

HISTORIC NEW HARMONY IN NEWSLETTER

HARMONY

Where the Past and the Future are Present

Fall • 2007

Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

A WALK INTO THE PAST

**October 27 Atheneum/Visitors Center
10 a.m.–Noon and 2–6 p.m.**

A family-friendly Halloween activity. On his 250th birthday, Father George Rapp will appear in Church Park throughout the day, along with the Harmonist Choir. Other Harmonists will appear in town.

SPIRITS IN HARMONIE

**November 24 Atheneum/Visitors Center
5–9 p.m.**

Begin the holiday season on Thanksgiving Saturday by celebrating the spirits-crafting heritage of New Harmony. Visitors can sample hand-crafted beers, ciders, and wines at various historic sites in Historic New Harmony.

For more information on either activity contact Jan Kahle, education coordinator, at 812.682.4488 or jkahle@usi.edu.



HISTORIC
NEW HARMONY

"By preserving its utopian legacy, Historic New Harmony will inspire renewal and fellowship between people and communities through its programs and collections."

—Historic New Harmony Mission Statement

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NEW HARMONY A MAGNET FOR GEOLOGISTS PAST AND PRESENT

When hundreds of geologists attend the 2008 meeting of North-Central Section of the Geological Society of America in Evansville, Indiana, next spring, they will have the opportunity to visit Historic New Harmony, the birthplace of North American geology.

The meeting (April 24–25, 2008) will include at least 11 field trips, with two in New Harmony—to the Rapp-Owen Granary, which once served as David Dale Owen's lab, and to the Working Men's Institute, established by William Maclure. There also will be a session addressing the legacy of New Harmony at the conference facility at Casino Aztar in downtown Evansville. The meeting is sponsored by the University of Southern Indiana Pott College of Science and Engineering, USI Department of Geology, Alcoa Warrick Operations, and Historic New Harmony.

Six hundred geologists from the region—which includes Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, and portions of Canada—are expected to attend. The keynote speaker is William DiMichele, a paleontologist with the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History. He will discuss a fossilized rainforest discovered in a coal mine near Danville, Illinois, earlier this year. The extraordinary find revealed an entire ancient ecosystem.

Maclure, geologist and co-founder with industrialist Robert Owen of the second Utopian community at New Harmony, attracted the international geological community to New Harmony in the 19th century. Thomas Say, the father of entomology, and French naturalist Charles-Alexandre Lesueur were among the scientists, artists, and educators who arrived in New Harmony aboard the *Boatload of Knowledge* in 1826. Sir Charles Lyell also traveled to New Harmony. Lyell introduced the geological concept of uniformitarianism which influenced Charles Darwin's evolutionary theory.

Some say Maclure's greatest contribution to geology was his influence on Robert Owen's son, David Dale Owen. David Dale Owen was appointed Indiana's first state geologist in 1837 and geologist for the United States in 1839, when New Harmony was the precursor for the U.S. Geological Survey.



A weathervane on David Dale Owen's final laboratory in New Harmony features a fossil fish and two invertebrate marine organisms: an Archimedes bryozoan and a blastoid.

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DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

Connie Weinzapfel,
Director

"In my 10-plus years as director of Historic New Harmony, nothing more exciting has happened in the town than the current effort to update the comprehensive plan. Now one might say my life must be pretty dull, but the willingness of a community to take a hard look at itself and its future speaks volumes about a place.

Through a grant to the town of New Harmony from Indiana's Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Ratio Architects of Indianapolis is leading a process for the town to help the citizens chart a course for their future. There were over 100 people at the first open forum. Ratio had never had so many people attend, even in larger cities.

Every citizen in town was mailed a survey asking opinions about growth, economy, and quality of life. I was thrilled to see that preserving cultural heritage ranked at the top of the list of what people find to be important to the future. Historic New Harmony is proud to be a partner in shaping that future and hopes to offer citizens new ways to participate.



PRESERVATION ICONS JOIN USI/NEW HARMONY FOUNDATION BOARD

Marsh Davis and Amy MacDonell, two new members of the USI/New Harmony Foundation Board of Directors, share a passion for historic preservation.

Davis is president of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, the nation's largest statewide preservation organization, with membership exceeding 10,000 and a network of field offices throughout Indiana. MacDonell is a historic preservationist and former chair of the Indiana Main Street Council, which assists communities in downtown revitalization, focusing on economic redevelopment within the context of historic preservation.



Amy MacDonell



Marsh Davis

Historic buildings are important because they "are the embodiment of the best in human aspirations, portraying human values, political values, and aesthetic forces," Davis said. "New Harmony is an extraordinarily important place. It's hard to use the word unique and really mean it, but New Harmony is truly unique in our country and represents a continuum of the highest level of human thought. That includes architecture, and the historic components are a vital part of that story."

He said there is continuity between the historic and contemporary in New Harmony. "There is a mutually respectful relationship with the old and the new, between landscape and buildings. It functions in a way that no other town in Indiana does. I look forward to every time I'm able to come to New Harmony."

A native Hoosier, Davis returned to Indiana from Texas after serving from 2002 to 2006 as executive director of Galveston Historical Foundation. Prior to his tenure in Texas, he was community services director for Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, where he managed survey and grant programs and developed initiatives in African American heritage and rural preservation. For his work in historic preservation, Davis was named a Sagamore of The Wabash in 2002.

He holds a Master of Science degree in historic preservation from Ball State University's College of Architecture and Planning, where he was an adjunct faculty member for five years. Davis lives with his wife and two daughters in a 98-year-old home in Indianapolis' Meridian Kessler neighborhood.

MacDonell has a Master of Science degree in urban and regional planning with an emphasis on historic preservation from the University of Wisconsin. She served as historic preservation officer for the City of Evansville from 1983-85; Indiana Main Street coordinator, 1985-2000; on the Meridian Street Preservation Commission, 1988-1990; and vice chair and commission member, Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission, 1990-2003.

She currently serves on the USI Board of Trustees, to which she was appointed in 2006. She and her husband, Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, and daughter live in a 1924 home in Golden Hill, an Indianapolis neighborhood listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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NEW GUEST HOUSE FOR VISITING SCHOLARS

The rectory of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church is Historic New Harmony's new guest house. The single-family Harmonist house, one of the resources of New Harmony's National Historic Landmark District, is located at the entrance to the Harmonist Cemetery. This spring the University of Southern Indiana purchased the rectory and church property.

The first guest house was a Victorian cottage donated in 1995 by James A. Sanders, director emeritus for Corporate and Foundation Relations and former director of Historic New Harmony. University professors Lenny Dowhie, Tom Wilhelmus, and Matthew Graham helped refurbish the cottage. Two artists from Australia and New Zealand lived in the house that first fall, and each June the cottage became the headquarters for Ropewalk Writers Retreat. Over the years, the house has provided affordable accommodations for hundreds of people who have come to enrich New Harmony.

In June 2007, the first guest house was sold at auction and the furniture was moved into the new guest house. Proceeds from the sale were put into the D. W. Vaughn Endowment Fund of the USI/New Harmony Foundation.

This fall, the original Harmonist portion of the new guest house, which was the home of David Koenig during the Harmonie Society days, will be painted white like the David Lenz House. The later addition to the house will be painted with what preservationists call invisible green.

The house may be reserved by teachers and other individuals for scholarly work of all kinds related to New Harmony. USI faculty and others who bring speakers to campus may accommodate their guests in New Harmony at the new guest house. Information about cost and reservations can be made through the Scheduling Office at USI.

For nearly two hundred years, New Harmony has provided inspiration to scholars and educators, and the new guest house will continue the tradition.

Wish List for the guest house

- Floor lamps
- Wing chairs for the bedrooms
- Bedside tables
- Floor-length mirrors for the bedrooms
- New towels for the baths
- Flat-screen television
- Plantings in existing hardscape
- Large floor rugs
- Colors throughout the house are in shades of green, red, gold, and tan.

To make a donation, call Connie Weinzapfel at 812.682.4488.

Name the guest house

Historic New Harmony is sponsoring a contest to name the new guest house. Everyone is invited to suggest a name. The person whose idea is selected will win a free weekend at the guest house, courtesy of Historic New Harmony. Entries should be submitted before Thursday, November 15, to harmony@usi.edu with a brief paragraph about why the name was chosen. Staff of Historic New Harmony will judge the contest.

ANDY WARHOL EXHIBIT COMING TO NEW HARMONY GALLERY

The first Indiana venue for the Andy Warhol exhibit *Silver Clouds* will be at The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art starting in November. The exhibit by the American pop artist/icon will be on display from November 17, 2007, to January 31, 2008. The exhibition travels extensively throughout the world, and was last exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Religious Art (MOCRA) at St. Louis University in 2006.

Warhol (1928–1987) is among the most notable and influential of 20th century artists. He worked in many media including printmaking, sculpture, painting, and filmmaking. Through his images of Campbell's Soup Cans and celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley, Warhol helped define the Pop Art movement—a movement characterized by elevating consumer and popular culture, often using disposable or reproducible media to help deflate what was commonly held to be "high art."

The *Silver Clouds* exhibit is difficult to describe. Forty silver Mylar pillow-shaped balloons will be filled with helium. The balloons will float with air currents and respond to a patron's touch.

April Vasher-Dean, director of the gallery, said, "The installation has been called dazzling, stunning, and unreal by some, yet others have found the experience to be calming, healing,

and meditative. The Clouds interact with and touch viewers in ways few installations allow. Whatever your personal experience will be, it is sure to be memorable. We are so pleased to share with the entire region the work of Andy Warhol."

The exhibition is brought to New Harmony by the generous patronage of Mrs. Jane Blaffer Owen and dedicated to the joyful memory of her sister, Cecil Amelia "Titi" Blaffer von Furstenberg.

The gallery also will offer for sale Warhol-inspired gifts and Pop Art souvenirs. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 812.682.3156 before bringing a group of five or more. For more information go to www.nhgallery.com



April Vasher-Dean, left, Jane Owen, and Connie Weinzapfel enjoy the Silver Clouds exhibit in St. Louis.



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Note: Every effort is made to provide a complete and accurate list of Annual Fund donors. If you discover an error, please let us know so we can recognize you in the future.



IN BRIEF

A new restaurant is open in the former Harmonie Society cooper shop at the corner of Church and Tavern streets next to Thrall's Opera House. New owner Lora DeFries is calling it The White House because the building will soon be painted white like the Harmonie Society's Lenz House on North Street. Three years ago, extensive research and chemical analysis were conducted which showed that the Harmonie Society did indeed paint their buildings white.

A Peace Pole has been installed in New Harmony near the lake at the New Harmony Inn. The New Harmony Center for Peace and Healing, led by Mike Dawson, who recently moved to town, initiated the project. The pole bears the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in different languages on each of its sides. There are over 250,000 Peace Pole monuments around the world.

Geologist Magnet continued from Page 1

USI geology professor Dr. Paul Doss said that David Dale Owen, along with his brother Richard Owen, established one of the country's first centers of geological field reconnaissance in New Harmony. From his laboratory in the former Harmonist Granary, he performed the first rigorous geological mapping of the Western United States.

"This was the frontier," Doss said. "The west was not yet occupied by European settlers. The Lewis and Clark excursion was only about 25 years old. There were outposts, but the land was not colonized. New Harmony was the natural science center of North America in the 1800s."

Preservation Icons continued from Page 2

"I care deeply about historic preservation because of the lessons it teaches us about communities, shared values, and understanding our place in the world in a fast-changing society," she said. "I have never lived in a home of less than 50 years of age, and would probably not know how to live in a place without squeaky wood floors. I value preservation more and more as I see rapid suburban development without reference to diversity of architecture, multi-generational neighborhoods, and a sense of history that comes with living in an older area.

She said New Harmony "is an amazing resource for Indiana, the nation, and the world because of its history as a utopian community and the rich heritage it presents for today's world. New Harmony is a magical place that is like no other place in our country, and it deserves caring attention from those in charge of its resources."

USI Trustee Ted C. Ziemer Jr. also joins the USI/New Harmony Foundation Board of Directors. Ziemer is a partner at Ziemer, Stayman, Weitzel & Shoulders, LLP and is a past chairman of the Board of Directors of the University of Southern Indiana Foundation. He received an honorary degree from USI in 1998.

The USI/New Harmony Foundation provides financial support to Historic New Harmony for its programs and activities.

COLLECTIONS CORNER

Amanda Bryden, Assistant Collections Manager

FAUNTLEROY HOME TO BE RESTORED

Starting this fall, the Fauntleroy Home will be restored to reflect its most significant years, 1840-1860, when the home was the center of social and intellectual life in New Harmony.

The Fauntleroy Home was built in 1815 by the Harmony Society and was later the residence of Robert Henry Fauntleroy and his wife, Jane Dale Owen Fauntleroy. They bought the house in 1840 and enlarged it to accommodate their family and lifestyle.

Jane Dale Owen was the only one of Robert Owen's daughters to come to New Harmony, where she married Robert Henry Fauntleroy, an engineer and officer with the U.S. Coast Survey. He had come from Virginia to take part in Robert Owen's Utopian experiment.

The Fauntleroy Home is significant in the history of New Harmony and in women's history. Jane Dale Owen founded the Seminary for Young Ladies in the home in 1844. Her daughter, Constance Owen Fauntleroy, founded the Minerva Society there in 1859. This early women's club had a formal constitution and bylaws, and met frequently until 1863 when the women decided to disband in order to concentrate on the war effort.

The home remained in the Constance Owen Fauntleroy family line until her cousin Mary Emily Fauntleroy bought the home in 1911. Mary Emily recognized the historical importance of both the home and town, and tirelessly promoted New Harmony as a tourist destination. During Mary Emily's tenure as hostess from 1910 to the early 1940s, women from across the country flocked to New Harmony to see this shrine dedicated to the women's club movement.

Mary Emily eventually sold the home to the Indiana Federation of Clubs, who subsequently gave the home to the state of Indiana in 1939. The state, which still owns the home, is funding the restoration, which includes placing period-appropriate doors, windows, blinds, floor and wall coverings, choosing paint color schemes and proper hardware, and removing some 20th century additions.

The Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology has approved the first phase of the work. Once completed, exhibits about New Harmony women as well as the early preservation movement in New Harmony will be displayed in the home.

JOIN TODAY!

One of the great benefits of supporting Historic New Harmony is receipt of this bi-annual newsletter, *In Harmony*. All donors who contribute at the \$25 level or greater receive the newsletter free of charge. When your annual appeal letter arrives this fall, be sure to renew your gift and keep *In Harmony* coming to your mailbox.

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Please make check payable to:
Historic New Harmony Society
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HISTORIC
NEW HARMONY

In Harmony is published twice yearly by Historic New Harmony. Letters and comments may be sent to: In Harmony, P.O. Box 579, New Harmony, Indiana 47631.

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Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. Information is available at www.newharmony.org.

NOV-5092



EVENTS

OCTOBER 27
A Walk Into The Past
Athenaeum/Visitors Center

NOVEMBER 17
Fall Gallery Stroll
4-7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 24
Spirits in Harmonie
Athenaeum/Visitors Center

NOVEMBER 24 TO DECEMBER 30
Andy Warhol's Silver Clouds Exhibition
New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

DECEMBER 1 AND 2
Christmas in New Harmony
Festivities begin at 10 a.m. daily

DECEMBER 8
Holiday Ball
Thrall's Opera House

THROUGH DECEMBER
Historic New Harmony Tours
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FEBRUARY 15
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Tours Season Opens
Athenaeum/Visitors Center
9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

For information regarding these and many other events, visit www.newharmony.org.

NEW HARMONY, IN 47631
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