



CORNUCOPIA

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"The mission of the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation (CDHF) is to preserve the Colonel Davenport House and site, and foster knowledge of the history and development of the Quad Cities region through tours of the house, exhibits, and educational programming."

VISITORS, EVENTS & PROJECTS IN 2025

As many non-profits are seeing, this year has been full of ups and downs. Our events had unsettled or very hot weather which drives down attendance. On the other hand, we had visitors such as George Davenport descendants, the camera man from Antique Archaeology, a family from South Dakota, a social influencer, and Johnathan and D. Suzanne Buffalo from Tama, Iowa. Johnathon is the Historical Preservation Director at the Meskwaki Tribal Museum. They were impressed by our knowledgeable and welcoming volunteers.

We were pleased to still be open during the government shutdown in October. We were glad the Garrison recognized how a month without visitors could hurt our bottom line. Even so, we appreciate all the donations and support we receive for the Colonel Davenport House. If you would like to donate a much-needed year-end gift, please mail it to the P.O. Box below or donate online at davenporthouse.org.

Our big project this year was to have Precision Builders replace the siding and windows on the west wing, partially funded by grants from the Regional Development Authority, Pritchard Family Foundation, and RIA Spouse & Community Club. We also installed a new door in the east wing and had several spots patched on the sutlery's roof.

Cornucopia is a publication for CDHF members and volunteers. To submit an item for publication, contact Jessica Waytenick at 309-737-4280 or jessica.waytenick@gmail.com



Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation, P.O. Box 4603, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-4603
davenporthouse.org

EAGLE SCOUT HELPS THE COLONEL DAVENPORT HOUSE

Another Eagle Scout project took place this spring. Braden Slovack wanted to replace the flag pole at the front of the house that had been a previous Eagle Scout project many years ago. The work took place the first weekend in May with the old flag pole taken down and a new telescoping flag pole with a solar light and new landscaping was installed. Thank you to Braden and his troop for undertaking this project. (If you know any Scouts, a future Eagle Scout project idea would be to fix up the little house.)



←Cindy Pippert demonstrates loom weaving at Pioneer Days in June. ↓The Inter-Tribal League of American Indians set up their tipis in August and demonstrated ceremonial dances.

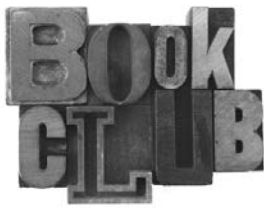




West wing project pictures

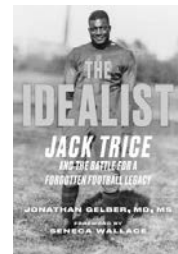


BOOK CLUB ANNOUNCES ITS FIRST BOOK OF NEW YEAR



The next meeting of the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation Book Club will be held on Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Orchid Room on the second floor of the Butterworth Center, 1105 8th Street, Moline, to discuss *The Idealist: Jack Trice and the Battle for a Forgotten Football Legacy* by Jonathan Gelber and Seneca Wallace.

"The Idealist is a complete portrait of Trice, the son of a former Buffalo Soldier who became a high school football standout in Ohio and embarked on his college career hoping to emulate fellow Iowa State alum George Washington Carver. It is also the story of those who fought for his legacy across generations as decades of students sought to honor Jack by naming the Iowa State football stadium after him. The discovery of a small, dusty plaque honoring Trice spawned a decades long campus movement to honor a forgotten football hero who helped break racial boundaries and may have died because of them."



The book club meets every other month to discuss a book related to local/regional history. If you'd like more information, please reach out to Bill Hampes at 309-792-1769.

IN MEMORIUM

We remember long-time sutler, Marilyn Morley, who passed away on July 26, 2025. Also we remember Sue Wolters who passed away on October 12, 2025. Sue held many roles over her years as a volunteer. She served as CDHF President, Vice President, Director, and was a guide.



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Hundreds of bicycles dotted the front lawn of the Colonel Davenport House at one point in June when Ride the River came to Arsenal Island. Many stopped for a tour.



We had a table at the QC Archives Fair, on Oct. 18 at the Haunted Rock Island Roadhouse. There were 22 libraries, museums, and archives represented and over 200 attendees.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS

What better way to learn from the past than to become part of it? You could be a guide. You will receive a prepared script and train with a current guide until comfortable giving tours on your own. Contact Bill at 309-792-1769. Or sutlers are in charge of the gift shop while a volunteer guide gives tours of the house. We call our gift shop the Sutlery in honor of George's role as sutler for the Army. Contact Ginny at 309-236-0741. Feel free to pass this info on the others!