



BLOCK HOUSE 1816

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

October 2012 Newsletter

Hello Members,

So far this season our presenters have been in costume. This trend will continue for our November program with Jo Noon, Site Director at the Walnut Grove Pioneer Village and Olde St. Ann's Church, which are part of the Scott County Conservation Park. Jo heads all activities at both places, and presents her programs in "Pioneer Woman" costume. Her topic for our Thursday, November 1st meeting, will be "Education, Recreation and Preservation."

The program will follow dinner, served at 6:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Golf Club. Following tossed salad with bread sticks, the entrée will be Stuffed Chicken Breast with Cranberry Sauce, Glazed Carrots, Garlic and Shallot Whipped Potatoes, and end with a delicious Golf Club Dessert. All this just \$14.00 per person, including tax and tip. Please have your check ready to give to **Dick Hochstetler** or **Linda Miller** when you arrive.

Reservations for the November 1st meeting are due by noon on Monday, October 29th. You may call **Monica Holeman** at (563) 650-4349, or call **Linda Miller** at (563) 355-6165, or email Linda at chiicaliinda@aol.com. Dinner cancellations must be made by the reservation deadline or you will be liable for costs incurred and billed accordingly.

Our meetings are open to both members and non-members. Those who wish to skip dinner and attend just the program portion of the meeting, starting at about 7:00 p.m., may do so free of charge.

Drivers and passengers entering the Arsenal must have a valid picture ID. Let the guard know you are attending a function at the Golf Club. Remember, those coming across the Government Bridge from Iowa after 5:30 p.m. need to proceed to the Rock Island Gate as the Davenport Gate will be closed.

Thanks to our Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society Volunteers (September)

Judy Belfer – Board business

Arlis Enburg - Board minutes; Board business; brochure project

Eva Hammond – Brochure project

Dick Hochstetler –Board financial business

Monica Holeman - Historical Society dinner reservations

Anne Jochum – Board publicity

Jim Jochum – Board business

Linda Miller - Board business; Historical Society dinner reservations

Elaine Vinzant –Historical Society newsletter and mailing; Board business; brochure project

Martha Wahe - Brochure project

Thanks to our Rock Island Arsenal Museum Volunteers (September)

Larry Flathman – Research project

Bob Horton - SNL database project

Elaine Horton – SNL database project

Anne Jochum – Photographic archives project; Forget-Me-Not Victorian Day event; East-West Riverfest Kick-Off Party

Jim Jochum – Educational Collection project; Forget-Me-Not Victorian Day event; East-West Riverfest Kick-Off Party

Alan Larson – Historical Tour of Rock Island Arsenal

Morris Merle – Historical tour of Rock Island Arsenal

Andrew Padavich - Archives project; equipment/furniture move

Clark Ramser - Research project

Greg Shelangouski – Archives project; equipment/furniture move

Pat Steen - Historic tour of Rock Island Arsenal

Kym Vandygriff – Historical Tour of Rock Island Arsenal

Rock Island Arsenal Museum September 2012 Activities

On Tuesday, September 4, 2012, Jodean Rousey Murdock met with Brian Leech and 22 students in Augustana's Oral Histories class to discuss potential projects and a tour of the resource center, the museum and the primary artifact storage room. During the month of September, Augustana College students visited the museum resource center to conduct research for oral history projects and an inquiry project.

On Friday, September 7, 2012, Jodean Rousey Murdock and Rock Island Historical Society volunteers, Jim and Anne Jochum, participated in the East-West Riverfest Kick-Off Party. Thirty-six people visited the Museum/Historical Society table during the event. As an East-West Riverfest participant, the museum and the monthly History Break were included in the official program guide for the September 7 – 16, 2012 community event.

On Sunday, September 9, 2012, as part of their professional development training, seventy five members of the Iowa Army National Guard (334th Forward Support Battalion) visited the museum and toured Rock Island Arsenal. Museum volunteer Alan Larsen conducted both island tours, and Kris Leinicke conducted tours of the museum exhibit hall.

On Monday, September 10, 2012, Kris Leinicke presented a program on the 150th anniversary of Rock Island Arsenal to the Friends of the Rock Island Public Library. The program was held at the First Baptist Church, Rock Island, Illinois with 61 in attendance.

On Thursday, September 13, 2012, Kris Leinicke and Jim Jochum assisted with the History Break lunch and learn program "Landscape Photography of the Upper Mississippi River taken by Henry Bosse", presented by Mr. Ron Deiss, Archeologist with the U.S. Corps of Engineers Rock Island District. Twenty-three employees and members of the general public attended this program.

On Wednesday, September 19, 2012, William Johnson conducted the biannual weapons inventory with two disinterested parties; Mark Kane, Garrison Public Affairs and Jennifer Matthews, MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation).

On Thursday, September 20, 2012, William Johnson provided an interview to Steve Long with Channel 4 news on the Sherman Tank and the Battle of the Bulge. The interview aired on Thursday, September 27, 2012 as part of the series, "Rock Island Arsenal: Inside the Gates".

On Friday, September 21, 2012, museum volunteer, Bob Horton, provided an interview to Steve Long with Channel 4 news on the 8-inch howitzer and its use in the Korean War. The interview was filmed as part of the series, "Rock Island Arsenal: Inside the Gates," and will be aired on Thursday, October 18, 2012.

On Saturday, September 22, 2012, Jodie Creen Wesemann and Rock Island Historical Society volunteers, Jim and Anne Jochum, participated in the Forget-Me-Not Victorian Day at Oakdale Memorial Gardens, Davenport, Iowa. One of the individuals featured in the cemetery walk, Milton Howard, was a former employee of Rock Island Arsenal. Eighteen people visited the Museum/Historical Society table during the event.

On Saturday, September 29, 2012, Kris Leinicke presented a program on the Rock Island Barracks for the semi-annual meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Mid-West Tool Collectors of America. The program was held at the Clarion Hotel, Davenport Iowa, with 57 in attendance.

On Saturday, September 29, 2012, Bill Johnson participated in the Echoes at Riverside at the Riverside Cemetery, Moline, Illinois. One of the individuals featured in the cemetery walk, John Gamble, was a former employee of Rock Island Arsenal. Twenty people visited the museum's information table during the event.

.RIAHS Sponsored Lunch 'n Learn History Breaks

Just two more chances to attend 150th Anniversary Lunch 'n Learn History Breaks, held in the Caisson Room, Building 60, from Noon till 1:00 p.m. On **Nov. 8**, Sam Heilig or Mike McKean, Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will present "Mississippi River Navigation History." On **Dec. 13**, Ron Deiss, Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will present a Heritage Documentaries video, "The Rock Island Civil War Prison: Andersonville of the North?" Call Linda Miller at (563) 355-6165 for reservations.