



BLOCK HOUSE 1816

## ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### February 2017 Newsletter

Hello Members:

Our March 2nd program will be given by Master Gardener Rhonda Brady, Galesburg, IL. She was trained as a University of IL Extension Master Gardener in 1996 to help in her work with youth in community gardens. In 1997, she started tagging migrating monarchs with Monarch Watch while visiting the schools where the former community gardens had evolved into prairie plots and butterfly gardens. Ms. Brady started raising monarchs in a more controlled setting and distributing eggs & caterpillars to school classrooms. Rhonda then followed up with those classrooms and tagged the monarchs raised. Rhonda's rural property became Monarch Waystation #17 in July of 2005. She has championed the conservation needs of the monarch in all levels of Schools, Libraries, Nature centers, Children's museums, Garden clubs, Senior centers, as well as with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and 4-H clubs. In 2008, Rhonda became an active trainer for the Monarch Teacher Network in the first Illinois workshop, to help local teachers gain the knowledge to more effectively use monarchs in their classrooms. Ms. Brady had the pleasure of traveling to Mexico with a MTN tour group and marveling at that part of the migration story.

In 2014, Rhonda & her husband outfitted a renovated school bus which became a rolling resource center & greenhouse known as the Ms MariPosa. It is used to educate others and serve as a home for the books, posters, and her accumulations of materials to educate all ages. Galesburg is now host to the annual Monarch Migration Festival which encourages the establishment of more Monarch Waystations in the corn belt. Her personal soapbox is good stewardship of the land while trying to restore the summer breeding habitat of the monarch. In 2016, Rhonda was named a Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist for the Illinois and Iowa area.

The presentation will be: *Monarch Butterfly Conservation Efforts, History and Needs*. The lecture will focus on the significant dates in the history of the North American Monarch Butterflies: 1936, 1976, 1993, 1997, 2005, & 2015. Ms. Brady will also explore the conservation changes needed to bring the monarch population back to a sustainable status before the US Fish and Wildlife endangered species status ruling deadline of 2018.

The program will follow dinner served at 6:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Island Golf Course Clubhouse. The menu will be a Soup, Salad & Sandwich Buffet featuring fresh baked breads, cookies, coffee, tea, and water all prepared by the Golf Club kitchen, all for \$11.00, 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 February 27th. You may call **Monica Holeman** (563) 650-4349, or **Linda Miller** (563) 355-6165 or you may email Linda at: [chiicaliinda@aol.com](mailto: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.

**Attention: New requirements for accessing the Rock Island Arsenal as of December 1, 2015. Please use the following link to learn more about the new process.**  
<http://www.usagria.army.mil/AccessRequests/>

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.

### **Upcoming Event**

The 14th Annual Farnam Dinner will celebrate: Quad Cities' Place in Baseball History

Date: Thursday evening, March 16, 2017

Place: St Ambrose University Rogalski Center

The two featured guest speakers will be Tom Sheiber and Tim Rask.

Shieber is Senior Curator at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York. He is the lead curator of "We Are Baseball," a traveling exhibit produced by the Hall of Fame and partners. Among other projects he curated is "The Rivalry," a temporary exhibit opening in late March of 2017 at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. It details the long and intertwined histories of the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs.

Rask is a member of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR). Rask currently serves as the "Umpire-in-Chief" (aka Chairman) of SABR's Iowa chapter. He has written numerous baseball articles and is the author of the book, Baseball at Davenport's John O'Donnell Stadium.

Also on the program will be Dave Heller, president and CEO of Main Street Baseball, LLC, owner of the Quad City River Bandits.

Cost: \$40 per person or \$375 for a table of 10

Registration for Dinners: Online registration available at <http://riveraction.org/>

### **Thanks to Historical Society Volunteers** (January 2017)

Judith Belfer – Board business  
Dick Hochstetler – Board financial business  
Monica Holeman - Historical Society dinner reservations  
Anne Jochum - Board business and publicity; newsletter  
Jim Jochum – Board business; newsletter  
Maureen Lonergan - newsletter  
Jolene Keeney – Board business  
Linda Miller – Board business, Historical Society dinner reservations  
Martha Wahe – Board business

## **Thanks to Museum Volunteers**

(January 2017)

Julia Evans – Collections related projects, weapon serial number project, monthly artifact inventory

Anne Jochum – Photograph organization project

Jim Jochum – Research requests

Maureen Lonergan – Collections related projects, Integrative Pest Management (IPM) program

Morris Merle –museum desk duty, research requests, photograph organization project

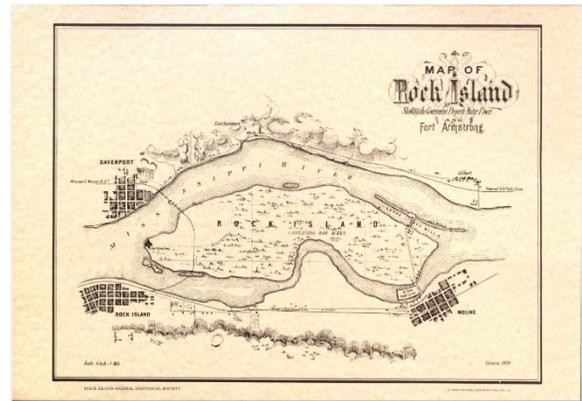
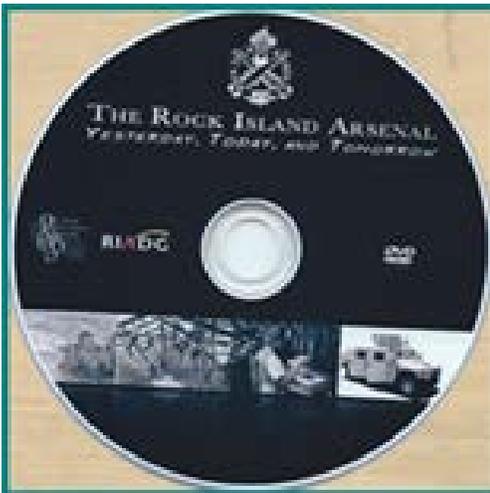
## **Museum Activities**

(January 2017)

Scott County Community College's Plus 60 Club visited the museum and toured the island on Thursday, January 12, 2017. Prior to their arrival, Ed Reiter presented his research on the 108<sup>th</sup> US Colored Troops during their luncheon at the Outing Club in Davenport. Volunteer Morris Merle gave a tour of the island for both buses of program attendees.

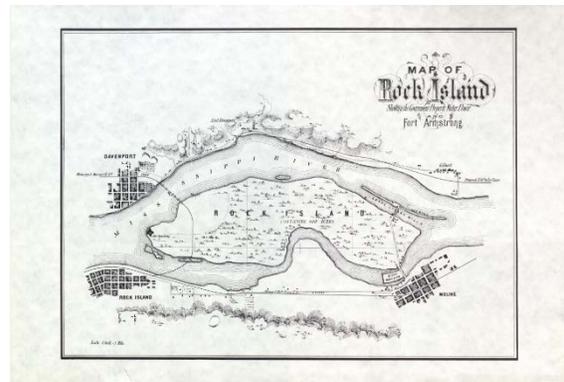
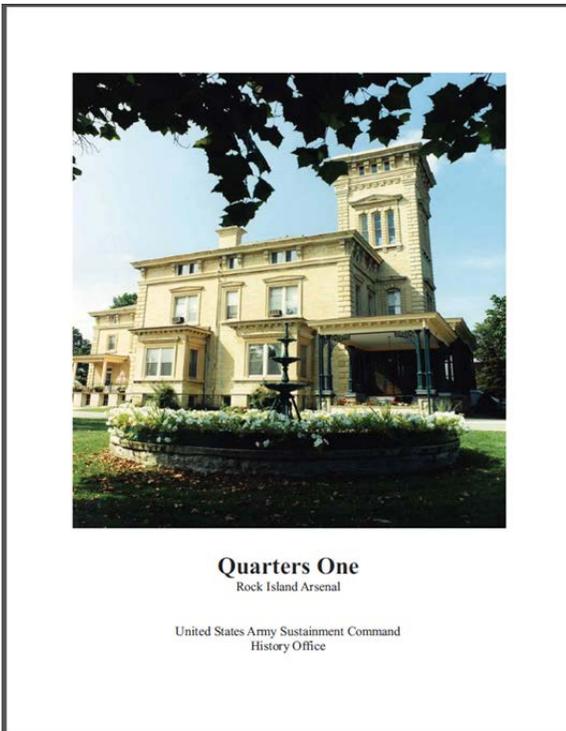
*US Military and Experimental Entrenching Tools, Civil War to WWI* by Donald J. Harman has just been published and released. Staff members of the Rock Island Arsenal Museum are acknowledged for providing images of artifacts and information.

The DVD: The Rock Island Arsenal – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow for \$10 each;



20X14 inch Peach Parchment Map of Rock Island Showing Government Property, Water Power and Fort Armstrong Drawn in 1859 and included the 1861 Appeal to Congress

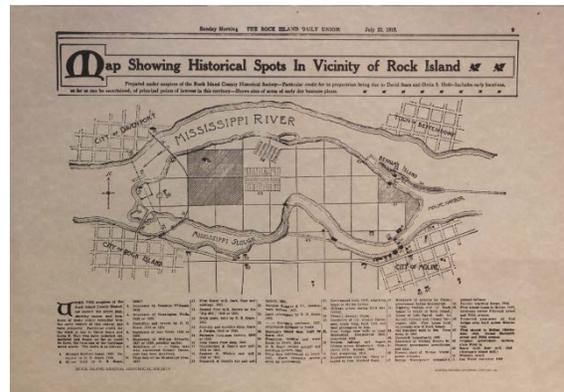
The book: Quarters One, Rock Island Arsenal for \$15 each;



21x14.5 inch Antique White Parchment Map of Rock Island Showing Government Property, Water Power and Fort Armstrong Drawn in 1859 and included the 1861 Appeal to Congress

and the maps for \$10 each.

All prices include postage and handling.



20X14 Map Showing Historical Spots in Vicinity of Rock Island from the Rock Island Daily Union July 25 1915