

at least 180 are expected to attend. Membership Chairman Georgia Northrup reported that there is a need to remind members of renewal dues. Information on an upcoming Dana-Thomas House Foundation tour was given by Kim Efird. The next meeting of the Board will be at 4:30 P.M. at Lincoln Library on Wednesday, November 13. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP-TO-DATE?

Please check your membership cards! A new budget is being set up and the mailing list for the HISTORICO will be revised this month to include only paid members. We find that some renewals are overdue.

While checking on your own membership perhaps you would like to consider a membership as a Christmas gift for a friend. Annual fees and instructions for gift donors may be found on the membership form at the end of this newsletter.

VACHEL LINDSAY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Vachel Lindsay Home (603 S. Fifth St.) will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. on Sunday, November 10, for a celebration of the poet's birthday. Lindsay was born in this house on November 10, 1879. Costumed interpreters will guide visitors through the redecorated rooms, and refreshments will be served. Special entertainment will be featured at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 P.M. when Rose Buckner Ahart presents a program from the writings of the poet Sara Teasdale, "A Breath of Ecstasy." The Annual Meeting of the Vachel Lindsay Association will take place at 4:00 P.M.

AT THE OLD STATE CAPITOL

A naturalization ceremony, open to the public, will take place at the Old State Capitol at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 27, in the House of Representatives chamber. About fifty people will become new citizens of the United States at that time.

DANA-THOMAS HOUSE NEWS

The Dana-Thomas House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, has now been open for a little over a year since its complete 3-year restoration - and a busy year it has been! From the date of the re-opening, September 3, 1990, through September 3, 1991, volunteers conducted 7,510 tours for 118,621 persons, putting in thousands of volunteer hours. Donation boxes were placed at the house starting on April 3, 1991, and by September 3 a total of \$12,265.81 had been collected. These funds are deposited, then transferred to the Historic Sites Trust Fund, and are returned to the site for expenses and special projects.

The Dana-Thomas House Foundation is sponsoring a 3-day tour, November 9-11, visiting structures of architectural significance in Chicago, Milwaukee, and Racine, Wisconsin. Several of the buildings to be visited were designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

AT THE LINCOLN HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

A news release by Lawrence Blake of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site brings the news that another building soon will be opened at the site - the Sarah Cook House, at 508 S. Eighth Street, a residence built during Lincoln's years in

Springfield and two houses south of his home. Ceremonies will begin at 11:00 A. M. on Thursday, November 14, in front of the house and the public is invited to attend. The National Park Service has restored the house with financial help from the General Services Administration, and the local GSA office will move to the house from its present downtown location. Norman D. Hellmers, Superintendent of the Lincoln Home Site, will act as master of ceremonies, and statements will be made by Representative Richard Durbin, Mayor Ossie Langfelder and several officials of the GSA and the National Park Service. Following the ceremonies a reception will be held at the Lincoln Home Visitor Center, 426 S. Seventh Street.

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes to SCHS member Elizabeth Weir whose mother, Jane M. Weir, died on Oct. 29 at age 103. Mrs. Weir, who lived in Pleasant Plains, had attended SCHS meetings with her daughter in past years. Elizabeth is the Site Director of the Clayville Rural Life Center, and a former member of our board.

COMING IN DECEMBER

AT THE OLD STATE CAPITOL

Illinois Statehood Day will be celebrated -- the State's 173rd birthday, Tuesday, December 3, from 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 P.M. Fourth and fifth graders from fourteen area schools will trim Christmas trees in a number of the historic rooms at the Old Capitol, using decorations to symbolize the theme of each room. This will be a competitive event, to be completed by December 7. First, second and third place awards will be given by four judges from the community. All trees will be on display from Dec. 3 to Dec. 22. Area school bands and orchestras will present noontime concerts at the Old State Capitol on Mondays through Fridays from Dec. 10 - Dec. 20, from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. each day. Seating will be provided for the public, and those attending are welcome to bring sack lunches if desired.

ILLINOIS HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

The Illinois State Historical Society will sponsor the Twelfth Annual Illinois History Symposium on Fri. and Sat., Dec. 6 and 7, at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel in Springfield. Forty papers dealing with many facets of Illinois history will be presented during the 2-day session. Dr. R. David Edmunds, Professor of History at Indiana University, will be the speaker at the Annual Banquet on Friday. His address is entitled "City States and Sleeping Serpents: Another Look at Pre-Columbian America." For a brochure giving all details of the 2-day session, registration and banquet costs and information, please contact Noreen O'Brien-Davis, Symposium Coordinator, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Union Station, 500 E. Madison St., Springfield, IL, 62701 (Tel. 217-785-7452). Reservations must be received by November 29.

CHRISTMAS AT CLAYVILLE

A traditional 1850's Christmas holiday celebration will take place at the Clayville Open House on Sat., and Sun., Dec. 7 and 8, from noon to 4:00 P.M. each day. Candlelight tours, crafts, holiday music and refreshments will be featured on both days. For further information call (217) 626-1132.