

Schuetzen-Brief

NEWS FROM THE DAVENPORT, IA. SCHUETZEN PARK HISTORIC SITE - SPRING 2002

PARK OBTAINS GRANTS

The *Community Foundation of the Great River Bend*, the *Scott County Regional Authority* and the *Mary Iva Gittens Knouse Charitable Trust* have granted the Schuetzenpark Gilde funds to conduct several projects.

Funds will assist with planting trees, installing fencing, rehabilitating nature trails, purchasing a new trail mower, picnic tables, tent side curtains and also for a new welcome sign.

We thank these three organizations for their generous assistance with our restoration efforts at "Davenport's Lost Playland."



GIRL SCOUTS

PLANT TREES

On March 28th, Girl Scouts from Troop 4030 of Davenport North High School planted Norway Spruces at the Historic Site.

The trees were purchased with a grant from the *Iowa Department of Natural Resources* called the "Trees for Teens Program." The grant is funded by *MidAmerican Energy*.

City of Davenport Forester Keith Majors instructed the group on proper tree planting and care techniques. We thank everyone involved in this project for helping keep Davenport "green."

ERNST OTTO

"CONCERT FOR YOUTH"

A concert for Davenport elementary students will be held May, 31st at Schuetzen Park featuring the music of Professor Ernst Otto, an immigrant from Schleswig-Holstein.

The concert, which is underwritten in part by *Quad City Arts* and *Wells Fargo Bank*, will present several of the Otto's compositions, including a newly found composition "Memories of France". Otto was Director of Music for Davenport Schools from 1895-1920.

Professor Otto's "Orchestra and Military Band" was a regular performer at Schuetzen Park for many years. Otto is also famous for having directed the *Sängerfests* of 1898, 1907 and 1931.

150 YEARS

DAVENPORT TURNGEMEINDE

150 years ago German-Americans established this area's first Turner Society in Davenport. These immigrant forbearers contributed much to our community, establishing many great institutions of commerce and culture.

Turner Society members also assisted with the creation of Schuetzen Park. In 1895 they raised the funds to build our magnificent "Music Pavilion" and later the track and field facility at the Park. They, too, would be proud to see that Schuetzen Park is making a comeback in this brand new century and millennium.

For the next few months the display cases at Heritage Court at Schuetzen Park will spotlight the Gilde's collection of Turner memorabilia, including photographs, ribbons, pennants, medals, postcards etc.

A commemorative 150th anniversary Turner Songbook has also been reprinted by the Gilde and is available for purchase by sending \$10.00 per booklet to the Gilde's address listed on this newsletter.

GUT HEIL!

