



CORNUCOPIA

Volume 109 Issue 2

SUMMER 2008

“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”

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LOCAL STUDENTS’ COLONEL DAVENPORT PROJECT RECEIVES NATIONAL ACCLAIM

Beau Dexter and Garbiella Green, students at North Scott High School, chose Col. Davenport for their National History Day project. Entitled “Colonel George Davenport: Compromising the Conflicts of the New Frontier,” their documentary is a professional 10-minute narrated video with photographs and footage.



They toured the Davenport House, went to the gravesite, visited Black Hawk State Park, interviewed and worked with Gena Schantz, looked through the microfilm at the Davenport Library Special Collections Room and researched the State Historical Library Archives in Des Moines. They have an annotated bibliography with over 50 sources.

Gabriela has participated in National History Day for six years and Beau for seven years. They will be presenting their project for us at the July 2nd Lunch and Learn.

National History Day (NHD) is an academic-enrichment program that helps students learn about historical issues, ideas, people and events. The year-long project fosters students’ enthusiasm for learning and encourages them to use primary, secondary, community and statewide resources on a subject of their choice related to an annual theme.

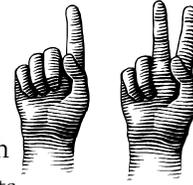
NHD teaches the skills all individuals need for a successful future. The program’s central elements develop participants’ ability to: 1) complete extensive research; 2) critically analyze and develop historical conclusions about information they have discovered in a variety of sources; and 3) present and defend their interpretations in a critical, yet creative, forum.

Their documentary was chosen as one of the two state qualifiers from the regional competition. They went to State and placed third in the State, which means they are alternates to Nationals. They also received the State Award: The Leroy Pratt Award for Local History.

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 or call (309) 277-0937 Ext. 103.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS COUNT

Are your annual membership dues up to date? Or is that CDHF renewal form lost in a forgotten stack of papers? In order to obtain grants, we need to maintain a roster of members whose dues payments are current. The higher our number of dues-paying members, the higher our chances of obtaining much needed grant money. This is so important to fund our ongoing restoration efforts, educational opportunities, and other community projects. Our numbers do count!! If you are in doubt about the status of your dues, call Kim Yarbrough at (563) 332-5925.



LONG-TIME CDHF VOLUNTEER HONORED

At the Quad Cities Presenters' Arts Advocacy Awards in April, Connie Runge received an Individual Donor Award. She has been a long supporter of the CDHF (since before the organization's formal beginning in 1978) and was called a "founding mother" of the Colonel Davenport House. "She is the authority on the House and its story," her nominators from the Colonel Davenport House wrote.

Connie has been involved in preservation efforts since the U.S. bicentennial year of 1976. Along with her service with the CDHF and its board, she has been a board member and executive officer of Quad City Arts, Children and Family Services, Friends of Art and Gallery Guild with the former Davenport Museum of Art and Figge Art Museum, and helped with the idea and creation of the Family Museum in Bettendorf.



OPEN SEASON!

The House opened for the season on Saturday, May 3 with over 40 visitors despite the windy, cloudy weather. It looks to be an exciting season with several school groups already scheduled. The House is open for guided tours on Thursday-Sunday from 12 Noon until 4:00 p.m. With gas prices so high, why not take a short trip to Arsenal Island one afternoon to sight-see and visit the House and the Island's other attractions.

CDHF EXTENDS THANKS TO THOSE WHO LEND A HAND

Special thanks to Palmer College students, Kate Youngs and Matt Majewski, and new CDHF member Jim Westphal for assisting in the removal of the old walkway ramp, scraps, and siding residue from last fall's project.

Their volunteer labor and use of their trucks was a great help in completing the project and preparing the House for the season opening.

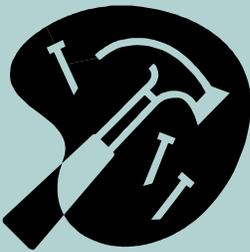


A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME.... HOW YOU CAN HELP CDHF THIS YEAR

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.



SUMMER HOME IMPROVEMENTS TAKING PLACE



The Building and Grounds Committee has been soliciting bids for the painting and caulking of the south side (entrance side) of the house, including the new porch. We have received a \$6,000 grant from the Riverboat Development Authority for the project. Also, a temporary rope safety rail was added to the new porch. The CDHF received a \$300 grant from the Rock Island Arsenal Women's Club for a new railing for the porch and ramp.

The furnace was not functioning properly in the gift shop and a vendor has been called to repair the heating and inspect the air conditioning. The system in the main house continues to work well. Kermitt replaced the filters in the HVAC systems in May. The resident ground hog under the porch continues to be a nuisance and we will keep up our efforts to capture or detain him for interrogation... or inclusion in the fur trade exhibit (stuffed, or course.) HA HA.



Faye Waterman and her garden club volunteers continue to make the grounds beautiful for our guests and members. Great job and thank you!!

VISITS FROM THE QUEEN

The Colonel Davenport House and the other attractions on Arsenal Island have been included on the passenger short tours for the upcoming visits by the American Queen steamboat.

There will be eight visits by the boat between July and October. What a great opportunity to showcase the House and area history to these visitors!





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Be a History Buff!

JOIN US THIS JULY FOR A LUNCH AND LEARN PROGRAM

The July Lunch and Learn on Wednesday, July 2nd at the Arsenal Golf Club will highlight the nationally recognized History Day project on Colonel George Davenport prepared by local students. In addition, John Willard will speak on Fourth of July celebrations in the past. Advance reservations are required. RSVP today!

Lunch and Learn

Presenters: Beau Dexter and Gabriella Green, National History Day
John Willard, Fourth of July Celebrations

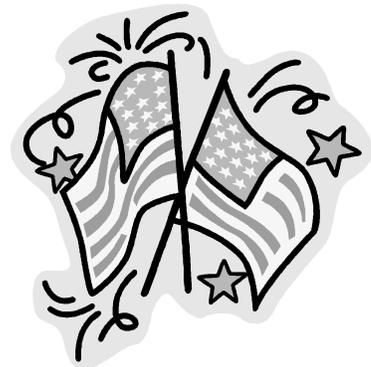
Date: Wednesday, July 2nd

Time: 12 Noon

Location: Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club

Cost is \$13 for members and \$16 for non-members

RSVP to Sue Wolters at (563) 388-9657



ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS, DONORS ONLINE

The 2007 Annual Report is available online. Check out the website at www.davenporthouse.org for a summary of last year's accomplishments, programs and events. The annual report highlights the past year's successes and generous contributors of time, money and talents.