Parade of Homes 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Various locations. Volunteers needed to “staff” houses. This is a spring fundraising event for CDHF.

June 10 & 11 Parade of Homes Noon - 5:00 p.m., Various locations. Volunteers needed to “staff” houses. This is a spring fundraising event for CDHF.

JULY

July 3 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m. American Red Cross –QCA, Moline

July 10-16 John Deere Classic Birdies for Charity Pledge forms are available at the House or by calling Jamie at (309) 743-2166. Please ask for the CDHF pledge form. Pledge a cent per bird or a flat amount. Help CDHF meet their \$1,000 Birdies goal. Bonus Bucks from Birdies for Charity means that more than 100% of your donation will benefit the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation. Pledges are due by July 1st.

SEPTEMBER

September 5 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m. American Red Cross –QCA, Moline

September 17 RiverWays Storytelling Event

September 30 7:00 p.m. **“Ghost Tales”** Hear local ghostly tales. Free to the public. On the lawn of Colonel Davenport House

TBD September Lunch and Learn Noon Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Be a History Buff!

COLONEL DAVENPORT HISTORICAL FOUNDATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Would you like to offer your talents to help CDHF continue to grow? CDHF is seeking volunteers to help with events and planning. Please consider helping at an event this year or serving on a committee.

Programming Nancy Cornish (309) 788-7928 NMGKCornish@qconline.com

Assist with school tours, youth presentations and trips. Also help with teach area youth and organizations about Col. Davenport, the fur trade and life in the 1800's. Will help with youth activities at the house.

Events Helen MacLister (563) 332-9232 helenmacalister2000@yahoo.com

Assist with the planning special events throughout the year including the Lunch and Learn Series, bus trips, opening day activities and *Ghost Tales*.

Parade of Homes Bob Holliday (563) 322-3602 ynccpo@aol.com

Help "staff" a house and raise funds for CDHF. Last year, we raised \$x,xxx by staffing 5 houses. This year, the goal is to fill x houses. To sign up for a shift, contact Bob Karwath. Dates for the parade of homes are June x-x x-x p.m.

Guides Sue Wolters (563) 388-9657 wiz433@yahoo.com

Do you enjoy history or would like to know more about our community's history? Do you enjoy meeting people from across the county? Then perhaps you should consider becoming a tour guide at the Col. Davenport House.

House Attendant Marcia Wetzel (309) 764-6476471

Volunteers are asked to help twice a month from May through October either during regularly scheduled hours or during specially scheduled group and school tours. Regular house hours are Thursday- Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.