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 A Service of Quincy Society of Fine Arts

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A newsletter highlighting events
 and information of Quincy Preserves

Quincy Preserves • P.O. Box 1012 • Quincy, IL 62306-1012 • www.quincypreserves.org • March 2010

Quincy Preserves 2010 Annual Meeting

On March 16th we will hold our annual membership dinner meeting at Out To Lunch Restaurant (former Busy Bee) located at 617 Hampshire Street. The cost will be \$17.50 per person and you will need to RSVP by March 12th by calling Gary Wittler at home# 217-224-3444, cell# 217-653-7979, or work# 217-231-2225. This will be an important meeting as it is time to replace two of our officers and one board member. Please

take an active part in this process as your input is important to keeping the Preserves fresh and active in our community. Maybe it is the perfect time for you to get more involved in the behind the scenes decision making of your organization as we are always looking for new ideas and a fresh perspective. Also the newly awarded plaque recipients have been invited to attend so come and meet them. *See you there!*



808 North 6th Street



1512 Spring Street

New Plaque Recipients For 2010

- 1.) 1032 Kentucky Street (owners Ken and Clare Goerlich) built 1899—The John F. and Louisa Pieper House
- 2.) 133 South 4th Street (Elkton Hotel) built 1924 by Martin Geise for the Elks Club—(owned by Mark Neiswender)
- 3.) 808 North 6th Street (owners Michael and Connie O'Neal) built 1888—The Francis W. Lyford House
- 4.) 1512 Spring Street (owners Michael and Jacque O'Conner) built 1909—The Frank and Martha Druffel House
- 5.) 421 South 14th Street (owner Michael McGrath) built 1892—The Sophia L. Wise House

Have any suggestions for next years plaquing? Speak to a board member and your proposal will be considered for approval.

"Therefore, when we build, let us think that we build for ever...For, indeed, the greatest glory of a building is not in its stones, nor its gold. Its glory is in its Age, and in that deep sense of voicefulness, of stern watching, of mysterious sympathy, nay, even of approval or condemnation, which we feel in walls that have long been washed by the passing waves of humanity."

The Seven Lamps of Architecture [1890]—John Ruskin



Let us hear from you.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Are you on the members list? Do you wish to be a member?
 Each year's membership expires December 31. Questions?
moreinfo@quincypreserves.org, or call 217-224-3520.

- Yes**, I will be attending the Annual Meeting
 Number in party _____
 Payment enclosed (\$17.50 per person) _____

- Yes**, I would like to be a member of Quincy Preserves.
 Household \$15
 Business \$25
- Yes**, I am interested in helping with Quincy Preserves projects.

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South Side Bungalow District

Quincy is proud to have gained another historic district! Quincy's reputation as a melting pot of diverse architectural styles has been broadened once again with the Preservation Commission's establishment of the South Side Bungalow Local Historic District. 1501, 1503 and 1505 Kentucky were approved in January as the city's fourth local landmark district. Quincy has three local landmark districts—the Brewery Area Local Historic District near 10th and Kentucky; the Park Place District east of 12th Street; and

the Zwick Row House District in the 2400 block of College.

This new district is the first focusing strictly on bungalows. The three homes were all built in the early 1900's and we are proud to report that all are owned by Quincy Preserves members. 1501 Kentucky is owned by Ruth Hultz, 1503 Kentucky is owned by David Grant and 1505 Kentucky is owned by Bruce and Jane Gardner. Our congratulations for owning and beautifully maintaining a rich part of Quincy's history.

HELP US LOCATE SEARS HOMES IN QUINCY

Rosemary Thornton, the author of "The Houses That Sears Built" will be in Quincy the end of February and will be meeting with two board members in her search of any Sears homes in this area. So if you know of any of these homes please call Kay Weiss at 217-228-1613 or Judith Taylor at 217-228-0088 and thank you in advance for any help you

can contribute to this search. Rosemary has been hired to write a new book featuring the Sears homes in Illinois and would like to include a few of these homes right here in Quincy. Sears had more than 370 designs of kit homes so let us help Rosemary find a few of these treasures right here!

A Rightful Return For One Homes Piece Of History.

Since the mid-1970s, Quincy Preserves has given lovers of historic architecture the opportunity to see the interiors of buildings that usually can be admired only from the street. Dozens of volunteers are needed to make these tours successful, but first and foremost, tour organizers need to find owners willing to open their doors to hundreds of visitors. Sometimes that generosity is unexpectedly rewarded.

Clare and Ken Goerlich made a commitment to historic preservation long ago. Their home is one of several on the 1000 block of Kentucky Street which make up the Brewery Area Local Historic District, established in 2003. Many of the residents of the small homes in this neighborhood were German immigrants who tended to be laborers and tradesmen. Workers from the nearby Dick Brothers Brewery lived in a number of these homes. The neighborhood also features large houses such as the one on the corner of 11th and Kentucky Street, the home of John Pieper who was the president of Quincy Showcase Company, a manufacturer of display cases.

The Goerlichs moved to this neighborhood in 1971 and have since lived by the belief that "People live in more than just a

house, they live in a neighborhood." They have maintained the historic character of their home and have also restored and/or remodeled another eight houses and one commercial building in a two block area. Their aim has always been to "improve the neighborhood by providing quality rentals." They are often seen in the neighborhood working on these homes.

Their residence at 1020 Kentucky is a massive Craftsmen/Prairie style home located on a double lot. Designed by noted Quincy architect George Behrensmeyer, the home was built in 1917 for August "Manny" Dick, the bachelor son of one of the brewery's founders. He was the first of only three owners of the home. It is said that one of the reasons this site was chosen is due to the fact that the brewery could be seen from the second floor master bedroom.

While living in this home, August Dick purchased a baby grand piano made in 1925 by the Packard Piano Company of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Perhaps not well-known today, the company had been established in 1871. (One source says the company's founder re-located from Chicago after the Great Fire of 1871, and chose Fort Wayne because he

told the train conductor to let him off when his money ran out.) Originally known as the Packard Organ Company, the company began producing pianos in 1894. Their pianos were endorsed by famous musicians of the day and noted for their very high quality, lavish woods, and elegant cabinet design. Pianos with the Packard name were built until the mid-twentieth century.

The second owners of the home were John G. and Mary (Mayme) Duker who lived there for almost twenty five years. (Clare remembers being told the home's purchase dated from the time of the couple's 25th anniversary.) The Duker family's roots in Quincy date to the 1840s, when the family emigrated from Germany and opened a cabinet making and furniture repair shop which later evolved into a furniture and undertaking establishment and then into a funeral home. John G. Duker was an owner and manager of the funeral home in the mid-twentieth century. The current Duker and Haugh Funeral Home is a descendant of this enterprise. The couple had four daughters: Jean Ellen, Joan (Fritzi), Jonques (Jonny), and Norma.

The Dukers purchased the Packard piano from the estate of August Dick and placed it in a corner of the living room of their new home. Mrs. Duker created a beautiful needlepoint cover with a floral design for the piano's bench, her contribution to the piece's history.

As a young girl, Clare Goerlich lived with her family in a home whose yard adjoined the Duker's, and she has fond memories of them. Her older sister remembers seeing the Duker sisters in the living room practicing the piano and other instruments. When Clare and Ken toured the home as potential buyers, Clare noticed the piano and its bench in the corner.

But the piano was not included when the home was sold to the Goerlichs. It went with the Duker's eldest daughter, Jean Ellen Heckenkamp, to her home in Springfield, Illinois. After her death it passed to her daughter Gae in Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin.

In 1987 and again in 2009, the Goerlich's home was featured on Behind Closed Doors tours. Prior to the most recent tour, Clare unexpectedly met Fritzi Duker Beltz, who now lives in Springfield, IL and invited her to attend the tour.

Two generations of Dukers, ten family members in all, were able to visit the home. While there, one of them overheard a question being asked: Were any belongings from previous



This baby grand piano, including the floral design covered bench, which once was part of the homes early history, has returned to its original corner location.

owners still in the home? The answer given was no, but Fritzi then brought up the possibility that the family piano might be returned to Quincy.

After a series of discussions, the piano was shipped to Quincy in seven pieces, and once again occupies a corner of the living room. The last Duker owner, Gae, said "Grandma would be very pleased." Generously, the family included the piano bench with its hand wrought needlepoint cover, feeling that the two pieces belong together.

The Goerlichs are not only pleased to have a piece of their home's history, but its return has inspired Clare. The piano is not just a showpiece; it is played and loved. Clare played the piano as a child, later for the students she taught at various Quincy schools, and, more recently, during Christmas holidays. Now she is playing more and more, and is, in fact, taking piano lessons once again.

Clare and Ken believe the piano belongs with the house. Their intention is to leave the piano for the home's next owners.

Agreeing to open their home to tour-goers led to a piece of its history being found. Maybe something from your home's history is waiting to be returned. Open your doors and find out.

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Quincy Preserves will announce new board members and officers for 2010 at our Annual Meeting on March 16th.