



CORNUCOPIA

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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"

GENEROUS MATCHING GIFT TODAY WILL HELP ENDOW DAVENPORT HOME FOR TOMORROW

In the years following the Civil War, the landmark Col. George Davenport home, oldest permanent residence in the Quad Cities, fell into decay. By the turn of the century, it was nearly lost. Then in 1906, his granddaughters and the "Pioneers and Old Settlers' Association of Rock Island County" acted to save it for future generations.

Now, a century later, your all-volunteer *Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation* plans to complete the task of restoring this magnificent landmark by rebuilding its original wings, providing space for interpretive exhibits, and, eventually, administrative offices. The central core of the home, and the new income-producing Sutlery are completed, but to realize our dreams will cost over \$750,000.

Past friends and benefactors, like Rejuvenate Davenport, the Riverboat Development Authority, Scott County Regional Authority and area Questors have generously supported work to date.

We now have a permanent endowment partnership with the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend to provide long-term funding through prudent market investments, and to encourage new cash gifts and "planned giving." This will benefit both us and our donors, through tax-favored donor income and generous tax deductions. Now, the Community Foundation is also offering the special challenge of a generous matching program. *If the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation raises \$10,000 in new funding this year, the Foundation will also add an additional \$5,000 to our Endowment!*

We hope you'll visit the Davenport home to see our progress, then help personally by a generous gift. We welcome your visit, and invite you to encourage friends to join in this unique partnership. It will preserve and interpret to future generations this pioneering home known as "The Cradle of the Quad Cities." Feel free to contact me at (309) 736-3131, any member of the board, or the Community Foundation at (563) 326-2840.

Sincerely,
John E. Norton, President

Cornucopia is a quarterly publication for CDHF members, volunteers and Board of Directors. To submit a story for publication, contact Jessica Waytenick, Editor at waytenik@winco.net or call (563) 322-3911 Ext. 103.

WE NEED YOU!

Do you like visiting with people? Do you like helping people learn about history? You are perfect to volunteer in the gift shop at the Colonel Davenport House. There are flexible hours to choose from. Work when you can. Contact Joyce Johnston at (309) 788-0303.



SAVE THE DATE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007 FOR THE FALL LUNCH AND LEARN PROGRAM

What: "A Shave and a Haircut—Two Bits" a mini-play
 When: Tuesday, September 12th at 12 noon
 Where: Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club

A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME HOW YOU CAN HELP CDHF THIS YEAR

Turn in your pledge now and help the CDHF. It's a win-win situation because the CDHF receives your support and you get a chance to win a new Buick Enclave! Put CDHF #1372 on a Birdie pledge form and turn it in by July 13th at the John Deere Classic. You can download a pledge form at www.birdiesforcharity.com.



CDHF APPLAUDES VOLUNTEERS FOR SPRING PARADE OF HOMES

A big THANK YOU goes to all of the volunteers who helped staff a house for the spring Parade of Homes sponsored by Quad Cities Homebuilders. CDHF was responsible for staffing four houses and this meant we had to provide individuals to cover 36 shifts of time. From this effort, we can expect to receive several hundred dollars income. It is a simple project but we could not do it without the many willing volunteers who give of their time to make this a reality. Proceeds from this project go towards maintenance of the house. Again, if you were a part of this project, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



An historic photo of Fort Armstrong 1850 that shows the cliffs of Arsenal Island.

HISTORY MOMENT: DRED SCOTT CASE DECIDED 150 YEARS AGO

Do you remember the details of the case that factored in the beginning of the Civil War? In March 1857, the U.S. Supreme Court decided the case of *Dred Scott v. John F. A. Sanford* and it was quite possibly the most important case ever decided by our high court. To reverse its ruling, the nation fought the American Civil War.

In 1834, Dred Scott was a slave belonging to Dr. Emerson, who was a surgeon in the U.S. Army. He took Scott from Missouri to the military post at Rock Island, Illinois, and held him there as a slave until 1836. Dr. Emerson then took Scott from Rock Island to the military post at Fort Snelling in the Territory known as Upper Louisiana and held him there until 1838.

On November 2, 1853, Dred Scott filed his complaint in the Circuit Court of the United States, Missouri District. He sued for his freedom, alleging that he was a citizen of the State of Missouri, and that John F. A. Sanford, without law or right held him as a slave. Scott contended that Dr. Emerson caused Scott to become a free man when he took him to reside first at Rock Island, IL, and again when he took him to reside at Fort Snelling.

In reply, Sanford filed what would today be called a Motion to Dismiss the Plaintiff's case. The Judiciary Act of 1789 authorized the Federal Courts to hear suit between citizens of different states. Sanford's motion sought to overcome Scott's allegation that he was "a citizen of the State of Missouri" because Dred Scott "was not a citizen of Missouri ... because he is a negro of African descent; his ancestors were of pure African blood and were brought into this country and sold as negro slaves."

The ruling was handed down from the Supreme Court on March 6, 1857. Despite the conclusion that the Court lacked jurisdiction, however, it went on to hold that Scott was not a free man. This was only the second time that the Supreme Court had found an act of Congress to be unconstitutional.

On September 12, 2007, at noon at the Arsenal Golf Club, the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation will present an original "dialogue" discussing this case at its Lunch & Learn. That "dialogue," called "*A Shave and a Haircut - Two Bits*" is an original mini-play written by Judge John Donald O'Shea, a board member of the CDHF. The play is situated in a barbershop in March of 1857, with the dialogue derived from Chief Justice Taney's majority opinion, the dissenting opinions of Justices McLean and Curtis, and the editorials of three local newspapers. To RSVP for this event, please call Sue Wolters at (563) 388-9857. Cost is \$13 for members; \$16 for non-members. Deadline for reservations is September 6, 2007.

HOUSE OPENS IN MAY TO MORE THAN 50 VISITORS

The Colonel Davenport House opened for the 2007 season on Saturday, May 5th at noon. Over the weekend, more than 50 visitors toured the house, enjoyed history and had refreshments. Summertime is the perfect time to invite your friends and family to the House for a tour. House hours are Thursday through Sunday from noon until 4:00 p.m. Did you know Col. Davenport was murdered on the 4th of July? Visit the house on the weekends before or after Wednesday, July 4th to hear the tale of his ghastly murder.



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Be a History Buff!

GET THE LATEST NEWS AND HAPPENINGS FOR CDHF DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX INSTEAD OF YOUR MAILBOX

The Cornucopia newsletter and event updates could be delivered to your in-box rather than your regular mail box. Response can be instantaneous and it will save the CDHF some money that could be used elsewhere. Please send your email to Jessica Waytenick at waytenik@winco.net. This list will only be used for CDHF purposes.



JOIN US IN JULY FOR A LUNCH AND LEARN PROGRAM

Wednesday, July 18th at noon, Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club

Mary Elizabeth Sievert presents “Material Culture: The Influence of the Industrial Revolution in England and America on the Domestic Influences of the Frontier.” Ms. Sievert currently operates a business that provides a brokerage service to auction houses, and she is a vendor at nearby shows and malls offering appraisal services throughout the region.

Additional Details inside!! Please see the enclosed flyer for information on this upcoming program.