



# RIPS NEWS

Advocates for Historic Architecture

[www.RockIslandPreservation.org](http://www.RockIslandPreservation.org)

## Membership Meetings

**May 13, 2019** **Rock Island City Hall Council Chambers, 1528 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue**  
**Monday** Award Presentation during City Council Meeting. Please be prompt  
**6:45 PM** as the RIPS Awards will be first on the agenda. *See related articles*

*Please note the unusual date and time*

**May 21, 2019** **Karpeles Manuscript Museum, 700 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rock Island**  
**Tuesday** Business meeting, plus a tour of the museum.  
**7:00 PM**

**June 18, 2019** **RI Police Conference Room, 1212 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Tuesday** General business meeting.  
**7:00 PM**

**July 17, 2019** **Hauberg Civic Center, 1300 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island**  
**Tuesday** Annual Summer Potluck Social. Bring a dish to share, if you can.  
**6:30 PM** We will gather inside so no need to worry about heat or packing  
*Please note the early start* chairs.

*Remember to keep the third Tuesday of each month marked on your calendar  
for monthly RIPS meetings and activities*

## PRESERVATION AWARDS

## MEMBERSHIP

In celebration of National Historic Preservation Month in May, the Rock Island Preservation Society (RIPS) is presenting its annual Historic Preservation Awards for work completed during 2018 or earlier. Mayor Mike Thoms will present the awards at the Rock Island City Council meeting on

**Monday, May 13, 2019, at 6:45**  
in the Council Chambers  
on the third floor of Rock Island City Hall,  
1528 Third Avenue.

Each year RIPS honors individuals, groups, or businesses who have made special efforts to preserve or restore historic structures in our community or whose actions have served to support the historic qualities of Rock Island. Our awards are given primarily for exterior efforts that can be enjoyed from public right of way and are generally for work completed the previous year.

This year we are presenting six Historic Preservation Awards, one Certificate of Recognition, and three Special Recognitions. See the related article on the next page for more details.

*Thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership.*

*Welcome to our many new members.*

Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date. If you are current, it should say "Feb 2020". If you think there's a mistake (we've been known to make them!), please email Diane at [blueskies78900@yahoo.com](mailto:blueskies78900@yahoo.com).

For our new members who joined online, we want you to know that you may choose to receive your newsletter online rather than by regular mail. If so, let us know.



# 2018 PRESERVATION AWARDS

## Historic Preservation Awards

### House and Cottage at 1906 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Gene & Jody Zwiefel



This award recognizes extensive restoration of the landmarked historic Potter House and cottage. The home's stucco exterior was repaired and painted in colors reflected on a historic postcard. The cottage, where the Zwiefels run their business Kindred Styles, received extensive clapboard repair and replacement. Aluminum storm windows in the cottage were removed and are being replaced by wood ones as well. Finally, a more recent driveway from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue was removed and returned to lawn, leaving only the historic vehicular access from an alley and from 19<sup>th</sup> Street.

### House at 803 20<sup>th</sup> Street Michael & Jessica Matherly



When the Matherlys purchased this home in 2012, it had been vacant and seemingly abandoned for at least 50 years, inhabited only by local wildlife. Nearby neighbors assumed it would be demolished. The Matherlys undertook extensive phased-in demolition and reconstruction and it has recently become their family home. A boarded-up newer masonry office building on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue was removed and a two-story garage, similar to original carriage houses in the area, was constructed. A later addition to the house rear was removed and replaced with a newer brick addition. Extensive exterior renovation ensued. The interior had very little original wood remaining, but what was there was used as a pattern for custom-made replacement, including stairway railings. A finishing touch was a transparent metal fence, similar to those used historically in the neighborhood.

### House at 830 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Daryl & Cynthia Empen



Since purchasing the home, exterior restoration has been extensive and ongoing, if not always apparent. Multiple layers of exterior paint were removed before repainting. The large, original but now rare, metal porch roof had leaking built-in gutters. They were removed and replaced with soldered sheet copper. Recently, deteriorated hardboard siding on the 80s garage was removed and replaced with salvaged clapboard that matches the landmarked house. Salvaged historic windows were also added to the garage.

### House at 836 20<sup>th</sup> Street PTM Properties, Muscatine, IA



Although this house was unveiled some 20 years ago, past ownership followed by long-term vacancy had permitted significant deterioration of the exterior (as well as the interior). The new owner undertook extensive exterior restoration that included repair and replacement of the rotted and damaged clapboard. New paint completed the work.

### House at 1402 26<sup>th</sup> Street Juan & Maura Vasquez

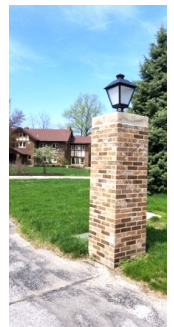


The Vasquez family unveiled this vintage home by removing the later shingle siding to reveal the original clapboard. This was repaired and replaced when necessary, then painted an appropriate color. It is a highlight that is visible from the busy 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

### Restoration of Brick Entry Columns and Carriage House Chimney of the Denkman-Hauberg Estate, John Gripp for Rock Island Parks

The Rock Island Parks department, under the leadership of John Gripp, provided funding to rebuild a nearly falling chimney on the original carriage house of the Denkman-Hauberg Estate. Additionally, the brick entry columns, one on 24<sup>th</sup> Street and the other on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street below the hill, were rebuilt. The Friends of Hauberg, as part of the public-private partnership with the city, assisted in the project.



# 2018 PRESERVATION AWARDS

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

### Renovation and Restoration of Douglas Park Kevin Corrigan, Friends of Douglas Park and John Gripp, Rock Island Parks

Only a few years ago, many felt that the city should dispose of the historic Douglas Park, with its playing fields and fire station building. A non-profit, Friends of Douglas Park was formed to promote the use of the park and advocate for its retention and improvement. When John Gripp was named Parks Director, one of his commitments was the



restoration of Douglas Park. Work at the park has led to great successes. It is being promoted and used for community athletic events, with a new ball field, concession stand, and parking lot already completed. Other improvements are planned including restoration and reuse of the historic Fire Station.



### Restoration of Centennial Bridge Fountains Mayor Mike Thoms, City of Rock Island

A fountain is a beautiful thing.... but when it doesn't have water, its beauty is compromised. The tiered fountains that embrace the Centennial Bridge still looked lovely, but no water was flowing for a few years. Under a new administration at the City, the fountains were restored, and once again are a welcome entrance to the historic bridge.

### Continued Maintenance of Mid-Century Modern Building 3424 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### Steve Schroder, E. H. Schroder Insurance,

Steve Schroder manages this business that has been in his family for three generations and a part of Rock Island for 100 years. Started by Steve's grandfather, Ernst Schroder, the offices were originally in the Safety Building downtown. Then, in 1958, under the management of Steve's father, Kermit, they had a new office built at 3424 18th Avenue where they are still located today. The Mid-Century Modern building's exterior features simple, clean lines, a low pitched roof with wide eaves, and walls of windows. The Schroders have maintained their office inside and outside. The decor and furnishings are characteristic of the style and feature modern, manufactured materials with clean lines, practical design, and durable fabrics like stuffed vinyl in bold red for the chairs and vibrant green linoleum files on the floor. They even have the original filing cabinets from 1958, though most of their files are stored on computer now. A bonus for the neighborhood:



The parking lot is at the rear, rather than hiding the historic front.

### Window Workshop Opportunity, Bob Yapp, Belvedere School for Hands-On Preservation, Hannibal, Missouri

Bob Yapp came to Rock Island over 20 years ago to lead construction and restoration for RIEGC. During his years here, he made many friends. When the Rowand family was finally able to buy an abandoned house whose yard they had been maintaining for many years, they began its restoration. But when health problems intervened, Bob came to his old friend's help by offering an intensive two-day workshop to rebuild all of the historic wood windows in the home. He did this by offering a very low cost workshop, well below his cost. That cost was even made more reasonable thanks to the Broadway Historic District contributions. The workshop not only permitted local folks to access training that would require significant travel but also resulted in restored windows. Bob provided work tables, respirators, and many sophisticated tools to enable even amateurs to do a professional job. The workshop proved to be a benefit to both Bob's friends and our community.

## COURTHOUSE UPDATE

The Circuit Court (Peoria) decision to dismiss the case that was initiated by Landmarks Illinois (LI) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation has been challenged. It is now in the Illinois Appellate Court. LI and the National Trust have provided the bond required and everything is waiting for that decision.

Meanwhile we are hoping that the large holes chopped in the courthouse roof during asbestos abatement are being at least temporarily patched. There seems to be a movement to make the site appear as ugly as possible.

*Thanks to Daryl Empen for Preservation Award photos.*

## NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR



### World War 1 Neighborhood Tour Centennial Celebration

Sunday, June 23, 2019

1pm-4pm

Join us for an exterior walking tour in celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of this nationally significant neighborhood. Learn about the U.S. Housing Corporation, the architects Olof Cervin and Ben Horn, hear the story of how the homes were built in the winter of 1918, see copies of the original drawings and interior plans, and have a piece of birthday cake.

Tours will begin at the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 39<sup>th</sup> Street with groups leaving about every 30 minutes. (Last tour to start at 3:30)

For more information check our [Facebook](#) page or call 786-7917.

## TIFFANY ARTISTRY

If you have not had a chance to see the Figge Art Museum exhibit **Louis Comfort Tiffany: Treasures From the Driehaus Collection**, you will have to hurry as the exhibit closes on May 19, 2019. The exhibition includes 64 pieces created by Tiffany Studios ranging from small blown glass vases to breathtaking stained-glass windows. It is certainly worthy of a visit.

The Figge is home to a Rock Island Tiffany window, the *River of Life*. The window was installed in the mausoleum of Frederick C. A. Denkmann in Chippiannock Cemetry in 1905. Stolen in the 1970's from the family mausoleum, it was recovered by the FBI in 1997 and is now on long term loan to the Figge. While viewing the window, you can also read the story of how cemetery superintendent Greg Vogel located the window and how it was returned to Rock Island.

If you would like to view additional Tiffany windows, St. Luke's United Methodist Church at 1199 Main Street in Dubuque, Iowa has a stunning 18 windows in their beautiful 1896 church. Guided tours are offered from 8:00am to 11:00am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from Memorial Day through October 24<sup>th</sup>.



Rock Island Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 3261  
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-3261