

Spring 2001

Schuetzen - Brief

News from the Davenport, Iowa Schuetzen Park Historic Site



Besten Dank

Many thanks are offered to the following for their assistance with the many projects underway to preserve the memory of our lost heritage at old Schuetzen Park. IPSCO Steel-Nature Trail Restoration, Woodlink Inc.-Bird Houses for Park, The Mary Iva Gittens Knouse Charitable Trust-Program Support, City of Davenport Compost Facility - Products for Landscaping of the "Festplatz", Davenport Schuetzen Verein-funds to frame park photos, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources and MidAmerican Energy "Trees for Kids" - Trees for the park.

Just A Little Bit of History Repeating!

After 75 years, a grant from the Scott County Regional Authority will be breathing new life into our once famous "Schuetzen Park." Known in its day as the "center of local German-American cultural life", the grant of nearly \$11,000.00 will help bring cultural events back to this beautiful wooded area that our German-American forebears cherished so much. Plans call for the creation of "Festplatz" which includes an outdoor stage, terraced seating areas and flat areas for tents, dancing, demonstrations and the like. The area will be fully landscaped to blend with the areas natural setting. This landscaping will include a butterfly garden and other beneficial bushes and trees for wildlife. The grand opening of the new site will be the June 2, "Musikfest." In the future, other civic and cultural groups are invited to use the site for their outdoor events as well. Individuals, families, businesses or organizations interested in assisting with the creation of the new "Festplatz" may direct their gifts or memorials to the address on this newsletter.

"Musikfest" in Schuetzenpark

This year's "Musikfest" will take place on Saturday, June 2. A delightful Mozart program is being prepared for that evening to begin at 6:30. A vocal selection from the 1951 National Sangerfest, held in Davenport, will also be performed. The event will take place at the new "Festplatz" (see story above) at the Schuetzenpark Historic Site, 700 Waverly Road. Of special interest will be live performances of "Eine kleine Nachtmusik", "Voi, che Sapete," from the "Marriage of Figaro" and a selection of Mozart's "German Dances." Early arrivers to the event will receive a free commemorative program booklet. Free refreshments will be served by Gilde members. This year's "Musikfest" is supported with Quad City Arts Dollar\$/Access funds, provided by the Illinois Arts Council, the Riverboat Development Authority, the Doris and Victor Day Foundation, The John Deere Foundation, the Mary Iva Gittens Knouse Charitable Trust, Quad City Arts Partners and Festival of Trees.

QUAD CITY