



BLOCK HOUSE 1816

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

August 2018 Newsletter

Hello Members:

Our September 6th program will be presented by the New Rock Island Arsenal Museum Director, Patrick Allie. He will give an introduction to his background and experience and discuss the vision for the future of the Rock Island Arsenal Museum.

Patrick Allie recently joined Rock Island Arsenal Museum as the Director. Before coming to the Quad Cities, Patrick spent six years as the Military and Arms Curator at the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis. During his time there, he led the exhibition development and design on a \$30 million-dollar renovation of Soldiers Memorial, an iconic landmark in downtown St. Louis.

A native Kansan, Patrick earned his Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Kansas and his Master of Arts in Museum Studies from the University of Oklahoma. He also previously worked at the National Airline History Museum and National Archives, both in Kansas City.

He is excited for the future of the Rock Island Arsenal Museum and hopes to continue, and build on, the Museum's mission and sharing the great history of Rock Island Arsenal with the Quad Cities community and the region.

The program will follow dinner served at 6:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Island Golf Course Clubhouse. The menu will be fried chicken, baked beans, pasta salad, rolls, chips, cookies, coffee, tea, and water all prepared by the Golf Club kitchen, all for \$8.00, 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 September 4th. 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.

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.

Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society 2018 Board Election Results

Incumbents Jim Jochum, and Stuart Waxenberg were re-elected. There remains an unencumbered board vacancy.

Book Club Corner By Nancy Neuhaus

The Colonel Davenport Foundation Local History Book Club met Tuesday, July 17, at the River Music Experience to discuss Bix: The Leon Bix Beiderbecke Story by Philip and Linda Evans. Ten were in attendance. We got an after-hours tour of the Bix museum in the basement before settling down to talk about this jazz legend.

Many books have been written about Bix Beiderbecke. The one we chose was not a classic biography, but more a linear collection of facts and quotes and everything Bix, organized by year. Some of these facts have been called into question, one of them an old report card with the wrong birthdate that has never been independently verified. And who can argue with an obscure quote from someone who is no longer alive? Still, we appreciated the references from Davenport's past: the old Garden Theater, H.O. Seiffert Lumber Company, and Harned & Von Maur department store, as well as maps of Davenport as it was laid out in Bix's day.

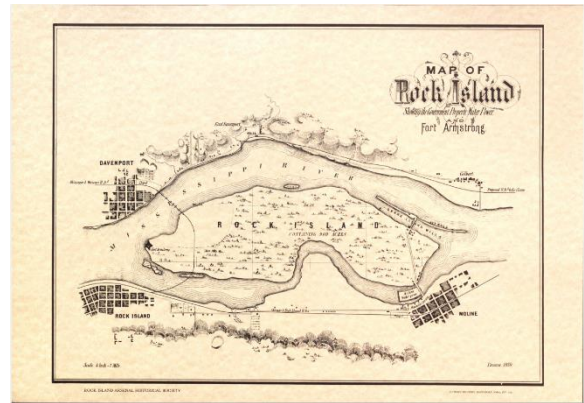
Bix lived and played in the relatively peaceful time between the two World Wars. He was too young to serve in World War I but was enrolled in ROTC at Davenport High School in 1917. His passion was the cornet, and he jammed with the greats of the Jazz Age: Fats Waller, Duke Ellington, Tommy Dorsey. Like too many gifted musicians he suffered from alcoholism and depression, and died young on August 6, 1931, at age 28 from lobar pneumonia. He was buried at the Oakdale Cemetery in Davenport, Iowa.

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 18. The book is A Culinary History of Iowa by Darcy Dougherty Maulsby. Venue yet to be determined, but there will be food!

POC is jessica.waytenick@gmail.com.

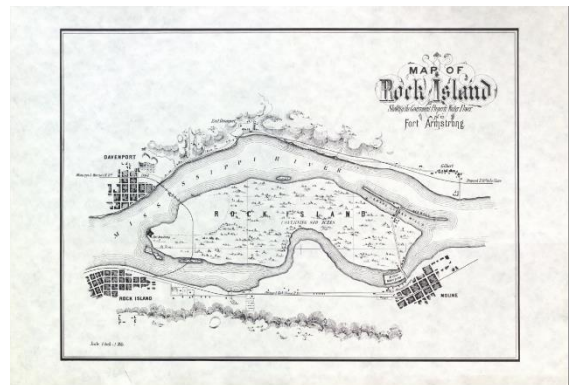
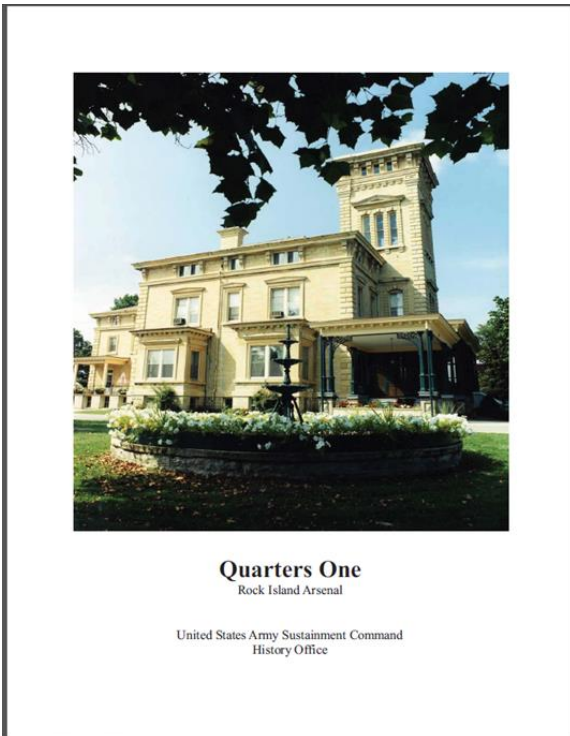
For sale at our website -

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

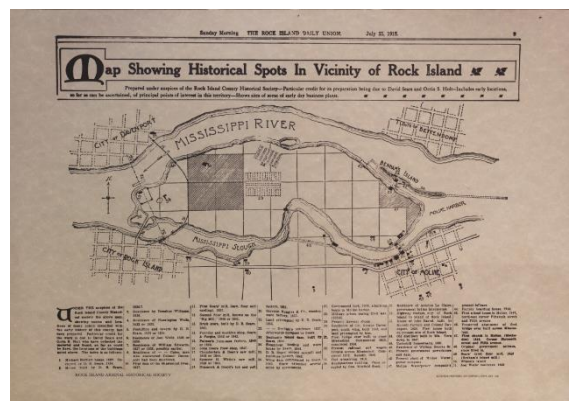
The book: Quarters One, Rock Island Arsenal for \$15 each;



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 below for \$10 each.

All prices include postage and handling.



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