

and was used as the firm's executive headquarters until 1981 when it was purchased by the State of Illinois. Its present site superintendent is Dr. Donald Hallmark (also a SCHS member; he has served on our Board). The house has been closed for about three years while being completely restored. Your editor and several other SCHS members enjoyed a "preview tour" of the house recently and can report that the renovation is well worth the time, effort and cost. The woodwork, walls, decorative touches and windows have been restored to their original condition and glow with color. The reflecting pool in the courtyard has been uncovered and repaired, and the basement bowling alley (for duckpins) has been completely renovated. One of the most striking features of the restoration is the replacement of the decorative plaster frieze under the wide overhanging eaves. It would take a very lengthy article to describe the beautiful condition and all of the intricacies of this amazing 35-room house! We do recommend that you tour the Dana-Thomas House and see it for yourself!

DAUGHTERS OF UNION VETERANS

The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War are seeking members. The organization maintains its national headquarters and a museum at 503 South Walnut. Women who have ancestors who were Union veterans of the Civil War are asked to contact:

Vivian Gertz, National Treasurer
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War
503 S. Walnut, Springfield, IL 62703

or to call her at 544-0616. They also may contact Jacqueline Wright at 523-9297 for further information. Present members are hoping to reactivate the local chapter.

LINCOLN NOTES

The Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices State Historic Site at 209 S. Sixth re-opened in July after being closed for 5 months for renovation. The reception and orientation areas have been moved to the north end of the building where they are more accessible. The site is administered by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and is open, free of charge, every day from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

At the Lincoln Home a hydraulic lift has been installed in order to provide access for wheelchair users to the first floor of the home. The lift has a capacity of 1000 pounds. When not in use it is concealed beneath the board walk next to the back porch. Because the help of a National Park Ranger is necessary for the lift's operation, people considering its use are asked to call ahead to make necessary arrangements. The telephone number is 492-4150.

OUR LOSS

A charter member of the Sangamon County Historical Society, John L. Satterlee, died in July. Mr. Satterlee was a member of many organizations and was particularly interested in history, both local and national. He was a past president of the Springfield Civil War Round Table and past chairman of the Springfield Historical Sites Commission. Many of our members recall his participation in the 114th Infantry Regiment (Civil War reactivated unit) of which he was a charter member for twenty years.

Another SCHS member lost during the summer was Brigadier General Gerald B. Lahey (Retired) who died on July 12. Gen. Lahey had served with the Army both in World War II and the Korean War, earning several military awards. At the request of Governor Adlai Stevenson after WW II he had organized the 123rd Infantry Regiment of the 44th Division and served as its Commander.

SSU'S BIRTHDAY

Sangamon State University will celebrate its 20th birthday with an Anniversary Festival from Thurs., Sept. 13, through Sun., Sept. 16. Featured on Thursday will be the SSU Alumni tailgate party at 6:00 P.M. before the 7:00 P.M. soccer game with SIU-Edwardsville. Comedian Steve Wright will entertain in the auditorium at 8:15 P.M. on Friday, while Saturday is filled with numerous activities on the campus, both for children and adults. A dance at the Hilton will be held on Saturday evening. At 7:00 P.M. on Sunday the Chicago Symphony Orchestra will perform in the auditorium. For ticket information call 786-6716.

CLAYVILLE RURAL LIFE CENTER

The 25th Annual Fall Folk Arts Festival will be held at Clayville on Saturday and Sunday, October 6-7, from 10:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each day. Traditional music and crafts, rural life exhibits, folk foods and children's activities will be featured. Admission for senior citizens is \$1.00 and for other adults, \$2.00.

CIVIL WAR DOCUMENTARY

A news release received from WILL-TV/Channel 12 gives the schedule for the epic 11-hour Civil War documentary which will be broadcast at 7:00 p.m. on five consecutive nights, starting Sunday, Sept. 23. The film, which took over five years to complete ("longer than it took to fight the war"), features historically authentic accounts of the war. Film maker Ken Burns stated that his strategy was "to let the war tell its own story"- that there was no need to "invent" any of the history depicted. Air times for "The Civil War", on WILL-TV/Channel 12 are at 7:00 P.M. each evening.

Sun., Sept. 23 - 1861, "The Cause" (120 minutes)

Mon., Sept. 24 - 1862, "A Very Bloody Affair" (67 min.) and "Forever Free" (83 min.)

Tues., Sept. 25 - 1863, "Simply Murder" (61 min.) and "The Universe of Battle" (89 min.)

Wed., Sept. 26 - 1864, "Valley of the Shadow of Death" (68 min.) and "Most Hallowed Ground" (82 min.)

Thurs., Sept. 27 - 1865, "War is All Hell" (68 min.) and 1865, "The Better Angels of Our Nature" (82 min.)

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Janice Wass, Curator of Decorative Arts at the Illinois State Museum (and SCHS member, recently on our Board) was presented with the Congress of Illinois Historical Societies and Museums Award for Outstanding Achievement at CIHSM's annual conference in Bloomington in the spring. The award was given for the publication of her book, "Weaver's Choice: Patterns in American Coverlets."

A nine-foot-square painting by SCHS member Robert Larson recently was dedicated at the Norris City Memorial Library (in White Co.) The painting, "Archaic Indian Hunters on the Trail," was commissioned by Maurice and Carl Cook of Paducah, Ky. At our Society's May meeting Bob presented a slide-illustrated program on the role of the artist-naturalist, including pictures of his mural commissioned for the Southeastern Illinois College environmental laboratory at Harrisburg.

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Springfield, Illinois 62701

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