Jamaica Plain was never a village or a town. At best it was a community in the Town of Roxbury, the largest town in the colonies. Today, it is a zip code. The name has nothing to do with the Lord Nelson’s winning a naval battle in Jamaica in 1758—the name was well established by then; nor, did it have anything to do with the triangle trade, being more than five miles inland from the nearest port. The name is probably an Anglicization of an Algonquin word describing the area, “place with lots of water”, or the name of the sachem who welcomed the immigrants to the area. The etymology is still a cause for debate.

The “Jamaica end of Roxbury” was first settled by English farmers in 1641. Almost two hundred years later, it was both a farming and suburban community served by public transportation to Boston, the “Jamaica Plain Hourlies.” In this era, the Episcopalians living in the community had to travel, in all weather, to St. James Church in Roxbury. In 1832, some gentlemen of the town persuaded The Rev. Mark Anthony DeWolfe Howe, rector of St. James Church to oversee a mission for the Jamaica Plain congregation. The first location was the home of Charles Beaumont, called Lakeville. Later, as the congregation grew, services moved to larger quarters. Eventually, in 1839, the Lawrence Family donated land for a chapel in the center of the community. A mere 40 years later, the original chapel had been enlarged three times and was outgrowing the site.

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In 1876, The Rev. Sumner Upham Shearman was called as rector of St. John’s Church. He was from Rhode Island, has been graduated from Brown University in 1861, and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the 4th Rhode Island Volunteers in 1862. During the Civil War, he was captured and served several months at the infamous Andersonville Prison. He studied privately for the ministry and was ordained priest in 1875. His first task was to build a new church for his growing congregation. By 1880, a site had been bequeathed by long-time congregant and local property developer Gen. Horatio Sumner, and Harris M. Stephenson, a parishioner and local society architect had been chosen to produce the design. The corner stone was laid April 17, 1882; the construction was completed in 1883; the building was consecrated in September 1885.

Harris Stephenson was a prolific suburban architect, responsible for 60 buildings in Jamaica Plain alone. It has been said that his design for St. John’s Church was to his career “what Trinity (Boston) was to Richardson’s.” It is one his three published designs and was copied, at least once, at St. John’s Church, Keokuk IA. This plan was published in American Architect and Building News, March 10, 1888. Both his obituary and his listing in Boston of Today (1892, p 407) indicate that he apprenticed in California and designed residences in “Kansas City MO, San Francisco and Pasadena CA.”

The history of St. John’s Church Keokuk will be known to readers of Keokuk Confluence. To quote from its Diocesan web site:

St. John’s Church, Keokuk, at 405 Concert Street, was organized April 20, 1850 by the Rev. Jackson Kemper, Missionary Bishop of the Northwest. The first rector was Rev. Otis Hacket (1850-53). The first church building [was] consecrated 1852 and construction began on the present building in 1884; consecration in 1891 and the present parish house added 1895. St. John’s is noted for its beautiful stained glass windows executed by Mayer of Munich Glass Company, the Lamb Studios of New Jersey, Tiffany and Company of New York and others...
According to the vestry minutes (as reported in William L. Talbot’s St John’s Church in Keokuk. Keokuk, IA 1975. p. 63):

“On July 9, 1883, a committee ... was appointed to commission plans and specifications for a new church and to report back when this was done. After several months the committee reported their work done and obtained approval for building. Two resolutions were made at this meeting to guide the [building] committee. One was that the committee would proceed to build a new church at a cost not to exceed $22,000. Another resolution provided that it was to be of the same design as an Episcopal Church at Jamaica Plains, Boston, Massachusetts. ... This meeting also added the Reverend Mr. McIlwain (the rector) to the committee, authorizing him to go to Boston and make arrangements with the architects, Appleton and Stephenson, and to examine personally the Jamaica Plains church.”

Here is where the story gets more interesting. By July 1883, the church in Jamaica Plain was still under construction. There is no indication that it was featured in any publication; there is no indication that any member of the committee, or The Rev. Mr. McIlwain, had any connection, or any contact with either the parish in Jamaica Plain or the architect. How did they even know the building was underway, let alone its design? The only vague possibility is that Stephenson’s former client in Kansas City MO, may have been involved. In addition, there is no mention in the St. John’s Church Keokuk Vestry minutes of the Rector’s trip to Boston—normally, at least the expense would have been mentioned.

In the late 19th century, building plans remained the property of the architect. So, there are no designs, proposals or plans for the church in Jamaica Plain. Mr. Stephenson’s son destroyed his father’s files after his death. By sheer good fortune, one copy of the plans submitted to the Building Committee in Keokuk was not returned to Mr. Stephenson. In 2017, Tonya Boltz, a librarian at the Keokuk Public Library, located both this copy and the relevant vestry minutes, which she gained permission to photograph. When we compared the plans to the current Jamaica Plain Church, it became clear that these were not “original” or “proposed” plans, but “as built” plans with exquisite detail, like the finials on the interior woodwork and the design for the altar and altar rail.

Here are some examples of the similarities of these twin buildings:

While the parish halls were added later and, due probably to the demands of the two sites, are quite different, the main buildings match the plans. The Church in Jamaica Plain is built of local Roxbury Pudding Stone (conglomerate), while the Keokuk Church is built of native limestone from Canton MO quarries.
The interior of the chancel is eerily similar. The measurement of the Keokuk plans match exactly the current Jamaica Plain church. It seems Mr Stephenson left nothing to chance in his design for even interior details.

The interior of the Keokuk contains hand-carved furnishings by William Bartels of Carthage, Illinois. He carved the reredos, altar, altar rail, chancel screen and the ends of the pews. The three panels on the front of the altar depict grapes and wheat to represent the Eucharist, and a bas relief of Christ carrying the cross. These were donated memorials: “The Sunday School was the largest single contributor.... Mrs. Morrison’s class gave the Altar with Carvings by Bartels ($300), the Organ Band gave the reredos for the altar ($175), and Miss Rachel Fletcher’s class gave the chancel rail ($155). All of these details were specified in the architect’s plan, and mirror what was installed in the Jamaica Plain building from a gift the Milton Family. It is interesting that while Miss Amelia Milton adhered to Mr. Stephenson’s design for the pulpit, Mr. Will Cobb, the finishing carpenter, gave a pulpit ($220) that is of a quite different design. Of course, the memorial windows in each church reflect the taste of the individual donors.
It is interesting that in both parishes, the baptismal font from the original church was included in the new building. However, even they are similar.

Also interesting is that neither church building could be consecrated until its building indebtedness could be liquidated. In each case an “angel” from the congregation made the difference. The Keokuk Church, first used February 12, 1888, was consecrated Easter Day 1890.

Today, the two churches are still similar. Their parish halls have altered the exterior design somewhat. The interior of St John’s Church Keokuk appears to have been tastefully redecorated recently; the same cannot be said for St. John’s in Jamaica Plain. However, the Jamaica Plain congregation is growing and is investing in interior and exterior restoration that is long-past due. The existence of the plans copied from the originals in Keokuk may help guide some of this activity.
Editor’s note: The following article is the second in a three part series about the building of the powerhouse and lock and dam #19 and the subsequent formation of the Keokuk-Hamilton Dam Museum.

In 1836 the War Department sent Robert E. Lee to survey the area known as the Des Moines Rapids. It was Lee’s conclusion there was tremendous power generated in the 23 foot fall of the river in a 12 mile distance. The result of Lee’s survey was a confirmation of much speculation among leaders in the Keokuk and Hamilton area.

A group of Keokuk residents formed a company to build a dam which would submerge the rapids. Then, with a set of locks, transportation on the Mississippi would be enhanced along with a source of power to operate the existing textile and grain mills. The idea was terminated when the federal government started building a nine mile canal which had three locks. The canal was completed in 1876.

America was expanding in the industrial age as Thomas Edison worked with electricity. In Keokuk, under the leadership of C.P. Birge, a wholesale grocer, 25 Keokuk and Hamilton business leaders were convinced that somehow a dam could be built across the river harnessing the power created by the fall of the river over the rapids. The result would be electrical power with great benefits for not only Keokuk but a major portion of the Midwest.

With $2,500 capital, not a great deal in today’s economy, the men secured an additional $7,500 from the city councils of Keokuk and Hamilton. While working to collect the funds needed to petition the U.S. government, the men learned that Congressman Marsh of Illinois adamantly opposed the concept unless the company was reincorporated in Illinois. The franchise was finally secure in 1901 to build a ‘wing dam’ extending from the Illinois side diagonally upstream to harness the power of the water. Even though private (Lyman E. Cooley, a noted hydraulic engineer) and federal (Montgomery Meigs, the Corps of Engineers superintendent of the Keokuk Canal) engineers advised the wing dam plan was not practical, the concept was taken to the Secretary of War where the proposal was deemed to be possible and profitable by the department’s board of engineers. Permission to proceed was granted in 1903.

The Keokuk and Hamilton Water Power Company continued to work to develop a proposal for damming the entire river. After an additional two years of overcoming additional objections and hurdles, President Theodore Roosevelt
finally signed a bill in February, 1905 giving the franchise the authority to dam the river. The bill gave the franchise exclusive rights to the project for a period of five years and required the project be headed by a competent engineer.

The Water Power Company now had to secure the funds and the competent engineer. A 30 page prospectus describing the project was printed and sent to 5000 engineers and financial people throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. After not receiving a single satisfactory response for two months, a telegram from Hugh L. Cooper arrived. Cooper made the trip to Keokuk to discuss the project in detail. Investors C.P. Dadant (Hamilton) and A.E. Johnstone, W.E. Irwin and William Logan (Keokuk) returned with Cooper to Niagara Falls to learn about the hydraulic plant Cooper was building at this site. The investors also sold the franchise to a syndicate represented by Cooper for $20,000, the amount of the investment made by the Water Power Company to obtain the franchise.

However, within two years the syndicate had lost its financial backing due to the losses on Wall Street and the insurance industry’s instability due to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. The Water Power Company released the syndicate from its obligations and entered into a new contract with Cooper. Enthusiastically, Cooper arranged for a contract with St. Louis public utility companies to supply power and use their assistance in financing. The energy was to be supplied by July 1, 1913 for the Union Electric Light and Power Company, the Laclede Gas Company and the United Railways Company, operators of the St. Louis Street Railway Company. A penalty clause was attached if a late completion occurred. Later the public utility companies backed out of the financing portion of the contract leaving Cooper and his partner, V. N. Powelson, with a contract to supply electrical power 144 miles from Keokuk but no financial backing to do so.

Powelson traveled to England seeking capital and Cooper negotiated with groups in New York and Boston. Neither had any success and time was running out. The franchise noted the construction had to begin by February 9, 1910. Cooper finally reached an agreement with a consortium of investors led by Stone and Webster of Boston. Cooper began construction on January 10, 1910, one month prior to the end of the exclusive rights clause. (Noteworthy was that Cooper was not a trained engineer but a self-taught engineer. Cooper also lost all but $5,000 of his personal wealth due to the expense for engineering and pursuing the necessary finances).
Editors note: The following article is a reprint from the July-August, 2017 issue of The Doorknob Collector with foreword by Janet Smith, president of the Keokuk Union Depot Foundation.

Like many architects, Burnham & Root designed not only the structure of their buildings, but also intricate exterior and interior details. While we marvel from afar at the magnificent sweeping roofline of the restored Keokuk Union Depot roof, Burnham & Root also included more subtle design elements that enhanced the Depot’s overall appearance. The next time that you are on the trackside and upriver end of the Depot, notice the lovely terra cotta foliage lintel detail on the large arched windows. Look up at the plain wood eaves that were originally faux painted to resemble oak woodwork, and which were meticulously recreated as part of the roof restoration. The trackside canopy is a gem and will delight us when restored. The Depot roof would not be nearly as elegant without the copper finials that adorn the dormers and turrets of the restored central tower.

Depot volunteers have saved the one remaining cast-iron boot that graced the end of a downspout on the Depot’s bluff side. Also saved after their discovery during the restoration of the eaves were several original cast iron bases for lighting under the eaves. Embossed, ornamental cast iron radiators once adorned the waiting room.

The Woodfin article about Burnham & Root’s attention to detail in designing hardware for many of their buildings demonstrates the pride in structures of their era. We are fortunate to have such a stellar example of Burnham & Root’s design in Keokuk. The Keokuk Union Depot Commission and the Keokuk Union Depot Foundation are striving to restore the Depot to its original glory with respect to all its features.
BURNHAM & ROOT
The Birth of Architects using Custom Hardware

BY PAUL WOODFIN

Following the Great Chicago Fire of October 1871, much of the city required total reconstruction from the ground up, leading to a massive building boom unseen before in the United States. Many young architects moved to the City and began to work in the offices of established architects, including Carter, Drake & Wight, Loring & Jenney, William Boyington, John Van Osdel, and Burling & Adler.

John Wellborn Root (at right) was born in Georgia in 1850. By 1855 the family lived in Atlanta, where his New England-born father was a blockade-running merchant. After the fall of Atlanta in 1864, John Root was sent by his father to England, where he furthered his studies and was admitted to Oxford in 1866. Root instead returned to America, enrolling at NYU and earning a Civil Engineering degree in 1869. Root first went to work for James Renwick Jr., and then for J. B. Snook as Superintendent of Construction on the original Grand Central Station. He then approached architect Peter Wight for a position, and in January 1872 was summoned to Chicago to begin work for Wight.

Daniel Burnham (at left) was born in New York in 1846. His family moved to Chicago in 1855 as his father’s pharmaceutical business grew. Burnham was an athlete, artist, and very social, but less academically focused than Root. Failing to get into Harvard or Yale, Burnham developed a love of architecture and went to work for Loring & Jenney. In late 1872 Burnham began work at Carter, Drake & Wight, and met John Wellborn Root.

By the summer of 1873 Burnham & Root became the newest architecture firm in Chicago. The Panic of 1873 slowed construction for a while, but in 1874 they work began on their first significant commiss-

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sion, the John B. Sherman house on Prairie Avenue, for a founder of the Union Stockyards. During construction, Burnham married Sherman’s daughter Margaret. Many more residential and commercial buildings would follow in Chicago and across the country.

In the article *Late Advances in Builders’ Hardware* (TDC #188), the writer cited that “in the latter part of 1886...the late John W. Root conceived the idea that the hardware for a building ought to be made of special designs to harmonize with the character of the building on which it was to be used.” Acting on this idea, he designed the hardware for the Phoenix Insurance building (at left) not only with the object of having something special and in perfect harmony with the character of the building, but with a view to obtaining as nearly as possible a reproduction of old statuary bronze. The hardware was executed by Yale & Towne Manufacturing Company, and Tim Samuelson quotes a friend’s description as having “a very elaborate interlocked monogram”. Perhaps one of the many unknown emblems in the P-400s.

“The following year another departure was decided on in the hardware for the Rookery office building (above), when for the first time the now widely used Bower-Barff black iron builders’ hardware was used in a design also made by the late John W. Root (at left), and was certainly original, entirely unlike anything ever before attempted, and excited considerable comment”.

Other Chicago buildings by Burnham & Root were cited as having in special hardware designs, including:
- the Monadnock building (TDC #192)
- the Chicago Herald building
- the Woman’s Temple
- the Ashland Block
- the Masonic Temple, for which Tim Samuelson has “found documentation of the Masonic Temple knob, with a boxy outline of a “plus” sign at the center. It may have later become a “stock” catalog item”.

As Burnham & Root became nationally-recognized architects, they...
began to receive commissions outside of Chicago. In 1886 they received a commission for a hotel in Kansas City, followed by an office building, and the Kansas City Board of Trade (at right). Six months following the opening of the Rookery in early 1888, the Kansas City Board of Trade Building opened, and also featured Bower-Barff black iron builders’ hardware (at left). Fortunately when the Board of Trade Building was demolished in the 1960s as part of urban renewal, the building was photographed and many of the elaborate decorative elements from the building were salvaged. Interestingly, the number cast onto Board of Trade door plates by Yale & Towne are 1604, while those for the Rookery are marked 1620. So perhaps Root designed the Board of Trade plates before those for the Rookery.

In late 1887 planning began on the Society for Savings building in Cleveland. Completed in late 1889, the Society for Savings building has a granite base and red sandstone above and remains a striking edifice for what is now Key Bank on Public Square, although now in the shadow of the modern skyscraper built a century later. The bank continues to use the fully modernized and restored 1889 building for banking. The iron hardware at right was featured in the 1893
Yale catalog as the Albi pattern.

In January 1891, John Wellborn Root died of pneumonia at the age of 40. He had hosted the visiting eastern architects for dinner at his home as they planned for the World’s Columbian Exposition of 1892/1893, and caught a cold while escorting them to their carriages. Burnham lost his friend and partner, and was faced with (1) making certain that the work of the Columbian Exposition was successfully completed, and (2) making sure that the numerous buildings that Root had designed or started to design were completed. D. H. Burnham & Co. was formed and Charles Atwood was named chief designer.

One project had been a personal passion for Root, the Equitable Building in Atlanta (below). Having lived much of his childhood in Atlanta, designing a building in your home town was a desired commission. When completed in early 1892, the building was the tallest and largest building in Atlanta. In 1893 the building was occupied (and later purchased by) the Trust Company of Georgia.

The bank used the building until 1971, when it was demolished to build a new, modern Equitable Building. Once again, many items from the building were salvaged, including three stone columns which decorate the plaza in front of the new building. As seen above at right, doorknobs by Yale & Towne in the Albi pattern (this time with an EB monogram) were also saved from the building. No doubt Atwood used the same pattern of doorknobs for the Atlanta building that Root had most recently used in Cleveland as a means of paying homage to his predecessor.

The Trust Company of Georgia actually enclosed some doorknobs in plastic as paperweight, with the identifying information shown in the photo at left.
The last Burnham & Root-linked doorknob originates from Pearson’s Hall of Science in Beloit, WI. Constructed in 1892, Burnham stated that the “plans were in the hands of John Root at the time of his death”. The hardware is by Chicago Hardware, not Yale & Towne, owing to the College’s Building Committee having a relationship with the President of Chicago Hardware.

References:
- Mr. Tim Samuelson, Chicago Cultural Historian, for providing hardware descriptions as noted.
- Mr. Eric Nordstrom, for finding and selling me hardware from Chicago buildings over the years, and maintaining an excellent blog on architecture at [www.urbanremainschicago.com/news-and-events](http://www.urbanremainschicago.com/news-and-events).

**Where Am I From?**

There are a great many unidentified emblematic doorknobs in the P category of www.antiquedoorknobs.us. The various hardware companies custom made these doorknobs and plates for specific building(s) as ordered by architects, builders, or owners. Hopefully we can help identify the origins or these doorknobs so that the buildings and the hardware can be featured on pages like the one in this issue. Please contact your co-editor, Paul Woodfin, at paul.woodfin@shcglobal.net if you have any knowledge to help identify these. If anyone happens to know where the records for special order hardware for any of the hardware companies wound up, please let Paul know!

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Americans have long considered Abraham Lincoln their greatest president. 154 years after Lincoln’s presidency, surveys of historians and biographers and the general public alike award Lincoln the highest marks. Lincoln is revered for his leadership during the American Civil War and for his abolitionist stance on slavery.

In 1908, of course there were still those living who remembered Lincoln. In December of 1908, a Mrs. J.L. Canby of 612 North 13th St. in Keokuk submitted a request through the two Keokuk newspapers of the day, the Constitution-Democrat and the Daily Gate City, to those who voted for Lincoln. Mrs. Canby asked the readership of these papers to write to her at her home address and note in what years and in which locations votes for Lincoln were made.

What resulted was a collection of 64 hand and typewritten letters to Mrs. Canby which has, in subsequent years, been donated to the Keokuk Public Library. The collection is entitled “Lincoln Voters” and includes correspondence from as far away as Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Many of the letters are from veterans who fought for the Union in the Civil War. More than a few veterans mentioned of being too young to vote for Lincoln in the 1860 election but were either recruited or volunteered soon after to fight in the Union Army.
S.H. Johnston was one who wrote to say he was underage to vote in 1860. However, in 1864 Johnston was a hospital steward at Keokuk’s U.S. General Hospital. Johnston was determined to vote for Lincoln and therefore made the 1000 mile trip (one-way) to Tompkins County, New York (where Tomkins was registered) to place his vote for Lincoln. (Ithaca is in Tompkins County).

A letter from Esau Powell and another from John Fleming noted voting for Lincoln in 1860. Neither was able to vote in the 1864 election as they both were imprisoned in Andersonville, GA in a POW camp. (Andersonville has the notoriety of being the worst Civil War prison … more than 13,000 Union soldiers died there while being held captive).

Because of Keokuk’s proximity to Springfield, Ill. where Lincoln lived from 1837-1861 (off and on) before becoming the 16th President of the United States, some people responding to Canby’s newspaper request wrote of having seen Lincoln in person. Joseph Holden said he attended the Lincoln-Douglas debate in Quincy, Ill. when Lincoln ran for state senator in 1858.

C.C. Whittlesey wrote to say he heard Lincoln speak on three different occasions. Whittlesey also traveled to Springfield, Ill. in May of 1865 to view Lincoln’s remains as they lay in state at the capitol building prior to his burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield.

The collection of Lincoln Voters letters is a well preserved artifact and as part of the special collections of the Keokuk Public Library is stored separately from the regular library collections. Inquire at the front desk to review the Lincoln Voters collection onsite.
Keokuk, Jan 9th, 1919

Mrs. Lanby as you requested the names of all who voted for Lincoln instead for Lincoln in 1860 was my first vote. I was in the South under Sherman in Co B 4th Iowa Infantry in which I served till close of the war years respectively

Thomas Beeler
310 Palace Street
Keokuk Iowa
E. R. MACKEY
314 E. MAIN ST.
Kalamazoo Mich Jan 19 1908

Mrs., J. L. Canby,
Keokuk Ia.
Esteemed Madam,
William J. Buck of this city wishes me to write you and ask you to add his name to the list of those who had the honor to vote for our greatest president and friend Abraham Lincoln. He having voted for him in 1860 and again in 1864.

Yours Respectfully,
E. R. Mackey.
Main Street Keokuk, Inc will present the second annual Conrad Nagel Film Festival featuring John Wayne on October 18 and 19, 2019.

Marion Mitchell Morrison, known professionally as John Wayne and nicknamed “Duke”, was an American actor, filmmaker, and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient. He was among the top box office draws for three decades.

Wayne was born in Winterset, IA but grew up in Southern California. At the age of six, he and his family lived for a brief time in Keokuk. They resided above the Kiedaisch Pharmacy, located on the corner of 11th and Main Streets. A plaque acknowledging Wayne is on Main Street Keokuk’s “Walk of Fame” at 11th & Main.

Wayne’s awarding winning film, True Grit, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, will be featured at the festival. For more information, contact Main Street Keokuk, Inc. at 319-524-5056.
The Night Cat

There are, all about us, other secret worlds. Here within our own city are found other, separate places which are as real and as vital as those we know well. Is it by intent or merely by circumstance that we remain sundered from them? Would we know them better, or might we shudder at the thought of a more intimate acquaintance with them?

The doors to those alternate worlds remain firmly closed during the bright-lit day, but at about the witching hour of midnight, they sometime stand very slightly ajar – never to pass through, but only to offer the barest hint of that which stands, silent and secret as tomorrow, behind them.

Upon that premise is suspended our present offering.

In dim-lit lanes the dark awakes such fears
As shadows stir. One is revealed, whereat
We sense this shade becoming, as it nears,
The living shadow of an errant cat.

What errand bids him hence? How comes he here?
Why such an hour as this? Who might it be
As this appointment keeps? It would appear
That this must all remain in mystery.

A secret, then, to every soul alive.
The cat must surely know, and know full-well.
None, save a fool would ever dare contrive
To learn aught which a cat will never tell.

The wise confide such mysteries too deep;
For Heaven and the cat their secrets keep.

Wm. Shakesfurr fecit
A Little Past Ripe?

By Joy Wellington Tillis

Someone should come along
and spiff you up
when you start to age past ripen …
passing a shop window elicits surprise,
“is that really me?”

… when things taste funny and
a wrong bite pulls out a filling

… when sleep eludes you
and sudden, common pains come
from nowhere

… when you feel creaky in the a.m.
so you ‘wash up’ rather than shower.

And when your mind starts
playing with you, telling you
to stay home and work on your living will
or eat bananas and pears
rather than eggs and bacon …

then’s the time to be thankful
and rejoice and raise your own flag
and wave it like crazy!
August

1-31 • Quilt Exhibit by Mary Grace Cecil, Keokuk Art Center, Round Room, Keokuk Public Library
2 • Mary Grace Cecil Quilt Exhibit Opening Reception, 5:00-7:00 pm, Keokuk Public Library
3 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
7 • First Wednesday Jazz, 8:00-10:00 pm, Hawkeye Restaurant
8-10 • Library Book Sale, Round Room, Keokuk Public Library
9-10 • Broadway Melodies, A benefit for the Grand Theatre, 7:30 pm
10 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
  • Keokuk Cars & Coffee, 9:00 am-Noon, Southside Boat Club
11 • Keokuk-Hamilton Dam Museum Auction, 4:00 pm, 428 Main Street, Doors open at 3:15
16-17 • Rollin’ on the River Blues Fest, Victory Park
  • Friday Night, beginning at 6:00 pm
    Whiskey Friends, Laurie Morevan, Billie Jones Band
  • Saturday Night, beginning at 6:00 pm
    The Other Brothers, Lauren Mitchell, Jason Dee Williams
17 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
  • Summer Fun with Library Card at Hoerner YMCA, 8:00 am-4:00 pm
  • Mississippi Rat Pack Car Club Cruise Night, 5:00 pm, WalMart parking lot
20 • What’s It Worth with Mark Moran, Keokuk Public Library
22-25 • Big Dam Street Fair, Johnson Street
24 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
31 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
  • Unique Keokuk, 1:00 pm, Keokuk Public Library
  • Hairbangers Ball, 8:00 pm, L-Treyn’s Bar

September

1-30 • Photo Exhibit by Grace Bell, Keokuk Art Center, Round Room, Keokuk Public Library
2 • Labor Day Parade, 11:00 am, Keokuk Main Street
4 • First Wednesday Jazz, 8:00 pm, Hawkeye Restaurant
5 • A Culinary History of Iowa with Darcy Dougherty Maulsby, 6:30 pm, Round Room, Keokuk Public Library
6 • “Leaving Abbey” concert, sponsored by Rand Park Pavilion Commission, 7:30 pm, Rand Park Pavilion
  • Grace Bell Exhibit Opening Reception, 5:00-7:00 pm, Keokuk Public Library
7 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
13 • Punk at the Park, Showcase of Midwest Rock Bands, 2:00-10:00 pm, Rand Park Pavilion, featuring Vern, Romeo Tried, Switchblade Saturday, Evernoir, Crying With Strangers, Never Knows Best, Eugene Levy, and Manhattan Blockage
14 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
  • Keokuk Cars & Coffee, 9:00 am - Noon, Southside Boat Club
21 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking
  • Wine Over Water & Brews on the Bridge, sponsored by Main Street Keokuk, Inc.,
    2:30-5:30 pm, Observation Deck
22 • Bullis Rutter Big Band, Rand Park Pavilion Commission, 2:00 pm, Rand Park Pavilion
28 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
  • 17th Annual Pioneer Patriots Day, TBA

October

2 • First Wednesday Jazz, 8:00-10:00 pm, The Hawkeye Restaurant
5 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
11 • Annual Zombie Walk, sponsored by Southeastern Community College, 5:00 pm, Estes Park
12 • Farmers Market, 8:00-11:30 am, River City Mall parking lot
14 • The Obituary by Mary Kay Shanley, sponsored by Humanities Iowa, 6:30 pm, Round Room, Keokuk Public Library
14 • Keokuk High School Choir Concert, Grand Theatre
18-19 • Conrad Nagel Film Festival featuring John Wayne, Grand Theatre
19 • Fright Night, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Board, 4:00-7:00 pm, Rand Park
  • In Season Cooking with Hy-Vee Dietician Joni McKay, TBA

In order to add an event to this calendar, contact Carole Betts at bettsongrand@gmail.com. To advertise in the Confluence, please contact Dianne Stanley at mb450sl@msn.com. All ads should be approximately 3x5 inches in size and may be either vertical or horizontal. The cost is $40 per ad.