Alton Area Landmarks Association

Box 232, Alton, IL 62002

www.altonlandmarks.org

June 2007

General Membership Meetings: The next general membership meeting is Monday, June 18. 2007, 7:30 P.M. at the Hart House, 524 Belle Street, Alton. Our guest that evening will be former First Ward Alderman, Tom Hoechist. Tom is now a member of the Madison County Board, but in March he announced that he will run for mayor of Alton. The election isn't until April of 2009, but one of the reasons for his early announcement was to find out what citizens expect from their city government. Here is your chance to help set the agenda for the mayoral race. Tom is coming to listen to our concerns for the future of Alton. What would you like our city government to do, or not to do? Here is your chance to air your concerns. Everyone is welcome.

Olin Park: There has been a second meeting of citizens to discuss the future of Olin Park on State Street. The draft budget for this year lists \$100,000 for improvements to the park, also known as Water Tower Park. We are glad to see neighbors actively involved with the planning.

Contact Your Aldermen: Here is a list of our aldermen and their telephone numbers:

| 1st Ward | Jim Ryan | 463-0209 |
|----------|---------------|----------|
| 2nd Ward | Phil Hanrahan | 465-3025 |
| 3rd Ward | Joe Maher Jr. | 465-1261 |
| 4th Ward | Alice Martin | 462-5665 |
| 5th Ward | Charles Brake | 462-7253 |
| 6th Ward | Gary Fleming | 465-1412 |
| 7th Ward | David Boulds | 465-8002 |

Mayor Donald Sandidge's telephone number at City Hall is 463-3500.

Belleville: For information about historic houses in Belleville, IL, check out the website www.historicBelleville.com.

Hart House: We continue to renovate the interior of the Hart House. A new security and smoke alarm system was installed. Trim was added to some kitchen doorways. Thanks to Greg Stranquist for cleaning the gutters.

Grant: The AALA thanks the Alton Community League for a grant. The money will be used for printing the new walking/driving guide for Alton's historic districts. Look for more information about the guide in upcoming newsletters.

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Landmarks Illinois: In May we had a special meeting with Lisa DiChiera and Suzanne Germann from Landmarks Illinois. For historic home owners the two important topics they discussed were the Preservation Easement Program and the Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program for Historic Residences. For more information about these topics go to their website, www.landmarks.org.

House Tour: Commit now to the 2007 Historic House Tour. We need several more houses. Make your list of things to do. Let us be your motivation to finally complete your home renovation projects. Call Terry Sharp at 463-5761 for more information.

Dues: Dues for 2007 can be mailed now to: AALA, Box 232, Alton, IL 62002. Individual dues are \$15.00. Family membership is \$25.00 a year. Contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.