

# REDDICK MANSION

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2013



## Ottawa's Second Annual General Wallace Civil War Weekend

On the weekend of April 19, the Mansion was bustling with Civil War Re-enactors and discussions focusing on the period's history. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the weekend a success.

### Re-enactor Campground

The Civil War Re-enactors camped out in Washington Square across from the Mansion for the weekend. The Union and Confederate Soldiers each had their own encampment and made their plans for the battle on Sunday, April 21. Breakfast was provided each morning by volunteers at the Masonic Temple.



### Lincoln Meets with His Generals - A Press Conference

On Saturday, April 20, the Mansion hosted a press conference with President Lincoln and Generals Grant, Wallace, Ransom, Porter, Morrill and Houghtaling. That same night, a keynote presentation titled "LaSalle County at War: Lincoln and his Generals" was conducted by Rob Giradi.

### Civil War Era Clothing Display

Clothing from the civil war was on display over the weekend at the Mansion. The dresses and other clothing were incredibly colorful and vibrant.



## *So what is behind that Wainscoting Anyway?*

Since the Reddick Mansion Association took over the Mansion from the Library and restoration took place, there has always been a question of what was behind the wainscoting on the entrance west wall and also up the staircase.

Along the east wall of the second floor hallway ran the beautiful faux bois (fake wood) painting that was under glass. Could this also be on the west side and up the staircase?

Recently, as part of the Historical Survey, the glass was taken off the faux bois painting. See the picture below. The painting was preserved under the glass and is wonderfully vibrant.



As the Historical Survey progressed, it was decided to investigate what was under the wainscoting. The small area in the second floor entrance behind the clock was chosen since it could be covered up easily if something did not materialize. Much to everyone's delight, it was discovered that indeed the faux bois painting matching the east wall was also on this wall. See the picture to the right below. The future of the old wainscoting will depend on the outcome of the Historical Survey. If deemed appropriate, it will take some time, effort and expense to restore the original painting. Look for updates on the possibilities for the future. Meanwhile, stop by the Mansion to see the newly exposed panel.



On Thursday, May 9, the Mansion received a visit from Thomas Jeffris, the president of the Jeffris Foundation of Janesville, Wisconsin that is splitting the cost of the historic structure report. He was met at the Mansion by Ottawa Mayor Robert Eschbach, mansion advocate Edmund Thorntorn and Diane Sanders, president of the Reddick Mansion Association. The foundation's future financial support will depend in part on the outcome of the structure report that is being conducted by Anna Sullivan of Sullivan Preservation in Chicago. The report is anticipated to be completed in the end of July. During his visit, Mr. Jeffris was very impressed by the Mansion.



Thanks to everyone who attended and also volunteered at the "May Melodies" annual Tea held at the Mansion on Saturday, May 11. The weather was a bit cool but the sun was out for the occasion. There were several generations of families in attendance and each table was decorated with it's own table setting and theme. A lovely way to spend the first part of Mother's Day weekend.

Good News! Thanks to the success of the Spring tea, another tea will be scheduled for the Fall. Stay tuned for more information.

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, June 23rd, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Sunrise Rotary Garden Walk - The Mansion is the starting point to this year's garden walk. While touring the lovely gardens of the Mansion, stop and make a Victorian hat with your child. Reservations required to make a hat.

### Sunday, August 18th, 2:00pm

"Get the Scoop", Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social - Refreshments and music in the Gardens of the Mansion.

### Saturday, October 19th, 10:00 - 3:00pm

"Focus on LaSalle County", A Juried Photographic Show and Sale - Join the Mansion in displaying the best of LaSalle County in this first annual exhibit and sale. Entries can still be submitted through June 15. Call the Mansion for more information.

### Saturday, October tbd

An Afternoon Tea at the Mansion Reservations are required. Look on Facebook and/or the Fall newsletter for a specific date.

For More information and Reservations, call the Mansion at 815-433-6100

Members are always welcome at the Board Meetings held the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM

Check up on the latest news and events at the Mansion on the internet at [www.reddickmansion.com](http://www.reddickmansion.com)

Also, make sure to Like us on Facebook!



Thanks to everyone who have paid their membership dues.  
If you have not sent them in yet, there is still time. Use the form below.

I wish to become a member of:

The Reddick Mansion Association  
100 W. Lafayette St , Ottawa, IL 61350

Individual \$20.00  
Family \$30.00  
Corporate \$100.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_