



BLOCK HOUSE 1816

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

March 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 April 3rd program will be given by Rich Morthland, Communications Instructor at Black Hawk College. Mr. Morthland, former representative in the Illinois Legislature and former member of the Rock Island County Board, has B.A. in Communications and has also taught courses at Scott Community College and Ashford University. You may remember Mr. Morthland from a previous program when he portrayed Mr. John Deere. His topic for our April program will be: "Sublime, solid, surprising: an insider's tour of the Illinois State Capitol".

The program will follow dinner served at 6:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Club, Gillespie Ave. The menu will be tossed salad with breadsticks, chicken and rice, steamed broccoli, 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 31st. 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.

Website

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.

Selected Website Statistics

23 Feb 2012 – 4 Mar 2014 Total Visitors - 35,898

23 Feb 2012 – 4 Mar 2014 Total Hits - 560,875

Activity by Month

Month	Hits	Page Views	Visitors
Feb 2012	28	11	10
Mar 2012	88	14	15
Apr 2012	66	19	14
May 2012	70	15	14
Jun 2012	61	22	20
Jul 2012	62	18	16
Aug 2012	84	45	42
Sep 2012	118	69	52
Oct 2012	119	75	65
Nov 2012	137	59	50
Dec 2012	4,961	786	483
Jan 2013	7,665	1,221	733
Feb 2013	17,977	1,956	1,222
Mar 2013	16,636	1,426	1,131
Apr 2013	21,308	1,768	1,583
May 2013	38,197	2,515	2,105
Jun 2013	40,120	2,986	2,204
Jul 2013	55,814	4,536	2,630
Aug 2013	34,374	4,233	2,585
Sep 2013	46,362	3,521	2,320
Oct 2013	50,039	3,631	2,377
Nov 2013	44,815	3,540	2,446
Dec 2013	40,818	4,203	2,828
Jan 2014	74,939	8,880	2,860
Feb 2014	57,375	3,255	7,195
Mar 2014	8,642	439	898
Total	560,875	49,243	35,898

Thanks to our Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society Volunteers February 2014

Judy Belfer - Board business

Arlis Enburg – Board business; board meeting minutes

Dick Hochstetler –Board financial business

Monica Holeman - Historical Society dinner reservations

Anne Jochum - Board business and publicity; newsletter

Jim Jochum – Board business; newsletter

Jolene Keeney – Board business

Linda Miller – Board financial business; Historical Society dinner reservations

Martha Wahe – Board business

Thanks to our Rock Island Arsenal Museum Volunteers February 2014

Dale Heiser, Jr. - Photographic archives/scanning projects
Anne Jochum – Photographic archives project
Jim Jochum – iBook project
Jeremy Murray - Photographic archives project

Rock Island Arsenal Museum February 2014 Activities

On Monday, February 3, 2014, Jodean Rousey Meleski and Jodie Creen Wesemann conducted a behind-the-scenes tour for 12 employees of the Rock Island Auction Company.

On Wednesday, February 5, 2014, Kris Leinicke conducted a private tour of the museum for Colonel David Luders, Commanding Officer of Rock Island Arsenal-Joint Manufacturing Technology Center (RIA-JMTC).

On Tuesday, February 11, 2014, Jodean Rousey Meleski attended an Event Planning Committee meeting.

On Monday, February 24, 2014, Jodean Rousey Meleski began a 120-day detail with the Plans and Operations Division, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security (DPTMS), US Army Garrison – Rock Island Arsenal (USAG-RIA). This developmental assignment will end on June 27, 2014.

On Wednesday, February 26, 2014, Colonel and Mrs. Speights were interviewed by WQAD, Channel 4, for a segment of *Rock Island Arsenal: Inside the Gates*. Colonel Speights is the Garrison Commander, USAG-RIA. The interview was filmed in the museum.

On Wednesday, February 26, 2014, Bill Johnson and Kris Leinicke conducted a behind-the-scenes tour for 13 graduate students and 1 instructor in the Collections Management Course offered by the Museum Studies Graduate Program at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities.

The Rock Island Arsenal Museum was featured in the February/March 2014 issue of *Supply Line*, published by the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA). Scott Taylor wrote a feature article that appeared in MVPA Destinations. The MVPA website - <http://www.mvpa.org/>