

## PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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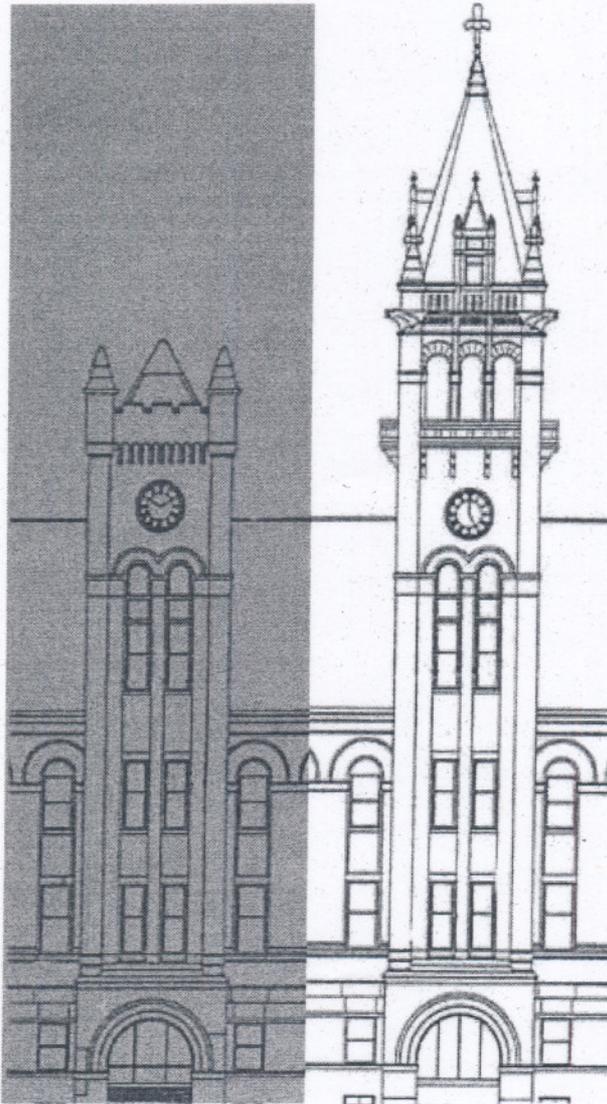
### BACK TO THE FUTURE

A fund raising campaign is underway to restore the historic clock and bell tower on Champaign County's remodeled and enlarged Courthouse. A citizens' committee, cooperating with county officials, plan to raise about one million dollars to rebuild the current stubby 100-year-old tower which was lowered to its present height by numerous lightning strikes. Originally, the 1901 tower, as designed by architect Joseph Royer, was a 135-foot structure ornamented with gargoyles and finials. It housed an 1877 Seth Thomas clock with faces at each cardinal direction and a 1,000-pound bell, which struck the hour.

Thanks to the volunteer efforts of some dedicated clock hobbyists, the clock is now back in working order and temporarily on display in the lobby of the new courthouse. Meanwhile, the citizens' committee is seeking a million dollars in private funds to rebuild the tower and restore the building's elegance and architectural integrity. Finials and gargoyles will again surround the tower; its height will approximate the original; and a modern lightning protection system will be installed to protect this landmark structure from future damage.

The citizens' committee is offering you a rare opportunity to invest in the architectural future of Champaign County by helping to reconstruct the courthouse clock and bell tower. How can you be part of this exciting effort?

- Make a contribution to the Clock & Bell Tower Restoration Project. Donations can be a one-time gift or paid over time.



*Drawings of the current (left) and proposed (right) courthouse bell and clock tower.*

They can be a memorial gift or a commemoration of a special occasion. Gifts of \$500 or more will be acknowledged on a "donor wall."

- Tell others about this historic project. Members of the citizens' committee are willing to speak to groups or interested

individual donors. A short power-point presentation has been developed and can be easily shown. Contact Bruce Hannon (352-3646), Denny Inman (384-3776), or Steve Beckett (328-0263) to arrange for presentations.

- Educate yourself about the historic courthouse and clock tower. Tours of the tower for small groups can be arranged by contacting those named above. Spectacular views of Urbana-Champaign are visible from the tower.

- Contribute ideas or time to the fund raising effort. Contact Janet Floyd (359-3280 or 326-5234) to offer suggestions or services.

From the beginning, PACA has been a very strong supporter of the Clock Tower Restoration Project. The citizens' committee appreciates PACA's efforts in helping to launch the initial studies that brought the tower reconstruction project to this point. Now is the time for PACA members to continue the momentum by making their own contribution to the future of Champaign County's architectural heritage.

*This article was written by County Board and Citizens' Committee member, Barbara Wysocki.*

All contributions are tax deductible. Checks should be sent to:

### **Clock Tower Restoration Project**

**1776 E. Washington Street  
Urbana, IL 61802**

## 2004 Heritage Awards

Once again, outstanding work was done in the fields of preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation by individuals and companies in Champaign County. We know that there are other equally deserving projects being done. Please let PACA know of preservation projects being undertaken in Champaign County, so we can recognize the efforts of these caring people.

PACA would like to thank this year's Heritage Award Committee for all of their hard work: Sarah Nemeth, Anthony Bamert, and Dan Leasure; and also Kim Wurl for her calligraphy artistry.

### Residential Heritage Award

*Steve & Chris Mechling,  
Victor Treat, Sr.  
Tony & Michelle Nickrent*  
112 S. Main Street  
Seymour, IL 61875

*James & Cecelia Sasser*  
211 Avondale  
Champaign, IL 61820

*James & Cecelia Sasser*  
319 N. Vorcey  
Tolono, IL 61880

### Commercial Heritage Award

*Cole Building  
Ray & Christine Cunningham*  
118 S. Main Street  
Homer, IL 61849  
John Morrissette, contractor

*Bentley's Pub  
Jon Buerkett, Tom Fiedler, Eric Meyer,  
Stacey Whimpey, and Dave Whimpey*  
419 N. Neil Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Philo Woodworking  
Jody Ponder  
Fred's Plumbing and Heating

*C-U Train Station  
Dr. William Youngerman*  
116 N. Chestnut Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
William Wiese, engineer  
Benchmark Company, Iowa  
Renaissance Roofing, Rockford

### Landscape Heritage Award

*Brick Sidewalk Restoration Program  
City of Urbana, Public Works Department  
East Urbana Neighborhood Association*

## Non-Profit Commercial Heritage Award

*WEFT*  
113 N. Market Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Peter Maass, architect  
Barber & DeAtley, contractors

*Homeworks/Habitat for Humanity*  
40 E. University Avenue  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Marco Steel  
American Dowell Sign Company  
Remco Electrical Company/  
IBEW Local 601

## Historically Respectful Addition Award

*John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders*  
112 W. Hill Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Russell Dankert & Associates, architect  
RDI/Michael Markstahler, contractor

*Karen Edwards*  
712 S. Elm Boulevard  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Darcy Bean, Custom Construction

## Neighborhood Heritage Award

*Susan & Mark Frobish*  
710-712 W. Nevada Street  
Urbana, IL 61801  
Stephanie Crofts, helper

## Special Heritage Award

*Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's  
Committee and John & Mike Schmale, website  
developers -- Barn Documentation Program*

*Louis Simpson -- PACA Board Member &  
Treasurer*

*Jeffrey Gordon -- PACA Volunteer*

## SAVE THE DATE 13th Annual KIDS' BUILDING FAIR

MAY 15, 2004

Orpheum Children's Science  
Museum  
346 N. Neil Street  
Champaign  
11-4 pm

Volunteers Needed  
call 359-7222

## Preservation Week 2004

Historic preservation in America has made enormous strides in the 55 years since the National Trust was founded. From coast to coast, preservation has made a difference in the appearance and livability of cities and towns of all sizes. You can see it in historic buildings restored, older neighborhoods made more attractive, Main Streets given new economic vitality. Instead of being ignored or smashed to rubble, historic places are now recognized as valuable, irreplaceable assets that can instill pride in residents, attract tourists and stimulate new investment.

But despite the great progress we've made and the impressive victories we've won, our job is by no means done. Older business districts and residential neighborhoods are still marred by disinvestment and deterioration. Landmarks of the recent past still don't receive the attention from preservationists that they deserve. Sprawl is still devouring precious open space and destroying the character that makes each community unique. Laws that protect historic places are frequently under attack. And many people are still uninvolved, still unconvinced that preservation is relevant to their daily lives.

The theme of Preservation Week 2004, "New Frontiers in Preservation," calls on us to identify and tackle the new and ongoing challenges we face and to redouble our efforts to ensure that our movement accurately reflects the vision, energy and diversity of America itself.

Organizing tours and special events that spotlight lesser-known local treasures, finding ways to expand preservation efforts to address the needs of all parts of your community, launching a drive to broaden and diversify the membership of your local organization, fostering revitalization in commercial and residential neighborhoods that may have been overlooked up to now - all of these are effective tools for moving preservation forward into new areas of activity.

Make Preservation Week 2004 an occasion for celebrating what's special about the place where you live - and for finding innovative ways to ensure that future generations will be able to celebrate it too.

*Richard Moe, President, National Trust for  
Historic Preservation*

## From the Now Former President's Desk

At our last board meeting, I officially became a former president after serving two terms. The new PACA president is Catherine Barbercheck. Catherine has been an active PACA member for over ten years and has served on the PACA Board of Directors for two years. She has been involved with a number of other community groups and will continue to keep our organization strong. Dan Leasure has assumed the duties of vice-president. I (in a weak moment) agreed to become the secretary/treasurer. However, most of the duties of the treasurer's position will continue to be conducted by PACA's accountant, Lou Simpson, our former treasurer. At the Annual Meeting, three directors were elected: Robert Nemeth, Jerry Schmidt, and myself.

### Calls for Help

There is a need for someone to take over the development of the PACA Web site. Dan Leasure and Nicole Swiss have started the process, but the site needs "jazzing up" with additional features and graphics. Some ideas include posting the PACA Newsletter, showcasing the Heritage Awards and other events of interest, adding information on National Register and local landmark sites, and providing educational information regarding preservation issues and resources around the county. This year the *Taste of Champaign* will be June 25-27 in West Side Park. PACA will be co-hosting an informational booth with Habitat for Humanity. We need volunteers to take shifts on Friday (5-9), Saturday (11-9), and Sunday (12-5). This is an opportunity to meet people and raise the awareness of PACA's activities.

### Salvage Update

Salvage opportunities have been limited in the last few months to a few houses. This situation may be about to change.

Mike Richards and I have met twice with the Monticello City Council concerning salvage of the historic Pepsin Factory, just west of the downtown. Parts of the 119,000 square foot building date back to 1903. The pharmaceutical operation ended in 1985, and the building had been used for storage until April when the city finalized purchase of the building. Building conditions are terrible. The roofs have leaked and collapsed in several areas. There are environmental hazards throughout the building, making many areas unsafe for volunteers. PACA has agreed to work with the Piatt County Museum to remove some items that have sentimental/historic ties to the county for the museum's collection. Additional salvage items will come to the PACA warehouse after local residences have a chance to purchase them from PACA. We will need skilled volunteers for this operation. Contact Mike or I for further details about this salvage operation.

Bob Swisher, Chris Hill, and I have been working with the City of Tuscola to gain permission to salvage a historic school. There is a lot of potential salvage material in the building and, in contrast to Monticello, this will be a safe and secure site where volunteers of all levels of skills can help. Again call the PACA warehouse for details. We anticipate that work could start in early May.

Greg Clark has resigned his position on the PACA board. Greg left his job in Mattoon and has moved to Quincy. Greg's experience as an environmental health and



Facade of Pepsin Building, Monticello. PACA hopes to salvage the entryway and medallions. (Cahill)

safety officer will be missed. Currently, I am the lone Urbana board member. If you would like to serve on the board, contact PACA.

A special thanks to Mike Richards, not only for all of his hard work on the Pepsin Building, but also for the new stained glass transom over the east warehouse door. It has added an elegant touch to the warehouse.

Best Wishes

Rich Cahill, former president and Salvage Co-Chair

## P.A.C.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

- Adult \$15
- Student \$10
- Senior Citizen \$10
- Family \$20
- Corporate \$75
- Additional Contribution \_\_\_\_\_

### TYPE

- New \_\_\_\_\_
- Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

### PACA

Box 2575, Station A  
Champaign, IL 61825  
www.pacacc.org  
217 359 7222

### INFORMATION:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PACA

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## Illinois Statewide Preservation Conference -- June 17-19

Hosted each year by Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, and co-sponsored with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, the preservation conference attracts the participation of preservation professionals, advocates and interested citizens from across the state. The three-day series of workshops, seminars, tours and special events focus on the preservation issues, challenges and successes facing communities across the state. The conference will be held at Pere Marquette State Park. For information contact LPCI at 312.922.1742 or landmarks.org.

### A HISTORIC CELEBRATION

Thursday, May 20, 2004  
5:30 - 9:30 pm

Celebrate the Virginia Theatre's listing on the National Register of Historic Places with backstage tours, a post-war architecture lecture, and a musical review.  
Free & Everyone is Invited!

### Salvage Donations

James Fallon  
JJ's Luggage & Shoe Repair  
Seth Mendelowitz  
Barb & Bill Childers  
Scott Cochran  
Mary Blair  
Maggie Liu  
Brandenburg Industrial Services, Chicago  
Dave Kruger  
St. Joseph Fire Department  
Jim Burch  
Ben Moye

### New & Renewing Memberships

(received since the last newsletter)

#### Charter Members (1981-1983)

Dr. & Mrs. Victor Wojnar

#### Over Ten Year Members

Joe Donahue  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Hutchings  
Elizabeth Rogers  
Janine & Roger Prillaman  
Norma Jean & John Gremer  
Fred & Nancy Coombs  
Dan Sullivan  
Mr. & Mrs. John Replinger  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Myers  
Joseph Marriott  
Fred & Nancy Delcomyn  
Shirley Stillinger  
Ernie Martin & William Capel  
Steve Leonberger & Cheryl Koranda  
Mr. & Mrs. George T. Clayton  
Richard Cahill  
Isotech Laboratories, Inc; Dennis Coleman  
(Corporate member)  
Jeffrey J. Mellander  
Sharon Irish & Reed Larson  
Michael Markstahler

#### Five to Ten Year Members

Wayne, Mary & Rachel Robinson  
Esther Patt  
Randy & Bette Hughes  
Bill & Barb Childers  
Perry Morris  
Mark Sills  
Ruth Wyman  
Marilyn Morris  
Dipesh Navsaria  
Rick Piester  
Jeff Harshbarger & Grace Giorgio  
Lisa Foster & Larry Keller  
Christine Fucciolo

#### One to Four Year Members

Arthur & Diann Thoma  
Louis & Trina Simpson  
Randy Cox Family

Paul Armstrong  
Greg Clark  
Craig Flowers  
Pete Resnick  
Deirdre McGlone & Stig Lanesskog  
Rick & Gisele Atterberry  
Laura Huth  
Douglas Kistler  
Kathy Frye  
Peter Lin  
Scott Schaub & Amanda McWilliams  
Ari Babakhanian  
Brian Duffield  
Jan Kalmar; Adrienne & Maya Bauer  
Karen Ferneding  
James & Jody Coffin  
Richard & Carol Betts  
Brett & Holly Barnhart  
Lewis & Susan Hopkins  
Fred Gleavo  
Earl & Betsy Burkybile  
Dan Rutherford

#### New Members

Mike & Karen Tindale  
Bob Ballsrud  
Lee Galaway  
Jodie & Brent Leasure  
Lindley House, Sylvia & Ernie Sullivan  
(Corporate member)  
Mary Tangora & Larry Steinbauer  
Joe Malpeli  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Maddox  
Sue Cramer  
Jo Ella Cook  
John & Kristine McMahon  
Kara S. McKinn  
Randy & Jeanine Hinshaw  
Jared Bronski & Susan Tolman  
Karen Pollard  
Sid Duke

*Remember to check your mailing label for your membership renewal date. The date shown indicates when you last renewed; membership runs for one year from that date.*

### PACA Newsletter

P.O. Box 2575, Station A, Champaign, IL 61825

Catherine Barbercheck, President  
Daniel Leasure, Vice-President  
Richard Cahill, Secretary/Treasurer  
Karen Lang Kummer, Exec. Director



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Give Champaign County's Past  
A Great Future!