

Save

Our



CHAUT

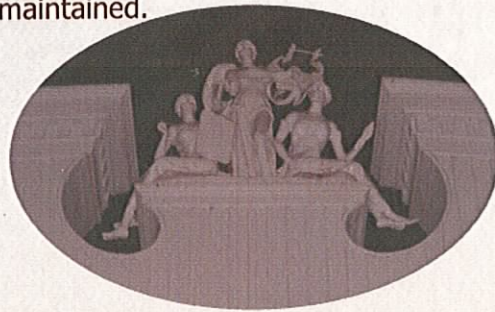
AUQUA

Saving Our Heritage For

Generations of Tomorrow

Our goal

is to restore the building to its original condition while upgrading the theatrical system to be viable for current community interests. The building is unique in its architectural, structural, and social history. All components of this should be maintained.



1874 – Chautauqua is an Iroquois word that is used to describe a movement that started at a lake that bears its name in Western New York. The Chautauqua Institution was started by Methodist Bishop John Heyl Vincent and inventor Lewis Miller. The Chautauqua Institution was originally intended as a summer school for Sunday School Teachers. The accommodations for the most part in these early meetings were in the form of tent camps. The accommodations for the most part in these early meetings were in the form of tent camps. This initial development was created solely for the purpose of education and was not tied to any particular denomination. Within a few years, the development of the Chautauqua Institution had evolved and became more of a movement for adult education including a correspondence course known as the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle. The focus at this time was to bring values of higher education to the middle class. The meetings brought thousands of people together for this movement and also allowed them to enjoy concerts and social activities.

3 YEAR

Gift Level	Suggested Initial Payment	Annual	Quarterly	Monthly
\$100,000	10,000.00	30,000.00	7,500.00	2,500.00
\$50,000	5,000.00	15,000.00	3,750.00	1,275.00
\$25,000	2,500.00	7,500.00	1,875.00	625.00
\$10,000	1,000.00	3,000.00	750.00	250.00
\$5,000	500.00	1,500.00	375.00	125.00
\$2,500	400.00	700.00	175.00	35.00
\$1,000	250.00	250.00	62.50	20.83

→ All donations made to Save Our Chautauqua are tax deductible.

6 YEAR

Gift Level	Suggested Initial Payment	Annual	Quarterly	Monthly
\$100,000	10,000.00	15,000.00	3,750.00	1,250.00
\$50,000	5,000.00	7,500.00	1,875.00	625.00
\$25,000	2,500.00	3,750.00	937.50	312.50
\$10,000	1,000.00	1,500.00	375.00	125.00
\$5,000	500.00	750.00	187.50	62.50
\$2,500	500.00	333.33	83.33	27.77
\$1,000	250.00	125.00	31.25	10.41

Visit our website @ www.shelbyvillechautauqua.com

Restoration Phases

PHASE 1

Structural Repair – There is a need to repair some of the truss system that make up the complex roof of the building. Some components of the radial truss system have shown signs of bowing due to the stresses put on the structure over the last 100+ years. We intend to replace and strengthen those members to ensure that they can accommodate the loads put on the roof system, including any heavy snow loads. There is also at least one location where the tie-rod end making up the bottom cord has come loose at the weld. This will have to be replaced as well. (Estimated \$403,000.00)



STRUCTURAL REPAIR

Building Envelope – The building envelope is in dire need of being restored to ensure that the inside of the building is completely enclosed from the elements. This is going to require replacement of some of the existing wood siding, deteriorating window frames, jambs, sills, and entry doors. The existing wood siding also contains several layers of paint from years of maintenance, but is likely causing new paint to fall off prematurely. The need to strip existing layers of paint, then re-painting the building will ensure that it stands up to the test of time. Part of this project is also to put back the flagpole atop the building as it was during its original construction in 1903. (Estimated \$315,100.00)



BUILDING ENVELOPE

Roof – Though the current roof is in adequate shape and does not appear to leak currently, some of the structural improvements may require a portion of the roof to be replaced. In addition, some of the flashings fascia and eave support members will need to be replaced. (Estimated \$91,750.00)



ROOF

PHASE 2

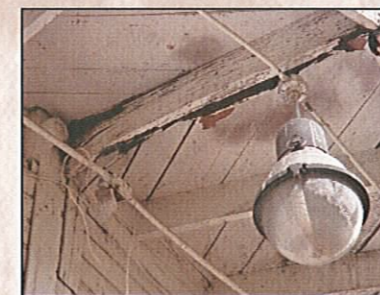
Site – There is a need to re-grade some of the areas surrounding the building to ensure positive drainage away from the building and to eliminate water from entering the many existing door openings. Additional work is anticipated for existing sanitary sewers, storm sewers and water lines. (Estimated \$230,000.00)



SITE

PHASE 3

Electrical – There is a need to upgrade the existing electrical service to the building. The existing interior lighting will need to be removed and an independent lighting system from the roof structure will be installed. Some of the exterior lighting is not working and/or broken and needs to be replaced. (Estimated \$227,000.00)



ELECTRICAL

PHASE 4

Stage/Interior – In an effort to bring up the usability of the interior and stage, planned improvements are being made once the actual building components can be restored. Some of the items that are being looked at to improve the use of the building are restoration of the stage, adding an access ramp, scenery support and theatrical lighting. (Estimated \$491,400.00)



STAGE INTERIOR

→ Please note that the above costs are estimates only and the intent is to reduce the cost for each phase as listed above as the project evolves into further design and construction.



History of Chautauqua

1900's – The later part of the 19th century, the Chautauqua Institution became nationally known and was considered a center for rather earnest, but high-minded, activities that aimed at intellectual and moral self-improvement and civic involvement. The Chautauqua Movement, which was obviously influenced by the Chautauqua Institution, developed from the small towns and rural areas mostly where higher education was very limited. The Chautauqua movement had a concentration in the mid-west, where communities started to develop permanent building structures dedicated to the focus of the Chautauqua Movement.

1900 – Shelbyville Incorporated into the Chautauqua in October of that year headed by 30 prominent professional and business men of the town. They agreed that the Chautauqua meetings should extend to Forest Park in Shelbyville. Making the community grow and prosper through the center of entertainment, culture and education for Shelbyville and Shelby County citizens.

1901 – II Real Red Letter Days, Chautauqua meeting July 25th to August 4th. Admission for a Season Ticket for an adult was \$1.50 and children 9 to 14 \$1.00. Single adult tickets were \$0.25, Single child \$0.10, and Children under 9 were Free. They even have Team Season Tickets for single or double costing \$0.75 and Team Single Tickets \$0.10. Wall tents were available for a fee; a tent sized 10 X 12 was \$2.50, 12 X 14 cost \$3.00, and for one that was 12 X 16 you paid \$3.50. They even had what was called Family Compartment Tents; sizes were 9 X 19 for \$4.00, 12 X 19 for \$5.00, and 14 X 24 for \$7.00. They offered Summer School, Kindergarten, School of Acting and Elocution, Physical Culture, and School of Music. Some of the activities there were Horse Racing at the Race Track, Boating and Archery.

1902 – The Shelbyville Chautauqua Association voted to build a permanent structure just as some of the other communities that hosted Chautauqua's had done. This Chautauqua Auditorium was to be based on a similar structure that had been built in Dixon, Illinois and designed by Architect Morrison H. Vail. The Shelbyville Chautauqua incidentally was one of very few independent Chautauqua's and never became a part of any circuit. Even so, it has been a stop for many famous speakers including William Jennings Bryan, William Howard Taft, Reverend Sam Jones, Billy Sunday, and Carry Nation. It was clear that in the early **1900's** – The Chautauqua Auditorium was the center for entertainment and culture for Shelbyville and its surrounding communities. Shelbyville Chautauqua Association voted to build a permanent structure.

1903 – Shelbyville Chautauqua Auditorium opens for the first time as a permanent structure in Forest Park. This also included Crystal Lake a Natatorium (Swimming Pool), Tennis Courts, and a Gun Club Building with a shooting range with clay pigeons. It was held from Sunday, July 26th to Sunday, August 9th. They had in attendance 17 Lecturers for the courses offered 8 Musical Entertainers, and 14 Stage Entertainers. There were Guest Buildings to add to the rows of tents.

1927 – The Shelby County Fair Association ended in this year, having served as an independent Chautauqua Meeting spot for 27 years bringing higher education, culture, entertainment, and fun to the families and communities in the area. Many traveled from other counties and even states to visit and take part in these events. Many picture post cards are all that are left of these glorious days and historical memories.

1930's – 1940's – The Shelby County Fair was held in the park with many activities in the Chautauqua building.

1932 – The Chautauqua building was taken over by the city.

1940's – The park grounds were added to by 80 acres of the Hulick lands.

1960's – The Chautauqua was still in great use for entertainment, competitions, and educational uses.

1970's – The Chautauqua Auditorium saw some hard times; for instance the cave in of the roof, due to snow load.

1978 – The modern day Chautauqua Auditorium became listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. It has been used for many purposes including talent shows, music concerts, is a centerpiece for the Festival of Lights during the Christmas Season and has been used many times over the years for the Haunted House. Some of the performers at the Chautauqua Auditorium include Alison Krauss, Dolly Parton, Barbara Mandrell and REO Speedwagon.

1982 – The Chautauqua Auditorium was valued at \$2.2 million by an insurance firm. Its value is worth much more today in this new millennium than the \$1.7million that we need to raise to save it from extinction in our lifetime. It is a priceless gem of our community, heritage, history, and our country. It is a vital part of our growth as a nation, state, county, and community. We cannot afford not to invest back into it to save it for our future and those who will come after us.

1983 – The Lions Club building was built and added to the Chautauqua and park.

1989 – The first "Chautauqua Days" was celebrated for the 150th Shelby County History Anniversary.

1990 – The City of Shelbyville takes over the Festival of Lights which started at Eagle Creek.

1996 – Scarecrow Daze starts in Downtown Shelbyville

2000 – Scarecrow Daze starts using the Chautauqua Auditorium stage for clogging.

2002 – Scarecrow Daze is moved to Forest Park with the Chautauqua as the center of activity for it.

The Chautauqua is a centerpiece for the Festival of Lights which continues to be an attraction of great importance to the community during the Christmas Season.



“The Chautauqua Building has been the “Heart and Soul” of this community for my generation. Its part of the town’s character and life just wouldn’t be the same without it here. “

McKenzie Fleshner, High School Senior

“It is a historic part of our community and it is our responsibility to make sure we get this fixed up and it stays here another 100 years. “

Noel Bolinger, Commissioner of Public Building and Grounds

“When we revive an old building, we do not just revive its body. We revive also its soul, the ghost of the past which has a story to tell. If we are willing to listen it will tell a story of its makers, of the time it was built, of the life people connected with it; their attitudes, values, and goals; and how they perceived the building. If there is a soul in old buildings surely the Forest Park Auditorium is one of those buildings.”

Miss Beulah Knecht, Founding member of the Historical Society



“It’s a historical icon of our community that I don’t want to see lost on my watch.”

Roy Shuff, Mayor



“Shelbyville, Illinois is a “Small Town” with big ambitions. . . Time and time again the people of Shelbyville have seen a need and been willing to roll up their sleeves to work on it. Even though the Chautauqua is a big project local residents are willing to roll up their sleeves and see it through. “

Drew Bosgraaf, High School Senior

“Throughout history it has been proven that the human being has had a great need for something other than food, clothing, and shelter. There is something in the spirit, heart, mind, etc. that needs this. During the time of the late 19th and early 20th centuries this need was met with the Chautauqua meetings.”

June McCain, Shelbyville Historical Society

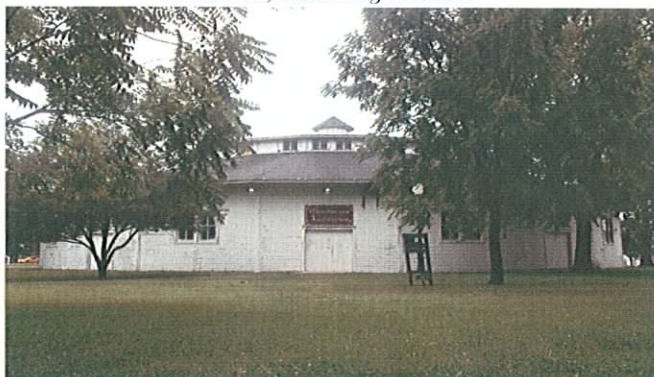


“The first thing that needs to be done, the structure needs to be restored. “

Chuck Pell, Consulting Architect

“It’s just something that hadn’t ought to be lost.”

Daisy Rittgers, Retired School Teacher and Centenarian



“It’s something that’s still being used today. I think we would all want it to still be in use tomorrow. My grandparents enjoyed it. My parents enjoyed it. I’ve enjoyed it. I would like to think my grandkids will enjoy it.”

Liz (Yantis) Schafer, CAPC, member