



# CORNUCOPIA

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SPRING 2009

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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."*

## CELEBRATE SPRING, OPENING, VOLUNTEERS

Last summer's Moline Dispatch METRO article by Reggie Jarrell emphasized our need to build and keep a vital interested staff of volunteers. Their work is absolutely vital to preserving and interpreting the story of Col. George Davenport, his family, and pioneer life in the Quad Cities. None of this can happen without the active support of our many friends and members. Feel free to add your name to our list of guides, interpreters, or Sutlery volunteers!

It is volunteers who have kept the Col. Davenport House alive since its near-collapse at the turn of the last century. Donors and skilled builders brought new life to its timbers, while volunteers have kept its story alive in the near century that has followed.

Our country now faces economic challenges not seen since the 1930's. At that time those challenges were successfully met, and the Col. Davenport House continues to stand as an expression of hope in our future, and a reminder of our roots here on the Mississippi. We have every reason to be optimistic, thanks to the spirit of volunteerism in the Quad Cities. As a result, our hopes for rebuilding the Col. Davenport House's east wing as an interpretive center remain undimmed.

Our tour guides and sutlers continue to tell the Davenport story, not just of the historic residence, but of the Davenports' involvement in building our community, its commerce and industry. Volunteers make our Lunch and Learn programs come alive with wonderful stories of the past, while bringing special seasonal programs and public events to Quad Citians of all ages. We are especially mindful of the need to strengthen local history education in our schools, and the focus this brings to learning.

We deeply appreciate your efforts, and hope you'll continue to support us through your personal interest, gifts, and volunteer activities. If you would like further information on volunteering, visit [www.davenporthouse.org](http://www.davenporthouse.org) or just talk with myself or another board member.

John E. Norton, President

*Cornucopia* is a publication for CDHF members, volunteers and Board of Directors. It is published three times yearly. To submit a story for publication, contact Jessica Waytenick, Editor at [waytenik@winco.net](mailto:waytenik@winco.net) or call (309) 277-0937 Ext. 103.

## HELP US TELL COL. DAVENPORT'S STORY

Are you interested in helping out at the house this season? We need more tour guides and gift shop help. Don't worry, you're not on your own! Tour guides are given a script and tag along with a current guide until they are ready. Sutlers staff the gift shop and keep track of admissions, attendance, and sales. Interested tour guides, please contact Pete Peterson at [pepaco@mchsi.com](mailto:pepaco@mchsi.com) or 563-324-4265. Interested sutlers, please contact Ginny Bauersfeld at 309-757-9020 or [whodealt@aol.com](mailto:whodealt@aol.com)

## CDHF ANNUAL MEETING SHOWCASES MUSICAL; ANNUAL REPORT NOW ONLINE

The CDHF held its annual meeting on January 25 at the Butterworth Center. We celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a non-profit organization and honored the past presidents of the board. The program included a performance of a selection of numbers from the musical "George!". It takes a look at the life of Colonel George Davenport. Now, all new orchestration has been written for it by local composer Mary Kae Waytenick.

Local writers Joanne Beaumont and Ann Boaden created this musical for Augustana College's Henriette C. K. Naeseth Dinner in 1998. After its initial presentation, "George!" was often presented around the Quad Cities in the following five years.



If you missed the annual meeting, read a copy of the 2008 CDHF Annual Report on the website at [www.davenporthouse.org](http://www.davenporthouse.org) under the Newsroom section.

Please welcome two new 2009 board members—Deanna Jensen and Connie Patridge. We'd also like to thank exiting board members Beth Carvey, Kathy Peck, and Sue Wolters for their service.



### CDHF OUT AND ABOUT

The CDHF had a display about the house, its tours, and events at the Cruise into Excellence Teacher Expo in August 2008 and the Henry Farnam Dinner on February 20th. Did you know that Col. Davenport's son, Bailey, helped establish the Rock Island Arsenal?

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

**Welcome to Fred Ebling of Moline!** Are your membership dues up to date? Keep up with all of the CDHF happenings and enjoy free tours of the house and a discount of Gift Shop purchases. Have you seen the new CDHF t-shirts?



## CELEBRATE OPENING DAY MAY 2

On May 2nd from 12-4 pm, celebrate the start of the 2009 season by coming for a free tour of the Colonel Davenport House on Opening Day. Bring a friend along to get a guided tour of the house and enjoy refreshments. Free admission that day.

## RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW FOR THE TWO UPCOMING LUNCH & LEARNS

**Wednesday, April 15 at 12 noon**

**No Small Sacrifice: Military Life at Fort Armstrong – Presenter: Regena Schantz**

Military life at the forts in the United States' early days was not easy; it was more tedious and monotonous with hard manual labor involved. Most recruits saw little or no combat and were looked upon to settle disputes with the Native Americans. Learn about life for early soldiers stationed at Fort Armstrong on Arsenal Island. Reservations due April 11.



**Wednesday, June 10 at 12 noon**

**Fort Armstrong Centennial Celebration - Presenter: Kris Leinicke**

It was held June 18-24, 1916, and included parades, a "Court of Honor" and Native American village on Arsenal Island, and many other activities. For 20 years, 1816 to 1836, Fort Armstrong served as a cornerstone for the communities developing on both sides of the river. The fort's importance was recognized in 1916, when community members representing each of the Tri-Cities organized and built a replica blockhouse to mark the site of the former fort. At the program, see photographs and documents from the historic event. Reservations due June 6.

Both programs take place at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club. Cost is \$13 for members; \$16 for non-members. **Reservations in advance are required.** Mail check, payable to CDHF c/o Don O'Shea, 3113 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Moline, IL 61265. Questions? Please contact Don at (309) 762-8156 or [pelagius@qconline.com](mailto:pelagius@qconline.com)

## ODDS AND ENDS

### Do You Spin Wool?

Gina Anians raises alpaca and has an abundance of wool to share. If you could use it, contact her at (563) 519-2222.

### Great Depression Stories

Our treasurer, John Donald O'Shea has been gathering "memories of the Great Depression" with an eye toward publication of a book. If any of you have memories, (500 to 1,000) words, please type them up and email them to Don at [Irishplaywright@qconline.com](mailto:Irishplaywright@qconline.com). Also, please include a consent to use.



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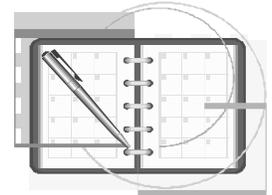
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 15 - Lunch & Learn at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club
- May 2 - Opening Day at the Colonel Davenport House
- June 10 - Lunch & Learn at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club
- September 16 - Lunch & Learn at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club
- September 26 - Ghost Tales at the Colonel Davenport House
- October 7 - Lunch & Learn at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club



The CDHF made over \$640 on the Fall Parade of Homes. Many thanks to the volunteers that helped with that event!!



## IN MEMORIAM

CDHF past president and board member David Corkery passed away in June 2008. He was the board president in 1993-94.