



BLOCK HOUSE 1816

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

February 2014 Newsletter

Hello Members:

We continue to look for an editor for our newsletter. If you are interested, please contact any of the board members.

Our March 6th program will be given by Mary Wildermuth, Executive Director of the Muscatine History and Industry Center. Ms. Wildermuth retired from the Muscatine Community School District after a 30 year career in education as a librarian, grant writer and the District's Director of Special Projects. Her topic will be: "The Muscatine History and Industry Center" from buttons to desks. Learn about the entrepreneurs, the leaders and the people who have made Muscatine the entrepreneurial center that it is today. Learn about the Pearl Button Capital of the World and the story that will pull you to Muscatine too!!"

The program will follow dinner served at 6:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Golf Club, 1838 Gillespie Street. The menu will be tossed salad with breadsticks, Corned Beef, cabbage, potatoes, rolls and dessert all prepared by the Golf Club kitchen, all for \$14.00, including tax and tip. Please have your check or cash ready to give to **Dick Hochstetler** or **Linda Miller** when you arrive.

Reservations are due by noon on Monday March 3rd. You may call **Monica Holeman** (563) 650-4349, or **Linda Miller** (563) 355-6165 or you may 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 7:00 p.m., may do so free of charge.

Drivers and passengers entering the Arsenal must have a valid picture I.D. Let the guard know you are attending a function at the Golf Club. Remember, those coming across the Government Bridge from Iowa need to proceed to the Rock Island Gate as the Davenport Gate will be closed for inbound traffic.

Upcoming Events

Annual Henry Farnam Committee Dinner

Mark your calendars. Annual Henry Farnam Committee Dinner will be held March 21st at the St Ambrose Rogalski Center. The featured speaker will be Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D. Professor Brinkley is an American author, professor of history at Rice University and a fellow at the James Baker Institute for Public Policy. Brinkley is a history commentator for CBS News and a contributing editor to the magazines Vanity Fair, American Heritage and Audubon Magazine.

Professor Brinkley's topic will be "Wilderness Warriors: the Roosevelts and Iowans Who Changed America." The presentation will feature environmental themes relative to the Mississippi River, the Great Flood of 1927 which led to creation of the Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge ; and Iowa environmentalists who changed the world including, but not limited to, Ding Darling, Henry Wallace and Aldo Leopold.

Questions about the event may directed to River Action at (563)322-2969

Note: The Rock Island Historical Society/Rock Island Arsenal Museum website is up and running. Please take some time and visit - <http://www.arsenalhistoricalsociety.org>. Feel free to forward the link.

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

Judy Belfer - Board business
Dick Hochstetler –Board financial business
Monica Holeman - Historical Society dinner reservations
Anne Jochum - Board business
Jim Jochum – Board business
Linda Miller - Board business; Historical Society dinner reservations

Thanks to our Rock Island Arsenal Museum Volunteers (January)

Dale Heiser, Jr. - Photographic archives/scanning projects
Anne Jochum – Photographic archives project
Jim Jochum – iBook project
Jeremy Murray - Photographic archives project
Andrew Padavich – Photographic archives project
Andrea Wagoner - Research project

Rock Island Arsenal Museum January 2014 Activities

On Tuesday, January 7, 2014, Jodean Rousey Meleski attended a Special Events Planning Committee meeting. At the meeting, Mrs. Speights asked Jodean to create a museum scavenger hunt for April's Month of the Military Child.

On Thursday, January 16, 2014, Jodean Rousey Meleski provided a volunteer orientation to Jeremy Murray. Jeremy is a graduate student in the Museum Studies program at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities and will be completing an independent study at the museum. He began his independent study on January 21, 2014.

On Friday-Monday, January 17 – 20, 2014, the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society, the Rock Island Arsenal Museum's support organization, participated in the coupon book for the Quad City Convention & Visitors' Bureau' "Be a Tourist in Your Own Backyard". The museum had 86 visitors on Friday and Saturday during the event