

INKLINGS AND IDLINGS

The Newsletter of the Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association

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Summer 2017

FROM SITE SUPERINTENDENT MARTHA DOWNEY

THE PRAIRIE POET & THE PRAIRIE ARCHITECT

June 8, 2017 marked the 150th anniversary of Frank Lloyd Wright's birth. Carl Sandburg and Wright were friends. Wright was especially fond of *Rootabaga Stories*, reportedly reading them frequently at bedtime. Penelope Niven, in *Carl Sandburg: A Biography* quoted one of Wright's letters to Sandburg, "They fill a long felt want—poetry, ...All the children that will be born into the Middle West during the next hundred years are peeping at you now, Carl—between little pink fingers, smiling, knowing that in this Beauty, they have found a friend." Wright's Taliesin apprentices even developed *Rootabaga Stories* marionette productions for entertainment during Wisconsin evenings.



Frank Lloyd Wright & Carl Sandburg

Frank Lloyd Wright's autobiography, first printed in 1932, has a writing style that some, including Meryle Secrest, view as influenced by Sandburg's first part of his expansive Lincoln biography. In her book *Frank Lloyd Wright: A Biography*, she states that Wright would have known of Carl's writing style as the two were friends. She writes that Wright, "grumbled about the latter's [Sandburg's] 'Lincolnesque' writing style." Secrest believes that Wright's adoption of this particular writing style is consistent with portraying himself as a product of the American Midwest, as was Sandburg.

Both sons of the Midwest led lengthy, creative lives. Interviewed at the age of seventy-nine by Joe Wershba, Sandburg said, "I don't like the phrase, 'old age.' Frank Lloyd Wright and I are agreed that we have done some of our best work in our seventies, and Wright has done some of his best work in his eighties."

Creativity, energy, and longevity were shared by the prairie poet and the prairie architect. In the same interview Wershba reported that "Sandburg once told Wright, 'I admire the poetry of your architecture.' Wright replied, 'And I admire the architecture of your poetry.'" (Wershba interview quoted from Niven.)

A POEM RECITATION: STORY BEHIND AND AHEAD

By Nakshatra Neeraja Biru

(Editor's Note: Recently CSHSA webmaster Rick Sayre posted a YouTube video on our sandburg.org website of eight-year old Nakshatra Neeraja Biru reciting Sandburg's "I Am the People, The Mob" (1916) at a poetry contest in Kuwait in December, 2016. Nakshatra won first place for English poem recitation for her excellent presentation. Now, at nine years old, she wrote this about why she chose a Sandburg poem to recite.)

I am a nine-year old Indian girl residing in Kuwait. My parents are both dentists working for the Kuwait ministry. I was born and raised in Kuwait. My parents have been working here for the last eleven years. I am studying in fifth grade in Indian Educational School. I am interested in reading and travelling.

Poetry is not just a clump of words simply put together by any ordinary person. Do you know why most poems are appealing? Because there is something in them, something that every keen eye can catch. That something is the poet's passion, the passion to see the words dance in harmony.

It was a late November [2016] evening and the day of my poetry recitation competition was around the corner. Still I hadn't finalized my poem. Scrolling endlessly for a meaningful bouquet of words, I came across Carl Sandburg's "I am the people." In fact, that was the first time I saw the name Carl Sandburg. Intrigued by the words of the poem, I began to dig deep and learned more about Sandburg. As his friend Harry Golden once said, Sandburg is one American writer who distinguished himself in five fields--poetry, history, biography, fiction, and music. It was fascinating to read

Sandburg's definitions of poetry in "Good Morning, America." One of those definitions remains etched in my memory. It goes like this: Poetry is the opening and closing of a door, leaving those who look through to guess about what is seen during a moment.

As I read deeply into the poem, I started to get the meaning of it. My parents pitched in with their explanations and information. I thought the poem lets the ordinary people get a feeling that they too are special; their leaders wouldn't have made it if it weren't for their support. I thought of George Washington. Would he have ever been known in this world if it weren't for the people of America who elected him, if it weren't for the people of America who followed his path?

I think more often than not we the people are often neglected by our leaders. But we forget things in a flash. We forget that we are the real creators of great men. This poem reminded me of the power that people possess. Fascinated, my mind set to the goal. I practiced harder and harder, perfecting my recitation. In my own humble way, I wanted to convey all the emotions to the audience.

My dear parents guided me through the tough and adventurous world of learning. Step by step, fall by fall, they would always be at my side. They would inspire me to never give up. I used to cry when there seemed no hope of getting my poem flawless. But they kept pushing me and assuring me that I could do it, and I got back on my feet again. I believe I recited the poem on the day of the competition in the best way I could. Of course, my best doesn't mean best in the world.



L-r, Dr. Binu Sugunan, Nakshatra Neeraja, Dr. Resmi Chandrahasan.

Since then I have been asked to recite the poem on many stages and higher classes in my own school. My YouTube video has been watched by many people in India, and a lot of people have been asking me about Carl Sandburg and his work. My father has promised to get me all the books and poems written by Sandburg. I am really looking forward to reading them and sharing them among my friends and literary club members.

As I look back at the whole experience, it was indeed a long way for an eight-year old to go, but I am simply pleased that I was able to bring the great Sandburg's words into voice and got to know him. I hope I will get to recite more of his poems in the future.

SANDBURG AT CORNELL COLLEGE

(Recently, Galesburg resident Maury C. Godsil gave me a clipping from the March 26, 2017 issue of *The Gazette* newspaper (Cedar Rapids, IA) with a story entitled "Carl Sandburg in Mount Vernon." The story is part of *The Gazette*'s series "Time Machine, A Look Back At People, Places, Events in Eastern Iowa." The interesting story written by Diane Fannon-Langton is about Sandburg's nineteen visits to Cornell College in Mount Vernon, IA between 1920 and 1951. In April 2013 frequent *Inklings* and *Idlings* contributor Barbara Schock wrote a story for online "Galesburg Planet" about Sandburg's visits to Cornell. She wrote that Cornell paid Sandburg \$100 for his first visit in 1920, equal to more than \$1,000 in today's money. At the time he worked for the *Chicago Daily News* making \$50 per month. Barbara wrote that "[a]t the first Mount Vernon appearance, one couple stamped out of the hall after denouncing him for singing 'Frankie and Johnnie.' The song was considered dirty, almost pornographic, at the time." We gratefully acknowledge *The Gazette* for their permission to republish this story.)

CARL SANDBURG IN MOUNT VERNON

Carl Sandburg already had published two volumes of poetry—"Chicago Poems" in 1916 and "Cornhuskers" in 1918—when he arrived on the Cornell College campus in Mount Vernon in 1920.

His reputation as a poet was established—he'd won the Poetry Society of America prize in 1919 (it became the Pulitzer Prize in 1922) for "Cornhuskers."

But his work was not always well-received, and a number of literary critics did not take him seriously. A Chicago review of his 1916 book was headlined "If This Is Verse, We Will Stick to Prose."

Sandburg, born in 1878, had been a reporter for the experimental, ad-free, daily newspaper, *The Day Book*, in Chicago—a city that would weigh heavily in his poetry. (His line about Chicago as the "Stormy, Husky, Brawling, City of the Big Shoulders" is one of his most famous.)

He'd followed that with jobs at the *Chicago Daily News* and as a European correspondent for the *Newspaper Enterprise Association* during World War I.

His poems were vivid word pictures reflecting his experiences as a blue-collar worker, farm laborer and a reporter covering such topics as racial conflict and steel strikes.

His poetry may have won a Pulitzer, but he still didn't

command a big audience.

THE CORNELL INVITE

In January 1920, Clyde "Toppy" Tull, head of Cornell College's English department, invited Sandburg, who was then 42, to read his poetry at the school, offering him \$100.



Jewell Tull, Carl Sandburg, Clyde Tull in front of the Tulls' home in Mount Vernon, IA. Courtesy Cornell College Archives.

Sandburg thought the \$100 was a remarkable sum, saying later the fee "looked as big as the moon to me."

When asked about that invitation, Tull said, "We gave him a certain status at a time when he was criticized as a roughshod poet."

At the spacious Cornell chapel, Sandburg got his first taste of lecturing before an academic audience. He read for an hour, then picked up his guitar.

"I'm going to sing for you now," he told his audience. "That's what I would be doing if I were at home this evening, and if the whole audience walks out, I'll be at home."

He began playing and singing ballads and folk tunes.



Sandburg playing his guitar in lower chapel at Cornell College's King Chapel. Courtesy Cornell College Archives.

The audience loved him. The college's English Club immediately booked him for another performance.

THE ENGLISH CLUB

Sandburg returned less than a year later, on Dec. 10, 1920. That second performance resulted in him being elected to the English Club at a Dec. 12 dinner in his honor. He gave another performance at the college auditorium later that evening.

After that, Sandburg would return to Cornell annually. He was made to feel welcome and invited into people's homes, most often staying at Toppy and Jewell Tull's home.

Tull later told of the long gab and song sessions with Sandburg that lasted until 3 or 4 in the morning. "We just fell together and had good times together," he said.

TRIPS BACK

Sandburg often took a select group of friends to Palisades-Kepler State Park near Mount Vernon to catch them up on what he'd been doing the past year and also for a preview of his newest works.

On his sixth visit, on May 26, 1925, he told his audience the "theory that poetry should be as explicit as a telephone book is preposterous." He read his 38

definitions of poetry, one of which was, "Poetry is a pack sack of invisible keepsakes."

As had become his habit, he concluded his poetry and prose reading by breaking out his guitar and singing American ballads.

The next year, in 1926, Harcourt Brace and Co. of New York published "Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years."

The work was universally acclaimed, and Sandburg's success was assured.

But he still made his annual trip to Cornell, proudly claiming his membership in the English Club.

His 16th visit to Cornell was scheduled for June 1, 1936. His now-traditional program was described as "largely impromptu, in typical Sandburgian style."

His listeners had become accustomed to getting previews of his new work, and this visit was no exception. The audience was treated to selections from "The People[, Yes]" a volume that wasn't published until later in the summer.

For 16 years, Sandburg had never waited for a formal invitation to come to Cornell, and he had never raised his fee, even though he commanded much larger fees at other venues.

On his way to Mount Vernon, he often collected his brother, Mart, a businessman, from their hometown of Galesburg, Ill., and brought him along to Cornell.



Sandburg in front of the Tulls' home, Mt. Vernon, IA. Courtesy Cornell College Archives.

HIS 'ANNUAL REPORT'

A few years passed before Sandburg sent a telegram to Cornell in May 1939, saying he'd like to drop by for a visit. He called himself the "sub rosa professor of the English department at Cornell."

"My friends at Cornell are 'stockholders' in me. I have to make my annual report," he wrote to his friend Tull.

Sandburg won the Pulitzer Prize for history for his four-volume "Abraham Lincoln: The War Years" in 1940.

On July 13, 1941, *The Gazette* announced that Sandburg — already considered a major figure in contemporary American literature — would return to "the soil which nurtured his literary talents — the newspaper," with a weekly column that appeared for more than a year. The column displayed Sandburg as a thinker "who never held himself aloof from the sights and sounds of ordinary living."

LAST VISIT

Sandburg's 19th appearance at Cornell came on Feb. 19, 1951, the same year he won his third Pulitzer for his "Complete Poems."

After his initial visits to Cornell, Sandburg requested that his readings be held in the smaller, more intimate, lower chapel. For this visit, Sandburg requested the college limit the number of tickets to 250, and those sold out immediately.

It would be his last visit to Mount Vernon.

Tull received a letter in November 1965 from Sandburg's daughter, Margaret. Her father's health was failing, and she asked Tull to send copies of Sandburg's correspondence to Connemara, the Sandburg home in Flat Rock, N.C., for a collection she was putting together.

Tull sent them off with a note. Margaret wrote back, telling Tull how pleased her father was to hear from him. Sandburg's wife, Lilian, whom he called Paula, added a note, too: "I wish you could have seen how deeply moved Carl was, recalling his annual trips to Cornell and the warm affection shown him in those early struggling years by you, your lovely wife Jewell — and all there."

Sandburg died in 1967, at age 89, at his farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

President Lyndon Johnson said then that "Carl Sandburg was more than the voice of America, more than the poet of its strength and genius. He was America."

JOHN SJODIN, DICK NELSON'S COUSIN

By Mike Hobbs

John Sjodin was an influential person in Sandburg's life. Having lived through the bitter, bloody 1888 CB&Q Railroad Strike in Galesburg as a 10-year old and experiencing the Panic of 1893 as a 15-year old when his father's hours at the CB&Q Blacksmith Shop were cut from ten hours a day to four hours, the young Sandburg pondered social, economic, and political issues. His friendship with neighborhood chum John Sjodin, three years his senior, pushed him along the path to becoming a fervent Socialist as a young man.

John's father Nels emigrated from Sweden in 1869. In *Always the Young Strangers* Sandburg wrote that Nels Sjodin was "the first real radical I knew as a boy." In 1873 Nels married Swedish immigrant Amelia Andersson. They lived in Chicago where he was a journeyman tailor. John Charles Sjodin was born on April 2, 1875. Brother Albert was born in 1881, and sister Effie in 1884. In 1887 the family moved to Sandburg's Berrien Street neighborhood in Galesburg. Sister Hazel was born in 1894.

The 1900 U.S. Census showed the Sjodin family living at 1037 E. North St. in Galesburg with John listed as a painter. He was a member of the Painters & Decorators Union #29. In 1906 he married Rena Anderson. The 1908 *Galesburg City Directory* listed John as a painter and secretary of the Galesburg Union Supply Company. His employers during this period were May Windmill factory and Galesburg Paint & Wallpaper Co. In 1918 he, Rena, and son Vivion lived at 1274 Florence Ave. He was manager of Consumers Alliance Grocery, 273 Allens Ave. The 1931 *City Directory* showed John as a grocery clerk living at 178 Olive St. By 1935 his family had left Galesburg. The 1940 U.S. Census showed them renting a house on Sawyer Ave. in Chicago. He is listed as an engineer of his own road construction business. In 1949 he was elected to the national council of Townsend Clubs, a movement for old-age pensions that had begun in the 1930's and "influenced the establishment of the Roosevelt administration's Social Security system." (Wikipedia) Dr. Francis Townsend (1867-1960) promoted the concept. John Sjodin died at Cook County Hospital of heart disease on April 1, 1960, one day short of his 85th birthday. He was survived by his son Vivion and was buried in Mt. Olive Cemetery in Chicago.

Sandburg reminisced that "[t]here are companionships in early life having color and mystery. We cannot measure or analyze exactly what they did to us. And we like to look back on them. John Sjodin is one of these." Sandburg looked up to Sjodin and was fascinated by this young man who had lived and worked in big, bustling Chicago.

Sandburg wrote about his friend,

He had absorbed much of Chicago's vivid and

reckless flair and could give the feel of it in his talk, [and] was, like his father, a hard-and-fast political-action radical. 'The big corporations' were running the country, as John saw it, and the time would come when the working people, farmers and laborers, would organize and get political power and take over the big corporations. ...Always John was sensitive about the extremes of the rich and the poor, the poor never knowing what tomorrow would bring them and the rich having more than they knew what to do with. ...He had his own reverence for life and said many a time that he couldn't hate a millionaire and most of the rich were sorry fools who didn't know what to do with their money except to put it to work making more money.

Sandburg continued,

[John] believed deeply in a tide of feeling among the masses of the people. This tide would grow and become stronger and in generations to come the American people would challenge and break the power of the corporations, the interests of special privilege. There was no real difference between the Republican and the Democratic parties. Both took money from the corporations and did what the corporations wanted done. John could recite how many millions of acres the Union Pacific Railway got as a free gift from the Federal Government...besides billions of dollars to help build the railway. Then John would chuckle, 'And they say the government should just govern and not meddle in private business.'

Sandburg summed up Sjodin's influence on him, "His main influence on me was to start me thinking. He made me know I ought to know more about what was going on in politics, industry, business, and crime over the widespread American scene."

As a young man in Galesburg, John Sjodin took his socialist politics to heart. He was a union painter, active with the Galesburg Trades & Labor Assembly (2 years its president), organized the Galesburg local of the Socialist Party, introduced out-of-town speakers at local Socialist Party meetings and rallies, and ran for mayor of Galesburg as a Socialist candidate several times in the early 1900's. .

With labor support Sjodin ran a strong campaign for mayor in the spring of 1911. He said that he would work as mayor for "the best interests of the entire citizenship of Galesburg, but with the aim of bringing an ever increasing advantage to the working class." A local party spokesman stated, "the Socialist party is the only party in the world that places the interest of wage workers above every other. ...In Galesburg the old fears that Socialists are dangerous has passed and the working people now realize that the socialist principles are dangerous only to those interests that oppress workers. ...Galesburg will be Milwaukeeized at a much earlier date than you think [a reference to Social-Democrat candidate Emil Seidel

being elected mayor of Milwaukee in 1910; Seidel appointed Sandburg his secretary].” The Galesburg Socialist Party platform called for referendum, recall, and abolishment of municipal work done by contractors. Besides mayor, the party slated candidates for clerk, treasurer, and all seven alderman positions.



John Sjodin's Galesburg Mayoral Campaign Pin.

The *Republican Register* reported the results of the election. Peoples Party candidate George Sanderson defeated Sjodin 1,772 to 1,232. Sandburg's brother Martin was elected treasurer on the Peoples Party ticket. The newspaper opined, “The big surprise of the day was the hefty vote pulled by the Socialist candidate for mayor. ...There were men from every walk in life who cast their first vote for a Socialist.”

In November, 1956 John Sjodin visited Sandburg backstage at the Shubert Theater in Chicago. In a subsequent letter to Sandburg, Sjodin wrote, “I am looking forward to that promised date, when you return to Chicago, when you will have more time to be with me. It's six years since I had my stroke. I am better, but it's a struggle to get back my strength. I am very weak.” He died less than four years later.

Ninety-two year old Dick Nelson of Galesburg was John Sjodin's second cousin. Dick's father Robert Nelson worked for the CB&Q Railroad. In the 1940's Dick and his mother sometimes used Robert Nelson's passenger train pass to visit John and Rena Sjodin in Chicago. Dick said that he remembered that his cousin told him on more than one occasion that he remembered accompanying Sandburg to the Galesburg CB&Q Depot where the young Sandburg was heading for Chicago. As he was getting on the train, Sandburg asked Sjodin if he could spare him some change for the trip. Generous Sjodin

gave him all the change and folding money he had with him.

Dick Nelson graduated from Galesburg High School in June, 1943. Two days after graduation he got his draft notice. He joined the U.S. Navy. On July 1 he began basic training at Great Lakes Naval Station north of Chicago. Sometimes when he got an overnight pass he would visit the Sjodin's on Fullerton Ave. Dick called Sjodin “knowledgeable.” John called himself “J.C.” (John Charles). Sometimes during the course of his visits with the Sjodin's, “J.C.” would excuse himself to go speak at a Socialist Party meeting. He told Dick he was going to get on his “soapbox.”

Dick showed me two letters that “J.C.” had written to him. One is dated July 25, 1943 when Dick was still training at Great Lakes. The return address showed the Sjodin's address in Chicago, Ill. In parentheses behind Chicago, Ill. was the number 47. In the letter John explained to Dick that 47 indicated “the zone number that all large cities must use to facilitate the handling of mail....” A precursor to zip codes, I guess.

He opened the letter with, “Dear Richard, I suppose you have become more used to the life of a sailor by now, even though you have not been out on the water, but that part of your training will follow in the course of time. It will be an experience in your life that you will not be apt to ever forget.” He reported that his son Vivion was training at the Army Air Field in Amarillo, TX in a camp with 40,000 recruits. He went on to say that on the following night there “will be put on the greatest Navy show that Chicago has ever seen.... [I couldn't find out anything about that “greatest Navy show.”] [E]very day I see hundreds of boys being marched off from the recruiting station on Plymouth Court, to nobody seems to know where, some to the Great Lakes, and others to the four directions.”

Sjodin had a small business buying and selling coins, stamps, and first day covers. He got Dick started in stamp collecting. He wrote Dick, “As to the Flag stamps for the oppressed nations, with first day covers, there will be about twelve of them [...] I will see that you get a copy of each, addressed to your home.” In closing he sent his love and best wishes to Dick.

The second letter is in an envelope emblazoned with a seal recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution. It's dated September 13, 1947. Sjodin congratulated Dick on his recent marriage. He talked about his own busy life “attending meetings, conventions and so on.” He had spent two weeks in Washington, D.C. attending a Townsend Convention. He also visited Alexandria, Mount Vernon, and Arlington, and “all” the federal buildings, including going up in the Washington Monument. Always interested in politics, he “had an interview with several congressmen and Senators.” He had also made a two-day trip to Fairbury, IL for a homecoming for Dr. Townsend who was born

there. He encouraged Dick to continue his coin collecting hobby. "You will never lose on your investment in U.S. coins."

A little more about Dick Nelson. He served three years in the Navy in the Pacific aboard the U.S.S. Markab on which he was an electrician in the engine room. After the war he returned to his job at the Victor Hardware Casket Co. on Chambers St. in Galesburg. After he was laid off at Victor, he hired on at Wagoner Printing Co. where he started a four-year apprenticeship financed by the GI Bill. He worked for Wagoner for forty years. In 1950 he started working part-time with Dick Ralston at Berry Seed Company, Grand Ave. and Mulberry St. where Water Works Car Wash now stands. When Dick Ralston and Paul Hanna later opened Ralston-Hanna Garden Center, Dick worked part-time there. That's where I first met him. He worked at the Garden Center until he was eighty.



Dick Nelson

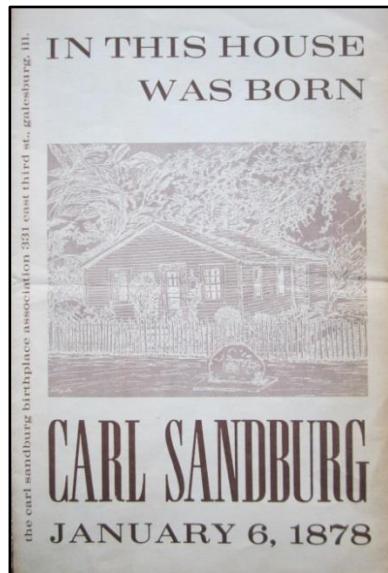
BIRTHPLACE PAMPHLET CIRCA 1960

By Mike Hobbs

While interviewing Dick Nelson for the preceding story, he showed me this Birthplace pamphlet created by the Carl Sandburg Birthplace Association, the predecessor of the Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association. It was printed courtesy of the Galesburg Chamber of Commerce by Reynold Printing circa 1960.

A drawing of the Birthplace is on the cover. Inside the pamphlet we are told, "Only a few pieces of furniture in the restored cottage were actually used here by the Sandburg family. They are: three chairs in the living room, and the washstand and two wall whatnots in the

bedroom. All other furnishings were selected as representative of homes of small means during Sandburg's youth." About the Lincoln Room, "this room and its furnishings were the gift of the State of Illinois. It contains Lincoln and Sandburg memorabilia and was dedicated May 30, 1949." The Lincoln Room was removed after the State of Illinois took possession of the Birthplace Cottage in 1970. The N.C. Wyatt drawing of Lincoln shown in the Lincoln Room now hangs in the State Historic Site Visitors Center.



On the back of the pamphlet is information about Adda George and the Birthplace Association. "Through her leadership the cottage was restored and the Association formed to assure its perpetuation. It is maintained by dues of \$2, \$5, or \$10 paid by members of the Association, and by donations left by groups and individuals on the desk in the Lincoln Room.... Visitors are urged to note the restraint and good judgement Mrs. George used in restoring the cottage. She wished to give the impression that it was a home and not a museum."

CSHSA ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

By Bill Morris, Endowment Campaign Chairman

Our Native Son & National Treasure Endowment campaign has some tips for giving that will greatly benefit the Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association and have a nominal impact on your pocketbook. Gift planning tools give you the opportunity to provide significant support for our mission far beyond what would be possible with a check. Beyond that, these types of charitable giving tools can provide benefits to you and your loved ones. For instance:

- You can make a gift using appreciated securities and realize larger tax savings than if you had used cash.
- You can make a gift that costs you nothing during your lifetime and lasts forever.

- You can make a gift that pays you income for life.
- You can preserve your estate for your children and at the same time deliver years of income to help us preserve Carl Sandburg's legacy in Galesburg.
- You can donate your house, take a tax deduction, and continue to live in it rent-free.
- You can turn surplus life insurance coverage into a gift.

Planned giving is a process using tax and financial planning methods allowing the donor to efficiently achieve your personal and charitable objectives. Your financial advisor will have information about how you can get started. You can revise your will and estate plans to create a legacy of giving that will last beyond your lifetime and save you substantially in taxes.

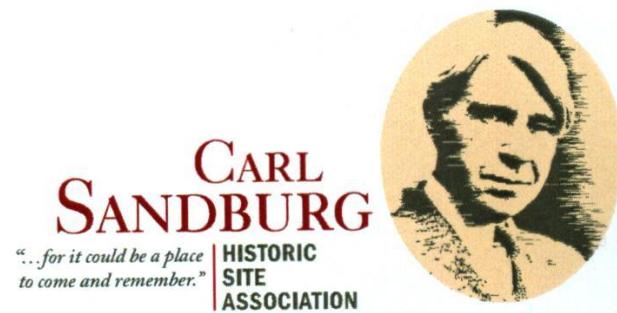
The Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association is engaged in the process of developing a strategic plan for the future. Our vision is to grow the resources of the Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association to increase awareness and access to the writings and history of Carl Sandburg. Our mission communicates the legacy of Carl Sandburg and the stories of his words, life, and importance as an American poet, writer, and social activist by preserving his birthplace cottage and grounds located in Galesburg, Illinois, where Sandburg was born on January 6, 1878. Our objective is to support the Carl

Sandburg State Historic Site through fundraising, membership, education, technology, programming, site maintenance, and staffing.

The Association has a bold vision for the Carl Sandburg State Historic Site in Galesburg. Today in America, Sandburg's words are as relevant as they were when he put them to paper. You can make a difference by supporting the "Native Son, National Treasure" Endowment Fund. Together "we, the people" can keep the legacy of Carl Sandburg alive for generations to come.

Endowment Donations may be mailed to:

The Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association
P.O. Box 585
Galesburg, IL 61402-0585



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

