



A Newsletter for the Friends & Volunteers of Col. Benjamin Stephenson House

The Spectator



Follow us!

Recent Happenings....

Mark Myers Taught Two Bobbin Lace Workshops

Bobbin Lace maker Mark Myers conducted two well attended Bobbin Lace Workshops in February and March. Participants learned the ancient art of creating lace by hand.



Voices Unleashed

A New Documentary Planned at the House

Jeffrey Edison

Voices Unleashed is an initiative planned by the Benjamin Stephenson House and SIUE Mass Communications department to enhance the learning capabilities for visitors about the difficult history behind early indentured servitude in Illinois. This project will showcase the lives of the Stephenson's slaves that were turned into servants. Since the Stephenson's came to Illinois from Kentucky, we want to show the transition period from slaves to servants and then continue with the history of their acquisition of more servants once in Illinois. With Voices Un-

leashed, we want to demonstrate that difficult history can be brought to the forefront in a creative and enjoyable format.

While the indentured servants at the Stephenson House will be in the spotlight, another goal of the documentary is to give the history behind indentured servitude laws, and the fierce division between early politicians in the territory about the slavery issue. Some of



the key politicians in the division of slavery were Elias Kent Kane, who penned the Illinois Constitution; Nathaniel Pope; Ninian Edwards; Benjamin Stephenson; Pierre Menard; Daniel

(Continued on page 2)



April 14, 2-4 pm

First hunt begins at 2 pm

Second hunt begins at 3 pm

Third hunt begins at 3:45 pm

Activities include: an afternoon egg hunt, an egg dying demonstration with natural dyes, face painting, and games provided by Texas Roadhouse.

LOCATION OF HUNT: 1820 Col. Benjamin Stephenson House



Kaden McCoy (volunteer) and Jeffrey Edison (Assistant Director) pose with the new tester after installation.

New Tester Installed

Thanks to generous donations from fifty-seven Friends, we were able to raise over \$7500 in 2018 to update the master bedroom's bed hangings. Thistle Hill Weavers are weaving and creating the new drapes in their New York workshop. The tester was installed in March. The drapes will soon be added.

Voices Unleashed. (Continued from page 1)

Cook; and Edward Cullom. Our hope is to highlight some of these divisions from their speeches, newspaper articles, and personal writings. Another aspect we anticipate to include is the slave history in the Northwest Ordinance and the Jarrot v. Jarrot case. We have found that Illinois' early history has been moved to the back burner for other histories, but Voices Unleashed can ignite a new spark in the history of slavery and our state.

This project was made possible by 3 grants we received last fall and this spring from the Illinois Humanities, SIUE Meridian Society, and the city of Edwardsville. Initial planning will begin in late April and early May. After the first few meetings on the project, we will start to look for reenactors to portray several of the key figures. Our goal is to start filming the documentary over the summer and into the fall. Voices Unleashed will be completed by the end of June 2020. Stay tuned for more information about the progress of this exciting project!



Trivia Through the Decades

On April 27, 2019, the Friends of the Col. Benjamin Stephenson House and Gori Julian Associates are hosting the 8th annual Trivia through the Decades. Proceeds from the event will benefit the continued restoration and ongoing educational programs at the 1820 Col. Benjamin Stephenson House.

The event is a fun night where teams compete to answer trivia questions in a wide range of categories spanning the 1920s through present day. Teams are encouraged (but not required) to come dressed in costume from their favorite decade or join the event volunteers in the 1920s. The event will be decorated reminiscent of a 1920s speakeasy.

Trivia Through the Decades will be held at the Edwardsville Moose

Lodge, 7371 Marine Rd, Edwardsville. Doors open at 6:30 pm and play will begin at 7:00 pm. The cost for the event is \$200/team of 8 or \$25/person. Players are welcome to bring their own food. Light snacks, water, and soda will be provided. There will be free beer but only while the supply lasts. A cash bar is available for those wanting a beverage other than beer, soda, or water. The venue does not allow outside beverages of any kind so plan to drink ours and leave yours at home. Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place teams, and for best decorated table as well as best costume. A 50/50 raffle, audience participation games and a small silent auction are also planned. FREE MULLIGANS will



Three of our committee members dressed for the 1920s themed event.

be given to teams registered and paid by April 20. Supporting sponsors for this year's event are Goldenberg Heller & Antognoli, PC and Anderson Hospital.

To reserve a table in the game or to find out more information about becoming a sponsor, please call the Stephenson House: (618) 692-1818. Teams may also pay for their tickets/tables at our online store at www.stephensonhouse.org or by stopping by the museum shop during regular business hours.

\$200/8 PERSON TABLE OR \$25 PER PERSON

- 1920s Speakeasy Decor
- Cash Prizes for 1st & 2nd Places, Best Decorated Table, & Best Costume
- Decade Costumes Encouraged but Not Required
- 50/50 Raffle, Audience Participation Games & Silent Auction
- FREE MULLIGANS for Teams Reserved and Paid by April 20
- FREE soda, water, and beer (while the beer lasts). NO Outside Beverages Allowed.



THE 1820 COL. BENJAMIN STEPHENSON HOUSE & GORI JULIAN & ASSOCIATES PRESENTS

Trivia Through The Decades

EVENT VENUE
Edwardsville Moose Lodge
(7371 Marine Rd., Edwardsville, IL)

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call 618-692-1818

Tables available online at www.stephensonhouse.org

SATURDAY
APRIL 27, 2019
TRIVIA BEGINS AT 7 PM

Supporting Sponsors: Goldenberg Heller & Antognoli and Anderson Hospital

Stephenson House Plans Wizarding 5K Run & 1-Mile Walk

August 31, 8am



Join the Wizard themed 5K and Fun Run. Gates will open at 7:00 a.m. Runners will be lined up according to projected finish time. For age groups, see below.:

10 and under
11 - 14
15 - 19
20 - 29
30 - 39
40- 49
50 - 59
60 and over.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three male and female finishers in each age category. With entry fee runners will receive: timing service, T-shirt, and a personalized wand.

The 1 mile walk will begin at 10:00. Strollers are allowed on the course. Dogs will be allowed on the course. ALL dogs MUST be on a leash while in the park and on the 1-mile walk course. With entry fee, participants will receive event T-shirt.

Children under 5 are free to walk the course, but no event T-shirt will be given unless an entry fee is paid. Edwardsville Township Park and course is wheelchair accessible.

Parking will be available inside Edwardsville Township Park. Event is rain or shine.

Race Packet Pickup

Location: Benjamin Stephenson House
Address: 409 S Buchanan St. Edwardsville, IL 62025
Dates: 08/29/2019 & 08/30/2019
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

More Details Coming Soon!!!



Upcoming Events

April 14, **Easter Egg Hunt**, 2-4 pm

April 27, **Trivia Through the Decades**, 7 pm

June 12-14, **Digging in the Dirt** (summer camp), 9 am-2 pm

June 15, **Historic STL Garden & House Tour**, 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 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>

We're Going On A Field Trip

On May 15, we are organizing a field trip to the Campbell House and the Eugene Field House in St. Louis. We plan to leave at 9:30 am from Stephenson House, visit one of the sites around 10 am then have lunch somewhere close and tour the second home in the afternoon. Both museums charge a \$10 admission fee but we are working on getting a group rate. Volunteers interested in going should let RoxAnn or Jeffrey know.





Ben & Lucy's Corner

Ben's Advice for Gentlemen

It is observed by those who have written on the constitution of the human body, and the origin of those diseases by which it is afflicted, that every man comes into the world morbid, that there is no temperature so exactly regulated but that some humour is fatally predominant, and that we are generally impregnated in our first entrance upon life, with the seeds of that malady, which in time shall bring us to the grave.

Ben Johnson

The active mind of man seldom never rests satisfied with its condition how prosperous soever it may be.

Israel Alger

In times of prevailing licentiousness, to maintain unblemished virtue and uncorrupted integrity in a public or a private cause, to stand firm by what is fair and just amidst discouragements and opposition, despising groundless censure and reproach disdaining all compliance with public manners when they are vicious and unlawful, and never ashamed of the punctual discharge of every duty towards God and man, this

is what shows true greatness of spirit and will.

John Ripplingham

I never saw the worst bred man living guilty of lolling, whistling, scratching his head, and such like indecencies in company that he respected.

William Scott

*Lucy's Favorites from
Etiquette for Ladies: With
Hints on the Preservation,
Improvement, and Display
of Female Beauty (1840)*

It would...be a prejudicial error to suppose that females should be subjected only to passive exercise. On the contrary the sedentary occupations of women impose upon them more than on men the necessity of engaging in active exercises.

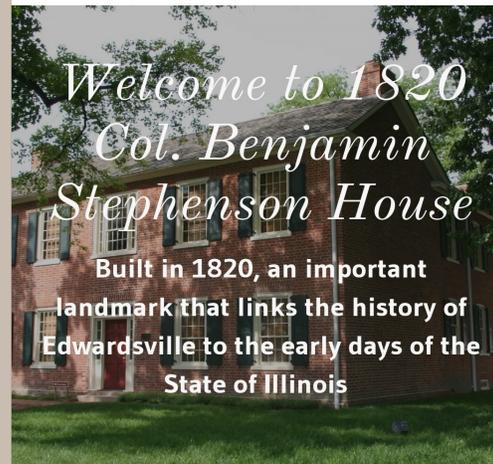
Both in the case of air and gait, it is necessary to begin early to train the person and the limbs to the ease and grace you wish. It is difficult to straighten the stem long left to diverge into irregular wildness, but the tender tree pliant in youth needs only the directing hand of a careful gardener to train it to symmetry and luxuriance.

It is the opinion of wiser heads than mine that no circumstance however, trifling in itself, should be neglected, which strengthens the bonds of an honourable and mutual attachment.

Let it be impressed upon your mind, that a little more ceremony should be used toward your husband's relations, than towards your own,—with your own relations, you are likely to have been long acquainted, and they are therefore supposed to know all your little peculiarities of character.

Check Out Our New Website!

www.stephensonhouse.org



Our new website was launched in January. The updated design makes the site easy to use on a PC or mobile device.

New features include:

- *Online store*
- *Pay your membership online*
- *Buy tickets for fundraisers and workshops online.*
- *Download registration forms*
- *Email the house directly from the website*

We Want YOU!

for the Tuesday Morning Crew

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.



Welcome New Volunteer!

Molly Alderman started volunteering at the House in March. She is a history major at SIUE. She'll be spending some weekends interpreting and helping in the gift shop. Stop by and say "Hi".

Booze Donations Needed

Donations of wine, liquor, beer (*check the expiration date*), and other bar related items are sought for the upcoming Bootleggers Booze Raffle. Please drop off donations at the Stephenson House during regular hours of operation, Thursday-Sunday. Help us make this raffle a success!



50/50 Auction Items Sought



Sid Denny

It's time to start collecting things for the 2019 50/50 Auction. We are looking for all sorts of antique and collectible items. We don't want large pieces of furniture, since they do not sell well at all. Small antique and collectible items are the most sought-after items at the auction. So look for items like collections of old marbles, (especially the older clay marbles), pocket and hunting knives, and arrowhead collections; all of which generally sell very well. Older toys are also generally good sellers. Modern plastic toys do not sell at all. Any older metal toys like trucks or cars or older model train sets, old wind-up toys, old pull-toys, and any other older variety of metal or wooden toys or games are worth donating to the auction. Many other

types of small items are also good for the auction: older wooden duck and goose decoys, old jewelry (gold and silver jewelry bring decent prices). Good quality costume jewelry can also be donated. Old coins like wheat pennies and older silver coins are always in demand. We are also looking for almost any type of advertising items: old wooden boxes with advertising printed on the sides, beer signs, beer advertising, and metal advertising signs of many types. Small advertising items like yardsticks and small items with advertising of almost any type are good sellers. Coca-Cola advertisements and old wooden soda crates remain popular. Modern kitchen items do not sell well, but older types of kitchen items do sell. Red and green wooden handled implements, old tin cookie cutters, springerle cookie boards and other similar items do well. Crocks of all sizes, old tobacco cans, and metal boxes do well in auctions.

We need as many donations as possible between now and the beginning of summer. The auctioneer needs a list of items with photographs for advertising for an event flyer. Items donated after the flyer is printed will not be included. So donate early! If you are unsure if your item is appropriate for the auction, please contact Paul Brazier or Sid Denny.

Upcoming School Tours & Trunk Deliveries

Volunteers Needed!

Stephenson House needs your help with spring school tours. Currently there are only a handful of volunteers signing-up to cover stations. If you can help, please contact RoxAnn or Jeffrey. Training is provided.

TITLE SPONSOR

Gori Julian & Associates

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

Goldenberg Heller & Antognoli

Anderson Hospital

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Ted Mitchell State Farm Insurance

Fran Floeter

Sid & Jane Denny

Byron Carlson Petri & Kalb

Mother Road Guest House

Steve Mudge

SNACK SPONSORS

Pat & David Peverly

Sid & Jane Denny

Kathy Schmidt

- April 9, Trunk Delivery-Trinity Lutheran (one 5th grade trunk), 10 am to the Office
- April 23, Trunk Delivery-Woodland (two 4th grade trunks), 10 am to the Office
- April 24, Roxanna Jr. High, 9:30 am-11:30 am, 25+ 6th-8th grade
- April 24, Woodland Elementary, 12:30-2:30 pm, 25+ 3rd grade
- May 1, Columbus Elementary, 12:30-2:30 pm, 25+ 4th grade
- May 2, Trinity Lutheran School, 10 am -12 pm, 20+ 5th grade
- May 2, Columbus Elementary, 12:45 pm-2:45 pm, 60+ 3rd grade
- May 3, Columbus, 10 am-12 pm, 25+ 4th grade
- May 3, St. Peter Lutheran, 1-3 pm, 10+ 3rd-4th grade
- May 8, Woodland Elementary, 10 am -12 pm, 50+ 4th grade
- May 8, Woodland Elementary, 12:30-2:30 pm, 50+ 4th grade
- May 9, Woodland Elementary, 10 am -12 pm, 50+ 3rd grade
- May 10, Woodland Elementary, 10 am -12 pm, 50+ 4th grade
- May 10, Columbus Elementary, 12:45 pm-2:45 pm, 60+ 3rd grade
- May 18, Connect Group, 10 am-12 pm, 12+ adults
- May 31, Meramec Bluffs Tours, 10 am-11:45 am, 25+ adults
- October 29, Badger Bus Line, 12:45 pm-2:30 pm, 35-48 adults
- October 30, Are We There Yet? Tours, 10 am-11:45 am, 50+ adults
- November 2, Playing the Past, 10 am -12 pm, 15 + Girl Scouts



**THANK YOU
TRIVIA NIGHT
SPONSORS!**

Needful Things

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

- Trivia night sponsors and silent auction items
- Booze for the Bootleggers' Booze Raffle
- Volunteers to help with spring school tours
- Seamstresses/tailors to sew men's shortcoats and ladies' day caps for the interpretive wardrobe (we'll provide the patterns and fabric)
- 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



Scan this nametag on Instagram to follow [benlucystephenson](#).

Thank You Donors!

Last year we asked our Friends to help us raise the funds necessary to replace the bed hangings in the master bedroom.

Contributions exceeded our expectations with a total of \$7500. The new bed hangings are now being woven and sewn by Thistle Hill Weavers. Over the next few months, visitors will see a gradual transformation from the old bed hangings to new, period-appropriate coverings similar to something owned by the Stephensons. Once the installation is complete, the site will host an unveiling for all project donors.

This project would not have been possible without the following individuals...

Gordon & Holly Broom
Carol Gardner
David & Kay Werner
Linda L. Casses
Fran Floeter
John & Amy Mullane
Joseph & Linda Stevens
Ray & Lucia Weber
Hortica
Dwight & Nancy Kay

Victoria Kirkpatrick
Kendrick & Donna Bisset
Beth Bauer
William & Susan Lucco
Alpha Delta Kappa Alpha Nu
David & Pat Peverly
Elizabeth Bowling
LaVernn Wilson
Bill & Judith Eaton
Michael & Jan Kershaw
Richard & Linda Dustman
Bart & Meg Solon
Sid & Jane Denny
Mary Ruth Kettenbach
Duane & June Weber
Pat & George Henderson
Missy & Dave Dietzel
Jim & Gloria Zupanci
Glenn & Mary Pizzini
Cynthia & Steven Gackstetter
Doug & Maxine Callies
John & Judi Jennetten
Bob & Sue Wolf
Marian Smithson
Shirley Malench



The bed looks a bit bare at the moment with only the tester installed. The drapes & counterpane will be added as they are completed.

Brenda Knox
Robert Malench
Emogene Beck
Larry & Maureen Meyers
Don & Beverly Turner
Bruce & Nancy Hoffman
Judith Grabowski
Sally Hanson
Robert & Ida Nuernberger
Harold & Marilyn Strangeman
Dr. & Mrs. Mike Crider
John Huff
Sharon Whittaker
Pat Burkhart
Margaret Oberlag
Timothy & Linda McCoy
John Hembruch

Be Our Friend...

Renew your membership or become a new Friend.
Fill out and mail the following information to us.

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



Send your membership to the

**Friends of the Col. Benjamin
Stephenson House**

P.O. Box 754

Edwardsville, IL 62025



Membership Levels

Henry's Friend (child, K-12)
\$10

Friend of Ben & Lucy
\$25

Stephenson Family Friend
\$50

Landmark Friend
\$100

Heritage Friend
\$250

Living History Friend
\$500

Founding Friend
\$1,000 or more

Corporate membership information
available upon request.

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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