School tour season was in full swing during April and May. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and several schools had to cancel due to inclement weather. We had approximately 700 students, parents, and teachers visit this spring.

The 1820 Benjamin Stephenson House is hosting its annual "Ben's Bash". This year we have decided to use this celebratory event to kick off the summer! Come and join us for this spectacular day outdoors at our beautiful historic home. We will be hosting this event on Saturday June 22, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. With your ticket you get entrance into the event, and WE will transport you to a day filled with music, laughter, and good times. Additionally, you will receive a plate of food and a beverage of your choice (for adults this can include alcoholic beverage or non-alcoholic beverage). For the little ones, they too will receive a hot dog, bag of chips, and a drink of their choice.

Adult Ticket Price: $20.00
Children’s Ticket Price: $10.00
(3-12 years old)
Children under the age of 3 are FREE!

*Additional food and drinks may be purchased on site. Sorry everyone unfortunately, we do not have any vegetarian/vegan options at this event.

Entertainment and Drinks
On the day of the event we will have activities for all ages. On the patio come and listen to our live Blue Grass band. Here you can hear the fabulous Keith Dudding & The Mountain River Valley Boys. The patio will offer seating where you can dine on locally made BBQ and imbibe on a cool refreshment. If the patio is too fancy, you can always set up camp on the lawn.

(Continued on page 2)
and relax and enjoy your meal.

What About the Kids?
We encourage everyone to bring the entire family. Included in the children’s ticket we will have a 50-foot bounce house obstacle course where they can run themselves ragged. Once they have expended all of their energy, they can purchase a snow cone to help cool down and recharge their batteries. The lawn will offer open seating so bring your blanket and your lawn chairs to take in the rustic atmosphere.

The Fun Does Not Stop ... What About the Adults?
You are asking yourself, how could there possibly be more? Included in the adult ticket, we will have 7 different stations where you can play cornhole/bags. Challenge a friend, another couple, or complete stranger to this game of skill and a little luck. There will also be other yard games for individuals to play such as yard Yahtzee and yard Jenga.

Spread the Word and Buy Your Tickets
We have consulted various archaic forms of weather predictors and we are hoping for a beautiful summer day. Regardless, rain or shine the bash will be enriching Edwardsville as it has been doing for years! With that ... BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW. Save the date and do not forget to bring your friends and family! Tickets are for sale now until June 15 and can be purchased online or in the gift shop. Remember all the proceeds go to keeping the history and the Benjamin Stephenson house alive!

Sorry, but the Stephenson House will not be open for tours June 22. We will be preparing for the event all day. We love for you to come back and visit us on a day when we can spend time sharing the history of the house.
June 12-14, Digging in the Dirt
(summer camp), 9 am-2 pm
June 15, Painting a Summertime Past, 10 am-4 pm
June 22, Ben’s Bash, 4-8 pm
June 26-28, Mrs. Lucy’s Academy for Young Ladies (summer camp), 9 am-2 pm
July 17-19, Mrs. Lucy’s Secondary Academy (summer camp), 9 am-3 pm
August 8, Municipal Band Concert Concessions, 7pm (volunteers, pies, cookies, brownies needed)
August 10, Trades Day, 9 am-4 pm
August 31, Wizarding 5K Run & 1-Mile Walk, 8 am
October 3-31, Mourning Col. Stephenson
October 6, 50/50 Antique Auction, 9 am
October 27, A Gothic Evening with Edgar Allan Poe
November 29 & 30, Christmas Candlelight Tours, 6-9 pm
December 7, A Spirited Holiday Past, 10 am-4 pm
December 8, A Christmas Carol

For more detailed information on each event, visit our new website at https://stephensonhouse.org/events

Needful Things

We are seeking donations for the following items. If you can provide an item to the cause, please let us know.

- Seamstresses/tailors to sew men’s shortcoats, trousers, and ladies’ day caps, shifts, and dresses for the interpretive wardrobe (we’ll provide the patterns and fabric)
- A Friday morning gift shop docent
- A Saturday afternoon gift shop docent
- A Sunday afternoon gift shop docent
- Flour for use in the kitchen with upcoming school tours
- Firewood
- Bolt of 100% cotton batiste

Upcoming Events

TOP FINISHERS RECEIVE A WAND & 5K MEDAL

STEPHENSON HOUSE
1820

Where: Edwardsville Township Park
When: August 31, 2019
Time: Race begins at 8 AM
Cost: $35

Registration ends on July 31, 2019
Sign-up and more information at www.stephensonhouse.org
This year’s trivia night was the best one yet! The theme for the event was a 1920s speakeasy and many of our teams dressed the part. The event raised over $12,000 for Stephenson House. Thank you to everyone who came out to participate, support or volunteer their time.
A BASKET RETICULE.  
Get a small open-work basket of a circular form, and without handles. Then take a piece of silk about a quarter and half-quarter in depth, and make it into a square bag, leaving it open at the bottom as well as a’ the top. Gather or plait the bottom of the silk, and put ting it down into the basket, sew it all round to the basket-bottom. The silk will thus form a lining for the open sides of the basket. Run a case for a ribbon round the top of the bag.

A POCKET-BOOK RETICULE.  
These reticules are frequently made of white hair cloth, and embroidered with floss silk; but as these materials may not be conveniently procured, we will recommend thick gros-de-nap, lined with stiff linen, muslin, or buckram. Half a yard of silk will be sufficient. Cut it into the shape of a large pocket-book, and cord the sides and round the flap. Fasten down the flap with two small silk buttons, and a loop of narrow ribbon or galloon. The handles are made of two very stiff but slender rolls of gros-de-nap, cut bias, and filled as tight as possible with a roll of wadding. These handles must be very firm and hard, and sewed with great neatness. Put ribbon bows at the corners.

The following instructions were originally published in “The American Girls Book” by Miss Eliza Leslie, 1857

Help Us Cloth Our Men!

New Short Coats Needed

We are in desperate need of seamstress-tailors to sew men’s short coats for our volunteer wardrobe. In an effort to encourage new volunteers, we offer the use of a house wardrobe until new recruits decide they want to obtain their own garb.

Currently, we have one summer weight short coat available to use and its a small size (pictured above). Dottie Vaughn donated the short coat to the site several year ago, and it’s seen lots of use.

This type of coat is fairly simple to make and doesn’t need to be fitted. We’d need some in summer weight fabric in a variety of sizes. The site will provide the pattern and fabric to anyone willing to sew a new one for the wardrobe. The site also accepts used period clothing (1790-1825) too.

Contact RoxAnn to offer your needle skills.
Phone: 618-692-1818
Email: stephensonhouse@sbcglobal.net
New recruits are being sought to help each Tuesday morning at the Stephenson House. The crew cleans, polishes, mops, scrubs, dusts, and does small maintenance jobs to keep the house in prime condition. Members meet at 8 am and work until around 10 am (or whenever the coffee is done). If you are interested, please contact the house director or Sid Denny.

Join us on a field trip to the Boone Home in Defiance, Mo. We will carpool from Stephenson House and then enjoy a relaxing day playing tourists. After our tour, we can either picnic at the site or eat at a local restaurant. Let RoxAnn or Jeffrey know if you plan to go. Admission fees are $8 for adults and $5 for children.
A Day as Tourists
Campbell House and Field House Museum

Six members of Stephenson House’s staff and volunteers took a field trip to STL May 15. They spent the day touring the Campbell House and the Field House Museum. Here are just a few of the photos from their excursion. It was a great opportunity to see how other house museums present the past.

Below and Right: Campbell House

Below and Bottom Right: Field House Museum
Send your membership to the

Friends of the Col. Benjamin Stephenson House

P.O. Box 754

Edwardsville, IL 62025

YES! I want to help. Enclosed is my contribution:

Name:_____________________________________________________________________
Street Address:_____________________________________________________________
City, State & ZIP:___________________________________________________________
Phone:_____________________________________________________________________
Email:_____________________________________________________________________
Amount Enclosed:_____________ Membership Level:___________________________
Please send me information about volunteering at Stephenson House.

Checks should be made payable to the:

Friends of the Col. Benjamin Stephenson House

Payments may also be made in our online store:

www.stephensonhouse.org

*Memberships are from January to December. Benefits of membership are extended to an individual and his/her immediate family. We accept cash, check or credit card donations. Memberships are extended for monetary donations only. The Friends of Col. Benjamin Stephenson House is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization FIN 37-1395804

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**Membership Levels**

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<td>Henry’s Friend (child, K-12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend of Ben &amp; Lucy</td>
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<td>Stephenson Family Friend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Founding Friend</td>
<td>$1,000 or more</td>
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Corporate membership information available upon request.

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**Our Board of Directors & Staff**

Paul Brazier, President
Nichol Allen, Vice President
Doug Piper, Treasurer
Debbie Rathert, Secretary
Elizabeth Edwards
Stephen Hansen
Jessica Mills
Steve Mudge
Kathleen Schmidt
Janet Stack
Jason Stacy
RoxAnn Raisner, Site Director
Jeffrey Edison, Assistant Director
Phil Stack, Bookkeeper

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Friends of the Col. Benjamin Stephenson House

P.O. Box 754

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Edwardsville, IL 62025

Email: stephensonhouse@sbcglobal.net

www.stephensonhouse.org

618-692-1818